

NO. 3  
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# SLOTS™

a SKYBOUND yarn by  
**DAN PANOSIAN**



**SKYBOUND**



IMAGE COMICS & SKYBOUND PRESENT

# SLOTS

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CREATOR, WRITER, ARTIST

## PAT BROUSSEAU

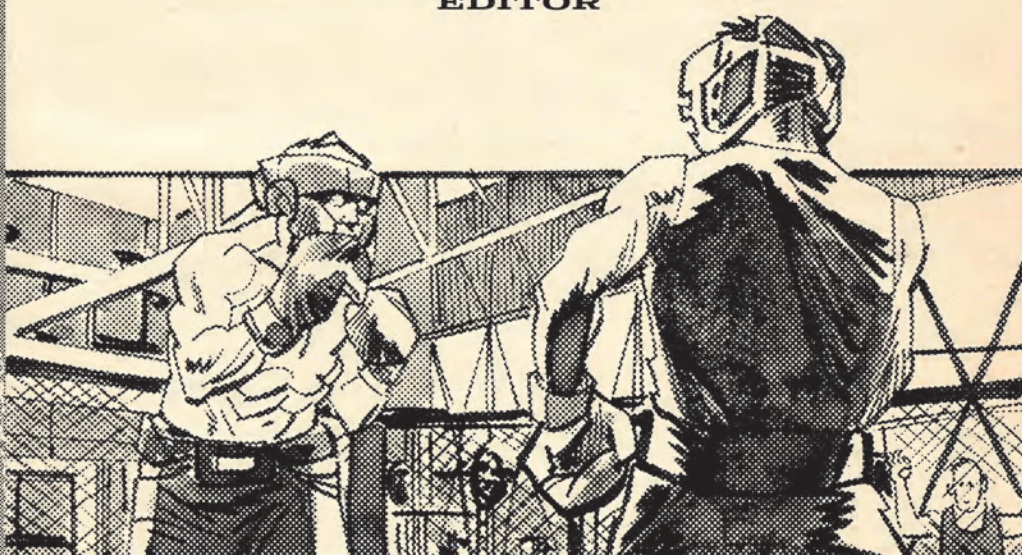
LETTERER

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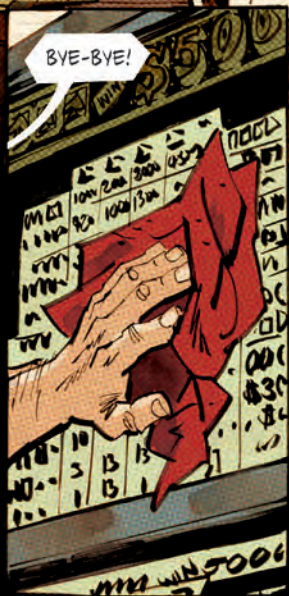
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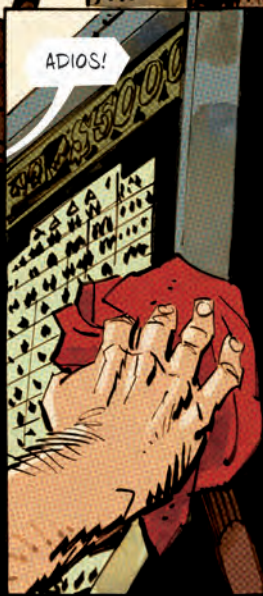


"OFF  
YOU GO!"

"RUN  
ALONG!"



BYE-BYE!



ADIOS!



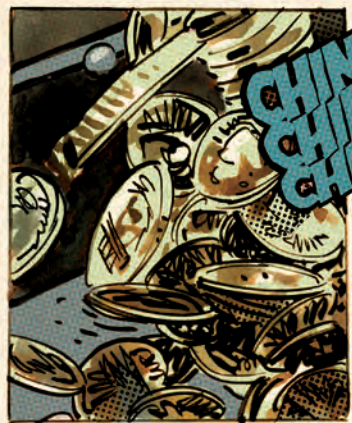
LOOK, ALEX, HE'S  
WIPING AWAY THE  
BAD MOJO. HE  
HAS MAGIC  
POWERS NOW.

AND HOW'S  
THAT BEEN  
WORKING SO  
FAR, STAN?



LET'S FIND  
OUT, SHALL  
WE?





WORKS LIKE  
A CHARM! I'D BE  
A RICH MAN NOW IF  
I HAD FIGURED  
THIS OUT YEARS  
AGO!

HOW MUCH  
HAVE YOU MADE  
SO FAR?

I NEVER  
DISCLOSE MY  
WINNINGS.

IT'S BAD  
LUCK.

BUT THAT'S  
WHERE YOU COME  
IN, GREG.

YOU MEAN BESIDES  
GRIGORI LETTING YOU  
PARK YOUR RV BEHIND  
HIS SHOP?

YEAH.  
THANKS FOR  
THAT, YOU  
GUYS, BUT  
WHAT I REALLY  
NEED IS THE  
INSIDE SCOOP  
ON HOW MY  
FIGHTS ARE  
GONNA GO  
DOWN. DISH  
IT OUT!

YOU  
KNOW I  
DON'T DO  
THAT.

YES YOU  
DO. IT'S HOW  
YOU PAY YOUR  
BILLS!

NOW BE A  
PAL AND STOP  
BEING GREEDY  
WITH YOUR MAGIC  
POWERS!

SIGH...



**WHITE TACO**

I'M NOT GREEDY.

PROVE IT.  
PAY FOR MY TACO!

I'M CONSIDERING PROVING IT BY PAYING A PARKING LOT SO I CAN GET RID OF YOUR RV.

I WANT YOU TO PUT SOME **SERIOUS MONEY** DOWN ON MY UPCOMING FIGHT AT **LES'S CASINO**. WHILE YOU'RE THERE, CHECK OUT THE VIBE AND REPORT BACK!

AND IF YOU LOSE, IT GOES RIGHT INTO HIS POCKETS.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU KNOW SOMETHING!

I KNOW I'M ALLERGIC TO CILANTRO.

ALL KIDDING ASIDE, I APPRECIATE THE HELP. YOU AND BETSY ARE REALLY ALL I HAVE LEFT.

AND STICKY.

OH, AND JOSE...

ENOUGH ALREADY. I GOT THIS.





GREGARINO!  
WELL, WELL,  
WELL...



HEY, TOFFMAN...

"HEY,  
TOFFMAN..."?

IT'S BEEN  
TWENTY-FIVE  
YEARS SINCE WE  
OPENED THE DOORS,  
AND THIS IS THE  
FIRST TIME YOU'VE  
SET FOOT INSIDE  
HERE.



SO MUCH FOR  
FOND MEMORIES! YOU, ME,  
LES AND STAN--TEARING  
THIS TOWN APART. YOU  
CAN'T TELL ME YOU DON'T  
MISS THOSE DAYS!



IT COULD  
BE WHY I'M  
VISITING  
TODAY.



HA!



I HEAR **SOMEONE**  
**ELSE** IS DOING  
SOME VISITING,  
TOO...





YEAH,  
STAN'S IN  
TOWN.



SO I  
HEAR.



HE'S FIGHTING  
THIS SATURDAY.  
YOU SHOULD COME  
AND SAY HI.



MAYBE I WILL. I  
MISS THE POOR  
BASTARD.

GET THIS  
MAN A VODKA  
SODA, HONEY.

THANKS,  
BUT NO THANKS.  
SO... HOW ARE  
THINGS HERE?



FINE.  
JUST  
FINE.



YOU  
SHOULD  
TAKE A  
HIT.



NAH.



OVER.









SPLIT THE  
KINGS...!

GREEEGGG,  
IT'S NICE TO  
SEE YOU. GET  
THIS MAN A  
DRINK.



THANKS,  
BUT NO  
THANKS.



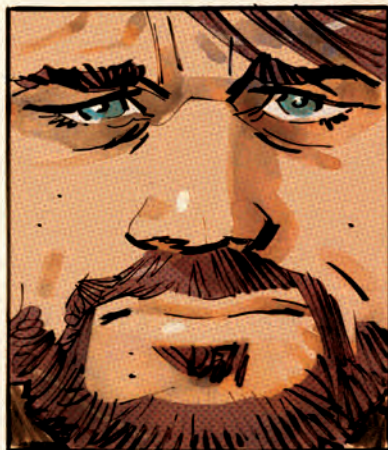
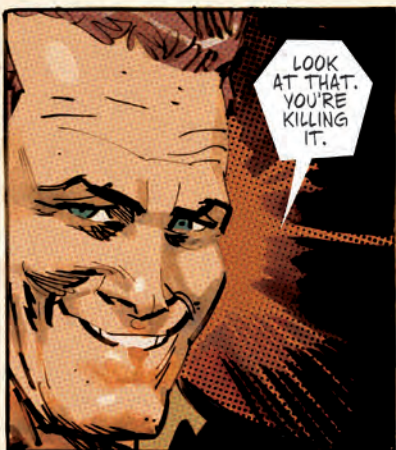
NO, ARE YOU  
KIDDING? I INSIST.  
WE SHOULD ALL  
HAVE A DRINK.



OVER.



LOOK  
AT THAT.  
YOU'RE  
KILLING  
IT.



TO OLD  
FRIENDS!

OLD  
FRIENDS.





SO,  
HOW IS STAN  
DOING?

SWEETHEART,  
ONE MORE  
ROUND!

RIGHT  
AWAY, MR.  
ROYAL.







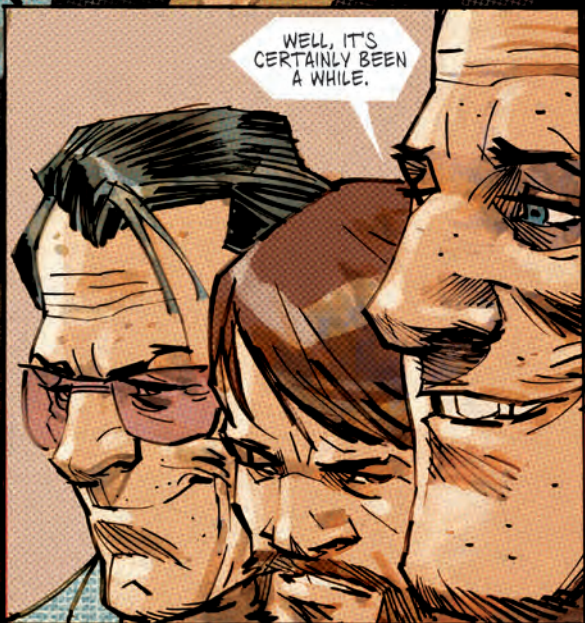
ANOTHER  
ROUND!

I MISS HIS  
UGLY MUG. I REALLY  
DO. I HEAR HE'S  
STAYING WITH  
YOU.



WE'RE  
FRIENDS.

JUST LIKE WE  
ALL USED TO BE.  
ONLY, WE'RE STILL  
FRIENDS. STAN  
AND I.



WELL, IT'S  
CERTAINLY BEEN  
A WHILE.



TO OLD  
FRIENDS!

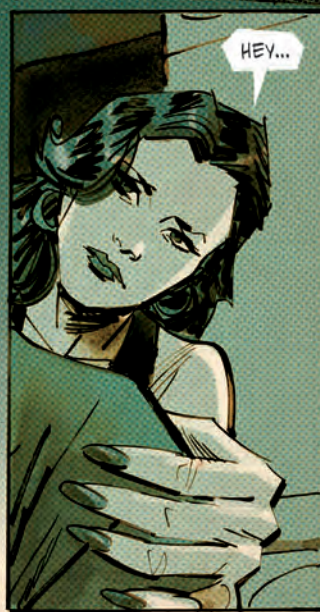
WE ALREADY  
TOASTED TO  
THAT, DIDN'T  
WE...?

G-clink

I INSIST.









IT'S  
OKAY.  
WHATEVER  
IT IS, IT'S  
OKAY.

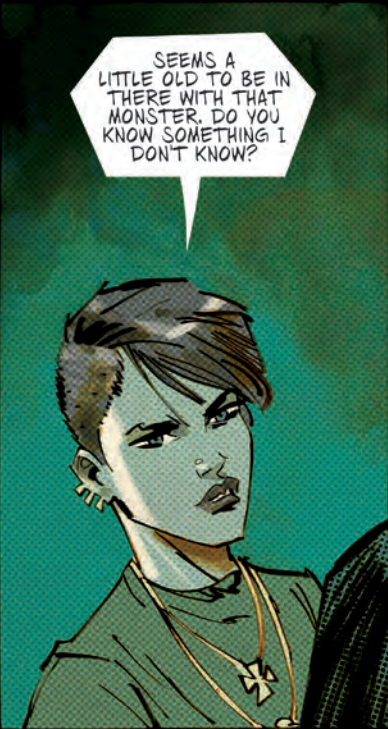
YOU DON'T  
UNDERSTAND...  
IT'S ALL GONE.  
EVERYTHING I  
HAD. I'M A  
SHAM.

BE QUIET.  
I BELIEVE  
IN YOU.

AND IN THIS  
CORNER, STANLEY DANCE.  
AGE FIFTY-THREE, WITH A  
RECORD OF NINETEEN WINS,  
TWENTY-NINE LOSSES AND  
ONE DRAW. HE STANDS  
SIX FEET EVEN AND  
WEIGHS IN AT 185  
POUNDS...








SEEMS A  
LITTLE OLD TO BE IN  
THERE WITH THAT  
MONSTER. DO YOU  
KNOW SOMETHING I  
DON'T KNOW?



I DON'T  
KNOW SHIT  
WHEN IT COMES  
TO MY OLD  
MAN.



THIS BOUT IS  
SCHEDULED FOR  
EIGHT ROUNDS. YOUR  
REFEREE IS JACK  
MAZZISCOTTI...

ARE YOU  
SURE YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE  
DOING?

I DON'T  
KNOW SHIT!

WHERE'S  
THE EXIT?

YOU'RE KILLING  
ME. EVERY DAY  
YOU'RE KILLING ME,  
STAN. NOW TAKE IT  
EASY IN THERE. BE  
CAREFUL AND  
KEEP MOVING.

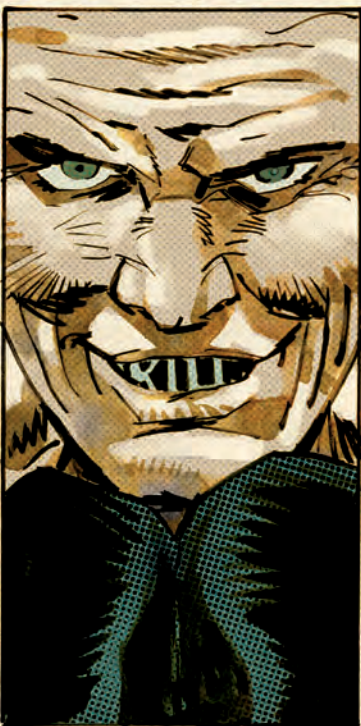
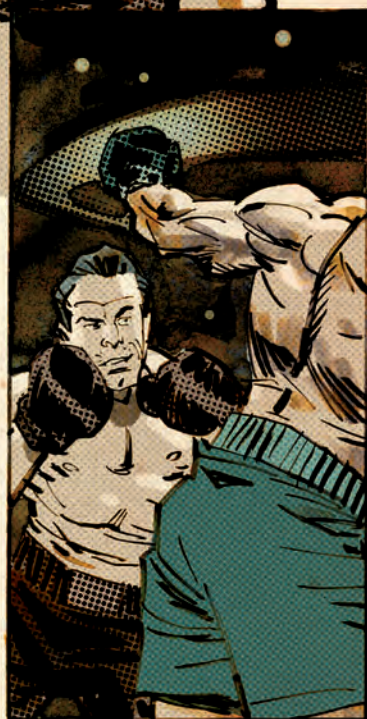
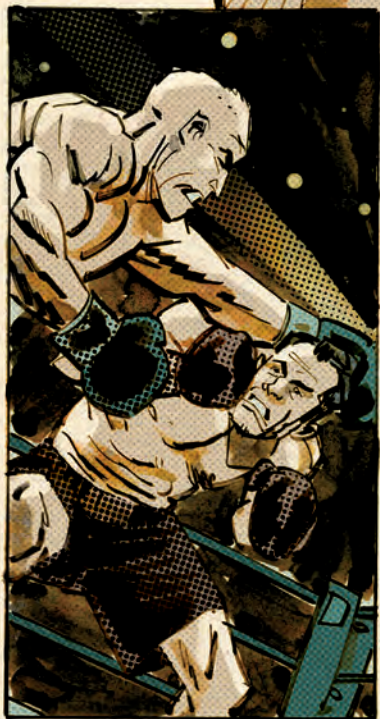
KEEP  
MOVING,  
GOOD  
PLAN.



# CHAPTER

3

DING DING



GONNA  
BE A LONG  
NIGHT.



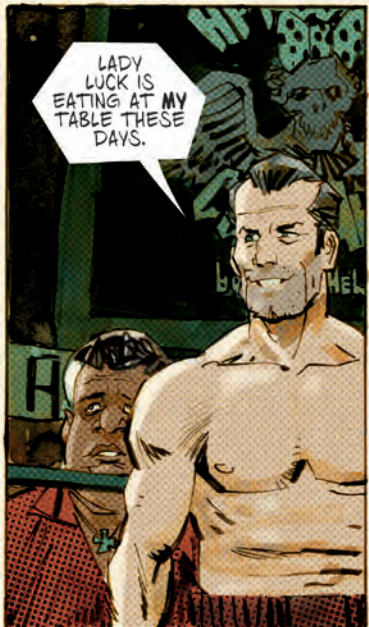


ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT. BREATHE. HOW ARE THINGS LOOKING IN THERE?

NOT BAD. FORTY-NINE FIGHTS AND I'VE NEVER SEEN A RED-HEADED RING GIRL. IT'S A GOOD SIGN.



LISTEN UP, IDIOT! ALL THIS GUY NEEDS IS ONE LUCKY PUNCH, AND THE ONLY SIGN YOU'LL BE READING IS "EMERGENCY ROOM". JUST ONE LUCKY PUNCH.



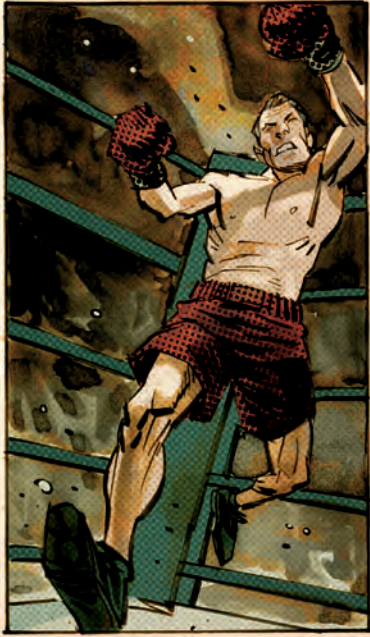
LADY LUCK IS EATING AT MY TABLE THESE DAYS.



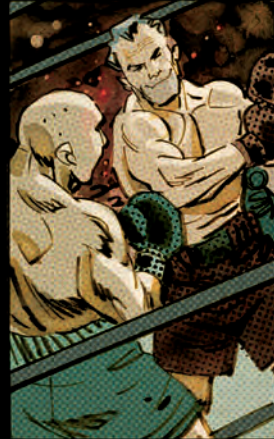
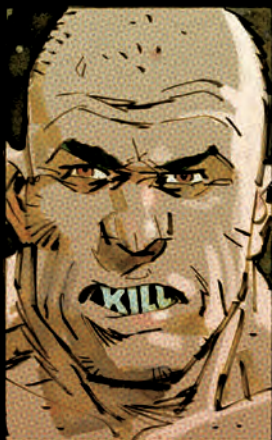
ONE SHOT IS ALL GNC NEEDS HERE!



"AND THERE IT IS! YES!"







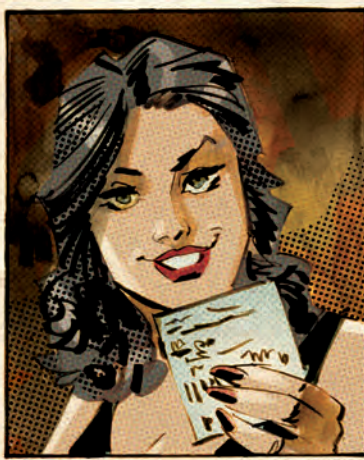




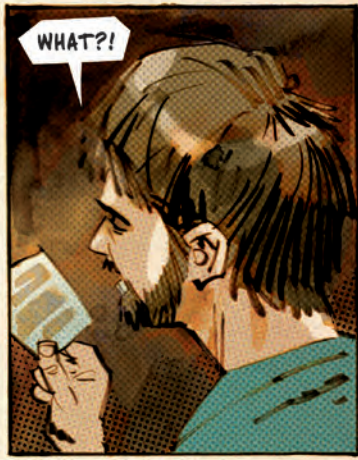
AND  
THE WINNER  
BY UNANIMOUS  
DECISION--  
STANLEY DANCE!  
STANLEY DANCE,  
EVERYONE!



GOOD  
FIGHT,  
KIDDO.



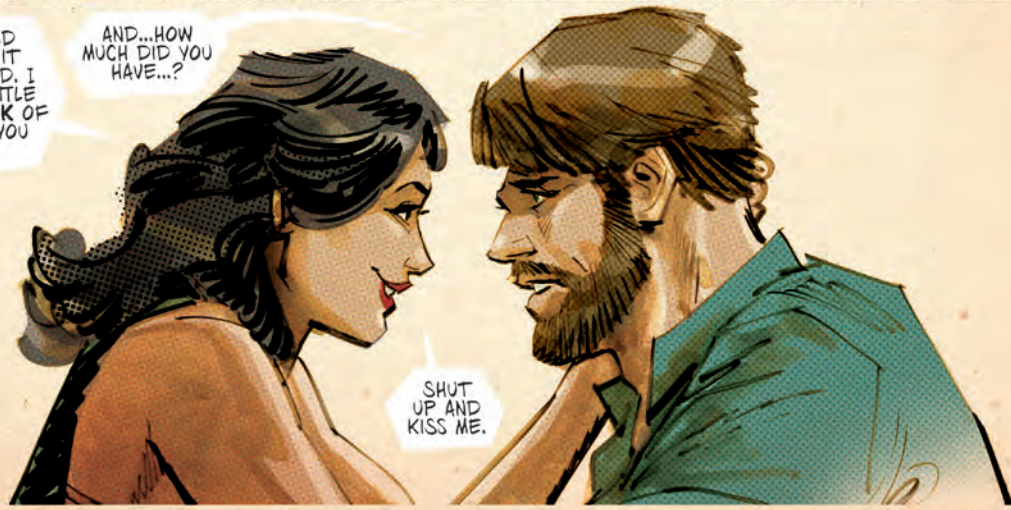
I BET  
EVERYTHING.



WHAT?!

YOU TOLD  
ME HOW IT  
WOULD END. I  
KEEP A LITTLE  
PIGGY BANK OF  
MY OWN, YOU  
KNOW!

AND...HOW  
MUCH DID YOU  
HAVE...?

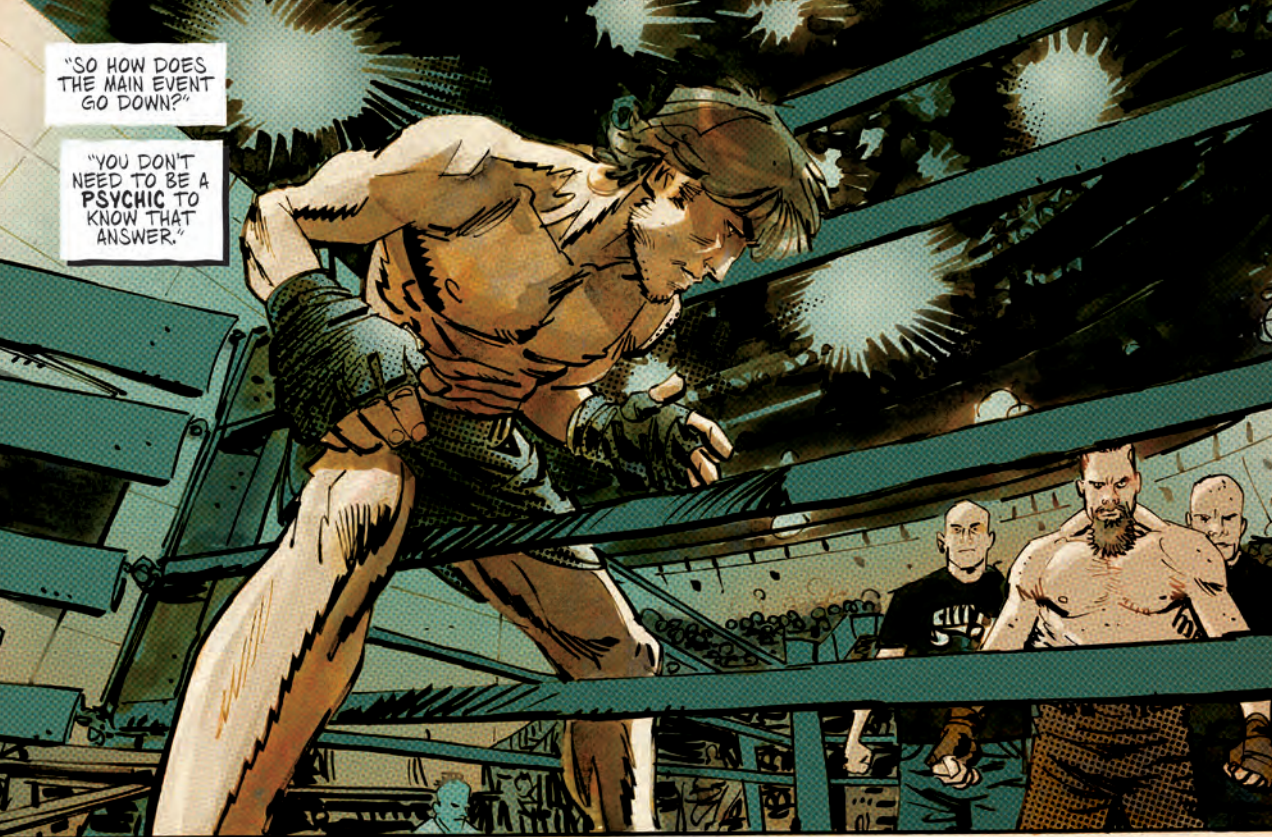


SHUT  
UP AND  
KISS ME.



"SO HOW DOES  
THE MAIN EVENT  
GO DOWN?"

"YOU DON'T  
NEED TO BE A  
PSYCHIC TO  
KNOW THAT  
ANSWER."



YOU DID IT,  
STAN! YOU DID  
IT! I'M SO HAPPY  
YOU'RE OKAY!

THE CHAMP  
IS HERE! THE  
CHAMP IS HERE!

WAY  
TO GO,  
STAN!

YEAH...



THE CHAMP  
IS HERE,  
ALRIGHT! YOU  
STILL GOT  
IT, STAN!



THAT'S  
YOUR SON?

YOU  
TWO NEVER  
MET?

NOPE. I  
HEARD MOM  
MENTION HIM  
ONCE OR TWICE.  
SO... WHY DID YOU  
NAME A BOY  
LUCY?




SUE WAS  
ALREADY  
TAKEN...



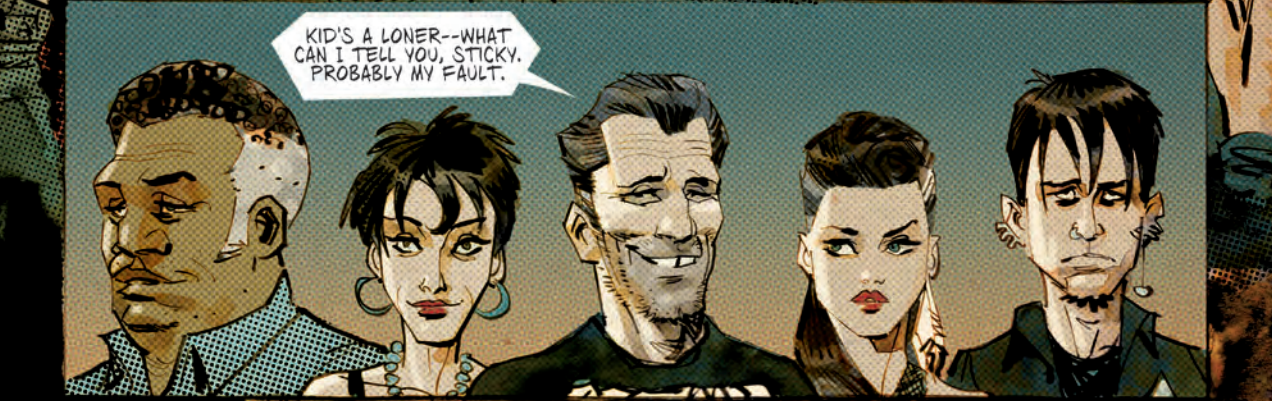






WINNER BY  
KO VIA SUPLEX  
IN TWENTY-ONE  
SECONDS--LUCY  
DANCE!

"WHERE'S  
HIS CORNER  
MAN?"



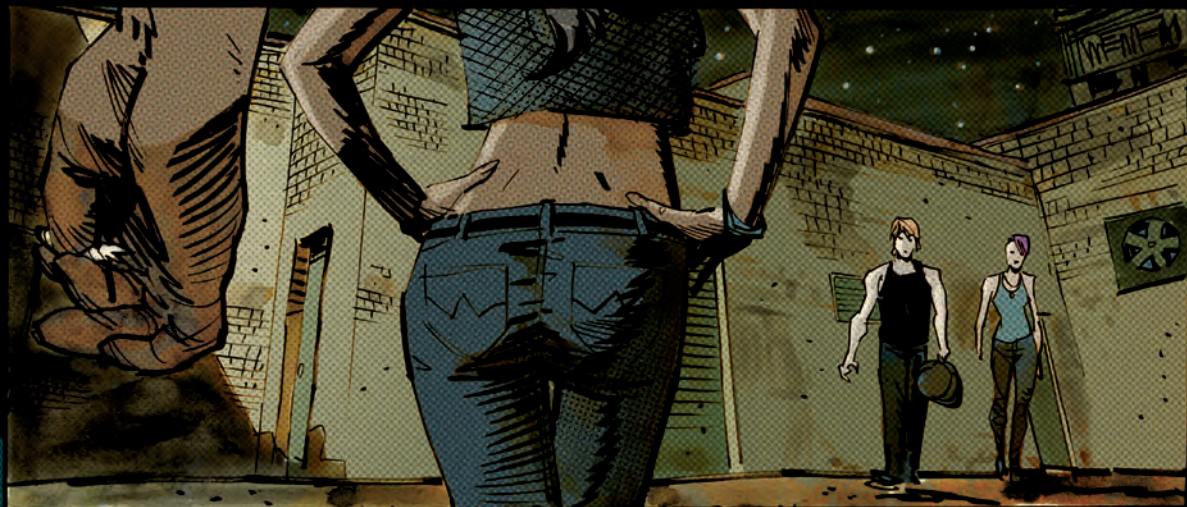
KID'S A LONER--WHAT  
CAN I TELL YOU, STICKY.  
PROBABLY MY FAULT.

HE'S GOING TO THE  
AFTERPARTY,  
RIGHT?

I'M NOT  
SURE HE KNOWS  
ABOUT IT. WE'RE  
GOING THROUGH  
A PHASE.

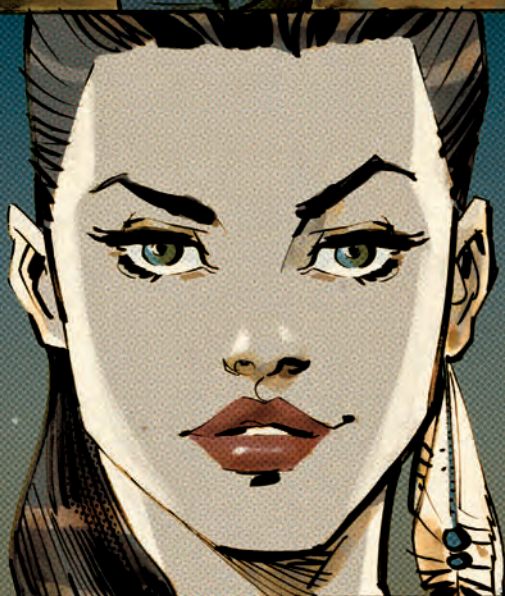






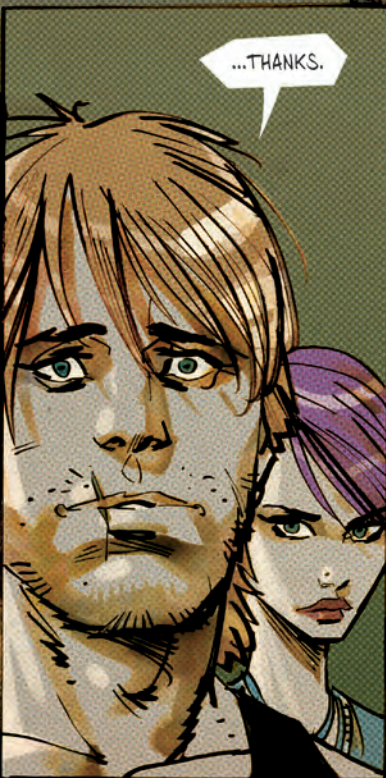
THAT  
WAS SOME  
FIGHT.

LUCY.



...THANKS.

WE'RE  
HEADING TO  
THE PIG PEN  
FOR THE AFTER-  
PARTY. ARE  
YOU GOING?



UM...

NO.  
WE'RE  
MEETING  
SOME  
FRIENDS.



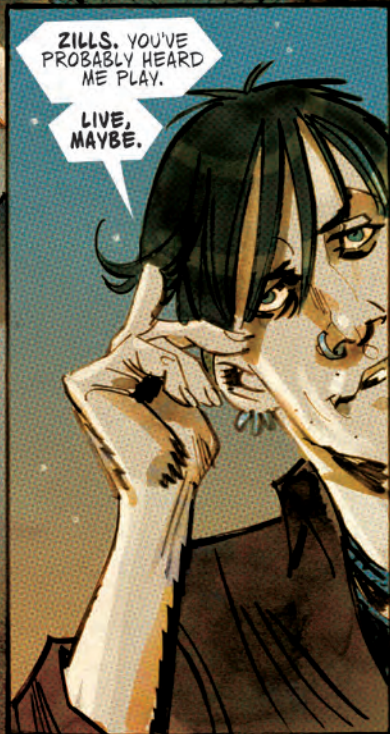




I'M AUDREY.

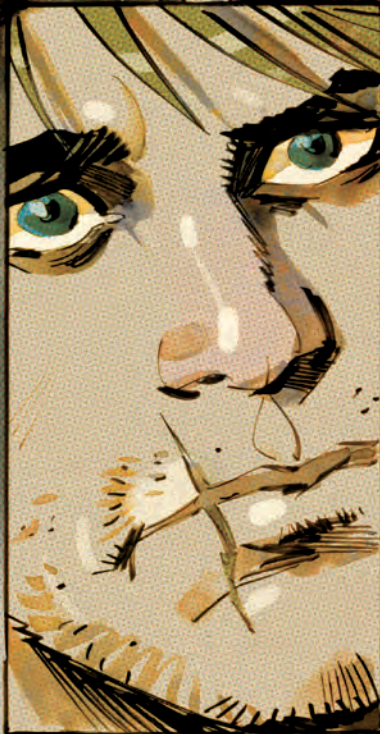
I'M MERCY.

WE KNOW.



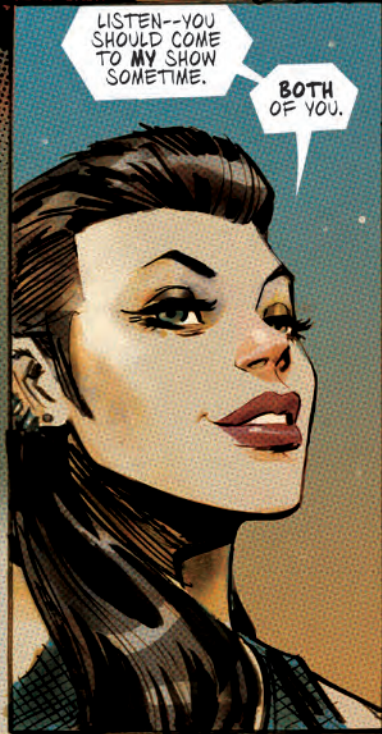
ZILLS. YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD ME PLAY.

LIVE, MAYBE.



LISTEN--YOU SHOULD COME TO MY SHOW SOMETIME.

BOTH OF YOU.





# MAIL SLOTS

SEND LETTERS TO [SLOTS@SKYBOUND.COM](mailto:SLOTS@SKYBOUND.COM)

This is Sean, and welcome to the inaugural SLOTS letters page! Which, for the sake of argument, I am calling MAIL SLOTS (...unless Dan has something he prefers.)

This issue features one of my favorite pages of any comic we've published this year. The storytelling in Stanley's fight is impeccable. This year I've been searching for a sports comic to publish, and it took me far too long to realize that we were already going to publish one. Thanks for reading us!

*Hi, Dan here. I'm just gonna chime in a bit to make sure Sean doesn't ruin this letters page. I guess MAIL SLOTS works... Fine...*

**Glowing endorsement! Letters!**

.....

Just wanted to give my congratulations on the excellent first issue. I've been lucky enough to have got a copy to write a review and I loved it. It's the exact type of story I enjoy reading and I'm looking forward to see if Stanley hits jackpot or goes bust.

From,  
Abel GC

Would love to know more about why it qualifies as "the exact type of story" you enjoy reading. I mean, I couldn't agree more. For me, it's the combination of unconventional crime story mixed with incredible art... and sports, apparently.

*Sean, let's not dig too deep here, okay? When I hear the word "exact", I take it as it is. To me that's the highest praise we can achieve. Digging for more info would make Abel rethink his letter entirely. Thanks, Abel. Pay no attention to Sean.*

This is exactly how Robert treats me. You're pretty good at this letters thing.

.....

Hey Dan and everyone involved in Slots, writing in to praise you all for an awesome first issue. I enjoyed the preview in Image Previews and was double sold by the Walking Dead 100 homage cover. Nice work!

Anyways, Stanley is such a cool character. I can already tell I'm going to enjoy reading about him and his way of life. I'm excited to be excited about another Image book. Also really enjoy the style of artwork.

Looking forward to issue 2.  
Good luck with the book!!  
Mason from Iowa

Stanley's the type of guy I'd be wary of or straight up avoid in real life, but in fiction, I can safely ride shotgun with. Dan has more familiarity with guys like Stanley, but also Dan is A LOT tougher than me.

*With a name like Mason and considering everyone from Iowa is as tough as a high school gym floor, I'm happy to hear this! Thanks!*

.....

More please.

I'm going to buy all the copies at my local stores and give them to people to get them hooked.

Fantastic work.

Thank you,  
Marc Deering  
[www.inkingissexy.com](http://www.inkingissexy.com)

The best way to get readers is by spending other people's money. Thanks, Marc!

*Marc asked me for \$10 to write this letter and so far I've only paid him \$7. How much trouble will we get in if we print this anyway, Sean?*

US laws don't govern letters pages. It's the wild west.

.....

Hi Dan,

Seeing Slots announced had me very excited and the first issue did not disappoint. I'm a longtime boxing fanatic, and the lives of these warriors - champions and journeymen - once they've hung up the gloves has always intrigued me.

Same here. But I grew up with "Marvelous" Marvin Hagler posters on my wall because he was from Brockton, Massachusetts, where my folks grew up. Also, Rocky Marciano was from there, which is why Brockton calls itself the "City of Champions." I think boxing stories lead to the most compelling sports stories, not only because of the physicality, but these athletes' battles in the ring directly affect their lives outside of it.



FX aired one season of a boxing show called *Lights Out*. It was fantastic, and I definitely recommend anyone reading this to check it out. Great lead performance by Holt McCallany, who currently stars in *Mindhunter*.

Far too often you read about the latest boxer declaring bankruptcy or going to prison at a time when regular folk have built up their wealth and are planning for retirement. Of course there are the guys who never truly left and keep fighting past their prime (I'm looking at you, Roy).

Looks like Stan is in the boat with all three...I'm hoping he comes out of it unscathed! Either way, you've got me hooked and I'm sure the upcoming issues will be a knock out!

All the best,  
Edward  
Brisbane, Australia

*Stanley has his work cut out for him and he's one lazy bastard – so it's not looking good. He does seem to have luck on his side lately, so let's hope for the best. Glad you're digging the book!*

.....  
Greetings from Downunder Mr Barbarian

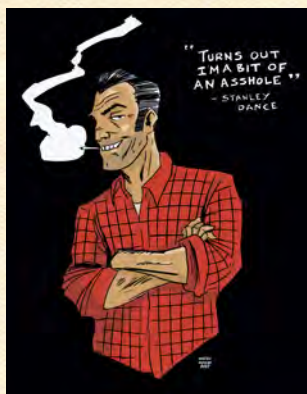
Simple. Beautiful. Slick. Grit. That is Slots! Thank you!

I was so pumped when i heard you were doing a creator owned series, and you havnt disappointed! What a great yarn and cant wait for issue 2. Your art and style is made for this, keep it coming Dan!

I immediately did some fan art of Stanley minutes after putting it down, hope ya dig.

Thanks again

Andrew Aird  
Perth  
Western Australia  
@sketch\_monkey83



*I saw this on Instagram, too, and it made my day! Cheers, Andrew.*

.....  
Hey Dan, Congrats.

Everybody should have their own creator owned. That is the reason I love image. Not until image did I feel like I could get into stories without having a long term backstory to be committed to reading. Individualistic comics and diversity is what makes me the most proud of today's comics. It's nice to hear you finding yourself because I see and feel the same way and I'm digging it more now than I ever have.

This just about sums up why I enjoy publishing them. Thanks for your support!

I draw comics but only for myself right now but felt like it took me a long time to just accept that I draw the way that I draw and not to try to be anybody else. That's what makes me like your comic, you do you. Keep up the good work and I'll keep supporting! Loving the black and white stuff I saw early on too, might be cool to see it all stripped down.

Anyways, cheers bud.

I'll keep my eyes out for Slots! (Oops, that sounded dirty.)

*I've been hearing some similar jokes lately! I need to get used to it. Good luck, sir! And thanks for the kind words!*

Scott

.....  
Hey--

I read Slots number one when it came out. Yeah, I liked it. Put it aside for a while. Read it again now number two's about due. Glad I did. Real people, could be real people, people I wouldn't know, but interesting people. And all of them given panel time enough to come across as could be real people. I'm reading Briggs' Land, Grass Kings, Hillbilly, and Rebels. I'm reading Squirrel Girl and Usagi, too, but my point is I've read enough comics. Astro City gives me all the super-dor stuff I need. Reread Fell, deeply enjoyed it again. Ordinary, could be real people, interesting people I wouldn't otherwise know; I like that. Like those, Slots offers good portraits of some interesting people. Yeah, I liked it. Looks good, lots of close-ups on people's expressions. Looking forward to issue two. thanks for a good solid new comic,

best wishes,  
Matt Levin

sigh... "Send it to Stanley," "Slots' Lots;" "A Pot to Piss In."

Call me crazy, but I like "A Pot to Piss In". Not as obvious as "Mail Slots" but I'm keeping an open mind!

.....  
Okay, that does it for this month. We'll see you next month when Stanley deals with some pain and consequences. Happy New Year!

-Sean Mackiewicz  
@seanmackiewicz

*I'm liking "A Pot to Piss In", too, but I'm a terrible person. Cheers, everyone. See you next month!*

-Dan Panosian  
@UrbanBarbarian





# SLOTS™

a SKYBOUND yarn by  
**DAN PANOSIAN**

**ISSUE 4**

**AVAILABLE  
JANUARY 2018**



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# OUTCAST

BY **KIRKMAN**  
& **AZACETA**



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