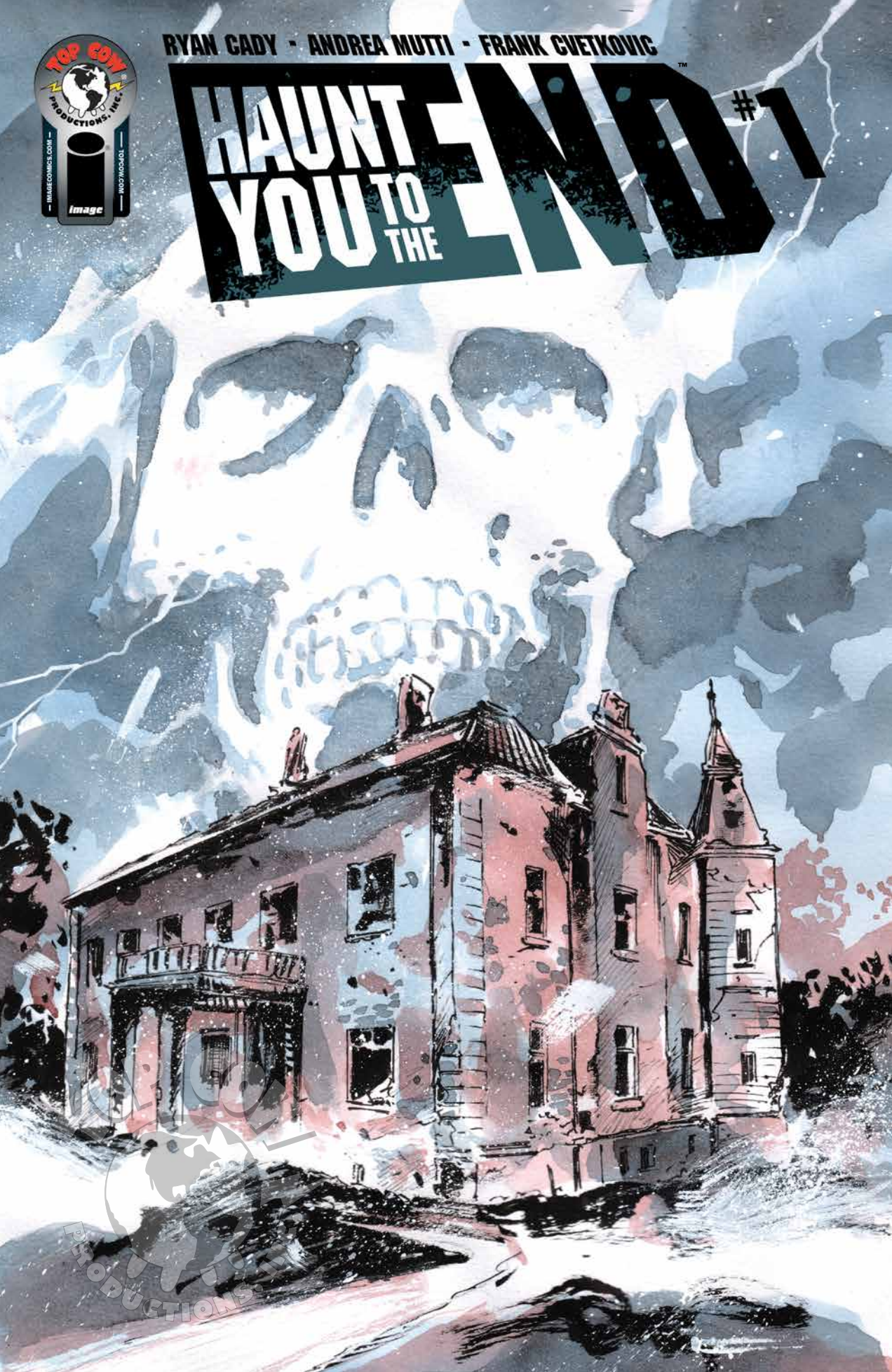




RYAN GADY · ANDREA MUTTI · FRANK CVETKOVIC

HAUNT YOU TO THE END #1



TOP COW PRODUCTIONS



HAUNTY YOU TO THE

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In 2050, the failure of world governments to reduce carbon emissions to a pre-industrial level sets the stage for an unavoidable "Hothouse Earth" scenario.

Over the next several decades, global warming and severe climate catastrophes become commonplace. Sea levels rise, coastlines are obliterated, and extreme weather events - hurricanes, fires, floods, and worse - are facts of life.

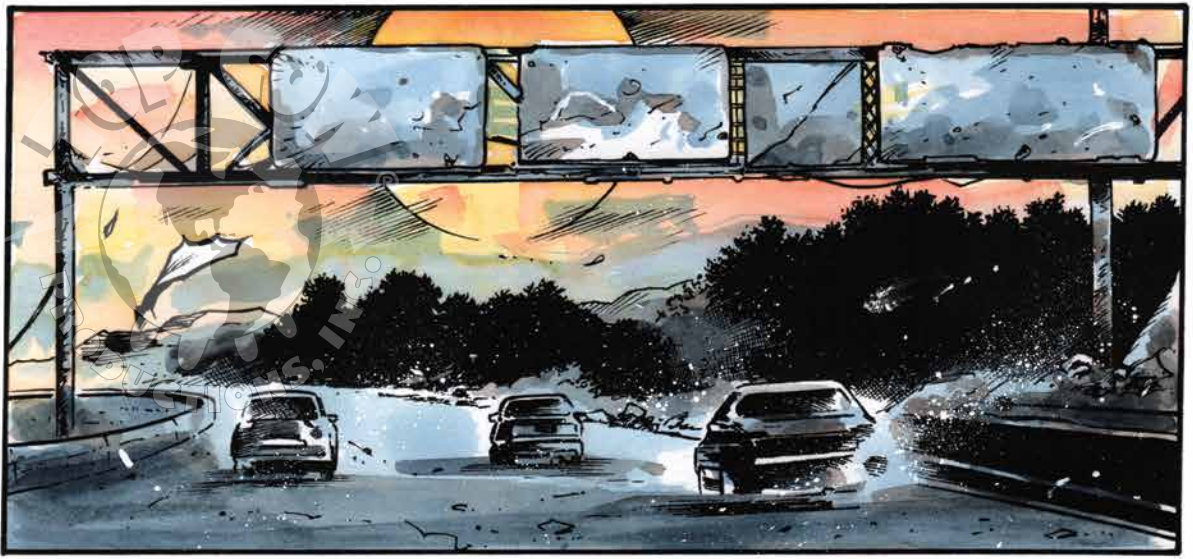
By the dawn of the 22nd century, human society has adapted successfully to an earth that grows less habitable by the day. But adaptation does not guarantee survival, and as for those who do survive...

What are they living for?



“I think ghost stories are fundamentally optimistic, don’t you? If there are ghosts, then that means we survive death.”

-Stanley Kubrick to Stephen King, on the set of *The Shining*

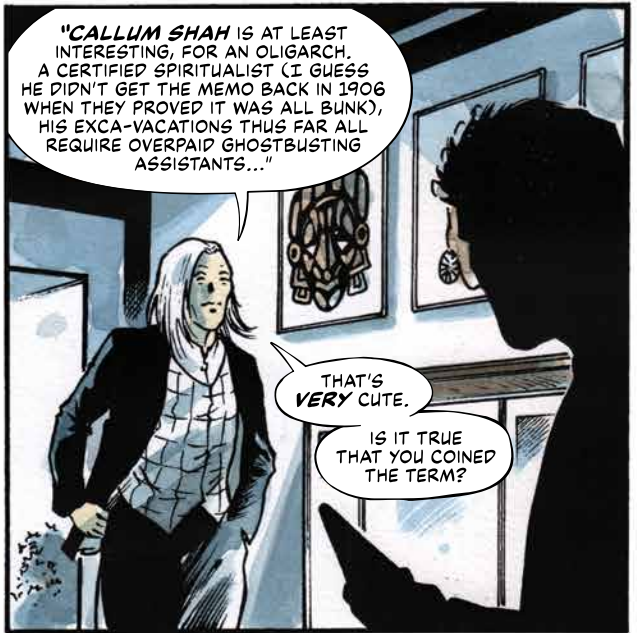








YOU WERE A TOUCH LESS COMPLIMENTARY IN YOUR *TIMES* PROFILE:



"CALLUM SHAH IS AT LEAST INTERESTING, FOR AN OLIGARCH. A CERTIFIED SPIRITUALIST (I GUESS HE DIDN'T GET THE MEMO BACK IN 1906 WHEN THEY PROVED IT WAS ALL BUNK), HIS EXCA-VACATIONS THUS FAR ALL REQUIRE OVERPAID GHOSTBUSTING ASSISTANTS..."

THAT'S *VERY* CUTE.
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU COINED THE TERM?



"EXCA-VACATION." YEP.

VERY CUTE. BUT THIS IS NOT A "HOBBY" FOR ME, MR. PARK.



THIS IS NOT BUNK. THIS COLLECTION HAS BEEN THE DRIVING FOCUS OF MY LIFE SINCE *PRIMARY SCHOOL*.

THE ENGLAND I GREW UP IN WAS STILL A GRAY AND GLOOMY ONE. THERE WERE HAUNTED HOUSES 'ROUND EVERY CORNER...



BUT YOU DIDN'T SCHEDULE THIS MEETING TO GLOAT IN FRONT OF YOUR COLLECTION WHILE I SLOWLY DIE OF POVERTY, DID YOU?



NO, I SCHEDULED THIS MEETING TO OFFER YOU A JOB.



NEXT WEEK, I BEGIN THE MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF MY LIFE.

AND I WANT YOU TO DOCUMENT IT.

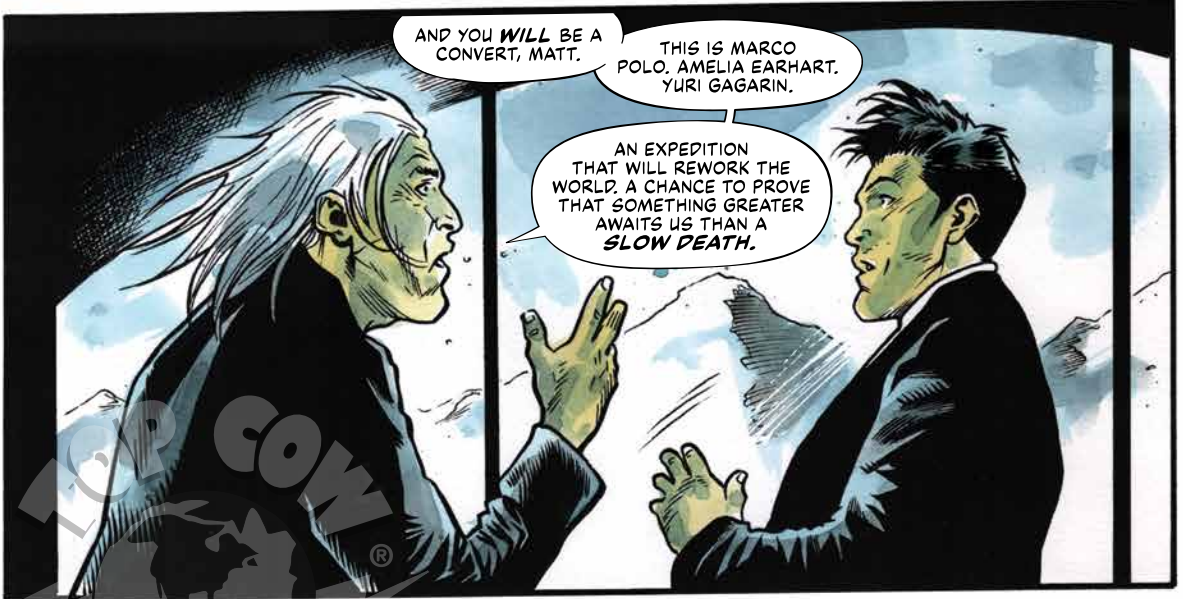


YOU HATE MY COVERAGE OF YOU.

YOUR CRITICISM ONLY LENDS ME CREDIBILITY.

SKEPTICS MAKE THE BEST CONVERTS.

THE MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF YOUR LIFE IS A *GHOST TOUR*? I...I DON'T BELIEVE IN ANY OF THIS SHIT, MR. SHAH.



AND YOU *WILL* BE A CONVERT, MATT.

THIS IS MARCO POLO. AMELIA EARHART. YURI GAGARIN.

AN EXPEDITION THAT WILL REWORK THE WORLD. A CHANCE TO PROVE THAT SOMETHING GREATER AWAITS US THAN A *SLOW DEATH*.



THINK IT OVER. I'LL PAY BETTER THAN WHATEVER RAG YOU'RE WRITING COPY FOR THESE DAYS. MAKE A LIST OF PROS AND CONS, IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES.

BUT YOU WILL COME WITH ME, MATT.

"COME WITH ME
AND BELIEVE IN
SOMETHING MORE
THAN THIS."

CON - Ghosts.
Aren't. Real.

PRO - Makes this
an easy gig.

CON - Shah is an ultrarich,
manipulative asshole.

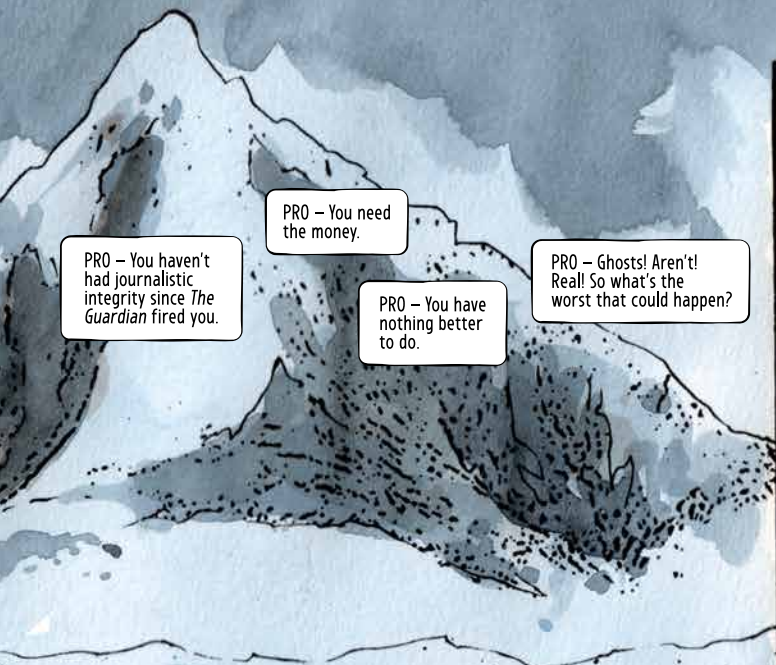
PRO - Might as
well take some
of his money.

CON - You cannot
maintain journalistic
integrity under
these circumstances.



~~IT.~~
IT.





PRO – You haven't had journalistic integrity since *The Guardian* fired you.

PRO – You need the money.

PRO – You have nothing better to do.

PRO – Ghosts! Aren't Real! So what's the worst that could happen?



!!! Environmental Alert: Air Quality within Acceptable Danger Levels

!!! I Missed Call: Dr. Bustamante

!!! Billing Alert: Your Account ending in...



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A LITTLE EARLY FOR THAT, DON'T YOU THINK?



Hmm? OH, NO WAY--IT'S A SATIVA BLEND. **DOCTOR-PRESCRIBED.**

WANT SOME?

Uhhh, NO THANKS.

I'M ANXIOUS ENOUGH ALREADY.



SUIT YOURSELF. HERE FOR SHAH'S LATEST WILD GOOSE CHASE?

I'M **MADDI.**

MATT PARK.

MATT AND MADDI... THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE CONFUSING, OR ANYTHING.

Ha!
Ha!
Ha!
Ha!



SHIT, YOU **ARE** ANXIOUS.

NEVER WORKED FOR A WAR CRIMINAL?

...SHAH MADE HIS FORTUNE IN DATA ACQUISITION, NOT DEFENSE.



HE'S A BILLIONAIRE.

THEY'RE ALL WAR CRIMINALS.







THIS IS OUR DESTINATION.

THE MOST HAUNTED PLACE ON EARTH.

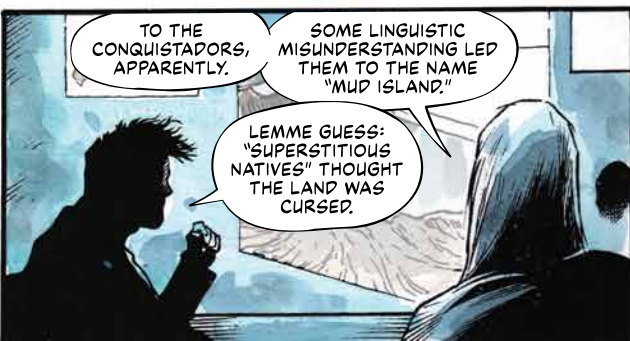


IN TWO AND A HALF CENTURIES, THIS TINY ISLAND OFF THE BAJA COAST HAS SEEN MORE MYSTERIOUS DEATHS, SPIRITUAL APPARITIONS, AND UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENA THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD.

IT GOT A NAME?

UNOFFICIALLY, THEY CALL IT "ISLA LOPO."

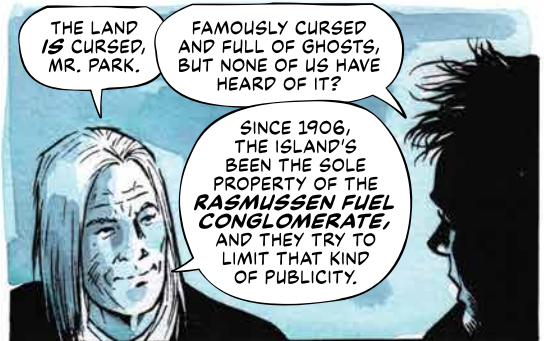
FUNNY.



TO THE CONQUISTADORS, APPARENTLY.

SOME LINGUISTIC MISUNDERSTANDING LED THEM TO THE NAME "MUD ISLAND."

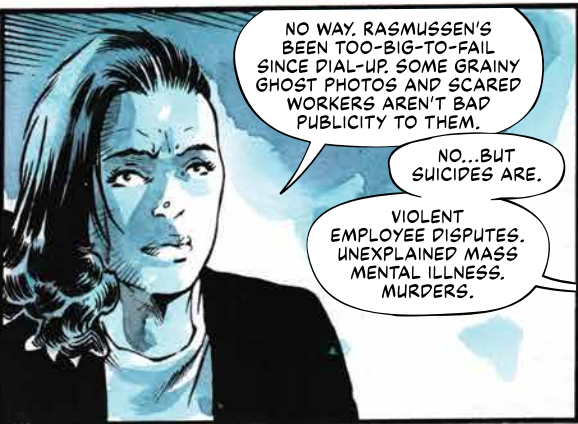
LEMME GUESS: "SUPERSTITIOUS NATIVES" THOUGHT THE LAND WAS CURSED.



THE LAND IS CURSED, MR. PARK.

FAMOUSLY CURSED AND FULL OF GHOSTS, BUT NONE OF US HAVE HEARD OF IT?

SINCE 1906, THE ISLAND'S BEEN THE SOLE PROPERTY OF THE RASMUSSEN FUEL CONGLOMERATE, AND THEY TRY TO LIMIT THAT KIND OF PUBLICITY.



NO WAY, RASMUSSEN'S BEEN TOO-BIG-TO-FAIL SINCE DIAL-UP. SOME GRAINY GHOST PHOTOS AND SCARED WORKERS AREN'T BAD PUBLICITY TO THEM.

NO...BUT SUICIDES ARE.

VIOLENT EMPLOYEE DISPUTES. UNEXPLAINED MASS MENTAL ILLNESS. MURDERS.



THIS ISLAND'S HISTORY IS FULL OF VIOLENCE.

AND THE VICTIMS OF THAT VIOLENCE LINGER.

SO WHY LET US INVESTIGATE? RASMUSSEN WOULDN'T JUST SUDDENLY OPEN TO VISITORS.

Ah. WELL.
THERE'S THE
RUB.

THERE ARE STILL
CORPORATE FACILITIES
LEFTOVER FROM BEFORE
CALIFORNIA'S MANDATORY
EVACUATION--AND THERE
IS, OF COURSE, THE
RASMUSSEN MANOR,
WHICH IS SURPRISINGLY
WELL INTACT.

BUT RASMUSSEN
DOESN'T CARE
ABOUT WHATEVER WE
DO OVER THESE NEXT
THREE DAYS...

BECAUSE
NEXT WEEK, **THE
ISLAND WON'T
EXIST.**

THE
PACIFIC RIM
DESOLATION.

A COLORFUL
TERM...BUT ACCURATE.
MOST OF THE CLASS FIVERS
PETER OUT, OR SEND THE
TSUNAMIS FURTHER NORTH,
BUT THIS STORM...

WELL.
YOU GET THE
PICTURE.

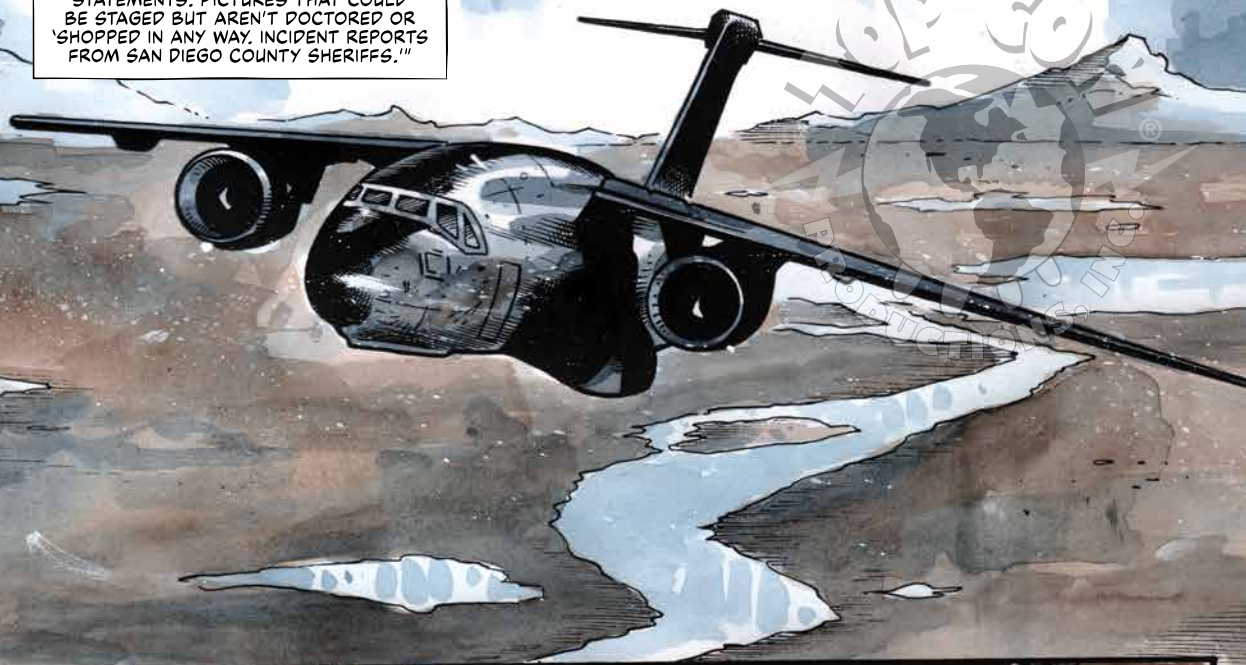
IN THREE
DAYS--FOUR AT
MOST--WE LOSE
ISLA LODO.

THERE'S NO PLACE
LIKE IT LEFT ON THE
PLANET--TRUST ME,
I'VE LOOKED.

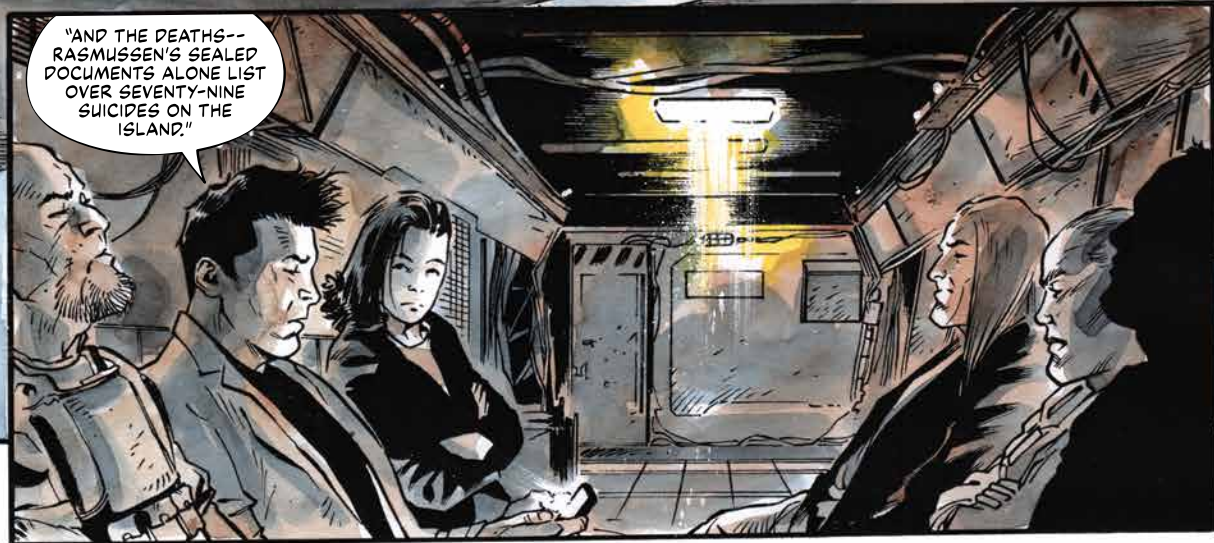
THIS IS OUR LAST
CHANCE TO PROVE--
TO A WORLD WITHOUT
HOPE--THAT THERE IS
HOPE FOR MORE THAN
THIS WORLD.

COME ONTRUN
THIS STORM WITH
ME. **COME CROSS
THE VEIL.**

"HUNDREDS OF EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS. PICTURES THAT COULD BE STAGED BUT AREN'T DOCTORED OR 'SHOPPED' IN ANY WAY. INCIDENT REPORTS FROM SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFFS."



"AND THE DEATHS-- RASMUSSEN'S SEALED DOCUMENTS ALONE LIST OVER SEVENTY-NINE SUICIDES ON THE ISLAND."



"THIS IS THE CLOSEST WE GET TO 'CRUISING ALTITUDE,' FOLKS, SO IF YOU WANNA CATCH A FEW HOURS' SLEEP BEFORE WE LAND, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE."



"I'M SURE A FEW HOURS ON THE ISLAND WILL CONVINC YOU BETTER THAN THOSE RASMUSSEN FILES CAN."





WE DON'T GET OFF THAT ROCK IN TIME, WE'LL ALL FIND OUT WHO'S RIGHT...

...THE HARD WAY.



AT LEAST THESE GUYS HAVE THEIR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT.

I DUNNO, MAN. I KINDA BELIEVE IN GHOSTS.



DON'T GET IT BACKWARDS, MATE--I'M A BELIEVER, TOO.



SAME HERE.



Oh, I ALMOST FORGOT...

YOU'LL HAVE ACCESS TO THE FULL CAMERA AND DRONE ARRAY ON THE ISLAND, BUT THERE'S NO REASON YOU CAN'T START PLAYING AROUND WITH THE INTERFACE.



HAVEN'T USED SOMETHING THIS HIGH-END IN A WHILE.



NEARLY 360 DEGREES OF PERFECT HIGH-DEFINITION VIDEO.

IT'LL TAKE A WHILE TO CALIBRATE, THOUGH...



"I GUESS A LITTLE SLEEP CAN'T HURT."



HOLD ON THE DESCENT A MINUTE.

I GOTTA HIT THE HEAD.



>sniff<

Hm?



HEY, COOL IF I RECORD A LITTLE OF OUR APPROACH FROM IN HERE?



"IT'S THE ISLAND...
WE'RE FLYING OVER
THE ISLAND!"





ONE OF YOU GRAB THE STICK, FER CHRISSAKE!

LET EVERYBODY BACK THERE KNOW...



"...WE'RE LANDING A LITTLE SOONER THAN EXPECTED!"



PRODUCTIONS, LLC



KRR RR-

SPLSHH



"APOLOGIES FOR THE ROCKY LANDING, EVERYONE."

"HOW'S OUR MAN?"



HE'S READING **NORMAL**, NOW...

LOOKS LIKE A TYPICAL SEIZURE.

YOU'RE SURE HE'S GOT NO HISTORY?



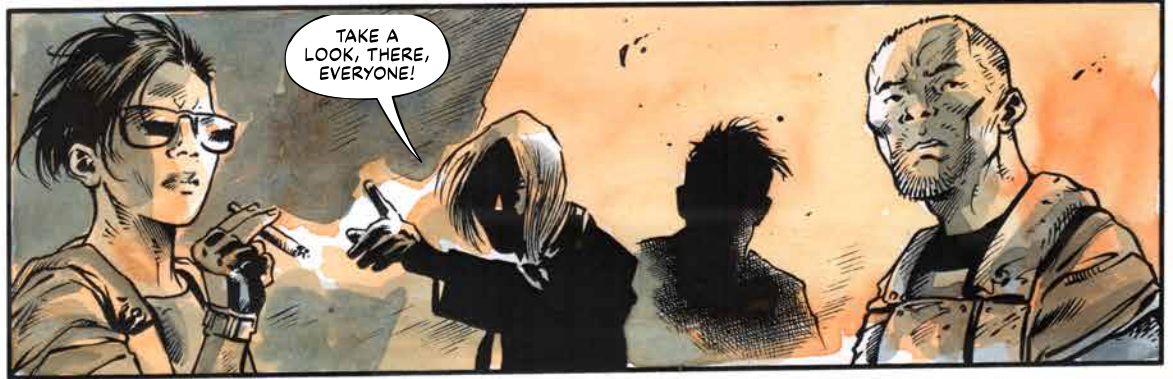
HELL, I'M NOT HIS MOM.

WHAT DO I KNOW?



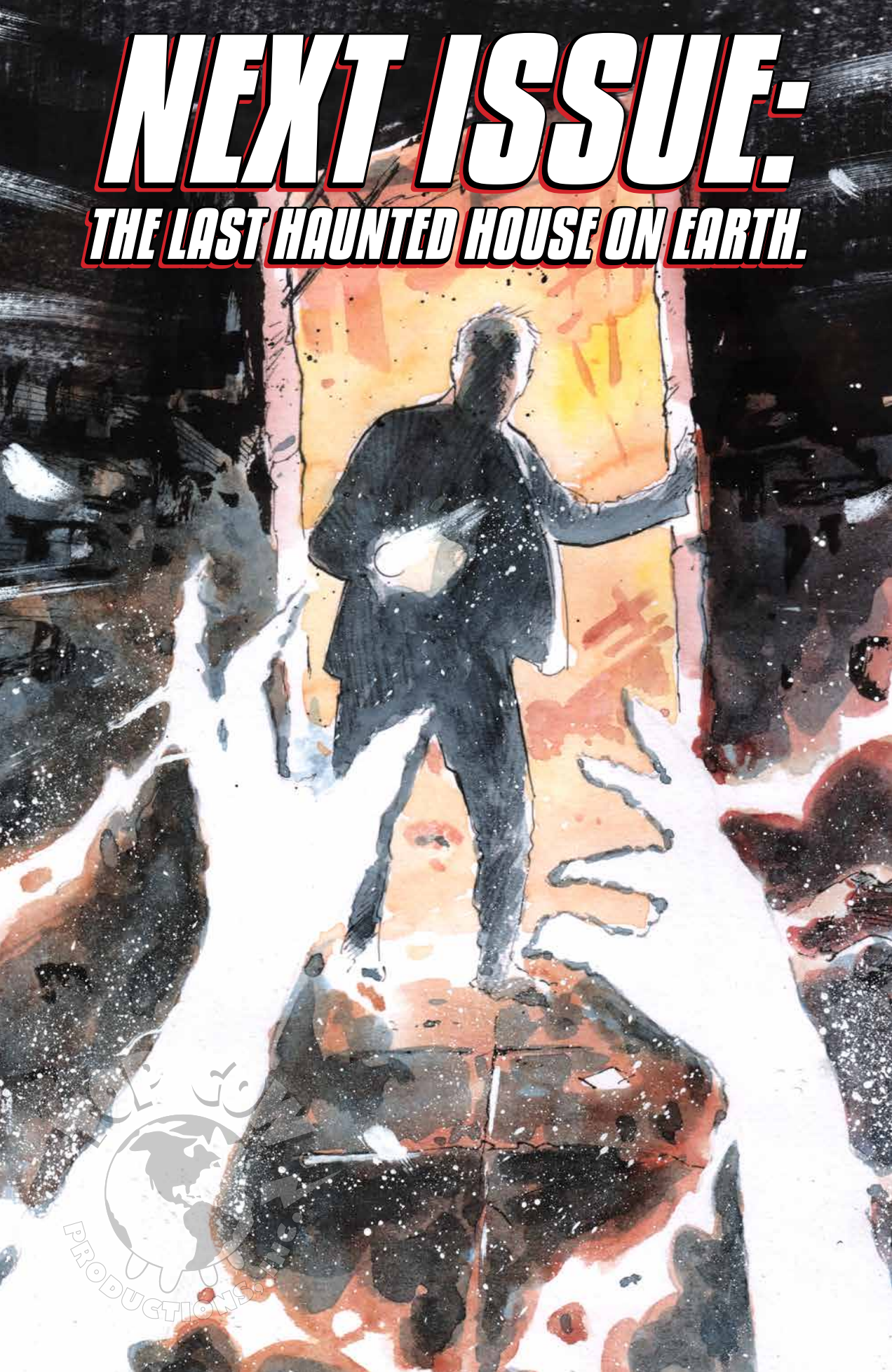
WHAT... WHAT IS THAT?





TO BE CONTINUED.

NEXT ISSUE: ***THE LAST HAUNTED HOUSE ON EARTH.***



PRODUCTIONS

HAUNT YOU TO THE END

GALLERY | CHARACTER DESIGNS



Matt Park



Callum Shah



Dr. Maddi O'Connell



Father Domingo Sandoval



Gersh



Gersh, suited up



Rasmussen





Page 9 pencils



Page 9 inks



Page 9 colors



Page 9 letters



Page 13 | pencils



Page 13 | inks



Page 13 | colors



Page 13 | letters

GALLERY | PAGE TWENTY | PROCESS



Page 20 | pencils



Page 20 | inks



Page 20 | colors



Page 20 | letters

HAUNT YOU TO THE

CREATIVE TEAM



Ryan Cady

Ryan Cady is a writer of comics and horror based in Southern California. Best known for his work on superhero properties like *Green Lantern* and *Batman: Urban Legends*, Cady has also collaborated on graphic novels with several high profile musicians, including Poppy and Machine Gun Kelly. His previous creator-owned project with Andrea Mutti, *Infinite Dark*, is also available through Image/Top Cow.



Andrea Mutti

Andrea Mutti began drawing comics in his native Italy during the early 1990s collaborating with various European publishers on such series as *DNAAction* (Xenia Edizioni), *Lazarus Ledd* and *Nathan Never* (both for Star Comics). In 2001, he landed in the U.S. market drawing acclaimed series such as *The Executioner* and *DMZ* for DC/Vertigo, various *Iron Man* series for Marvel and *G.I. Joe Origins* for IDW, among many others.



Frank Cvetkovic

Frank Cvetkovic is a comic book letterer who hates when people assume that all he does is put words inside bubbles. There's a *little* more to the job than that. For instance, sometimes he puts them in boxes. His work can be seen in *Blink*, *Count Crowley*, and the *Cyberpunk 2077* comics.



LINDA SEJIC

Blood Stain

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