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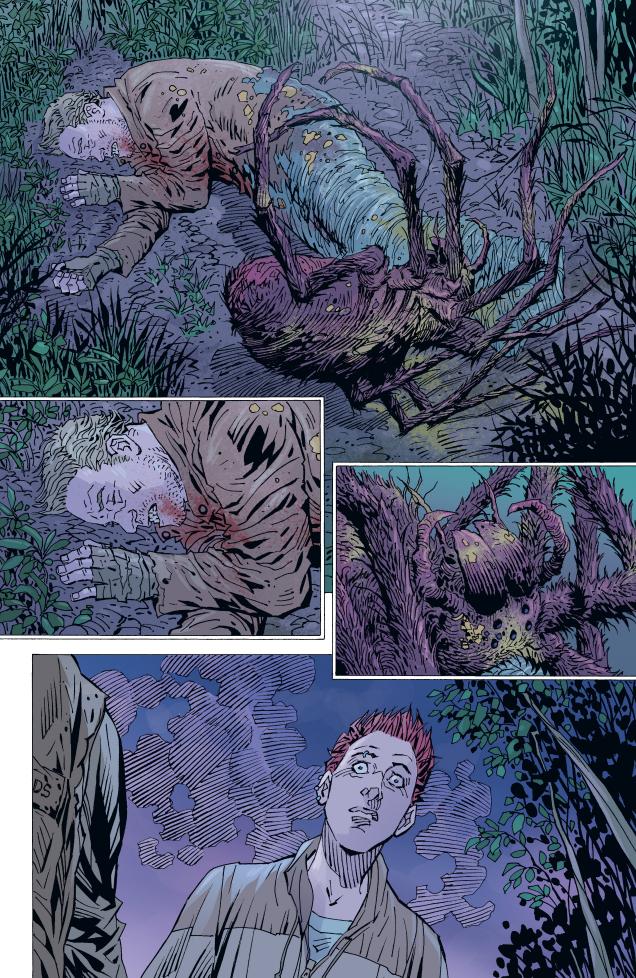
ALTER MELLER WILLS

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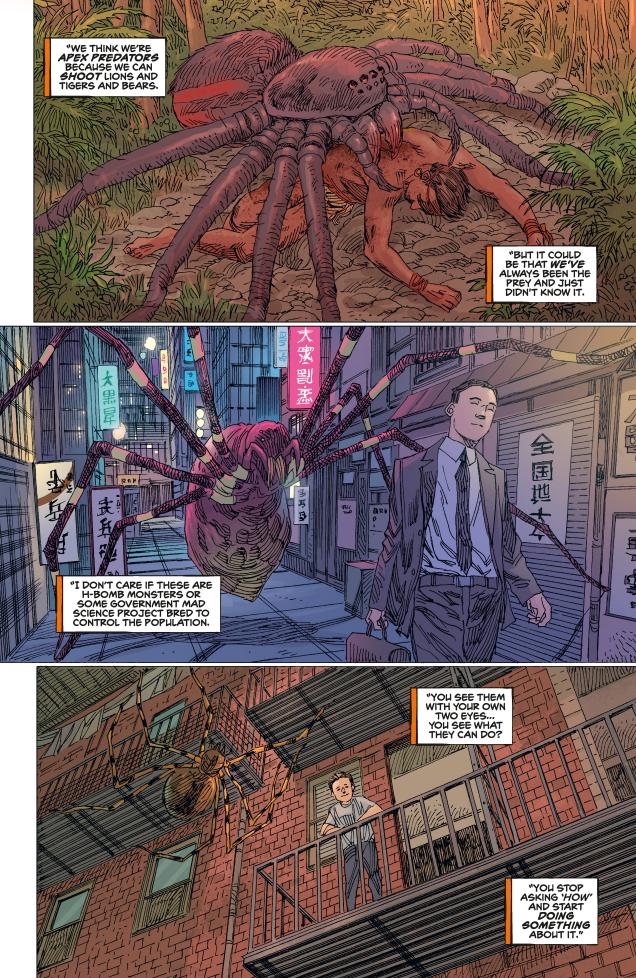












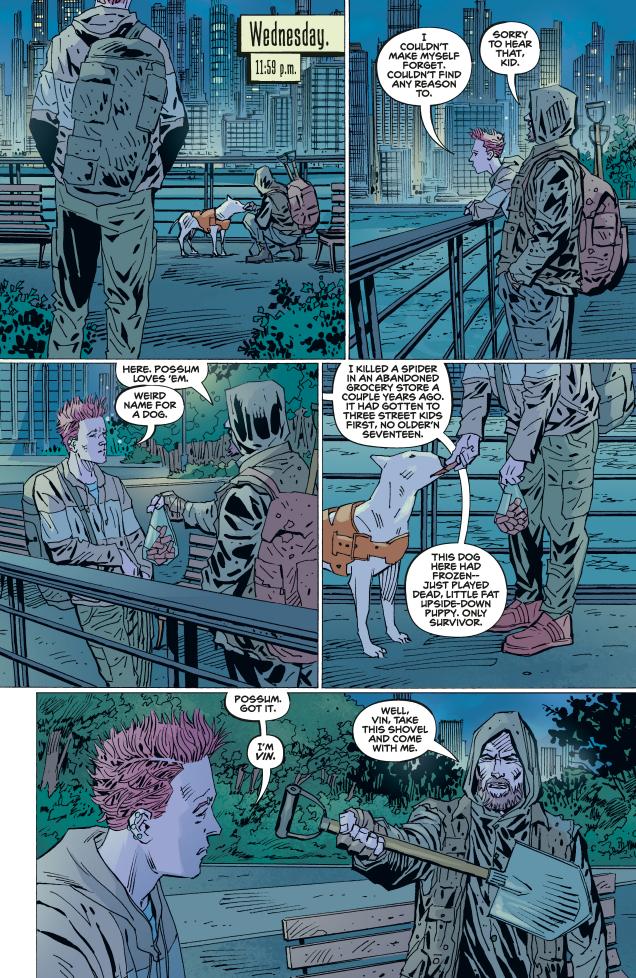


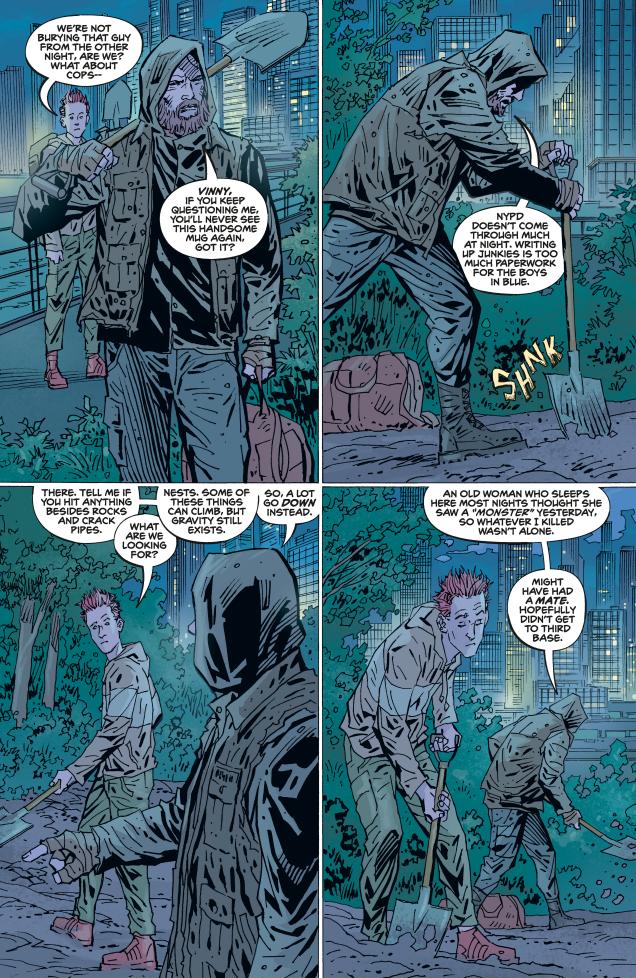


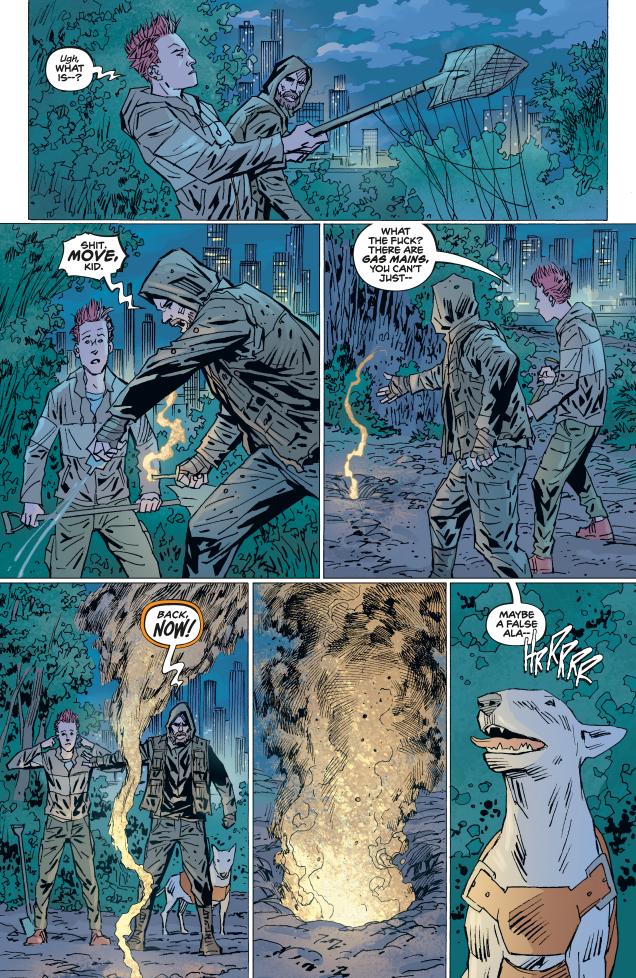




















## ON SALE MAY 24!

THE DRIFTER KNOWN AS REYNOLDS HAS WAGED A SECRETIVE DECADE-LONG HUNT AGAINST THE MONSTERS LURKING IN NYC'S SHADOWS. BUT HE AND HIS NEW "MENTEE" VIN GOT SLOPPY ... AND NOW A CITY EMPLOYEE IS DETERMINED TO FIGURE OUT HOW A DEAD SPIDER THE SIZE OF A DOG ENDED UP ON HER DESK.

## 7/14/97

Feel like an idiot trying to start this. Feel like an idiot not starting it sooner. Benji, one of the old timers who does the subway circuit now, he's the one who suggested it. Said he's been writing his life story for years, scribbling it away on any paper he can get his hands on. "Who's gonna publish it?" I asked. "God," he replied, and winked at me. Crazy fucking geezer.

> Benji only leaves the subway to piss and shit and wash up. Eats and drinks whatever riders will give him. When the cops kick him off, he runs as fast as he can to the next line over. Said he used to live rough until he saw on of 'em drag his lady away over in the Meatpacking District. Only got a good look at the thing's face, but he knew what he was looking at. All eight eyes, staring right at him as it bit into her stomach.

I went to the intersection he said it happened at. Nightclub bought half the block last year. Bunch of drunk rich kids in short skirts and sunglasses after dark.

They'll never see anything coming that way.

## 8/13/97

If I freshen up, sometimes I can get a few hours in a library without getting kicked out. Feels strange to be hitting the books at my age, but we can't just get by passing information person to person. Chances are, most of us on the streets aren't bug scientists, whatever the fuck they're called. I know I won't spell it right if I try.

I've been trying to learn whatever I can about "normal" spiders. This book's going to be my record of it all. My shitty drawings, stories I hear on the street, and everything I can find out about these bastards.

There's a lot of shit in the textbooks that doesn't apply or doesn't make sense. Biologically, these things shouldn't even be ABLE to get this big. Their lungs aren't supposed to work. That's why the biggest bugs anyone will talk about are the size of a dinner plate. But I know what I've seen. I don't need the how or why. Just how to prepare for them.

> Did you know there are over 45,000 types of spiders in the world? 45,000 ways of killing and trapping and poisoning and eating their prey. 45,000 ways to kill us.

Which means I have to find that many ways to kill them first.

