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**COMICS PRESENTS**

## **THE MAXX**

Story • Pencils • Inks

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Dialogue

**BILL MESSNER-LOEBS**

Finishes

**JIM SINCLAIR**

Lettering

**MIKE HEISLER**

Color

**STEVE OLIFF  
REUBEN RUDE  
& OLYOPTICS**

Logo

**CHANCE WOLFE**

---

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**M A X X**

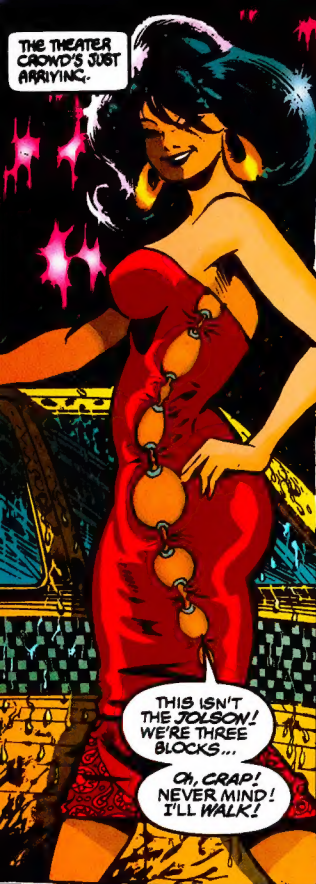
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!

THE SHOWS IN MY  
MIND ARE ALMOST  
ALWAYS BETTER.



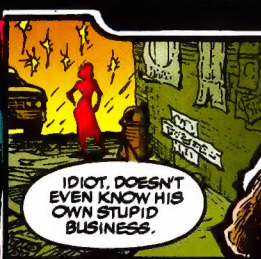


THE THEATER  
CROWD'S JUST  
ARRIVING.



THIS ISN'T  
THE JOLSON!  
WE'RE THREE  
BLOCKS...

OH, CRAP!  
NEVER MIND!  
I'LL WALK!



IDIOT. DOESN'T  
EVEN KNOW HIS  
OWN STUPID  
BUSINESS.



LOOK IT.

YEAH. RENNY  
DELIVERS. DON'T  
HE?

THE SKINNY ONE'S  
TEEGO. THE BIG  
ONE'S FRIDGE.



THEY BEAT PEOPLE  
UP. TAKE THEIR  
MONEY. KILL THEM  
SOMETIMES.

THE CAB DRIVER  
GETS A THIRD.

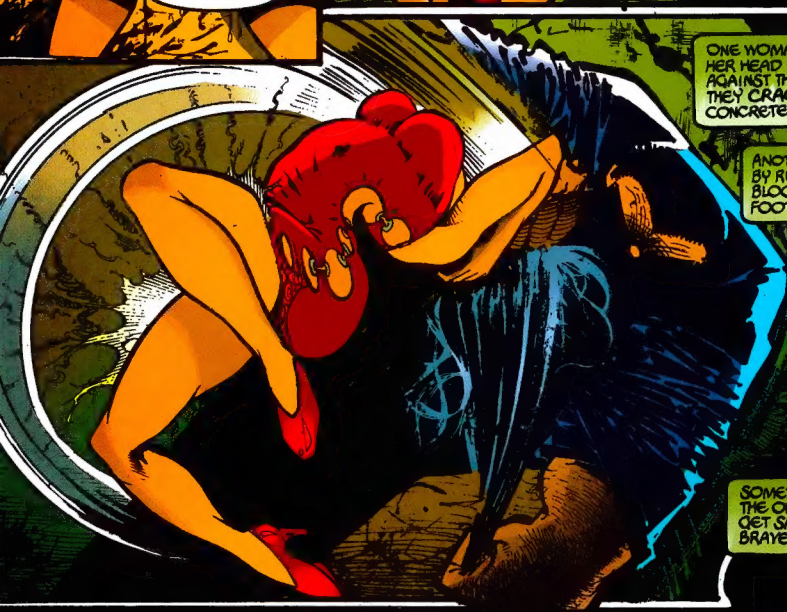


I'M GOING TO  
MISS THE CURTAIN.  
IF HE DOESN'T  
SHOW THE CITY,  
I DON'T SEE HOW  
HE CAN GET A  
LICENSE!

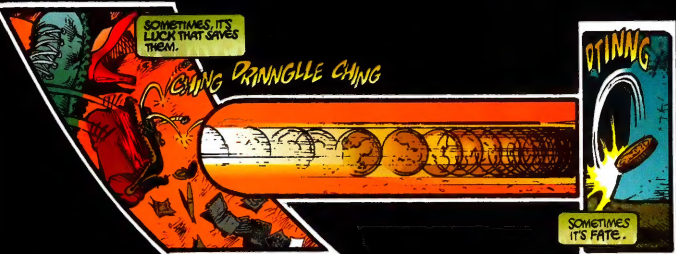


ONE WOMAN. THEY BEAT  
HER HEAD SO HARD  
AGAINST THE SIDEWALK,  
THEY CRACKED THE  
CONCRETE.

ANOTHER GOT AWAY  
BY RUNNING THREE  
BLOCKS ON A BROKEN  
FOOT.



SOMETIMES THAT'S  
THE ONLY WAY PEOPLE  
GET SAVED. SUICIDAL  
BRavery.

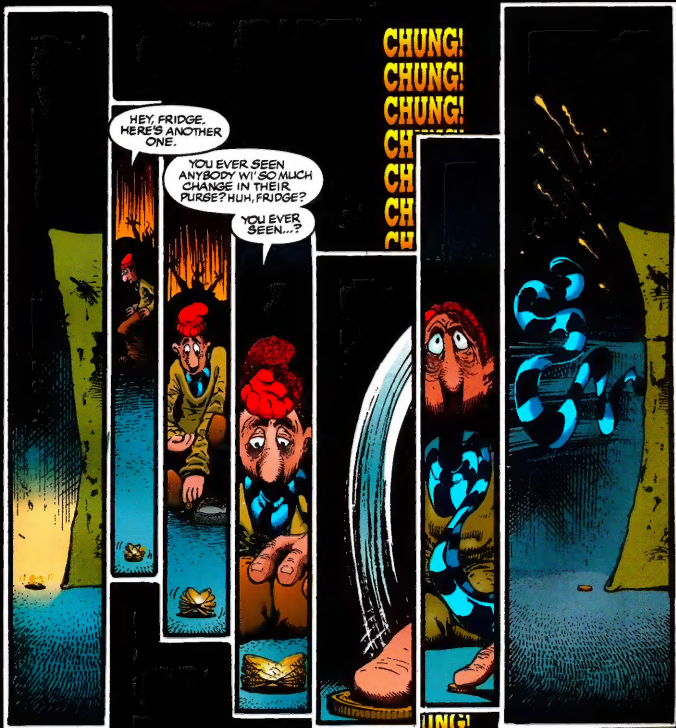


SOMETIMES, IT'S  
LUCK THAT SAVES  
THEM.

CHING DRINNGLE CHING

DING

SOMETIMES  
IT'S FATE.



HEY, FRIDGE,  
HERE'S ANOTHER  
ONE.

YOU EVER SEEN  
ANYBODY W/ SO MUCH  
CHANGE IN THEIR  
PURGE? HUH, FRIDGE?

YOU EVER  
SEEN...?

CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CH  
CH  
CH  
CH

CHUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!





WHA...  
WHO ARE  
YOU...?

HEY...!  
NO...!  
NO!

AEEH!

YEAH. USUALLY,  
IT'S FATE...

Tchreckk

BUT, SOMETIMES,  
IT'S ME.

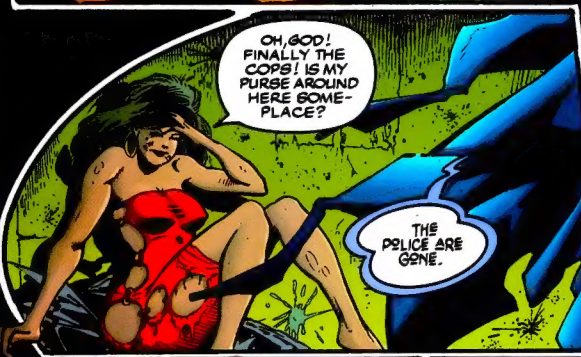




AND SOMETIMES IT'S US!

OKAY, EVERYBODY FREEZE!

DAMN. I WAS TALKING OUT LOUD AGAIN.



OH, GOD! FINALLY THE COPS! IS MY PURSE AROUND HERE SOME-PLACE?

THE POLICE ARE GONE.



THAT BUM IN THE MASK WAS TRYING TO HELP ME.

D'YOU THINK I SHOULD GIVE HIM SOME MONEY?



AFTER ALL, I COULD'VE BEEN RAPED AND MURDERED.



HEY, YOU'RE NOT...



NO. I'M NOT.



SAY, TODD. D'YOU REMEMBER A WOMAN BACK THERE...?



CHUNG!

CHU!

NAH, IF THERE WAS A VICTIM OR SOMETHIN' WE'D'VE SEEN HER.

I GUESS, WHAT'LL WE DO WITH LAUGHING BOY?

LET'S DROP HIM AT COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH.

COUNTY'S FULL.

HOW 'BOUT ST. JUDE'S PSYCHIATRIC?

THEY DON'T HAVE ANY ROOM EITHER.

WELL, WE GOTTA DROP HIM SOMEWHERE. HE ONLY THREATENED FRIDGE.

YEAH, I ALMOST ENVY HIM.

REALLY? WHYS THAT?

'CAUSE THE WORLD'S AWFUL. IT MUST BE GREAT T'DO ANY-THING YOU WANT AN' HAVE OTHER PEOPLE CLEAN UP YOUR MESS.

YEAH, LIKE US.

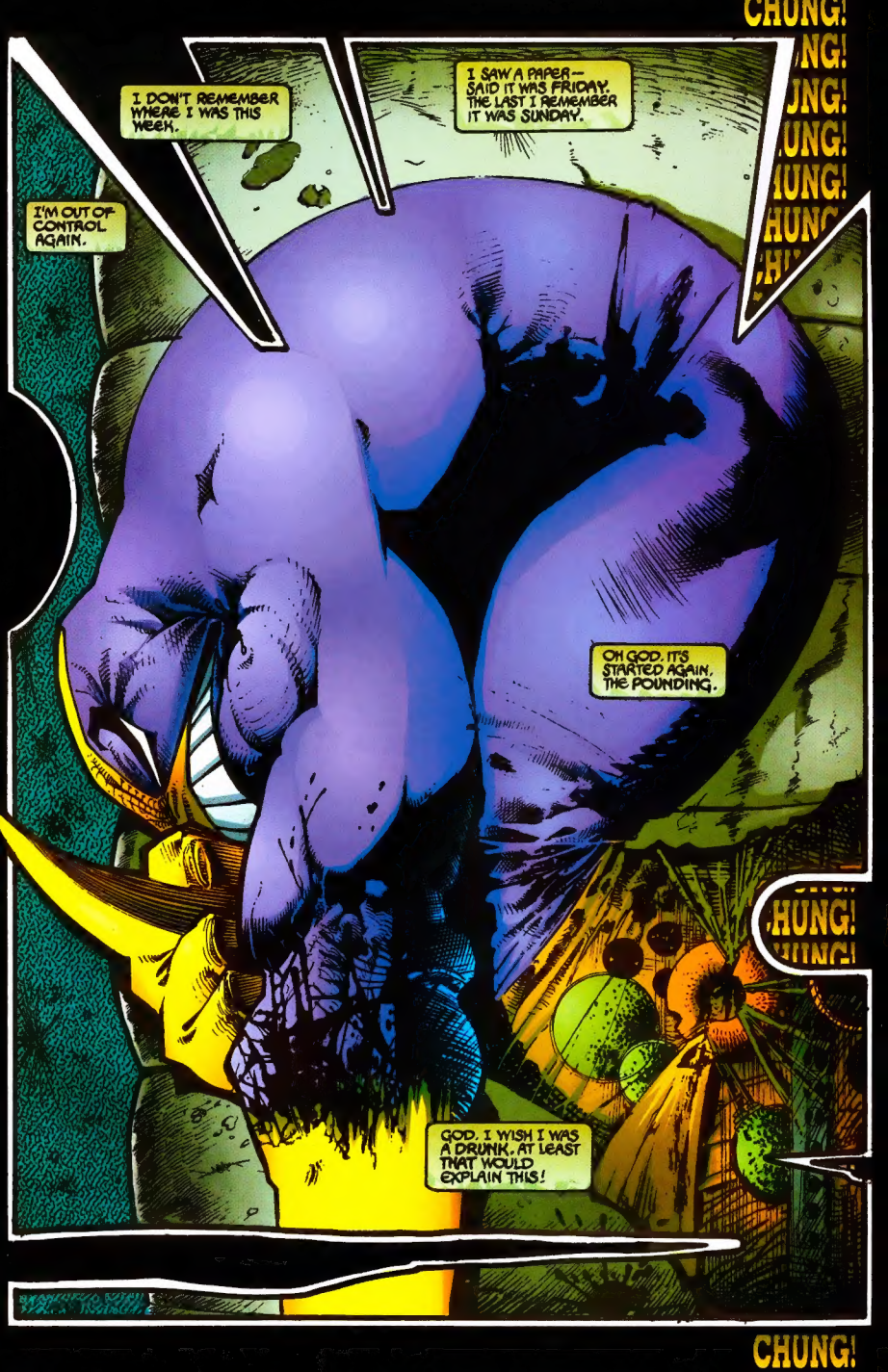
HUNG!  
HUNG!

WUMP

I HATE THIS.

HUNG!  
CHUNG!  
CHUNG!





I DON'T REMEMBER  
WHERE I WAS THIS  
WEEK.

I SAW A PAPER—  
SAID IT WAS FRIDAY.  
THE LAST I REMEMBER  
IT WAS SUNDAY.

I'M OUT OF  
CONTROL  
AGAIN.

OH GOD, IT'S  
STARTED AGAIN.  
THE POUNDING.

GOD, I WISH I WAS  
A DRUNK, AT LEAST  
THAT WOULD  
EXPLAIN THIS!

CHUNG!  
UNG!  
UNG!  
UNG!  
HUNG!  
HUNG!

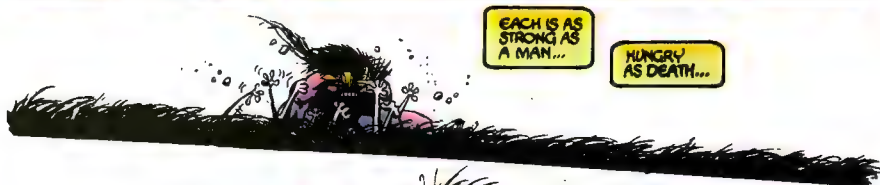
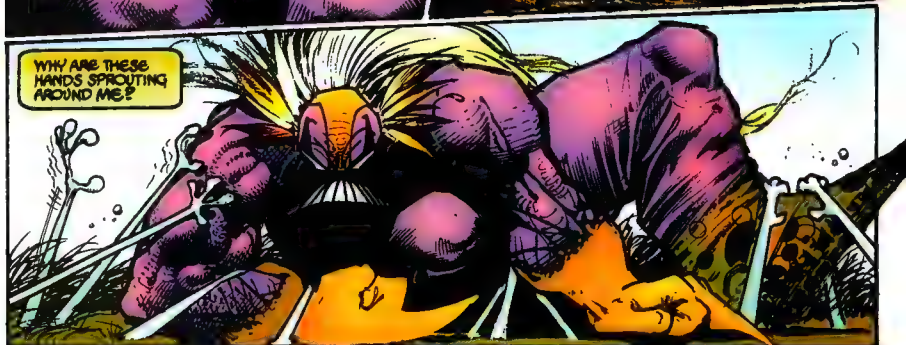
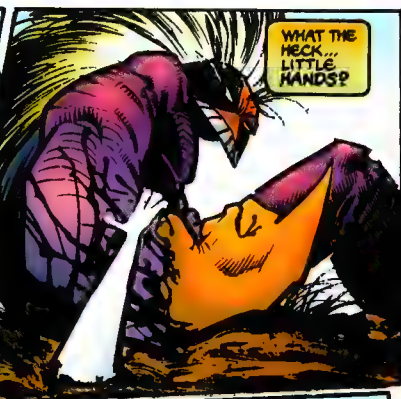
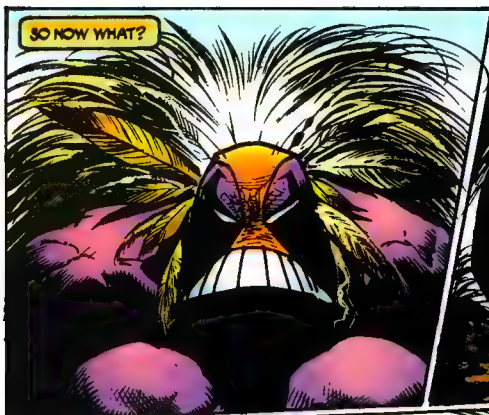
HUNG!  
HUNG!

CHUNG!



GREAT, WHERE  
THE HECK AM  
I NOW?









STARTING TO FADE...  
IT'S STARTING TO COME  
BACK TO ME NOW...  
BACK TO AUSTRALIA

NO, THE REAL AUSTRALIA.  
THE SMOKING CAVES.  
THE GODS WHO EAT  
MOUNTAINS, THE FLYING  
DRAGONS, THE RIVERS  
OF GOLD, THE  
LEOPARD QUEEN.

TAUNTING ME... ALMOST  
AN ENEMY... BEAUTIFUL AND  
FERAL AS THE GREAT  
BEASTS SHE RUNS WITH,  
STILL SHE INSPIRES ME...

NOT THE AUSTRALIA  
THEY TEACH YOU ABOUT...  
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY,  
THE OUTBACK...

FOR HER I  
CAN BE...

...A HERO!

SO, HERE'S  
THE FIRST  
QUESTION.

"IF YOU WERE  
LOST IN AN  
AIRPORT, WHAT'S  
THE FIRST THING  
YOU'D DO?"

THESE  
QUESTIONS  
JUST HELP  
US GET TO  
KNOW YOU.  
SO...?

I  
NEVER  
BEEN IN A  
AIRPORT.

OH, GOODY.  
I'LL JUST MARK  
THAT RIGHT  
DOWN.

WUM...

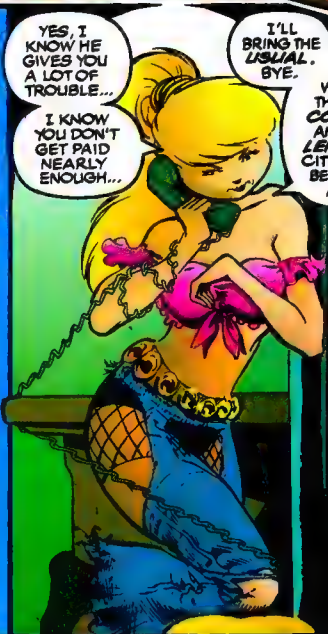
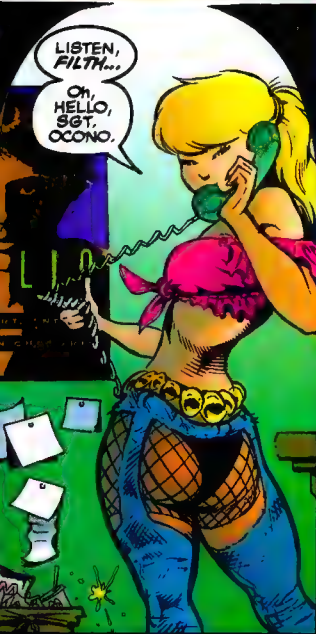
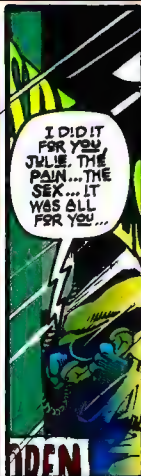
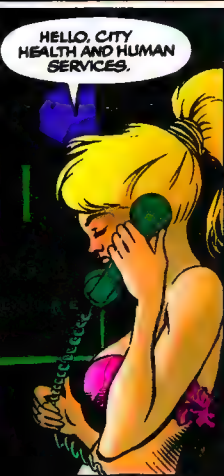
I NEVER SEEN  
A SOCIAL WORKER  
WHO DRESSED LIKE  
YOU, NEITHER.  
SORTA LIKE A  
HOOKER.

THANKS FOR  
SHARING THAT.  
I'LL TAKE IT  
UNDER ADVISE-  
MENT.

KEEPING IN  
MIND THAT I HAVE  
A JOB. WHILE YOU  
HAVE A BLANKET  
WITH VOMIT  
ON IT.









SO HERE  
I AM AGAIN,  
BAILING HIM  
OUT.

ASSAULT AND  
BATTERY, BREAKING  
AND ENTERING,  
ATTEMPTED MURDER.  
EVERYTIME IT'S  
SOMETHING DIFFER-  
ENT. HE REALLY  
THINKS HE'S SOME  
KIND OF **FLAMING**  
**SUPERHERO.**

NOT  
THAT THE CITY  
COULDN'T **USE**  
ONE!

HI, OCONO.  
YOU GOTTA  
PACKAGE HERE  
FOR ME?

YEAH. YOU  
SHOULDN'T HANG  
AROUND WITH  
THESE **CREEPS**.  
MISS JULIE. THERE  
WAS ANOTHER  
**RAPE** LAST  
NIGHT.

IF YOU  
DON'T **ACT**  
**STUPID**,  
YOU DON'T  
GET  
**RAPED**.

**BLAME**  
**THE VICTIM**.  
WHY DONCHA?

IT'S A HARD WORLD,  
OCONO. THERE'S ALWAYS  
ENOUGH **BLAME** T'GO  
AROUND.



HEY,  
MAXX.

IT'S GETTING  
HARDER AND  
HARDER TO **BUY**  
YOU OUTTA HERE.  
YOU ALMOST **CUT**  
OFF BAKER'S  
FINGER THIS  
TIME.

I  
DIDN'T DO  
IT.

WELL,  
HE JUST  
GOT **TWELVE**  
STITCHES  
TO HOLD  
HIS HAND  
TOGETHER.

IF IT  
WASN'T YOU,  
THEN **WHO**  
DID IT?

IT  
WAS THE  
MASK.


RIGHT.

I  
WARNED  
HIM NOT  
TO GET TOO  
CLOSE.


LET'S  
JUST DROP  
IT, OKAY?

YOU  
NEED SOME  
NEW  
CLOTHES, SOME  
FOOD AND A HOT  
BATH.


OKAY, BUT  
NO **BUBBLES**  
THIS TIME.



THEY COME OUT  
OF THE GROUND...  
PULLING ME  
DOWN...



I HAVE TO FIGHT  
BACK, OR BE  
DESTROYED!



THEN I WAKE  
UP, AS USUAL  
IT WAS ALL A  
DREAM.



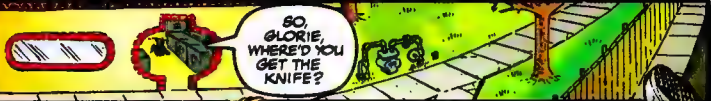
ALLEY OOP,  
SNOOKS. IT'S ALMOST  
NIGHT. THIS IS MY  
HOUSE. NOT A  
HOTEL.



I BOUGHT  
YOU A COAT AND  
HAT, SO YOU WON'T  
BE QUITE SO  
CONSPICUOUS.

NOT THAT BEING  
LARGE, VIOLENT,  
PURPLE AND YELLOW  
ISN'T A GOOD  
DISGUISE...





SO, GLORIE, WHERE'D YOU GET THE KNIFE?

FROM MY POP. F.R. PROTECTION. HE SAYS IT'S DANGEROUS AROUND HERE.

WHAT YOU WANT TO DO WHILE THE JACKETS DRY?



I DUNNO. I FEEL RILLY EXISTENTIAL TODAY. LIKE DABBY O'GILL AND THE LITTLE PEOPLE OR SOMETHIN'!

HEY, TOMMY, CUT IT OUT, 'KAY?



JUST 'CAUSE WE'RE DRYING OUR JACKETS TOGETHER DOESN'T MEAN YOU GET TOUCHING PRIVILEGES.

SURE, GLORIE.

GET US SOME COOKIES, 'KAY, AN' COOL OFF!



GEEZ, DON'T GET MAD.



THAT TOMMY. WHATTA DOOF!

BUT HE'S A SWEET DOOF...



Huh?



THE MACHINES BEGIN  
TO LEAK AND BURN  
IN MY PRESENCE

WHO'S  
THERE....?

I CAN HEAR  
THE BEATING  
OF HER HEART.

SHE IS LIKE A SMALL,  
DELICIOUS SLUG. I  
HAVE ONLY TO CLOSE  
MY HAND TO POSSESS  
HER.

CRAP.

HI,  
HONEY, I'M  
HOME.

MEEP

MEEP

MEEP

MEEP

MEEP!

MEEP







TRY NOT  
TO GET INTO  
ANY FIGHTS,  
OKAY, MAXX?

THE WOMAN I  
SAVED YESTERDAY  
WAS RAPED AND  
MUTILATED. IT SAID  
SO ON THE NEWS. I  
HAVE TO DO SOME-  
THING ABOUT  
THAT.

SPOKEN LIKE A  
TRUE FANATIC! A FEW  
WOMEN WHO CAN'T  
TAKE CARE OF THEM-  
SELVES GET MESSED  
WITH AND YOU RIDE  
TO THE RESCUE!

WHO ARE  
YOU TO ASSUME  
RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR THEIR  
LIVES?

I AM  
THE MAXX.  
ANSWER YOUR  
PHONE.

HULLO?

THE OTHERS  
CRY OUT FOR YOU,  
JILLIE WINTERS!  
THEIR SCREAMS OF  
AGONY ARE THE  
KISSES THAT I  
PLACE ALONG  
YOUR NECK!

THAT'S...VERY  
INTERESTING.  
TELL ME MORE.

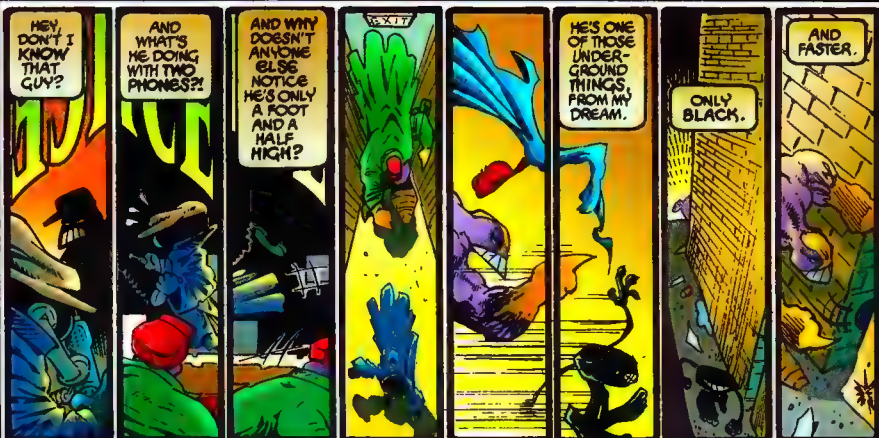
STUDY  
#47041

CALL  
SAM  
#47041

DEPT  
#47041

DOUBTLESS ONE  
OF YOUR FRIENDS IN  
THE POLICE DEPART-  
MENT HAS TAPPED  
THIS LINE...

NO MATTER,  
I AM HAVING  
A... SERVANT  
OF MINE  
PLACE THIS  
CALL!



HEY, DON'T I KNOW THAT GUY?

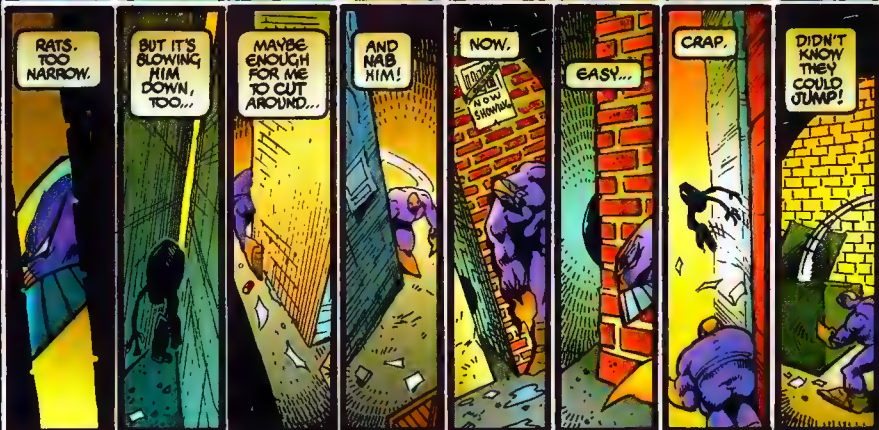
AND WHAT'S HE DOING WITH TWO PHONES?!

AND WHY DOESN'T ANYONE ELSE NOTICE HE'S ONLY A FOOT AND A HALF HIGH?

HE'S ONE OF THOSE UNDERGROUND THINGS, FROM MY DREAM.

ONLY BLACK.

AND FASTER.



RATS. TOO NARROW.

BUT IT'S SLOWING HIM DOWN, TOO...

MAYBE ENOUGH FOR ME TO CUT AROUND...

AND NAB HIM!

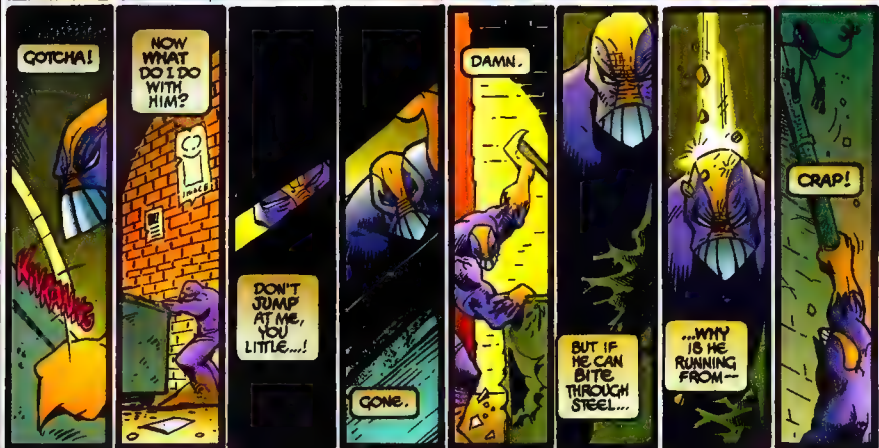
NOW.

NOW SHOWING

EASY...

CRAP.

DIDN'T KNOW THEY COULD JUMP!



GOTCHA!

NOW WHAT DO I DO WITH HIM?

DON'T JUMP AT ME, YOU LITTLE...!

GONE.

DAMN.

BUT IF HE CAN BITE THROUGH STEEL...


...WHY IS HE RUNNING FROM—

CRAP!









YOU REALLY  
DONT REMEMBER ANY  
SF IT? NOT THE GIRL  
OR THE ISZ OR THE  
BLOODWORMS  
OR ME.

THEN IT WASNT  
ALL A DREAM!  
UNLESS I WAS  
DREAMING NOW.




TOO BAD.  
I NORMALLY  
HATE KILLING  
AMNESIACS.



MEEP!

OH, GOD.  
NOW I  
REMEMBER



IT WAS ALL COMING BACK  
TO ME. I COULD FEEL THE  
HOT SUN ON MY BACKSKIN  
AND THE GRASSES UNDER  
MY TOES.

THOSE LITTLE CREATURES  
WERE HOT, BUT TWISTED  
AND CHANCED BY BEING  
MOVED TO THIS WORLD.

TRUE  
ENSAIGH, TOS  
SAID YOU'LL BE  
EATEN BEFORE  
YOU'LL HAVE A  
CHANCE TO  
MUTTER THIS  
TO ANYONE!

DAMN...  
STILL  
TALKING  
OUT LOUD!

**NEXT MONTH**  
**STAINED TEETH. DEADLY TEETH!**



# YOUR COOL IDEA GOES HERE!

O.K. here we go. You know the drill. Send in cool ideas for the name of the Maxx letter column to: Sam Kieth, 4363 Hazel Avenue, #1-285, Fair Oaks, California 95628. The winner will get 10, yes, 8-O.K....5, well, how about one glow-in-the-dark Maxx #1 and something else (which I haven't figured out yet).

I'd like to thank all the people that helped me put out this comic book on time. it wasn't easy.

I got three letters so far...

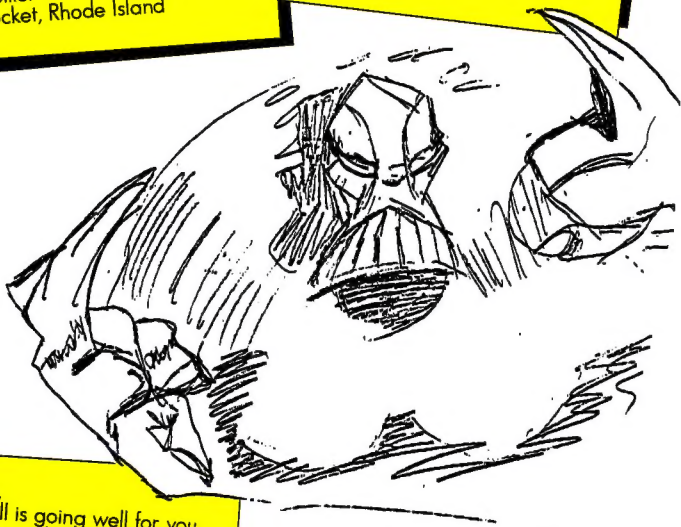
Dear Mr. Kieth,  
I have been following your career since Incredible Hulk #368...I am anxiously awaiting The Maxx. I would like to wish you the best of luck in the future.

Sincerely,  
Eddie Tellier  
Woodsocket, Rhode Island

Dear Sam,  
The Maxx has not come out yet near me, but I hear it's going to be really good. I love Gruesome Characters like that...

Jeff Weiner  
Forest Hills, New York

Thanks for sending in the cool Maxx picture!!



Dear sir,  
I hope all is going well for you today. I have been following many of [your] comics for some years and greatly admire your artwork- it's so cool!!!...Thank you so much for your time. Keep up the great work!!

Sincerely,  
Sue Kroner  
Melbourne, Florida

WEINER TS