

AMERICAN VAMPIRE

SCOTT SNYDER
RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

VERTIGO


"Bite them
BACK!"

NEW STORYLINE




22 Feb '12
suggested for
mature readers
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Glendale, California. 1954.




THERE'S A LOT OF TALK LATELY ABOUT THE YOUNG FOLKS.




HOW WE'VE ALL GONE MEAN AND ORNERY. TURNED INTO WILD ANIMALS.


PACKS OF ROAMING SAVAGES AND ALL THAT. OUT TO BURN DOWN MA AND PA'S HOUSE AND CITY HALL TO BOOT.



YOU HEAR IT ALL DAY ON THE TUBE, THE AIRWAVES... TEACHERS AND EXPERTS, SOUNDING THE WARNING TO YOUNG FOLKS EVERYWHERE.



"YOU GO ON AND ACT TOUGH NOW, SURE," THEY SAY, "BUT THINK ON THIS--THERE'LL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE BIGGER OUT THERE TO COME ALONG AND PUT YOU IN YOUR PLACE. AND WHAT'LL YOU DO THEN?"



"WHAT WILL YOU DO?"

MAKES SENSE, TOO, FAR AS I FIGURE...

UNLESS YOU'RE
ME, THAT IS.

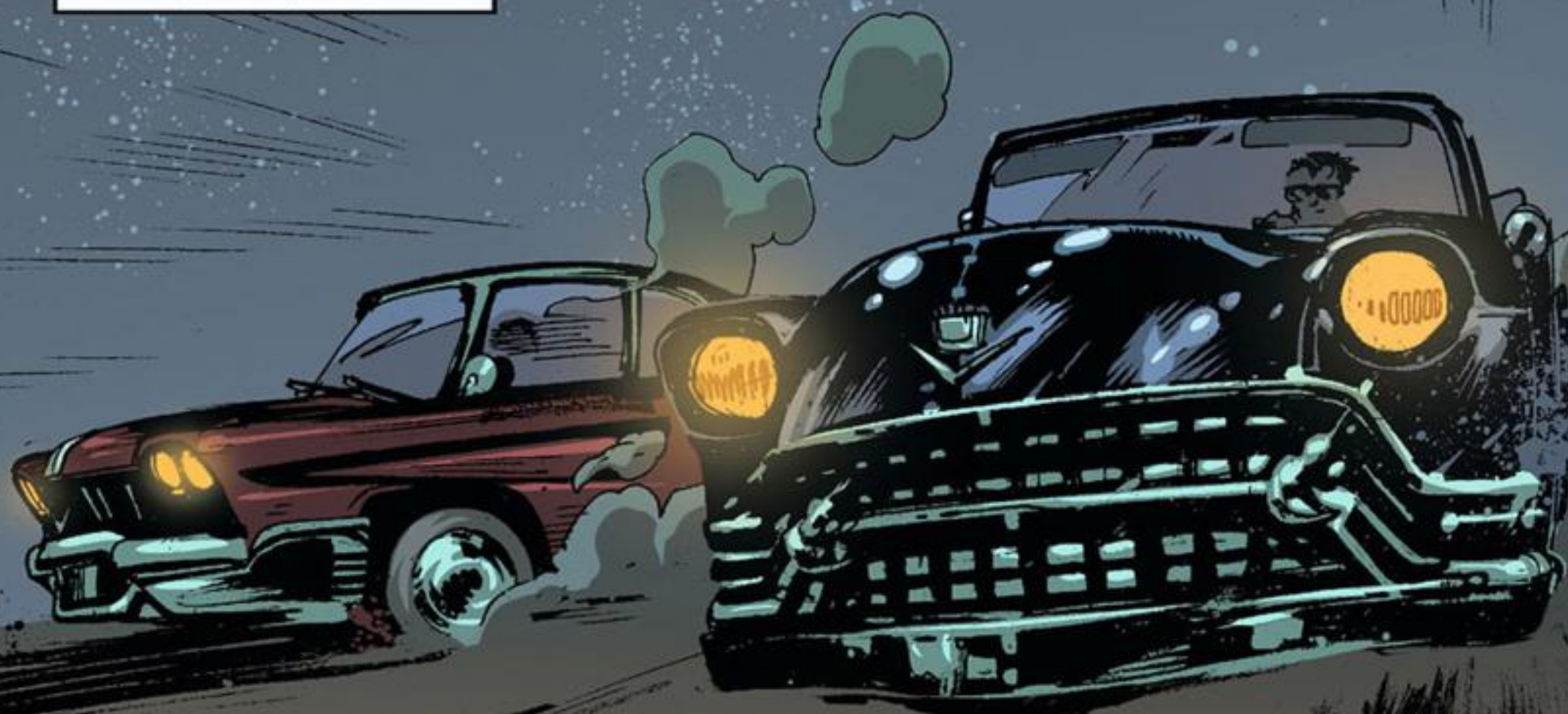
MY NAME'S TRAVIS.
TRAVIS KIDD. I'M
NINETEEN YEARS OLD
YESTERDAY MORNING.
I HAIL FROM LAS
VEGAS, NEVADA.

ALSO TO KNOW
ABOUT ME: I NEVER
LOSE A RACE.

Death Race

Part One of Four

WHICH I SUPPOSE QUALIFIES
ME AS ONE OF THESE WILD
TEENAGERS THEY TALK ABOUT
ALL DAY AND NIGHT. WELL
THEN, SAYS I, SO BE IT.



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AMERICAN VAMPIRE CREATED BY SCOTT SNYDER AND RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE



HEY YOU
LITTLE
GREASER!

I'LL HAVE
YOU KNOW
I'VE NEVER
LOST A GAME
OF CHICKEN!
EVER!

MAKES
TWO OF US,
PARTNER!

FUNNY, THE OTHER DAY I WAS
WATCHING THIS ONE EGGHEAD
TALK ON THE SUBJECT OF
THE TEENAGE BRAIN. WHAT
WITH CHARTS AND GRAPHS AND
A BIG STICK POINTING AROUND.



HE WAS SAYING THERE'RE THREE
THINGS THE YOUTHFUL BRAIN SIMPLY
CANNOT MAKE SENSE OF. THREE
THINGS WE JUST CAN'T RECKON
THROUGH. THE FIRST OF THE THREE
IS DEATH.

NOW ME MYSELF, I FEEL LIKE I THINK
ON DEATH PLENTY--TOO MUCH IN FACT.
BUT MAYBE THAT'S JUST BECAUSE OF
MY PARTICULAR SITUATION.



BUT THIS FELLOW, HIS THEORY WAS THAT
BACK IN CAVE MAN DAYS, YOUNG FOLKS
NEEDED TO PUSH THE LIMITS, LEARN
WHAT'S WHAT, HELP US ALL EVOLVE A
TOUCH. SO GOD--SUCH AS HE IS--MADE
THE YOUNG BRAIN FEARLESS...

...LIKE A TRUETONE STUCK ON 78
RPM, GOING TOO FAST FOR THE
RECORD IT'S SUPPOSED TO PLAY.

MAYBE YOUNG FOLKS LIKE ME, MAYBE WE CAN'T
THINK ON DEATH. BUT I'LL TELL YOU WHAT: THAT
ASSHOLE IN THE FAIRLANE, AFTER WHAT HE DID,
ONE OF US GOING TO DIE ON THIS ROAD TONIGHT.



"YOU'RE GOING TO GET US
BOTH KILLED, TRAVIS!"

Earlier that morning.

I MEAN IT.
MY FOLKS THINK
I WAS HOME ALL
NIGHT.

THEY SEE
US HERE, THEY'LL
KNOW I WAS OUT
WITH YOU.

AND?

IT'S
JUST, I
TOLD YOU
HOW
THEY ARE
AND--

I AIN'T
SCARED OF YOUR
FOLKS. OR WHAT
THEY THINK OF ME.

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND, THEY
SCARE OFF EVERYONE I GO
OUT WITH, BUT YOU, WHEN
THEY SEE YOU...I MEAN,
THEY HAVEN'T EVEN MET YOU
AND THE THINGS THEY
SAY TO ME.

GOD, I
HATE THEM
SOMETIMES.

AW, THEY'RE
JUST OLD IS
ALL. THEY CAN'T
HELP IT.







A LOVELY HOME YOU HAV--

YOU GODDAM PUNK! TRYING TO MAKE A SCENE LIKE THAT IN PUBLIC! IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE FUCKING NEIGHBORHOOD!

DAD NO!

WATCH YOUR MOUTH, PIPER!

AND YOU--YOU'RE NOTHING BUT AN UNGRATEFUL BITCH! AFTER EVERYTHING WE'VE GIVEN UP... EVERYTHING WE'VE SACRIFICED FOR YOU.

ROY, YOU MAY NOT LIKE MY CLOTHES. YOU MAY NOT LIKE MY HAIR. BUT AT LEAST LET ME MAKE A CASE FOR MYSELF BEFORE YOU HANG ME ON THE CROSS.

A CASE FOR YOURSELF. HA!



YOU'RE READY TO THROW IT ALL AWAY ON A PIECE OF SHIT LIKE HIM? SOME GODDAM JUVENILE DELINQUENT?



HEH-HEH BY ALL MEANS, TRAVIS. I'M ALL EARS. BUT I HAVE TO WARN YOU, I KNOW YOUR TYPE ALL TOO WELL.

BUT SEE, MR. FRANCIS...







...FREE FROM THESE GODDAM BLOODSUCKERS!



DOWN!
NOW!

BLAM



NOT SO TOUGH NOW, EH,
TRAVISSSSSSS?



HOW...
HOW DID YOU
KNOW ABOUT
THEM?

IT'S
WHAT I
DO.

STAY
PUT.











WAIT... TRAVIS.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW
LONG THEY KEPT ME... KEPT
ME AS THEIR OWN LIKE THAT.
AND NOW, NO MORE GUARDING
THEM BY DAYTIME. NO MORE
BRINGING BOYS BACK
FOR THEM TO...



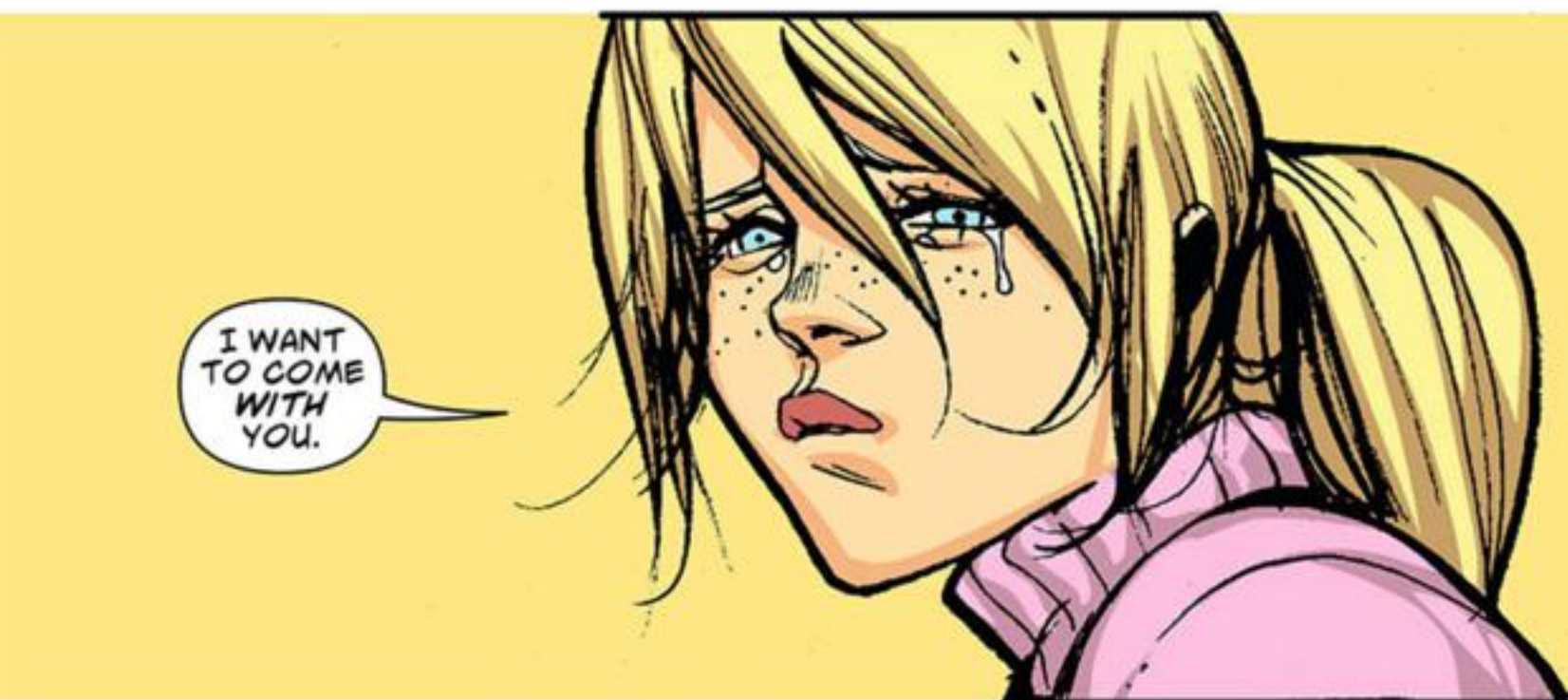
I TOLD
YOU. IT'S
WHAT I
DO.

BUT WHAT
YOU'VE GIVEN
ME I CAN NEVER
REPAY.



REPAY
ME BY
STAYING
ALIVE.

I'VE BEEN
WATCHING YOU AND
YOUR FOLKS FOR NEAR
THREE MONTHS NOW. THERE
ARE OTHERS LIKE THEM
NEARBY. THE KAWOLSKIS.
THE BRENNERS. THEY'RE A
COVEN, JUST SPREAD
BETWEEN TWO
SUBURBS.



I WANT
TO COME
WITH
YOU.





SO. GO
ON AND
ASK ME.

PARDON?



ASK ME TO GO
STEADY, WEAR
YOUR JACKET,
YOUR PIN, ALL
THAT.



IN MY DAY, WE GAVE
HANDKERCHIEFS WHEN
COURTING...



...BUT
VERY WELL
THEN.



WHAT'S
THAT, MY
RECORD?

YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO TRY
TO THREATEN ME
INTO JOINING
YOUR LITTLE GANG
AGAIN, ARE YOU
HOBBESY?

2011



NO. IT'S A FILE.

ON THE VAMPIRE YOU'VE BEEN HUNTING FOR YOUR WHOLE LIFE. THE ONE THAT MURDERED EVERYONE YOU LOVED.



SO WHAT DO YOU SAY.



I SAY... THAT'S A MIGHTY PRETTY HANDKERCHIEF.

AND, I SAY THANKS FOR THE MALTED.



YOU KNOW THIS IS A DEAD-END ROAD YOU'RE ON, TRAVIS. YOU'RE A TRULY GREAT HUNTER, YOU'VE GOT A FEARLESSNESS ABOUT YOU. AN ENERGY...

...BUT YOU'RE BECOMING THE VICTIM OF YOUR OWN SUCCESS. YOUR REPUTATION IS SPREADING AMONG THEM. THEY'RE SEARCHING FOR YOU.

AND WITH YOUR RECORDS, YOUR UNFORTUNATE AND PROLONGED STAY IN THAT PSYCHIATRIC WARD...



EVEN NOW, AS WE SPEAK. WITHOUT AN ORGANIZATION BEHIND YOU, TO HELP YOU COVER YOUR TRACKS...

LIKE I SAID, YOU'RE ONE OF THE BEST UNTRAINED HUNTERS I'VE COME ACROSS. BUT THERE'S A GREAT MANY OF THEM OUT THERE. AND SOME OF THEM ARE VERY STRONG, AND VERY OLD.



HUH. SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS, NO MATTER HOW GOOD I AM AT KILLING VAMPS, NO MATTER HOW TOUGH, THERE'LL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE TOUGHER?



AND WHAT'LL I DO THEN, WHEN-- OOF!

HEY WATCH IT, TWERP!





"...WELL
PLAYED."

BUT GETTING BACK
TO THE POINT, IF THE
TEENAGE BRAIN CAN'T
THINK ON DEATH,
THEN IT STANDS TO
REASON THAT IT HAS
NO SENSE OF THE
FUTURE.



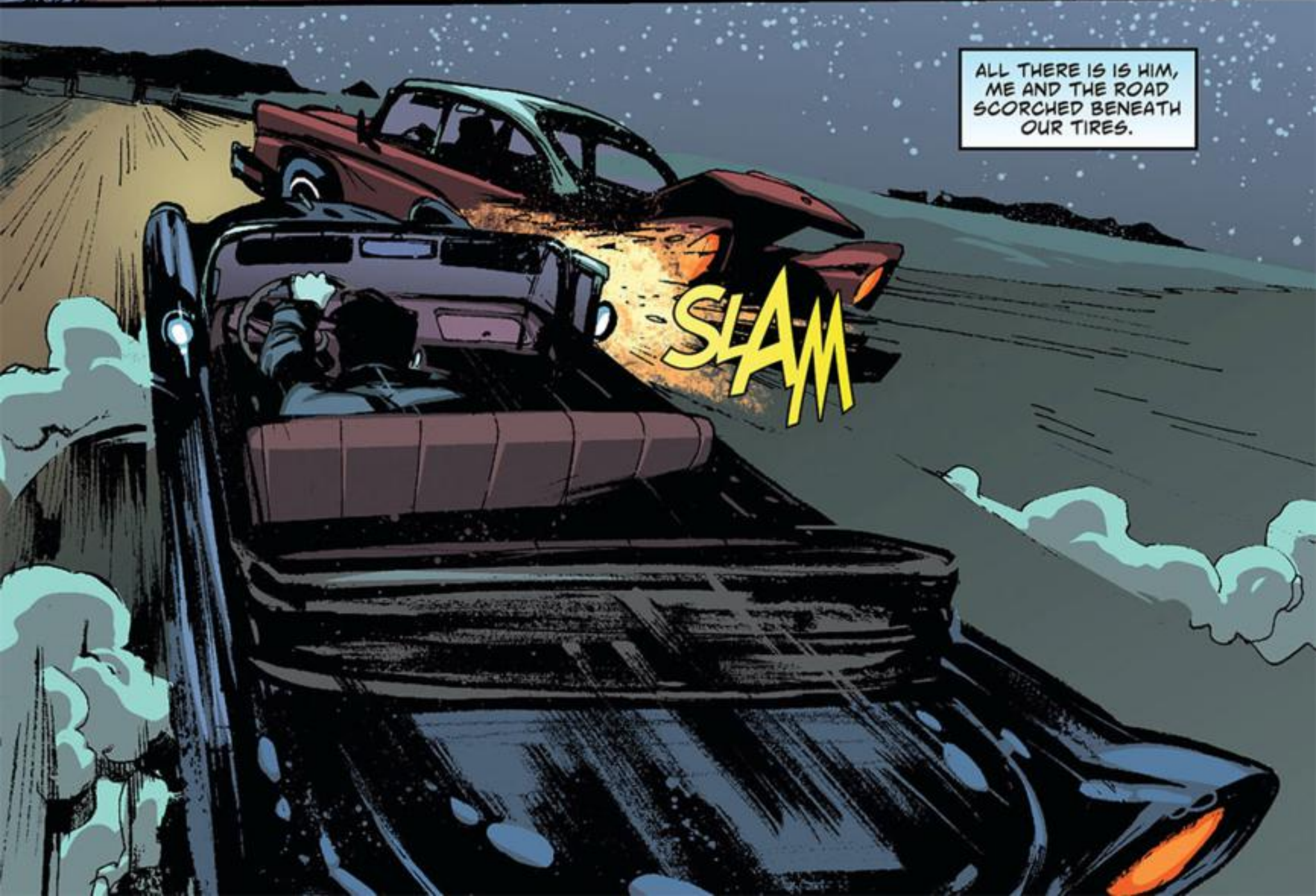
IT ONLY KNOWS
THE PRESENT,
THIS MOMENT,
THE RIGHT NOW.



CERTAINLY THAT'S TRUE
FOR ME. BECAUSE THE
VAMPIRE IN THE CAR
AHEAD OF ME, HE'S
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
MURDER OF EVERYONE I
KNEW AND LOVED.


RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL
THE HARD TIMES SINCE.

AND I AIM TO
KILL HIM TONIGHT.




ALL THERE IS IS HIM,
ME AND THE ROAD
SCORCHED BENEATH
OUR TIRES.

SLAM



BUT ONE THING I'VE
LEARNED ABOUT RACES
LIKE THESE, THEY CAN
TURN ON A DIME.



BEFORE YOU
KNOW IT, THE
ROAD SWITCHES
UP BENEATH
YOUR WHEELS.



AND JUST WHEN YOU
THOUGHT IT WAS ALL OVER,
THAT'S WHEN THE REAL
DEATH-RACE BEGINS.

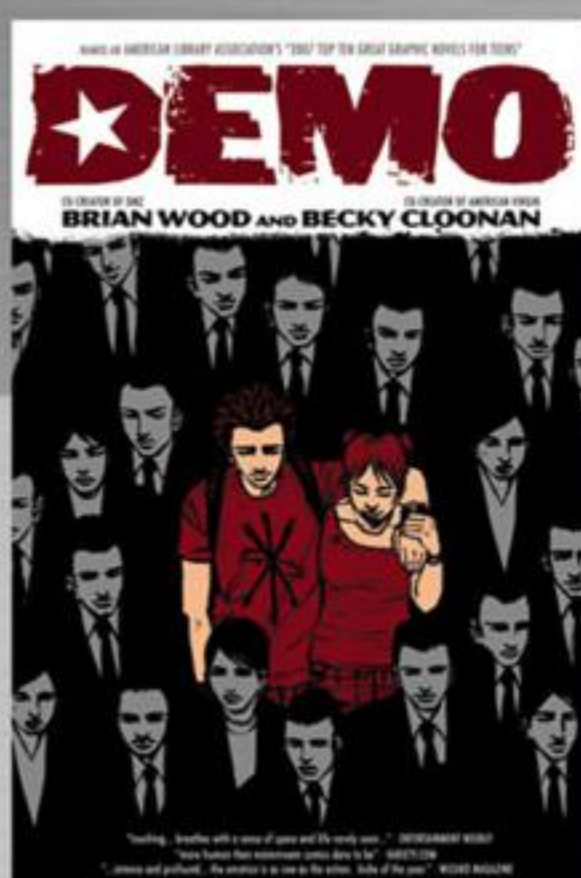
To be
Continued...

YOU'LL NEVER FORGET THE FIRST

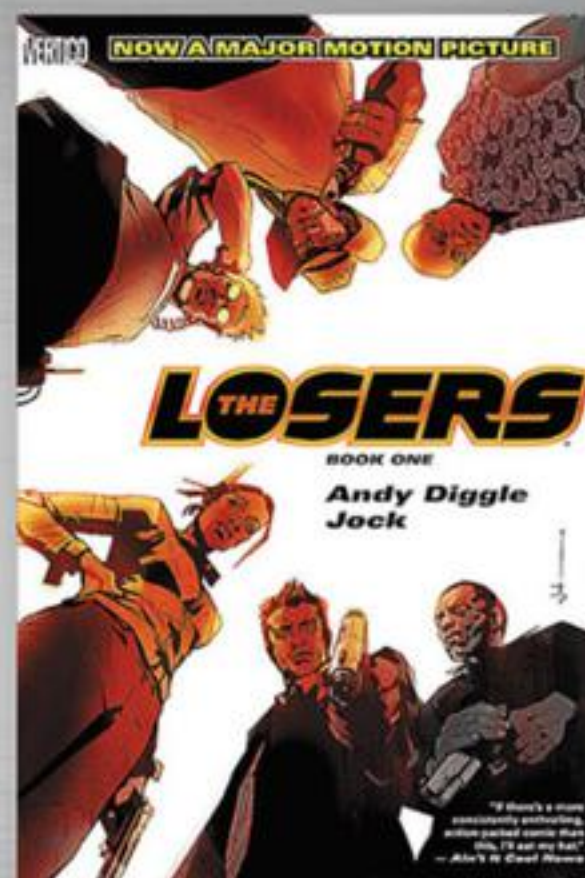
AMERICAN VAMPIRE VOL. I



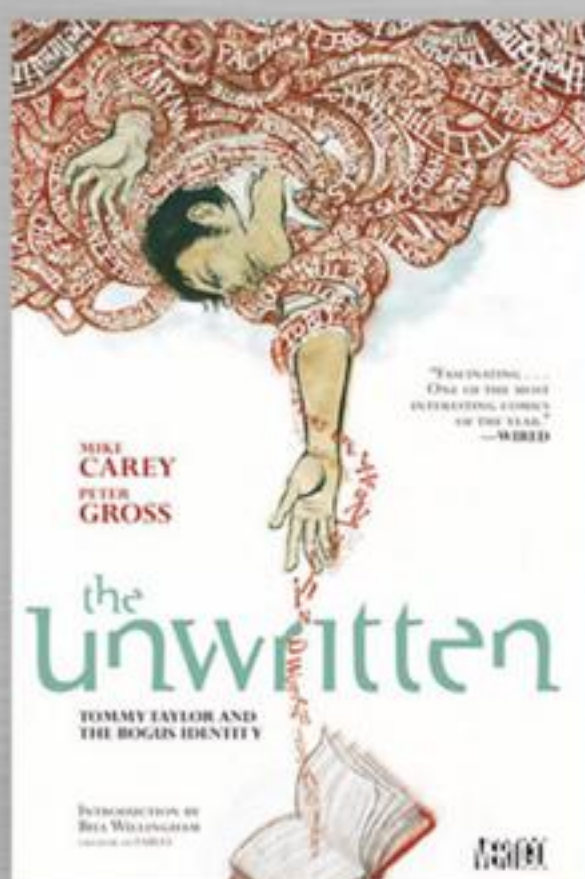
DEMO VOL. I



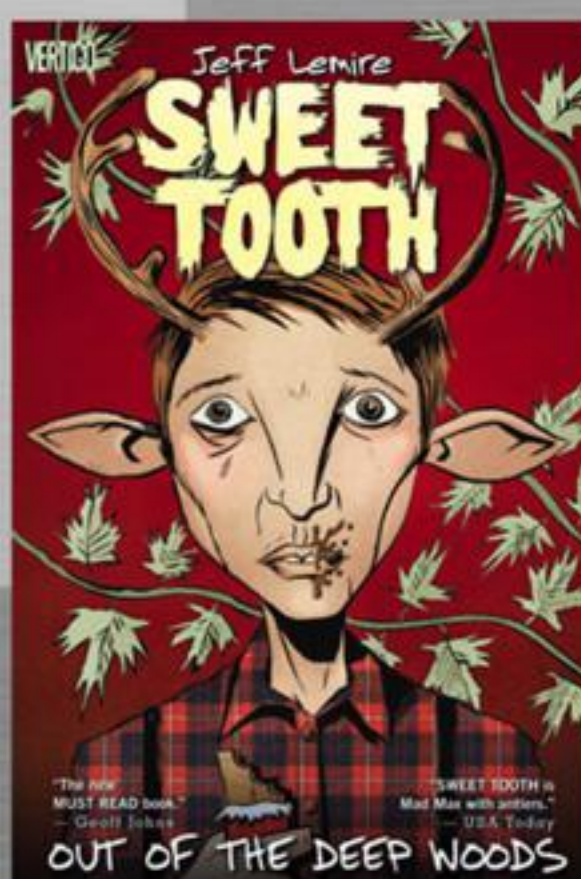
THE LOSERS BOOK ONE



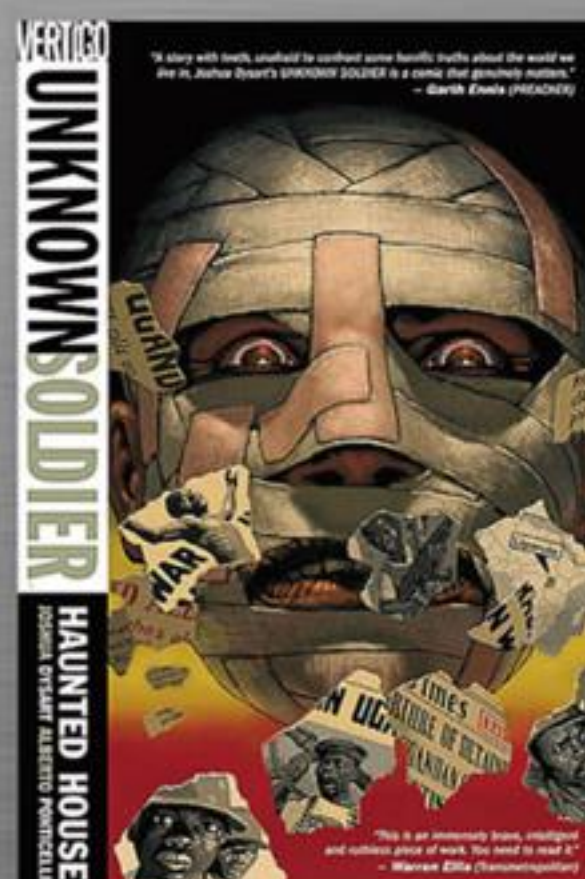
THE UNWRITTEN VOL. I: TOMMY TAYLOR AND THE BOGUS IDENTITY



SWEET TOOTH VOL. I: OUT OF THE DEEP WOODS



UNKNOWN SOLDIER VOL. I: HAUNTED HOUSE



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