

OMEGA COMICS
PRESENTS

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FALL



**POPI!
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THE
ICON**

OMEGATM COMICS PRESENTS

cut along the dotted line



**FEATURING:
RUSSELL LISSAU! JOHN BIVENS! ALEX DE-GRUCHY! MICHAEL
MONTENAT! PJ PEREZ! AND DARE WE SAY ... MORE!**

OMEGA COMICS PRESENTS

Vol. 1, Issue 3

Fall 2010

Page 1: "One of Us"

by Russell Lissau & John Bivens

The bad guys learn the hard way that cops take care of their own.

Page 13: "OMEGA" Chapter Three

by Pj Perez

The teenage hostages at Hoover Dam have escaped, but how long can they hold off against a cadre of terrorists? And can Strike Force Omega make a difference?

Page 20: "The Hero's Journey"

by Alex De-Gruchy, Michael Montecat & Juan Agustin Grassi

An unsuspecting traveler picks up a mysterious hitchhiker with a dangerous secret.

Cover art by John Bivens



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ONE OF US

RUSSELL LYSSAN, WRITER
JOHN BIVENS, ARTIST
STEVE WALLACE, LETTERS

LISTEN UP
PEOPLE. THIS
IS WHAT WE
KNOW.

POLICE

DETECTIVE TIM HOWARD OF
THE ORGANIZED CRIME BUREAU
WAS FOUND MURDERED SHORTLY
AFTER 3 PM, TODAY AT
THE SOUTH SIDE ARMS.

HE WAS BEATEN,
STABBED AND BEHEADED,
ALTHOUGH THAT LAST BIT
ISN'T BEING RELEASED
TO THE MEDIA.

I SEE IT IN THE
PAPERS,
ON THE
EVENING NEWS
OR ON SOME
CRIME JUNKIE'S
BLOG.
I'M GONNA BE
PISSED.

ACCORDING TO CAPTAIN BRAD
UNDERCOVER FOR THREE MONTHS, TRYING
TO GET INSIDE ANTHONY DEBRANO'S
ORGANIZATION.

HS REPORTS
INDICATED HE'S BEEN
POSING AS A FENCE
AND GAINING THE TRUST
OF SOME OF DEBRANO'S
LIEUTENANTS.

LOOK, HE'VE ALL
HEARD STORIES ABOUT HOW
DEBRANO HAS BEEN RUNNING
EVERYTHING FROM BOOKMAKING
TO COPE DEALING AND MORE,
BUT NO ONE'S BEEN ABLE
TO PIN A THING ON HIM.

HOWARD
WAS GETTING
CLOSE.

SOUNDS LIKE
HE GOT A LITTLE
TOO CLOSE.

WATCH YOUR
MOUTH, GROSS.
MAN PUT HIS LIFE
ON THE LINE FOR
THE JOB.

A REAL
POLICE.

NOT THAT
YOU'D KNOW
ANYTHING
ABOUT THAT.



LOOK, I MAY BE THE PRIMARY ON THIS CASE, BUT I'M NOT LOOKING FOR GLORY. WE ALL WANT TO GET THIS SCUMBAG AND TO DO RIGHT BY TIM, AND THAT'S WHAT MATTERS.

I DON'T CARE WHO FINDS HIM, I DON'T CARE WHO GETS THE CREDIT, AS LONG AS IT GETS DONE.



BUT I WANT IT DONE RIGHT. NO EYE-FOR-AN-EYE REVENGE CRAP.



THIS ONE'S BY THE BOOK. NO ONE WANTS THIS SKEL-SKATING ON AN EXCESSIVE FORCE REEF OR BECAUSE WE FORGOT TO MIRANDIZE, RIGHT?



WE'VE GOT NO SUSPECTS YET, AND NO WITNESSES, SO GET OUT ON THE STREET AND DO WHAT YOU'RE TRAINED TO DO.

HIT UP EVERY INFORMANT. ROUST EVERY CORNER DEALER. PUT THE PRESSURE ON. GET THE WORD OUT THAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR A COP KILLER AND WON'T REST UNTIL WE FIND HIM.




IF WE'RE LUCKY, SOMEONE'LL DROP A DIME ON THIS BASTARD AND WE'LL WRAP THIS UP QUICK.


THAT'S ALL. GET TO IT.








DO YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT?




WE'RE COPS. WE DON'T NEED AN APPOINTMENT.

WHERE'S DEFARNO?




I'M SORRY, I DON'T KNOW ANY -



MR. DEFARNO IS UNAVAILABLE. DETECTIVES, WOULD YOU CARE TO LEAVE A MESSAGE?



WHO ARE YOU?



DAVID ALTO. I AM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF --

CONGRATULATIONS.

WE'RE INVESTIGATING THE MURDER OF A POLICE DETECTIVE. YOU AND YOUR BOSS PROBABLY KNOW THIS ALREADY, BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT YOUR FINGERS IN EVERY DIRTY PIE IN THE CITY.







YOU THINK DEVAHO WILL GET THE MESSAGE?

DON'T KNOW EITHER WAY, HE'LL FEEL THE PRESSURE WHEN HIS BARNERS START COMING IN WITH EMPTY POCKETS.



HANG ON.



KING.

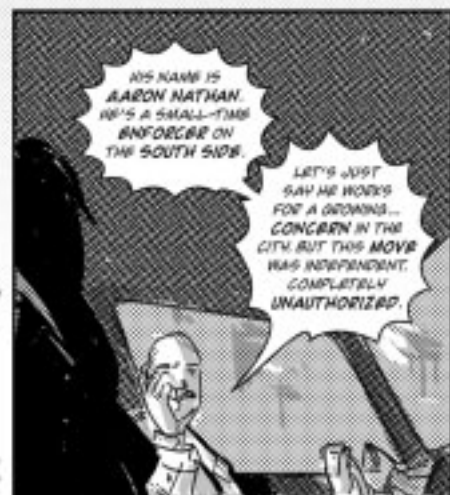
GOOD AFTERNOON, DETECTIVE.

WHO IS THIS?



I'M THE MAN WHO WILL DELIVER THE KILLER YOU SEEK.

I'M LISTENING.



His name is Aaron Nathan. He's a small-time enforcer on the south side.

Let's just say he works for a growing... concern in the city. But this move was independent. Completely unauthorized.



YOU CAN FIND HIM AT 718 EAST LOBB STREET, APARTMENT 4B.

GOODBYE, DETECTIVE.



WHAT'S GOING ON, FRANK? WHO HAS THAT?

CALL THE CAPTAIN. TELL HIM TO GET EVERYONE ASSEMBLED.



"I THINK WE FOUND OUR BOY."







DAMN

ANYONE WANNA
ROTHER CHECKING
FOR A PULSE?



DETECTIVE!

WHAT,
MORGAN?

IT'S...
IT'S HIS HEAD...
HOWARD'S HEAD
IT'S IN THE..

SLASH



BEST OF THE
PLACE IS CLEAR,
DETECTIVE.

MY TEAM'S
GONNA PACK IT IN
AND WAIT FOR
INTERNAL AFFAIRS
DOWNSTAIRS.

THANKS, JEDDY.
LET THE RAT SQUAD
KNOW HE'S UP HERE, OK?



THIS SOMETHING WE
SHOULD BE PROUD
OF ALYSSA?

CASE CLOSED
RED NAME GOES
TO BLACK ON
THE BOARD?

IS THIS
JUSTICE?

WE'LL TAKE
WHAT WE
CAN GET,
PARTNER.

WE'LL TAKE
WHAT WE
CAN GET.

THE END

Following the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the American people were led to believe that, thanks to the U.S. government's national security measures, no further attacks were made on U.S. soil. In truth, a covert domestic counter-terrorism unit, Strike Force Omega, has secretly intercepted and defeated numerous acts of terror within American borders. Also unknown to the citizenry at large, that force consists of agents possessing superhuman capabilities...

OMEGA

CHAPTER THREE: "STRIKE!"

BOULDER CITY,
NEVADA

ABOUT A HALF MILE FROM THE
SHORES OF LAKE MEAD, A TRANSPORT
PLANE FLIES LOW ACROSS THE DESERT.



ITS PASSENGERS MAY BE THE
LAST HOPE FOR A GROUP OF
TEENAGE HOSTAGES HELD INSIDE
NEARBY HOOVER DAM.

WORDS & ART:
PJ PEREZ

OKAY, WE NEED TO DO
THIS QUICKLY, QUIETLY AND
NEARLY INVISIBLY.

WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE
THOSE BASTARDS HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT HIT THEM.

JAKE,
STAY HERE WITH
THE PLANE. MONITOR
COMMUNICATIONS.

GOT IT,
BOSS.

JOSEPH ...
YOU THINK THE
TWO OF US CAN
PULL THIS OFF?

I MEAN, WE'VE
BEEN IN TIGHT SPOTS
BEFORE, BUT THESE KIDS'
LIVES ARE AT STAKE.

I
KNOW THAT,
MATT.

AND THAT'S
EXACTLY WHY WE
CANNOT FAIL.

INSIDE HOOVER DAM ...

WE'RE STILL GOOD. DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THOSE TERRORIST GUYS ARE FOLLOWING

YEAH, BUT WHO KNOWS FOR HOW MUCH LONGER?

WE NEED TO FIND OUR WAY OUT OF HERE.



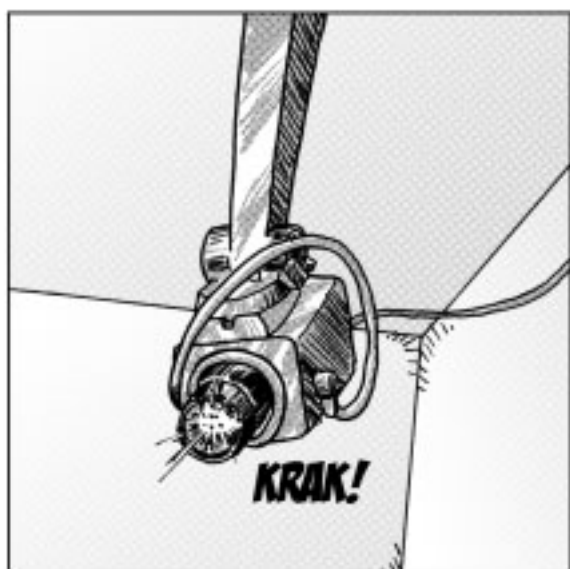
OKAY, COME ON

LOOKS LIKE THIS HALL IS CLEAR.











NEXT ISSUE:
**THE
STARTLING
CONCLUSION!**

SOMEWHERE IN KANSAS.

TEN DAYS AFTER THE CALIFORNIA INCIDENT.

THE HERO'S JOURNEY

WRITTEN BY ALEX DE-GRUCHY
PENCILS BY MICHAEL MONTENAT
INKS BY JUAN ABLUSTIN GRAGGI
GREY TONES BY JOHN SRCEK
LETTERING BY STEPHEN LINDSAY







GO... THE CALIFORNIA INCIDENT, HUH? THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE'S CALLING IT NOW.

LAST I HEARD ON THE NEWS, DEATH TOLL WAS ABOVE TWENTY-THOUSAND.



TWENTY-THOUSAND PEOPLE... WOW.



GUESS IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED WITH THOSE SUPER-GUYS.

I MEAN, YOU HEAR ON TV THAT CAPTAIN WHOEVER HAS SAVED THE WORLD AGAIN FROM SOME OTHER LUNATIC IN A CAPE, BUT...



SUPERHEROES AND SUPERVILLAINS...? GIMME A BREAK.

ALL JUST A BUNCH OF MANIACS IN COLOURFUL COSTUMES WITH WAY TOO MUCH POWER, YOU ASK ME.

YEAH? HOW YOU FIGURE THAT?



WHEN A GUY CRAZY ENOUGH TO CALL HIMSELF "DOCTOR GENOCIDE" THREATENS TO DESTROY HALF OF CALIFORNIA UNLESS ALL THE SUPERHEROES TURN UP...



...THAT SITUATION IS NEVER GONNA END WELL. SO WHAT HAPPENS?

THE HEROES TURN UP, THEY FIGHT THE DOC... AND BOOM.

I MEAN, I'M SORRY SOME OF THOSE "HEROES" DIED TRYING TO STOP THE GUY, BUT...

THEY ALL DIED.





...SO, LHM,
WHERE WERE
YOU WHEN IT
HAPPENED, YOU
DON'T MIND ME
ASKING?

IT'S
TURNED INTO
ONE OF THOSE
THINGS, LIKE WHERE
WERE YOU ON NINE-
ELEVEN OR WHEN
THE BERLIN WALL
CAME DOWN...



...ZACK?

WHERE
WERE
YOU?

"...I WASN'T FAST ENOUGH..."











ALPHA / OMEGA

Got comments? We'd love to hear your feedback. Drop us an e-mail at editor@popgoestheicon.com or find us on Facebook, MySpace or Twitter!

Hope you enjoyed another fine issue of *Omega Comics Presents*. Actually, I have every confidence you did. With each edition of this anthology, it feels like the material and the talent is just getting better and better. I think we all know who's to thank for that, right? Right?

But seriously, we're pretty excited over here about both this issue and the next one, which you can look forward to in early 2011. Beyond that, we have some tricks up our sleeve for next year that will hopefully tickle you pink, but there's no sense in ruining the surprise now.

In the meantime, we'd like to thank all of our contributors over the course of this anthology series, the reviewers who gave us the time of day (even the ones who didn't have nice things to say), and especially you, the courageous comic book reader, who spent your hard-earned 399 pennies to support independent comic creators. We hope you stick around.

Now let's meet some of the cast and crew of this production:

Russell Lissau

Writer, "One of Us"

By day, Russell Lissau is a mild-mannered newspaper reporter in suburban Chicago. By night, he battles evil writing for comic books including *The Batman Strikes!*, *Hope: New Orleans*, *The 29* and the upcoming *Hope: Hero Initiative*. He broke into comics in 2005 with the lead story in *Batman Allies Secret Files and Origins*. "One of Us" is Lissau's second appearance in *Omega Comics Presents*. Never one to shy away from a crowd, Lissau also leads workshops at libraries throughout the Chicago area

about writing comics. Feel free to stalk Lissau at www.facebook.com/russell.lissau.

John Bivens

Artist, "One of Us"

John Bivens draws stuff doing stuff. He makes a little bit of money with this, but mainly continues on for love and stubbornness. His work can be found in *Comic Book Tattoo*, *Popgun* Volume IV, the collected *Split Lip* Volumes I and II and various other places. He loves his fiancée Mallory very much.

Steve Wallace

Letterer, "One of Us"

Steve Wallace is a writer/illustrator living in Little Rock, Ark. He spends most of his day in front of a computer, the other part he spends in front of a drawing table. You can read his mini-comics and get updates on his upcoming graphic novels at www.stevewallaceart.com.

Alex De-Gruchy

Writer, "The Hero's Journey"

Born and raised in Wales and now living in England, Alex De-Gruchy has had short stories published by several small publishers. His upcoming projects include a trilogy of short crime stories from Incubator Press, a western graphic novella from Time Bomb Comics, a crime/horror mini-series from Orang Utan Comics and a horror graphic novel from Markosia Enterprises. 2011 will also see the release of a supernatural action/adventure graphic novel from acclaimed publisher Com.X.

That's all for now, kids. Stuff this baby away in one of those poly bags, and be sure you don't miss the next issue. It's a winner.

- Pj Perez, September, 2010

NEXT ISSUE

“OMEGA” Chapter Four
By Pj Perez

“L’ange de Bastogne”
By Russell Lissau and mpMann

“The Night Shift”
By Dino Caruso and Sam Agro

And of course ... MORE.

Stay tuned:
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