

VERTIGO
DC COMICS

WARREN ELLIS • DARICK ROBERTSON • RODNEY RAMOS

NO. 43
APR 01

***** LATE EDITION *****

TRANSMETROPOLITAN

Having
SUGGESTED FOR
MATURE READERS

"DIRGE"
Part 1 of 3

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III

Warren Ellis writes
Darick Robertson &
Rodney Ramos draw

Dirge

one of three

RRR.

Clem Robins, letterer Nathan Eyring, color & seps Tony Bedard, editor

FOOD.

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Darick Robertson
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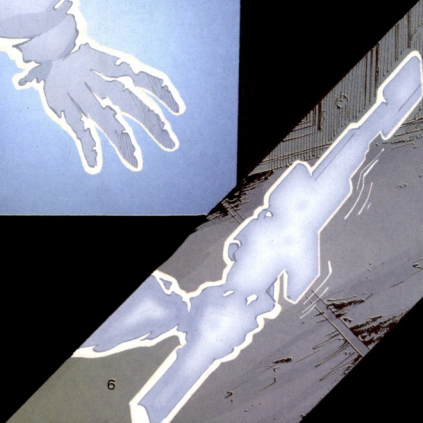




MORNING CITY.



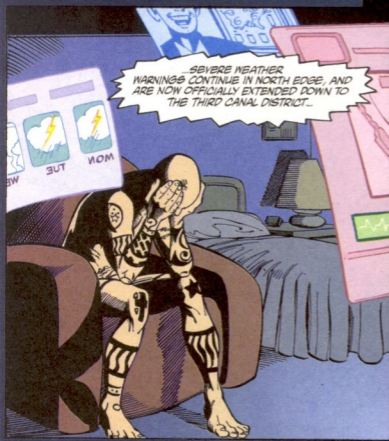












...SEVERE WEATHER WARNINGS CONTINUE IN NORTH EDGE, AND ARE NOW OFFICIALLY EXTENDED DOWN TO THE THIRD CANAL DISTRICT...



SPIDER?



SPIDER, IT'S CHANNON. ME AND YELENA ARE GOING OUT FOR BREAKFAST.

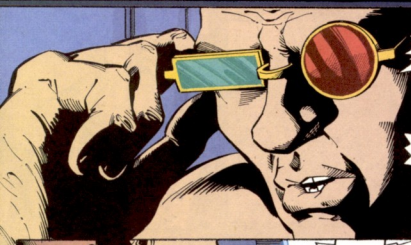
SPIDER, QUIT JERKING OFF AND ANSWER ME.



MEET YOU IN THE LOBBY IN FIVE.



--FLU EPIDEMIC REPORTED IN CPD PRECINCT HOUSES ACROSS THE CENTRAL DISTRICTS OF THE CITY THIS MORNING, WITH FEWER THAN HALF OF ALL OFFICERS REPORTING FOR DUTY THIS SHIFT.



CPD SPOKESPEOPLE SAY THERE'S NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN, SINCE CPD SURVEILLANCE IS STILL FULLY CREWED... STAND BY, PLEASE...

...EXCUSE ME, I'M GETTING A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR...

...STAND BY FOR BREAKING NEWS.



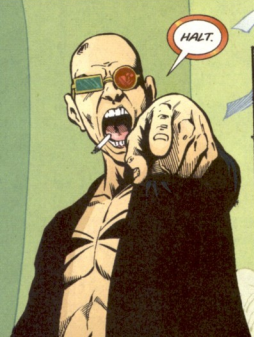
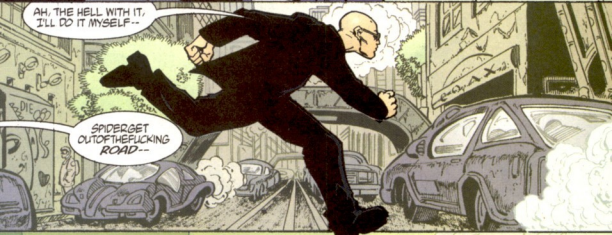
THE PRINT DISTRICT IS BEING EVACUATED BY EMERGENCY SERVICES AT THIS MOMENT.

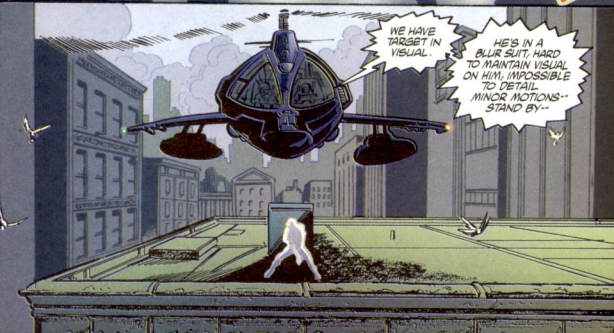
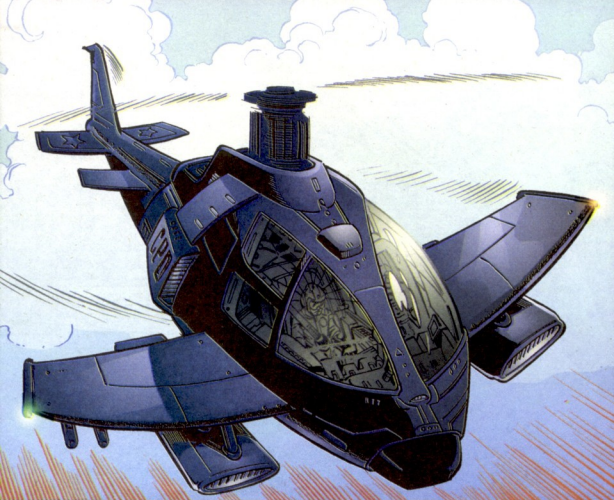
WE HAVE AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF EIGHTEEN PEOPLE DEAD.

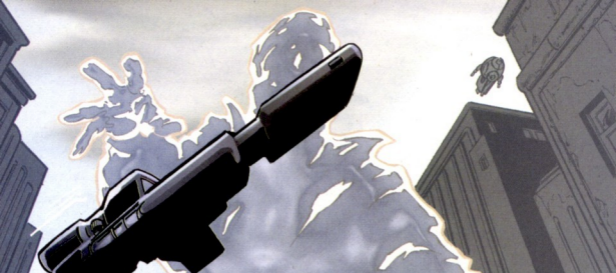
THERE'S A SNIPER SOMEWHERE ON THE ROOFTOPS--



GOD, HE'S FIRING AGAIN-- DOWN--





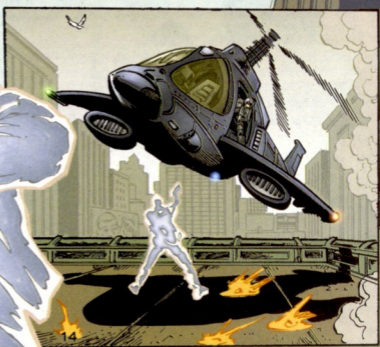


GIMME ANOTHER FIVE DEGREES! DIP, I CANT GET THE SHOT...HOLD ON, HE'S DROPPED THE PIECE...

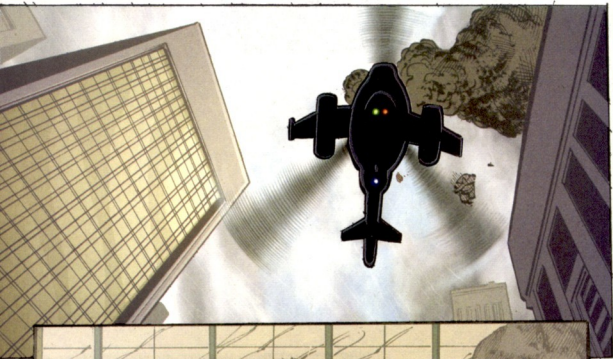
WHERE'S OUR BACKUP, ANYWAY?

PRINT DISTRICT PRECINCT HOUSE REPORTS NO PILOTS PRESENTING FOR WORK THIS SHIFT.

FUCK...CANT GET THE FUCKING SHOT... BRING US IN...













CityVision
Enjoy Your Ride



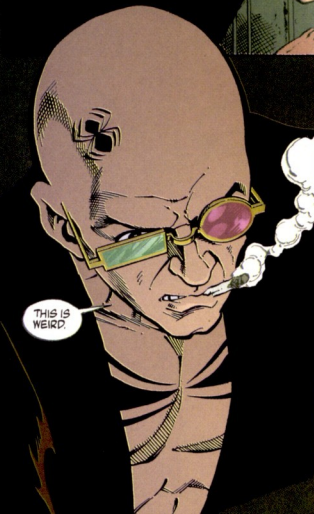
SHHIT.



THIS IS ALL
WRONG.

ONE
HELICOPTER?
WHERE'S
THE BACK-
UP?

Do Not Maim
or Kill Driver



THIS IS
WEIRD.



YOU.
PULL
OVER.

Please
don't kill me and
eat me.

I couldn't
bear to be killed
and eaten
again.



WE'RE NOT GOING TO THE PRINT DISTRICT?

HELL, NO.

YOU'RE GOING TO PHONE ROYCE.



WHAT AM I PHONING HIM TO SAY?

FIRST YOU'RE MAKING SURE HE'S NOT IN THE PRINT DISTRICT.

OKAY, DIALING...

SECOND, YOU'RE ASKING HIM IF HE'S WORKING FROM HOME AND HOOKED INTO THE EDITORIAL FEED.

SPIDER, DO YOU KNOW WHERE WE ARE?

YEAH.



I REALLY DIDN'T NEED TO BE HERE AGAIN BEFORE I DIED.

I GOT HIM. HE'S AT HOME. HE'S OKAY.

YEAH, ARE YOU WORKING FROM HOME? GOT THE WORD'S EDITORIAL RAW NEWS FEED SET UP THERE AND ALL?



YEP.

OKAY. I CAUGHT THE TAIL END OF AN EARLY STORY THIS MORNING. COPS NOT TURNING UP FOR WORK.

ASK HIM: DOES IT LOOK LIKE BLUE 'FLU FROM THERE?

BLUE 'FLU?



NOT QUITE A STRIKE, A SECRETLY ORGANIZED STUNT WHERE COPS ABSENT THEMSELVES FROM DUTY CLAIMING ILLNESS.



DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE.

THE ONLY HUMAN COP I KNOW WORKS OUT OF DANTE STREET.

IF IT'S BLUE 'FLU, SHE'S GOT THE STORY.



STORIES IN THE PRINT DISTRICT, SPIDER.

NO. IT STARTS HERE.

COLD?



YEAH.

CHRIST,
LOOK AT
THAT
SKY.

CHANNEL ZERO
MAKE THEM LISTEN
CHYMET S