

PREVIOUS ISSUES



MADNESS #6
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MADNESS

#6



B.A., DASHED HOPES AND DREAMS
FOR THE SECURITY GUARD OF A
PLACE NO ONE REMEMBERS



REBECCA, MUSCLE, BUT
ALSO EMOTIONAL STRENGTH



DESTRUERE, THE NAME
DEFINES HER
AS SHE DESTROYS HERSELF



HILLY, ADMIRING EYES
DULLED HER APPREHENSION.
STILL, SHE NEVER WANTED
TO BE THE BRIDE.

THOR, LOVING AND EXPLOITING
EVERY MINUTE OF THE DESPAIR
AND TURMOIL



FORGET THE TRUTH
AS YOU KNOW IT

YOU'VE
BEEN **LIVING**
IN A FALSE
UNIVERSE

HILLY FLED UTOPIA TO GAIN PERSPECTIVE, BUT IT BECAME INCREASINGLY UNCLEAR AS TO WHOSE.

HILLY FLED UTOPIA TO GAIN PERSPECTIVE
HILLY CRASHED!

LUCKY FOR HER, B.A. WAS IN THE VICINITY.

WOW, YOU ALRIGHT?

HUH? THAT'S YET TO BE SEEN.

THANK YOU, BUT MY ANXIETY IS THROUGH THE ROOF.

OH?

WE ALL HAVE OUR DEMONS.

AGREED.

MY DEMONS LOOK LIKE THE ASS ENDS OF DASHED HOPES AND DREAMS TURNING CORNERS AND CORNERS AND CORNERS IN A NEVER-ENDING NIGHTMARE OF...

THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOU, BUT AGAIN, THANK YOU

OK, OK, I APOLOGIZE FOR MY GUILTESSNESS.

DON'T. WHAT I'M SAYING IS, I'M NOT READY TO BE THE BRIDE.

I'VE BEEN LIVING IN A

FALSE UNIVERSE

MEET REBECCA THE CURATOR.

CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

MEET REBECCA THE CURATOR. BUT FOR THIS ONCE GLORIOUS STAR, TIME HAS NOT BEEN KIND. WRITTEN IN ITS PASSAGE IS HER EXPERIENCE, LIKE THOSE RELATED IN VOLUMES OF UNREAD BOOKS ON DUSTY SHELVES.

SHE APPEARS Distant and cold, Jaded by disappointment. SHE TOO, BATTLES DEMONS. AND SHE HAS DISPLAYS TO FILL THE CURATOR.

COME INSIDE WHERE IT'S SAFE.

THAT SOUNDS FAMILIAR. I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN.

ME NEITHER. I'D SAY I HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE, BUT I'M FEELING MORE AND MORE LIKE THERE'S NOTHING TO GAIN.

OH, FATALIST! ALL THE SAME, IT'S SAFE.

I GUESS.



LOQUACIOUS SECURITY:
REBECCA SPEAKS WITH PURPOSE

HER NAME'S HILLY, AND SHE'S FLED UTOPIA.

SHE NEEDS OUR HELP.

OH, FOREVER THE WHITE KNIGHT.

AT FIRST THE CURIOSITIES SEEMED LIKE GRANDMA'S KNICK-KNACK COLLECTION BUT WITH EYES THAT SEEM TO FOLLOW THE VIEWER. A KNICK-KNACK COLLECTION BUT WITH EYES THAT SEEM TO FOLLOW, THE TOTEMS THAT MAY HAVE DEEPER MEANING BUT SEEM IMPENETRABLE. ENIGMAS ALL. HILLY IS EITHER STULTIFIED OR BEGINNING TO WONDER IF SHE SHOULD STOP BEING LED BY ODD STRANGERS.

HILLY JOINS B.A., THE LOQUACIOUS SECURITY GUARD FOR A PLACE NO ONE CARES ABOUT.

AND REBECCA, A CURATOR FOR A PLACE EVERYONE TREATS AS IRRELEVANT.

REBECCA SPEAKS WITH PURPOSE

REBECCA SPEAKS LITTLE BUT MOVES WITH PURPOSE, A VISION TO REALIZE WHETHER EVERYONE'S LOOKING OR NOT.

EYES THAT SEEM TO FOLLOW

THE ENIGMAS HAVE EYES.

WHAT'S WITH THE HUSHED TONES?

WE GOTTA GO NOW. THERE IS SOMETHING I MUST FIND IN THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES.

WHERE?

ALRIGHT, AND WHAT IS 'IT'? THAT'S A F***** SNOW GLOBE, DUDE.

BOY, HAVE I HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE.

WELL, WELL... LOOK HERE.

RIGHT HERE. I'VE FINALLY FOUND IT.

ONLY THE SECRET TO, LIKE, POWER.

DON'T BE CYNICAL. TRUST ME. YOU SHAKE THIS BABY, LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER, AND A WHOLE NEW WORLD OPENS UP TO YOU.

BEFORE SHE CAN UTTER A GROAN, THEY ARE TRANSPORTED TO UTOPIA.

UTOPIA!

I...
I DON'T...
THIS IS...

AMAZING,
I KNOW!

OH, WOW. THIS IS...
NOT SO FAMILIAR...

BUT NOT IN
THE WORST
WAY.

THIS ISN'T HOW
I REMEMBER
UTOPIA.

HILLY, REBECCA, AND B.A.
ARE LAVISHED AND LAUDED
BY THE CROWD BEFORE THEM
IN EQUAL MEASURE.

THE BRIDE
HAS RETURNED
REJOICE.

SPEAKING OF THE FAMILIAR, HUH?

UTOPIA!

IN SOME WAYS, NOT SO DIFFERENT
FROM ITS ALTERNATIVES.

TOUCHED BY YOUR OUTPOURING

TOUCHED BY YOUR OUTPOURING

TOUCHED BY YOUR OUTPOURING

TOUCHED BY YOUR OUTPOURING

HOPE: WHY NOW?

THOR: I NEED A COUPLE TICKS ALONE WITH YOU.

GUS: THIS IS BULLSHIT.

DESTRUERE: YOU SAID IT, SHE STINKS.

GRACE: WELL, I'VE NEVER BEEN HAPPIER TO SEE HER!

THIS ORB...
I DON'T KNOW WHY,
SEEMS TO ME LIKE A
FRAGRANT WINE.

HILLY'S RETURN GARNERS A MIXED BAG OF MOODS.
THE BOARD IS SHOCKED. PERHAPS PLEASANTLY.
PERHAPS NOT.

STAKES ARE HIGH. LARGELY BECAUSE
ANARICE IS THE ONLY THING HOME TO
ANSWER OPPORTUNITY'S RAPPING
AT THE DOOR.

WELL, THE
IRRATIONAL CITY IS NO MORE.
I STAND BEFORE YOU ALL, OFFERING THE
SECRET TO POWER TO BE SHARED.
A NEW CULTURE.

A NEW
BEGINNING.
AND A FUTURE OF
OUR OWN DIRECTION
WITH A COMMON
VISION.

CALL ME NOSTALGIC. BUT
YOU KNOW, I FEEL LIKE SHIT WAS ALWAYS
BETTER WHEN I RAN THE SHOW.

THE WEDDING SHALL
DEMONSTRATE A UNITY.
HILLY, DESPITE HER DETRACTORS,
IS AN ADMIRABLE FIGURE.
AND THE WEDDING WILL AID
IN UNIFYING FACTIONS.

IN A UTOPIA
NOTHING IS
STATIC.

PLEASE, SPARE US THE
SOCIALIST CLAPTRAP NO ONE
WANTS ANY PART OF IT.
YOUR DAYS OF THREATENING US
WITH DREAMS OF AN EGALITARIAN
CANDYLAND ARE OVER. WE'VE
ALREADY GOT ENOUGH CAVITIES.

B.A.
WITHOUT UTOPIA, WE'RE
ALL FIGHTING FOR THE TOP THE
MOST. & C. AND THE THRONE IS NEVER
THE SAFEST PLACE. AS IT
IS THE MOST
VISIBLE.

WELL,
I THINK WE CAN ALL
AGREE THE WEDDING
WILL BE AMAZING

THOR: OH, SHUT UP YOU DINOSAUR. TRIBALISM IN
SUCH CLOSE PROXIMITY IS A RECIPE FOR DISASTER.
AND YOU KNOW IT. THE DIVVYING OF RESOURCES
ALWAYS SOMEHOW FAVORS THE FEW. AND SURE, I KNOW
YOU'D LOVE TO SEE SOME OF US FIGHTING FOR THE SCRAPS.
CAN YOU REALLY BE SURE THAT WILL BE THE RESULT?

AFTER ENTERING UTOPIA,
REBECCA'S POWER
EMERGES.

THIS IS TERRIBLE!

FOLLOWING OUR
HEARTS
IT WON'T LAST.
I'LL MAKE SURE!
YOU FOOLS!

SHE'S MUSCLE BUT
ALSO EMOTIONAL. STRENGTH
BEYOND STRENGTH.
CIRCUMSPECT BUT
EMPATHETIC. TRAITS
PERFECT FOR CULTURAL
PROTECTORS.

REBECCA
MAID OF HONOR.

HILLY IS
PLACED BEFORE
THE CROWD

HILLY
NEVER WANTED
TO BE A BRIDE.

THE CROWD SPOKE IN ONE VOICE: OUR WORLD IS
MEASURED BY THE ROLES WE TAKE. WE FIND MEANING
FOLLOWING THE INFLUENCE OF OTHERS.

TODAY, WE ARE
FOLLOWING OUR HEARTS
BUT NEVER LOSING OUR MINDS.

HILLY: OH... UM...

WE ALL LEARN FROM
FAILURE. IT'S OKAY TO FAIL OR TO
FEEL UNEASY WITH SUCCESS.
I LEARNED THAT FROM YOU.

HILLY: UM... OKAY?

LOSING OUR MINDS.

THAT NIGHT, DESTRUERE AND HER MINIONS ATTACK.

I WANT THE POWER TO
MYSELF BECAUSE I HAVE ALREADY PROVEN MY WORTH.
DESTRUERE: YOU MAY NOT LOSE YOUR MINDS, BUT YOU WILL LOSE THIS CHILD
UNLESS SOMEONE BRINGS ME THE ORE

DESTRUERE: WHO IS DESTRUERE?
WRONG! I DEFINE ME.

NO ONE DEFINES ME

I WILL NOT TOLERATE
DISSENT

EVERYONE GETS
SUPER IGNORANT

VIOLENCE ENSUES
SOME EVEN LOSE THEIR LIVES.



THE GLASS ORB
GUS SHATTERS IT AND TAKING ITS CONTENTS

YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU?
IT SOLVES NOTHING HAVE WE NOT BEEN DOWN THIS ROAD?
OH, IT WASN'T THAT BAD.
AT LEAST THERE WAS SOME CLASSY ASS DECADENCE.

SOMEHOW, I COULD'VE PREDICTED THIS. LOOK, I KNOW YOU LIKE YOUR PIES IN THE SKY. BIG GUY, BUT THIS AIN'T WORKING. I WANT MY CUT. YOU GIVE ME THE SECRET TO POWER, AND THIS ALL GOES AWAY.

GUS, GET THE ORB

GOODNESS,
WHAT

A
SURPRISE!



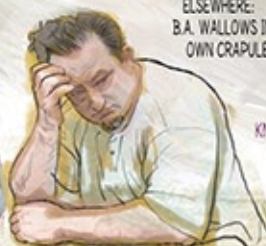
THE EVENT GETS SUPER IGNORANT AGAIN.
B.A. HILLY AND REBECCA RETREAT
AND REGROUP ELSEWHERE.

I'M LOVING THIS SHIT.
GOOD THINGS DO HAPPEN
TO BAD PEOPLE, AND IT MAKES
ME GIDDY AF YOW!

I'M LOVING IT!



ELSEWHERE:
B.A. WALLOWS IN HIS
OWN CRAPULENCE.



MY DRY
AND SOMEHOW I
KNEW THIS WOULD BECOME
ABOUT EVERYONE
ELSE.

HOW DID I LET
THIS HAPPEN?



BUT IT'S
TOO LATE
TO GO BACK NOW.
NO USE WHINING
ABOUT IT.

THAT POOR CHILD
AND THOR... ALWAYS THE
OPPORTUNIST.
UHHHHH.

LET'S DO
SOMETHING.



SHE'S HARSH
BUT SHE'S
RIGHT.



THE ART GALLERIES AND
COLLECTORS.

WE FOLLOW THE MONEY, AND WE CAN RETRIEVE
THE 'SECRET OF POWER' FROM THOR.







DESTRUERE CACKLED IN HER RANDIAN MANNER.

MORE DESTRUCTIVE INFLUENCES CREATE SUPER IGNORANCE AS THE FIGHT CONSUMES MUCH OF DALLAS



THOR IS STILL A CLEVER DICK, AND DESTRUERE MADE THE HIGHEST EBAY BID FOR THE SECRET TO POWER. BECAUSE THOR IS UNSCRUPULOUS AND ALL ABOUT PLEASURE, IT MAKES SENSE.

B.A. HILLY AND REBECCA RESCUE THE HOSTAGE ONLY TO DISCOVER THEIR VICTORY WAS PYRRHIC.

THE BOARD CONVENES
TO FEEL SORRY FOR
THEMSELVES.



CAN'T GET A COUPLE TICKS HERE? YOU MAY FEEL SAD AT THIS MOMENT, BUT IN EVERY MISFORTUNE, THERE IS A CHANCE FOR FINANCIAL GAIN.

HITS
I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED AT THE
CRAVEN BEHAVIOR I'M WITNESSING HERE.
YOU MAKE PROMISES TO PEOPLE YOU CAN'T
KEEP AND ARE DEJECTED AF WHEN THE SHIT
HITS THE FAN.

HITS THE FAN?
I'M STRAYING, AND I'M GOING
TO MIDDLE THROUGH THIS WITH EVERYONE ELSE.
THERE IS LITERALLY NOTHING TO LOSE,
BUT MAYBE WE CAN GAIN OUR SOULS.

THE BOARD: AGAIN,
EVERYTHING IS LOST.
WE PROBABLY
SHOULDN'T BLAME
THE BRIDE.
BUT SHE MAY PROVE
AN EASY SCAPEGOAT.
THEN
AGAIN,
WHAT'S THE
POINT?

WE'VE REACHED
THE POINT OF
NO RETURN.

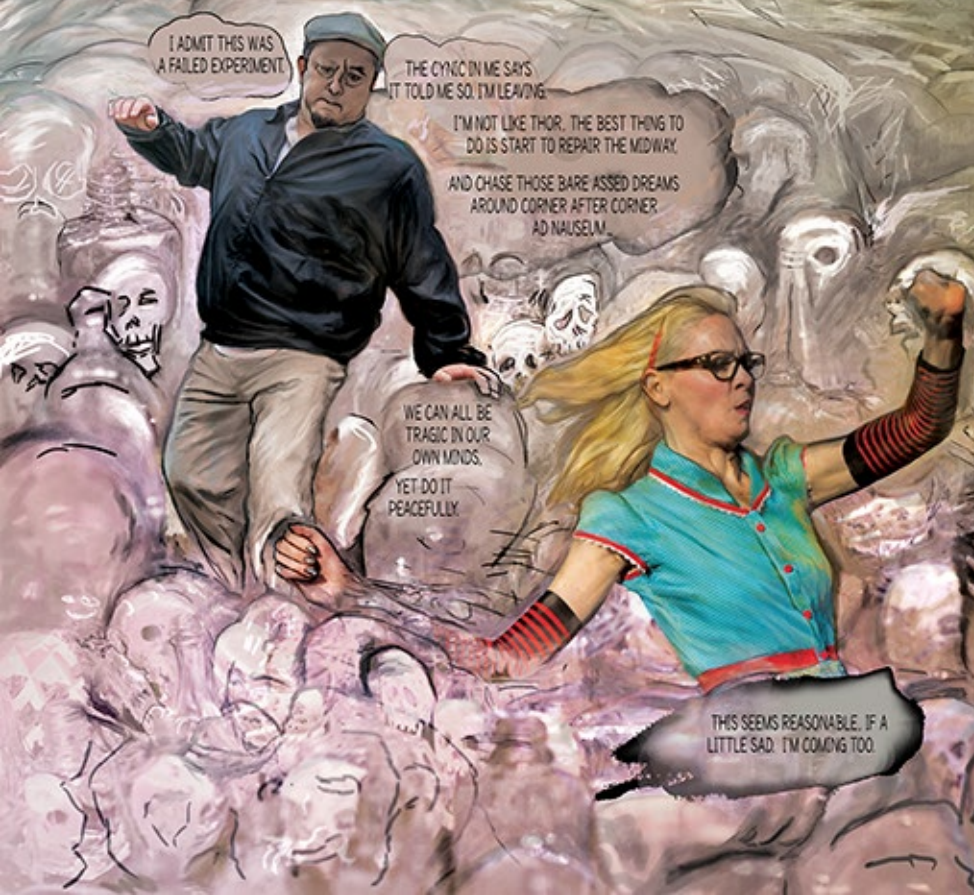
I ADMIT THIS WAS
A FAILED EXPERIMENT.

THE CYNIC IN ME SAYS
IT TOLD ME SO, I'M LEAVING.

I'M NOT LIKE THOR. THE BEST THING TO
DO IS START TO REPAIR THE MIDWAY,
AND CHASE THOSE BARE ASSED DREAMS
AROUND CORNER AFTER CORNER
AD NAUSEUM.

WE CAN ALL BE
TRAGIC IN OUR
OWN MINDS.
YET DO IT
PEACEFULLY.

THIS SEEMS REASONABLE. IF A
LITTLE SAD. I'M COMING TOO.





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MADNESS#6

CREATED BY DWAYNE CARTER

CHECK AT THESE LOCATIONS
KESSLER
RO2 GALLERY
MFA GALLERY
CURIOSITIES
KEITH'S COMICS
AWESOME COMICS



MADNESS #6.
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MADNESS
A PHOTO NOVELLA
BY DWAYNE CARTER
#6
**LIVING
IN A FALSE
UNIVERSE**

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TWO YEARS EARLIER

BOYS. I HATE THAT TERM.

BUT THEY'RE BOYS.

ARG!

MEN. I DON'T WANT BOYS.

WELL, I GUESS INSIDE EVERY MAN IS A LITTLE BOY JUST LOOKING FOR A MOMMY.

SERIOUSLY, I JUST DON'T WANT TO BE CORNERED BY YOUR AUNT . . .

... ALWAYS TRIES TO INTRODUCE ME TO MEN SHE MEETS ON THE BUS.

HERE'S A PRESENT, AND HERE'S A COMPLIMENT, BUT HERE'S BARRY, THE ASPIRING RAPPER OR GABE, THE FUTURE BANKER

OR TODD, THE GUY WITH A FACE ONLY A MOTHER COULD LOVE, WHO'S GOING TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND WORKS AT DOLLAR GENERAL. UGH.

HERE IS THE MOST SPECIAL GIFT I CAN LEAVE YOU. IT'S MORE OF A BEQUEATHMENT,

REALLY. THIS ORB HAS BEEN IN THE FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS...

SOME CALL IT THE "SECRET TO POWER," BUT WHEN I WAS A GIRL I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY.

ANYWAY, YOUR COLLEGE MONEY IS IN THERE TOO



"SECRET TO POWER?"

(LAUGHS) RE-GIFT.

YA'LL ARE MEAN. (LAUGH) AND I LIKE IT.



BUT A GIFT FROM THE HEART SHOULD NEVER BE RECEPTACLE BOUND.

HUH? AND YOU ARE?

GO ASK ALICE



SHIT, EVERYONE HERE'S HALF WAY DEAD. NO BAE'S HERE.



DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT YOUR AUNT'S HERE.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!





BELIEVE ME, I DO NOT PLAN ON STICKING AROUND HERE LONG. AFTER THE CAKE, WE'RE PEACING OUT.



YOUR FUTURE IS MINE TO SEE.

BLACK MARKET BABY ON THE STREET.

RUN AWAY CHILDREN. NO FOOD TO EAT


I MEAN, THEY SAY THE BEST AFTER PARTIES ARE THE ONES YOU BRING WITH YOU, BUT... YEAH. NO.

NOTHING IS PERMANENT. FORGET BOYS.

THINK ABOUT YOUR FUTURE, YOUR EDUCATION?

THE ONLY EDUCATION I CARE ABOUT RIGHT NOW IS SEX. NO GLOVE, NO LOVE! (LAUGHS)

OH YOU SPOILED CHILD, YOU. YOU KNOW THAT EVERYTHING YOU HAVE CAN BE TAKEN FROM YOU ANY DAY, RIGHT?




DO YOU VOTE?

I... SHOULD I BUT...

CARDBOARD LADY LIVING IN A BOX

YOUR DREAMS ARE SHATTERED. YOUR FUTURE ON THE ROCKS

DOWNER. EAT YOUR CAKE BUT MAKE IT A TO GO ORDER!



HEY, YOU KNOW SHE TOOK OFF WITH GLOBE, RIGHT?

SO MUCH FOR SISTERHOOD. BITCHES STEALING FROM...

WHAT? THERE WAS MONEY IN THERE! I THOUGHT... WHO DOES THAT? CALL THE POLICE