

THE GLOOM

Part 1 of 6

"#1: Evil sleeps alone tonight."

by

Tony Lee and Dan Boulwood

First Draft

Tony Lee

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

(+44) XXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXX@XXXXXXXX.CO.UK

PAGE 1

1) Wide panel. We're looking down at a Manhattan street, passing by a cinema. On the cinema's big 'now on' thing is THE MARK OF ZORRO. (See what I did there? A little batman reference. In the first panel. It goes downhill from here, folks.) Two people, man and woman, are walking hand in hand towards an alleyway. Between them is a little black haired boy, playing with an imaginary sword. Yes guys, it's a rip off of Bruce Wayne's origin.

CAPTION

DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN. 1940.

BOY

YEAH! TAKE **THAT**, EVIL MEN!

WOMAN

OH THOMAS, I'M SO GLAD WE WENT OUT TONIGHT.
ANOTHER NIGHT IN THE MANSION WOULD HAVE
BEEN SO **DULL**.

THOMAS

I KNOW, MY DEAR - I JUST CAN'T HELP SHAKING THE
FEELING THAT SOMETHING **MOMENTOUS** IS ABOUT
TO --

2) Suddenly, from the alleyway comes a large, pistol wielding bad guy! He knocks back Thomas as he runs out of the alley!

THOMAS

HNF! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE **GOING** --

3) Close up of the mugger!

NO CAPTION

4) The woman holds Bruce in front of her.

WOMAN

PLEASE - DON'T TAKE MY JEWELRY! IT'S A
HEIRLOOM!!

(Link)

HERE - TAKE MY **SON** INSTEAD! HE'S A HARD
WORKER!

5) Close up of the criminal, looking wide eyed and terrified.

CRIMINAL

GET OUT OF MY **WAY**, LADY - I'M RUNNING FOR MY
LIFE HERE!

(Link)

OH NO - HE'S **FOUND** ME!

6) The criminal runs off screaming down a bridge that spurs off from the alley as in the foreground the man looks towards the reader (the alley)

CRIMINAL

FLEE! FLEE FOR YOUR LIVES!

MAN

I KNEW CRIMINALS WERE A SUPERSTITIOUS AND
COWARDLY LOT, BUT WHAT WOULD MAKE A MAN
RUN SO --

(small)

OH GOD.

PAGE 2

1) Full page splash panel. As the man grabs the woman who holds onto him in fear, we see the Gloom exit the alley, guns out and cocked. He is in full avenging angel mode.

THE GLOOM

FLEE, CRIMINAL SCUM?

S/FX

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!

THE GLOOM 2

YOU CANNOT **FLEE** FROM **THE GLOOM!**

CAPTION

EVERY EVENING - WHEN THE **DARK NIGHT RETURNS**

-

CAPTION 2

I RETURN TO STAND **JUDGEMENT.**

CREDITS

PAGE 3

1) Action shot. The Gloom leaps onto the bonnet of a car as he chases the running criminal.

S/FX

CRUMP!

THE GLOOM

CRIMINAL! YOU RAPED AND KILLED BEAUTY
PAGEANT **RUNNER UP** JESSICA SWEET!

(Link)

YOU MUST BE **JUDGED!**

2) The Criminal turns back at the reader (The Gloom), gun blazing.

CRIMINAL

JUDGE **THIS**, FREAKO!

S/FX

BLAM! BLAM!

3) The Gloom leaps to the side, both guns blazing as the bullets hit around him.

S/FX

FOOM! FOOM!

CAPTION

WINONA AND **GUN**, MY TWO HELLFIRE PISTOLS LIGHT
UP THE NIGHT.

CAPTION 2

THEY DON'T USE **BULLETS** - THEY FIRE PURE
HELLFIRE AT THE GUILTY.

4) The hellfire bullets hit the wall beside the criminal as he falls backwards.

CRIMINAL

MISSED! HAH HAH!

5) The Gloom hits the criminal, knocking him flying.

S/FX

THUMP!

6) Standing over the fallen criminal, the Gloom has his guns aimed at the criminal's head.

THE GLOOM

I WON'T FROM **THIS** DISTANCE.

PAGE 4

1) The Criminal looking up at the reader (The Gloom). He is begging for his life.

CRIMINAL
WAIT - WAIT - I DIDN'T **DO** IT!
(Link)
I FOUND THE BODY! YEAH! I FOUND IT AND I
HAPPENED TO **ACCIDENTALLY** PICK UP HER PURSE!

CRIMINAL
I'M **INNOCENT!**

2) Reverse angle. The Gloom stares down dispassionately as his gun blasts.

THE GLOOM
THE GUNS WILL DECIDE YOUR **INNOCENCE.**

S/FX
FOOM!

THE GLOOM 2
GUESS **NOT,** THEN.

3) As the Gloom stands, Thomas, his wife and lil' Bruce stand there in shock.

THE GLOOM
HAVE NO **FEAR,** CITIZENS. THIS CRIMINAL WILL NOT
KILL ANOTHER BEAUTY PAGEANT RUNNER-UP **AGAIN.**

4) The Gloom looks up, as sirens blare in the distance.

THE GLOOM
AH. **POLICE.** MY CUE TO LEAVE.

5) The bridge that he is on is suddenly blocked by screeching police cars.

S/FX
SCREECH!

POLICE
DROP THE GUNS!

CAPTION
DAMN. EXIT BLOCKED. PLAN **B,** I THINK.

6) We look up at the bridge as The Gloom leaps into the night!

THE GLOOM
ANOTHER **TIME,** OFFICERS!

PAGE 5

1) The Gloom somersaults in the air.

NO CAPTION

2) The Gloom lands on the roof of his car, driving along under the bridge. He grips with his hand.

THE GLOOM

TOUCHDOWN.

(Link)

NICE TIMING, TINY.

3) We see Tiny lean out of the cab, tipping his cap to the Gloom

TINY

NO PROBLEM, BOSS. HAPPENED TO BE IN THE AREA.

(Link)

BACK TO THE **PENTHOUSE?**

4) A bullet zings past the Gloom's ear as he replies.

THE GLOOM

NOT YET, MY FAITHFUL CHUM -

S/FX

ZING

5) The Gloom looks back where several police cars are following.

THE GLOOM

FIRST WE NEED TO ESCAPE **THOSE.**

PAGE 6

1) Gloom is on the car as it races through the streets, cars behind him blaring

CAPTION

ALTHOUGH I **ADMIRE** OUR POLICE FORCE -

CAPTION 2

THEY CAN BE A **PAIN IN THE ASS** SOMETIMES.

2) A Police car. One of the policemen is leaning out the window to fire at the reader.

S/FX

BLAM!

3) The Gloom is still on the car, facing back as he futilely tries to fire the gun.

S/FX

CLICK

CAPTION

GUN WON'T FIRE ON THE INNOCENT. THAT KNOCKS
OUT THE OPTION OF BLOWING OUT A **TIRE**.

THE GLOOM

TINY! PASS ME THE **TOOLBOX** FROM UNDER THE
PASSENGER SEAT!

4) Front view of the car. Tiny, still driving is passing a toolbox out to the Gloom on the roof.

TINY

THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO START A NEW **HOBBY**,
BOSS!

THE GLOOM

DON'T WORRY OLD FRIEND - I'LL STILL BE LEAVING
THE **MENIAL** WORK FOR YOU --

5) The Gloom throws a handful of nails at the reader. Dramatic shot

THE GLOOM

--I JUST NEEDED SOME **NAILS**.

PAGE 7

1) The cars swerve as their tires burst!

SCREECH! **S/FX**

BANG! BANG! **S/FX**

2) The cop out the window fires again!

BLAM! **S/FX**

COP
DIE, YOU SON OF A --

3) The bullet hits the back window, making Tiny duck!

CRACK! **S/FX**

TINY
WHOA! AH **CRAP** --

4) The out of control car breaks through the railings! The Gloom and the toolbox are no longer attached!

CRASH!!! **S/FX**

PAGE 8

1) The Gloom flying, toolbox pretty much scattered to the winds.

CAPTION

NEVER THOUGHT I'D GO OUT **THIS** WAY.

2) The Gloom's hand grabs the hammer, claw part forwards.

CAPTION

NOT MUCH TO WORK WITH, BUT BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS.

3) The Gloom rams the claw end into the roof of the car as it flies towards the lower road level.

S/FX

RRRIIPPP!!!

CAPTION

THAT'S GOING TO LEAVE A MARK.

4) The car lands on the road below, still driving manically as The Gloom holds on to the hammer, hanging on the side.

S/FX

CRUMP!

TINY

BOSS! YOU'RE **ALIVE!**

THE GLOOM

TIME TO GO BACK HOME, I THINK --

PAGE 9

1) We're looking down from the bridge where two shadowed figures watch the car drive off. One is the Vermillion, the other a brownshirt Nazi, but you can't see this yet.

THE GLOOM

--I HAVE A **PARTY** TO ATTEND.

2) We now look at the Vermillion and the Nazi.

NAZI

HE **SURVIVED!**

VERMILLION

OF **COURSE** HE SURVIVED. IT'S WHAT HE **DOES**.

3) The Nazi and the Vermillion walk back to their car as police cars race past.

NAZI

LOOK, **VERMILLION** - I'M SURE THE GLOOM IS AS BIG A THREAT AS YOU BELIEVE, BUT CAN HE **REALLY** HOPE TO DEFEAT THE **THIRD REICH?**

VERMILLION

YOUR NAZI SUBTERFUGE MAY BE CLEAR CUT TO YOU IN **EUROPE** --

4) Vermillion.

VERMILLION

BUT THIS IS **MANHATTAN**. THEY'LL EAT YOU **ALIVE**.

(Link)

AND NO AMOUNT OF ATOMIC TERRORISM WILL **STOP** THAT.

5) The car drives off.

VERMILLION

TAKE ME TO KANE TOWERS. WE HAVE A **FUNCTION** TO ATTEND.

CAPTION

"**KANE!** GODDAMIT, IT'S BEEN **YEARS!**"

PAGE 10

1) Scene change. We're now in a ornate hollywoodesque party. You know, the old RKO types. Big band in the background, glasses of champagne everywhere. In the foreground is Carson Kane, facing Carruthers and Mousey.

CAPTION

KANE TOWERS.

CARSON

CARRUTHERS? WHAT ON EARTH ARE **YOU** DOING HERE? SHOULDN'T YOU BE OFF IN **EUROPE**, FIGHTING THE HUN?

CARRUTHERS

AH, WELL YOU SEE OLD BOY - THE BRITISH ARMY DECIDED THAT YOU YANKS NEEDED SOME GOOD LOOKING **MEN** ON YOUR SHORES, SO SENT **ME** TO VISIT.

2) Carruthers introduces Mousey.

CARRUTHERS

SO I'M SOME KIND OF FOREIGN OFFICE **BIGWIG** NOW - UNLIMITED EXPENSE ACCOUNT LEVEL, IT SEEMS - SO THAT COULD BE QUITE FUN.

(Link)

BUT WHERE ARE MY MANNERS! **CARSON KANE**, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO **MOUSEY BLONDE**, BERTIE SHAW'S NIECE.

3) Carson shakes hands with Mousey.

CARSON

PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, MISS BLONDE.

MOUSEY

PLEASURE'S ALL **MINE**, MISTER KANE. HOW DO YOU KNOW MY UNCLE?

CARSON 2

WE WENT TO **UNIVERSITY** TOGETHER. HE ROWED FOR OXFORD WITH MYSELF AND CARRUTHERS.

4) Mousey gushes with admiration as Carruthers jibes Carson, who is lighting a pipe.

MOUSEY

OH, I CAN JUST **SEE** YOU AS A ROWER, THOSE STRONG, MANLY **MUSCLES** -

CARRUTHERS

SO CARSON, WHY WERE YOU **LATE**? IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO MISS ONE OF YOUR COMPANY'S OWN BASHES -

5) Carson dismisses the comment.

CARSON

OH, THERE WAS TRAFFIC IN DOWNTOWN
MANHATTAN. THE POLICE WERE CHASING **THE**
GLOOM, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

MOUSEY

THE GLOOM? MY - THAT NAME JUST GIVES ME THE
SHIVERS!

PAGE 11

1) Carruthers points his pipe at Carson.

CARRUTHERS

PISH AND TOSH. HE'S A MAN, LIKE ALL OTHERS.

(Link)

I MEAN, EVEN OLD **CARSON** HERE HAS A BIT OF THE LOOK OF THE GLOOM, YOU KNOW. RUGGED CHIN, NEAT MUSTACHE - ANYTHING YOU WANT TO **TELL** US, OLD FRIEND?

2) Carson calmly denies. Big text panel.

CARSON

THERE ARE **THREE** REASONS WHY I AM NOT THE GLOOM. FIRSTLY, I SMOKE A **PIPE**. THE GLOOM DOES NOT.

(Link)

SECONDLY, THE GLOOM WEARS A **HAT**. I DO NOT.

(Link)

AND THIRDLY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY - THE GLOOM **RIGHTS WRONGS** AT NIGHT. I PREFER TO MEET VACUOUS, PRETTY LADIES AND **PARTY**.

3) Mousey is indignant.

MOUSEY

HEY! ARE YOU SAYING THAT I AM JUST A VACUOUS, PRETTY **FACE**?

CARSON

NOT AT ALL - I AM SURE YOU CAN BE **BEAUTIFUL** SOMETIMES, MY DEAR.

4) Mousey storms off as Carruthers and Carson laugh.

MOUSEY

MEN!

5) Still laughing, Carson turns to Carruthers, who has suddenly lost his humour, staring off panel.

CARSON

SO ANYWAY, WHAT SAY WE -

(Link)

CARRUTHERS? WHAT'S THE **MATTER**?

CARRUTHERS

NOW WHAT THE HELL -

6) We see what Carruthers is looking at. Vermillion has arrived in his guise of Jack Kansas, all-american hero. With him is an SS officer, trenchcoat and everything. Three brownshirts stand guard.

CARRUTHERS (OP)

--ARE **THEY** DOING HERE?

PAGE 12

1) Jack and Carruthers walk over to Jack Kansas. Carson is shaking Jack's hand. Carruthers and the Nazi's glare at each other. Big panel.

CARSON

JACK KANSAS, ALL AMERICAN **HERO**. WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING IN SUCH **COMPANY**?

JACK

WELL CARSON, WHEN YOU SPEND SO MUCH TIME ON THE **WINNING** TEAM, YOU USUALLY END AVOIDING THE LOSERS.

(Link)

AND FRITZ HERE IS NOT A **LOSER**, NO MATTER WHAT **SOME** PEOPLE SAY.

2) Carson holds Carruthers back.

CARRUTHERS

AND WHAT THE HELL IS **THAT** SUPPOSED TO MEAN? THE NAZIS ARE **MURDERERS!** IF YOU SAW WHAT THEY WERE DOING IN EUROPE -

3) Back to Jack. The Nazis are laughing behind him.

JACK

BUT WE'RE NOT **IN** EUROPE. WE'RE IN **AMERICA**. AND AMERICA WON'T BE DRAGGED INTO A WAR BY CRIES OF **RAPE AND PILLAGE**.

(Link)

GO BACK TO **BLIGHTY**, YOU LIMEY RABBLE ROUSER.

4) Carson speaks to Jack. At this point Tiny, in his 'Odd Job' from 007 style butler costume has wandered up behind him.

CARSON

YOU DON'T SPEAK FOR AMERICA, JACK. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN.

JACK

I KNOW THAT SOON, **VERY** SOON WE'LL SEE HOW POWERFUL THE THIRD REICH IS, AND ROOSEVELT WILL BACK OFF RATHER THAN **FIGHT** THEM.

(Link)

AND THEY HAVE THE **JAPANESE** ON THEIR SIDE. **MILLIONS** OF THEM.

5) Carson. Expressionless.

NO CAPTION

6) Same panel.

CARSON

GET OUT.

PAGE 13

1) Wide view. Jack and Carson face off as the Nazi's are started to be escorted off the property by Tiny.

JACK

WHAT? YOU'RE TELLING JACK KANSAS TO **LEAVE?**
NOBODY DOES THAT!

CARSON

OH, **YOU** CAN STAY. BUT I'M AFRAID YOUR **FRIENDS**
AREN'T ON THE LIST.

(Link)

AND THEY'RE NOT **WELCOME** HERE.

2) Tiny takes Jack by the arm and starts to remove him. Jack shouts back at Carson.

JACK

YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE, CARSON! A **COSTLY**
MISTAKE! YOU'RE SIDING WITH THE SCHOOLYARD
WIMP!

CARSON

AND YOU'VE SIDED WITH THE SCHOOLYARD **BULLY.**

(Link)

HIT THE **ROAD,** JACK. DON'T YOU COME BACK NO
MORE.

3) Stretched as far as he can, Jack manages to get almost nose-to-nose with Carson.

JACK

NO MORE?

CARSON

NO MORE.

JACK 2

NO **MORE??!!!** YOU'LL **PAY** FOR THAT!

4) We see the scene now from the distance, over Mousey's shoulder.

JACK

THINGS WILL CHANGE! YOU CANNOT DEFEAT THE
NAZI EMPIRE! THEY ARE THE **FUTURE!** MAKE PEACE
WHILE YOU **CAN!**

5) We now look at Mousey. She has had an idea.

MOUSEY

HMM.

PAGE 14

1) Outside Kane towers. Mousey is running out of the building, coat in her hand, handbag in the other, waving for a cab. To the side you see the nazis getting into another car, a nazi state car with flags and everything.

MOUSEY

TAXI!

2) Mousey gets into the cab.

MOUSEY

THINKS I'M VACUOUS, DOES HE?

3) Mousey is in the back seat pulling out a black haired wig. The Cabbie is in the foreground, half in panel, looking ahead.

MOUSEY

WELL LETS SEE HIS FACE WHEN HE REALISES THAT
I'M NOT JUST MOUSEY BLONDE, SOCIAL DEBUTANTE

-

4) Similar scene, but now she has the black bob wig on. The cabbie is looking in the mirror at her.

MOUSEY

BUT AM IN FACT ALSO VIXEN LA FOX, PULITZER
PRIZE WINNING JOURNALIST!

CABBIE

WHERE TO?

5) The cabbie pulls out into the traffic, following the nazi state car.

MOUSEY

FOLLOW THOSE NAZIS.

PAGE 15

1) We have a scene change. Big panel. Under a light in a darkened warehouse is a chair; tied to it and obviously beaten is DOC ADVENTURE, our Doc Savage type character. His clothes are ripped, he is bloody. There are Nazis in the shadows.

CAPTION

INTERLUDE. ELSEWHERE.

NAZI

COME ON, **DOC ADVENTURE** - THIS RESISTANCE IS FUTILE. WE KNOW YOU HAVE THE LOCATION OF THE HIDDEN **URANIUM** IN YOUR GENIUS MIND.

(Link)

ALL WE WANT YOU TO DO IS **TELL** US IT.

DOC ADVENTURE.

EAT MUD, **NAZI SCUM**. DO WHAT YOU WANT TO ME. I WON'T SELL OUT MY COUNTRY SO YOU CAN MAKE WEAPONS OF **ATOMIC PROPORTIONS!**

2) A Nazi throws a bag onto the floor in front of Adventure.

NAZI

MY DEAR PATRIOTIC **MORON**. WHAT MAKES YOU THINK WE WOULD CONTINUE TO HURT **YOU** --

S/FX

THUMP

3) We look in the bag. It is the dead eyed face of Pinky, Doc Adventure's chubby scientist sidekick!

NAZI (OP)

--WHEN WE HAVE SO MANY OF YOUR **SIDEKICKS** TO HURT?

4) Close up. Doc Adventure's eyes.

DOC ADVENTURE.

PINKY? OH GOD, NO...

5) In the background, Doc America throws his head back, crying out. In the foreground, two nazis speak.

DOC ADVENTURE.

NOOO!!!!!!

NAZI

GIVE HIM AN HOUR. TRY AGAIN.

(Link)

IF HE DOESN'T COOPERATE, CUT OF THE **MIDGET'S** HEAD.

PAGE 16

1) The doors of an elevator open, and Carson walks out towards the reader.

CAPTION

PENTHOUSE SUITE, KANE TOWERS.

CARSON

WELL THANK GOD **THAT'S** OVER. THAT RUN IN WITH THE HUN HAS LEFT A DAMNED **TASTE** IN MY MOUTH.

2) Carson walks into the room, Tiny sits reading a paper.

TINY

WANT ME TO WARM THE **GLOOM MOBILE** UP BOSS?

CARSON

NOT YET, OLD FRIEND - I NEED TO SPEAK TO THE **PROFESSOR** FIRST.

(link)

WHERE THE DEUCES IS HE?

TINY 2

BEDROOM TWO - HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT TESTING OUT HIS NEW BODY TO THE **LIMITS** --

3) Bedroom two's doors open and The Professor stands there. In the background you can see a bed with a girl pulling up the bedclothes around her.

PROFESSOR

YOU KNOW, IT'S FAR EASIER TO SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH A WOMAN WHEN YOU'RE **NOT** HEARING PEOPLE TALK ABOUT YOU OUTSIDE THE ROOM.

4) The professor leaps up onto a stool by the science desk as Carson reaches into his pocket.

PROFESSOR

I ASSUME YOU HAVE A **PROBLEM**. PASS IT HERE.

CARSON

YOU'RE IN THERE WITH A **WOMAN**? THAT'S JUST WRONG IN **SO MANY** WAYS.

PROFESSOR 2

I READ HER POETRY. SHE PICKS FLEAS OFF MY HEAD. NOTHING MORE. ALTHOUGH I HAVE FOUND THAT WITH A LOT OF VIGOROUS **RUBBING**, I CAN -

CARSON 2

DON'T EVER TELL ME. **EVER**. I HAVE SOMETHING HERE FOR YOU.

5) He passes a small yellow invoice receipt to the Professor.

PROFESSOR

IF IT'S A BANANA I MIGHT HAVE TO KILL YOU.

CARSON

IT WAS DROPPED BY JACK KANSAS WHEN WE ESCORTED HIM OUT OF THE PARTY EARLIER. WITH HIS CONNECTION TO THE NAZIS, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE IMPORTANT.

PROFESSOR 2

INDEED, SOME OF THE ITEMS ON THIS DELIVERY NOTE MAKE INTERESTING READING.

(Link)

IT LOOKS LIKE A CASING, POSSIBLY A BOMB, BUT IT'S FAR MORE COMPLICATED.

PAGE 17

1) Carson reaches over and flips the head of an Abraham Lincoln bust (think Batman TV show) and clicks a red button.

CARSON

I DON'T LIKE **NAZI SHENNAIGANS** IN MY CITY. TINY, I THINK IT IS TIME TO PAY THEM A VISIT --

S/FX

CLICK

2) A panel slides open to show hat, coat and holsters with guns in

S/FX

SHUMMM

3) Carson takes the pistols, his face shadowed ever so slightly.

CARSON

--OR SHOULD I SAY, FOR THE **GLOOM** TO PAY THEM ONE.

4) Carson takes the note off the Professor as he hands it to him.

PROFESSOR

BUT HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND THEM?

CARSON

THAT PART'S **EASY**, PROFESSOR --

5) We look at the invoice header. It reads 'J.NEXUS EXPORT AND IMPORT' with a vague pier/dock address under.

CARSON (OP)

--I FOLLOW THE **DELIVERY NOTE**.

PAGE 18

1) Scene change. We look down from a roof; the Gloom is in the foreground slightly. We look down at a lit warehouse. It has a sign saying 'J.NEXUS IMPORT AND EXPORT'. You can see a couple of Nazi guards.

CAPTION

THE DOCKS.

2) We're now with a guard, standing near an alleyway. We're looking up at him so we can see the Gloom leaping off the roof.

NO CAPTION

3) The Guard turns around in shock at something off panel.

S/FX

SNAP!

GUARD

HUH -

4) The guard's perspective, The Gloom, Punching.

S/FX

THWACK!

5) The Gloom drags the guard into the alley.

NO CAPTION

6) The gloom exits. But now he has put the guards Nazi uniform over his coat (which of course can still be seen as it's a tick jacket length Nazi tunic) and has places the Nazi helmet on top his the had so it wobbles at a jaunty angle. He looks down the alley.

NO CAPTION

PAGE 19

1) As the Gloom, in disguise as a Nazi walks along, two guards call at him in German. NOTE - although they will ask if he's okay etc, it will be in German without captions so the reader is as confused as the Gloom is :)

GUARD #1

HEY! HANS! SIND SIE **GUT**?

(Link)

HEY! ICH **SPRECHE** MIT IHNEN!

2) The Gloom looks at the reader (the guards) - he looks confused.

THE GLOOM

UM.

(Link)

...

(Link)

SCHNELL, SCHNELL, ACHTUNG **SPITFIRE**?

3) The gloom walks off. The two guards mime drinking motions.

GUARD #1

HANS HAT WIEDER **GETRUNKEN**.

4) The gloom looks into a darkened room.

DOC ADVENTURE. (OP)

YOU CAN TRY ALL YOU **WANT**, NAZIS --

5) Doc America. Tired. Still tied under the light in an empty room. There are about five bags in front of him now.

DOC ADVENTURE.

-- I **STILL** AIN'T GIVING UP.

6) The Gloom starts to untie his bonds!

DOC ADVENTURE.

HEY! YOU'RE NO NAZI! YOU'RE THAT **GLOOM** FELLA!

THE GLOOM

THATS RIGHT, DOCTOR ADVENTURE. AND I'M GETTING YOU OUT OF HERE.

DOC ADVENTURE.

CALL ME **DOC**. MY FRIENDS CALL ME DOC.

(Link)

WELL, WHAT'S **LEFT** OF THEM ANYWAY.

PAGE 20

1) The Doc and The Gloom peer around the corner. Doc Adventure has the Nazi's rifle now.

THE GLOOM

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THEY'RE DOING
HERE? I BELIEVE IT'S SOMETHING TO DO WITH A
BOMB -

DOC ADVENTURE.

THAT'S RIGHT. AN **ATOMIC** BOMB. IF IT WENT OFF
HERE, IT'D TAKE OUT ALL OF **MANHATTAN** IN A SPLIT
SECOND.

2) The Gloom and Doc shake hands.

THE GLOOM

SUCH MAGNITUDE? THEN I MUST **STOP** IT!

DOC ADVENTURE.

YOU'LL NEED HELP. LET ME COME --

THE GLOOM 2

YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH, LOST ENOUGH FRIENDS FOR
ONE DAY. GET HELP AND I'LL SEE YOU LATER.

DOC ADVENTURE. 2

GODS SPEED AND **GOOD LUCK.**

3) The gloom goes one way as Doc Adventure goes the other.

NO CAPTION

4) The gloom pauses as he looks down a corridor of boxes in a large warehouse, looking directly at the reader.

THE GLOOM

WHAT ON EARTH?

5) Vixen La Fox is tied to a chair in the middle of the clearing of large boxes.

NO CAPTION

6) The Gloom runs over to Fox.

VIXEN LA FOX

NO! KEEP **AWAY!**

THE GLOOM

BE **QUIET!** I'M HERE TO **HELP!**

PAGE 21

1) The Gloom unties her bonds as she speaks.

VIXEN LA FOX

I THOUGHT I COULD FOLLOW THE NAZIS, DISCOVER
WHAT THEIR PLAN WAS - GET A **KILLER SCOOP** FOR
THE MORNING EDITION.

(Link)

BUT THEY SAW MY CAB FOLLOWING AND LED ME
INTO A TRAP LIKE A GODDAMNED **ROOKIE!**

2) The Gloom frees her!

THE GLOOM

WELL HAVE NO FEAR, THE MORNING EDITION STILL
AWAITS. NAZIS MAKE **LOUSY** ROPE KNOTS.

VIXEN LA FOX

THANK YOU - MISTER...?

3) The Gloom removes the helmet! Vixen La Fox is surprised!

VIXEN LA FOX

THE GLOOM! BUT YOU'RE A **MYTH!**

THE GLOOM

LET'S HOPE THE NAZIS THINK SO AS WE ESCAPE --

4) Suddenly Lights flash into action!

S/FX

FLASH!

5) Suddenly a close up of rifles being made ready!

S/FX

KA-CHICK!

6) The Gloom looks up off panel as the voice speaks!

VERMILLION (OP)

OH I THINK **NOT**, MISTER GLOOM.

(Link)

AS I SAID TO THE LOVELY REPORTER EARLIER
TONIGHT --

PAGE 22

1) Full page splash. The Gloom, in action pose, shields Vixen as above, Nazi troops line the walkways, all aiming weapons at him! And standing front and center is the Vermillion!

VERMILLION

-- YOU ARE NOW GUESTS OF THE **VERMILLION!!!**

S/FX LAUGH

MUU HA HA HA HA HA!!!!

CAPTION

TO BE CONTINUED...