



CLEVELAND - SADZINSKI - GONZALEZ - BIRCH

1

SHOW'S END

SNEAK
PREVIEW





**MAD
CAVE**

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SNEAK PREVIEW

SHOW'S END™

■ Equal parts brutal and beautiful, *Show's End* takes place in Georgia during the 1920s and follows Loralye, a 12-year-old runaway seeking refuge with a traveling group of freak show performers. At first, she isn't welcomed for being too "ordinary." But what her new found family doesn't know, is that Loralye is hiding a secret more freakish than anyone could ever imagine!

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LEVINGTON, GA.
1928.

AND IT'S BEEN HERE THE ENTIRE TIME?

THAT'S RIGHT. BUILT THE CAGE NOT LONG AFTER MY WIFE GAVE BIRTH TO THE DAMNED THING, AND IT'S BEEN LOCKED IN THERE SINCE.

I WANTED TO DROWN IT IN THE CREEK, BUT THE WIFE SAID SHE'D BLOW MY HEAD OFF IF I TRIED. I CALLED HER BLUFF AND, WELL...

I--UH-- LEARNED SHE AIN'T THE BLUFFIN' SORT.

SO ~~AHEM~~ IS THIS WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR?

OH, YES. WITHOUT A DOUBT...

HERE. AN ADVANCE.

I'LL BE BACK TOMORROW WITH THE REST AND A **BIGGER** CAGE.

WHOA! OKAY, WE GOT A DEAL, MR. CORLEY!

CAPTAIN CORLEY. PLEASE.



\$600!
WOO-WEE! I NEVER
THOUGHT YOU'D
COME AROUND TO
SELLIN' IT OFF!

IT WAS
JUST TIME
TO LET IT
GO.
I'LL BE
RIGHT BACK,
DEAR.



SWEETIE...
IT'S MAMA. I
HAVE ALL YOUR
FAVORITES
TONIGHT.

CRRRRR



OH,
YOU! SHHH.
MAMA'S
HERE.



THIS IS WHAT
WE'VE ALWAYS
TALKED ABOUT,
RIGHT?

IT'S
TIME FOR
YOU TO RUN,
BABY...



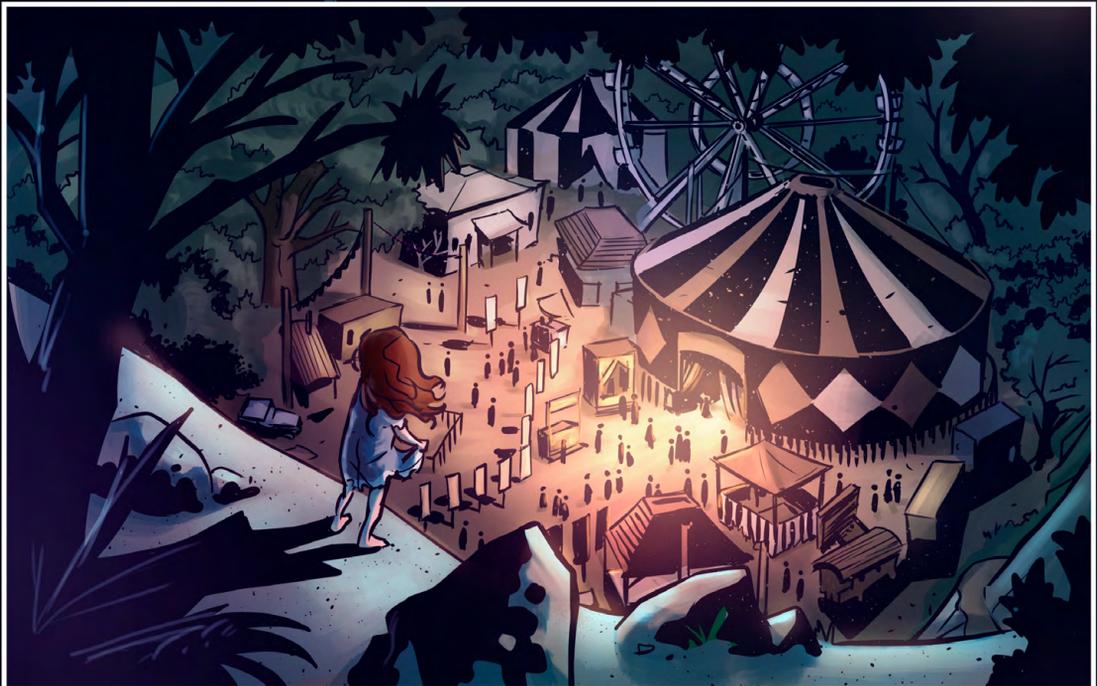
MOMMY'LL
ALWAYS LOVE
YOU. *≡SNIFF≡*

YOU
STAY SMART
OUT THERE, OKAY?
BLEND IN AND ACT
JUST LIKE THEM.
YOU'LL BE SAFE
THAT WAY.

AND
NO MATTER
WHAT... DON'T
COME BACK.

HAUGHTON, GA.
SEVEN MONTHS LATER.

THOSE ARE
MY APPLES!
GET BACK HERE,
GODDAMNIT!



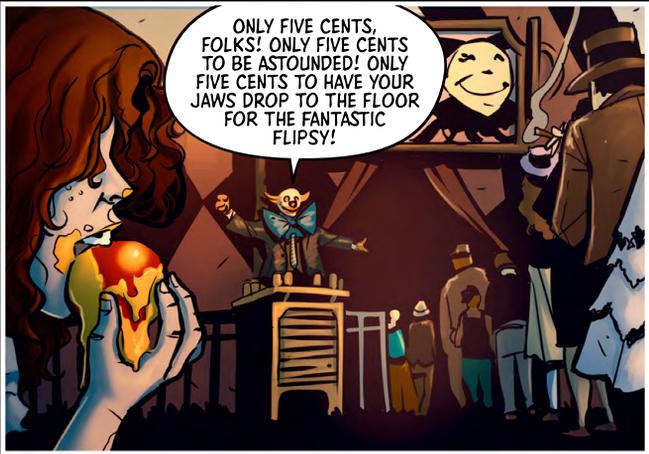


WHOA...



ENJOY, MA'AM!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, FLIPSY THE FANTASTIC PINHEAD IS ABOUT TO PERFORM!



ONLY FIVE CENTS, FOLKS! ONLY FIVE CENTS TO BE ASTONDED! ONLY FIVE CENTS TO HAVE YOUR JAWS DROP TO THE FLOOR FOR THE FANTASTIC FLIPSY!



STEP RIGHT IN!





NOBODY WAS IN YOUR ORCHARD, YOU OLD BASTARD!

CALLIN' ME A LIAR!? I SAW THE GIRL RUN RIGHT BACK HERE!

OH, BOY...



Y'ALL OWE ME!



AND I WANT MY MON--

URK!

CRACK!



IF YOU MOVE, I'LL TURN YOUR BRAINS INTO TAFFY.

NOW... I'M GONNA STEP OFF YOUR BACK, AND YOU'RE GONNA COWER OUT OF HERE SILENTLY. UNDERSTAND?

CHUCK

Y-YES.



FOLKS, THAT'S THE SHOW FOR TONIGHT. WE'RE CLOSING UP THE CARNIVAL.

AWWWW!!!



I WANT THIS PLACE BROKEN DOWN TONIGHT AND IN THE NEXT TOWN BY BREAKFAST.

BUT, DAX--

DO IT, COPPER! WE DON'T NEED ANY MORE TROUBLE HERE!



LIGHTS OFF, EVERYONE! START PACKING IT UP!



**FT. WORTH, GA.
THE NEXT MORNING.**

YOU HEAR THAT?

SOMETHING'S IN MY TRUNK!

WELL, OPEN IT FOR GOD'S SAKE!





PLEASE... CAN I STAY?

...HA! THAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU ASK ME? DON'T YOU WANNA GET BACK TO YOUR MOMMY AND DADDY?

I DON'T HAVE A MOMMY OR DADDY ANYMORE. PLEASE, SIR... CAN I?



I MEAN-- NOT FOREVER, BUT MAYBE JUST UNTIL THE NEXT TOWN?

THIS PLACE IS SO WONDERFUL... I DON'T WANNA LEAVE.



SORRY TO BUST YOUR LITTLE "CARNIVAL RUNAWAY" PENNY-FICTION, KID, BUT I'M NOT GETTING PINNED FOR KIDNAPPING SOME PRETTY LITTLE "NORM" GIRL.

SHE'S NOT LYING. SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANYONE ANYMORE...



IT DOESN'T MATTER! SHE'S A NORM!

NO... THERE'S SOMETHING INSIDE HER SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND. SOMETHING HIDDEN, DARK... *FANTASTIC*. SHE WILL BE RIGHT AT HOME WITH US.

YOU BETTER BE RIGHT, VADDY.



UNTIL WE LEARN ABOUT YOUR "FANTASTIC" TALENTS, YOU WILL WORK EVERY JOB WE SAY. ANY GUFF, I'LL LEAVE YOU RIGHT HERE.

NOW, WHAT'S YOUR NAME, KID?



IT'S UM... *LORALYE*, SIR...



**GITTES FAMILY FARM,
THAT NIGHT.**

PA! THE PAPER SAYS THE CARNIVAL IS HERE! CAN WE GO?



I DON'T KNOW, SON. MAYBE. THOSE ARE SOME REAL DIRTY FOLKS.

CRAASH!



THE HOGS, PA!
STAY HERE!



READ THE FULL STORY IN:
SHOW'S END #1



OH, MY GOD.



CLEVELAND - SADZINSKI - GONZALEZ - BIRCH

#2

SHOW'S END



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