

T+ FOR TEENS PLUS

TASK FORCE 'TWILIGHT'



Issue 04
2018



Sundown

"you better
take care..."



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In the City of Heroes, masked and caped heroes are seen as the tireless protectors of the helpless. In the eyes of law enforcement, though, they will always be seen as vigilantes and criminals, no different than the evil that they fight.

But when power corrupts the men and women of law enforcement, these vigilantes are all that prevent the city from falling into a fascist police state. Now they must stand together and fight for justice.

TASK FORCE

'TWILIGHT'

Where once the corrupt police officers of the Blue Dog Squad were shunned by their superiors in the Paragon City Police Department, they now roam through the streets of Kings Row with impunity.

Before, there were heroes that stood up to them. Heroes that took on the Blue Dogs and brought them to justice when nobody else would.

But now, one of those heroes is retired, another is dead, and the most recent hero known to stand up to the Blue Dogs is missing and branded a cop-killer.

It's time for a new group of heroes to stand up for what is right.

But how can they do that when it is not longer "legal" to be a hero in the Blue Dog Squad's own yard?

"STANDING UP TO DOGS"

- A CITY OF HEROES STORY BY DAVID 2

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PNN CENTER - STEEL CANYON, PARAGON CITY, R.I.

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS OF THE PARAGON NEWS NETWORK, THE SOURCE OF ALL LOCAL NEWS MEDIA FOR TELEVISION, RADIO, AND PRINT.



THE NEWSROOM

MORNING EVERYONE!

HI APRIL!



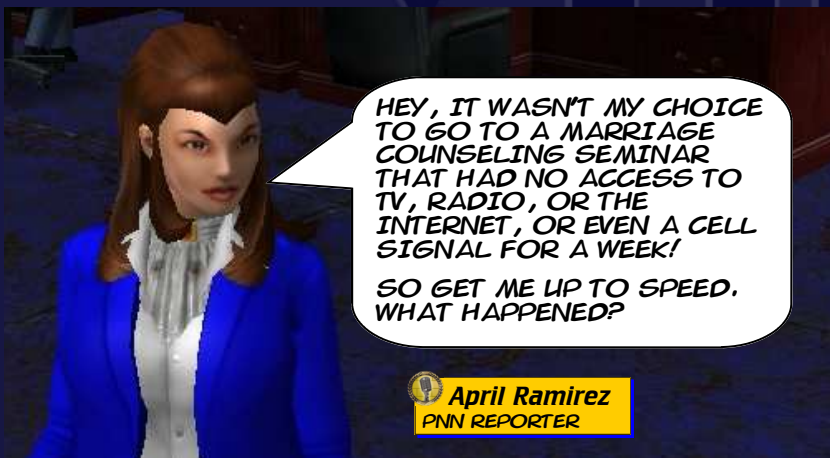
SO...
WHAT DID I MISS?

ARE YOU KIDDING, APRIL?



HEY, IT WASN'T MY CHOICE TO GO TO A MARRIAGE COUNSELING SEMINAR THAT HAD NO ACCESS TO TV, RADIO, OR THE INTERNET, OR EVEN A CELL SIGNAL FOR A WEEK!
SO GET ME UP TO SPEED. WHAT HAPPENED?

 **April Ramirez**
PNN REPORTER

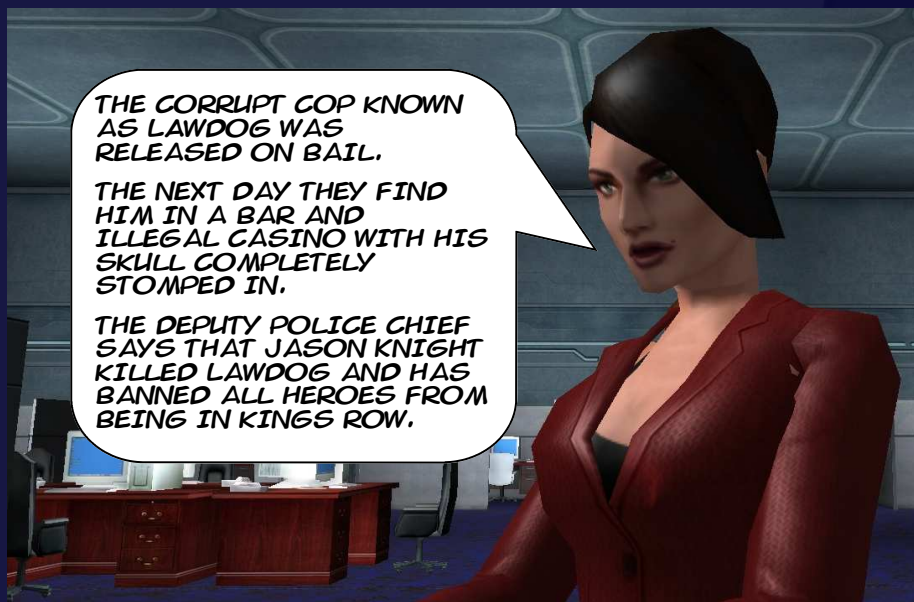


OKAY... YOU ASKED FOR IT.



THE CORRUPT COP KNOWN AS LAWDOG WAS RELEASED ON BAIL.
THE NEXT DAY THEY FIND HIM IN A BAR AND ILLEGAL CASINO WITH HIS SKULL COMPLETELY STOMPED IN.

THE DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF SAYS THAT JASON KNIGHT KILLED LAWDOG AND HAS BANNED ALL HEROES FROM BEING IN KINGS ROW.



OKAY..
WHAT?/?





I'M IN FULL SUPPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF WIELD'S BAN AND I URGE THE OTHER HEROES TO HONOR IT.

POLICE BAN ON HEROES IN KINGS ROW



WHAT JASON KNIGHT DID WAS WRONG... AND IF HE'S INNOCENT, THEN WHY ISN'T HE TURNING HIMSELF IN AND PROVING IT?

CASHOUT · REGISTERED HERO



I'VE BEEN IN KINGS ROW FOR A LONG TIME, AND, IF YOU ASK ME, THIS KIND OF SITUATION WAS LONG OVERDUE.

FREEDOM CORPS AGENT VERTA



I HAVEN'T HAD A NEED TO BE THERE SINCE... FOREVER. SO IT DOESN'T AFFECT ME EITHER WAY. BUT... NO, I DON'T AGREE WITH IT.

THE INVINCIBLE AXIOS · REGISTERED HERO



WELL, NO, THERE IS NO SPECIIIIIFIC MENTION OF IT IN THE CITY'S CHARTER.

PNN LEGAL ANALYST · NAN BRACER



BUT DEPUTY CHIEF WIELD IS EXERCISING WHAT I LIKE TO CALL IMPLIIIIIIED AUTHORITY.

NAN BRACER EXPLAINS POLICE AUTHORITY

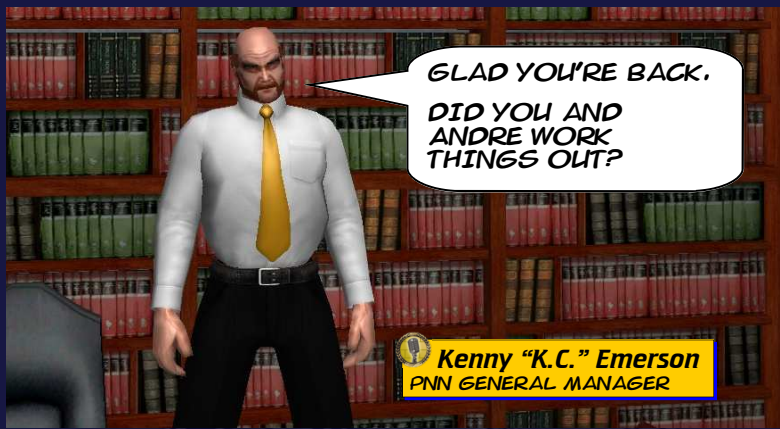


THAT MEANS THAT, IN CERRRRTAIN SITUATIONS, IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY, THE POLICE HAVE UNILAAAATERAL AUTHORITY TO MAKE RULES TO KEEP THE PEACE AND TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT.

BRACER DECLARES POLICE BAN ON HEROES LEGAL · COMMENT IN OUR FORUM



AND... HAVING COPS BRUTALLY MURDERRRRR BY RENEGADE VIGILAAAAANTIES CERTAINLY QUALIFIES AS AN EMERRRGENCY IN MY BOOK.



GLAD YOU'RE BACK.
DID YOU AND
ANDRE WORK
THINGS OUT?

Kenny "K.C." Emerson
PNN GENERAL MANAGER



NO... WE'RE...
SEPARATING.
KENNY, I WANT TO
COVER THE JASON
KNIGHT STORY,
AND I'M BEING
TOLD THAT YOU
WON'T LET ANYONE
TOUCH IT.



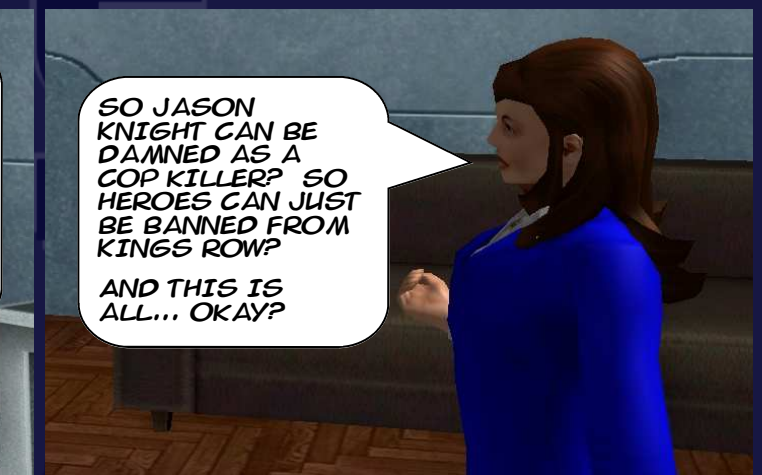
I'M SORRY TO
HEAR IT DIDN'T
WORK... YOU
SEEMED TO BE
HAPPY WITH HIM.
LISTEN, IF THERE
IS ANYTHING I
CAN DO TO HELP,
IF YOU NEED
MORE TIME OFF...



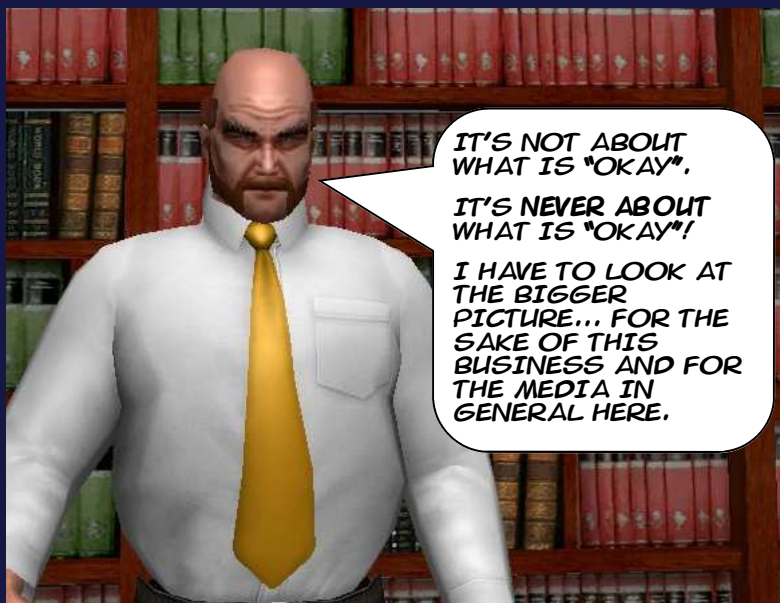
WHAT I **NEED** IS TO
GET BACK OUT
THERE AND COVER
WHAT IS GOING ON
IN KINGS ROW.
IT'S MY HOME.
OR... RIGHT NOW
IT'S MY HOME. IT'S
GOING ON RIGHT
IN MY BACK YARD.



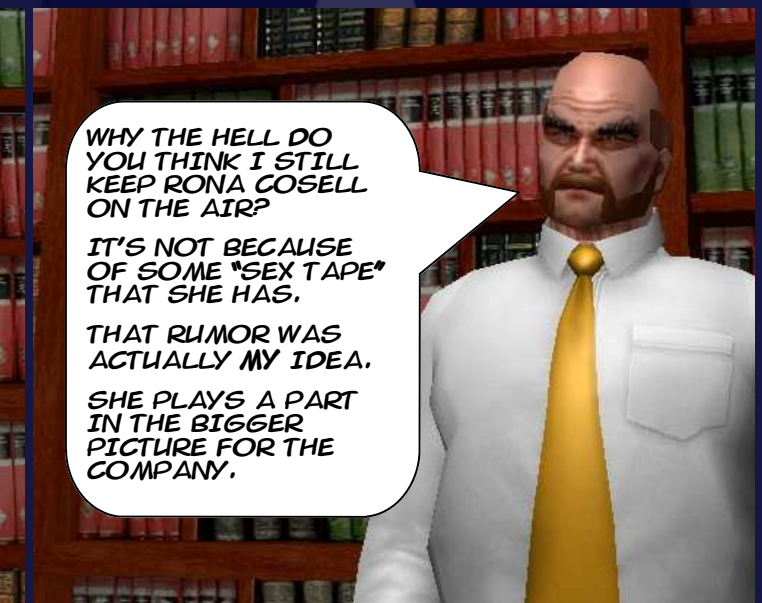
I'M SORRY TO HEAR
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE
STAYING... BUT THAT
STILL DOESN'T CHANGE
MY DIRECTIVE.
THERE ARE... THINGS
GOING ON THAT HAVE TO
PLAY OUT. AND THOSE
THINGS ARE BEST LEFT
OFF THE MEDIA.



SO JASON
KNIGHT CAN BE
DAMNED AS A
COP KILLER? SO
HEROES CAN JUST
BE BANNED FROM
KINGS ROW?
AND THIS IS
ALL... OKAY?



IT'S NOT ABOUT
WHAT IS "OKAY".
IT'S NEVER ABOUT
WHAT IS "OKAY"!
I HAVE TO LOOK AT
THE BIGGER
PICTURE... FOR THE
SAKE OF THIS
BUSINESS AND FOR
THE MEDIA IN
GENERAL HERE.

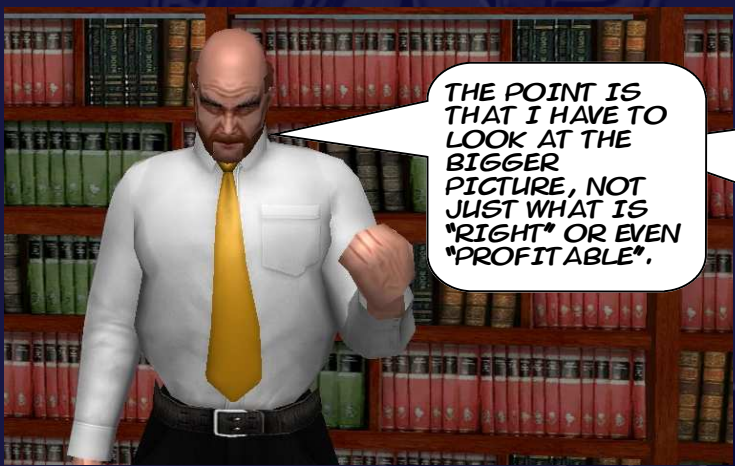


WHY THE HELL DO
YOU THINK I STILL
KEEP RONA COSELL
ON THE AIR?
IT'S NOT BECAUSE
OF SOME "SEX TAPE"
THAT SHE HAS.
THAT RUMOR WAS
ACTUALLY MY IDEA.
SHE PLAYS A PART
IN THE BIGGER
PICTURE FOR THE
COMPANY.



IT'S THE SAME WAY WITH GARRY BECKER AND THE REVEREND NEO-CON. YOU THINK I WANTED TO BRING THOSE TWO MEDIA HACKS BACK? BECKER AT LEAST DEVELOPED SOME SENSE OF RESPECT AFTER HE QUIT.

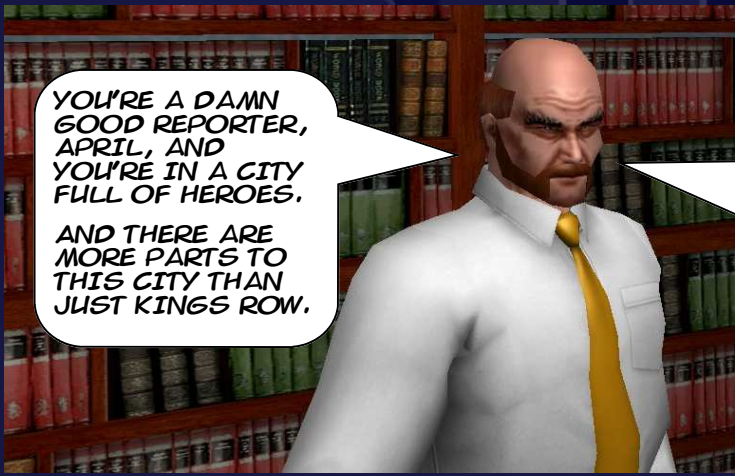
SEAN RUSH... THAT NEUROTIC OXY-ADDICT... WE HAD TO COAX HIM TO COME BACK TO AMERICA! WE SURE AS HELL DIDN'T WANT HIM BACK HERE, NEVER MIND ON THE AIRWAVES.



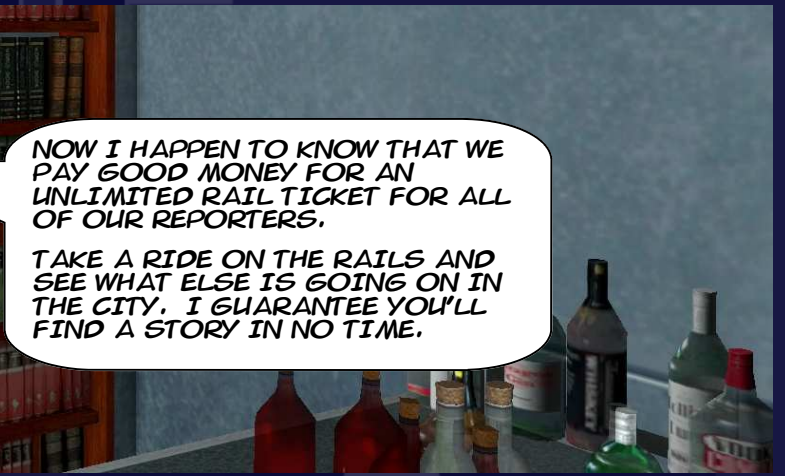
THE POINT IS THAT I HAVE TO LOOK AT THE BIGGER PICTURE, NOT JUST WHAT IS "RIGHT" OR EVEN "PROFITABLE".



AND THAT MEANS THAT SOMETIMES I HAVE TO TELL MY PEOPLE TO STEP BACK FROM A SITUATION... NOT BECAUSE IT'S DANGEROUS, BUT BECAUSE IT HAS TO PLAY OUT WITHOUT US LOOKING DEEPER.



YOU'RE A DAMN GOOD REPORTER, APRIL, AND YOU'RE IN A CITY FULL OF HEROES. AND THERE ARE MORE PARTS TO THIS CITY THAN JUST KINGS ROW.



NOW I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT WE PAY GOOD MONEY FOR AN UNLIMITED RAIL TICKET FOR ALL OF OUR REPORTERS.

TAKE A RIDE ON THE RAILS AND SEE WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON IN THE CITY. I GUARANTEE YOU'LL FIND A STORY IN NO TIME.



DAMNIT... THE VERMOUTH IS GONE.



APRIL, ON YOUR WAY OUT, TELL JASMINE THAT SHE NEEDS TO CALL UP CRAFT SERVICES AND HAVE THEM RESTOCK THE BAR. THANK YOU.

TALOS ISLAND

THE LIFE-SIZED STATUE OF TALOS AND THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SUPERHERO GROUP.



I MUST
RESPECTFULLY
SUBMIT....

KDave
(PHIL SKI)



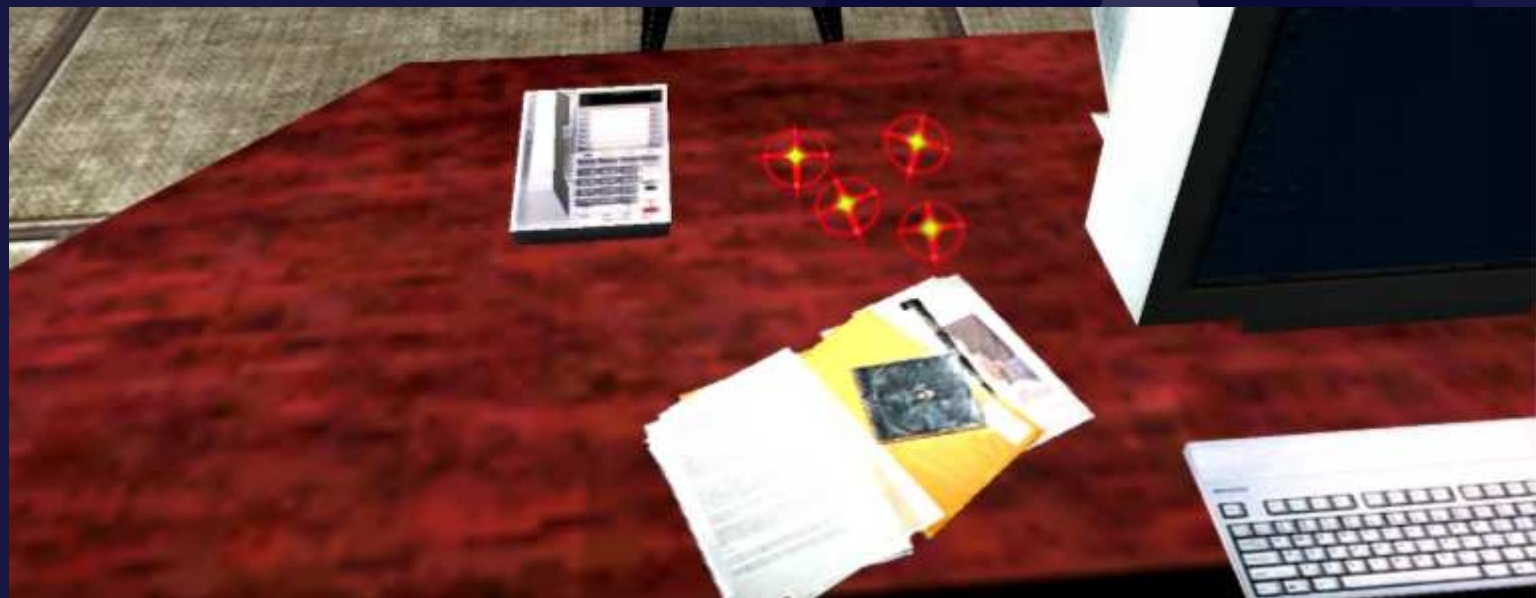
... MY
RESIGNATION...

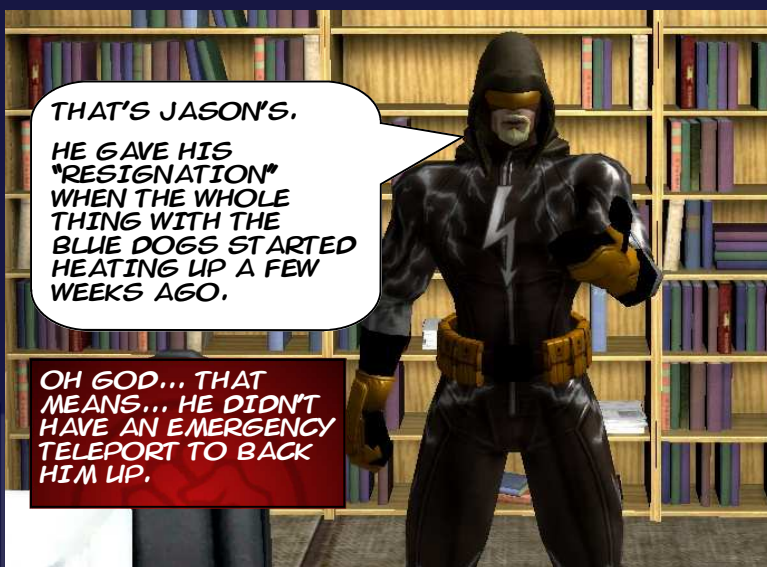
Elite Ice Queen
(CYNTHIA DI GHIACCIO)



... FROM THE
GUARDIANS
OF THE DAWN.

Streetangel
(KAREN MANNING)





REMEMBER WHAT JASON
TOLD YOU. DON'T LET
ANYONE KNOW HE'S DEAD!

I WISH I COULD TELL YOU.
I CAN ONLY SAY THAT IT'S
JASON'S IDEA.

YOU'RE USING
YOUR WORDS VERY
CAREFULLY...
YOU'RE HIDING
SOMETHING.

ENGLISH
PROFESSOR,
REMEMBER?

SYN, I KNOW JASON
AND I KNEW HIS
MENTOR.

I WAS JUST A
TEENAGER THEN,
AND THE FIRST
MIDNIGHT WAS
JUST AS SECRETIVE
AS JASON.

HIS OBSESSION TO
"PROTECT" THOSE HE
CARED ABOUT FORCED
HIM TO PUSH US ALL
AWAY INSTEAD OF
REACHING OUT TO US
FOR HELP.

AND ULTIMATELY
IT KILLED HIM.*

(*SPOTLIGHT* # 3)

LET'S JUST SAY
THAT THE REASON
WHY I'M....

WHY WE'RE...
BRINGING IN
THESE OTHERS IS
SO THAT HISTORY
WILL NOT REPEAT
ITSELF.

I HOPE THAT
EXPLANATION
WILL SUFFICE.

I SUPPOSE IT WILL
HAVE TO FOR NOW.

JUST REMEMBER THAT IF
YOUR TEAM NEEDS HELP,
YOU CAN STILL COUNT ON
US TO BACK YOU UP.

AND YOUR ID CARDS WILL
BE WAITING FOR ALL OF
YOU WHEN THIS IS DONE.

GOOD LUCK, SYN.

LOSERVILLE - A FORGOTTEN AREA FOR THE DESPERATE

SEEP THAT'S THE ERROR.

THE SOFTWARE IS NOT FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH THE SCANNERS. I'LL HAVE TO FIND AN OLDER VERSION SOMEWHERE.

"Mighty Marv"
DISGRUNTLED BLOGGER

THE HOSPITALS ARE GETTING STRICT ON THEIR INVENTORY, BUT I THINK I CAN GET MORE FROM A FEW OF THE VANGUARD WAREHOUSES.

SHOULD TAKE A DAY TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS.

WE'LL TAKE ANYTHING YOU CAN GET, MARVIN. THANK YOU.

HEY JERRY...

YEAH, I NEED A COPY OF CYSOFT VERSION SIX.

NO, NOT A HACKED VERSION.

THIS HAS TO HAVE A FULL LICENSE WITH KEY CODES.

BEEP-BEEP

LISTEN, I HAVE ANOTHER CALL COMING IN.

LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU GET IT AND HOW MUCH I'LL OWE YOU.

THIS IS MARV.

YES, I REMEMBER YOU...

YOUR LAST TIP IS STILL BEING TALKED ABOUT ON MY BLOG.

WHAT?

YOU'RE SHITTING ME!

NO, NO, I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH WITH IT.

IT BETTER PAN OUT, THOUGH.

PARAGON CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS

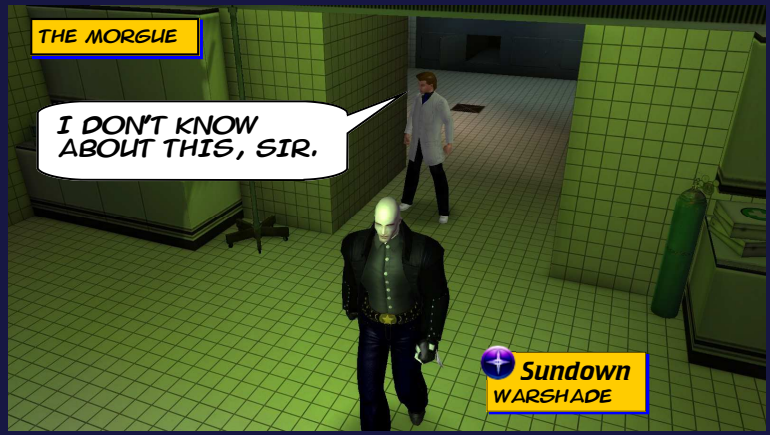
KINGS ROW



THE MORGUE

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, SIR.

Sundown
WARSHADE



IF MY BOSSES HEAR ABOUT THIS...

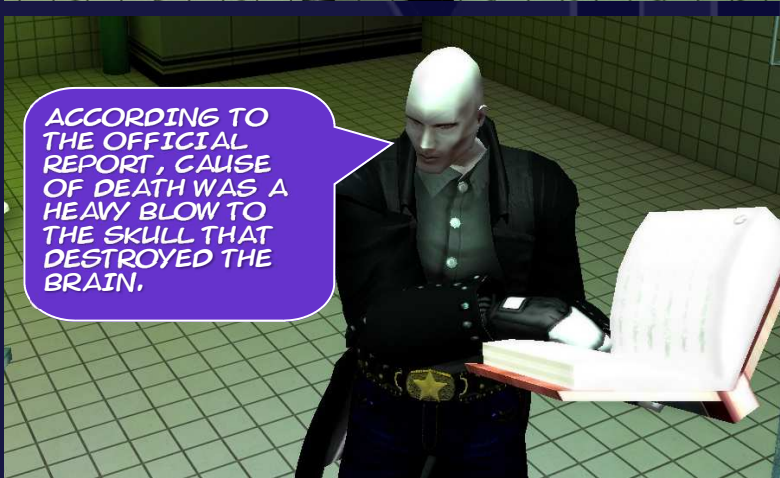
YOU KNOW WHO I AM, CSI CUBB.
I HAVE ALL THE AUTHORITY I NEED TO EXAMINE THE BODY.
BEGIN AUDIO RECORDING.



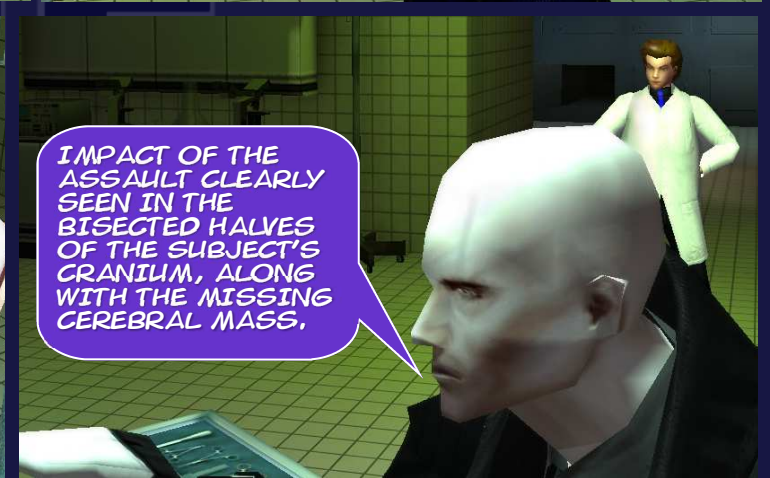
SUBJECT IS BENJAMIN "BEAR" LAWTON, AKA "LAWDOG", FORMER POLICE OFFICER.



ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL REPORT, CAUSE OF DEATH WAS A HEAVY BLOW TO THE SKULL THAT DESTROYED THE BRAIN.

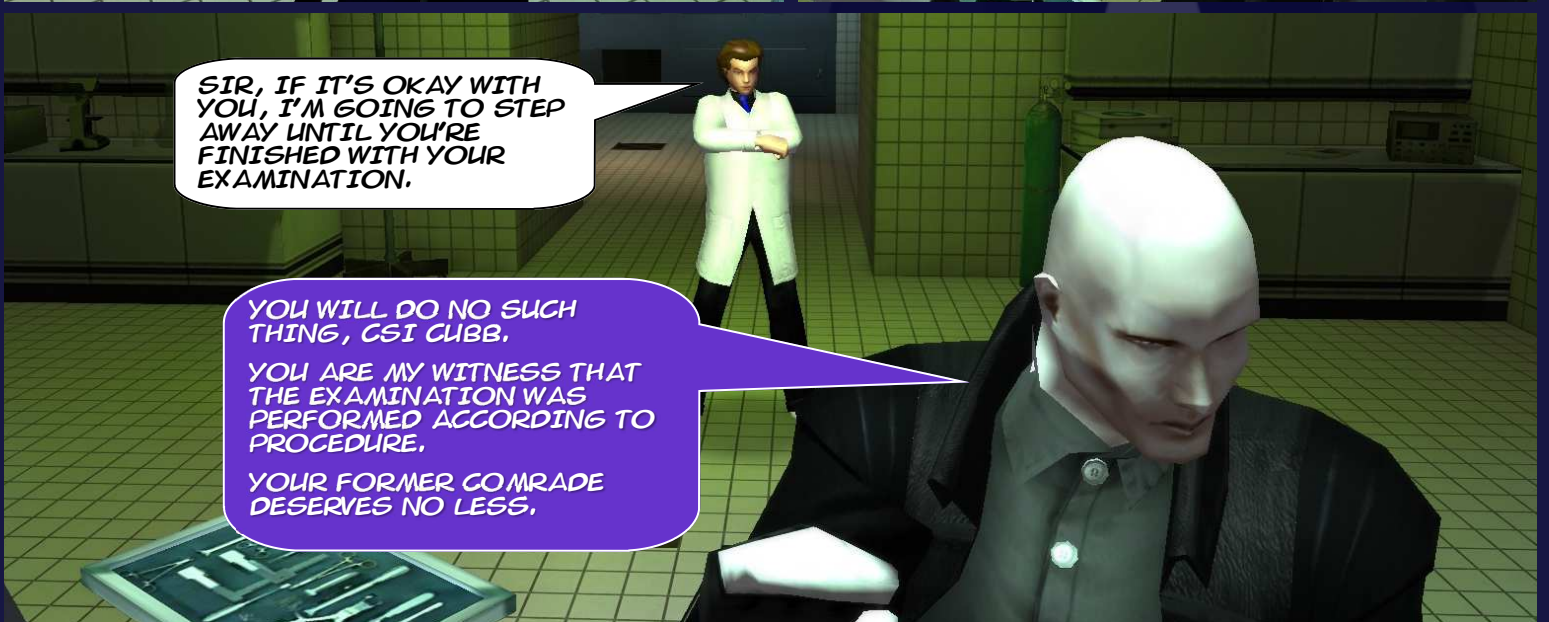


IMPACT OF THE ASSAULT CLEARLY SEEN IN THE BISECTED HALVES OF THE SUBJECT'S CRANIUM, ALONG WITH THE MISSING CEREBRAL MASS.



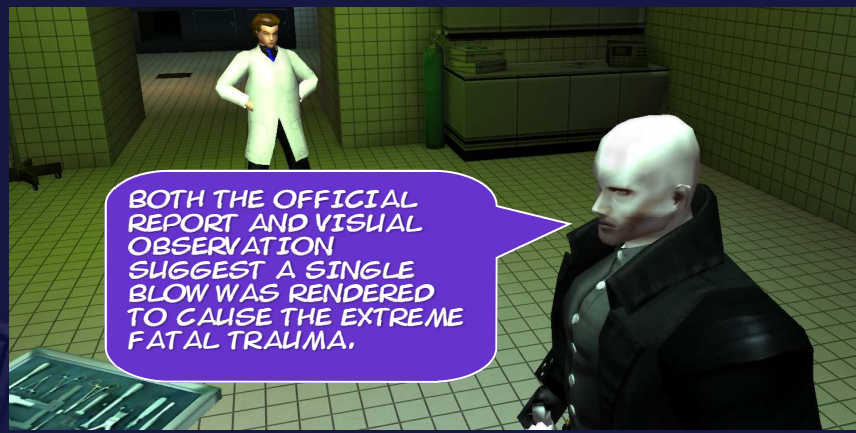
SIR, IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, I'M GOING TO STEP AWAY UNTIL YOU'RE FINISHED WITH YOUR EXAMINATION.

YOU WILL DO NO SUCH THING, CSI CUBB.
YOU ARE MY WITNESS THAT THE EXAMINATION WAS PERFORMED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURE.
YOUR FORMER COMRADE DESERVES NO LESS.

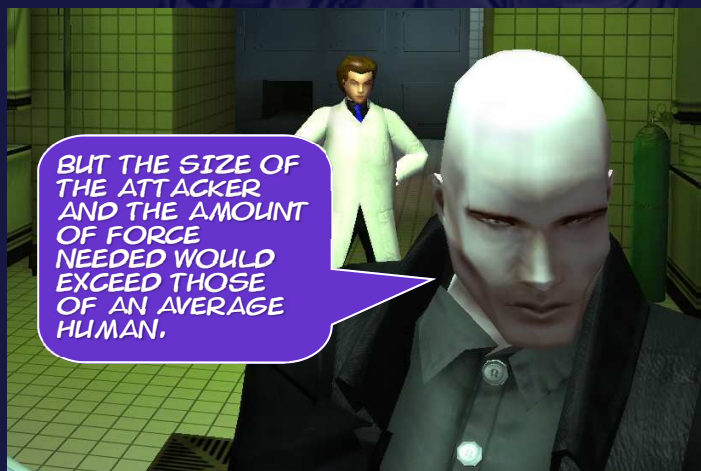




WAIT,
THIS PART
IS WRONG.



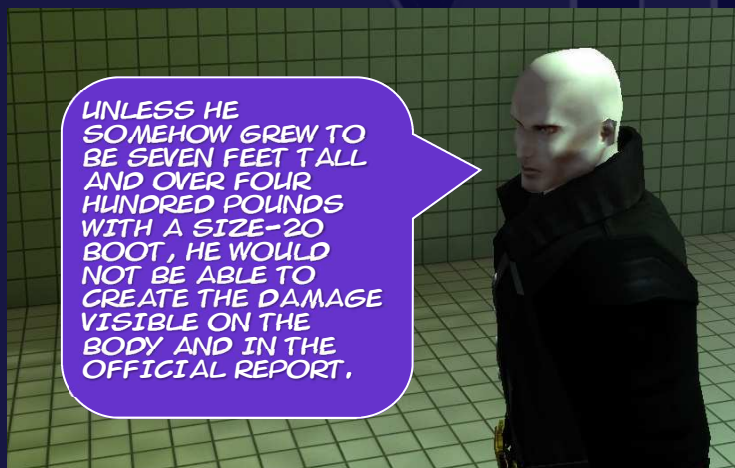
BOTH THE OFFICIAL
REPORT AND VISUAL
OBSERVATION
SUGGEST A SINGLE
BLOW WAS RENDERED
TO CAUSE THE EXTREME
FATAL TRAUMA.



BUT THE SIZE OF
THE ATTACKER
AND THE AMOUNT
OF FORCE
NEEDED WOULD
EXCEED THOSE
OF AN AVERAGE
HUMAN.



THE... UH... WORKING
THEORY IS THAT
JASON KNIGHT USED
DARK MISTS AGAIN.
LIKE HE DID BEFORE...
WHEN HE WAS
MIDNIGHT X.
THAT'S WHAT'S IN THE
REPORT, SIR.



UNLESS HE
SOMEHOW GREW TO
BE SEVEN FEET TALL
AND OVER FOUR
HUNDRED POUNDS
WITH A SIZE-20
BOOT, HE WOULD
NOT BE ABLE TO
CREATE THE DAMAGE
VISIBLE ON THE
BODY AND IN THE
OFFICIAL REPORT.



JASON KNIGHT
DID NOT KILL
MISTER LAWTON.
THE SCIENCE WILL
NOT SUPPORT THE
CONCLUSION.
END RECORDING.



E-EVEN IF IT
DOESN'T...
THERE'S NOTHING
YOU CAN DO TO
CHANGE THE
OFFICIAL REPORT.
AND THE BODY IS
SCHEDULED TO BE
CREMATED TONIGHT.

I HAVE NO NEED FOR
THE BODY ANYMORE.
THE OFFICIAL REPORT
WILL HAVE EVERYTHING I
NEED TO VINDICATE
JASON KNIGHT AND
POINT ME TO THE REAL
KILLER.
I WILL TAKE THE AUDIO
RECORDING WITH ME.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
COOPERATION.

HOURS LATER....

"OKAY, TEAM, THIS IS HOW IT'LL GO..."

THE BLUE DOGS ARE PREDATORS AND BULLIES. EVEN IF A STORE OWNER GIVES THEM PROTECTION MONEY, THEY ALWAYS GO FOR MORE. THEY WILL BLEED THESE BUSINESSES DRY ONE AT A TIME.

THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. YOU BLEED THE BUSINESSES DRY, THEY CLOSE, AND THAT CUTS OFF THE REVENUE TO THE DOGS.

UNLESS THAT'S THE PLAN ALL ALONG. DRIVE THE BUSINESSES OUT, MAKE ROOM FOR SOMETHING ELSE.

BUT THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE TO DO... FIND OUT WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON WITH THE DOGS. THE FIRST STEP IS TO GET THEIR ATTENTION. LET THEM KNOW THAT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE RUNNING AROUND LIKE THE THUGS THEY ARE.

YOU'RE EACH GOING TO TAKE A BUSINESS IN THE AREA. WHEN THE DOGS GO TO BELLY UP FOR MORE MONEY, YOU STEP IN AND SHOW THEM THE DOOR. YOU LET THEM KNOW THAT THEY'RE NOT WELCOMED ANYMORE.



STREET ANGEL WILL
SERVE AS THE
LOOKOUT.

SHE HAS ACCESS TO
THE POLICE NETWORK
AND WILL LET US
KNOW WHEN THE DOGS
CALL FOR BACKUP.



IF SHE SEES THE
UNIFORMED COPS
COMING, YOU DROP
EVERYTHING AND YOU
LEAVE.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT
ARRESTING THE
DOGS. JUST LEAVE
THEM THERE.



WHAT?

THAT DOESN'T
MAKE SENSE!

SHE'S RIGHT. I
THOUGHT WE'RE HERE
TO TAKE DOWN THE
BLUE DOGS ONCE
AND FOR ALL.

★ Artema
(PERSIA THERON)

★ Ally Kazam
(CALISON KANE)



AND WE WILL! WE WILL.

BUT WE ALSO NEED TO MAKE IT
CLEAR THAT THIS BATTLE IS WITH
THE BLUE DOG SQUAD, NOT WITH
THE WHOLE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

SO YOUR IDEA IS TO TAKE
DOWN DOGS, AND, WHAT?
LEAVE THEM TIED UP LIKE OLD
SCHOOL HEROES DID TO BANK
ROBBERS?



EXACTLY.

TRUSS THEM UP AND
LEAVE THEM IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE
STREET SO EVERYONE
KNOWS THEY'RE NOT
THE APEX PREDATORS
THEY THINK THEY ARE.

OF COURSE, WE
EVENTUALLY WON'T
STOP THERE WITH
THEM.



DAMN
STRAIGHT!

★ Hard Justice
(MARTIN KEYS)

(Space Reserved for advertising)

(Space Reserved for advertising)

TWO HOURS LATER...

HEY FIDO!
DIDN'T YOU
SEE THE SIGN
AT THE DOOR?

"NO DOGS
ALLOWED."
THAT MEANS
YOU AND YOUR
MUTT GANG
TOO, FIDO.

YOU'RE NOT
SUPPOSED TO BE
HERE, HERO.
I GUESS THAT
MEANS WE'LL HAVE
TO TAKE YOU TO
THE POUND.

HEEL, FIDO!

WHAM!

ROLL
OVER!

WHAM!

HAVE SOME
CLAUSTROPHOBIA.

AAAAAAAAAAHHHH!!!!

YOU'LL NEVER
WEAR THAT
HELMET EVER
AGAIN!

GAAHHH!
I CAN'T!
I CAN'T WEAR
THIS!



HOW YOU HOLDING UP, ARTEMAS?



THESE TWO THINK THEY CAN HANDLE ME.

OH I KNOW WE CAN HANDLE YOU, YOU LITTLE PUTA.



I MAY BE GREEK, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SPEAK SPANISH.
AND MAYBE YOUR MAMA SHOULDVE TAUGHT YOU BETTER MANNERS, CACHORRO.



YOU'RE DONE PREYING ON THESE PEOPLE, *OFFICER*.
YOUR GENERIC BADGE MEANS NOTHING!

MY BADGE STILL MEANS I'M PART OF THE SYSTEM, HERO.
YOU CAN'T TOUCH US!
YOU CAN'T ARREST US!
YOU CAN'T STOP US!



THAT SEEMED TO TOUCH YOU REAL GOOD.
STOPPED YOU TOO.

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

YOU KNOW THIS WILL NEVER STICK RIGHT? WE'LL BE OUT FASTER THAN IT TAKES FOR YOU TO FILL OUT THE PAPERWORK.

YOU TELL HER, BARNEY!

SHUT YOUR GODDAMNED MOUTH DOG TWO!

YOU CAN'T ARREST US. NOT HERE. NOT EVER. WE'RE COPS.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE NOT ARRESTING YOU. WE'RE JUST LETTING YOU KNOW THAT WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

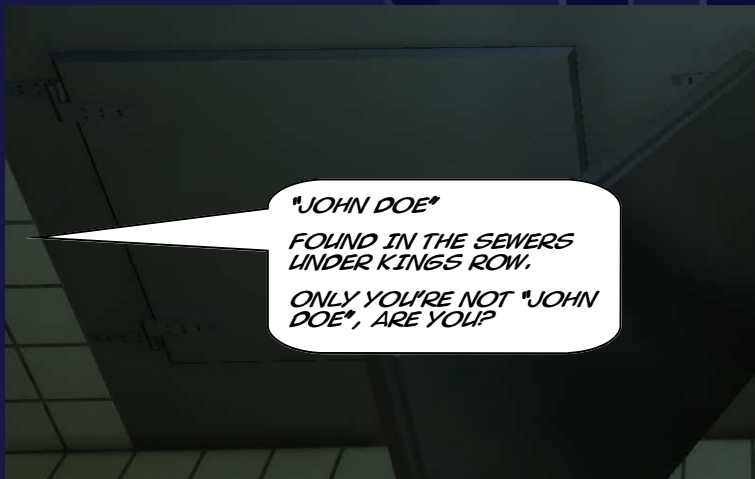
EVERY NIGHT THAT YOU'RE OUT HERE PREYING ON THE PEOPLE OF KINGS ROW, WE'LL BE HERE, WAITING FOR YOU.

EVERY STORE YOU TRY TO STRONG-ARM, EVERY FAMILY YOU TRY TO INTIMIDATE, EVERY WOMAN YOU TRY TO HUMILIATE TO FEED YOUR SICK MISOGYNISTIC DREAMS, WE'LL BE HERE, WAITING FOR YOU. AND THEN WE'LL DO THIS ALL OVER AGAIN THE NEXT NIGHT.

PATROL UNITS ARE ONE MINUTE AWAY. GET OUT OF THERE.

ONE MORE THING... YOU TELL YOUR BOSS JASON KNIGHT SENDS HIS REGARDS.

BACK AT THE POLICE MORGUE...





SO...
YOU'VE FINALLY
REVEALED YOURSELF.
I WAS BEGINNING TO
THINK YOU WERE A
COWARD.

 **Despair**
PROBLEM-SOLVER



I'M NO COWARD,
DESPAIR.
AND I'LL PROVE IT
BY ENDING YOU.

★ **"New Avenger"**
(PP)



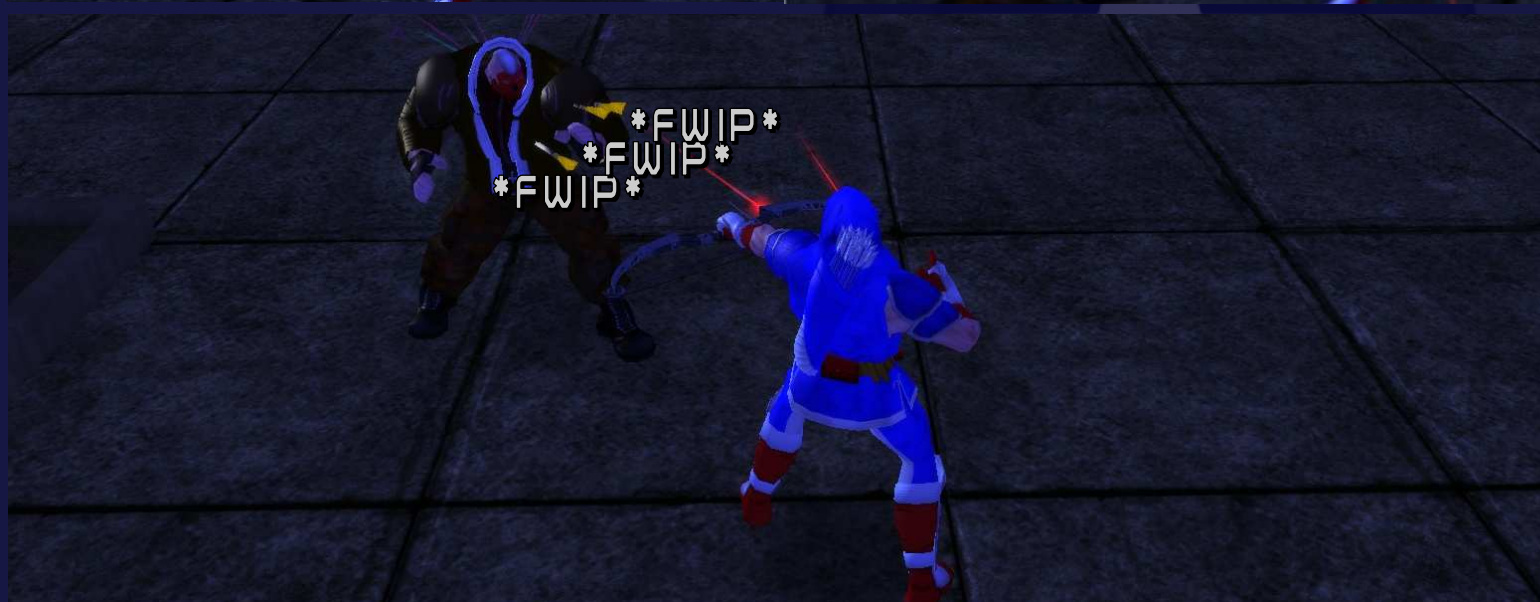
YOU WILL TRY...

CRICK

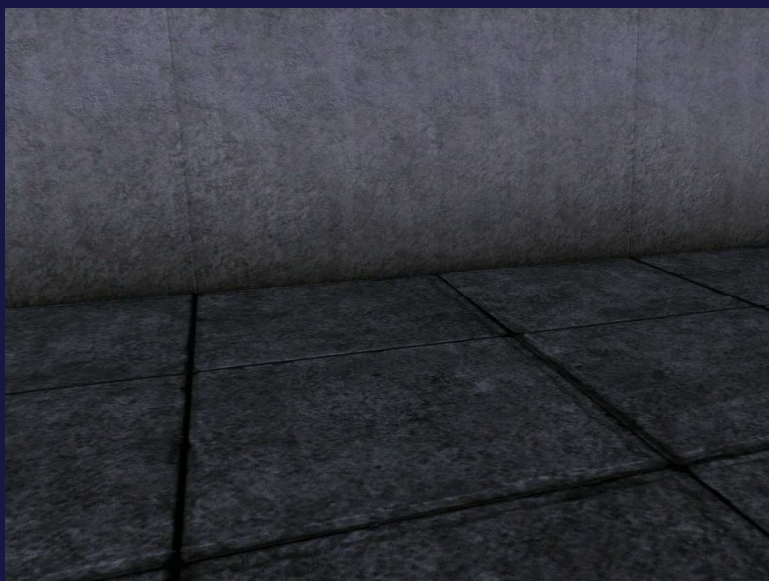
... AND YOU
WILL FAIL.



FWIP
BAT!



FWIP
FWIP
FWIP



ELSEWHERE...

I WAS EXPECTING
TO MEET WITH
JASON.

HE'S... NOT ABLE TO
BE HERE.

I'VE BEEN RUNNING
THE TASK FORCE IN
HIS ABSENCE.

JASON DID NOT
KILL LAWDOG.

I HAVE
DOCUMENTED
PROOF THAT HE
WAS INCAPABLE
OF BEING THE
KILLER AS THE
POLICE ALLEGE.

THAT'S GOOD TO
KNOW.

SO... HAVE YOU
TAKEN THIS OVER
TO THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE YET?

I HAVE, BUT SINCE
FORMAL CHARGES
HAVE NOT YET BEEN
FILED WITH THEIR
OFFICE, I CANNOT
SUBMIT MY PROOF
THAT WOULD RULE
OUT JASON AS
THE MURDERER.

CONVENIENT. WIELD
KNOWS HOW TO
STYMIE THE LEGAL
SYSTEM SO HE CAN
KEEP JASON A
WANTED MAN.

IS THERE ANY WAY
YOU CAN STILL GIVE
YOUR PROOF TO THE
D.A.'S OFFICE?

I WOULD BE
HESITANT TO TRY.
I HAVE... SOME BAD
EXPERIENCE WITH
EVIDENCE
DISAPPEARING.

I'M REALLY NOT
SURPRISED.

JASON'S FILE ON YOU
WAS VERY SPARSE.

HOW DID HE COME TO
FIND YOU?



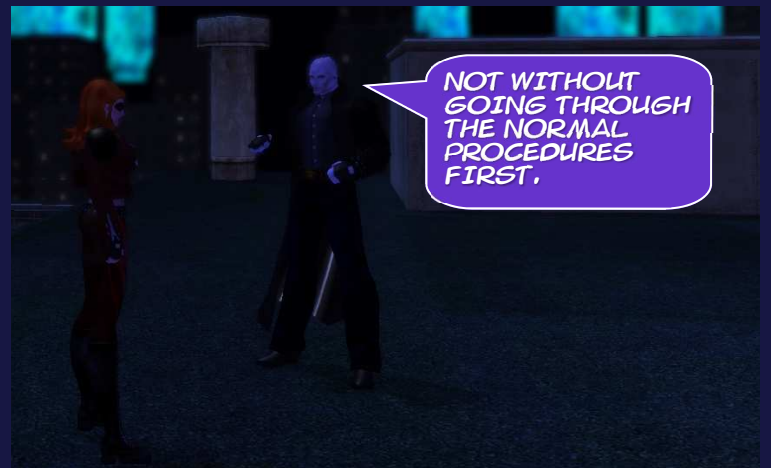
HE DIDN'T.
I WAS A
FRIEND OF
JIMMY
HELLFIGHTER.



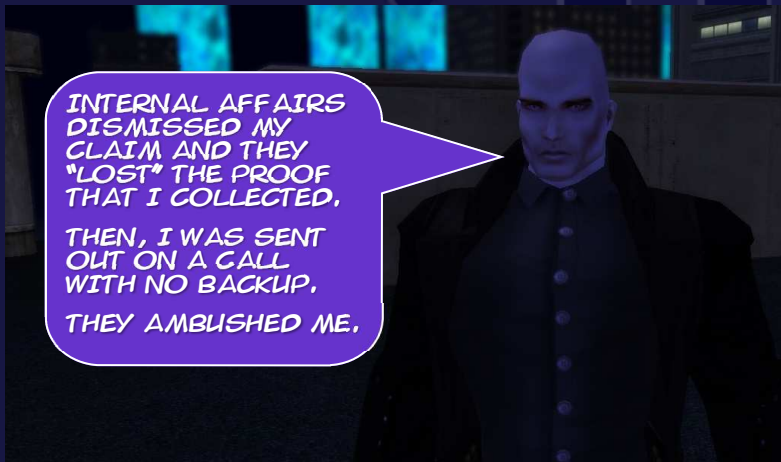
TWELVE YEARS
AGO, I WAS A
PATROLMAN HERE
IN KINGS ROW.
I KNEW FIRST-
HAND WHAT THE
BLUE DOGS WERE
DOING THEN.



YOU WERE A
WITNESS.
YOU WERE
JIMMY'S INSIDE
MAN IN THE
POLICE FORCE.



NOT WITHOUT
GOING THROUGH
THE NORMAL
PROCEDURES
FIRST.



INTERNAL AFFAIRS
DISMISSED MY
CLAIM AND THEY
"LOST" THE PROOF
THAT I COLLECTED.
THEN, I WAS SENT
OUT ON A CALL
WITH NO BACKUP.
THEY AMBUSHED ME.



I WOULD HAVE
DIED... IF NOT FOR
A NICTUS GIVING
ME A NEW LEASE
ON LIFE AS A
WARSHADE.

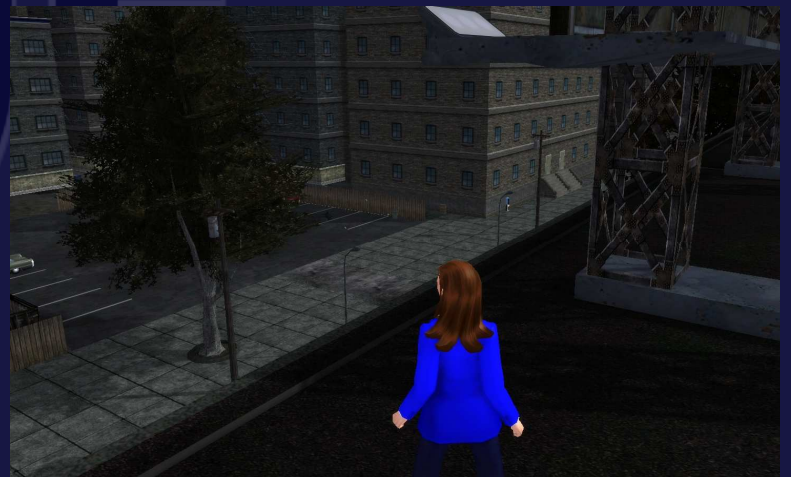


NICTUS... THE
RENEGADE FACTION
OF THE KHELDIANS.
SO YOU BECAME A
HYBRID.

I COULD NOT BE IN THE
POLICE FORCE ANYMORE.
WARSHADES ARE NOT
WELCOMED IN THEIR
"AWAKENED DIVISION".

BUT THE CITY GAVE ME
AUTHORITY LIKE JIMMY'S TO
HELP BRING DOWN THE COPS
THAT ALMOST KILLED ME.
AUTHORITY THAT I CAN
STILL PUT TO USE TO HELP
YOU BRING THESE NEW BLUE
DOGS TO JUSTICE.

HOURS LATER... AS THE SUN
RISES OVER KINGS ROW...



POLICE HEADQUARTERS

NO, I AM CLEARLY NOT "HAVING A GOOD DAY", DIRECTOR BURGESS.

 **Deputy Chief Thomas Wield**
PARAGON CITY POLICE

MY MEN WERE ACCOSTED LAST NIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR ASSIGNED DUTIES.

ACCOSTED BY REGISTERED HEROES.

I'M TELLING YOU THIS BECAUSE WHEN I EXPLAINED OUR VISION TO YOU, I HAD YOUR ASSURANCE THAT THE HEROES WOULD FOLLOW YOUR DIRECTIVES TO THE LETTER!

NOW I HAVE THIRTEEN MEN ON SICK LEAVE WITH BROKEN BONES AND THREE MEN WITH SEVERE CASES OF CLAUSTROPHOBIA THAT NOT EVEN MY OWN TELEPATHS CAN REVERSE.

WHAT I WANT ARE THE REAL NAMES OF THOSE REGISTERED HEROES SO I CAN HAVE THEM ARRESTED FOR ASSAULTING MY POLICE OFFICERS!

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D BE CALLING YOU IF I COULD JUST GET THEM FROM CITY HALL?

THEY TOLD ME TO TAKE IT UP WITH YOUR OFFICE!

WHAT I NEED FROM YOU, DIRECTOR BURGESS - IN ADDITION TO THE REAL NAMES OF THOSE HEROES INVOLVED WITH THE ASSAULT ON MY MEN - IS YOUR GUARANTEE THAT THE HEROES WILL STAY OUT OF KINGS ROW.

BECAUSE WHAT I WOULD HAVE TO DO NEXT IS NOT SOMETHING YOU WOULD WANT TO HEAR ABOUT FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR CAREER.

THE OUTSKIRTS OF TALOS ISLAND

PRIVATE MESSAGE TO:
RYDER LIGHTNING,
GUARDIANS OF THE
DAWN BASE

BART,
I JUST WANTED TO
LET YOU KNOW THAT
I'M "OKAY" AND
THAT I CHECKED
MYSELF OUT OF THE
HOSPITAL OF MY
OWN FREE WILL.

I DIDN'T WANT YOU OR
THE OTHER GUARDIANS
TO THINK THAT I WAS
ABDUCTED OR
"SILENCED" AFTER WHAT
HAPPENED TO ME.

BUT I COULDN'T STAY
THERE ONE MORE DAY.

A FRIEND OF MINE,
SIN STALKER'S
PATRON JULIAN, MADE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR
ME TO STAY
SOMEWHERE OUT OF
THE WAY SO I CAN
FIGURE THINGS OUT.

THEY CALL THESE
THINGS "O-HOMES",
BUILT IN THE CAVERNS
TO ORANBEGA.

THE LIVING ARRANGEMENTS
ARE SIMPLE. BASIC RUNNING
WATER, VENTED FIREPLACE, NO
TV OR INTERNET, AND PLENTY
OF QUICK-MAKE FOOD TO
LAST FOR WEEKS.

I SHOULD BE FINE.
I'M SURE YOU'D SAY
THAT "FINE" IS A
RELATIVE TERM.
BEING AN ENGLISH
PROFESSOR, OF
COURSE.

 **Stevie Walker-Rodgers**
FORMERLY CAPTAIN PARAGONNA



BUT THE TRUTH IS...
I'M NOT "FINE".
I'M NOT "OKAY".

EVERYTHING I SPENT MY "NEW"
LIFE DOING SINCE I BECAME
"STEVIE WALKER-RODGERS"
WAS RIPPED FROM ME.

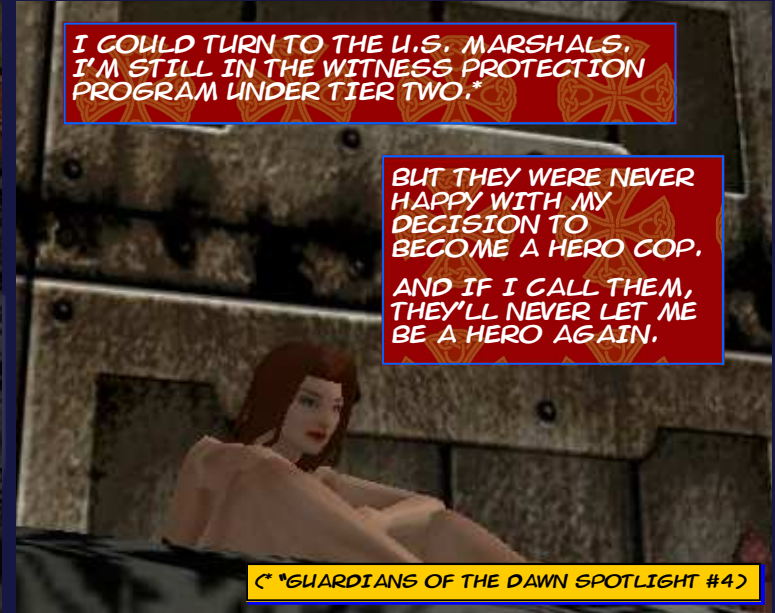
MY CAREER. MY LIFE AS A
RECOGNIZED SUPERHERO. MY
JOB AS A POLICE OFFICER...
I WASN'T EVEN GIVEN A
CHANCE TO DEFEND MYSELF!



I WAS VIOLATED DOWN TO MY
CORE, AND THE DEPARTMENT
SIMPLY WROTE ME OFF.

ANY KIND OF TRUST I HAD IN
"THE SYSTEM" IS GONE NOW.

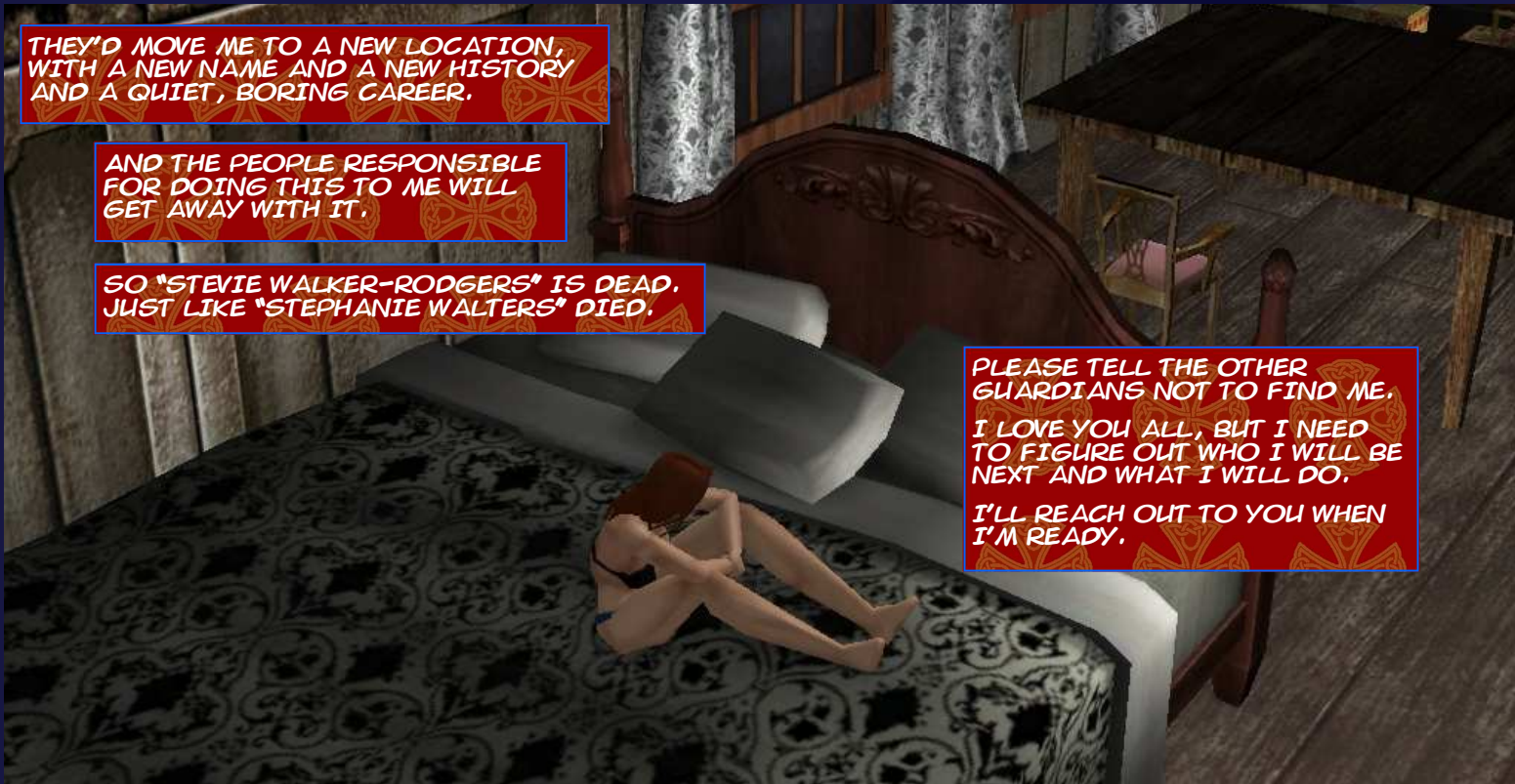
AND NOW I HAVE
TO FIGURE OUT
WHAT I'M GOING
TO DO NEXT.



I COULD TURN TO THE U.S. MARSHALS.
I'M STILL IN THE WITNESS PROTECTION
PROGRAM UNDER TIER TWO.*

BUT THEY WERE NEVER
HAPPY WITH MY
DECISION TO
BECOME A HERO COP.
AND IF I CALL THEM,
THEY'LL NEVER LET ME
BE A HERO AGAIN.

*"GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SPOTLIGHT #4"



THEY'D MOVE ME TO A NEW LOCATION,
WITH A NEW NAME AND A NEW HISTORY
AND A QUIET, BORING CAREER.

AND THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE
FOR DOING THIS TO ME WILL
GET AWAY WITH IT.

SO "STEVIE WALKER-RODGERS" IS DEAD.
JUST LIKE "STEPHANIE WALTERS" DIED.

PLEASE TELL THE OTHER
GUARDIANS NOT TO FIND ME.
I LOVE YOU ALL, BUT I NEED
TO FIGURE OUT WHO I WILL BE
NEXT AND WHAT I WILL DO.
I'LL REACH OUT TO YOU WHEN
I'M READY.

ARCHITECT ENTERTAINMENT

(TEMPORARILY CLOSED)

"LEVEL THIRTEEN" (KNIGHT'S LAIR)

THE ATTACK LAST NIGHT ON OUR POLICE OFFICERS IS INEXCUSABLE.

Cassandra Dare
AKA CARDINAL SYN

THIS IS MADE WORSE BY THE FACT THAT THE ANIMALS THAT COMMITTED THESE ATTACKS WERE REGISTERED HEROES, IN DIRECT VIOLATION OF MY EMERGENCY ORDER.

DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF THOMAS WIELD

PNN
Paragon News Network

AND SO, WITH COOPERATION FROM THE UNITED STATES HERO ADMINISTRATION, WE WILL BE REVOKING THE REGISTERED HERO STATUS OF ANY HERO THAT STILL OPERATE IN THE KINGS ROW AREA.

HEROES TO LOSE STATUS IN KINGS ROW

PNN
Paragon News Network

WELL, WE SAW THAT COMING, SENTRY. IT'S A GOOD THING WE HAVE SUNDOWN ON OUR SIDE.

YES, BECAUSE A WARSHADE HAS ALWAYS BEEN--- ONE MOMENT...

WHAT IS IT, SENTRY?

A NEW BLOG ARTICLE HAS BEEN POSTED BY MIGHTY MARVIN REGARDING JASON KNIGHT.

THE REAL PARAGON CITY

KINGS ROW GUARDIAN JASON KNIGHT DEAD
PHOTO PROOF BODY KEPT IN POLICE MORGUE IN SECRET

THE ARTICLE INCLUDES PHOTOS OF MISTER JASON'S REMAINS.

THE NEWS SERVICES HAVE ALREADY PICKED UP THE STORY.

I WAS AFRAID OF THIS... NOW IT'S ALL GOING TO HIT THE FAN.

Next:
The Dark Messiah.

TASK FORCE NOTES

Words of wisdom from writer and creator David 2.



ONLINE EDITION

The Paragon Times

May 2, 2018

www.ParagonTime.Para



“Loserville” Becomes Conservative Campaign Target

(PCN) Paragon City, RI - Speaking at a campaign rally in Atlas Park, conservative U.S. Senator Thon Stronghold (R-RI) focused his attention on eliminating what many consider to be a hidden area of shame for Paragon City.

“I pledge to you, the good people of Paragon City, that I will do everything in my power when I start my new term in the Senate to forever end the blight that is Loserville.”

“Loserville” is the unofficial name of the various hidden spaces in Paragon City constructed during the Rikti Invasion of 2002 now being used as shelter zones for the homeless, the destitute, and the refugees. Unlike the “official” zones like “Outbreak”, which were rapidly constructed by the Rikti as a way to further segment the citizens of the city during their brief occupation, the “unofficial” zones were created by the heroes and members of the United Nations global defense force Vanguard as a way to warehouse supplies.

Over the years, those same spaces were taken over by the homeless and the refugees, especially during the Second Rikti Invasion of 2007, and again during the Neo-Shivan meteor attack on Galaxy City in 2011 and the “Miracle of 2012”, when over 2000 former Galaxy City residents were rescued only to find their homes were forever lost.

“Most of these people have no place to go,” said Dr. Raj Patilla, one of the many volunteers of the makeshift hospital in Zone 667. “They’ve lost their homes, they’ve lost their jobs, and some of them never could recover from the Great Recession, so what little money they had is gone.”

Stronghold dismissed claims of destitution from the residents in the hidden camps.

“Our economy is the strongest it has ever been under President Trump,” said the one-term senator. “Anyone looking for work can get one if they want to work. Housing is exploding in this city thanks to the jobs market. We will be opening up Kallisti Warf and the other new zones soon. There are plenty of opportunities for people to start anew. There is no reason for these Loserville zones to continue to exist.”

“Loservilles” have been a recent target of conservative scorn. Presidential candidates in the 2016 campaign each promised to do something about ending the hidden spaces. Then-candidate Donald Trump promised to not only tear down the hidden areas brick-by-brick, but he would even use those bricks to build his infamous border wall with Mexico.

It was a promise that now-President Trump reiterated in a videotaped message to the assembled supporters.

“If we can build a wall to keep out extra-dimensional aliens bent on destroying humanity,” said Trump, “then we can do the same to the criminals that are coming to our country. And with Thon Stronghold in the Senate, we will do just that.”

Supporters of the hidden “Loserville” spaces say that eliminating the areas would only make matters worse for the citizens of Paragon City.

“These are people trying to survive,” said Patilla. “Kick them out from here and they’ll show up on the streets of Atlas Park, or Kings Row, or Steel Canyon. And then you will have to deal with them because they’ll be in your neighborhoods.”



Sen. Thon Stronghold (R-RI) speaking at a campaign rally in Atlas Park (PCN)

Continues on next page...

TASK FORCE NOTES

Continued from previous page...

Task Force Evaluation Notes

(Submitted by Jason Knight)

Mighty Marvin (aka "Mighty Marv")

Real Name: Marvin Blacksmith

Former con-artist, blogger, social worker

Powers: Normal human. Vanguard training.



"Mighty Marv" wanted to be a hero so bad he was convinced to take part in a con game. He put on a generic superhero outfit and convinced Mindy Harrison, then a Freedom Corps trainee, to turn over confidential information to members of The Mooks pretending to be "aliens". Thankfully the exchange was never made, as the meeting was raided by Vanguard agent Carlton Sage.

In exchange for his cooperation, Marvin worked with Vanguard for two years and his record was cleared. But his time with the UN security force had jaded him and his views of heroes.

Marvin found two new passions in the transition. The first is with helping the disenfranchised and the refugees that live in a pocket of Paragon City referred to by some as "Loserville". Often this involves him providing needed supplies, equipment, and medicine to their makeshift hospital

The second passion, and more noteworthy, is as an independent journalist and blogger. As the owner and publisher of "The Real Paragon City", Marvin has been relentless in getting news of abusive actions by both heroes and police alike on the Internet. Often these articles have gotten the attention of the more traditional news services like the Paragon News Network and the Paragon Times.

Evaluation: While he has some Vanguard training, obviously Marvin would not be a suitable member of the task force. However, his access to alternative news is a valuable resource for the task force in releasing information that could otherwise be barred from traditional media. We've used his resources before against the Blue Dogs, and we should not be hesitant to use it again.

<http://BattlerockComics.wordpress.com>

NEXT ISSUE...



PARAGON CITY NOW KNOWS
JASON KNIGHT IS DEAD.
HOW DOES THAT AFFECT THE
TASK FORCE?

AND WITH THE NEWS OF
JASON'S DEATH, SOMEONE
ELSE IS BACK ON THE SCENE.

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CHAMPIONS ONLINE

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DC Universe Online

**STAR WARS: THE
OLD REPUBLIC**

THE SECRET WORLD

WORLD OF WARCRAFT

AND MANY, MANY MORE!

**OUR "CITY" DIDN'T GO AWAY...
OUR "CITY" ONLY GOT BIGGER!**

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