

T+ FOR TEENS PLUS

# FURIA

AND  
THE GUARDIANS



Issue 22  
2017



Who is  
Mindy  
Harrison?





# /em holdtorch



She will be missed...  
... but she will never be forgotten.



**Do you like these comics?**  
**Ever wanted to do one yourself?**  
**Find out how!**

The City of Comic Creators is always looking for more talented writers, artists, and overall comic creators. We are a group of amateur creators with one thing in common: turning the stories in our heads into digital comics for others to share and enjoy.

All of us started out as players of Massive Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Games as well as fans of comic books, and it was our love of those two things that led us to become comic creators in our own right, taking our characters and our stories out of the MMOPRG and into digitized pages.

And if you're one of those people who are wondering how we could come up with these comics, and maybe even wanting to do one yourself, then we have a "How To" section for you.

Follow this address to the MMO Comic Index and look for the link on "**How To Create A Comic**".

# <http://mmocomicindex.com>

*Born in an alternate world where heroes ruled and humanity was endangered, Faith Powers was the last surviving member of the legendary Powers family. Brought up in the watchful eyes of the Praetors, she became Furia Powers, champion of the weak.*

*But then she became aware that all was not right in the supposed "Utopian Society". Forced to choose between the Praetors and a chance at a new family, she choose family and left for the Primal Universe.*

*Now Furia Powers is a member of the Guardians of the Dawn, a superhero team dedicated to helping humanity to that bright future that is always just beyond the horizon. It is a team that is on the brink of becoming legend. They are...*

# **FURIA**



## **AND THE GUARDIANS**

On the same day as a new president is sworn in, Furia Powers starts her new job working for the mysterious law firm of Loche & Key.

She is looking for a potential new client; a witness and victim that could expose the corrupt practices of the Paragon City Police Department's resurrected "Blue Dog Squad". But she is not the only one looking for this person.

Meanwhile, Ryder Lightning begins his look into the activities of Mindy Harrison, who has, for the past few years, been serving as the unofficial "Girl Friday" to the Guardians of the Dawn.

But with her recent disappearance coinciding with the arrival of Vanguard special operative Carlton Sage, Ryder has to wonder just who Mindy is, why she vanished when Sage arrived, and who does she really work for?

## **"MINDY'S STORY - PART 1"**

**- A CITY OF HEROES STORY BY DAVID 2**

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WASHINGTON DC - JANUARY 20TH, 2009\*

"I... BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA... DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR... THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES..."

"AND WILL... TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY... PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND... THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES."

"SO HELP ME GOD."

(ACTUAL PHOTO TAKEN FROM THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT - US PARK SERVICE)

AT THE SAME TIME IN GALAXY CITY...

EXCUSE ME...  
PARDON ME...  
AGENT HARRISON?

YOU MUST HAVE  
ME CONFUSED  
WITH SOMEONE  
ELSE.  
I'M JUST A CADET.






SORRY... SORRY,  
I JUST HAD TO  
CATCH UP TO YOU  
SOMEHOW..

I'M MIGHTY MARV...  
I'M NEW TO THIS  
WHOLE HERO THING.



WELL, WELCOME TO  
PARAGON CITY...

BUT I'M REALLY NOT  
THE PERSON YOU  
SHOULD BE  
SPEAKING WITH TO  
GET YOU STARTED  
AS A HERO.



WELL, YOU SEE, THAT'S  
THE THING. I WAS  
SORT OF... SENT TO  
SEEK YOU OUT... TO  
HELP ME BE A HERO.

YOU SEE, THESE ALIENS CAME TO  
ME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT  
AND THEY GAVE ME THIS OUTFIT,  
WHICH THEY SAY IS ONLY MEANT  
FOR ME TO WEAR.

BUT THEY SAID THAT IN ORDER  
FOR ME TO UNLOCK THE SUIT'S  
POWERS, I NEED TO WORK WITH A  
SPECIFIC GOVERNMENT AGENT...

AND THEY SPECIFICALLY NAMED  
YOU. I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT  
THEY DID.



DOES THAT  
MAKE SENSE?




NO, IT SOUNDS  
ABSOLUTELY  
RIDICULOUS!

BUT... I PROBABLY  
SHOULD HELP YOU  
IN SOME WAY, AT  
LEAST TO FIGURE  
OUT WHY I WAS  
CHOSEN.



GREAT! THIS  
SOUNDS LIKE THE  
START OF ONE OF  
THOSE TV SITCOMS!

LISTEN, DO YOU  
HAVE A FIRST NAME,  
OR DO I HAVE TO  
CALL YOU "CADET"  
ALL THE TIME?



WELL, AS LONG  
AS IT'S JUST  
BETWEEN THE TWO  
OF US, YOU CAN  
CALL ME BY MY  
FIRST NAME.

IT'S MINDY.



WASHINGTON DC - JANUARY 20TH, 2017

"I... DONALD JOHN TRUMP... DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR... THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES..."

"AND WILL... TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY... PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND... THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES."

"SO HELP ME GOD."

(ACTUAL PHOTO TAKEN FROM THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT AT THE SAME TIME AND PLACE AS 2009 - US PARK SERVICE)

AT THE SAME TIME IN ATLAS PARK...

KEEP IT UP, ROOKIE! THOSE VAHZILOK ARE MORE AFRAID OF US THAN YOU ARE OF THEM!

THAT USED TO BE MY WORLD.

PATROLS AND DRILLS AND KEEPING MY AREA CRIME-FREE...

 **Mindy Harrison**  
OPERATIONS ASSISTANT





NOW I'M TRYING  
TO KEEP A LOW  
PROFILE WHILE  
STILL TRYING TO  
DO MY JOB.  
  
AND MOST OF THE  
GUARDIANS WON'T  
EVEN KNOW IT.



EXCUSE ME, BUT I HAVE  
A PRESCRIPTION FOR  
ZYGALL THAT I'M  
ALMOST OUT OF.  
  
CAN I GET IT REFILLED  
HERE TOMORROW?



ZYGALL?  
LET ME CHECK...



YES, WE STILL HAVE  
THAT IN STOCK.  
  
COME BY ANYTIME  
TO GET IT  
REFILLED.

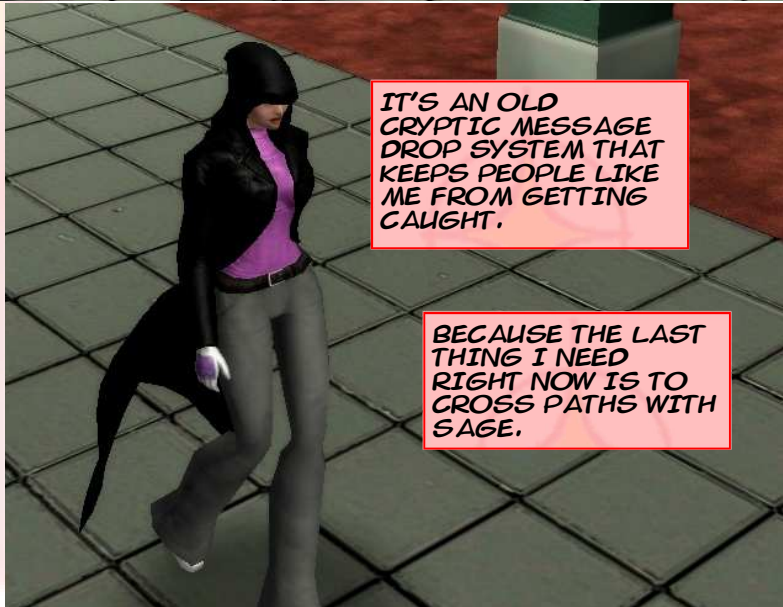


OKAY, THANK  
YOU.

NUTS.



THAT NURSE DIDN'T  
KNOW IT, BUT SHE  
JUST INFORMED ME  
THAT CARLTON  
SAGE IS STILL  
POKING AROUND  
GUARDIAN BASE.



IT'S AN OLD  
CRYPTIC MESSAGE  
DROP SYSTEM THAT  
KEEPS PEOPLE LIKE  
ME FROM GETTING  
CAUGHT.

BECAUSE THE LAST  
THING I NEED  
RIGHT NOW IS TO  
CROSS PATHS WITH  
SAGE.



I HOPE T'AYA DOESN'T MIND THAT I'VE TURNED OUR KITCHEN AREA INTO MY NEW WORKSPACE.

IT'S NOT LIKE IT WAS ALREADY BEING USED.

NOTHING LIKE STARTING YOUR DAY WITH A BIG BOX OF PAPERS AND A LAPTOP FROM YOUR NEW BOSSES.

ABBEY LOCHE WAS RIGHT WHEN SHE SAID HER PARTNER IS OLD-SCHOOL.

EVERYTHING I EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BLUE DOGS BUT WAS AFRAID TO ASK.

INCLUDING STUFF THAT THE PARAGON LIBERTARIAN SOCIETY DIDN'T EVEN KNOW!

AND I THOUGHT THE PRAETORIAN POLICE WERE CORRUPT!

 **Furia Powers**  
(FIONA PODERES)

AND NOW ALL OF IT HINGES ON ONE FRESHMAN HERO WILLING TO STEP FORWARD AND SAY SHE WAS ACCOSTED BY LIEUTENANT MCCADE.\*

(\* LAST ISSUE)

Streetangel (one word)  
RN - Karen Manning  
No listed address

Hero in Hartford CT  
before coming to Paragon City  
Street skills - not enhanced

Security level 5

AND, OF COURSE, THERE'S VERY LITTLE ABOUT HER!



THEN AGAIN, IF IT WAS EASY, THEN LOCHE AND KEY WOULDN'T HAVE HIRED ME.

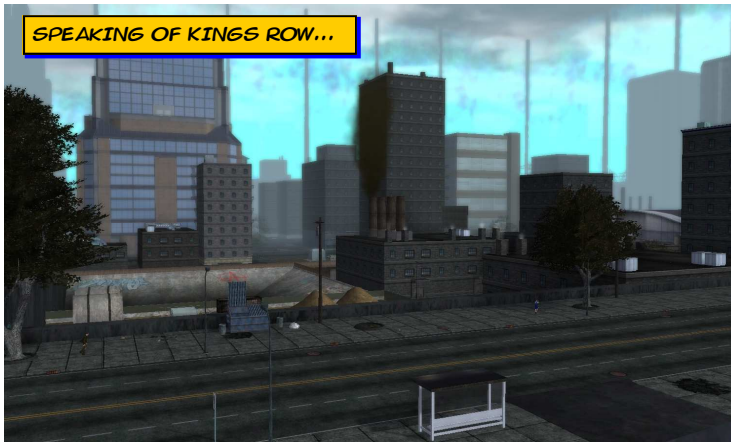
STREETANGEL IS A LOW-LEVEL HERO. THAT MEANS THERE ARE LIMITS TO THE KIND OF PLACES IN THE CITY SHE CAN GO TO AS A REGISTERED HERO.

SHE WOULDN'T BE GIVEN HERO ASSIGNMENTS IN PLACES LIKE FOUNDERS FALLS OR TALOS ISLAND YET.

THAT MEANS SHE'S HANGING AROUND ATLAS PARK OR KINGS ROW OR THE HOLLOWES. I'LL HAVE TO START THERE.



SPEAKING OF KINGS ROW...



SORRY SYN, BUT I REALLY CAN'T HELP YOU.

**Officer Vic Johansson**  
PARAGON CITY POLICE



COME ON VIC, I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO GO AGAINST YOUR FELLOW COPS.  
I JUST NEED TO KNOW IF YOU KNOW WHERE STREET ANGEL PATROLS.

**Cardinal Syn**  
(CASSANDRA DARE)



NO, YOU DON'T GET IT.

I'M GETTING HEAT FROM UP TOP ABOUT SHARING ANYTHING WITH YOU... OR ANY OTHER HERO.



LISTEN, YOU'VE BEEN GREAT HERE ON THE STREETS. I HAVE NOTHING BUT RESPECT FOR YOU AND JASON KNIGHT...

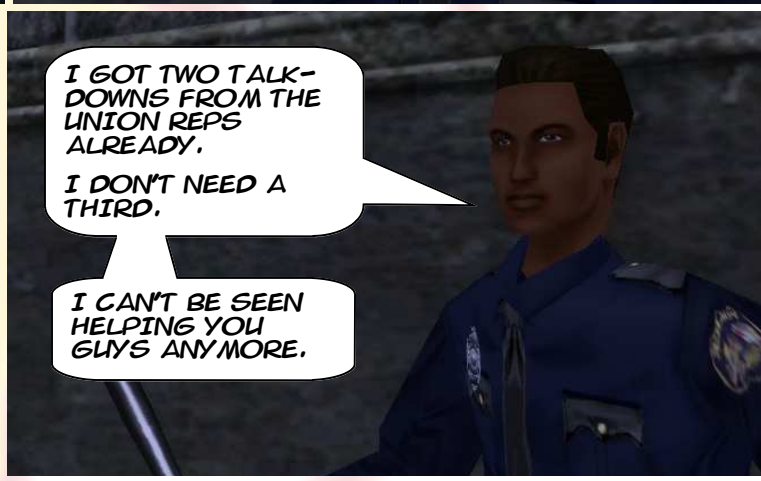
BUT THE BRASS ARE CLOSING RANKS AGAINST HELPING OUT HEROES.



I GOT TWO TALK-DOWNS FROM THE UNION REPS ALREADY.

I DON'T NEED A THIRD.

I CAN'T BE SEEN HELPING YOU GUYS ANYMORE.



IF THAT'S WHAT IT IS... I'M SORRY.  
I'LL LET THE OTHERS KNOW AS WELL.

THANKS. AND... JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME... I HOPE STREET ANGEL IS OKAY, WHEREVER SHE IS.

YOU NEVER HEARD ME SAY THIS, BUT MCCAIDE HAS BEEN TALKING IT UP ABOUT STREET ANGEL THIS MORNING...

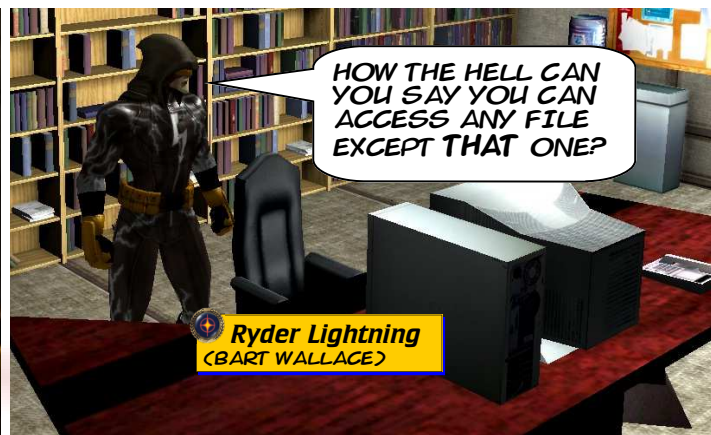
AND THE LAST TIME HE WAS THAT WAY WAS WITH ROSE VESTA AND WHAT HE DID TO HER.







I DON'T BELIEVE IT.  
RUN IT AGAIN.



**Ryder Lightning**  
(BART WALLACE)

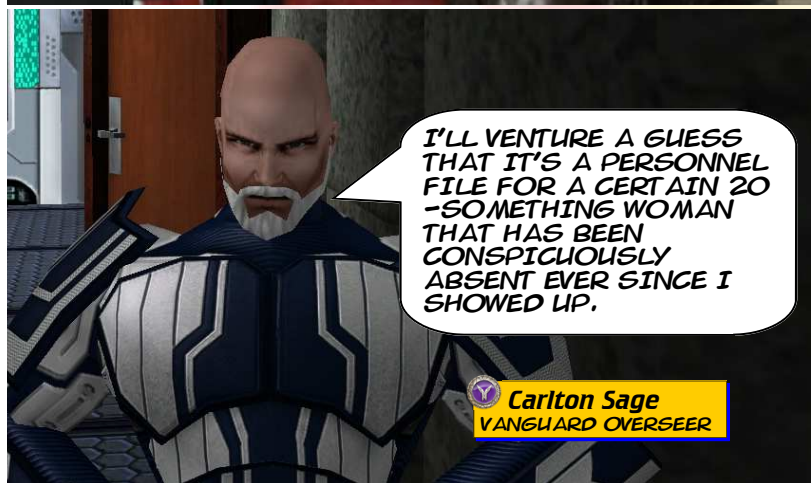
HOW THE HELL CAN YOU SAY YOU CAN ACCESS ANY FILE EXCEPT THAT ONE?



PROBLEMS?



JUST A LITTLE ISSUE ACCESSING A FILE ON THE SERVER.



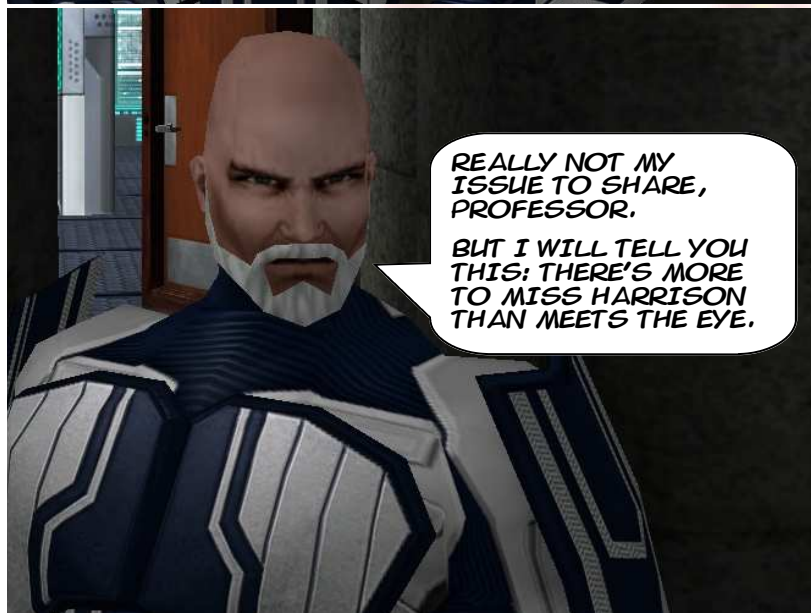
I'LL VENTURE A GUESS THAT IT'S A PERSONNEL FILE FOR A CERTAIN 20-SOMETHING WOMAN THAT HAS BEEN CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT EVER SINCE I SHOWED UP.

**Carlton Sage**  
VANGUARD OVERSEER



LET'S SUPPOSE FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT THAT YOU'RE RIGHT, CARLTON.

ANYTHING THAT YOU'D BE WILLING TO SHARE?



REALLY NOT MY ISSUE TO SHARE, PROFESSOR.

BUT I WILL TELL YOU THIS: THERE'S MORE TO MISS HARRISON THAN MEETS THE EYE.



YOU KNOW, I DON'T EVEN ALLOW MY FRIEND JASON KNIGHT TO WALK AWAY WITH A CUTESY TV-DRAMA ONE-LINER.

GIVE ME SOMETHING MORE.





MINDY HARRISON IS A SKILLED COMPUTER ADMINISTRATOR. WOULDN'T YOU THINK SHE'D BE ABLE TO PUT A LOCK ON HER OWN PERSONNEL FILE?

I CAN GET DATABANK OVER FROM THE JUSTICE-KNIGHTS TO BREAK THROUGH THAT LOCK IN SECONDS. HE'S BEEN HERE ENOUGH TIMES TO ALMOST BE A GUARDIAN BY DEFAULT.



MAYBE. AND THEN MAYBE ALL YOU'LL GET IS A DUMMY FILE WITH JUST ENOUGH INFORMATION TO WITHHOLD HER TAXES.



BUT MAYBE YOU JUST NEED A BETTER BREADCRUMB TO FOLLOW. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE BASE'S MYSTICAL CLOUD?



VAGUELY. IT'S ONE OF THE BASE'S SECURITY SYSTEMS, RIGHT?



YOU EVER ASK YOURSELF HOW THE GUARDIANS COULD HAVE A CIVILIAN SUPPORT STAFF AND NOT HAVE YOUR SECRETS SPILLED ALL OVER THE INTERNET?



GO AHEAD AND TAKE A WALK AROUND THE BASE AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.

THE GUARDIANS HAVE SOME OF THE BEST SECURITY SYSTEMS MONEY CAN BUY, AND ANDREW WENTWORTH HAS PLENTY OF MONEY IN RESERVE FOR YOUR LITTLE SUPERGROUP.

ASK YOURSELF HOW THE GUARDIANS KEEP THEIR SECRETS WITH ALL OF THESE CIVILIANS MILLING AROUND. AND THEN ASK YOURSELF WHY MINDY HARRISON WOULD HAVE A WAY AROUND THAT SECURITY.



BACK IN 2009...

INSIDE THE FREEDOM CORPS BUILDING IN GALAXY CITY...

I'VE ACCESSED THE SERVER WE NEED TO SEARCH.

BUT I STILL HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT DOING THIS.

YOU SAID THAT THE FREEDOM CORPS IS HERE TO HELP HEROES.

WELL, I'M A HERO AND I NEED THE INFORMATION SO I CAN UNLOCK MY SUIT'S POWERS.

REALLY? THEN WHY WAS THE FIRST THING YOU ASKED ME TO LOOK UP IN THE SYSTEM WERE THE DIRECTIONS TO MY DORM ROOM?

VALIDATION, OF COURSE!

BESIDES, IF I NEED TO CONTACT YOU AND I DON'T HAVE MY COMMUNICATOR, I'LL KNOW WHERE TO GO TO FIND YOU.

... THAT'S JUST... CREEPY.

WELL THEN, THE SOONER YOU FIND THAT FILE, THE SOONER WE CAN UNLOCK MY SUIT'S SUPER-POWERS, AND THEN WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

STILL DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY EASIER FOR ME TO ACCEPT IT.



BACK IN 2017...

CITY HALL - ATLAS PARK

SO A HERO COMES TO YOU, SAYS SHE'S BEEN ACCOSTED BY THE POLICE, AND YOU CAN'T HELP HER?

AS I TOLD YOU, FURIA, I'M NOT ALLOWED TO DIVULGE ANYTHING ABOUT THE HERO-IN-QUESTION CONCERNING THAT INCIDENT.

**Brigid Moreira**  
CITY REPRESENTATIVE

HOW **DID** YOU COME ACROSS YOUR INFORMATION TO BEGIN WITH?

AND WHY DO YOU CARE ABOUT THIS HERO-IN-QUESTION?

I'M HELPING A FRIEND... WHO HAPPENS TO WORK FOR LOCHE & KEY. THEY WANT TO HELP HER.

OH...

THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING.

BUT IT STILL DOESN'T CHANGE MY STANCE ON THE MATTER.

SO YOU CAN'T HELP.

OFFICIALLY I CAN'T.

BUT...  
\*AHEM\*

UNOFFICIALLY, ABBEY LOCHE AND BILL KEY ARE THE BEST LAWYERS I KNOW, AND I REALLY HOPE THAT THEY CAN HELP STREET ANGEL.

SHE NEEDS ALL THE HELP SHE CAN GET RIGHT NOW WITH MCCAIDE.

BUT YOU DIDN'T HEAR ANY OF THAT FROM ME.



AT THE SUPPORT ENTRANCE  
OF GUARDIAN BASE...

GOT YOUR  
MESSAGE.  
WOT'S UP?

TELL ME  
ABOUT  
THIS.

 **Chef Dramsay**  
(ELLIOT DRAMSAY)

TH' MYSTICAL  
CLOUD? SURE.  
IT'S A LITTLE  
GIFT FROM THE  
STONEHENGE  
WITCHES. IT  
ALLOWS US TO  
HAVE A SUPPORT  
STAFF 'ERE.

"EVERYONE THAT  
COMES IN  
FROM THE BLUE  
LINE RAIL  
PASS UNDER  
TH' CLOUD."

"TH' FIRST PASS  
SETS UP A  
MARKER IN THEIR  
HEADS, LIKE A  
MAGICAL  
BOOKMARK."

THEY DO THEIR  
JOBS, WORK THEIR  
SHIFTS...

END OF THE DAY,  
THEY PASS BY IT  
AGAIN, AN'  
EVERYTHING THEY  
SAW OR HEARD FROM  
THE FIRST PASS IS  
JUST CLOUDED.

IT'S NOT  
FORGOTTEN,  
THOUGH. THEY  
COME BACK HERE  
TH' NEXT DAY, PASS  
UNDER THIS, AND  
THEY REMEMBER IT  
ALL AGAIN.

IT AMAZES ME JUST HOW WE  
PUT SO MUCH TRUST INTO  
TECHNOLOGY AND MAGIC TO  
KEEP OUR SECRETS SAFE.

DOESN'T THIS CAUSE  
PROBLEMS WITH PEOPLE'S  
MEMORIES? THEIR PSYCHES?

ACCORDING T'  
THE STONEHENGE  
COVEN, IT'S  
PRETTY SAFE.





I HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT THIS KIND OF SYSTEM.

FOR STARTERS, WHAT IF I WERE TO WALK UNDERNEATH?

YOU? NOTHING.

YOUR GUARDIAN ID CARD HAS A HIDDEN GLYPH IN IT SO THAT TH' CLOUD RECOGNIZES YOU AS "SAFE".



AND IF SOMEONE MYSTICAL WERE T' TRY T' BYPASS TH' CLOUD...

WELL, LET'S JUST SAY THESE BIG THINGS HERE AREN'T FOR DECORATION.

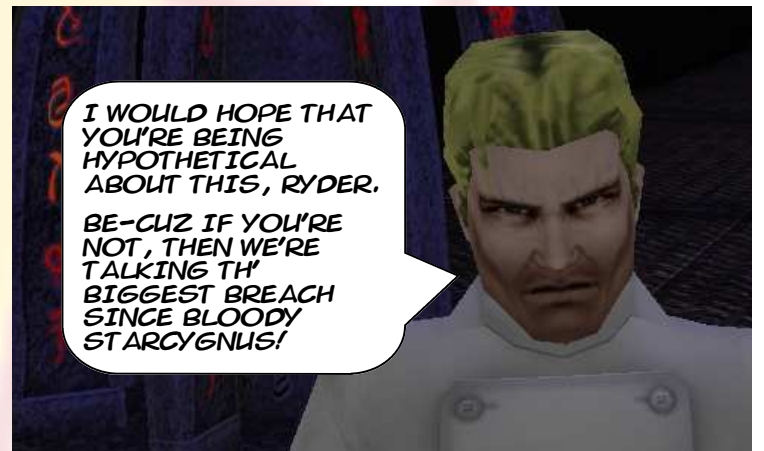
THESE ARE SOME OF TH' MOST POWERFUL MYSTICAL DEFENSE SYSTEMS WE COULD GET.

AND IF THAT DOESN'T WORK, THEN WE HAVE TECH DEFENSES AT TH' CHECK-IN STATION.



OKAY, SO YOU HAVE THAT.

BUT WHAT IF SOMEONE ALREADY HAS A GUARDIAN ID GLYPH THAT THEY'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE?



I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU'RE BEING HYPOTHETICAL ABOUT THIS, RYDER.

BE-CAUZ IF YOU'RE NOT, THEN WE'RE TALKING TH' BIGGEST BREACH SINCE BLOODY STARCHYGNUS!



ALL THE MORE REASON WHY WE NEED TO NOT BET EVERYTHING ON TECH AND MAGIC, CHEF.



RIGHT NOW IT'S "HYPOTHETICAL".

BUT IF I DON'T LIKE WHAT I HEAR IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS...

WELL, LET'S JUST SAY THING WILL GET MESSY AT HYPER-SPEED.



# It's So Super...

# It Almost Needs A Cape!



No matter if you're saving the day or taking a break, you need food that satisfies even the mightiest of hungers.

The Mighty Cheeseburger will do just that!

It's a quarter-pound of pure beef, fusion-cooked and seasoned to perfection with all-natural cheese, tomato, and lettuce on a gluten-free sesame bun.

It's guaranteed to give you enough personal rocket fuel to race through the rest of your busy schedule.

And don't forget to top your meal off with our patented Fusion Fries and an ice-cold cup of Crey Cola to make your experience truly legendary!

## UP-N-AWAY BURGERS

FAST-FOOD FRANCHISE WITH VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN PARAGON CITY

# "Yes, It's Dangerous!"

When I was told we needed a reporter in the Rogue Isles, I jumped at the chance.

Sure it's a dangerous assignment. But that is what makes the job that much more important to what we do.

Because we're here to get the story, not just pad our resume.



**PNN**  
Paragon News Network

Randi Rogues  
Rogue Isles Correspondent



# DID A HERO DO YOU WRONG?

**Heroes are not “gods with capes”.**

**They’re not “demonic sentinels lurking in dark corners waiting for bad guys.”**

**They’re certainly not “special cops with super-powers.”  
Some of them aren’t even trained like the police!**

**Heroes are people. And people make mistakes all the time. And when a hero makes a mistake, it’s our responsibility to call them on it.**

**That’s when you need someone like me in your corner to hold those people accountable.**

**I’ll make them do right by you!**

**Chris Jenkins - Attorney At Law      1-555-GET-RICH**

## Change Your Costume With A Click!



If you’re a hero, then you know that embarrassing moment when some big crisis happens and you don’t have your hero outfit with you.

Sure, you can try to wear your hero outfit under your clothes, but that gets too uncomfortable really fast. And carrying them around in a purse or knapsack invites you to either leave it behind or to have it stolen by some punk.

Now you don’t have to worry about changing into your hero attire thanks to the **icon** costume pack.

The **icon** costume pack allows you to change to and from your hero outfit with just a click of a button. Within seconds, your civilian attire is gone and you are in your hero gear, ready to fight evil. And after the day is saved, another click will restore you to your civilian attire like nothing ever happened.

So why worry about whether or not you can change into your hero attire in time? Head on over to your nearest **icon** tailor store today and you can be just one click away from ready.

Atlas Park \* Steel Canyon \* Independence Port \* Founders Falls

**i c o n**



BACK IN ATLAS PARK...



GALAXY CITY - 2009



WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
MINDY?

I DON'T  
KNOW  
MARY...



... IT DOESN'T  
FEEL RIGHT.  
WHY WOULD  
ALIENS MEET YOU  
IN A WAREHOUSE?



WELL THEY COULDN'T  
EXACTLY COME DOWN  
IN THEIR SPACESHIP,  
COULD THEY?  
I MEAN, VANGUARD  
WOULD SHOOT THEM  
DOWN BEFORE THEY  
COULD EVEN SAY "WE  
COME IN PEACE"!

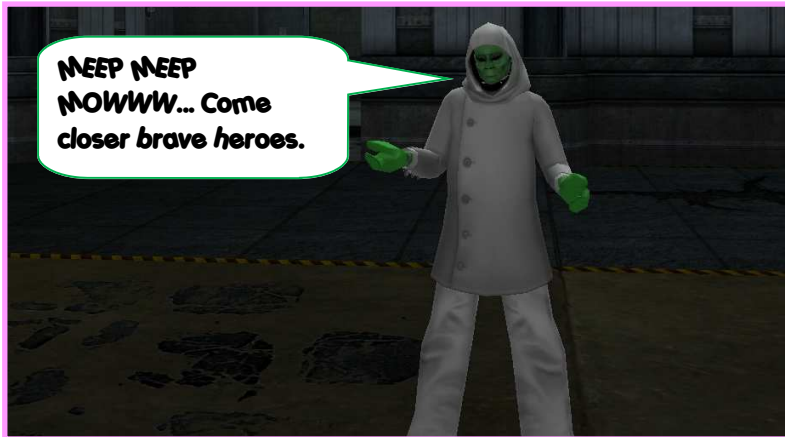


... NNH...  
I HATE TO SAY IT,  
MARY, BUT YOU  
DO HAVE A POINT.

OKAY, LET'S JUST  
GET THIS OVER  
WITH. THIS  
WHOLE THING  
JUST GIVES ME  
THE CREEPS.













BACK OVER IN KINGS ROW, 2017

DISPATCH TO ALL UNITS IN  
KINGS ROW AREA: "ANGRY  
GIRL" SPOTTED IN GISH.

REPEAT: "ANGRY GIRL"  
SPOTTED OVER GISH.

DISPATCH, THIS  
IS HAWK ONE.  
I'VE GOT EYES ON  
"ANGRY GIRL".

UNDERSTOOD,  
HAWK ONE.

ALL UNITS STAND  
READY TO ASSIST.

SOMETHING I CAN  
HELP YOU WITH,  
MISS POWERS?

**Lawhawk**  
PARAGON CITY POLICE

LAWHAWK, RIGHT?  
I SAW YOUR  
DEBUT ON PNN.\*

(\* WHILE FURIA WAS BED-  
RIDDEN BACK IN ISSUE #17.)

NICE TO KNOW YOU  
WATCH THE NEWS.  
BUT THAT DOESN'T  
ANSWER MY QUESTION.  
IS THERE A REASON WHY  
YOU'RE IN KINGS ROW,  
MISS POWERS?

DO I NEED A  
REASON TO BE  
IN KINGS ROW?  
I THOUGHT THIS  
WAS STILL A  
SEMI-FREE CITY.





AFTER WHAT  
HAPPENED THE  
LAST TIME YOU  
WERE HERE... YES,  
YOU NEED ONE.

REALLY?

I'LL KEEP THAT IN  
MIND THE NEXT  
TIME I TALK TO  
MY NEW FRIENDS,  
LOCHE AND KEY.



YOU THINK I DON'T  
KNOW A "PRESS-THE-  
BADGE" PLAY?

'CUZ I'VE SEEN IT AND  
I'VE DONE IT MYSELF  
WHILE YOU WERE STILL  
PRETENDING TO BE THE  
NEXT TOM CRUISE.

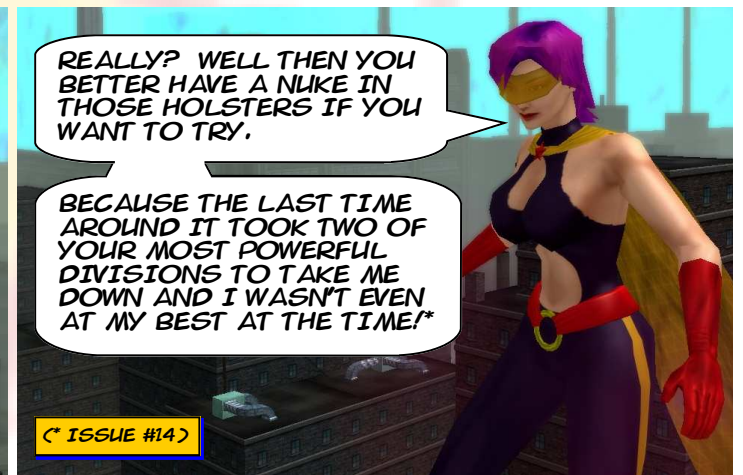


THEN I'LL GET RIGHT  
TO THE POINT.

YOU DON'T BELONG  
HERE IN THIS CITY.

YOU OR THE REST OF  
YOUR HERO-KIND.

AND AT SOME POINT  
REAL SOON, I'LL BE  
TOLD TO BRING YOU IN.



REALLY? WELL THEN YOU  
BETTER HAVE A NUKE IN  
THOSE HOLSTERS IF YOU  
WANT TO TRY.

BECAUSE THE LAST TIME  
AROUND IT TOOK TWO OF  
YOUR MOST POWERFUL  
DIVISIONS TO TAKE ME  
DOWN AND I WASN'T EVEN  
AT MY BEST AT THE TIME!\*

(\* ISSUE #14)



AND SINCE WHATEVER  
DOESN'T KILL ME MAKES  
ME STRONGER... WHAT  
KIND OF A CHANCE DO  
YOU THINK YOU HAVE  
AGAINST ME NOW?

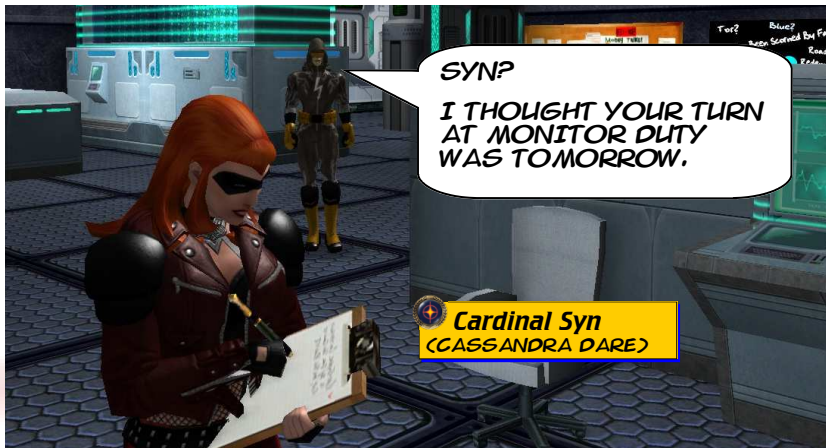
NEVER MIND GOING UP  
AGAINST MY SISTER,  
GALATEA POWERS.

YOU THINK ABOUT  
THAT BEFORE YOU  
WANNABE  
PRAETORIANS TRY  
TO PLAY ANOTHER  
BITCH MOVE ON ME!





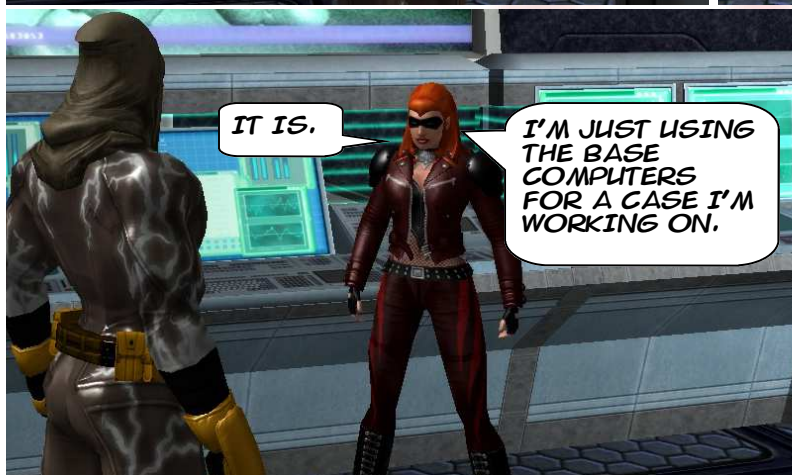
BACK AT GUARDIAN BASE...



SYN?

I THOUGHT YOUR TURN  
AT MONITOR DUTY  
WAS TOMORROW.

**Cardinal Syn**  
(CASSANDRA DARE)



IT IS.

I'M JUST USING  
THE BASE  
COMPUTERS  
FOR A CASE I'M  
WORKING ON.



UH-HUH...  
A CASE  
FOR YOU...  
OR FOR  
JASON?



CAN'T IT BE FOR BOTH?  
HE'S STILL A GUARDIAN.

WHO'S BEEN HELL-BENT  
ON DOING THINGS HIS  
OWN WAY, WITH HIS OWN  
RESOURCES, AND NOT  
LETTING ANY OF US IN ON  
WHAT HE'S DOING.

AND, TO BE HONEST,  
I DON'T KNOW HOW  
LONG I CAN LET  
THIS GO ON BEFORE  
SOMEONE HIGHER UP  
TELLS ME TO CUT  
HIM LOOSE.



SORRY... I DON'T  
MEAN TO DRAG YOU  
INTO THIS.

BUT... MAYBE YOU  
CAN HELP ME ON  
ANOTHER MATTER.

HAVE YOU SEEN  
MINDY AROUND?

YOUR ASSISTANT?

NO, NOT IN THE PAST  
FEW MONTHS.

I THOUGHT MAYBE  
YOU FIRED HER OR  
SHE GOT A BETTER  
JOB OR SOMETHING.





DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HER?

WELL THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO FIND OUT MYSELF.

THERE ARE A FEW QUESTIONS THAT I NEED ANSWERED ABOUT HER.

DID YOU EVER SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS ABOUT HER WHEN YOU'VE SEE HER AROUND THE BASE?



NOT REALLY.

I'VE SEEN MY SHARE OF SNOOPS AND BUSYBODIES, AND NOTHING SHE'S DONE EVER SET OFF A RED FLAG FOR ME.

TO BE HONEST, SHE'S BLENDED IN RATHER NICELY WITH THE SUPPORT STAFF.

IF I WASN'T TIED UP WITH MY OWN INQUIRY INTO ANOTHER HERO, I'D JOIN YOU IN TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.



UNDERSTOOD.

WELL THEN... HAPPY HUNTING.

AND THE NEXT TIME YOU DO SEE JASON, HAVE HIM CHECK IN WITH ME ABOUT WHAT HE KNOWS CONCERNING MINDY.

IF THERE'S ANYONE THAT WOULD BE SUSPICIOUS OF HER, AND TRY TO FIND ANY FLAWS IT WOULD BE JASON.



ATLAS PARK TRANSIT STOP

I SWEAR, I HAD TO FIGHT THE URGE TO CRASH HIM WHEN HE SAID THAT, ABBEY.

NO, YOU DID THE RIGHT THING, FURIA.  
NOW THAT'S ONE MORE PIECE OF LEGAL AMMO ON OUR SIDE.

BUT THAT'S NOT WHY I CALLED YOU.  
WE HAVE A LEAD ON KAREN MANNING'S HOME ADDRESS.

"WE HAD TO CALL IN A FEW FAVORS, BUT YOU'LL FIND WE HAVE PLENTY OF THOSE IN YOUR CITY."

"IT SEEMS MISS MANNING IS AN AVID READER OF ROMANCE NOVELS."

"WE'VE ARRANGED FOR YOU TO MEET HER ON THE PRETENSE THAT YOU'RE A COURIER DELIVERING A BOOK THAT WAS SENT TO THE WRONG ADDRESS."

"SHE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU IN A LOUNGE AREA, DRESS APPROPRIATELY."

WHAT IN BLAZES?

OH NO!

BAD ENOUGH I HAVE TO KEEP KAREN AWAY FROM JASON AND CARDINAL SYN, NOW FURIA'S ON HER TRAIL.

I'VE SPENT SO MUCH TIME GETTING THIS ALL SET UP, I CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE IT ALL BE EXPOSED NOW.

I JUST HOPE KAREN CAN HANDLE HERSELF BETTER THAN I DID THE FIRST TIME I WAS IN A PINCH.



IN A WAREHOUSE IN GALAXY CITY, 2009

"LET ME SEE IF I GOT THIS RIGHT, CADET HARRISON..."

"YOU AND THIS 'MIGHTY MARV' PERSON CAME ALONE TO THIS WAREHOUSE TO MEET WITH WHAT YOU BELIEVED WAS AN 'ALIEN' TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION."

YES SIR.

IT WAS ONLY WHEN I SAW THE "ALIEN" IN QUESTION THAT I REALIZED IT WAS JUST SOMEONE IN A RUBBER MASK.

SIR, THERE WAS NO INFORMATION THAT WAS EXCHANGED. I EXPOSED THE FRAUD FOR WHAT HE WAS BEFORE HE COULD--

ENOUGH!

IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT YOU ENGAGED IN SUCH A CLANDESTINE MEETING WITHOUT CHECKING IN WITH YOUR SUPERIORS.

BUT YOU WERE WILLING TO EXCHANGE SENSITIVE INFORMATION TAKEN FROM THE FREEDOM CORPS DATABASE THAT YOU ACQUIRED WITHOUT CLEARANCE.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT FILES YOU TWO WERE READY TO HAND OFF?

THE LOCATION OF ALL THE SUPERADINE\* THAT FREEDOM CORPS AND VANGUARD HAVE SEIZED OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS!

(\* SUPERADINE IS AN ILLEGAL MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DRUG THAT GIVES PEOPLE SUPERPOWERS.)

DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT WAS TO SEIZE ALL OF THOSE DRUGS AND TO KEEP THE KNOWLEDGE OF IT A SECRET?

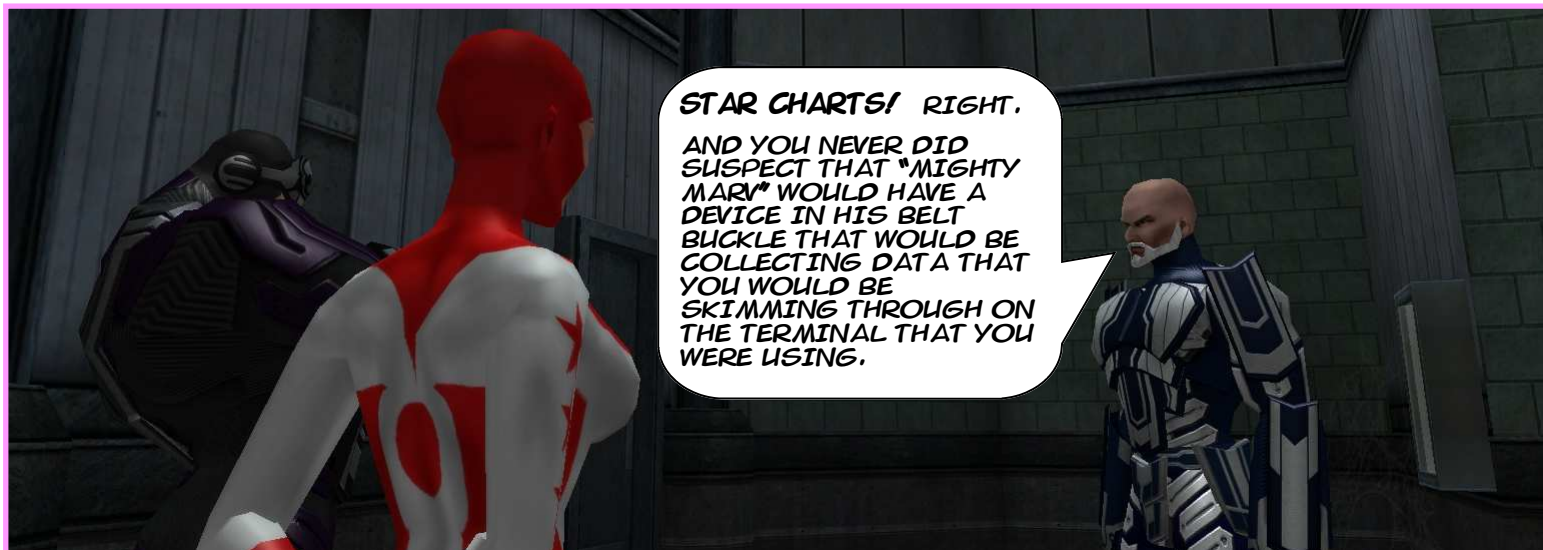
THE GUY THAT YOU TOOK DOWN WAS A MEMBER OF THE MOOKS, A SPLINTER GROUP FROM THE FAMILY.

THEY WOULD HAVE PUT THOSE DRUGS RIGHT BACK OUT ON THE STREETS IN A HEARTBEAT!

BUT... INSPECTOR SAGE, I DIDN'T GIVE HIM THAT KIND OF INFORMATION!

MIGHTY MARV SAID ALL HE NEEDED WAS SOME STAR CHARTS!





STAR CHARTS! RIGHT.  
AND YOU NEVER DID  
SUSPECT THAT "MIGHTY  
MARY" WOULD HAVE A  
DEVICE IN HIS BELT  
BUCKLE THAT WOULD BE  
COLLECTING DATA THAT  
YOU WOULD BE  
SKIMMING THROUGH ON  
THE TERMINAL THAT YOU  
WERE USING.



HOLD ON! DATA  
COLLECTING?  
INSPECTOR  
SAGE, I KNOW  
MARY IS A BIT OF  
A HERO FANBOY,  
BUT I DON'T--



YOU "KNOW"?!  
WHAT DO YOU KNOW  
ABOUT HIM, CADET?  
YOU KNOW JACK SQUAT  
ABOUT WHO MARVIN  
BLACKSMITH REALLY IS!



IF YOU FIRST  
CHECKED WITH YOUR  
SUPERIORS, YOU  
WOULD HAVE KNOWN  
THAT "MIGHT MARY"  
WAS JUST ONE OF  
SEVERAL WANNABES  
THAT WERE CAUGHT  
UP IN AN "ALIEN  
SUPER-SUIT" CON!



BUT YOU DIDN'T DO  
THAT. YOU TOOK HIM  
AT HIS WORD THAT HE  
WAS A REGISTERED  
HERO.  
AND HE TALKED YOU  
INTO GIVING HIM  
ACCESS TO FREEDOM  
CORPS INFORMATION.



WELL YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT  
"MIGHTY MARY".  
YOU SHOULD BE WORRYING  
ABOUT YOUR OWN FUTURE,  
CADET.  
BECAUSE AT THE VERY LEAST,  
YOUR FUTURE WITH FREEDOM  
CORPS OR ANY OTHER HERO  
ORGANIZATION IS DONE.

AND YOU SHOULD BE  
PRAYING TO WHATEVER  
GOD YOU BELIEVE IN  
THAT YOU DON'T END UP  
GOING TO PRISON FOR  
YOUR RECKLESSNESS.



BACK TO 2017...

KAREN MANNING?

YES.

**Karen Manning**  
AKA STREET ANGEL

MY NAME IS FIONA PODERES. I'M SORRY FOR THE BIT OF DECEPTION...

**Fiona Poderes**  
AKA FURIA POWERS

YEAH, YOU DON'T SOUND AT ALL LIKE THE GIRL I SPOKE WITH ON THE PHONE.

AND THAT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN MY BOSS... OR... ONE OF THEM.

I'M AN INVESTIGATOR FOR THE LAW FIRM OF LOCHE & KEY.

MY EMPLOYERS KNOW ABOUT YOUR... "NIGHT JOB". AND THEY KNOW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU THE OTHER NIGHT.

THEY'D LIKE TO REPRESENT YOU.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

"NIGHT JOB"? I WORK AT HOME, TRANSCRIBING DOCTOR'S NOTES.

LOOK, I TOTALLY GET IT. WE HAVE A WHOLE CITY FULL OF PEOPLE THAT "TRANSCRIBE DOCTOR'S NOTES", OR WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT.

I ALSO KNOW WHAT THE POLICE DID TO YOU WAS WRONG.

UH... YOU'RE JUST CRAZY... AND YOU SHOULD GO.





NO, CRAZY IS  
LETTING SOMEONE  
LIKE MCCAIDE GET  
AWAY WITH WHAT  
HE'S BEEN DOING!

ESPECIALLY WHEN  
YOU CAN STOP HIM!



MCCAIDE IS A  
COP.  
COPS  
ALWAYS WIN.  
THAT'S WHAT  
I HEARD.

AND IF YOU  
BELIEVE THAT,  
THEN THEY  
WILL ALWAYS  
WIN.



LISTEN, I USED TO  
BE A COP, OKAY?  
I KNOW HOW THEY  
OPERATE.  
AND I WORKED IN  
A REALLY BAD  
PLACE TOO.

SURE IT LOOKED ALL  
PRETTY AND PRISTINE.  
BUT IT WAS A FAÇADE.  
UNDERNEATH IT WAS SOME  
OF THE MOST HORRIBLE  
PEOPLE AROUND.

AND SOMETIMES I WONDERED  
WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED  
IF SOMEONE STOOD UP TO  
THOSE HORRIBLE PEOPLE  
WHEN IT MATTERED.



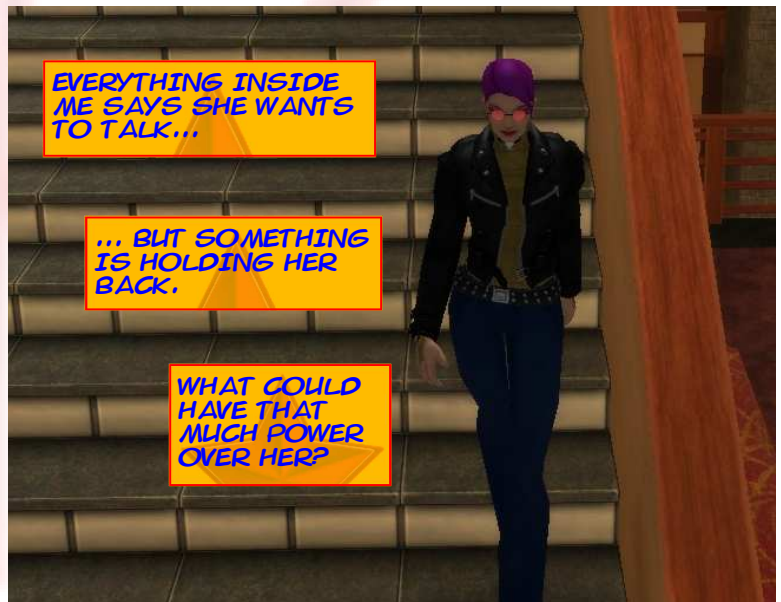
I...  
I REALLY THINK YOU  
SHOULD GO NOW.

OKAY...  
BUT I'M GOING TO LEAVE  
MY LAW FIRM'S CARD IN  
FRONT OF YOUR  
APARTMENT DOOR.  
IT'LL ALSO HAVE MY CELL  
NUMBER IF YOU JUST WANT  
TO TALK ABOUT IT.



BECAUSE EVEN IF YOU  
DON'T WANT TO TALK TO  
MY EMPLOYERS ABOUT  
WHAT HAPPENED, YOU  
CAN TALK TO ME.

FROM ONE  
"TRANSCRIBER" TO  
ANOTHER.



EVERYTHING INSIDE  
ME SAYS SHE WANTS  
TO TALK...

... BUT SOMETHING  
IS HOLDING HER  
BACK.

WHAT COULD  
HAVE THAT  
MUCH POWER  
OVER HER?





THIS ISN'T RIGHT...  
THERE SHOULD BE  
MORE TO THIS FILE.



CPCU: IS THIS ALL OF  
THE INFORMATION  
FROM THE HARTFORD  
POLICE DEPARTMENT?

UNFORTUNATELY  
NOT, CARDINAL SYN.



THE HARTFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT'S  
MAINFRAME SYSTEM WAS HACKED AND  
SABOTAGED IN 2014, WITH SOME OF ITS  
DATA IRRETRIEVABLY DELETED.

A RATHER CONVENIENT EVENT,  
CONSIDERING ONE OF THE  
PIECES OF DATA DELETED  
INVOLVED STREET ANGEL'S HERO  
FILE WHEN SHE OPERATED THERE.



IN FACT... THE LAST  
TIME I SAW GAPS  
LIKE THIS WAS...

... IN CAPTAIN  
PARAGONNA'S FILE...



OH MY  
GOD...



CPCU: MESSAGE RYDER  
LIGHTNING AND LET HIM  
KNOW THAT HE SHOULD  
BE EXPECTING A CALL  
FROM WASHINGTON.

IS IT CONNECTED TO  
YOUR INQUIRY IN THE  
HARTFORD DATABASE  
FOR STREETANGEL?

I MAY BE WRONG...  
I HOPE I AM...

BECAUSE OTHERWISE I'VE  
BEEN POKING INTO THE  
BACKGROUND OF SOMEONE  
IN THE FEDERAL WITNESS  
PROTECTION PROGRAM!









I THOUGHT I'D ADD A JACKET TO MY OUTFIT WHEN I GO ON PATROL.

★ Streetangel  
(KAREN MANNING)



KAREN, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE PROVOCATIVE. THAT'S HOW YOU GOT MCCAIDE'S ATTENTION IN THE FIRST PLACE.



TAKE IT OFF. NOW.



BUT... AFTER WHAT HE DID TO ME... I FELT...

TAKE OFF THE JACKET. NOW!



YOU FEEL NAKED NOW. EXPOSED. VULNERABLE.



THAT'S **EXACTLY** WHAT HE WANTS YOU TO FEEL. THAT'S MCCAIDE'S GAME. THAT'S WHAT A PREDATOR LIKE HIM DOES!



YOUR WHOLE HERO PERSONA WAS CRAFTED SO THAT IT WOULD GET HIS ATTENTION. NOW THAT YOU HAVE HIS ATTENTION, YOU HAVE TO LET HIM ESCALATE THINGS.

THAT OTHER WOMAN... FROM THE LAW FIRM...

I KNOW WHO SHE IS, AND, BELIEVE ME, WE'RE ACTUALLY DOING HER A BIG FAVOR BY DOING IT THIS WAY.

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY WE CAN SHUT DOWN MCCAIDE AND HIS BLUE DOGS ONCE AND FOR ALL.

Next:  
Mindy's Story  
continues!





# ***FURIOUS SCRIBBLINGS***

*Words of wisdom from writer and creator David 2.*



ONLINE EDITION

## **The Paragon Times**

January 18, 2017

[www.ParagonTime.Para](http://www.ParagonTime.Para)



### **Paragon City's "Secret Train" Celebrates Thirty Years of Service**

PARAGON CITY, RI (PCN) - For countless generations, the only two things that could be dependable in Paragon City were Statesman and the monorail service.

The color-coded monorail lines of "Green", "Yellow", and "Red" would provide access for people all over the city. "Yellow" would cover the north side of the city, "Green" for the southern side", and "Red" would cover the east and west sides of the city and also bridge the other two lines together.

In theory, one could ride from all four corners of Paragon City through the monorail cars in in two hours and with only one \$3 token.

The Rikti Invasion of 2002 changed all that, though. With the Red Line devastated by war and eventually discontinued during the reconstruction, the dream of continuous corner-to-corner rail service seemed to be lost. When the Yellow and Green lines were merged into a new Red Line in 2010, people believed they had gotten the closest thing to their old service back.

But little known for many people in Paragon City was the existence of a fourth rail service. One that would help ferry heroes and support people as well as keep Paragon City operating even during the worst of disasters.

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the opening of the Blue Line rail service; a special rail line designed for city personnel and also for heroes and their support staff.

"You can thank a hero named The Conductor for the Blue Line," said Paragon City Representative Brigid Moreira.

"The Conductor was a big train fanatic in the 1980's. He loved riding the rails. One day he discovers that the underground power lines that powered the rail cars were cut because of a cave-in. He helps clear the blockage and he realized the tunnel ran parallel to the rail line itself."

This discovery, according to Moreira, inspired him to come up with the "secret" rail service.

"The idea was to have a way to run electrical and other cable lines through they city and be able to service them without interference from supervillains or terrorists, or, more recently, from alien and extradimensional invaders."

The decision to allow heroes access to the line was initially rejected then limited to only a select few, said Moreira.

"Many of the heroes at the time could fly or run fast or even teleport great distances. In those situations, it would actually be slower for them to use the Blue Line. Of course once the Rikti invaded and the War Walls were put up, dividing the city, then the Blue Line would come in handy for many heroes."

The Blue Line initially consisted of four single monorail cars dubbed "North", "East", "South", and "West" and would be concentrated on the four corners of the city. But unlike the above-ground rail service, the Blue Line is one underground support rail service covering the whole city.

Each car would be automated, another idea from The Conductor, and operate on a card key service.



*Continues on next page...*



“Support people would enter the service tunnel,” said Moreira. “They’d have a card key that would give them the ability to call the train to their platform, then they would put in their destination and the train would take them there directly”

It was because of this underground service that damage to vital infrastructure lines such as water, power, cable, and communications were kept to a minimum during and after the Rikti invasions of 2002 and 2007.

“Unless the whole area was destroyed, such as in the cases with Baumton and Siren’s Call, we could have the lines fixed in a matter of minutes thanks to the Blue Line,” said Moreira. “It’s also the reason why we have vital service lines still running in most hazard zones.”

Ms. Liberty, the granddaughter of Statesman, said that while her iconic grandfather was opposed to the Blue Line’s creation, it was her own mother, Miss Libery, that endorsed the service, especially during her pregnancy.

“My mom was on semi-active duty during the second trimester,” said the Vindicators leader. “She really loved having the Blue Line to ride around in so she wouldn’t have to put too much effort into flying and worrying about how it would affect me.”

In recent years, the Blue Line’s access was expanded to include support staff for certain superhero groups. But, as Moreira says, this access comes with several caveats.

“All access must go through the Supergroup Registrar’s office. They also need to understand that having this access is a huge security risk for them, and we can’t be responsible for people showing up through these access points that are not supposed to be there. It’s up to them to make sure their own base security is capable of dealing with that.”

The Supergroup Registrar’s office said that the list of supergroups with access to the Blue Line is confidential, citing numerous security risks.

The celebration for the thirtieth anniversary of the Blue Line is set for April 3rd of this year. It will be held in the Annex Building just south of the Atlas Park rail station. Ms. Liberty, Positron, and Sally Railz, the granddaughter of The Conductor, will be in attendance.

Sadly, the hero responsible for the Blue Line itself will not be in attendance. The electrical-based hero died of leukemia in December of 2012. He was 62 years old at the time.

Because the service is mostly underground, most people cannot see the actual cars involved.

However, Ms. Moreira says that if you want to see the proof of his creation, there is an easy way to spot it.

“If you go to Talos Island and look out by the channel lock leading to Independence Port, you’ll see a rail line crossing over the waterways. Look for a single car making the journey with a blue lighted sign instead of a red one. That’ll be the Blue Line car. That’s The Conductor’s legacy.”

## <http://BattlerockComics.wordpress.com>

### **NEXT ISSUE...**



**"MINDY'S STORY" CONTINUES.**

**WHAT IS MINDY HARRISON'S PLAN? AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT THE GUARDIANS?**

**AND HOW DOES HER PAST TIE IN WITH ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS PEOPLE THAT THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN EVER HAD TO DEAL WITH?**

**FIND OUT!**





# BEWARE OF ALIENS BEARING SUPER-SUITS!

"MY NAME IS HOLLY, AND ONE DAY I WAS VISITED BY ALIENS WHO WANTED TO GIVE ME A GIFT... A SUIT THAT THEY SAID WOULD GIVE ME SUPER-POWERS."

"THEY SAID THAT THE SUIT WOULD ONLY WORK ON ME, AND THAT IF I TRIED TO OPEN IT UP TO FIGURE OUT HOW IT WOULD WORK, IT WOULD EXPLODE."

"THEY TOLD ME THAT I WAS DESTINED TO BE THE GREATEST HEROINE PARAGON CITY EVER KNEW, MAYBE EVEN THE GREATEST AMERICAN HEROINE, AND THAT THE SUIT THEY GAVE ME WOULD MAKE ALL THIS HAPPEN."

"THEY FILLED ME UP WITH EXCITEMENT AND WONDER AND THEN TOLD ME I NEEDED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO UNLOCK MY POWERS AND THEN POINTED ME TO PARAGON CITY'S CITY HALL."

"LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT THEIR 'GIFT' WAS LOADED WITH TECHNICAL DEVICES THAT WOULD STEAL INFORMATION FROM ANY COMPUTER DEVICE I STOOD NEAR. ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES, DATA FILES, PASSWORDS, EVERYTHING."

"THEN WHEN THE 'ALIENS' CONTACTED ME AGAIN FOR AN 'UPDATE', THEY WERE ABLE TO COLLECT ALL THE DATA THAT THEIR 'GIFT' STOLE."

"AND I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ANY OF THIS UNTIL I WAS ARRESTED THE NEXT DAY BY THE POLICE FOR DATA THEFT AND HACKING. EVEN WORSE, THE 'ALIENS' WERE REALLY CRIMINALS DRESSED UP IN COSTUMES AND RUBBER MASKS."

"I THOUGHT I WAS A HERO. NOW I'M AN EX-CONVICT WITH A FELONY ON MY RECORD."

"DON'T MAKE MY MISTAKE. DON'T GET TAKEN IN BY FALSE PROMISES OF SUPER-POWERS FROM ALIENS."



## SAY NO TO ALIEN GIFTS!

CONTACT VANGUARD IF YOU ARE APPROACHED BY AN 'ALIEN'.

**CALL 888-555-5151 OR REPORT THEM AT [UN.VANUGARD.PARA/ALIENSCAM](http://UN.VANUGARD.PARA/ALIENSCAM)**

Legitimate aliens would not contact ordinary citizens and offer to give them superpowers. Number and website are for legitimate reporting of alien scams, not to be used to falsely report your neighbors or family members simply because you don't like them. Not a real ad.



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