

THE CATCH



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OVERVIEW

Gritty Elmore Leonard-style crime noir meets the world of comic book super-villains in this series based on the upcoming comic series by acclaimed creator STEVE BRYANT.

When high-powered villains like Galactoid, Dron the Conqueror, or Professor Kill are defeated, they're sent to a high-tech "supermax" prison facility from which there is virtually no escape. But what about the small-timers like PHILEAS FROST, THE GRAPPLER or the hapless AGENTS OF H.A.R.M., or the bottom-of-the-rung bank robbers, jewel thieves and anonymous henchman? They post bail, and often go on the run.

That's where LUCY CHASE comes in. Keeping super-powered lowlives in line is a dangerous job, especially when you don't have super-powers yourself. Bounty hunters who specialize in supers are few and far between, which keeps Lucy in high demand.

Imagine Elmore Leonard's *Out of Sight* crossed with DC Comics' *Gotham Central* and you get THE CATCH!



Lucy Chase

CAST OF CHARACTERS

LUCY CHASE: Pragmatic, sarcastic, and distrustful of authority, Lucy utilizes her natural skills and law enforcement education in her job as a bounty hunter specializing in super-powered criminals, all the while navigating the troubled waters of her personal and personal life.

She is also fiercely independent—a trait that gets her in trouble on a regular basis. That independent streak manifests itself as her primary motivation: from abandoning a career in law enforcement shortly after graduating at the top of her class at Quantico to her steadfast refusal to hire staff. She prefers to work solo but must often work with Jack Devlin (see below), and in a bind, she'll call upon her father (a retired detective/bounty hunter himself) to lend a hand.



Deputy U.S. Marshal Jack Devlin

DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL JACK DEVLIN: Lucy often teams with the U.S. Marshal's service and Jack is usually the liaison. Cocky and charming, his conviction record makes up for his fast-and-loose attitude. He has a crush on Lucy and doesn't realize that her ex-husband is a super-villain that he himself once arrested.



Leon Tilman

LEON TILMAN: A bail bondsman specializing in super-criminals. Having had bad luck with powered bounty hunters (“Too much property damage—my liability insurance is through the roof!”), Lucy is his mainstay when clients jump bail. He sublets office space to her.

BILL CHASE: Lucy’s father. Retired private detective, and occasional bounty hunter, Bill helps his daughter from time to time. Bill’s an old school tough guy who lives on a boat. He’s a cross between Robert Forster and Dennis Farina.

CHIEF DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL JANE BRIGGS: A tough-as-nails no-nonsense cop. Lucy’s mom, Jack’s boss, and Bill’s ex-wife...Jane is nicknamed “The Dragon Lady.” As Lucy’s arc progresses, she’ll see a different side of her mother and the challenges Jane has had as a woman in the boy’s club of law enforcement. Their relationship will still have its volatile moments, but their joint arc will be the road to reconciliation.

FEDERAL PROSECUTOR DENNIS CHASE: Lucy’s brother. Just as Lucy’s life has taken detours and gone off-course at times,



Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Jane Briggs

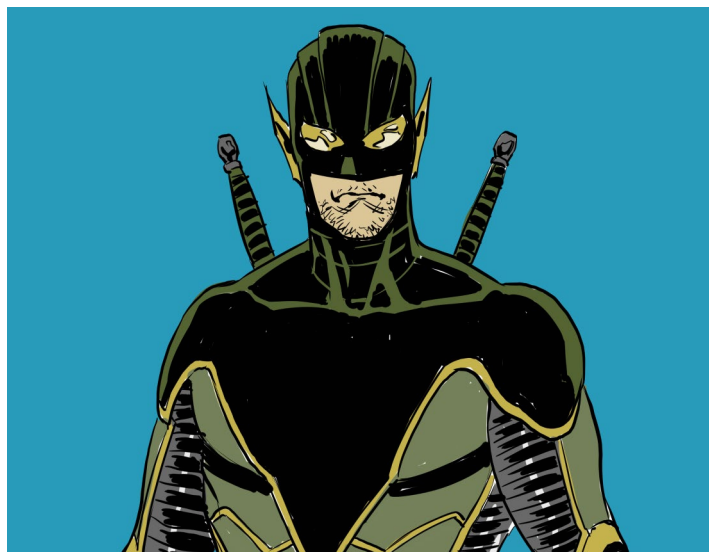
Dennis’ life is proceeding along on schedule. Married with kids, he’s close with Lucy and both parents and tries to bridge the gap between Lucy and Jane.

MALWARE: A client of Leon Tilman who’s out on bail at the beginning of the story. Malware is employed by super criminal Napoleon Einstein, and has continued to work for his boss while on bail. In the course of this work, Malware comes across an artifact owned by a long-missing hero, and jumps bail, setting off a race to see who can find Malware and the hero’s headquarters (and tech stash) first.

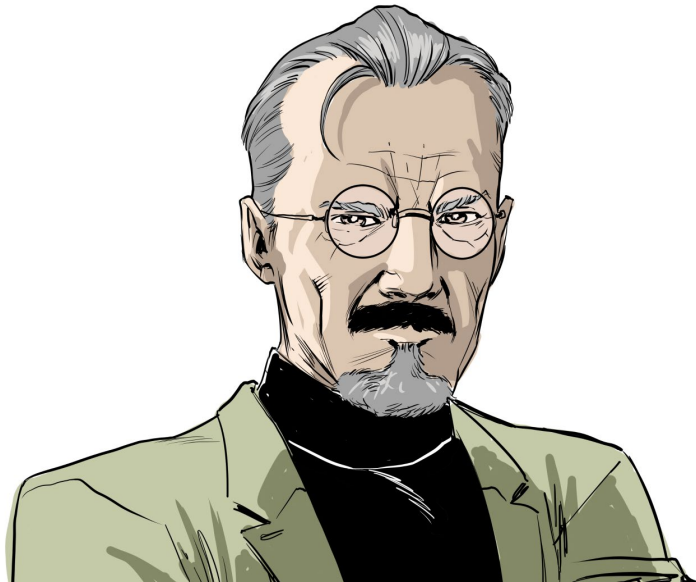
NAPOLEON EINSTEIN: Criminal mastermind and the Big Bad of the first arc, Napoleon Einstein is the great grandson of Albert Einstein from a parallel universe trapped on our world after a Secret Crisis brought together the heroes of multiple worlds. He’s built a vast criminal empire in a short time, and is always one step ahead of law enforcement. He’s the archetypal comic book megalomaniac who wants to rule the world—Lex Luthor and Doctor Doom rolled into one. He’s also way out of Lucy’s league, in terms of the class of bad guys she usually puts away.



Bill Chase



Malware



Napoleon Einstein



Phileas Frost

THE GRAPPLER: Small time enforcer working for Napoleon Einstein. With his partner, Barbarianne, he's tasked with finding Malware (and the hero's lair) before the feds do. He dresses like a Luchador.

BARBARIANNE: A chainmail bikini, sword-wielding badass who, at 6'6", towers over her partner. She's a super villain version of *Game of Thrones'* Brienne of Tarth by way of Red Sonja.

PHILEAS FROST: A 19th century time-traveler whose gear broke down when he reached our present. All his tech is capable of now is generating blasts of cold, freezing things, and creating frozen objects. In an effort to repair his technology, he turned to crime. We meet him during the opening of the series, but his story doesn't really intersect with the rest of the adventure in the initial arc.

DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL DAMIAN VALDEZ: Early 30s, Valdez is a handsome tough guy bruiser with close-cropped hair and a goatee. Former military. Gay. Married.

DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL JACKIE LEWIS: Mid-20s, African-American woman. Prior to joining the Marshals Service, Lewis was Coral City PD, and crossed paths with Bill Chase. They're friendly.

FIRST SEASON STORY ARC

We'll be introduced to Lucy and her team as they track MALWARE, a low-level villain employed by super-villain mastermind NAPOLEON EINSTEIN. It turns out that Malware has stumbled upon the score of a lifetime: the high-tech weapons cache of a long-missing superhero. Now this tech is being sold and traded on the black market and it's a race against time to round it all up. Along the way, Lucy will uncover a wider conspiracy involving dimension-hopping villains, and corruption within law enforcement and the super-heroes.

All along, Lucy will be dealing with dysfunctions – both personal and familial. It turns out her (divorced) parents and brother are all in law enforcement, and they must invariably work together in the course of Lucy's work. Lucy herself has personal foibles that she has to battle: rebellious and defiant to a fault, she threw away a promising FBI career (one that her parents set her on the course for) in order to be a lone wolf who follows her own path. Oh, and it doesn't help that her ex-con ex-husband is a charming low-level supervillain who floats in and out of her life, usually in the context of providing info or assistance in navigating the underworld.

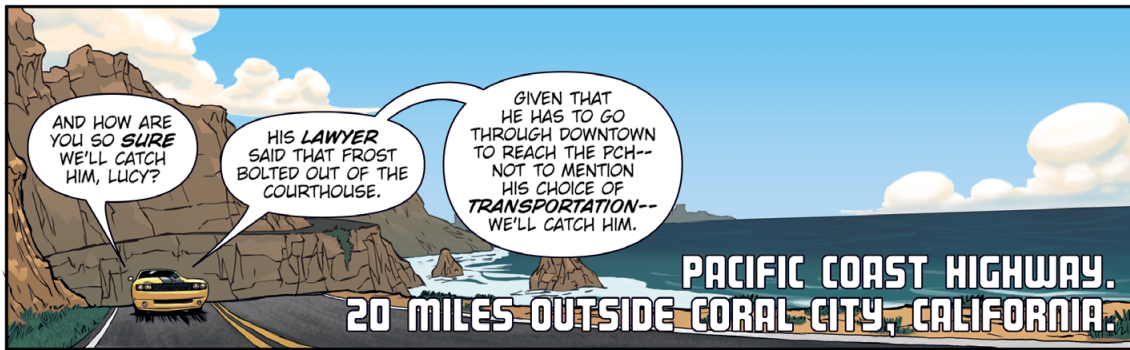
SUBSEQUENT STORY ARCS

A note about the story structure for the seasons: *The Catch* emulates the Elmore Leonard plot device where good guys, bad guys, and everyone in the middle is on a collision course with the story's McGuffin—and one another.

- Jack and the marshals are attacked while transporting a trio of super-powered villain to a SuperMax prison and an escape ensues! With a bounty on the heads of the escapes, Lucy joins the hunt. Alternately working with together and in competition, Lucy and Jack (and the marshals) must apprehend these criminals—and find out who's behind it!
- When a former costumed criminal-turned informant goes missing from the Witness Protection Program, the agent in charge (Jack) is in hot water! Tasked to find his witness, Jack begins following the clues. Meanwhile, Lucy is on the trail of a bail jumper. Their paths converge...

CREATOR

STEVE BRYANT is the Eisner, Manning, and Harvey Award-nominated writer/artist of *Athena Voltaire* from Action Lab Entertainment, and the writer/co-creator of *Ghoul Scouts*, also published by Action Lab. He has also completed projects for Dark Horse Comics, IDW, Boom! Studios, Ape Entertainment, and others, as well as extensive work in the roleplaying game industry.



AND HOW ARE YOU SO **SURE** WE'LL CATCH HIM, LUCY?

HIS **LAWYER** SAID THAT FROST BOLTED OUT OF THE COURTHOUSE.

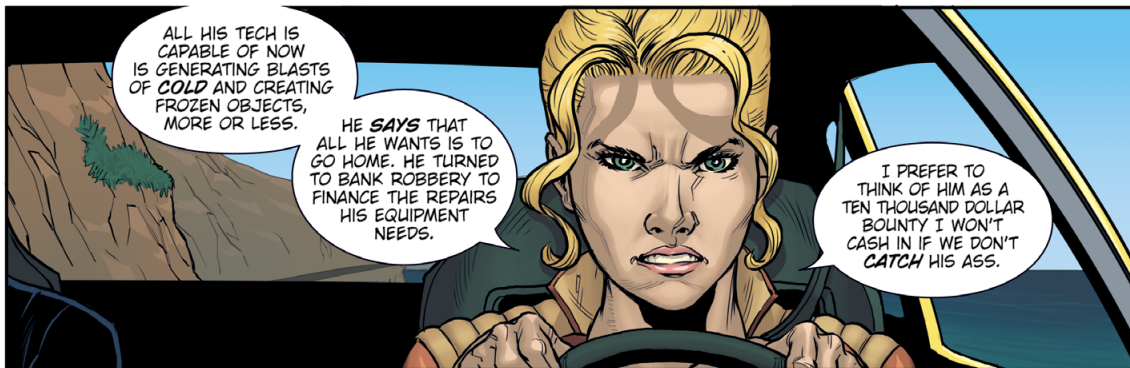
GIVEN THAT HE HAS TO GO THROUGH DOWNTOWN TO REACH THE PCH-- NOT TO MENTION HIS CHOICE OF **TRANSPORTATION**-- WE'LL CATCH HIM.

**PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY.
20 MILES OUTSIDE CORAL CITY, CALIFORNIA.**



GOTCHA. NOW, **WHO** IS THIS WINNER WE'RE AFTER? AND WHAT'S HIS **DEAL**?

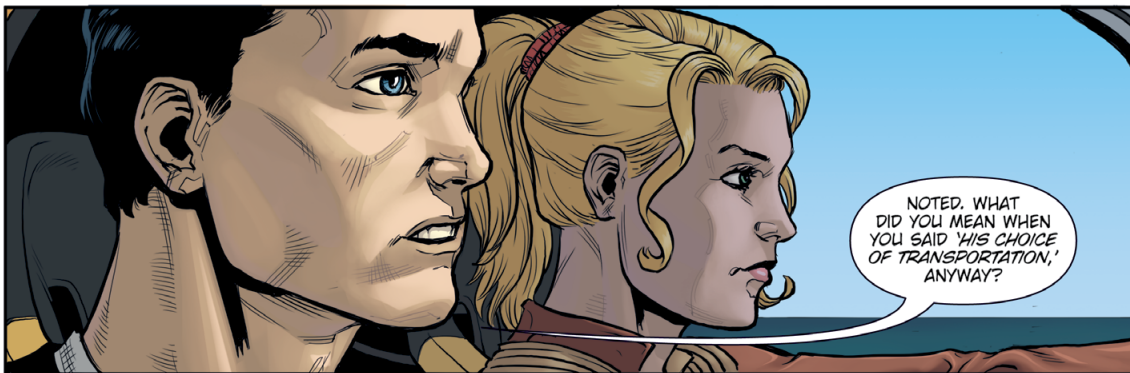
PHILEAS FROST, A 19TH CENTURY **TIME-TRAVELER**, WHOSE GEAR BROKE DOWN WHEN HE REACHED OUR PRESENT.



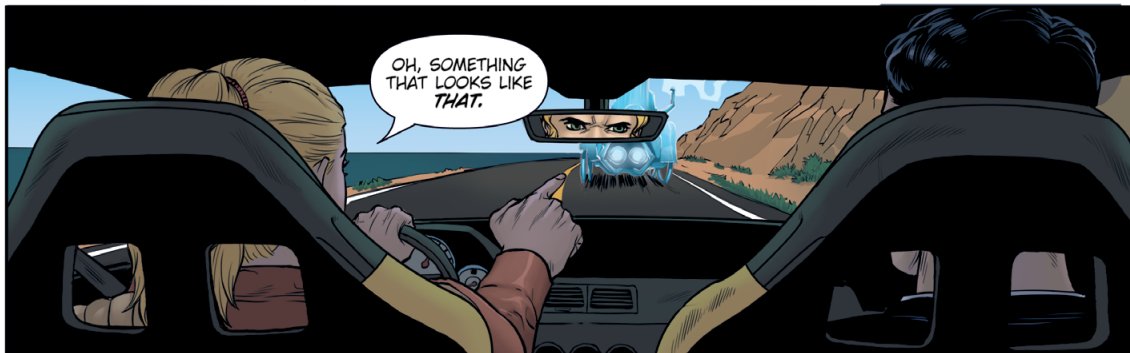
ALL HIS TECH IS CAPABLE OF NOW IS GENERATING BLASTS OF **COLD** AND CREATING FROZEN OBJECTS, MORE OR LESS.

HE **SAYS** THAT ALL HE WANTS IS TO GO HOME. HE TURNED TO BANK ROBBERY TO FINANCE THE REPAIRS HIS EQUIPMENT NEEDS.

I PREFER TO THINK OF HIM AS A TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR BOUNTY I WON'T CASH IN IF WE DON'T **CATCH** HIS ASS.



NOTED. WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID '**HIS CHOICE OF TRANSPORTATION**,' ANYWAY?



OH, SOMETHING THAT LOOKS LIKE **THAT**.



YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING.

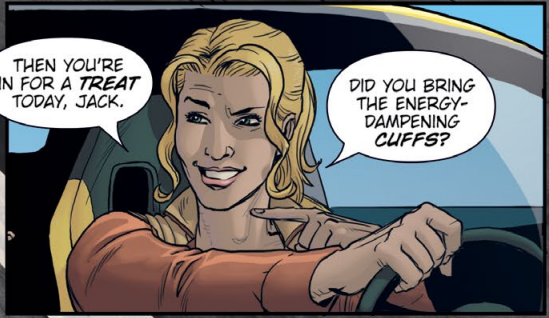
I KNOW, RIGHT?



LET ME GO, MISS HUNTER! I MUST RETURN TO MY ERA! FLEE, I MUST!



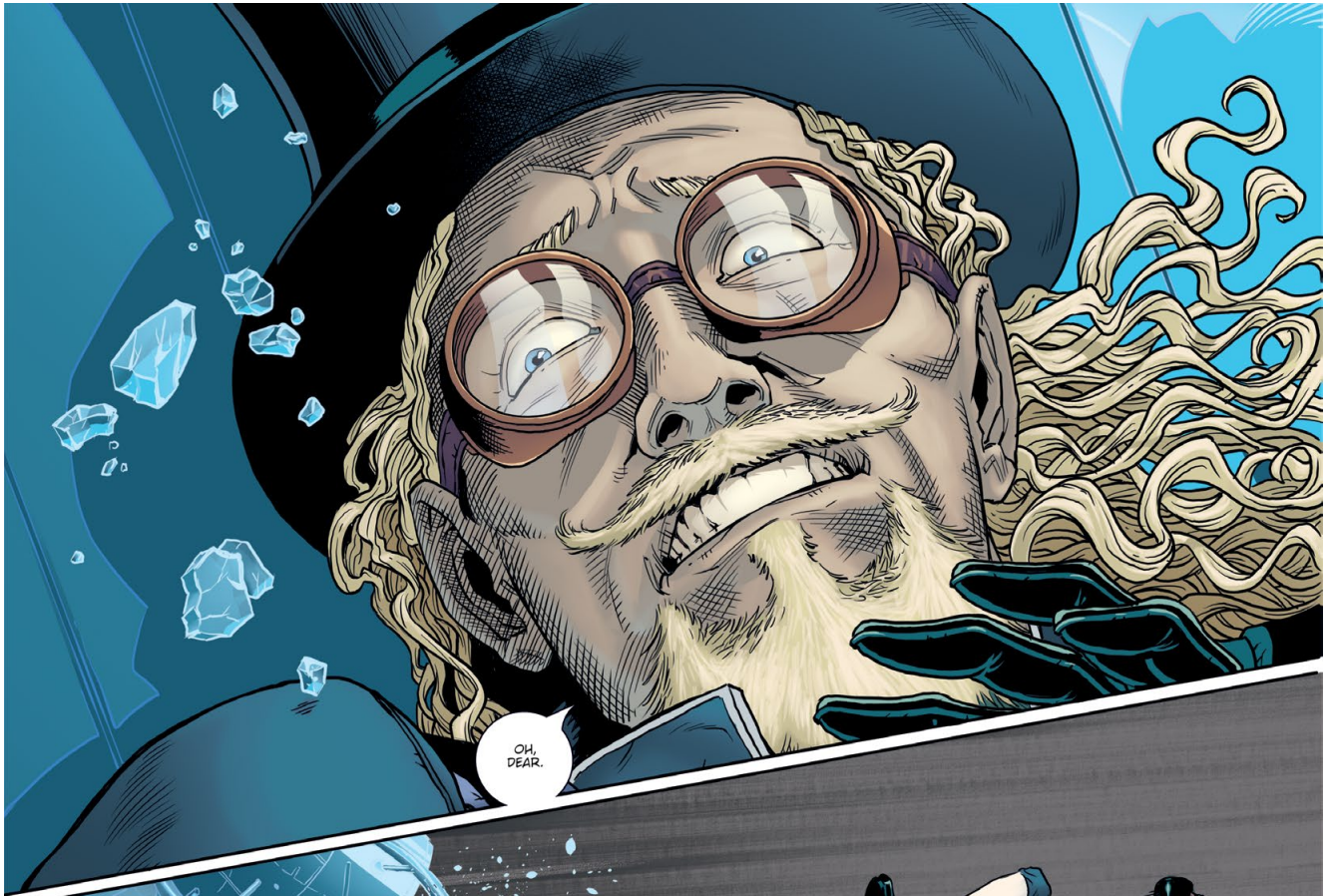
THAT'S GREAT! I LOVE MELODRAMATIC SLIPERS.



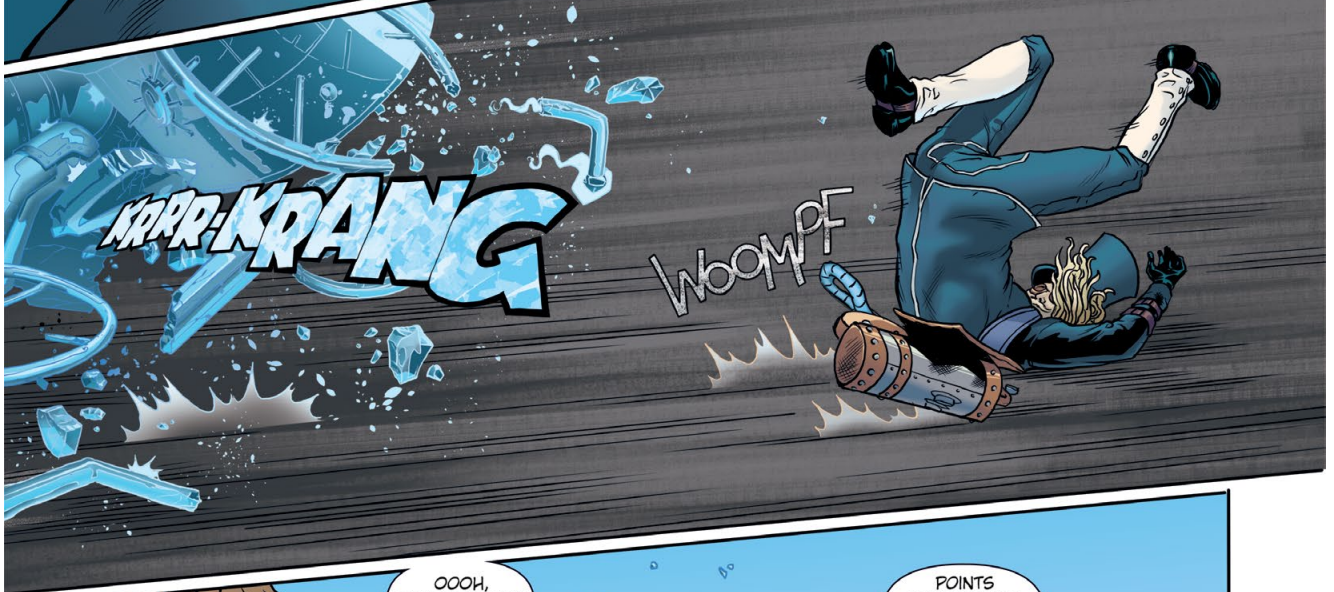
THEN YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT TODAY, JACK.

DID YOU BRING THE ENERGY-DAMPENING CUFFS?





OH, DEAR.



OOOH, THAT'S GOTTA HURT.

POINTS FOR STICKING THE LANDING, THOUGH.

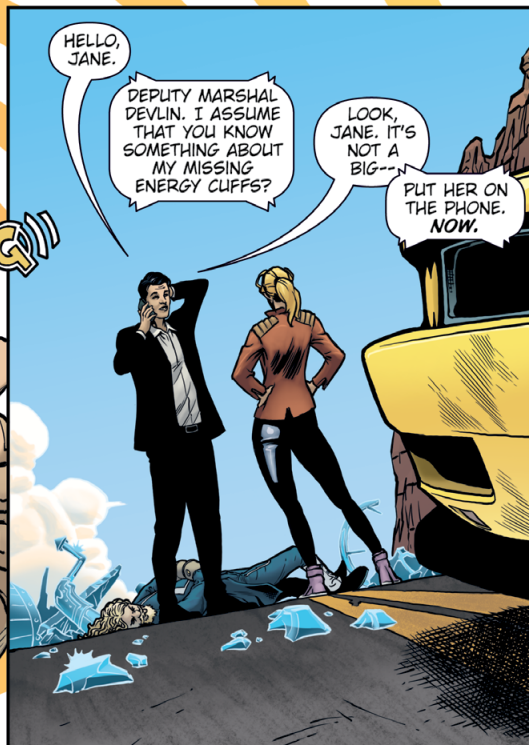


THAT'S
ALL IT
TOOK?

WHAT
DIDJA
NEED
ME FOR?

THE
CUFFS.

STAND
BACK,
MISS
HUNTER.



THE CATCH™



THE CATOCH™



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