

Meet The CADRE



Basilisk

Mikos Khamiran, professional sculptor whose control over the earth and stone gaze is an extension of his art.



Rapture

Rachel West is a super-model by day and a super hero at night. Few can resist her psionic abilities.



White Dwarf

The Greatest Heavyweight Champion of all time in the Ultimate Class Wrestling Federation, Karl Kolle is one of the most powerful beings on the planet.



Skyfire

Newest bearer of the mantle of the storm, Miguel Cachula hopes to use his lightning powers to honor his hero father's legacy.



Thunderbolt

Twin brother of Skyfire, Rober Cachula is the living avatar of Thunder.



Lamprey

Horror novelist, Chris Squires, is gifted with the ability to steal energy from living creatures.

THE PATIENTS WERE MISSING FOR AN ENTIRE DAY AND NIGHT BEFORE THEIR LOCATION COULD BE DETERMINED, AND THE MYSTERY BEHIND THE BREAKOUT, AT THE BLOCHE INSTITUTE FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE, WAS SOLVED.

IN THAT TIME, EMPIRE CITY AUTHORITIES RESISTED THE IMPULSE TO RUMMAGE THROUGH THE RUINS OF THE SEVENTH FLOOR, OR INTERROGATE THE ONLY WITNESS AND, INSTEAD, WAITED FOR THE FEDERALLY FUNDED AGENTS TO CLEANUP THE MESS.

THE AGENTS SWEEPED THROUGH THE FLOOR LIKE FORAGER ANTS, GATHERING EVERY MINUTE DETAIL. THEY PASSED INSTRUCTIONS ON TO THE POLICE, AND DRANK AN OBSCENE AMOUNT OF COFFEE.

**Bloche
Institute**
Serving the
Criminally Ill Since
1925

SHORTLY AFTER THE AGENTS' CONVERGENCE,
THE CADRE ARRIVED.

52 PICK-UP

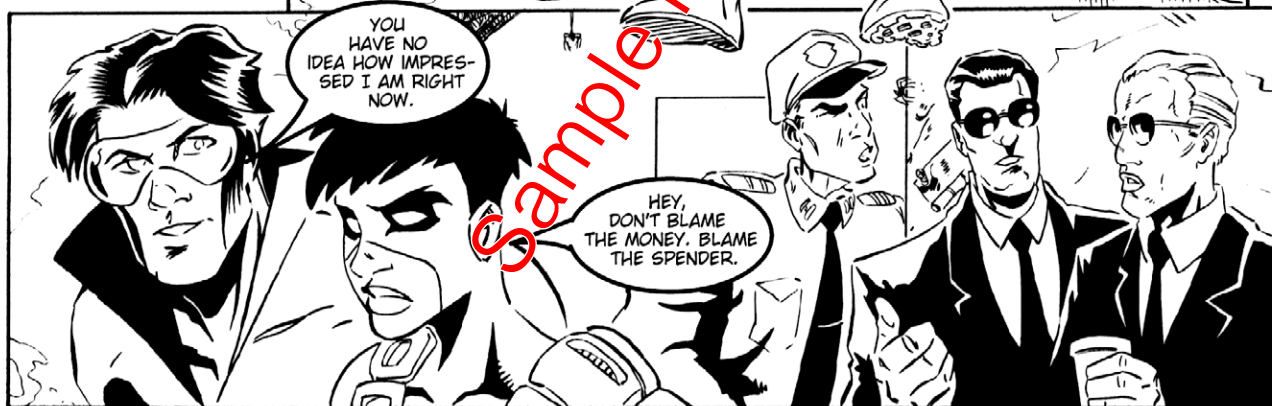
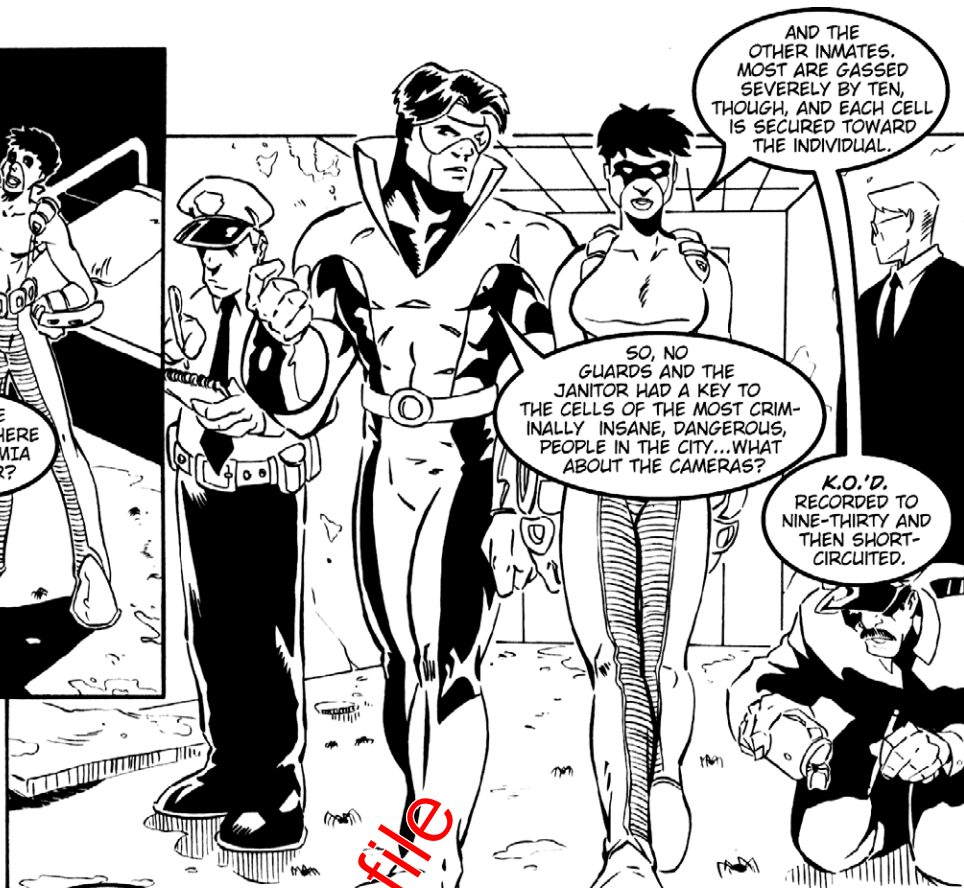
MAT NASTOS
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PENCILLER
CHAD SERGESKETER
INKER

MIKE BELCHER
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PRODUCTIONS
LETTERS

MAT NASTOS
EDITOR

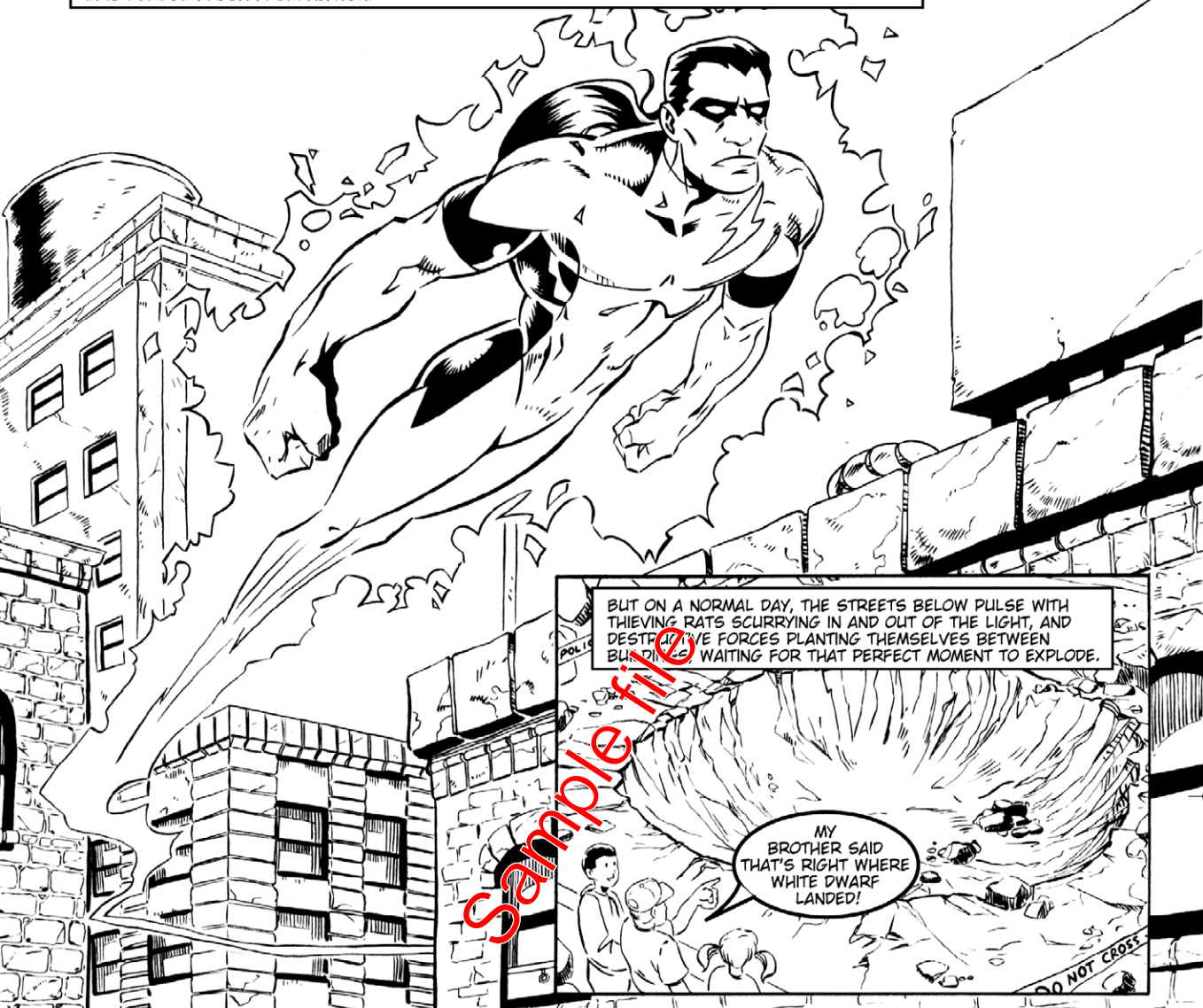
"DOCTORS SAY HER BIRTH NAME WAS ARINA MANCELLI. BEGAN MUTATING WHEN SHE WAS THREE. KILLED HER PARENTS AT FIVE. BEEN HERE EVER SINCE. IN FIFTEEN YEARS, THEY NEVER HEARD HER SPEAK. AND SHE ATE INSECTS THEY'D BLOW INTO HER ROOM VIA THE CEILING AIR VENT."

"DEFINITELY NO SIGNS SHE GOT UP THERE."





FROM HIGH ABOVE, EMPIRE CITY IS ALWAYS A PICTURE OF DECEPTIVE PEACE. THE STREETS RUN A LONG SENSIBLE PATTERN THROUGH THE LANDSCAPE, AND ITS' SCREAMS ARE HEARD IN WHISPERS. THE WIND BLOWS COMFORTABLY THROUGH YOUR HAIR AND CHEEKS. AND EVERY BREATH OF AIR YOU TAKE IN IS PUMPED FRESH FROM HEAVEN.

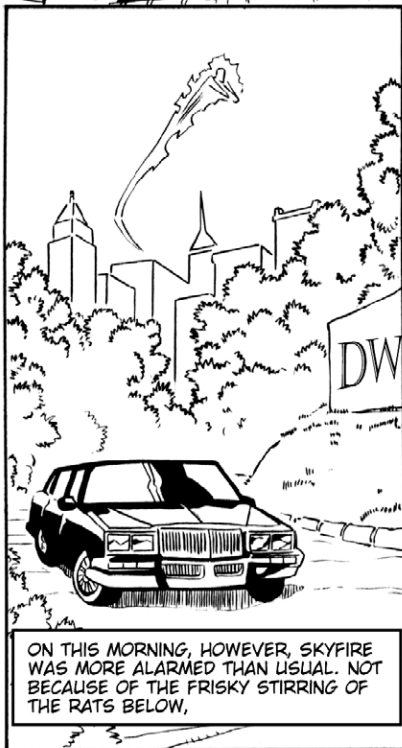


BUT ON A NORMAL DAY, THE STREETS BELOW PULSE WITH THIEVING RATS SCURRYING IN AND OUT OF THE LIGHT, AND DESTRUCTIVE FORCES PLANTING THEMSELVES BETWEEN BUILDINGS WAITING FOR THAT PERFECT MOMENT TO EXPLODE.

MY BROTHER SAID THAT'S RIGHT WHERE WHITE DWARF LANDED!

THEY'RE DETAILS A TRAINED EYE PRIDES ITSELF ON DETECTING FROM SUCH A DISTANCE.

MO... BEEN YEARS SINCE I WORE ONE OF THOSE.



ON THIS MORNING, HOWEVER, SKYFIRE WAS MORE ALARMED THAN USUAL. NOT BECAUSE OF THE FRISKY STIRRING OF THE RATS BELOW,

BUT THE DETECTED INACTIVITY THAT SENT HIM HOME EARLY, WITH A SENSE OF DUTY UNFULFILLED.

I THINK THAT'S CLOSE ENOUGH, HOW ABOUT YOU?

