

Beauty and the Beast



MIKE DEODATO JR.

INNOVATIONTM

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This Beauty Is The Best!

Ron Koslow's *Beauty and the Beast* continues to thrill and enchant its readers, even though it's been several years since the last new episode was produced. And the excitement, much like the fan followings of *Dark Shadows* or *Star Trek* maintain, show no signs of dying.

- * Talks continue about a new *Beauty and the Beast* story, done as a feature film with Linda Hamilton and Ron Perlman, although nothing has been contracted, but fans keep hoping. (Hey, if Paramount could arrange for *Lost in Space* to be developed as an upcoming new feature film, as a result of the resurgence of interest in the property thanks to Innovation's comics series revival, why not *Beauty and the Beast*, right?)

- * The three-season TV series continues to be broadcast worldwide, in syndication;

- * Republic Pictures is releasing the uncut episodes on videotape;

- * A series of lovely *Beauty and the Beast* novels, released as upscale trade paperbacks and hardcovers, combine teleplay material with new sequences, and these authorized books are appearing from Cinemaker Press;

- * Innovation has released a print of painter Olivia De Berardinis's portrait from the TV show as a three-and-a-half-foot high full-color poster, to the delight of many fans;

- * As diverse a series of items as T-Shirts, record albums, and masks have appeared over the past few years;

- * The Innovation comic book receives more accolades with each issue that appears!

When merchandising continues to be produced, that means a project continues to be popular. We're glad it continues with **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**.

If you like what we're doing within these pages, you might also want to take a look at what else Innovation has in the works -- something for everybody:

Anne Rice's INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE and **THE QUEEN OF THE DAMNED** take you into the world of elegant horror, adapting the acclaimed best-selling novels; **DARK SHADOWS** brings you all-new adventures of Barnabas Collins and his Collinwood clan; **LOST IN SPACE: VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SOUL** brings TV's Will Robinson aboard as writer for a 12-issue storyline far beyond where the TV series ever took you.

LUCIFER'S HAMMER takes the best-selling Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle blockbuster of the '70s and updates it to today; **Mack Bolan: THE EXECUTIONER** appeals to a decidedly masculine audience, with novel-series creator Don Pendleton at the helm of this one-man war against the Mafia; **QUANTUM LEAP** brings new adventures of Sam and Al to a potential audience of millions, every other month; and **ZAMINDAR** is an adaptation of a film-in-development, a project Innovation has its hand in, from the word "Go!" There's excitement on a number of fronts -- and we hope that you will be a part of it all!

-- David Campiti
Karen May
June, 1993

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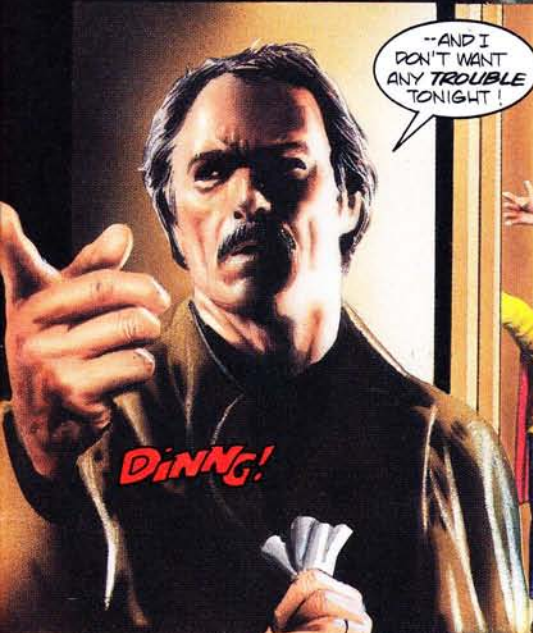


NURSING A SWEET TOOTH, MR. WESTFALL?

NOT EXACTLY...



"...JILL SAID TO STOP FOR SOME GOODIES..."



--AND I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE TONIGHT!



TRICK OR TREAT!

MONEY OR EATS!

HOO, BOY! I GAVE AT THE OFFICE!

AW, C'MON...

WHEN I WAS A KID IN LAKELAND, WE COULD GO DOOR-TO-DOOR ALL THROUGH THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

NOW IT'S JUST A BIG APARTMENT BUILDING AND APARTMENT KIDS. WHERE'S THE FUN IN THAT?



YAAAAAY!

OH, WELL-- GO WITH THE FLOW...

Beauty and the Beast

ONCE UPON A TIME,
IN THE CITY OF
NEW YORK...

BING
BONG

THE
DOORBELL...

...I'M
COMING...!

MASQUES

Part One

RON KOSLOW
CREATOR

GEORGE R.R. MARTIN
TELEPLAY AUTHOR

DAVID CAMPITI & KAREN MAY
SCRIPTERS/EDITORS

MIKE DEODATO, JR.
PAINTER

VICKIE WILLIAMS
CALLIGRAPHER

DING
DONG

YES...?



TRICK OR
TREAT!



HAPPY
HALLOWEEN!

TRICK OR
TREAT!



YES, OH,
DON'T YOU ALL LOOK
JUST GREAT--! HAPPY
HALLOWEEN!



THANK
YOU.

YOU'RE
WELCOME!



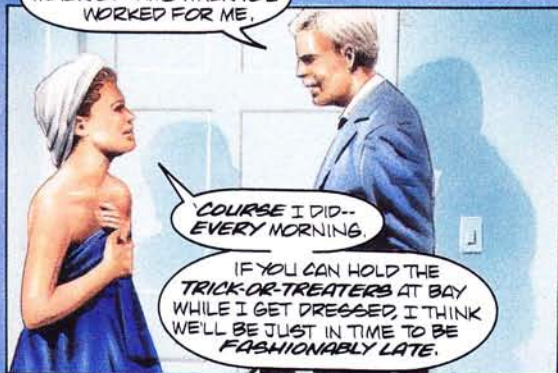
WELL,
CATHERINE: AM
I EARLY, ARE YOU
LATE--

--OR
IS THAT YOUR
COSTUME?

I'M LATE.
I'M SORRY,
DAD.

I LOST TRACK
OF TIME AT THE
OFFICE.

YOU NEVER LOST
TRACK OF TIME WHEN YOU
WORKED FOR ME.



COURSE I DID--
EVERY MORNING.

IF YOU CAN HOLD THE
TRICK-OR-TREATERS AT BAY
WHILE I GET DRESSED, I THINK
WE'LL BE JUST IN TIME TO BE
FASHIONABLY LATE.

A LIKELY
STORY, I FIGURE
ABOUT AN HOUR AND
A HALF!



OH,
THAT WAS
THE OLD
CATHY--

"...I'LL BE READY
IN FIFTEEN
MINUTES."



...AND FROM THAT
DAY FORWARD, JOHN ALWAYS
KEPT A LIGHT BURNING IN HIS
WINDOW BY NIGHT, SO THAT
DEIRDRE MIGHT FIND HER
WAY BACK TO HIM.

AND IN THE DEEPEST
PART OF WINTER, WHEN THE SNOWS
LAY THICK AGAINST THE WALLS OF HIS
COTTAGE AND THE COLD WIND CAME SHREIKING
FROM THE NORTH, JOHN WOULD TAKE
DOWN HIS BOW AND HE WOULD WALK
THROUGH THE FORESTS--

--CALLING HER NAME UNTIL
HIS VOICE WAS HOARSE AND THE TEARS
FROZE HARD ON HIS FACE. BUT SHE NEVER
ANSWERED AND, UNTIL HIS DYING DAY,
JOHN NEVER SAW HER AGAIN.

THAT
WAS A GOOD
ONE!

TELL US ANOTHER
ONE, FATHER--THE ONE
ABOUT THE HEADLESS
HORSEMAN!

YEAH,
TELL US THAT
ONE!





YOU HAD
ENOUGH GHOSTS
FOR ONE NIGHT.
NOW, GO ON.

MARY WANTS
SOME HELP TO CARVE OUT
MORE JACK O' LANTERNS
OFF YOU GO!



HA! HA!
HA! HA!



EVERY YEAR
THEY ASK FOR THE SAME
STORIES. BY NOW, THEY
MUST KNOW THEM BETTER
THAN YOU DO.

HEH-HEH!
WELL, YOU KNOW,
OLD STORIES ARE
RATHER LIKE OLD
FRIENDS.



YOU'RE STILL DETERMINED
TO GO, AREN'T YOU? I WISH
YOU'D RECONSIDER.

FATHER, SURELY
ON THIS NIGHT OF ALL
NIGHTS, I CAN WALK AMONG
THEM IN SAFETY.

SAFETY...?
VINCENT, THERE IS NO
SAFETY UP THERE FOR YOU
OR ANYONE ELSE!

WELL,
SOMETIMES WE
MUST LEAVE OUR SAFE
PLACES, FATHER,
AND WALK EMPTY-
HANDED AMONG OUR
ENEMIES.



EVERY 80 OFTEN
YOU HAVE TO DROP IN
ON THEM AGAIN,
JUST TO SEE HOW THEY
ARE DOING--

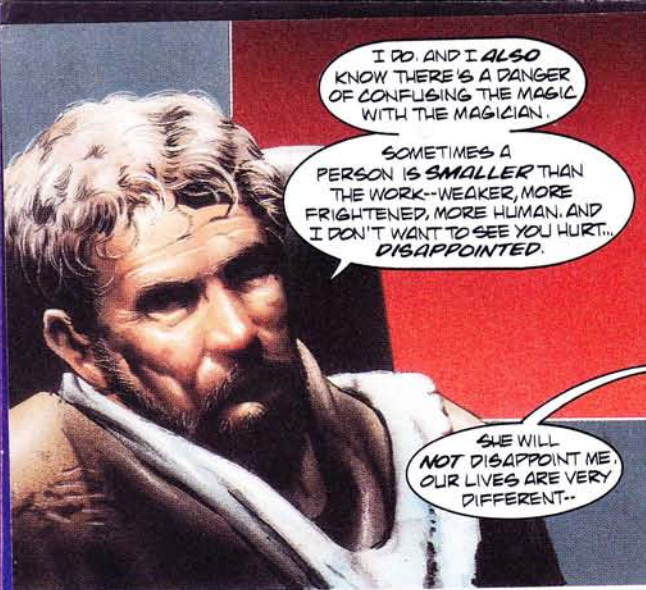
--AND ANYWAY,
I CAN REMEMBER A
CERTAIN YOUNG BOY
WHO WOULD NEVER LET
A MERE JACK O' LANTERN
DENY HIM A VISIT TO
ICHABOD CRANE.



THOSE
ARE BRIGIT
O'DONNELL'S
WORDS!

THOSE ARE TRUE WORDS.
WORDS THAT HAVE OPENED DOORS
FOR ME. LET SOME LIGHT IN
ON THE DARK PLACES.

YOU
KNOW WHAT
SHE'S MEANT
TO ME.



I DO. AND I **ALSO** KNOW THERE'S A DANGER OF CONFUSING THE MAGIC WITH THE MAGICIAN.

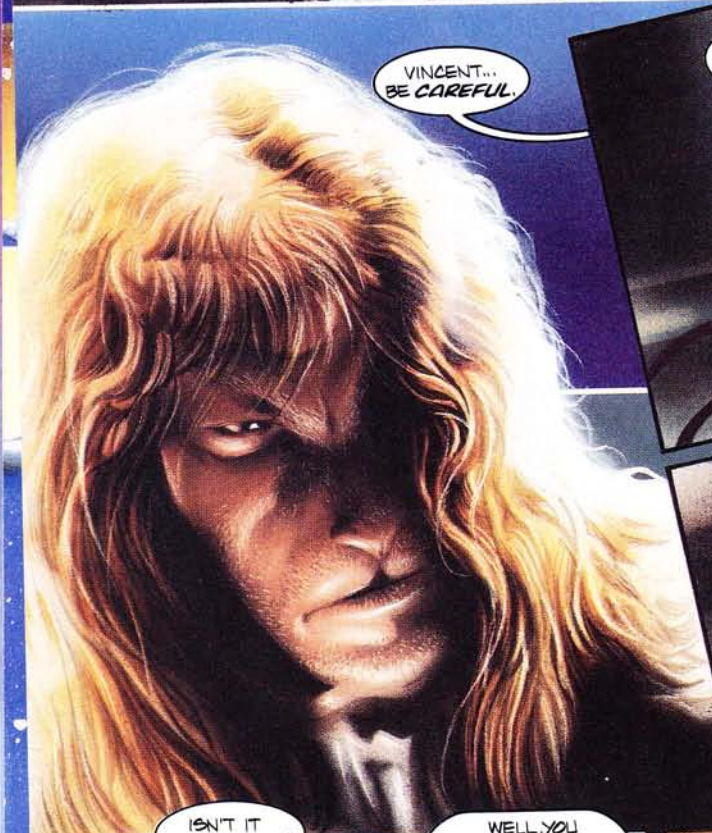
SOMETIMES A PERSON IS **SMALLER** THAN THE WORK--WEAKER, MORE FRIGHTENED, MORE HUMAN. AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU HURT... **DISAPPOINTED.**

SHE WILL **NOT** DISAPPOINT ME. OUR LIVES ARE VERY DIFFERENT--



--AND YET I'M SURE WE'LL **UNDERSTAND** EACH OTHER. I WILL NOT LOSE THIS OPPORTUNITY. I MUST SEE HER, **TALK** TO HER.

WELL, GO ON THEN, IF YOU'RE SET ON IT. **OBVIOUSLY,** THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO STOP YOU.

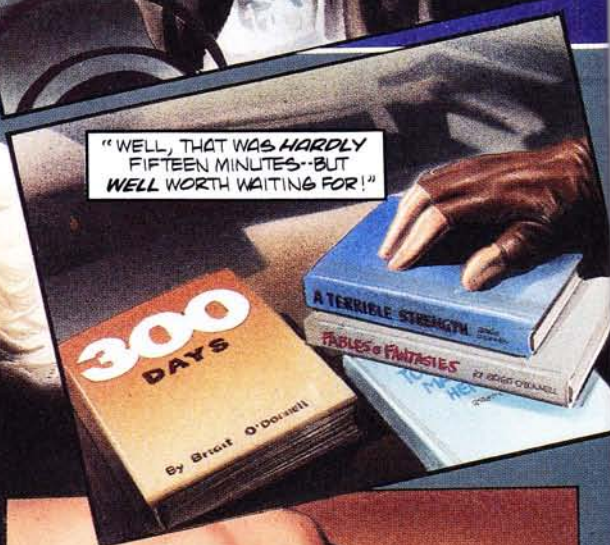


VINCENT... BE **CAREFUL.**



DON'T WORRY.

"WELL, THAT WAS **HARDLY** FIFTEEN MINUTES--BUT **WELL** WORTH WAITING FOR!"



ISN'T IT **WONDERFUL?**



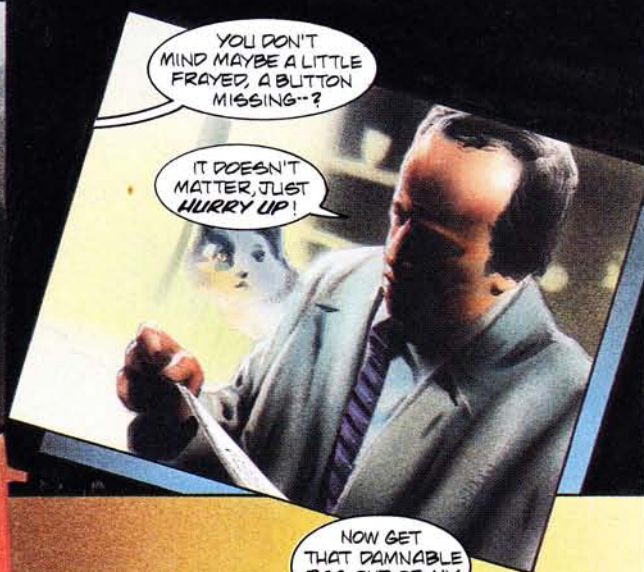
WELL, THEY KEEP ME PRETTY BUSY, BUT I'VE MISSED YOU TOO.

WELL, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HAPPY I AM THAT YOU LET ME TALK YOU **INTO** THIS. SINCE YOU LEFT THE FIRM I HARDLY EVER GET TO SEE YOU.



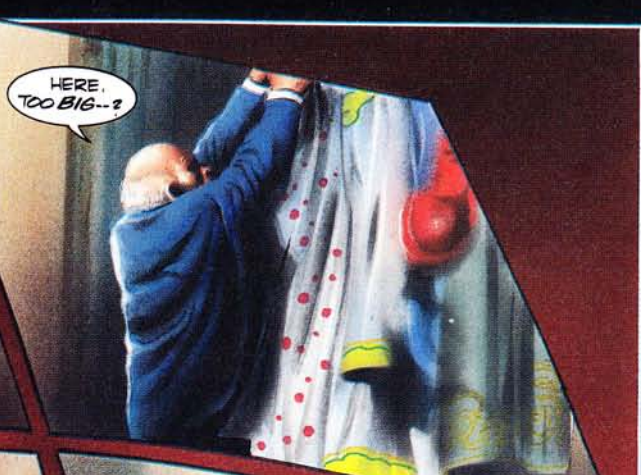
NOW DON'T BE SHY ABOUT LEAVING ME TO FEND FOR MYSELF. I'M NOT SO OLD THAT I DON'T REMEMBER HOW **ROMANTIC** THESE AFFAIRS CAN BE.

A LOT OF YOUR OLD FRIENDS ARE GOING TO BE THERE TONIGHT.





--AND FIND
SOMETHING
DECENT!



HERE,
TOO BIG--2



THIS'LL DO
ALL RIGHT.

THE
CHANGING
BOOTH IS
THERE.



LISTEN,
THERE'S NOTHING
ELSE.

IF THAT
DOESN'T SU
YOU--



SECTION

Masked Ball to Fete Irish Peace Activist Brigit O'Donnell



--THEN
TAKE YOUR
BUSINESS ELSE-
WHERE!



YEAH, THIS IS OKAY.

THAT'LL BE TWENTY
FOR THE RENTAL, AND FIFTY
FOR THE DEPOSIT.

BRING IT BACK BY SIX
TOMORROW, OR I GOT TO CHARGE
YOU FOR ANOTHER DAY.



SWAPP

KEEP THE
MONEY--

"--I'LL BE KEEPING
THE *COSTUME*."

THANK
YOU.

YOU'RE
QUITE
WELCOME,
SIR.

CHAMPAGNE,
MADAME?
SIR--?

CHARLES,
IS THAT YOU?
HI! SURELY NOT
CATHY?

CATHY...?

MARIE--?
JEFF--? YOU LOOK
WONDERFUL!

YOU DO,
TOO!

"CATHY, DID YOU MEET
BRIGIT YET?"

HI,
MR. BRENNAN!

"NO, JEFF-- I
JUST ARRIVED!"





--IT'S FROM AN OLD WAR... AN IRISH CATHOLIC UPRISING AGAINST THE BRITISH AND THEIR PROTESTANT ALLIES.

THE REBELS HAD SHORT CROPPED HAIR, YOU SEE.

THAT WAS WHAT...TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO?...

...A LONG TIME TO REMEMBER A HAIRCUT!



WE IRISH HAVE LONG MEMORIES. MY FATHER TAUGHT ME ALL THE SONGS ABOUT THE BRAVE CROPPY BOYS WHEN I WAS STILL IN THE CRADLE!

I STAND INSTRUCTED! I'M AFRAID HISTORY WAS NEVER MY SUBJECT, AND MOST OF WHAT I DID LEARN, I'VE MANAGED TO FORGET

CHARLES, THERE'S SAMANTHA. SHE'LL NEVER FORGIVE ME IF I DON'T TAKE YOU OVER TO SAY "HELLO."



FORGETTING IS A TRICK THAT ULSTER COULD STAND TO LEARN.



DUTY BECKONS...



I LIKE YOUR MASK. I WROTE A STORY ABOUT AN OWL WOMAN ONCE, JUST A LITTLE FABLE FOR CHILDREN.

FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES. I READ IT JUST LAST YEAR, AND LOVED IT.



IT WAS GIVEN TO ME BY A FRIEND... A VERY SPECIAL FRIEND.



DID YOU NOW? WELL, IT'S NOT EASY TO FIND THAT ONE.

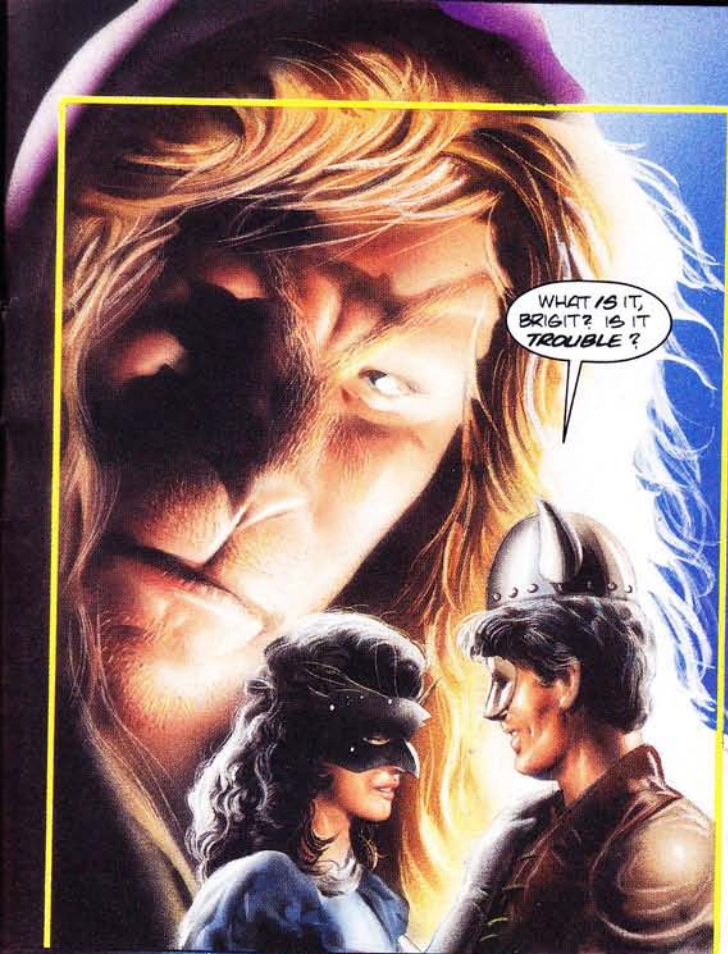


I WISH I COULD. BUT THERE ARE DARKER THINGS THAN GHOSTS IN IRELAND NOW--

--AND YOU CAN'T HEAR THE FAIRY MUSIC FOR THE GUNFIRE.

YOU HAVE A REAL GIFT. I ONLY WISH YOU WROTE MORE CHILDREN'S STORIES.





WHAT IS IT, BRIGIT? IS IT TROUBLE?



NO, NO, THOMAS-- IT'S ALL RIGHT. GO ON WITH YOU NOW.

THIS IS A PARTY!..



--NOT EVERY MAN WHO LOOKS AT ME IS WANTING TO LAY ME IN MY GRAVE.



"BRIGIT O'DONNELL, HERSELF!"

I DIDN'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT YOUR DANCING...

AN ACT OF MERCY. THOMAS IS A GOOD FRIEND AND A BRAVE MAN, BUT A DANCER HE IS NOT.



ONLY IN MY DREAMS... AND SOMETIMES, IN BOOKS LIKE YOURS, YOUR WRITING HELPED ME THROUGH DARK TIMES.

YOU'VE TOUCHED ME... MADE ME THINK. I JUST WANTED... TO TELL YOU... TO THANK YOU.

EXTRAORDINARY! YOU LOOK AS THOUGH YOU MIGHT HAVE RIDDEN WITH CLICHULAINN, SAILED WITH THESEUS...

"COME, THANK ME OUTSIDE--"

--BEFORE I DIE FROM THE SMOKE AND NOISE.



THE WORK YOU BEGIN WILL HELP TO HEAL IRELAND, THE MAN YOU WROTE OF WOULD THINK THAT AS GOOD A MEMORIAL AS ANY MAN COULD WANT.

SURE, AND HE'D BETTER.. FOR IT'S THE ONLY SORT HE'S LIKELY TO GET. EVERY TIME I RAISE A GRAVESTONE OVER HIS POOR, SWEET HEAD, SOME BASTARD KNOCKS IT TO PIECES.

EVEN THE DEAD ARE SPARED NONE OF THE HATE.

IT COULD HAVE BEEN ME, YOU KNOW--AND THERE ARE TIMES I WISH IT HAD BEEN.

"SHE IS VERY FAR FROM THE LAND WHERE HER YOUNG HERO SLEEPS--"

"--AND LOVERS ARE ROUND HER, SIGHING; BUT COLDLY SHE TURNS FROM HER GAZE, AND WEEPS, FOR HER HEART IS HIS GRAVE IS LYING.

"SHE SINGS THE WILD SONG OF HER DEAR NATIVE PLAINS EVERY NOTE WHICH HE'D LOV'D AWAKING; AH! LITTLE THEY THINK WHO DELIGHT IN HER STRAINS--"

"--HOW THE HEART OF THE MINSTREL IS BREAKING."

YOUR INVITATION, SIR--?

...INVITATION? I HAVE IT HERE, SOMEWHERE.

DAMN... YOU KNOW, I THINK I MUST HAVE LOST IT SOMEWHERE, BUT I DID HAVE ONE, I SWEAR!

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T ADMIT YOU WITHOUT AN INVITATION, SIR.

I JUST TOLD YOU I WAS INVITED. ARE YOU CALLING ME A LIAR, NOW?

MISTER BRENNAN'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE QUITE FIRM. PERHAPS I SHOULD SUMMON HIM...

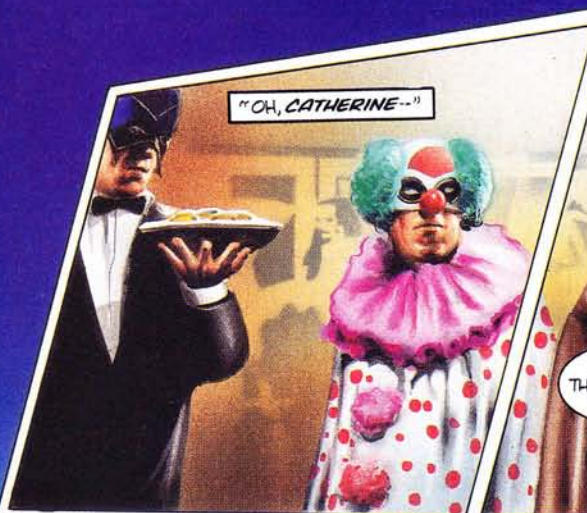
NO, NO--I JUST REMEMBERED WHERE I LEFT IT, THE VERY PLACE.

I'LL GO AND GET IT, AND THEN I'LL BE BACK.

VERY GOOD, SIR.

HELLO, MAIDIES...

"... INVITATIONS--?"



"OH, CATHERINE--"

"I CAN'T BE THAT BAD OF A DANCER...!"

YOU'RE NOT. I'M SORRY, I'M JUST NOT VERY GOOD COMPANY AT THE MOMENT.

I'LL BE THE JUDGE OF THAT!...

...HE'S A LUCKY ROGUE!



WHO?

WHOEVER THE HELL YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

DON'T I KNOW YOU FROM SOMEWHERE? HAVING A GOOD TIME?

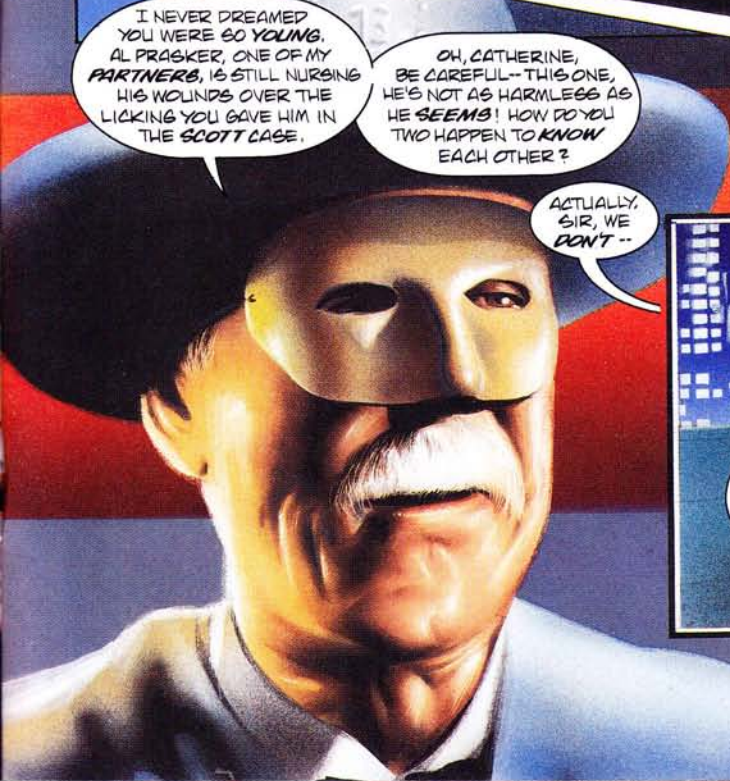


AND WHO MIGHT THIS BE?

I'M SORRY, DONALD... PRATT? THIS IS MY FATHER, CHARLES CHANDLER.

DONALD PRATT? NOT THE DONALD PRATT OF BENDER, SACHS, AND PRATT, SURELY.

ACTUALLY, YES.



I NEVER DREAMED YOU WERE SO YOUNG. AL PRASKER, ONE OF MY PARTNERS, IS STILL NURSING HIS WOUNDS OVER THE LICKING YOU GAVE HIM IN THE SCOTT CASE.

OH, CATHERINE, BE CAREFUL-- THIS ONE, HE'S NOT AS HARMLESS AS HE SEEMS! HOW DO YOU TWO HAPPEN TO KNOW EACH OTHER?

ACTUALLY, SIR, WE DON'T --



"-- BUT I AM TRYING TO RECTIFY THAT!"

MY FATHER USED TO TELL ME OF NEW YORK, WHEN I WAS JUST A LITTLE GIRL. HE CAME HERE A DOZEN TIMES-- NEVER QUITE LEGALLY, OF COURSE--

--RAISING MONEY FOR THE CAUSE, COLLECTING FOR THE WIDOWS AND THE ORPHANS... AND THE WEAPONS TO MAKE MORE OF THEM.

HE PROMISED
THAT ONE DAY HE'D
TAKE ME WITH HIM
ACROSS THE OCEAN...
ONE DAY.

HE
NEVER
DID?

MY FATHER CAST ME OUT.
IT WAS THREE YEARS AGO--MY WEDDING
DAY. HE CAME TO THE CHURCH, CALLED ME A
TRAITOR AND AN ORANGEMAN'S WHORE.

I'VE NOT SEEN HIM
SINCE-- BY RIGHTS, I OUGHT
TO HATE HIM.

YOU HAVE
NO HATE IN YOU...
ONLY GRIEF.

AYE--HOW CAN YOU
HATE THE MAN WHO TAUGHT YOU
WHAT LOVE MEANT?

ARE YOU
COLD?

COLD...? NO--IT'S
NAUGHT BUT A BRISK FALL
EVENING-- BUT I'D BORROW
YOUR CLOAK, IF YOU'RE
WILLING TO LEND IT.

MY
CLOAK...?

"THOMAS AND THE
OTHERS WOULD GIVE
THEIR LIVES FOR ME,
AND I LOVE THEM FOR
IT. BUT SOMETIMES,
I WANT NOTHING MORE
THAN TO JUST GET
AWAY FROM THEM FOR
A FEW HOURS."

"THEY'RE ONLY TRYING
TO KEEP YOU SAFE."

"NO, I'M SICK TO DEATH OF SAFETY.
I LOOK AT THE CITY AND I WANT TO
TOUCH IT--TO WALK ITS STREETS AND
MEET ITS PEOPLE AND LISTEN TO ITS MUSIC.

"I WANT TO SEE ALL THE
THINGS MY FATHER
TOLD ME OF...AND I CAN'T--"

--CAN YOU
IMAGINE HOW
THAT FEELS?

...YES.

TO HELL WITH
THE RISKS! SOMETIMES
WE MUST LEAVE OUR SAFE
PLACES, VINCENT--



"--AND WALK EMPTY
HANDED AMONG OUR
ENEMIES."



EXCUSE ME,
DONALD...

HEY!



...WAIT!



WAIT!



...BRIGHT
O'DONNELL,
RIGHT?

SOMETHING VERY
STRANGE IS GOING ON--
AND I'M GOING TO FIND
OUT WHAT!



COULD
YOU HOLD THAT
FOR ME, FOR JUST
A MINUTE?



LOOK, DONALD,
I'M VERY SORRY.

I DON'T
MEAN TO BE
RUDE--



--BUT THIS
IS REALLY--X

DAMN
IT!

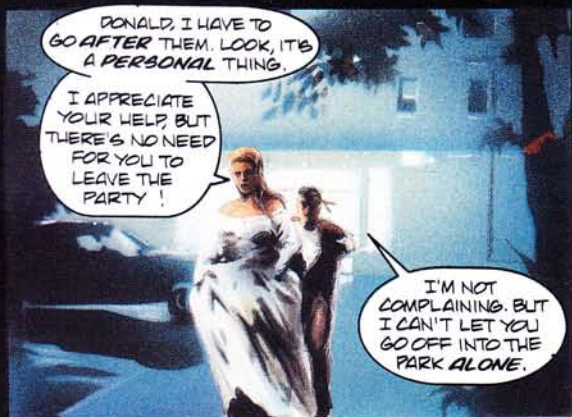


...HAVE YOU SEEN A WOMAN WITH RED HAIR AND A BLACK CLOAK?

OH, YEAH-- SURE. A LOOKER LIKE THAT, I'D HAVE TO BE DEAD NOT TO NOTICE.



"--NORTH, I THINK."



DONALD, I HAVE TO GO AFTER THEM. LOOK, IT'S A PERSONAL THING.

I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, BUT THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO LEAVE THE PARTY!

I'M NOT COMPLAINING, BUT I CAN'T LET YOU GO OFF INTO THE PARK ALONE.

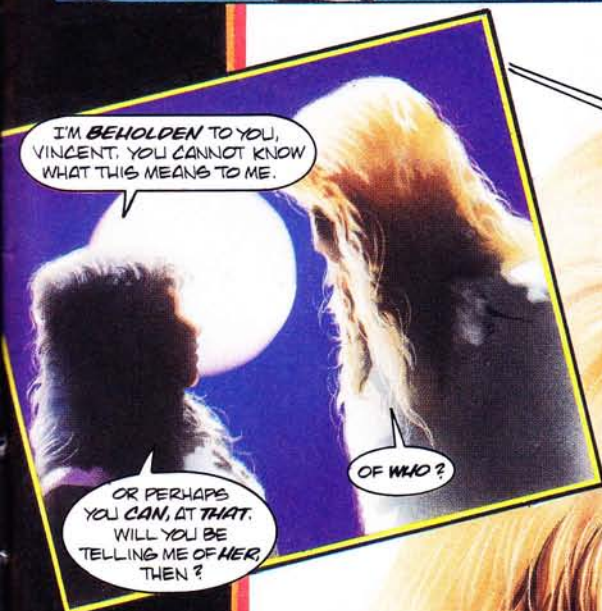
NO, REALLY-- I'LL BE...

...HASN'T ANYBODY EVER WARNED YOU ABOUT ALL THE THINGS THAT GO "BUMP" IN THE NIGHT?



DONALD...

WHILE WE'RE TALKING, THEY'RE GETTING AWAY--!



I'M BEHOLDEN TO YOU, VINCENT. YOU CANNOT KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME.

OR PERHAPS YOU CAN, AT THAT. WILL YOU BE TELLING ME OF HER, THEN?

OF WHO?

YOUR LADY. THE ONE WHO'S BREAKING YOUR HEART.

YOU DIDN'T COME TO ME JUST TO SAY YOU LIKED MY BOOKS-- SOMETHING ABOUT IAN AND ME STRUCK CLOSE TO HOME.

SHE BRINGS ME... SUCH JOY... AND SUCH PAIN... AS I HAVE NEVER KNOWN. I HAVE NO PLACE IN HER WORLD, AND SHE HAS NONE IN MINE.


OUR BOND ENDANGERS EVERYTHING-- PEOPLE I LOVE, SECRETS I AM SWORN TO KEEP, THE BELIEFS I'VE LIVED BY.

AYE, THAT SOUNDS LIKE IAN AND ME, SURE ENOUGH. THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND, DO THEY? MY FATHER RAGED--!



YET YOU WENT ON... DESPITE EVERYTHING.


OH, YES, WE WENT ON... TILL HE DIED FOR IT.



ARE YOU ASKING ME FOR COUNSEL, THEN?

FORGET YOU EVER KNEW HER, AND YOU'LL BOTH BE HAPPIER.

YOU WROTE THAT THE PRICE OF YOUR LOVE HAD BEEN HIGH, BUT THAT YOU WOULD PAY IT WILLINGLY UNTIL THE END OF YOUR DAYS--




--THAT YOU WOULD CHANGE NOTHING, **REBRET** NOTHING--




THAT'S DAMNED **UNFAIR**, YOU KNOW, QUOTING MY OWN WORDS BACK AT ME AGAIN--

--AFTER I GAVE YOU ALL THAT **GOOD ADVICE**--!



"YOUR BRAIN TELLS YOU ALL THE **SENSIBLE** THINGS TO DO, VINCENT--



--BUT THE HEART KNOWS **NOTHING** ABOUT SENSE... AND THE HEART IS AS **STUBBORN** AS THE **IRISH**--

WHAT IS IT?

"WHAT'S **WRONG**?"



KRUNCH
SNAP!
KRACKLE



...LISTEN--!



ROOAAAR!

ARRRR!

OH!!!

WHAT THE
HELL--?

OH,
MY--!





IS HE...?

HE'S
OUT COLD,
BUT HE'LL
LIVE.



MAYBE JUST A
CONCUSSION--



WELL, BRIGHT
O'DONNELL, I
PRESUME?



WHAT
HAPPENED TO
THE OTHER
GUY?



HE HAD
PROMISES
TO KEEP--

"--BUT I THINK
WE'D RATHER
HAVE STAYED."



Send your letters to:

Beauty and the Beast

3622 Jacob Street, Wheeling,
WV 26003

Wow. It's the lettercol for **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST #6!** We started working on this series more than a year and a half ago, but the series didn't premiere in comics shops until February '93; it's both a thrill and a relief finally to see this book on the stands -- still going strong, living well in the hearts of you readers.

Now, on to a few letters....

Dear David and Karen:

I waited to write until I had gotten issues **#2** and **#3** to tell you what I thought of them. They are gorgeous! It warms my heart to see how much thought and effort goes into each page.

So many of us hunger for new merchandise connected with our show that we are in awe when someone goes out of their way to please us. Even though many of us can quote dialogue from the show, we see what you are doing as refreshing and new. You care, and that means a lot to us.

It is just a shame that you are not allowed to accept new ideas about what we would like to see. We are eager for this incredible masterpiece to continue.

I will always see the first two years of *Beauty and the Beast* as the most beautiful love story ever told; the dream lives on, with people like you on our side.

Be well.

Ms. Randie Pressman
1841 Central Park Avenue, 3-H
Yonkers, NY 10710

We thrilled that people like you appreciate our efforts, Randie; you can count Karen among the fans who can recite dialogue -- "chapter and verse" -- from the show, so we know where you're coming from.

At present, Innovation's contract allows for expanded adaptations of the show. We have been hearing the fans' cries for new stories, and we've conceived several that we think the fans would love. It's up to Ron Koslow and Republic Pictures if they want to permit new stories.

Dear Innovation:

My husband has been collecting comics for about half a year now, and I am always teasing him that he is in his second childhood.

Well, to my surprise, around Valentine's Day, he came home with the first issue of your **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** comic book, because he always teased me about the TV series, which I watched for three seasons. I was really touched, though I tease him about all the time he spends in the comics shop, that he thought about me and my love for the series.

I must say I was a little disappointed with the main characters Vincent and Catherine -- more so Catherine; she didn't look enough like Linda Hamilton. But I didn't give up there. I bought the next two issues, and I must say the art was great -- it made me remember why I loved the show so much.

I was reading your fan column in issue **#3** and I agree with the fans -- I would like to see the storyline change somewhat, only because I have seen all the episodes on television, which makes the comics story predictable. I did notice some changes, and I enjoyed them.

Now I look forward to our trips to the comics shop, and it has given my husband and me a common bond.

I look forward to future issues, now that I am hooked. The only problem is that I have to wait a whole month for a new edition, rather than a weekly show.

Thank you for seeing that there are people like me out there who miss having *Beauty and the Beast* in their lives. I even took out my tape of Ron Perlman reciting poetry as Vincent.

Keep up the good work.

Christina Mann
Scenic Drive, 27L
Croton on Hudson, NY 10520

We're glad you're with us, Christina. Comics aren't exclusively a children's product, by the way -- and neither are novels, television, or films.

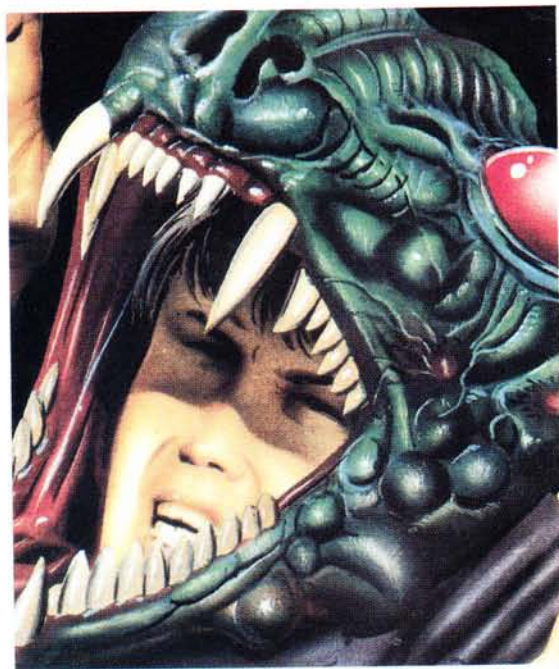
Much of Innovation's own line of titles -- **DARK SHADOWS**, Anne Rice novels, and **QUANTUM LEAP** among them -- is geared for "grown-ups" like us. You might want to check them out the next time you're in the comics shop! (In fact, **QUANTUM LEAP #12**, the most current issue, is drawn by **Mike Deodato, Senior** -- our B&B artist's father -- with some uncredited help by **Mike Deodato, Jr.** himself! It's nothing short of gorgeous, and the likenesses are uncanny.)

A SPECIAL REQUEST: Could someone out there in fandom round up one of the Ron Perlman-as-Vincent recordings for us? We've never gotten to hear 'em!

Dear David,

Hello, I hope all goes well! I'm enjoying your **B&B** comics. I wish there were ways to appeal to more women, without having to rely on the usual comic book crowd.

Couldn't there be a way to "push" the comics to readers who aren't aware of their existence? Avon, for example, did *not* do this; in most cases, the clerks in the local book shops didn't even know they had three *Beauty and the Beast* novels on their own shelves! How sad.



Depicting Vincent's "beast side" in order to appeal to the general audience didn't work for CBS...and I doubt that it would work for the comics, either.

No one knows how to sell *Beauty and the Beast* except, possibly, the fans themselves!?

Dot Sconzo, O.P.
555 Albany Avenue
Amityville, NY 11701

Fans of the show have learned about the comic book series through the various fan networks, and we're glad to say (and as you saw in the letter above) that **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** is the type of comic that attracts people who wouldn't necessarily read comics into comics shops!

Plus, of course, the comic book is available by subscription, \$36.00 for 12 issues, from Innovation Subscription Service, 3622 Jacob Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.

Dear Karen and David:

After reading the sampling of letters in issue #3, I just had to add to that "mountain of mail" and put in my two cents' worth.

I am quite confident that the majority of letters you received were hoping for scenes of more overt romance between Catherine and Vincent: namely, a kiss. I am also quite sure that this has not escaped your notice!

I have, of course, no way of knowing the details of your contract with Ron Koslow or Republic, so I have no idea how much freedom you have in this area, but let me urge you at the very least to consider using, in the episode "A Happy Life," the alternate ending that was filmed showing a real kiss between the two lovers, rather than the "shadow kiss" that was chosen to be aired. Or perhaps you could consider a melding of the two: the shadow kiss followed by the real thing.

Linda Hamilton has gone on record in more than one interview as stating that the decision not to use the real kiss in that scene was a bitter and personal disappointment for her. One cannot help but wonder whether her disillusionment with the network and the show was solidified at that moment.

My suggestion presupposes, of course, that this particular episode isn't already finished and just waiting to be released. In any case, let me assure you that *B&B* fans are desperate to see more romance -- or, rather, more physical romance -- in our beloved show. The vast majority of fanzines deal with either the consummation of their love, or present it as an established fact.

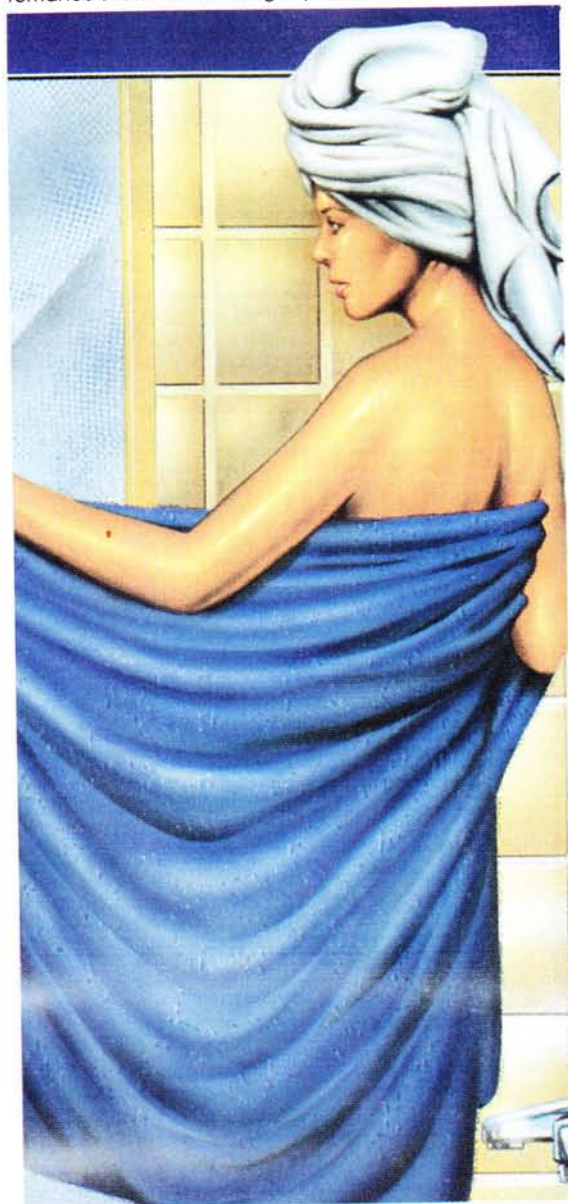
However, let me congratulate you on a beautifully crafted piece of work.

The dream lives on....

Debbie Nockels
9196 Fox Run Drive
Brentwood, TN 37027

Debbie, our deal with Republic Pictures is precisely what we mentioned in our reply to the first letter in this issue's column.

Although the fan fiction is not part of the established *Beauty and the Beast* canon, we agree that we want to see more official new stories and delicate, but physical, romance should be an integral part of them.



Dear David and Karen,

As a comics fan and a fan of the *Beauty and the Beast* TV show, I was overjoyed to learn that you were publishing a regular comic book.

Now that I've seen the first few issues, I feel that I must offer my congratulations! So far, you are managing to convey the spirit of the show very well indeed, and I like the additional material that you are putting into each issue. (More, please!)

The artwork is truly wonderful and really captures the unique "look" of the show -- with my only complaint being that Vincent's cloak is wrong. It's not a fasten-around-the-neck affair; it is more like a coat, and it even has sleeves on the left arm.

The general opinion among *B&B* fans that I've spoken to seems to be favorable -- and I hope that this is echoed throughout the rest of fandom. The book is head-and-shoulders above the average comic, and I wish you all possible success with it.

Stephen Carlton
9 Holmside Avenue, Lanchester
Co Durham, DH7 0NB
England

Thank you, Stephen. Yes, word has been overwhelmingly positive. And don't worry, Vincent owns more than one set of clothes!

Dear Innovation --

My favorite episodes of *Beauty and the Beast* are "Wreck of My Memories" plus the one about the way the world would have been if Vincent hadn't been born at all.

Will there be more about Elliott Burch and Catherine?

I like all the people in the comic: Father, Elliott, Vincent, Catherine, even Mouse. This is a great comic book -- keep it coming!

Suzanne V. Gumpertz
509 Kinkaid, #203
Coast Mesa, CA 92626



We're unfolding and expanding upon the best of the TV episodes, so keep reading!

The second episode you cite is entitled "Remember Love" from the second season, but the one you call "Wreck of My Memories" (taken from the newspaper ad that's shown in the opening scene) is actually "Song of Orpheus," which we will adapt in Issues #8 and #9 of this comic!

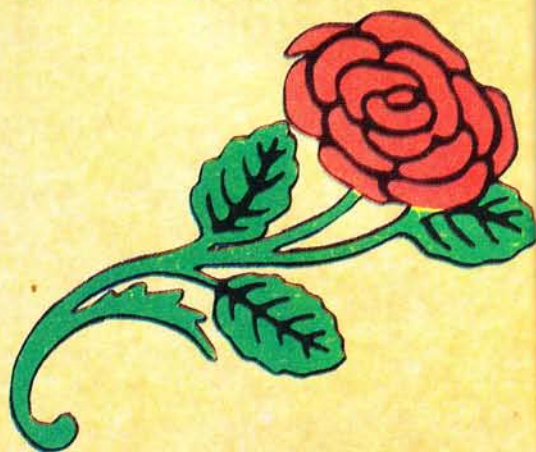
NEXT ISSUE: The story heats up as we discover some startling truths involving Brigit O'Donnell and her people -- and Catherine and Vincent spend some time together, at last.

BEAUTY & THE BEAST #7, "Masques: Part Two," is adapted from the **George R.R. Martin** teleplay by painter **Mike Deodato, Jr.**, as well as by the co-writer and co-editors --

-- David Campiti
Karen May
June, 1993

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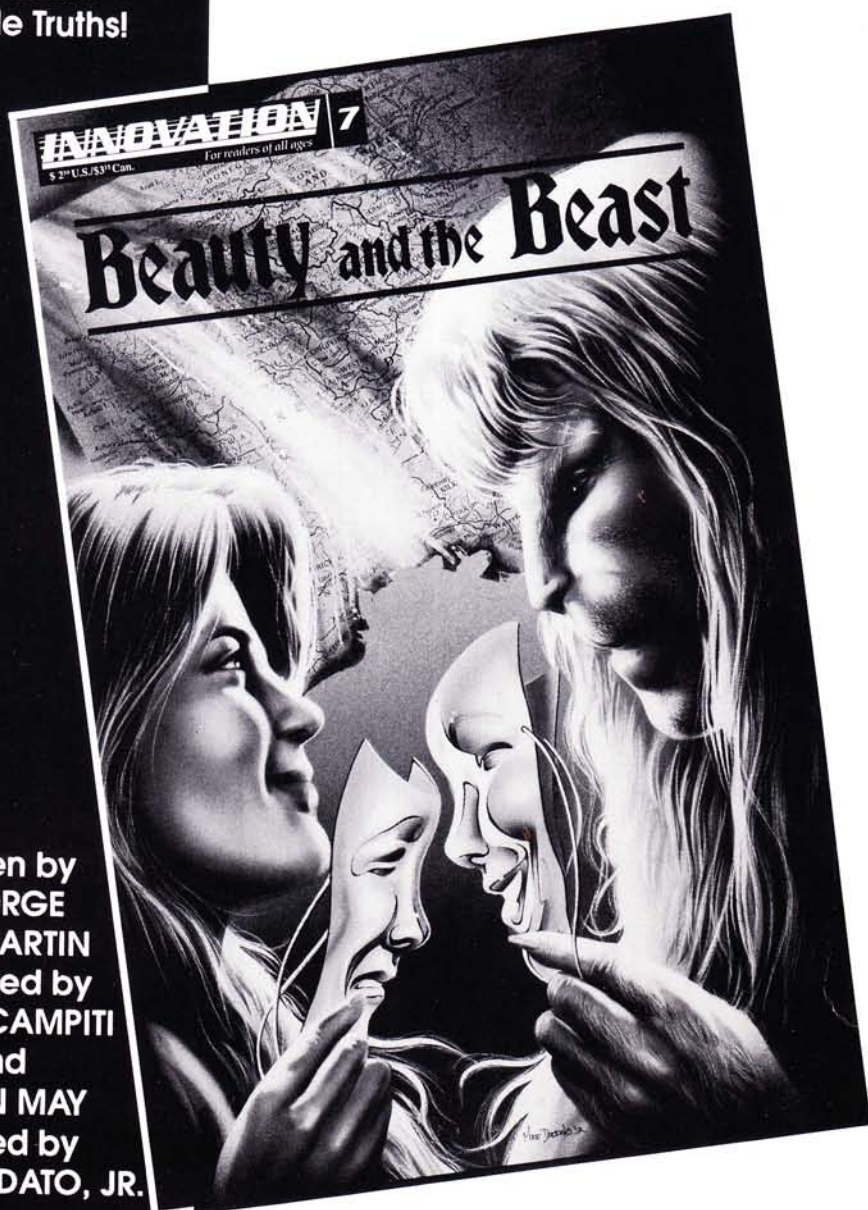
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Available by mail for \$8.50, including shipping and handling. Foreign
orders add \$2.00. Shipped in a sturdy mailing tube. (NOTE: 12-issue
subscriptions to the **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** comic book are available for
\$42.00.) West Va. residents add 6% sales tax. Make check or money order
payable to: **Innovation, Dept. BB, 3622 Jacob Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.**

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NEXT MONTH:

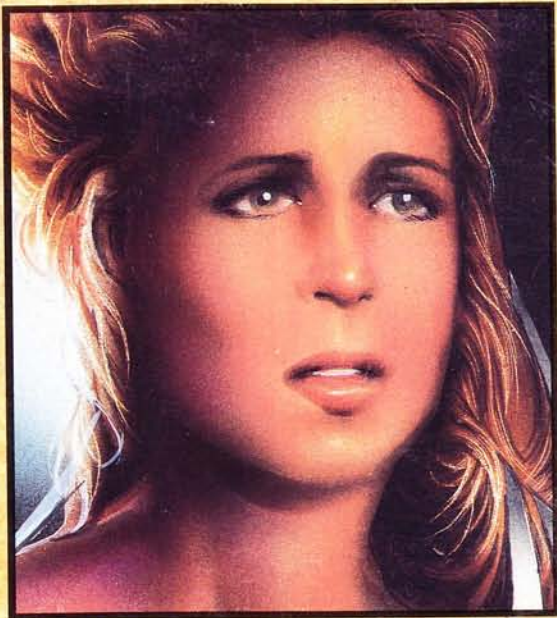
**The Luck Of
The Irish --
And Some
Terrible Truths!**



**Written by
GEORGE
R.R. MARTIN
Adapted by
DAVID CAMPITI
and
KAREN MAY
Painted by
MIKE DEODATO, JR.**

**"Masques"
Part Two!**

INNOVATION TM



Beauty and the Beast

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"This is where the wealthy and the powerful rule. It is her world, a world apart from mine. Her name is Catherine. From the moment I saw her, she captured my heart with her beauty, her warmth, and her courage. I knew then, as I know now, she would change my life forever."

"He comes from a secret place, far below the city streets, hiding his face from strangers, safe from hate and harm. He brought me there to save my life; and now, wherever I go, he is with me in spirit. For we have a bond, stronger than friendship or love -- and, although we cannot be together, we will never, ever be apart."

"MASQUES: Part One" -- TV's **BEAUTY & THE BEAST** saga continues at the masquerade ball for author/political activist Brigit O'Donnel -- and becomes a perilous night of terrorist activities unwittingly involving Catherine Chandler. It's also Halloween night, when Vincent can walk the surface world unnoticed among normal men!

BEAUTY & THE BEAST:

"Masques -- Part One"

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