

STILLBORN

THE FIRST ZOMBIE



Hunter S. Zombie • Phillip K.

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THE FIRST ZOMBIE

THE TRAP

CHAPTER ONE

OUR STORY BEGINS IN A SMALL TOWN NEAR THE BORDER, TUCKED AWAY AMONGST THE HILLS.



HEAVEN'S
GATE
POPULATION: 16,123


LIKE MANY STORIES BEFORE IT, THERE ARE HEROES AND THERE ARE MONSTERS

BUT THIS STORY IS DIFFERENT.

**IN THIS STORY,
THE HEROES DIE
AND
THE MONSTERS REIGN
OVER THE WORLD.**


WRITTEN BY HUNTER S. ZOMBIE
ILLUSTRATED BY PHILLIP K.

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AT THE SOUTH EDGE OF TOWN, DYING FARMHOUSES BECAME THE HABITAT FOR VERMIN AND GHOSTLY RUMORS.

ONE PARTICULAR HOUSE WAS FAMOUS BY SUCH RUMORS THAT NO ONE DARE VENTURE INSIDE ITS HOLLOW REMAINS.



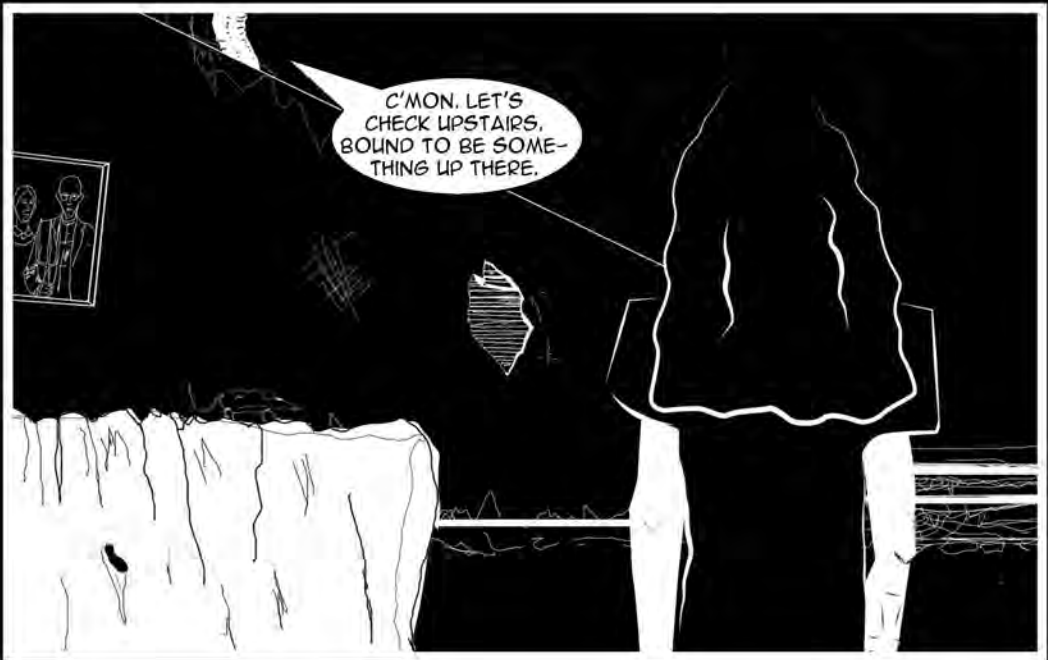
THAT IS, UNTIL NOW.



YOU WANT TO GO IN THERE?

THAT HOUSE HAS BEEN BOARDED UP FOR OVER 70 YEARS. NO ONE'S BEEN INSIDE THIS WHOLE TIME. THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING OF VALUE IN THERE.





C'MON. LET'S CHECK UPSTAIRS. BOUND TO BE SOMETHING UP THERE.



I BETTER GET LAID AFTER THIS.

ANGER HAD DISTRACTED DEAN'S THOUGHTS, MAKING HIM UNWARE...

... THAT SOMETHING
WAS STANDING RIGHT BEHIND
HIM.









JUST GET OVER
HERE AND **HELP**
ME!



FROM MY VIEW, THAT
SWEET ASS OF YOURS
NEEDS MORE THAN HELP.

WHADDA YA' SAY WE
PUT THAT BED TO USE?



C'MON. ONE LAST TIME
BEFORE YOU SKIP
TOWN.



CAN YOU KEEP IT IN YOUR
PANTS --

**DEAN, LOOK
OUT!**



WHAT!?

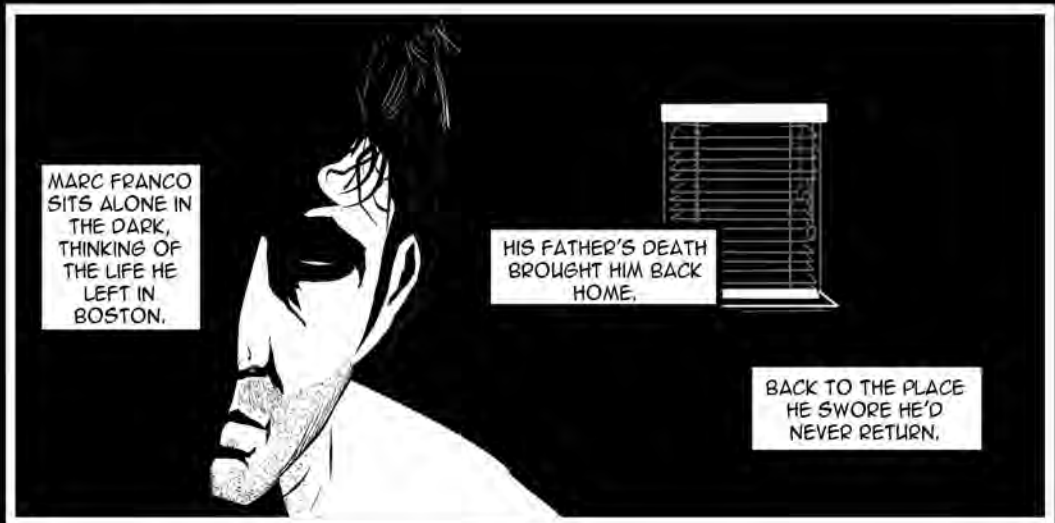
RRRRR AAAAAAHHHHH



DEEEEDANN



3 MONTHS LATER



MARC FRANCO SITS ALONE IN THE DARK, THINKING OF THE LIFE HE LEFT IN BOSTON.

HIS FATHER'S DEATH BROUGHT HIM BACK HOME.

BACK TO THE PLACE HE SWORE HE'D NEVER RETURN.



MARC'S LAST WORDS TO HIS FATHER WERE IN ANGER. HE WAS DAMNED FOR LEAVING THE FAMILY BEHIND FOR A BETTER LIFE.

MARC SHED NO TEARS AT HIS FATHER'S FUNERAL, ONLY CLENCHED HIS TEETH.

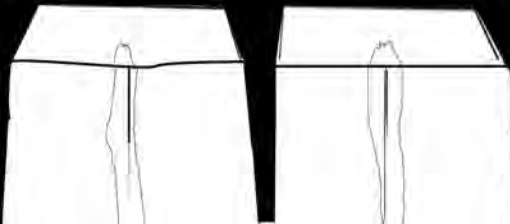
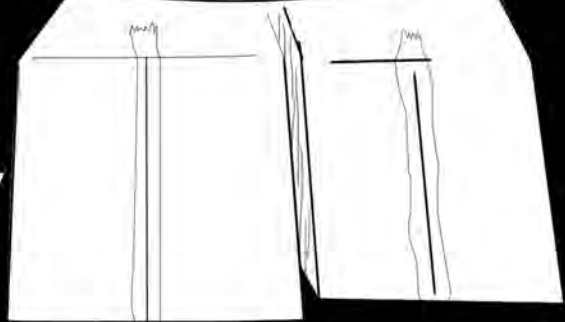
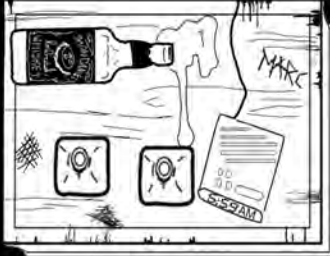
WHY HADN'T THE OLD MAN WAITED TO DIE AFTER HE FINISHED SCHOOL?



NOW, MARC DRANK HIS DEMONS AWAY WHILE WISHING HE COULD TRADE PLACES WITH THE OLD MAN.

WHAT HE DIDN'T KNOW WAS THAT, BY THE END OF THE DAY...

... HIS WISH WOULD BE GRANTED.







THANKS FOR COMING BACK, MARC. EVERYONE AT THE SHOP REALLY APPRECIATES THE HELP.

SURE, GABE.

IS YOUR HAND OKAY?

IT'S FINE. JUST BUSTED IT UP WHILE MOVING.



WHICH WORK ORDER IS IT?

SHOULD BE AT THE BOTTOM.



Flip
Flip



FOUNDER'S GROVE?
I THOUGHT THAT AREA WAS ABANDONED?

IT IS. SOME GUY IS TRYING TO SAVE THE PLACE FOR "HISTORICAL PURPOSES". THE AGENT WANTS US TO EVALUATE THE PIPES.

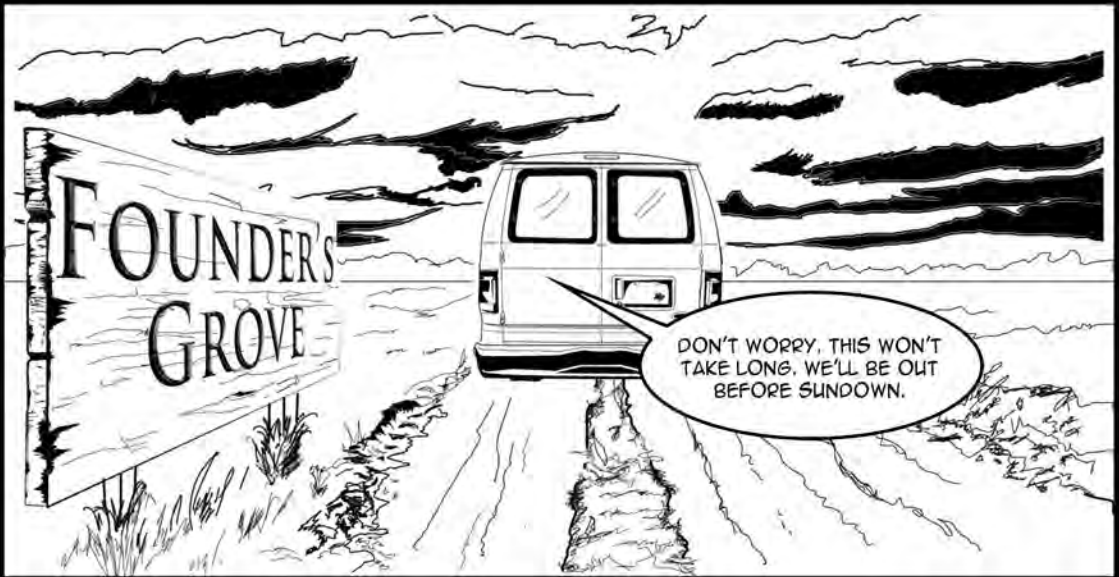
WHAT THE HELL DOES HE WANT IT FOR? ALL THOSE HOUSES ARE FULL OF RATS. THE WHOLE AREA SHOULD BE BULLDOZED AND MADE PART OF THE CEMETERY.

THE CITY WAS GOING TO, BUT THIS GUY'S OBVIOUSLY GOT SOME MONEY. HE PERSUADED THEM TO HAVE US COME OUT AND PROVE THE PLACE IS SALVAGEABLE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY SHOULD DO?

I SAY BURN IT DOWN AND BURY THE ASHES. LIKE YOU SAID, IT'S FULL OF RATS. CLEAN OUT THE VERMIN.







WHAT IS THE AGENT GONNA DO WITH THIS PLACE? TRY AND SELL IT?



I DUNNO, HOPEFULLY, HE TAKES THE HEAP BACK TO NEW YORK WITH HIM.



THE AGENT'S FROM NEW YORK?

CLAIMS TO BE A RELATIVE OF THE THOMAS FAMILY. NO ONE'S HEARD OF 'EM. I DON'T THINK HE'S EVER BEEN OUT HERE.

HE'S NOT MEETING US? ISN'T HE WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE BREAKING IN?

LOOK AT THIS PLACE, KID. NO ONE GOES IN HERE. I'D BE MORE WORRIED ABOUT BREAKING OUT.



THE HELL IS THAT?!









WELL, HOWDY, BOYS.
LOOKS LIKE I'M THE
LAST ONE TO THE
PARTY.

HEY, SHORT STACK.

WHAT'S UP, EM?

NOT MUCH, I SEE EVERYONE SHOWED UP. "MR. NEW YORK" GOT Y'ALL OUT HERE TOOP



A LOTTA TROUBLE FOR NOTHIN'.



HEY, MARC, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME. SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR DAD.



SEEMS EVERY-ONE IS.

HE WAS A GOOD MAN. EVERYONE AROUND HERE REALLY LOVED HIM.



WELL, LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD. I GOT A RACK OF RIBS WAITING FOR ME AT HOME.



HEY, GABE. WAIT UP. DON'T YOU FIND THIS ODD? WE ALL SHOW UP AT THE SAME TIME AND THE AGENT'S NOT EVEN HERE?

IT'S A LITTLE STRANGE, BUT IT'S NOTHING THAT HASN'T HAPPENED BEFORE.

SOMETHING'S WRONG. THIS DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.

MAYBE NOT, BUT THE MONEY IS, DON'T WORRY, KID...

...AIN'T NOTHIN'
GONNA HAPPEN.



C'MON IN Y'ALL,
NO BOOGEY MAN IN
HERE.

WELL, AIN'T THIS A
REGULAR **GHOST**
HOUSE.



LOOKS LIKE
SOMEONE FORGOT TO
CALL THE MAID, HA!



IT'S DARK
IN HERE!
I CAN'T SEE
NOTHIN'!



KEEP YER PANTS ON,
THERE'S A SWITCH
RIGHT --

flick

...HERE.

DAN,
WHAT DID
YOU DO?!