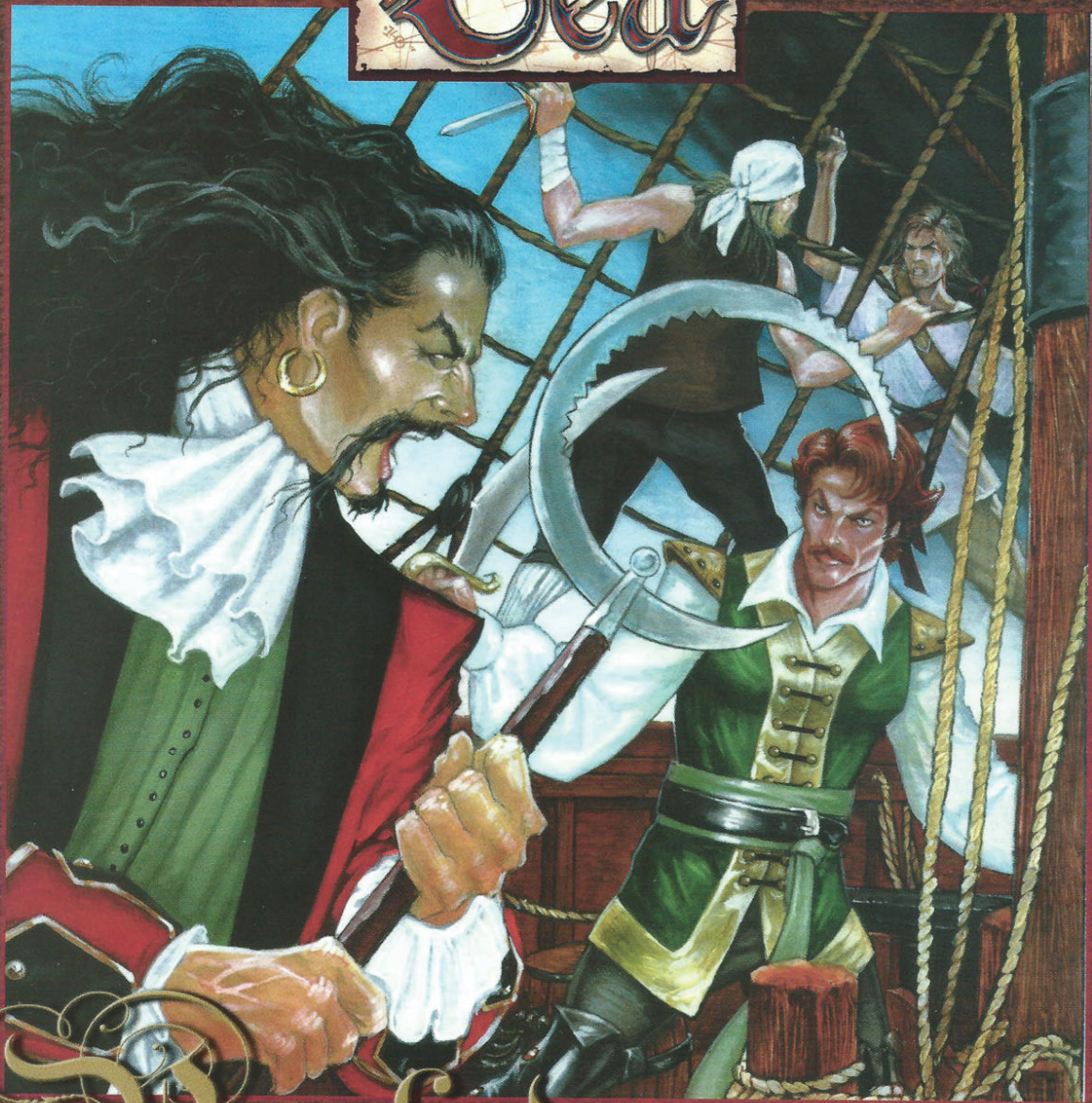




April 01
\$2.95

1 of 3



Prelude to Ruin

Chapter One



Prelude to Ruin

Chapter One

The Players



BLOODY CAPTAIN REIS-
Murderous pirate captain of the
Crimson Rogers. None have fought
him and ever lived to tell the tale.

SALVADOR BERNOULLI-
Vodacce swordsman and regal
member of the Explorer's Society.



BONNIE MCGEE-
Privateer and captain
of the Highland Piper.

JOERN KEITELSSON-
Vestenmannavnjar berserker war-
rior. First mate of the Crimson
Rogers and Reis' only equal



RIANT GAUCHER-
Bosun of the Crimson Rogers.
Pain is his art; he commands
through fear.

JAVIER DE BEJARANO-
Castillian scholar and avid
collector of the treasures
of the long dead Syrne.



JULIUS CALIGARI-
Vodacce cutthroat. He sold
out his own uncle for a piece
of Reis' treasure.



7th Sea: Prelude to Ruin, Chapter One (April 2001). First Printing.

A three-issue series published by Studio G, 2295 Marvel Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93065. Packaged by Beyond Comics, 83 Carmel Road, Wheeling, WV 26003. All characters © 2001 Alderac Entertainment Group. Story and art © 2001 Studio G. All rights reserved. Printed in Canada by Quebecor.



Theah, 1665.

A world eerily similar
to our own. A mirror image
that brings what is to what never can be.
A land of daring swashbucklers, vicious pirates,
and noble sorcery, where justice lies on the end of a blade.

PRELUDE TO RUIN

Chapter One

scribblers **jim pinto and rob vaux**

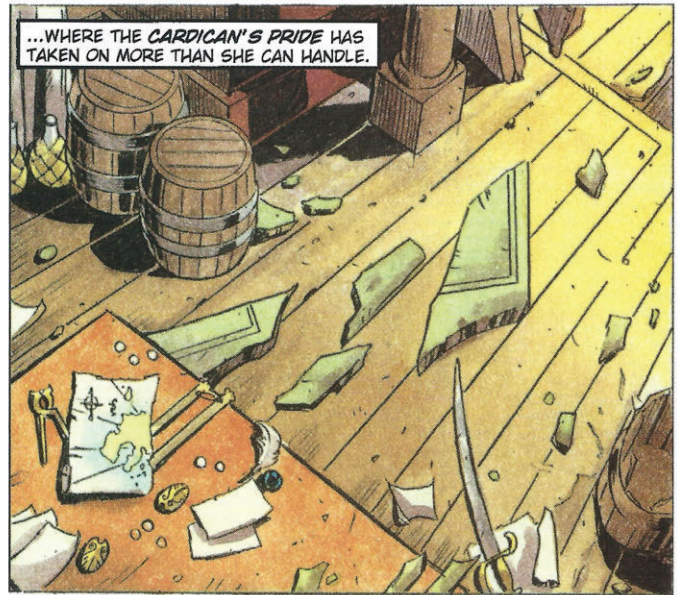
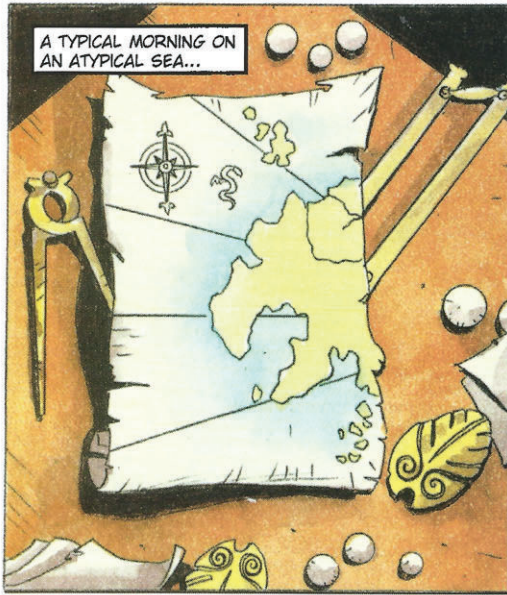
renderer **travis moore**

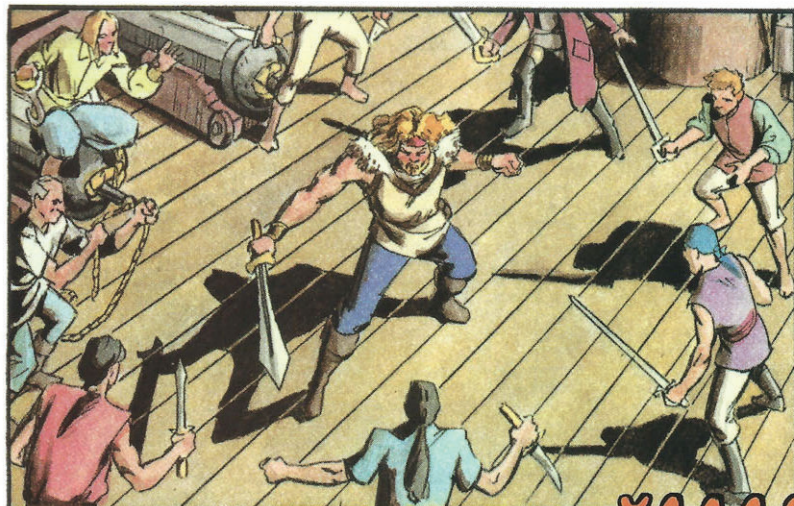
painters **d w gröss and scott rockwell**

calligrapher **faye perozich**

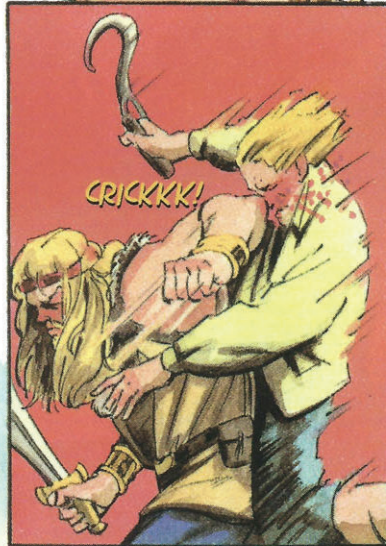
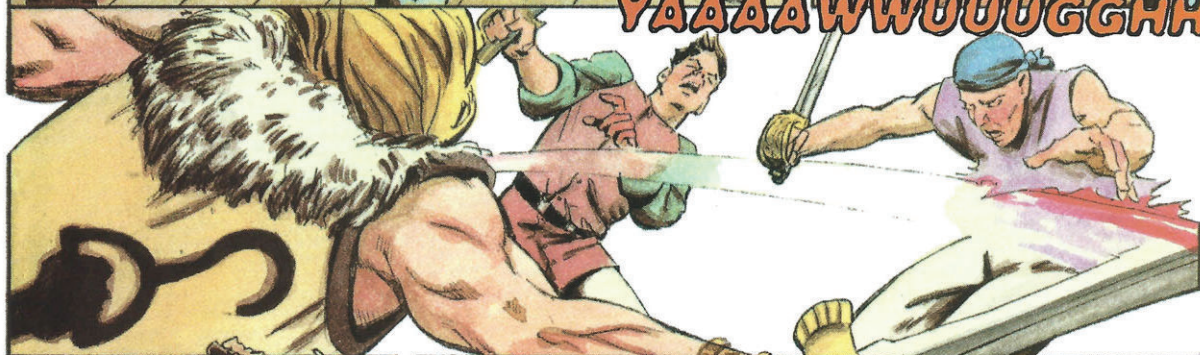
muralists **travis moore and ben peck**

captain **dærick the red**





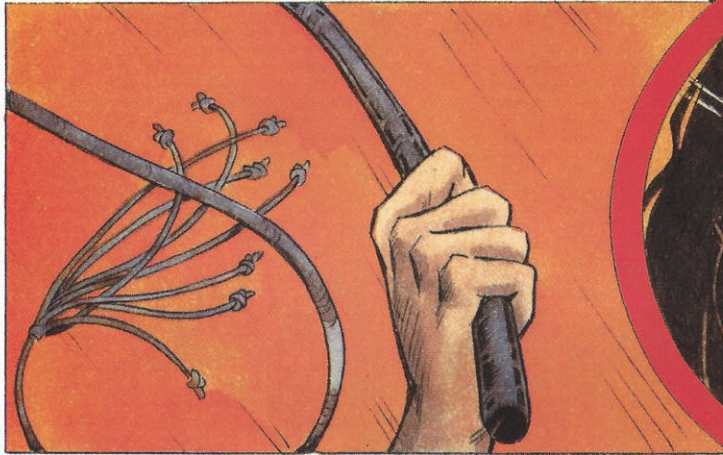
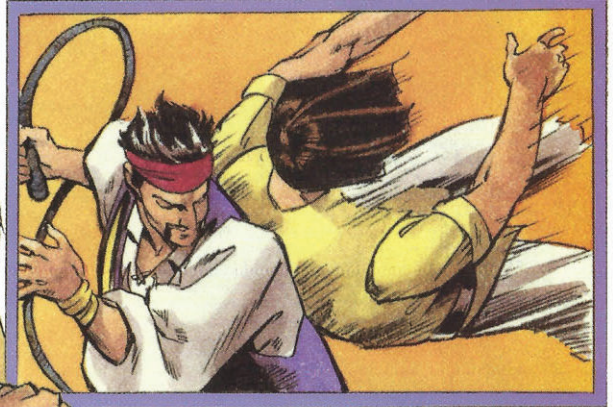
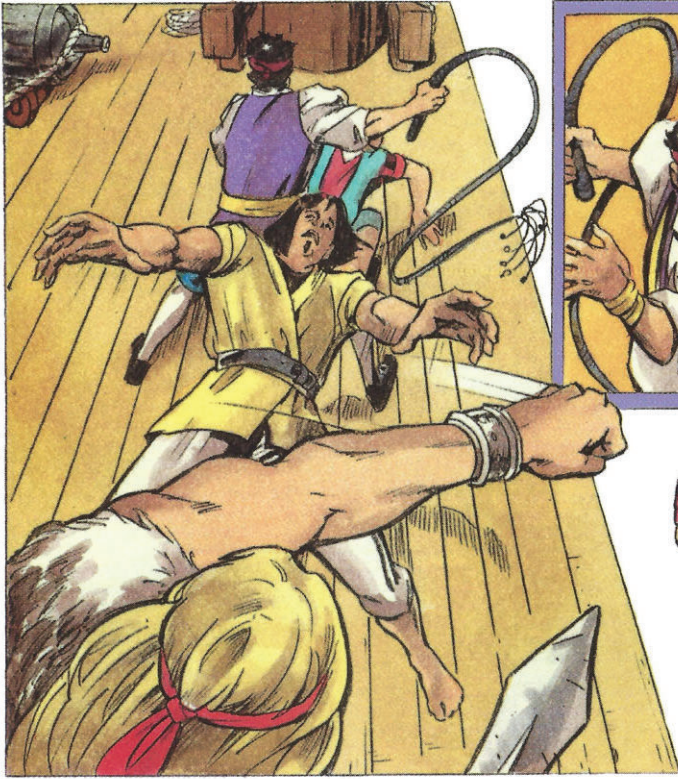
YAAAAWWUUUGGHH

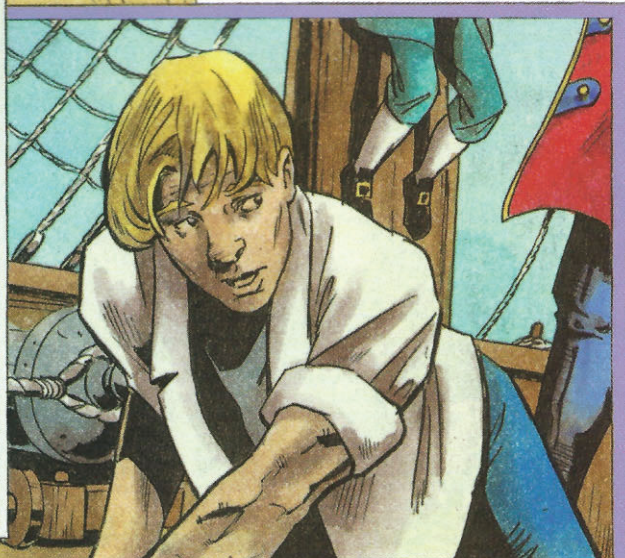
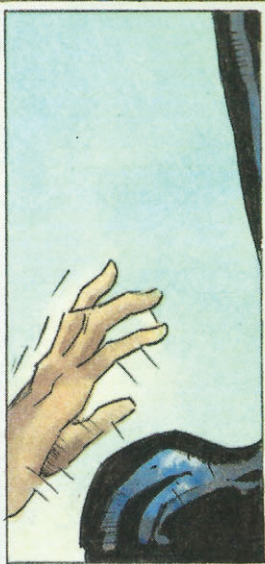


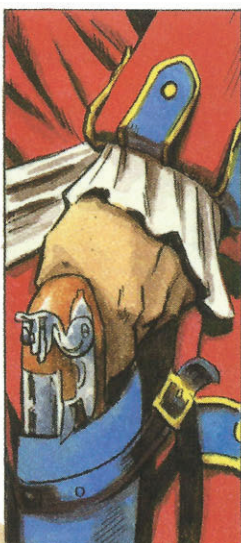
CRICKKK!



SHUIKE!









DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH IN THIS CATCH.

I SUSPECT THAT THE BULK OF THEIR HORDE IS STILL BEING CATALOGUED ON THE ISLAND...WHEREVER IT IS.

THE EXPLORER'S SOCIETY USUALLY SENDS BACK ONE OR TWO OF THEIR CHOICEST TREASURES EARLY. THE BULK OF THEIR DISCOVERIES DOESN'T GO UNTIL THE EXPEDITION IS COMPLETE.



I FEAR OUR CAPTAIN MAY HAVE ATTACKED TOO SOON.



I WOULDN'T LET HIM HEAR YOU SAY THAT. BESIDES, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FIND THE EXPEDITION AND TAKE WHAT THEY HAVE.



EASIER SAID THAN DONE, MY CASTILLIAN FRIEND. THERE MUST BE A HUNDRED ISLANDS WITHIN A FORTNIGHT'S SAIL OF HERE. THIS SHIP MIGHT HAVE COME FROM ANY ONE OF THEM.



HAVE YOU EVER KNOWN ANYONE TO KEEP A SECRET FROM CAPTAIN REIS?

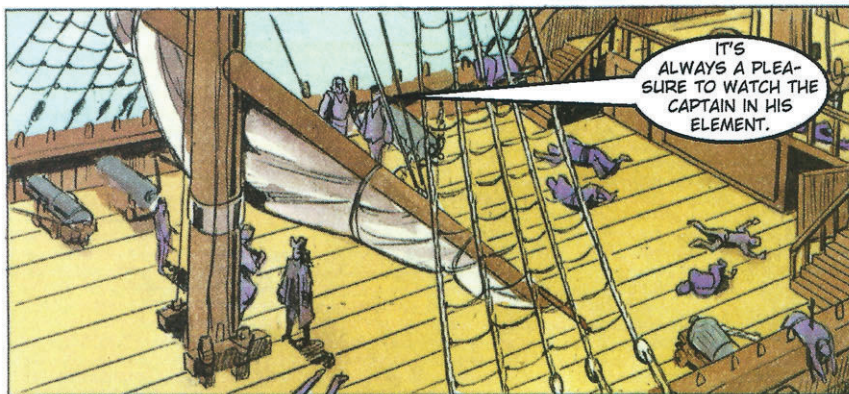


THAT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU MEAN BY A SECRET.



I CERTAINLY DON'T THINK THESE POOR SOULS HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO HOLD OUT ON HIM.





IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO WATCH THE CAPTAIN IN HIS ELEMENT.



YOU'VE GOT STAMINA, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT. BUT THIS ISN'T WORTH DYING FOR.



WE'VE FOUND IT. NOT MUCH ELSE THERE, BUT THIS SHOULD JUSTIFY OUR EXPENSES.



AAAAIIIEEEEEEE!!

SCHLUT!!



SO WHERE IS THE ISLAND?

HE DIDN'T KNOW. THE OTHER EXPLORERS MET HIM IN A ROWBOAT WITH THE ARTIFACTS.



WHEN IT DOES, WE TAKE THEM.



REWARD 8000 GUILDERS



FOR PROOF OF THE DEATH
OF THE BLOODY PIRATE KNOWN AS

CAPTAIN REIS

Murciélaga

SHE-BAT Special



Studio G's flagship character appears in a 32-page special.

First, in a new story, Murciélaga recalls her history while pursuing an elusive thief. Then, long-time fans and new readers are treated to a colorized reprint story from the '80s, when she wore the "Big Boots."

This special will also include some of the incredible fan art received over the years.

coming in
May 2001

Visit us for
current updates
and sneak previews at
www.daerickgross.com



Coming from Studio G



Straight from the covers of the 7th Sea *Prelude to Ruin* mini-series, this full-color poster depicts the final battle of Bonnie McGee's crew with the bloody Captain Reis! Pencilled by Travis Moore and colored by fan favorite Ben Peck, this original painting will be available as a poster (approx. 16" x 28") **in July**



The poster will be printed as a limited series; so order yours today!

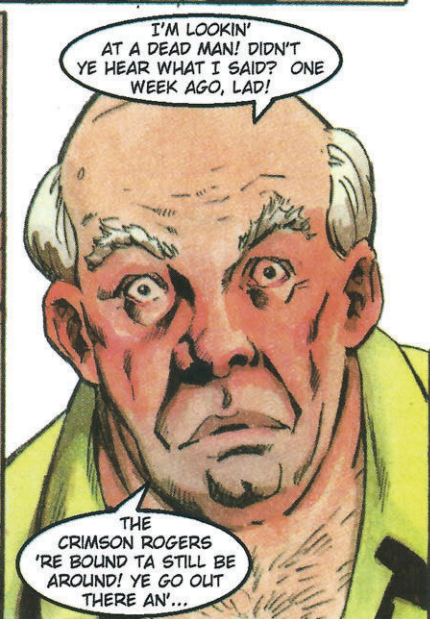


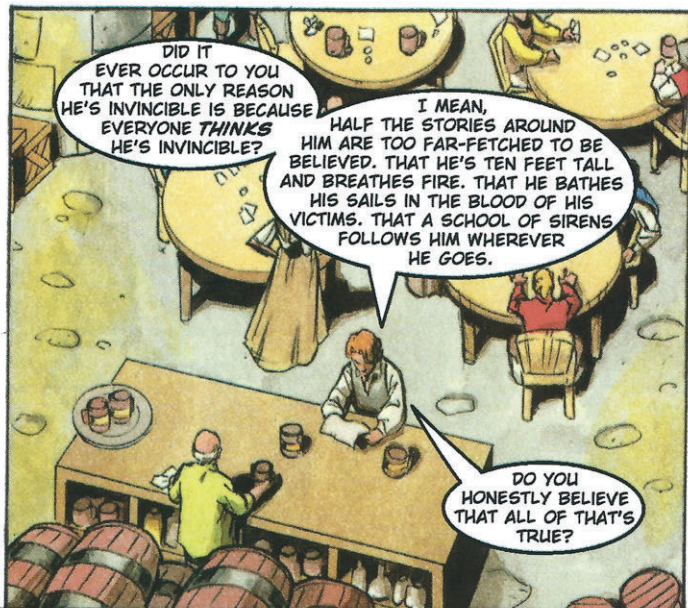
SIFU'S *Journal*

Sifu opens his journal with Murciélaga and the Reiki Warriors tracking down the source of a potent drug. This tale is part of a 6-issue storyline which will introduce you to a world of Studio G's heroes and villains.

Visit us at
www.daerickgross.com







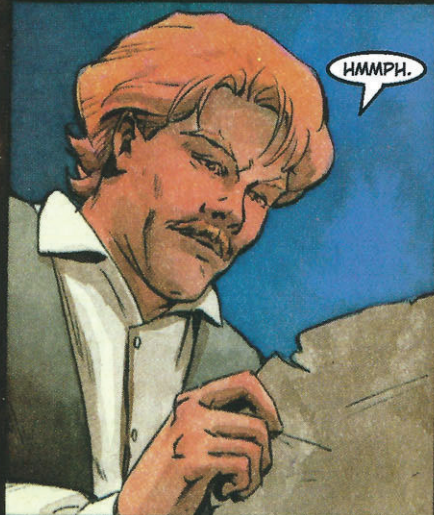
DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU THAT THE ONLY REASON HE'S INVINCIBLE IS BECAUSE EVERYONE *THINKS* HE'S INVINCIBLE?

I MEAN, HALF THE STORIES AROUND HIM ARE TOO FAR-FETCHED TO BE BELIEVED. THAT HE'S TEN FEET TALL AND BREATHES FIRE. THAT HE BATHES HIS SAILS IN THE BLOOD OF HIS VICTIMS. THAT A SCHOOL OF SIRENS FOLLOWS HIM WHEREVER HE GOES.

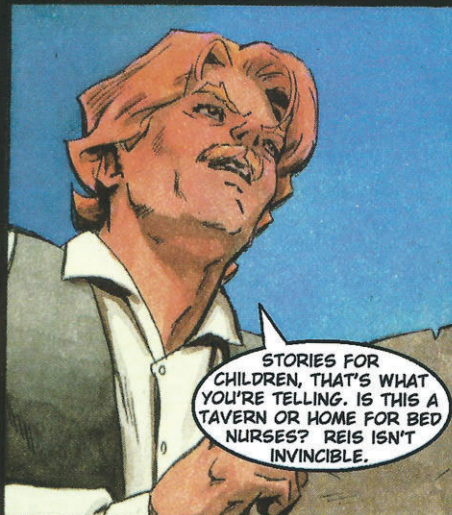
DO YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT ALL OF THAT'S TRUE?



I DON'T HAVE TA, ME BOY. I AIN'T A SAILOR. ALL I KNOW IS, AIN'T NOBODY SEEN HIM AND LIVED.



HMMMPH.



STORIES FOR CHILDREN, THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE TELLING. IS THIS A TAVERN OR HOME FOR BED NURSES? REIS ISN'T INVINCIBLE.



AND HOW DO YA KNOW THAT, MAY I ASK?

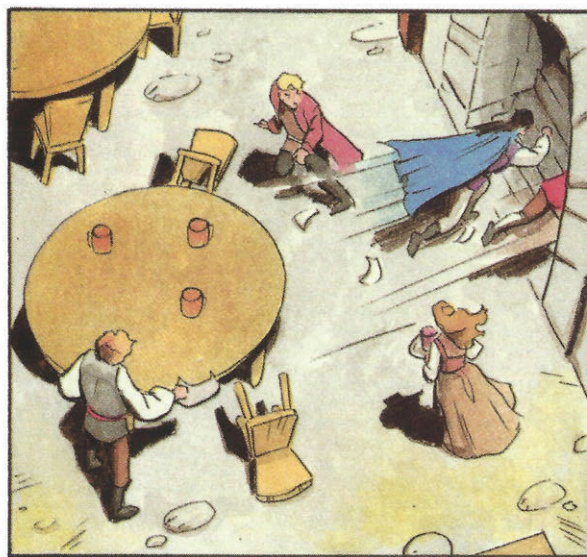
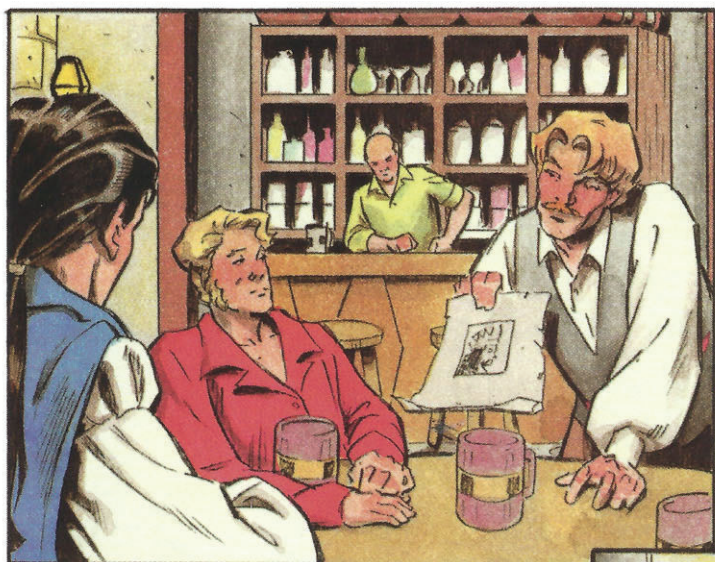


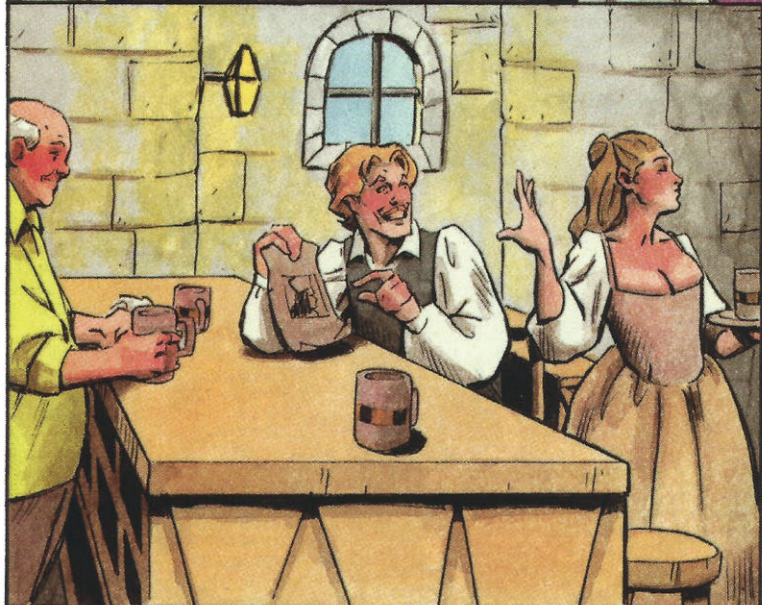
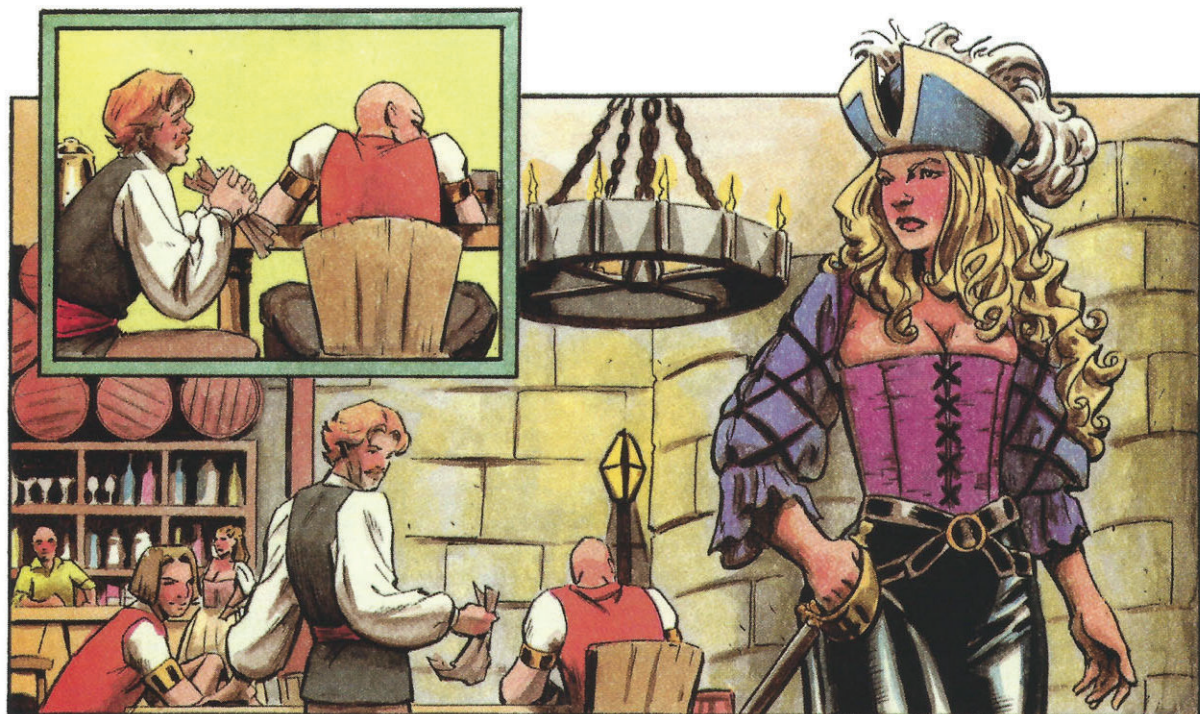
LET'S JUST SAY I HAVE FATE IN MY CORNER.

EXCUSE ME. I HAVE A CREW TO HIRE.

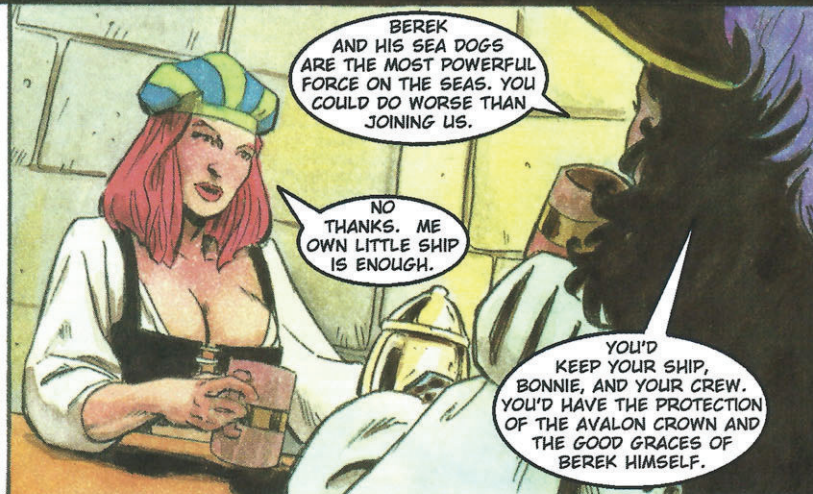
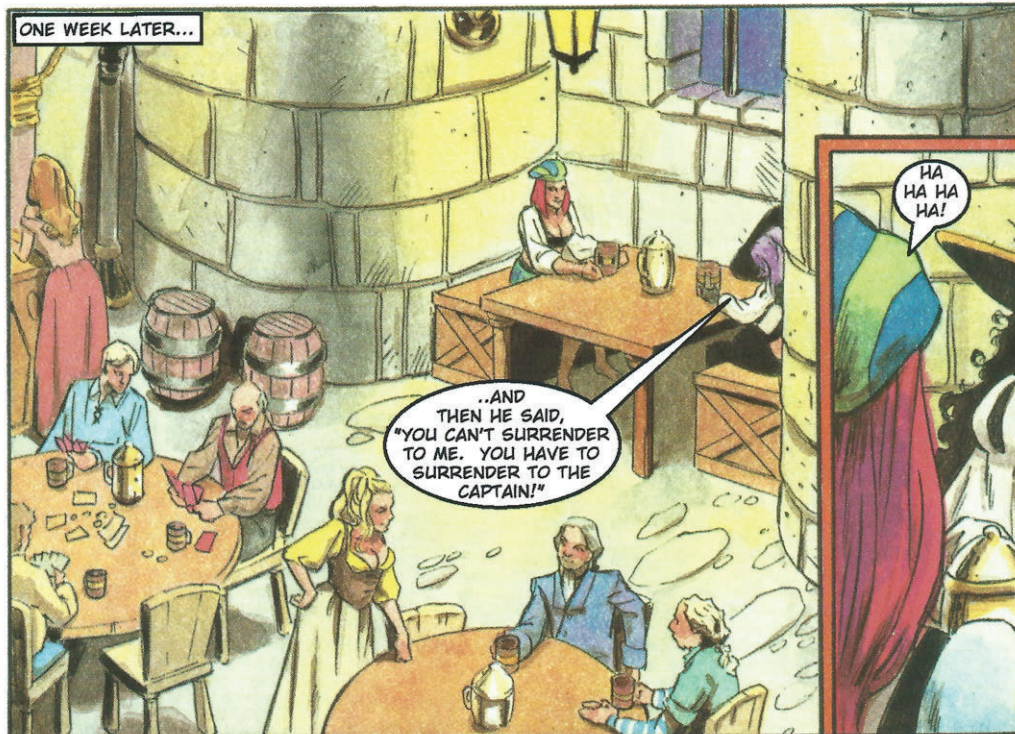


MENTION REIS, AN' YOU WON'T BE HIRIN' ANYBODY.





ONE WEEK LATER...





WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT, DEAR. WE'RE THE RULERS OF THE WAVES. HAVE BEEN EVER SINCE BEREK SANK THE CASTILLIAN ARMADA IN '59. OUR COFFERS ARE FULL, OUR CAPTAINS ARE RICH, AND OUR QUEEN HAS CREATED A NEW AGE OF PROSPERITY.

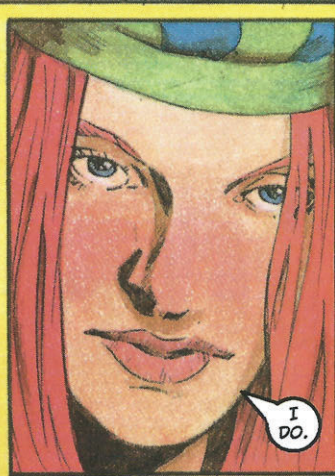


I'D JUST HATE TO SEE YOU MISS OUT ON IT. IT'S AVALON'S TIME NOW. THE HIGHLANDERS' TIME TOO.

WELL, THIS HIGHLANDER'S GONNA ENJOY HER TIME WITHOUT SAILIN' UNDER A SEA DOG'S FLAG. BESIDES, BEREK'S TOO COCKY FER HIS OWN GOOD.



IF YOU SAY SO.



I DO.



CELE, IT'S BEEN GRAND, BUT YE HAVE TO EXCUSE ME NOW. I'M MEETIN' A MAN IN A SEC WHO WANTS TA HIRE US.



YOU'RE GOING OUT?! YOU JUST GOT IN!

YEAH, BUT HE'S DESPERATE AND PAYIN' UP THE SPOUT. I MAY NOT BE JEREMIAH BEREK, BUT I CAN SMELL MONEY AS WELL AS THE NEXT CAPTAIN. I'LL SEE YE.

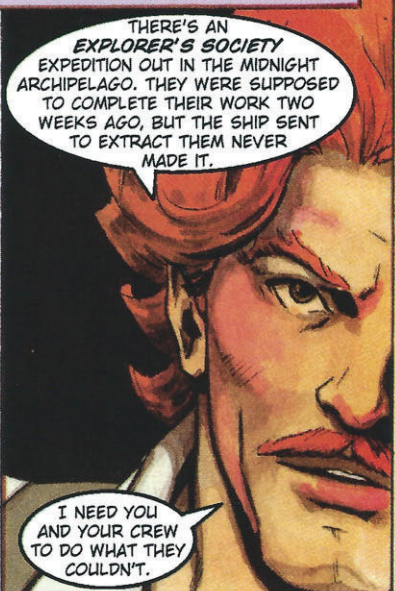


YOU TAKE CARE, BONNIE MCGEE.



SALVADOR
BERNOULLI. A
PLEASURE.

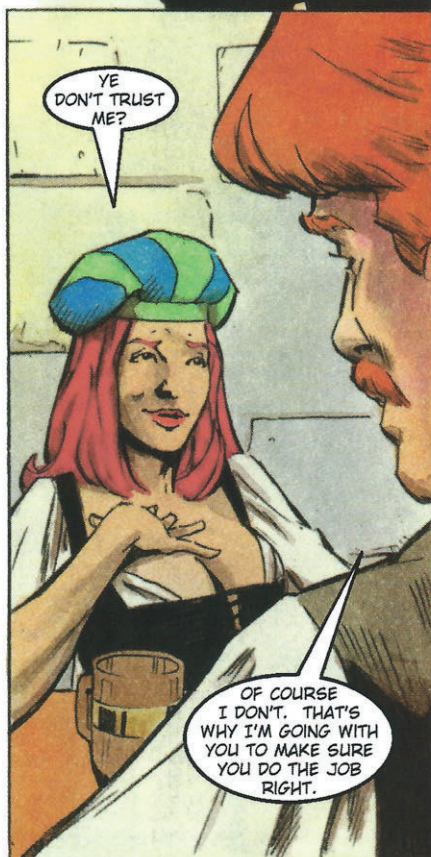
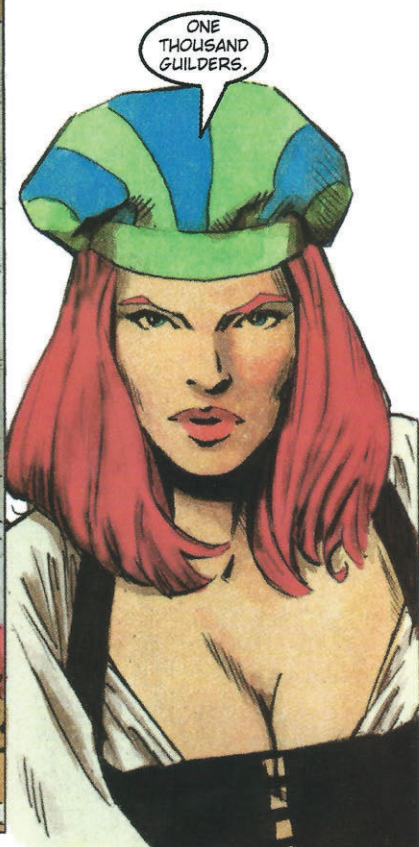
BONNIE
MCGEE, CAPTAIN
OF THE *HIGHLAND
PIPER*. HEAR YOU
NEED A SHIP.

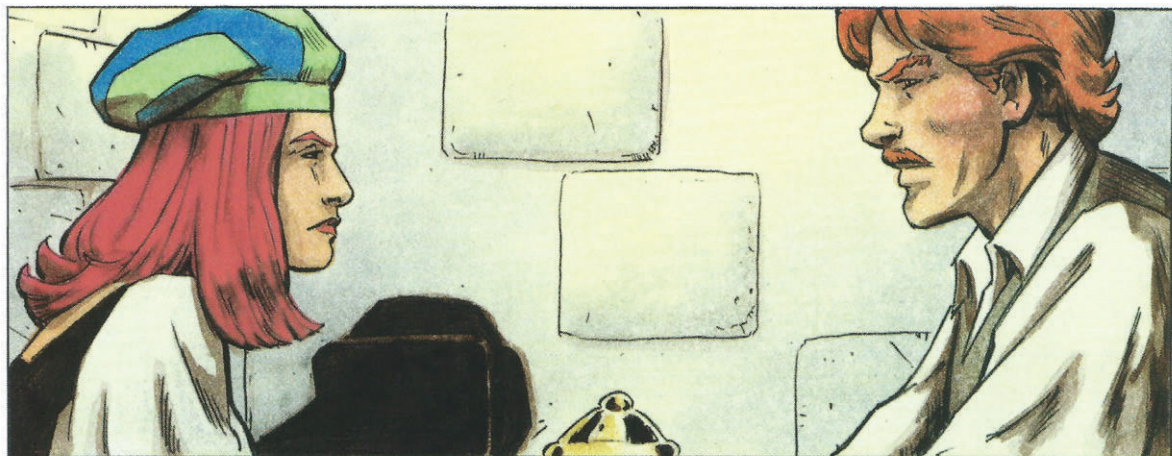


THERE'S AN
EXPLORER'S SOCIETY
EXPEDITION OUT IN THE MIDNIGHT
ARCHIPELAGO. THEY WERE SUPPOSED
TO COMPLETE THEIR WORK TWO
WEEKS AGO, BUT THE SHIP SENT
TO EXTRACT THEM NEVER
MADE IT.

I NEED YOU
AND YOUR CREW
TO DO WHAT THEY
COULDN'T.







NEXT MONTH:

Chapter Two



An infant born

A prophecy foretold

An artifact found

A villain waits

A secret revealed

Don't miss the next exciting issue!
Salvador tells his story...
Reis sets his trap...
And a new unique playing card
is packed inside!



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SAGA OF THE STORM™

THE CARD GAME THAT YOU ALREADY
KNOW HOW TO PLAY.

To Hit Modifier: Add this number to your d20 roll when you're attacking. Remember, 'higher is better,' and a 'natural 20' always hits!

Class / Level / Alignment: Here's where you can tell whether you're a fighter, wizard, rogue, or cleric, how powerful you are, and which side of the battle you're on... all in one convenient place.



Armor Class: Maybe you've heard of this - if not, this is what prevents your character from getting whacked. The higher the number, the less likely he'll be worm food.

Abilities: Some characters can poke your opponents from afar. Others can attack when your enemy is least expecting it. Sandstone Gargoyles are both big AND scary!

Hit Points: Everyone can take a hit, but some guys can take several. Take as many wounds as you have Hit Points, and you're pulverized!



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