



15 MINUTES ^{to}
MIDNIGHT

1

\$12.00

Ages 13+

VISITATIONS





ISSUE 1: THE MENACING PHANTOMS

Scott Larson Story & Art

Created by **Scott Larson**

with character background information and editing by **Len Strazewski**

Logo designed by **Claire Skelly**

SPECIAL THANKS (2016)

Katherine Gast

Paige Wood Reilly

Mike Sobey

Rick Lundeen

Frank Valenti

Alli Alleman

Graceland Cemetery Chicago

Rosehill Cemetery Chicago

PBS.Org (Chicago: City Of The Century)

Chicago: City Of The Century by Donald L. Miller

Chicago History Museum

Encyclopedia Of Chicago (encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org)

unbelievable-faccts.com

(10 Unbelievably Creepy Tombstones and Memorials)

Gast Monuments Chicago

10th ANNIVERSARY EDITION (2026)

The Joe Kubert School Of Cartoon And Graphic Art

Andre Szymanowicz

Taylor Esposito

Palette And Chisel Academy Of Fine Arts Chicago

Torsten Muehl

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I DREAMED one man stood against a thousand,
One man damned as a wrongheaded fool.
One year and another he walked the streets,
And a thousand shrugs and hoots

Met him in the shoulders and mouths he passed.
He died alone.
And only the undertaker came to his funeral.

Flowers grow over his grave anod in the wind,
And over the graves of the thousand, too,
The flowers grow anod in the wind.

Flowers and the wind,
Flowers anod over the graves of the dead,
Petals of red, leaves of yellow, streaks of white,
Masses of purple sagging. . .

Carl Sandburg
Chicago Poems

TURN OF THE CENTURY

At the transition from the 19th to the 20th Century, change was in the air.

The 76 million residents of the United States witnessed the birth of the electric light, interior plumbing, phonographs, x-rays, automobiles and moving pictures.

Horse-drawn trolleys gave way to electric busses, and the first overseas telephone call inspired scientists to search for messages from Mars.



Although The gap between rich and poor was great, some predicted that poverty would disappear by the end of the century.

Huge waves of immigrants flocked to the United States from Germany, Italy, Ireland, and Sweden looking for a better life.

Some became workers and entrepreneurs, and contributed to society. Others became criminals and built organizations of crime.

Overall, Americans, from the oldest to the youngest, greeted the new century with a sense of optimism and hope.

Nowhere was this optimism felt stronger than by the citizens of the largest city in the Midwest.

In October of 1871 a great FIRE swept through the city of CHICAGO. 48 hours after it began, the entire city lay waste.

Of the 300,000 residents, 90,000 people were left homeless and 300 were killed.

The city was decimated.



Within the next 20 years, Chicago rose from the ashes, fully resurrected to become its own SECOND CITY in the grandest style.

By the time of the WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION in 1893, the city was not only completely rebuilt, but it had transformed itself into the leader of modern city planning and was the birthplace of the world's first skyscraper.

Chicago became home to the great architects, writers, artists, and reformers of the day.






The shopping district of **STATE STREET** and the newly-built Museums and libraries brought new wonders.

Chicagoans became the leaders of manufacturing and construction.

They excelled in tool and machine works, garment making, and meat packing.

The **UNION STOCKYARDS** employed 25,000 workers and supplied 82% of the domestic meat.



Workers stood on blood-soaked floors as they labored among the shrieks and smells of the slaughtered animals.

Wages were low and the laborers toiled 10 to 12 hours a day in temperatures well above 100 degrees.

At night, crime ran rampant.



The den of sin known as the **LEVEE** was the home of gambling parlors, opium dens, and houses of prostitution.

Madams who ran bordellos found themselves and their employees at the mercy of corrupt politicians and the newly-formed organization of crime.

The mastermind was **BIG JIM COLOSIMO** whose Empire consisted of over 200 brothels.

Colosimo built the crime syndicate which became known as the **CHICAGO OUTFIT**.

No one dared go against him.

And anyone who tried paid the price...

BE SMART, MR. BLACKWOOD. WHERE IS IT?

I DON'T KNOW.

CRACK!

ARGHHH!!

MR. BLACKWOOD...

CAN I CALL YOU, CLAYTON?

CLAYTON, WE'RE BOTH REASONABLE MEN.

SO WHERE IS IT?

ALL BIG JIM WANTS IS HIS ITEM BACK.



GO TO HELL!

WRONG ANSWER.

RUDOLPHO?



I CAME TO YOU IN GOOD FAITH AND YOU SPIT AT ME, CLAYTON.

WE COULD HAVE DONE THIS EASY, BUT YOU CHOSE THE HARD WAY.

BOYS, GIVE OUR FRIEND BIG JIM'S REGARDS!

BAM! WAP!



CLAYTON, YOU MADE ONE OF HIS FAVORITES DISAPPEAR.

NOW WE'RE GOING TO MAKE YOU DISAPPEAR.

GRACEHILL CEMETERY, CHICAGO'S NORTHERN EDGE.



NICE PLACE, EH, CLAYTON? I BRING THE KIDS HERE FOR PICNICS.

YOU SHOULD JOIN US SOMETIME I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE QUITE THE MAGICIAN.

I'M SURE THE CHILDREN WOULD BE VERY ENTERTAINED.

EVEN BY A PRISSED UP DANDY LIKE YOU.

BUT NO MATTER, YOU WON'T BE AVAILABLE...UNLESS YOU HELP ME.

WHAT DID YOU DO WITH IT?

THROW HIM IN BOYS!

SO MUCH FOR MAGIC...

YOUR NEXT TRICK WILL BE FOR ST. PETER!





KRA

yAAAHH!!!

OH MY LORD!



THAT MONSTER REMOVED DAGO JOE'S HEAD!

IT'S UNNATURAL!

I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!

THAT MUSIC...

IT'S GETTING LOUDER!

WHERE IS IT COMING FROM?



HI!

I'D LIKE TO PLAY YOU A TUNE!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



BE QUIET BEFORE THAT THING HEARS YOU AND FINDS ME!

YOU STUPID CHILD- DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT'S OUT HERE?



I KNOW BETTER THAN YOU.

IN FACT, I KNOW OF MANY FRIGHTENING THINGS.

SOME LAY BEYOND THESE WALLS.

TRUST ME, THE ENTERTAINER IS THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES!



LET ME PLAY YOU A TUNE AND SHOW YOU!



MISTER,
YOUR TROUBLES
HAVE ONLY JUST
BEGUN!

NOOOOOOOOO



STOP!

GET OUT OF MY WAY, LADY!

I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!

MY ORACLES SEE NOTHING BUT DANGER AND DEATH AHEAD FOR YOU.



GO BACK, SURRENDER YOURSELF, OR YOU WILL NOT SURVIVE THIS NIGHT.

HEED MY WORDS OR PERISH!



ARE YOU OFF YOUR CHUMP?

SWAP
GET OUT OF THE WAY!



THE STARS ARE ALIGNED.

YOU HAVE SEALED YOUR FATE.

Fool!
YOU HAVE THROWN AWAY YOUR LIFE!

'PON MY HONOR I WILL DO ALL I CAN BUT IT IS TOO LATE.

**ENTER
THE HOUSE OF
DEATH!**

**MOTHER
OF
GOD!**



GOOD GOD!

WHAT IS THAT?!!

BLAM
BLAM

BLAM



HA!
IT'S JUST A
STATUE!

Yes,
quite funny
indeed!



Are you blinkers?
That wasn't funny!
He may have damaged
that monument!

Agreed! Very
disrespectful!



No!
This is serious
Babylon!

Profanation
of a monument
to Babylonian
Civilization!

Leave him
alone, Douglas!
This is
sacred!

Brenner!
He tried to
murder Clayton
Blackwood!

Oh,
brighten up
Abraham!

Galenus,
he's not going
anywhere.

Look!
He is about
to faint!

I'm
hungry.

**DEATH
STALKS THIS
PLACE!**



WELCOME TO GRACEHILL CEMETERY.



GET HIM KINCAID!

KRAA

WOOOONNN

ГААА ДААА НННННН!

1799-1852



GRAHHH!!

KIAS!

BLACKWOOD!



WELL,
HELLO THERE
MR. MALCOLM!

SO GLAD
TO SEE THAT YOU
STUCK AROUND

I HAVE
ONE MORE TRICK
TO PERFORM.

AS YOU
CAN SEE, THERE'S
NOTHING UP MY
SLEEVE.



KRA!
KRA!

BOOM!

AAHHH!!!

ON YOUR FEET ALREADY, MR. MALCOLM?

AND WITH A KNIFE YET!

I MUST BE LOSING MY STRENGTH!

SHUT UP BLACKWOOD!

JUST GIVE ME THE ITEM AND I'LL LET YOU LEAVE HERE ALIVE!

YOU'LL "LET ME..."?

WACK

YOU HAD ME BEATEN AND BURIED ALIVE...

AND I'M STILL HERE!

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT, YOU ARE NOT IN CONTROL...

I AM!

CLAP!
CLAP!
CLAP!

BRAVO CLAYTON!

KRA-KKOO

AH!
GOOD EVENING
EVERYONE!

I'M SO
PLEASED YOU
WERE ABLE TO JOIN
THE PARTY!







THIS NIGHT AND THIS PLACE ARE FILLED WITH DEATH!

So melodramatic!

Quiet!



MUERTE IS RIGHT, I SENSE IT, TOO.

BE ON YOUR GUARD: THE MORROW BRINGS PAIN AND SUFFERING.



WHAT COULD BE SO DANGEROUS?

I THINK YOU'RE WORRYING OVER NOTHING.

I'LL PLAY MERRY TUNE FOR ANYONE WHO TRIES TO ATTACK US.



I NICKED THIS FROM JIM COLOSIMO. HE HAD NO IDEA WHAT HE POSSESSED.

THIS TALISMAN HAS THE POWER TO MAKE NIGHTMARES A REALITY BY BRINGING OUR WORST FEARS TO LIFE.

CLAYTON, WHY DID THESE PEOPLE KIDNAP AND HURT YOU ANYWAY?



WRA-KKOOON!!!

"I'LL KEEP IT WITH THE
REST OF THE OBJECTS
WE'VE COLLECTED."





FAREWELL
EVERYONE!

THE
DANGER
HAS NOT
PASSED.

WATCH
OVER YOUR
AFFAIRS VERY
CAREFULLY THIS
NIGHT!



CLAYTON BLACKWOOD'S FOOLISHNESS NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME.

HE WILL PAY DEARLY FOR ALLOWING HIS ARROGANCE TO BLIND HIM TO THE TRUTH.

HE WAS CORRECT WHEN HE DEDUCED THAT BIG JIM HAD THE NIGHTMARE TAISMAN.

HE JUST DIDN'T REALIZE THAT I TOOK IT FROM THE GANGSTER FIRST.

BLACKWOOD HAS A CLEVER FAKE...

...THAT I ENGINEERED FOR HIM.

IT'S A TIME BOMB THAT WILL RELEASE EVERYTHING IN THAT PANDORA'S BOX HE CALLS A HEADQUARTERS AT THE PROPER TIME.

HIS WORST NIGHTMARE IS ABOUT TO COME TO LIFE.





GRACEHILL CEMETERY.
DAWN.

CHIEF O' NEIL,
THANK YOU FOR
COMING.

WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

THE
CARETAKER
CONTACTED
US.

HE GOT
AN AWFUL SHOCK
WHEN HE ENTERED THE
CEMETERY ABOUT AN
HOUR AGO.

SEE FOR
YOURSELF.

GOOD
LORD!

TO BE CONTINUED...



NEXT:



**THE
PIPER BOY**
IN:



**BEAST
666**
IN:



**THE
ENTERTAINER**
IN:



**NELLIE MCCULLOUGH
&
KINCAID**
IN:



**SANTA
MUERTE**
IN:



**CLAYTON
BLACKWOOD**
IN:



**MAYHEM
AT THE
LEVEE**



**DEATH
ON THE
ELEVATED**



**SLAUGHTER
IN THE
STOCKYARDS**



**THE GREAT
BALLOON
DISASTER**



**THE AMAZING
SNAKE
-LADY-**
**SNAKE LADY
OF THE
FAIR**



**VICTROLA
OF
DOOM**

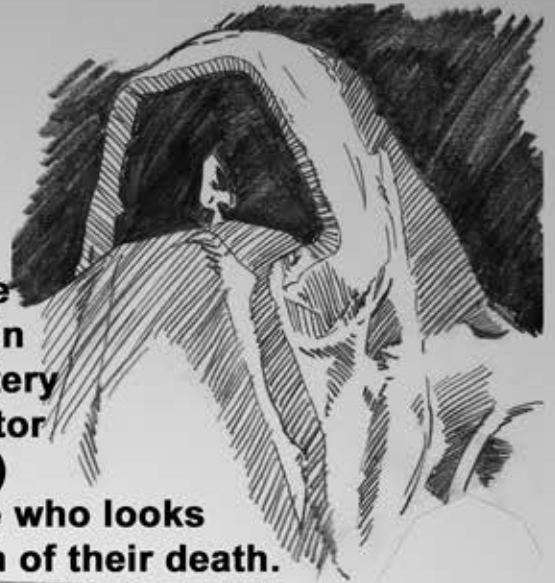
VISITATIONS



Sketchbook

Gracehill Cemetery in Visitations is a combination of a number of different graveyards around the world. One such final resting place is Chicago's Graceland Cemetery on the city's North Side by the baseball stadium Wrigley Field. Here are some sketches of monuments that inspired creator Scott Larson.





Eternal Silence
is a monument in
Graceland Cemetery
created by sculptor
Leo Taft (1909)

**Legend says that anyone who looks
into it's eyes will see a vision of their death.**





Nellie McCullough is based on model Paige Wood Reilly and is featured prominently in issue 2 of Visitations.



Visitations issue 2 requires the reader to turn the book around in order to read it, creating an interactive experience.

DOUBLE PAGE SPREAD



TURN CLOCKWISE



TURN CLOCKWISE



TURN CLOCKWISE



CHAS. M. CORNICK

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE I HAVE A NEW CHUCKABOO.



THOSE SUFFRAGETTES ARE EVERYWHERE.

WHY, THEY EVEN PARADED UP AND DOWN STATE STREET OUTSIDE MARSHALL FIELD'S ONLY LAST WEEK.

IF THE WIND STAYS WITH US, WE WILL WIN!



AND WE HAVE WITH US MR. BILLY MURRAY AND MISS ADA JONES, FRESH FROM THEIR EDISON RECORD DUET.

THEY WILL SOON BE STARRING IN "LITTLE JOHNNY JONES" AT THE IROQUOIS THEATER.

ALL SET ADA?

I'M WAITING FOR YOU BILLY!



MAY THE BEST MAN... BALLOONIST WIN!



GOOD LUCK ONE AND ALL!

IF ONLY MY MA COULD SEE ME NOW-I'M ON TOP OF THE WORLD!



IF YOU'RE REALLY LOOKING FOR A FIZZING TIME COME PAY US A VISIT.

WHAT A DANDY YOU ARE!

WE'RE RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO OUR CARTER'S CAB.

SUCH A GRAND OLD TIME!



Oh, Come Josephine
in my flying machine

In the air she goes!
There she goes!

LOOK
AT THEM
GO!

HOW
GRAND!

A
RIP-SNORTING
TIME!

SAKES
ALIVE!

WHAT A
MARVEL!



On FIRE!

The World Is

BOO

GOOD LORD!

GEE!
HOW HIGH THEY
ARE!



Higher

LOOK!
WHAT'S
THAT?



WHAT
RAZZMATAZZ!



Little Bit

UP A

Oh!
My!

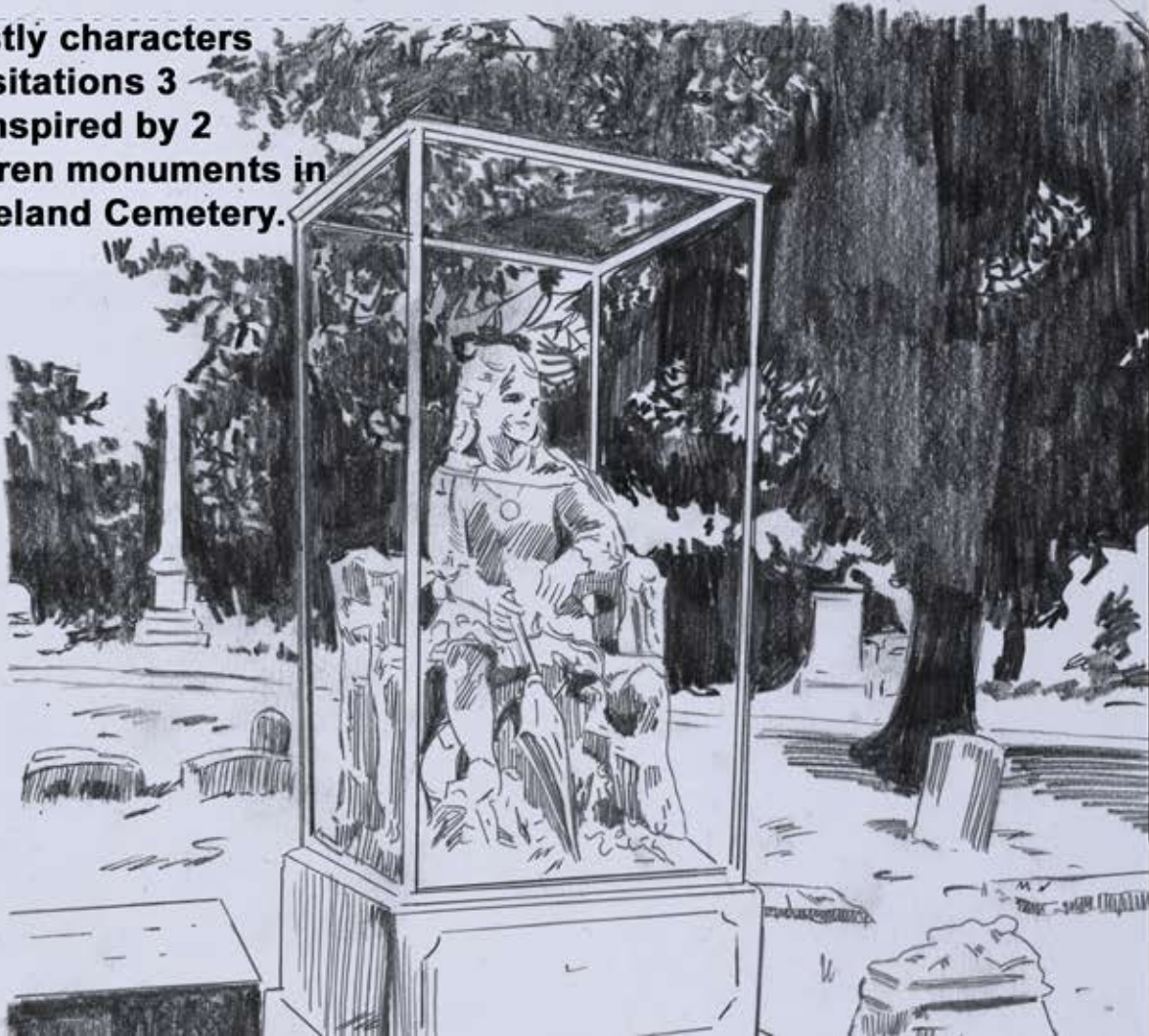




Visitations

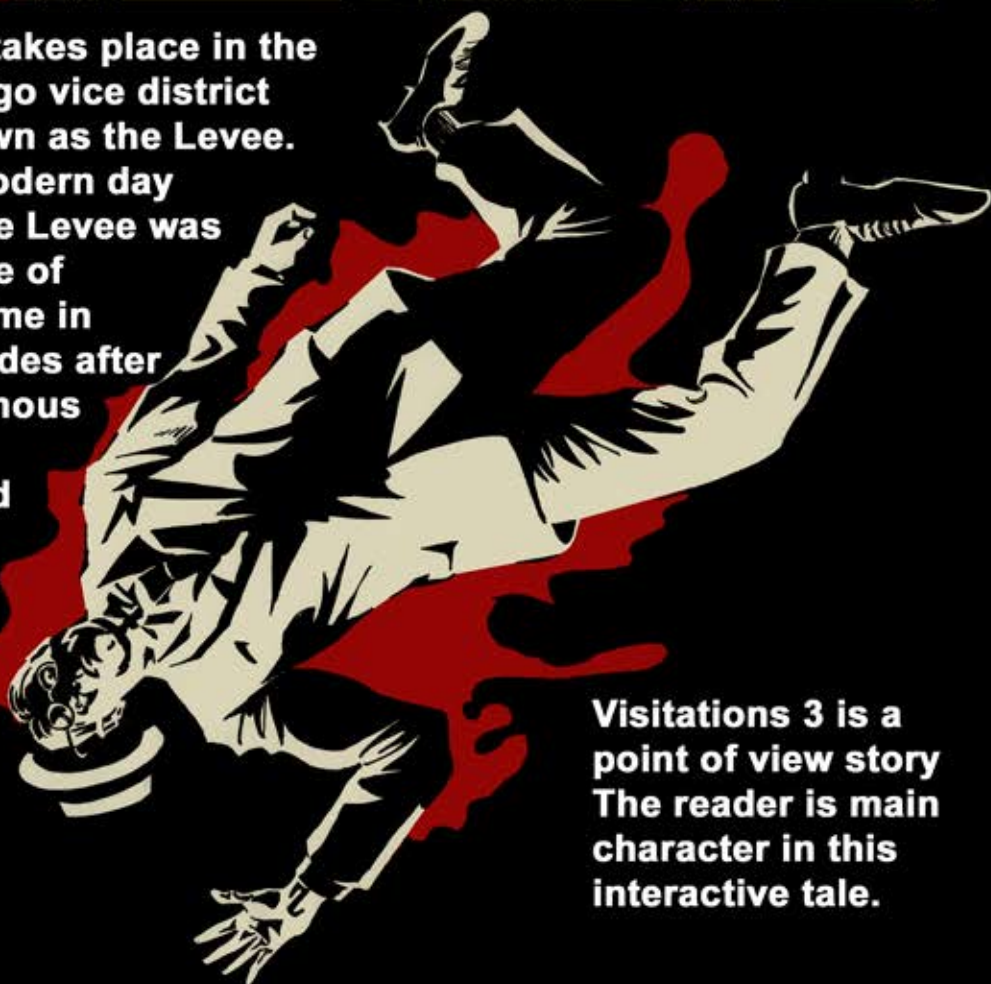


**Ghostly characters
in Visitations 3
are inspired by 2
children monuments in
Graceland Cemetery.**





Visitations 3 takes place in the extinct Chicago vice district that was known as the Levee. Located in modern day Chinatown the Levee was the birth place of organized crime in the city. Decades after this story, famous gangster Al Capone would set up his headquarters in the area at the Lexington Hotel.



Visitations 3 is a point of view story. The reader is main character in this interactive tale.



Visitations 4 is a fully painted story. The image above is a marker study of the final piece.

In addition to this, the issue is accompanied by a downloadable audio file which is the same story told from a different perspective in the style of a 1940's radio show. It is performed by Chicago acting troupe Locked Into Vacancy Entertainment.



MORE DEATHS FOLLOW WITH THE SAME
PHENOMENA - DEATHS OF A RICHARD
FOLLOWED BY A QUICK DEATH.

THE NEWSPAPERS REPORT THE
DEATHS AND CALL THEM THE
MURDER MURDER. TERROR
REIGNS THROUGH THE CITY.

THERE IS NO APPARENT CONNECTION
BETWEEN THE VICTIMS. THEY ARE
OLD AND YOUNG, RICH AND POOR, MAN
AND WOMAN.

THE BANDS SWITZERS AND THEIR PIVOTAL
CONNECTIONS ARE UNABLE TO PROVIDE
ANY CLUE. INVESTIGATION ABOUT THE
MURDER. THEY CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR
MUSICIANS AND MUSIC.

THE POLICE CALL IN A
PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS
10 CENTS—4TH YEAR—107.

HER MURDER

5 O'Clock
EDITION
WITH SUPP
A DARING TR



ALTHOUGH THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE
ANY CONNECTION AMONG THE VICTIMS, ONE
THING SEEMS CONSISTENT AT THE CRIME
SCENE: I CONTINUE TO FIND A BUCKNER
BROCKMANN RECORD BUT NO PLAYER.
WAS IT THE RECORD OR ANOTHER DEVICE
THAT PLAYED A PART IN THE DEATHS
OF THESE CITIZENS?

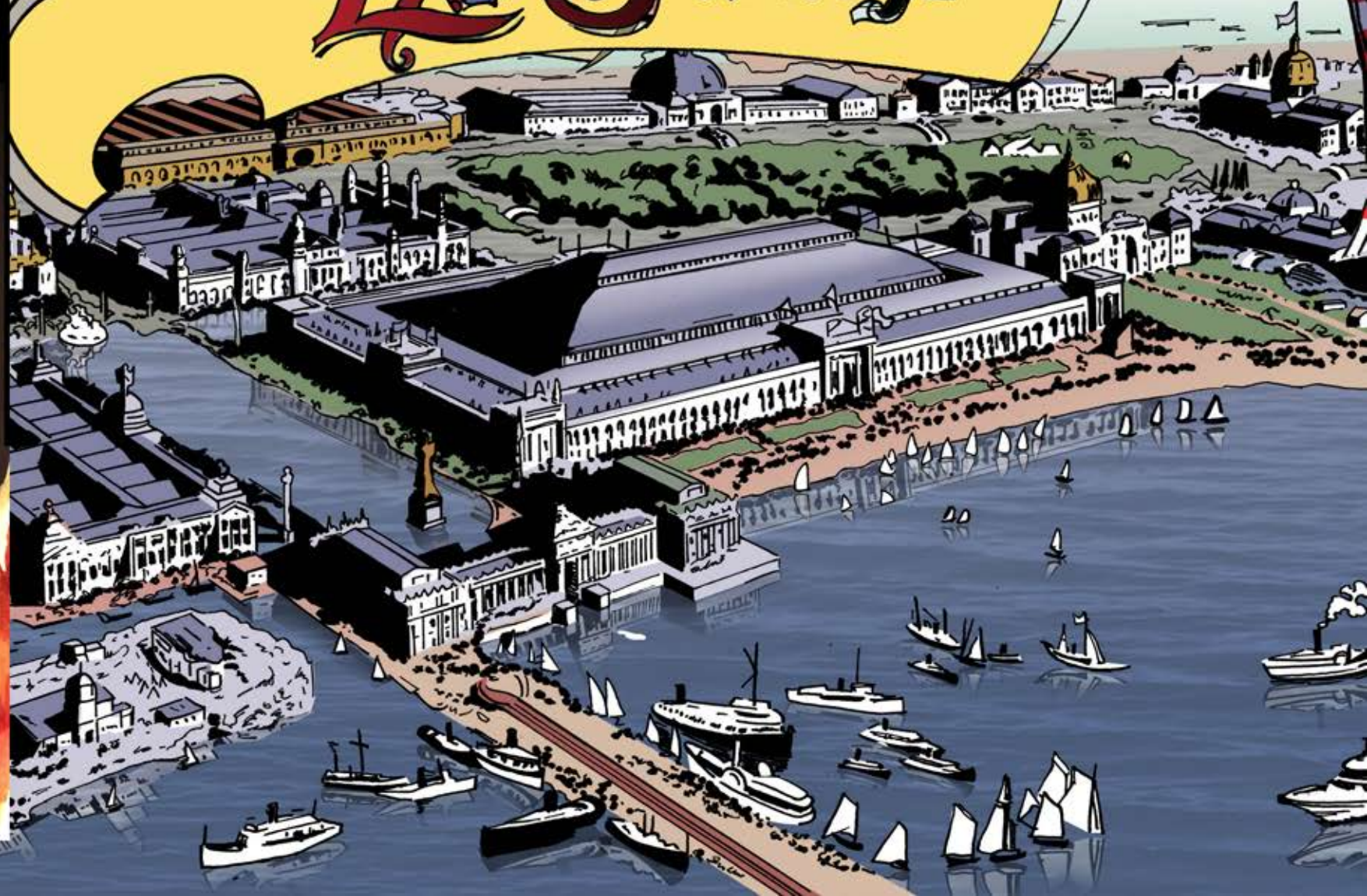


AS THE BODIES CONTINUE TO PILE UP,
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT MY
ENEMY BARONDO MAY BE BEHIND THIS.
BUT WHY AND HOW IS THE
CONNECTION BETWEEN THE VICTIMS?



Visitations 5 takes the reader to the Chicago World's Fair of 1893.

THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION





Visitations 6 shows the infamous Newspaper Wars of the Turn Of The Century.



ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

YES.

THIS BOMB WILL COLLAPSE THE ELEVATED TRAIN WHICH WILL BLOCK TRAFFIC IN THE LOOP.

NO DELIVERIES WILL BE MADE.

PLUS WE CAN CONTACT THE CHRONICLE AND THEY CAN REPORT THE BLAST FIRST.

THIS SEEMS EXTREME.

WON'T INNOCENT PEOPLE BE HURT?

BETTER THEM THEN ME.

ARE YOU OK? WHY ARE YOU GO STILL?

WHO?

PERN O'BANNON, LEAVE THIS PLACE

NOW BE QUIET WHILE I INSTALL THIS.

*

HEED MY WORDS OR PERISH!

WHAT ARE YOU?

MOTHER OF GOD!

ONE WHO KNOWS YOUR TRUE FATE.

THAT
IS A LIE.

WHO?

THIS ONE
WHO SPEAKS OF ORACLES
HAS AN IMPAIRED
VISION.

SHE
DOES NOT RECOGNIZE
EVEN ME

SHE KNOWS
NOT THE FUTURE. SHE
CAN BARELY UNDERSTAND
THE PRESENT.

WHO AM I?
I AM TRILLY THE ONE
WHO KNOWS



Visitations 7 is a flip book with 2 stories. The first features a character based on Graceland Cemetery's Eternal Silence and shows the hidden secrets of the Iroquois Theater.



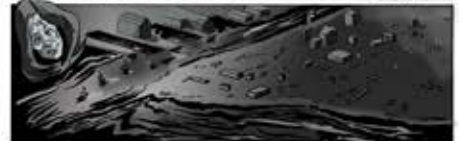
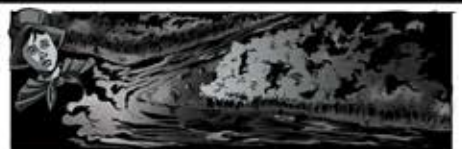
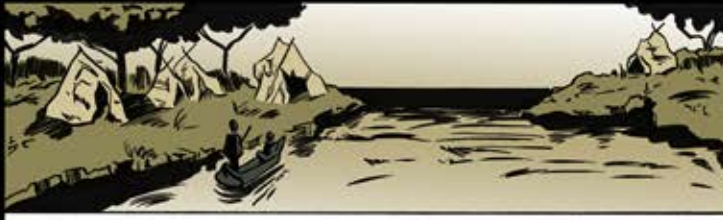
The 2nd story
visits Barack
Obama the day
before the 2008
Presidential election.



Composite photo from 10th floor
of 333 N. Michigan Ave.
(2015)



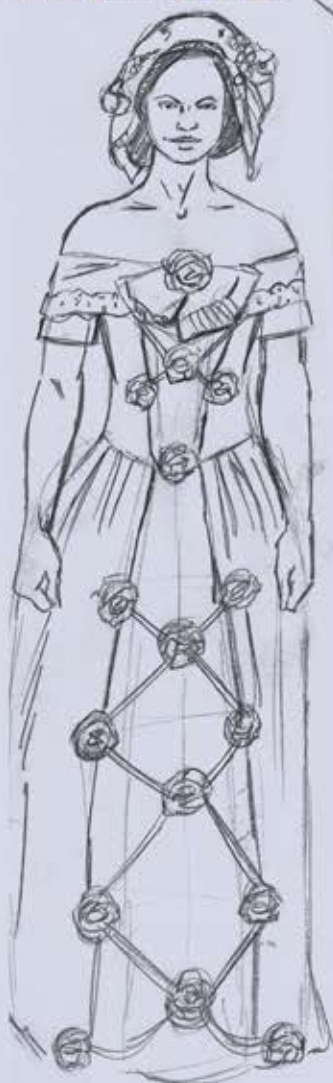
The city of Chicago is featured prominently throughout Visitations. The current location of Michigan and Wacker is shown as the birthplace of the Windy City. It's origin is covered in issues 5 & 6 of the series.







Cosplayer Madison Wyman came to C2E2 2020 dressed as Nellie McCullough and has had a character created based on her. Maddie's Character will debut in Visitations 7.





Visitation



Issues Now Available

All issues are available in both print and digital editions. Please email visitationscomicbook@gmail.com to order.

Issue 1: The Menacing Phantoms

Digital: FREE Print: \$12.00

Issue 2: The Great Balloon Disaster \$20.00

Issue 3: Mayhem At The Levee \$12.00

Issue 4: The Victrolia Of Doom \$12.00

Issue 5: The Snake Lady Of The Fair \$12.00

Issue 6: Death On The Elevated \$12.00

Issue 7:
Prisoners / Slaughter At The Stockyards \$12.00

Issue 8: The Dead Teach The Living \$12.00

Issue 9: Waiting At The Door \$12.00

Digital of every issue
\$5.00 ea.



Chicago Merchandise Art Seen In Visitations



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Images store on
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