IDW COMICS & ENTERTAINMENT

ROAD TO #100

89

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

COVER BY MILES ARQ

35th ANNIVERSARY

SEGA®

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

STORY
EVAN STANLEY

PENCILS
NATALIE HAINES

INKS
MATT FROESE

COLORS
LEONARDO ITO DE OLIVEIRA

LETTERS
ED DUKESHIRE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
BIXIE MATHIEU

EDITOR
RILEY FARMER

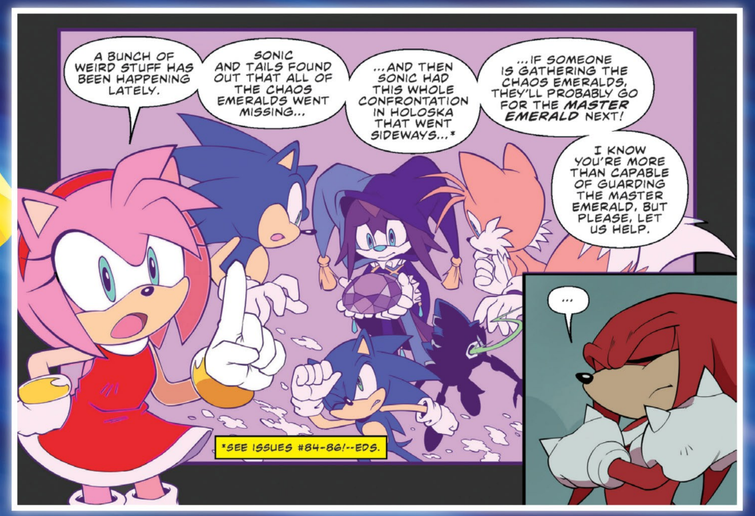
PRODUCTION
JOHANNA NATTALIE

Special thanks to Mai Kiyotaki, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, David Mariotte, Yusuke Sato, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

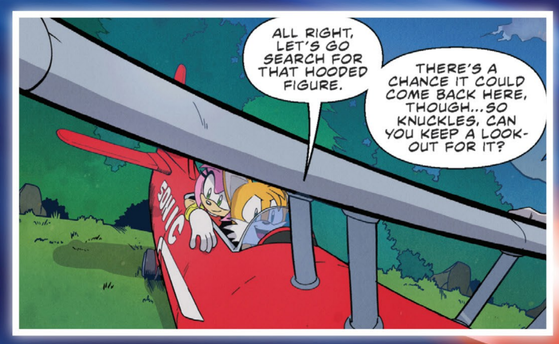
STORY SO FAR...











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BLAZE THE CAT

FIRE-POWERED PRINCESS.
FRIEND FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION.

SILVER THE HEDGEHOG

YOUNG PSYCHIC HERO.
FRIEND FROM THE FUTURE.


DEEP IN THE FORESTS OF SYLVANIA...

SYLVANIA CASTLE.

THE TIME IS UPON US, MY DEARS. IF WE ALL WORK TOGETHER, THIS WILL COME TOGETHER *BEAUTIFULLY!*

MIND THE GAP WHEN YOU WHEEL THE CARTS ON THE LIFT. IT WOULDN'T DO TO LOSE ANY DISHES NOW.

OF COURSE, MS. HOUSEKEEPER!

SLOW AND STEADY ON THAT ROAST. THAT'S HOW YOU'LL GET A GOOD CRUST.

ON IT, MS. HOUSEKEEPER!

AND KEEP WHISKING! WE CAN'T HAVE THAT SAUCE BREAKING!

ONLY THE BEST FOR MASTER BLACKWOOD!

YES, MS. HOUSEKEEPER!

SO, DID YOU SEE THEM?

MM-HMM! I TOOK THEIR COATS. THERE'S TWO.

OOOOOH!

WHAT ARE THEY LIKE?

THERE'S A BOY AND A GIRL. AND THE GIRL, SHE...OH, I CAN SCARCELY SAY IT!

STOP STALLING!

SHE'S A PRINCESS! I HEARD HER TELL MASTER BLACKWOOD!

MASTER BLACKWOOD MUST BE *THRILLED!*

DID SHE HAVE A *CROWN?*

MASTER BLACKWOOD DESERVES ONLY THE *BEST.* IF THEY'RE PRETENDERS, HE'LL BE *DEVASTATED.*

AS UNBELIEVABLE AS IT MAY BE, IT *IS* TRUE. WE ARE ENTERTAINING *ROYALTY* TONIGHT, GIRLS.

ALL THE MORE REASON TO NOT KEEP MASTER BLACKWOOD AND HIS GUESTS *WAITING!* HURRY NOW, MY LOVELY MAIDS!

YES, MS. HOUSEKEEPER!

WHAK

OH MY! THAT WAS QUITE A KONK, WASN'T IT, DEARIE?

OOH...

WE CAN'T HAVE YOU GOING UPSTAIRS IF YOU'RE NOT FIT TO WORK... AS YOU KNOW, IT'S--

--ONLY THE *BEST* FOR MASTER BLACKWOOD! I'M FINE, I CAN GO!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

YOU'RE SUCH A *KLUTZ*. YOU BETTER NOT *EMBARRASS* US IN FRONT OF MASTER BLACKWOOD AND HIS GUESTS!

I--I WON'T!

KACHUNK LURCH

DING

You see, up there?

My family has flown that crest since we took these lands and built the original Sylvania Castle.

My ancestor, Blackwood the First, laid the cornerstone with his own two hands... Oh, but to live in such times! Don't you agree, Lady Blaze?

MM-HMM. INDEED.

HAVE ALL THE FOLKS IN CHARGE OF THE CASTLE BEEN NAMED BLACKWOOD?

Oh, I wouldn't want to bore you with that particular tale, Mr. Silver. This is a night for ***merriment,*** after all.

GURGLE

If you'll indulge me, I'd like to make a ***toast!***

When I received word that such ***remarkable*** individuals were traveling through Sylvania, I knew that I must hear your stories ***firsthand.***

It is my pleasure--no, my ***honor***--to entertain such ***noble...***

...and, ah, ***unique*** guests.

As I'm sure you know, the world is not kind to those who strive to ***uphold*** a certain level of ***chivalry.***

But the Blackwood family has always been ***strong.***

As are our ***wonderful servants,*** good people of Sylvania! They are a reflection of our land's resilience and pride, even in the face of modernity's ***many*** indignities.

And so, I toast to our guests, Blaze and Silver, to my beloved Sylvania, and to its people.

Now, with our appetites sufficiently whetted...***dinner is served!***

LATER...

WHOA. WHAT IS *THAT?*

Oh, you haven't seen one before? It's an old family recipe...

WHOOSH

Given your ***particular talents,*** my lady, I thought it would be fitting.

FWOOSH

THAT I CAN SEE.

MTCH

Any chance you might be willing to ***demonstrate?***

PERHAPS ANOTHER TIME.

WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO DO WITH...

USE THE FORK TO PICK OUT THE BUNS THROUGH THE FLAMES, AND CRACK THE CARAMEL COATING WITH THE NUTCRACKER!

YOU'RE A LIFESAVER. THANKS!

YOU'RE SO VERY WELCOME, SIR! ENJOY!

SILVER AND I SHOULD BE *ON OUR WAY* SOON. WE WOULDN'T WANT TO IMPOSE ANY FURTHER ON YOUR GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY.

Oh, no! You ***must*** stay the night. ***I insist.***

The evenings here are ***dangerously*** cold this time of year. The staff already have your quarters prepared...

UGH...

CLATTA

:GASP:

IT'S OKAY. I'VE GOT YOU.

WHERE... WHO?

WHOA, HEY! DON'T--

Shh. No hysterics now...

No fever. Good.

...

Just relax...

I'M FINE!

I'M SO TERRIBLY SORRY, MASTER BLACKWOOD!

WITH ALL THE EXCITEMENT, I MUST HAVE OVEREXERTED MYSELF...

YOUR STAFF CERTAINLY ARE... LOYAL.

Indeed. they **serve** me well.

Think nothing of it. It's been an exciting night for us all. ***Run along*** now!

GRRRUMM

WHEW...

OH NO, NO!

CRASH

:SOB:

MISS? ARE YOU--

SHOE

DON'T TOUCH ME!

WHUH, A... KITCHEN?

WAIT, I... I KNOW YOU! JOEY, RIGHT? I'VE SEEN YOU AT THE YOUTH CENTER!

TERRIBLY SORRY, MISS, I'M JUST A DISHWASHER. I DON'T--

DON'T MESS WITH ME, MAN! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!

NOW! IS THAT ANY WAY FOR A YOUNG LADY TO TALK, DEARIE?

...

AUNTIE LICHEN!

AUNTIE, I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE, AND I KEEP *BLACKING OUT.* I--I THINK I HIT MY HEAD. *BAD.*

TSK-TSK-TSK... OH, THIS *CERTAINLY* WON'T DO...

...YOU'RE OF NO USE TO MASTER BLACKWOOD IN THIS STATE.

WHAT--

DOWNSTAIRS IT IS, THEN.

WAIT! STOP!

THUMP

RRGH-- LISTEN TO ME!

UMPH!

KA CHUNK

GRAB

:GASP:

LURCH

PLEASE...

I'M SORRY, DEAR. I KNOW THIS MUST ALL BE VERY UPSETTING. BUT YOU REALLY *MUST* GO.

ONLY THE BEST FOR MASTER BLACKWOOD.

SHFF

OH CRAP, OH CRAP, OH CRAP, OH--

SWEEE

AAAAAAH!

FWASH

...

THAT WAS CLOSE!

WHAT.

RIGHT, I DIDN'T INTRODUCE MYSELF BEFORE. I'M SILVER.

I WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE FEELING ALL RIGHT. I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND YOU LIKE, UH, *THIS*, BUT I'M GLAD I DID!

I DIDN'T CATCH YOUR NAME EARLIER.

DAPPLE... THE DOE. THIS IS LIKE A CONCUSSION NIGHTMARE, RIGHT?

THAT'S A THING, I THINK...

HUH?

I MEAN, WHY ELSE WOULD I KEEP WAKING UP IN SOME *FANTASY-LOOKING CASTLE*, WHERE MY FRIENDS *DON'T KNOW ME*, AND *I'M FALLING* AND GETTING RESCUED BY WHATEVER *YOU* ARE--NO OFFENSE-- AND...

...UGH, IT FEELS LIKE MY HEAD IS GONNA CRACK OPEN ANY--

--AAAAH!

DAPPLE!
I...I REMEMBER...
I...HAVE TO SEE... MYSELF...
HUH?
SHAKE SHAKE
DAPPLE! CAN YOU HEAR ME?!
SIR? GOODNESS, PARDON M--
--EEEAAAH!
HEY, IT'S OKAY, YOU'RE SAFE!
WHAT WERE YOU SAYING BEFORE ABOUT WAKING UP SOMEWHERE STRANGE, AND PEOPLE NOT KNOWING YOU?

I--I'M SORRY SIR, I DON'T KNOW, I...

THIS SHOULDN'T BE--*I SHOULDN'T BE*--O-OH, I SHOULD BE IN THE *KITCHENS*...

FINE, FINE. YOU WANNA GO BACK TO THE KITCHEN, RIGHT? I'LL DROP YOU OFF.

OH! THANK YOU, SIR!

HEY, DON'T CALL ME THAT. IT'S SILVER, REMEMBER?

CERTAINLY, MR. SILVER!

NOT LIKE--UGH. CLOSE ENOUGH.

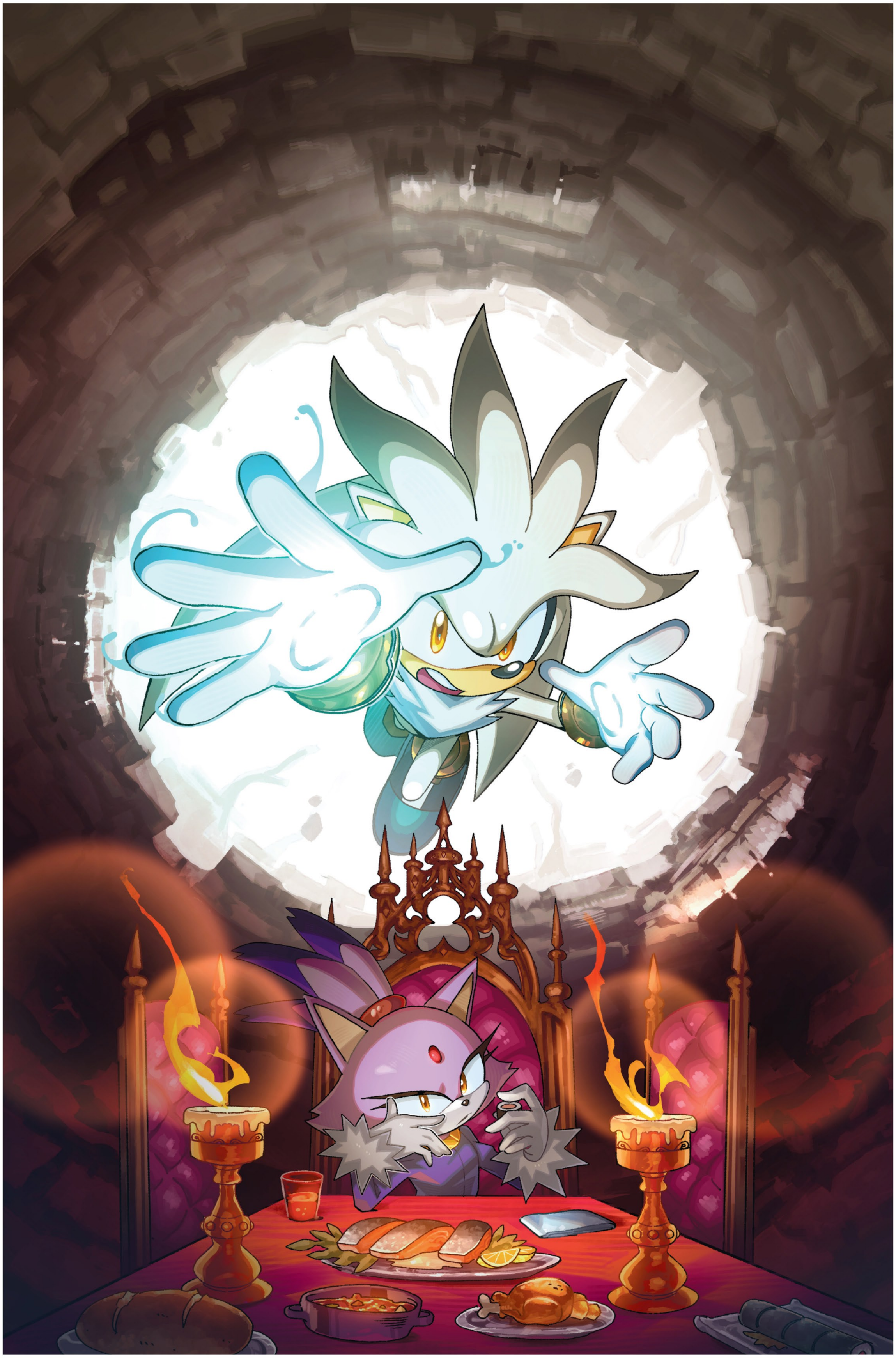
HM?

WHEN WAS I...

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT MONTH...





ART BY MILES ARQ



ART BY ABIGAIL OZ

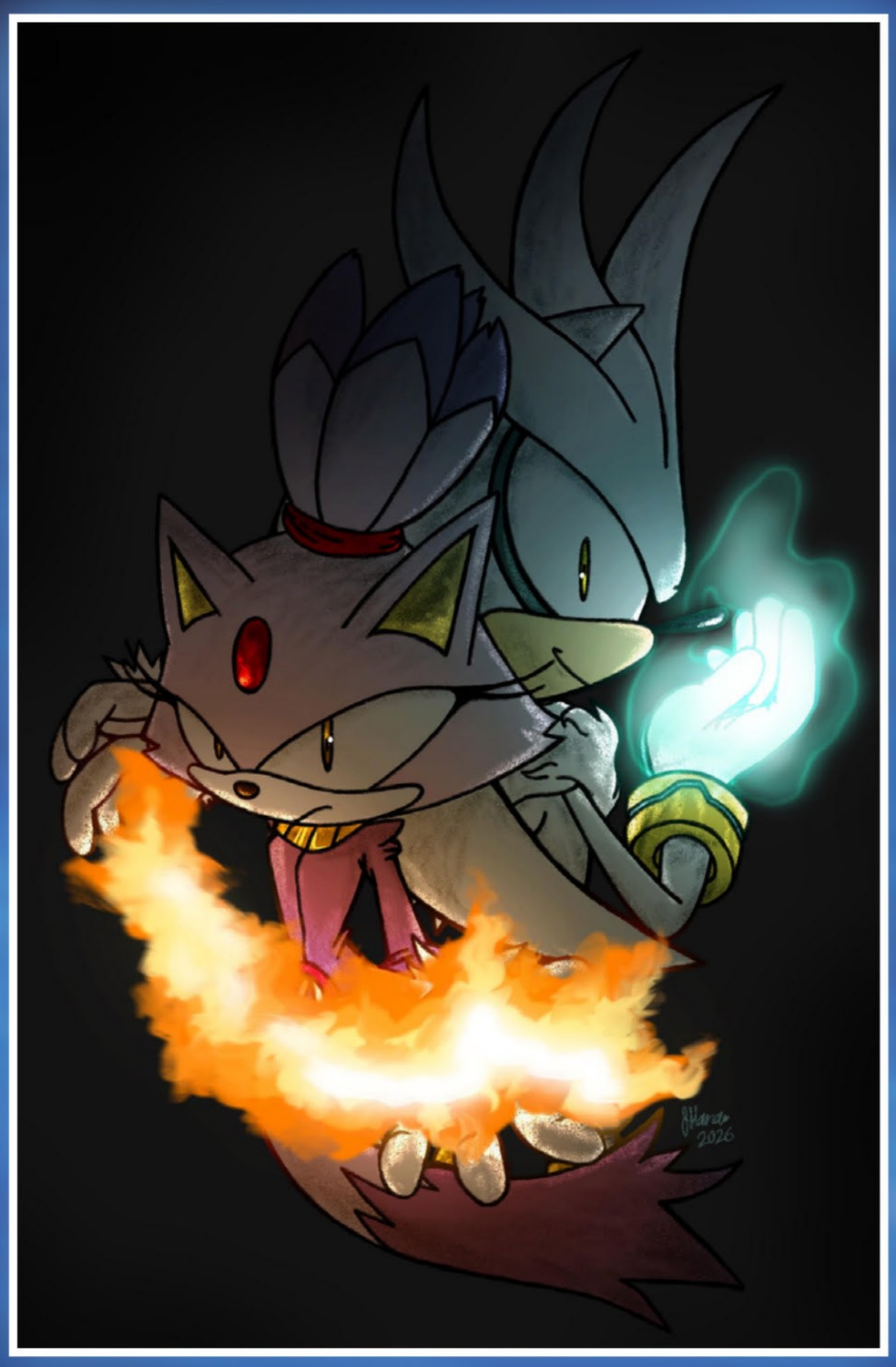


ART BY NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

SOMETHING CLEARLY ISN'T RIGHT HERE... IT'S UP TO OUR HEROES, BLAZE AND SILVER, TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERIES OF THIS SINISTER CASTLE! PERHAPS THEIR NEWFOUND FRIEND DAPPLE CAN PROVIDE SOME INSIGHT INTO THE MYSTERIOUS MASTER BLACKWOOD!

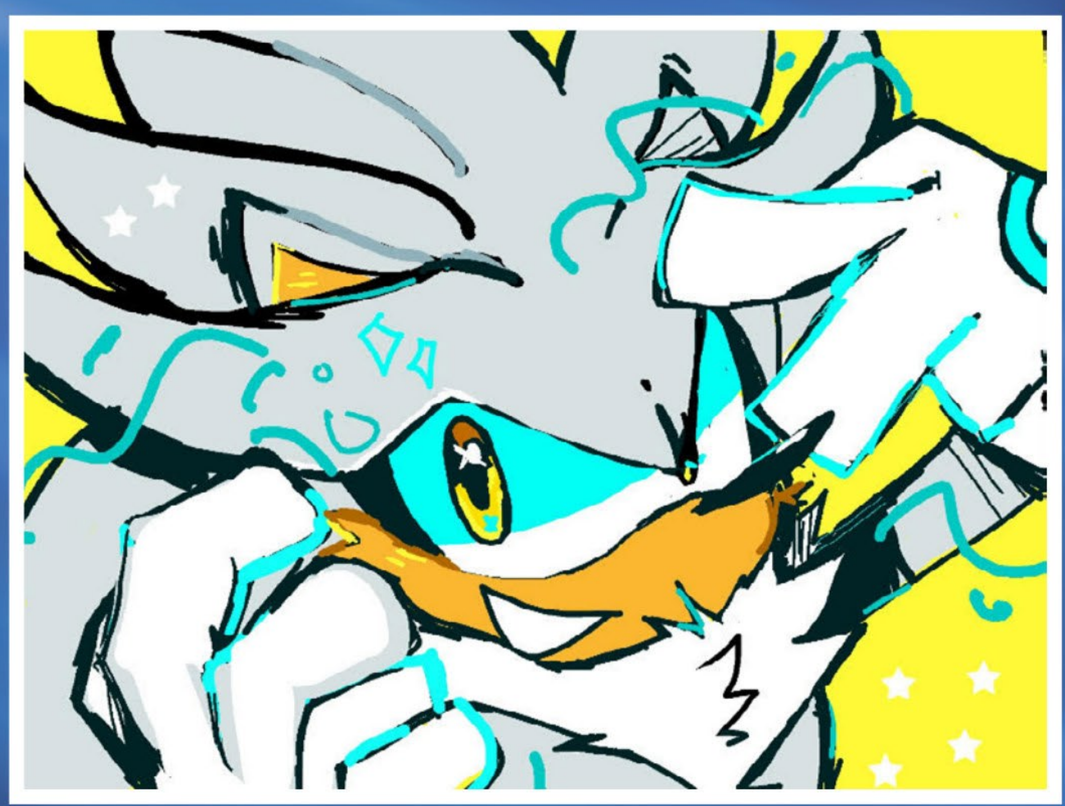
BUT THAT WILL HAVE TO WAIT, AS WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO THE SPOOKTACULAR TEAM WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE —EVAN STANLEY, NATALIE HAINES, MATT FROESE, LEONARDO ITO, AND ED DUKESHIRE! NOW, LET'S HEAR FROM OUR WONDERFUL SONIC SQUAD!



ART BY JAYDA

My name is Jayda and I have been a fan of the Sonic franchise for about 6 years now, hehe. I wanted to say thank you for the comics you provide for us monthly! They inspire me so much that I wanted to share this artwork I made of Silver and Blaze. Silver is in my top three favorite characters along with Shadow and Tails; I love how they have been characterized in the comics lately, and you guys continue to do so many wonders for the comics! I am really excited for their arc, and I hope we get to see more duo arcs soon! In the meantime, please take your time with the comics because it is worth the wait with the amazing stories you make. I hope you enjoy your day and thank you again for all hard work you do!

Hi, Jayda! Thank you for all of your kind words and your amazing art! We're so excited that we get to bring you (and other fans) a brand-new Silver and Blaze story! These two are an iconic duo, and we hope everyone enjoys seeing them in this gothic setting. Additionally, if you're a fan of duo arcs, you're in luck! Tangle and Whisper get their own, and then it's on to Surge and Kit! We're excited for everyone to get a chance to shine!



ART BY KYRO

I have always loved this whole franchise, and it's brought me a lot of confidence. Literally all your characters embody one unique personality, and represents reality. I also really hope you guys will have a few good comics this year with Silver (a lot of us fans are wanting this to be a year of Silver) and the recognition he deserves! Anyhow, keep up the great work!

Hi Kyro! Well, since you insisted, here's an arc giving some recognition to our friend from the future! We hope you enjoy!

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING, SONIC SQUAD! DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR ART AND LETTERS TO ***LETTERS@IDWPUBLISHING.COM****, AND MAKE SURE TO MARK THEM:* ***"OKAY TO PRINT"****! AND JOIN THE IDW SONIC COMICS SQUAD ON FACEBOOK! NEXT MONTH, BLAZE MUST PLAY HER PART AS A DIPLOMAT TO UNCOVER BLACKWOOD'S SECRETS, WHILE SILVER WORKS TO FREE DAPPLE'S MIND! SEE YOU THEN!*



VIEW FROM THE BACK PAGE

IDW GOES DARK

GOOD HORROR DOESN'T JUST SCARE YOU. IT STICKS WITH YOU...IT HAUNTS YOU.

Whether it's psychological nightmares, shocking gore, or a completely unexpected type of terror, quality horror drills into your brain and refuses to leave. No one is immune from frights. **SONIC** can't outrun it. **GODZILLA** can't smash it. The **TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES** can't beat it. **STAR TREK** can't find a solution. And **BENEATH THE TREES WHERE NOBODY SEES'** Samantha Strong can't... Well, maaaaybe Samantha's the one exception!

The hit horror imprint **IDW DARK** is slithering toward the end of its second year, and this scary line of comics can't be contained. It's spreading fear and darkness across **IDW PUBLISHING**...and no one can escape it.

When Halloween is right around the corner and the spookiest season of the year is underway, how could we possibly resist bringing the eerie experience of **IDW DARK** to the rest of the publishing line?! With **IDW GOES DARK VARIANTS**, we're honoring horror by inviting some of the most talented artists in the comic book industry—like Francesco Francavilla, Damien Worm, Danny Earls, and Morgan Beem—to craft unforgettable scares with 12 haunting variant covers across 12 completely different titles.

From fascinating fear on **STAR TREK: THE LAST STARSHIP #12** to cute chills on **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #91**, the sinister selection of collectible cover art proudly represents everything that has made **IDW DARK** such a success: an honest love and appreciation for the horror genre and the many ways fear can take shape to leave a lasting impression. Even after you have these covers bagged and boarded and put away in a long box, they'll still linger in your memory. That's good horror.

So don't be afraid—come celebrate the thrills of horror with **IDW GOES DARK**. Just don't give your comic shop a nightmare by forgetting to pre-order!

Gregg Katzman
Senior Publicity Manager



ON SALE SEPTEMBER 9TH

