

Beauty and the Beast



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Beauty and the Beast

Above, Below, And Beyond...

What Has Gone Before

LAST ISSUE: Once upon a time, in the city of New York...

Removing her facial bandages in Vincent's underground world, Catherine Chandler is initially frightened by her benefactor's appearance: a beast, a lion who walks like a man.

But actually, he is more -- far, far more caring and soulful than any man she has met. Despite his elegance, despite the beauty of this underground miracle, she returns to her world above, where she feels she belongs.

Still scarred and aching, she returns to her apartment and attempts to reach her father by phone; as usual, he is not there for her. She collapses, later awakening slightly in the hospital as she is about to undergo surgery.

Under the anesthetic, she experiences nightmares of her plight, her father's lack of understanding of her needs and hopes, and her callous boyfriend Tom Gunther. Only a dream-glimpse of Vincent seems to make her feel at ease. She awakens to find her doctor and plenty of flowers, but neither her father nor Gunther are anywhere nearby. She longs for Vincent's voice, reading to her.

Eight months later, she has begun to turn her life around, leaving her father's law firm, taking a job in the District Attorney's office, trying to prove herself without being in the shadow of her father.

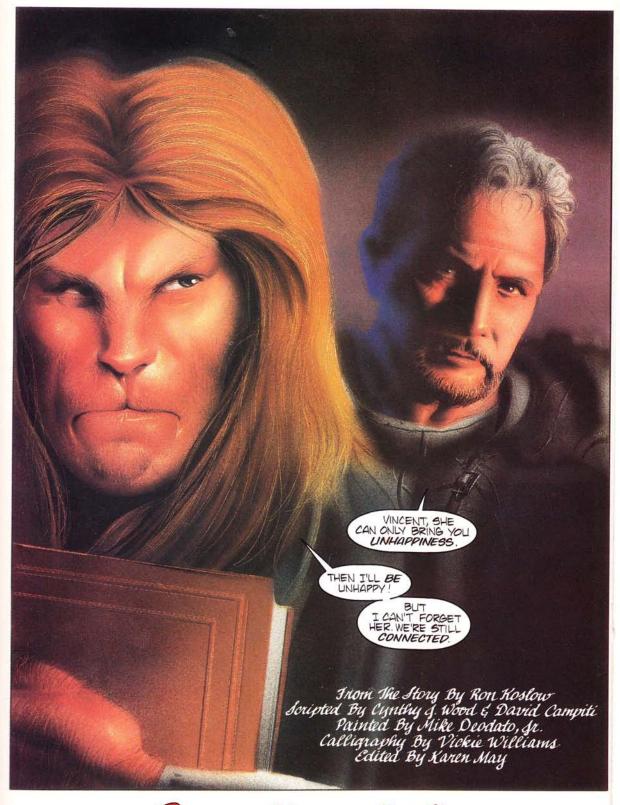
Realizing her vulnerability, Catherine also trains under a streetfighter named Isaac Stubbs.

Finally, she befriends a computer worker named Edie Woods, who took Catherine to be just a rich do-gooder until she discovered proof of the disfiguring attack which Catherine barely survived.

And in his underground world, with the man he calls Father nearby, Vincent broads....

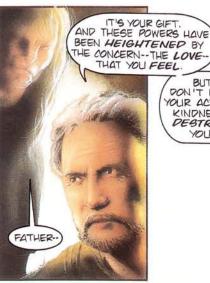


-- David Campiti Karen May March, 1993



Once Upon a Time... In The City of New York Poet III





DON'T LET YOUR ACT OF KINDNESS DESTROY YOU

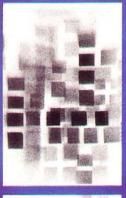






AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
VICTIM NAME FELWAY
DATE OF INCIDENT 12 APRIL 1986
HAIR-BLACK EYES-BROWN
HEIGHT-67" WEIGHT-124
SEX-FEMALE DOB-17 MAY 1964
STATUS--UNDER INVESTIGATION
FILE INO-ADRX-73856

HERE ARE ALL THE CAROLS... LET'S PUNCH INTO THE FILES.





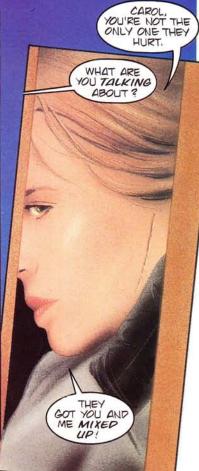
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
VICTIM NAME STABLER
DATE OF INCIDENT: 12 APRIL 1986
HAIR--LT BROWN EYES-GREEN
HEIGHT--65" LIEIGHT--105
SEX--FEMALE DOB-- 05 FEB 1956
STATUS-- (NCT W CUSTODY
FILE NO--ADRX-76315















YEAH--

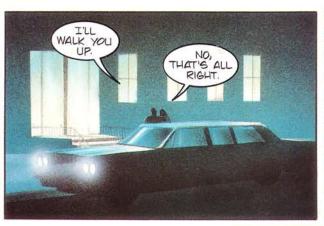
-- THAT'S 6000--



"-- BUT YOU BETTER BITE ME OR SOMETHIN', THOUGH."











MY WORK'S
IMPORTANT TO ME, TOO.
BUT THAT DOESN'T
MEAN WE CAN'T SEE
EACH OTHER.



I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU SLIP AWAY.

I'M NOT GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN.











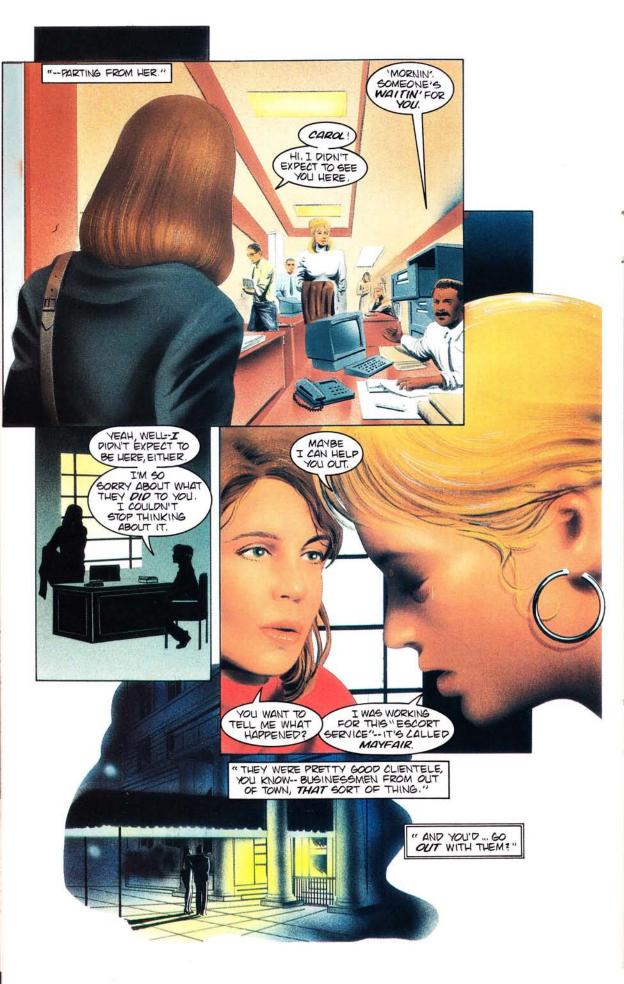


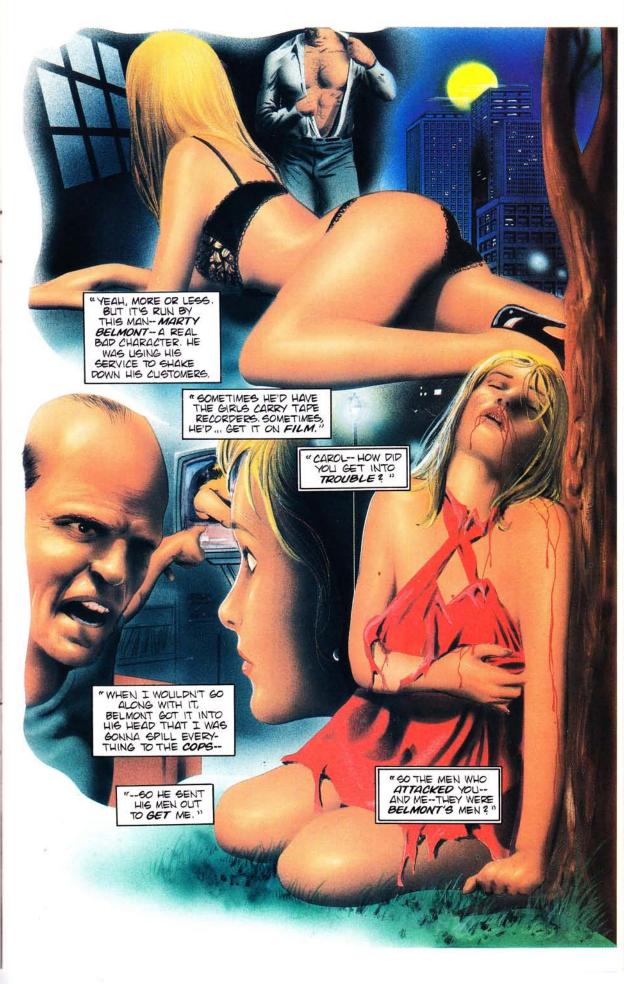




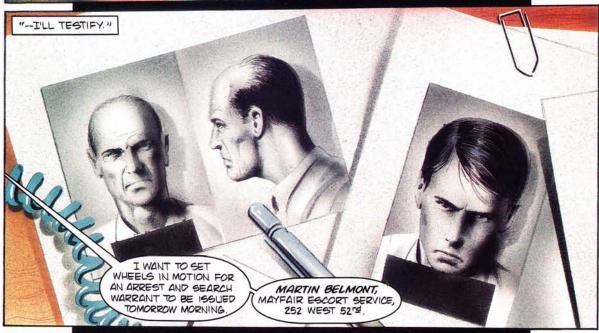






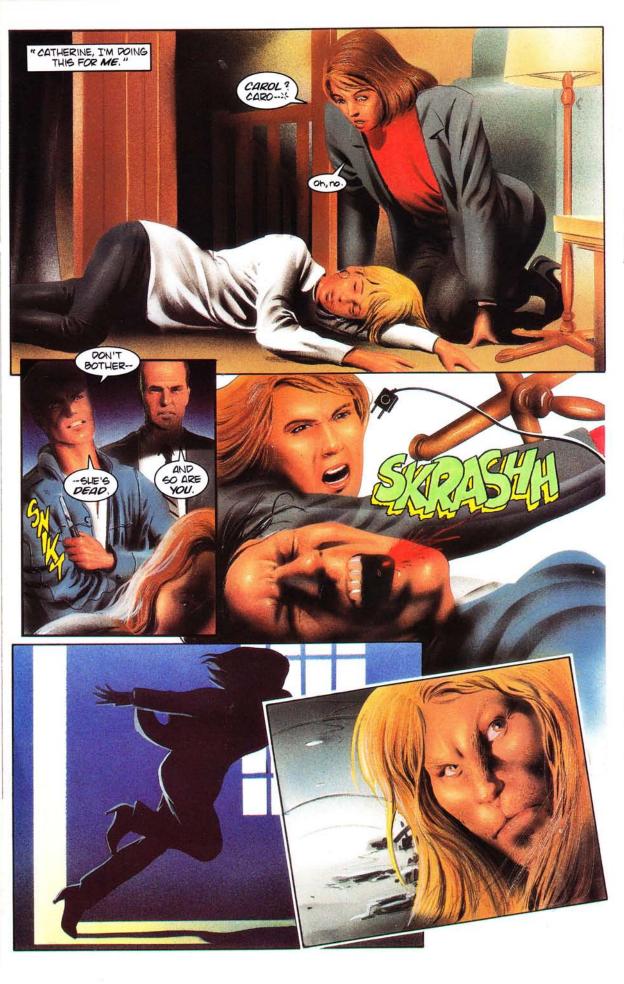




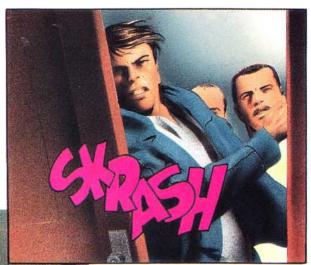


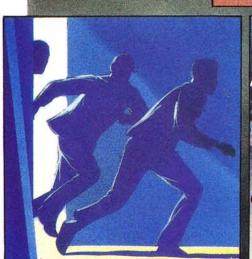








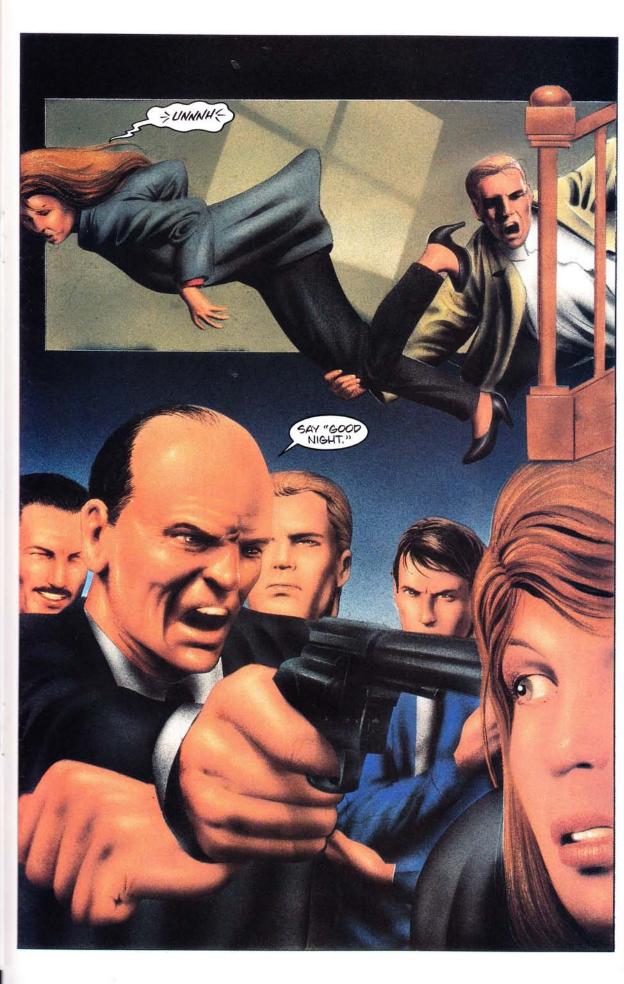




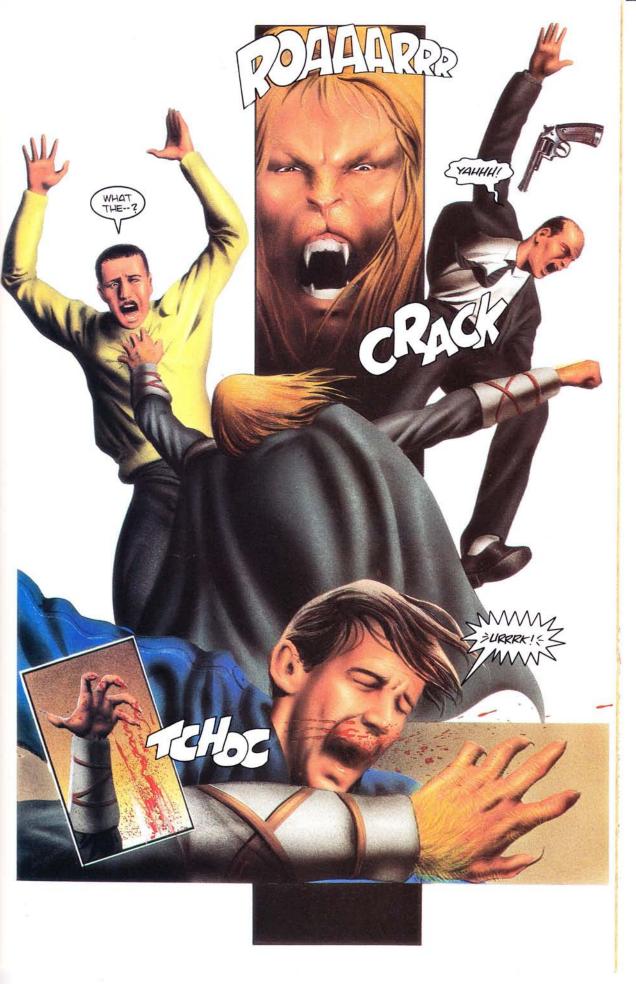


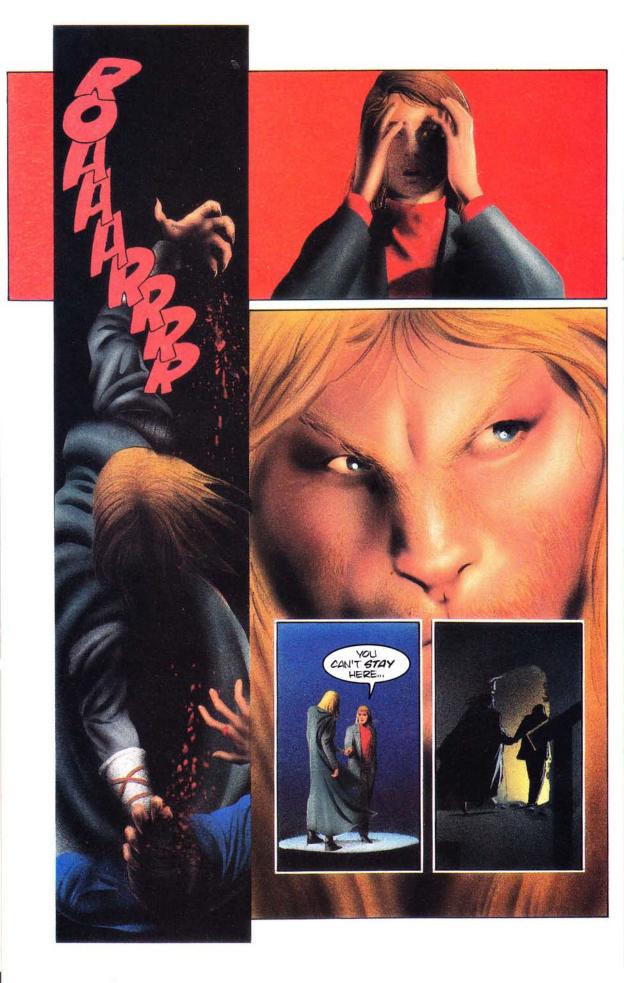




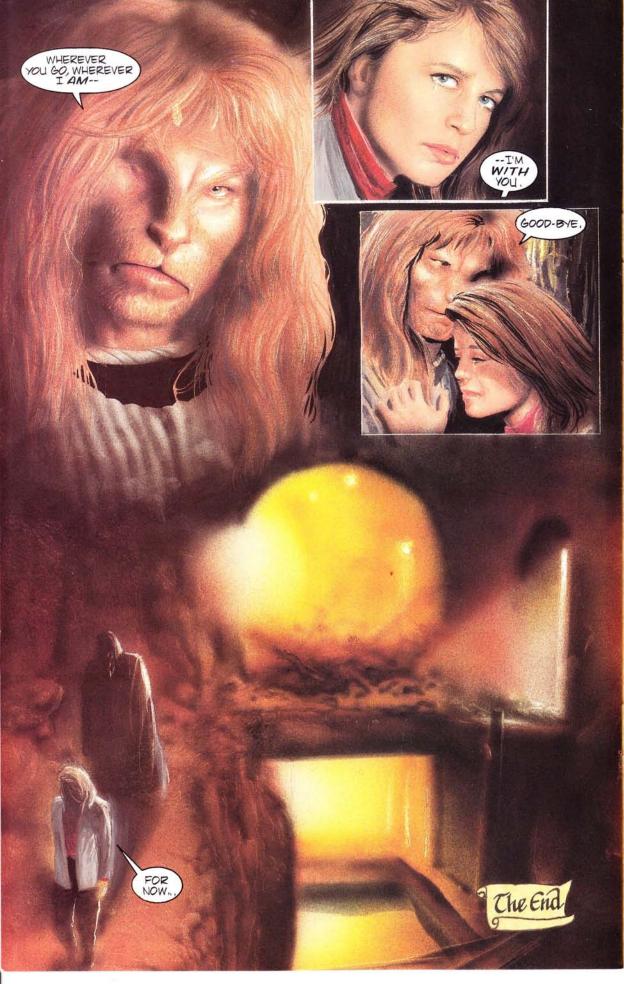








SIR--YOU GOT ANY IDEAS? NO. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY WERE MAULED ---BY A THERE ARE SOME PRETTY STRANGE THINGS GOING ON IN THIS CITY. AND I HEAR EVEN STRANGER THINGS GOING ON BENEATH IT. I PON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED HERE--GOING TO FIND I OWE YOU EVERYTHING EVERYTHING. YOU OWE ME NOTHING. I AM PART OF YOU, CATHERINE--JUST AS YOU ARE PART OF ME.



Beautyand the Beast

3622 Jacob Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

Welcome to Innovation's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST #3, and our first lettercol.

Thanks go, first of all, to Paula Vitaris and Peter J. Formaini - for providing us with the wonderful text feature that graced our first issue!

Now: We've been sifting through our mountain of mail on that premiere issue, and here's an across-the-board sampling of comments....

Dear Mr. Campiti:

I simply had to write to let you know how happy I am that you are producing BEAUTY AND THE BEAST in graphic format. I hesitate to use the word comic" to describe your first issue. The artwork is gorgeous. Mr. Deodato is to be congratulated for interpreting the beginning of Vincent and Catherine's story in such a lovely form.

I'm eagerly looking forward to issue #2 and many, many more issues after that. hope your BEAUTY AND THE BEAST series is successful and that you are also able, in the future, to produce ORIGINAL Vincent and Catherine stories.

"Promises of Yesterday: A Short History of Beauty and the Beast" by Paula Vitaris and Peter Formaini was very interesting. I agree 100% with the statement, "...the two-hour movie, entitled Though Lovers Be Lost,' and broadcast on December 12, 1989...had to be the low moment of all Beauty and the Beast episodes, full of gratuitous violence, ugly characters and situations, and some truly ridiculous scenes." I was devastated by Catherine's death (and the way they killed her, as well) and that third season. Beauty and the Beast became The Hairy Avenger.

I hope so much that you will stick with the premise of the first two seasons. B&B was a true fairy tale and, as far as I'm concerned, Vincent and Catherine's love is "eternal," "happily forever after," the way all fairy tales should be -- even adult fairy

Are you open to fans' suggestions as to what original stories we might like to read? I'm sure many fans would be very eager to share their ideas with you. I would also like to see a real kiss between Vincent and Catherine.

I feel that, somewhere along the line, Ron Koslow lost sight of what his story was really about -- and I feel he let

his fans down greatly. I realize it is his creation, not ours; but we were given a beautiful love story between two people and then it was brutally taken from us. It seemed there was the promise of a happy ending at one time -- and poof! It was gone. I feel both Linda Hamilton and Ron Perlman wanted the character relationships to progress.

I have little hope that Ron Koslow will ever do a B&B feature film. If he does, I do not hold much hope that he will bring the lovers together in the way most fans long for - whether Linda Hamilton gives in and agrees to play Catherine or they replace her with another actress.



That is why I hope you'll give us at least some of the romance we so yearned for. Yes, it's already there with every look, every touch, every word that passes between them...but it would be so wonderful to see some fulfillment beyond. A kiss would be wonderful!

Thank you so much for bringing us these lovely graphic novels, and I wish you all the good success!

> Marilyn Prather 4710 Nightingale Drive Apt. M-105 Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Many thanks for your kind words and insights, Marilyn. Some thoughts on your thoughts:

Don't feel hesitant to call this a comic book; we do, and we're proud of it. It refers to a medium. Film is a medium; so are CD's, radio drama, whatever. A "graphic novel" is a thicker, perfect-bound complete story -- for example, our three issues adapting "Once Upon A Time..." could be collected into a graphic novel.

We plan to adapt the best of the first two seasons' episodes, expanding with new material (such as you saw in this three-parter) as well as adding scenes that were scripted but never appeared in the final broadcast shows.

For legal reasons, we cannot read fans' ideas for new stories.

The third season was pretty much thrust upon Ron Koslow by two factors -Linda Hamilton's departure and the network's desire for an action show rather than a romantic show. The network got what they wanted.

As of this writing, a Beauty and the Beast movie is still being talked about.

Karen May and I would love to write new episodes; we've particularly toyed with a saga that picks up the pieces and moves on -with Catherine! Will we get to do them in these pages? That's up to Ron Koslow and Republic Pictures!

Dear David and Karen:

How do I begin? Easy: THANK YOU! In December, I ordered 12 issues of your BEAUTY AND THE BEAST comicbook series. Would you say that I was thrilled to see new classic stuff? You have no idea how happy you've made many of

I knew you planned to release the new comic in early February, and I sat counting the days. On February 14th, I checked my local comic-book store and found that they would be selling your series. Three days later, I received a letter from my friend Marilyn Prather in Colorado, and she told me she had gotten the first issue -- and it was FANTASTIC!

That very night I got a call from my friend Sherry King in California. She had to tell me your comic was BETTER than she ever thought it would be. Needless to say, I wanted to scream like a spoiled child for my comic.

On Friday, my friend Janet Dunadee in Staten Island called me saying she found out that some people who ordered 12-issue subscriptions -- like us -were special orders, and that those would follow later.

But do you think I was able to wait?

NEVER!!! I went to my comics shop on Sunday, February 21st -- in a snow storm -- and sure enough, there they were! I was so excited.

"Once Upon A Time: Part One" is a masterpiece. It is gorgeous, fantastic, magical, exciting. *Please* tell Mike Deodato, Jr. that he leaves me breathless, and I get goose bumps when I think of his artwork. He honors our beloved Tunnel family with his skill; don't think we don't notice all the little details.

Mr. Deodato did a super job with things like Catherine's stitches, the light filtering down in Father's study, etc. I could go on and on.

May I also praise the person who thought of one change in the story? When



Vincent carries Catherine to the tunnels, I thought it was so much better than the way Vincent carried Catherine in the pilot episode of *Beauty and the Beast*. It always bothered me that Vincent put Catherine over his shoulders like a sack. BRAVO!

I hope with all my heart that you will be able to do original stories. I would love to see Vincent and Catherine kiss, Vincent going into Catherine's apartment to sit by the fireplace with her, a simple thing like drink a cup of tea together, or a meal together. These are things that bothered CBS; you could do so much more for us. How about Father playing a game of chess with Catherine? Vincent could be watching. I think there should have been play time.

I am now eager to get my hands on #2. Be well....

Randie Pressman 1841 Central Park Avenue, 3-H Yonkers, NY 10710 Randie, we hope you like #2 and this issue. You know, for as superb as Mike Deodato, Jr's art has been on the first three issues, "you ain't seen nothin' yet!" As we type this, Mike has finished the art on #4, #5, #6 and is beginning issue #7 -- and the art gets better and better. Next issue, you won't believe your eyes!

You friend Janet was correct — some of the people who ordered a 12-issue subscription ordered a "special version" of the first issue. To be specific: Those issues are bagged with a big poster and, instead of the image of Vincent on the inside front cover, the books are autographed by one of the creative people who worked on the book: David Campiti, Karen May, Vickie Williams, or Cynthy J. Wood. A limited number of these will also be found in some comics shops right now.

Unfortunately, the additional poster and pre-bagging, as well as four people each signing 5,000 books, took some extra time, hence the delays. But we hope you find your special collectible version of the premiere issue to be worth the wait!

Dear Innovation:

My name is Steffen Muller, and I am 17 years old. Since 1989, I have been a fan of *Beauty and the Beast*. The show has changed my life. Today I see things differently than I used to — for example, I help pensioners and sick persons (purchasing, wash-up, and so on). At home, in the evenings, I sit in my room and read old books or listen to classical music in the light of candles. It is very romantic.

Beauty and the Beast is a part of my life. From my German fan club "The Tunnel Community," I know that you produce very nice comics about Beauty and the Beast. Unfortunately, I can't buy these comics editions here in Germany. I have a request: Can you send me some pictures from the comics?



My favorite actor in *Beauty and the Beast* is Roy Dotrice. "Father" is at the
same time severe and concerned.

Be well and Vincently...

Steffan Muller Goethestrasse 58 0-1600 Konigs Wusterhausen Germany

Welcome to the world of Innovation's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, Steffan! We're sending you a complementary copy of this issue, along with a subscription form. If you and your fan club members want to place a "group subscription" order to one address,



that'll cut down the shipping costs, and you can all get our comics series every month!

We're glad to hear that Beauty and the Beast provided you with a "role model" to set your sights toward a better life. As we understand it, some therapists are even using the TV show (and now the comic book!) when helping troubled couples to define their relationships. [As one friend of ours, a therapist who counsels couples with relationship problems, stated, "Beauty and the Beast is a perfect example of teaching acceptance. I use the example of Catherine's acceptance of Vincent's physical appearance in a lot of my sessions. People need to learn to accept one another for what they are instead of trying to change them into what they wish them to be."1 Even in that sense, this has been a beautiful, helpful, magical series.

Dear Karen-

I must confess that I didn't regularly watch Beauty and the Beast when it aired a few years back. Back then, the concept didn't strike me as one that could've possibly worked for as long and as well as it did.

That CBS tampered with the formula and hastened the show's demise is but an afterthought; network executives don't know squat about leaving things alone -- and we've known that for years.

It took at least two-to-three years after the series' end for the comic book actually to become an ongoing concern. Had it started when B&B was at the height of its run, we'd probably be up to issue 25 or 30 by now, but no one thought it possible back then. "Wasn't cool," they must've said. Are they ever wrong!

This first issue brings back memories of how the network hyped the show at the start, and the way it should've stayed. Too often do I read of the cowards who prey on lone travellers to satisfy their thirst for cheap, sick thrills. We are spared the grisly (I'm sure) details of Catherine's disfigurement at the hands of those punks, but we know not the motives. What drives these fools to derive pleasure from a woman's distress? A need for attention, most likely, but jerks like them need to see how the other half lives.

Once upon a time, I wasn't too fond of painted stories. This is one of the best there is and, if you can keep this going regularly and on time, then this could go further than TV would allow.

Three issues? Uh-uh. Unlimited and ongoing will suffice. Later.

Jacob Gilbert 118 Fourth Street, Apt. #1 Troy, NY 12180

Here we are with issue #3, Jacob -right on time with a lot more to come!

As you've seen by now, Catherine's attackers had very specific motives — and a case of mistaken identity.





Dear Sirs --

I learned of your new comics series BEAUTY AND THE BEAST through my friends at Helper's Network U.K. and the article in issue #188 of Starlog. I will go to my local comics dealer, but I will also subscribe to this series of comics.

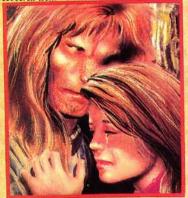
Beauty and the Beast played a major part in the emotional recovery from my stroke several years ago.

I am glad you will be a part of "keeping the dream alive!"

All my Beast...

Sharon K. Bentley 411 Cliff Street Ironton, OH 45638

So let us know what you think of our work so far, Sharon! We hope you have recovered well.



Dear Mr. Campiti-

I am writing to tell you my favorite episodes of Beauty and the Beast. I'm afraid that I don't have any titles; however, the shows which included any poetry readings...the episode which centers around a Halloween ball, and the episode in which Vincent rescues Catherine from the underground caverns and results in hurrying her back across an underground moat.

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you success on your project.

Khadi Madama 104 Main Street South Toms River, NJ 08757

Thank you, Miss Khadi. The Halloween ball episode was aptly entitled "Masques," and we are adapting that episode as issues #6 and #7 of the comic book.

You'll be pleased to know that we are adding a number of scenes that were cut from the final shooting script, including a long scene involving poetry!

Keep writing to let us know what you think of our efforts!

NEXT ISSUE: Elderly families are being terrorized in their homes in "Siege: Part One" -- adapted from David Peckinpah's touching TV episode courtesy of painter Mike Deodato, Ir. and --

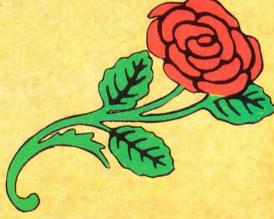
-- David Campiti Karen May March, 1993



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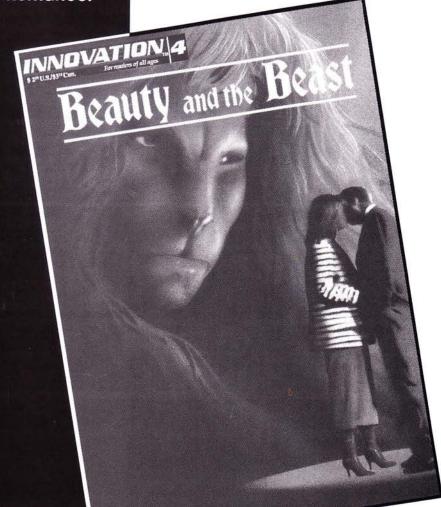
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NEXT MONTH:

Vincent Is Helpless As Catherine Finds Romance!



Wriiten by
DAVID PECKINPAH
Adapted by
KAREN MAY
and
DAVID CAMPITI
Painted by
MIKE DEODATO, JR.

"Siege" Part One!



Beautyand the Beast

"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."

In Part Three of **Ron Koslow**'s "Once Upon a Time, in the City of New York," Catherine Chandler's career with the D.A. leads her into danger -- and reveals the depth of her bond with Vincent!

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST:

"Once Upon a Time in the City
of New York" -- Part 3 of 3
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