

The VOICE Beyond Issue #08: Warring Against Himself

(Giant-Sized First Anniversary Issue! 42 Pages!)

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PAGE ONE - SPLASH PAGE

SPLASH PANEL

Establishing shot. Wide angle. Picking up where we left off last issue. Rachela is walking and Rebekah is wheeling along on a street in Liberty, VA, as it begins to get dark. Above, the Voice Beyond hovers unseen as the Alley Killer makes his presence known to Rachela and Rebekah. Here in this scene, it is finally revealed who the Alley Killer is. It is Nerdy Boy from last issue who ascends upon the girls in his evil way.

CAPTION

When Special Education teacher Glessa Palmer was given powers she did not want, she knew she had to put them to good use. Now she teaches during the day and battles crime during the night as

LOGO

The Voice Beyond

CAPTION

Not even a second has passed since the last issue. We left our friends, Rebekah and Rachela, at the mercy (or lack thereof) of the Alley Killer!

CAPTION

Voice Beyond was on patrol, searching for said killer. And she finds him about to attack the two girls when--

VOICE

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(Ghostly)
I don't believe it! The Alley Killer is--
```

VOICE

```
(Ghostly)
--the quiet boy from the school!
```

CAPTION

And that's just the beginning of this adventure. It will lead the Voice Beyond into a darkness greater than she has ever known and change her forever as she searches for a man who is

TITLE

Warring Against Himself

PAGE TWO - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Down on the street below. Rebekah and Rachela are confronted by Nerdy Boy, who is looking sinister and wielding a knife.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

On Alley Killer and a determined Rachela.

RACHELA

No.

RACHELA

I don't think so.

PANEL THREE

Wide angle. Rebekah watches in horror as Rachela violently side kicks Nerdy back into the wall.

SFX

>WHOMP<

PANEL FOUR

Wide angle. View from behind Voice Beyond hovering in the air and watching the whole thing unseen. View of Rachela, Rebekah and Nerdy Boy (slumped on the ground by the wall) in the distance on the ground in front of her.

REBEKAH

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...Golly!
```

VOICE

```
(Thought)
"Golly" is right! Way to go,
Rachela!
```

PANEL FIVE

View from behind Rachela and Rebekah as Voice Beyond alights in front of them.

VOICE

```
(Ghostly)
Nicely done, girls.
```

REBEKAH

Jerusalem Crickets! It's--

RACHELA

--the Voice Beyond!

PAGE THREE - SEVEN PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Yes. I saw what happened here.

PANEL TWO

On Rachela.

RACHELA

Why didn't you help us?

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
In truth, you didn't appear to need it.

PANEL FOUR

On Rebekah and Rachela. Rebekah looks stunned as Rachela smiles, basking in the praise.

REBEKAH

```
(Small print) Golly...!
```

PANEL FIVE

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Have you a cell phone? Know you just caught the Alley Killer. The Police would be interested.

PANEL SIX

On Rebekah and Rachela. Rebekah looks at Rachela in awe and admiration from her wheelchair as Rachela talks on her cell phone.

RACHELA

Yes, Officer...

RACHELA

On the street by the alley...

RACHELA

Yes.

PANEL SEVEN

On Rachela, now off the phone.

RACHELA

They said they should be here in a minute.

PAGE FOUR - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

View from behind Voice, Rachela and Rebekah, as Sergeant John Monday and Officer Bob Garnon coming running to the scene from the squad car. Voice Beyond has a grip on Nerdy Boy's arm.

RACHELA

There they are.

REBEKAH

Golly, that was fast!

PANEL TWO

On Monday and Garnon.

MONDAY

All right, now suppose someone tells me just what's going on over here?

PANEL THREE

Wide angle, view on everyone. Voice is holding Nerdy Boy with one arm and pointing to Rachela with the other.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Greetings, Sergeant Monday. It is good to see you again. What's going on over here is young Rachela has captured the Alley Killer.

PANEL FOUR

On Garnon, taking notes with his little notepad.

CARNON

A high school girl caught the Alley Killer?

On Voice Beyond, pushing Nerdy Boy front and center.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Indeed, Officer. And as you see, the Alley Killer is a high school boy.

PAGE FIVE - SEVEN PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Monday, speaking to Rachela, who is pointing to the wall where she kicked the Alley Killer.

MONDAY

Let me get this straight. Are you saying this young lad is the Alley Killer?

RACHELA

Yes, Sir. The knife is right over there by the wall. You'll find his fingerprints on it, perhaps also some DNA.

PANEL TWO

On Garnon and the Alley Killer.

GARNON

Why'd you do it, Son?

PANEL THREE

On Nerdy Boy, looking Garnon right in the face.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FOUR

On Nerdy Boy, yelling.

NERDY BOY

I JUST WANTED SOMEONE TO NOTICE ME!!!

PANEL FIVE

On Monday.

MONDAY

Well, guess what, Son?

PANEL SIX

On Nerdy Boy.

NERDY BOY

???

PANEL SEVEN

On Monday, putting cuffs on Nerdy Boy.

MONDAY

You just got your wish.

MONDAY

Someone has noticed you.

PAGE SIX - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Garnon, Rebekah, Rachela, and Voice. Monday can be seen putting Nerdy Boy into the back of the squad car in the background.

GARNON

I'll stay here with you ladies until another car shows up to take you to the station for a debriefing. We'll have the lab come out and gather the knife as well.

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
I had nothing to do with this,
Officer. The boy attacked this
pretty young lady here and she
defended herself and her friend. End
of story.

PANEL THREE

On Garnon and Voice.

GARNON

You saw it?

V BEYOND

(Ghostly)
I saw it.

GARNON

Thank you. No point in trying to detain you, you are free to go.

View from behind the three remaining as Voice Beyond quietly flies away.

REBEKAH

Golly...!

GARNON

You can say that again, youngster.

REBEKAH

(Small print) Golly...!

PANEL FIVE

View on Voice Beyond, flying.

VOICE

(Thought)

Maybe now I can get some peace and focus on teaching my kids. That's really all I ever want to do...

PAGE SIX - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Glessa and her students in her classroom. Glessa is beginning her class.

CAPTION

The next morning...

GLESSA

Before we begin today, I want to acknowledge the bravery of one of our own. I hear Rachela caught the Alley Killer! Very nicely done, Rachela!

PANEL TWO

Wide angle as entire room claps for Rachela, who enjoys a moment of celebrity.

SFX

>CLAP< >CLAP< >CLAP< >CLAP<

PANEL THREE

On Glessa, writing a note on her desk.

GLESSA

Jimmy, would you take this to the office, please?

On Jimmy.

JIMMY

Sure thing, Miss Palmer.

PANEL FIVE

On Toby, typing.

TOBY'S KEYBOARD

(Computerized)

Miss Palmer, I would like to go with him.

PANEL SIX

On Glessa and Jimmy, who is now standing by Glessa's desk.

GLESSA

Do you mind, Jimmy?

JIMMY

Of course not. Come along, Dude.

PAGE SEVEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Jimmy and Toby are walking out of the office into the hallways. You can see a sign that says: OFFICE.

CAPTION

After delivering the note...

JIMMY

"--So that means the sum of the square roots of any two sides of an isosceles triangle is equal to the square root of the remaining side."

PANEL TWO

On Toby, looking confused at Jimmy.

TOBY

???

PANEL THREE

On Jimmy and Toby, walking through the halls.

JIMMY

That's okay, Dude. I don't understand it, either.

Wide angle. Jimmy is walking through the door into Glessa's classroom. Glessa is at her desk, Toby is nowhere in sight.

JIMMY

We're back, Miss Palmer.

GLESSA

"We?" Where's Toby?

PANEL FIVE

On Jimmy, looking around.

JIMMY

The dude? He was just right here with me? Honest, Miss Palmer! I was only just telling him about the square roots of an isosceles triangle!

PAGE EIGHT - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Glessa, dialing her cell phone.

GLESSA

No worries, Jimmy. We'll find him. You know how curious he can be sometimes. I'll have the office send someone to the class and I'll go look for him.

PANEL TWO

Glessa, out in the hall.

GLESSA

(Thought)

Now if I was Toby, where would I have gone?

PANEL THREE

Glessa wandering halls, looking for Toby.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FOUR

Glessa wandering other halls, looking for Toby.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FIVE

Glessa wandering still other halls, looking for Toby.

NO DIALOG

PAGE NINE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. Glessa walking back into her classroom. Joan Flannery is in the room watching the class.

MRS. FLANNERY

Did you find him?

GLESSA

No. I think we need to put the school on lock down.

PANEL TWO

On Jimmy.

JIMMY

It's my fault. I lost the little dude. Sorry, Miss Palmer.

PANEL THREE

On Glessa.

GLESSA

Jimmy, this wasn't your faul--

PANEL FOUR

View on the door. Toby comes walking in.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FIVE

Wide angle. On classroom. Joan and Glessa are seen.

MRS. FLANNERY

There's the little rascal now. I'll be going back to the office.

GLESSA

Thanks, Joan.

PAGE TEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. Mrs. Flannery is walking out the door and Glessa is about to give Toby a dressing down. She has her arms crossed and is trying her best to look angry.

GLESSA

Where have you been, young man? I looked all over for you!

PANEL TWO

Toby at his desk, typing.

SFX

>TAP< >TAP< >TAP<

PANEL THREE

On Toby, who has stopped typing and is not holding the keyboard in both hands. He has a glum look on his face.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FOUR

Same shot, except the look is now one of pure rage.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FIVE

The keyboard goes flying through the window, breaking the glass on its way outside.

SFX

>CRASH!<

PANEL SIX

Close on the keyboard lying on the ground in pieces outside of the window. Everything is calm and peaceful around it.

NO DIALOG

PAGE ELEVEN - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle on the classroom. Toby sits quietly at his chair while Glessa and the other students stare at him amazed.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

Mrs. Flannery comes running back into the room.

MRS. FLANNERY

Is everything okay in here? I heard a crash!

PANEL THREE

On Glessa.

GLESSA

Joan! Get everyone out of here except Toby. Take them to the office. Call Toby's mother.

PANEL FOUR

Wide angle. Joan is ushering everyone out.

MRS. FLANNERY

You heard the lady. Everyone out!

PANEL FIVE

Wide angle. Classroom is empty except for Toby and Glessa who are staring at each other.

NO DIALOG

PANEL SIX

On Glessa.

GLESSA

Now. What's this all about?

PAGE TWELVE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Toby. Standing by his desk and glowering at Glessa.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

Toby throws his desk across the room.

SFX

>SMASH!<

PANEL THREE

Toby throws Rachela's desk across the room.

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SFX
  >CLASH!<
 PANEL FOUR
 Toby reaches for Rebekah's desk when he hears...
  GLESSA (O.S.)
  Toby...
 PANEL FOUR
 Glessa approaches an angry Toby.
  GLESSA
  That's ENOUGH.
 PANEL FIVE
 Toby shoves Glessa across the room. Glessa smashes head
 first into the chalkboard. The chalkboard is cracked by
 the impact.
  SFX
  >THUD!<
PAGE THIRTEEN - FIVE PANELS
 PANEL ONE
 On a clearly dazed Glessa, slumped on the floor.
  GLESSA
  (Thought)
  I... I have never felt anything like
  that!
 PANEL TWO
 On Glessa, slowly and shakily getting to her feet.
  GLESSA
  (Thought)
  There may only one way to reach him.
  The Voice Beyond powers!
 PANEL THREE
 Close on Glessa, with sweat and a knit brow, as if
 concentrating.
  GLESSA
  (Projecting thoughts)
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Toby? Toby? Can you hear me?

GLESSA

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(Thought)
His ... his mind. It's overpowering
me! I am losing myself in him!
```

PANEL FOUR

Toby and Glessa simultaneously convulse in rage.

GLESSA/TOBY

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(Together)
GGGAAAAHHHH!!!
```

PANEL FIVE

Toby throws Rebekah's desk at the window while Glessa knocks everything off her own desk in her own fit of anger.

SFX

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>CRASH!< >SMASH!<
```

PAGE FOURTEEN - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. Silence as Glessa and Toby stare at each other.

GLESSA

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(Thought)
I've got to get back under control,
I've got to find some way to help
him.
```

PANEL TWO

Glessa and Toby embrace on the floor of the wrecked classroom. Shattered remains of the classroom can be seen around them.

NO DIALOG

PANEL THREE

Close on Glessa and Toby embracing. They hear a...

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VOICE FROM THE DOOR (O.S.) Glessa...?
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PANEL FOUR

Wide angle. A group of concerned teachers stands inside the door. Mrs. Flannery is in the front and is doing the talking.

MRS. FLANNERY

Is everyone okay? What happened? It looks like a tornado went through here!

GLESSA (O.S.)

Not a tornado, Joan...

PANEL FIVE

Close on Glessa's face as she is still softly holding Toby. Her eyes are closed, tears run down her cheeks.

NO DIALOG

PANEL SIX

Same image as panel five.

GLESSA

... Something much worse.

PAGE FIFTEEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. Glessa, police, teachers and students are outside, watching the ambulance pull away from the school. Rachela, and her and Toby's mother (Estelle) are standing beside Glessa. Rachela is clinging to her mother in worry.

SFX

(Sirens)
WEE OOO WEE OOO WEE OOO

PANEL TWO

On Rachela and Estelle.

ESTELLE

How could this have happened? My children are supposed to be safe at your school!

ESTELLE

Why did you allow another child to take him out of the classroom?

PANEL THREE

On Glessa.

GLESSA

Toby requested it, Mrs. Grand. No one here knew what was going on. But I promise you, we will find him.

GLESSA

We will have justice. For Toby, for you, for Rachela, for anyone else he may have hurt.

PANEL FOUR

On Estelle.

ESTELLE

You promise? How can you even hope to find him?

PANEL FIVE

Close on determined Glessa.

GLESSA

He could be anywhere. I can't find him...

GLESSA

(Small)

...but I know someone who can.

<u>PAGE SIXTEEN - FOUR PANELS: THREE SMALL ON TOP AND ONE LARGE ACROSS THE BOTTOM</u>

PANEL ONE

In the air with the Voice Beyond.

CAPTION

Later, as that "someone who can" is searching.

VOICE

(Thought)

I could have prevented this. I could have saved Toby. I was given powers to protect the innocent. Powers I did not want and have been reluctant to use.

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond, lowering towards one the roof of one of the taller buildings in town.

VOICE

(Thought)

Well, no more! Look out, World, because from now on, I am the Voice Beyond!

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond, sitting lotus style on the roof of the building.

VOICE

(Thought)
And it starts right here, right now.
I'm searching for you. Where are you?

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond. Still and focused in lotus position.

CAPTION

Using her amazing powers, the Maid of Mental Muscle psychically searches the small mountain town!

SFX

(Various thoughts in Liberty)
"That'll be \$204.97, please."

"Will this light ever change?"

"C'mon, your words say no but your eyes say yes!"

"Happy birthday, Son!"

"Not tonight, Dear. I have a headache."

PAGE SEVENTEEN - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Close on the helmet of Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Thought)
I must search deeper!

PANEL TWO

Superimposed over helmet of Voice Beyond. At a park as parents watch their little daughter on the swing.

CAPTION

At a local park.

GIRL

Wheee!! Mommy! Daddy! Look how high I can go!

MOTHER

Be careful, Darling!

PANEL THREE

Superimposed over helmet of Voice Beyond. Middle aged couple walking hand in hand along a path on a farm.

CAPTION

At a local farm.

WOMAN

Life has been pretty good for us, hasn't it?

MAN

Yeah. I guess it has.

PANEL FOUR

Superimposed over helmet of Voice Beyond. In the front yard of a suburban house, a young boy is trying to coax his cat into coming down out of a tree.

CAPTION

At a local house.

BO

Aw, C'mon, Kitty! I'll even give you a treat! I'll give you tuna! Please come down!

CAT

>Meow?<

PANEL FIVE

Superimposed over helmet of Voice Beyond. At a local bar. Janitor Warring* is sitting at a table drinking beer and telling a joke to a couple of friends.

CAPTION

At a local bar.

WARRING

...And so the guy says, "What do you mean, lady? That's no lady, that's my wife!"

CAPTION

*See issue 6.

PANEL SIX

Wide angle. Back to Voice Beyond in lotus position.

VOICE

(Thought) Got'cha.

PAGE EIGHTEEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Voice Beyond, flying. In front of her and nbelow is a tavern with a sign that says, "Liberty Station." She is flying down directly toward it.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

In the tavern. Janitor Warring continues talking to his friends and is still drinking beer.

WARRING

I tell ya, guys. I don't know what to do about the missus.

FRIEND 1

Why? What's up?

PANEL THREE

On Warring.

WARRING

Well, it's just that she's... She's... Uh...

PANEL FOUR

Wide angle view of Liberty Station. Everyone is frozen. Warring is looking around confused.

CAPTION

Suddenly, everyone is frozen!

WARRING

...Guys...?

PANEL FIVE

Warring is moving his hands in front of his friend's eyes to no effect.

WARRING

(Thought)
What the...?

PAGE NINETEEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. Liberty Station. Everyone remains in the same frozen position. Warring is up and walking around, feeling uncertain about what is going on.

WARRING

(Small)

Doo DOO doo doo...

PANEL TWO

Wide angle, Liberty Station. Same frozen effect. Warring is standing with his hands on his hips, very confused.

WARRING

>???<

PANEL THREE

Interior view of the door. It slowly starts to open, flooding the door way with light.

CAPTION

Then...

PANEL FOUR

Interior view of the fully open tavern door. The undeniably feminine figure of the Voice Beyond is silhouetted against a bright background.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Richard Warring. I have come for you.

PANEL FIVE

On very frightened Richard Warring shielding his eyes from the light.

NO DIALOG

PAGE TWENTY - FOUR PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Warring, still shielding his yes.

WARRING

Who...Who are you?

PANEL TWO

On bright doorway and Voice Beyond.

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VOICE
  (Ghostly)
  I am the Voice Beyond...
  VOICE
  (Ghostly)
  ... And you are in trouble.
 PANEL THREE
 On Voice Beyond in the doorway. The added light effect is
 gone.
  VOICE
  (Ghostly)
  I have come for you, Richard Warring.
 PANEL FOUR
 On still frightened Warring, no longer shielding his eyes.
  WARRING
  Am I ... dead?
PAGE TWENTY-ONE - FIVE PANELS
 PANEL ONE
 On Voice Beyond, holding her hand out to Warring.
  VOICE
  (Ghostly)
  Come, Richard Warring. We are
  leaving.
 PANEL TWO
 On Warring as he is approached by the Voice Beyond.
  WARRING
  Where ... Where are we going? Where
  are you taking me?
 PANEL THREE
 Voice Beyond now stands next to Richard Warring.
  VOICE
  (Ghostly)
  I am taking you to answer for what
  you did at the school earlier today.
 PANEL FOUR
 On Warring, now even more frightened.
```

NO DIALOG

PANEL FIVE

On Warring.

WARRING

How do you know about ... that?

PAGE TWENTY-TWO - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On the Voice Beyond, her helm reflecting light. No emotion can be seen beneath.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

I know, Richard Warring. I am the Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Come. Let us be going.

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond and Richard Warring as they leave the tavern.

WARRING

Am I to die, Miss Voice Beyond?

VOICE

(Ghostly)

You will not die this day, Richard Warring.

VOICE

(Thought)

But you may well wish you had.

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond carrying Richard Warring through the skies.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FOUR

Back in the station. Time flows normally again. Except someone is missing from a table...

FRIEND 1

Hey! Where'd he go?

Establishing shot. Wide angle. Exterior of Liberty Police Building. Sign in front clearly says "Liberty Police" and there are a few cruisers in view.

CAPTION

Meanwhile...

PAGE TWENTY-THREE - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Interior of Liberty Police Building. Sergeant Monday and Officer Garnon are sitting across from each other at a desk doing paperwork. Garnon is checking his field notes.

MONDAY

What was the time we nabbed that purse snatcher earlier today? I'm remembering around 1:30?

GARNON

(Checking notes)
Good memory. It was 1:27pm.

PANEL TWO

Monday and Garnon with pens in hand writing on documents.

GARNON

If only I had a nickel for every one of these forms I've had to--

SFX

(Ghostly)
>Sergeant Monday. Officer Garnon.

PANEL THREE

Monday and Garnon look across the table at each other.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FOUR

Same view.

GARNON

Guess who?

MONDAY

Yeah. I know who.

SEX

>Please come to your Interrogation Room 3 immediately.<

On Monday and Garnon.

GARNON

Well, what do we do now?

PANEL SIX

On an angry Monday.

MONDAY

I guess we go to our Interrogation Room 3.

MONDAY

Immediately.

PAGE TWENTY-FOUR - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Establishing shot. Wide angle. Interior of Interrogation Room 3. Warring is sitting at a table and Voice Beyond is standing by his side, as if guarding him.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

They shall arrive presently.

PANEL TWO

Wide angle. View from behind Voice Beyond as Monday and Garnon come into the room.

MONDAY

I thought I might find you here. Now suppose you tell me what this is all about?

PANEL THREE

View from behind Warring as Garnon recognizes him. Garnon has a look of surprise.

GARNON

Dick? Dick Warring? What are you doing here?

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

You ... know this man, Officer?

On Garnon.

GARNON

Why, sure! That's Dick Warring! Works as a janitor at the high school. Goes to my church every Sunday. Teaches my kid's Sunday school class. Does a fine job. He's a good man.

PAGE TWENTY-FIVE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Warring. Head buried in his hands.

WARRING

>SOB<

PANEL TWO

On Garnon.

GARNON

Say, just what's going on here?

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond, her hand resting softly on Warring's shoulder.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
They might go easier on you if you tell them. Don't make me do it for you.

PANEL FOUR

On Monday.

MONDAY

Let's cut to the chase here. What's your story, Warring?

PANEL FIVE

Focus on all four with emphasis on Warring. His hands are away from his face and tears roll down this big man's eyes. He is looking at Garnon.

WARRING

Bob, I've done something bad. Really, really BAD.

PAGE TWENTY-SIX - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Monday and Garnon look at each other.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

On Garnon.

GARNON

Start at the beginning, Dick.

PANEL THREE

On a resigned Warring with Voice Beyond watching.

WARRING

The beginning. Right. Well, as you know, I have a doctorate in physics.

VOICE

(Ghostly) Hold.

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond and Warring.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
You. Janitor Warring. Have a doctorate. In physics.

WARRING

Yes. I've had it for years.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
Pray, continue.

PANEL FIVE

On Warring.

WARRING

You see, Miss...Voice, I was a child prodigy. Very intelligent. I wanted to make a difference in the world. Make the world a better place. I thought maybe I could do that through the sciences.

PANEL SIX

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

How did you go from a doctorate in physics to janitor at a high school?

PAGE TWENTY-SEVEN - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Warring.

WARRING

Bad economy, of course. The jobs just aren't there. Not even in physics. No one would hire me even with my credentials. With all the budget cutbacks, no one could afford it. So I had to take work where I could find it.

PANEL TWO

On Warring.

WARRING

I tried a number of places but they all said I was over qualified. So I figured if I played down my education, someone might hire me. I never told the school about my Ph.D and they hired me on the spot.

PANEL THREE

On Monday and Warring.

MONDAY

What about the background check? They must have found it there.

WARRING

No one knows what they are doing anymore Sergeant. I easily slipped through the cracks.

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond, standing with her hands crossed and her back against the wall, observing all.

VOICE

(Thought)

And those cracks will be closed, Mr. Warring... I'll see to that.

On Garnon.

GARNON

You said you did something bad, Dick? What happened?

PAGE TWENTY-EIGHT - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Warring.

WARRING

I'm getting to that.

WARRING

See, I had a nice job for a while. Made decent money, had a fairly good life. I was laid off due to cut backs and I had to work as a janitor to make ends meet for me and the wife.

PANEL TWO

On Monday.

MONDAY

I see. Go on, Mr Warring.

PANEL THREE

On Warring.

WARRING

When I took the janitor job, me and the Missus had to make some changes. It was a major cut in my salary, as you can imagine. We had been living a very comfortable life and then all at once we were barely making enough to make ends meet. The lifestyle we used to have was a thing of the past.

PANEL FOUR

On Warring.

WARRING

The wife, she didn't take to it so well. She was used to being spoiled. My marriage went downhill fast. She began ... how can I say ... "withholding" ... from me, if you follow my meaning.

On Warring and Garnon.

GARNON

You mean she...?

WARRING

Stopped. Yes.

PAGE TWENTY-NINE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Monday.

MONDAY

Mr. Warring. I'm sorry for your loss, but all due respect, what does this have to with--

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond, still back against the wall.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
--Plenty, Sergeant Monday. It all
falls into place for me. Please tell
them the rest, Mr Warring.

PANEL THREE

On Warring.

WARRING

I ... I don't know if I can.

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

I don't think you'd rather I tell them, Mr, Warring. It would not go well for you.

PANEL FIVE

On Warring.

WARRING

No. No. You're right. I have to do this myself.

WARRING

Well, it's like this. A man has ... needs ... you know? The wife wasn't providing. I was in an environment with kids.

WARRING

And, well, there's more than one way to get your needs met. Some of those kids can't even talk to let anyone know.

PAGE THIRTY - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Monday and Garnon give each other another look.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

On Garnon.

GARNON

Dick, are you saying...? The kid at the school earlier today?

PANEL THREE

On Warring.

WARRING

Yeah, Bob. That's what I'm saying. I didn't mean to, Honest. But the need was just so strong. I couldn't... I just couldn't...

PANEL FOUR

On Warring, back with his head in his hands.

WARRING

>SOB< >SOB<

PANEL FIVE

On Monday.

MONDAY

We didn't answer that call. Who was the student?

PANEL SIX

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Toby Grand. A non-verbal special education student with autism.

PAGE THIRTY-ONE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Garnon.

GARNON

You're the last person I would have suspected, Dick. I can't deny I am disappointed in you.

PANEL TWO

On Warring.

WARRING

I know, Bob. And I'm...

WARRING

I'm sorry.

PANEL THREE

On Monday.

MONDAY

Mr. Warring. Have there been other students or is this Toby Grand the only one?

PANEL FOUR

On Warring.

WARRING

There have been...others. And I have...pictures.

PANEL FIVE

Monday and Garnon look at each other again.

NO DIALOG

PAGE THIRTY-TWO - FOUR PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Garnon.

GARNON

Dick Warring...

PANEL TWO

On Warring.

WARRING

Go ahead, Bob. I'd rather it be you. Someone I know.

PANEL THREE

On a sad Garnon.

GARNON

Richard Warring. I hereby place you under arrest. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say or do can and will be held against you in a court of law.

GARNON

You have the right to speak to an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed for you. Now do you understand these rights as they have been read to you?

PANEL FOUR

On Warring.

WARRING

I do.

PAGE THIRTY-THREE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Monday is leaning through open door of Room 3 calling down the hall.

MONDAY

Ree? Mallo? Come in here for a minute please.

PANEL TWO

Two officers (Ree and Mallo. Ree is younger with dark hair, Mallo is older with more blond hair) walk into the room.

REE

What's up, Sergeant?

PANEL THREE

On Sergeant Monday and Officer Mallo.

MONDAY

Take this man to processing and book him.

MALLO

On what charge, Sir?

MONDAY

Assault, indecent liberties with a minor, possibly more to follow.

PANEL FOUR

On Mallo, leading Warring out of the room.

MALLO

Right, Sarge. Let's go, Sir.

PANEL FIVE

Wide angle. Monday, Garnon and Voice Beyond alone in the room, staring at the closed door.

NO DIALOG

PAGE THIRTY-FOUR - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. On all three.

GARNON

Wonder why they didn't mention Voice?

VOICE

(Ghostly)

They did not see me. I did not allow them.

PANEL TWO

Wide angle. Monday and Garnon are sitting back down at the table. Voice Beyond remains standing.

GARNON

I don't know, John. This one just doesn't figure.

MONDAY

How's that?

PANEL THREE

On Garnon.

GARNON

I've known Dick Warring for years. This just isn't like him.

PANEL FOUR

On Monday.

MONDAY

You heard his story, Bob. Going through what he did...

PANEL FIVE

Wide angle. On all three.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Does that excuse what he did, Sergeant?

MONDAY

Absolutely not. Plenty of others have gone this, they haven't gone down his road.

PANEL SIX

On Monday and Garnon.

MONDAY

By the way...

PAGE THIRTY-FIVE - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Monday, looking at Voice.

MONDAY

...You did good, Kid. You got a dangerous man off the streets.

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

You have told me to work within the law, Sergeant. I was doing what I felt was lawful in this case.

PANEL THREE

On Monday and Garnon.

MONDAY

I can see that. You did well.

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
Speaking of the law, what will happen to him now?

PANEL FIVE

On Garnon and Voice Beyond.

GARNON

Well, typically in a case like this, the defendant, in this case, Dick Warring, will go to trial and be sentenced. He will serve his time and then be a free man.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
I see. And then what?

PAGE THIRTY-SIX - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Garnon.

GARNON

If he follows statistics, it is likely that once he gets out, he will do it again.

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond and Monday.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
Is there no way to prevent that?

MONDAY

Not within the law, Lady.

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)
And outside the law?

On Monday and Garnon looking at each other.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FIVE

Close on Monday. Stern look on his face.

MONDAY

I have dedicated my life to upholding the law, Lady.

PANEL SIX

Close on Monday. Softer look.

MONDAY

...But in this case, it would be difficult not to look the other way.

PAGE THIRTY-SEVEN - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle. On all three, lost in thought.

NO DIALOG

PANEL TWO

Wide angle on all three.

GARNON

Well. I guess John and I better track down this Toby and his parents.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Last I heard, they were at the local hospital. But they may have been released him by now.

PANEL THREE

On Monday and Voice Beyond.

MONDAY

Say. Suppose you tell me how you knew about all of this?

VOICE

(Ghostly)

That's easy to answer, Sergeant.

MONDAY

Yeah?

On Monday and Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Yes. I knew about it because I am a voice beyond.

PANEL FIVE

Close on an exasperated Monday.

MONDAY

>HUMPH<

PANEL SIX

On Garnon.

GARNON

We really do appreciate you bringing him to us, Voice. Would you like to come to the hospital with us?

PAGE THIRTY-EIGHT - SIX PANELS

PANEL ONE

Wide angle on all three. Voice looking at Monday.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Any objections, Sergeant Monday?

MONDAY

No objections.

PANEL TWO

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

I appreciate the trust, Gentlemen. Yet I have my own tasks to attend to.

PANEL THREE

Wide angle on all three walking out the door of Room 3.

NO DIALOG

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond, flying through the sky. The sun is beginning to set.

```
CAPTION
  Later...
  VOICE
  (Thought)
  I've always been somewhat afraid of
  these powers.
  VOICE
  (Thought)
  But using them like that...it was
  exhilarating! Now I can see why
  Falcon and Jaltarra chose me for this
  mission.*
  CAPTION
  *See Issue #1.
 PANEL FIVE
 Still on Voice flying.
  VOICE
  (Thought)
  But if I am use these powers to
  protect the innocent*, and now I do
  want to do that more than ever, I
  will need someone to talk to and
  confide in.
  CAPTION
  *See Issue #1 again.
 PANEL SIX
 On Voice Beyond, flying down toward the Webster's farm
 house.
  VOICE
  (Ghostly)
  And I know just the guys...
PAGE THIRTY-NINE - FOUR PANELS
 PANEL ONE
 Close on Voice Beyond's hand on the porch of the farm
 house knocking on the door.
  SFX
  >KNOCK< >KNOCK< >KNOCK<
 PANEL TWO
```

Marion Webster answers the door.

MARION

Oh, Hello, Dear. Come on in. We were just watching something dreadful on the news.

PANEL THREE

Wide angle. On Marion, Robert and Voice Beyond sitting in the Webster living room watching the news.

ROBERT

Hello, Miss Voice.

TELEVISION

(Electrical)

...little is known at this point and we have not yet received comment from the school. What we can tell you is the incident involves a special needs student here at Minuteman High School. Apparently one of the janitors was involved as well. We do not know his name, but we are working to get that information. Of course we will have more as this story develops.

PANEL FOUR

Wide angle on all three. Marion is turning off the television with her remote.

SFX

>CLICK<

MARION

Great Heavens Above. Who would do something like that?

PAGE FORTY - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

On Voice Beyond, now standing.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

I know who it was.

PANEL TWO

On Robert and Marion, still sitting and looking up at Voice Beyond.

ROBERT

You do? How do you know?

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

I know because... I was there.

PANEL FOUR

On a shocked Robert and Marion.

MARION

Why didn't you stop him?

PANEL FIVE

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

I didn't know until it was too late. When more of this leaks to the press, they'll report who it was and that I brought him into the police. The man who did this is in custody.

PAGE FORTY-ONE - SEVEN PANELS

On Voice Beyond.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

This story is why I came to see you today. Between this man and the Alley Killer, it has been a very stressful time for me.

PANEL TWO

On Robert and Marion. Now standing.

MARION

You know we are here for you, Dear.

PANEL THREE

On Voice Beyond, phasing her helmet off of her head.

VOICE

(Ghostly)

Yes. I do. I know I can trust you.

PANEL FOUR

On Voice Beyond. Except now it is Glessa in the Voice Beyond armor. She holds her helmet at the side her waist.

GLESSA

My name is Glessa Palmer. I teach special ed at the high school. The child was one of my students, and...

GLESSA

...and I think I need to talk.

PANEL FIVE

On Robert and Marion looking shocked at Glessa.

NO DIALOG

PANEL SIX

Close on Robert and Marion looking at each other.

MARION

(Small)

I guess I'd better put the kettle on.

PANEL SEVEN

Caption Panel.

CAPTION

Next issue: Glessa talks! Robert and Marion listen! And much more! Coming soon!

PAGE FORTY-TWO - FIVE PANELS

PANEL ONE

Glessa standing in front of the chalkboard in her classroom. The chalkboard still has the cracks in it from Toby.

CAPTION

(Upper left)
Moral.

GLESSA

Hi.

GLESSA

I'm Glessa Palmer.

PANEL TWO

Wide angle. View of whole classroom, now restored. Glessa still by the chalkboard with her hands spread out to indicate the room.

GLESSA

I today's story, we saw the unthinkable occur.

GLESSA

Things like this can happen anytime, anywhere. Even in a classroom like this one.

PANEL THREE

Closer on Glessa.

GLESSA

This is not something we should be afraid of or worried about every day.

GLESSA

But if an adult ever does something to you that makes you feel uncomfortable...

PANEL FOUR

Close on Glessa.

GLESSA

...please tell another adult that you trust right away.

PANEL FIVE

On Glessa, waving good-bye.

GLESSA

And remember, it is $\underline{\text{not}}$ your fault! See you next time.

CAPTION

(Lower right) End

END