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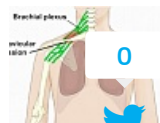
An Interview with Violent Love's Frank Barbieri and Victor Santos

BY FABIENNE PAYET · PUBLISHED APRIL 24, 2017 · UPDATED APRIL 24, 2017



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Outright Geekery: Which true story inspired this criminal romance? The initial story made me think of Bonnie and Clyde, could that be?

Frank Barbieri: Bonnie and Clyde were a big initial inspiration, but really I ended up looking toward many different love stories and crime stories. We've planted the story firmly in "faux true crime," so the idea of being inspired by true events is really a collection of different



inspirations — many fictional, but also a lot of personal stories and emotions as well.

Obviously the work of Tarantino, The Coen Bros., and films like BADLANDS really inspired us as well, but in the end we were trying to evoke a certain tone and feeling of “this could’ve really happened.” I’m really happy with the results.

OG: What and who inspired you to create Violent Love?

Victor Santos: *My inspiration for this book comes from some 60-70s stuff, even some 80s, classy urban comics... I love the Marvel 70s, stuff like Iron Fist, Moon Knight, Shang Chi or Nick Fury Agent of SHIELD, and DC 80s books like Question or Slash Maraud. It also comes from a lot of crime movies and tones of stuff, from pulp illustrators to rock musicians... I create a folder of references and inspiration for every project I’m involved where I put every thing I can find useful. It’s like a digital junk room.*

OG: The comic somehow has a Tarantino feel to it, am I correct in seeing that?

VS: *I love the Tarantino movies, specially his last “History revisitations” but surely the influence comes more from the 60-70s cinema Tarantino loves so much. He takes ideas from people like John Boorman, Don Siegel, Sergio Leone or Seijun Suzuki, just the kind of rough, violent cinema I love and I use as visual reference in this story.*

FB: *As Victor mentioned, I think we share a lot of sensibilities with QT and influences. I love his work, but I rarely will try to directly draw from it.*

OG: There are 5 issues/chapters already in the Violent Love series, how many more do you plan on writing?

FB: *Issue 10 will bring us to the conclusion of the “first book” and Daisy’s quest for immediate revenge. We really enjoy the universe we’ve created, however, and hope to keep telling stories in the world for quite some time like CRIMINAL or SIN CITY.*

OG: Will we find out more about the Nails Gang?



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FB: Starting in issue #6 we will be diving back into the conflict with the Nails Gang, so very soon! We'll also be exploring Johnny as a character and seeing where his path leads him and why he is the way he is.

OG: I always love seeing a gallery added at the end of a comic, just how long does the drawing process take for a comic of this length?

VS: Not sure, honestly. I could tell you this is a monthly title but usually I need more because I'm penciling, drawing and coloring the pages. I was drawing the first three issues while I was doing other works because Image need the three first issue finished before the Diamond solicitations, so these issues need almost a year. But usually, when I receive a issue script from Frank, I spend some days reading the script and thinking about the storytelling. I draw stick figures on the script but I don't draw storyboards if it's not necessary. When I'm sure about I want to do simply begin to draw. I can sketch a complete issue in few days. I will need more time later, weeks, for inks and details and colors and little re-touches, but the basic structure is simply thinking the issue and sketching fast. I think is a good way to create a fresh storytelling.

OG: Who is Penny?

FB: Spoiler warning! Penny is revealed to be Daisy's daughter, and her journey is just getting started.

OG: Was La Jauria also inspired by real events?

FB: La Jauria is a fictional creation — I wanted to create a really menacing gang that drew from Mexican culture, and Victor just absolutely ran wild with the character designs. We get a lot of cartel characters in crime fiction, and La Jauria is our nod to that tradition while also having some fun with it.

OG: Is there any way that fans can connect with you online? Will you be attending any cons soon?

VS: I move in the social networks like facebook, twitter, tumblr and I have a contact mail for press, fans and commissions in my website. So you can find me there, but I can't guarantee I answer soon!! Sadly I'm my own community manager and the promoter of my work (and the daily work, of course) doesn't let me very much time.



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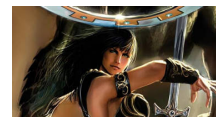
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About cons, I plan to go to some american con in the nearfuture but right now I´m moving only in Europe.

FB: My con schedule is pretty limited for 2017 — I´m hoping to attend Heroes Con, SDCC, and NYCC. I mainly stay active on Twitter at [@atlasincognita](#), and you can find my personal website <http://www.atlasincognita.com>

OG: What are your future plans?

VS: I´m working on a graphic novel with another writer. It´s something it hasn´t been announced yet, but it´s another cool noir story. It´s great because the GN pacing let me work in the breaks of Violent Love, so I can juggle both works. Some of my european stuff is going to be published in USA this year, like "Sukeban Turbo", a french graphic novel written by Sylvain Runberg for Glenat comics, and my samurai noir book "Rashomon: A case of the commissioner Heigo Kobayashi", where I write, draw and color.

FB: I´m working on a number of creator owned titles that I can´t quite announce yet, but hopefully we´ll be continuing Violent Love for some time to come. If you follow me on twitter you´ll be able to stay up to date with all my work!

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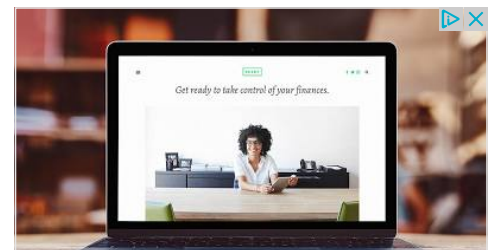


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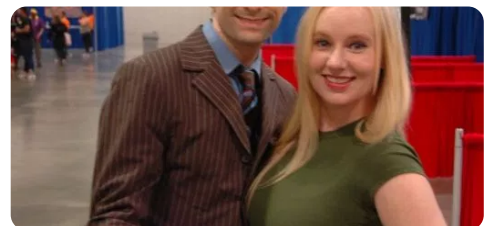
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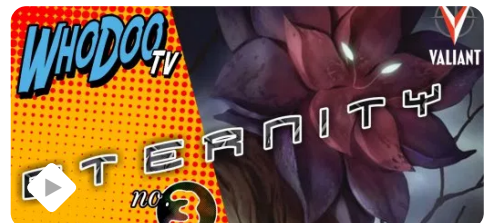
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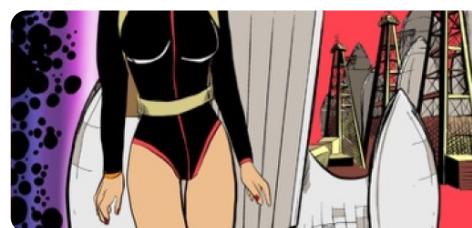
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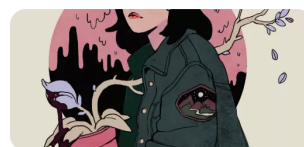
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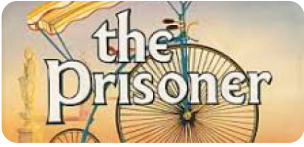


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