

ORIGINALLY SERIALIZED IN 2000 AT PROGS 322-328.

special thanks to Ben Smith and Matt Smith for their invaluable assistance

Ted Adams, CEO & Publisher • Greg Goldstein, President & COO • Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Graphic Artist • Chris Ryall, Chief Creative Officer • David Hedgecock, Editor-in-Chief • Laurie Windrow, Senior Vice President of Sales & Marketing • Matthew Ruzicka, CPA, Chief Financial Officer • Lorelei Bunjes, VP of Digital Services • Jerry Bennington, VP of New Product Development





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FOREWORD

Vertigo's *Preacher*, written by Garth Ennis, was certainly the title that has had the largest audience, rightly cemented my brother Steve's reputation as a master of visual storytelling recognised around the world, and turned into a successful TV series. It is a legacy that can't be argued with.

But... more than **ten** years earlier, "Cry of the Werewolf" was, at least for me, a definitive pinnacle in my brother's career.

Spoiler alert: It's also the only Judge Dredd story, as far as I know, where we see Dredd without his helmet... for a full **five** pages of action.

First published in 2000 AD Progs 322-328, and as with Preacher, Steve drew the entire story himself from start to finish. I think most comic readers will agree, a change of artist mid-story can spoil the experience a little. Even on the rare occasion that you love both artists equally, it can still be somewhat discombobulating. Usually the more long-form Dredd stories would have to employ at least two artists because 2000 AD was published on a weekly basis. Deadlines would have to be planned out way in advance and then fiercely adhered to. But Steve was already getting a reputation for not only producing beautiful artwork... but producing it quickly. He even did a two-part Dredd story following immediately after the 49 pages of "Cry of the Werewolf"... a story called "The Wreckers"... which meant he completed a 62-page uninterrupted run in total. That's pretty impressive.

I can distinctly remember seeing the original artwork for the double-page spread at the start of Part 6, when on a visit to Steve's flat in London. I would've been 12 years old; he was 21.

When I was a kid, seeing his original artwork and where it was created was almost as exciting as being behind the scenes of a major Hollywood film. Seeing that actual double-page spread with Dredd riding through all the teeth and fur, letting off his Lawgiver in the face of an attacking werewolf was incredible.

Being in the flat, seeing the space where this alchemy happened, seeing the brush marks on the page... the faint pencil lines and the whiteout (which there wasn't much of)... Sitting on his chair at the big wooden drawing board with its angle poise lamp, the ashtray full of spent rollups, the Indian ink pots and tea-stained mugs, LPs and replica guns left lying around... the distinctive, slightly musty smell of early 20s men who take their washing in bin bags to the local laundrette.

It was all so impossibly glamorous to my 12-year-old mind... And it was all exactly what I desperately wanted my life to be like.

In the long run I certainly achieved the musty smells and tea-stained mugs, but I never reached the dizzying heights of Steve's skill with brush and ink. He had more natural talent than any comic artist I can think of, the fact that he was as good as this when he was only 21 still astounds me.

I appreciate I'm obviously more than a little biased, but "Cry of the Werewolf" does contain some incredible examples of Steve's storytelling prowess.

For instance, the page where poor Ramone gets it... that look on Rene's face in the first panel, then going in tight for the intimate kiss, pulling out wide for the werewolf point of view, then going super-wide to slow the pace down-which 2000 AD's wider page format was great for-before being hit by the big montage panel, which in this case gives the feeling of a fast-cut action sequence, but your eyes keep being drawn back to Rene screaming away, reminiscent of Janet Leigh in *Psycho*. I love this page.

Then the double-page spread at the start of Part 2... Five panels, three word balloons... He takes our eyes and leads them perfectly from one dramatic image to the next in a fluid, rhythmic illusion of movement.

And lastly, the second panel on the first page of Part 3... Darlene has her hat in her hand, she's taken it off as she sat down... This is exactly the kind of subtle realistic "acting" that Steve did so well. It goes almost unnoticed, but it instantly makes her feel human and the action feel real, therefore giving weight to the story as a whole.

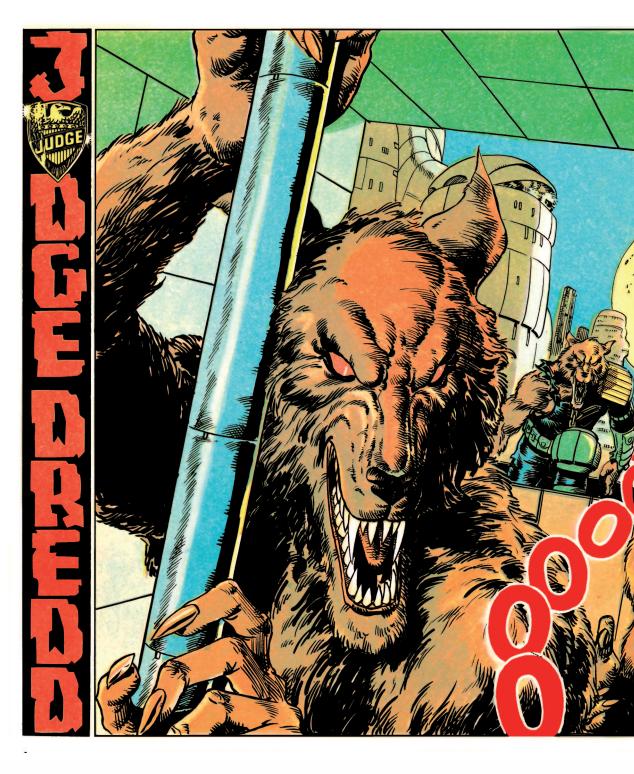
Steve's eye for that kind of humanity is what made my brother's work stand out from so many other artists.

I could easily go on, picking sequences, panels, facial expressions, or dramatic action shots, but I think it would be better if you just got on with reading it and finding them for yourself.

If you've never seen it before, I envy you.

Enjoy.

GLYN DILLON January 2017







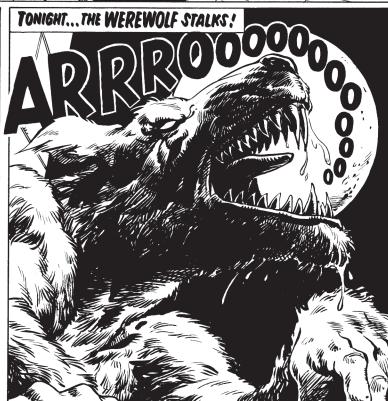












































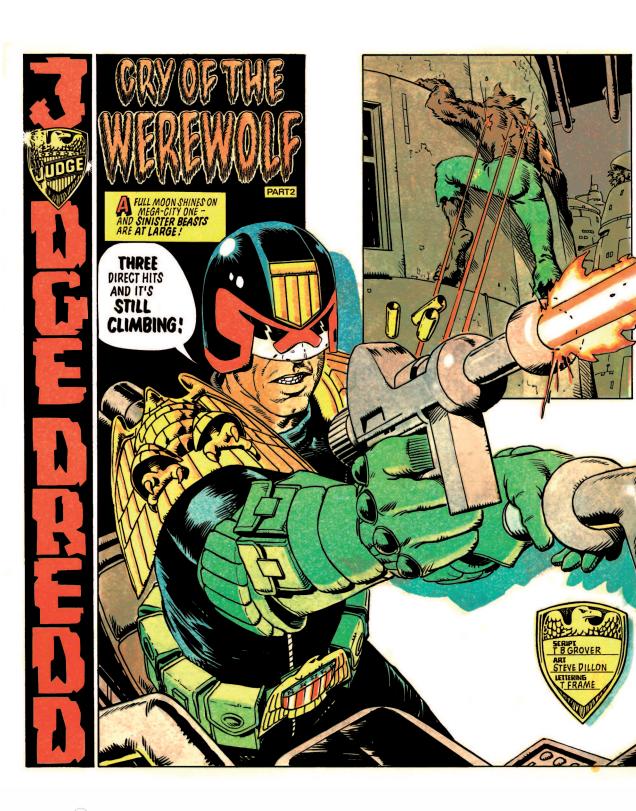
















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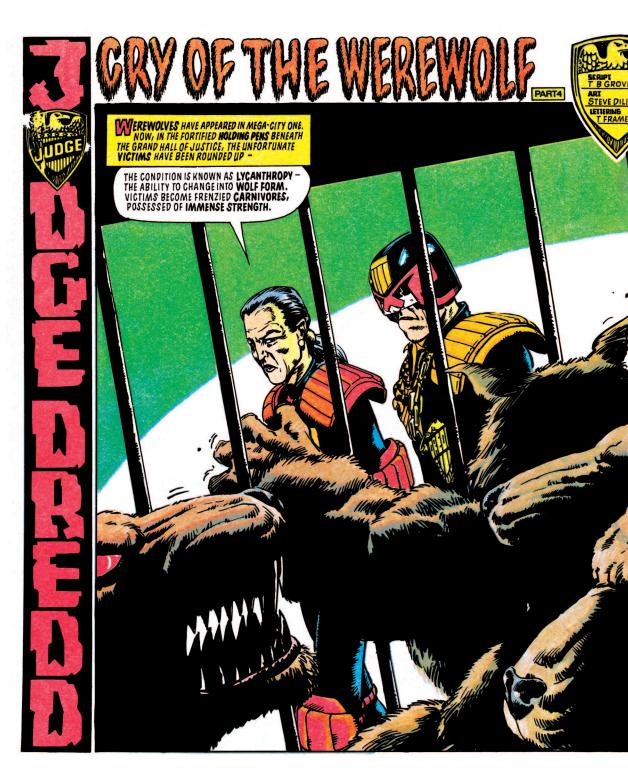




















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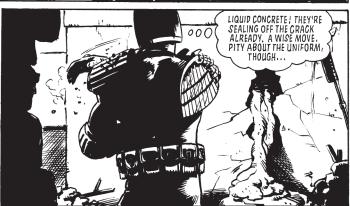


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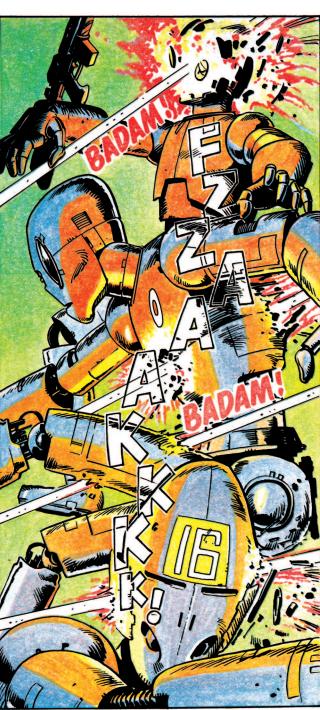
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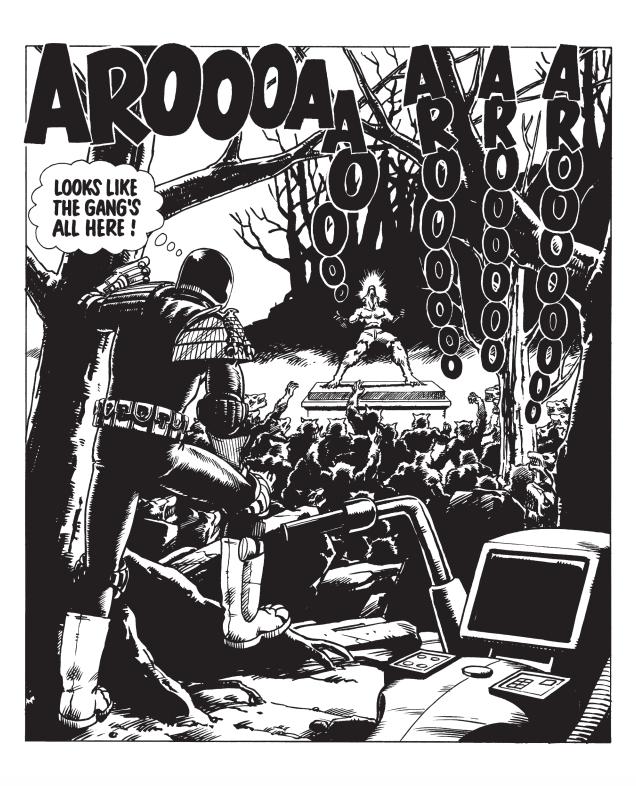


























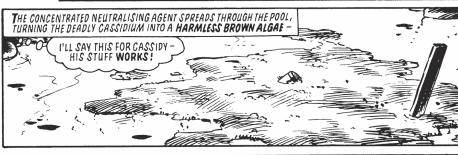














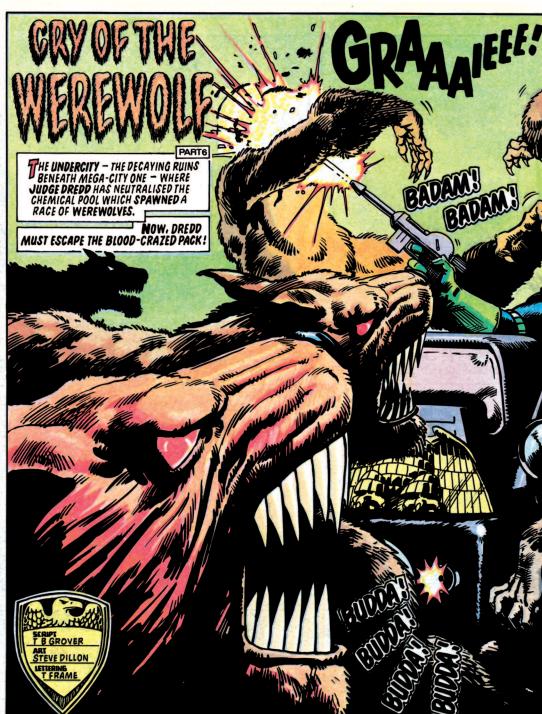
















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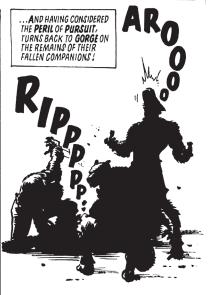
























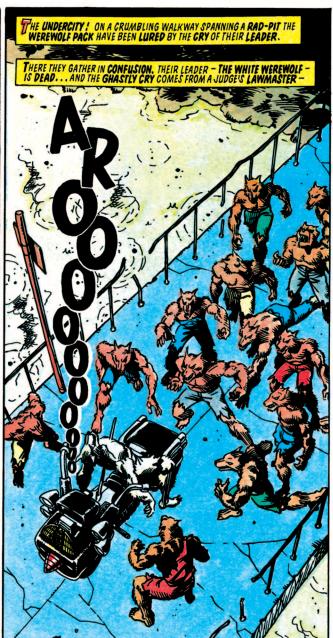
















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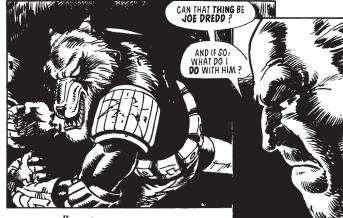
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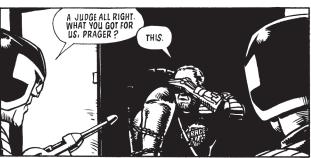






























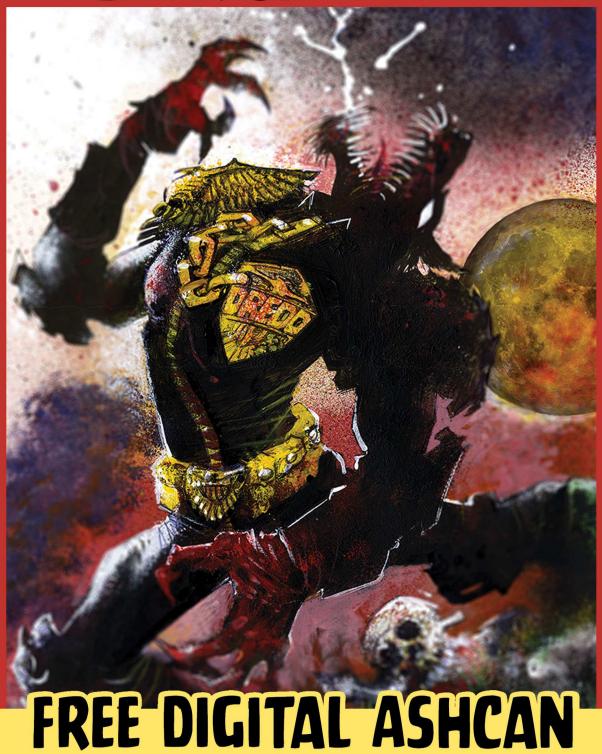








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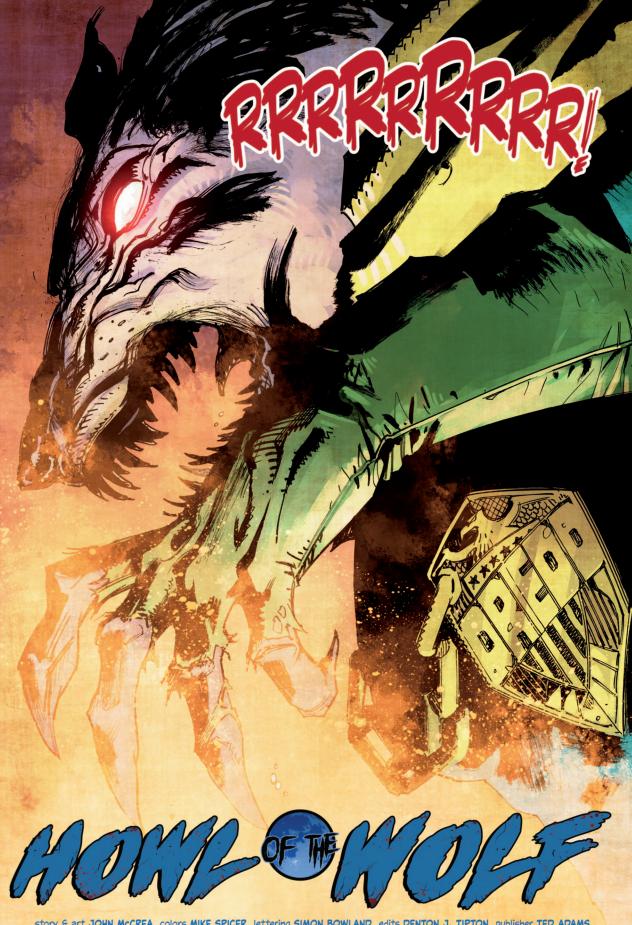












story & art JOHN McCREA colors MIKE SPICER lettering SIMON BOWLAND edits DENTON J. TIPTON publisher TED ADAMS

Judge Dredd created by JOHN WAGNER and CARLOS EZQUERRA











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JUDGE DREDD: DEVIATIONS

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK by Ted Adams



I've got another fun creator-owned series to tell you about this month—*Helena Crash* by artist, Warwick Johnson Cadwell, and writer, Fabian Rangel, Jr., with lettering by Ironbark. In a world where coffee has been outlawed and old technology is highly coveted, Helena Crash is the woman who can get you whatever you want—as long as you're willing to meet her price.

TA: Fabian, I love the mix of old technology and new technology in Helena Crash — one of my favorite scenes in the first couple of Helena issues is getting an order from a client on a phone that projects a holographic image where she gets sent on a mission to a find an old-school VHS tape. The whole world

FR: These days, it

is so fun and unique—aliens and gorillas mixing with humans, bad guys wearing Mexican wrestling masks, cool race cars, and more—that I don't know where to start. So, let's start at the beginning. How did you and Warwick meet?

FR: Glad to hear you dig the world of Helena Crash! Warwick and I have had the best time filling it with all of our favorite things. I became aware of Warwick after he did a pin-up for Space Riders, and started following him on social media. It didn't take long after that for me to hit him up asking to collaborate. His work is really inspiring.

TA: What other work have you done before Helena Crash?

FR: It's safe to say the comic I'm most known for is Space Riders with Alexis Ziritt, and before that, a comic I did with Ryan Cody called Doc Unknown that I ran a few Kickstarters for. I also wrote an issue of Jim Henson's The Storyteller, the Lucha Underground comics for El Rey, and I did a back-up story in TMNT: Amazing Adventures.

WJC: I did a 4 issue run on *Tank Girl* a few years ago and more recently in the multi-artist 21st Century Tank Girl, both for Titan Comics. I have worked with UK publishers Blank Slate and Self Made Hero and made small press and independently published comics like *Dangeritis* and *The Marionette Unit*. I've also done animation design for Aardman, Laika and Nickelodeon.

TA: What's your work process?

awesome artist to work with, and letting their art inspire the start of a story — whether that means a genre, or a character, or a setting. I don't even think of something new anymore until I know who I'm working with. Other elements include drinking lots of coffee, listening to movie or TV show scores on vinyl, and staring at the toy collection in my office. After that, it's filling notebooks and scripting. I also keep a big whiteboard on the wall that has everything I need to write in red.

WJC: My work process is like a hurricane. Not that it's an epic force of nature, commanding awe and respect, but more that it's a giant, messy, unpredictable event that I find impossible to steer. In the middle though, there is a short moment of sweet clarity and that's where the work gets done.

TA: Warwick, I see a little bit of Paul Pope and Jim Mahfood in your art and storytelling—high praise intended. Who inspires you? Any particular books, movies, or music that you look to for inspiration?



WJC: Well those two for a start. There are loads though. Mike Mignola, Mick McMahon, Kevin O'Neill, Duncan Fegredo. Then Frazetta, N.C. Wyeth, Kuniyoshi. Then Sergio Leone, Steven Spielberg, Genndy Tartakovsky. I've started listing and the problem is that I'll need to leave everyone else out. Anyone making stuff with love and care, that's what is inspiring.

TA: Anything else you'd like to tell our readers?

FR: If you like coffee, *Mad Max* style car battles, the thrill of collecting, larger than life characters doing battle in a city populated by aliens, mutants, robots, and monsters, then you should be reading *Helena Crash*.

wyc: Helena Crash's town is an incredible place to be.

Dodging fists, katanas, machetes and ray guns.

Fabian Rangel Jr. knows his stuff. This book is so much fun, with a capital "F" written in bullet holes on the side of your favourite gangsters car.

Thanks, guys. Next month,

Thanks, guys. Next month, I'll be talking with the creators of *Night Owl Society*, James Venhaus and Pius Bak.