

MAD SCIENTISTS ARE A DISEASE.  
MEET THE CURE.

# THE INTREPIDs™

image

#1

FIRST  
ISSUE

\$2.99



**CLASH**  
with the  
**CYBER-BEAR!**

KURTIS J. WIEBE SCOTT KOWALCHUK  
WITH JUSTIN SCOTT



IMAGE COMICS presents

# THE INTREPIDs™

**"MAD SCIENTISTS ARE A GIRL'S WORST ENEMY"**

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**CRYSTAL**



**DOYLE**



**ROSE**



**CHESTER**

## Meet the INTREPIDs !

In his halcyon days, Dante was a mechanical engineering prodigy. With his best years behind him, he has taken in forgotten children and given them the chance to live with purpose. These kids, the Intrepids, are the ultimate solution to the coming darkness: a blight of Mad Scientists.

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I WAS BORN TO POVERTY,  
AN UNWANTED CHILD OF A  
NEGLECTANT, DRUG ADDICTED  
MOTHER.

WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL,  
I VIEWED THE WORLD  
IN A PARTICULAR WAY.

THE WAY I SAW IT,  
BEING DEALT A GREAT INJUSTICE  
SO EARLY ON MEANT SOMEWHERE  
ALONG THE ROAD IT'D BE VINDICATED  
FOR MY SUFFERING.



MAYBE MY ABSENT FATHER  
WOULD RIDE IN ON HIS  
SILVER HORSE.

LIKE SOME MAGNIFICENT KNIGHT  
FROM THE DARK AGES.



IT WAS A LOFTY DREAM,  
MY FATHER WAS A GHOST.

INSTEAD, THERE WAS DANTE.



RUSSIA.



NOTON BEHARROH FACULTY,  
COVER THE RUSSIA

EXACTLY  
WHERE DID  
OUR PLAN  
GO WRONG  
FORHAT?



I THINK  
IT WAS WHEN  
CHIBSTER  
TRIPPED  
THE ALARM

RATHER  
THAN HANGING  
IT.



ROSE,  
COULD YOU PLEASE  
TALK CASE OF  
THAT ANUPPET  
HEY NOT BONA  
WHA ABAND



I'M  
ON IT  
HAY.



?





**MAD SCIENTISTS**  
*are a girl's best friend*  
**WORST ENEMY!**



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KURTIS J. WIEBE

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NOW?























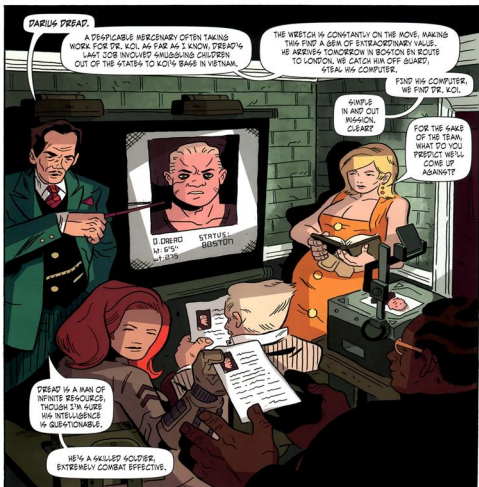


















HARVARD UNIVERSITY.  
TWENTY YEARS AGO.

KEEP IT DOWN,  
DANTE! I'VE ALMOST  
FINISHED THE  
SEQUENCE!

THIS  
GODDAMN  
GEAR KEEPS  
STRIPPING!



YOUR SOFTWARE IS  
USELESS UNTIL I CAN  
MAKE THE MECHANICS  
WORK!

QUIET, YOU BUMBLING  
WHITE MONKEY! TEN MORE MINUTES,  
CAN YOU QUIT YOUR WHINING  
FOR TEN MINUTES?

THE ROTATOR DRIVE  
IS GOING TO KEEP EATING  
THE JOINT GEAR UNTIL I CAN  
STABILIZE THE ELECTRICAL  
ACTUATOR.



IT WOULD HELP  
IF WE HAD LIGHT IN THIS  
BOD FORGOTTEN LAB.

WE'D HAVE  
IT, BUT WE'RE  
SPENDING THAT  
BUDGET ON  
REPLACEMENT  
GEARS.

FUNNY.

BY THE WAY, DANTE,  
HAVE YOU GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT  
TO MY PROPOSAL?

"DANTE WAS  
PROPOSITIONED  
BY A MAN?"

"SERIOUSLY,  
CHESTER,  
SHUT UP."

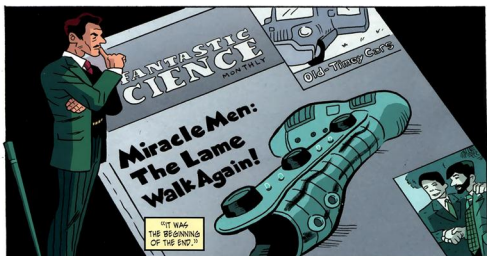
WE AGREED THAT OUR RESEARCH WOULD  
BENEFIT THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LIMBS,  
NOT ENHANCE PEOPLE WHO ALREADY HAVE  
HEALTHY ONES.

YOU ARE SO SHORT  
SIGHTED, DANTE. THINK  
OF THE POSSIBILITIES.  
THINK OF THE MONEY!

MILITARY CONTRACTS,  
GOVERNMENT FUNDING, AND...  
IF IT SHOULD SO HAPPEN,  
BLACKMARKET SALES.

FORGET IT. ONCE WE PERFECT  
THE CYBER-LIMB, WE GO PUBLIC WITH IT  
AND MAKE KNOWN OUR INTENTIONS.

FINE. AFTER THAT, WE GO  
OUR OWN WAY. TIRED OF  
LETTING THE DO GOODER  
CONTROL MY DESTINY.





# THE INTREPIDs

Welcome to the world of **The Intrepids**...



Every story has a genesis. It originates from some event or emotion, whether obvious or subtle, it is embedded until you create something new, allowing it to flourish. **INTREPIDs** #1 was written over a year ago, and it wasn't until I was able to look back and retrospectively understand where this series came from.

**Like all good stories, the source was turmoil.**

Relationships are, without a doubt, a veritable gold mine for nuggets of inspiration. Good or bad, how we relate to those we love, and how we are treated in return, provides an opportunity to be absolutely genuine in what we write. **THE INTREPIDs** came about when, after a long period of marital duress, I realized I'd never written anything based upon the person who should've been a source of inspiration.

What does that mean? It means that **THE INTREPIDs** helped me through a very difficult time, and has seen me through a major transition and to a better understanding of myself. And though my marriage didn't last the year, **THE INTREPIDs** did and has changed in its own way, much like I have.

When everything came apart, I realized that at the end of the day, family will always be there. They will love you, support you, and when it seems hopeless, they will be your safe place. Suddenly, Crystal, Rose, Doyle and Chester became like family. They became more real to me, and their struggle to find a place in the world was something that I identified with on numerous levels.

Yes, this is an action story with cybernetic bears and battle baboons, but there is a heart to our series that is firmly rooted in the life lessons of a writer trying to understand his world.

Rest assured, readers, this series is a bloody wild run. What you've seen here in this premiere issue is but a taste of the fun to come, and if you can manage to hang on long enough, we'll show you a good time. At the very least, you'll get to see a sexy dame in a rocket pack and short shorts.

Because, at the end of the day, isn't that what we all want?

Kurtis J Wiebe

Kurtis Wiebe and I met 18 months ago, at a portfolio show I was attending as part of my final term of college (I majored in Illustration, obviously). Kurtis was weird when he came to my table, sweating profusely, mustard stains all over his 'New Kids on the Block' shirt, and a mouthful of cauliflower. Weird, right? I was amazed that such an odd individual could write something as fun-filled and engaging as the first draft he sent me of **THE INTREPIDs**. In one issue, he created a collection of really fun characters, and a world that I knew I really wanted to be part of, mustard stains and all. Though, we did have to tone down the amount of nudity he had originally included in the script. For instance, Crystal is now wearing something below her jacket. That took some convincing on my part.

Okay, I'm kidding, none of that is true, with the exception of how Kurtis and I met. **THE INTREPIDs** has been a really fun book for us to put together. We went through a number of drafts before getting this first issue just right. Once we had something we both were happy with, we decided it was time to look at publishers. **IMAGE COMICS** was at the top of my list. I was tickled when Eric Stephenson and **IMAGE COMICS** took an interest in us and the series. **IMAGE** has been producing some of the most engaging work for years, and to have a series published here has been an even bigger treat.

I'm extremely proud of the issue you just spent your hard-earned money on, and I hope we have impressed you enough to come back for another issue. Because, believe you me, this story is far from over.

Anyway, as my wife, Amanda, will lovingly say "Get off that computer, and get back to work!" Thanks for reading. We'll see you again in a month.

Scott Kowalchuk

## NEXT ISSUE:

**The Intrepids** rush headlong into the lair of Darius Dread, facing Dread's highly trained Baboon Death Squad. Knowing he has the information they need to find Dr. Koi, **The Intrepids** confront Dread, only to find the situation is not quite what they had anticipated.

# THE INTREPIDs



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