
THE SILENCERS #1

by

Fred Van Lente - words

Steve Ellis - pictures

Dae Lim Yoo with Steve Ellis - colors

THE SILENCERS created by Fred Van Lente & Steve Ellis



MOONSTONE is...

JOE GENTILE - editor in chief

DAVE ULANSKI - art director

LORI G & GARRETT ANDERSON - editorial

KATHLEEN O'BRIEN - web master

JOE GENTILE & DAVE ULANSKI - publishers

visit Moonstone at

WWW.MOONSTONEBOOKS.COM

THE SILENCERS #1 — ™ & © 2003 Fred Van Lente and Steve Ellis

To read the rest of the story, order the SILENCERS: BITTER FRUIT collected edition from your local retailer: visit www.moonstonebooks.com/outpost.asp to find the one nearest you!

MOONSTONE BOOKS
PRESENTS:

&
HYPERACTIVE ART
production

of an
ELLIS/VAN LENTE
comic book

introducing
THE SILENCERS

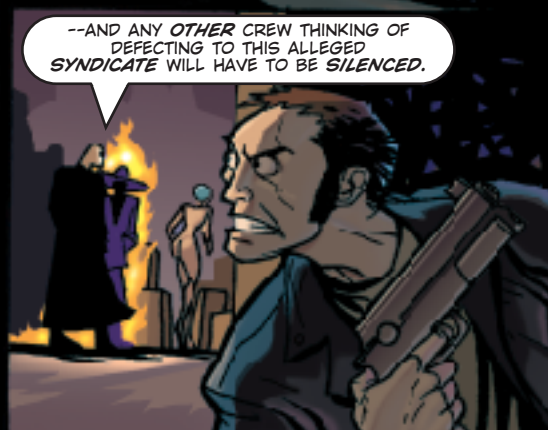
in:

Page 1 — THE SILENCERS #1 — ™ & © 2003 Fred Van Lente and Steve Ellis
To read the rest of the story, order the SILENCERS: BITTER FRUIT collected edition
from your local retailer: visit www.moonstonebooks.com/outpost.asp to find the one nearest you!













TriBeCa:

ON THE STREET THEY CALL IT **OBSIDIAN**, SMACKDOWN, AZTEC SWORD, FROSTED FLAKES, **FLAKEY FOONT**...

...**TONGUE CANDY**, MELTED SKY, FISH FOOD, **SKY-HIGH SHAVINGS**.

BUT THEY SAY IT STARTED IN **SOHO**...

...WHERE THE NATIVES CHRISTENED IT **BLACK KISS**.

B.K. IS POISED TO BE BIGGER THAN **CRACK**, PEOPLE, AND WE **PROVENZANOS** HAVE TO BE IN ON IT FROM THE **GROUND LEVEL!**

OUR **SILENCERS** ARE TRYING TO TRACE THE KISS TO ITS **SOURCE--**

--**CARDINAL** THINKS IT'S A BUNCH OF HIPPIE **CHEMISTS** MASQUERADING AS SOME BOGUS "**SYNDICATE**."

ONCE WE GET OUR HANDS ON THE **FORMULA**, I PROPOSE WE INVEST **\$18.5MM** IN **R&D** OVER A SIX-MONTH--

HEY! **JOHNNY PRO!** WE'RE TRYIN' TO EAT HERE, HANHP?

LEAVE THE **DECISIONS** TO THE **GROWN-UPS** AND WE'LL GET **BACK** TO YOU, O.K.?



ATTICA STATE
PENITENTIARY

then:

CARDINAL.

LET'S GO. FATHER
TOUSSANT WANTS YOU.



IS
IT *TRUE*,
WHAT THEY SAY
ABOUT YOU,
FIORE?

THAT
WHEN YOU
WERE *YOUNG* YOU
WERE A STUDENT AT
SEMINARY? THAT'S
WHERE YOUR...
"*SECOND NAME*"
COMES FROM?



WE'RE SORRY
YOUR BROTHER
ORAZIO, HE GET
WHACKED BY THE
BONNANOS.



BUT THAT DON'T CHANGE THE
DEBT YOUR MAMA AND PAPA OWE
THE PROVENZANOS FOR BRINGING YOU
OVER FROM NAPOLI, SEEP YOU GOT
TO LEAVE SEMINARY, FIORE. YOU GOT
TO TAKE ORAZIO'S PLACE IN OUR
ORGANIZATION.

YOU DON'T WANT NOTHING TO
HAPPEN TO YOUR MAMA AND PAPA,
DO YOU?



FOR
TEN YEARS
I'VE WATCHED
YOU, YES?

HOW YOU COME TO MASS
EVERY SUNDAY. HOW YOU STUDY
THROUGH THE MAIL FOR YOUR
COLLEGE DEGREE.



THIS IS AN AWFUL PLACE.
I KNOW THAT AS WELL AS ANY-
ONE--PERHAPS MORESO.

BUT...I OFTENTIMES
WONDER IF THE BARS IN HERE
DON'T PROTECT SOME OF YOU...

DON'T SIMPLY EXCHANGE ONE
CAGE FOR ANOTHER WHEN YOU
LEAVE HERE, FIORE.



...FROM THE BARS YOU'VE BUILT
FOR YOURSELVES OUT THERE.

I GIVE SOME VERSION OF THIS
SPEECH TO ALL THE SHORT-TIMERS.



YOU'LL BE BACK ON THE STREET IN
TWO WEEKS, YES?

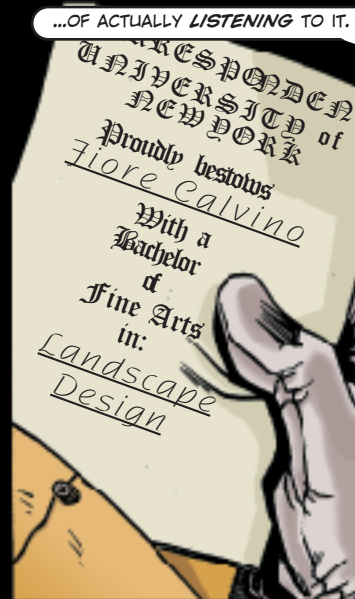
...OF ACTUALLY LISTENING TO IT.



YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE.



BUT I WAS HOPING, AS A
FELLOW SEMINARIAN, THAT YOU
MIGHT DO ME THE PROFESSIONAL
COURTESY...



RESPONDENCE
UNIVERSITY of
NEW YORK
Proudly bestows
Fiore calvino
With a
Bachelor
of
Fine Arts
in:
Landscape
Design