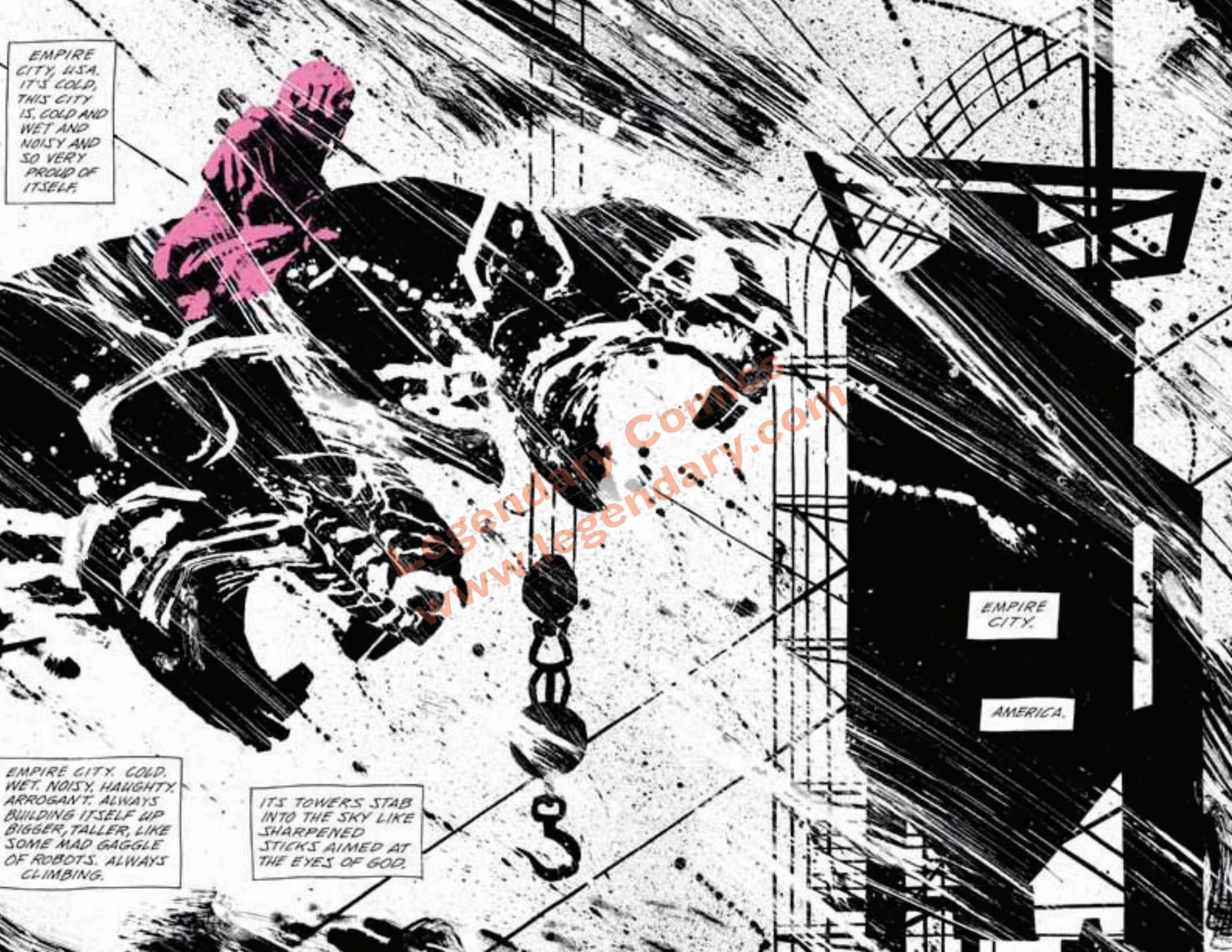


EMPIRE CITY, U.S.A.
IT'S COLD,
THIS CITY
IS, COLD AND
WET AND
NOISY AND
SO VERY
PROUD OF
ITSELF.



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EMPIRE
CITY.

AMERICA.

EMPIRE CITY. COLD.
WET. NOISY. HAUGHTY.
ARROGANT. ALWAYS
BUILDING ITSELF UP
BIGGER, TALLER, LIKE
SOME MAD GAGGLE
OF ROBOTS. ALWAYS
CLIMBING.

ITS TOWERS STAB
INTO THE SKY LIKE
SHARPENED
STICKS AIMED AT
THE EYES OF GOD.

EMPIRE
CITY. PROUD.
ARROGANT.
HAUGHTY.
WET. COLD.

AND NOW, FAR AWAY,
OUT BY THE RIVER,
A FLASH OF FIRE--
A SHOCK OF SOUND
THAT SHAKES THIS
WORLD OF MEN,
SUDDEN AS A DESERT
THUNDERCLAP--AND
NO MORE MERCIFUL.

CAR ALARMS
SQUEAL LIKE
SPOILED BRATS.

SIRENS
ARE NEXT.

EMPIRE CITY
WILL SCREAM.

IN
AGONY.

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