



JOE BENITEZ'S

No. 0

Benitez · Steigerwald

# Lady Mechanika





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*Lady*  
**Mechanika**  
in  
**The**  
**DEMON**  
**SATAN'S**  
**ALLEY**

Special Thanks  
to M. M. CHEN

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THIRTEENTH DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER, 1878.


FRIDAY THE THIRTEENTH.  
NOT THE MOST AUSPICIOUS  
DATE FOR THIS NIGHT'S  
VENTURE, IF YOU BELIEVE IN  
THAT SORT OF THING.

THEN AGAIN, WHAT  
BETTER NIGHT TO  
HUNT THE DEMON OF  
SATAN'S ALLEY?

I MAY NOT BE SUPERSTITIOUS,  
BUT I'VE FOUND THERE'S  
USUALLY A KERNEL OF TRUTH IN  
EVERY STORY, EVEN THE RUBBISH  
PRINTED IN THE TABLOIDS.

BLOODY PAPERS WITH THEIR  
OUTRAGEOUS HEADLINES!  
NOW EVERY GUN-TOTING  
FOOL IN THE PARISH IS OUT,  
SHOOTING AT SHADOWS.





IT'S EVEN DRAWN THE INTEREST OF *THE BLACKPOOL ARMAMENTS COMPANY*. THE AREA IS SWARMING WITH THEIR HIRED GUNS, ALL SEARCHING FOR THE "FEROCIOUS DEMON" TERRORIZING THE EAST END OF TOWN.

I'VE BEEN KEEPING WATCH THE LAST THREE NIGHTS, WAITING FOR IT TO RETURN.

BOOM!

HERE WE GO.

ZZ DEMON!!!  
DEMON!

I SHOT IT!  
ZZZZ

BUT BLACKPOOL'S GUNS ARE EXPERIENCED HUNTERS.

I'LL HAVE TO BE QUICK IF I'M TO CATCH THE CREATURE FIRST.





WHERE  
ARE YOU...

KZZZ  
I SHOT THE  
MONSTER!!!  
ZZZZ  
ZZZZ

THERE'S  
MY BOY.

ONE MIGHT ASK WHY  
A WEAPONS COMPANY  
WOULD BE SO INTERESTED  
IN A SENSATIONALIZED  
MONSTER STORY...

...BUT I KNOW  
EXACTLY WHAT DREW  
THEIR ATTENTION.

THE SAME THING  
THAT CAUGHT MY  
EYE.

BURIED AMONGST HYSTERICAL REPORTS OF  
A DEMON TRYING TO SNATCH CHILDREN OR  
STEAL SOULS OR OTHER SUCH NONSENSE  
WAS A SINGLE ACCOUNT DESCRIBING THE  
CREATURE AS...HALF-MACHINE.

I'M CERTAIN BLACKPOOL WOULD LIKE  
NOTHING MORE THAN TO ACQUIRE SUCH  
A CREATURE AND DISSECT IT, FIND SOME  
WAY TO TURN IT INTO A WEAPON.

MECHANICAL....

I, OF COURSE, HAVE MORE--  
**PERSONAL**-- REASONS FOR  
WANTING TO FIND IT.





FFFTTT

SANK!

GRHAAA!

BOLLOCKS!

FFFT

UNGH

MR SHANK

WHAAA!

CH-CHIK

HUGNNN

WRAHHH!

HUGNNN

FEISTY  
LITTLE  
BUGGER!



SHLXHH

NNGHH!!

I'VE HAD  
=UNGH= JUST  
ABOUT...

TNXX

ENOUGH!

DON'T  
MAKE ME  
KILL YOU.

=HUFF HUFF=...  
ALL RIGHT...I  
WILL NOT FIGHT  
YOU =HUFF= ANY  
MORE.

=GASP!=

IT...IT  
SPEAKS?

DEAR GOD! YOU  
CAN *SPEAK!*

ARE, ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?

YES...  
AS CAN  
YOU...

I...I  
FEEL =HUFF=  
VERY WEAK...  
AND TIRED.





THAT'S FROM THE DART.

WHY... WHY YOU WANT TO HURT ME?

I DON'T. THE DART WAS COATED WITH A SOPORIFIC, TO MAKE YOU SLEEP, NOT TO HARM YOU IN ANY WAY. I JUST WANTED TO KEEP YOU FROM RUNNING OFF.

WHY?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT A FRENZY YOU'VE CAUSED? YOU PUT A VERY BIG SCARE INTO THE TOWNSFOLK. THERE ARE MEN OUT HUNTING YOU, SOME TO KILL.

I DID NOT MEAN TO ~~SHUFF~~ SCARE NOBODY. I WAS SIMPLY... HUNGRY.

ARE YOU HUNGRY STILL?

I... I AM...

I MAY HAVE SOMETHING...

AH, HERE WE GO.



WOULD YOU LIKE IT?

YES, PLEASE. ~~SHUFF~~ THANK YOU... SO... VERY MUCH.

YOU ARE SO VERY WELCOME! MY, YOU ARE *SUCH* A POLITE LITTLE THING.

MASTER ~~SHUFF~~ SSAY WE SHOU ~~GULP~~ ALWAS SSAY PLEASES... AN THANK YOUS...

...SORRY... BUT... I HAVE NO EATEN ~~SHUFF~~ IN DAYS.

IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT.

MAY I SEE YOUR ARM? LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT ALL MECHANICAL. THESE WOUNDS WILL NEED TENDING.

SO WHO IS THIS MASTER?

MAKER?

HE IS ~~SHUFF~~ MY MAKER...

AWW!! AWWW!!

OH! I'M SO SORRY, LITTLE ONE.





THIS MASTER OF YOURS, HE MADE YOU WHAT YOU ARE? DID HE GIVE YOU THESE MECHANICAL LIMBS?

YES. MASTER FIX ME WHEN ~~~HUFF~~~ I GET HURT. HE MADE ME BETTER.

WHERE IS HE? WHERE CAN I FIND HIM? TELL ME AND I CAN TAKE YOU TO HIM!

MASTER? I... I DO NOT KNOW... I WAS LEFT BEHIND... HE... HE FORGOT ME. ~~~WEEEEE~~~ I FEEL... WEAKER.

THE DRUG IS TAKING EFFECT. YOU WILL ONLY SLEEP FOR A SHORT WHILE. AND WHEN YOU WAKE, WE WILL GO SEARCH FOR YOUR MASTER.

PROMISE, LITTLE ONE.

I KEEP CALLING YOU "LITTLE ONE." DO YOU HAVE A NAME?

REALLY?

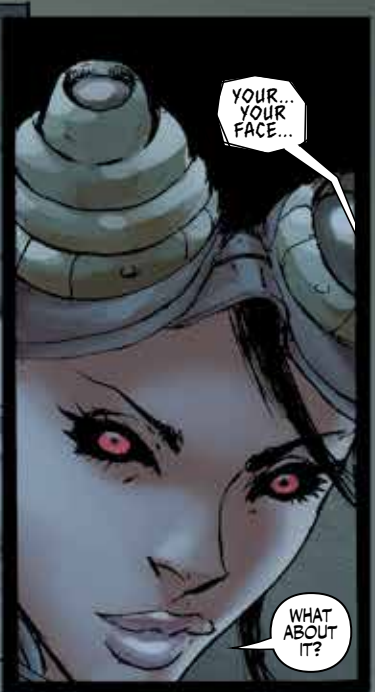
NAME? I'M... I'M UCKY.



UCKY... WELL, UCKY, WHEN YOU WAKE YOU WILL HAVE TO TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR MASTER. HE IS SOMEONE THAT I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET.

I'LL LET YOU IN ON A LITTLE SECRET, UCKY. YOU AND I ARE TWO OF A KIND. NEVER IN MY DEALINGS HAVE I EVER COME ACROSS SOMEONE ELSE LIKE YOU. YOU ARE VERY SPECIAL TO ME.

SPECIAL? ME?



YOUR... YOUR FACE...

WHAT ABOUT IT?



I... I REMEMBER YOU.

I REMEMBER YOU NOW...

YOU WHAT?!!



WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

...YOU ARE ~~~HUFF~~~ OLDER... BUT IT IS YOU. LONG, LONG... TIME AGO. I'VE NOT SEEN YOU ~~~WEEEEE~~~ LONG...

UCKY, PLEASE TELL ME! WHO AM I? WHAT'S MY NAME? WHERE DID I COME FROM? PLEASE!! I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR SO LONG.

YOU WERE ALWAYS MASTER'S FAVORITE.

MASTER?! WHO IS HE? WHAT'S HIS NAME? PLEASE, UCKY!

UCKY? YOU ~~~WEEEEE~~~ YOU NAMED ME...







*SPLAT*

WHAA?!

*NOOOO*

GOOD SHOT, COLONEL.

YES, YES. A MOST SIMPLE TASK MADE EASIER BY LORD BLACKPOOL'S WONDROUS GADGET HERE.

DOCTOR LITTLETON! SEE TO THE YOUNG LADY THERE. POOR CHILD SEEMS TO BE HAVING A BOUT OF HYSTERIC.

THE REST OF YOU, SECURE THE DEMON AND ANYTHING ELSE OF INTEREST.

COLONEL, I COMMISSIONED YOU TO BRING THE CREATURE IN ALIVE. IT IS WORTHLESS TO ME DEAD.

YES, WELL, THE CALIBRATION ON YOUR RIFLE MUST HAVE BEEN OFF. IT'S NOT A PERFECT SCIENCE.

BUT SIR, I CALIBRATED IT MYSELF AND --



ARE YOU QUESTIONING MY COMPETENCE, MR. HIGGINS?

NO, NO...NOT AT ALL...

MISS, MAY I BE OF SOME ASSIST--

DON'T!! TOUCH ME.

MISS? MISS? WAIT...

...AN UNAVOIDABLE OCCURRENCE, LORD BLACKPOOL. REGARDLESS, MY MEN AND I EXPECT TO BE FULLY COMPENSATED FOR OUR TROUBLE.

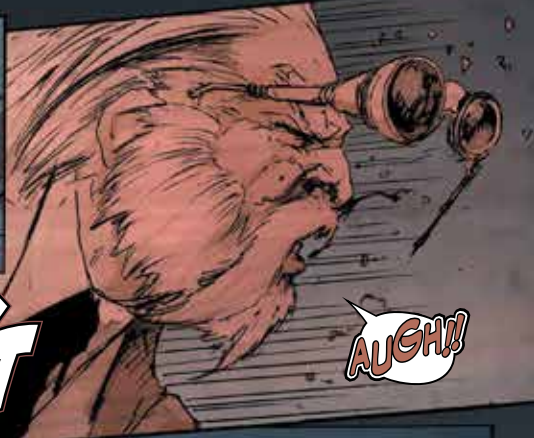
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE. YOU WILL--





WHO'S  
IN CHARGE  
HERE?!

AH, YOUNG  
MISS. NO NEED TO  
THANK US. IT IS THE  
DUTY OF ALL GOOD  
CHRISTIANS TO  
RENDER--



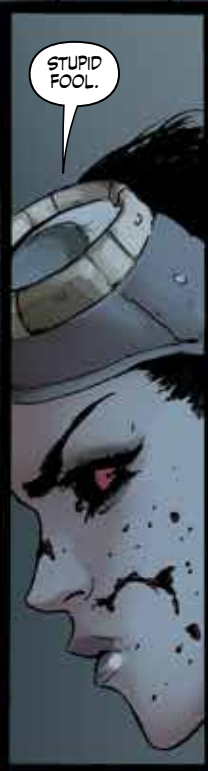
AUGH!!

THUNKT



IDIOT!!!

YOU KILLED  
AN INNOCENT BEING  
FOR NO PURPOSE! THAT  
CREATURE MEANT NO HARM!  
IT WAS JUST HURT,  
AND SCARED!



STUPID  
FOOL.



THERE  
WAS NOTHING  
INNOCENT  
ABOUT IT.

THAT *THING*  
WAS AN ABOMINATION!  
ITS VERY EXISTENCE A  
CLEAR AFFRONT TO GOD  
AND EVERYTHING THAT  
IS HOLY IN THIS  
WORLD.

THERE  
WAS NOTHING MORE  
HUMANE THAT ANYBODY  
COULD HAVE DONE THAN PUT  
THAT...THAT *MECHANICAL*  
MONSTROSITY OUT OF  
ITS MISERY.



PUT ME  
OUT OF MINE,  
THEN...

...IF  
YOU THINK  
YOURSELF SO  
RIGHTEOUS.



ME...ME...  
MECHANIKA?!





MADAM,  
A WORD, IF  
I MAY?

HERE'S  
TWO...*PISS  
OFF!*

?!

LADY  
MECHANIKA, THE  
INFAMOUS MECHANICAL  
HUNTRESS! THIS IS QUITE  
THE HONOR. MY NAME IS  
NATHANIEL BLACKPOOL,  
OF BLACKPOOL  
ARMAMENTS?

I'M A VERY  
BIG ADMIRER AND  
HAVE BEEN WANTING  
TO MAKE YOUR  
ACQUAINTANCE FOR  
SUCH A LONG--

ARE  
YOU *MAD?!!*  
YOU JUST...  
*MURDERED*  
THAT MAN!



I  
DO NOT TOLERATE  
DISOBEDIENCE.

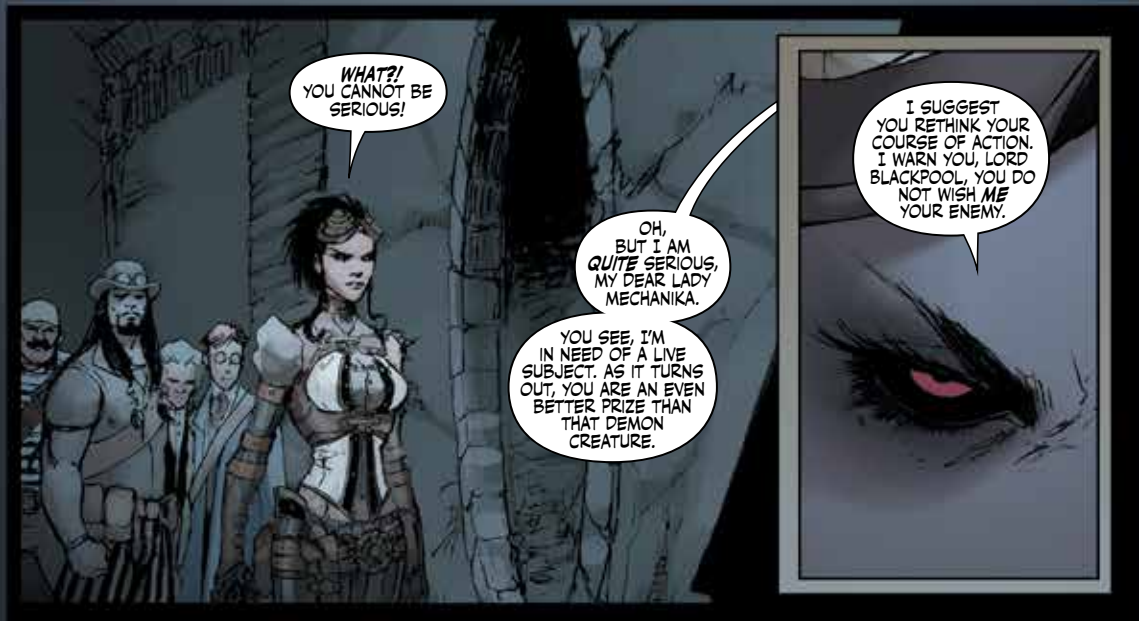
THE COLONEL  
ALLOWED HIS RELIGIOUS  
CONVICTIONS TO DIVERT HIM  
FROM HIS ASSIGNMENT. AND  
MOST EGREGIOUS OF ALL,  
HE BLATANTLY LIED TO ME  
ABOUT IT.

I COULD  
NOT ALLOW SUCH A  
TRANSGRESSION TO  
GO UNPUNISHED.

THE REST  
OF YOU MEN WILL  
ALL BE COMPENSATED IN  
FULL, PLUS THE COLONEL'S  
SHARE, FOR YOUR HARD  
AND LOYAL WORK.

I WILL  
ALSO TRIPLE THE  
FEE FOR EACH OF YOU  
IF YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH  
ONE ADDITIONAL  
TASK...

SECURE  
THE GIRL.



*WHAT?!*  
YOU CANNOT BE  
SERIOUS!

OH,  
BUT I AM  
*QUITE* SERIOUS,  
MY DEAR LADY  
MECHANIKA.

YOU SEE, I'M  
IN NEED OF A LIVE  
SUBJECT. AS IT TURNS  
OUT, YOU ARE AN EVEN  
BETTER PRIZE THAN  
THAT DEMON  
CREATURE.

I SUGGEST  
YOU RETHINK YOUR  
COURSE OF ACTION.  
I WARN YOU, LORD  
BLACKPOOL, YOU DO  
NOT WISH *ME*  
YOUR ENEMY.





INDEED.  
GENTLEMEN, IF  
YOU PLEASE.

DON'  
MAKE IT HARDER  
ON YOURSELF,  
LOVE.

WE DON'  
WANNA HURT  
YOU.

VERY  
WELL, THEN.  
LET'S HAVE  
A GO.

EASY  
THERE,  
LASS.

OW OW OW  
AAAA

HHHHH!

HHUAAHHH!

ROCK





WHMP

UUNGH!!

HAAAGGHH!!

KRAACK

HUNGHI!

KRAACK

HAAAGGHH!!

THUNK!

UNGH!

PERHAPS  
IT WOULD  
BE WISEST TO  
DEPART, YOUR  
LORDSHIP.

HMMM.  
PERHAPS.





DOCTOR?

MIGHT YOU HAVE A BLANKET OR TOWEL IN THAT BAG OF YOURS?

YE...YES?

UH, YE...YES, I DO...

BRILLIANT. WOULD YOU BE A DEAR AND BUNDLE UP THE LITTLE CREATURE AND BRING HIM TO ME?

OF...OF COURSE, MISS. RIGHT AWAY, MISS.

MR. HIGGINS, TAKE MY PISTOL.

STAY AND HOLD BACK THAT MECHANICAL WITCH FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN.

BUT, BUT... SIR?

MR. HIGGINS?

YOU WOULD BE ILL ADVISED TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH YOUR LORD'S ORDERS.

UNLESS, OF COURSE...

...YOU WISH TO TEST ME?

N-N-N-N-NOOOOO...

KA BOOM

AAARGGHH!!

BOSHUNKTT

UMMM... HERE YOU GO, MISS.

YOU ARE VERY KIND, DOCTOR. THANK YOU. YOU SHOULD FIND A MORE LIKE-MINDED EMPLOYER.

MR. HIGGINS?

YE... YE...YES... MA'AM?

YOU'RE IN MY WAY.





OH, OH...  
OF COURSE...SO  
SORRY.



**MECHANIKA!**



YOU NEED TO  
UNDERSTAND,  
I AM A MAN OF  
VISION!

NEW DISCOVERIES ARE  
MADE EVERY DAY, BUT  
THEY ARE MERE CHILD'S  
PLAY COMPARED TO THE  
WONDERS I COULD  
CREATE WITH YOUR  
MACHINERY.



THINK OF IT, MECHANIKA!  
THINK OF ALL THE  
MECHANICAL MARVELS  
WE COULD CREATE! IT  
WOULD REVOLUTIONIZE  
THE ENTIRE WORLD!

WE WILL  
USHER IN A NEW  
AGE, THE AGE  
OF THE MACHINE!  
WE WOULD BE  
UNSTOPPABLE!



THE KINGS  
AND QUEENS OF  
THE COMING  
CENTURY...

**UNGHH!!**

**KRSWAANKT**



NGGH...  
UNGHH...

I  
TRUST WE HAVE AN  
UNDERSTANDING.



CHEERS.

UNGH...  
HEL...  
UHH...

**KIK  
KIAK  
KIAK  
KIAK  
KIAK**

**THE END**  
(For Now)



# THE ADVENTURES OF LADY MECHANIKA CONTINUE...



## **VOL 1: THE MYSTERY OF THE MECHANICAL CORPSE**

When the corpse of another woman with mechanical limbs surfaces, Lady Mechanika drops everything to investigate. Could the mystery of the mechanical corpse help unlock the secrets to her own past?

## **VOL 2: THE TABLET OF DESTINIES**

While on a desperate search to rescue an abducted friend, Lady Mechanika becomes embroiled in a globe-spanning race to find the Tablet of Destinies, an ancient Sumerian artifact reputed to hold the secrets of the Universe.



## **VOL 3: THE LOST BOYS OF WEST ABBEY**

Lady Mechanika's investigation into the deaths of "undesirable" children in Mechanika City triggers an unexpected reaction from her subconscious self. Could the killer be somehow connected to Lady Mechanika's mysterious past?

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After suffering a tragic loss, Lady Mechanika travels to a remote Mexican village just in time for their *Día de los Muertos* celebration. But the festivities turn truly deadly after the arrival of the *Jinetes del Infierno*, the mythical Demon Riders from Hell.



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When a series of murders leads Inspector Singh to Lady Mechanika's doorstep, he is finally forced to consider: is Lady Mechanika a crime-fighting hero...or a cold-blooded killer?

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Lady Mechanika's inventor associate Mr. Lewis becomes enamored of a beautiful and enigmatic young widow, whose past is disturbingly linked to the untimely deaths of several creative geniuses. Will Mr. Lewis be next?

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Lady Mechanika is hired to protect a Barón's son from an alleged demonic entity, but were the young man's injuries actually caused by supernatural forces, or by illicit experiments devised to cure him of his "deviant" behavior?

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In a Victorian asylum full of grotesque inmates, sadistic guards, and a fanatical doctor, a young lady wakes to find her arms and legs have been replaced with mechanical limbs. The origins of the notorious adventuress known as Lady Mechanika!



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LADY MECHANIKA (*The Mystery of the Mechanical Corpse*)

THE TABLET OF DESTINIES

THE LOST BOYS OF WEST ABBEY

LA DAMA DE LA MUERTE

THE CLOCKWORK ASSASSIN

LA BELLE DAME SANS MERCI

SANGRE

THE MONSTER OF THE MINISTRY OF HELL

THE DEVIL IN THE LAKE (*Coming Soon*)

LADY MECHANIKA: STEAMPUNK COLORING BOOK I

LADY MECHANIKA: STEAMPUNK COLORING BOOK II





## JOE BENITEZ'S *Lady* **Mechanika**

The tabloids dubbed her "Lady Mechanika," the sole survivor of a mad scientist's horrific experiments which left her with mechanical limbs.

Having no memory of her captivity or her former life, Mechanika eventually built a new life for herself as a private investigator, using her unique abilities to solve cases the proper authorities couldn't or wouldn't handle. But she never stopped searching for the answers to her own past.

Set in a fictionalized steampunk turn of the century England, a time when magic and superstition clashed with new scientific discoveries and inventions, Lady Mechanika is about a young woman's search for her own identity as she solves other mysteries involving science and the supernatural.



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