

The cover art features a dark, moody scene with a purple and black sky. In the center, a large, glowing white circle contains the title. To the left, Jack Skellington stands in profile, wearing his signature striped suit and a crown-like headpiece. To the right, a large, stitched, sack-like figure with a face is shown in profile, looking towards Jack. The background includes a stone building with a window and a small bat flying in the sky.

Disney

TIM BURTON'S
THE
NIGHTMARE
BEFORE
CHRISTMAS

THE BATTLE FOR
PUMPKIN KING

A THRILLING ORIGINAL GRAPHIC NOVEL



Disney

TIM BURTON'S
THE
NIGHTMARE
BEFORE
CHRISTMAS

THE BATTLE FOR
PUMPKIN KING

– graphic novel –

First published in the UK in 2024 by Studio Press,
an imprint of Bonnier Books UK,
4th Floor, Victoria House, Bloomsbury Square, London WC1B 4DA
Owned by Bonnier Books,
Sveavägen 56, Stockholm, Sweden

www.bonnierbooks.co.uk

Copyright © 2024 Disney Enterprises, Inc.
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be
reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means,
electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording,
or by any information storage and retrieval system,
without permission in writing from the publisher.

Printed in China
2 4 6 8 1 0 9 7 5 3 1

All rights reserved
ISBN 978-1-80078-800-8

FSC DUMMY

Edited by Frankie Jones
Designed by Maddox Philpot
Production by Giulia Caparrelli

Disney
TIM BURTON'S
THE
NIGHTMARE
BEFORE
CHRISTMAS

THE BATTLE FOR
PUMPKIN KING

– graphic novel –



Story by
**Shaun
McLaughlin,
D.J. Milky**

Written by
Dan Conner

Pencils & Inks by
Deborah Allo

Colours by
Roberto Scalia

Original Characters by
Tim Burton

CONTENTS



Chapter 1	5
Chapter 2	25
Chapter 3	45
Chapter 4	65
Chapter 5	85
Cover & Concept	
Art Gallery	105



Disney
TIM BURTON'S
THE NIGHTMARE
BEFORE CHRISTMAS

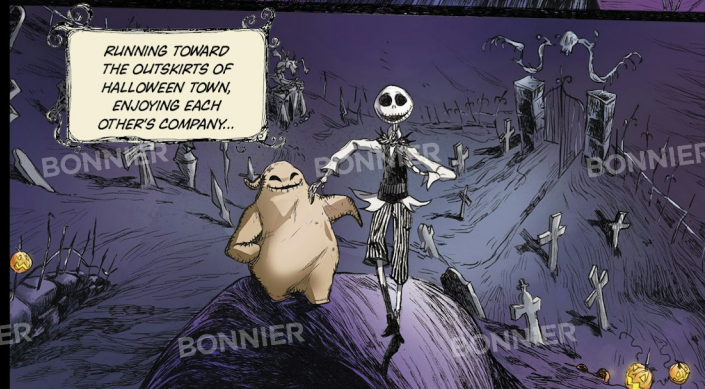
THE BATTLE FOR
PUMPKIN KING



PLAYFULLY RACING,
TWO BEST FRIENDS
RUN TOGETHER.

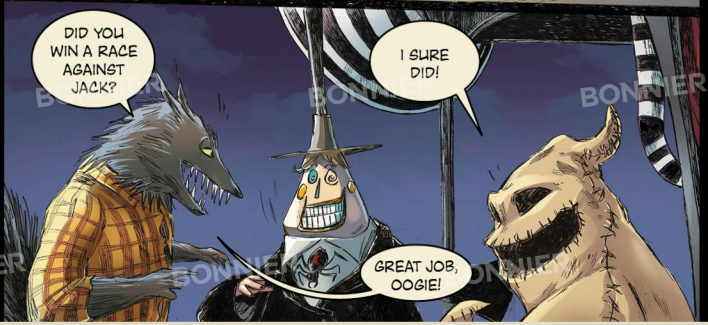
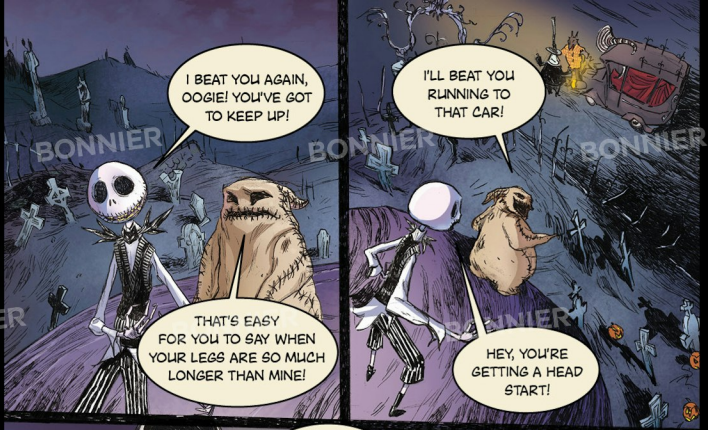
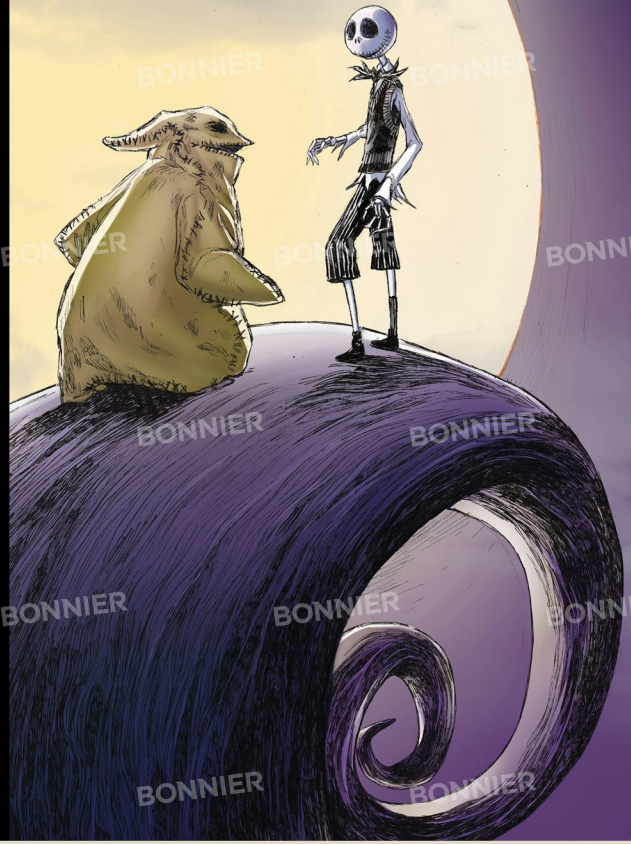


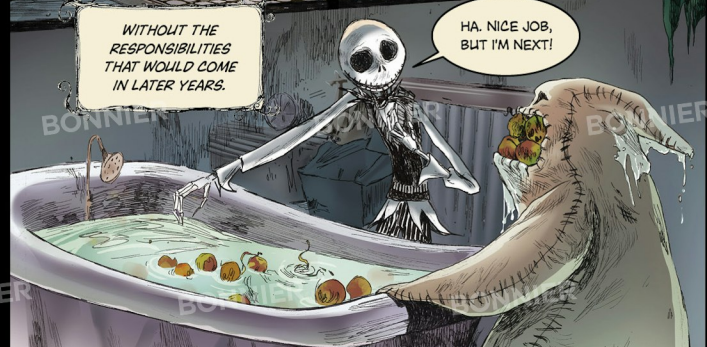
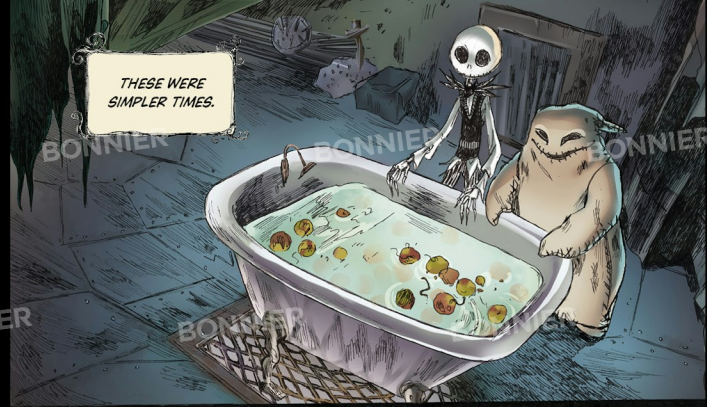
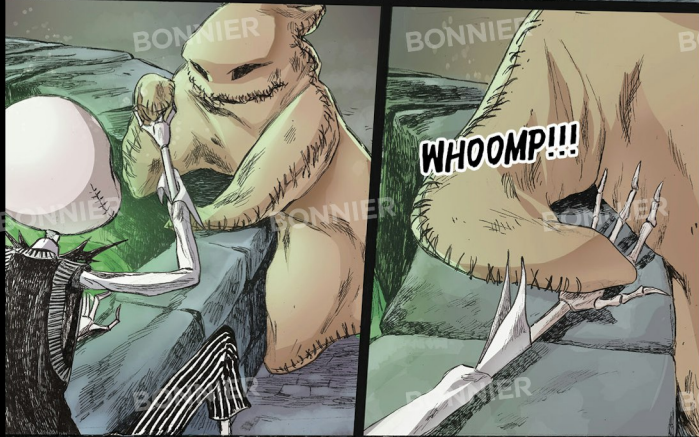
JACK AND OOGIE
BOOGIE, IN THEIR
YOUNGER DAYS...

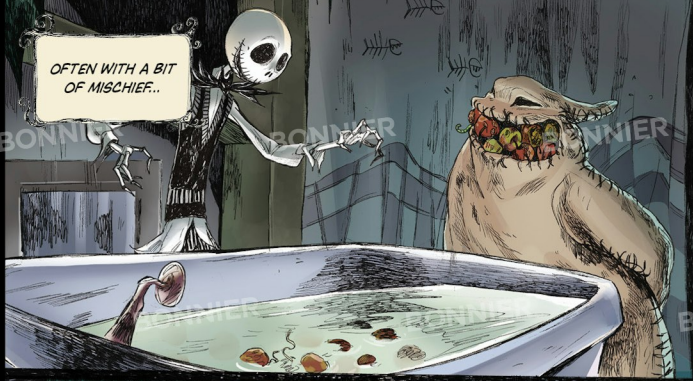


RUNNING TOWARD
THE OUTSKIRTS OF
HALLOWEEN TOWN,
ENJOYING EACH
OTHER'S COMPANY...

THIS TIME, LIKE MANY TIMES BEFORE, JACK ARRIVES AT THEIR DESTINATION FIRST. BUT OOGIE WINS CHALLENGES OTHER TIMES.







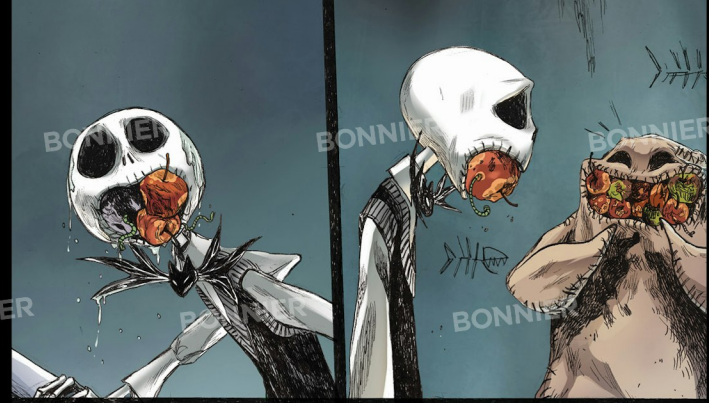
OFTEN WITH A BIT OF MISCHIEF...



BUT NEVER ANYTHING TOO SCANDALOUS!



THIS IS HALLOWEEN TOWN, AFTER ALL.



I WIN! I WIN!
HA HA HA HA HA!

GREAT JOB,
OOGIE.



OOGIE AND JACK DISCOVER MANY NEW THINGS TOGETHER.



CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN AND GOING TO PARTIES!



THEY SPEND MORE TIME...



HOORAY FOR JACK!!!

CELEBRATING AND FEELING CONTENTMENT...

OOGIE BOOGIE! GO OOGIE!!!

WHEN FRIENDS CAN BE TOGETHER WITHOUT CONFLICT!



HEAR YE, HEAR YE!



I HAVE COME BEARING AN ANNOUNCEMENT! EVERYONE GATHER AROUND!



AS YOU ALL KNOW, I HAVE BEEN YOUR PUMPKIN KING FOR MANY A HALLOWEEN.

YES, YOU HAVE, YOU HAVE!





AND I HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING JUST THAT!



WHAT IS IT?
WHAT IS IT?



AS YOU MAY KNOW, MY REIGN AS PUMPKIN KING IS COMING TO AN END!



OH NO!
OH NO!

WHAT WILL WE DO?!



EVERYTHING
WILL BE FINE. WE
HAVE A PLAN!



AS MY TENURE
'IS COMING' TO AN END
- I CANNOT EASILY STOP
BEING INVOLVED WITH
OUR TOWN.

IN FACT, I'M NOT
READY TO RETIRE
COMPLETELY.

SO I SHALL WORK
CLOSELY WITH MY
SUCCESSOR, STARTING
WITH AIDING IN THEIR
SELECTION!



HOORAY! THAT'S
A GREAT IDEA!

WHAT WILL IT
BE? HOW WILL THEY
BE SELECTED?



WE WILL HAVE
A SET OF COMPETITIONS
BETWEEN TWO DESERVING
MEMBERS OF OUR
COMMUNITY!

THEN I CAN GUIDE
THEM CLOSELY AS THEY
COMPETE FOR THE
THRONE!

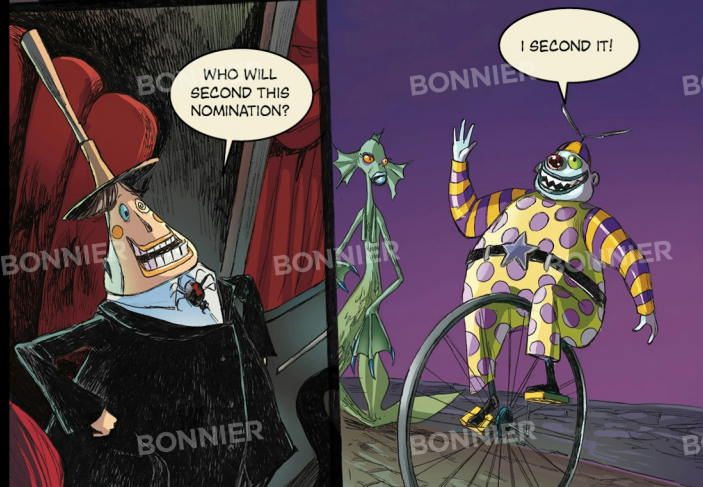


AND I CAN
MAINTAIN CONTROL
OF THEM, THIS TOWN,
AND EVEN HALLOWEEN
ITSELF!



AND THE
WINNER OF THE SERIES OF
COMPETITIONS WILL BE THE
NEW PUMPKIN KING!!!

WHO
WILL NOMINATE
SOMEONE?

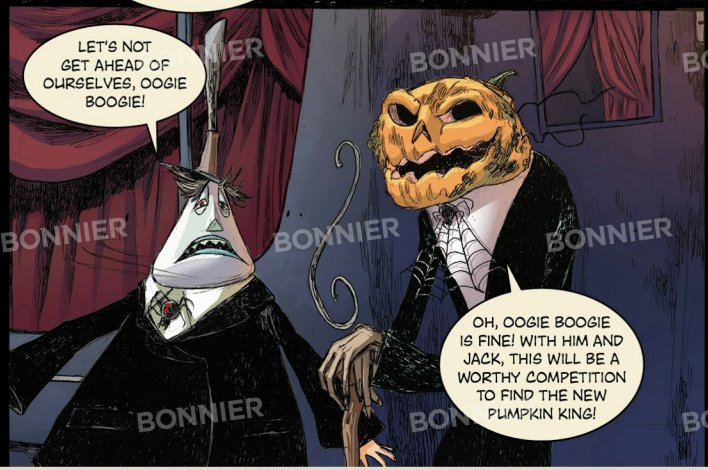




WHY YES, I WILL ACCEPT THIS NOMINATION, IF YOU'LL HAVE ME!

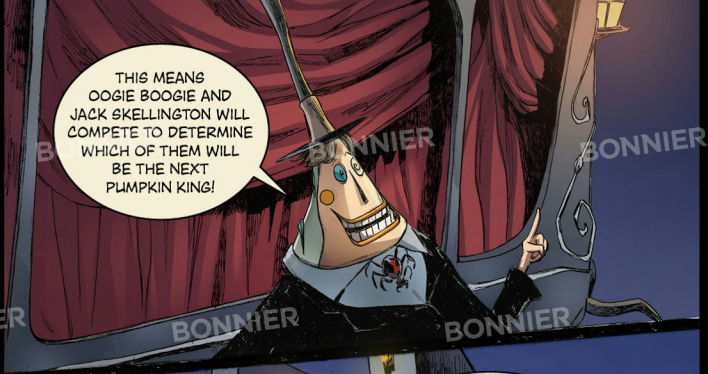


OF COURSE I WILL! AND I KNOW THAT I'LL WIN! YOU'RE LOOKING AT YOUR NEW PUMPKIN KING RIGHT HERE! AH HA HA HA!!!



LET'S NOT GET AHEAD OF OURSELVES, OOGIE BOOGIE!

OH, OOGIE BOOGIE IS FINE! WITH HIM AND JACK, THIS WILL BE A WORTHY COMPETITION TO FIND THE NEW PUMPKIN KING!



THIS MEANS OOGIE BOOGIE AND JACK SKELLINGTON WILL COMPETE TO DETERMINE WHICH OF THEM WILL BE THE NEXT PUMPKIN KING!




THEN LET'S START THIS BATTLE WITH THE TWO OF YOU SHAKING ON IT!




GLADLY!

OF COURSE!



FOR THE
PUMPKIN KING!

FOR THE
PUMPKIN KING!




TWO BEST FRIENDS, TURNED
RIVALS, IN PREPARATION FOR
THE FIRST OF THEIR
CHALLENGES TO DETERMINE
WHO BECOMES THE NEW
PUMPKIN KING.




OUR FIRST
CHALLENGE IS
A PUMPKIN-
COLLECTING
CONTEST!

JACK SKELLINGTON
AND OOGIE BOOGIE,
YOU WILL HAVE THIRTY MINUTES TO
BRING AS MANY PUMPKINS AS
POSSIBLE FROM THE PUMPKIN
PATCH TO THE TOWN SQUARE.
YOU ARE LIMITED TO
THREE TRIPS...




... AND YOU WILL
BE JUDGED ON YOUR SPEED
AND CREATIVITY. ANY DAMAGED
PUMPKINS WILL NOT BE
COUNTED TOWARD YOUR
FINAL SCORE.


AND, OF COURSE,
ANY PUMPKINS THAT DROP
ALONG THE WAY WILL NOT
BE TALLIED EITHER.



NOT SO LONG AGO, RUNNING
AND LEAPING, CREEPING ABOUT,
EXCITEMENT ABOUND!
COMPETING FOR HOURS, HIDING
AND JUMPING, CHASING EACH
OTHER ALL THROUGHOUT TOWN!
RACING EACH OTHER
JUST FOR FUN.




MAKE SURE
YOU GO QUICKLY
BECAUSE OF THE
TIME LIMIT!




OOGIE BOOGIE,
I NEED TO SPEAK
WITH YOU.



WHY,
OF COURSE,
EDGAR!



YOU KNOW, I THINK
YOU ARE EXACTLY THE KIND
OF LEADER WE NEED FOR PUMPKIN
KING. IT'S UNFORTUNATE I CANNOT
SIMPLY APPOINT YOU.



YOU, MY FRIEND,
ARE QUITE LITERALLY
A VESSEL... FILLED WITH
BUGS, YES, BUT ALSO...
POTENTIAL.



WE CAN
HARNESS THAT
POTENTIAL - AND
MAYBE SOME OF
THOSE BUGS - TO
HELP ENSURE YOU
BECOME PUMPKIN
KING.



OH, I SEE...
WIN AT ALL COSTS
FOR THE GOOD OF
HALLOWEEN
TOWN!



YES, THAT'S
RIGHT, FOR THE...
UH... GOOD OF
HALLOWEEN
TOWN...



... BUT WE MUST KEEP THIS QUIET. I'M NOT TRULY READY FOR MY TERM TO END, SO I WILL *SUPPORT YOU* WHEN YOU BECOME THE PUMPKIN KING.



BUT THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW. THE RACE WILL START SOON.

OH YES, OF COURSE!

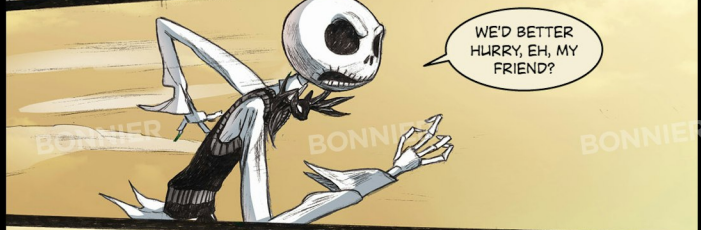


WHY MUST I BE REPLACED AS PUMPKIN KING? I'M THE BEST THERE'S EVER BEEN, AND I'M NOT SO OLD YET. AND AREN'T BONES, LIKE THESE RULES, MEANT TO BE BROKEN!?! I'LL NEVER BE "TOO OLD!!!"

BUT I MUST MAKE SURE THAT JACK DOES NOT WIN THESE COMPETITIONS!



ARE YOU READY? ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!



WE'D BETTER HURRY, EH, MY FRIEND?



I DON'T LIKE THIS OVERLY COMPETITIVE SIDE OF YOU, OOGIE. I HOPE THIS CHALLENGE DOESN'T RUIN OUR FRIENDSHIP!

OH, DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT IT, JACK!



HOORAY!
GO, OOGIE!



I ALREADY
HAVE A
COMMANDING
LEAD!



I'D BETTER
HURRY!

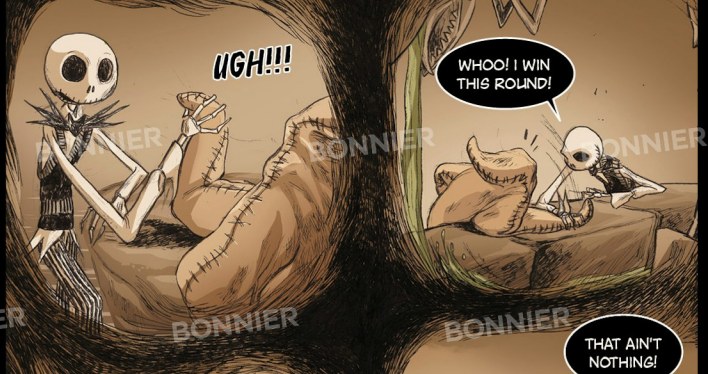


I WON! I WON
THIS TIME!



CONGRATULATIONS,
MY FRIEND!

IT DOESN'T SEEM
SO LONG AGO THAT
OOGIE AND I WERE
FRIENDLY RIVALS WITH
NOTHING AT STAKE.

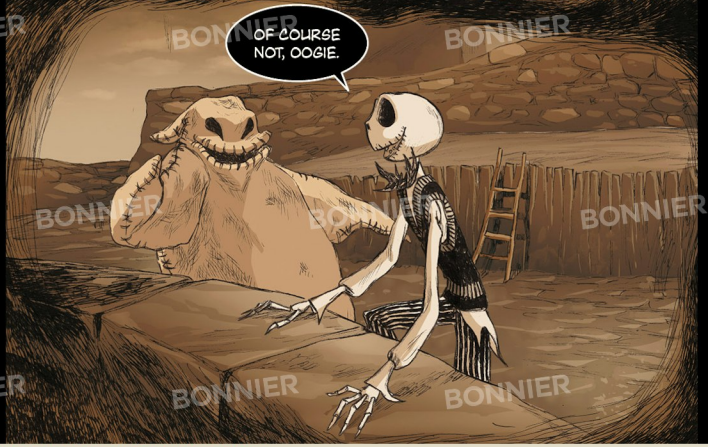


UGH!!!

WHOO! I WIN
THIS ROUND!



THAT AIN'T
NOTHING!



OF COURSE
NOT, OOGIE.



OH NO! I MUSTN'T GET DISTRACTED!

I'M WINNING THIS! *≡GURGLE≡* NO ONE CAN BEAT ME!



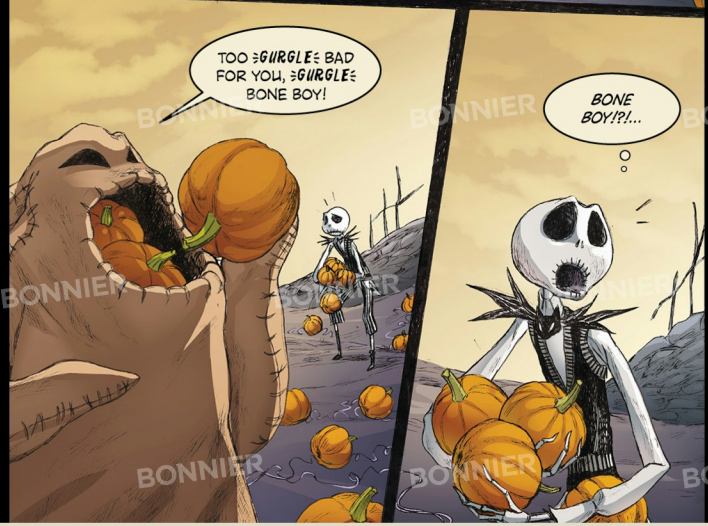
YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH UP TO ME!



THIS ISN'T SO EASY. YOU MAY BE MORE SUITED FOR THIS CHALLENGE!



I GUESS THIS WILL HAVE TO DO!

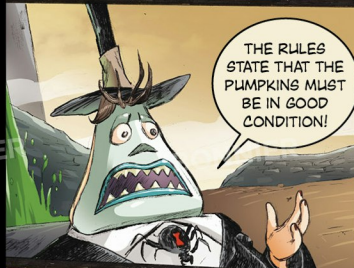
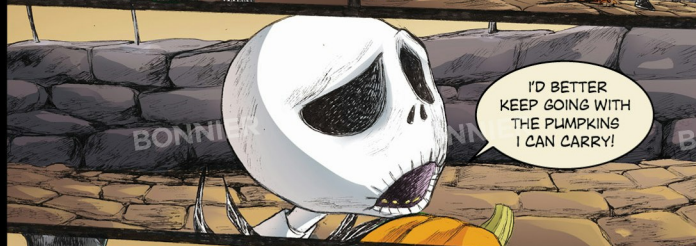
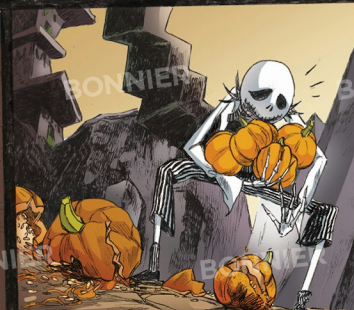
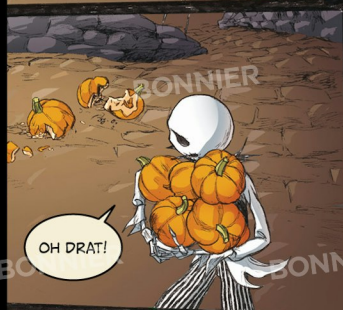


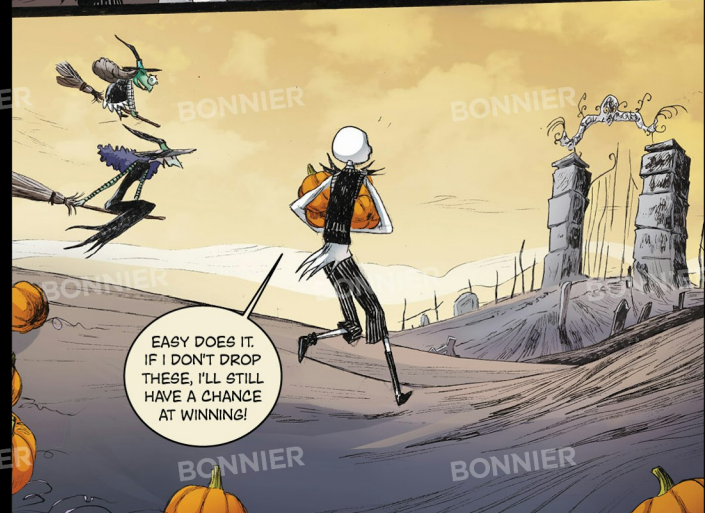
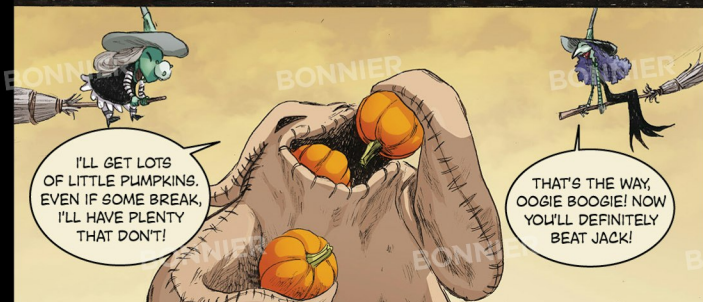
TOO *≡GURGLE≡* BAD FOR YOU, *≡GURGLE≡* BONE BOY!

BONE BOY!?!...



AND SO THE FRIENDS RACE AGAINST EACH OTHER.







TAKE THAT, SKELLINGTON! MY SEVEN PUMPKINS ARE BETTER THAN YOUR FOUR!



ACTUALLY, JACK HAS NOT RETURNED FROM HIS SECOND TRIP.

HE MAY VERY WELL BE COMING BACK WITH MORE NOW.



THAT'S GREAT, JACK! NOW YOU HAVE ONE MORE ROUND AND LESS THAN TEN MINUTES TO MAKE IT BACK!



THEN I'LL BE QUICK AND WIN FOR SURE.

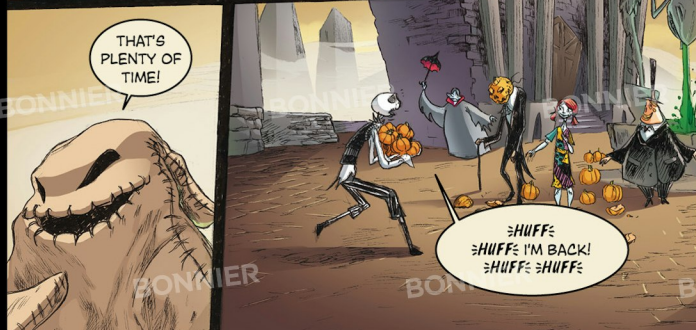
YOU ONLY HAVE TEN MORE MINUTES!



I GUESS SHUFF! I BETTER GET GOING! SHUFF! SHUFF! SHUFF!

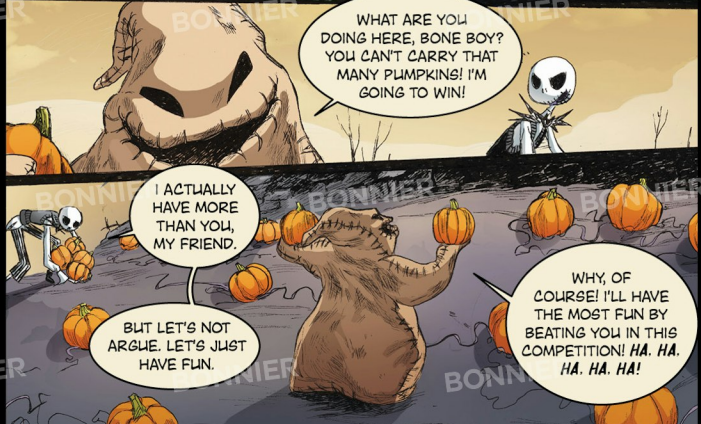


SOON, JACK CATCHES UP TO OOGIE BOOGIE AT THE PUMPKIN PATCH...



THAT'S PLENTY OF TIME!

SHUFF! I'M BACK! SHUFF! SHUFF!

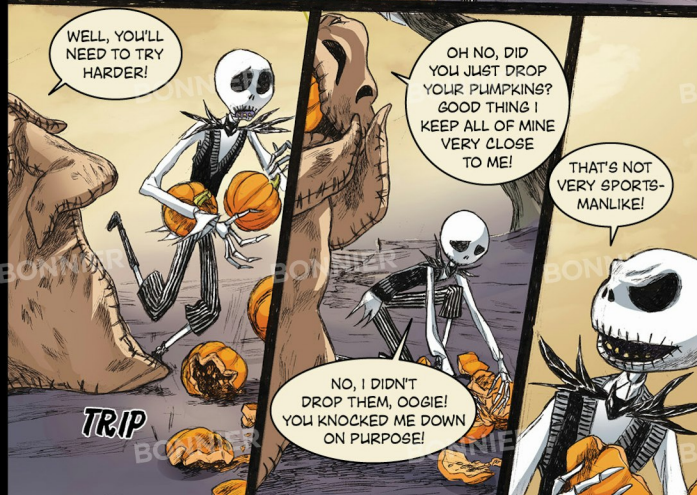


WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, BONE BOY? YOU CAN'T CARRY THAT MANY PUMPKINS! I'M GOING TO WIN!

I ACTUALLY HAVE MORE THAN YOU, MY FRIEND.

BUT LET'S NOT ARGUE. LET'S JUST HAVE FUN.

WHY, OF COURSE! I'LL HAVE THE MOST FUN BY BEATING YOU IN THIS COMPETITION! HA. HA. HA. HA. HA!



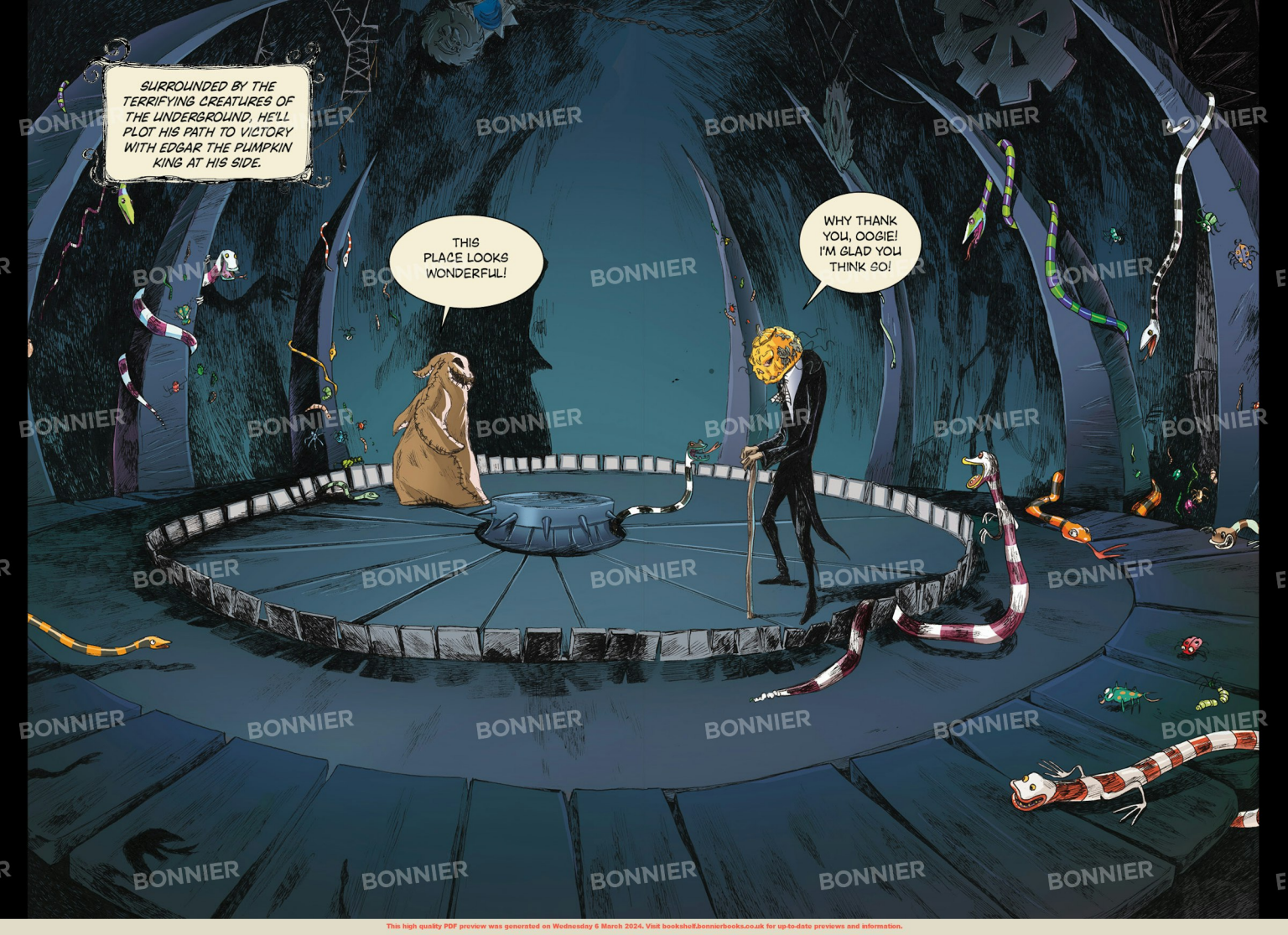




SURROUNDED BY THE TERRIFYING CREATURES OF THE UNDERGROUND, HE'LL PLOT HIS PATH TO VICTORY WITH EDGAR THE PUMPKIN KING AT HIS SIDE.

THIS PLACE LOOKS WONDERFUL!

WHY THANK YOU, OOGIE! I'M GLAD YOU THINK SO!





THE POSITION OF PUMPKIN KING COULD BE SO MUCH MORE POWERFUL.



I CAN BELIEVE THAT!



THE TWO OF US COULD MAKE HALLOWEEN TOWN A TRULY DARK AND DEVILOUS PLACE. WE NEED A LITTLE MORE "TRICK" AND A LITTLE LESS "TREAT."



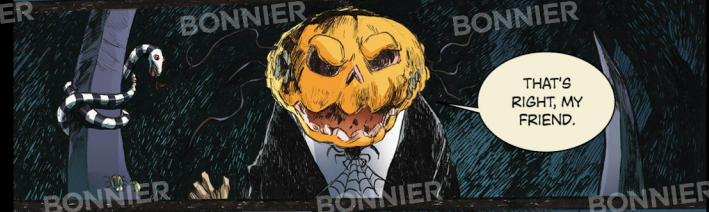
I'VE MADE GREAT PROGRESS DURING MY TENURE HERE. BUT WE COULD CONTINUE TO GUIDE THIS TOWN TOWARD MAKING FEAR OUR TOP PRIORITY!

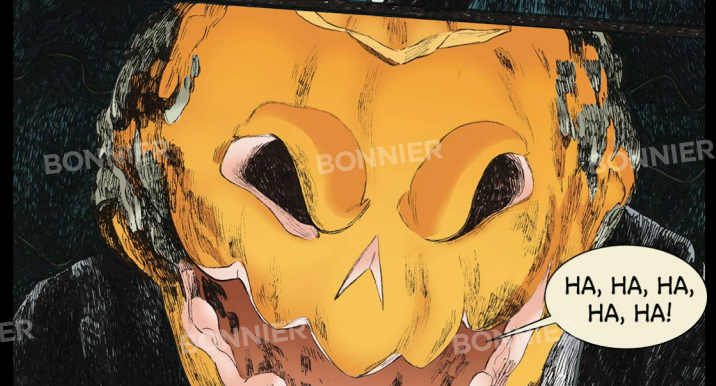
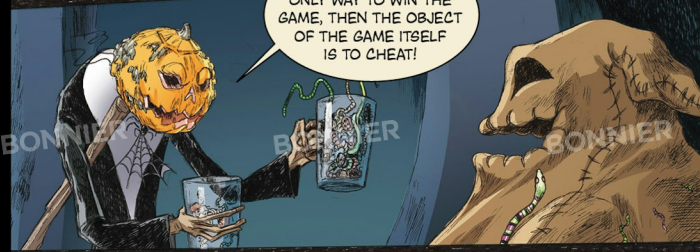
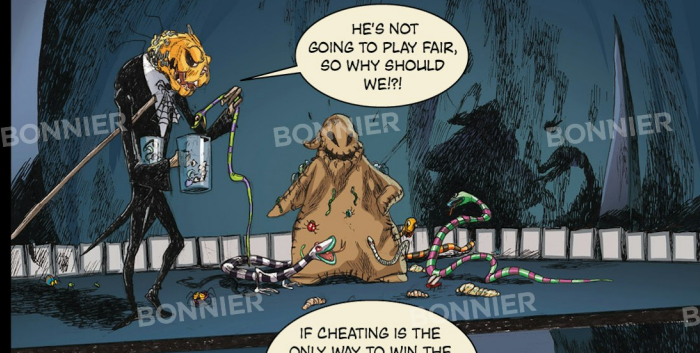


AND THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN!



I DO?





AS DOOBIE BOOBIE
MAKES A DEAL WITH
EDGAR, JACK DOES
SOME SOUL-SEARCHING
OF HIS OWN...

SURE, ONE OF
US WILL HAVE
TO WIN.

I'M GLAD I WON
THAT FIRST CONTEST,
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS
REALLY CLOSE AND
AGAINST A FRIEND.

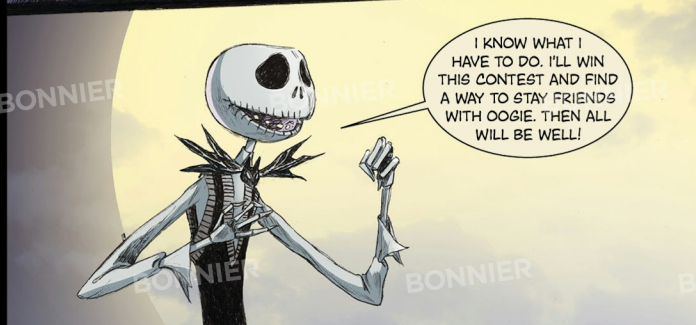
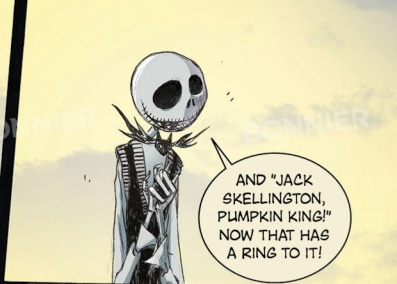
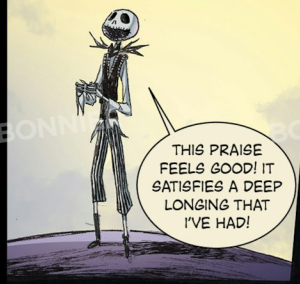
BUT IS BEING
PUMPKIN KING
MORE IMPORTANT
THAN OUR
FRIENDSHIP?

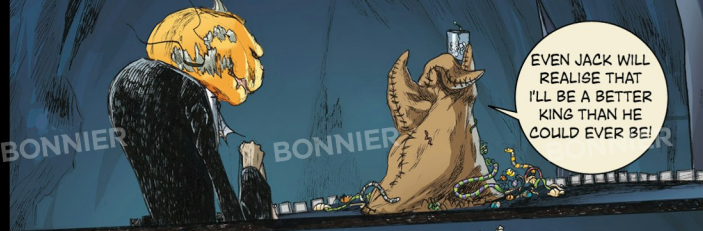
I KNOW BEING KING
IS JUST WHAT I NEED
TO FILL THE YEARNING I
HAVE FOR SOMETHING
MORE!

HEY!
GREAT JOB, JACK!
CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR WIN!

YES, JACK,
YOU'RE GOING TO
MAKE A WONDERFUL
PUMPKIN KING!

THANKS TO
YOU ALL!





EVEN JACK WILL REALISE THAT I'LL BE A BETTER KING THAN HE COULD EVER BE!



YES, BUT I NEED A PROMISE FROM YOU FIRST.



SURELY THERE'S NOTHING THAT'S TOO GREAT TO ASK!



I NEED YOU TO PROMISE THAT WHEN YOU ARE KING, YOU WILL HEED MY ADVICE AT ALL TIMES.



I KNOW WHAT MUST BE DONE.

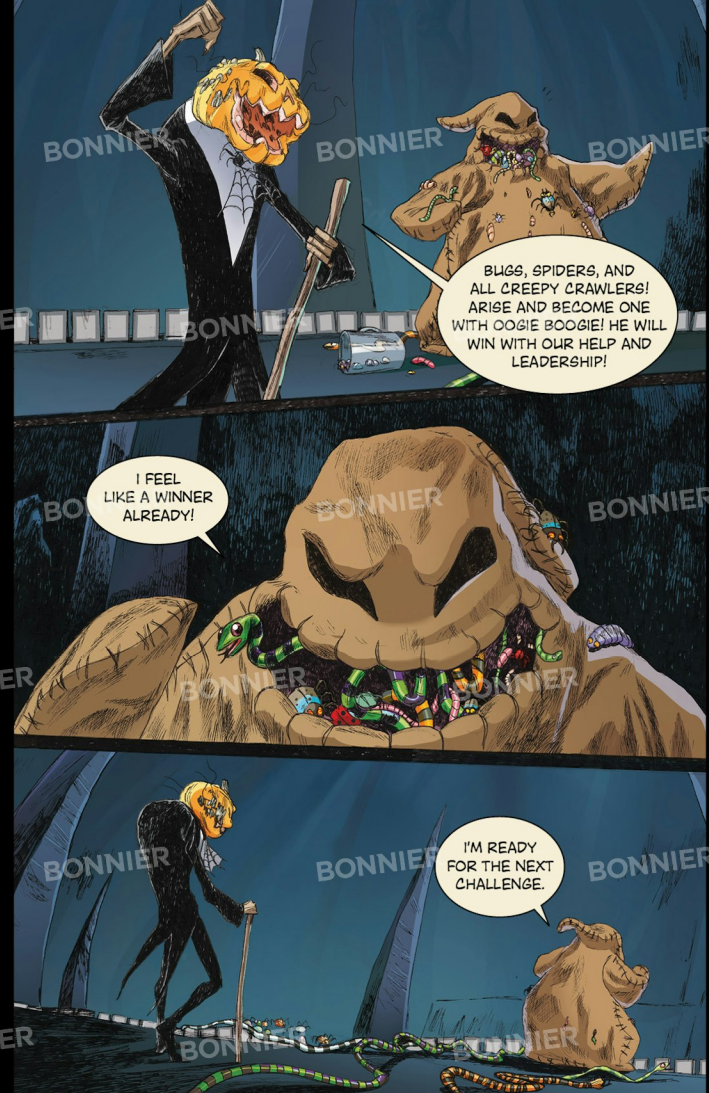


SO, WHAT DO YOU SAY, OOGIE?



YES! I ACCEPT YOUR TERMS. NOW MAKE ME KING!

HA HA, THEN WE HAVE A DEAL!



I FEEL LIKE A WINNER ALREADY!

I'M READY FOR THE NEXT CHALLENGE.

BUGS, SPIDERS, AND ALL CREEPY CRAWLERS! ARISE AND BECOME ONE WITH OOGIE BOOGIE! HE WILL WIN WITH OUR HELP AND LEADERSHIP!



A NEW CONTEST IS ABOUT TO BEGIN, AND JACK AND OOGIE BOOGIE PREPARE TO FACE EACH OTHER WITH VERY DIFFERENT THOUGHTS IN THEIR MINDS.



HOW CAN I WIN AND STAY FRIENDS WITH OOGIE?!!



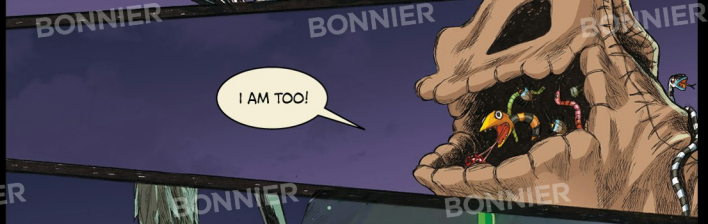
THERE'S JACK, READY TO LOSE THIS NEXT CHALLENGE. HE WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT HIM!



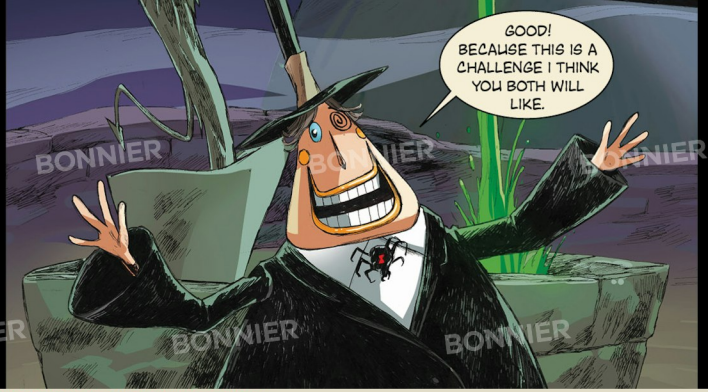
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU BOTH ARE BACK. ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE?



YES, I AM!



I AM TOO!



GOOD! BECAUSE THIS IS A CHALLENGE I THINK YOU BOTH WILL LIKE.



YOU WILL COMPETE TO BUILD THE TALLEST TOWER! YOU WILL HAVE ONE HOUR AND CAN USE AS MANY BONES AS YOU NEED!

LIKE LAST TIME, CREATIVITY WILL ALSO HELP YOU WIN.



SURPRISE US!

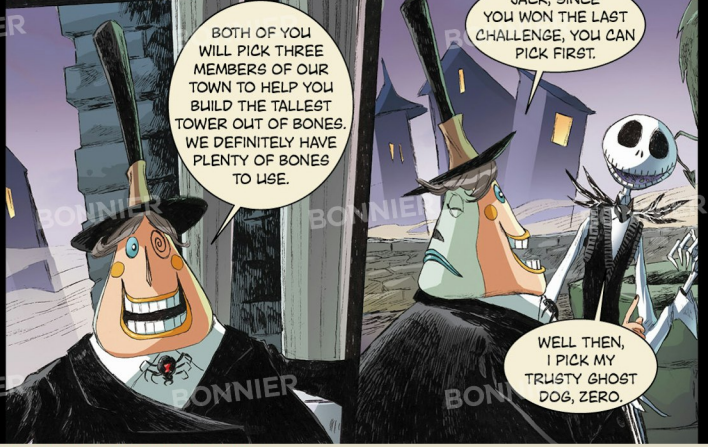


I'M READY! THIS SHOULD BE A GREAT MATCH.

I JUST WANT TO GET STARTED AND TAKE MY RIGHTFUL PLACE AS PUMPKIN KING!!!



HEAR YE, HEAR YE! IT'S TIME FOR THE NEXT COMPETITION IN THE BATTLE FOR PUMPKIN KING!



BOTH OF YOU WILL PICK THREE MEMBERS OF OUR TOWN TO HELP YOU BUILD THE TALLEST TOWER OUT OF BONES. WE DEFINITELY HAVE PLENTY OF BONES TO USE.

JACK, SINCE YOU WON THE LAST CHALLENGE, YOU CAN PICK FIRST.

WELL THEN, I PICK MY TRUSTY GHOST DOG, ZERO.



AND WHO DO YOU PICK, OOGIE BOOGIE?

WHY LET ME THINK! WHO WILL BE BEST ON MY TEAM!?



I CHOOSE SHOCK!



PICK LOCK, SHOCK AND BARREL.

BUT WHY? THEY'RE BABIES!

JUST TRUST ME.



I CHOOSE WOLFMAN.

YES! I WAS HOPING YOU WOULD PICK ME.



I WILL CHOOSE LOCK.

REALLY? OKAY THEN.



WHO IS YOUR LAST PICK, OOGIE?

I PICK BARREL! NOW I HAVE THE WHOLE SET! JUST TRY TO BEAT US, SKELLINGTON!



JACK, WHO DO YOU CHOOSE NEXT?

I'M GOING TO GO WITH UNDERSEA GAL.



WELL, OF COURSE I'LL TRY.



NOW ON TO THE RULES. THE GOAL OF THIS CHALLENGE IS TO BUILD THE TALLEST TOWER POSSIBLE USING NOTHING BUT BONES.

YOU WILL HAVE ONE HOUR, AND YOUR TOWER MUST BE FREE-STANDING AT THE END OF THAT TIME. WE ALSO ARE LOOKING FOR CREATIVITY, WHICH CAN SERVE AS A TIEBREAKER.

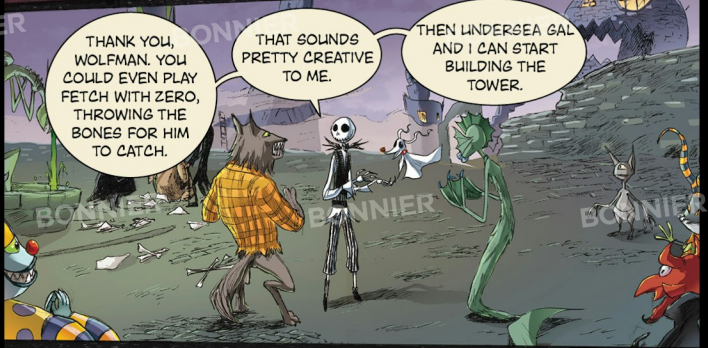


ZERO, YOU'RE GOING TO BE VERY IMPORTANT SINCE YOU CAN FLY. LET'S FOCUS ON HAVING A THIN BUT VERY TALL TOWER.



ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

NOPE!



THANK YOU, WOLFMAN. YOU COULD EVEN PLAY FETCH WITH ZERO, THROWING THE BONES FOR HIM TO CATCH.

THAT SOUNDS PRETTY CREATIVE TO ME.

THEN UNDERSEA GAL AND I CAN START BUILDING THE TOWER.

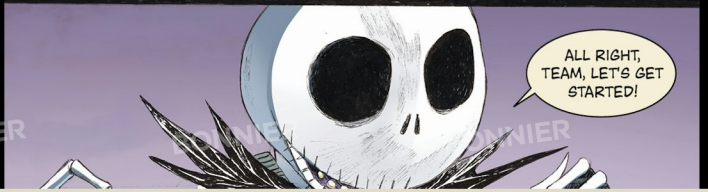


WE DON'T HAVE ANY EITHER.

LET'S BEGIN!



VERY GOOD, JACK. I'LL BRING OVER THE LONGEST BONES I CAN FIND.



ALL RIGHT, TEAM, LET'S GET STARTED!



WHY DID YOU SAY TO PICK BABIES FOR MY TEAM?! HOW CAN WE WIN WITH THEM?!

YOU HAVE TO THINK, OOGIE BOOGIE! LOCK, SHOCK AND BARREL ARE TODDLERS, RIGHT?

YES.



AND WHAT DO TODDLERS DO WITH BLOCKS?

SO, YOU SEE, YOU HAVE THE BEST TEAM! TRUSTING ME WILL BE IMPORTANT WHEN YOU BECOME THE PUMPKIN KING.

BUILD WITH THEM?



NOW LET'S GET TO BUILDING. I'LL START BRINGING BONES OVER FOR YOU.

IS THAT ALLOWED?

YOUR TEAM HAS TO BUILD THE TOWER, BUT NO ONE SAID I COULDN'T MOVE THE BONES. I'D SAY THAT'S CREATIVITY!

WHY YES IT IS, THANK YOU!



OKAY, KIDS, WE ARE GOING TO BUILD A BIG PYRAMID OUT OF THE BONES.

OKAY, OOGIE BOOGIE.

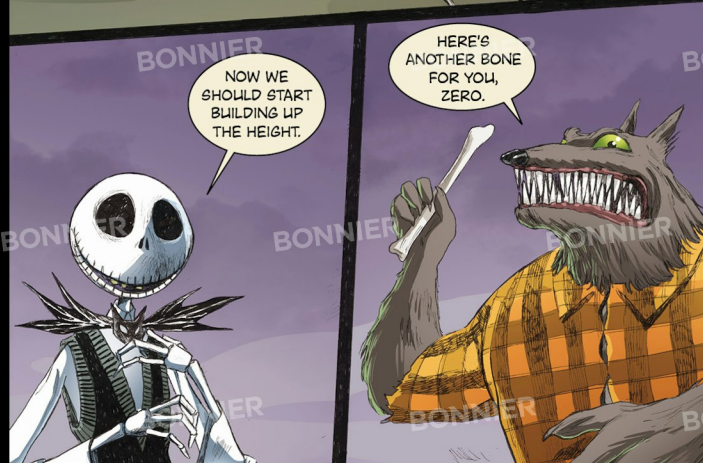
YOU LIKE BUILDING WITH BLOCKS, RIGHT? IT WILL BE JUST LIKE THAT.



HERE YOU GO, KIDS.



THAT'S RIGHT, PUT THEM THERE.





YES, IT IS! OH, AND I'M SURE YOU DON'T MIND EDGAR HELPING BY BRINGING THOSE BONES A LITTLE CLOSER TO US?

YOU'RE DOING WELL ALREADY! IS YOUR PLAN TO BUILD A STRONG BASE?



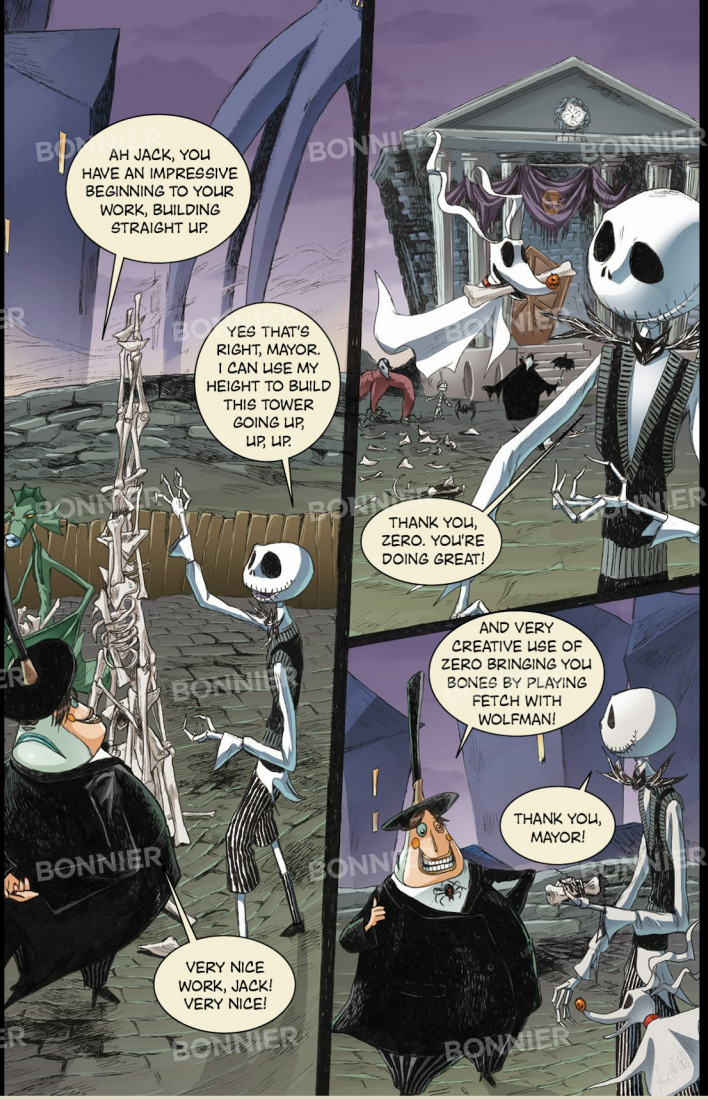
WE DON'T HAVE A FLYING DOG AFTER ALL!

AS LONG AS HE ISN'T ACTUALLY BUILDING THE TOWER, I THINK THAT'S FINE, AND IT'S A CREATIVE USE OF YOUR RESOURCES!



WHY THANK YOU. THAT'S WHAT I'D HOPED!

EDGAR WAS RIGHT! KIDS ARE GREAT AT THIS!



AH JACK, YOU HAVE AN IMPRESSIVE BEGINNING TO YOUR WORK, BUILDING STRAIGHT UP.

YES THAT'S RIGHT, MAYOR. I CAN USE MY HEIGHT TO BUILD THIS TOWER GOING UP, UP, UP.

THANK YOU, ZERO. YOU'RE DOING GREAT!

AND VERY CREATIVE USE OF ZERO BRINGING YOU BONES BY PLAYING FETCH WITH WOLFMAN!

THANK YOU, MAYOR!

VERY NICE WORK, JACK! VERY NICE!



BAM!!!

HEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, THROWING BONES AT OUR TOWER?

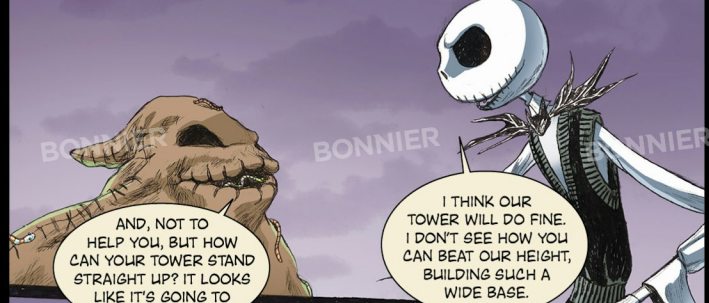


CALM DOWN, OOGIE BOOGIE. IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT. IF IT DID ANY HARM, I'LL FIX IT FOR YOU MYSELF



WELL, I GUESS IT DIDN'T DO ANY HARM. BUT TELL YOUR DOG AND YOUR WOLF TO BE MORE CAREFUL!

OF COURSE, OOGIE.

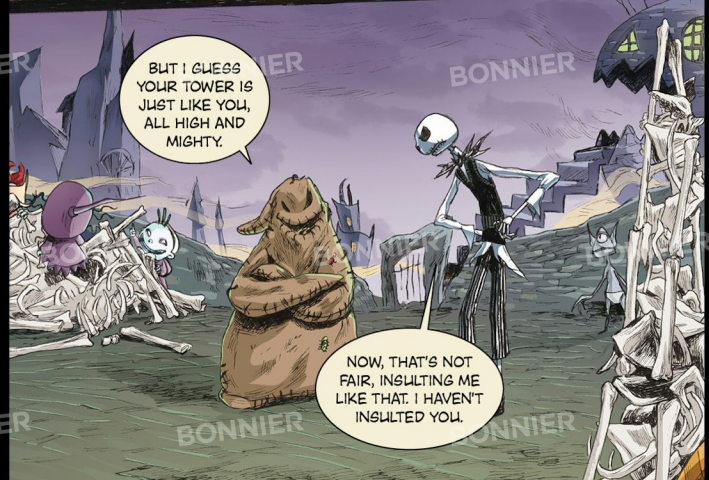


AND, NOT TO HELP YOU, BUT HOW CAN YOUR TOWER STAND STRAIGHT UP? IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO FALL OVER.

I THINK OUR TOWER WILL DO FINE. I DON'T SEE HOW YOU CAN BEAT OUR HEIGHT, BUILDING SUCH A WIDE BASE.

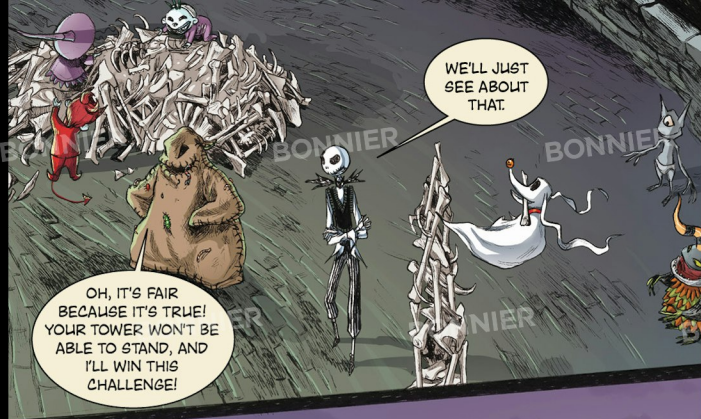


OH, I'M COUNTING ON EASILY BEATING YOUR HEIGHT. I DON'T THINK YOUR TOWER WILL BE ABLE TO STAND AS IT IS.



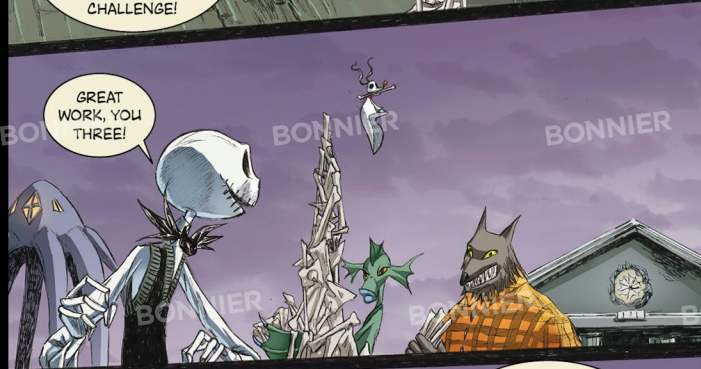
BUT I GUESS YOUR TOWER IS JUST LIKE YOU, ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY.

NOW, THAT'S NOT FAIR, INSULTING ME LIKE THAT. I HAVEN'T INSULTED YOU.



OH, IT'S FAIR BECAUSE IT'S TRUE! YOUR TOWER WON'T BE ABLE TO STAND, AND I'LL WIN THIS CHALLENGE!

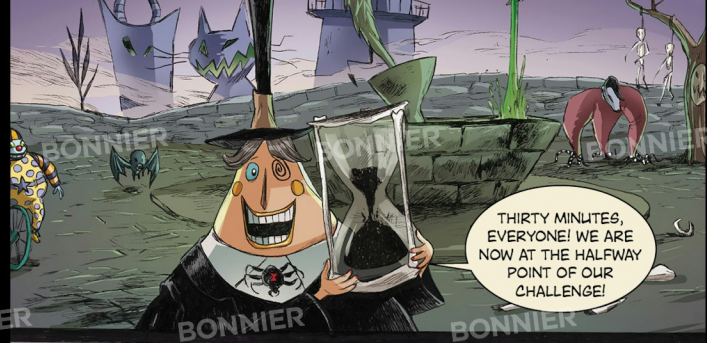
WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT THAT.



GREAT WORK, YOU THREE!



LOCK, SHOCK AND BARREL, OUR TOWER WILL NEVER WIN LIKE THIS! WE CAN'T LET THAT BONE BOY WIN! BUILD TALLER!



THIRTY MINUTES, EVERYONE! WE ARE NOW AT THE HALFWAY POINT OF OUR CHALLENGE!



SPLENDID! WE HAVE A GREAT LEAD ON OOGIE BOOGIE AND CAN ONLY GET HIGHER STILL!



DON'T WORRY KIDS, WE WILL STILL WIN. OUR TOWER IS STRONG AND HAS A GREAT FOUNDATION!





WOLFMAN, YOU SHOULD COME DOWN OFF THE TOWER. THE WINDS ARE GETTING STRONG.



NOT A PROBLEM, JACK!

WE HAVE THE HEIGHT WE NEED, BUT I DON'T WANT OUR TOWER TO FALL DOWN. LET'S WORK ON REINFORCING WHAT WE HAVE.



YOU GOT IT, JACK!

WHATEVER YOU SAY, JACK!

WHAT A NICE TOWER JACK HAS! IT SURE WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF SOME WINDS CAME AND BLEW IT DOWN.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU CAN'T CONTROL WINDS, CAN YOU?



OH, YOU'D BE SURPRISED WHAT I CAN DO. I COULDN'T BE PUMPKIN KING WITHOUT A FEW TRICKS UP MY SLEEVE!



WE ARE DOWN TO ABOUT TEN MINUTES LEFT! MAKE YOUR FINISHING TOUCHES!

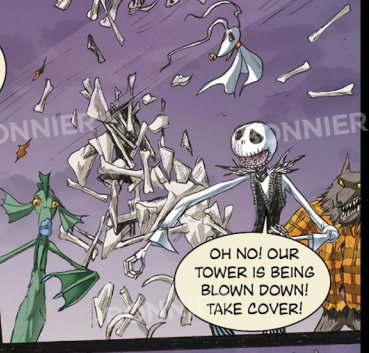


NOW OOGIE, HERE'S A TRICK THAT WILL GUARANTEE YOUR WIN!



JACK! THERE ARE BONES FALLING FROM OUR TOWER!

I CAN SEE THAT, BUT WE CAN'T REPAIR IT IN TIME!



OH NO! OUR TOWER IS BEING BLOWN DOWN! TAKE COVER!



IS EVERYONE SAFE? IS ANYONE HURT?

WE'RE ALL OKAY, JACK.



GOOD... WELL, I GUESS YOU WERE RIGHT! MY TOWER WAS TOO TALL, AND IT BLEW OVER.

THERE'S NO TIME FOR ME TO FIX IT, SO I CONGRATULATE YOU ON BEING THE WINNER.

NO JOKIN! WHOA! JACK LOOOOOOST! WE WOOOOON!



TIME IS ALMOST UP, AND JACK'S TOWER HAS BEEN BLOWN DOWN.

THAT'S RIGHT, MAYOR.



WELL THEN OOGIE BOOGIE IS THE WINNER.

HOORAY, OOGIE! GREAT JOB, OOGIE!

BUT NOT AS GOOD OF A TIME AS I'M HAVING! HAHAHA! WHAT'S THE NEXT COMPETITION? THEN I CAN BEAT THIS BONE BOY ONCE AND FOR ALL!



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR FIRST WIN! HOW FORTUITOUS THAT THE WIND CAME THROUGH AND BLEW DOWN JACK'S TOWER.

THANK YOU, EDGAR. YOU COULDN'T HAVE HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THAT, COULD YOU?

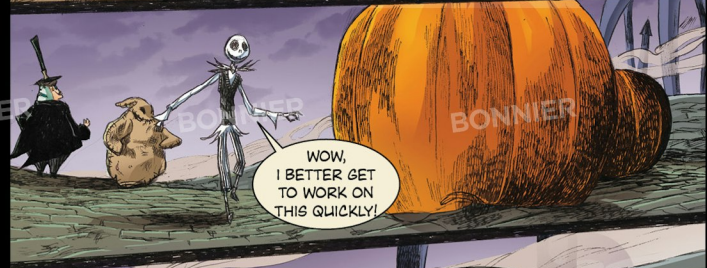


WHY ME? BAH - CERTAINLY NOT! THAT WOULD BE CHEATING!



IT IS TIME FOR THE LAST CHALLENGE BETWEEN OOGIE AND JACK - A PUMPKIN CARVING CHALLENGE!

THEY WILL HAVE TWO HOURS TO DESIGN AND CARVE THEIR VERY BEST JACK-O-LANTERN.





DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

YES, I'LL MAKE THE SCARIEST JACK-O-LANTERN AROUND!

BUT HOW? IT'S A LOT OF WORK TO CLEAN OUT THAT PUMPKIN. WHY NOT HAVE LOCK, SHOCK AND BARREL DO IT FOR YOU?

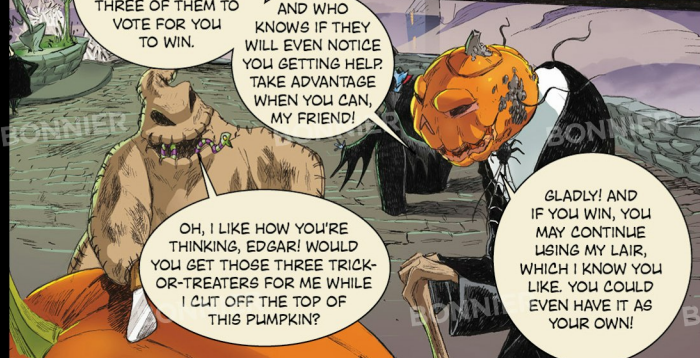
WELL, THE RULES SAY I HAVE TO DO IT MYSELF.



AND?

JUST FIVE TOWNSPEOPLE WILL BE JUDGING, SO YOU ONLY NEED THREE OF THEM TO VOTE FOR YOU TO WIN.

AND WHO KNOWS IF THEY WILL EVEN NOTICE YOU GETTING HELP. TAKE ADVANTAGE WHEN YOU CAN, MY FRIEND!



OH, I LIKE HOW YOU'RE THINKING, EDGAR! WOULD YOU GET THOSE THREE TRICK-OR-TREATERS FOR ME WHILE I CUT OFF THE TOP OF THIS PUMPKIN?

GLADLY! AND IF YOU WIN, YOU MAY CONTINUE USING MY LAIR, WHICH I KNOW YOU LIKE. YOU COULD EVEN HAVE IT AS YOUR OWN!

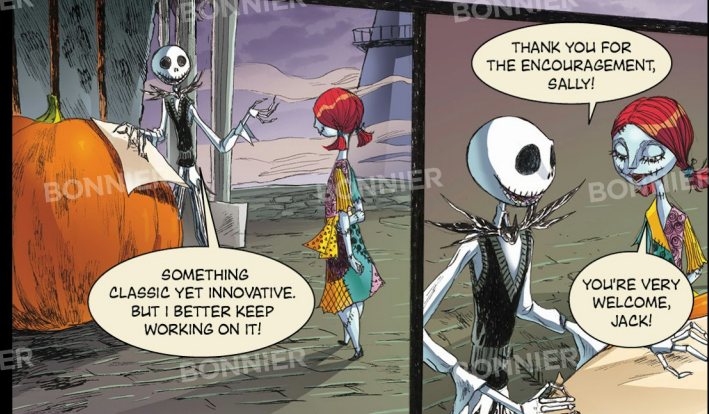


WOW, JACK, THIS IS A BIG PUMPKIN. DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WILL CARVE?

I HAVE SOME IDEAS. I NEED TO HAVE SOMETHING JAW-DROPPING THAT THE JUDGES WILL LOVE!



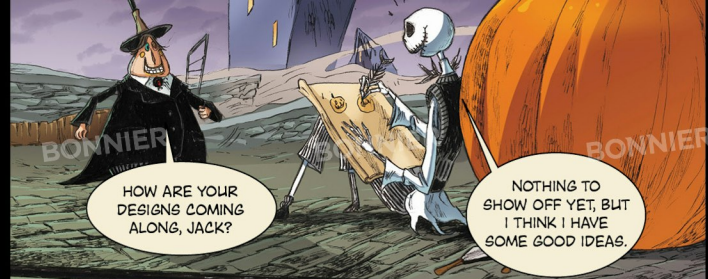
THAT'S GOOD THINKING, JACK. WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'LL LIKE?

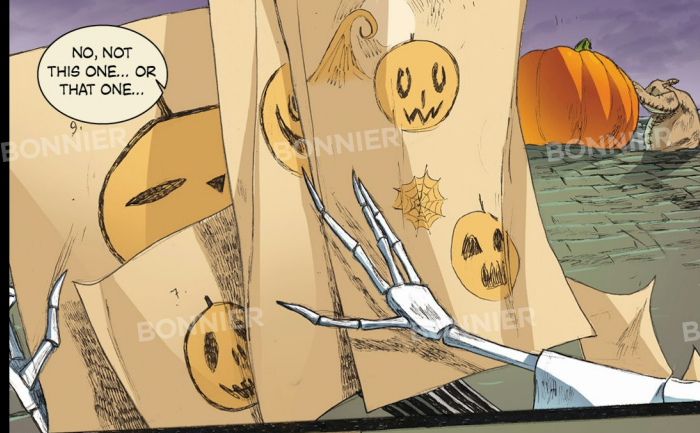


SOMETHING CLASSIC YET INNOVATIVE. BUT I BETTER KEEP WORKING ON IT!

THANK YOU FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT, SALLY!

YOU'RE VERY WELCOME, JACK!





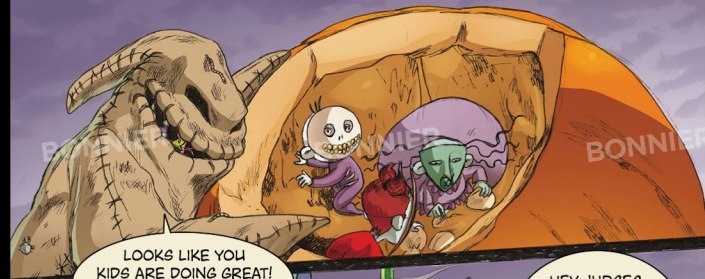
NO, NOT THIS ONE... OR THAT ONE...



AH, I THINK THIS ONE WILL DO!



NOW IT'S TIME TO GET TO THE REAL WORK!



LOOKS LIKE YOU KIDS ARE DOING GREAT! KEEP WORKING SO I CAN GET TO CARVING!



HEY JUDGES, DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU'RE SEEING? I'M SURE YOU'LL VOTE FOR THE BEST, AM I RIGHT?

ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP YOU DECIDE THE WINNER?



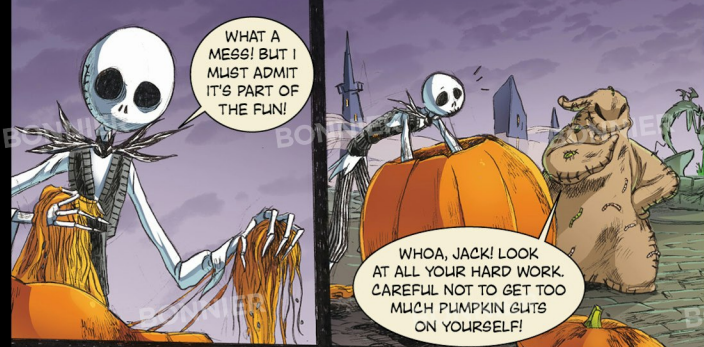
NO THERE IS NOT AND YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE ASKING SUCH A QUESTION.

NOT A PROBLEM! I JUST WANTED TO... LIM... CHECK IF YOU NEEDED ANYTHING!



YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO WORKING ON YOUR PUMPKIN.

WHY YES, OF COURSE!



WHAT A MESS! BUT I MUST ADMIT IT'S PART OF THE FUN!

WHOA, JACK! LOOK AT ALL YOUR HARD WORK. CAREFUL NOT TO GET TOO MUCH PUMPKIN GUTS ON YOURSELF!



YOU SHOULD BE JUST AS MESSY AS ME! HOW DO YOU HAVE TIME TO WALK AROUND INSTEAD OF CLEANING OUT AND CARVING YOUR PUMPKIN!?!



I GUESS WHEN YOU'RE AS GOOD AS ME, YOU'VE GOT TIME TO CHECK ON THE COMPETITION! SEE YOU LATER, JACK!



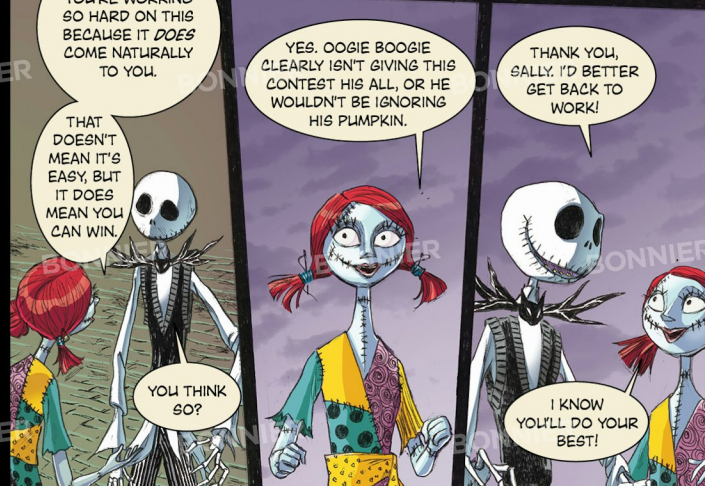
WAS OOGIE HASSLING YOU JUST NOW?

YES, HE WAS. I DON'T KNOW HOW HE HAS THE TIME TO BOTHER ME WHILE CARVING HIS OWN PUMPKIN.



DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM. YOU'RE VERY WELL SUITED TO BEING PUMPKIN KING, AND I THINK THIS CHALLENGE WILL SHOW IT.

THANK YOU, SALLY. BUT SEEING OOGIE BOUNCING AROUND WHEN I'M BUSY WORKING MAKES ME SECOND-GUESS MYSELF. WHY DO I NEED TO WORK SO HARD WHEN IT COMES SO NATURALLY TO HIM?



YOU'RE WORKING SO HARD ON THIS BECAUSE IT *DOES* COME NATURALLY TO YOU.

YES. OOGIE BOOGIE CLEARLY ISN'T GIVING THIS CONTEST HIS ALL, OR HE WOULDN'T BE IGNORING HIS PUMPKIN.

THANK YOU, SALLY. I'D BETTER GET BACK TO WORK!

THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT'S EASY, BUT IT DOES MEAN YOU CAN WIN.

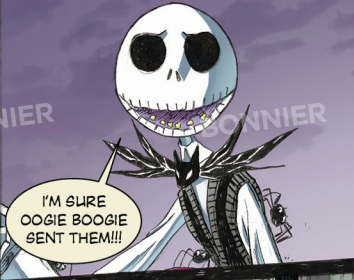
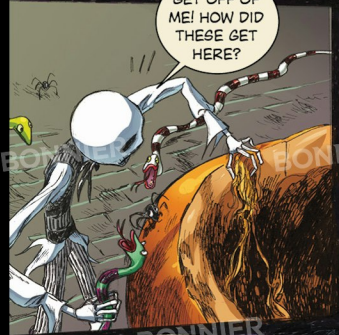
YOU THINK SO?

I KNOW YOU'LL DO YOUR BEST!



GET OFF OF ME! HOW DID THESE GET HERE?

ALLLTHIHHER



I'M SURE OOGIE BOOGIE SENT THEM!!!

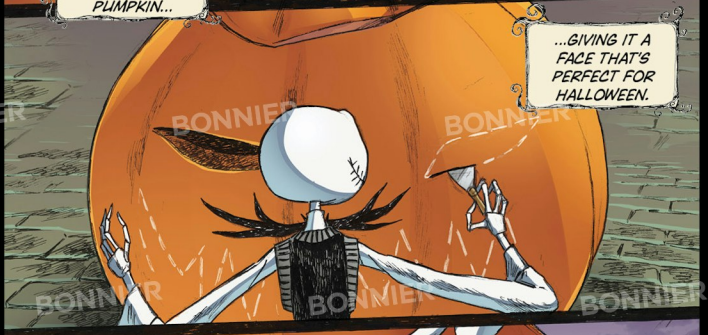


WHAT'S THAT, JACK? SCARED OF A FEW BUGS? ARE THEY STOPPING YOU FROM CARVING YOUR PUMPKIN?

NO, THEY AREN'T STOPPING ME, BUT THEY ARE AN UNWANTED NUISANCE!



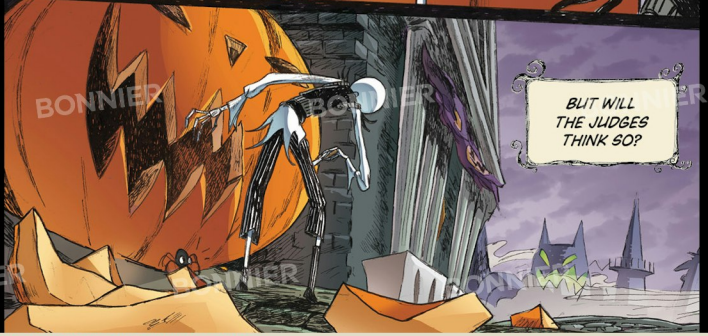
AND SO JACK CONTINUES TO WORK ON HIS PUMPKIN...



...GIVING IT A FACE THAT'S PERFECT FOR HALLOWEEN.



AND THIS PERFECT FOR HALLOWEEN TOWN.



BUT WILL THE JUDGES THINK SO?



KIDS,
I DONT HAVE A
PROBLEM WITH YOUR
MISCHIEF BUT NOW IS
NOT THE TIME FOR IT!
I NEED TO FINISH MY
CARVING!

GAH!!!

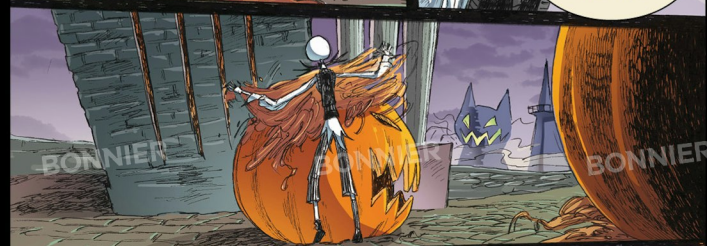
JUST AFTER JACK
FINISHES HIS JACK-O-
LANTERN, LOCK, SHOCK
AND BARREL MAKE
A MESS OF IT!



THE CONTEST IS
ALMOST OVER. I
CAN'T CLEAN THIS ALL
OFF IN TIME!



I KNOW! I CAN
REFASHION THESE
PUMPKIN PIECES
INTO HAIR!



THIS SHOULD
WORK, AND JUST
IN TIME!



MEANWHILE, OOGIE
BOOGIE FINISHES HIS
PUMPKIN, BUT IT'S A MESS
AFTER LOCK, SHOCK
AND
BARREL'S HANDIWORK!



AND THAT IS TIME!
JACK, OOGIE BOOGIE, STEP
AWAY FROM YOUR PUMPKINS!
JUDGES, PLEASE EXAMINE
THEM!



... JACK
SKELLINGTON!



CONGRATULATIONS,
JACK! YOU DID IT!
YOU WON!

I WON!?!
I MEAN, I WON!!!
YES!

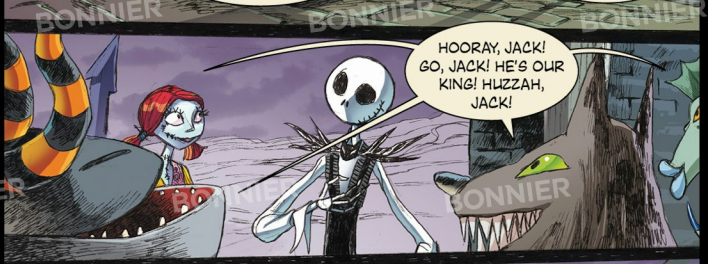


JUDGES,
MAKE YOUR
DECISION.



OKAY,
I SEE. VERY
GOOD.

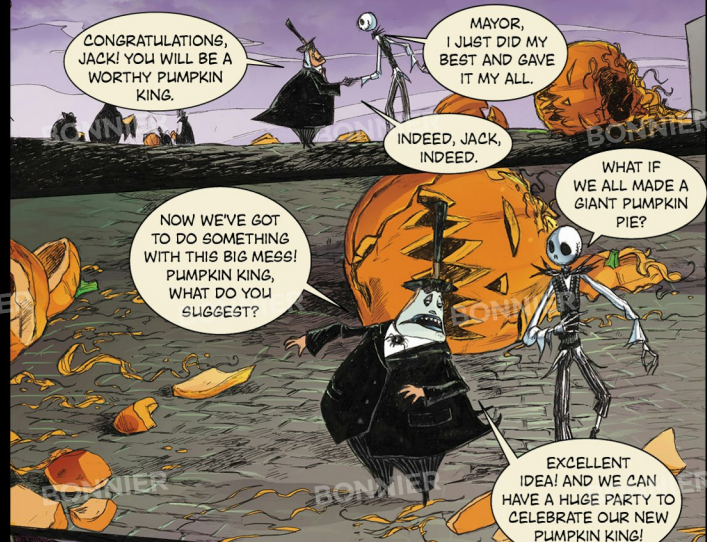
WITH A UNANIMOUS
VOTE, THE WINNER OF THIS
THIS CHALLENGE AND THE
TITLE OF PUMPKIN
KING IS...



HOORAY, JACK!
GO, JACK! HE'S OUR
KING! HUZZAH,
JACK!



WHAT!?! HOW
DID I LOSE!?! A
UNANIMOUS VOTE!
HOW COULD
THAT BE!?!





COVER & CONCEPT ART GALLERY

Pencils & Inks by Deborah Allo
Concept Art by Deborah Allo
Colours by Roberto Scalia
Issue #1 Cover Variant by Yishan Li

ROUGH COVER A



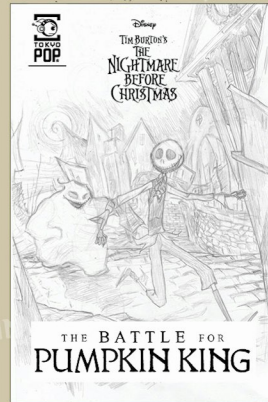
ROUGH COVER B



ROUGH COVER A



ROUGH COVER B



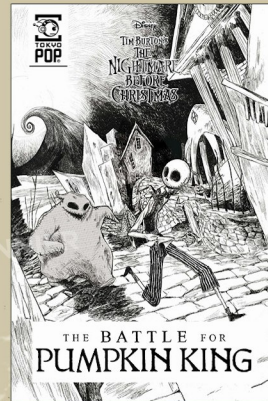
ROUGH COVER C



FINAL COVER ART



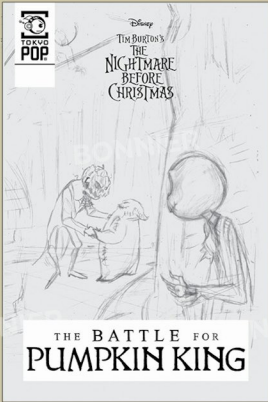
B&W VARIANT COVER



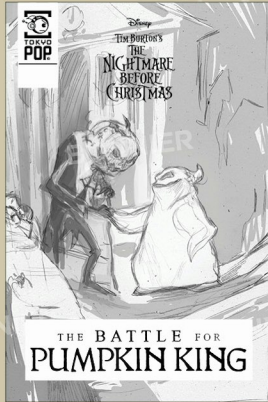
FINAL COVER ART



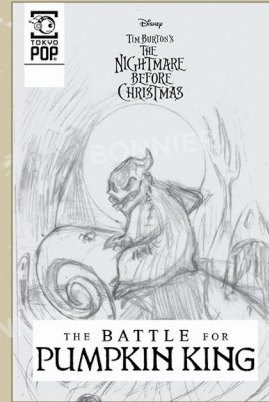
ROUGH COVER A



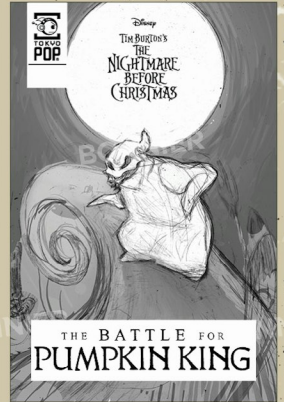
ROUGH COVER B



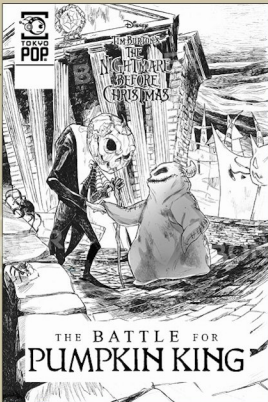
ROUGH COVER A



ROUGH COVER B



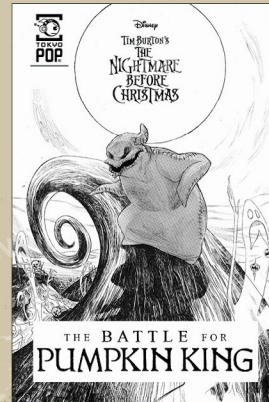
B&W VARIANT COVER



FINAL COVER ART



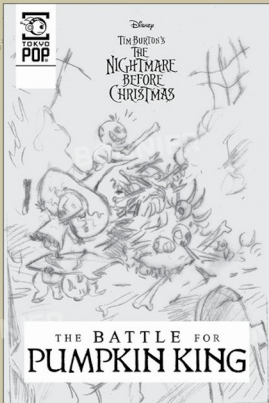
B&W VARIANT COVER



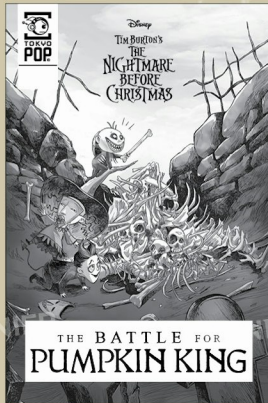
FINAL COVER ART



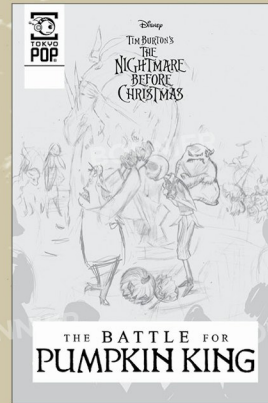
ROUGH COVER A



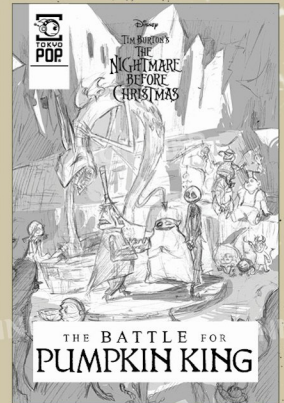
GRAYSCALE COVER ART



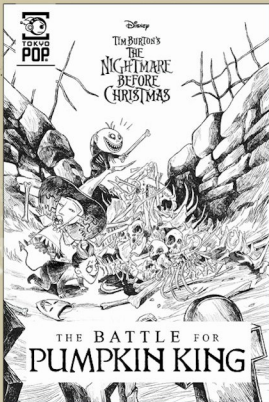
ROUGH COVER A



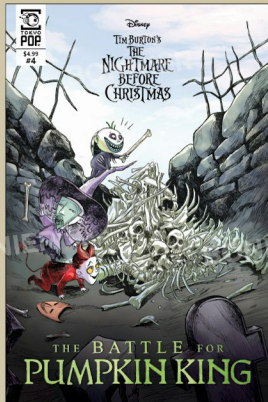
ROUGH COVER B



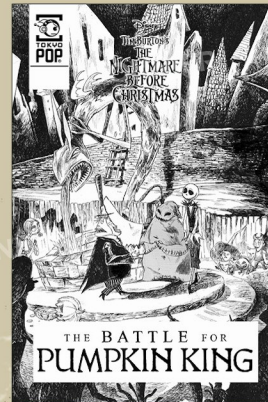
B&W VARIANT COVER



FINAL COVER ART



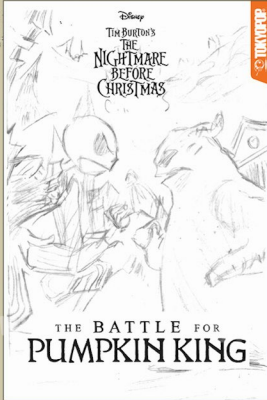
B&W VARIANT COVER



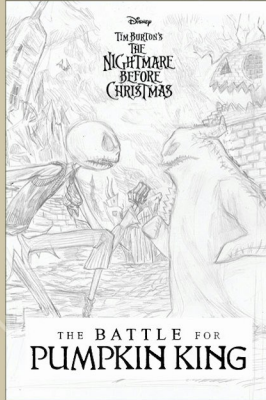
FINAL COVER ART



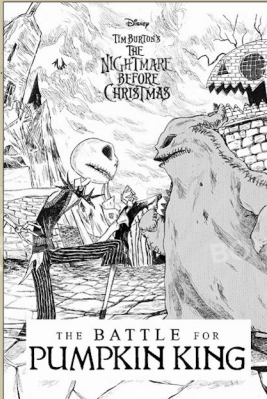
ROUGH COVER A



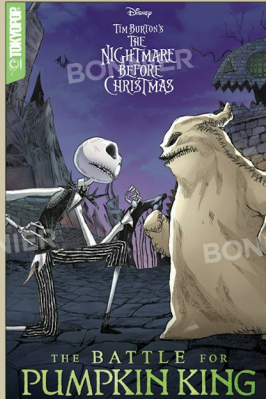
ROUGH COVER B



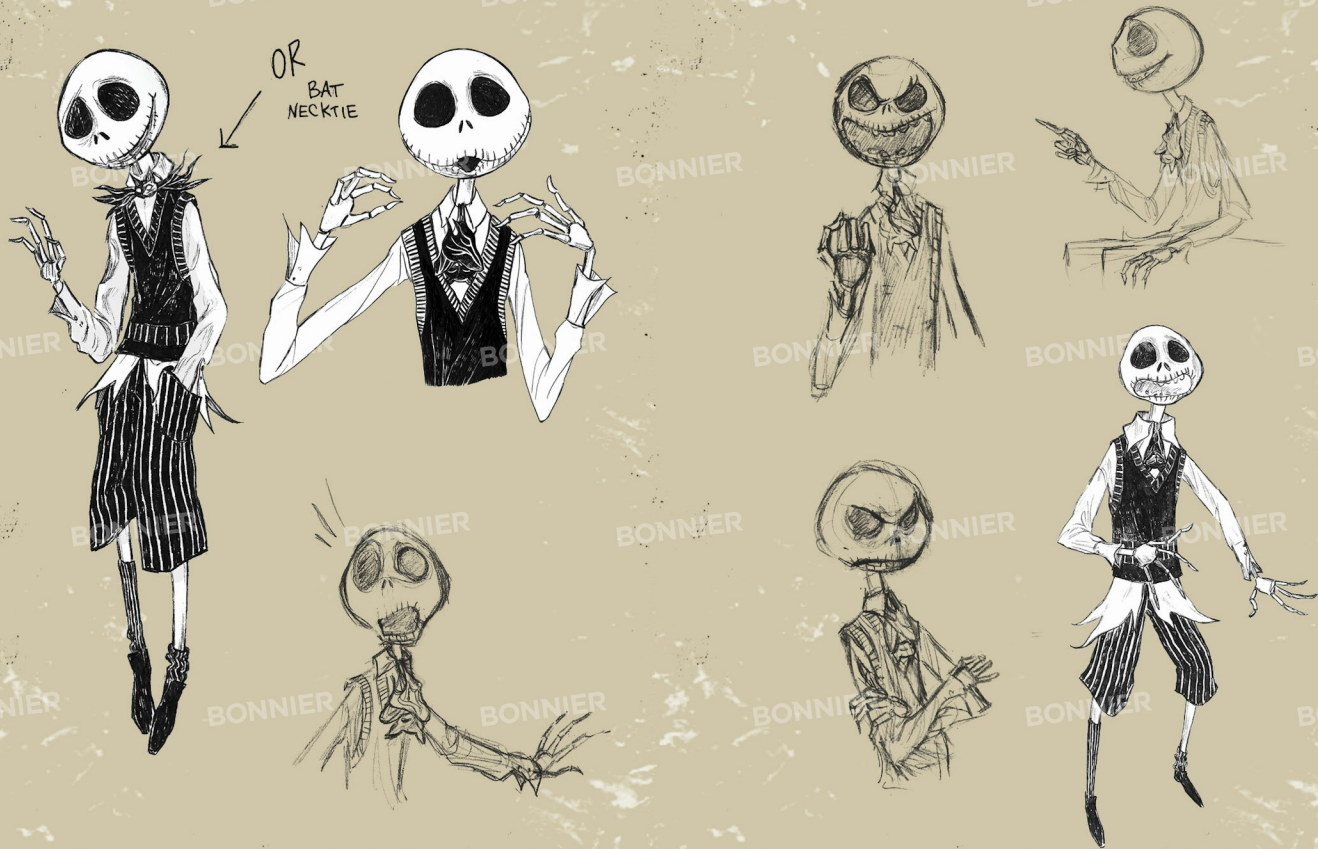
B&W INK ART



FINAL COVER ART



JACK SKELLINGTON



OOGIE BOOGIE



SALLY





OTHER CHARACTERS



DR. FINKELSTEIN

UNDERSEA GAL



WOLF-MAN



WITCHES



CLOWN WITH THE
TEAR-AWAY FACE



VAMPIRE BROTHERS



CREATOR BIOS



SHAUN MCLAUGHLIN
– story –

Shaun McLaughlin's production sensibilities and creative savvy have contributed to the production, writing and development of some of entertainment's most treasured properties, including *Pinky and the Brain*, *Animaniacs*, *Batman Beyond*, *Static Shock* and *The New Batman/Superman Adventures*, as well as *Justice League* and *Justice League Unlimited*.

He is thrilled to have contributed to the Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas* mythos.

His most recent project is writing and directing *The Last Night of the TwiKnight*, and he is a script executive with the ISA.



D.J. MILKY
– story –

D.J. Milky is the author pen name of creator and entrepreneur, Stu Levy.

His preeminent work, *Princess Ai*, debuted at #1 on the National Bookscan charts for Graphic Novels. Stu's creative works include writing the children's novels *Sailor Moon - A Scout is Born*, *Sailor Moon - The Power of Love and Karma Club*; children's books *Stray Sheep* and *Kung Fu Kultz & Karate Cool*; and the graphic novels *Juror 13* and the *Princess Ai* series, created with Courtney Love.

He has also translated manga volumes of *Parasyte*, *Sailor Moon*, *Ice Blade* and *Magic Knight Rayearth*.

He also has written and produced a series of songs, including anime theme songs and a soundtrack from *Princess Ai*.

He is fluent in Japanese.



DAN CONNER
– writer –

Apart from writing Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas: The Battle for Pumpkin King*, Dan Conner has worked on many other comics, including cover art for *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Archie* and *Betty and Veronica*. He was also the colourist for Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas: Zero's Journey* and is the creator and primary artist of *My Gal*, *the Zombie*. Other comics he has authored include adaptations of *Dracula*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *King Lear* for ABDO. Musicians for whom he has done artwork include the Misfits, Huntingtons and Five Iron Frenzy. He is the father of a son and a daughter and lives in Florida.



DEBORAH ALLO
– pencils & inks –

Deborah Allo is a comic artist and fashion illustrator based in Palermo. After graduating from the School of Comics in Palermo, she collaborated with Grafimated Cartoon on the short animated movie "I Vespri Siciliani." She later worked as a colourist for the London-based Holy Loft Production, and collaborated with Tunué on the colouring of *The Passenger*, a graphic novel from a script by Carlo Gadei. Again for Tunué, she illustrated two stories by Sergio Algozzino entitled *Il piccolo Caronte* and *Myrna e il tocco della morte*. She is currently working on a new graphic novel to be published in 2023 for Italian publisher Shockdom. A few months ago, she made her debut in fashion illustration with a publication for the new magazine *Eccetera* of the Linkiesta publishing group.



ROBERTO SCALIA
– colours –

Roberto Scalia was born in November 1985 in Palermo, where he attended the School of Comics. After graduating, he began his work as a colourist. He works as a freelance designer for private individuals.



BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER

BONNIER