ATLANTIS STUDIOS
2 | $2.95
PAULA PERIL
SPECIAL ON-LINE PREVIEW!
The Case of The
HAUNTED MUSEUM

FOR TWO DECADES THE SPECTACULAR SHOWS OF WORLD-CLASS MAGICIANS MANFRED AND ZIGLER HAD FUELED THE IMAGINATIONS OF WIDE-EYED CHILDREN GROWING UP IN BIG CITY.
EACH YEAR, PAULA'S WEALTHY PARENTS WOULD BRING HER TO THE MAGICIAN'S SOLD-OUT APPEARANCES, AND HER FATHER'S MONEY WOULD EARN THEM FRONT ROW SEATS AND BACKSTAGE PASSES. THE MEN ENJOYED SEEING YOUNG PAULA GROW INTO WOMANHOOD, AND EVEN MORE APPRECIATED THE GENEROUS SPONSORSHIPS OF MR. PERIL'S AS THEIR WEALTHY BENEFACTOR.
BUT WHEN TRAGEDY STRUCK TWO YEARS AGO, IT APPEARED THAT EVIL WAS AFOOT. TODAY, PAULA HAS REASON TO RE-INVESTIGATE THE PAST...
MANFRED? I CAME AS SOON AS I GOT YOUR MESSAGE. IS IT TRUE?
YES, MY DEAR YOUNG PAULA — I'M AFRAID IT IS. I AM BEING HAUNTED BY THE GHOST OF MY DEAD PARTNER!
The Adventures of Paula Peril
"DISAPPEARING ACT"
Written by James Watson
Pencils by Javier Sanchez Arunda
Inks by Rick Bonilla (Across the Pond)
Lettering by Nate Pride

YOU MUST BE IMAGINING THINGS! ZIGLER HAS BEEN DEAD FOR OVER TWO YEARS. YOU SHOULD KNOW— YOU SAW IT HAPPEN!
NEVERTHELESS — I'VE SEEN HIM. I WAS PREPARING MY ACT JUST LAST NIGHT AND I GLIMPSED HIM RIGHT OVER THERE BY THE CRATES! HE SAW ME, TURNED TO LOOK AT ME, THEN RAN AWAY INTO THE SHADOWS...
I'M SORRY, BUT I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THIS. HOW EXACTLY DID YOUR PARTNER DIE?
THE CHINESE WATER TORTURE — HIS SIGNATURE ESCAPE ACT — WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE SHOW. WE PRACTICED IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN — EVERYTHING WAS WORKING FINE...
HE'S... DEAD!
BUT THE MINUTES PASSED, AND HE DIDN'T EMERGE. SUDDENLY HE WASN'T MOVING ANYMORE, AND I ORDERED THE CASE OPENED. WE LOST VALUABLE TIME CRACKING THE RUSTY PADLOCK, AND BY THE TIME WE PULLED HIM FROM THE TANK, IT WAS TOO LATE...
I'M SO SORRY...
THE POLICE INVESTIGATION FOCUSED ON THE CHAINS AND THE LOCKS, BUT FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF ANY TAMPERING.
IT'S STILL A MYSTERY TO ME HOW SUCH A THING COULD HAVE HAPPENED...
THERE'S SOMETHING UP THERE...
ZIGLER WAS A MASTER OF ESCAPES...
MANFRED! LOOK OUT!!!

SCHLLLLAAAAANNNNNNGGGGG!!!
GOOD HEAVENS!
CRRRUUNCH!
CRASH!

PAULA! THERE'S SOMEONE UP THERE!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
YES, THANKS TO YOU. CAN'T YOU SEE? IT'S ZIGLER'S GHOST— HE'S BACK FROM THE DEAD, AND TRYING TO TAKE ME WITH HIM!

WHY WOULD A GHOST USE A STAGE PROP TO KILL ANYONE? THIS IS NO GHOST, MANFRED, I THINK IT'S SOMETHING MORE SINISTER. WHOEVER KILLED YOUR PARTNER— HAS RETURNED TO KILL YOU!

HAVING SENT JIMMY TO REQUEST THE POLICE RECORDS OF ZIGLER'S DEATH, PAULA STAYS BEHIND, LOOKING THROUGH FINANCIAL RECORDS UNTIL NEARLY MIDNIGHT...
THERE'S SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS HERE. WHO WOULD HAVE A MOTIVE TO KILL ZIGLER AND MANFRED?
IT APPEARS THAT THEY OWNED ALL OF THE INTEREST IN THE MAGIC SHOW, AND EACH WAS INSURED IN CASE OF THE DEATH OF THE OTHER...

OF COURSE— THAT'S IT! BUT IF I'M RIGHT, MANFRED IS IN GRAVE DANGER. I HAVE TO WARN HIM...!
INSURANCE POLICY

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, PAULA PERIL.
MMMMRRRRPPHH!!!!

EXCEPT TO SLEEP. HEH, HEH, HEH!

SOMETIME LATER...
UNNHHH... WHERE AM I...?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING?!!
YES, MY DEAR PAULA, I'M AFRAID I CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE YOU SNOOPING ABOUT ANY MORE. IT'S TIME YOU FACED THE MAGICIAN'S GREATEST CHALLENGE...
ZIGLER! YOU ARE ALIVE— JUST AS I SUSPECTED!
YOUR REPUTATION AS AN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER DOES YOU JUSTICE! YOU SEE, MY DEATH WAS AN ELABORATELY PLANNED ESCAPE FROM PEOPLE TO WHOM I OWED MONEY. THEY WERE GOING TO KILL ME — I HAD NO CHOICE!