

CSBG ARCHIVE

Month of Women in Comics – Saved By the Bell #1

by Brian Cronin | March 4, 2014 @ 11:59 PM |

All this month I'll be reviewing different comic books by female creators, based on submissions from the actual creators of the comic books themselves.

I apologize for no comic yesterday. The blog had server issues when I was trying to make my post and it never got through. I'll just do two today.

So we continue with Lion Forge Comics' *Saved by the Bell #1*, by writer Joelle Sellner, artist Chynna Clugston Flores and colorist Lisa Moore...



This is one of the first releases in Lion Forge Comics' new "Roar" line of all-age comics. It is, as you suspect, a comic book adaptation of NBC's hit teen sitcom from the 1990s, *Saved by the Bell*. The first issue is a loose adaptation of the show's first episode, although the reboot here is so complete that I imagine that the book will soon go off on its own path, as the TV series quickly detoured away from the Zach Morris/AC Slater fight over Kelly Kapowski while the comic book seems to be geared up to stick with that plot.

Sellner does a really great job distilling the characters down into a line or two right away so that we can instantly "get" the personalities of everyone involved...





OUR FIRST HOMEROOM AS HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMEN!

FRESH-PEOPLE.



I HAVE TO GET KELLY ALONE AT THE MAX SO I CAN ASK HER OUT.

I CAN CLEAR OUT A ROOM IF I EAT BEANS!

LET'S CALL THAT PLAN B.



WHOA, LISA! THERE WAS A GIRL IN MY HOMEROOM WEARING THAT EXACT OUTFIT.

OH NO! I WANTED TO SHOW BAYSIDE MY UNIQUE STYLE SENSE.

YOU SHOULD GO HOME DURING LUNCH AND CHANGE.



JESSIE, DID YOU HEAR? THERE'S GONNA BE A POP QUIZ IN ALGEBRA TODAY.

SO SOON?

BETTER BLOW OFF LUNCH AND STUDY!



TESTING OUT PLAN B? FOR "BEANS"?

NO, BUT PLAN A IS BACK ON TRACK. A FOR ASKING OUT KELLY.

SO WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO EAT LUNCH?

PLAN C. FOR CAFETERIA.



LUNCH WITH THE HOTTEST GIRL AT BAYSIDE? I THINK HIGH SCHOOL'S GONNA BE PRETTY SWEET.



WHERE ARE THE OTHERS? IT WAS GETTING SO LATE, I HAD TO ORDER.

FIRST DAY. THEY PROBABLY GOT LOST.



YOU READ MY MIND...MY FAVORITE BURGER! WE'RE SO IN SYNC.

UM, ZACK--

NOW THAT WE'RE FINALLY ALONE, I HAVE SOMETHING--



Zach and Slater's efforts to undermine each other make up the rest of the comic.

This type of comic is so in Clugston Flores' wheel house that I bet she could have drawn an awesome looking comic book in her sleep, but whether she did this comic awake or not, she did an excellent job. Such personality, such verve – all while maintaining her trademark strong storytelling skills. And I love how she made every character match their original actor so well without doing actual likenesses for any one of them.

Moore's colors give the book a nice bright and retro vibe.

Top-notch creators paired with a concept that translates well to comics (essentially a modern day Archie Comics) results in an entertaining comic for all-ages. If you want to buy a copy, you can [get one on Amazon](#) for just \$2.