



**DARK
HORSE
COMICS**

BRADEN LIGHT
#20 | \$2.99

Buffy

the vampire slayer™

LOEB ♦ WIGHT ♦ BEAVERS ♦ VAN WYK
JEANTY ♦ OWENS ♦ LOUGHRIDGE ♦ STARKINGS



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
JOSS WHEDON

AFTER THESE MESSAGES—
WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



**DARK
HORSE
COMICS**

SEASON EIGHT
#20 | \$2.99

LOEB ♦ WIGHT ♦ BEAVERS ♦ VAN WYK
JEANTY ♦ OWENS ♦ LOUGHRIDGE ♦ STARKINGS

Buffy

the vampire slayer™



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
JOSS WHEDON

AFTER THESE MESSAGES—
WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

BUFFY

the Vampire Slayer™

Based on the television series created by Joss Whedon

SEASON EIGHT

Buffy's had a lot to deal with lately: her sister's a centaur; she broke the heart of a Slayer; traveled through time to battle the future Slayer, Tru, and kill her best friend; and the Slayer command center in the Highlands of Scotland has been destroyed. And yet, Buffy manages to keep her cool by focusing on her duty—protect humanity from the hidden evils of the world, even as that world turns against her. Is Twilight to blame for humanity's distrust of the Slayers? The aggression of the U.S. government? The defection of the rogue Slayer, Simone, and her band of thieves?

Only time will tell. Until then, it's about time Buffy got some well-earned sleep.

Cover by Jo Chen

Alternate Cover by Georges Jeanty,
Dexter Vines & Michael E. Wiggam

Designer Heidi Whitcomb

Assistant Editor Freddie Ling

Associate Editor Sierra Hahn • Editor Scott Allie

Publisher Mike Richardson

Special thanks to Debbie Olshan at 20th Century Fox and Natalie Farrell.

Advertising Sales: (800) 652-8819 x570

Comics Shop Locator Service: (888) 266-6226

Talk about this issue NOW at: www.darkhorse.com/community/boards

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER SEASON EIGHT #26, December 2009. Published by Dark Horse Comics, Inc., 30954 51 Main Street, Milwaukee, Oregon 97110. Buffy the Vampire Slayer® and © 2009 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All rights reserved. Dark Horse Comics® and the Dark Horse logo are trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc., registered in various countries and countries. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Names, characters, places and incidents featured in this publication either are the creation of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, institutions, or locales, without written notice, is coincidental.

PRINTED IN CANADA



AT THIS POINT I'D
SETTLE FOR TWENTY-EIGHT
OF THOSE FORTY WINKS
EVERYBODY TALKS ABOUT.

CAN'T
SAY I DIDN'T
WARN YOU!

WAS IT ALWAYS
THIS HARD? AND IF
IT WAS, WHY IS IT
ALWAYS THIS HARD?

CAN'T SAY
I --

-- OH,
GRRR,
I GUESS
I CAN...



FINALLY.

XANDER!



WHAT ABOUT
"DON'T WAKE ME EVEN
IF THERE'S ANOTHER
APOCALYPSE!" DON'T
YOU GET?

NO, GOT
THAT.
IT'S
JUST --



WHAT?...
IS IT ABOUT
DAWN?

HAS SHE
TURNED INTO
SOMETHING
ELSE?

IS SHE
A GIANT
MONKEY
NOW?

OR A GIANT
ROBOT?

OR A
GIANT ROBOT
MONKEY?!

ALTHOUGH...
DAWNY CHANGED
INTO A GIANT ROBOT
MONKEY I'D LIKE
TO SEE...

NO,
SHE'S NOT A
GIANT ROBOT
MONKEY.

BUT I'D
LIKE TO
SEE THAT
TOO...



XANDER.
PUH-LEASE.

I'M ALL
STINKY.

I'M STILL
IN MY STINKY
CLOTHES.

IN MY
STINKY
BED.

SO GO
AWAY FROM
MY STINKY BED
AND I CAN GET
SOME STINKY
SLEEP!

BUT...
THAT'S JUST
IT, BUF.

THIS
ISN'T YOUR
BED YOU'RE
MAKING ALL
STINKY...



...IT'S
MINE!

**ZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZ
ZZZ**







OKAY, I ADMIT THAT IF YOU
GOOGLED "WEIRD" THERE'D
BE A PICTURE OF THIS DAY.

I MEAN, THIS COULD ALL
BE THE HANDIWORK OF
SOME SLEEP DEMON --

-- OR MAYBE THE GHOST
OF ETHAN RAYNE HAS
DRAGGED ME BACK INTO THE
DREAM SPACE. AGAIN.

WHATEVER.
I CAN DO THIS.

RRRIINNNGGGGG

SO WHAT IF I HAVE TO
TAKE ALGEBRA AGAIN?

AT LEAST THIS TIME
I KNOW IT'LL HAVE ZERO
VALUE WHEN I GROW UP.

EEP!

WILLOW. ALIVE!
AND ALL NOT EVILY.
AND ME NOT HAVING...

(...KILLED HER
THING.)

Y'KNOW,
WILLOW, I WAS
JUST THINKING
ABOUT YOU.

REALLY?
WHY...?

WELL, I'M
SURE YOU'VE
HEARD ABOUT
MY BIG PARTY
TONIGHT.

SH-SURE,
CORDELIA.
A BUNCH OF
US. I MEAN,
BUFFY, AND
XANDER
AND I WERE
PLANNING--

--YES,
AND I WAS
TALKING.

DON'T YOU THINK
IT'S TIME YOU TRIED
SOMETHING WITH
YOUR HAIR?

THOSE BANGS
DO SO MUCH TO
HIDE YOUR FACE.

JUST
CUTTING IT
SHORTER
OR EVEN
GIVING IT A
PERM.

THIS WAY,
WE COULD
SEE MORE
OF YOU.

AND...THAT
WOULD BE
A GOOD
THING?

NO, BUT
YOU'D GET
A CLEARER
PICTURE OF
EXACTLY HOW
HOPELESS
YOU TRULY
ARE.

HA HA HE

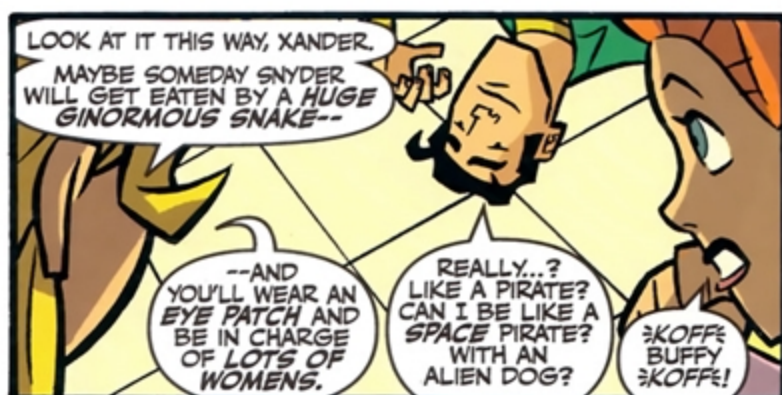
TEE
HEE

NO BIGGIE,
WILL.

MAYBE SOMEDAY
SHE'LL BE DEAD
AND YOU'LL BE A
SORCERESS
SUPREME.

REALLY...?

DO I
GET TO
WEAR A
POINTY
HAT?





OKAAAYYY. SO THIS IS TURNING INTO MY OWN PRIVATE PLEASANTVILLE. WITHOUT THE BLACK AND WHITE AND THE WITHERSPOON. EXCEPT...



...NOT EXACTLY MINDING SINCE I ALMOST FORGOT WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO JUST BE SCOOBIES...

I'VE HEARD THEY'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO HAVE A LIVE BAND.

WHAT KIND OF BAND PLAYS AT A PARTY IN SUNNYDALE?

A SUCKY BAND?

YOU'RE GOING, AREN'T YOU, WILL?

SURE, I MEAN, IT'S AN "OPEN PARTY" SO WE COULD GO EVEN IF WE WANTED TO.

WELL, THEN, THERE'S NOTHING THAT COULD STOP US FROM GOING THEN!



BUFFY. GOOD. YOU'RE HERE.



THE VERY FATE OF THE WORLD IS AT RISK OVER WHAT HAPPENS TONIGHT!



OH. YEAH. I REMEMBER THIS PART. THIS IS WHERE MY LIFE GETS IN THE WAY OF MY LIVING IT.

HEY KIDS!

JOSS WHEDON NOT
ONLY LOVES COMICS, HE
THINKS THEATER IS COOL!
SO LISTEN UP!

This issue is dedicated to Sam Loeb.

Jeph Loeb's son died on June 17, 2005 at the age of 17, after a three year, hard-fought battle with cancer.

A dear friend of Joss, Sam was one of the youngest writers who ever worked in comics. He was still in high school when he did his first work for Joss in TALES OF THE VAMPIRES #5 with Tim Sale. It's still available in the Tales trade!

But that's not all! Sam spent his summers in the oldest teenage drama workshop in the United States.

TADW, as it's called, invites students from everywhere onto the college campus of Cal State Northridge to participate in three different theatrical productions each summer.

Some of the proceeds from this very issue of BUFFY SEASON 8 are being donated to the workshop. It's a non-profit organization.

TADW Sam Loeb Scholarship Fund provides full scholarships to students who wish to partake in the program.

If you'd like to make a tax deductible donation, no matter how large or small, send a check to the address below.

*It's FUN! And it's LEGAL!
So Come on!*



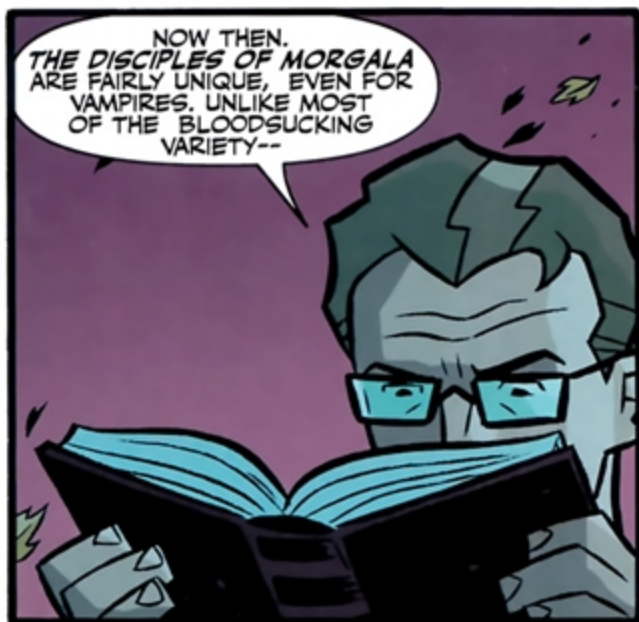
**SEND YOUR
CHECK TODAY TO:**

CSUN FOUNDATION • TADW SAM LOEB SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**DOUG KABACK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • TEENAGE DRAMA WORKSHOP
CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE • DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
18111 NORDHOFF ST. • NORTHRIDGE, CA 91330-8320**

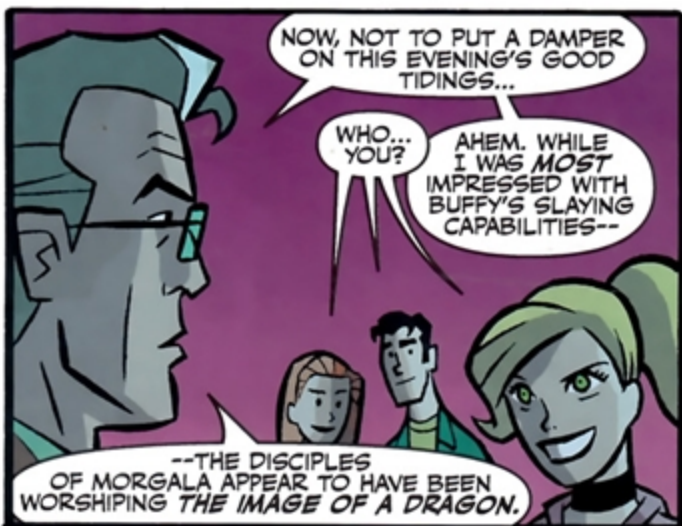
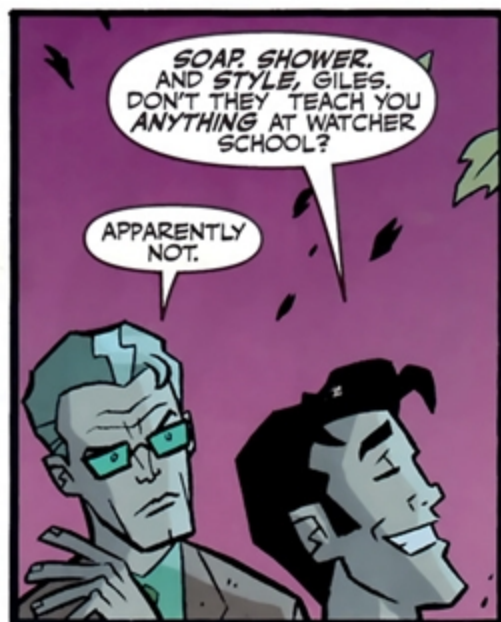
WWW.CSUN.EDU/TADW

TAX ID# 95-6196006



THE FIGHT
CONTINUES







WHEN THERE'S A FIGHT WITH A DRAGON, IT'S MORE FUN TO BE ON *HIS* SIDE.

As Dungeon Master, you get to control the monsters, craft the challenges, and create the stories that get re-told. Expand your imagination beyond your character sheet and into a D&D® campaign of your own.

Pick up the Starter Set or jump right in with your copy of the *Dungeon Master's Guide*®—and share the experience.

CREATE AN ACCOUNT AT:
DNDINSIDER.COM

All trademarks are property of Wizards of the Coast, Inc. ©2008 Wizards.





LATER THAT SAME NIGHT.
HEY, HOW OFTEN DO
YOU GET TO SAY THAT?

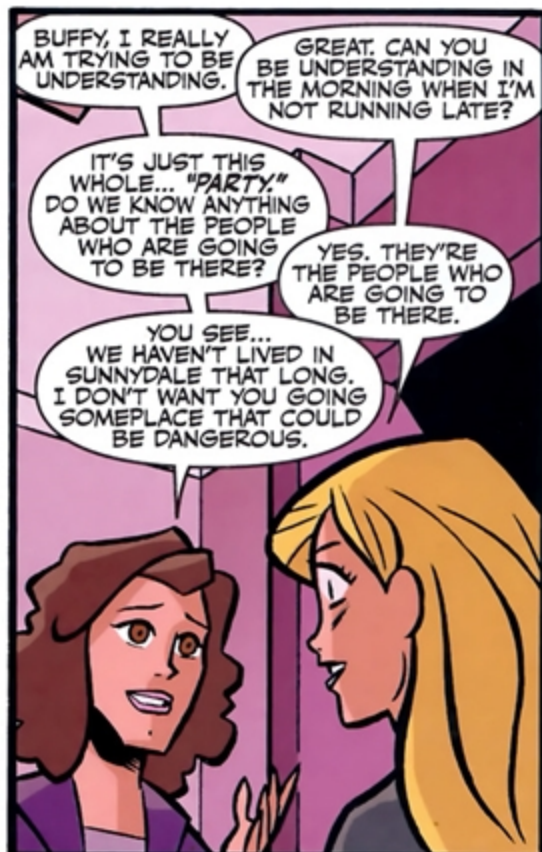
OH...
ANGEL...

BUFFY...?



WHERE'S
THE REST
OF THAT
SKIRT?

TRUST ME,
I'VE WORN
MUCH
WORSE.



BUFFY, I REALLY
AM TRYING TO BE
UNDERSTANDING.

GREAT. CAN YOU
BE UNDERSTANDING IN
THE MORNING WHEN I'M
NOT RUNNING LATE?

IT'S JUST THIS
WHOLE... "PARTY."
DO WE KNOW ANYTHING
ABOUT THE PEOPLE
WHO ARE GOING
TO BE THERE?

YES. THEY'RE
THE PEOPLE WHO
ARE GOING TO
BE THERE.

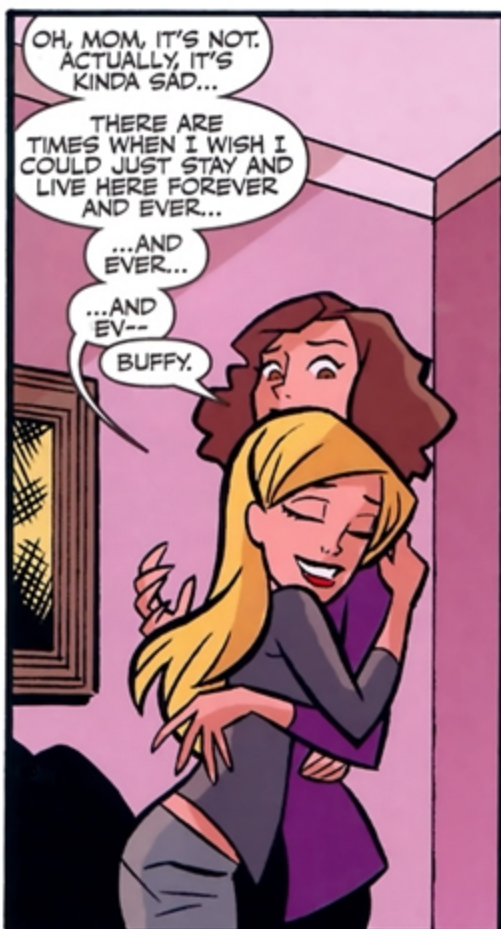
YOU SEE...
WE HAVEN'T LIVED IN
SUNNYDALE THAT LONG.
I DON'T WANT YOU GOING
SOMEPLACE THAT COULD
BE DANGEROUS.



DANGEROUS...?!



I'M
NOT SURE
WHY THAT'S
FUNNY.



OH, MOM, IT'S NOT.
ACTUALLY, IT'S
KINDA SAD...

THERE ARE
TIMES WHEN I WISH I
COULD JUST STAY AND
LIVE HERE FOREVER
AND EVER...

...AND
EVER...

...AND
EV--

BUFFY.

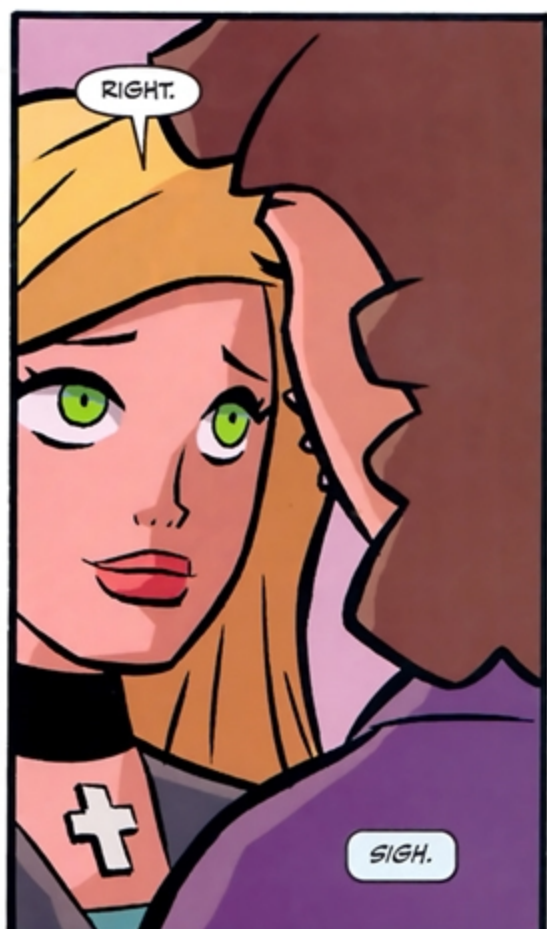


YOU'RE GOING
TO GRADUATE
HIGH SCHOOL.
EVENTUALLY.

GO TO
COLLEGE.

MAYBE
MEET SOME
NICE BOY.
YOU HAVE
YOUR WHOLE
LIFE AHEAD
OF YOU.

BUT, YES, YOU
CAN ALWAYS COME
HOME AGAIN.



RIGHT.

SIGH.









VISIT DARKHORSE.COM'S

Buffy™

the vampire slayer

ZONE

to explore great features like:

- Exclusive content from editors on upcoming projects!
- Downloadable, exclusive desktops!
- Online previews, games, and other features
- Message boards!
- Up-to-date information on the latest releases
- Links to other cool *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* sites!



Visit DARKHORSE.COM/BUFFY
for more details!

Buffy

the vampire slayer

OMNIBUS

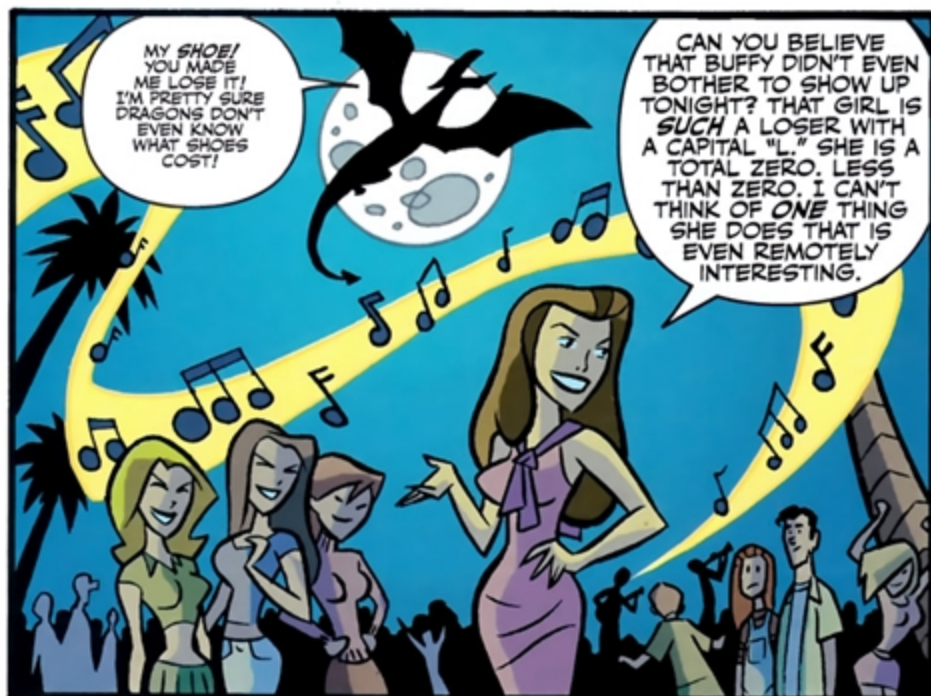
VOLUME 2



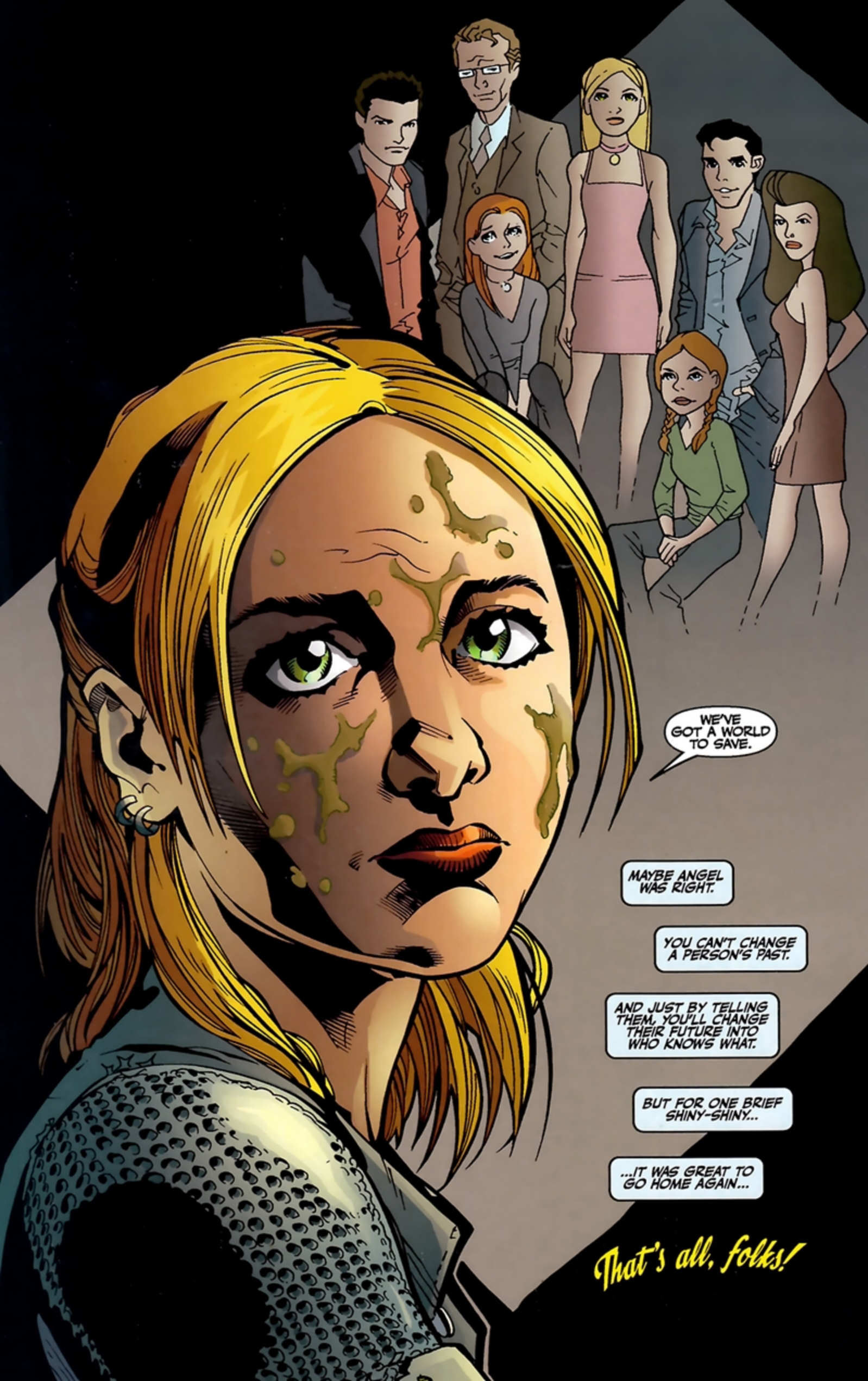
Buffy the Vampire Slayer™ & © 2008 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All rights reserved. Dark Horse Comics® and the Dark Horse logo are trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc., registered in various categories and countries. All rights reserved.











WE'VE
GOT A WORLD
TO SAVE.

MAYBE ANGEL
WAS RIGHT.

YOU CAN'T CHANGE
A PERSON'S PAST.

AND JUST BY TELLING
THEM, YOU'LL CHANGE
THEIR FUTURE INTO
WHO KNOWS WHAT.

BUT FOR ONE BRIEF
SHINY-SHINY...

...IT WAS GREAT TO
GO HOME AGAIN...

That's all, folks!

She laughs, she loves, and sometimes . . .

HARMONY BITES

Her Hot New
Reality Show on
MTV!



PREMIERING IN JANUARY

SEE LOCAL RETAILERS FOR SHOWTIMES | Bonus episode exclusively on www.myspace.com/darkhorsepresents

Buffy
the Vampire Slayer™

BUFFY #21 AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL COMICS SHOP JANUARY 7

To find a comics shop in your area, call 1-888-266-4226 | For more information or to order direct visit darkhorse.com or call 1-800-862-0052

Buffy the Vampire Slayer™ © 2008, 2009 Twentieth Century Fox. Dark Horse Comics® and the Dark Horse logo are trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc., registered in various categories and countries. All rights reserved.