

VOLUME 4 2020



VALLEY FORGE
& MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

PATRIOT TALES

MOM RINKER AND THE HEROES UNSEEN



PATCH
PIPERBERG
BARR

*Piperberg
REARR*

EXPLORE THE HISTORY OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA.



Previously in

PATRIOT TALES

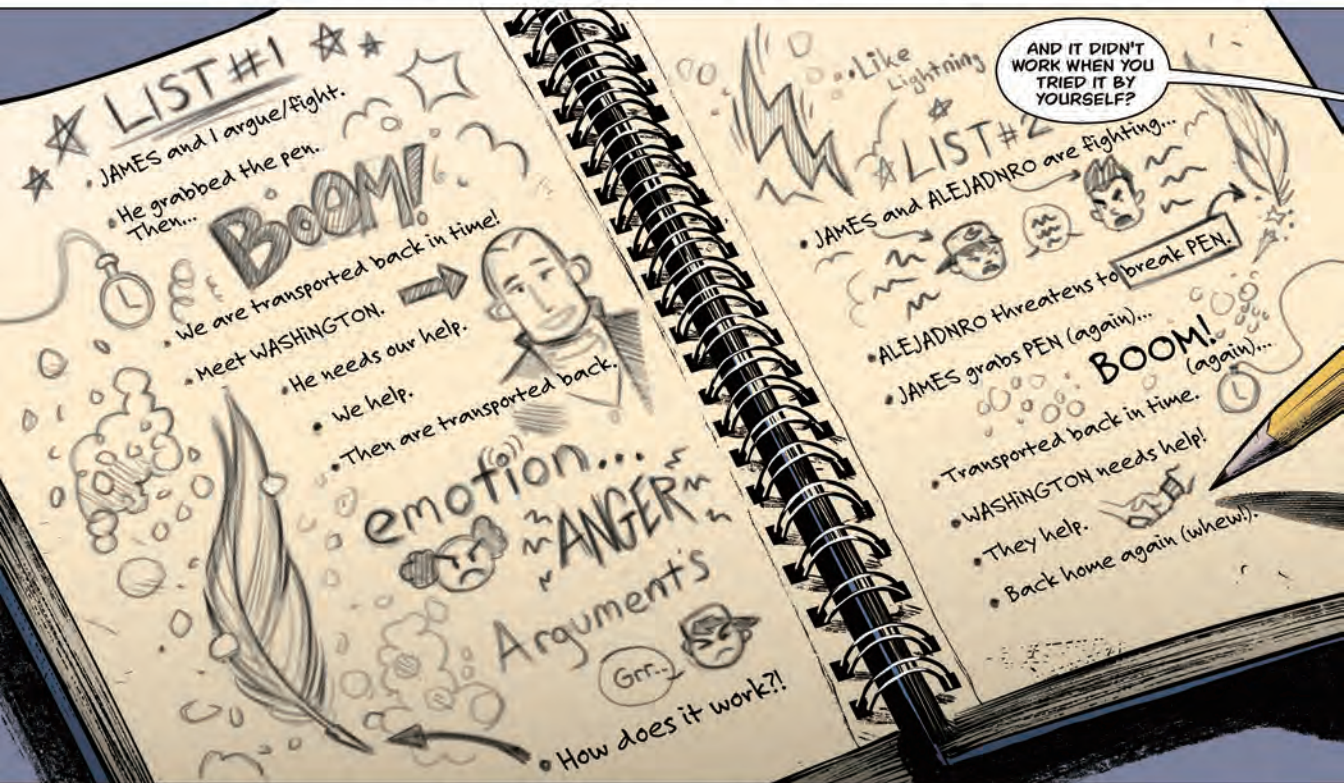
JAMES was having a particularly good day until he ran into some trouble with a bully at school. An unexpected trip to HOPE LODGE in the year 1770 and now the two boys have become close friends. They shared stories, relied on one another and, not to mention, helped GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON fool BRITISH FORCES. All of this went a long way to forge the bonds of friendship.

While JAMES and ALEJANDRO were transforming from rivals to revolutionaries, LYDIA went about searching for JAMES, worried about her brother. In her pursuit she discovered the story of MOLLY "MOM" RINKER, another spy from the 1700's and LYDIA's interest is piqued.

Presently, JAMES and ALEJANDRO have returned safe and sound. LYDIA is about to start a quest of her own. One that will reveal details about the workings of the QUILL PEN and the story of MOM RINKER.

But first, pizza...







LATER THAT EVENING.

JUST GONNA PUT YOU RIGHT HERE FOR SAFE KEEPING.
BONUS, JAMES NEVER LOOKS IN HERE.



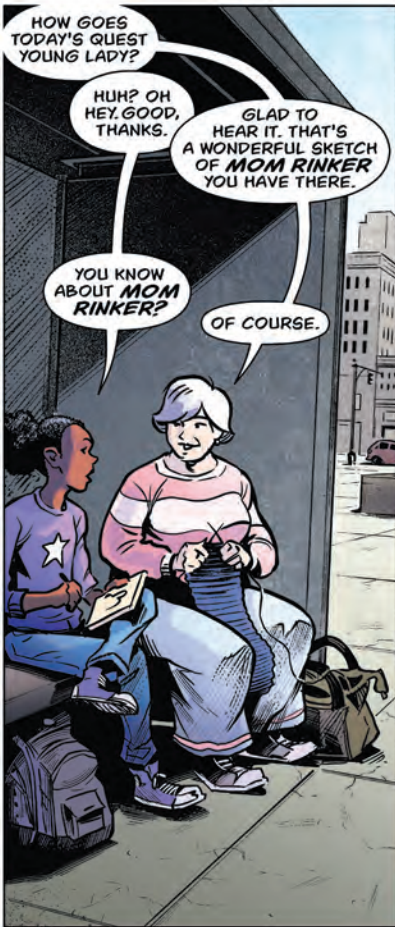
NORRISTOWN FARM PARK.



GERMANTOWN WHITE HOUSE.



FORT WASHINGTON STATE PARK.



HOW GOES TODAY'S QUEST YOUNG LADY?

HUH? OH HEY, GOOD, THANKS.

GLAD TO HEAR IT. THAT'S A WONDERFUL SKETCH OF MOM RINKER YOU HAVE THERE.

YOU KNOW ABOUT MOM RINKER?

OF COURSE.



I TAUGHT AMERICAN HISTORY AT ROXBOROUGH HIGH FOR THIRTY YEARS.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HER?

SPY FOR GENERAL WASHINGTON. SECRET MESSAGES. SMART AS WHIP. FELLOW KNITTER.

TELL YOU WHAT I TOLD ALL MY STUDENTS.

YOU'LL FIND ALL YOU NEED AT THE LIBRARY.



"AND REMEMBER... TIME IS WHAT WE WANT THE MOST, BUT WHAT WE USE WORST."

"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN?"

"GOOD GUESS, WILLIAM PENN."

"NOW DON'T MISS THE BUS, DEAR."

THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA.



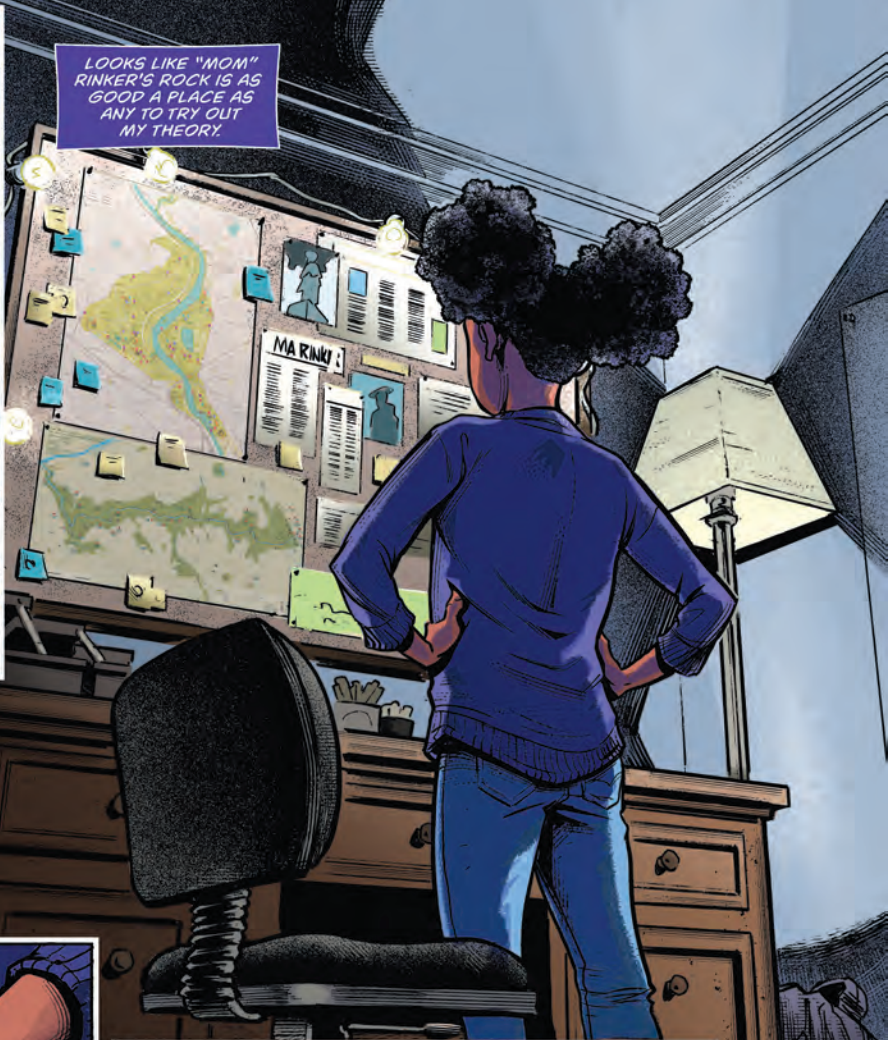
BINGO!

SHHH!

BINGO!



OKAY, I NOW HAVE A LOCATION.



LOOKS LIKE "MOM" RINKER'S ROCK IS AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY TO TRY OUT MY THEORY.



IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT, TOMORROW I TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO THE YEAR 1777...



...AND HAVE A LITTLE CHAT WITH ONE OF WASHINGTON'S SPIES, MOLLY "MOM" RINKER.



WHEW!

ABOUT TIME.



UGH... C'MON, PEOPLE...



...IT'S REALLY NOT THAT HARD TO KEEP THIS PLACE NI--



I'M HERE!



MEANWHILE...

Knoock! Knoock!

HEY LYDIA! WE'RE BACK FROM THE OBSERVATORY. WE BOUGHT YOU SOMETHING.

I DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA THAT WE JUST GO INTO YOUR SISTER'S ROOM LIKE THIS?

WHATCHA WORRIED ABOUT? IT'S JUST LYDIA.



RIGHT, LYDS? C'MOUT...



...C'MOUT...



...WHENEVER YOU ARE?



Y'KNOW WHAT? I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A GIRL'S ROOM, BEFORE...

DUDE!

SHE'S NOT A GIRL!

SHE'S MY SISTER!



WEIRD THAT IT'S A STATUE OF WILLIAM PENN?

WILLIAM PENN...HMM?



GUESS THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT.



C'MON LYDIA.

IF YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO IT...



...YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING.

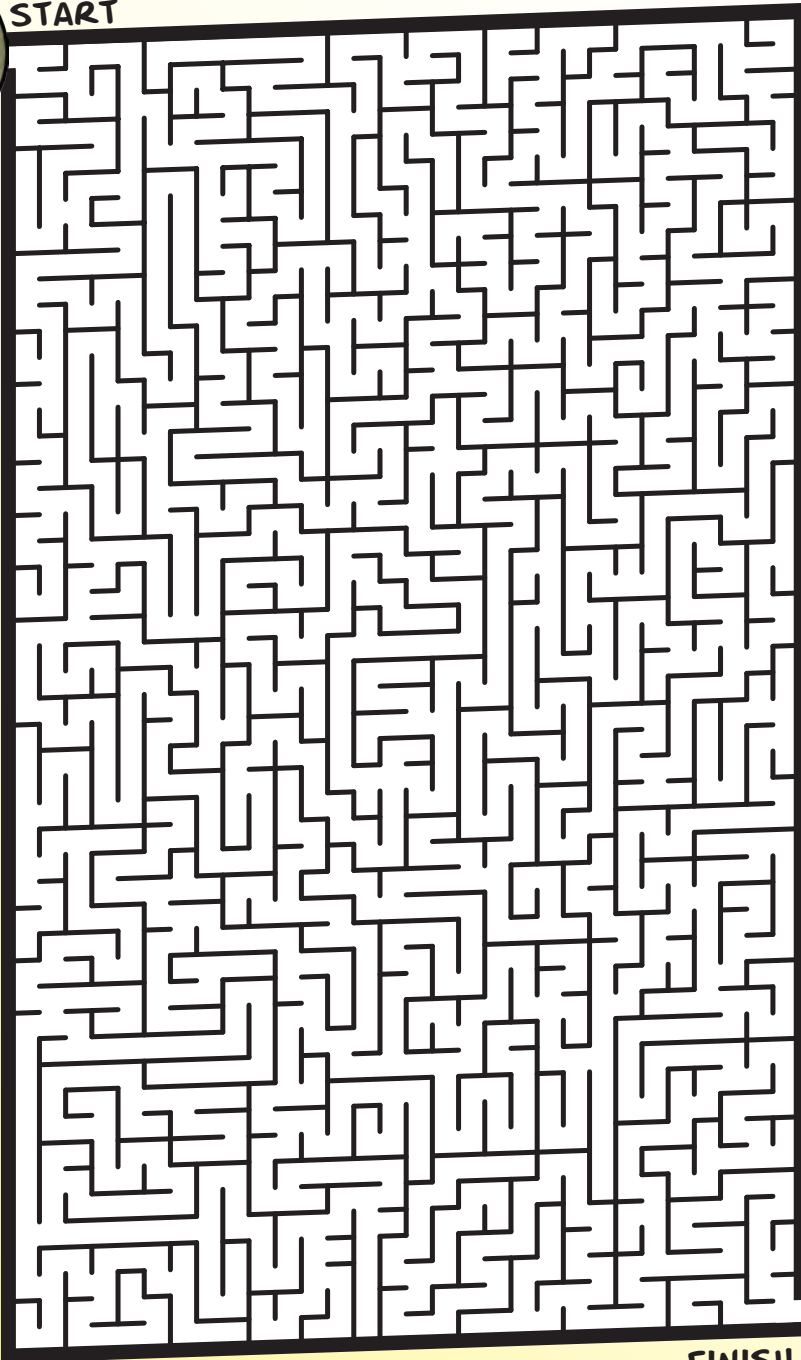


YUS!

HELP LYDIA GET TO MOM RINKER



START



FINISH



TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE ABOUT AN HOUR AGO.



COME AND SIT WITH ME A BIT, LYDIA.

YOU HAVE SOME QUESTIONS THAT NEED ANSWERING.

I KNOW MORE THAN THAT.

YOU... YOU KNOW MY NAME.



ASK AWAY, YOUNG LADY, BUT BE MINDFUL, THERE ARE RED COATS ABOUT.

YOU'RE RINKER? YOU WORK WITH GENERAL WA--

YOU CAN CALL ME MOM, ALL MY FRIENDS DO, AND YES...

...I WORK WITH... LET'S JUST CALL HIM THE GOOD GENERAL, SHALL WE?



WHAT DID YOU MEAN THEY FORGOT ABOUT US?



NOW LYDIA, YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I MEAN.

YOU AND I ARE THE HIDDEN PEOPLE OF HISTORY.

YOUR BROTHER JAMES TOO, I SUPPOSE. THAT PEN OF YOURS SEES TO IT.



MIGHT BE BEST IF YOU HOLD THIS, DEAR. IN CASE WE HAVE COMPANY.

IF YOU CATCH MY MEANING?

YES, MAM. I MEAN, MOM.



GOOD DAY, GENTLEMEN. MIGHT I INTEREST YOU IN SOME WARM SOCKS?

WINTERS ARE DREADFUL IN THESE PARTS.

LYDIA, BE A DEAR AND FETCH THESE TWO SOME RED SOCKS FROM MY BASKET.



HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT JAMES? AND THE PEN?

AND HOW DO YOU KNOW OUR NAMES?

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!



HERE YOU ARE, BOYS. STAY WARM AND BE SURE TO STOP BY THE TAVERN TONIGHT FOR SOME ALE.

THANKS, MOLLY.

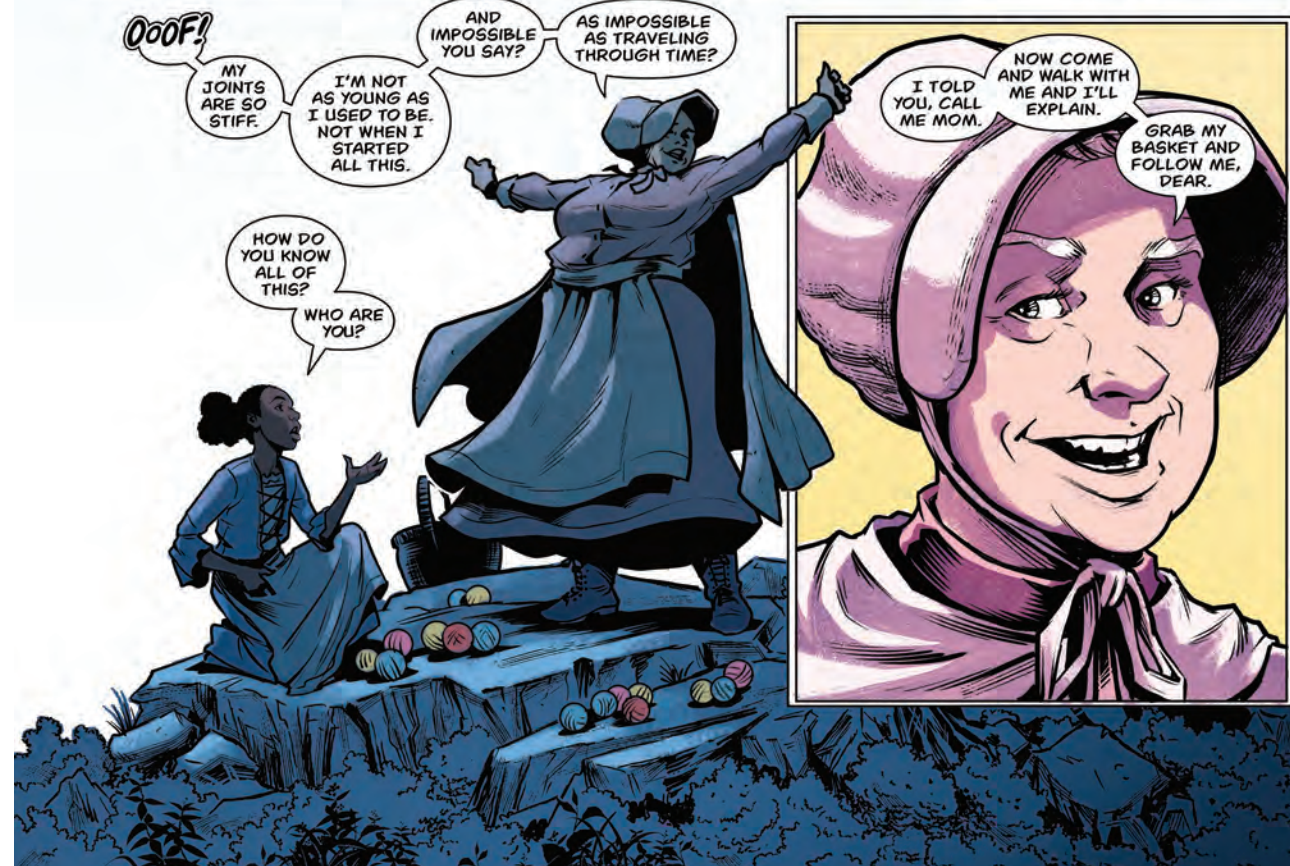


YOU JUST GAVE SOCKS TO THE ENEMY?

AND YES, I GAVE THEM SOCKS. IT'S COLD OUT.

NO NEED TO WHISPER, DEAR. THEY'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN ABOUT US, BY NOW.

BUT TRUTH BE TOLD, I USED THE CHEAPER STUFF ON THOSE. THEY'LL HAVE HOLES IN THE TOES IN A WEEK'S TIME.



Ooof!

MY JOINTS ARE SO STIFF.

I'M NOT AS YOUNG AS I USED TO BE. NOT WHEN I STARTED ALL THIS.

AND IMPOSSIBLE YOU SAY?

AS IMPOSSIBLE AS TRAVELING THROUGH TIME?

HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL OF THIS?

WHO ARE YOU?

NOW COME AND WALK WITH ME AND I'LL EXPLAIN.

I TOLD YOU, CALL ME MOM.

GRAB MY BASKET AND FOLLOW ME, DEAR.

THROUGHOUT HISTORY THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HIDDEN PEOPLE.

THOSE OF US REMEMBERED FOR OUR ACTIONS, NOT BY OUR FACES. IT GIVES US QUITE THE ADVANTAGE ACTUALLY.

ADVANTAGE?

THINK ABOUT IT, DEAR.

I GAVE THOSE MEN SOCKS AND THEY GAVE ME SO MUCH MORE.

I DIDN'T SEE THEM GIVE YOU ANYTHING.

THEY DID, THEY GAVE ME INFORMATION.

AND WHAT DID THE GOOD GENERAL TELL YOU ABOUT THAT?



SHISHH



THAT INFORMATION IS THE GREATEST WEAPON OF ALL.

RIGHT YOU ARE. THE PEN CHOSE WELL, VERY WELL INDEED.

BUT WHAT INFORMATION DID THEY GIVE YOU?

WHY DEAR, WE LEARNED SO MUCH.

THE TWO OF THEM WERE WALKING AND NOT ON HORSEBACK.

THEY WERE HEADED NORTH, I BELIEVE.

THAT MEANS THEY'RE CAMPED NOT FAR FROM HERE. AND THERE MUST BE SOME SORT OF SETTLEMENT.

THEIR UNIFORMS WERE WASHED AND THEY WERE CLEAN SHAVEN.

PROBABLY JUST OVER THAT RIDGE?

WOW! YOU GOT ALL THAT FROM GIVING THEM SOCKS?

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THOSE BALLS OF YARN?

INFORMING THE GOOD GENERAL, OF COURSE.

SHISHH



OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I READ ABOUT THAT.

BOY, THAT PEN KNOWS ITS BUSINESS. I'LL TELL YOU WHAT.

MAY I SEE ONE?



SURE THING, DEAR. CATCH!



THIS IS INGENIOUS.



THANKS, MY DEAR.

I'M PRETTY PROUD OF IT IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF.

I FIGURED BETTER BALLS THAT TELL A YARN, THAN MORE CANNON BALLS.



"YOU SEE, WE ARE LINKS IN A CHAIN."

"I SEE SOMETHING, I GET THAT INFORMATION TO THE GOOD GENERAL."

"YOU'D BE AMAZED AT WHAT WE CAN SEE, HEAR, AND SPY."

"THE FLEEING OF THE ENEMY OR THE DELIVERY OF AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE."



"SHOOT, WE CAN TELL WHAT KIND OF WEAPONS THEY HAVE AND IF THEIR AMMUNITIONS ARE DEPLETED."



"ALL OF THESE LITTLE PIECES OF INFORMATION GO TO THE GOOD GENERAL."

"WHERE HE IS ABLE TO SORT AND MAKE THE MOST SENSE OF THEM."

"THROUGH ALL OF OUR SMALL ACTIONS, BIGGER DECISIONS CAN BE CALCULATED AND MADE."

GENTLEMEN, WE MAKE OUR STAND AT VALLEY FORGE.



BUT DOESN'T IT BOTHER YOU? THAT NO ONE KNOWS WHO YOU ARE?
I COULDN'T FIND A SINGLE IMAGE OF YOUR FACE, IN MY TIME.



LYDIA MY DEAR, WE'RE SPIES.
THE FACT THAT NO ONE KNOWS MY FACE MEANS I'VE DONE MY JOB. AND YOU'VE DONE YOURS.



I JUST WISH YOU WERE BETTER ACKNOWLEDGED FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO HISTORY.

AND FOR THAT I THANK YOU. BUT AS I SAID...

...WE ARE THE HIDDEN PEOPLE OF HISTORY. THERE ARE MANY OF US AND WHAT WE DO IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHO WE ARE.

WE WORK IN THE SHADOWS, WE CANNOT DO OUR JOBS IN THE SPOTLIGHT OF HISTORY. WE MUST GO ON!

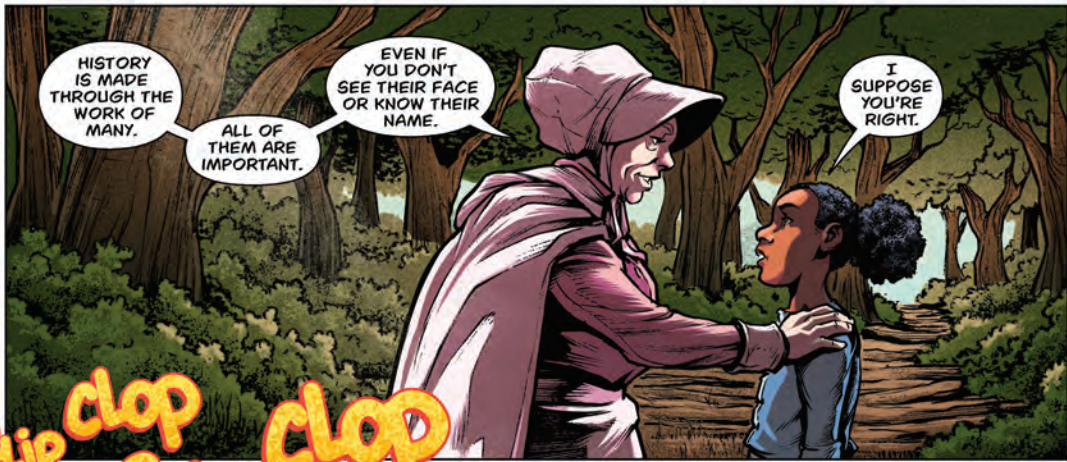


I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.

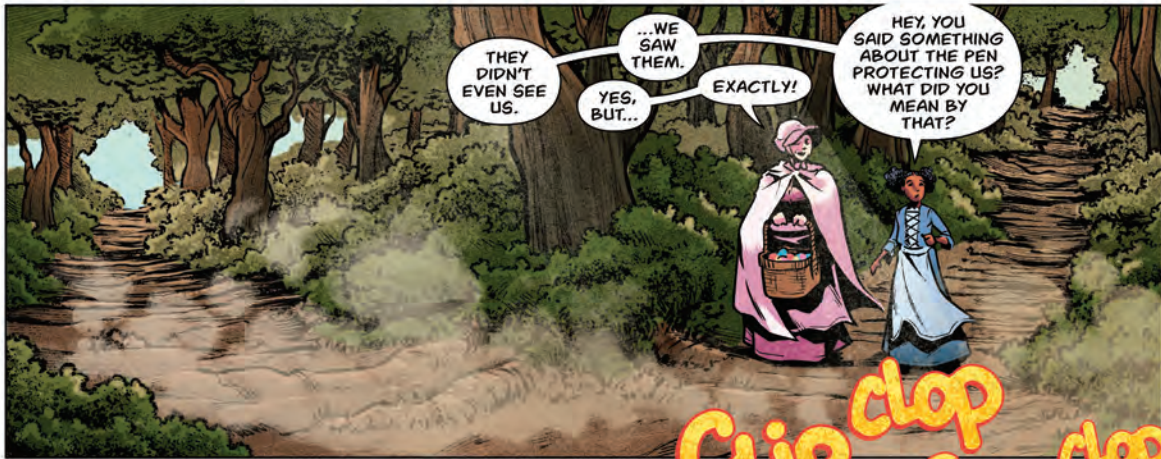
BUT IT MAKES ME SAD THAT NO ONE KNOWS YOUR FACE, NO ONE REALLY KNOWS WHO YOU ARE.



NOW THAT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE, CHILD. YOU KNOW ME.



clip clop
clip clop



clip clop
clip clop



"THAT'S ONE POWERFUL PEN. IT HAS HELPED A GREAT MANY OF US IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST TYRANNY."

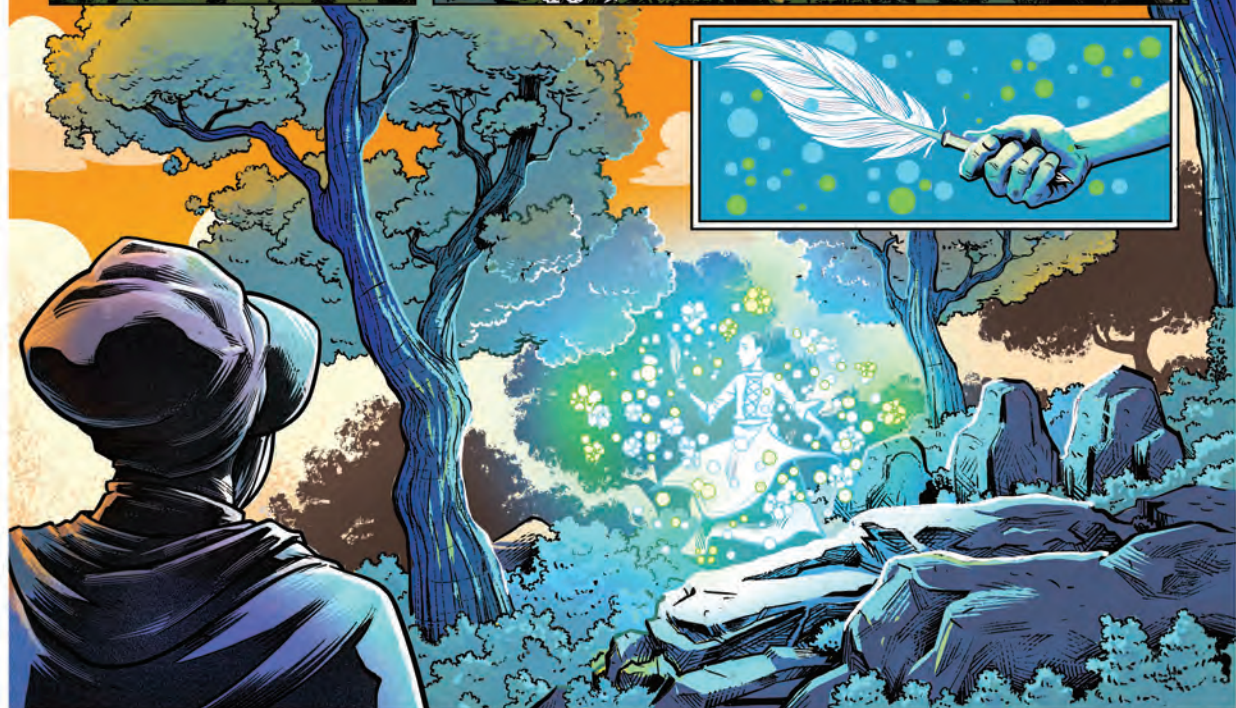
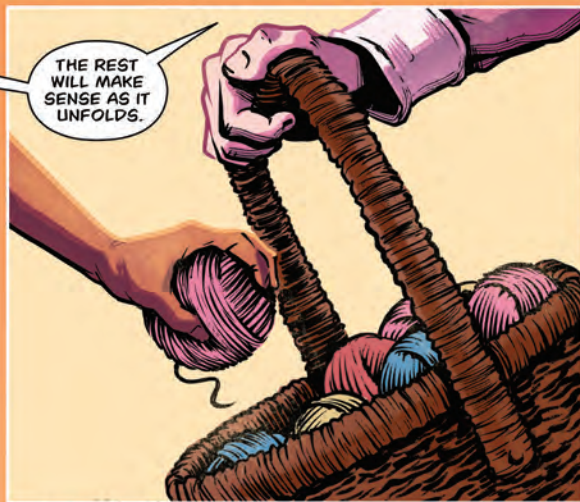


"IT SHIELDS AND PROTECTS US SO WE MIGHT STAY HIDDEN TO BETTER SERVE THE REVOLUTION."



"KEEP IT WELL YOUNG LYDIA, BECAUSE..."







HI, JAMES!
YES, I'M FINE.



I'M SORRY I MADE YOU WORRY.
I KNOW THE FEELING.



I HAVE A LOT TO TELL YOU ABOUT.

AN IDEA. I THINK THAT WE SHOULD MAKE A COMIC BOOK.

WE CAN MAKE IT ABOUT THE HIDDEN HEROES OF HISTORY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



SURE, ALEJANDRO CAN HELP. YOU SHOULD GIVE HIM A CALL.



GET OUT OF THERE!
YOU KNOW THE RULES. WE'LL TALK MORE WHEN I GET HOME.



AND I'M REALLY SORRY I MADE YOU WORRY.
THANKS FOR LOOKING OUT FOR ME.



THE END.



SAY HELLO TO MOLLY RINKER.
DOWN HERE!

SHE LISTENED AND SPIED IN PLAIN SIGHT. NO ONE SUSPECTED THIS GRANDMOTHER TO BE A BRAVE PATRIOT SPY.

MOM WOULD WRITE NOTES OF WHAT SHE SPIED AND DISGUISE THEM IN THE CLEVEREST OF WAYS.

SHORT ON SUPPLIES IN THE WEST!

...WE NEED MORE SUPPLIES OR WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT TILL DECEMBER.

CALL ME MOM, DEAR.

MOM SPIED ON THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF THE BRITISH FOR GENERAL WASHINGTON. AS THE MATRON OF HER FAMILY SHE WAS ABLE TO SPY PLACES WHERE THE MEN IN HER FAMILY WERE NOT PERMITTED.



SHE WOULD SEAT HERSELF IN HER FAVORITE SPOT IN THE WOODS AND KNIT AWAY.

TAKING A MOMENT FROM HER KNITTING TO SHARE HER DISCOVERIES WITH WASHINGTON'S SOLDIERS.



ALL THE WHILE, COMPLETELY UNDETECTED, HIDDEN.



MOLLY "MOM" RINKER
HIDDEN HERO OF HISTORY!

WRITTEN BY PATCH ARTWORK BY RYAN BARR LAYOUT AND LETTERING BY JASON PIPERBERG



UGH... C'MON,
PEOPLE...

MAKE EARTH
CLEAN

KEEP NATURE
GREEN



...IT'S REALLY
NOT THAT HARD
TO KEEP THIS
PLACE NI--

I'M
HERE!

DISCOVER THE ENTIRE COLLECTION

PATRIOTTRAILS.COM

