The Untold Tales of Mickey Farraday

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OPENING SEQUENCE

High contrast motion comics and credits are set to the back story narration.

We open on a grey and rainy city landscape.

Narration by MICKEY FARRADAY.

MICKEY (V/O) Vaction City, 1947. In this city of over a million people with a million stories to tell there's me, Mickey Farraday. These are my stories and they probably aren't anything like the other million stories out there.

Scene of Mickey walking in the rain.

MICKEY (CONT'D) I used to be a cop and a pretty good one too, least I thought so. But now I'm a private investigator who specializes in finding things.

Scene of a desk covered in photos, notes and various PI gear.

MICKEY (CONT'D) What ever it is you're looking for; information, things, people, chances are I can find it.

Scene of Mickey walking again.

MICKEY (CONT'D) The irony is that I can't find a damn thing in my own life. Money, love, happiness it all eludes me.

Scene of Pops and Boomer sitting on the couch snoring.

MICKEY (CONT'D) My whole life is detective work, my Pops and Boomer, my over sized pitbull. Both have been with me for a lot of good times and a lot of really bad ones.

Scene of a newspaper showing Mickey getting a medal in uniform it fades into a newspaper headline on a grisly unsolved murder.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

I was making my way in the metro PD when my brother was murdered and the case went on unsolved for years until it was finally classified unsolvable.

Scene of a scruffy Mickey drinking in a bar fades into Mickey handing in his badge.

MICKEY (CONT'D) I took it hard and turned to the bottle to deal with the loss. It eventually cost me my job with the department and I washed out. I'd hit rock bottom.

Scene of Mickey walking in the city.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

I spent the following year and a half of my life drowning myself in booze. I left a long path of self destruction in my wake. I managed to get myself kicked out of one bar after another until I eventually ran out of money. All I could do well was drink and fight.

Scene of Mickey bare knuckle boxing.

MICKEY (CONT'D) So, I inevitably turned to back alley bare knuckle boxing to feed myself, which is a whole other long story that we'll have to get into some other time.

Scene of a beat up Mickey & Pops at a funeral in the rain and fades into Pops sitting alone in house.

MICKEY (CONT'D) When my mother passed she left my pops to fend for himself. So, I picked up the pieces of my broken life and moved in with him hoping to help, when I was the one who really needed it.

Scene of Mickey and Pops yelling at each other.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Being to the strict retired metro cop that he is, pops wasn't about to sit and watch me waste my life. He gave me just enough ass kickings every day to get me back on my feet and eventually get my P.I. badge.

Scene of Mickey walking in the rain.

MICKEY (CONT'D) I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for my pops. I also wouldn't have been in my office the day that Maggie walked through my door. If I hadn't have met her, my whole life would be a hell of lot different than it is now. Course I if I hadn't been in the office that day she walked through my door none of what I'm about to tell you would've happen either and it's no walk in the park...

The last panels in the motion comic depict the house that Mickey and his father live in. The last image is of Mickey's office door

INT. MICKEY'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

The silhouette of a woman appears in the frosted window of the door to a small dusty office. The silhouette of a hand knocks on it.

CUT TO:

INT. MICKEY'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Sitting with his feet up behind a modest desk covered with a type writer, a lamp, a .38, an iron claw and an assortment of scattered photos and papers, is **MICKEY FARRADAY.**

Mickey is a tall square jawed brawler type with a permanent five o'clock shadow. His daily uniform consists of a white button down shirt, black slacks held up buy the black suspenders that he was given with his old PD dress blues. He has hands (meat hooks) as big as cinder blocks and looks as though they might weigh as much.

MICKEY

It's open.

The door opens and **MAGGIE HOLLENBROOK** steps through. She is a brunette tall glass of beautiful in her early 30's wearing a polka dot number that leaves little to the imagination. The sun from the adjacent window catches a glint in her deep green eyes. Maggie closes the door. She smiles.

Mickey almost falls out of his chair. He smiles a crooked, slightly embarrassed, smile back at Maggie.

MAGGIE Hello there Mickey.

Mickey blushes a little. Maggie smirks a little back.

MICKEY

Heeeyyy Maggie...

He quickly looks around the room.

MICKEY (CONT'D) Sorry 'bout the mess.

She looks around.

MAGGIE You've seen my office Mickey.

MICKEY Yeah, I guess I don't feel so bad.

Maggie doesn't laugh.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

I mean...

MAGGIE I know what you mean...

Maggie sits down and puts a picture on Mickey's desk. He looks at it.

MAGGIE (CONT'D) Mickey, I need your help. I didn't know where else to go.

MICKEY This is a picture of your brother Michael. Is he okay?

Maggie starts to tear up.

MAGGIE

He's missing and nobody know's where he is. He's been working on some big government research project that he couldn't talk about and now he's missing and I have no idea where to start.

MICKEY

What about the cops?

MAGGIE

They're not my biggest fans, what with all that trouble I had at my club. You know that. That's why I asked you to come by once in awhile and keep an eye on the place. You gotta help me Mickey... please...

She breaks down and begins to sob. Mickey starts to stand.

MICKEY

Maggie...

Maggie quickly pulls herself together.

MAGGIE

I-I'm okay.

Mickey sits back down. Maggie takes a monogrammed handkerchief from her purse and dabs her face.

MAGGIE (CONT'D) It's Michael, ya know. He's all I've got left. I just don't know what I would do if... Look Mickey, I'll pay you anything you want. You just have to promise me you'll find him.

MICKEY

I...

She grabs Mickey's hand. Tight.

MAGGIE Promise me Mickey.

Mickey looks at her.

She looks into his eyes.

MAGGIE Thank you... thank you Mickey.

She realizes she's clutching Mickey's hand and quickly releases her grip.

MAGGIE (CONT'D) I know you'll find him. Here's my key to his apartment. I'm sorry I can't tell you any thing more. Maybe you can find something there... I have to get back to the club. Call or come by the club if you find anything... anything at all.

She gives him a key and stands and heads for the door. She turns and looks at Mickey one last time and smiles a faint smile before the door closes behind her.

Mickey sits at his desk in silence.

POPS (V.O.) MICK!! Boomer needs to shit!!

Mickey sighs, stands and heads for the back door of his office. The newspaper he was reading slides off the desk and falls to the floor...

FADE INTO: Motion comics of Mickey having trouble starting then driving his old truck or composited scene of the puppet and truck on CG environment. Narration enters.

> MICKEY (V.O.) I take the key and Maggie's plea and I head over to the Doc's apartment. Not sure what I'll find there, but I made a promise to Maggie and I'll do what ever it takes to find the only real family she has left. Maggie and her brother, Michael, are the last remaining Hollenbrooks after the death of their father six years ago.

MICKEY(CONT'D)

Harold Jefferson Hollenbrook was a big ticket aviation engineer and owner of Hollenbrook Aviation, an aircraft manufacturer that rivals Hughes Aviation in the experimental flying racket. When Harry kicked the bucket he left the business and all of his millions to Maggie and Michael. Now those two were already trust fund babies, but when they inherited the family fortune it's safe to say that they would become prime targets of the unsavory in this town. Whether the Doc is victim to some kind of ransom scheme is still to be determined, but I wouldn't be spitting my coffee if I find that to be the case. On the flip side of the coin when Maggie inherited her half she fulfilled her dream and opened Vacation City's hottest jazz club, aptly named Maggie's. In doing so she got the attention of Joe "Butcher Block" Grenardo, who used to own the hottest club in town until Maggie came along. Joe got his name after a member of another family split Joe's head open with a meat cleaver six times, but that couldn't take Joe down. So Joe pulled the cleaver out of his own skull and lopped off the goon's arms then beat him to death with his own arms. Yeah, he's a tough one. Now, when Maggie started to steal his business you could say that he wasn't too happy about it. So he started sending his goons to cause problems at her club, which is when she asked me to start keeping an eye on things. Not a hard job for me since I was already there most weekends to see Maggie sing... boy can she sing. I may not be her type, but I like the feeling I get when I'm in the same room as her. I would do anything for that girl. It was on one of those nights at the club that I met her brother, Michael. Michael spent part of his inheritance putting himself through ivy league college.

MICKEY(CONT'D)

He's a physicist, an engineer, an astronomer and that's only the half of it. He's smarter than I can even begin to comprehend, but somehow he and I hit it off and can share a conversation on a level that I was never able to even with my own brother. When Maggie showed me his picture in my office a piece of me sank. Reminds of me of when I lost my brother... I gotta find the Doc.

Mickey's truck pulls up to a nice apartment building.

CUT TO:

INT. DOC'S APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - NIGHT

Mickey uses the key to open the apartment door. He slowly opens the door and walks in.

INT. DOC'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Mickey closes the door behind him. He looks around the modestly furnished and spacious apartment. It looks like the apartment of a scientist. Barely decorated with the occasional framed photo of family and degrees. Nothing but a jar of mustard and half of a moldy sandwich on a plate in the refrigerator. Looks like he hasn't been here in some time or just works a lot.

Mickey looks in a small trash and finds a crumpled receipt from a gas station, but nothing much more of inter... Mickey hears a shuffle down the hall. He looks in that direction and notices a faint bluish glow emanating from the cracked bedroom door.

He heads slowly for the door and peeks in. A strange man dressed in all black is holding documents from a nearby opened wall safe. In his other hand he is holding a strange glowing blue ball that seems to be made of a translucent fleshy material covered in veins and contains what looks like a small hunk of brain matter.

MICKEY

What the...

Mickey slowly pushes the door open to get a closer look. It looks like the glowing orb is somehow erasing text from the documents the man is holding.

MICKEY (CONT'D) Am I interrupting?

The man calmly turns his head to look at Mickey. Then turns back to what he was doing unfazed by Mickey's presence. This irks Mickey. He walks up behind the man and grabs him by the shoulder. The man turns only his head and looks at Mickey again. With closer inspection the man's face is unnaturally pale and almost expressionless.

MICKEY (CONT'D) I'm talking to you pal.

The man's body suddenly turns quickly and throws Mickey against the wall taking him by surprise. Mickey counters by grabbing the arm that threw him. The man starts to walk, again unfazed by the fact that Mickey is trying to subdue him. He begins to walk towards the door dragging Mickey with him. Mickey slugs the man in the jaw. This time the man is fazed. He stops and looks at Mickey. Mickey clocks him again square in between the eyes with a hard thud. A small splurt of a bluish grey goo comes out. The man shakes his head in confusion or pain, it's uncertain which as he is basically emotionless. He reacts by slamming Mickey into the nearby dresser repeatedly until Mickey is forced to let go. Then with unnatural speed the man darts out the door. Mickey quickly gets up and runs after him.

INT. DOC'S APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - NIGHT

The shadowy man flies down the hall in a blur. Mickey comes out running not long after.

MICKEY

HEY!

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

The shadowy man gets into a black sedan with blacked out windows and speeds away. Mickey comes out of the building and jumps into his beat up old truck and tries to start it. After a few tries Mickey slams the wheel.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

From outside of Mickey's old truck we hear him shouting slightly inaudible obscenities accompanied by loud thudding sounds that visibly shake the truck.

MICKEY

Dammit.

He finally walks back into the Doc's apartment building.

CUT TO:

INT. DOC'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mickey walks back into the bedroom and picks up the paper that the strange man had been somehow erasing.

Just as he had seen there are quite a few lines of text that are no longer there. What's left reads:

Dear Dr. M. T. Hollenbrook,

I am contacting you in regards to our previous communications. I will be requiring your services ...

Having being selected I have already notified the group that I will be requiring your assistance and in doing so you will be given a lev...

... ost importance. We expect that you will use great discretion on this as it is a matter of...

...oximity to the site. To my knowledge the integrity of the structure on top of the entrance is not sound by any means. Reports say the tracks built for the passenger cars will lead you directly to th...

...vil's Tol... ...me park just north o... ...ure you have heard of it as it was in the local newspapers wh... ...ound bre... ...ony was indefinitely postponed due to the event in question.

...ents will meet you there to aid you for the duration of your research.

Regards,

Dr. Ll...kner

MICKEY (V.O.) I don't know how he did it, but that man...

MICKEY(CONT'D)

if you can call him that, erased parts of these documents. It's going to take my head awhile to sort out what that glowing thing was and how it did this.

Mickey looks at the rest of the attributing papers. They are completely blank except for a 'the' or an 'and' here and there.

Mickey looks into the gaping wall safe. There is a folder of what looks like bank statements, an old watch and a bulging manila envelope.

MICKEY (V.O.) (CONT'D) The fragmented words didn't give me much, but it was enough to figure out where the Doc had been doing his research if you combine it with the receipt I found in the living room dated a few days ago at a gas station on the north side of the city...

Mickey looks at the mirror next to the bed. He notices what looks like the corner of paper sticking slightly out behind the frame.

> MICKEY (V.O.) (CONT'D) ...and the very expensive aerial photos that were pasted to the backside of the mirror hanging next to the bed.

Mickey peeks behind a the mirror, then flips it revealing aerial photos stuck to the back of what looks like a theme park.

FADE TO:

EXT. MR. DANDY'S DREAMLAND - NIGHT

Aerial photos transition into the sign for Mr. Dandy's Dreamland. Mickey's puttering truck pulls in beneath it. A darkened theme park with a silhouetted great ferris wheel and a wooden coaster called the Dizzy Dandy stretches out before the truck. You can almost hear the clickity clack of the cars on the track over the howl of what looks like a storm brewing off in the distance.

MICKEY (V.O.)

Mr. Dandy's Dreamland. A recently built and recently condemned fun park. It was due for a grand ribbon cutting ceremony about a month ago when a sinkhole opened up beneath the park's dark ride. It was all over the papers. Doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that the first place I should be looking for... well, a scientist, is at that dark ride.

Mickey makes his way past a midway of carnie game booths. Wind blows and flaps the rainbow of colored flags and the various items dangling from the games. In between the gaps of the booths a large dark figure can be seen following Mickey.

EXT. THE DEVIL'S TOLLWAY - NIGHT

Mickey walks up to the opening for 'The Devil's Tollway', the park's dark ride. It's built to look like a big tollbooth with the devil inside holding his hand out the window in a 'Gimme' gesture.

> MICKEY (V.O.) The Devil's Tollway. I don't think exact change is what he's lookin' for...

It begins to rain and Mickey scowls as he wipes his face and enters the Devil's Tollway. Off in the distance lightning strikes.

INT. THE DEVIL'S TOLLWAY CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mickey closes the door behind him dowsing the inside in darkness.

Mickey flicks on a flashlight. BAH! It shines on a smiling devil face.

Mickey shines it around the corridor exposing some of the theme around him. It illuminates very little.

A passenger car for the ride is painted like a car and the ride ahead is themed like a highway showing a decent into hell. Mile markers and signs for route 666 pave the way past various creatures and monsters hitchhiking their way towards an slowly encroaching fire and brimstone. Mickey follows the tracks built for the passenger cars deeper into the building. He notices cracks in the flooring that continue to get bigger, wider and more plentiful as he walks on. When the cracks get wide and deep enough a faint bluish glow can be seen coming from within. Eventually the cracks start to fall off as chunks of the flooring and ground give way to holes and the glowing gets stronger and stronger until...

The tracks bend downwards and into a huge hole that has collapsed beneath the Devil's Tollway.

Mickey turns his flashlight off. The glow from the gaping hole fills the room. Various rubber monsters stand at the edge of the hole looking like they are watching to see what Mickey does next.

Mickey stares down into the hole. Then looks up at the monster line up at the edge staring back at him.

MICKEY Who's going first?

There is no reply from the gruesome onlookers.

MICKEY (CONT'D)

Hooo boy...

Mickey sighs then starts climbing down the tracks like a ladder. Eventually he disappears in the hole.

MICKEY (V.O.) (CONT'D) Looks like the Devil's Tollway leads straight to the fire and brimstone. My guess is that this ain't the fire and brimstone they speak of in the good book. If the Doc is somewhere down this rabbit hole I'm about to find out and if something dragged him down there... here I come... ready... or not.

TO BE CONTINUED...

FADE INTO: motion comics depicting Mickey walking through massive tunnels, standing in front of a giant orphous, ripping the Doc and a man (KI Agent Smith) from visceral cocoons, glimpses of Grey skinned 'Aliens', Mickey carrying the doc while he and the Agent are chased by a large centaur like creature...

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Will Mickey save the Doc and his new found Russian comrade from the clutches of the little grey men? Who is this Russian man? What on this green Earth is living down that hole? Tune in next to "The Untold Tales of Mickey Farraday" to find out. Brought to you by SupraTone brand radial tires. 'You'll always make it home driving on a Supratone."