



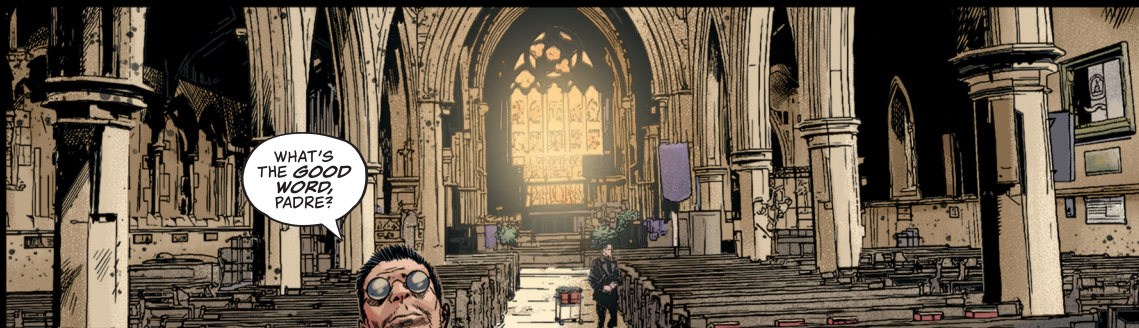
Robert Venditti • Trevor Hairsine • Dave Stewart

# ORDAINED

PREVIEW

**BAD IDEA™**

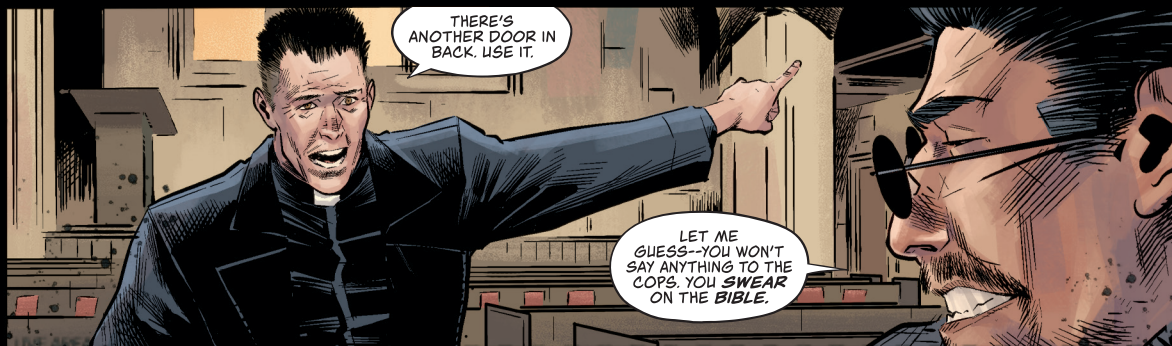




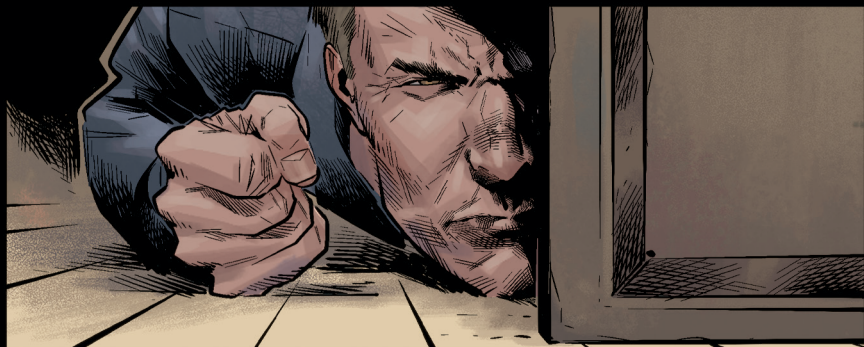
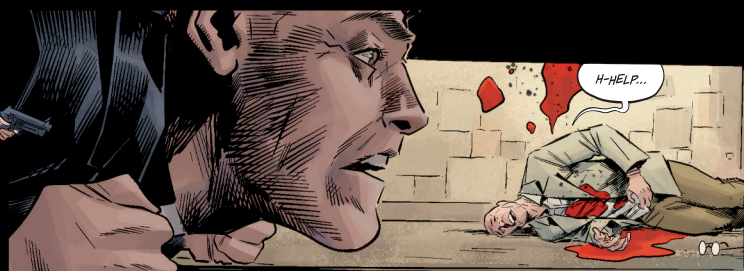
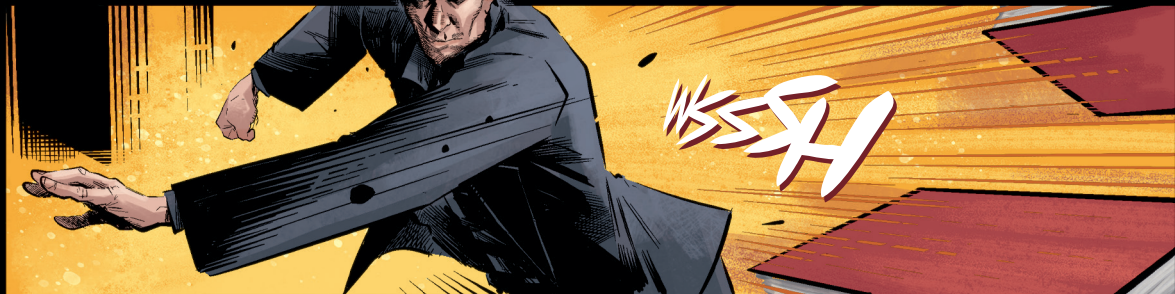




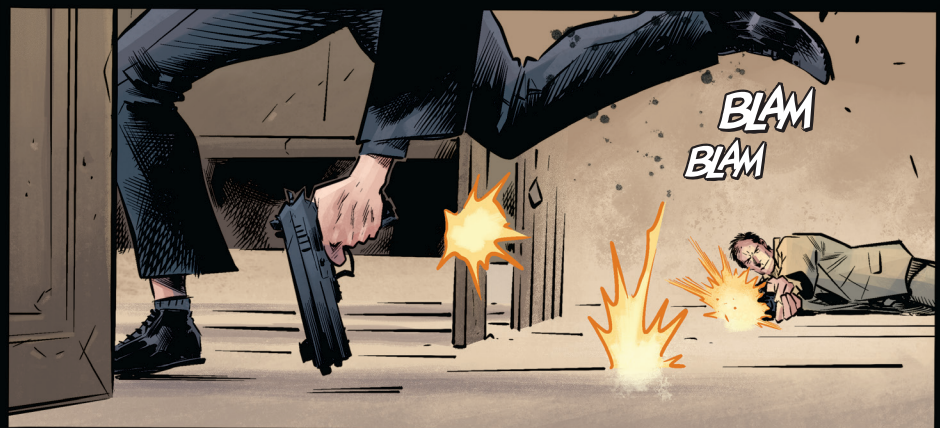
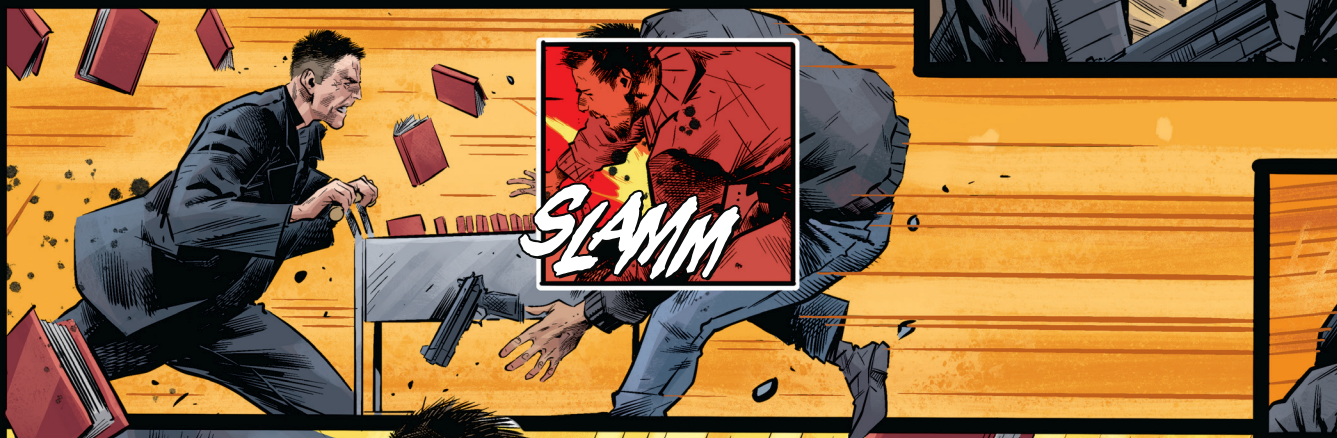
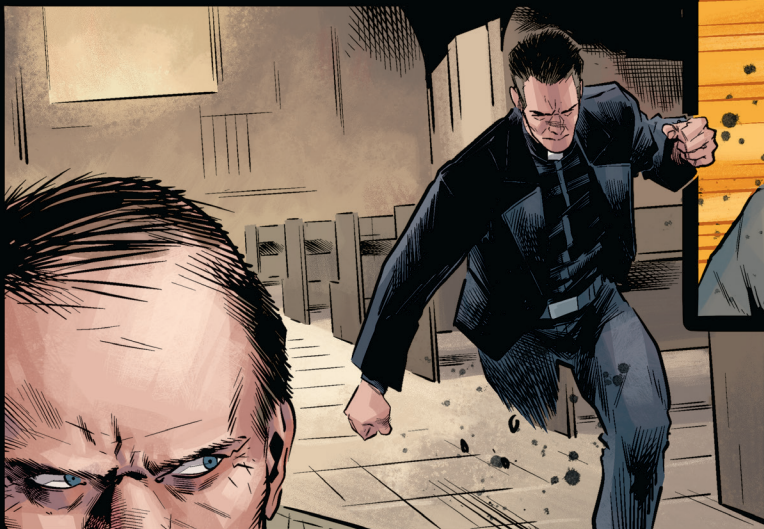




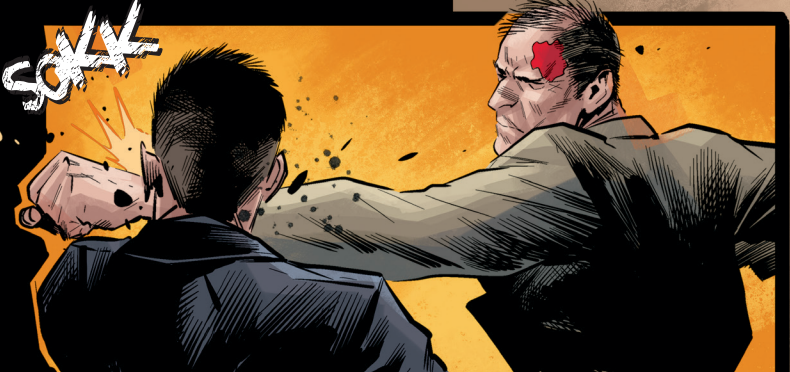
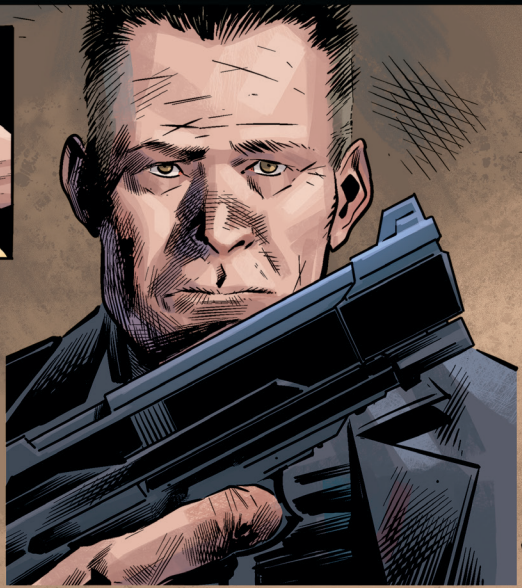












ORDAINED #1  
ON SALE IN DECEMBER





**BAD IDEA**

# ORDAINED

## ■ ROBERT VENDITTI talks broken bones and spent gunpowder



*ORDAINED has a wonderful premise. Can you tell us a little about it and the inspiration for wanting to tell this story?*

**RV:** *ORDAINED* is about a priest named Father Roy Craig, who finds himself giving last rites to an elderly man on his deathbed. He doesn't realize the man is mob kingpin Cormac Byrne. Byrne confesses his crimes and asks for absolution...then makes a miraculous overnight recovery. Eager to get back to his criminal empire, he now needs to get rid of the one man who knows where all his bodies are buried. But Roy has his own secret, and he's going to be very tough to kill.

*When the action in the book begins, we're taken on a rollercoaster ride of broken bones and spent gunpowder, as Roy fights for both his survival and his beliefs. What separates this series from other action-oriented books we've seen before?*

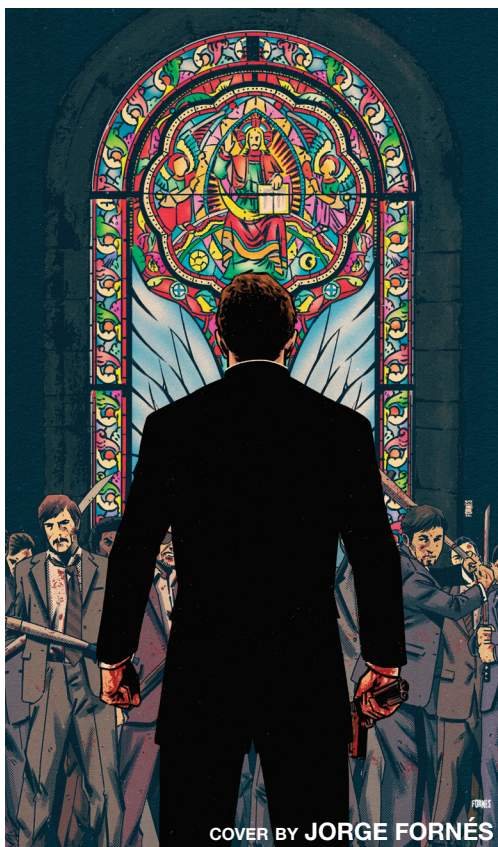
**RV:** Father Roy is a reluctant combatant. He didn't choose this war, and he doesn't want to wage it. He knows firsthand what it means to be violent, and he dedicated himself to never becoming that person again. Unfortunately, he isn't given a choice because he isn't the only one in danger.

*Because of Roy's shrouded and violent past before becoming a man of faith, he has a steadfast aversion to guns. That's an almost unprecedented approach in a book so heavy on action. Can you talk a little about that decision?*

**RV:** It was important to thread the central theme of faith through all the characters. Even the minor characters are forced to decide what they believe and how hard they believe it. For Roy, the gun represents his test of faith. To kill means embracing the rules of combat he once believed in. To not kill means holding true to what he believes now.

*An imposing hit man known only as "The Machine" appears later in the book to further test not only Roy's faith, but also his survival skills. The Machine is such an interesting character, with his larger-than-life stature juxtaposed against his intellect and often thoughtful outlook toward being a hired killer. Where did the idea for this character come from?*

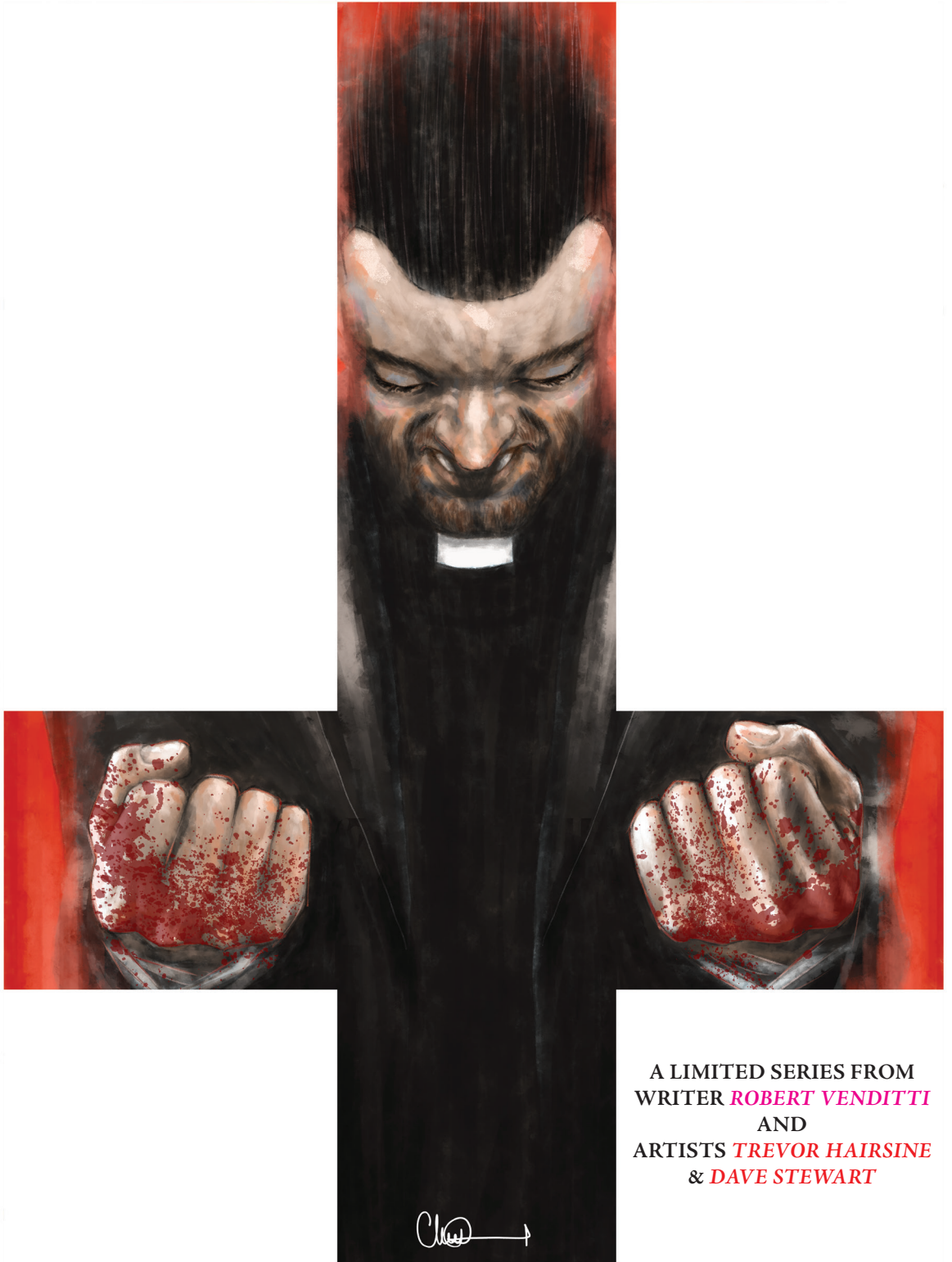
**RV:** I liked the idea of a blue-collar hitman. The Machine isn't flashy, and he doesn't have fancy weapons. He's a guy who wakes up every day, goes to work, and does his job. His job just so happens to be violently murdering people for money. He isn't a religious man, but he prides himself on being good at his craft. He lives by a code. ■



COVER BY JORGE FORNÉS



# ORDAINED #1



A LIMITED SERIES FROM  
WRITER **ROBERT VENDITTI**  
AND  
ARTISTS **TREVOR HAIRSINE**  
& **DAVE STEWART**

# DECEMBER