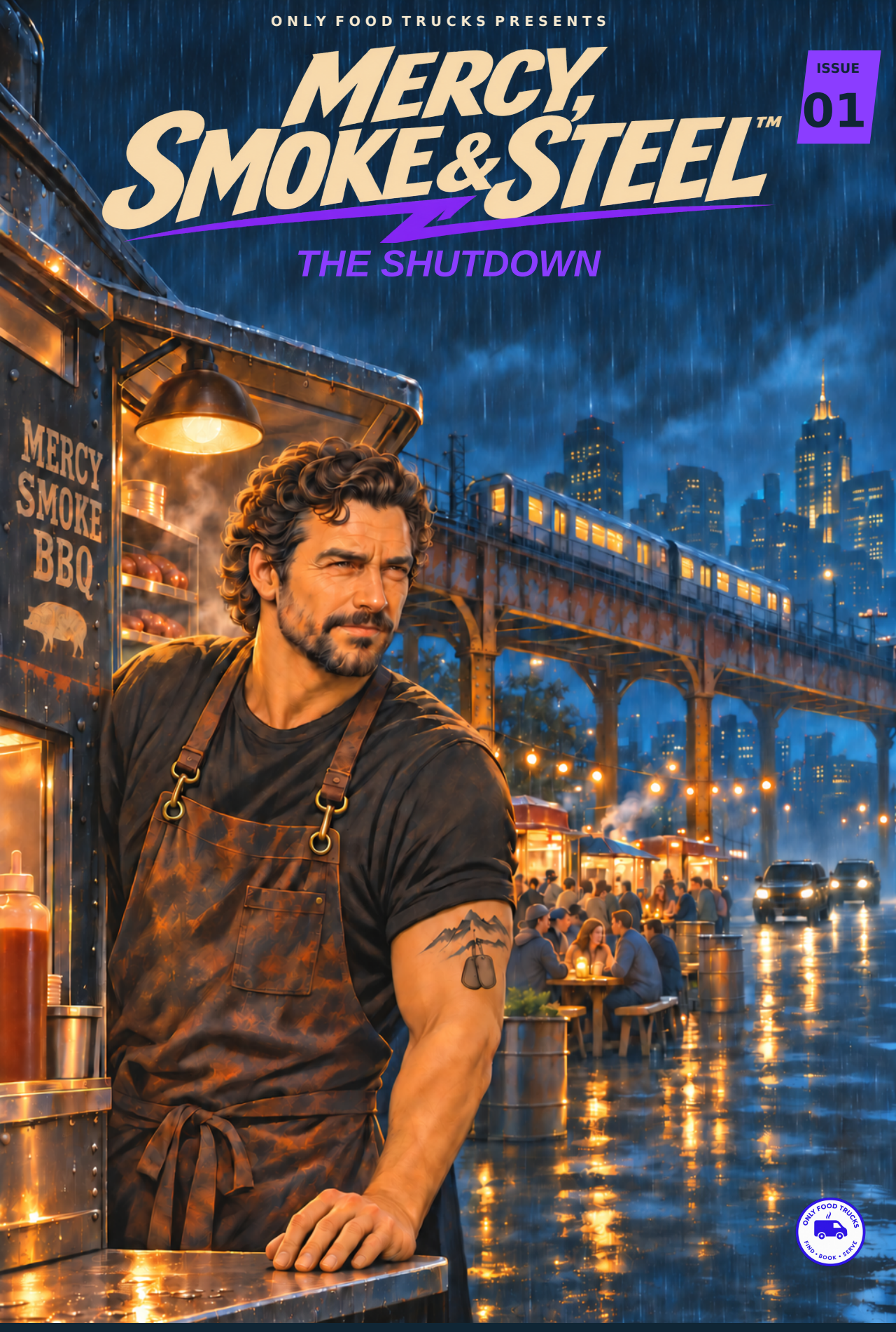
ONLY FOOD TRUCKS PRESENTS

MERCY, SMOKE & STEEL™

ISSUE 01

THE SHUTDOWN



Created and written by Raleigh Rob / Rob Campbell

STYLE-MATCHED REVIEW EDITION

MERCY, SMOKE & STEEL™

ISSUE 01 — THE SHUTDOWN

Created and written by

Raleigh Rob / Rob Campbell

Presented by Only Food Trucks

WELCOME TO METROVALE

A city built on steel. A community built around food.

At The Yard, a meal can become a friendship, and a familiar serving window can feel like home. This story begins with the people who keep those windows open—and what happens when their place in the city is threatened.

ONLY FOOD TRUCKS
onlyfoodtrucks.com

This is a work of fiction. Characters, places and events are fictional.






Brought coffee.
What do you need?
That's a terrible way to thank someone.
Last time, coffee came with a tunnel.
Got a minute?


Loretta's Kitchen
GOOD FOOD BRIGHTER DAYS
PIE MAKES PEOPLE HAPPIER
And take one home for your wife.
SPICE ROUTE
BOLD FLAVORS BRIGHTER PEOPLE
Tell me you saved me some.
Already labeled.
SPICE ROUTE
LIVEWIRE
Eat it while it's hot.
SPICE
One shot. Promise.
Loretta's Kitchen
GOOD FOOD BRIGHTER DAYS
Food first, famous later.
HOT FOOD KINDER PEOPLE ♡
LIVEWIRE
SPICE ROUTE
SPICE ROUTE
DIFFERENT KITCHENS SAME TABLE ♡


So. What's the favor?
Can't a guy just bring coffee?
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
GOOD MEAT KINDER PEOPLE
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
BBQ BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER ♡
THE YARD
GOOD FOOD BRIGHTER DAYS ♡
You expecting someone?
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
GOOD MEAT KINDER PEOPLE
No.
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
GOOD FOOD KINDER PEOPLE ♡
TACOS PEOPLE CULTURE ♡
THE YARD
Bao Better Together ♡
PIZZA FUELS GOOD PEOPLE ♡


THE YARD
GOOD FOOD BRIGHTER DAYS ♡
They haven't looked at a menu.
They're looking at the power.
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
BBQ BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER ♡
TACOS PEOPLE CULTURE ♡
PIZZA FUELS GOOD PEOPLE ♡
Let's ask.


Evening. Can we help you?
Who manages the site?
TACOS PEOPLE
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
We run the trucks. What's the concern?
We've been sent to document the service connections.
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
There's a closure order for this site.
MERCY SMOKE -BBQ-
Starting when?
Effective immediately.
GOOD FOOD BRIGHTER DAYS
MERCY SMOKE BBQ-


Who issued the order?
City Building Safety.
What's the violation?
The order cites an electrical hazard.
What failed?
We weren't given the inspection report.
Then let's start with a copy of that order.


Mason says they've ordered the site closed.
Tonight?
SPICE ROUTE
BOLD FLAVORS BRIGHTER PEOPLE
LIVEWIRE
Immediately. I've still got orders waiting.
And people waiting to eat.
Loretta's Kitchen
GOOD FOOD STRONGER NEIGHBORS
What do you need me to do?
Help me contact the waiting customers.
SPICE ROUTE
BOLD FLAVORS BRIGHTER PEOPLE
Loretta's Kitchen


What did they show you?
An order. No inspection report.
Loretta's Kitchen
GOOD FOOD STRONGER NEIGHBORS
Loretta's Kitchen
Loretta's Kitchen
MERCY SMOKE — BBQ —
We need the report and the conditions for reopening.
I'll ask for both in writing.
MERCY SMOKE — BBQ —
And tonight?
We stop taking orders. Help everyone get home.
GOOD FOOD STRONGER NEIGHBORS
Loretta's Kitchen
We'll deal with this together.
Loretta's Kitchen
MERCY SMOKE — BBQ —
Loretta's Kitchen


THE YARD
Loretta's Kitchen
GOOD FOOD STRONGER NEIGHBORS
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
Mason? Elena Reyes. I'm a reporter.
You picked a night.
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
What reason did they give you?
Electrical hazard. We're asking for the report.
MERCY SMOKE BBQ
Would you send me a copy when you get it?
Leave me your number.
MERCY SMOKE BBQ

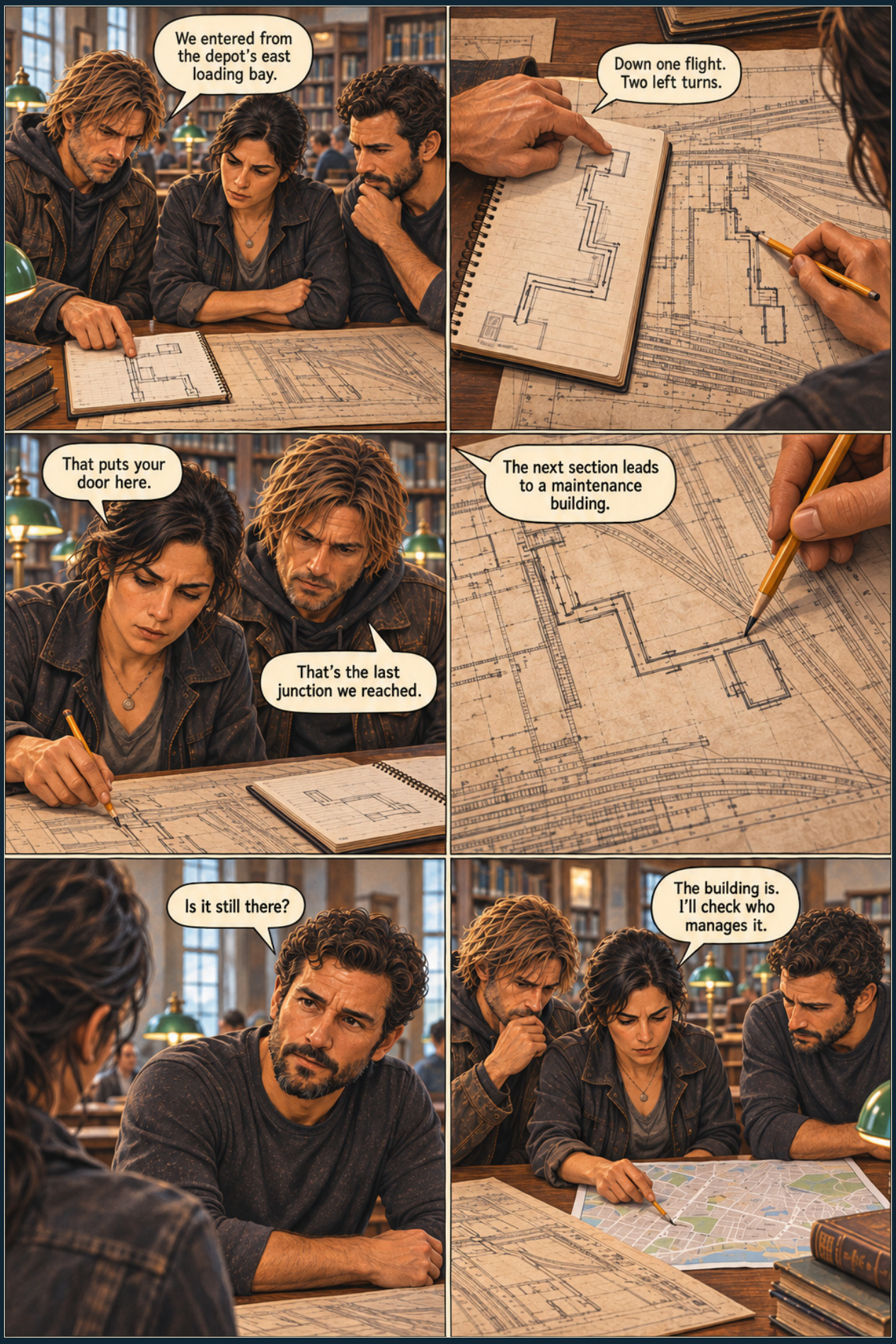

That favor I came to ask.
You've still got my attention.
THE YARD
MERCY SMOKE
BBQ
CLOSED
Ash and I found something under the old freight depot.
THE YARD
What kind of something?
A sealed passage. It isn't on the maps we checked.
Tell me where. We're checking the records before anyone goes back.
THE YARD
MERCY SMOKE
BBQ


Does Ash have the original photos?
And notes from the route.
THE YARD
MERCY SMOKE
— BBQ —
Ash. You're on speaker with Mason.
THE YARD
MERCY SMOKE
— BBQ —
You finally showed him?
Send him the photos and your notes.
There's something else. Fresh scrape marks around the lock.
THE YARD
How fresh?
MERCY SMOKE
— BBQ —


MERCY SMOKE
BBQ
Bright metal under the rust. I can't tell you when.
That doesn't connect it to tonight.
No. It doesn't.
THE YARD
MERCY SMOKE
BBQ
Send everything. Where you entered, what you saw.
MERCY SMOKE
BBQ
I'll send the route with the photos.
METROVALE
Tomorrow, we find out what that depot used to be.
MERCY SMOKE
BBQ
TACOS
BURGERS
BEER


The next morning.
METROVALE HISTORY ARCHIVES
Taz sent the depot's location.
INDUSTRY
RAILROADS
This plan includes a service level.
Anything beyond the building?
A service passage beneath the railway.
Toward The Yard?
Toward it. We need to check where it ends.
We'll need Ash's route to place this door.
Could this be connected to the closure?
Possibly. The map alone doesn't prove it.
METROVALE
INDUSTRY
RAILROADS


The old freight depot.
METROVALE FREIGHT
SHIPPING RECEIVING
Mason's checking the records.
Good. I'd like to know what we found.
You wrote down the route?
Every turn.
We should compare it with the plans.
That's why I called you.


We entered from the depot's east loading bay.
Down one flight. Two left turns.
That puts your door here.
That's the last junction we reached.
The next section leads to a maintenance building.
Is it still there?
The building is. I'll check who manages it.


Later that day.
This is the building on the plan.
MAINTENANCE
Elena Reyes. I'm researching the service passage from the old freight depot.
The old utility easement? City Engineering keeps those records.
What should I ask for?
The depot easement file. It should include the transfer drawings.
Transfer to whom?
You'll need to ask the city.
We have a file to request.
MAINTENANCE


City Engineering records.
Later that afternoon.
These are the transfer drawings.
MUNICIPAL RECORDS
CITY OF METROVALE
ENGINEERING RECORDS
EASEMENTS UTILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE
The easement crosses the land beneath The Yard.
RAILWAY
THE YARD
Mason, Look at the engineer's name.
PROJECT ENGINEER:
MICHAEL MERCER
That's my father.

THE STORY CONTINUES

MERCY, SMOKE & STEEL™

ISSUE 02

BENEATH THE YARD

The shutdown was only the beginning.

One name in an old file.
A new question Mason can’t walk away from.

TO BE CONTINUED

Presented by Only Food Trucks

A CITY HAS SECRETS. A COMMUNITY HAS SOMETHING TO LOSE.

Beneath Metrovale’s elevated railway, The Yard is more than a gathering of food trucks. It’s a livelihood, a refuge, and a place to belong.

When an unexplained shutdown threatens it all, barbecue truck owner Mason Mercer and his neighbors begin asking questions. Their search leads toward sealed passages, forgotten records, and a city’s buried past.

To protect The Yard, they’ll have to discover what lies beneath it.



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