

DAREDEVIL:

"First Crush"

By

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PAGE ONE:

Page One, SPLASH

Much like in the mini-series, DAREDEVIL: THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR, a teenage Matt Murdock is getting beaten up by three bullies. The lead bully's name is Frank.

- 1) CAPTION: SHE WAS MY FIRST CRUSH.
- 2) BULLIES (SIMULTANEOUSLY): DAREDEVIL! DAREDEVIL!
- 3) CAPTION: ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T MEET IN THE MOST ROMANTIC OF CIRCUMSTANCES.
- 4) SOMEONE'S VOICE (OFF-PANEL): STOP! LEAVE HIM ALONE, YOU JERKS!

PAGE TWO:**Page Two, Panel One**

The bullies turn to see that the voice belongs to Jen Miller, a very pretty blonde-haired girl.

1) JEN: STOP RIGHT NOW OR I'M TELLING.

Page Two, Panel Two

Frank gets face-to-face with Jen.

2) FRANK: WHO YOU GONNA TELL? THE PRINCIPAL?

3) JEN: NO. EVEN BETTER.

Page Two, Panel Three

Small panel shot of Frank looking frightened.

4) JEN (OFF-PANEL): I'M GONNA TELL YOUR DAD.

Page Two, Panel Four

Frank and the bullies walk away.

5) FRANK: COME ON GUYS, LET'S LEAVE THE LOVEBIRDS ALONE.

Page Two, Panel Five

Shot of a battered Matt Murdock looking up from the ground at Jen, who is standing over him.

6) JEN: ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

7) CAPTION: JEN MILLER. MY SAVIOR.

PAGE THREE:**Page Three, Panel One**

Large Panel shot of Jen Miller, now in her late twenties, dressed in a county jail outfit. She's sitting at a table.

- 1) CAPTION: NOW SHE'S THE ONE WHO NEEDS SAVING.
- 2) CAPTION: SHE'S BEING ACCUSED OF SHOOTING HER HUSBAND POINT BLANK IN THE CHEST.
- 3) CAPTION: I HAD NO IDEA SHE HAD MOVED BACK TO HELL'S KITCHEN.
- 4) JEN: I'M SORRY, MATT. I'M SO SORRY FOR DRAGGING YOU INTO THIS MESS.

Page Three, Panel Two

Close-up on Matt Murdock, who is sitting across Jen.

- 5) MATT: DON'T BE. THIS IS WHAT I DO FOR A LIVING.
- 6) MATT: BUT IF YOU WANT ME TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU REMEMBER ABOUT THAT NIGHT.

Page Three, Panel Three

Close-up on Jen.

- 7) JEN: I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING, MATT.

Page Three, Panel Four

Flashback. Jen Miller and her husband are lying in bed, watching television.

- 8) CAPTION: "ONE MINUTE I'M LYING IN BED, NEXT TO RALPH..."

Page Three, Panel Five

Flashback continues. Jen Miller is being arrested by a police officer in her bedroom. Her husband's dead body lies on the floor next to the bed. Jen has a confused and terrified expression on her face.

- 9) CAPTION: "THE NEXT MINUTE HE'S DEAD..."
- 10) CAPTION: "AND I'M BEING ARRESTED."

PAGE FOUR:

Page Four, Panel One

Close-up on Matt Murdock. Ideally, this whole page should be split into six panels. The ones on the right (the page's right, not the reader's) will be close-ups of Matt. The ones on the left will be close-ups of Jen (see bottom right for an example).

1) MATT: NEIGHBORS CLAIMED TO HAVE HEARD THE TWO OF YOU ARGUING BEFORE THE GUNSHOTS.

Page Four, Panel Two

Jen is upset.

2) JEN: I DON'T REMEMBER.

Page Four, Panel Three

Matt continues questioning her.

3) MATT: DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GUN, OR WHO IT BELONGED TO?

Page Four, Panel Four

Jen is increasingly upset. Tears are starting to form.

4) JEN: I DON'T KNOW.

Page Four, Panel Five

Matt keeps pushing.

5) MATT: YOUR HUSBAND'S BLOOD WAS ON YOUR CLOTHES.

Page Four, Panel Six

Jen is crying.

6) JEN: MATT, I DIDN'T DO IT. I SWEAR! PLEAS... YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME.

PAGE FIVE:**Page Five, Panel One**

Pull back to get both Matt and Jen in the panel.

1) MATT: TRY NOT TO WORRY, JEN. YOU HAVE NO PRIOR RECORD, AND THE POLICE STILL HAVEN'T FOUND THE MURDER WEAPON.

2) MATT: IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO GET YOU OUT ON BAIL.

Page Five, Panel Two

Close-up on Jen, looking distraught.

3) JEN: DO YOU, MATT?

4) MATT (OFF-PANEL): DO I WHAT?

5) JEN: DO YOU BELIEVE ME?

Page Five, Panel Three

Close-up of Matt staring at Jen contemplatively.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Five, Panel Four

Same as previous, except now Matt is speaking.

6) MATT: I BELIEVE YOU, AND I'M GOING TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

Page Five, Panel Five

Matt stands up on his way out of the interrogation room. He stares at Jen.

7) MATT: I GUESS IT'S MY TURN TO BE THE HERO.

Page Five, Panel Six

Shot of Jen smiling slightly.

8) CAPTION: I'VE MISSED THAT SMILE.

9) CAPTION: I HAVEN'T SEEN IT IN FIFTEEN YEARS.

PAGE SIX:**Page Six, Panel One**

Flashback: Fifteen years ago. Wide panel shot of a twelve-year-old Matt Murdock walking through the streets of Hell's Kitchen. Jen rushes up to him.

1) JEN: SO, RED, ARE YOU EVER GONNA THANK ME FOR SAVING YOUR BUTT?

2) MATT: THANK YOU.

Page Six, Panel Two

Zoom in on the pair, but still keeping them both in the panel as they walk on.

3) JEN: YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T LET THEM HIT YOU LIKE THAT.

4) MATT: MY DAD TOLD ME NOT TO FIGHT.

Page Six, Panel Three

Zoom in even closer.

5) JEN: WHY NOT?

6) MATT: BECAUSE... BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO TURN OUT LIKE HIM.

Page Six, Panel Four

Close-up on Jen.

7) JEN: I'VE SEEN YOUR DAD. I THINK HE'S NICE.

8) JEN: I'M JEN, BY THE WAY. WE'RE IN THE SAME ENGLISH CLASS.

Page Six, Panel Five

Close-up on Matt.

9) MATT: MY NAME'S MATT. MATT MURDOCK.

Page Six, Panel Six

Shot of Jen smiling.

10) JEN: I KNOW.

PAGE SEVEN:**Page Seven, Panel One**

Matt is talking to Foggy Nelson at their law office. In this panel, Matt is looking through the bookshelf while Foggy is sitting at his desk.

1) MATT: SHE'S INNOCENT.

2) FOGGY: WHOA THERE, MATLOCK. HAVE YOU SEEN THE MOUNTAIN OF EVIDENCE AGAINST HER?

3) MATT: THERE'S NOTHING BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.

Page Seven, Panel Two

Shot of Foggy.

4) FOGGY: SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE LAWYER.

5) FOGGY: LISTEN, I KNOW YOU HAD A THING FOR THIS GIRL IN THE PAST, BUT YOU CAN'T LET THAT CLOUD YOUR VISION.

6) FOGGY: NO PUN INTENDED.

Page Seven, Panel Three

Matt continues searching for the book on the lower shelves.

7) MATT: IT'S MORE THAN THAT.

8) FOGGY: OH YEAH, WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

Page Seven, Panel Four

Matt has found the book he was looking for: "CRIMINAL LAW" by Richard C. Bonnie.

9) MATT: HEARTBEAT.

Page Seven, Panel Five

Foggy Nelson is confused.

10) FOGGY: EXCUSE ME?

11) MATT: I COULD HEAR HER HEARTBEAT THE ENTIRE TIME.

12) MATT: SHE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH.

Page Seven, Panel Six

Matt heads toward the door.

13) FOGGY: OKAY. SO WHAT NOW?

14) MATT: NOW WE FIND THE KILLER.

PAGE EIGHT:**Page Eight, Panel One**

Matt stands at the doorway to Jen's bedroom (the crime scene).

1) CAPTION: I CAN STILL SMELL THE BLOOD.

Page Eight, Panel Two

Shot of Matt bending down next to the chalk outline on the floor. His fingers have white powder on them (having just touched the chalk).

2) CAPTION: ONE OF THE BENEFITS OF A HEIGHTENED SENSE OF SMELL.

Page Eight, Panel Three.

Matt walks through the apartment on his way to the exit.

3) CAPTION: I CAN SENSE EVERYTHING IN THIS APARTMENT, BUT NOTHING SEEMS OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Page Eight, Panel Four

Matt closes the door as she steps onto the hallway. He's lost in thought.

4) CAPTION: COULD FOGGY BE RIGHT?

5) CAPTION: AM I LETTING MY PAST WITH JEN CLOUD MY JUDGEMENT.

6) SOMEONE'S VOICE (OFF-PANEL): THE BASTARD GOT WHAT HE DESERVED.

PAGE NINE:**Page Nine, Panel One**

Matt looks up and sees that the voice belongs to a dark-haired neighbor standing near him in the hallway. The neighbor is chubby and in her mid-forties.

1) MATT: EXCUSE ME?

2) NEIGHBOR: I'VE BEEN LIVING NEXT TO THESE PEOPLE FOR THREE YEARS, PRAYING THAT SOMEONE WOULD STOP THAT MAN. IT WAS ABOUT TIME THAT WOMAN STOOD UP FOR HERSELF.

Page Nine, Panel Two

Both Matt and the neighbor in the panel.

3) MATT: HOW DO YOU MEAN?

4) NEIGHBOR: HER HUSBAND. HE WAS A RUTHLESS BASTARD. YOU'D NEVER BELIEVE THE THINGS THAT MAN DID TO HER.

Page Nine, Panel Three

Close-up on Matt.

5) MATT: HE HIT HER?

Page Nine, Panel Four

Close-up on neighbor.

6) NEIGHBOR: HIT HER? THAT WAS THE LEAST OF IT...

Page Nine, Panel Five

Flashback. In this panel, the neighbor is standing in front of her door while Jen is being put out of her apartment by Ralph. Jen is completely naked, although she should be drawn so that no private parts are showing.

7) CAPTION: "I REMEMBER, ONE DAY, THAT MAN TOSSED HER OUT IN THE HALLWAY STARK NAKED."

8) RALPH: YOU WANT TO ACT LIKE A WHORE, THAN I'M GONNA TREAT YOU LIKE ONE!

PAGE TEN:**Page Ten, Panel One**

Ralph slams the door on Jen, who lies on the floor, crying.

1) SFX (DOOR): SLAM!

Page Ten, Panel Two

The neighbor offers Jen a hand off the ground, but Jen is too frightened.

2) CAPTION: "I TRIED TO HELP, BUT SHE WAS TERRIFIED."

3) JEN: NO, PLEASE. HE'LL GET MAD IF YOU HELP ME.

Page Ten, Panel Three

Back to the present. Close-up of Matt.

4) MATT: WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL THE POLICE?

Page Ten, Panel Four

Shot of the neighbor.

5) NEIGHBOR: I DID. A BUNCH OF TIMES. BUT SHE'D ALWAYS REFUSE TO PRESS CHARGES.

Page Ten, Panel Five

Pull back so that both Matt and the neighbor are in the shot.

6) MATT: I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

7) NEIGHBOR: BELIEVE IT!

8) NEIGHBOR: SAY, WHAT ARE YOU ANYWAY? SOME KIND OF BLIND COP?

Page Ten, Panel Six

Shot of Matt walking away.

9) MATT: NO, I'M SOME KIND OF BLIND LAYWER.

10) MATT: THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.

PAGE ELEVEN:

Page Eleven, Panel One

Matt and Jen walk out of the courthouse.

1) JEN: I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GOT ME OUT OF JAIL, MATT.

2) MATT: TECHNICALLY, YOU'RE ONLY OUT ON BAIL. YOU COULD STILL GO TO PRISON IF WE LOSE THE TRIAL.

Page Eleven, Panel Two

Jen kisses Matt on the cheek.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Eleven, Panel Three

Close-up on Jen.

3) JEN: THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, MATT.

4) JEN: I... I'VE REALLY MISSED YOU THESE PAST YEARS.

Page Eleven, Panel Four

Pull back to show Matt and Jen staring at each other.

5) MATT: I'VE MISSED YOU TOO, JEN. LET'S GRAB SOME COFFEE. WE NEED TO TALK.

Page Eleven, Panel Five

Small panel establishing shot of Cory's Coffee Shop.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Eleven, Panel Six

Jen approaches the table with a cup of coffee in each hand. Matt is already sitting down.

6) JEN: BLACK FOR YOU. CREAM AND SUGAR FOR ME.

7) MATT: JEN, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MARRIAGE TO RALPH?

PAGE TWELVE:

Page Twelve, Panel One

The following is a series of small, tight close-up panels until the end. The first is a close-up on Jen.

1) JEN: I DON'T KNOW. PRETTY NORMAL, I GUESS. HE USED TO LEAVE HIS SHOES IN THE LIVING ROOM. I WOULD PUT THEM AWAY. THAT SORT OF THING.

Page Twelve, Panel Two

Close-up on Matt.

2) MATT: WAS HE EVER... ABUSIVE?

Page Twelve, Panel Three

Shot of Jen.

3) JEN: RALPH? ABUSIVE? NOT AT ALL. HE WASN'T VERY AFFECTIONATE, BUT NEVER ABUSIVE.

Page Twelve, Panel Four

Shot of Matt.

4) MATT: IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU'RE HONEST WITH ME, JEN. THIS IS VITAL TO THE CASE.

Page Twelve, Panel Five

Close-up on Jen.

5) JEN: I AM TELLING THE TRUTH, MATT.

6) JEN (OFF-PANEL): I WOULDN'T LIE ABOUT THAT.

Page Twelve, Panel Six

Close-up on Jen's hand as it rests on top of Matt's hand.

7) JEN: NOT TO YOU.

Page Twelve, Panel Seven

Pull back finally to get a shot of Jen and Matt in the same panel. Her hand is still on top of his.

8) CAPTION: HER HEARTBEAT'S STEADY.

9) CAPTION: SHE'S TELLING THE TRUTH.

PAGE THIRTEEN:**Page Thirteen, Panel One**

Flashback. A twelve-year-old Matt and Jen walk side-by-side through the streets of Hell's Kitchen.

1) MATT: YOU KNOW, JEN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WALK HOME WITH ME EVERYDAY IF YOU DON'T WANT TO?

2) JEN: OF COURSE I WANT TO. BESIDES, I'M YOUR BODYGUARD.

Page Thirteen, Panel Two

Similar to previous. Both Matt and Jen in the panel.

3) MATT: I DON'T THINK FRANK'S GOING TO CAUSE ANY MORE PROBLEMS. WHATEVER YOU SAID TO HIM REALLY SCARED HIM AWAY.

4) JEN: BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY, THAT'S WHAT MY MOM'S ALWAYS SAYING. I'VE NEVER SEEN YOUR MOM, MATT. WHAT'S SHE LIKE?

Page Thirteen, Panel Three

Focus on Matt.

5) MATT: I... I DON'T KNOW. SHE... SHE...

Page Thirteen, Panel Four

Close-up of Jen grabbing Matt's hand.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Thirteen, Panel Five

Matt looks at Jen.

6) JEN: IT MUST BE SAD NOT TO HAVE A MOM.

7) MATT: IT IS.

Page Thirteen, Panel Six

Shot of Jen, smiling.

8) JEN: AT LEAST YOU HAVE ME.

Page Thirteen, Panel Seven

Close-up on Matt, smiling back.

9) CAPTION: I'M MISSING SOMETHING.

PAGE FOURTEEN:**Page Fourteen, Panel One**

Matt is sitting at his desk looking over pictures of the crime scene.

1) CAPTION: THE BLOOD. THE NEIGHBOR'S STATEMENT. ALL THE EVIDENCE POINTS TO JEN.

2) CAPTION: AND IF RALPH WAS ABUSIVE, THEN SHE HAD A MOTIVE.

Page Fourteen, Panel Two

Shot of Matt standing and thinking.

3) CAPTION: COULD THIS ALL BE A SETUP?

4) CAPTION: BUT WHO, AND WHY?

Page Fourteen, Panel Three

Matt holds up a picture of Jen.

5) CAPTION: THE KINGPIN? COULD HE HAVE FOUND OUT ABOUT JEN? COULD HE TRYING TO BRING MY LIFE DOWN AROUND ME?

6) CAPTION: IT WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME.

Page Fourteen, Panel Four

Matt opens up his shirt, revealing the Daredevil costume underneath.

7) CAPTION: I'M MISSING SOMETHING...

PAGE FIFTEEN:

Panel Fifteen, SPLASH

Daredevil leaps out his office window in full costume.

1) CAPTION: AND I'M NOT GOING TO FIND IT HERE.

PAGE SIXTEEN:**Page Sixteen, Panel One**

Daredevil runs along the rooftops of Hell's Kitchen.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Sixteen, Panel Two

Daredevil leaps off the roof, while at the same time launching the rope from his billy club.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Sixteen, Panel Three

A very small panel close-up of the handgrip latching onto the railings of a fire escape.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Sixteen, Panel Four

Action shot of Daredevil swinging on the rope.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Sixteen, Panel Five

Shot from inside Jen's apartment. Daredevil lands crouching on the open windowpane.

1) CAPTION: IT'S HERE.

PAGE SEVENTEEN:**Page Seventeen, Panel One**

Daredevil enters the apartment.

1) CAPTION: I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR, BUT IT HAS TO BE HERE.

Page Seventeen, Panel Two

Daredevil tumbles.

2) CAPTION: THE ROOM STILL SMELLS OF BLOOD. IT MAKES IT HARD TO CONCENTRA--

Page Seventeen, Panel Three

Daredevil, still on the ground, notices that he tripped over a pulled out wood panel on the floor.

3) CAPTION: A SECRET COMPARTMENT. BUT FOR WHAT?

Page Seventeen, Panel Four

Daredevil reaches into the hole and finds bullets.

4) CAPTION: BULLETS, BUT NO GUN.

5) SOMEONE'S VOICE (OFF-PANEL): YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE, DEVIL!

Page Seventeen, Panel Five

Daredevil looks up and sees Jen pointing a revolver at him.

6) DAREDEVIL: JEN?

PAGE EIGHTEEN:**Page Eighteen, Panel One**

Shot of Jen holding the revolver. Her face is covered in madness and anger.

1) JEN: JEN IS WEAK. I'M THE STRONG ONE. I STOPPED THE EVIL MAN FROM HURTING HER.

2) CAPTION: MULTIPLE PERSONALITITES.

3) CAPTION: MY TIME WITH TYPHOID MARY SHOULD HAVE MADE ME MORE ALERT.

Page Eighteen, Panel Two

Daredevil stands and addresses Jen.

4) DAREDEVIL: YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS, JEN.

Page Eighteen, Panel Three

Shot of Jen, crazed.

5) JEN: I AM NOT... JEN!

Page Eighteen, Panel Four

Daredevil approaches Jen, his hands up.

6) DAREDEVIL: THE EVIL MAN IS GONE. THERE'S NO ONE TO PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST.

7) JEN: THAT'S NOT TRUE! YOU'RE AN EVIL MAN. YOU'RE A DEVIL.

Page Eighteen, Panel Six

Matt grabs his mask.

8) MATT: THIS IS ONLY A COSTUME, JEN.

Page Eighteen, Panel Six

He pulls his mask off.

9) MATT: LOOK PAST IT.

PAGE NINETEEN:**Page Nineteen, Panel One**

Jen's true personality seems to resurface momentarily. Her face is filled with guilt and fear.

1) JEN: MATT...

Page Nineteen, Panel Two

But just as quickly, her "other self" resumes control. The same crazed look returns.

2) JEN: NO! I WON'T LET YOU HURT HER! NO ONE WILL EVER HURT HER AGAIN!

Page Nineteen, Panel Three

Daredevil gets closer.

3) MATT: I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, I WANT TO HELP YOU.

4) JEN: STAY BACK!

Page Nineteen, Panel Four

Shot of Matt.

5) MATT: DID YOU KNOW YOU WERE MY FIRST CRUSH?

6) MATT: I WANTED TO KISS YOU SO MANY TIMES, BUT I WAS TOO AFRAID.

7) MATT: YOU WERE LIKE AN ANGEL TO ME.

Page Nineteen, Panel Five

Close-up of Jen. The expression on her face reveals the struggle within her psyche.

6) JEN: STOP...

Page Nineteen, Panel Six

Close-up of Daredevil's hand grasping the gun.

7) JEN'S VOICE (OFF-PANEL): STOP... MATT...

PAGE TWENTY:

Page Twenty, SPLASH

Full page splash of Daredevil hugging Jen, who is crying.

1) JEN (WEAKLY): PLEASE MAKE IT STOP.

PAGE TWENTY-ONE:**Page Twenty-One, Panel One**

Flashback. Young Matt and Jen watch Jen's mother load the last of the luggage into her station wagon.

1) JEN: MY MOM SAYS THIS IS JUST TEMPORARY. WE MIGHT COME BACK SOME DAY.

Page Twenty-One, Panel Two

Close-up of the pair.

2) JEN: ARE YOU GONNA MISS ME, MATT MURDOCK?

3) MATT: YOU KNOW I WILL.

Page Twenty-One, Panel Three

Shot of Jen.

4) JEN: GOOD. I WANT YOU TO MISS ME A LOT. TILL IT HURTS. TILL YOU CRY OUT IN PAIN.

Page Twenty-One, Panel Four

Close-up on Matt.

5) MATT: JEN, I... I WANNA SAY...

Page Twenty-One, Panel Five

He looks at Jen. She's smiling.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Twenty-One, Panel Six

Matt and Jen hug.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PAGE TWENTY-TWO:**Page Twenty-Two, Panel One**

Jen is sitting in the car, waving at Matt. The car is just starting to pull away. Matt is waving back.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Twenty-Two, Panel Two

Matt watches as the car gets further away.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Twenty-Two, Panel Three

Matt continues to watch, although the car is just a speck now in the distance.

[NO DIALOGUE]

Page Twenty-Two, Panel Four

Matt continues his vigil. The car is no longer visible.

[NO DIALOGUE]

THE END