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**#SDCC: Z2 COMICS AND HEAVY METAL ICONS
JUDAS PRIEST ANNOUNCE THE
SCREAMING FOR VENGEANCE GRAPHIC NOVEL**

*Inspired by the Band's Best-Selling Album of All-Time,
An Original Science Fiction Epic Will Be Released in Time*

*For the Album's 40TH Anniversary and the Return of Comic
Con International in 2022, Available to Preorder [Now](#)*

NEW YORK, NY—Z2 Comics proudly announces that one of the biggest acts in the history of heavy music will team with the rapidly growing entertainment brand for an original graphic novel to be released in 2022, in time for the anniversary of their highest selling album of all time, the indisputable classic: *Screaming for Vengeance*.

Teaming with writers **Rantz Hoseley** (*Comic Book Tattoo, the Heroin Diaries*) and **Neil Kleid** (*Savor*), and artist **Christopher Mitten** (*Hellboy and the B.P.R.D.*), the multi-platinum selling Metal Gods bestow upon their generations of fans their first-ever graphic novel!

500 years from now, a ring of cities orbit high above the surface of a dead world, controlled by a ruling elite that maintains power through manipulation and brutality. When a naïve engineer inadvertently threatens the status quo with his vital scientific discovery... A BLOODSTONE... he is betrayed by those he trusted and cast out to the broken planet below. In the wreckage and desolation of a broken world where every day is a battle for survival, he must choose between accepting his new life in exile...or SCREAMING FOR VENGEANCE.

"I cannot overstate what an inspiration Judas Priest has been to me, personally," said Hoseley. "I was already a fan of the band, when *Screaming for Vengeance* was released, but *no one* was ready for the impact it had. That incredible cover art? Those songs? That album became my daily soundtrack and creative fuel, to the point where I wore the cassette out in my car. To be able to contribute to a project inspired by these songs that mean so much to me? Well, that is an honor and a responsibility I take very seriously."

To further celebrate the creative legacy of this monumental album and landmark anniversary, the graphic novel includes an extensive interview with original cover artist **Doug Johnson** in which he discusses the process of creating the award-winning album cover design, and the origin of the metallic bird of prey, now known as "The Hellion." Additionally, as part of the expansion of Z2's product offerings, newly appointed Z2 Vice President of Collectibles and Aggronautix founder **Clint Weiler** has designed a detailed Hellion statue, with battery-operated LED "electric eyes" in celebration of both the original album design, and the dramatic conclusion of the story in the SCREAMING FOR VENGEANCE graphic novel"

Certified double platinum in the United States, *Screaming for Vengeance* was released in July of 1982, and marked the beginning of the band's success in North America, transcending the "new wave of British heavy metal" sound they had come to define, and moving them into the mainstream despite a heavier-than-ever sound. The album's first single "You've Got Another Thing Coming" would prove to be one of the biggest hard rock

hits in history and continues to inspire fists in the air around the world to this day. The album was ranked #3 on Rolling Stone's 2017 list of "100 Greatest Metal Albums of All Time," and is celebrated throughout the world as one of the genre's most defining moments, ushering in the success of heavy music in the 1980s up through today.

Judas Priest: Screaming for Vengeance will be released in both softcover and hardcover formats in finer bookstores, comic shops and record stores everywhere in July 2022, with special limited deluxe and super deluxe versions featuring an exclusive anniversary vinyl LP, prints, statues and more available to preorder now exclusively through the Z2 [website](#).

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About Judas Priest

There are few heavy metal bands that have managed to scale the heights that Judas Priest have during their 50-year career. Their presence and influence remains at an all-time high as evidenced by 2018's 'Firepower' being the highest charting album of their career, a 2010 Grammy Award win for 'Best Metal Performance', plus being a 2006 VH1 Rock Honors recipient. Poised now to celebrate that illustrious career as they enter their 50th year in the industry - 2020 will see the band embark on an epic 50th anniversary tour in celebration. Judas Priest originally formed in 1969 in Birmingham, England (an area that many feel birthed heavy metal). Rob Halford, Glenn Tipton, K.K. Downing and Ian Hill would be the nucleus of musicians (along with several different drummers over the years) that would go on to change the face of heavy metal. The current line up which changed in 2011 consists of **Rob Halford, Glenn Tipton, Ian Hill, Richie Faulkner** and **Scott Travis** - Priest also received a second Rock and Roll Hall of Fame nomination in 2019, with 2020 serving as the 40th anniversary of 'British Steel' and the 30th anniversary of 'Painkiller.' But most importantly, 2020 is the band's 50th anniversary and they are planning a major tour for the world to celebrate this remarkable band's 50 YEARS OF HEAVY METAL!!

About Z2:

Recently dubbed the "hottest brand in music" by Forbes, Z2 has quickly become the premier destination for authentic graphic novels and collectibles, created in partnership with top-tier artists, musicians and pop-culture icons. Distributed globally via Simon & Schuster, Z2 has produced 50+ unique graphic novel properties, collaborating with **Gorillaz, Blondie, Elvis Presley, Freddie Mercury, Balmain, Joan Jett & The Blackhearts, Jason Derulo, The Grateful Dead, Machine Gun Kelly, Sublime, Beethoven, RZA, Mötley Crüe, Vince Staples, Cheech & Chong, The Doors, Anthrax, Public Enemy, Ronnie James Dio, King Diamond, All Time Low, Ivan Moody, Yungblud, Cypress Hill, Babymetal, Major Lazer, RZA, Alter Bridge, Sturgill Simpson, Poppy, John Lee Hooker and Charlie "Bird" Parker**. Learn more at [Z2comics.com](#), and follow us on Instagram (@z2comics) and Twitter (@z2comics)

About Global Merchandising Services Ltd.

Global Merchandising Services Ltd is an award-winning music creator, band, celebrity and merchandising company. Headquartered in London and Los Angeles, Global is a licensing powerhouse with world-class expertise in design, product development, branding, manufacturing and direct sales. Global conducts business across all channels of retail distribution, live events, web shops, pop-up shops, sponsorships, endorsements and third-party licensing.