# Doctor Tomorrow: Universal Witness (Working Title)

#### By Aaron Kleinman

# Logline

Universal Witness is a thought provoking and mind-bending trip through layers of reality.

# **Theme**

**In a time** where a person's single story can be drowned out and lost, it can make someone question what their purpose is. Does your story matter? What makes you so special? That's what Universal Witness is about.

# **Synopsis**

**Doctor Tomorrow is alone!** His life lived out in another time and place, he left his family and friends behind to save them. In the years since his return, Bart Simms has struggled to find his place in a world that did not change with him. With his suit able to travel through time and now realities once again, he's dedicated himself to being a hero in the absence of a personal life. But when realities begin disappearing from The Universal Lotus, he's forced to figure out who he is and his place within the multiverse.

# Characters

- Bart Simms (Doctor Tomorrow) Our main protagonist. Amidst struggling to figure out how to live his life, he is forced to figure out how to save trillions of others.
- Neela (Timewalker) She's Bart's 'guy in the chair.' A trusted ally and fellow scientist/time traveler.
- Omnival The keeper of the Universal Lotus. It's their job to prune universes from the multiverse. They're beyond what is beyond. A being above and below. An all encompassing presence.
- The Bookkeeper The unknown. The void. A being even beyond Omnival. The one who establishes and destroys the 4th wall.

### Issues

#### Issue 1 - Man Out of Time

Issue 1 details where Bart has been and what he's been up to since the previous run by Waid. We'd touch back on his relationship with his father, and how the time lost has affected them. As well as how his friendships have faltered. The beginning of the issue would be setting up how Bart isn't truly sure who he is anymore or where exactly he belongs. We then go into the stopping of time crimes & anomalies along with Neela. We establish that Neela has helped upgrade Bart's suit so he can travel up, down and across the universal timestream once again. The issue would end with Bart jumping to another universe, only to find nothing but a void full of death.

# Issue 2 - Negative Presence

This issue starts right where we last left off. Negative Energy is consuming the universe around Bart. His suit malfunctioning, Neela manages to pull him back just before he can also be consumed. Neela and Bart discuss what happened and decide they need to consult Evil Bart (the final villain of the previous vol.), since he is the closest thing to an expert on Negative Energy and universe hopping. He reveals that during his experiments and travels, he discovered the being beyond the Universal Lotus. Omnival. Only they would be able to see that which destroys the Lotus. The issue ends with Omnival revealing himself to Bart and Neela.

This issue would also touch on Bart and Evil Bart's discussion in the previous volume about how our Bart has yet to become evil, but there's still a chance.

# Issue 3 - Wilting Flower

Omnival's arrival sends shockwaves through the universe. But it's a necessary step into the lower reality from their own. In their interaction, Omnival reveals that the Universal Lotus is dying—realities are being eaten away by Negative Energy. While the death of a universe is normal, it is not so abrupt nor as destructive to the Lotus as a whole like these occurrences have been. Omnival discusses the potential idea of their own antithesis. Think Monitor v.s. Anti-Monitor. But there is no proof or even a potential way to stop them. Omnival is a force of nature, which means their antithesis would be too.

This issue would very much discuss how Omnival helps to maintain the Universal Lotus and allow for birthing universes to forge their own path ahead. They make sure to discuss how Bart is not destined to be evil, but it's yet to be written.

The issue ends with their own universe slowly being eaten away at.

#### Issue 4 - Transcend And Overcome

This issue begins where we last left off, with the universe being torn asunder by Negative Energy. As it all begins to crumble, Bart tries to save those closest to him. But it's all for naught. Only he is spared a similar fate as Omnival brings a mortal into their realm outside of the Universal Lotus.

This issue would be somewhat of a bridge from where we began to meeting The Bookkeeper. The issue would end with Bart being thrown into another reality and ending up in the reality of The Bookkeeper.

# Issue 5 - Pages From A Book

This issue is a bit trippy. We're going to play with the physics of a comic. Bart is essentially meeting the writer of it all. Every story told is a page in a book.

We meet The Bookkeeper. A creature who has seemingly lost their sanity. They tear pages from a book. These pages are revealed to be the stories of the universes that grow upon the Universal Lotus. But this creature has begun to tear the pages from the book as it all seems meaningless to them. Endless stories with so little difference between them. What's the point?

This is where Bart reveals it all. How he's been feeling out of place. But how it's his life to live and his story to write. How every story, no matter how little difference there is between them, is special and unique in its own way. Cause it's the little things that matter.

This helps bring The Bookkeeper back to some form of sanity and they replace the pages back into the book.

# Issue 6 - Epilogues To Memories

Bart is back home on Earth. No Omnival. No Bookkeeper. Just him and Neela back before it all happened. Right back before the end of issue 1. But Bart knows what comes next. Except it doesn't. The suit malfunctions. It won't even jump. It's a different story

now. He tells Neela what happened, and she believes him to a degree, but she never experienced it. Bart is once again alone in a way. But he's content now. It's a different story. A different time. He decides to leave the other universes unexplored, and to simply hope that the hims of the other universes can do their best.

The book ends with Bart reading a not from The Bookkeeper about how it's time for him to craft a story unaffected by the aspects of another. To be a Doctor Tomorrow all his own.