



THE MISADVENTURES OF FOUR NO-GOOD PUNKS
WHO AREN'T ACTUALLY ALL THAT BAD

Created by
J.R. Havlan

Artwork by
Justin Melkman

WGAE Reg. # I318834

PUNKS!

When a motley-looking punk band hits the road to play (mostly shitty) gigs across this great-ish country of ours, they find themselves constantly at odds with the locals, the rules, and the law. Their mission: to prove everyone wrong and to rock the shit out of your town after they do.

THE WORLD

Peacock, Justin, Thunder and Malaika are the members of World War IX, a gritty, raucous, explosive and unpredictable punk rock band that's as loud as a leopard print jumpsuit and tight as a nun's (bleep). Bored with playing the same old piss-soaked dives in New York City, the band sets off on an often un-booked tour of piss-soaked dives across the country. Direction doesn't matter to any of them. Wherever it may lead, the road out of town is the road to their next gig.

Here's the problem: They're not always welcome. They look weird, they sound weird, and to most people that means they *are* weird - and possibly dangerous! But below the aggressive face tattoos, platter-sized ear spacers and painfully heavy nipple rings, lie four relatively normal people who just want to rock the shit out of the sometimes *tens* of fans who actually make it to their shows.

Here's the even bigger problem: everywhere they go, in a gruesome string of (potential) coincidences, a horrific crime happens while they're in town. From the tiniest, shittiest shithole in the south (Clio, Alabama) to the biggest, saddest dung heap in the North (I'm lookin' at you, Detroit), a headless body is found, a bodyless head turns up, somebody finds a bag full of hands, or the mayor's adorable dog explodes. And because they're weird looking outsiders, the band *always* gets blamed for it. And because local law enforcement are usually the first to point their fingers, the band's only way out is to solve the ghastly crime themselves.

It's *Scooby Doo* meets *Criminal Minds* if Thomas Gibson was the front man for an animated punk band.

In the end, the band never-to-rarely fails to clear their name, and in doing so they often manage to turn enemies and skeptics into friends and fans, which always leads to an ear-splitting, mind-altering, show-stopping, and possibly lightly, though always enthusiastically attended concert, usually including the previously hostile cops!

At the core of *Punks!* is the old adage "Don't judge a book by its cover." Or in this case, "Don't judge a punk by his army of tats, his spiked choke collar, his green hair, his filthy mouth, and, well... his cover." Unfortunately, humans are often very judgemental and mistrusting, particularly with people who not only don't look like them, but basically don't look like anything they've ever seen outside of a nightmare they had after forgetting to wear a mask while making meth in their bathtubs. And reversing that is no easy task.

But in a way, all this judgment may actually be a gift because it gives the band an even greater purpose than melting faces with their high voltage rock, and that's changing minds... with their high voltage rock.

Just because they're *Punks!* doesn't mean they're scoundrels.

PUNKS!

THE BAND

The Beatles were The Smart One, The Quiet One, The Cute One, and The Funny One. World War IX's personalities breakdown a bit differently.



"The Drunk One"

Peacock is a hard drinking, chain smoking lead singer. All he wants to do is rock... and party... and party while he's rockin'. His main motivation is getting himself and the band to the next gig in time to make a stop at the liquor store and see if he can't get his hands on a Percoset or 7. Anything that gets in the way of that is nothing short of a pain in his ass. (Voice type - Vinnie Stigma from "Agnostic Front")



"The Nervous One"

Justin is always pretty sure that whatever is going wrong is his fault. Only his crippling fear of failure keeps him from giving in to his crippling-er lack of confidence. He can *only* function with a guitar in his hand which is why he *always* carries his around with him. Fortunately, it also makes a pretty good weapon when the need arises. It's literally his "axe". (Voice type - Ed Helms)



"The Addictive One"

Thunder is a cleaned up, devoted vegan now, but his years of being a drug-addled, disaffected miscreant have taken their toll. He loves playing drums because it's the only thing he really knows how to do, but his focus is on staying true to his newfound spirituality and always striving to find the best in others, a courtesy many "others" routinely fail to extend to him. He's also Justin's older brother... or maybe his twin. Neither of them knows for sure. (Voice type - Fred Armisen)



"The Rebellious One"

Malaika is the youngest member of the band and the smartest, which is admittedly not saying much. A graduate of The Julliard School, she's a classically trained cellist from a wealthy New York family whose constant stability in life has drawn her to a life of constant instability. She's a thrill seeker who rides a motorcycle behind the van the guys and the gear travel in. She's also the driving force in the investigations the band constantly gets forced into in order to clear their names. (Voice type - Jessica Williams)

PUNKS!

THE OTHER PLAYERS



Kenny Menace and “Clunk”.

Kenny, 45ish, is a former semi-successful punk and the unofficial manager of World War IX. He used to be in a relatively legit punk band back in the early 80's and he never lets anyone forget that. Pictures of him with famous punks from back in the day line the walls of his office/rat-infested studio apartment, though most of them are clearly just photobombs. He and the band have a typically co-dependent relationship, but none of them seem to mind, except for maybe Malaika. Kenny is *always* on the receiving end of the band's “1 phone call” whenever they get arrested, which is almost every episode. (Voice type - Iggy Pop)

Clunk, 55ish, is a former Hells Angel and bouncer at CBGB's, and a current dimwitted lackey. He's basically Kenny's tagalong bodyguard/flunky. He's clearly past his prime and obviously a blockhead no thanks to his ongoing desire to snort almost anything he can cut into a powder, but he can still strangle most men with one hand while pouring a drink for himself with the other. Clunk has seen it all and forgotten most of it. (Voice type - Danny Trejo)



Rusty Shiv and Penny Vein - The self-proclaimed “First couple of Punk”

Rusty, 24ish, is the high-profile front man for a band called Jerk Alert that is very well known but not quite full-on rock stars, though you wouldn't know it from his attitude, particularly around WW9. Not-so-deep-down, he's actually vain and insecure, but constantly pretends to be neither. It doesn't help that most of his financial success actually comes from a song he wrote that is used in a commercial for fabric softener - something the WW9 crew relentlessly teases him about. Rusty is not so secretly jealous of WW9's raw talent and is (seemingly) always trying to undermine them. (Voice type - T.J. Miller)

Penny, 23, is a fallen former child star from Anywhere, USA. Details of that fall are murky at best but wild rumors are rampant. Did she actually sleep with Tommy at one point? Yes. Does Rusty know about this? Not at the moment. But Penny is no groupie pushover. She's a “connoisseur of punk” who may even surprise everyone with her business acumen and end up sweeping control of the band away from Kenny. Penny has a slightly more “normal human” look from the rest of the characters and is sort of our Marilyn Munster. (Voice type - Sarah Silverman)