

Meet Tyler E.C. Burnworth

Head Writer - Crypto Force Digital Comic Series

By Samantha Schannon (alias Lady Crypto) Oct. 5, 2021



I first met Tyler when he joined the PINK's NFT team (formally known as Pink Panther) and Dinc, our principal artist, announced he had found the perfect writer for our proposed

webtoon-style comic. Tyler has always felt a bit mysterious, but in a very cool way.

Working close to Dinc, as he's the artist, the rest of the team has very little interaction with him. The first time I had a peek into Tyler's creative mind was when I read the proposed story synopsis and prospectus for Crypto Force, and that is when I immediately realized the gravity of what this could become. Now that we have launched the first teaser episode; Episode 0, I wanted to get to know more about the man creating these fun dynamic characters. Contrary to what many

may believe, I just like you, I have not read further than episode 0, but I do know I can expect adventure, intrigue, mystery, villains, crypto, sci-fi, and immersive storytelling. As we patiently await what comes next, please enjoy this interview I conducted with Tyler as I peeled back a little about how he became a comic writer, some of his favorite comics, and advice he offers to aspiring new writers. Without further adieu, I am thrilled to introduce to you our writer, Tyler E.C. Burnworth...

Can you start by talking a little about, where do you get your ideas or inspiration?

I think the world we live in is an interesting place. If you peel back the prosaic veneer of modern society long enough to get a peek behind the curtain, there's all manner of things which shy from the light. Capturing some of these hidden machinations and speculating on them tends to be a draw for me in my writing.

What was your first thought when Dinc came to you with the idea for the comic?

Life is crazy. That, and a few four-letter words of surprise and excitement. I couldn't believe the level of sophistication that went into PINK, and the grand but concrete vision of the NFTs...it was like someone handed me a fully-fledged idea that they had poured their blood, sweat, and tears into, and just said, "Yeah, this baby? We want you to be the

godfather." Needless to say I made room in my considerably full plate for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It never crossed my mind to say no. And, right at the outset of the crypto/comics fusion, the seed was planted and the story has just flourished, always feeding off that central tenet. This isn't Tron, or The Matrix, or even Power Rangers. This is cryptocurrency powered comics, literally and figuratively. This is Crypto Force! And of course, I relish the opportunity to work with an artist of Dinc's caliber.



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PINK'S NFT slogan is "when comics and crypto collide", can you talk about this unique fusion?

I know more about comics than I know about crypto, but I am fascinated by them both. What we've been able to achieve with Crypto Force is already incredible--and because I'm not a crypto expert, I'll defer to the Developers on that front. What I will say is

that I'm excited as the cryptoscape becomes further developed and continues to take on a life of its own, that will mean the same thing for the comic. Think about Bitcoin: I read somewhere that fast food restaurants used to give out BTC as promotional items back when no one really understood what cryptocurrency was. Now, BTC is over 50k USD. That's the excitement of PINK and Crypto Force for me; the potential is limitless.

The innovation of blockchain technology is changing the world and moving at record speed. Knowing this, will you be adjusting storylines as the crypto environment rapidly changes?

That is something I definitely intend on doing with Crypto Force. As episode 0 has just released, you've been given just a taste, a little teaser of what's to come. There is a vast, dynamic world in this story with characters who are about to see radical changes in their world and in their lives. The parallels between blockchain disruption and innovation will not be seen in this comic--they'll be FELT.

How did you become a comic book writer?

I got started in 2018 when I had an idea that became Spark in the Dark. I wanted to tell a serialized story rife with incredible visuals to really drive home a unique emotional experience. What I ended up with was something much more challenging than I

expected, but it was a huge learning experience at the same time. I'm a prose writer by trade; novels, short stories, things like that. So, stepping into an entirely different medium was a wake-up call to my writing process. Comics are actually more difficult to write in a lot of ways because you have the traditional components of plot, characters, pacing, etc. with the added dimension of art direction. I found Dinc Onur Aydin on the Webtoon platform when I saw his webcomic The Sanctuary. I was captivated by that entire first episode that was pretty much one continuous panel of beautiful artwork. I knew at that moment if I could get him to sign off on collaborating with me, we could combine our skills to create something truly unique and special.

What age did you begin reading comic books? Who introduced you to your first comic book?

I got started late. I think I was 24 when I started watching The Walking Dead on AMC, and when I found out it was a comic book first, I was curious. I devoured (pun intended) those pages and really developed an appreciation for the medium. Robert Kirkman's writing style really connected with me and led me to become an Image Comics fanboy. To this day, Invincible remains my all-time favorite comic series. Other favorites are Seven to Eternity, Black Science,

Die!Die!Die!, Oblivion Song, and Pretty Violent.

Do you have any rituals you perform when you're in writing-mode? (like, "must be in a room in complete silence with 2 cups of coffee")

Caffeine, Nicotine, and Music. Sometimes when I'm editing I require complete and total silence for maximum focus, but usually I'm listening to music that suits the theme of what I'm working on. I know I've established that transitive flow state of peak performance if I don't even hear the music because I'm so embedded in the work.



Is comic book writing different from writing other genres, since you are combining it with something visual?

Absolutely. It's very unique in that way. I forget who said it, maybe Alan Moore...anyway, someone said they didn't want their comic book to be made into a film because if they had wanted it to be a film,

they would have wrote a film script instead of a comic script. I found that enlightening. The medium of the work is a lot more specialized than the average person would think, and as I said before, comics are 80% art direction.

Without giving away any big spoilers, Who is your favorite character to write in Crypto Force and why?

Forget spoilers! I'm just going to come right out and say it: my favorite character is [REDACTED]. Just wait until you get to the part where [REDACTED] and then [REDACTED], which makes [REDACTED] kind of lose their mind, and that's even before [REDACTED] happens, which REALLY causes the stuff to hit the fan. And oh, the aftermath! It gets wild.

What advice do you have for aspiring comic book writers?

Learn your medium. If this is what you want to do, set a goal of being a comic book writer, then set subgoals with measurable marks to achieve. For example, good subgoals would be to write a script, have some friends read it and give you feedback, maybe an artist or two. Take the time to learn art styles, how to show emotion and capture the right motions in the panels. Learn by reading other comics how the panel layout can be used most effectively. Always be learning and writing.

Favorite comic or comic character of all time?

Negan. 'Nuff said.

This interview may be read by many people who haven't read a comic book in years. Aside from Crypto Force of course, What other titles would you recommend to a novice?

Invincible by Robert Kirkman if you're into superheroes. Pretty Violent if you like gritty humor. Die!Die!Die! if you like crazy plot twists

Aside from Crypto Force, what else are you working on now that followers can keep an eye out for?

I have a short story Poster Child that will be in the On Deadly Ground Anthology from Bayonet Books in October, and my debut Novel, Redshift, is available for pre-order now and releases Dec 1, 2021.

If people in the PINK'S NFT community want to follow you on social media, where can they find you

@tylerwriting on Twitter