

**MYSTERY PATHOGEN ID:**

# STRANGER IN THE NORTHLAND

12¢



**Stranger in the Northland Comic by Ray Erickson**

**Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Laboratory Infectious Disease Laboratory**

**Cover Page Description**

Sinister looking large microbe shape with multiple arms and a tail, wearing an old-fashion trench coat and fedora hat, shading its face. The microbe is entering a science lab, lab benches and sinks are surrounding it on either side. Comic book issue name is "Stranger in the Northland," price is twelve cents.

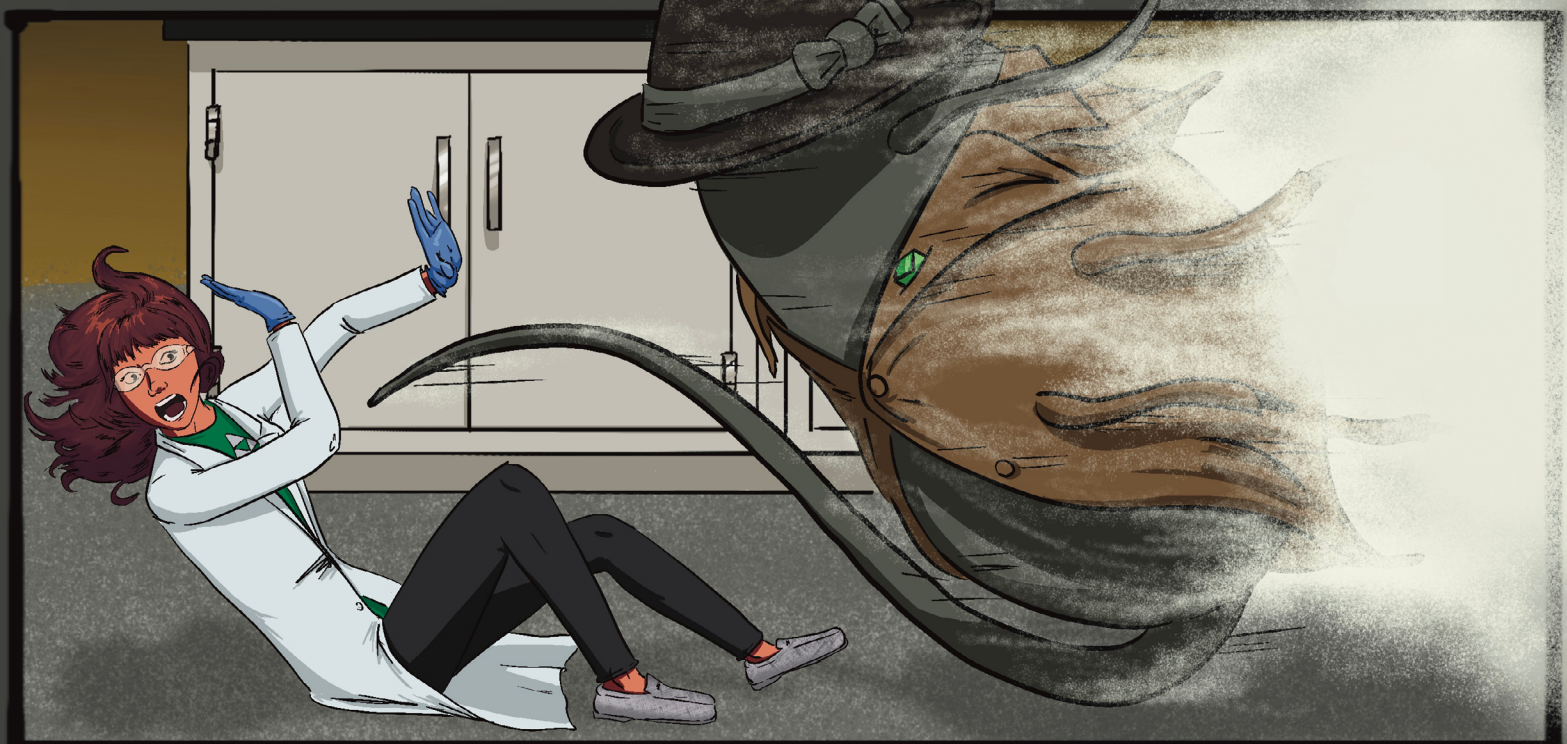




**Page 1 Description**

Unknown microbe, disguised in a trench coat and fedora, bursts through lab door and a scientist looks away from their microscope to see what's going on. The scientist reaches for a container labeled "Bile Acid Salt Crystals," which becomes a green crystal sword. The scientist launches themselves at the villain microbe and stabs it with the green crystal sword.





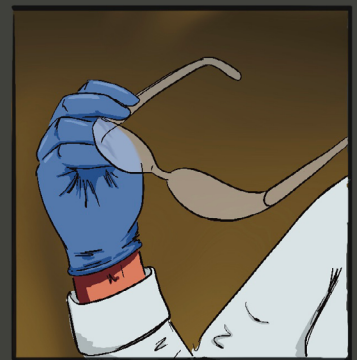
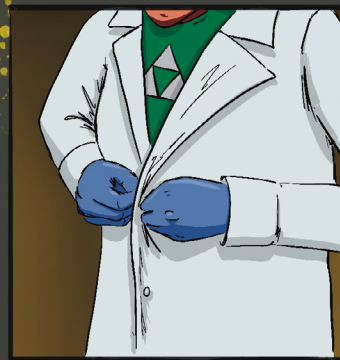
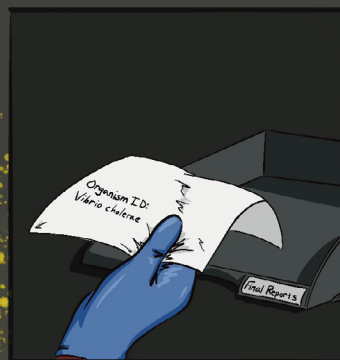
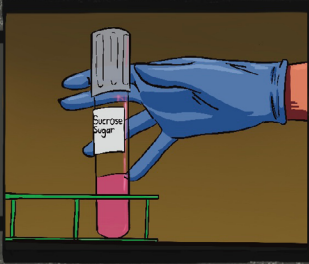
### Page 2 Description

The villain microbe pushes the scientist to the floor and breaks off the crystal sword where it entered its body. A small piece of the crystal blade remains in its body.

The scientist reaches up to the lab bench and grabs a container of “Thiosulfate Citrate Powder” and throws it at the villain microbe. The microbe disappears in a cloud of white dust and the scientist relaxes.

Suddenly, the villain microbe rushes through the cloud of dust at the scientist.





### Page 3 Description

The scientist turns and crawls away from the villain microbe and reaches for a test tube of pink liquid labeled “Sucrose Sugar” just as the microbe grabs their leg with one of its tentacles.

The villain microbe breaks the test tube, but its tentacles start to wither and turn yellow where the pink liquid touched it.

The scientist stands up, hands on hips, and says, “I know you now. You’re a long way from home.”

“I name you Vibrio...” and the disguised villain microbe sheds the trench coat and fedora.

“...cholerae,” says the scientist as the villain microbe explodes in a spatter of yellow.

The scientist puts a report that says, “Organism ID: Vibrio cholerae” in a final report box, adjusts their lab gloves, rebuttons up their lab coat, and wipes off their glasses.





#### Page 4 Description

The scientist has a look of satisfaction and turns to the lab door.

In the hallway there is a line of microbes dressed in various disguises, and the scientist calls, "Next."



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