



**CAPTAIN  
CANNABIS**

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# **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **420 COMIC INTRODUCES CAPTAIN CANNABIS, SUPERHERO FOR THE POLICALLY INCORRECT**

**Vancouver, BC** – Veteran animator and illustrator Verne Andru launched his epic science fiction series “420” with the publication of the first of 13 comic books featuring “Captain Cannabis,” a character that transcends the traditional superhero mold.

“The story began in the 70’s when I was starting out as a comic book illustrator,” said Andru. “I was hanging around the Captain Canuck studios and created Captain Cannabis as a counter-point to the goody-two-shoes characters dominating mainstream comics at the time. Needless to say, I was surprised when I received an official certificate from the copyright office dated April 20, 1977 for my Captain Cannabis character.”

While principally a science fiction story, “420” is a blend of science fiction, dark comedy and gritty realism. With a nod to “Cheech and Chong,” “The Fabulous Furry Freak Bros.” and “Fritz The Cat,” “420” follows the adventures of down-and-out roadie, Hal Lighter as he gets caught up in the middle of an extraterrestrial turf war over the planet Earth in his attempts to win the favor of his secret desire, Marion Jones. In the process, he stumbles upon some extraterrestrial “herb” that transforms him into “Captain Cannabis,” a super hero that’s about as far from politically correct you can get. “I’ve always had iconoclastic leanings,” quips Andru, “and if there was ever a time to challenge the status-quo, this is it.”

As for the production process, Andru explains, “I wanted to create a story experience that uses the best of all modern media – web, print, games and film – not something created for one, then conformed to fit to the others. That never works in my opinion. So I used my training as a systems analyst and 30+ years doing book illustration, animation, video games, film and TV to create something that’s integrated from the outset.”

Written as a feature-length animated film for mature audiences, the story unfolds over 13 books. Drawings are prepared to feature film specifications and posted first as black and white “webisodes” at [www.oKee.com](http://www.oKee.com) and [www.CaptainCannabis.com](http://www.CaptainCannabis.com). From there, the drawings get a color treatment before being published in a series of “Heavy Metal” format illustrated books. Once all books have been completed, so will the artwork for the film that will be released on DVD.

A limited edition of signed and numbered “420” Artist Proofs are now available for \$15 through [www.oKee.com](http://www.oKee.com). General release copies will be available in October and are priced at \$9.95.

### **About Verne Andru**

Mr. Andru’s career spans more than 30 years working in the entertainment industry as animator, illustrator and designer. He’s an honors graduate in Systems Analysis and Design and has taught various computer and art related subjects. For more information, visit [www.VerneAndru.com](http://www.VerneAndru.com).