FREE COMIC BOOK DAY™

CAPSTONE PRESENTS

MR. PUZZLE

by Chris **"Elio"** Eliopoulos

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Who is...

MR. PUZZLE?

A handy one-page guide!

Meet Walter, a super-smart guy, all-around good dude, and puzzle enthusiast.

There isn't a puzzle he can't solve!

One day, while exploring a local museum, Walter found an ancient puzzle.

I put it together, and it started to glow!

FOOM

That old puzzle rewarded him with superpowers!

Now I can bend, stretch, shrink, and grow! I'm a perfect fit for any problem!

Check out three of my greatest superhero adventures!

by Chris "Elio" Eliopoulos

edited by Donnie Lemke · designed by Brann Garvey

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www.capstonepub.com

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In the center of Busyville, you'll find the Lazy Loaf Apartments – home to the sleepy, the snoozy, and one passive procrastinator who needs Mr. Puzzle's help.

Did I hear someone needs super assistance from a real-life superhero?

Oh, hey! Mr. Puzzle, I'm glad you showed up. I'm Frank, the lazy landlord. I run this dusty old dump.

Lately, all the lightbulbs have been flickering. I don't know what the problem is!

ZZT

I'd investigate myself, but I'd rather have someone else do it.

YAWN

Suddenly, all things electric start going haywire!

POP POP POP

Baffling Ben Franklins! Everything attached to an outlet is going bananas!

Someone has definitely been messing with all the wires in this bulky building.

Frank, it looks like all the wires are leading to the basement. I have a feeling our answer is somewhere deep down there.

ZZT

I don't know about that, Mr. Puzzle. No one should be down here. The basement is empty and downright dilapidated.

YAWN

Wait a second! Old empty pizza boxes with garlic bread crumbs...

A sad, stinky old couch and a load of moldy laundry...

Whoever is fumbling with your power cords is also living down here!

I suspect this basement has been turned into a nerd hangout.

Oh, dear!

Look at this! All the wires are headed in that direction. The person behind all this trouble is on the next page – I mean, around the corner!

ZZT

ZZZT

Would you fellas keep it down? I'm trying to watch TV. Talking during a show is so rude!

You have a freeloading mouse in the house!

I knew I had a ridiculous rodent problem, but I didn't think it was this bad. What's he doing down here, Mr. Puzzle?

ZZZT

Oh, I see! All the wires and cables in this building have been switched around!

YAWN

So this guy poorly rewired everything? That's why the lights and stuff are acting weird?

Oh, blame me, Morty Mouse, huh?

BZZZ

You're not going to believe this. His handy work is hooking him up with free cable!

Is that true? Did you rewire my system so you can steal cable TV?

Yeah, basically. I have a lot of episodes to catch up on.

You can't even take your eyes off the screen! What show are you watching, anyway?

Oh, it's a sitcom called *Burger Town*.

It's a coming-of-age story about a hamburger who moves to the big city to find his true passion!

I missed the bus!

Oh, I love *Burger Town*! I've seen all the episodes! I even know the theme song by heart.

My favorite episode was when Burger finally got the guts to ask his sweetheart to the big break-dancing festival.

Season three was really spooky, with the introduction of those zany zombies.

But in season seven when Burger lost his bun, I thought the show got really stale (no pun intended).

Stop talking about the show! I'm only on the second episode. You are spoiling it for me. No spoilers!

TOSS

I'm sorry! I'm a big fan. I couldn't help it!

Mr. Puzzle is flung across the room and crash-lands in a pile of sticky pizza boxes.

SPLAT

Ack! Extra pepperoni grease! I'm trapped in this stack.

Frank, pull me out, won't you?

Sure, sure... I'll help you out. How does tomorrow sound? Or better yet, next Tuesday.

YAWN

Aha! The main outlet. If I yank that cord, the entire building will lose power!

But it's clear across the room! I can't reach it while I'm trapped in this pile... or can I?

Mr. Puzzle activates his incredible puzzle powers!

FOOM

The solution is in the stretch! Mr. Puzzle's arm springs twenty-feet long and pulls the power cord right off the wall. Way to **grow**!

With no electricity powering the TVs, we can finally bid that rat good riddance!

PLOOP!

All the TV screens in the basement go black. Show's over, you sneaky scoundrel.

DROOO

NO!! I was in the middle of a really good episode!

Now I'll never know if Burger fixes his runny toilet!

I'm going to miss the entire *Burger Town* marathon! My life is ruined.

Cheer up! Didn't you know *Burger Town* is already on DVD? You can watch it on your own time!

Oh, really?! With bonus features and director commentary? **Wow-wee!**

I'm sorry about all this, Mr. Puzzle. I guess my obsession got the best of me.

I can't believe I was stealing cable TV. I must be the worst villain in comic book history!

So you'll leave Lazy Loaf alone? Maybe go outside and get some sun?

I'll clear out right away! Besides, I can't wait to get my paws on that DVD. I know I have a few extra dollars lying around.

Is that so? Well, before you go, you owe me some bucks for back rent!

Aw, cheese whiz! Bills already? I'll pay some other time. I promise!

Oh, also, in the season twelve finale, I can't believe Burger finally got married!

The end!