1. Comic Book Content:

- ☐ **Interior Pages:**
  - ☐ **Story Consistency:**
    - ☐ **Time of Day** – Ensure that the lighting and shadows in each scene are consistent throughout the issue (e.g., if it's daytime, make sure the color and lighting reflect that across all relevant pages).
    - ☐ **Character Continuity** – Double-check that characters are consistently drawn and colored from page to page, with no sudden or unexplained changes in costume, appearance, or position.
    - ☐ **Scene Transitions** – Ensure smooth transitions between scenes, both visually and narratively.
  - ☐ **Lettering and Text:**
    - ☐ **Spelling and Grammar** – Proofread all dialogue, narration, and sound effects.
    - ☐ **Text Placement** – Make sure text is placed correctly within balloons and does not overlap important parts of the artwork.
    - ☐ **Font Size/Readability** – Ensure font size is appropriate and legible, even in smaller panels.
  - ☐ **Panel Placement:**
    - ☐ **Gutters** – Check that the spacing between panels (gutters) is consistent and balanced, ensuring a clean layout.
    - ☐ **Panel Borders** – Ensure that panel borders are sharp and clear, and that no important content is cut off near the edge of the panels. They need to be colored correctly as well.
  - ☐ **Bleed:**
    - ☐ **Interior Pages** – Confirm that all artwork extends to the bleed edge if necessary (standard is 0.125 inches [0.3175 cm] beyond the trim line) to avoid any white edges during trimming.
    - ☐ **Covers** – Ensure the cover art also accounts for bleed so that it wraps correctly around the book, especially for square-bound books.
  - ☐ **Page Consistency:**
    - ☐ **Art Style** – Make sure that the art style, color palette, and overall tone are consistent throughout the book.
    - ☐ **Character Scale and Proportions** – Verify that characters maintain consistent sizes and proportions across all panels.
  - ☐ **Thank You/Dedication Page:**
    - ☐ Names -
      - Double Check that all names are spelled correctly
      - Double Check that they are in the correct order.
  - ☐ **Margins and Safe Zones:**

☐ **Text/Artwork within Safe Zones** – Ensure that all text and important artwork elements are placed within the margin safe zone to prevent them from being cut off during printing. (0.125 inches [0.3175 cm])

2. Cover:

☐ **Front Cover:**
  ☐ **Bleed and Trim** – Confirm that the front cover design includes proper bleed and trim areas.
  ☐ **Typography and Title Placement** – Check for proper alignment of the title, logos, and any taglines.
  ☐ **Issue Number** - Make sure that the issue number is correct and in the correct place.
  ☐ **Foil/Embossed Sections (if applicable)** – Ensure that any special effects like foil stamping or embossing are placed correctly and proofed for quality.
☐ **Spine: <mark>(IF APPLICABLE)</mark>**
  ☐ **Spine Width** – Double-check the spine width, especially for square-bound or larger books, to ensure it matches the page count and paper weight.
☐ **Back Cover:**
  ☐ **Promotional Text** – Review any promotional text or summaries to ensure they are free of errors and aligned properly.
  ☐ **Ad Placement (if any)** – Ensure any ads or promotional material on the back cover are aligned correctly and won't be cut off by trimming.

3. Alternate Covers <mark>(IF APPLICABLE):</mark> <mark>All should be sent to the printer at the same time.</mark>

☐ **Variant Cover(s):**
  ☐ **Bleed and Trim** – Double-check the bleed and trim for each variant cover.
  ☐ **Consistency with Regular Edition** – Ensure that the variant covers match the theme and branding of the regular edition.
  ☐ **Barcode and Edition Markings** – Ensure that any variant-specific markings are accurate (e.g., Limited Edition, Exclusive Cover, etc.).

4. Promotional Material <mark>(IF APPLICABLE):</mark> <mark>All should be sent to the printer at the same time.</mark>

☐ **Posters/Flyers/Print Ads:**
  ☐ **Bleed and Trim** – Ensure that all print promotional materials have proper bleed and trim lines.
  ☐ **Consistency with Main Comic** – Verify that the promotional materials use consistent artwork, fonts, and branding in line with the comic book.

☐ **Final Proof Check** – Proofread any promotional copy and verify the quality of the print proofs before final approval.

5. Technical Specs:

☐ **Paper Stock:**
   ☐ **Consistency with the Quote** – Confirm that the paper quality and weight match the printer's quote, especially for premium materials like glossy covers or textured paper.
   ☐ **Coating** – If using special coatings (e.g., UV gloss, matte finish), confirm placement and quality on both interior and cover pages.
☐ **Binding:**
   ☐ **Perfect Bound/Staple Bound** – Ensure that the binding type chosen matches the thickness of the book and the desired aesthetic.
   ☐ **Page Creep** – For perfect-bound books, verify that page creep (the shifting of pages due to binding) has been accounted for in the margins.
☐ **Print Amount:**
   ☐ Get and verify **EXACT** number of regular books to be printed
   ☐ Get and verify **EXACT** number of alt covers to be printed
   ☐ Get and verify **EXACT** number of promotional material to be printed

6. Layout Consistency:

☐ **Panel Layout:**
   ☐ **Symmetry and Spacing** – Ensure that panel layouts are consistent and visually balanced.
   ☐ **Flow of Reading** – Check that the flow of panels is logical and intuitive for the reader, guiding their eye through the page correctly.
☐ **Dialogue Placement** – Ensure that dialogue balloons follow a natural reading order (left to right, top to bottom) and are easy to follow.

7. Color Quality:

☐ **Color Consistency:**
   ☐ **CMYK Conversion** – Ensure that all colors are converted to CMYK for print and match the intended digital look.
   ☐ **Color Balance and Matching** – Double-check that the color balance remains consistent between pages, and verify that skin tones, backgrounds, and key visual elements are uniform throughout.
   ☐ **Page-to-Page Consistency** – Verify that the color grading and lighting in each scene are consistent in tone and style (e.g., consistent lighting, shadows, and time of day).

8. Distribution Info:

- ☐ **Prepress Files:**
    - ☐ **Final PDF/Print File Setup** – Ensure that the print-ready files (PDF or other formats) have been pre-flighted and meet all printer requirements for resolution, color mode, and page layout.
    - ☐ **Bleeds and Crop Marks** – Ensure that crop marks and bleed settings are included in the final files submitted to the printer.
    - ☐ **Files -**
        - ☐ Comics should be broken into 2 separate files (Cover & Guts).
            - ☐ Cover (front cover and first page, last page, back cover)
            - ☐ Guts (all the rest)
        - ☐ Alt Covers should be a new version of Cover file with the other 3 pages the exact same. It should be saved as Alt Cover 1, Alt Cover 2, ect.
        - ☐ Promotional material should be the correct size and labels correctly (Pinup 1, Pinup 2, ect). They should not be labeled as anything else (sketch pin up)
        - ☐ ALL FILES must be stored in a single Google Drive file that I can simply share with the printer in order to ensure that everything is together and that they receive everything all at once.

9. Final Proof Checks:

- ☐ **Physical Proof Inspection:**
    - ☐ **Print Quality** – Examine the printed proof for any defects such as ink smudging, blurring, or color inconsistency.
    - ☐ **Page Alignment** – Check that all pages are aligned properly within the margins and that nothing is skewed.
    - ☐ **Cover Proof** – Verify that the cover (including any variants) looks exactly as expected in terms of color, finish, and text alignment.
    - ☐ **Binding Quality** – Ensure that the binding is strong and pages are securely attached.
    - ☐ **Blade Quality -** Make sure that they switch the blade so that there is no tearing on the edges of the comic.

10. Team and Stakeholder Approval:

- ☐ **Creator Team Review** – Ensure the entire creative team (writer, artist, letterer, etc.) reviews and signs off on the final proof.
- ☐ **Publisher Approval** – Get final approval from the publisher or any relevant stakeholders before proceeding with full production.Once everyone has signed off on the project, then **AND ONLY THEN** will I give the go-ahead to the printer.