

HELLBENT

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CHAPTER ONE: JACK

HOW
BEAUTIFULLY
DRAMATIC!



THE CRUELEST,
SAVAGEST EXHIBITION
OF NATURE AT HER WORST ...
AND WE THREE!



I SHOULD
LIKE TO THINK THE
ALL-MIGHTY JEHOVA WERE
POINTING THOSE ARROWS
DIRECTLY AT MY
HEAD!


COME ON BABY,
IT'S STARTING!




ALL RIGHT,
ALL RIGHT. DON'T
STRESS
ME ...



"THE HUMAN BLOCKHEAD"
DOES REQUIRE A BIT OF
CONCENTRATION ...




YOU'RE NOT
PLAYING WITH THE
DRILL AGAIN, ARE
YOU, BABY?



I'M TELLING
YOU, HUN ...

BEFORE NEXT
SEASON STARTS THAT
DRILL'S GONNA BE
MY BITCH.



I'D JUST
HATE FOR YOU TO ACCIDENTALLY
LOBOTOMIZE YOURSELF, BABY. I'M
KINDA FOND OF THAT BRAIN
OF YOURS.

ADMIT IT BABY,
YOU'D LOVE IT. ME,
SITTING IN THE CORNER
DROOLING ATV YOU OR
ARGUING WITH YOU!

OH YEAH,
THAT WOULD BE
SO HOT.



SPEAKING OF DROOLING.
YOU REALLY THINK I'M READY FOR
THIS PURELY VEGAN THING?

OF COURSE YOU ARE. YOU'VE ALREADY GIVEN UP EGGS AND DAIRY.



IT'S THE RIGHT THING.



MIGHT AS WELL GO ALL THE WAY.



I DUNNO ... ROMERO SEEMS SKEPTICAL.



HEY.



HEY.

WHAT'S UP?



WILL YOU MARRY ME, BEAUTIFUL LADY?

...








CIRCUS
PANOPTICON





WHY, LYDIA,
MY DONAH! WHAT LOOMING
PRESENCE HAS *CAST* ITS SHADOW
OVER YOUR MOOD ON THIS
BLESSED DAY?

OH, I'M SORRY,
SIGNOR REPELLI.
IT'S JUST THAT ALL THIS
SO REMINDS ME OF
MY OWN WEDDING.

TO THE WOLFMAN.

WE WERE SO
YOUNG AND SO PRETTY.
HIS FUR WAS SO SHINY...
AND SO WAS MY BEARD.



CONGRATULATIONS
JACK & TIA
OUR FAVORITE FREAKS!



AND YOU ARE *STILL*
AS PRETTY AS WERE IT ONLY YESTERDAY,
DEAREST LYDIA! AND YOUR HUSBAND
STILL MAKES THE LITTLE BOYS
AND GIRLS SCREAM!

OH, *REPELL!*
YOU MAKE ME FEEL
LIKE A BEARDLESS
YOUTH AGAIN.

AND TODAY,
ANOTHER COUPLE
OF MY BELOVED TROUPERS
TIE THE KNOT! THAT MOST
ALLURING LITTLE
PALONE...

... TIA NWASOMA AND JACK BRADLEY!



YOU STUPID HO!



BUT TIA, WE REALLY ARE -

- TRYING OUR VERY BEST HERE!

IT'S NOT YOU, GLYS!



BUT THEN WHAT -

- IS THE MATTER, BEAUTIFUL?

I'D PROMISED MYSELF I WOULDN'T CRY! GODDAMMIT!



OH, PISH TOSH -

- AND A BOTTLE OF PINOSH! THIS IS YOUR WEDDING, TIA-BABE!

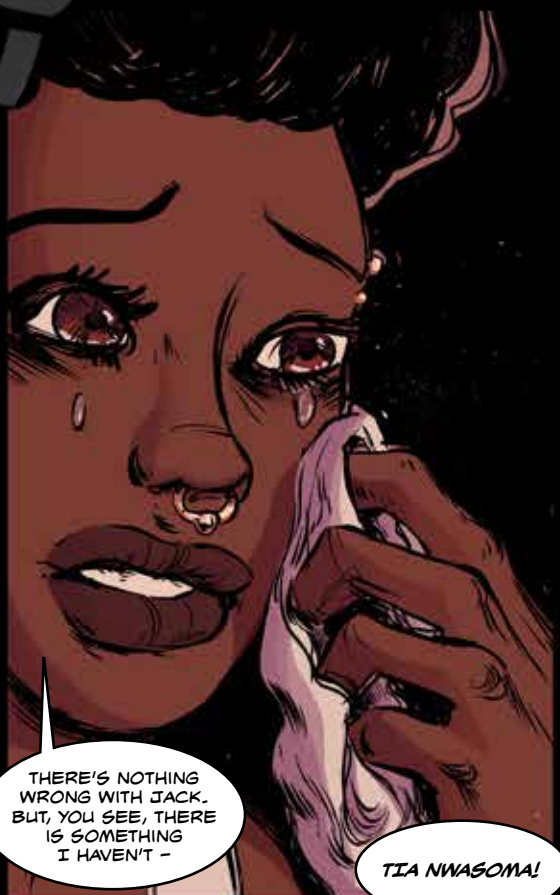
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO CRY A LITTLE!



YOU ARE SO LUCKY, GIRLFRIEND!

JACK IS H-O-T, HOT!

WE WOULD SO DO HIM!!!



THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH JACK. BUT, YOU SEE, THERE IS SOMETHING I HAVEN'T -

TIA NWASOMA!



MY OWN DELICIOUS LITTLE CHAVI!



MY TARZAN! YOU JANE! JUST LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS BEFORE YOU DECIDED TO RUN AWAY WITH THAT... RAGGAMUFFIN!

HAHAHA, OH, SIGNOR REPELLI...



I'LL HAVE NONE OF THAT "SIGNOR REPELLI", TIA. THE ONLY THING YOU GOTTA CALL ME IS "OMI REPELLI", IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?

AND WHAT IS THIS, MUFFIN? TEARS ON SUCH A LOVELY DAY?




IT'S JUST... YOU KNOW.

AAAAAH...




YOU HAVEN'T TOLD, MONSIEUR JACK.


I'M SCARED. EVERYTHING'S GONE SO FAST.




HUSH NOW, LITTLE CHAVI.
ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS
OMI REPELLI WILL ALWAYS BE THERE
FOR YOU. YOU AND JACK BOTH ARE LIKE
CHILDREN TO ME AND I WILL ACCEPT
NOTHING BUT THE BEST FOR
BOTH OF YOU.



A LOT OF US HERE WERE BORN
INTO FAMILIES OF JOSSERS WHO
DIDN'T UNDERSTAND US... WHO MAYBE EVEN
HATED US FOR BEING DIFFERENT...
BUT THE OLD *HORSE OPERA*...
NOW *THAT* IS THE FAMILY WE HAVE
CHOSEN FOR OURSELVES.



THAT IS *REAL* LOVE, TIA.
JUST LIKE THE LOVE YOU
AND JACK HAVE FOR EACH OTHER.
THAT KIND OF LOVE MAKES
YOU *INVINCIBLE*.





AND IF THE TIME
EVER COMES TO PULL
THE WHOLE DAMN TENT DOWN,
ALL YOU EVER HAVE TO DO
IS CALL UPON THE *FAMILY*.
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?



OH, OMI REPELLI.
I'M SO HAPPY.



THAT'S WHAT
I LIKE TO HEAR.



NOW WHAT
DO YOU SAY, CHAVI?
READY FOR YOUR
GRAND ENTRY?

'CAUSE I HAVE A FEELING TONIGHT'S
GOING TO BE A TURN-AWAY!

YOU EVER WONDER
WHO INVENTED THAT
WHOLE KISSING THING?
YOU KNOW, WITH THE KISSING
EACH OTHER? IT IS A WEIRD THING
TO DO, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, DON'T YOU
THINK? I MEAN, NO ANIMALS DO IT.
WHEN DID HUMANS START KISSING?
DID CAVEMEN DO IT? I GUESS
I COULD LOOK IT UP ON
WIKIPEDIA.

JACK,
WILL YOU RELAX,
FOR CHRIST'S
SAKE?



WHAT IF I
SNEEZE OR...



...OH, WOW.











BLAM

TECHNICAL

MOUNT OLYMPUS. HEAVENLY ABODE OF THE GODS.

BY THE POWERS OF CHAOS!



FUCK!

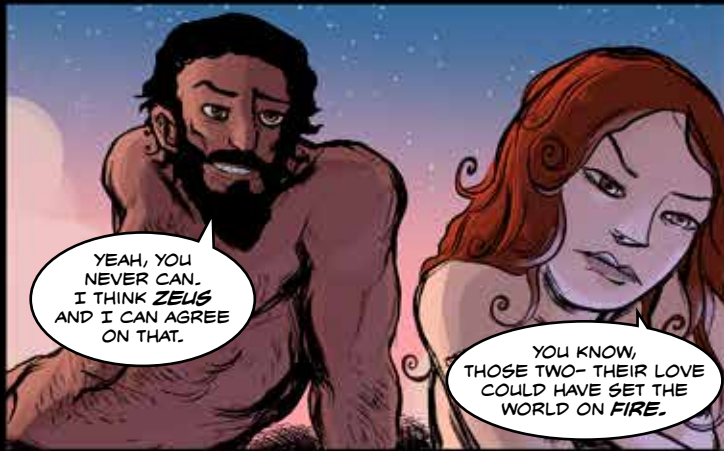


WHAT A WASTE!



HUH?
WHUZZAT...
IS BREAKFAST
READY?

OH,
YOU BIG OAF!
YOU'VE JUST SLEPT
THROUGH THE MOST TRAGIC
ROMANCE I HAVE EVER SEEN...
OR THE MOST ROMANTIC
TRAGEDY...I CAN'T
DECIDE.



YEAH, YOU NEVER CAN. I THINK **ZELUS** AND I CAN AGREE ON THAT.

YOU KNOW, THOSE TWO- THEIR LOVE COULD HAVE SET THE WORLD ON FIRE.



YOU REALLY HAVE A **THING** FOR THOSE MORTALS, DON'T YOU?

I GUESS I DO...



BUT HOW CAN YOU **NOT**? DOESN'T THEIR ABILITY TO CHOOSE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL FASCINATE YOU? NOT BEING TIED TO THE **MOIRAI** SUCH AS US GODS?

I SUPPOSE IT DOES. AS LONG AS THERE'S SOME **HACKING AND SLASHING** INVOLVED.

TWO YOUNG LOVERS BRUTALLY MURDERED ON THE DAY OF THEIR WEDDING...

...AND YOU TALK ABOUT KILLING. YOU OBVIOUSLY DON'T KNOW **ANYTHING** ABOUT LOVE.

MAYBE NOT, BUT I DO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT **HUMAN NATURE**.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IF THOSE TWO GOT THE CHANCE TO COME BACK I BET THEY WOULDN'T WASTE ANY TIME KISSING AND WHISPERING SWEET NOTHINGS IN EACH OTHER'S EARS. THEY'D BE GOOD AND PISSED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM AND SET OUT TO GET REVENGE.



OKAY
WHAT?

HMMM...
OKAY.



YOU SAID
YOU'D BET. OKAY, THEN.
YOU'RE ON.

YOU'RE
SUGGESTING WE...
**BRING THEM
BACK?**



BRING THEM
BACK, SEE WHAT
PATH THEY
CHOOSE.

HMM...
AND WHO DID
YOU SAY KILLED THEM
IN THE FIRST
PLACE?



OH SOME
GANGSTER
SLUM, AZJARRI
SOMETHING ...

IN THAT CASE,
FORGET IT. NO DICE,
BABE.



WHAT?
WHY?

HAH!



THERE ARE SOULS
IN THE DEPTHS OF HADES
WHO HAVE **NIGHTMARES** ABOUT
THAN AZJARRI. THOSE TWO WOULD
NEVER STAND A **CHANCE** AGAINST HIM,
AND THE MOMENT THEY REALIZED THAT
THEY'D BE HAPPY TO TURN THEIR
BACKS ON REVENGE AND GO
LIVE HAPPILY EVERAFTER
SOMEWHERE FAR, FAR
AWAY.



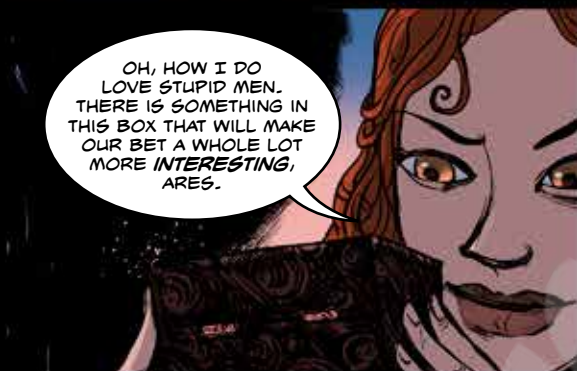
OKAY, OKAY. THEN LET'S MAKE IT MORE EVEN!

WHAT'S THAT?



PANDORA'S BOX.

I THOUGHT THAT WAS EMPTY?



OH, HOW I DO LOVE STUPID MEN. THERE IS SOMETHING IN THIS BOX THAT WILL MAKE OUR BET A WHOLE LOT MORE INTERESTING, ARES.



YOU'RE GONNA TRICK ME.

I WOULD *NEEEEEVER* DO THAT... AND BESIDES, EVEN IF I DID, I'M STILL FUCKING YOU. SO WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO LOSE?



HEH, WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT... I GUESS I'M ON.

LOVE VERSUS REVENGE. SO WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

GREAT!



YOU KNOW HOW THE STORY GOES, THAT ONLY HOPE REMAINED INSIDE AFTER THAT STUPID COW HAD TO SNEAK A PEEK?

YEAH...?

WELL, THE PEOPLE WHO SAY THAT HAVE *NO* IDEA WHAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT.



YOU'RE SAYING THERE IS *MORE* INSIDE? WHAT?

...*SUPERPOWERS*, MY DEAR.



AH AH AH AH AH!







UUUU....
UUUU....
UH... THAT WAS
THE MOST AMAZING
THING I'VE EVER
SEEN....



WHU... WHU...
WHITT ARE YOU
DOING...?



PLEASE... I NEED
AN AMBULANCE....



NOW WHAT WOULD BE THE SOURCE OF THIS POST-MORTEM DISOBEDIENCE...



HUM. THIS IS NO ORDINARY OUTBREAK.

IT REEKS OF NECROMANCY.

POWERFUL DEATH-MAGICK.

THESE TWO GRAVES MUST HAVE BEEN THE REAL TARGETS... BUT THEIR INHABITANTS ARE LONG GONE.

NOT MINDLESS EATERS THESE TWO... NO, THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE A PURPOSE. HMM...

PUH... PUH... PLEASE...



A WORTHY QUARRY.



I BEG YOU... HAVE MERCY...

MERCY?





"DIRTY BABY..."



"YOU SEE THESE SHACKLES BABY, I'M YOUR SLAVE..."

OH, WHAT A BEAUTY YOU ARE...



"I LET YOU WHIP ME IF I MISBEHAVE..."



"IT'S JUST THAT NO ONE MAKES ME FEEL THIS WAY..."



HUH?!"

WHAT. THE. FUCK.
ARE YOU DOING TO
MY SNAKE?

AAAAARGH!!!



WHAT KIND OF FREAKS ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE? HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?

DID YOU HEAR THAT, HUN? HE CALLED US FREAKS.

I WONDER HOW MANY OF THESE ANIMALS HE'S BEEN FUCKING.



WHAT THE HELL DO THEY CARE? THEY'RE DEAD ALREADY!



NOW WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE OF THAT?



STAY - STAY BACK! I'M WARNING YOU... I... OH JESUS, WHAT IS GOING ON?

AAAAAAARGH!





DON'T TELL ME, ARE YOU ON THAT TWEETY THING WRITING ABOUT WHAT YOU JUST HAD FOR DINNER?

IT'S CALLED *TWITTER*, BUTCHER.

PFF. REAL GANGSTERS AREN'T ON *TWITTER*.

TIMES ARE CHANGING, BUTCHER. THIS IS THE *MODERN WORLD*.

MODERN SCHMODERN. I SAY NO REAL MAN SHOULD WASTE HIS TIME ON SHIT LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST YAP, YAP, YAP. I SAY LEAVE THAT TO THE WOMEN.



I NEED TO TAKE A DUMP.

WILL YOU LISTEN TO THE DIRTY MOUTH ON THIS KID, IDDY? WHERE DID WE GO WRONG?



HEY, DON'T FORGET TO TAKE A PICTURE OF YOUR SHIT TO SHOW ALL YOUR FOLLOWERS!



SO WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO TONIGHT? MARLEEN AND THE KIDS ARE AT HER MOMS. WE COULD GET SOME HOOKERS AND AN EIGHTBALL.

SOUNDS LIKE ANOTHER NIGHT OF HIGH CULTURE, BUTCHER. YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT MY THING.



YEAH, I KNOW, IDDY. WHAT'S SPANKY DOING TONIGHT ANYWAY?

OH, YOU KNOW. IT'S PAYDAY...



...HE'LL BE OFF TO JURASSIC PARK.

HAHAHA!



AW SHIT.



Damn soap dispensers. Looks like I |





FUCK!



I KNOW YOU, YOU'RE FROM THAT FREAKSHOW WE TOOK CARE OF. HOW DID YOU FIND US?



GODDAMMIT, AGAIN WITH THE FREAKS!

THE BULLETS YOU PUT IN OUR BODIES LEAD A TRAIL RIGHT BACK TO YOU.

NOW TELL US, WHY DID YOU KILL US?



BWOOSH

WE ARE PERFORMERS!

GIAAAAAARH!





AND I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD DO THAT. SEEMS WE'VE BOTH GOTTEN SOME KINDS OF SUPER -

JACK -



- WATCH OUT!

WHAT THE FUCK!

SHIT!



FALL BACK! THE WHOLE PLACE IS GOING UP IN FLAMES!

MOTHERFUCKER!



WE'LL SPLIT UP I'LL CALL YOU.

GOTCHA.



ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH, IT WAS JUST A SCRATCH...



AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT'S ALREADY HEALED.

AWESOME!



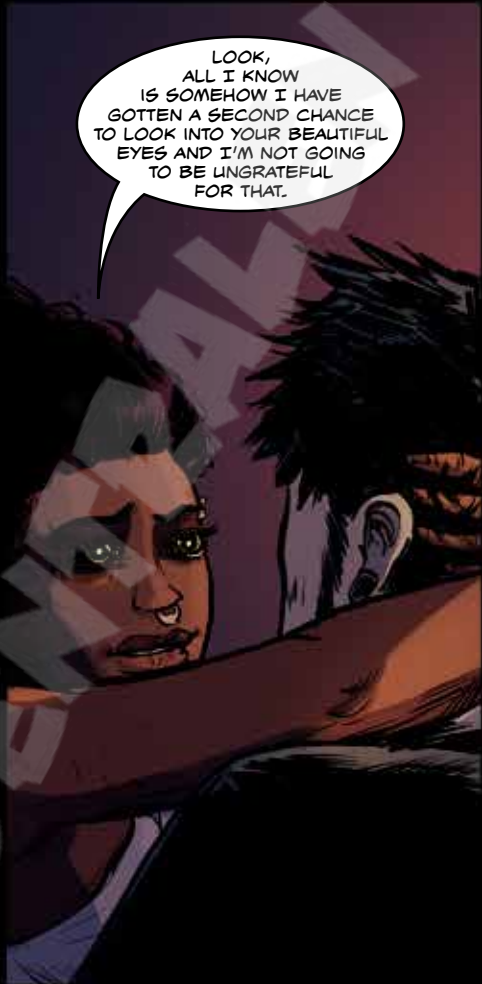
C'MON, LET'S GO!

DON'T YOU WONDER WHAT'S HAPPENED TO US?



MAYBE WE'VE BEEN TURNED INTO SOME KIND OF SUPER SOLDIER PROJECT BY THE GOVERNMENT...

OR MAYBE IT'S JUSTICE.




LOOK, ALL I KNOW IS SOMEHOW I HAVE GOTTEN A SECOND CHANCE TO LOOK INTO YOUR BEAUTIFUL EYES AND I'M NOT GOING TO BE UNGRATEFUL FOR THAT.



ANYWAY, THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT STUFF TOMORROW. RIGHT NOW THE NIGHT IS DARK AND WE'RE DEAD ALIVE.



LET'S GO PAINT THE WHOLE GODDAMN TOWN RED.



♪ ...CAUGHT HERE IN
A FIERY BLAZE, WON'T
LOSE MY WILL TO STAY. I TRIED
TO DRIVE ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT,
THE HEAT STROKE RIDDEN WEATHER,
THE BARREN EMPTY SIGHTS. NO
OASIS HERE TO SEE, THE SAND
IS SINGING DEATHLESS WORDS
TO ME...♪



YES?



OH THANK GOD, THANO. LISTEN, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE THIS. THOSE TWO FREAKS WE OFFED - THEY'VE COME BACK.

YES, NO, I KNOW HOW IT SOUNDS, BUT I SAW THEM, THANO.

I SAW THEM.

THEY'VE COME BACK FROM THE DEAD.

AND THANO - THEY KILLED JUNIOR. THEY FUCKING KILLED HIM!

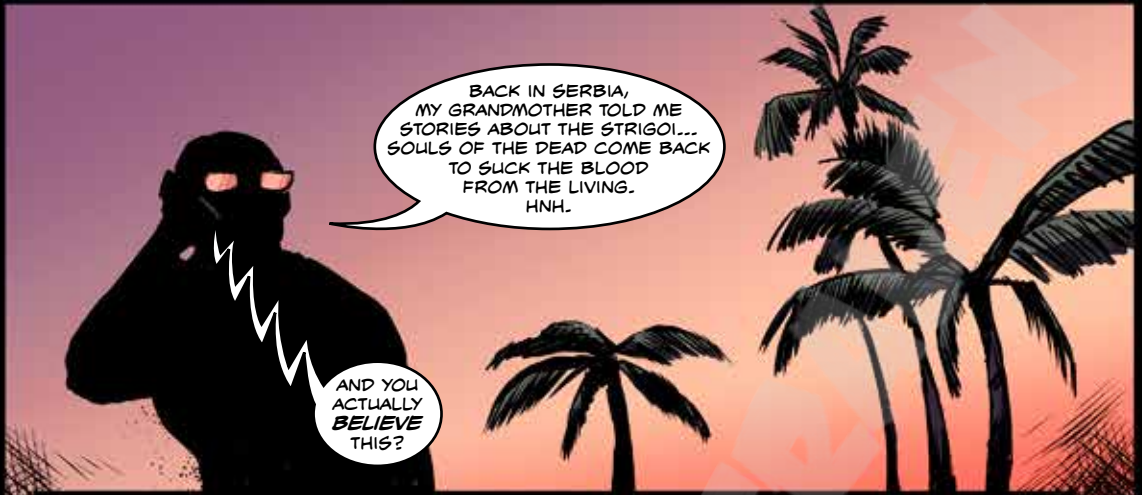


IDDY, GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF. BACK FROM THE DEAD YOU SAY? HUH.

THAT'S CURIOUS.

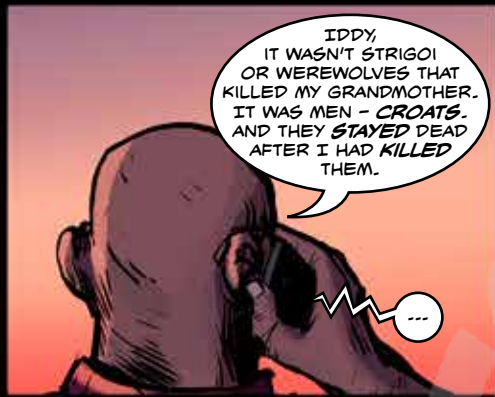
CURIOUS? YOU THINK IT'S CURIOUS?

THANO, DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID? THEY'RE DEAD... BUT THEY ARE STILL ALIVE. AS IN, THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, THANO!



BACK IN SERBIA,
MY GRANDMOTHER TOLD ME
STORIES ABOUT THE STRIGOI...
SOULS OF THE DEAD COME BACK
TO SUCK THE BLOOD
FROM THE LIVING.
HNN.

AND YOU
ACTUALLY
BELIEVE
THIS?



IDDY,
IT WASN'T STRIGOI
OR WEREWOLVES THAT
KILLED MY GRANDMOTHER.
IT WAS MEN - **CROATS**.
AND THEY **STAYED DEAD**
AFTER I HAD **KILLED**
THEM.



I'M NOT
THE ONE TELLING OLD
WIVES TALES HERE, IDDY.
WHAT I BELIEVE IS THAT
SOMEONE IS PLAYING
A TRICK ON YOU.

SO LIKE
I SAID, GET
A HOLD OF
YOURSELF.

MAN
UP.

DEAL
WITH THIS.



HNN.







MUNCHKIN?

DO YOU WANT TO WEAR MY OLD PANTIES OVER YOUR FACE?

THEN **BEG, LOSER!**

OR BETTER YET - GO BUY ME SOMETHING FROM MY **WISHLIST!**



WHAT IS IT DADDY? I'M **WORKING.**

OH, OKAY MUNCHKIN. I DIDN'T WANT TO BOTHER YOU. JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE ALL RIGHT.



DAD? WHY **WOULDN'T** I BE ALL RIGHT?



NO, WHY WOULDN'T YOU, MUNCHKIN? IT'S JUST YOUR OLD DADDY BEING SILLY.

OH, **DADDY...**



I KNOW YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO ME.

NO...



IT'S JUST... I COULDN'T STAND IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO YOU. IF I LOST YOU TOO...

DAD, DAD... I KNOW.



YOU'RE MY LITTLE PRINCESS.

AND YOU'RE MY GOOD AND NOBLE KING, FATHER.



DAD, I GOTTA GET BACK TO WORK.

YEAH, YEAH, SURE. YOU GO DO THAT, MUNCHKIN.



mmm...



WHAT'S WRONG?

I CAN'T...
I JUST...



I CAN'T
REST AS LONG
AS SOME OF *THEM*
ARE STILL OUT
THERE.

THE
BULLETS IN MY
FLESH CRY OUT FOR
REVENGE.



THEN
LET'S GO DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT THAT,
BABE.



AND I TRUST EVERYTHING WILL BE TO YOUR LIKING, SIR!



ARE YOU WEARING IT?



Y-YES SIR, I'VE DONE AS YOU SAID...

GOOD.



UH...

HRRROAH!
HROOOAR!



OH YEAH, THAT'S IT, NOW OPEN WIDE YOU LITTLE PTERODACTYLE SLUT, GET READY TO BE TACKLED BY THE TRICERATOP!

JESUS FUCKING CHRIST. THIS IS A THING?



IT'S A WHOLE NEW KIND OF WRONG IS WHAT IT IS.

WHU-HUH?!



WHO ARE YOU?!



YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AFRAID OF US, GIRL. AS A MATTER OF FACT, WE'RE GOING TO SAVE YOU FROM THIS ATROCITY.

THAT'S RIGHT...



THE NICE DINOSAUR HERE IS GOING TO GIVE YOU ALL HIS MONEY, ISN'T HE?

I- IT'S YOU. BUT IT CAN'T BE. YOU'RE DEAD.



WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

NOTHING...





BLUAAAAARGH!



...



GODDAMMIT, TIA!



I WAS GOING TO QUESTION HIM!

OH, JESUS, WHAT DOES IT MATTER!



"WHAT DOES IT MATTER?"

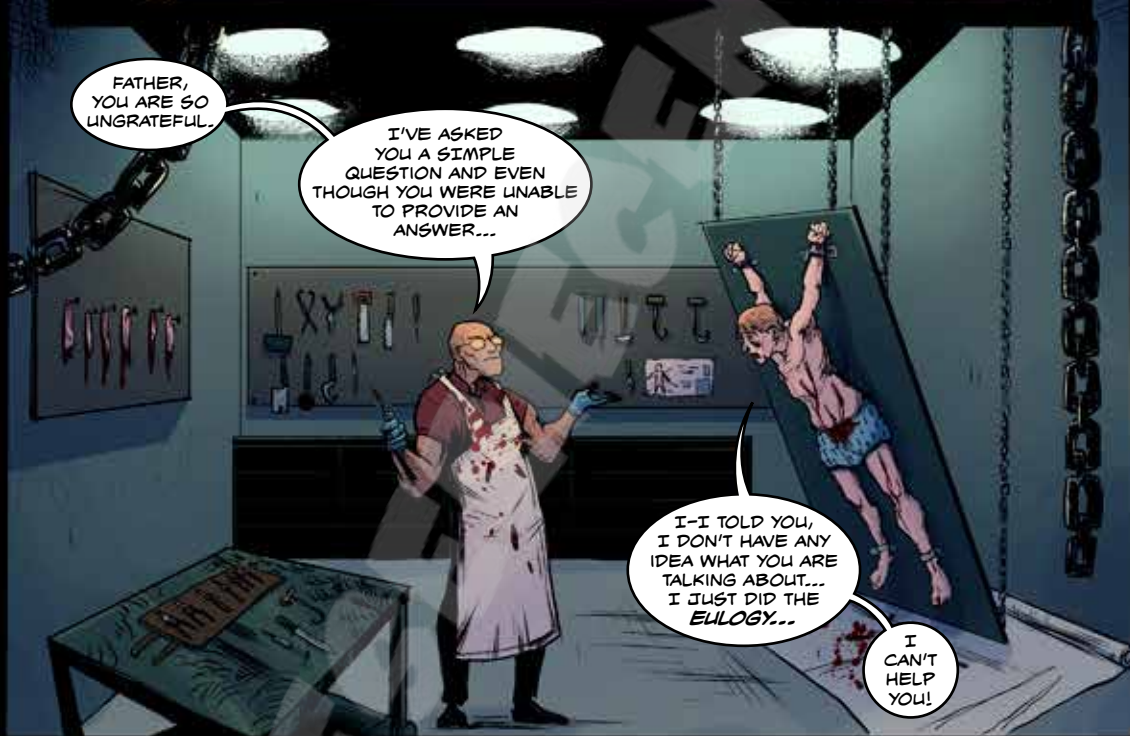
BABY, WE WERE KILLED AND BROUGHT BACK FROM THE DEAD DON'T YOU AT LEAST WANT TO KNOW WHY???







PLEASE...
LET ME GO!



FATHER,
YOU ARE SO
UNGRATEFUL.

I'VE ASKED
YOU A SIMPLE
QUESTION AND EVEN
THOUGH YOU WERE UNABLE
TO PROVIDE AN
ANSWER...

I-I TOLD YOU,
I DON'T HAVE ANY
IDEA WHAT YOU ARE
TALKING ABOUT...
I JUST DID THE
EULOGY...

I
CAN'T
HELP
YOU!



NO,
APPARENTLY
NOT... AND YET,
I AM THE *GIVING*
ONE HERE.

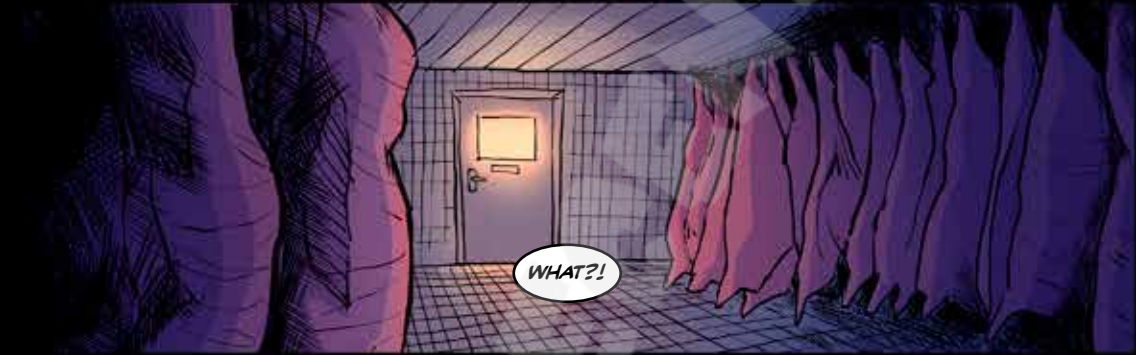
WHI-
WHAT ARE
YOU GIVING
ME?



AS A BOY,
I SAW MY PEOPLE
EXPOSED TO... UNSPEAKABLE
HORRORS BY THE
YOGOSLAWS ...

NUH-NO,
PLEASE, THEY
ARE DEAD, NO-ONE
IS TRYING TO FUCK WITH
YOU, THANO! YOU HAVE
TO BELIEVE
ME!









YAAAAAR-
HUH?



LIGH!

IF EVER
I NEEDED ANOTHER
REASON TO BE
VEGAN...

WHOOOMP



I GUESS
IT SHOULDN'T
SURPRISE ME THAT
THIS IS WHERE A
MURDERER
WORKS.

HUHNG...
FFUCK YOU...



WHY DID
YOU MURDER
OUR FAMILY?

WHY???

IT WAS YOU
AND YOUR FAGGOT
BOYFRIEND THAT WERE
OUR **TARGETS**.

WE JUST
TOOK ALL YOUR
FREAK **FRIENDS** FOR
GOOD MEASURE.



A JOB
WORTH DOING IS
WORTH DOING WELL,
DON'T YOU THINK?
HEH, HEH...

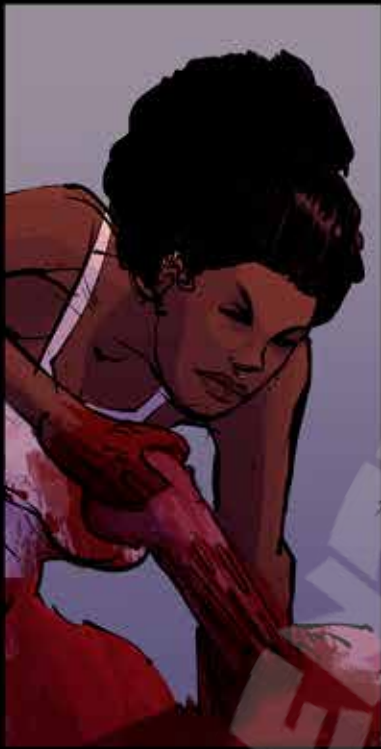


AAAAH!
YAAARGH!



AAAAAIIIEH
WHAT ARE YOU
DOOOO-







OH, JESUS...

NO, I'M SERIOUS. WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?



WHAT HAPPENED TO ME...?



JACK, IT'S NOT LIKE I ASKED TO BECOME LIKE THIS... I DIDN'T ASK FOR ANY OF THIS... IT JUST HAPPENED.

THAT'S YOUR EXCUSE? **IT JUST HAPPENED?** THAT'S YOUR EXCUSE FOR RIPPING A GUY'S HEART OUT AND **EATING** IT?



AND... AND GETTING KILLED AND COMING BACK FROM THE DEAD WITH FUCKING SUPERPOWERS - THAT'S THE STUFF THAT "JUST HAPPENS?!"

IT IS! IT DID! JACK, IT'S **LIFE!** THIS IS **MARRIAGE!**



NO.

NO, I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS.



JACK?



YOU'VE CHANGED, TIA.

YOU'RE NOT THE WOMAN I FELL IN LOVE WITH.

NOT ANYMORE.



FINE. THEN GO.



I WILL.



IF ONLY YOU KNEW...

SLAM



TEC

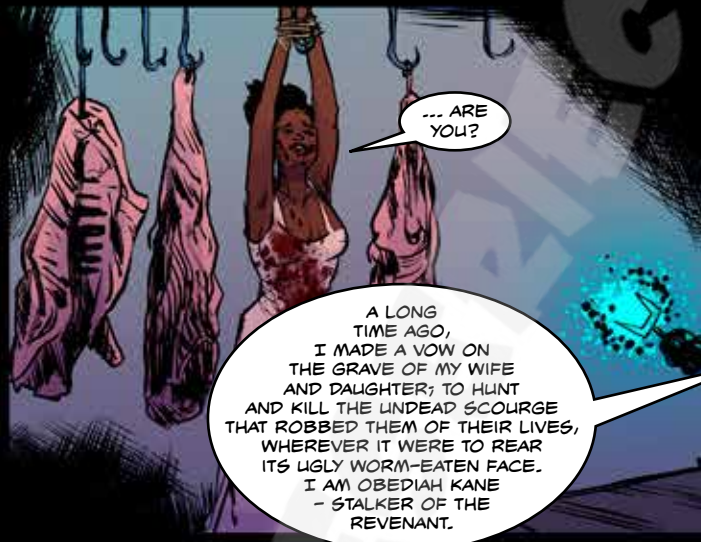




HNNN...

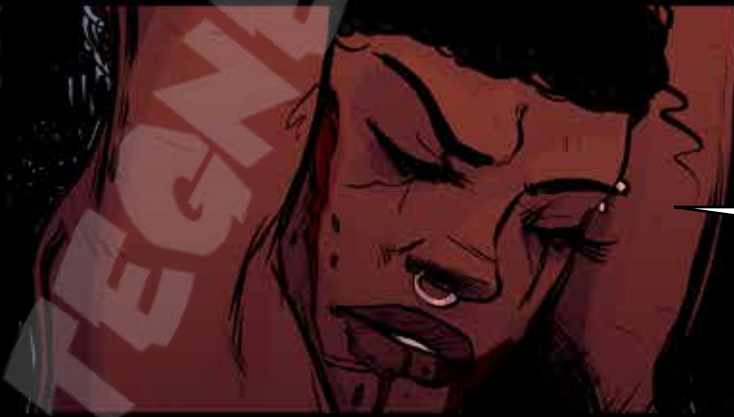


WHAT...
HOW...
WHO...



... ARE
YOU?

A LONG
TIME AGO,
I MADE A VOW ON
THE GRAVE OF MY WIFE
AND DAUGHTER; TO HUNT
AND KILL THE UNDEAD SCOURGE
THAT ROBBED THEM OF THEIR LIVES,
WHEREVER IT WERE TO REAR
ITS UGLY WORM-EATEN FACE.
I AM OBEDIAH KANE
- STALKER OF THE
REVENANT.



WELL,
BULLY FOR YOU...
OW, MY HEAD...
HEY...



YOU HURT ME!



POOR ABOMINATION... BROUGHT HAPHAZARDLY BACK INTO THE WORLD WITHOUT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST IDEA HOW THE NECROMANCY THAT KEEPS IT ALIVE ACTUALLY WORKS...

HEY I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE, CALL ME AN ABOMINATION AGAIN AND I'M GONNA-



AND YOU'RE GOING TO DO ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

LET ME EXPLAIN SOMETHING TO YOU.



BECAUSE OF THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH YOU WERE RESURRECTED, THE FEELINGS YOU AND YOUR MATE HARBORED FOR EACH OTHER... THIS CARICATURE OF "LOVE"... MADE YOU INVULNERABLE.

HOWEVER...

NOW THAT YOU'RE SEPARATED, YOU'RE MORTAL ONCE AGAIN.

AND NEXT TIME YOU DIE- IN A LITTLE WHILE- THERE WILL BE NO COMING BACK.

HOWEVER, THE EMPATHIC LINK BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU STILL EXISTS...

LIKE YOUR "LOVE", IT WILL EVENTUALLY WITHER AND DIE COMPLETELY, BUT UNTIL THEN I CAN USE IT TO LURE YOUR MATE BACK HERE.

JACK ...



THAT'S RIGHT. I'M GOING TO TORTURE YOU.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. I DON'T KNOW WHY IT HAPPENED. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING. I'M TRULY LOST.

WHY DID THOSE MEN KILL US? WHAT DID WE EVER DO TO THEM? WHY DID TIA AND I COME BACK?

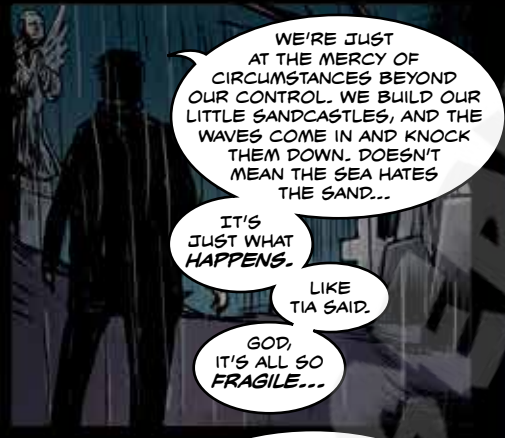


WHY DID I LOSE HER?



SOMETIMES IT SEEMS LIKE THERE ARE... **EVIL GODS** BEHIND ALL THIS, PULLING THE STRINGS.

BUT OF COURSE THERE ISN'T.



WE'RE JUST AT THE MERCY OF CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL. WE BUILD OUR LITTLE SANDCASTLES, AND THE WAVES COME IN AND KNOCK THEM DOWN. DOESN'T MEAN THE SEA HATES THE SAND...

IT'S JUST WHAT HAPPENS.

LIKE TIA SAID.

GOD, IT'S ALL SO FRAGILE...



...AND I REALLY NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO RIGHT NOW.



I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS, TOBER OMI. BUT YOU WERE ALWAYS LIKE A FATHER TO ME...

MORE THAN MY REAL FATHER EVER WAS...



RAAARGH...



WHAT IS THIS???



JACK?



HEY, REPELLI.



JACK, WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? WHERE AM I AND...

JACK, YOU LOOK AWFUL.

WELL, IN MY DEFENSE... I'M DEAD. AND I'M SORRY TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT...

SO AM I. DEAR GOD.