

SWORDS OF SORROW

4 OF SIX
DYNAMITE.

GAIL SIMONE
SERGIO DAVILA



WWW.DYNAMITE.COM



SWORDS OF SORROW

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"THE UNIVERSE
IS SHRINKING,
COURIER."



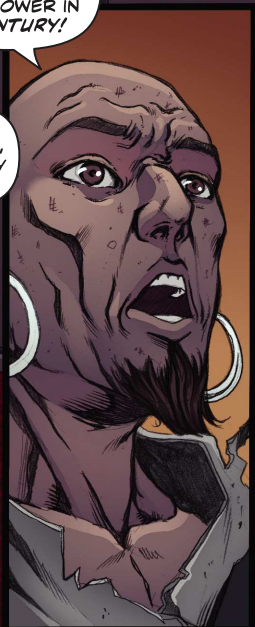
SOON THERE
WILL BE ONLY
ONE PAINTING
ON MY WALL.

I CANNOT
ALLOW THIS TO
HAPPEN.

BUT, MY
LADY, YOU
HAVE NOT LEFT
THIS TOWER IN
A CENTURY!

I HAVE
NOT.

FETCH
MY SWORD,
PLEASE, MY
FRIEND.

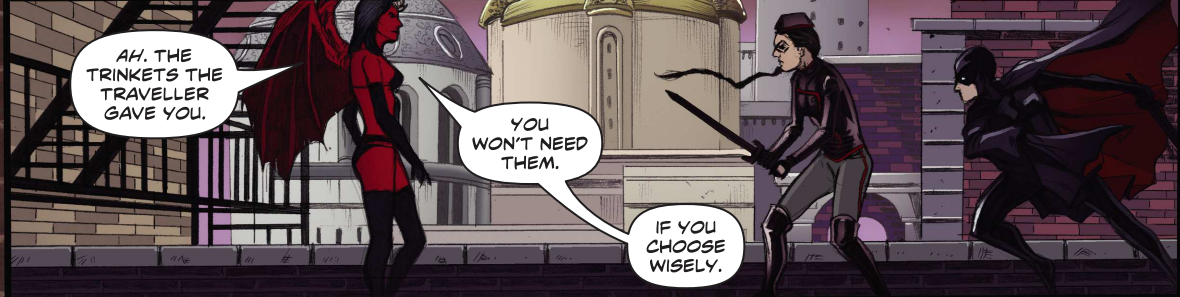


"I GO TO
FIGHT THE
END OF
DAYS."

"WELL, SON
OF A BITCH."



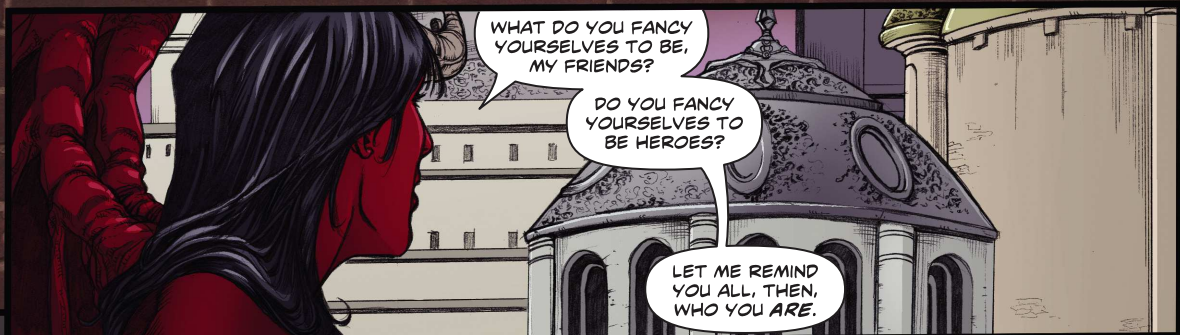




AH. THE TRINKETS THE TRAVELLER GAVE YOU.

YOU WON'T NEED THEM.

IF YOU CHOOSE WISELY.



WHAT DO YOU FANCY YOURSELVES TO BE, MY FRIENDS?

DO YOU FANCY YOURSELVES TO BE HEROES?

LET ME REMIND YOU ALL, THEN, WHO YOU ARE.



"A TERRORIST.

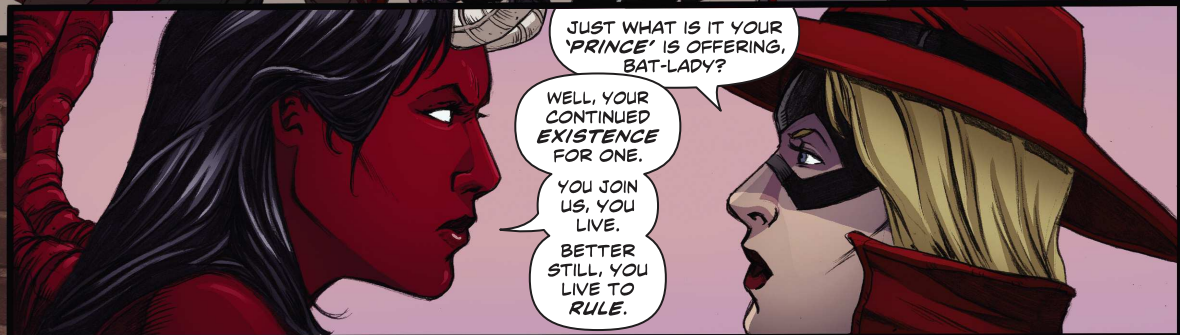
"A DERANGED VIGILANTE.

"A MONSTER'S DAUGHTER.

"A CRIMINAL.

"A THIEF.

"AND A LESS ACCOMPLISHED THIEF."



JUST WHAT IS IT YOUR 'PRINCE' IS OFFERING, BAT-LADY?

WELL, YOUR CONTINUED EXISTENCE FOR ONE.

YOU JOIN US, YOU LIVE.

BETTER STILL, YOU LIVE TO RULE.



THINK OF IT...YOU ARE CLEARLY WOMEN OF FORTITUDE.

AND THE WORLD MOCKS AND DERIDES YOU FOR IT.

DO YOU NOT DESERVE... BETTER?



TO BE
QUEEN OF ALL.
EVERYTHING

TO BE IN
THE HAREM
OF A GOD.

THAT
IS WHAT
WE OFFER
YOU!

WELL, SHE LOST
ME AT THAT 'HAREM,'
BIT, BUT OTHERWISE,
SHE MAKES A GOOD
CASE.

WHAT HAS
POLITE SOCIETY
EVER DONE
FOR US?

I'VE SEEN
WHAT POWER DOES.
I DO NOT SEEK IT
IN EXCESS.

I WILL NOT TRADE
ONE OPPRESSOR
FOR ANOTHER.

NOR I. A CRIME
AGAINST A MAN IS WRONG,
A CRIME AGAINST ALL MEN
IS MONSTROUS.



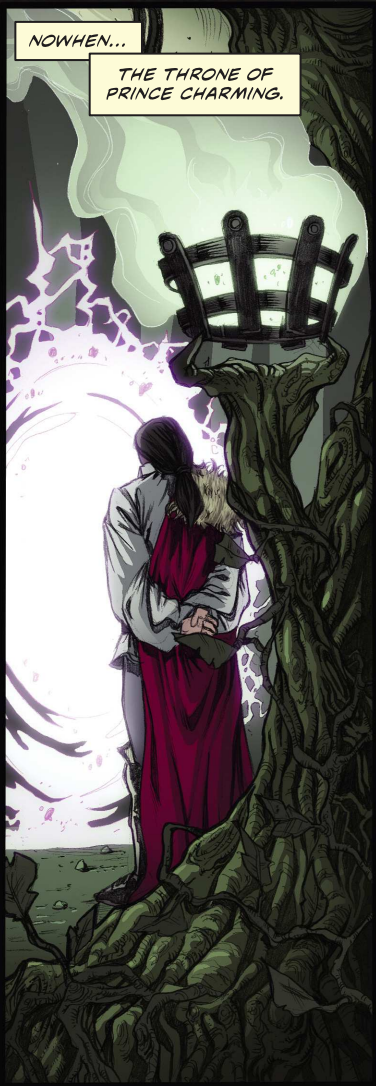
WELL.

THAT'S
THAT, I
SUPPOSE.



YOU CAN'T
SAY YOU WEREN'T
WARNED.

ENJOY YOUR
BRIEF LIVES
AS SLAVES,
LADIES.



NOWHEN...

THE THRONE OF
PRINCE CHARMING.



PURGATORI.
MY DEAREST
PET.

I TAKE IT
THAT IT DID NOT
GO WELL?

NO, MY
LOVE, MY
PRINCE.
NOT
WELL AT
ALL.



PITY.

STILL, THEY
ARE A POOR,
HARDSCRABBLE
LOT, TO STAND
IN THE WAY OF
THE UNIVERSE.

THE
TRAVELLER
CHOSE
POORLY.



THEY WILL NOT SEEK
THE TRINITY.

THEY ARE
SELFISH AT
HEART.

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT A HERO
LOOKS LIKE,
MY LOVE.

BUT THEY
ARE NOT
HEROES.



NO.
BUT
THEY ARE
DOGGED.



LOOK. THIS ISN'T
OUR FIGHT. IT
CAN'T BE.

THAT...
CREATURE...
TOLD NO
LIES.

I AM A
THIEF.

IF THIS REALLY
IS THE END OF ALL
THAT WE KNOW...

...I HAVE
PEOPLE I WOULD
LIKE TO SAY
GOODBYE TO.

I'M
SORRY.



GO,
THEN.

I PICTURED YOU
AS HAVING MORE
HEART, SOMEHOW.



DID YOU NOT
HEAR WHAT SHE
SAID?
WE DON'T EVEN
KNOW HOW TO FIND
THESE THREE
WARRIORS, THIS
'TRINITY.'

DO YOU HAVE A
MAP OF ALL TIME
AND DIMENSION,
LADY ZORRO?

AHEM.

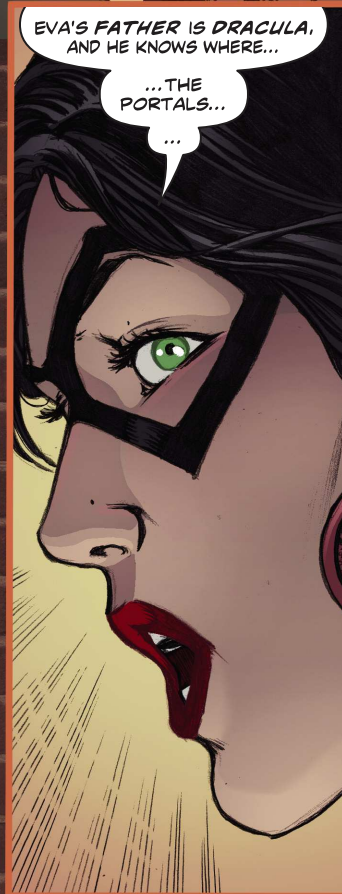


MY FATHER IS DRACULA.
LORD OF DARKNESS.

HE'S EVIL BEYOND
MEASURE, BUT HE
WON'T BEND A KNEE
TO THOSE THINGS.

AND HE
KNOWS WHERE
THE PORTALS
ARE.

YES!
SEE, BLACK
SPARROW?



EVA'S FATHER IS DRACULA.
AND HE KNOWS WHERE...

...THE
PORTALS...

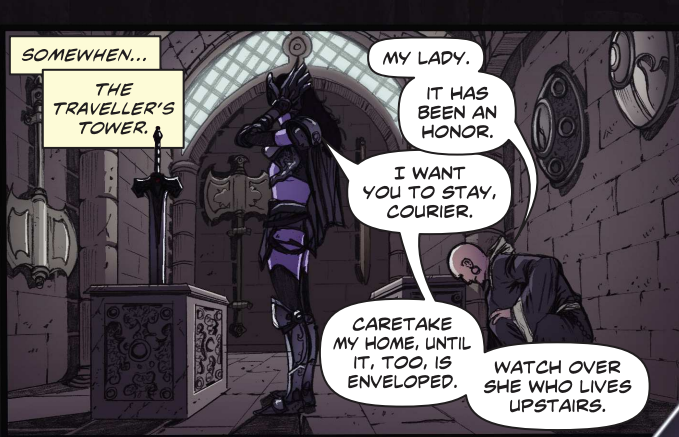
...



WAIT.

WHAT DID
YOU SAY JUST
THEN?

DON'T WORRY,
I GET THIS
REACTION
A LOT.



SOMEWHEN...

THE
TRAVELLER'S
TOWER.

MY LADY.

IT HAS
BEEN AN
HONOR.

I WANT
YOU TO STAY,
COURIER.

CARETAKE
MY HOME, UNTIL
IT, TOO, IS
ENVELOPED.

WATCH OVER
SHE WHO LIVES
UPSTAIRS.

AH.

THE VERY
FIRST SWORD
OF SORROW.



IT HAS
SAVED MY LIFE
A THOUSAND
TIMES.

NOT
THIS TIME,
I FEAR.



TRAVELLER.

I NEVER ASKED,
IN ALL MY TIME AS
YOUR SERVANT.

IF YOU
HAVE QUERIES,
MY FRIEND--

--I SUGGEST
YOU ASK
PROMPTLY.



MY LADY.

PLEASE.

IN UNTOLD
YEARS, YOU
HAVE NEVER
TOUCHED ME,
COURIER.

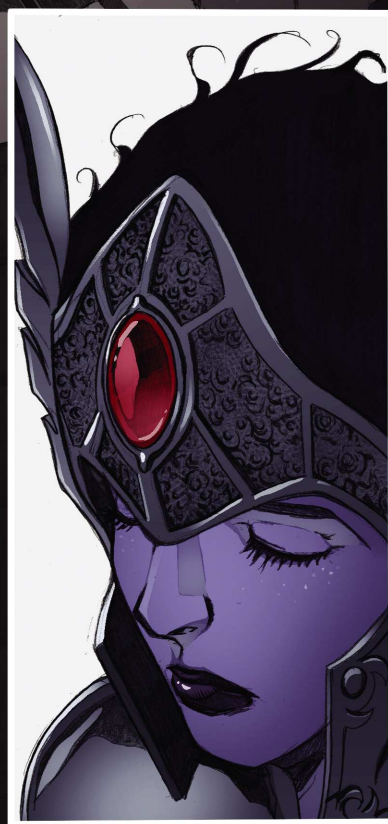
ASK YOUR
QUESTION.

YOU HAVE
EARNED AN
ANSWER.



YOU NEVER TOLD
ME, STAR OF
HEAVEN.

HOW CAME
YOU TO KNOW
THE PRINCE?





"THEY THWARTED THE WICKED WITCH AND FOUND TRUE LOVE, PRINCE CHARMING AND SNOW WHITE.

"A LOVE SO PURE THAT THE BEASTS OF THE FOREST WEPT IN JOY.

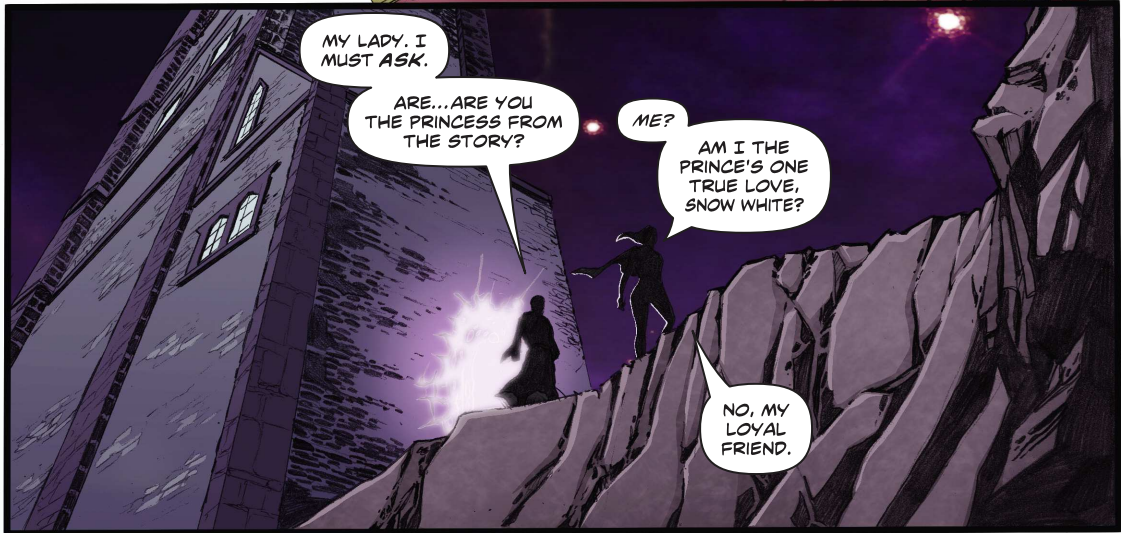
"BUT HIS RAGE AT THE WITCH FOR THREATENING HIS LOVE WAS SUCH THAT HE SOUGHT TO PUNISH HER FOR ENDANGERING HIS BELOVED.

"HE STOLE MUCH OF THE WITCH'S POWER, AND FORCED HER TO DANCE IN SHOES MADE OF LEAD, STILL HALF-MOLTEN FROM THE FORGE.

"HE LAUGHED WHILE SHE BURNED ALIVE.

"SNOW WHITE WAS OF KIND HEART, AND COULD NOT BEAR TO SEE HIS CRUELTY, EVEN TO THE WITCH.

"SHE LEFT HIM, AND WENT INTO HIDING."



MY LADY. I MUST ASK.
ARE...ARE YOU THE PRINCESS FROM THE STORY?

ME?
AM I THE PRINCE'S ONE TRUE LOVE, SNOW WHITE?

NO, MY LOYAL FRIEND.

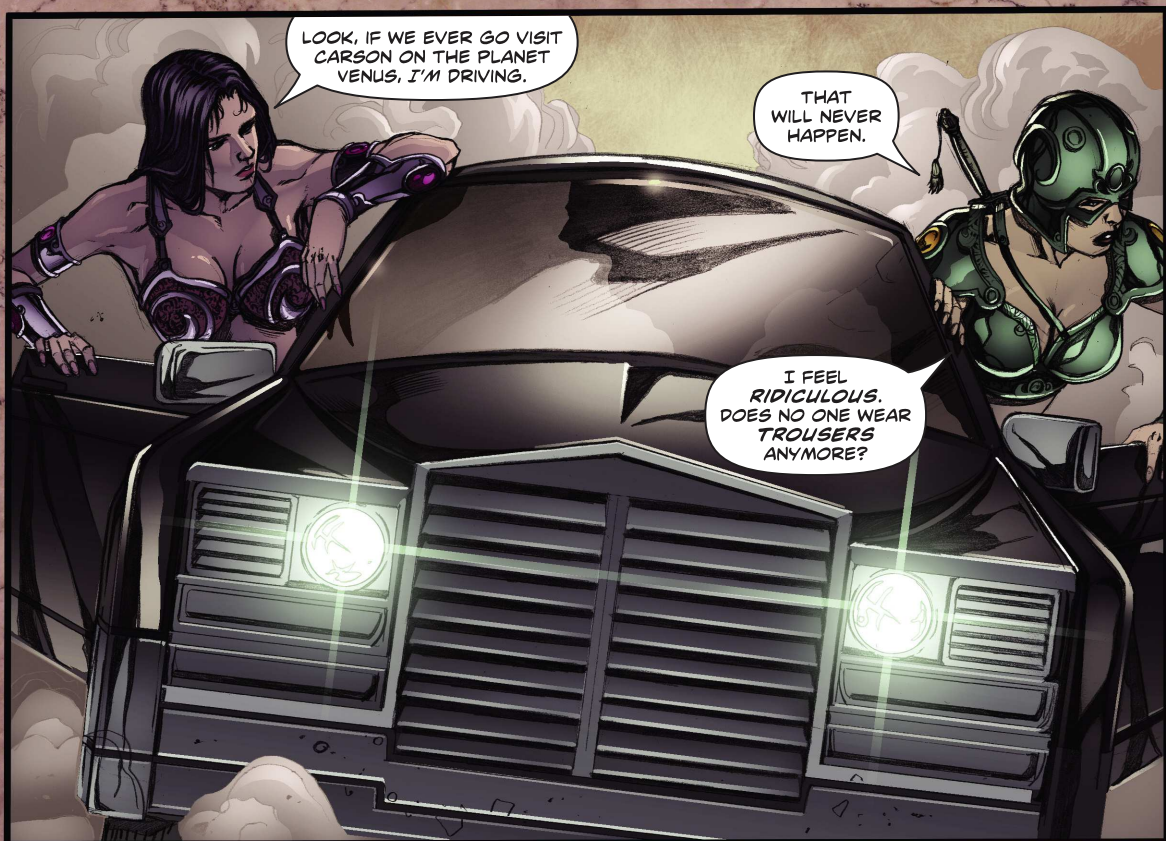
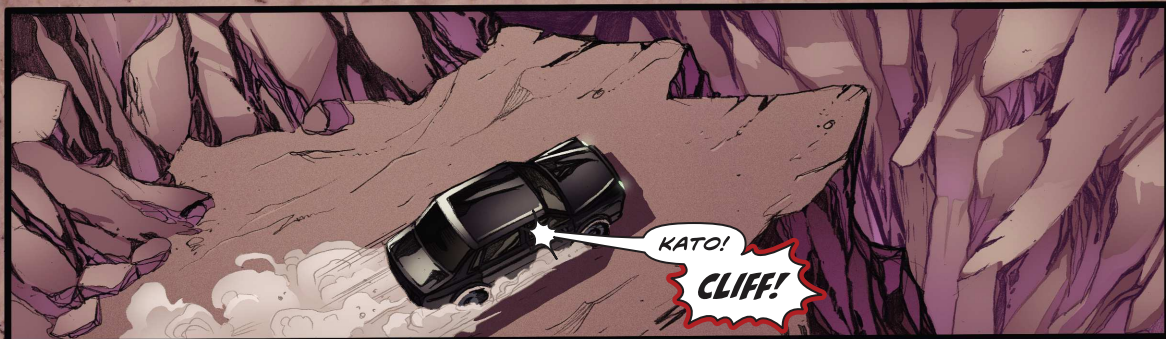
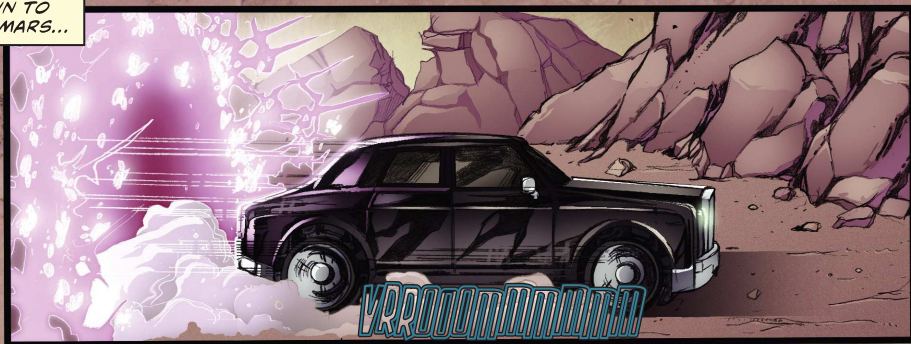


I AM
AFRAID I AM THE
WITCH!

BARSOOM, KNOWN TO
EARTH PEOPLE AS MARS...

KATO[®]

EVA[™]





MY FATHER HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR. BUT HE ALSO FEELS WE SHOULD APPROACH INCOGNITO, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

HE SWEARS THE PRINCESS DEJAH THORIS IS HERE, FIRST OF THE TRINITY.

SO WE WALK.

WELL, NOT EXACTLY, ACCORDING TO THE LORD OF VAMPIRES.



TAKE MY HAND.
...WHAT?



IT MAY NOT BE ELEGANT, AT FIRST.

BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, IT'S FASTER.

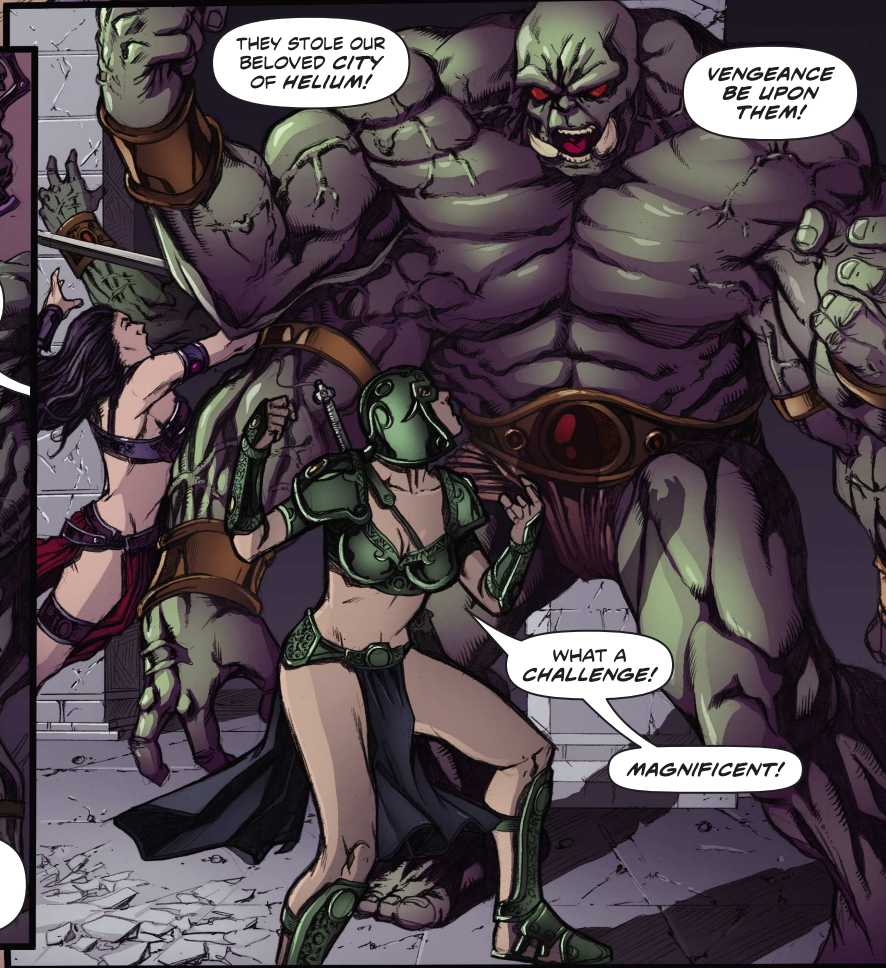


INVADERS!

ASSASSINS FROM JASOOM!

OH, FATHER.

I ACTUALLY HATE YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR.



THEY STOLE OUR BELOVED CITY OF HELIUM!

VENGEANCE BE UPON THEM!

WHAT A CHALLENGE!

MAGNIFICENT!



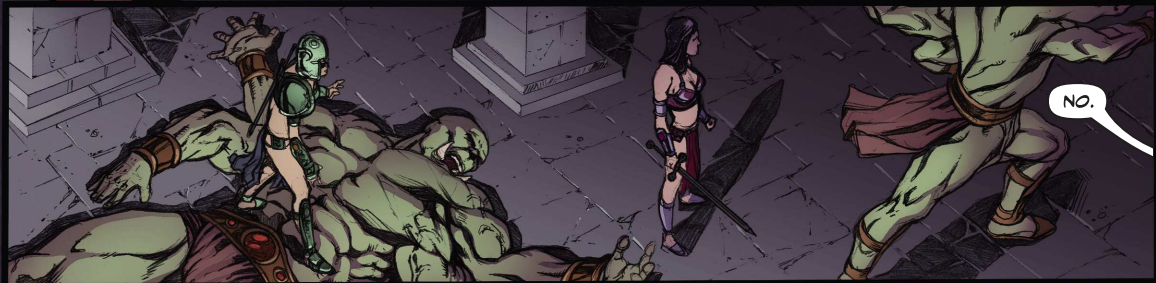
I WAS
THINKING OF
TASTING HIS
BLOOD.



INADVISABLE.



THEY'RE BACKING
UP. THEY SEEM TO
BE AFRAID OF US.



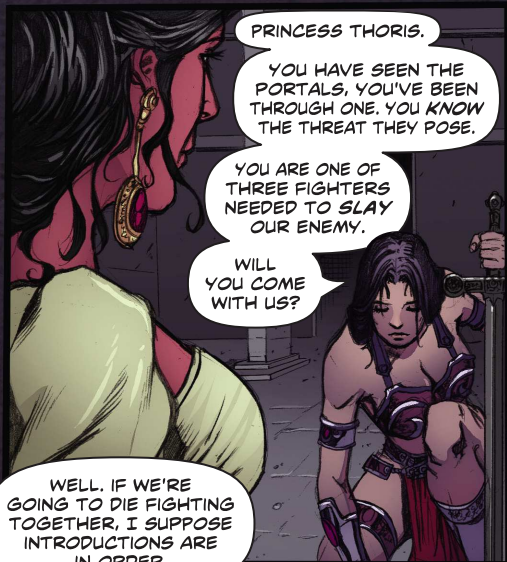
NO.



THEY ARE AFRAID
OF ME.

DID YOU
STEAL MY CITY,
EARTH WOMEN?

BECAUSE I
WON'T GO DOWN
AS EASILY AS MY
POOR SOLDIER,
I VOW.



PRINCESS THORIS.

YOU HAVE SEEN THE
PORTALS, YOU'VE BEEN
THROUGH ONE. YOU KNOW
THE THREAT THEY POSE.

YOU ARE ONE OF
THREE FIGHTERS
NEEDED TO SLAY
OUR ENEMY.

WILL
YOU COME
WITH US?

WELL, IF WE'RE
GOING TO DIE FIGHTING
TOGETHER, I SUPPOSE
INTRODUCTIONS ARE
IN ORDER.



I'M IRENE
ADLER, LADIES.
IT SOUNDS A
PROPER
ROMP.

WE'RE IN.

A JUNGLE ISLAND NOT
FOUND ON ANY MAP...

Lady
ZORRO

THE
**BLACK
SPARROW**



GO,
GO,
GO,
GO!

DO YOU NOT
THINK I AM
TRYING?

NOT HARD
ENOUGH, ZORRO,
NOT NEARLY HARD
ENOUGH!



I MEAN NO OFFENSE
HERE...BUT I AM KIND OF
HOPING THESE THINGS LIKE
HORSEMEAT MORE THAN
SPANISH FOOD.

NICE DEMON
LIZARD, GOOD
DEMON LIZARD!

THEY'RE
GAINING.

THE FINAL
STAND OF LADY
ZORRO, THEN.
SO BE IT.

HAVE
YOU YOUR
SWORD?

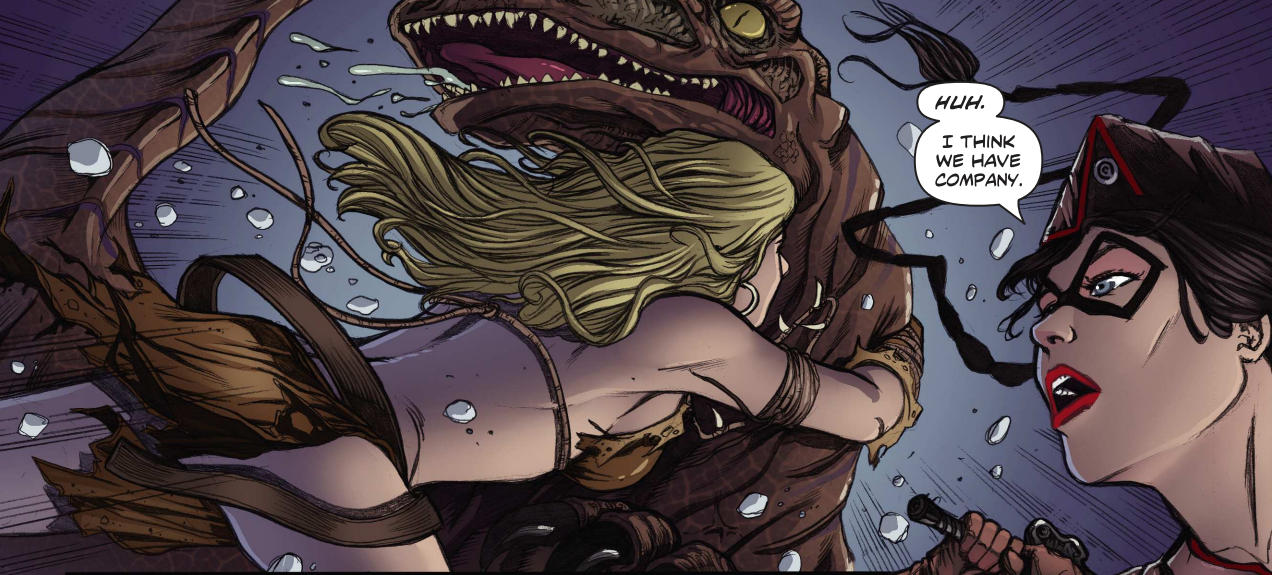
WELL, THAT'S A QUESTION
WITH A COMPLICATED
ANSWER.



CALL ME OLD
FASHIONED.



UH-OH.



HUH.

I THINK
WE HAVE
COMPANY.



YES.

UP HERE,
AS WELL.

DUCK.

WHAT'S SHE
SAYING?



I SAID.

DUCK!

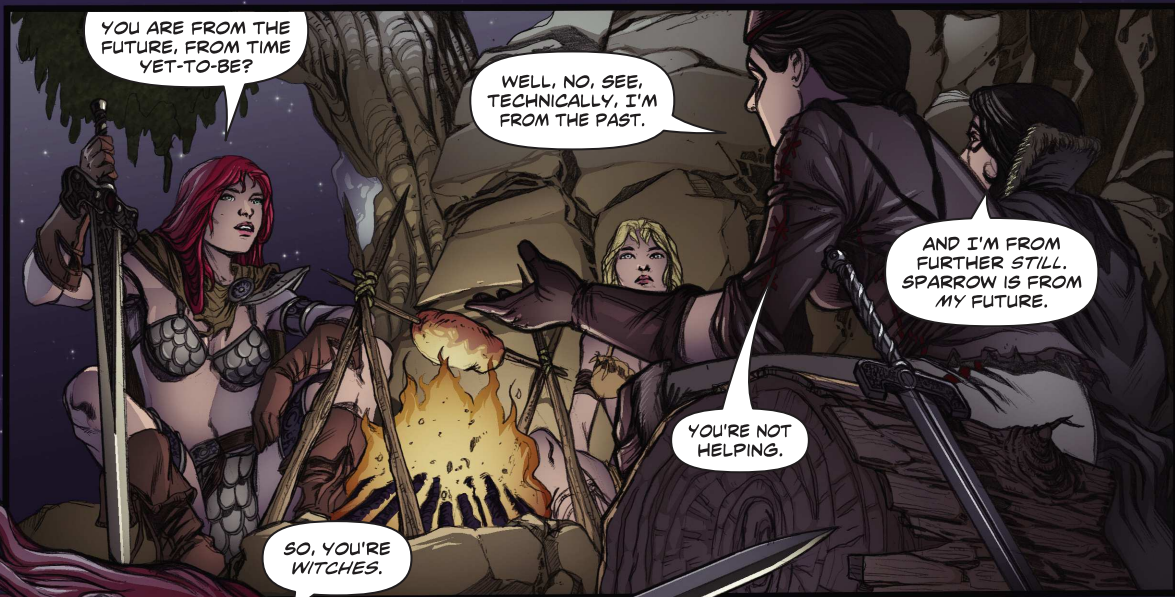
LOWER,
YOU
FOOLS!





SOON...

"SO, PLEASE
EXPLAIN TO
SONJA AGAIN,
VISITORS."



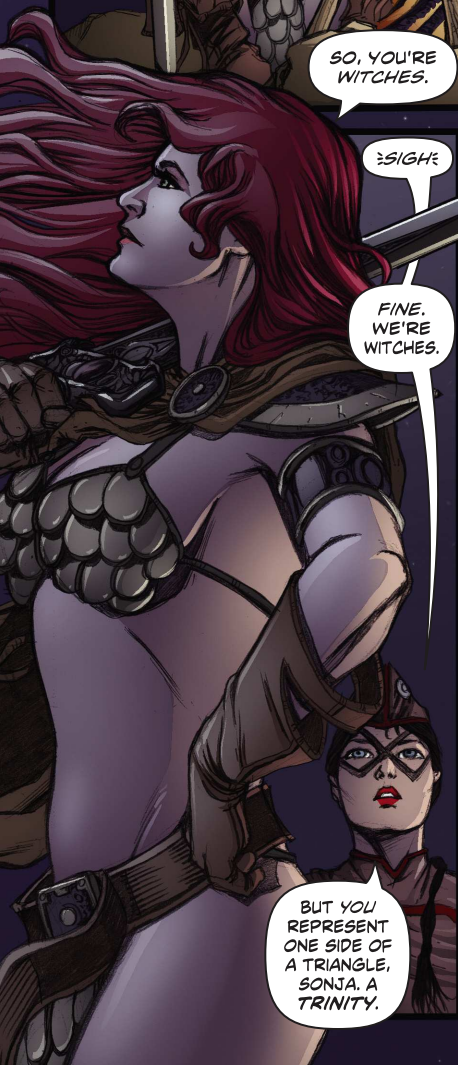
YOU ARE FROM THE
FUTURE, FROM TIME
YET-TO-BE?

WELL, NO, SEE,
TECHNICALLY, I'M
FROM THE PAST.

AND I'M FROM
FURTHER STILL.
SPARROW IS FROM
MY FUTURE.

YOU'RE NOT
HELPING.

SO, YOU'RE
WITCHES.



SIGH

FINE.
WE'RE
WITCHES.

BUT YOU
REPRESENT
ONE SIDE OF
A TRIANGLE,
SONJA. A
TRINITY.



FOR SOME REASON,
THE MOST POWERFUL
BEING IN THE UNIVERSE
IS AFRAID OF THE
THREE OF YOU.

WE NEED
YOU.

WELL.
WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
JUNGLE
GIRL?

ME?



OUR WORLD IS AT
STAKE. ALL THE
WORLDS.

I SAY WE
GO WITH THE
WITCHES.

BURNT
THUNDER
LIZARD ASS,
ANYONE?

PACIFICA PARK,
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MISS FURY® MASQUERADE®

I MEAN,
I KNOW WE
DIDN'T REALLY
PLAN THIS.

BUT WOULDN'T IT HAVE
MADE MORE SENSE TO SEND
DRACULA'S DAUGHTER
AFTER THIS VAMPIRE GAL?

I HEARD SHE'S
NOT REALLY A
VAMPIRE.

I HEARD SHE'S
SOME KIND OF ALIEN
OR SOMESUCH.

WELL,
THAT'S NOT
COMFORTING.

YOU KNOW,
BLACK SPARROW
HAD A POINT.

WHY US?
I'M NO
HERO.

I DON'T
KNOW,
FURY.

BUT MAYBE YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO BE.

MAYBE YOU
JUST HAVE TO
ANSWER WHEN
CALLED UPON.

WE WERE
GIVEN THE
SWORDS FOR
A REASON.
US.

YOU BELIEVE
THAT?

I
HAVE
TO.

BECAUSE
I'M NO HERO,
EITHER.



GOOD EVENING, LADIES.

I GATHER YOU'VE BEEN HUNTING ME.

LET ME JUST WARN YOU.

CORN
DOG
FRIED
CHEESE



MY NEW FRIEND JENNIFER MIGHT TAKE ISSUE WITH THAT.

HUNTING ME HAS BEEN HER HOBBY OF LATE, YOU SEE.



PROVE IT!



WELL, *THIS* IS EMBARRASSING.

I'D ADVISE YOUR FRIEND TO MAKE THE FIRST SHOTS, COUNT.

"VAMPIRELLA."

STOP.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP.



WILL THESE DO?

WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE, LADY.

YES.



THE WRONG
SIDE, AS IT
TURNS OUT.

MY NAME IS LADY HEL,
CREATURES. FUTURE RULER
OF THE UNDERWORLD.

AND TO
YOU...

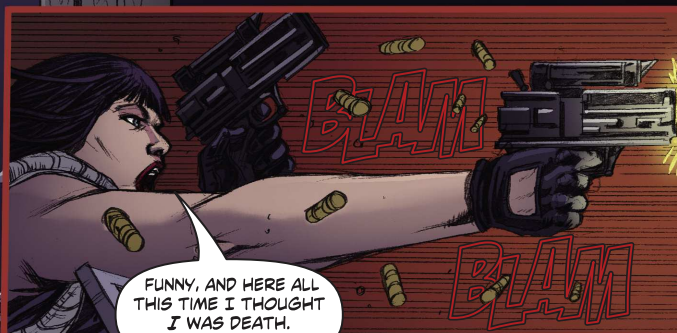
...I AM
DEATH.



SHE MEANS
THAT FIGURATIVELY,
SURLY.

NOT AT
ALL.

CRAP.



FUNNY, AND HERE ALL
THIS TIME I THOUGHT
I WAS DEATH.



I SERVE THE PRINCE, FRAGILE
THINGS. FOR NOW.
HE HAS PROMISED
ME ALL.

IF YOU BUT FAIL
IN YOUR PETTY
MACHINATIONS.

PREPARE
TO DIE,
MEATLINGS.



CAN WE FIGHT
HER?

I DON'T
SEE HOW,
FRANKLY.

WELL. THEN
I GUESS IT'S A
GOOD THING...



...THAT I HAD MY
FRIENDS GATHER
REINFORCEMENTS.





NEXT:
THE LONG WALK
ACROSS WORLDS



NEXT ISSUE:

As the epic era-spanning tale rockets towards conclusion, reluctant heroines find themselves facing terrifying alternate versions of themselves on the road to the ultimate showdown with the Prince Of All Worlds. Can even the combined forces of Kato, Red Sonja, Dejah Thoris, Vampirella, Jungle Girl, Lady Zorro and dozens more save reality? Join us for the penultimate chapter in what critics are calling the best crossover event of the summer!

EXPLOSIVE NEWS FROM COMIC-CON!

VISIT WWW.DYNAMITE.COM/MEDIACENTER FOR THE COMPLETE STORIES

Writer **WARREN ELLIS** debuts the all-new **JAMES BOND 007** comic book series with artist Jason Masters. We couldn't be more excited about what they have in store for the iconic super spy, and can't wait for issue #1 of **VARGR** to debut this fall.

GARTH ENNIS returns to Dynamite and welcomes fans aboard **A TRAIN CALLED LOVE** – A new 10-issue maxiseries of romance and violence in stores this October and perfect for fans of *The Boys* and *Preacher*.

The full creative team for October's **GRUMPY CAT #1** is here! Remember these names...**BEN FISHER**, **BEN MCCOOL**, **ROYAL MCGRAW**, AND **ELLIOTT R. SERRANO**. With art from **KEN HAESER** and **STEVE UY**, who also contribute cover artwork alongside **REBEKIE BENNINGTON**, **AGNES GARBOWSKA**, and **TAVIS MAIDEN**. Don't listen to the cat, this book is going to be amazing!

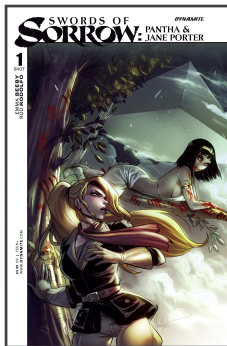
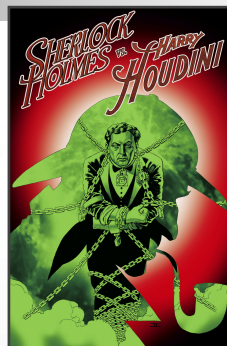
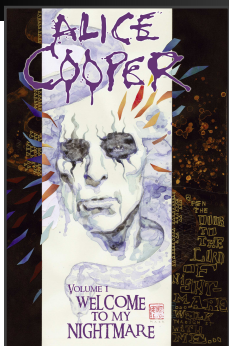
RICK REMENDER'S DEVOLUTION welcomes artist **JONATHAN WAYSHAK** and colorist **JORDAN BOYD**. This book is shaping to be outstanding. For a look at what the team has in store head over to Dynamite.com today.

CAGE HEROES will be fighting their way to you this fall from Dynamite! An all-new MMA-based superhero series is being developed by **KEVIN EASTMAN** and MMA manager **IAN PARKER** for this November. You'll want to hold on tight for this one.

Dynamite announces third **WOMEN OF DYNAMITE** statue based on **FRANK CHO'S JUNGLE GIRL** and sculpted by **JASON SMITH**. That's right Jana The Jungle Girl will be swinging into stores as a 12" inch high hand-painted, cold-cast porcelain statutory no collector will want to be without.

ATARI® and Dynamite ink publishing deal agreement! Includes retrospective hardcover and comics/graphic novels! All your favorite classics from the arcade are coming back in a major way! Be on sure to keep your eyes and ears open for more information a little later this year.

HIGHLIGHTED ITEMS | AUGUST



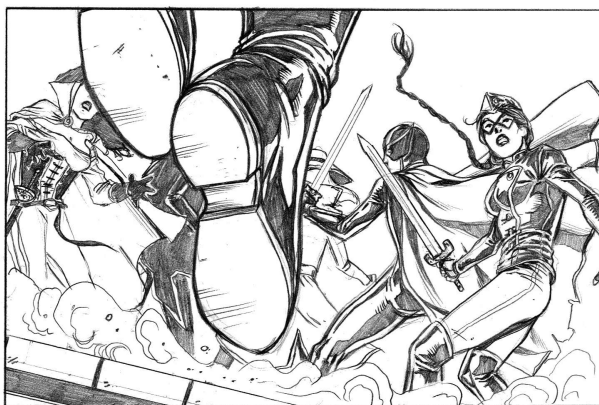
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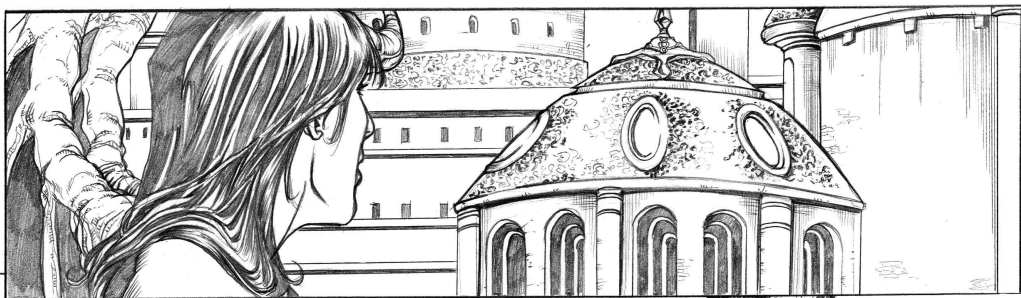
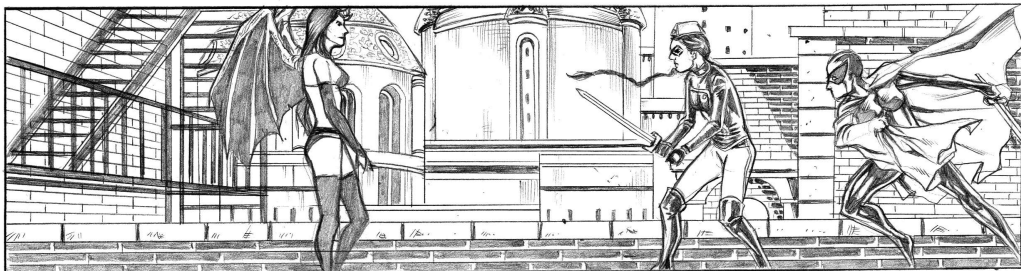
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25¢

SWORDS OF SORROW

PART FOUR

SIMONE
DÁVILA

