



VAMPIRELLA®



DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

VAMPIRELLA®

HER ORIGINS ARE SHROUDED IN MYSTERY.

SOME SAY SHE'S A POWERFUL ENTITY FROM ANOTHER REALM; OTHERS
TELL TALES OF A CHILD BORN OF A DEMONIC MOTHER IN HELL'S FIRE
AND DISPATCHED TO CLEANSE THE WORLD OF EVIL.

BUT ALL THESE STORIES SHARE A COMMON REFRAIN:
VAMPIRELLA HAS COME TO BATTLE THE FORCES OF DARKNESS – FROM
VAMPIRIC LEGIONS, TO SUPERNATURAL EVILS THAT BEGGAR
DESCRIPTION.

AND NOW, SHE FACES A TERRIBLE THREAT THAT EVEN THE
BLOOD-DRENCHED POWERS OF THE NIGHT HAVE COME TO FEAR...

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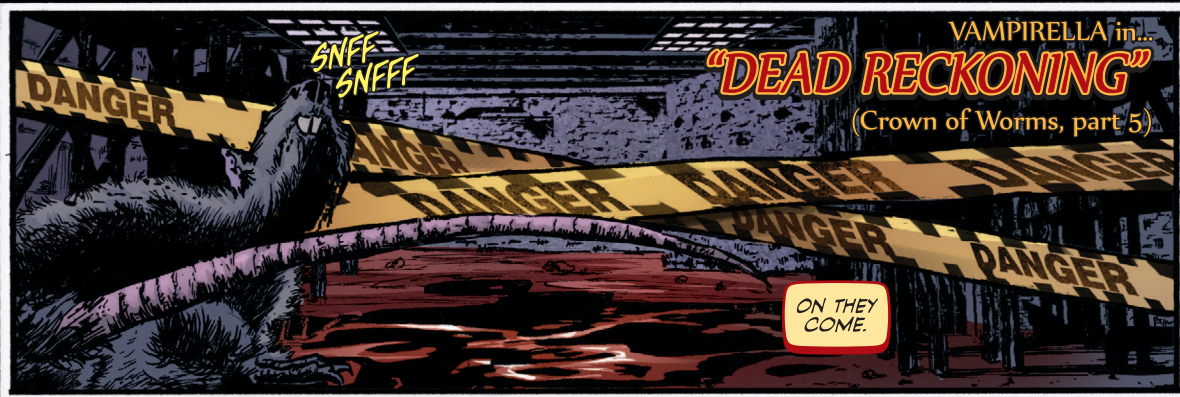
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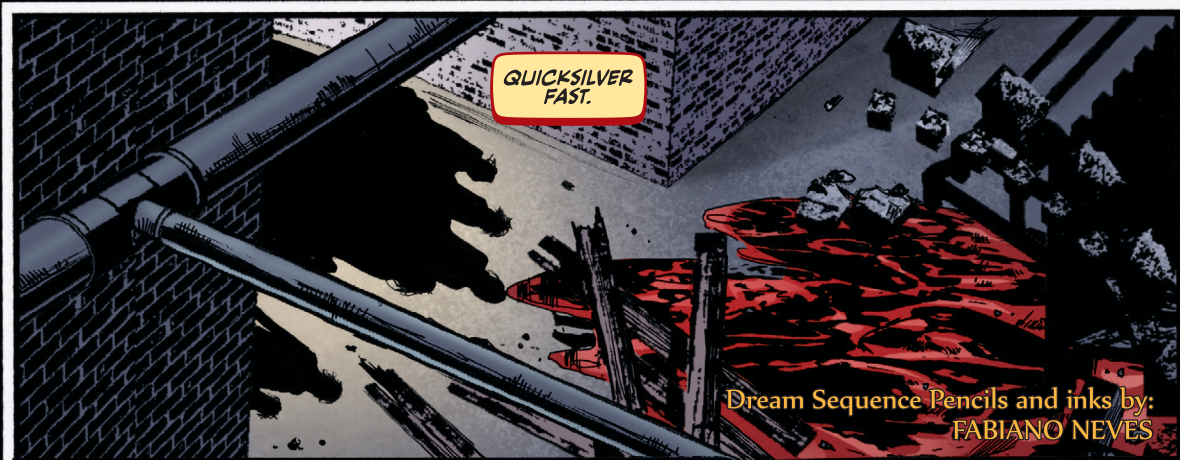
VAMPIRELLA in...
"DEAD RECKONING"

(Crown of Worms, part 5)



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SEATTLE UNDERGROUND

CONSUMED WITH RAGE, BURNING WITH HUNGER. FOR BLOOD, FOR THE PLEASURE OF THEIR MISTRESS.

QUICKLY, MES ENFANTS

OUR "MASTER" AWAITS US.

LE FANU, ONCE A FAVORITE OF DRACULA. NOW, EAGER TO SEE HER ONCE-BELOVED LEADER BOW BEFORE HER.

SHE HAD BEEN A POWERFUL VAMPIRE, A QUEEN IN DRACULA'S BLOOD-DRENCHED COURT.

NOW, SOMETHING...OTHER. SOMETHING PERVERSE AND TWISTED, WRENCHED OUT OF SHAPE BY CONTACT WITH AN ANCIENT, TERRIBLE ARTIFACT.



AS DOES
THE THIEF,
THE SALOPE,
VAMPIRELLA.

I WOULD
SEE HER *SUFFER*,
CHILDREN.

I WOULD
SEE HER
WEEP.

★
Juan
⚾



SOME PEOPLE
JUST CARRY
A GRUDGE.

BULLETS,
VAMPIRELLA?
YOU REALLY THINK
THAT'LL STOP
ME?

HELL'S
DEPTHS, THAT
BURNS.

BLESSED
SILVER IN
THE BULLETS,
VLAD.

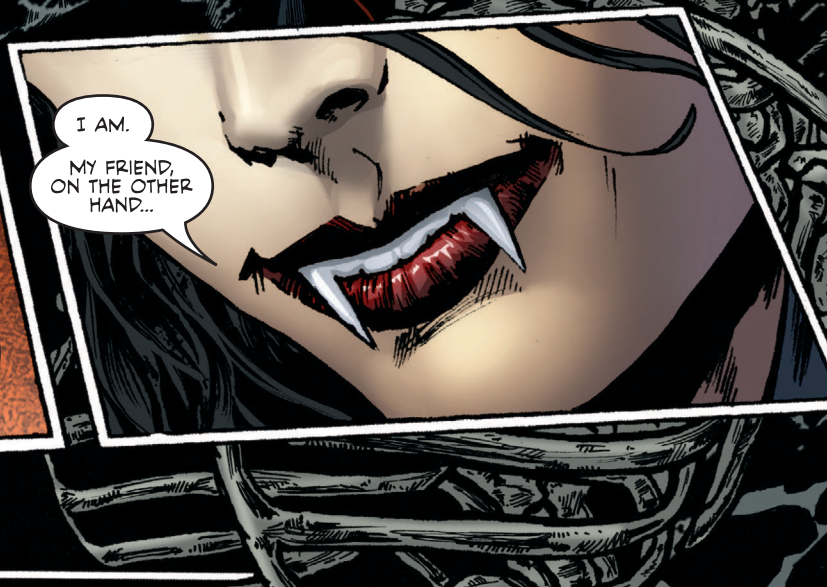
A GIFT
FROM THE
VATICAN.

AN
ANNOYANCE,
NOTHING
MORE.

YOU *KNOW*
ME. YOU KNOW
WHAT I *AM*. IT'LL
TAKE MORE THAN
BULLETS TO
KILL ME.



AND
YOU'RE
ALL OUT OF
BULLETS
NOW.



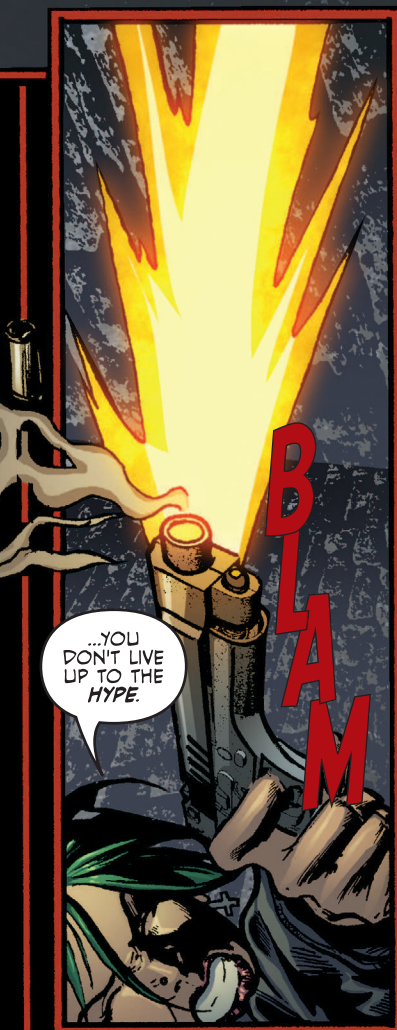
I AM.
MY FRIEND,
ON THE OTHER
HAND...



HEY!
VLAD!

?

BIG FAN
OF THE WHOLE
VAMPIRE THING.
BUT I'VE GOTTA
TELL YOU, IN
PERSON...



...YOU
DON'T LIVE
UP TO THE
HYPE.

BLAM



NNGH!

IDIOTS.
YOU'RE
MAKING A
MISTAKE.



WE ARE
ALL RUNNING
OUT OF
TIME--



TO RID
THIS WORLD
OF **YOU**, YOU
UTTER BASTARD,
I WILL **MAKE**
THE TIME.

THIS SO-CALLED
APOCALYPSE
WE FACE?

YOU
BROUGHT IT DOWN
ON US. NOW YOU
WANT ME TO HELP
YOU CLEAN UP
YOUR MESS?

WHUDD



DAMN YOU,
**LISTEN TO
ME.**

LE FANU IS
COMING!

SHE AND HER
BASTARD CHILDREN
SERVE A POWER
SO GREAT IT WILL
**DEVOUR ALL
LIFE!**

**ALL OF IT!
EVERYWHERE!**

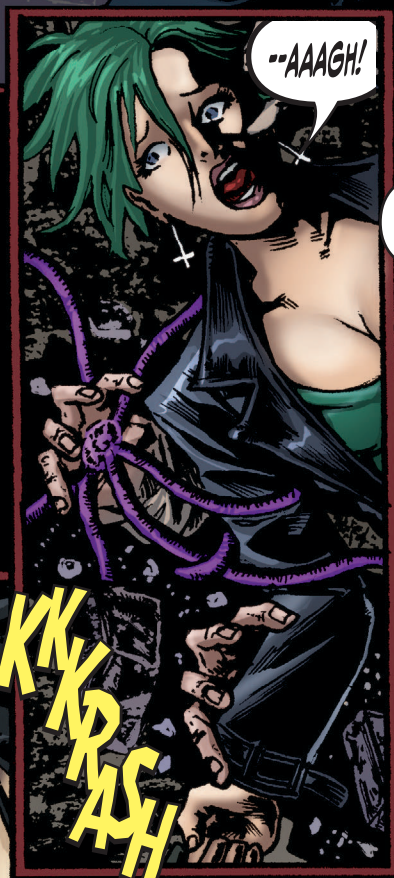




WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE, SOFIA?

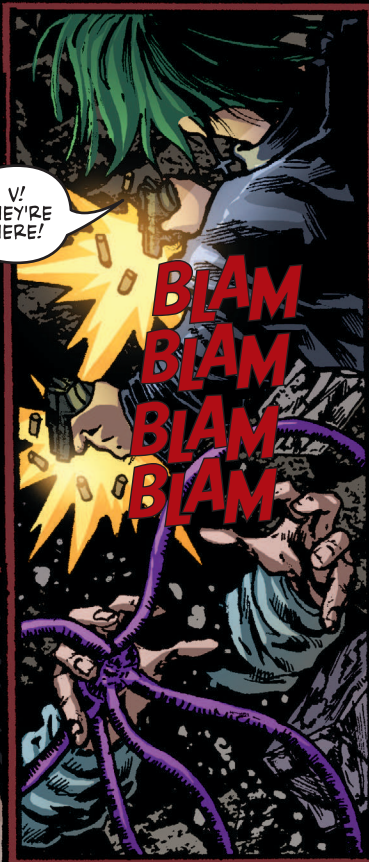
YOU JUST SHOT DRACULA.

CRAZY. YOU JUST SHOT DRACULA IN THE FACE--



--AAAGH!

V! THEY'RE HERE!



BIAM
BIAM
BIAM
BIAM



SOFIA!

THERE'S NO MORE TIME, VAMPIRELLA.

LE FANU IS HERE, AND SHE WILL KILL YOUR PET HUMAN, TEAR OUT YOUR HEART, AND CAST ALL OF US INTO THE ABYSS.



UNLESS YOU GIVE ME THE KEY.

THE KEY. THE STONE ARTIFACT I CAPTURED FROM LE FANU.



IT'S A TRICK.
HAS TO BE. I
SHOULDN'T
TRUST HIM.

YOU BOTH
WANT IT. THAT
MEANS **ONE**
THING TO
ME:

NEITHER
OF YOU
SHOULD
HAVE IT.

YOU DON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHAT THE KEY
REALLY IS.
I DO.

EXCEPT.

--COME
TO DADDY,
LITTLE
MORSEL.

NNE!



IN HIS TIME, VLAD DRACULA
HAS BEEN ROYALTY.
A CUNNING GENERAL.
A RUTHLESS WARLORD.



I AM A
PRINCE OF
WALLACHIA. MY
WORD **MEANS**
SOMETHING.

I SWEAR
YOU THIS OATH,
VAMPIRELLA: GIVE
ME THE KEY, AND
I WILL USE IT TO
SAVE US ALL.

I GIVE YOU
MY WORD, NO
HARM WILL COME
TO YOU OR YOUR
COMPANION BY
MY HAND.

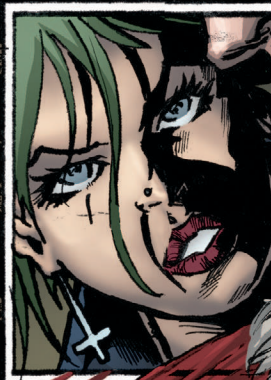
PLEASE.

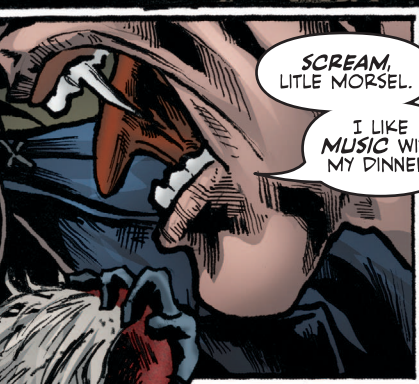


AND I'D SWEAR THIS
IS THE FIRST TIME
HE'S EVER BEEN
GENUINELY AFRAID.



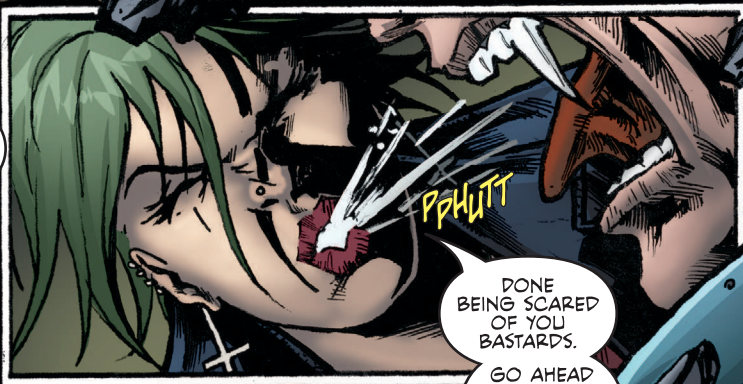
...AGREED.





SCREAM,
LITTLE MORSEL.

I LIKE
MUSIC WITH
MY DINNER.



PPHUTT

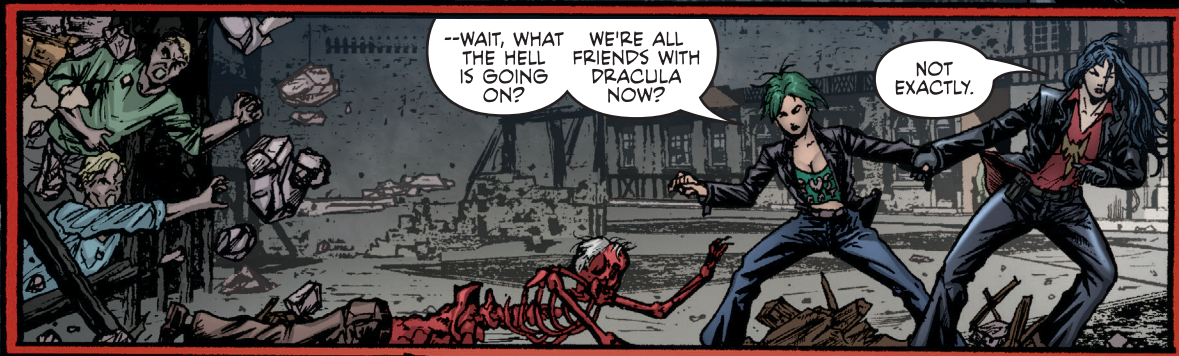
DONE
BEING SCARED
OF YOU
BASTARDS.

GO AHEAD
AND KILL ME.
BUT I'M
DONE BEING
SCARED.



BRAVE
GIRL.

WE'VE
GOT YOU.



...CHILDREN THAT NEED
REMINING EXACTLY
WHO RULES THE
NIGHT.

NYYYIAARGH

THEY'RE STRONG, WITH A
TREMENDOUS ADVANTAGE
IN NUMBERS, BUT
SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT.

THEY'RE
SLOWER.

UNFOCUSED.

LETTING THEIR NUMBERS
WORK AGAINST THEM IN
THE CONFINED SPACE.

DRIVEN MAD BY HUNGER
AND BURNED UP FROM
WITHIN BY THE SICKNESS
LE FANU HAS INFECTED
THEM WITH.

WHICH JUST MAKES
THEM EASIER PREY.

EASIER, BUT STILL
PLENTIFUL. STILL
DANGEROUS.

THERE'S
NO END
TO THEM.

FALL
BACK.

FALL
BACK TO WHERE?

JUST
GO.

S
L
I
S
H

SHLUK
SHLUK

W
H
A
M
M

W
H
A
M
M
M
M
M

I'LL BUY
US SOME
SPACE.

W
H
A
M
M

COME
ON.

COME.

ON!

R
R
R
R
R
U
M
M
M
M
B
L
E



I CAN HEAR THEM, SCRABBLING AT THE RUBBLE.



AT BEST, I'VE JUST BOUGHT US A FEW MOMENTS.

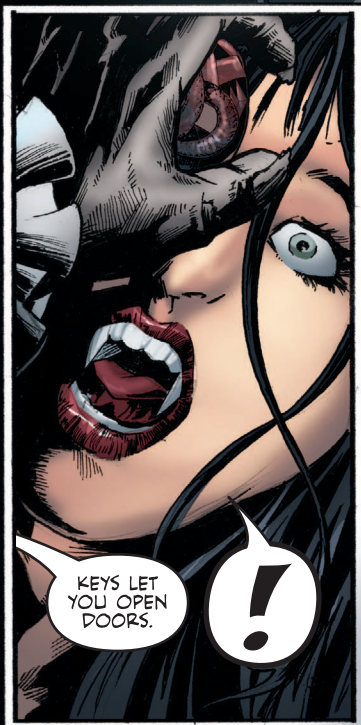


THEY'LL BE THROUGH THAT SOON.

SO, IF THIS **KEY** CAN SAVE US, TELL ME HOW.



IT'S QUITE SIMPLE.



KEYS LET YOU OPEN DOORS.

!

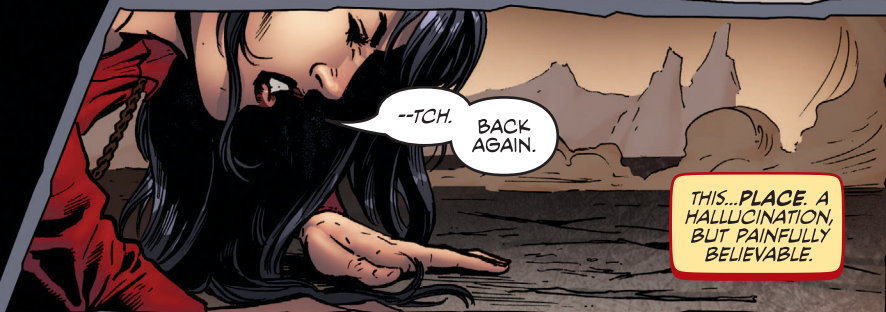


LYING, DOUBLE-CROSSING, BLOOD-SUCKING SON OF A B--

BLACKNESS.

SCREAMING.

FALLING.



--TCH.
BACK
AGAIN.

THIS...PLACE. A
HALLUCINATION,
BUT PAINFULLY
BELIEVABLE.



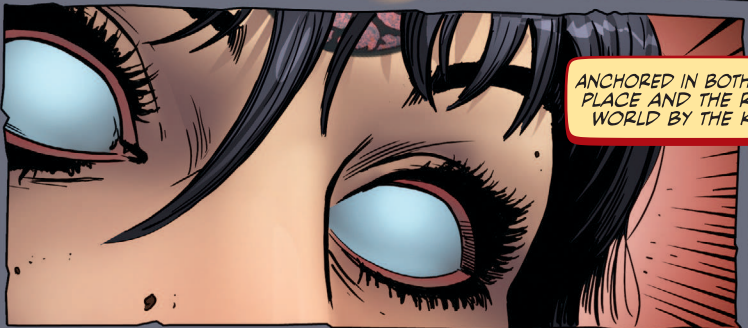
FEELS DIFFERENT THIS
TIME. MORE SOLID.
MORE REAL.

BEFORE, I FELT DISCONNECTED
FROM IT, LIKE WATCHING SCENES
FROM A HALF-REMEMBERED
NIGHTMARE.

THIS TIME, I
FEEL MORE...



...CONNECTED
TO IT.



ANCHORED IN BOTH THIS
PLACE AND THE REAL
WORLD BY THE KEY.



LIKE SEEING THROUGH
TWO SETS OF EYES AT
THE SAME TIME.

--THE
HELL ARE
YOU DOING
TO HER?

NOTHING,
GIRL. I GAVE
WORD.

NOW,
WE HAVE A
CEREMONY TO
ATTEND--



LIKE TWO
WORLDS ON
THE VERGE OF
COLLIDING.



SIGH.
I KNOW
YOU'RE
AROUND
HERE.



AW. YOU
MISSED ME,
DIDN'T YOU,
SUGAR?

CAN'T
REALLY MISS
MYSELF,
CAN I?



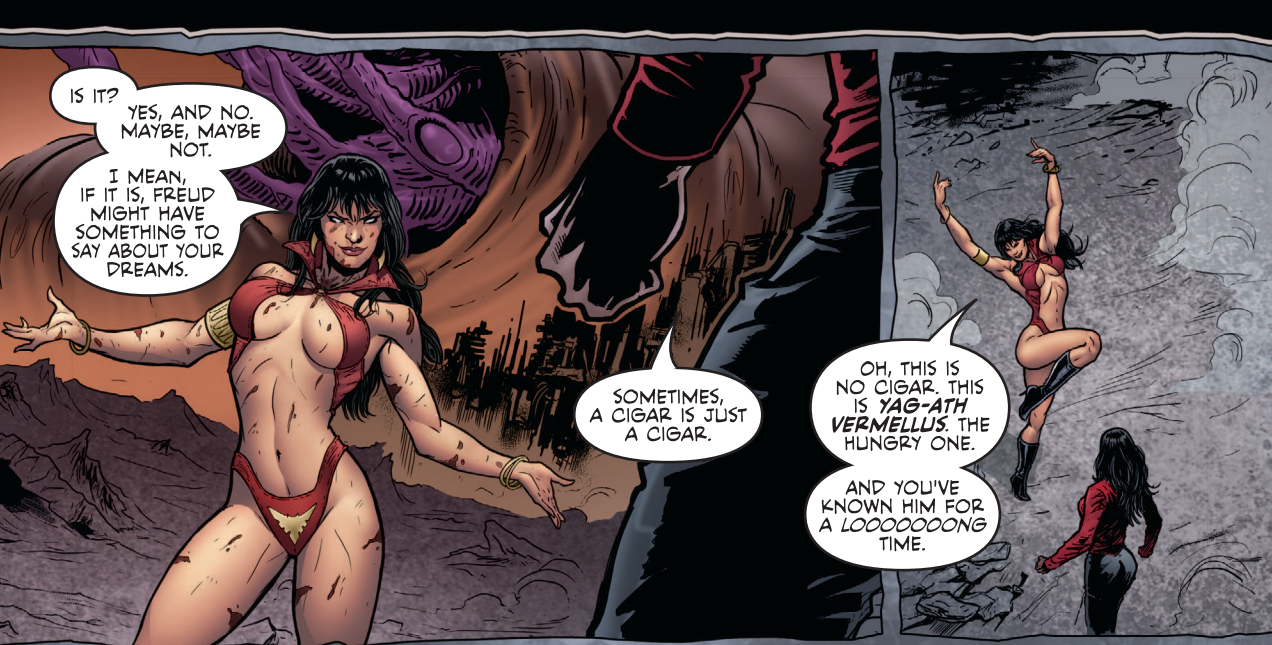
NOW,
THAT'S THE
REAL QUESTION,
ISN'T IT?

YOU'RE
STARTING
TO FIGURE IT
OUT, AREN'T
YOU?



MAYBE. OR MAYBE
YOU COULD
QUIT SCREWING
AROUND AND
JUST TELL
ME.

THIS PLACE:
IT'S IN MY
OWN MIND,
RIGHT?



IS IT?

YES, AND NO.
MAYBE, MAYBE
NOT.

I MEAN,
IF IT IS, FREUD
MIGHT HAVE
SOMETHING TO
SAY ABOUT YOUR
DREAMS.

SOMETIMES,
A CIGAR IS JUST
A CIGAR.

OH, THIS IS
NO CIGAR. THIS
IS **YAG-ATH
VERMELLUS**. THE
HUNGRY ONE.

AND YOU'VE
KNOWN HIM FOR
A LOOOOOOONG
TIME.



OLDER THAN
CREATION.

BORN INTO
ICY REALMS OF
ANCIENT HORRORS,
AND DRIVEN BY ONLY
TWO THINGS: RAGE
AND RAVENOUS
HUNGER.

AND EVERY SO
OFTEN, CHEWING
A HOLE THROUGH
INTO OTHER
WORLDS.

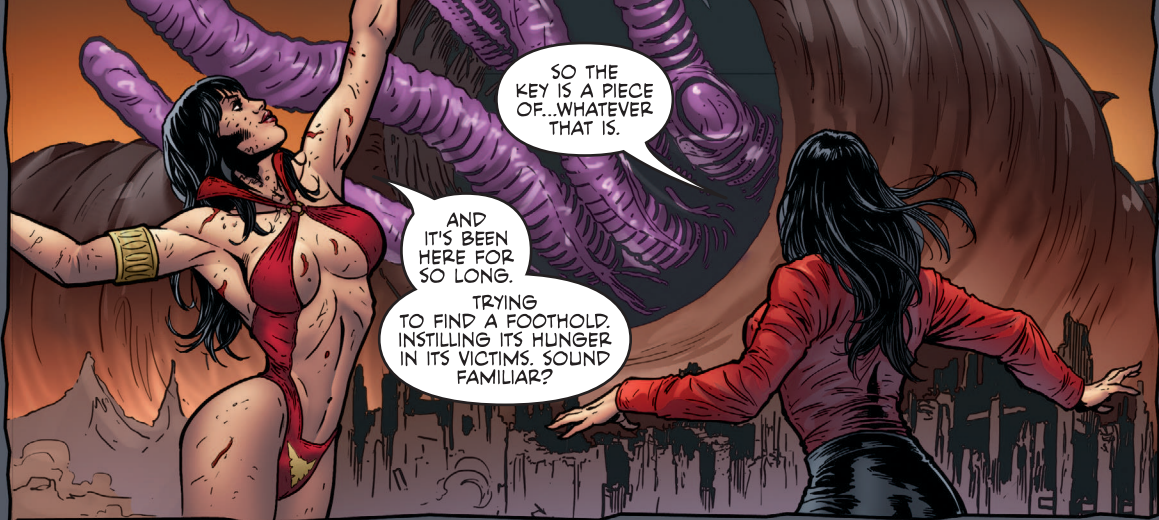
EXTRUDING
VICIOUS LITTLE BITS
OF THEMSELVES INTO
OUR UNIVERSE,
SEEKING OUT HOPE
AND LIGHT.

BECAUSE
TO THEM, HOPE
AND LIGHT ARE
FOOD.

FALLING
TO EARTH AND
THEN...

BOOM!

HILARITY
ENSUES.



SO THE
KEY IS A PIECE
OF...WHATEVER
THAT IS.

AND
IT'S BEEN
HERE FOR
SO LONG.

TRYING
TO FIND A FOOTHOLD.
INSTILLING ITS HUNGER
IN ITS VICTIMS. SOUND
FAMILIAR?



OH, DARK
MOTHER...

IT
ENCOUNTERED
HUMANS MILLIONS
OF YEARS AGO.
TOUCHED
THEM.



MADE
THE **FIRST**
VAMPIRE.



AND NOW,
IT'S FOUND THAT
FOOTHOLD
IT SEEKS.

FOUND
A QUEEN,
TO SPAWN ITS
CHILDREN AND
TURN ALL THAT
EXISTS INTO
A FEEDING
GROUND.



OH, SUGAR,
IT'S GOING TO
BE SO **BAD**
FOR YOU.

I HOPE
YOU'RE UP
TO IT.

--BACK
WITH US SOON,
I HOPE.

AH. AWAKE.
EXCELLENT.

BACK IN
THE LAND OF
THE LIVING. SO
TO SPEAK.

DRACULA!

AND LOOK:
THE GUESTS
ARE HERE.

NOW
IT'S A
PARTY.

HELLO,
LE FANU.

IT'S TIME
FOR YOU TO
GO, "MASTER."
YOUR REIGN
IS OVER.

I WILL
HAVE WHAT
WAS STOLEN
FROM ME.

STEP
ASIDE AND
**SERVE
ME.**

**IT IS
MY TIME
NOW!**

THAT'S A BIT
PREMATURE,
LE FANU.



HOW CAN
YOU RULE WHEN
YAG-ATH VERMELLUS
HAS ALREADY
CHOSEN HIS
BRIDE?

AND
YOU'RE JUST IN
TIME FOR THE
CEREMONY.



LONG
LIVE THE
QUEEN.

TO BE CONCLUDED...