

THE BLACK BEETLE™



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299¢

WIN EISNER
COMIC INDUSTRY
AWARDS
BEST COVER ARTIST
2012

NIGHT SHIFT

A Mystery Novelette
by FRANCESCO
FRANCAVILLA



FRAN
CAVIL
14.F.12

MURDER IN THE MUSEUM!

COLT CITY NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM, 11:57 P.M.



OBJECT IS A
LIZARD WITH A
SKULL RELIEF
ON THE BACK OF
THE NECK.

I REMEMBER
READING SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS. WHERE
IS IT?



HMMMM. HERE'S
A MENTION OF A
LIZARD-SHAPED
AMULET USED BY
THE BLACK PRIESTS
IN THEIR RELIGIOUS
CEREMONIES.



I THOUGHT
THIS WAS JUST
A LEGEND. IT
SAYS HERE THE
BLACK PRIESTS
APPEARED—

Black Priest



DR.
HOWARD!

HUH?!

YOU WORK TOO HARD, DR. HOWARD. IT'S WAY PAST MIDNIGHT.



I KNOW, JAMES.

I'M JUST TRYING TO CATALOG ALL OF SIR THORNE'S COLLECTION BEFORE THE EXHIBIT OPENS NEXT WEEK. I'M ALMOST DONE.



NO PROBLEM. WE'LL DO ANOTHER ROUND AND CHECK BACK IN THIRTY MINUTES.

THANKS, JAMES. AND PLEASE, CALL ME ANTONIA.

WILL DO, DR. ANTONIA.



SO, WHERE WAS I?

THE BLACK PRIESTS APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING THE SECOND DYNASTY, ALTHOUGH SOME SAY...

WHAT'S GOING ON? I'D BETTER CHECK WITH JAMES...

Click

...THEY HAVE BEEN AROUND SINCE...

...UH?



**BANG
BANG
BANG**

?!?





I'LL
TAKE CARE
OF THIS.

