

"IT ALL STARTED WITH THAT DAMN BOOK.

"THE *NECROMICON EX MORTIS*, THE BOOK OF THE DEAD.

"BOUND IN HUMAN FLESH AND INKED IN BLOOD, IT CONTAINED BIZARRE BURIAL RITES, FUNERARY INCANTATIONS, AND DEMON RESURRECTION PASSAGES THAT WERE NEVER MEANT FOR THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.



"MY GIRLFRIEND LINDA AND I FOUND IT WHEN WE WENT ON A TRIP TO A CABIN IN THE MOUNTAINS.

"AN **ARCHAEOLOGIST** HAD BROUGHT IT HERE TO TRANSLATE IT, BUT HE GOT A LOT MORE THAN HE BARGAINED FOR.

"IT AWOKE SOMETHING IN THE WOODS. SOMETHING **EVIL**.

"IT TOOK LINDA.

"AND THEN IT CAME FOR ME.



"IT GOT INTO MY HAND, AND IT WENT BAD.

"SO I LOPPED IT OFF AT THE WRIST.



"AND THEN THINGS GOT WORSE.



"IT DROPPED ME IN THE 14TH CENTURY, SURROUNDED BY A BUNCH OF **PRIMITIVES** WHO WANTED TO WATCH ME GET MY **SOUL** RIPPED OUT.

"BUT THEN THEY REALIZED THAT I WAS THEIR BEST HOPE AGAINST THE **DEADITES**, STARTED CALLING ME THE **PROMISED ONE**.




"I BLEW HIS FACE OFF WITH A SHOTGUN, BUT HE JUST CAME BACK STRONGER.

"HE TOOK THE ONLY THING I CARED ABOUT IN THAT ASS-BACKWARDS TIME AND RAISED AN **ARMY OF DARKNESS** TO DESTROY US ALL.




"BUT I STOPPED HIM.







"OF COURSE, THAT JUST MEANS THAT I HAD TO DO **EVERY DAMN THING** MYSELF, AND THE BOOK WAS FIGHTING ME EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.




"IT MADE AN **EVIL** VERSION OF ME, A **DEAD, TWISTED** REFLECTION.




"I STOPPED HIM, AND I SAID THE DAMN WORDS SO THAT I COULD GET BACK TO MY OWN TIME.



"BUT SOMEHOW, THEY FOLLOWED ME ALL THE WAY BACK HERE.



THE **DEADITES**, SOUL-EATING MONSTERS RAISED UP FROM CORPSES.



"ONE OF THEM ATTACKED **S-MART**, AND I DID WHAT I DO BEST. I TOOK THAT--"



"I'M SORRY..."



...DID YOU SAY YOU CUT OFF YOUR OWN HAND WITH A CHAINSAW?



THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE CONCERNED WITH?
MOST PEOPLE STOP ME AFTER "BOUND IN HUMAN FLESH."



MR. WILLIAMS---
ASH.
ASH, LET'S SAY FOR A SECOND THAT I BELIEVE YOU. YOU STILL UNDERSTAND HOW THIS LOOKS, RIGHT?



YOU'RE MISSING FOR A WEEK WITHOUT CALLING IN, AND ON YOUR FIRST DAY BACK, YOU SHOT A CUSTOMER.
SEVEN TIMES.
WITH A GUN YOU HADN'T EVEN PAID FOR.



A CUSTOMER?!



ARES
SMART



Thank You For Shopping at S-MART
S-Mart



S-Mart
HINT HAVENS IS
ASH
HOUSEWARES









I HAVE--

SLAM



UH...MR. WILLIAMS?

LISTEN, IF THIS IS A REVENGE THING, YOU PROBABLY WANNA COME BACK WHEN I'VE ACTUALLY GOT SOMETHING TO LOSE.



NO, IT'S NOT THAT. IT'S JUST... THAT WASN'T HELEN.

YEAH, I'M FAMILIAR WITH THE SITUATION. ONE SECOND SHE'S NORMAL, THEN THE NEXT SHE'S FLYING AROUND TRYING TO TEAR YOUR EYES OUT. I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE, BACK WHEN THIS WAS MY PROBLEM.

I MEAN, IT WAS, BUT IT WASN'T. IT'S --



WHICH THIS IS NOT.

BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED. IT WASN'T ALL THE SUDDEN.

THINGS STARTED GETTING BAD WEEKS AGO.



WEEKS?

YEAH...



I'M
THE VICE
PRINCIPAL OVER
AT ALAN SHEPARD HIGH.
HELEN IS--~~WAS~~--OUR
LIBRARIAN. THE SWEETEST,
MOST SOFT-SPOKEN
PERSON I'VE EVER
MET.

UNTIL
A MONTH
AGO.



"SHE STARTED
GETTING **ANGRIER**.
SNAPPING AT PEOPLE
FOR NO REASON,
YELLING AT THE KIDS.

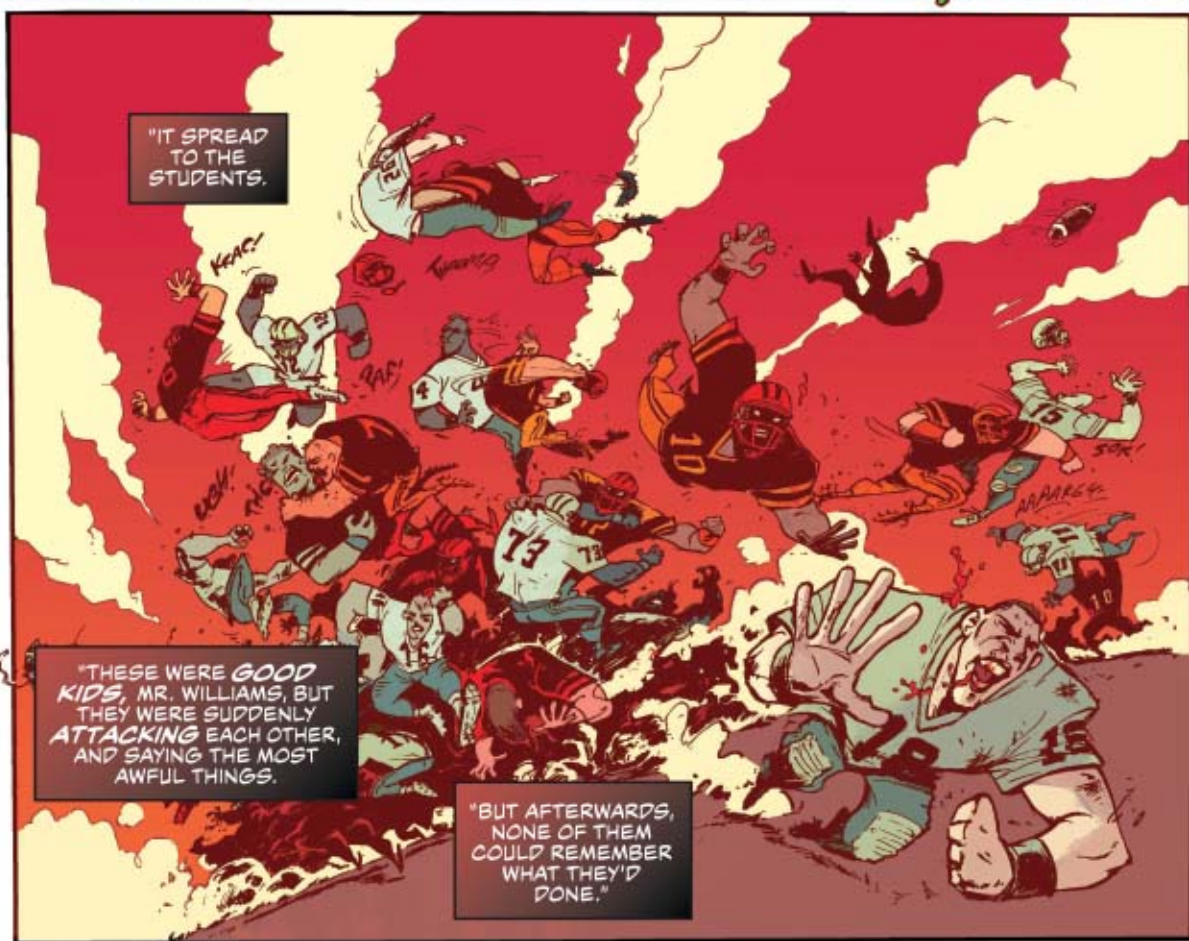
"AT FIRST SHE'D
APOLOGIZE FOR IT, BUT
IT JUST KEPT GETTING
WORSE. SHE WASN'T
SLEEPING, SHE
WOULDN'T EAT LUNCH.
THEN SHE STOPPED
COMING TO WORK.

"AND IT WASN'T
JUST HER.

"OTHER TEACHERS
STARTED ACTING...
STRANGE.



"IT SPREAD
TO THE
STUDENTS.



"THESE WERE *GOOD*
KIDS, MR. WILLIAMS, BUT
THEY WERE SUDDENLY
ATTACKING EACH OTHER,
AND SAYING THE MOST
AWFUL THINGS.

"BUT AFTERWARDS,
NONE OF THEM
COULD REMEMBER
WHAT THEY'D
DONE."