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“Know, oh prince, that between the years when the oceans drank Atlantis and the gleaming cities, and the years of the rise of the Sons of Aryas, there was an age undreamed of, when shining kingdoms lay spread across the world like blue mantles beneath the stars...Hither came Conan, the Cimmerian, black-haired, sullen-eyed, sword in hand, a thief, a reaver, a slayer, with gigantic melancholies and gigantic mirth, to tread the jeweled thrones of the Earth under his sandaled feet.”

--The Nemedian Chronicles



After fifteen winters, Conan the Barbarian headed south from his home in frozen Cimmeria, fighting to survive in the ancient time known as the Hyborian Age. In his travels, he has gained much, lost much, and thrived in bloodshed, as many foes have fallen before

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN

CONAN THE GAMBLER part one

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AFTER A DIZZYING TURN OF MEAD AND MERRIMENT IN **SHADIZAR** THE WICKED, **CONAN THE CIMMERIAN** INTENDED TO FINISH THIS NIGHT IN GOOD SPIRITS.

THE NIGHT HAD OTHER PLANS.

HELP!
HEE-ELP!

WHAT'S THIS,
THEN?

CONAN

THE GAMBLER

JIM ZUB writer PATCH ZIRCHER artist
JAVA TARTAGLIA color artist VC'S TRAVIS LANHAM letterer



SHUT YER
SPEAK-HOLE
AND DIE **QUICK**
ALREADY!

OY THERE,
DARK HAIR--

TWIST YER GAZE
AN' MOVE ON, OR
YOU'LL GET ONE IN
THE GUT **RIGHT**
NEXT!

HUAAAHH...

YOUNG CONAN
WEIGHED HIS
OPTIONS.

FOUR AGAINST
ONE ODDS FOR
A MAN **HALF A**
BREATH AWAY
FROM HAVING HIS
THROAT SLIT...



S-S-SAVE
ME AND I'LL PAY
YOUR WEIGHT
IN **GOLD!**



...BUT
HE WAS
A **RICH**
MAN...







THESE
THUGS TRAINED
FOR YEARS IN
BAR BRAWLS
AND BACK
ALLEYS.

THEIR THIRST
FOR **MURDER**
HAD EARNED THEM
RESPECT FROM
KILLERS **TWICE**
THEIR AGE.

IT DIDN'T
MATTER.



THEY LEARNED THE LESSON, AS DID
SO MANY OTHERS OVER THE YEARS.



STAY
BACK!
I'M
GONNA--

PLEASE...
DON'T...



A CIMMERIAN WITH **SWORD** IN HAND WILL
NOT BE STOPPED IN THIS LIFE OR THE NEXT.