

"GOOD EVENING.  
MY NAME IS  
**MURDER.**"

"I HAVE HAD  
**OTHERS,**  
MIND YOU."

"I AM THE **PANDAVAS** AS  
THEY CUT DOWN **KARNA**. I  
AM THE **SET ANIMAL** OF  
THE RED EARTH BUTCHERING  
**OSIRIS OF THE BLACK.**"

"I AM **ROMULUS**. I AM  
**HUITZILOPOCHTLI**, SLAYER  
OF MY MOON-SISTER, AND I AM  
**HOPR THE BLIND** LETTING  
FLY HIS MISTLETOE BOLT."

"BUT OF ALL THOSE  
SPLENDID FAMILY DRAMAS,  
I SETTLED MY HEART IN A  
SINGLE **SKIN**. DO YOU  
KNOW **WHY?**"

BECAUSE  
**THIS** IS THE ONLY  
FACE WHOSE  
**FRATRICIDE** WAS  
REWARDED.

I AM **CAIN**!  
I BEAR THE MARK OF  
MY **CREATOR**! NOTHING  
THAT **LIVES** CAN HARM ME!  
I AM THE STEWARD OF  
**ENIGMA** HERE!

**YOU!**  
PUZZLE-BOX **THING**! I  
FIND THAT I CAN NEITHER  
**COMPREHEND** NOR  
**KILL** YOU! AND SINCE I  
**WILL NOT SUFFER** A  
MYSTERY THAT IS NOT  
**MINE--**

--I THINK  
IT WELL PAST  
TIME WE HAD  
A LITTLE  
**CHAT.**

**THE  
RIFT.**



ENIGMA,  
YOU SAY?  
MYSTERY,  
YOU SAY?

WH-  
WH--

THERE ARE  
NO MYSTERIES,  
LITTLE SYMBOL.  
NOT HERE.

THE  
Tesseract WILL  
ALIGN. THE RIFT WILL  
SEAL. THE CHRYSALIS  
WILL OPEN. AND WHAT USE  
FOR MYSTERIES,  
THEN?

WH-WHO  
IS THAT?

ASK NOT  
WHO. THOSE YET  
UNBORN CANNOT  
SPEAK OF SELF.  
ASK INSTEAD OF THE  
SERVICE THAT'S  
OFFERED.

SERVICE?  
WHAT  
SERVICE?

CLARIFICATION.

YOU...YOU DID  
SOMETHING TO  
MY BROTHER!  
I DEMAND  
THAT YOU FIX  
HIM!

ABEL'S  
SUPPOSED TO BE  
THE FIRST VICTIM!  
HE'S SUPPOSED  
TO BE A--A BUMBLING  
FOOL! BUT EVER SINCE  
HE CAME DOWN HERE  
HE'S BEEN--HE'S  
BEEN--

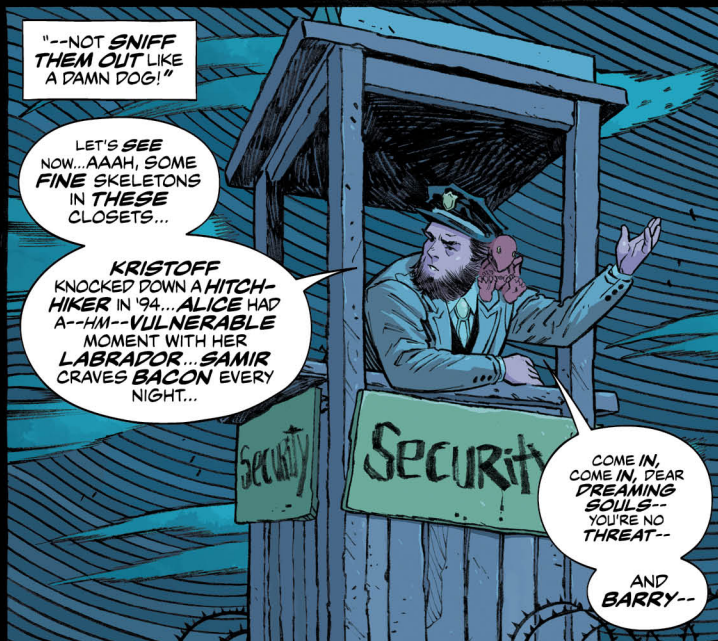




COHERENT.

LOOK AT HIM.  
STATIONED AT  
THE **GATES** OF THE  
DREAMING, WORKING FOR  
THE **NEW REGIME**  
LIKE SOME--SOME  
**OLEAGINOUS**  
**MENIAL!**

HE'S MEANT  
TO **COLLECT**  
SECRETS--



"--NOT **SNIFF**  
THEM OUT LIKE  
A DAMN DOG!"

LET'S **SEE**  
NOW... AAAH, SOME  
**FINE SKELETONS**  
IN **THESE**  
CLOSETS...

**KRISTOFF**  
KNOCKED DOWN A **HITCH-**  
**HIKER** IN '94... **ALICE** HAD  
A--HM--**VULNERABLE**  
MOMENT WITH HER  
**LABRADOR**... **SAMIR**  
CRAVES **BACON** EVERY  
NIGHT...

COME IN, DEAR  
**DREAMING**  
**SOULS**--  
YOU'RE NO  
**THREAT**--

AND  
**BARRY**--



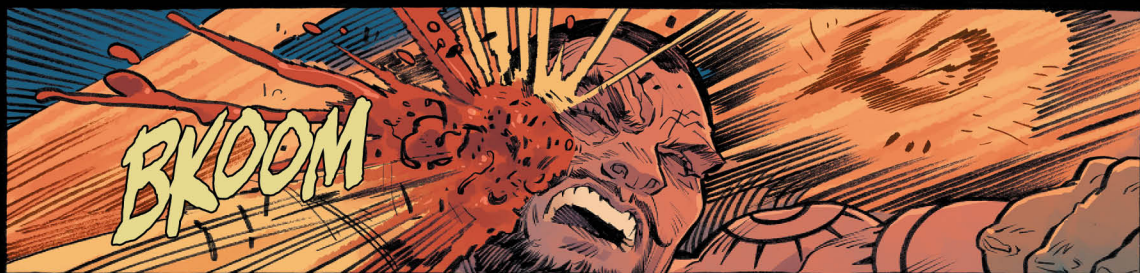
AH.

**BARRY** HAS A  
**DEMON**  
HIDING IN HIS  
SHADOW.



WHOA!  
OKAY, OKAY, GUYS,  
**CHILL**--I WAS  
JUST **PASSING**  
AND--LISTEN, MY  
**GIRLFRIEND'S**  
IN THERE, SO...

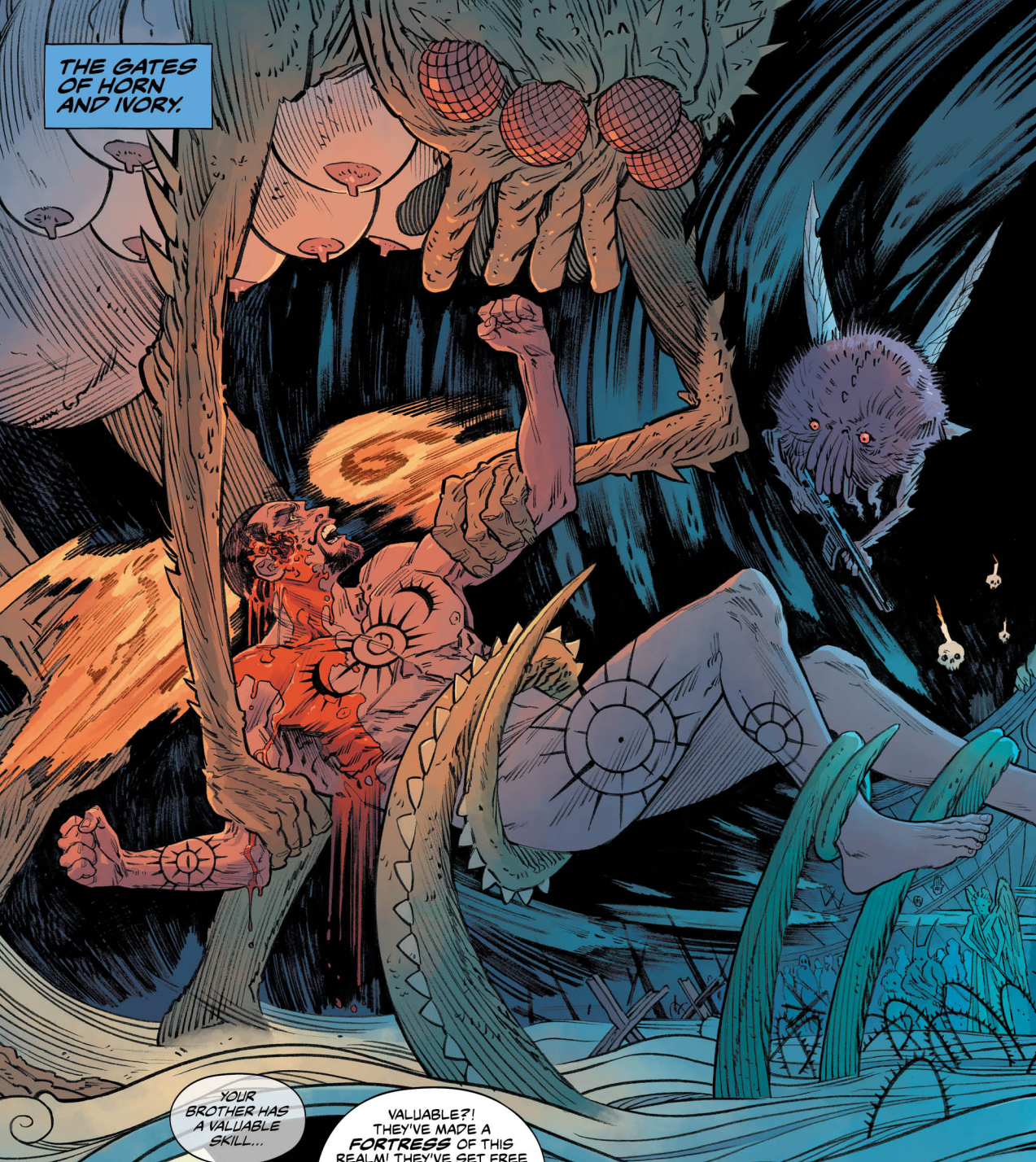
I MEAN, WE'RE  
NOT **EXCLUSIVE**  
OR ANYTHING, BUT--I--IT'S  
**VERY RESPECTFUL**--  
I'M NOT TESTING THE  
**BORDER MAGICS**  
OR ANYTHING LIKE  
TH--



**BKOOM**



THE GATES  
OF HORN  
AND IVORY.



YOUR  
BROTHER HAS  
A VALUABLE  
SKILL...

VALUABLE?!  
THEY'VE MADE A  
**FORTRESS** OF THIS  
REALM! THEY'VE SET FREE  
A BUNCH OF **ANTIQUE**  
**NIGHTMARES** TO WEAR  
THE **JACKBOOT** AND  
THEY'RE **EXPLOITING**  
MY OWN **FLESH AND**  
**BLOOD** TO HELP  
THEM!

MM.  
**JEALOUSY** WAS  
ALWAYS AT THE  
HEART OF YOUR  
TALE.

WH-WHAT?  
I'M NOT  
**JEALOUS**  
OF H--

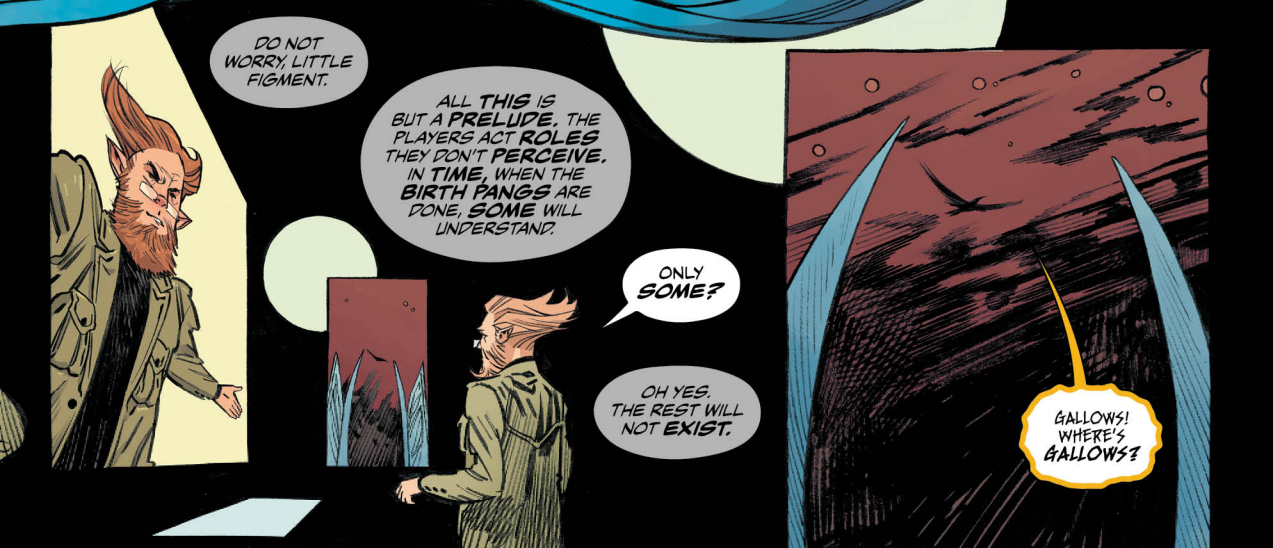






GO BACK  
TO YOUR  
MASTERS,  
DEVIL.

TELL THEM  
THE MAGICS OF  
THE DREAMING  
ARE PLATED IN  
**LEAD.**



DO NOT  
WORRY, LITTLE  
FIGMENT.

ALL THIS IS  
BUT A PRELUDE. THE  
PLAYERS ACT **ROLES**.  
THEY DON'T PERCEIVE.  
IN TIME, WHEN THE  
**BIRTH PANGS** ARE  
DONE, **SOME** WILL  
UNDERSTAND.

ONLY  
**SOME?**

OH YES.  
THE REST WILL  
NOT EXIST.

GALLOWES!  
WHERE'S  
GALLOWES?