

FOR YEARS, THE SYMBIOTES OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE HAVE BEEN LEAVING TRACES OF GENETIC MATERIAL--CALLED CODICES--WITHIN THE SPINES OF THEIR HOSTS.

CLETUS KASADY, A.K.A. THE SYMBIOTIC SERIAL KILLER CALLED CARNAGE, HAS RESURFACED, LOOKING TO EXTRACT THE CODICES THROUGH BLOODY AND BRUTAL MEANS TO AWAKEN KNULL--GOD OF THE SYMBIOTES--AND SUMMON HIM TO EARTH.

SINCE LEARNING OF CARNAGE'S RETURN, EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A. VENOM, HAS WORKED TO DESTROY THE CODICES IN AS MANY PEOPLE AS HE CAN; THANKS TO A MACHINE DEVISED BY THE MAKER (AN EVIL REED RICHARDS FROM A PARALLEL UNIVERSE), HE'S BEEN ABLE TO DO JUST THAT.

BUT TIME WAS NOT ON THEIR SIDE.

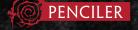
AFTER BRUTALLY KILLING SEVERAL PAST SYMBIOTE HOSTS, CARNAGE TARGETED VENOM AND HIS ALLIES. WITH NO OTHER CHOICE, THE VENOM SYMBIOTE BONDED TO THE HULK, BUT CARNAGE PROVED TOO POWERFUL EVEN FOR THE GAMMA GOLIATH AND STRIPPED HIM OF THE VENOM SYMBIOTE BEFORE ABSORBING IT FOR GOOD.

BUT THE MAKER'S MACHINE WAS NOT AS IT APPEARED; IT WAS STORING THE EXTRACTED CODICES INSTEAD OF DESTROYING THEM! THROUGH THE CHAOS, EDDIE WAS ABLE TO BREAK INTO THE MACHINE, REUNITING THE CODICES HELD WITHIN AND BONDING TO THEM.

NOW VENOM IS LEGION--AN AMALGAMATION OF DOZENS OF HOSTS, SYMBIOTES AND VOICES, ALL OF THEM SCREAMING THE SAME THING:

IT'S TIME TO STOP CARNAGE. ONCE AND FOR ALL.





RYAN STEGMAN



JP MAYER &
JAY LEISTEN



FRANK MARTIN



VC's CLAYTON COWLES



MARK BAGLEY & JOHN DELL

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[CULT OF CARNAGE];
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WITH LOVE TO STAN, STEVE, DAVID & TODD

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