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STRIKEFORCE

MARVEL

3

"Strikeforce is
already hitting its
stride...we're in for
one hell of a ride."

- ComicBook.com

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MISSION REPORT:

A horde of shape-shifting fae called the Vridai invaded Midgard in the wake of the War of the Realms, kidnapping a seemingly random group of heroes and using their forms to steal a batch of deadly diseases.

The Avengers caught the “rogue heroes,” and when Blade recognized the fae from a previous encounter, he took the lead, asking the other Avengers to steer clear. Knowledge of the Vridai is itself a poison, one he’s determined to keep from spreading.

While tracking the fae to Indonesia, the heroes killed a Vridai version of Doctor Doom, leaving the team to wonder if the fae have managed to kidnap one of the greatest villains on the planet. But they soon had another problem: Blade accidentally killed Daimon Hellstrom, believing he’d been replaced by a Vridai! The group found and killed the fake and brought the real Daimon to his sister Satana, who called in a few necromantic favors to revive him.

But in the process, Wiccan was stolen away by Birgit, right hand to the fae ruler Count Ophidian. And Wiccan’s Vridai replacement just showed up at his home in New York—where his unsuspecting fiancé Hulkling awaits!

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**INDONESIA,
THE TEMPLE OF THE THREE.
FORTRESS OF THE VRIDAI.**

IF
YOU'RE GONNA
KILL ME...

...AT LEAST
GIVE ME A
CHANCE TO
CONVINCE YOU
NOT TO DO
THAT?

OH NO,
LITTLE WIZARD.
WE WON'T KILL
YOU.

WE NEED
YOU.

OKAY *GOOD*, I DIDN'T
REALLY HAVE A CONVINCING
SPEECH READY.

BRING
IN THE OTHER
PRISONER!

HE'S
BEEN BOUND.
FOR YOUR
SAFETY.

WHO--

NO.

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND,
HE WAS MARRIED
TO MY MOM, HE
ALREADY HATES
ME--



DON'T LEAVE ME
HERE WITH DOCTOR DOOM
DON'T LEAVE ME HERE WITH
DOCTOR DOOM DON'T
LEAVE ME HERE WITH
DOCTOR DOOM!

OOOOPHIDIAN...

+HUFF+
+HUFF+

In the land of Svartaltheim,
there lived a naughty little
boy who sometimes
wandered off...

He had a mother and a
father, of course, but
it was his governess
who raised him as
richly as any royal.

THERE
YOU ARE.

Like many little boys, he
didn't always behave. Like
many little boys, he
was naughty.

AAH!

At least, that's
what Lady Birgit
told him.

NOW, WHY
WOULD ANY
LITTLE BOY AS
LUCKY AS YOU
WANDER
OFF?

NAUGHTY
LITTLE BOY.

BACK TO
MAMA AND PAPA
NOW, YES?

He'd only wanted to run,
but now he couldn't
seem to remember how
to make his feet work.

How to make them flee
from the fear that
squirmed in his
belly whenever
she was near.

CHILDREN ARE
TROUBLESOME
BY DESIGN,
MY LIEGE.

IT IS HOW
THEY TEACH US
PATIENCE.



CREAK

As the count's
governess, Birgit
was surrounded
by all the riches
of the palace...

But the most
valuable thing in
her care was the
count himself.

By all accounts,
the guards heard
a scream and
came running.

But the young boy's
governess told them
that he'd only had
a bad dream.

And it must
have been
some dream...

NEW YORK CITY.

...BECAUSE THEY SAID HE WAS NEVER REALLY THE SAME EVER SINCE.

AND THIS STORY CAME TO YOU WHILE YOU WERE... DEAD?

I HAVE NEVER HEARD IT.

WELL, YOU'RE THE ASGARDIAN EXPERT, I SUPPOSE, ANGELA.

MMMPH!

I AM SORRY, HULKLING. IT IS SIMPLY TOO RISKY TO HAVE A SHAPE-SHIFTER ASSIST IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST OTHER SHAPE-SHIFTERS.

AND WE ARE NOT SHARING INFORMATION AT THIS TIME.

HYYYMYYYHYDDUH?!

BECAUSE WE CANNOT TRUST YOU TO NOT LEAP INTO BATTLE TO DEFEND YOUR LOVE.

THIS, I UNDERSTAND.

SON OF A--

TS SHHHHHHH

BLADE!

KEEP IT CONTAINED!

WHAM

WHAT IS THIS, THE WAITING ROOM?

HELP ME!