

The White Worm helps us look inside.

When it devours us, we also devour wisdom.  
And we can see what we're made of.

Ich is made of  
thousands.

He is himself and each  
one that lives within. He  
is himself and he is all.

That is his power: to  
be one and all others.

That is also  
his curse.

# BRUTAL NATURE #2

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The stars say that it is in solitude where one can find the light within the belly of the worm.



Ich has been alone and understands.



Ich, now, must walk again.



YOU WERE INSIDE, I GATHER?



YES.

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

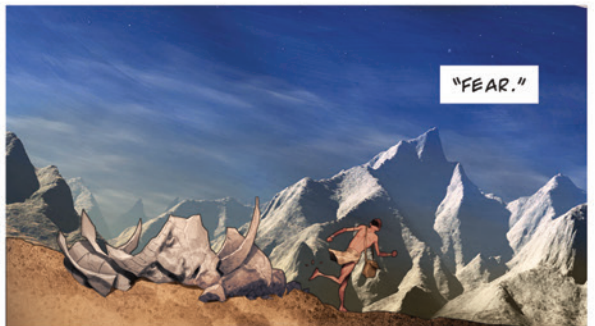
MASKS.

ICH MEANS "MASK," BUT IT ALSO MEANS "SOUL." YOU HAVE A THOUSAND SOULS IN THAT CONTAINER.



BUT ONLY ONE REFLECTION.

"WHAT DID YOU SEE IN YOUR REFLECTION?"



"FEAR."

"YOU KNOW, LUCIEN? I LOVE MY JOB. YOU CAN TELL WHERE YOU ARE TODAY... BUT NOT WHERE YOU'LL BE TOMORROW.

"YESTERDAY, FOR EXAMPLE. PLACIDLY TORTURING THAT POOR WITCH..."



...AND LOOK AT US TODAY. WITH THE SALTY SEA WIND TANGLING IN MY HAIR AND YOUR FEATHERS.



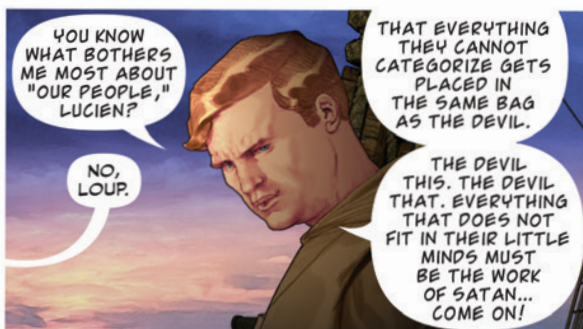
HAVE I MENTIONED BEFORE, LUCIEN, THAT IF I WERE NOT A TORTURER I WOULD HAVE SURELY BEEN A POET?

NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING, OF COURSE. IT IS JUST THAT...

...WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING BEYOND THE SEA?



I HAVE TOLD YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW, LOUP. A STRANGE FORCE IS INTERFERING WITH THE SPANIARDS' PLANS. THOUSANDS HAVE DIED. AND THOUSANDS MORE WILL DIE, IF YOU DO NOT DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.



YOU KNOW WHAT BOTHERS ME MOST ABOUT "OUR PEOPLE," LUCIEN?

NO, LOUP.

THAT EVERYTHING THEY CANNOT CATEGORIZE GETS PLACED IN THE SAME BAG AS THE DEVIL.

THE DEVIL THIS. THE DEVIL THAT. EVERYTHING THAT DOES NOT FIT IN THEIR LITTLE MINDS MUST BE THE WORK OF SATAN... COME ON!



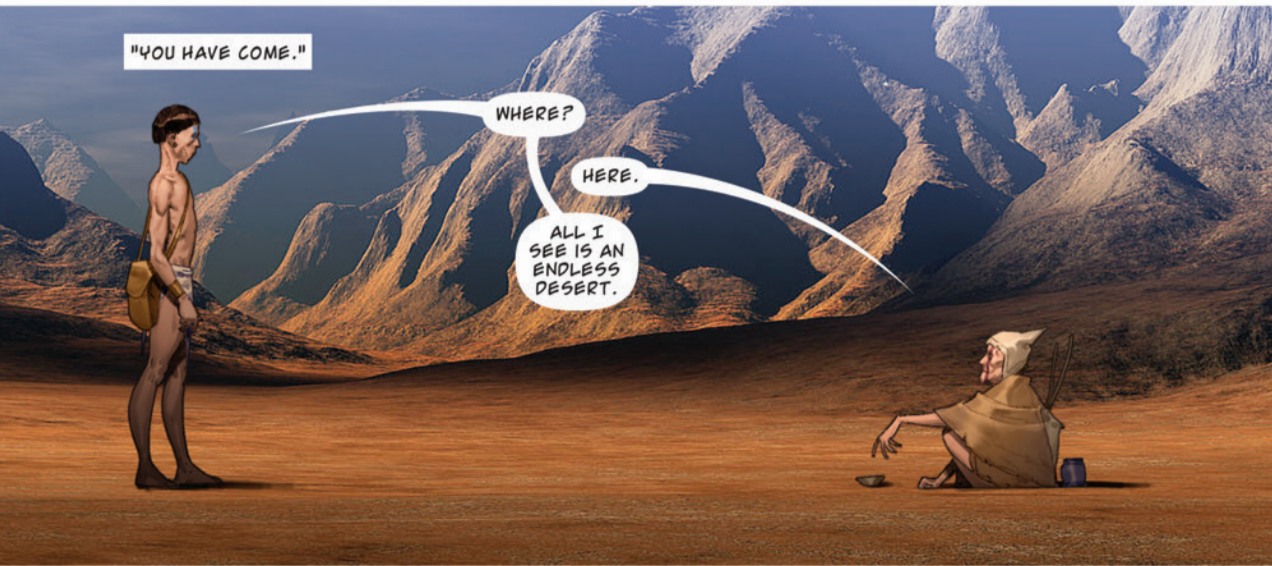
SATAN DESERVES A LITTLE MORE THAN THAT.

SATAN IS...

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS SUNSET, LUCIEN?



"I'LL BE DAMNED IF IT IS NOT ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL I'VE SEEN IN MY LIFE."



"YOU HAVE COME."

WHERE?

HERE.

ALL I  
SEE IS AN  
ENDLESS  
DESERT.



IT'S NATURAL.  
YOU'RE YOUNG.  
STRONG. ARROGANT.  
IMPETUOUS.

HOW WOULD  
YOU NOT SEE A  
DESERT WHEN  
YOU YOURSELF  
ARE ONE?



ARE YOU  
READY TO  
LEARN TO  
SEE?

WHAT IS  
THAT?

"THE ANSWER IS  
QUITE SIMPLE.



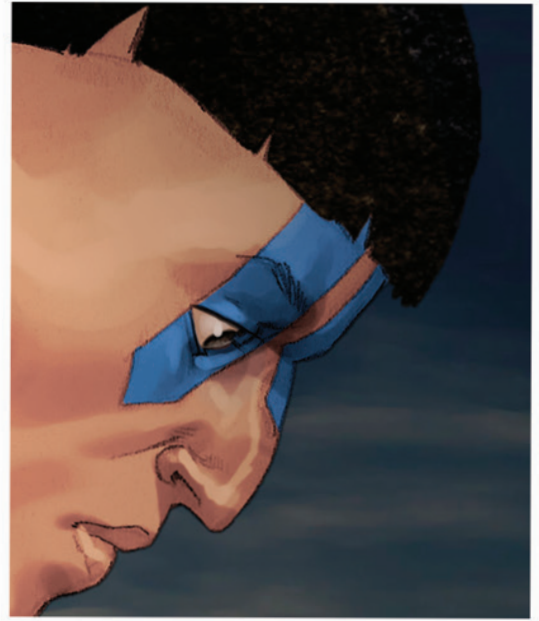
"A BOWL."



"LOOK AT YOURSELF."

I ONLY SEE WATER.

"TAKE YOUR TIME."



I KNOW EVERYTHING.

I KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO US. THE PAIN. THE BLOOD. OUR SCORCHED EARTH IN THEIR WAKE.

I SAW MY DEATH AND THAT OF EACH OF US.



WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW THAT YOU KNOW THERE IS NO HOPE?

WILL YOU ABANDON YOUR FATE OR FACE IT UNTIL FATE TAKES OVER YOU?

