



I'M GUESSING SHE DIDN'T COME QUIETLY.

NOT REALLY, NO.

BELATHCADROS BROUGHT LAUREN BACK BUT LEFT SOME OF HER SOUL WHERE IT WAS, REPLACING THAT GODDNES WITH THE ROTTEN STUFF HE USES TO *DEIFY* HIS UPSTART GODS.

Chornkeep.

Our World.



HENCE THE EVIL BEHAVIOR.

HOW DID YOU STOP HER FROM EATING YOU?



SHE *KNEW* WHO I WAS, WHICH MEANT SHE STILL HAD HER *MEMORIES*.

BEFORE SHE DIED...HER LAST ACT WAS TAE BRING HER FATHER BACK TO LIFE.



SO I TOLD HER THAT WHAT SHE'D DONE WAS *POINTLESS*. THAT THEY *KILLED* HIM ANYWAY.

THEN WHILE SHE WAS MULLING THAT OVER I PUNCHED HER, AND EVERY TWENTY MINUTES SINCE I'VE LET HER BREATHE IN A *POSE* OF THIS CHLOROFORM HANKY.



CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING!

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED A *LEADERSHIP* ROLE?

IT'S FUNNY, VERY  
LITTLE OF THIS  
WAS EVER MY  
PLAN.



BUT THERE'S STILL AN  
INEVITABILITY TO IT ALL.

LIKE IT COULDN'T  
HAVE GONE ANY  
OTHER WAY.



AVE.

I'D  
BE UP FOR  
THAT.



Lauren Mackintosh, Queen of the Godbloods

FOR YEARS I'VE BEEN TRYING TO OPEN A **RIP** TO ALLOW PASSAGE FOR THOSE THAT WISHED IT, RESTORE BALANCE, IF THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE ANY MORE.

I TOOK OVER THE FIGHT WHEN THORN **MURDERED** MY PREDECESSOR.

THORN?  
BUT ISN'T UNITING THE **TWO WORLDS** WHAT HE **WANTS**?

THAT'S **YOUR** THORN, **OURS** HAS SPENT THE LAST FEW HUNDRED YEARS **LEAKING** OUR MAGIC TO THE **RULER** OF YOUR REALITY.

BELATUCADROS.

TOGETHER THEY'VE KEPT **TWO WORLDS** IN CHAINS.

GROWING UP WITHOUT BODS, YOU DON'T KNOW OUR WAYS.

**YOUR** WAYS.

NOTHING IN OUR WORLD IS FREE, OUR GIFTS ALWAYS COME WITH A **COST**. ANYTHING ACHIEVED THROUGH MAGICAL MEANS MUST BE BALANCED, EVEN THE POWER OF OUR OWN GODSBLOOD EXACTS A PRICE UPON US.

THE LUCKY ONES ARE THE **FEW** BORN HAVING **ALREADY** PAID IT.



FOR EXAMPLE, **THE BOY**, BLIND ON THIS WORLD, MUTE ON YOURS.

MANY HAVE FALLEN TRYING TO TOPPLE THORN, THE TYRANT.

EVEN MORE HAVE PAST THE POINT OF THEIR **COST**.

LIKE LUCY HERE.



YOU KNOW ME, YOUR MAJESTY?



I KNOW EVERYONE.

AND NO ONE.



I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW LONG THE MEMBRANE BETWEEN HERE AND YOUR HOME WILL STAY **BROKEN**. BUT I KNOW THAT BELATUCADROS MUST BE **STOPPED**.

AND I HOPE YOU SEE FROM WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THIS WORLD... THAT YOUR THORN MUST DIE, **TOO**.



BUT ISLA, ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY THE **COST**?



SOMEONE ONCE TOLD ME THAT EVERY IDEOLOGY CARRIES WITHIN IT THE SEEDS OF ITS OWN DESTRUCTION.

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR CRUSADE--LIVE LONG ENOUGH AND YOU'LL SEE IT BECOME CORRUPT...FALL.

...AND I WOULD ENCOURAGE MY SUPPORTERS TO IGNORE THE G.C.I. PROPAGANDA...

YOU'LL SEE THE PLANS BEFORE ANYONE. THE ROT.

AND YOU'LL KNOW THAT THERE WAS **NOTHING** YOU COULD HAVE DONE.

...THAT MY OPPONENTS HAVE RELEASED PURPORTING TO BE REAL FOOTAGE! PREPOSTEROUS! SAD!

"HELL IS EMPTY AND ALL THE DEVILS ARE HERE."