

BURNING FIELDS™ ISSUE 004: IN HIS HONOR

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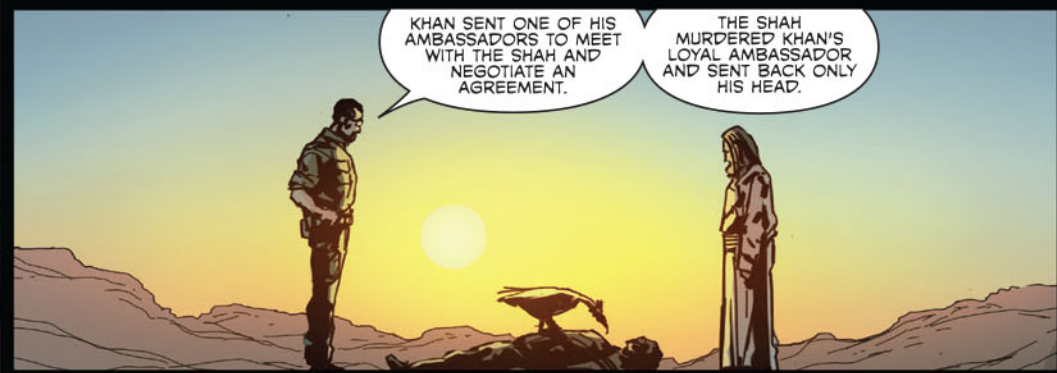
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I ONCE READ
THIS ACCOUNT OF HOW
GENGHIS KHAN TRIED TO
NEGOTIATE A TRADING PEACE
WITH THE KHWARAZMIAN EMPIRE.
KHAN DIDN'T WANT CONFLICT--
HE WAS HAPPY TO ENJOY HIS
RICHES AND RULE OVER
HIS LAND.




KHAN SENT ONE OF HIS
AMBASSADORS TO MEET
WITH THE SHAH AND
NEGOTIATE AN
AGREEMENT.

THE SHAH
MURDERED KHAN'S
LOYAL AMBASSADOR
AND SENT BACK ONLY
HIS HEAD.

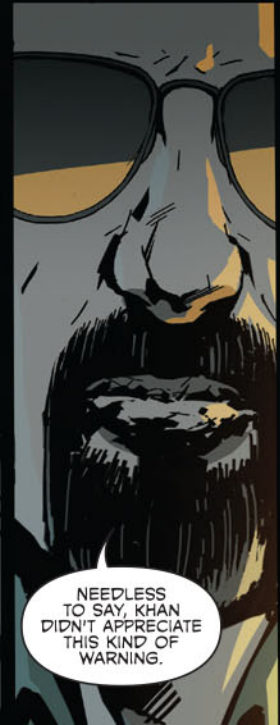


HE MEANT IT AS
A MESSAGE.



THE SHAH DEMANDED
DEVOTION--NOT A
REINFORCEMENT OF
WHY YOU'RE DEVOTED,
BUT A WARNING AS TO
WHAT WILL HAPPEN
IF YOU STOP.

A MESSAGE
OF WHAT?



NEEDLESS
TO SAY, KHAN
DIDN'T APPRECIATE
THIS KIND OF
WARNING.

AND THAT IS HOW YOU INTERPRET THIS BODY, YES? AIMED AT YOU FOR YOUR ACTIONS IN THE SQUARE?

THE SAME FAILED MESSAGE.

KHAN ASSEMBLED HIS ARMY AND, EVENTUALLY, BEGAN HIS CONQUEST OF THE ISLAMIC STATES. AND TO THINK--ALL HE WANTED WAS TO DO HIS BUSINESS IN PEACE.

BLAM

THE COMPANY I WORK FOR HAS A VERY SPECIFIC MISSION, ONE I BELIEVE IN DEARLY.

YOU AND I, MAZRA, WE HAVE A SHARED MISSION OF PRESERVING PEACE--I NEED TO KNOW THAT YOU'RE AS DEDICATED TO THAT OBJECTIVE AS I AM.

THESE MURDERS CAN NO LONGER BE TOLERATED, AND IT NEEDS TO BE CLEAR THAT IF WE CAN'T PUNISH THE INDIVIDUAL, THEN IT IS THE WHOLE THAT WILL SUFFER.

BUT A MESSAGE-- HOW DO YOU FIGHT AGAINST THAT?

YOU DON'T.

YOU GO AFTER ITS SOURCE.





ALL THESE TRACKS, FOR A JUNKYARD THERE'S MORE TRAFFIC GOING THROUGH HERE THAN THE CHICAGO SKYWAY.

THEY'RE SCAVENGERS, LIKE JUNAYD, GANGS OF YOUNG PICKERS LOOKING FOR ANYTHING OF VALUE.



IN THIS CASE, MORE THAN THEY BARGAINED FOR-- THIS IS DRIED BLOOD.



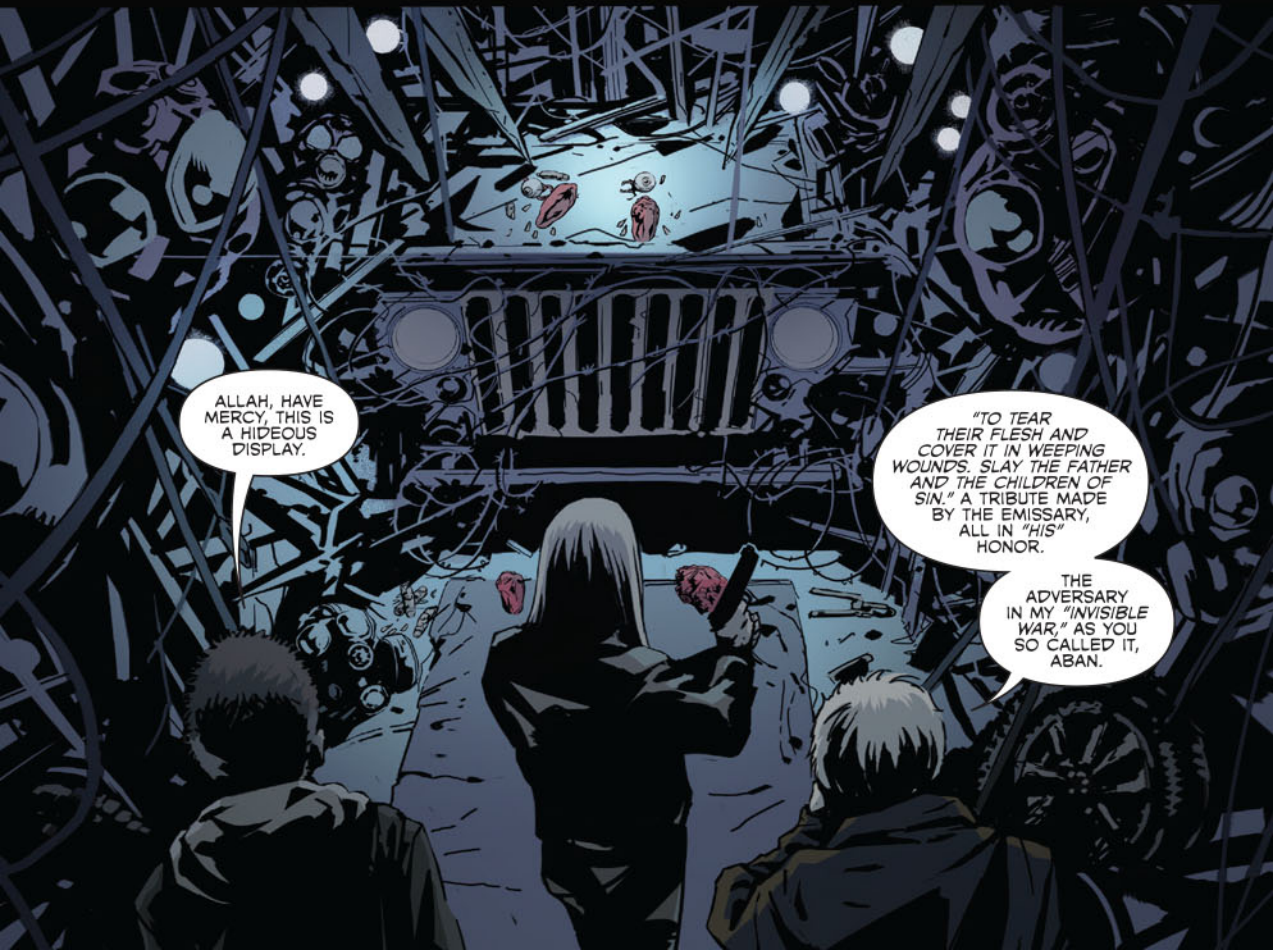
A RATHER OBVIOUS TRAIL OF IT, JUDGING BY THE REOCCURRING PATTERN AND SPATTER. SOMEONE WAS CARELESS OR COULD NOT HAVE CARED LESS.



I'M ALMOST AFRAID TO KNOW WHAT'S IN THERE.



SKRRK



ALLAH, HAVE MERCY, THIS IS A HIDEOUS DISPLAY.

"TO TEAR THEIR FLESH AND COVER IT IN WEeping WOUNDS, SLAY THE FATHER AND THE CHILDREN OF SIN." A TRIBUTE MADE BY THE EMISSARY, ALL IN "HIS" HONOR.

THE ADVERSARY IN MY "INVISIBLE WAR," AS YOU SO CALLED IT, ABAN.



WHITUN
WHITUN



HUH.



ABAN,
YOU BETTER
HAVE A LOOK
AT THIS...



HOLD
THE LIGHT
STEADY FOR A
MOMENT.



THE SAME
MARKINGS
FROM GHADA'S
CHURCH.



I'M GOING
IN TO SEE IF
ANYONE'S
HOME.



SOME
WELCOME
MAT.

