



**COBRA!
SNAKEMEN!**

**SURRENDER
NOW!**





AH... YOU OKAY?

DEADENS THE PAIN... I GO THROUGH A LOT OF IT.

NOT YOUNG LIKE THE REST OF YOU... OR CHEATING IT, LIKE MANDRAKE. THERE'S A BOOK OVER ON THAT TABLE, LOTHAR.



A JOURNAL. IT STARTS WITH A SAILOR DUMPED OFF THE COAST BY PIRATES, HIS SHIP, EVERYTHING TAKEN FROM HIM.

LEFT HIM FOR DEAD.

1536...



HE STRUGGLED FOR SURVIVAL, HEADING FURTHER INLAND.

BARELY ALIVE, HE FOUND THIS CAVE, THE FRESH SPRING INSIDE, AND WAS ABLE TO REST. HEAL.



HE DECIDED THAT THIS CONTINENT NEEDED A SPIRIT TO HAUNT EVIL MEN, AND HE ABANDONED HIS OWN NAME. BECAME A PHANTOM.

THROUGH THE YEAR'S HIS LINE CONTINUED, AND ALL THOSE MEN WORE THE MASK.

"... TO DESTROY PIRACY, GREED AND CRUELTY IN ALL THEIR FORMS..."



SO I'M GOING TO SAY WHAT WE'RE ALL THINKING.



ONCE WE REMOVE THE CRYSTAL FROM THE EARTH SETTING ON MONGO, THAT CUTS OFF THE RETURN HOME.

AND THE PROBLEM REMAINS, HOW DO WE KEEP MING FROM RECOVERING IT, AND TRYING HIS CONQUEST AGAIN.



THAT'S WHY WHEN WE REACH THE KING'S WATCH, YOU'RE ALL GETTING OUT, AND I'M FLYING IN.

WHAT?


I'M THE PERFECT CHOICE. MY HEALTH IS GOING DOWNHILL. YOU ALL HAVE YOUR LIVES AHEAD OF YOU.



FROM WHAT WE'VE LEARNED, MONGO HAS PLENTY OF VOLCANOES. I'LL GET THE CRYSTAL, AND DROP IT IN ONE.

THEY'LL NEVER FIND IT.

YOU'RE THE REAL THING, PHANTOM.



GHOST WHO WALK'S,
WALK AMONG THE WORLD
YOU PROTECTED FOR ALL
ETERNITY.

WE HONOR
YOUR SPIRIT
AND BRAVERY.

FOR HUNDREDS
OF YEARS THERE HAS
BEEN A PHANTOM.


STRANGE TO
PONDER A WORLD
WITHOUT HIM.



THEN
DON'T.

HE TOLD ME
THERE WAS A
SUCCESSOR
OUT THERE.

ONE DESTINED TO
WEAR THE MASK.



I'M GOING
TO FIND THAT
MAN, I OWE
HIM THAT.



AND UNTIL
HE'S FOUND...



I'M GOING
TO RIDE IN
HIS PLACE.