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PREVIOUSLY...

Time has run out. While David was able to save Blackwill from the Scourge's attack on his cabin in the Maine wilderness, Lera staked herself before David could secure evidence of the Scourge's involvement in the fang trade. Justice by Day is an inevitable conclusion, especially after Kellen brutally murdered Gustavo before he could report back to the Old Families of her involvement in the hiding of Nephoros's Edict, an ancient scroll that could expose all of the 50 families.

DAY MEN

CREATED BY **MATT GAGNON**

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LIFE IS A FIGHT.

SOMETIMES YOU'RE THE ONE THROWING THE PUNCHES, SOMETIMES YOU'RE THE ONE TAKING THEM.



OR MAYBE THAT'S JUST MY LIFE.

NO IDEA WHO MY PARENTS ARE... OR WERE.



RAISED BY ONE OF THE MOST SKILLED KILLERS ON THE PLANET.

TRAINED BY A CLANDESTINE ORDER TO BE PART OF AN AGE-OLD BROTHERHOOD THAT PROTECTS VAMPIRES.



EMPLOYED BY A FAMILY THAT CHOSE ME BECAUSE OF THOSE VERY SKILLS.

AND ALL OF THIS...WHY? BECAUSE THAT'S THE ONLY PATH I HAD IN FRONT OF ME?

I MEAN, WHO THE HELL AM I?



HERE'S THE JOKE OF THE WHOLE THING.

VAMPIRES ARE MORE HUMAN THAN ANY OF US.



YOU THINK YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HUMAN CONDITION THAN SOMEBODY WHO HAS LIVED FOR CENTURIES? REALLY?



THEY'VE LIVED, LOVED, AND LOST MORE THAN ANY OF US.



HELL, MAYBE THIS IS ALL MY LIFE WAS MEANT TO BE.



JUST TWO FISTS IN SERVICE OF A HIGHER POWER. EITHER WAY, ONE THING IS FOR DAMN SURE...



IF YOU CALL YOURSELF A FIGHTER, YOU BETTER BE PREPARED TO DIE LIKE ONE.



AH, SUCH A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR A DOG FIGHT! BUT WHY THE LONG FACE, AZALEA, MY DEAR? DON'T TELL ME ANIMAL CRUELTY UPSETS YOUR DELICATE SENSIBILITIES?



DO WATCH WHERE YOU STEP, RAMSES. A FEW FEET OF *SHADE* IS ALL THAT PROTECTS US FROM THE SUN. AND *MISTAKES* DO HAPPEN.

THAT THEY DO! AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'VE HEARD WHISPERS THAT A MISTAKE HAS BEFALLEN NONE OTHER THAN OUR SWEET GUSTAVO.

YOU WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, WOULD YOU, KELLEN?

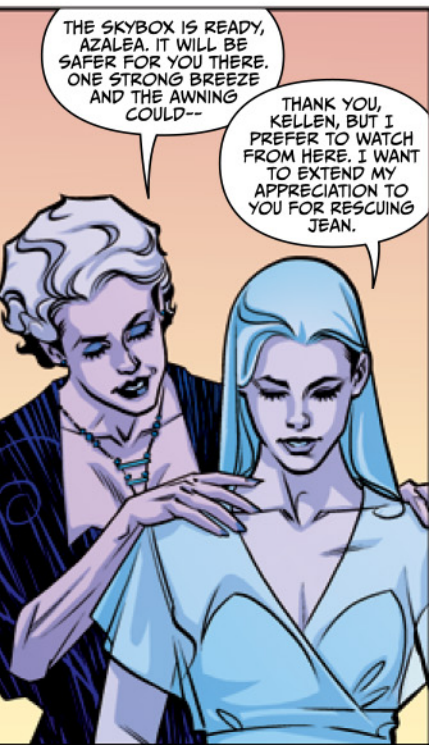


THE FLORIN FAMILY WOULD BE A BETTER PLACE TO DIRECT THAT QUESTION.



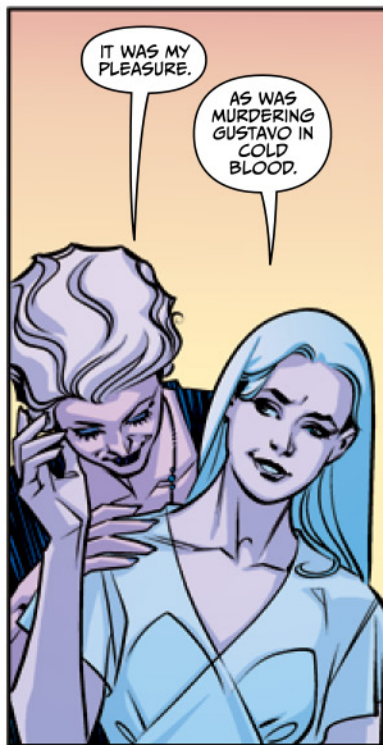
OH, I BELIEVE I'LL HAVE THAT CHANCE SOON ENOUGH. I IMAGINE THE FLORINS AND THEIR DREARY RETINUE WILL BE PAYING YOU A VISIT.

ALTHOUGH, AFTER TODAY, NONE OF THAT MAY MATTER. TA!



THE SKYBOX IS READY, AZALEA. IT WILL BE SAFER FOR YOU THERE. ONE STRONG BREEZE AND THE AWNING COULD--

THANK YOU, KELLEN, BUT I PREFER TO WATCH FROM HERE. I WANT TO EXTEND MY APPRECIATION TO YOU FOR RESCUING JEAN.

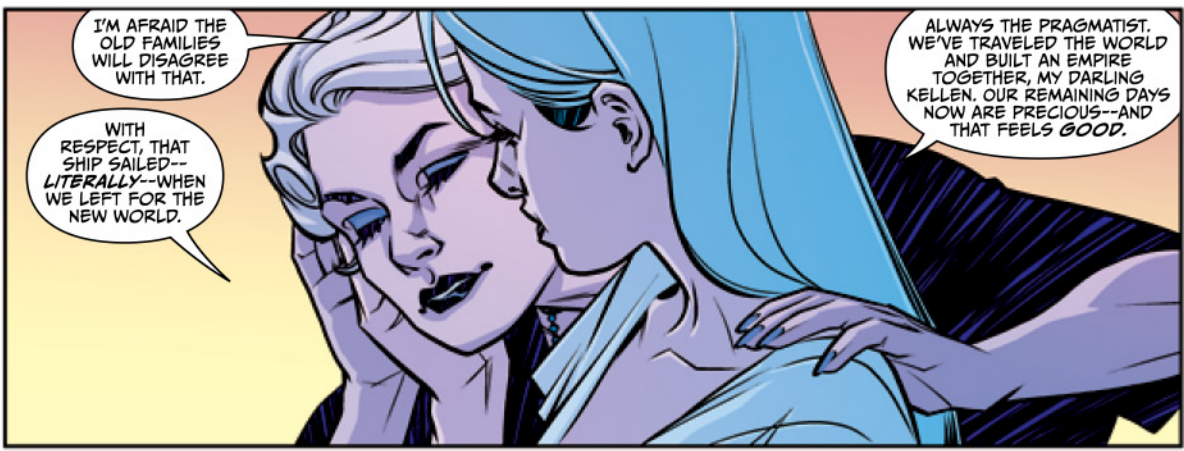


IT WAS MY PLEASURE.

AS WAS MURDERING GUSTAVO IN COLD BLOOD.



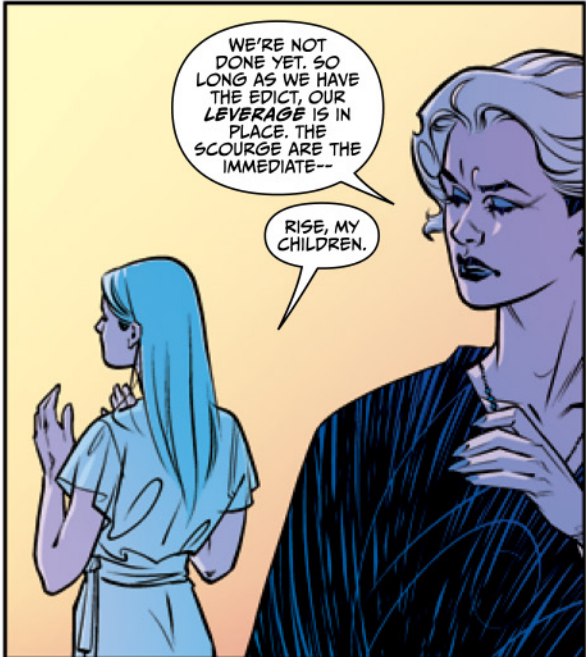
JUST FINISHING WHAT I SHOULD HAVE DONE IN BARCELONA DECADES AGO.



I'M AFRAID THE OLD FAMILIES WILL DISAGREE WITH THAT.

WITH RESPECT, THAT SHIP SAILED-- LITERALLY--WHEN WE LEFT FOR THE NEW WORLD.

ALWAYS THE PRAGMATIST. WE'VE TRAVELED THE WORLD AND BUILT AN EMPIRE TOGETHER, MY DARLING KELLEN. OUR REMAINING DAYS NOW ARE PRECIOUS--AND THAT FEELS GOOD.

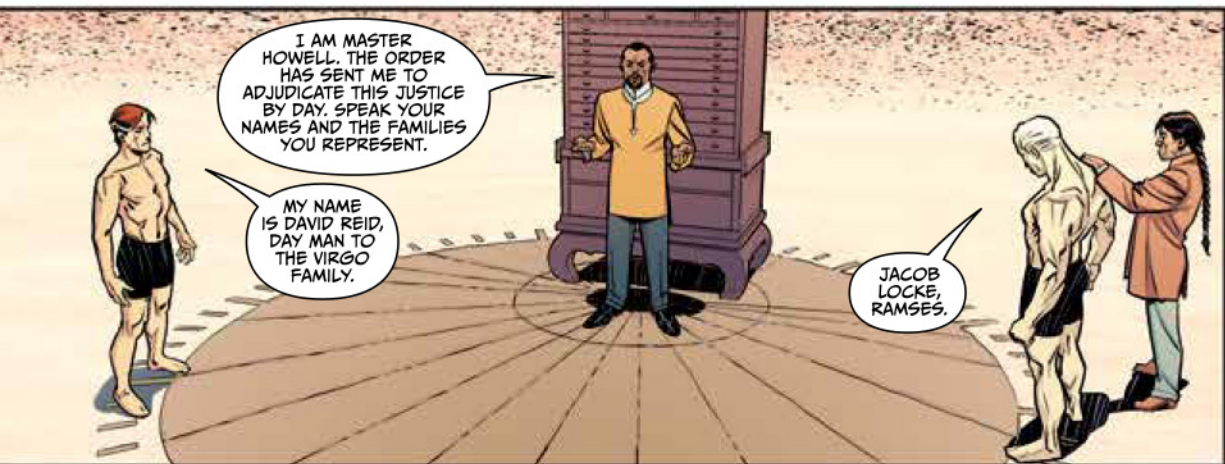


WE'RE NOT DONE YET. SO LONG AS WE HAVE THE EDICT, OUR LEVERAGE IS IN PLACE. THE SCOURGE ARE THE IMMEDIATE--

RISE, MY CHILDREN.



OUR CHAMPION APPROACHES.



I AM MASTER HOWELL, THE ORDER HAS SENT ME TO ADJUDICATE THIS JUSTICE BY DAY. SPEAK YOUR NAMES AND THE FAMILIES YOU REPRESENT.

MY NAME IS DAVID REID, DAY MAN TO THE VIRGO FAMILY.

JACOB LOCKE, RAMSES.



DAVID REID, YOU CALLED THIS TRIAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING THE GRIEVANCES BETWEEN THE VIRGOS AND THE RAMSES TO A CONCLUSION.

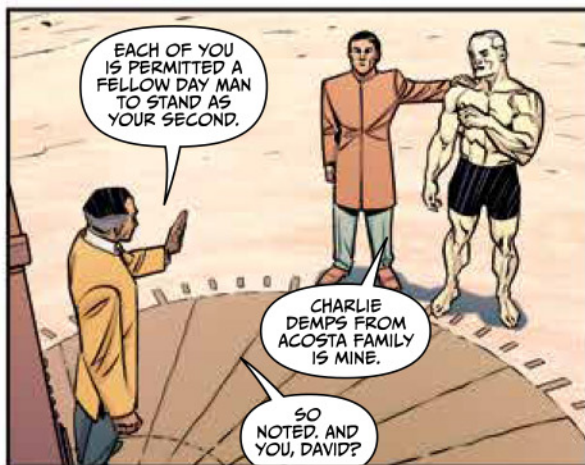
JACOB LOCKE, YOU HAVE WILLINGLY ACCEPTED THIS CHALLENGE?

OH YEAH.



VERY WELL. THIS IS A FIGHT TO THE DEATH. TRIUMVIRATE RULES WILL APPLY. IF YOU BOTH SURVIVE UNTIL SUNDOWN, I WILL DECIDE THE VICTOR...

AND CARRY OUT THE EXECUTION OF HE WHO FAILS.



EACH OF YOU IS PERMITTED A FELLOW DAY MAN TO STAND AS YOUR SECOND.

CHARLIE DEMPS FROM ACOSTA FAMILY IS MINE.

SO NOTED, AND YOU, DAVID?



MY SECOND HASN'T ARRIVED YET. OR, TO BE HONEST, AGREED TO STAND WITH ME.

I STAND ALONE--

OH, PLEASE.