

COURT OF THE DÉ DANANN, TIR NA NÓG.

I imagine CAPTAIN
FURF was a little...
SURPRISED by
your intervention,
my Lady.

I confess, I would have
liked to have witnessed
the exchange for myself!

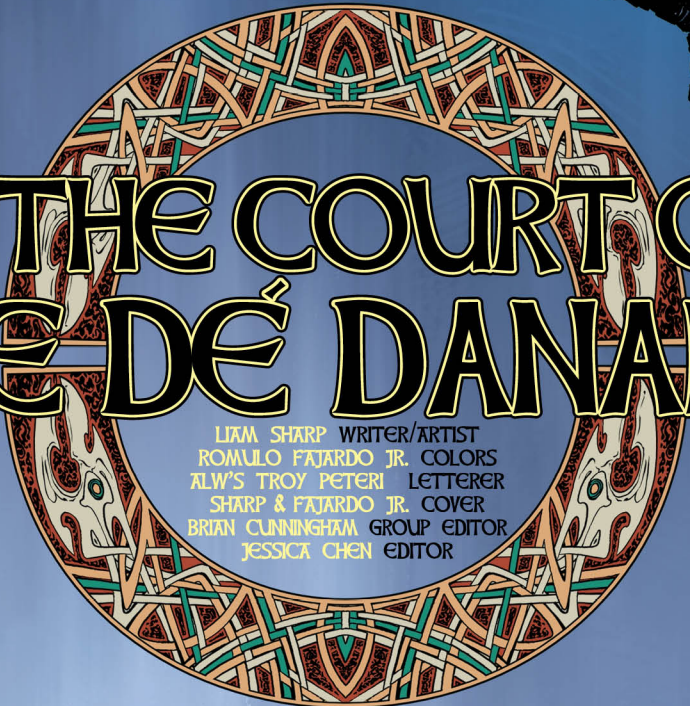


REMEMBER
THIS--
I DID NOT
CHOOSE TO
FIGHT.

KNOW
THIS--
I SHALL
END IT.

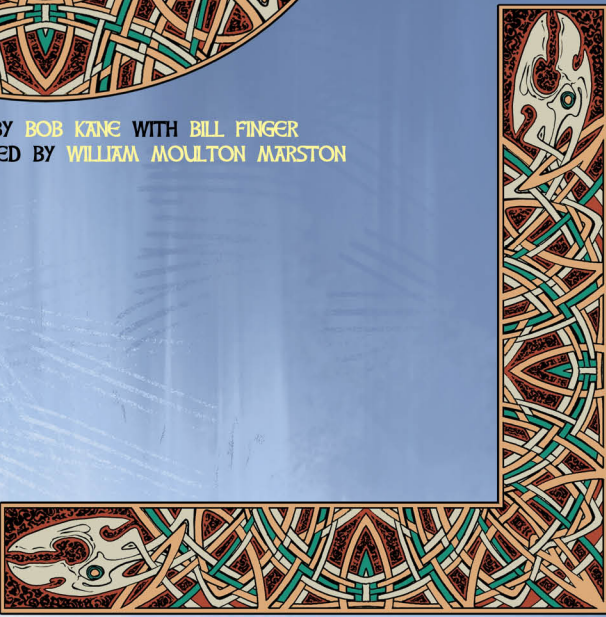
CHAPTER TWO

IN THE COURT OF THE DÉ DANANN



LIAM SHARP WRITER/ARTIST
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. COLORS
ALW'S TROY PETERI LETTERER
SHARP & FAJARDO JR. COVER
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM GROUP EDITOR
JESSICA CHEN EDITOR

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER
WONDER WOMAN CREATED BY WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON



OUR BELOVED KING...ACK!...IS DEAD! DO YOU NOT...UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT MEANS TO US?!

OF COURSE! BUT THERE IS NO NEED FOR MORE CONFLICT HERE.

I CAN HELP. IT'S WHY I CAME. WILL YOU KINDLY STAND DOWN?

MY PATRONS, IN THEIR WISDOM, GIFTED ME THIS--SHE IS KNOWN AS "THE GOLDEN PERFECT."

IN HER BRIGHT EMBRACE ALL FALSEHOODS ARE PUT TO FLIGHT. NEITHER GOD NOR MORTAL CAN BREAK HER BONDS.

WHAT IS YOUR NAME, CHILD?

IT IS DONAL, MY LADY.

TELL ME, THEN, DONAL OF THE DÉ DANANN--DID YOU MURDER ELATHA, HIGH KING OF THE FOMORIANS?

I SWEAR-- I DID NOT, MY LADY!

AND WERE YOU AWARE OF ANY PLOT TO DO SUCH A THING?

I WAS NOT.

ALL IN TIR NA NÓG LOVED ELATHA! WHY WOULD ANYBODY PLOT SUCH A THING?

THIS PROVES NOTHING!

WHAT? WE SHOULD TRUST THIS BOY BECAUSE HE'S ALL WRAPPED UP IN A NICE BIT OF GOLDEN YARN?!

THE PERFECT REVEALS ONLY TRUTH...

...DO YOU NOT BELIEVE ME--?

MY LADY, IN TIR NA NÓG, THERE ARE A THOUSAND GLAMOURS FOR EVERY STEP TAKEN, AND A THOUSAND MORE TO COUNTER THEM!

NOTHING HERE IS QUITE WHAT IT SEEMS, AND THAT IS THE WAY OF IT. TRUTH CHARMS CONTAINED IN A LENGTH OF ROPE CARRY LITTLE WEIGHT HERE, I'M AFRAID!

GREETINGS, KING MCCOOL OF THE DE DANANN!

WELCOME, LORD CERNUNNOS, AND YOU, CAPTAIN FURF. I WAS OUT HUNTING THIS PARTICULARLY UNPLEASANT FEAR DORCSA IN THE NORTH WHEN I HEARD THE TERRIBLE NEWS. I CAME AS QUICKLY AS I COULD...

...ELACHA WAS MY GUEST HERE, AND LIKE A BROTHER TO ME. MY HEART BREAKS THIS DAY.

SOME FORM OF COUNCIL MUST BE SOUGHT, AND A PROPER INVESTIGATION STAGED...

AYE, AGREED.

I CALL UPON THE HOUSES OF THE FOMORIANS AND OF THE DE DANANN TO GATHER HERE AT THE GRAND HALL ON THE MORROW.

TIR NA NÓG HAS BEEN DEALT A SHOCKING AND GRIEVOUS BLOW! A GREAT KING IS DEAD, AND ALL SHALL MOURN. BUT LET THERE BE NO MORE LIFE LOST THIS NIGHT.

You came along and you stopped a war, Princess...

IRISH QUARTER, GOTHAM CITY.

...Would that you had stopped me also! There are many subtle ways to reach out in the world...

NOW SEE HERE-- ALL THIS?

MY DEAR OLD EX-WIFE MOLLY WOULD HAVE SAID IT WAS JUNK, AND TO GET SHOT OF IT!

SEAN FLANAGAN FOUND THE FIRST PIECE IN HIS HANDKERCHIEF, WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT? SOME FIFTY OR SIXTY YEARS AGO! FINBAR MCGUINNESS FOUND ANOTHER UNDER HIS HAT JUST A FEW YEARS LATER.

AND ALL MY WIDE WANDERINGS LED ME HERE.

I TRAVELED THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF IRELAND, TRYING TO FIND A WAY INTO FAIR TIR NA NÓG... YOU REMEMBER THAT, MOLLY? I THINK IT WAS... THAT WAS WHEN I FIRST TRULY LOST YOU, MY LOVE...

...AND LATER, WORKING IN "YE OLDE CELTIC BOOKSHOP" HERE IN GOTHAM, JUST OFF MCMULLEN STREET --BEFORE IT WENT OUT OF BUSINESS LIKE... TERRIBLE SHAME. TERRIBLE.

BUT SEE, I LEARNED-- TIR NA NÓG NEVER WAS UNDER IRELAND, NOT REALLY. NOT IN THE WAY WE ALL THOUGHT IT WAS, ANYWAY!

THEN NED HOOLEY
IN THE BOTTOM OF HIS
PEWTER JUG, MICKEY
FALLON IN HIS GREATCOAT
POCKET... AND SO ON,
AND SO ON...

THEY WERE
THE LAST OF THE
GOTHAM DRUIDS--
SADLY ALL GONE NOW...
BUT FOR ME.

THIS WAS
THE LAST PIECE TO
APPEAR... YOU SEE
THIS, MOLLY? A GIFT
FROM THE FAERIE
FOLK, DIRECTLY
TO ME!

THOUGH IN
TRUTH, I HAVE
NOT A CLUE AS
TO ITS PURPOSE!
SUCH ARE THEIR
HIDDEN WAYS!

CAUSEWAYS
ALWAYS LIE WHERE
LEYLINES CROSS
THREE TIMES...

SO MANY OF THOSE
OLD PLACES ARE BURIED UNDER
CONCRETE NOW--BENEATH
OFFICE BLOCKS AND CAR PARKS,
OR LONG AGO LOST TO
THE OCEAN.

BUT NOT, IT
TURNS OUT,
HERE!

I FOUND
THE WAY
IN...

MASTER
BRUCE?

