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CAREY · DAVID · RAMONDELLI

# DARKNESS VISIBLE



*Ramondelli*

WHEN THE DEMONS CAME, HUMANITY RELUCTANTLY LEARNED TO SHARE THE WORLD WITH ANOTHER SENTIENT RACE. **EIGHTY YEARS LATER, THIS UNEASY CO-EXISTENCE HAS SPAWNED AN ENDLESS TERRORIST CONFLICT.** DETECTIVE DANIEL ASTON, CHARGED WITH BEING THE THIN BLUE LINE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, IS TESTED TO THE LIMIT WHEN A DEMON SETS UP HOUSE INSIDE HIS SOUL. BUT TO SAVE HIS DAUGHTER HE'LL PAY ANY PRICE—INCLUDING GENOCIDE.

# DARKNESS VISIBLE

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THREE HOURS AGO.  
THE PAST,  
BUT JUST BARELY.

GLORY.

MMM?

WHAT IN  
THE HELL JUST  
HAPPENED?

WOW. WAS  
YOUR DAUGHTER  
ADOPTED,  
DANNY?

I DON'T  
MEAN THE  
SEX.

WELL, I  
DO... BUT NOT  
JUST THAT.  
ALL OF IT.

WHY JUMP  
ME NOW? AND  
WHO EVEN  
ARE YOU...

...WHEN  
YOU'RE NOT  
PRETENDING  
TO BE **INDRA**  
**VEER**?

WHY NOW? BECAUSE  
OUR COUPLING SHIFTED  
THE BALANCE OF **POWER**  
BETWEEN YOU AND  
**RHAK**.

LISTEN,  
WE'VE GOT  
PLACES TO  
BE...

WE CAN'T  
MOVE UNTIL IT  
STARTS TO GET  
DARK AGAIN.

CAREFUL  
WHAT YOU  
WISH FOR.

TELL ME,  
WE'VE GOT  
TIME.

YOU THINK?  
**GLORIANA** IS  
NINE THOUSAND  
YEARS OLD.

BUT I  
CAN TELL  
YOU **INDRA'S**  
STORY.

IT'S A LOT  
SHORTER.

"AND I SUPPOSE IT  
GETS TO THE **HEART**  
OF THE MATTER."

WARD 501  
INCURABLES  
AUTHORIZED STAFF ONLY

"SHE LIVED MOST OF HER LIFE IN AMERICA. LOS ANGELES, IF THAT MATTERS.

"SHE WAS—SHE WANTED TO BE—A DOCTOR. SHE HAD A SENSE OF VOCATION."

THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO MADE BARGAINS WITH SHAITAN AND WERE UNABLE TO FORM A SUCCESSFUL BOND. THE RESULTS ARE OFTEN DISTRESSING.

IF YOU HAVE TO THROW UP, COME OUT HERE TO DO IT.

NOBODY IS GOING TO THROW UP, DR. KENT. WE'RE PROFESSIONALS.



FAMOUS LAST WORDS, DR. VEER. YOU JUST VOLUNTEERED TO LEAD THE CHARGE.

GO AHEAD.



BOTTOM OF THE NINTH! VEER STEPS UP TO THE PLATE.

SHUT UP, LAKE.



"THERE WAS A LOT AT STAKE FOR INDRA. SHE HAD A REP TO CONSIDER.

"AS AN INDIAN-AMERICAN WOMAN IN A GAGGLE OF ENTITLED WHITE MEN, SHE HAD TO FIGHT HER CORNER."



COME ON, VEER! IT'S A FREE TICKET TO THE FREAK SHOW!

I'LL GET YOU SOME CRACKER JACK IF YOU STAY!

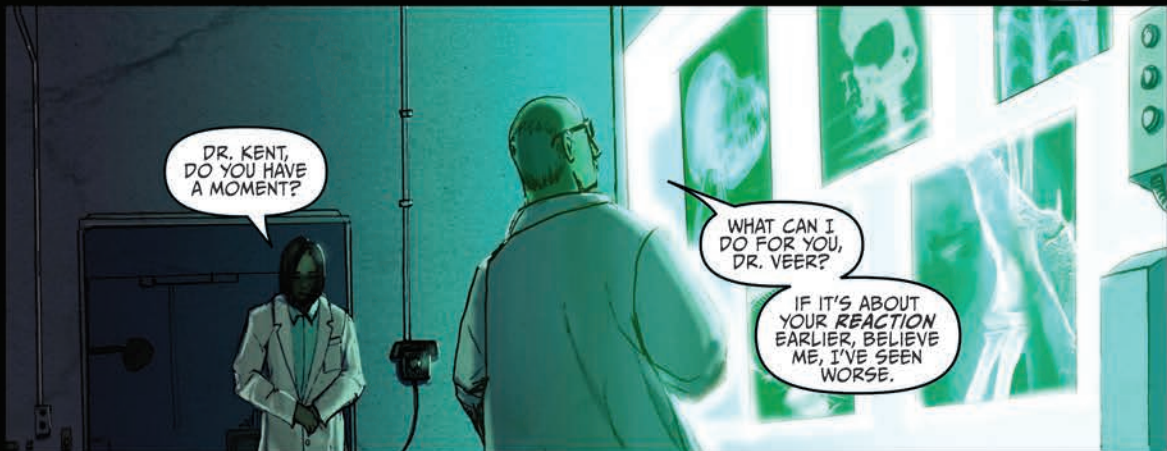


"BUT THIS TIME... WHAT CAN I TELL YOU? THIS TIME, SHE SCREWED THE POOCH.

"SHE STAYED IN THE TOILET UNTIL SHE WAS ABSOLUTELY SURE THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT TO COME UP.

"AND THEN A LITTLE WHILE LONGER, HOPING TO COMPOSE HERSELF."





DR. KENT,  
DO YOU HAVE  
A MOMENT?

WHAT CAN I  
DO FOR YOU,  
DR. VEER?

IF IT'S ABOUT  
YOUR REACTION  
EARLIER, BELIEVE  
ME, I'VE SEEN  
WORSE.



I'D LIKE TO  
WORK ON THE  
INCURABLES WARD  
FOR MY NEXT  
ROTATION.

I MEAN, IF  
THERE'S A  
SPACE.



THERE ARE  
ALWAYS SPACES.  
INDRA, YOU DON'T  
HAVE ANYTHING TO  
PROVE HERE.

YES,  
I DO. TO  
MYSELF.

WELL, IF YOU'RE  
SURE, I'LL PUT IN A  
WORD WITH DR.  
SCHROEBER.



THE SHAITAN  
ARE A FASCINATING  
RACE. WELL WORTH  
STUDYING.

IF YOU CAN  
OVERCOME YOUR  
REVULSION,  
THERE'S A GREAT  
DEAL TO BE  
LEARNED.



"THERE'S A POEM ABOUT  
FINDING YOUR FATE IN THE  
THINGS YOU'RE NOT AFRAID  
OF. INDRA THOUGHT THAT  
WAS BULLSHIT.

"WHENEVER SHE WAS  
AFRAID, SHE PUSHED  
BACK HARD. SHE MADE  
HERSELF GO WHERE  
SHE WASN'T THE LEAST  
BIT COMFORTABLE...

# CHAPTER 6 "501"

"...AND SET UP CAMP  
THERE UNTIL SHE WAS."

"THIS APPLIED TO HER PRIVATE LIFE, TOO. IT WAS THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR HAPPY."

HAP, YOU'RE HOME. WHAT HAPPENED?

SOMEONE DROPPED A REEFER AND SET FIRE TO THE LAW LIBRARY. COME AND LOOK AT THIS.

AND BEING SO AWARE, DO YOU STILL STAND ON YOUR STATEMENT?

SENATOR, I WAS PARTICIPATING IN A COVER-UP AT THAT TIME.

THE WATERGATE HEARINGS.

YEAH. JOHN DEAN IS SPILLING THE WHOLE THING. IT'S JUST WILD.

I SAW THE INCURABLES TODAY.

IT HIT ME PRETTY HARD, BUT I GOT OVER IT.

I WANT TO HELP THOSE PEOPLE, HAP. THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE GETTING THE... THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM, AND THEY JUST GOT SCREWED.

I'VE GOT TO DO PALLIATIVE CARE AT SOME POINT. MIGHT AS WELL BE NOW, RIGHT?

I EXPLAINED TO THE PRESIDENT, WHO WOULD TAKE PERJURY UPON PERJURY UPON PERJURY—

—IF IT WERE TO BE PERPETUATED, I WASN'T CAPABLE OF DOING THAT.

SORRY, BABE.

DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?

OH. RIGHT.

WHAT WAS THAT LIKE?



HI, I'M  
INDRA VEER.

I'M  
INTERNING  
WITH DR.  
KENT.



DO I NEED  
TO SIGN IN?

NO, YOU'RE ON  
THE BIG LIST.

WOW.  
INCURABLES.  
LUCKY YOU.

I'M ON  
THERE, TOO,  
WHILE YOU'RE  
LOOKING.  
PROBABLY  
RIGHT AT  
THE TOP.



LAKE. AS IN  
TOLUCA LAKE,  
WHICH IS WHERE  
MY PARENTS  
LIVE.

IF YOU'RE  
EVER OUT THAT  
WAY, YOU SHOULD  
FEEL FREE TO  
DROP IN AND USE  
THE POOL.

ALEX,  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
HERE?



THE SAME AS  
YOU, VEER. MY  
HUMANITARIAN DUTY  
TO THESE POOR  
UNFORTUNATES.

YOU  
CALLED THEM  
A FREAK  
SHOW.

THAT  
DOESN'T MAKE  
THEM ANY LESS  
WORTHY OF OUR  
COMPASSION.



YOU THINK  
THIS BUYS  
YOU ANY TIME  
WITH ME?

JESUS,  
VEER. NOT  
EVERYTHING  
IS ABOUT  
YOU...

...AND YOUR  
ADMITTEDLY  
AMAZING  
DERRIERE.

