




FOR ENDLESS CENTURIES,
I WAS CALLED PANDORA--
MOTHER OF SIN.




THE WITCH WHO
OPENED A BOX
OF EVIL...




...AND UNLEASHED A
TIDE OF DARKNESS
ON THE WORLD.



AND, FOR
ENDLESS
CENTURIES, I
BELIEVED IT...




...LIVING WITH
SHAME AND REGRET,
HOPELESSNESS AND
SELF-LOATHING.




THEN, ONE DAY, I WAS
TOUCHED BY A SACRED
LIGHT--THAT SHINED, WITH
BLINDING RADIANCE...



...FROM HUMANITY'S
COLLECTIVE
CONSCIOUSNESS.



IT TRANSFORMED
ME--AND MY VISION
OF WHO WE ARE,
WHAT WE CAN BE.



BUT NOW THAT
PRECIOUS LIGHT
HAS BEEN
SNUFFED OUT.



NOW THE WORLD
HAS BEEN LOST
TO SHADOW...



THIS MUST BE SOME ALIEN WORLD... SOME OTHER DIMENSION... THAT WE'VE BEEN TRANSPORTED TO.

I WISH IT WERE. BUT THIS IS EARTH... THIS IS OUR HOME... SOMEHOW TRANSFORMED--

--INTO A NIGHTMARE.



HOW?

ARE YOU IN DENIAL, STRANGER... AFRAID TO FACE THE TRUTH--

--THAT WE ARE THE CAUSE OF THIS?

US? IT WAS NIMRAA WHO--



HE'S RIGHT, PANDORA. NIMRAA TAPPED INTO THE MAGIC IN MY AMULET... QUESTION'S SPEAR... AND YOUR BOX OF SIN--

--FUELING THEM WITH OUR BLOOD. USING THAT POWER--



--TO UPEND REALITY-- AND--

...AND...

EASY. NIMRAA'S RITUAL LEFT US ALL WEAK. IT'S A WONDER WE'RE STILL ALIVE.

WHICH BEGS THE QUESTION--



--WHY ARE WE ALIVE?

WHY DIDN'T THE MONSTER KILL US WHEN THE RITUAL WAS DONE?



OH, YOU'LL DIE SOON ENOUGH--

--BUT MY WORLD IS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF RESHAPING ITSELF...RE-FORMING...AND, UNTIL THE METAMORPHOSIS IS COMPLETE--

--I NEED YOU
THREE *ALIVE*--TO
KEEP THE SPELL
*GROUND*ED.

FOR TWO THOUSAND
YEARS THE PHANTOM
STRANGER WAS
CONCERNED WITH
ONLY ONE THING:

AND IF WE
DIE BEFORE THE
ENCHANTMENT IS
DONE--DOES THE
WORLD GO BACK
TO WHAT IT
WAS?

LIFTING THE
CURSE THAT
DAMNED HIM
TO ETERNAL
WANDERING.

THERE WAS NO
ONE HE WOULDN'T
SACRIFICE OR
BETRAY...

...TO GAIN
THAT END.

SO TO SEE HIM NOW,
READY TO SACRIFICE
HIMSELF TO SAVE
THE WORLD...

...MOVES ME
TO TEARS--EVEN
THOUGH I KNOW...

...THAT THE
GESTURE IS
AS FUTILE AS
IT IS NOBLE.

I'VE WAITED
BILLIONS OF
YEARS TO RESUR-
RECT MY EARTH...TO
WALK, ONCE AGAIN,
AMONG MY FALLEN
RACE.

DO YOU REALLY
THINK I'D LET YOU
UNDO IT ALL--IN
AN INSTANT?

THE SHADOW-SNAKES
ENFOLD US...PARALYZE
US...FILLING OUR
MINDS AND HEARTS...