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STEVE NILES • BERNIE WRIGHTSON

THE  
**GHUL**  
TREASURY EDITION



WRIGHTSON



Written by:

**STEVE NILES**

Art by:

**BERNIE WRIGHTSON**

Colored by:

**TOM SMITH**/SCORPION STUDIOS

Lettered by:

**ROBBIE ROBBINS**

Edited by:

**TOM WALTZ**

Colleciton Design

by **GILBERTO LAZCANO**

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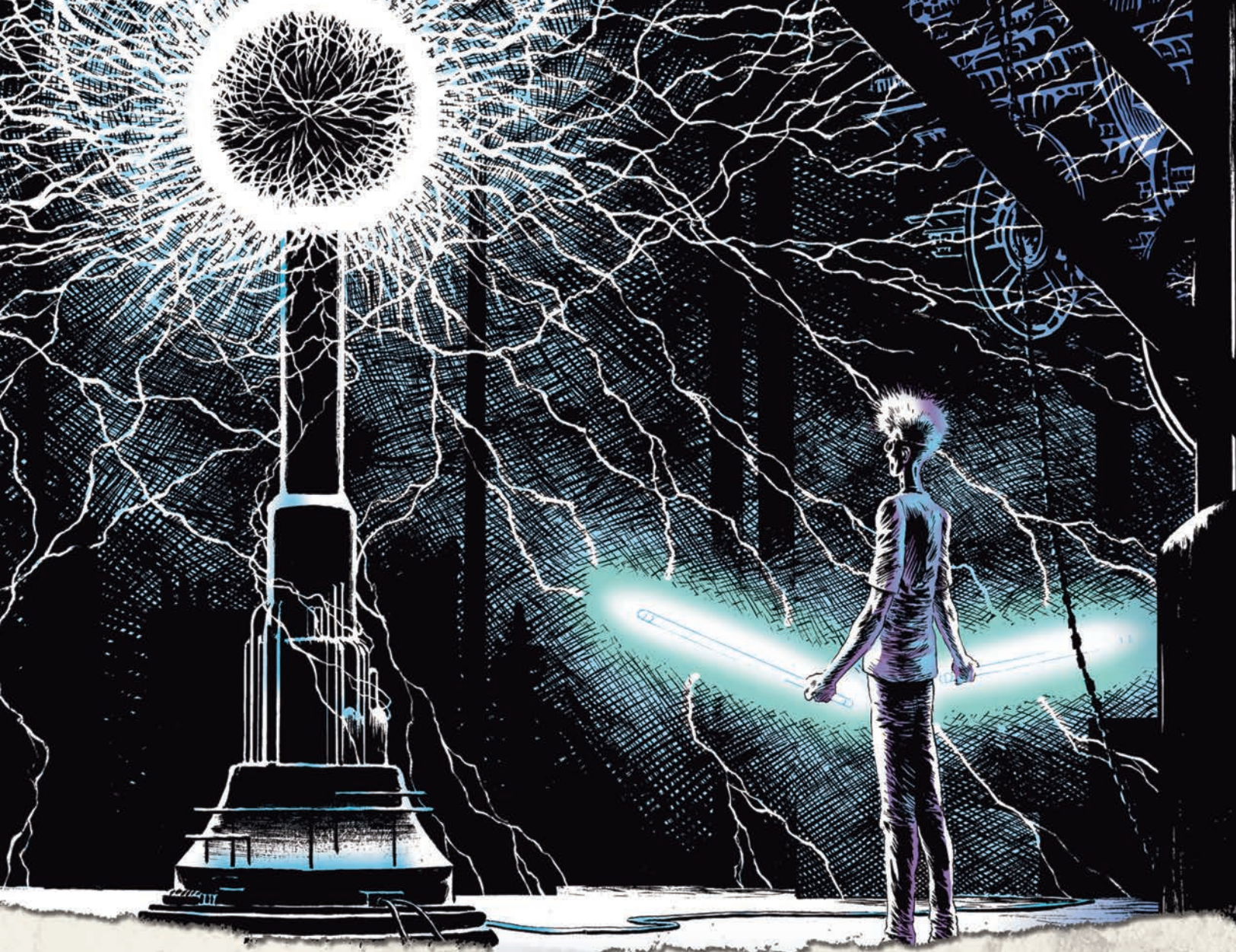
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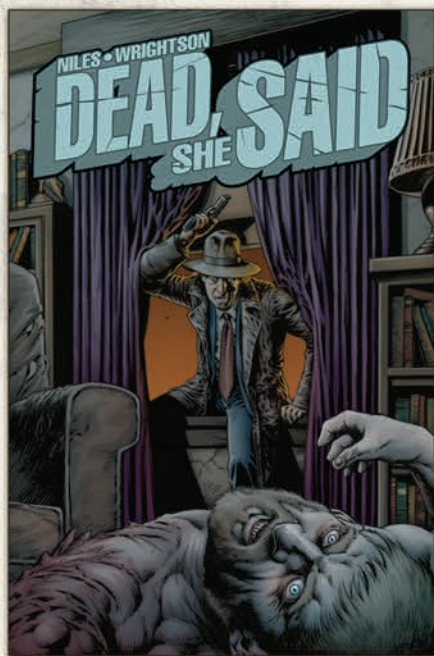




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EVEN MORE FROM THE CREATIVE TEAM OF  
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# THE GHOUL





WRIGHTSON



THE GHOUL ARRIVED IN LOS ANGELES BY AIR, UNDER COVER OF NIGHT.

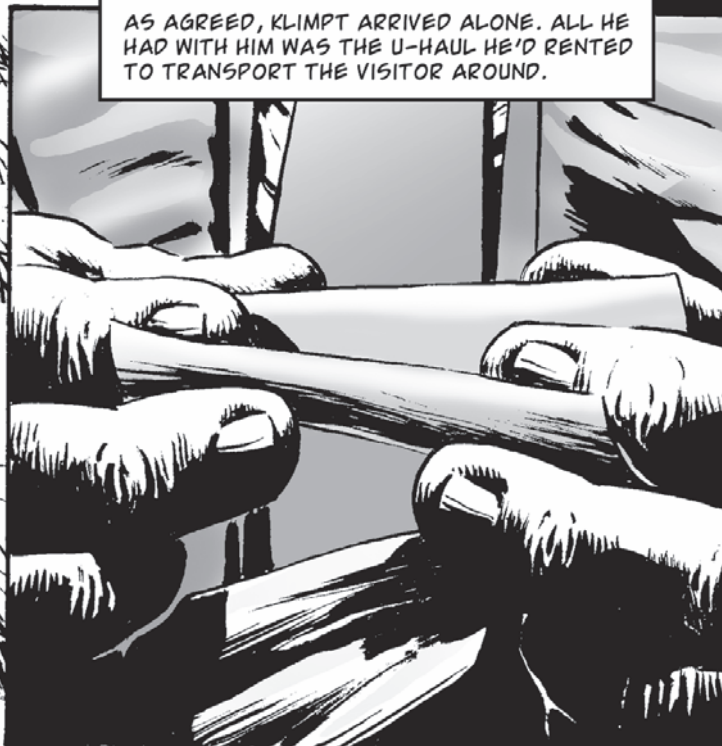
THE FLIGHT WAS ORGANIZED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE FBI (FEDERAL BUREAU OF SUPERNATURAL INVESTIGATION), IN COOPERATION WITH DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT LLOYD KLIMPT OF THE LAPD.



THE HIGH-SECURITY AIRCRAFT LANDED AT JUST AFTER TWO IN THE MORNING ON A LITTLE-KNOWN LANDING STRIP IN BURBANK.



AS AGREED, KLIMPT ARRIVED ALONE. ALL HE HAD WITH HIM WAS THE U-HAUL HE'D RENTED TO TRANSPORT THE VISITOR AROUND.



TO THOSE WHO KNOW THEIR FILM HISTORY, THE SMALL LANDING FIELD WAS CLOSE TO THE SPOT WHERE MICHAEL CURTIZ SHOT BOGART AND BERGMAN IN CASABLANCA.



YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT TO LOOK AT THE PLACE NOW. THE AREA HAD BEEN LEVELED AND PAVED OVER AGAIN AND AGAIN, ANY SIGNS OF ITS HISTORY LOST, CEMENTED INTO THE DESERT SAND.

THE SMALL ARMORED PRIVATE PLANE WAS SPECIALLY MODIFIED TO FIT THE GHOUL'S LEGENDARY SIZE, AND KLIMPT COULDN'T HELP BUT TAP HIS FOOT NERVOUSLY AS HE WAITED FOR THE DOORS TO OPEN.

BEING A COP IN LOS ANGELES, DETECTIVE KLIMPT HAD SEEN A LOT OF STRANGE STUFF, BUT NOTHING THAT EVER MADE HIM QUESTION THE NATURE OF REALITY ITSELF.

HE'D SEEN WEIRD THINGS, REAL CRIMES... THE WORST. HE'D WORKED THE MOST BRUTAL MURDER SCENES AND SOME OF THE ODDEST SUICIDES EVER RECORDED, BUT IN ALL HIS LIFE, HE NEVER BELIEVED IN ANYTHING THAT WENT BUMP IN THE NIGHT.








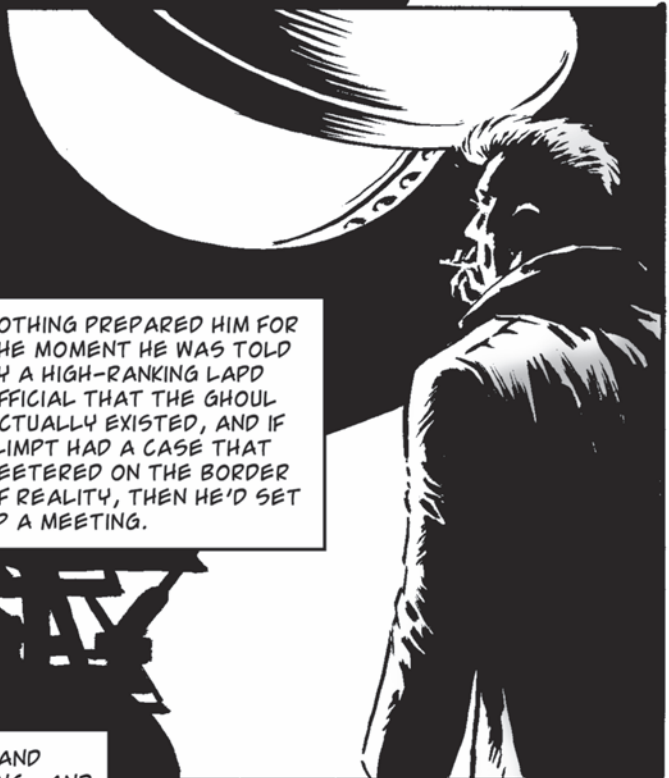
LATELY THOUGH, KLIMPT HAD HIS SUSPICIONS. A CASE HAD COME ACROSS HIS DESK THAT CAUGHT HIS EYE. AT FIRST GLANCE, IT LOOKED LIKE A SIMPLE MOVIE STAR EXTORTION BEEF. BUT WHEN KLIMPT DELVED DEEPER, HE DISCOVERED SOMETHING VERY, VERY STRANGE.

THAT'S WHAT BROUGHT KLIMPT TO THE BURBANK AIRSTRIP AT 2 AM, WAITING FOR A MONSTER TO GET OFF A PLANE.






LIKE MOST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, KLIMPT THOUGHT THE GHOUL WAS JUST A LEGEND.




NOTHING PREPARED HIM FOR THE MOMENT HE WAS TOLD BY A HIGH-RANKING LAPD OFFICIAL THAT THE GHOUL ACTUALLY EXISTED, AND IF KLIMPT HAD A CASE THAT TEETERED ON THE BORDER OF REALITY, THEN HE'D SET UP A MEETING.



AS IT TURNED OUT, THE LAPD AND NYPD BOTH HAD LONG-STANDING—AND SECRET—RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE MYSTERIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCY.



EVEN FROM THE TARMAC, KLIMPT COULD SEE THAT THE GHOUL'S BLACK LEATHER DUSTER AND FRANKENSTEIN BOOTS DID LITTLE TO HIDE THE FACT THAT HE WASN'T HUMAN.



BUT HE SURE AS SHIT WAS REAL.



YOU KLIMPT?