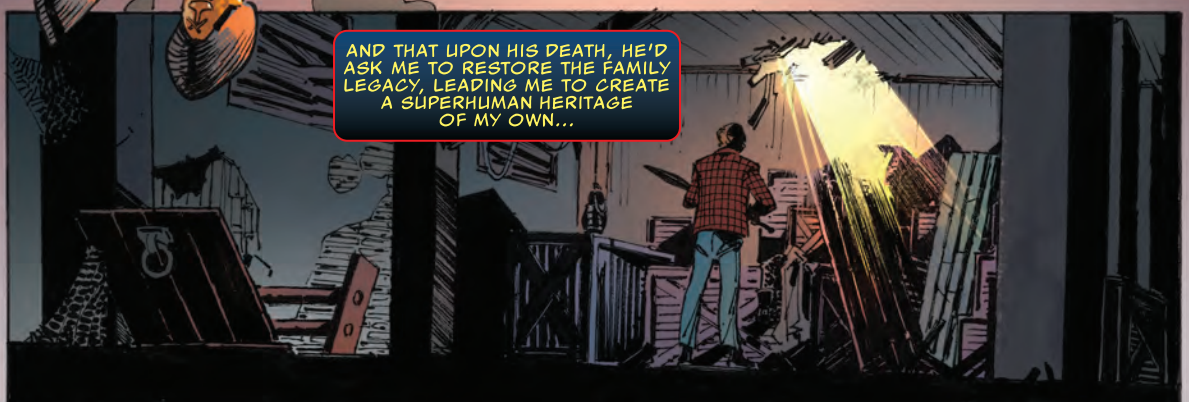


MY NAME IS DANE WHITMAN...  
AND I'VE GOT TO SAY, I  
NEVER DREAMED THIS  
WOULD BE MY LIFE.

THAT I'D FIND OUT ONE  
DAY THAT I WAS RELATED  
TO A SUPER VILLAIN, OF  
ALL THINGS...



AND THAT UPON HIS DEATH, HE'D  
ASK ME TO RESTORE THE FAMILY  
LEGACY, LEADING ME TO CREATE  
A SUPERHUMAN HERITAGE  
OF MY OWN...

...WITH THE  
EBONY BLADE...



...AS THE  
BLACK KNIGHT.



WELL...THE CURRENT BLACK KNIGHT, I SHOULD SAY.



STARTING WITH SIR PERCY OF SCANDIA, I'VE ACTUALLY DESCENDED FROM A LONG LINE OF BLACK KNIGHTS THAT DATES ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE DAYS OF KING ARTHUR.



YEAH...THAT KING ARTHUR.

NEVER DREAMED I'D BE AN AVENGER. I MEAN, REALLY...ME?

ONE OF EARTH'S MIGHTIEST FRIGGIN' HEROES, MAN...

...BATTLING THE MASTERS OF EVIL, KANG, ULTRON AND THE LIKE?



AND MAYBE MOST SURPRISING OF ALL...

**ONE DAY AGO...**

ATTABOY,  
MEN OF NEW  
AVALON!

WE'VE GOT  
THESE SLITHERING  
BASTARDS ON THE  
ROPE!

I MOST DEFINITELY  
NEVER DREAMED  
I'D END UP HERE.

# **DARK KNIGHT PART ONE**

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"HERE" BEING A MYSTICAL, OFF-THE-MAP ISLAND KNOWN AS WEIRDWORLD.

AND YEAH, THAT'S WHAT SOME ACTUALLY CALL THIS PLACE. IT'S AS GOOD A NAME AS ANY CONSIDERING...

WELL, CONSIDERING WHAT WEIRDWORLD IS.

FIGHTING IS CERTAINLY A BIG PART OF WHAT WEIRDWORLD IS, BY THE WAY. BASICALLY IT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING SINCE THE MOMENT I ARRIVED.

ESPECIALLY SINCE I BECAME RULER OF THIS CHUNK OF WEIRDWORLD THAT I'VE RECHRISTENED NEW AVALON.

HSSSSSS

MY MOST FREQUENT DANCING PARTNERS?

THIS SO-CALLED FANGS OF THE SERPENT.