

SOULS CRY OUT,
BEGGING FOR HELP.
BUT THEN NOTHING.
AS IF THEY NO LONGER
ARE. HOW IS THAT EVEN
POSSIBLE?

I TRIED TO TOUCH
THE...THE...I DO NOT
KNOW WHAT IT IS, OR
WHERE IT COMES
FROM. I DO NOT KNOW
IF IT HAS A NAME.

SO I CALL IT...
THE THING.
I TRIED TO TOUCH
THE THING...

...BUT IT REPELLED
ME...TOSSED ME AWAY. THEN
IT TALKED TO ME...IN THE
VOICES OF ALL THOSE LOST
SOULS, MERGED INTO A
SINGLE, AGONIZING SHRIEK.

AND IN THAT COMBINED
GUTTURAL GROWL IT
SHOUTED, BUT ONLY
FOR ME TO HEAR,
"STILL NOT READY."

WHAT IS NOT READY?
AM I NOT READY FOR
IT? OR IS IT NOT
READY FOR ME?

I SIT HERE IN TORTUROUS
PAIN, BARELY ABLE TO THINK
OR REACT...WHILE ALL
AROUND ME MORE SOULS
CRY OUT IN TORTURE...

THEN VANISH...

...AS IF THEY
NO LONGER
ARE.



THE WOODS CARNIVAL

Chapter Three
SOUL. SELF.

MARV WOLFMAN
WRITER

ALISSON BORGES
ARTIST

BLOND
COLORIST

A LARGER WORLD
LETTERS

COVER BY ANNIE WU

BRITTANY HOLZHERR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

ALEX ANTONE
EDITOR

MARIE JAVINS
GROUP EDITOR

RAVEN CREATED BY
MARV WOLFMAN & GEORGE PÉREZ

...AND THE SFPD HAS ISSUED A WARNING URGING EVERYONE TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

I'VE SPOKEN TO THE MILITARY COMMANDERS AND ALL OF THEM ADMIT THEY HAVE NO CLUE.

BART TRAVIS TRAVELING PAST THE EMBARCADERO ARE BEING REROUTED.

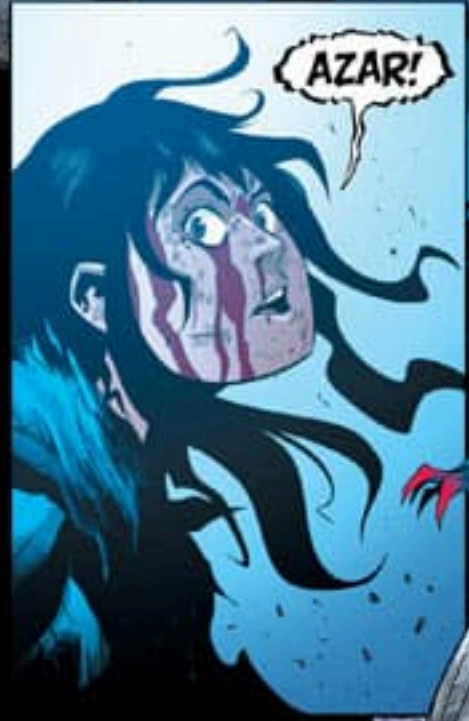
NOBODY EXCEPT EMERGENCY PERSONNEL IS BEING ALLOWED INTO THE AREA.

ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESSES, THE THING WAS ONCE CONTAINED IN A WAREHOUSE BUT THEN GREW AND BURST FREE FROM THOSE CONFINES...

THERE ARE LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE CROWDING THE STREETS HERE, AND DESPITE COMMON SENSE AND THE BEST EFFORTS OF THE POLICE AND NATIONAL GUARD, MORE ARE POURING IN AS IF COMPELLED...

...WE'VE BEEN ORDERED BY THE POLICE TO DISPERSE AND LEAVE THE AREA, BUT WE WILL CONTINUE TO BRING YOU THE NEWS AS LONG AS WE ARE...

HELLPPPPP!!



AZAR!



MY SCHOOL FRIEND, ANNABEL (OMP)KING-TANG, BUT SHE CALLS HERSELF...



AN???
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
IT IS RACHEL FROM SCHOOL.
I WILL NOT LET THAT THING TAKE YOU.



I WILL SAVE YOU!

HER EYES GO BLANK...

...SHE CANNOT ACKNOWLEDGE ME.



PLEASE... CAN YOU HELP ME? MY BOYFRIEND, ARCHER... I THINK HE'S IN THERE.

MADISON WHITE IS ALSO FROM SCHOOL. SHE IS ALWAYS SMILING. ALWAYS LAUGHING. DESPITE THAT, I THINK I LIKE HER.



LADY, HALF THE CITY'S GOT PEOPLE WHO GOT PULLED INTO THAT THING. YOUR BOYFRIEND'S GONE. IT'S OVER. GET OUTTA HERE.



ANNTT, IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, I AM GOING TO TELEPORT BOTH OF US AWAY.

SO MUCH FOR SECRET IDENTITIES.



AZAR!



WELL, I WAS NOT EXPECTING THAT.




I AM GETTING ANGRY,
AND THAT IS NOT GOOD.
FOR ANYONE.

RAVEN FACTOID NUMBER THREE,
BY RAVEN. MY ANGER HAS BEEN
KNOWN TO RELEASE MY FATHER
FROM HIS PRISONER
DIMENSION. AND THAT IS BAD.



RAVEN FACTOID NUMBER
FOUR. ALSO BY RAVEN.
TO CLARIFY: MY FATHER IS
AN INTERDIMENSIONAL DEMON
WHO OBLITERATES GALAXIES.

FOR FUN.



TH-THE THING IS USING ITS
STRENGTH TO HOLD ON TO
HER. TO RESIST IS PAINFUL...
BUT I MUST KEEP CALM AND
BATTLE ON.

SOMETIMES
GREAT WISDOM
COMES FROM
T-SHIRTS.



ARRRRRRR



YOU
CANNOT YET BE
DESTROYED



SOON
WHEN
WE ARE
READY

"WE?"
WHO
ARE--