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EPIGRAPH

"BEGINNING OF THE END" FULL COLOR SPECIAL

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NIGHTPHEONIXPRESS.NET



NATHYN BRENDAN MASTERS JOSEPH CONAVE KAYLA SWAIN

Night Phoenix Press

Send Feedback to: Phoenix@nightphoenixpress.net



Hey everybody, I hope you all enjoy this special issue of "Epitaph: Beginning of the End". This will kick off a six issue story arc. For those who don't know, this series has been years in the making starting with old stories I'd been wanting to write about but never had the chance to really do anything solid with.

In the past I've definitely thought about novels, but there were only two formats that I felt would be good and those were comic books/graphics novels, movies or both which is the dream I hope to make come true pretty soon. I'm now writing a screenplay that will serve as a prequel to the series so I'm hoping that all works out.

The stories were originally set up to be a comic book series but as things progressed and the economy got tighter, it became hard to publish comic books. I also got busy with work and recently moved to a new apartment so I couldn't draw them as I had originally planned. I had talked to Joseph Conave who was looking for a project and responded to an ad I placed. He took me up on my offer to draw the book months ago. The original series was slated to be black and white, but I saw a colorist named Kayla who also replied to one of the ads. She did nice moody colors. The dark somber colors were not what I really wanted for the superhero books (maybe for some Night Phoenix stuff) but I thought it would be good for the Epitaph series at least for a book or so. She colored this book and recolored the cover. The project sat on my computer for a long time with me trying to figure out the best time to publish it, but I feel now the time has come. So I hope you enjoy it.

-Nathyn Brendan Masters

EPITAPH #0

The Beginning of the End



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SO WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT ALL OF THIS? I MEAN THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE WALKED INTO A ROOM AND SEEN A PERSON LYING IN A POOL OF BLOOD WITH NO REAL REASON WHY. I SAW IT A FEW WEEKS AGO WITH THE HARRISON KID. HE'D BEEN FOOLING AROUND WITH A SPIRIT BOARD, NOW HE'S DEAD, AND NOW THIS?

IT WOULD MAKE MY JOB A LOT EASIER IF PEOPLE WOULD LEAVE ALL THIS SUPERNATURAL STUFF ALONE. I'M SURE THE COPS HAD A FIELD DAY TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT KILLED HIM. A COLLEGE KID WITH A CLEAN RECORD NEVER GOT IN ANY TROUBLE...

...AND I'M WILLING TO BET THESE KILLINGS ARE NO ACCIDENT.



IT GOES WITHOUT SAY, BUT THIS ISN'T AN EASY JOB. I WOULD LOVE TO BE ABLE TO STOP ALL THESE KILLINGS ONE DAY, BUT HOW CAN I STOP IT WHEN I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO OR WHAT DID IT.

THIS IS A SUPERNATURAL KILLING, I KNOW THAT MUCH, BUT IT'S DIFFERENT THAN THE HARRISON GUY. WHATEVER DID THIS TOOK THE HEAD CLEAN OFF AND LEFT THE BODY. WHY? THE BODY'S ONLY BEEN HERE FOR A SHORT TIME.

I HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS THAT I BET NO ONE WILL ANSWER. THIS CHICK WASN'T HOMELESS OR POOR. THE BOOTS ARE REAL LEATHER THE CLOTHES ARE ALL IN SEASON AND IT'S ALL DESIGNER, SO WHAT WAS SHE DOING HERE?

TWO ANSWERS COME TO MIND: SHE WAS LOOKING TO SCORE, OR SHE WAS BROUGHT HERE. I HEARD NIGHT PHOENIX WAS SHUTTING DOWN ALL THE DRUG HOUSES, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN, NO ONE'S STILL DEALING, BUT I THINK...

WHAM!

UH OH. THATS NOT GOOD.

OKAY, GET READY FOR WHAT EVER'S ABOUT TO COME THROUGH THAT DOOR. IT SOUNDS BIG AND I KNOW IT'S NOT HUMAN, BUT THE QUESTION IS, WHAT IS IT?

SPLASHH

OKAY, JUST BE COOL. YOU'VE TAKEN ON STUFF LIKE THIS BEFORE, AND WHATEVER IT IS TAKE IT AS AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. NOTHING'S TOO BIG OR BAD TO TAKE DOWN.

*THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD,
I SHALL NOT WANT...
...YE, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH
THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL
FEAR NO EVIL, FOR YOU ARE WITH ME...*

I KNOW IT'S NOT THE WHOLE 23RD PSALM BUT THOSE ARE THE PARTS I NEED RIGHT NOW. I'VE WALKED THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH MANY TIMES AND I'VE COME BACK ALIVE.

**WHAM
WHAM**

SUPERNATURAL DARKNESS ENGULFS THE ROOM, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER.

CANT SAY I DIDN'T EXPECT SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

YEA, I SEE THEM TOO, THEY JUST DONT KNOW IT. IRONIC.



SEE, THIS THE KIND'A STUFF I'M TALKING ABOUT RIGHT HERE. WHAT THE HELL ARE THESE THINGS? HOW'D THEY GET HERE?



LET'S SEE HOW THEY LIKE THAT SILVER IN THAT ASS!! BET THEY DIDN'T EXPECT THAT, DID THEY.



MEANWHILE, IN THE SANCTUM OF DR. DAMIOUS DELEROY...

YOU OBVIOUSLY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE HONOR YOU'RE BEING GIVEN AS A LILIAN MALE.

THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED. YOUR TIME IS NOW DAMIOUS.

THERE ARE WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD SEEKING YOU FOR MARRIAGE. THINK ABOUT IT.

WHAT KIND OF FOOL DO YOU TAKE ME FOR BLUE? I WILL NOT DO IT.

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A CHILD. NOW CUT IT OUT! UNDERSTAND THAT!

THAT YOU SOLD ME DOWN THE RIVER AUNTIE BLUE?

YOU'VE OUTDONE YOURSELF THIS TIME. HOW LONG AM I SUPPOSED TO LAST?

ARE YOU NOT A SEEKER JUST AS WE? DO YOU NOT HOLD LILITH TO BE YOUR GODDESS?

MY GODDESS? DID YOU TELL THEM ABOUT US? ABOUT WHAT YOU DID TO ME?

I'M SURE THEY'LL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT OUR HANDFASTING CEREMONY.

YOU'RE TRYING TO PUSH USED GOODS OFF ON THEM. ARE WE NOT MARRIED.

YOU WERE A CHILD. I WAS PREPARING YOU FOR THIS.

MASTER DAMIOUS, THERE IS A VERY INSISTENT FEMALE CALLER WAITING FOR YOU IN THE LOBBY.

THEN SHE WILL CONTINUE TO WAIT. MY ORDERS WERE QUITE CLEAR, NO ONE COMES HERE, NO ONE! I DON'T SEE WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT THAT!

AND WE ARE NOT FINISHED BLUE! YOU LIAR! YOU USED ME TO SATISFY YOUR DESIRES! YOU SICK BITCH!

YOU TOOK ME AS A LOVER THEN KEPT IT A SECRET FROM THE SISTERHOOD!

FINE DAMIOUS, IF YOU WANT TO PUT IT OUT THERE THEN DO WHAT YOU PLEASE.

YOU WEREN'T COMPLAINING THEN, I ASSURE YOU, YOU UNGRATEFUL SON OF A BITCH!

WHATEVER THE SITUATION, THE LADY WAITS. SHE IS A SISTER IN OUR FAITH...

...SHE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE REIGN SO I HUMBLY SUGGEST YOU AT LEAST HEAR HER OUT. THIS COULD WORK OUT WELL FOR YOU.

IT NEVER DOES PATRICK, IT NEVER DOES. TELL HER I WILL BE THERE.

AND WATCH HER UNTIL I COME. I DON'T TRUST THE REIGN OR THE SISTERHOOD.

AND BE ON GUARD IN CASE I NEED YOUR HELP. AND I NEED A PROTECTION SPELL AUGMENTED WITHOUT DELAY.



I BELIEVE MY ASSISTANT TOLD YOU I WAS VERY BUSY SO WHY EXACTLY ARE YOU STILL HERE MADAM?

YOU MAY CALL ME CADILAN. AND THERE IS NO NEED TO FEAR ME



I'LL BE THE JUDGE OF THAT, THANK YOU. WHAT DO YOU WANT?

IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS. I'VE COME TO OFFER MY HAND IN MARRIAGE AND TO OFFER...

...GREAT POWER. THAT IS WHAT YOU SEEK ISN'T IT? POWER AND THE ABILITY TO HAVE WHATEVER YOUR HEART DESIRES.



NO ONE OFFERS POWER WITHOUT A CATCH SO WHAT'S YOURS. I MARRY YOU AND YOU DRAIN ME OF MY ABILITIES AND TURN ME INTO SOME KIND OF VEGETABLE?

NOT AT ALL. I WOULD NEED YOU FULLY ALIVE AND AWARE FOR WHAT I HAVE IN MIND. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN CONTROL AS MUCH AS I AM POWER AND INFLUENCE. YOU UNDERSTAND, THAT RIGHT?



IT DOESN'T MATTER, I AM NOT A BLACK MAGICIAN AND I AM NOT A WARLOCK, SO TAKE YOUR OFFER ELSEWHERE!

BUT YOU HAVE USED BLACK MAGIC IN THE PAST. WHAT DO YOU CALL SUCCUBI MAGIC, HMMM? THAT'S WHY I'M HERE NOW. BESIDES ALL MAGIC HAS IT'S SOURCE. LOOK, MARRIAGE IS A BIG DECISION, SO MAKE SURE YOU CHOSE WISELY.



SOON...

HEY, BUBULA I CAME AS SOON AS I COULD. WHAT'S THE DEAL? YOU OKAY?

YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT BIG OTHERWORLDLY CREATURES.

THAT DEPENDS AND YOU HAVE TO TELL ME A LOT MORE THAN THAT.

ANY SPECS? HOW DID IT LOOK, COLOR, HEIGHT?

NO...



BIG, GRAY, LOOKED LIKE A BEAR, BUT WASN'T.

SORRY, DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

IF YOU CAN THINK OF ANYTHING, I NEED TO KNOW.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON.

I MAY BE ABLE TO SOLVE TWO NASTY MURDERS.

WISH I COULD BE OF MORE HELP BUT I HAVEN'T DEALT WITH MAGIC SINCE I CAME BACK TO THE FOLD. YAHWEH IS MY ONLY GOD NOW.

BUT WAIT, I KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY BE ABLE TO HELP, BUT, WELL, YOU'D HAVE TO MAYBE BRIBE HER.

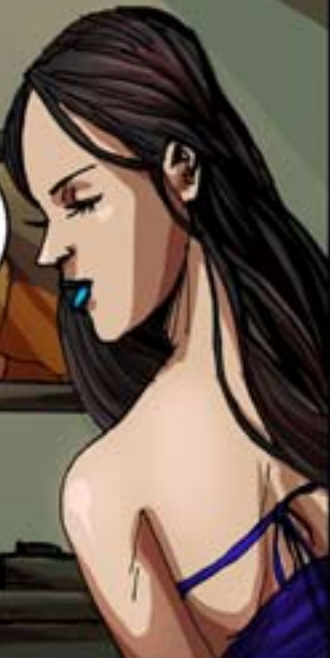
"HER NAME IS LOREN, SHE LIVES FOR ONLY TWO THINGS, SEX AND DRUGS. SHE WAS BORN INTO THE REIGN BUT CARES NOTHING ABOUT IT."



YOU WEAR THAT ALL THE TIME.

THE GUYS SWARM WHEN I WEAR THIS! C'MON.

OKAY, MONA FINE, I'LL CHANGE. BUT I'M LOOKING TO DO SOME DAMAGE TONIGHT SO CONSERVATIVE IS OUT, GOT IT? OH WAIT, I KNOW! HOL'ON.



TA DAAAA! WHAT DO YOU THINK. I NEVER WORN THIS AND, THERE'S GOING TO BE A TON OF HOT RICH GUYS THERE.

OH MY GOD! ARE YOU SERI-OF COURSE YOU ARE. YOU LOOK LIKE AN EASY LAY SLUT. I MEAN I KNOW YOU ARE BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK LIKE IT, YOU KNOW.



LOREN, NO WAY IN HELL I TAKE IT OFF.

"SHE HAVE ANY ABILITIES I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT?"

"YES, AND AS A GUY YOU'LL KNOW WHAT THEY ARE AS SOON AS YOU MEET HER. AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CAN GIVE HER BECAUSE SHE HAS A BILLION DOLLAR TRUST FUND AND A BILLION DOLLAR DADDY."

"I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE HER DRUGS."

"OH, I KNOW WHAT YOU CAN GIVE HER."

"TAKE IT OFF", NOW THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO HEAR, BUT NOT FROM YOU. C'MON, THIS DRESS IS POPPIN' EVERY GUY WILL BE ON IT.

YOU'RE ASS IS THE ONLY THING POPPIN', POPPIN' OUTTA THAT DRESS. CHANGE IT. AND DO IT FAST, TIME'S WASTIN'.

HEY, WHY DON'T YOU WEAR THE GREEN ONE. IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU AND IT'S NOT SO... "SKANY". GET THAT ONE OUT.



"OUT IT OUT, BECCA."

LATER...



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. WE BEEN HERE FOR HOURS. ALL THE GOOD PROSPECTS ARE TAKEN. SEE I SHOULD'VE WORN THE DRESS.

STOP WHINING. CHECK IT...

AND HE'S COMING THIS WAY.



HEY WHAT'S UP BABE?

BEEN CHECKIN' YOU OUT GIRL. YOU LOOKIN' REAL NICE.

LET'S CUT THE CHATTER. YOU WANNA GET OUTTA HERE?



HEY, WHAT ABOUT YOUR LITTLE FRIEND BACK THERE?

GIRL IS A TRAINWRECK WAITING TO HAPPEN. HOPE SHE'S ALRIGHT.

SHE KNOWS THE WAY BACK HOME SO WHAT DO YOU DRIVE...?

MEANWHILE...

I WARNED THE IDIOT TO LEAVE THE BOARD ALONE UNLESS UNDER MY STRICT SUPERVISION. HE CHOSE THIS, NOT ME. MY HANDS ARE CLEAN.

I'M NOT ACCUSING YOU OF ANYTHING BUT I HAVE TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED? WE HAVE TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT. AT THIS POINT I'D SAY FULL DISCLOSURE IS IN ORDER.

WHY DO THEY CARE? WE OWN THE COPS, SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

WE'RE NOT A UNIFIED ORGANIZATION, WE NEVER WERE. YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW COMMON BETRAYAL IS WHEN DEALING WITH THE VARIOUS FACTIONS?

NIGHTEVIL, ATRARIA, I DO HOPE YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO GET BROWNIE POINTS HERE. I EXPECT YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, TO HAVE MY BACK ON THIS.

I CAN DO NOTHING FOR YOU IF I DON'T KNOW WHAT I MAY HAVE TO DO. IT CAN'T BE THAT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THAT CAN IT?

VERY WELL...



... I SHOULD TELL YOU UP FRONT I MAKE NO APOLOGIES FOR WHAT HAS OCCURED. I DID NOT INTEND FOR TO DIE. I WAS SIMPLY TRYING TO SHOW THEM THE POWER OF THE SPIRITS OF THE AGES, BUT DECISION TO CLAIM THE YOUNG MAN AND NOT MINE, AS LONG AS WE CAN BE CLEAR

PLEASE HANDOVER, DON'T MAKE A BIG PRODUCTION SO I CAN REPORT BACK TO THE REIGN. THIS ISSUE IS OUT OF IT. JUST NOT WORTH THE TELL ME HUGE WHAT HAPPENED HEADACHE NOW IN FACT I MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS ALL GO AWAY.

STEVE WAS A PERFECT STUDENT FOR ME. HE ABSORBED ALL THAT I TAUGHT HIM LIKE A SPONGE IN SOAPY WATER. AS TIME WENT ON HE WANTED TO KNOW MORE. I WAS OPEN TO TEACHING HIM MORE BUT HE WASN'T DISCIPLINED, AND I KNEW IT. I WAS VERY SPECIFIC THAT I COULD NOT TEACH HIM MORE WITHOUT HIM BECOMING MY APPRENTICE. TO MY SUPRISE...

AS YOU KNOW I TAUGHT AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE NOT TOO FAR FROM HERE.

STEVE WAS ONE OF MY STUDENTS, A JOCK, BUT NOT TOTALLY DUMB. WE GOT INTO A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE BELIEFS OF ANCIENT CULTURES.

I BELIEVED THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO TELL THEM ABOUT DIVINING AND THE SPIRITS OF THE AGES.

I INTRODUCED THEM TO THE BOARD. SOME HAD USED ONE BEFORE BUT ONLY AS A GAME BUT I LET EVERYONE KNOW THE BOARDS WERE NOT TO BE TOYED WITH.

LATER THAT DAY STEVEN ASKED FOR SOME PRIVATE INSTRUCTION, WHICH I WAS GLAD TO GIVE.

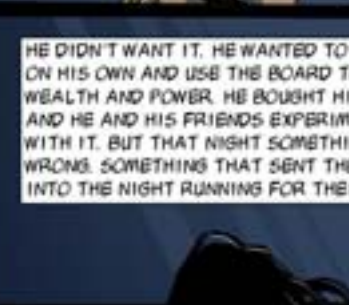
IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE I BET, KNOWING YOU.

I DON'T THINK MY PROCLIVITIES ARE ANY SECRET, HE'S A YOUNG VERTILE MAN, THERE WAS NO REASON TO NOT TAKE PLEASURE IN HIM. DO I SENSE SOME JEALOUSY ON YOUR PART? AFTER ALL THIS TIME SWEETIE.

PLEASE GO ON.

YOU WANTED TO KNOW. I TOOK HIM UNDER MY WING AND SHOWED HIM

ALL THE BOARD HAD TO OFFER AND ALSO HOW TO CONTACT THE VARIOUS SPIRITS. HE TOOK TO IT VERY QUICKLY, BUT HE BECAME ENAMORED WITH THE BOARD. TRUTH BE TOLD I TRIED TO SAVE HIM BUT I KNEW THE SPIRITS WERE ABOUT TO MAKE A GAME OF HIM. I WARNED HIM TO LEAVE THE BOARD ALONE AND NOT TO USE IT AT ALL WHEN NOT WITH ME. IT WAS HIS DISOBEYDENCE THAT COST HIM HIS LIFE.



HE DIDN'T WANT IT, HE WANTED TO GO OUT ON HIS OWN AND USE THE BOARD TO GAIN WEALTH AND POWER. HE BOUGHT HIS OWN AND HE AND HIS FRIENDS EXPERIMENTED WITH IT. BUT THAT NIGHT SOMETHING WENT WRONG, SOMETHING THAT SENT THEM OFF INTO THE NIGHT RUNNING FOR THEIR LIVES.

MARISSA SANCHEZ WAS A FRIEND. SHE DIDN'T GO HOME...



ALL SHE HAD TO DO WAS LET BEGONES BE BYGONES. BUT NO, SHE MADE A DECISION THAT SET ALL OF THIS INTO MOTION. SHE KNEW A MAN OF THE CLOTH...

...THE UNFORTUNATELY NAMED, FATHER MICHAEL DAMIEN OR DARE I SAY EX-FATHER. HE LEFT THE CHURCH OVER SOME THEOLOGICAL MATTERS AND STARTED HIS OWN CHURCH ON THE WESTSIDE OF CHICAGO.

THE GIRL WENT TO HIM, BEGGED HIM TO HELP AND OFCOURSE LIKE ANY GOODIE-TWO-SHOES HE CAME TO THE AID OF THE DAMSEL IN DISTRESS. WHAT A FUCKING IDIOT.

SO YOU TWO CAME TO BLOWS OBVIOUSLY?



YOU COULD SAY THAT, SHE TOLD HIM ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED. AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT HE WAS EXPERIENCED IN DEALING WITH THE SUPERNATURAL. HE AND I WOULD INDEED BECOME MORTAL ENEMIES. I KNEW THIS THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM. I KNOW THAT SOUNDS CRAZY BUT...

THAT'S NOT WHAT SOUNDS CRAZY. THIS WHOLE THING SOUNDS CRAZY. WHY WOULD YOU OPEN A WHOLE CLASS ROOM TO EXPERIMENT WITH THAT KIND OF POWERFUL WITCH-CRAFT KNOWING THE POSSIBILITY OF ABUSE WOULD OCCUR. WE ALL USE THE POWER TO OUR ADVANTAGE BUT THOSE KIDS DIDNT KNOW ANY THING ABOUT HARNESSING SPIRITS.

THE REVEREND HAD A BOARD BURNING CEREMONY. HE MADE A FIRE, PRAYED AND DROPPED THE BOARD INTO THE FLAMES. THEY ALL HEARD THE BOARD SCREAM OR WHATEVER IT IS OUIJA BOARDS ARE SUPPOSED TO DO WHEN BURNED. AND THAT WAS THE END OF THEIR NIGHTMARE AND...



BUT THAT WASN'T ENOUGH FOR STEVE AND MARRISA, NO, THEY JUST HAD TO HAVE HIM TO COME AND TALK TO ME ABOUT WHAT I WAS DOING, AS IF I HAD FORCED THEM TO PARTICIPATE. BUT THEY MADE THEIR OWN CHOICES AND TRIED TO SHIFT THE BLAME TO ME. EITHER WAY IT WORKED, AND ALL TOO WELL IF YOU ASK ME...

...THE START OF MINE. THAT VERY NIGHT HE'D EXORCISED THE SPIRITS, BURNED STEVE'S BOARD AND ON TOP OF THAT HE ADDED SEVERAL NEW MEMBERS TO HIS SMALL CHURCH.



YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN THERE TO HEAR THE BULLSHIT HE WAS SPRAWING. A DEFINITE ZBALOT.

ANY POWER NOT OF GOD COMES FROM THE DEVIL. YOU ARE TEACHING PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH SATAN.

REVEREND DAMIEN, I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. I WILL MAKE SURE YOU PAY FOR THIS INTRUSION. YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO DO THIS.

THE BIBLE TELLS US "THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH." I WANT TO HELP YOU BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

GOD HAS ALL POWER. YOU SIMPLY CAN NOT WIN AGAINST THAT POWER. I SPEAK FROM EXPERIENCE.

I HAD BEEN FASTING. I NEW SOMETHING WAS COMING, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT.



YOUR ARMS ARE TOO SHORT TO BOX WITH GOD. PLEASE RECONSIDER AND LET'S TALK THE BIBLE -

YOU DON'T GET IT DO YOU? THAT BOOK MEANS SHIT TO ME. AND YOU ARE NOTHING MORE THAN SHIT ON MY SHOE. YOUR LIFE IS EVEN SHIT TO ME.



...HE CAME TO THE SCHOOL, I LOOKED HIM DEAD IN HIS FACE AS HE TOLD ME WHAT HAD HAPPENED WITH MY STUDENTS. I TOLD HIM I WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS, THEY WERE ADULTS.

YEA, I'M STARTING TO GET THE WHOLE YOU'RE NOT RESPONSIBLE THING BUT WHEN DID THE KID DECIDE TO OFF HIMSELF?

CAN I FINISH THE STORY? ANYHOW, HE THREATENS TO TELL THE PARENTS WHAT I WAS TEACHING THEIR CHILDREN IN MY SOCIOLOGY CLASS AND WOULD BRING THE OTHER STUDENTS IN TO VERIFY THESE THINGS HAD WENT ON. BUT I STOOD MY GROUND AND LET HIM KNOW...



THE GOOD PREACHER HAD NO CASE I WAS IN A COLLEGE AND WELL WITHIN MY RIGHT TO TEACH AS I WOULD CONSIDERING THAT THERE WAS INDEED A CONNECTION TO WHAT I WAS TEACHING.

BUT YOU STILL GOT FIRED

I COULDN'T STOP HIM FROM TELLING THE PARENTS AND WHEN ENOUGH PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN MAKE NOISE ABOUT A PROBLEM AND A LAWSUIT IS THREATENED, THEY HAVE TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OUT OF SOMEONE, THAT SOMEONE WAS ME.



I ASSUME THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY YOU COULD'VE HANDLED THAT SITUATION? I MEAN HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD REQUIRE RETALIATION. IN FACT WE COULD HAVE USED YOU LOSING YOUR JOB TO SHOW THAT CHRISTIANS ARE INTOLERANT. YOU DIDN'T THINK IT THROUGH.

EVERYONE HAS TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT TO GOD WHETHER YOU BELIEVE IN HIM OR NOT. THE MAGIC YOU USE IS EVIL AND I THINK YOU KNOW IT. YOU WANT TO INFLUENCE YOUR STUDENTS FOR THE DEVIL.

I LET HIM KNOW THAT THIS WASN'T OVER AND THAT HE WOULDN'T GET AWAY WITH WHAT HE'D DONE. ALL INVOLVED WOULD PAY A HEFTY PRICE. STEVE'S PRICE WAS THE LOSS OF HIS LIFE. THE PREACHER'S PRICE WAS THE BURNING OF HIS STOREFRONT CHURCH. I'VE ALWAYS HATED MEN OF GOD.

WOW, AND AT NO TIME DID YOU THINK, MAYBE IT WAS A BIT MUCH FOR SUCH A TINY INFRACTION. I MEAN, WHAT DID YOU LOSE?

HONEY, IT WASN'T ABOUT ANY OF THAT, IT WAS SIMPLY ABOUT MY PROMISE. I TOLD HIM THAT ALL INVOLVED WOULD PAY AND I PLAN TO KEEP MY WORD. YOU DON'T PLAY AROUND WITH ME LIKE THAT. I DON'T ACCEFT IT.



SO YOU ALLOWED ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS TO DIE, EXPOSED OTHERS TO DARK FORCES WITHOUT EXPLAINING THEM FULLY AND BURNED DOWN A CHURCH, ALL BECAUSE YOU LOST A JOB? YOU DO UNDERSTAND THAT WE CAN GET YOU BIGGER AND BETTER JOBS AT THE DROP OF A HAT. HAVEN'T WE ALWAYS TAKEN CARE OF OUR OWN? YOU ARE NOT TO TAKE MATTERS INTO YOUR OWN HANDS. YOU'RE BRINGING HEAT DOWN ON US.

I NEED TIME TO THINK. I HAVE A WEDDING TO ATTEND NOW. BUT I NEED YOU TO LAY LOW FOR AWHILE. DO THAT FOR ME.

LAY LOW? I DON'T THINK SO. BUT, I HAVE FULL FAITH YOU WILL TAKE CARE OF THIS FOR ME.

TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY HANOVER. DON'T THINK OUR PREVIOUS RELATIONSHIP WILL BE IN ANY WAY A BARRIER, TO ME CARRYING OUT ANY FORM OF PUNISHMENT THAT MAY BE ADVISED. THIS IS A SERIOUS MATTER. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO HURT US, YOU GET THAT RIGHT?

BULLSHIT YOU WOULD'VE DONE THE SAME THING. YOU HAVE NEVER FORGIVEN ANYONE FOR ANY TRESPASS GREAT OR SMALL. DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO.

UNNNNGH!

YEA, THAT'S WHAT, I LIKE TO HEAR. I KNOCK IT RIGHT OUT OF THE PARK EVERYTIME.

THAT WAS A LOT OF FUN. MAYBE WE COULD GET TOGETHER ON A REGULAR BASIS. I MEAN NOTHING SERIOUS, BUT JUST TAKING CARE OF OUR NEEDS.

I'D BE ALL FOR IT. IT WOULD MAKE MY LIFE A LOT EASIER. PUT YOUR NUMER IN MY PHONE.

THANKS, GIMME A CALL WHEN YOU GET LONELY AND WE'LL HOOK UP IF I'M NOT BUSY.

WILL DO. AND FEEL FREE TO DO THE SAME. MY NUMBER'S IN YOUR CONTACTS. HIT ME UP.



MEANWHILE...

I LOVE MY CITY! THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE SOCIETAL DRIBBS. IT USED TO BE THAT I WORKED THESE STREETS FOR MONEY, BUT NOW THINGS ARE VERY DIFFERENT FOR ME.

SURE, I STILL NEED MONEY BUT IT'S FEEDING THAT'S MORE IMPORTANT. I NEVER HAVE TO PAY FOR THE MEAT, IT SIMPLY WALKS THE STREET. NOW IT PAYS ME. THE IRONY IS SWEET.

WAITAMINUTE, WHAT THE HELL? AM I ACTUALLY STARTING TO ENJOY BEING THIS? OKAY, LET ME JUST RELAX, KEEP MY HEAD TOGETHER. I STILL NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED?

AFTER THAT GUY - OR - THING CUT ME UP, I WOKE UP LIKE THIS BACK OUT ON THE STREET. I'M EVEN STARTING TO LIKE IT.

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN HOW MUCH MONEY YOU GOT, I DON'T DO THAT, YOU FUCKIN' FREAK!

COME ON! LIKE YOU DON'T NEED THE CASH!

WHO THE HELL YOU 'SPOSED TO BE? IT AIN'T HALLOWEEN YET.

I'M THE BITCH WHO DOES ALL THE KINKY SHIT, SO IF YOU WANT TO GET LAID TONIGHT, SHUT YOUR TRAP AND MEET ME AROUND FRONT. WE'LL GO TO MY SPOT. YOU PAY, AND I'LL DO MY THING, AND BELIEVE ME MONEY, I'M GOING TO EAT YOU ALIVE.

HERE'S A LIFE LESSON, YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR. THAT LAST GIRL, SHE'S A SKANK. YOU WANT EXPERIENCE? THEN I'M YOUR GIRL. AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY DINNER.

WOW, OKAY, MY LIMO'S OVER THERE.

LIMO? I LIKE A MAN WHO TRAVELS IN STYLE. TELL THE DRIVER NOT TO WAIT UP.

ACTUALLY, I AM THE DRIVER, SO I HAVE ABOUT TWO HOURS TO KILL.



TOLD YOU, YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR.

JUST RELAX AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING HONEY.

YOU'RE NEW AROUND HERE? YOU JUST OUT LOOKING FOR A GOOD TIME OR WHAT? I MEAN YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE YOU'RE A STRANGER TO THIS.

I DO WHAT I DO, BUT, NAH, I AIN'T NEW TO IT. BUT, I SEE YOU GIRLS AROUND ALL THE TIME, FRANKLY YOU'RE NEW TO ME.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DRINK? I GOT BEER, POP, JUICE AND A BUNCH OF OTHER STUFF. NAME YOUR THING.

I'M REALLY NOT THIRSTY, AT LEAST NOT FOR POP, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

I OWE YOU MARRIED MEN A DEBT OF GRATITUDE, YOU GUYS ARE MY BEST CUSTOMERS. PAY WELL TOO.

GLAD I COULD HELP YOU OUT. NOW LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.

BUSINESS IT IS. I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND IF I'M A LITTLE ROUGH WITH YOU. I LIKE TO TENDERIZE MY MEAT.

I FEEL YOU. I LIKE A MAN WHO KNOWS WHAT HE WANTS. SO TELL ME, YOU MARRIED, SINGLE, WHAT'S UP?

MARRIED, GOT COUPLE OF CRUMB SNATCHERS, BUT IT'S ALL GOOD. WHAT'S IT TO YOU?



AND I ASSURE YOU, WHEN THIS IS OVER YOU'LL NEVER WANT ANOTHER WOMAN...



...NOW OR EVER.





NIGHTEVIL, YOU'RE A PART OF THIS FARCE TOO. I EXPECTED MORE FROM YOU ATRARIA. IS EVERYONE IN ON THIS BULLSHIT?

WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE? I DONT EVEN KNOW MOST OF THEM. IT'S JUST A BUNCH OF DARK REIGN BOTTOM FEEDERS.

I'M SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY. WE'RE ALL HERE FOR YOU. THIS IS A CELEBRATION. ANY WOMAN IN THIS ROOM CAN BE YOURS BY THE END OF THE NIGHT, AND FRANKLY SOME OF THE MEN AS WELL. THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

"SOME OF THE MEN? I WONT EVEN COMMENT ON THAT DREADFUL SILLINESS. BUT YOU SAY ANY OF THE WOMEN IN THIS ROOM CAN BE MINE BY THE END OF THE NIGHT? DOES THAT INCLUDE YOU, NIGHTEVIL?"

HMM, YOU WANT TO PLAY WITH FIRE DO YOU? DO YOURSELF A FAVOR AND CHOSE ONE OF THE THREE THAT HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR YOU. THIS IS NOT A GAME, YOU UNDERSTAND?

"PLAYING WITH FIRE?" YOU FLIRTING WITH ME OR WARNING ME. AND I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION I COULD PICK MY OWN WIFE. PRETTY FUNNY, THEY'VE BEEN CHOSEN FOR ME. INTERESTING.

YOU MAY CHOSE YOUR WIFE OR WIVES AS YOU SEE FIT...

JUST SOME FRIENDLY ADVICE, BUT DO AS THOU WILL.

I SHALL I SEE THE LIGHT IN THE OTHER ROOM...

I ASSUME MY "CHOICES" HAVE ARRIVED. THIS SHOULD BE FUN.

ALL THIS FOR OUR GODDESS. YOU'D THINK SHE'D POP IN TO SAY HI OR SOMETHING AT LEAST, YA'KNOW.

YOU WATCH YOUR MOUTH DAMIOUS. IN FACT BE SILENT, UNTIL THE ENTRANCE IS MADE.



"DAMIUS ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE LOUHI, ONE OF THE QUEENS OF THE CITY'S UNDERWORLD. A MISSTRESS OF THE DARK FORCES AND AN ENFORCER AND PROTECTOR OF OUR WAY."

"ALVA, MISSTRESS OF DARK KNOWLEDGE AND KEEPER OF SECRETS. AN EARTHBOUND GODDESS WITH A THIRST FOR BLOOD AND AN UNBRIDLED LUST"

"AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, CADILAN, EARTHBOUND GODDESS AND DEVOTED SEVANT OF OUR MOTHER LILITH AND THE HORNED GOD. PRAISE BE THEY BOTH"

"EARTHBOUND GODDESS? SHE'S A CORPORAL SUCCUBI."

"WE'VE MET. SHE'S JUST ANOTHER CORPORAL SUCCUBI. I COULD'VE STAYED HOME FOR THIS ACTION."

"THOUGH I AM YOUR FRIEND, I STILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REPRIMAND AND PUNISH..."

"SO BASICALLY A VAMPIRE THAT KNOWS BLACK MAGIC."



"SORRY..."

"...CHOSE YOUR BRIDE OR BRIDES AND CHOSE WELL..."

THIS JUST GETS EASIER THE MORE I DO IT. MY FOOD JUST COMES TO ME. THE BIG QUESTION IS WHAT TO DO WITH THAT DAMN LIMO?



BY THE WAY, YOU WERE RIGHT. I'M HAVING A HELL OF A LOT MORE FUN WITH YOU THAN WITH THE OTHER GIRLS. YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY - WOW!



ALRIGHT! NOW THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. I TAKE IT THIS IS THE PART WHERE YOU GET 'ROUGH.'



YES, HONEY IT IS...



ARRRGH!



STOP SCREAMING ASSHOLE! IT'S AN OLD BUILDING, NO ONE'S GOING TO HEAR YOU!



KRACK!
ARRRGH!



I SAID SHUT THE FUCK UP! I TOLD YOU, NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU AT THIS LEVEL!



O...OH OHMYGOD! OHMYGOD! OHMYGOD! PLEASE STOP...

WH - WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? PLEASE, I HAVE A WIFE AND CHILDREN.

OKAY, I'VE STOPPED. TAKE A REST. I KNOW IT'S DIFFICULT.



IF YOU
CARED ABOUT
YOUR WIFE AND KIDS
YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE
WITH ME. HONESTLY
PART OF ME HATES TO
TAKE YOU FROM THEM
BUT I'M HUNGRY AND YOU
MADE THE CALL.
JUST RELAX. THIS
IS GONNA
HAPPEN.



MUNCH

**ARRGH!
MUNCH**

No!

ARRGH!

MUNCH



END FOR NOW...

secret societies... new age cults... corporal demons...

EPITAPH

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN KILL YOU!



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EPIGRAPH #1 THE DARKSIDERS



WE THINK YOU CAN FIGURE IT OUT...



WITNESS THE POWER DECEMBER 2010