



ABE CAPIEN



THE DROWNING

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ABE SAPIEN

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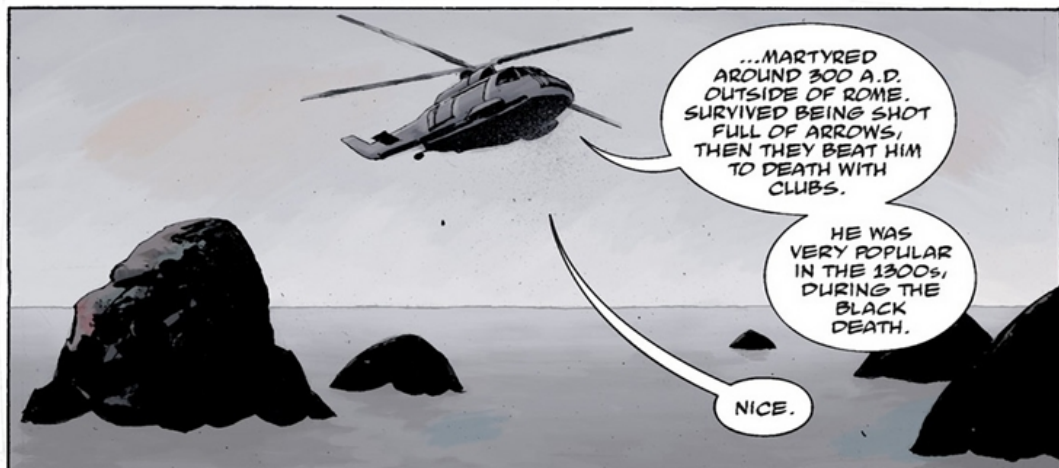
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...MARTYRED
AROUND 300 A.D.
OUTSIDE OF ROME.
SURVIVED BEING SHOT
FULL OF ARROWS,
THEN THEY BEAT HIM
TO DEATH WITH
CLUBS.

HE WAS
VERY POPULAR
IN THE 1300s,
DURING THE
BLACK
DEATH.

NICE.



YEAH. HE WAS CONSIDERED
A **PLAGUE SAINT**. THE
PLACE WAS A LEPER COLONY
FOR A ZILLION YEARS, TILL A
FIRE WIPED EVERYTHING
OUT IN 1639. NO
SURVIVORS.

ACCIDENT?
OR SOMEBODY
DIDN'T LIKE THE
NEIGHBORS?



NOT MUCH IN
THE WAY OF
NEIGHBORS
OUT HERE.

BUT HERE'S THE
COOL THING.
THERE WAS A
PRIEST LIVING
HERE AT THE TIME,
AND WHILE THE PLACE WAS STILL
BURNING, HIS GHOST, ON FIRE,
APPEARED IN THE
CATHEDRAL AT
ANGOULÊME...



...AND
DELIVERED A
FORTY-FIVE-
MINUTE
SERMON ON
BEING KIND TO
YOUR LESS-
FORTUNATE
BROTHERS.

YIKES.

JUNE 14,
1639. ONE
HUNDRED AND
SIXTY-TWO
WITNESSES.

SAINT-SÉBASTIEN. SIXTY-SEVEN
MILES OFF THE WEST COAST OF
FRANCE. THREE HOURS AGO.



THAT HAD
TO BE A
HELL OF A
SHOW.

YEAH. RIGHT AFTER
THAT, THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT TOOK
OVER THE ISLAND AND
BUILT A BIG AND VERY
EXPENSIVE
CHURCH ON IT.

SURE. YOU'RE
GONNA SPEND
MONEY TO MAKE
SURE YOUR BURNING
GHOST-PRIEST IS
HAPPY AND DOESN'T
CAUSE ANY
TROUBLE.

MAYBE
HE GOES TO
HEAVEN--



--OR AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU
GIVE HIM HIS OWN CHURCH
TO HAUNT.

I SAW A
BURNING
GHOST IN
PRAGUE,
BACK IN
'76.

HORRIBLE.

YEAH. WELL,
THERE ARE NO
REPORTS OF ANY
HAUNTINGS HERE.
NO REPORTS OF
ANYTHING.

THE TOWN GREW
UP AROUND THE
CHURCH. ISOLATED
AS IT IS, I BET
THIS PLACE HAS
HARDLY CHANGED
AT ALL IN THE
LAST HUNDRED
YEARS.











I
THOUGHT I
WOULD BE
READY.



YES.









"I HAVE BEEN
WAITING.



"I HAVE DREADED
YOUR COMING.



"BUT I
AM NOT
AFRAID.





"FOR I KNOW
THE SOURCE OF
YOUR POWER."





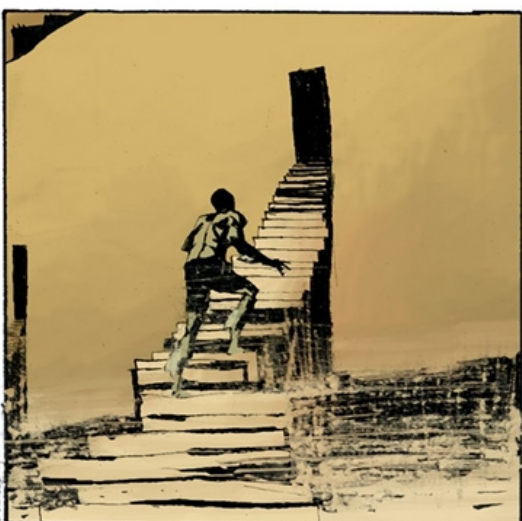
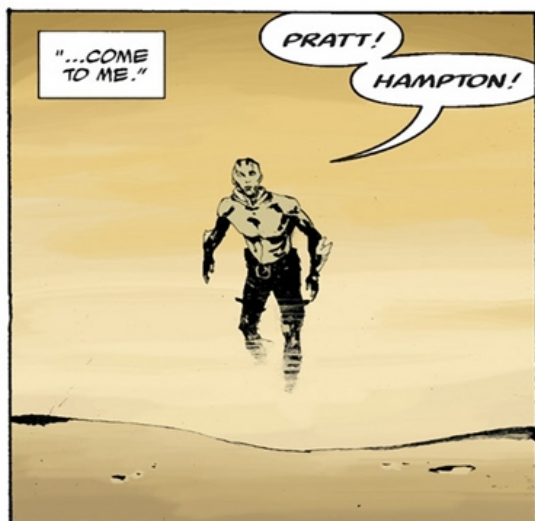
"BUT I
HAVE
POWER
ALSO."



"AND MINE
IS GREATER."



"SO, DEVILS..."









YOU LEFT
YOUR PEOPLE IN
MY KEEPING, AND
NOW THEY ARE ALL
DEAD. FORGIVE
ME. I WAS
UNPREPARED.



DO NOT
ABANDON
ME IN THIS, MY
DARKEST
HOUR.

THESE
CREATURES
WOULD LOOSE AN
EVIL TO THREATEN
THE WHOLE WORLD,
AND I AM ALONE
AGAINST
THEM.



BE WITH ME.
AND CHAMPION
ME TO OUR FATHER,
WHO IS THE ROOT
OF ALL MY
STRENGTH.



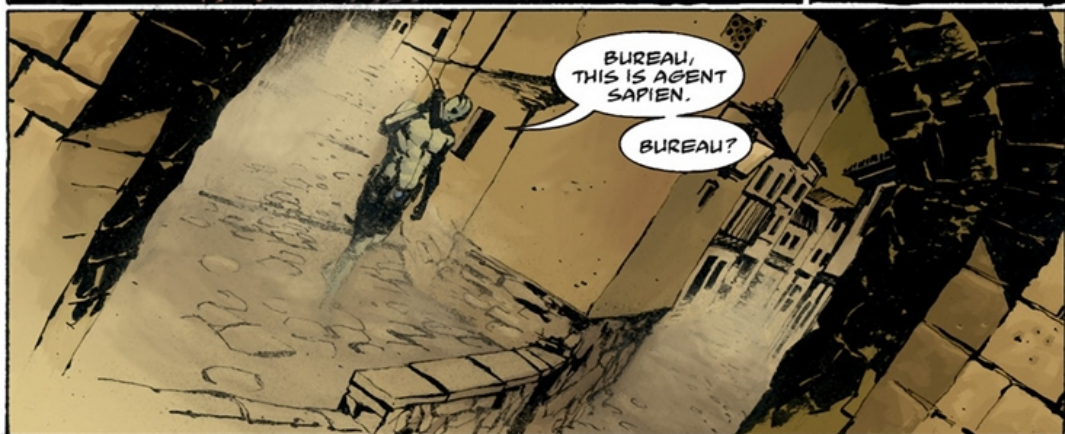
AND IF I
FAIL...



...I PRAY
YOU LOOK
AFTER
MY--



KRUNCH



BUREAU,
THIS IS AGENT
SAPIEN.

BUREAU?

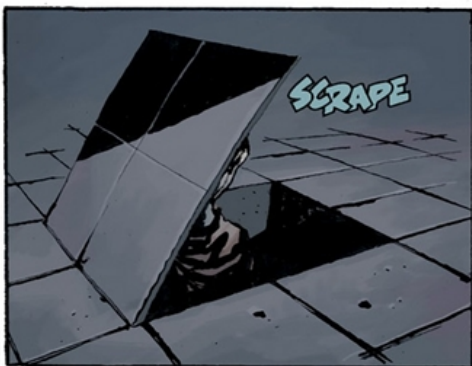


CAN
YOU HEAR
ME?

WE
HAVE AN
EMERGENCY
SITUATION
HERE.



"BUREAU?"



SCRAPE



KLUNK



BUREAU, CAN YOU--?



!

WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINKING?



HELLBOY?

HOW DID
YOU--?

WHAT
MADE YOU
THINK
YOU WERE
READY FOR
THIS?



THE
PROFESSOR
SAID--

THE
PROFESSOR
SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN
BETTER.



AND YOU
DO KNOW
BETTER.

YOU
SHOULD
HAVE SAID
NO.



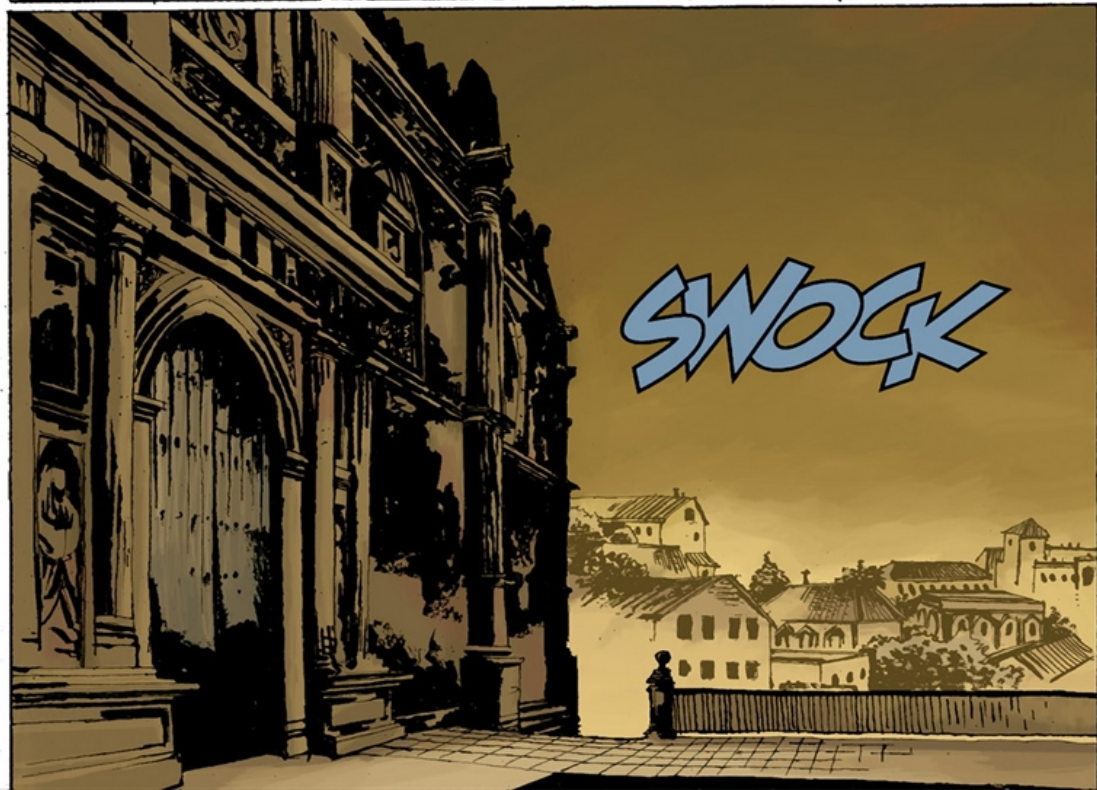
"THESE
PEOPLE
MIGHT STILL
BE ALIVE."













"WHATEVER'S
GOING ON HERE,
ABE, YOU CAN'T
HANDLE IT.

"YOU'RE NOT
READY."



I
GUESS
WE'LL
SEE.