

VALIANT.



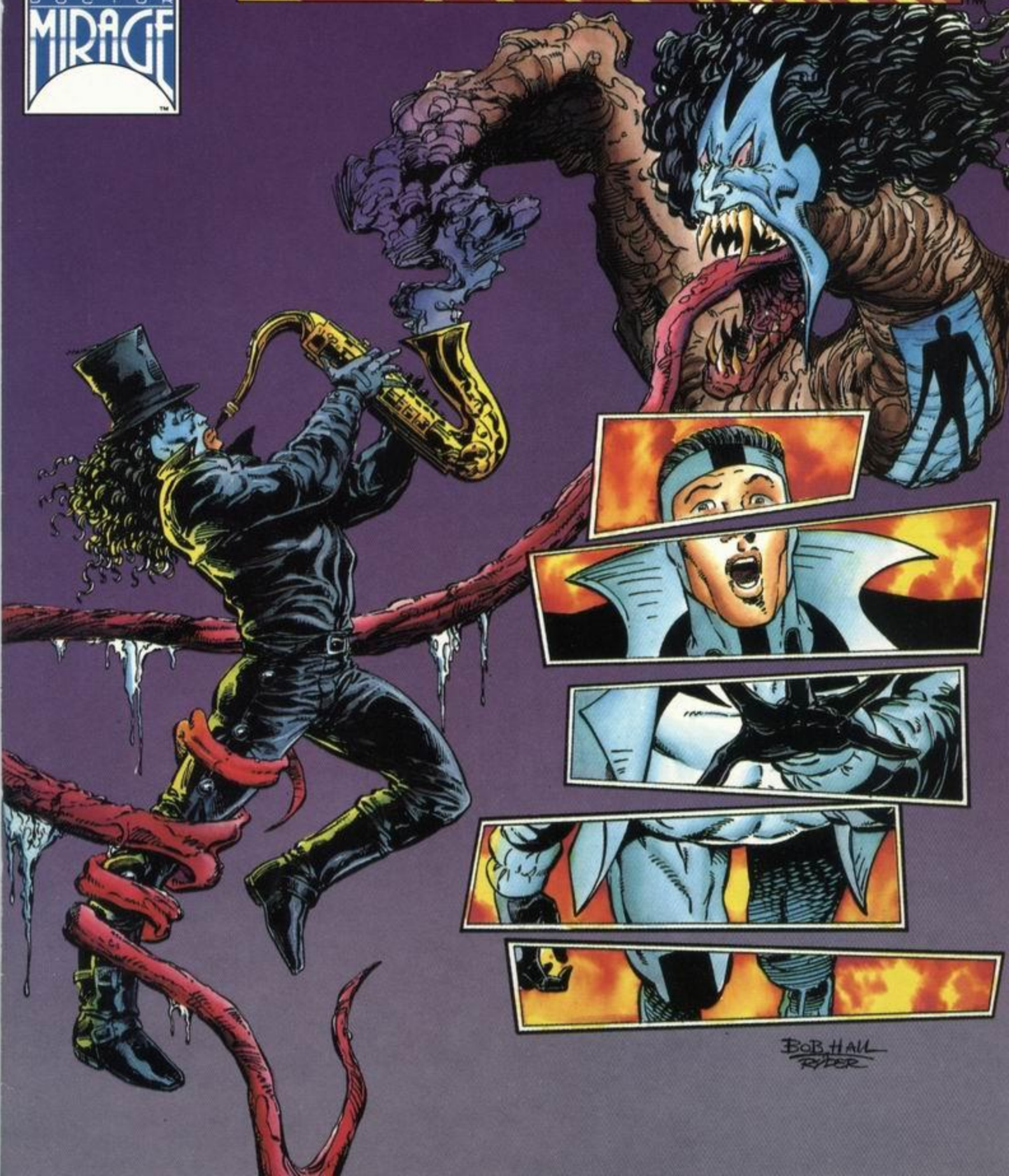
MAR NO.23

\$2.50 CAN \$3.50

GUEST STARRING:



SHADOW



BOB HALL
RIDER

SHADOW

BOB HALL
Story/Pencils

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DIDN'T HE RAMBLE?

CONTINUED FROM DR. MIRAGE #5

I'M PASSING
THROUGH MYSELF
IN DARQUE'S
TIME TUNNEL--

--THROUGH
MY OWN
BODY...

ELYA'S HUSBAND
TOLD ME THIS
COULDN'T HAPPEN.

THERE WOULD BE
ONE JACK'SWORTH
OF MASS AND
ENERGY TOO MUCH...
THAT THE CHAIN
REACTION MIGHT
BLOW UP THE
WORLD.

WELL HEY...



THERE I GO.
HERE I AM.
NO EXPLOSION.

PROBABLY BECAUSE THIS
TUNNEL IS NEITHER A
TIME NOR A PLACE.

PSEUDO-
SCIENCE IF I EVER
HEARD IT.

NETTIE...
OLD NEW ORLEANS.
I WAS GOING BACK
THERE...TO FINISH OFF
MY PREDECESSOR.



THE 1890'S
SHADOWMAN.

OOMFEE!

YOU AGAIN!
YOU'VE ONLY BEEN
GONE 2
SECONDS.

TO MR.
BONIFACE
IT FEELS A LOT
LONGER.

I DON'T
CARE!



I'M SICK OF HIS
INTERFERENCE--

STOP IT!
BOTH YOU MANIACS!
NOW.

THIS PLACE
STILL ON FIRE,
AND THERE A CROWD
DOWN THERE WAITIN'
TO BURN SOMEONE--

--MAINLY
ME.

AND I'M
GOING TO CUT
HIS NOSE
OFF!

HE DOESN'T
LIKE ME.

MAX WAS
GOIN' TO RESCUE
ME...EVENTUALLY..
AFTER HE DONE
YELLIN'
AT ME.

THE FEELING'S
MUTUAL.



WHAT I SAW
WAS A RESCUE
ATTEMPT? LOOKED
LIKE YOU WERE GOING
TO KILL HER.

WE HAVE OUR
DIFFERENCES.



I DON'T
CARE WHO DO
WHAT-ONE OF
YOU GOTTA GET ME
OUTTA HERE!

NOW!



FINE! YOU
WANT TO SAVE THIS
WITCH FROM HER
PROPER BURNING,
DO IT!



I'M GOING
TO GO HOME
AND OPEN A
BOTTLE OF
NAPOLEON
BRANDY.

GOOD LUCK,
BONIFACE--



--WHOEVER
YOU ARE!

CAN HE
SURVIVE THAT
JUMP?

MAXIM?
HE CAN SURVIVE
ANYTHING.



MAX NOT
SO BAD AS
HE PUTS
ON.

NOW YOU
GET ME OUT
OF HERE.

AND
DON'T EXPECT
ME TO JUMP
OFF NO
ROOF!

FINE...



I'LL JUMP
OFF THE ROOF!

LOOK!

IT'S
HIM!

THE
SHADOWMAN!

IT'S NOT
HIM. LOOK AT
HIS HAIR!



HITS
LIKE HIM!

GOT TO DISTRACT
THE CROWD--



--WHILE NETTIE
RUNS TO THE
CAB.

OUTTA MY
WAY!



YOU WANT
TO DRIVE
THIS?

SPECTACULAR ESCAPE
FROM BLOODTHIRSTY MOB--

--EASY IF YOU HAVE
THE PARQUE POWER.

YOU
CRAZY? I
WOULDN'T KNOW
WHEN TO SHIFT
GEARS!

SO WHAT NOW?
WHAT ABOUT PARQUE?

HUH?

WHY DID HE
SEND ME THROUGH
TIME?--

--AND IS HE
REALLY GOING TO
KILL ME WHEN
I GET BACK?

1993-DARQUE'S
CHAMBERS.

SO YOU SENT
MR. BONIFACE THROUGH
TIME--KNOWING HE WOULD
COLLECT ENERGY--
THE DARQUE
POWER.

AND WHEN YOU TRY
TO COLLECT THE ENERGY,
MIGHT THAT NOT KILL HIM?

PERHAPS.
THEN AGAIN, I'M NOT
SURE I CAN KILL HIM.
WHAT OF IT?

THE TIME
PORTAL HAS CLOSED
DOWN. MR. BONIFACE
CANNOT COME BACK.
BUT YOU CAN GO
THROUGH.--

AND WITH MY
ABILITY TO
MANIPULATE ENERGY,
YOU BELIEVE I CAN
BRING HIM BACK.

YES--AND
IF YOU DO...

DON'T TRUST
HIM WHEN HE'S A
DEVIL.

I KNOW CARMEN..
BUT HE SAID THERE MAY
BE A WAY FOR ME TO GET
MY BODY BACK.

IF THERE'S
A DEAL TO BE
CUT I HAVE TO
DO IT.



CAAARMENNNNN!





BUT THERE
ONE THING I
KNOW.

THE
SPELL THAT MAKE A
SHADOWMAN SUPPOSED
TO FIX IT SO DARQUE CAN'T
KILL YOU WITH HIS
MAGIC.

HE COULD
SHOOT YOU,
OR STAB YOU,
BUT THAT DON'T
HIS WAY.



SO, IF
HE PLANNIN' TO
DRAIN YOU DRY,
IT GOT TO BE THROUGH
SOMEONE
ELSE.

YEAH? I HAVE IT
ON GOOD AUTHORITY
THAT DARQUE DOES
KILL ME... IN
1999.



HOOO!
1999 A LONG
WAY OFF.
MAYBE HE
FIGURE OUT A
COUNTER-
SPELL.

BUT MAYBE
WE ALL BE
SMARTER
BY THEN.

THE
PORTAL'S
OPENING.



OH GOD, I
THINK THAT'S
ME.

WELCOME, MR.
BONIFACE--

NO! I
SHOULDN'T BE
MEETING MYSELF
AGAIN!

I COUNTED
UP ALL THE TIMES
I'VE BEEN THROUGH
THE PORTAL--



--AND THIS
SHOULDN'T BE
HAPPENING!



STUPID!

SOMETIME
IN THE FUTURE
YOU GO THROUGH
AGAIN!

NO!
WE'RE NOT
SUPPOSED
TO--



--TOUCH--

I'VE DONE IT!
I'VE BLOWN UP THE
UNIVERSE.



GOOD-BYE,
MR. BONIFACE. I
SEE YOU AGAIN IN A
HUNDRED YEARS
OR SO.

NOW I
SEE WHAT COME
NEXT.



A
PHENOMENAL
SURGE OF
ENERGY.

NOW, IF I
CAN JUST
TRACK
IT.



I'M DEAD.

NO...

WAIT...

I CAN'T
HAVE BLOWN UP
THE WORLD.



I KNOW
THERE'S A FUTURE...
I'VE BEEN THERE!

SO, WHERE
THE HELL IS
THIS?

IT'S MOST
CERTAINLY NOT
KANSAS...

...IT'S NOT EVEN
LOUISIANA!

OK, I'M
DREAMING,
RIGHT?



ANOTHER
HYPER-REALISTIC
SHADOWMAN
NIGHTMARE--

--A FAST
ELEVATOR RIDE
TO OBLIVION--

--AND WHEN I
HIT BOTTOM I'LL
EITHER WAKE UP,
OR DIE--



--TROUBLE
IS--

--I DON'T
THINK--

--THERE
IS--

--A
BOTTOM.

REALITY.

DARQUE'S
SANCTUM.

THE
TIME TUNNEL
HAS DISAPPEARED
DARQUE, AND HWEN
HASN'T RETURNED.

IF HE
DOESN'T
COME
BACK,
I'LL...

PATIENCE,
MY DEAR.

BUT NO,
I SEE YOU
ARE NOT
POSSESSED
OF THAT
VIRTUE.

VERY WELL, I'LL
INTRODUCE YOU TO
SOMEONE WHO MAY HELP
PASS THE TIME.



BEHOLD
MY SISTER...
DYING--

--UNLESS SHE IS
TRANSFUSED WITH THE RAW
ENERGY OF MISTER
BONIFACE.

CARMEN

FORGIVE
ME IF I DON'T
RISE TO GREET
YOU.

I'D FORGOTTEN HER.
SHE'S MADE OF PURE
ENERGY--

--LIKE
HWEN.

UNREALITY.

I LIKE
THIS
PLACE.

IF I WANT
TO PLAY, UP
POPS & SAX--

--AND A
BUILT-IN
AUDIENCE.

NOTHIN' BAD TO DO
ALL DAY: JUST HANG
AROUND THE
BARS AND PLAY.

PLAY SOME MUSIC;
PLAY SOME BLUES; DON'T
HAVE TO WORK OR WEAR
NO SHOES.

AND WHAT'S
THAT COMING OUT
OF THE SAX?





I KNOW
THAT FACE.
MY ID. MY
ALIEN
SELF

HEY
THERE, HI
THERE, HO THERE,
JACK...



WANNA
BOOGIE?!!

I ALMOST
BEAT YOU LAST
TIME YOU CAME
OUT!



AND I DIDN'T
EVEN HAVE THE DARGUE
POWER!

GURGLE...



SRRKKK!!

HEY SON. JACK BONIFACE.
JACKIE BOY!

WHO'S
THAT?



JOSIAH
TORRENT. MY
FATHER.

WHY YOU
WASTING TIME
FIGHTIN' ON
YOURSELF?

NOW I
ALWAYS SAY,
"WHEN IN
DOUBT--

YEAH, A
FUNERAL.

YOU'LL NEVER
GET TO HEAVEN
THAT WAY.

--HAVE A
FUNERAL!!

BYE,
SON...

BETWEEN
TIME.

MR. MIRAGE...
COME ON! I TIRED
OF WAITIN'!

HELLO...

...IS THIS
POSSIBLE?

YES, I
GUESS IT
IS.

HELLO
THERE, I'M...

I
KNOWS
WHO YOU
ARE--

--AND IF
YOU WANTS TO
CATCH UP
JACK, YOU BEST
HURRY... I
HUNGRY.

COME
ON, YOU
GOT A WAYS
TO GO
YET.

BACK THROUGH
THE TIME
TUNNEL?

OH NO, THAT'S
NOT WHERE MR.
BONIFACE IS.

THERE MORE
THAN ONE KIND OF
PORTAL.

HOW DO
I KNOW I
CAN TRUST
YOU?

YOU
CAN'T TRUST
NO ONE THESE
DAYS.

LOOK
NOW YOU GO
THROUGH
HERE.

YOUR
AMULET?
I--

YES,
I CAN DO
THAT--

--CAN'T
I?

GOO'BYE
NOW.

YOU HAVE FUN
IN THERE.

ALRIGHT, TROOPS!
HERE WE GO! A GENUINE
NEW ORLEANS STREET
FUNERAL!

OH, DIDN'T HE
RAMBLE? HE
RAMBLED..

WHERE IN
HEAVEN'S NAME
AM I?

...DIDN'T HE
RAMBLE? HE
RAMBLLED..

...RAMBLLED
ALL AROUND
IN AND OUT OF
TOWN...

...HE RAMBLLED
TILL THE BLITCHERS
CUT HIM DOWN.

MR.
BONIFACE...

HUH?

THAT CAME
FROM THE
COFFIN!

MR. BONIFACE,
IT'S TIME TO GO
BACK NOW!

OK, WHO
ARE YOU? PART
OF MY ID?

ONE OF
PARQUE'S
GOONS?

DR. MIRAGE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING
IN MY NIGHTMARE?

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN, "I
HAVE TO GO
BACK"?

SORRY...
IT SEEMED
APPROPRIATE...
A LITTLE
DRAMA...

HEY, ARE YOU
REAL?

QUITE
REAL...
SORT OF.

CALL ME
HWHEN.

TO STATE THE OBVIOUS,
I'VE CHANGED SINCE YOU
SAW ME LAST.

DARQUE
TOLD ME I MIGHT
LEARN HOW TO RESTORE
MY BODY.

I DON'T
TRUST HIM, BUT,
IF THERE'S A
WAY...

AND HE WANTS YOU TO
BRING ME BACK? SO HE CAN
DRAIN ME... KILL ME.

LOOK, SOMEHOW
TIME TRAVEL HAS GIVEN
ME THE DARQUE
POWER.

BESIDES, I LIKE
IT HERE... THIS IS THE
BEST SAX I'VE EVER
PLAYED...

THAT'S YOUR
AMBITION? LAY
AROUND UNREALITY
PLAYING FOR NO
ONE?

I'D ALSO LIKE TO
GO BAREFOOT FOREVER
AND GET LAID EVERY
DAY AND...

...OH NEVER MIND.
I KNEW I'D GO BACK
SOONER OR
LATER.

HOW
DO WE DO
THIS?

LISTEN, I HAVE
AN IDEA-- SOMETHING
THAT DARQUE MAY
NOT EXPECT.

I WANT TO
GET INSIDE YOU...
LITERALLY.

WHAT
IN HELL
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

I THINK
I KNOW A
WAY.

LISTEN, I'M
ALL DARQUE ENERGY.
YOU CAN FOCUS
THAT ENERGY.

TOGETHER,
WHO KNOWS WHAT
WE CAN DO.



OOOH... THAT
REALLY FEELS
WEIRD.

DARQUE REALITY.

YOU SEE,
THE TUNNEL WAS
REOPENED.

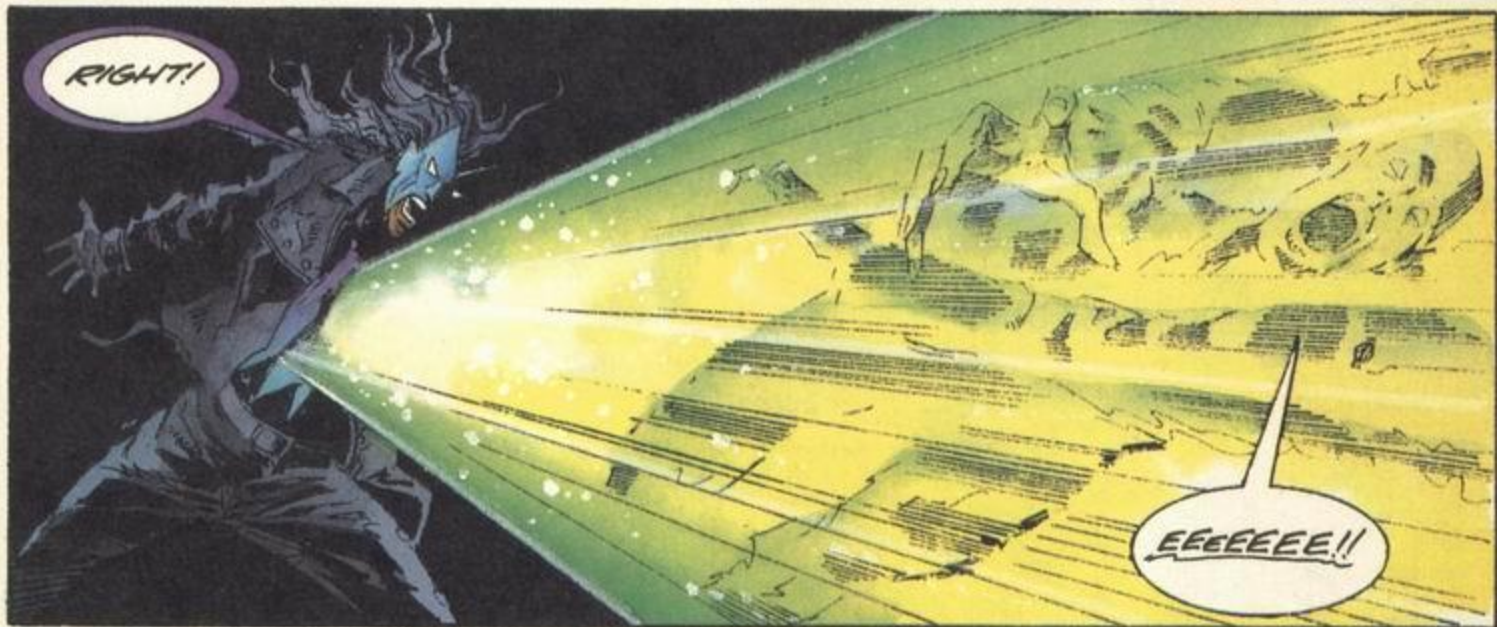
MY SISTER
WAITS...

...THE TIME
IS NOW.

THIS HAD
BETTER BE
THEM!







NO, HE
WON'T! NO ONE
WOULD GIVE UP
ALL THAT POWER
WILLINGLY.

NO ONE.

WHY SHOULD I
HELP HER? WHY?

CAN YOU
HEAR ME
SANDRIA?

QUITE WELL, MR.
BONIFACE. I'VE BEEN
WONDERING WHAT YOU
WOULD DO.

WILL YOU
SHOW ME THE
WAY?

IT WILL BE
SIMPLE--FOR YOU.

YOU SHOULD
HAVE ASKED
ME, PARQUE.

STAND
NEAR ME. HOLD
OUT YOUR
HANDS--

UUUUUUHHH!

ALL YOU HAD
TO DO WAS
ASK!

--AND LET
THE POWER
FLOW.

DON'T YOU
REALIZE THE IRONY
OF THIS--

--BY SAVING HER
LIFE YOU PRESERVE MINE!
DO YOU HEAR,
BONIFACE?

HE KNOWS
THAT ONLY TOO WELL,
BROTHER. DON'T YOU,
MR. BONIFACE?

YES...

UH--WE HAD A
BARGAIN WITH YOUR
BROTHER.

DARQUE WAS
GOING TO RESTORE
HWEN'S BODY.

YOUR
GENEROSITY
IS MORE LAUDABLE
THAN YOUR
JUDGEMENT--

--NEVERTHELESS,
I THANK YOU.

SO DARQUE
WOULD RATHER HAVE
PERISHED THAN HAVE
ME PERFORM AN ACT OF
GENEROSITY. I
LIKE THAT.

--PLEASE...
HELP ME.

I DON'T KNOW HOW
I CHANGE MY BODY...IT
MERELY HAPPENS...

...MY BROTHER IS
WELL AWARE OF THAT.
I'M SORRY.

I PROMISED
TO SHOW YOU THAT
AN ETHEREAL BODY
COULD BE MADE SOLID
THROUGH THE DARQUE
POWER.

AT LEAST
SHOW ME HOW TO
USE THE DARQUE
POWER TO RESTORE
MYSELF--

...CHEATED
US...

WE
SHOULD HAVE
STAYED!
MADE DARQUE
HELP US!

MY
POWER
IS GONE--
MOST OF
IT.

DARQUE'S
CHEATED US.

YOU HAVE
WATCHED MY
SISTER DO
THAT VERY
THING.

NOW
BE CONTENT
AND GO!

WE WOULDN'T
HAVE WON ANOTHER
FIGHT.



YOU HAVE
ACCEPTED
DEFEAT VERY
EASILY, BROTHER.

BUT THEN,
THE SHADOWMAN
EXHAUSTED
YOUR STRENGTH,
DIDN'T HE?

YES...



...BUT I KNOW
WHERE THERE IS
POWER TO
SPARE.



...YOU KNOW I'M
UNABLE TO RESIST,
BROTHER--

--BUT IF
YOU VIOLATE
ME--

--YOU'LL
EARN MY
HATE.



JUST A LITTLE
OF YOUR POWER, DEAR
SISTER.

YOU CAN
SPARE A
LITTLE...



...AAAAHHHH...

DELICIOUS AND
UNIQUE...TAKEN DIRECTLY
FROM THE SHADOWMAN.
TOUCHED BY HIS
SOUL.

NOW I
SHALL TEACH
HIM TO KNOW
FEAR.



HATE, BROTHER..
ETERNAL, INEXHAUSTIBLE,
HATE.



COULD SANDRIA
HAVE TAKEN ALL YOUR
ENERGY--KILLED YOU--

YES, I
THINK SHE
COULD.

BUT SHE
DIDN'T...I TRUSTED
HER...

I THINK SHE'LL
HELP YOU IF SHE
CAN, HWEN.

I HOPE SO--BUT
HER BROTHER'S THE DEVIL!
I CAN'T DEAL WITH THE DEVIL--

ALL THAT
STRENGTH
GONE...ALL THAT
POWER...

BUT I'LL PAY
HIM BACK SOME DAY.

SO LONG,
JACK.

HWEN,
LOOK.

BONIFACE!

I CURSE YOU,
BONIFACE!

FROM THIS
DAY ON, YOU WILL
BE HELPLESS IN
THE PRESENCE OF
THIS SYMBOL!

HELPLESS!!

DARQUE!

JACK,
ARE YOU...?

I'M ALL
RIGHT...FOR
NOW.

BUT HE'S
DONE SOMETHING
TO ME.

SOMETHING
BAD!