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The Darkness



Padilla
2006
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**TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS AGO.**

TELL ME
HOW TO GET RID
OF THE DARKNESS,
SONATINE.

...YOU
HAVE ONE
MINUTE.

NO NEED FOR
THREATS, JACKIE--I'M
HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY
QUESTIONS. BESIDES,
HASN'T THERE BEEN
ENOUGH KILLING
LATELY?



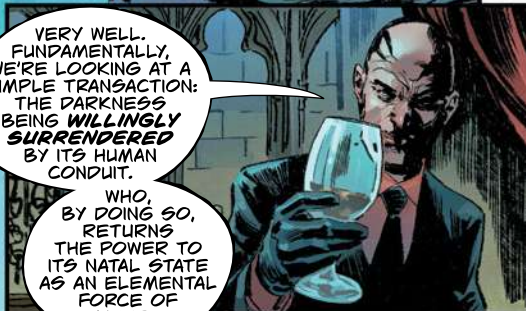
SPEAKING OF
WHICH, TERRIBLE
WHAT HAPPENED
TO JENNY. SO
SAD.

...THIRTY
SECONDS.



VERY WELL.
FUNDAMENTALLY,
WE'RE LOOKING AT A
SIMPLE TRANSACTION:
THE DARKNESS
BEING **WILLINGLY
SURRENDERED**
BY ITS HUMAN
CONDUIT.

WHO,
BY DOING SO,
RETURNS
THE POWER TO
ITS NATAL STATE
AS AN ELEMENTAL
FORCE OF
NATURE.



WHAT?



MY APOLOGIES,
I SOMETIMES
FORGET TO WHOM
I'M SPEAKING.



IN SIMPLE,
LAYMAN'S TERMS,
YOU **GIVE** THE
DARKNESS TO
ME.



THAT'S IT? I JUST "GIVE" IT TO YOU? WHAT ABOUT THE WHOLE HAVING A BABY AND DYING THING?

OH, I HAVE A WORKAROUND FOR THAT.

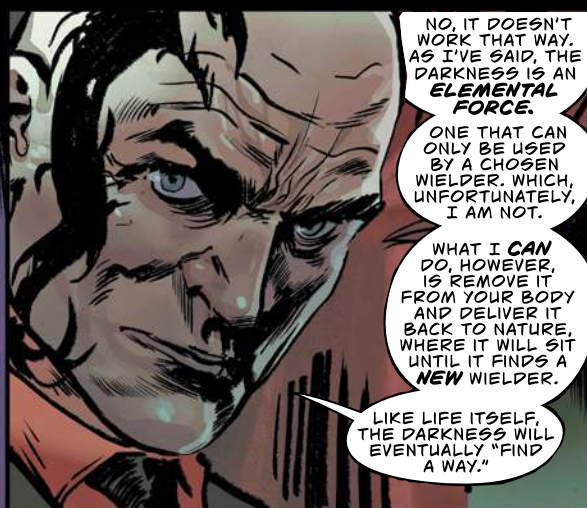


AND HOW EXACTLY DID YOU FIGURE OUT THIS "WORK-AROUND"?

WE ALL HAVE OUR TALENTS, JACKIE. YOU'RE GOOD AT KILLING PEOPLE. I'M GOOD AT BEING THE SMARTEST MAN IN THE ROOM. ALWAYS.



OF COURSE. AND I'M SUPPOSED TO JUST HAND THE DARKNESS OVER TO YOU AND YOUR GOONS TO RUN WILD WITH?



NO, IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY. AS I'VE SAID, THE DARKNESS IS AN **ELEMENTAL FORCE**.

ONE THAT CAN ONLY BE USED BY A CHOSEN WIELDER. WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, I AM NOT.

WHAT I CAN DO, HOWEVER, IS REMOVE IT FROM YOUR BODY AND DELIVER IT BACK TO NATURE, WHERE IT WILL SIT UNTIL IT FINDS A **NEW WIELDER**.

LIKE LIFE ITSELF, THE DARKNESS WILL EVENTUALLY "FIND A WAY."



UNTIL THE NEXT S*P LIKE ME COMES ALONG AND YOU CAN START YOUR WORLD DOMINATION BULLSHIT ALL OVER AGAIN, YEAH?

YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF YOUR HEART, SONATINE. WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

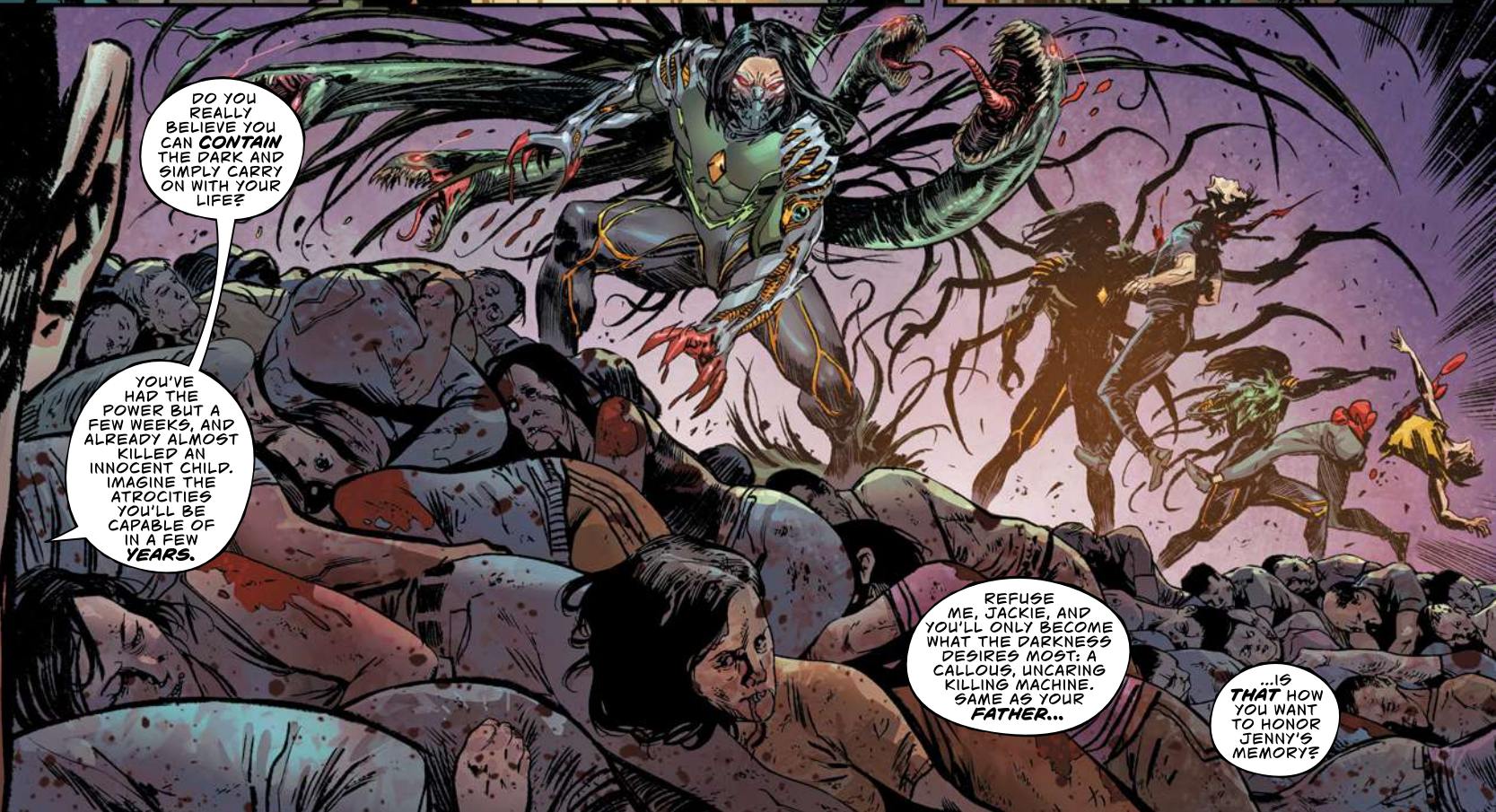
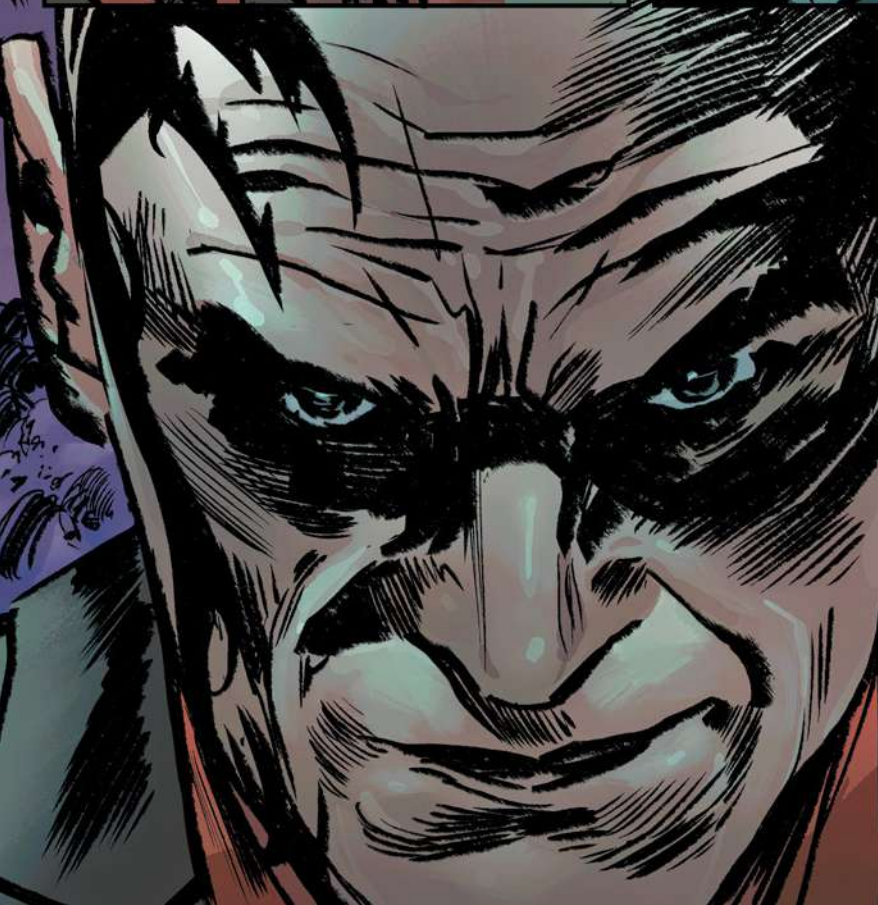


WELL, TO BE BLUNT, AS A WIELDER OF THE DARKNESS, YOU, AS THEY SAY, "SUCK." I'M HOPING THE NEXT ONE WILL BE LESS OF A DISAPPOINTMENT.

I SEE. MAYBE I SHOULD JUST TELL YOU TO ~~S*P~~ OFF, WASTE YOU AND ALL THE OTHER BROTHERHOOD CLOWNS, AND TAKE MY CHANCES.



DON'T BE NAIVE.



DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE YOU CAN **CONTAIN** THE DARK AND SIMPLY CARRY ON WITH YOUR LIFE?

YOU'VE HAD THE POWER BUT A FEW WEEKS, AND ALREADY ALMOST KILLED AN INNOCENT CHILD. IMAGINE THE ATROCITIES YOU'LL BE CAPABLE OF IN A FEW YEARS.

REFUSE ME, JACKIE, AND YOU'LL ONLY BECOME WHAT THE DARKNESS DESIRES MOST: A CALLOUS, UNCARING KILLING MACHINE. SAME AS YOUR **FATHER...**

...IS THAT HOW YOU WANT TO HONOR JENNY'S MEMORY?



