

ISSUE #1



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THE ARCS

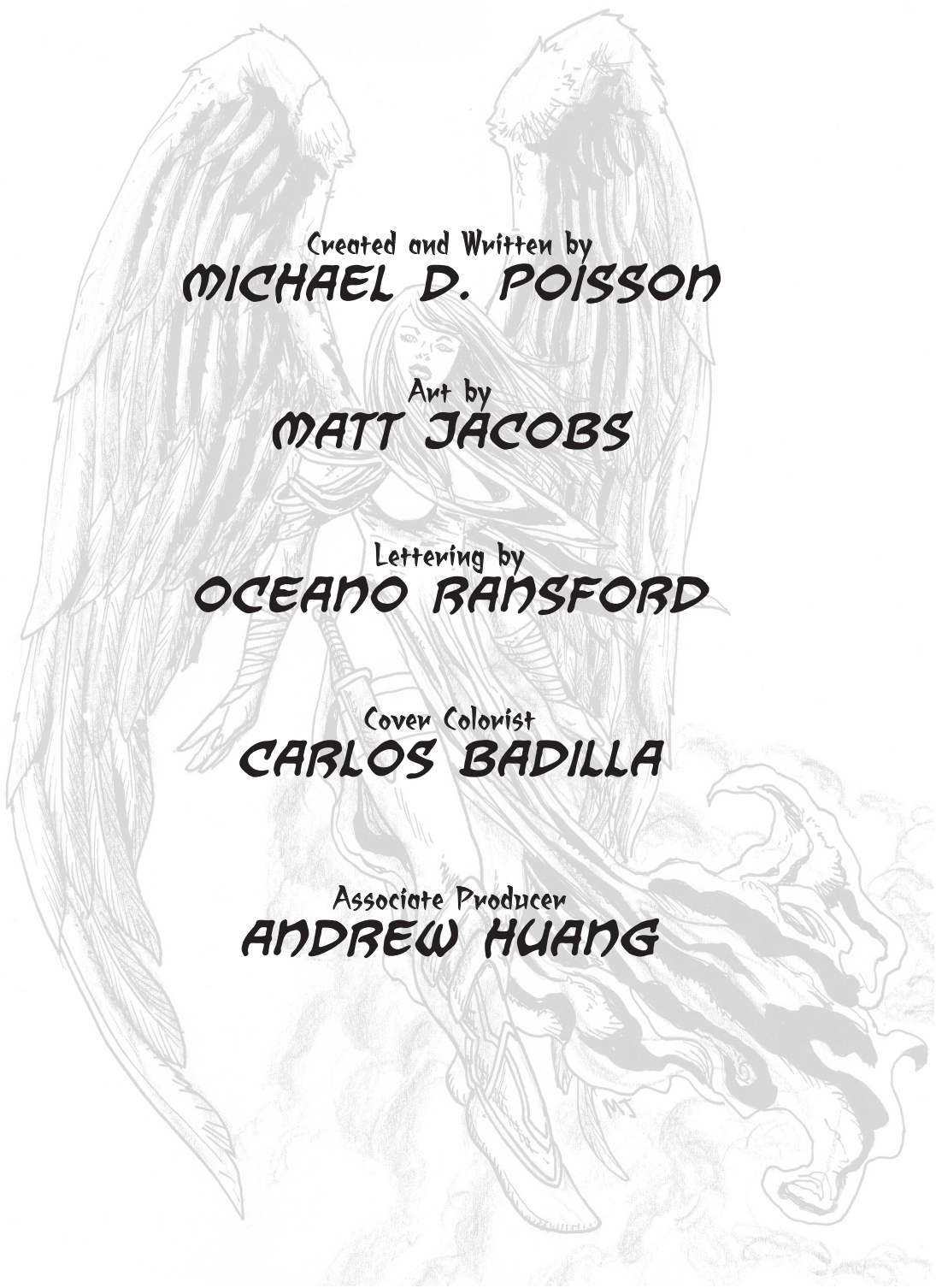
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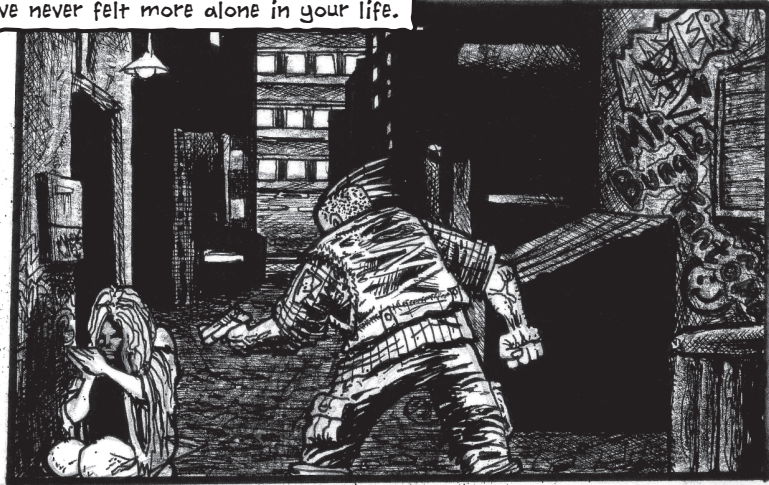
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Visit us online at www.fanboycomics.net and www.thearcscomic.com.

You've never felt more alone in your life.



PLEASE,
PLEASE DON'T
DO THIS!



In that dark moment, your soul
offers up a frantic prayer. For
safety. For guidance...

NO!!

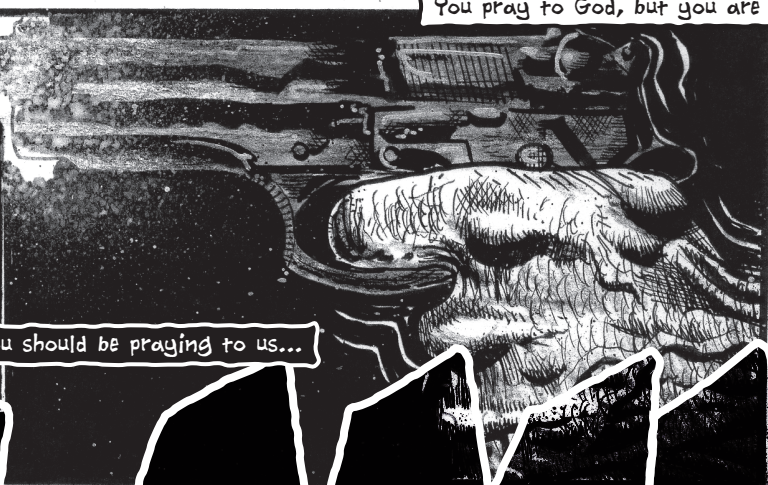


...EVEN FOR A PAINLESS
END, IF IT COMES TO THAT.

You pray to God, but you are wrong.



You should be praying to us...



Because even though you can't see us...



...we are always around you.



Pushing you from harm's path.



Slowing the evil at your heels.

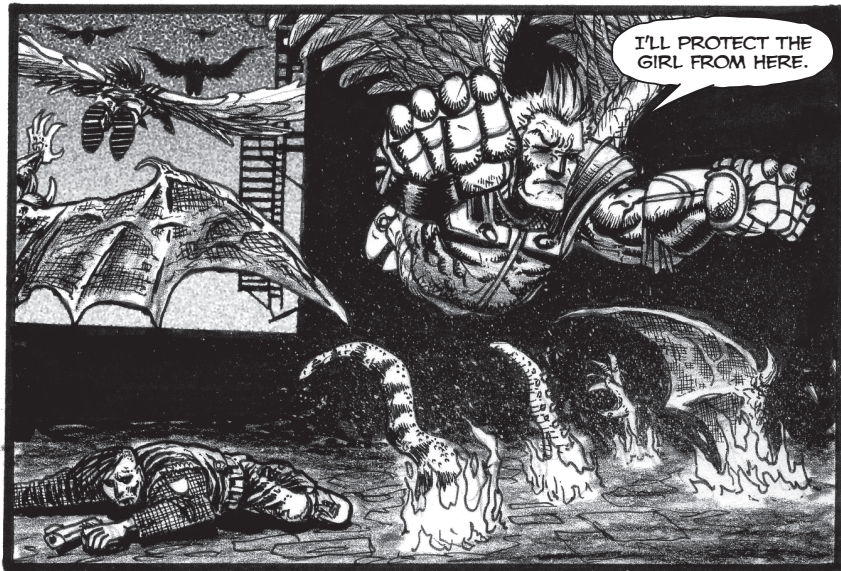
GET BACK
HERE--
UNH!

But, most importantly, we are the **ONLY** ones left on your side.



PULL BACK!
DEMON RANKS ARE
RETREATING!

=SOB=



I'LL PROTECT THE
GIRL FROM HERE.



And even though
we keep fighting
for you...



...through the pain...



...through the defeat...

CRUNCH!



NOO!

...one thought inevitably crosses every angel's mind...

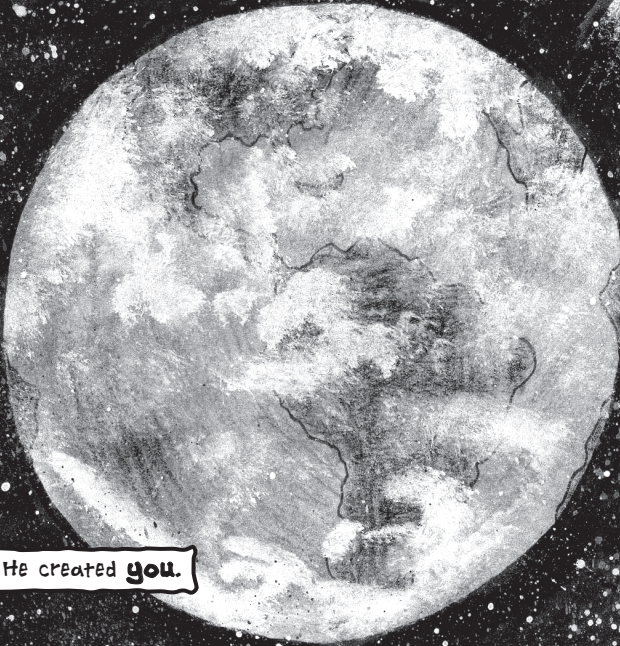
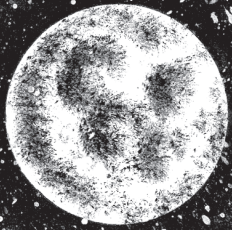


Who the fuck is fighting for us?



WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?

See, in the beginning God made the Earth, and the trees, and the water, and the sun, et cetera, et cetera.



But, most importantly, He created **you**.



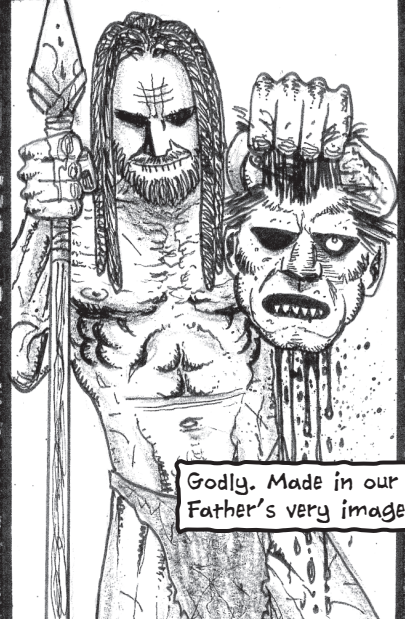
Caring and friendly.



Magnanimous and compassionate.



Forgiving.



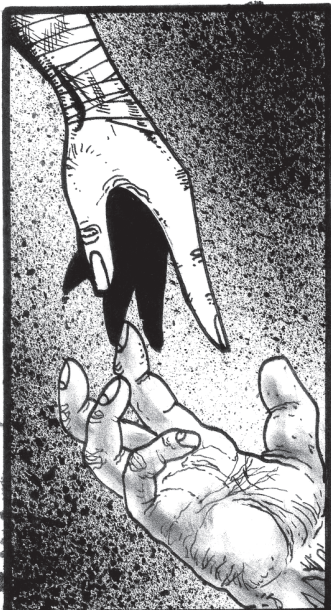
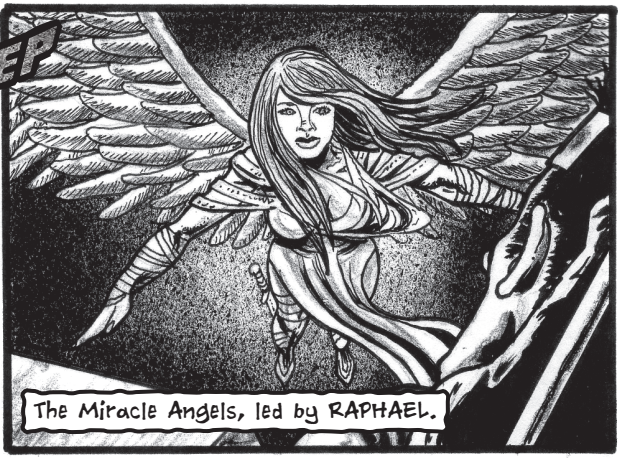
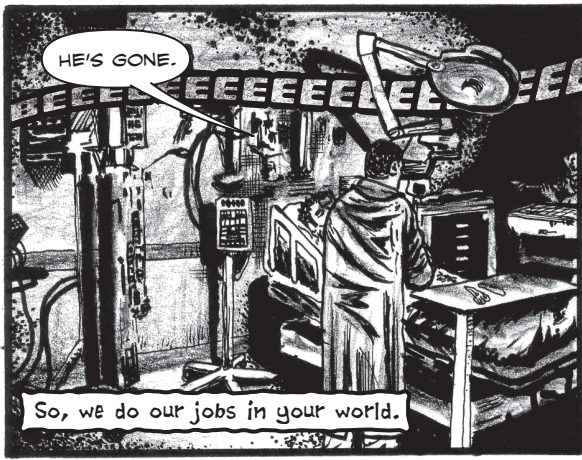
Godly. Made in our Father's very image.

Until one day, God realized that He might need help keeping an eye on all these paradigms of grace. And, **we** were created...

Our job was to look after you. **We** were created for you...

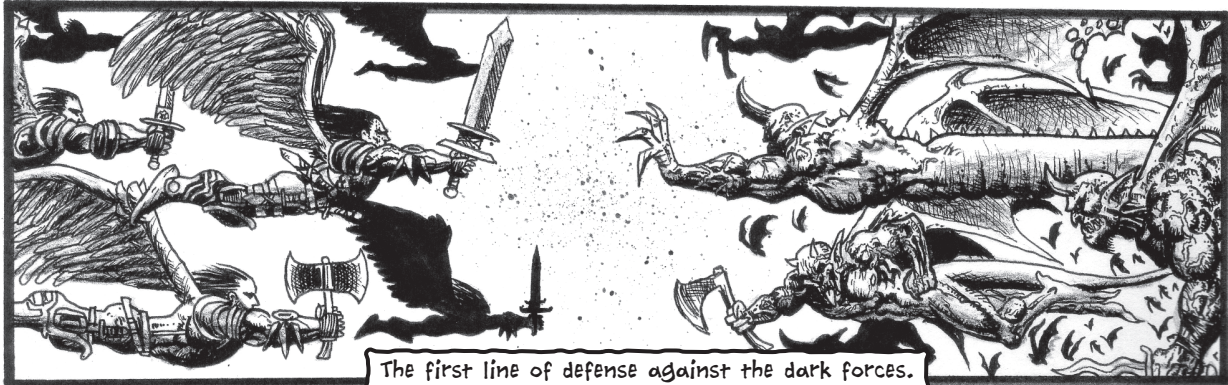


THE AFTERLIFE: ANGEL'S DOMAIN





The warrior Angels, led by GABRIEL.



The first line of defense against the dark forces.



METATRON, God's herald who announced the Almighty's approach.



*Bow and rejoice
for our King!*

The Guardians. Angels who look after humanity, fighting the legions of demons who look to attack, possess, and corrupt virtuous souls.

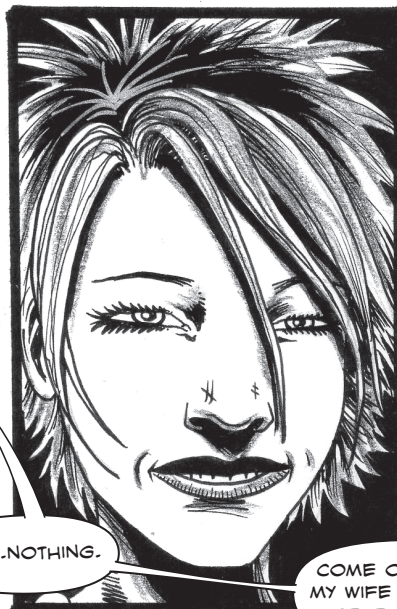


SHH, IT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU'RE SAFE NOW. IT'S OVER.
JUST CALM DOWN...

The Head Guardian Angel, AZRAEL.



Invisible to you, they protect against the hidden demonic forces constantly rising from Hell.





GATEWAY TOWER

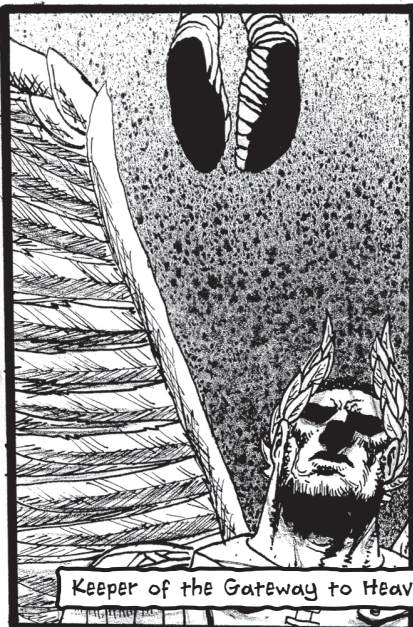


STAND, CHILD OF GOD.



And, of course, MICHAEL. The head of all angels.

FOR HE HAS SEEN FIT TO WELCOME YOU INTO EVERLASTING HEAVEN.



Keeper of the Gateway to Heaven.



SO BEAUTIFUL...



We did our Father's bidding.

Protecting.

Fighting.

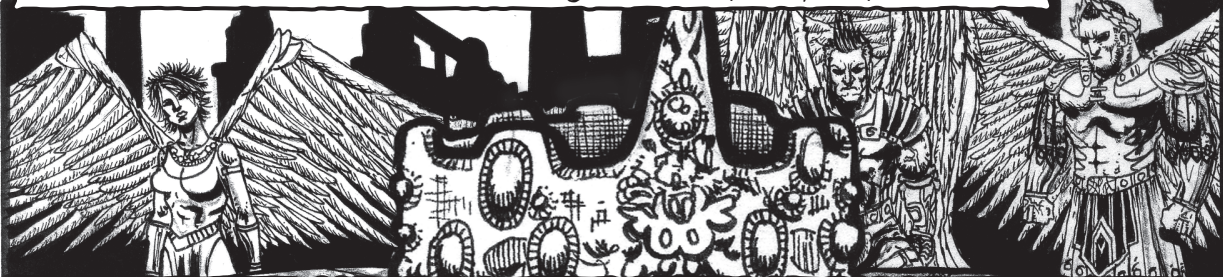
Following His every command...

...until His abdication.

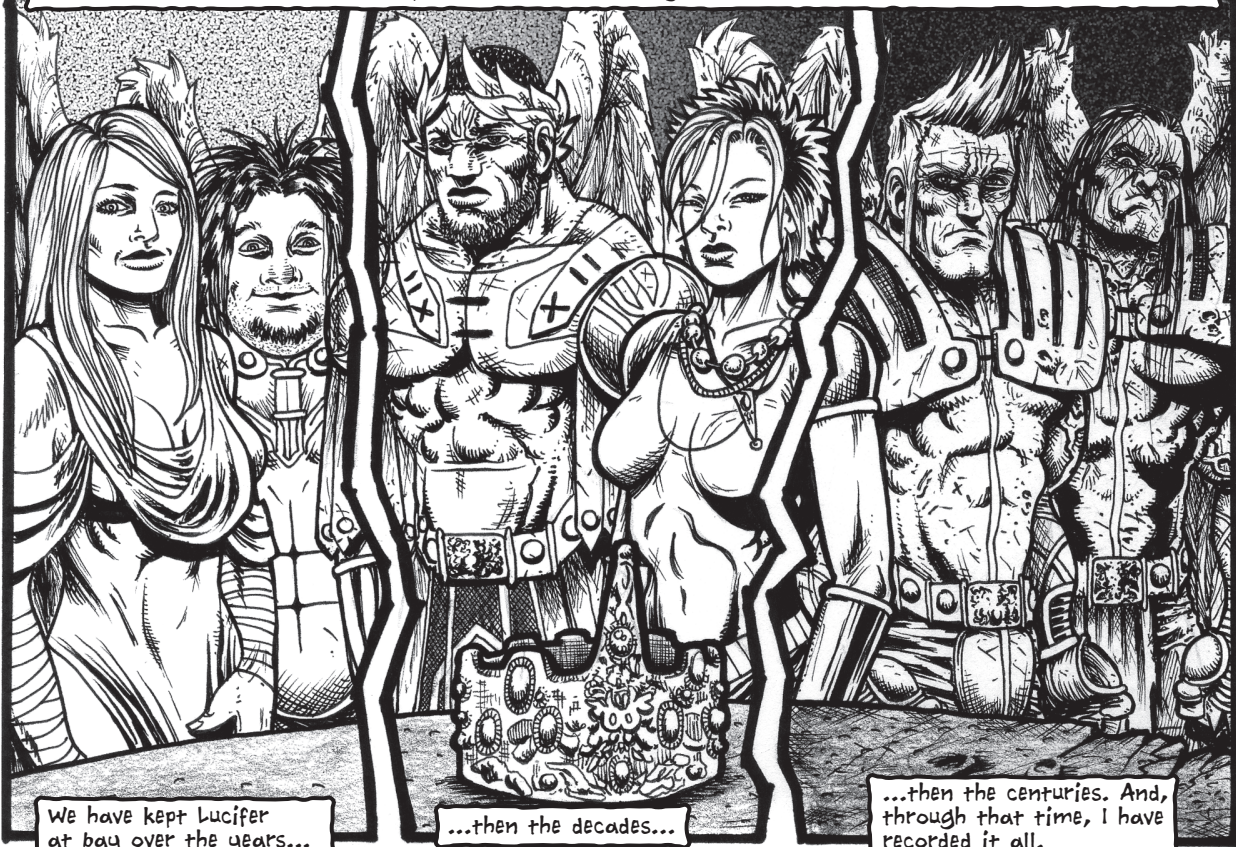
When God left, He left you in our care.

THE COMMUNION: IN THE RUINS OF GOD'S PALACE

He anointed us the **SEVEN ARCHANGELS** and granted each of us a point from His crown.



We were to watch over the Earth and humanity. Generals over each of our races until He comes back to usher us all into everlasting Heaven. Angels cannot ascend through the Gateway like human souls can. We must wait for His return, and keep the Earth from falling to evil.



We have kept Lucifer at bay over the years...

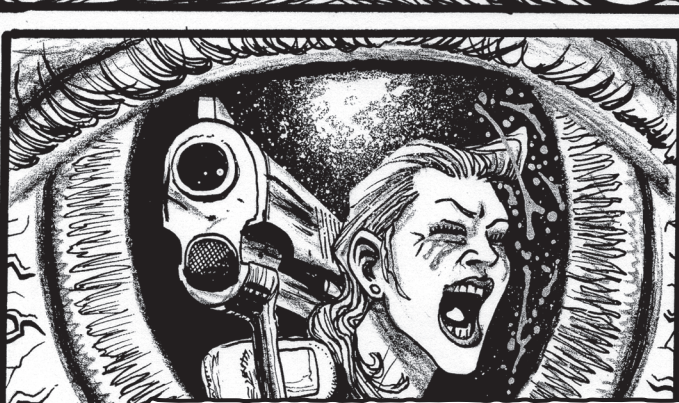
...then the decades...

...then the centuries. And, through that time, I have recorded it all.

BARACHIEL'S TAPESTRY

Trapped in an infinity of threads, forever weaving the history of the Earth. I, BARACHIEL, record so that He may see what has come to pass in His absence.

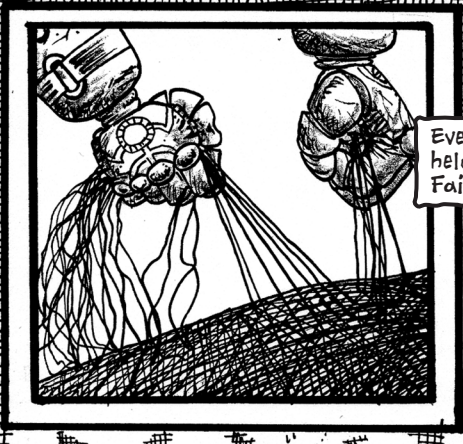
I see all. A gift granted by the Almighty. A gift of knowledge that no other being can have.



We all have burdens. But, we wait, hoping that today might be the day that God returns to us.



Then, our struggle can finally end.



Even as the images in the Tapestry grow more sinister, I have always held faith that He hasn't abandoned us. Faith that He will return. Faith that we can protect and survive until then.



I have managed to hold onto that hope...

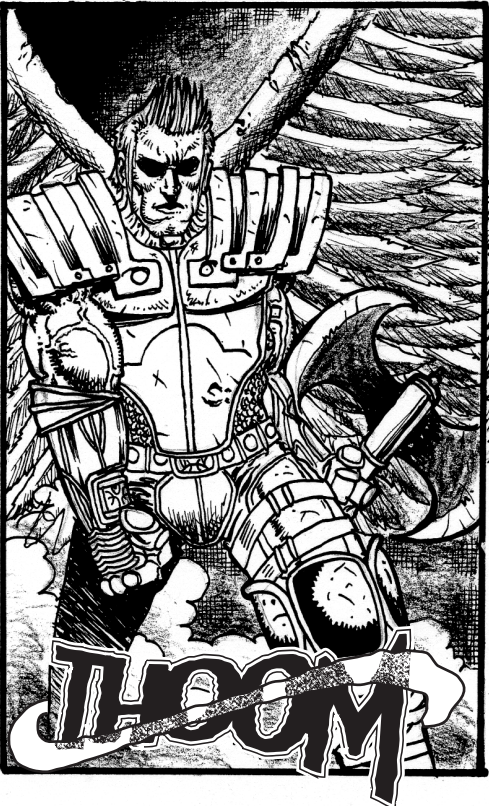
...until today.

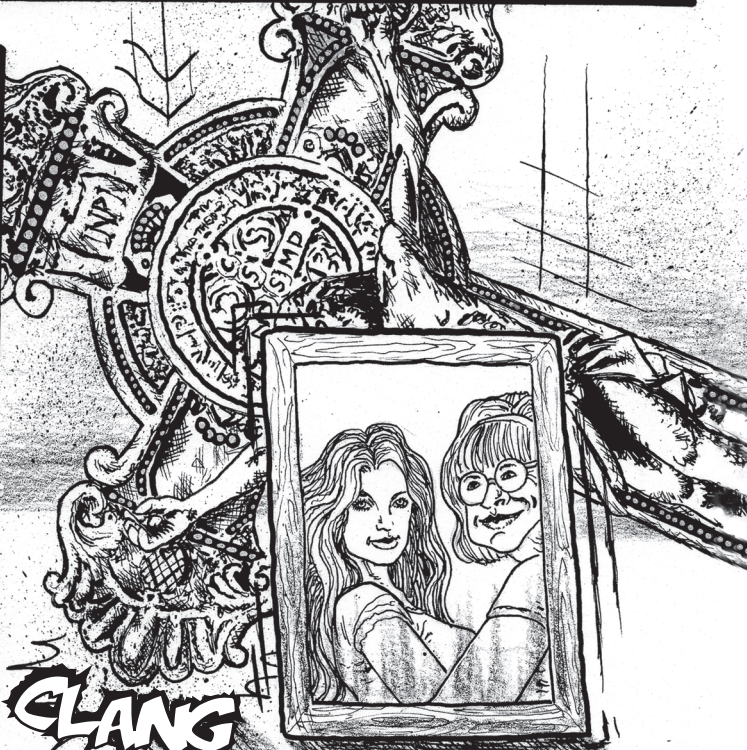
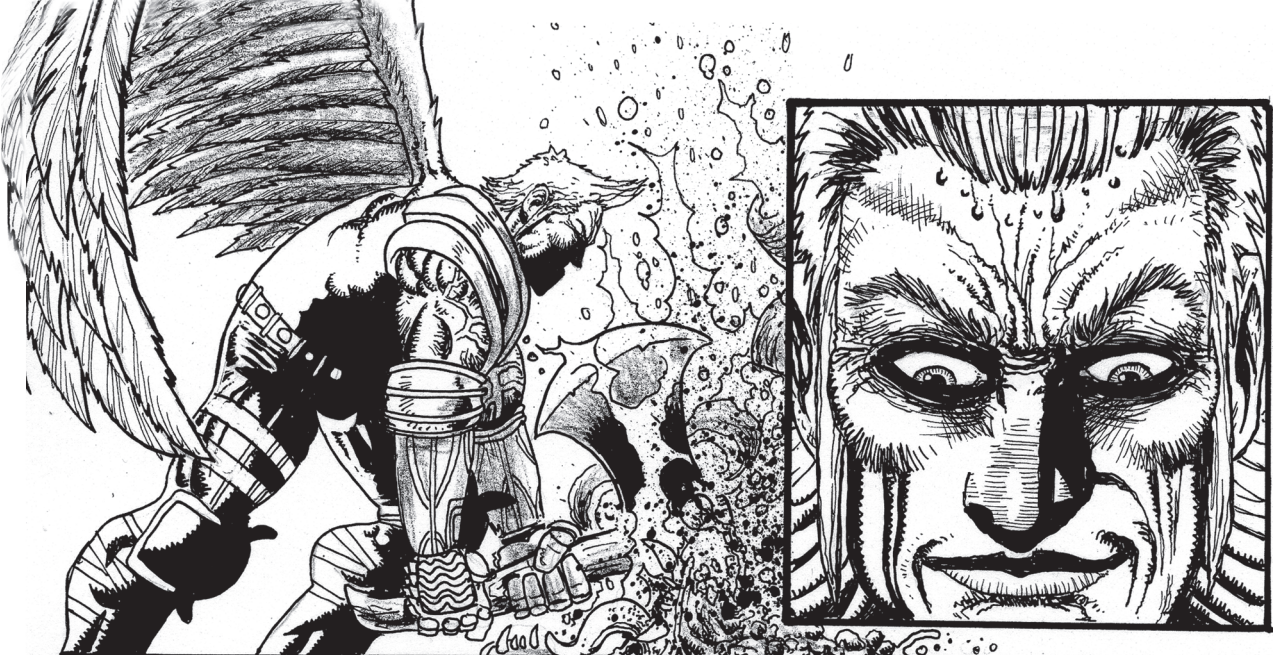


GASP!

END OF PROLOGUE

CHAPTER 1







HAEL!

I'M JUST KIDDING, Z. I'LL GO DEAL WITH THE KITTEN KILLER.

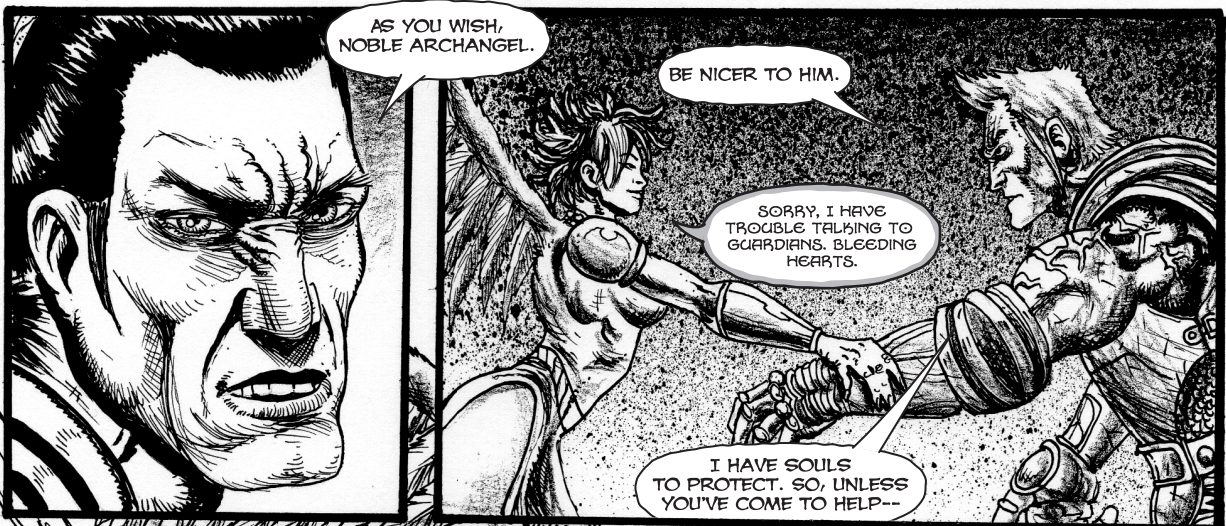
I JUST CAME TO LET YOU KNOW THAT URIEL IS LOOKING FOR YOU.



FOUND YOU, ACTUALLY.

URIEL, ALWAYS AN HONOR TO--

GET OUT OF HERE, HAZEL. THE BIG BOYS NEED TO TALK.



AS YOU WISH, NOBLE ARCHANGEL.

BE NICER TO HIM.

SORRY, I HAVE TROUBLE TALKING TO GUARDIANS. BLEEDING HEARTS.

I HAVE SOULS TO PROTECT. SO, UNLESS YOU'VE COME TO HELP--



I'VE COME TO FETCH YOU. THE GRAND ONE IS CALLING A COMMISSION OF THE ARCS.

MICHAEL? WHY? I HAVE SO MUCH TO DO.

COME ON. THE SHEEP WILL BE IN JUST AS MUCH TROUBLE WHEN WE'RE DONE.

THE AFTERLIFE

THE AFTERLIFE: GATEWAY TOWER

NO LINE OF SOULS WAITING TO BE USHERED INTO HEAVEN TODAY?

THERE HASN'T BEEN A LINE IN A WHILE.

WELL THEN, TELL ME SOME GOOD NEWS TO PASS ON TO MY TROOPS.

MORALE'S GETTING LOW.

HERE'S ALL THE GOOD NEWS I HAVE: WE'RE DOING WORSE THAN YESTERDAY...

...BUT BETTER THAN WE'LL BE DOING TOMORROW.

YOU HAVE A NICE WAY OF PUTTING THINGS, OLD FRIEND.

I'M THE GUARDIAN OF HEAVEN.

HOW COULD I NOT BE SO OPTIMISTIC?



I NEED A STATUS REPORT ON YOUR GROUND FORCES.

BARACHIEL SENT WORD THAT THE TAPESTRY IS DARKENING.

Protected Lands

HOW ARE OUR BORDERS IN THE PROTECTED LANDS HOLDING UP?

THERE WAS A LOSS TODAY...

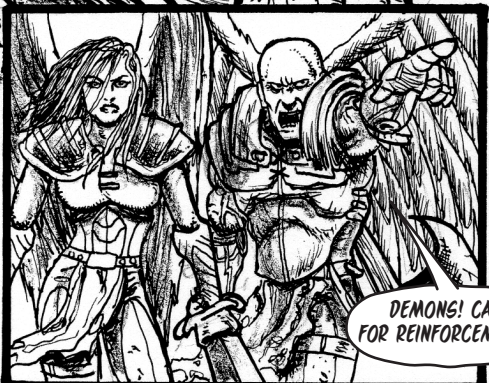




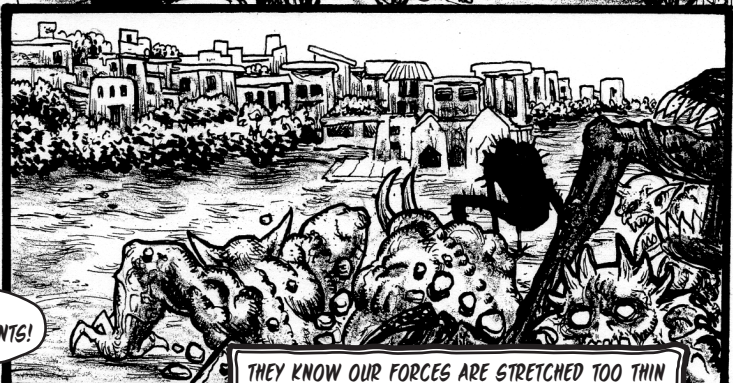
HUMAN WORLD: MUMBAI

दामनस्त

THEIR ATTACKS ARE BECOMING MORE PRECISE.



DEMONS! CALL FOR REINFORCEMENTS!



THEY KNOW OUR FORCES ARE STRETCHED TOO THIN TO KEEP THE PROTECTED LANDS UNDER OUR CONTROL.



HOLD FORMATION! WE HAVE TO KEEP THEM FROM INFILTRATING MUMBAI!



THEY FOCUS ALL OF THEIR FORCES ON ONE AREA, THROWING LITERALLY EVERYTHING THEY HAVE AT OUR WARRIORS.



THE WARRIORS COULDN'T HOLD THEM. THERE WERE JUST TOO MANY.



THE DEMONS SUCCESSFULLY PENETRATED MUMBAI.

THEY POSSESSED HUMANS.



AND THEY DESTROYED THE WARRIORS STATIONED THERE BEFORE MY REINFORCEMENTS AND I COULD ARRIVE.

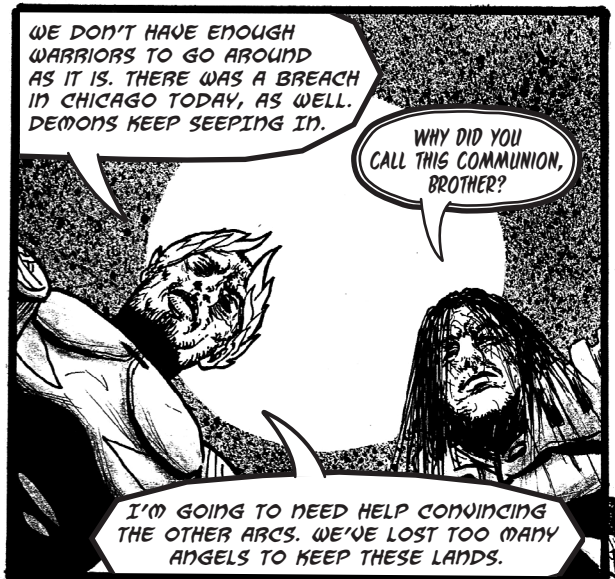




WE LOST SIX WARRIORS. TWO MORE BEING TREATED BY METATRON.

SIX... THAT'S TOO MANY.

IT WILL TAKE WEEKS TO TRACK DOWN THE DEMONS THAT MADE IT INTO THE CITY.



WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH WARRIORS TO GO AROUND AS IT IS. THERE WAS A BREACH IN CHICAGO TODAY, AS WELL. DEMONS KEEP SEEPING IN.

WHY DID YOU CALL THIS COMMUNION, BROTHER?

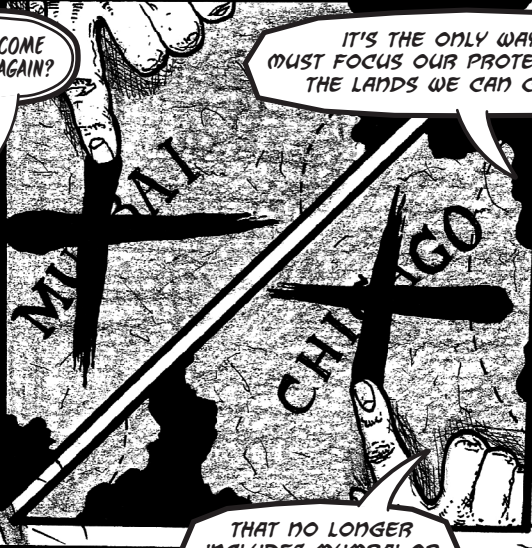
I'M GOING TO NEED HELP CONVINCING THE OTHER ARCS. WE'VE LOST TOO MANY ANGELS TO KEEP THESE LANDS.



HAS IT COME TO THAT AGAIN?



IT'S THE ONLY WAY. WE MUST FOCUS OUR PROTECTION OVER THE LANDS WE CAN CONTROL.

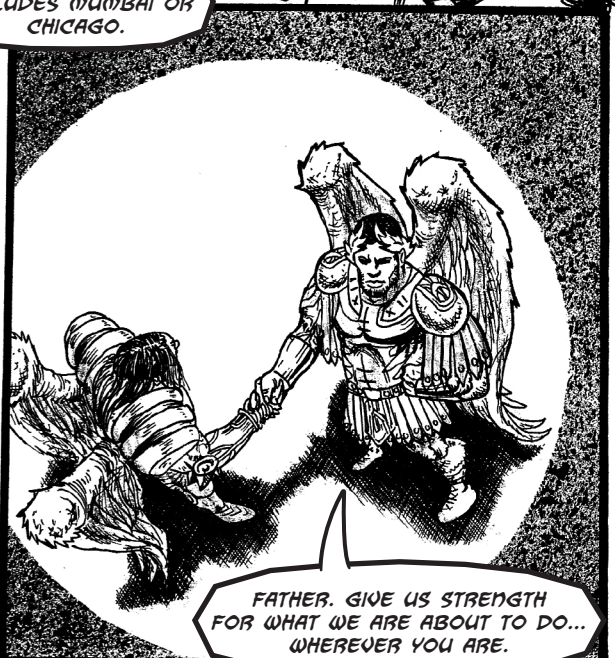


THAT NO LONGER INCLUDES MUMBAI OR CHICAGO.



YOU HAVE MY SUPPORT.

WE HAD BETTER BE OFF THEN.



FATHER. GIVE US STRENGTH FOR WHAT WE ARE ABOUT TO DO... WHEREVER YOU ARE.



IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU ALL.

IT'S NICE TO BE UP HERE.

THE ARCS' COMMUNION

I LIKE WHAT YOU'VE DONE WITH THE REINS.

WHY HAVE YOU CALLED THIS COMMUNION?

I HAVE SOULS IN NEED OF MY HELP.



COOL YOUR HEELS, GUARDIAN. THE SHEEP CAN LOOK AFTER THEMSELVES FOR A WHILE.



URIEL, SOME RESPECT!

I'M SORRY, SIR.



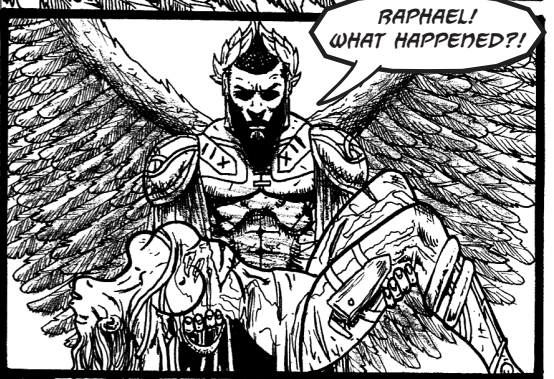
WE ARE HERE TO DISCUSS THE INFILTRATION OF MUMBAI BY A SWARM OF POSSESSION DEMONS.

WE WILL WAIT ON RAPHAEL BEFORE WE BEGIN.



GASP!

BAPH!




The story continues in



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**WHEN DAPHNE AND CRAIG MOVE
INTO A NEW APARTMENT, THEY ARE UNAWARE
OF THE HIDDEN TERROR LURKING IN THEIR HOME.**

**WILL THEY DISCOVER THAT SOMETHING
FROM ANOTHER WORLD IS SEEKING A WAY IN BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE?**

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S O M E T H I N G A N I M A L

AFTER WITNESSING HIS SISTER'S BRUTAL MURDER, JACK STRUGGLES TO COPE WITH THE DISTURBING, PSYCHOLOGICAL AFTERMATH. TORMENTED BY IMAGES OF THE ATTACK, JACK FINDS HIMSELF PHYSICALLY ILL AND UNABLE TO EAT.

SCARED AND ALONE, HE IS FORCED TO CONFRONT A GROWING THIRST FOR BLOOD AND THE HARSH REALITY THAT EITHER HIS SANITY IS QUICKLY CRUMBLING OR THAT HE IS TURNING INTO SOMETHING ELSE... SOMETHING DARK... SOMETHING ANIMAL...

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