

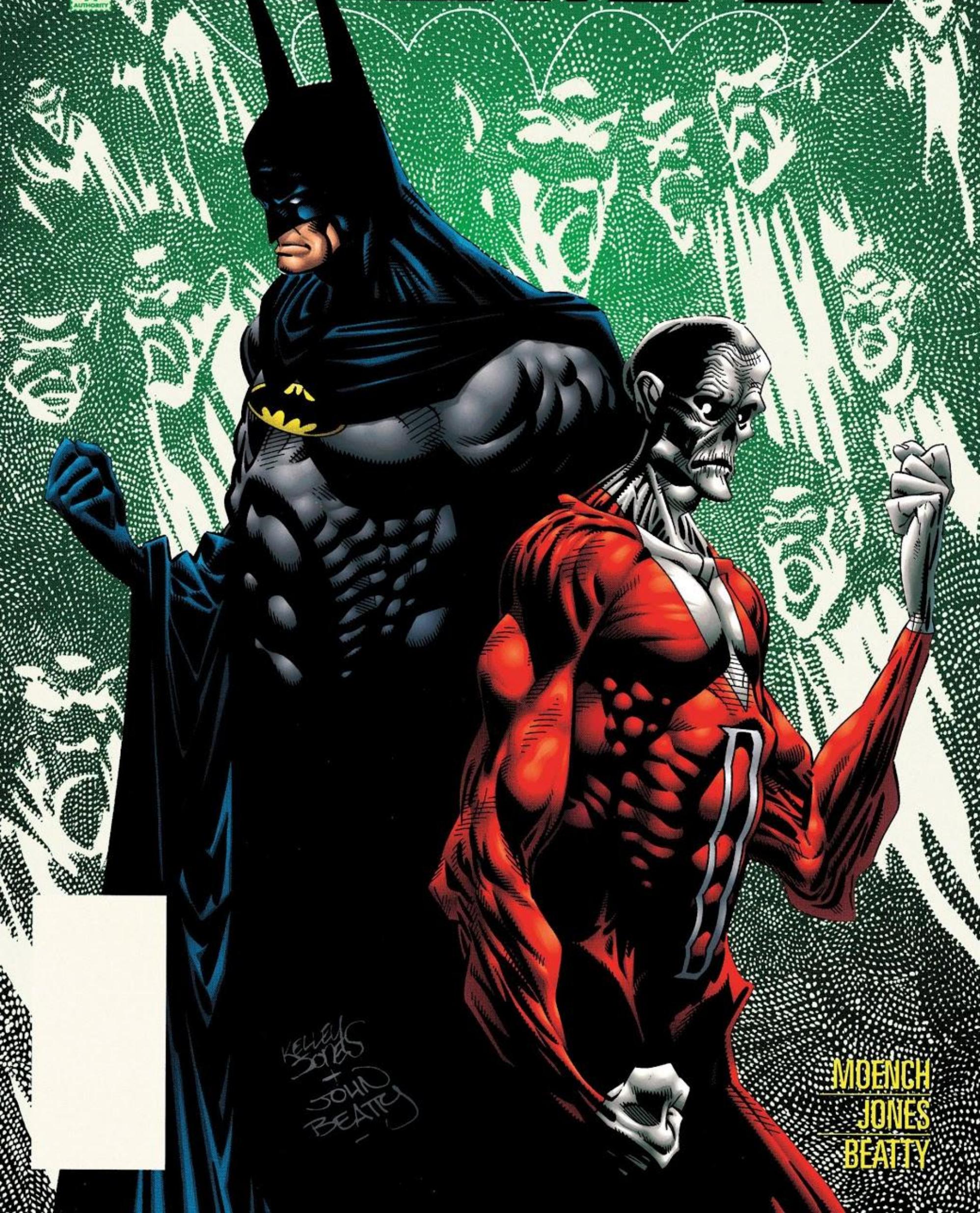


THE DEADMAN CONNECTION™

531 \$1.95 US
\$2.75 CAN
JUN 96

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

BATMAN®



KELLEY
SOLES
JOHN
BEATTY

MOENCH
JONES
BEATTY



THE DEADMAN CONNECTION PT. CULT OF THE MUMMY



<SPIRITS OF THE DEAD, SLAIN
FOUR HUNDRED YEARS PAST BY
PIZARRO'S CONQUISTADORS--
HEAR ME!>

<THE LIVES OF YOUR LAST
TRUE DESCENDANTS ARE NOW
THREATENED BY OTHER FOREIGN
MEN OF GREED, BY NEW
CONQUISTADORS-->



DW-KO-JC-WB-15

ANDROID
IMAGES
SEPARATIONS
JORDAN B.
GORFINKEL
ASSOC.
EDITOR
DENNIS
O'NEIL
EDITOR
BATMAN
CREATED BY
BOB KANE

DOUG
MOENCH
WRITER
KELLEY
JONES
PENCILLER
JOHN
BEATTY
INKER
GREGORY
WRIGHT
COLORIST
TODD KLEIN
LETTERER

<THESE MEN ARE GUIDED
BY THE SAME LUST FOR GOLD
AND SILVER AS THE CON-
QUERORS OF OLD-->

<--SPILLING WARM BLOOD
TO CLAIM COLD TREASURE!-->

<THEIR FLESH IS NEW, BUT IT IS POSSESSED
BY THE SPIRITS OF THE SAME MEN WHO DESTROYED
OUR EMPIRE--SPIRITS WHICH HAVE LEARNED
NOTHING IN FOUR HUNDRED YEARS!>

<YOU MUST
HELP ME, DEAD
ONES, TO OPPOSE
THEIR-->



YOU TOLD THE PAPERS I'LL BE OUT OF TOWN, ALFRED?

ATTENDING THE WEDDING OF A CERTAIN ITALIAN DUKE, SIR, YES.

GOOD, I ALSO NEED RESEARCH ON THE MERCENARIES IN CUSTODY--AS WELL AS ANY '80S DEATH SQUAD COVERT OPERATIONS.

I WANT EVERY NAME YOU CAN FIND-- CONTACT ORACLE IF YOU HAVE TO.

YES, MASTER BRUCE, BUT... GHOSTS, SIR?

QUANTUM PHYSICISTS OF A ZEN BENT BELIEVE IN THEM, ALFRED--

--ALONG WITH OTHER PHENOMENA POSSIBLY EXPLAINED BY "THE HOLOGRAPHIC THEORY OF THE UNIVERSE."

A HOLOGRAM IS FILM SHOWING NOTHING BUT OVERLAPPING CONCENTRIC CIRCLES--

--UNTIL A LASER IS APPLIED TO CREATE A GHOST-LIKE THREE-DIMENSIONAL IMAGE.

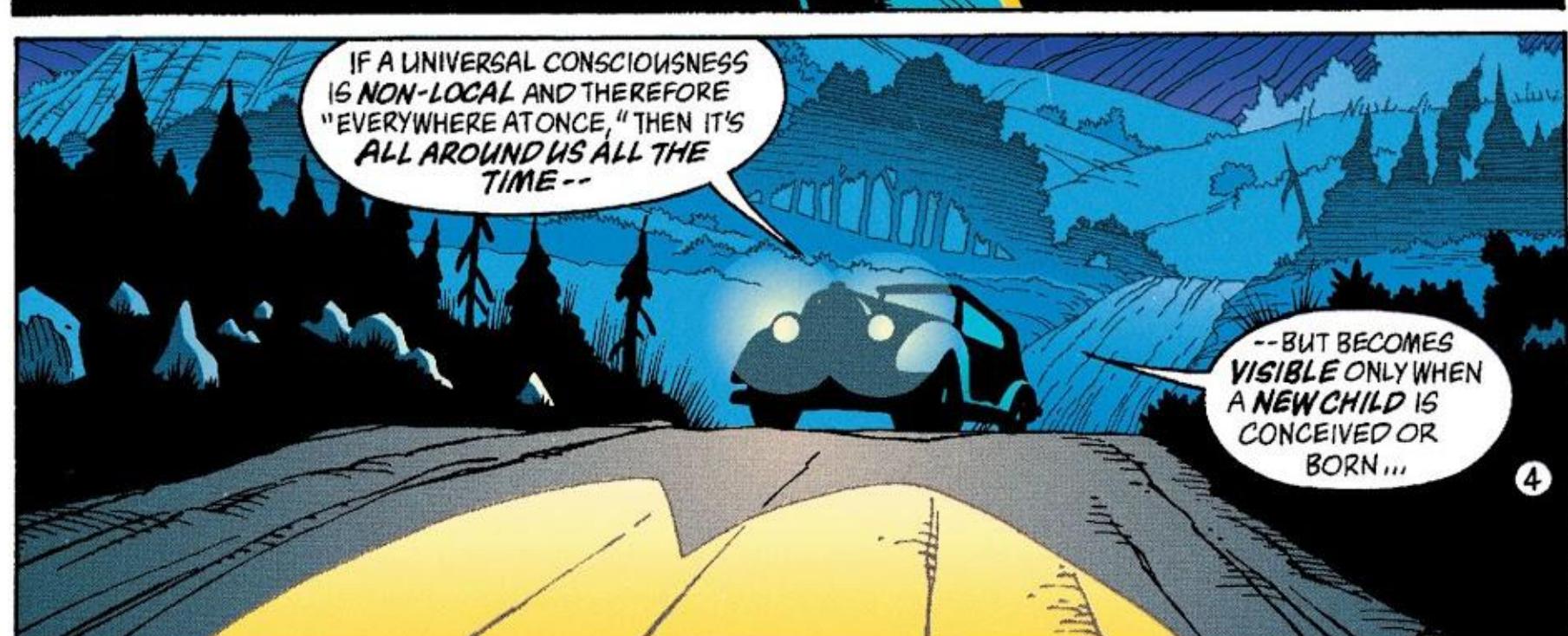
BUT A HOLOGRAM'S STRANGEST PROPERTY IS THAT IT CAN BE CUT UP INTO ANY NUMBER OF PIECES, ALL OF WHICH WILL REPRODUCE THE ENTIRE IMAGE--

IT'S CALLED "THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-LOCALITY" AND SCIENTISTS ARE NOW OBSERVING IT ALMOST EVERYWHERE, ESPECIALLY AT THE QUANTUM OR SUBATOMIC LEVEL...

--MEANING THE INFORMATION IS EVERYWHERE ON THE FILM SIMULTANEOUSLY.

INDEED, SIR.

...WHERE LOCATION SEEMINGLY CEASES TO EXIST.



"...WHEREUPON A PART OF THE CONSCIOUSNESS ENTERS AND ANIMATES THE CHILD."

AWRIGHT, BAT-BUDDY, WHAT'S KEEPIN' YA?

I'M BORED IN THIS BOD.

THEN THIS "NON-LOCAL CONSCIOUSNESS" IS MUCH LIKE TELEVISION BROADCAST WAVES--

--ALL AROUND US ALL THE TIME BUT PERCEIVED ONLY WHEN THE TELLY IS TURNED ON?

CLOSE ENOUGH, ALFRED.

AND THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS IS COMPOSED OF SEPARATE IDENTITIES --GHOSTS--AKIN TO DIFFERENT TELEVISION CHANNELS?

YES...

...WITH EACH PERSON'S "SOUL" OR LIFE-ENERGY RETURNING TO THE OMNICONSCIOUSNESS UPON DEATH, THERE TO AWAIT THE BIRTH OF ANOTHER CHILD.

REINCARNATION, SIR?

MORE OF THE ZEN BENT I MENTIONED-- AND "GHOSTS" COULD BE THOSE LIFE-ENERGIES WHICH REFUSE TO REJOIN THE UNIVERSAL CONSCIOUSNESS FOR ONE TRAUMATIC REASON OR ANOTHER.

TYPICALLY MURDER, SIR, I SHOULD IMAGINE.

HANGAR NINE

AND THESE "TRAUMATIZED SOULS" REMAIN IN **OUR** REALITY, RESPONSIBLE FOR APPARITIONS, HAUNTINGS, FLYING DISHES...

EVEN POSSESSION OF LIVING BODIES, ALFRED--AT LEAST ACCORDING TO BOSTON BRAND.

THE SUPERNATURAL MADE NATURAL -- SCIENTIFIC PROOF FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GHOSTS.

SOMETHING SIMILAR TO PROOF, ANYWAY, FOR SOMETHING SIMILAR TO "GHOSTS."

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

INDEED, SIR-- AND THE THINGS YOU KNOW...

ARE NOTHING, ALFRED, IN THE FACE OF WHAT I DON'T KNOW.

--ANOTHER PACK-TRAIN LOADED IN NO TIME FLAT, TURKE, BY THE INCAS THEMSELVES.

CORTÉS DID IT IN MEXICO AND PIZARRO DID IT HERE IN PERU--LOOTED EMPIRES WITH NOTHIN' BUT A HANDFUL OF MEN.

I TOLD YA TAKIN' ALL THIS GOLD AND SILVER WOULD BE A CINCH.



YEAH, BUT DON'T FORGET, KILLEEN -- OUR HANDFUL'S A LOT SMALLER...

EVEN WITH
SUPERIOR FIREPOWER,
I WOULDN'T WANNA
FACE AN UPRISING.

SOME
OF THESE
GUYS LOOK
FIERCE.

YOU ASK ME,
THEY'RE LOSIN'
THEIR RELIGION
--HAVIN' BIG DOUBTS
EVER SINCE YOU
CHOPPED SOME OF
'EM DOWN IN THAT
TREASURE
PYRAMID...

AIN'T GONNA BE
NO UPRISING, TURKE, AS
LONG AS THEY THINK I'M
THEIR GOD VIRACOCHA--
WHICH IS EXACTLY
WHAT THEY THINK.

AND ARE YOU REALLY
GONNA WASTE ALL OF 'EM
ONCE WE GET THE GOLD
AND SILVER OUTTA
HERE?

WHEN THE WORK'S
DONE, TURKE, YOU
DON'T PAY OFF
SLAVE LABOR.

ONE THING I LEARNED
IS THAT THE DEAD TELL
NO TALES.

NO
WITNESSES, NO
WORRIES.

THAT DON'T APPLY
HERE, KILLEEN...

THESE INDIANS HAVE BEEN
HIDIN' FROM THE OUTSIDE
WORLD FOR FOUR
CENTURIES NOW--

--AND THIS LOST
CITY COULD STAY
HIDDEN FOR ANOTHER
THOUSAND YEARS

NO WAY
THEY'RE GONNA
GO TO THE
AUTHORITIES
AND TALK.

YOU GOT
THAT RIGHT,
TURKE...CUZ
THE DEAD
DON'T GO
NOWHERE.





"*I MEANT DOCTORS FOR THE MIND, NOT THE BODY.*"

"*BUT DEMONS DO NOT POSSESS THE MIND. THE MIND IS FRIGHTENED BY DEMONS WHO POSSESS THE BODY AND FORCE IT TO COMMIT WICKED ACTS.*"

"*SOME MINDS SEEM TO WELCOME EVIL.*"

"*YES, A MYSTERY I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SOLVE.*"

"*I HAVE ALSO FAILED.*"

"*YOU? BUT THE MINDS I HAVE KNOWN TO WELCOME EVIL HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IN THE BODIES OF MEN FROM YOUR LAND TO THE NORTH.*"

"*NEVERTHELESS, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THEY ENJOY BEING EVIL.*"

"*YET YOU OPPOSE THAT WHICH YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND?*"

"*I STOP WHAT THEY DO.*"

"*BUT AGAIN, YOU ARE NOT YOURSELF A DEMON?*"

"*NO--A MAN.*"

"*I TOO AM A MAN, NAMED CHIMU, BUT IN MY LAND--HERE--THE BAT IS A SYMBOL OF DARKNESS.*"

"*IN MINE TOO.*"

"*YET YOU CHOOSE THIS DARK SKIN OF A BAT?*"

"*TO OPPOSE AND FRIGHTEN EVIL.*"

"*I DID NOT THINK A DEMON COULD BE FRIGHTENED BY A DEMON, BUT PERHAPS IT MAKES SENSE FOR THE DEMONS OF YOUR LAND TO THE NORTH.*"

"*TRUST ME--IT DOES.*"

"*CAN DO YOU WISH TO OPPOSE AND FRIGHTEN ME?*"

"*NO, CHIMU--YOU ARE NOT EVIL.*"

"*NHN. I HOPED YOU KNEW THAT. AND WHY, THEN, ARE YOU NOT FAR AWAY FROM ME BY NOW?*"

"*I REQUEST THAT YOU GUIDE ME TO SOME EVIL MEN WHO HAVE COME TO YOUR LAND.*"

"*IF YOU KNOW OF THESE MEN, WHY DO YOU NEED ME?*"

"*I KNOW THE PLACE THEY HAVE GONE, BUT I DO NOT KNOW THE BEST WAY TO REACH IT FROM HERE.*"

"*WHAT IS THE PLACE?*"

"*IT IS NEARBY-- MACHUPICCHU.*"

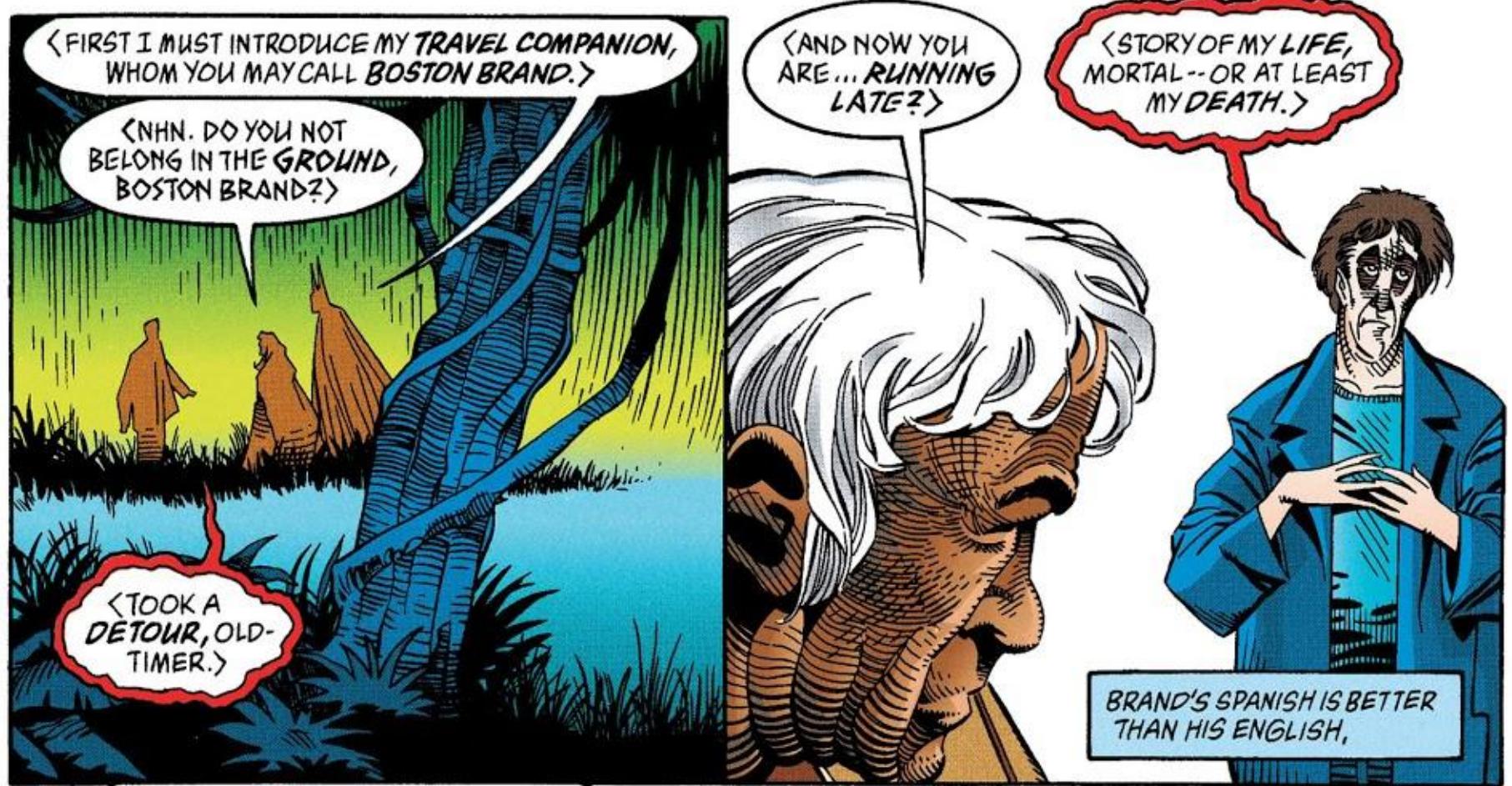
ARE A TOURIST. TELL ME, DO NOT THE DEMONS OF YOUR LAND TO THE NORTH BECOME ANGRY WHEN A MAN OR A TOURIST CHOOSES TO WEAR THEIR SKIN?"

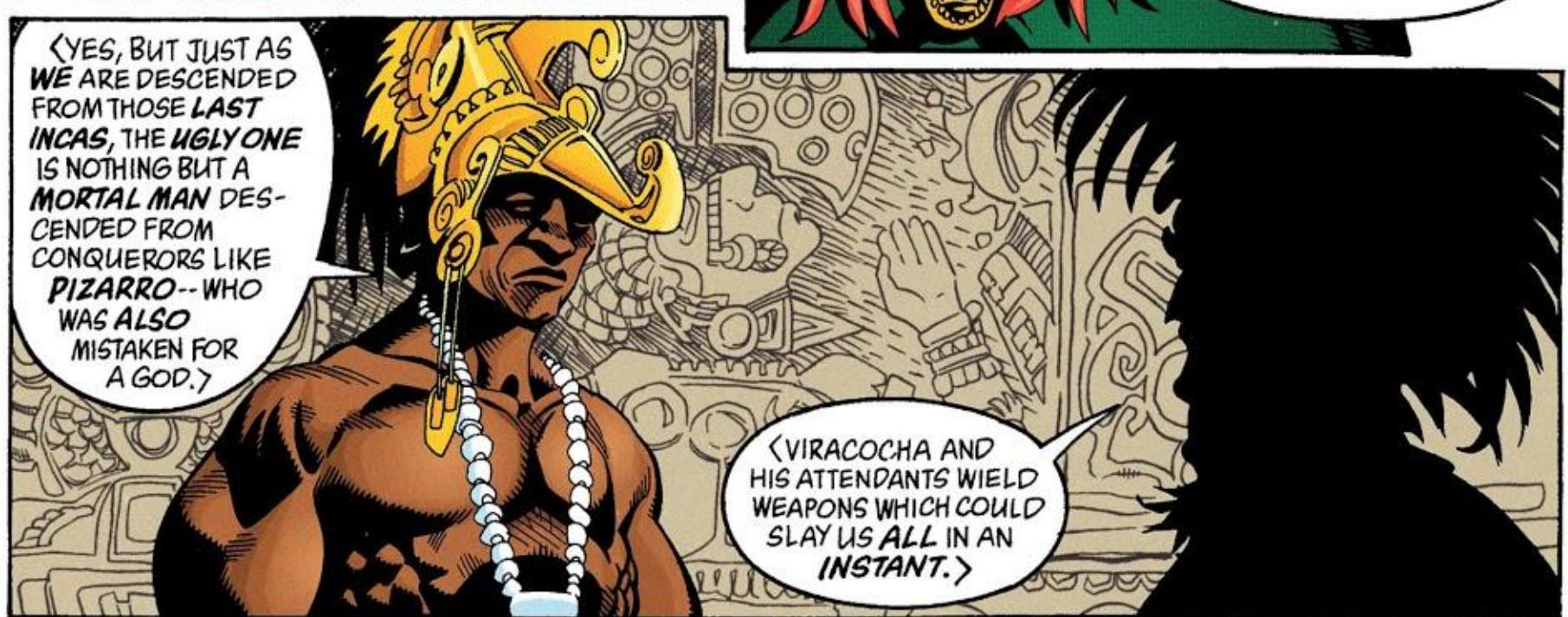
"*I TOLD YOU, CHIMU--THEY BECOME FRIGHTENED.*"

"*VERY WELL. IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO FRIGHTEN ME, I WILL GUIDE YOU TO THE ANCIENT CITY AND MODERN TOURIST ATTRACTION OF MACHU PICCHU. DO YOU MIND THE SOUND OF MY BONE FLUTE AS WE TREK? I ASK BECAUSE ITS TONES MAY BE DISTURBING TO THE SENSITIVE EARS OF A BAT.*"

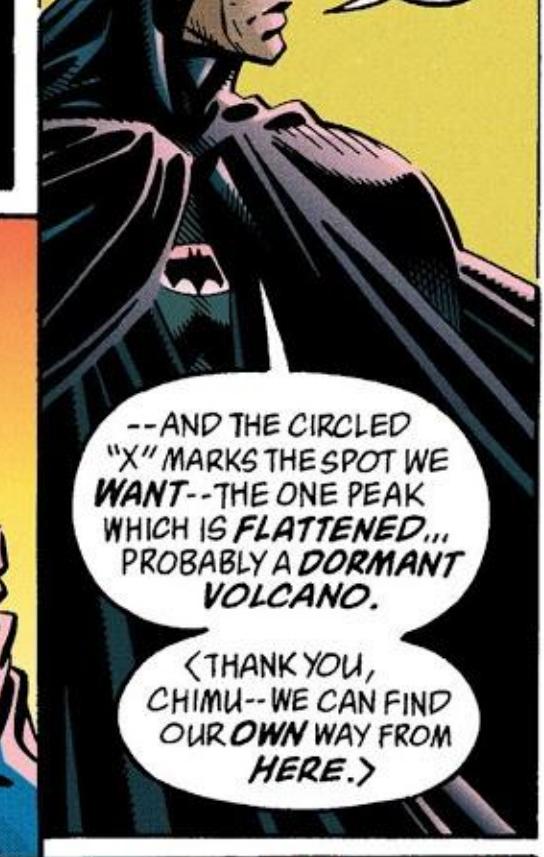
"*I WILL TELL YOU, CHIMU, WHEN SILENCE IS NECESSARY.*"

"*NHN. THEN LET US GO, TOURIST DEMON.*"









HIS FLUTE.

< I AM HONORED, CHIMU,
TO RECEIVE SUCH
A FINE GIFT. >

BUT WHAT CAN
I GIVE HIM...? >

< IN RETURN, MY
PARTING GIFT TO
YOU. >

NHN.

< JUST
WHAT I
NEED... >

< A SYMBOL OF
THE TERROR INSPIRED
BY NIGHT-DEMONS. >

TAKE MY LLAMA,
SHANK-- I'M GOIN' OUT
ON POINT.

GOOD
IDEA,
DEKE...

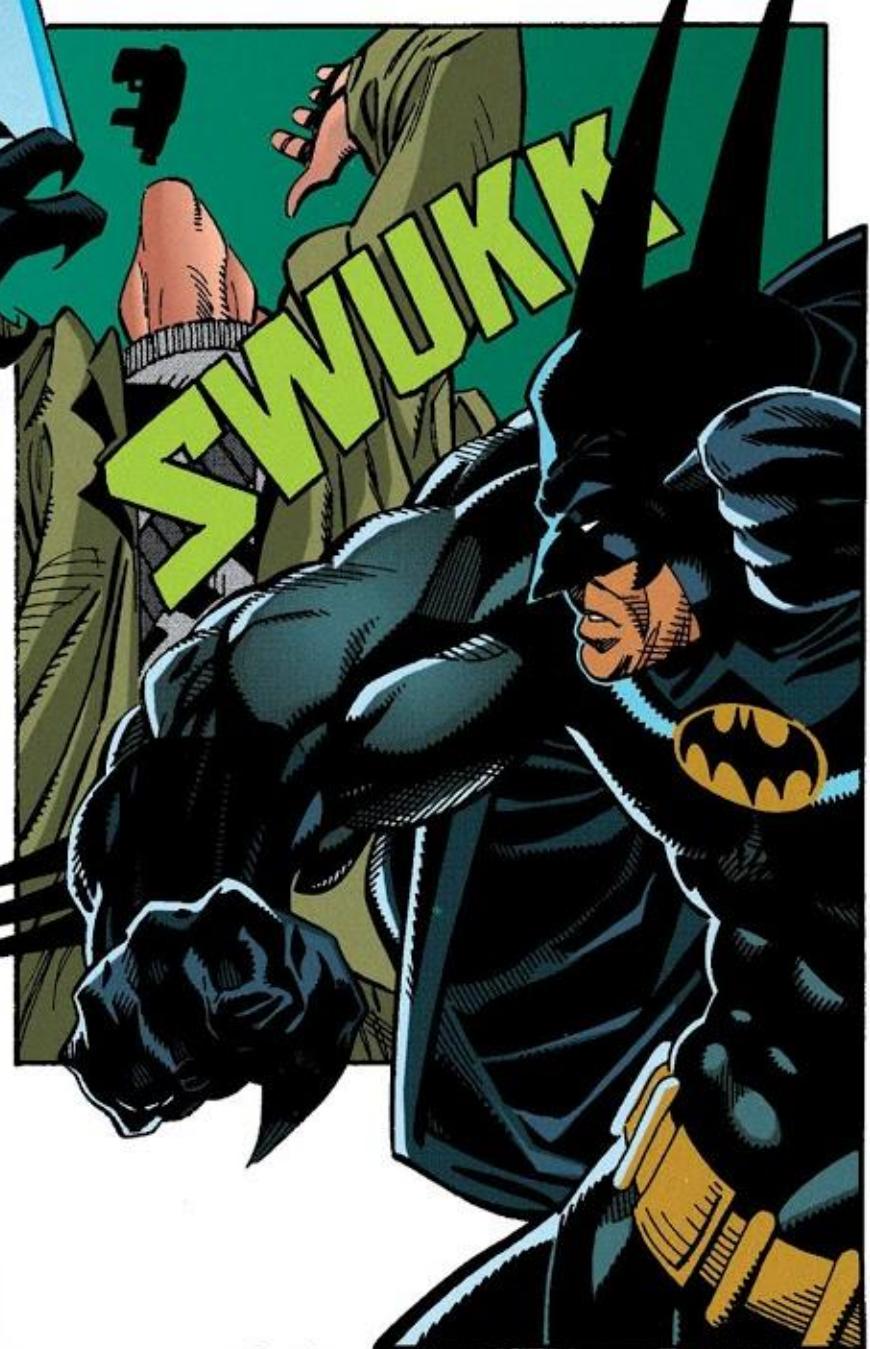
WOULDN'T WANNA EXPLAIN
ALL THIS LOOT TO A BUNCH OF
MACHU PICCHU TOUR GUIDES.

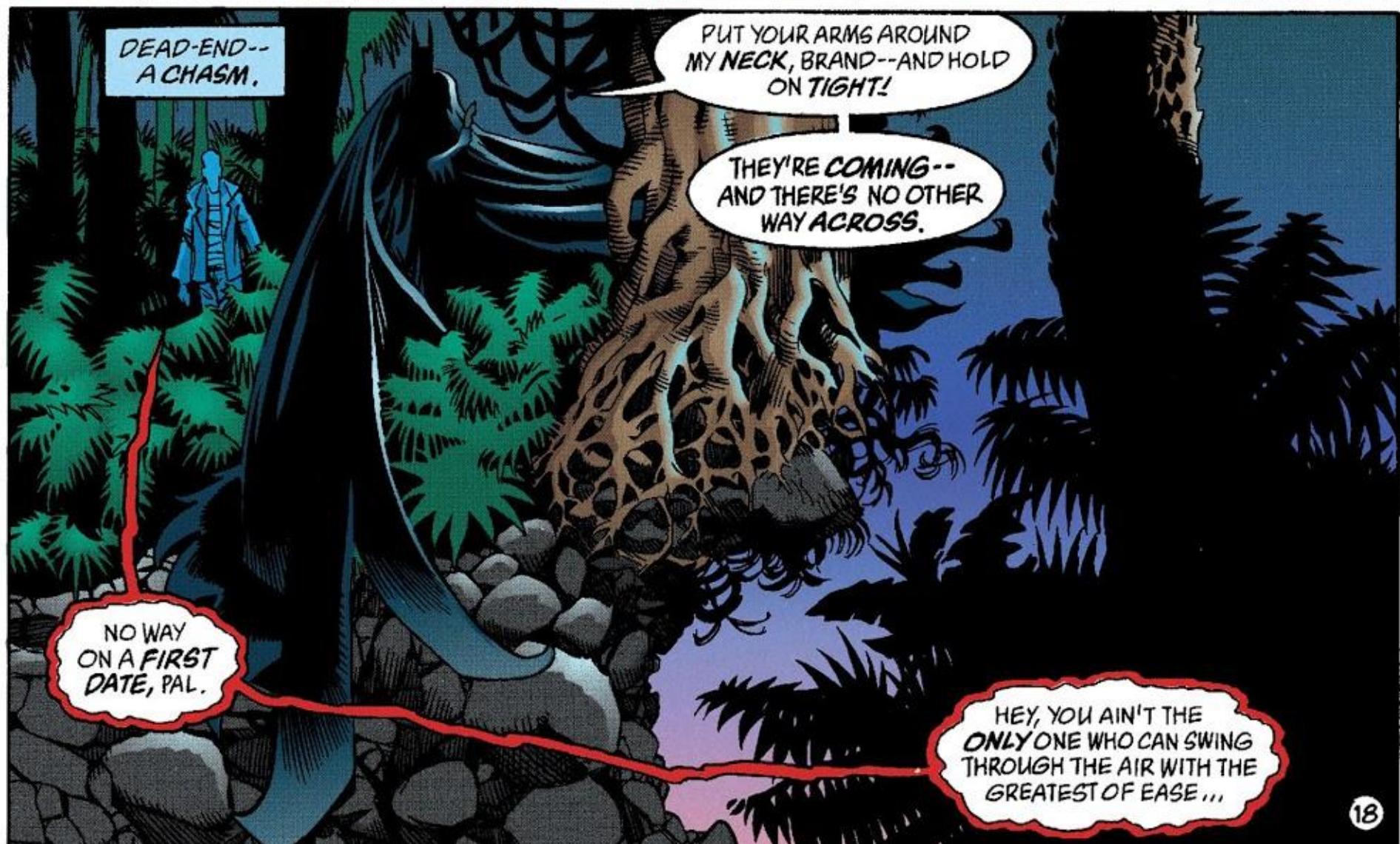
YOU
MENTIONED A
"CULT OF THE
MUMMY,"
BRAND?

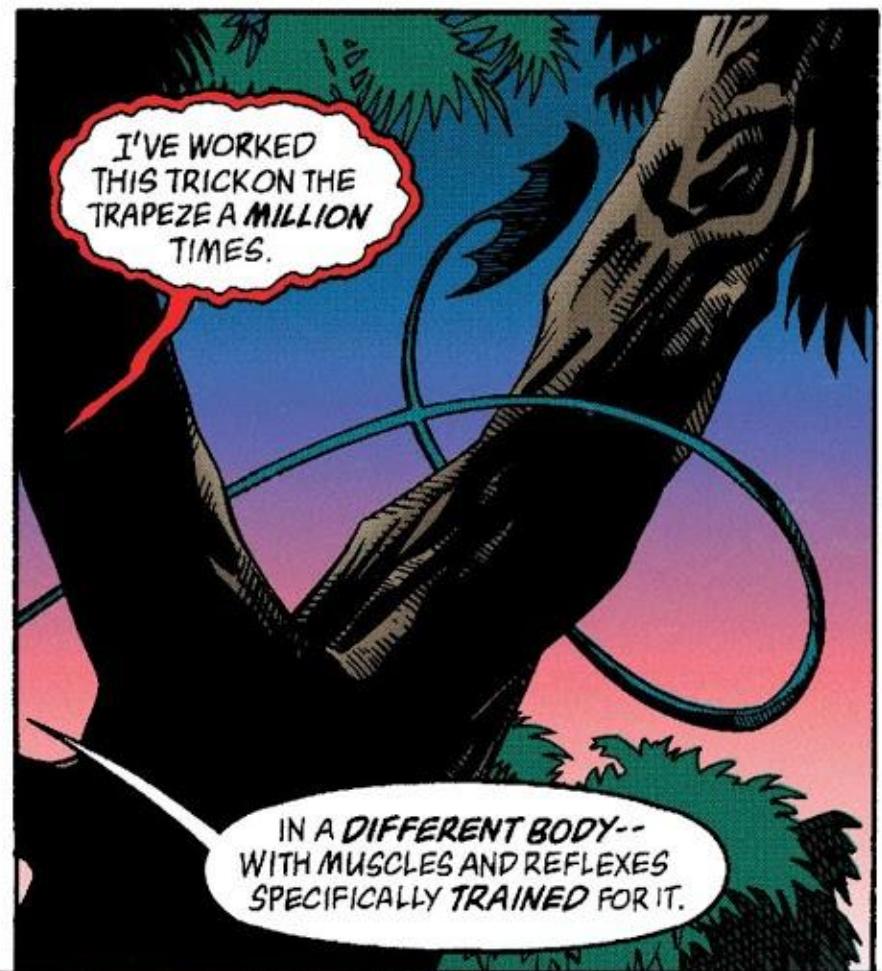
WHEN YOU'RE
DEAD FOREVER,
YOU'VE GOT NOTHIN'
BUT TIME.

I FILL SOME OF IT WITH
THE SUBJECT CLOSEST TO MY NON-
BEATING HEART-- DEATH-- OR AS
THE HIGHBROWS CALL IT,
ESCHATOLOGY.











"I NEVER MADE IT ACROSS THAT FIRST TIME--FELL SHORT AND MADE A BLOODY BULL'S-EYE OUT OF THE CIRCUS RING..."

"...BECAME A DEAD MAN..."

"BUT THIS TIME--"

STOP
YOU MADE IT!

JUST WHAT RAMA KUSHNA SAID WHEN SHE WELCOMED ME TO LIFE AS A GHOST.

GONE.

YOU GET A GOOD LOOK?

NO, BUT I COULD'A SWORN I NAILED HIM.

MAYBE WE SHOULD GO BACK TO THE CITY...

AND RISK OUR NECKS TOO?

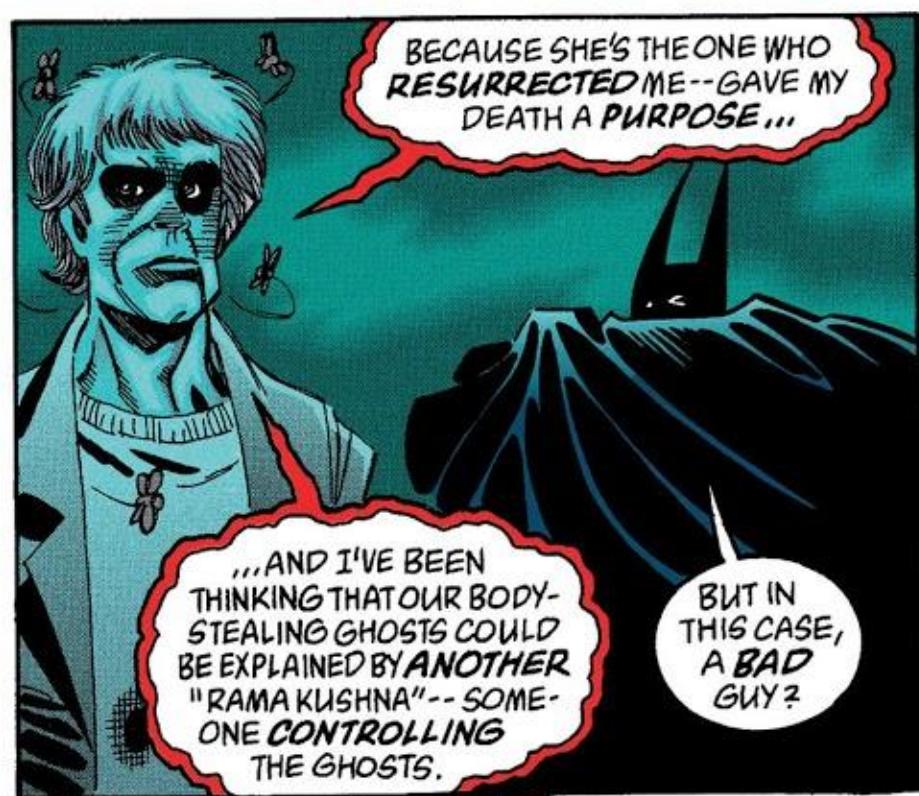
IF THERE'S TROUBLE, I SAY KILLEEN CAN DEAL WITH IT.

YOU MAYBE GOT A POINT THERE...

YOU ALL RIGHT?

THREE MORE HITS--
BUT IN THIS HEAT, THE EXTRA VENTILATION CAN'T HURT.

AFTER ALL,
SOMEBODY'S GOTTA PROFIT FROM THAT PACK TRAIN OF SILVER AND GOLD.





IMPULSE

MFARLANE