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WATCH SUPERMAN & LOIS, SUPERGIRL, BATWOMAN AND STARGIRL ON THE CW • STREAM DOOM PATROL, TITANS, AND PEACEMAKER ON HBOMAX
SEE THE BATMAN, BLACK ADAM, THE FLASH, AQUAMAN AND THE LOST KINGDOM, DC LEAGUE OF SUPER-PETS AND SHAZAM!: FURY OF THE GODS IN THEATERS SOON

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8 of 10



V
PERKINS
SPICER

THE SWAMP THING



AGES 13+
DCCOMICS.COM



YOU HAD
HIM, ASA!
AND YOU LET
HIM GO?



I DID
NOT "HAVE"
HIM.

HE WAS
NOT MINE
TO KEEP.



LOOK AT IT...
THE SWAMP
THING.

IT IS NO
MAN, NOR BEAST,
TO CAGE OR TO
POSSESS.



THIS IS
YOUR FLAW,
DON'T YOU
SEE?

WHAT
HUBRIS
YOU MUST
HAVE...

"...TO THINK
YOU COULD
EVER CONTROL
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT."

IN MY INFANCY

Part 3

RAM V Writer MIKE PERKINS Artist

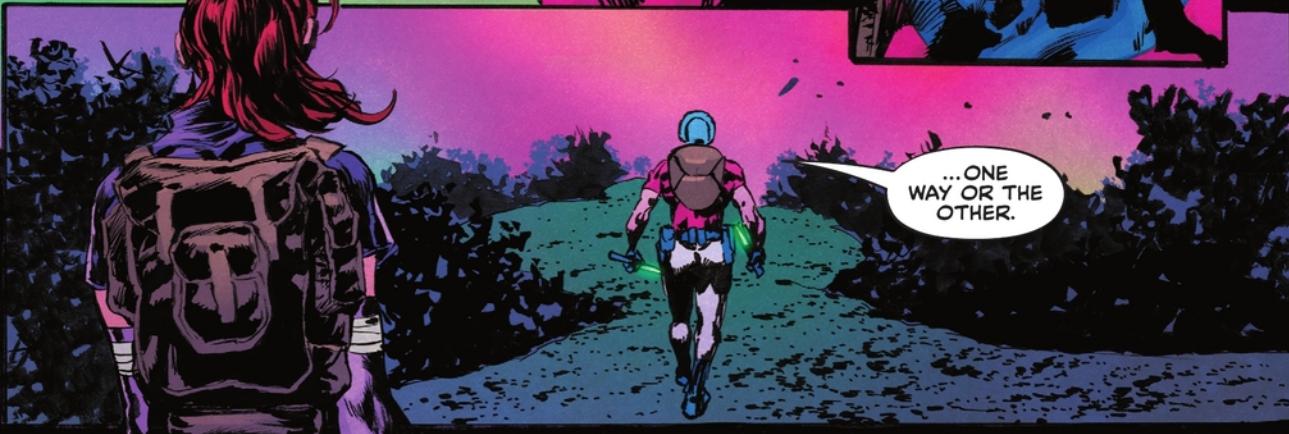
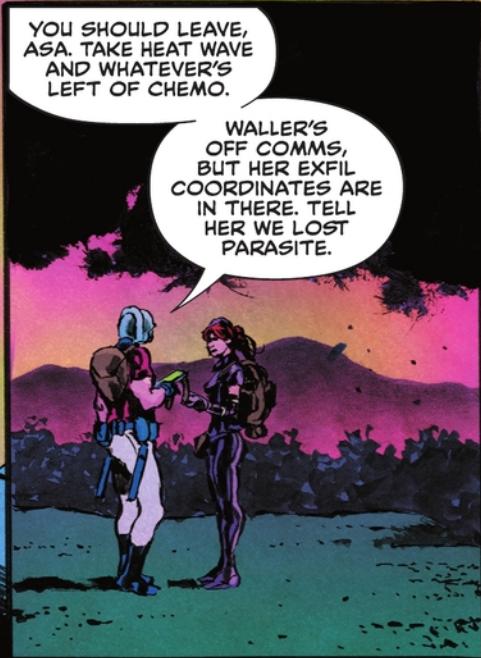
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SWAMP THING created by LEN WEIN & BERNIE WRIGHTSON







THE FOREST LIES
LITTERED...WITH THE
EFFLUENT...OF WAR.



BUT THIS PLACE...HAS
SURVIVED WORSE...LIFE,
THOUGH TRAMPLED...IS
TRUE TO ITS PURPOSE.



IT LIVES.



KAZIRANGA BECKONS...
WHISPERING THROUGH
ROOT AND STEM... "THIS
WAY--THIS WAY TO THE
WOUNDED HEART."



I AM BEING
HUNTED...BUT
THERE IS MORE,
THE GREEN
TELLS ME.



THERE IS
SOMETHING
ELSE COMING...



=SNRFE
HRRNNNH...
M-MUST
FEEED.



THE CREATURE ATTACKS...
GRASPING THORNS REND AND
PIERCE...I CAN SENSE...THE
SAME POWER OF THE GREEN...
FLOWING THROUGH IT.

YET NOT OF ITS OWN
WILL...CONSUMED AND
METABOLIZED...TO A
TERRIBLE PURPOSE.

I SEE WHY THEY
HUNT ME NOW...THIS
IS WHAT...THEY
WOULD DO WITH ME.

TURN ME INTO
A MONSTER...OF
THEIR MAKING.

WHAAAAT!





NOT LIKE THIS... YOU
CANNOT FIGHT ME...
LIKE THIS... DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?



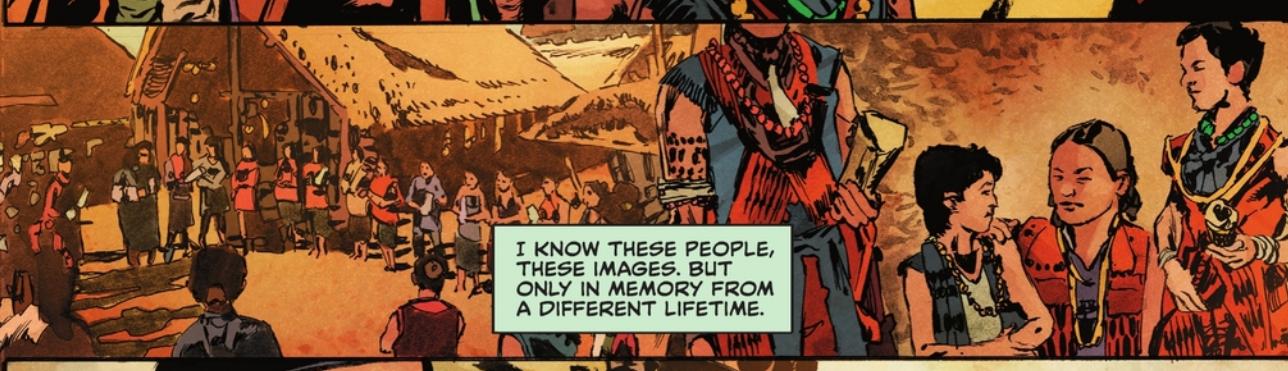
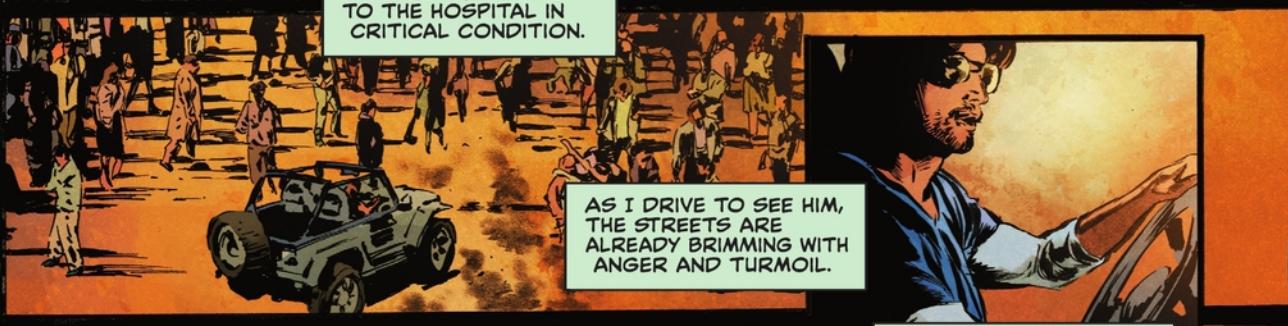
NOW BRIMMING...WITH THE
POWER OF THE GREEN...
HE CANNOT CONTAIN HIS
OWN MEMORIES.

I CAN SEE HIS
TRAUMAS...BLEEDING
THROUGH...FROM
OPEN WOUNDS.

JONES...HIS NAME IS
RUDY JONES...THROUGH
FLASHES OF MEMORY...

I CAN SEE THE
MAKING OF
THE PARASITE.





IN THE HOSPITAL, I ARRIVE IN TIME TO SEE MY FATHER AWAKE IN THE MOMENTS BEFORE HIS PASSING.



HE SPEAKS TO ME ONCE AGAIN OF FORESTS AND OLD WARRIOR SECRETS THAT MUST BE KEPT.

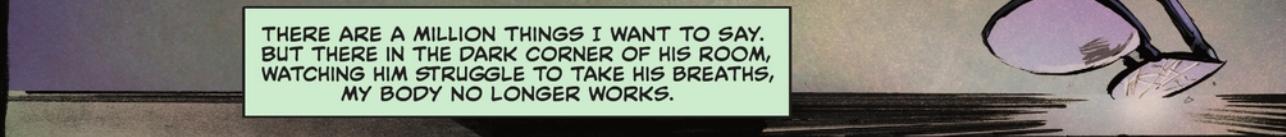


I PUT THEM DOWN TO FEVERED AND PAINED RAMBLINGS.



LOOKING BACK AT IT NOW, I REALIZE THAT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, BOTH OF US JUST STOPPED LISTENING TO EACH OTHER.

THERE ARE A MILLION THINGS I WANT TO SAY. BUT THERE IN THE DARK CORNER OF HIS ROOM, WATCHING HIM STRUGGLE TO TAKE HIS BREATHS, MY BODY NO LONGER WORKS.



MY EYES, MY TONGUE, MY ARMS--THEY ARE NO LONGER MY OWN. SOMETHING HAS CHANGED.



HE REACHES OUT TO ME.

I FORGIVE YOU...LEVI.



I AM NOW SURE HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT HAD HAPPENED. WHAT I HAD BECOME.

D-DO YOU SEE
NOW... RUDY JONES?
THERE IS POWER... THAT
WRAPS ITSELF AROUND
PAIN AND LOSS AND
REGRET.

IT WARPS US INTO
MANGLED SHAPES...
CHANGING US BEYOND
RECOGNITION.

SUCH
STRANGE IDEAS
ARE BORN OF
TURMOIL AND
STRIFE.

BUT WE CAN
STILL BE HUMAN...
RUDY JONES AND LEVI
KAMEL... THIS IS WHAT
HE WAS TRYING TO
TELL ME...

THIS IS WHAT
I TOOK... FROM
THE MEMORY OF
THE GREEN.

THAT WE
CAN STILL BE
FORGIVEN...

...WE CAN STILL
CHOOSE... NOT TO
BE MONSTERS.



BECUSE
BEING HUMAN
IS SO MUCH
BETTER?

ALL THIS TIME,
YOU HAVE WALKED
AROUND KNOWING THE
HISTORY OF HUMANKIND
ON THIS WORLD,
BROTHER.

AND STILL
YOU HAVE
LEARNED
NOTHING?

J-JACOB...?



NO...NOT JACOB. THINGS HAVE CHANGED, BROTHER.

I AM HEDERA.

AND, IT WAS NOT MONSTERS WHO SHOT OUR FATHER.

IT WAS NOT MONSTERS WHO DROVE OUR PEOPLE FROM THEIR LANDS.

IT IS NOT MONSTERS WHO HAVE POISONED THIS FOREST, SEEKING THE POWER THAT NOW RUNS THROUGH YOU.



IT WAS YOU, IT WAS ME, IT WAS FATHER.

IT WAS EVERYONE AND ALL OUR ENTIRELY HUMAN FOLLIES.

"YOU KNOW WE WERE BOTH ANOINTED AS CHILDREN."

"WE WERE MEANT TO GUARD THE OLD WAYS. THE FOREST. THE SECRET WITHIN."

"HE SHOULD'VE STOPPED YOU RIGHT AT THE BEGINNING."

J-JACOB,
LISTEN TO
ME...

BUT FATHER WAS CONVINCED YOU WOULD SEE THE WISDOM IN HIS STORIES. HE THOUGHT HE COULD APPEAL TO YOUR...

...HUMANITY.

I WENT ALONG WITH IT FOR TOO LONG. IT WAS MEANT TO BE ME WIELDING THIS POWER.

JACOB...

NO!



"WHEN MOTHER PERFORMED THE ANCIENT RITES WITHIN THE FOREST AND CALLED UPON ITS SPIRIT..."

"SOME OF THEM CHOSE YOU, YES..."

"YOU SEE, THE TREES THINK THAT WE WILL ALL ONE DAY LEARN TO SEE THINGS THEIR WAY."

"BUT WHEN THE GREEN FORSOOK ME, I FORCED THEM TO LISTEN."

"ALL THIS TIME, ALL THESE AVATARS-- THEY HAVE TRIED TO GIVE TO HUMANS THE KNOWLEDGE OF TREES. TRIED TO MAKE US SEE THROUGH THEIR EYES."

"I TOLD THEM THIS. IF THEY ARE TO SAVE THIS WORLD, THEY MUST LEARN TO SEE HUMANITY FOR THE MONSTERS THAT WE ARE."

"WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND PATIENCE AND BENEVOLENCE. WE UNDERSTAND PAIN. WE UNDERSTAND LOSS AND FEAR."

LOOK AT YOU, BROTHER. EVEN YOU ARE LEARNING, CHANGING ONLY BECAUSE OF THE TERRIBLE THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU.

WHAT A TRAGEDY.

SOON ALL OF THE GREEN WILL SEE THINGS MY WAY. MY IDEAS ARE ALREADY SPREADING WITHIN.

UNTIL THEN, YOU CAN BE THEIR ERRAND BOY.

"GO AHEAD--EXTRACT THE DEVICE THAT HAS POISONED THIS FOREST."



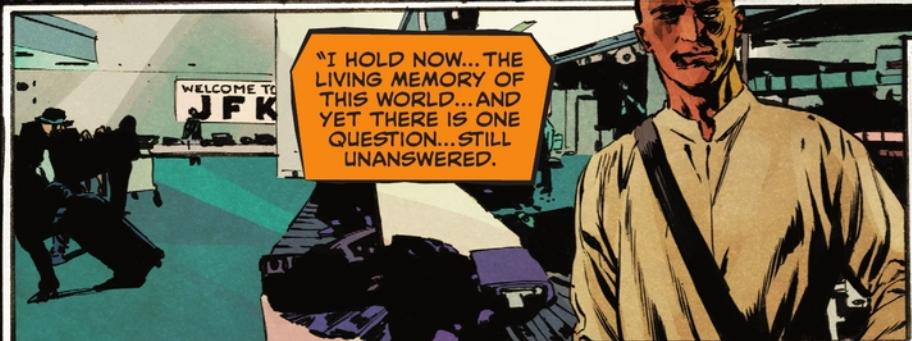






"AND YOU? I'M SUPPOSED TO LET YOU GO? JUST LIKE THAT?"

"THIS POWER THAT EVERYONE WANTS...I DID NOT...ASK FOR IT."



To be continued...

CELEBRATE THE PAST,
PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF
THE AMAZON WARRIOR!



VARIANT COVERS BY

Amy REEDER • Michael CHO • Travis MOORE
Cliff CHIANG • Cat STAGGS
Bruce TIMM • Will MURAI • Jen BARTEL

MAIN COVER BY Yanick PAQUETTE



OCTOBER



100-PAGE
SUPER
SPECTACULAR
A PRESTIGE FORMAT ONE-SHOT

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Amy REEDER • Stephanie PHILLIPS • Mark WAID
G. Willow WILSON • and more!

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Meghan HETRICK • and more!



BATMAN THE LONG HALLOWEEN

Writer Jeph Loeb and artist Tim Sale have teamed up for some of the most memorable and stylish Batman stories of all time, starting with the holiday-spanning murder mystery *Batman: The Long Halloween*. The pair have reunited with *Batman: The Long Halloween Special*, a brand-new story that continues their saga and uncovers long-buried Gotham City secrets.

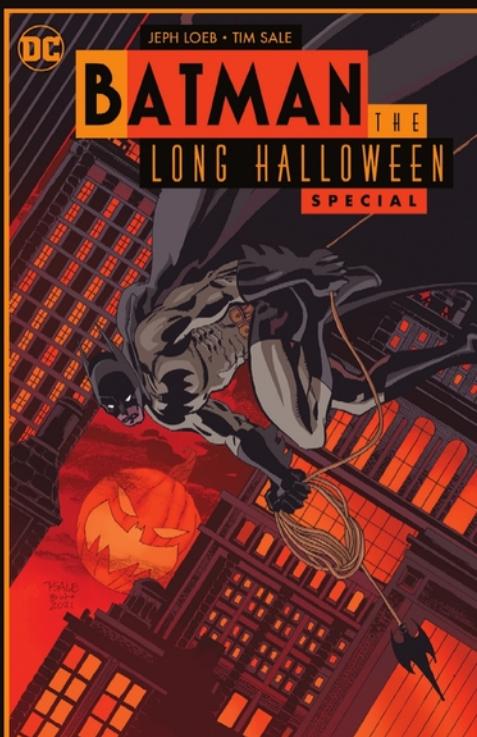
Need to catch up? Loeb and Sale's past Bat-collaborations are available as collected editions that, appropriately enough, make for engrossing reading all year round.

BATMAN: DARK VICTORY

The sequel to *The Long Halloween*, the 14-part *Dark Victory* picks up just a few months later and introduces Dick Grayson to Loeb and Sale's visionary take on Batman's world, as he takes on the mantle of Robin for the first time. *Dark Victory* finds Batman pursuing a new mysterious killer—the Hangman—as Two-Face's ascent in the crime world puts him at odds with the Falcone family.

BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN

One of the most revered Batman epics of the past 25 years, the award-winning 13-chapter saga told the mystery of Holiday, who murders once a month—each time coinciding with a holiday. *The Long Halloween's* whodunit weaved in Loeb and Sale's distinct depictions of Batman's classic rogues gallery and Gotham City's crime families, highlighted by a surprisingly scary reinvention of Calendar Man.



DON'T MISS BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN SPECIAL, ON SALE IN OCTOBER!

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

