

KAL JERICO in CRIMSON TIDE

PART ONE

THE SWAMP, THE VAST DISMAL LAKE OF TOXIC SLUDGE AT THE VERY DEEPEST LEVEL OF THE UNDERHIVE.

WHILE NOT EXACTLY A PLACE PEOPLE FLOCK TO, THERE ARE STILL COMPENSATIONS FOR THOSE BRAVE OR FOOLISH ENOUGH TO VENTURE ONTO ITS DEADLY WATERS...



SEE ANYTHING?

...COMPENSATIONS SUCH AS THE VALUABLE JEWEL EYES OF THE SWAMP-MUTATED SPIDERS THAT INFEST ITS SHORES, AND WHICH DRAW INTREPID SPIDER HUNTERS FROM ALL OVER THE HIVE.



YOU KIDDING? MY BOGSLES ARE MELTING FASTER THAN I CAN WPE THE ACID-FOS OFF THEM.

CONDITIONS LIKE THIS, OLD SHEGLEG HERSELF COULD BE OUT THERE, AND WE WOULDNT KNOW IT UNTIL WE RAN AROUND ON HER.



SHEGLEG? HAH, DONT TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE THAT OLD-



GGUAAAH!

STORY: GORDON RENNIE • ART: WAYNE REYNOLDS • LETTERS: FIONA STEPHENSON



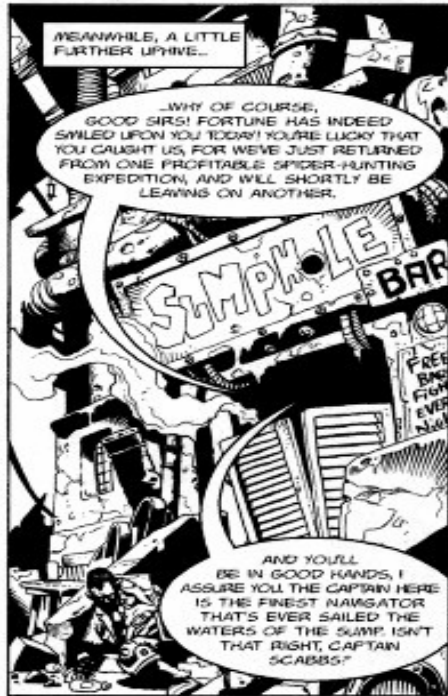
EMPEROR'S LIGHT! SHOOT IT. SHOOT IT BEFORE...

AAAAAAGH!

A FEW EVENTFUL BUT UNPLEASANT MINUTES LATER...

HELP ME! OH SCAM I CAN FEEL IT STARTING TO BURN THROUGH MY SUIT..?

EMPEROR BE THANKED, ANOTHER SHIP! HERE, MY FRIENDS. I'M OVER HERE!





HMMM, WHAT INDEED.

THE GREAT SPIDER-EMPEROR? YOU'RE SURE? AND THERE WAS A SURVIVOR?

THE SPIDER-EMPEROR? YOU SAW IT?

PLEASE, MY LORD. I NEED URGENT MEDICAL TREATMENT..

HAVE HIM BROUGHT BEFORE US.

THERE WAS YOUR GRACE

TELL ME NOW WHAT YOU SAW!



IT.. IT WAS HORRIBLE, MY LORD! LARGER THAN ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN, WITH A HIDE LIKE THE THICKEST ARMOUR-PLATING, THINGS LIVED AND SCUTTLED UPON IT.

YOU SAW IT'S HOLY FACE?



YES.. THOSE.. THOSE HUNDRED EYES, STARRING AT YOU LIKE.. LIKE..



ENOUGH! BROTHER BELTANE DEAL WITH THIS HERETIC!



PLEASE... NO!

FROM THE SWAMP WE TOOK HIM, AND TO THE SWAMP WE RETURN HIM.

ANOTHER SINNER REDEEMED. WE SHOULD GIVE THANKS, MY BRETHREN...

THE GREAT SPIDER-EMPEROR HAS RISEN FROM THE DEPTHS, AND SPEAKS THROUGH HIS CHOSEN SERVANT.

THE TIME OF JUDGEMENT IS AT HAND. HERETICS AND DEVIANTS BEWARE - CARDINAL CRIMSON HAS RETURNED TO PURGE THEM OF THEIR SINS!

TO BE CONTINUED

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