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KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN SUN™



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KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN SUN™

Part 1 of 7

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"MOST HAVE HEARD THE STORY OF HOW THE SON OF GOD WAS BORN..."

NOT MUCH FARTHER, MARY. WE SHOULD BE THERE BY NIGHTFALL.

BETHLEHEM,
6 B.C.



PARDON ME, MY GOOD SIR. MY WIFE--WE NEED A PLACE TO STAY.



I'M SORRY. THERE'S NO MORE ROOM IN THE GUEST HOUSE.

->SIGH-<

DON'T WORRY, MARY. WE'LL FIND A PLACE.

WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.

->SIGH-<

IT'S NOT AN INN BUT IT'S SOMETHING. IF GOD CHOSE THIS, THEN IT MUST BE PART OF HIS PLAN.

->NGHH-<

JOSEPH! IT'S TIME! THE CHILD--HE'S COMING!

"...A STORY OF LOVE, SACRIFICE, AND THE MYTHS THAT FOLLOWED HIS ASCENSION.

"THE PART NO ONE KNOWS IS THAT IT ALMOST NEVER HAPPENED..."

400 B.C.

“SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME, THERE HAVE BEEN ANGELS, POWERFUL BEINGS OF LIGHT, THAT WATCH OVER ALL OF HUMANITY.

“AND INSIDE THESE BEINGS LIES A FEAR...

“A FEAR THAT ONE DAY, IN SPITE OF THEIR STRENGTH AND BRAVERY, THE WORLD COULD BE DESTROYED BY FIRE AND BRIMSTONE.

“THAT FEAR BECAME A REALITY WHEN FATHER ABANDONED HIS THRONE...

...WHEN FATHER ABANDONED PROVIDENCE.





“HIS ABSENCE BROUGHT
WITH IT A DEAFENING
SILENCE DECLARING
CHAOS AND DESPAIR.

“AND FOR THE NEXT 400
YEARS, SOLITUDE FELL
UPON THE HUMAN WORLD
AND NO ONE KNEW WHY.

“THOUGH MANY
TRIED, NO OTHER
COULD TAKE
FATHER'S PLACE.

“NOT EVEN
ME...”

PROVIDENCE, 330 B.C.

THE ANGELS ARE
AFRAID, ONLY A FEW
REMAIN TO GUARD
PROVIDENCE.



MICHAEL...
WHAT ARE YOUR
ORDERS?

WHAT FATHER
WOULD'VE
WANTED.

THE HUMANS WILL
REMAIN UNDER OUR
PROTECTION.

I DISAGREE. NEWS
OF HIS ABSENCE WILL
INSPIRE THE FALLEN TO
ATTACK. WE SHOULD
STRIKE FIR--

WITH LUCIFER
BACK IN OUR
FLOCK...IT COULD
INSPIRE ALL OTHER
ANGELS AND THE
FALLEN TO COME
BACK TO US.

YOU
CANNOT BE
SERIOUS!

THE ANGELS
DESPISE HIM
AND THE FALLEN
WHO JOINED
HIM-- HE
BETRAYED
THEM!

THAT WAS A
LONG TIME AGO,
GABRIELLE. AND
DAVID WAS THE
REASON HE TURNED
HIS BACK ON THOSE
WHO BETRAYED
FATHER.

...I STILL
DON'T KNOW
WHAT COMPELLED
HIM TO GO AFTER
THE BOY AND LEAVE
FATHER'S THRONE
ALONE...

NOTHING
GOOD, I
ASSURE
YOU.

INDEED...

"...NOTHING GOOD AT ALL..."

OUTSIDE OF JERUSALEM, 1025 B.C.

GO ON. ENJOY THIS BEAUTIFUL DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE.

=BHAAA=

FIZZ
FIZZ

WHAT IS IT, GIRL?

=BHAAA=

OH, I SEE. YOU WANT ME TO PLAY?

FIZZ
FIZZ

VERY WELL. I LIVE TO SERVE.

FIZZ
FIZZ



HHIIZZ



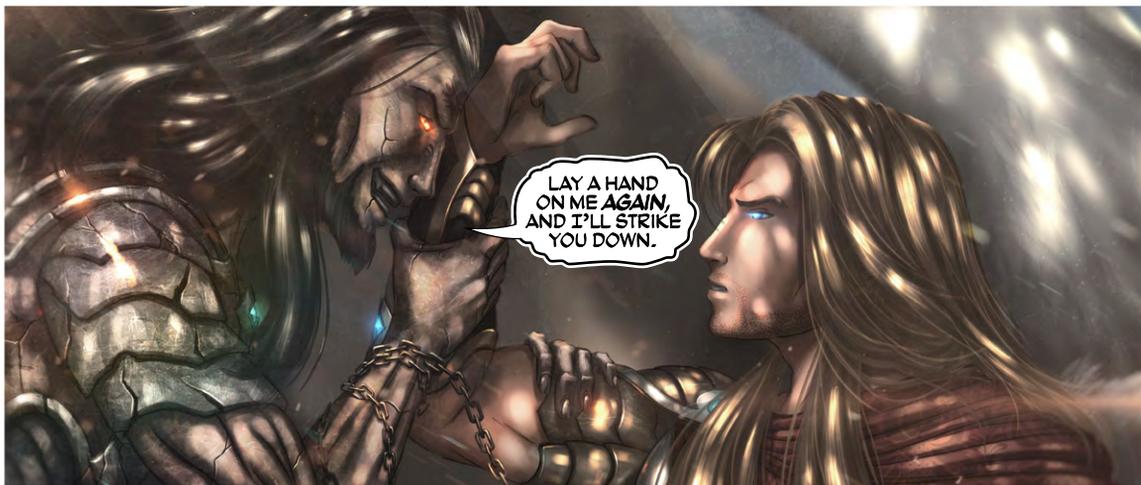
--URK--



--URK--

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, LUCIFER?

THE BOY IS UNDER FATHER'S PROTECTION.



LAY A HAND ON ME AGAIN, AND I'LL STRIKE YOU DOWN.



I SEE NOT ENOUGH TIME HAS PASSED TO SILENCE THAT DELUSIONAL EGO OF YOURS, BROTHER.

LAST WE FOUGHT, IT DIDN'T END WELL FOR YOU OR THE OTHERS.



WELL, THIS TIME I'M KEEPING MY PROMISES.



IDLE THREATS... WHEN WILL YOU REALIZE, YOU'VE ALREADY LOST?

LOST? IT'S ONLY BEGUN.



HEED MY ADVICE AND LEAVE DAVID ALONE.

HE HAS YET TO FULFILL HIS DESTINY. THAT IS THE WILL OF FATHER.

FFFT.



...A DESTINY THAT'LL BE SHORT-LIVED.

**PALESTINE,
DAYS LATER.**

BROODING
AGAIN,
GOLIATH?



WHO--
WHO ARE
YOU?

SO MANY
NAMES...BUT IT'S
NOT IMPORTANT
RIGHT NOW.



LET'S
JUST SAY WE
HAVE MUTUAL
INTERESTS.



DO AS I
COMMAND...



...DESTROY
THE ONE WHO
STANDS FOR
ISRAEL....





...AND YOU'LL BE REWARDED BEYOND YOUR WILDEST IMAGINATION.

HA! HA!
HA! HA! HA!

HMPH...
IS THIS ISRAEL'S CHAMPION?

I WAS EXPECTING SOMEONE TALLER!



YOU COME TO ME BEARING A SWORD AND A SHIELD, BUT I COME TO YOU IN THE NAME OF THE LORD OF HOSTS.

THE GOD OF THE ARMIES OF ISRAEL, WHOM YOU HAVE TAUNTED.



FOO!



WOOSH



CRACK

"NEVER KNEW HE WAS THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR GOLIATH'S DEMISE."

"HE WAS. LUCIFER DID ALL HE COULD TO GET TO DAVID."



MICHAEL,
YOU MUST PUT
THIS MAD IDEA
BEHIND YOU.
REDEMPTION?

HE IS THE
REASON FOR ALL
THE PAIN INFLICTED
ON THE HUMANS,
THE FALLEN, THE
GIANTS--

WHY WOULD
THE *SWORD OF
GOD* WANT THIS
TRAITOR BY HIS
SIDE?

HE'S OUR
BROTHER. IF I
CAN MAKE HIM
REMEMBER WHO
HE WAS, THIS
PLACE, US...
MAYBE--



THE
CHERUB YOU
ONCE KNEW
IS DEAD!

ENOUGH,
GABRIELLE.

HE CAN STILL
BE SAVED. YOU
SEE THE FLAWS
IN *EVERYTHING*
JUST LIKE
URIEL.



...I WILL
NEVER GIVE UP
ON HIM OR ANY
OF YOU.



WHERE'S
HE OFF TO
IN SUCH A
HURRY?

WHERE
DO YOU
THINK?

OH.



I HAVE A
TERRIBLE FEELING
ABOUT THIS...



GO,
RAPHAEL.

STOP MICHAEL
FROM MAKING
THE BIGGEST
MISTAKE OF HIS
EXISTENCE.



LATER.

LUCIFER...
BROTHER...
I NEED YOUR
HELP.

...FATHER'S
MISSING...GONE...
PROVIDENCE IS
LOST.

YOU
WERE ONCE
THE GUARDIAN
OF LIGHT...TO-
GETHER, WE CAN
OVERCOME THIS
TEMPEST.



I STILL
BELIEVE IN
YOU...DESPITE ALL
THE CENTURIES
THAT TELL ME I
SHOULDN'T.



NO MATTER
HOW **STRONGLY**
THE OTHERS WANT
ME TO HATE
YOU...

I'LL
ALWAYS
LOVE YOU.



MICHAEL...



CAN YOU
HONESTLY
FORGIVE
THIS FALLEN
CHERUB?



FATHER
TAUGHT US TO
FORGIVE ONE
ANOTHER.



EVEN
IF I...
...DO
THIS?



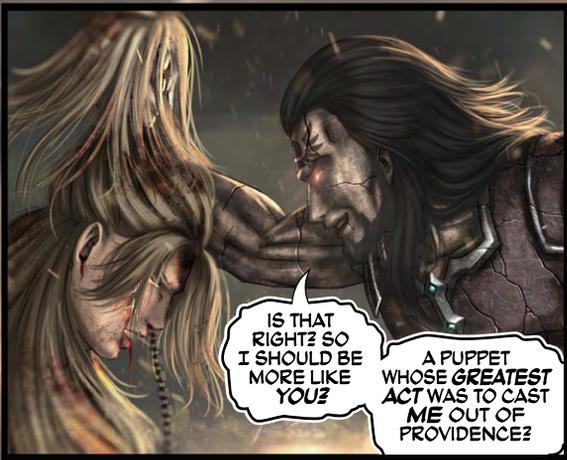
ARGHH!

SHHCKK



...EVEN IN OUR DARKEST HOUR, AFTER I'VE SHOWN YOU MERCY--I WAS A FOOL TO THINK YOU COULD CHANGE.

GABRIELLE WAS RIGHT... YOU'RE FATHER'S GREATEST MISTAKE.



IS THAT RIGHT? SO I SHOULD BE MORE LIKE YOU?

A PUPPET WHOSE GREATEST ACT WAS TO CAST ME OUT OF PROVIDENCE?



A PATHETIC ARCHANGEL WHO FIGHTS FOR INSIGNIFICANT HUMANS?



NO, MICHAEL. MY LEGACY WAS WRITTEN THE MOMENT FATHER DECIDED TO CAST ME AWAY FROM MY HOME--MY KINGDOM!



YAARGH!

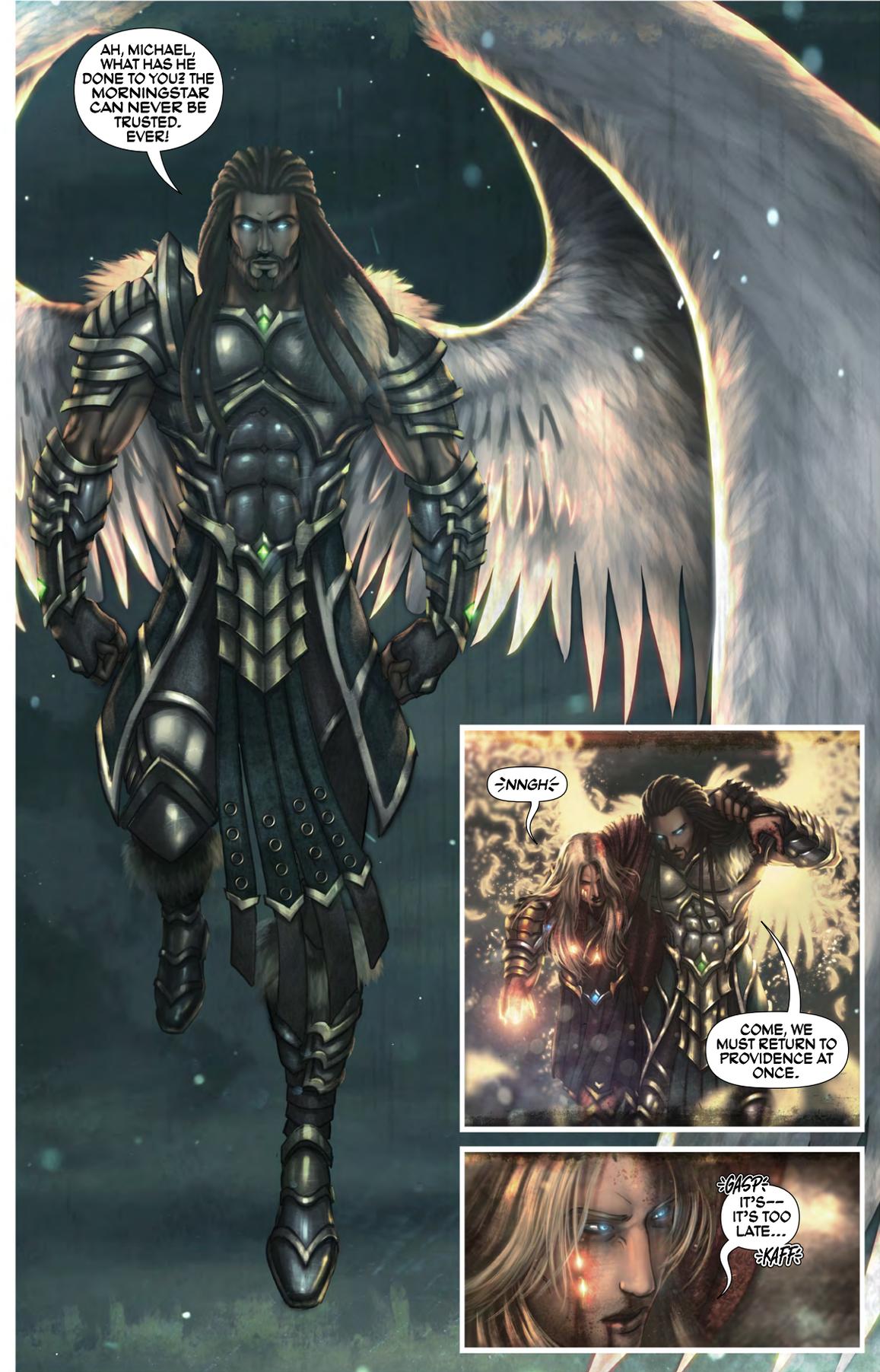
TELL ME, WAS IT WORTH IT? FOLLOWING HIS ORDERS INSTEAD OF EMBRACING YOUR TRUE POWER?



YOU ARE A FOOL TO SERVE HIM BLINDLY.

...BUT IN DEATH, THERE IS NO FATHER...





AH, MICHAEL,
WHAT HAS HE
DONE TO YOU? THE
MORNINGSTAR
CAN NEVER BE
TRUSTED.
EVER!



⇒NNGH⇐

COME, WE
MUST RETURN TO
PROVIDENCE AT
ONCE.



GAASP?
IT'S---
IT'S TOO
LATE...
KAT?



PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER. WE NEED TO HURRY.

THAT SNAKE WON'T BE DOWN FOR LONG.

MY--MY LIGHT
GASP? IS FADING--
KAFF?

GO BACK--
TELL--TELL GABRIELLE--



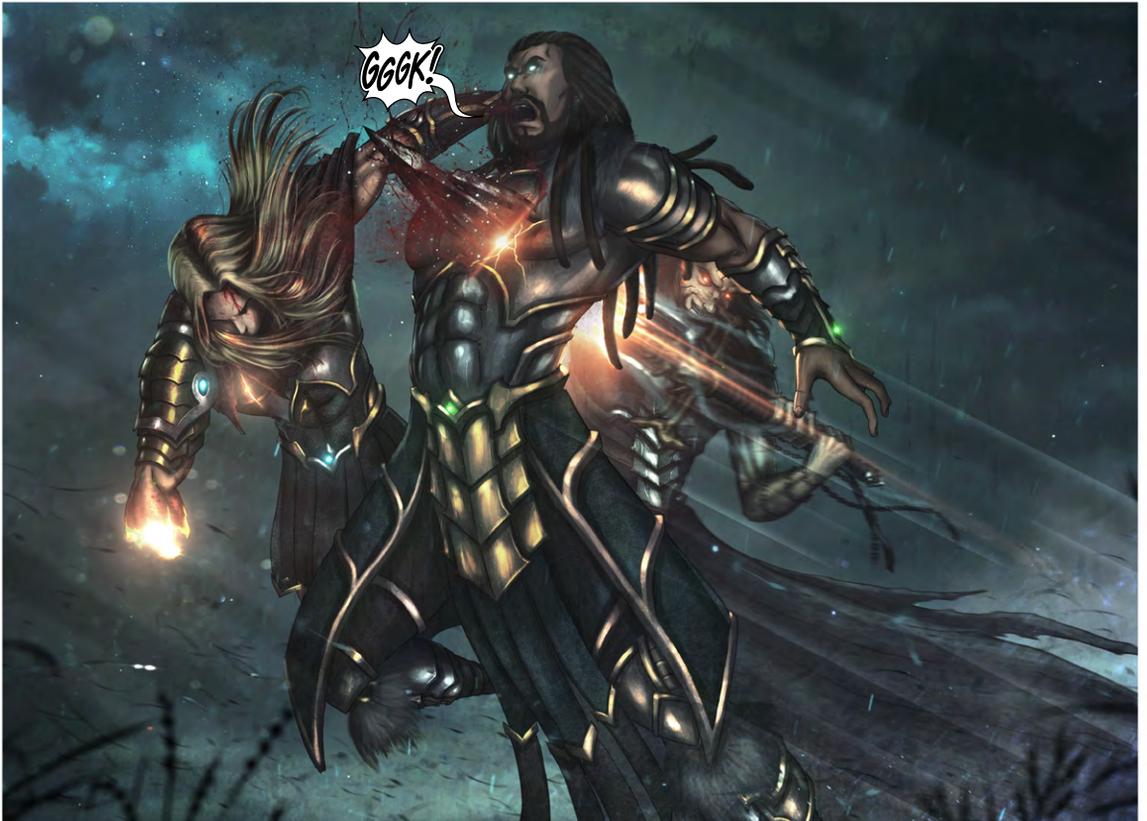
TELL HER TO FIND THE OTHER ANGELS AND PROTECT HUMANITY.
KAFF?



KAFF?
KAFF?



YOU WILL DO SO YOURSELF. THIS IS NOT THE END, YOU HEAR ME?



GGGK!



MI--
CHAE...L...

DON'T--
DON'T DO
THIS.



NGHH...



YOU'RE--
YOU'RE
ONE--



ONE OF
WHAT? ONE
OF YOU?



YOU'VE
ALWAYS BEEN
A TERRIBLE
JUDGE OF
CHARACTER.

BUT
I GUESS
YOU'RE NOT
THE ONLY
ONE...



I DON'T KNOW IF YOU ARE UP THERE OR WHERE YOU WENT, BUT I HAVE TO ASK, FATHER...

HOW CAN YOUR PRECIOUS ARCHANGELS PROTECT HUMANITY WHEN THEY CAN'T EVEN DEFEND THEMSELVES?

AND I'M THE ONE YOU DECIDED TO CAST OUT? PFFT.



ONCE MICHAEL IS GONE, I'LL DO THE SAME TO DAVID'S BLOODLINE--YOU HEAR ME? AND YOUR SON WILL NEVER BE--





THREE
CRIPPLED
BIRDS...

ONE
MASSIVE
BOLT OF
LIGHTNING.



THUD

THUD

THUD



AND IT WAS
SO MUCH EASIER
THAN I THOUGHT. I
HAVEN'T FELT THIS
GOOD IN YEARS.

WHAT
SHOULD I DO
WITH THEIR
BODIES?



LUCIFER IS WANTED IN THE GIANT VILLAGE. THEIR KING HAS AN OLD SCORE TO SETTLE...



...BUT THIS ONE IS MINE.



WHAT ABOUT HIM?

HE'LL LIVE AMONG THE HUMANS. GARRIGAN WILL KEEP AN EYE ON HIM IN CASE WE NEED HIM.



WHAT IF THEY WAKE UP? IF THEY COME AFTER US? LET ME MURDER THEM.

SANDALPHON... I'M OFFENDED.

FORGIVE ME, AZRAEL. IT'S IN MY NATURE TO PROTECT YOU.

NO NEED. THEIR MEMORIES ARE GONE...



...THEY'LL BE
WHOMEVER
I WANT THEM
TO BE.

To Be Continued...



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KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN SUN™



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HONOR™ -AND- CURSE

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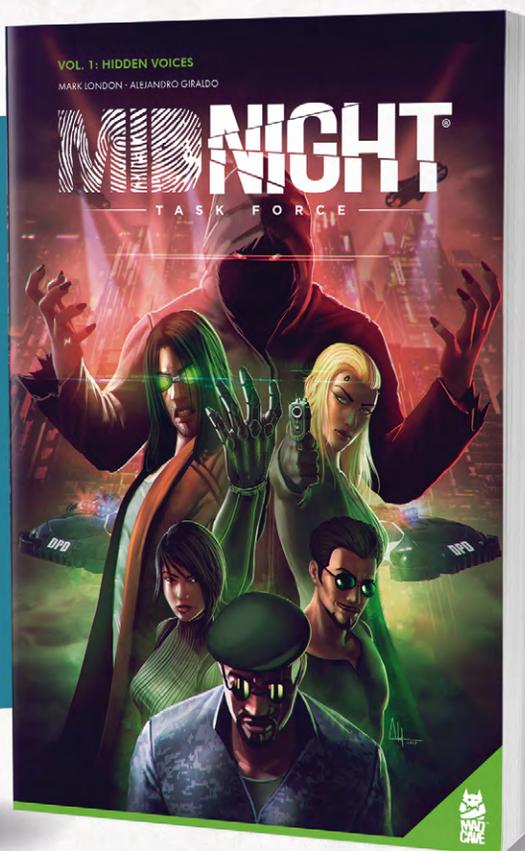
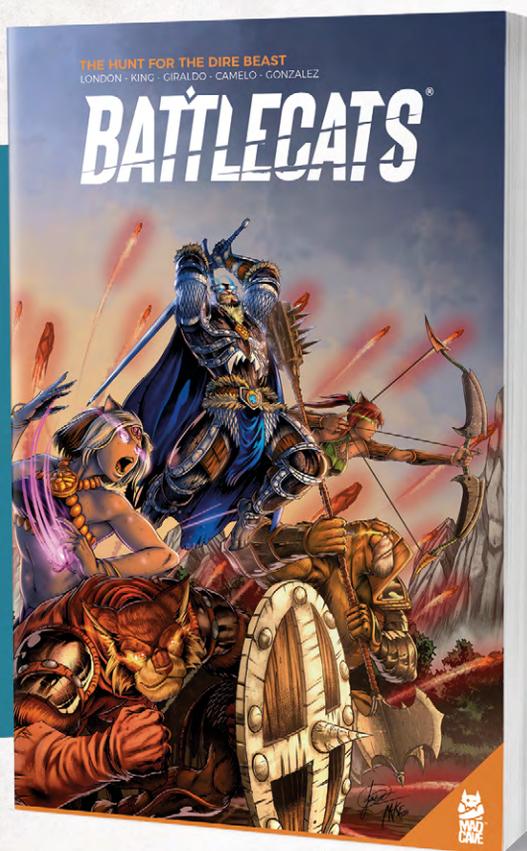
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