




FOR PERHAPS THE THOUSANDTH TIME
SINCE I LEFT CHICAGO, A COLDLY
RATIONAL VOICE IN THE BACK OF MY
MIND TELLS ME THIS IS SUICIDE.

THAT THE BEST I CAN HOPE
TO ACCOMPLISH IS DELAY
THE INEVITABLE.

THAT MY SUPERNATURAL
STRENGTH, SPEED, AND
HEALING ABILITY MEAN
NOTHING AGAINST AN ARMY
OF RED COURT VAMPIRES.

IT'S RATHER ANNOYING,
ACTUALLY.

SO WHY AM
I HERE?



FOR THE MOST WILLFUL,
OLD-FASHIONED, STUPIDLY
COURAGEOUS PERSON I'VE
EVER KNOWN--

--MY BROTHER.

SEVERAL THOUGHTS RACE THROUGH MY MIND AS I WATCH THOMAS INEXPLICABLY STEP INTO THE MOONLIGHT.

HOW DID HE FOLLOW US WITHOUT MY KNOWING? WHAT IS THAT CRAZY SOB THINKING, CHARGING INTO THE MIDDLE OF THIS MESS?

BUT MOSTLY: THANK GOD.

RAITH...? NOW THIS IS DISAPPOINTING.

THAT THE WHITE COURT WOULD SEEK TO GUARD ITS OWN INTERESTS HERE IS NO SURPRISE, BUT I'D HAVE EXPECTED A MORE ELEGANT MANNER OF BETRAYAL THAN THIS NONSENSE.

BETRAYAL? I DIDN'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT. WE NEEDED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY THOMAS HAD PROVIDED.

HARRY, WHO IS THIS GUY, AND WHY IS HE--

MEYERS, DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT SHUT UP AND LISTEN.

THEY'RE CONFUSED, BUT THAT WON'T LAST MORE THAN A FEW SECONDS. WE NEED TO GET BACK INTO THE HOUSE. SO FOLLOW MY LEAD...

...NOW!

SSURRAAKK



I FOLLOW HARRY'S LEAD
WITHOUT HESITATION.

FUNNY HOW QUICKLY WE'VE
BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO EACH
OTHER'S TENDENCIES--BUT THEN
AGAIN, MAYBE THERE'S NOTHING
MORE NATURAL.



WHITE
COURT
CRETIN!

I DON'T
CARE WHO YOUR
SISTER IS--



--I'M GOING
TO STRANGLE YOU
WITH YOUR OWN
ENTRAILS!



ARGGH!

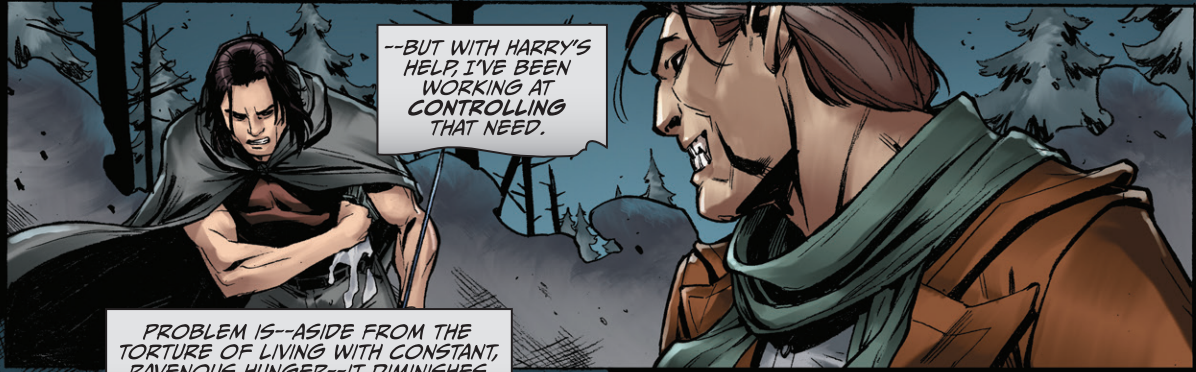


YOU'RE NOT AT FULL STRENGTH, RAITH--

--YOUR HUNGER IS PALPABLE.

HIS WORDS RING WITH BITTER TRUTH.

WHEREAS HE AND HIS RED COURT SOLDIERS FEED ON BLOOD, I FEED ON THE EMOTIONAL ENERGY OF HUMANS--



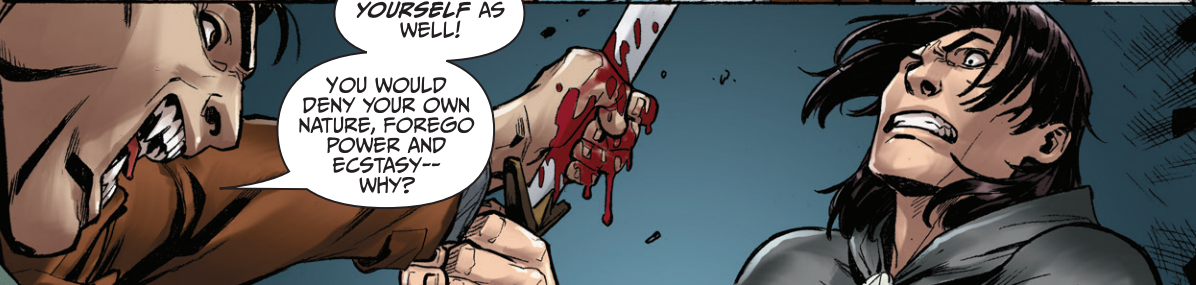
--BUT WITH HARRY'S HELP, I'VE BEEN WORKING AT CONTROLLING THAT NEED.

PROBLEM IS--ASIDE FROM THE TORTURE OF LIVING WITH CONSTANT, RAVENOUS HUNGER--IT DIMINISHES MY STRENGTH.



I MISJUDGED YOU, RAITH.

IT'S CLEAR NOW YOU TRULY ARE A TRAITOR TO YOUR COURT...



...AND TO YOURSELF AS WELL!

YOU WOULD DENY YOUR OWN NATURE, FOREGO POWER AND ECSTASY-- WHY?

