



NO. 27
JUN 1991
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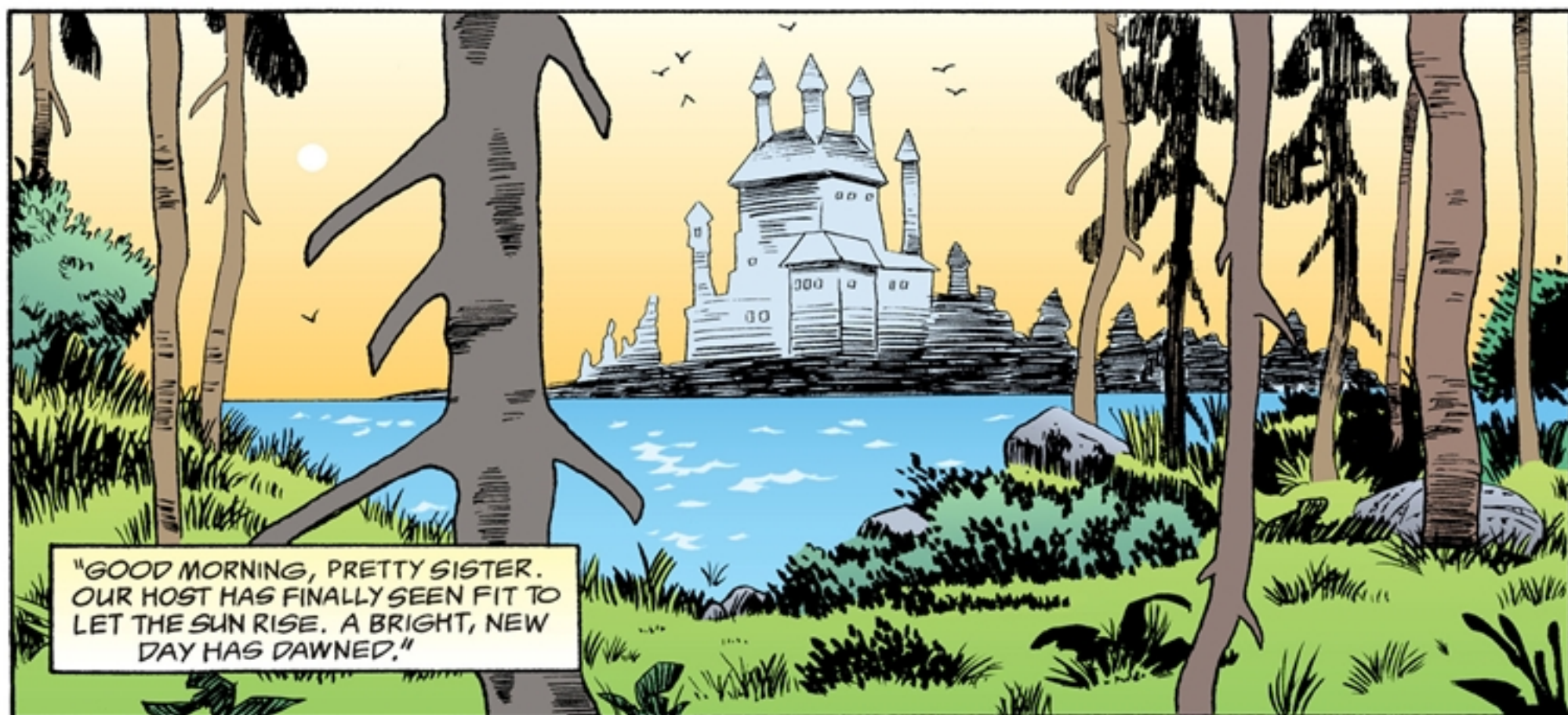
IN WHICH THE VEXING QUESTION
OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF HELL
IS FINALLY SETTLED, TO THE
SATISFACTION OF SOME; THE
FINER POINTS OF HOSPITALITY;
AND IN WHICH IT IS DEMONSTRATED
THAT WHILE SOME MAY FALL,
OTHERS ARE PUSHED.

SUGGESTED
FOR MATURE
READERS

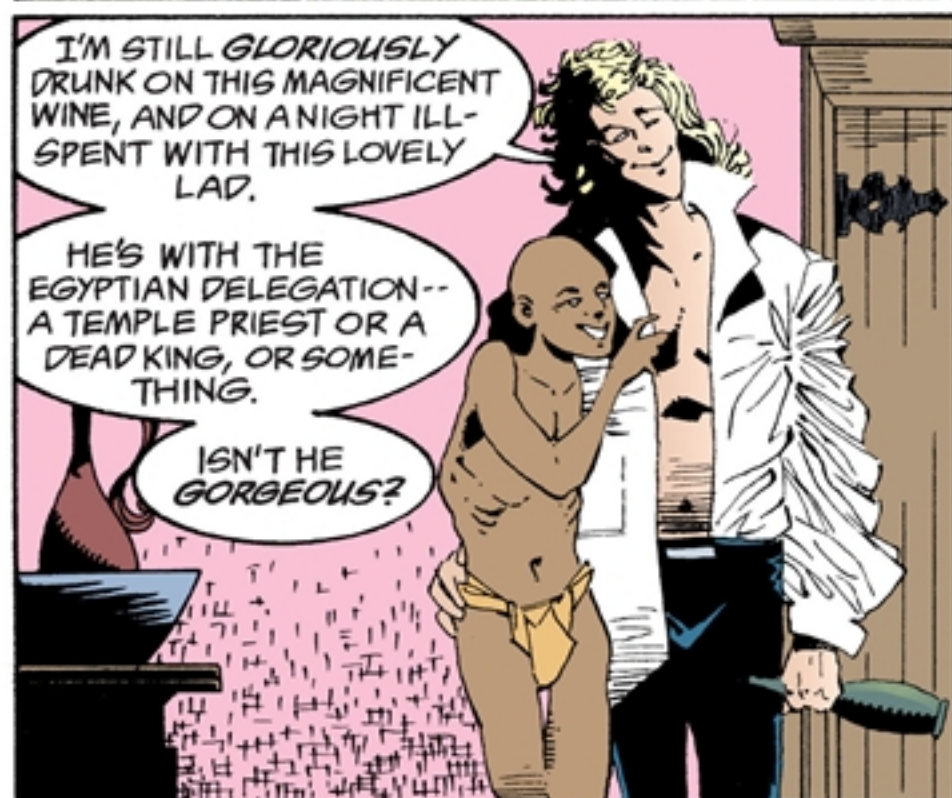
the
SANDMAN
E A S O N O F I S T S 6



g a i m a n j o n e s g i o r d a n o



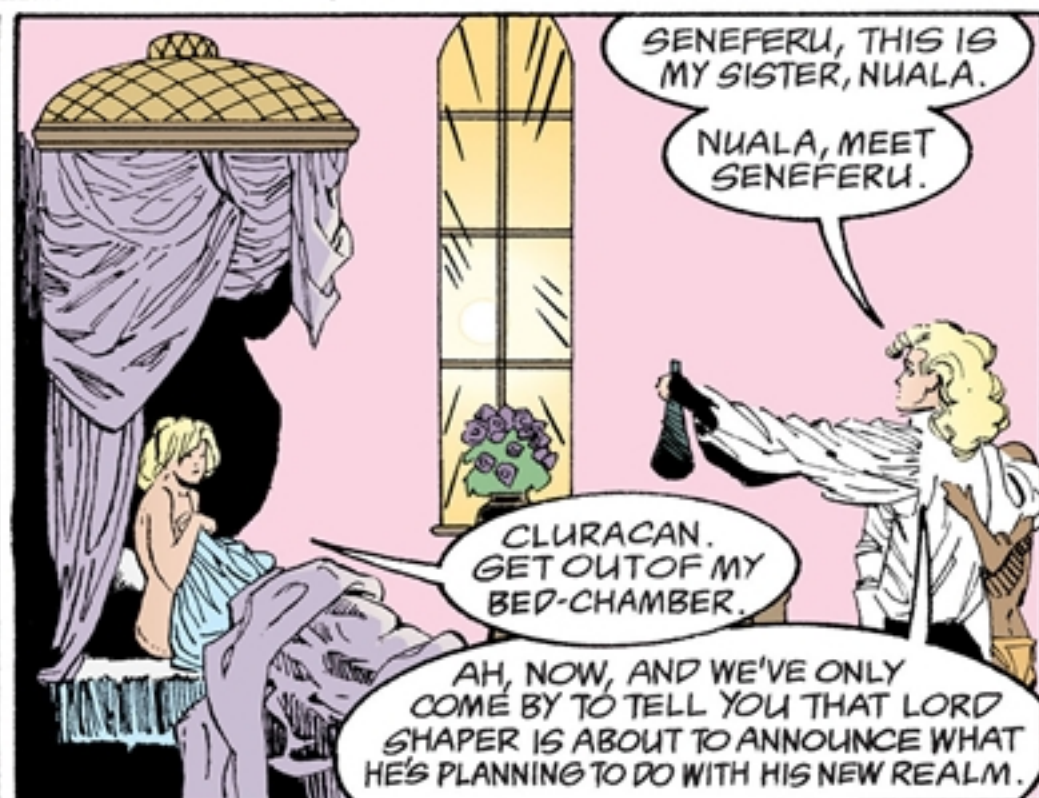
"GOOD MORNING, PRETTY SISTER. OUR HOST HAS FINALLY SEEN FIT TO LET THE SUN RISE. A BRIGHT, NEW DAY HAS DAWNED."



I'M STILL GLORIOUSLY DRUNK ON THIS MAGNIFICENT WINE, AND ON A NIGHT ILL-SPENT WITH THIS LOVELY LAD.

HE'S WITH THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION-- A TEMPLE PRIEST OR A DEAD KING, OR SOMETHING.

ISN'T HE GORGEOUS?



SENEFERU, THIS IS MY SISTER, NUALA.

NUALA, MEET SENEFERU.

CLURACAN. GET OUT OF MY BED-CHAMBER.

AH, NOW, AND WE'VE ONLY COME BY TO TELL YOU THAT LORD SHAPER IS ABOUT TO ANNOUNCE WHAT HE'S PLANNING TO DO WITH HIS NEW REALM.



SO GET A FROCK ON, LITTLE SISTER, AND COME AND HEAR THE GOOD WORD.

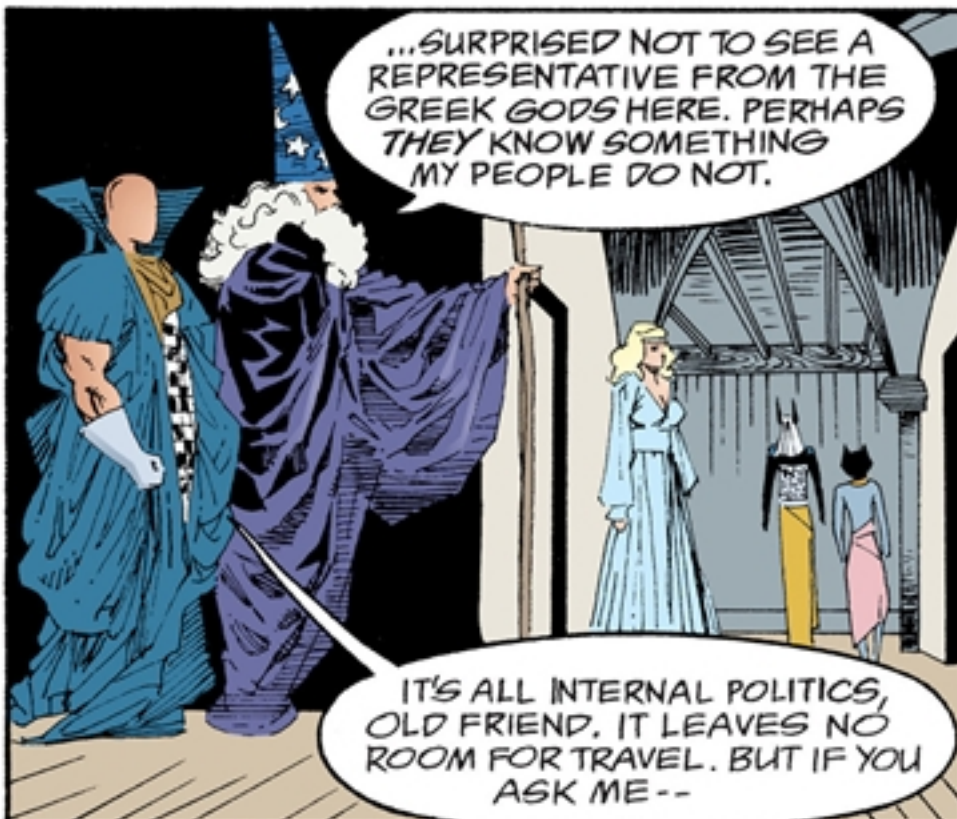
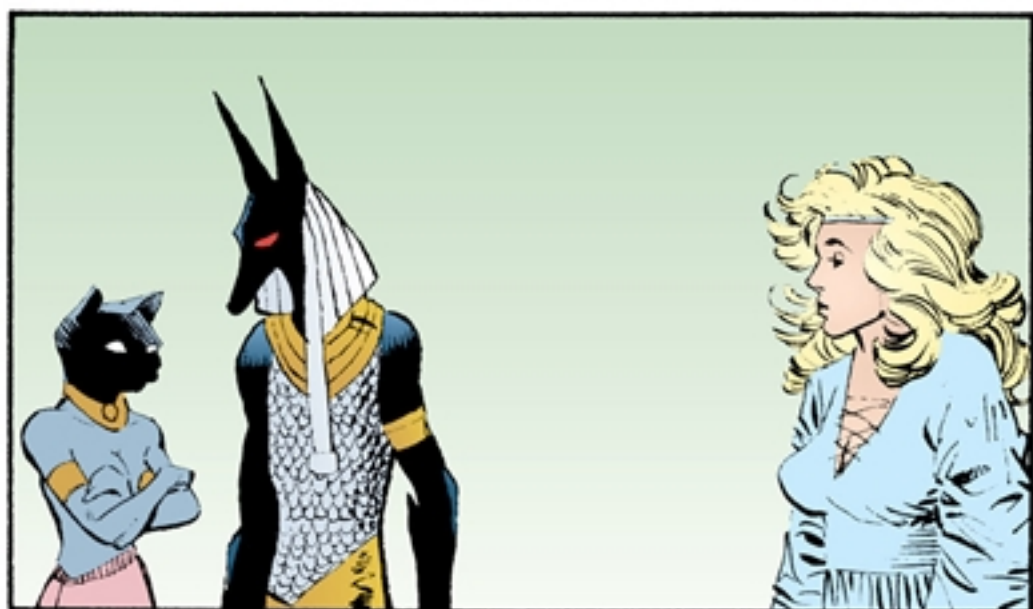
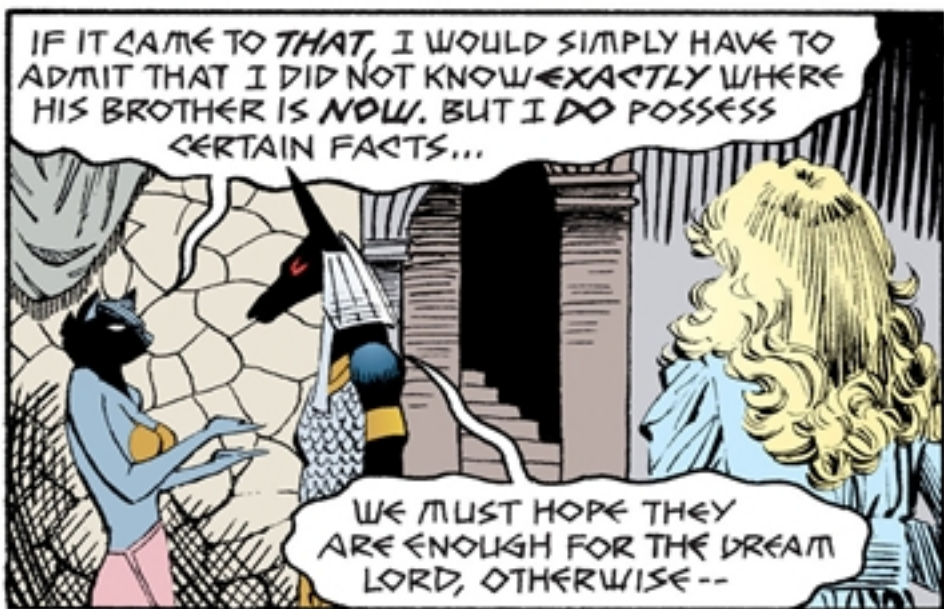
DO YOU THINK HE WILL ACCEDE TO OUR WISHES? THAT HE'LL KEEP HELL EMPTY, AND FORGIVE US THE TITHE?



NOT A HOPE. THERE'S TOO MANY BIG BOYS LEANING ON HIM--YOU SAW THEM ALL LAST NIGHT.

PERSONALLY, I FIGURE THE BEST I CAN HOPE TO GET OUT OF THESE SHENANIGANS IS EXCELLENT WINE, AND GREAT SEX.

SEE YOU DOWN THERE.

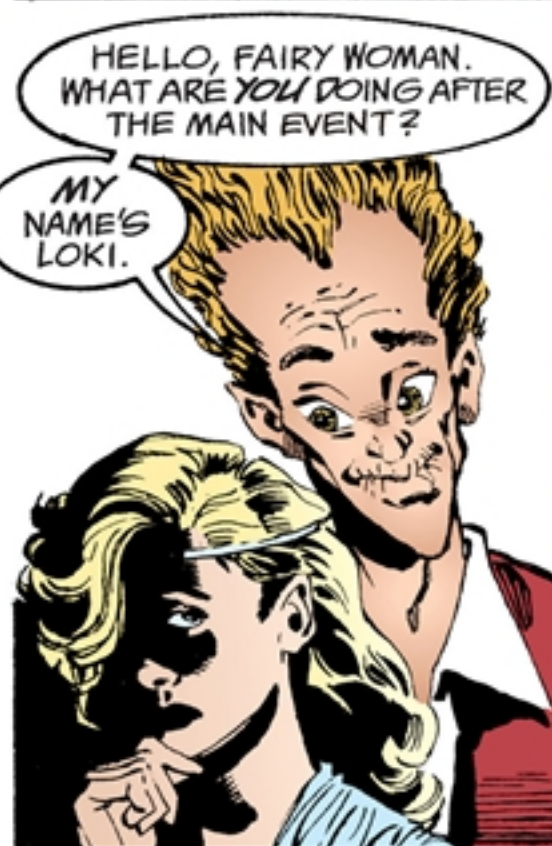




...WHAT IF IT ISN'T ENOUGH? A SMALL FRAGMENT OF HIS SOUL?

OH, I SHOULD HAVE DISGUISED MYSELF, SWINDLED THE HELL OF LUCIFER FROM DREAM AS I SWINDLED KVASIR'S BLOOD FROM THE DWARVES.

PLEASE...
ODIN VERATYR...
SPEAK... MORE...
QUIETLY...



HELLO, FAIRY WOMAN. WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER THE MAIN EVENT?

MY NAME'S LOKI.



TRICKSTER...

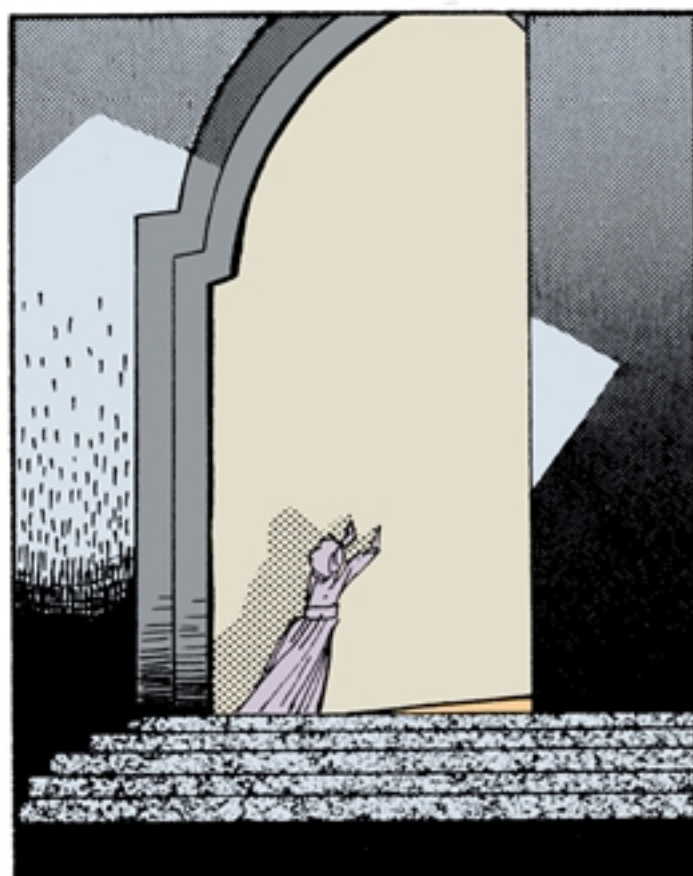


FOR THE LAST TIME ...
YOU ARE ONLY PERMITTED TO
TALK TO ME, OR TO LORD ODIN.
OR ELSE I'LL SPLINTER EVERY
BONE IN YOUR BODY WITH
MY BARE HANDS.

YOU
ARE NOT
TRUSTED.



AND I'M IN
A REALLY FOUL
MOOD THIS
MORNING.



NUALA-- COME IN.
EVERYBODY'S
HERE ...

SEASON of MISTS Chapter ~6

In which the vexing question of the sovereignty of Hell is finally settled, to the satisfaction of some; the finer points of hospitality; and in which it is demonstrated that while some may fall, others are pushed.

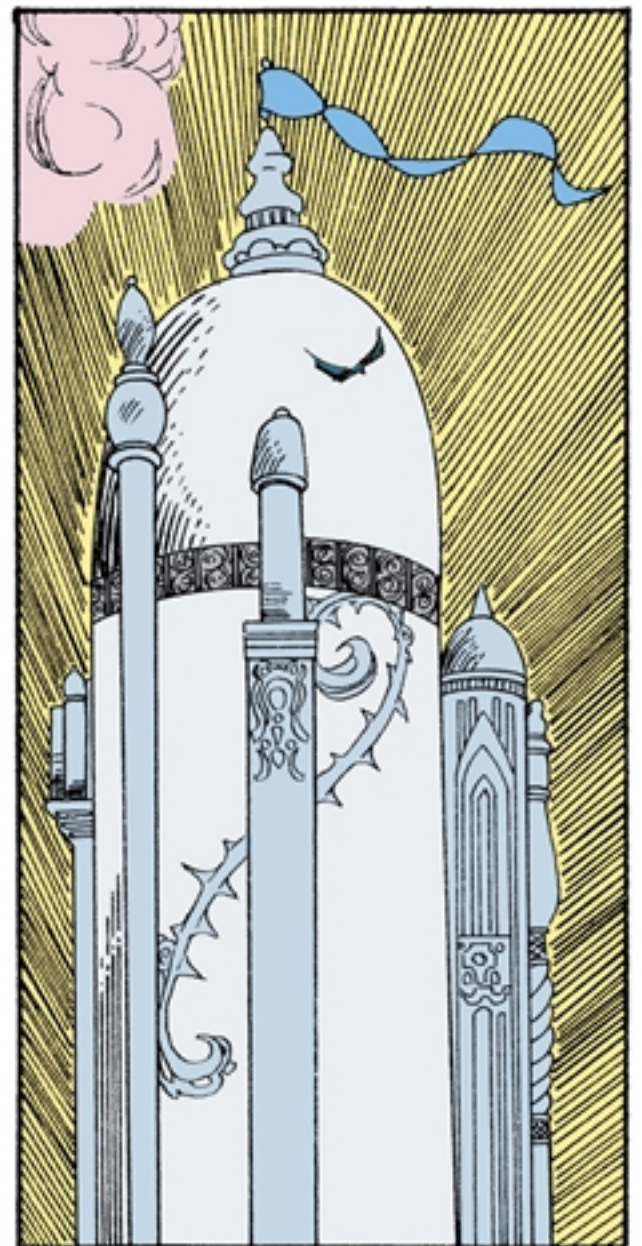
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DANIEL VOZZO, *Colorist*
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--AND
I DO MEAN
EVERYBODY.

the SANDMAN

featuring characters
created by
Gaiman, Kieth & Pringen







Leave us,
Matthew.

Remiel,
Duma.

How goes your
observation.



It goes. We have
observed much, and
have reported all we
have seen to our
Creator. Have you
reached a decision?

I... I have come to
no decision, Angel. Many
of them have offered me
things I want, or need.
It is hard...



Perhaps I
should accede
to the Fairies'
wishes and leave
Hell empty. It
serves no good
purpose...

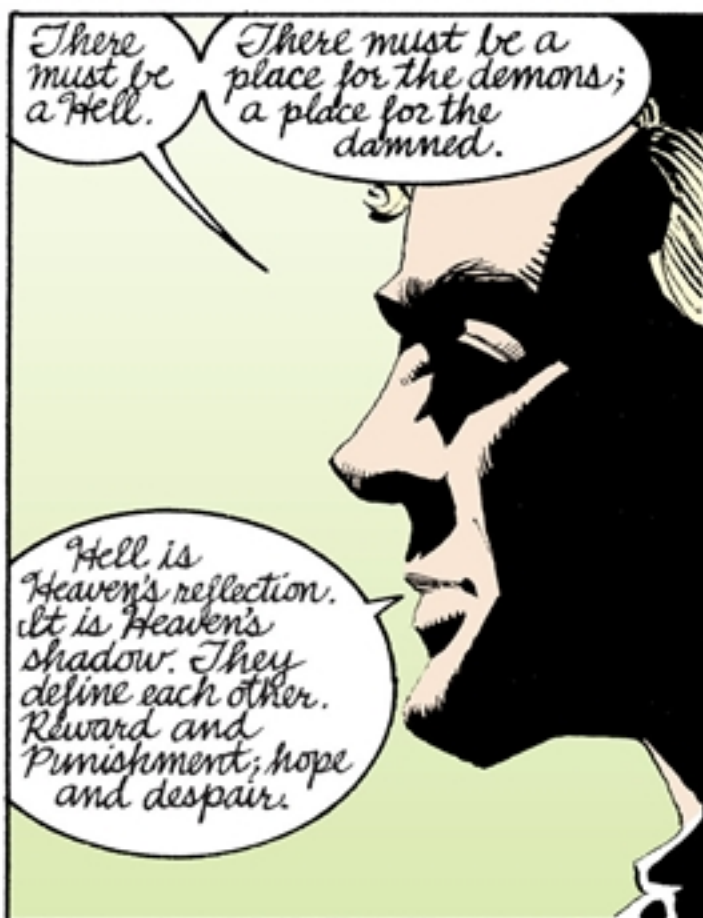
I have
a message
for you.

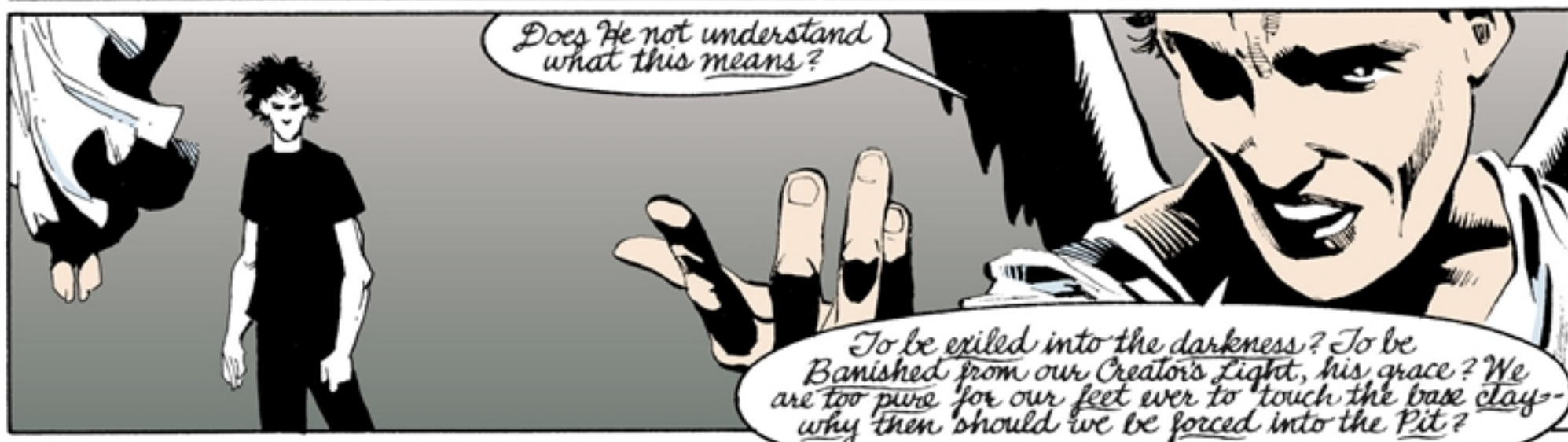
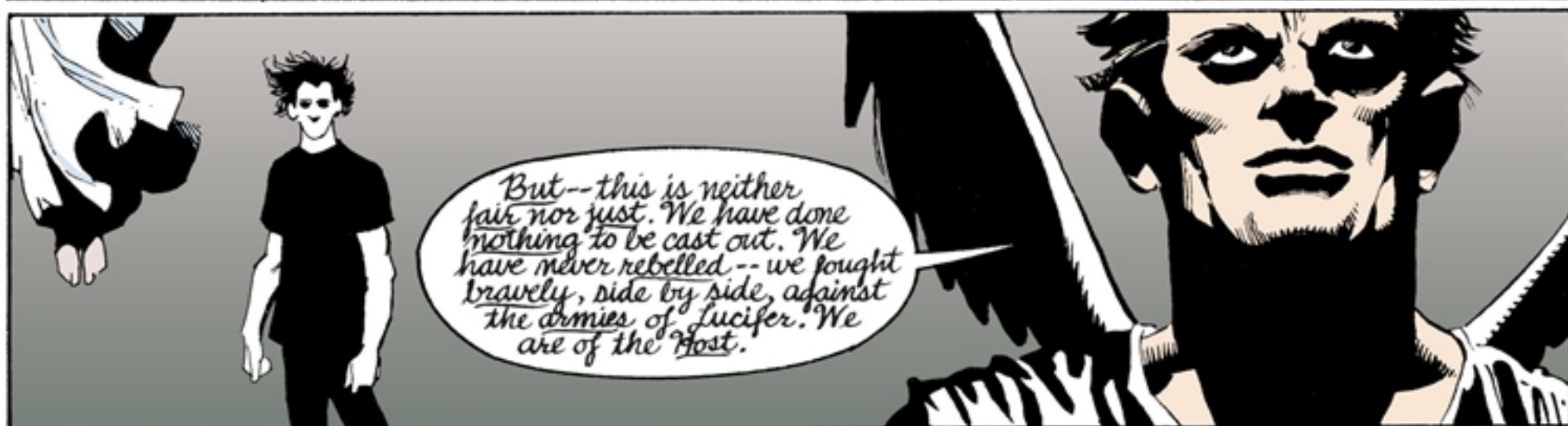
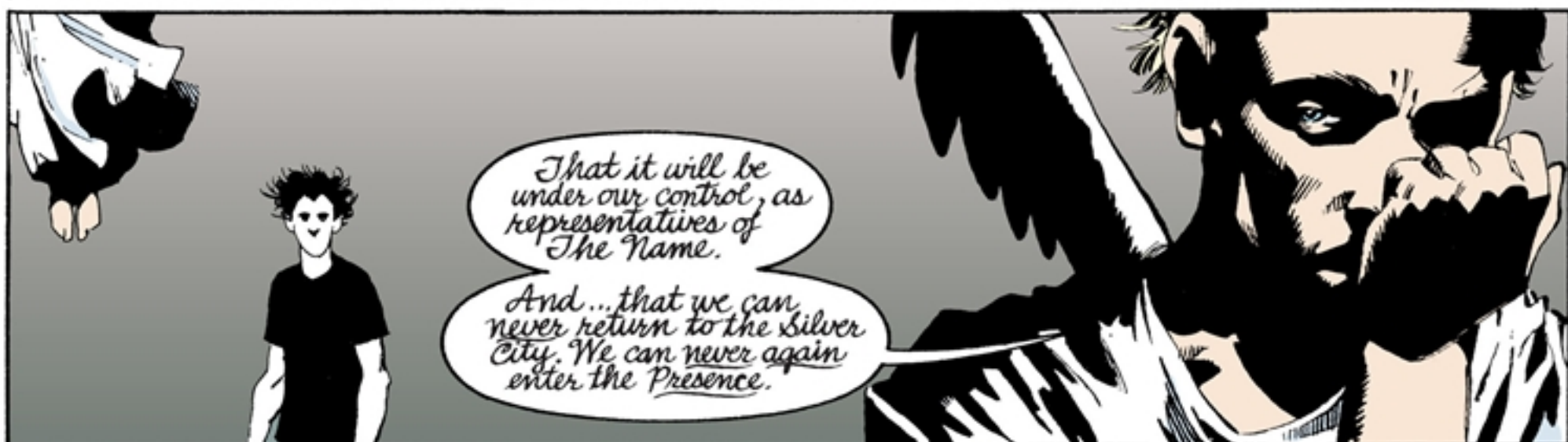
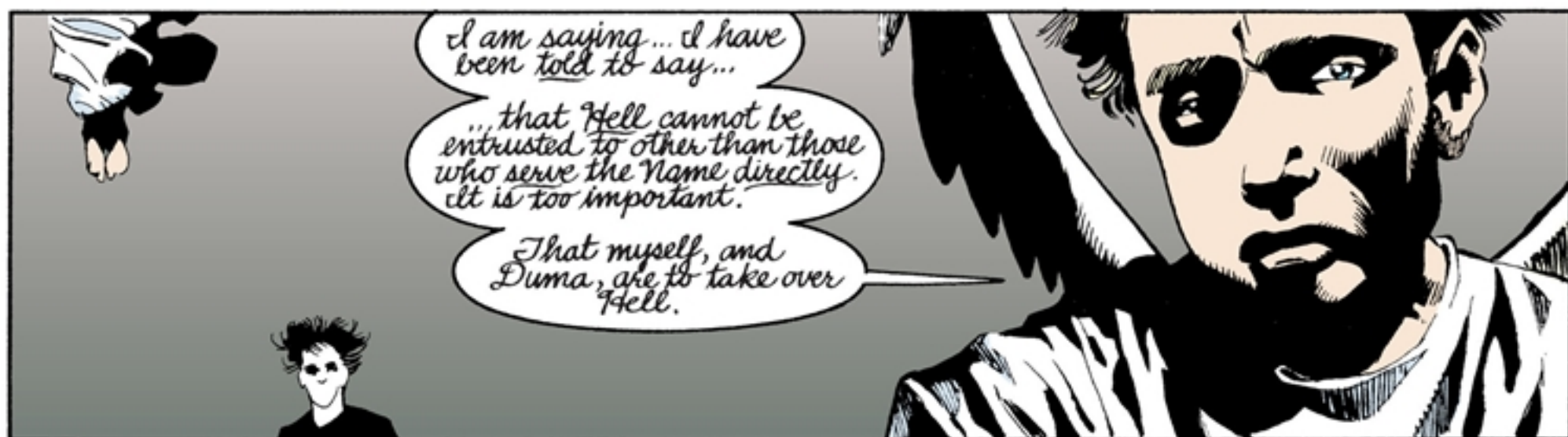
Very well,
Remiel. What
is it?

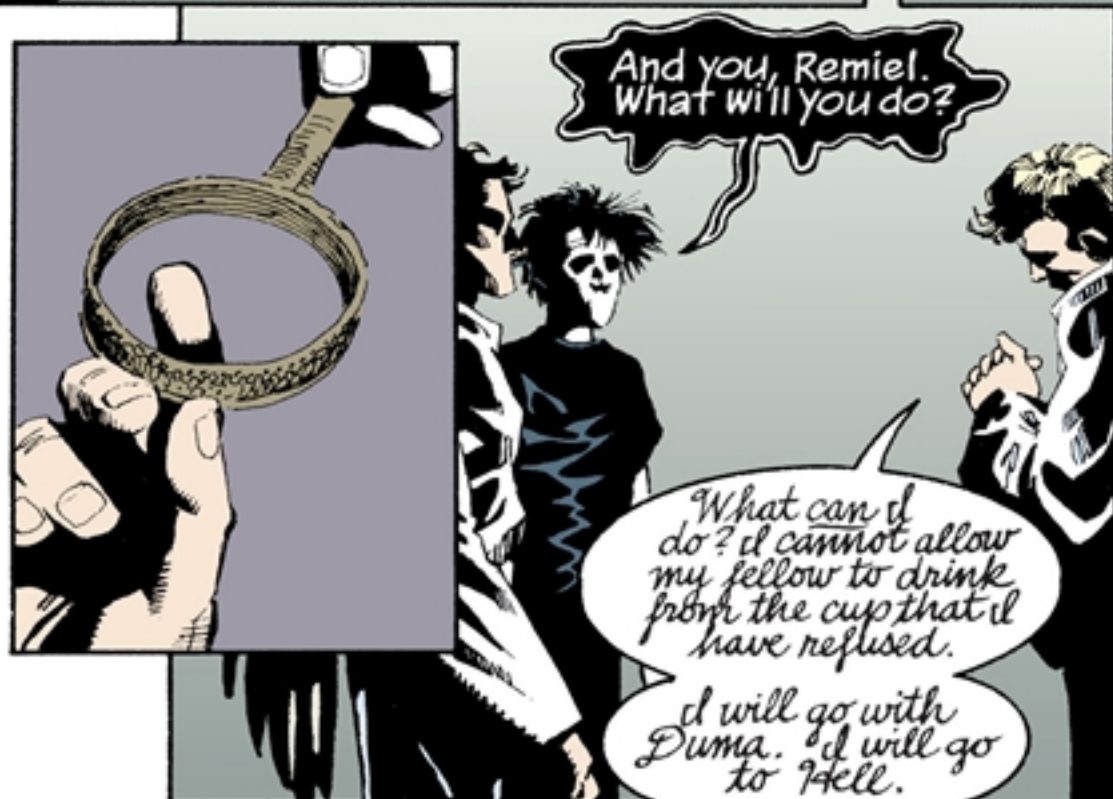


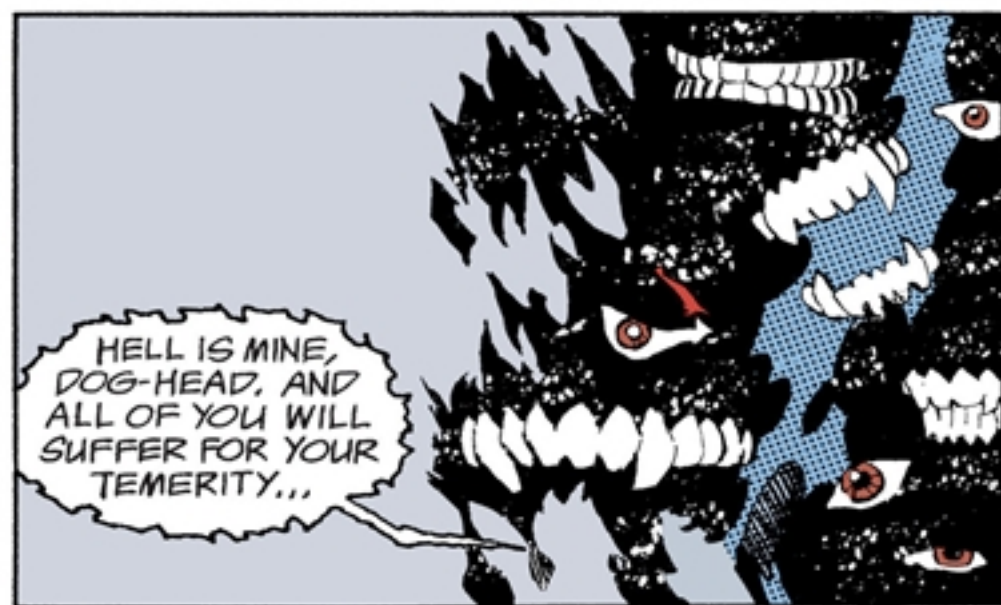
I do not
know.

Wait.













Because it
is no longer his
to dispose of.

We have
taken back
the Key.



Hell
will again
be the home
of the damned,
and the
demons.



The damned will be
returned to Hell; and there
they will once again be
punished.

The demons may once
more take up residence in
Hell, and will be expected to
play their part in the reha-
bilitation of the damned.



The War between
Heaven and Hell
is over.



Hell is now
directly under
Heaven's control,
and Duma and
I will be Heaven's
regents in the
Underworld...

ON WHOSE
AUTHORITY?

Whose
do you
think?



DREAMLORD--
YOU ARE NOT FORCED
TO ACCEDE TO THIS.

I did not create
the Hell of Lucifer, Lord
Susano-o-No-Mikoto, nor
the realm of which it is a
shadow. If its creator
wishes to take it back,
that is its creator's
affair, not mine.



I thank you all for coming here, and I trust that, although you may be disappointed by my decision, you will understand it.

I hope it will cause none of you undue distress.

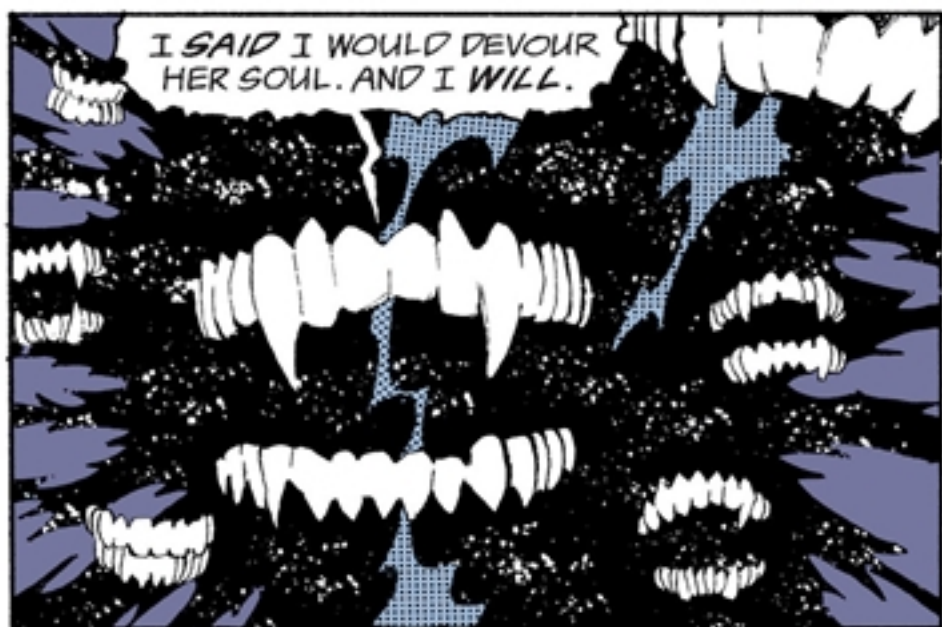


CAUSE US DISTRESS? OHH, THAT'S A FINE ONE, MORPHEUS. WHAT ABOUT THE DISTRESS IT'S GOING TO CAUSE YOU?

I KNOW YOUR RULES. YOU OFFERED US HOSPITALITY WHEN WE ARRIVED.

YOU CAN DO NOTHING NOW TO HARM ANY OF US.

I WILL LEAVE HERE AS I CAME ... AND NADA, YOUR LITTLE HUMAN SWEET-HEART, WILL LEAVE HERE WITH ME.



I SAID I WOULD DEVOUR HER SOUL. AND I WILL.



SLOWLY, THOUGH. A BITE AT A TIME. AND WITH EVERY BITE I WILL BE THINKING OF YOU.



Oh, Azazel.



I offered hospitality to all my visitors.



That includes both those I knew about, and those I did not. Yes, you have my hospitality, and are under my protection. But so is Choronzon.

And so is Nada.

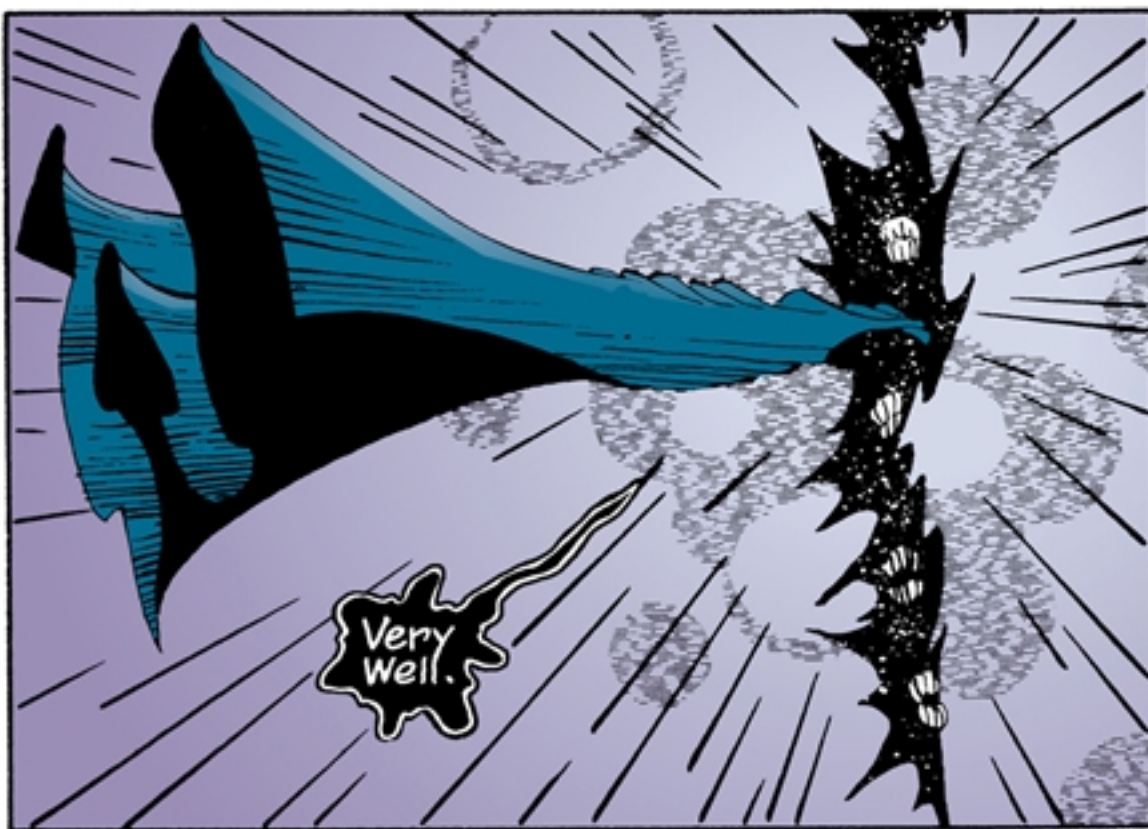


And I will not see them hurt.



IF YOU WANT HER, DREAM-SQUATTER, THEN COME AND GET HER--IF YOU'VE GOT THE BALLS.

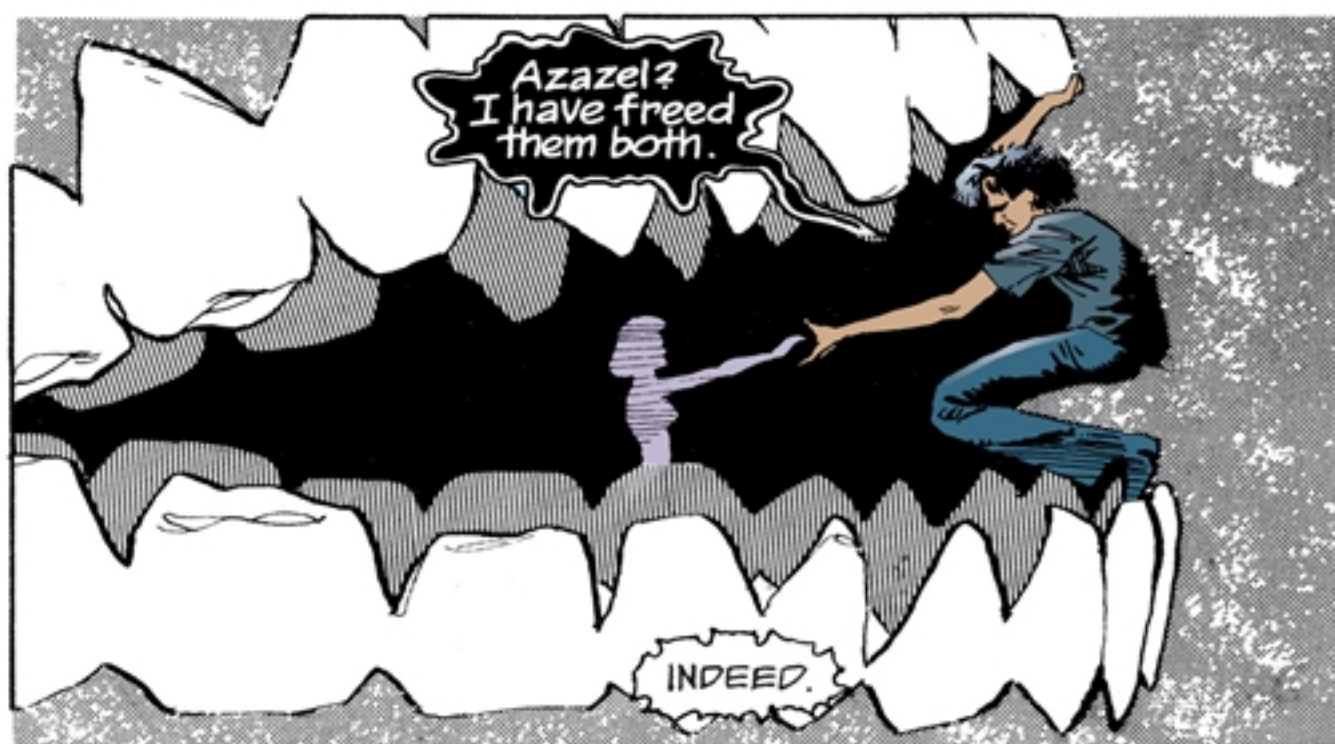
I RENOUNCE YOUR HOSPITALITY.

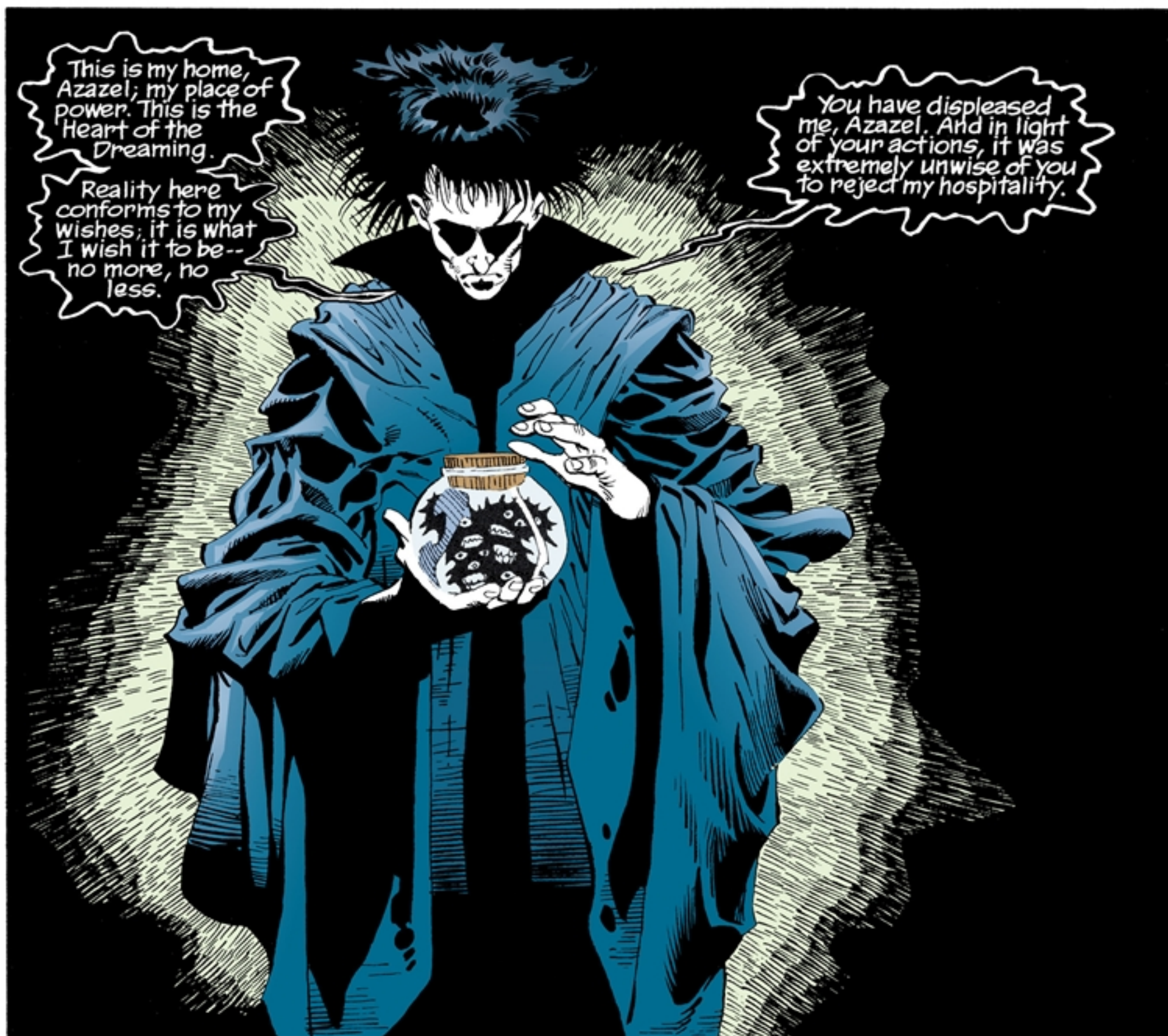


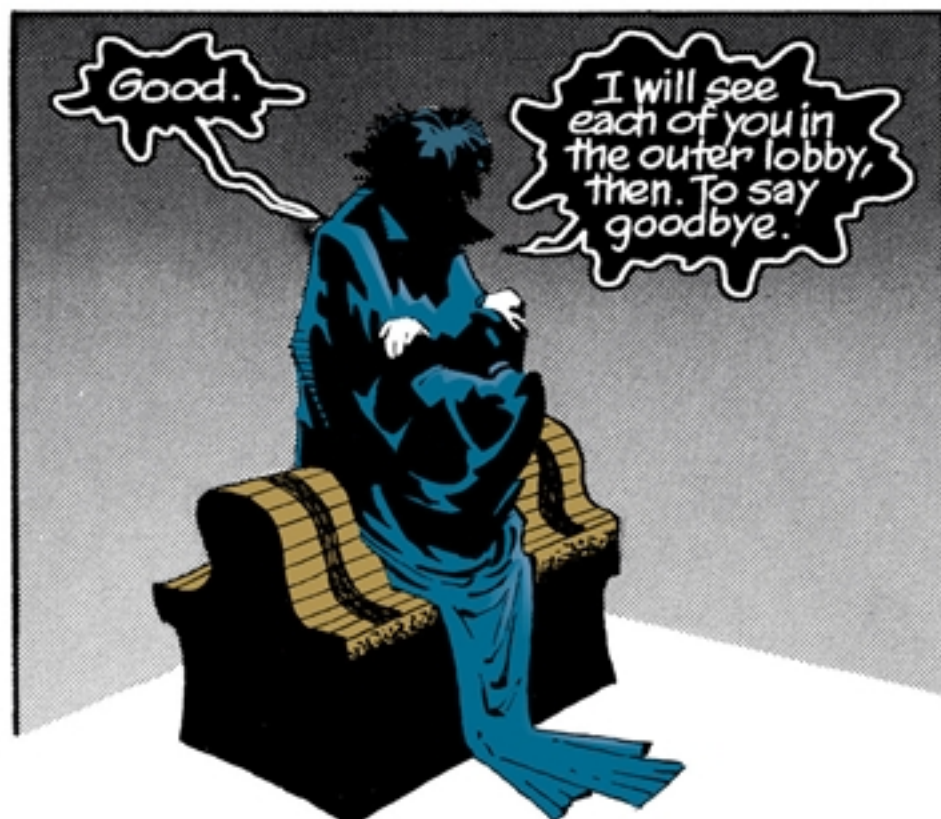
Very Well.

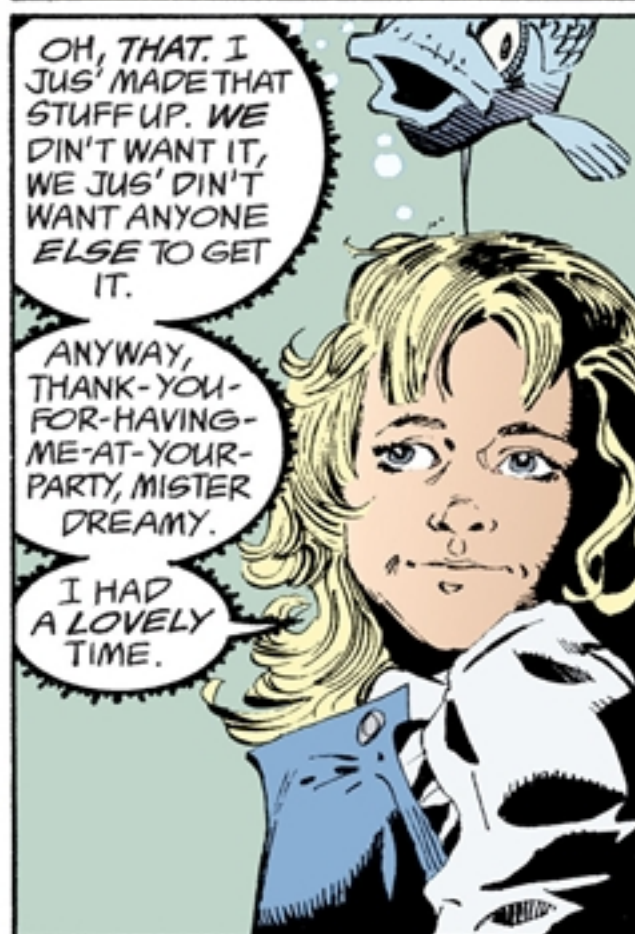
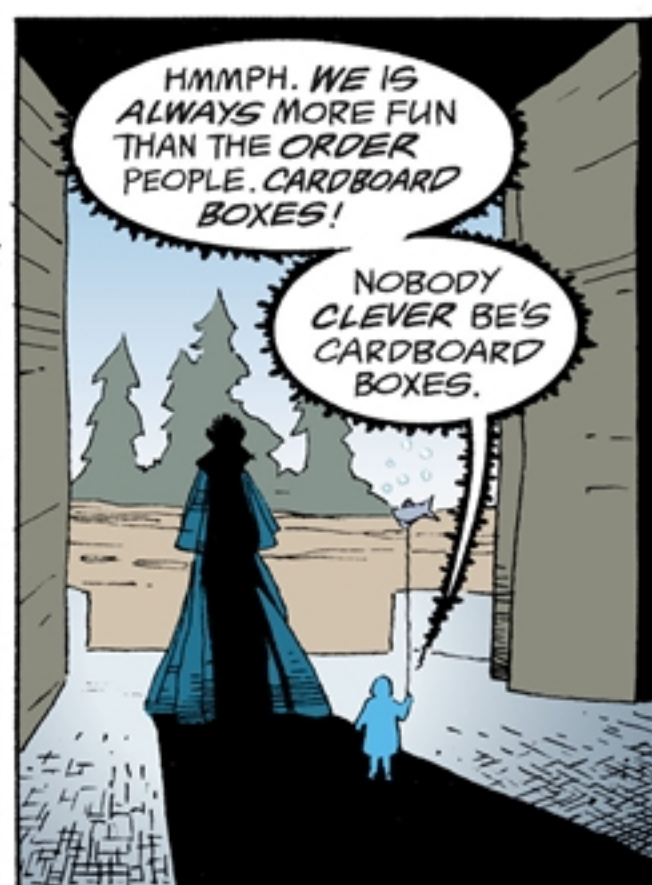
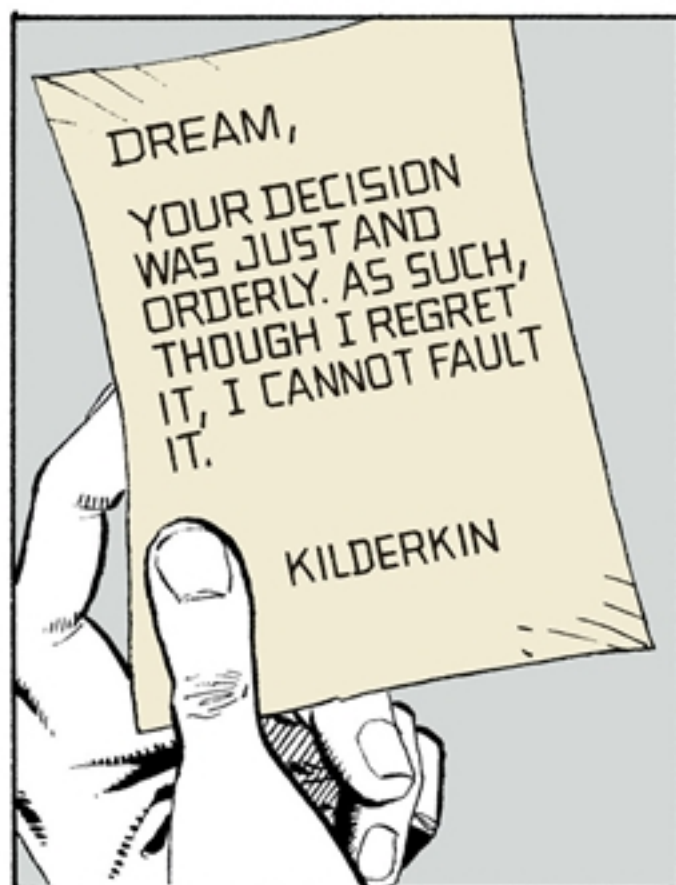


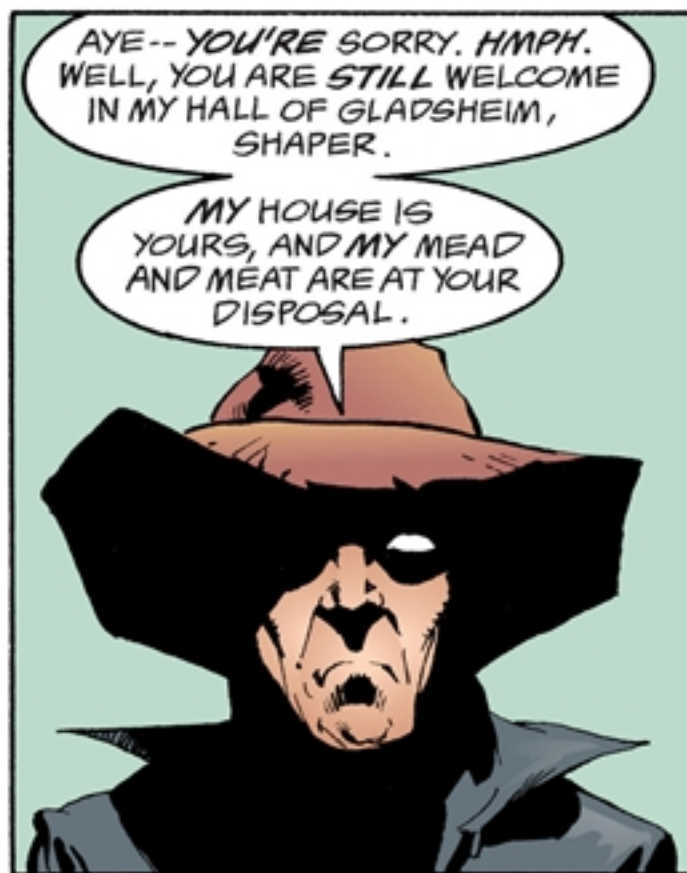














I'VE BEEN WANTING TO DO THAT FOR TWELVE HUNDRED YEARS.



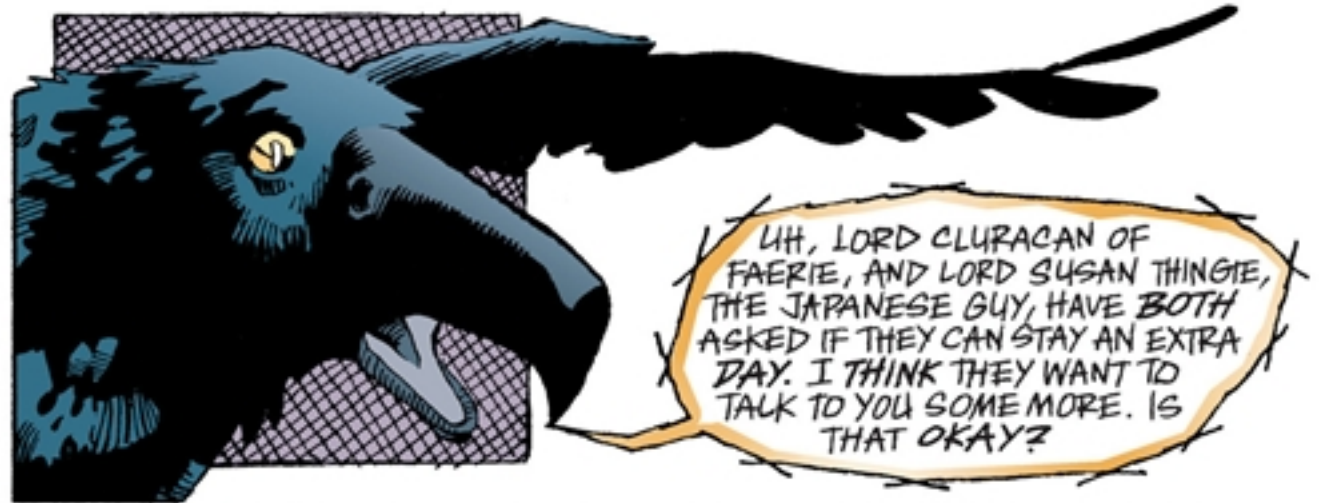
THERE. TRICK YOUR WAY OUT OF THAT, TRICKSTER.

TIME TO GO BACK IN YOUR HOLE...

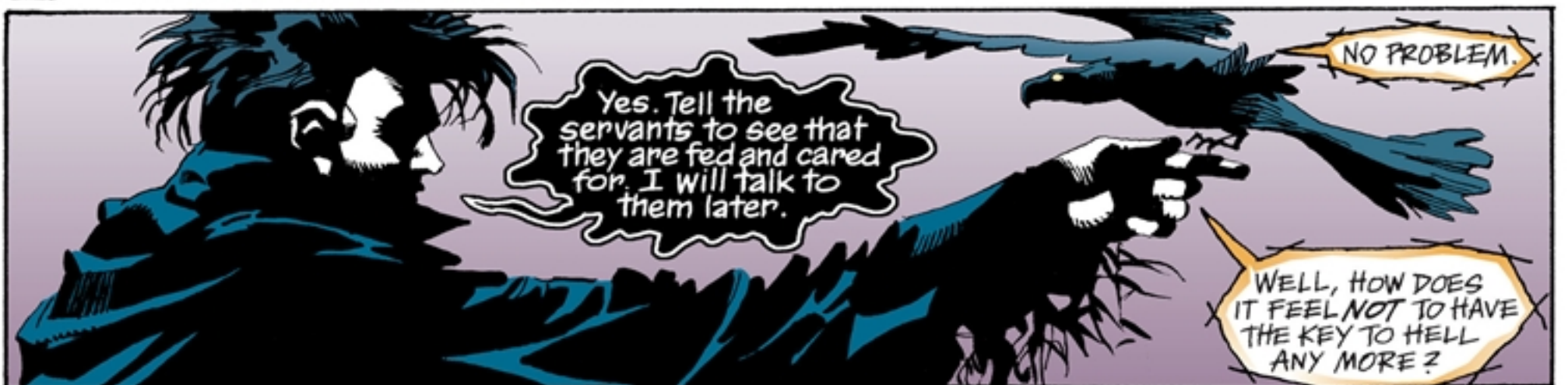


BOSS?

Yes Matthew?



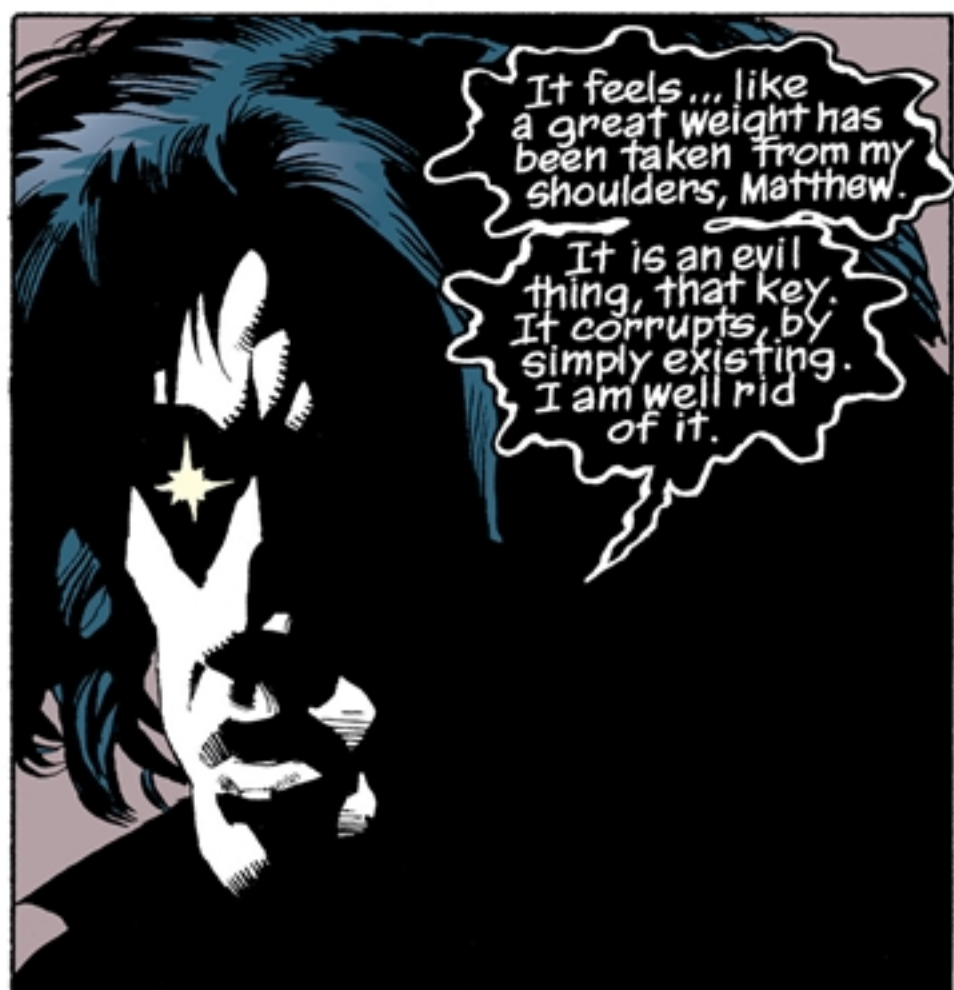
UH, LORD CLURACAN OF FAERIE, AND LORD SUSAN THINGIE, THE JAPANESE GUY, HAVE BOTH ASKED IF THEY CAN STAY AN EXTRA DAY. I THINK THEY WANT TO TALK TO YOU SOME MORE. IS THAT OKAY?



Yes. Tell the servants to see that they are fed and cared for. I will talk to them later.

NO PROBLEM.

WELL, HOW DOES IT FEEL NOT TO HAVE THE KEY TO HELL ANY MORE?



It feels... like a great weight has been taken from my shoulders, Matthew.

It is an evil thing, that key. It corrupts, by simply existing. I am well rid of it.



WELL, IT'S A GOOD THING IT WENT TO THOSE ANGELS, THEN. I MEAN, THEY WON'T BE CORRUPTED BY IT, WILL THEY?



I am going to my quarters, Matthew. I have one final task for you, and then you may return to Eve's cave.

SURE.

Go to the woman, Nada. I have assigned the fashion thing to groom and tend her. They are in the East Wing.



RIGHT. I'LL TELL HER YOU WANT TO TALK TO HER.

I don't WANT to talk to her, Matthew.

I doubt that she wants to talk to me.

But still...

...We will talk.

To Be Concluded

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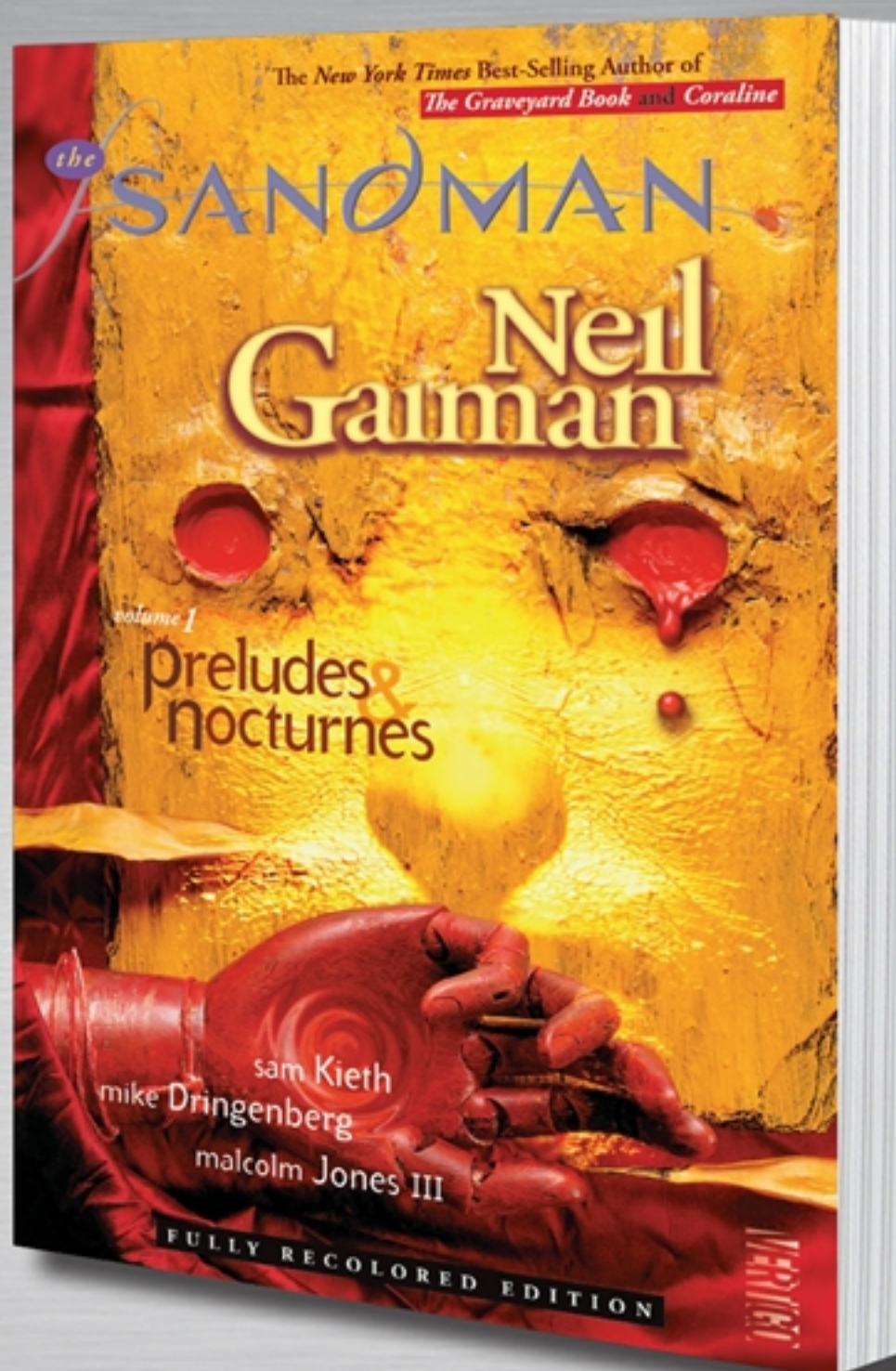
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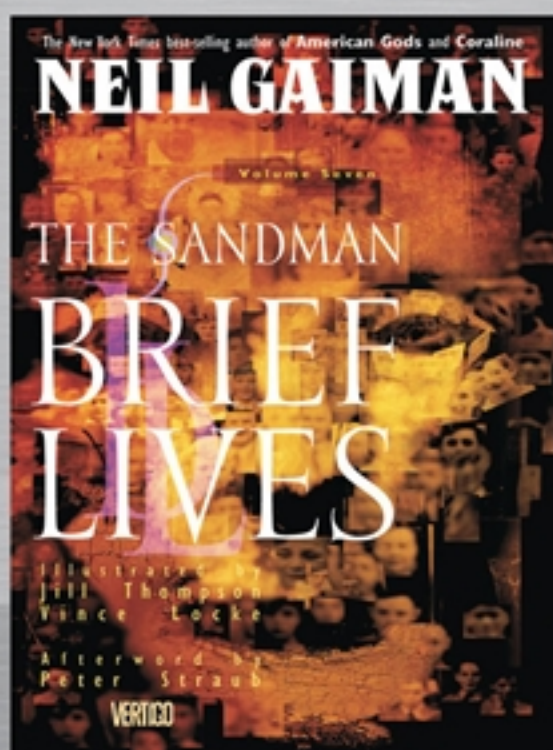
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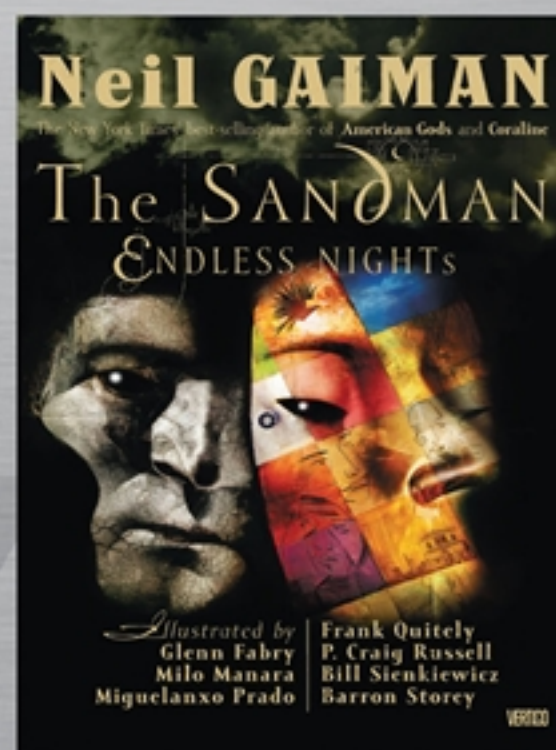
THE SANDMAN VOL. 4:
SEASON OF MISTS



THE SANDMAN VOL. 7:
BRIEF LIVES



THE SANDMAN:
ENDLESS NIGHTS



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