

TOP COW™

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MAR 2000

coney
ennis
benitez
weems

THE DARKNESS



SENSE
+
WEEMS
+
DRI

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TOP COW



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NOW, NOW,
MISTER FRANCHETTI,
I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT
A MAN IN YOUR POSITION
WOULD HAVE A STRONGER
SENSE OF SELF
PRESERVATION.

BECAUSE
JACKIE WILL
TELL YOU! I WON'T
HESITATE TO SLIT
YOUR THROAT.



THAT'S
THE KIND OF
FELLOW
I AM...



NUSSCH...
HOW THE HELL DID
YOU GET IN HERE?
WHERE ARE MY
MOM?



I USED A LITTLE
TECHNIQUE OF MINE
TO CONVINCE THEM
THEY HAD RAPED
THEIR MOTHERS.

THEY TOOK IT
RATHER BADLY.

OH,
MAMA, I'M
SORRY...





LISTEN TO THAT LANGUAGE, MISTER FRANCHETTI. IS THAT HOW YOU BROUGHT THE BOY UP?

I EXPECTED SO MUCH MORE. I GAVE YOU THE SON YOU ALWAYS WANTED, AND THIS IS HOW HE TURNS OUT?



LITTLE MORE THAN A COMMON THUG...

ROT IN HELL, YOU BASTARD!



EASY TO SEE WHERE HE GETS IT FROM, MMM?







SONATINE,
YOU ARE NOT ONLY
OUT OF YOUR HAIRLESS
HEAD! YOU ARE EVEN
DUMBER THAN YOU
LOOK.

YOU JUST
THREW AWAY THE
ONLY ACE YOU HAD

KRUNK!

THERE ARE
FOUR ACES IN
EVERY DECK,
ESTACADO

WELL DONE,
MY DEAR, ALTHOUGH
I DO HOPE YOU HAVE
NOT CAUSED HIM
PERMANENT
DAMAGE.

ONE
VEGETABLE
IN THE FAMILY
IS QUITE
ENOUGH.



DON'T YOU
DARE MAKE
FUN OF MY
MOTHER!

I AM ABOUT
TO TEAR DOWN
MY OWN FATHER'S
EMPIRE! TO DESTROY
HIS LIFE FOR HURTING
HER! I WILL NOT
LET YOU OR ANY-
ONE ELSE
MOCK HER!

FORGIVE
ME, MY DEAR. I
MERELY WISHED
TO COMPLIMENT
YOU ON LAYING
OUT
ESTACADO.

NO ONE
WILL EVER HURT
A FRANCHETTI
WOMAN AGAIN.
NO MORE
TEARS.

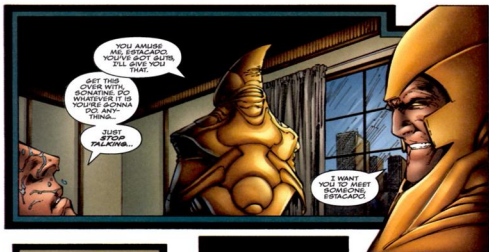
THOSE
DAYS ARE
OVER.

WITH YOUR HELP,
WE ARE GOING TO TURN
A NEW PAGE IN THE HISTORY
OF MY FAMILY. THE FRANCHETTI
FAMILY WILL GIVE THE
BORGES A RUN FOR
THEIR MONEY.

YOU
CAN COUNT
ON ME, MY
DEAR.

I CAN
GUARANTEE
YOU WILL
NEVER SHED
ANOTHER
TEAR.







WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE TO
FRANKIE
SCUMBAG?

YOU HEAR
THAT, MASTER
VESPASIAN? THE
LITTLE BASTARD IS
ALL CONCERNED
ABOUT HIS UNCLE.
I DO BELIEVE THAT
HE MEANS IT,
TOO.

HIS
CONCERN
DOES HIM
CREDIT.

FRANCHETTI'S
STILL AT HIS HOME,
NO DOUBT STILL
STUCK TO THE DINNER
TABLE.

I HAVE
NO FURTHER
INTEREST IN
HIM.

HIS LOVING
DAUGHTER HAS
HER OWN PLANS
FOR HER DEAR
POPPA...

HOW DOES
SHE FIGURE IN
ALL THIS?

WHY, YOUR
DARLING HALF
SISTER IS TO BECOME
THE NEW ANGELUS,
ESTACADO.

IF I
CANNOT HAVE
THE DARKNESS,
I'LL SETTLE FOR
THE LIGHT.



SOON, MOMMA, SOON, I WANTED YOU TO SEE THIS, SOMEHOW I KNOW THAT YOU'RE STILL IN THERE, THAT YOU CAN HEAR ME...

I'VE FOUND A WAY TO MAKE HIM PAY, MOMMA. FOR WHAT HE DID TO YOU. FOR WHAT HE DID TO ME. WHEN HE TOOK YOU FROM YOURSELF, HE TOOK YOU FROM ME, TOO...



I SAW WHAT HE DID, MOMMA. I WAS THERE. I NEVER TOLD ANYONE, EVER.

I WAS ASHAMED AND AFRAID!



YOU GOTTA BEAT THAT SMALLEY ORPHAN BOY, OR ELSE HE WON'T KNOW HE'S NO GOOD...

I'LL SHOW YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU!



NO, FRANKIE, PLEASE! DON'T DO THIS! FRANKIE! I'M SORRY!



I'LL SHOW YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU!



FRANKIE,
NO! I SWEAR ON
OUR BABY'S LIFE I'LL
NEVER LOOK AT
ANOTHER MAN AGAIN!
PLEASE!

USHHOOO!
IN THE NAME OF GOD,
FRANKIE, PLEASE LET
HIM GO! IT WAS MY
FAULT! IT WAS ALL MY
FAULT!

I'LL
SHOW YOU
HOW MUCH
I LOVE
YOU!



"I SAW IT ALL,
MOTHER. HOW HE ROASTED
YOUR LOVER. HOW YOU
SCREAMED FOR MERCY.



"AND
GOT
NONE.

"THE CHILD
IN ME DIED THAT
DAY. LOVE DIED
IN ME THAT DAY.
SOMETIMES I
THINK I DIED
THAT DAY."

BUT TODAY
I HAVE A CHANCE
TO BE BORN AGAIN.
TODAY I WILL HAVE
THE POWER TO
MAKE HIM REGRET
MERCY.

AND HE
WILL GET
NONE.

PATRICIDE. IT
HAS A MARVELOUS
ANCIENT GREEK
QUALITY TO IT.

I MUST
CONFESS, IT
REALLY TURNS
ME ON.





I DON'T
LIKE YOUR SENSE
OF HUMOR,
SONATINE. I WILL
DEAL WITH MY
FATHER IN MY OWN
WAY, IN MY
OWN TIME.

CLEAR?



OH,
AS CRYSTAL
FORGIVE ME, I WAS
ENJOYING WATCHING
YOU REVEL IN YOUR
MOMENT. THE POWER
I WILL GIVE YOU WILL
MAKE REAL EVERY
DESIRE WITHIN
YOUR HEART.



THEN CUT THE
CRAP! SUMMON THE
SPIRIT OF THE ANGELUS!
I WANT THIS OVER
WITH!



BY THE
WAY...WHAT
HAVE YOU DONE
WITH THAT
REFUSE,
ESTACADO?



"MASTER
YESMASIAN IS
TEACHING HIM THE
BENEFIT OF HAND-
SIGHT. I IMAGINE
HE IS REGRETTING
EVERY SMART ASS
REMARK HE EVER
MADE."

I TAKE NO
PLEASURE IN THIS,
ALTHOUGH I WILL
CONFESS TO AN
ERECTION.





HRRRR!
WHO
WOUL'D'VE
THOUGHT A
GEEK COULD
TASTE SO
GOOD!

HUR, HUR!
DAMN FINE
GEEK!

CAN'T
SEEM TO LAPSE
INTO...MERCIFUL
UNCONSCIOUS-
NESS...

I...
I SALUTE YOU,
ESTACADO...

GOOD

YOU REALLY
ARE AN...ABSOLUTE...
UNREPENTANT...
BASTARD...

YOU
THINK?

UAAHNT.



I NEVER
THOUGHT I'D HEAR
MYSELF SAY THIS,
WENDERS! BUT FOR
ONCE I'M ACTUALLY
GLAD TO SEE
YOU.

TH...
TH...

THANK YOU,
MISTER ESTACADO...
I... I KNEW IT WAS ONLY
A MATTER OF TIME
BEFORE YOU FELT
THAT WAY...

DON'T LET
IT GO TO YOUR
HEAD, WHERE'S THAT
BASTARD SONATINE
GONE?

HE'S TRYING
TO RESURRECT
YOUR NEMESIS, THE
ANGELUS! HE WANTS
TO MAKE MISS FRAN-
CHETTI THE VESSEL FOR
THE DISMEMBERED
SPIRIT OF YOUR
FOE!

APOLONIA
AS THE ANGELUS,
JESUS, THE BITCH
IS EVEN MORE
INSANE THAN THE
FIRST ONE...



FREAKIN' DAYLIGHT!

PLEASE TELL ME YOU'VE GOT A GUN, HEAVY CALIBER. BAD-ASSED. I'LL BE YOUR FRIEND FOR LIFE.




ER... SORRY...



YOU USELESS TURD.

THAT LUNATIC TWIST HATES ME MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WHOLE DAMN WORLD, AND WITH THE POWER OF THE ANGELUS...



YOU CAN STILL COUNT ONE ME, MISTER ESTACADO! THOSE MONSTERS TORTURED ME TO LEARN WHAT THEY COULD ABOUT YOU, AND NOT A WORD PASSED MY LIPS! NOT ONE WORD!



THE MAN WITH NO SCROTUM.

YOU'RE MY HERO, WENDERS.



UNGRATEFUL BRUTE!



ANGELUS!
I COMPEL YOU!
QUEEN OF THE
LIGHT I SUMMON
YOU!

I OFFER
THIS WOMAN AS
A HOST FOR YOUR
DISMEMBERED
SELF



HE'S
ACTUALLY
GOING TO
DO IT!

HE
IS VERY
IMPRESSIVE,
ISN'T HE?



YOU'RE
WATCHING HIM
SHED OUR
DEATH
WARRANT,
MORON.



YES!
SISTER TO THE
SUN, MOTHER OF
THE DAWN, I
COMPEL YOU!
COMMAND!

YESSSS!
TAKE THIS
WOMAN
FOR YOUR
OWN!

AND IN
TURN! BY THE
POWER GRANTED
ME AS YOUR
SUMMONER!

I
COMPEL
YOU TO BE
MINE!



MISTER
ESTAGADO!
NO! IT'S TOO
LATE!

I GOTTA
DO SOMETHING, OR
SLAPHEAD BECOMES
THE ANGELUS
GODDAMN
PIMP--

WITH THE
POWER OF LIGHT
AT MY COMMAND
I WILL BURN THIS
WORLD LIKE A
FISH!



TOO LATE,
ESTACADO!
FAR TOO LATE!



AAAIIIEE!
NNNOOOO!

WHAT
THE HELL--



NO!
I AM THE
ONE! IT
MUST BE
ME!



I DON'T
THINK IT LIKES
YOUR CHOICE
OF HOSTS...

NNNNN!
IT MUST BE
APOLONIA!



AAAAIIIEE!
NNNOOOO!



NOT MY
MOTHER! PLEASE!
SHE'S SUPPOSED
BEING!

YOU STUPID
BARBAR! YOU
SAID IT WOULD
TAKE ABE!

MAKE
EFFORT
DO
SOME
THING!

LIKE
WHAFT!

OH,
ZEDUS!

OH,
NO!

BOTH OF
WHICH ARE NOW
REDUNDANT.

HELLO AGAIN,
APPOLUNA.

I'M GOING
TO SHOW YOU
HOW MUCH I
LOVE YOU.

TO BE
CONTINUED