

DYNAMITE
4

RED SONJA

UNCHAINED



The background of the cover features a dynamic illustration of Red Sonja, a blonde woman with long, flowing hair, in a combat pose. She is shown from the waist up, wearing her signature red chainmail. Her right arm is raised, and she appears to be in the middle of a fight. The background is a deep red color. The title 'RED SONJA' is written in a large, bold, white font with a thick black outline. Below it, the word 'UNCHAINED' is written in a smaller, blue font with a white outline and a slight shadow effect.

RED SONJA

UNCHAINED

The events in this series take place after the
RED SONJA: BLUE one-shot

story by **Peter V. Brett**

pencils by **Jack Jadson**

colors by **Marcelo Pinto**

letters by **Simon Bowland**

main cover **Mel Rubi**

subscription cover **Walter Geovani**

edited by **Joseph Rybandt**

based on the heroine created by **Robert E. Howard**

executive editor - Red Sonja **Luke Lieberman**

In memory of **Arthur Lieberman**

for more Red Sonja, visit **WWW.REDSONJA.COM**

DYNAMITE

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How do I keep getting into these situations?



A moment ago, I was in Merisan's study, fighting barefoot and unarmed.

One of the hunters bled on the pelt.



I remember starting to change before it all went black.



Now I'm gods know where, back to normal with sword in hand and boots on feet.



No sign of how I came to be here, or what happened to Merisan.

No sense waiting here
to starve. If I'm to die,
I'll do it on the move.

AAG
OOOO!

Tarim's
blood.
What now?

COME ON
IF YOU DARE,
DOGS! THIS
RABBIT HAS
TEETH!







MERISAN?!
HOW...?

I'M USING ONE
OF THE DEMON HAIRS
YOU GAVE ME AS A
CONDUIT TO CONTACT
YOUR SPIRIT ON THE
DEMON'S PLANE.

AND YET
YOU DENY BEING
A WITCH.

INFORMATION
IS MY TRADE, SONJA.
SOMETIMES I GET
IT FROM OUR WORLD,
AND SOMETIMES
I PLUMB IT FROM
OTHERS.

I'M GLAD
YOU'RE ALL
RIGHT. WHAT
HAPPENED?

BHAMOTHES
KILLED THE HUNTERS
AND FLED THE CITY,
LEAVING A TRAIL OF
DEAD BEHIND HIM.

WHY WOULD
HE FLEE? THE CITY
IS A FEAST FOR THAT
MONSTER.



TOO MANY
GUARDS. HIS BODY
IS NEWBORN, STILL
VULNERABLE UNTIL
HE CAN HARVEST
MORE SOULS.

MY BODY,
YOU MEAN.

A FACT TO
WHICH YOU OWE
YOUR CONTINUED
EXISTENCE.

BHAMOTHES MUST
FEED ON HIS VICTIMS TO CONSUME
THE SOUL. HE CANNOT CONSUME
YOUR SPIRIT SO LONG AS HE'S
USING YOU AS HIS VESSEL, SO HE'S
SHIFTED IT TO THE DIMENSION
WHERE HE RESIDES.



I DON'T FEEL LIKE A SPIRIT. I BLEED, AND MY BLADE CUTS THE CREATURES HERE, THOUGH I WAS NOT HOLDING IT WHEN I CHANGED.



REALITY IN THE SPIRIT REALMS IS A MANIFESTATION OF WILL. YOU LOOK AS YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD LOOK. CARRY WHAT IS FAMILIAR FOR YOU TO CARRY. YOUR WEAPONS BITE BECAUSE YOU WILL IT SO, AND I'LL WAGER YOUR WOUNDS HAVE ALREADY HEALED.




SO I CANNOT BE KILLED HERE?

YOU MOST CERTAINLY CAN, AND NOTHING WOULD PLEASE BHAMOTHES MORE.

NO DOUBT HIS CREATURES HUNT YOU EVEN NOW.

YOU ARE STILL TIED TO HIS AVATAR, A THREAT TO HIM.

AT LAST, SOMETHING I CAN UNDERSTAND.



HOW DO I
FIND THE DEMON'S
TRUE FORM, THAT
I MAY END HIM
PERMANENTLY?

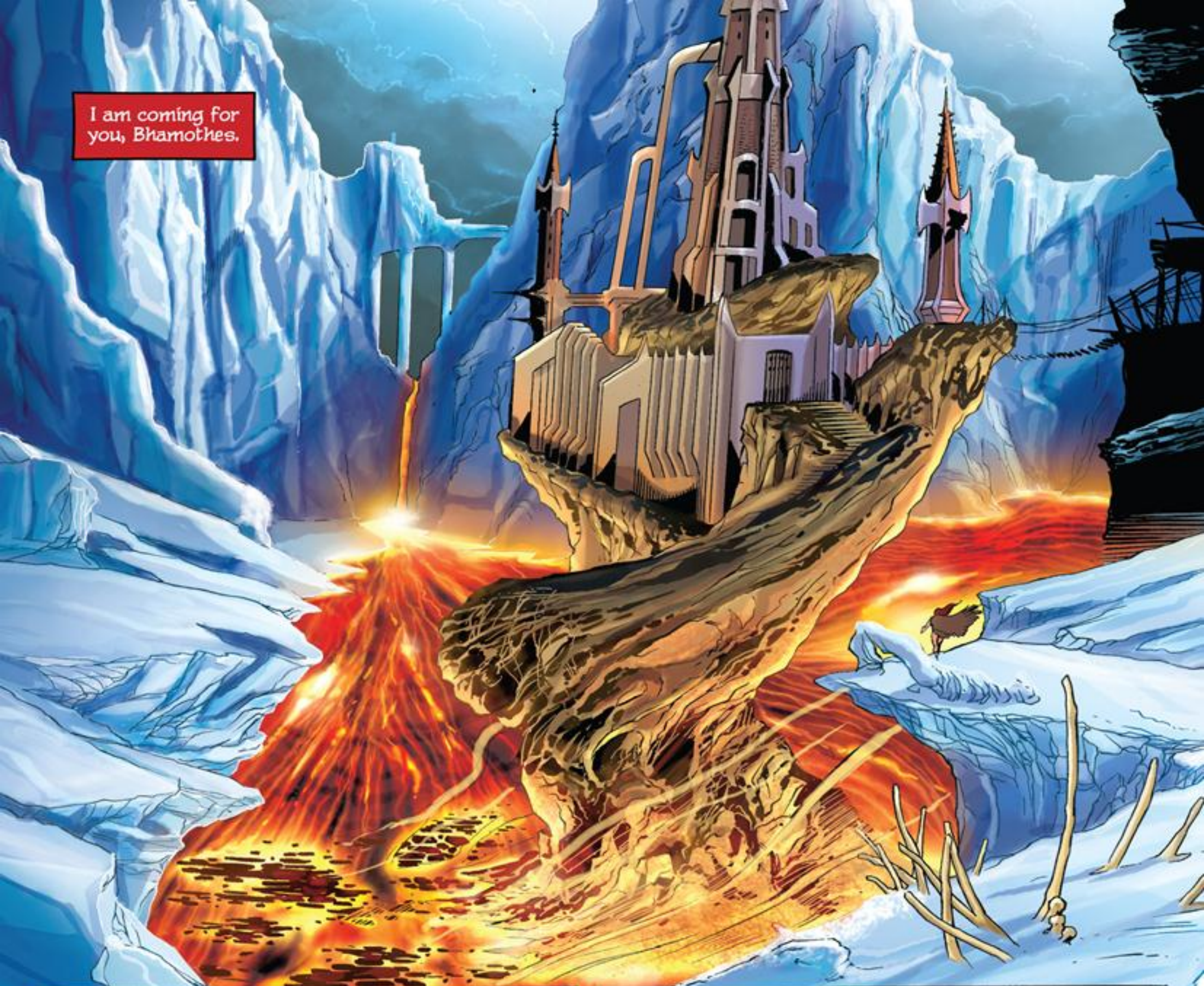
YOUR SPIRIT IS
LINKED TO BHAMOTHES.
YOU WILL BE DRAWN
INEXORABLY TOWARD HIS
STRONGHOLD, THOUGH
YOU WILL HAVE TO
PENETRATE THE
DEFENSES.

DEFENSES?

I EXPECT
YOU'LL KNOW THEM
WHEN YOU SEE
THEM.



I am coming for
you, Bhamothes.



TARIM'S
GHOST!



BREGAN?!



I FEARED
YOU LOST
FOREVER!



MY SPIRIT IS
TRAPPED HERE THE
SAME AS YOURS.

BHAMOTHS
CLAIMED IT
THE MOMENT
YOU KILLED
ME AND MY
BLOOD STRUCK
HIS FUR.



I'M SO SORRY, BREGAN. I WAS DRUNK AND ANGRY. I NEVER MEANT TO KILL YOU.

I CAN FREE BOTH OUR SPIRITS BY KILLING THE DEMON'S TRUE BODY.

AND THEN WE CAN BE TOGETHER AT LAST.



BREGAN, WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE TOGETHER.

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?!

FOR ONE THING, YOU'RE DEAD, WHETHER I FREE YOUR SPIRIT OR NOT.

BUT EVEN IF KILLING BHAMOTHESES WERE TO MIRACULOUSLY RESTORE YOU TO LIFE, I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT YOU.



YOU'RE SAYING I DIED FOR NOTHING?

YOU MURDERED ME AND SENT MY SOUL TO HELL!

NO, BOY. YOU DIED BECAUSE YOU CAME AT ME WITH A GODS-DAMNED SWORD AND DREW BLOOD.



YOU KEEP CALLING ME BOY.

YOU KEEP ACTING LIKE ONE.



YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO'S
DAMNED,
SONJA!

IF YOU
WON'T BE MINE,
I'LL FEED YOU
TO BHAMOTHES
MYSELF!

No. Not
again.

GODS!





WELCOME, RED SONJA! I TRUST MY SERVANTS HAVE MADE YOU FEEL AT HOME?

INDEED. THEIR FLESH PARTED MOST OBLINGLY TO MY BLADE.

I'LL HAVE MY BODY BACK NOW, DEMON.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

YOUR BODY?

OH NO, SONJA. IT IS MY BODY, NOW. YOU GAVE IT TO ME WITH MURDER MOST FOUL...



...AND
IT IS SUCH A
FINE FIT. MUCH
BETTER THAN
THE CRUDE
AVATAR
I BUILT.

YOU MADE
ME KILL BREGAN
SO YOU COULD
RETURN.



IS THAT
WHAT YOU
THINK?



THOUSANDS
LEFT DEAD IN YOUR
WAKE, AND YOU STILL
DENY THE MURDER
IN YOU?

I WAS
POWERLESS
UNTIL YOU
KILLED THAT
BOY. HIS DEATH
IS YOURS
ALONE.



YOU TRIED
TO HUMILIATE
ME BY WEARING
MY SKIN AS A
TROPHY.

IMAGINE
MY DELIGHT AS
YOU DELIVERED MY
SACRIFICE TO ME,
OFFERING YOUR
OWN SKIN IN
RETURN.

HAVE IT
BACK THEN,
DEMON, AND
MY BLADE
WITH IT!





YOU'RE
STRONG,
DEMON...



...BUT
YOU'RE NO
SWORDSMAN.



IN THIS
PLACE, I DO
NOT NEED
TO BE!



WILL IS ALL
THAT MATTERS,
AND NONE IS
STRONGER THAN
MINE!

INDEED?

Home.

The demon has been busy. I can feel its victims rolling in my gut.

HUURRRK!

COUGH
COUGH

Now what?
I go back to town naked?

Besides, I look good in blue.

Bhamothes is dead. For good this time. I might as well fear a bearskin rug.

End

DYNAMITE®

IN THE NEWS - AUGUST 2013

ACCLAIMED WRITER STEVE NILES TO TURN *ASH AND THE ARMY OF DARKNESS* ONGOING SERIES INTO THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE IN MEDIEVAL



Dynamite is proud to announce that their flagship comic book title, *Army of Darkness*, will receive a complete overhaul and a new ongoing series as imagined by Steve Niles, acclaimed author of *30 Days of Night* and *Batman: Gotham County Line*. A horror/action series with dark comedic overtones, the newly-titled *Ash and the Army of Darkness* continues the time-traveling, demon-fighting adventures of Ash Williams, the smart-mouthed hero of the 1992 cult-favorite film of the same name.

"What I'm doing with *Ash and the Army of Darkness* is a complete reboot," says Niles. "We start and the last frame of the film and then go right to the next. It's a wild ride and I think fans of the film will be very happy because I am bringing back a lot of what made the movie so fun. My run of *Ash and the Army of Darkness* takes place almost entirely in the 1300's setting. That was what made *Army of Darkness* stand apart. I'm hoping readers agree."

Comic book writer and novelist Steve Niles

To discuss this and more, log onto the Dynamite forums at WWW.DYNAMITE.COM/BOARDS

is credited as being an instrumental force in bringing horror comics back to prominence in recent years. Perhaps his best-known work is *30 Days of Night*, a best-selling vampire series co-created with innovative illustrator Ben Templesmith and adapted into a feature film. His impressive list of credits include such licensed and creator-owned tales of terror as *I Am Legend*, *Hellspawn*, *Chin Music*, *Simon Dark*, *The X-Files*, *Remains*, *Criminal Macabre*, and *28 Days Later*.

"I'm very excited to be working with Dynamite and thrilled to be working on *Ash and the Army of Darkness*," adds Niles. "The film is one of my favorites and I think we have a really fresh, exciting take for Ash's continuing adventures fighting the dead. Dynamite has been expanding their line and have an impressive array of comic creators working with them now. I'm looking forward to joining the team."

Placing Steve Niles on *Ash and the Army of Darkness* follows Dynamite's recent trend of reinventing their established classics, thanks in no small part to partnering established industry writers with projects that naturally fit their narrative strengths. To name just a few of their recent publishing moves: the talented Gail Simone (*Birds of Prey*, *Batgirl*) launched a new incarnation of *Red Sonja*, the sci-fi team of Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning (*Guardians of the Galaxy*) have retooled the classic *Battlestar Galactica*, and superhero legend Mark Waid (*Daredevil*, *Kingdom Come*) brought *The Green Hornet* back to basics. These projects have met with critical acclaim and high sales, and the new *Ash and the Army of Darkness* promises to continue the trend.

"I am really excited to welcome Steve Niles on-board for the *Ash and the Army of Darkness* relaunch," says Nick Barrucci, CEO and Publisher of Dynamite. "There's no writer in recent years whose name has been attached to more bestselling horror comic concepts than Steve, and for good reason -- he's got an amazing talent for writing hard-hitting, white-knuckle, edge-of-your-seat fright fiction. *Army of Darkness* has a legion of hardcore fans, and they deserve the best. Well, they're getting the best, courtesy of Steve Niles!" Dynamite expects longtime fans and curious newcomers to welcome a new creative voice, story direction, title, and logo for a horror classic with *Ash and the Army of Darkness*.

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IN STORES NOW!



RED SONJA #1

THIS IS IT. Red Sonja gets a fresh new attitude by the dream team of writer GAIL SIMONE (*Batgirl*, *Birds of Prey*) and artist WALTER GEOVANI (*Prophecy*, *Witchblade*), on the book they were born to create. Sonja pays back a blood debt owed to the one man who has gained her respect, even if it means leading a doomed army to their certain deaths!

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FEATURED REVIEWS

RED SONJA #1

(Newsarama):

"A strong and promising debut... (Gail Simone's) skill at combining the brutal with the humorous will go a long way in maintaining the correct tone for Sonja."

RED SONJA #1

(Comic Book Bin):

"Simone's Red Sonja is fiery and aggressive, not icy and reserved... Simone's presentation of the character makes this book worth a look."

RED SONJA #1

(Comic Vine):

"5 stars out of 5. I can't wait to see what Simone has planned for future issues."

RED SONJA #1

(Geeks of Doom):

"This is a fantastic comic, plain and simple."

UNCANNY #1

(Comic Book Resources):

"Diggle and Campbell create real, enjoyable suspense... on the strength of their ability to keep the action tight and vivid."

UNCANNY #1

(Comic Book Revolution):

"From the opening page, UNCANNY #1 was able to grab my attention and left a strong impression by the time I finished reading the issue. Andy Diggle was able to create a fascinating world around the lead character."

THE OWL #1

(Graham Cracker Comics):

"Butt-kicking action... This is a wonderful revamping and makes the now elderly fan boy in me giddy with delight!"

THE OWL #1

(Comic Book Therapy):

"The Owl is a worthy entry in Dynamite's ever expanding world of new pulp stories."

THE SHADOW / GREEN HORNET: DARK NIGHTS #1

(Lethal Farcen):

"I loved this. This was my favorite book of the week, and I'm very excited for the next one. I'm betting I'm going to wish this went on past five issues."

THE SHADOW / GREEN HORNET: DARK NIGHTS #1

(Unleash The Fanboy):

"Michael Usian... writes a solid Shadow, one whom is always getting down to business and giving the hard truth without worry of hurting peoples' feeling."