



DIABLO

64
PAGES

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DIABLO

TALES OF SANCTUARY™

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COVER ART

FRANCISCO RUIZ VELASCO

CREATIVE CONSULTANTS

CHRIS METZEN AND SAM DIDIER

DESIGNER

DAVID NESTELLE

ASSISTANT EDITOR

PHILIP SIMON

EDITOR

DAVE LAND

PUBLISHER

MIKE RICHARDSON

SPECIAL THANKS TO

PAUL SAMS AND

ELAINE DI IORIO

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RAGE

SCRIPT: DAVE LAND
PENCILS: FRANCISCO RUIZ
COLOR: RULO TREVINO

DRUID!
DRUID!!



...DRUID...



...D-DRUID?





DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM, BOY?!

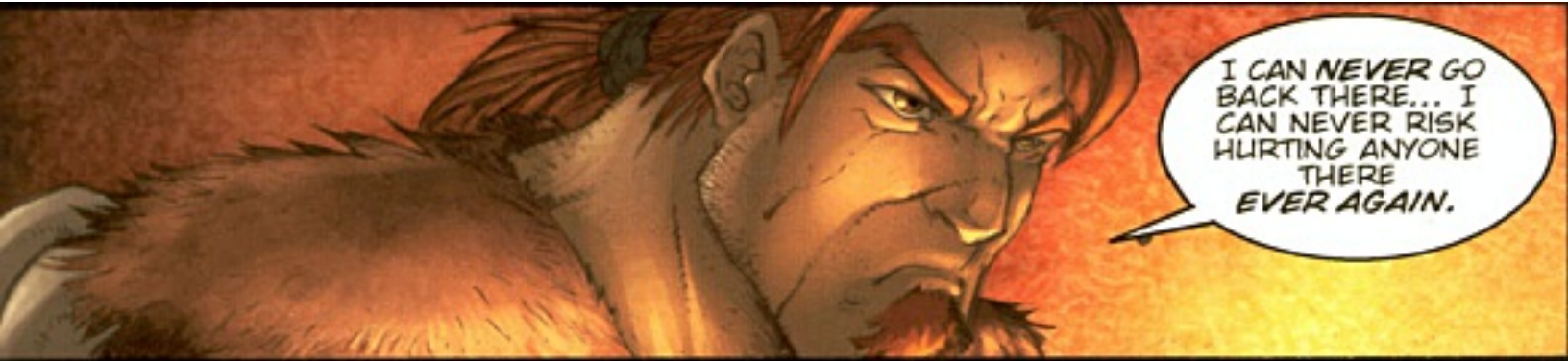


Y-YOU ARE AZGAR THE DRUID! SON OF VANE! WARRIOR OF THE NOBLE CLAN OF SKELD!

WARRIOR OF THE SKELD CLAN?! NOT FOR MANY GENERATIONS, CLUB! WHY DO YOU RISK YOUR LIFE COMING HERE?



MINIONS OF BAAL! A SCOUT DISCOVERED THEM AMASSED ON THE NORTHERN RIDGE. WE FEAR THEY WILL ATTACK SOON! YOU MUST COME TO THE VILLAGE!



I CAN NEVER GO BACK THERE... I CAN NEVER RISK HURTING ANYONE THERE EVER AGAIN.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHO DID YOU HURT?



I HURT THE ONE WHO LOOKED UP TO ME MOST...

"WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I TRAINED IN THE WAYS OF THE WARRIOR. MY FATHER TRAINED ME AS HIS FATHER HAD TRAINED HIM. MY YOUNGER BROTHER, GREY, LOOKED UP TO US BOTH."

YOUR STRENGTH IS GROWING MY SON!

I THINK HE WILL BE STRONGER THAN YOU, FATHER, STRONGER THAN ANYONE!

HE MAY BE, GREY.

IN TIME HE MAY BE CHAMPION OF US ALL!

I WANT TO BE JUST LIKE HIM WHEN I GROW UP...





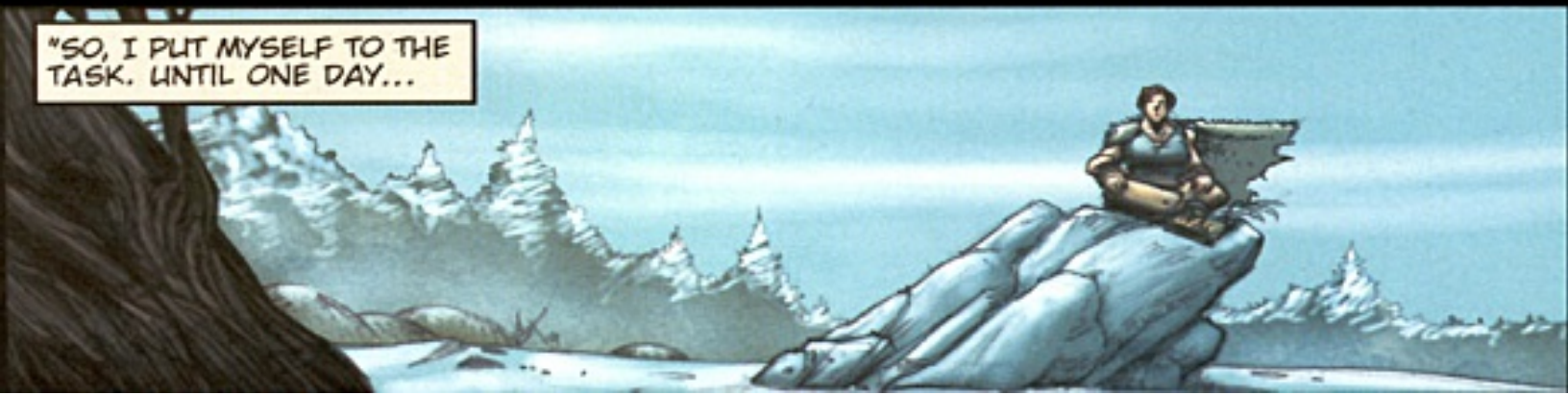
"MY TRAINING CONSISTED OF KEEPING THE VILLAGE SAFE...



"...AS WELL AS *SPIRITUAL* STUDIES WHERE I SOON BEGAN TO NOTICE CERTAIN *FABLED* ABILITIES."



IT IS THE GIFT OF THE *SPIRITBEAST*... YOU ARE MOST BLESSED! YOU MUST CONTINUE YOUR *MEDITATIONS* TO MASTER THIS SKILL! AND TO MASTER IT YOU MUST HAVE *GREAT CONTROL*.



"SO, I PUT MYSELF TO THE TASK. UNTIL ONE DAY..."



AARRRRROOOOAH!

"...I BECAME A MONSTER!"

"NEVER BEFORE HAD I KNOWN SUCH RAGE AND IT SCARED ME. INSTINCTUALLY I RAN TO THE ONE PLACE OF COMFORT THAT I KNEW... HOME.



"UNFORTUNATELY MY BROTHER WAS THERE AT THE TIME.



AAAAAAH!

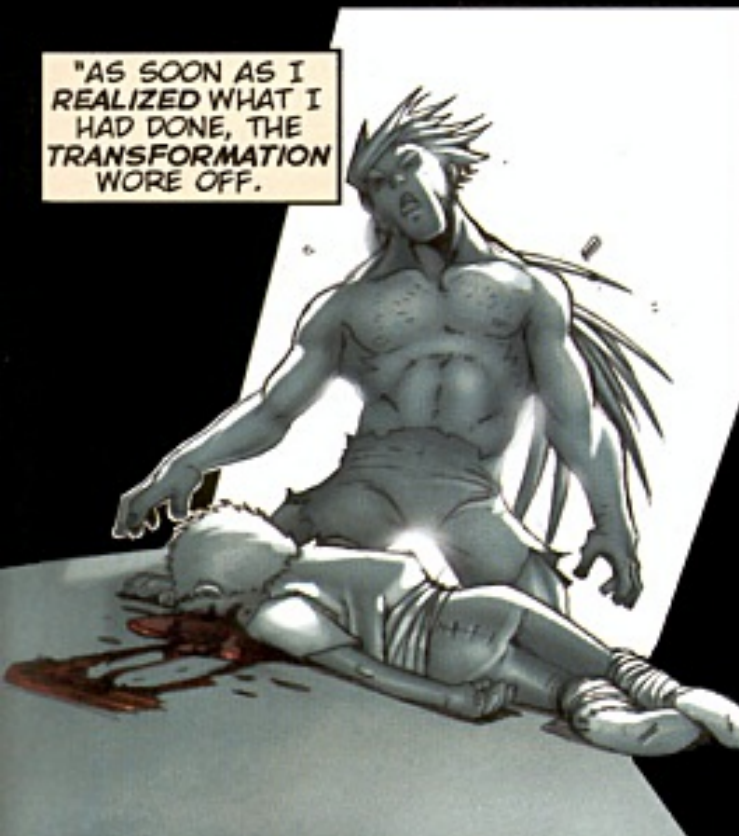


GRAAAAAAAAH!



"THAT DAY I WAS TRULY POSSESSED BY THE BEAST..."

"AS SOON AS I REALIZED WHAT I HAD DONE, THE TRANSFORMATION WORE OFF.



AZGAR!

GREY!



"THINKING I HAD KILLED
MY BROTHER, I RAN
IN SHAME.

AZGAR!!

"I HID IN THE FOREST TOO
FRIGHTENED TO FACE THE
CONSEQUENCES OF MY
ACTIONS.


"I COULD NEVER GO
BACK TO THE
VILLAGE. I COULD
NEVER AGAIN
RISK LETTING LOOSE
THE RAGE DEEP
WITHIN ME. THE
WILDERNESS
BECAME MY HOME.

"I WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT
MY BROTHER GREY WAS ALIVE.
YET I SAW THAT I HAD RUINED
HIS LIFE AS WELL AS MINE.




"I SPENT THE REST OF MY DAYS
KEEPING EVIL OUT OF THESE
WOODS AND AWAY FROM THE
VILLAGE.







YOU TELL A DIFFERENT STORY THAN THE ONE I HAVE HEARD. BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER NOW.



BAAL'S MINIONS APPROACH! ALL OF THE WARRIORS ARE AWAY ON AN OFFENSIVE. THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL OF GUARDS TO DEFEND THE VILLAGE... WE WILL NEVER SURVIVE A RAID!



IF YOU WANT TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE, YOU MUST COME BACK WITH ME NOW!



LET'S GO.









GRRRAW!



SLICH!



GRAWWWW!

REEEE!

REEE!



GRAAAW!





...grey?

AZGAR? ARE YOU THERE? IT'S YOUR BROTHER...

BE EASY, BROTHER. I NEVER HELD YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED. I ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO YOU. EVEN AFTER THE ACCIDENT ...IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.



...grey, I'm so sorry...

THEY TRIED TO BRING YOU BACK TO US, BUT THEY COULD NEVER FIND YOU. I KNEW YOU WERE THERE, WATCHING OVER US.



YOU KEPT US FROM HARM. FOREVER WILL YOU HOLD A PLACE OF HONOR. WE WILL ALWAYS LOOK UP TO YOU... BROTHER.



END

IN THE LAND OF DAKEN-SHAR, EACH DAY COULD BE YOUR LAST. HERE, A NEW BATTLE RAGES BETWEEN BARBARIANS, THE CHILDREN OF BUL-KATHOS, AND THE DEMON ARMY.

ONCE GONE FOR CENTURIES, THEY HAVE NOW RETURNED UNDER BAAL'S MALEVOLENT LEADERSHIP.



ONLY ONE WARRIOR SURVIVES ON THIS DAY...

...THE ONE CALLED *RENIT THE DARK STALKER*. WHETHER IT IS LUCK OR FATE THAT HAS SPARED HIM, HE MAKES A SOLEMN PROMISE.

THE SINISTER FORCES OF *AHJAD-DEN-- THE DEMON ARMY--* MAY HAVE WON THIS BATTLE...

...BUT ON HIS VENGEFUL HEART AND SACRED OATH, THEY WILL NOT WIN THE WAR...



...WHATEVER THE PRICE.





The HAND of NAZ

SCRIPT - PHIL AMARA

ART - FRANCISCO RUIZ VELASCO









O-O-OH!



THE *DEMON ARMY!* WHERE ARE YOU, FOUL CREATURES?! *SHOW YOURSELVES, AND I'LL HELP YOU TO THE SPIRIT WORLD!*

THERE'S... THERE'S NO ONE HERE... BUT ME! YOU... SAVED ME...



...AND FOR THAT I MUST *REPAY* YOU... *HEAL* YOU.



THE CREATURES THAT LAY AT MY FEET ARE NO MATCH FOR *RENIT THE DARK STALKER.*



I HUNT FOR *GREATER* PREY, THE *HELLSPAWN* HORDES THAT HAVE FRESHLY *SLAIN* MY COMRADES!





LEGEND TELLS OF AN ANCIENT ARTIFACT...THE HAND OF NAZ! WITH THIS GAUNTLET, A WEARER CAN SUMMON A SPECTRAL ARMY TO DO HIS BIDDING, AND GRANT HIS DARKEST WISH!



WITH THE SPECTRAL ARMY TO COMMAND, WE CAN DESTROY OUR COMMON ENEMY!



WILL YOU JOIN MY QUEST? WITH YOU BY MY SIDE WE WILL SURELY RETRIEVE THE HAND OF NAZ.



I WILL JOIN YOU...



"...AND VENGEANCE SHALL BE MINE!"

SOON...BEYOND
THE OUTSKIRTS...



THE TRAIL
LEADS HERE...TO
THE CASTLE OF
KANEMITH. WHAT
EVILS WAIT
FOR US WITHIN
THIS FABLED
FORTRESS, I DO
NOT KNOW.



ANY MAN OR
CREATURE FOOL
ENOUGH TO BAR
MY WAY WILL
QUICKLY MEET
HIS GODS!



STILL,
DREAD WARRIOR,
YOU MUST BE
CAUTIOUS. NOT ALL
DANGERS ARE...
CONSPICUOUS.

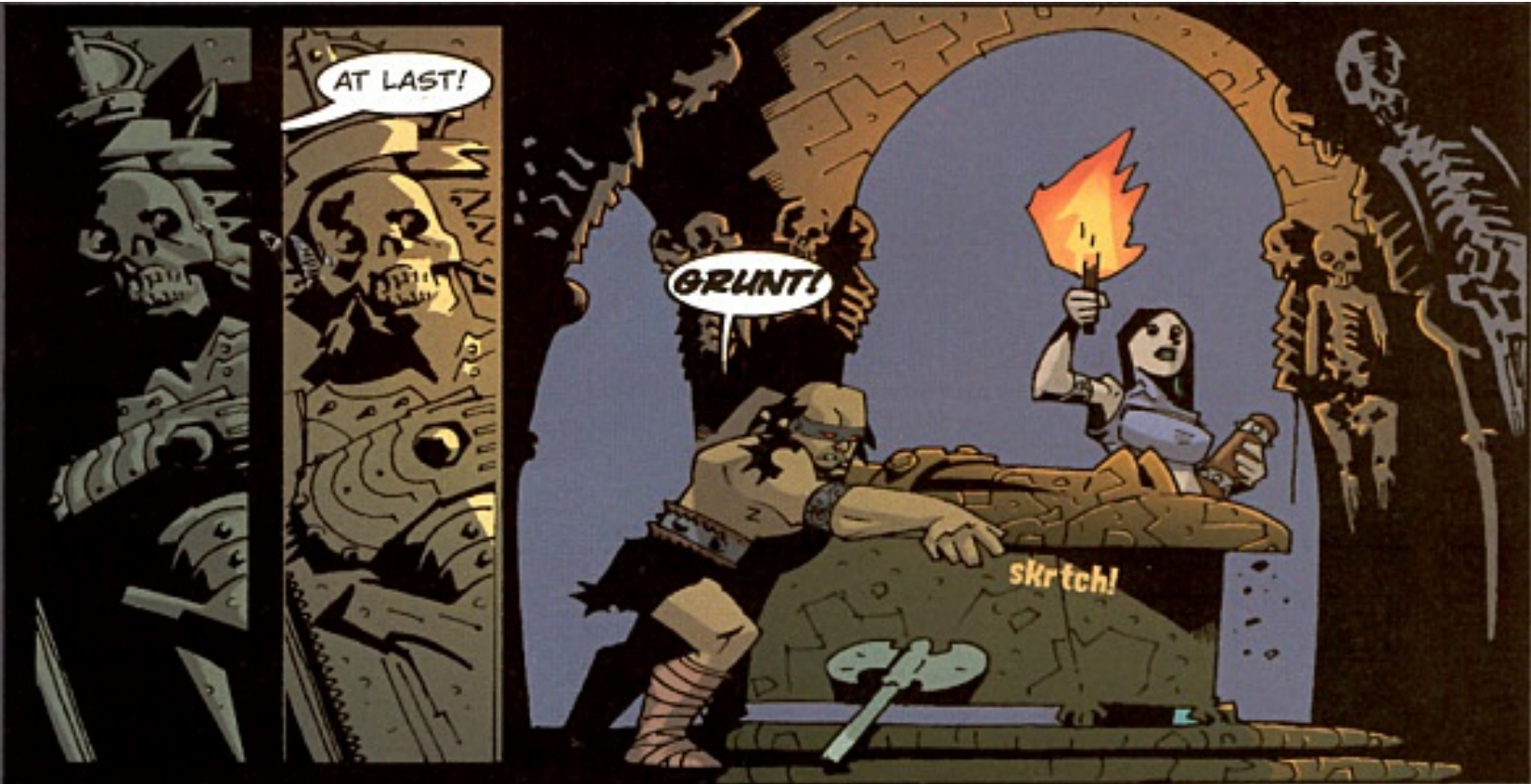




THE LAST RESTING PLACE OF THE HAND OF NAZ IS A SECRET TOMB BENEATH THE CASTLE.



THEN STOP WASTING TIME, APPRENTICE! I HAVE DEMONS TO KILL!



SOON...



TODAY,
FOUL
BEASTS...



TODAY...
YOU
DIE!!!

BY MY
COMMAND,
PAINT
THE
LAND
WITH
THEIR
BLOOD!







WELCOME
BACK,
BARBARIAN.



NECROMANCER?...
BUT...
HOW?



REST, FOOL.
RESURRECTION IS
A TRYING EXPERIENCE.
AND, I HAVE MUCH
TO TELL YOU...TO
CONFESS.



YOU WERE...
LOST TO THE
UNDEAD IN THE
TOMB OF THE
KING.
I **SAW** IT!

YES, **TRAPPED**,
NO THANKS TO YOU!
WERE I **TRULY** AN
APPRENTICE, I
WOULD HAVE MET MY
FATE. BUT I AM **NO**
APPRENTICE!



I AM
CAIRO OF THE
BRIGHT CIRCLE...
CAIRO,
DAUGHTER OF
MEK...
CAIRO
THE MASTER!

CAIRO...UH...
THE LIAR!

NOT ALL LIES.

THOUGH I AM NO
ACOLYTE, MY
BRETHREN WERE
SLAIN BY THE DEMON
ARMY...WHEN I WAS
BUT A GIRL.




I'VE TRAINED
FOR YEARS,
WAITING
PATIENTLY FOR
REVENGE. WHEN
I DISCOVERED
THE LEGEND OF
NAZ, I KNEW I
MUST FIND THE
GAUNTLET.

BUT WHY
COULD IT ONLY
BE WORN
ONCE?
INSTINCT TOLD
ME IT CAME
WITH A
PRICE. BUT,
WHAT?



MY QUEST
LED ME TO THIS
FORESAKEN
LAND, WHERE I
FOUND YOUR
BARBARIAN ARMY
BESIEGED BY
DEMONS.
FROM THERE,
I HATCHED
A PLAN.

THE
SPIDERS...
THEY WERE
NO REAL
THREAT TO
YOU!




IT WAS MERE THEATER, A WAY
TO BRING YOU TO ME, TO
TEST YOUR ARROGANCE
AND BLOODLUST.

I HOPED
YOU COULD BE
ENTICED BY THE
GAUNTLET. YOU
BECAME MY
PAWN, TO GAUGE
IT'S POWER
AND GLEEN
IT'S CURSE.

"I KNEW OF THE UNDEAD
THAT GUARDED THE TOMB
IF THE GAUNTLET WAS
DISTURBED...

...AND, I KNEW YOU
WOULD ABANDON ME."





TO DEFEAT YOUR ENEMIES FOR YOU!

IT WAS THE PLAN ALL ALONG. DON'T BE SOUR. WE ARE BOTH VICTORIOUS THIS DAY!



*FOR YOUR ROLE, I HAVE RETURNED YOU TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING, TO DEFEAT NEW FOES.

WOULD YOU RATHER A LIFE OF INFINITE SERVITUDE-- FOREVER MARCHING WITH SPECTRAL ARMY--AS REWARD FOR USE OF THE GAUNTLET?



NOW I MUST COMPLETE MY TASK. THE JEWEL OF NAZ IS THE REAL PRIZE! WITHIN IT IS THE KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THOSE TEMPTED BY THE GAUNTLET.

KRAK



THEIR SOULS ARE AT LAST RELEASED TO THE AFTERLIFE, BUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE IS MINE!

FWHOOSH



NOW, RENIT THE DARK STALKER, OUR TIME TOGETHER DRAWS TO A CLOSE, AND NEW ADVENTURES AWAIT ME.



WE SHALL NOT MEET AGAIN.

END

Hatred's Bride

Script- Dave Land
Art- Francisco Ruiz Velasco
Colors- Oscar Carreno

I AM A **PALADIN** OF THE **ZAKARUM** AND MY PURPOSE IN THIS WORLD IS **CLEAR**. I EXIST TO **PURGE** EVIL FROM THE LAND AND **PROTECT** THE INNOCENT. I WAS TAUGHT THIS BY THE **PRIESTS** OF **ZAKARUM** WHO RAISED ME.



I FEEL *SORRY* FOR
THOSE WHO'S
PURPOSE IN LIFE IS
NOT AS *CLEAR* AS
MINE.

TO ME THEY ARE
LOST...



Nooooo!

HELLLLP!





BACK! YOU DAMNED BEASTS! YOU'LL NOT HAVE MY DAUGHTER!



BACK TO HELL WITH YOU!



FATHER!



GRRAAH!

GRNN!

BAHH!

...NO...!



GA?!



YEILD.





THANK AKARAT I HEARD YOUR SCREAMS. COME WITH ME, CHILD... WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

I'M... BAY.



WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

T-THEY CAME FROM THE WOODS. WE'D SEEN THEM BEFORE AND HID WHENEVER THEY CAME NEAR. T-THEY NEVER SEEMED TO NOTICE US BEFORE TODAY.



EASE YOURSELF, CHILD... REST HERE. YOU'RE SAFE NOW.



THIS WAS A STORY I HAD HEARD BEFORE. RANDOM ATTACKS ON PEASANT FARMERS WERE NOT UNKNOWN TO ME.

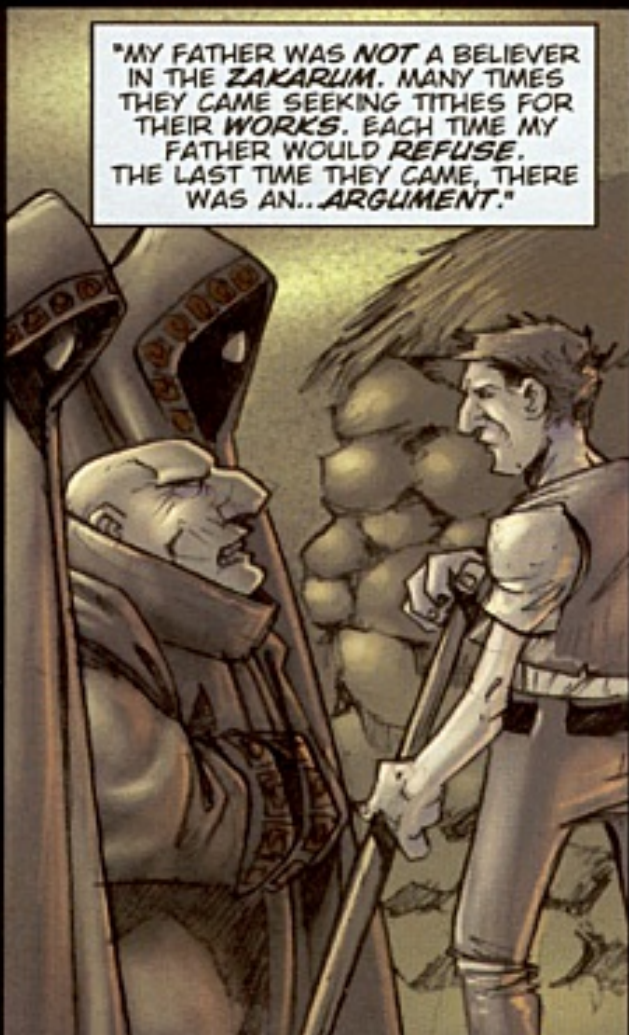


I WOULD BURY THE CHILD'S PARENTS AND THEN TURN HER OVER TO THE CARE OF THE ZAKARUM.



TELL ME, DO YOU KNOW OF THE ZAKARUM?

YES, THEY HAVE A **CATHEDRAL** NOT FAR FROM HERE. I CAN SHOW YOU THE WAY.



"MY FATHER WAS **NOT** A BELIEVER IN THE ZAKARUM. MANY TIMES THEY CAME SEEKING TITHES FOR THEIR **WORKS**. EACH TIME MY FATHER WOULD **REFUSE**. THE LAST TIME THEY CAME, THERE WAS AN...**ARGUMENT**."



YOU WILL **REGRET** THIS FARMER! THE ZAKARUM ARE YOUR ONLY CHANCE OF **REFUGE** AGAINST THE EVILS IN THIS **WORLD!**



WE ARE **GOOD** PEOPLE. I CAN SEE TO MY **FAMILY'S** SAFETY ON MY OWN.

THOSE WHO **REFUSE** AKARAT ARE **LOST!**



FATHER SHOULD HAVE **LISTENED** TO THEM. MAYBE HE'D BE **ALIVE** IF HE **HAD**.



THE
ZAKARUM
LIVE
THERE.





THIS PLACE
FRIGHTENS
ME..

DON'T BE *AFRAID*.
THESE DECORATIONS ONLY
SERVE TO ILLUSTRATE
THE *EVIL* OF THE
OUTSIDE WORLD. WE
ARE SAFE HERE.



HE SPEAKS THE
TRUTH, CHILD!
YOU'RE AS *SAFE*
HERE AS YOU
WERE IN YOUR
MOTHER'S
WOMB.



GREETINGS, *CURATE*.
I AM *HALE*, PALADIN OF
ZAKARUM AND THIS IS *BAY*.
SHE'S FROM NOT FAR FROM
HERE. HER *PARENTS* WERE
KILLED.


I WAS
WONDERING IF
YOU WOULDN'T
MIND --




LOOKING AFTER HER?!
NOT AT ALL! IT WOULD
BE OUR PLEASURE TO
RAISE THIS FINE GIRL
HERE IN OUR CATHEDRAL
AND TEACH HER OF THE
WAYS OF ZAKARUM...




BROTHER,
PLEASE SEE
PALADIN HALE
TO A CHAMBER WHERE
HE MAY REST. I'LL
TAKE CARE OF
YOUNG *BAY*.




SOMETHING IS *NOT* RIGHT. I KNOW I SHOULD *TRUST* THE ZAKARUM CURATE *WITHOUT* QUESTION... YET...



IT'S PROBABLY JUST *FATIGUE*. IT'S BEEN DAYS SINCE I'VE SLEPT.



I'M BEING *PARANOID*. THE INFLUENCES OF THE *OUTSIDE* WORLD ARE WORKING *AGAINST* ME. I NEED REST.



HAAAAAAALEI





A ZAKARLIM
CRYPT... I'M ON
HALLOWED
GROUND.

HALE!
HELPH-



CLAK

CHAK



THEN AGAIN...
MAYBE NOT!



KRAK

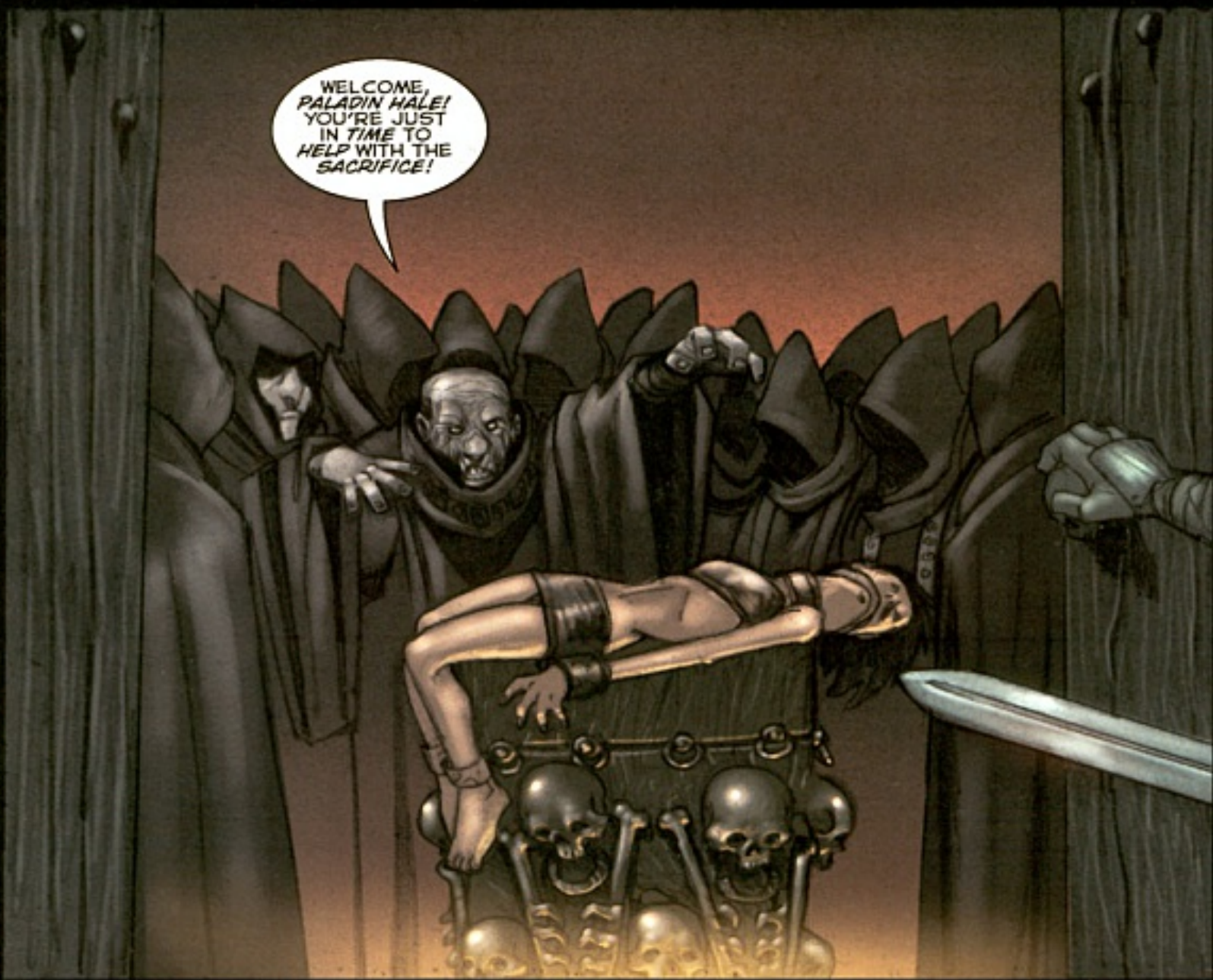
SPAK



WHAT HAVE WE HERE?



KREEK



WELCOME, PALADIN HALE!
YOU'RE JUST IN TIME TO
HELP WITH THE SACRIFICE!



STOP HIM!
OUR SACRIFICE
TO MEPHISTO,
LORD OF HATRED,
SHALL NOT BE
STOPPED!



YOU'RE FIGHTING
A LOSING
BATTLE,
PALADIN! DON'T
YOU KNOW?
HAVEN'T YOU
HEARD?



YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR
MEPHISTO AS WELL!
AS LONG AS YOU COUNT
YOURSELF AMONG THE
ZAKARUM, YOU SERVE THE
LORD OF HATRED! THE
ENTIRE FAITH SERVES
ONE MASTER...LORD
MEPHISTO!

LIES!



NO MATTER. I
CAN CONTINUE
MY BUSINESS
ELSEWHERE.



I MUST
THANK YOU FOR
DELIVERING THIS
YOUNG ONE TO US,
PALADIN.
HER BLOOD WILL
SURELY PLEASE
MEPHISTO!

NO!



FIGHT
HIM, BAY!

HALE!



YOU WILL
NOT ESCAPE
ME, CURATE!
I SWEAR
IT!



VOOMP!





THE WORLD, IT SEEMS, IS NOT AS I THOUGHT. YET MY PURPOSE IS STILL CLEAR.

THIS IS A PLACE OF EVIL -- AND FOR THAT IT MUST BURN.



I WILL FIND THE TRUTH. IF THE ZAKARUM FAITH IS TRULY A WORK OF EVIL...



...THEN IT SHALL BURN AS WELL.

END



*Diablo, final mutation
Act 5 ending (game)
bipedal*

*Diablo, first mutations
Act 5 opening cinematic
four legs, clothed*

*Extra legs were included from
Diablo to protect Sanctuary
Darkness within*



DIABLO

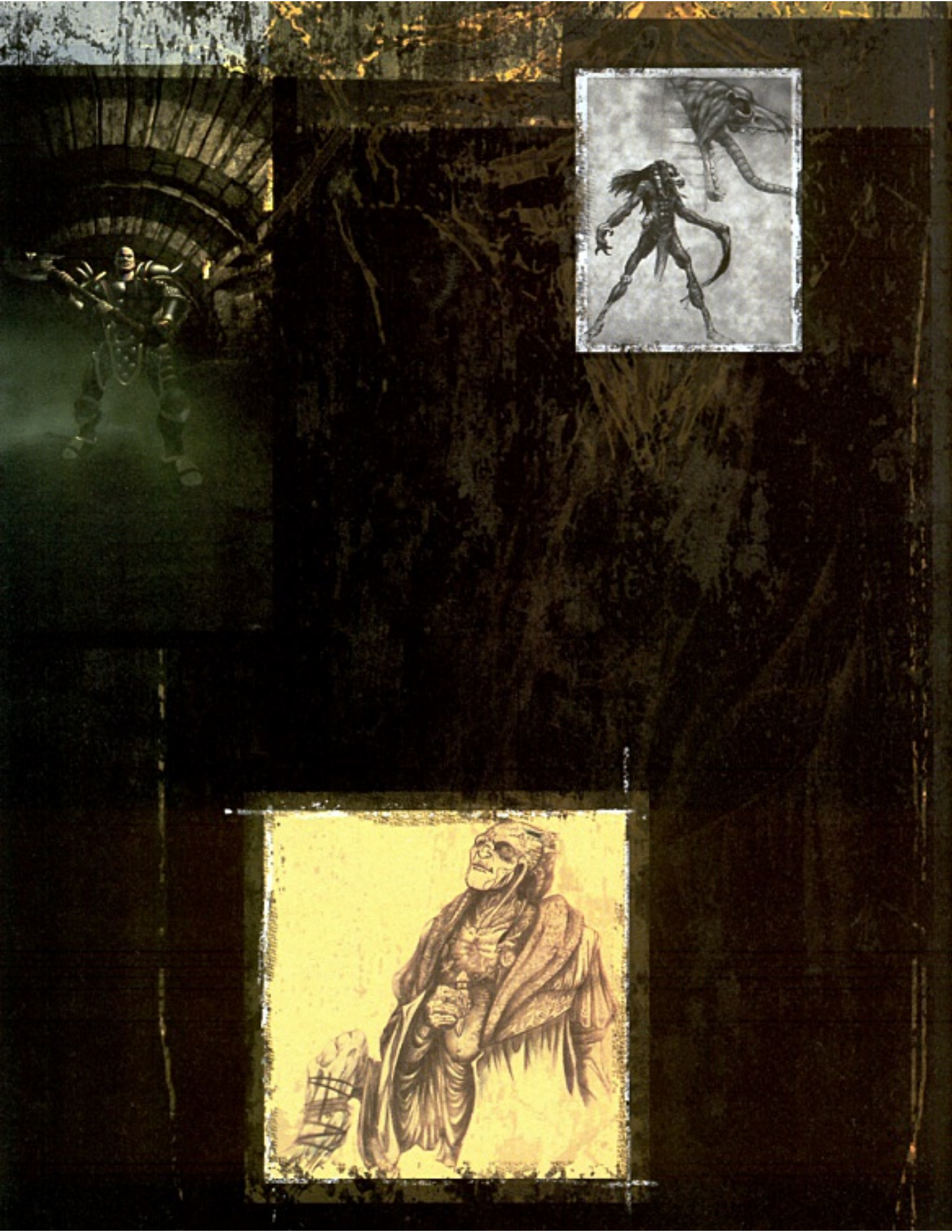
TALES OF SANCTUARY™

gallery

Featuring Diablo art from the archives
of Blizzard Entertainment.













lumps embedded
in thick hide









ENTER A WORLD WHERE EVIL HAS CORRUPTED THE LAND IN **Diablo®: Tales of Sanctuary™**. COLLECTING THREE STORIES OF HORROR, ADVENTURE, AND ACTION FEATURING CHARACTERS AND CREATURES FROM THE HIT COMPUTER GAME SERIES **Diablo!** FOLLOW THE BARBARIAN, RENIT, AND NECROMANCER, CAIRO, AS THEY SEARCH FOR THE FABLED "HAND OF NAZ" IN ORDER TO OVERCOME A DEMON HORDE. MEET A PALADIN NAMED HALE AS HE FIGHTS AN EVIL THAT WILL CAUSE HIM TO QUESTION THE VERY NATURE OF HIS EXISTENCE. WITNESS THE DRUID, AZGAR, AS HE FIGHTS TO DEFEND HIS VILLAGE AND OVERCOME THE DEMONS THAT LIE DEEP WITHIN HIM! ILLUSTRATED BY MASTER COMICS ARTIST FRANCISCO RUIZ "Battlegods" VELASCO, **Diablo®: Tales of Sanctuary™**, WILL SLAKE YOUR THIRST FOR ADVENTURE AND YET LEAVE YOU CRYING FOR MORE!



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