



Unfinished Tales

Ed Brubaker
Sean Phillips

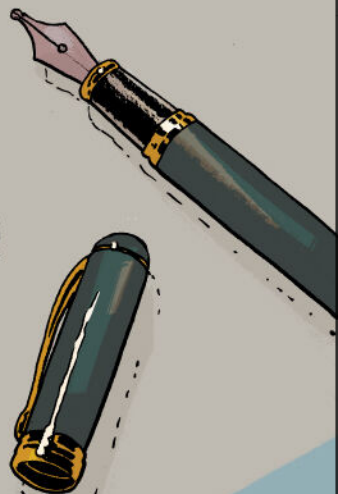
Over 800 Weeks
on the NY Times
Bestseller List

KNIGHTS OF NOVEMBER

BOOK 6 in *THE
KNIGHT FIRE
TAPESTRY*



Finnegan Blake





Atlanta Fantasy Convention - 2021



Finnegan Blake's Last Public Appearance

YOU KNOW HIM FROM THE EMMY-WINNING SHOW ADAPTING HIS LEGENDARY NOVELS...

OR FROM HIS HYSTERICAL HUGO AWARDS SPEECHES...



BUT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER... YOU KNOW THIS MAN...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR THE UNHERALDED POET OF GRIMDARK FANTASY...

MISTER FINNEGAN BLAAAAAAAAAKE!

It had been a fairly typical convention until the Q and A...



A few signings. Ticketed events full of nervous fans.

NICE - UM - NICE TO MEET YOU...

KNIGHTS OF WINTER IS MY FAVORITE SHOW EVER.

OH, THANKS.

YEAH, I THINK THOSE GUYS DID A GREAT JOB ON IT... MOSTLY.

Meet Finnegan Author of The Knight Fire Tapestry



Presenting an award to an up-and-coming writer.

...AND HE'S SO GODDAMN PROLIFIC THAT I WANT TO STRANGLE HIM.

HAHAHAHA!
HAHA!



And dinner with the organizers and other guests...

IT'S FINN, RIGHT? WE MET IN THE BEFORE-TIMES... I'M EDGAR EDWARDS.

I REMEMBER... AT WORLDCON, BACK IN THE 90S...

WE TALKED ABOUT "LEAF BY NIGGLE."

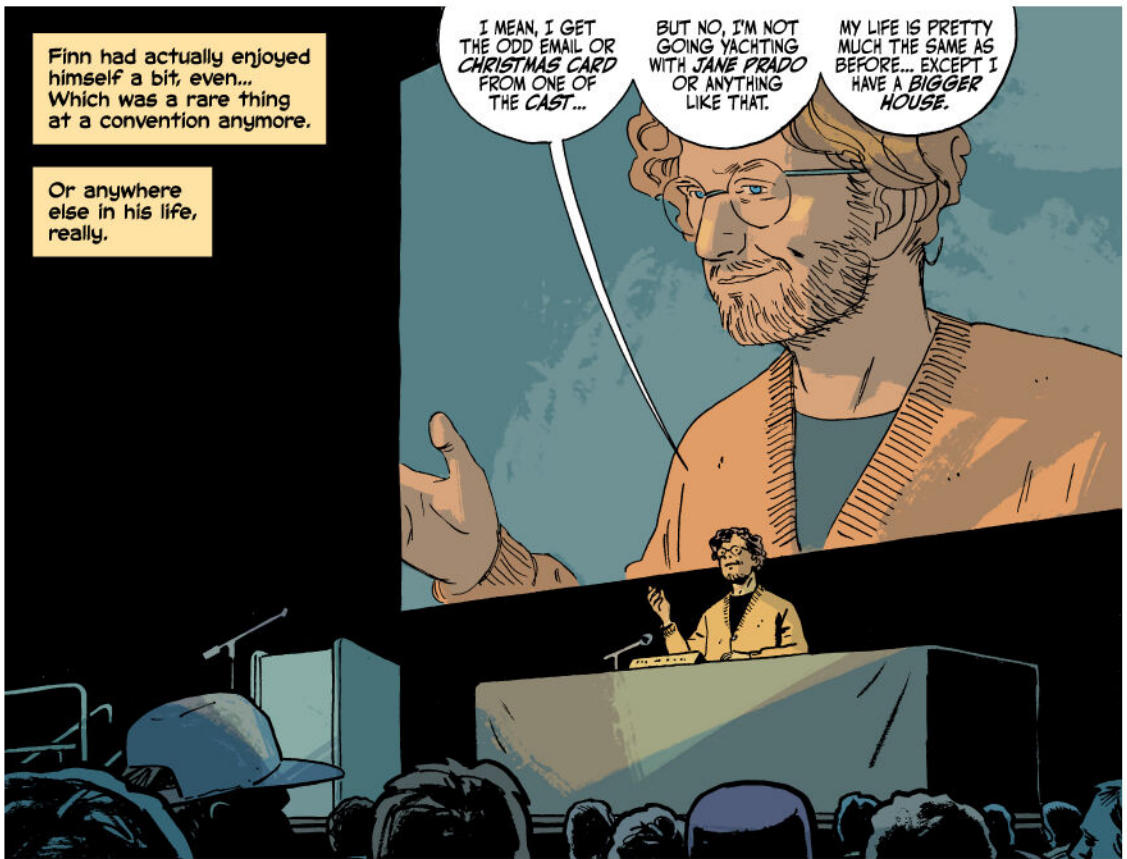
Finn had actually enjoyed himself a bit, even... Which was a rare thing at a convention anymore.

Or anywhere else in his life, really.

I MEAN, I GET THE ODD EMAIL OR CHRISTMAS CARD FROM ONE OF THE CAST...

BUT NO, I'M NOT GOING YACHTING WITH JANE PRADO OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

MY LIFE IS PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS BEFORE... EXCEPT I HAVE A **BIGGER HOUSE**.



So he was feeling pretty good that Sunday afternoon... In that big hall, full of his fans.

OKAY, NEXT QUESTION...

AND REMEMBER, **POLITE** QUESTIONS ONLY...

DON'T BE A **DICK**.



But he really should've seen it coming...

HI, MY NAME'S DRYDEN... MR BLAKE, I'M A BIG FAN OF **KNIGHT FIRE**...

AND I KNOW YOU'RE, UH... YOU'RE WORKING ON **KNIGHTS OF THE SUN**... BUT...





WELL, IT'S BEEN **TWELVE YEARS** SINCE BOOK SIX...

SO WHY ARE YOU **HERE...**

INSTEAD OF AT HOME, **WRITING?**



The audience went wild.

OKAY, GIVE ME **THAT --**

GET OFFA ME, **MAN --!**



Dryden was their hero, and he knew it.

WHAT HAPPENED? YOU HAVING TOO MUCH FUN SWIMMING IN YOUR **MONEY PIT?!**

DID YOU FORGET WHO PAID FOR THAT **BIG HOUSE?!**

WE DID!!



By the time the moderator had the crowd under control again Finn was halfway back to his hotel room.



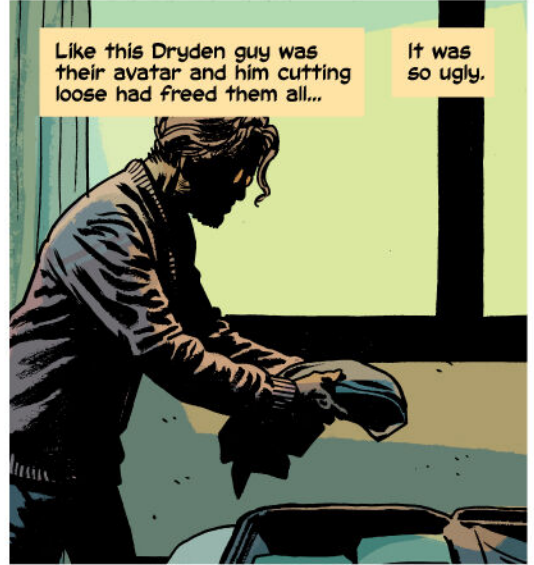


But the cheering stuck with him.

And the laughter.



There were even scattered boos as he left the stage.



Like this Dryden guy was their avatar and him cutting loose had freed them all...

It was so ugly.



And yet, at the same time, Finn thought...

He had no one to blame but himself.