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THE DARKNESS VERSUS the Magdalena

Mafia Hitman Jackie Estacado is both blessed and cursed on his 21st birthday when he becomes the bearer of The Darkness, an elemental force that allows those who wield it access to an otherworldly dimension and control over the demons who dwell there. Forces for good in the world will rise up to face Jackie and the evil his gift represents. There is one small problem, in this story...evil is good.

THE MAGDALENA RETURNS! Like most supernatural do-gooders, the Order of the Magdalena has tangled with Darkness wielders over the centuries...but their histories are more intertwined than most. In this oversized special, witness the Darkness' influence over the Warriors of the Blood Divine in three different stories, from 1 AD Jerusalem all the way up to the grungy, industrial 1990s.

Featuring a chapter showcasing Top Cow's 2026 Talent Hunt winner, Zul Fadhli.

The Darkness created by **Garth Ennis**, **Marc Silvestri**, and **David Wohl**

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CHAPTER TWO
1772: The Mission
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CHAPTER THREE
End Time
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by **Zul Fadhli**
Line art pgs. 4-10 by
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and the Top Cow Store Virgin variant art by
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CHAPTER ONE

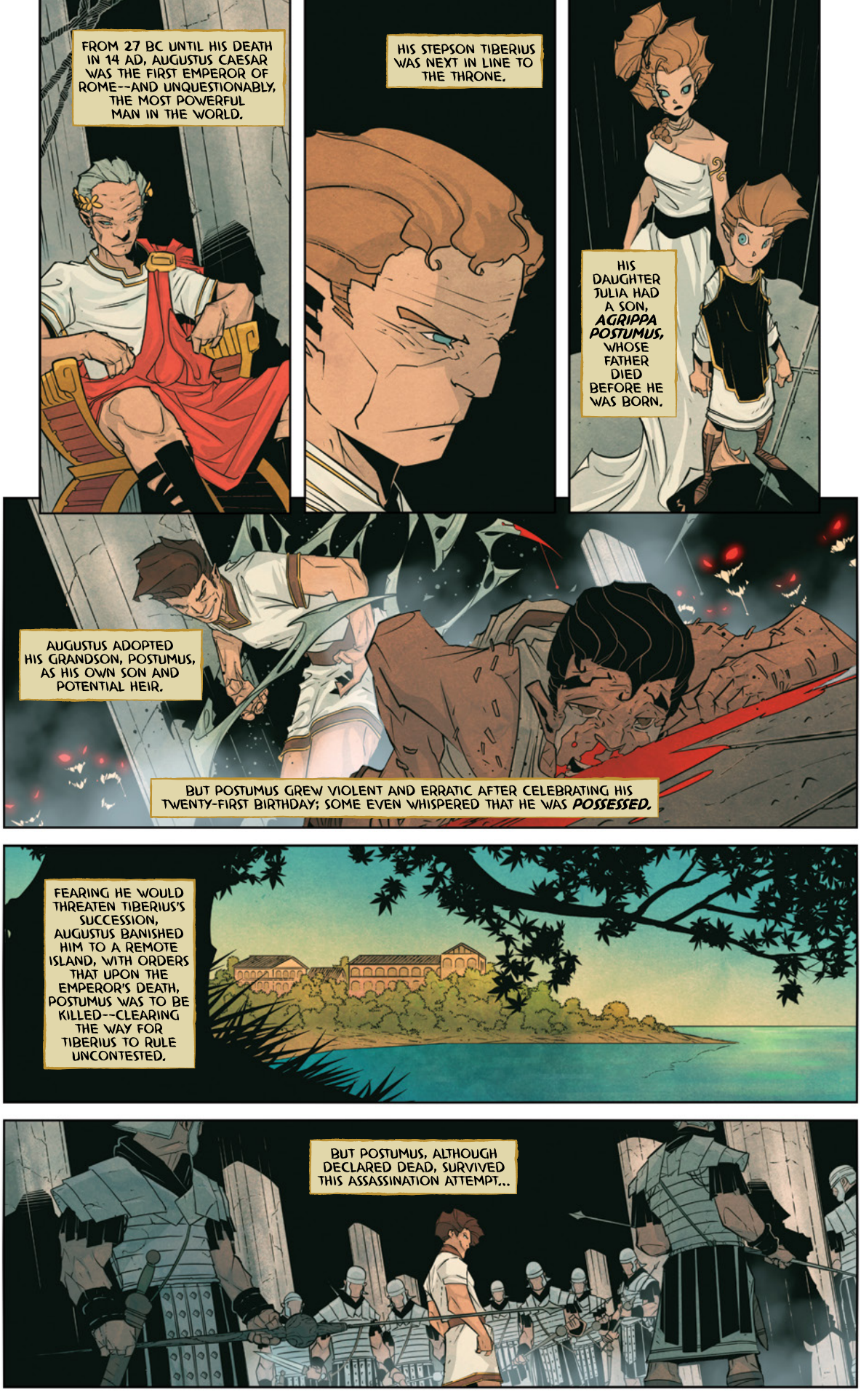
"In The Beginning"

Written by **Matt Hawkins**
and **Ryan Cady**

Line art by **Pat Boutin**

Colors by **Gibran Ferdian**


BIRTH.
BAPTISM.
TEACHING.
APOSTLES.
HEALING.
JERUSALEM.
THE LAST SUPPER.


FROM 27 BC UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 14 AD, AUGUSTUS CAESAR WAS THE FIRST EMPEROR OF ROME--AND UNQUESTIONABLY, THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE WORLD.
HIS STEPSON TIBERIUS WAS NEXT IN LINE TO THE THRONE.
HIS DAUGHTER JULIA HAD A SON, AGRIPPA POSTUMUS, WHOSE FATHER DIED BEFORE HE WAS BORN.
AUGUSTUS ADOPTED HIS GRANDSON, POSTUMUS, AS HIS OWN SON AND POTENTIAL HEIR.
BUT POSTUMUS GREW VIOLENT AND ERRATIC AFTER CELEBRATING HIS TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY; SOME EVEN WHISPERED THAT HE WAS POSSESSED.
FEARING HE WOULD THREATEN TIBERIUS'S SUCCESSION, AUGUSTUS BANISHED HIM TO A REMOTE ISLAND, WITH ORDERS THAT UPON THE EMPEROR'S DEATH, POSTUMUS WAS TO BE KILLED--CLEARING THE WAY FOR TIBERIUS TO RULE UNCONTESTED.
BUT POSTUMUS, ALTHOUGH DECLARED DEAD, SURVIVED THIS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT...


...AND EMBRACED A DARKNESS WITHIN HIM.