

SON OF SATAN **MARVEL COMICS GROUP**™



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THE SON OF SATAN

MIRROR OF JUDGMENT!



**POSSIBLY
THE MOST
THRILL-PACKED
SUPERNATURAL
ADVENTURE
YOU'LL READ
THIS
MONTH!**

12



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He is *Daimon Hellstrom*—spawn of the devil, born of woman—man of God, heir to hell—and his two natures are ever at war! For though he carries Satan's mark on his chest, he is sworn to drive his Father's minions from the world of men. Exorcist, psychic, demonologist, wielder of the soulfire—he is all of these, but within him lurks a second self, a savage, satanic side he must constantly fight to control...lest he lose his human heritage forever!

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

SON OF SATAN™

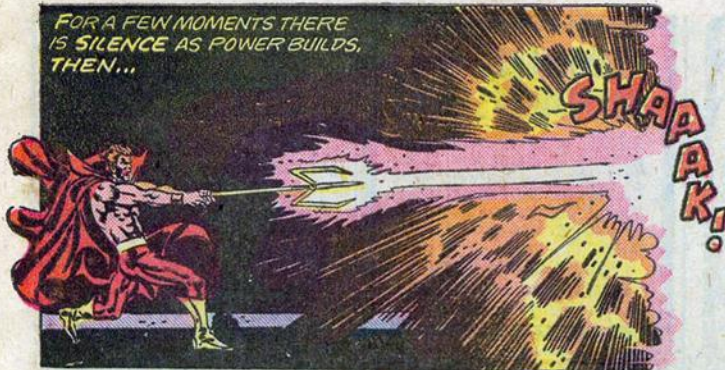
JOHN WARNER • WRITER / SONNY TRINIDAD • ARTIST / ARCHIE GOODWIN • EDITOR
PROUDLY PRESENT THE MIND-SHATTERING FINALE TO A SUPERNATURAL
MASTERWORK! *



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FOR A FEW MOMENTS THERE
IS SILENCE AS POWER BUILDS.
THEN...



YOUR FLAME IS
FORMIDABLE, BUT
IT CANNOT PENE-
TRATE MY ASTRAL
WALL.



YOU MERELY
STALL, HELLSTROM.

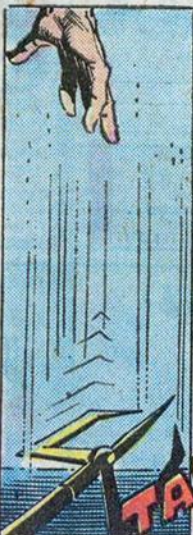
ONE TIME
I WILL GET
THAT TRIDENT
AWAY FROM
YOU. YOU'LL
BE HELPLESS.



TIME--
THAT'S ALL
I NEED.

HELPLESS...?

THEN YOU
THINK...



WHAT
IN...



THE TRIDENT IS A
SYMBOL, A FOCUS
WITH WHICH TO
CONTROL MY POWER.
BUT THE POWER
ITSELF IS MINE--



--MY WILL
BE DONE!

NO, SATAN
SON! MY
WILL BE
DONE!

THAT VOICE.
THEN HE'S
HERE!



THE AIR IN THE ROOM
BECOMES ELECTRIFIED...

...AND
SLOWLY...

SHAKK!

...DRAMATICALLY...

SPRASH!

...ALL THE MIRRORS, SET
AROUND THE PERIMETER OF
THE ROOM EXPLODE.

ALL SAVE ONE, OUT
OF WHICH EMERGES...

ANUBIS!

LORD OF
DEATH AND
REBIRTH!

BY THE
SEVEN
CIRCLES!



YESSS, SILAS
WARDEN--ANUBIS,
AND NOW THIS
SHAM SHALL BE
PUT TO ITS
FINISH.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ANUBIS IS
TURNING TOWARDS MINDSTAR.
HE'S ABOUT TO...



...ATTACK!

ZZAANK!

YOU'RE
TOO LATE,
ANUBIS!



THOUGH I WAS
WILLING TO CONTINUE
THE PRETEXT OF OUR
ORIGINAL PACT, I'VE
BECOME MORE
POWERFUL THAN
YOU IMAGINE.



AND SO LONG AS
I POSSESS THIS,
I NEED NOT FEAR
YOU OR ANYONE
ELSE.



YOU PRESUME
TOO MUCH,
WARDEN.



TRUE, YOUR
THRICE-CURSED
TALISMAN PROTECTS
YOU FROM ME!

BUT
THIS
TIME
I HAVE
COME
PRE-
PARED.



FOR I PROMISE YOU
-- YOUR TALISMAN SHALL
HAVE NO EFFECT ON MY
NEWEST SERVANT!*

*THE AWESOME
BEAST INTRO-
DUCED LAST
ISSUE-- ARCH.

INTERLUDE...

...THE ARLINGTON,
VIRGINIA HOME OF
SARIPHA THAMES.

SILENCE.

THE SILENCE OF
MEDITATION.

MEDITATION
ABOUT TO BE
DISRUPTED.

SARIPHA LOOKS UP SLOWLY,
NOT STARTLED BY THIS
INTRUSION.

RING

HELLO? I AM
READY. MY MAGIC
CIRCLE IS CAST.
YES, BEGIN AT
ONCE. I WILL NEED
THE COLLECTIVE
POWER RAISED BY
THE ENTIRE COVEN.

I DON'T
KNOW IN
WHAT WAY,
BUT DAIMON
IS IN DANGER
... GRAVE
DANGER.
SOMEHOW
THE TWO OF
US HAVE
FORMED A
PSYCHIC
LINK.

I ONLY REGRET
THERE WAS NO
TIME FOR ME TO
DRIVE TO YOU. A
HIGH PRIESTESS
SHOULD BE WITH
HER PRIEST AND
HER COVEN.

BLESSED BE.

THOUGH I
CAN'T SAY THE
NATURE OF THIS
DANGER, I CAN
SEND HIM THE
POWER HE NEEDS
TO DEAL WITH IT...

... AND TRUST
IN THE LORD AND
LADY TO GUIDE
HIM.

MY COVEN IS
ALREADY SENDING
POWER-- I FEEL
IT.

I MUST
BEGIN.

EKO EKO OM.
EKO EKO OM.

EKO EKO ARIDA.
EKO EKO
KERNUNNOS.
EKO EKO OM.

YES, DAIMON HELLSTROM DOES NEED AID. AND I KNOW DEEP DOWN, WHAT SORT OF AID IS NEEDED.

MAY THE GODS BLESS AND WATCH YOU, SARIPHA, FOR YOU DO MORE GOOD THAN YOU KNOW.

BUT THE TIME HAS COME FOR ME TO TAKE MATTERS UPON MYSELF.

FOR I, THE ORACLE, DO UNDERSTAND MY VISIONS-- THOUGH I HAVE TRIED NOTTO.

AND, THOUGH I AM AN ORACLE...

... THERE IS A PART OF ME WHICH IS HUMAN AND REALIZES THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE POWER I POSSESS.

MEANWHILE, BACK WITH THE MUCH-DISCUSSED MR. HELLSTROM...

ANUBIS HAS TEMPORARILY FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME AND IS ATTACKING MINDSTORM.

WHICH LEAVES ME THIS-- THIS MONSTER TO WORRY ABOUT. A WORRY, IT WOULD SEEM, MINDSTAR SHARES.

ZAK K!



KEEP PRESSING HIM. WE'VE STOPPED HIM!

YOU'RE RIGHT. IF THIS IS ANUBIS' IDEA OF A GREAT SECRET WEAPON, HE'S BETTER--



KA-BRAK!

YUHHHNG!



MY HEAD--SCREAMING. THAT EXPLOSION DISRUPTED MY ETHERIC BODY...

... WHICH MEANS IT ISN'T ENTIRELY A PHYSICAL PHENOMENON.



STAY BACK, HELLSTROM. I JUST NEED A MOMENT TO RECHARGE.


AND I WON'T BE RESCUED BY YOU.




YOU NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT THAT, SILAS WARDEN. HELLSTROM WILL BE QUITE TOO BUSY.



DESTROY HIM, MY SERVANT!



BUT WHY? DO YOU WANT ME DEAD?



CRETIN! STILL YOU INSIST YOU DO NOT COMPREHEND?!

YOU HAVE REFUSED TO RETURN THAT WHICH IS MINE. I WILL BROOK NO FURTHER IMPUDENCE.



YOU SAW IT ALL BEFORE IT EVER HAPPENED--IN THE ORACLE'S DREAM!

THE **BRONZE FIGURE** THAT PRESENTED HIMSELF BEFORE YOU WAS A MAN WHOSE **SOUL** WAS PLACED IN MY CARE THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO.

IN THOSE YEARS HE **ESCAPED**, FLEEING MY KEEP, INHABITING OTHER MEN AND WOMEN, ALWAYS ONE STEP AHEAD OF ME.

UNTIL **NOW!** UNTIL MINDSTAR, ACTING AS MY AGENT AMONG MORTALS -- BEFORE HE BETRAYED ME -- FOUND YOU.



IT ALL BEGINS TO MAKE A CRAZY SORT OF SENSE. THE **STUDENT** MINDSTAR ATTACKED WAS THIS RUNAWAY SOUL'S LATEST "SHELTER." MINDSTAR WAS OVER-ZEALOUS... HE KILLED THE STUDENT AND THE SOUL ESCAPED.

BUT TO COVER HIS INEPTNESS, MINDSTAR HAS NOW CONVINCED ANUBIS THAT THE **DARKSOUL** I CARRY WITHIN ME IS WHAT HE SEEKS...

... AND BY THE TIME ANUBIS LEARNS HIS MISTAKE, IT MAY BE TOO LATE.



NO! I FEEL YOUR POWER, ANUBIS-- FINGERS OF WHITE LIGHT REACHING INTO MY BRAIN...



...DRAWING OUT MY DARK-SOUL...



--YET ALL YOU'VE TRULY DONE IS RAISE MY OWN POWER. THE POWER OF HELL ITSELF!

NOOOOOO!



AND NOW,
DEMON, MONSTER,
OR WHATEVER
YOU ARE--



RELEASE
MINDSTAR
AT ONCE.



SINCE HE IS THE
ONLY ONE WHO CAN
CLEAR UP THIS GROSS
DECEPTION, I SHALL NOT
TRUST HIS CARE TO...WHAT?



HELLSTROM,
WHAT IN
BLAZES DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE...



... DOING?



HA! HA!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!



THEY HAVE
PLAYED INTO
MY HANDS.



THE FINAL
ROUND IS
MINE...

... AND
IT HAS
JUST...



...BEGIN.

SILENCE, BUT NOT VACUOUS SILENCE. IT IS THE SORT OF SILENCE THAT HUMS IN YOUR EARS.

AND TURNS MANY COLORS IN YOUR EYES.

IT IS THE SILENCE OF OTHERWHERE. A PLACE PERHAPS NO LIVING MORTAL HAS EVER BEEN BEFORE.

OH, MAN, I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

FIRST THAT WEIRD DREAM, THEN I FIND THIS GLOWING GEM IN SOME CAVE AND--BOOM --I MYSELF HERE!*

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I WANT TO KNOW --WHERE'S HERE?

*BRETT CARSON DOESN'T REMEMBER BEING TRANSFORMED BY ANUBIS IN S.O.S. #6--ARCHIE.

HEY, C'MON YOU GUYS, I'M TOO SPOOKED ALREADY TO HANDLE THE SILENT TREATMENT.

KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN. I DON'T KNOW ANY MORE THAN YOU DO.

GREAT. JUST GREAT.

LOOK, HELLSTROM, I'M ALL FOR GOING AT IT--

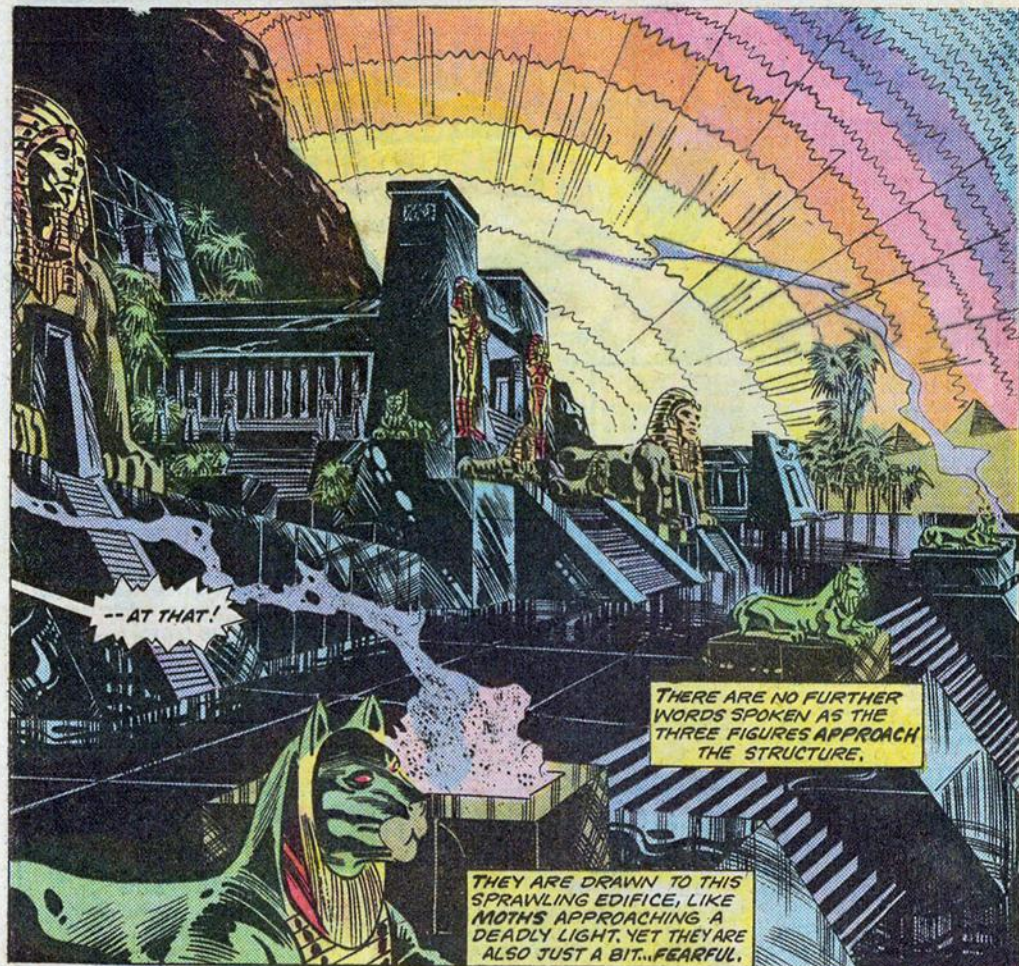
--ONLY I GET THE FEELING I'M GOING TO HAVE A WHOLE LOT WORSE THAN YOU TO WORRY ABOUT.

YES, I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.

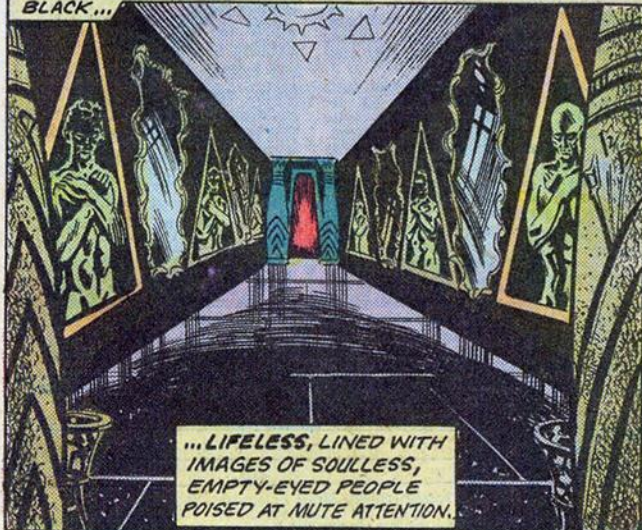
I SUGGEST WE FORGET OUR DIFFERENCES.

FOR NOW, SATAN SON.

HEY, CUT THE MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY BITS AND TAKE A LOOK...



FEARS WHICH ARE NOT ALLAYED AS THEIR FOOTSTEPS ECHO THROUGHOUT MUSTY, DESERTED CORRIDORS OF POLISHED BLACK...



CECIL B. DEMILLE
... EAT YOUR HEART
OUT!

I BELIEVE
IT'S ANUBIS,
HELLSTROM,
HIS PALACE
OF DEATH
AND REBIRTH.
I'VE HEARD
HIM TALK
ABOUT IT.

IF IT IS, HE
MAY JUST HAVE
US AT HIS
MERCY!



OKAY, LAST TIME I CHECKED, ANUBIS WAS SOME EGYPTIAN GOD. WHO IS YOUR "ANUBIS"?

SHUT UP, WHELP. YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.

ANUBIS! THEN YOU BROUGHT US HERE--

-- TO MY ASTRAL DIMENSION. YES.

I HADDA ASK. I JUST HADDA ASK.

YOU NEVER STOP TRYING, ANUBIS. BUT AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS, THAT'S ALL YOU'RE GOING TO DO!

BAH!

YOUR MIND STILL DOES NOT GRASP.

THERE ARE YOUR OUTER SHELLS. ONLY YOUR ASTRAL BODIES STAND BEFORE ME NOW.

YOUR "MEMORY" STILL LETS YOU SEE YOURSELVES AS YOU APPEAR NORMALLY, BUT IT IS ONLY A CONVENIENT ILLUSION.

AS IS YOUR PITIABLE TALISMAN, WARDEN. YOU NO LONGER POSSESS IT! AND NOW I CAN SEE YOU LIED ABOUT HELLSTROM.

YOU, WHO MISUSED AND MISSPENT THE POWER I ENTRUSTED YOU WITH--

-- NOW SHALL YOU FEEL THE TRUE WRATH OF ANUBIS!

NO! WAIT!

I CRANE A BOON-- THE LIFE OF THIS MAN. I WILL DEFEAT HIM SO THAT HE MAY BE REIMPRISONED IN HIS USELESS PHYSICAL SHELL. PUNISHMENT ENOUGH, I THINK.

BUT WHY? HE
TRIED TO KILL YOU,"
ANUBIS REPLIES.

"BECAUSE
HE IS ONE
OF THE
LIVING--
HE DOES
NOT BELONG
TO YOU."

"AND BECAUSE, IN YOUR OWN WAY,
YOU, ANUBIS, ARE RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE EVIL SILAS WARDEN
HAS BECOME."

"I WILL
FORGIVE
YOU THAT
IMPUDENCE
SPAWN OF
HELL..."

"... YOU MAY
PERHAPS BE
RIGHT."

THE
DUEL
BEGINS.

SKAAKK!

NOT BAD. YOUR
REFLEXES ALMOST
MADE UP FOR YOUR
CLUMSINESS.

GLOAT
WHILE YOU CAN,
MINDSTAR.
SINCE WE ARE
BOTH ASTRAL FORMS.

"... YOU HAVE LOST YOUR
ADVANTAGE OF SPEED.

LET THIS END.
YOU'LL ONLY
MAKE IT HARD
ON YOUR-
SELF.

STICK IT IN YOUR
SPOCK EARS, HELLSTROM.

I'VE STILL GOT
MY MIND BLASTS.

BUT THERE'S THE
RUB. YOU HAVE TO
HIT ME-- SOMETHING
YOU COULD ONLY DO
WHEN YOU WERE
FASTER THAN I.

NOOOOO...!

I'M IN TROUBLE!
A COUPLE MORE
BLASTS LIKE THAT
AND I WON'T BE
GETTING UP!





PROFFET!

MINDSTAR, DOESN'T ANYONE'S LIFE HOLD ANY VALUE FOR YOU?



NOT WHEN THAT LIFE'S GOT GREEN HAIR AND HORNS IT DOESN'T.

QUIT WHINING. WE'VE GOT A BATTLE TO FINISH!



IT IS FINISHED!

CHI. MAGIC. WILL POWER.



SOULFIRE IS ALL OF THEM AND MOST DEFINITELY BURNS FROM THE SOUL.

AND IT IS NOW CHARGED WITH A RAGE THAT, PERHAPS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE DAIMON'S TWENTY- FIRST BIRTHDAY...



...HAS NONE OF THE DARK-SOUL IN IT. IT IS PURE EMOTION...

...FINDING RELEASE!



YOU HAVE DONE WELL, SON OF SATAN. MINDSTAR IS NO MORE--

PROFFET...

...YOU CAN'T HAVE HER.

-- YOU CONSUMED HIS POWER AND I RETURNED HIM TO THE BODY OF SILAS WARDEN.



THE STUDENT WHOM I USED AS A PAWN HAS ALSO BEEN RETURNED. HE WILL REMEMBER NOTHING. I WILL CONTINUE MY QUEST.

YOU CAN'T HAVE PROFFET. DO YOU HEAR ME?



ANUBIS!

AND THEN A STRANGE SENSATION OVERTAKES THE SON OF SATAN...



...A SENSATION THAT PASSES FROM HIS FINGER-TIPS INTO PROFFET.

BUT THEN THEY ARE GONE.

WE ARE
PASSING
BETWEEN
DIMEN-
SIONS--

--BUT
WHERE
ARE WE...

YOU ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF
MY MAGIC CIRCLE. AND YOU
JUST STARTLED ME OUT OF
THREE LIFETIMES...

... BUT
THANK THE
GODS YOU'RE
SAFE.

PROFFET
IS BREATHING.
THEN ANUBIS
HAS SPARED
HER.

ANUBIS HAD
LITTLE TO DO
WITH IT. YOU
HEALED ME AS
YOU DID AMY
SEFTON SEVERAL
DAYS AGO.*

BUT MY
VISIONS--
MY ORACLE
DREAMS ARE
GONE.

IT IS AS IF THE CONCENTRATION
I USED TO CREATE A DISTRACTION--
BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID MINDSTAR
WOULD WIN-- CAUSED AN OVERLOAD.

*SOS#5,
PAGE 20--
ARCH.

I CAN SEE AND
FEEL THINGS AS OTHER
HUMANS WOULD.

I DON'T KNOW
IF I'LL LIKE
WHAT I
PERCEIVE...

DAIMON.

... BUT
I AM GLAD
IT HAPPENED.
FAREWELL.

I WAS
AFRAID
I HAD
LOST
YOU.

I REALIZE NOW.
NORMALLY, HAD MY
ASTRAL FORM LEFT
MY BODY, MY DARK-
SOUL WOULD HAVE
RISEN AND TAKEN
CONTROL. YOU
PREVENTED THAT.

YES, I THINK I
NEED YOU TOO. FOR
THE FIRST TIME IN
MY LIFE, I NEED
ANOTHER HUMAN BEING.
IT FEELS STRANGE.

I WAS
PERFORMING
A RITUAL-- TO
AID YOU. BUT
THEN, SUDDENLY,
YOU WERE
GONE.

YOUR RITUAL
SERVED A PURPOSE,
DEAR SARIPHA.

BUT I'M
TIRED. I
DON'T THINK
I CAN EVEN
MAKE IT TO
GEORGE-
TOWN.

SHH. YOU'LL NOT
BE LEAVING ME SO
SOON. I NEED YOU,
DAIMON. YOU'VE
COME TO MEAN A
LOT TO ME.

FIN

THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED
WITH THANKS TO
BARBARA LEVIN FOR
GUIDANCE AND
SUPPORT. --J.D.W.