



front cover



OH GOTARA, ETERNAL SPIRIT,  
GUARDIAN OF ALL THINGS BORN UNTO THIS  
LAND -- BEHOLD! WE HAVE CAPTURED  
ANOTHER DEMON SPAWN OF THE EVIL ONES!

ACCEPT HIS BLOOD IN SACRIFICE,  
MIGHTY GOTARA! WE AVENGE THE  
CORRUPTION OF OUR LAND!

TAUT-SKINNED DRUMS  
THROB WITH RISING  
INTENSITY...ROARING  
FLAMES CHALLENGE  
THE ANGRY TINTS OF  
THE EVENING SKY AS  
THE SPIRIT-MAN'S  
SAVAGE CHANT  
CONTINUES...

# FIRE AND FLIGHT

STORY BY  
WENDY & RICHARD PINI  
ART & SCRIPT BY  
WENDY PINI

HIS WORDS RECALL A DISTANT  
TIME WHEN THIS NAMELESS  
WORLD FIRST KNEW THE  
FOOTFALL OF MAN --





MAN, WHO WAS LITTLE MORE  
THAN BEAST...WHO FEARED  
THE NIGHT -- AND THE SOUND  
OF THUNDER!



**RRRUMMBLE!** **KRAAK!**

ON A DOOM-FILLED DAY, AMID THE FURY OF A STORM MORE AWESOME THAN ANY MAN HAD EVER WITNESSED, THE  
NATURAL ORDER OF THINGS WAS SUDDENLY SHATTERED BY FORCES SUPERNATURAL AND UNKNOWNABLE!





TERRIFIED, THE BEAST-MEN WATCHED AS THE IMMENSE  
STRUCTURE SETTLED ROUGHLY TO THE GROUND.



TALL SPIRES FORMED AN ALIEN OUTLINE AGAINST  
THE PRIMORDIAL SKY.

AS THE GREAT HOLE IN THE HEAVENS CLOSED  
FOREVER --



-- THE PRIMITIVE HUMANS UNDERSTOOD, SOMEHOW,  
THAT THEIR DOMINION WAS NOW THREATENED.

FOR FROM WITHIN THE MYSTERIOUS "MOUNTAIN  
THING" CAME THE SOUND OF --



-- VOICES --!



-- VOICES RAISED  
IN FEAR!



FEAR HAS ALWAYS HAD  
MANY FACES...



BUT IN THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN  
CULTIVATION AND BESTIALITY --



-- FEAR GAVE DESPERATE STRENGTH TO THE BESTIAL!



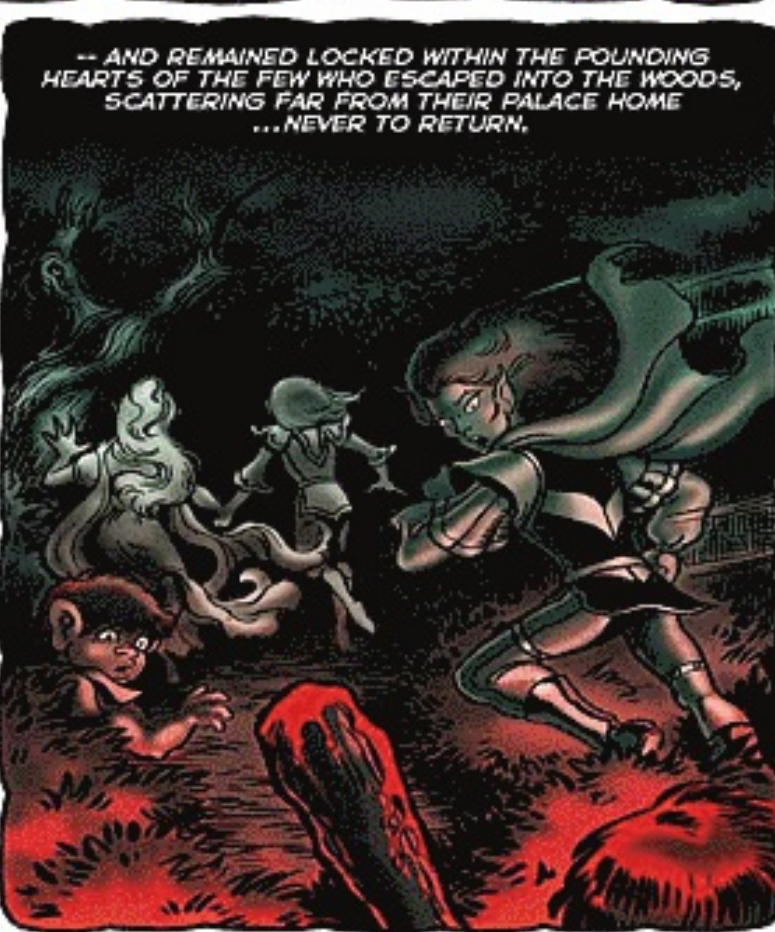
TO THEIR DISMAY, THE INNOCENT ELFIN STRANGERS DISCOVERED THAT THEIR MAGIC POWERS FLOWED WEAKLY  
THROUGH THE AETHER OF THAT SAVAGE WORLD. THEY FOUND THEMSELVES...  
...DEFENSELESS!




THE REASON FOR THEIR COMING DIED, UNSPOKEN,  
WITH THE MANY WHO WERE SLAUGHTERED --



-- AND REMAINED LOCKED WITHIN THE POUNDING  
HEARTS OF THE FEW WHO ESCAPED INTO THE WOODS,  
SCATTERING FAR FROM THEIR PALACE HOME  
...NEVER TO RETURN.








SO IT BEGAN  
AND SO THE  
HUNT WENT ON...  
DOWN THROUGH  
COUNTLESS  
GENERATIONS...

...MAN AGAINST  
SURVIVING ELVES  
...ON AND ON, AN  
UNDYING ENMITY  
FROM THAT FIRST  
FATEFUL DAY  
UNTIL...

-- NOW!



KILL THE  
DEMON!  
KILL THE  
DEMON!!



UNTOLD MOONS AGO  
THE EVIL ONES INVADED  
OUR LAND, TWISTING THE  
SHAPE OF THINGS WITH  
THEIR FOUL MAGIC!





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