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DOUBLE DRAGON™



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AIDED BY POLICEMAN ANDREW STEELE, JIMMY AND BILLY LEE WERE FORCED TO BATTLE THE SOURCE OF THEIR FURNISHING POWERS: AN ANCIENT DRAGON STATUE INADVERTENTLY BROUGHT TO LIFE BY THE VILLAINOUS NIGHTFALL.

WITH THE AID OF STANN, A MYSTERIOUS STRANGER WHO CLAIMED TO BE THEIR FATHER, THE DOUBLE DRAGON DE-STROYED THE STATUE AND RECLAIMED THE POWER WHICH WAS THEIR BIRTHRIGHT.

HOWEVER, DURING THE BATTLE, THE WALLS OF CHANGCHENG'S MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON TUMBLED DOWN...

WHICH LEAVES OUR HEROES WITH MORE THAN A LITTLE MORNING UP TO DO!

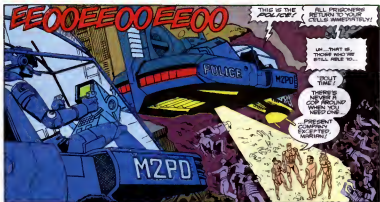
HOUR OF THE DRAGON!

JOHN BREYENDORF & MIKE MONTENOVICH - DOUBLE WRITERS • NAL VELLUTO - PENCILER • DAVID VANCATTA - INKER • KEVIN TINKLE-COLORS • PAUL BRIDGES - LETTERS • ERIN KOVACH - REPRODUCED BY KODAK • LARRY NICKER - EDITOR • TOM FERRARO - DRAGON IN CHIEF

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LEGEND TELLS US
THAT, IN THE BEGINNING,
THERE CAME A TIME OF
GREAT DISCORD.



CHAOS RULED
THE LAND, AND
CIVILIZATION FELL
BEFORE THE
SWEEP OF ITS
SCYTHE.

BUT THERE WAS
ONE WHO DARED
CROSS THE MOUNTAINS
IN SEARCH OF
A MEANS TO RESTORE
THE DELICATE
BALANCE THAT
ORDER AND CHAOS...



"... HIS NAME
WAS YHVN.

DURING HIS
TRAVELS, YHVN
CHANCED UPON
ONE OF THE
GREAT DRAGONS
WHICH MADE THE
MOUNTAINS THEIR
HOME.



"ENRAGED
BY YHVN'S
TRESPASS,
THE DRAGON
ATTACKED.

"A FIERCE BATTLE ENDED.

YHVN, LITTLE DUST
NOTES, SPARKS THE DRAGON,
FOR THOUGH THE
GUARDIAN OF A GREAT
POWER...



"ONLY ONE OF
PERFECT COURAGE
AND ADVICE IS
TO WIELD IT."

THOUGH SMALL IN
STATURE, YHVN FOUGHT
WITH GREAT SKILL...



"... AND WHEN AT
LAST THE DRAGON
GREW CARELESS...



"... HE
STRUCK!

"KILL ME, THEN,"
SAID THE DRAGON,
AND BE DONE
WITH YOU!"

"BUT YHVN
TOOK NOT THE
LIFE OF HIS
FALLEN FOE.

"THIS WAS
THE FINAL TEST
OF COURAGE...
AND ADVICE.



"AND THROUGH THIS
ACT OF COMPASSION
YHVN WAS CLEFTED WITH
THE HEART OF THE
DRAGON ITSELF. THE
DRAGON-POWER.

"UPON RETURNING TO HIS HOME, YAN FOUND IT MUCH AS HE HAD LEFT IT -- BUILT BY EVIL, AND GORELY IN NEED OF A CHAMPION."



"NOW AT ONE WITH THE HEART OF THE DRAGON, YAN BECAME THAT CHAMPION..."



"AND IN THE END, HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS DROVE BACK THE FORCES OF DARKNESS."



"TOGETHER, THEY HERALDED A NEW AGE OF PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING."

"WE KNOW ALL ABOUT THAT STORY, STAN. IT WAS ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS *SENSEI* TAUGHT US!"

"TOO BAD HE NEVER TAUGHT YOU WHEN TO SHUT UP AND LISTEN."

"NOW, AS I WAS SAYING..."

"THE FORCE OF CHAOS COULD NEVER TRULY BE DETHRONED, MERELY BRANCHED FOR A TIME."



"KNOWING THIS, YAN HUNG DOWN HIS TEACHINGS, AND THE DRAGON FORCE, TO SUITABLY WORTHY SUCCESSORS."

"EVENTUALLY, THE HEART OF THE DRAGON WAS PRESENT TO A YOUNG WOMAN NAMED *ANGELMERRY*..."



"YOUR MOTHER, MY WIFE..."

"YOUR *SENSEI*, AS YOUR *SENSEI* WAS THEN CALLED, WAS PROUD THAT HIS CHILDREN WERE PROVEN WORTHY TO RECEIVE THIS GREAT GIFT."



"HE HAD MUCH TO BE PROUD OF."

"SHORTLY THEREAFTER, MY FRIEND SHAMPOEN AND I FOUGHT OUT YOUR GRANDFATHER THAT WE MIGHT LEARN THE MARTIAL ARTS."



"HE WAS LIKE A PARTNER TO US..."

"...BUT A STERN TRAINERMASTER WE TRAINED LONG AND HARD..."

"...AND OFTEN FOLLOWED YOUR MOTHER INTO BATTLE."



"AFTER ALL, ONE NEEDS NOT THE DRAGON FORCE TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT."



"AS TIME PASSED, WE POLICE FORMED A BOND WHICH MADE US ANOTHER THAN FAMILY."



"THOSE WERE GOOD YEARS..."



"SHOULD'VE KNOWN IT WOULDN'T LAST."

"WHAT HAPPENED?"

"FUNNY HOW SHOULD ASK..."

"YES, BOTH SHAMPOEN AND I WERE IN LOVE WITH MIRANDA."

"* IN THE END, SHE CHOSE TO FAVOR AAR."

"* IT WAS THEN THAT THE COUNTERFORCE -- THE NEGATIVE, CHAOTIC ASPECT OF THE DRAGON'S POWER -- WHISPERED SEDUCTIVELY IN SHAMPOEN'S EAR."



"THE COUNTERFORCE OFFERED SHINICHI GREAT PROMISES..."

"FROM IT HE LEARNED MANY FINESE SECRETS..."



"...SECRETS HE HAD HOPED TO USE TO WIN MIYOKO'S HEART."



"BUT, ALAS, THE HUMAN HEART IS CAPTIVOUS OVER WHICH NEITHER FORCE NOR COUNTERFORCE HOLDS SWAY."

"WE WERE MARRIED."

"AND ON THAT DAY, SHINICHI TURNED FOREVER TOWARDS THE PATH OF EVIL."

"CAREFULLY HUSBANDING HIS GROWING POWER OVER THE FOLLOWING YEAR, MY FORMER FRIEND PLANNED TO STEAL THE DRAGON'S HEART FROM YOUR MOTHER WHEN SHE WAS MOST VULNERABLE."



"...DURING CHILDHOOD."



"YOU CAN IMAGINE MY HORROR AS EISEN TENTACLES OF PURE EVIL REACHED OUT FOR MY WIFE..."

"...WRITHING PURPOSEFULLY..."

"...MALICIOUSLY..."



"...STRIVING TO TEAR
THE POWER, AND
HER LIFE -- YOUR
LIVES -- FROM HER
BODY."



"THE REMAINDER..."



"SHE BEQUESTED
TO HER FATHER."



"SHE DIED
IN MY ARMS."

"BUT NOT BEFORE GIVING
BIRTH TO
HER TWIN
SONS..."

"...BILLY
AND
JIMMY
LEE."



"GENSEL SPOKE BRIEFLY TO
ME OF A LEGEND FROM THE
TIME OF YIN -- OF THE TWO
WHO RITE ONE, TOUCHED BY
YIN AND YANG, WHO SHALL
BRING BACK YIN-YANG
SCORING THE WHOLE."



"THEN THE TIME FOR
TALK WAS OVER..."

"...AND THE TIME
OF REDEMPTION
WAS AT HAND!"

"VENGEANCE IS A DANGEROUS
PATH... ONE YOUR COMPAGNIES
HAD HOPED TO WALK ALONE."



"THING WAS I WOULDN'T LET HIM."

"MIRANDA MAY HAVE BEEN HIS
DAUGHTER, BUT SHE WAS ALSO
MY BELOVED WIFE."

"UNABLE TO DISGUISE ME, GENDER
SUNSHINED UP THE DRAGON FORCE ..."



"... AND USED IT
TO DIVINE THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE
MYSTIC ATTACK."



"AS MIRANDA'S WIDOWER, I
CLAIMED THE RIGHT OF FIRST
CONSENT, WHICH UNCONSCIOUSLY
ACQUIRED."

"NOT MUCH
CHANGING WHETHER
I LIVED OR DIED,
I UNCONSCIOUSLY
BURST IN UPON
THE MURDERER ..."



"PERHAPS IT WAS THE SHOCK
OF SHINCHI'S BETRAYAL THAT
GAVE HIM THE ADVANTAGE ..."



"PERHAPS IT WAS THE
COUNTERFORCE THAT
MADE THE DIFFERENCE ..."

"OR MAYBE
WE WERE JUST
BETTER
THAN I WAS."



"EITHER WAY, MY TRIAL HAD
BEEN KICKED SEVEN WAYS
FROM SUNDAY IN THE TIME
BEING SPAN PIT TO INTERVIEW."



"ONLY TO
SHOULD THE
FACE OF MY
FATHER."

"EMBOLDENED BY
HIS VICTORY
OVER ME, SHINCHI
TURNED TO FACE
HIS FORMER
MASTER."

"MADDENED BY THE POWER WHICH HAD CORRUPTED HIM, MY FORMER FRIEND THOUGHT TO MAKE QUICK WORK OF THE OLD MAN."



"BUT GENSEI NOW WIELDED THE *SHIMAZU* POWER..."



"...AND HIS SOUL WAS DRIVEN BY A NEED FOR VENGEANCE..."



"THAT WOULD NOT BE DENIED!"



"IN FAILING TO ACT WITH THE COMMISSION OF 'WU', GENSEI HAD GIVEN ANOTHER OVER TO THE DARK FORCE..."



"...IF ONLY FOR A MOMENT."

"THE DEAD DONE WE RETURNED TO THE DRAGON HOUSE TO REFLECT..."



"...AND TO MOURN."

"DAYS LATER,
WE MET AGAIN AT
MORRIS'S DRIVE."

"SENSEI WAS
GREATLY TROUBLED
BY HIS ACTIONS
AND FELT UNWORTHY
TO CARRY THE
HEART OF THE
DRAGON."

"WUANG"

"HE OFFERED IT TO ME."

BUT MY SON WAS EARLY.
HE GREAT THE DRAGON
FORCE HAD, HOWEVER,
INDIRECTLY COST ME
EVERYTHING I HELD
DEAR. I WANTED NO
THING MORE TO DO
WITH IT.

"I WANTED
ONLY TO
FORGET."

"SENSEI SMILED FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN DAYS. SOME-
TIMES, HE SAID, IT IS BET-
TER TO ~~FORGET~~."

"WITH SHAME IN
HIS HEART,
CH'YEN KUI
RENOUNCED HIS
NOBLE LINEAGE."

"HE WOULD
BE KNOWN
HEREBY AS
WUANG
FOR THE
REST OF
HIS DAYS."

"THEN, AS HIS FINAL
ACT OF CLUSTOMY
OF THE DRAGON
FORCE, HE RAGED
FROM THE SMITH
TABLE. A STUTLE
OF STONE."

"HE ASKED ME TO
REMAIN LONG ENOUGH
TO WITNESS HIS
PENANCE."

"HE PLACED THE DRAGON
FORCE WITHIN THE GACRED
STUTLE..."

"...TO BE HELD
THERE IN TRUST
UNTIL ITS RIGHTFUL
HEIRS WERE READY
TO RECEIVE IT."

"AS FOR ME, I HIT THE
ROAD, LEAVING THE BOTH
OF YOU IN SENSEI'S CARE."

"TAKING ONLY
THIS BOOK AS A
REMAINDER OF THINGS
BOTH GOOD AND
BAD."



AFTER THAT I JUST BLUMMED AROUND GOING WHEREVER THE WINDS OF FATE BLEW ME.

EVENUALLY THEY BLEW ME BACK TO GLASGOW.



THE REST YOU ALREADY KNOW.

YOU SPIN A GOOD YARN, OLD TIMER, BUT THERE IS STILL A FEW THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

NOT UNUSUAL.

I, TOO, HAVE QUESTIONS.



QUESTIONS ARE THE FIRST SYMPTOM OF A HEALTHY MIND AT WORK.

SENSEI THOUGHT YOU KNEW BETTER THAN I THOUGHT.

BUT YOU STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN.



DO NOT CHARGE THE SUBJECT!

IF YOU LEFT TO ADVISE US, WHY COME BACK NOW?

LIKE YOUR GRANDFATHER ONCE SAID, "SOMETIMES IT'S BETTER TO ANSWER, " "



BESIDES THINGS WEREN'T QUITE AS DONE WITH AS WE'D THOUGHT.

HOW TRUE OF ONCE AND FOREVER FRIEND...

...TRUER THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE!



WHEN YOU AND THAT
SHORT-SIGHTED FOOL
CHEN KUN LEFT ME
FOR DEAD...



"...LITTLE DID YOUR SMALL
MINDS REALIZE THAT A SOUL
ONCE CLAIMED BY THE COUNTER-
FORCE IS NOT SO EASILY ~~W~~
ENLISHED!

"THE DARK ENERGIES
CONTINUED TO COURSE
THROUGH MY LIFE -
LESS FORM...

"THEIR FOLL WORK
UPON ME BARELY
BEGUN!"



"THE TENDRILS OF
POWER PERMEATED
THE VERY ESSENCE
OF MY BEING...



"...UNTIL THE
MORTAL SHAMPOON
WAS NO MORE
THAN A MEMORY!"

"...MOLDING..."

"...TWISTING..."

"...CHANGING..."



"HENCEFORTH
AND FOREVER -
I COME TO BE
ARISEN/PALE!"



"AS I COMBINED
ONCE MORE WITH
THE FLAMES OF
EVIL..."

"--A PRICE I
WOULD BE ONLY
TOO ANGRY
TO PAY!"

"MY DARK BEAT-
FACTOR COMMANDED
THAT OLDOPOIS
SHOULD FALL, ONE
MORE BEFORE THE
INEXHAUSTIBLE POWER..."

"-- I LEARNED
THAT MY CONTINUED
EXISTENCE HAD A
PRICE --"



"...OF CHAOS!"















NEXT: LAST OF THE DRAGONS!