



A LEGION OF REFUGEES FROM THE DYING PLANET OF PRANKULON - A WORLD WHOSE POPULATION IS WHOLLY SUSTAINED BY BLOOD - IS CROSSING THE VASTNESS OF SPACE ON THE WAY TO BARSOOM.



THIS YOUNG WOMAN, VAMPIRELLA, AS PALE AS ANY THORN, WAS THE FIRST OF THOSE REFUGEES. WHEN SHE ARRIVED, SHE WAS STARVED TO THE POINT OF MADNESS...

...AND KILLED A FULL GROWN WHITE APE WITH HER BARE HANDS.

FEEDING ON ITS BLOOD BROUGHT VAMPIRELLA BACK TO HER SENSES... BUT SHE COULD HAVE JUST AS EASILY TAKEN THE LIFE OF DEJAH THORIS, PRINCESS OF HELIUM.

HUNDREDS OF REFUGEES, EACH WITH STAGGERING STRENGTH AND A MADNESS THAT CAN BE CURED ONLY BY BLOOD...

...ARE COMING HERE.



TARDOS MORS, JEPPAK OF HELIUM AND GRANDFATHER TO DEJAH THORIS, IS A COMPASSIONATE MAN. HE'S JUST BEEN ASKED TO HELP SAVE THE POPULATION OF A WORLD...

BUT ALL HE CAN THINK OF IS BLOOD, AND HOW MUCH MIGHT BE SPILLED.



I'M SORRY...  
...BUT MY ANSWER IS NO.

















OH YES. OF COURSE. ONLY A FEMALE WOULD BE UPSET WHEN HER ENTIRE RACE WAS BEING CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

SAHEM: I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT, I AM. BUT YOU MUST UNDERSTAND I CAN'T -- I WON'T -- RISK MY PEOPLE.



YOU DON'T NEED TO RISK ANYTHING! WE STILL HAVE TIME -- WE CAN FIND A WAY!

DEJAH TOLD ME ABOUT THE AMAZING TECHNOLOGY OF THIS WORLD -- YOU CAN SIMULATE WATER AND AIR --



--BUT NOT BLOOD.

OUR TECHNOLOGY IS ANCIENT, DEVELOPED BY GENERATIONS LONG PAST. WE DON'T UNDERSTAND IT WELL ENOUGH TO BEND IT FULLY TO OUR WILL...OR THE MIGHTY OCEANS WOULD HAVE LONG SINCE BEEN RETURNED TO BARROOM.

WE CANNOT HELP YOUR PEOPLE, AND I WILL NOT IGNORE THE DANGER. THE SOLDIERS OF HELIUM MUST PREPARE FOR WAR.



GRANDFATHER, NO!

I'M SORRY, DEJAH THORIS. I KNOW YOU WANT TO HELP, AND I SYMPATHIZE, BUT...



BUT NOTHING. VAMPIRELLA WASN'T WRONG -- WE DO HAVE TIME. SURELY WE CAN USE IT TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION? A WAY FOR NO LIVES TO BE LOST?