



THE RED CIRCLE

1  
ONE SHOT  
OCT '09

# INFERNO

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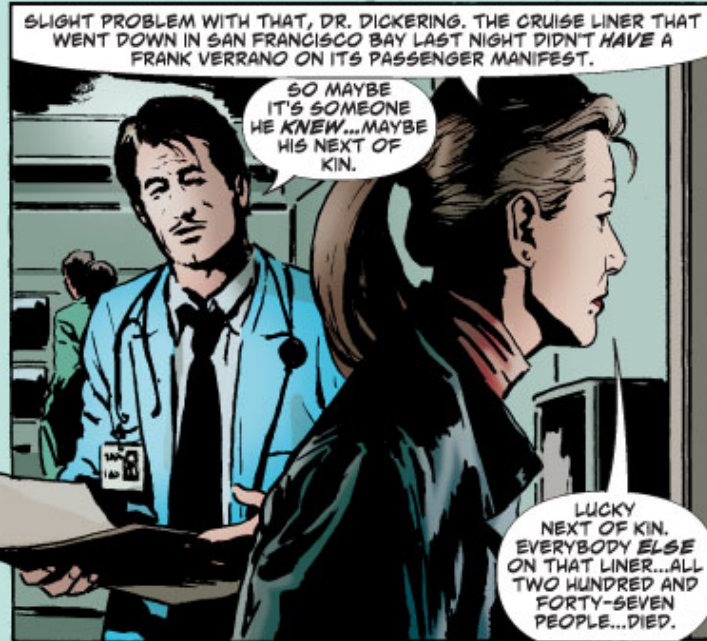
YOU'RE SURE THAT'S THE ONLY NAME HE GAVE YOU, FRANK VERRANO.

THAT'S RIGHT, LIEUTENANT BARKER.

BUT YOU'RE NOT SURE IF IT'S HIS NAME OR SOMEONE ELSE'S.

ALSO RIGHT.

WOULDN'T THE SIMPLEST THING BE TO RUN A CHECK ON THE REGISTRY OF THE SHIP HE WAS ON AND--?



SLIGHT PROBLEM WITH THAT, DR. DICKERING. THE CRUISE LINER THAT WENT DOWN IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY LAST NIGHT DIDN'T HAVE A FRANK VERRANO ON ITS PASSENGER MANIFEST.

SO MAYBE IT'S SOMEONE HE KNEW...MAYBE HIS NEXT OF KIN.

LUCKY NEXT OF KIN. EVERYBODY ELSE ON THAT LINER...ALL TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVEN PEOPLE...DIED.

MAKES YOU KIND OF WONDER WHY HE SURVIVED WHEN NOBODY ELSE DID.

YES... YES, IT DOES.

ANY WORD YET ON WHAT CAUSED IT TO SINK?

YEAH--



--THERE WAS A BOMB IN ONE OF THE LOWER DECKS. COAST GUARD FOUND TRACES OF C-4 ON THE SURFACE. THE EXPLOSION BLEW A HOLE SO BIG THE SHIP WENT DOWN IN NOTHING FLAT.

DO YOU THINK HE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT?

DON'T KNOW--



--THE ONLY THING I DO KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT I'M GONNA HAVE A WHOLE LOT OF POINTED QUESTIONS TO ASK HIM WHEN, AND IF, HE WAKES UP AGAIN.

"ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS? YOU KNOW IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL THEY COME AFTER YOU."

"I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE SURE OF ANYTHING IN MY WHOLE LIFE."

"FOREVER AND EVER"

"TILL DEATH DO US PART."

# inferno

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ARE YOU AFRAID?

WHO WOULDN'T BE?

I'LL PROTECT YOU. YOU KNOW THAT.

YEAH, BUT WHO'S GOING TO PROTECT YOU?

I'LL BE OKAY. I ALWAYS LAND ON MY FEET.

YOU BURNED EVERYTHING? ALL THE PAPERS?

EVERYTHING. IT'S JUST US.

FOR NOW. BUT NOW IS ALL WE'VE EVER HAD, ISN'T IT?

TELL ME YOU LOVE ME, AND I'LL TAKE WHATEVER COMES. TELL ME YOU LOVE ME. EVEN IF IT ISN'T TRUE.

ESPECIALLY IF IT ISN'T TRUE.

I LOVE YOU.



I LOVE YOU.







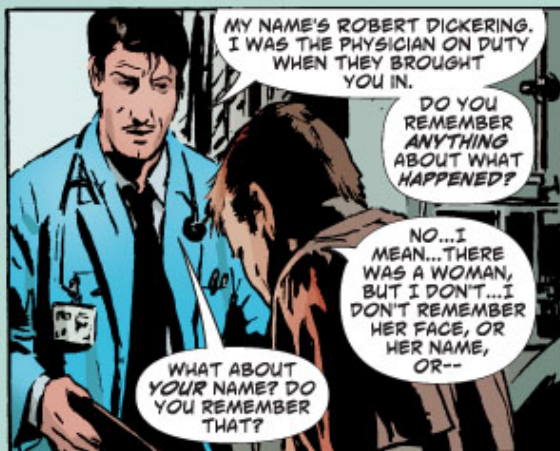
HHHHUUUUHHH!



IT'S OKAY... YOU'RE ALL RIGHT--

EXPLOSION... THERE WAS A... THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION--

WE KNOW.

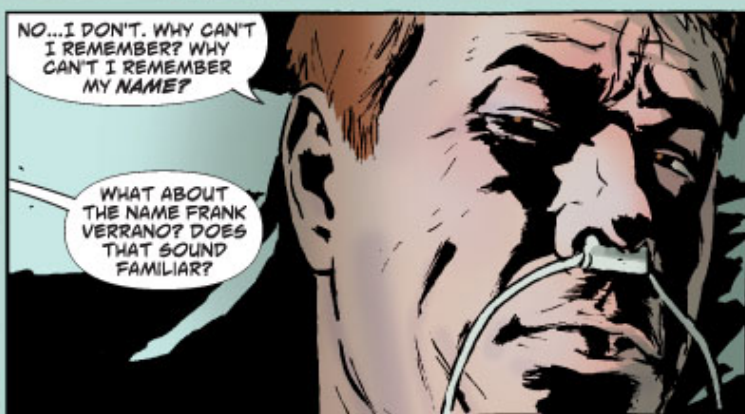


MY NAME'S ROBERT DICKERING. I WAS THE PHYSICIAN ON DUTY WHEN THEY BROUGHT YOU IN.

DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED?

NO...I MEAN...THERE WAS A WOMAN, BUT I DON'T...I DON'T REMEMBER HER FACE, OR HER NAME, OR--

WHAT ABOUT YOUR NAME? DO YOU REMEMBER THAT?



NO...I DON'T. WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER? WHY CAN'T I REMEMBER MY NAME?

WHAT ABOUT THE NAME FRANK VERRANO? DOES THAT SOUND FAMILIAR?



NO. WHY?

YOU SAID THAT NAME WHEN YOU WERE BROUGHT IN HERE.

I DID?

I WAS THERE. YOU SEEMED TO THINK IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR SOMEBODY TO HEAR IT.





"SO THAT NAME MUST MEAN SOMETHING TO SOMEBODY."

Zero results found.  
Your search-Frank Verrano-did not match any files.  
No suggestions.  
Another search?

Lex-Icon Search

Lex-Icon Pinpoint

SIX BILLION PEOPLE ON THE PLANET AND I DON'T GET EVEN ONE HIT ON FRANK VERRANO.

MAYBE IT'S AN UNCOMMON NAME.

DOES IT SOUND UNCOMMON TO YOU?

YOU THINK SOMEBODY COULD'VE PURGED EVERY SEARCH ENGINE DATABASE SOMEHOW?

DUNNO--



YOU HAVE GOT TO BE FREAKING KIDDING ME.

WHAT IS IT, LYNN?



--BUT IF YOU LIKED THAT, YOU'RE GONNA LOVE THIS.

WE RAN THE SURVIVOR'S FINGERPRINTS THROUGH F.B.I., N.S.A., HOMELAND SECURITY, PASSPORT CONTROL, AND EVERY OTHER DATABASE WE COULD GET OUR HANDS ON, UP TO AND INCLUDING THE BOY SCOUTS.

NOTHING.

THERE'S ALSO NO CREDIT INFO, NO BIRTH CERTIFICATE, NO DRIVER'S LICENSE--

--NOT POSSIBLE. YOU CAN'T GO TEN MINUTES IN THIS WORLD WITHOUT LEAVING A RECORD OF IT SOMEWHERE.

HE DID. IT'S LIKE HE DIDN'T EVEN EXIST UNTIL FIVE MINUTES BEFORE THEY PULLED HIM OUT OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY.

IMPOSSIBLE.



