



Death Has A New Face

Try as she might, Ana Ishikawa never quite had a normal life. Born in Kyoto, Japan, she was raised as a devout Catholic by her American mother. But her Japanese grandfather trained her in the ways of his secret warrior sect, the sohei, until she was deadly enough to go forth and avenge her father's death at the hands of a Yakuza crime-lord.

Dressed in red battle garb, her white face paint hiding her identity, Ana struck against her father's killer with such ferocity that she came to be known as "SHI"—the Japanese word for "death". But the bloody path of vengeance didn't square with her Christian values, and Ana ultimately renounced killing. Now, working in New York's exclusive Oike Gallery, she seeks to lead a more normal existence. But situations still arise where Shi's skills are required... and Ana is not one to turn a blind eye to injustice.

Sample file

ANA ISHIKAWA—
"SHI"

SHI: THE SERIES #9, APRIL 1998. First Printing. Published by Crusade Comics, a division of Crusade Entertainment Ltd. WILLIAM TUCCI, President. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 83 South Main Street, Sayville, NY 11782. E-mail: shicrusade@aol.com Website: <http://www.shiweb.com> Copyright © 1998 WILLIAM ELLIOTT TUCCI. SHI, and the SHI logo are trademarks of William Elliott Tucci. All rights reserved. Any similarity to persons living or dead is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the consent of WILLIAM TUCCI. Produced by William Tucci. Printed in Canada



CAN'T BELIEVE I'M DOIN' IT.
NEW YORK CITY-- ME!
I'M GOIN' TO THE BIG CITY.



THOUGHT ABOUT IT SINCE
I WAS A KID, ME AND MY COUSIN.
WE WAS GONNA GO TOGETHER.



SHE LEFT BEFORE
I DID-- LEFT ME BEHIND.
SAID I WASN'T CUT OUT
FOR CITY LIFE.

MM, HMMMMMM.



Sample file

NOT CUT OUT FOR
THE CITY. YEAH, RIGHT.
SHE JUST WANTED IT ALL
FOR HERSELF...

...BUT, AS LONG AS
THE MOON SHINES DOWN,
WELL I CAN HANDLE JUST
ABOUT ANYTHING.



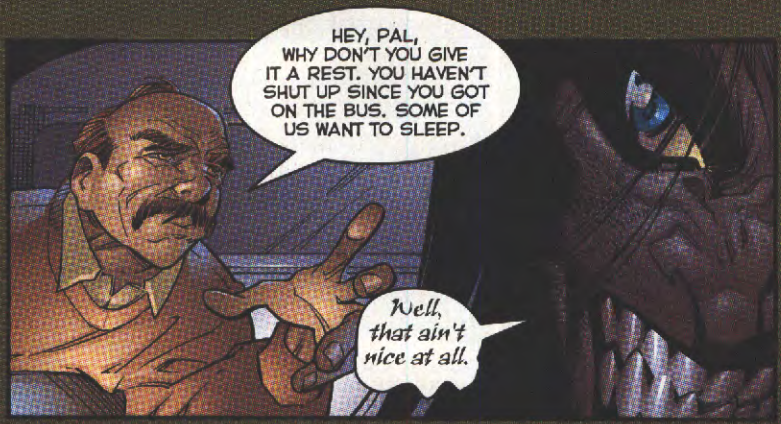
MAKES ME FEEL
SAFE. I CAN ALWAYS
DEPEND ON IT TO BE
THERE, TO LOOK OUT
FOR ME. IT'LL NEVER
DESERT ME.

THE MOON, YES.
VERY INTERESTING.
I THINK YOU SHOULD
REST UP NOW. THE CITY
CAN BE VERY TIRING.



I HAVEN'T SLEPT IN DAYS. I'VE BEEN SO EXCITED-- HAVEN'T REALLY EATEN.

Bet there's lots of good huntin' in the city. Am I right?



HEY, PAL, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A REST. YOU HAVEN'T SHUT UP SINCE YOU GOT ON THE BUS. SOME OF US WANT TO SLEEP.

Well, that ain't nice at all.



You sound just like my daddy, stranger. He was always tellin' me to shut my mouth and I didn't right care for it much.

Sample file



I didn't care for it AT ALL!

YEEARRRGGGLL!



HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON BACK THERE?!

IF I HAVE TO STOP THIS BUS...



Sample file

THE STRANGEST DREAMS
COME AT THE ODDEST TIMES.

AFTER A PARTICULARLY GRUELING DAY
AT THE GALLERY, ANA ISHIKAWA DECIDED
TO REST HER WEARY BONES BEFORE GOING
OUT WITH FRIENDS...

A REVITALIZING TWENTY MINUTES WAS ALL
SHE PLANNED, BUT THE HANDS OF OBLIVION
WERE QUICK TO TAKE HER AWAY FROM THE
WAKING WORLD---

--AND DEPOSIT HER HERE, IN A
NIGHTMARE THE LIKES OF WHICH
SHE HAS NEVER EXPERIENCED.

WHAT IN THE
NAME OF...?!

Sample file

Deep into the darkness peering,
long I stood there, wondering,
fearing, doubling, dreaming dreams
no mortal ever dared to dream before.

Edgar Allan Poe
The Raven

BAD BLOOD

PART I

SHE KNOWS IT'S A DREAM,
WHAT ELSE COULD IT POSSIBLY BE?
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING NOT RIGHT...
SOMETHING DANGEROUS.

WHAT IS
THIS PLACE?

So many
questions all at once—
makes my head spin,
it does.

You are in the
forest, and you are
dressed in the garb of your
chosen profession—
how else would a warrior
clothe himself?

You are
a warrior—
aren't you?

WHO?!

It is out there,
warrior, hunting in
your forest of steel
and stone. And
it's **hungry**.

A WARRIOR?
YES... YES, I'M A
WARRIOR, BUT
WHERE...?

You will
need to be ready—
if you are to face
the beast.