

WEREWOLVES: DEAD MOON RISING

A MOONSTONE MONSTERS ANTHOLOGY

Sample file

EDITED BY DAVE ULANSKI
with GARRETT ANDERSON



moonstonebooks.com

First MOONSTONE Edition 2007

WEREWOLVES: DEAD MOON RISING
A Moonstone Monsters Anthology

Published by Moonstone

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ISBN: 10 digit: 1-933076-30-5

13 digit: 978-1-933076-30-0

Cover by Dave Norman
Back Cover and Interior Illustrations by Ken Wolak

Printed in USA

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Published by Moonstone, 582 Torrence Ave, Calumet City, IL 60409
www.moonstonebooks.com

WEREWOLVES: DEAD MOON RISING

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with special thanks to Jason Vaught

Art Direction by Dave Ulanski

Production Design by Erik Enervold/Simian Brothers Creative

Cover Art by Dave Dorman

Back Cover and Interior Art by Ken Wolak

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illustration by Ken Wolak

CHAPTER I

THE BEAST OF BAVA PASS

by CHRISTOPHER MILLS

AUTHOR'S NOTE: The following story is presented in glorious black & white.

The night settled heavily upon the mountain forest like a shroud woven of storm-gray smoke. It was a desolate place, thick with skeletal trees as black and twisted as a madman's nightmare. The woods were deathly silent but for the muffled tread of the single pale horse with cloaked rider that carefully picked its way through the gloom along the uneven, wheel-furrowed path.

The path—for it could not properly be called a road—was partly overgrown with thorny brush, and sodden with deep, muddy ruts and frequent washouts. It wound its treacherous way through the dark forest and up into the craggy foothills, toward the tiny, unnamed village that sat at the mouth of a nearly forgotten mountain pass. Bava Pass—too high and narrow for trade caravans or troops, and passable only during the late summer and early autumn seasons—was itself but a jagged fissure between rocky peaks, used only by local hunters, a few gypsies and the occasional lost or clandestine traveler.

The rider of the gray horse was indeed a hunter of sorts, but not of the local breed. Nor was he lost. He was a lean, sharp-featured man of indeterminate age, with a hooked nose and deep-set, predatory eyes of ice blue. Though not, by all appearances, a particularly old man, his unusually long hair was completely and shockingly white, as was his carefully trimmed, slightly diabolical beard. His clothing was well tailored and expensive, though somewhat soiled by the rigors of difficult and sustained travel. His bearing suggested that of a fighting man, an impression further enhanced by the saber strapped to his hip, and the