

## The Man

## Master Priest and other loose ends



*Illustration 37: There are new beginnings out there*

And The Master Priest developed the wrap engine so the ships of Po Lee had traveled across space so fast they went unseen.

“Augustus is lost?” The Master Priest upon hearing the fate of his emperor and knew it was time to fill his crocodile leather suitcases and seek employment elsewhere?

And he took down a portrait of Wilhelmina, “You were good to me in my old age,” and packed it away. He must hurry as he knew the engines did fall into The Man’s hands and he did be here on Augusta very soon.

Then there was the sound of chimes as his door bell went.

**“I wonder who that could be; I haven’t booked a taxi yet?”**

And The Man being told it was stale mate between the FAMOUS 5 and Aelfric crawled up the exit tube to wards his prey. It was a very dangerous thing to do, if the tube came out he would be impaled by its nose.

“Hello,” he said emerging from the exit and squeezing out between it and the tube.

Aelfric didn’t need to turn to know who it was.

He dropped Wilhelmina.

“Murdering scum?” Zagor Blue skinned shouted.

And since Aelfric didn’t have a hostage now used his bionic legs to spring him to a roof beam above where he sought escape.

And The Man seeing he could do it knew he could also.

“Must you follow me,” Aelfric and lounged a foot out towards The Man.

The foot was grasped and twisted.

There was a snap.

Aelfric screamed.

The Man pulled with all his strength and the foot came away.

The Man jerked this way and that snapping wires and freeing ball bearings so they rained on those below.

The Man threw his trophy away and it fell into the shadows.

The Man lunged for the other foot that was doing its best to kick.

The Man felt it in his face but was not put off.

The Man took the other foot.

Aelfric screamed begging for mercy and as the foot came away dripping human blood and hydraulic fluids Aelfric grabbed ceiling wires and tried pushing off into space. And found his body weight too much and the wires began to rip free from the ceiling as Aelfric descended fast.

And in the shadows one picked up his thrown away feet.

And tucked them under his arms.

And followed Aelfric's decent wanting to get to the robot before anyone else.

And this one was hidden by the shadows so we do not know who it was.

And The Man seeing the wires had failed the robot would fail him too descended as quickly as he could conveniently and when he was near the ground jumped for his ankles might knot take his weight from a higher jump and break.

And he saw Wilhelmina standing there unharmed.

"Mcer shut his eyes and brought her to him as she fell catching her and landed her gently," he must be a god?" Morair the Nobleman amazed.

"No ESP and Aelfric is getting away," Mcer replied embarrassed, he never got used to the applause and wonderment. So it then Aelfric went into the shadows because the last wire ripped from the ceiling landed him there into waiting arms.

"Get me out of here," Aelfric demanded.

"You are heavy and I am doing my best," Posidonius replied slipping them both into a hidden wall chamber and freedom.

Now outside....."Where did the buggers go?" Zagor Blue Skin.

And Pyoo-ur the Sister opened fire with a laser machine gun and made thousands of holes in the wall, doors, ceiling and floor where might be secret compartments.

And Posidonius because he was using his body to support Aelfric was unharmed but not Aelfric who was a shield. So was hit many times so much human blood and cyborg fluid ran from him making him dizzy weakening him.

"We are almost there," Posidonius quipped and Aelfric began to worry the evil runt would try and operate on him. He was having nothing to do with it and pushed

Posidonus away. A good thing for the Posidonus as a chunk of plaster blew off the wall and hit Aelfric on the back of the head, covering him in bricks and mortar.

“Let’s go in, they must be in there somewhere,” The Man.

“I think I know where they are going,” it was Mcer’s voice and Posidonus knew he had to hurry.

And those under stress get adrenalin rush so he carried the robot to another locked doorway and entered, then threw the robot heavily down and summoned a remaining droid to carry Aelfric to his destination and when reached: “Make sure I am not disturbed,” Posidonus told the droid who went to guard the main door to this compartment. And Mcer knew of its existence because he had picked up Aelfric's thoughts who wanted him here to save him from Posidonus.

Was he afraid of his servant, well in the air was heavy with a funny strong smell.

“All is ready, already prepared for me, thought you did get rid of me would you and you cheated me out of my prize,” and threw Aelfric’s two feet into the special bath.

Aelfric wasn’t sure where he was, but his brain was telling him that was his bath for is unwanted guests and Posidonus.

Unfortunately hydraulic fluid squirted into Posidonus’s eyes blinding him momentarily.

That was all Aelfric needed, a few seconds and there was a big splash as he pushed Posidonus in.

“Arh,” Aelfric hissed as acid splashed onto him burning him.

Behind him an explosion and the door was kicked in.

Standing there Zagor Blue Skin ahead to make sure no bobby traps would kill The Man. In front of him a nightmare, Posidonus had managed to stand up in the bath in

an attempt to get out. He was no longer recognisable; what goes round comes round.

“And The Man behind Zagor shot out his eleven fingered bionic hand and arm and hit Aelfric in the chest so he balancing on the remains of his leg fell easily backwards into the bath toppling what might be Posidonus.

“No,” Aelfric screamed as his circuit melted and he could not get up as Posidonus was now on top of him; so together both melted away amidst much stink.

“Out of primeval chaos came matter from the actions of light that is word and creative mind and back to chaos our bodies go,” The Man so saying words over the acidy grave of two evil beings.

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Backdrop: The Man did use the new wrap engines and he did not fight every planet on the way to Augusta, the imperial capital but by passed them all. He went straight for the heart of the corrupt empire and took it. With no emperor all fragmented with this Count proclaiming himself King of Pluto and that Duke ruler of the Milky Way and that Tribune promoted himself to an Earl and ruler of the Moons of New Uranus and aliens seeing the borders of the empire unguarded invaded and took much of human chartered space for their own.

The Dark Ages had arrived and in the far flung corners of the empire learning was pushed aside and replaced by FEAR, FAITH and PAGANISM and inflation and barter system replaced the central banking system and the steady imperial dollar Po Wei had built up over a long life time.

But now fast ships had brought The Man to Augusta so war ravaged the Appian Way and all where disgusted when they saw the crucifixions.

So none felt sorry for what had happened to the Emperor Augustus when he had been torn to pieces by the mob.

“This is the house I rented for him,” Wilhelmina assured them all outside a house with a walled garden.

**“I wonder who that could be; I haven’t booked a taxi yet?”**

Then the door was knocked off its hinges’ onto The Master Priest.

Opening his eyes he looked up into The Man’s face and trembled and there behind him his monstrous mutant body guard and what was she doing here. He had been betrayed; as soon as he could he did remove her picture where he had packed it away.

And then the FAMOUS 5 pulled the door off him and yanked him to his feet.

“How do we get rid of him making sure he doesn’t come back?” The Man asked.

“Give him a bath,” it was Nesta and all looked at her amazed at her cruel and wicked statement, but it was the truth.

“Proclaim me your regent here dictator and my troops will swear allegiance to you,” Wilhelmina said.

Now all had come to know Wilhelmina as an honest woman, even Nesta who being a woman did not want the likes of this saint near The Man. He was a man after all and so liked the idea of leaving Wilhelmina here in Augusta since she had no emperor to swear loyalty too, she would swear to The Man.

But the problem was with all the mopping up it was not safe to venture out into the streets with The Master Priest

“Then we must kill him here, burn him till nothing is left, sweep up his ashes and bathe them,” The Man and The Master Priest had a funny turn listening to his fate.

You just didn’t describe one’s execution in front of one did you?

What where the times coming too?

And Zagor Blue Skin picked up The Master Priest so Pyoo-ur the Sister could slit his throat, then he and Red would upturn him so did bleed like a chicken and be dead?

And as the knife was drawn across the evil vampire's throat he arched back and kicked out so Pyoo-ur the Sister tumbled backwards and then he somersaulted so he dislocated his shoulders, never mind he was The Master Priest and they popped back in and he was free and running for his life.

That is when he found the power of thought and mind was like a fist hammering into his back so he span across the floor.

And "What ghost is here to kill me?" When he saw the knife with no human aid float towards him.

He did not know about Mcer and ESP.

And slithering he got to where he wanted, an exit tube and pressing the button flopped in and just as the tube sealed the knife went in with him.

It had belonged to the mutant warrior Pyoo-ur the Sister so was designed to look wicked and was at least a foot long; more an ugly looking dagger.

Then the tube existed just as those representing VENGEANCE reached it.

It shot far and none saw it land, if it did?

"We must search for him, he is an evil spore," Wilhelmina.

"I have no way of telling if the knife stuck him?" Mcer.

"We will know if he lives when women appear drained of blood," Red one of the FAMOUS 5.

"We will stay and help Wilhelmina hunt him down," Zagor Blue Skin.

"Follow him where ever he appears," The Man adding "and evil spores multiply and will be with us till the end of time?" An an epitaph for evil.