Again, the pipe is empty. Again, the trance is begun.
He's built a luxury, fortified apartment down here. His love Vanessa likes it very much.

The evening rag should interest you, Montgomery. Let me roll you up a number.

Omnniman! Reading with great interest, his face contorts with cold fury... for revenge.

Next: The Rabid Return of Rage!
THE CHITTERING HORRORS Emerge FROM THE VOID TO SWEEP OVER HIM—

THEY REEK OF BLOOD AND VOMIT AS THEY KISS AND HOLD HIS LIMP FORM—

BUT HE ENDURES IT ALL. THEY ARE BUT OBSTACLES TO KNOWLEDGE.

HE NEEDS THIS KNOWLEDGE, AND ITS POWER...
THE KNOWLEDGE TRANSMORPHIZES HIM. THE MASTER SORCERER SEES HIMSELF AS A COSMIC TREE, AND HIS ROOTS HOLD AND TIE HIM DOWN TO HIS PLANET, EARTH, IN THE TERRIBLE CONFLICT TO COME. AND ON BRANCHES OF HIS CALLING AS AN AGENT OF LIFE HANG THE HEADS OF PEOPLE DRAWN IN TO FIGHT IN THE WAR, FOR BOTH NOBLE AND EVIL REASONS. SOME, LIKE FRUIT, WILL FALL.
THE LEAVES OF HIS KNOWLEDGE TREE RUSTLE TO THEN REVEAL A GLANCE OF THE CLIMATIC BATTLE, AS A SOON-TO-BE FAMILIAR DEMON CLOSES WITH ... AN ANGEL?
AND IT ALL DECOMPOSES INTO THE BLACK OF SPACE. THE PLANETS ARE BURNING, THE UNIVERSE IS IN FLAMES. BUT THROUGH THE DESTRUCTION THE MASTER SORCERER SEES A LAUGHING FACE, DARK WITH EVIL. AND HE HEARS FOR THE FIRST TIME A NAME... MALEVIL! THEN...

THE TRANCE—

IS OVER!

WOW: THAT WAS DYNAMITE SMOKE.
MONTGOMERY LANCASTER HAS HAD A DREAM. MORE THAN ONCE, SO HE STANDS BEFORE THIS DARK MT. ADAMS HOUSE.

AND HE GOES TO TALK TO ONE OF THE FEW PEOPLE HE TRUSTS.

COME IN, SLAUGHTER. YOU'VE BEEN EXPECTED FOR SOME TIME NOW.
HERE IS MY MASTER. A DRINK FOR YOU?

GOOD TO SEE YOU, SLAUGHTER, INDEED.

NO THANKS.

I'VE NOT SEEN YOU SINCE THAT MESS WITH THE HERETIC LAST YEAR.+

TRUE.

OUT OF THE CORNER OF HIS EYE, SLAUGHTER SEES THE GHOST-GIRL DISSOLVE.

TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED, AS IF I Didn'T KNOW ABOUT IT ALREADY.

TELL ME ABOUT THE EYE OF JUDGEMENT.

SIT DOWN.

HE DOESN'T EVEN ASK...

+ IN AN AS-YET UNTOLD SLAUGHTER ADVENTURE — 11-30-31.
'YOU'VE ALWAYS KNOWN HOW TO PICK THEM. SLAUGHTER. OKAY... IT STARTS WITH JESUS. THAT'S RIGHT, CHRIST. YOU KNOW HE WAS REAL, DON'T LOOK SO STARTLED. ANYHOW

"WHEN CHRIST WAS CRUCIFIED, IT WAS PERHAPS THE SINGLE MOST TRAUMATIC EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE COSMOS. ALTHOUGH IT WAS ALL PREDESTINED, GOD WAS ANGRY. STOP LAUGHING, SLAUGHTER-SO GOD ACTED!"

"THE TEARS OF MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS, WERE THE SADDEST EVER SHED."

"WHEN SHE WAS GONE, THEY WERE FORBIDDEN TO EVAPORATE. AN ANGEL GATHERED THEM UP, AND USING HIS GOD-GIVEN POWERS, CONCEALED THEM INTO A ROUND GEM. THE EYE OF JUDGEMENT! IT IS A GEM OF SO MUCH POWER IT IS HARD TO GAUGE! THIS GEM IS GOD'S CURSE UPON THE HUMANITY WHO KILLED HIS SON. ALTHOUGH IT CAN BE USED FOR GOOD, IT IS INHERENTLY EVIL, FOR IN IT IS STORED GOD'S HATE."

"IT MAY BE ALIVE. IT CAN SPAN ALL TIMES AND PLANES OF REALITY. IT IS A WEAPON THAT CONSTANTLY CHANGES ITS SHAPE - THOUGH IT APPEARS MOST OFTEN IN ITS ROUND EYE OF DAVID APPEARANCE. OVER THE EONS IT HAS BEEN HELD BY MANY - IN THE EYE OF A BLOODY-HANDED BARBARIAN, IN THE SHAPE OF A COSMIC CUBE, BLACK IN AN ALBINO'S SWORD, GREEN IN A SOUL-GEM ON A GOLDEN AVENGER'S BROW, AS A RING IN AN ALIEN'S GRASP, AS AN EMERALD EYE OWNED BY A FAR-FUTURE PRINCESS, AS A CARVED RUNE STAFF. THE LIST IS WITHOUT END. IT HAS BEEN HELD BY ANGELS, DEMONS, EVEN SATAN HIMSELF ONCE. FELL UNDER ITS STRANGE POWER!"
YOU YOURSELF HAVE COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE EYE BEFORE, SLAUGHTER. YOU DO REMEMBER THE R'YLEH ARTIFACT, DON'T YOU, SLAUGHTER?

HOW HE DOES! HIS EYES NARROW WITH ANGER AS HE RECALLS HOW HE WAS A PAWN OF EVOE PAN.

THERE WILL BE A HORRIBLE WAR FUGHT HERE IN CINCINNATI, SLAUGHTER! THE DEATH AND BLOOD WILL AFFECT A UNIVERSE! YOU ARE BUT ONE AMONG MANY WHO PLAY VITAL PARTS IN THIS BATTLE! I DO NOT KNOW MORE, BUT IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW!

+ An unpublished story
YOU NOW KNOW MORE THAN ANY OF THE OTHERS! ONE MORE WILL SOON COME, AND I MUST PREPARE FOR HER! I'M OVER-WROUGHT WITH WORRY! I'M SORRY, BUT NOW GO!

ER-SURE. THANKS.

COME, I WILL SHOW YOU TO THE DOOR, SLAUGHTER.
WEIRD.
This statue of the Virgin Mother is sacred. In times past, it is said to preform miracles. Ruby the dyke and her girl goons (now in the service of Spinoza Grimaldi) are waiting for one now.

Grimaldi said wait for a miracle. Gimme a break! What is this shit? Don't we got better things to do? Shaddup an' wait. That's final.
THEN THE STATUE'S EYES GLOW WITH MAD FIRE!

AROUND HER HANDS, TIME IS TORN INTO SHREDS!

AND GRIMALDI HAS THE ANSWER TO HIS PRAYERS. GIFTS FROM GOD—TO TAKE CARE OF THE HERO CALLED OMNIMAN!

SO WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

GUNS, REALLY STRANGE RODS.
FAR AWAY IN SPACE... AND TIME...

CINCINNATI ALMOST HAD A SUBWAY ONCE. THE ENTRANCES ARE ALL BOARDED UP - BUT THE TUNNELS ARE STILL THERE. THEY RUN DEEP. VERY DEEP?

REPORT TO EXCALIBUR THAT THE LATEST TEMPORAL MATTER TRANSMISSIONS HAVE BEEN DONE.

SLAUGHTER MAKES HIS HOME HERE. HE LIKES IT.