





## LOU MACBRIDE

Ever since you were a child you've been having strange dreams. Occasionally, one of those dreams would come true. As you got older you found yourself seeing visions while awake, or suddenly knowing something, although you couldn't explain how. Sometimes, you weren't even sure what you knew. You had no control over these powers, but you quickly learnt the hard way to keep your mouth shut. The only person you told about your abilities was your mother, who had a kindly superstitious nature about her. She said that you had been "touched" and that you should become an artist or a poet. And then you had a vision that your mother would die. You didn't know how, you just knew that she would die . . . soon. You couldn't tell her your fears directly, but you hinted at it. You begged her to be careful on the streets, you insisted on walking everywhere to protect her. And then she told you that she had leukaemia, and that she was dying. There was nothing you could have done about it.

When she finally died you blamed yourself. You knew she was going to die and you were powerless. If it had been a mugger, or an accident you could have stopped it, you know you could have. You needed someone to blame and you became a cop. The punks on the street may not have been responsible, but they'll be responsible for it one day.

Although you became a cop to escape your prophetic abilities, you found that sometimes it gave you an insight into the case that was uncanny. Despite catching the perpetrator you found that your peers would generally give you a wide berth.

You always preferred walking the beat during the nights. It gave you space to be on your own, and when you had one of your "turns" chances were that no one would see you. One night you saw one man chase another down an ally. You gave chase, hoping to prevent a crime but got there in time to see the pursued man lob a fireball at his pursuer who burst into flames and eventually disintegrated. Arresting the man, but not sure on what count, you ended up talking to him about the occult and you discovered that the creature he killed was a vampire and that he was a part of the Cult of Isis. It was then that you had another vision and you knew that you had to join the Cult and let this man, Deckhardt, go free.

As a cop, the roughest times came with the onset of the Depression. During this time you caught a girl stealing a book. When you discovered that the book was on the occult you began to talk with her, as Deckhardt had to you. She joined the Cult and you helped her get a job in the local library to feed her addiction to books. This was Sherrilyn Sweet, and you have been friends with her ever since.

Personal Aspects: Sometimes your prophetic abilities get in the way, but basically you try to be an upstanding guy. You're loyal to your job, although in living your double life, you've learnt to become a little more lenient when it comes to Cult business, although you still have a basic moral standard. At 35

you're still walking the beat, but you wouldn't have it any other way. With red hair and blue eyes and 5' 9" and a stocky, but dextrous enough build, your main weakness is that you're not very bright. Despite your great leadership qualities, a lot goes straight over your head. You are a practical man and what you lack in IQ you make up for with common sense, although there are times when even that eludes you. All of this doesn't exactly help with interpreting your prophetic flashes as you are often left in the dark when trying to interpret them. That's one of the major things that holds you to the Cult.

### Opinions of others:

Mandek: A bum! Be suspicious.

Elita Fortier: A very attractive lady, but sometimes she loses you with words.

Sherrilyn Sweet: She is, for you, the most beautiful woman in the world. You have a real soft spot for her. You wouldn't dream of harming her, and therefore you keep your feelings hidden, but you would do anything for her, or to protect her from harm. Unfortunately, you can also be jealously protective when it comes to her relationships with men. You sometimes battle with your conscience to determine whether you love her as a father would a daughter, or if you are simply in love with her. Either way, the feeling is there. You would die for her if it meant keeping her from harm's way.

Charles Forthroy III: An English snob, and an arrogant youngster. You don't want him anywhere near Sherrilyn.

Adranio Menendez y de Chavel: While you do not necessarily agree with his lifestyle, you find him quite a likeable man for his high spirits.

Pablo Menendez y de la Fuente: It's a shame he can't be more like his father. You don't want him anywhere near Sherrilyn either.

Cult of Isis: They are the only ones who could possibly hold the key to understanding your prophecies.