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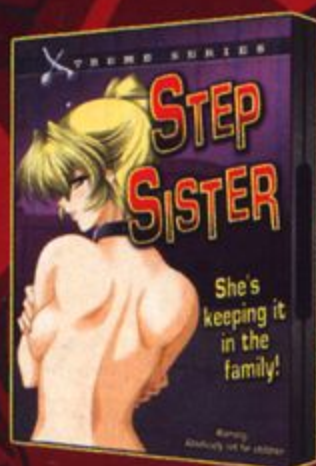
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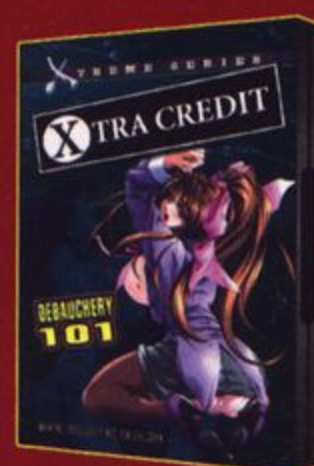
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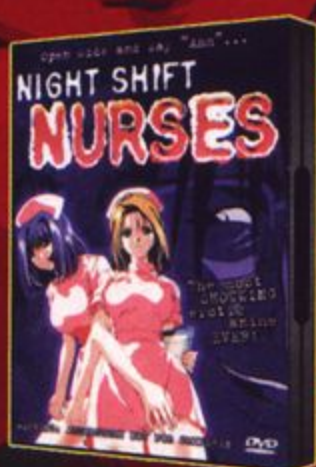
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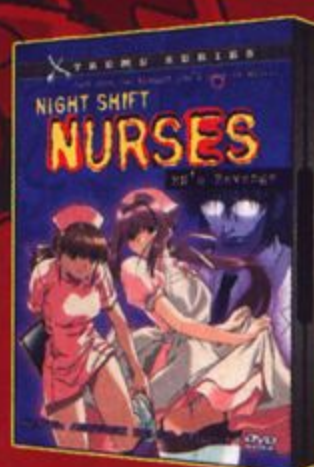
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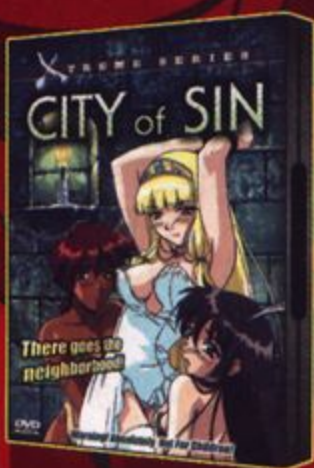
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CONTENTS

Cover by Ciruelo Cabral

6. Galactic Geographic
by Karl Kofoed

9. Gallery on Gary Freeman

14. Dossier by S.C. Ringgenberg

17. Mudwogs #5: The Toll Bridge
Writer/Artist Arthur Suydam

26. Recreation
by Autheman

29. Glam & Comet: The Lord of the Rings
by Riff and Abuli

33. The Keeper of the Maser 6:
The Lost Village by Frezzato

60. Color 126
by Luis Royo

70. Hate Jazz
Art: Jorge Gonzalez
Script: Horacio Altuna

84. Zen by R. Conte and Chris Scalf

93. Asia's Nightmare
by Carlo Bocchio

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

I hope everyone is having a great summer! Lots of time with friends and family, sunshine on the weekend, a cool vacation somewhere... maybe even to the San Diego Comic Convention! (The show runs July 13th to the 17th this year!)

2005 has been a crazy year all over for Heavy Metal, all good stuff, just a lot of it. We signed a deal to produce six live action "Heavy Metal" style films, and the first one is scheduled to start filming in September! Guess which one it will be? A live action "Fistful of Blood"! Cool beans! I've been reading scripts like crazy, trying to find just the right ones, so far there's been one interesting one for every twenty bad ones. Stay tuned to the HeavyMetal.com web-site for all the latest details of what we're shooting and when. We'll have weekly updates from the shooting sets, release dates, as well as contests for Heavy Metal fans to win walk-on parts for some of the films!

We're also getting very close on the animation film front, as well as a new Heavy Metal video game. I won't carry on too much about those right now as I want to have a lot more specific information to share with you when the deals are signed.

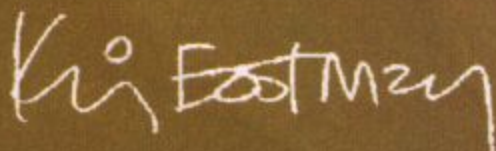
Got another wonderful issue for you this month (perfect reading on those vacation plane flights!) starting with Ciruelo Cabral's killer cover. On the back cover we have a wonderful piece featuring a character called "Zen" which was created by Thad Rhodes III. "Zen" is also featured as a short story in this issue by R.Conte and Chris Scalf. Our Featured Artist this month is Jim Pavelec. I met Jim at Chicago's "Echo Gallery" when we did a Heavy Metal show last year, loved his work and commissioned a cover—but with the backlog of pieces committed to already, I couldn't wait any longer to show it off. Enjoy.

The featured story this month, drum roll please, is the sixth and final installment of "Keepers of the Maser"! This series really started off as a sleeper, but has since become one of the most popular series. We'll miss it, but I'm thrilled to end it, and complete the collection for all those who have been waiting.

Our new best friend in the whole world, Arthur Suydam delivers another "Mudwogs" installment (an amazing collection of short stories we'll collect in hardcover later on), and Carlo Bocchio returns with a nasty tale entitled, "Asia's Nightmare". "Hate Jazz", "Recreation", "Glam & Comet—Lord of the Rings", and "Color 126" by Luis Royo round out the short story selection and Gary Freeman struts his stuff in the gallery. Nice job, Gary, and many thanks to all the short stories crew.

Last, but never least, my warm regards to Karl Kofoed and Steve Ringgenberg for their always solid contributions, and with that I'm outta here! I'm getting back to my scripts, and prepping to shoot, "Fistful of Blood". Talk to you in 60 days!

Best,



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear H.M.,

As per Kevin's suggestion (thanks, mate) I'm pimping what is going to be one hell of a title, due to hit the shops in May. Mam Tor's EVENT HORIZON is 140 pages in standard US trade paperback size of classic science-fiction, fantasy, humor and horror from today's greats and the big names of tomorrow. Book one has Glenn Fabry, Steve Niles, Ash Wood, Chris Weston, me (Liam Sharp), Gary Erskine and more. There's a link up to the web-site in the Heavy Metal links section, or just go here for more: www.mamtor.com It's heart is right in the same area as Heavy Metal Magazine—one of the major inspirations for the title—so anybody who loves Kevin's gem of a book is certain to get a kick out of Event Horizon.

Liam Sharp

Dear Liam,

Sorry this note is a bit late as your book is already out, but I want to congratulate you on a REALLY amazing project. Just by looking "Event Horizon" over I can tell you don't like the "telling stories/and loving people that do it" business we're in (NOT!). It's perfect—killer art, killer stories, killer quality—and I was proud to walk into my local shop and purchase it! Friends of Heavy Metal, adding "Event Horizon" to your collection of cool stuff comes with my highest recommendation. Check it out for yourself at his web-site.

Dear H.M.,

I draw comics and I'm working on a graphic novel. I'm wondering how I would go about getting it picked up. Does anyone know anything about this?

Skulz

Dear Skulz,

Great to hear you're working on a graphic novel. I'd love to see it. Basically, if you put together a little binder, with the story outline (just a couple of pages at most) and several samples of the art, you can send it to Heavy Metal and a number of other publications doing the same kinds of stuff. You can find out more about our submission policies on the Heavy Metal web-site.

Dear H.M.,

I was going through some of my old movies and I remembered one that I had lost a long time ago but for some odd reason I totally must own it again... It was titled "Fire and Ice"... (1983). I could play the guessing game to see if any of you know it but instead I'll just let you guys in on it...

Based on the art of Frank Frazzeta, this animated sword and sorcery adventure is pretty good. Featuring a blond muscular

hero and a voluptuous sexy heroine, this has some gutsy action and plenty of swordplay and violence thrown in. What makes this different to most other animated films is its rather daring adult content. The male villain seems to be attracted to the hero, and the heroine is captured by a lesbian witch! Beautifully animated with very realistic movement (even throwing in some slow motion violence). This is a far cry from Disney!

Jerimiah

Dear Jerimiah,

For what it is/was, all things considered, I recommend "Fire and Ice" to be a part of every Heavy Metal fan's DVD collection. Much like the first Heavy Metal movie, there are great parts, and not so great parts, but all in all a great film to experience.

Dear H.M.,

My list of all time favorite movies: "Osamu Tezuka's Metropolis", "Cowboy Bebop" (movie and TV show), "XXX", "Monty Python and the Holy Grail", "The Star Wars" Saga, "The Fifth Element", "The Alien" and "Predator" films (I refuse to watch "Alien vs. Predator" since it's PG-13!!), "Hellboy", "Kaena: The Prophecy", "Sin City", "Renegade/Blueberry", "The Fisher King", "The Big Lebowski", "Close Encounters of the Third Kind", "Brazil", "Time Bandits", "Wizards", "Clerks", "Dogma", and "The Wild Bunch".

Madbandit

Dear Madbandit,

I think the list is dead on, although I would add 100 more (like "Bladerunner" and "Matrix"—the first one to name only a few). I would love to see more lists from all Heavy Metal fans! Cool beans!

Dear H.M.,

Just had another great weekend with Simon Bisley at the Bristol convention where we launched Mam Tor's EVENT HORIZON. Simon's going to be in the next issue, and I may well be doing the cover for their single or album, whichever. I'm sure we'll get some of Simon's art on it too...

Liam

Dear Liam,

Thanks for the note. For those of you who don't know yet, KAOTIKA is the name of the band that was formed with Simon Bisley as the drummer. Although I have yet to see them live, I've heard loads of tapes and the rumors. They are raw, loud as fuck, and totally kick ass. I know the show date posted in the note has passed. I just wanted to tell you that if you're interested in seeing/hearing them, go to their web-site at www.kaotika.com.

Check out our web-site at: www.heavymetal.com



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Giving new meaning to the term "panning for gold," this image from the Geographic's archives is a depiction of the largest solid nugget of nearly pure gold ever found. In fact the nugget is only 89.45602 percent pure.

"But who's counting?" asked miner Neil G. Berg, whose team works at the only mining colony on this asteroid of pure metal. The tiny planetoid (about the size of Mars' moon *Deimos*) also holds the distinction of being the only body of its kind in the famous Asteroid Belt, located in the Sol System between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

Neil and his team discovered the asteroid, which officially bears the name ASG-00001, and the unofficial "Nugget" among the miners. Berg's company specializes in salvaging under contract with the Colonial Metals Cartel.

One might expect a billion metric tons of precious metal to send financial markets (and Berg's spirits) soaring. But he is less than salient on the subject. "All that gold! The find of a lifetime! You'd think I'd be rich!"

Despite what Berg and the rest of us would expect, the financial markets of Earth barely noticed Neil's claim. And his company is struggling.

"At their hearts, markets are finite concrete things," explains historian Trina King of the Myhr Universal Economic Center. "They are living things, also. And gold is the life's blood of Earth's marketplaces. We need it. We also need water, but we can drown in a flood."

Other problems exist for the marketing of this gold. Transporting quantities of heavy materials to and from a planet's surface is not only costly, but risky. Only planets with space elevation systems are allowed to import it.

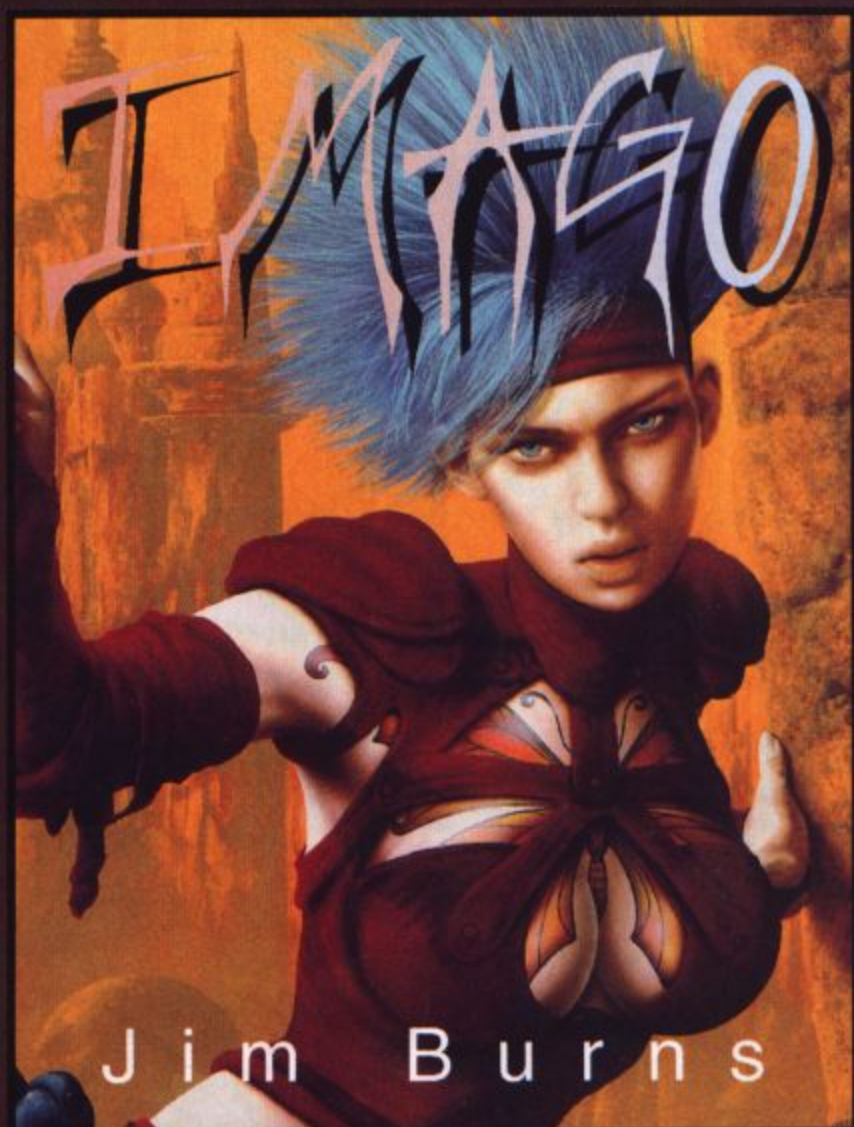
King laughs at the notion of bringing so much gold to Earth. "I don't think that will happen any time soon. How would you get it there? Where would you put it?" Still, King appreciates the amazing find. "It's a one-of-a-kind, and valuable. But not as money. It will probably end up being used in technology.

Jokingly she adds, "Still, it's a shame to dismantle something so unique. I think it would make a wonderful necklace!"

We think it would, too. — Ed.



THE ART OF JIM BURNS



Jim Burns

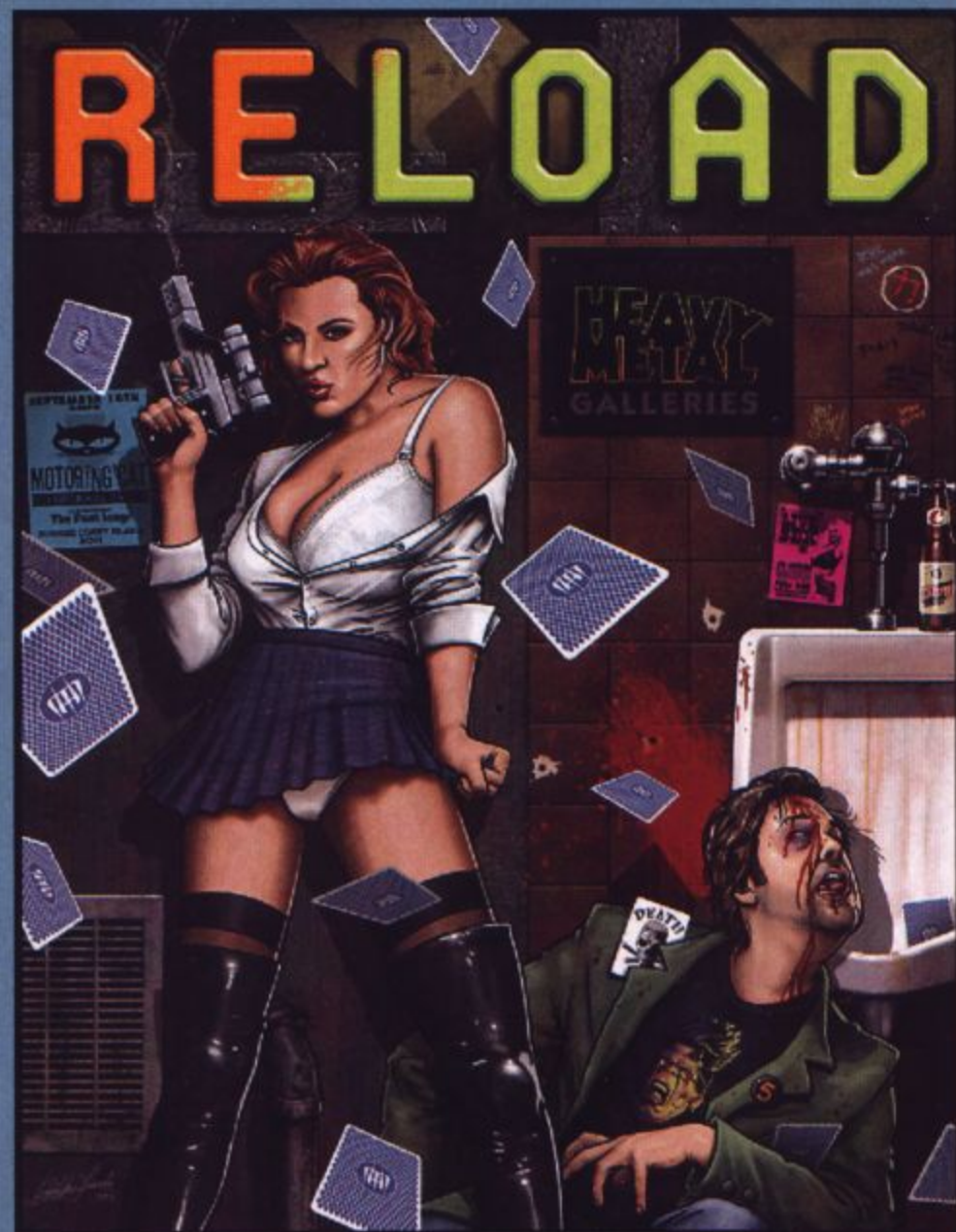
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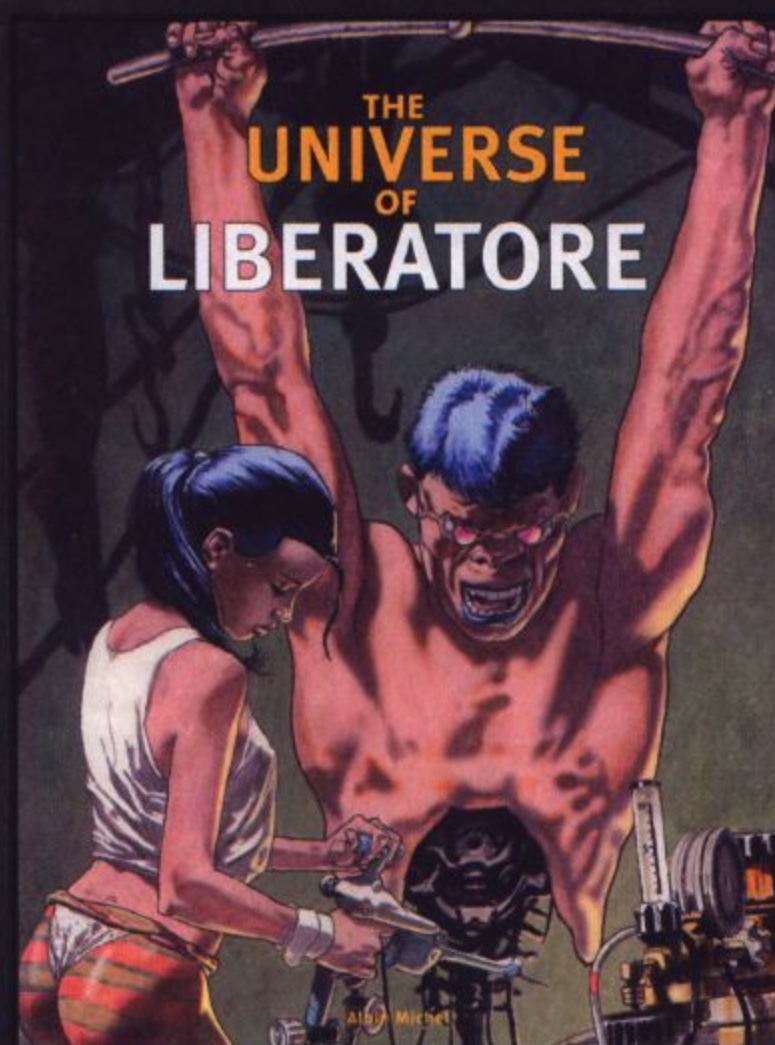


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EVIL G

**AKA
GARY FREEMAN**

“ My art continues to evolve and I’m constantly seeing improvement, which is the ‘Ultimate’ creative reward. Of course I’ve never had to worry about being trapped in a rut creatively or with life in general. I quit trying to predict the future a long time ago. Now I try to just hang on and enjoy the ride. ”

ONE JOURNEY started for Gary L. Freeman a.k.a. "Evil G" at age of 10 when he received his first award in an art competition. That paved the way for a prolific career in the arts that's never been dull or predictable.

Freeman has been successful in several markets such as: advertising and marketing in the fastest growing area in America, Las Vegas, Nevada while producing book covers and illustrations for such publishing clients as Ace Paperbacks, Roc, Amazing Stories, Science Fiction Age, Bantam Doubleday Dell, The Putnam Berkley Group, Doubleday Direct Inc, TSR Inc, Davis Publishing and Asimov's Science Fiction



Heavy Metal

Magazine. He has over 10 games to his credit in the PC/Console Game industry for companies like Westwood Studios, Electronic Arts, Virgin Interactive and Smart Bomb Interactive.

FREEMAN continues to gain recognition in various genres. His work has been featured: in the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles and numerous editions of Spectrum. He's been the recipient of awards ranging from Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine Reader's Poll which voted his work the "Best Interior Art" and "Best Cover Art" for 3 years to multiple advertising awards from the American Institute of Graphic Arts and The Las Vegas Ad Federation.

A few months after "In the Sewers" was featured as the January 2005 cover for *Heavy Metal Magazine*, it was chosen for inclusion in "Spectrum 12", the *Best In Contemporary Fantastic Art*, and Expose III, *The Finest Digital Art in the known Universe*.



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Busch Gardens

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EVIL G (as he came to be known by) worked on such notable PC Games as Blade Runner, Earth and Beyond, Lands of Lore, Nox, Emperor: Battle for Dune, Command and Conquer: Renegade, Tiberian Sun, Yuri's revenge and Firestorm for Westwood Studios in association with Virgin Interactive and Electronic Arts. His credits include everything from Concept Art, Promotional Art, Illustration, Logo Design, Prop Design, and packaging layouts, Style Guides, Texture Design to In-Game graphics and 3D assets.

“ I get inspired every time I see work by different artists. Of course, videos, games, movies, and books all inspire me. The great thing about being an artist is that pretty much everything around you inspires you to try something different. That's what keeps your work fresh and constantly evolving. You can never get better if you think you have nothing left to learn. ”



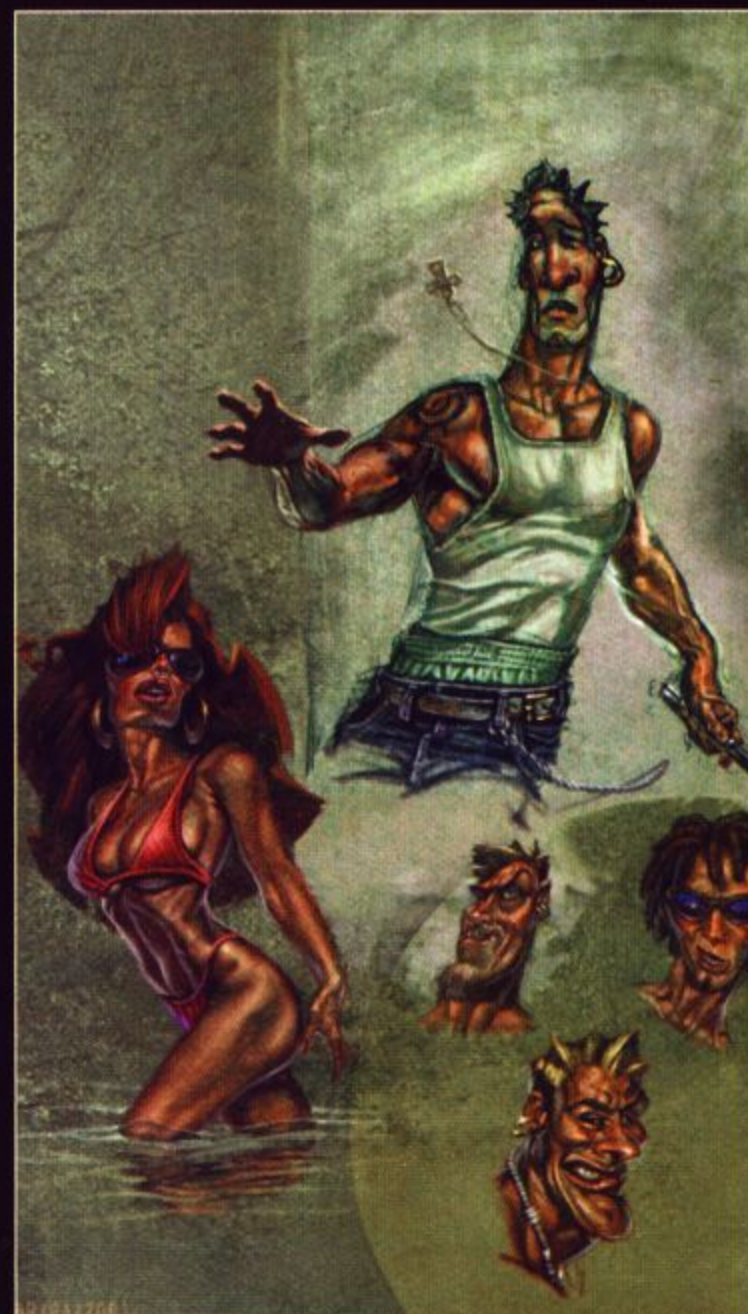
Smart Bomb Interactive



Excalibur Hotel/Casino Las Vegas



Excalibur Hotel/Casino Las Vegas



Westwood Studios

MEDIA BLASTERS



SEX FRIEND

Tomohiro has always been good friends with his classmate, Mina Hayase. But even though they've always flirted and joked around together, they've never gone all the way. That changes when they find that the school nurse doesn't mind letting couples use the infirmary beds to relax after classes. But things become more complicated with Tomohiro's other classmates and the nurse herself get in on the action!

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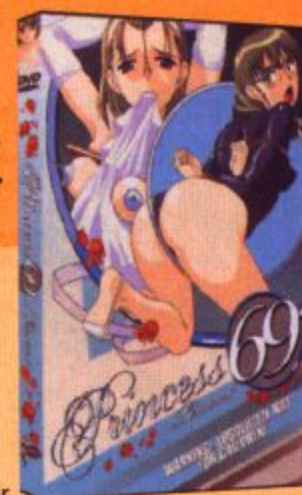


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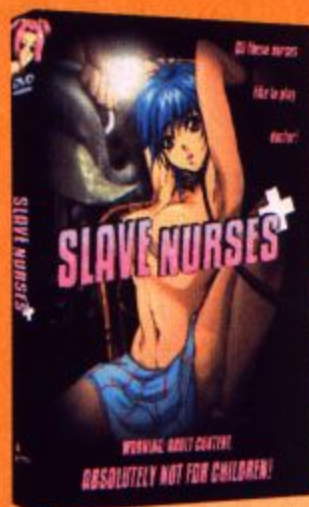
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Some of life's lessons tuition just can't buy! The beautiful nurse Miss Mizuki works at a private junior college, counseling students and teachers alike. With student after student confiding in her, confessing their secret passions and erotic escapades, Miss Mizuki has a hard time controlling her own sexual desires.

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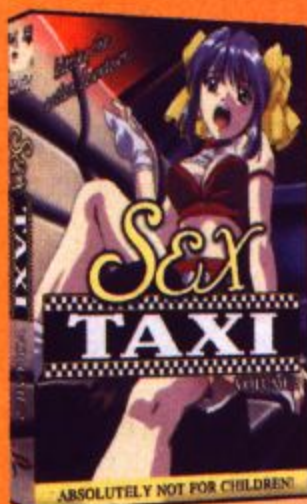


SLAVE NURSES

Strange things are afoot at the nursing home. For some reason every night the nurses are feeling an uncontrollable urge. . . and they're not the only ones. It seems that the new resident doctor has a

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RIDDLE ME THIS, BATMAN... BIDDING A FOND FAREWELL TO TV'S RIDDLER

The late Frank Gorshin (April 5, 1933 – May 17th, 2005) was a man of many talents, but to millions of fans around the world, he'll always be The Riddler from the old Batman TV show (ABC, 1966-1968). What many Gorshin fans probably never knew was that this versatile actor was also one of the best impressionists in show business. In fact, Gorshin broke into show business as a teenager, his impressions of Cary Grant, James Cagney and Edward G. Robinson winning him a talent contest whose prize was a 1-week nightclub stint opening for Alan King. He later attended the Carnegie-Mellon Tech School of Drama before being drafted in 1953. During the Korean War, Gorshin spent two years in Special Services entertaining the troops. As



soon as his hitch was up, a friend hooked him up with a Hollywood agent and his career was off and running, with a part in *The Proud and Profane* (1956) and a

Gorshin's Riddler was so memorable, it elevated the character's status in the comic book from a second-rate also-ran to one of the series' major villains.

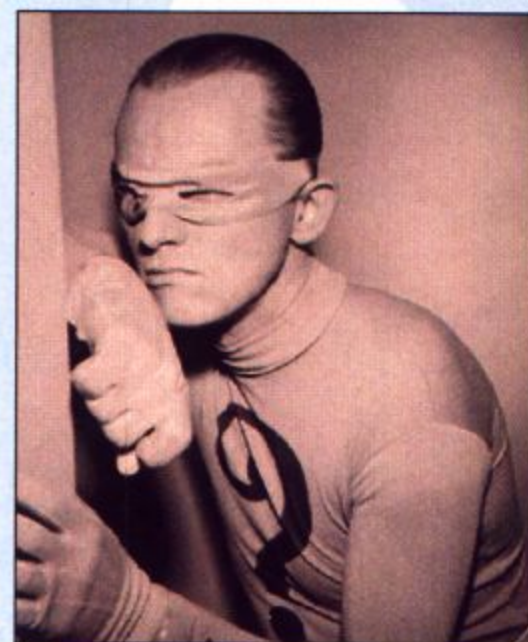
series of TV roles. Gorshin's first real shot at the big time, a screen test for the "A" picture, *Run Silent, Run Deep* (1958),

got derailed when he tried driving straight through to L.A. in one 39-hour stretch and fell asleep at the wheel, wrecking his car and fracturing his skull into the bargain. Don Rickles wound up getting the part.

But nothing could keep the irrepressible Gorshin down for long, and he was soon back at work cranking out schlocky teenage B-pictures at AIP like *Hot Rod Girl*, *Dragstrip Girl*, and of course, that perennial fan fave *Invasion of the Saucer Men*, in which teenage hotrodders battle bulgy-headed aliens with hypodermic fingertips.

Gorshin broke back into "A" pictures with *Bells Are Ringing* (1960) and continued doing his impressions in Vegas and Hollywood nightclubs, and on variety shows like Steve Allen's and Ed Sullivan's. In fact,

he was on Sullivan's show in 1964, in a broadcast featuring the Beatles' American TV debut. While Gorshin worked steadily in



films and TV for the next three decades, it was TV that gave him his signature role, that of the giggling, psychotic Riddler on Batman. It was a breakout role for Gorshin, though his Riddler wasn't too different from many of the switchblade-wielding punks and murderous psychos he'd already assayed in scores of TV and film roles. Gorshin played The Riddler in all three seasons of Batman, as well as portraying him in the *Batman* (1966) feature spawned by the TV show alongside Caesar Romero,



Burgess Meredith, and Lee Meriwether. Gorshin's Riddler was so memorable, it elevated the character's status in the comic book from a second-rate also-ran to one of the series' major villains.

He was nominated for an Emmy Award for *Batman*, the only member of the cast to be so honored, and wound up being nominated for another Emmy in 1969 for his turn as the bi-colored alien cop Commissioner Bele in a fondly remembered *Star Trek* episode.

The prolific Gorshin finally made it to Broadway in 1970, starring in "Jimmy" to rave reviews. He toured for years in various productions, including "Peter Pan," "Guys and Dolls," "Promises, Promises" and others, while continuing to do his nightclub act and appearing on TV and in films. His greatest latter-day success came with his acclaimed one-man show based on the life of comedian George Burns (2002). True to form, the chameleon-like Gorshin inhabited the role with eerie precision.

Ironically, this renowned impressionist's final TV role was playing himself in the 2005 season finale of *CSI* directed by Quentin Tarantino. Gorshin is survived by Christina, his wife of 35 years, and his son, Mitchell. He was a unique talent and he will be keenly missed by all connoisseurs of strange cinema.

ARTHUR SUYDAM

THE ART OF THE BARBARIAN

Arthur Suydam's latest book, subtitled *The Art of the Barbarian*, is a visual feast for anyone who loves characters like Conan the Barbarian, Tarzan, or Frank Frazetta's Death Dealer and relishes the kinds of savage action that Suydam (and *Heavy Metal*) are known for. This slim volume published by Image Comics, collects a host of Suydam's sketches, studies and unpublished drawings, all related to his work from the last two decades, during which the prolific Suydam painted a classic issue of *Death Dealer* for Verotik, among many other projects. The Tarzan studies (unfortunately not in color) included here are from Suydam's stint as a cover artist for Dark Horse during the late 90's. The Conan drawings and sketches are the most recent work in the book and were also generated by a project for Dark Horse, in this case, the Conan Frost Giant's Daughter PVC statues issued as a limited edition collector's set. Also included is a nice selection of unpublished sketches depicting, naturally enough, Suydam's drawings of various barbarians, damsels and monsters.

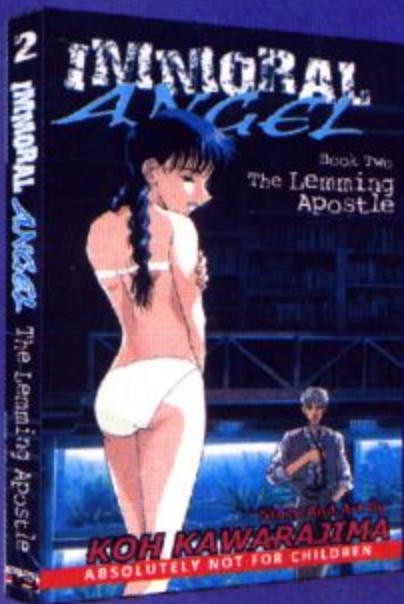
In addition to a wealth of staggeringly beautiful drawings and sketches, the book also features a long interview with Suydam, conducted by his friend and agent Renee Witterstatter, with accompanying biographical text by T.W. "French" Piscine. Between Suydam's revealing comments and the plethora of drawings reprinted here, *The Art of the Barbarian* offers interesting insights into the life and work of a dynamic contemporary illustrator, a man whom *Heavy Metal*'s own Kevin Eastman calls, "one of the greatest artists of our time."

While the sketches and little doodles included in the book open a fascinating window on Suydam's creative process, the real treat for art lovers is the pages of finished drawings included in this collection, all drawn in Suydam's trademark lushly rendered brushwork. It's a style that only a handful of the best illustrators are currently working in, one that harkens back to the glory days of comics and illustration, when giants such as Joseph Clement Coll, Hal Foster, Alex Raymond, Frank Godwin, Dean Cornwell and Raeburn Van Buren were enriching America's artistic legacy. This is not to say that Suydam's work is old-fashioned or stuffy, far from it. Suydam's lively and fascinating drawings feature characterizations and subject matter that place it firmly in the modern era. However, Suydam's glorious drawing grandly recalls a classic style of illustration that is growing increasingly rare. Any reader who enjoys Suydam's revival of "Mudwogs" for *HM* will find much to enjoy here, from Suydam's savagely intense battle scenes to his gorgeous depictions of fantasy femme fatales. Suydam is one of those rare artists who just get better with each new project, and I for one, eagerly await everything he does. A+, Arthur!

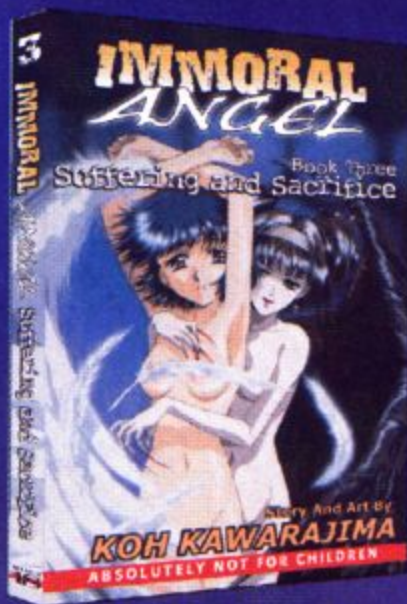
This excellent book can be obtained in a signed and numbered edition from better comics shops and bookstores for only \$19.95. If you can't find it where you live, try contacting evaink@aol.com online, or writing to Eva Ink; P.O. Box 27; West Haven, CT 06516 for information about where you can get your copy. As always, tell 'em *Heavy Metal* sent you.



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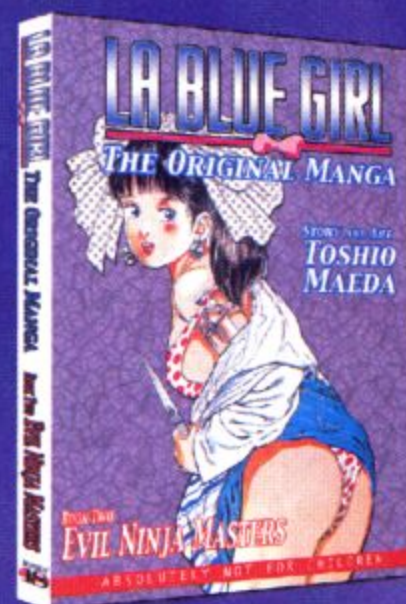
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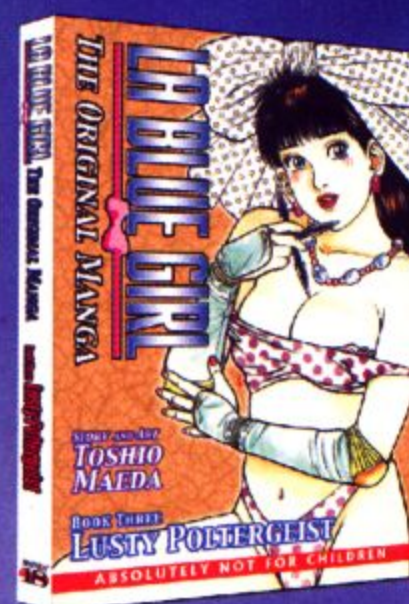
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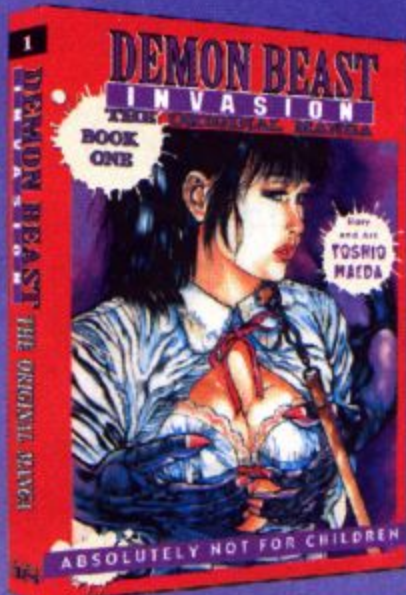
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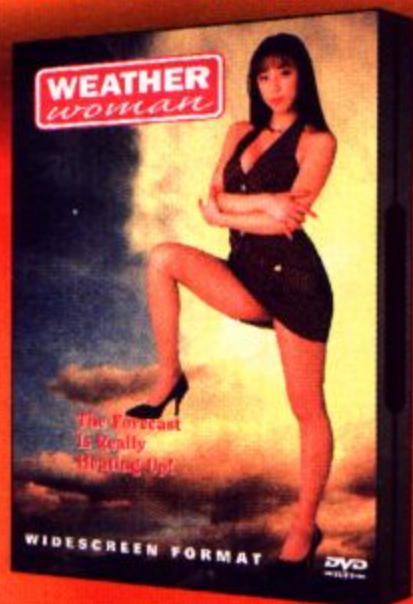
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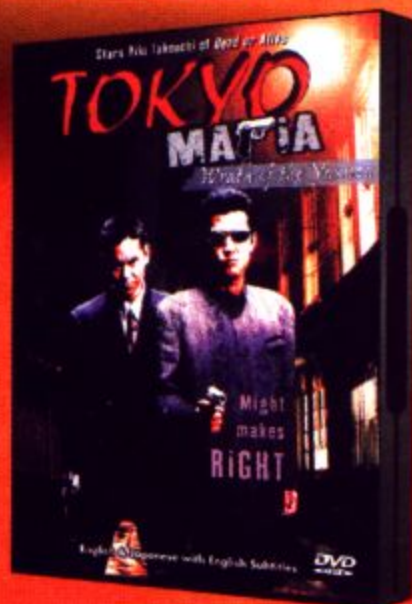
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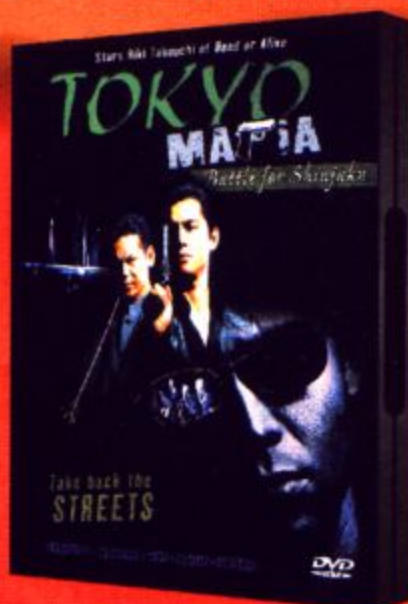
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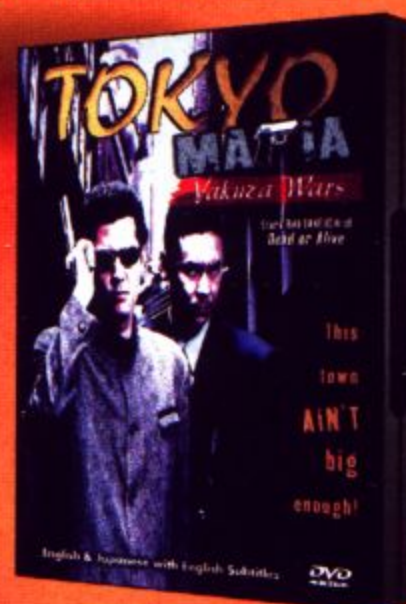
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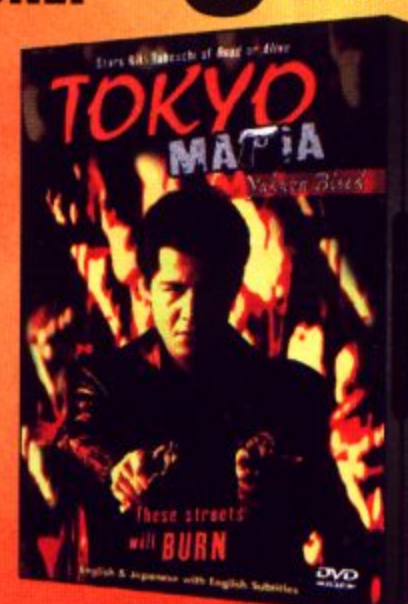
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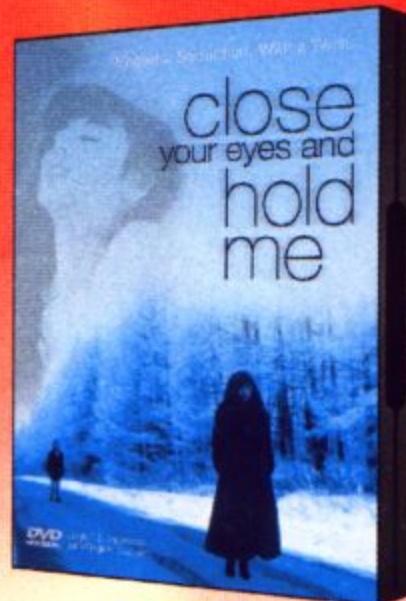
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CLOSE YOUR EYES
AND HOLD ME




THE DIMENSION
TRAVELERS

"AHHHHH...NOT TIRED OF MY
STORIES YET? I GOT A MILLION OF
'EM. OK...THIS ONE'S CALLED..."

The TOLL BRIDGE

A MUDWOG TALE...
WRITTEN BY ARTHUR SUYDAM AND
JOSEPH KOCH
ILLUSTRATED BY ARTHUR SUYDAM!

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF
PROFESSOR VAUGHN BODE



IT HAD BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THE PRINCESS
LURLEI HAD SET FOOT ON GARDYLOO. IT'S
FORESTS, FOREBODING TO HER AS A YOUNG GIRL,
NOW SEEMED TO WELCOME HER MOST
SINCERELY. HER WEARISSNESS GAVE WAY TO A
SPIRIT THAT FOUND ITSELF IN SYMPATHETIC
KINSHIP WITH THE MISTS SHIFTING HIGH ABOVE
THE TOWERING TREES. SOON, SHE CAME TO THE
OUTER EDGE OF THE MEADOW, MARKING THE END
OF HER LONG JOURNEY HOME. LURLEI ENJOYED
BEING SURPRISED BY THE SUDDEN FAMILIARITY
AND DELIGHTED IN RECOGNIZING THE
FORGOTTEN. SHE REMEMBERED THE TREES AS
TALL AND MAGNIFICENT, BUT NOW, AS SHE
GREETED THEM AGAIN...THEY SEEMED EVEN
TALLER AND MORE NOBLE THAN BEFORE.

'T WAS A PLACE WHERE NATURE'S MANY VOICES SPOKE IN WHISPERS, RESPECTING THE SILENCE OF ITS GIANTS. WHEN LURLEI SANG, HER VOICE PERMEATED THE FOREST AND IT ANSWERED HER WITH AN INDULGING ECHO. IT WAS AS IF SHE HAD HER PLACE IN AN ANCIENT CHOIR, HER VOICE AN INSTRUMENT OF THE AGES.

WA-EE-OH-
EEEEIAHHH-OOHH!

ZZZZZZZZ...

LURLEI WAS VERY WEARY FROM THE TIRESOME JOURNEY AND GREW IMPATIENT FOR THE COMFORTABLE SURROUNDINGS OF HER HOME, DOWN THE ROAD, JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MEADOW.

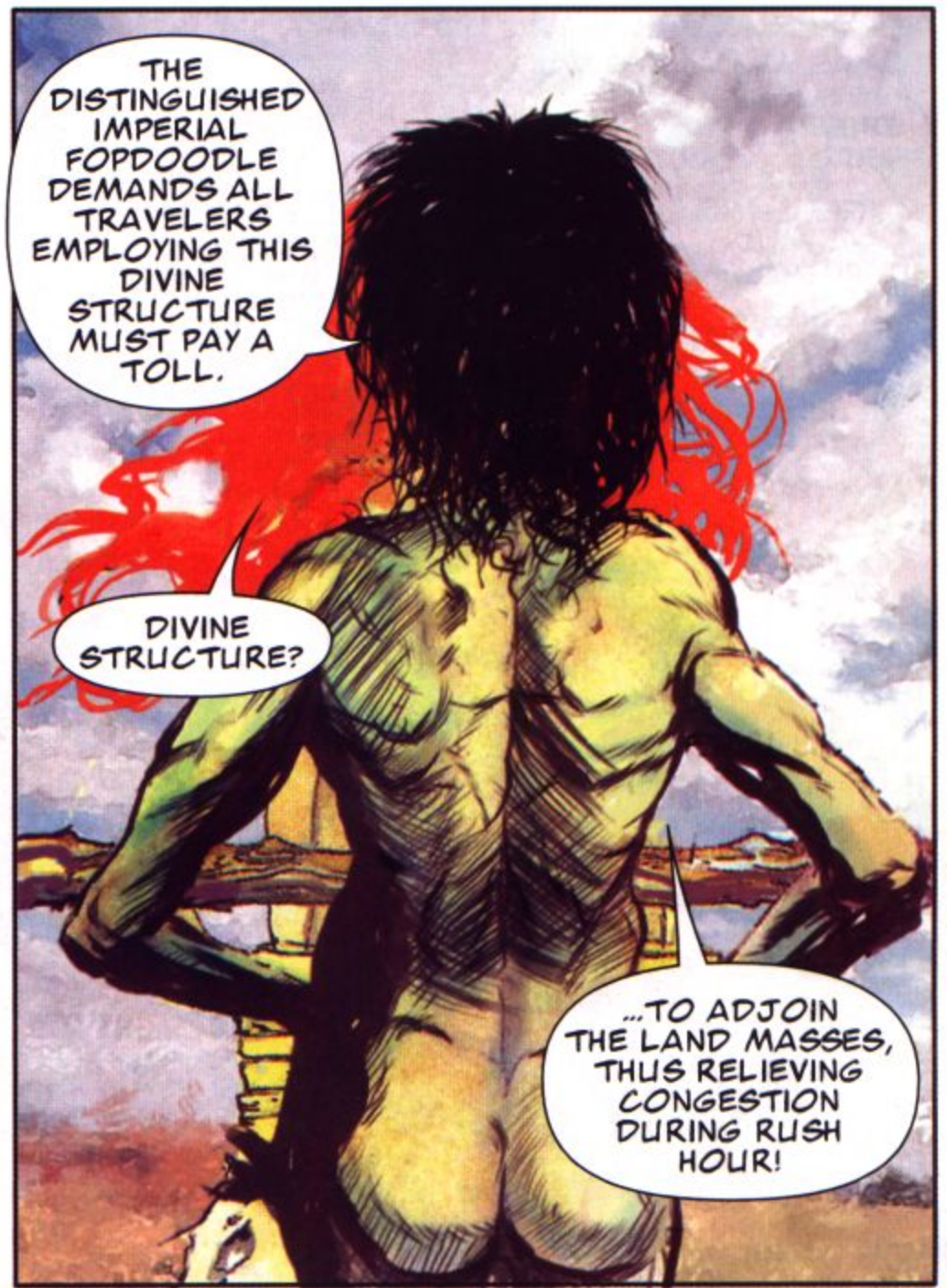
AT THE MEADOW'S EDGE, SHE PAUSED FOR A LAST GLANCE AT THE FOREST BEFORE CONTINUING ON DOWN THE PATH.

SOON, SHE CAME UPON AN UNFAMILIAR OBSTRUCTION IN THE TRAIL AHEAD...

SIGH!

?!!!







THIS?
BUT
IT'S JUST
A MUD
PUDDLE!

JUST
WAIT 'TIL
THE RAINY
SEASON!

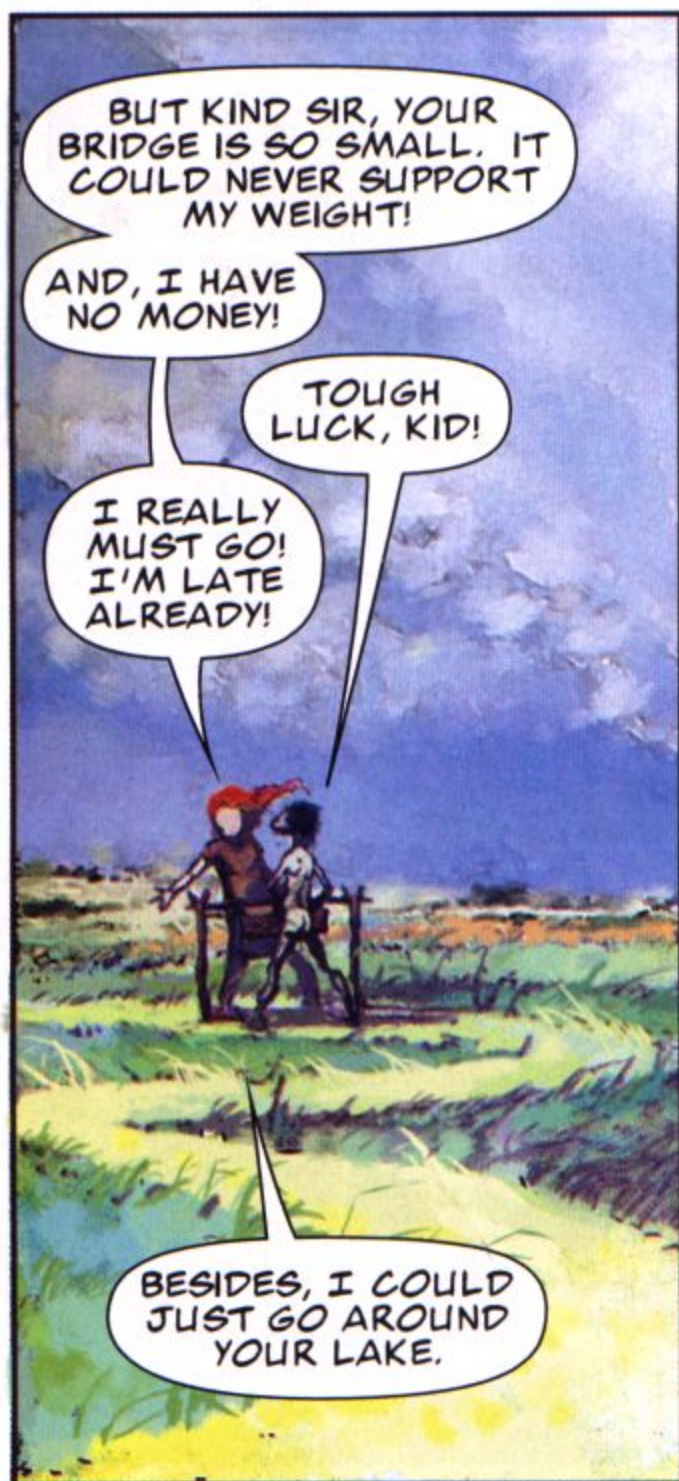


IT'S
RIGHT HERE,
PLAIN AS
THE NOSE
ON YOUR
FACE.

IN THE GOOD BOOK,
THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO
ERECT A STRUCTURE IN THE
PUBLIC THOROUGHFARE, AND
CHARGE A FEE FOR CIVIC
SERVICE. THE PARTY OF THE
SECOND PART MUST PAY A FEE
TO THE PARTY OF THE FIRST
PART... MUMBLE...MUMBLE...
MUMBLE...ETC. ETC. ETC...



THAT'LL
BE FIVE CENTS,
PLEASE!



BUT KIND SIR, YOUR
BRIDGE IS SO SMALL. IT
COULD NEVER SUPPORT
MY WEIGHT!

AND, I HAVE
NO MONEY!

TOUGH
LUCK, KID!

I REALLY
MUST GO!
I'M LATE
ALREADY!

BESIDES, I COULD
JUST GO AROUND
YOUR LAKE.



WHOOOA!
DRAG YOUR BUTT
BACK OVER HERE
UNTIL YOU HUSTLE
UP MY TOLL!

OUCH!

YOU HAVE
NO MONEY,
YOU GOTTA
SCRAM!

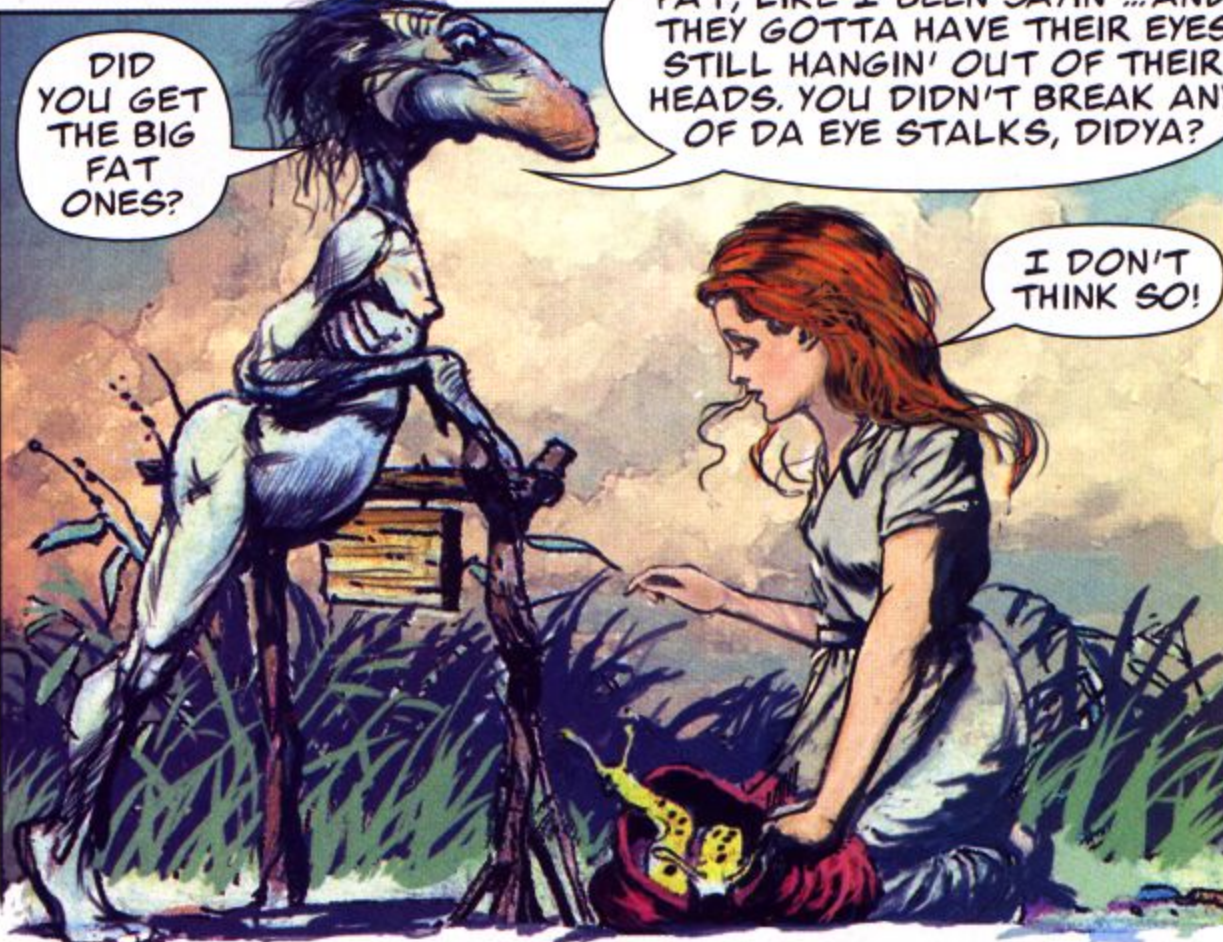
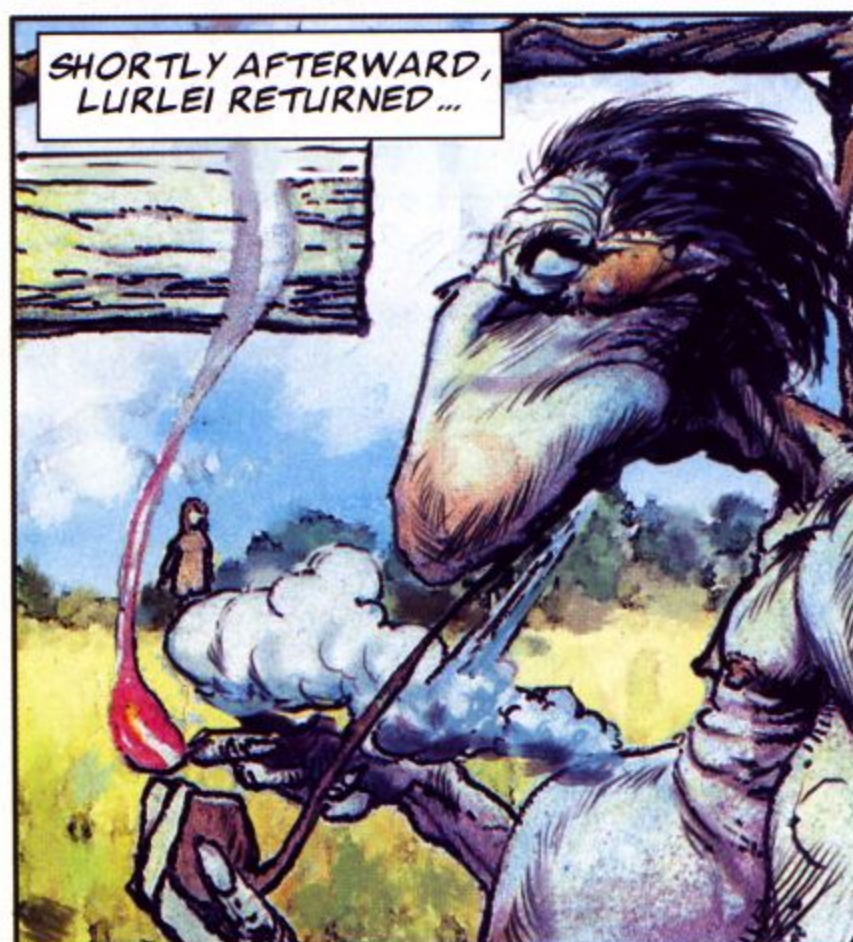
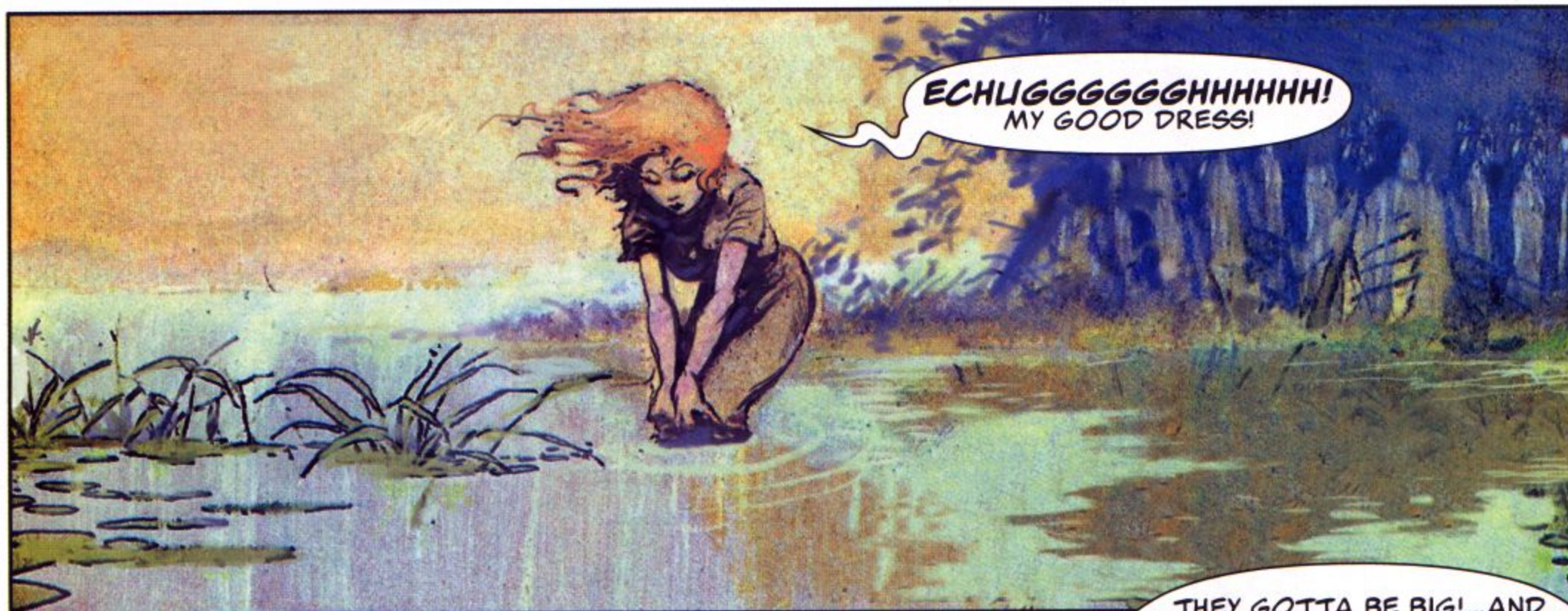
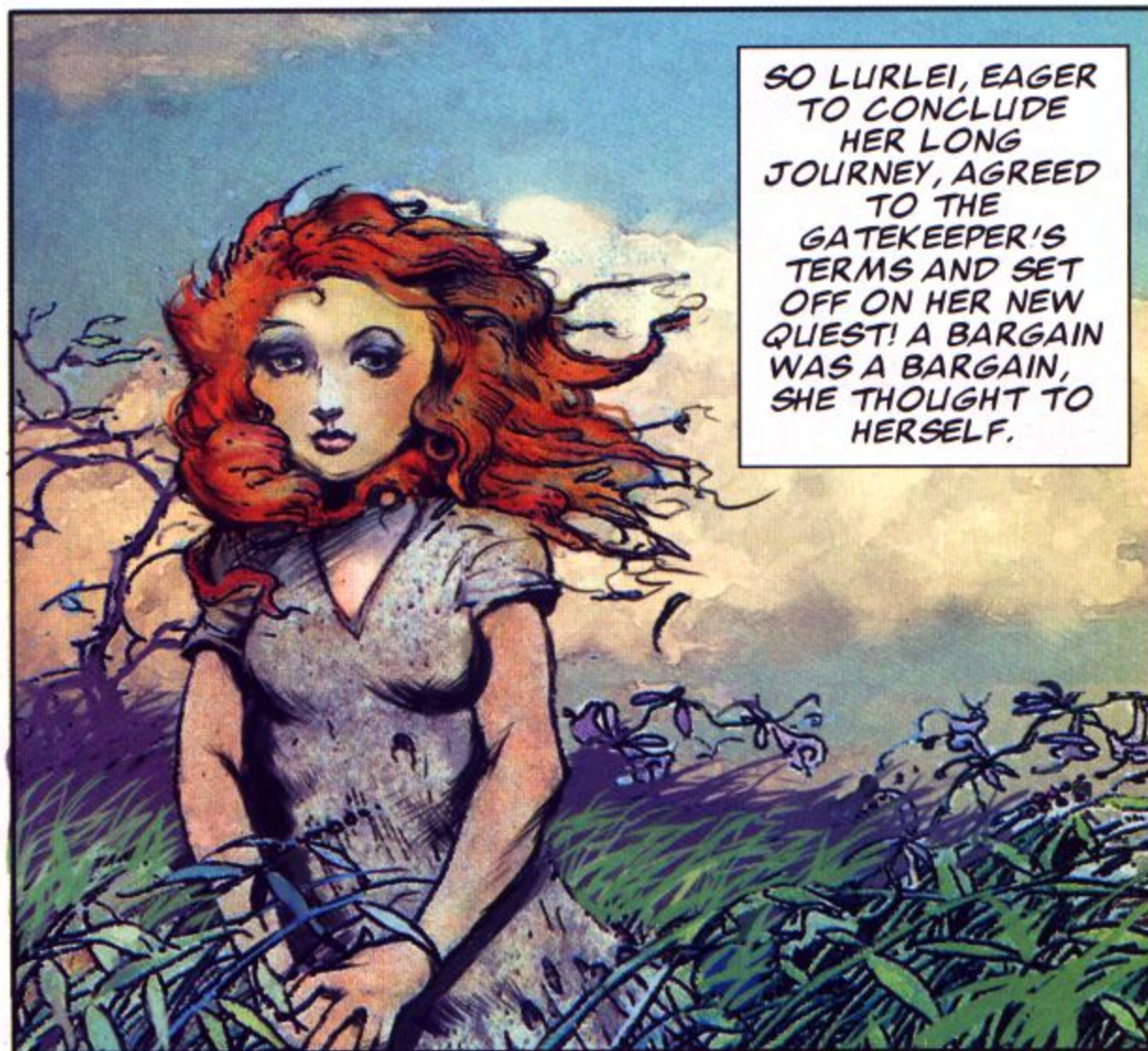
I REALLY
HAVE TO GO!



WELL...NO NEED
TO ADHERE TO THE
STRICT ALPHABET OF THE
LAW: MONEY AIN'T
EVERYTHING.

HUM...
SOME PEOPLES
PUT A PREMIUM
ON CERTAIN
KINDS OF
MOLLUSKS!

SNAILS?





WELL, PLEASED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE. IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU, GUESS I'LL BE ON MY WAY NOW...



LURLEI COULD NOT HELP BUT SYMPATHIZE WITH THE TOLL KEEPER'S PLIGHT, HAVING JUST MADE A LONG JOURNEY HERSELF.

WITH A PROMISE THAT THIS WOULD COMPLETE HER END OF THE BARGAIN, SHE EMBARKED ON HER NEW QUEST...



IT WASN'T LONG
BEFORE LURLEI FOUND
HER QUARRY...



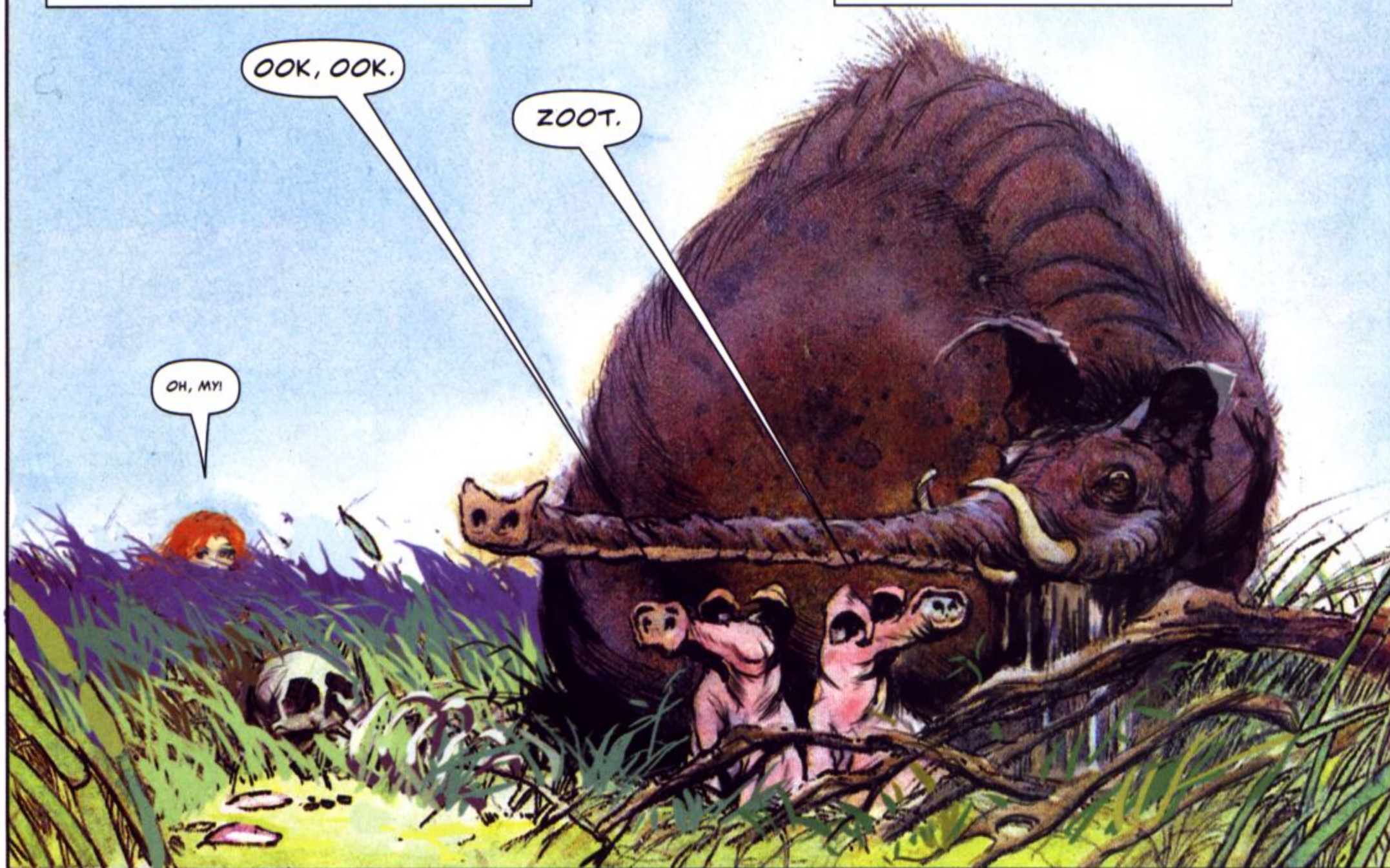
LURLEI'S HEART SANK. MEADOW
BOARS WERE LEGENDARY FOR THEIR
FEROCITY. THE BONES OF BYGONE
SLIPPER-SEEKERS LITTERED THE
AREA AROUND THE NEST.

SHE DECIDED TO POSTPONE
HER EFFORTS UNTIL
NIGHTFALL, WHEN SHE HOPED
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
THEIR SLUMBER...

OOK, OOK.

ZOOT.

OH, MY!



LATER THAT NIGHT...

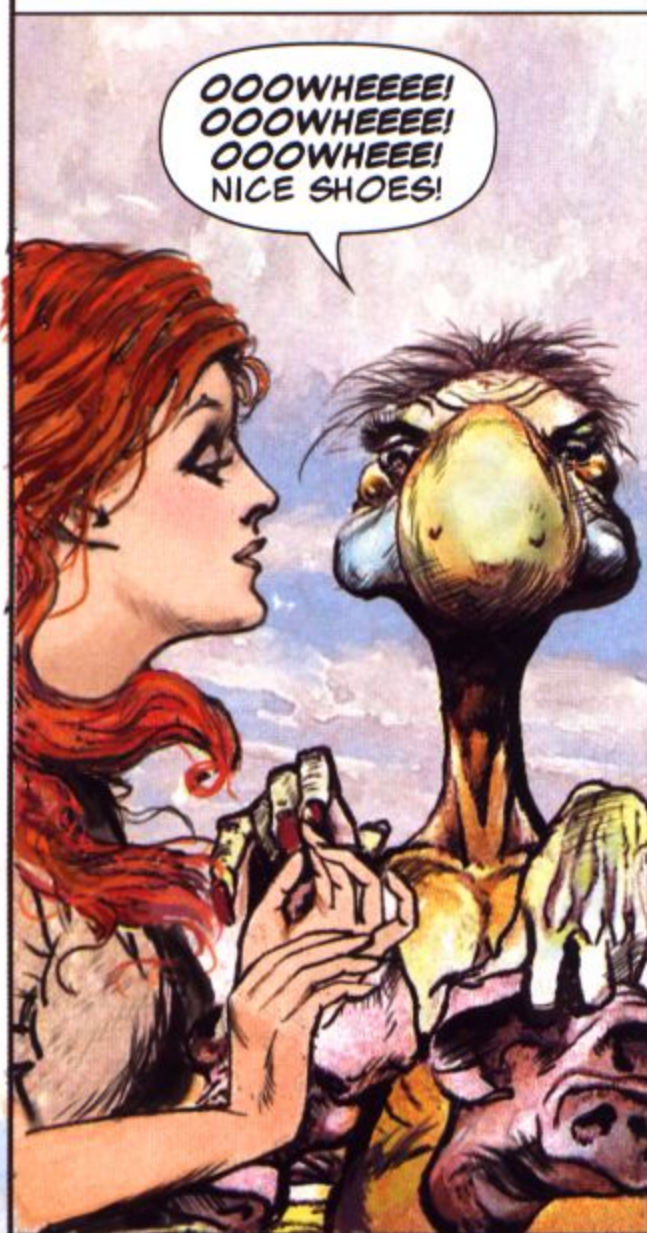
...QUIET!

ZOOT,
ZOOT!

OOK!



FINISHED WITH HER APPOINTED QUEST, LURLEI ONCE AGAIN RETURNED TO THE SITE OF THE TOLL BRIDGE WHERE SHE FOUND THE GATEKEEPER ANXIOUSLY WAITING...



I'VE COMPLETED MY END OF THE BARGAIN, KIND SIR. SO NOW, IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU I'LL BE ON MY WAY...

NOW, THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT! HOW DO I LOOK?

YOU'VE DONE WELL, MY CHILD. SO WELL IN FACT, THAT I HAVE A FINAL QUEST FOR YOU!



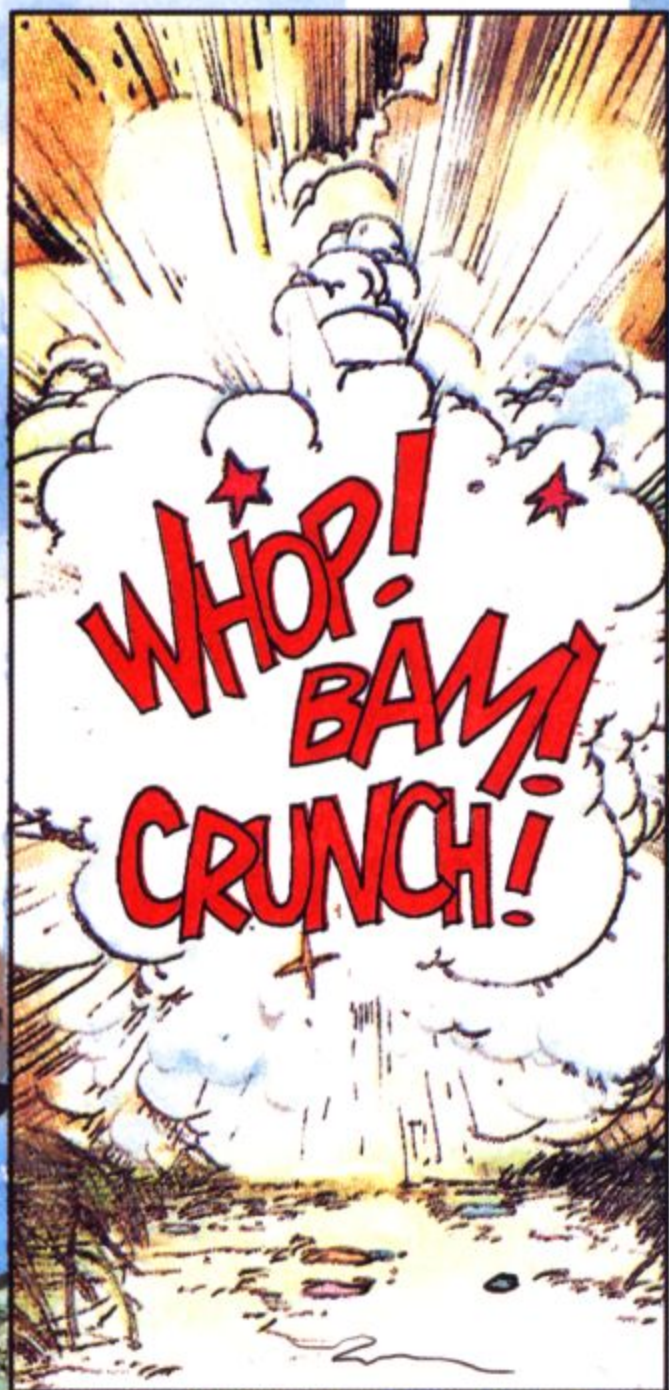
WHAT? NOT AGAIN! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO THIS TIME?

HMMMM...SMACK, SMACK!



BEND OVER AND I'LL SHOW YOU!



AND SO, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, PRINCESS LURLEI CONTINUED ON HER MERRY WAY...

SOME PEOPLE GOT NO SENSE OF HUMOR WHATSOEVER.

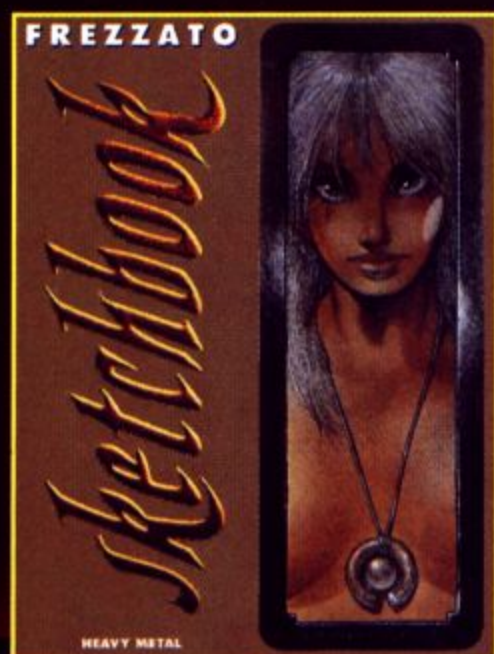


THE END

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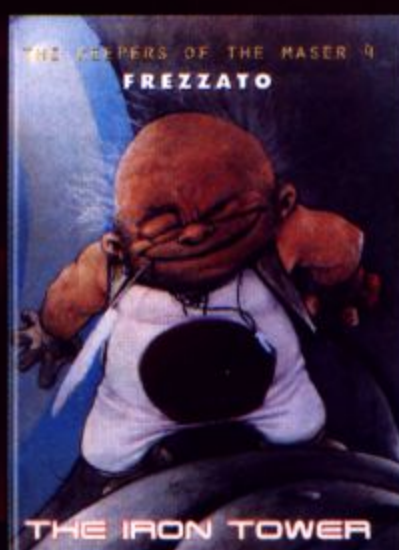


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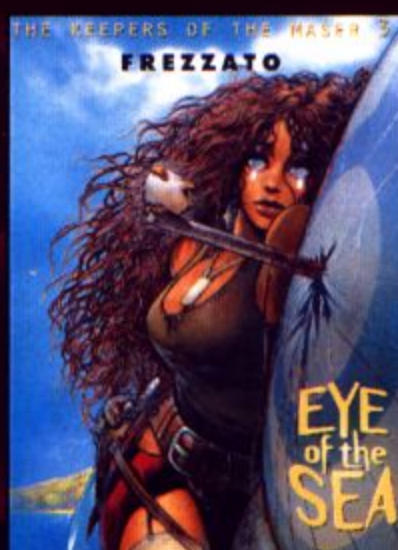
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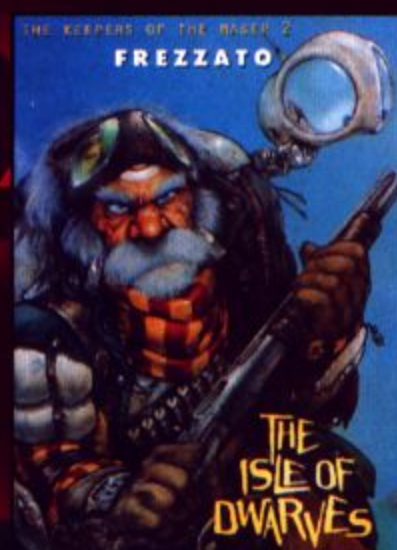
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WHEN THEY'VE BEEN DANCING HALF THE NIGHT, THEY STINK OF SWEAT AND THEIR THONGS RIDE UP THEIR ASSES IRRITATING THEIR HEMORRHOIDS.

MMM, IT SMELLS LIKE SUMMER...
GIVE ME YOUR HAND...

THAT'S MY CAR! FRONT OR BACK SEAT? THERE'S MORE ROOM IN THE FRONT, BUT IN THE BACK YOU DON'T HAVE TO DODGE THE STEERING WHEEL...

LA SERRURE

SHIT! IT'S A TIGHT SQUEEZE IN HERE!

YOU'LL HAVE MORE ROOM IF YOU LET ME TAKE OUT MY TAMPON!

LET'S GO TO YOUR PLACE... YOU COULD TAKE A SHOWER...

NEVER ON THE FIRST DATE, BUT YOU SEEM DIFFERENT...

AH, YOU NOTICED! LET'S GO!

WOMEN USED TO MARRY THE FIRST MAN THEY SLEPT WITH... AND TRIED TO CONVINCE THEMSELVES THAT HE WASN'T WORSE THAN THE REST...

HOW OLD FASHIONED!

WE'RE HERE!

NOW THEY TRY THEM ALL OUT, AND SOON REALIZE THAT NOT ONE OF THEM IS ANY BETTER THAN THE REST!

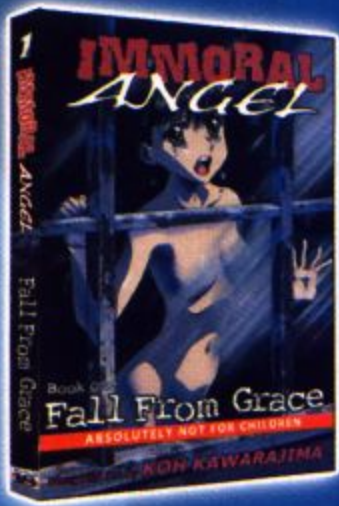
YOU CAN HAVE HER DURING HALFTIME, YOU SENTIMENTAL IDIOT!

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR BREAKFAST?

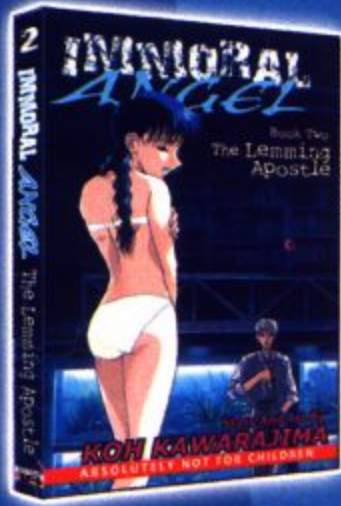
A QUICK GETAWAY!

Autherian

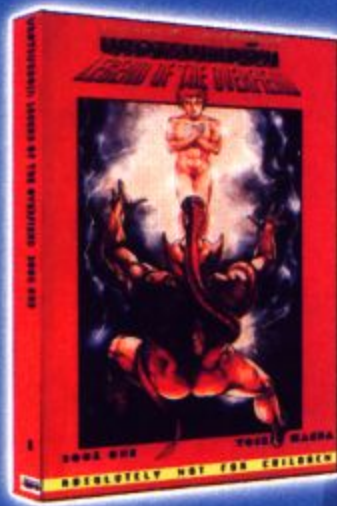
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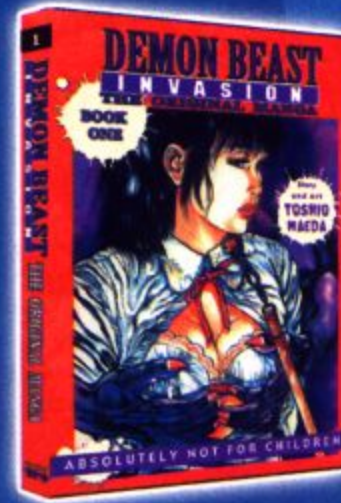
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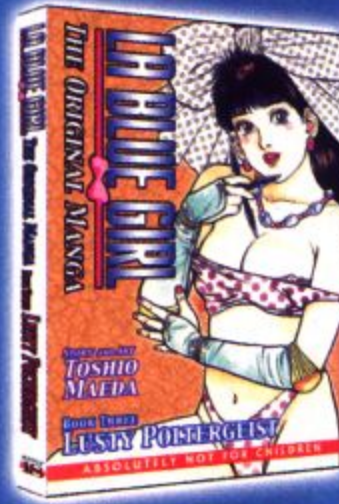
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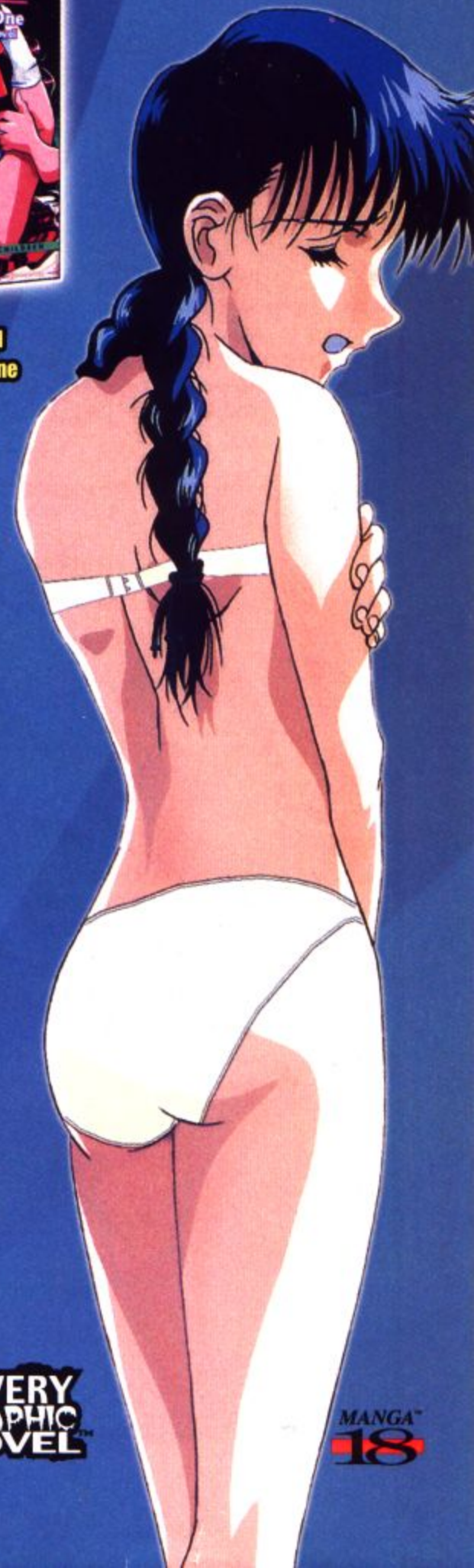
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MMM. IT SMELLS SO GOOD!

THE LORD OF THE RINGS

OPEN

COME ON IN!

COME IN, G-GIRLS!
G-GRUB'S ON THE HOUSE!

WHO'S THAT FREAK?

LET'S EAT FIRST, THEN WE'LL ASK, OK?

MMM... SCRUMPTIOUS!
WHAT IS IT?

CHICKEN!
T-TAKE YOUR T-TIME, DEARS!

AH!

HA! HA! I SHUT THE D-DOOR. I DON'T LIKE D-DRAFTS.

WELL I DON'T LIKE DOORS THAT SLAM SHUT! ANYWAY... WHY ALL THIS MEAT FOR FREE? WHAT N.G.O. DO YOU BELONG TO?

MIAM!
CRUNCH!



I USED TO LIVE IN THE HILLS. MY F-FRIENDS WERE ALL FARMERS AND I WAS A B-BUTCHER. THEY USED TO BRING THEIR CHICKENS FOR ME TO S-SLAUGHTER. THEY CALLED ME THE LORD OF THE WINGS. I WAS HAPPY.



AND THEN ONE DAY I WAS FIRED, SO I MOVED INTO T-TOWN. I CHANGED MY LIFESTYLE AND MY APPEARANCE. NOW THEY CALL ME THE LORD OF THE RINGS.

BUT IN MEMORY OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE I THROW A P-PARTY FOR ANYONE WHO WILL K-KEEP ME COMPANY AND LISTEN TO MY SNIFF STORY.



THANKS FOR THE GRUB! AND LET ME GIVE YOU A KISS.

HOW TOUCHING! NOW OPEN THE DOOR INSTEAD OF SNIVELING!



YOU'RE VERY KIND. I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR LYING TO YOU...

WHAT LIE?!

WHAT YOU JUST ATE WASN'T CH-CHICKEN...



IT WAS A T-TOURIST!!

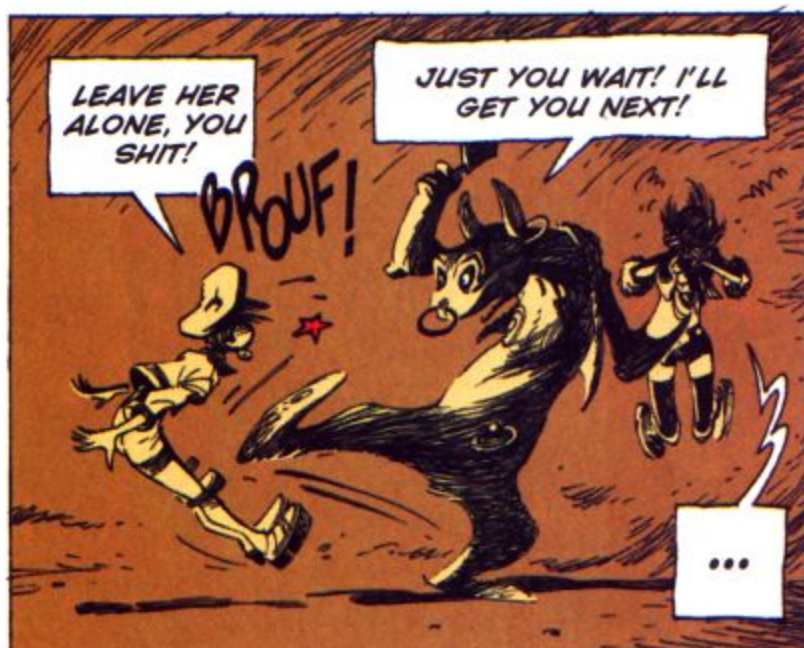
EEEEAAARK!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN EEEEEAAARK!? T-TOURISTS ARE DELICIOUSLY PLUMP! WHEN GRILLED THEY HAVE A SPICY EXOTIC FLAVOR, AND BESIDES, THEY'RE CHEAP!



I BET YOU'RE G-GOOD TOO! TAKE THE WORD OF A FORMER B-BUTCHER!!

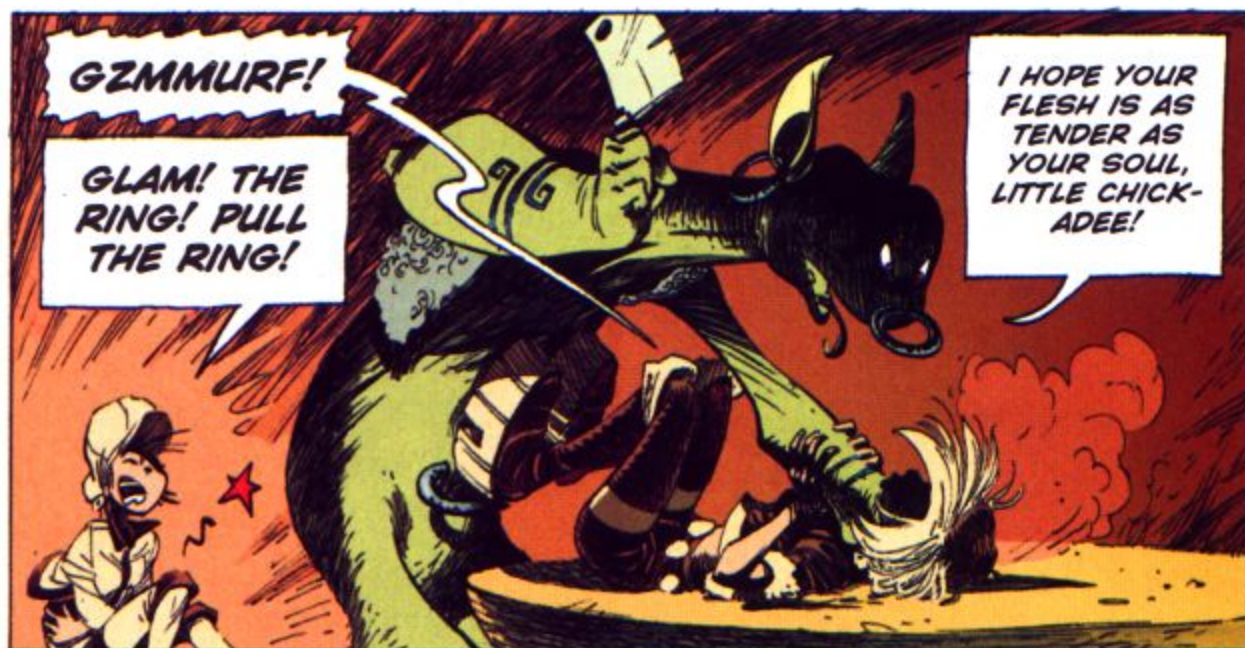


LEAVE HER ALONE, YOU SHIT!

JUST YOU WAIT! I'LL GET YOU NEXT!

BOUF!

...



GZMMURF!

GLAM! THE RING! PULL THE RING!

I HOPE YOUR FLESH IS AS TENDER AS YOUR SOUL, LITTLE CHICK-ADEE!



?

SCRATCH

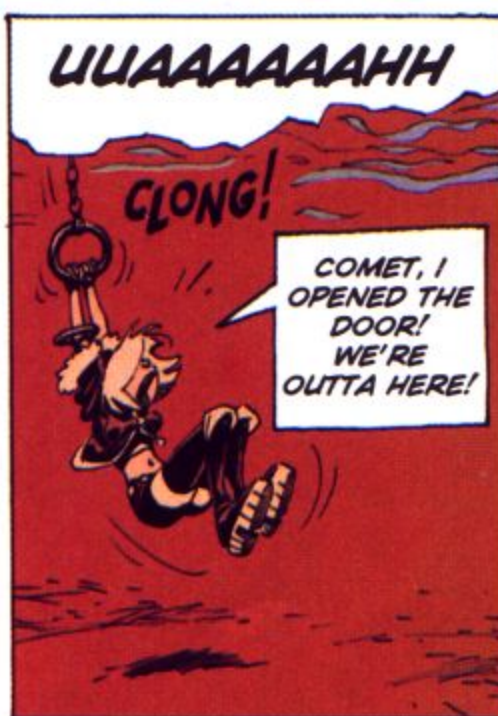


OOUUUCH! MY NOSE RING!!



SCRATCH!

...



UUAAAAAAHH

CLONG!

COMET, I OPENED THE DOOR! WE'RE OUTTA HERE!



NOT SO FAST! I HAVEN'T HAD MY SHARE YET...



SPROTCH



OUUAAAAA

HE USED TO BE "THE LORD OF THE WINGS"...

THEN HE BECAME "THE LORD OF THE RINGS"...

AND NOW HE'S "THE LORD OF THE GROANINGS AND MUTTERINGS"!!

FIN

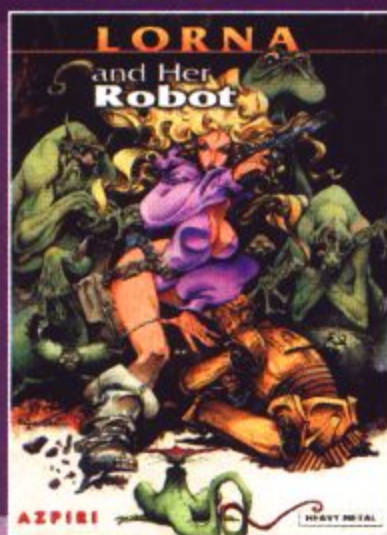
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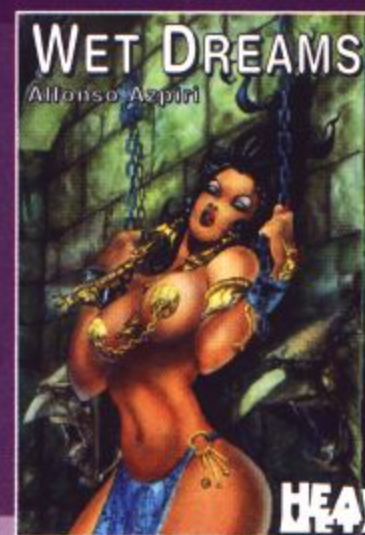
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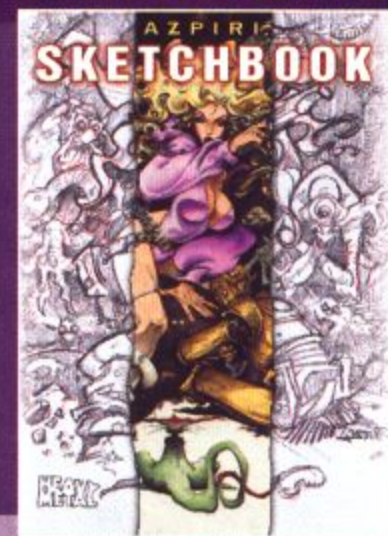
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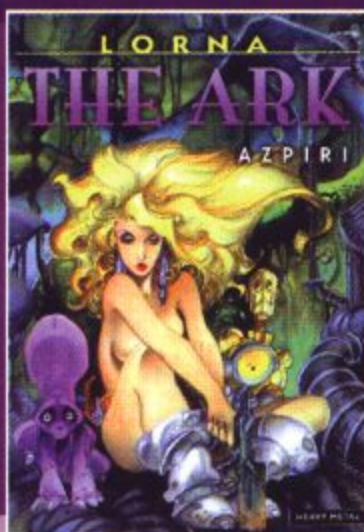


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I remember a struggle...
And I remember Tyta...
I remember the blood...

I THINK I
¥#\\$%*\\$ UP!

BIP!

PLOP!
PLOP!



I'M ALMOST
SURE I
¥#\\$%*\\$ UP!

BIP!

PLOP!
PLOP!

And then something happened,
Something that should never
have happened...



I remember a distant refrain...



When the sacred core disappears,
The break in the ring will be mended...

And immaculate light will burst forth.



We felt we were dying.
We were falling upwards.



The sacred symbol and the
sphere had merged...



The roof of the tower had slammed
shut, exterminating all the dwarves.



We were there, friends
and foes alike.



And everyone who was in the center of the
tower when the symbol was put into place...



...was carried away by the sphere.
Drawn by the strange light,
we plummeted past...



...the dwarves' mangled remains.



I MUST BE THE
CHOSEN ONE!?
I FEEL FAINT!

BIP!

IT'S JUST
LIKE IN THE
LEGEND!!

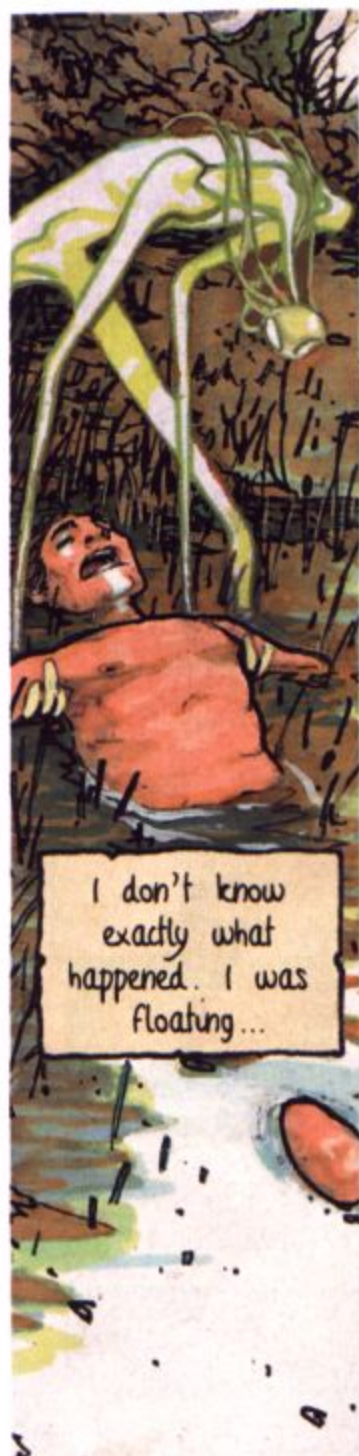
...BIP!



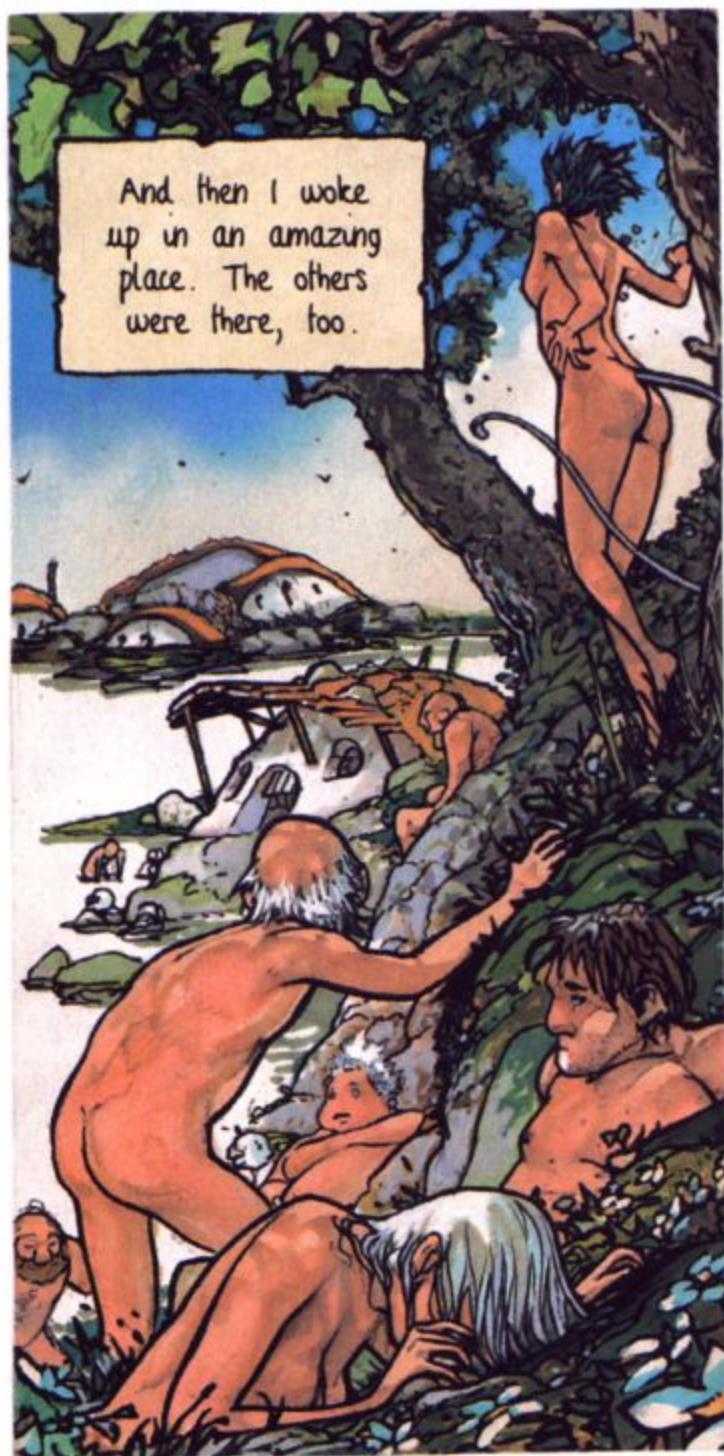
Then darkness was no more.



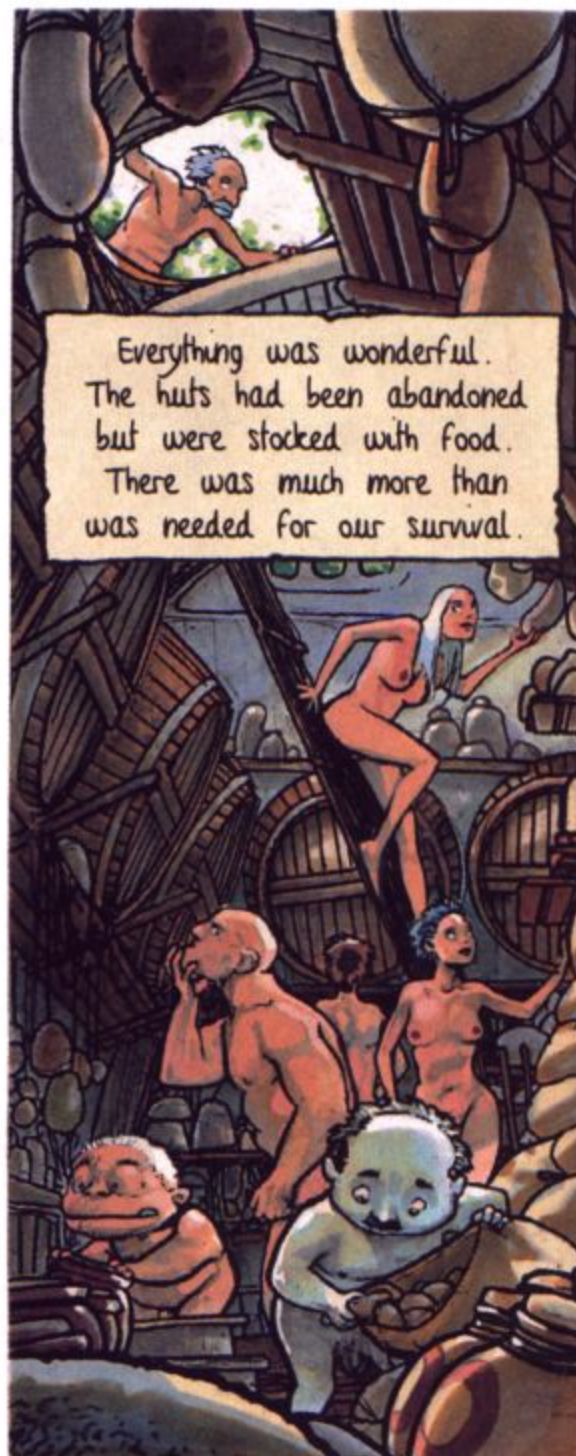
It has been daylight ever since,
and night is but a vague memory.



I don't know
exactly what
happened. I was
floating...



And then I woke
up in an amazing
place. The others
were there, too.



Everything was wonderful.
The huts had been abandoned
but were stocked with food.
There was much more than
was needed for our survival.



The only equipment that
we managed to save
was the rob-crow... to
Khoz's great delight.



Our past lives had been left
behind, who knows where...

...and we had all become
different.



Tyfa and I adapted very quickly.

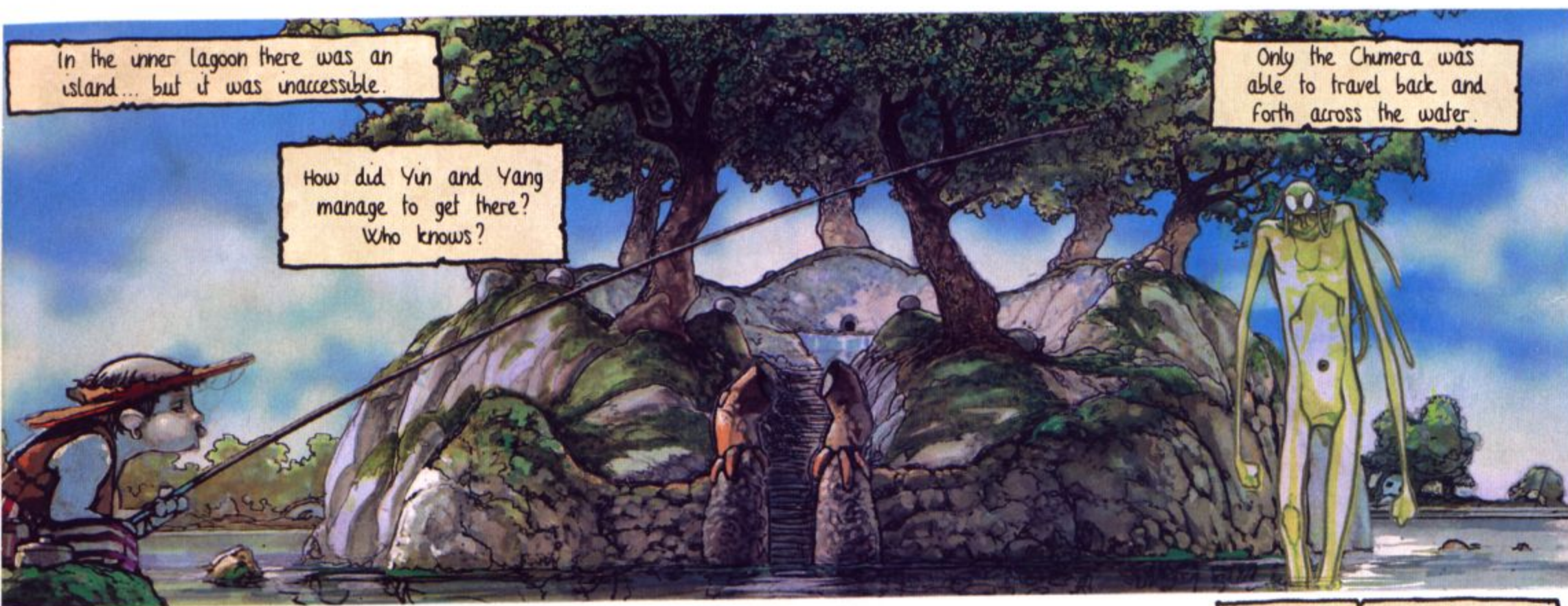
Our child would be born soon in the shade of what Erha called "trees."

The village we lived in was built on a long semicircular strip of land.

There was water everywhere around us... strange, still water that was impossible to cross. It was drinkable, but nothing could float on it.

Others, however, found our living conditions very pleasant. The Egos, who owned the water rat, had formed an independent commune.

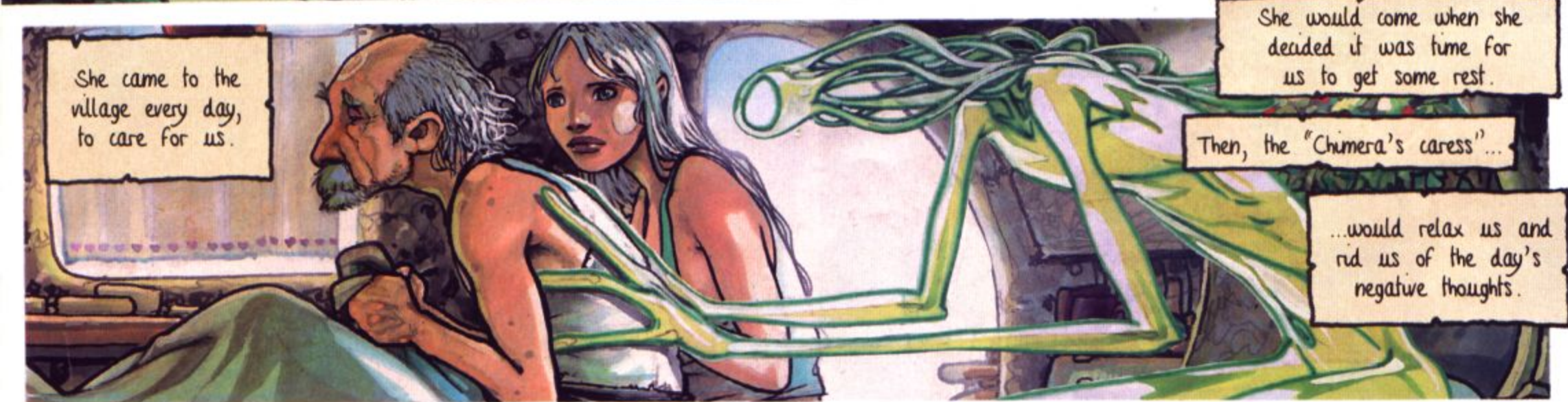
Khoz was trying to repair his rob-crow, hoping that he could make it fly.



In the inner lagoon there was an island... but it was inaccessible.

How did Yin and Yang manage to get there? Who knows?

Only the Chumera was able to travel back and forth across the water.



She came to the village every day, to care for us.

She would come when she decided it was time for us to get some rest.

Then, the "Chumera's caress"...

...would relax us and rid us of the day's negative thoughts.



It helped us endure the everlasting light and our isolation.

Yet some of us felt we were prisoners.



Ivolina never smiled again.

She spent her days with the only other survivor of her people, the ever-faithful Kreepo. Together they would go on imaginary voyages around the island, in a boat that had been grounded on the beach.



And I had started writing in Tzynn's diary...

...jotting down some ideas...

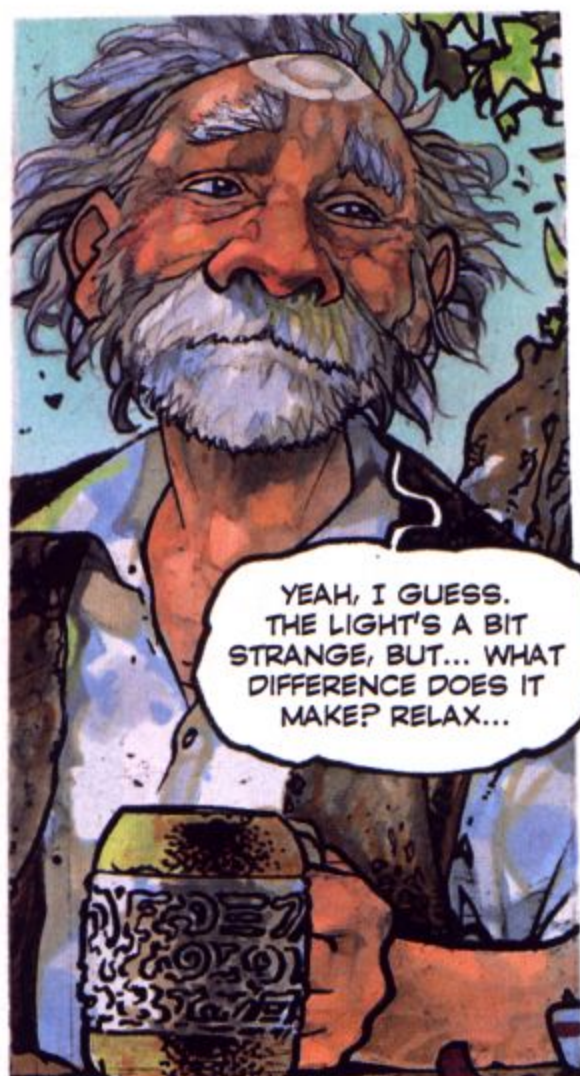
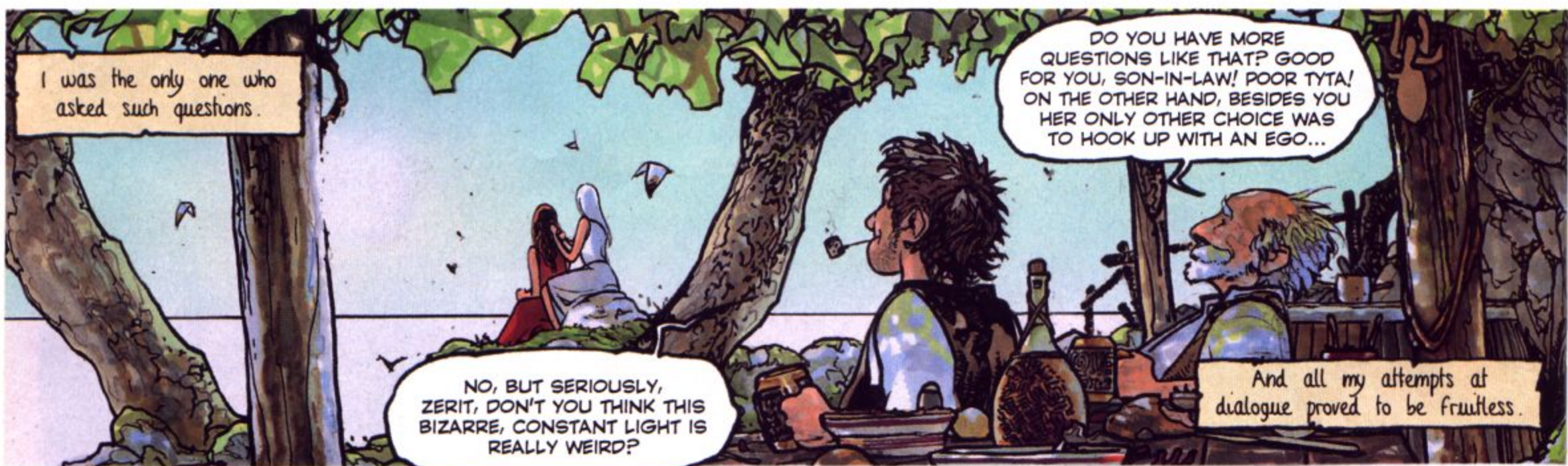
...that could have been obliterated by the Chumera.

I wanted to understand.

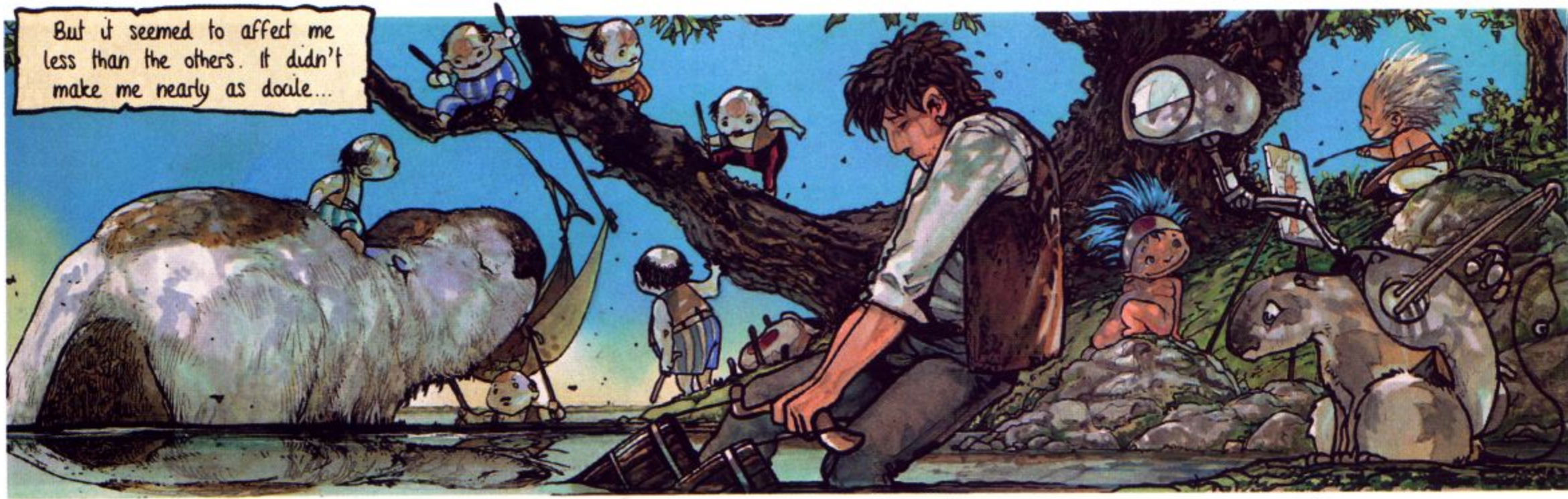
Was all this a dream?

Or just a most pleasant...

...prison?



But it seemed to affect me less than the others. It didn't make me nearly as doale...



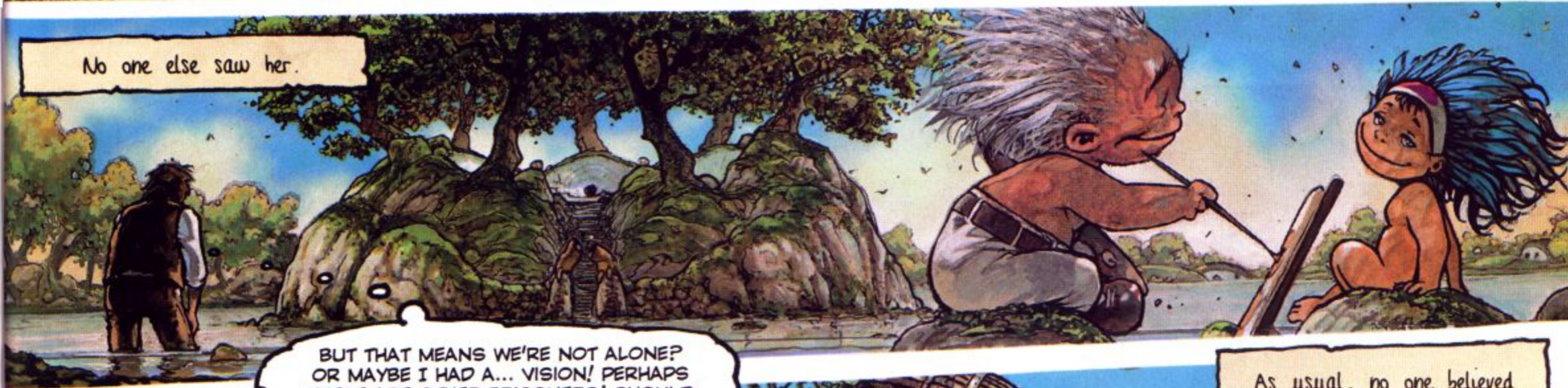
One day, when I was filling a bucket with "light water," as we used to call it...



...I saw a little girl in a transparent bubble floating on the water's surface near the island. She was green and seemed to be watching me.

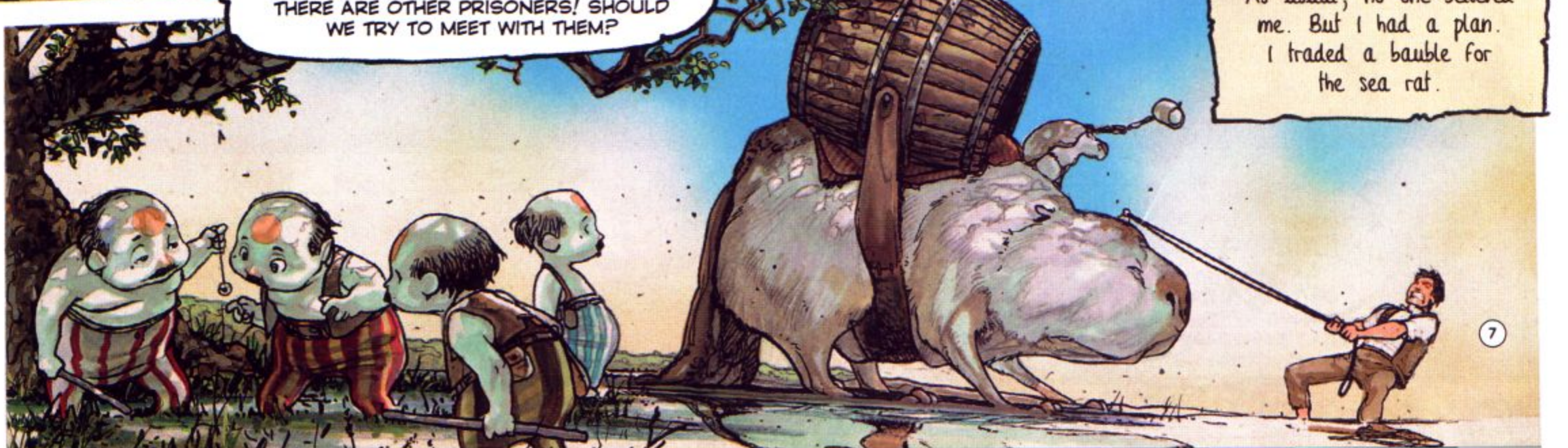


No one else saw her.



BUT THAT MEANS WE'RE NOT ALONE? OR MAYBE I HAD A... VISION! PERHAPS THERE ARE OTHER PRISONERS! SHOULD WE TRY TO MEET WITH THEM?

As usual, no one believed me. But I had a plan. I traded a bauble for the sea rat.



I just had to creep out of my hiding place while the others were plunged in their artificial sleep.

It was a perfect plan.

ERHA...

TO GO UP, YOU MUST COME DOWN...

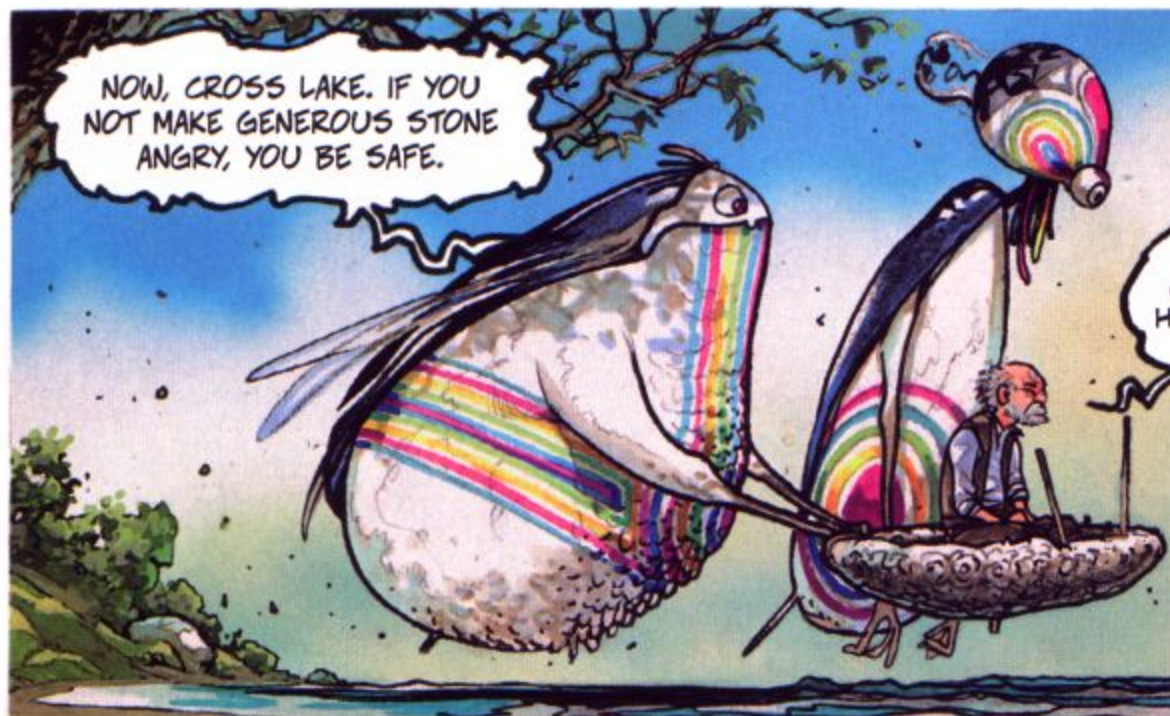
YOU WILL BE THE MOON...

AND YOUR SEED WILL BE A BOON.

GOOD, ERHA! YOU MUST WAKE UP NOW...

**DLING!
DLING!**



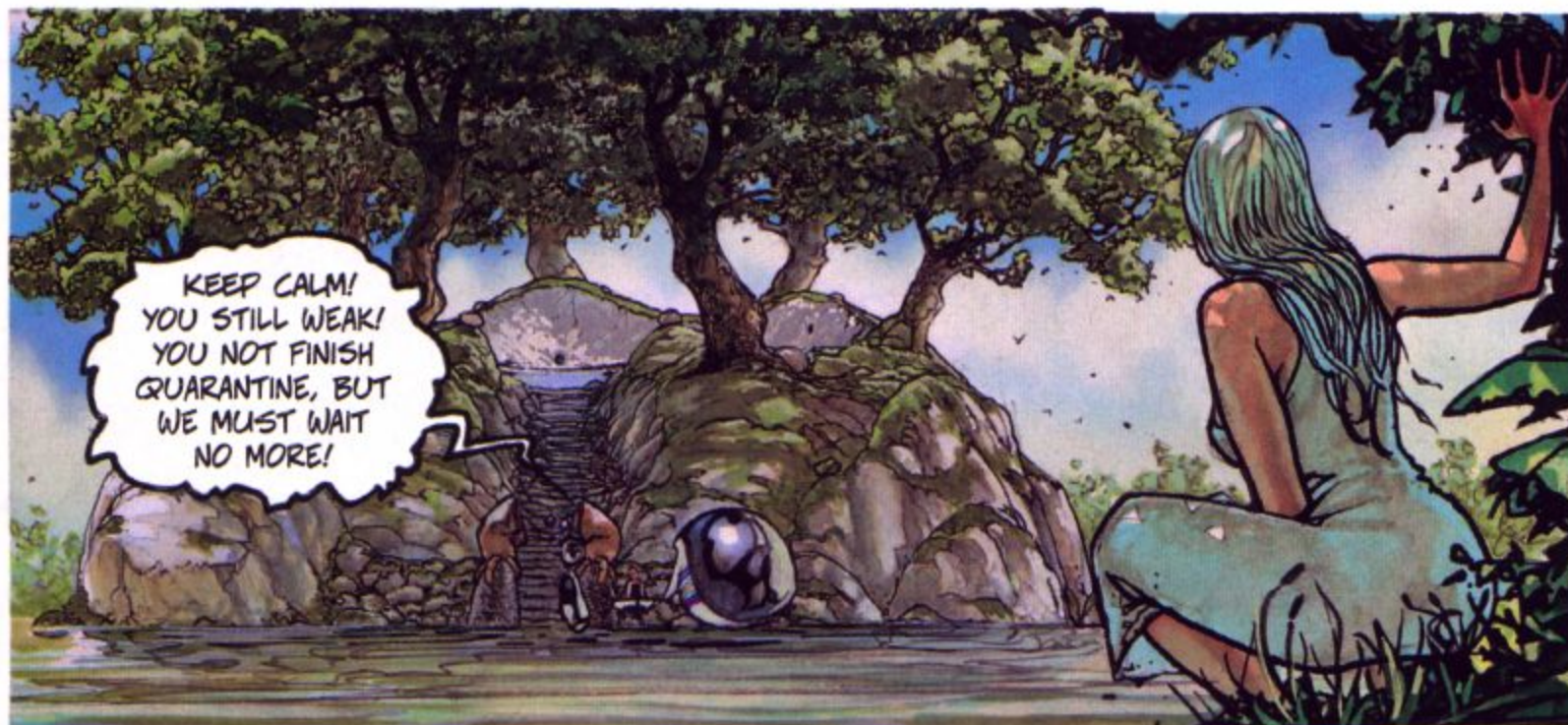


NOW, CROSS LAKE. IF YOU NOT MAKE GENEROUS STONE ANGRY, YOU BE SAFE.



SSHH!! QUIET! ALL PEOPLE ASLEEP!

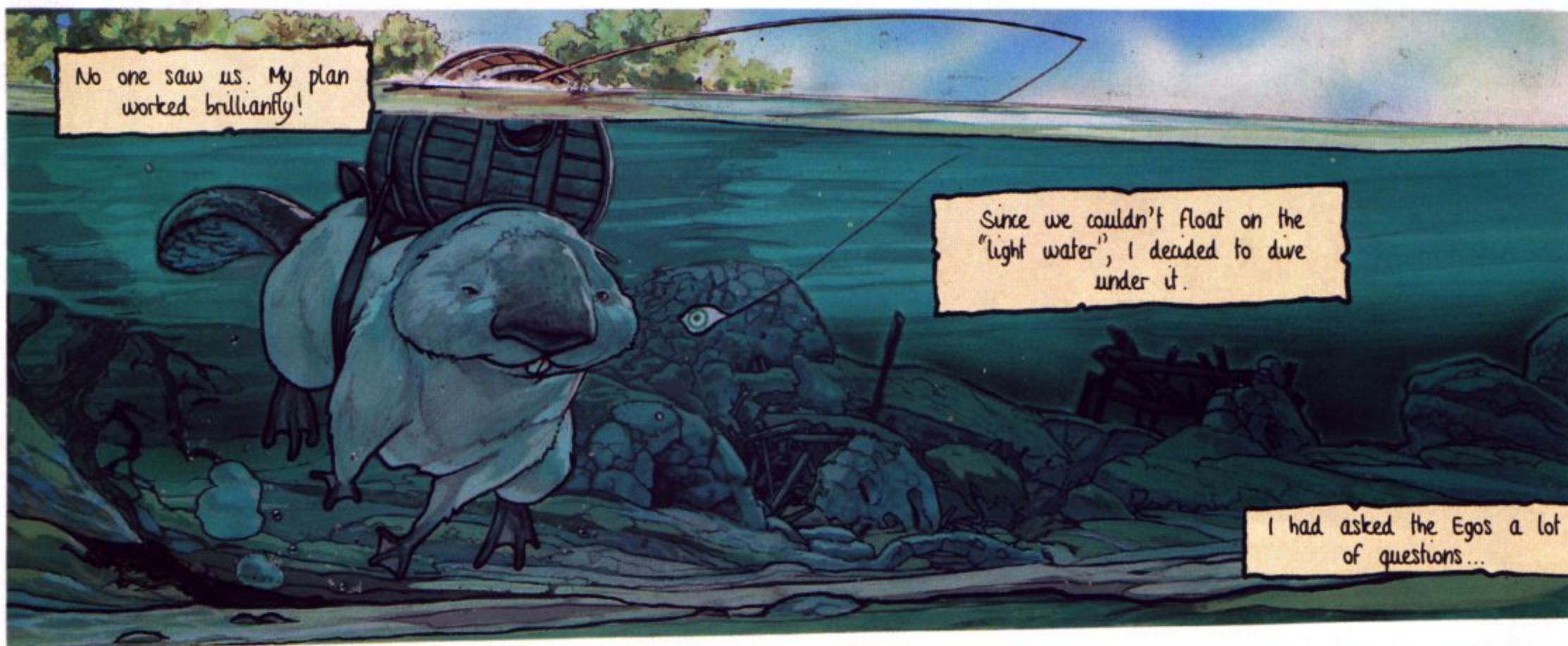
I MUSTN'T ANGER THE GENEROUS STO...P BUT HOW DID I LET THEM TALK ME INTO THIS?!



KEEP CALM! YOU STILL WEAK! YOU NOT FINISH QUARANTINE, BUT WE MUST WAIT NO MORE!



AND WHAT AM I TO DO NOW?



No one saw us. My plan worked brilliantly!

Since we couldn't float on the "light water", I decided to dive under it.

I had asked the Egos a lot of questions...



...and found out that the water rat could stay underwater for nearly 20 frz of an oz, which was...

...more than enough.

DON'T WORRY, TYTA! I'VE GOT EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL!



NOW YOU KNOW WHERE WE BE.
HERE ENTER LOST VILLAGE, UNDER
ROOF-DOME OF THE TOWER.

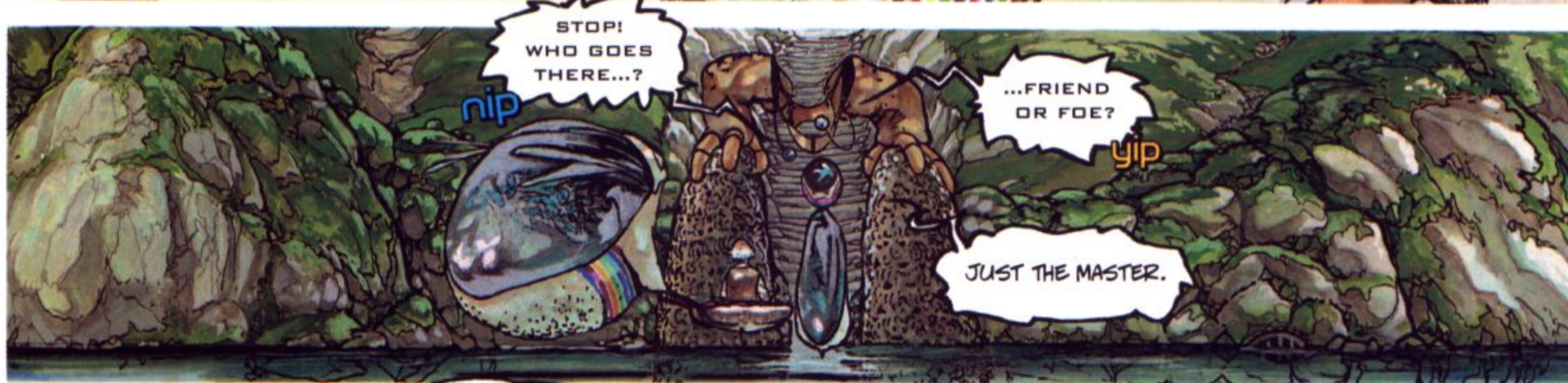
THIS PLACE ARTIFICIAL AND STERILE,
AND ALWAYS SAME TEMPERATURE.
IN KOLONY, PEOPLE THINK THIS
PLACE BE LEGEND.



We progressed steadily, towards the
middle of the lake.



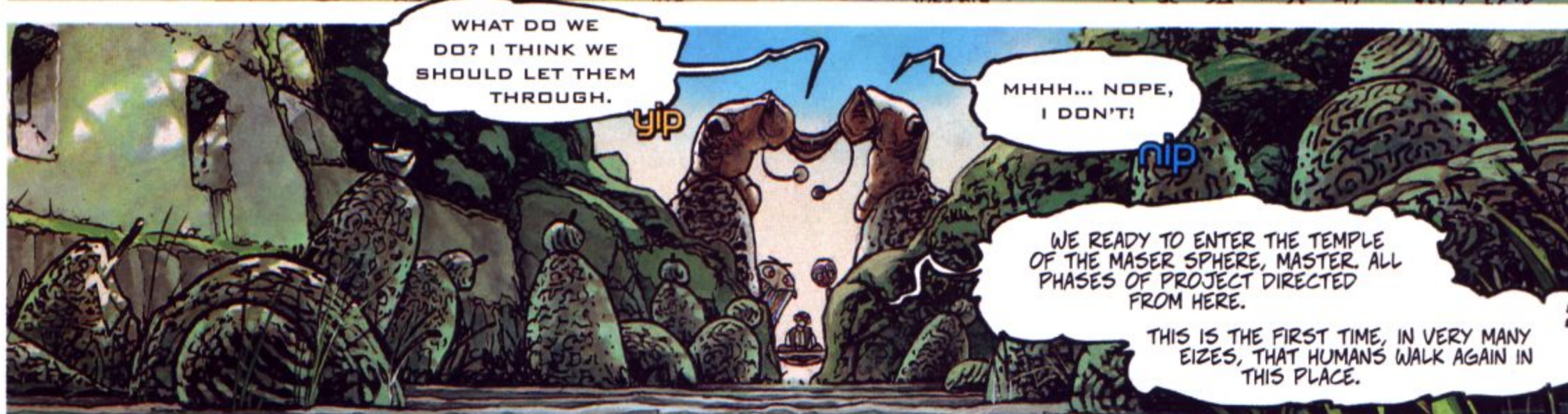
HERE EVERYTHING EXACTLY
LIKE BEFORE BIG WAR.



STOP!
WHO GOES
THERE...?

...FRIEND
OR FOE?

JUST THE MASTER.



WHAT DO WE
DO? I THINK WE
SHOULD LET THEM
THROUGH.

MHHH... NOPE,
I DON'T!

WE READY TO ENTER THE TEMPLE
OF THE MASER SPHERE, MASTER. ALL
PHASES OF PROJECT DIRECTED
FROM HERE.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME, IN VERY MANY
EIZES, THAT HUMANS WALK AGAIN IN
THIS PLACE.



SNORE...
SNORE...



I HAVE TO
FIND A WAY TO
FOLLOW THEM.



THE ROB-CROW!
KHOZ MUST HAVE
REPAIRED IT
BY NOW.



HAVEN'T
GOT TIME TO
CHECK...



I HAVE TO
TRY IT OUT.



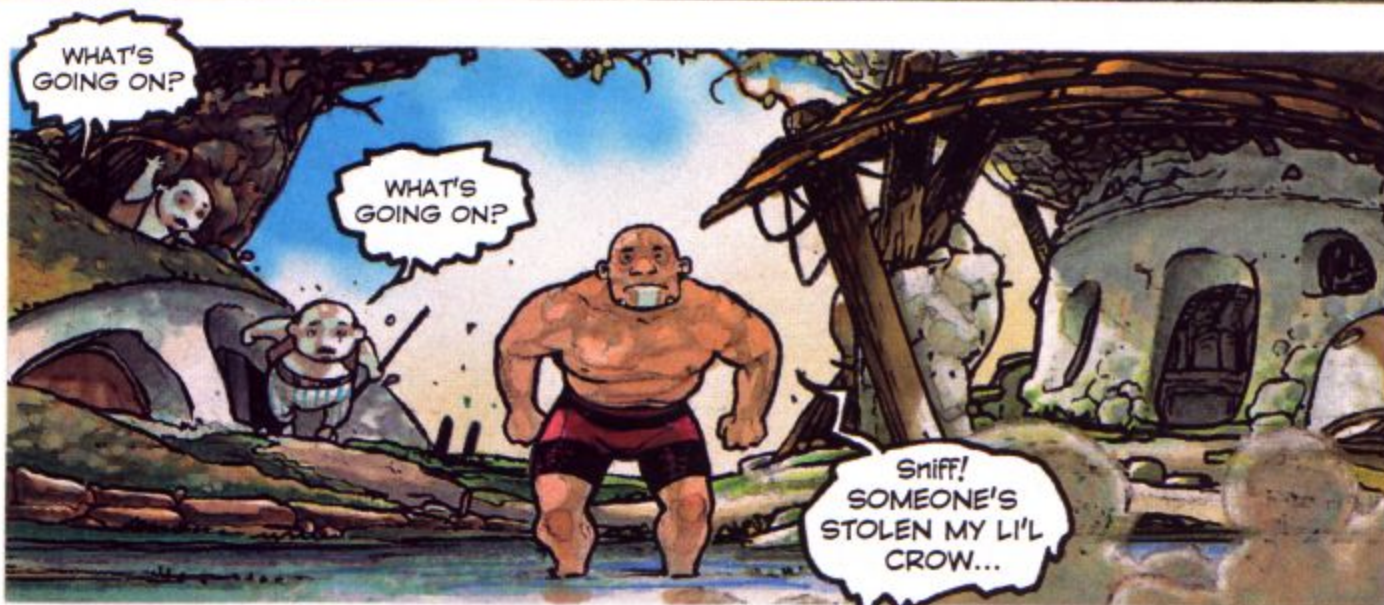
EHP!



Aooow!
THIS ISN'T
WORKING...!



Hey! WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE?



WHAT'S
GOING ON?

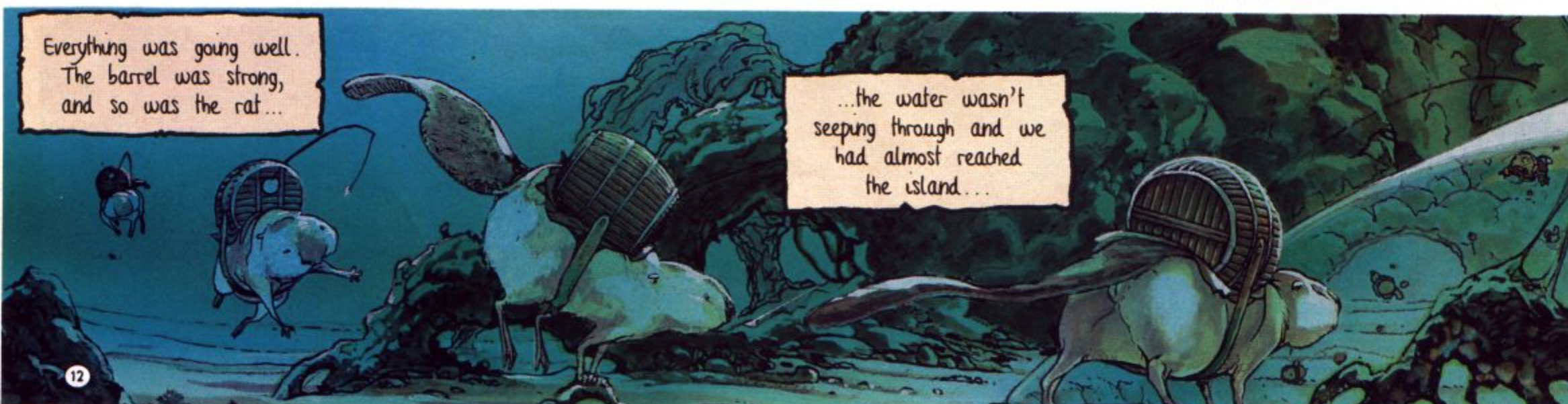
WHAT'S
GOING ON?

SHIFF!
SOMEONE'S
STOLEN MY LI'L
CROW...



OOPS!

...AND I HADN'T
EVEN FINISHED
FIXING
THE WINGS...



Everything was going well.
The barrel was strong,
and so was the rat...

...the water wasn't
seeping through and we
had almost reached
the island...

And there it was!
Proof that
we weren't in
a dream!

In front of our eyes...

...were our dead, our
enemies, and the dwarves
slaughtered in the tower.

The only thing that
separated us from all
this flesh and debris
was a gossamer bubble...

We were both petrified with amazement.

F...FANGO,
I THINK THIS
BARREL IS ABOUT
TO IMplode...

BIP!

We were all prisoners
of something that didn't
want to be seen...

...that controlled our
lives... and our deaths.

Meanwhile, nearby...

...Erha was struggling
to stay alive...

...in this...

...water that was...

...so strangely light.



I'M SINKING...



I'M COLD...



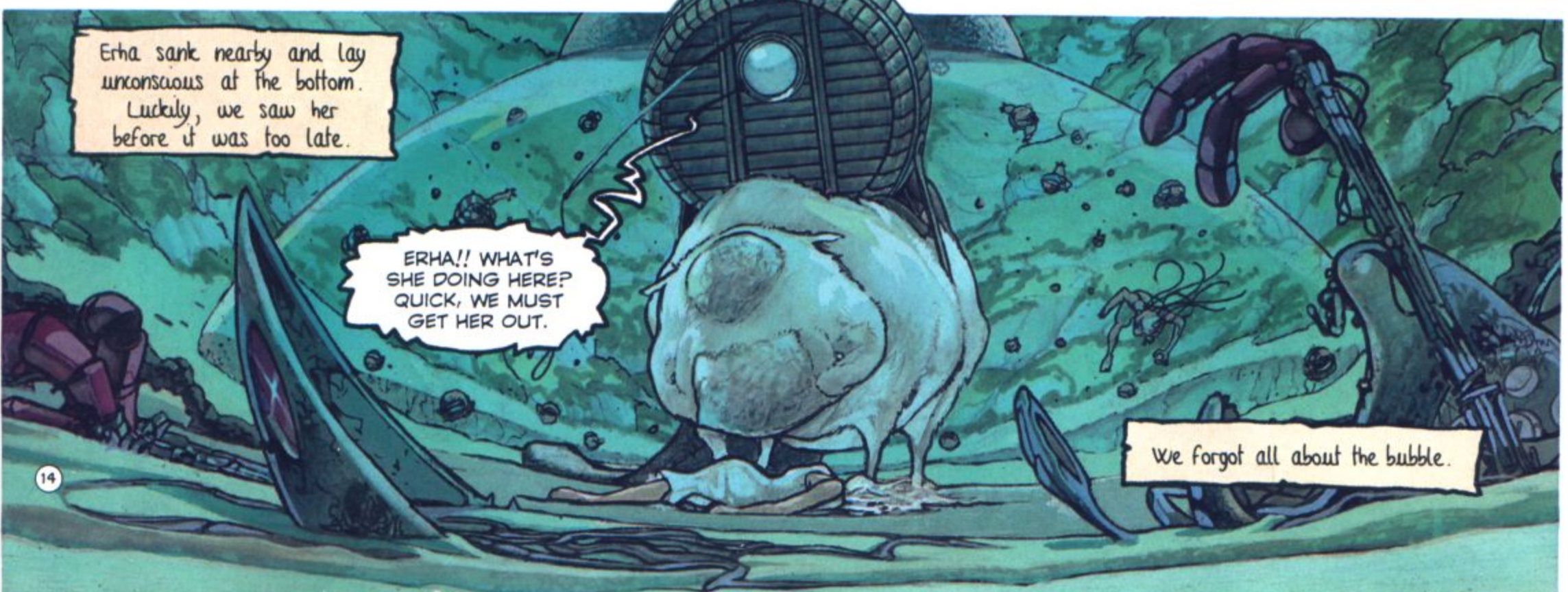
I'M SCARED...



ERHA...



IT IS ALMOST TIME, BUT NOT QUITE YET...



Erha sank nearby and lay unconscious at the bottom. Luckily, we saw her before it was too late.

ERHA!! WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE? QUICK, WE MUST GET HER OUT.

We forgot all about the bubble.



MASTER,
YOU NOT IMAGINE HOW
LONG WE WAIT FOR YOU.

WE LOST ALL HOPE.
BUT KEEPERS TELL US
THAT "TIME" IS NOW...



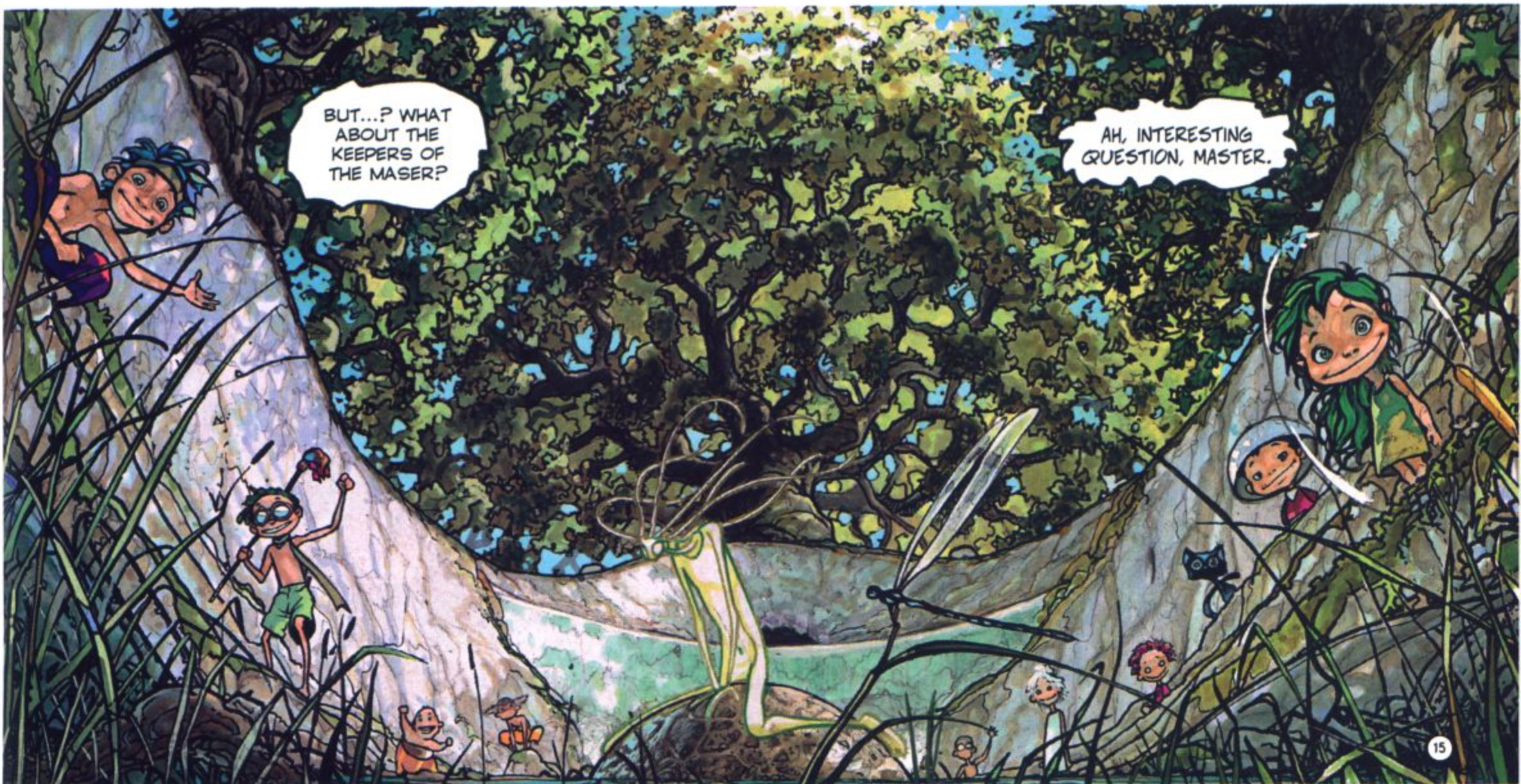
THEY SAY YOU
CROSS BARRIER
WITHOUT FEAR...

YOU FEEL ONLY
LITTLE SHIVER THEN
YOU ON OTHER SIDE...



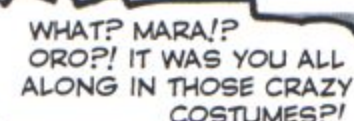
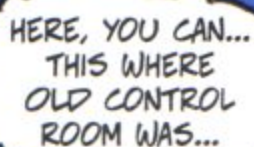
KEEPERS KNOW
YOU SEARCH FOR MANY
LONG EIZES.

THEY ALSO WAIT
LONG TIME...



BUT...? WHAT
ABOUT THE
KEEPERS OF
THE MASER?

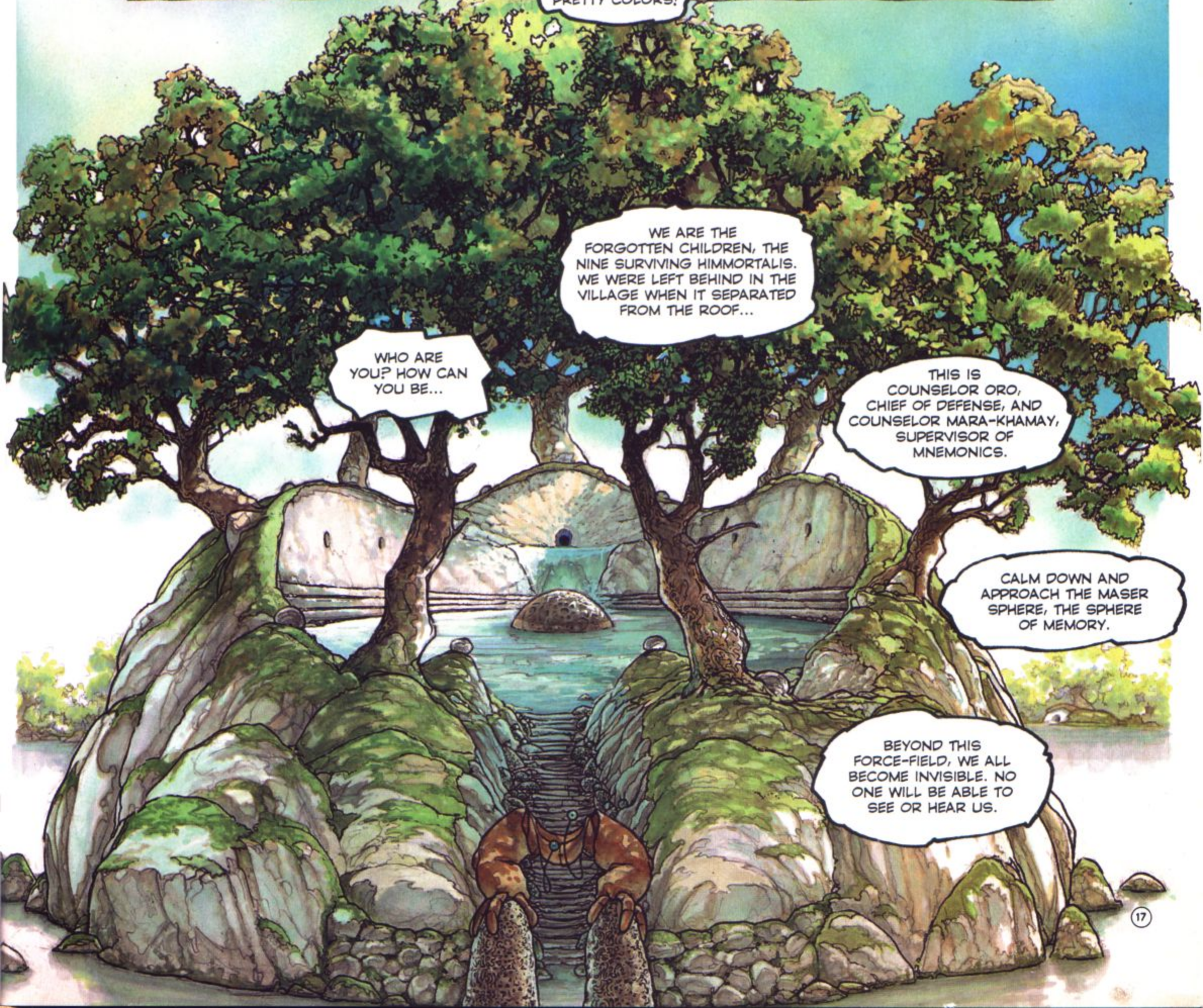
AH, INTERESTING
QUESTION, MASTER.





THAT MANIFESTATION
MADE ME USE UP TOO
MUCH PSYCHIC ENERGY,
AND IT MADE ME TALK
FUNNY...

MARA, SHOW
SOME RESPECT!
WE ARE IN THE
TEMPLE...



WE ARE THE
FORGOTTEN CHILDREN, THE
NINE SURVIVING HIMMORTALIS.
WE WERE LEFT BEHIND IN THE
VILLAGE WHEN IT SEPARATED
FROM THE ROOF...

WHO ARE
YOU? HOW CAN
YOU BE...

THIS IS
COUNSELOR ORO,
CHIEF OF DEFENSE, AND
COUNSELOR MARA-KHAMAY,
SUPERVISOR OF
MNEMONICS.

CALM DOWN AND
APPROACH THE MASER
SPHERE, THE SPHERE
OF MEMORY.

BEYOND THIS
FORCE-FIELD, WE ALL
BECOME INVISIBLE. NO
ONE WILL BE ABLE TO
SEE OR HEAR US.







MASTER!
WE HAVE A LOT TO
SHOW YOU, BUT WE DON'T
HAVE MUCH TIME TO
DO IT IN.

COME ON!
THE WATER'S
GREAT!

THE TOWER
IS BELOW US!

YOU CAN EVEN
SEE THE HOLE THAT
YOU CAME IN
THROUGH!

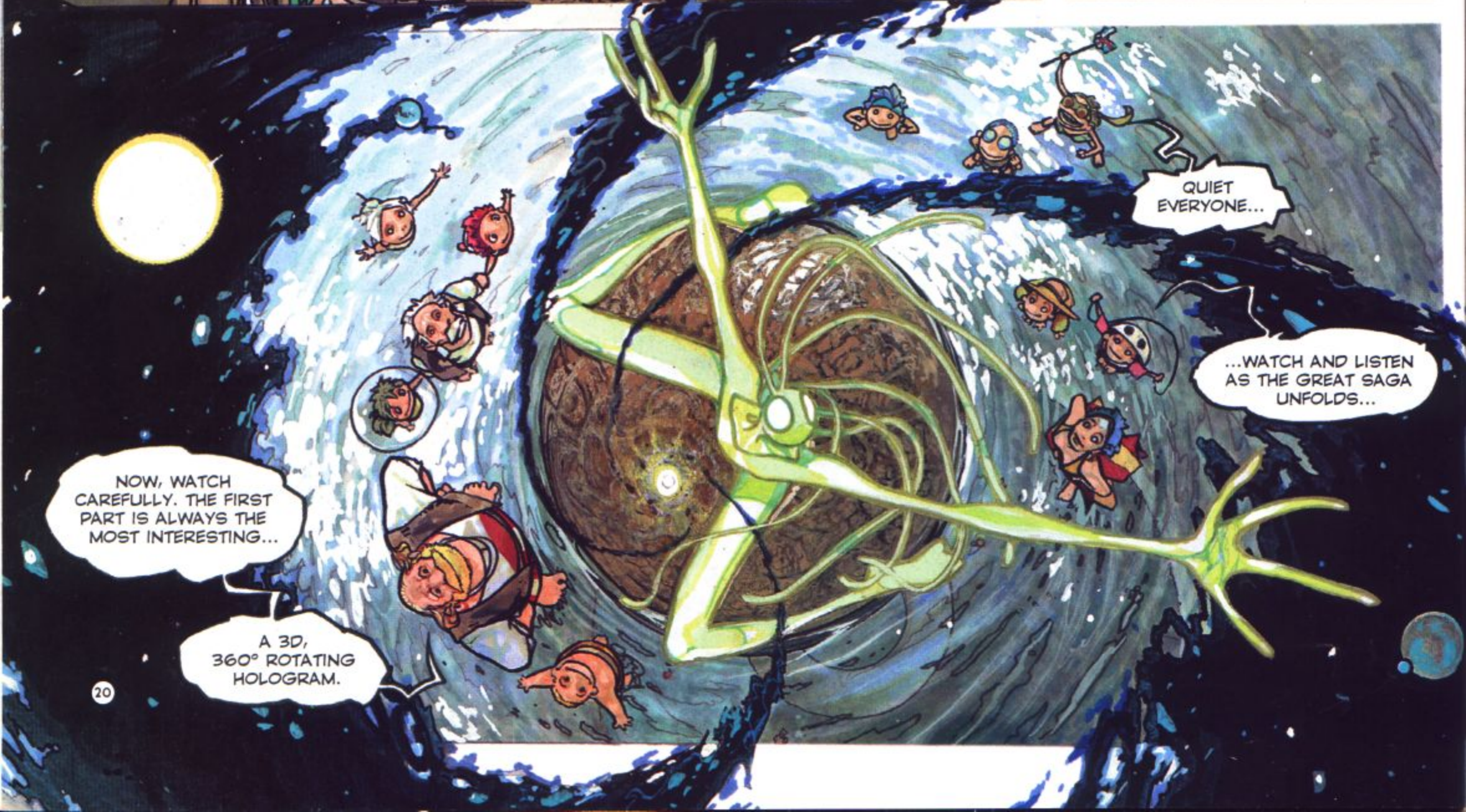


HERE'S THE SPHERE!
MARA-KHAMAY AND I HAVE
WATCHED OVER IT TILL NOW.

WHAT IS
ABOUT TO
HAPPEN...

...ONCE THE
SYMBOL IS
IN PLACE...

...WILL BE TOTALLY
UNLIKE WHAT YOU'VE
SEEN BEFORE!




NOW, WATCH
CAREFULLY. THE FIRST
PART IS ALWAYS THE
MOST INTERESTING...

A 3D,
360° ROTATING
HOLOGRAM.

QUIET
EVERYONE...

...WATCH AND LISTEN
AS THE GREAT SAGA
UNFOLDS...




WE COME FROM A FARAWAY PLANET CALLED EARTH... A PLANET THAT IS NOW DEAD. IN 2072 ACCORDING TO THE OLD CALENDAR, HUMANS BEGAN WORKING ON A PROJECT OF PLANETARY SURVIVAL CALLED THE "MASER."

BECAUSE THE EARTH'S ECOSYSTEM HAD BEEN MODIFIED, WE HAD TO LEAVE THE PLANET. THE EARTHLINGS HAD TO FIND A MEANS OF TRANSPORT IN WHICH THEY COULD STORE AND PRESERVE ALL THE LIVING ORGANISMS THAT HAD BEEN PRE-SELECTED FOR CONSERVATION, UNTIL THEY FOUND ANOTHER PLANET TO LIVE ON.

A GIANT SPHERE, KNOWN AS THE "ARK," WAS BUILT AND PUT INTO ORBIT. ALL THE EXISTING EARTHLY SPECIES WERE STORED INSIDE THE ARK. BUT FIRST, THEY WERE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR GENETIC CODE AND PUT INSIDE GIANT PROTECTIVE RECEPTACLES CALLED "PODS."

ALL HUMAN MEMORY — HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, MATHEMATICAL, SPIRITUAL, SENSORIAL, AND ARTISTIC — WAS ALSO CLASSIFIED AND STORED IN PODS.

THE ARK CONTAINED ALL THE STRAINS OF HUMAN IDENTITY. THEN A SECOND, SMALLER SPHERE WAS CREATED WHICH WAS CALLED THE MASER SPHERE. IT WAS A PERFECT MNEMONIC MODULE WHICH ENABLED US TO DIRECTLY ACCESS THE INFORMATION STORED IN THE ARK.



EARTH'S REMAINING INHABITANTS — THOSE WHO HAD NOT FLED TO THE LUNAR CITY — TOOK SHELTER IN CAVES, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM THE CAUSTIC SUN.

BY 2163, LIFE ON EARTH WAS COMPLETELY EXTINCT. IT WAS THEN THAT THE INHABITANTS OF THE SATELLITE CHOSE KOLONY AS THEIR FINAL DESTINATION.

THEY FINISHED STOCKING ALL OF THE GENETIC HERITAGE, AND COMPLETED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE INHABITABLE RING AROUND THE ARK. IN 2200, THE VESSEL LEFT ITS ORBIT WITH 15,000 SCIENTISTS AND ALL OF THE EARTH'S GENETIC DATA ON BOARD.

LIVING CONDITIONS IN SPACE ENABLED THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND OF MUTANT GENETIC HYBRIDS. DWARVES WERE CREATED TO ACCOMPLISH THE TOUGHEST TASKS. IN THE PROCESS, THE AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR HUMANS INCREASED BY 250 YEARS.

ONE OF OUR EIZES IS EQUAL TO THREE EARTH YEARS. THIS WAS THE ERA OF LONGAEVUS MAN.

THE JOURNEY TOOK SO LONG THAT THE EARTHLINGS STARTED MAKING PERSONAL USE OF THE MASER SPHERE TO EVOKE WHAT THEY HAD LEFT BEHIND ON EARTH, THEIR MOST PRECIOUS POSSESSION: THEIR MEMORIES.

THE CHIMERAS (AKA "DEASUM," FROM A WORD IN AN ANCIENT LANGUAGE MEANING "I AM GOD") WERE THEN CREATED.

THE CHIMERAS PERFORMED AS PERSONAL MEMORY RECEPTORS, TRANSMITTING INDIVIDUAL DATA DIRECTLY TO THE SPHERE. THE DATA WERE THEN ADDED TO THE COLLECTIVE MEMORY, WHICH COULD THUS BE INCREASED AND MODIFIED AT WILL, GIVING USERS, FOR A BRIEF INSTANT, THE FEELING THAT THEY WERE BACK ON THE MOTHER PLANET.

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF HUMANS WERE HOOKED UP TO THE MNEMONIC CONNECTION WITH THE RESULT THAT THE INFLUX OF SO MUCH TRANS-PERSONAL MEMORY ENABLED THE MASER SPHERE TO DEVELOP NEW ANALYTICAL-DEDUCTIVE CAPACITIES AND TO GIVE BIRTH TO A GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS.

HUMANS BECAME APATHETIC. MANAGEMENT OF THE ARK WAS ENTIRELY TAKEN OVER BY THE SPHERE. THE PERCEPTION OF TIME WAS ALTERED.

IT WAS THEN THAT THE FIRST TWELVE HIMMORTALIS WERE BORN, WITH A LIFE EXPECTANCY OF 1900 YEARS.

HALF A CENTURY LATER, THE LAST DESCENDANTS OF THE EARTHLINGS LANDED ON "KOLONY," A DESOLATE ICY MARSHLAND. AFTER SOME IN-DEPTH PRELIMINARY STUDIES, THE SETTLERS TOOK OVER THE PLANET. THE FIRST PART OF THE COLONIZING PROCESS CONSISTED IN GRADUALLY INTRODUCING SPECIES FROM THE EARTH INTO KOLONY'S ECOSYSTEM. THIS WAS DONE IN A SPIRAL FORMATION, BEGINNING AT THE EQUATOR, FOLLOWING DNA MODIFICATION TO ALLOW FOR BIO-INSERTION. THIS PROCESS ALSO REQUIRED RAISING THE GROUND TEMPERATURE BY TEN DEGREES.

SOWING ONE POD AT A TIME WOULD HAVE PRODUCED A HOUSE EVERY THIRTY YEARS. WE WERE VERY DIFFERENT FROM OUR ANCESTORS. WE HAD NEVER SEEN THE EARTH. WE HAD NEVER SEEN THE SEA. WE HAD ALWAYS BREATHED ARTIFICIAL AIR.

BEING ABLE TO WALK STRAIGHT AHEAD, WITHOUT HAVING TO CONSTANTLY TURN IN CORRIDORS, WAS A GREAT, EXCITING NOVELTY FOR US. WE FELT AS IF WE COULD SUDDENLY KEEP WALKING TOWARDS INFINITY.

THE NEW CALENDAR WAS INTRODUCED AT THIS TIME, BEGINNING WITH EIZ ZERO.

THE FIRST POD WAS EJECTED INTO THE SEA NEAR THE ISLE OF THE DWARVES. AND THAT'S HOW THE TOWER WAS BUILT. NOT ONLY WAS THE TOWER AN AUTONOMOUS MEANS OF TRANSPORT, IT ALSO SERVED AS AN INCUBATOR AND ATMOSPHERIC HEATER.

AT THE TOP OF THE TOWER, IN A DOME PROTECTED BY A FILTRATING MEMBRANE, WAS THE LOST VILLAGE, THE MOST SACRED PLACE ON KOLONY.

THE DOME HOUSED THE SPHERE, WHICH ANALYZED AND MANAGED THE NECESSARY INFORMATION DURING DISEMBARKATION. IT ALSO PROVIDED A COMFORTABLE AND SAFE HAVEN FOR THE FIRST HIMMORTALIS INFANTS.

EVERYTHING WAS PERFECT. THIS WAS "THE AGE OF THE GREAT SPLENDOR".

BUT AFTER A FEW EIZ, WE STARTED TO DISCOVER SOME DISCREPANCIES: UNEXPECTED MUTATIONS AND CELL DEGENERATION.

NUMEROUS SPECIES ON KOLONY SUFFERED FROM STERILITY. HUMANS WERE THE FIRST TO BE AFFECTED...

THEY BEGAN TO AGE.

NO MORE HIMMORTALIS OR LONGAEVUS WERE BEING BORN. WE HAD FINALLY FOUND A WORLD WHERE WE COULD LIVE AND WE WERE STARTING TO DIE...

LOOK, EVERYTHING IS FALLING APART.



WE WERE FACED WITH A DILEMMA. THERE WERE ONLY TWO SOLUTIONS:



THE FIRST, SUPPORTED BY FEZY YUGHER...



...AND BY A TINY MINORITY, WAS TO SUSPEND THE SOWING OF THE PODS, TO PUT AN END TO INDISCRIMINATE EXPERIMENTS AND TO SIMPLY WAIT FOR THE SPECIES TO EVOLVE NATURALLY IN THE NEW ENVIRONMENT.



THE OTHER ALTERNATIVE, BACKED BY ALL THE OTHER COUNSELORS, WAS TO CONTINUE SCATTERING THE PODS...



...SO AS NOT TO INTERRUPT THE RESEARCH PROGRAM, WITH THE RISK THAT ENTIRE GENETIC GROUPS WOULD BECOME EXTINCT.



FEZY'S MINORITY GROUP WAS OUTVOTED BUT REFUSED TO ACCEPT DEFEAT. FEZY WAS ARRESTED. THE DWARVES REBELLED.

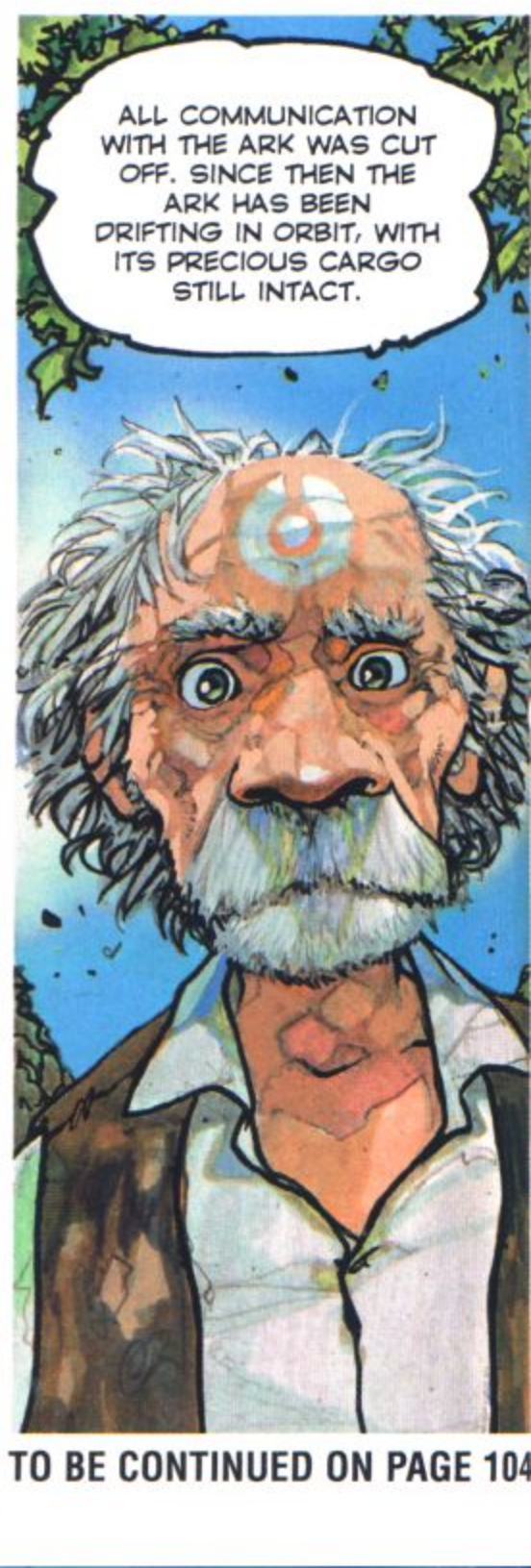


AND WAR BROKE OUT.

...BOOM.

THE ROOF SEPARATED FROM THE TOWER...

...WITH ALL OF US INSIDE.



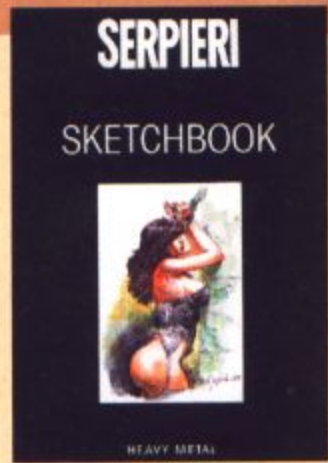
ALL COMMUNICATION WITH THE ARK WAS CUT OFF. SINCE THEN THE ARK HAS BEEN DRIFTING IN ORBIT, WITH ITS PRECIOUS CARGO STILL INTACT.

TO BE CONTINUED ON PAGE 104

DRUUNA

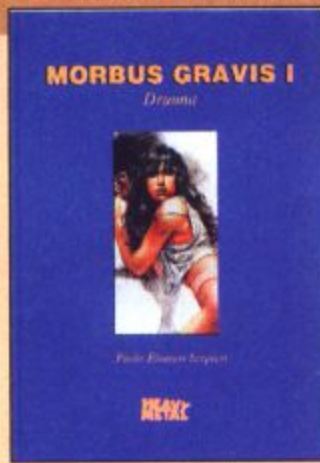
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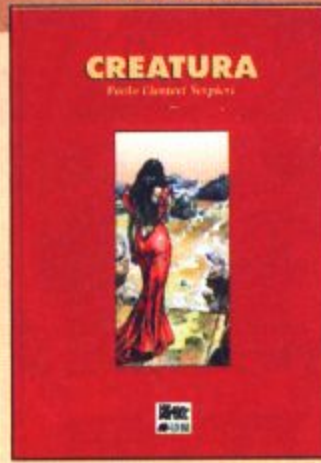
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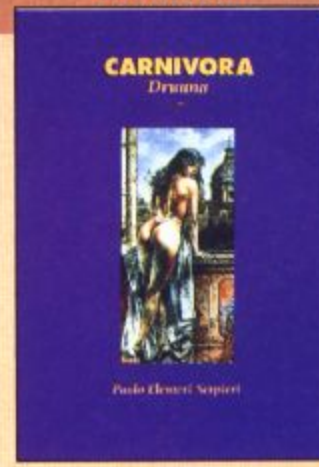
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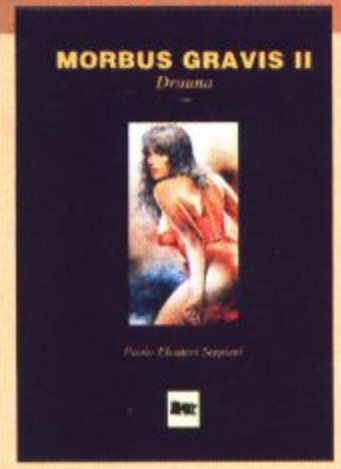
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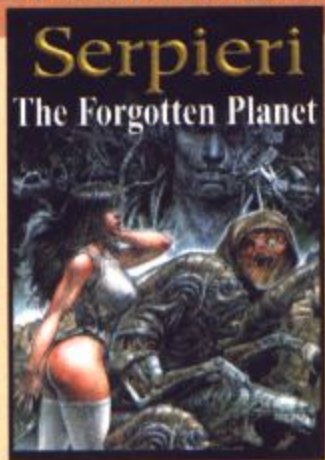
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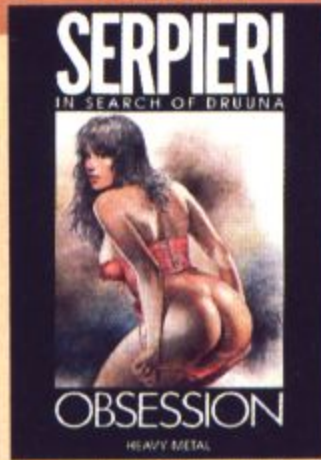
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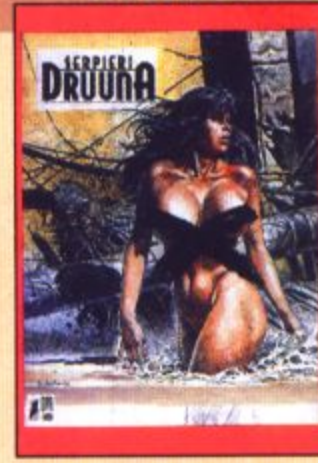
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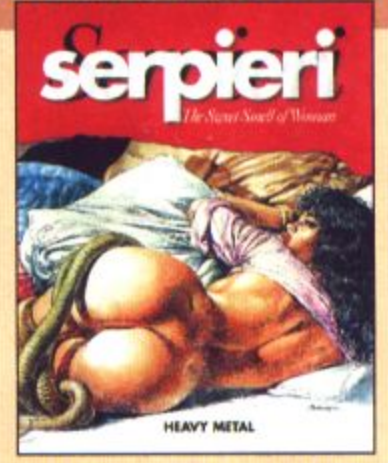
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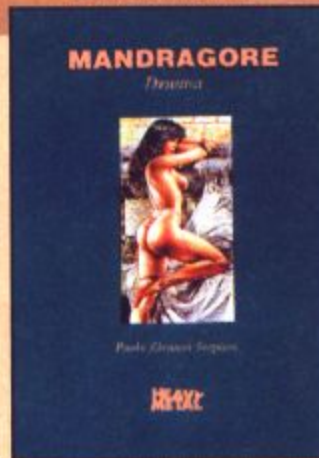
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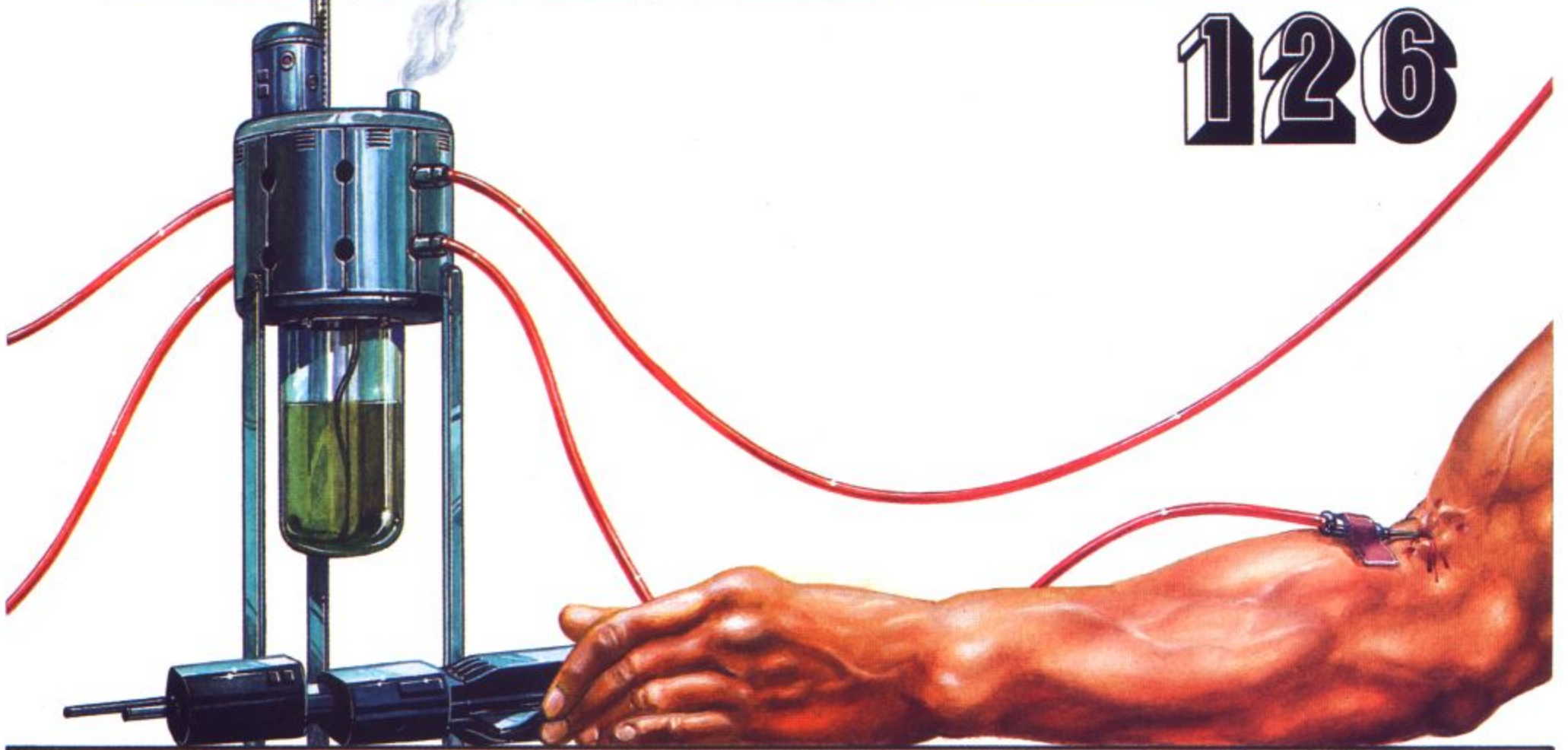
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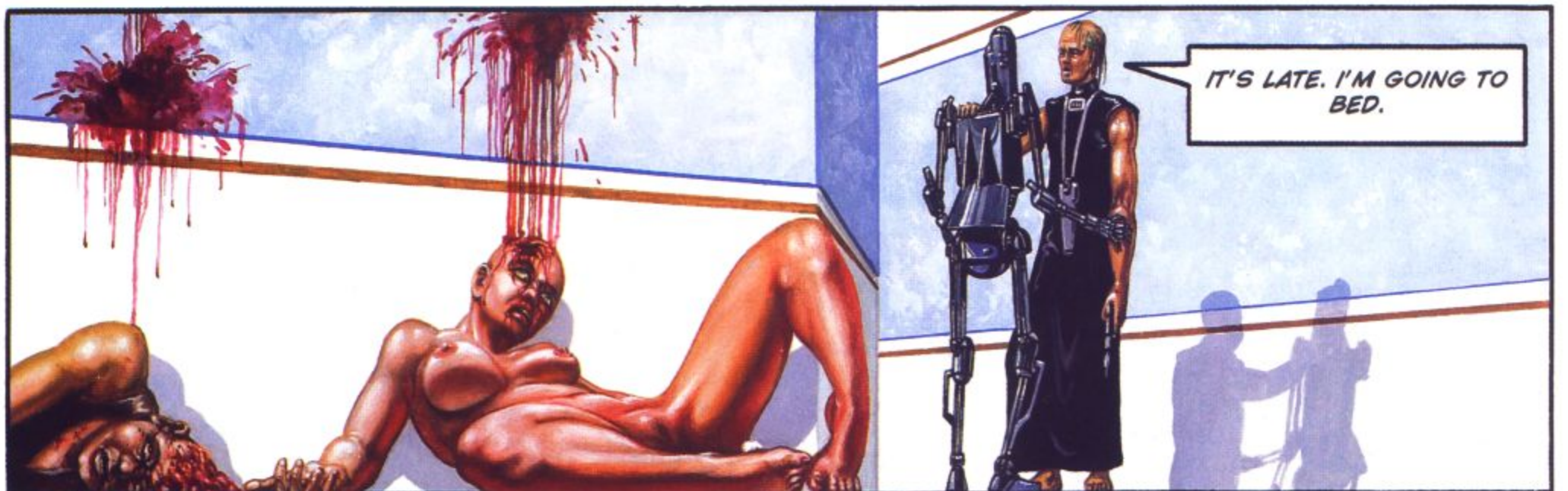
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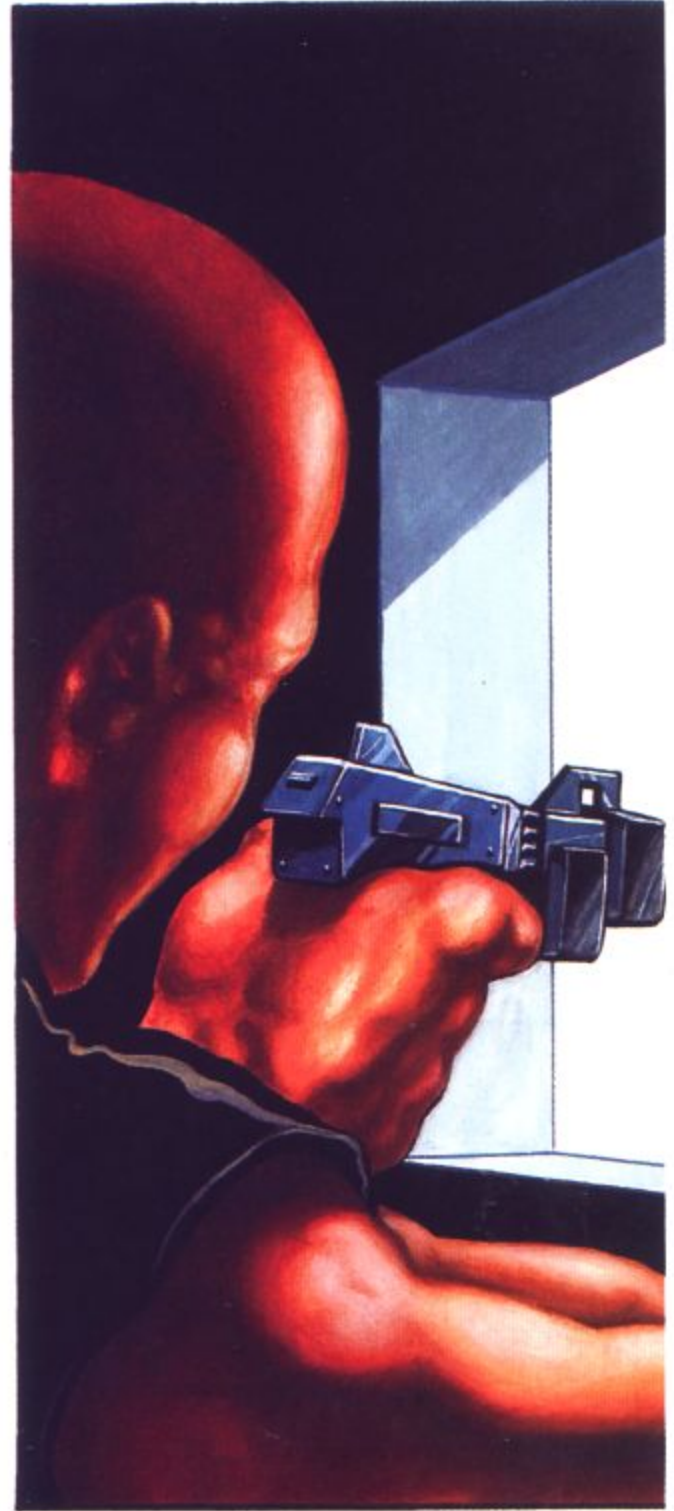
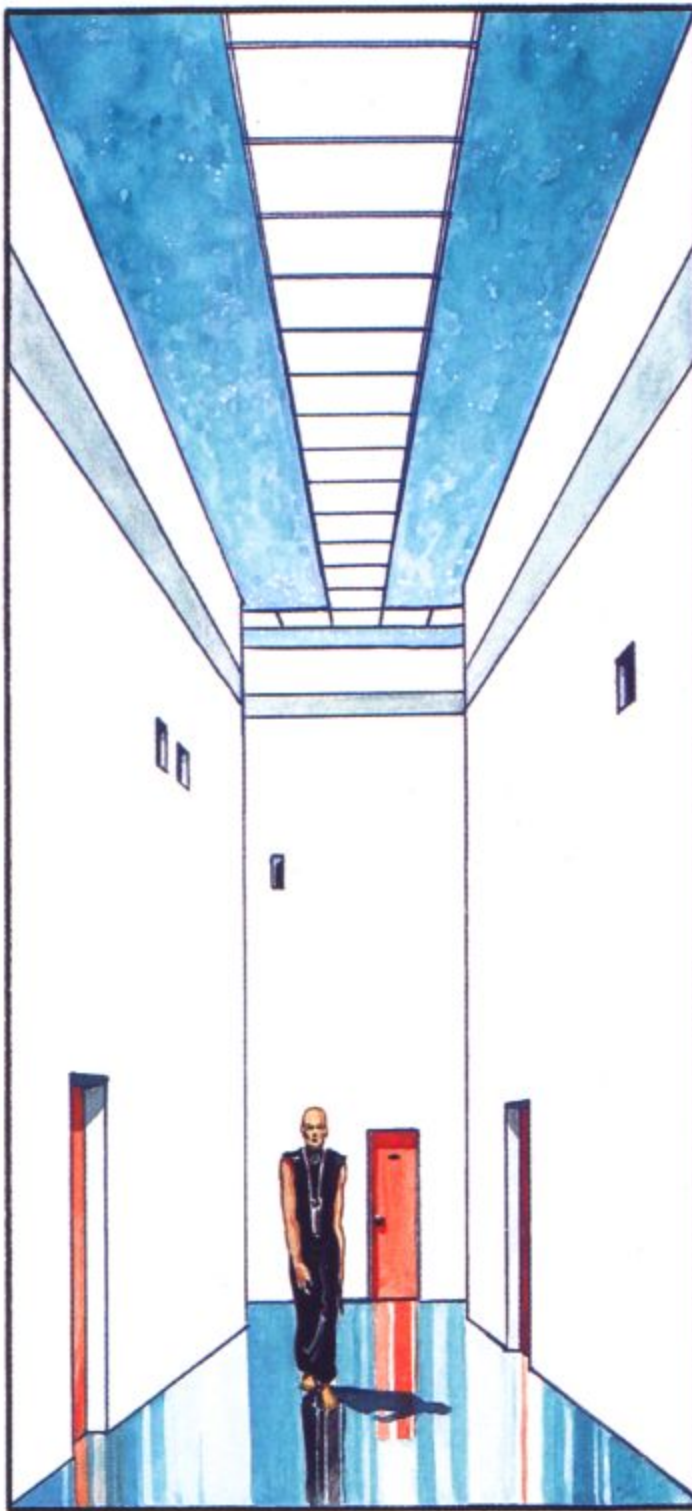


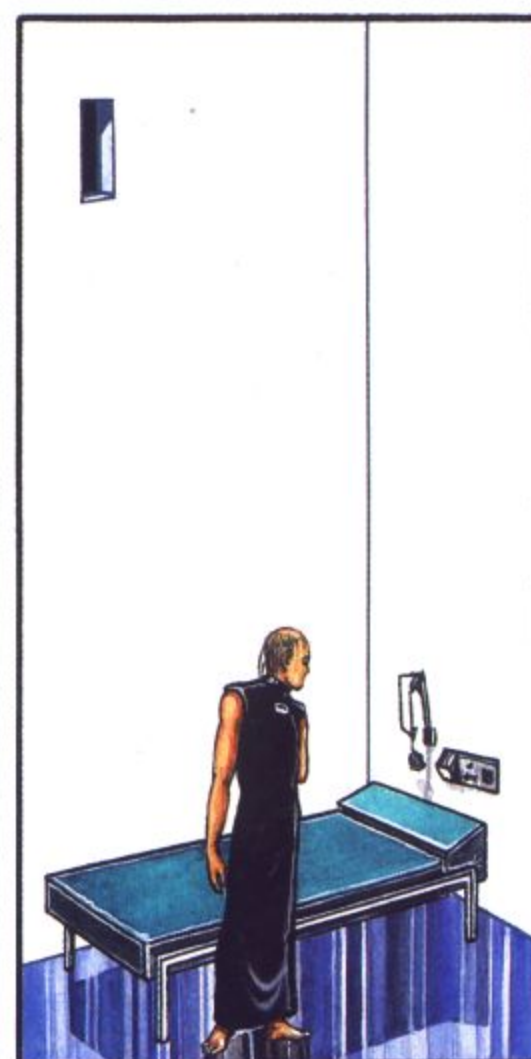
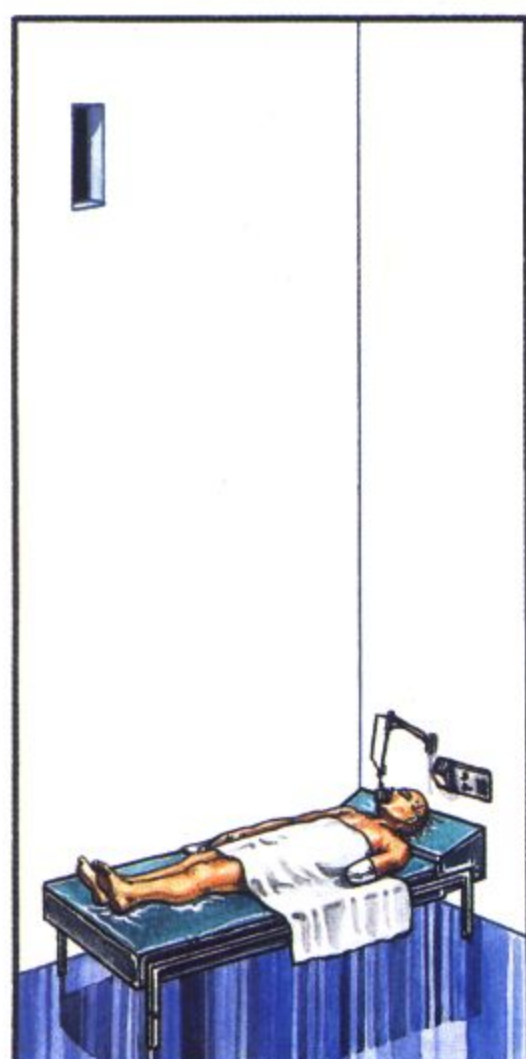
AND YOUR CONSCIENCE?

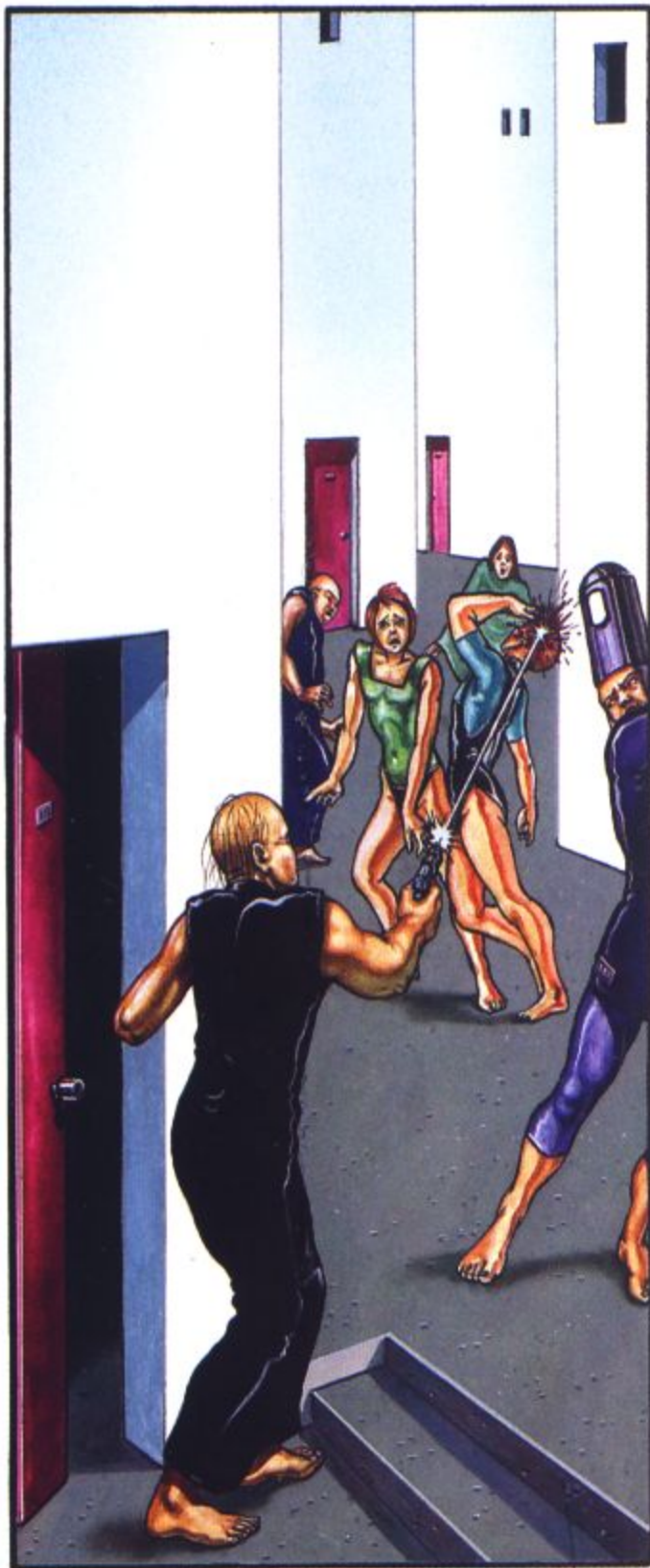
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. I DO IT BECAUSE I NEED COLOR.



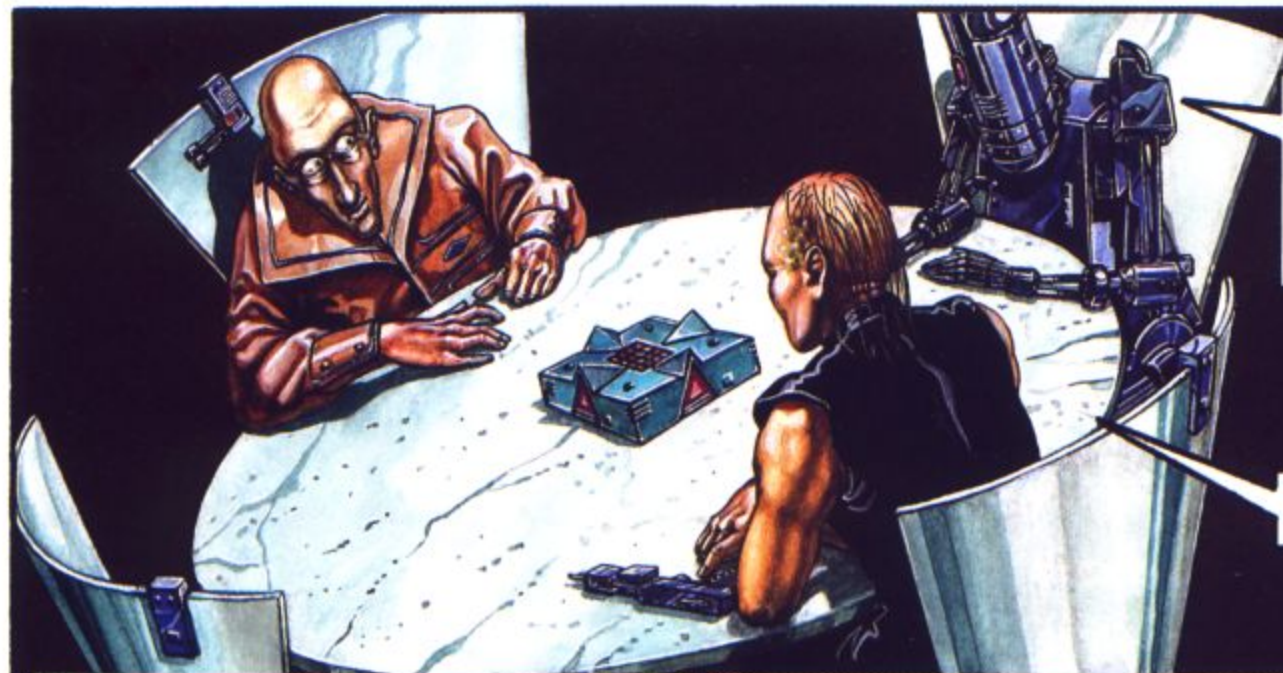
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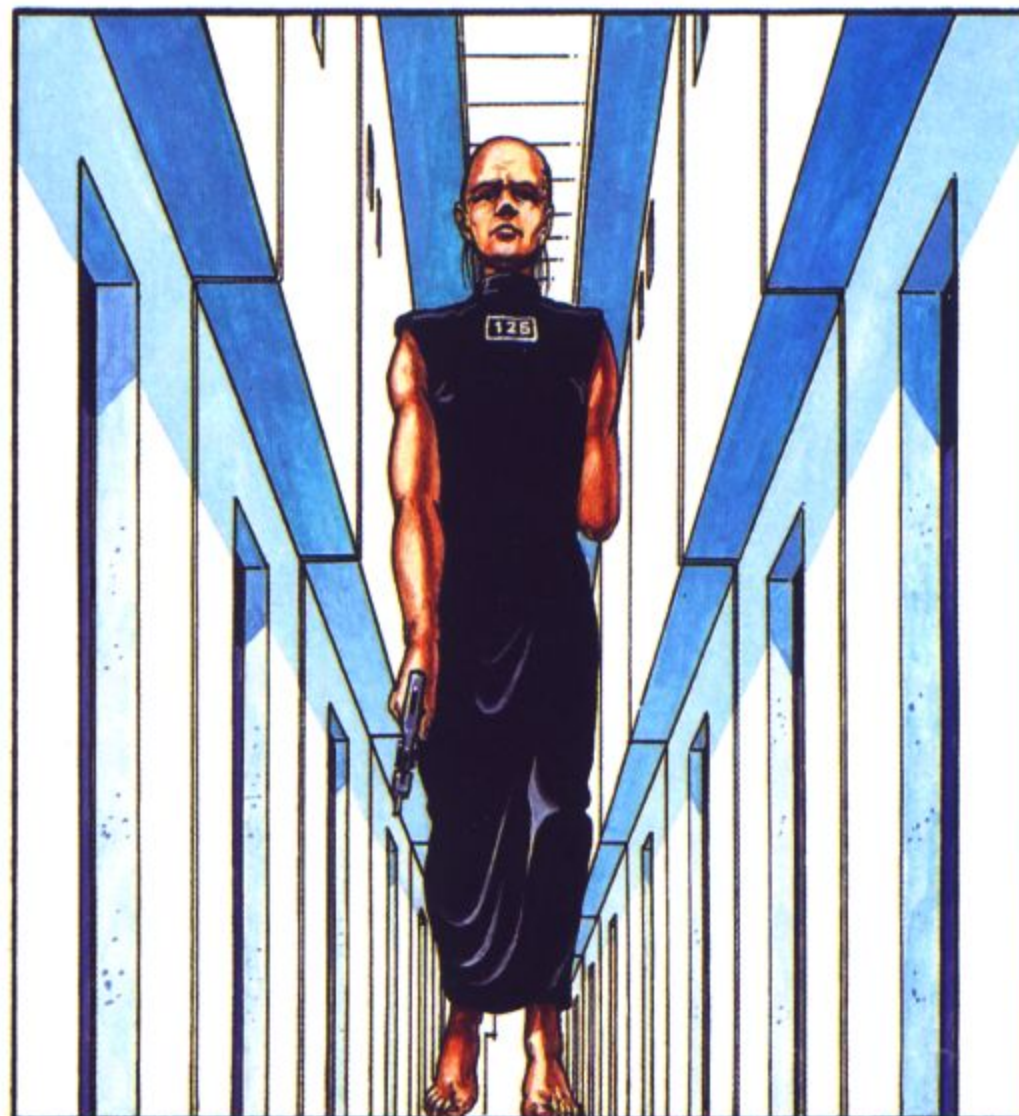
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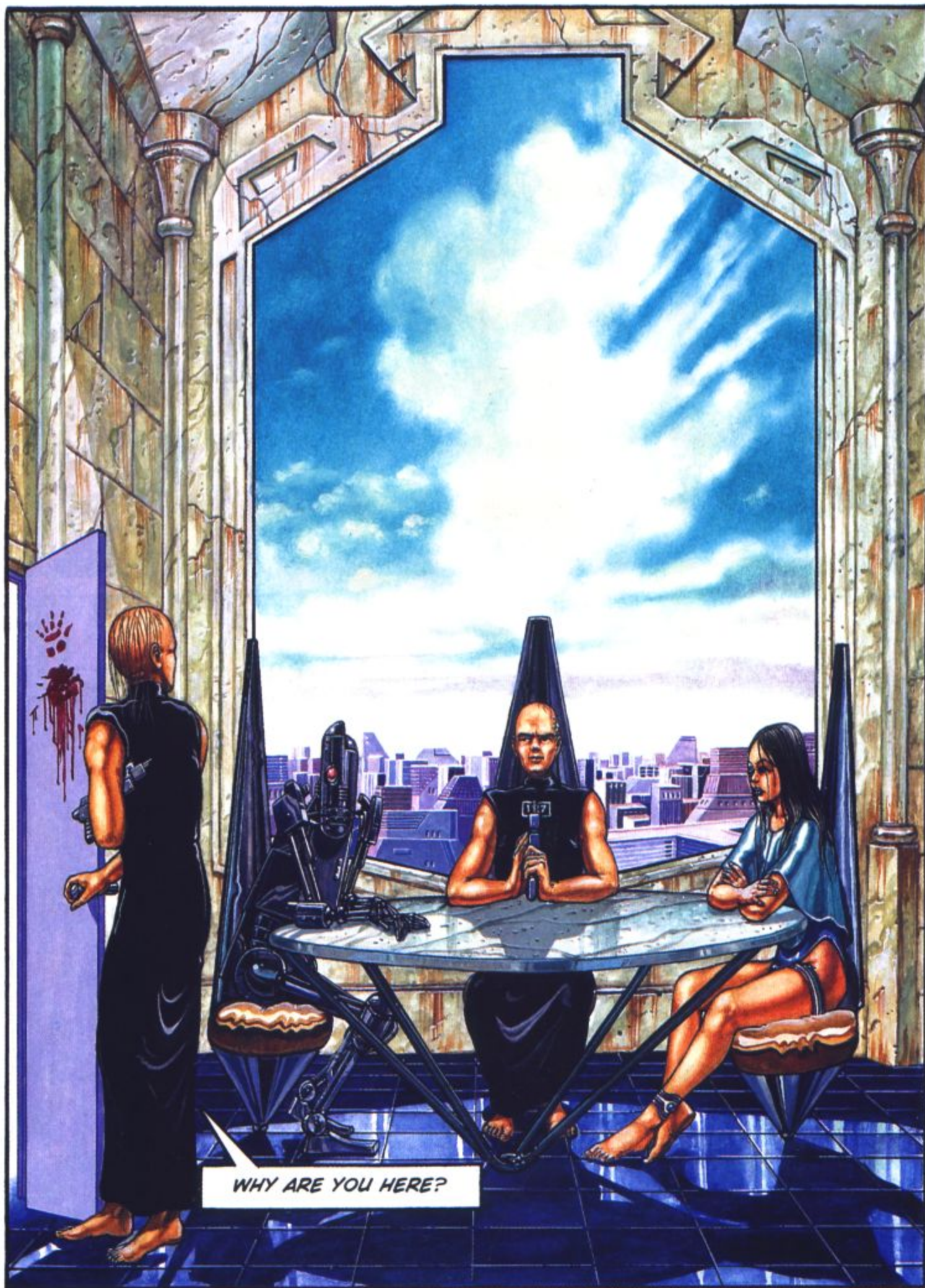
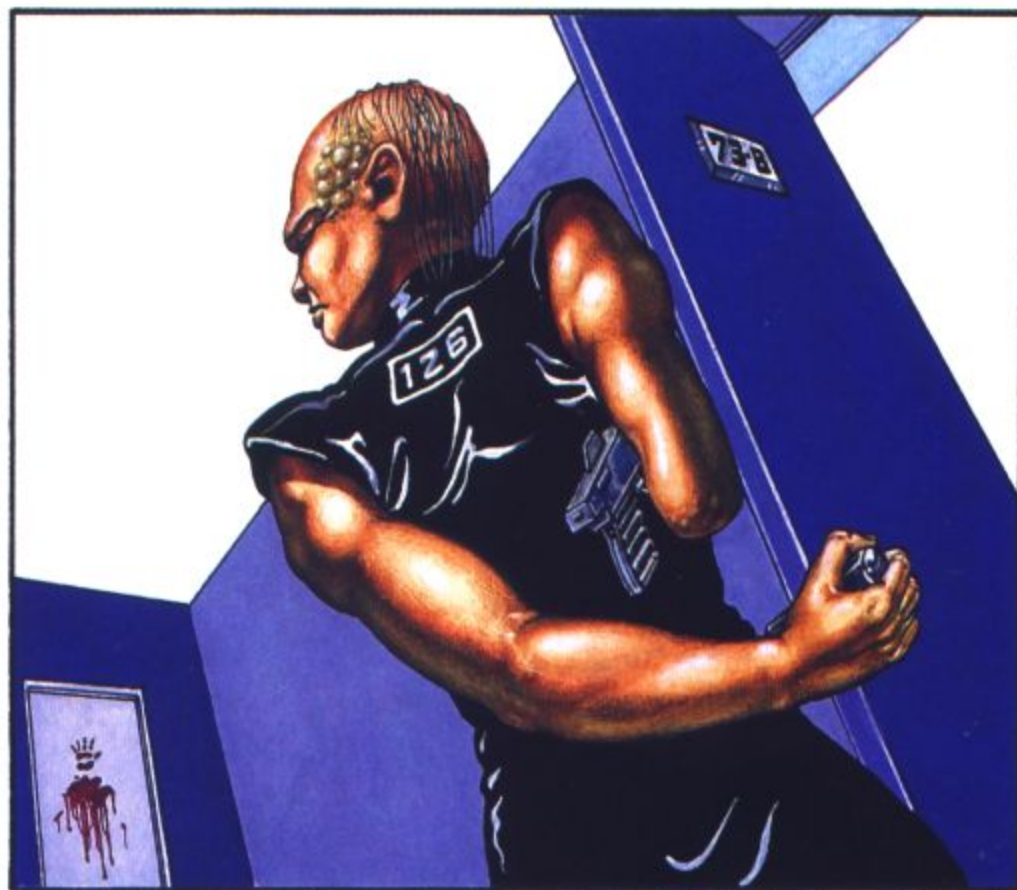
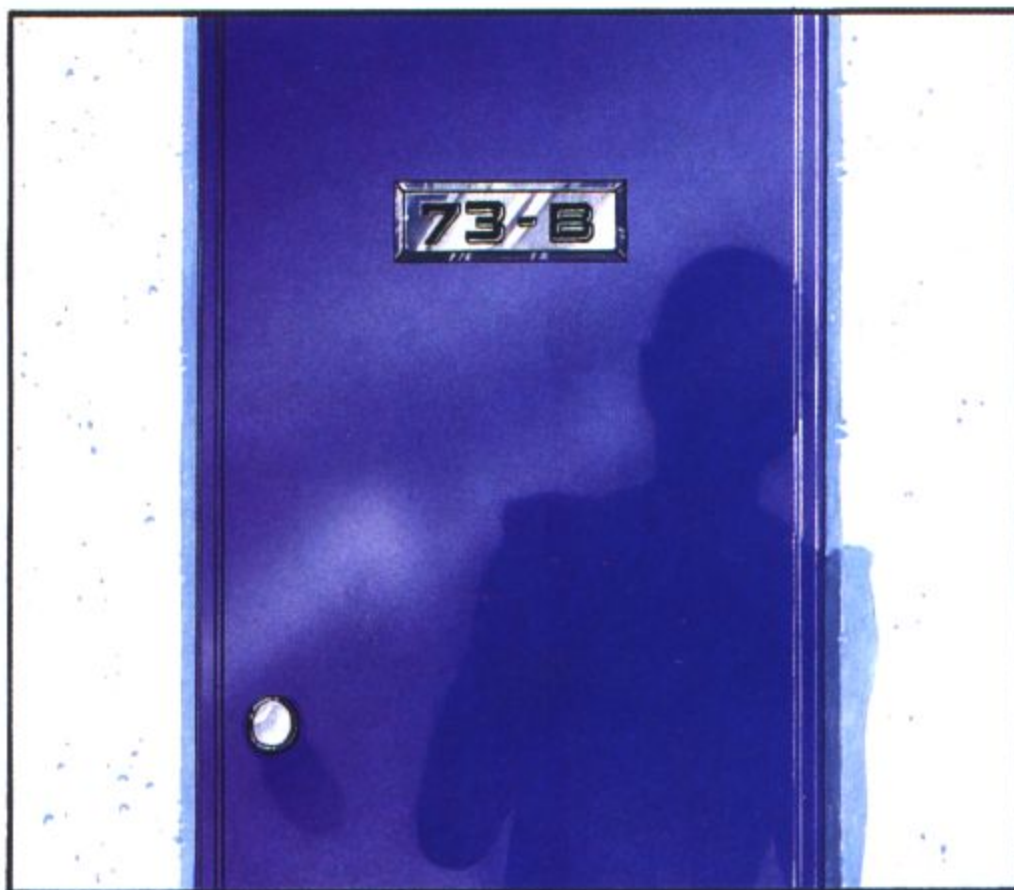
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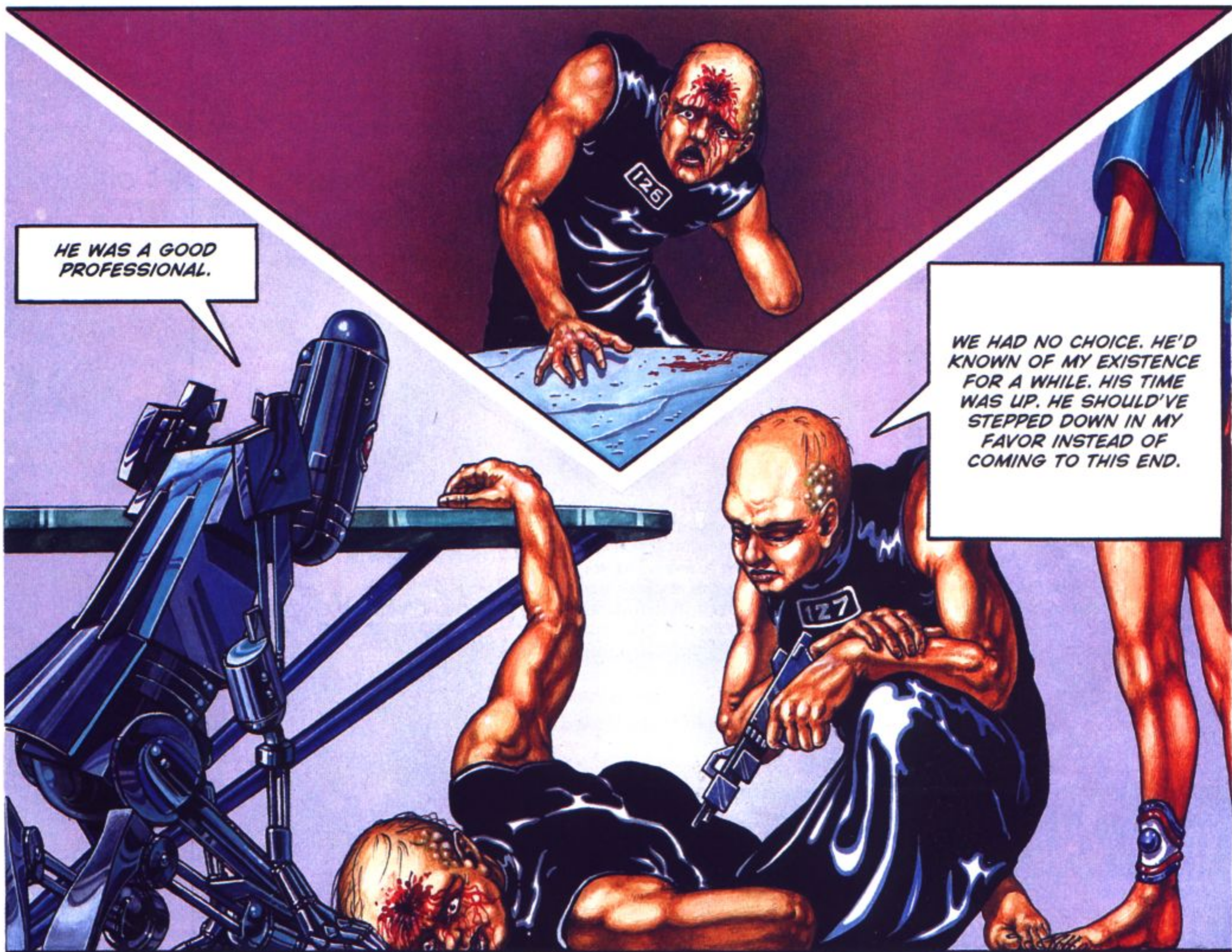
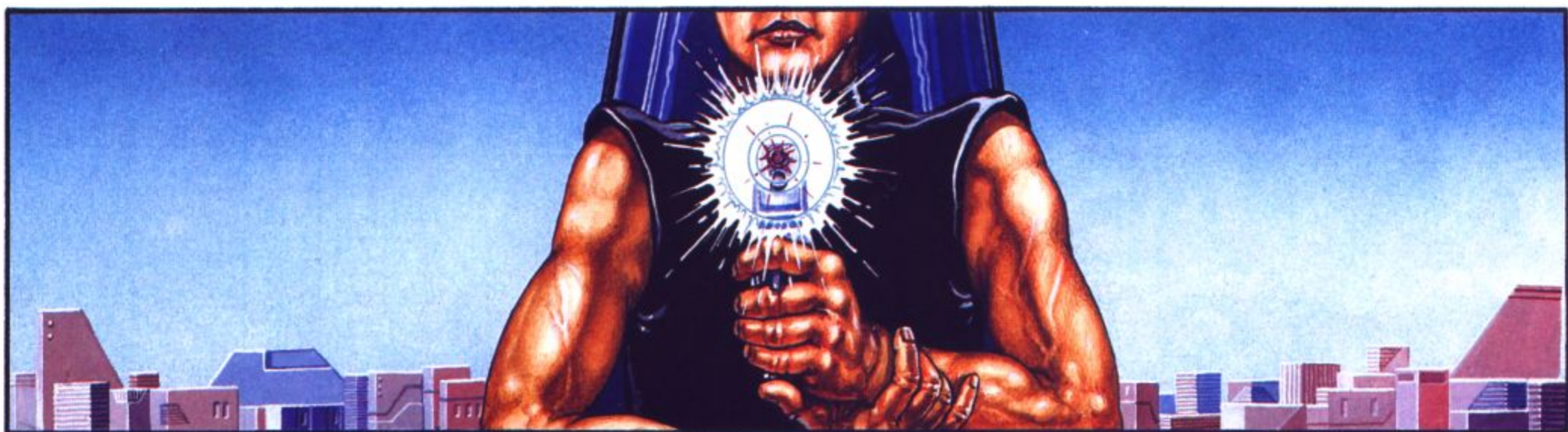
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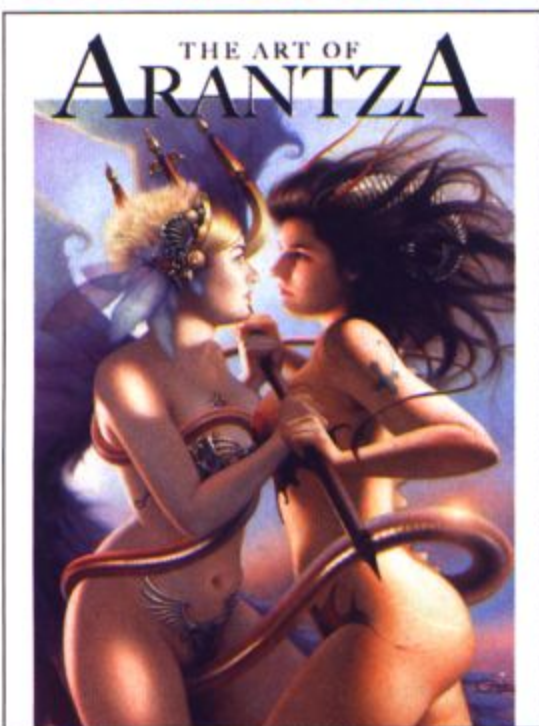


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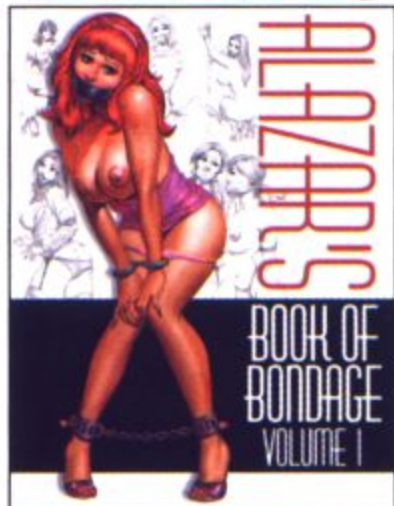
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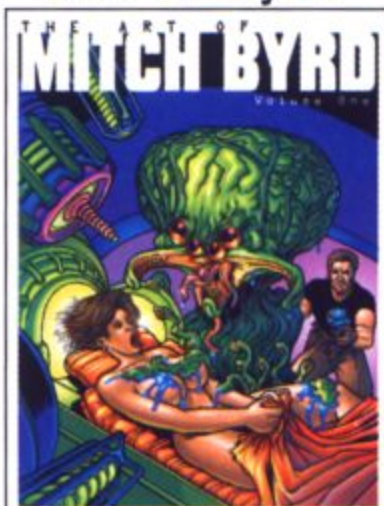
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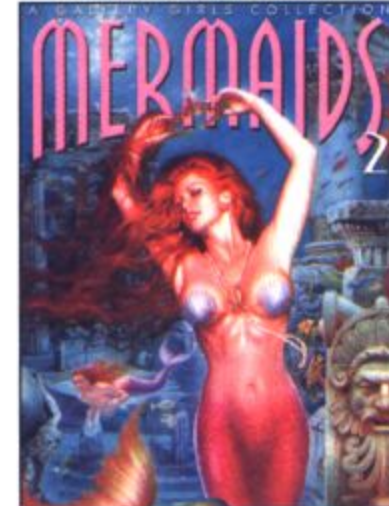
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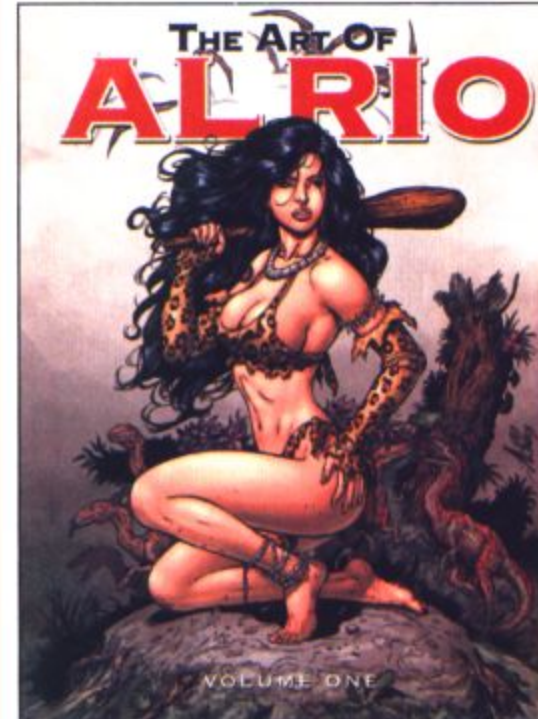
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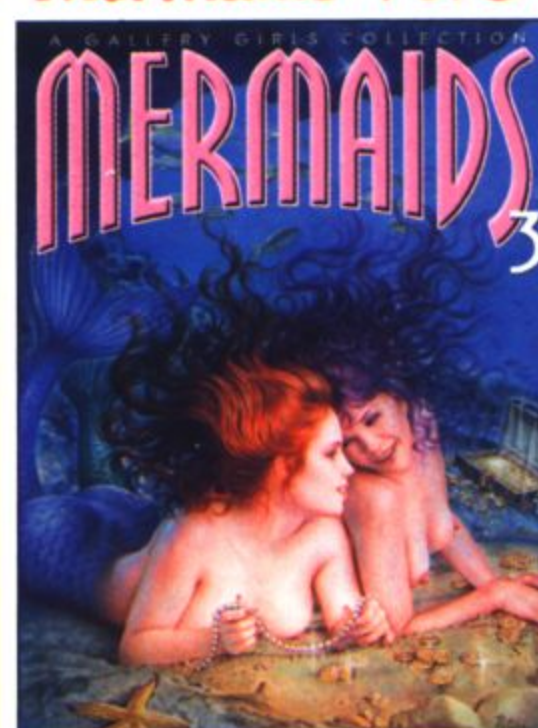
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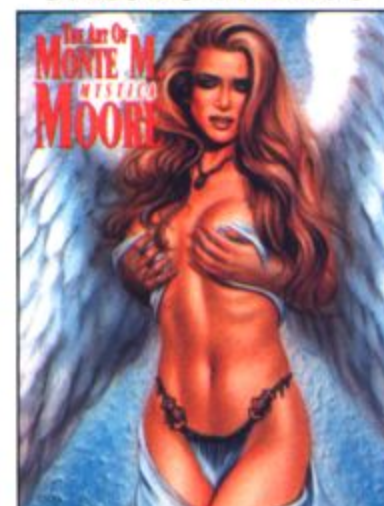
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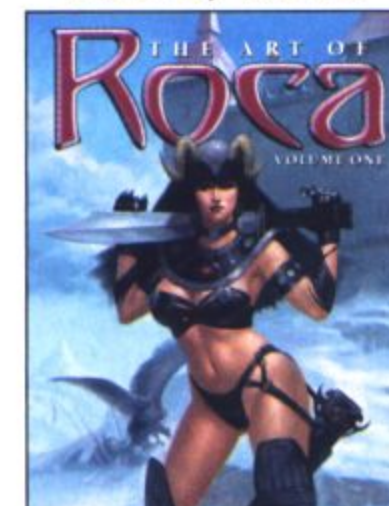
In our third journey under the sea, we find more amorous aquatic cuties, with artwork by such noted naturalists as Maraschi, Sosa, Aboy, Arantza, Ponce, Florio, Perla, Plucky and more. Cocktail sauce anyone? 64pgs black and white plus color covers.

Monte Moore



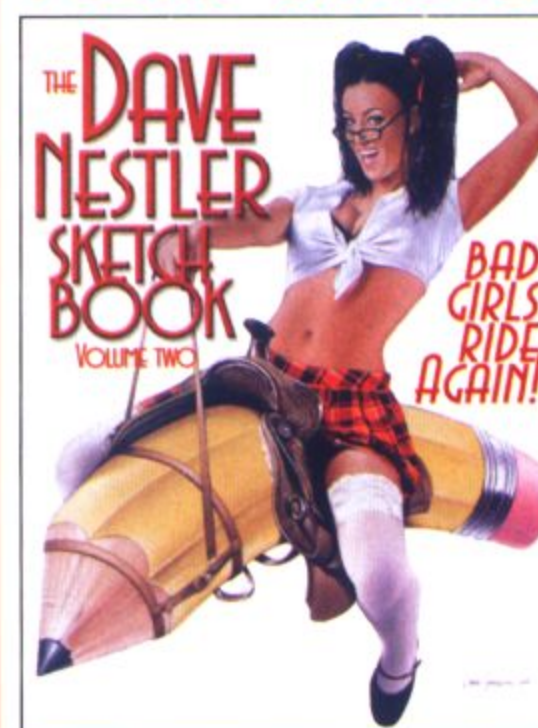
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HATE JAZZ



THE "NY CABS" GARAGE WAS FAINTLY LIT. IT WAS A DEPRESSING SITE.



THE HEAVY GUY GAVE IT A BIT OF CHEERINESS.



CHESTER STOPPED THE CAR, BUT HE COULD NOT STOP THE CRAZINESS IN HIS HEAD.



TAKE YOUR CAR AND GET LOST, CHESTER! THIS GARAGE IS ALREADY SUFFICIENTLY FULL.



... AND DON'T COME HERE DURING YOUR WORKING HOURS, CRAP!

CHESTER'S EYES WERE UNEXPRESSIVE NOW.

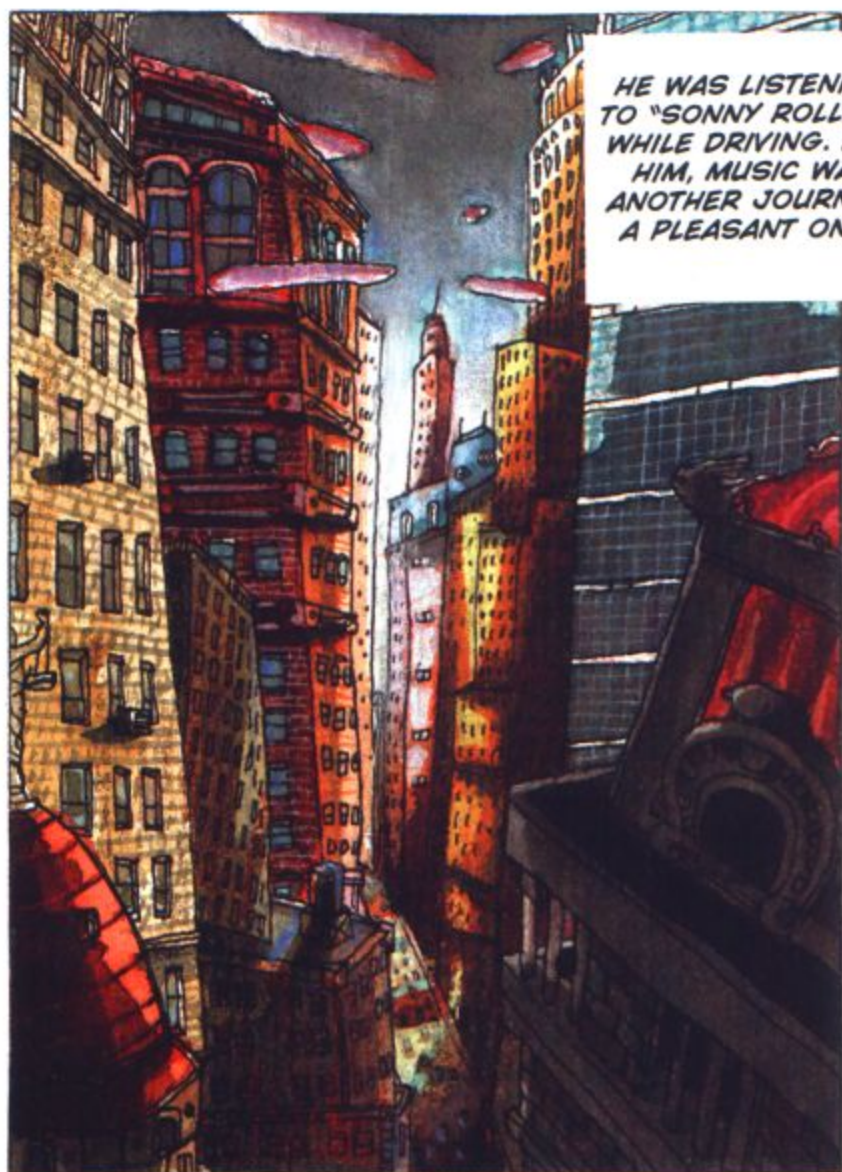


THE HEAVY GUY SHOUTED WHILE SPRINKLING CHESTER'S FACE WITH SALIVA...

CHESTER DID NOT ALTER. ONLY A LITTLE SPARK CHANGED HIS GLANCE, BUT NOTHING ELSE. HIS EYES WERE REDDISH AND AQUEOUS. FIRST, DUE TO A LOT OF DRINKING AND LACK OF SLEEP...



AND SECOND, AFTER WHAT HAPPENED WITH TAMARA.



HE WAS LISTENING TO "SONNY ROLLINS" WHILE DRIVING. FOR HIM, MUSIC WAS ANOTHER JOURNEY—A PLEASANT ONE...

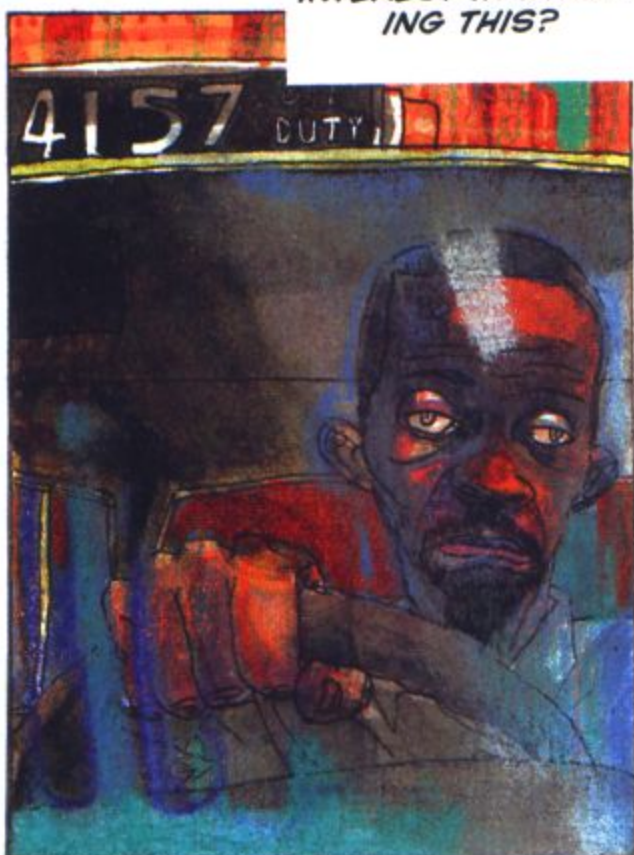


... THAT KEPT HIM SAFE FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD. A WORLD OF FANTOM CARS SEARCHING FOR THEIR DESTINIES.



ON THE OTHER HAND, ROLLINS, FOR EXAMPLE, RAMBLED WITH NEITHER PROBLEMS NOR OBSTACLES THROUGH HIS MUSIC. THE MUSIC MADE HIM EXCITED, SOMETHING NO ONE COULD DETECT.

WHY WOULD ANYBODY HAVE ANY INTEREST IN KNOWING THIS?



HE WAS HARDLY ANYTHING TO ANYBODY AND THIS WAS OKAY.



HE WAS JUST AN OWL WITH NO EYES.



HOWEVER, SOMETHING MOVED INSIDE HIM THAT NIGHT WHEN A COUPLE GOT INTO HIS CAR.

TO THE DOLPHINS ON 12TH STREET.



HE WAS LISTENING TO "YOU STEPPED OUT OF A DREAM" WHEN THE YOUNG MAN INTERRUPTED THE MUSIC.

HAVEN'T YOU GONE TOO FAR WITH THE COLOGNE, FELLOW? IT STINKS LIKE A BROTHEL.

SHE LAUGHED!



THE GUY HAD A CONTEMPTUOUS GAZE AND HE TALKED BY SHOUTING.

DON'T GO ON MADISON AVENUE. GO DIRECTLY TO 8TH AVENUE!



FELLOWS LIKE YOU DON'T REASON. YOU WANT TO MAKE SOME EXTRA BUCKS SO YOU FUCK WITH US. WELL, WE'RE NO FOOLS...

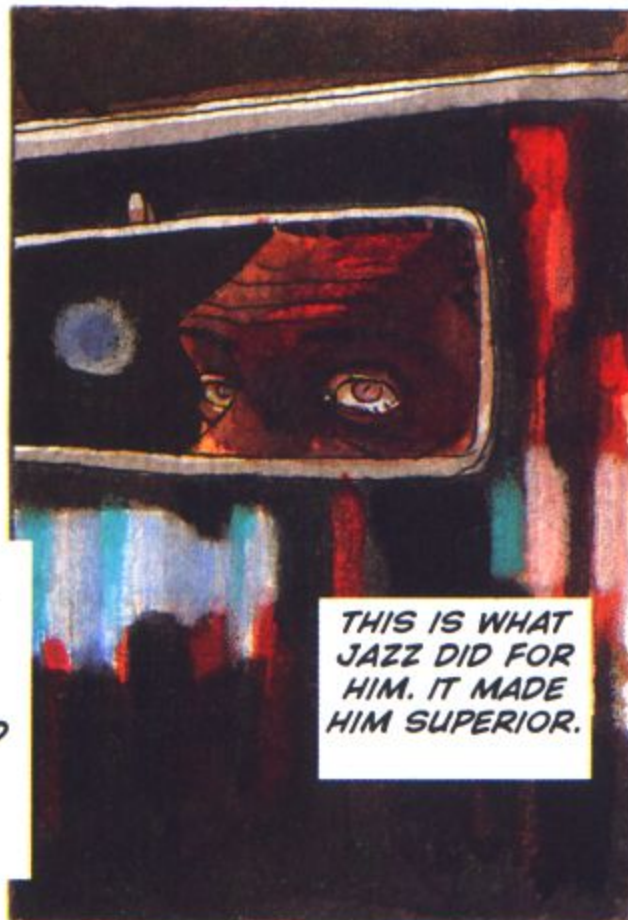


... WE KNOW YOU ARE TRYING TO MAKE THE TRIP LONGER THAN IT REALLY IS.

THE GUY DID NOT LET HIM LISTEN TO "POOR BUTTERFLY" EITHER.



HE KEPT ON WITH HIS MOCKING AND ANNOYING CHATTER. BUT CHESTER CONCENTRATED ON THE MUSIC OF "THELONIOUS" WHO WOULD HAVE CRAPPED ON THE FACE OF THAT WORM.



THIS IS WHAT JAZZ DID FOR HIM. IT MADE HIM SUPERIOR.



THEY GOT TO DOLPHINS. NOBODY KNEW THE EXTENT THAT DESTINY HAD JOINED THEM TOGETHER.



CHESTER SAW
THE COUPLE
AGAIN AT A
TABLE AT DOL-
PHINS. THEIR
LOOK OF SUR-
PRISE MADE
THEM LOOK
EVEN MORE
STUPID.



THEY HAD
NEVER
IMAGINED
THAT THEY
WERE
GOING TO
PAY FOR
HIS MUSIC...



... FROM THE ONE WHO,
UP TO SOME MINUTES
AGO, WAS JUST A
BLACK AND DESPISED
TAXI DRIVER.



HIS MUSIC, THE
JAZZ, WAS HIS
EVASION, HIS
WORLD, HIS WORD...



... HIS LOVE
AND HIS
HATE....



... HIS VICES
AND PAIN...



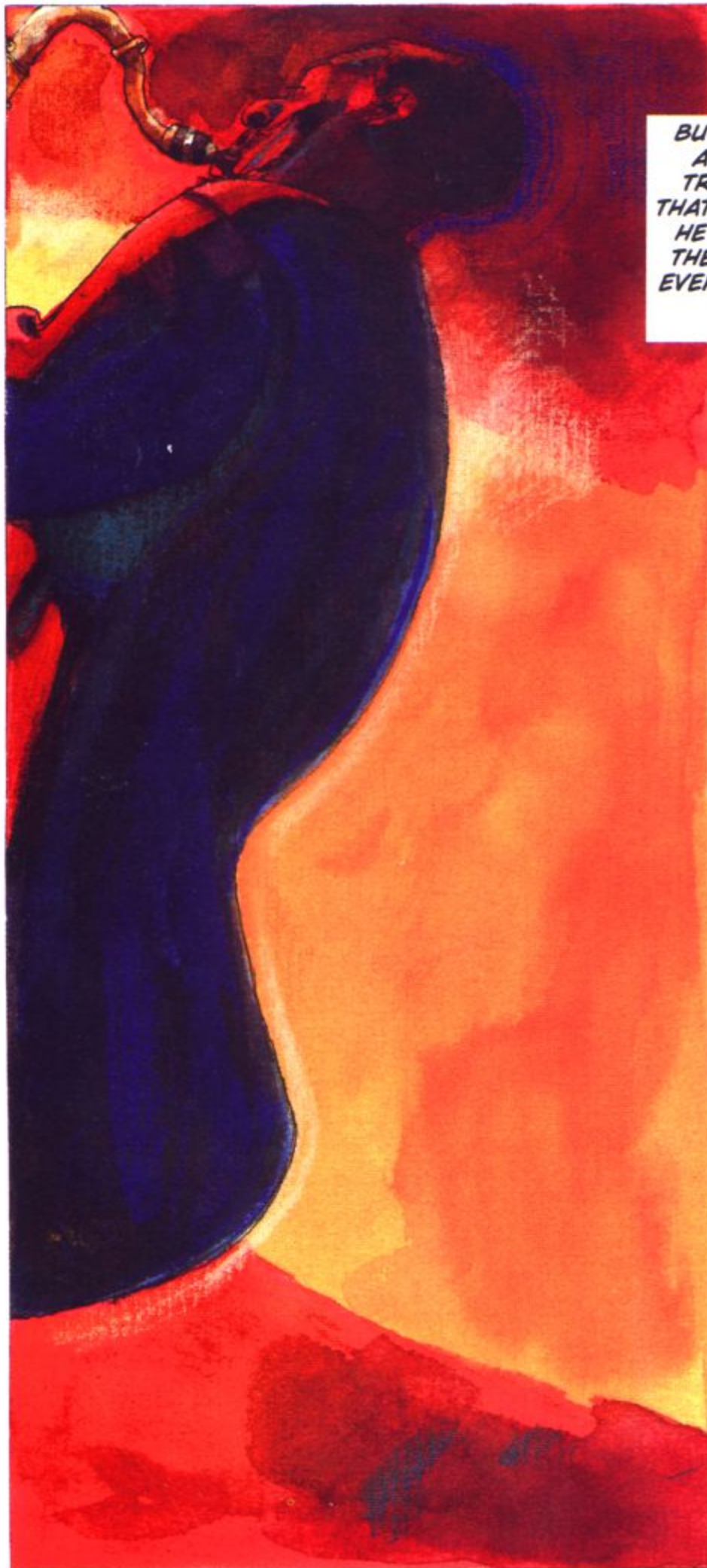
... HIS
LIFE.



IT WAS HIM
TELLING THE
TRUTH...

... ABOUT
HIMSELF...

... A BEAU-
TIFUL AND
FUCKING
TRUTH...



BUT ABOVE
ALL, HIS
TRUTH. AT
THAT MOMENT
HE WAS AT
THE TOP OF
EVERYTHING...



... INVOLVED,
ISOLATED,
SAFE. IN HIS
INMOST
WORLD...



... OUT FROM
THE OTHER,
BLURRED,
DETACHED,
SENSELESS-
NESS.



THE BEST THING WAS
THAT EVERYBODY
KNEW THAT. THEY
COULDN'T TOUCH HIM.
THEY COULDN'T GET
TO HIM. HE WAS
MUCH MORE THAN
ANY OF THEM.



THE NIGHT IN THE QUARTER WAS LIVELY. THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO WENT OUT TO FEEL THE BLOOD IN THEIR VEINS.

SOMETHING WAS GOING ON IN THAT COUPLE'S HEAD, THE ONE THAT KEPT HIM FROM LISTENING COMFORTABLY TO MONK, ROLLINS, AND SILVER.



HE DIDN'T KNOW IT YET, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR HIM FOR HALF AN HOUR. THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A GOOD REASON FOR THEIR DOING SO.

WHEN CHESTER WENT OUT, HE WAS SURPRISED. THEY DID NOT SENSE THIS, OF COURSE.



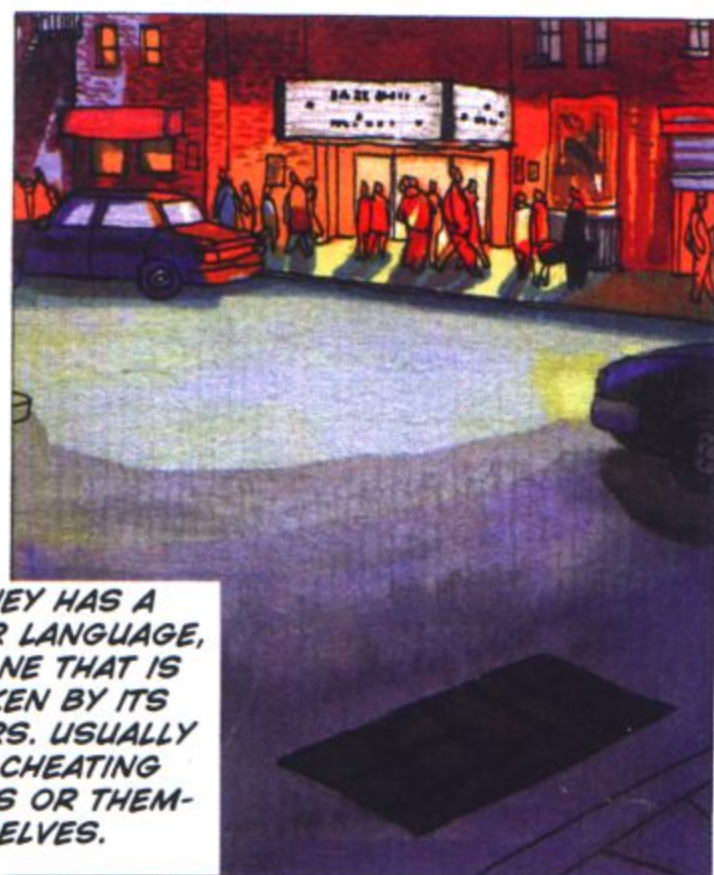
THEY MADE HIM AN OFFER.

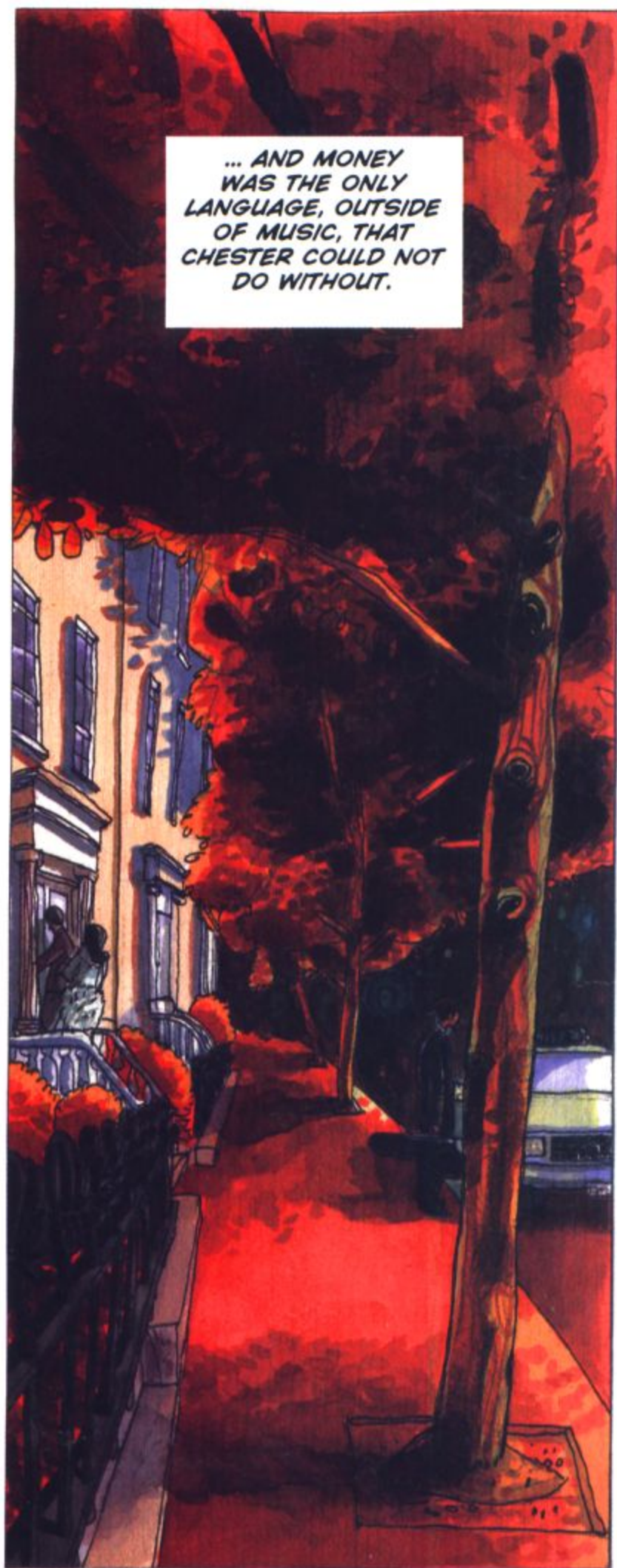


THEY WOULD PAY HIM A LOT OF MONEY IF HE GAVE THEM A PRIVATE SHOW.



MONEY HAS A PROPER LANGUAGE, THE ONE THAT IS SPOKEN BY ITS OWNERS. USUALLY FOR CHEATING OTHERS OR THEMSELVES.





... AND MONEY WAS THE ONLY LANGUAGE, OUTSIDE OF MUSIC, THAT CHESTER COULD NOT DO WITHOUT.



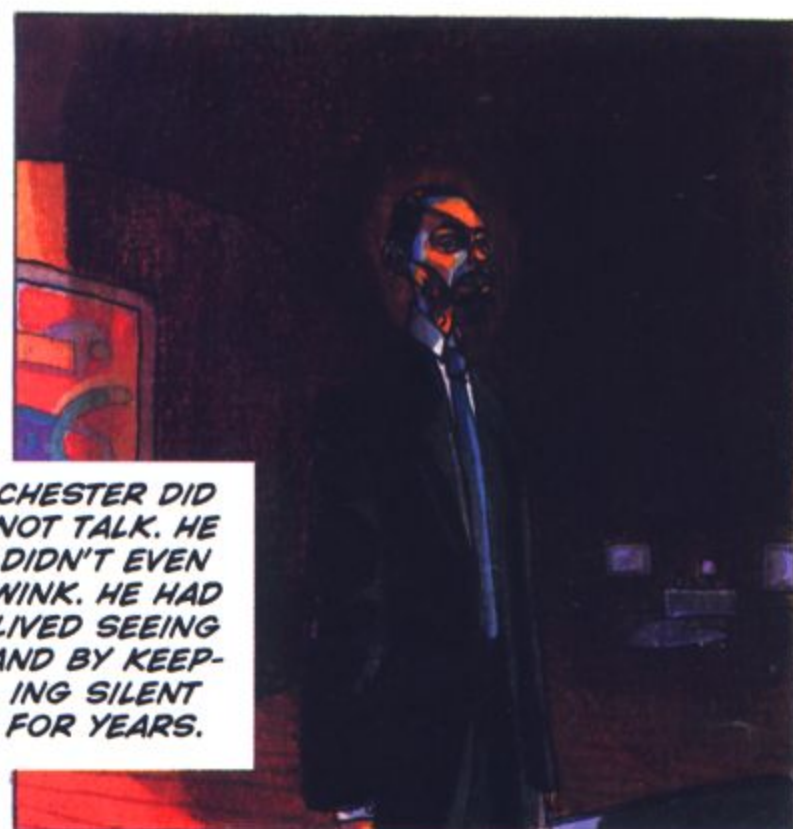
HE WAS TAKEN TO A LUXURIOUS FLAT ON 87TH AND MADISON. IT SMELLED GOOD THERE. IT WAS LARGE, VERY LARGE, WITH HIGH CEILINGS, NO ECHOES, GOOD ACOUSTICS.



WE WILL STAY HERE. THE ONLY THING YOU HAVE TO DO IS TO PLAY SOMETHING... SENTIMENTAL, ROMANTIC... UNDERSTAND?



SOMETHING THAT... YOU KNOW, TO MOTIVATE US... YOU GET IT, DON'T YOU?...



CHESTER DID NOT TALK. HE DIDN'T EVEN WINK. HE HAD LIVED SEEING AND BY KEEPING SILENT FOR YEARS.



HE STARTED TO PLAY
THE MUSIC FOR WHICH
HE HAD BEEN PAID,
FOR THOSE TWO WHO
WERE ALREADY
UNDRESSED.



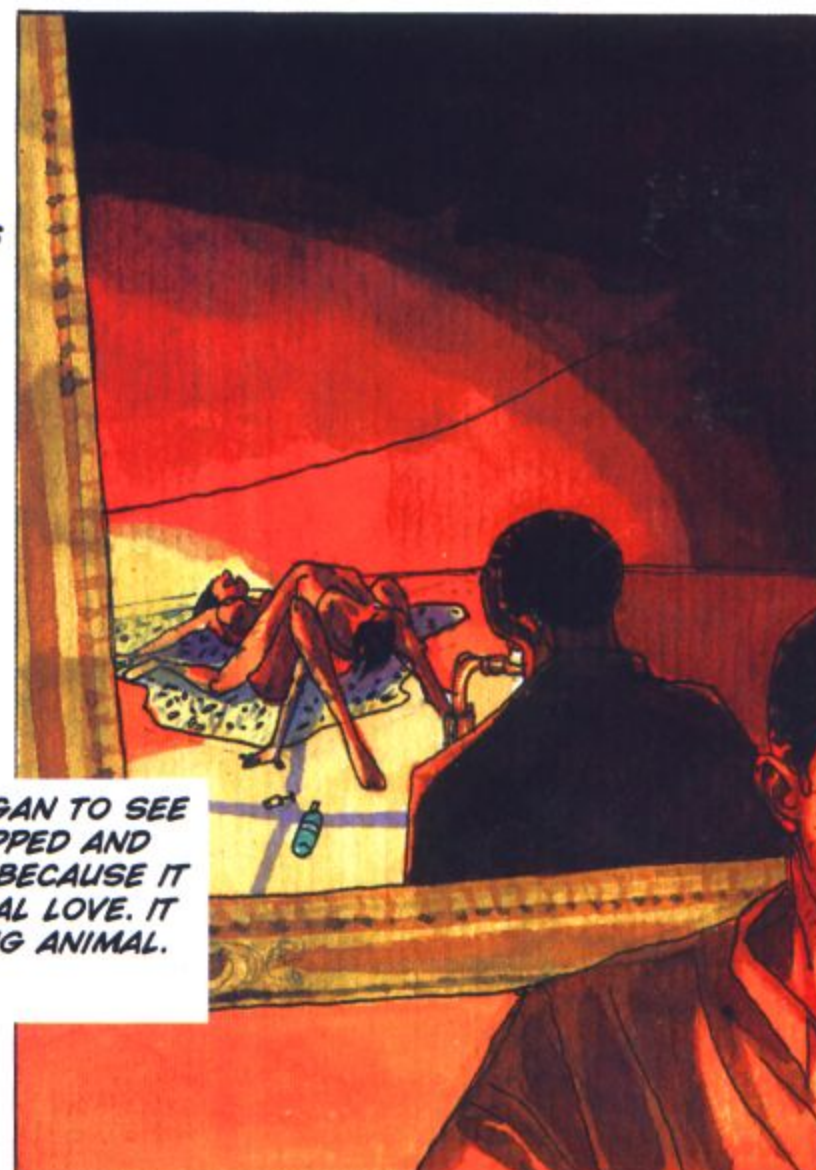
WHISKY, CANDLES,
AND HIS PLAYING,
"IT'S EASY TO REMEM-
BER" AS IF HE WERE
COLTRANE. IT WAS
WHAT THEY WANTED,
APPARENTLY...



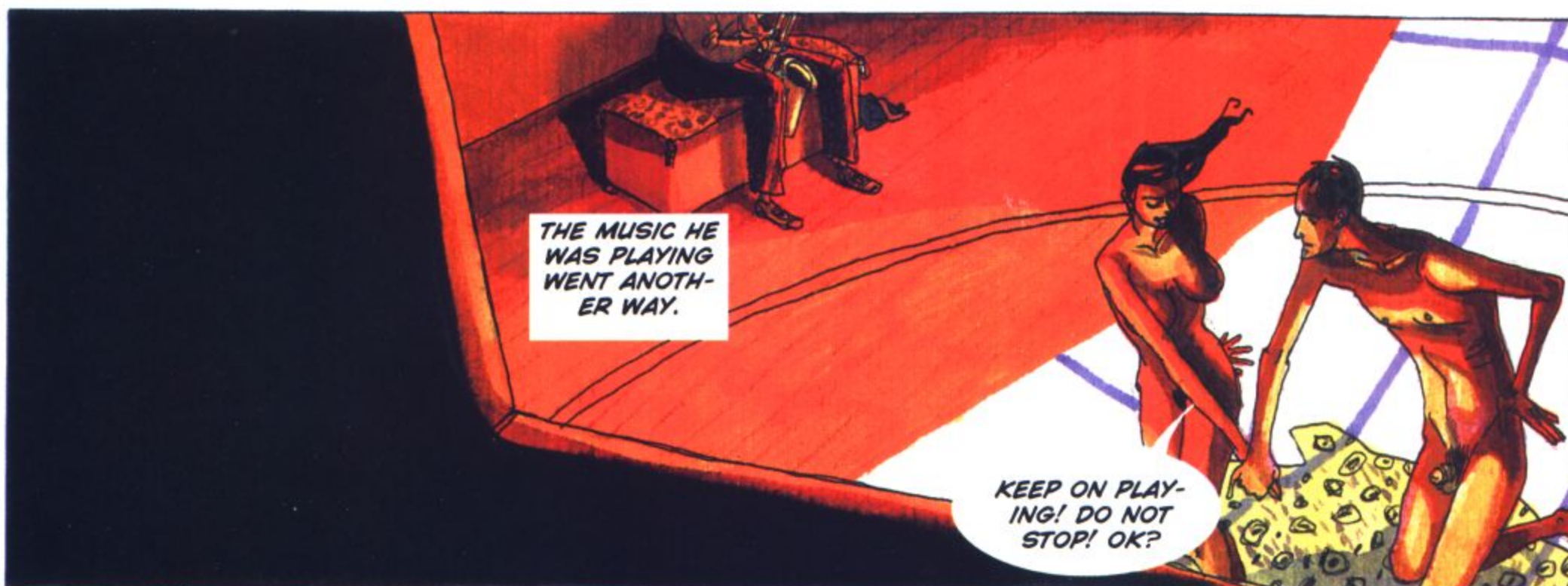
... BECAUSE
THEY HAD
THE FLUIDS
READY.



"TWO YOUNG TO GO
STEADY" AND THE GUY
WAS OUT OF BREATH AND
SHE WAS PURRING. LIGHTS
AND SHADOWS OF TWO
BODIES LOVING EACH
OTHER USED TO BE BEAU-
TIFUL...



... BUT HE BEGAN TO SEE
THEM STRIPPED AND
GROTESQUE, BECAUSE IT
WAS NOT REAL LOVE. IT
WAS FUCKING ANIMAL.



THE MUSIC HE
WAS PLAYING
WENT ANOTH-
ER WAY.

KEEP ON PLAY-
ING! DO NOT
STOP! OK?



... AND HE
KEPT ON
PLAYING BY
HIMSELF...



... BUT HE WAS
AWARE THAT HE
WAS NOT LISTENED
TO. HE STARTED,
"ALL OR NOTHING
AT ALL" WITH
MORE HARSHNESS,
LESS SENTIMEN-
TAL...

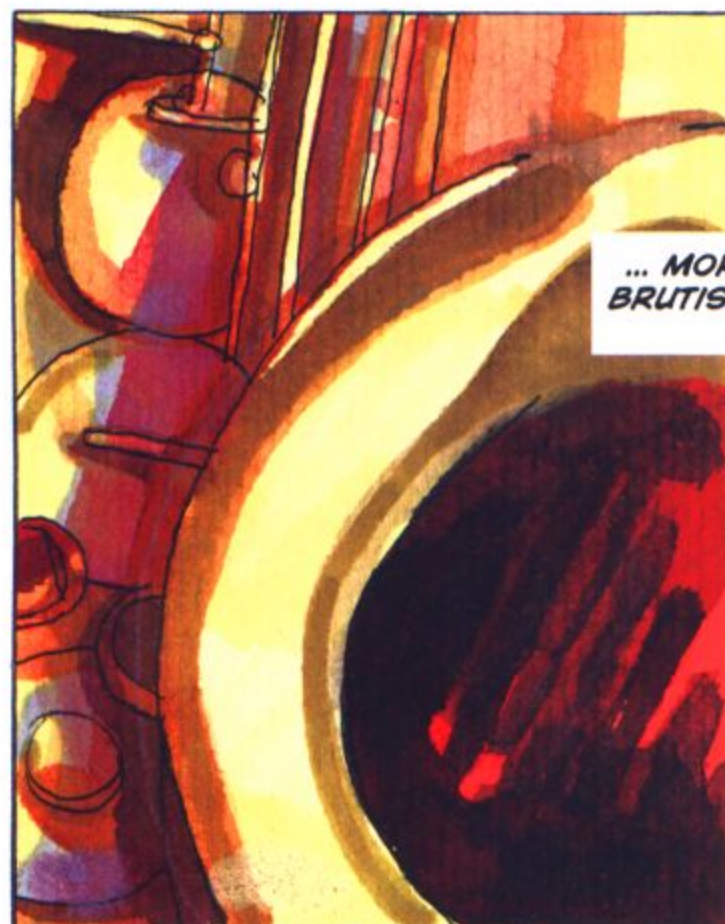


... JUMPING
THROUGH MANY
OF THE VERSES
WITH BITTER-
NESS...



... ANYTHING TO NOT
LISTEN TO THE
GROANS AND
GRUMBLES COMING
FROM THE OTHER
ROOM...

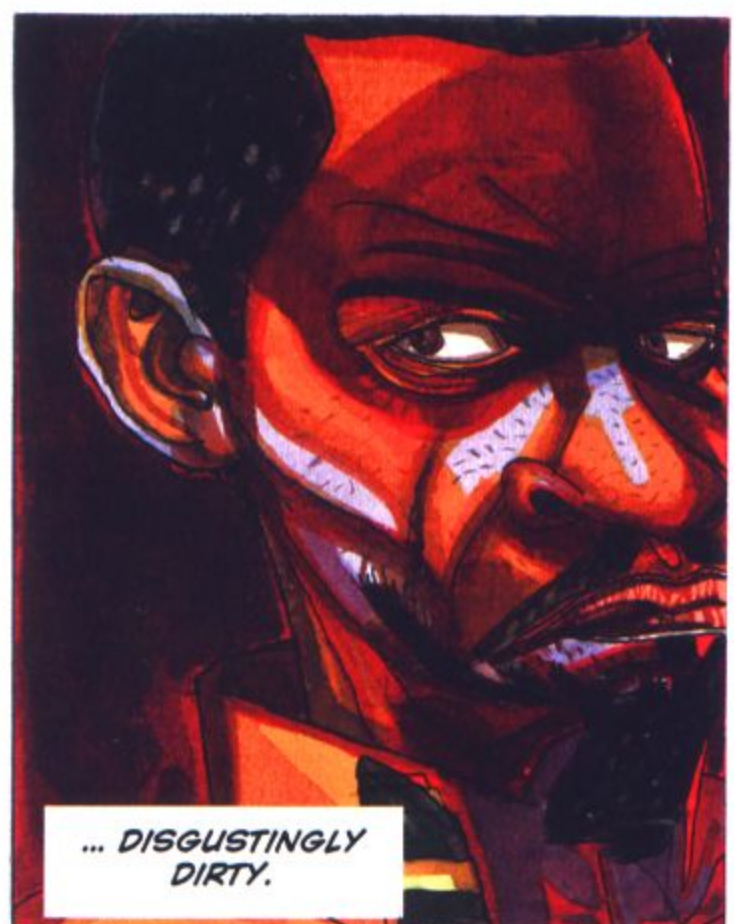
EACH TIME
LOUDER, MORE
GUTTURAL...



... MORE
BRUTISH...



... MORE
VULGAR...



... DISGUSTINGLY
DIRTY.

THERE WAS A
MOMENT THAT HE
HAD TO TAKE HIS
BREATH BACK AND
HE REALIZED THAT
THE MUSIC...

... THAT HE
SOLD TO THOSE,
WAS NOT TO BE
SOLD...

... BECAUSE IT WAS
OF HIS ALONE, AND
ALSO IT WAS PURE.

KEEP ON
PLAYING,
FELLOW!

AH!

THE LOOKING
GLASS GAVE
HIM BACK AN
IMAGE THAT
HE DID NOT
WANT TO SEE.

PLAY, FELLOW! I
HAVE PAID YOU,
SON OF A BITCH!

HE STARTED AGAIN
BUT WITHOUT A
MELODY, WITH SHARP
SOUNDS, IMITATING
CRIES, SHOUTS, ANI-
MAL GROANS AND OUT
OF TUNE.

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
IDIOT?

THE LOOKING
GLASS GAVE HIM
BACK A DEGRAD-
ING IMAGE OF
HIMSELF,
SCARCELY A
SHADOW WITH A
SAX.

DAMN IT!

YOU HAVE
TAKEN ME OUT
OF THE TRANCE,
STUPID!

CHESTER WANT-
ED TO PLAY
SOMETHING
BUT INHARMON-
IC GROANS
CAME OUT.

DIDN'T I PAY YOU? IF I
PAY, YOU OBEY, DAMN
IDIOT!

IT WAS ONLY
AN INSTANT.



HE SQUEEZED AND
SQUEEZED UNTIL
SOMETHING
CRACKED IN THE
NECK...



... OF THAT
IMBECILE.



WHAT HAS
HAPPENED?
MY GOD!

WHY TO CALL UPON
GOD UNDER THESE
CIRCUMSTANCES?



IF THERE
WAS ANY
GOD, HE HAD
ABANDONED
HIM.

BUT, WHAT
IS JUSTICE
FOR GOD?



THE SILENCE
WAS DENSE,
CORPOREAL.



THEN, HE
BREATHED
OUT A DEEP
SIGH AND
BEGAN TO
BREATHE
AGAIN.



HE ALWAYS LIKED THE SOUND OF COLTRANE WITH MILES. HE WAS CALMED BY THE MUSIC OF THE SEXTET.



THE STREETS WERE EMPTY. THE PASSIONS WERE SLEEPING AT THAT TIME. ONLY SOMEONE WANDERING RESTLESSLY AROUND THE CITY, LOOKING FOR AN UNKNOWN VENT.



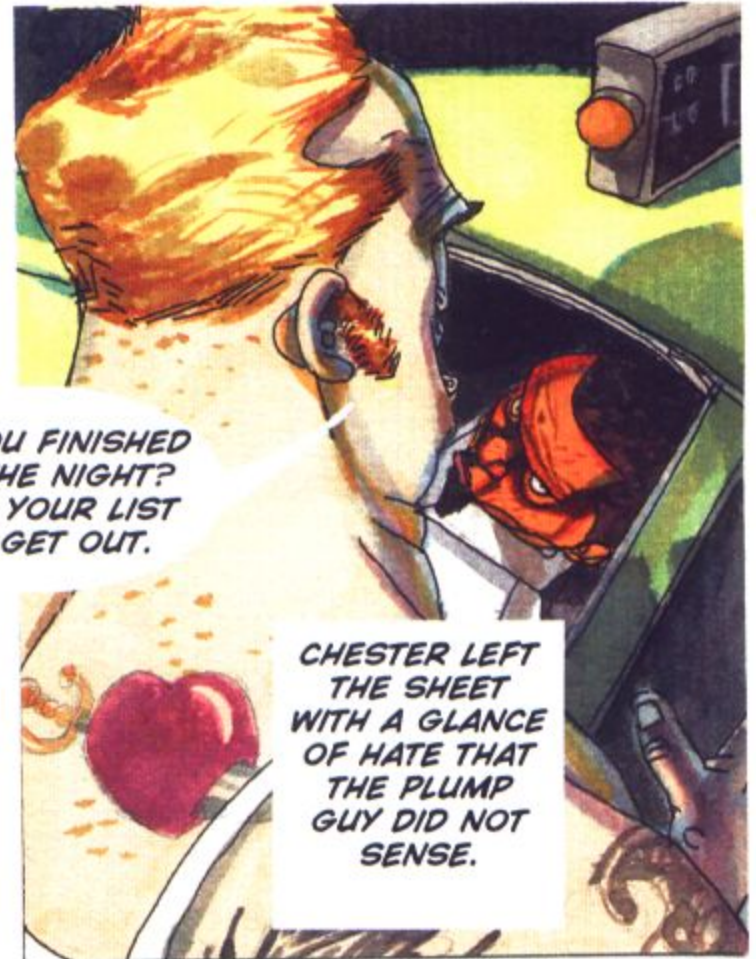
HE DRAGGED HIS ETERNAL HANGOVER LIKE A SENTENCE.



THE LIGHTS OF THE GARAGE "NYCABS" WELCOMED HIM.



AND THE PLUMP GUY WAS ANOTHER SHADOW.



ARE YOU FINISHED FOR THE NIGHT? LEAVE YOUR LIST AND GET OUT.

CHESTER LEFT THE SHEET WITH A GLANCE OF HATE THAT THE PLUMP GUY DID NOT SENSE.



THE STREET GATHERED HIS SHADOW WITH SOME OTHERS THAT BEGAN THE DAY EARLY. HE FELT A SUDDEN DISGUST AND...



HE SPAT WITH A BITTER TASTE, THE TASTE THAT HAD BEEN THERE ALL NIGHT LONG.

IT WAS THE SAME TASTE THAT HE SPAT EVERY DAWN.



HE GOT MIXED UP ANONYMOUSLY AMONGST THE PEOPLE.

THE DEPTHS OF
SPACE IN A GALAXY
UNKNOWN TO MANKIND.

COUNTLESS *PLANETS*,
STARS AND *SUNS* ILLUMINATE
THE COSMOS IN THIS OTHERWISE
PITCH-BLACK FRONTIER.

AMONG THESE ORBS LOOMS
AN OBJECT TRAVELING HUNDREDS
OF TIMES FASTER THAN THE
SPEED OF LIGHT.

ALIEN TO THIS QUADRANT,
THIS *SPEEDING MASS* IS NOT
AN ASTEROID OR A COMET...

IT IS A SPACESHIP. 



ZEN

INTERGALACTIC NINJA®
Created by Steve Stern and Dan Cote

PRELUDE

Written by ROBERT V. CONTE
Illustrated by CHRISTOPHER SCALF
Lettered by JAMES REDDINGTON

THE HUMANOID LIFEFORM AT ITS HELM - ALSO *ALIEN* TO THIS REALM OF THE UNIVERSE- GUIDES HIS *MAMMOTH VESSEL* TOWARD ITS REMOTE DESTINATION...



COORDINATES
INDICATE I'M ALMOST
THERE-

NINTH
STAR SYSTEM
IN THE FORTY-FIFTH
QUADRANT OF GALAXY
ELEVEN, SECTOR
7047010898.

WIIHRRRRRRRRRR-T

DAMN!
SHOULD HAVE TAKEN
IN THE HYPERSHIP FOR AN *OVERHAUL*
BEFORE I LEFT THE ETNOC SYSTEM.
WON'T FIND MECHANOIDS THIS
DEEP IN SPACE IF SHE
BREAKS DOWN.

THIS JOB
HAD BETTER
BE *WORTH* IT. EL NOBUS'
MEAGER DEPOSIT DOESN'T
AMOUNT TO TEN PERCENT OF
THE *AGGRAVATION* I'VE
ALREADY DEALT WITH...

IF THAT
OVERBLOATED SYGOAT
WASN'T SO GREEDY, I'D HAVE
CONVINCED MYSELF HE WAS
TRYING TO GET
ME *KILLED*.




THERE ARE
TWO THINGS I **LOATHE**
ABOUT BEING IN
DEEP SPACE-

IT'S SO
BADLY CHARTED,
YOU'RE FLYING **BLIND**
MOST OF THE
TIME...

... AND IT'S
SO **BORING**, YOU
START THINKING ABOUT
THE **PAST**-


"-AND, BOY, DO
I **HATE** THE PAST..."



ALTHOUGH WE
HAVE RAISED YOU AS
OUR OWN, YOU MUST LEAVE
ON NOW AND FOLLOW
YOUR **PATH**.

I D-DON'T
UNDERSTAND, MASTERS.
I HAVE SO MUCH MORE
TO **LEARN**-

DO NOT
DISOBEY,
ZEN-GO!




THOSE
SELF-RIGHTEOUS MASTERS
WERE NOT THE **FIRST** TO
ABANDON ME, BUT THEY
ARE DEFINITELY
THE **LAST!** WHO NEEDS
THEM, ANYWAY?

BLEEP


HERE
WE ARE -




--JERDOKK.
I'LL BET EVEN THE **SPACE SLUGS**
DIDN'T STAY TO RECOLONIZE
WHAT'S LEFT OF THIS
WAR-TORN PLANET.



STILL
I'M NOT TAKING
ANY CHANCES--



MY SPEARS
SHOULD BE ENOUGH IF
THERE'S **TROUBLE**.



YEE-UCK!
I'LL NEVER GET USED
TO THIS--LIKE WALKING INTO A
BALL OF **SLIME**.

"THIS IS WHERE
THE FUN BEGINS—



"LET'S GO POD!"

AAAARRRGHHH!



ATMOSPHERE'S
TH-THICK..

HEAD
THROBBING...
HAVE TO
M-MEDITATE...

PRESSURE'S
W-WORSE THAN I
EXPECTED...

BRING
MY LEVELS
DOWN-

-JUST LIKE
THE MASTERS TAUGHT
ME. AT LEAST THOSE RUBES
WERE GOOD FOR
SOMETHING...



JUST ONCE,
I'D LIKE A **SOFT**
LANDING...



KEEP
DREAMING, ZEN.
LEMME OUT
OF HERE---!



UFF!!



BAD TRIP.
WOOZY. GOT
TO GO TO
DEEP...

...SLEEP."

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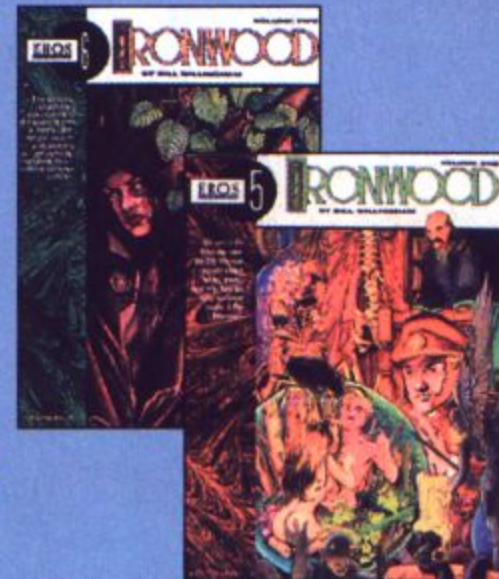
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The Asia's

Nightmare.

ART & STORY BY
CARLO BOCCHIO

TRANSLATIONS BY
MARZIA BORINO



A THOUSAND CROWS FLY, BLACKENING THE SKY
OUT...CREATING DARKNESS AROUND ASIA...

SHE'S IN THE LAND IN BETWEEN THE OBLIVION OF A
TIMELESS DREAM...AND THE MEMORIES OF AN
INTERRUPTED EXISTENCE...

...IN HER DREAM SHE'S A WOMAN PLAYING IN ACCORDANCE WITH
ADULTS' RULES...



WHILE CHOOSING SPECIAL ALLIES TO FACE A BATTLE
TOGETHER WITH ODD AND GROTESQUE CREATURES...



THE COMMON ENEMY IS A ARMY OF
ZOMBIES MATCHED WITH MACHINES...



THEY INFEST THE LAND OF DREAMS TO TURN IT INTO THE LAND OF
NIGHTMARES.



THEIR INACCESSIBLE FORTRESS
IS SWEEPED BY THE WINDS...



THE LABYRINTH IS LIKE AN ABANDONED
ANT NEST.

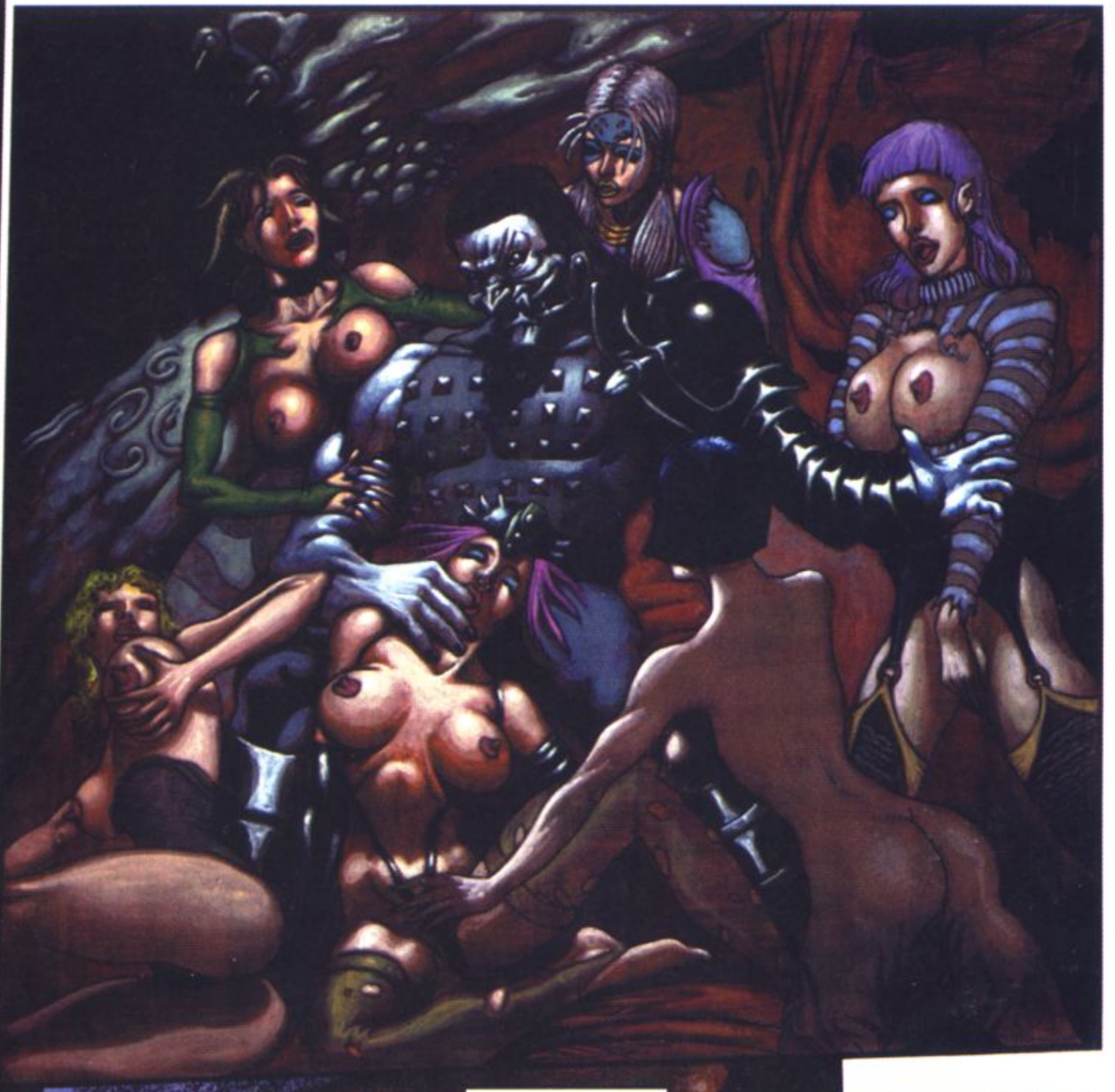


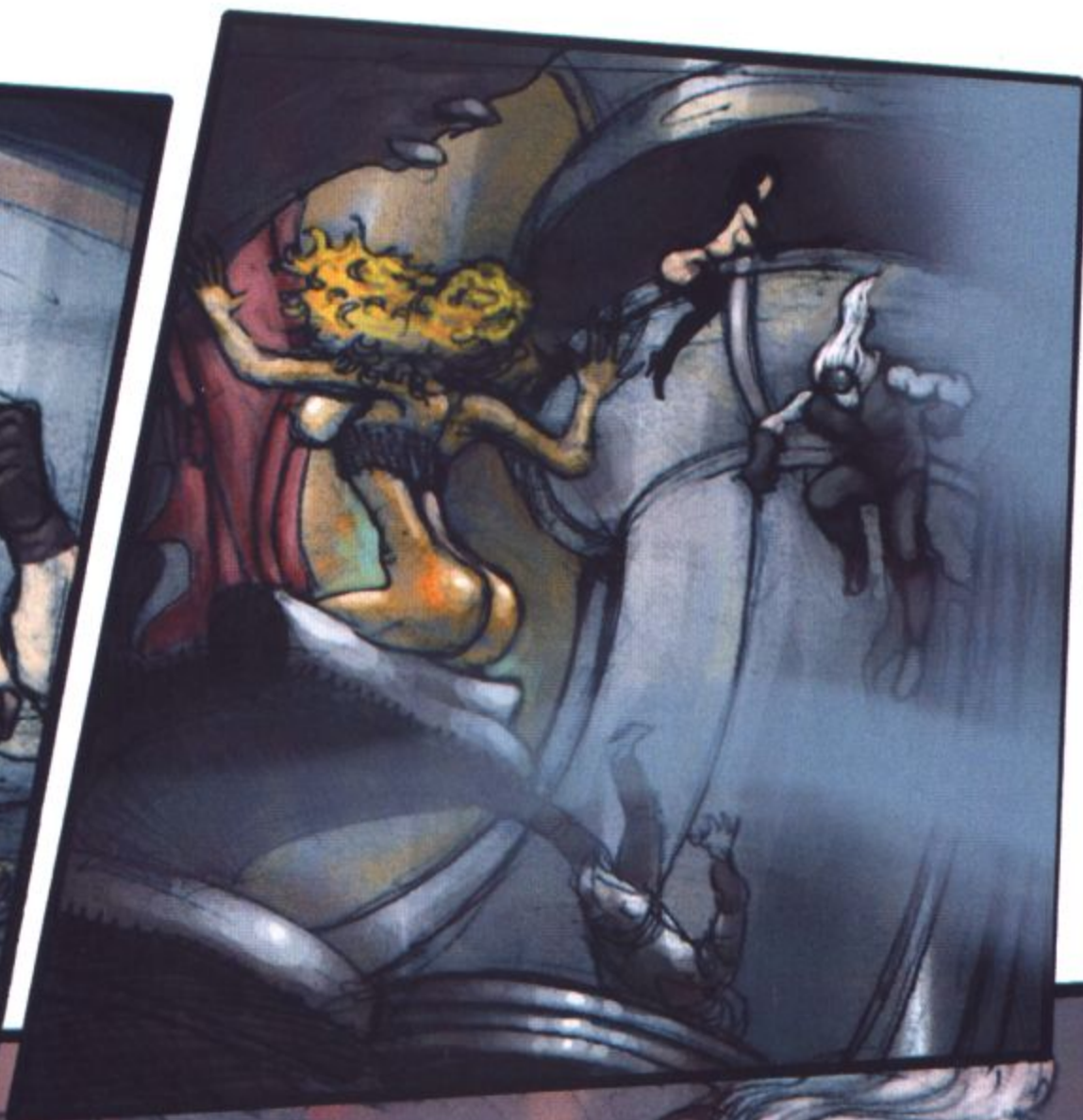
IN ITS INTERIOR DARK TUNNELS ARE ARTERIES
LEADING TO THE ROOTS OF THE NIGHTMARE...



AND TO THE SPECTACLE OF FLESH...





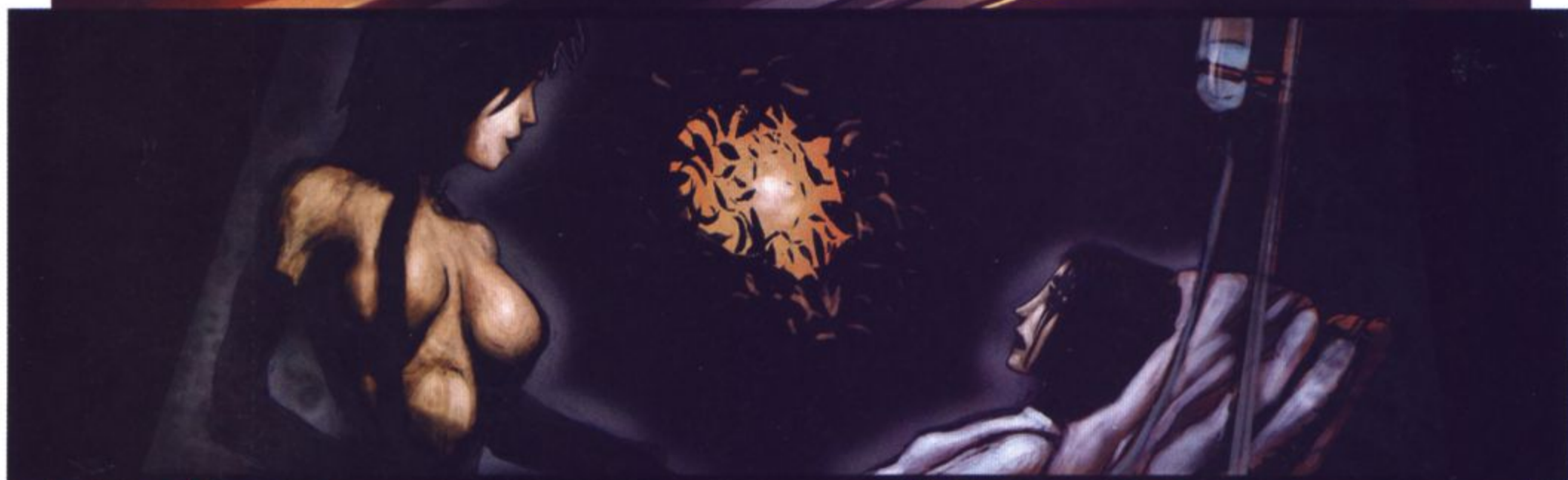


WHEN THE FINAL BATTLE
SEEMS WON...

ASIA STILL HAS TO FIGHT THE ONE
WITH HERSELF...



A DARK ROOM RESTORES HER MEMORY WHILE LOOKING
FOR A REASON TO START LIVING AGAIN...



WINGS OF LIGHT
BRING HER HOME...

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- ☐ **APRIL 1981** Juan Gimenez! Corben! Henry North!
- ☐ **MAY 1981** William S. Burroughs on immortality!
- ☐ **MAY 1982** Black's "The Third Sexual Revolution"!
- ☐ **JULY 1982** Corben's "Flights into Fantasy"! Jones! Garcia! Druillet!
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1982** Art Suydam's "Mudwog"! Corben!
- ☐ **JUNE 1983** Corben! Crepax!
- ☐ **AUGUST 1983** Arno & Jodorowsky! Captain Beefheart interview!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1983** Interview with Francis Ford Coppola!
- ☐ **OCTOBER 1983** Timothy Leary! Bilal! Pepe Moreno!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1983** Interview with Will Eisner! Crepax's "Valentina"!
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1983** "Ranx's Liberatore interviewed
- ☐ **JANUARY 1984** Arthur C. Clarke's "The Sentinel"! Ranx!
- ☐ **FEBRUARY 1984** Douglas Trumbull! Moebius!
- ☐ **MARCH 1984** Douglas Adams! McKie! Charles Burns!
- ☐ **APRIL 1984** Roger Corman interview! Joe Kubert!
- ☐ **MAY 1984** Schuiten! "Ranxerox"! Moebius!
- ☐ **JUNE 1984** "Liquid Sky" 's Slava Tsukerman! Bilal!
- ☐ **JULY 1984** John Cleese interview! Jeronaton!
- ☐ **AUGUST 1984** Paul Kantner! Jeronaton!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1984** Second Annual Music Video Awards!
- ☐ **OCTOBER 1984** John Sayles interview! Caza! Bilal!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1984** John Waters interview! Schuiten!
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1984** Federico Fellini interview! Milo Manara!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1985** Liberatore! "Marlowskitz"! Torres!
- ☐ **FEBRUARY 1985** Jack Davis interview! Russell Mulcahy!
- ☐ **MARCH 1985** Moreno's "Rebel"! Bilal! Schuiten!
- ☐ **APRIL 1985** Eighth Anniversary Issue! Moreno! Corben!
- ☐ **MAY 1985** Liberatore cover! Corben! Manara!
- ☐ **JUNE 1985** Charles Burns! Massimo Ghini! Herkiberto!
- ☐ **JULY 1985** George Miller interview! Olivia! Sesar!
- ☐ **AUGUST 1985** Frank Frazetta interview! Juan Gimenez!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1985** Hildebrandt cover! "Rock Opera"!
- ☐ **OCTOBER 1985** Olivia! Brian Aldiss! Jodorowsky!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1985** Boris Vallejo! Paul Kirchner! John Findley!
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1985** Caza! Swarte! Kierkegaard!
- ☐ **WINTER 1986** 112 spectacular pages; Sesar! Pratt! Torres!
- ☐ **SPRING 1986** Moebius! Bob Deum! Vink!
- ☐ **SUMMER 1986** Sire! Serpieri! Das Pastoras!
- ☐ **FALL 1986** Bilal! Gimenez! Ortiz! Kierkegaard!
- ☐ **WINTER 1987** Greg Hildebrandt cover! Daniel Torres!
- ☐ **SPRING 1987** Juan Gimenez's "Garbage"! Daniel Torres!
- ☐ **SUMMER 1987** 10th Anniversary issue
- ☐ **FALL 1988** Olivia on the cover! Crepax's "Valentina"!
- ☐ **MAY 1989** The women of planet Zara! Daniel Torres!
- ☐ **JULY 1989** "Dieter Lumpen"! Segura & Ortiz!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1989** Herkiberto! "Manuel Montano" !
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1989** Altuna! Dieter Lumpen! "Stan Croc"!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1990** Juan Gimenez! "Manuel Montano"!
- ☐ **MARCH 1990** Olivia cover! Moebius! Font's "Taxi"!
- ☐ **MAY 1990** Adamov's "The Waters of DeadMoon"
- ☐ **JULY 1990** H.R. Giger! Daniel Torres! Rick Geary!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1990** Harvey Kurtzman! Second installment of "The Waters of DeadMoon"
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1990** Frank Frazetta interview
- ☐ **JANUARY 1991** Mills & Bisley's "Slaine"

- ☐ **MARCH 1991** Segura & Ortiz! Miguel Prado!
- ☐ **MAY 1991** Daniel Torres! More "DeadMoon"!
- ☐ **JULY 1991** Schuiten Brothers! "Burton & Cyb"! Olivia!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1991** Gimenez! More "DeadMoon"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1991** "Adventures of Tristan Karma"
- ☐ **JANUARY 1992** Richard Corben! "Raoul Fleetfoot"!
- ☐ **MARCH 1992** "Foligatto"! "Morocco"! "The Jungle"!
- ☐ **MAY 1992** Crepax! Torres! "Mickey Mouse"!
- ☐ **JULY 1992** "Arzach"! Bisley! And more!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1992** Final "Dead Moon"! Corben!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1992** Serpieri's "Druuna"! Corben!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1993** "Druuna" Gallery! "Palomita"!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1993** Scott Hampton's "The Upturned Stone"! De Blas & Azpiri! "Little Ego"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1993** Schultheiss' "Network"! Altuna! Vince's epic, "Eden"!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1994** "Hombre"! Gelli & Tronchet's "Killer Death"!
- ☐ **MARCH 1994** Siro's "Master Volume"! Corben!
- ☐ **MAY 1994** Mezzo & Pirus' "The Disarmament"
- ☐ **JULY 1994** Font! "The Man Who Laughs!"
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1994** Adamov's "Dayak"! "White Trash"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1994** "Hord"! "Hombre"!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1995** "Teddy Bear"! , Corben! Suydam!
- ☐ **MARCH 1995** Olivia! "Hombre"! "Master Volume"!
- ☐ **MAY 1995** "Gypsy: The Wandering Star"!
- ☐ **JULY 1995** Jodorowsky' & Gimenez's "Meta-Barons"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1995** Manara! Giger! Corben!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1996** Frezzato! Segura & Ortiz!
- ☐ **MARCH 1996** Corben! Adamov's "Dayak"!
- ☐ **MAY 1996** Olivia cover! "Shadowslayer"!
- ☐ **JULY 1996** Azpiri! Boucq! De Felipe's "The Museum"!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1996** Manara! "Raul Fulgurex"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1996** Royo cover! Frezzato! "Burton & Cyb"!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1997** "Storm"! F.A.K.K.2 Gallery!
- ☐ **MARCH 1997** Frezzato's "The Second Moon"! Azpiri!
- ☐ **MAY 1997** "Teddy Bear II! Olivia cover! Schultheiss!
- ☐ **JULY 1997** "Gullivera" by Manara! Ranx returns!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1997** Druuna returns in "Aphrodisia"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1997** Gypsy: Siberian Fires! (uncensored version for Canadian readers)
- ☐ **JANUARY 1998** Bettie Page Interview! Bilal! Caza!
- ☐ **MARCH 1998** Black Deker: Yellow Moon! Bisley cover!
- ☐ **MAY 1998** Death By Betrayal! Segura & Ortiz!
- ☐ **JULY 1998** Bisley cover! Manara novel! Azpiri! Pahek!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1998** Lorna novel by Azpiri! Royo cover!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1998** Dayak 3 by Adamov! Risso! O'Groj!
- ☐ **JANUARY 1999** Richard Corben! Simon Coldwater by Simon Bisley! Sha - The Shadow One! Royo cover!
- ☐ **MARCH 1999** Storm returns! Manara! Caza! Corben!
- ☐ **MAY 1999** Royo cover! Caza! Boucq! "Sex Police"!
- ☐ **JULY 1999** "Eye of the Sea" by Frezzato- 3rd novel in The Keeper of the Maser series! Gimenez! Pahek! Corben!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1999** "The Oath In Amber #2"! Caza! Cover and Gallery on Aboy! "Choose Your Game" - Part 2!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1999** "The Demon Within"! Caza! Gimenez!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2000** Luis Royo Interview! "The Relic" by Azpiri! A graphic novel from Caza - "Chronicles Of The Fixed Earth"!
- ☐ **MARCH 2000** Brothers Hildebrandt cover! Gallery on Stacy E. Walker! "They're Only Memories" by Azpiri! Sha # 2 "Soul Wound"!

- ☐ **MAY 2000** Gypsy #3 - "The Day Of The Czar"! "The Commitment" by Azpiri! Cromwell! Trillo!
- ☐ **JULY 2000** Bisley cover! Stan & Vince! Gimenez!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2000** The end of the "Teddy Bear" series!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2000** Royo cover! Altuna! "The Keepers of the Maser 4 - The Iron Tower"!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2001** Caza! Boucq! Gimenez! Vega's, "The Air"!
- ☐ **MARCH 2001** The final graphic novel in the "Sha" series! Simon Bisley Cover
- ☐ **MAY 2001** Druuna is back in "The Forgotten Planet" by Serpieri! Liberatore! "Fistfull of Blood" by Simon Bisley and Kevin Eastman!
- ☐ **JULY 2001** Featuring the Graphic novel "24 Hour Man"! Boris Vallejo Cover! "Fistfull of Blood" continues by Simon Bisley and Kevin Eastman!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2001** Gypsy 4 - "Black Eyes"! Bisley! Gimenez! Trillo!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2001** "Yui - In Hell"! Pahek! Bisley! DeFelice!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2002** Stan & Vince return with a new graphic novel, "The Bomb" Chichoni cover!
- ☐ **MARCH 2002** Lorna returns in the new graphic novel, "The Ark" by Azpiri. Royo cover! Boucq! Pahek!
- ☐ **MAY 2002** Stan & Vince! "Snake"! "Fistful of Blood"! "Choose Your Game"!
- ☐ **JULY 2002** "The Spell of the Rhunes" by Pradier & Plumail! Trillo! Giorello!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2002** Gypsy returns in "The White Wing"! "Fistful of Blood"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2002** Featuring the Graphic Novel, "Yu-My Promise to You"! Cover by Julie Bell!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2003** Azpiri returns with "Wet Dreams #2"! Alex Horley Cover! The final installment of "Fistful of Blood"!
- ☐ **MARCH 2003** Featuring Requiem - Resurrection by Pat Mills!
- ☐ **MAY 2003** #5 in Mazer series - Frezzato's Edge of the World!
- ☐ **JULY 2003** Gimenez, Phek & Graphic Novel "Dreams of Blood"!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2003** Graphic novel "The Regulator - Ambrosia" Plus Interview on Frazzeta
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2003** Druuna is back in the graphic novel, "Clone"! Alex Horley cover!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2004** Gypsy returns in "The Aztec Laugh"! Simon Bisley cover!
- ☐ **MARCH 2004** "Requiem #2" by Mills and Ledroit! Jim Burns cover!
- ☐ **MAY 2004** "Magika #2 - The Fiery Verses"! Lorenzo Sperlonga cover!
- ☐ **JULY 2004** "Yiu #3 - Assassaints"! "Demon Winds #2" by Azpiri!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2004** "Regulator #2 - Hestia"! "Demon Wind #3" by Azpiri! Royo cover!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2004** Featuring the graphic novel, "The Mark of the Devil: The Scarlet Epic".
- ☐ **JANUARY 2005** "Requiem #3 - Dracula"! Mudwogs by Arthur Suydam!
- ☐ **MARCH 2005** "Borgia" by Jodorowsky & Manara. "Mudwogs #2" by Arthur Suydam!
- ☐ **MAY 2005** "Mudwogs #3" by Arthur Suydam! Stories from Cardoselli, Royo, Ciampi and more! Alex Horley cover!
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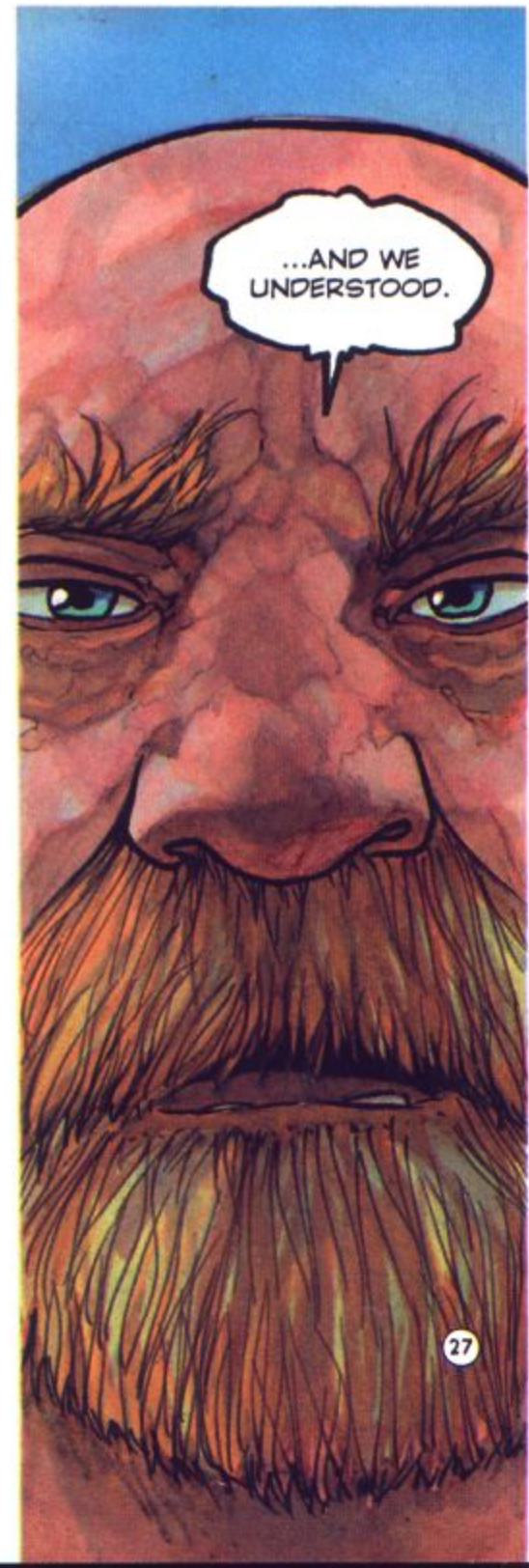
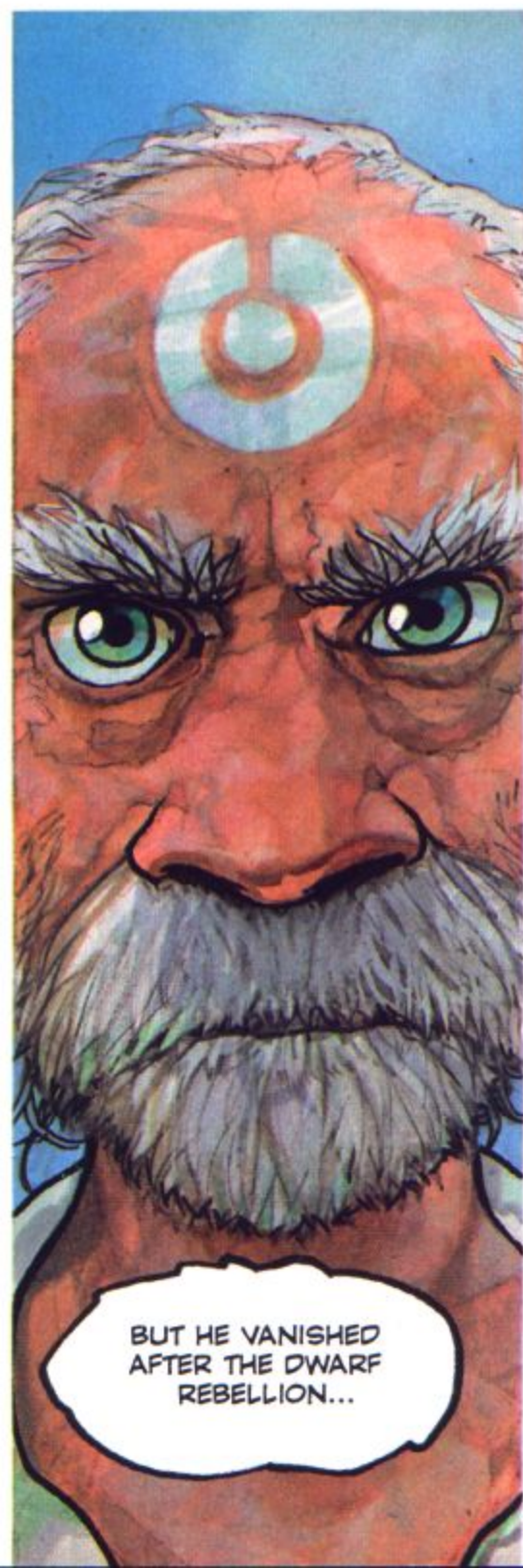
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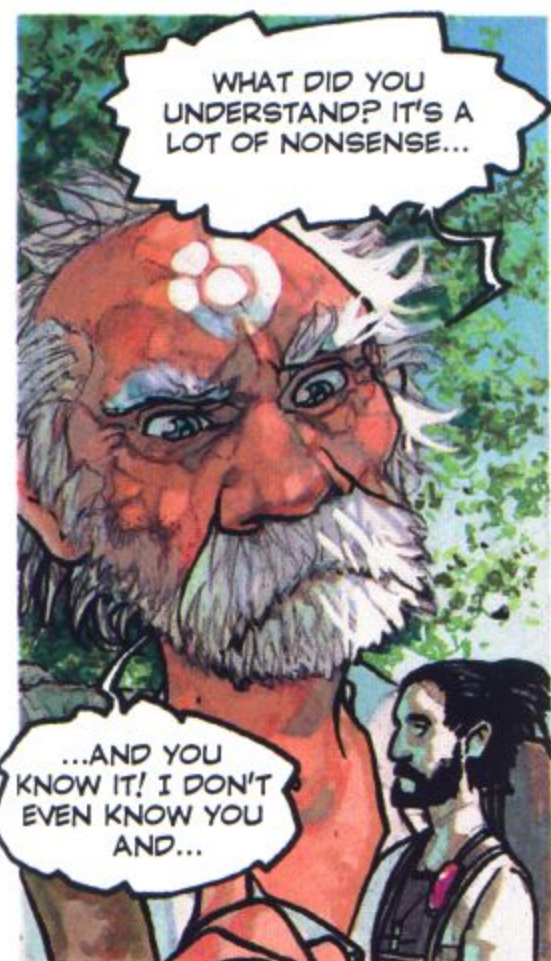
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WHAT DID YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S A LOT OF NONSENSE...

...AND YOU KNOW IT! I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU AND...



CALM DOWN, MASTER! YOU HAVE SIMPLY LOST YOUR MEMORY...

NO, I HAVEN'T! LOOK, I DON'T EVEN BELIEVE THIS FEZY GUY EVER EXISTED.



DON'T GET UPSET, MASTER! YOU MUST TRY TO REMEMBER...

REMEMBER WHAT? AND STOP CALLING ME MASTER...

Oh, PLEASE DON'T FIGHT!



MASTER FEZY, WE'RE PINNING OUR LAST HOPES ON YOU. PLEASE STAY CALM AND EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

WH... WHAT?



WE MUST ACCESS THE INFORMATION THAT IS BURIED IN YOUR MEMORY.

...MAIA...



THERE! YOU SEE, YOU'RE STARTING TO REMEMBER ALREADY! MAIA WAS YOUR WIFE'S NAME.



UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, THE ONLY WAY OF REACTIVATING YOUR MEMORY IS WITH MY SWORD...



...I'M TRULY SORRY!

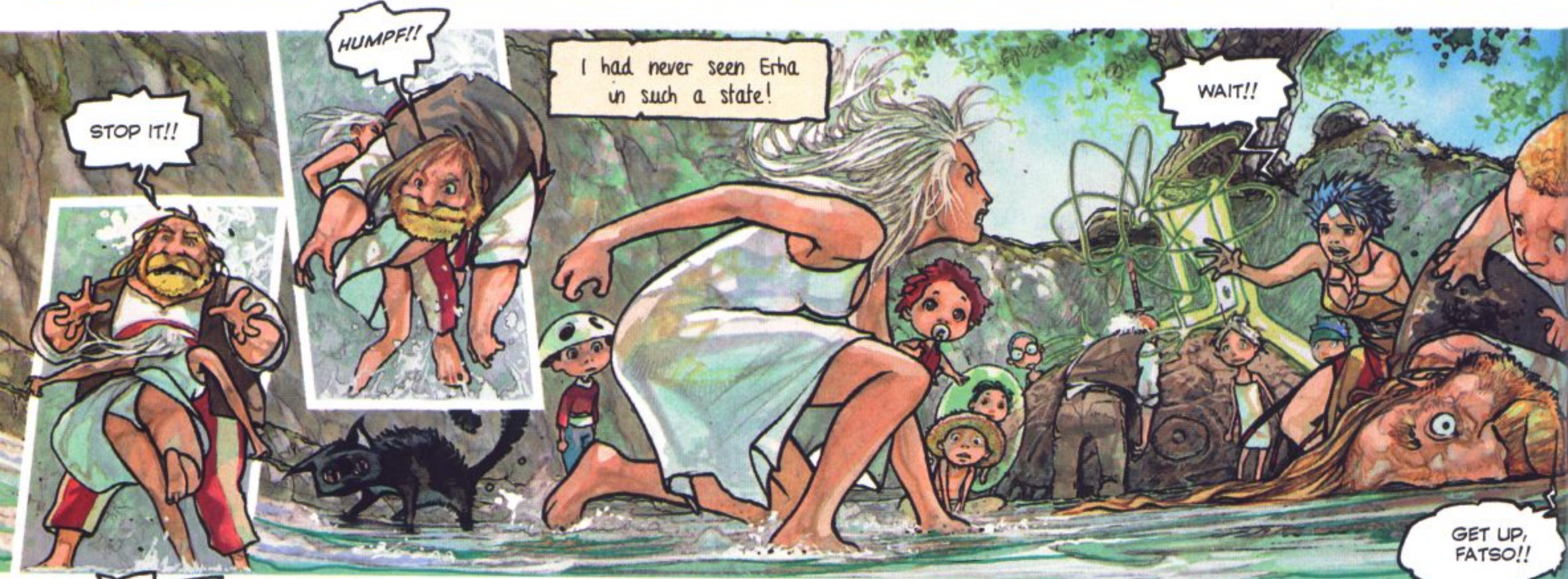
ZWACH!!

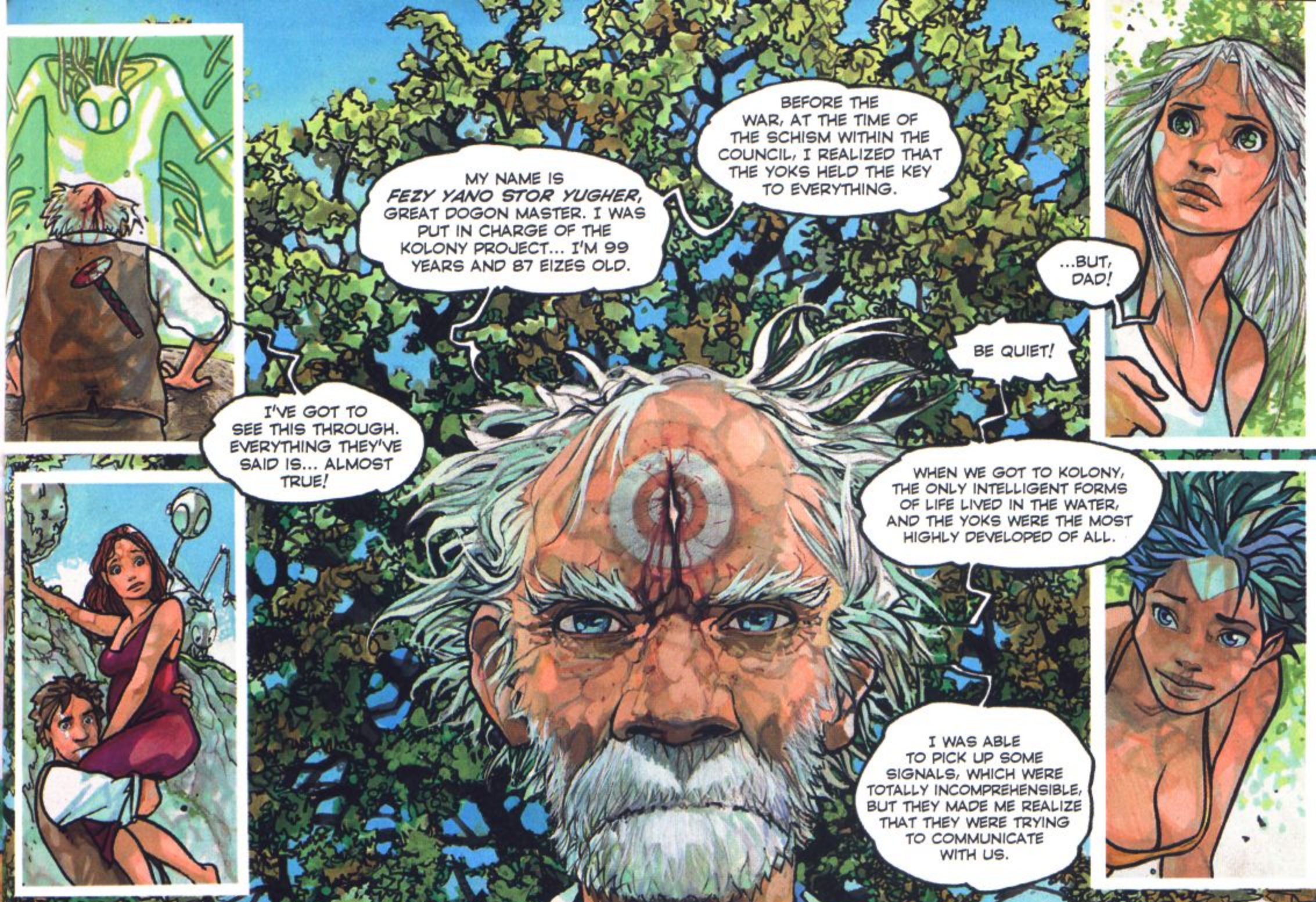


We had a hard time believing what we were seeing...

WAS THAT REALLY NECESSARY?

AND WILL IT WORK?





MY NAME IS FEZY YANO STOR YUGHER, GREAT DOGON MASTER. I WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF THE KOLONY PROJECT... I'M 99 YEARS AND 87 EIZES OLD.

BEFORE THE WAR, AT THE TIME OF THE SCHISM WITHIN THE COUNCIL, I REALIZED THAT THE YOKS HELD THE KEY TO EVERYTHING.

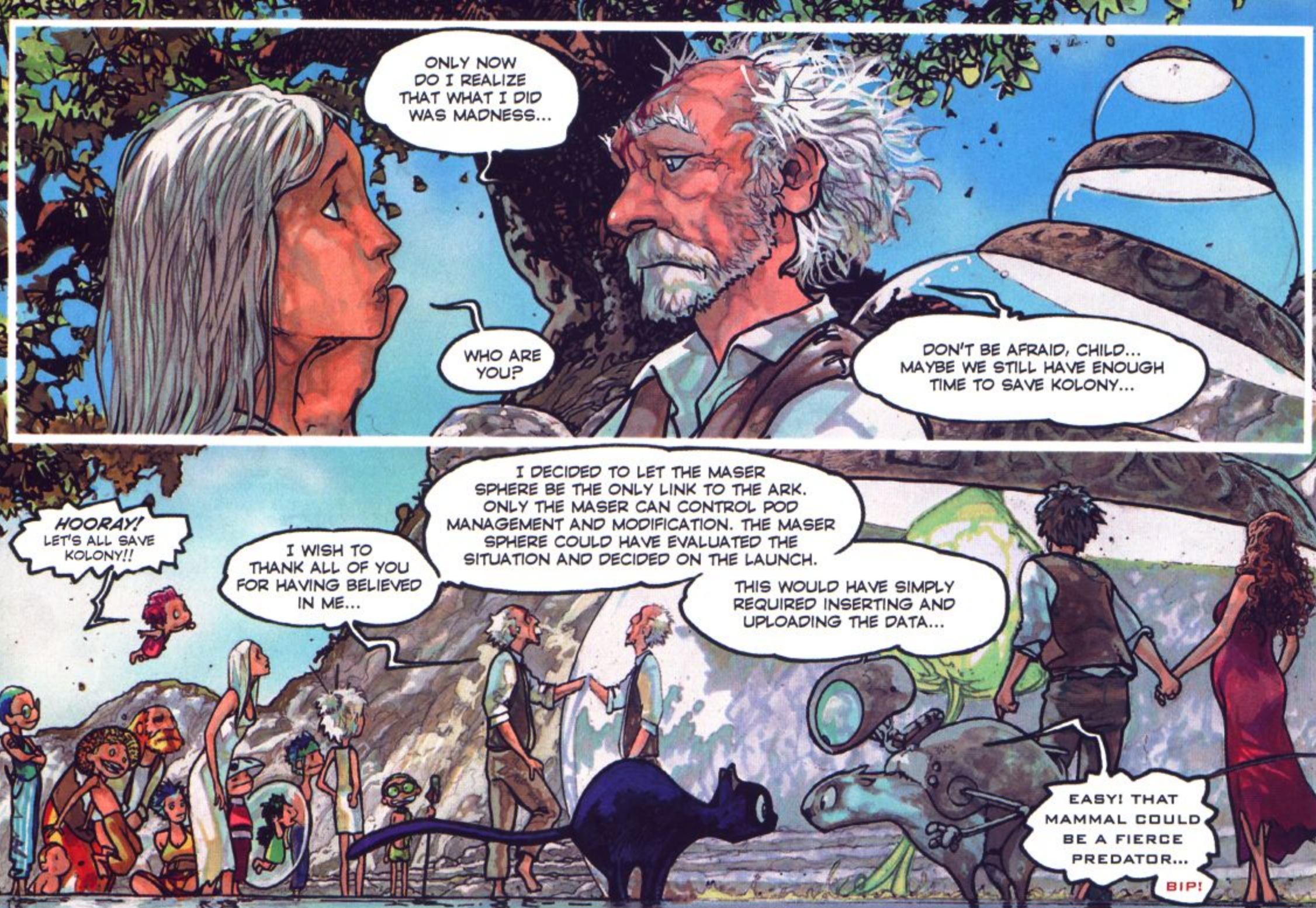
...BUT, DAD!

BE QUIET!

WHEN WE GOT TO KOLONY, THE ONLY INTELLIGENT FORMS OF LIFE LIVED IN THE WATER, AND THE YOKS WERE THE MOST HIGHLY DEVELOPED OF ALL.

I WAS ABLE TO PICK UP SOME SIGNALS, WHICH WERE TOTALLY INCOMPREHENSIBLE, BUT THEY MADE ME REALIZE THAT THEY WERE TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH US.

I'VE GOT TO SEE THIS THROUGH. EVERYTHING THEY'VE SAID IS... ALMOST TRUE!



ONLY NOW DO I REALIZE THAT WHAT I DID WAS MADNESS...

WHO ARE YOU?

DON'T BE AFRAID, CHILD... MAYBE WE STILL HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO SAVE KOLONY...

HOORAY! LET'S ALL SAVE KOLONY!!

I WISH TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR HAVING BELIEVED IN ME...

I DECIDED TO LET THE MASER SPHERE BE THE ONLY LINK TO THE ARK. ONLY THE MASER CAN CONTROL POD MANAGEMENT AND MODIFICATION. THE MASER SPHERE COULD HAVE EVALUATED THE SITUATION AND DECIDED ON THE LAUNCH.

THIS WOULD HAVE SIMPLY REQUIRED INSERTING AND UPLOADING THE DATA...

EASY! THAT MAMMAL COULD BE A FIERCE PREDATOR... BIP!



I WAS SURE THAT WITH THEIR HELP WE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ADAPT TO THE PLANET. IF WE'D ALLOWED THE SPECIES THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN BIO-INSERTED TO REPRODUCE, DEVELOP AND ADAPT TO THE NEW ENVIRONMENT...

...WE WOULD HAVE POSSESSED THE GENETIC KEY THAT WOULD HAVE ENABLED US TO MODIFY THE SPECIES THAT WERE STILL IN ORBIT.

BUT MY THEORY WAS PERVERTED AND USED TO JUSTIFY MAD EXPERIMENTS.

I COULDN'T ALLOW IT.

SO I STOPPED THE POD BIO-INTRODUCTION PROGRAM AND I PUT AN END TO ALL COMMUNICATION WITH THE ORBITING SPHERE.

THE BUBBLE IS ABOUT TO BURST.

OHH!!



I WAS AT THE OTHER END OF THE PLANET AND SEPARATED BOTH FROM THE SPHERE AND THE SYMBOL.

BUT SOMETHING WENT WRONG, AND I LOST MY MEMORY...

TODAY, WE ARE GOING TO ACTIVATE THE TWO SPHERES AND MAYBE WE CAN EVEN TRY TO SCATTER ALL THE PODS OVER KOLONY AT ONCE.

KEEPERS, COUNSELORS! PLEASE, COME WITH ME!

WE WILL NOW PROCEED WITH THE ANALYSIS OF THE TRUE DATA...

THE REST OF YOU, DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING!

IS THAT CLEAR, FANGOP

THE FILTRATING MEMBRANE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THIS...

BUT, MASTER, THE INSTRUMENTS AREN'T IN WORKING ORDER!

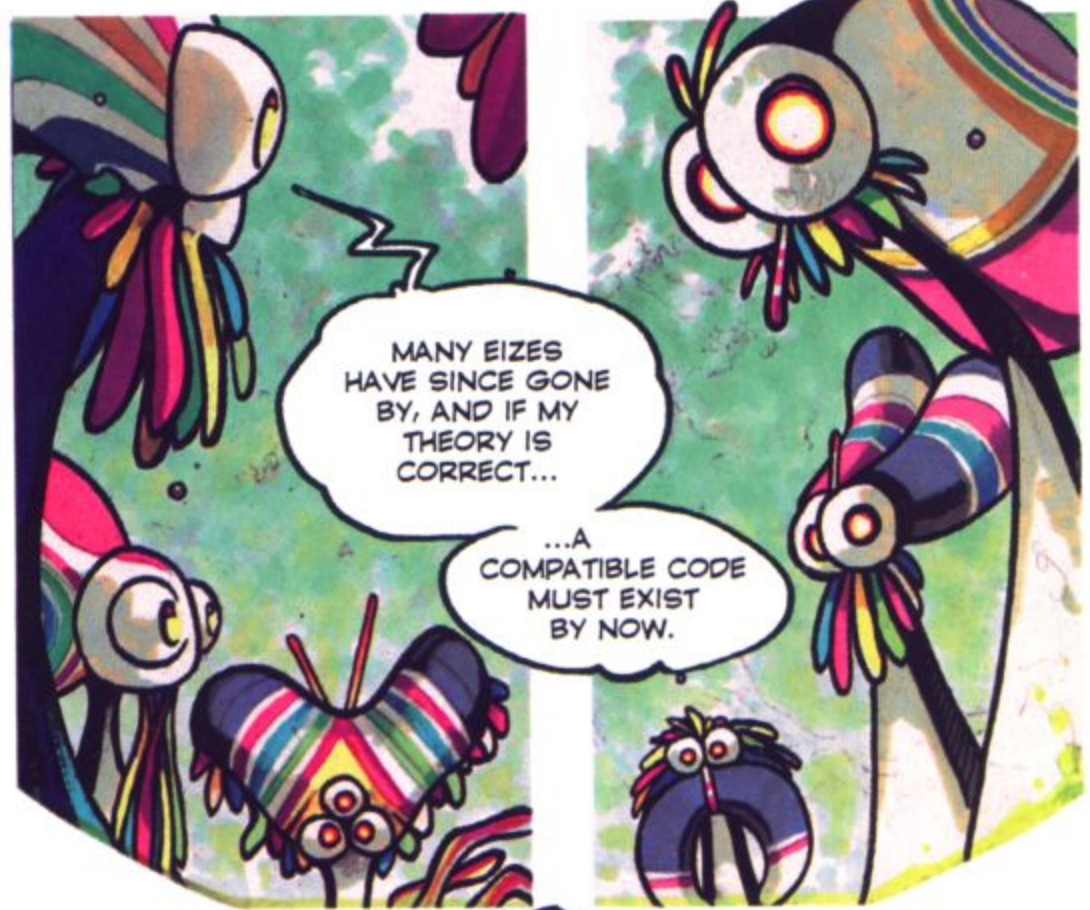
I didn't know if it was Zerit who was speaking or...



THE UPLOADING HAS BEGUN.



LOOK, TYTA! AREN'T THEY FUNNY? THEY LOOK LIKE BIG LUMPS OF CANDY...



MANY EIZES HAVE SINCE GONE BY, AND IF MY THEORY IS CORRECT...

...A COMPATIBLE CODE MUST EXIST BY NOW.



WHAT!? MY TYTA?! SHE'S LIGHTING UP!!



HEY, THE SPHERE IS ANALYZING THE GIRLS!

BIP!

...A FERTILE WOMAN'S DNA...

...A WOMAN, BORN ON THIS PLANET? WHY, SURE!

THE INNER BUBBLE IS FULL OF DEBRIS!

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, MASTER?

...WE DON'T HAVE THE NECESSARY TOOLS...

...WE COULD TRY...

...FUSING THE PROTEIN CHAINS...

...OR IF WE MAKE THE CHIMERA...

HEY, YOU!

...BUBBLE-CLEANING LICE...

...HAND-MADE ATOMIC BLENDER...



HEY, YOU JOKERS! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY TYTA!?



BE QUIET! THERE HAS TO BE A WAY...



MY DEARS, THIS IS OF MUCH GREATER IMPORTANCE THAN ANY OF US.



I couldn't understand why he kept ignoring me...

THAT'S ENOUGH, OLD MAN! YOU CAN'T ALWAYS DO AS YOU PLEASE!



But, I knew that Tyta was in danger...

I went in...



NO! STOP, FANGO!



I don't know what would have happened if I hadn't.



DON'T TOUCH MY TYTA!!

Maybe she would really have been sacrificed.



Darkness descended...



I could feel the earth trembling...



DAMN IT!



THE SPHERE'S ANTIBODY HAS BEEN ACTIVATED...



HELP!



...THE ANTIBODY IS ABSORBING FANGO TO MATERIALIZE...



MARA! ORO! REMOVE YOUR MASKS AND HELP ME OUT WITH THIS!!

THE REST OF YOU, STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

WE MUSTN'T LOSE CONTROL OF THE SPHERE.



The sky turned black, the water whirled and churned...

...taking everything in its wake.

A deafening wind swept overhead.



An intruder had caused the sphere to explode.

And I was the intruder.



The entire memory of all humankind flowed through me.

It could seem that a battle was raging, fought between gods.

But we were no gods...

...and the battle was being fought between the best and the worst within us.



In the village, the light water poured down, and the sky darkened.

ME TOO!
ME TOO!



For the superstitious Egos these events augured no good.

I'VE BEEN GOOD!!

I'VE BEEN GOOD!!



The antibody took over, controlling me like a puppet on a string.

I didn't realize that Tyla was in danger...

I didn't see her hanging over the precipice.



I didn't see that the inner bubble...

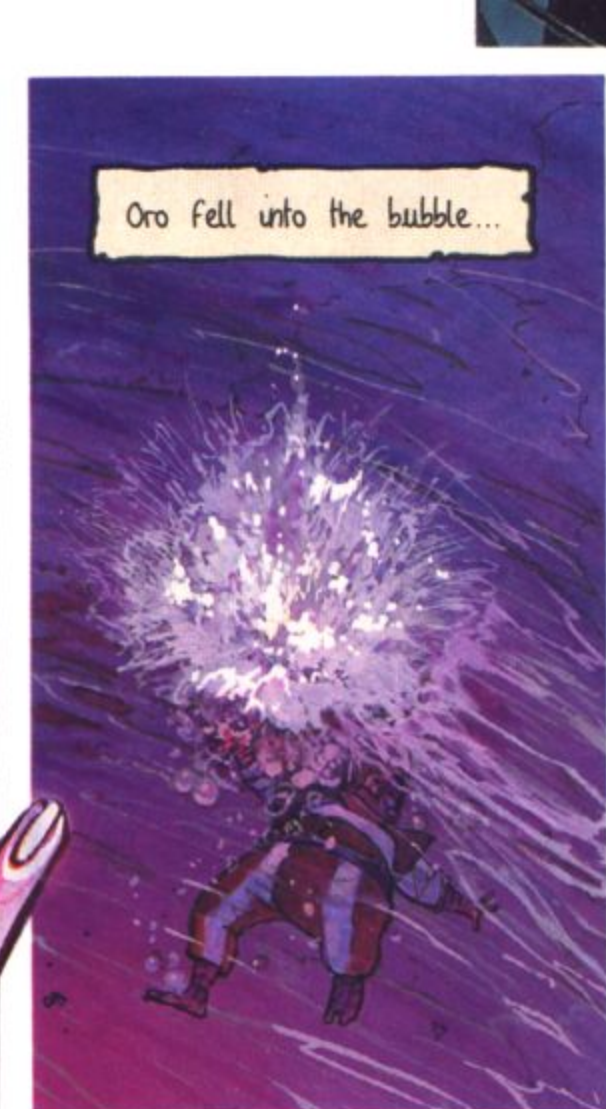
...was surfacing in the swirling maelstrom beneath us...

I didn't see Tusar, Succo, or the dwarves' bodies dissolve in the boiling, lethal waters.



I couldn't see that the antibody was fighting for the survival of an entire species...

...and the life of one human being meant nothing.



She screamed.

And her painful
shriek froze time.

...fighting over the
same trophy.

THE TIME
HAS COME!
YOU OR YOUR
SISTER,
YOU MUST
CHOOSE !

It brought me back
to my senses...

LET HER
GO!

HOLD TIGHT!
DON'T FALL!

YOU
KNOW, TO
GO UP YOU
MUST FIRST
COME
DOWN...

...in an absurd
dance.

We were two
unplacable
adversaries...

ERHA



We all struggled to overcome our individual demons, and we all fought against our one common fear...



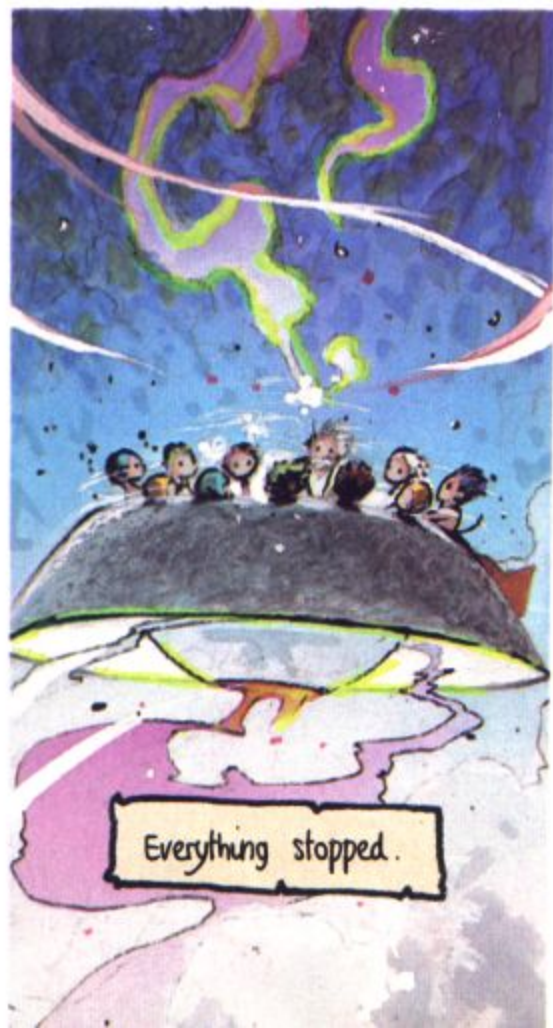
...the fear of what is yet unknown...



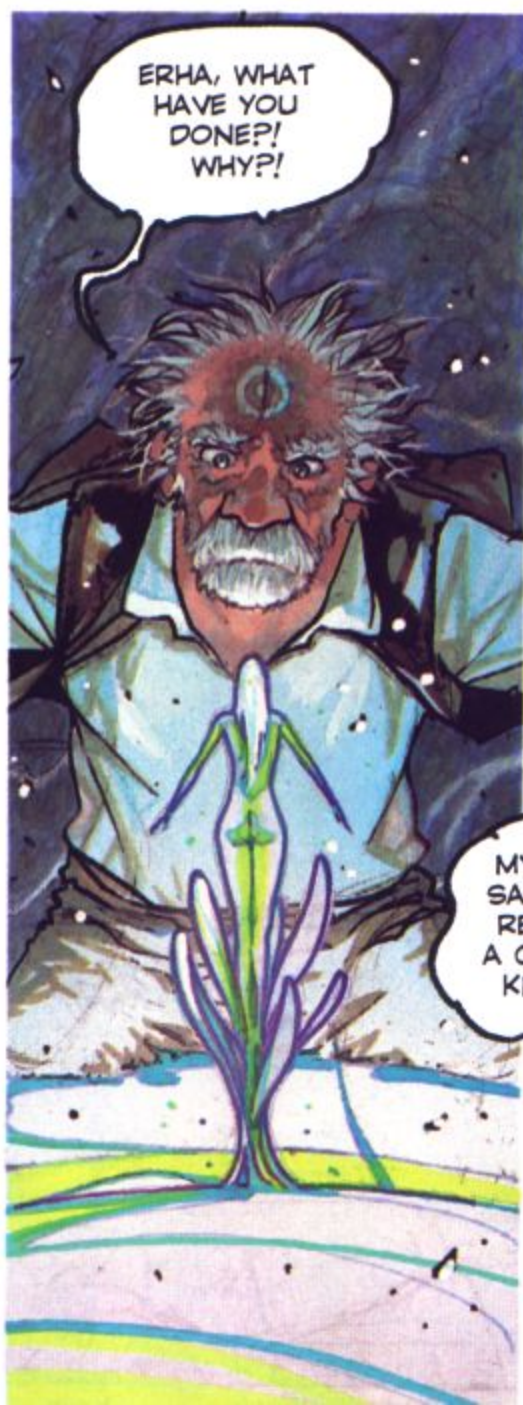
...fear of the next decision...



...and of its outcome.



Everything stopped.



ERHA, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?! WHY?!



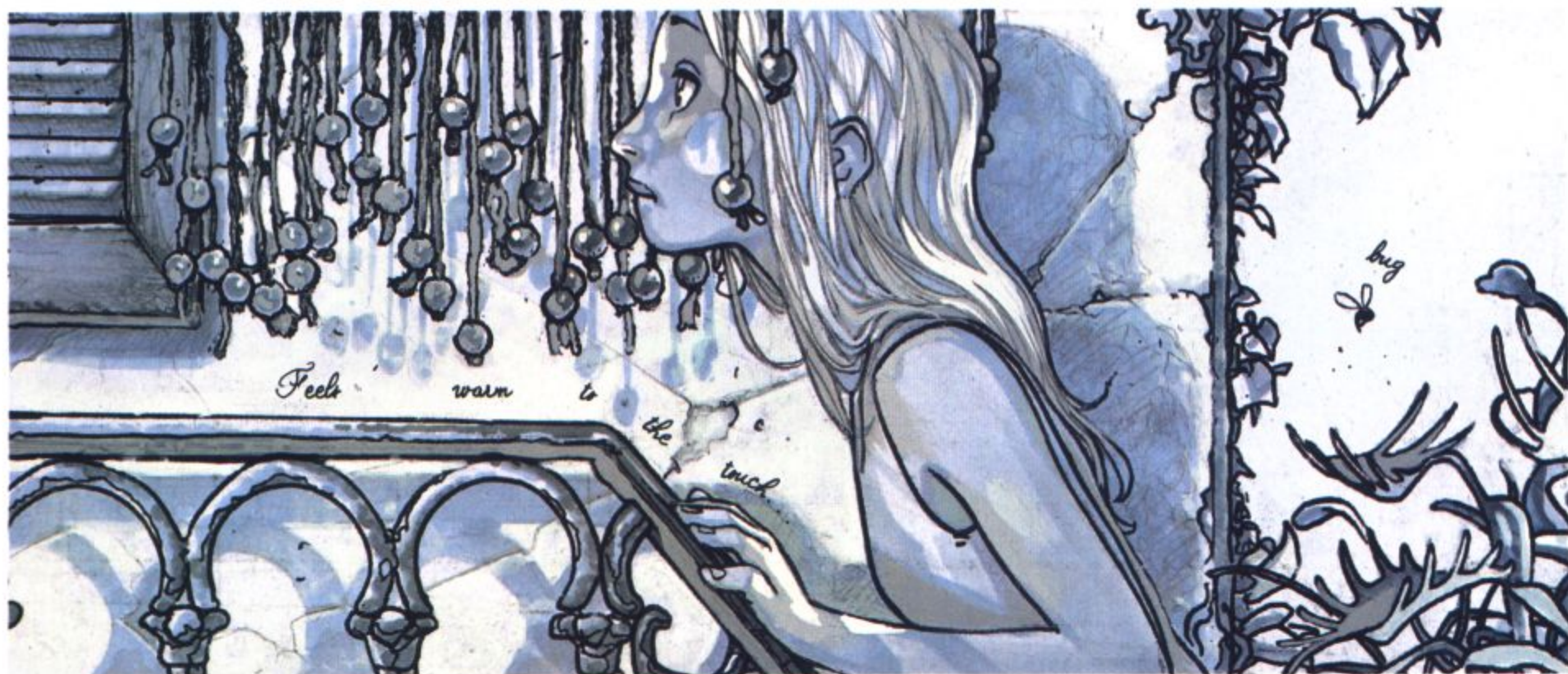
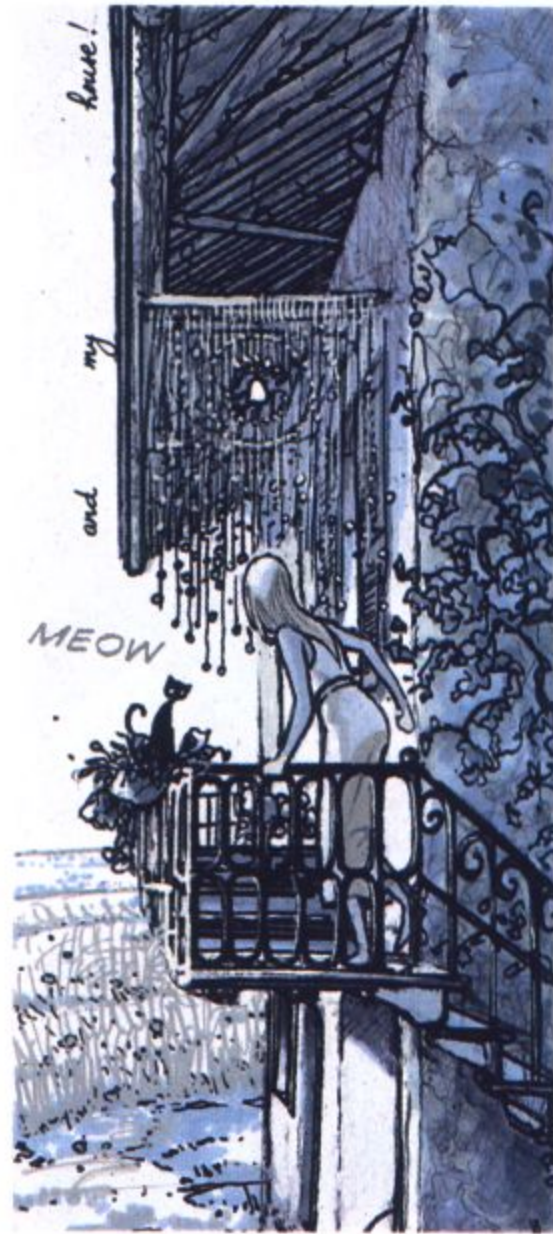
MY SISTER IS SAFE. I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE A CHOICE, YOU KNOW THAT.

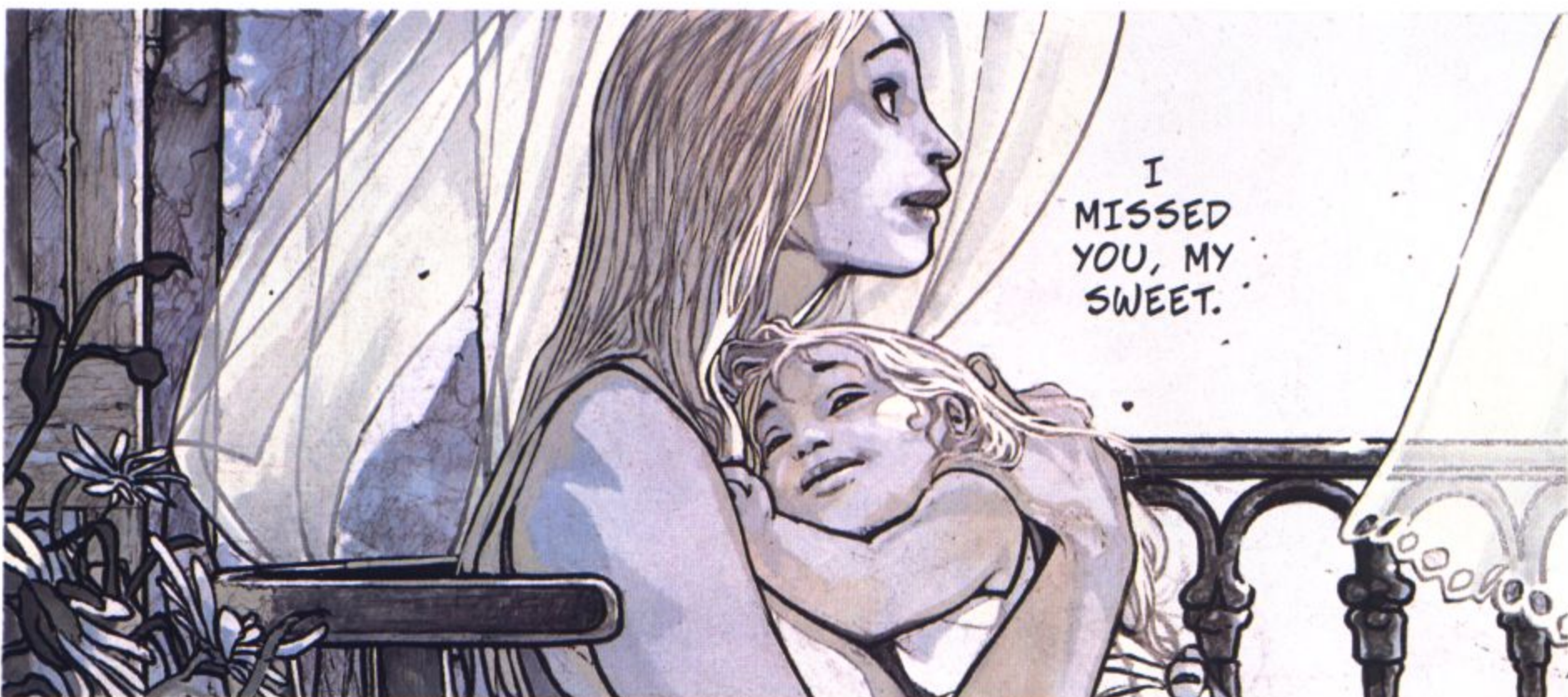
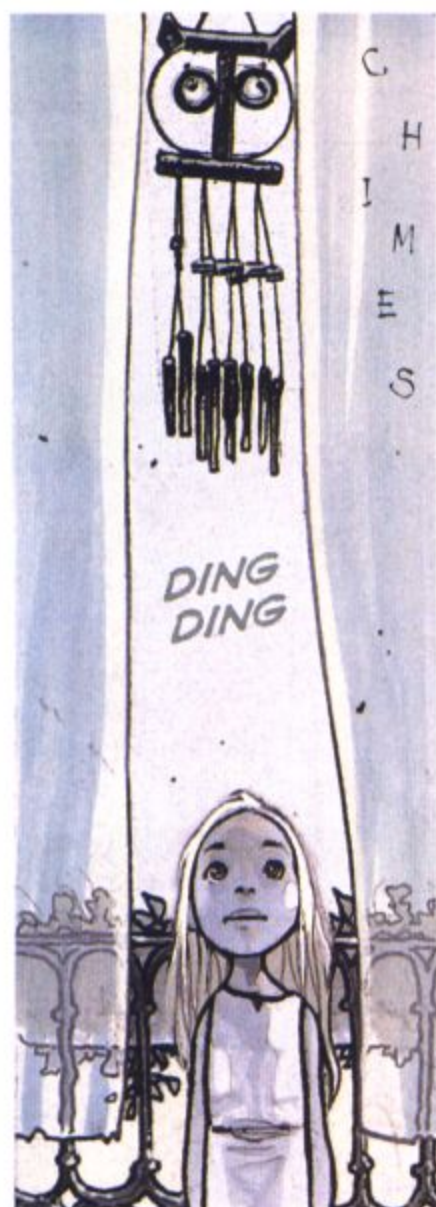


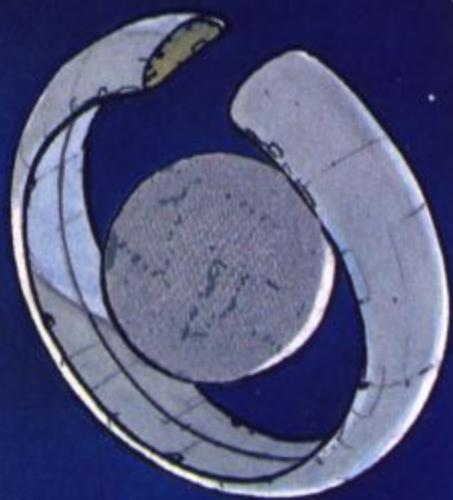
YOU MUSTN'T BLAME YOURSELF FOR ANYTHING.

FROM NOW ON, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE...

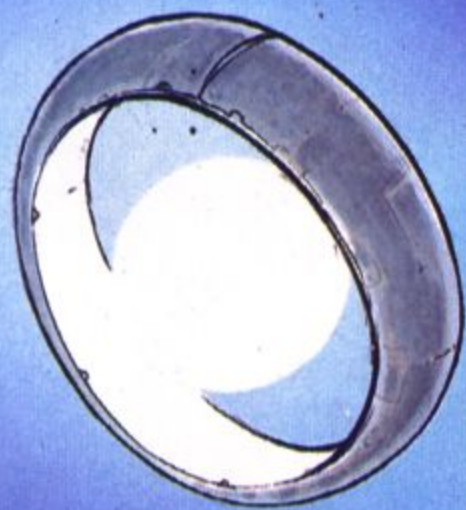
The wounded tower glowed in the moonlight...







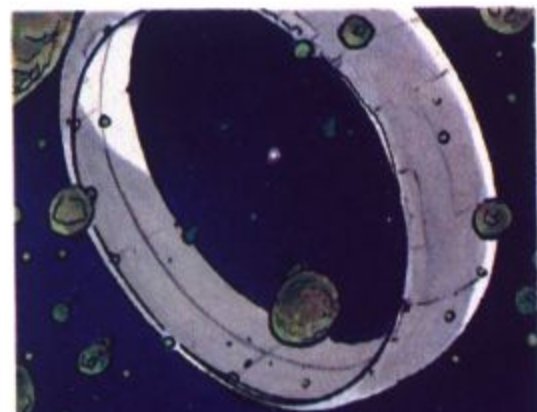
The ring closed tight...



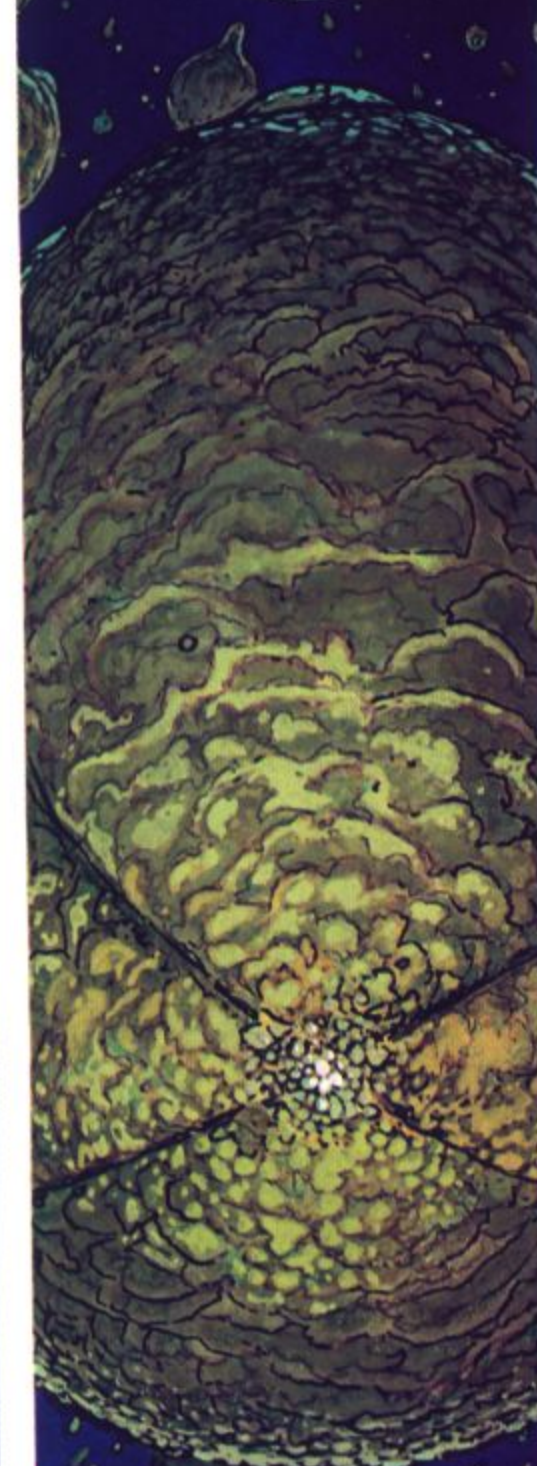
Night became white...



And in one fell swoop...



...the Ark released
the pods.



They blossomed like flowers
Before falling in showers.



For some,
this was the end...

...as is so sadly
remembered.

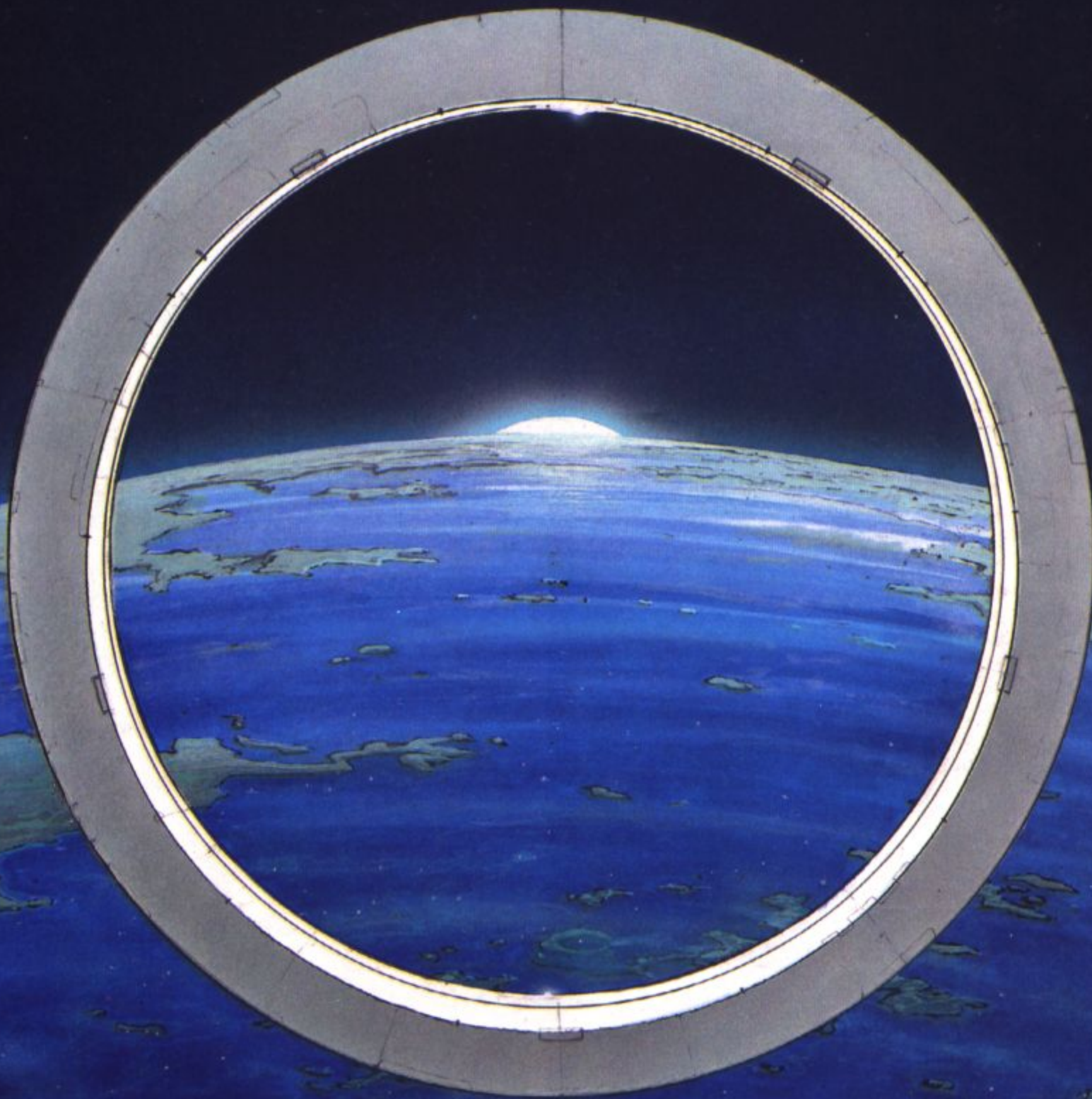


For others,
it was the start of hope
that had so long been
denied us.



EVERYTHING
IS AS WAS
PLANNED...

But no one will ever forget
the eventful night when life
returned to Kolony.



And thus ends our epic.

MASSIMILIANO FREZZATO 2015



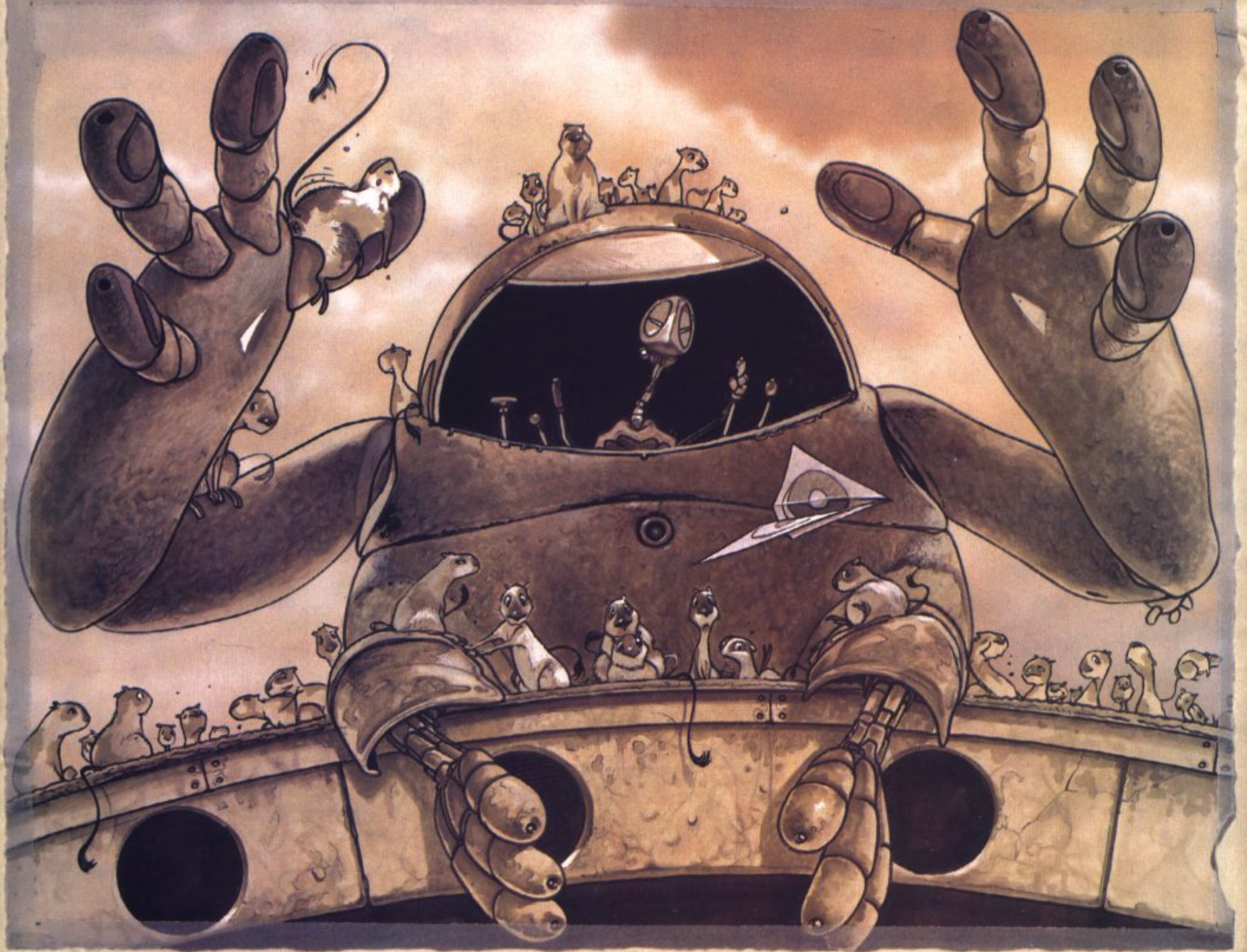
Everyone helped displace the Tower to the place where it had originally stood, on the Isle of Dwarves. Here, Ivolina gathered together what was left of her little people. Kreepo imagined a series of bloody battles that had never taken place, and became the Bard of the dwarves, setting their exploits to music. Granny Tenia adopted Khoz as her grandson, and he ran all her errands for her. The dwarves and the Egos finally learned to live together, even though at first they fought over the dwarf women, since there are no female Egos.



Vyon and Quix-Ylvy left on board the Searcher, to study the migratory patterns of the Yoks. For many years, they made excellent ambassadors between the Yoks and the settlers. They had many children and lived happily ever after.



Dumb Dumb stayed in the village with his Himmortalis children and Mara-Khamay. Together they created the first school and the first playground for the settlers' children.



Ciro was given a body all of his own. His task was to supervise the sewer rats from the top of the dwarves' Tower.

Once in a while, the Chosen One could be heard spouting mystical messages from the top of the Tower, but no one has ever seen him since.



Danheel became a zoologist and participated actively in the program for the Harmonious Reinsertion of Earthly Species, which was coordinated by her grandfather Zerit. She lived happily with her fauna under the abandoned submarine.



He continued to call himself Zerit.
After the accident he lost the use of his legs and refused to have them replaced.
He moved to live on the Blimps and dedicated his life to cultivating exotic plants.



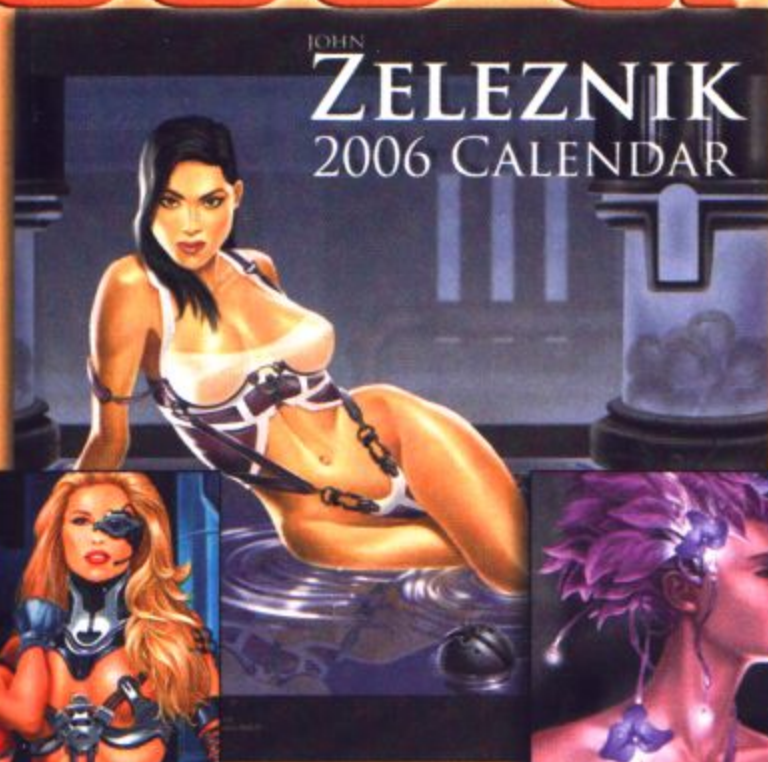
Tyta and I returned to my island. Our children, Reha and Rhokko, grew up there. The absorption of all of human memory did not really clarify my thoughts. After the accident, I became much less talkative - but no one around me seemed to complain.

Many Eizes have since gone by. I am old now and have discarded my foolish, youthful ways. My children are busy discovering the world around them. They are strong and healthy, as their own children will be some day.

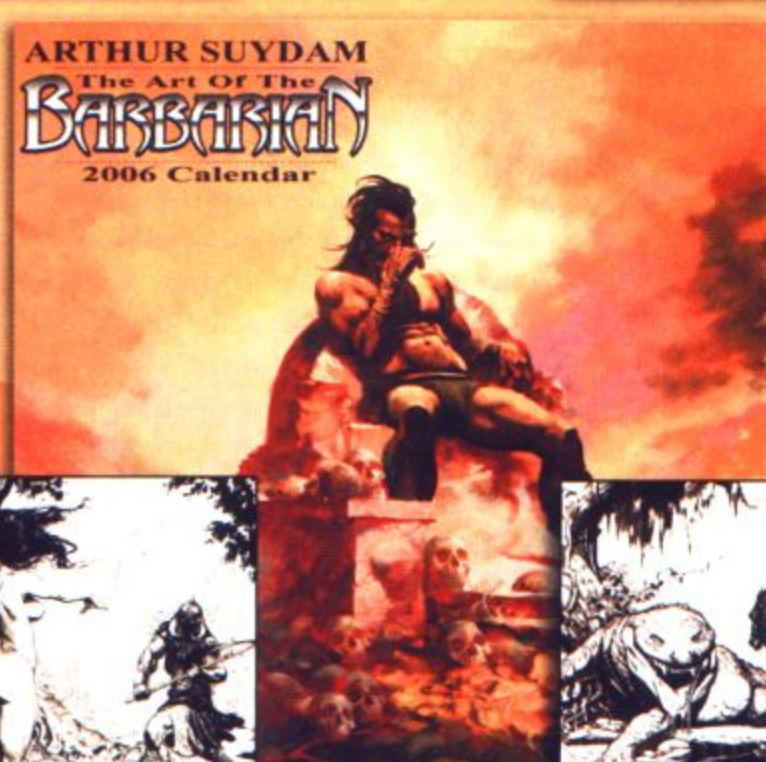
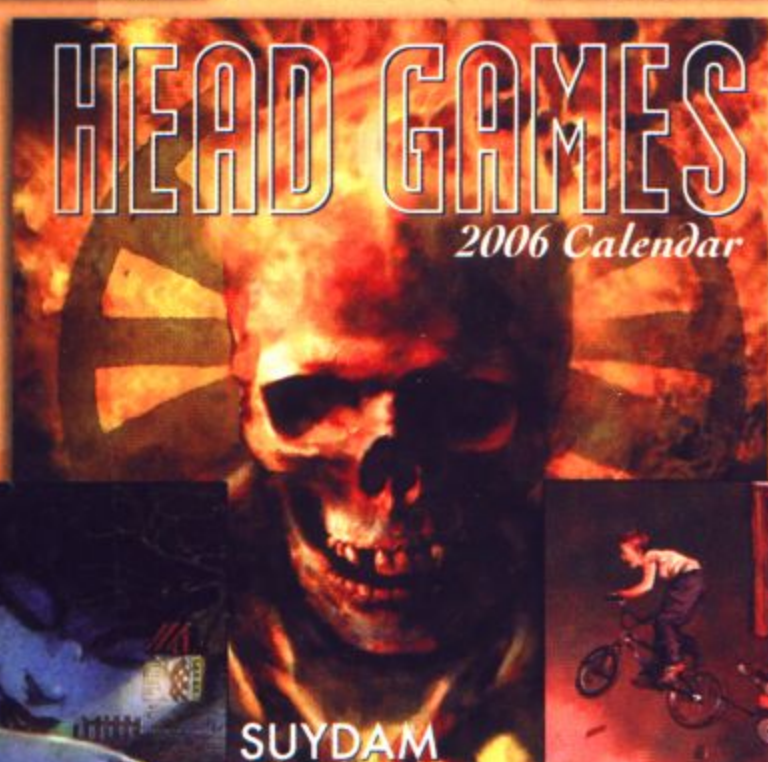
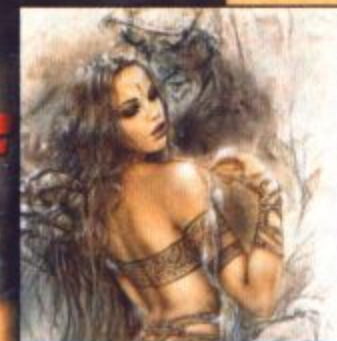
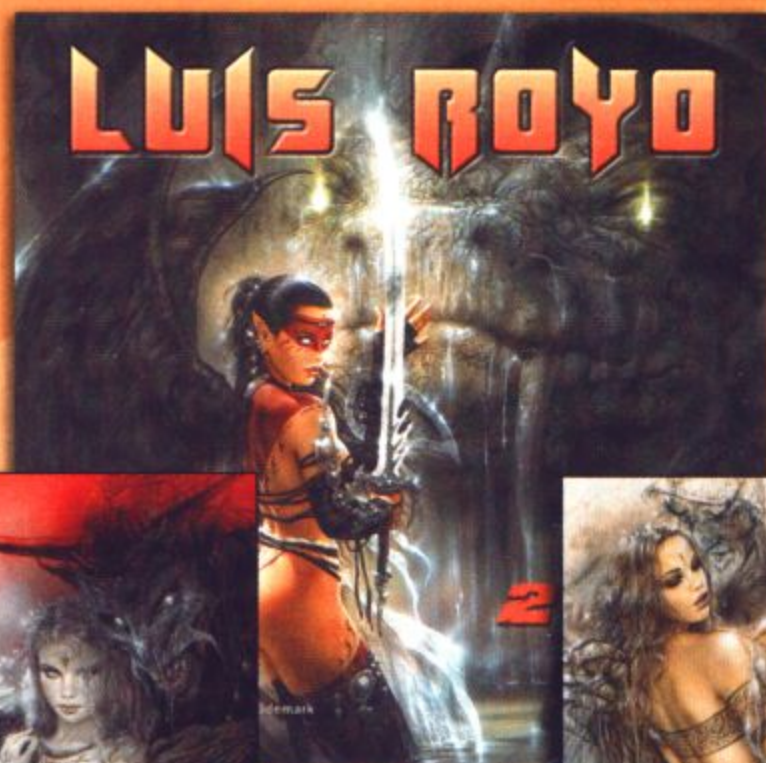
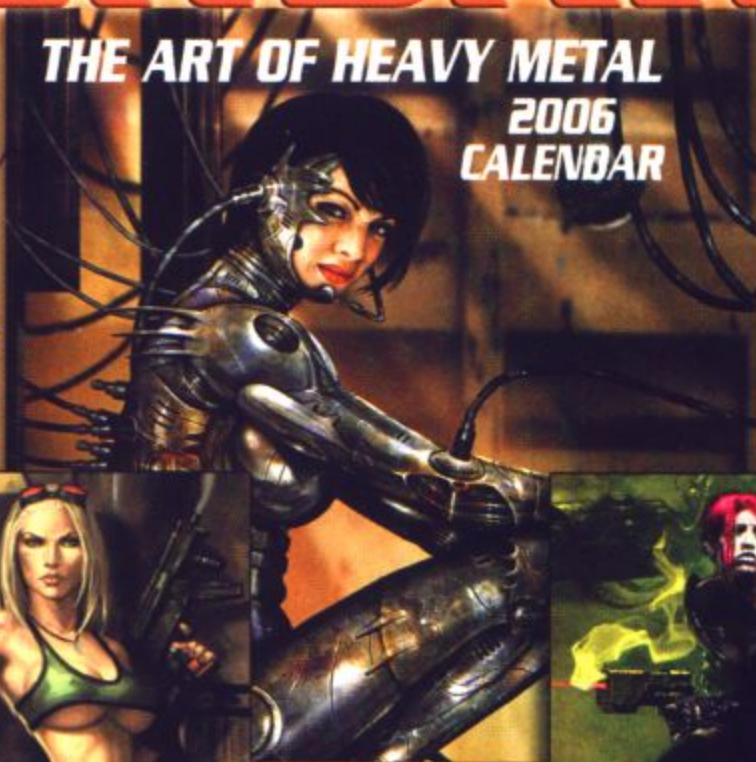
This portrait, which even I consider to be a striking resemblance, had been slipped under my door, the day that Ciro vanished.



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