

# SHINRA








AWW, LOOK AT HIM... LITTLE WITCHBLADE. AIN'T HE CLUTE? YEAH.... THAT'S A HE


AND THESE ARE HIS PARENTS

HIS DAD...THE DARKNESS. PHYSICAL EMBODIMENT OF THE... WELL... DARKNESS.

AND THIS IS THE LITTLE FELLAH'S MOM. ANGELLIS, PHYSICAL EMBODIMENT OF LIGHT



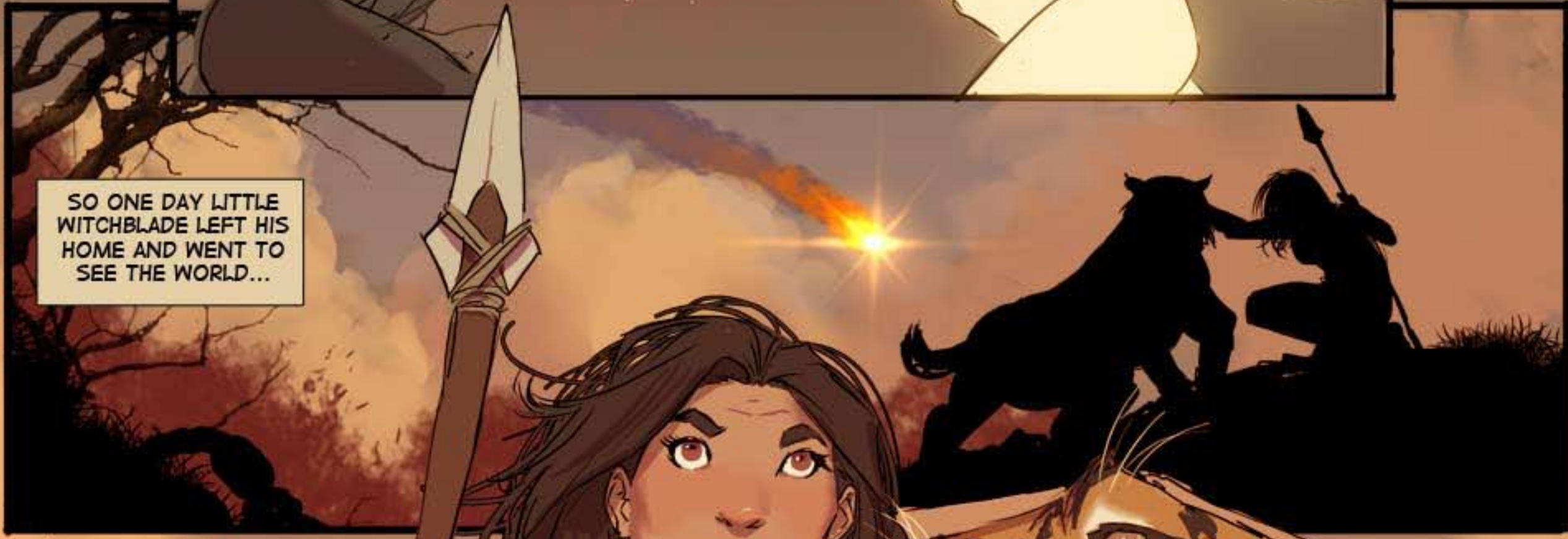
SO...UM, YEAH....



MOM AND DAD DIDN'T REALLY GET ALONG



IT WAS... A DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY TO SAY THE LEAST.



SO ONE DAY LITTLE WITCHBLADE LEFT HIS HOME AND WENT TO SEE THE WORLD...

AND, TO FIND SOME FRIENDS





AHEM...

POKE



SO THIS IS UNA.

WHAT CAN I SAY ABOUT UNA...

SHE IS KIND

STRONG

LOYAL

POKE  
POKE



BRAVE...



OKAY... SO SHE IS A CAVEWOMAN

SNIFF  
SMIFF



AND SHE WAS...



THE FIRST

NOW, PAST THIS POINT THINGS GO EERILY SIMILAR FOR BEARERS THERE'S SHOCK...

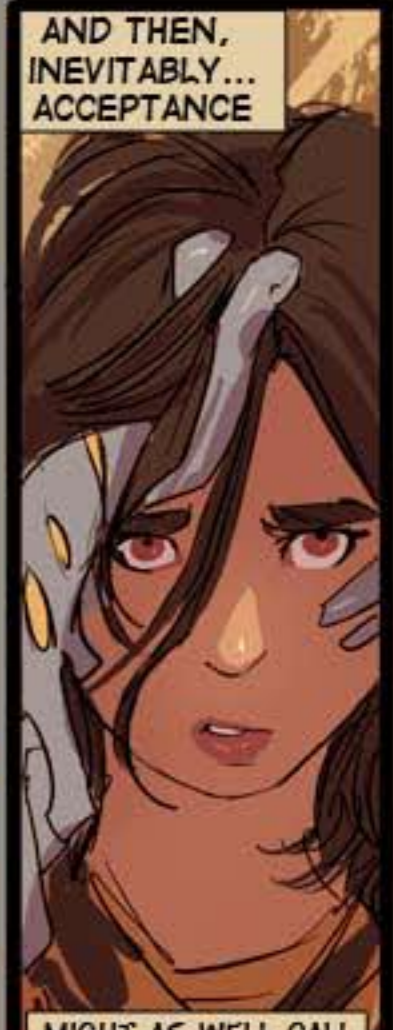


FEAR

THAT GROWS INTO ALL OUT PANIC



THEN WE TRY RESISTANCE



AND THEN, INEVITABLY... ACCEPTANCE

MIGHT AS WELL CALL THEM FIVE STAGES OF DEALING WITH THE WITCHBLADE... AND OVER TIME... SO MANY WENT THROUGH THEM...



LINA WAS THE FIRST

MANY FOLLOWED

QUEENS

WARRIORS

SCHOLARS

ADVENTURERS

ALL EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN  
IN THEIR OWN WAYS, AND  
ALL POSSESSING THE HEART  
OF COURAGE...

AND EVERY SINGLE ONE  
OF THEM, A BEARER  
OF THE WITCHBLADE.  
SO YEAH...BLADE HAD  
HIGH STANDARDS...







TIMES CHANGED, BEARERS  
CAME AND WENT...AND FOR  
THE LAST FEW DECADES  
BLADE WAS DORMANT...



AND THEN IT  
FELT THE CALL.



A NEW BEARER WAS READY

TIME WAS RIGHT!

WITCHBLADE KNEW  
THAT THE BEARER  
WAS TO BE AN  
EXCEPTIONAL  
WOMAN



LIKE THOSE  
BEFORE HER...

...A PARAGON  
OF COURAGE...

EXCEPTIONAL  
WILLPOWER...



AND MOST LIKELY  
GREAT BEAUTY





SO... WHY DID IT CHOOSE ME?

I HAD MY THEORIES, BUT THE ONE I SETTLED WITH, AT LEAST FOR A WHILE WAS; YOU EAT ENOUGH STEAK, AND AFTER A WHILE YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF CRAVING FOR A BURGER

AS IT HAPPENS, I WAS WRONG ON THAT ONE...BUT WE'LL GET THERE



HEY MARY!!! SPACIN' OUT?

YAAHHH!!!



THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU RUDY? JEEZ!

HAAAAHA... OH MAN, TOO EASY... ALSO, SEE WHAT I DID THERE? SPACIN' OUT? PRICELESS



MYEAH... REAL KNEE SLAPPER THERE

AW COME ON! BY THE WAY, SINCE WHEN DO YOU WEAR A HAT, I BARELY RECOGNIZED YOU

IT'S A NECESSITY NOT A FASHION CHOICE.



YOU ROCKIN' A BALD SPOT?

ON THE CONTRARY... NOT HIDING A LOSS...

WHATCHA COVERING THEN?



A FRIGGIN HORN, OKAY???



WOW...UM... ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, YOU JUST PROVED THAT UNICORNS ARE REAL

I BELIEVE IN EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS NOT FAIRY-TALES

AND THE DIFFERENCE IS?

I HATE YOU





SO, PLANS?

I MEAN I WAS GONNA GO CHECK ME OUT SOME BINOCULARS

DUNNO, MONDAYS AND PLANS DON'T REALLY MIX

PLEASE TELL ME YOU ARE A CLOSET PEEPER

NOPE

I ALREADY DID! TWICE!

STILL HOPING TO SEE A LIFO THEN

UHUH... LEMME GUESS A MOVING LIGHT IN THE SKY

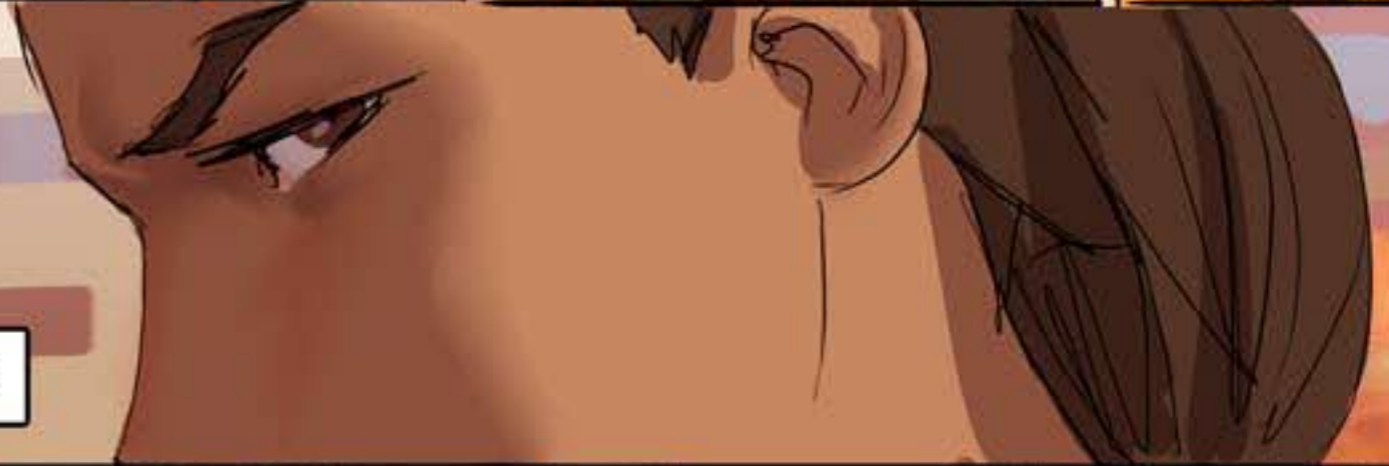
PLEASE! IT WAS THREE LIGHTS

I'LL ALERT THE MEDIA!

RUDY WAS A WISE-ASS

RUDY WAS MY BEST FRIEND

RUDY WAS ALSO A BLACK BELT



OH SHE WOULDN'T HURT A FLY

BUT...OUR SCHOOL'S JERK SQUAD DIDN'T NEED TO KNOW THAT



JUST IGNORE THEM

HEH, I DO... BUT IT'S STILL FUN SEEING THEM FREEZE UP EVERY NOW AND THEN

EASY DOES IT CROUCHING TIGER I KNOW THAT YOUR KUNG-FU IS STRONG BUT....



EWW....

TONY... ESTACADO











I MEAN IT...I COULN'T CARE LESS TONY ESTACADO CAN HAVE HIS PERFECT DREAMY EXISTENCE!



WE ARE CLOSE ESSTACADOOOO....

WE HAVE BEEN WAITING...SIXTEEN YEARRSSS AND FIVE MORE WE SHALL. WAIIT

IN HINDSIGHT... I MIGHT HAVE BEEN WRONG ABOUT TONY...



HE HAD PROBLEMS OF HIS OWN...

AND THEN... WE HAVE THINGS TO DOO...

WORLDS TO CONQUER

SSSTAARRSS TO EXTINGUISSHHH

YOUR FATHER WASS WEAAAKK...HE WOULD LET USS STARVE...

BUT WE SENSE GREATNESS IN YOU!





WE WOULD KNOW TONY! AFTER ALL WE ARE THE GREATNESS IN YOU!

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA



AAAAAAAAA!!!!



OH FOR CRYING OUT LOUD... THIS CRAP AGAIN?



A NIGHT LIGHT OH THIS IS JUST TOO PRECIOUS

HUH?



AN ESTACADO IS AFRAID OF THE DARK

BUT I ASSURE YOU, LIGHT WILL OFFER NO COMFORT TO THE LIKES OF YOU



W..WHO ARE YOU?



JUST SOMEBODY SENT TO HELP YOU BOY. I WILL RID YOU OF THIS DARKNESS IN YOUR HEART...





BY CARVING IT OUT!

JUST GO INTO THE...

OH COME ON ESTACADO!

LIGHT!!!

**THOKXX**

**K  
L  
C**

YAAAAH!

SO SORRY TO DISSAPPOINT YOU, BUT HE IS MORE OF A NIGHT CREATURE!

CAN'T WE JUST HAVE MORE WORDPLAY AND LESS SWORDPLAY?









NGHH..

POOR LITTLE ACOLYTE OF DARKNESS THEY FORGOT TO TELL YOU HAVEN'T THEY?

SANDRA!

WE OF THE CASTE ARE STRONG!

ACK!

KA-CRICK

THRACK



REALLY?

WAIT YOUR TURN BOY! I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE!

THCK



NOW,, I'LL MAKE THIS QUICK OKAY? ONE HIT KILL!

HNNNG!!! WHAT???

THE DOMINION?



THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT!





RELEASE HER! NOW!



HMPF

SANDRA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT

GNNH... BEEN BETTER..



ANTHONY?

I'M FINE SONATINE! BUT, IS THIS...

A WARRIOR OF THE ANGELUS!



YOU TOLD ME THEY WERE ALL IMPRISONED CENTURIES AGO



THEY WERE!

YOU THERE, WARRIOR! HOW DID YOU ESCAPE THE SEAL?



TELL ME!



ARGH! SOME MAN RELEASED THE HIGH CASTE! I...DON'T KNOW HIM!



HOW MANY ARE FREE?



NGHH... TWENTY SEVEN!



AND THE ANGELUS?



GNNNNN...



WHAT ABOUT THE ANGELUS!?



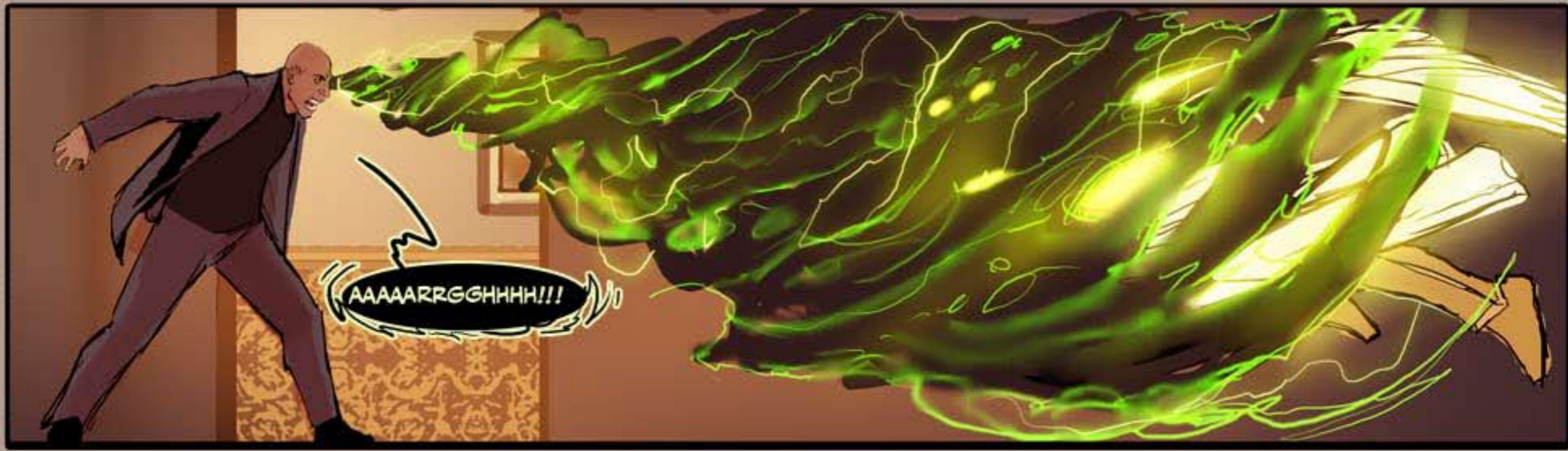
YOUR VOICE BLEEDS FEAR SORCERER!

THE DOMINION DESPISES FEAR!



AS DO !!!!

















ON THAT NIGHT,  
DARKNESS SPOKE BACK.



THIS MAN?  
ARE YOU SURE  
TAUMA?

DO YOU  
DOUBT ME?

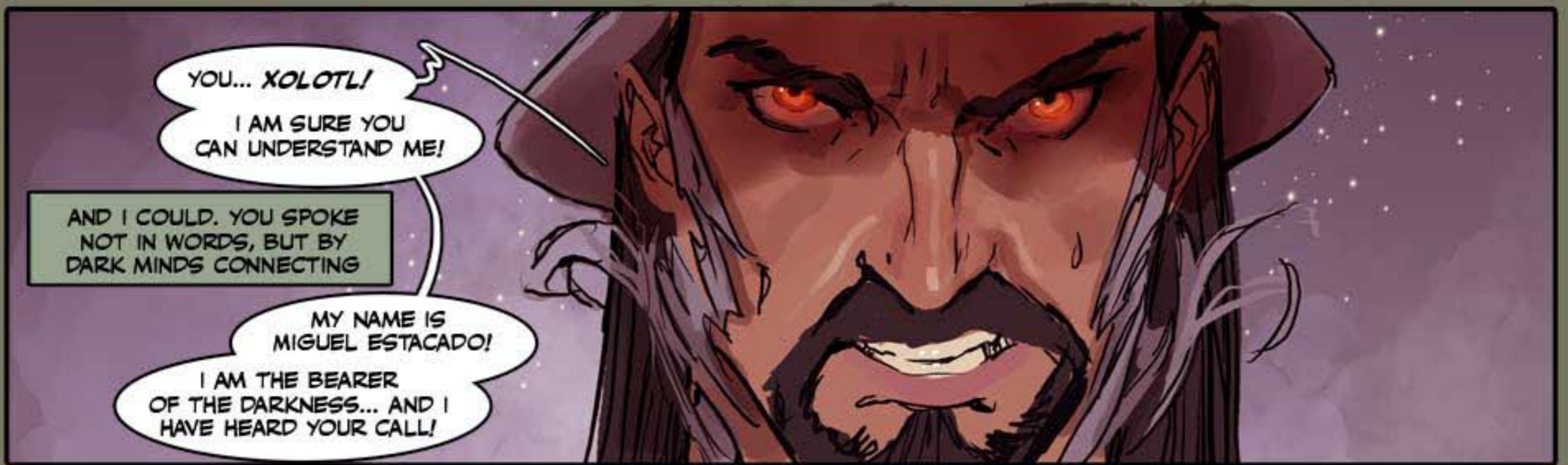
ALWAYS!

HAH! FAIR  
ENOUGH.

HOWEVER, YOU CAN  
TRUST HIM! HIS HEART  
AND MIND ARE DEVOTED  
TO THE DARKNESS.

SEE FOR  
YOURSELF.










EXCELLENT!

TOGETHER WE SHALL RAISE A DARK EMPIRE!




AND YOU WILL MAKE SURE THAT MY DESCENDENTS RULE OVER IT!




BUT, GREAT ONE... WHY DO YOU EVEN NEED ME? SURELY YOU'LL BE THERE TO..

NO!



DARKNESS IS A CRUEL FORCE. ONE DAY I SHALL SIRE A CHILD, AND ON THE DAY OF ITS BIRTH, THE DARKNESS WILL ABANDON ME AS IT HAS MY MOTHER BEFORE ME. ON THAT DAY, I WILL DIE.




MY CHILD WILL INHERIT THE POWER OF THE DARKNESS BUT IT WILL REMAIN DORMANT TILL THE AGE OF 21 AND THAT IS WHY I NEED YOU! YOU WILL KEEP MY LINEAGE SAFE!




BUT WHO WOULD DARE...

ALL THINGS HAVE THEIR OPPOSITE!



MINE IS THE ANGELUS, A TYRANNICAL INCARNATE OF LIGHT.



SOME DAY, SHE WILL COME AFTER ME, AND IF NOT ME, SHE WILL HUNT DOWN MY PROGENY.









ALRIGHT! NOW LEARN FROM MY MOVES. A HAMMERS WEIGHT IS IT'S WILL, DON'T WORK AGAINST IT, BOTH FOLLOW AND GUIDE IT

COME ON MARY PLEASE!!! IT'S A GIANT DRAGON! YOU DON'T FIGHT DRAGONS WITH HAMMERS!

OY...GUYS, ONE COPILOT AT A TIME PLEASE





YOUR HEART  
YEARNS FOR ADVENTURE  
AND ANNE BONNY HEARD  
IT'S CALL LASS!

COME NOW  
MARY, FEEL THE  
CALL OF THE HIGH  
SEAS, CATCH THE WIND  
IN YOUR SAILS!

NO! I SAID  
GET ME UNA, NOT  
JILL SPARROW OVER  
HERE YOU USELESS  
PILE OF SCRAP  
METAL!

WE ARE  
ON LAND!!!





LUNA...SPINE...  
R-RIBS...C-C-  
COLLAR BONE...  
BREAKING!





FEEL YOUR LEGACY  
BOY, THE HEART OF DARKNESS...  
FINAL BLESSING OF MIGUEL ESTACADO  
THIS IS BUT A GLIMPSE OF WHAT  
AWAITS, BUT IT WILL  
PROTECT YOU

THIS WILL...  
COME IN  
HANDY

THE HELL  
WERE YOU THINKING  
TONY?

THINKING?...  
HOW ABOUT; I'M  
TIRED OF HAVING OTHERS  
FIGHT MY BATTLES











CUTE  
BUTTER KNIFE

NICE  
OVEN MITT

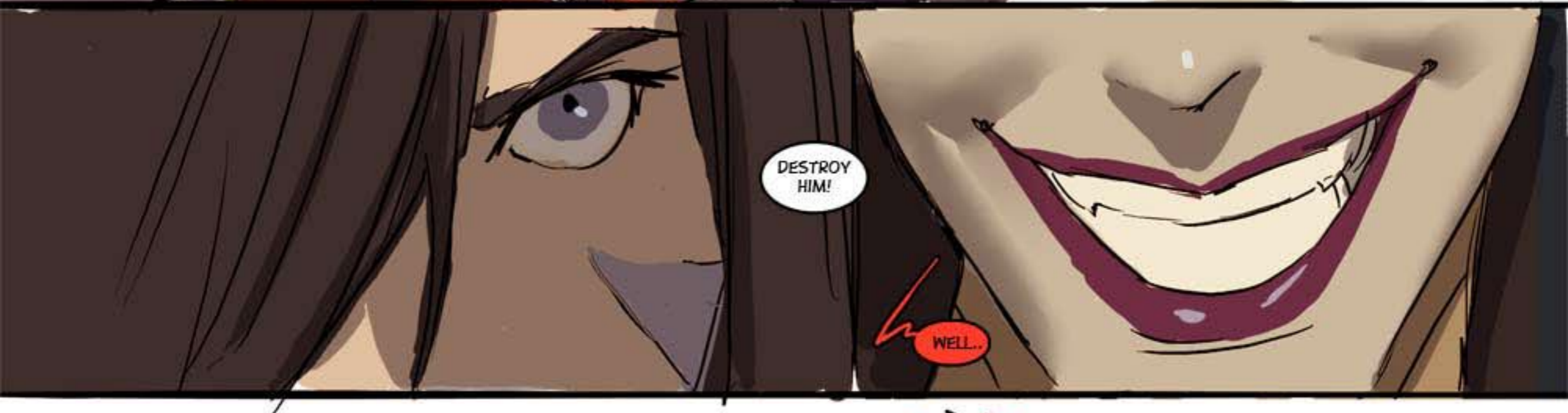
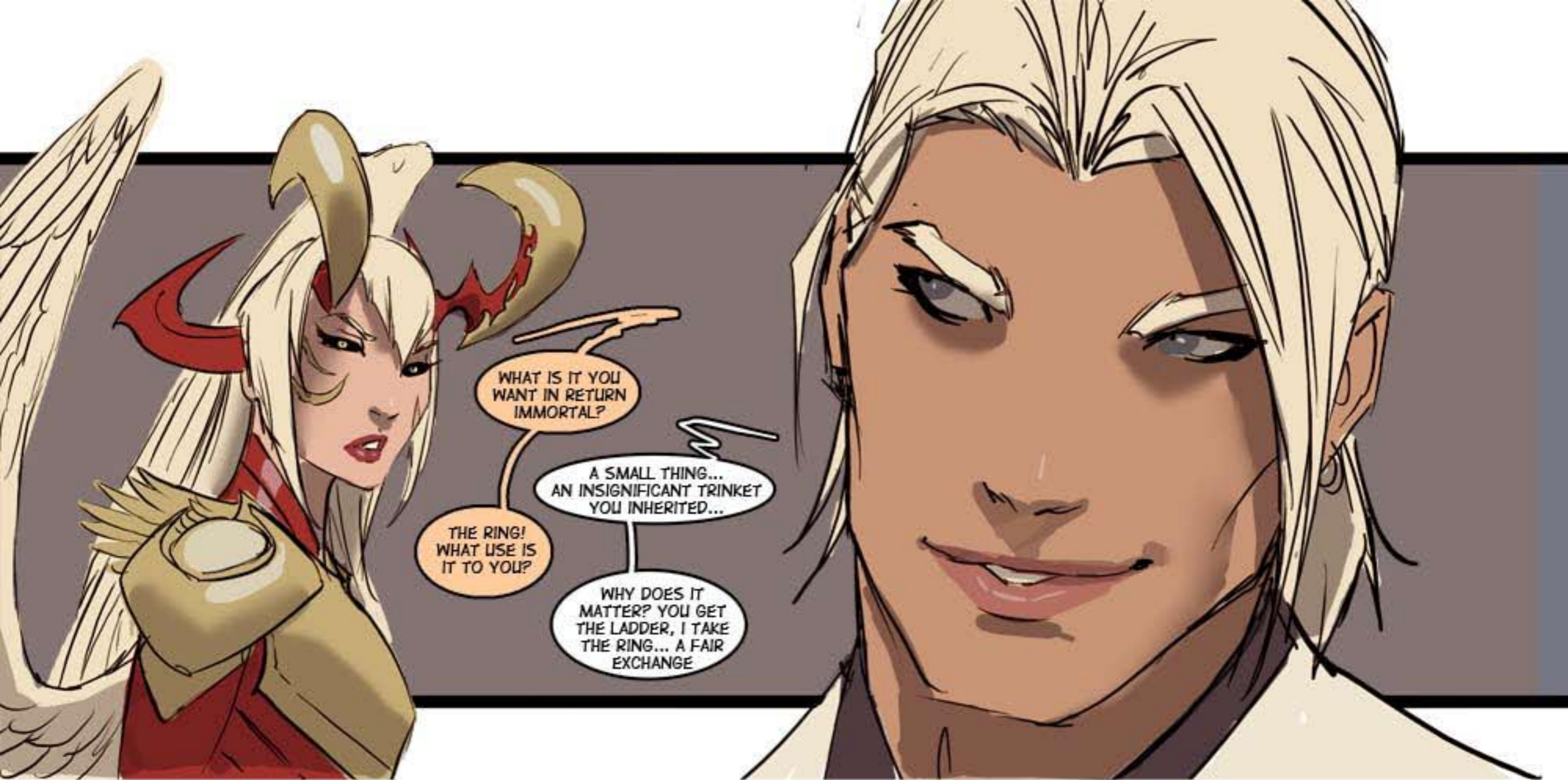




TRANSPORT

HUMAN







TWITCH!





THIS BLADE HAS CHALLENGED THE CLAIMS OF MANY SO CALLED IMMORTALS AND FOUND THEM... GREATLY EXAGGERATED. SO BE WARNED IRONS, IF YOU PLAN ON TRYING MY PATIENCE EXCABBATH WILL TEST YOUR PROCLAMATIONS OF IMMORTALITY

NOW NOW PRINCE MORDRED WE ARE BOTH CIVILIZED...HM...MEN? IN ANY CASE WE BOTH HAVE NEED OF EACH OTHER'S SPECIALTY.



THOR THE  
THUNDERER HAD  
A NICE HAMMER...  
THEN I BROKE IT





YEEEESSS...  
NOW DECAPITATE  
HIM!!!!



LET US  
TEACH THEM  
OF THE FEAR  
ALL MORTALS  
FEEL!



OKAY..LADY  
YOU ARE  
SERIOUSLY  
CREEPING  
ME OUT!





YOUR HEART  
YEARNS FOR ADVENTURE  
AND ANNE BONNY HEARD  
IT'S CALL LASS!

COME NOW  
MARY, FEEL THE  
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JILL SPARROW OVER  
HERE YOU USELESS  
PILE OF SCRAP  
METAL!

WE ARE  
ON LAND!!!









# SWITCH





# WITCHBLADE

I CAN TEACH YOU TO FIGHT SMART!

WITH ME, IT'S ONE SHOT! THAT'S ALL! YOU WIN!

I COULD TRAIN YOU TO FIGHT THE GODS THEMSELVES!

IT'S CALLED THE WITCHBLADE FOR A REASON, TOGETHER WE CAN SHOW THEM WHY!



LISTEN, I'VE FOUGHT USING A SPEAR MY WHOLE LIFE. TRUST ME, IT GETS THINGS DONE!

OH YEAH... THIS IS ALL JUST SUPER HELPFUL.

