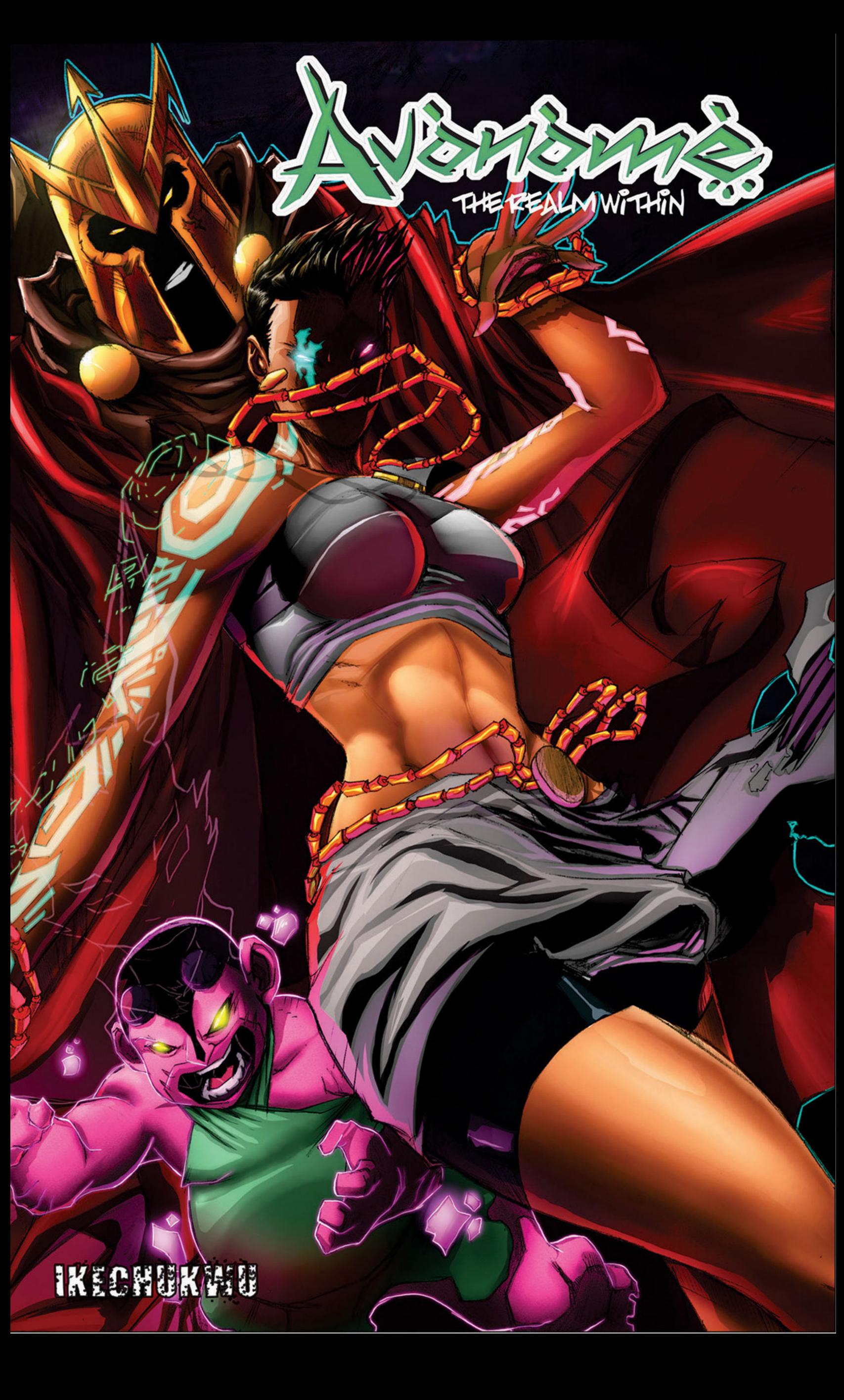
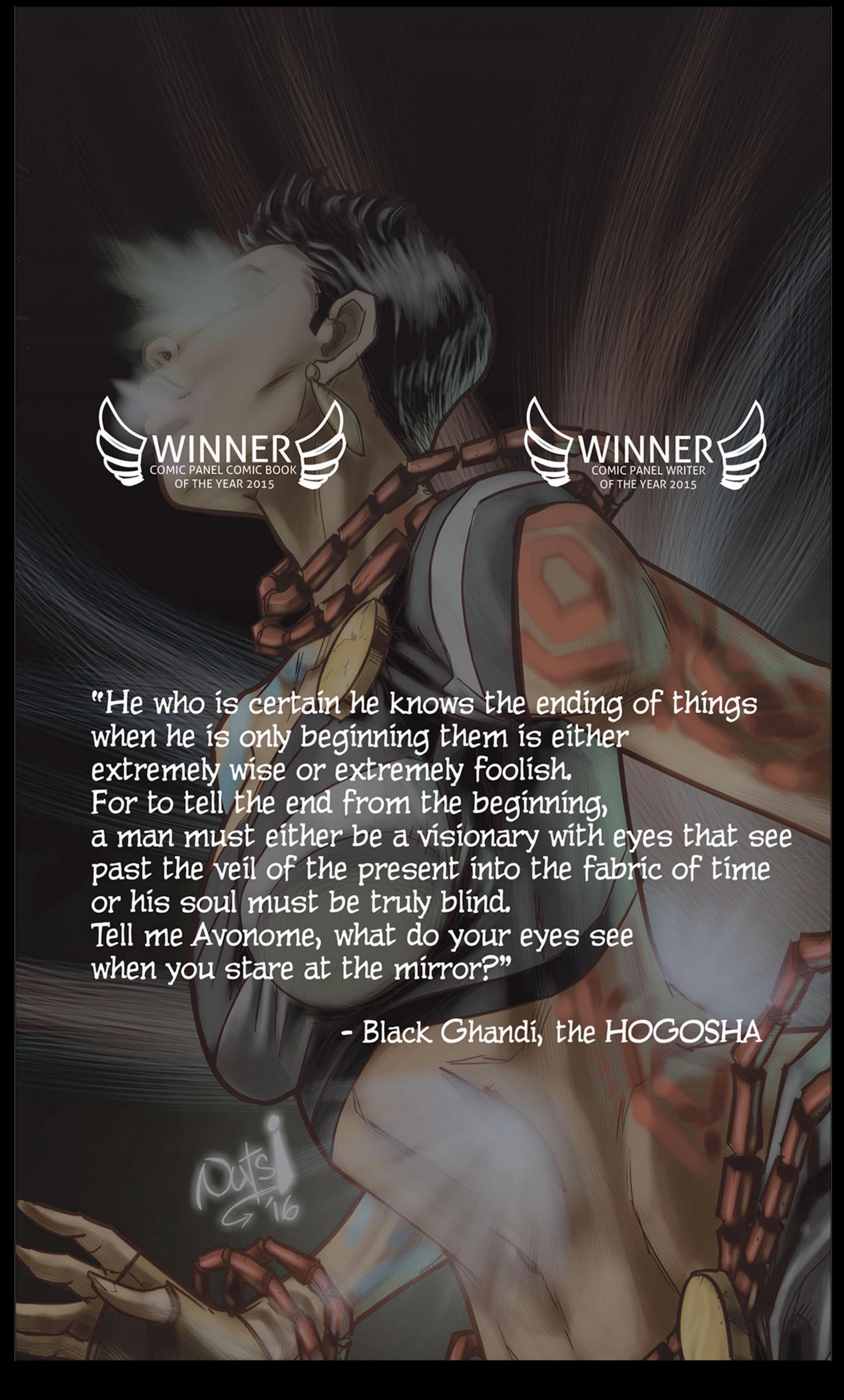
COMIC REPUBLIC THE REALM WITH Mr. 16HOROGJE OBENGE KAZEEM BALOGUN IKECHUKWU





FOLKTALES







"i miss words planted as seeds but now you're gone, this soul bleeds

i miss radiant smiles, soulful skin deep through the surface to beneath smiles that peep shy as beautiful open teeth

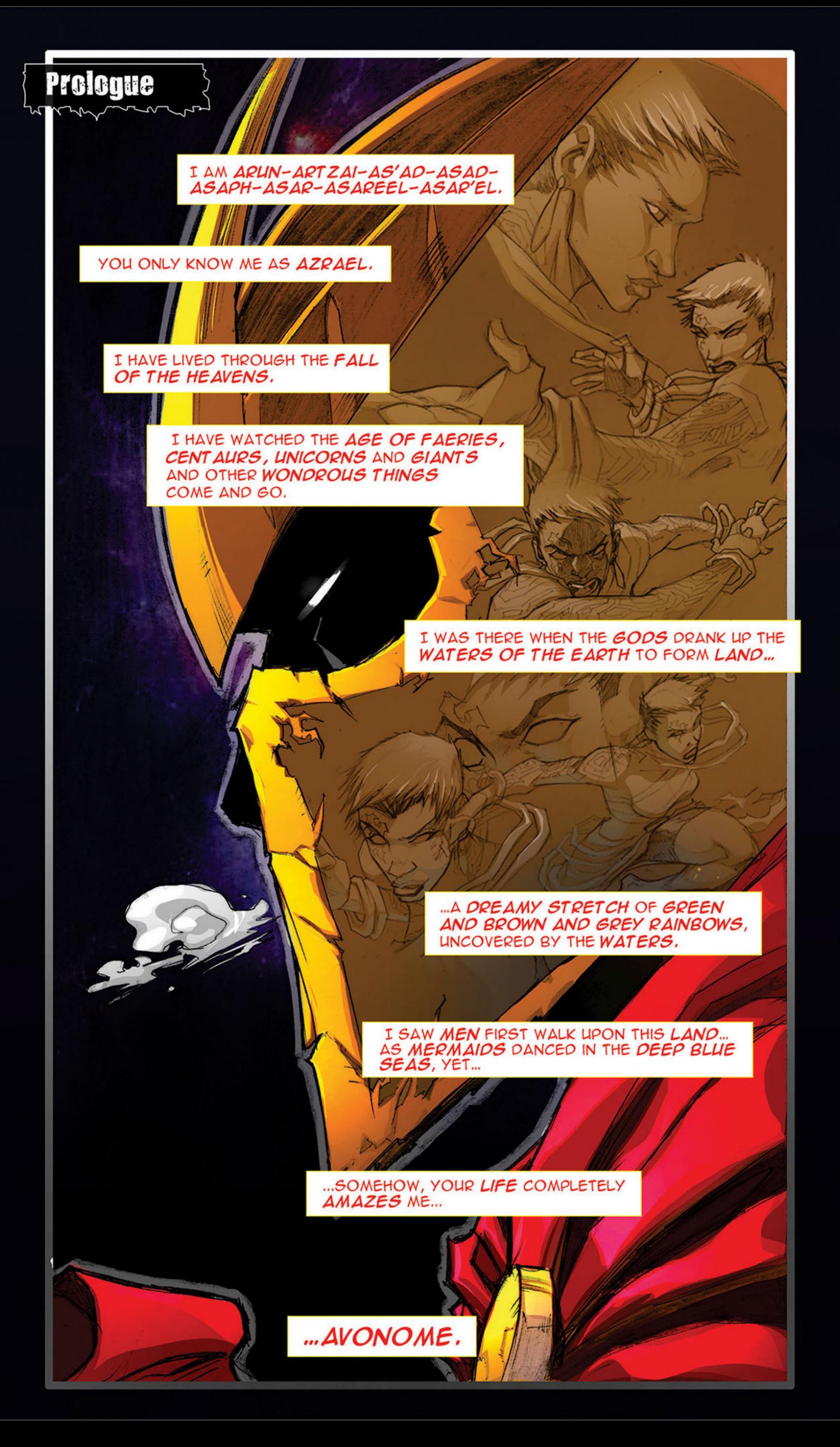
but now in this present emptiness wreathe in tender Ioneliness my laughter falls like false teeth

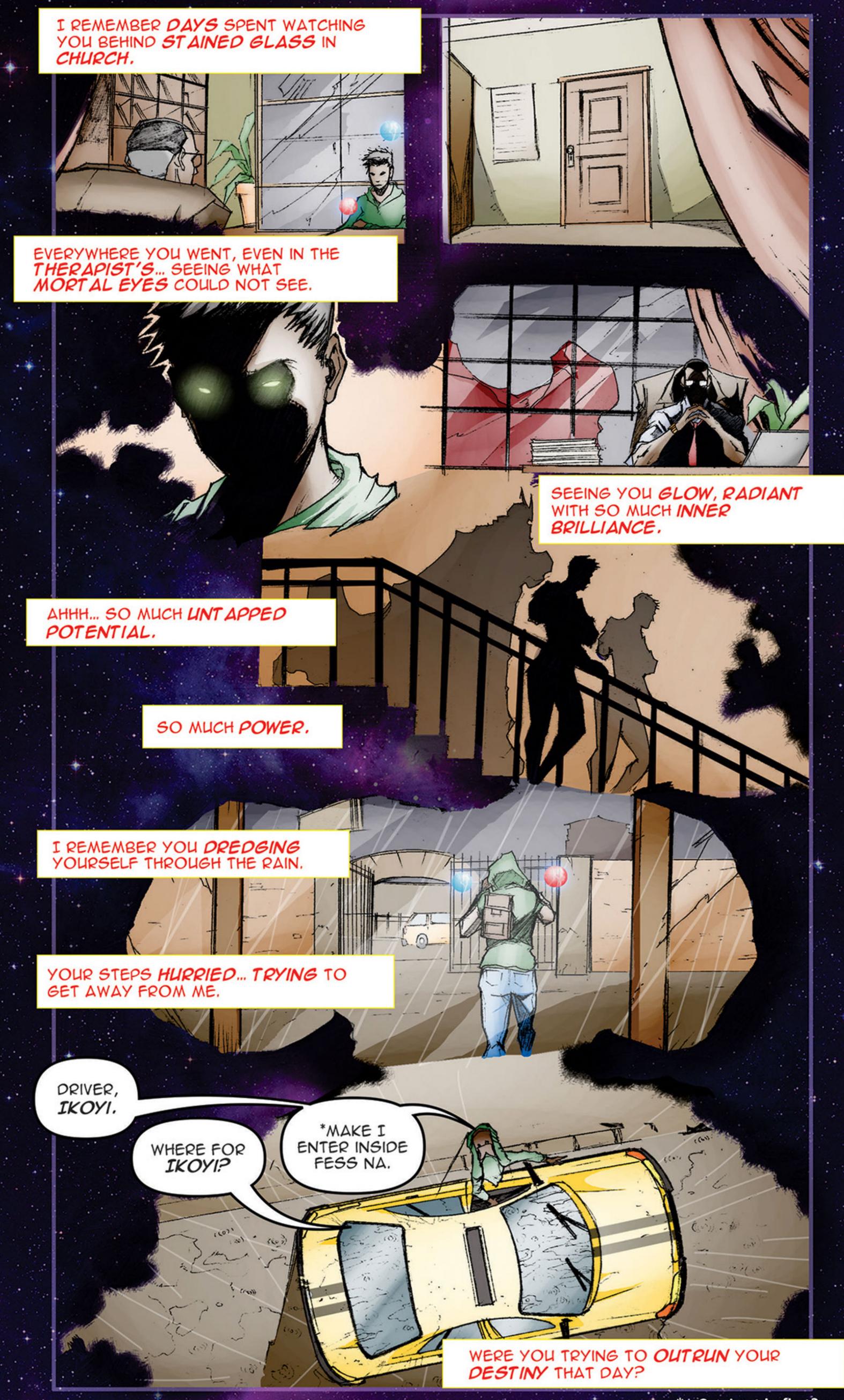
all that you were, reduced to mere memories i miss love i never found wanting in you warmth on coldest nights when hunger fled and thirsts quenched, silent \(\begin{align*} \text{dead.} \end{align*}

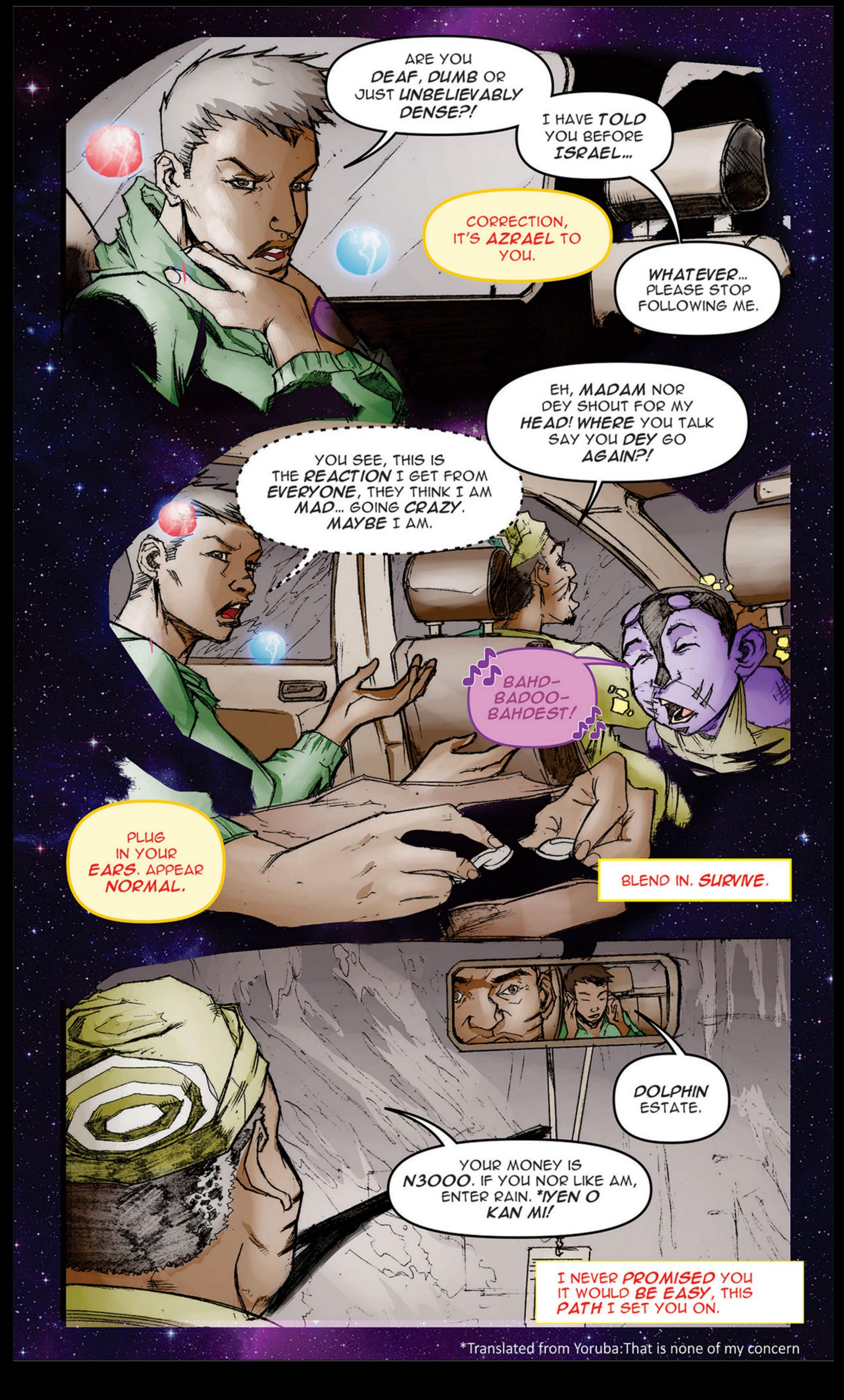
it's hard not to cry
if you could, please come back
still that baby boy who isn't prepared to let go..."

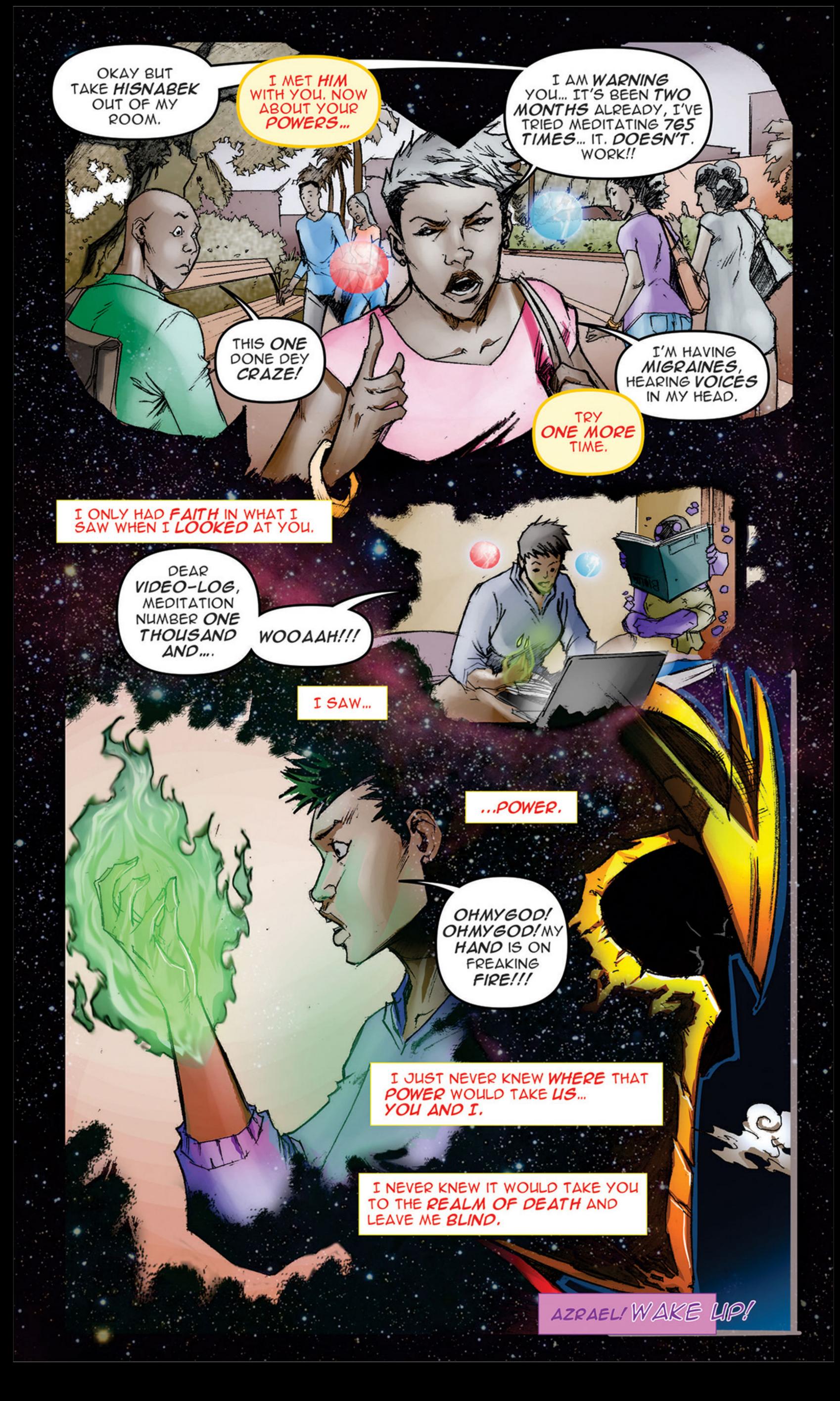
2370 by lloyd godwin and veronica crawford ig: Pi.only.feel

DEDICATED IN LOVING MEMORY TO MRS. ALICE AVWENAGHA









WAIT WAIT ...

WHERE AM I?

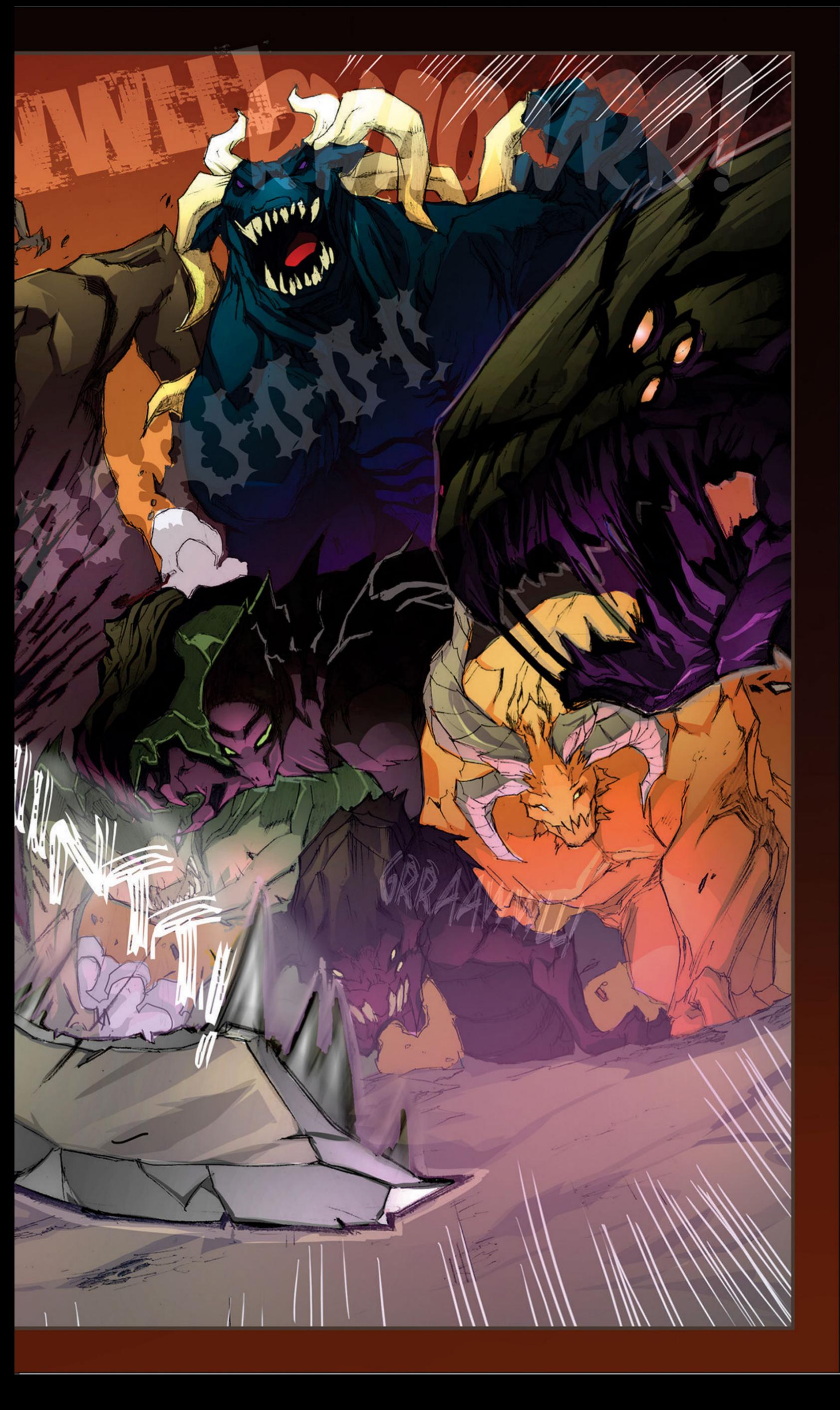
AZRAEL! WAKE UP NAAH!.

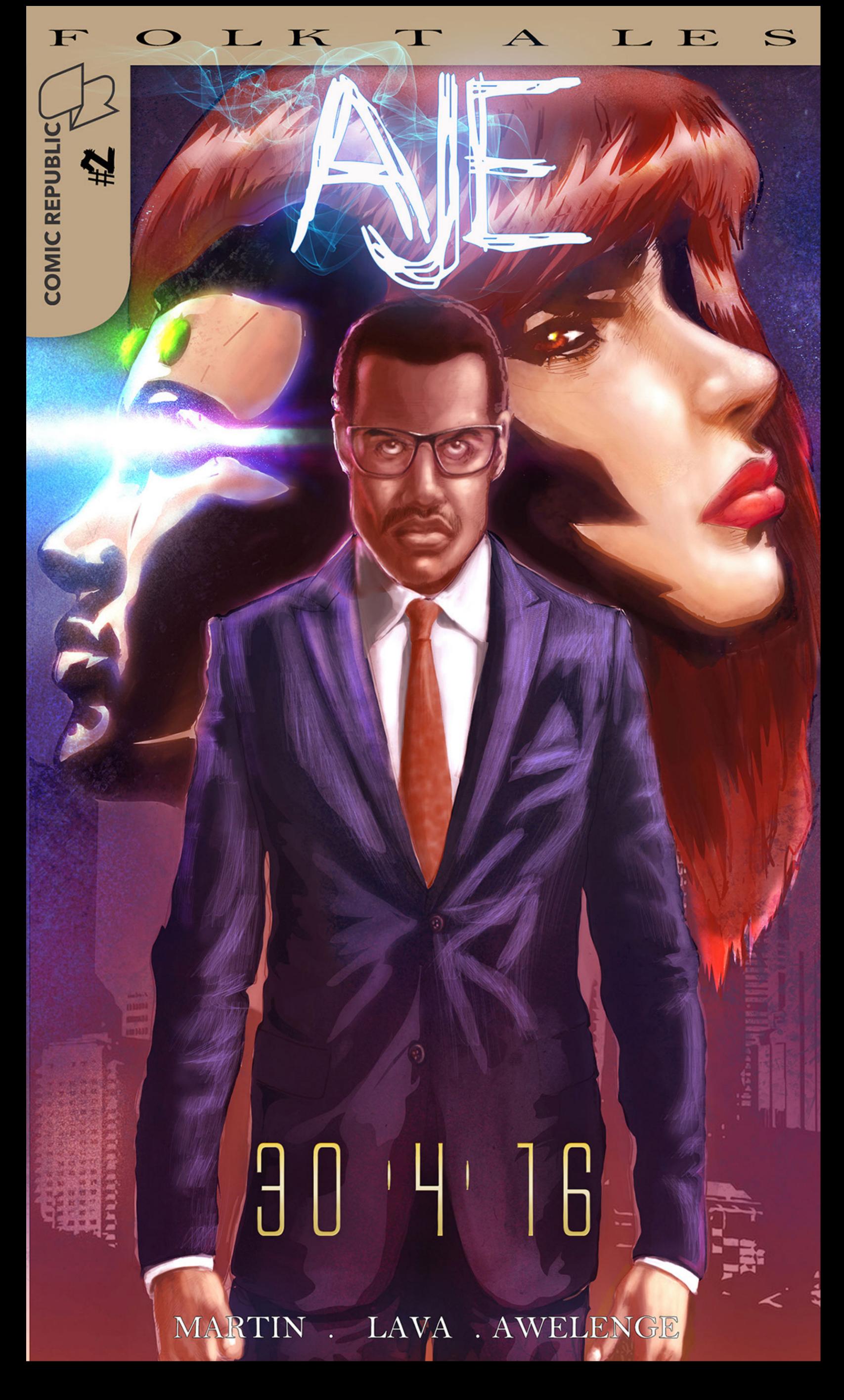














AVONOME IS THE STORY OF HILDA 'AVONOMEMI' MOSES, BORN IN 1937. IN THE REMOTE VILLAGE OF ETUNOR, A SETTLEMENT IN IGHARA, EDO STATE. SHE DISAPPEARS WITHOUT A TRACE ONLY TO REAPPEAR IN A CEMETERY IN RECENT TIME, STILL UNCHANGED WITH NO MEMORY OF WHO SHE WAS OR WHERE SHE HAD BEEN ALL THIS WHILE, EXCEPT A KNOWLEDGE OF HER NAME, A MYSTERIOUS COMPANION AND AN UNBELIEVABLE GIFT - THE ABILITY TO SEE SPIRITS.

THE STORY SO FAR

AFTER LYING TO SURVIVE THERAPY, AVONOME IS TAUGHT BY AZRAEL TO EMBRACE HER GIFTS AND JOINS HIS CRUSADE, HUNTING AND TRAPPING ARCANE CREATURES. BUT ON THE HUNT FOR THE KARNAK, A FIRE ELEMENTAL, SHE GETS ATTACKED BY AJOBARA - A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE WHO CLAIMS TO KNOW ABOUT HER PAST AND CLAIMS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HER BEING ALIVE.

AJOBARA AFTER STABBING AVONOME WITH A MAGICAL BLAGE LEAVES HER FOR DEAD BUT NOT BEFORE SEALING THE CREATURE (KARNAK) AVONOME HAD EARLIER TRAPPED. UNABLE TO PULL THE ENCHANTED BLADE OUT OF AVONOME, HER COMPANIONS BEARING HER DYING BODY JOURNEY VIA A WAY GATE IN SEARCH OF THE ONLY ONE CAPABLE OF HEALING HER - THE HOGOSHA, BLACK GANDHI. BUT WHAT THEY FIND WAITING AT THE OTHER END OF THE WAY GATE ARE TERRIBLE CREATURES BORN OUT OF NIGHTMARES.

MEANWHILE, AVONOME'S SUBCONSCIOUS WAKES UP, NAKEO AND IN SHOCK, SURROUNDED BY TERRIBLE SPIRITS OF BLUE AND RED. AS THE RABBIT HOLE LEADS AVONOME EVEN DEEPER THAN SHE EVER IMAGINED, THE BLOOD CULT, THE KIRIJI HAVE GATHERED.

AVONOME CREATED BY STANLEY OBENDE

MR XAVIER
IGHOROOJE
STORY

STANLEY OBENOE PENCILS LETTERS RAPHAEL KAZEEM STANLEY MICHAEL FRANKLIN OBENDE BALOGUN IKECHUKWU COLOURS

STANLEY MICHAEL OBENDE BALOGUN COVER

MARTIN AVWENAGHA ZENTANGLE ART

MR XAVIER
IGHOROOJE
CREATIVE
OIRECTOR

STANLEY OBENOE ART ORECTOR

JIDE MARTIN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MICHAEL
BALOGUN
VICEPRESIDENT
COMIC
PRODUCTION

TOBE
EZEOGU
CHIEF OPERATING
OFFICER AND

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

OZO EZEOGU EDITING DIRECTOR

EDUVIE

MARTIN

HEAD MARKETING

AND CORPORATE

COMMUNICATION

MARK ONEWO HEAD OF ONLINE OPERATIONS

AKINTOBA
KALEJAIYE
HEAD CONTENT
CREATION
AND DIRECTION

STORY AND CONTENT DIRECTOR

WALE



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THE IMMEMORIAL: WE STAND HERE, BEARING OUR BURDENS, KEEPERS OF EVERYTHING GLORIOUS. PROTECTOR OF THE REALMS, OUR LIVES ARE ETERNALLY SWORN TO ITS SERVITUDE.

WE ARE THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE.
TO PROTECT THE YOUNG, GROWING AND
AGED... OLD AND DYING, THIS IS OUR BURDEN
TO BEAR. FOR US, NO PRICE IS TOO BIG WE WOULD BREAK THE HEAVEN... NOR TOO
SMALL - WE WOULD BURN HELL.



MISICARY



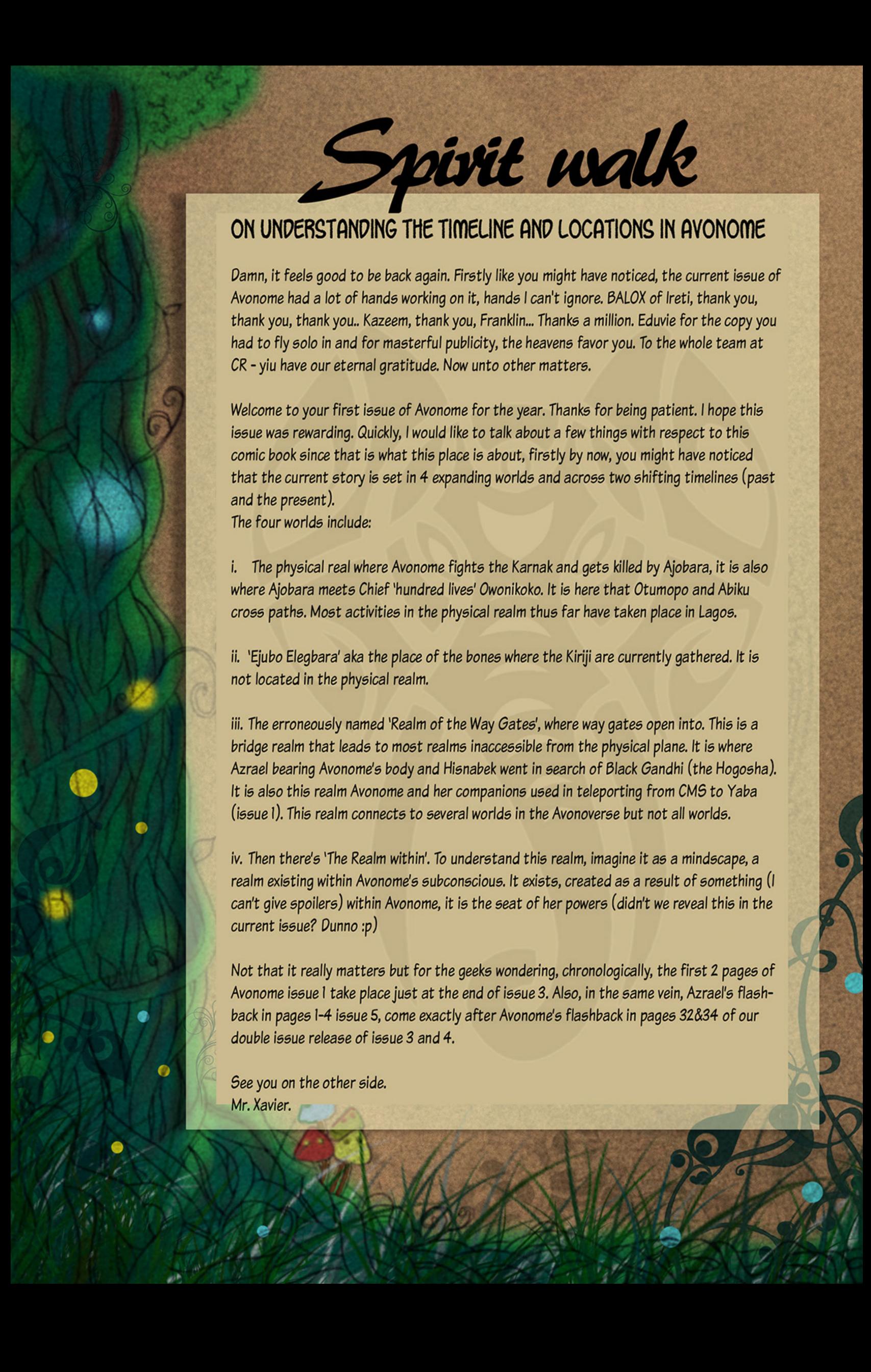
"foretold by Orunmila, the primordial Irunmole, the Visionary, the guardian of Axexe, the ever-spinning wheel of fate. The Visionary, whom born and beloved by the creator is the guardian of the cosmic plan, who must protect Ashe, the sole vision of creation..."



THE GODS (ARE COMING ...















Hey there,

Though I already took a glance through it online....I'll no doubt be forced in for a second reading.... my friend was chattering on recently about how comic artists and script writers especially when it comes to story telling had shifted into this trend of spoon feeding their readers to a massive extent of what exactly was going on in their story step by step all the way .. with every damn detail not leaving enough room for "Enough" nerve racking suspense...he said he missed the days when you could actually go from confused at the beginning to pleasantly surprised at "oh! so that's where this story going"... I let him know that perhaps he hasn't been reading the right comicshe exclaimed that he's got that covered and actually he meant indie publishers... Avonome covers that area in a unique way ... I'm not really that much into supernatural tales but this peaked up my interest with it's execution...definitely the art has stepped up it's game as well as the story .. (one thing I was also gonna call your attention to on the art of the previous issues as well as other comic republic titles that spurned the greater half of their debuts in the past few years was the paneling ...it was a bit limiting in terms of design and held back on some of the profound impact of the art....but thankfully that's been attended to in this issue... the coloring also steps things up a notch from being not that shallow, tones were greatly suggestive of moods and deeply rich.

I really love the direction you guys went with the launch of two issues ...frankly the others were pretty short and gave no room for proper exposition on where you guys were headed this one kind of speeds the journey of discovering things much better for the reader. really nice font choice and design for once I really enjoyed the spirit walk page and fan mail...though I think the avono fans page is still pretty much were you guys left it ..it looks a bit rushed in design and plays down the coolness of the fan art displayed there which I think it deserves

much better and last but not the least I noticed a little something about locations in the Avonoverse spirit realms are descriptively exposed in some profound manner but normal ones like Jibowu-Lagos and a bunch of others are shrouded in mystery ...maybe the camera is pretty too close for one to take in everything and easily first notice a change of scenery in the physical realm when Avonome fights with the spirits especially Ajobara or maybe that's the direction of the story being that it helps shroud things in a lot of mystery .. but for a guy who's never been to lagos and only resides in portharcourt..the only familiarity I've gotten with the commercial city of lagos from the Avonoverse are the inside of a BRT bus and non descript locations... I don't really know what jibowu looks likei'll love to think this is the direction of the story and maybe I'm asking for too much of the physical realm to make things a bit more relatable cause the spirit realm is overwhelmingly quite a stretch (believe me I even got shudders when avatar threaded that direction) I'm really more of a sci-fi kind of guy all the same it's been quite entertaining...like I said earlier I just took a glance... this book demands a second reading cause of the beauty of it's essence ... the story got one's prying eyes like a detective darting back and forth aiming to grasp everything and oh yes! the part where Ajobara sings the olamide song is just freakishly weird I loved it.. it really worked for comic relief at first I thought it might be some lame attempt by the writer to draw in some society relativity from the physical realm to keep us grounded but the more I reflect on it it's pretty much geniusit breaks through for comic relief and reminds one of the unpredictable nature of spirit actions and in a creepy kind of way it reminds us that these spirit beings walk among us. with that being said ...well that's just it for now until I come across any more stuff I missed... I will be going back in to take a second reading...thank you very much once again!. From one creator to



another I'm sordidly impressed you guys are striving to set a standard I've dreamt of on the frontier of the Nigerian comic industry...it really goes beyond just making comics... the execution and stories also matter. I'm really looking forward to your next publication.

Agand one more thing really appreciate the swift response...y'know I was gonna toss a coin bet in my mind that you guys might not really have the chance to attend to my message until perhaps a couple of days have gone by...if it's not too much of a stress ..keep up the good work.. like emoticon smile emoticon ..I really appreciate.

Thanks!
Kurolayefah Owugah
Writer, Comic Book artist,
colorist and illustrator.
Port Harcourt. Nigeria

Dear Kurolayefah,

Every single time when I power on my laptop to work on a story synopsis or plot or script or open up a fresh leaf of paper to scribble down stick man art to be developed into thumbnails, I tell myself.. I tweet it too, "Let's now create the best superhero comic book readers will ever read". This is what the team working on Avonome strives to do every time, we try to tell a story, create something people special, something people will actually care about... Actually being the key word. Thank you, Kurolayefeh for getting it, for seeing – for giving it a glimpse at first and discovering something magical perhaps.

Everyday we keep mastering the art form, improving, beating ourselves... I and Stanley actually have fights on almost every idea on the page – you sending this mail means we didn't bleed for nothing.

Trust that everything you mentioned will be given due consideration, I'm sure you've seen some

changes in this issue you just read. Imagine what 6 would be like, then 7..then imagine issue 100, imagine the possibilities when every element of this story is finally revealed.

I hope this meets you smiling deep and hopeful for what tomorrow may mean to the Nigerian comic book industry.. And what it may mean when Avonome finally grows into herself. But until then... BvS sucked!!! Lol. See you on the other side,

PLEASE IF YOU LOVED THIS COMIC BOOK,
HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE'S ISSUES OR
ANY IDEA ON HOW TO SELL JOLLOF RICE ON
THE BLACK MARKET TO ALIENS AND OR WOO
A ZOMBIE, LET US KNOW ON -

avonome.sw@gmail.com

JOIN THE CONVERSATION ON FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/avonomemi

BUZZ!!!

If you enjoyed this comic, please show some love for the other titles currently being published by COMIC REPUBLIC. They make sure we stay in print and ensure AVONOME gets to you at absolutely no cost.

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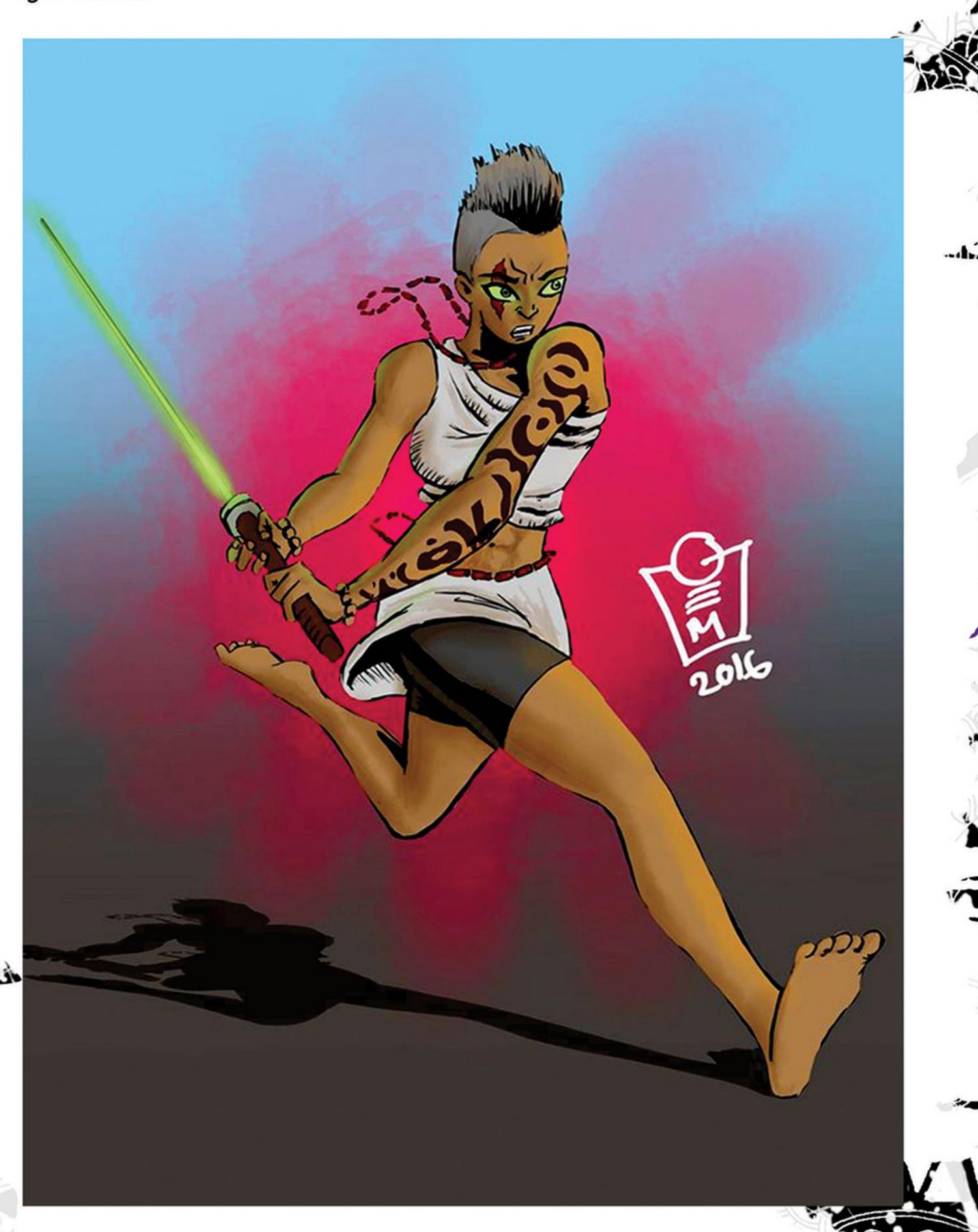
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AVONOFANS

And the entries keep pouring in. Fan arts filling up our facebook pages. You can check them up on www.facebook.com/avonomemi. Here's a selected few from the bunch.

Godwin Edet Munam Gem entry got us WOAHed with Avonome wielding a light sabre.



AVONOFANS

Precious Anih Zesty is at it again. Would he ever stop amazing us?



Keep the entries coming . We still haven't forgot our prize. The best art pieces gets a, Avonome Tee. We shall contact the lucky winners soon.

STAY AVONODICTED, AVONOFANS



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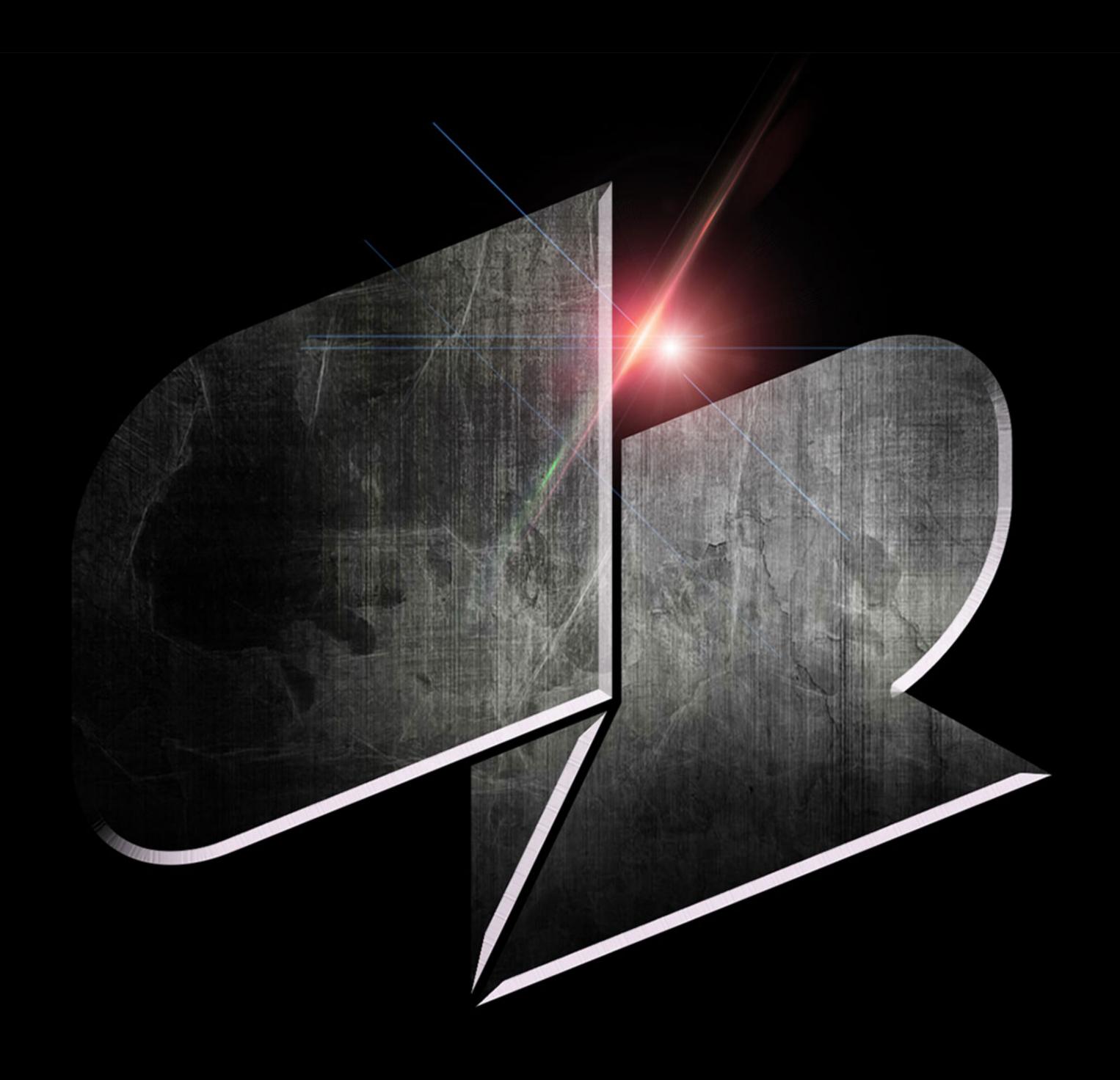
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