

# LEGENDS OF BALDUR'S GATE

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS



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**BALDUR'S GATE**

**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®**

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**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®**

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Art by Sarah Stone

# CHAPTER 1

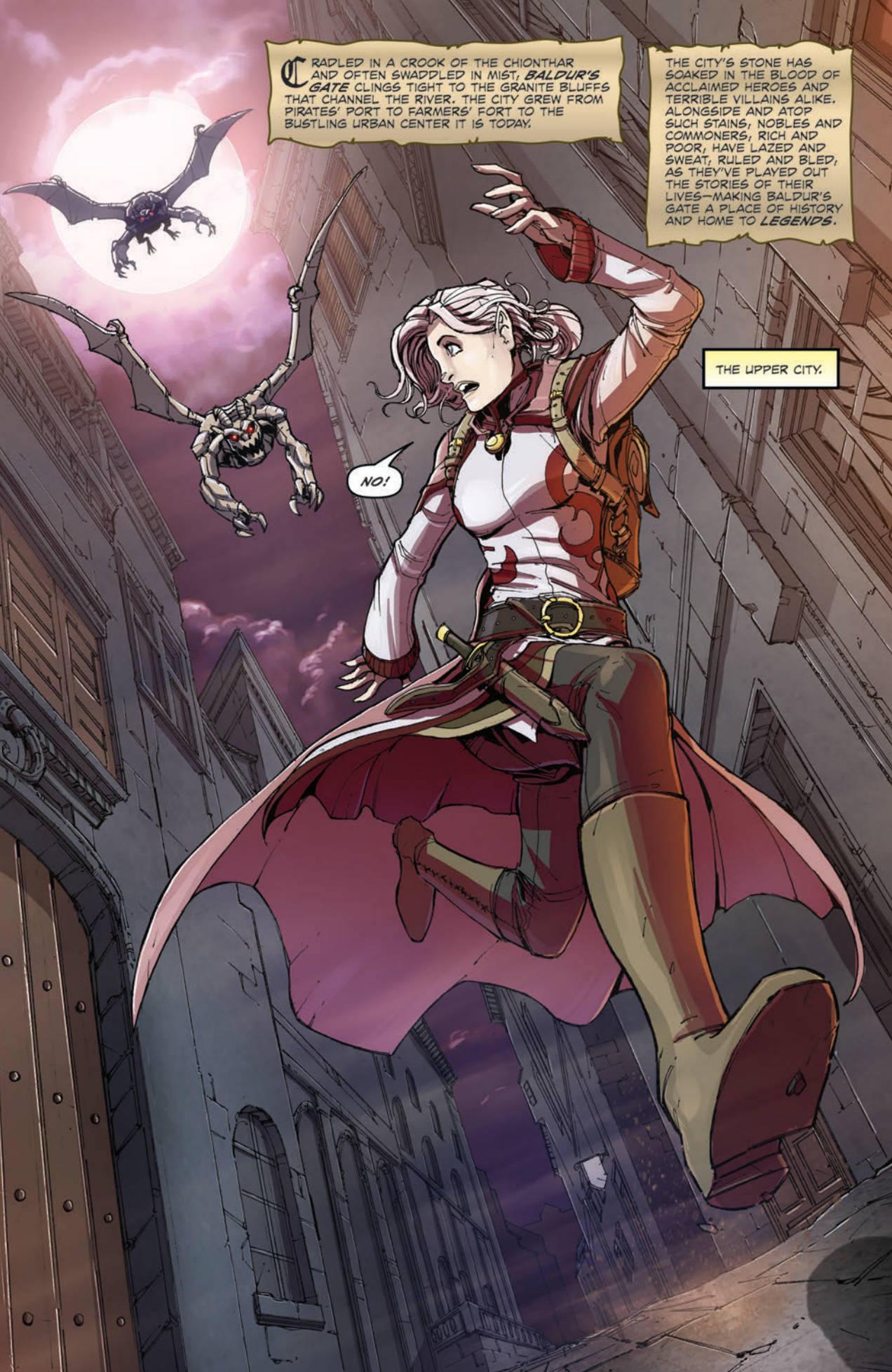


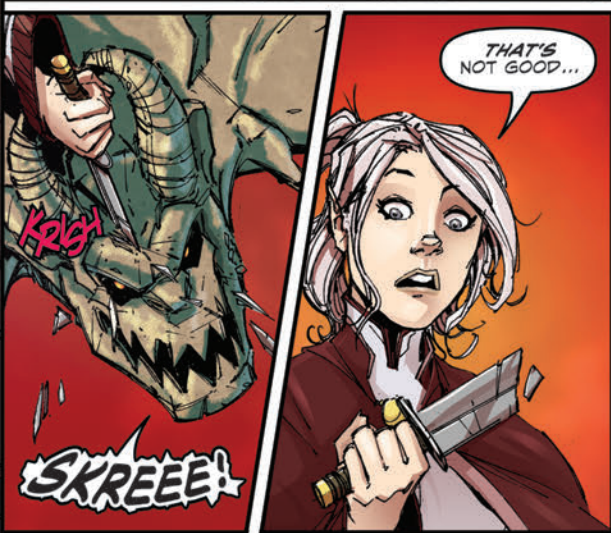
**C**RADLED IN A CROOK OF THE CHIONTHAR AND OFTEN SWADDLED IN MIST, **BALDUR'S GATE** CLINGS TIGHT TO THE GRANITE BLUFFS THAT CHANNEL THE RIVER. THE CITY GREW FROM PIRATES' PORT TO FARMERS' FORT TO THE BUSTLING URBAN CENTER IT IS TODAY.

THE CITY'S STONE HAS SOAKED IN THE BLOOD OF ACCLAIMED HEROES AND TERRIBLE VILLAINS ALIKE. ALONGSIDE AND ATOP SUCH STAINS, NOBLES AND COMMONERS, RICH AND POOR, HAVE LAZED AND SWEAT, RULED AND BLED, AS THEY'VE PLAYED OUT THE STORIES OF THEIR LIVES—MAKING BALDUR'S GATE A PLACE OF HISTORY AND HOME TO **LEGENDS**.

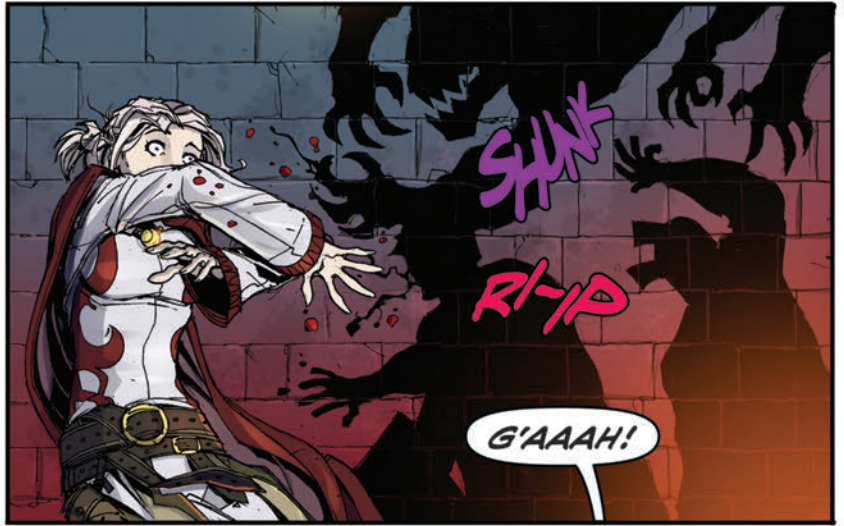
THE UPPER CITY.

NO!









THE WIDE, FAMOUS MARKET  
IN THE UPPER CITY.



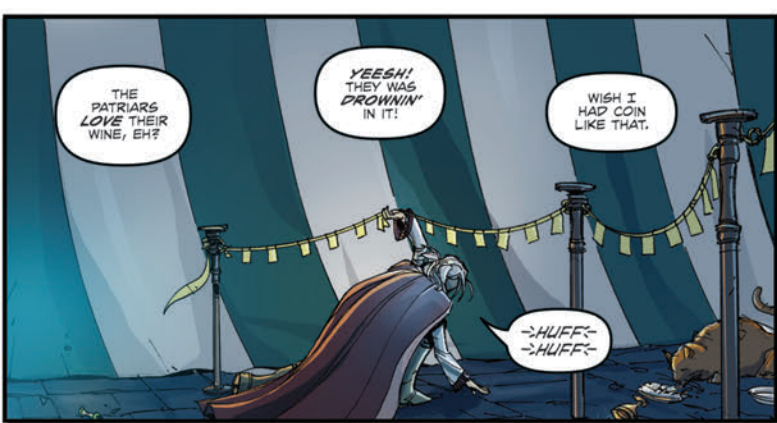
->HUFF->  
->HUFF->



OKAY BOYS,  
LET'S GET THIS  
PARTY ALL  
PACKED UP.

GOTTA MAKE  
WAY FOR THE  
MARKET FOLK  
COMIN' AT  
DAWN.

->HUFF->  
->HUFF->



THE  
PATRIARS  
LOVE THEIR  
WINE, EH?

YEEESH!  
THEY WAS  
DROWNIN'  
IN IT!

WISH I  
HAD COIN  
LIKE THAT.

->HUFF->  
->HUFF->



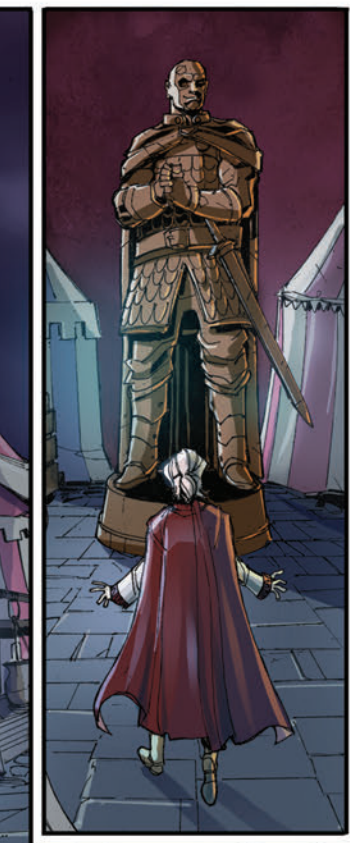
->HUFF->  
->HUFF->



OH?



WHOA—



FLAP FLAP FLAP

NOT AGAIN...

OI THERE, LUV!

YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE!



OKAY, YOU GRANITE GOONS, I'M THROUGH RUNNING...

SKREEEE

AHHHH!



I DON'T KNOW WHO SENT YOU AFTER ME, BUT I BET THEY DIDN'T TELL YOU I'M DELINA THE WILD MAGE.

MY SOUL IS FILLED TO THE BRIM WITH POWERFUL AND UNPREDICTABLE MAGICAL MIGHT!



I'M... I'M SERIOUS... STAY BACK!



FIRE, LIGHTNING, PURPLE FLOWERS...

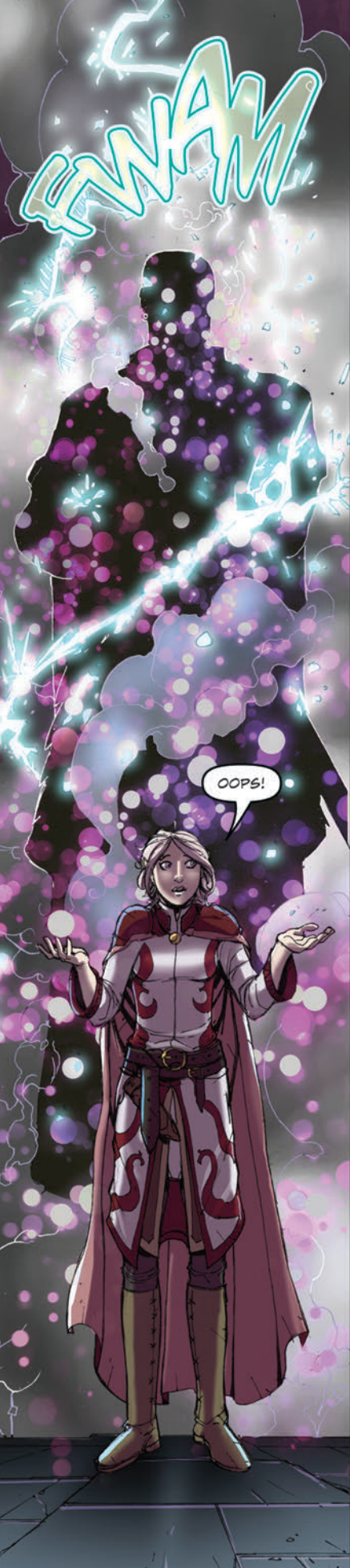
...ONCE I SET MY SPELL LOOSE...

...A-ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN!



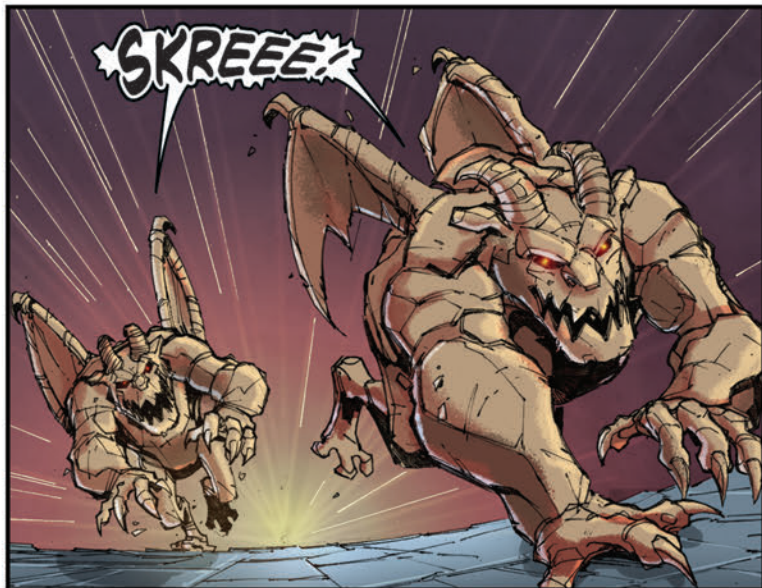
FWOOSH

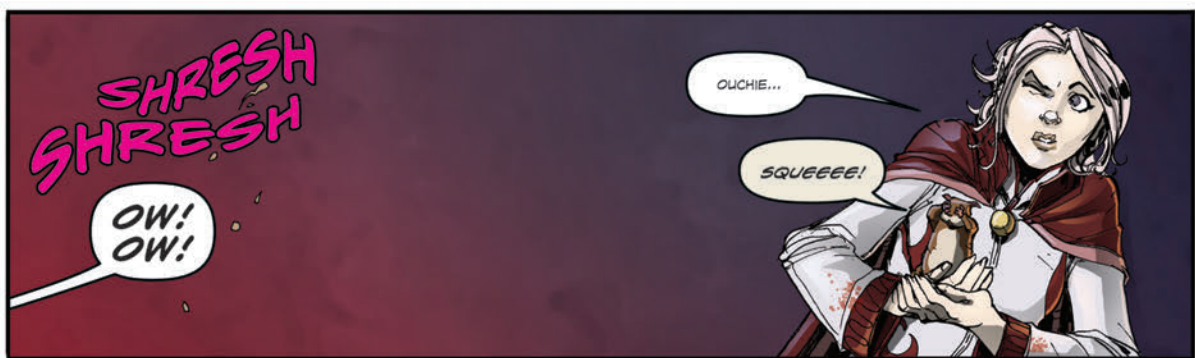
ANYTHING...





-OR FACE  
MY HAMSTER'S  
WRATH!







OKAY, EVILS,  
YOU STRUTTED YOUR  
BADNESS...



...NOW IT'S  
MINSC'S  
TURN!

SK'UH!

**SH  
KN**



**RAAAH!**

OH,  
WOW...



YOU SEE, NEERA?

THAT IS HOW WE SMASH EVILS IN RASHMEN!

CRUMBLE  
CRUMBLE



HALT IN THE NAME OF THE WATCH!



HALT!

WE ARE VERY HALTED, GOOD SIR.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR RAISED VOICES OR BOILING BLOODS...

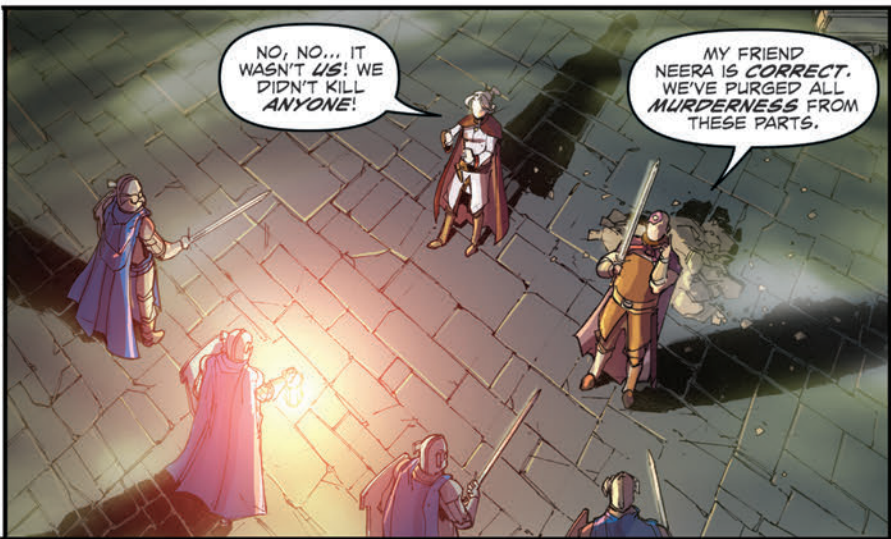
SQUEEEEE!

SIR, SHE'S GOT BLOOD ON HER!



TWO GUARDS WERE MURDERED!

DO YOU TWO KNOW ANYTHIN' 'BOUT THAT?!



NO, NO... IT WASN'T US! WE DIDN'T KILL ANYONE!

MY FRIEND NEERA IS CORRECT. WE'VE PURGED ALL MURDERNESS FROM THESE PARTS.



I DON'T THINK THEY BELIEVE US...

HMMM...

SURRENDER AND PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPONS!



NNNG...



COLOR SPRAY!

AAAAH

FWAAH



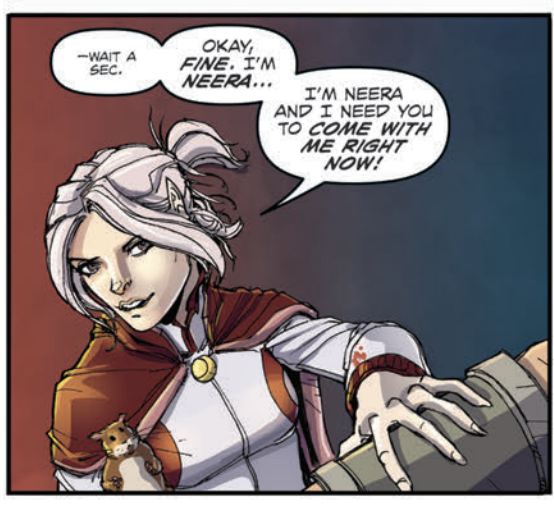
WE'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!

NEERA, THIS IS ALL QUITE STRANGE...



I TOLD YOU!

MY NAME'S NOT—



—WAIT A SEC.

OKAY, FINE. I'M NEERA...

I'M NEERA AND I NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME RIGHT NOW!





WHERE...  
WHERE *ARE* WE  
EXACTLY?

BALDUR'S  
GATE!



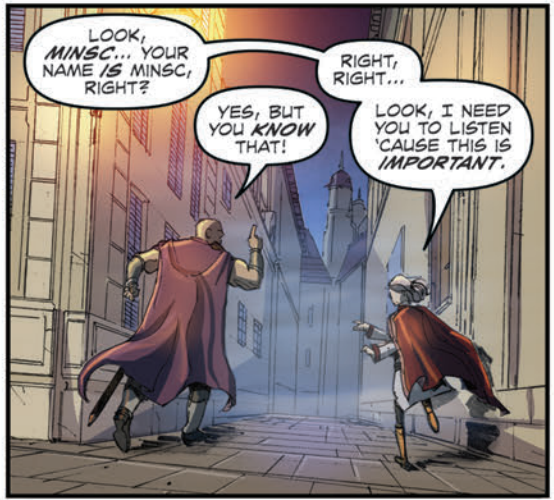
AH YES,  
BALDUR'S  
GATE!

THE *FINEST*  
CITY IN ALL THE  
WESTERN  
WORLDS!



A TURBULENT  
STEWY POT WHERE  
MAN AND HAMSTER  
MAY FIND *GRAND*  
ADVENTURE!

SQUEE!

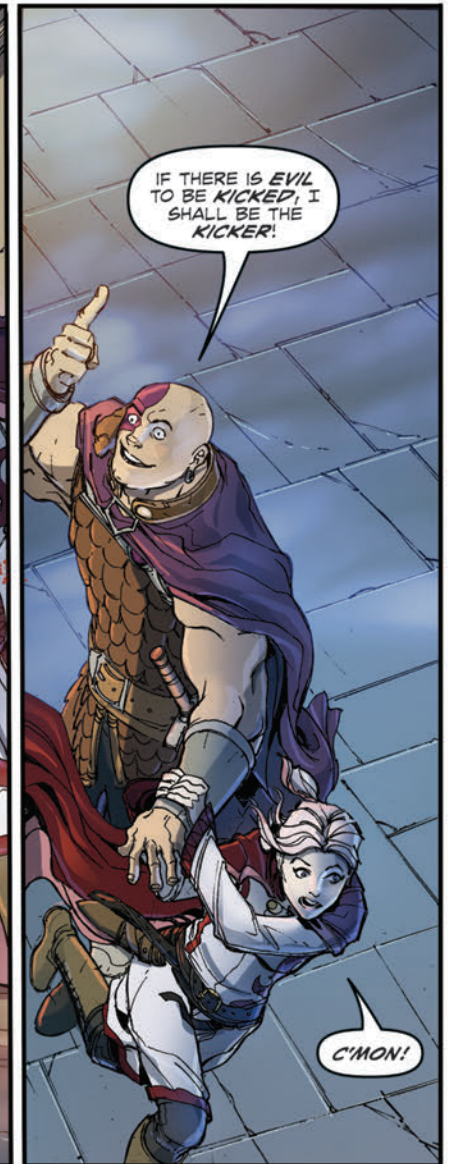


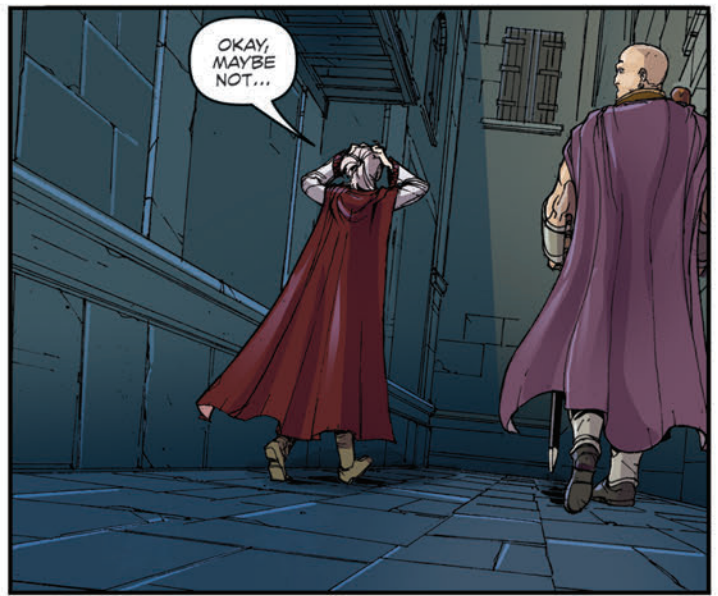
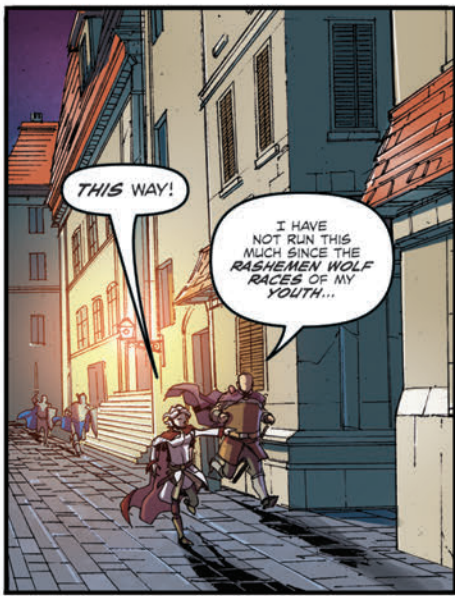
LOOK,  
MINSC... YOUR  
NAME IS MINSK,  
RIGHT?

RIGHT,  
RIGHT...

YES, BUT  
YOU *KNOW*  
THAT!

LOOK, I NEED  
YOU TO LISTEN  
'CAUSE THIS IS  
*IMPORTANT*.







... THIEVES!

Art by Max Dunbar  
Colors by John-Paul Bove





Art by Sarah Stone

# CHAPTER 2



**T**HE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SORCERY AND WIZARDRY IS ONE OF "NATURE" VERSUS "NURTURE."

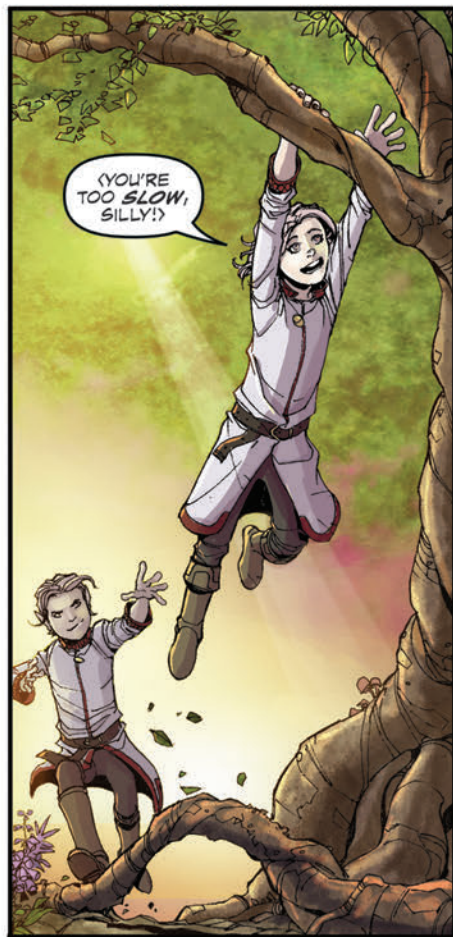
WIZARDS METICULOUSLY PORE OVER ANCIENT TOMES AND SCROLLS, PRACTICING FOR MANY YEARS TO PERFECT THE VERBAL AND SOMATIC COMPONENTS REQUIRED TO UNLOCK MAGICAL MIGHT.

SORCERERS INSTEAD FOCUS ON THE INTERNAL, CONNECTING TO ELDRITCH FORCES THROUGH PURE INSTINCT. A SORCERER'S SPELLS REFLECT A STRANGE AND ALMOST PRIMAL CONNECTION TO THE WEAVE OF POWER THAT PERMEATES THE COSMOS.

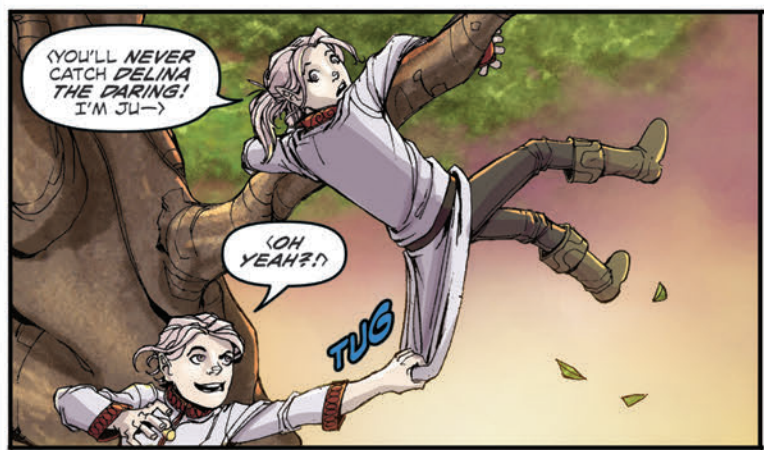
THEN.

UNO FAIR, DELINAI!\*  


\*TRANSLATED FROM ELVISH.



(YOU'RE TOO SLOW, SILLY!)

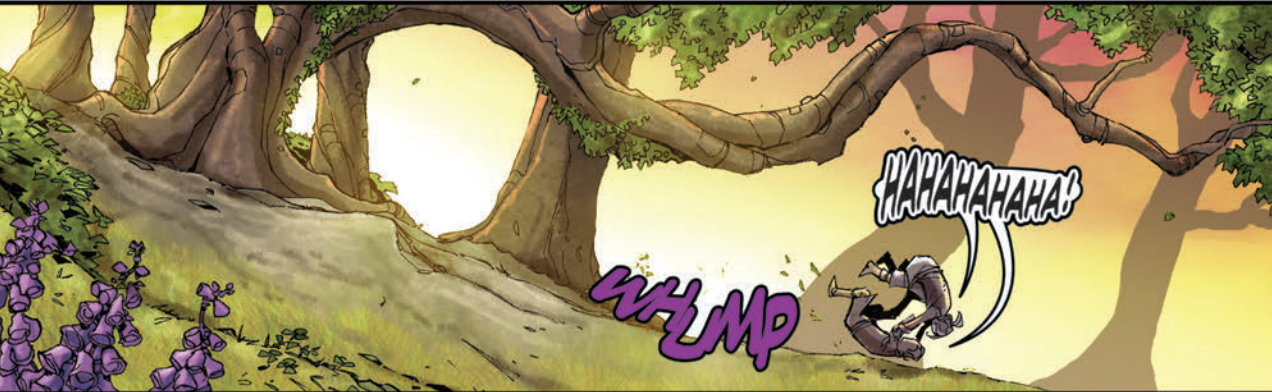


(YOU'LL NEVER CATCH DELINA THE PARING! I'M JU—)

(OH YEAH?!)  
TUG

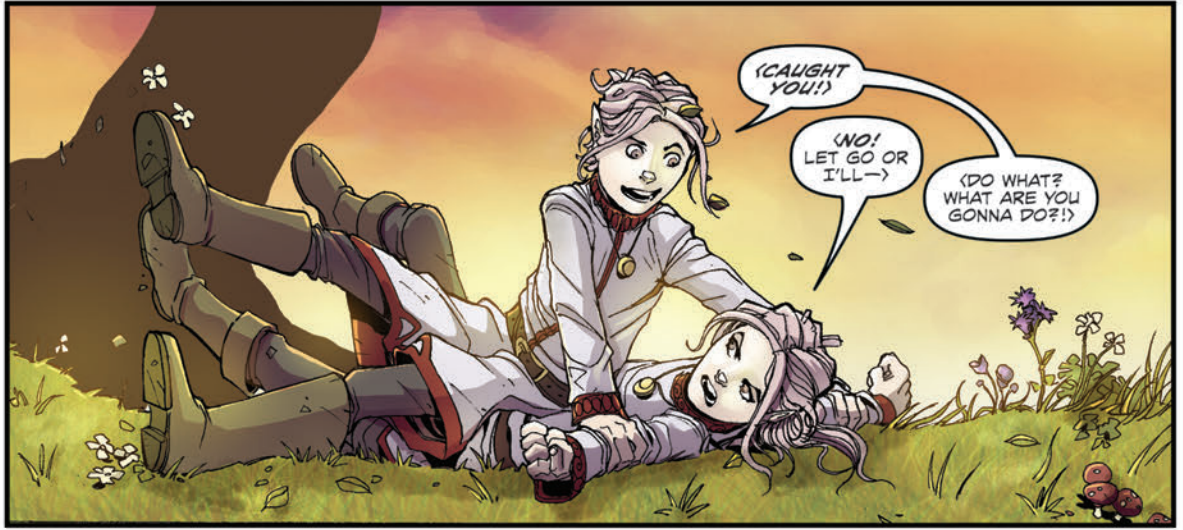


WLIHH!



HAHAHAHAHA!

WUUMP



(CAUGHT YOU!)

(NO! LET GO OR I'LL—)

(DO WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?!)



<I'M BIGGER, I'M STRONGER, AND I'M LEARNING SPELLCASTING!>

<I'LL ALWAYS WIN.>

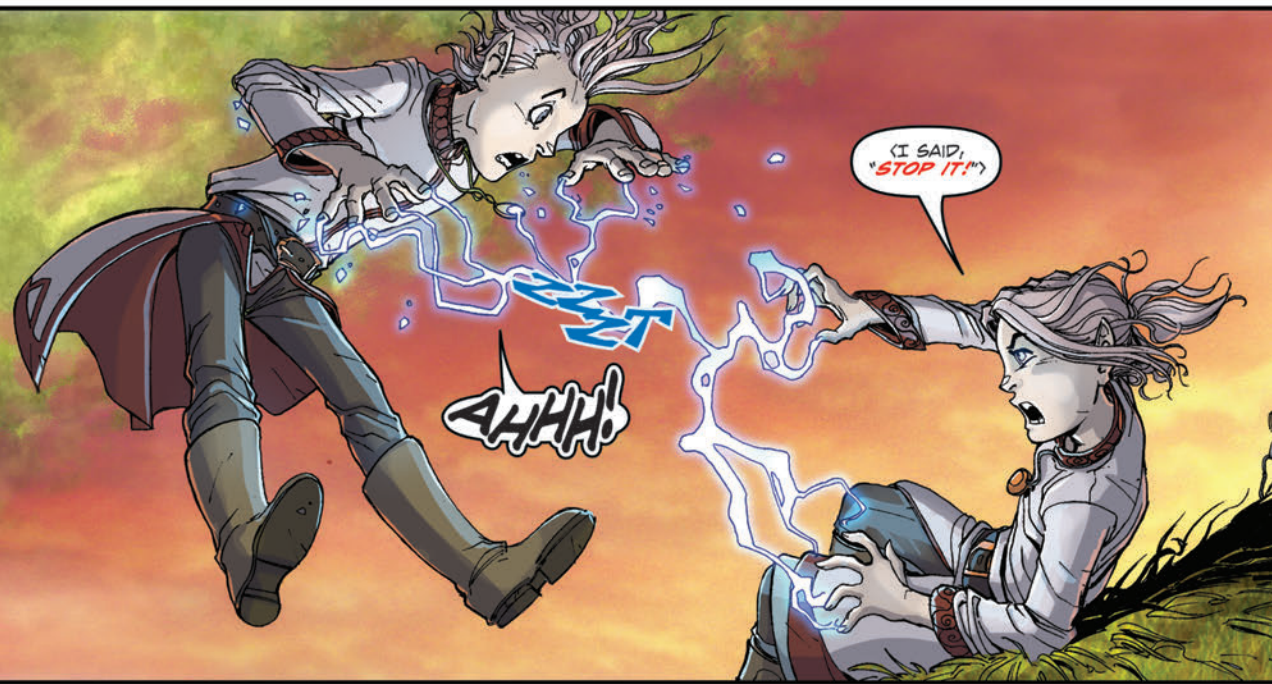
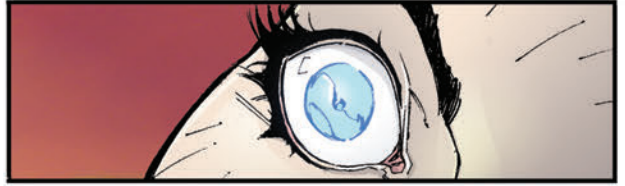
<STOP IT!>

<YOU'RE HURTING MY WRISTS!>



<IF YOU SHOWED UP FOR MAGIC STUDY, MAYBE YOU'D LEARN HOW TO FIGHT BACK, HMM?>

NNING!

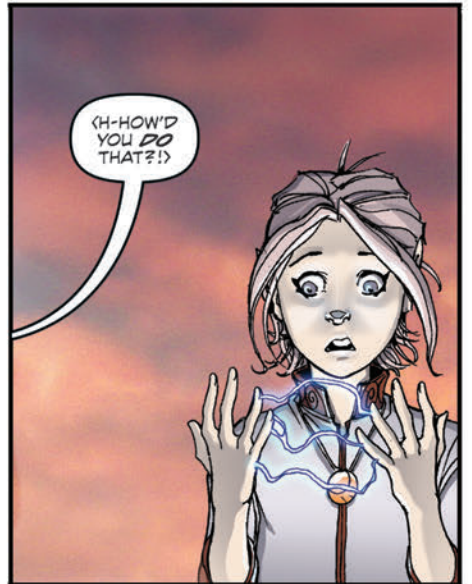


<I SAID, "STOP IT!">

AAAAH!



<OWWWW!>

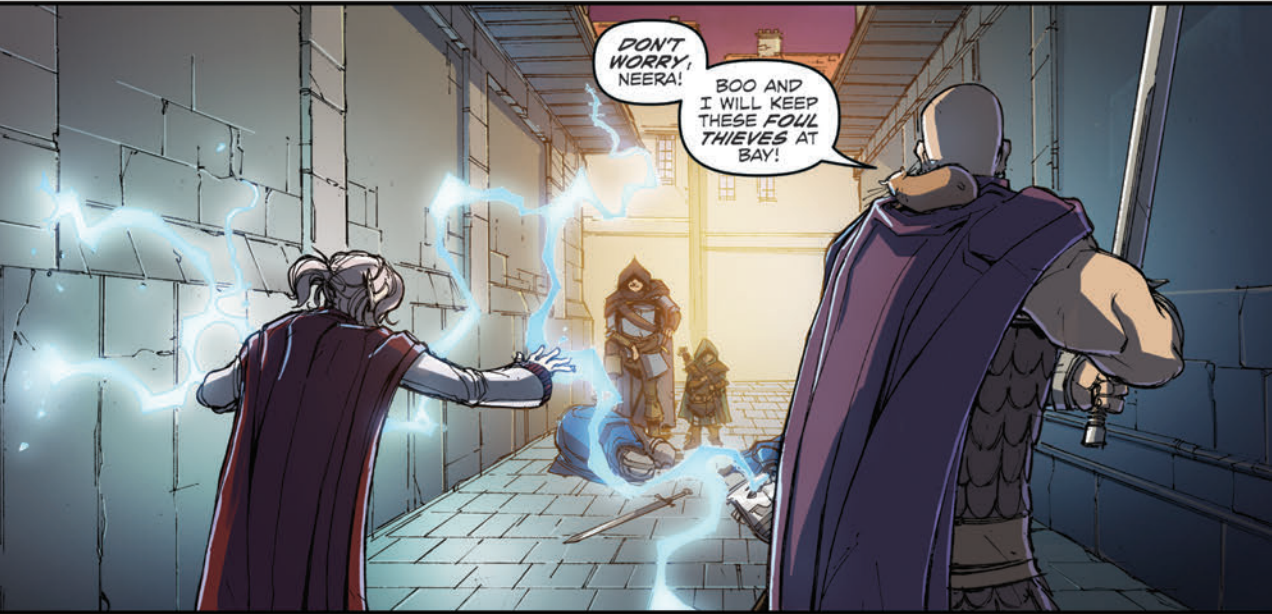


<H-HOW'D YOU DO THAT?!>



NOW.

STAY BACK!  
I MEAN IT!



DON'T  
WORRY,  
NEERA!

BOO AND  
I WILL KEEP  
THESE FOUL  
THIEVES AT  
BAY!



"FOUL?"

I'LL HAVE  
YOU KNOW  
THAT I SMELL  
FANTASTIC!



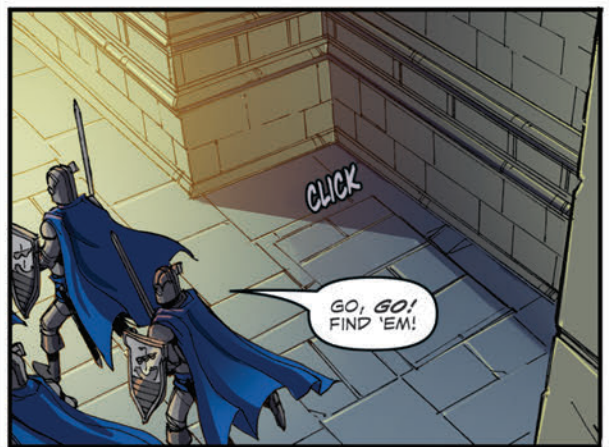
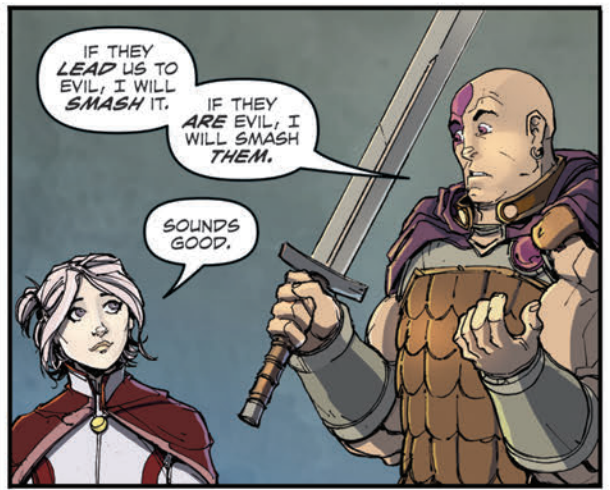
WE'RE  
NOT GONNA  
ROB YOU.

IF THE  
WATCH IS ON  
YOUR TAIL THEN  
I'M PRETTY SURE  
WE'RE GONNA  
GET ALONG  
JUST FINE.



THIS WAY!

SPEAKING OF  
THE WATCH, THEY'RE  
CLOSING IN SO, IF  
YOU WANNA ESCAPE,  
I RECOMMEND YOU  
FOLLOW US.





WELCOME,  
FELLOW  
OUTLAWS.

MAKE  
YOURSELVES  
AT HOME.



YOU SAID  
YOUR NAME WAS  
"CRY DULL"?

"KRYDLE."  
SAY IT A LI'L  
QUICKER.

SORRY.  
KRYDLE.

WHY DID YOU  
HELP  
US?



OUR  
QUESTIONS  
FIRST, HONEY.

WHY WAS THE  
WATCH CHASING  
YOU?

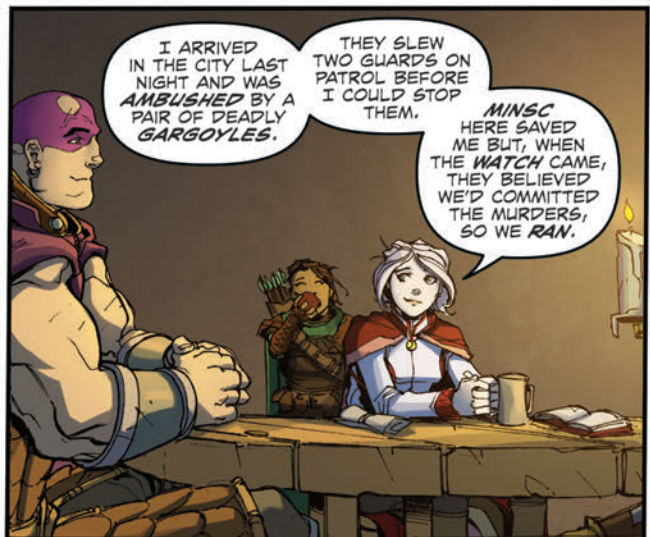
WHAT KINDA  
TROUBLE ARE  
YOU IN?



MY TWIN  
BROTHER  
DENIAK IS HERE  
IN BALDUR'S  
GATE. I NEED  
TO FIND HIM.

WE'VE SHARED A  
POWERFUL MYSTIC  
BOND SINCE WE WERE  
BORN. ABOUT A WEEK AGO I  
FELT A CHILL WASH OVER  
HIM, A STRANGE DARKNESS  
LIKE I'VE NEVER FELT  
BEFORE.

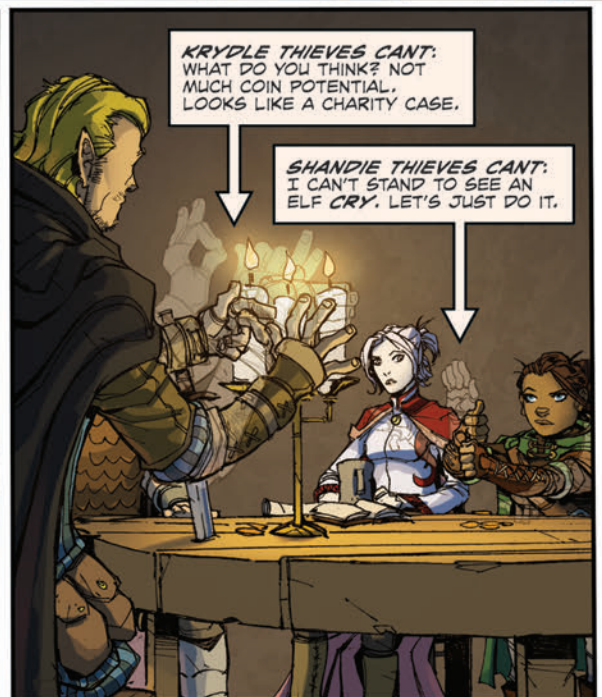
I DON'T  
KNOW EXACTLY  
WHAT IT IS, BUT  
HE'S IN SOME  
KIND OF  
DANGER.



I ARRIVED  
IN THE CITY LAST  
NIGHT AND WAS  
AMBUSHED BY A  
PAIR OF DEADLY  
GARGOYLES.

THEY SLEW  
TWO GUARDS  
ON PATROL BEFORE  
I COULD STOP  
THEM.

MINSC  
HERE SAVED  
ME BUT, WHEN  
THE WATCH CAME,  
THEY BELIEVED  
WE'D COMMITTED  
THE MURDERS,  
SO WE RAN.





*SIGH*

MY INTREPID PARTNER AND I WILL HELP YOU SNEAK OUT OF THE **UPPER CITY**, HERE WHERE ALL THE HOITY-TOITYS LIVE, DOWN TO THE **LOWER CITY**, WHERE THE WATCH WILL HAVE TROUBLE FINDING YOU.

ONCE YOU'RE THERE IT'LL ALSO BE A LOT EASIER TO FIND **INFO** ON WHERE YOUR BRO MIGHT BE HOLED UP.



THANK YOU!

YOU ARE **ROGUES OF GREAT HONOR!**

*SQUEE!*



NOW, NOW. I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR.

SNEAKING BETWEEN DISTRICTS AIN'T EASY OR CHEAP, SO I HOPE YOU'VE GOT SOME GOLD ON HAND.

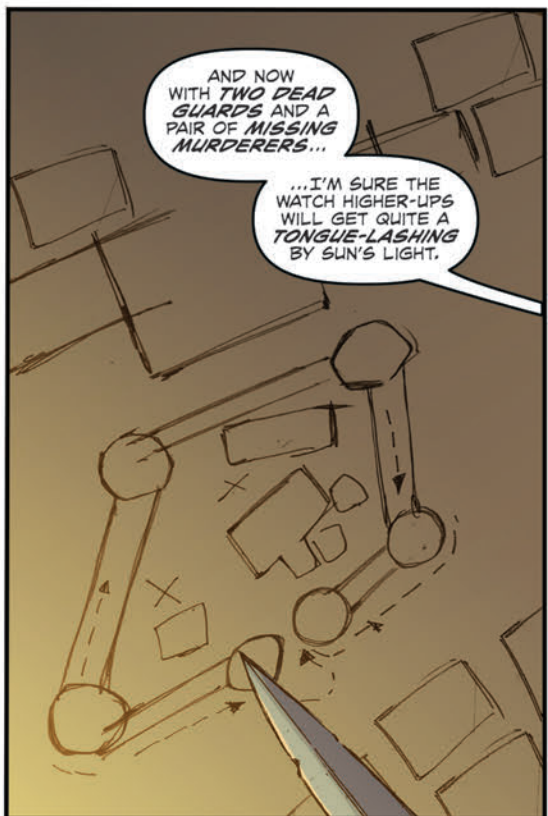
EVERYTHING HAS A PRICE HERE IN BALDUR'S GATE.



SHANDIE'S NOT KIDDING.

THE TENSIONS OF THE "**HAVES**" AND THE "**HAVE-NOTS**" IN THE UPPER AND LOWER CITIES ARE SOME OF THE WORST I'VE EVER SEEN.

POLITICS ARE BURNING HOT. EVERYBODY'S ON EDGE.



AND NOW WITH **TWO DEAD GUARDS** AND A PAIR OF **MISSING MURDERERS**...

...I'M SURE THE WATCH HIGHER-UPS WILL GET QUITE A **TONGUE-LASHING** BY SUN'S LIGHT.

THE WATCH CITADEL.

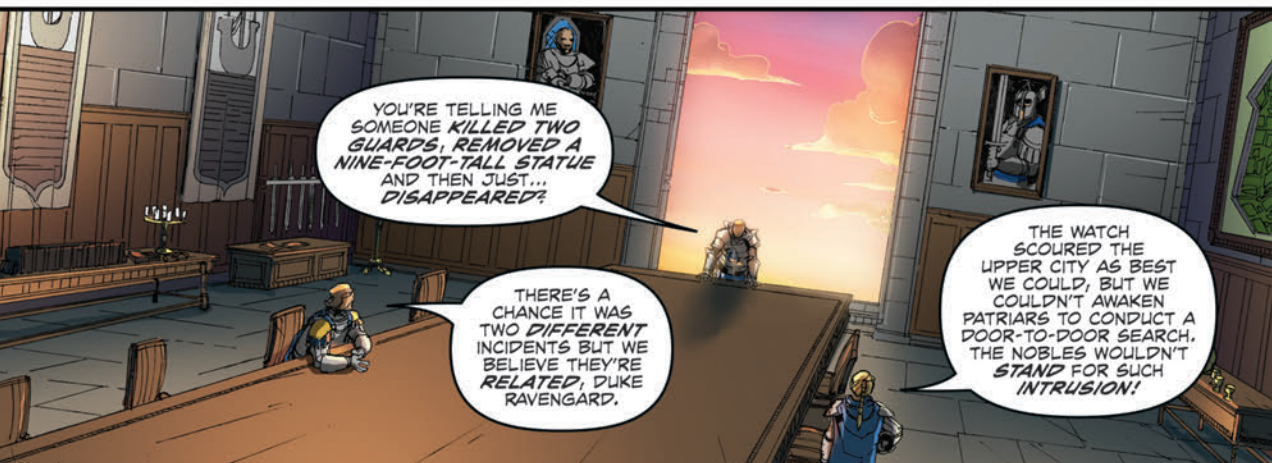
PREPOSTEROUS!



YOU'RE TELLING ME SOMEONE *KILLED TWO GUARDS*, *REMOVED A NINE-FOOT-TALL STATUE* AND THEN JUST... *DISAPPEARED?*

THERE'S A CHANCE IT WAS TWO *DIFFERENT* INCIDENTS BUT WE BELIEVE THEY'RE *RELATED*, DUKE RAVENGARD.

THE WATCH SCoured THE UPPER CITY AS BEST WE COULD, BUT WE COULDN'T AWAKEN PATRIARS TO CONDUCT A DOOR-TO-DOOR SEARCH. THE NOBLES WOULDN'T *STAND* FOR SUCH *INTRUSION!*



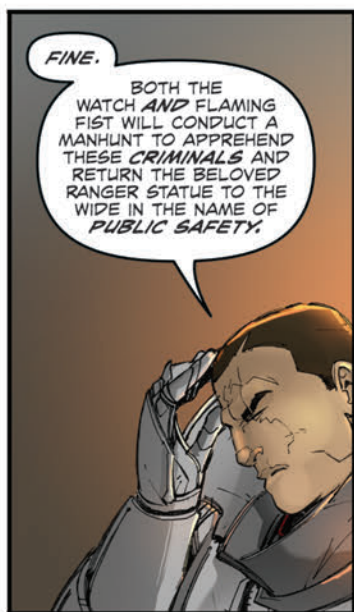
SO NOW YOU NEED THE *FLAMING FIST COMPANY* TO COME *CLEAN UP* THE WATCH'S MESS AGAIN, IS THAT RIGHT?

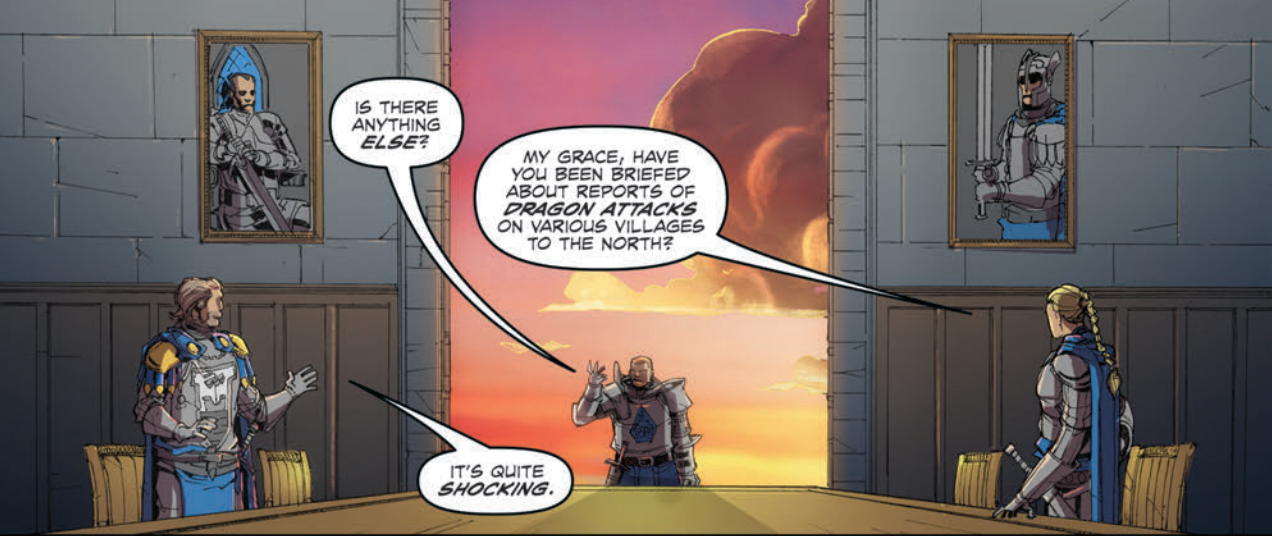
WITH ALL *DUE RESPECT*, YOUR GRACE!

TWO OF MY MEN ARE *DEAD*. THE *MURDERERS* ARE STILL AT LARGE. THOSE ARE THE *FACTS*.

*FINE*.

BOTH THE WATCH *AND* FLAMING FIST WILL CONDUCT A MANHUNT TO APPREHEND THESE *CRIMINALS* AND RETURN THE BELOVED RANGER STATUE TO THE WIDE IN THE NAME OF *PUBLIC SAFETY*.

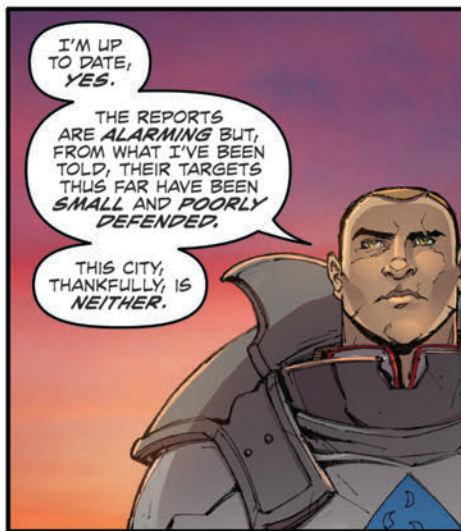




IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?

MY GRACE, HAVE YOU BEEN BRIEFED ABOUT REPORTS OF **DRAGON ATTACKS** ON VARIOUS VILLAGES TO THE NORTH?

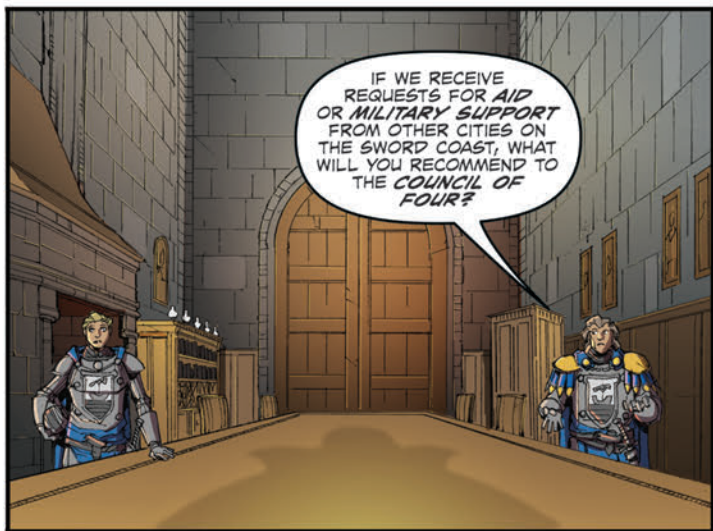
IT'S QUITE **SHOCKING**.



I'M UP TO DATE, **YES**.

THE REPORTS ARE **ALARMING** BUT, FROM WHAT I'VE BEEN TOLD, THEIR TARGETS THUS FAR HAVE BEEN **SMALL AND POORLY DEFENDED**.

THIS CITY, THANKFULLY, IS **NEITHER**.



IF WE RECEIVE REQUESTS FOR **AID** OR **MILITARY SUPPORT** FROM OTHER CITIES ON THE SWORD COAST, WHAT WILL YOU RECOMMEND TO THE **COUNCIL OF FOUR**?



BALDUR'S GATE HOLDS A **DELICATE BALANCE** THAT REQUIRES **ALL** OF OUR PRECIOUS RESOURCES TO **MAINTAIN**. THAT'S THE GREATER GOOD.

UNTIL WE DEAL WITH THE **CRIME** RUNNING **RAMPANT** ON OUR STREETS AND **SCUTTling** IN TUNNELS BELOW OUR FEET, WE CAN'T WORRY ABOUT CHAOS HAPPENING **OUTSIDE** THESE WALLS.

THE UNDERCELLAR,  
HOME OF THE FETCHER.

WELL,  
IF IT ISN'T  
KRYDLE AND  
SHANDIE...

...TWO OF  
MY FAVORITE  
SCOUNDRELS!





WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR IS **INFORMATION** ON A **MISSING PERSON** AND **SAFE PASSAGE** FOR A **COUPLE FRIENDS** OF MINE BETWEEN UPPER AND LOWER.

EXACTLY. WHAT HE SAID.

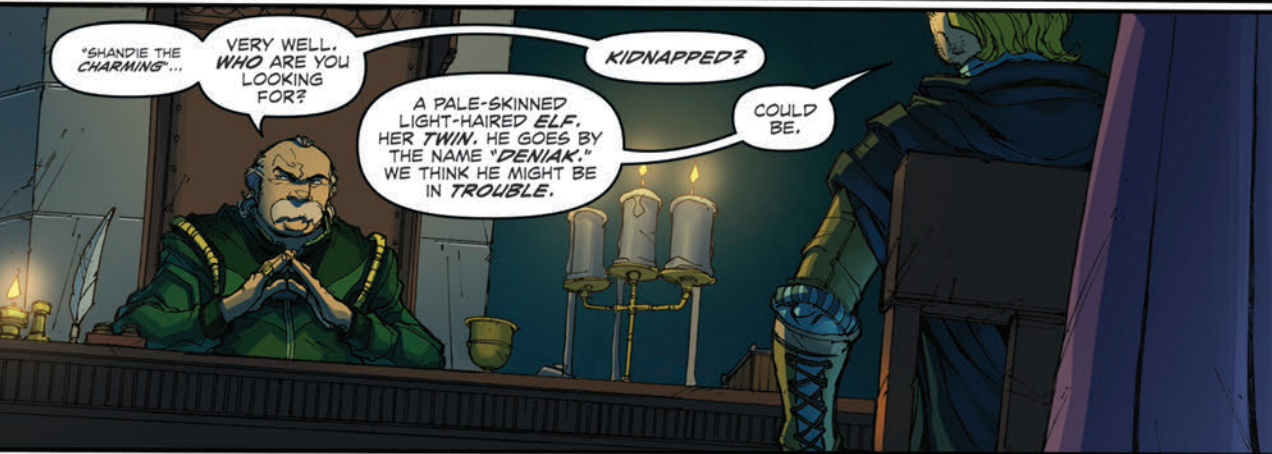


"SAFE PASSAGE."

WORRIED ABOUT BEING SEEN?

DON'T GIVE HER THAT **GITCHY EYE**, OSGUR!

JUST NAME YER **DAMN PRICE** AND LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!



"SHANDIE THE CHARMING"...

VERY WELL. WHO ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

KIDNAPPED?

A PALE-SKINNED LIGHT-HAIRED **ELF**. HER **TWIN**. HE GOES BY THE NAME "**DENIAK**." WE THINK HE MIGHT BE IN **TROUBLE**.

COULD BE.



HMMM.



I WILL DO THIS FOR YOU, MY FRIENDS.

**INFORMATION** ON THE **ELF**. A **SECURE ROUTE** TO THE **SHADY SIDE** OF **BALDUR'S GATE**.

**NO GOLD**. **NO GEMS**. **NO DEBT** HANGING OVER YOUR HEAD...





WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT? CAN WE TRUST HIM?

LESS TALKIN', MORE WALKIN'.



BOO'S NOSE OF JUDGMENT IS FLAWLESS.

IF HE DIDN'T LIKE THE WALRUS-FACED MAN, THEN HE'S NOT TO BE TRUSTED.

OKAY...

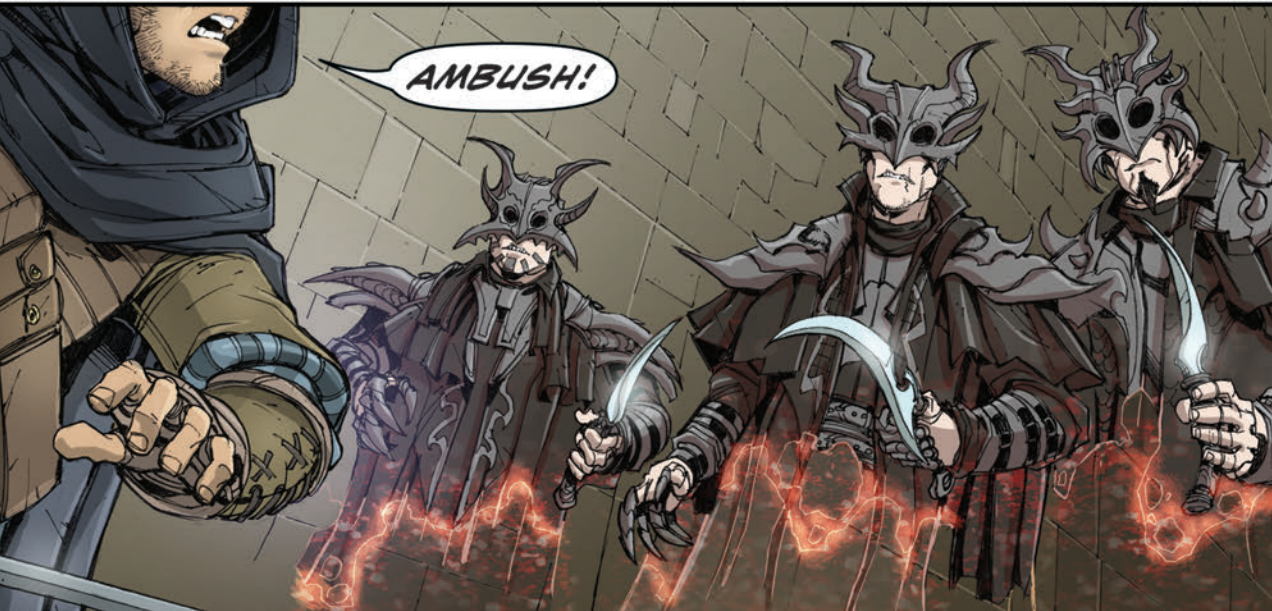


WE CAN DISCUSS ALL THIS WHEN WE'RE SOMEWHERE—

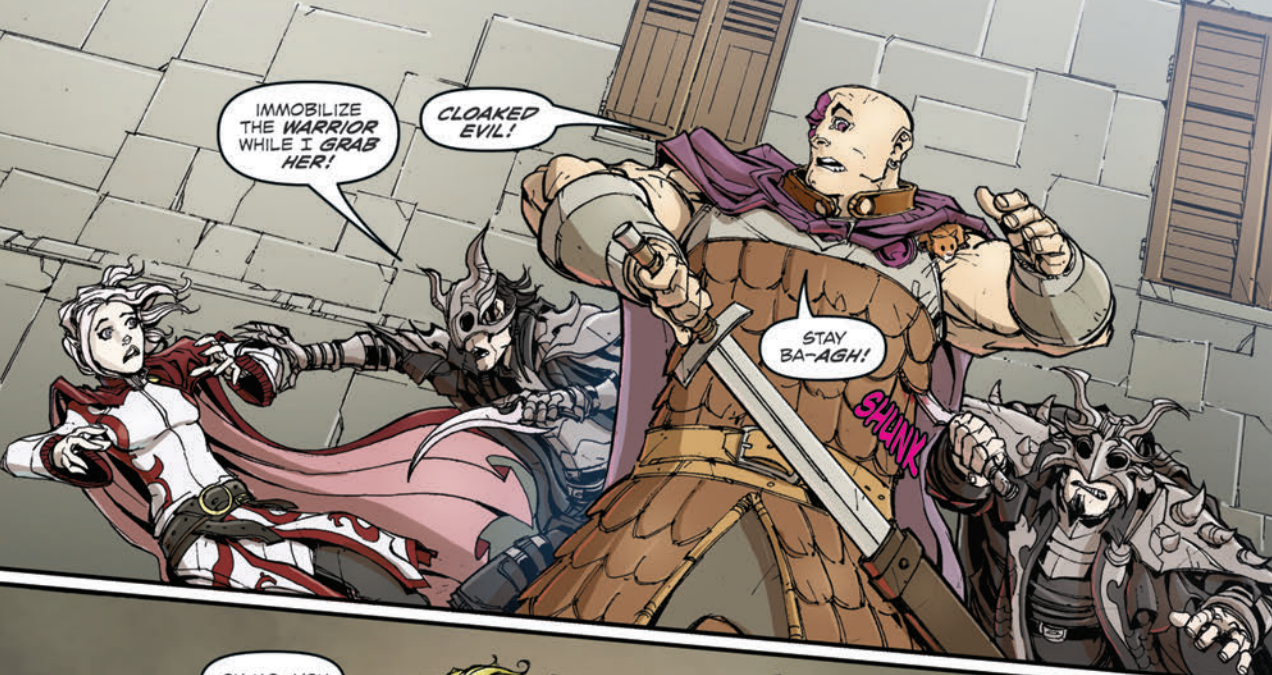


—SAFE?

DID JA HEAR THAT?!



AMBUSH!

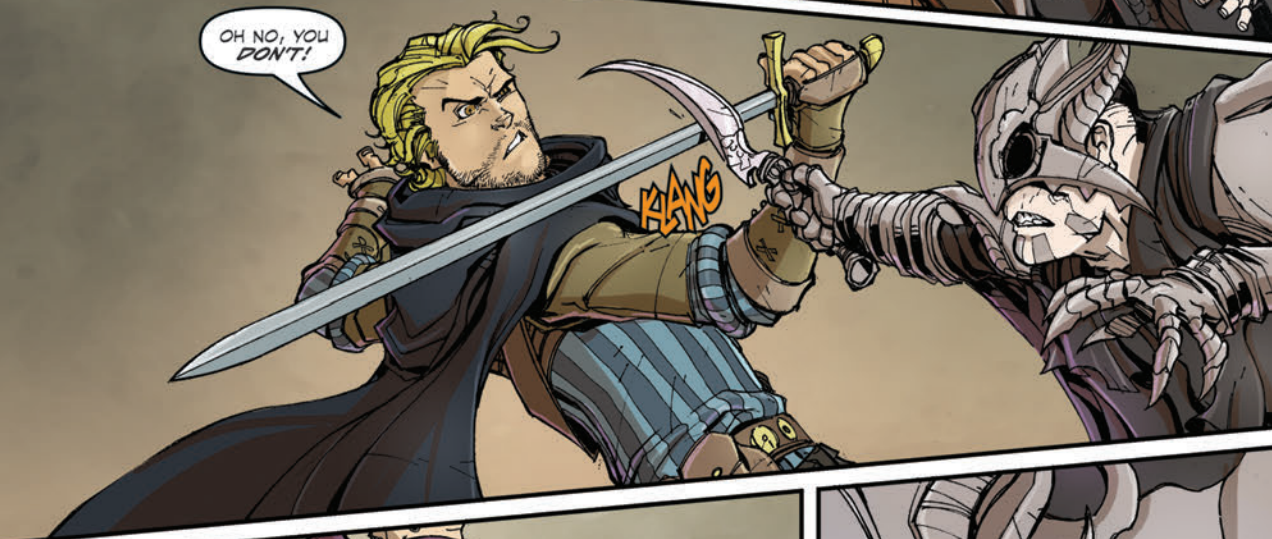


IMMOBILIZE THE WARRIOR WHILE I GRAB HER!

CLOAKED EVIL!

STAY BA-ASH!

SHINY



OH NO, YOU DON'T!

KLANG



IDIOTS ALWAYS FORGET TO LOOK DOWN...

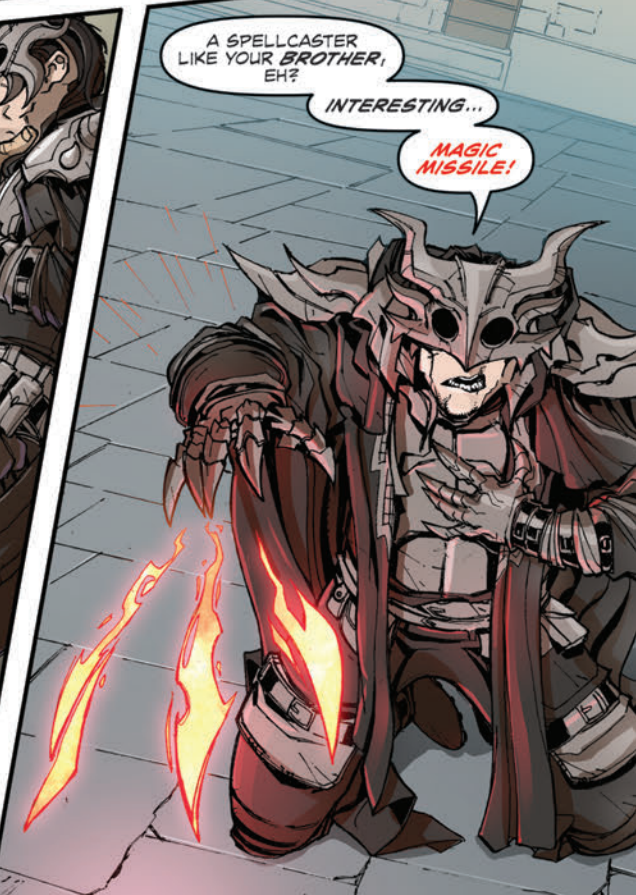
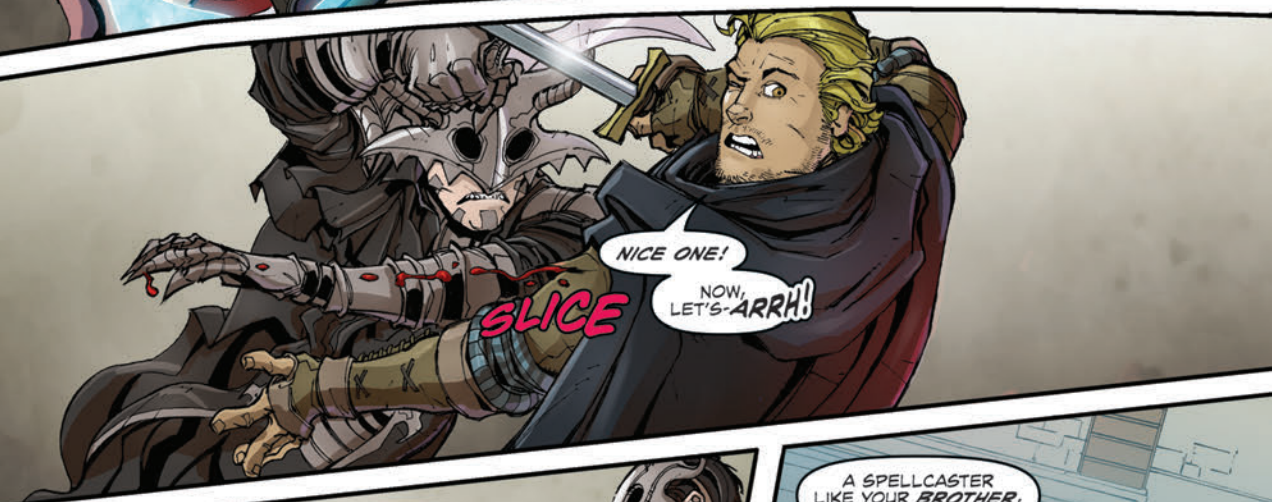
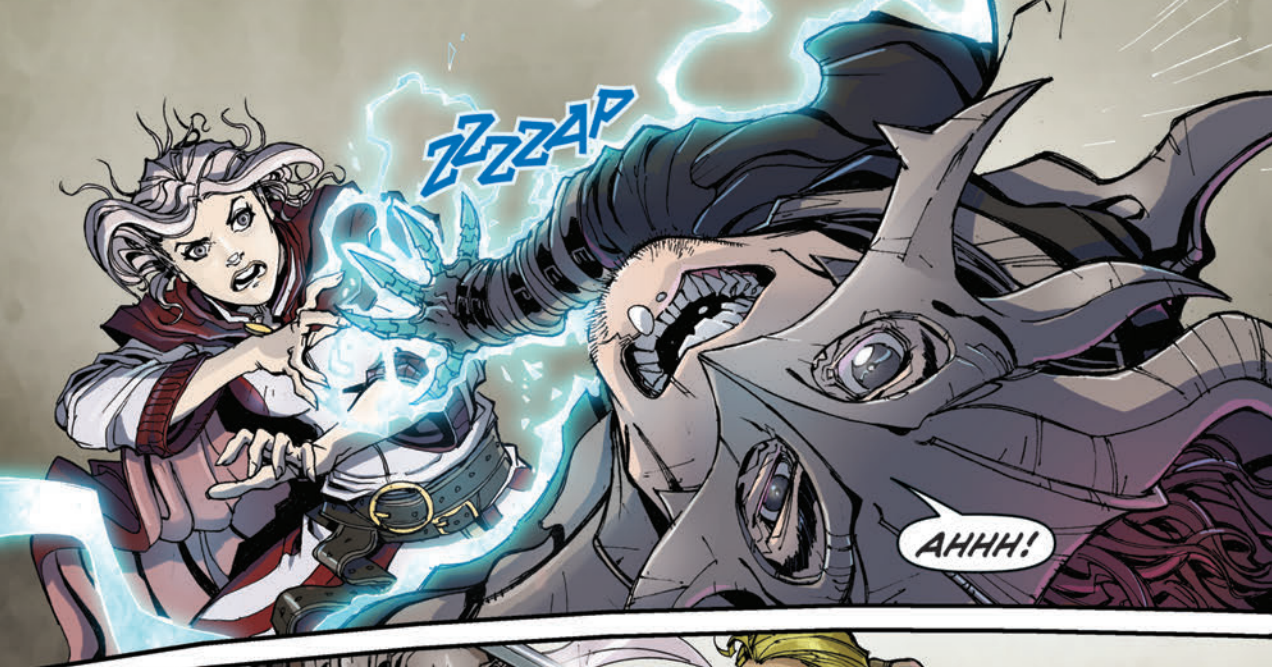
NG'AH!

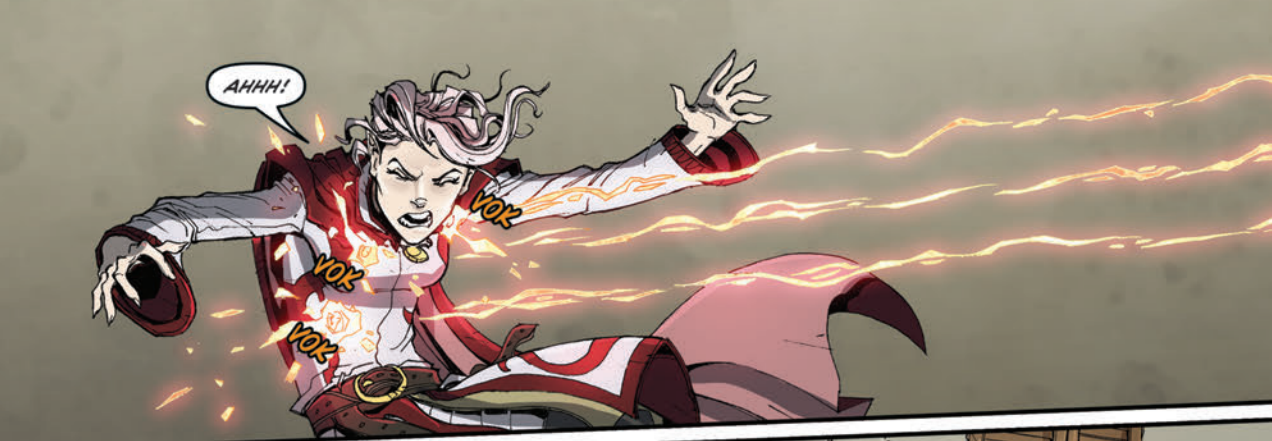
SLASH

SURPRISE!



NANG—





AHHH!

YOK

YOK

YOK



NEERA!

DOOF!

KA-FWHUMP



OUR ADVANTAGE HAS PASSED, BROTHERS!

FLEE!

SLASH



THAT'S RIGHT, YA DOGS! RUN!

IF WE SEE YA AGAIN, YER DEAD MEAT!



ARE YOU OKAY? SHOULD WE PREPARE A HEROIC FUNERAL?

I'M QUITE SORE, BUT IT'LL PASS. I'M NOT DYING.

GARGOYLES, CLOAKED BADDIES... WHATEVER YOUR BROTHER'S WRAPPED UP IN HERE, IT AIN'T GOOD.



THAT STOLEN STATUE THE FETCHER TALKED ABOUT... THAT'S YOU, RIGHT?

I AM MINSC AND QUITE BELOVED, BUT I DO NOT KNOW WHAT STATUE-NESS YOU SPEAK OF, MADAM.

YOU'RE MINSC, THE BELOVED RANGER!



WHERE'D YA COME FROM?

RASHEMEN!

HOW'D YA GET HERE?

WALKING?



HE DOESN'T HAVE THE ANSWERS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, SHANDIE. IT'S ALL A BIG MESS.

I'M NOT JUST A SORCERESS... I'M A WILD MAGE.

WHEN I FOUGHT THE GARGOYLES IN THE MARKET LAST NIGHT, MY BIG DEFENSIVE SPELL FLEW OUT OF CONTROL AND... THE STATUE... WELL... IT BECAME MINSC.



SQUEE!



AS MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS RIGHT NOW, I'VE GOTTA GO.

THE PARLIAMENT OF PEERS IS HAVING A BIG SOCIABLE AT SUNDOWN. I'VE GOTTA DELIVER THIS LETTER OR ELSE WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SMUGGLE YOU PAST THE GUARD POSTS OR FIND DELINA'S BROTHER.

STAY HERE. STAY SAFE.



KA-CHAK



I FEEL SO BAD ABOUT ALL THIS. NOTHING EVER WORKS THE WAY I PLAN IT OUT.

THE PATHWAY TO GOODNESS IS FRAUGHT WITH STICKY BITS. TOGETHER WE WILL UN-STICK THEM.



DO YOU KNOW WHO KRYDLE IS GOING TO SEE?

YEAH... IT'S NOT GONNA BE PRETTY.



KRYDLE DOES EVERYTHING HE CAN TO DISTANCE HIMSELF FROM HIS... HOW DO I PUT IT... SECRET HERITAGE.

MOST PEOPLE WOULD BE HAPPY TO KNOW SOMEONE ON THE PARLIAMENT OF PEERS, BUT KRYDLE HATES ALL NOBILITY...

...ESPECIALLY HIS ELF DAD, CORAN.



CORAN!

BONK

MY FRIEND AND ALLY!

WICKED OF WIT AND BOLD OF BLADE!



WE'LL FIND  
CORAN AND HE  
WILL HELP  
US!

C'MON,  
BOO! IT'S  
PARTY-TIME!

SQUEEEEE!





Art by Sarah Stone

# CHAPTER 3



**T**HE UPPER CITY OF BALDUR'S GATE EXUDES WEALTH. ITS BUILDINGS' SHUTTERS AND DOORS BEAR VIBRANT COLORS AND ARE SMARTLY MAINTAINED. EVERY UPPER CITY CITIZEN IS EITHER A PATRIAR, A SERVANT OF A PATRIAR, A WATCH MEMBER, OR AN AFFLUENT BUSINESS OWNER.

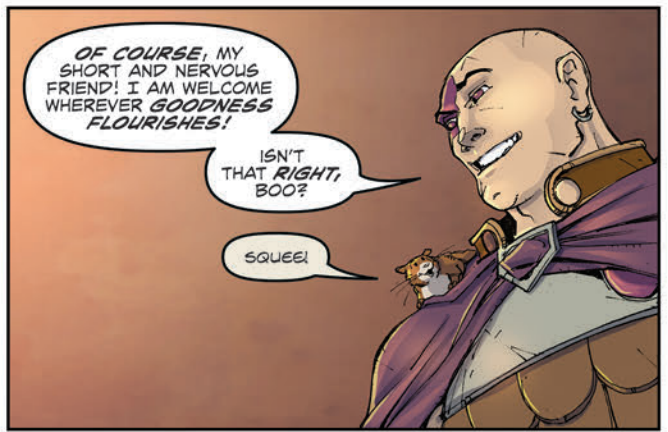
THE UPPER CRUST'S SOCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDE GOSSIPING; SMALL CONTESTS OF SKILL, SUCH AS BOARD GAMES OR DARTS; AND AN ENDLESS CYCLE OF DANCES AND REVELS.

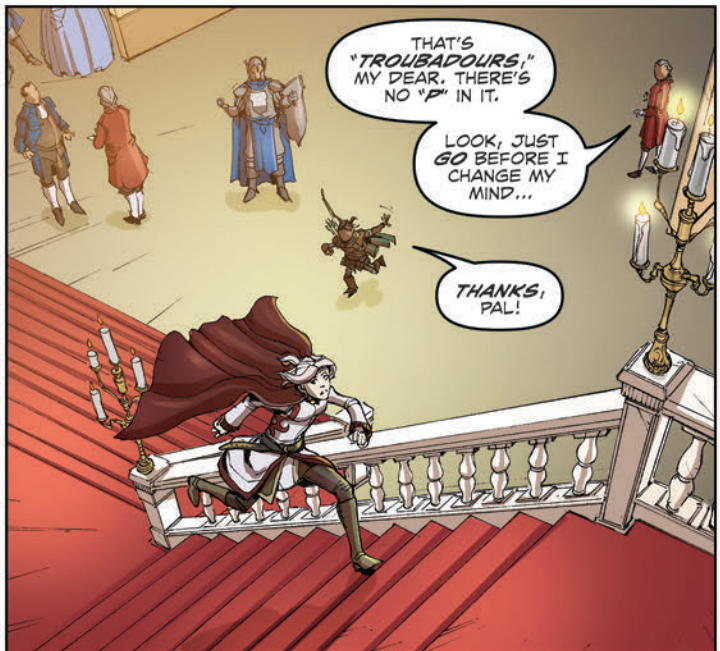
GREETINGS AND SALUTATIONS!

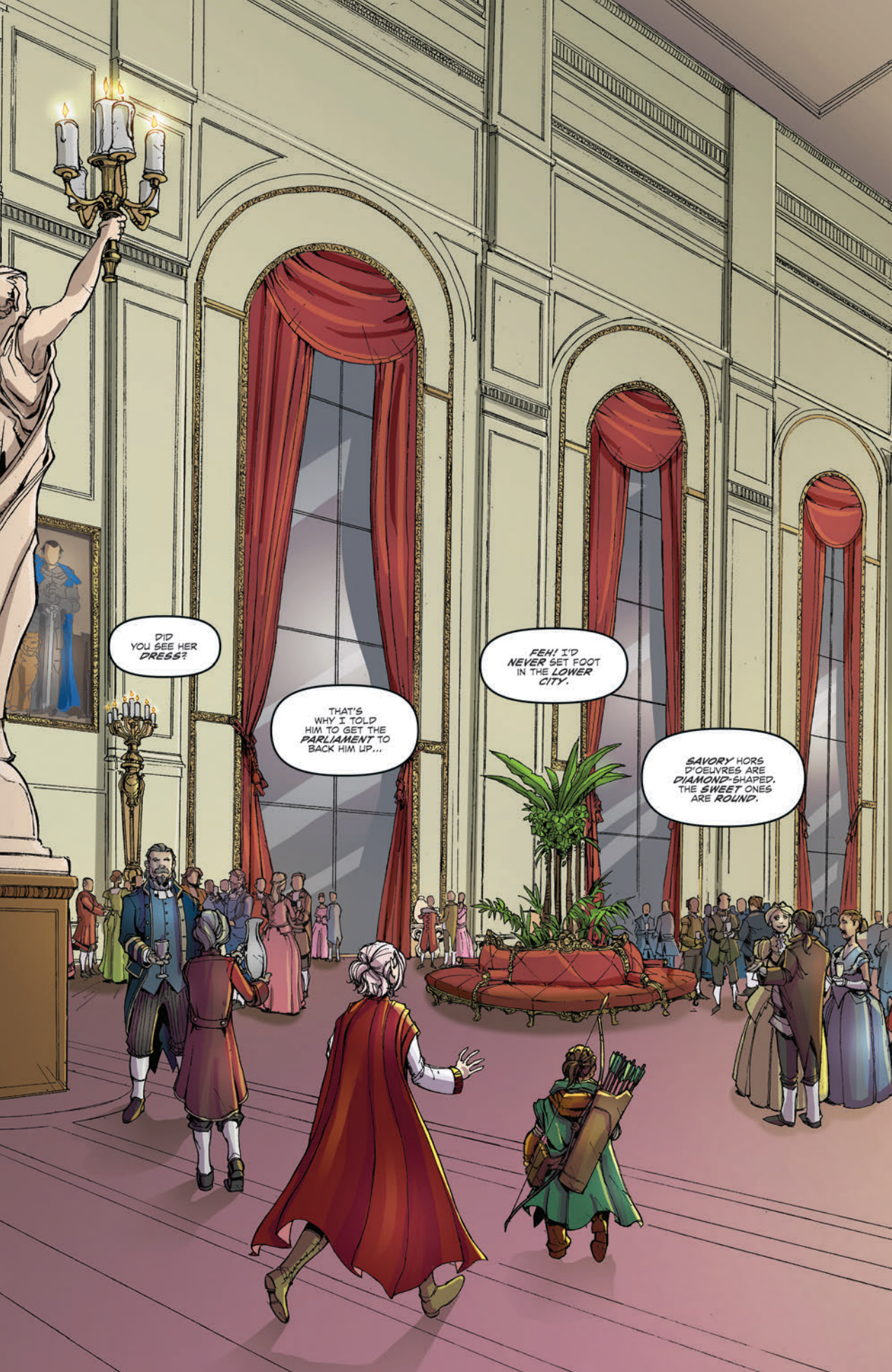
WE ARE READY TO PARTAKE OF YOUR CELEBRATORY FESTIVENESS!

UH...







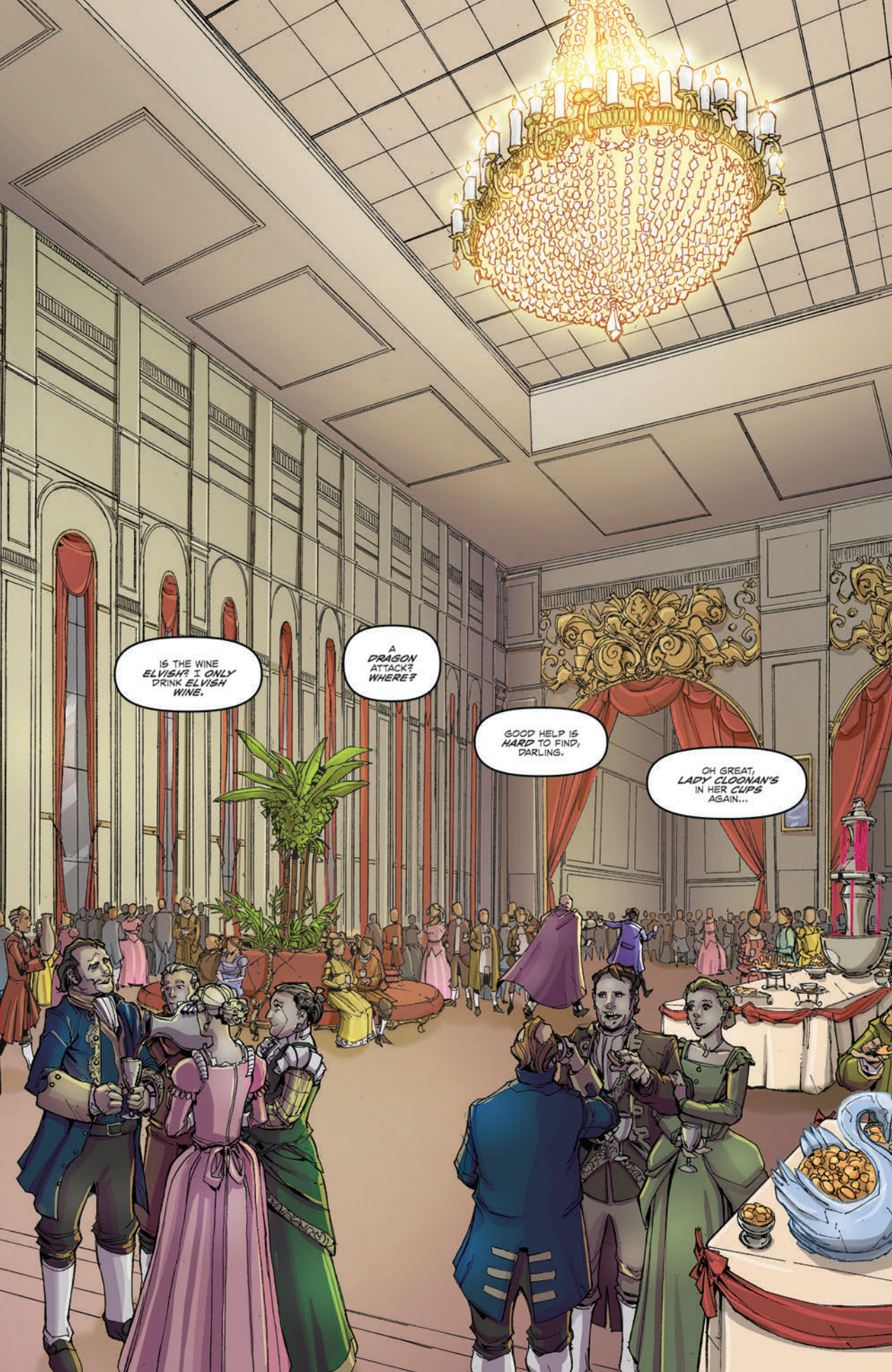


DID YOU SEE HER DRESS?

THAT'S WHY I TOLD HIM TO GET THE PARLIAMENT TO BACK HIM UP...

FEH! I'D NEVER SET FOOT IN THE LOWER CITY.

SAVORY HORS D'OEUVRES ARE DIAMOND-SHAPED, THE SWEET ONES ARE ROUND.



IS THE WINE  
ELVISH? I ONLY  
DRINK ELVISH  
WINE.

A  
DRAGON  
ATTACK?  
WHERE?

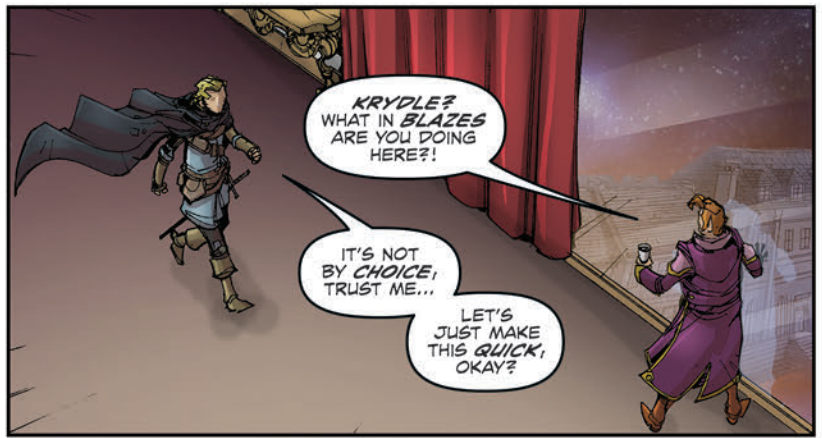
GOOD HELP IS  
HARD TO FIND,  
DARLING.

OH GREAT,  
LADY CLOONAN'S  
IN HER CUPS  
AGAIN...



CORAN...

HMM?



KRYDLE?  
WHAT IN *BLAZES*  
ARE YOU DOING  
HERE?!

IT'S NOT  
BY CHOICE,  
TRUST ME...

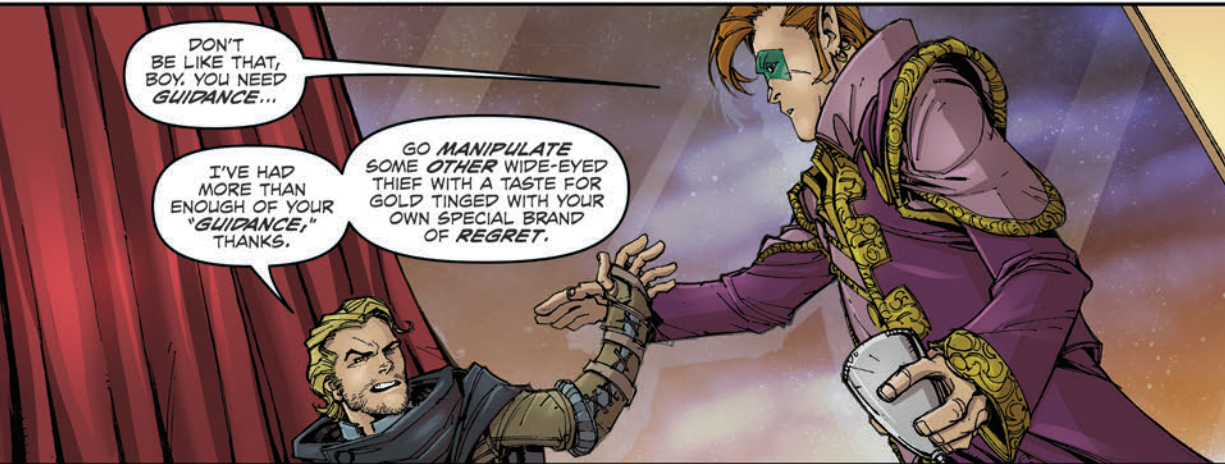
LET'S  
JUST MAKE  
THIS *QUICK*;  
OKAY?



DON'T BE LIKE  
THAT. I HAVEN'T  
SEEN YOU IN  
*AGES*!

AND  
FOR *GOOD*  
REASON!

JUST BEING  
HERE AMONGST  
THESE *PIG-HEADED*  
NOBLES MAKES ME  
WANT TO *RETCH*!



DON'T  
BE LIKE THAT,  
BOY. YOU NEED  
*GUIDANCE*...

I'VE HAD  
MORE THAN  
ENOUGH OF YOUR  
*"GUIDANCE,"*  
THANKS.

GO *MANIPULATE*  
SOME *OTHER* WIDE-EYED  
THIEF WITH A TASTE FOR  
GOLD TINGED WITH YOUR  
OWN SPECIAL BRAND  
OF *REGRET*.



MORE WINE,  
SIR?

NO. *PISS*  
OFF.



FINE.

I SEE  
THERE'S NO  
*REASONING*  
WITH YOU  
THEN.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?



THIS.

I TOLD SOMEONE I'D DELIVER IT TO YOU IN PERSON.

NOW I HAVE.

THAT'S IT? WE'RE NOT GOING TO TALK AT ALL?



WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY?

"NICE JOB BECOMING ONE OF THE CITY'S ILLUSTRIOUS OPPRESSORS"?

"THANKS FOR REJECTING YOUR PRINCIPLES AT EVERY TURN"?

"I'M SURE MOM WOULD BE PROUD"?



IS THERE A WEASEL RACE TOMORROW?

UM... EXCUSE ME...

OH MY, I HOPE SO.

WINTORY WON 5 PLATINUM AT THE LAST ONE!



NO POINT LETTIN' GOOD FOOD GO TO WASTE...



PARDON M—

BUMP



HEY!

YOU'RE ONE OF THE JERKS WHO AMBUSHED US!\*

YOU!

\*LAST ISSUE.



THE SISTER IS HERE!  
GET HER!



NO!



FWOO

UH OH...



NEERA, DID YOU FIND EVIL?!

BOO, WE MUST ASSIST HER!



IGNORE THE LOU! DON'T LET THE GIRL ESCAPE!

HAMSTER JUSTICE CANNOT BE IGNORED, UGLY MAN!



KRYDLE,  
WE'VE GOTTA  
GET OUTTA  
HERE!



WHAT IN  
THE—  
AW  
GEEZ...  
IT'S  
NEVER  
EASY, IS  
IT?



HA!

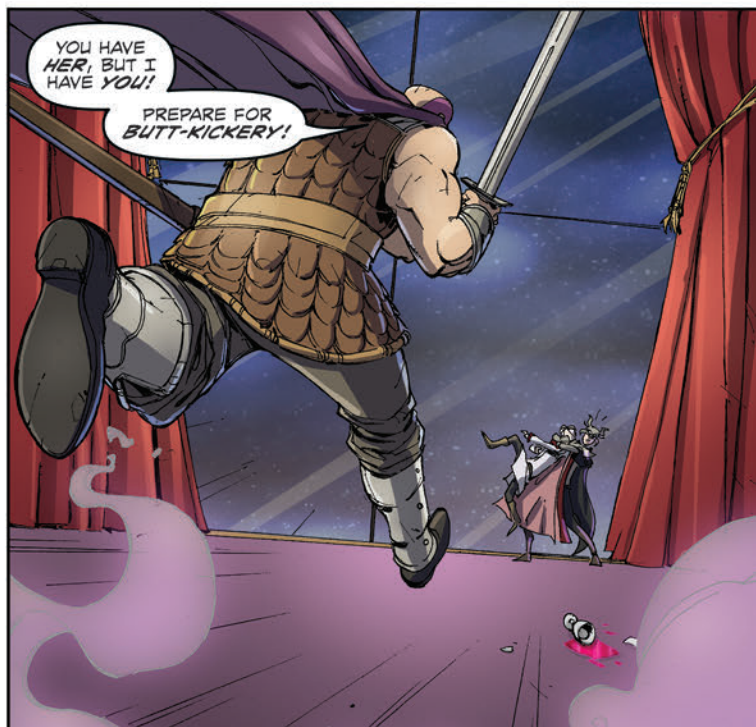
KER-QUUNK

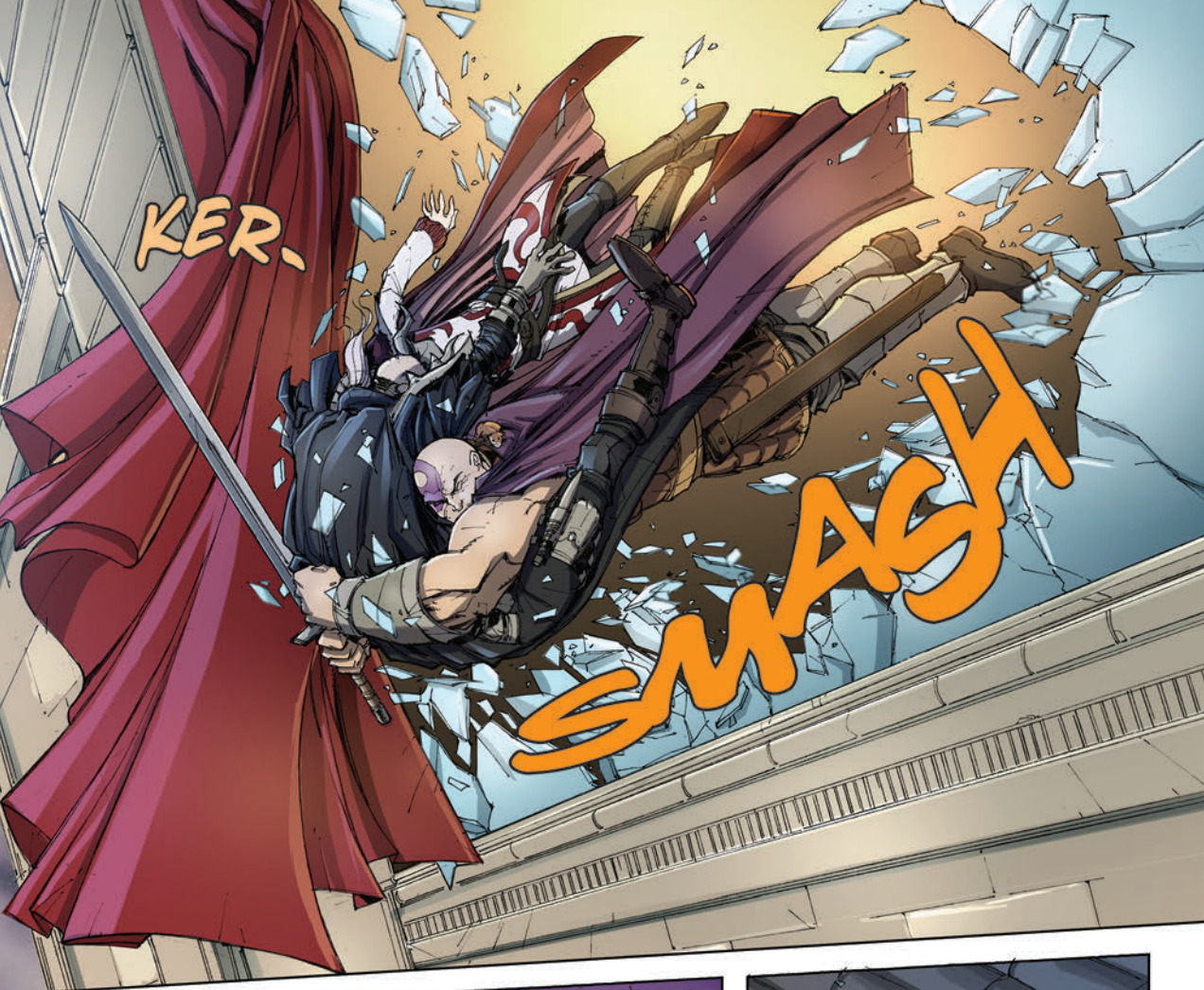


AGGH!

THOK







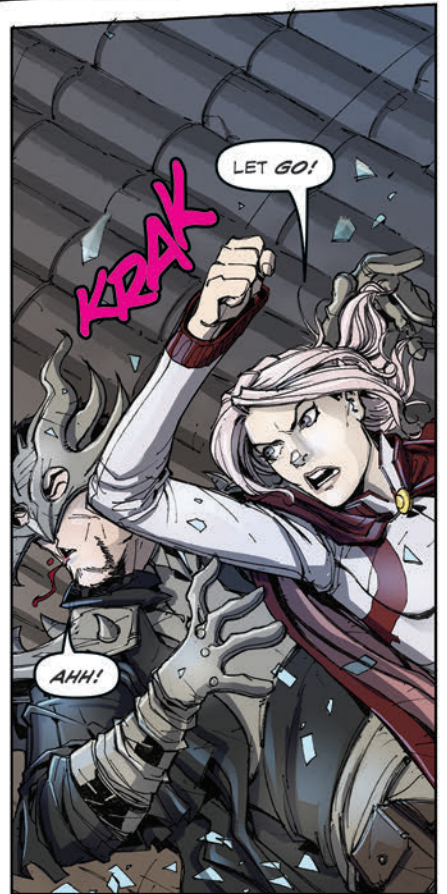
KER.

SMASH



UHH!

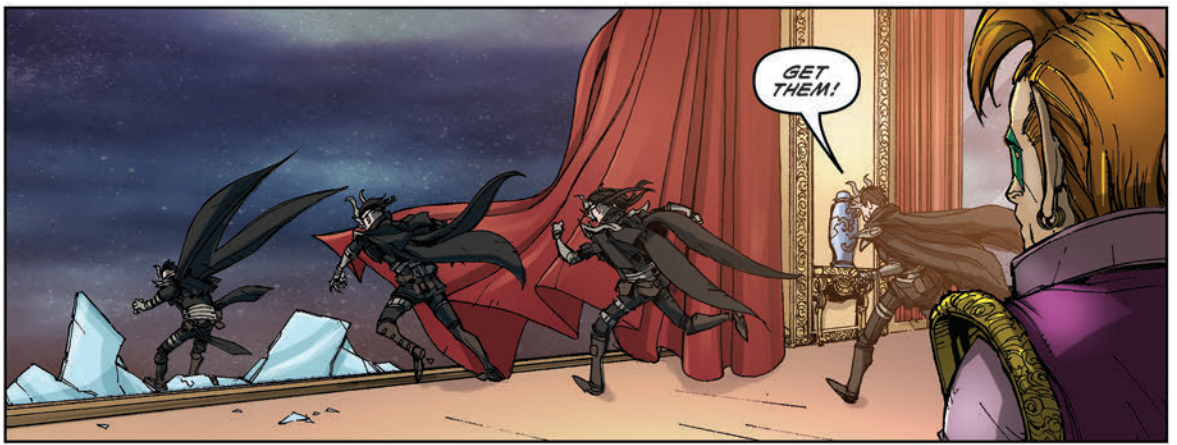
WHUMP



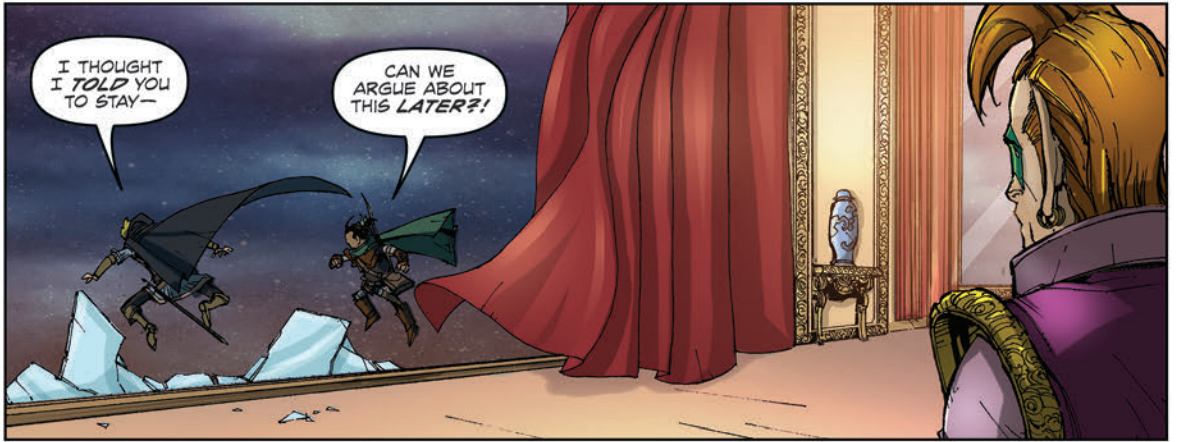
LET GO!

KRAK

AHH!

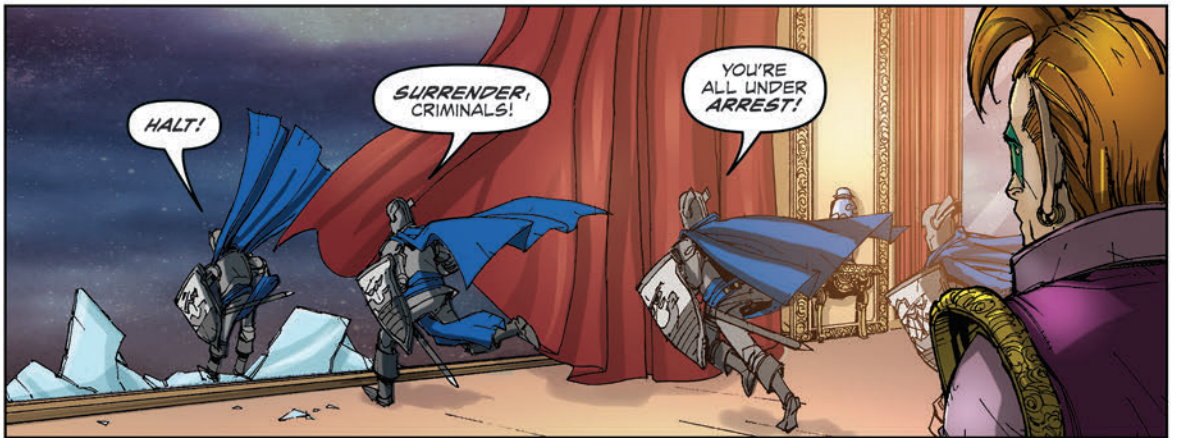


GET THEM!



I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STAY-

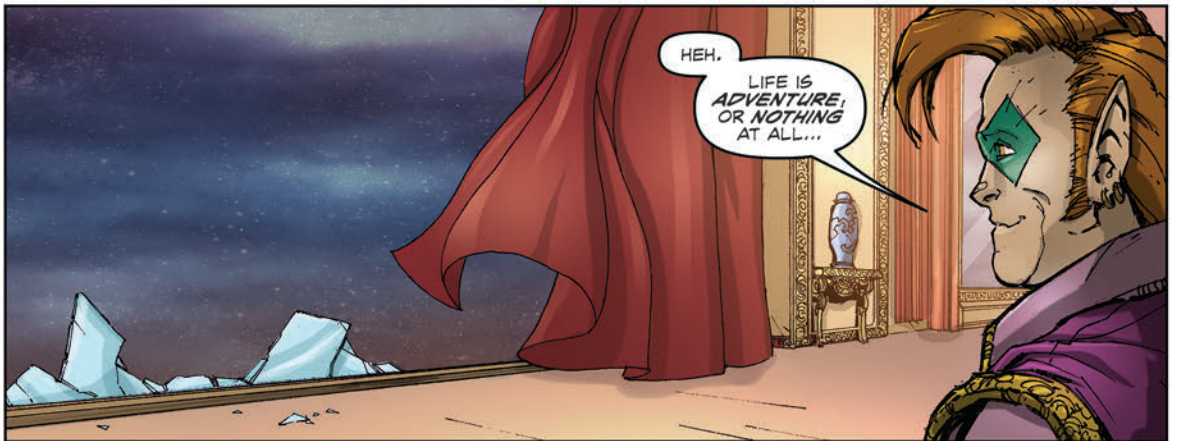
CAN WE ARGUE ABOUT THIS LATER?!



HALT!

SURRENDER, CRIMINALS!

YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!

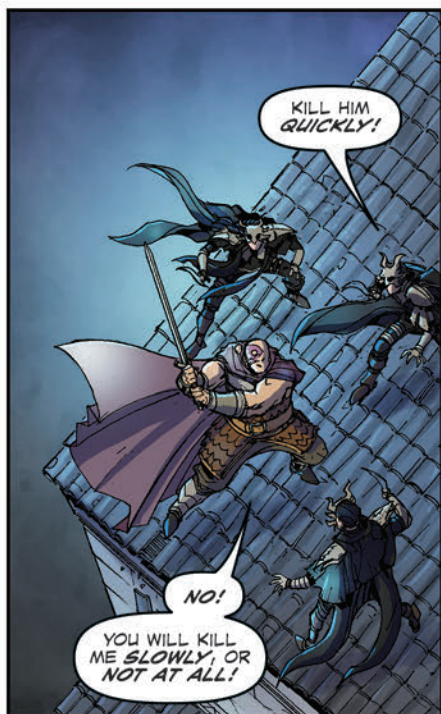


HEH.  
LIFE IS ADVENTURE,  
OR NOTHING  
AT ALL...



STAY STILL, DAMN YOU!

SLIDE



KILL HIM QUICKLY!

NO!

YOU WILL KILL ME SLOWLY, OR NOT AT ALL!



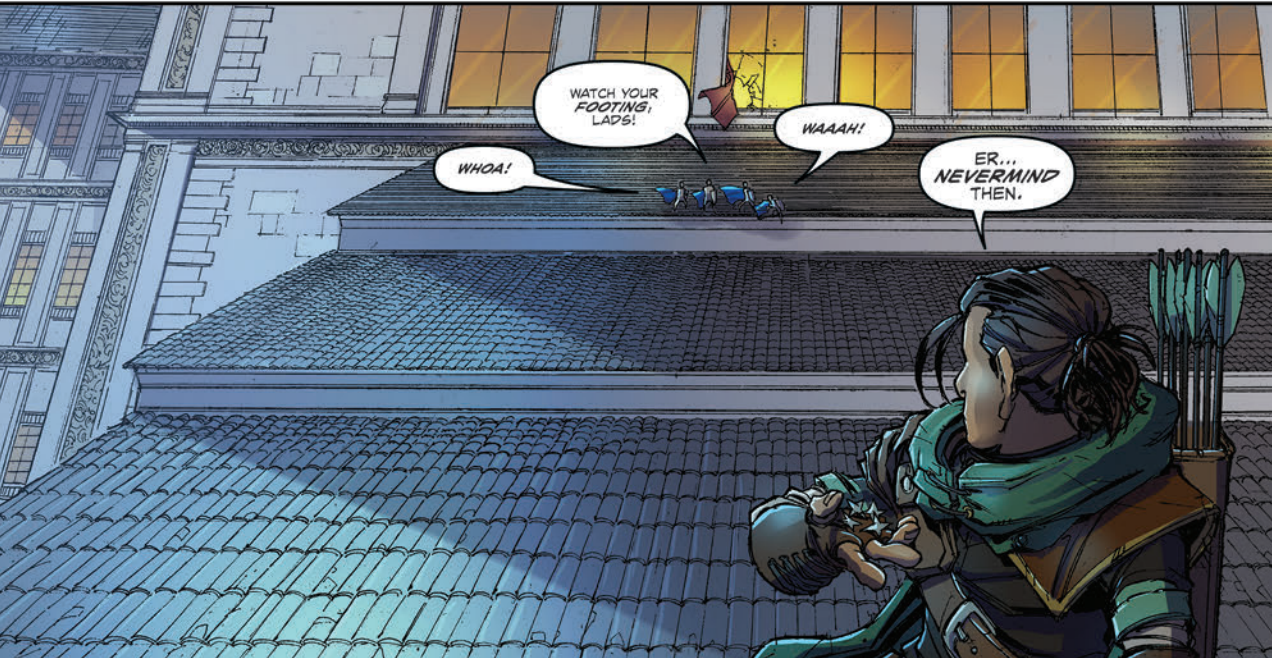
AIEE!

SHUNK



CAUGHT BETWEEN BADDIES AND THE WATCH. LOVELY!

LET'S SEE IF I CAN EVEN THE ODDS A BIT...

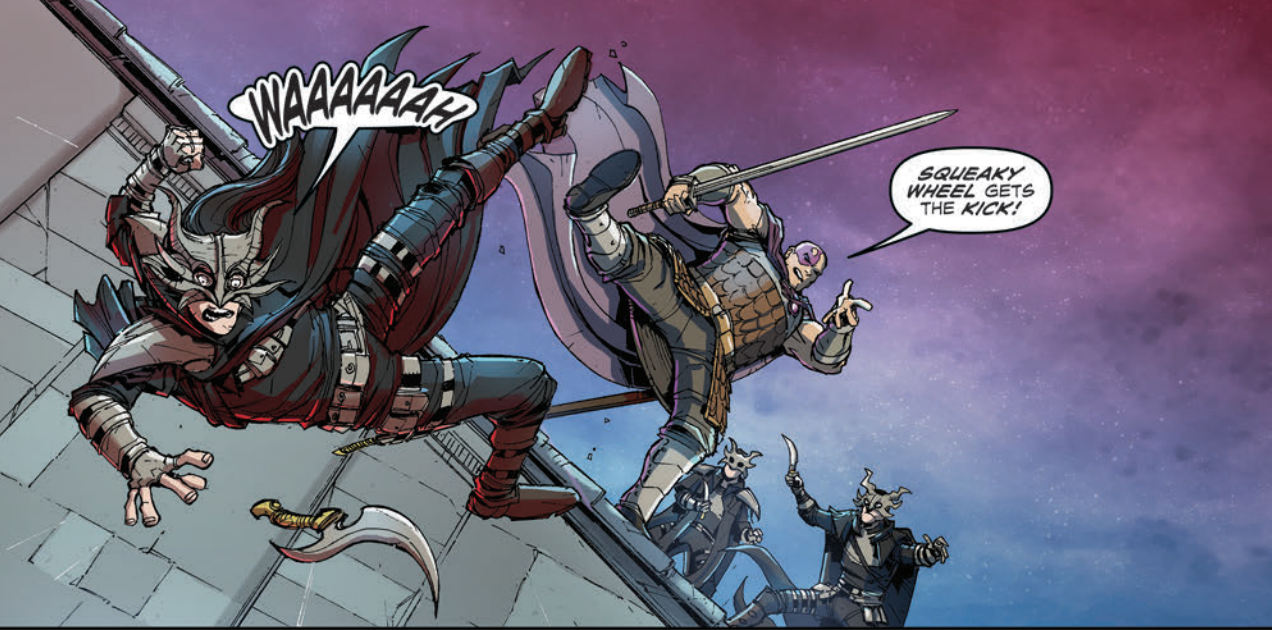


WATCH YOUR FOOTING, LADS!

WHOA!

WAAAH!

ER... NEVERMIND THEN.



WAAAAAAH!

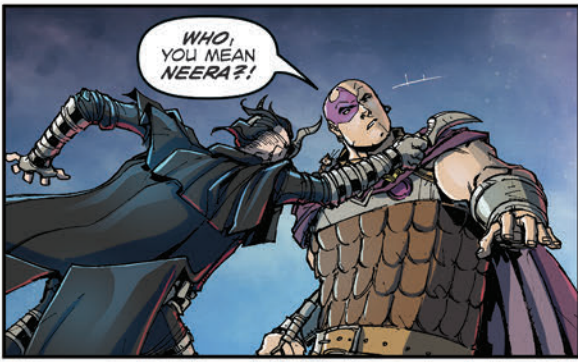
SQUEAKY WHEEL GETS THE KICK!



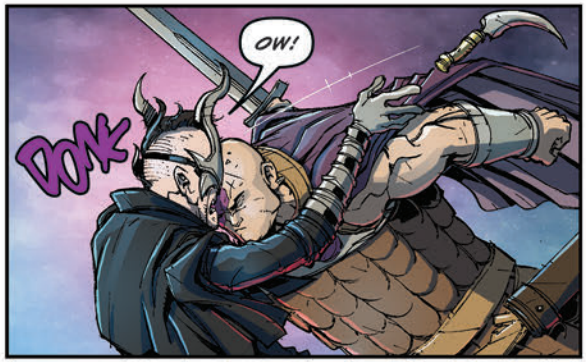
SHUNK

URGH!

MINGC, STAY WITH DELINA! SHE'S IN DANGER!

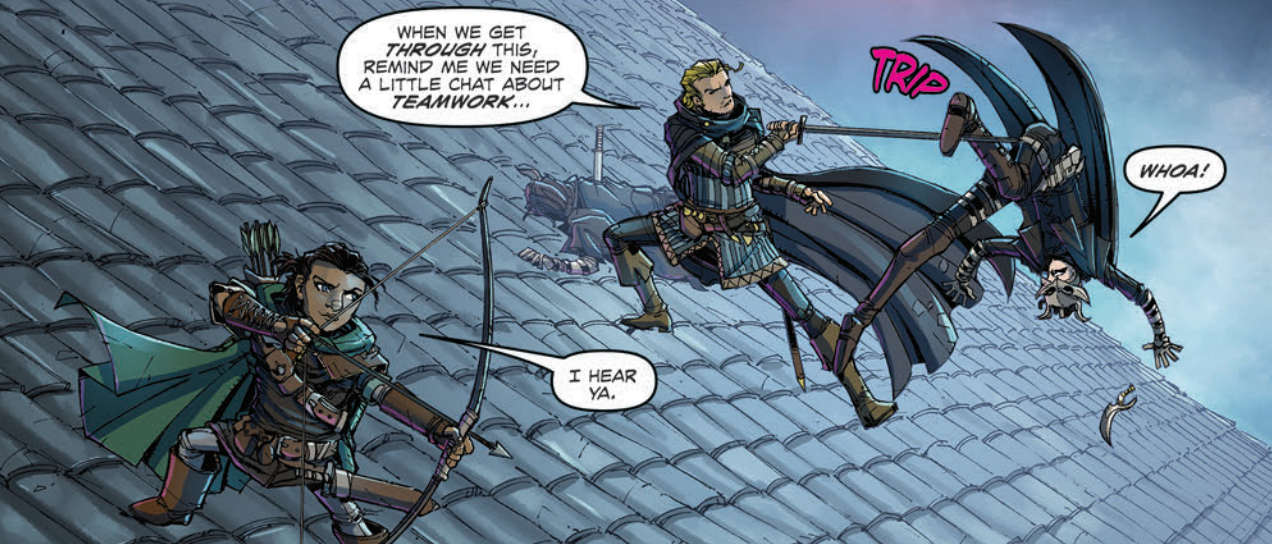


WHO, YOU MEAN NEERA?!



DOK

OW!

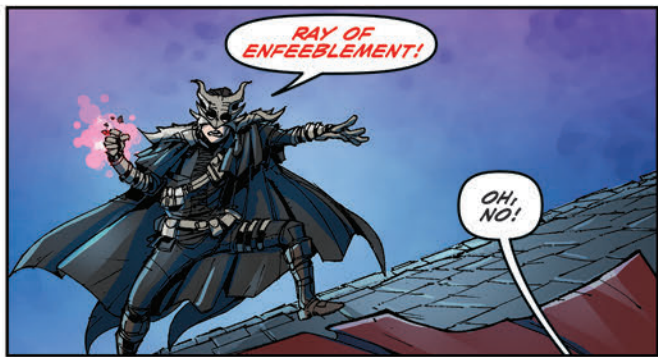


WHEN WE GET THROUGH THIS, REMIND ME WE NEED A LITTLE CHAT ABOUT TEAMWORK...

I HEAR YA.

TRIP

WHOA!





SHANDIE,  
WE NEED ONE OF  
THESE SCUMBAGS  
ALIVE!

I'M ON  
IT!



YIPE!



NICE SHOT,  
LADY!

MINSC, *GRAB*  
THAT LOSER AND  
LET'S GET OUT  
OF HERE!

HALT!

PLEASE  
HALT!



GO, GO!

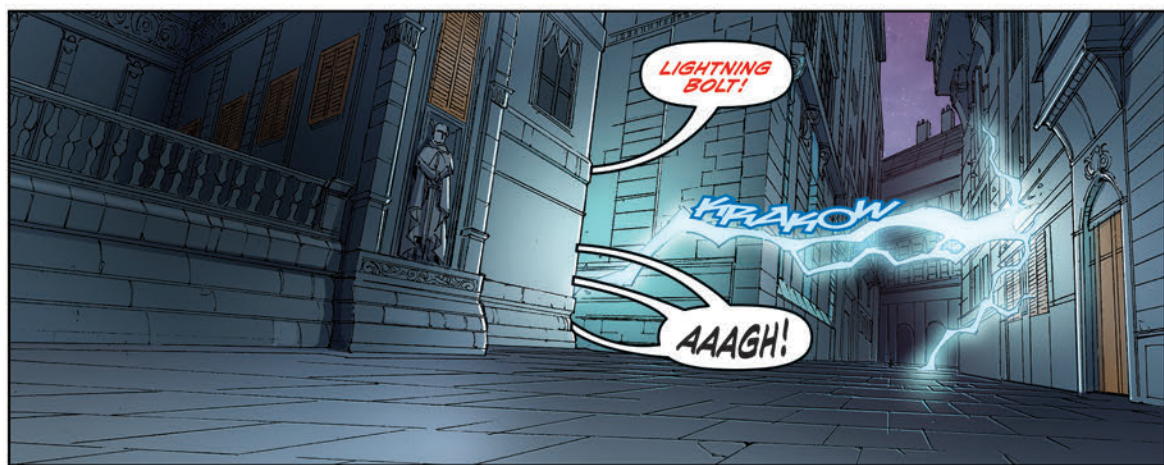
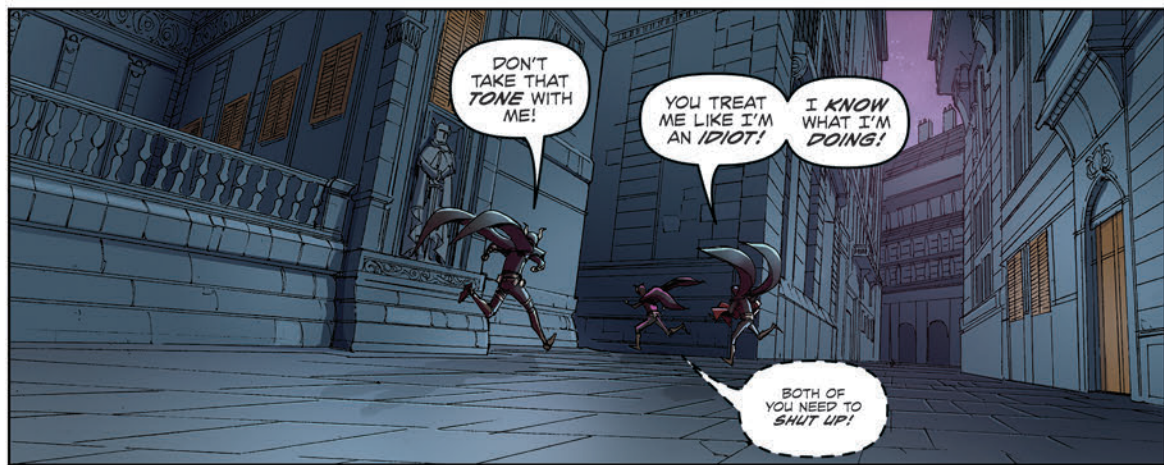
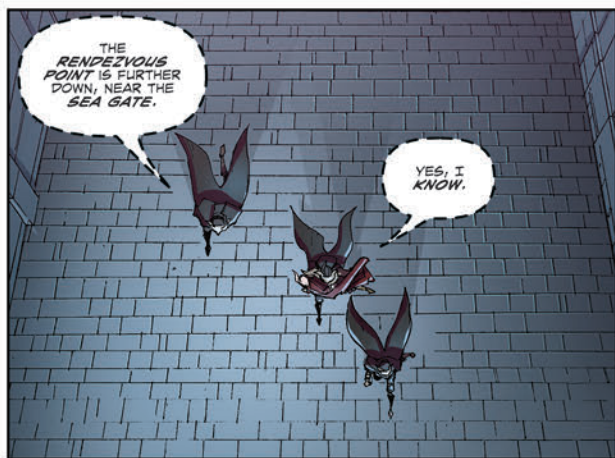


THEY'RE  
LONG GONE,  
SIR. THIS ARMOR'S  
TOO HEAVY FOR  
A CHASE LIKE  
THAT.

WE'RE LUCKY  
WE DIDN'T FALL TO  
OUR DEATHS.

DAMMIT!

THE  
OVERSAR'S  
GONNA HAVE OUR  
HEADS FOR  
THIS...





THAT WAS QUITE CONVENIENT, EH, BOYS?

YEAH. TOO EASY.

HEH.

I ALWAYS SAID THE DRAGON CULT'S GREATEST ENEMY WAS ITSELF...

FOOLS LEADING FOOLS.



WHU... WHAT'S GOING ON?

WH-WHERE AM I?



IT'S ALRIGHT... THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AFRAID.

THIS FOUL CITY CANNOT BREAK THE BOND BETWEEN US...



DENIAK!

I'M SO GLAD  
YOU'RE HERE,  
SISTER.

WE HAVE  
MUCH TO  
DISCUSS...

Art by Max Dunbar  
Colors by John-Paul Bove





Art by Sarah Stone

# CHAPTER 4



ELVES CAN LIVE WELL OVER 700 YEARS, GIVING THEM A BROAD PERSPECTIVE ON EVENTS THAT MAY TROUBLE THE SHORTER-LIVED RACES MORE DEEPLY. THEY TEND TO REMAIN ALOOF AND UNFAZED BY PETTY HAPPENSTANCE.

WHEN PURSUING A GOAL, HOWEVER, WHETHER ADVENTURING ON A MISSION OR LEARNING A NEW SKILL OR ART, ELVES CAN BE QUITE FOCUSED AND RELENTLESS.

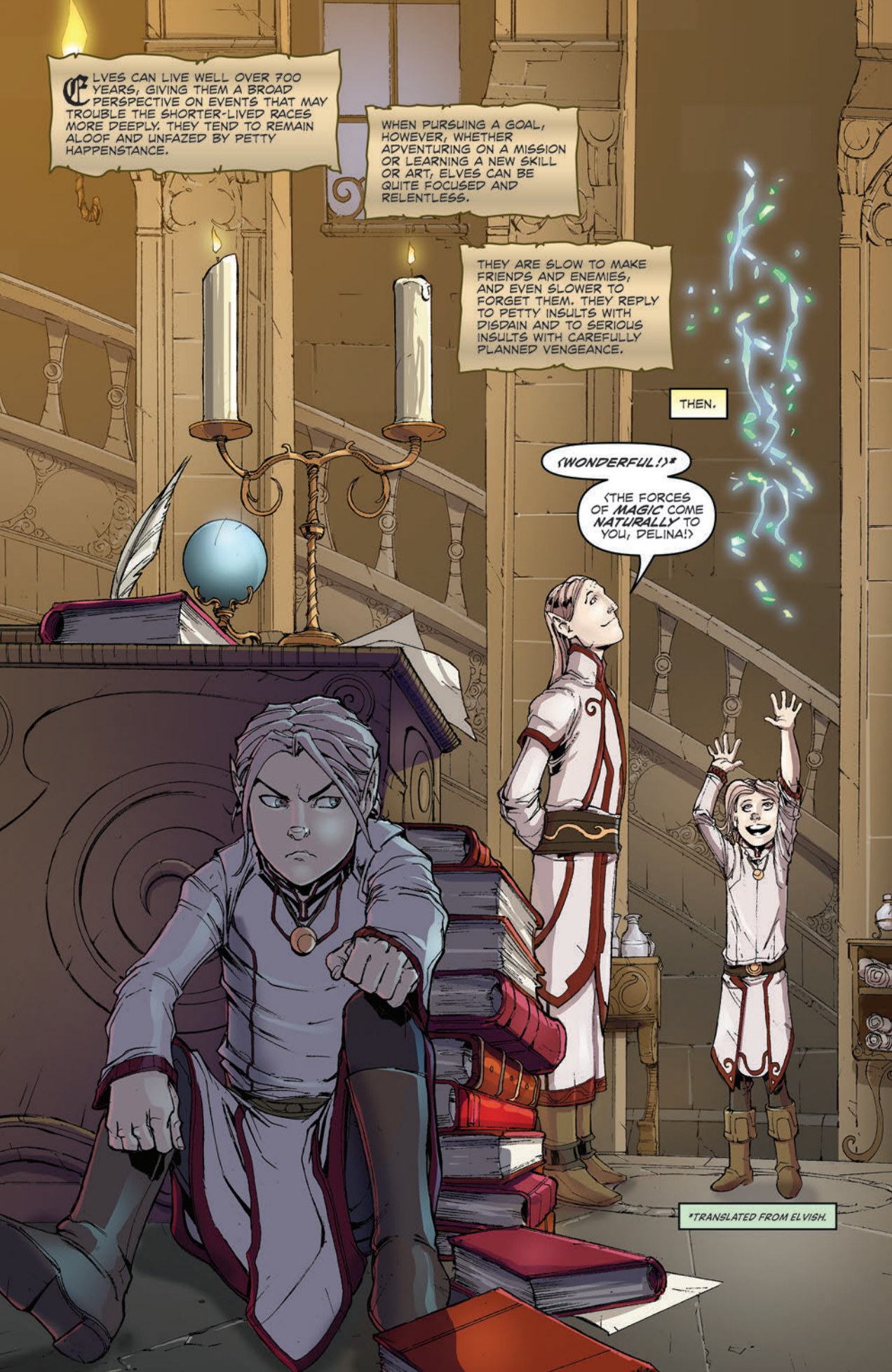
THEY ARE SLOW TO MAKE FRIENDS AND ENEMIES, AND EVEN SLOWER TO FORGET THEM. THEY REPLY TO PETTY INSULTS WITH DISDAIN AND TO SERIOUS INSULTS WITH CAREFULLY PLANNED VENGEANCE.

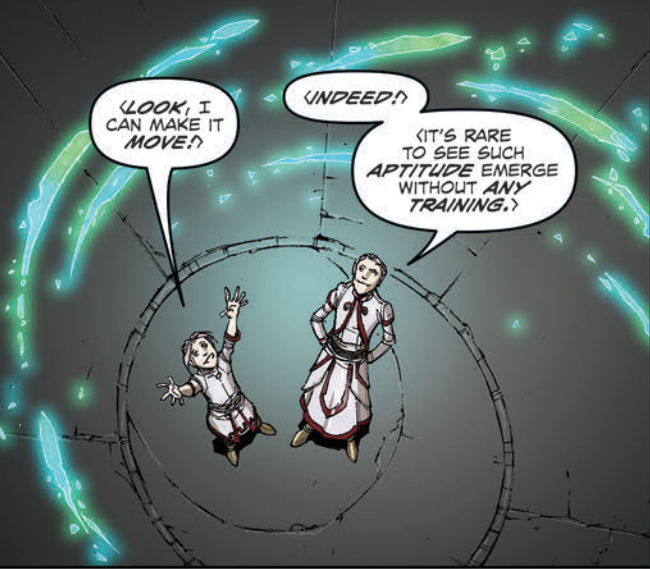
THEN.

(WONDERFUL!)\*

<THE FORCES OF MAGIC COME NATURALLY TO YOU, DELINA!>

\*TRANSLATED FROM ELVISH.

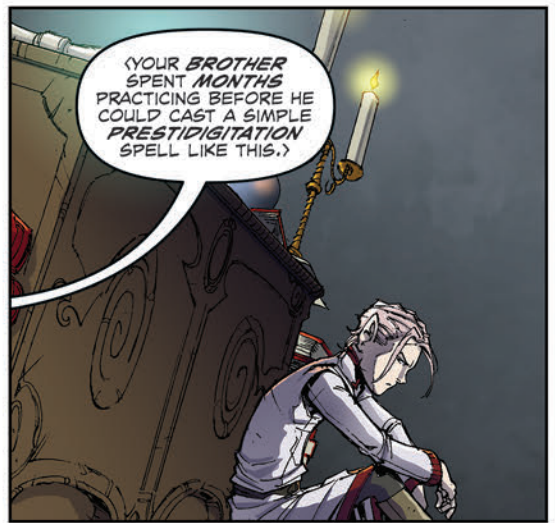




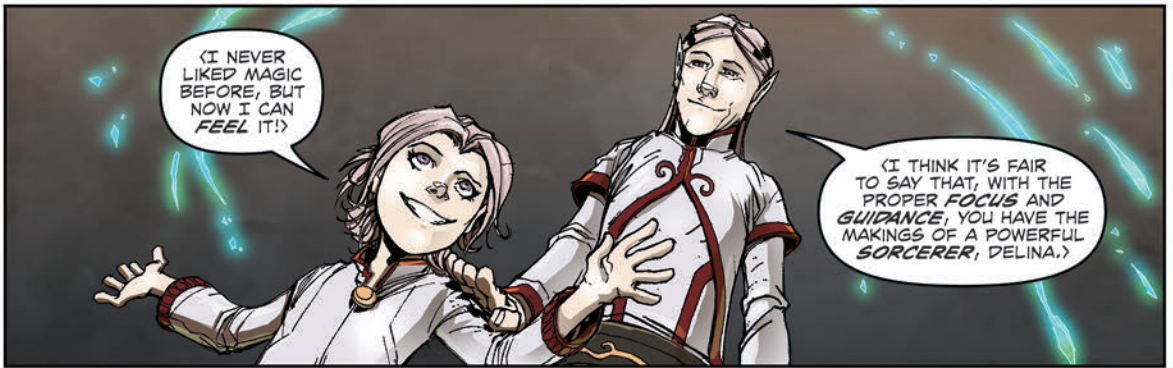
«LOOK, I CAN MAKE IT MOVE!»

«UNDEED!»

«IT'S RARE TO SEE SUCH APTITUDE EMERGE WITHOUT ANY TRAINING.»



«YOUR BROTHER SPENT MONTHS PRACTICING BEFORE HE COULD CAST A SIMPLE PRESTIDIGITATION SPELL LIKE THIS.»



«I NEVER LIKED MAGIC BEFORE, BUT NOW I CAN FEEL IT!»

«I THINK IT'S FAIR TO SAY THAT, WITH THE PROPER FOCUS AND GUIDANCE, YOU HAVE THE MAKINGS OF A POWERFUL SORCERER, DELINA.»



«I'LL SEE ABOUT FINDING YOU A MENTOR AND—»

«NO!»

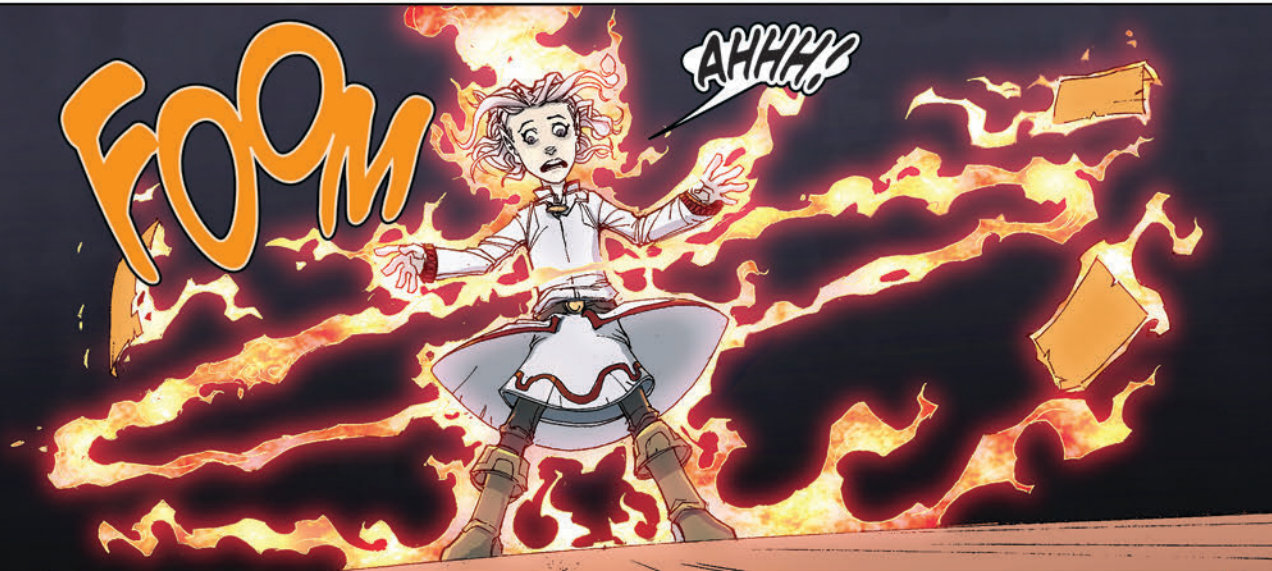
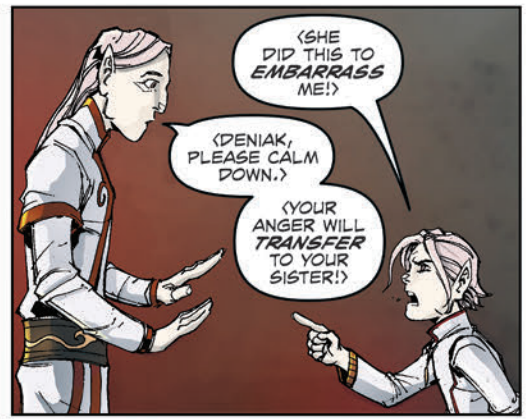
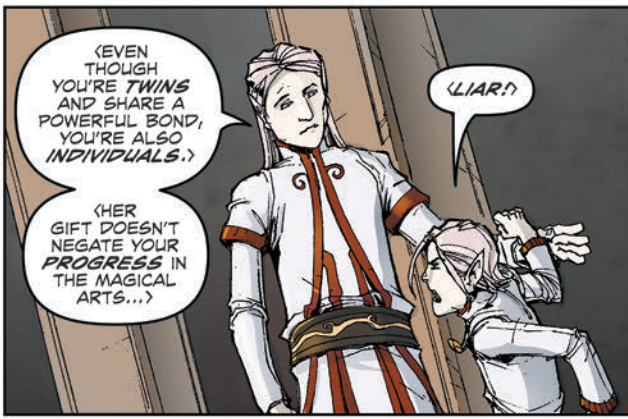
«DENIAK?»

«I DIDN'T SPEND ALL THIS TIME STUDYING FOR NOTHING!»



«I'M GONNA BE A POWERFUL WIZARD!»

«TELL HER TO STOP! SHE'S CHEATING!»





NOW.

YOUR WILD MAGIC HAS ALWAYS KEPT THINGS ENTERTAINING, HASN'T IT, SISTER?



<DENIAK, ARE YOU OKAY?>

<I... I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED.>

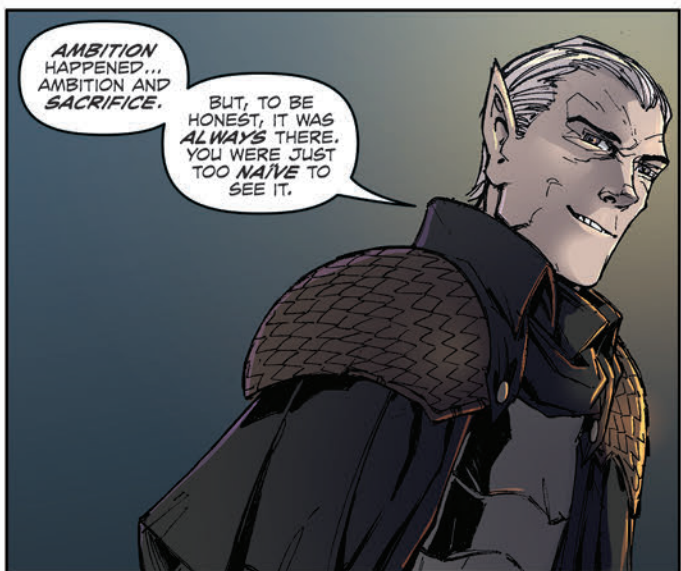
THERE'S NO NEED TO CHIRP AWAY IN *ELVISH*, DELINA. THE SOUND OF IT IRRITATES ME NOW...

BUT, TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, I'M FINE.



<WHAT...>  
>AHEM<

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?



AMBITION HAPPENED... AMBITION AND SACRIFICE.

BUT, TO BE HONEST, IT WAS ALWAYS THERE. YOU WERE JUST TOO NAIVE TO SEE IT.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I... I FELT SOMETHING TERRIBLE. A DARKNESS...



THAT WAS NOT DARKNESS, SISTER.

THROUGH OUR BOND YOU FELT THE BLINDFOLD OF IGNORANCE BEING LIFTED FROM MY EYES.

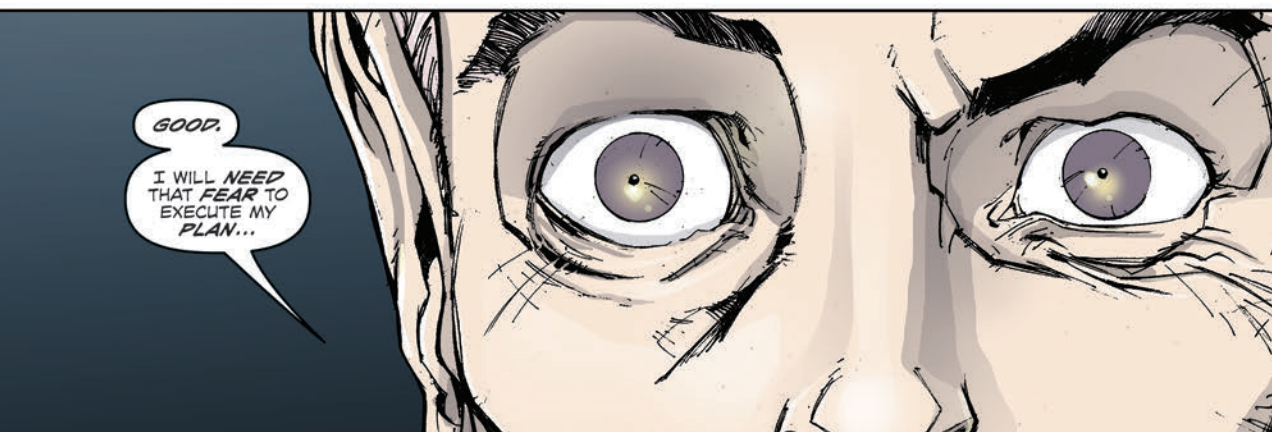


LISTEN TO ME!

POWER OLDER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE IS RETURNING TO OUR WORLD, THE QUEEN OF DRAGONS STIRS...

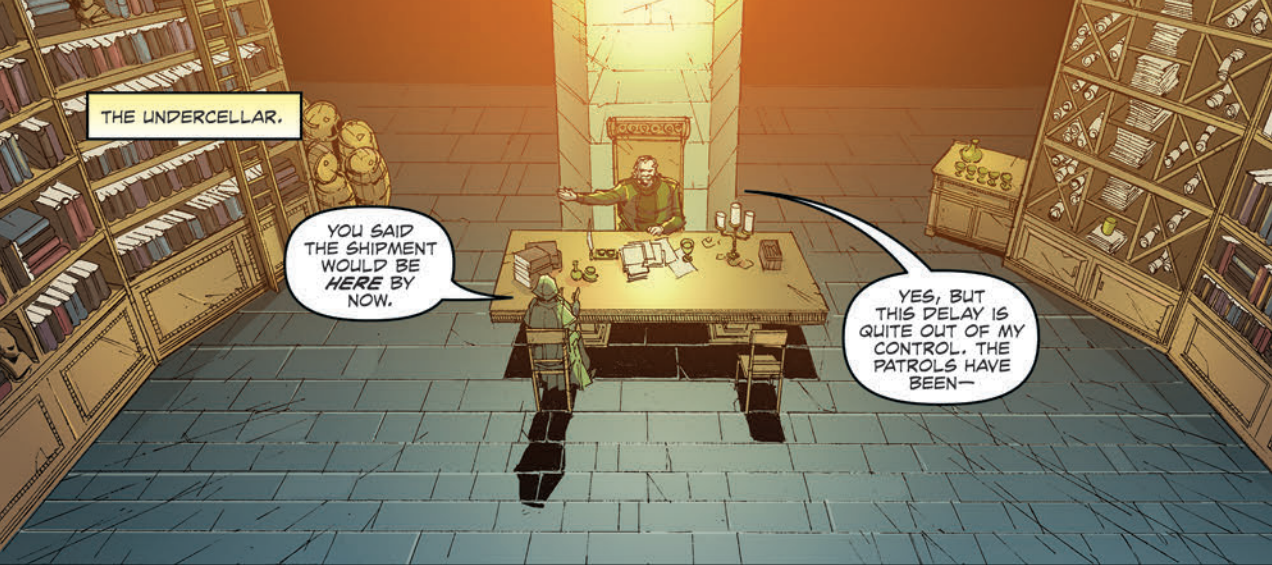
WE MUST EMBRACE HER SUPREMACY OR BE SWEEPED AWAY LIKE MOTES OF DUST.

(BROTHER, NO! YOU'RE SCARING ME!)



GOOD.

I WILL NEED THAT FEAR TO EXECUTE MY PLAN...



THE UNDERCELLAR.

YOU SAID THE SHIPMENT WOULD BE HERE BY NOW.

YES, BUT THIS DELAY IS QUITE OUT OF MY CONTROL. THE PATROLS HAVE BEEN—



WHAM

LUUHHH



YOU OAF!

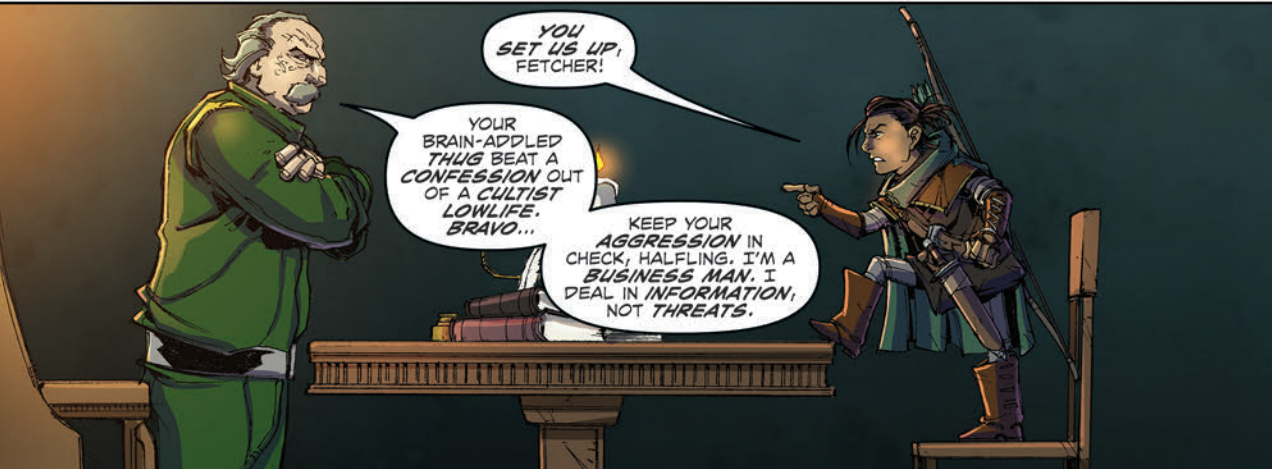
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS INTRUSION?!

THE FIST OF TRUTH KNOCKS AND YOU MUST ANSWER THE DOOR, UGLY WALRUS FACE!



SORRY FOR THE INTERRUPTION, M'LADY. NOTHIN' PERSONAL BUT WE'RE IN A BIT OF A HURRY.

I... I'LL SEE MYSELF OUT.



YOU SET US UP, FETCHER!

YOUR BRAIN-ADDLED THUG BEAT A CONFESSION OUT OF A CULTIST LOWLIFE. BRAVO...

KEEP YOUR AGGRESSION IN CHECK, HALFLING. I'M A BUSINESS MAN. I DEAL IN INFORMATION, NOT THREATS.



WE'RE UNDERSTANDABLY TICKED, BUT I THINK WE CAN COME TO AN AGREEMENT HERE.

STAY COOL, SHANDIE.

KRYDLE, ARE YOU KIDDIN'?! WE -



I TOLD YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW...

SHHHH  
YOUR EVIL VOICE ANGERS MY HAMSTER.

GRRR



OKAY, SO HERE'S THE SCORE...

THAT LUMP OF DUMB ON THE FLOOR IS PART OF SOME SELF-TITLED "DRAGON CULT" LOOKING TO IMPRESS BIG BAD WYRMS OF OLD BY GATHERING ANCIENT DRAGON ARTIFACTS.

BUT, LIKE ANY FINE GATHERING OF SELFISH SCUM, THEY DON'T ALL AGREE ON HOW THAT SHOULD BE DONE.



DELINA'S DEAR BROTHER DENIAK JOINED THIS PACK OF NUTTERS, BUT RECENTLY BROKE OFF TO FORM HIS OWN SPLINTER GROUP.

ON THE WAY OUT THE DOOR, HE STOLE A BUNCH OF SECRET RITUAL STUFF AND THEY'RE HELLBENT ON GETTING IT BACK ALONG WITH DISHING OUT A HEALTHY DOSE OF VENGEANCE.



THAT CORRESPONDS WITH RUMORS THAT HAVE CROSSED MY DESK, YES.

BUT WHY SHOULD I CARE?

THE WATCH AND FLAMING FIST ARE DOING **DOUBLE TIME** TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

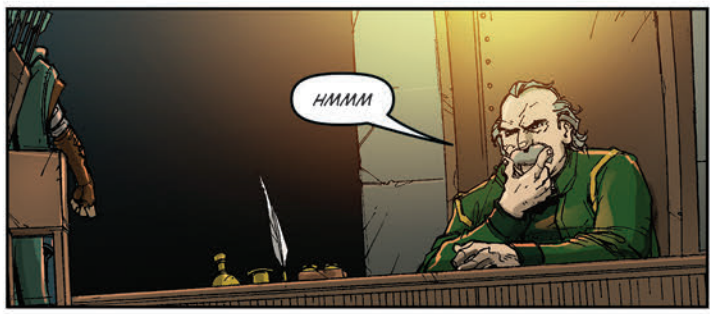
YOUR MEN ARE GETTING **SHAKEN DOWN**, DAY AND NIGHT, AND IT WON'T STOP 'TIL THESE CULTISTS ARE **GONE**.

THE SOONER WE **SOLVE THIS**, THE SOONER YOU CAN GET BACK TO **BUSINESS AS USUAL**.



WE KNOW YOU'RE PLAYIN' **ALL SIDES**.

EITHER YOU KNOW WHERE DENIAK'S HIDIN' OUT, OR YOU KNOW **SOMEONE WHO DOES!**

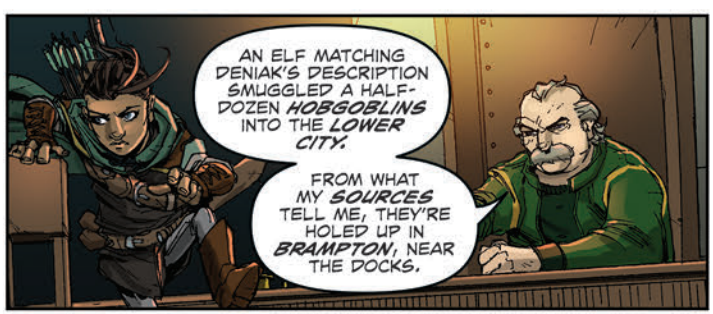


HMMMM



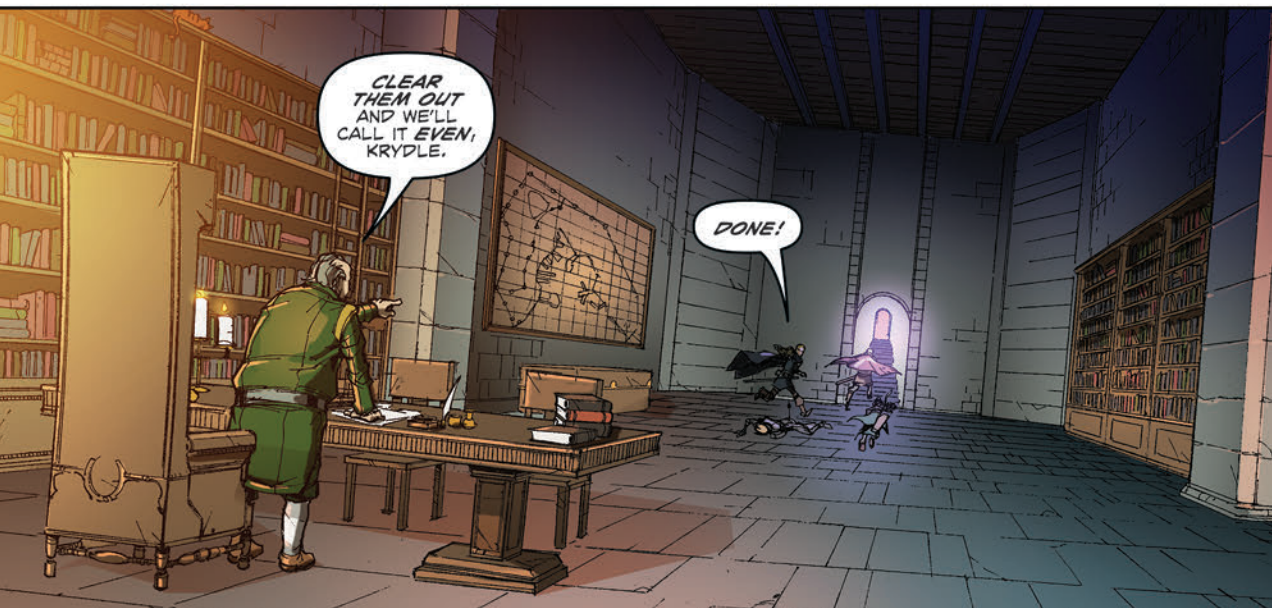
BOO, IF HE DOES NOT HELP US YOU MUST BITE HIS **NOSE OFF**. UNDERSTOOD?

SQUEE



AN ELF MATCHING DENIAK'S DESCRIPTION SMUGGLED A HALF-DOZEN **HOBGOBLINS** INTO THE **LOWER CITY**.

FROM WHAT MY **SOURCES** TELL ME, THEY'RE HOLED UP IN **BRAMPTON**, NEAR THE DOCKS.



**CLEAR THEM OUT** AND WE'LL CALL IT **EVEN**, KRYDLE.

**DONE!**



THE CULT BELIEVES THEY CAN **APPEASE** THE DRAGONS... CURRY THEIR **FAVOR**.

THEY'RE **CONVINCED** THEY MUST ENTER INTO THE RELATIONSHIP ALREADY ON **BENDED KNEE**.

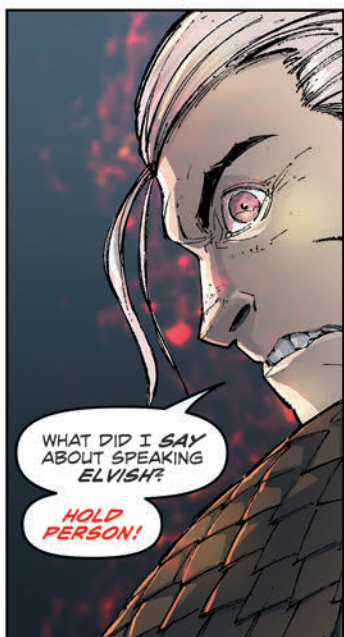
FINE FOR **THEM...** BUT I INTEND TO **STAND**.



(I CAN FEEL YOUR **AGGRESSION**, BROTHER.)

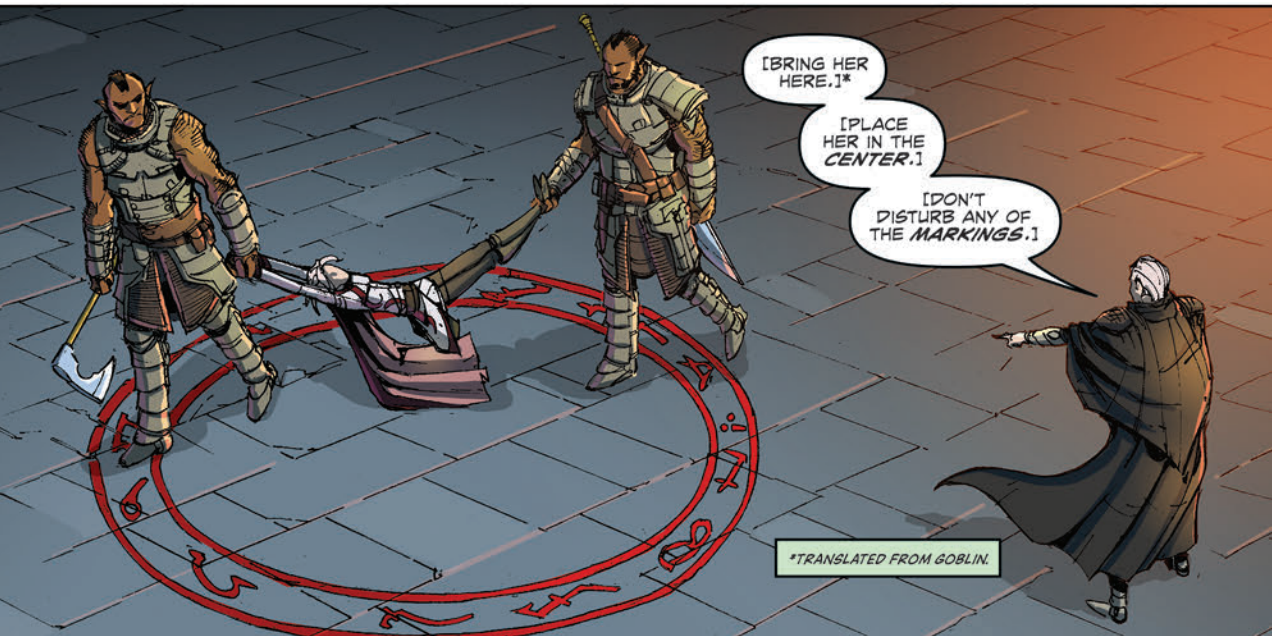
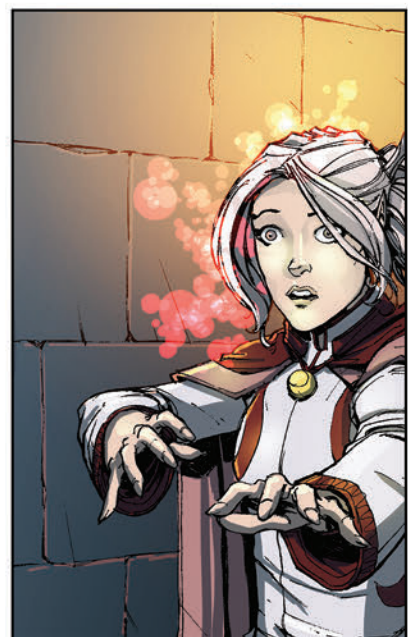
(PLEASE, **WHATEVER** YOU'RE DOING...)

(**STOP**.)



WHAT DID I **SAY** ABOUT SPEAKING **ELVISH**?

**HOLD PERSON!**



[BRING HER HERE.]\*

[PLACE HER IN THE **CENTER**.]

[DON'T DISTURB ANY OF THE **MARKINGS**.]

\*TRANSLATED FROM GOBLIN.



I WAS ALWAYS JEALOUS OF YOU, DELINA.

I TOILED FOR YEARS TRYING TO BREAK MAGIC'S SECRET CODE WHILE YOU EFFORTLESSLY STUMBLERD INTO INCREDIBLE POWER.

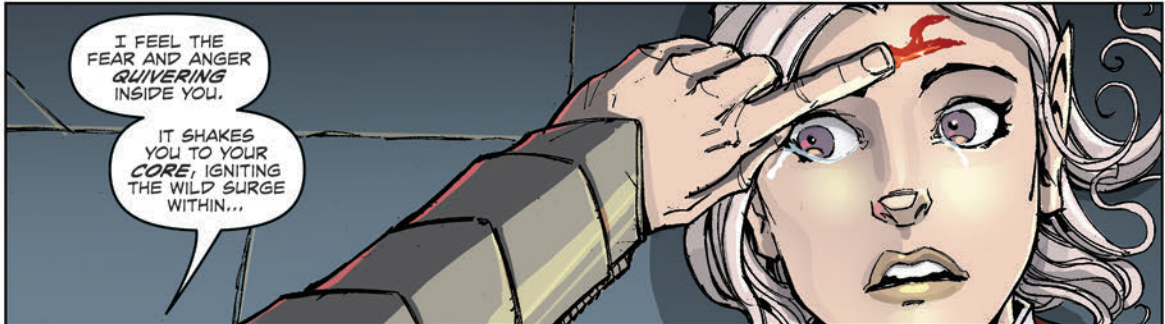


I SPEAK THE WORDS AND MAKE ROTE GESTURES, BUT MAGIC DOES NOT FLOW THROUGH MY VEINS LIKE IT DOES THROUGH YOURS.

YOUR WILD MAGIC TAPS INTO THE DEEPEST WELLS OF CHAOS AND CAN BEND REALITY.



THROUGH OUR PRECIOUS BOND I WILL CHANNEL YOUR WILD MAGIC 'GIFT' THROUGH THE CULT'S RITUALS AND TAKE THEM TO NEW HEIGHTS, IMBUING MY BODY WITH DRACONIC MIGHT.



I FEEL THE FEAR AND ANGER QUIVERING INSIDE YOU.

IT SHAKES YOU TO YOUR CORE, IGNITING THE WILD SURGE WITHIN...



THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP IT.



SQUEE-SQUEE!

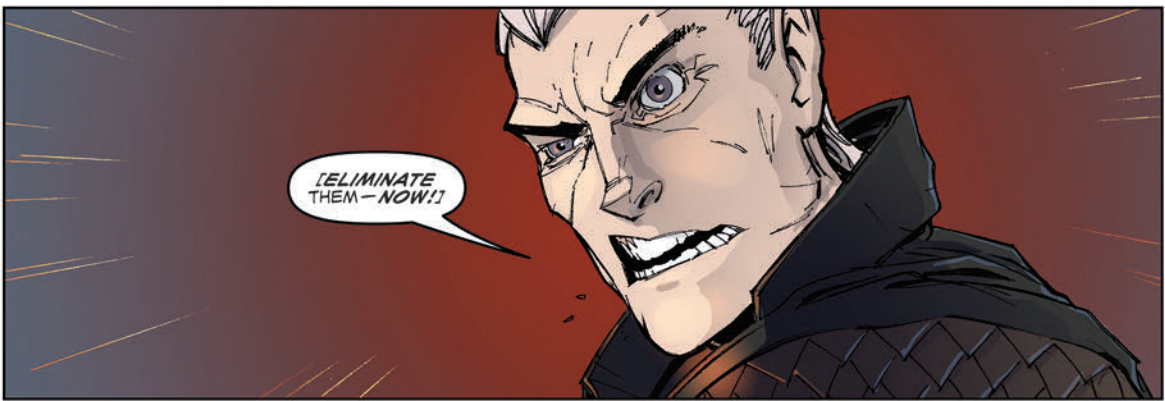
EH?



**THUD**

MY HAMSTER SPEAKS TRUTH, UGLY ONES!

SURRENDER OR FACE HUGE JUSTICE!



ELIMINATE THEM—NOW!!



G'UH!

**FWOOSH**

**SHUNK**

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, SHANDIE.



SEEMS SO!

**THOK**

**GRRRR!**



[DIE, YOU BASTARD!]

YOUR EVIL WORDS ARE GIBBERISH!



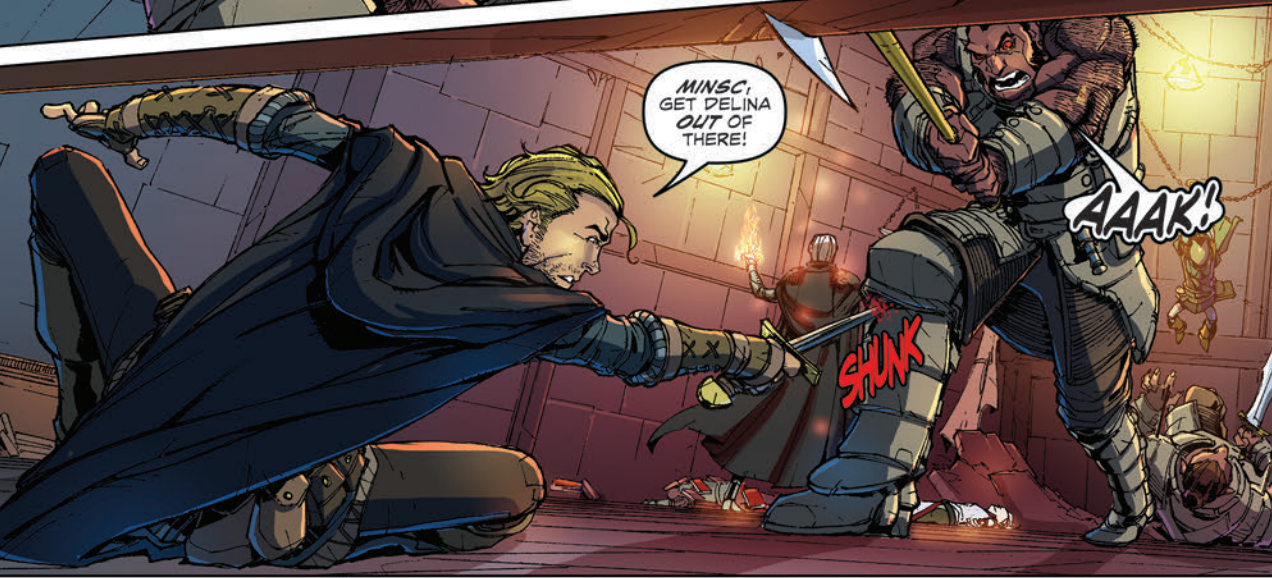
**SURPRISE, SURPRISE!**

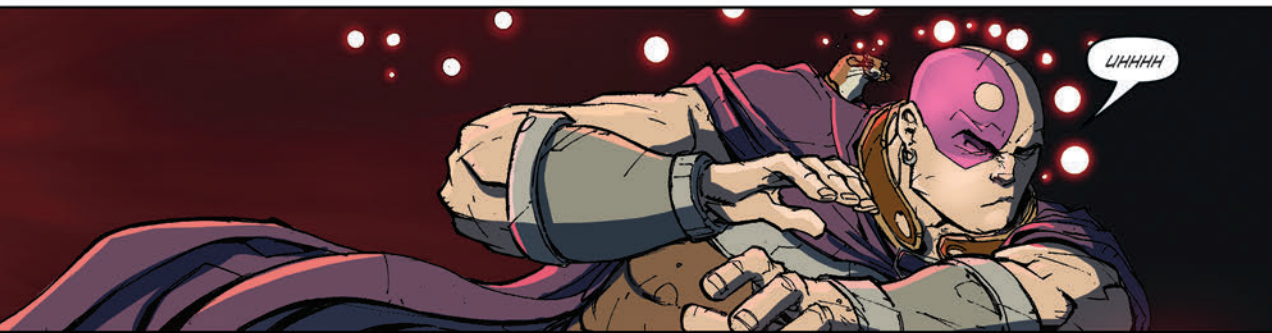
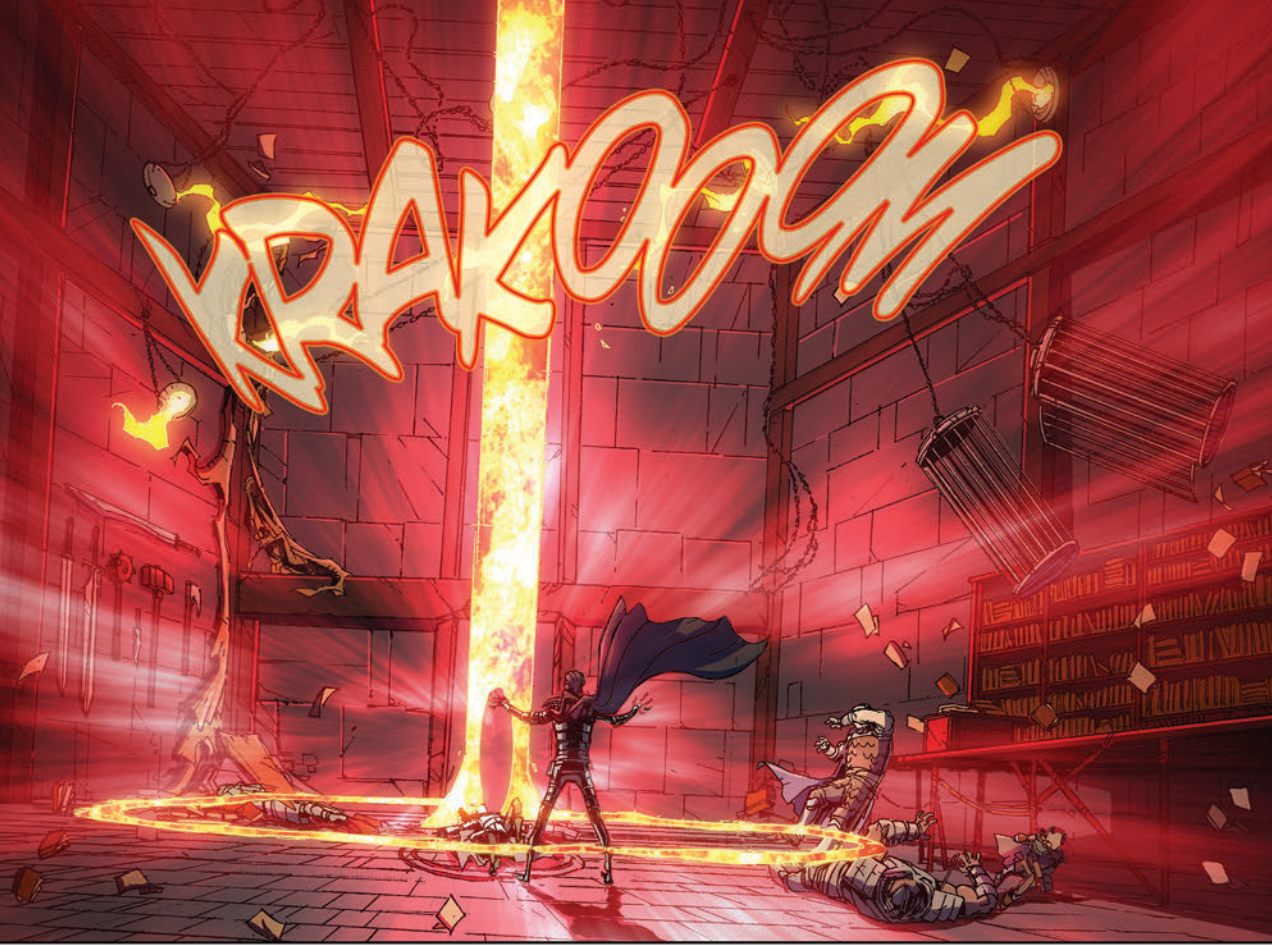
I DIDN'T THINK YOU HOB-GOBBIES KNEW HOW TO USE SWORDS!

**KLANK**



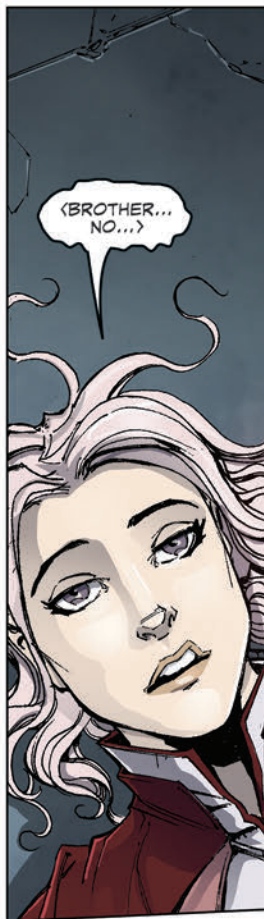




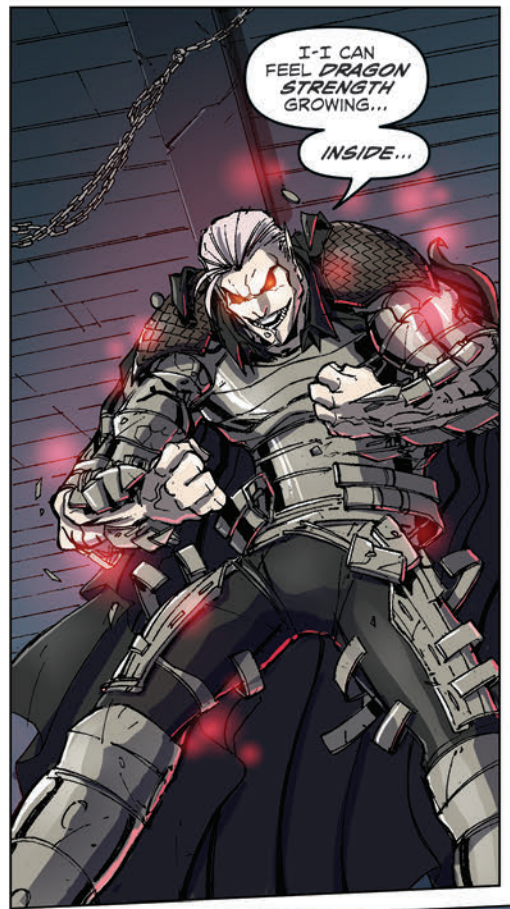




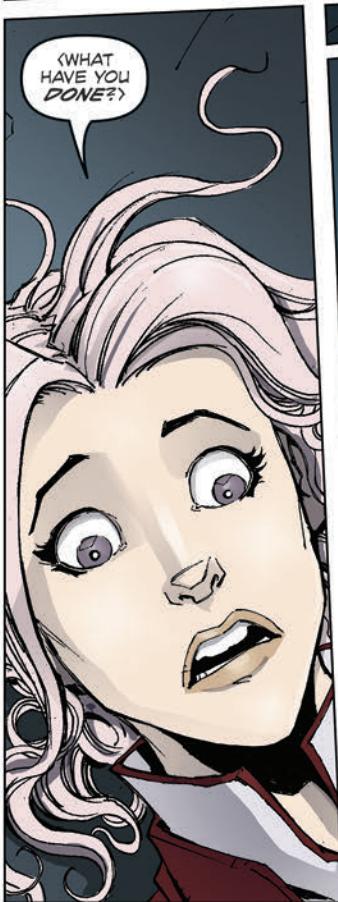
THE OTHERS  
DIDN'T REALIZE...  
THEY WERE TOO  
AFRAID...



<BROTHER...  
NO...>



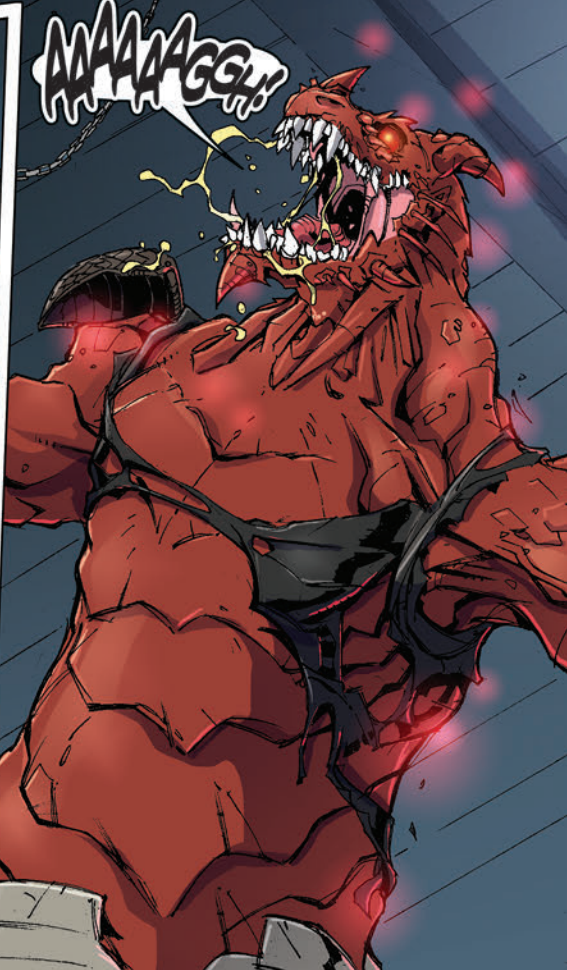
I-I CAN  
FEEL DRAGON  
STRENGTH  
GROWING...  
INSIDE...



<WHAT  
HAVE YOU  
DONE?>



IT... NO... IT'S NOT  
RIGHT... IT—



AAAAAGG!

THE WATCH CITADEL.

NOBLEMAN *CORAN* OF THE PARLIAMENT OF PEERS TO SEE YOU, DUKE RAVENGARD.

VERY WELL.

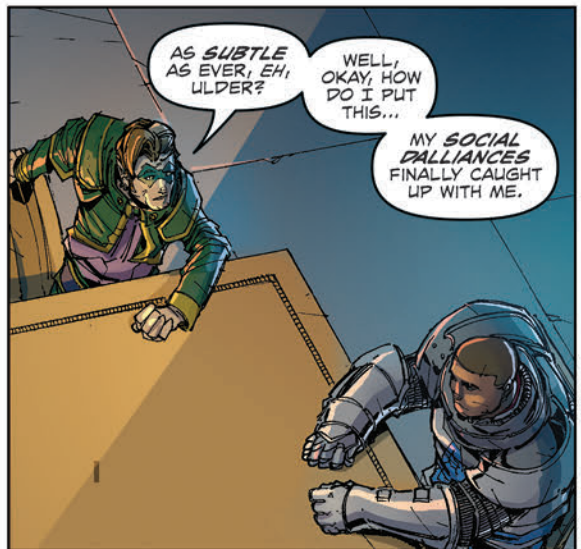


YOU LOOK WELL, YOUR DUKE-NESS.

HOW ARE YOU *SHOULDERING* YOUR NEW POSITION?

CUT THE FORMAL FACADE, CORAN.

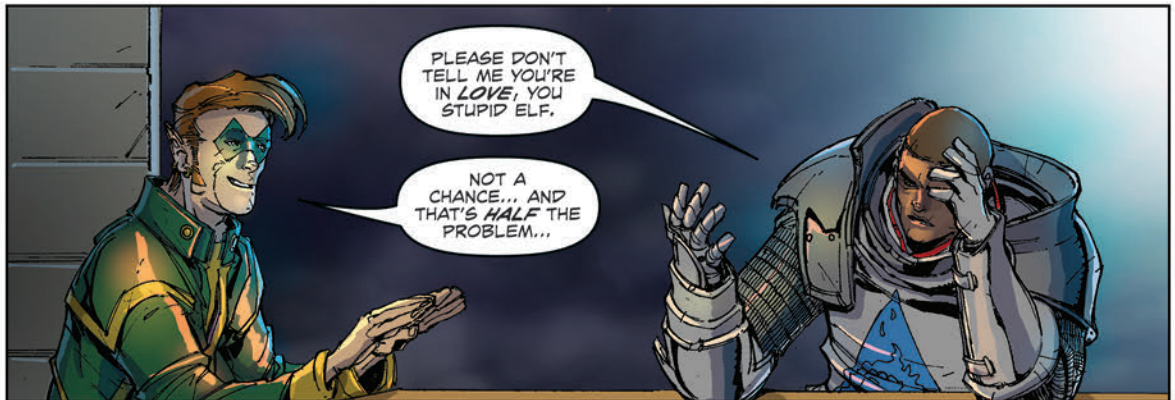
WHAT DO YOU WANT?



AS *SUBTLE* AS EVER, EH, ULDER?

WELL, OKAY, HOW DO I PUT THIS...

MY *SOCIAL PALLIANCES* FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH ME.



PLEASE DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE IN *LOVE*, YOU STUPID ELF.

NOT A CHANCE... AND THAT'S *HALF* THE PROBLEM...



YEARS AGO I FATHERED AN *UNLOVED, TROUBLE-MAKING HALF-BREED BASTARD* NAMED *KRYDLE*.

NOW HE'S A *SNEAK THIEF* DETERMINED TO BRING DOWN THE RULING CLASS HERE IN BALDUR'S GATE AND HE KNOWS *EVERY WEAK SPOT* IN OUR *POLITICAL ARMOR*.



"...I THINK OUR *PRIORITIES*  
JUST *CHANGED*..."

**RAAAARRH!**



Art by Max Dunbar  
Colors by Joana Lafuente





Art by Sarah Stone

# CHAPTER 5





[DENIAK'S RITUAL IS A SUCCESS! NO ONE CAN STOP US NOW!!]\*

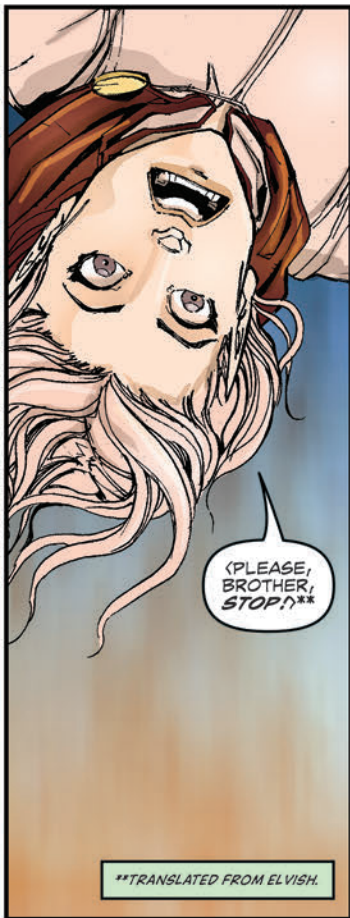
\*TRANSLATED FROM GOBLIN.



OKAY, I WASN'T EXPECTING THAT.



I THINK I'M GONNA NEED MORE ARROWS...



(PLEASE, BROTHER, STOP!)\*

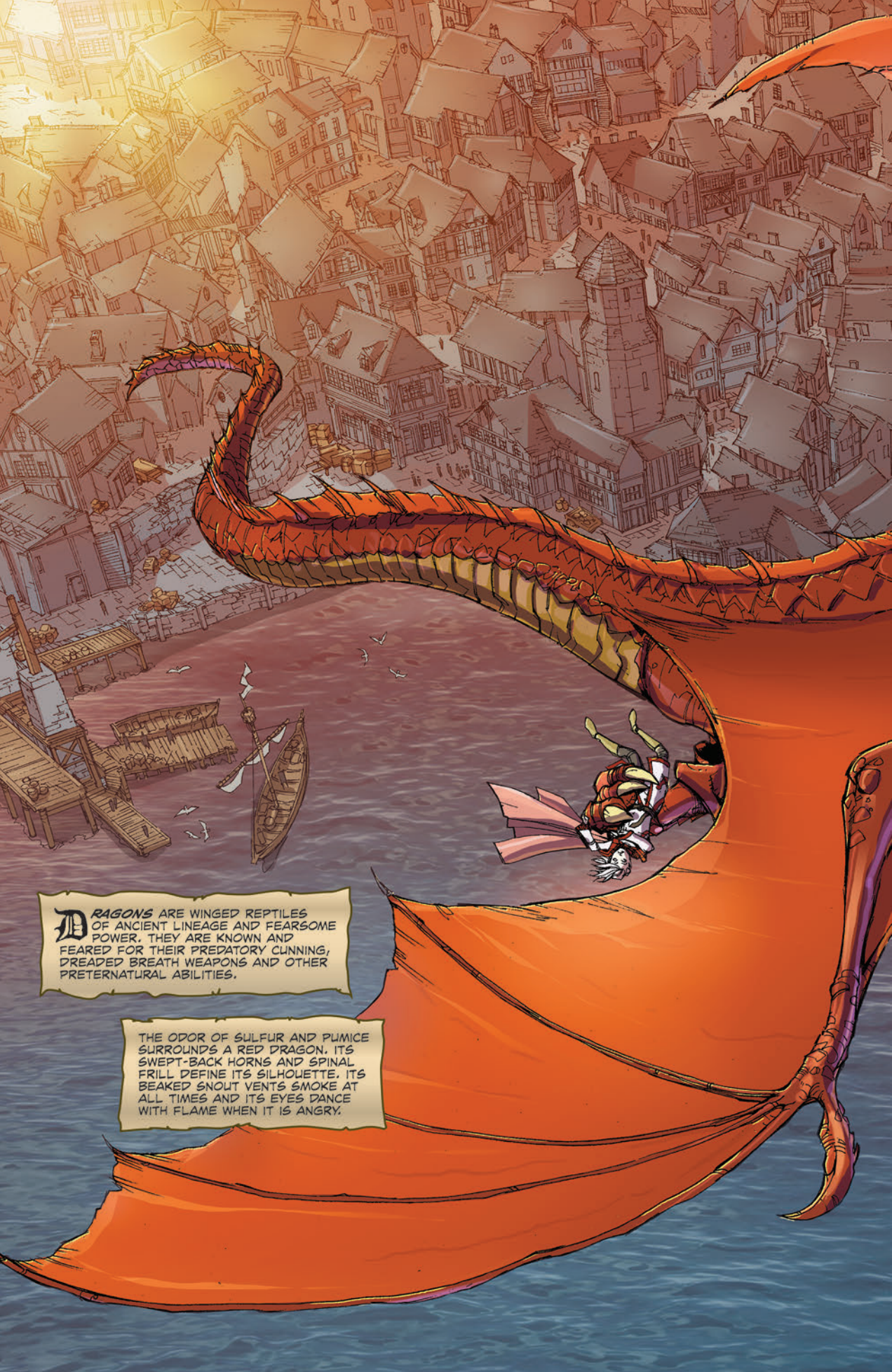
\*\*TRANSLATED FROM ELVISH.



A FINE DAY FOR SLAYING MONSTERS, EH, BOO?!

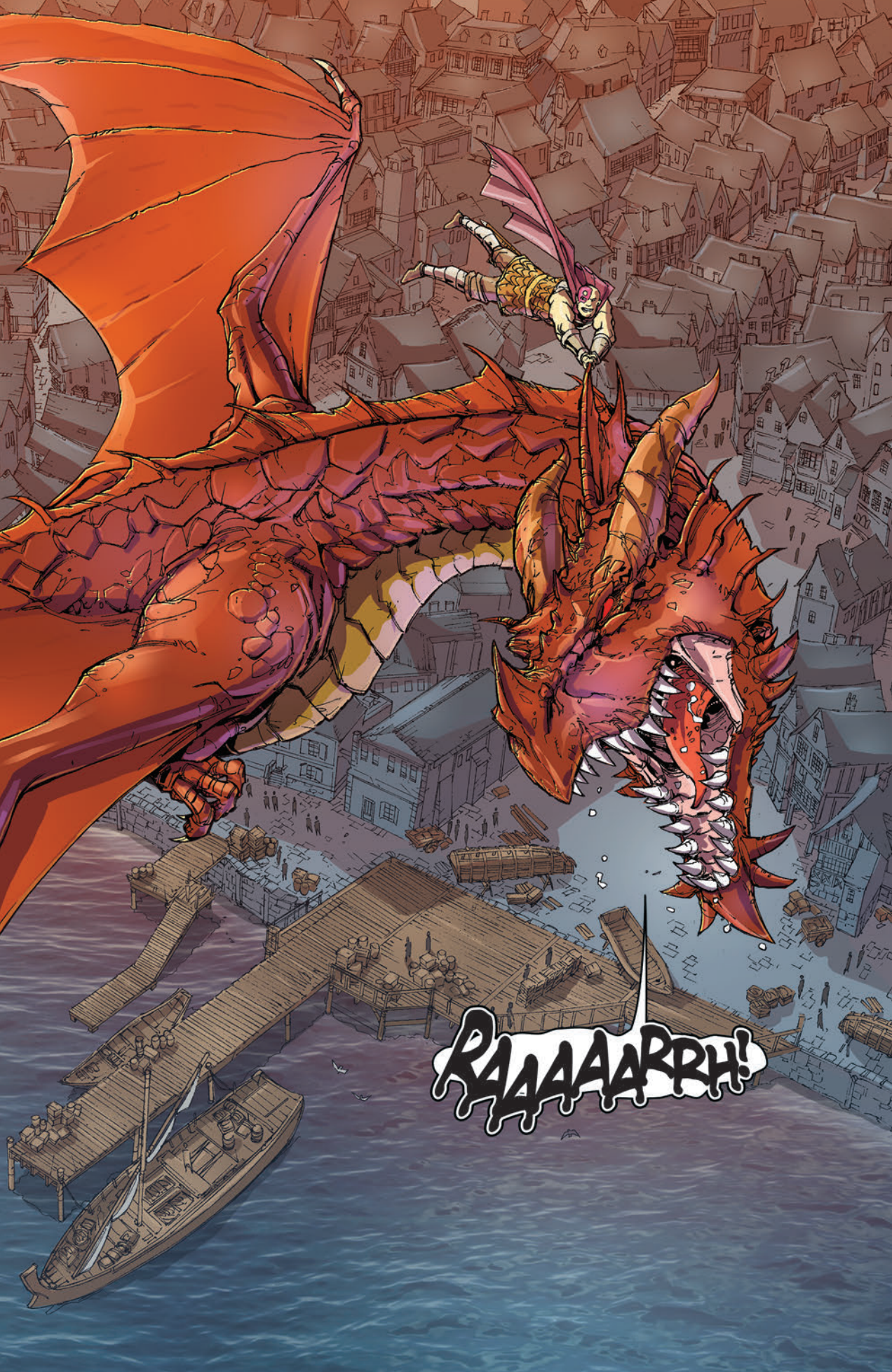


SQUEEEE!



**D**RAGONS ARE WINGED REPTILES OF ANCIENT LINEAGE AND FEARSOME POWER. THEY ARE KNOWN AND FEARED FOR THEIR PREDATORY CUNNING, DREADED BREATH WEAPONS AND OTHER PRETERNATURAL ABILITIES.

THE ODOR OF SULFUR AND PUMICE SURROUNDS A RED DRAGON. ITS SWEEP-BACK HORNS AND SPINAL FRILL DEFINE ITS SILHOUETTE. ITS BEAKED SNOUT VENTS SMOKE AT ALL TIMES AND ITS EYES DANCE WITH FLAME WHEN IT IS ANGRY.



**RAAAAARRH!**



[DESTROY THE FOOLS, DENIAK!!]

[SHOW THEM YOUR MIGHT!!]



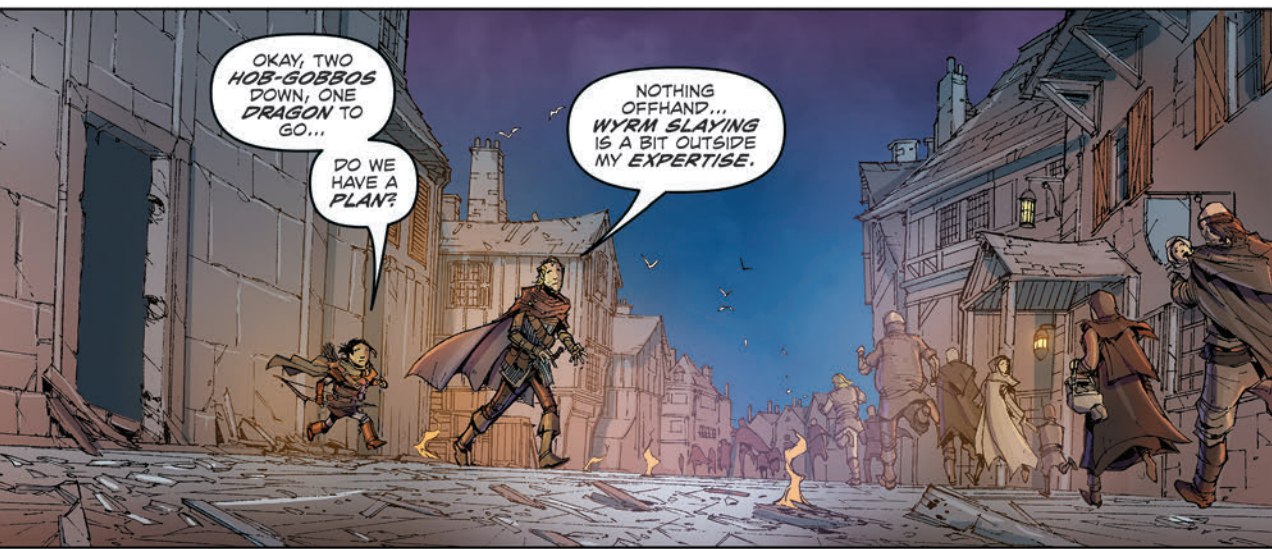
UHH-

ACK!

STAB

STAB

THAT'LL TEACH YA FOR TURNING YER BACK ON A PAIR OF ROGUES, YA DINGBATS!



OKAY, TWO HOB-GOBBOS DOWN, ONE DRAGON TO GO...

DO WE HAVE A PLAN?

NOTHING OFFHAND... WYRM SLAYING IS A BIT OUTSIDE MY EXPERTISE.



ALL I KNOW IS WE WON'T BE ANY GOOD DOWN HERE.

WE NEED TO GET TO HIGHER GROUND IF WE'RE GONNA HAVE ANY CHANCE OF HURTING THAT DAMN THING.

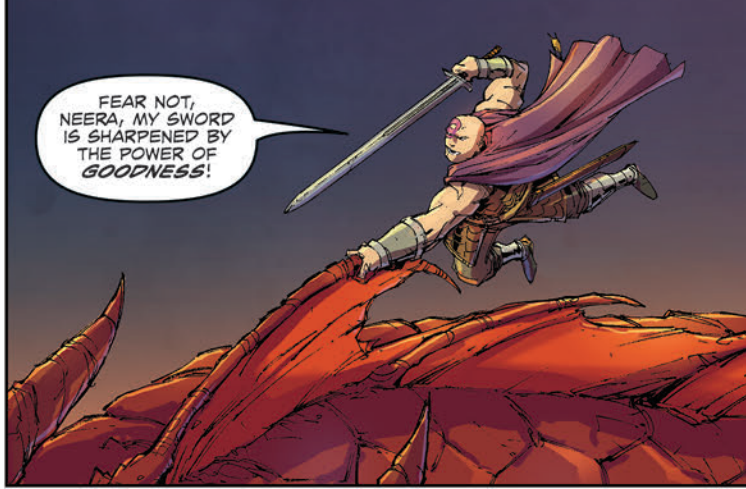


YOU THINK YOU COULD HIT THE BASTARD FROM THE TOP OF THAT TOWER?

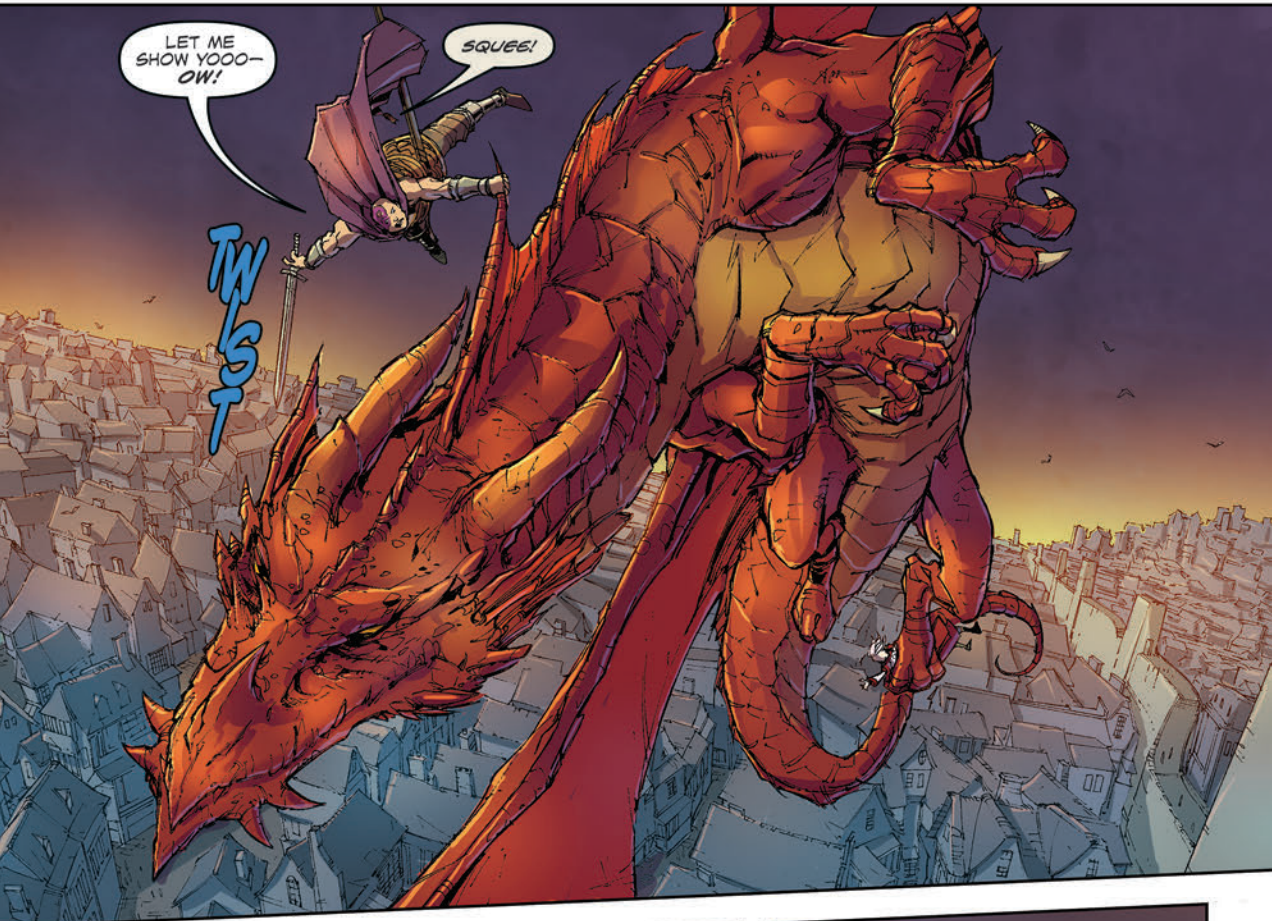
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT...



THE TRANSFORMATION HAS DRIVEN MY BROTHER MAD! THERE'S NO REASONING WITH HIM!



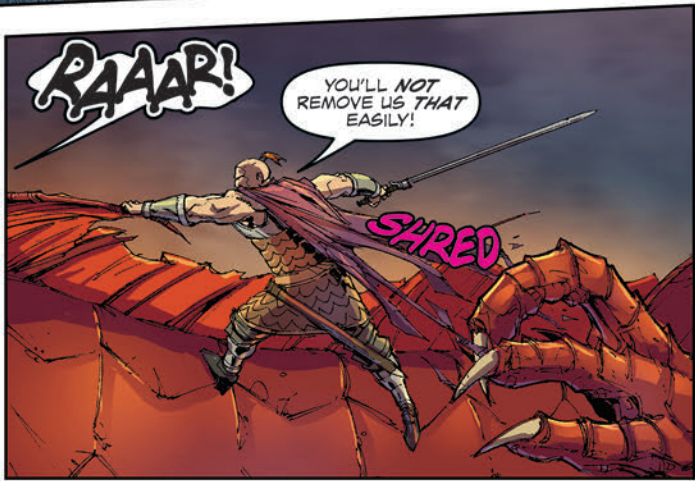
FEAR NOT, NEERA, MY SWORD IS SHARPENED BY THE POWER OF GOODNESS!



LET ME SHOW YOOO-OW!

SQUEE!

TWIST



RAAAR!

YOU'LL NOT REMOVE US THAT EASILY!

SHRED



I AM THE BARNACLE ON THE HULL OF YOUR GALLEON...

WNG!

A BARNACLE OF BUTT-KICKING!



AS SOON AS WE HIT THE ROOF I WANT YOU TO LAUNCH A FLURRY OF ARROWS.

SURE, BUT, EVEN IF I CAN HIT HIM, I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN PIERCE THOSE DRAGON SCALES.

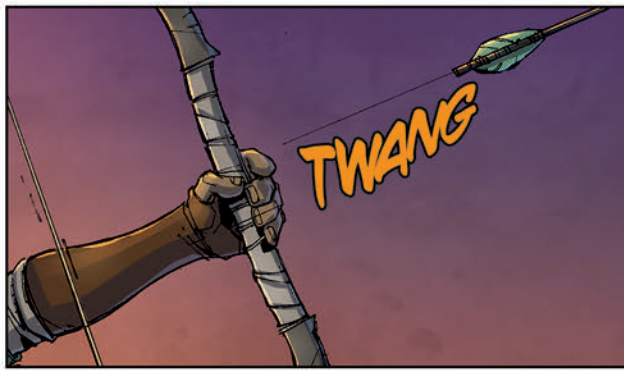


IT WON'T MATTER. JUST GET HIS ATTENTION AND I'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE.

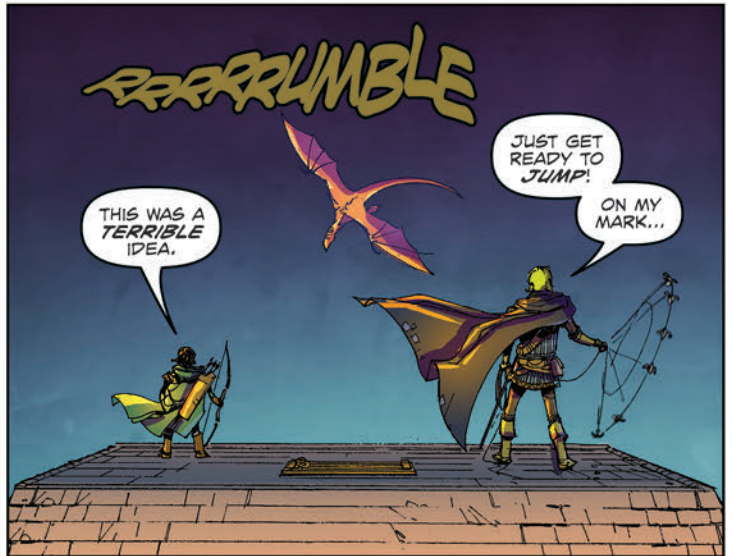
OKIE-DOKIE!



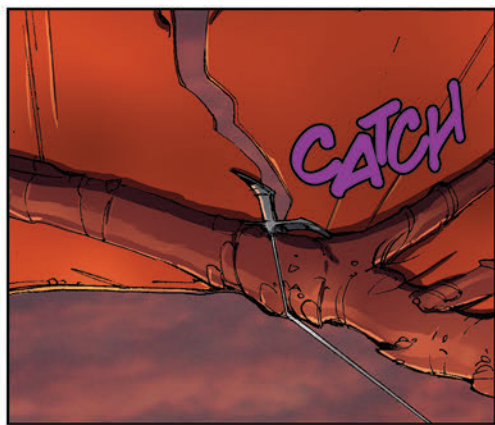
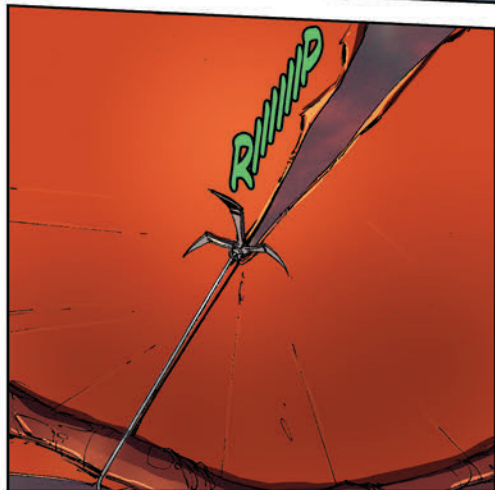
YOU CAN DO THIS, LITTLE LADY... BREATHE DEEP AND FIRE...

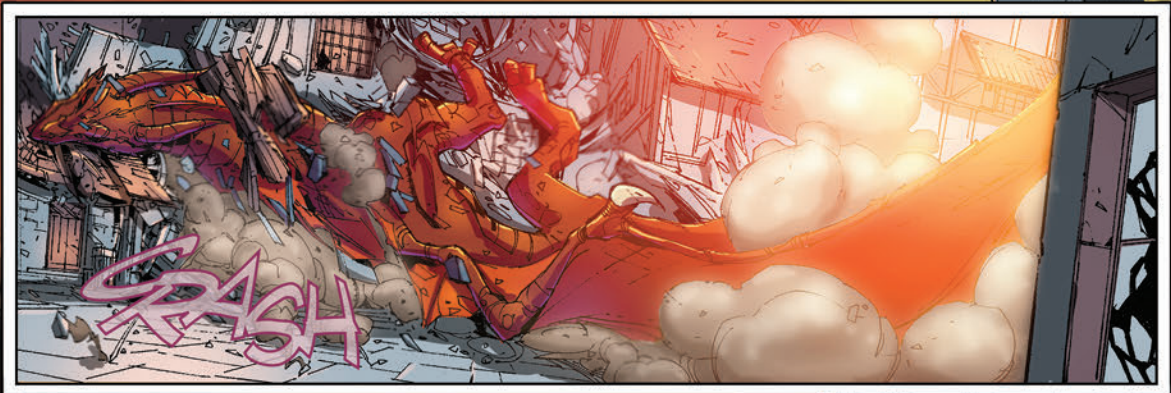


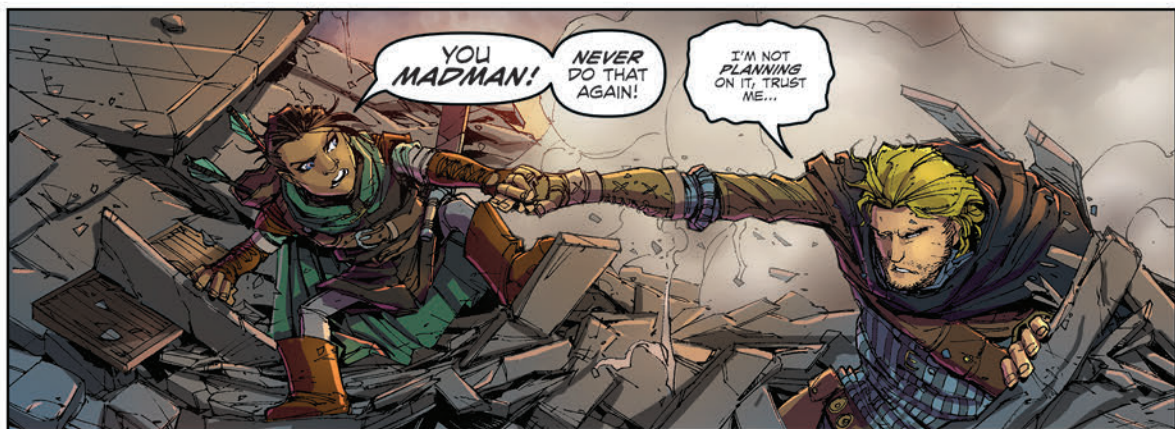
WOOSH













ROOOAR!



NEW PLAN?

NEW PLAN...

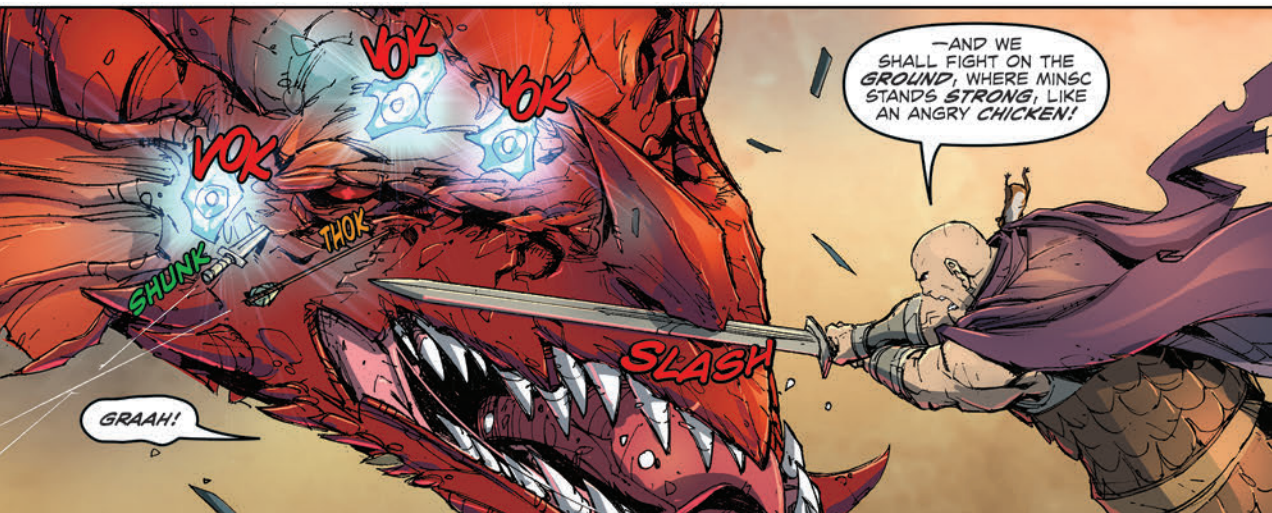
HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!



MAGIC MISSILE!

I AM IMPRESSED WITH YOUR TENACIOUS EVIL, SCALY-BIRD!

BUT NOW YOUR WINGS ARE CLIPPED—



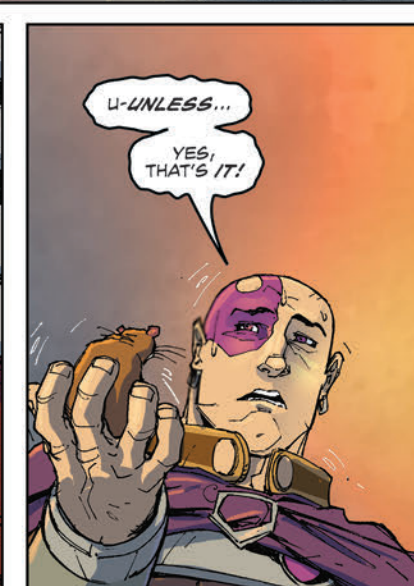
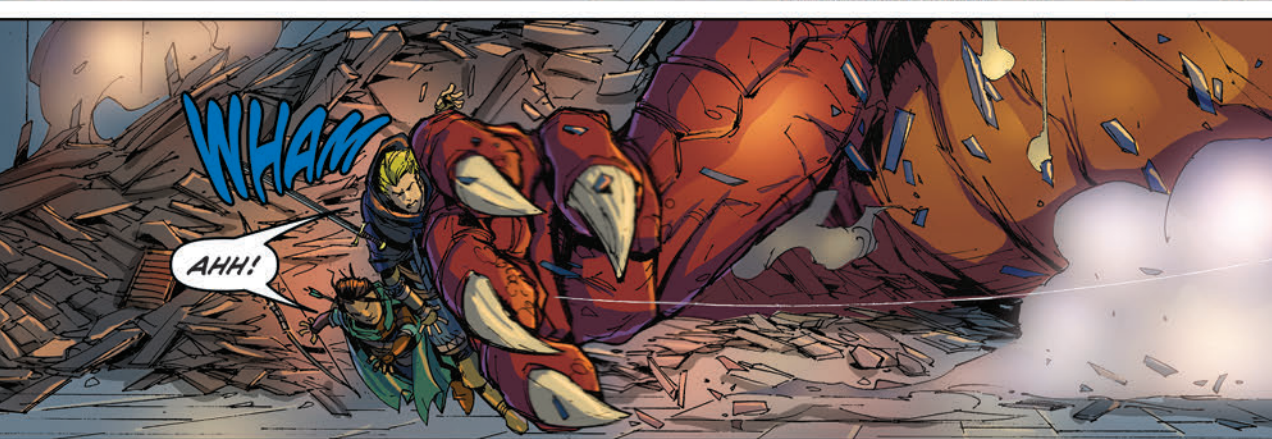
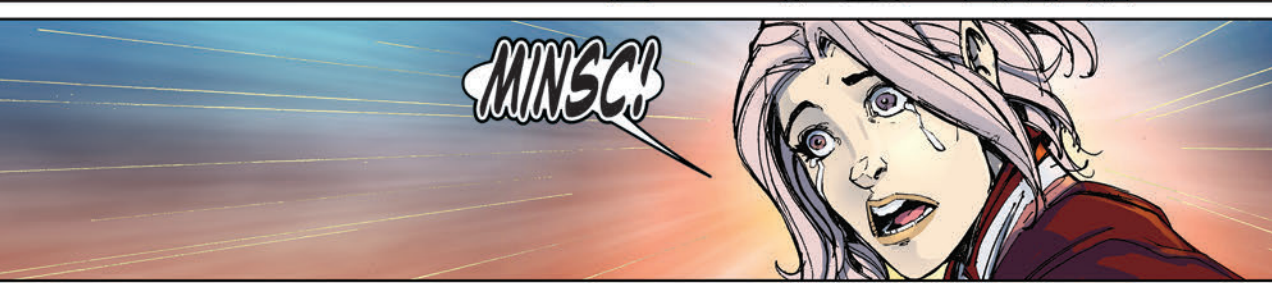
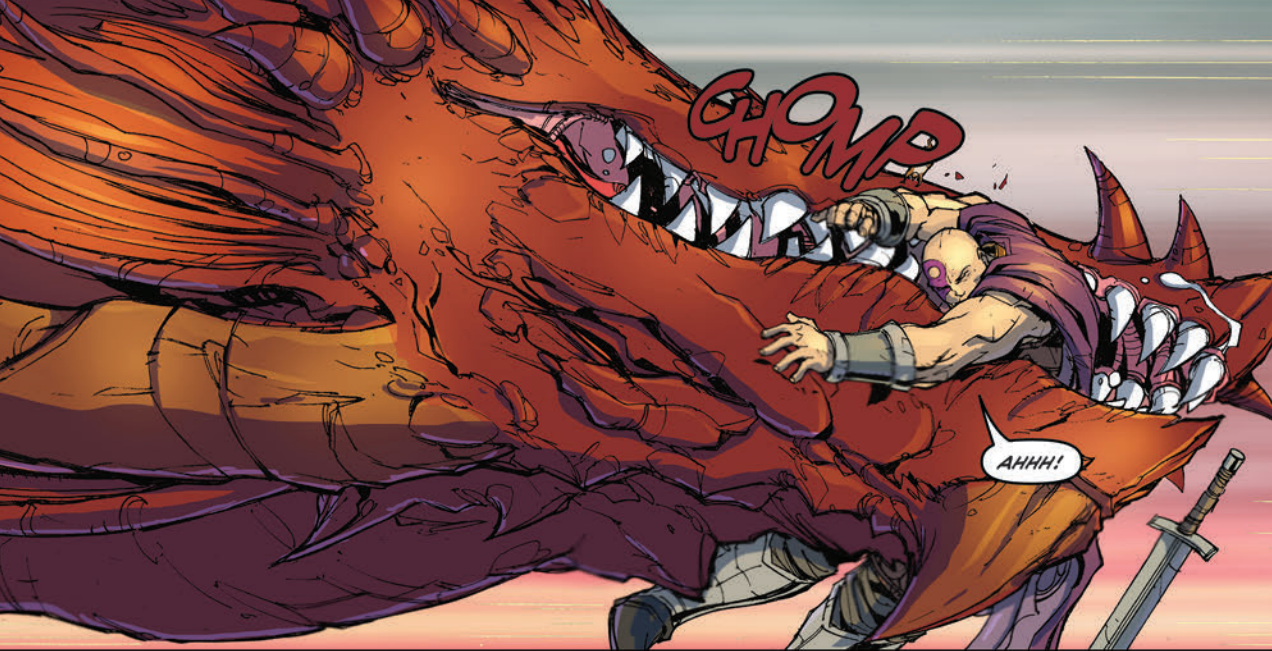
—AND WE SHALL FIGHT ON THE GROUND, WHERE MINSC STANDS STRONG, LIKE AN ANGRY CHICKEN!

GRAAH!

VOK  
VOK  
VOK

SHUNK  
THOK

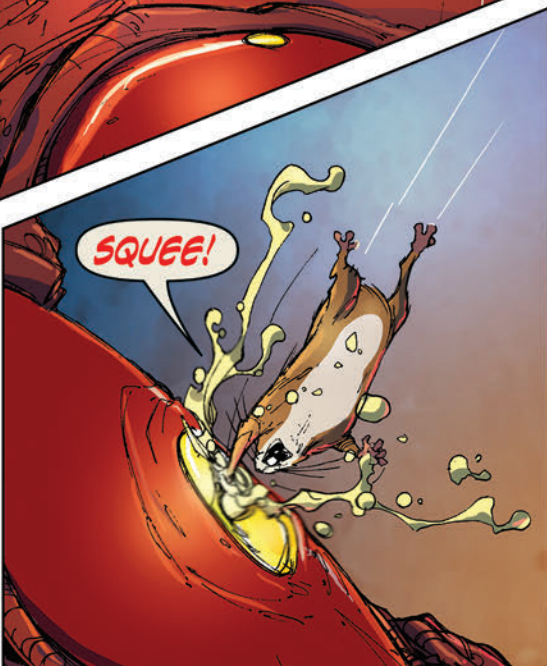
SLASH



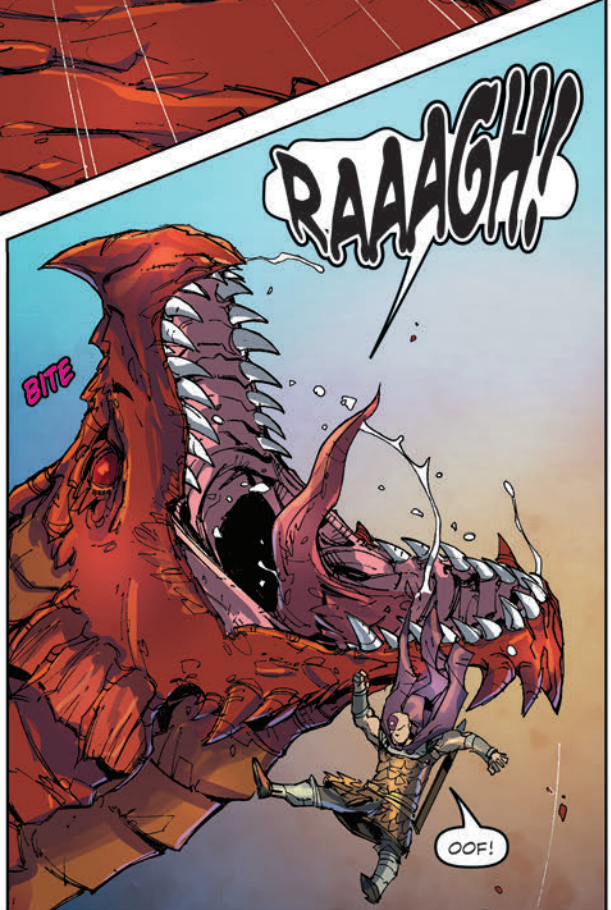


GO FOR THE EYES, BOO!  
**GO FOR THE EYES!**

R'UH?



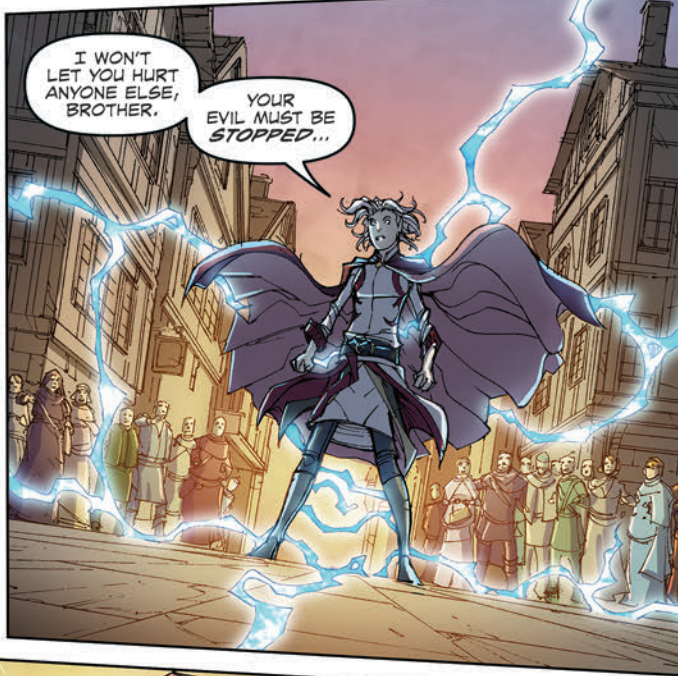
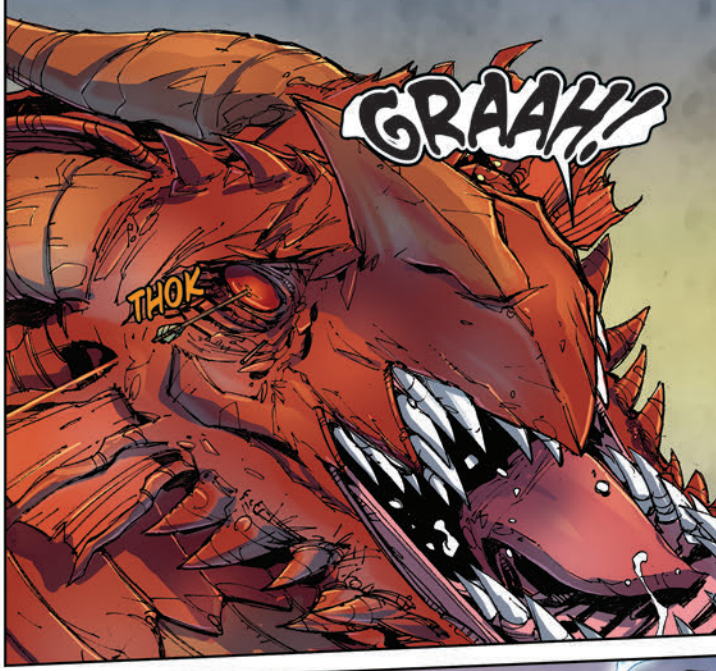
**SQUEE!**

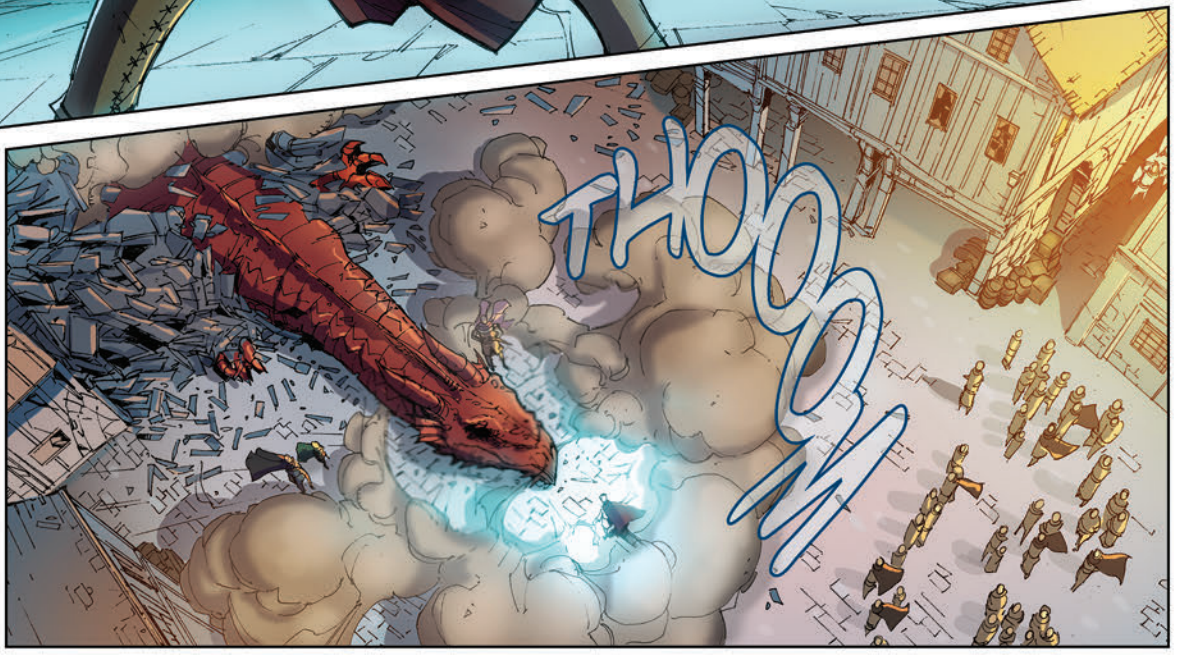


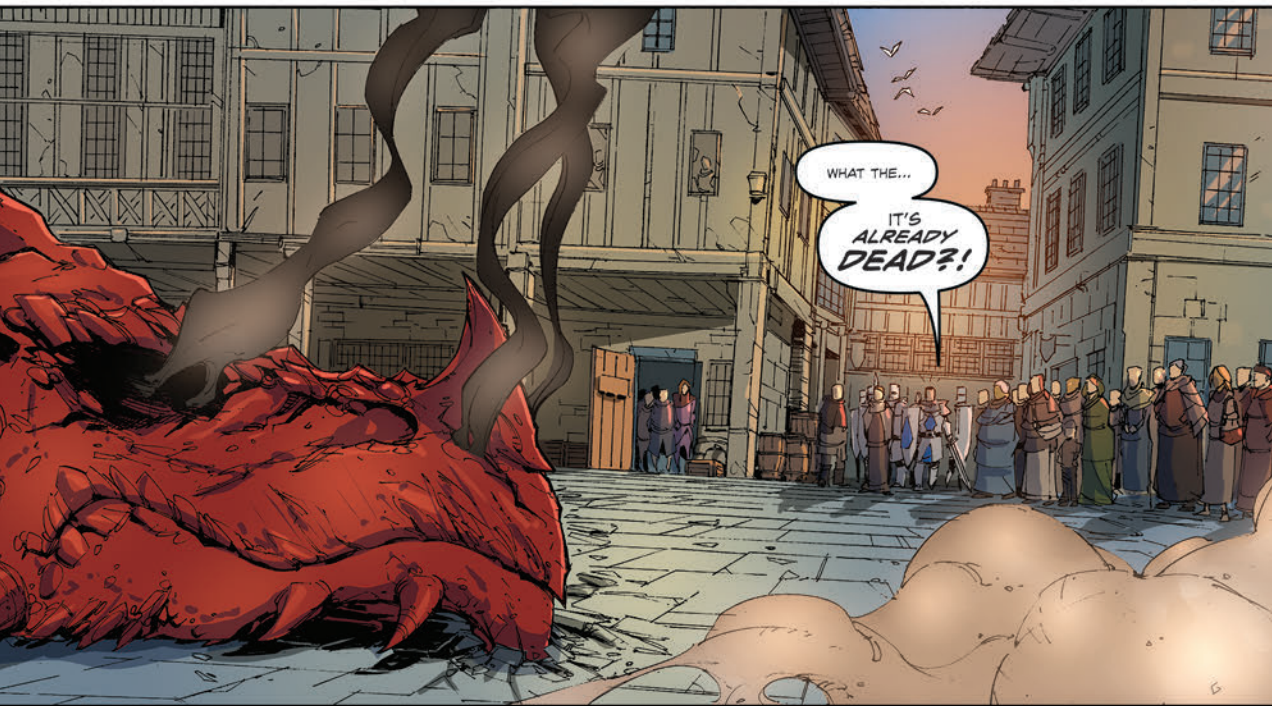
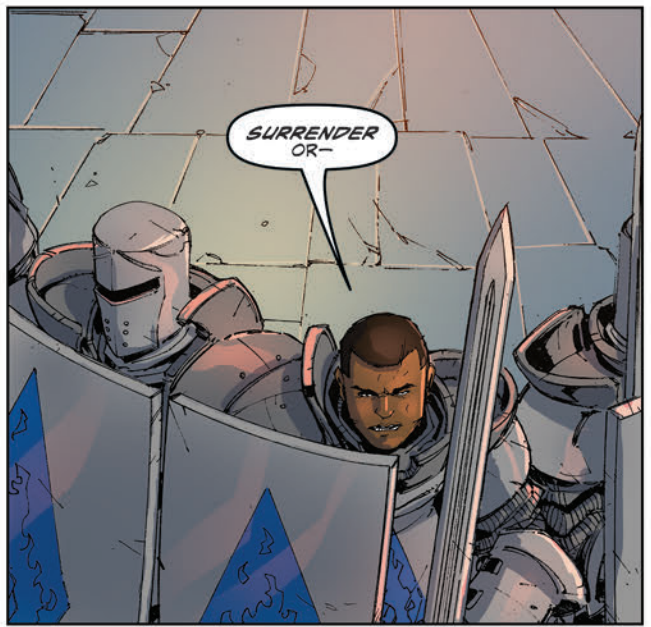
**RAAAGH!**

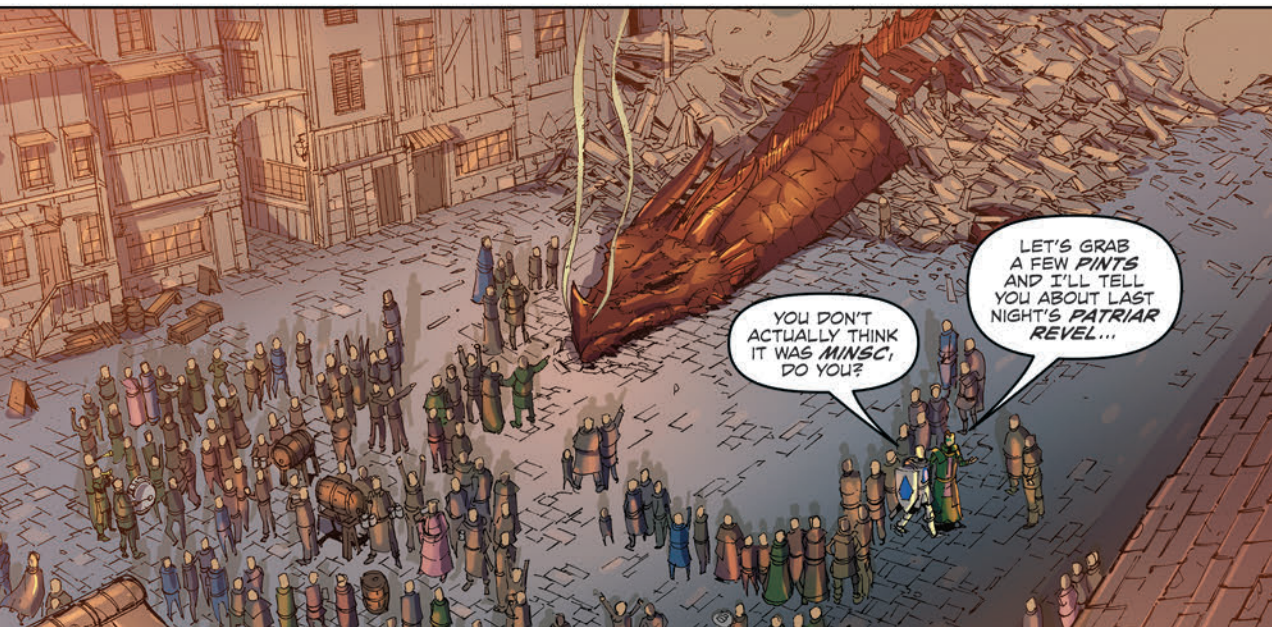
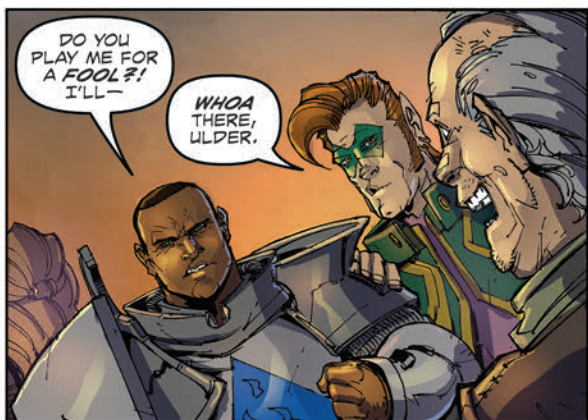
**BITE**

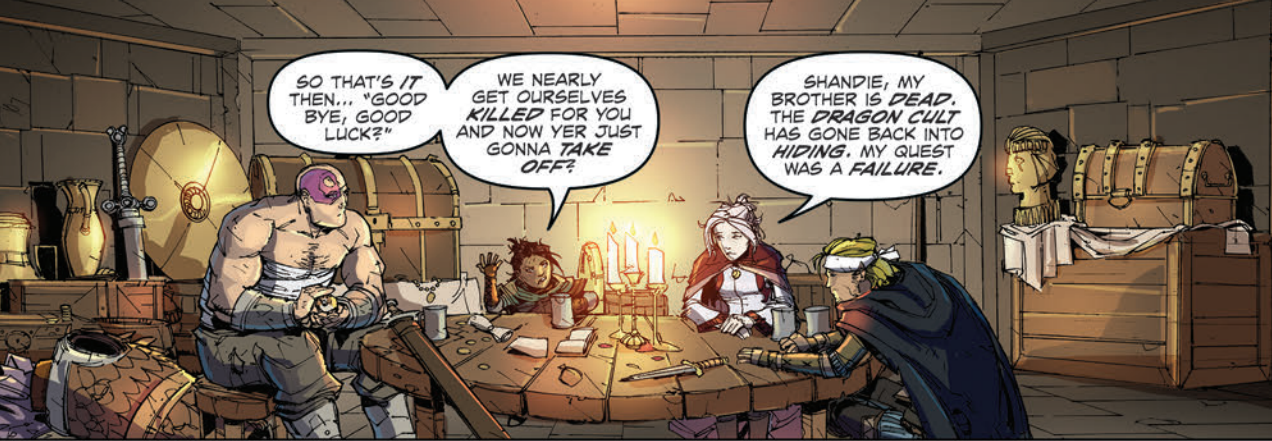
**OOF!**







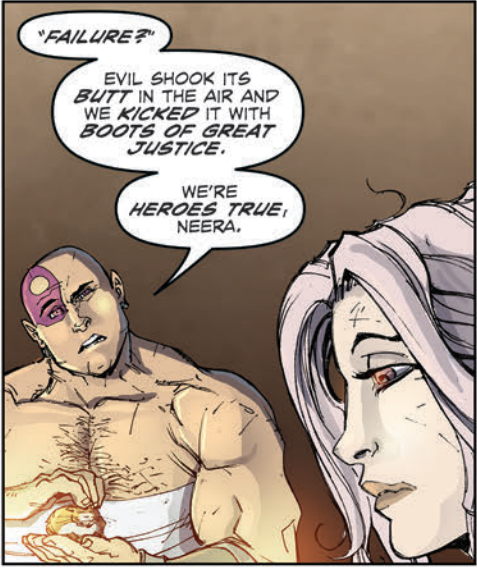




SO THAT'S IT THEN... "GOOD BYE, GOOD LUCK?"

WE NEARLY GET OURSELVES KILLED FOR YOU AND NOW YER JUST GONNA TAKE OFF?

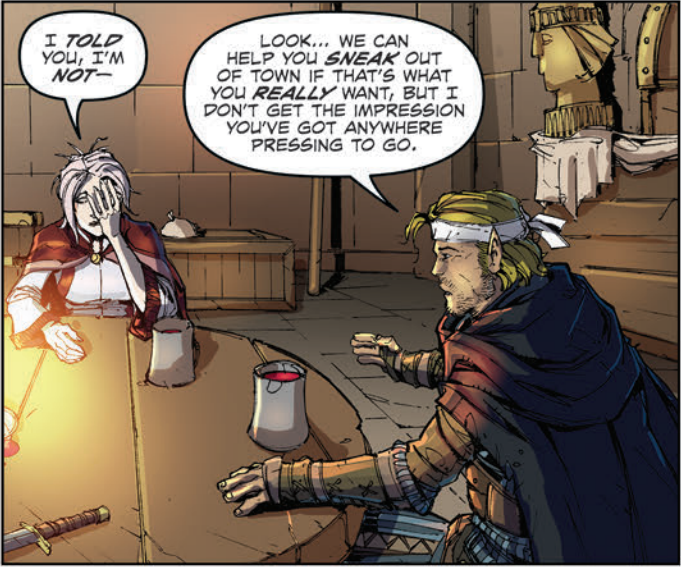
SHANDIE, MY BROTHER IS DEAD. THE DRAGON CULT HAS GONE BACK INTO HIDING. MY QUEST WAS A FAILURE.



"FAILURE?"

EVIL SHOOK ITS BUTT IN THE AIR AND WE KICKED IT WITH BOOTS OF GREAT JUSTICE.

WE'RE HEROES TRUE, NEERA.



I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT-

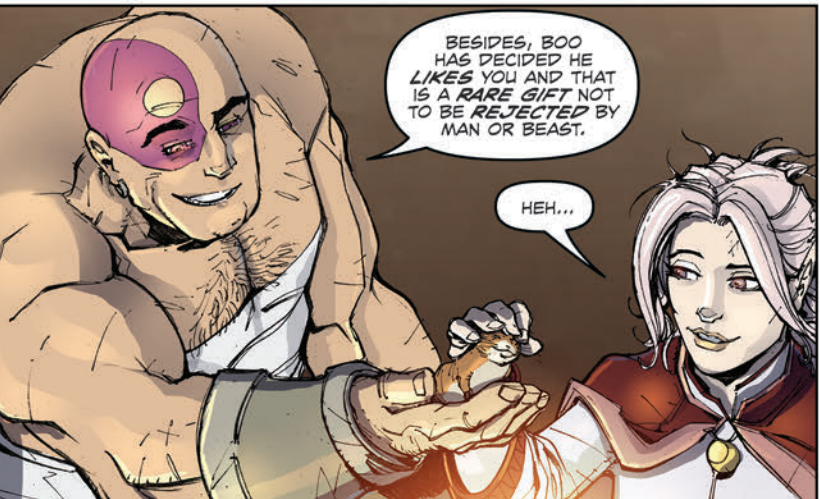
LOOK... WE CAN HELP YOU SNEAK OUT OF TOWN IF THAT'S WHAT YOU REALLY WANT, BUT I DON'T GET THE IMPRESSION YOU'VE GOT ANYWHERE PRESSING TO GO.



TRUE, BUT I... I DON'T BELONG HERE.

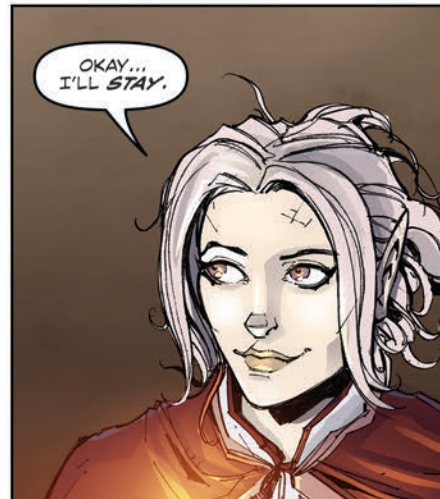
DO ANY OF US?

BALDUR'S GATE IS A CITY OF MISFITS AND OUTSIDERS. TRUST ME, YOU'LL FIT RIGHT IN.



BESIDES, BOO HAS DECIDED HE LIKES YOU AND THAT IS A RARE GIFT NOT TO BE REJECTED BY MAN OR BEAST.

HEH...



OKAY... I'LL STAY.

**EXCELLENT!**

MY FRIENDS, OUR **HAMSTER-BORNE FURY** WILL BE **SO GREAT** THE **BARDS** WILL RUN THEIR **QUILLS DRY** KEEPING UP WITH OUR **ADVENTURES!**

INK WILL BE **SCARCE** AND WE SHALL BE **LEGENDS!**

SOUNDS GOOD, BIG GUY, BUT IF THIS KEEPS UP WE'RE **DEFINITELY** GONNA NEED A **CLERIC.**

THE END?

Art by Max Dunbar  
Colors by Joana Lafuente





Art by Michael Komark







Art by Raymond Swanland







Art by Guido Kuip







Art by David Baldeon  
Colors by David Garcia-Cruz







Art by David Baldeon  
Colors by David Garcia-Cruz







Art by Tyler Jacobson





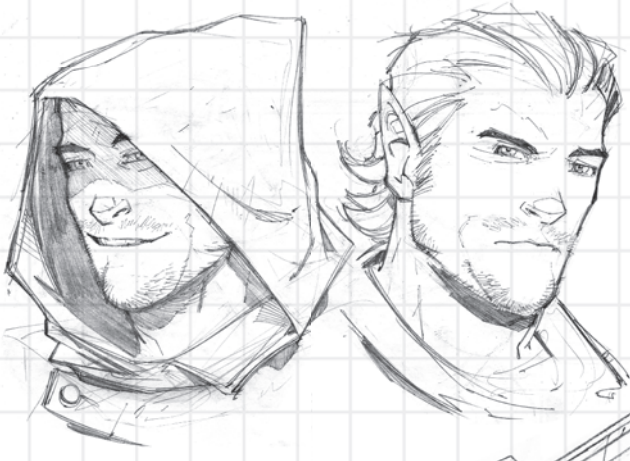
THERS



Art by Tyler Jacobson



Krydle

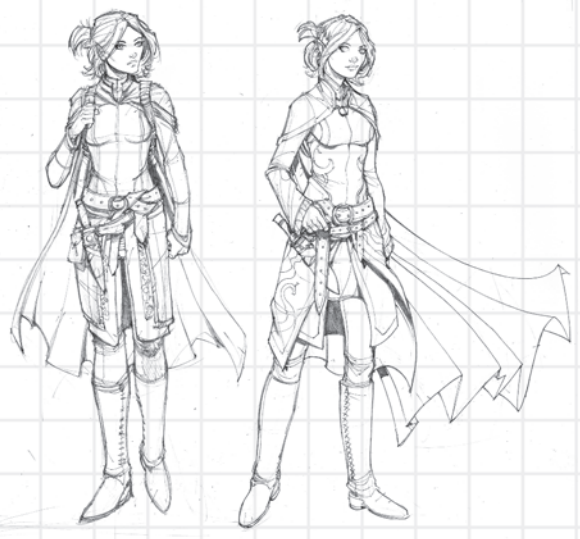


CONCEPT ART

by Max Dunbar



**Shandie**



YOUNG

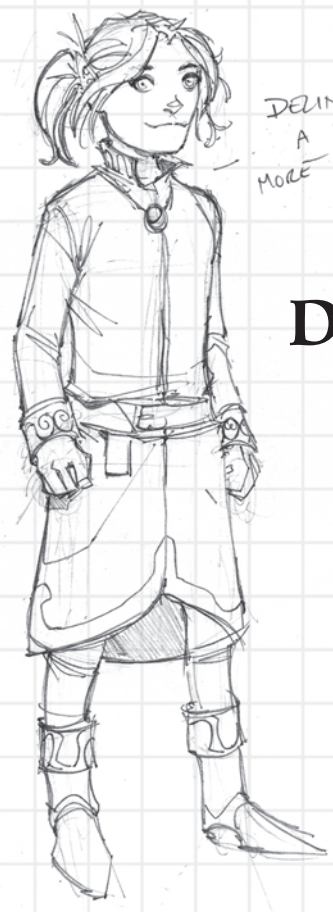
DENIAK

DELINA

MAYBE  
MOON  
PENDANTS?

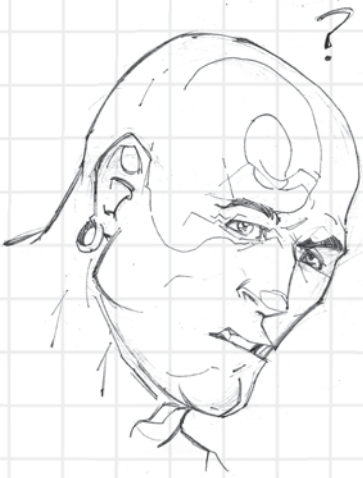


DELINA IS  
A BIT  
MORE DISHEVELED



**Delina**

# Minsc



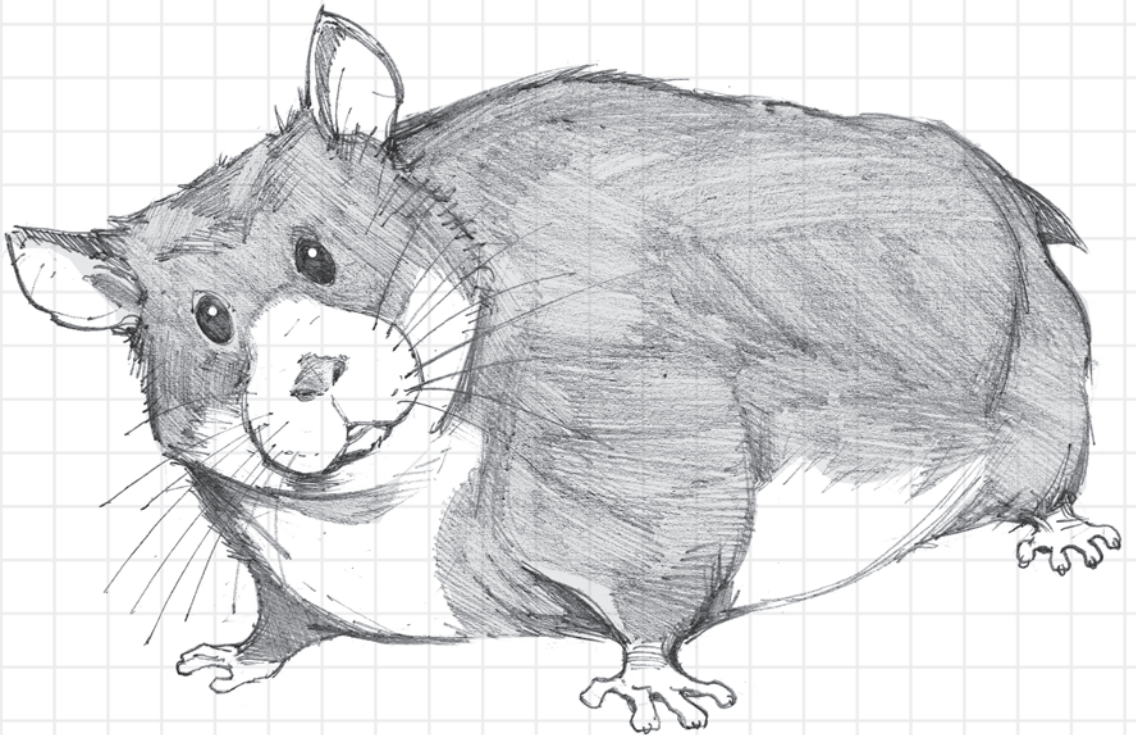
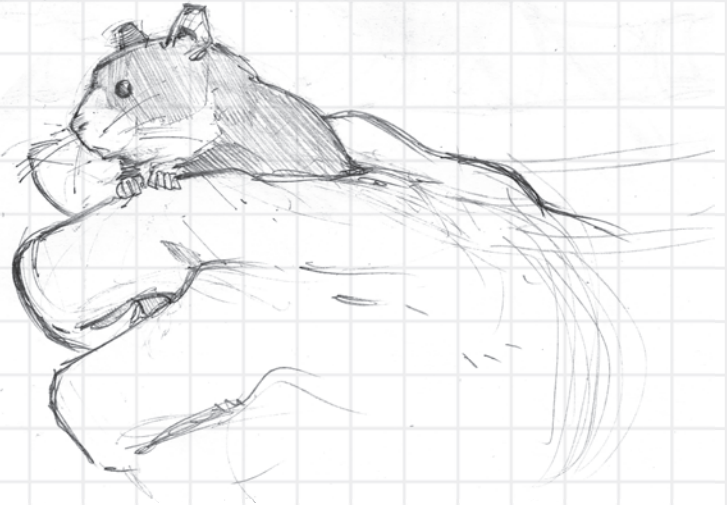
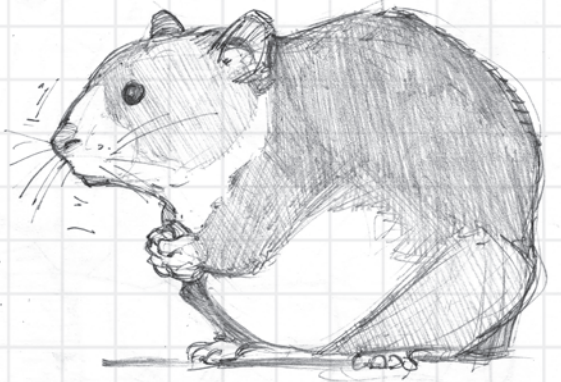
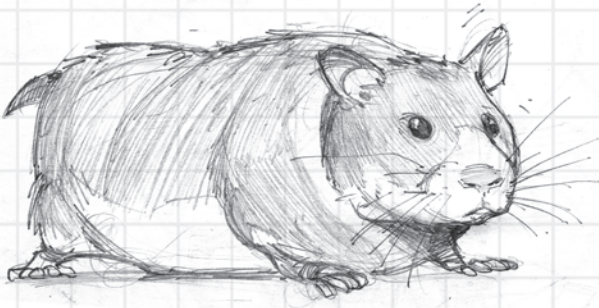
MINS  
Boo

GO FOR  
THE  
EYES!

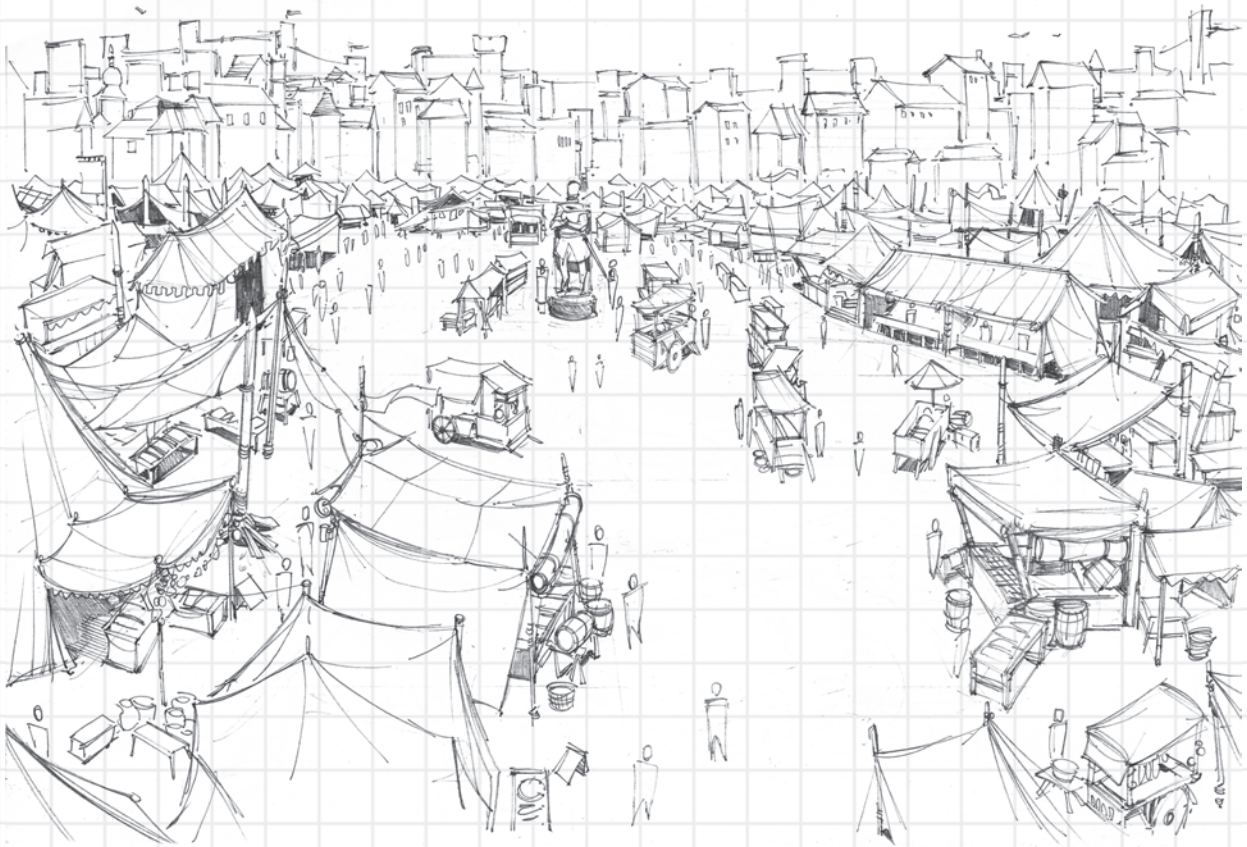


Boo

Boo



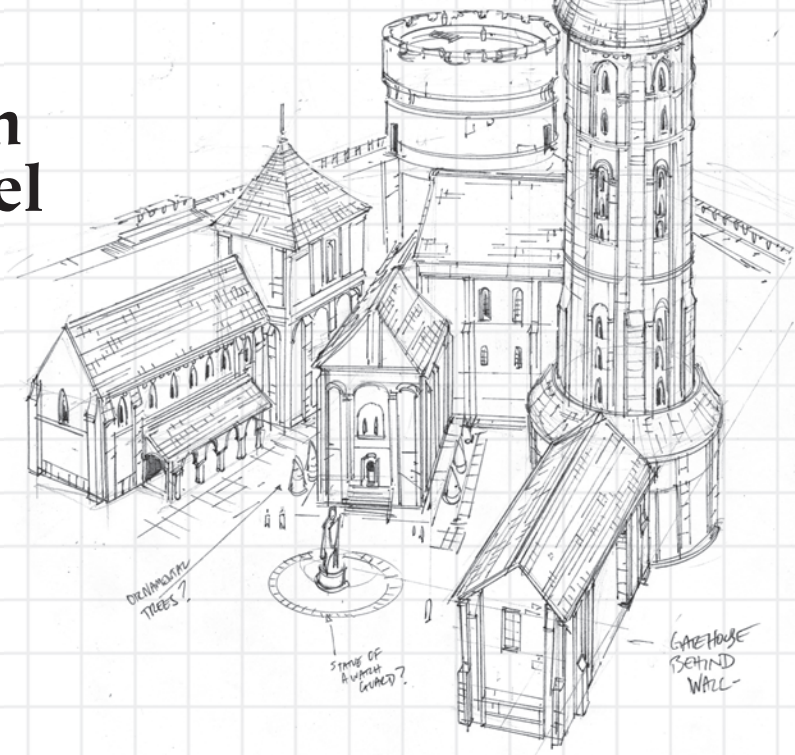
# The Wide

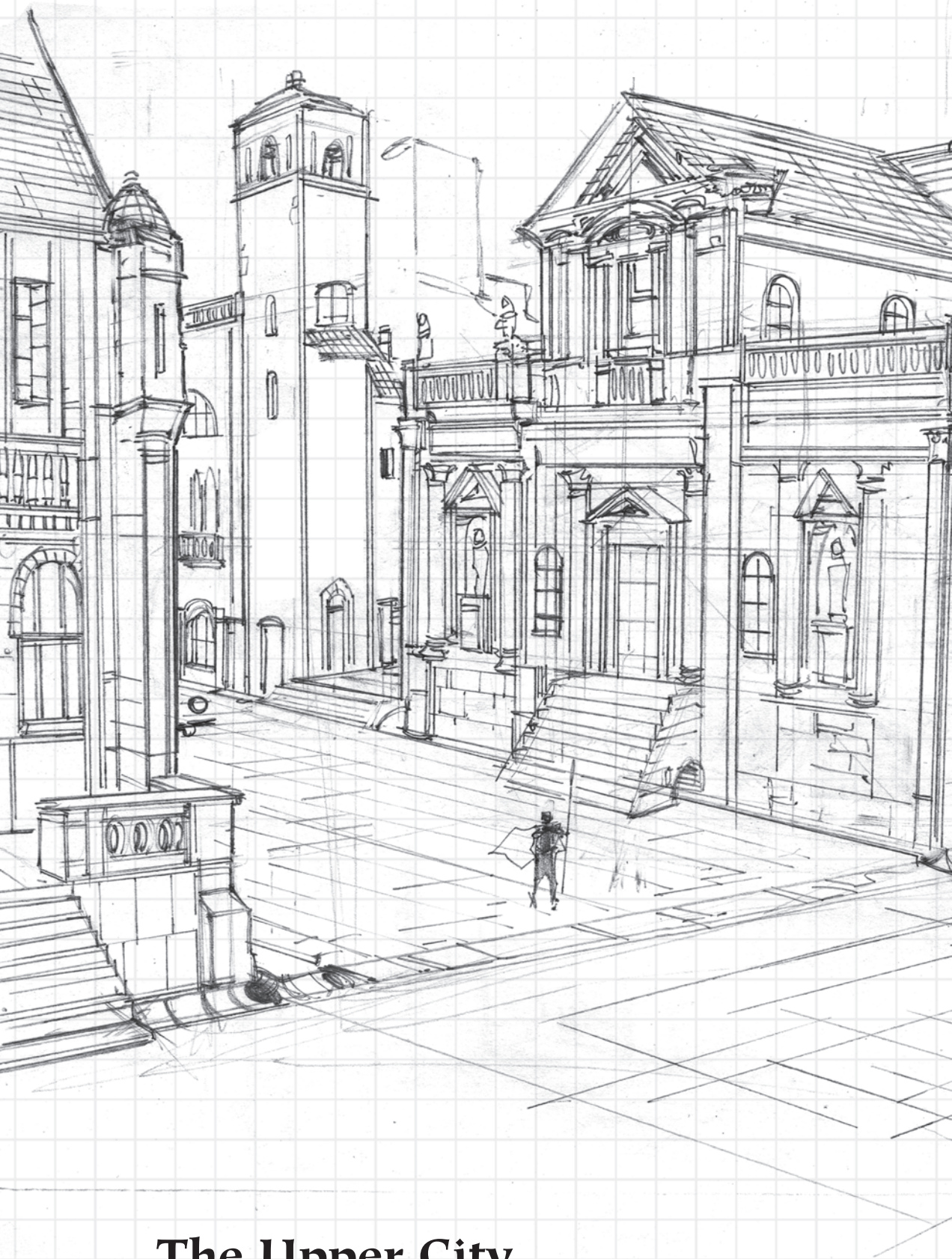


# The Lower City

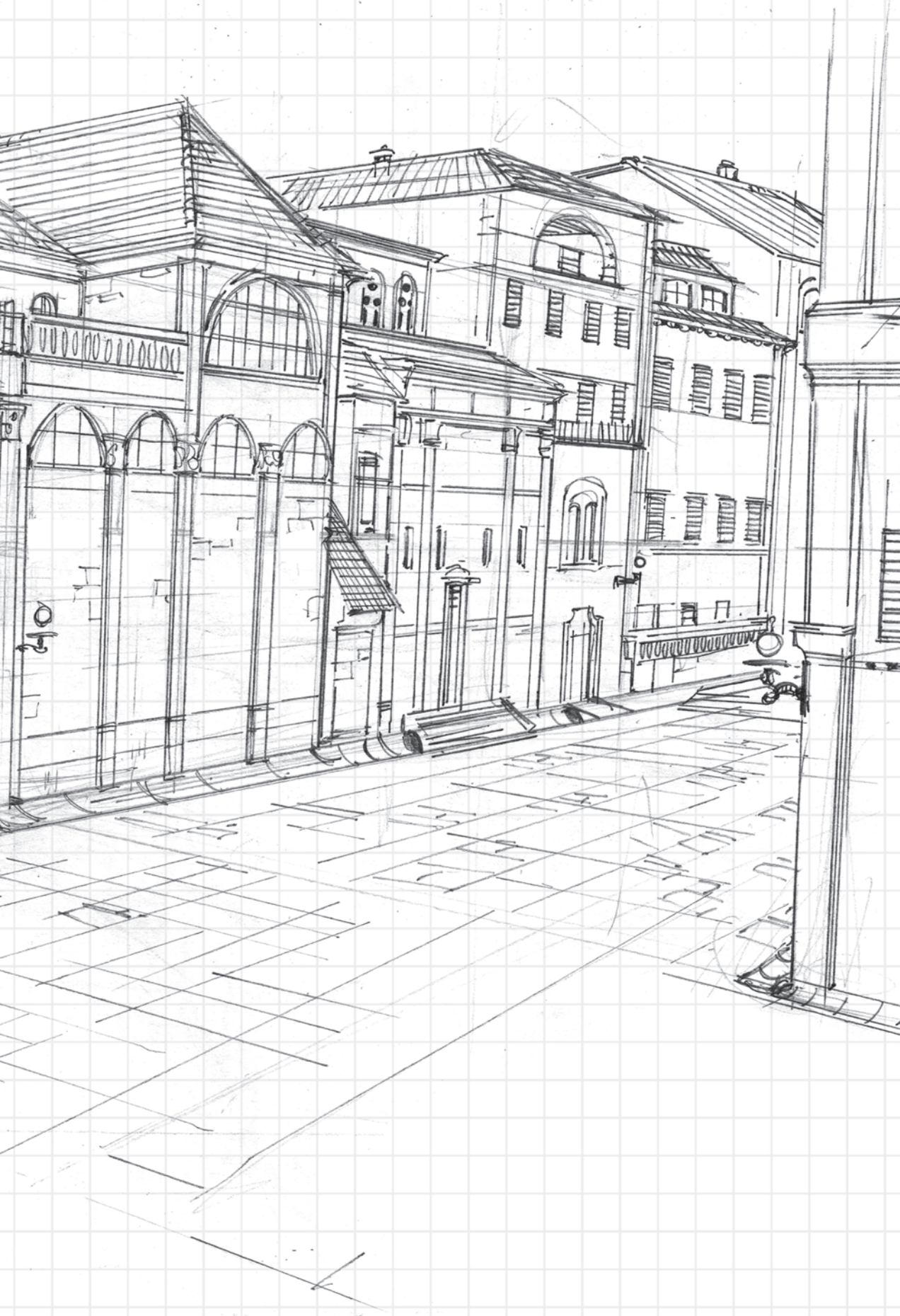


# The Watch Citadel



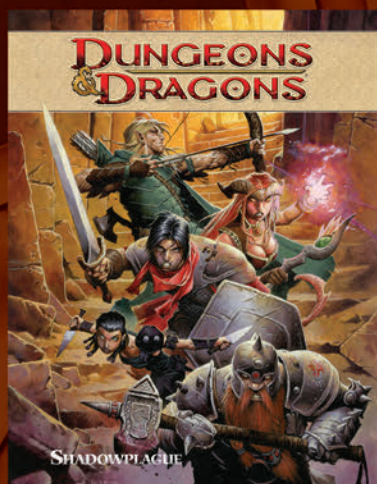


# The Upper City

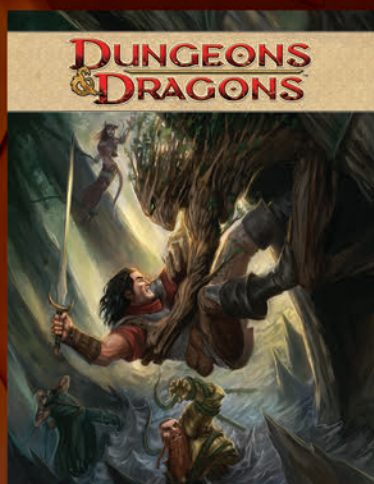


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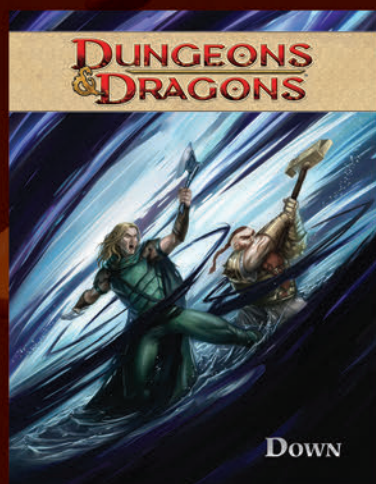
# MORE ADVENTURES AWAIT



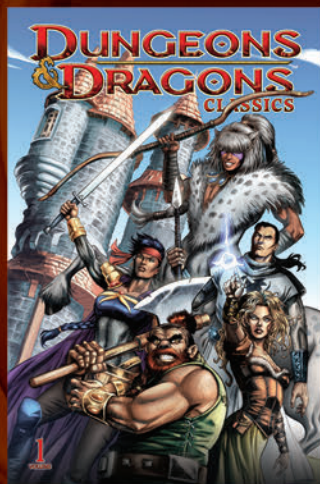
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