

# ESSENCE

DESTINY OF THE TWELVE WARRIORS®



DOBBS  
JAFAR  
KAMAPUTRA  
POWERS  
WOLLET  
CARTER

BOOK ONE





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NO...



I'M TOO LATE.



I CAN'T LET THESE CREATURES LEAVE THIS PLACE WITH SO MANY TRAPPED SOULS SUFFERING.



SKREEE

KRAAA

I MUST HAVE THAT LIFE FORCE.

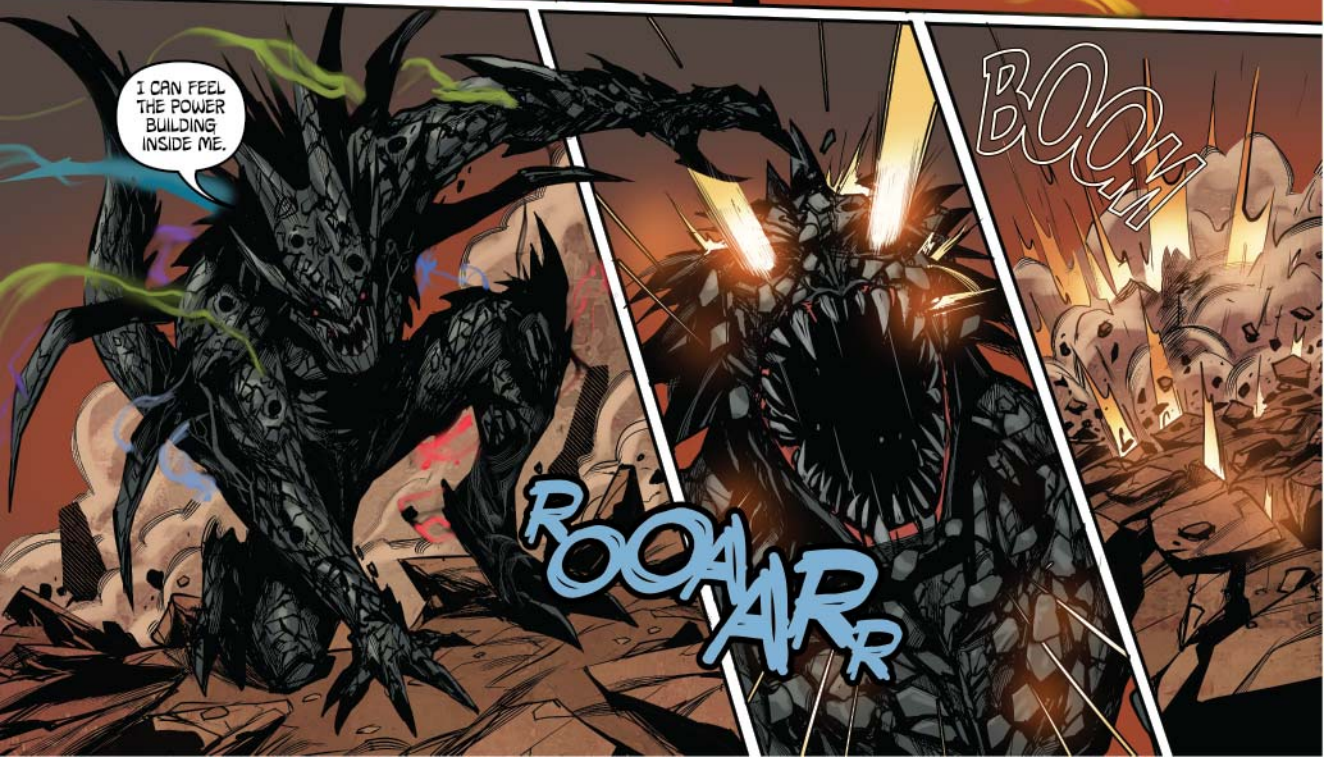
DON'T LET HER ESCAPE!

I WILL END YOUR SUFFERING SOON.

HSSSS



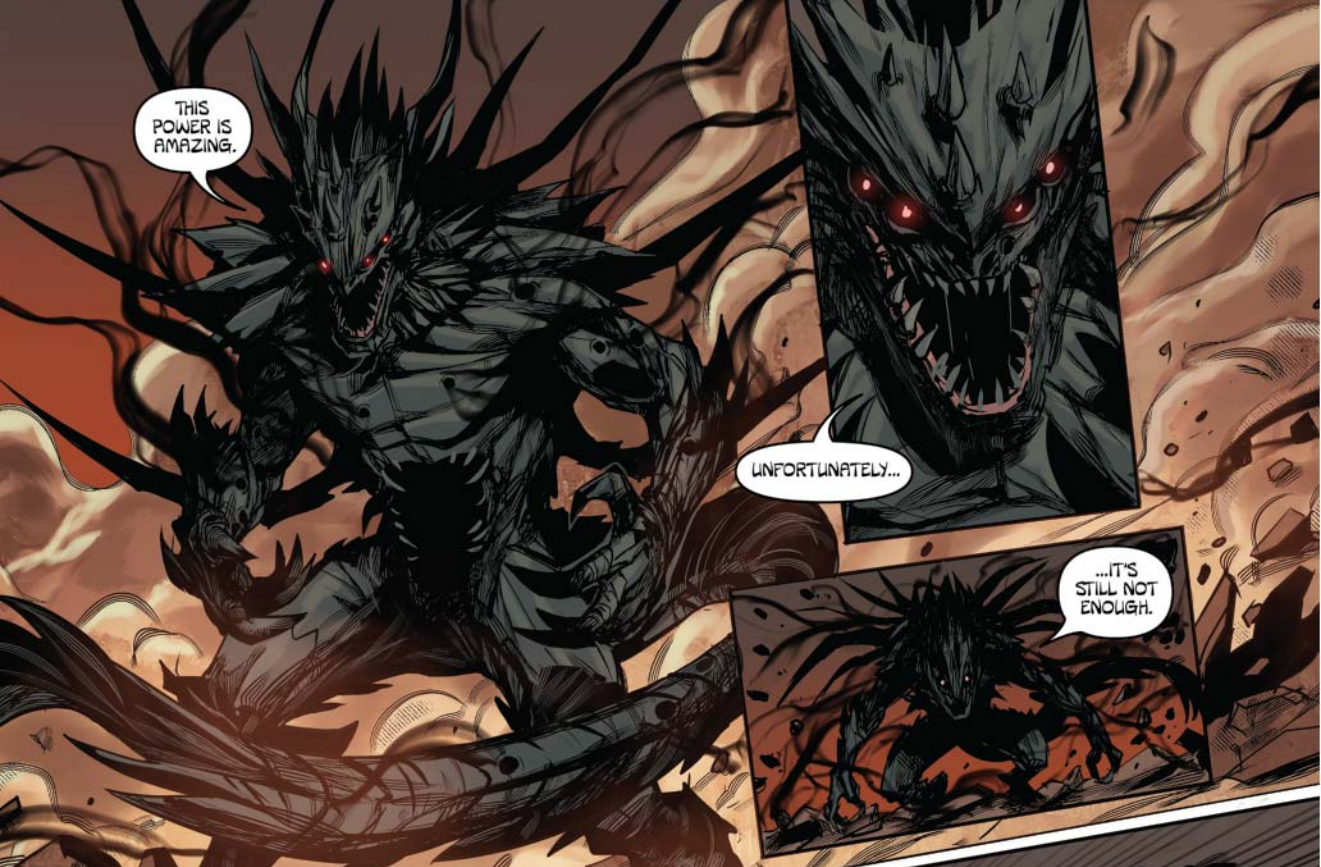
ALL OF YOU ARE USELESS!



I CAN FEEL THE POWER BUILDING INSIDE ME.

BOOM

ROOARRR



THIS  
POWER IS  
AMAZING.

UNFORTUNATELY...

...IT'S  
STILL NOT  
ENOUGH.



LEND ME  
YOUR AID,  
BROTHERS!





AHHHH.

THIS IS MUCH BETTER!



NOW I CAN DEFEAT YOU.



YOU CAN TRY.



LET'S END THIS!

LET'S END THIS!

ZZZ

ZZZ

ZZZ

ZZZ

ZZZ



**BAM**

IT'S  
ABSORBING  
MY  
ESSENCE!

**WHAM**

CANABALIZING  
ITS OWN  
MADE IT  
STRONGER THAN  
I'D IMAGINED!

WE HAVE  
TO END THIS  
BEFORE IT  
GETS TOO  
STRONG.

YOU CAN  
COUNT  
ON US,  
ERA.





I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO ALL OF YOU.



READY?!

LET'S SHOW HIM WHAT WE'RE CAPABLE OF!



HOLD STILL!

WHY WON'T YOU FIGHT ME?!



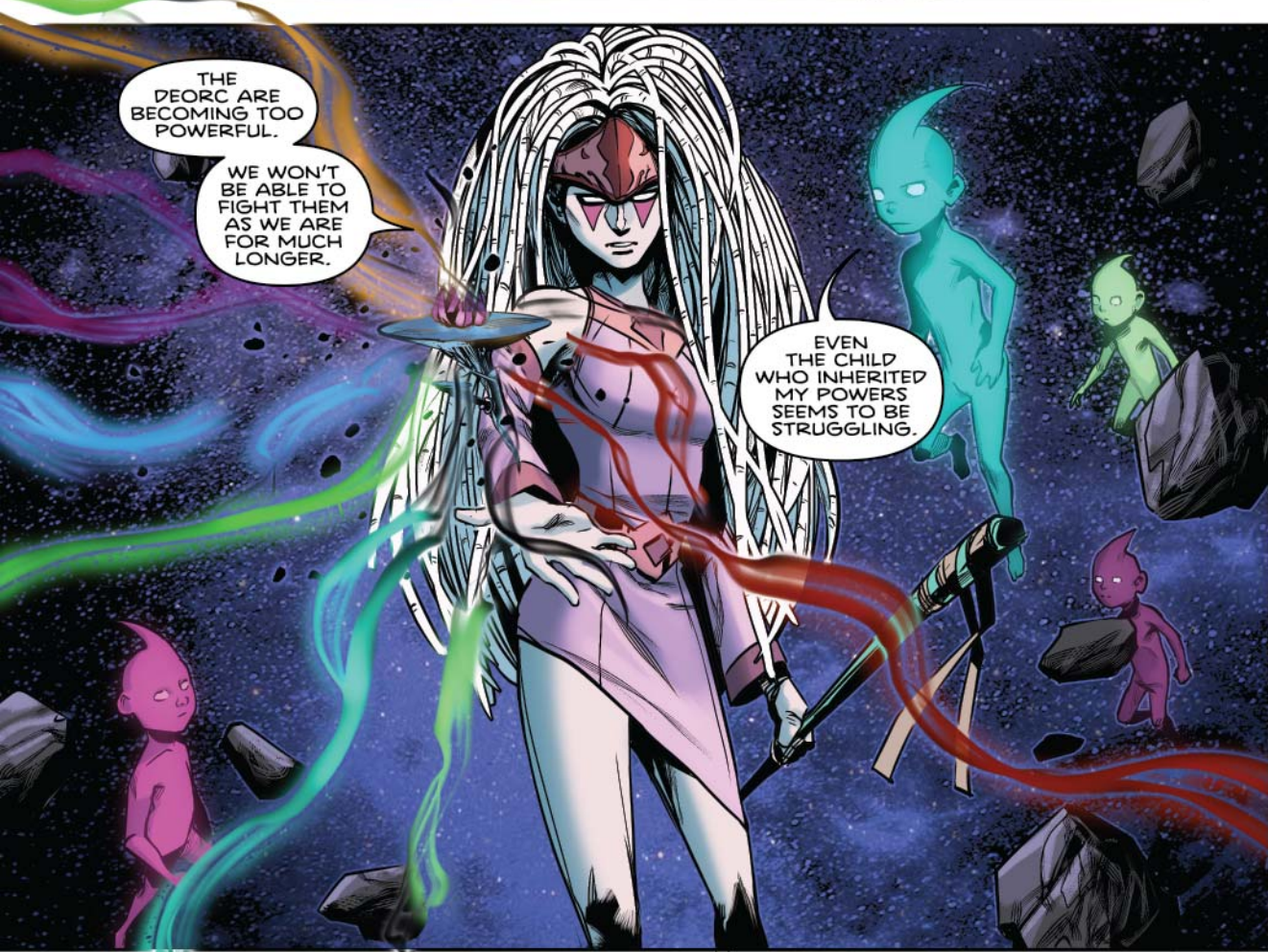
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY BODY?!



I'LL BE BACK!



AND I'LL COME FOR YOU WHEN I DO.



THE DEORC ARE BECOMING TOO POWERFUL.

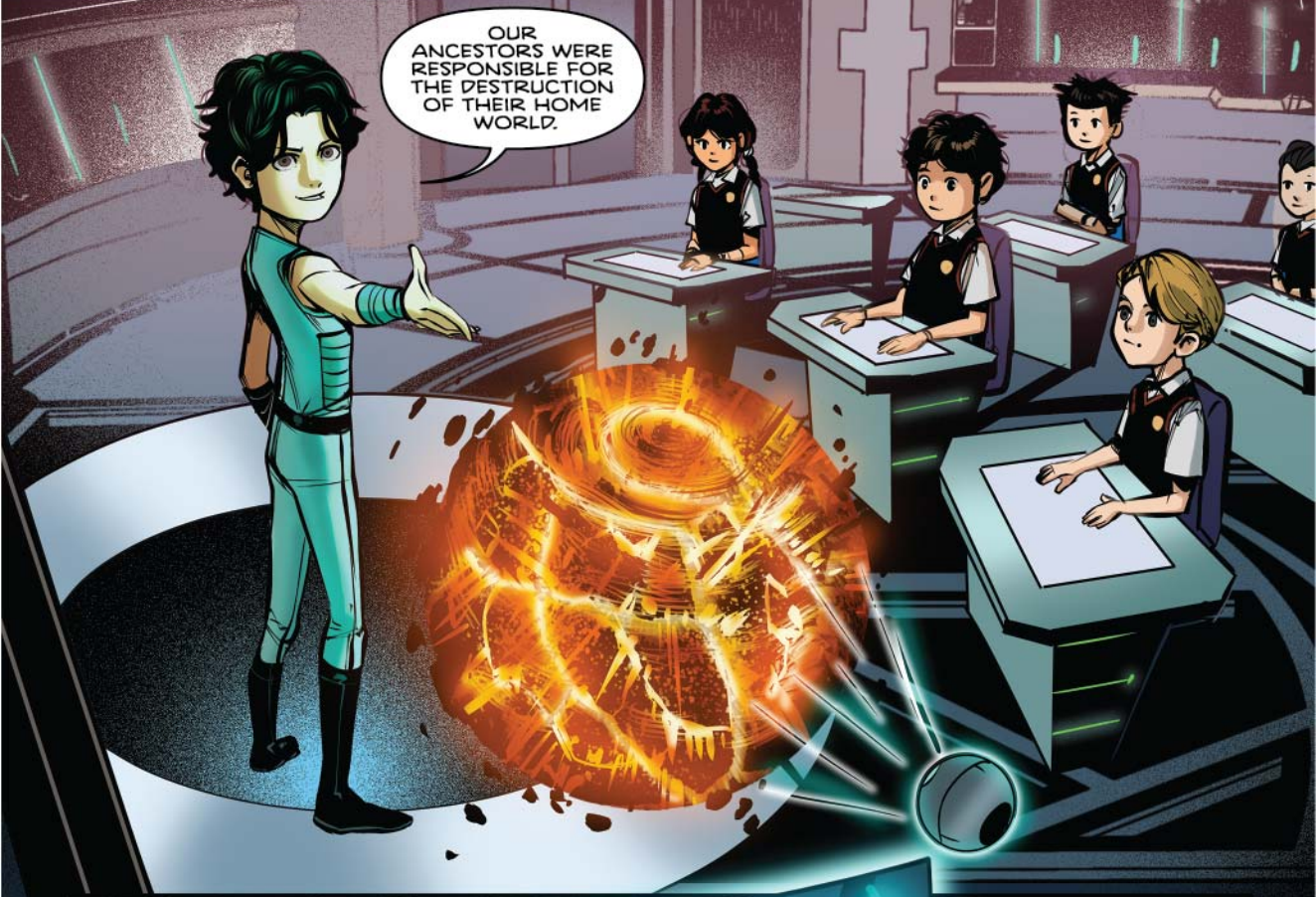
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO FIGHT THEM AS WE ARE FOR MUCH LONGER.

EVEN THE CHILD WHO INHERITED MY POWERS SEEMS TO BE STRUGGLING.

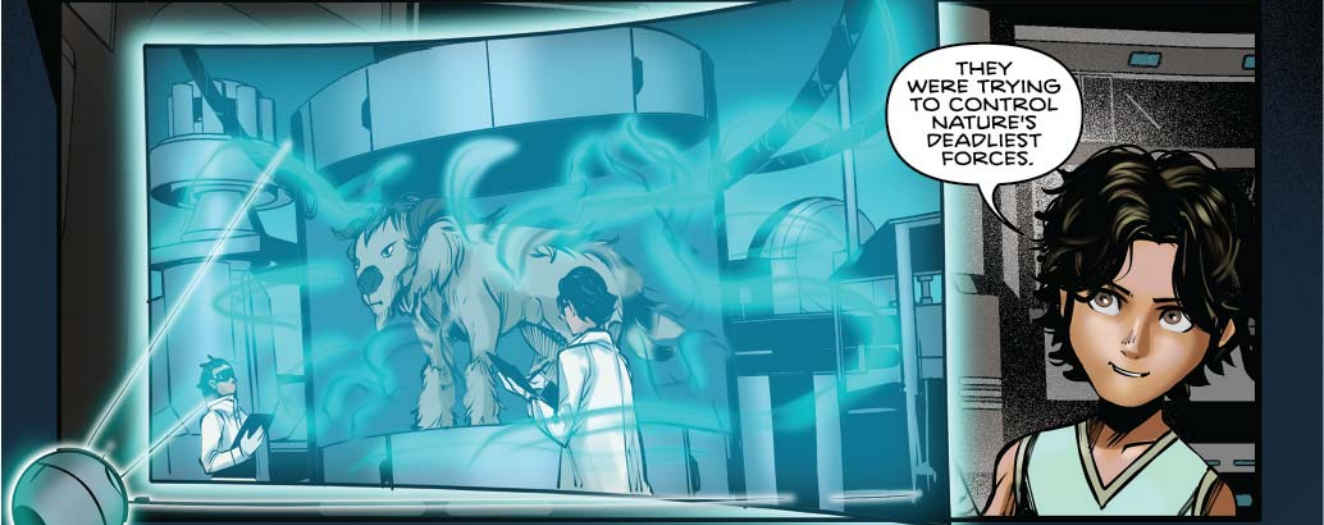


IT APPEARS I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE.

# ONE YEAR EARLIER



OUR ANCESTORS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THEIR HOME WORLD.



THEY WERE TRYING TO CONTROL NATURE'S DEADLIEST FORCES.



WHAT WERE THEY TRYING TO CONTROL, CONRAD?



I'M GLAD YOU ASKED.



THEY WERE TRYING TO CONTROL ESSENCE.

"STUDIES FROM THE SCIENCE AUGURS PROVED HARNESSING ESSENCE COULD CREATE A BETTER WORLD."

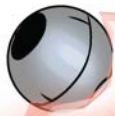


"BUT THE MONGERS AMONG THEM WANTED IT FOR THEMSELVES."



"WAR WAS INEVITABLE."

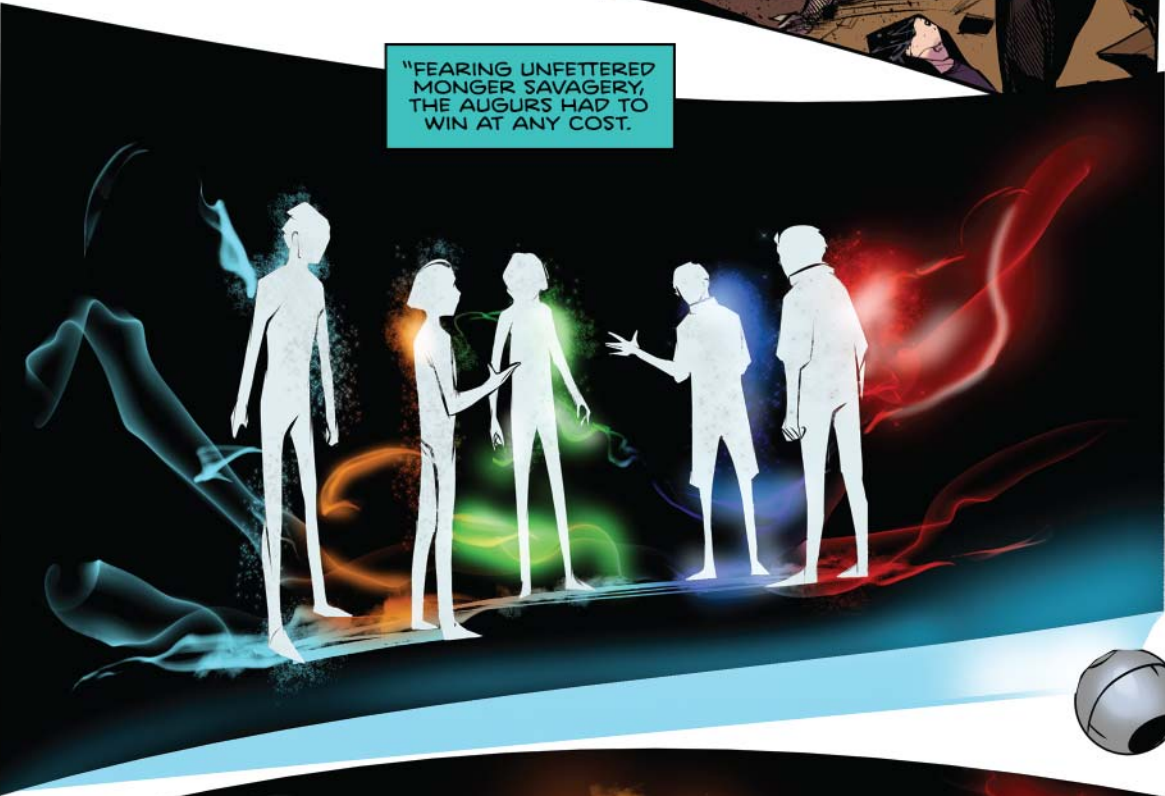




"IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR A VICTOR TO BE DECIDED."




"FEARING UNFETTERED MONGER SAVAGERY, THE AUGURS HAD TO WIN AT ANY COST."




"THEY FOUND ANOTHER WAY TO FIGHT BACK."









"SCIENTISTS ACROSS ASTRA  
CAME TOGETHER TO  
CREATE A WEAPON THAT  
COULD EXTRACT ESSENCE  
FROM THEIR SUN.



"MANY  
VOICED THEIR  
CONCERNS..."




"...BUT IT WAS  
A RISK MOST  
WERE WILLING  
TO TAKE."



"AFTER DEFEATING THE MONGERS, THE PEOPLE OF ASTRA WERE STILL FORCED TO FLEE."



"THEIR SUN HAD BECOME TOO UNSTABLE."




WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEOPLE WHO COULD STILL USE ESSENCE?



HOW DOES THAT INVOLVE SEVIA?

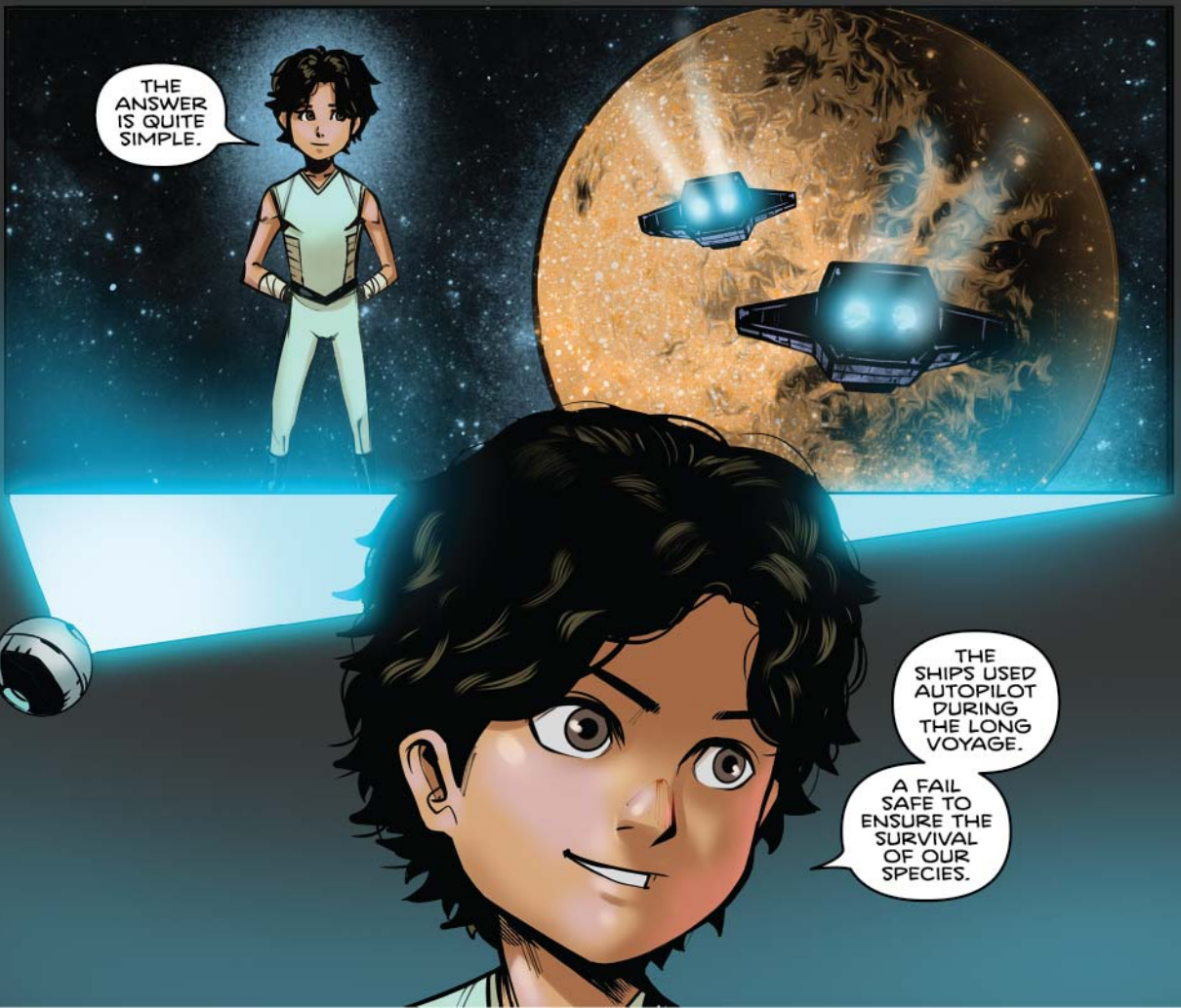
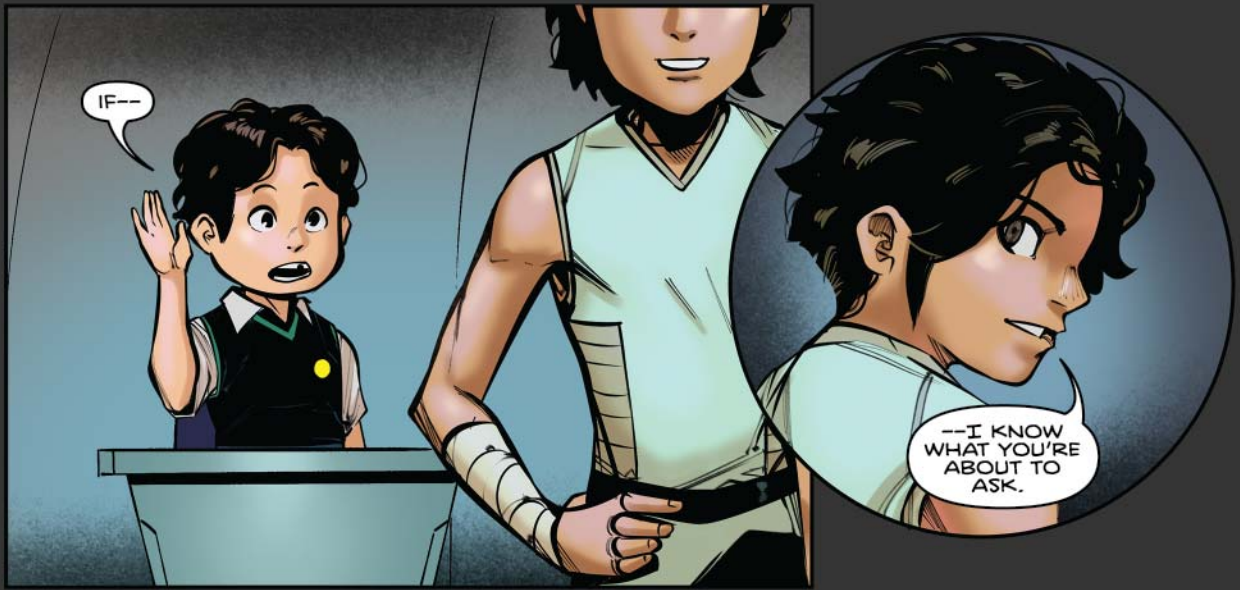


THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION!



WOAH... HOW'D YOU DO THAT?!







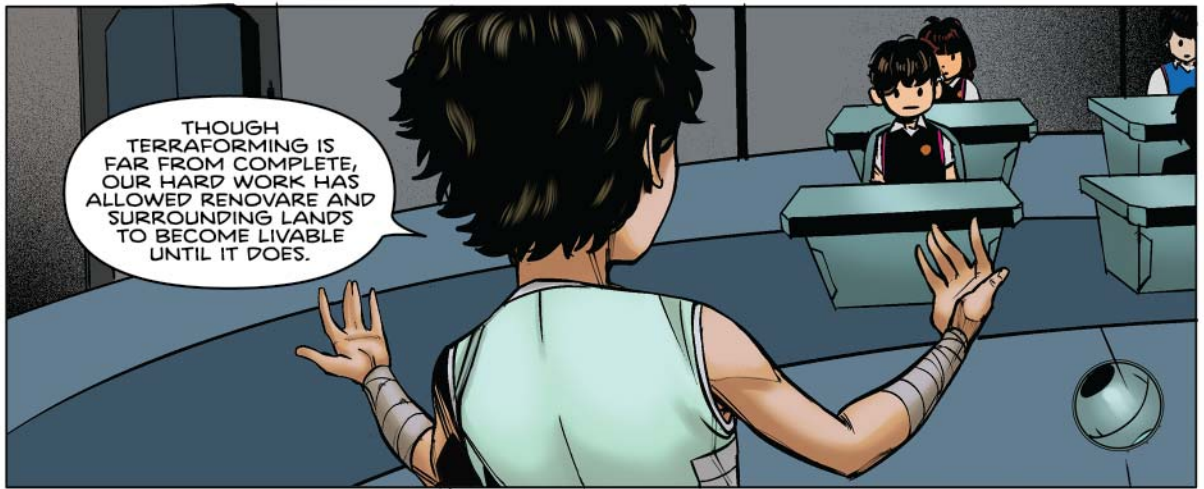
"SINCE OUR ARRIVAL ON SEVIA, THE FIRST SETTLERS USED THE TOOLS THEY HAD AND HARD WORK TO SURVIVE.



"ALL IN THE HOPES THAT THEIR EFFORTS WEREN'T IN VAIN.



"AND THEY WEREN'T."



THOUGH TERRAFORMING IS FAR FROM COMPLETE, OUR HARD WORK HAS ALLOWED RENOVARE AND SURROUNDING LANDS TO BECOME LIVABLE UNTIL IT DOES.



CLINK  
CLINK  
CLINK

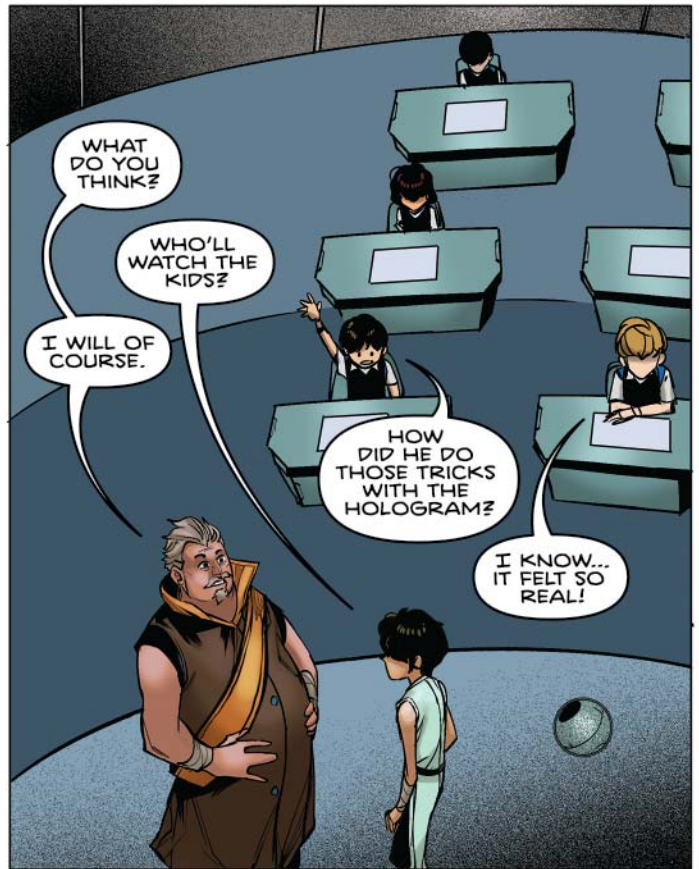
WHO IS IT?



SORRY FOR THE INTERRUPTION, CONRAD.

NEW REFUGEES APPROACH THE GATES OF RENOVARE.

AFTER EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE FOR OUR CITY, I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD BE THE ONE TO GREET THEM.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WHO'LL WATCH THE KIDS?

I WILL OF COURSE.

HOW DID HE DO THOSE TRICKS WITH THE HOLOGRAM?

I KNOW... IT FELT SO REAL!

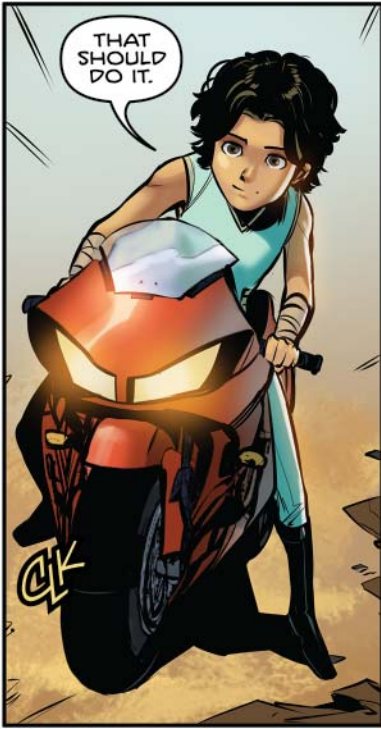


IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO.

GOOD TIMING, TAYLOR.



I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU.



THAT SHOULD DO IT.



OFF WE GO!



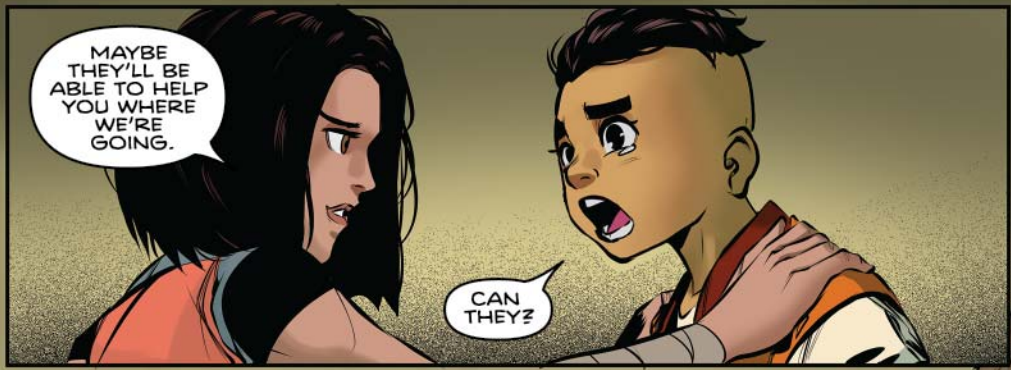
I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET THEM.



I WONDER WHAT HE'S LIKE.







MAYBE THEY'LL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU WHERE WE'RE GOING.

CAN THEY?



I DOUBT THERE'S ANYTHING THAT CAN HELP A MONSTER LIKE YOU.



MY SON ISN'T A MONSTER!



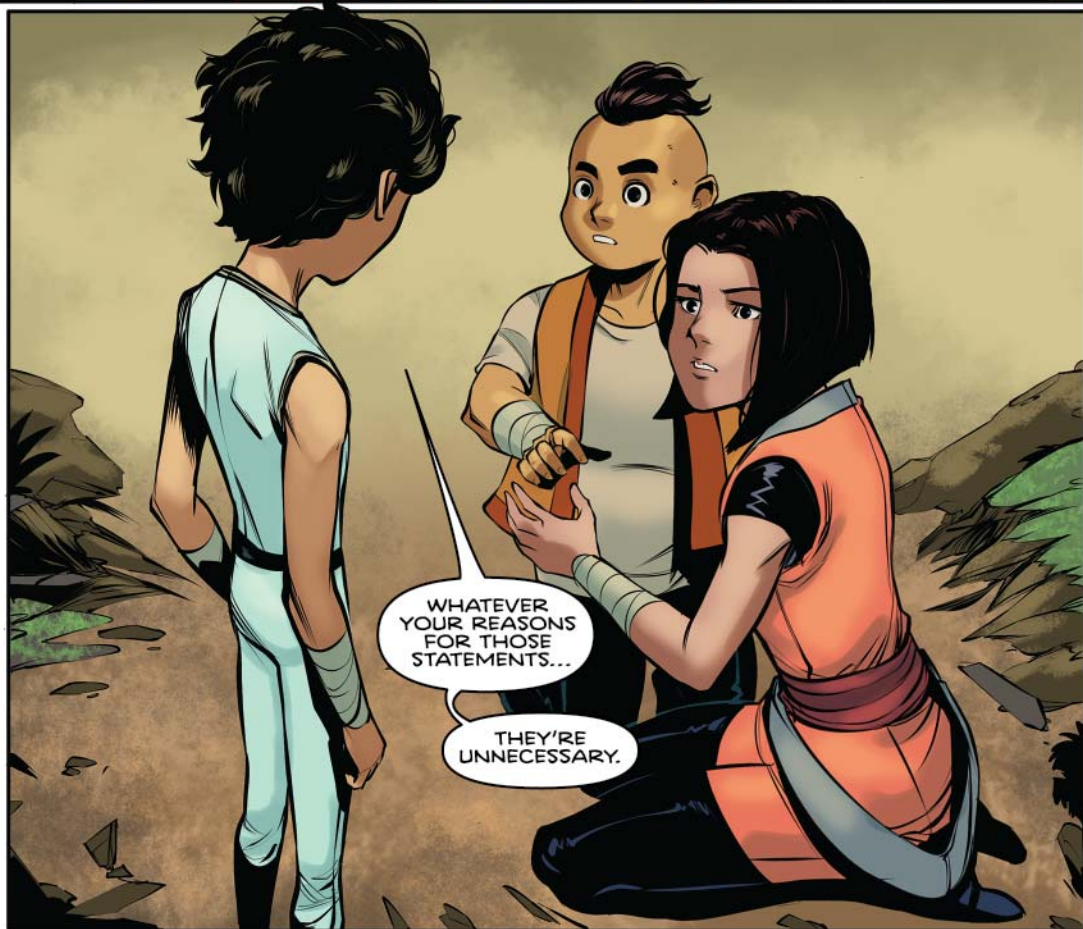
HE'S THE KINDEST SOUL I KNOW.

MALIK TRIES TO PROVE HIMSELF MORE THAN ANY OF US.



IF YOU TOOK THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW HIM, YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT!







I'M  
CONRAD.



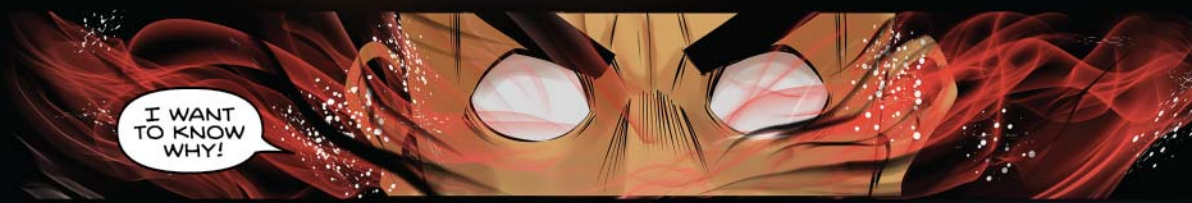


WHY ARE YOU BEING SO MEAN?!



WHY?!

SEE?! THIS IS WHAT I MEAN!  
HE'LL DESTROY US ALL!



I WANT TO KNOW WHY!



YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN, BIG GUY.

HMZ



DON'T GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT.











HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA  
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

DID YOU HEAR THAT, MOM?!

I DID!



SO HOW CAN YOU HELP MY SON?



FIRST... ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN MY ABILITY.



MALIK DIDN'T GAIN HIS POWERS THE WAY OUR ANCESTORS DID.

WOW.



HRM?

THEY WERE GIVEN TO US BEFORE BIRTH.

WHAT?!



ALL I KNOW IS THEY WERE GIVEN TO US BY SOMETHING VERY POWERFUL.

I UNDERSTAND THIS THANKS TO THE ABILITY I INHERITED.

A character with long, flowing teal hair and a white, form-fitting suit stands in a dark, rocky environment. The character is surrounded by intense, swirling teal energy and bright yellow lightning bolts. The character's eyes are glowing with a teal light. The overall scene is dynamic and powerful, suggesting a moment of high energy or a significant revelation.

I HAVE  
THE POWER TO  
UNDERSTAND  
THE UNKNOWN.

I CALL IT  
PERCEPTION.



MALIK  
INHERITED  
AN ABILITY  
DIFFERENT  
FROM MY  
OWN.



WHAT  
DO YOU  
KNOW ABOUT  
MALIK'S  
ABILITY?

NOT  
MUCH.

I THOUGHT  
SO.



SHOULD  
WE BE  
CONCERNED?

NOT AT  
ALL.

WE'LL NEED TO MOVE FURTHER FROM THE CITY TO SHOW YOU MORE.





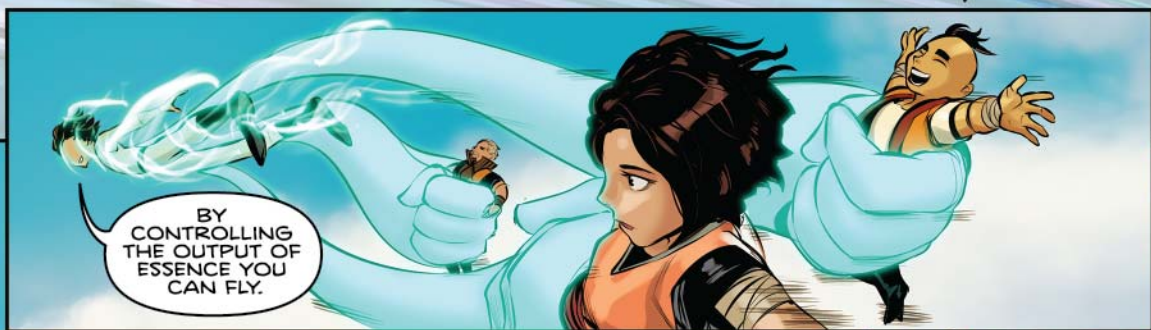
YOU CAN FLY?!

HOW?!

ANY LIVING THING WITH ESSENCE CAN.



WHEN ENOUGH ESSENCE IS EXERTED, IT REACTS TO THE PARTICLES AROUND YOU, MAKING YOU LIGHTER THAN AIR ITSELF.



BY CONTROLLING THE OUTPUT OF ESSENCE YOU CAN FLY.



I KNOW I SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS, BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN MALIK THIS HAPPY IN A LONG TIME.







YOU BROUGHT US HERE TO CONFRONT THEM?

I HAVE QUESTIONS AND THIS MAY BE MY ONLY CHANCE TO HELP THEM.

I'LL NEED MALIK'S HELP IF THEY DECIDE TO FIGHT.



THOSE ARE THE SAME KIDS THAT DESTROYED OUR CITY!

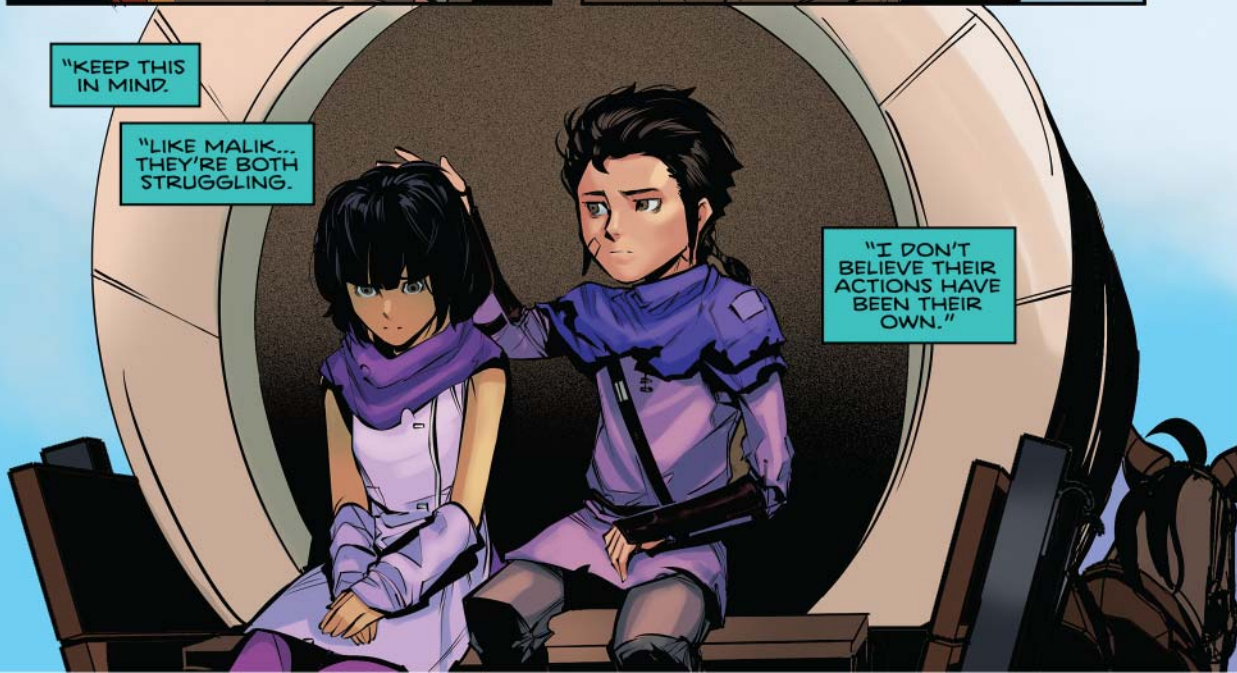
MALIK'S RIGHT.



PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME FIGHT THEM AGAIN.

I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYONE.

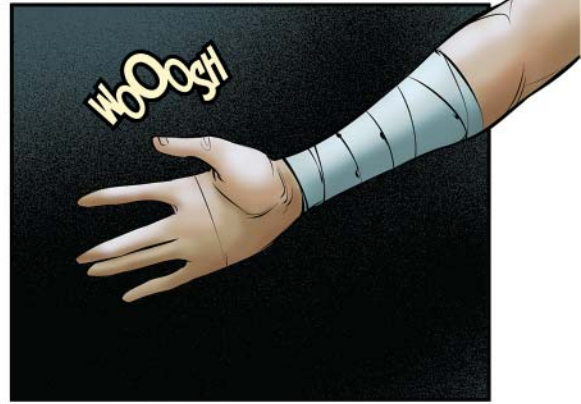
I SEE YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED THEM BEFORE.

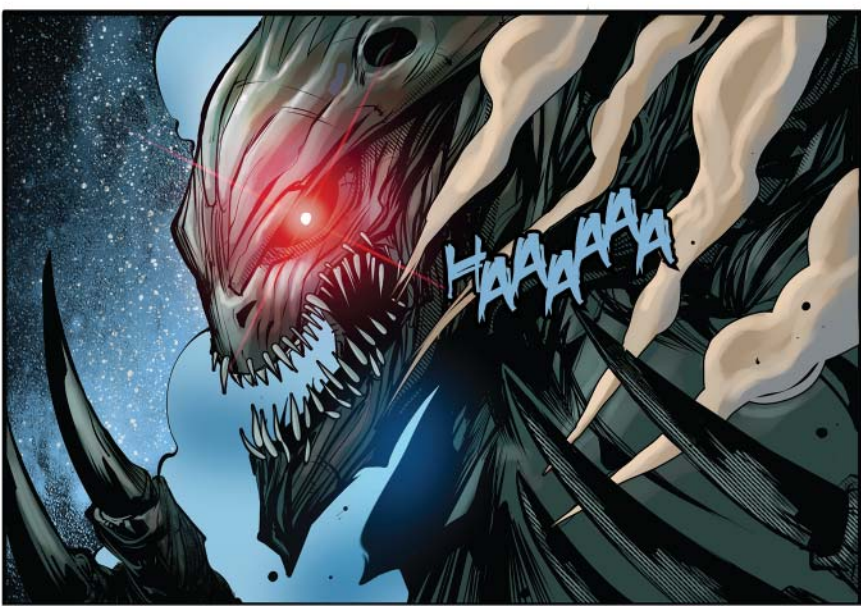


"KEEP THIS IN MIND.

"LIKE MALIK... THEY'RE BOTH STRUGGLING.

"I DON'T BELIEVE THEIR ACTIONS HAVE BEEN THEIR OWN."







KRAAAA

HSSSS

SKREEEE

FIND AND  
DEVOUR THE  
SOURCE!

HSSSS

KRAAAA

SKREEEE





W-WHAT DO YOU THINK IT IS, VIZ?

I-I DON'T KNOW, MAX!



HI... I'M CONRAD.



CAN I ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS?

S-SHOULD WE RUN?

I-I'M NOT SURE.



WOOOSH

I GUESS NOT.

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



WHO DO YOU THINK HE IS?

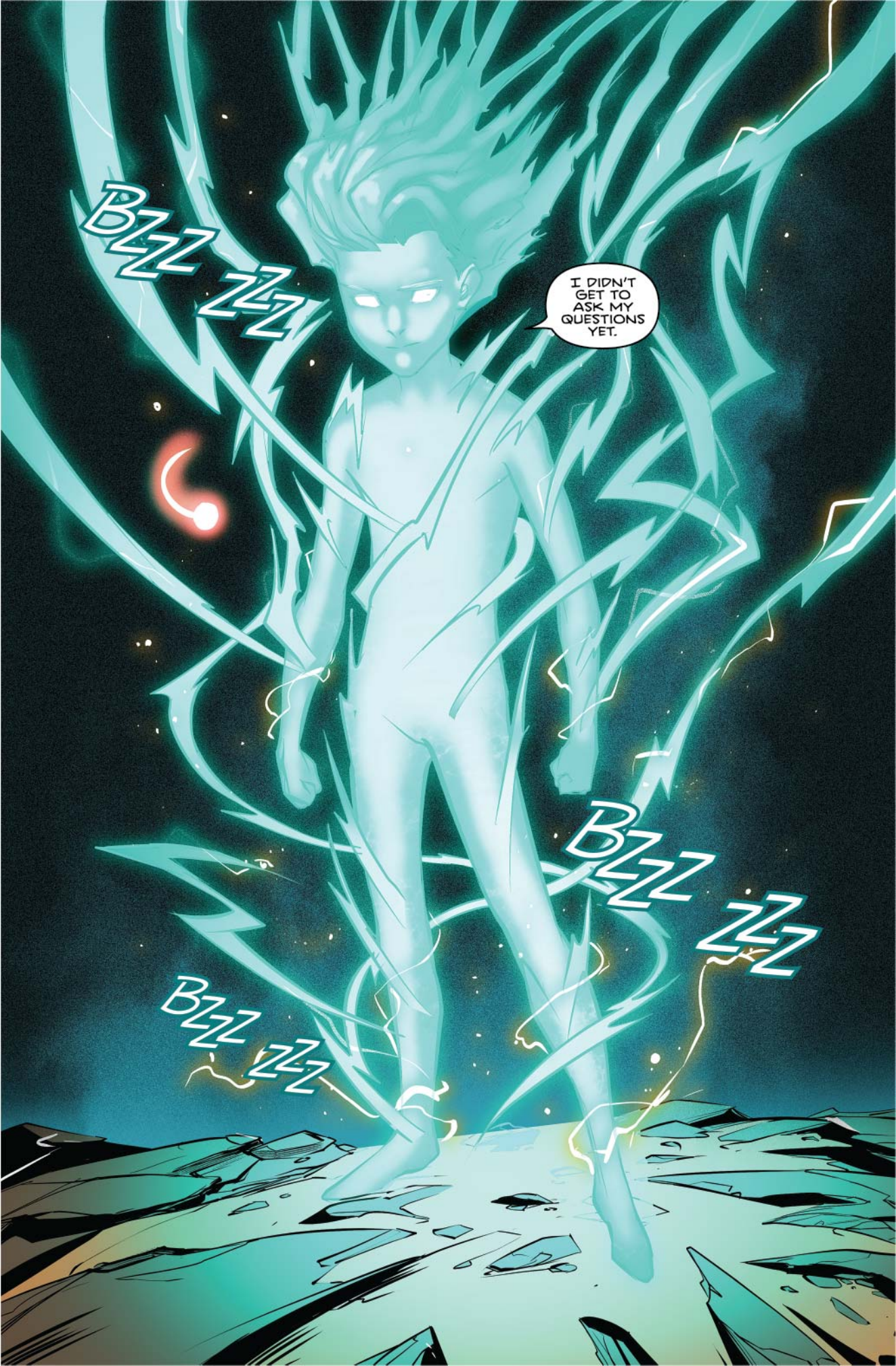
I DON'T KNOW.

BUT I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT.







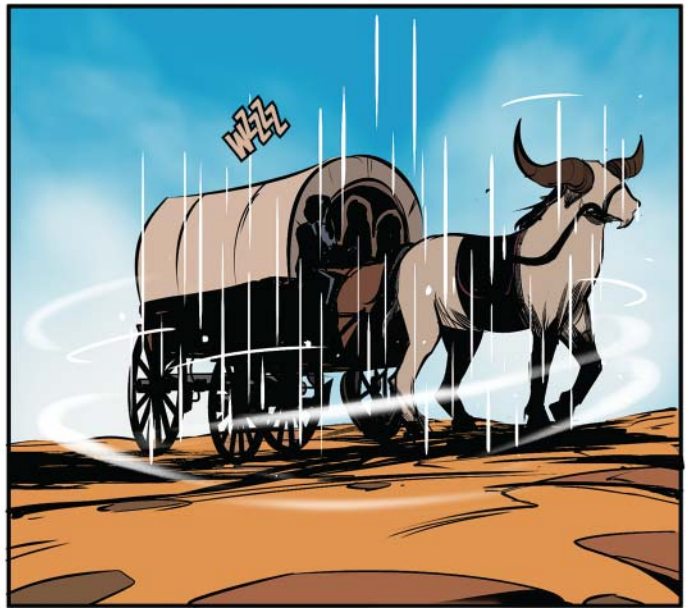


BZZ ZZZ

I DIDN'T GET TO ASK MY QUESTIONS YET.

BZZ ZZZ

BZZ ZZZ





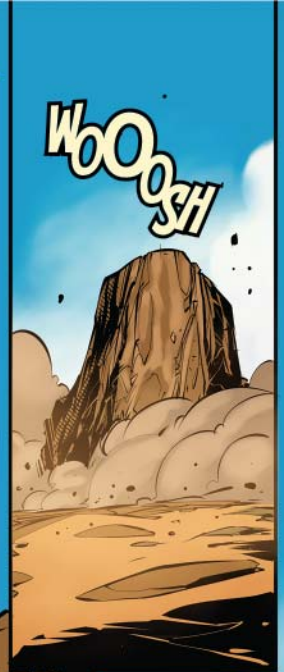
SO YOU WANT TO FIGHT ME, THEN?

BZZ ZZZ

AAAAH

AAAAH









AH HH

FLICK

BZZ ZZZ

BZZ ZZZ

WZZZ









WHY DO YOU NEED THE CORES?



OUR LIVES DEPEND ON THOSE!



WE HAVE NO CHOICE!

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH!



I UNDERSTAND MORE THAN YOU KNOW.



THEN  
PROVE  
IT.



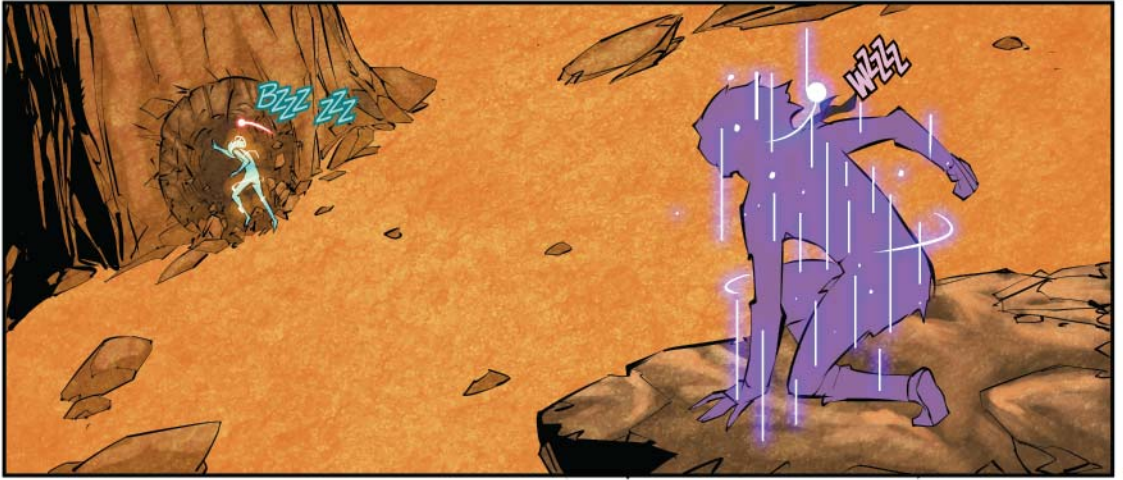
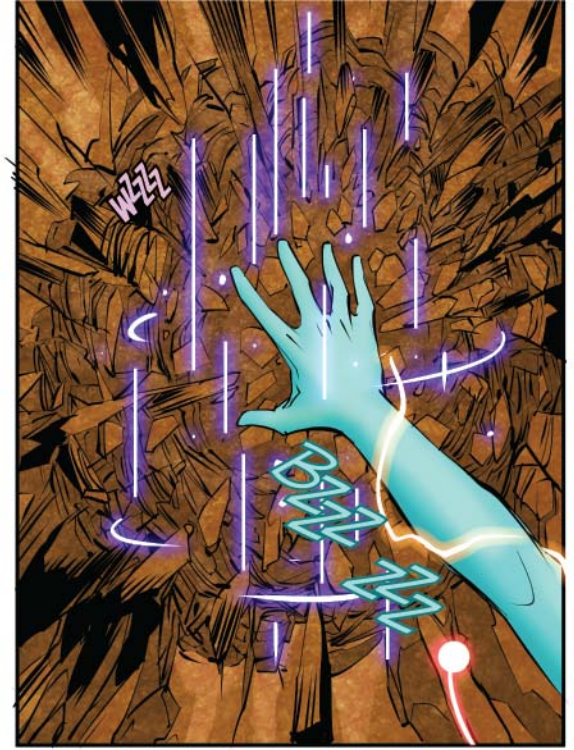
LET'S SEE WHAT THE TWO OF YOU CAN DO.













HE GOT YOUZ?!

UH-HUH.





HERE HE COMES!



BZZZ



DON'T HOLD BACK, MAX!

I THINK WE'RE WEARING HIM DOWN!



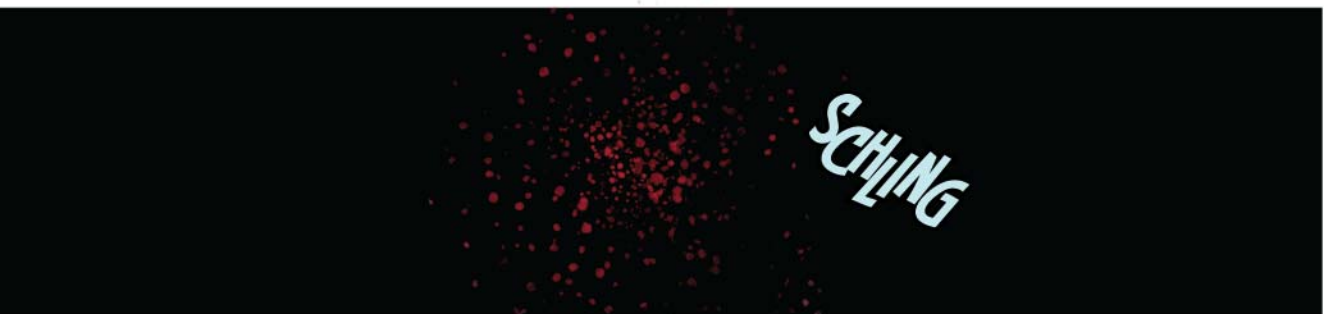
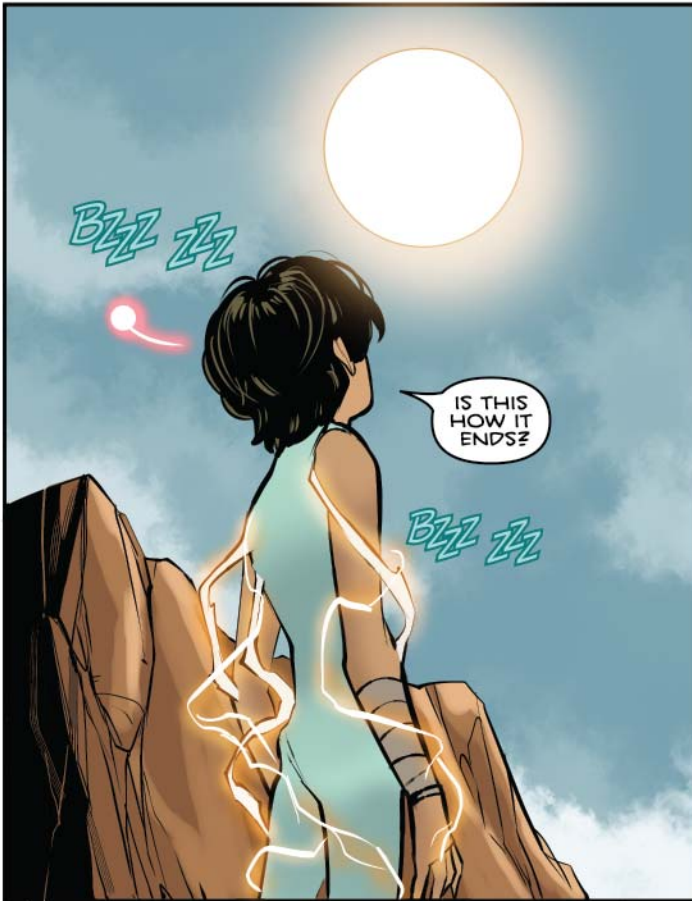
BZZ

BZZ



CLACK

BZZ





M-MAX...

W-WE  
KILLED  
HIM.



**CONRAD**  

---

**PERCEPTION**

# CONRAD --- STRUNYE

## PERCEPTION

### CONRAD CAN:

1. Break himself into particles and then reassemble.
2. Use his particles to increase cellular regeneration in himself and others.
3. Transmogrify into known and unknown elements.
4. See far and wide into the distance.
5. Discern any ability in its entirety.







**MALIK**  

---

**OVERLOAD**

# MALIK STRAHL

## OVERLOAD

### MALIK CAN:

1. Give more Essence to non-living matter.
  - a. Overload allows empowered matter to exceed normal capacity.
2. Command more non-living matter than his peers.
3. Take control of non-living matter empowered by someone else.
4. Become stronger based on how many individuals are empowered by him.





**MAX**

---

OBSCURE & PEAK

# MAX EXVEL

## OBSCURE & BOND

### MAX CAN:

1. Hide or alter the colors of orbs floating around him.
2. Become invisible.
3. Empower others, even if the person he's empowering is at capacity.
4. Empower non-living matter at a fraction of the cost.
5. Use any ability Vi is empowered with.





VI

LINK & TRANSPLANT

# VI

---

# EXVEL

## TRANSPLANT & LINK

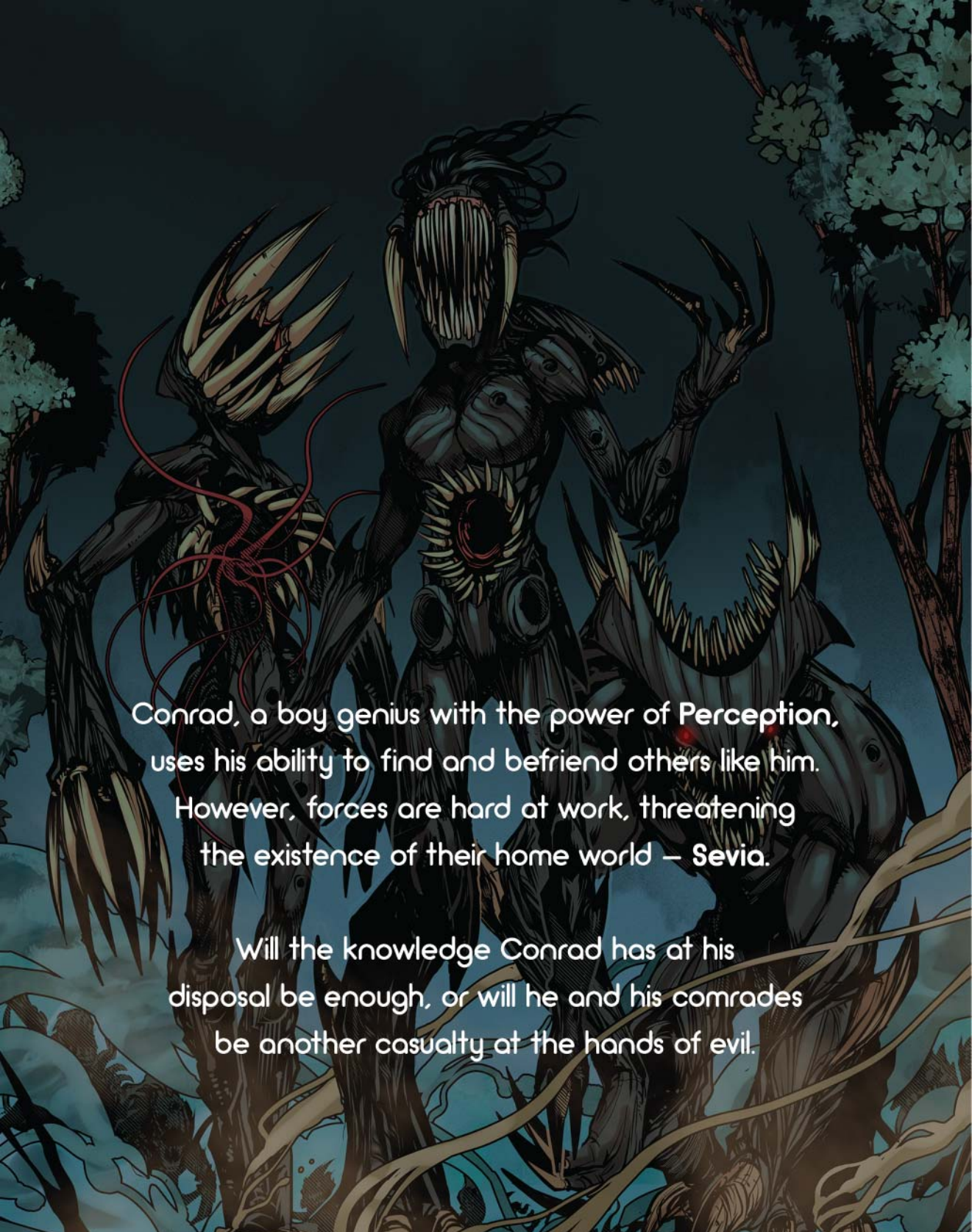
VI CAN:

1. Teleport herself, others, or empowered matter to any location in view.
2. Instantly transfer Essence from one source to another.
3. Link the consciousnesses of anyone in view.
4. Use any ability Max is empowered with.



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QR CODE BELOW.





Conrad, a boy genius with the power of Perception, uses his ability to find and befriend others like him. However, forces are hard at work, threatening the existence of their home world – Sevia.

Will the knowledge Conrad has at his disposal be enough, or will he and his comrades be another casualty at the hands of evil.



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