

COMIC REPUBLIC

#

VISIONARY

ASCENSION



KALE JAYE OBENDE EZE OGU

FOLKTALES

VISIONARY

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IN THE TIME BEFORE TIME, THE ALL-FATHER
CALLED ELEDUMARE BY THE YORUBA PEOPLE,
PRECEDED CREATION THE SPOKEN WORD,
THE COMMAND, 'ASE'.

ASE WAS THE WORD AS SHE WAS THE FATE
OF ALL THINGS IN CREATION AND WITH ASE,
ELEDUMARE FASHIONED THE VERY BUILDING
BLOCKS OF CREATION, THE IRUNMOLÉ.
THE IRUNMOLÉ SERVED THEIR COMMISSION
AND OBEYED THE MANDATE OF THEIR MASTER
AS WAS THEIR PURPOSE.

THEN CAME THE FIRST CHILDREN, BORN OF
ELEDUMARE'S PLAN, WHO WERE TO GUARD,
PROTECT AND AUGMENT CREATION,
"THE FIRST RACE".

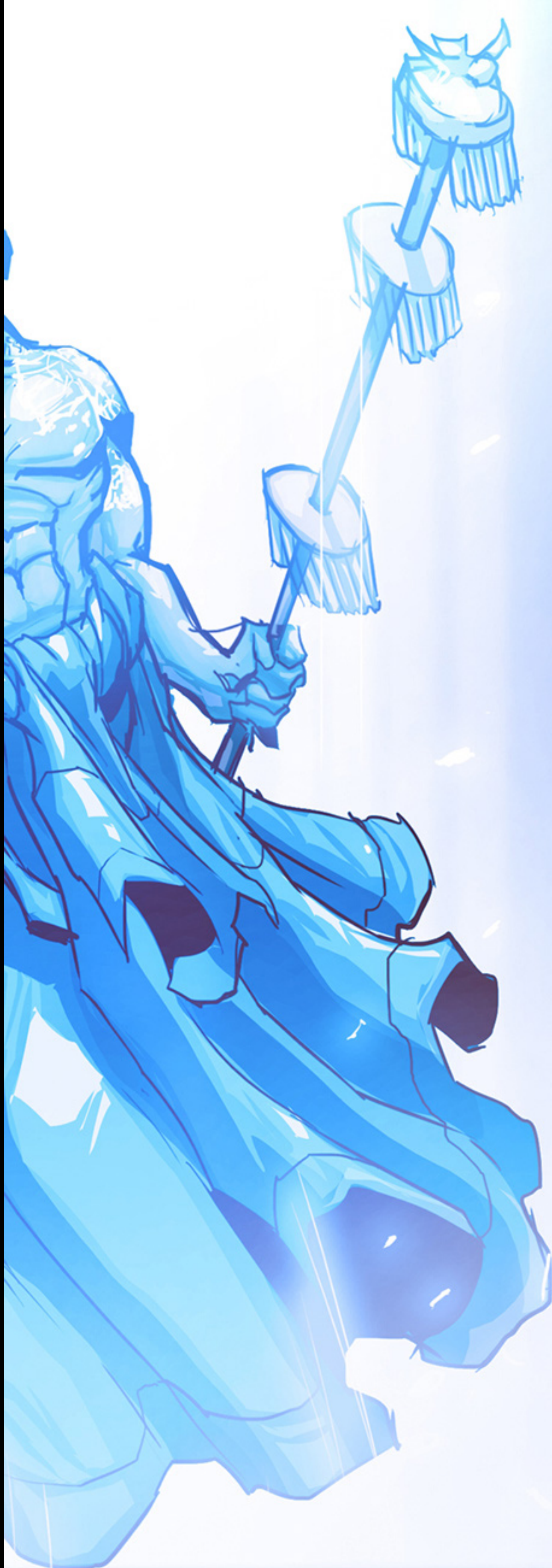


BUT, AS WITH ALL TALES, THE EPOCH OF THE FIRST WOULD BE THE FIRST IN LONG LINE OF FALLEN RULERS. IN THIS TIME OF STRIFE, THE ORISHA WOULD SEEK TO SUBVERT ALL BEFORE THEIR EYES AND CORRUPT THE WHEEL OF FATE ITSELF, ASSE.

THE LIGHT OF CREATION, THE IRUNMOLE OF LIGHT HIMSELF, CALLED OBATALA BY THE ANCIENTS OF OYO-ILE WOULD BE COMMISSIONED TO INTERVENE AND PUT AN END TO THE AMBITIONS OF THE ORISHA.

BUT, THESE EVENTS ARE ALL BEFORE THE FIRST WHISPERS OF THE ALL-FATHER'S CONCEPTION OF MAN.

BUT, EVEN NOW, THE SILENCE WOULD WAIT AS IT HAS ALWAYS WAITED...



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THE WHEELS OF AXEXE ROLL WITHOUT STOPPING...
OBATALA, THE IRUNMOLE OF LIGHT, PITIED HUMANITY'S WEAKNESS
AND CREATED THREE BASIC FORMS OF IJAKADI
FOR COMBAT AND DEFENSE OF THE HUMANITY'S EXISTENCE.
...BUT, THERE IS MORE TO THIS TALE...
...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 CREATOR
IS THE GUARDIAN OF THE COSMIC PLAN,
, WHO MUST PROTECT ASHE, THE SOLE VISION OF CREATION.

CREATED BY
AKINTOBA KALEJAYE

2500 B.C.,
OLD OYO KINGDOM,
AGBOGUDU FOREST OF THE LIVING.

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

HEROES AREN'T HEROES BECAUSE THEY
WORSHIP THE LIGHT, BUT BECAUSE THEY
KNOW TO FEAR THE DARK AS WELL...



Rumbleeeeeeee

Rumbleeeeeeee



Rumbleeeeeeee

Rumbleeeeeeee

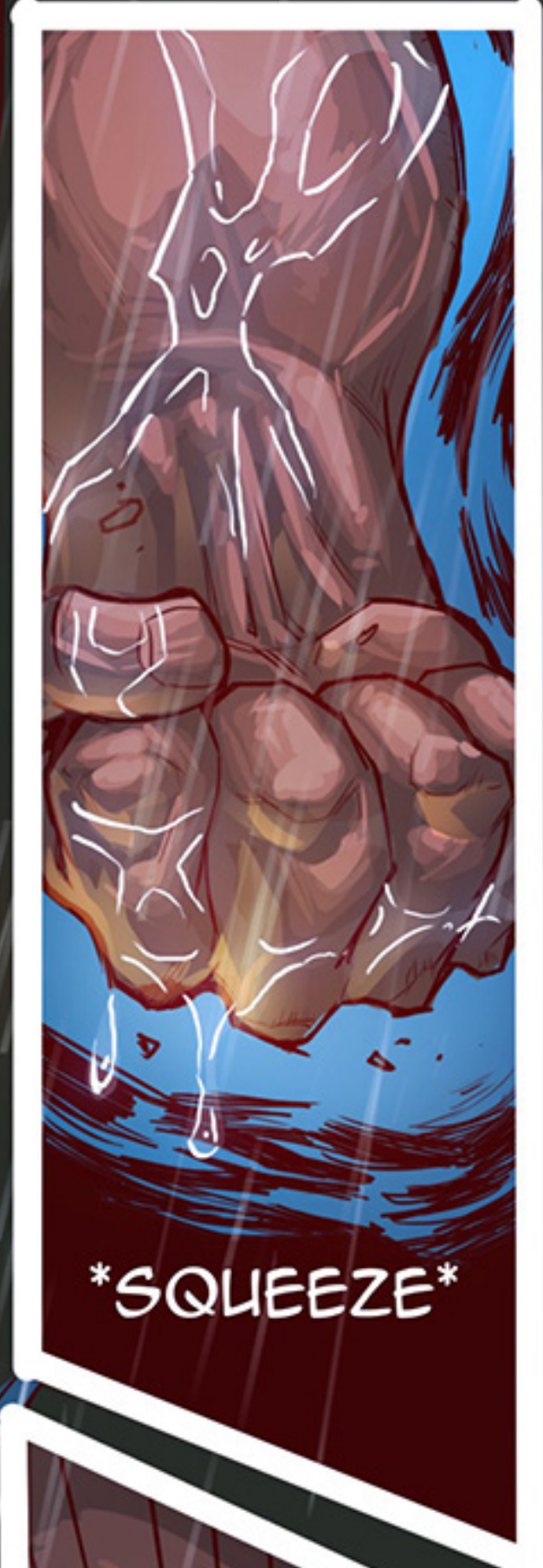


ZZZZTTTT!

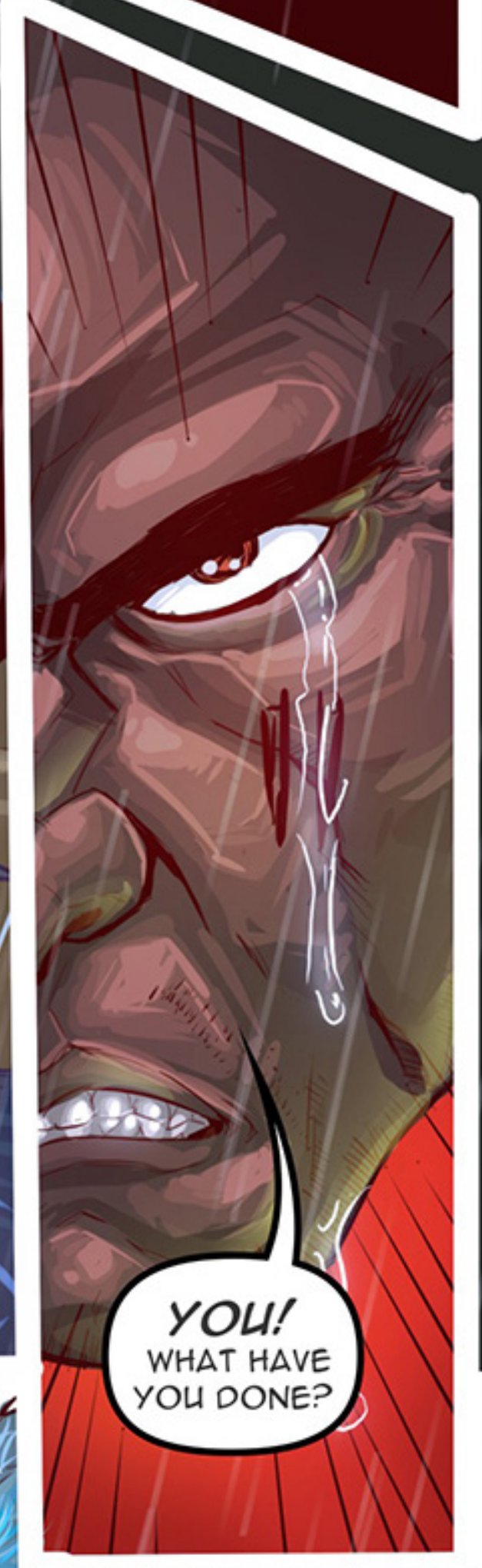


*NÍBO NI
ODÒ QYA
LỌ.?

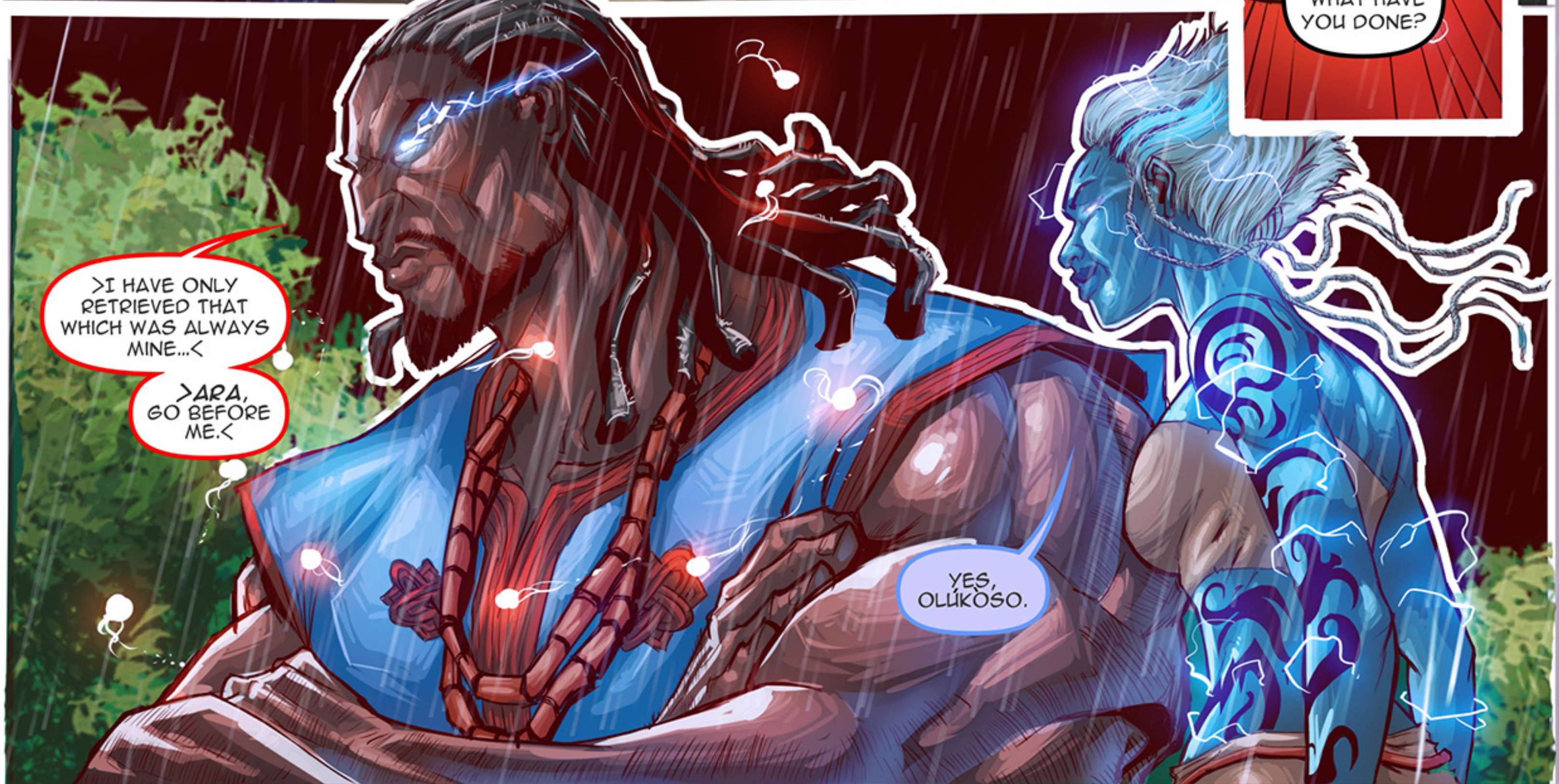
*WHERE HAS
THE RIVER QYA
GONE?*



SQUEEZE



YOU!
WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE?



>I HAVE ONLY
RETRIEVED THAT
WHICH WAS ALWAYS
MINE...<

>ARA,
GO BEFORE
ME.<

YES,
OLUKOSO.



KRA-KA THOOM!

BOOOOMMM!

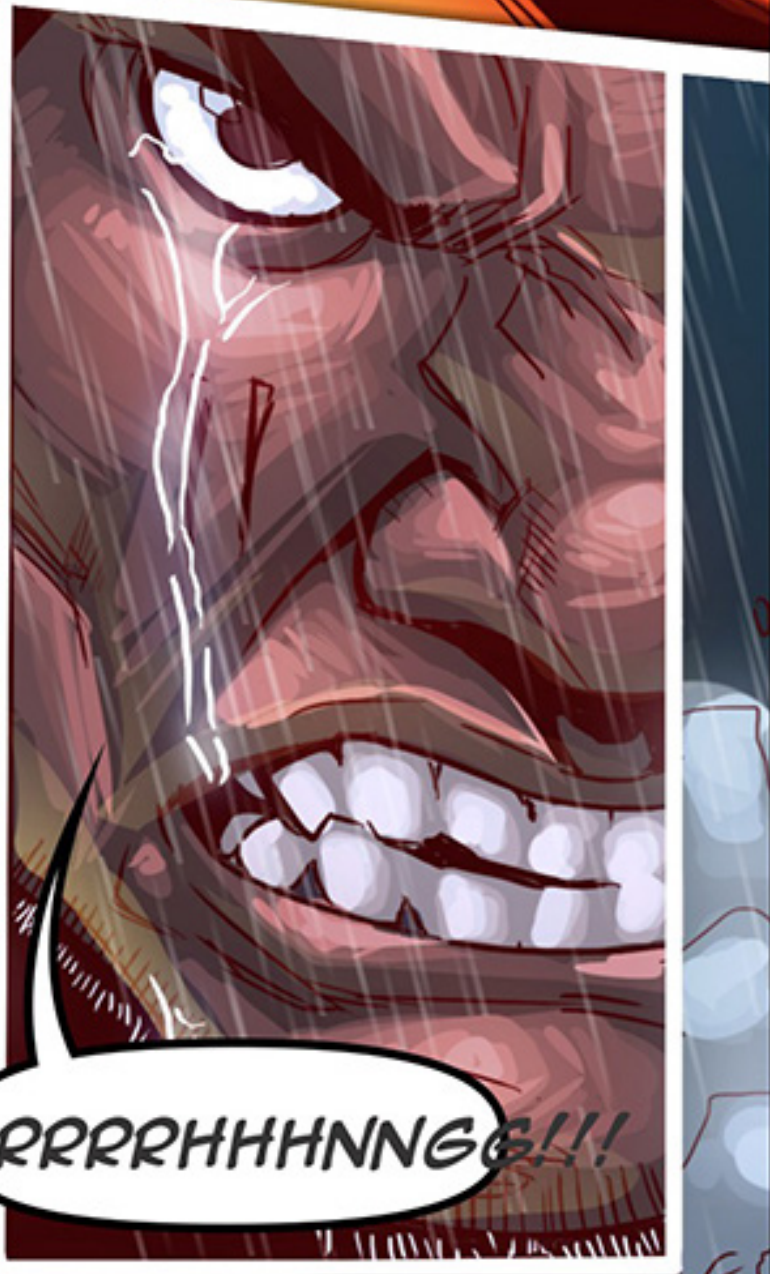
HEH! POWERLESS HUMAA---



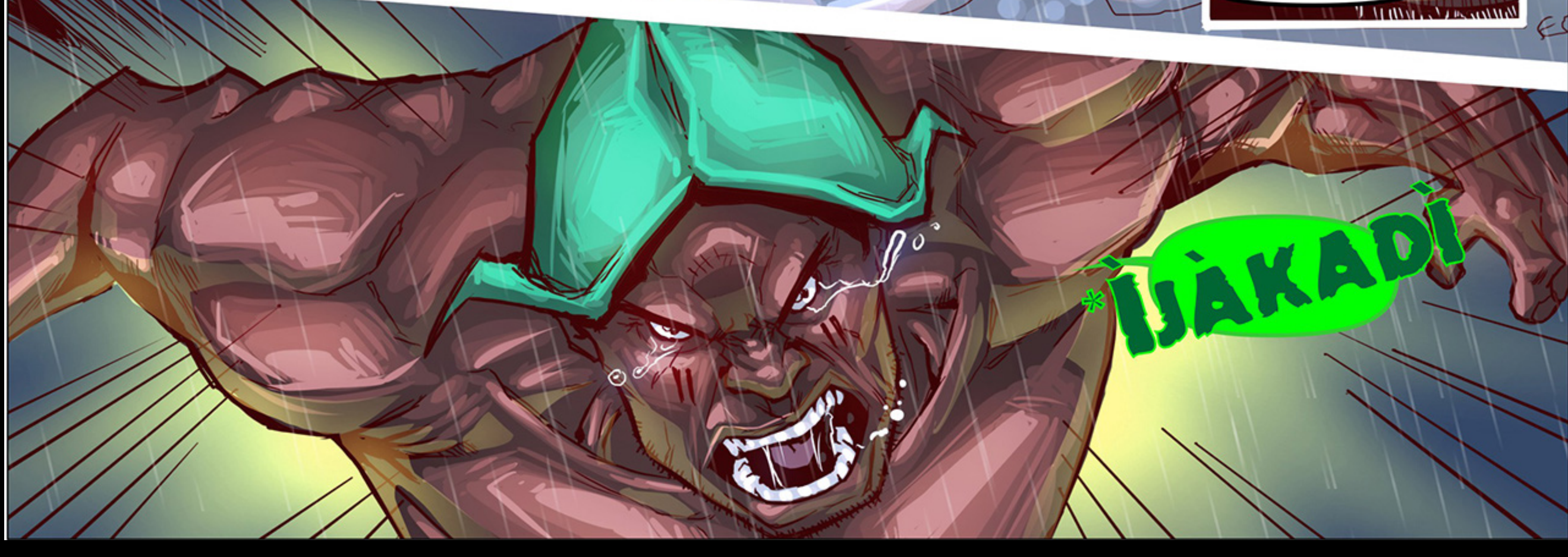
ZZTTT!!!

ZZTTT!!!

ZZTTT!!!



BRRRRHHHNNGG!!!



*IJAKADI!

* ÍPELE ÀKOKÓ!

*FIRST FORM

NO WAY!!

*Fist of destruction!

TOK!!

TOK!!

TOK!!

TRANSLATION: IKÚÌKÙ ÌPARUN

THUUMMMMM!!!!

URGH...

***ÌJÀKADÌ
IPELE
IKETA!**

*IYAKADI
THIRD
FORM.

*walk
of the
rabbit!

*ÌRÌN ÈSÈ EHORO.

***ÌJÀKADÌ
IPELE KEJÌ**

*IYAKADI
SECOND
FORM

WOOOOOSSSSAAAAHHH!!

*The
descent
of the
elephant

>ENOUGH!<

>HOW
DARE YOU
HUMAN...<

NHHGGGRR!!!

SPLOOOSH!!!

B
W
O
O
M
M
!!!

>...TOUCH
A FAMILIAR...<

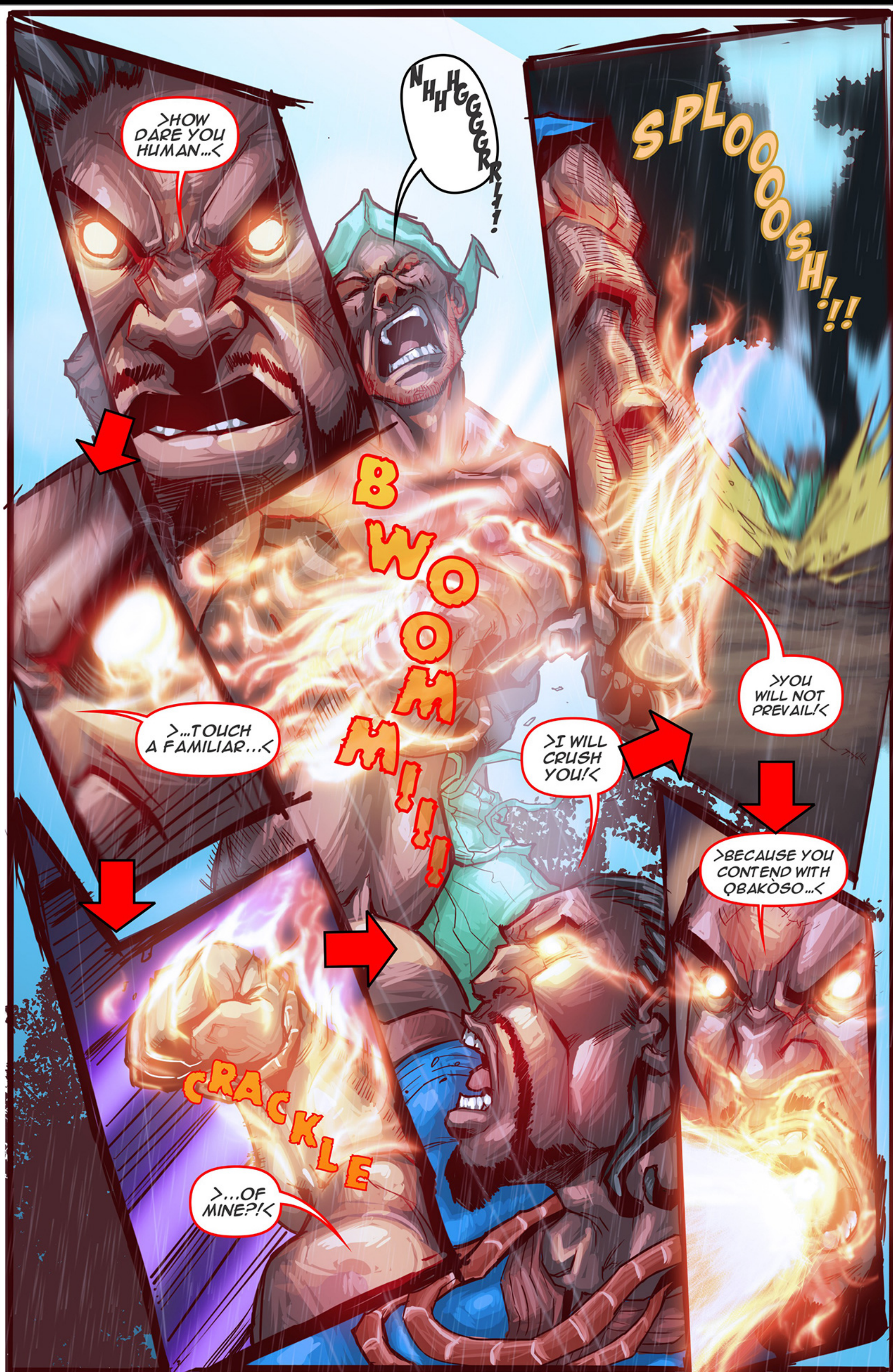
>I WILL
CRUSH
YOU!<

>YOU
WILL NOT
PREVAIL!<

>BECAUSE YOU
CONTEND WITH
QBAKOSO...<

CRACKLE

>...OF
MINE?!<



GRIP

>I AM NOT
DONE WITH YOU
*WORTHLESS
GNAT.<

TRANSLATION: OMO...
...KIRAN

>FEEL MY
ANGER!<

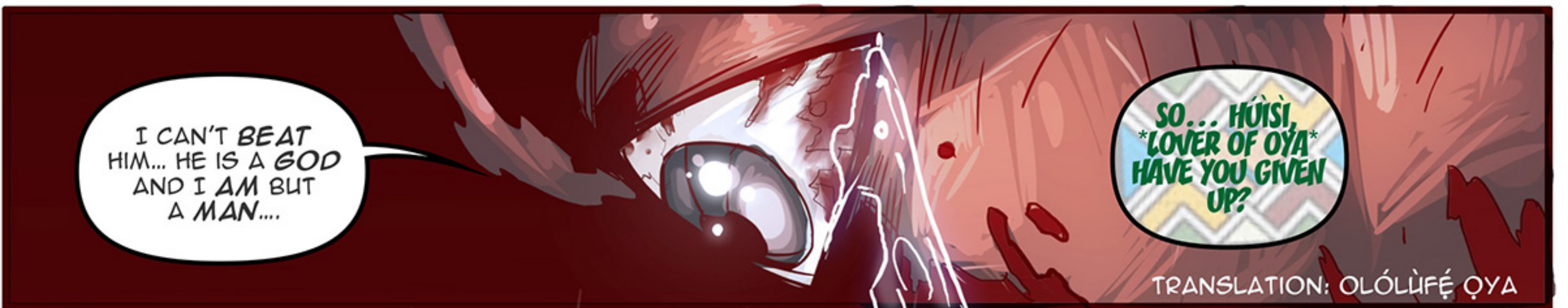
ÌNÌ
ÒRÌSÀ!

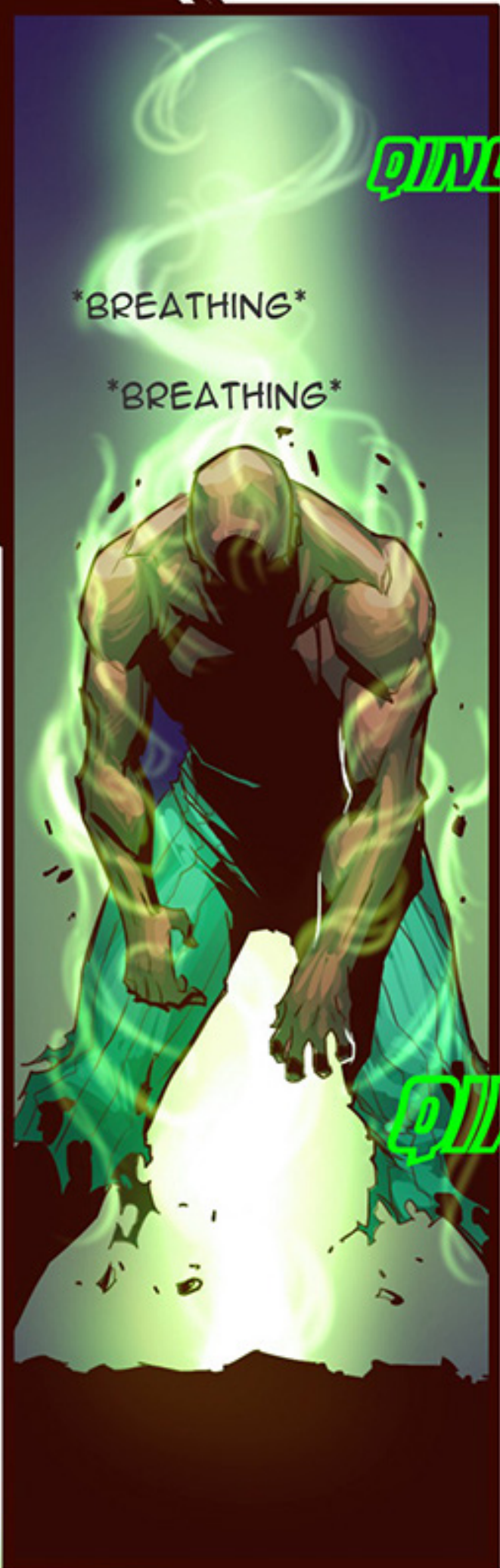
*THUNDER
SHARDS!<

EDUN ÀRÁ!

KROOOOOOM!







BREATHING

BREATHING

QING!



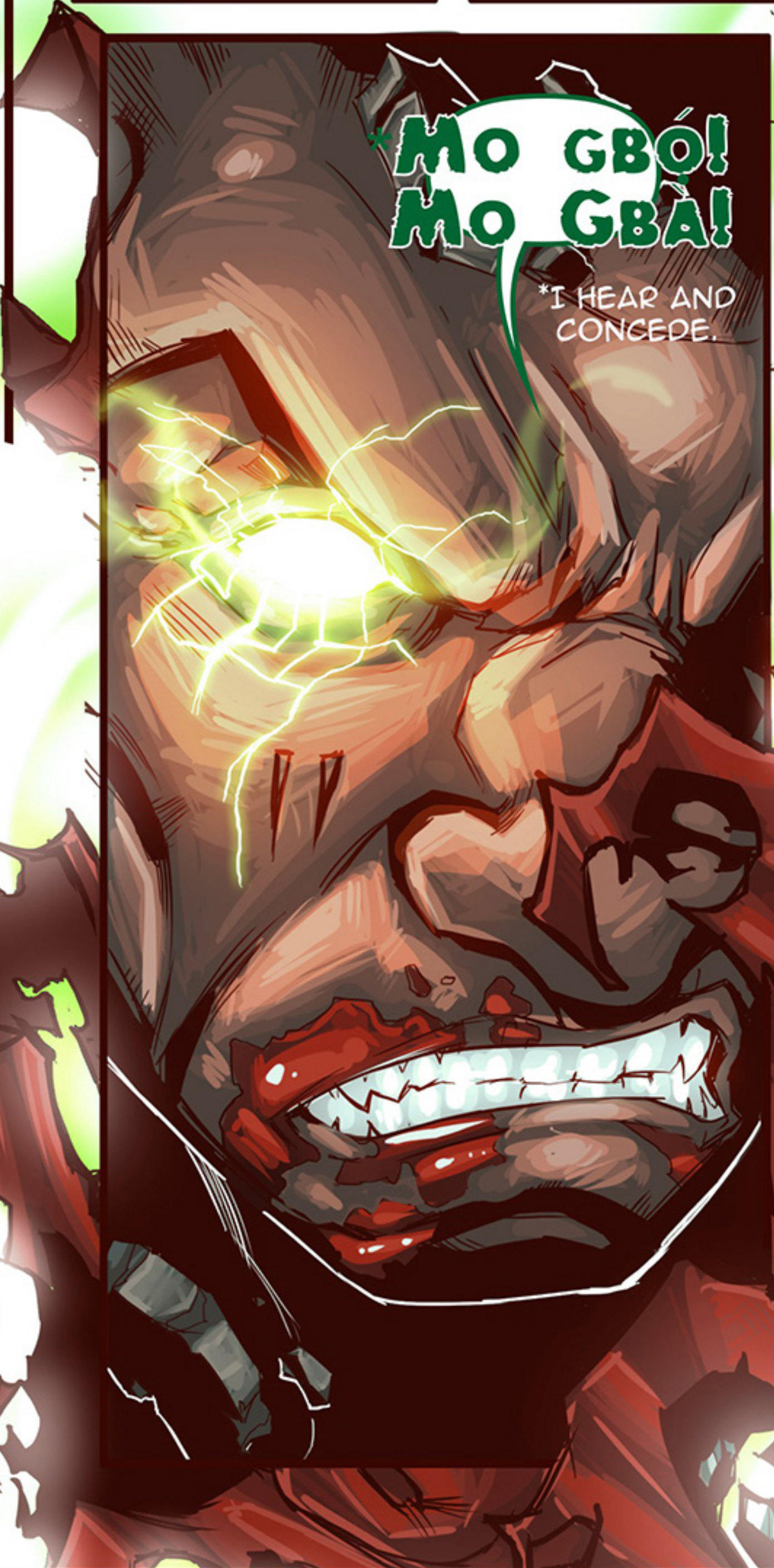
QING!

QING!

QING!

**ASCEND
HUISI! ARISE
OXOSSI!**

QING!



**MO GBÓ!
MO GBÁ!**

**I HEAR AND
CONCEDE.**





>*YOU THIEF.*<

>*I'VE PLAYED AROUND ENOUGH.*<


*TRANSLATION: İWỌ, QMỌ OLÈ. MO TI ŞERÉ TÓ.



>ARA! AWAKEN, HERALD OSE.<

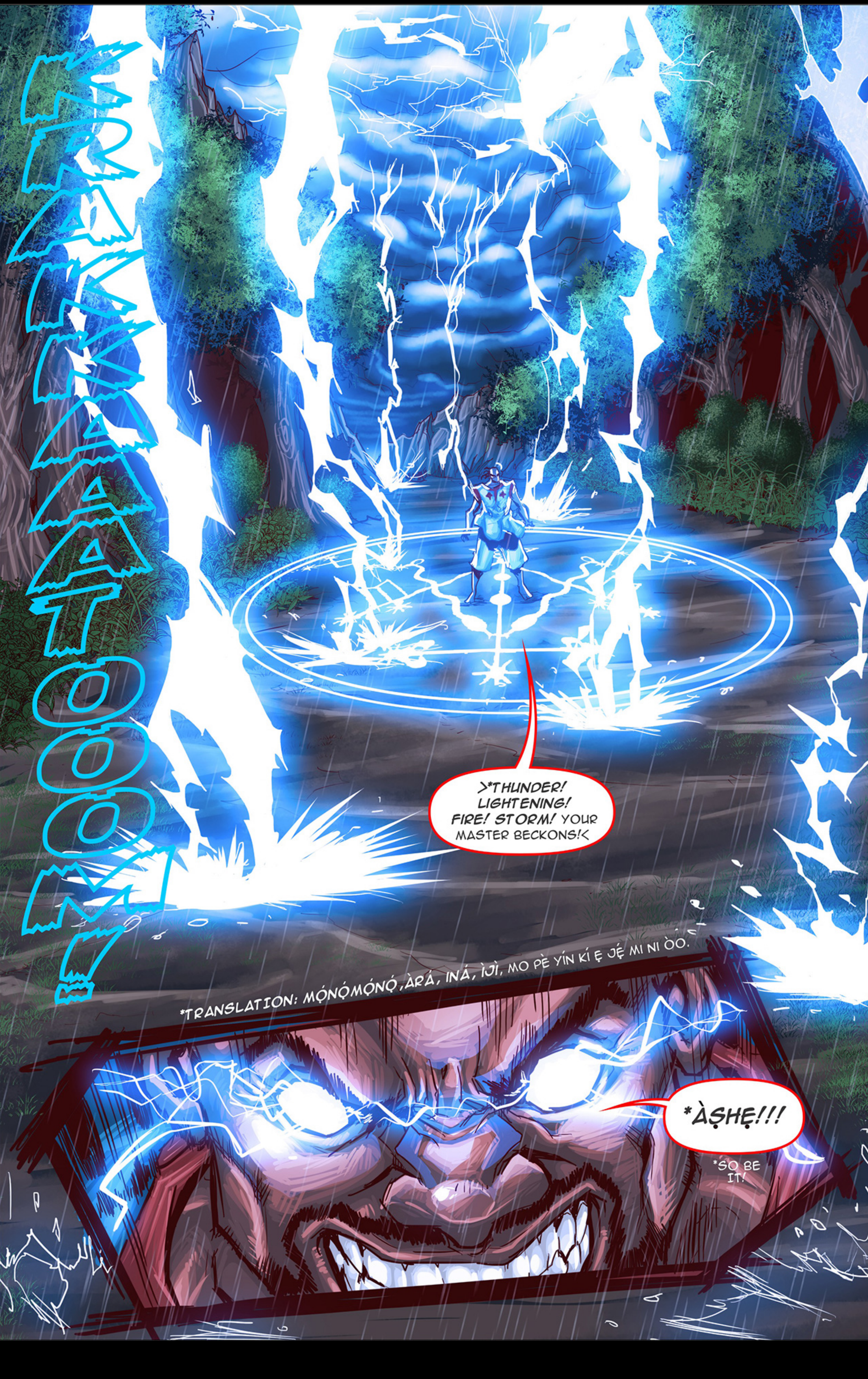


YES, QBAKỌSỌ!



>*I AM ŞANGÓ!
THE KING OF KỌSỌ,
THE ETERNAL ONE. THE HUNTER
CANNOT HUNT THAT WHICH
IS BEYOND HIM!<

TRANSLATION: *EMI ŞANÉÓ! BAÁLÈ KỌSỌ.
AREMU BAÁLÈ AGBỌRÀNDÚN ÀGBÉJÚLÙLÈ
LỌMỌDE NGBÉ İGİ ÈLÈRA!



THUNDER!

>*THUNDER!
LIGHTENING!
FIRE! STORM! YOUR
MASTER BECKONS!<

*TRANSLATION: MÓNÓMÓNÓ, ÀRÁ, INÁ, ÌJÌ, MO PÈ YÍN KÍ È JÉ MI NI ÒÓ.

*ÀSHÈ!!!

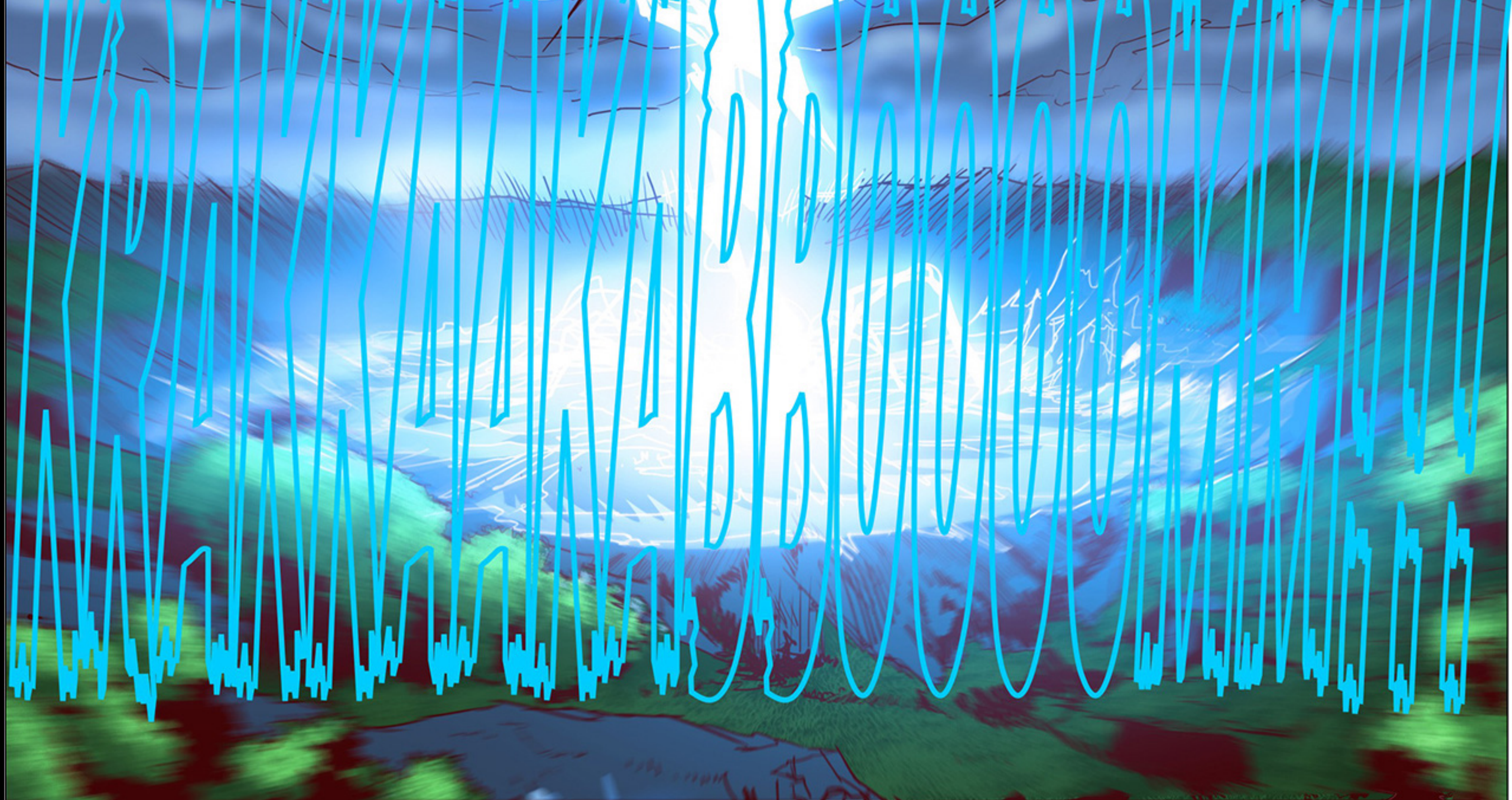
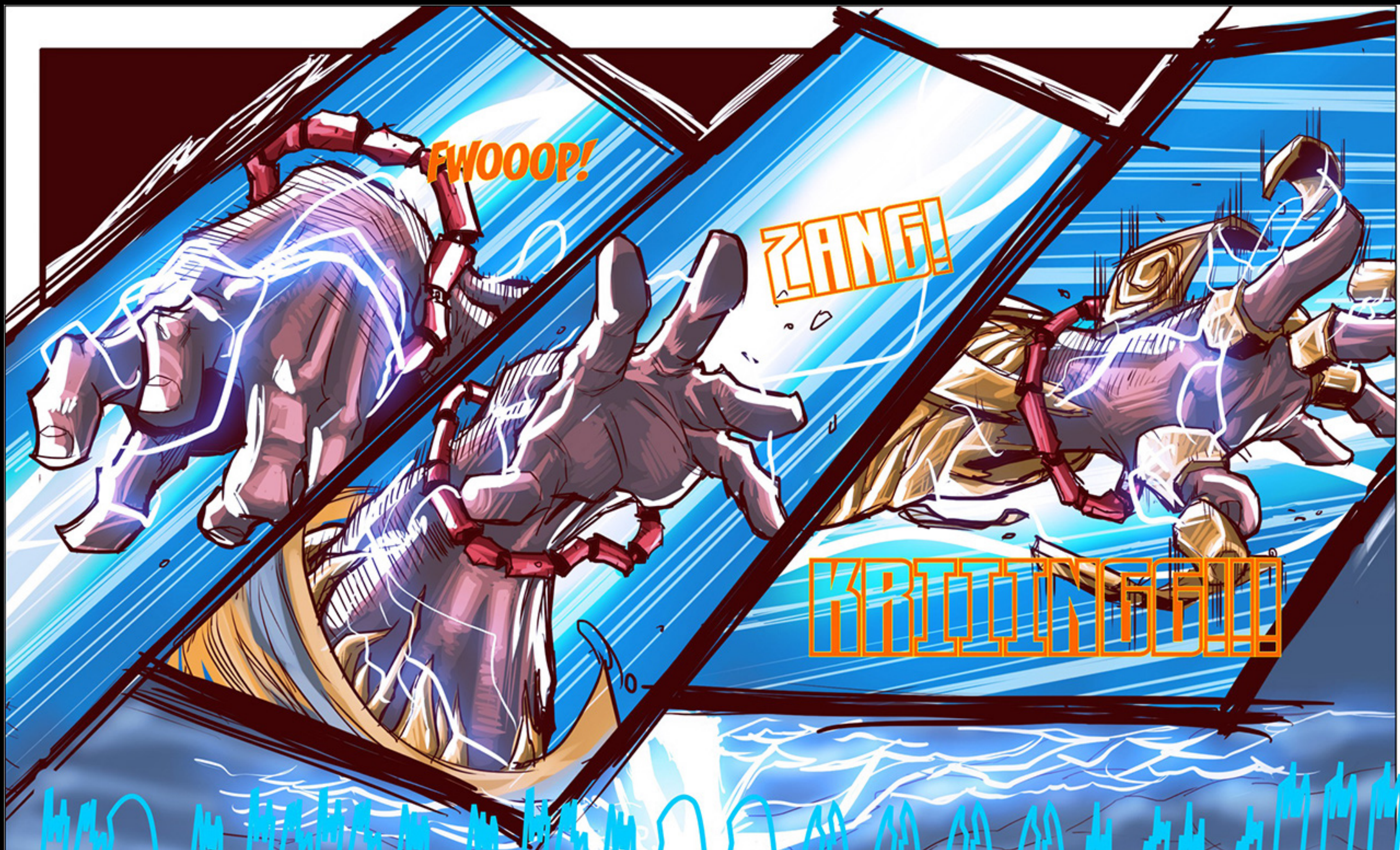
*SO BE
IT!



FWOOOOOOOSH!!!

ZAAAAA





OSE SANGÓ







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TODAY,
THE TERROR OF
OLUKOSO WILL
END.

HSSSSSSHHHHSSSSHHHHSSSSSSHHHH



>TODAY,
I WILL END
YOUR EXISTENCE
AND ASCEND TO
WHAT IS
MINE...<

ZZZZTTTT!
ZZZZTTTT!
ZZZZTTTT!

>NOW
YOU
DIE!!!<

CRACKKKAAT OOOOM!!!



*ÌṢUBÚ
MI KÒ SÍ
NÍ ỌWÓ Ọ
RẸ!

*I MAY FALL
BUT NOT BY
YOUR HANDS!

F
W
O
O
S
H
S
S
K
R
A
A
A!!!

PRESENT DAY.
O.A.U TEACHING HOSPITAL,
ILE IFE,
OSUN.

BLEEP

BLEEP

BLEEP

BLEEP

BLEEP

BLEEP

HE IS
WAKING UP,
DOCTOR?!

BLEEP

BLEEP

BLEEP

MR. DANMOLE
AJANAKU, PLEASE TAKE
IT EASY. NURSE, PLEASE
BRING MORE DIAZEPAM,
HE SHOULD NOT
BE AWAKE.

BLEEP



WHERE AM I?

BLEEP

BLEEP

BLEEP

... HERO OR VILLAIN, THE WHEEL OF AXEXE CONTINUES TO ROLL.

TO BE CONTINUED.

GODS EYE

HEY GUYS,

SOMETIME IN 2015, I WAS IN FRONT OF JIDE MARTIN MAKING A PITCH ABOUT A PROJECT I PERSONALLY CALLED EJIJOB (SONG OF THE GODS). IN THE ENSUING MONTH, JIDE TORE APART THE STORY WITH PRECISION, PATIENCE AND KINDNESS, LOL! HE BASICALLY REDUCED ALMOST 3 YEARS OF RESEARCH TO ONE MOMENT OF UNDERSTANDING, THAT PROSE AND COMICS ARE DIFFERENT WITH EACH CRAFT DESERVING ITS OWN RESPECT AND APPRENTICESHIP.

AFTER THE PROJECT WAS GREEN-LIT BY THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COMIC REPUBLIC, TOBE EZEUGO GAVE LIFE TO IT AND HONESTLY, ALL THE BEAUTIFUL VISUALS IN THE COMIC ARE AS A RESULT OF HIS EFFORT AND SOLID CREATIVENESS. SOME MONTHS BACK, WHEN WE EVENTUALLY STARTED PRODUCTION OF THE COMIC, STANLEY GOT ON THE PENCILS AND ABSOLUTELY KILLED IT. FOR THIS BOOK EVERYONE IN THE CR PITCHED IN, EVEN MY PATIENT SOUNDING BOARD AND WIFE, ADANNA KALEJAYE. TO THE REPUBLIC, WE DID IT...AND TO EDUVIE MARTINS (THE MOST REAL POWERFUL PERSON IN THE CR), I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FRANKNESS AND PATIENCE.

READER, YOU HAVE MADE MY DREAM COME THROUGH. MY DREAM TO BRING MY "VISIONS" INTO REALITY. FOR THAT, THANK YOU, BUT THAT'S ENOUGH GUSHING!

VISIONARY REALLY IS A RE-IMAGINING AND AMALGAMATION OF SOME OF GREATEST MYTHS AND TRADITIONAL LORE OF THE YORUBA TRIBE AND A CONGLOMERATION OF MANY OTHER TRADITIONS AS YOU THE READERS WILL SURELY FIND OUT. THIS IS A PELLUCID STORY OF MAGIC, COURAGE, LOSS, BETRAYAL, EVIL AND REDEMPTION. .

VISIONARY IS DEFINITELY EXEMPLARY IN TYPIFYING THE THEMATIC DOCTRINE COMMON TO ALL GREAT MYTHS AND TRADITIONAL LORE, THE INEVITABLE JUXTAPOSITION AND BALANCE BETWEEN EVIL AND GOOD, THE DIVINE AND THE MUNDANE, LOSS AND GAIN AND OF COURSE, DEATH AND LIFE. FRANKLY, WE DIDN'T SET OUT TO RE-INVENT THE WHEEL OR REPLACE ANY ORIGINAL LORE WITH THE PLOTTING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF VISIONARY, BUT, WE DID SET OUT TO CREATE A NOVEL MYTHOLOGY OF SORTS WHICH WILL INEVITABLY REKINDLE INTEREST IN OUR LORE AND ULTIMATELY NURTURE A DEEP LONGING FOR WONDROUS EXPERIENCES.

THIS PROJECT HAS DEFINITELY BEEN A DAUNTING ONE FOR THE COMIC REPUBLIC THROUGH THE CONCEPTUALIZATION AND DEFINITION OF DIRECTION BUT IT IS ONE THAT GIVES ME IMMENSE JOY. READER, VISIONARY IS A LOVE LETTER FROM MY MIND TO YOU AND I HOPE YOU ENJOY THE ONCOMING JOURNEY.

MY FRIENDS, VISIONARY IS HERE AND IT IS TIME.

- AKINTOBA KALEJAYE



Hero Kekere

featuring



F O L K T A L E S

IRETI

BIDEMI



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