



COMIC REPUBLIC

8

AVONNOME

THE REALM WITHIN



IGHORODJE
OBENDE
BALOGUN



COMIC REPUBLIC

8

Avonion

THE REALM WITHIN



IGHORODJE
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BALOGUN

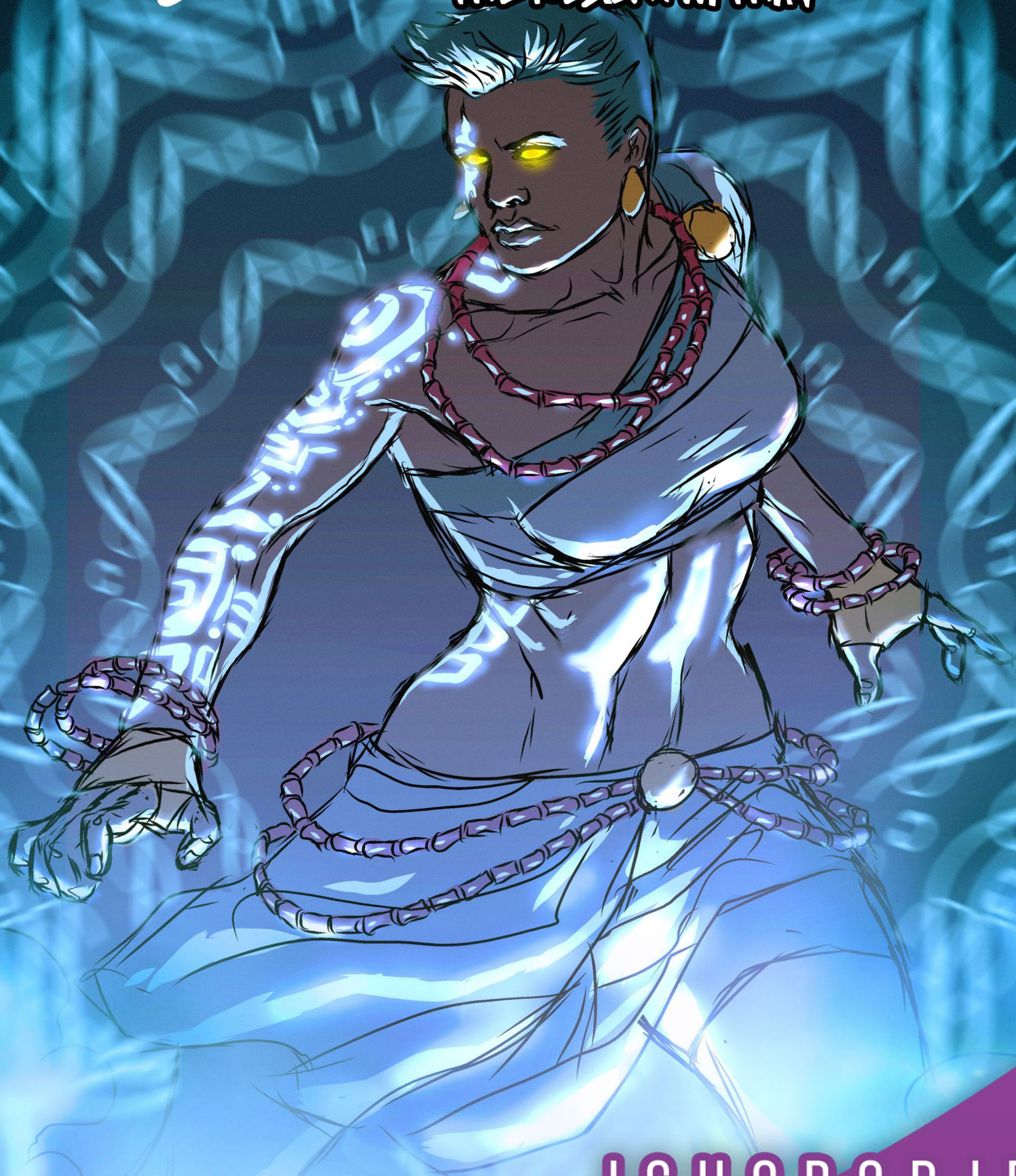


COMIC REPUBLIC

8

Avonionne

THE REALM WITHIN



IGHORODJE
OBENDE
BALOGUN

AVONOME

THE REALM WITHIN

CREATED BY

STANLEY OBENDE

MR. IGHORODJE

ARTIST

STANCH OBENDE

COLORIST

MICHAEL BALOGUN

COLOR ASSIST

WALIU EDU



**COMIC
REPUBLIC**™

JIDE MARTIN- CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

EDUVIE MARTIN- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ H.M.C

TOBE MAX EZEUGU- CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

MICHAEL BALOGUN- PRESIDENT (COMIC PRODUCTION)

OZO EZEUGU - VICE-PRESIDENT (COMIC PRODUCTION)

STANLEY OBENDE - ART DIRECTOR

WALE AWELENJE- HEAD STORY AND CONTENT DIRECTOR

AKINTOBA KALEJAYE- HEAD CONTENT CREATION/ DIRECTION

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AVONOME

THE REALM WITHIN

"WE DELIGHT IN THE BEAUTY OF THE BUTTERFLY, BUT RARELY ADMIT THE CHANGES IT HAS GONE THROUGH TO ACHIEVE THAT BEAUTY."

-MAYA ANGELOU



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REPUBLIC™

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THANK YOU!

THE NIGHT BEFORE.

OMO-SHASHA-OLUWA FOREST RESERVE,
ONE OF THE LAST KNOWN HOMES OF FOREST ELEPHANTS.
ONDO, NIGERIA.

MY MOTHER LOVED SNAKES.

SHE HAD A DIFFERENT QUOTE EVERYDAY FOR A DIFFERENT SNAKE.

SHE WOULD SAY, "NEVER WOUND A SNAKE. INSTEAD KILL IT."

THAT WAS BEFORE SHE DIED OF SNAKE-BITE, HEMORRHAGING TO DEATH.

I WAS BARELY 12. THAT WAS A LONG... LONG TIME AGO.

NOW I BLEED TO DEATH, NO DIFFERENT FROM HER... THE PRICE OF TELEPORTATION IS STEEP.


AND THIS TIME, IT WAS A LUNG FOR ME. THE LAW OF EQUIVALENT EXCHANGE MUST BE UPHOLD.

BLOOD FROM MY COLLAPSED LUNG FILLS MY MOUTH.

BUT I AM HOME NOW...

...AND HOME IS WHEREVER YOU..


...GO TO HEAL.



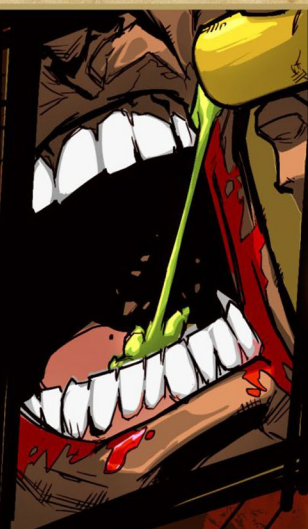
HOME IS ALSO WHERE
THERE IS JOLLOF, BUT
THAT IS NOT IMPORTANT
TODAY.

CHIEF OWONIKOKO CAME
AT ME WITH KILLING INTENT.

I HAVE NOT KNOWN
HIM TO EVER BE SO
TERRIFIED.



BUT NEVER MIND, ATTACKING
A HUNTER IS SOMETHING THE
PRIDE OF THE ALARINKIRI WILL
NEVER STAND!



3 GULPS AND MY MIND
AND BODY HEALS AS IF
I WERE A NEW BORN
TAKING BREATH.



MY MOTHER
HAD ANOTHER
SAYING...

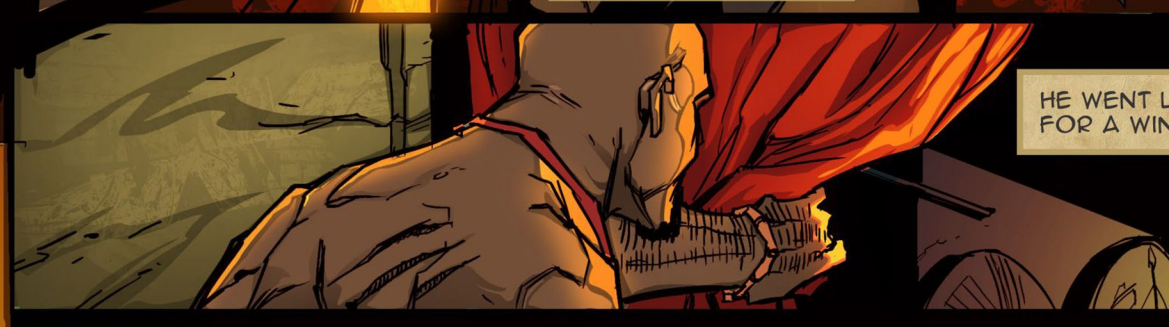
"TO THE IGNORANT,
THE ROPE APPEARS
TO BE A SNAKE. ONLY
IT NEVER IS."

CHIEF OWONIKOKO
COMMITTED TWO
CRIMES TODAY.

ONE, HE LET ME LIVE.
YOU NEVER LET A HUNTER
LIVE WHEN YOU WOUND ONE.

NEVER.


TWO... HE MISTOOK
THE SNAKE FOR A
ROPE.



HE WENT LOOKING
FOR A WIND.

NOW HE HAS AWOKEN
A TEMPEST.

AND I NEVER DISAPPOINT
TO REPAY IN SURPLUS THAT
WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ME.



MODERATION IS FOR
THE COWARDLY.

ORIENTAL HOTEL, LAGOS.

AJOBARA IS A SMALL BOY ASKING A BIG MAN'S QUESTION.

A QUESTION THAT IS PARTICULARLY STRANGE BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF MY MEETING TONIGHT.

ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY RENT AN ENTIRE FLOOR OF ORIENTAL HOTEL TO FROLIC WITH UNILAG GIRLS AND MIX COKE WITH HENNESSEY.

IS HIS QUESTION PURELY COINCIDENCE OR ARE THERE BIGGER FORCES AT PLAY?

CHIEF SIR, WE DID NOT TRAVEL ALL THE WAY HERE JUST TO ENJOY THE AIR CONDITIONING.

OUR MASKS AND ROBES ARE NOT BECAUSE WE LOVE LOOKING LIKE EYO MASQUERADES.

YOU DISRESPECT THE ORDER OF FIVE BY SHOWING YOUR FACE.

OH HUSH! MY GRANDFATHER MADE THOSE RULES AND HE DIED SENILE. THESE RULES ARE JUST FOR PROPRIETY SAKE.



TAKE FOR INSTANCE, THIS ELABORATE TABLE WE BRING EVERY SINGLE TIME WE MEET.

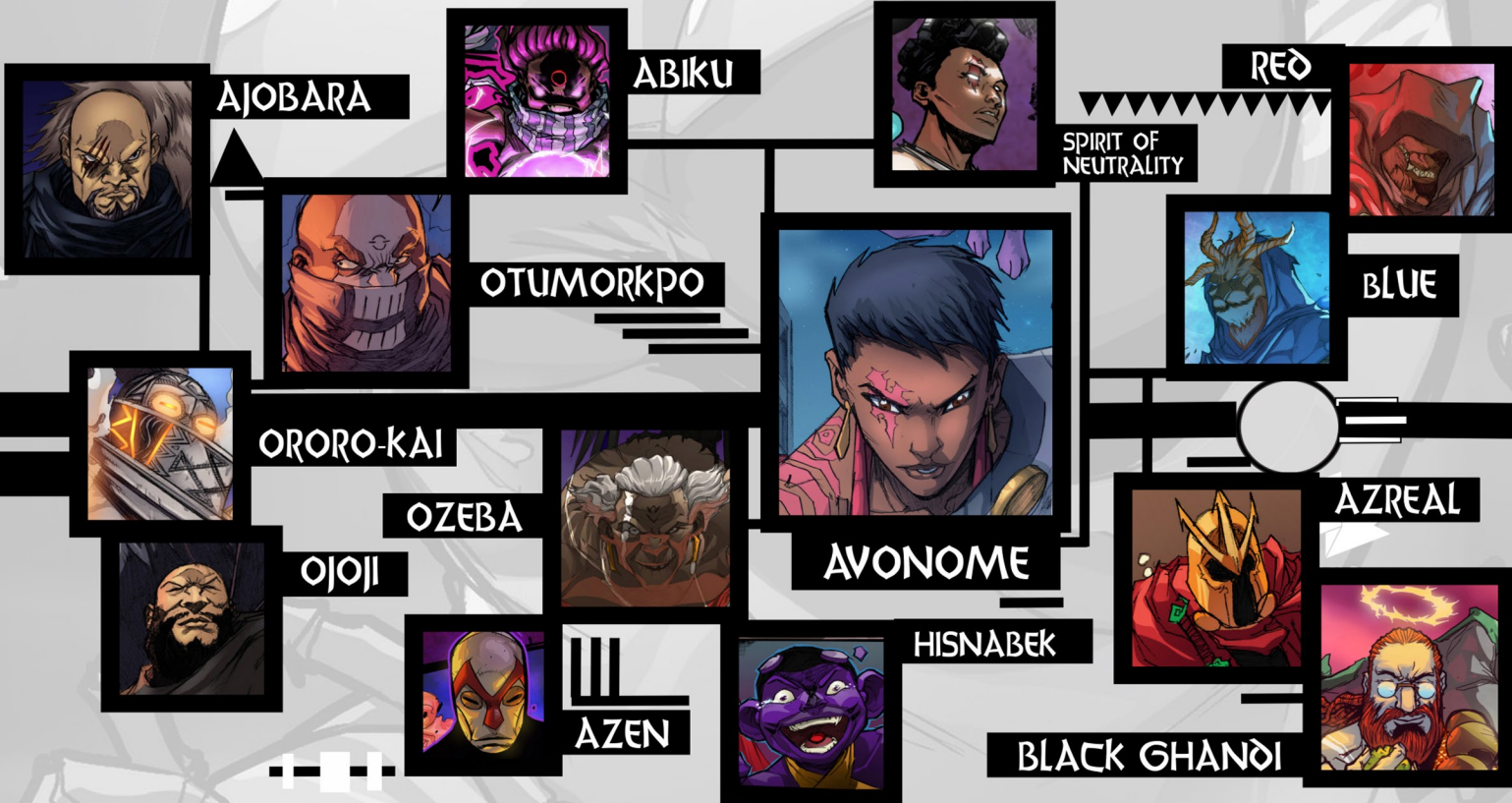
SOME WILL HAVE YOU THINK IT IS A PRISON FOR A GOD.

HAHAHA! I HAVE DEFLOWERED SENATORS' DAUGHTERS ON THIS TABLE AND I CAN TELL YOU IT MAKES A GOOD BEDDING SPACE.

sighs
I TIRE FROM HEARING YOU MASSAGE YOUR EGO. LET'S GET THIS MEETING STARTED ALREADY.

VERY WELL THEN...

AZREAL'S MISSION TO HEAL AVONOME PROVES SUCCESSFUL AS THE HOGOSHA OF THE WAY GATES; BLACK GHANDI RESTORES HER BACK TO LIFE. BUT WITH THE KIRIJI'S REVEALING THAT THE SEAT OF AVONOME'S POWERS LIE IN HER POSSESSION OF THE CATALOGIA, A RELIC OF IMMENSE POWER BELONGING TO THEIR ARC NEMESIS - ASH RAZAK, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE OUR HEROINE IS ONCE AGAIN PLUNGED BACK INTO A WORLD OF DANGER. MEANWHILE AVONOME'S ABSENCE FROM THE REAL WORLD IS IN DANGER OF BEING FOUND OUT AS THE SHAPE-SHIFTING, MISCHIEVOUS HISNABEK, FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS LEFT BY AZREAL, CURRENTLY ACTING AS A DOPPELGANGER REPLACEMENT FOR AVONOME IN THE REAL WORLD PROVES TO BE A WORRISOME SUBSTITUTE.



OJUGBO ELEGBARA

Otumokpor, you asked if Ash Razak is safely sealed, why then are we here?*

Well, Ororokai divined in his flames that the missing piece has somehow made its way into our world.

but it was sealed in a realm that could not be found! so you said!

* - SEE ISSUE 7, PAGE 18.

IF OROROKAI SAYS IT HAS MADE ITS WAY HERE, THEN IT HAS. BE SILENT.

GRRRGgh!

I sent Asemota to follow the path of Ororokai's visions.

...APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING.

Who knows this better than you Azen.

Everything he saw has been recorded here in this seed.

The Catalogia is in the hands of a secondary school human girl child. But...

This is why we are here. One - Azen as the infiltrator, you are to ingest this seed to know what we know so far of this... this...

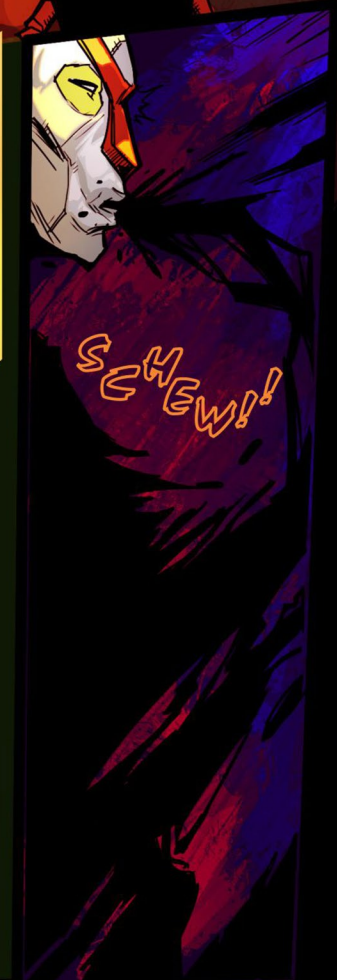
...Hilda Avonome Moses. Then you are to study her up close and personal. Report to us.

IYE* ... CONSIDER IT DONE.

* - MOTHER.



FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL GIRL, I WILL NEED A NEW FACE.

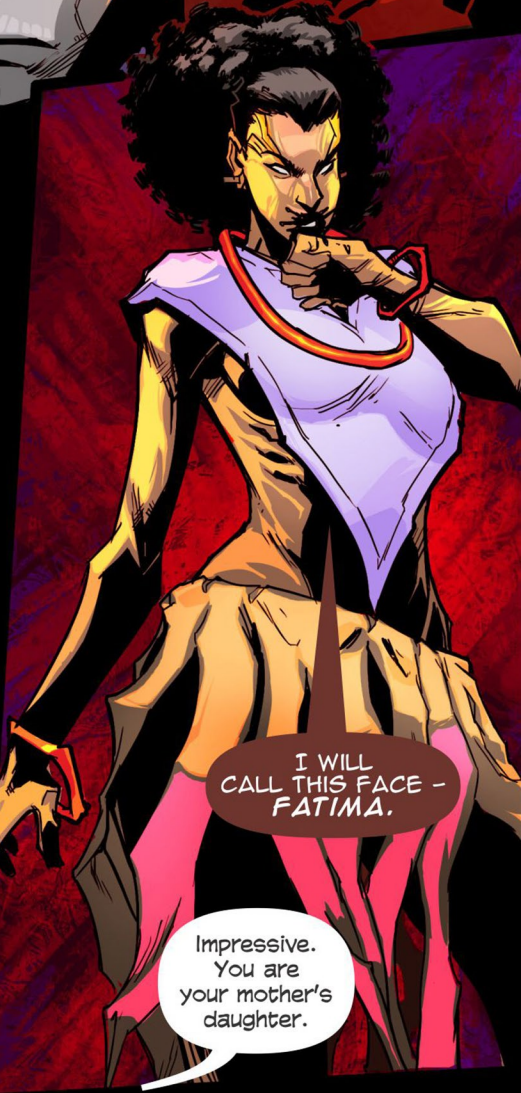


SCHEW!



SCHEW!

SCHEW!



I WILL CALL THIS FACE - FATIMA.

Impressive. You are your mother's daughter.



After finding how she came about the power of Ash, Otumokpor, as executioner - the task of laying her to rest will fall to you.



And with this, our meeting comes to an end. Shall all now arise?

NOW.

...ANOTHER SATURDAY MORNING IN THE CITY OF LAGOS...

...BLACK PANTHER IS NOW THE FOURTH HIGHEST GROSSING FILM IN THE US, ALL IS WELL IN THE WORLD--

BASKET BALL IS...

... WOMEN'S BASKETBALL BEGAN IN 1892...

... A TEAM CAN ALSO SCORE VIA FREE THROWS...

... GAMES ARE PLAYED IN FOUR QUARTERS OF TEN OR TWELVE MINUTES...

... THE BALL MAY BE ADVANCED TOWARD THE BASKET BY BEING SHOT...

...PASSED BETWEEN PLAYERS...

...THROWN...

...TAPPED, ROLLED OR DRIBBLED-BOUNCING THE BALL WHILE RUNNING--

$E = mc^2$

$\pi(2.0 \text{ cm})$

$f(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt = \frac{e^{-x^2}}{x\sqrt{\pi}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (2n)!}{(2x)^{2n}}$

$m, n = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & \dots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & \dots & a_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} & a_{m,2} & \dots & a_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$

$\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{4x}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{2}\right) dx$

$\int_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{4x}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{2}\right) \right]^2 + \left[\frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{2}\right) \right]^2 dx$

$\left[\frac{4}{n} \right] + \left[\frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} \right] \left[\pi \right] + 0$

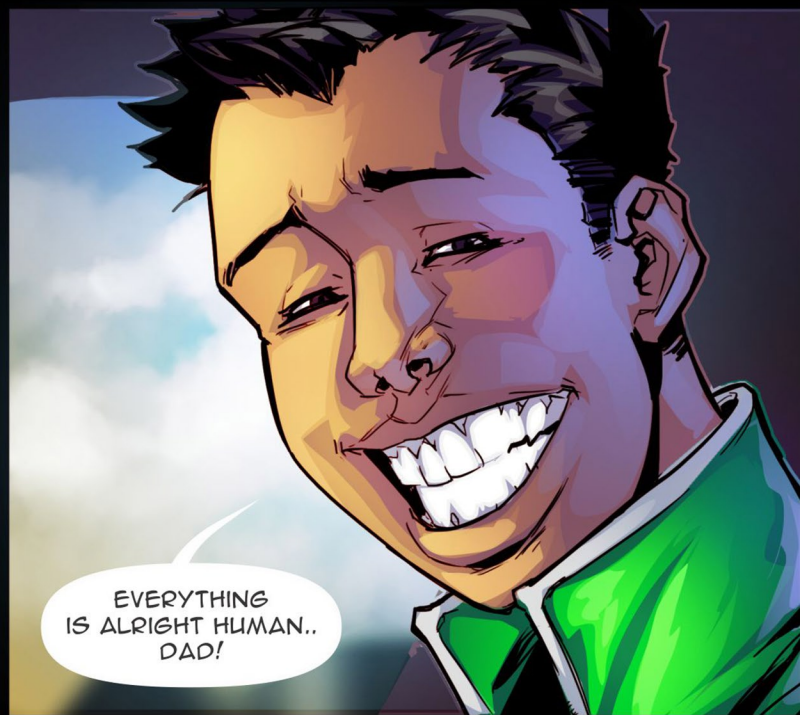
$\cos(n\pi) - 1 + \frac{8}{n\pi^2} \sin(n\pi) \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$

$\frac{8}{n^2\pi^2} \left[(1 - \cos(n\pi)) \right]$

$n = 1, 2, \dots$



HILDA, IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?



EVERYTHING IS ALRIGHT HUMAN.. DAD!



YOU'VE BEEN ACTING WEIRD ALL MORNING. I HAVE NEVER SEEN YOU TAKE A GAME THIS SERIOUS. YOU NEVER EVEN EVER PLAY.

BUT THIS ONE IS DIFFERENT, AZREAL SAID I SHOULD SURVIVE.

WHO SAID WHAT NOW?



NOTHING DAD... I WILL BE FINE.



IS THIS A WOMAN THING? IS IT THAT TIME OF THE MONTH?



ERR... MAYBE. I MEAN NO!

... WHAT'S WHAT TIME OF THE MONTH?

TESLIM BALOGUN STADIUM,
SURULERE, LAGOS.

NOW WHERE ARE THEY
PLAYING THIS BASKETBALL
TODAY SEF?

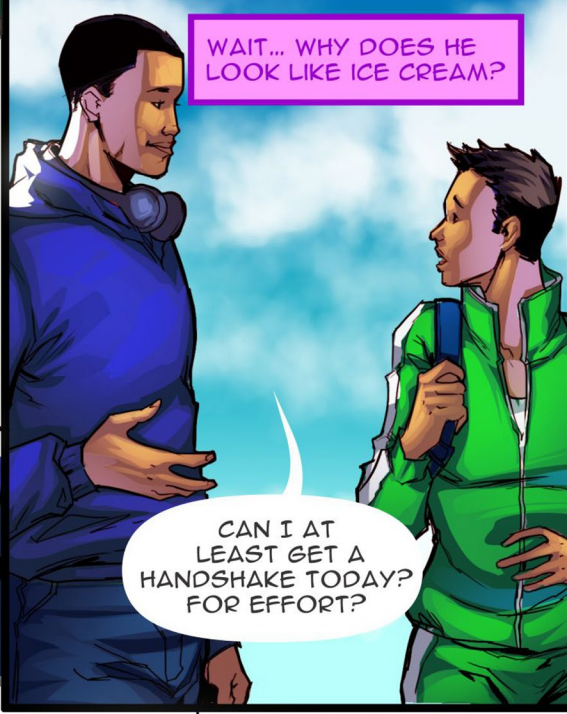


HILDA!!

WHO IS THIS
ONE AGAIN?

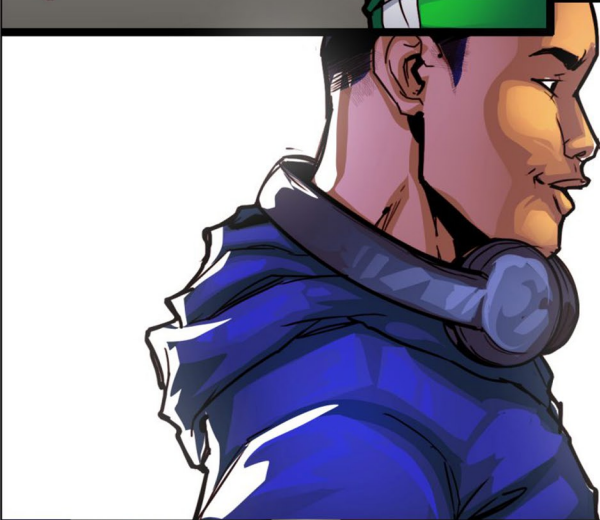


HELLO HILDA...
YOU'RE LOOKING
GORGEOUS TODAY...
AS ALWAYS.



WAIT... WHY DOES HE
LOOK LIKE ICE CREAM?

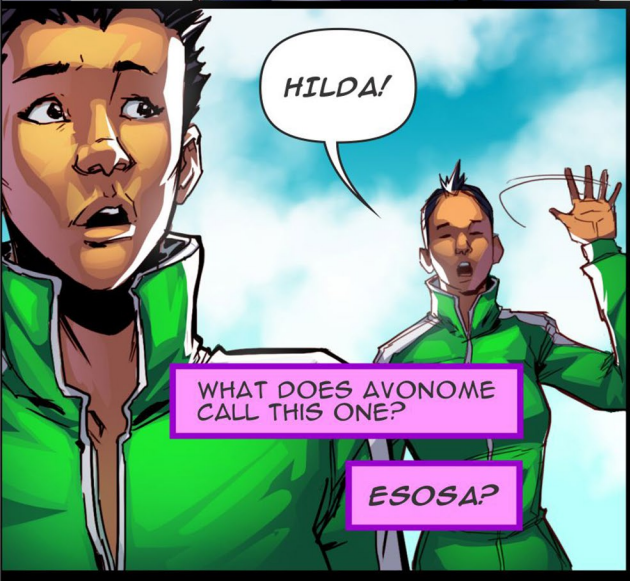
CAN I AT
LEAST GET A
HANDSHAKE TODAY?
FOR EFFORT?



ERR...
YOU... YOU
WANT... YOU WANT
ME TO SHAKE...
TO...

YES...
SHAKE MY
HANDS IF YOU CAN'T
AT LEAST REPLY
MY CALLS OR
MESSAGES.

...YOU CAN'T
KEEP ACTING LIKE I
DO NOT EXIST.
WE ARE...



HILDA!

WHAT DOES AVONOME
CALL THIS ONE?

ESOSA?



WE'VE BEEN
LOOKING FOR YOU
ALL MORNING. DID
YOU MISS YOUR
WAY AGAIN?

ESE,
I KNOW WHAT
YOU ARE TRYING
TO DO.



YES TOBS... IT'S QUEENS OVER BROS WITH US, THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE PARAKEETS.

IT'S JUST OVERSABI THAT WILL KILL THIS ONE!

DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?

I SAID THANK YOU.

ANYTIME.



IT'S A BASKET BALL GAME, NOT A FUNERAL. YET EVERYONE IS SO SILENT IN THE LOCKER ROOM.



NOW LISTEN UP GIRLS, I KNOW YOU HAVE ALL HEARD ABOUT THE IKOYI HORNETS.

THEY ARE CURRENTLY TWENTY ONE GAMES UNBEATEN IN THE LEAGUE.

THEY ALSO HAVE THREE FINALS' MVP IN THEIR RANKS.

THEIR POINT GUARD WENT 50/30/15 IN THE LAST GAME.

BUT IS THERE ANYTHING TOO BIG FOR GOD TO DO?

GO OUT THERE AND PLAY LIKE YOU ARE THE MIRACLE...



COMIC REPUBLIC

0

RESURRECTION

OUT
NOW!

ATTA
OBENDE
BALOGUN

...AND ALL WILL BE WELL.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT TODAY'S GAME *LIZOR*. DO THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE PARAKEETS STAND A CHANCE?

WETIN CONCERN BUSH RABBIT WITH SMALL STOUT? THE ODDS OF THEM WINNING IS LITERALLY ZERO.

I MEAN, THE LAST GAME, THE IKOYI HORNETS WON ONE TWENTY ONE TO 81 TO THE SECOND SEEDED TEAM.

THE PARAKEETS ARE A TEAM JUST BARELY OUT OF RELEGATION.

LOOK AT THE PLAYERS. THE PARAKEETS ARE FIELDING, A BUNCH OF NO NAMES.

GIRLS WHO ARE BETTER SUITED DOING ANYTHING ELSE BUT PLAYING BASKETBALL.

WHY IS EVERYBODY SO SERIOUS SEF?



IKOYI PELICANS

AH! GIANTS!
JESUS!

WE ARE
HERE LIVE AT THE
TESLIM BALOGUN
INDOOR SPORTS
COMPLEX.

THE GAME
AGAIN IS THE IKOYI
HORNETS VERSUS THE
QUEEN'S COLLEGE
PARAKEETS.



AND
THE GAME
IS ON THE
WAY.

25 MINUTES AND 3 QUARTERS LATER.

DUNKS UPON DUNKS UPON DUNKS. THIS IS NO LONGER A BASKETBALL GAME.

IT IS A MOVIEEEEEEE!!!

SEVENTY TO FIFTEEN! MIDDLE OF THE THIRD QUARTER.

DO YOU KNOW HOW BAD YOU MUST BE TO HAVE SCORED JUST FIFTEEN POINTS?

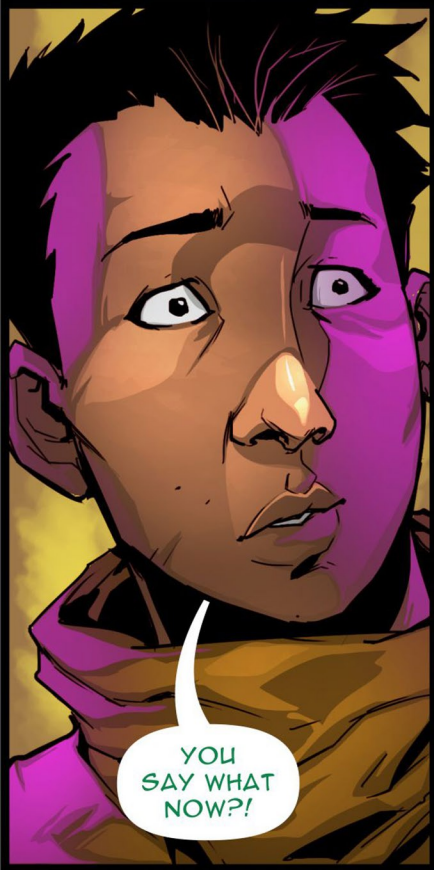
OH, THE PARAKEETS HAVE CALLED FOR A TIME OUT.

IFUNADA OUT!

HILDA, YOU ARE GOING IN!

YOU SAY--

AT THE REALM OF THE HOGOSHA.



YOU SAY WHAT NOW?!



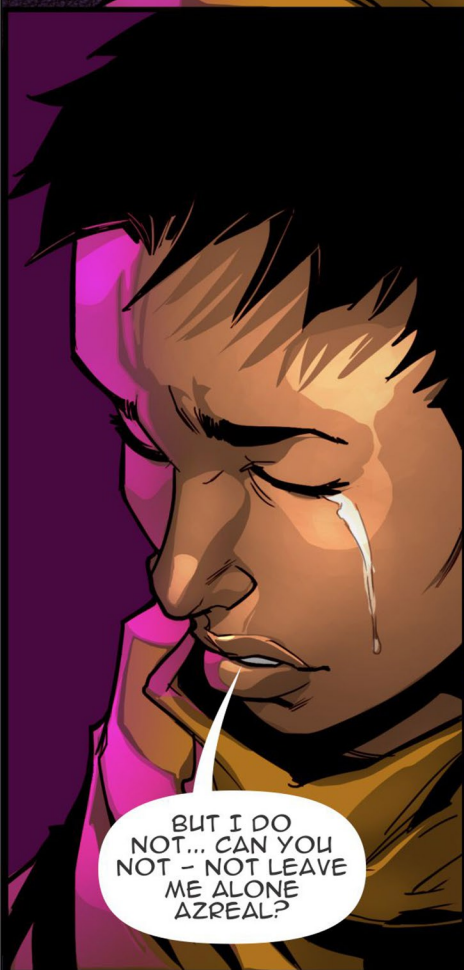
BUT I DON'T WANT THIS.

I CAN NO LONGER BE WITH YOU AVONOME. FROM HERE ON, YOU MUST GO ON BY YOURSELF.



YET IT IS WHAT YOU NEED. IF THIS HAS TAUGHT ME ANYTHING... IT IS THIS, I WAS TOO NAIVE ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS. I ALMOST LET YOU DIE.

BUT THE **HOGOSHA: BLACK GHANDI**, HE CAN PREPARE YOU FOR THE THINGS I COULD NOT.



BUT I DO NOT... CAN YOU NOT - NOT LEAVE ME ALONE AZREAL?



IT WILL BE FOR A WHILE. BUT I WILL ALWAYS BE HERE. WHEN YOU NEED ME MOST, BUT LEAST EXPECT ME.

THANK YOU AZREAL... THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DID. EVEN THE THINGS YOU DIDN'T NEED TO.

IT WAS ALWAYS A HONOR AND A PLEASURE.

ORIENTAL HOTEL.
LAGOS.

IN LAGOS, EVERYMAN
HAS A PRICE.

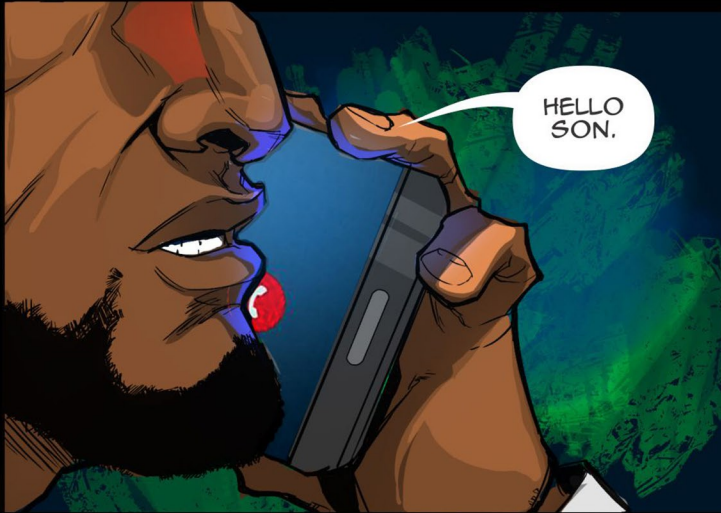
AND CHIEF KNOWS THE
PRICE OF EVERYMAN.

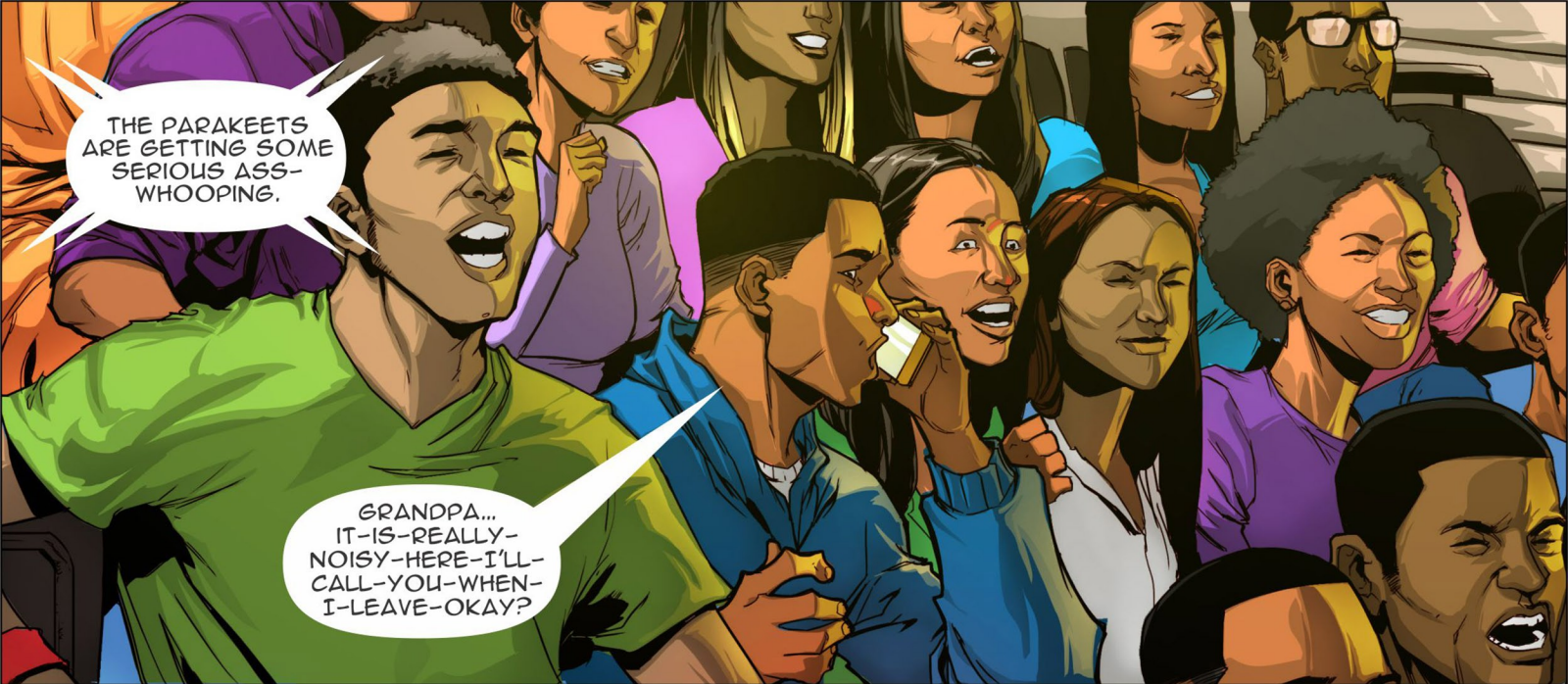
HOW ELSE DO YOU EXPLAIN
A MULTIPLE PHD DEGREE HOLDER
AND FORMER DIPLOMAT BEING
A CHAUFFEUR TO A BUSINESS-
MAN WITH NO DEGREE.

GOOD
MORNING
CHIEF-SIR.

GOOD
MORNING
DONALD.

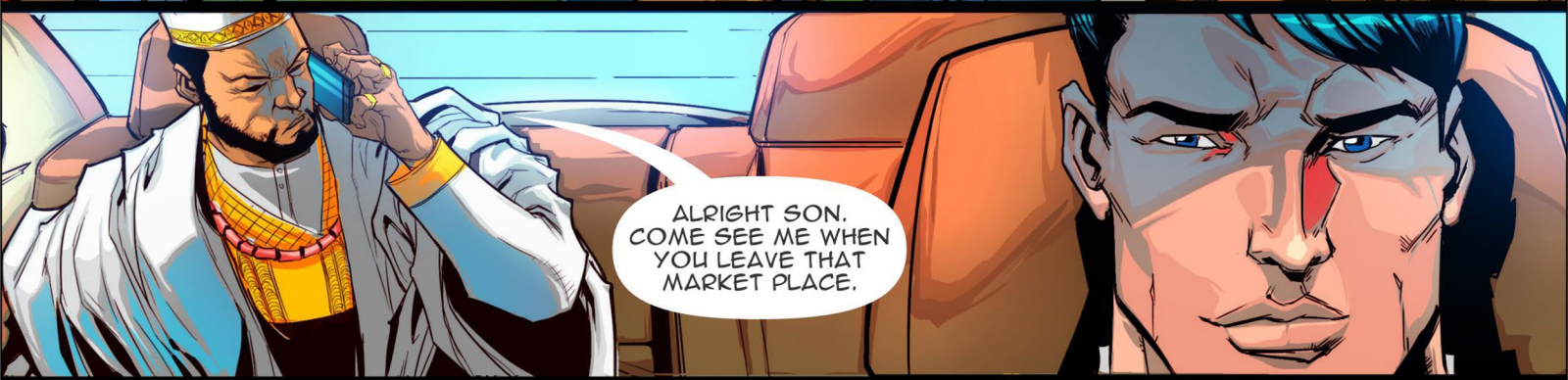
HELLO
SON.





THE PARAKEETS ARE GETTING SOME SERIOUS ASS-WHOOPING.

GRANDPA... IT-IS-REALLY-NOISY-HERE-I'LL-CALL-YOU-WHEN-I-LEAVE-OKAY?



ALRIGHT SON. COME SEE ME WHEN YOU LEAVE THAT MARKET PLACE.



AHHH CHILDREN. THEY GROW UP SO FAST.

THIS MINUTE THEY ARE TODDLERS, CRAWLING AND DROOLING ALL OVER THE...

WAIT, WHAT KILLING...



...INTENT...

...IS THI...



SPRIT WALK

K AA NER MA, KAA NER SIR,
A VU DAH SHI?
THAT'S THE ETUNOR WAY OF SAYING GREETINGS MA/SIR AND
HOW ARE YOU DOING?

WITH THAT, WE THANK YOU FOR VIEWING THE 8TH ISSUE OF
AVONOME. WHEW! HERE WE ARE, 8 ISSUES OVER THROUGH OUR
JOURNEY AND TRUST ME, WE STILL HAVEN'T FULLY SCRATCHED
THE SURFACE OF THIS INCREDIBLE STORY THAT IS AVONOME:
THE REALM WITHIN. YEAH, YOU HEARD RIGHT.

INSERT DEEP QUOTE.

YOU LITERALLY HAVE NO CLUE WHAT IT TOOK US TO MAKE THIS
PARTICULAR ISSUE. WE HAVEN'T HAD THIS MUCH OF A
CHALLENGE FOR ANY ISSUES SINCE WE FIRST BEGAN
PUBLICATION. THE MOST HURTFUL INCIDENT WAS WHEN MOST
OF THE PAGES WE HAD WORKED ON DISAPPEARED AFTER MY PC
CRASHED. I FORGOT TO BACK THEM UP AS I DID WITH THE SUR-
VIVING PAGES. MY HEART SANK INTO A BOTTOMLESS OCEAN.
XAVY WAS PISSED WITH ME FOR SEEMINGLY DITCHING THESE
PAGES, BUT STILL MOTIVATED ME (SHUUU... WHICH KAIN BIG
BROTHER YOU BE NA?). I LATER SUMMONED UP STRENGTH OVER
TIME AND IT WAS BACK TO THE LITERAL DRAWING BOARD
AGAIN LIKE *PFFF* S#@T HAPPENS...AND SO DOES DRAWING..
I'M BADASS LIKE THAT. REGARDLESS, WE WOULD COUNT THIS
AS BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE AND I WOULD TELL YOU AS IT
TURNED OUT, THIS IS OUR BEST ISSUE YET (I'M SURE YOU SAW
THAT YOURSELF). I'M NOT AT LIBERTY TO GIVE SPOILERS, BUT
ISSUE 9 HAS A MAD SHOW DOWN - LONG AWAITED.

THIS JOURNEY THAT IS AVONOME IS QUITE A DISTANCE AND WE
WOULD ENSURE WE LEAD YOU THROUGH MORE FREQUENTLY
THAN WE HAVE BEEN THUS FAR. PLANS HAVE BEEN PUT IN
PLACE TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. LEAST I FORGET, AMONGST THE
CHALLENGES, WE HAD GOOD NEWS TOO. CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE KNIGHT, MY WRITER, MR. XAVIER IGHORODJE ON HIS BIG-
GEST PLOY TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD, SCREEN-PLAYING THE
MOVIE, "THE FOREIGNER'S GOD". IN HIS WORDS, "MAY THE
ODDS CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN YOUR FAVOUR." GUYS, PLEASE I
WOULD ENDEAVOR YOU TO GO SEE THIS MOVIE WHEN IT COMES
OUT. IF AVONOME IS ANYTHING TO JUDGE BY, THIS WOULD BE
BRILLIANT TOO. ALSO IN THE SPACE IT TOOK THIS ISSUE TO
GET TO YOU, YOURS TRULY POPPED THE QUESTION TO HIS SPE-
CIAL SOMEONE AND THERE WOULD BE A NAIJA JOLLOF EVENT
SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME SOON.

LAST TIME, XAVY GOT NOMINATED FOR THE 2017 NOMMO
AWARDS. UNFORTUNATELY, WE DIDN'T GET THE WIN BUT WE AP-
PRECIATE THAT WE WERE RECOGNIZED ENOUGH TO GET A NOMI-
NATION. THIS IS ONE HUGE LEAP FOR US ON OUR PATH TO THE
WILL EISNER AWARDS.

LASTLY, *DRUMS ROLLING* YOUR ANTICIPATED AVONOME TEES
ARE AVAILABLE NOW. SEND US A MAIL AT [HOLLA@THECOMICRE-
PUBLIC.COM](mailto:holla@thecomicro-public.com) TO MAKE YOUR ORDER AND WE WILL GET IT ANY-
WHERE AROUND THE WORLD, EVEN IF YOU'RE IN MARS. BELIEVE
THAT.

OUR MOST PROFOUND OF THANKS TO GOD FOR EMPOWERING US
FOR DOING THIS AND TO YOU, OUR AMAZING READERS FOR
STICKING WITH US THROUGH LITERALLY THICK AND THIN, UPS
AND DOWNS, FRY PAN AND FIRE ET AL FROM DAY ONE TO THIS
PRESENT DAY. IF YOU JUST CAME ON BOARD THE AVONOME
WAGON, YOU'RE DULY APPRECIATED AND WELCOME TO THIS
AMAZEBALLS JOURNEY. TO OUR OGA AT THE TOP, COMIC REPUB-
LIC, WE HAIL AND SIGHT YOU. AVO OOO (ETUNOR FOR THANK
YOU)

FROM THE MHB TEAM, WE SAY "REMAIN AWESOME ALWAYS."

AND UNTIL NEXT TIME.

STANLEY 'THE STANCH' OBENDE
CREATOR AND ARTIST.

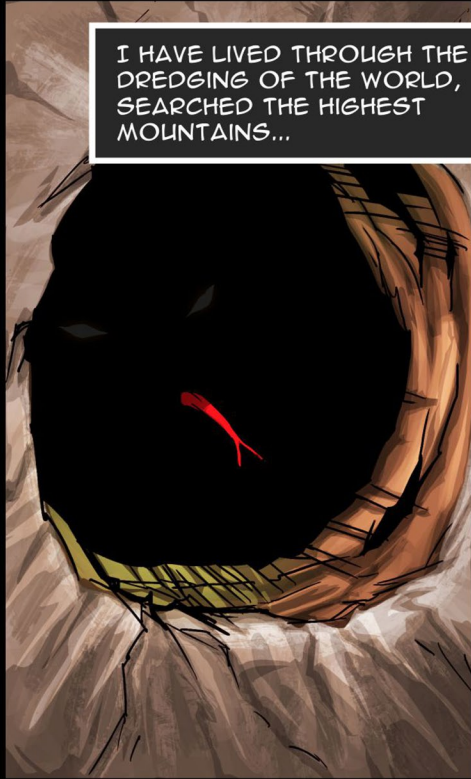
**WE STILL HAVEN'T
FULLY SCRATCHED
THE SURFACE OF
THIS INCREDIBLE
STORY THAT IS
AVONOME:
THE REALM WITHIN.**



**COMIC
REPUBLIC™**



YOUR WAIT WAS
NEVER IN VAIN.



I HAVE LIVED THROUGH THE
DREDGING OF THE WORLD,
SEARCHED THE HIGHEST
MOUNTAINS...




...PEERED INTO THE
DARKEST HOLES.



COINCIDENCE IS
IMAGINARY. IT
DOESN'T EXIST.



THERE IS ONLY HITSUZEN...
A NATURALLY FOREORDAINED
EVENT.



A STATE IN WHICH ALL
OTHER OUTCOMES ARE
IMPOSSIBLE.

SKEECHERR!
SKEECHERR!
SKEECHERR!



A SEEMINGLY CHANCE
ENCOUNTER THAT...

... SETS YOUR STORY
WORLD ON FIRE.

THAT SIMPLE MATCH
STRUCK THAT SETS
FORTH A FIRE STORM.

A GENTLE WHISPER
THAT USHERS IN AN
AVALANCHE.

YOUR WAIT IS
OVER, MY LOVE.



YOUR
WAIT IS OVER,
ASHAUNTE
RAZAK.

SOON
THE WORLD
WILL KNOW YOUR
NAME AGAIN..

ANANSI THE CUNNING

THE ANCIENT
HOGOSHA OF WONDER, WISDOM,
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING.

AVONOME FANS

VOILA! Avonome is back! We delve deeper into the connection between Ash Razak, Avonome and the KIRIJI and the frenzy of pure thrills that would come after. But first, let's regale you with some amazing fan images sent in after 6 issues.



We also want to appreciate Osbag creations for printing our tees in the best quality ever.

Note: We want to switch things up a little, appreciate our fans loyalty and dedication by giving a form of free PR. So if you've got an art, send it in to our mail box at holla@thecomicropublic.com or our facebook page: www.facebook.com/avonome but include a little fun note about yourself and a publishable email address and you would get published right here.



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