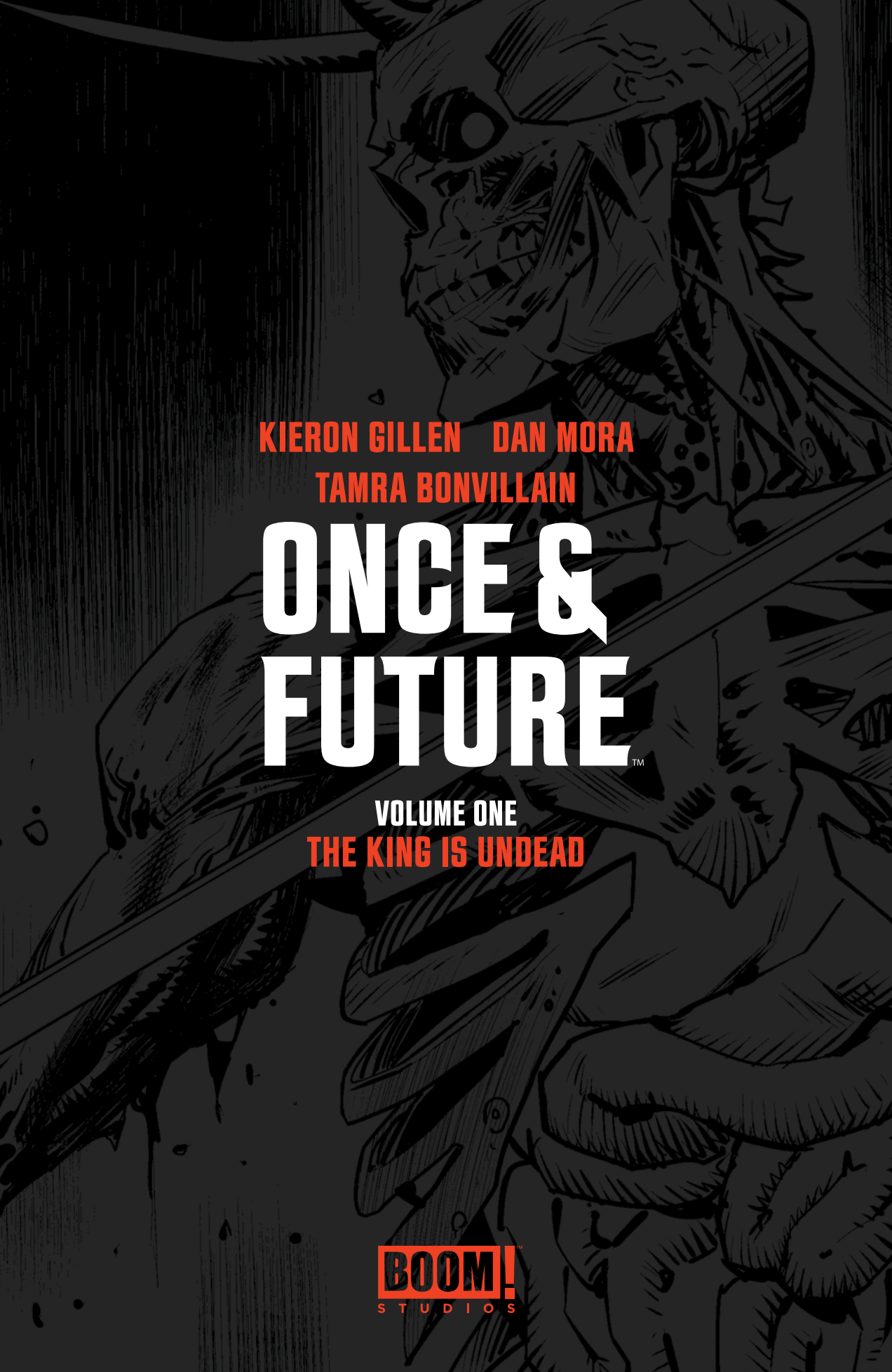




KIERON GILLEN DAN MORA
TAMRA BONVILLAIN

ONCE & FUTURE™

VOLUME ONE
THE KING IS UNDEAD



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BOOM!
STUDIOS

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BOOM!
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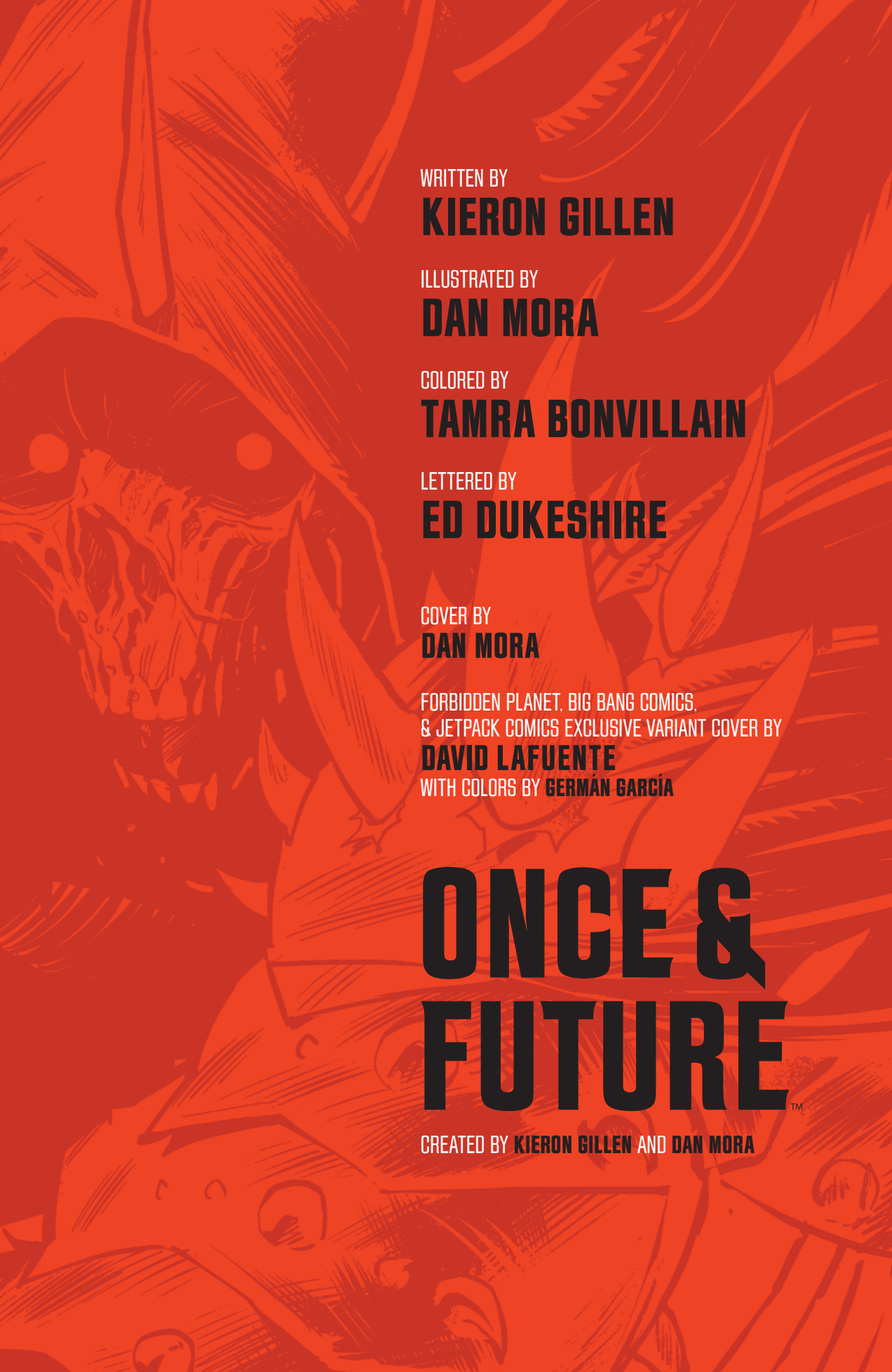
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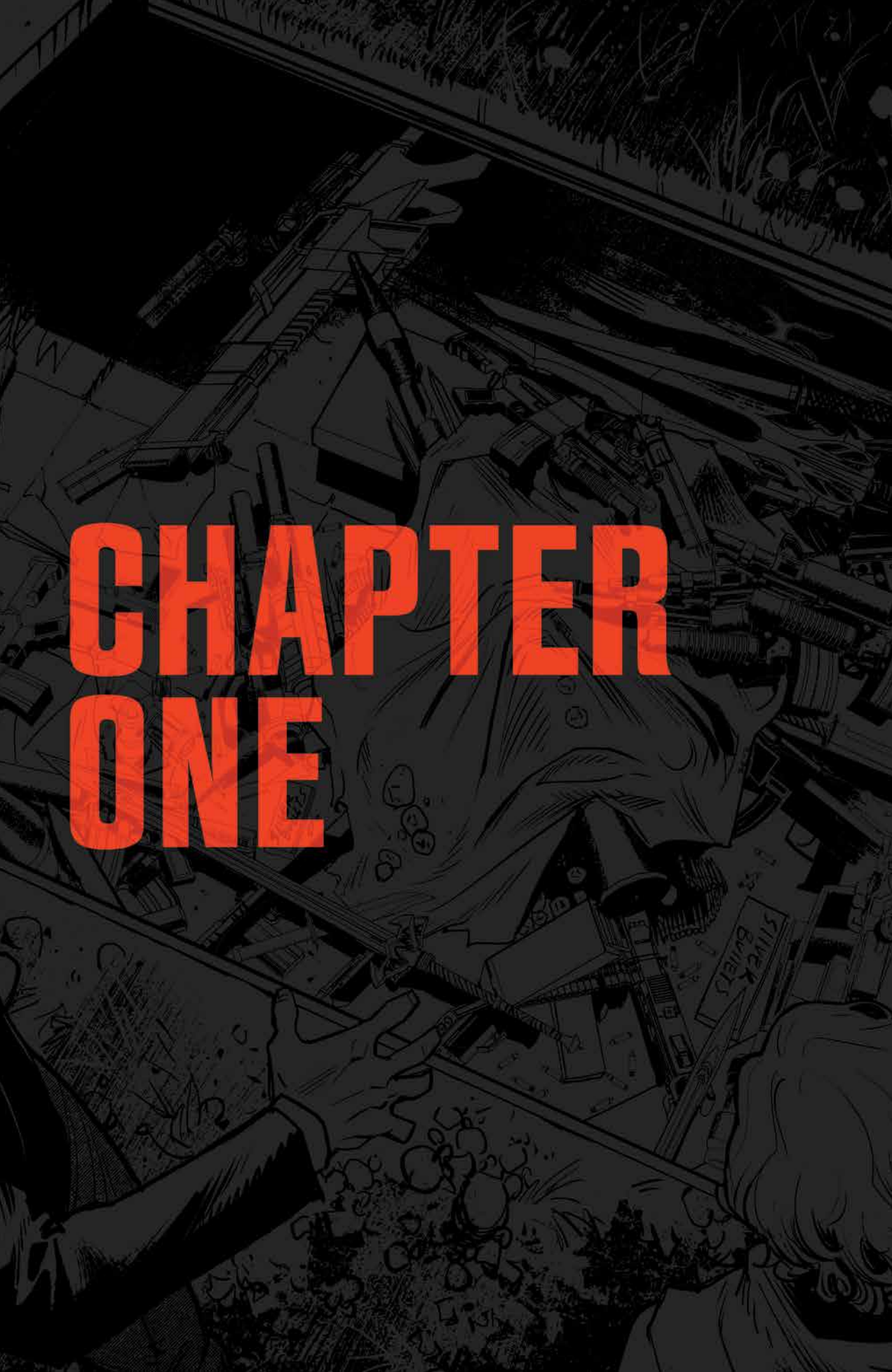
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WITH COLORS BY **GERMÁN GARCÍA**

ONCE & FUTURE™

CREATED BY **KIERON GILLEN** AND **DAN MORA**



CHAPTER ONE

CORNWALL, GREAT BRITAIN

THIS HOT
SUMMER MAY
HAVE BEEN A
DISASTER FOR
BRITAIN, BUT I
HAVE TO ADMIT
IT'S BEEN A
BOON FOR
US...



...WE'D
HAVE NEVER
BEEN ABLE TO
EXCAVATE THE
LAKE BED
WITHOUT THE
DROUGHT.

YES,
LUCKY.

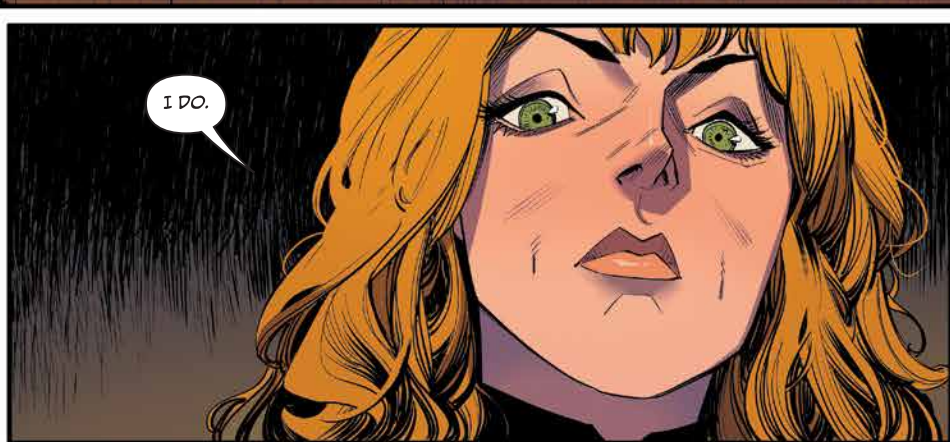
CAN
I SEE THE
FIND?



WE THINK
IT'S FIFTH
CENTURY.

MAYBE
SIXTH.









ONCE & FUTURE™



SOMERSET

...AND THE
DEBATES OVER
BRITAIN'S FUTURE
SHOW NO SIGN
OF ENDING...



...AND AS THE HOTTEST
SUMMER ON RECORD
CONTINUES, TEMPER
ON ALL SIDES ARE
FRAYING.

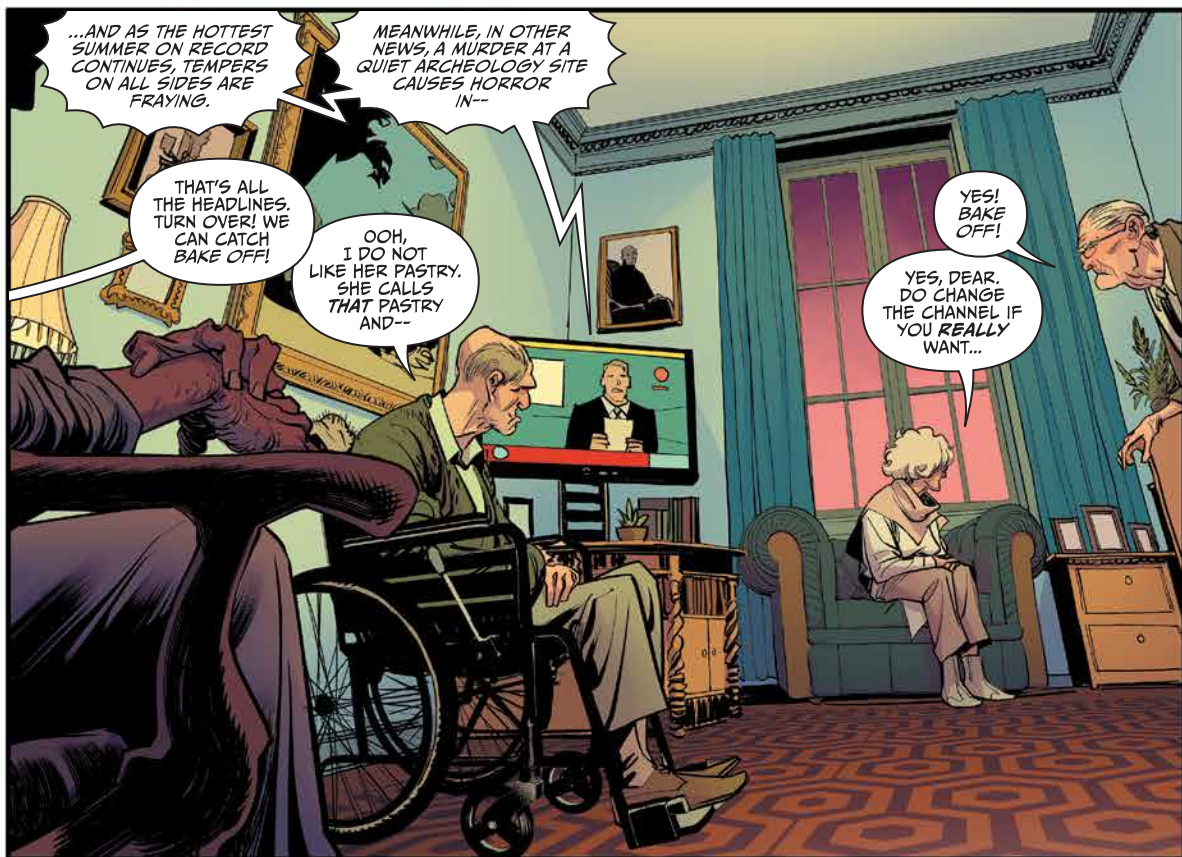
MEANWHILE, IN OTHER
NEWS, A MURDER AT A
QUIET ARCHEOLOGY SITE
CAUSES HORROR
IN--

THAT'S ALL
THE HEADLINES.
TURN OVER! WE
CAN CATCH
BAKE OFF!

OOH,
I DO NOT
LIKE HER PASTRY.
SHE CALLS
THAT PASTRY
AND--

YES!
BAKE
OFF!

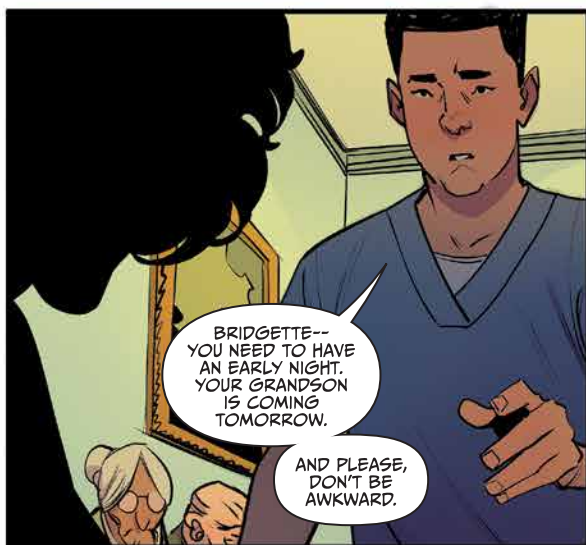
YES, DEAR.
DO CHANGE
THE CHANNEL IF
YOU REALLY
WANT...



...BUT BROKEN
FINGERS TAKE
SO LONG TO
HEAL AT OUR
AGE.

I REALLY
WOULDN'T.





BRISTOL

I'M
SORRY.
I'M...



WHEN I SAID
"WHATEVER WINE
YOU LIKE" I DIDN'T
MEAN "COVER ME
WITH IT."









DUNCAN!
IT'S GRAN.
ARE YOU
BUSY?



I...IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF I'M
BUSY!

YOU'VE
RAN AWAY
FROM THE
HOME!?



IT SEEMED
EASIER THAN
MAKE A FUSS.
THEY ARE SUCH
BIG FUSSERS.

CAN YOU
COME? I'VE
GOT A PROBLEM
I NEED A LITTLE
HELP WITH.

I'M SORRY--
IT WON'T TAKE
VERY LONG.



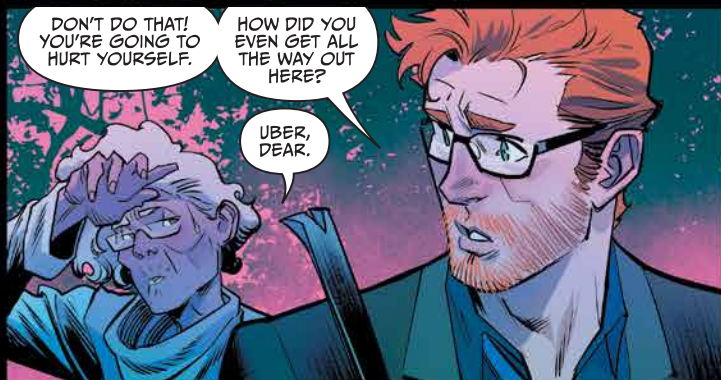
IT'S HER.
SHE'S...SHE'S
IN THE MIDDLE
OF NOWHERE.
I HAVE TO
GO AND GET
HER.

I'M SO
SORRY. I CAN'T
EVEN SAY IT'S MY
WORST DATE EVER,
BUT...I'LL PAY FOR
DRY-CLEANING
AND--



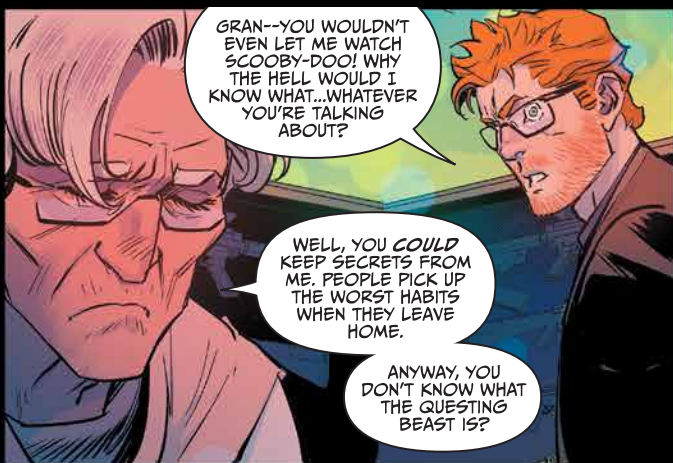
DON'T
WORRY. IT COULD
BE WORSE. IT'S A
BAD DATE, BUT
IT'S A *BRIEF*
DATE.

GO
GET YOUR
GRAN, YOU
GOOF.











NOW
YOU
DO.

WROOF!

WROOF!

WROOF!

WROOF!

WROOF!

WROOF!

WROOF!



WH-WH-WHAT
DO WE HAVE
TO...

A LITTLE
ADVICE IN THIS
LINE OF WORK.
IF IN DOUBT...



RUN!



YES, MOST
MONSTERS DO
GO AFTER
MOVEMENT.

**KEEP HIM
BUSY!**



WHERE IS IT?
WHERE...

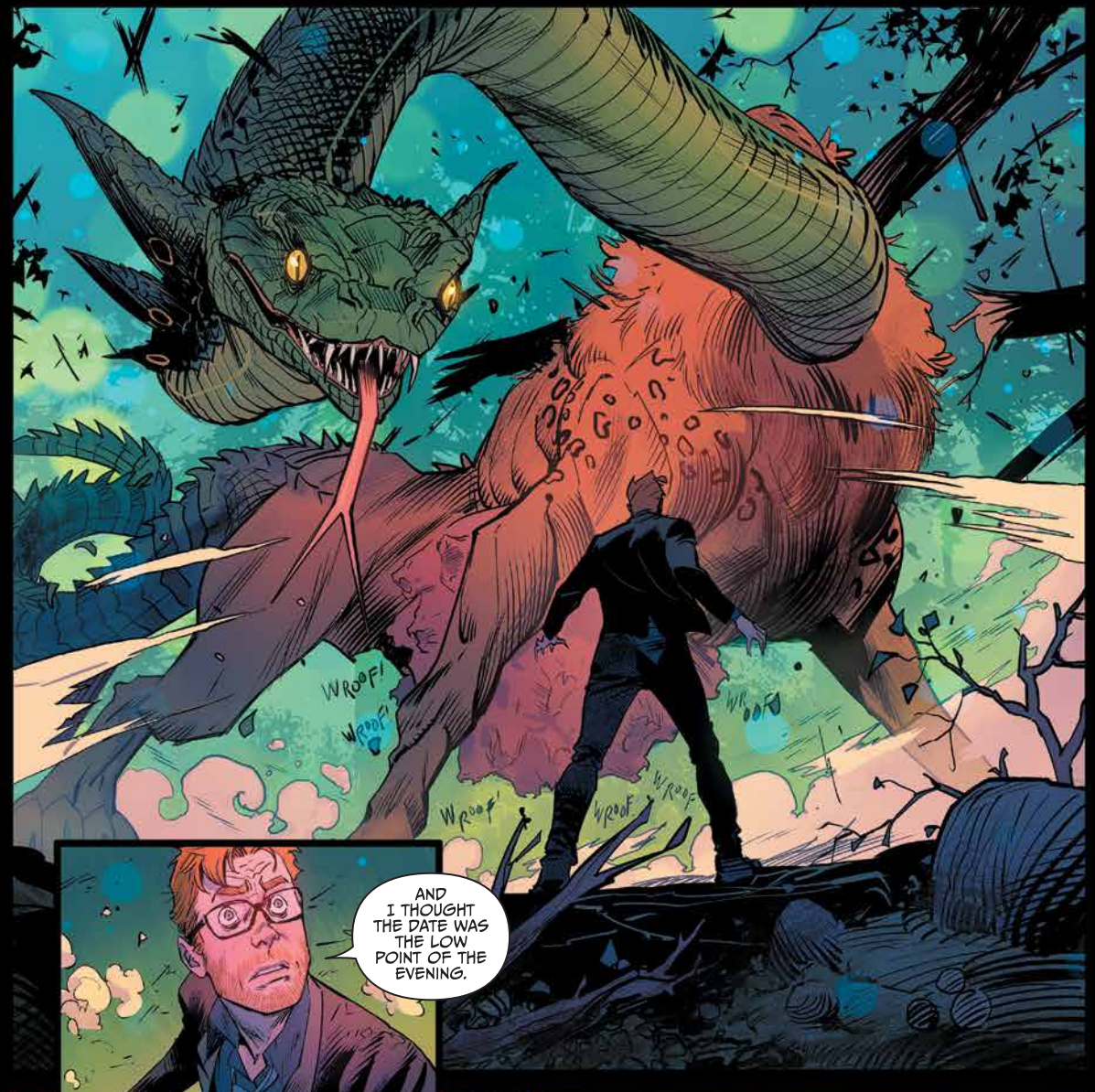


DUNCAN!
LEAD IT BACK
HERE!



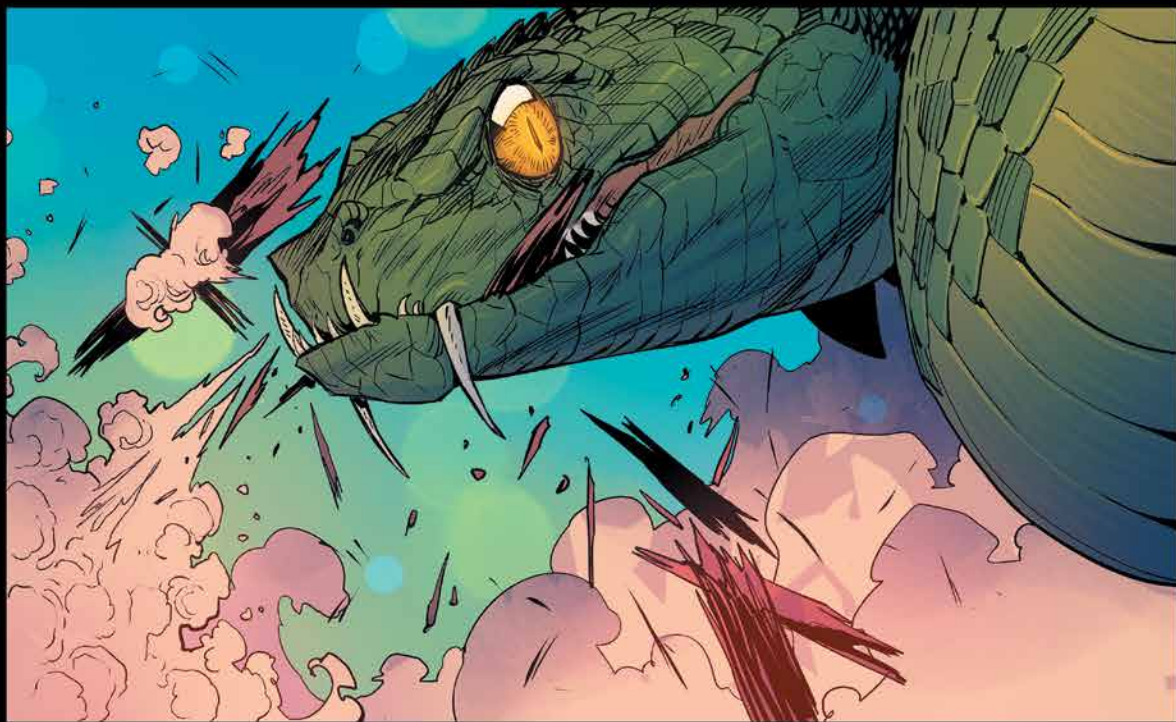


OH
GREAT.



AND
I THOUGHT
THE DATE WAS
THE LOW
POINT OF THE
EVENING.











BUT--
BUT...

YOU START
CHASING IT, AND
YOU'LL JUST GET
ALL OBSESSED
AND YOU'LL BE
NO GOOD TO
ANYONE.

BE
CAREFUL
WITH PEOPLE
WHO CHASE
MONSTERS
TOO HARD.



ANYWAY--
FOLKS CAN'T KILL
IT UNTIL LATER. IT'S
ONE OF THOSE
BEASTS OF
DESTINY SORT OF
THINGS...

IT'S GONE
NOW. IT'LL BE
BACK, LIKELY,
AT THE MOST
ANNOYING
MOMENT.



GRAN...THIS!
YOU KNOW ABOUT
THIS. ALL THIS
SUPERNATURAL
STUFF...

YOU ALWAYS
SAID IT WAS
NONSENSE!

A BEASTIE
WITH A HIND'S
FEET AND A
BELLY PACKED
FULL OF
DOGS?

SOUNDS LIKE
NONSENSE TO
ME.



BUT IT'S
REAL!

PLENTY OF
THINGS THAT
ARE REAL ARE
NONSENSE,
LUV.

MOST
THINGS,
EVEN.



WHAT
MATTERS IS
WHAT THIS
PARTICULAR
BIT OF
NONSENSE
MEANS.

AND IT MEANS
AWFUL THINGS
ARE LOOSE, AND
SOMEONE HAS TO
PUSH UP THEIR
SLEEVES AND GET
STUCK IN.



RIGHT--THAT'S ENOUGH KIT. WE BETTER GET GOING. WE CAN BUY SANDWICHES ON THE WAY.

IT'S ALL DOWN TO US NOW. FOLK HAVE MURDERED FOLK TO GET HOLD OF A SCABBARD. THAT MEANS THEY'RE UP TO NO GOOD.

WE HAVE TO STOP THEM.



YOU...YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS? GRAN, YOU CAN'T GO AROUND CHASING MONSTERS! YOU...



WE NEED TO GET YOU BACK TO THE HOME, AND THEN I PROMISE I'LL LOOK INTO THIS.

I SWEAR I WILL.

YES, I'M SURE YOU WILL. YOU'RE A GOOD BOY.

YOU'VE NEVER BEEN AFRAID OF DOING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE...

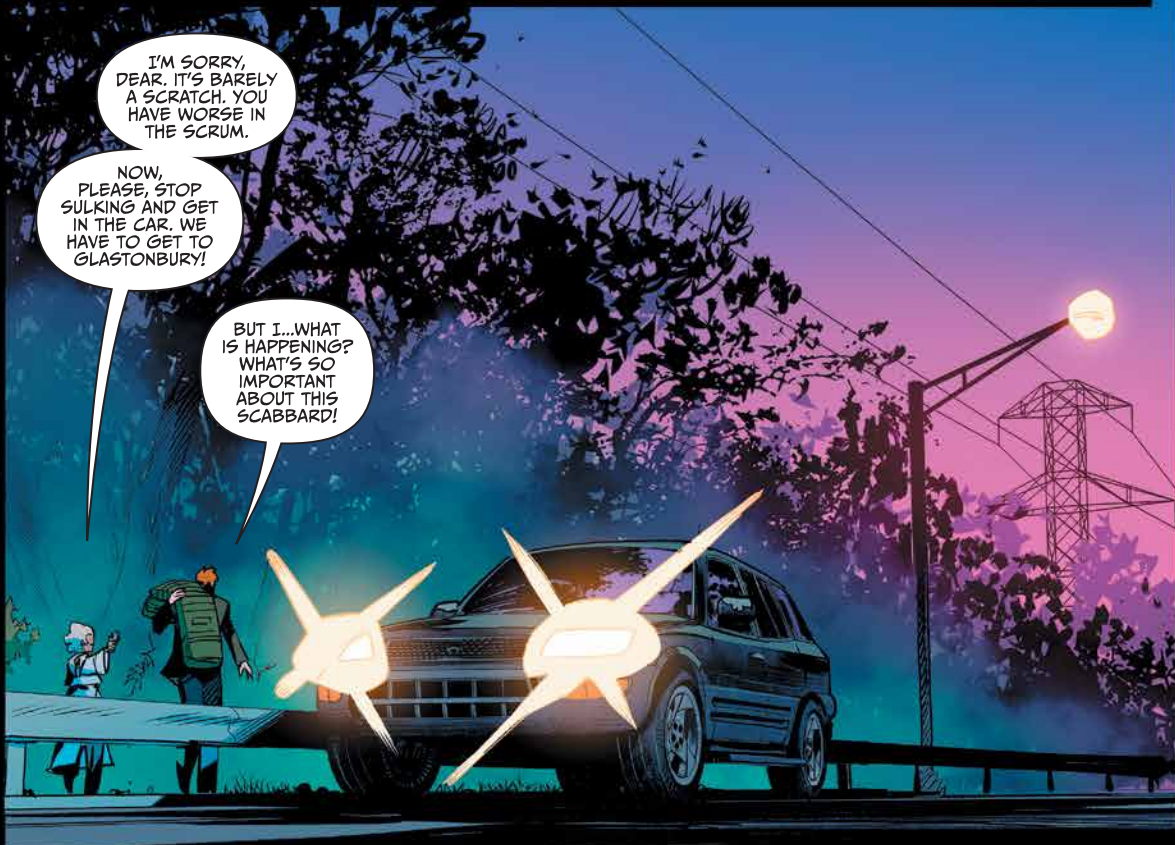


...BUT YOU WON'T BE SAFE ALONE, SO YOU'LL JUST DRIVE ME TO GLASTONBURY RIGHT NOW, HMM?



GRAN! YOU RAISED ME!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SH--





IT'S MAGIC.
THEY USUALLY
ARE.

WHAT
DOES IT
DO?



IT
BELONGED TO
AN OLD WARLORD.
IT HEALS ALL
WOUNDS. STICK BIG
HOLES IN YOU AND
THEY JUST CLOSE
RIGHT UP.

DIDN'T
DO HIM ANY
GOOD--HIS
SISTER STOLE
IT AND THREW IT
IN A LAKE. AND
THEN HE GOT
STABBED BY
HIS SON.



IF I HAD A GIFT LIKE
THAT I'D TAKE BETTER
CARE OF IT. PEOPLE GO
ON ABOUT PEOPLE BEING
SPOILED NOWADAYS, BUT
YOU'VE NEVER LOST A
MAGICAL HEALING
SCABBARD, HAVE
YOU, DUNCAN?

LET
ME IN THE
BACK.

HEALED
ALL...THAT'S
AMAZING.



YES, IT IS. YOU'D
THINK THAT'D EARN IT
A LITTLE FAME, BUT
PEOPLE ONLY GO ON
ABOUT THE SWORD.
CLOSING ALL WOUNDS
IS A MUCH BETTER
POWER THAN
CHOPPING THINGS
UP, I'D SAY.

THE
SWORD GOT A
NAME, BUT THE
SCABBARD? OH NO.
PEOPLE'S PRIORITIES
ARE ALL WRONG,
DUNCAN, THEY
REALLY ARE...

I HAD
NO IDEA YOU
KNEW ALL
THIS STUFF.

WHAT'S
THE SWORD
CALLED?



OH,
EXCALIBUR.



EXCALIBUR! AS
IN...EXCALIBUR--
EXCALIBUR?!
EXCALIBUR--
EXCALIBUR--
EXCALIBUR!?

YOU'RE
REPEATING
YOURSELF. TAKE
A DEEP BREATH.
YOU ALWAYS
WERE A
BLURTER.

KING
ARTHUR'S
SWORD
EXCALIBUR?!

NO.



THANK
GOD.



IT'S
NOT ARTHUR'S
SWORD. IT'S ONE
OF THE LADIES
OF THE LAKE'S
SWORD.

THEY
LOANED
IT TO
ARTHUR.



BUT IF
SOMEONE
HAS ARTHUR'S
SCABBARD, I
THINK THEY'D
BE TRYING TO
BRING HIM
BACK.

THERE'S
ENOUGH
PROPHECIES
AFTER ALL.

SOME FOOL
ALWAYS WANTS
TO TAKE A
SHOT AT A
PROPHECY. IT'S
THE "KICK ME"
SIGN OF
THE OCCULT
WORLD...



BUT...
ARTHUR...

...ISN'T HE
A GOOD
GUY?



OH, YOU
ADORABLE
BOY.



"ARTHUR UNITED THE
BRITONS. BEAT BACK THE
INVADING FOREIGNERS.

"AND THEN THE BIT
PEOPLE ALWAYS
FORGET ABOUT..."



...HE WENT
TO WAR WITH A
EUROPEAN
EMPIRE AND
CRUSHED IT.



"HE'S SAID TO
RETURN IN BRITAIN'S
DARKEST HOUR."



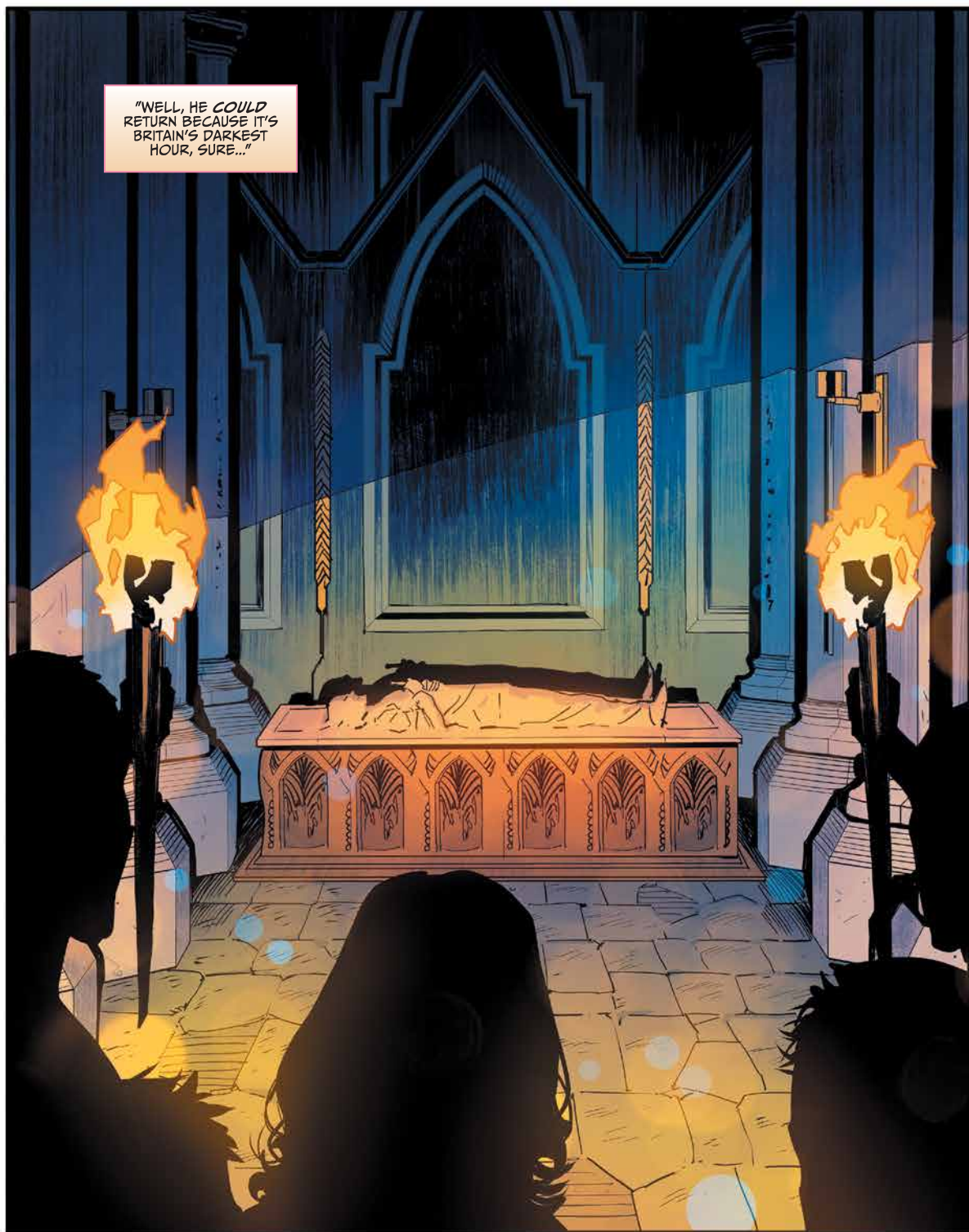
THERE WAS
SOMETHING ABOUT
THAT PROPHECY
THAT ALWAYS
RUBBED ME UP THE
WRONG WAY...

NEVER TRUST
A PROPHECY THAT
CAN BE TAKEN IN
TWO WAYS.



"WHAT DO THEY
MEAN BY THAT?"

"WELL, HE *COULD*
RETURN BECAUSE IT'S
BRITAIN'S DARKEST
HOUR, SURE..."

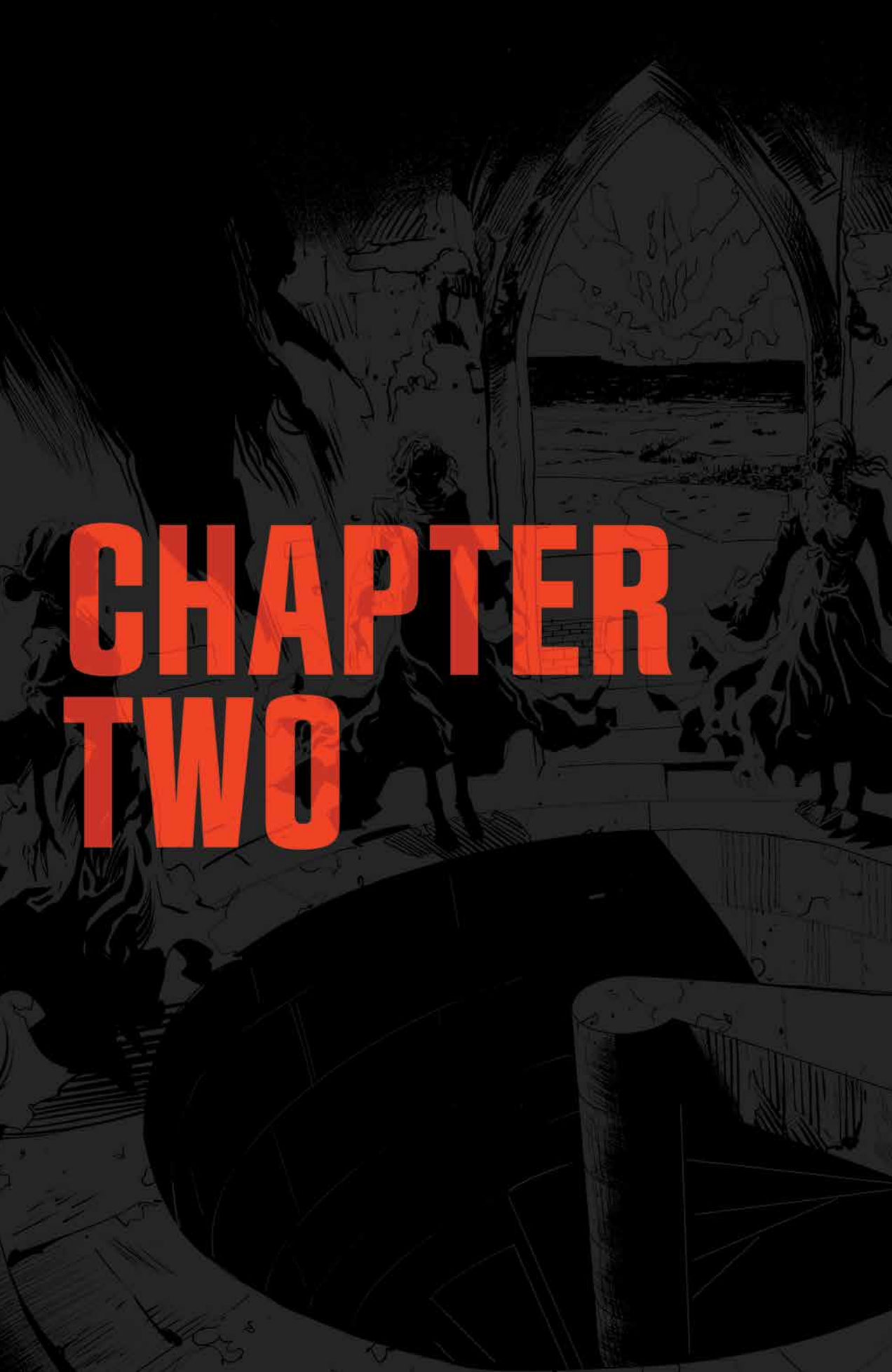


...OR
HIS RETURN
COULD CAUSE
IT.





ISSUE TWO COVER BY **DAN MORA**

A dark, high-contrast illustration of a church interior. In the foreground, a large, dark, curved structure, possibly a pulpit or a large bowl, dominates the lower half of the frame. In the background, several figures are visible in a state of panic or conflict. A man in a long coat is running towards the left, while a woman in a long dress is running towards the right. A large, arched window in the background shows a landscape with a body of water and a distant shore. The overall tone is dark and dramatic, with a focus on the figures and the architectural details of the church.

CHAPTER TWO

GLASTONBURY



WHY DIDN'T YOU WARN ME ABOUT ANY OF THIS?

I SAW IT, AND I'M STILL NOT SURE I BELIEVE IT. WHEN DID YOU FIT MONSTER-HUNTING IN AROUND RAISING ME, GRAN?



OH, IT'S COMPLICATED, DEAR. IT ALL ENDED BEFORE YOU WERE BORN. AND REALLY? WHAT HELP WOULD **KNOWING** BE?

IT'D JUST BE AN UNEASY, SCARY FEELING KNOWING THAT EVERY SHADOW COULD BE CRAMMED FULL OF MONSTERS.



YES, CLEARLY WORSE THAN THE UNEASY, SCARY FEELING OF MY GRAN POINTING A GUN AT ME!



OH,
DON'T WHINE! I
CAN TELL YOU'RE
FASCINATED.

THIS
GUN IS JUST OUR
WAY OF MAKING YOU
FEEL LIKE IT'S ALL
OUT OF YOUR
CONTROL.



THIS IS
OUT OF MY
CONTROL!



OH--YOU HAVE
A TEXT MESSAGE,
DEAR. FROM A
GIRL. ROSE?

"HOW'S IT
GOING WITH
YOUR GRAN?"
THAT'S SWEET.

TEXT
HER BACK
SAYING "GREAT!
SHE'S FINE AND
HAS A GUN
POINTING AT
MY HEAD!"



THERE'S
NO NEED FOR
SARCASM,
DUNCAN
MCGUIRE.

YOU
WERE RAISED
BETTER THAN
THAT.



PLEASE! THIS
IS...DIFFICULT.
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
ANYTHING!

WHAT DOES ANY OF
IT MEAN? AS IN, WHY
ON EARTH DID THE...
QUESTING BEAST
TURN UP?



THE
QUESTING
BEAST? IT'S
PRETTY
SIMPLE,
DUNCAN.



YOU'RE
GOING ON A
QUEST.



QUESTS
->PANT-> USED
TO BE
->PANT-> MUCH
EASIER.

BUT JUST
->PANT-> IN
TIME.

JUST IN
TIME FOR
WHAT?



STILL IN
THE WITCHING
HOUR. THEY'LL
HAVE CROSSED
OVER TO TRY
AND USE THE
SCABBARD. WE
WILL TOO.



I
SUPPOSE
IT IS A
LIMINAL
TIME.



OOH,
"LIMINAL."
LOOK AT YOUR
FANCY BOOK
LEARNING.

AH--
HERE WE
GO.

WAIT! THIS
HAPPENED
BACK IN THE
FOREST.



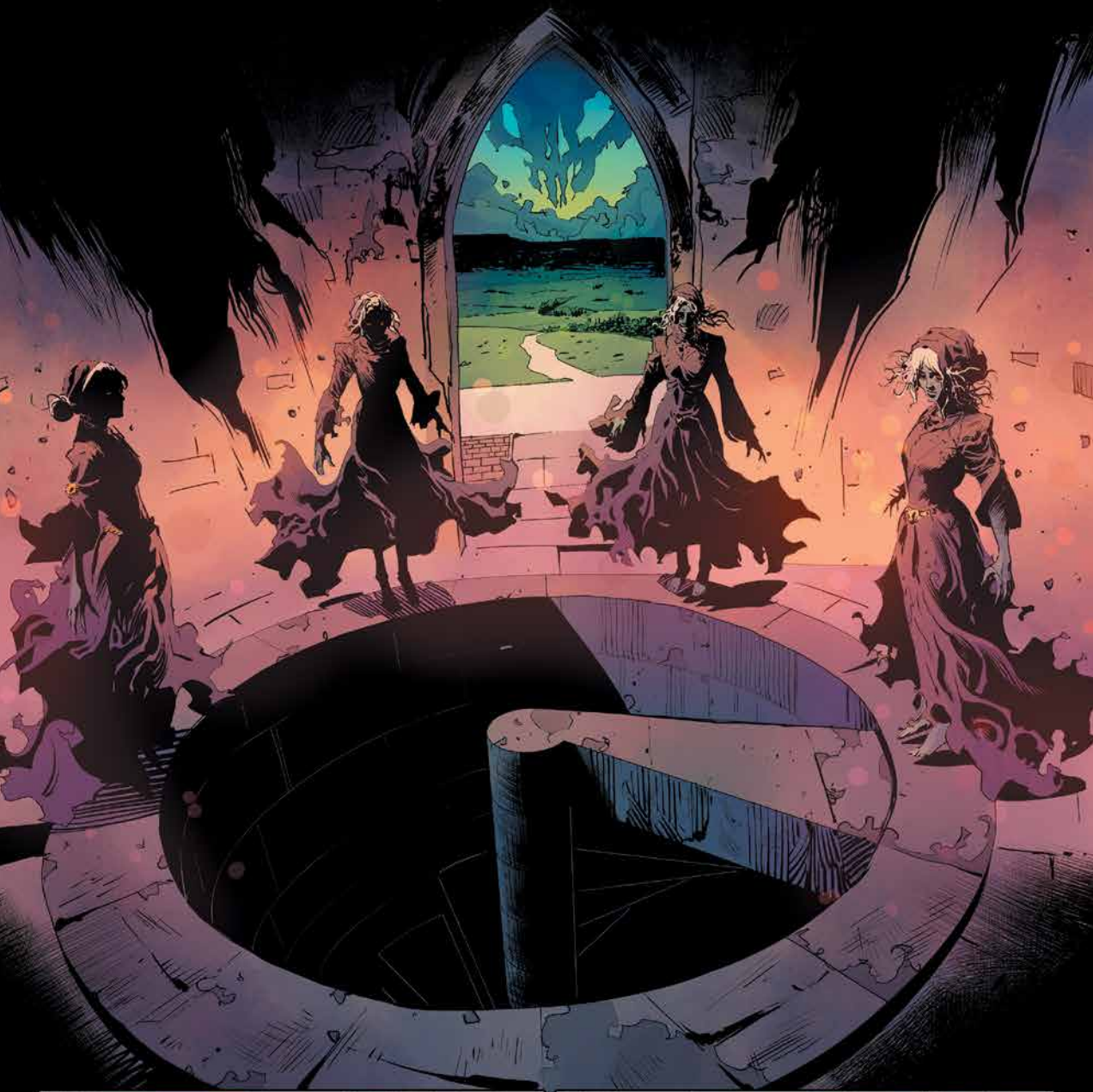
YES, THE WORLD IS
HAUNTED. HAUNTED
BY THESE FERAL
STORIES.

THEY LURE US IN,
THEY'D GOBBLE US
UP, GIVEN HALF A
CHANCE...



TAKES A CERTAIN
SORT TO GO
WANDERING INTO
THE WOODS.

LOOKING
FOR
WOLVES.





PUT YOUR
BACK INTO
IT, YOU
LOT.

WE'VE
GOT A
KING IN
HERE.



WE *DO*
HAVE A KING
IN HERE,
ELAINE?



PAY ATTENTION
YOU DOZY BINT.
THIS IS THE MAIN
EVENT.

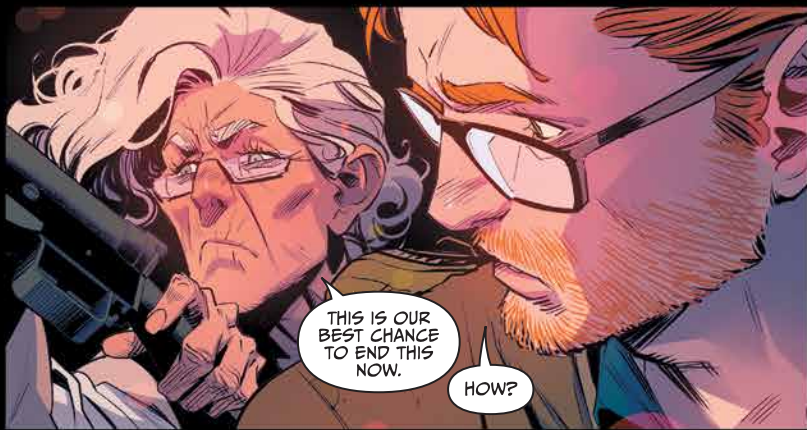
I *AM*
PAYING ATTENTION
TO THE PLAN. IT JUST
HAPPENS TO CONTINUE
AFTER WE GET A
CORPSE OUT OF
A BOX. IT--





THAT WAS AMAZING. THEY WERE FLOATING AND...

DUNCAN, PAY ATTENTION.



THIS IS OUR BEST CHANCE TO END THIS NOW.

HOW?



I THINK YOU DON'T NEED A GUN POINTING AT YOU ANY MORE.

SO YOU GET ONE OF YOUR OWN.



I'VE NEVER SHOT ANYTHING BEFORE.

YES, BECAUSE YOU'RE A GOOD BOY. DON'T WORRY. IT'S EASY.

SAFETY OFF, POINT, DEAD, NOTHING TO IT.



OH, GRAN...

AND STEP CAREFULLY! WE NEED TO BE QUIET.

MIND THAT ROCK...



NOW, WE JUST HOPE WE CAN STOP THEM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.





OH,
BUGGER.



WH...WHAT
DO WE DO
NOW?

WAIT.
GIVE HIM
TIME.



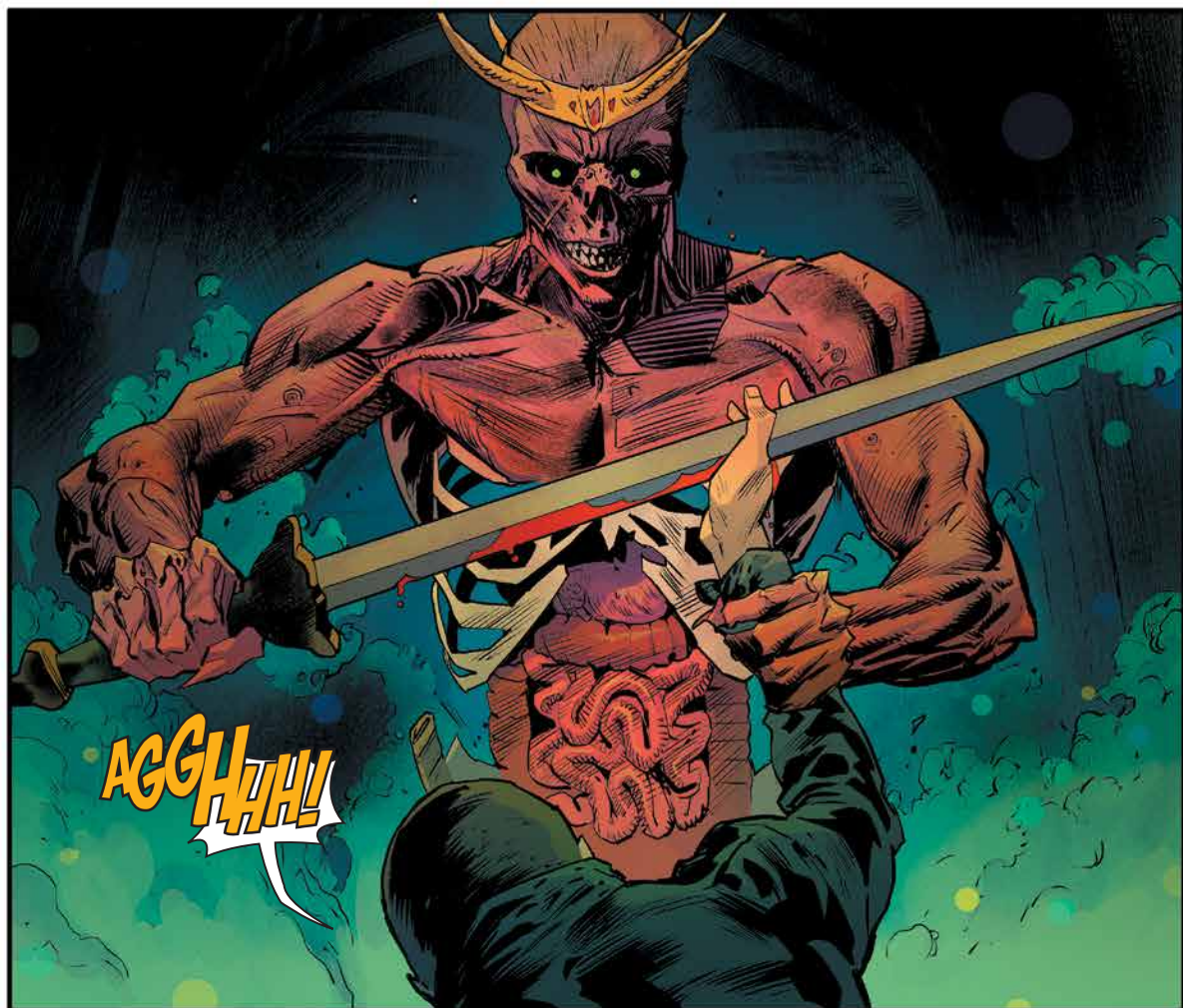
OH
NO.



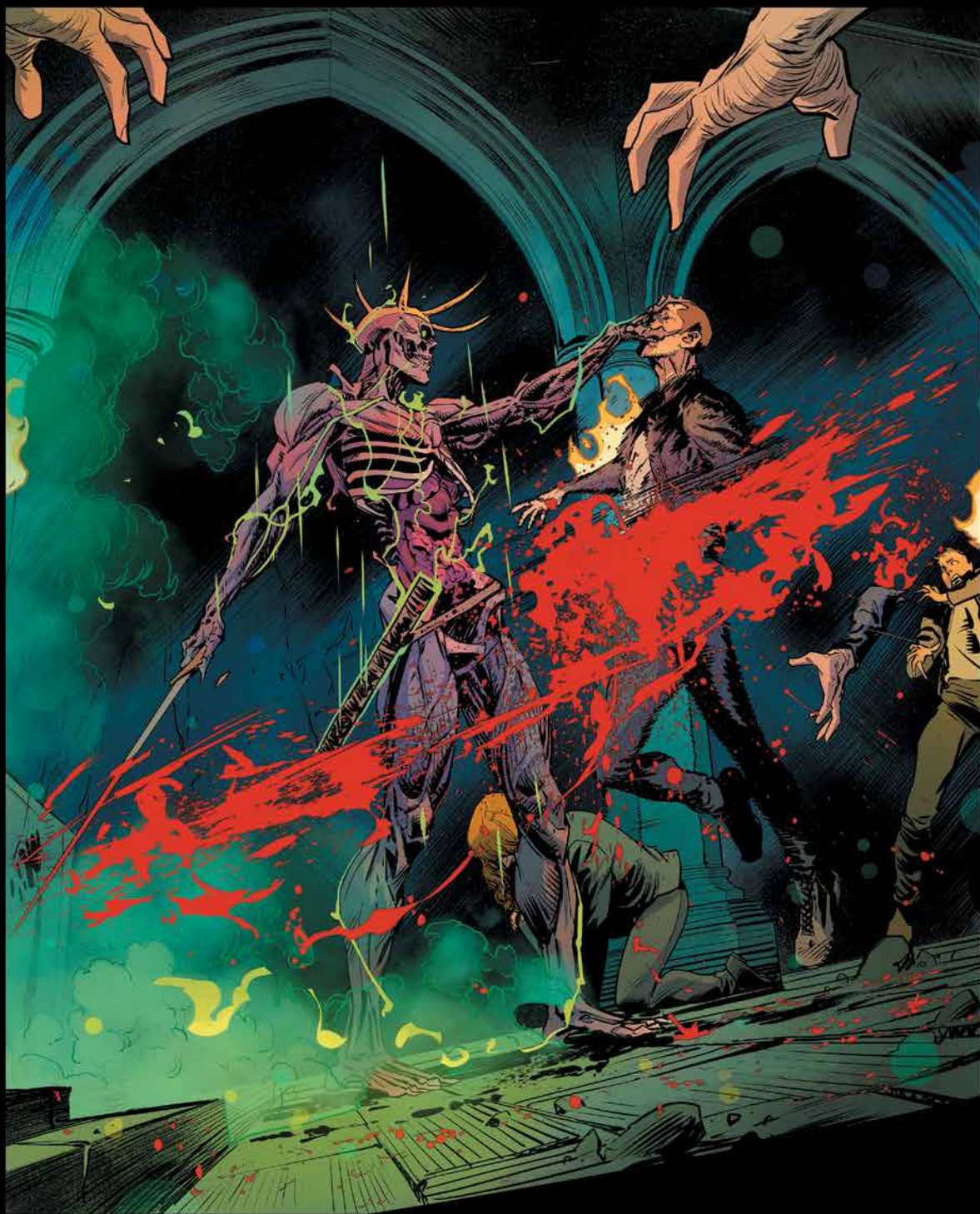
ヒューン











I...DON'T
UNDERSTAND.

HMM, WELL,
KING ARTHUR
FOUGHT A BUNCH
OF FOREIGN
INVADERS, IT'S
TRUE...







I DO. I...HAVE
BROUGHT
YOU...BODIES.
SUITABLE
BODIES.

THIS ONE
IS...WAYNE. HE
WAS A WARRIOR.
THESE ARE HIS
BROTHERS.

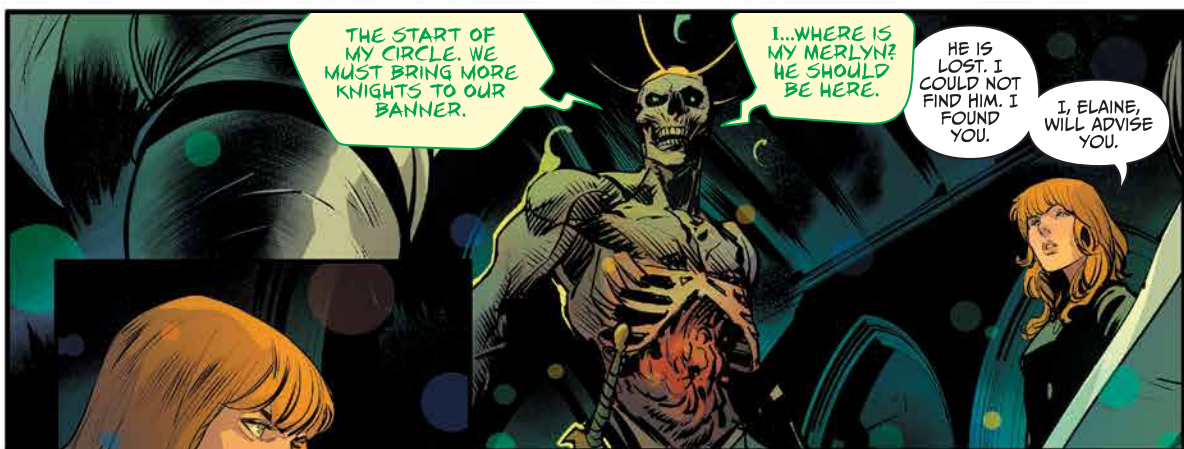
AH. A KINGDOM
MUST START
SOMEWHERE.



RISE, MY
KNIGHTS.

RISE,
GAWAIN.





THE START OF
MY CIRCLE. WE
MUST BRING MORE
KNIGHTS TO OUR
BANNER.

I...WHERE IS
MY MERLYN?
HE SHOULD
BE HERE.

HE IS
LOST. I
COULD NOT
FIND HIM. I
FOUND
YOU.

I, ELAINE,
WILL ADVISE
YOU.



THE LAND IS
SICK. THE KING
AND THE LAND
ARE AS ONE.

I HAVE A
BOY WHO
WOULD BE A
KNIGHT...



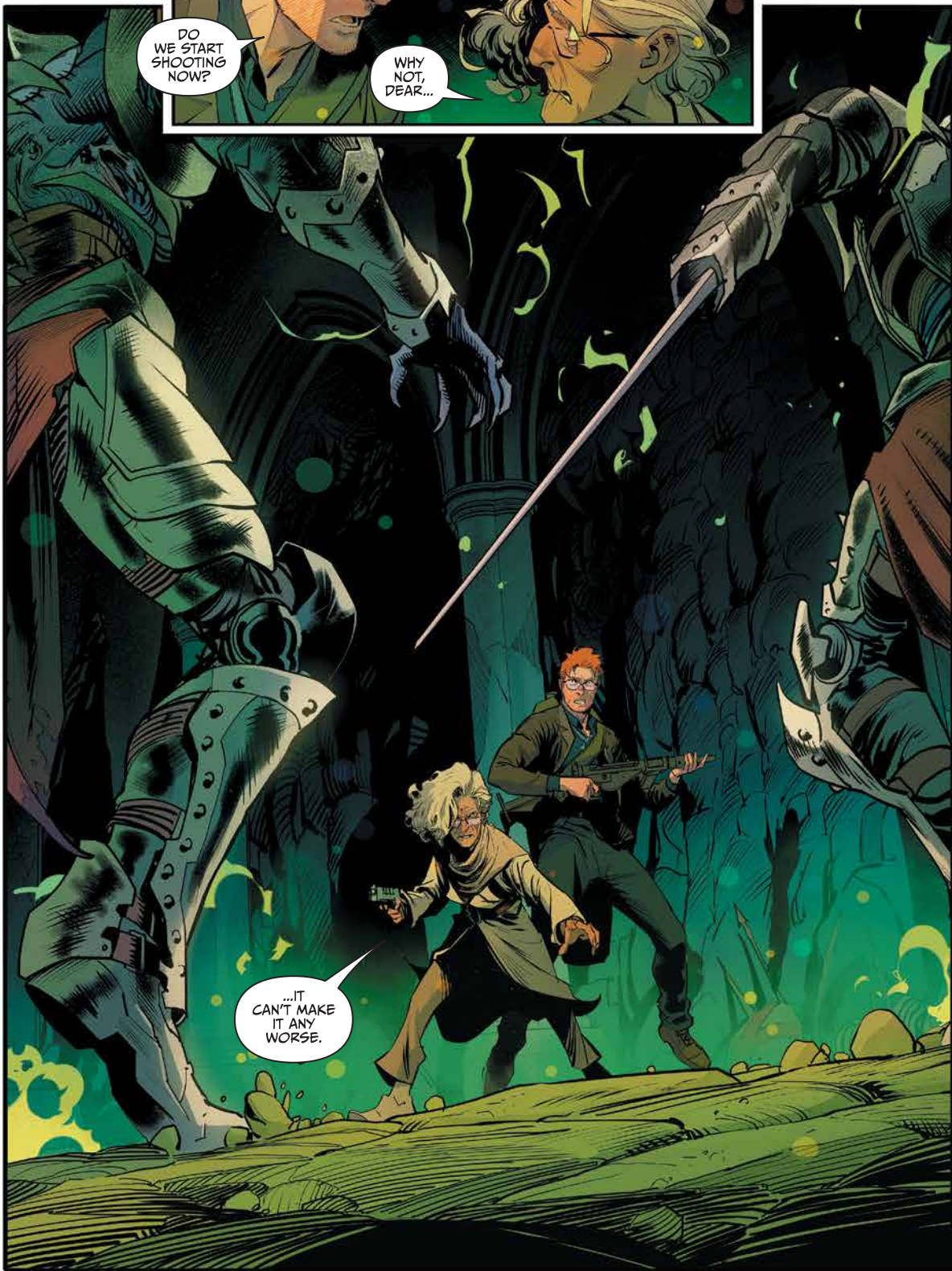
SHE
CAN'T BE
SERIOUS.





DO
WE START
SHOOTING
NOW?

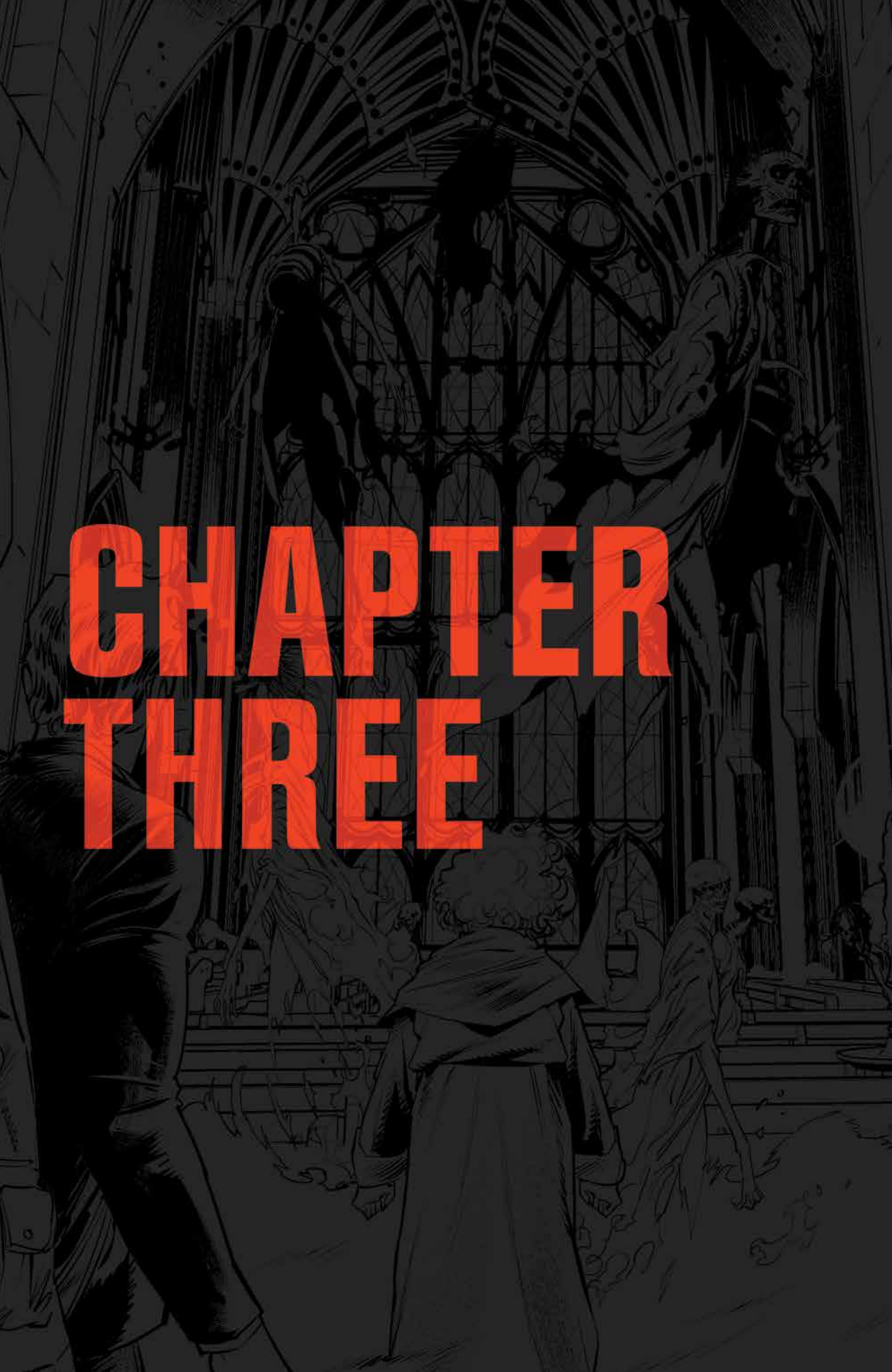
WHY
NOT,
DEAR...



...IT
CAN'T MAKE
IT ANY
WORSE.



DAN MORA

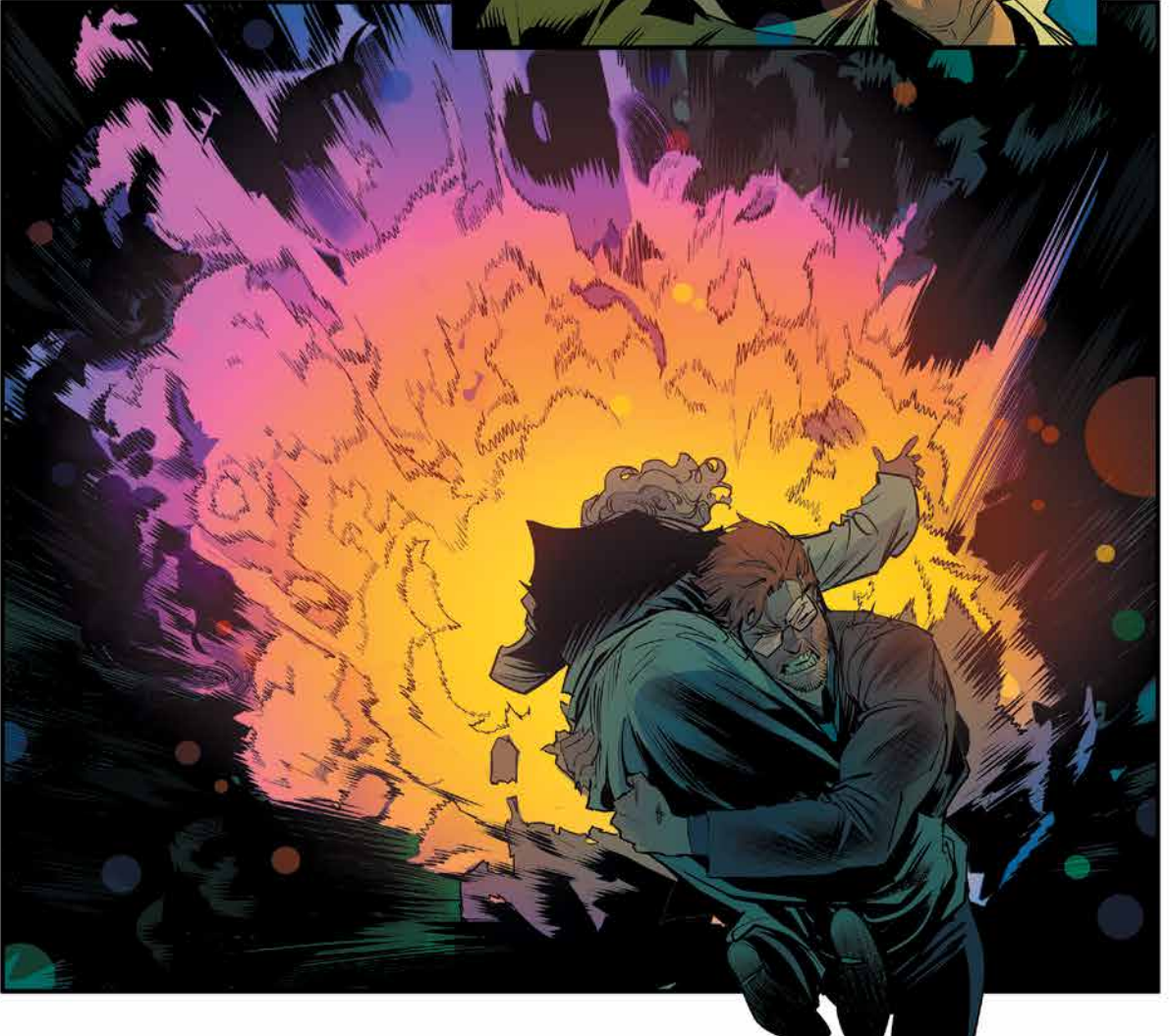


CHAPTER THREE

OTHERWORLD









THAT'S IT.
WE'RE OUT. THEY
WON'T CROSS
OVER FROM THE
OTHERWORLD.

NOT
YET.

WHY
AM I TASTING
SEASONING?

WHAT
THE HELL
WAS IN THAT
THING?



A BIT OF
THIS, A BIT
OF THAT.

METEORIC
IRON, SEA SALT,
GARLIC, SILVER
FILINGS, WOLFS-
BANE, AND SO ON.
OH--AND HIGH
EXPLOSIVE.



CAN NEVER BE SURE
WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO
BE FACING UP AGAINST
IN THIS LINE OF WORK,
SO YOU SPREAD
YOUR BET.

IT'S LIKE...
HOW DO YOU
KILL A VAMPIRE,
DEAR?



ER...A STAKE
THROUGH THE
HEART, YES?

AND A STAKE
THROUGH THE
HEART KILLS
LOTS OF
THINGS.



THEY HAVE
RETURNED TO
THE HAUNTED
WORLD.



IF THE LAND
COULD BE HEALED,
YOU WILL BE ABLE
TO PUNISH ALL AT
YOUR LEISURE,
MY KING.

THE TWO
WORLDS
WILL BE
AS ONE...

HMM.



THIS BOY
OF YOURS WHO
WOULD BRING
ME THE GRAIL?
BRING HIM
UNTO ME.



BUT
FIRST, I MUST
BE TRULY
KING ONCE
MORE...



...SO LET US
FIND A BLADE
MORE FITTING
FOR MY
STATION.



WHAT NOW?

THE DOCTOR.

HMM. POOR CHUNKY CHARLES IS LONG DEAD. WE'LL NEED TO ACTIVATE A SUCCESSOR.



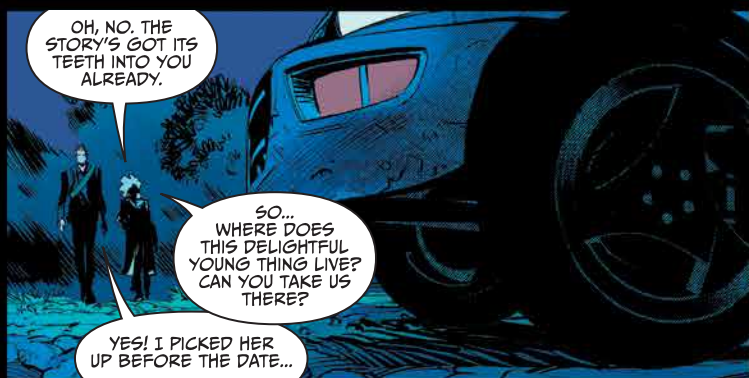
THE DOCTOR? IS THAT SOMEONE ELSE IN YOUR SECRET ORDER OR...

A DOCTOR OF HISTORY, DEAR, BRISTOL UNIVERSITY, MOST LIKELY.



THE GIRL I WAS ON A DATE WITH--SHE'S A DOCTOR OF HISTORY, AT BRISTOL.

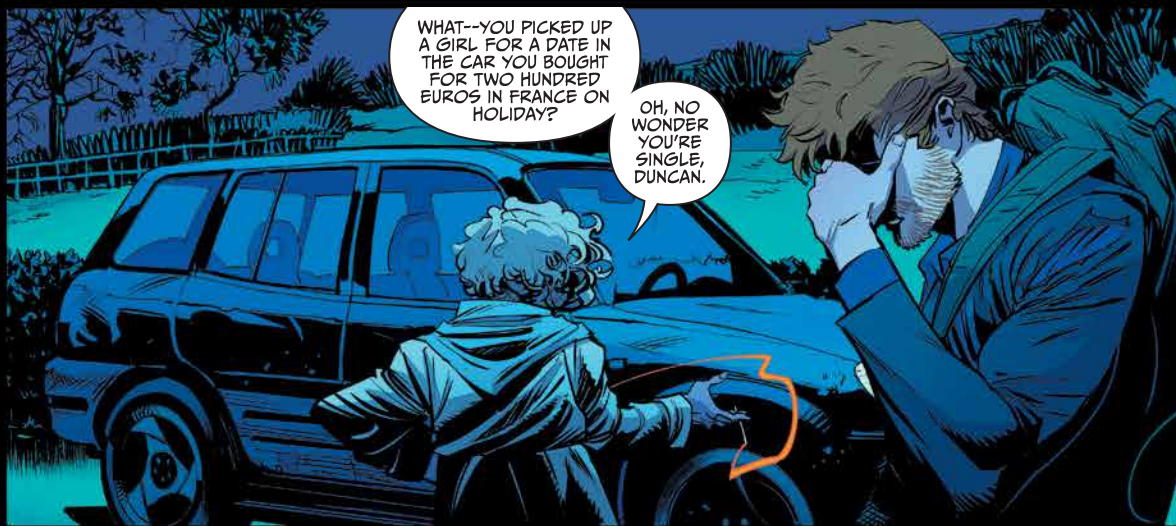
WOW. THAT'S A WEIRD COINCIDENCE.



OH, NO. THE STORY'S GOT ITS TEETH INTO YOU ALREADY.

SO... WHERE DOES THIS DELIGHTFUL YOUNG THING LIVE? CAN YOU TAKE US THERE?

YES! I PICKED HER UP BEFORE THE DATE...



WHAT--YOU PICKED UP A GIRL FOR A DATE IN THE CAR YOU BOUGHT FOR TWO HUNDRED EUROS IN FRANCE ON HOLIDAY?

OH, NO WONDER YOU'RE SINGLE, DUNCAN.

CLIFTON, BRISTOL



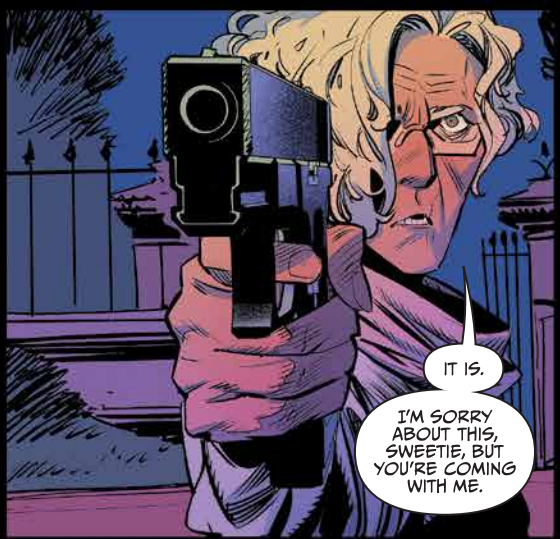
**KNOCK
KNOCK**



HEY,
ROSE. I'M
SORRY--

DUNCAN!
IT'S LATE!
WHAT ARE
YOU...

WAIT! IS
THIS YOUR
GRAN?



IT IS.

I'M SORRY
ABOUT THIS,
SWEETIE, BUT
YOU'RE COMING
WITH ME.



YOU CAN'T JUST
POINT GUNS AT
PEOPLE TO GET
YOUR WAY!

WHY
NOT?

IT SEEMS TO
BE WORKING
SO FAR.



SHE...WON'T SHOOT.

LET ME GUESS.

YOU DO THAT PAUSE EVERY TIME YOU LIE?



WELL, SHE SHOT ME, BUT I'M FAMILY.

SHE... PROBABLY WON'T DO THAT TO SOMEONE ELSE. IT'D BE RUDE.



YOU TWO ARE JUST ADORABLE, BUT WE NEED TO GET A MOVE ON.

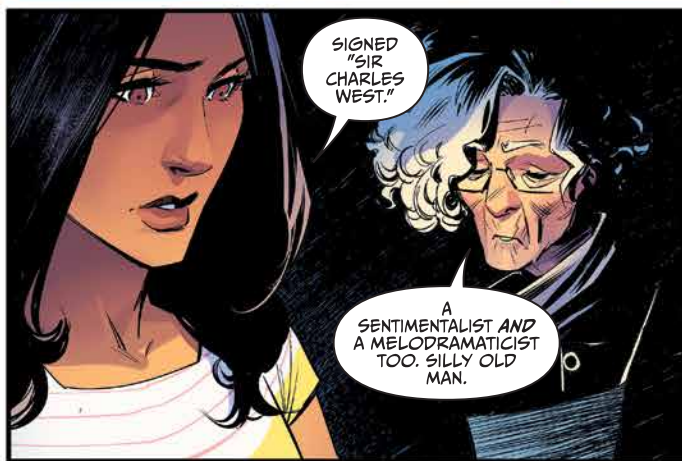
"I HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW ROSE."

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

IT'S THE ARCHIVES. OLD FILING AND... OBSOLETE.









WE NEED TO INTERCEPT ARTHUR AS HE KNIGHTS MISSY'S LITTLE GALAHAD.

DON'T WORRY--I'VE GOT AN IDEA.



SHE IS VERY SECRETIVE.

I GUESS SHE IS. I DIDN'T QUITE REALIZE HOW SECRETIVE UNTIL--OOOH--THREE HOURS AGO.

WE JUST GREW UP ISOLATED. FAMILY HOME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WOODS.



MY PARENTS GONE. HER HUSBAND DEAD. JUST THE TWO OF US, REALLY...



I'M SORRY.

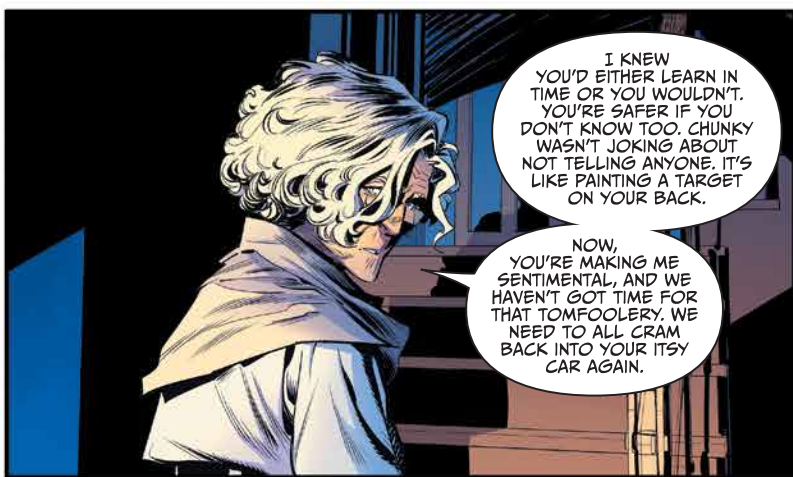
IT'S OKAY. IT'S HARD TO MISS WHAT YOU NEVER HAD. IT WAS A GOOD CHILDHOOD, REALLY. QUIET, THOUGH.

SHE DIDN'T REALLY LET ME WATCH TELEVISION, SO I READ A LOT. NON-FICTION. THE HISTORY SHE LET ME, ANYWAY.

SHE DIDN'T EVEN LIKE EARLY HISTORY.



"TOO CLOSE TO SILLY NONSENSE MYTHS, MY DEAR."



I KNEW YOU'D EITHER LEARN IN TIME OR YOU WOULDN'T. YOU'RE SAFER IF YOU DON'T KNOW TOO. CHUNKY WASN'T JOKING ABOUT NOT TELLING ANYONE. IT'S LIKE PAINTING A TARGET ON YOUR BACK.

NOW, YOU'RE MAKING ME SENTIMENTAL, AND WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME FOR THAT TOMFOOLERY. WE NEED TO ALL CRAM BACK INTO YOUR ITSY CAR AGAIN.

BATH LATER

I'VE GOT THESE
MASTER KEYS FOR
EVERYWHERE. WE
COULD EVEN GO
INTO THE BATHS...

THE
BATHS? HOLY
WATERS?
PTTH.

PLACE
OF MAGICAL
HEALING,
THOUGHT THE
ROMANS AND
EVERYONE
BLOODY
ELSE.

HAD
THE NATIONAL
HEALTH SERVICE FOR
SEVENTY YEARS, AND
WE DECIDE MAYBE WE
DON'T BELIEVE IN IT
ANYMORE. WHY
BELIEVE IN SOMETHING
THAT ACTUALLY
WORKS?

STUPID
SPECIES,
SOMETIMES.

NO,
WE WON'T BE
GOING TO THE
BLOODY BATHS.
DO YOU KNOW
EDGAR THE
GOOD?

FIRST
KING OF ALL
ENGLAND.

AND
CROWNED
AT BATH
ABBEY, NOT
LONDON.

EXACTLY,
ROSE.

NOW,
GET US
IN.

OH--AND
HOLD
THIS.

SO, EDGAR GOT CROWNED
HERE, SO WE CAN USE IT? LIKE
WE USED GLASTONBURY
TOR?

HE GOT
CROWNED HERE,
YES, BUT NOT IN
THIS ABBEY.

HE GOT
CROWNED IN
THE FIRST
ABBEY...



...AND
THIS PLACE
REMEMBERS
WHAT THAT
WAS LIKE.



OH...
HELL. IT'S
ALL REAL.

PTTH.
YOU'RE AS
BAD AS
DUNCAN.

IT'S
NOT REAL.
IT'S JUST
TRUE.



WHAT
DO I
DO?

YOU STAY
OUTSIDE. KEEP
THE CANDLE
LIT.





I LIKE HER. SHE'S GOT A GOOD HEAD ON HER SHOULDERS.

WHY WERE YOU SO MEAN TO HER THEN?



I WAS JUST TREATING HER LIKE PART OF THE FAMILY...



ANYWAY-- ENOUGH OF THAT. BE QUIET.

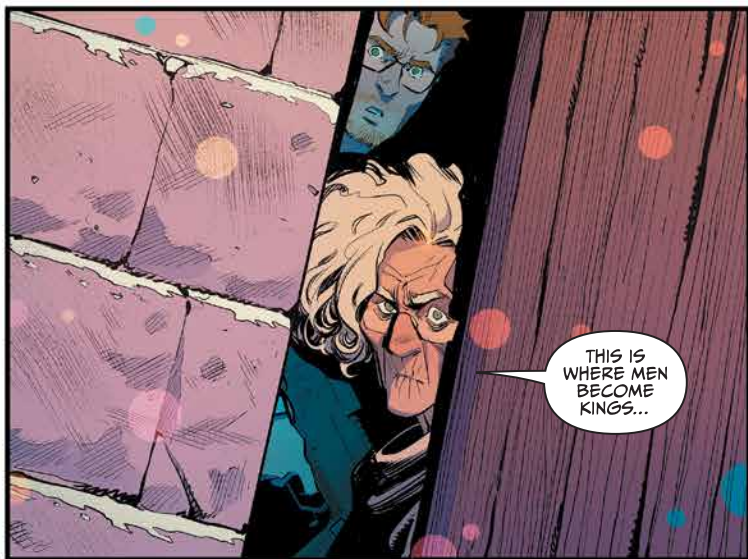
WE NEED TO MOVE SOFTLY. NO KICKING ROCKS THIS TIME.

I WON'T! AND...STOP DISTRACTING ME. JUST TELL ME WHAT WE'RE DOING CREEPING THROUGH...THIS? WHERE ARE WE GOING?



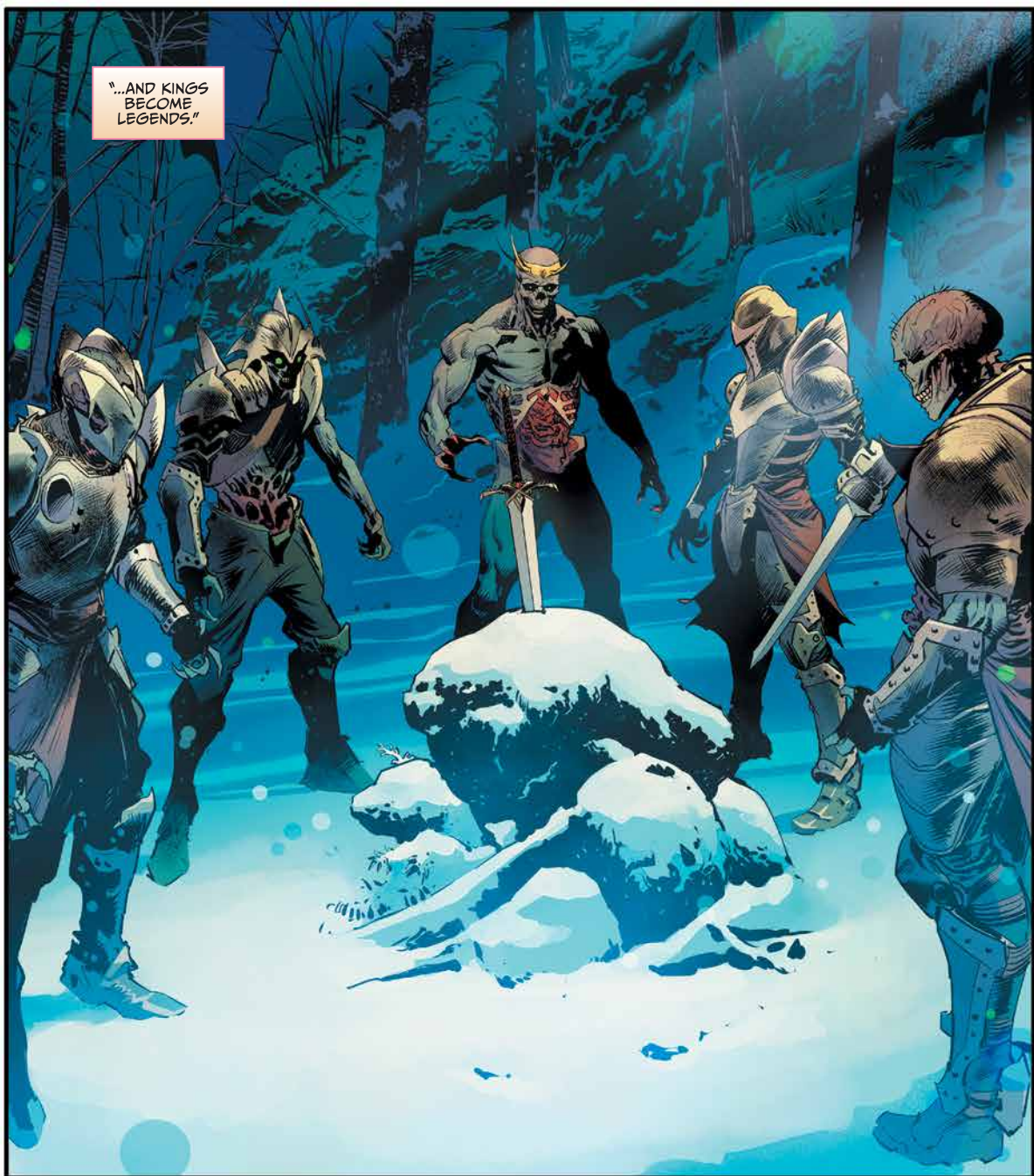
OLD ARTHUR WILL BE TRYING TO RECLAIM HIS THRONE.

EDGAR WAS CROWNED HERE. THAT MEANS THERE'S A CONNECTION HERE TO ALL OTHER PLACES WHERE MEN BECAME KINGS, WHETHER TRUE OR STORY. WE CAN USE THAT TO SNEAK UP ON THEM...



THIS IS WHERE MEN BECOME KINGS...

"...AND KINGS
BECOME
LEGENDS."



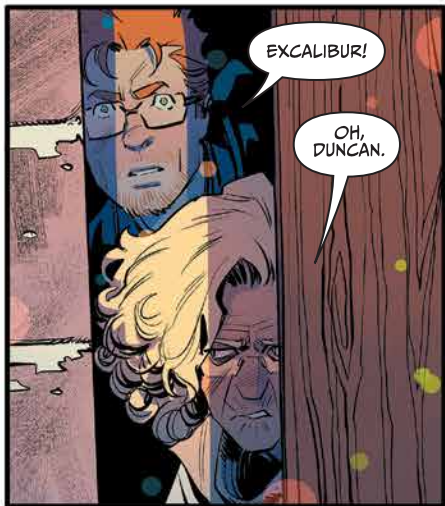
EXCALIBUR!

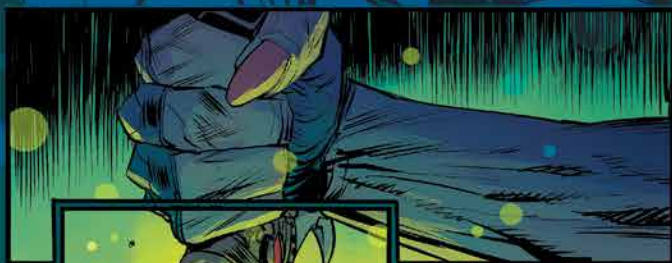
OH,
DUNCAN.

IN SOME
STORIES, YES, IN
MOST, NO. EXCALIBUR
BELONGS TO THE
LADY OF THE LAKE,
REMEMBER?

THIS IS...
MAYBE "CLARENT"?
THAT'S PROBABLY TOO
LATE. 14-15TH CENTURY.
THIS ARTHUR SEEMS
MAINLY EARLY WELSH.
MAINLY.

LET'S JUST
STICK WITH
"THE SWORD IN
THE STONE,"
HMM?



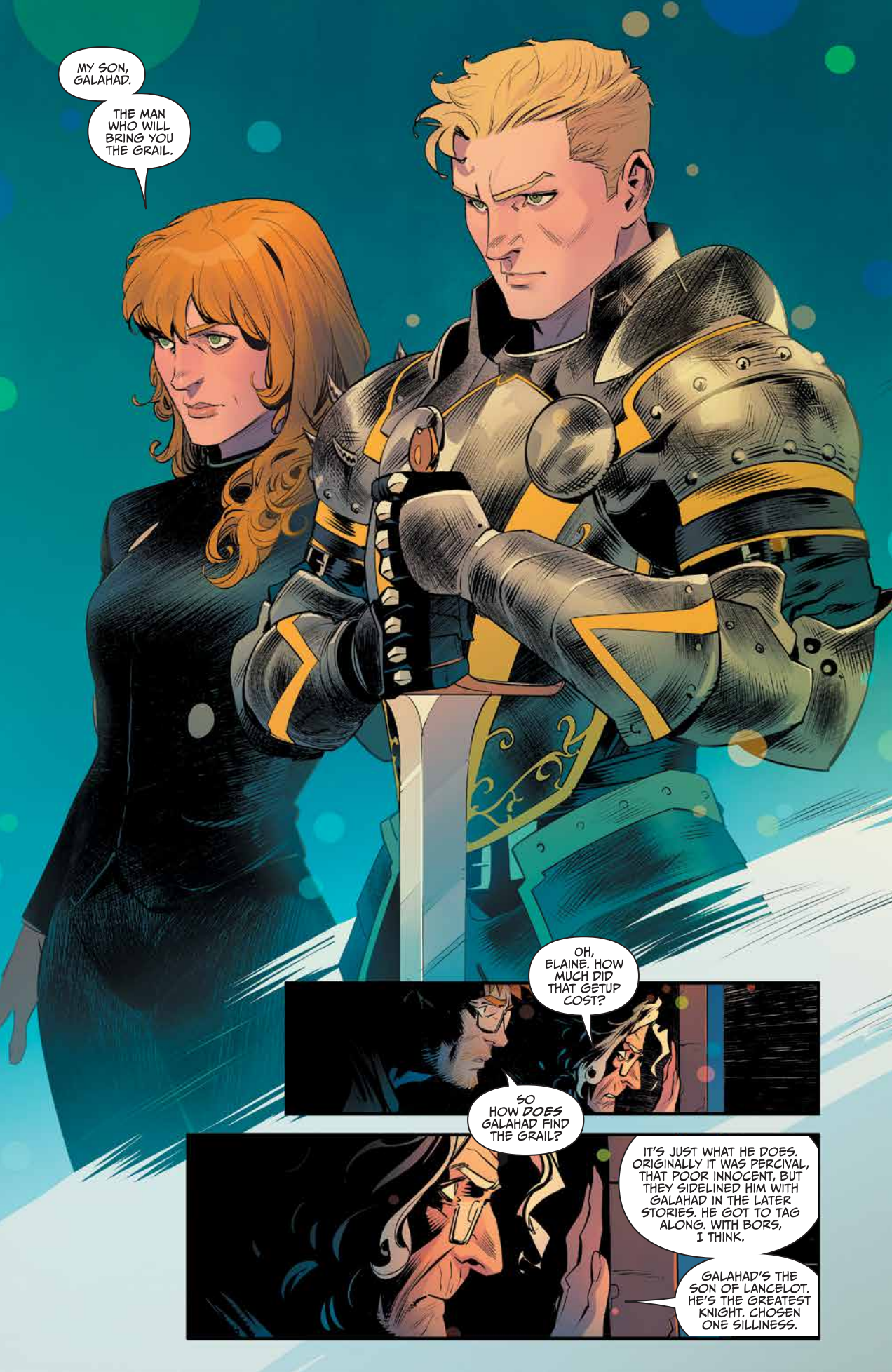


IT SPEAKS
TO ME OF
BRITAIN.

IT HUNGERS
FOR THE
THROAT OF
SAXON MEN.

MY
KING...





MY SON,
GALAHAD.

THE MAN
WHO WILL
BRING YOU
THE GRAIL.

OH,
ELAINE. HOW
MUCH DID
THAT GETUP
COST?

SO
HOW *DOES*
GALAHAD FIND
THE GRAIL?

IT'S JUST WHAT HE DOES.
ORIGINALLY IT WAS PERCIVAL,
THAT POOR INNOCENT, BUT
THEY SIDELINED HIM WITH
GALAHAD IN THE LATER
STORIES. HE GOT TO TAG
ALONG. WITH BORS,
I THINK.

GALAHAD'S THE
SON OF LANCELOT.
HE'S THE GREATEST
KNIGHT. CHOSEN
ONE SILLINESS.



I WAS
BRED FOR
THIS PURPOSE,
MY KING.

LET US START
THIS AGE OF
ADVENTURE.



WHAT ARE
WE GOING
TO DO?

I'VE GOT JUST THE THING.
GIVE ME A SECOND TO
GET IT OUT, THEN
KNEEL.



IS THIS A GOD THING?
DO WE *PRAY* FOR DIVINE
ASSISTANCE OR...SCARE
THE UNDEAD WITH
CRUCIFIXES?

YOU *HAVE*
BEEN WATCHING
ALL THE MOVIES I
TOLD YOU NOT TO,
DUNCAN. IT'LL ROT
YOUR MIND, MAYBE
LITERALLY.

IT'S QUITE
SIMPLE...



GALAHAD
FINDS THE
GRAIL.

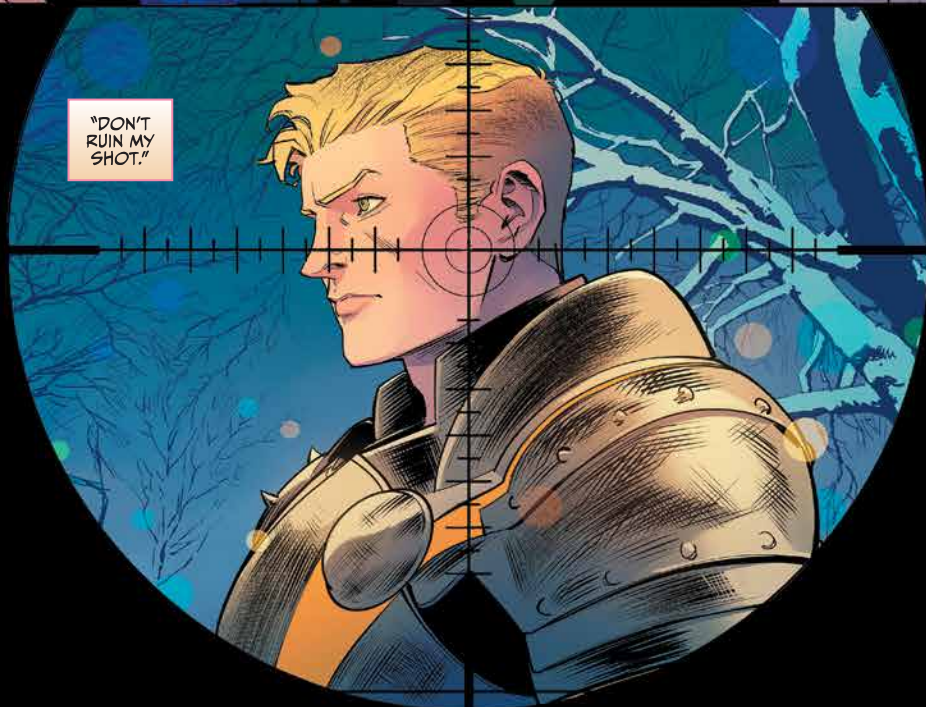
THE GRAIL
HEALS THE
LAND.

NONE OF US
WOULD SURVIVE
THAT PLAGUE
OF STORY.



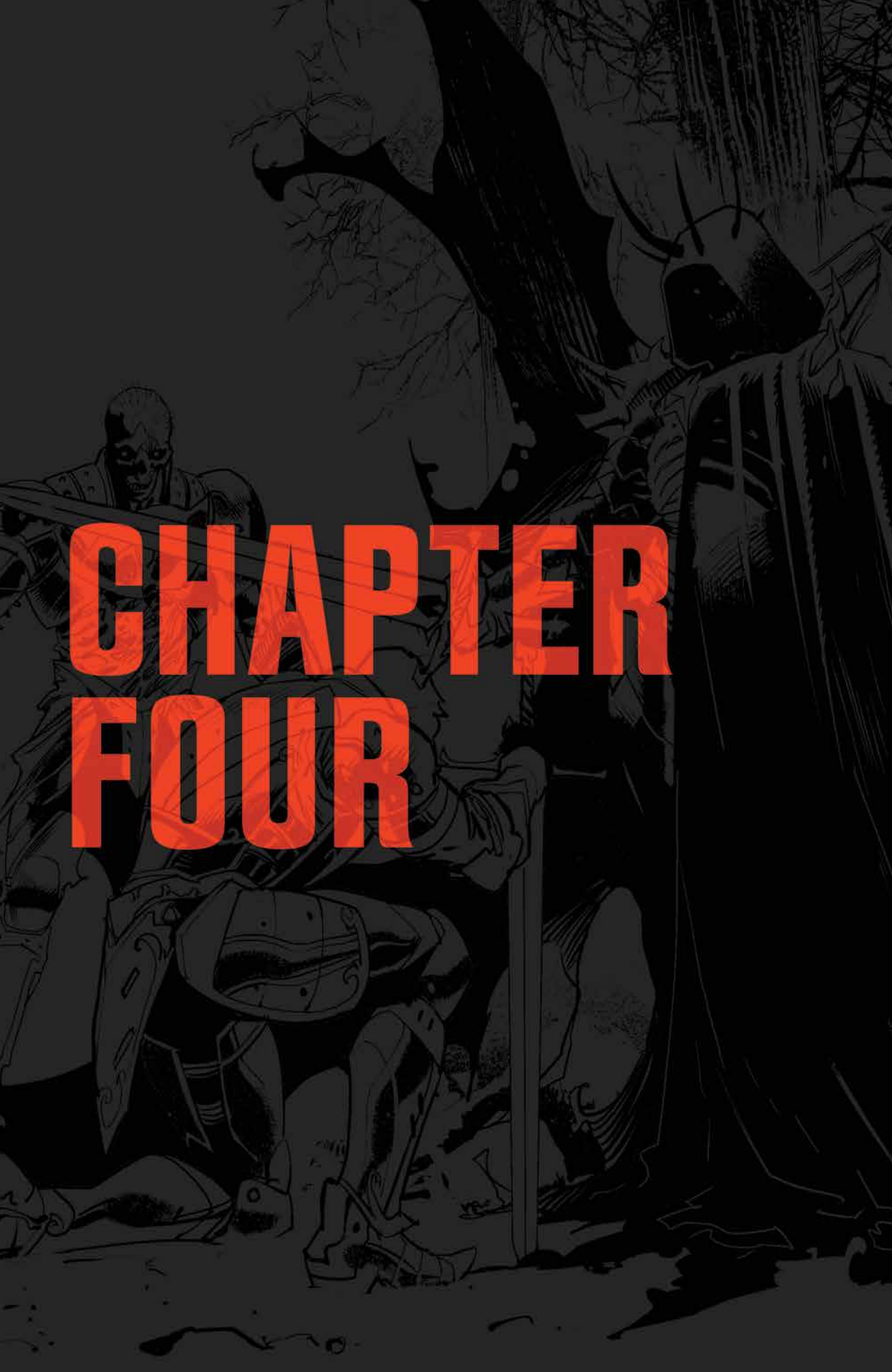
WE
JUST MAKE
SURE GALAHAD
DOESN'T FIND
THE GRAIL.

SO
HOW DO
WE STOP
HIM?





ISSUE FOUR COVER BY **DAN MORA**



CHAPTER FOUR

BATH

EVENING,
MISS.

THIS BETTER
NOT BE WHAT IT
LOOKS LIKE.

OH GOD.
NO, I HAVE THE
PAPERWORK
HERE. IT'S ALL
PERFECTLY
LEGAL.

IT'S--
ER--VERY OLD
PAPERWORK, BUT
IT'S LEGAL.

HMM. WHAT
YOU DOING,
MISS?

SOME
KIND OF
VIGIL?

ER...
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.

OTHERWORLD



"GRAN.
PLEASE..."

"YOU CAN'T
JUST MURDER
SOMEONE!"



PFFT. I'M
NOT GOING
TO SHOOT
NOW.

THANK
GOD.



THE LITTLE
MADAM HAS GOT
IN THE FIRING
LINE. I NEED TO
CHOOSE MY
SHOT.

IT'S NOT AS
IF I'M GOING TO
GET A SECOND
ONE.



YOU ARE
NOW SIR
GALAHAD.

FIND
THE GRAIL. LET
THE LAND BE HEALED.
LET THE ANGLOS BURN!
LET THE SAXON
CANCER BE PURGED
IN CAUTERISING
FIRE!



MANY HAVE
SOUGHT THE
GRAIL. WHAT
MAKES YOU SO
SURE YOU CAN
FIND IT?

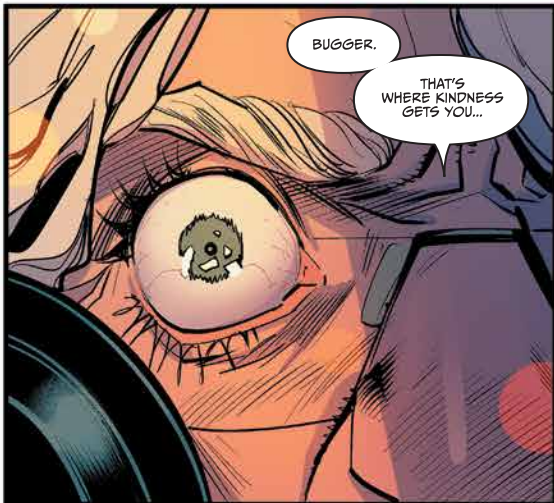


WE HAVE...
SECURED A PATH.
GALAHAD WAS
PREPARED...



...AND IT IS SAID
THE GRAIL LIES IN
THE CASTLE OF
THE MAIMED
FISHER KING.

WE
HAVE ONE
OF THEM
TOO.



BUGGER.

THAT'S
WHERE KINDNESS
GETS YOU...

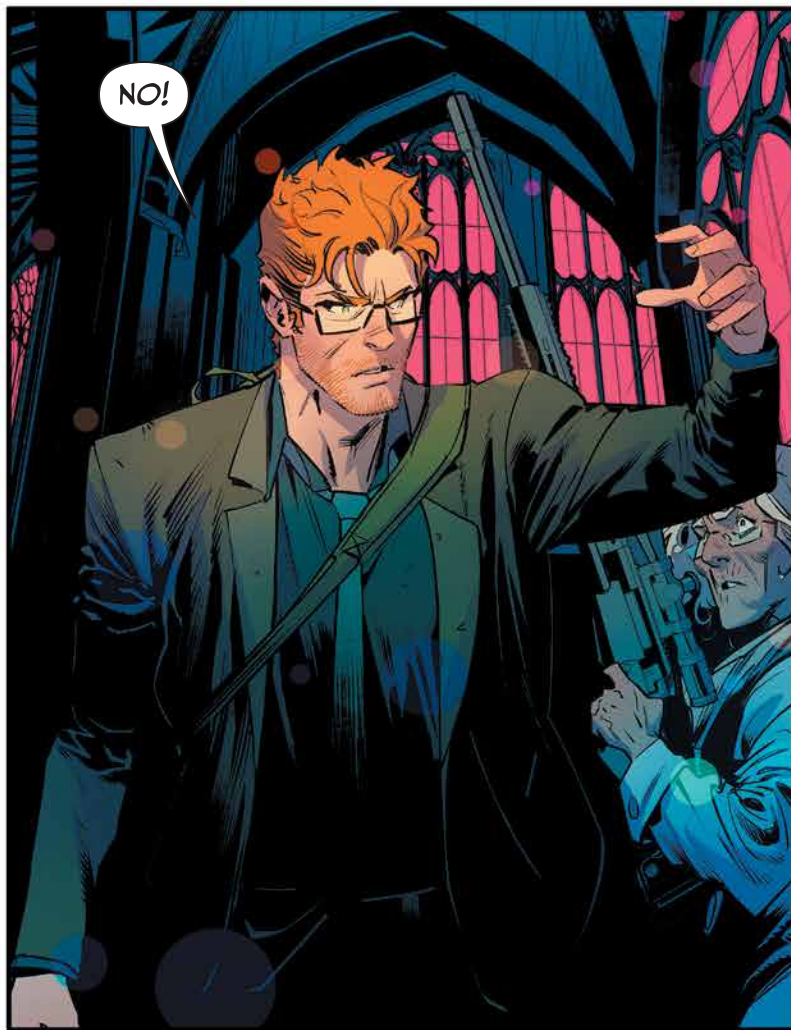


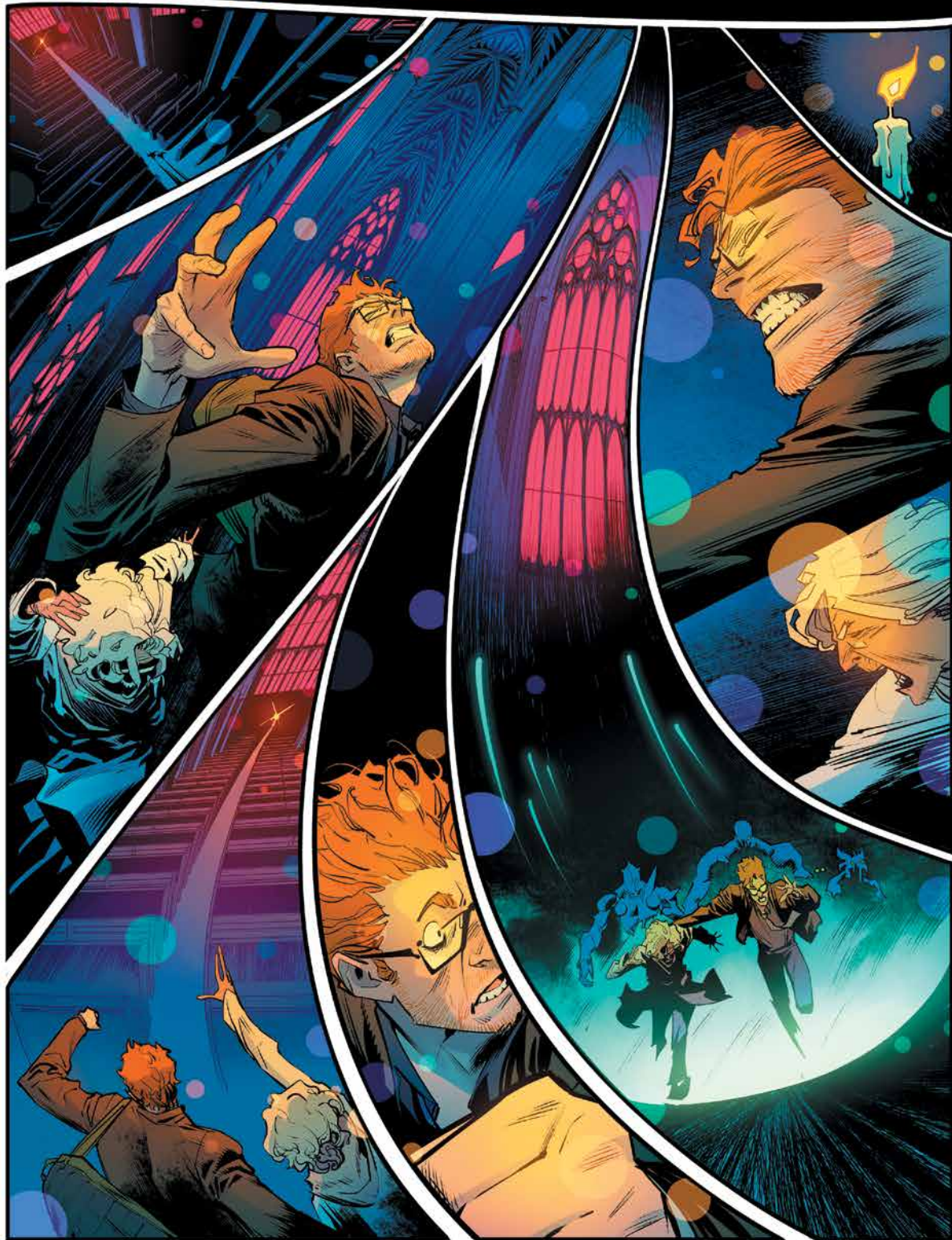
AH! DON'T
MOVE AN INCH,
DUNCAN.



I'VE
GOT--

BLAM







SO, PUT
DOWN THE
CANDLE AND
WE CAN
TALK ABOUT
THIS...

I CAN'T.
IT'S VERY
IMPORTANT. I
NEED TO--



SNUFF THE
CANDLE!



THEY'RE
BOTH
PACKING.



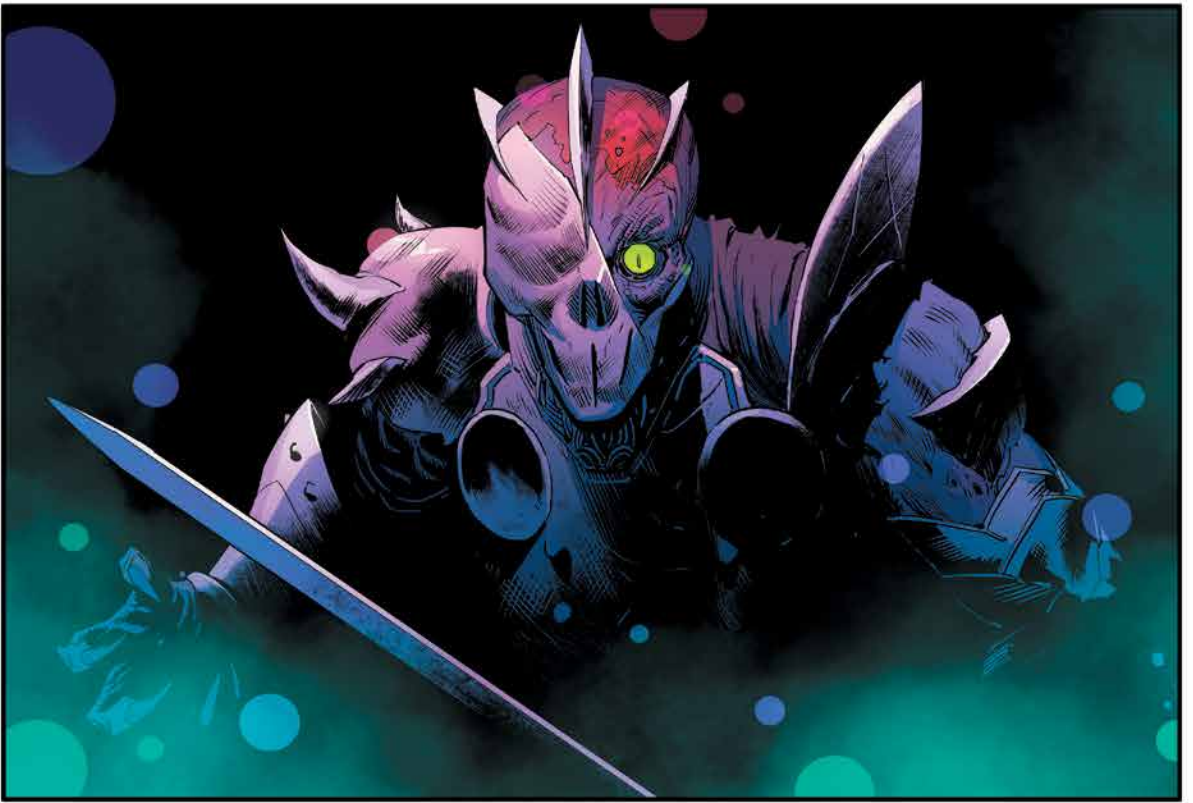
AND YOU'RE PACKING
TOO! WHAT IS THIS
COUNTRY COMING
TO?

OH,
I'LL TELL
YOU--THE
END.

ROSE,
SNUFF THE
CANDLE OUT
RIGHT THIS
SECOND OR--



BUGGER.





ARGGGHHHHH!





OH NO, DEAR. YOU KNOW JAMES BOND? YOU'RE THE MAN WHO GIVES BOND THE MISSIONS.

M. I'M M? REALLY? OH, RIGHT.

M'S A SHE NOW.



IS SHE? OH GOOD.

PROGRESS.



DUNCAN! LEFT HERE!

GOT IT. WHAT'S THE PLAN NOW?



IT'S A STROKE OF LUCK.

WE KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THEY'RE UP TO SO WE CAN KNOCK IT ON THE HEAD BEFORE IT GOES ANY FURTHER.

THEY HAVE A FISHER KING. IT'S THEIR ROUTE TO THE GRAIL CASTLE.

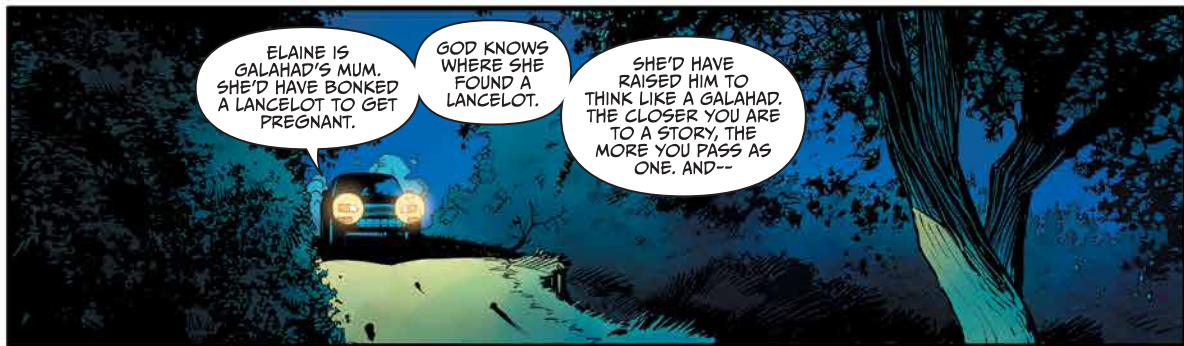


GALAHAD'S GRANDFATHER. HE'D HAVE BEEN SHOT IN THE CROTCH.

THEY MADE A GALAHAD TO MAKE SURE SOMEONE COULD GET THE GRAIL FROM THE GRAIL CASTLE.

"MADE?"

YOU SAID THAT BEFORE. HOW CAN YOU "MAKE" A PERSON?



ELAINE IS GALAHAD'S MUM. SHE'D HAVE BONKED A LANCELOT TO GET PREGNANT.

GOD KNOWS WHERE SHE FOUND A LANCELOT.

SHE'D HAVE RAISED HIM TO THINK LIKE A GALAHAD. THE CLOSER YOU ARE TO A STORY, THE MORE YOU PASS AS ONE. AND--



DON'T SLOW DOWN! THROUGH THE GATE!



NINETY PERCENT OF DRIVING IN THIS BUSINESS IS SMASHING THROUGH GATES AT SPEED.

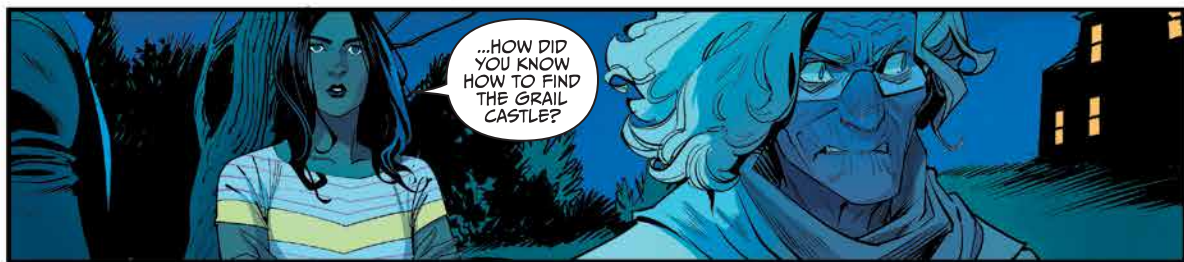


GET READY AND GET THE C-4, DUNCAN. WE MAY HAVE TO FLATTEN THE PLACE.

ROSE--STAY BACK AT THE CAR. M DOESN'T NEED TO BE IN THE FIRING LINE.

I'D RATHER STAY WITH THE PEOPLE WITH THE GUNS. AND I'VE BEEN THINKING...

BRIDGETTE...



...HOW DID YOU KNOW HOW TO FIND THE GRAIL CASTLE?





DUNCAN!
THAT WAS AMAZING.

HEALTHY
CHILDHOOD
RUNNING
AROUND IN THE
WOODS. NONE
OF THAT
VIDEOGAMES
BUSINESS.

ER...
MR. FISHER
KING! I DON'T
KNOW HOW YOU
GOT WRAPPED
UP IN THIS, BUT
YOU HAVE TO
STOP.

COME
OUT! WE
CAN
TALK!



REALLY? DO
YOU THINK I'M
STUPID?

BRIDGETTE
WOULD
JUST SH--



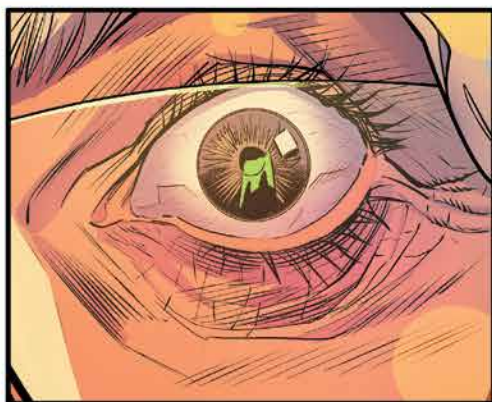
GRAN!

HE DOESN'T
NEED TO COME
OUT. BULLETS GO
THROUGH WALLS,
ESPECIALLY WALLS
AS THIN AS THIS.
IT'S MAINLY
PLASTER.

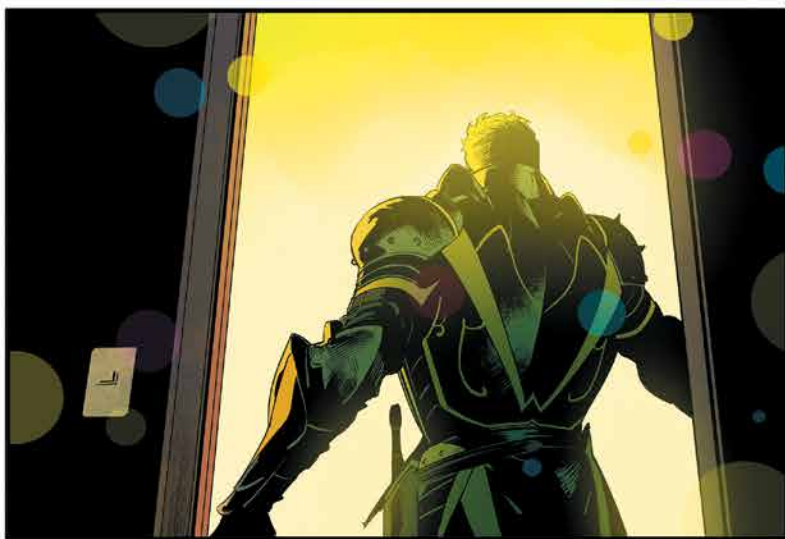


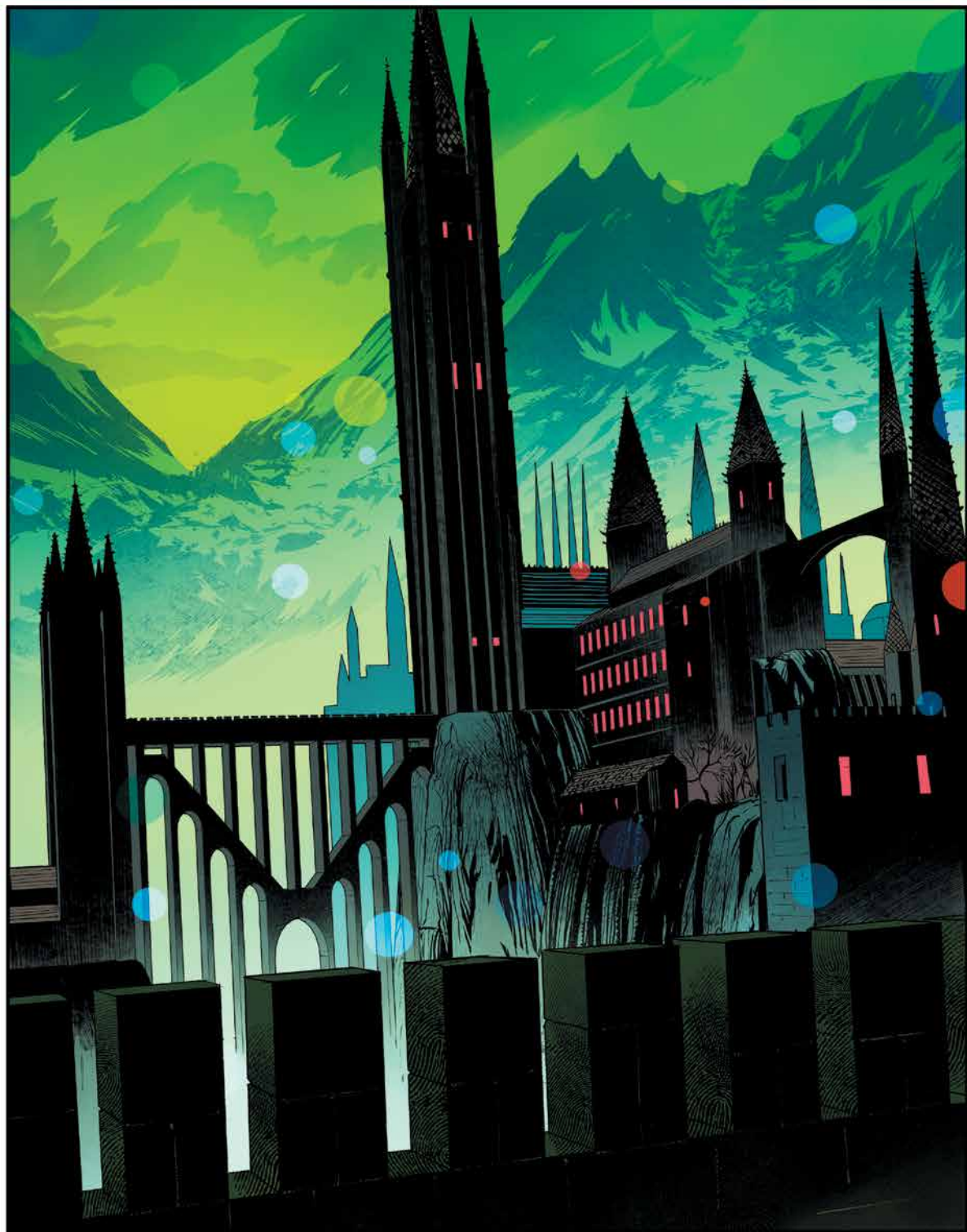
NO FISHER
KING, NO GRAIL
CASTLE, NO
WAY TO THE
GRAIL.

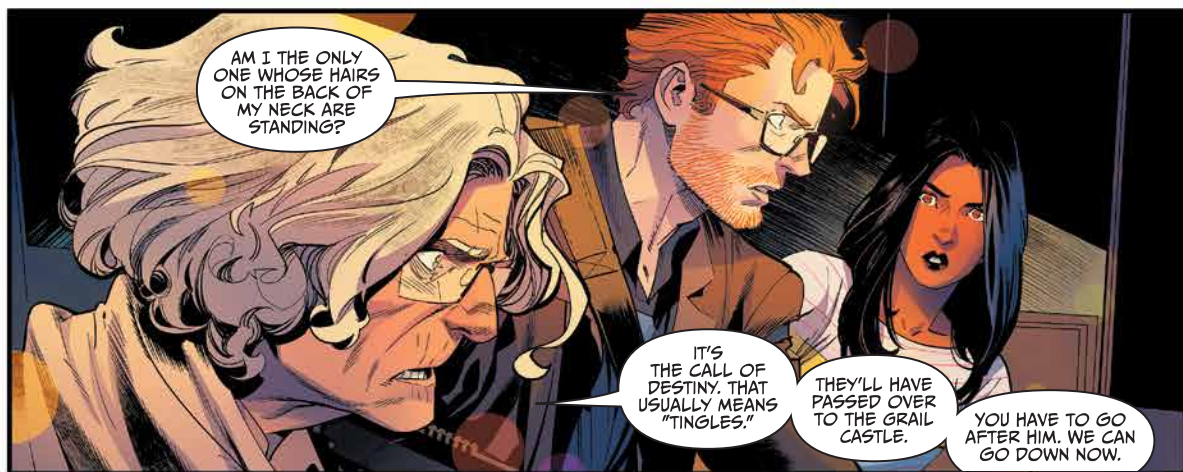
YOU NEED
TO UNDERSTAND
THE STAKES,
DUNCAN. WE
NEED TO--











AM I THE ONLY ONE WHOSE HAIRS ON THE BACK OF MY NECK ARE STANDING?

IT'S THE CALL OF DESTINY. THAT USUALLY MEANS "TINGLES."

THEY'LL HAVE PASSED OVER TO THE GRAIL CASTLE.

YOU HAVE TO GO AFTER HIM. WE CAN GO DOWN NOW.



WE'RE NOT GOING DOWN THERE UNTIL YOU GIVE ME THE GUN.

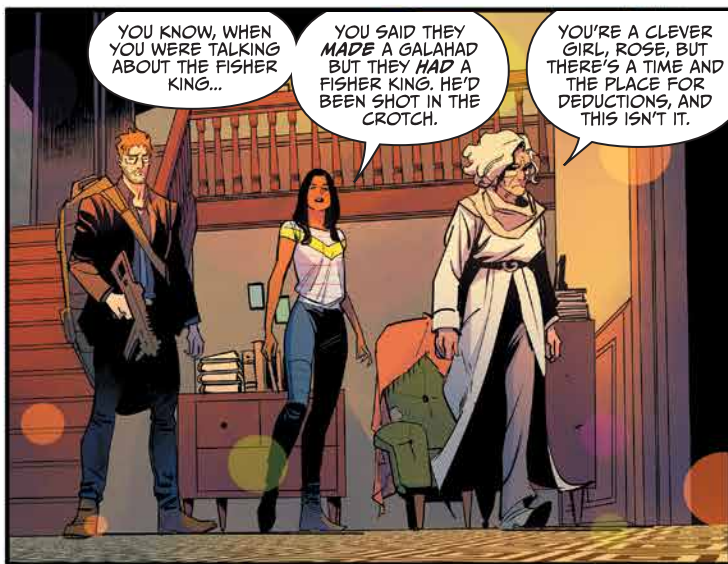
SURE! TAKE IT! I'M NOT GOING TO SHOOT HIM NOW.

HE'S THE ONLY WAY FOR YOU TO GO AFTER THEM.



WAIT... AREN'T YOU COMING?

NO, THIS IS YOUR JOB, DUNCAN.



YOU KNOW, WHEN YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT THE FISHER KING...

YOU SAID THEY MADE A GALAHAD BUT THEY HAD A FISHER KING. HE'D BEEN SHOT IN THE CROTCH.

YOU'RE A CLEVER GIRL, ROSE, BUT THERE'S A TIME AND THE PLACE FOR DEDUCTIONS, AND THIS ISN'T IT.



YOU DIDN'T SAY THEY SHOT HIM IN THE CROTCH.

AND YOU KNEW EXACTLY WHERE HE WAS.

WHAT AREN'T YOU TELLING US?



THAT MY OWN WIFE SHOT ME WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT MY IDEA OF HOW TO BRING BACK THE WORLD WE'D LOST.

WHAT'S A FAMILY OF MONSTER HUNTERS TO DO IN A WORLD WITHOUT MONSTERS?



YOU'RE AN ADDICT. I WISH I'D KILLED YOU.

I ALWAYS WAS TOO SOFT.

YOU DON'T GET TO JUDGE ME. I'VE DONE NOTHING YOU HAVEN'T.



IT'S NOT THE SAME. IT WAS JUST A FAILSAFE IN CASE AN IDIOT LIKE YOU CAME ALONG. I--

SO WHY DOESN'T THE BOY KNOW?

WHAT'S YOUR MIDDLE NAME, DUNCAN?

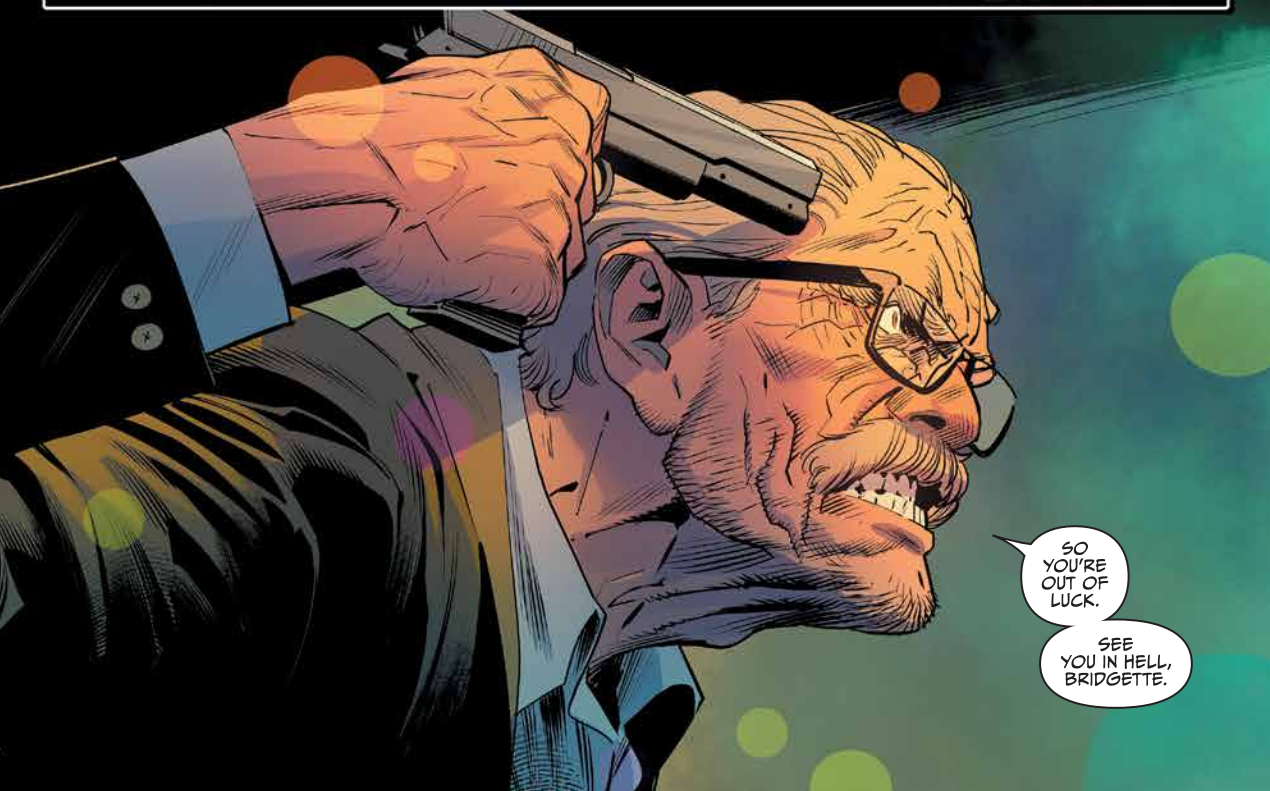


PERCY.



YES. PERCIVAL.
YOUR GRAN HAS TRAINED
YOU FROM BIRTH TO BE THE
INNOCENT GRAIL KNIGHT,
JUST IN CASE SHE EVER
NEEDED TO GET TO A
GRAIL.

BUT YOU
NEED A FISHER
KING TO DO
THAT.

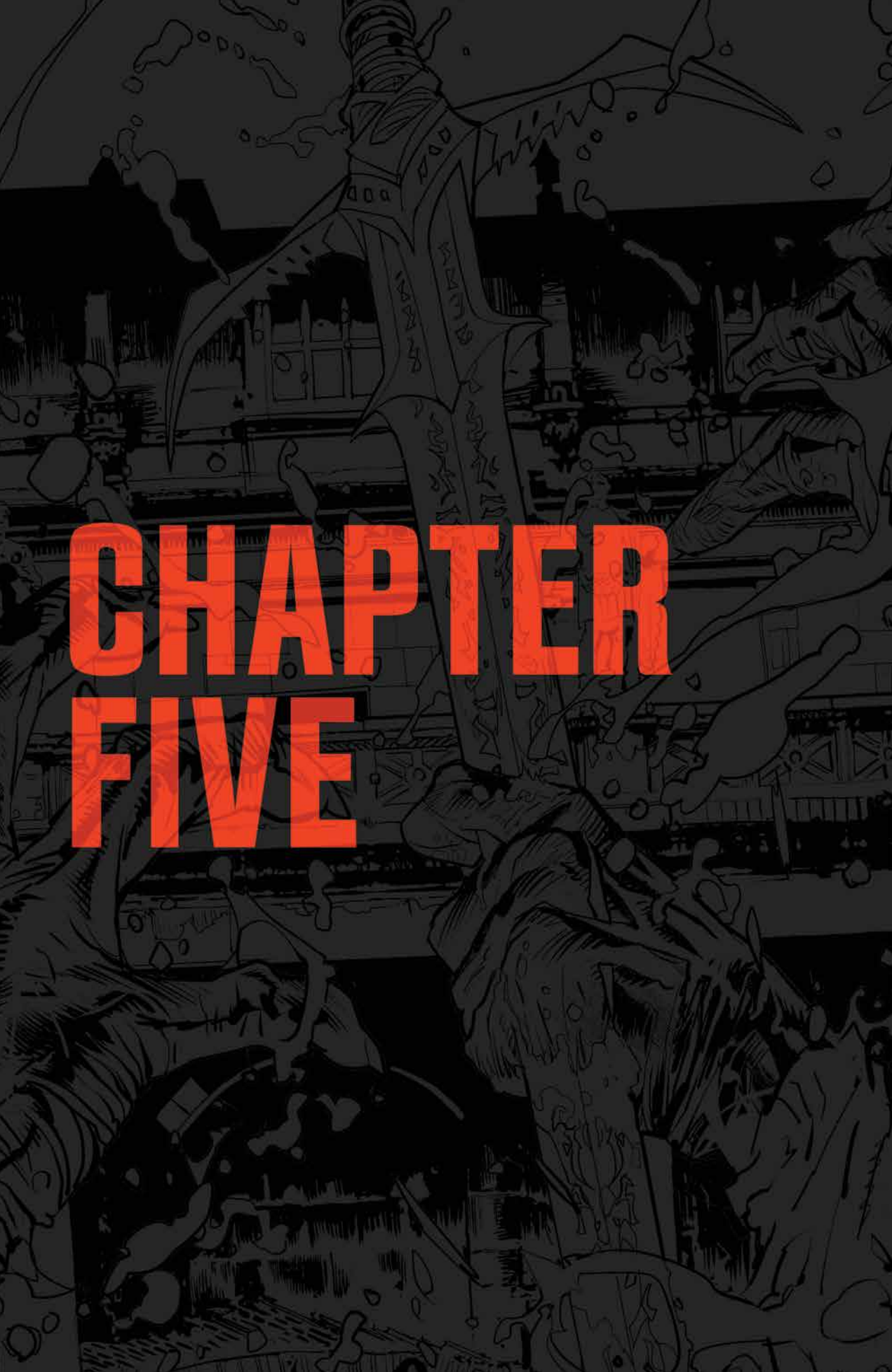


SO
YOU'RE
OUT OF
LUCK.

SEE
YOU IN HELL,
BRIDGETTE.





The background is a dark, monochromatic illustration in a comic book style. It depicts a scene of destruction and conflict. In the center, a large, ornate, and somewhat gothic structure, possibly a church spire or a monument, stands amidst the ruins. The structure has intricate carvings and a cross-like shape at the top. To the right, a figure with long, flowing hair and a determined expression is shown in a dynamic pose, possibly running or fighting. In the foreground, there are various elements of destruction: a large, jagged rock or piece of debris, a figure lying on the ground, and other smaller figures in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of chaos and devastation. The title 'CHAPTER FIVE' is overlaid in a bright orange color, providing a stark contrast to the dark background.

CHAPTER FIVE



DUNCAN--

JUST
TELL ME.





RAISED BY
WOMEN AWAY
FROM
CIVILIZATION.

ENTIRELY
UNKNOWN OF
THE KNIGHTLY
ORDERS AND THE
TRUTH OF THE
WORLD.

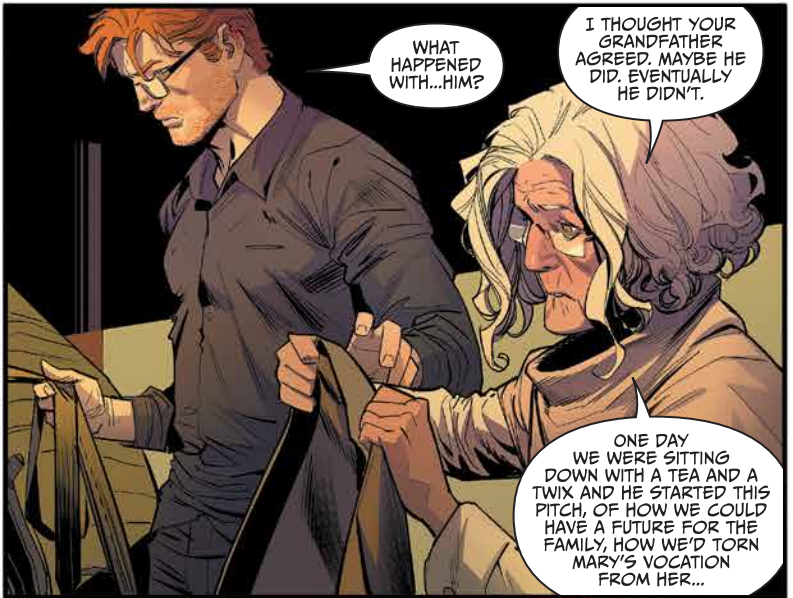
VIRGINAL.



WAIT,
HE'S A--



I--I...
DON'T THINK
YOU'RE GOING
TO DISTRACT ME
FROM THIS BY
MAKING ME
BLUSH.



WHAT
HAPPENED
WITH...HIM?

I THOUGHT YOUR
GRANDFATHER
AGREED. MAYBE HE
DID. EVENTUALLY
HE DIDN'T.

ONE DAY
WE WERE SITTING
DOWN WITH A TEA AND A
TWIX AND HE STARTED THIS
PITCH, OF HOW WE COULD
HAVE A FUTURE FOR THE
FAMILY, HOW WE'D TORN
MARY'S VOCATION
FROM HER...



"MARY?"

ELAINE'S
NAME BEFORE
SHE DECIDED
SHE WANTED
TO RAISE A
GALAHAD.



MY
DAUGHTER.

YOUR
MOTHER.



SO...WHAT
HAPPENED
THEN?

WELL, I SHOT HIM IN
A DELICATE PLACE, SAID
THAT I'D KILL HIM IF HE
EVEN THOUGHT OF
TRYING SOMETHING, AND
THEN HEADED OUT
THE DOOR.

TURNS
OUT HE'D
BEEN FILLING
MARY'S HEAD
WITH ALL THIS
NONSENSE...



TWO
WEEKS
LATER, SHE
RAN OFF.

SHE WAS
PETRIFIED
OF ME.



I COULDN'T
FIND HER...
I PRESUME SHE
EVENTUALLY
GOT HERSELF A
LANCELOT AND
CAME BACK TO
RAISE GALAHAD
HERE LATER.

CLEVER,
AWKWARD
MADAM.



SO...I'M JUST
ANOTHER
WEAPON IN
THAT ARMORY
OF YOURS?

IT...IT WASN'T
THAT. JUST THAT,
ANYWAY.

I HOPED YOU'D
NEVER HAVE TO
DEAL WITH ANY
OF THIS.

WHAT DOES
ANY MOTHER WANT
THAN HER YOUNG ONES TO
HAVE A BETTER LIFE? DUNCAN,
THIS IS THE LAST THING I'D
WANT FOR *ANYONE*.



OH, THIS
IS A--

DUNCAN.
I'M SORRY, I KNOW
THIS IS ME BEING THE
HARD ONE AGAIN, BUT
THESE ISLANDS ARE GOING
TO BE DRAGGED INTO THE
OTHERWORLD IF WE
DON'T DO SOMETHING
AND...

THERE'S
ONE THING
I HAVE TO
KNOW...



I WAS YOUR ONLY FAMILY, RIGHT? MOTHER AND FATHER TO YOU, HMM?



THAT'S WHY THIS IS SO WRONG!



I KNOW, I KNOW.

BUT YOU ALWAYS THOUGHT OF ME AS A FATHER TO YOU, YES?



YOU'RE LIKE A MOTHER TO ME, BUT YOU WON'T MANIPULATE ME ANYMORE YOU--

NO, LIKE A FATHER TOO. I NEED TO HEAR IT.

IT'D BE AWFUL IF ME BEING AWFUL WAS ALL FOR NOTHING...



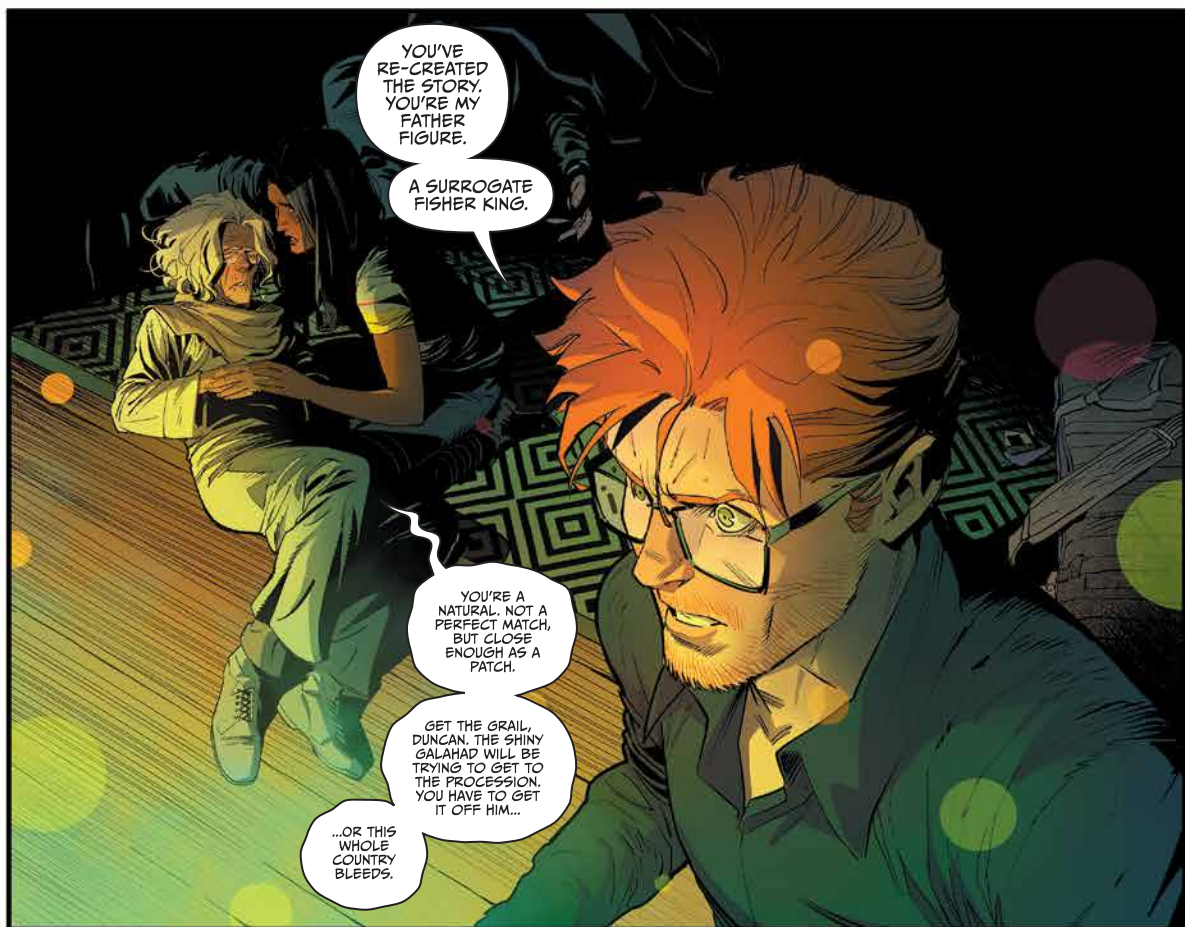
YES, OF COURSE!

BUT YOU'VE LIED TO ME. YOU'VE LIED TO US ALL AND--



I DID.





YOU'VE
RE-CREATED
THE STORY.
YOU'RE MY
FATHER
FIGURE.

A SURROGATE
FISHER KING.

YOU'RE A
NATURAL, NOT A
PERFECT MATCH,
BUT CLOSE
ENOUGH AS A
PATCH.

GET THE GRAIL,
DUNCAN. THE SHINY
GALAHAD WILL BE
TRYING TO GET TO
THE PROCESSION.
YOU HAVE TO GET
IT OFF HIM...

...OR THIS
WHOLE COUNTRY
BLEEDS.



GRAN! FORGET THE
COUNTRY! YOU'RE
BLEEDING OUT!

I KNOW.
BUT THE GRAIL
IS ALSO A DEVICE
OF HEALING. SO,
WE CAN KILL TWO
BIRDS WITH ONE
ANCIENT ARTIFACT,
EH?

I WROTE THIS
EARLIER. TAKE IT.
IT EXPLAINS
EVERYTHING...



ARGGGHHH!



HE'S
A GOOD
BOY.

AND
YOU'RE
USING
HIM.

I AM.
BUT HE IS
A GOOD
BOY.

OR I HOPE
HE IS, AND IF
HE DOESN'T
HOLD ONTO
THAT...





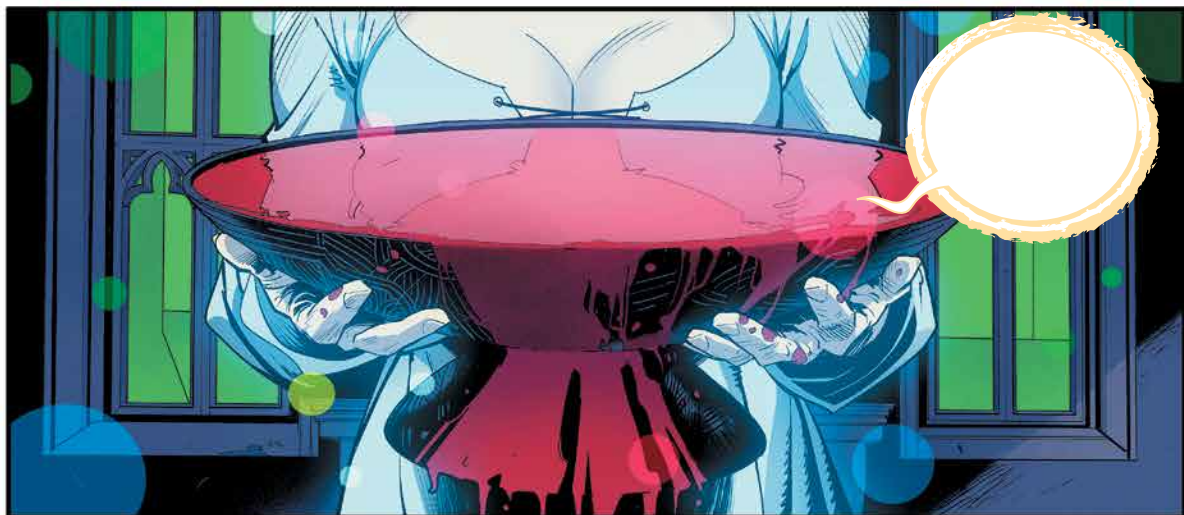
"THEN GET TO THE GRAIL PROCESSION, SNAG THE BLOODY GRAIL AND GET THE HELL OUT OF THERE!"

HMM. I HAVE TO ASK A QUESTION. I JUST HAVE TO...



HEY! YOU AT THE BACK!

"WHOM DOES THE GRAIL SERVE?"





FOUND YOU.



KNIGHT...



WITH WHOM DO YOU STAND?



I MARCH WITH GALAHAD THE--

NO!



GAWAIN
ACCOMPANIED
PERCIVAL ON
THE GRAIL
QUEST, NOT
GALAHAD.



GALAHAD
WAS WITH
BORS AND
PERCIVAL.



I DON'T
KNOW WHO
BORS IS, BUT
I'M APPARENTLY
PERCIVAL
SO...

HAND THE
GRAIL OVER.
PLEASE.



BUT YOU ARE
MEANT TO BE A
PERFECT
KNIGHT.

WOULD
A KNIGHT
THREATEN A
MAN WITH A
GUN?



VERY
WELL.



LET'S.



HEH. A PERFECT KNIGHT *NOW* ISN'T A PERFECT KNIGHT *THEN*. WHAT DOES A KNIGHT DO?

WIN.



WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN PROMISED, BUT IT'S LIES.



I EXPECT NOTHING BUT THE FINEST LIES. I EXPECT A WORLD OF WONDERS. I EXPECT STORIES AND LEGENDS.

I EXPECT TO BE THE HERO OF THEM ALL.



GALAHAD, I...OH, I CAN'T CALL YOU GALAHAD.

DON'T YOU SEE? WE'VE BOTH BEEN USED.

NO. YOU HAVE BEEN DISCARDED. YOU WERE NOTHING BUT A FIRST DRAFT.

A FOOTNOTE TO MY STORY.



OH.

I SEE.



ER...THANK
YOU, MA'AM.
I'LL TAKE
THIS.

GALAHAD!
THAT ARMOR
IS VERY
IMPRACTICAL,
RIGHT?







THE GRAIL COULDN'T CROSS OVER TO THIS WORLD. IT'S A PIECE OF *THERE*.

BUT THIS GRAIL IS LOST, AND AS THIS GALAHAD DOESN'T HAVE A FISHER KING, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET TO ONE AGAIN. NOT LIKE THIS, ANYWAY.



IS THE GALAHAD-GUY TRAPPED THERE?

NO. HE'LL BE MAKING HIS WAY ACROSS THE OTHERWORLD TO WHEREVER ARTHUR IS. HOPEFULLY ELAINE HAS AN ESCAPE PLANNED.

ARTHUR'S GOING TO BE BLOWING HIS TOP. NO EASY VICTORY NOW. HE'LL HAVE TO WORK OUT SOMETHING TRICKIER AND NOT JUST STICK TO THE EXACT OLD STORY.

BECAUSE OTHERWISE HE IS WELL AND--

PLEASE. BE QUIET. I NEED TO THINK.



ROSE-- CAN YOU PLEASE DRIVE US TO BATH?

WE HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING.





"THE KEYS! WE
NEED TO GET IN
QUICKLY, ROSE."

"WE
HAVEN'T
MUCH
TIME."



DUNCAN.
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

I'M NOT
GOING TO
LET YOU
DIE.



IT'S TOO
LATE FOR ME.
WHAT ARE YOU
THINKING? THE
BATHS?

"HEALING
WATERS." IT'S
NONSENSE!
IT WON'T
WORK.



I KNOW.
I'M GOING
TO TAKE YOU
BACK INTO THE
OTHERWORLD AND
HOPE ARTHUR'S
BELT CAN HELP
YOU.

YOU
DON'T GET
TO DIE
NOW.

W...WHAT? YOU
CAN'T JUST...WALK
INTO CAMELOT.
THEY'LL TEAR YOU
APART!



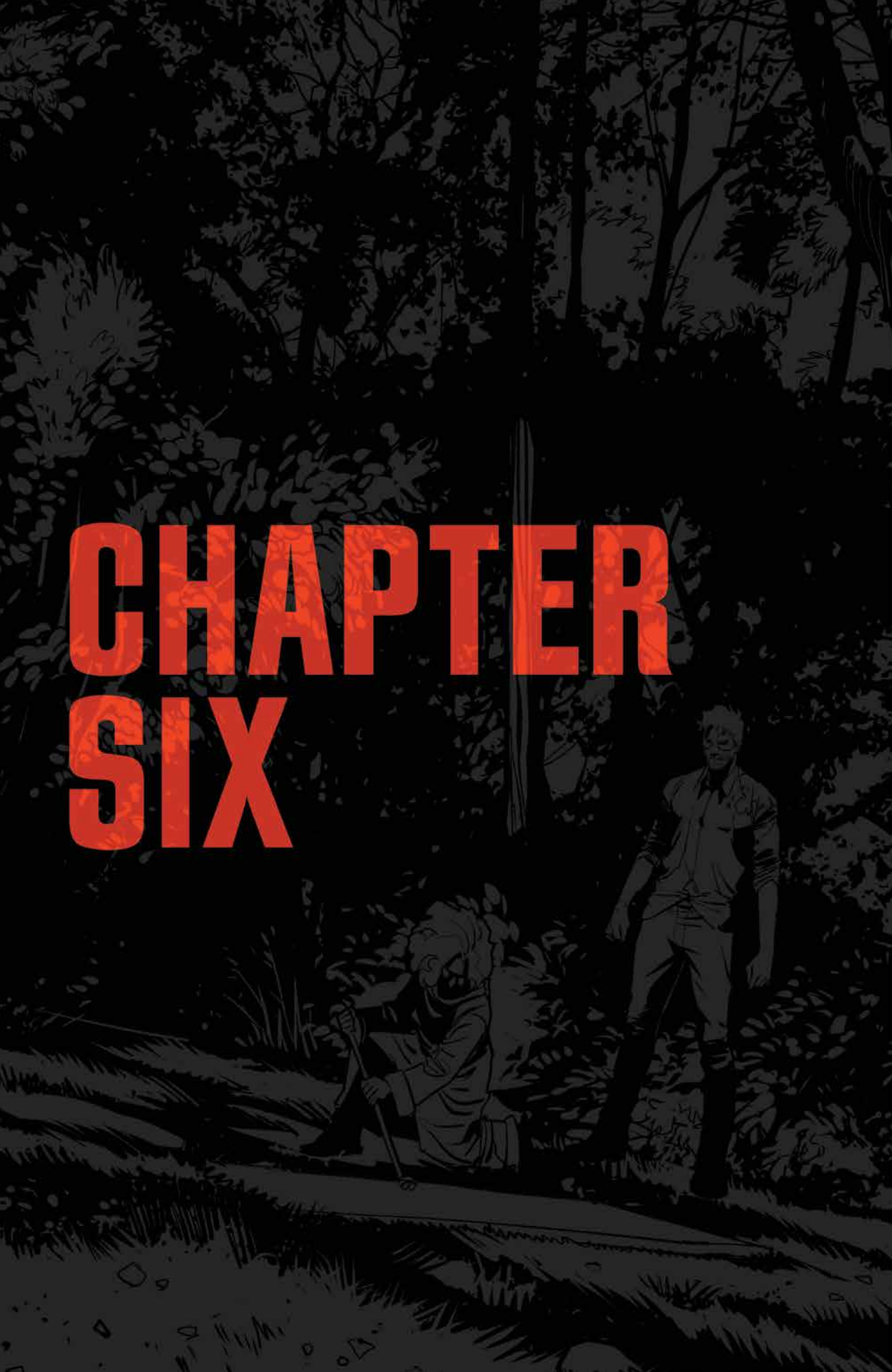


EXCALIBUR
IS YOURS.



ISSUE SIX COVER BY **DAN MORA**

CHAPTER SIX





DUNCAN
~COUGH~
YOU CAN'T
DO THIS...

IT'S NEARLY
DAWN. YOU'LL
BE STUCK
THERE AND--

SORRY,
GRAN. YOU
HAVE TO
SPEAK UP.

YOU'RE
REALLY QUIET
WHEN YOU'RE
DYING.

OFFICERS!
READ THIS
AND CALL IT
IN.



RIGHT.
UH-HUH.
OKAY.

ARE
YOU...SURE?
REALLY?
...UNDERSTOOD.



WHAT
DO WE DO,
MA'AM?

ER...
JUST HEAD
AROUND THE
CORNER.

AND
COVER YOUR
EARS? I DON'T
KNOW.



THANKS,
ROSE.
JUST--

I KNOW.
KEEP THE
CANDLE
BURNING.

AND
DUNCAN...



GOOD
LUCK.





YES, IT IS
A PROBLEM,
BUT NOT A
DISASTER.

WE
WILL TRY
AGAIN, ONCE
WE FIND A
ROUTE...



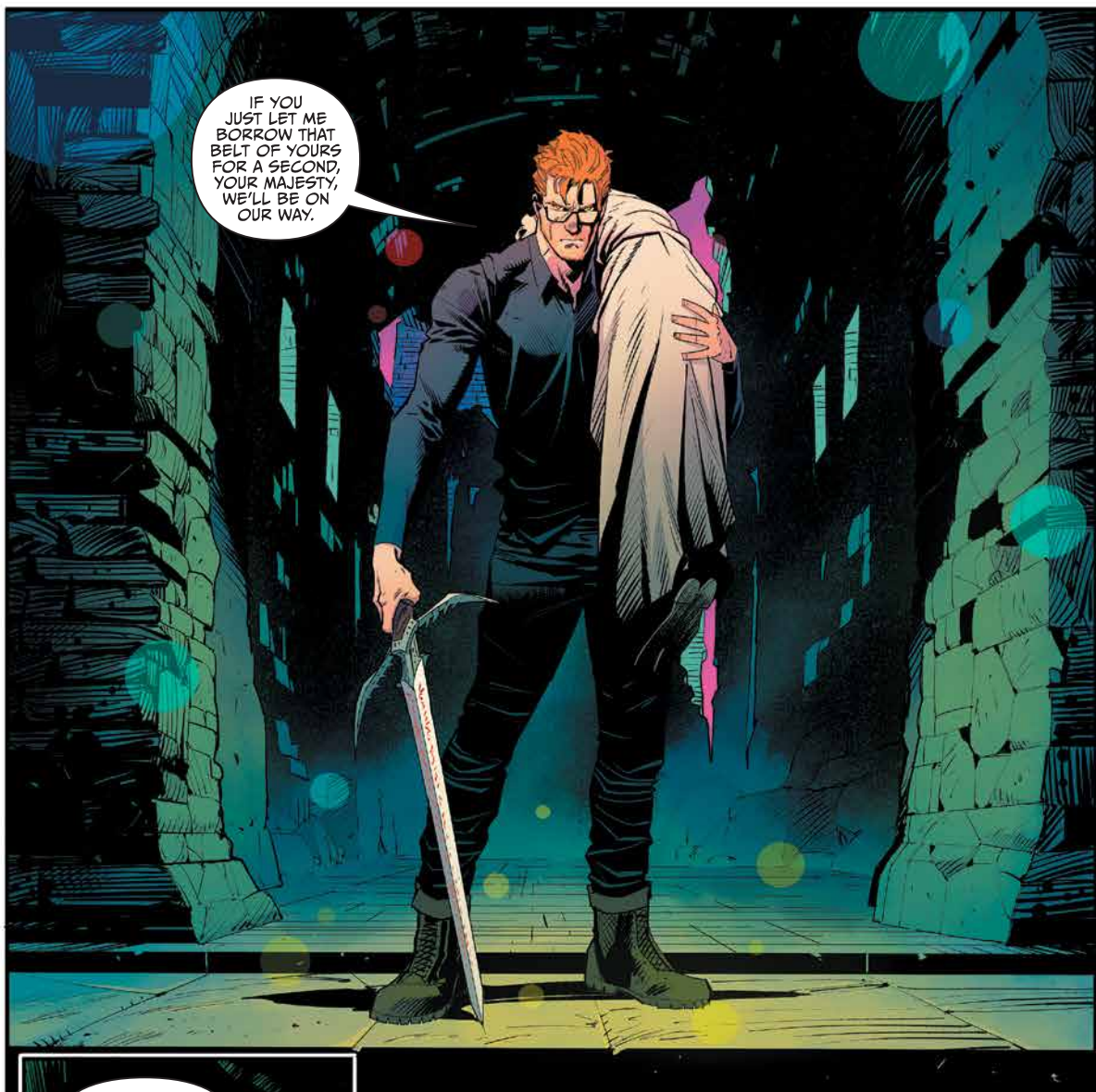
MY
GALAHAD
IS THE
PERFECT
KNIGHT.

PERCIVAL
SHOULDN'T HAVE
EVEN BEEN ABLE
TO GET TO THE
GRAIL CASTLE...

YET
SOMEHOW,
HE DID.



WELL...
GRAN SHOT
HERSELF.
SURROGATE
FISHER KING.









CEASE!
THAT IS A DARK
WONDER. IT WOULD
TRULY CLEAVE THE
FLESH OF SAXON
MEN.

WHERE
DID YOU
FIND SUCH A
BLADE?



YOU DON'T
KNOW
EXCALIBUR?

OF
COURSE HE
DOESN'T. HE'S
ALL KINDS OF
MIXED UP.

ALL SORTS OF
THINGS HE DOESN'T
KNOW. LIKE CENTRAL
HEATING AND...AND...



...OH,
BRIDGETTE
MCGUIRE, YOU
FOOL.



GIVE THE
BLADE TO ME
AND YOU CAN
USE THE
BELT.



I CAN'T.
IT'S NOT MINE
TO GIVE.

I
PROMISED
TO RETURN
IT.



BUT WE CAN TELL YOU
WHERE TO GET IT. IT'S A
STORY TO COME. YOU
CAN MAKE THAT STORY
HAPPEN.



DON'T TRUST HER! SHE'S MANIPULATING YOU.

THEY COME TO MY CASTLE.

THEY HAVE NO POWER HERE...



ALL POWER I GIVE IS MINE TO GIFT AND MINE TO RETRIEVE.

THEY HAVE NOT FAILED ME.



THE LADIES OF THE LAKE GAVE EXCALIBUR TO THE KING...

...AND YOU MUST RETURN IT WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH IT.

OH, GOD. HEALING MAGIC STINGS.

OH...SO MANY STORIES, ARTHUR. YOU'RE ALL MIXED UP, YOU POOR THING.



I BET YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY GALAHAD'S THE GREATEST KNIGHT...



SHUT
HER UP!

I MEAN,
SILENCE
HER.



HE IS THE
GREATEST KNIGHT...
AND HIS FATHER WAS
THE GREATEST KNIGHT
BEFORE HIM, YOU SEE.
AND A GREAT NIGHT
TOO, I BET.

LANCELOT.

I HAVE
NOT HEARD
OF THIS
WARRIOR.



HE'S THE
FRENCHIE WHO
SHAGGED YOUR
WIFE, YOU BIG
NINNY.



A FRANK
HAS LAIN
WITH MY
QUEEN!



YOU BORE
THE CHILD. YOU
KNOW THE
FATHER. YOU
KNOW WHERE TO
FIND HIM!

TELL ME!
THEN YOUR
BETRAYAL
CAN BE
PUNISHED...

GALAHAD...
WE HAVE
TO GO.



I AM THE
PERFECT
KNIGHT.



I BELONG IN
THE COURT OF
ARTHUR...



...IT IS MY
DESTINY.



YOU
DON'T HURT
HER.



I GUESS SHE DID
LEARN *SOMETHING*.
AT LEAST SHE
KNOWS WHEN IT'S
TIME TO RUN.

LET'S GO,
DUNCAN! YES, THE
SWORD IS A LOT
MORE IMPRESSIVE
THAN I GAVE IT
CREDIT FOR, BUT
DON'T LET IT GO TO
YOUR HEAD...

LITTLE--
AH--BUSY!



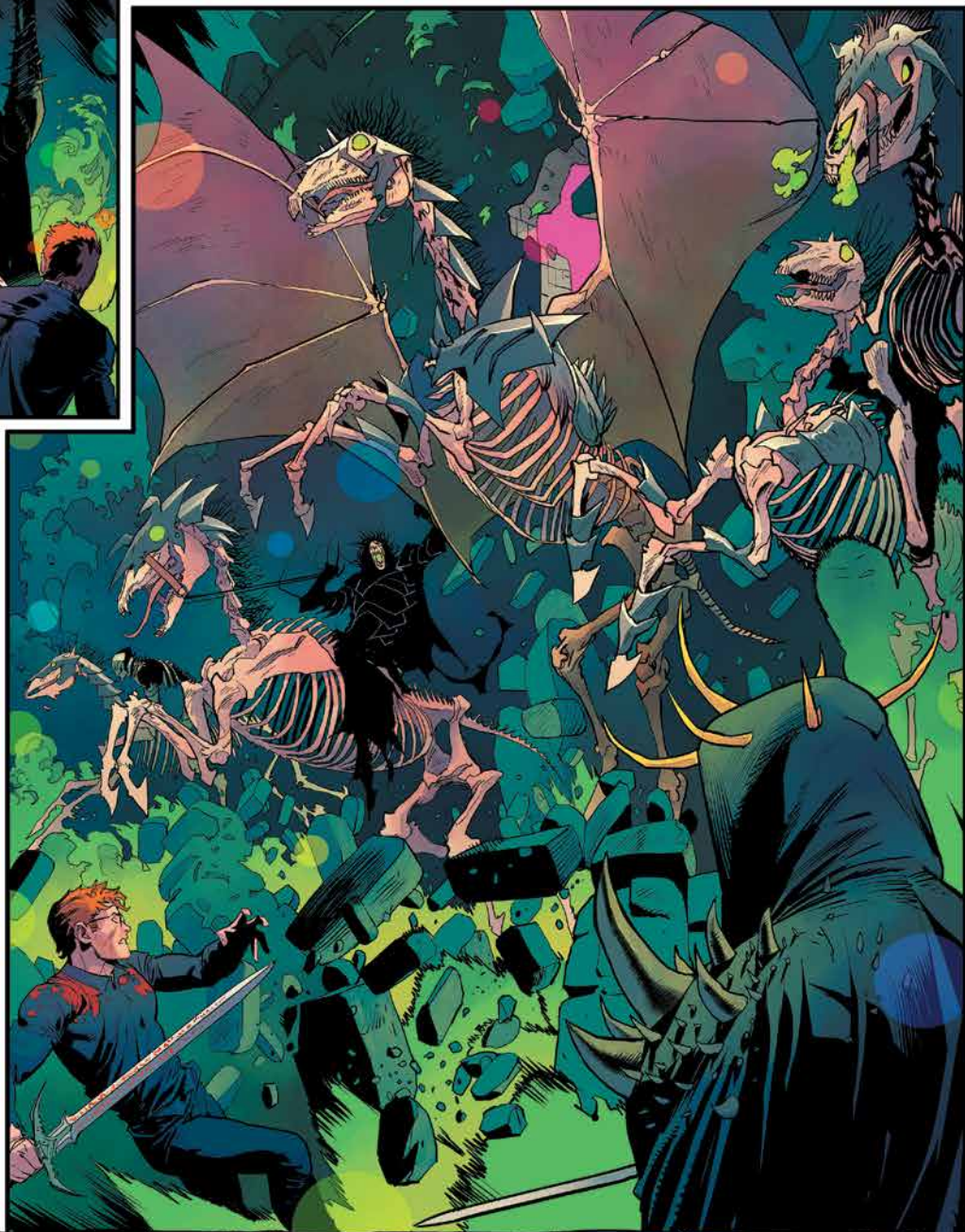
OH, A
DISTRACTION.
HMM...



WANT
THIS BACK,
ARTHUR?

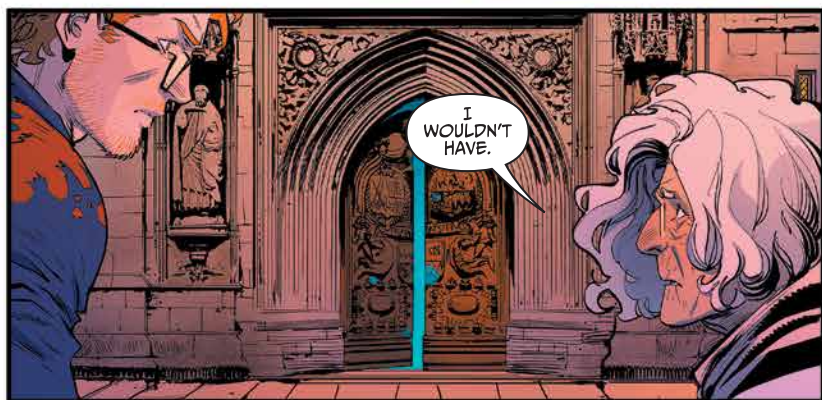
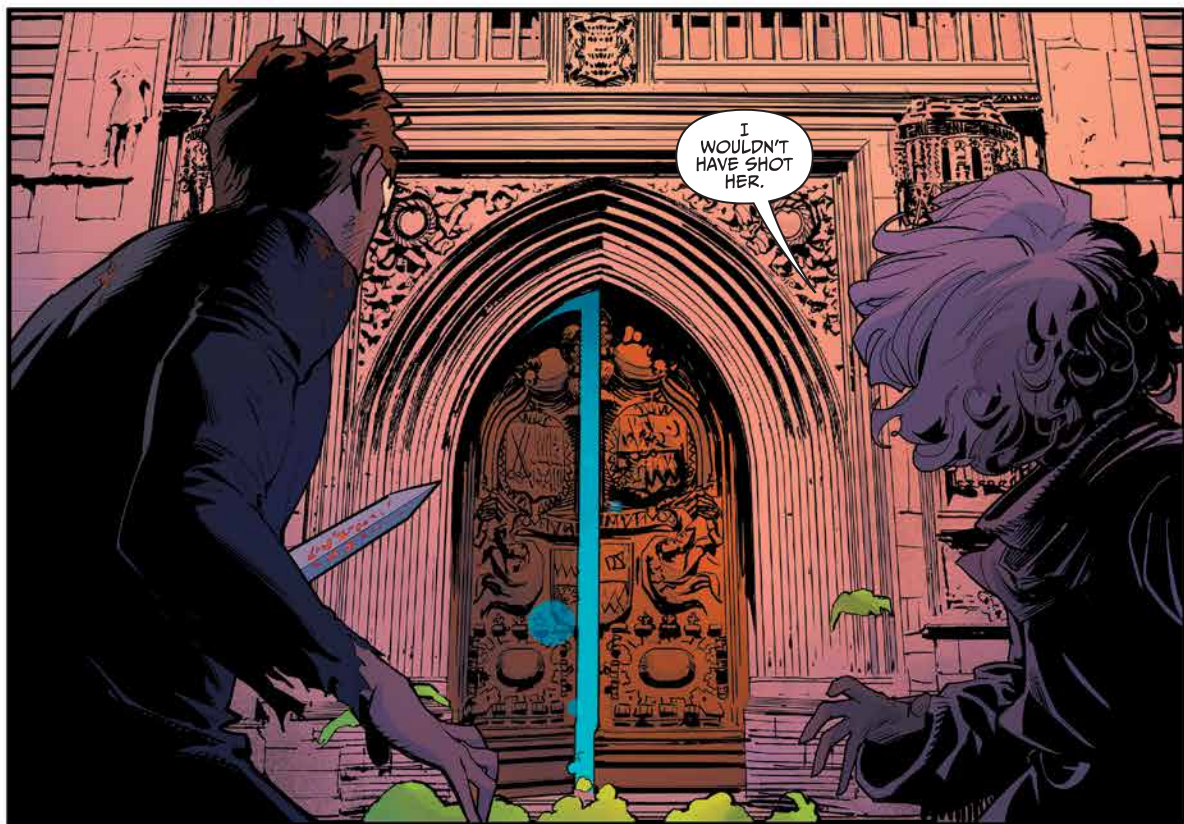


BETTER
RUSH AND
GET IT,
HMM?













ER...
THANKS FOR
YOUR HELP,
ROSE.

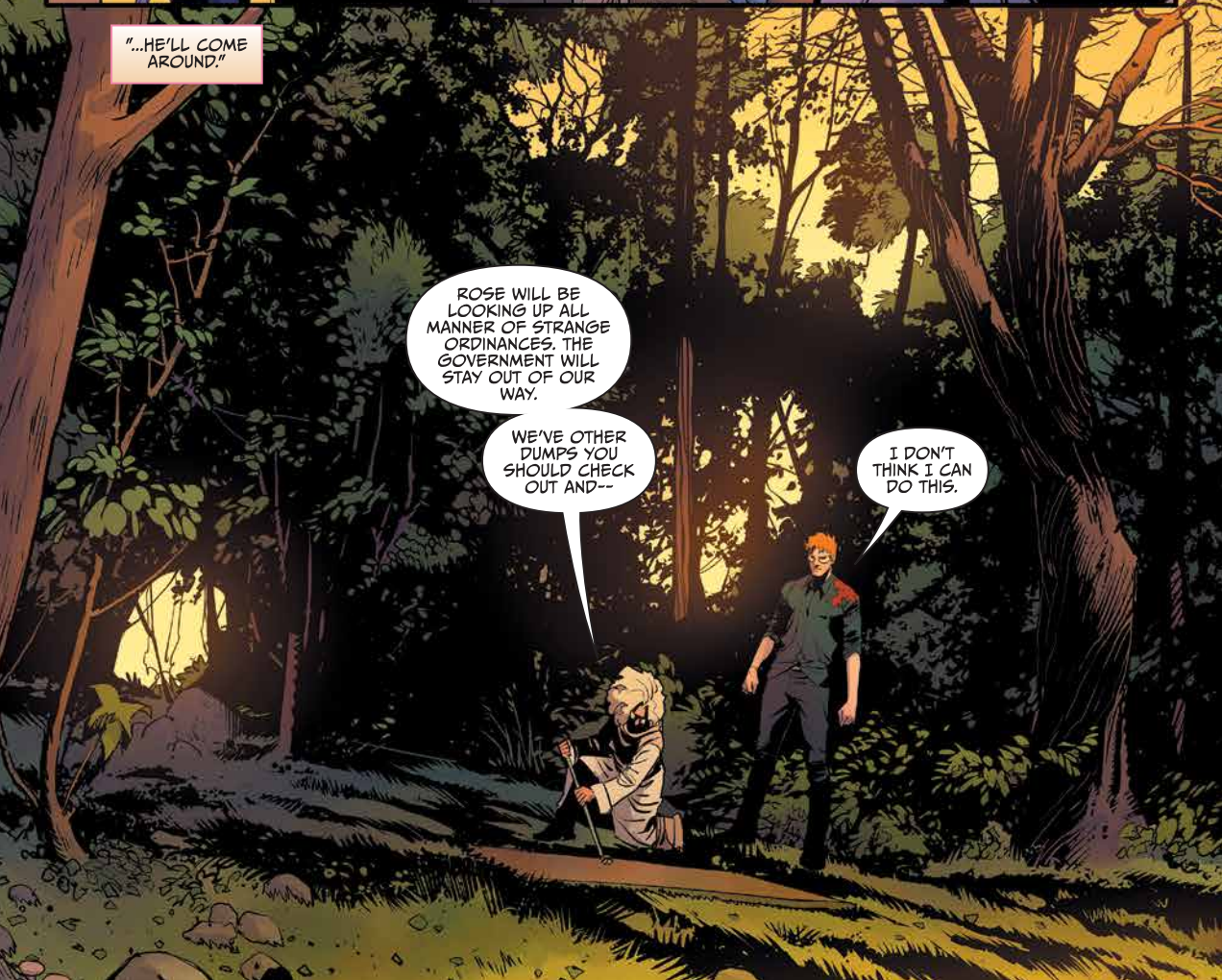


YOU DID A
NUMBER ON
HIM, YOU
KNOW?

OH, I
KNOW. I
KNOW.

DON'T WORRY.
GIVE HIM
TIME...

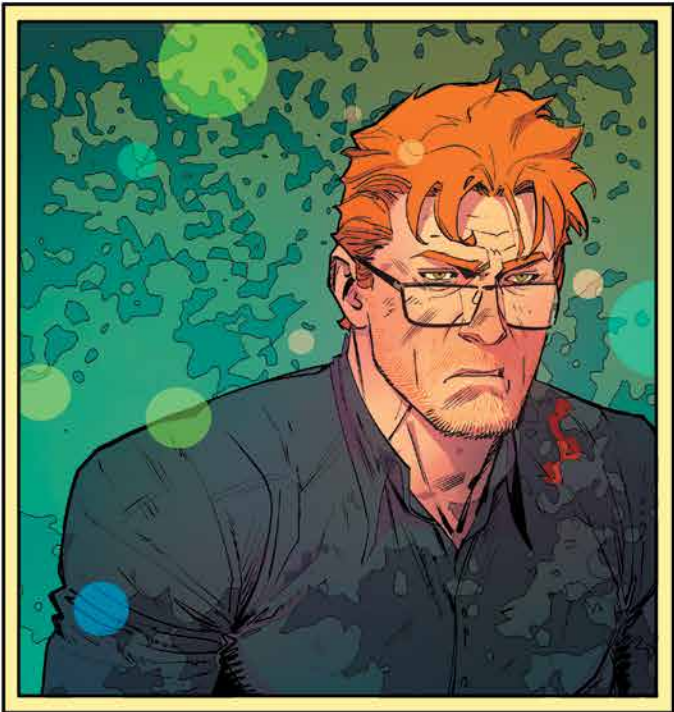
"...HE'LL COME
AROUND."



ROSE WILL BE
LOOKING UP ALL
MANNER OF STRANGE
ORDINANCES. THE
GOVERNMENT WILL
STAY OUT OF OUR
WAY.

WE'VE OTHER
DUMPS YOU
SHOULD CHECK
OUT AND--

I DON'T
THINK I CAN
DO THIS.









ONCE & FUTURE™

THE KING IS UNDEAD

GILLEN

MORA

BONVILLAIN

DUKESHIRE



OTHERWORLD



ELAINE, LOST IN THE FOREST, FAR BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES OF HER KNOWLEDGE...



WHO?

THIS STORY HAS NO FURTHER USE FOR "ELAINE"...



...BUT **MERLIN** COULD FIND A USE FOR A "NIMUE."

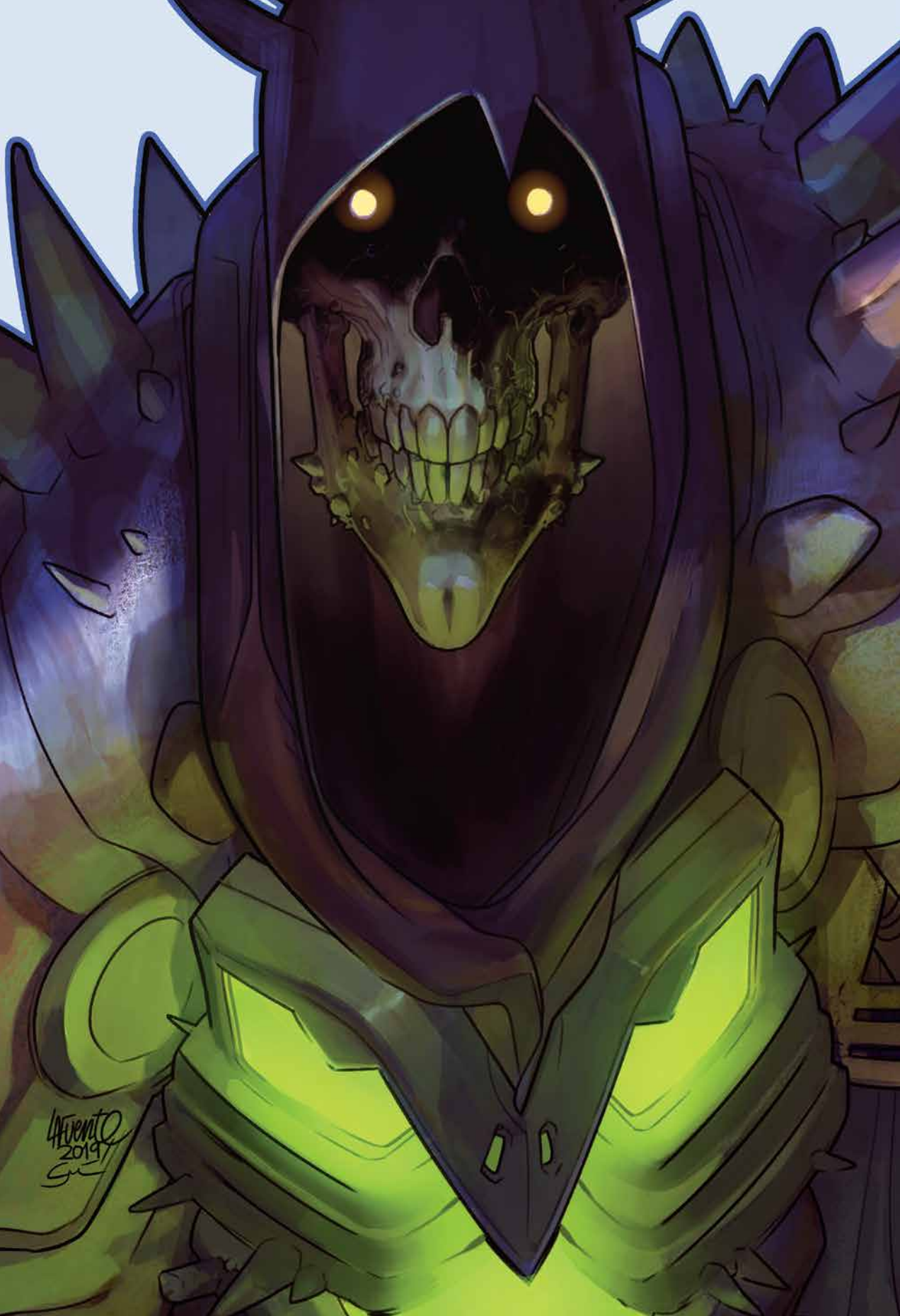
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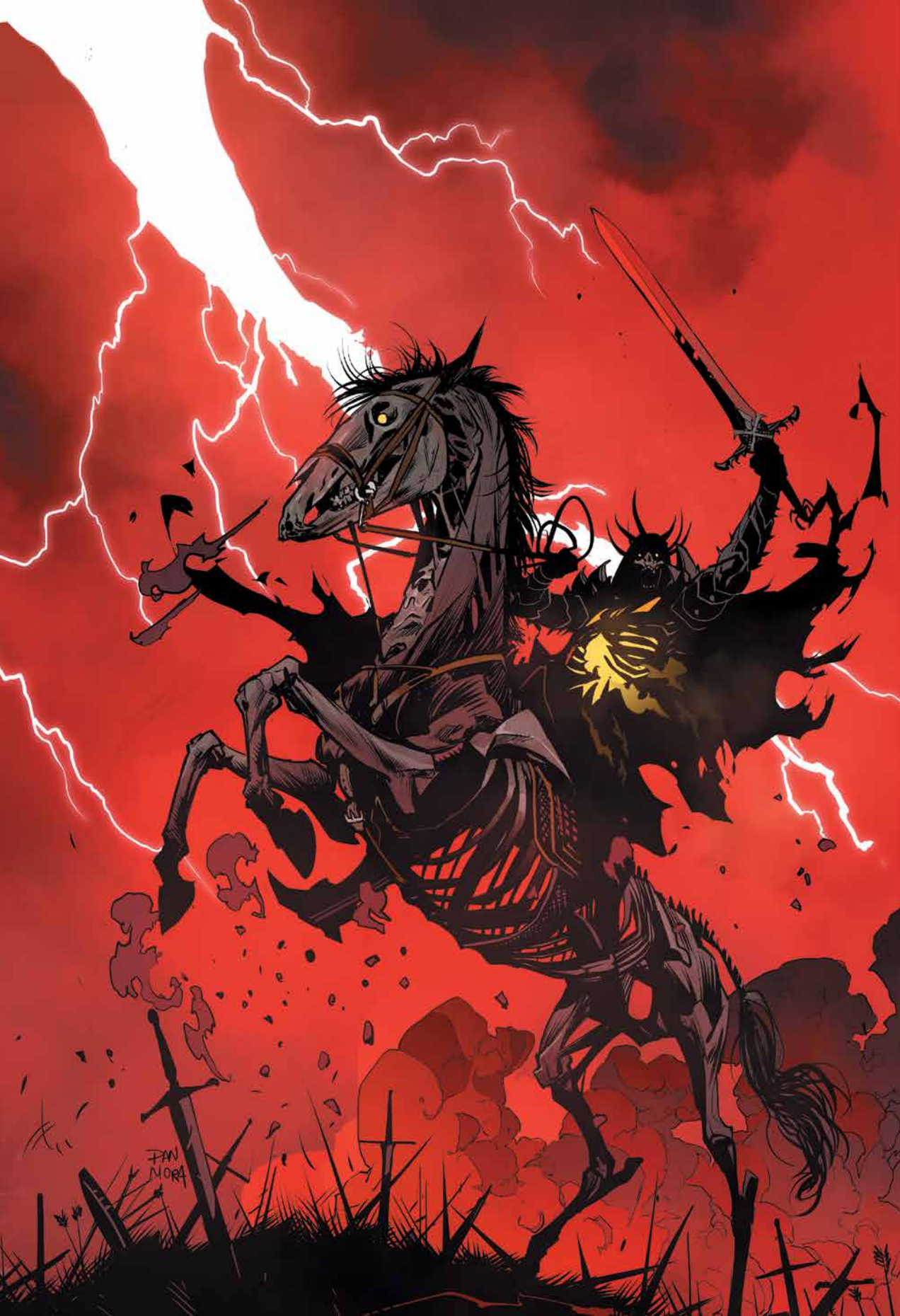
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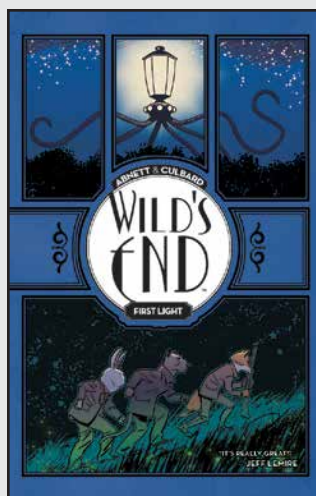
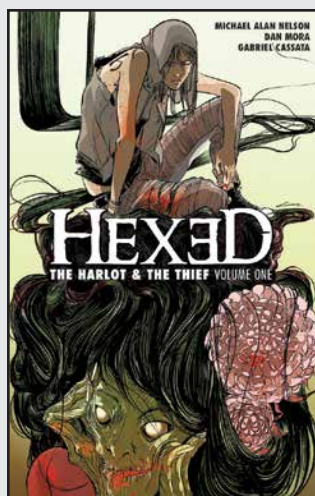
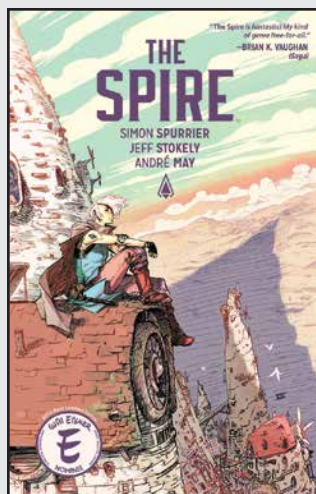
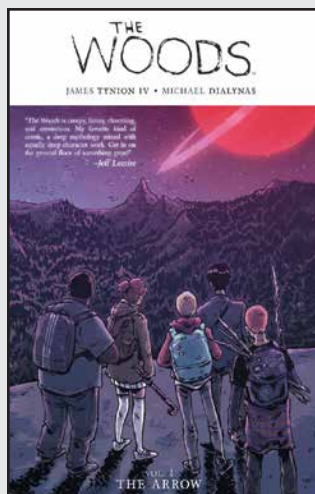


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