



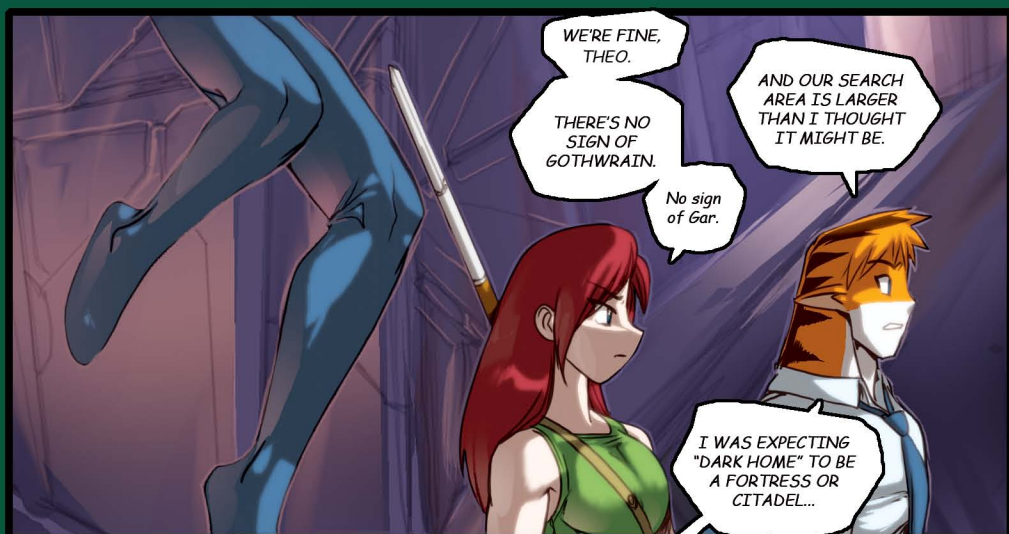
AUG 05 #67
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FRED PERRY

GOLD DIGGER



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20 YEARS

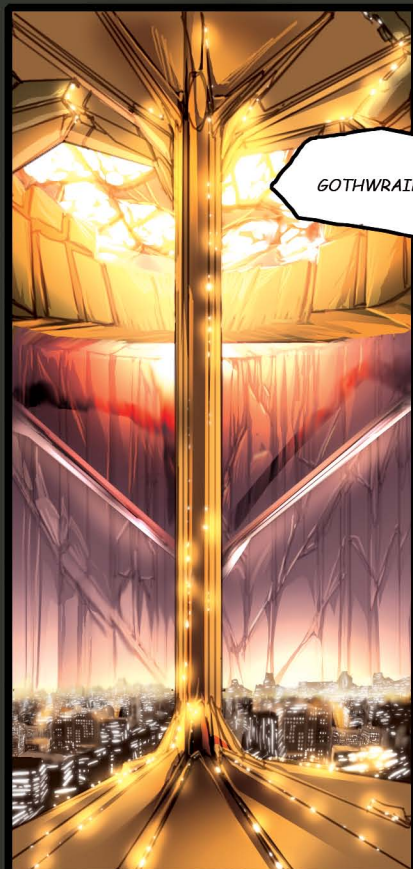




SO THE
QUESTION
IS...

...WHO DID
THEY STEAL
THIS FROM?

THE BLACK GATE PART 3



GOThWRain.

OUR ENEMY'S
FAMILY HAS
ARRIVED.

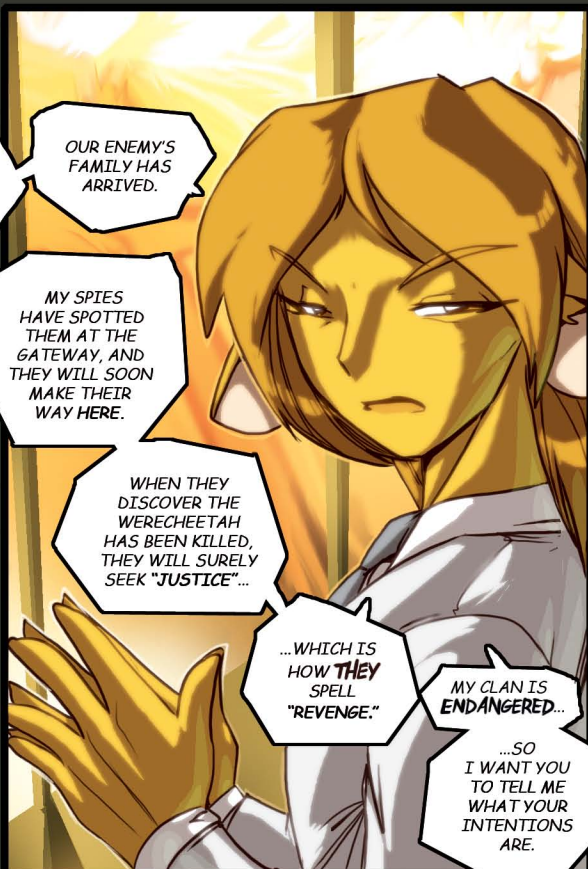
MY SPIES
HAVE SPOTTED
THEM AT THE
GATEWAY, AND
THEY WILL SOON
MAKE THEIR
WAY HERE.

WHEN THEY
DISCOVER THE
WERECHEETAH
HAS BEEN KILLED,
THEY WILL SURELY
SEEK "JUSTICE"...

...WHICH IS
HOW **THEY**
SPELL
"REVENGE."

MY CLAN IS
ENDANGERED...

...SO
I WANT YOU
TO TELL ME
WHAT YOUR
INTENTIONS
ARE.



I'VE ALREADY
REVEALED TO
YOU AS MUCH
AS I CAN,
SHERISHA.

YOU ORDERED ME
TO KILL THE WERE-
CHEETAH WITHOUT
ENDANGERING YOU
OR OUR CLAN...
I HAVE DONE
SO.

HER FAMILY WILL
NOW FOCUS THEIR
FURY ON **ME** FOR
THE MURDER.

I MUST
DIE TO SATIATE
THEM AND ABSOLVE
OUR CLAN.

THIS IS THE
COST OF KILLING
THE WERECHEETAH.

TO SAY MORE WILL
ENDANGER YOUR
LIFE... WHICH IS
WHAT I CANNOT
DO.



I--
I DIDN'T
WANT
THIS!

I DIDN'T
WANT YOUR
SACRIFICE.

AND
YOU KNOW
THAT.

TELL ME
YOUR PLAN,
GOThWRain.

TELL ME
EVERYTHING!



I FOUND IT,
SHERISHA!

A SOLUTION!

FREEDOM FROM
THE LYCANTHROPY
ENSLAVEMENT!

WHEN DIGGERS
ARRIVES, I WILL
BE FREE OF YOUR
ETHEREAL YOKE,
THANKS TO HIS
POWER AND THE
STRENGTH OF
THE ELDRITCH
"AGELESS SHELL"
ENCHANTMENT
WE SHARE.

MY BODY WILL DIE,
BUT MY ESSENCE
WILL BE PRESERVED
IN A "PARADISE"
I DISCOVERED.

OUR
ETERNITY
AS "SLAVE AND
MASTER"...
"MISTRESS AND
SLAVE" WILL
END AT
MIDNIGHT.

I'VE
SOLVED
YOUR
RIDDLE.

OUR
RIDDLE.

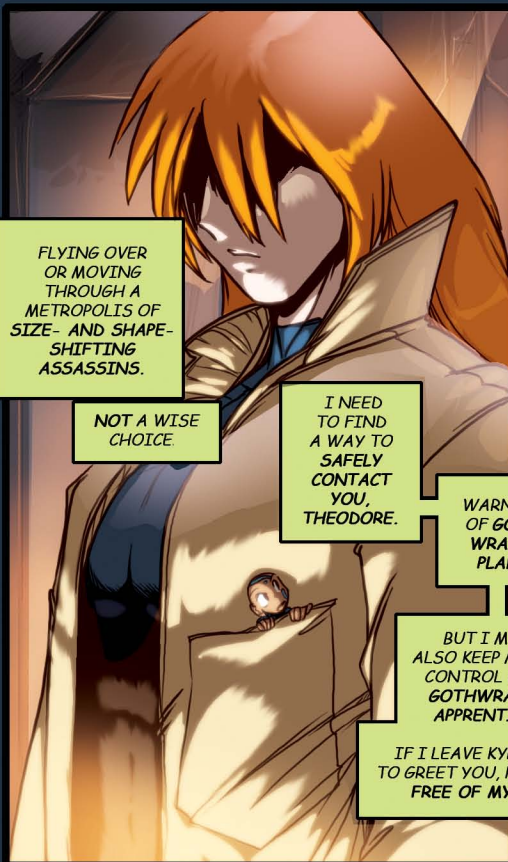
H-HAVE
YOU?
SHOW
ME!



"...SHOW ME
EVERYTHING!"

THEY'RE
APPROACHING
THE TOWER ALONG
THIS SHADE WALL.

AN EXCELLENT
DECISION,
THEODORE.



FLYING OVER
OR MOVING
THROUGH A
METROPOLIS OF
SIZE- AND SHAPE-
SHIFTING
ASSASSINS.

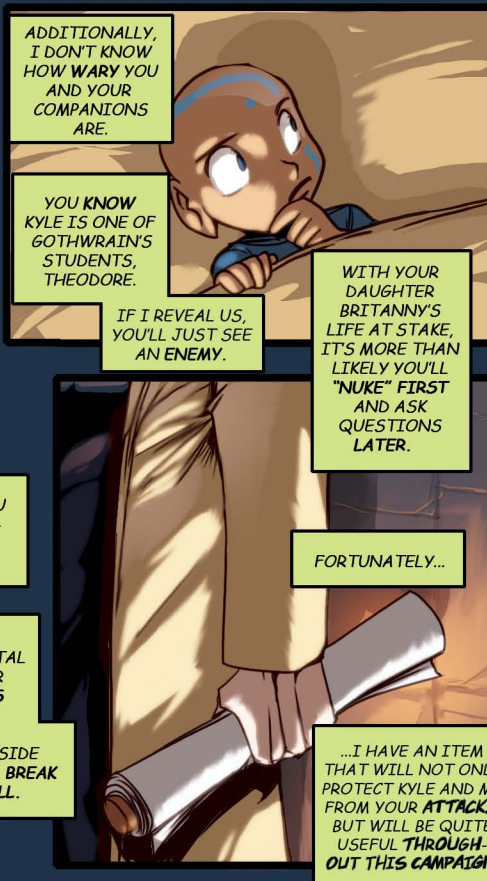
NOT A WISE
CHOICE

I NEED
TO FIND
A WAY TO
SAFELY
CONTACT
YOU,
THEODORE.

WARN YOU
OF GOTH-
WRAIN'S
PLANS.

BUT I MUST
ALSO KEEP MENTAL
CONTROL OVER
GOTHWRAIN'S
APPRENTICE.

IF I LEAVE KYLE'S SIDE
TO GREET YOU, HE'LL BREAK
FREE OF MY WILL.



ADDITIONALLY,
I DON'T KNOW
HOW WARY YOU
AND YOUR
COMPANIONS
ARE.

YOU KNOW
KYLE IS ONE OF
GOTHWRAIN'S
STUDENTS,
THEODORE.

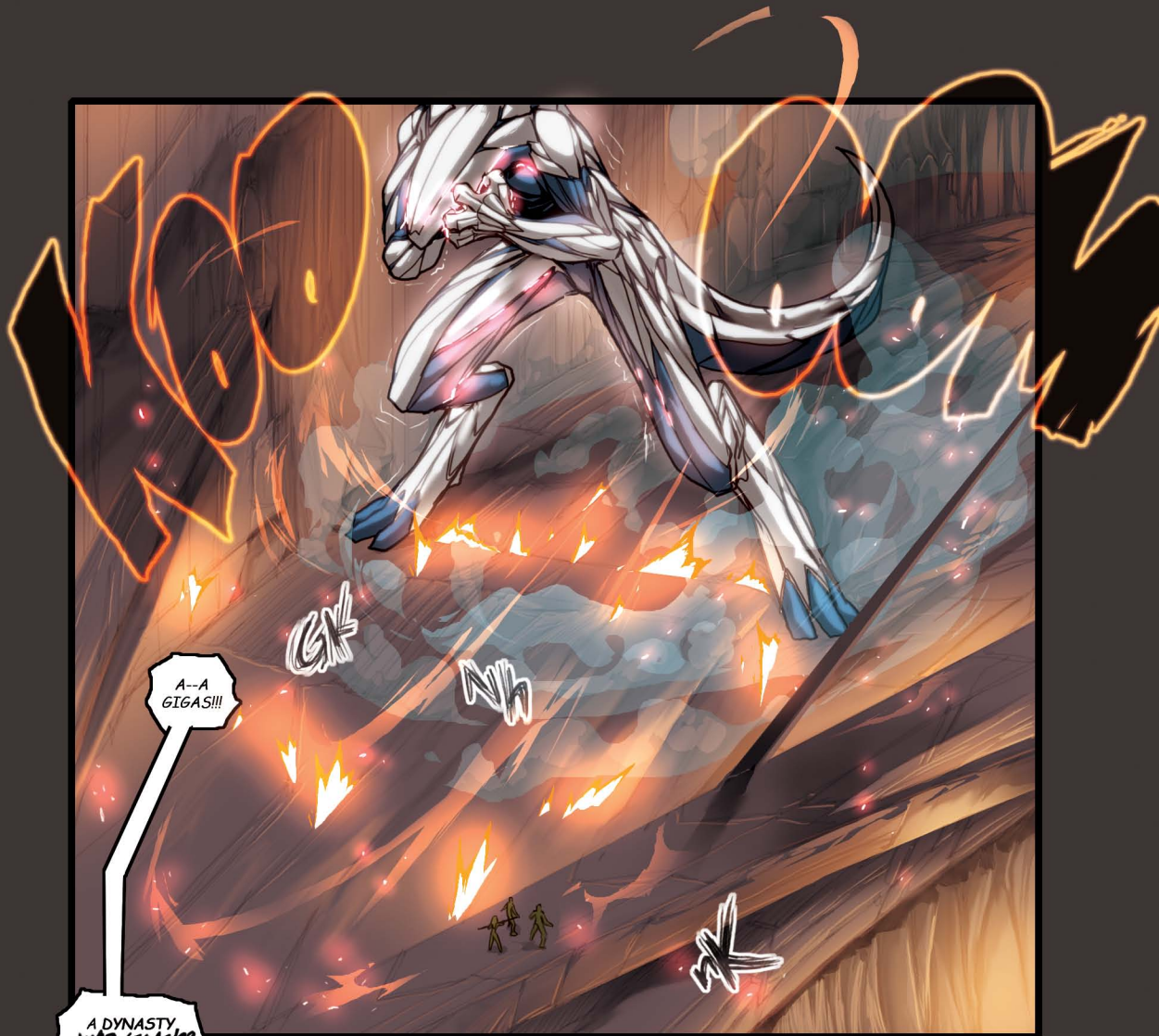
IF I REVEAL US,
YOU'LL JUST SEE
AN ENEMY.

WITH YOUR
DAUGHTER
BRITANNY'S
LIFE AT STAKE,
IT'S MORE THAN
LIKELY YOU'LL
"NUKE" FIRST
AND ASK
QUESTIONS
LATER.

FORTUNATELY...

...I HAVE AN ITEM
THAT WILL NOT ONLY
PROTECT KYLE AND ME
FROM YOUR **ATTACKS**,
BUT WILL BE QUITE
USEFUL **THROUGH-
OUT THIS CAMPAIGN!**





A--A
GIGAS!!!

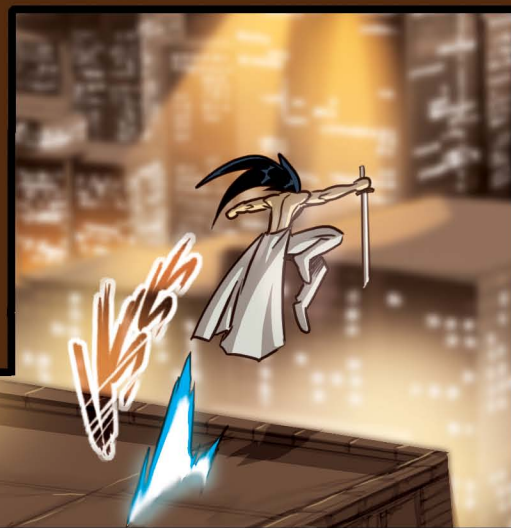
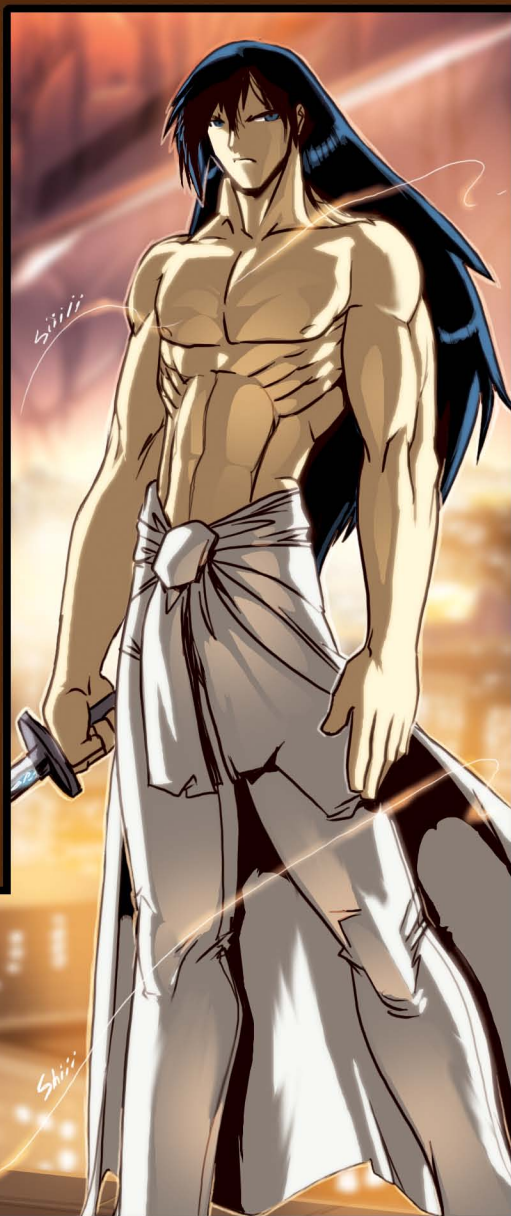
A DYNASTY
WAR-GIGAS!??

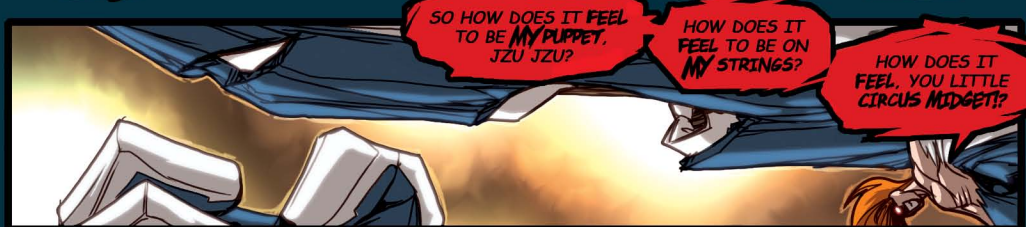


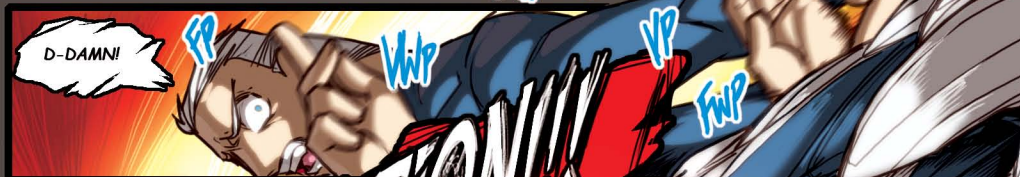
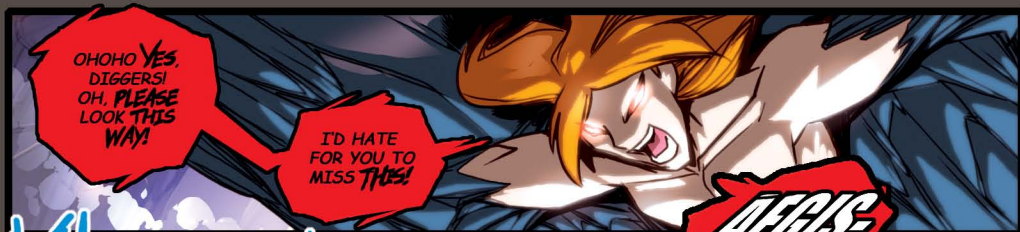
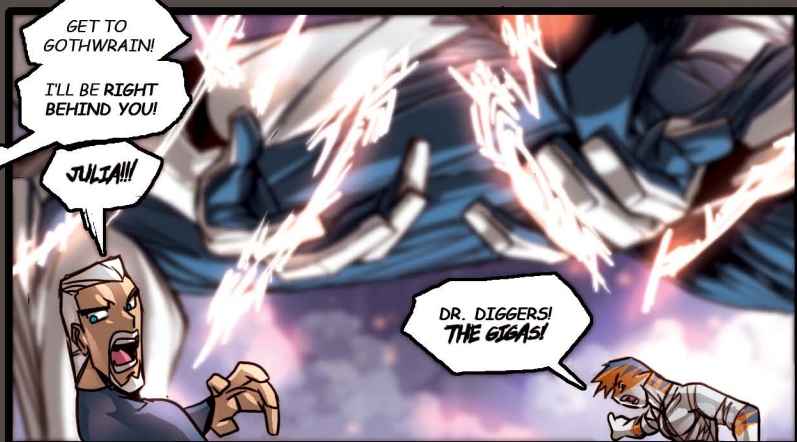
WHAT IS
GOTHWRAIN
DOING WITH
ONE OF
THOSE?

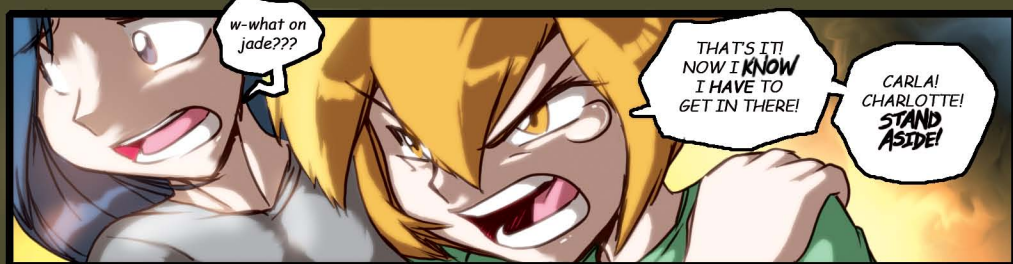


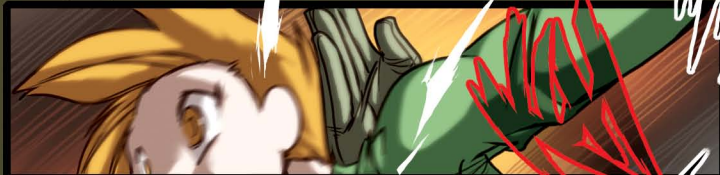
u-uk?
THREAD?

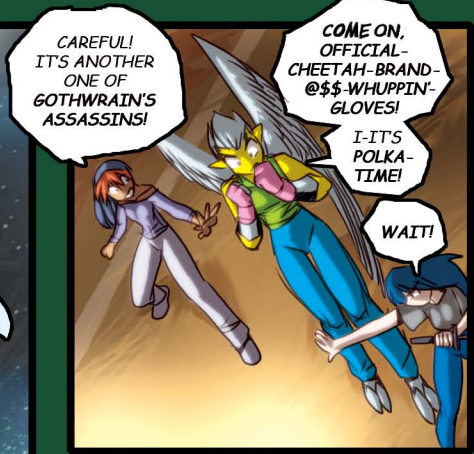




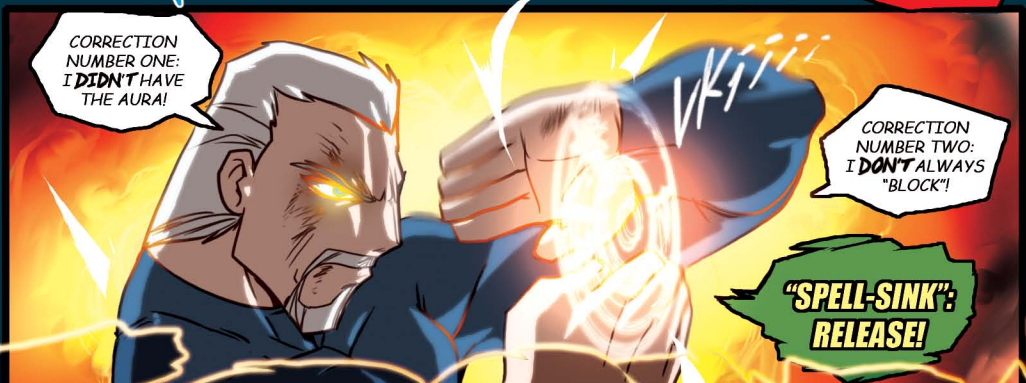
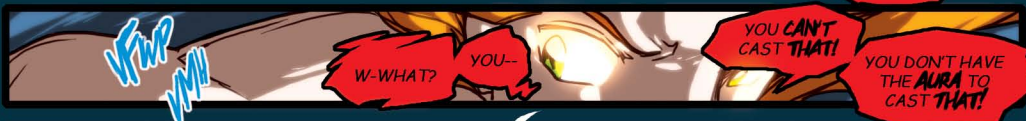


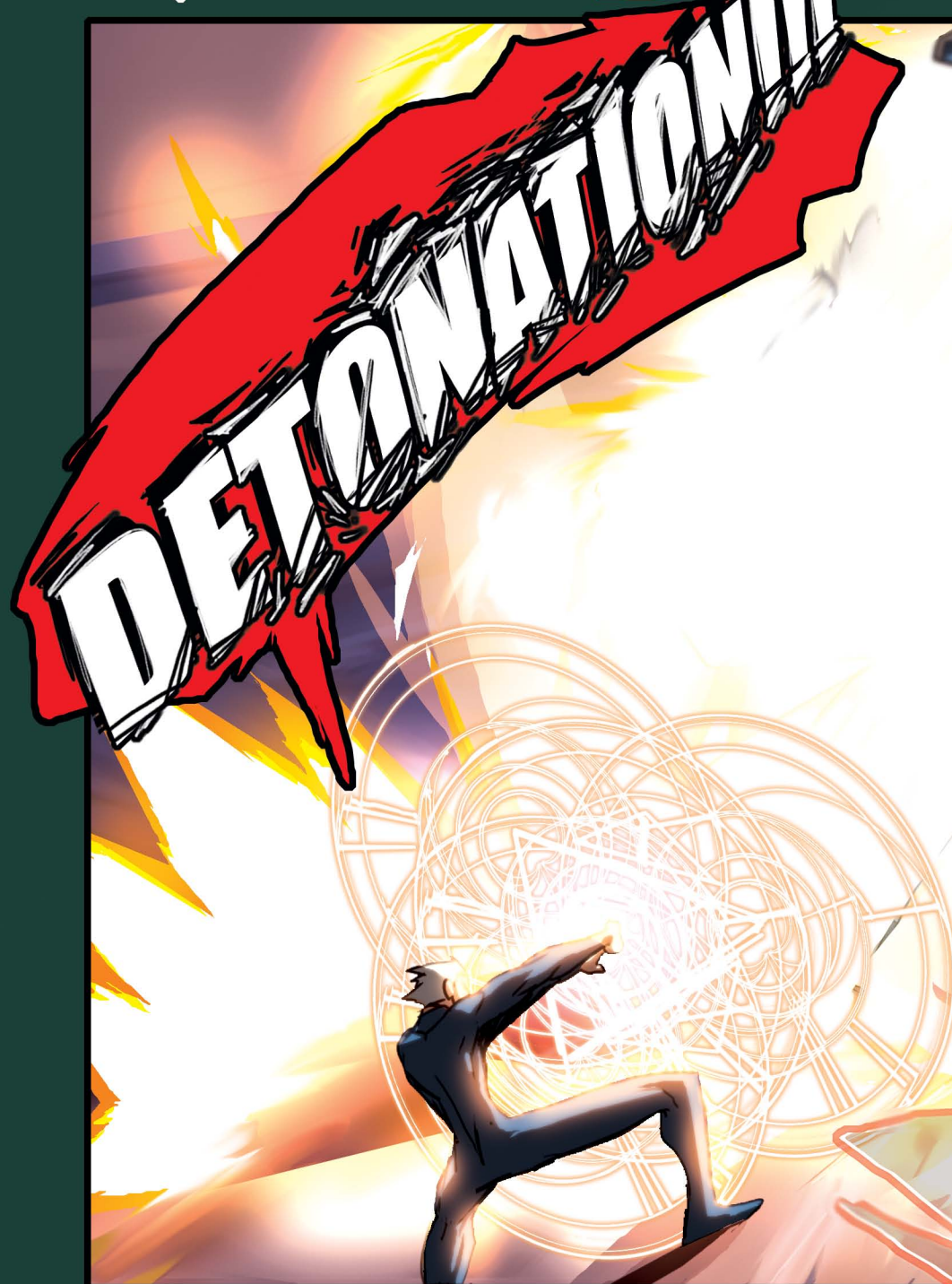












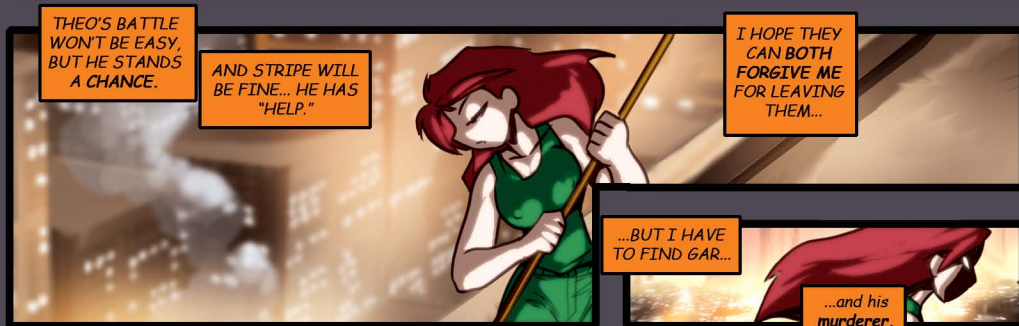


Mother...

...oh, Mother, you were SO right!



Barbarian girls **DO** get "weak knees" for a MAN who **KICKS @\$\$\$!!**



THEO'S BATTLE WON'T BE EASY, BUT HE STANDS A CHANCE.

AND STRIPE WILL BE FINE... HE HAS "HELP."

I HOPE THEY CAN BOTH FORGIVE ME FOR LEAVING THEM...

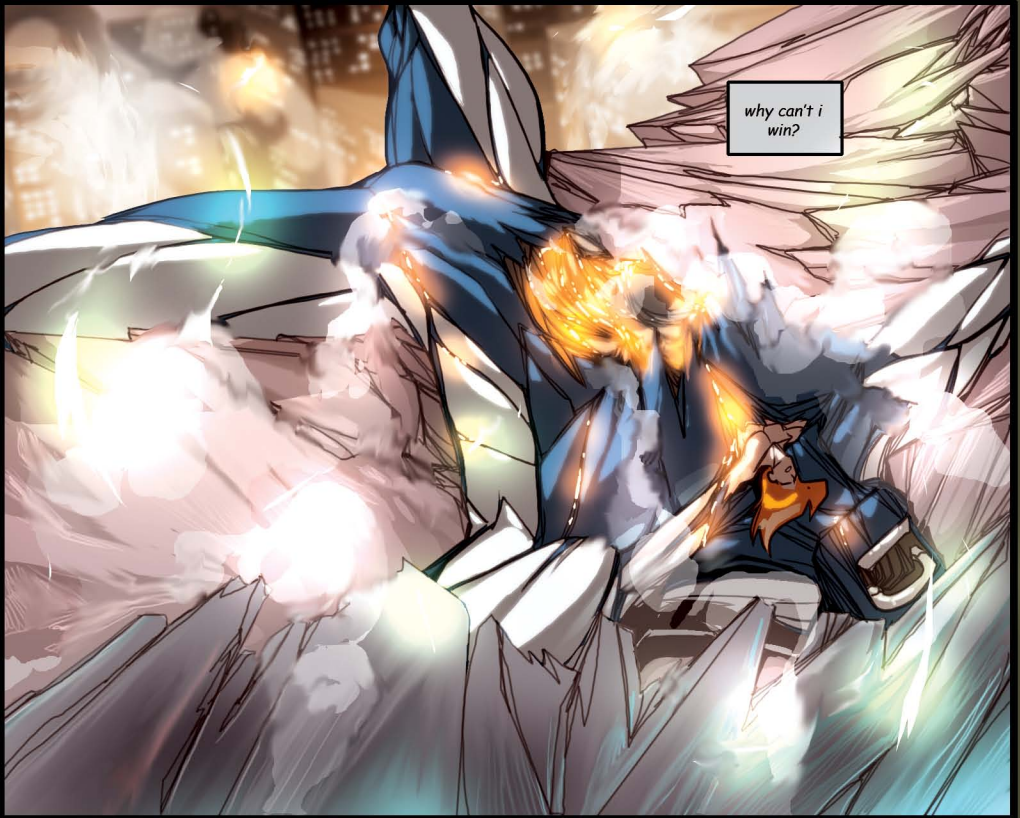
...BUT I HAVE TO FIND GAR...

...and his murderer.

wh--



why...



why can't i
win?



Diggers...

why can't
i ever
win...?



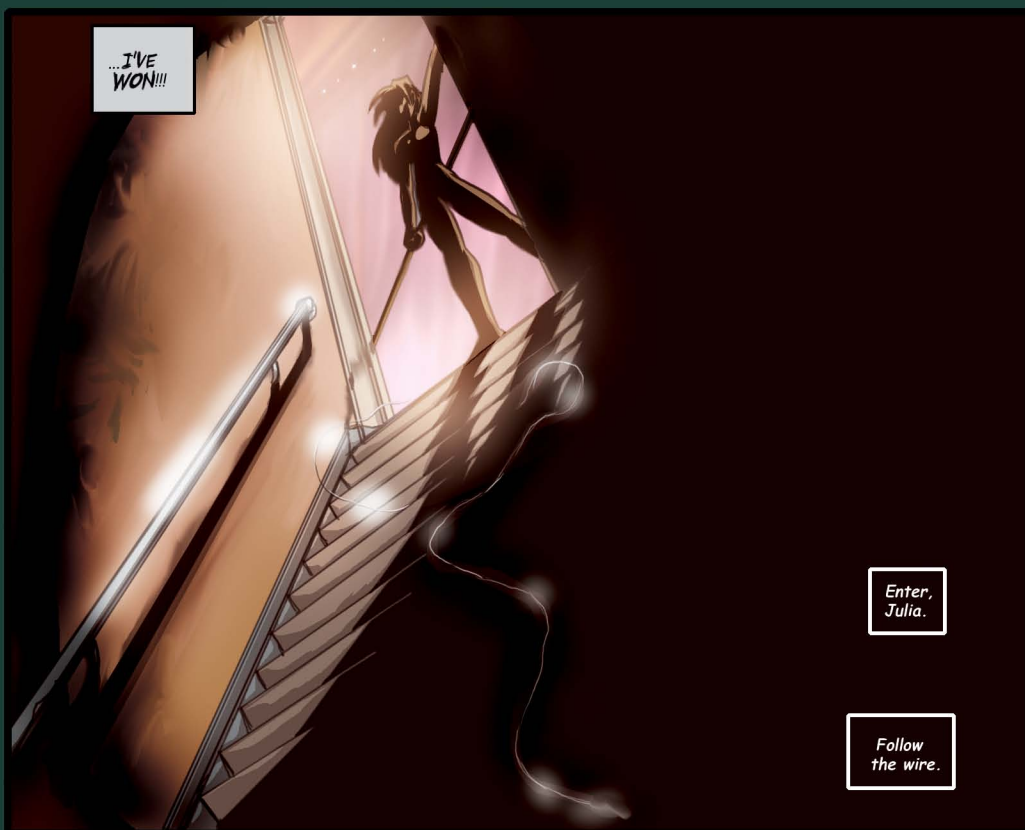
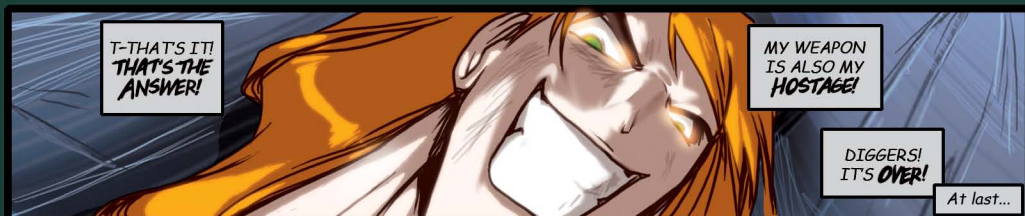
When you,
Lei and I were
training under
Master Gniess
in Jade-Realm...

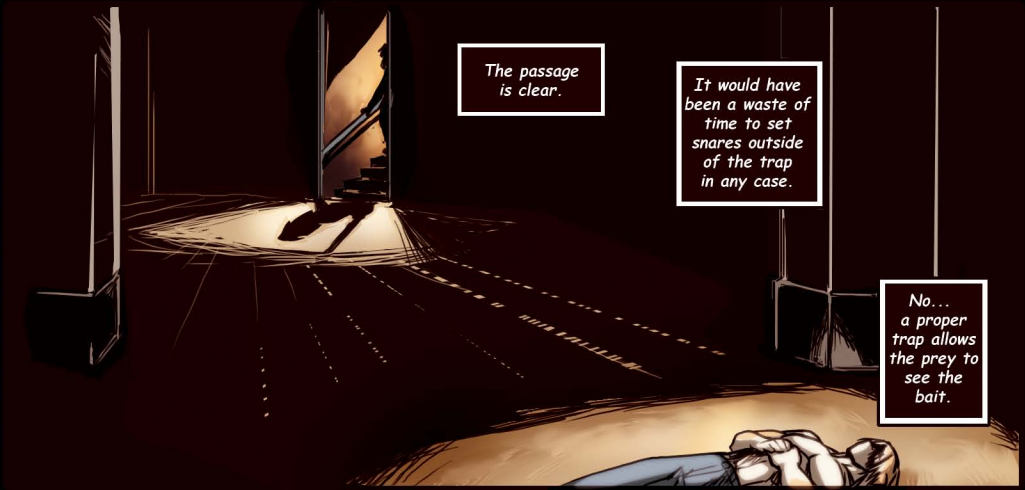
...when I first
joined with
Gothwain
in Germany...

...and now
in Dark Home...

All this
POWER...

...I STILL
CAN'T WIN!





The passage
is clear.

It would have
been a waste of
time to set
snares outside
of the trap
in any case.

No...
a proper
trap allows
the prey to
see the
bait.



Yes, Julia...
enter.

Your student,
your friend
awaits.

Garfield.

I selected
him so
carefully.



You practically
raised him from
boyhood on
Jade-Realm.

For all
intents and
purposes...

...Gar is your
SON!

WAS...
your
son.



Go to
his body.

Mourn
for him.

Close
his lifeless
eyes.



And...

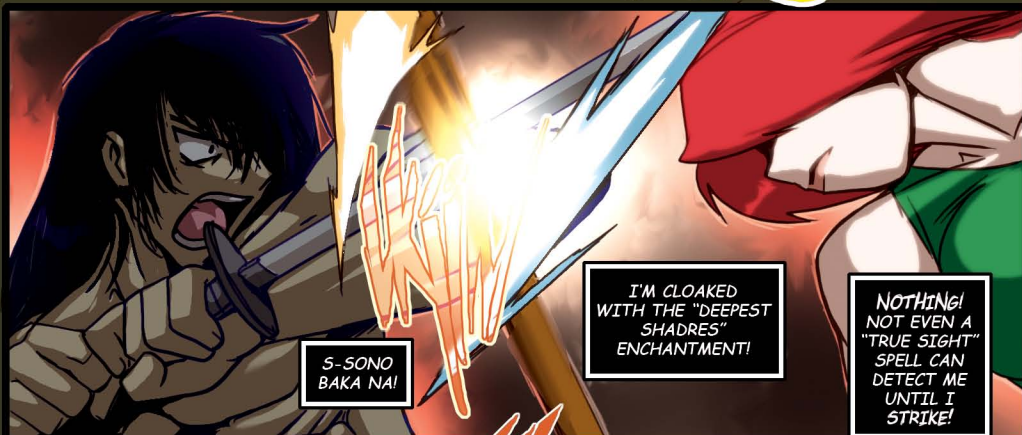
...just for
one instant...

...DROP.
YOUR.
GUARD!



n--NANI???

SHE SPOTTED
ME???



S-SONO
BAKA NA!

I'M CLOAKED
WITH THE "DEEPEST
SHADRES"
ENCHANTMENT!

NOTHING!
NOT EVEN A
"TRUE SIGHT"
SPELL CAN
DETECT ME
UNTIL I
STRIKE!



HOW!??

HOW DID
SHE KNOW?

HOW DID SHE
SEE M--

wait...

SHE DIDN'T
SEE ME!

SHE DOESN'T
PERCEIVE
ME!

I-I DON'T
BELIEVE
IT!

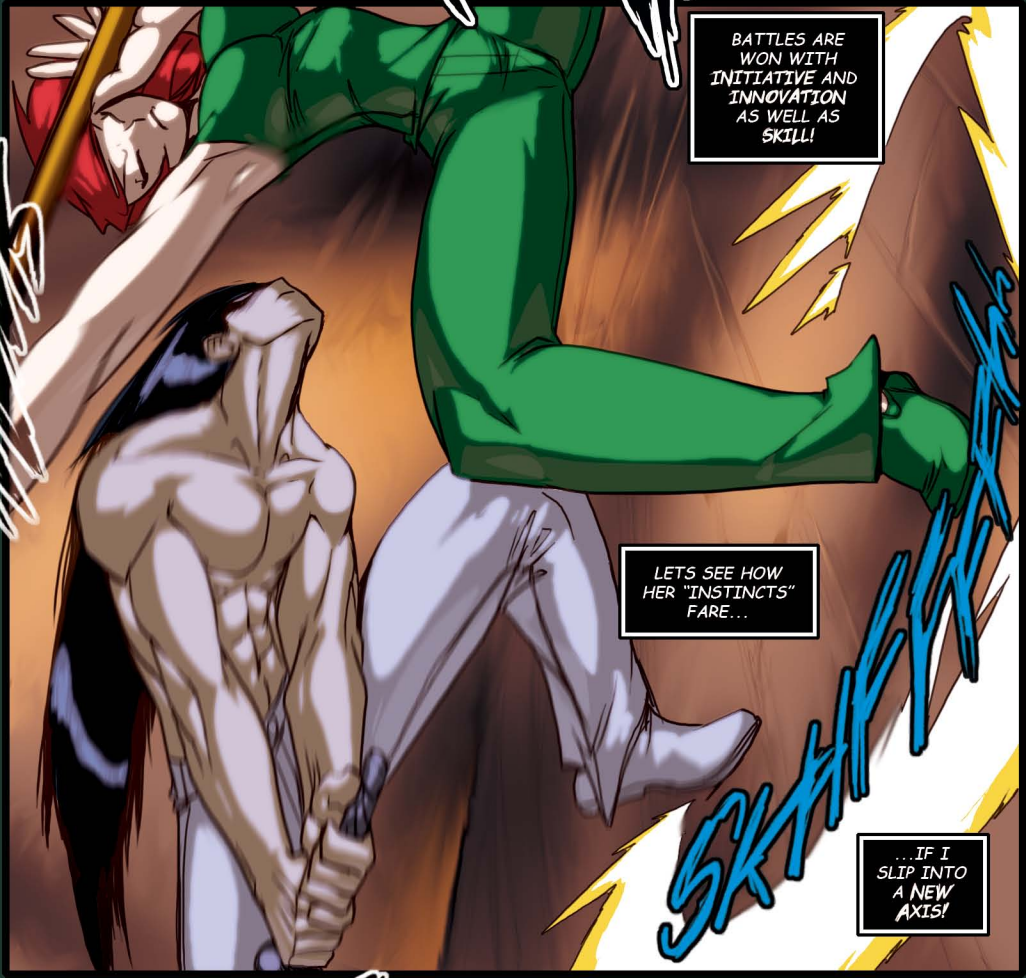
SHE'S
ATTACKING...
ON INSTINCT
ALONE!!!!



c-CALM...

REMAIN CALM.

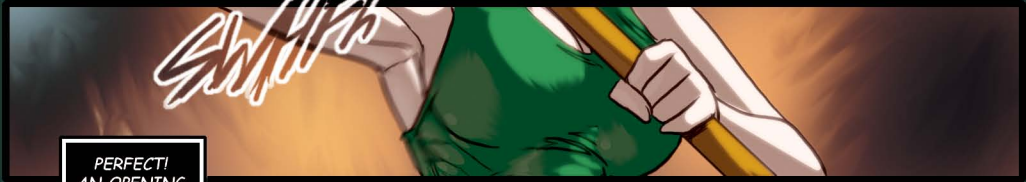
HER SKILL IS INCREDIBLE...
...BUT I HAVE KILLED BETTER!



BATTLES ARE WON WITH INITIATIVE AND INNOVATION AS WELL AS SKILL!

LET'S SEE HOW HER "INSTINCTS" FARE...

...IF I SLIP INTO A NEW AXIS!



PERFECT! AN OPENING AHEAD--



NANI!??

ASSASSIN...

...I'VE NEVER SAID
THIS TO ANYONE...
NOT EVEN TO THE
MONSTERS I
ONCE FOUGHT ON
JADE-REALM.

BUT, FOR WHAT
YOU DID...I'LL
SAY IT RIGHT
NOW.

I'm going
to kill
you.

Next, Julia vs Zero in "Black Gate Part 4".