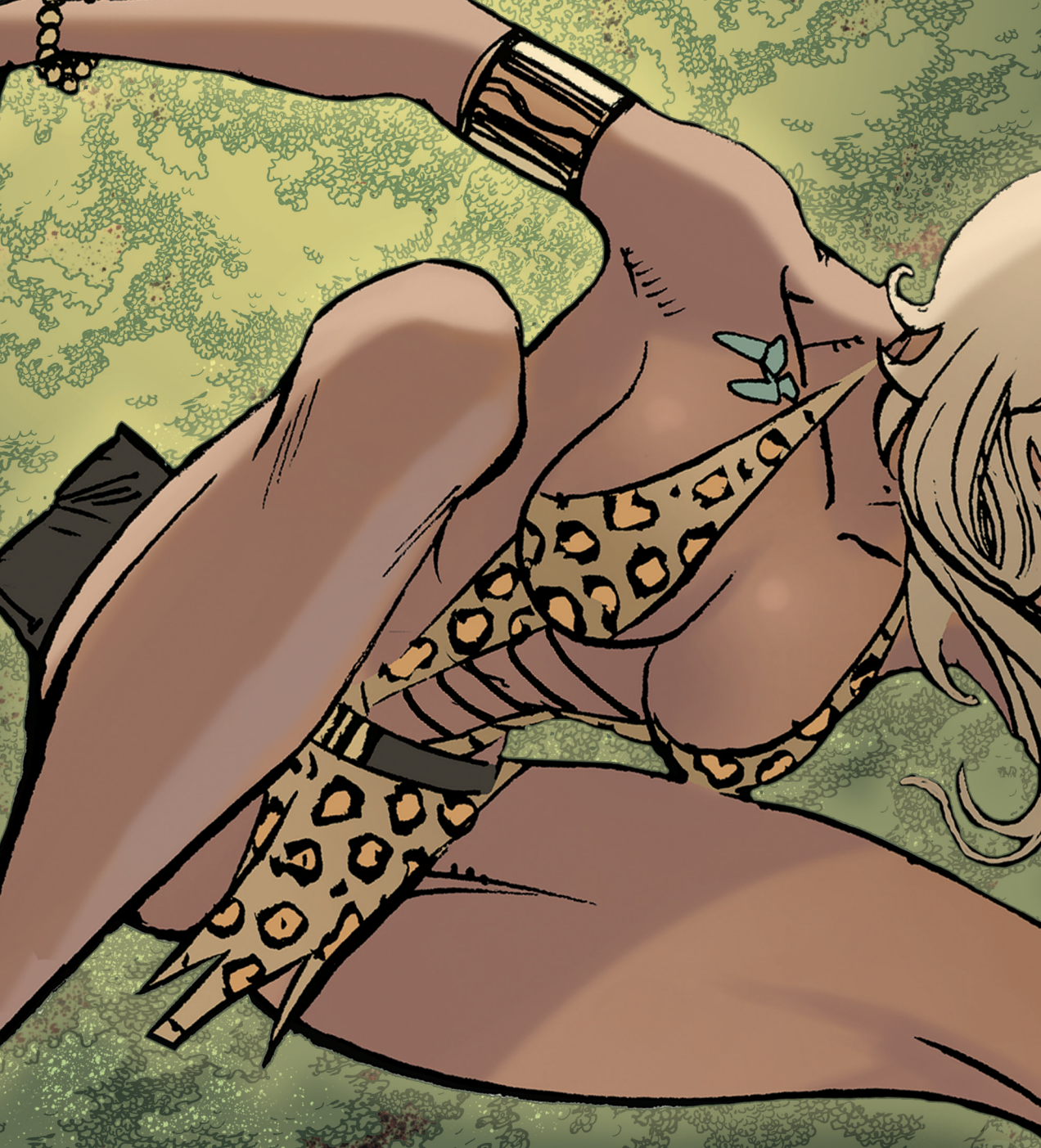

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QUEEN OF THE JUNGLE
BENNETT • TRUJILLO
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QUEEN OF THE JUNGLE





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Deep in the heart of the Amazon, Sheena acts as guardian and protector, defending her home from any threats that might dare present themselves. Without warning, the delicate balance of Sheena's world is shattered forever by the arrival of an outside force greedy to get its hands on the ancient secrets the forest holds.

Now Sheena must protect her home from a menace unlike anything she's ever faced before—one threatening to tear the jungle apart from the outside...


ISSUE #0 COVER
ART BY EMANUELA LUPACCHINO
COLORS BY FABIO MANTOVANI
LUPACCHINO
MANTOVANI

THE AMAZON.



THE JUNGLE IS FULL OF DANGERS.

TO SURVIVE HERE, YOU MUST BE STRONG.

YOU MUST BE SILENT.

YOU MUST BE SWIFT.

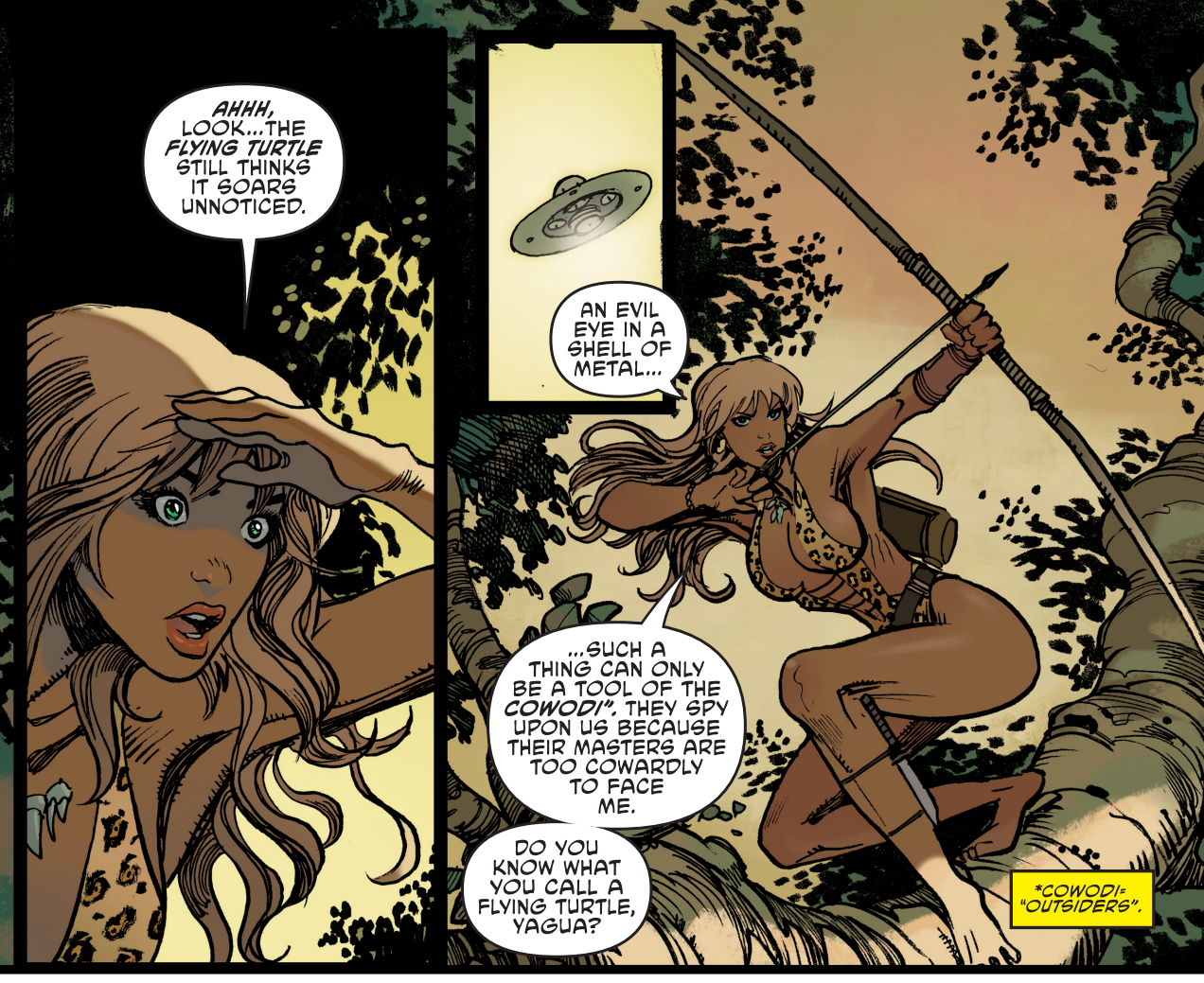
YOU MUST RECOGNIZE EVERY SCENT.

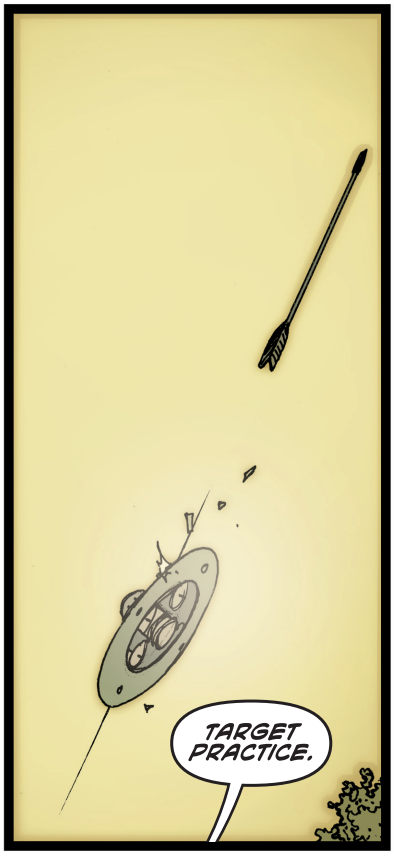
WHEN YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, WHEN YOU FORGET THESE THINGS, THAT IS WHEN MOTHER FOREST DOES NOT FORGIVE.

THAT IS WHEN I DO NOT FORGIVE.



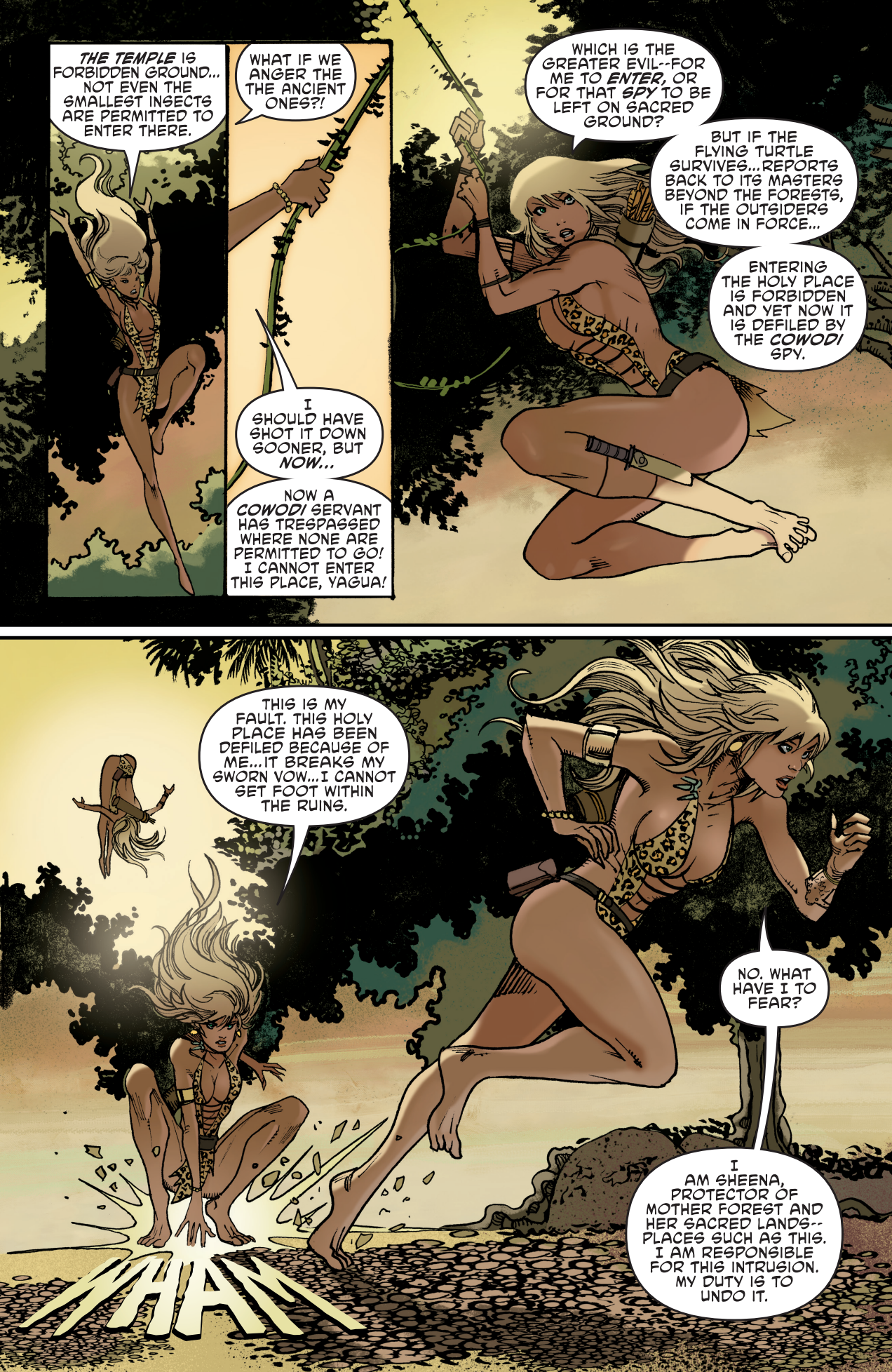

I PROTECT THIS LAND.
I AM THE MOST DANGEROUS THING IN THIS JUNGLE.

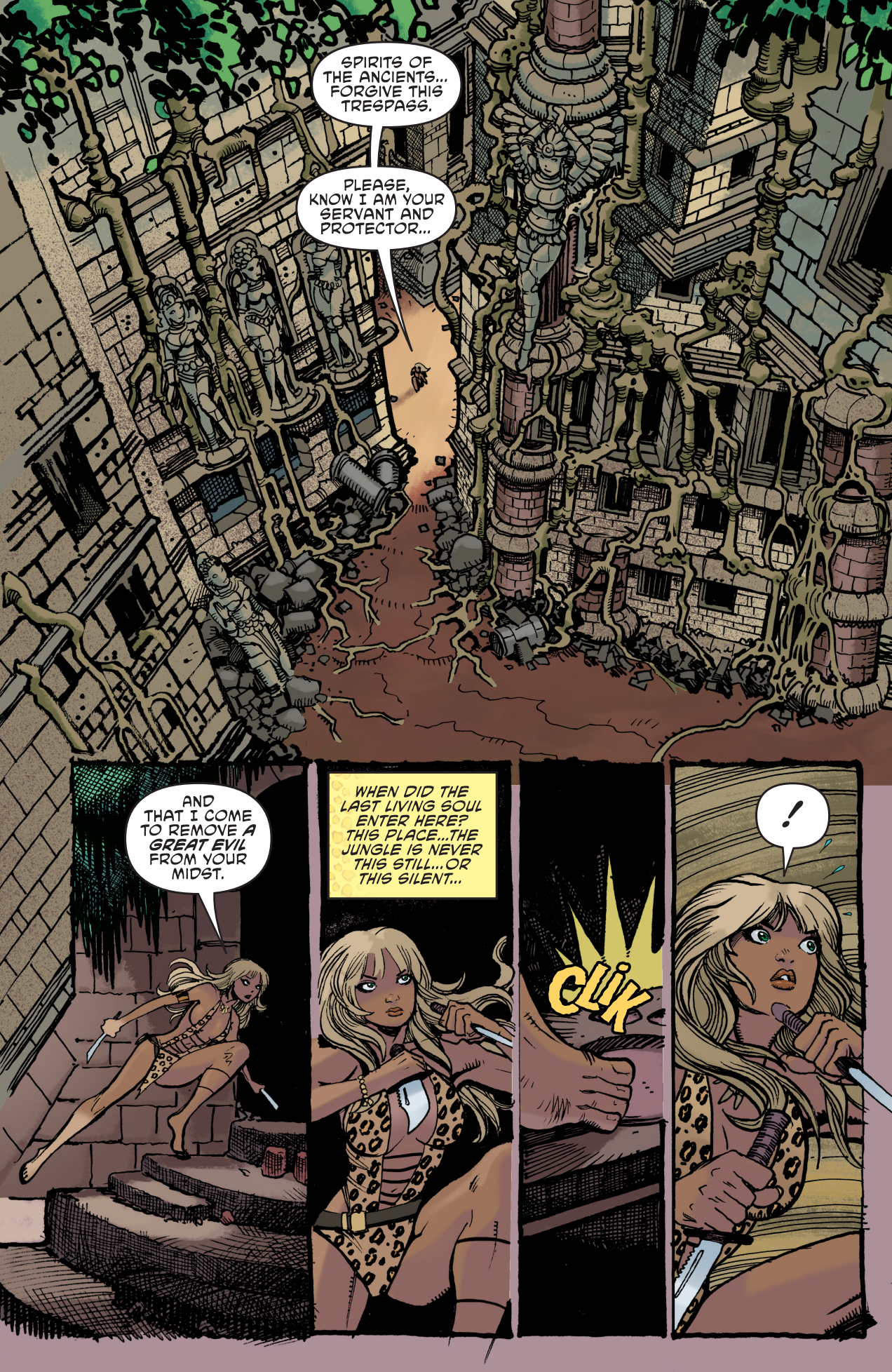

AHHH, LOOK...THE FLYING TURTLE STILL THINKS IT SOARS UNNOTICED.
AN EVIL EYE IN A SHELL OF METAL...
...SUCH A THING CAN ONLY BE A TOOL OF THE COWODI*. THEY SPY UPON US BECAUSE THEIR MASTERS ARE TOO COWARDLY TO FACE ME.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU CALL A FLYING TURTLE, YAGUA?
*COWODI= "OUTSIDERS".

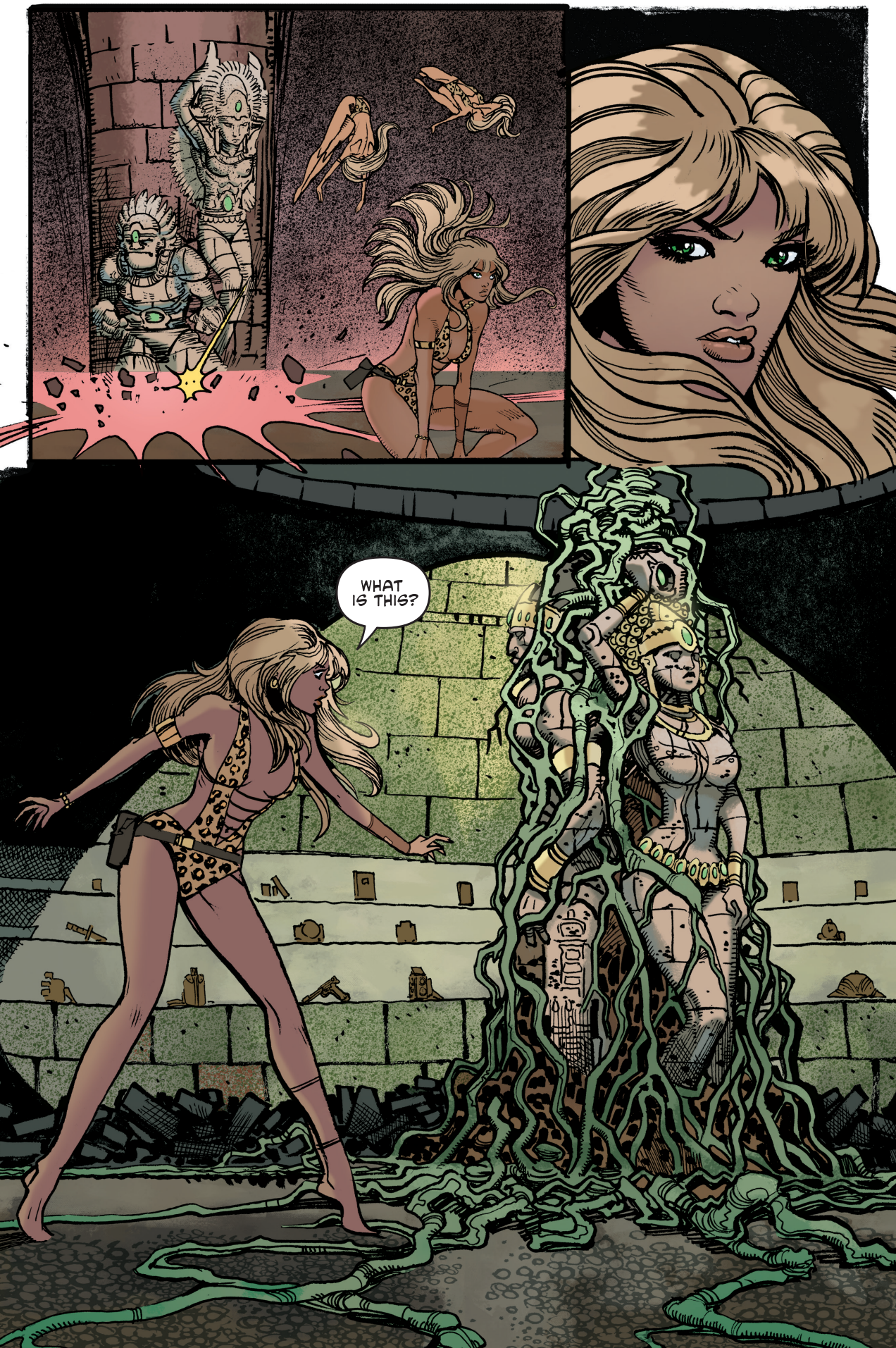

TARGET PRACTICE.

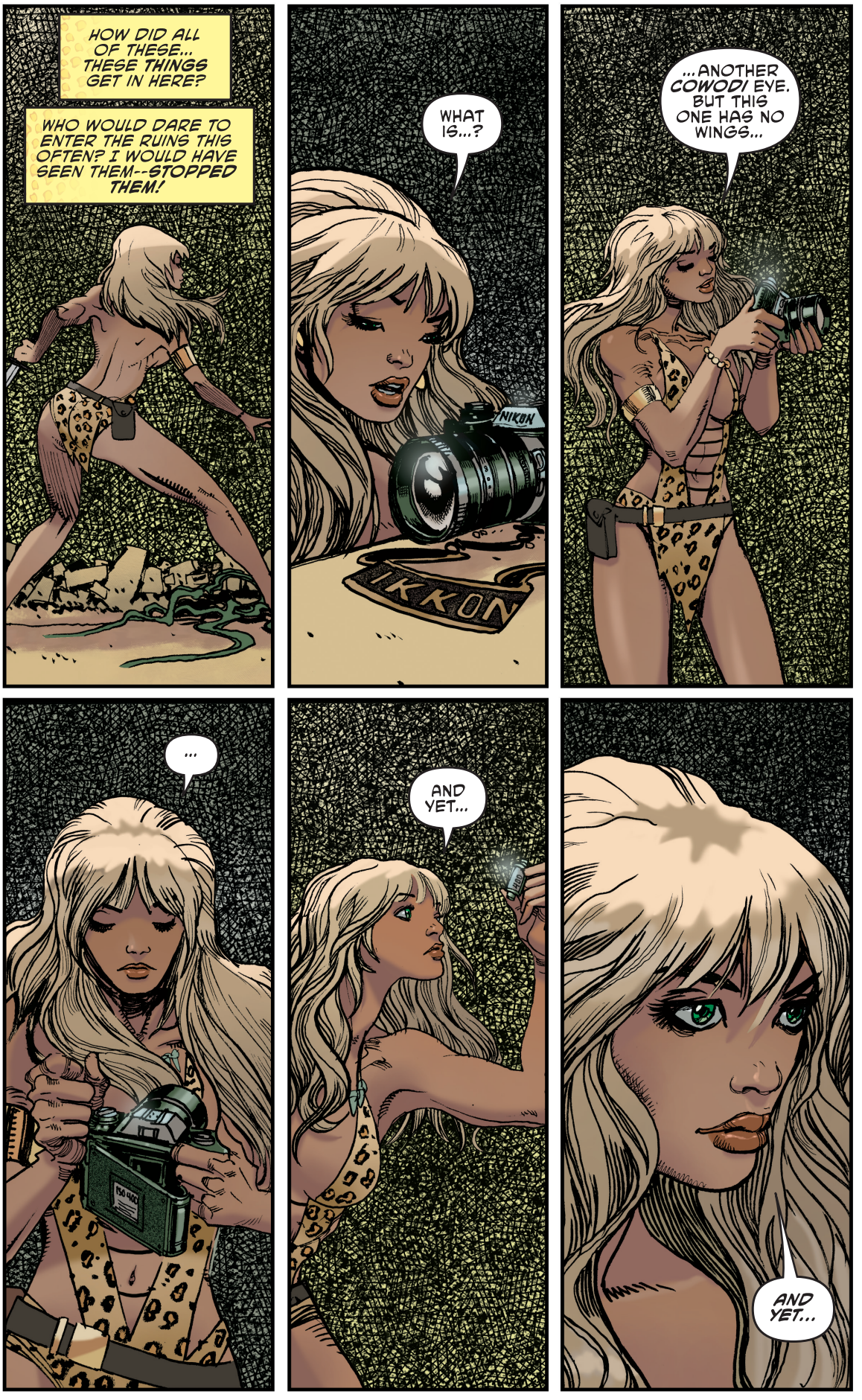

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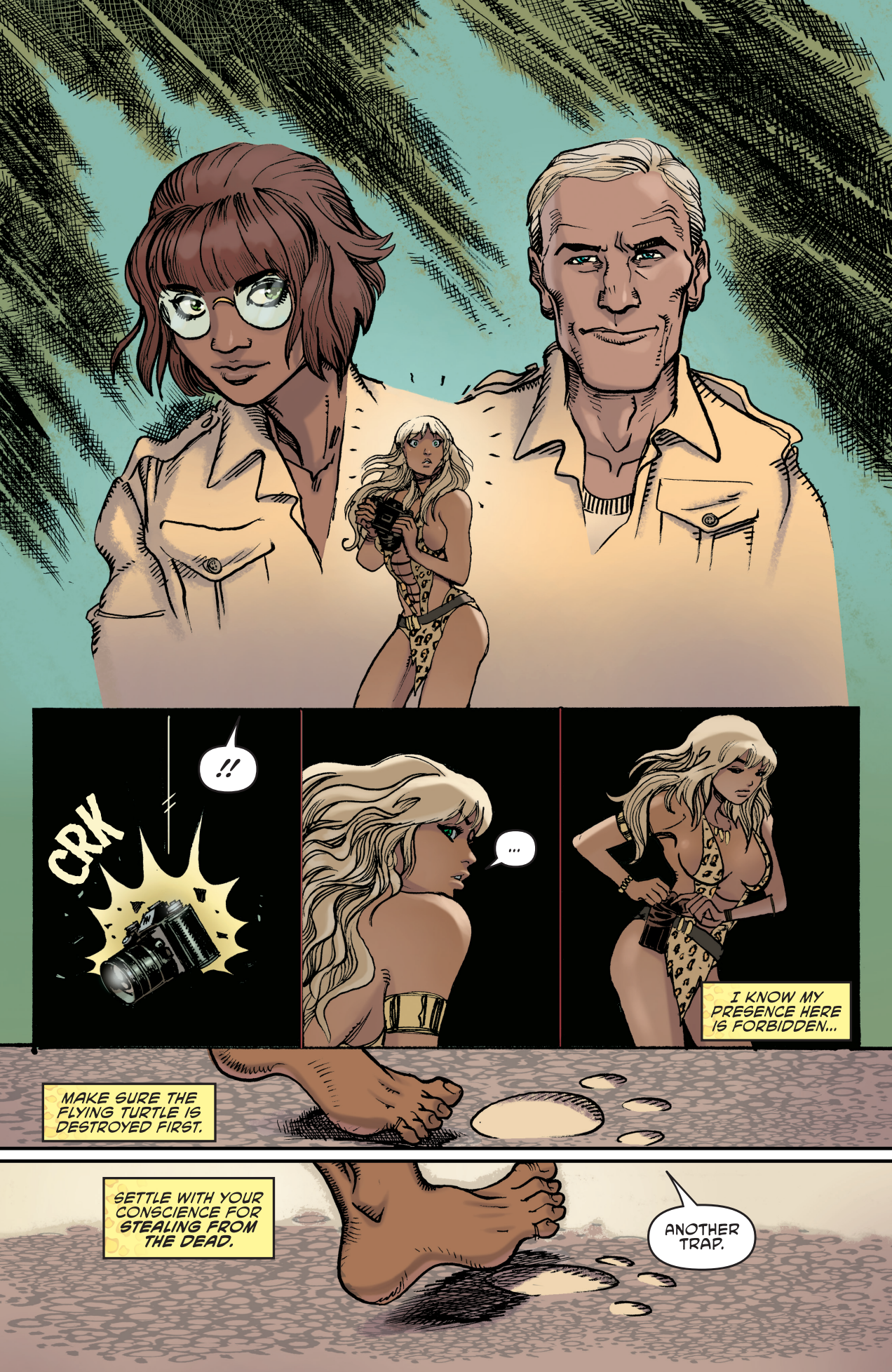

OH, NO, NO, NO, NO--
--DON'T FALL THERE-- NOT THERE.

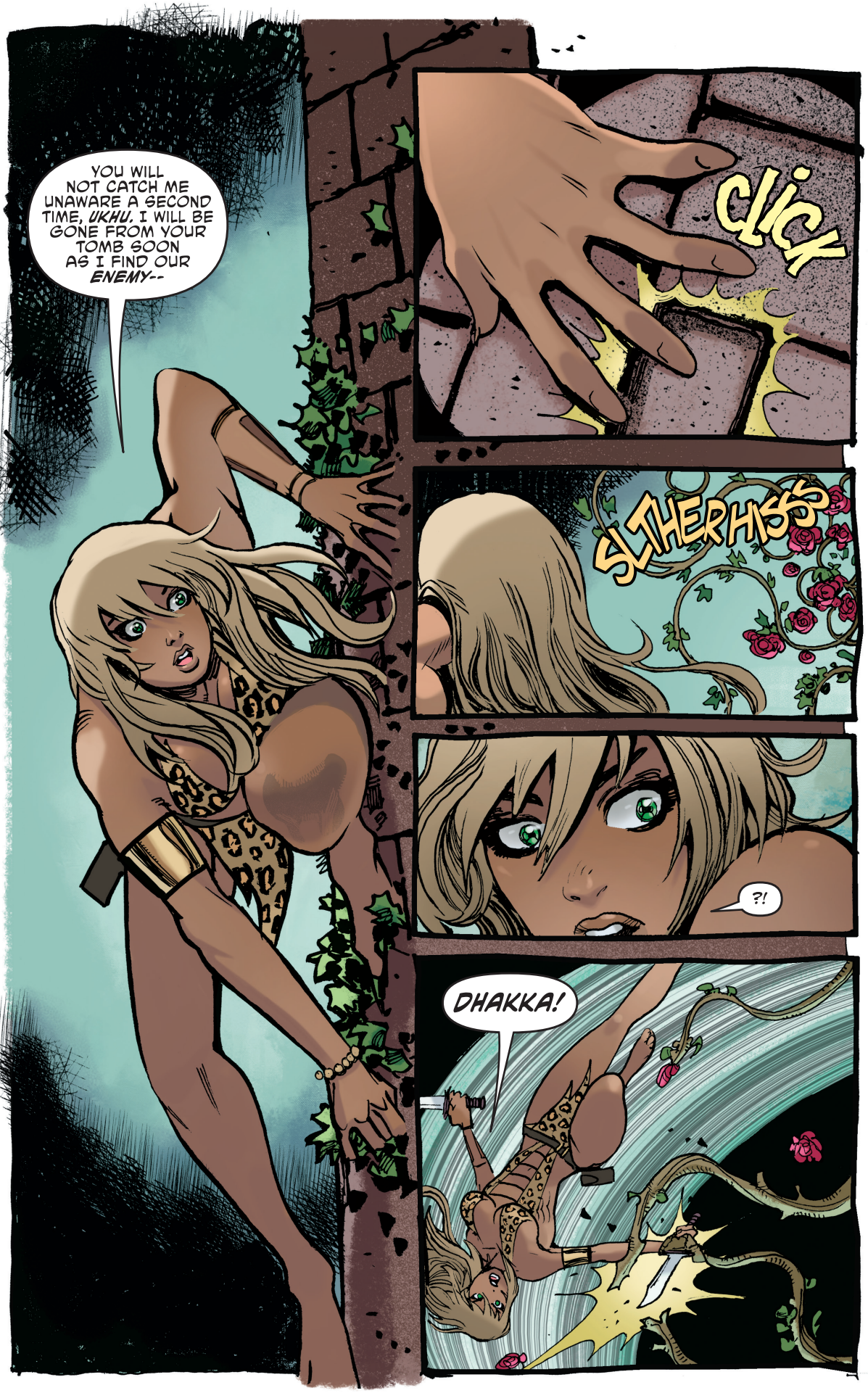

THE TEMPLE IS FORBIDDEN GROUND... NOT EVEN THE SMALLEST INSECTS ARE PERMITTED TO ENTER THERE.
WHAT IF WE ANGER THE THE ANCIENT ONES?!
I SHOULD HAVE SHOT IT DOWN SOONER, BUT NOW...
NOW A COWODI SERVANT HAS TRESPASSED WHERE NONE ARE PERMITTED TO GO! I CANNOT ENTER THIS PLACE, YAGUA!
WHICH IS THE GREATER EVIL--FOR ME TO ENTER, OR FOR THAT SPY TO BE LEFT ON SACRED GROUND?
BUT IF THE FLYING TURTLE SURVIVES...REPORTS BACK TO ITS MASTERS BEYOND THE FORESTS, IF THE OUTSIDERS COME IN FORCE...
ENTERING THE HOLY PLACE IS FORBIDDEN AND YET NOW IT IS DEFILED BY THE COWODI SPY.
THIS IS MY FAULT. THIS HOLY PLACE HAS BEEN DEFILED BECAUSE OF ME...IT BREAKS MY SWORN VOW...I CANNOT SET FOOT WITHIN THE RUINS.
NO. WHAT HAVE I TO FEAR?
I AM SHEENA, PROTECTOR OF MOTHER FOREST AND HER SACRED LANDS--PLACES SUCH AS THIS. I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS INTRUSION. MY DUTY IS TO UNDO IT.
WHAM

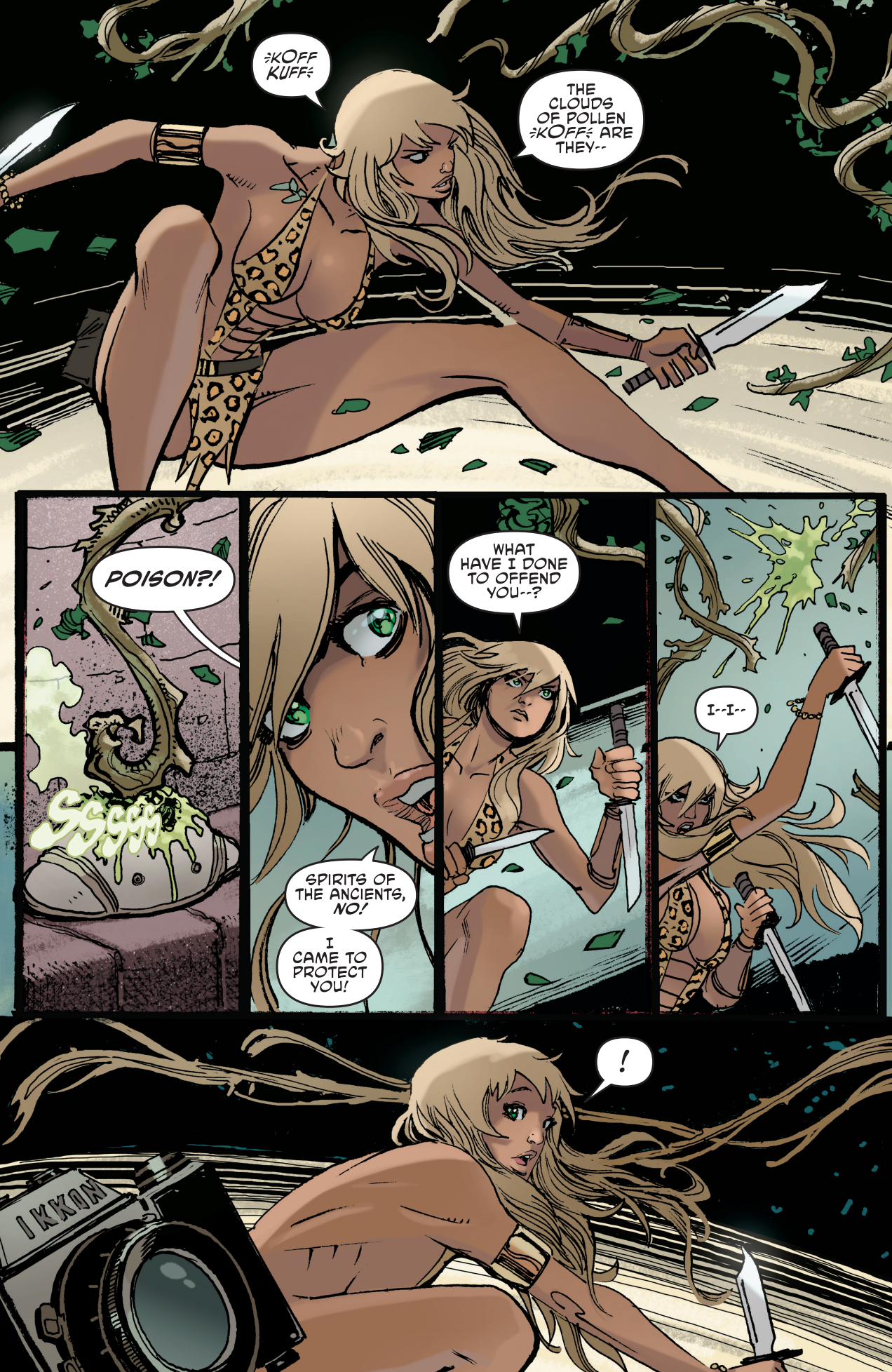

SPIRITS OF THE ANCIENTS... FORGIVE THIS TRESPASS.
PLEASE, KNOW I AM YOUR SERVANT AND PROTECTOR...
AND THAT I COME TO REMOVE A GREAT EVIL FROM YOUR MIDST.
WHEN DID THE LAST LIVING SOUL ENTER HERE? THIS PLACE...THE JUNGLE IS NEVER THIS STILL...OR THIS SILENT...
CLIK
!

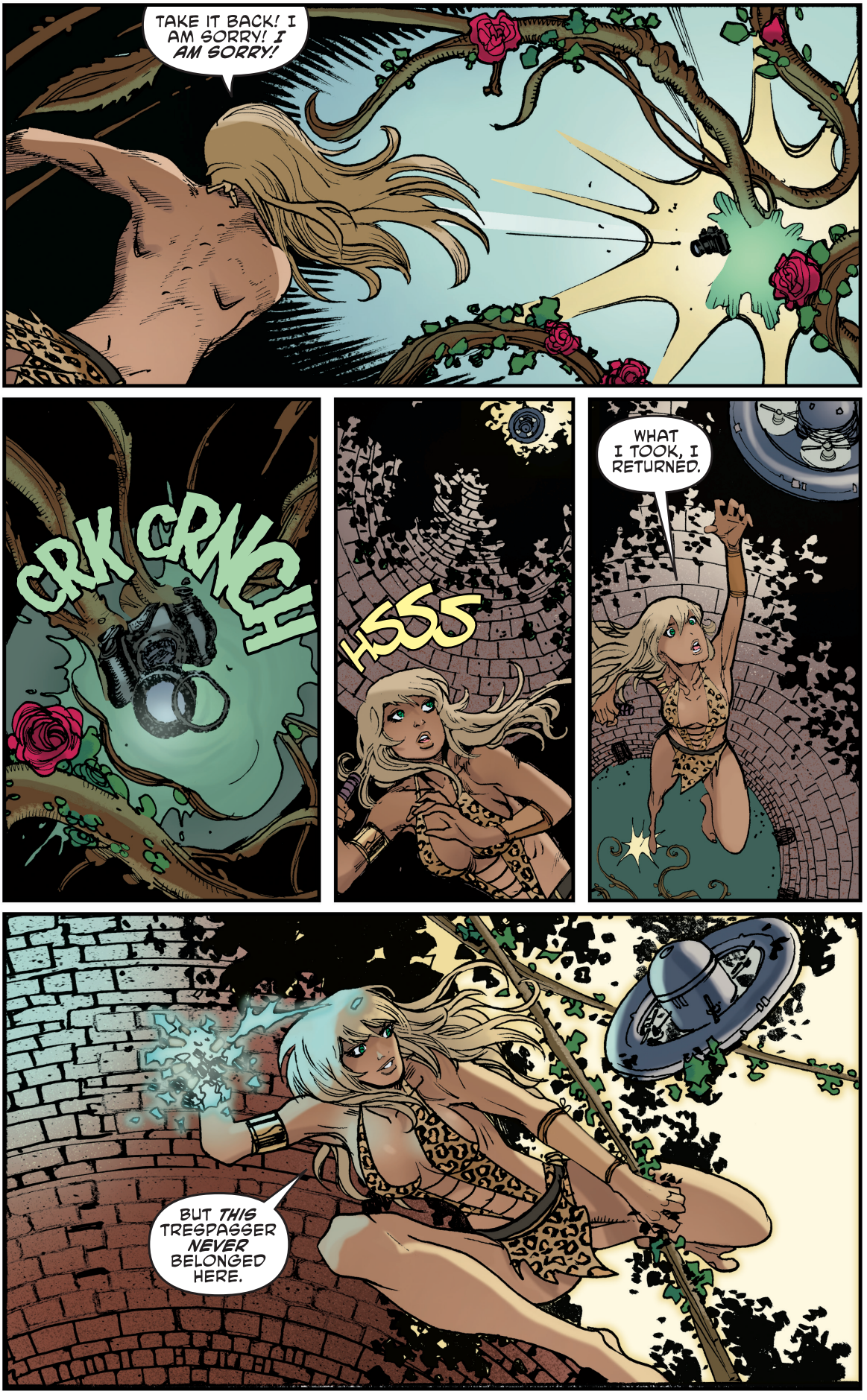

WHAT IS THIS?

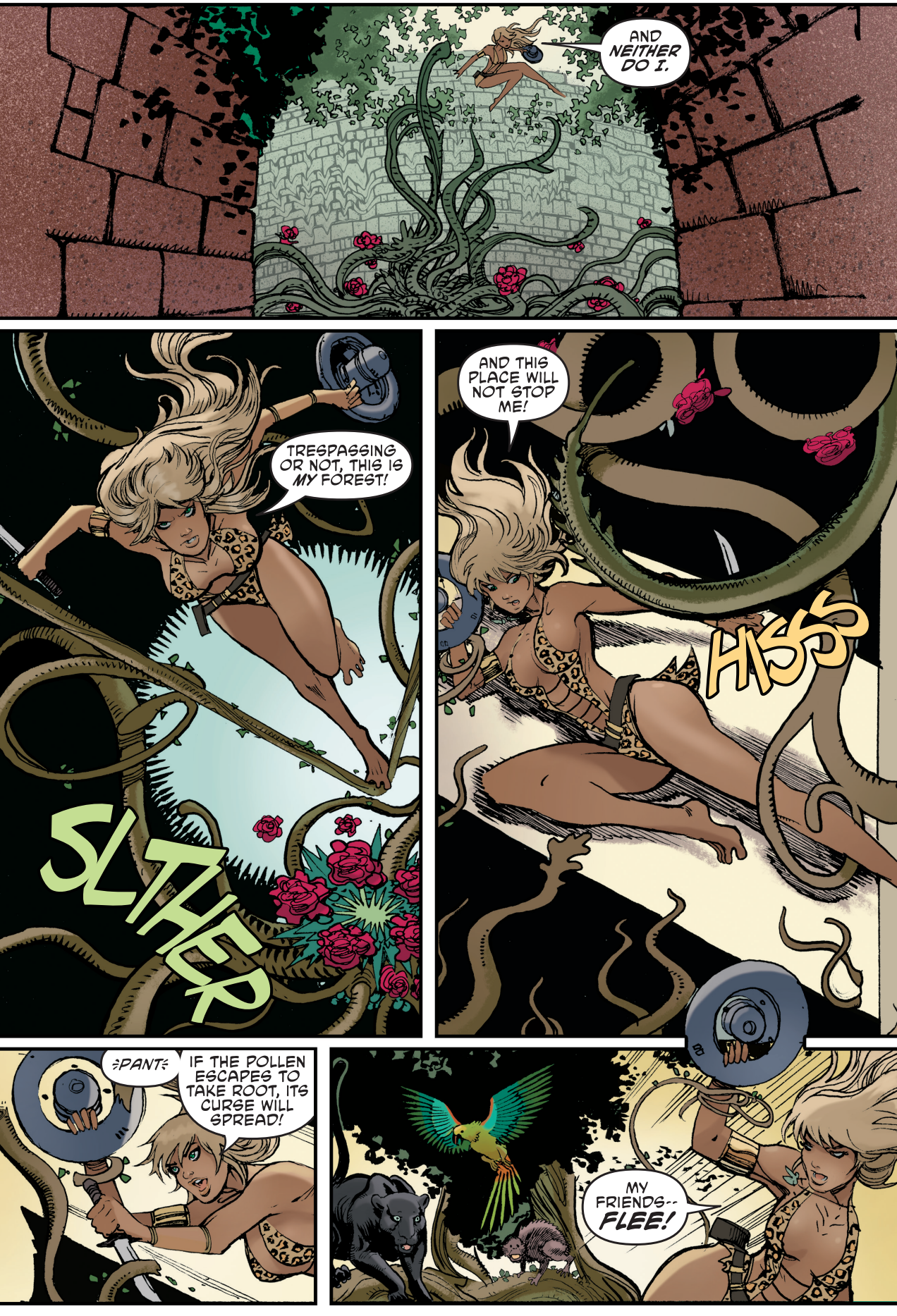

HOW DID ALL OF THESE... THESE THINGS GET IN HERE?
WHO WOULD DARE TO ENTER THE RUINS THIS OFTEN? I WOULD HAVE SEEN THEM--STOPPED THEM!
WHAT IS...?
NIKON
IKKON
...ANOTHER COWODI EYE. BUT THIS ONE HAS NO WINGS...
...
AND YET...
AND YET...


CRK
!!
...
I KNOW MY PRESENCE HERE IS FORBIDDEN...
MAKE SURE THE FLYING TURTLE IS DESTROYED FIRST.
SETTLE WITH YOUR CONSCIENCE FOR STEALING FROM THE DEAD.
ANOTHER TRAP.

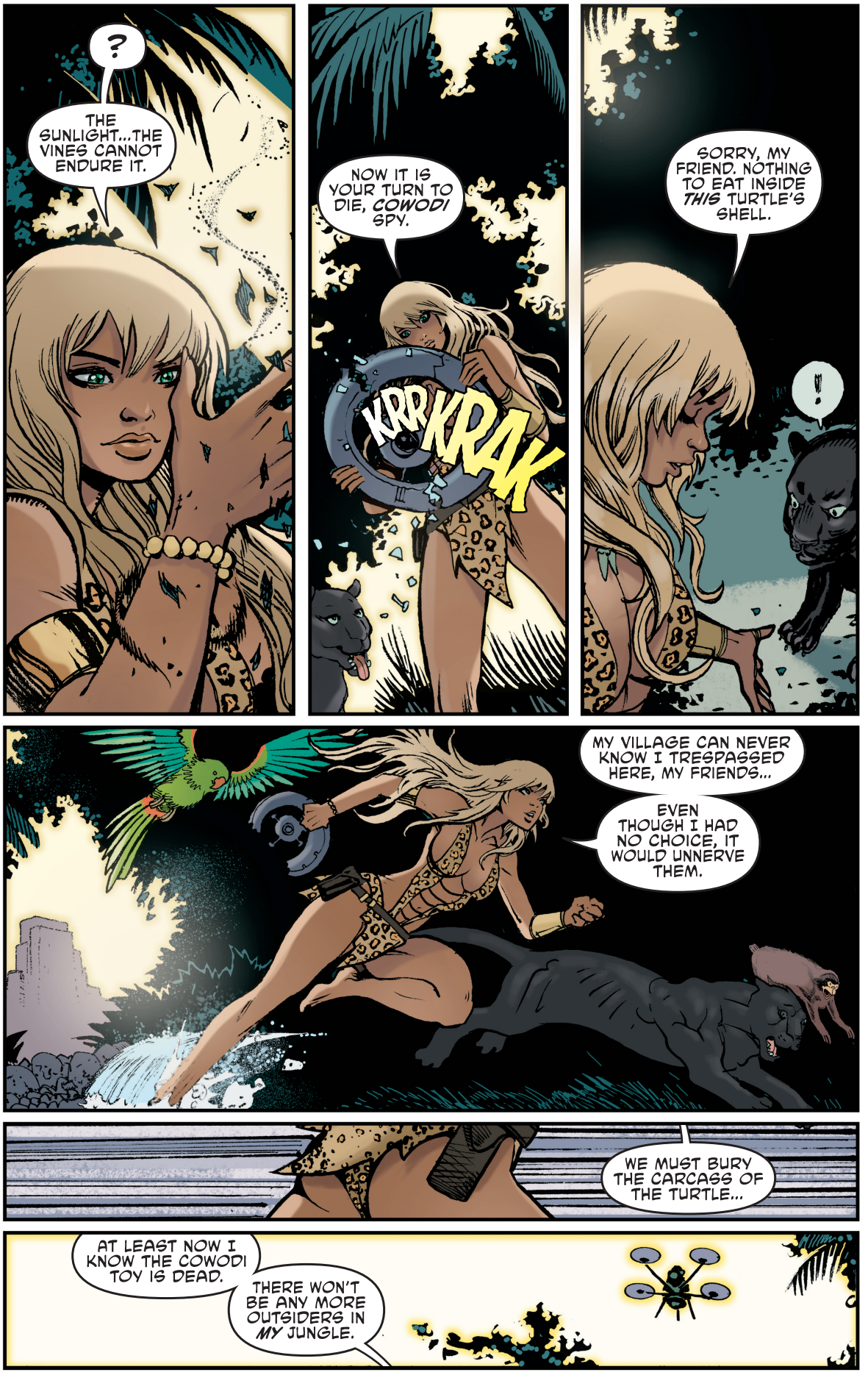

YOU WILL NOT CATCH ME UNAWARE A SECOND TIME, *UKHU*. I WILL BE GONE FROM YOUR TOMB SOON AS I FIND OUR *ENEMY*--
CLICK
SLITHERHISS
?!
DHAKKA!

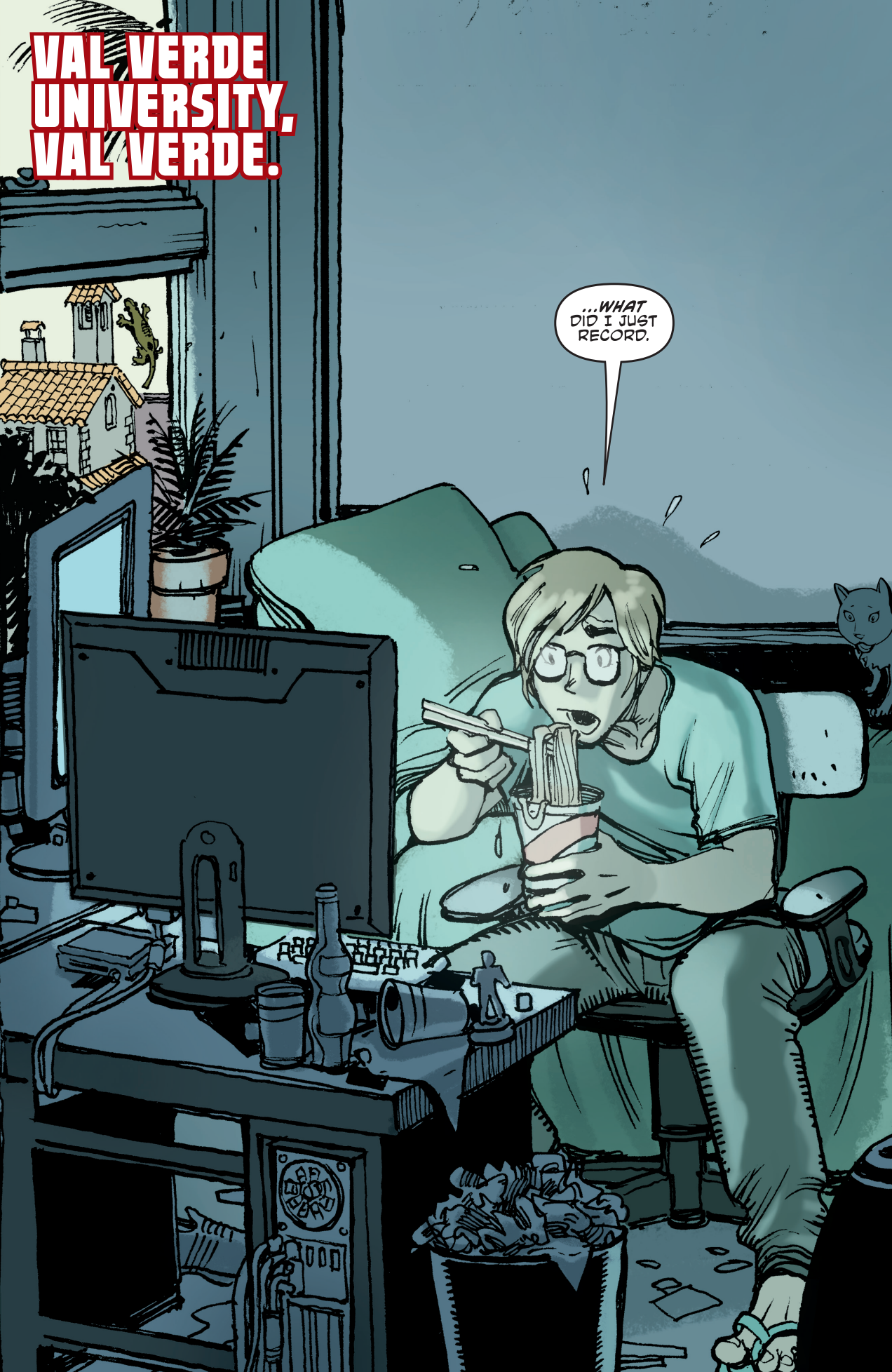

KOFF KUFF
THE CLOUDS OF POLLEN *KOFF* ARE THEY--
POISON?!
SSSSS
SPIRITS OF THE ANCIENTS, NO!
I CAME TO PROTECT YOU!
WHAT HAVE I DONE TO OFFEND YOU--?
I--I--
!
IKKON


TAKE IT BACK! I AM SORRY! I AM SORRY!
CRK CRNCH
HSSS
WHAT I TOOK, I RETURNED.
BUT THIS TRESPASSER NEVER BELONGED HERE.


AND NEITHER DO I.
TRESPASSING OR NOT, THIS IS MY FOREST!
SLITHER
AND THIS PLACE WILL NOT STOP ME!
HISS
=PANT= IF THE POLLEN ESCAPES TO TAKE ROOT, ITS CURSE WILL SPREAD!
MY FRIENDS-- FLEE!

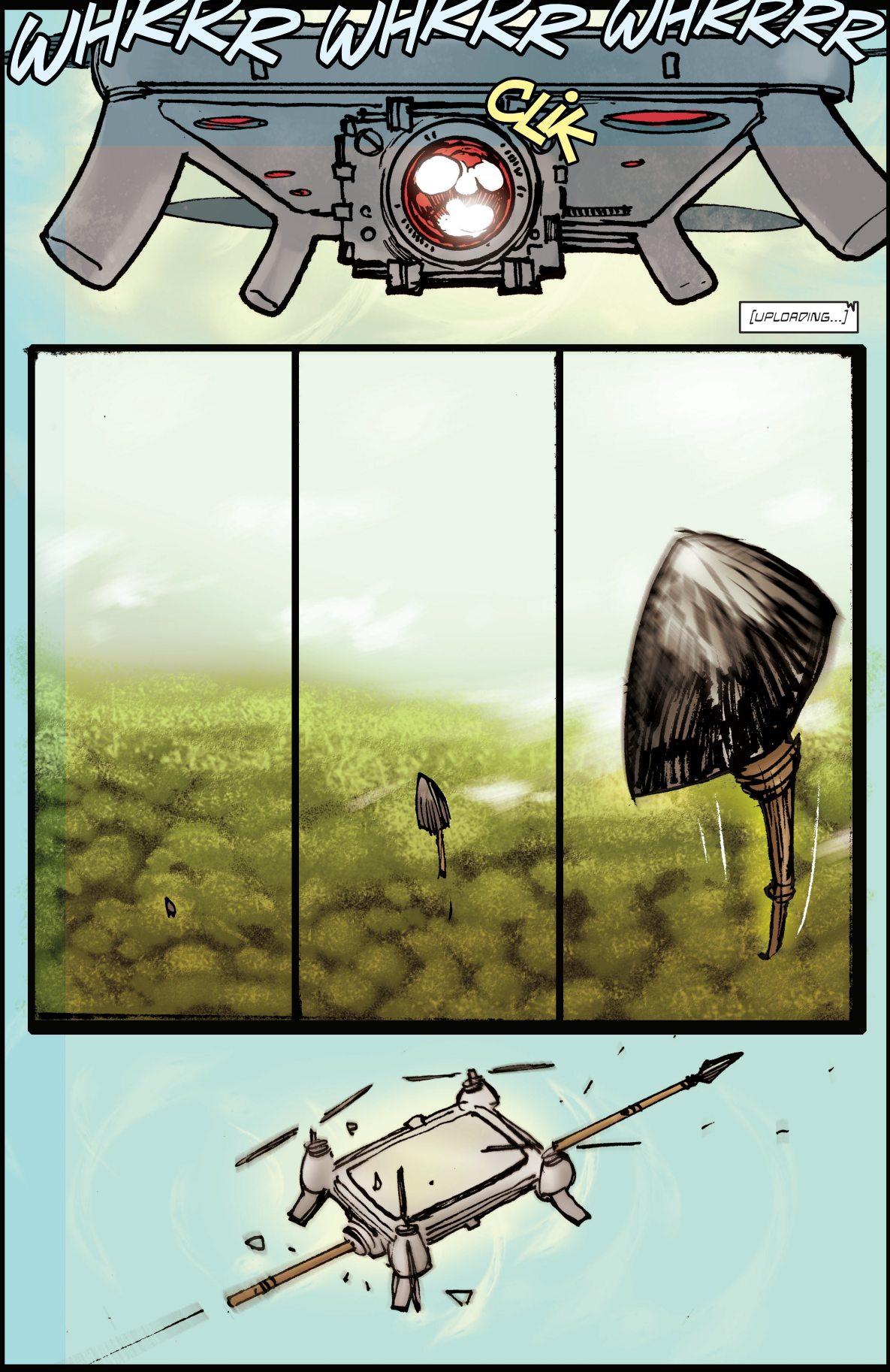

I MUST CLOSE THE DOOR, EVEN IF IT MEANS MY LIFE--
FWIP
CREEEAK
WHIP
CRNCH
DOOM

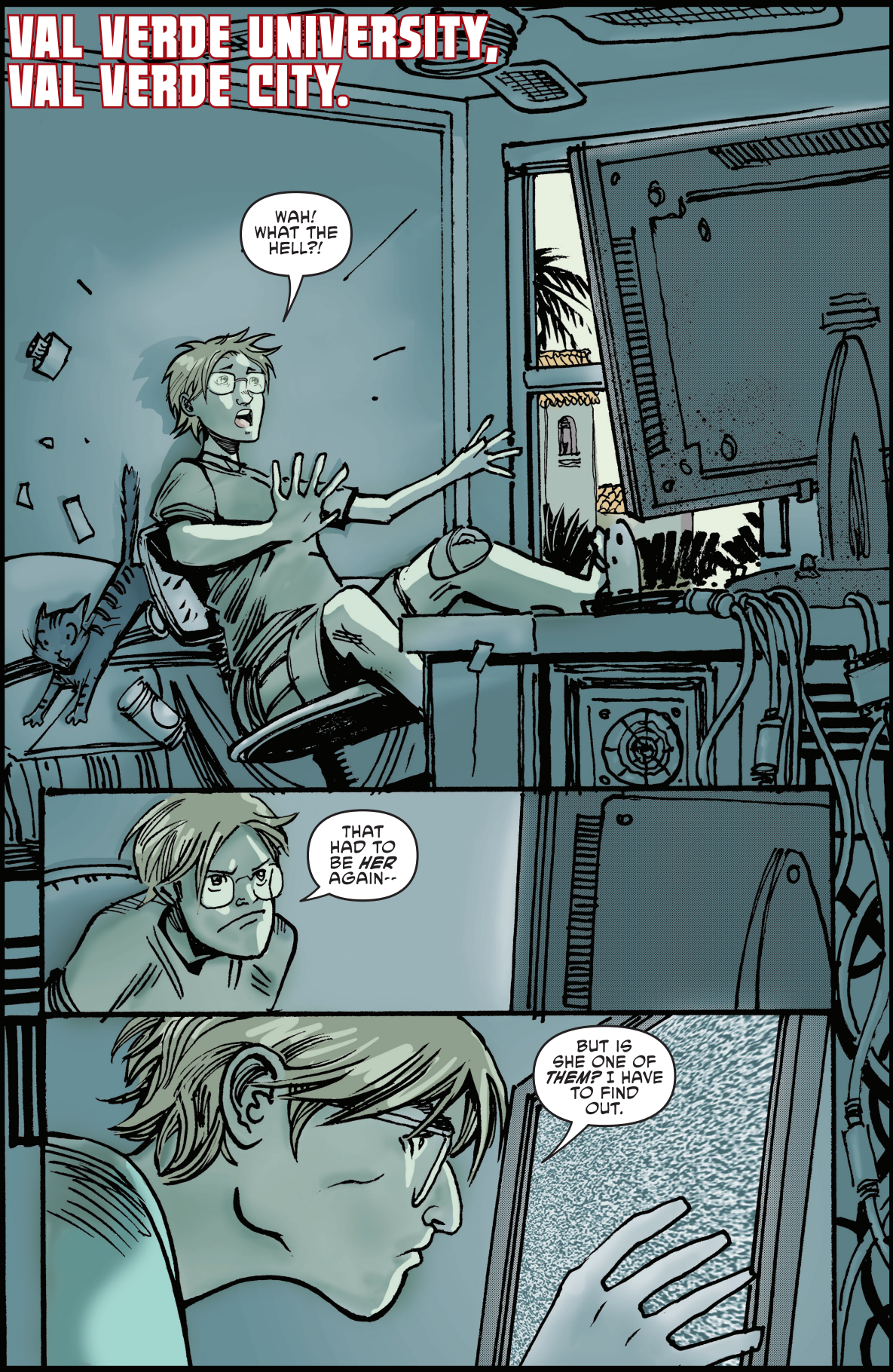

?
THE SUNLIGHT...THE VINES CANNOT ENDURE IT.
NOW IT IS YOUR TURN TO DIE, COWODI SPY.
KRRKRAK
SORRY, MY FRIEND. NOTHING TO EAT INSIDE THIS TURTLE'S SHELL.
!
MY VILLAGE CAN NEVER KNOW I TRESPASSED HERE, MY FRIENDS...
EVEN THOUGH I HAD NO CHOICE, IT WOULD UNNERVE THEM.
WE MUST BURY THE CARCASS OF THE TURTLE...
AT LEAST NOW I KNOW THE COWODI TOY IS DEAD.
THERE WON'T BE ANY MORE OUTSIDERS IN MY JUNGLE.

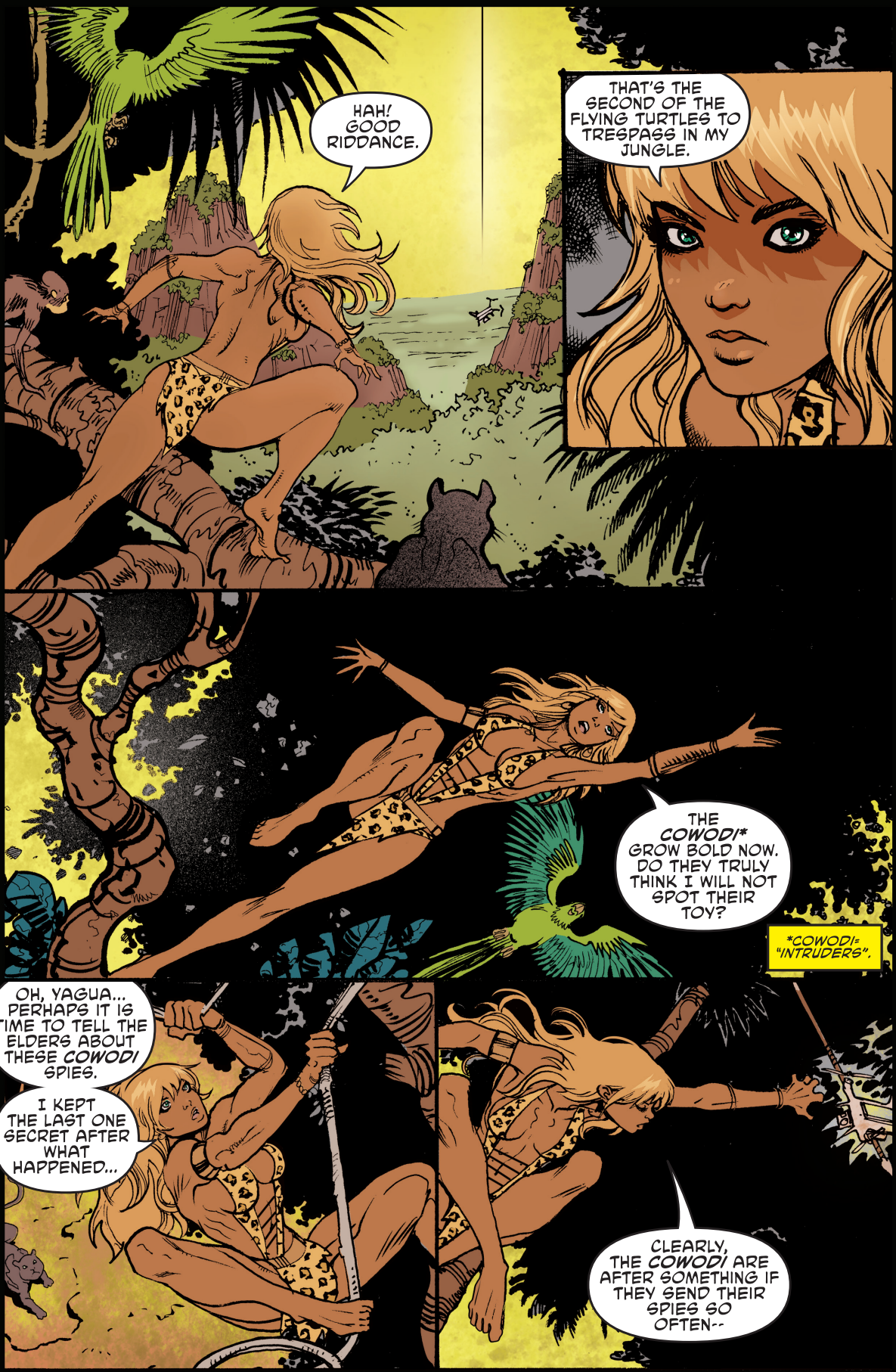

VAL VERDE UNIVERSITY, VAL VERDE.
...WHAT DID I JUST RECORD.

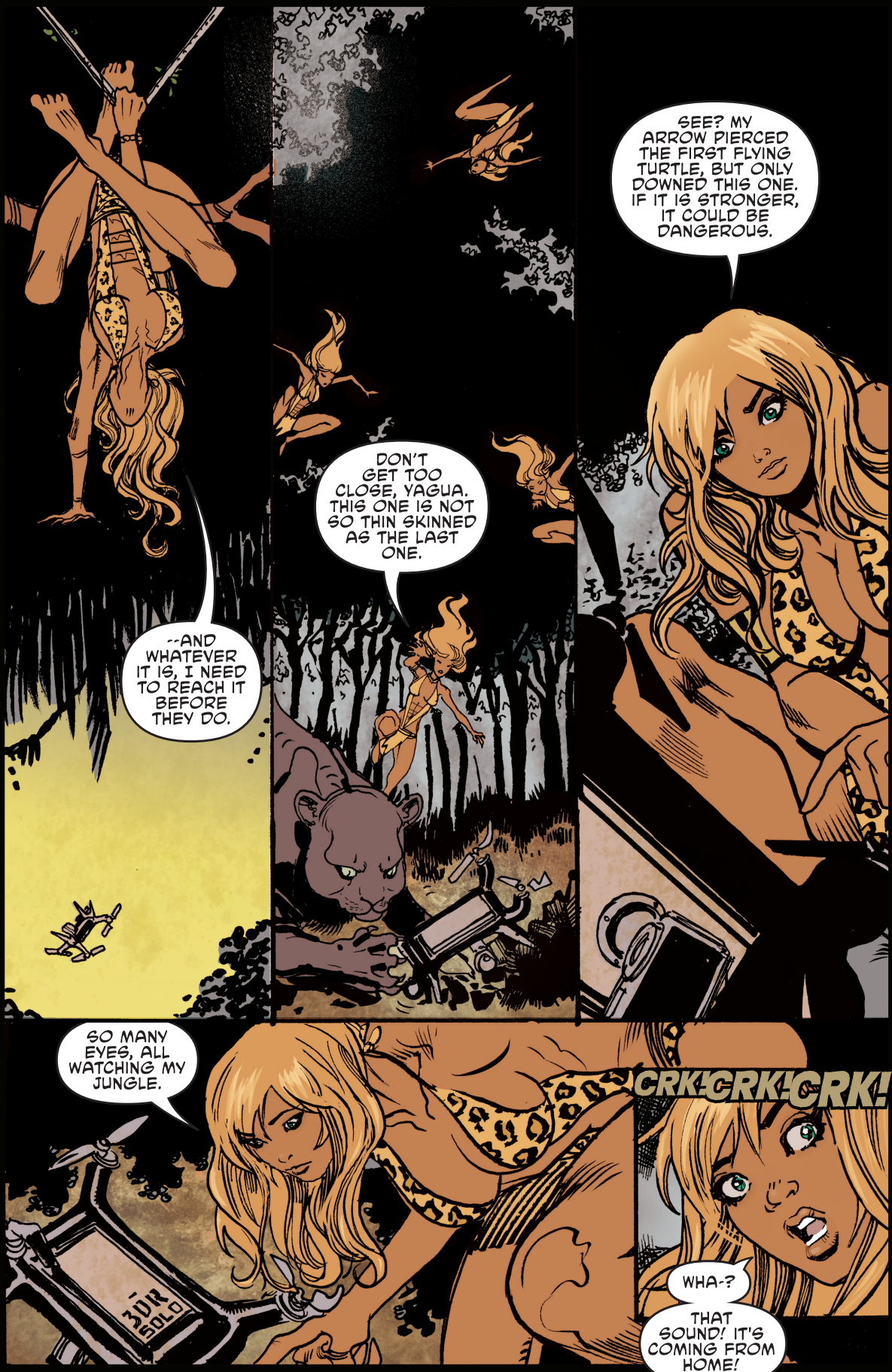

ISSUE #1 COVER
ART BY J. SCOTT CAMPBELL
COLORS BY SABINE RICH

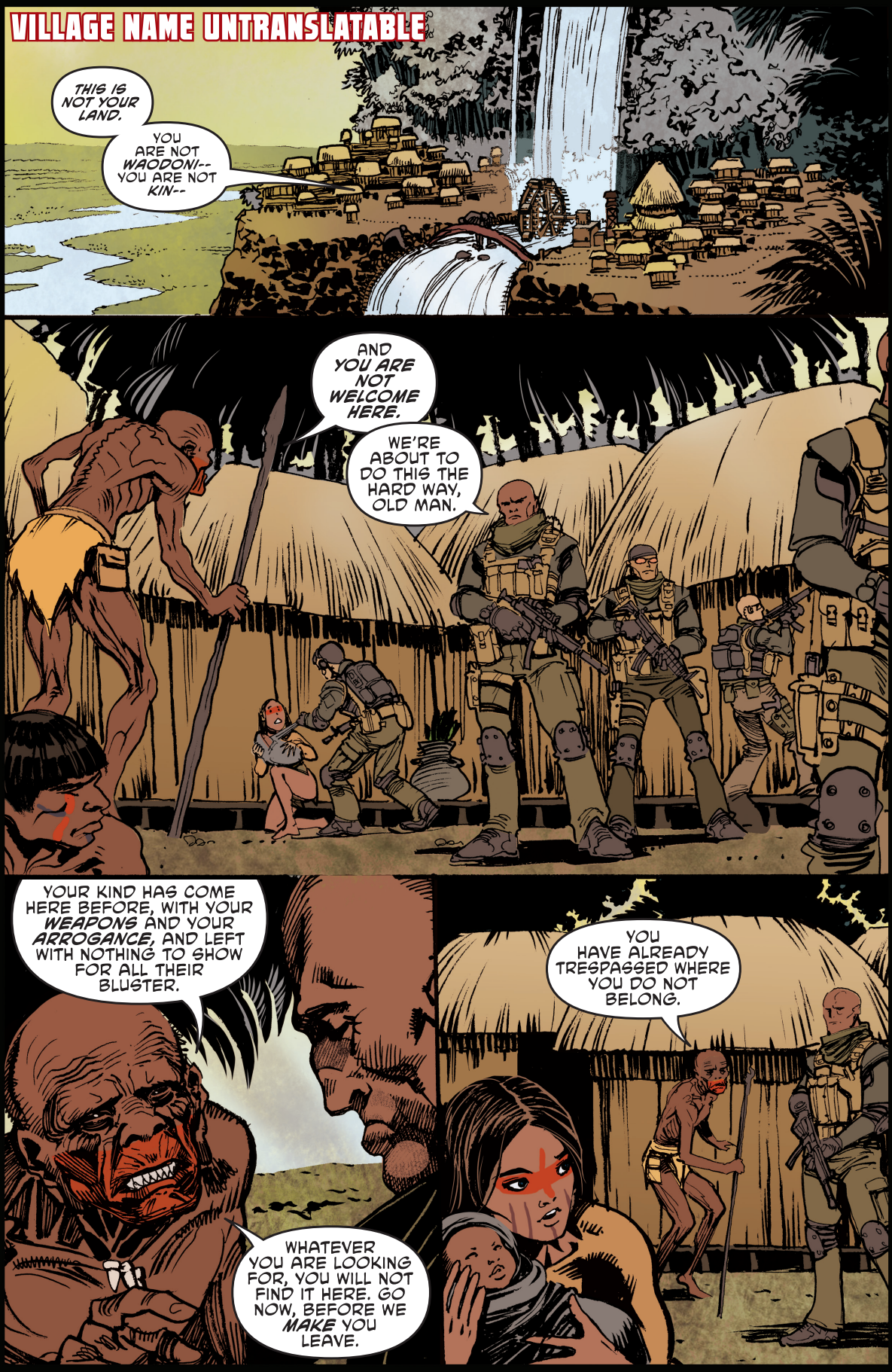



WHRRR WHRRR WHRRRR
CLIK
[UPLOADING...]


VAL VERDE UNIVERSITY, VAL VERDE CITY.
WAH! WHAT THE HELL?!
THAT HAD TO BE *HER* AGAIN--
BUT IS SHE ONE OF *THEM?* I HAVE TO FIND OUT.


HAH! GOOD RIDDANCE.
THAT'S THE SECOND OF THE FLYING TURTLES TO TRESPASS IN MY JUNGLE.
THE COWODI* GROW BOLD NOW. DO THEY TRULY THINK I WILL NOT SPOT THEIR TOY?
*COWODI= "INTRUDERS".
OH, YAGUA... PERHAPS IT IS TIME TO TELL THE ELDERS ABOUT THESE COWODI SPIES.
I KEPT THE LAST ONE SECRET AFTER WHAT HAPPENED...
CLEARLY, THE COWODI ARE AFTER SOMETHING IF THEY SEND THEIR SPIES SO OFTEN--


--AND WHATEVER IT IS, I NEED TO REACH IT BEFORE THEY DO.
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE, YAGUA. THIS ONE IS NOT SO THIN SKINNED AS THE LAST ONE.
SEE? MY ARROW PIERCED THE FIRST FLYING TURTLE, BUT ONLY DOWNED THIS ONE. IF IT IS STRONGER, IT COULD BE DANGEROUS.
SO MANY EYES, ALL WATCHING MY JUNGLE.
CRK-CRK-CRK!
WHA-?
THAT SOUND! IT'S COMING FROM HOME!

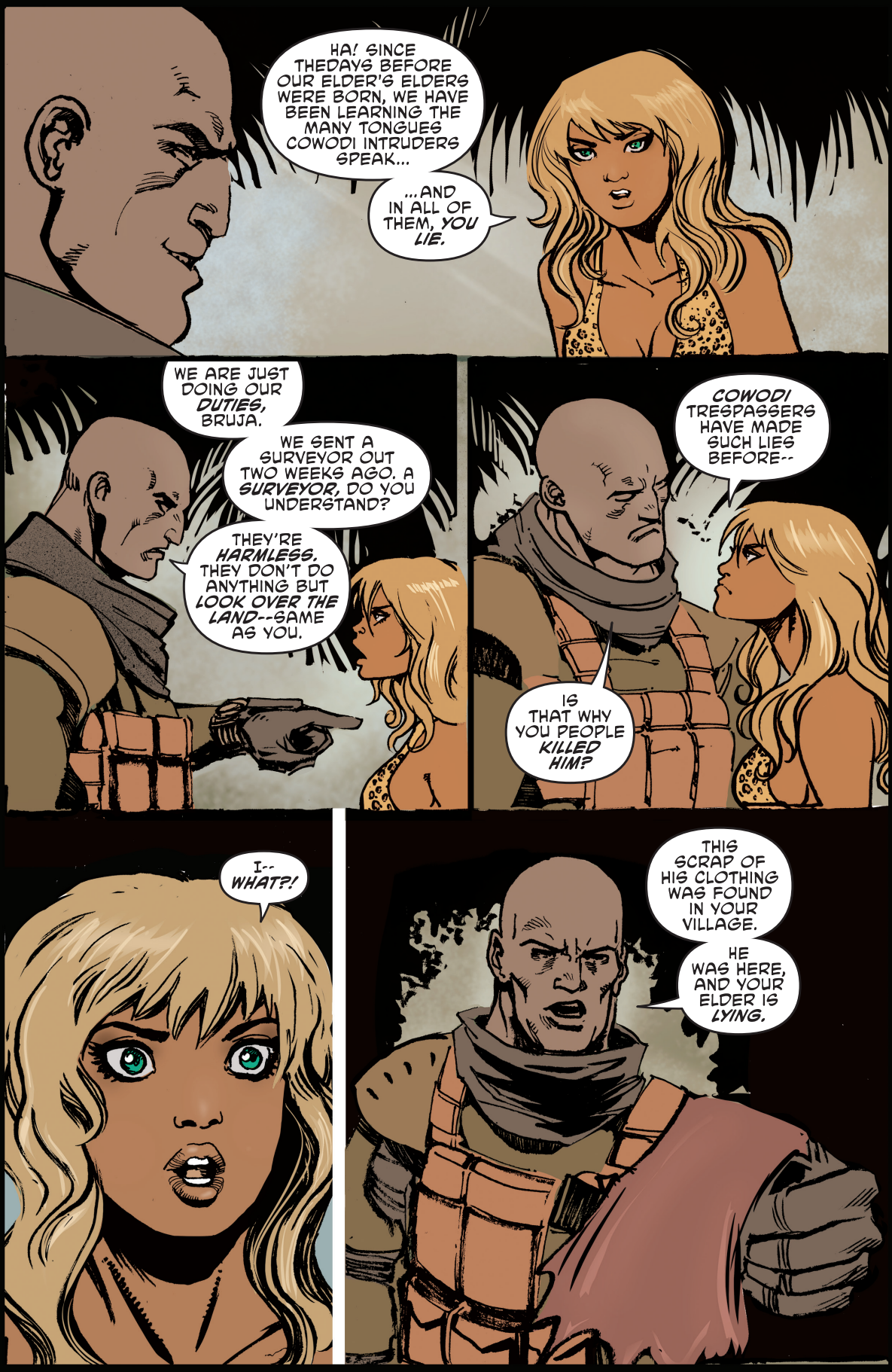

VILLAGE NAME UNTRANSLATABLE
THIS IS NOT YOUR LAND.
YOU ARE NOT WAODONI-- YOU ARE NOT KIN--
AND YOU ARE NOT WELCOME HERE.
WE'RE ABOUT TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY, OLD MAN.
YOUR KIND HAS COME HERE BEFORE, WITH YOUR WEAPONS AND YOUR ARROGANCE, AND LEFT WITH NOTHING TO SHOW FOR ALL THEIR BLUSTER.
WHATEVER YOU ARE LOOKING FOR, YOU WILL NOT FIND IT HERE. GO NOW, BEFORE WE MAKE YOU LEAVE.
YOU HAVE ALREADY TRESPASSED WHERE YOU DO NOT BELONG.

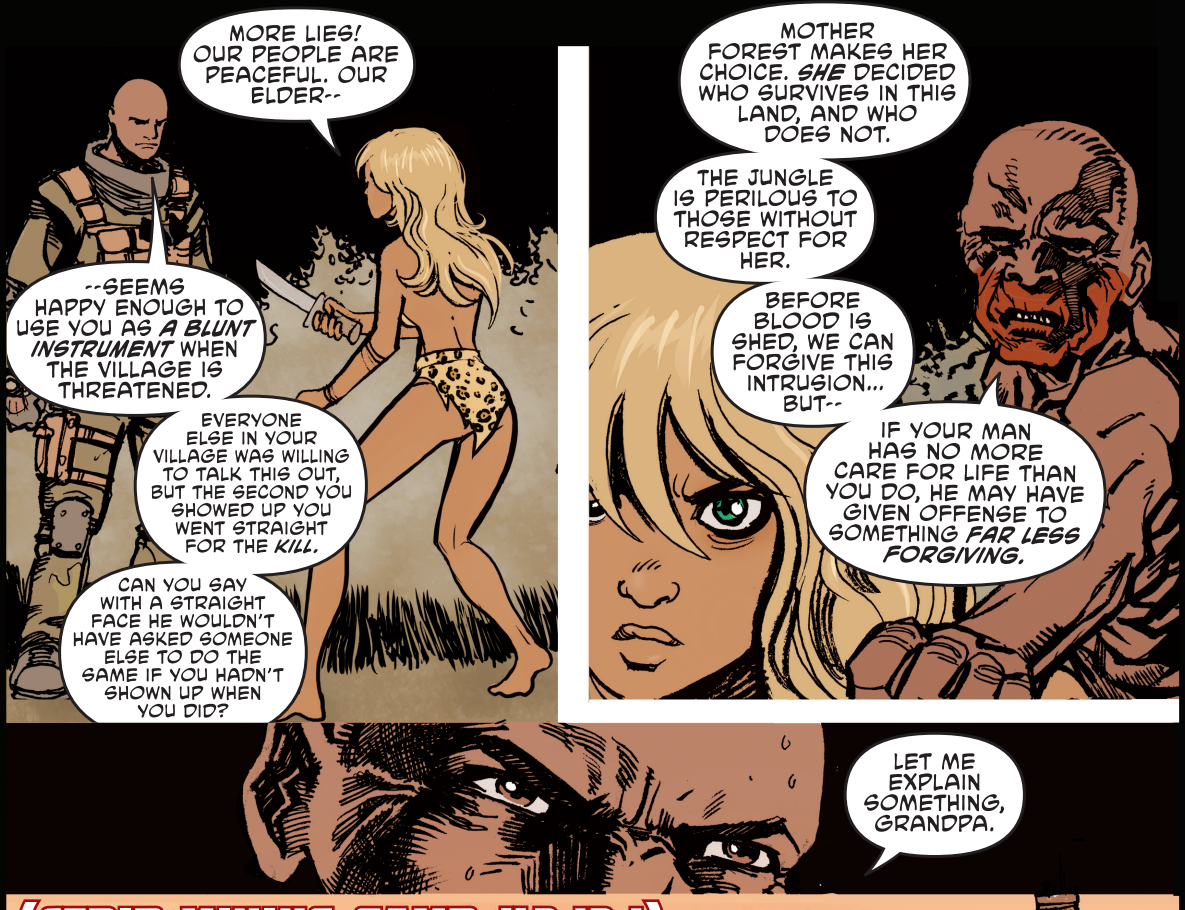

LET ME TELL YOU A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT *"BELONGING,"* OLD MAN.
THIS LAND YOU'RE ON? IT DOESN'T BELONG TO *ANYONE,* NOT TECHNICALLY.
YOU MIGHT'VE PICKED UP SOME SPANISH, PORTUGUESE SOME ENGLISH, FROM CHRIST KNOWS WHERE--
--BUT AS FAR AS EVERY GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATE MAP AND CONTRACT IS CONCERNED...
YOU AND YOUR BACKWATER LITTLE VILLAGE *DON'T EXIST.*
YOU HAVE NO RIGHTS. NO PROTECTIONS. NO BIRTH CERTIFICATES.
AND UNLESS YOU BRING OUR SURVEYOR OUT *RIGHT NOW...*
YOU WON'T HAVE ANY *DEATH CERTIFICATES,* EITHER.

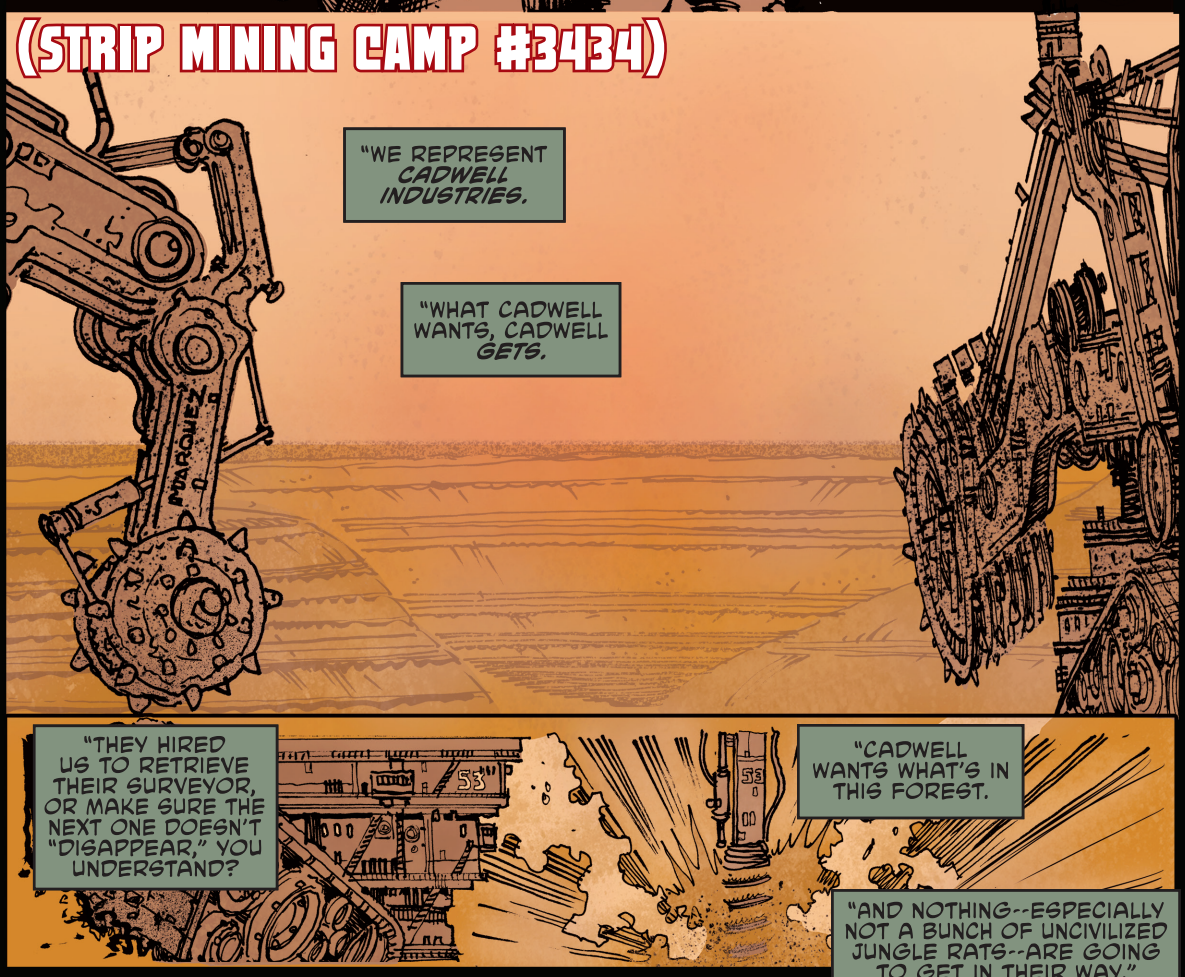

WHAT THE--!
YAGUA! PETE! CHIM--!
GHAHH!
GRRRR
AWK! DHAKKA!
!MIERDA!
SON OF A--


IT'S HER--THAT DAMN JUNGLE WITCH--!
DHAKKA!
COWODI SCUM!
WHAT THE HELL?!
HOO HOO!
HOW DARE YOU?
GET OFF OF ME, YOU CRAZY--

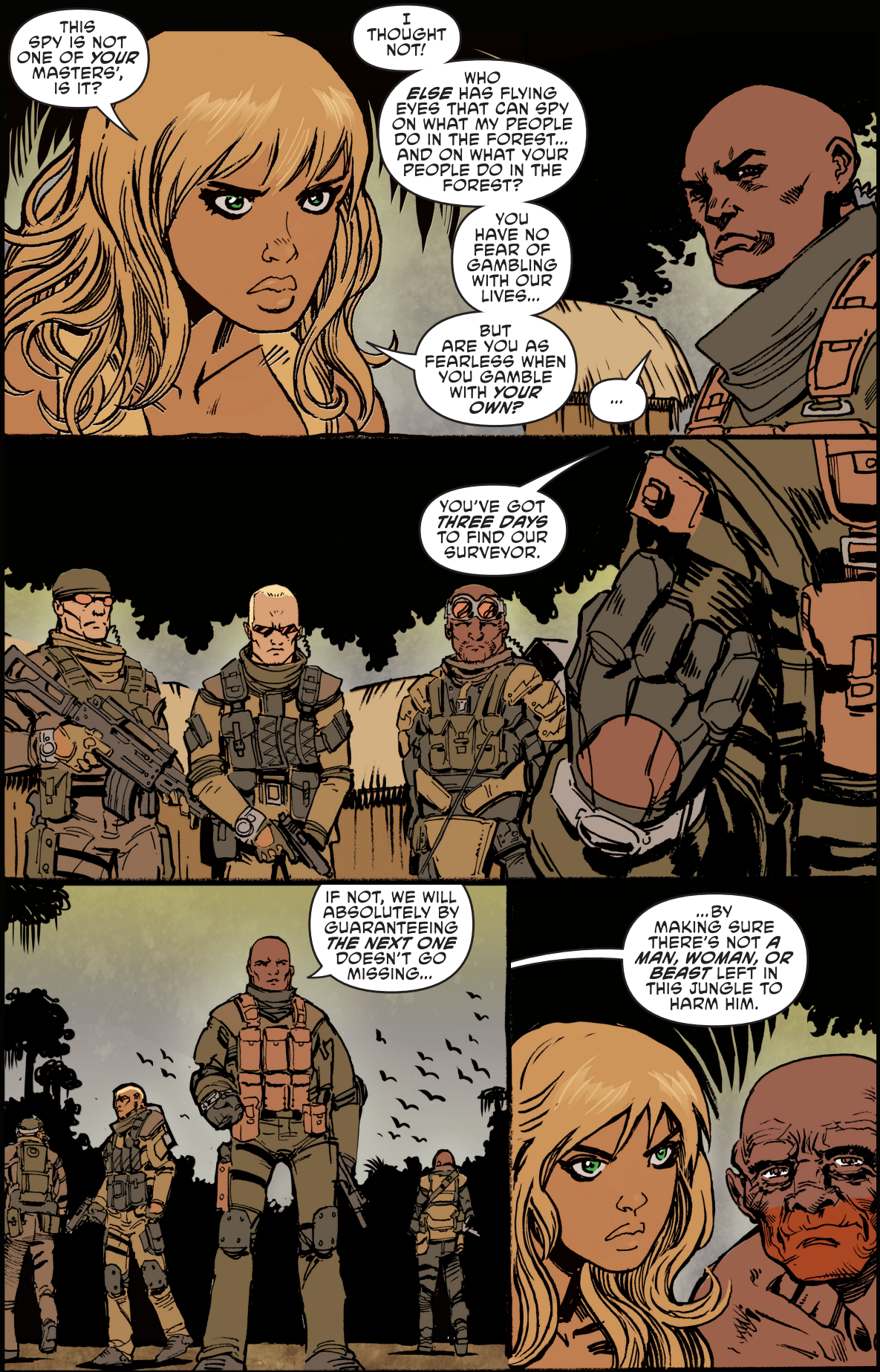

SHEENA, STOP!
YOU SOUGHT TO MURDER MY PEOPLE!
THEY TRIED TO KILL YOU, ELDER.
AND YOU HAVE GIVEN THEM MORE CAUSE TO WITH YOUR ACTIONS.
BETTER GET OFF ME, BRUJA, BEFORE YOU MAKE US DO SOMETHING YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET.
HURT THEM, AND I WILL MAKE YOU REGRET THE DAY OF YOUR BIRTH, YOU VILE TREE SLUG.
HEY. LISTEN.
WE'RE NOT THE BAD GUYS HERE.

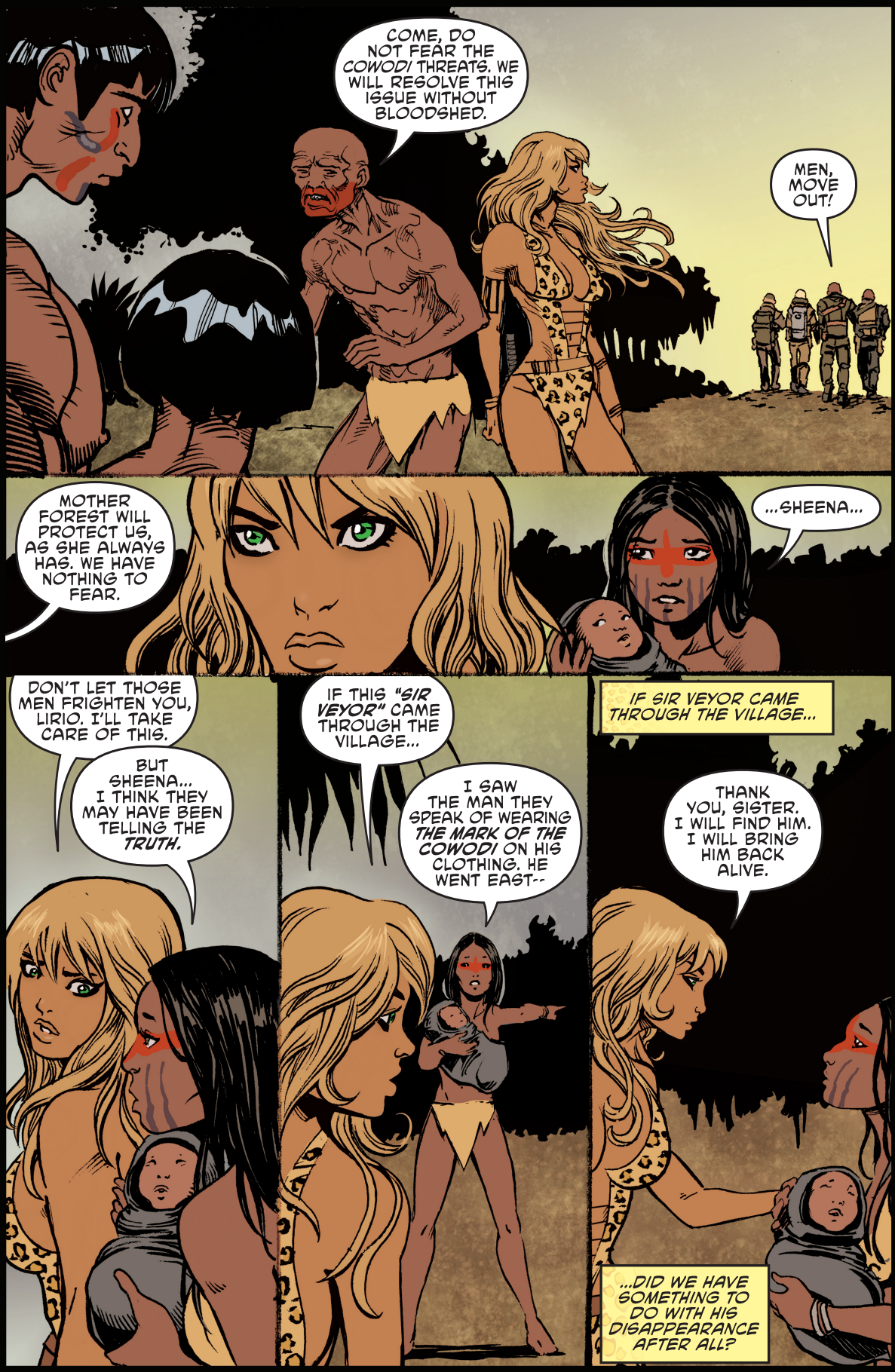

HA! SINCE THEDAYS BEFORE OUR ELDER'S ELDERS WERE BORN, WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING THE MANY TONGUES COWODI INTRUDERS SPEAK...
...AND IN ALL OF THEM, YOU LIE.
WE ARE JUST DOING OUR DUTIES, BRUJA.
WE SENT A SURVEYOR OUT TWO WEEKS AGO. A SURVEYOR, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
THEY'RE HARMLESS. THEY DON'T DO ANYTHING BUT LOOK OVER THE LAND--SAME AS YOU.
COWODI TRESPASSERS HAVE MADE SUCH LIES BEFORE--
IS THAT WHY YOU PEOPLE KILLED HIM?
I-- WHAT?!
THIS SCRAP OF HIS CLOTHING WAS FOUND IN YOUR VILLAGE.
HE WAS HERE, AND YOUR ELDER IS LYING.

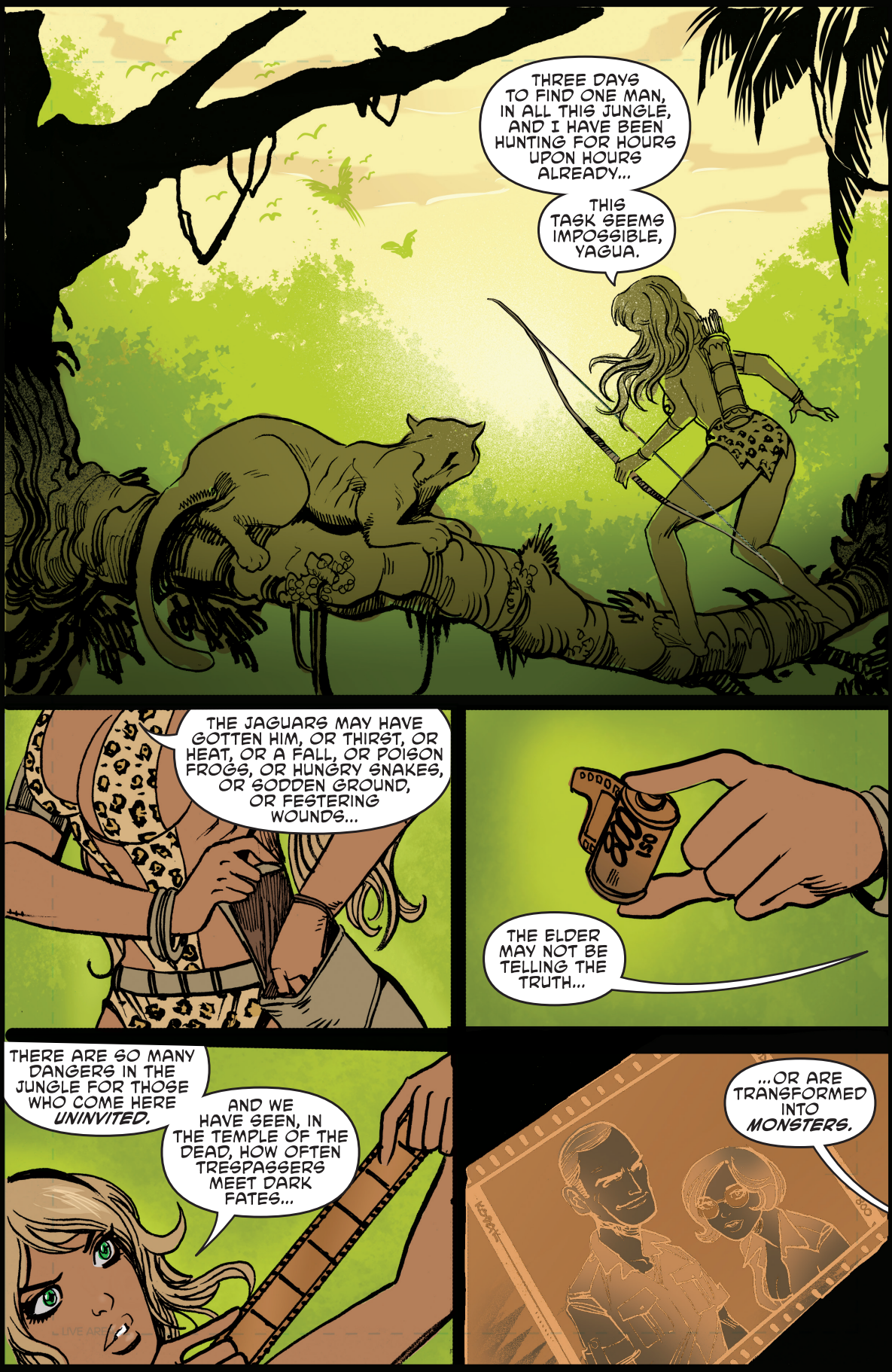

MORE LIES! OUR PEOPLE ARE PEACEFUL. OUR ELDER--
--SEEMS HAPPY ENOUGH TO USE YOU AS *A BLUNT INSTRUMENT* WHEN THE VILLAGE IS THREATENED.
EVERYONE ELSE IN YOUR VILLAGE WAS WILLING TO TALK THIS OUT, BUT THE SECOND YOU SHOWED UP YOU WENT STRAIGHT FOR THE *KILL*.
CAN YOU SAY WITH A STRAIGHT FACE HE WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED SOMEONE ELSE TO DO THE SAME IF YOU HADN'T SHOWN UP WHEN YOU DID?
MOTHER FOREST MAKES HER CHOICE. *SHE* DECIDED WHO SURVIVES IN THIS LAND, AND WHO DOES NOT.
THE JUNGLE IS PERILOUS TO THOSE WITHOUT RESPECT FOR HER.
BEFORE BLOOD IS SHED, WE CAN FORGIVE THIS INTRUSION... BUT--
IF YOUR MAN HAS NO MORE CARE FOR LIFE THAN YOU DO, HE MAY HAVE GIVEN OFFENSE TO SOMETHING *FAR LESS FORGIVING*.
LET ME EXPLAIN SOMETHING, GRANDPA.

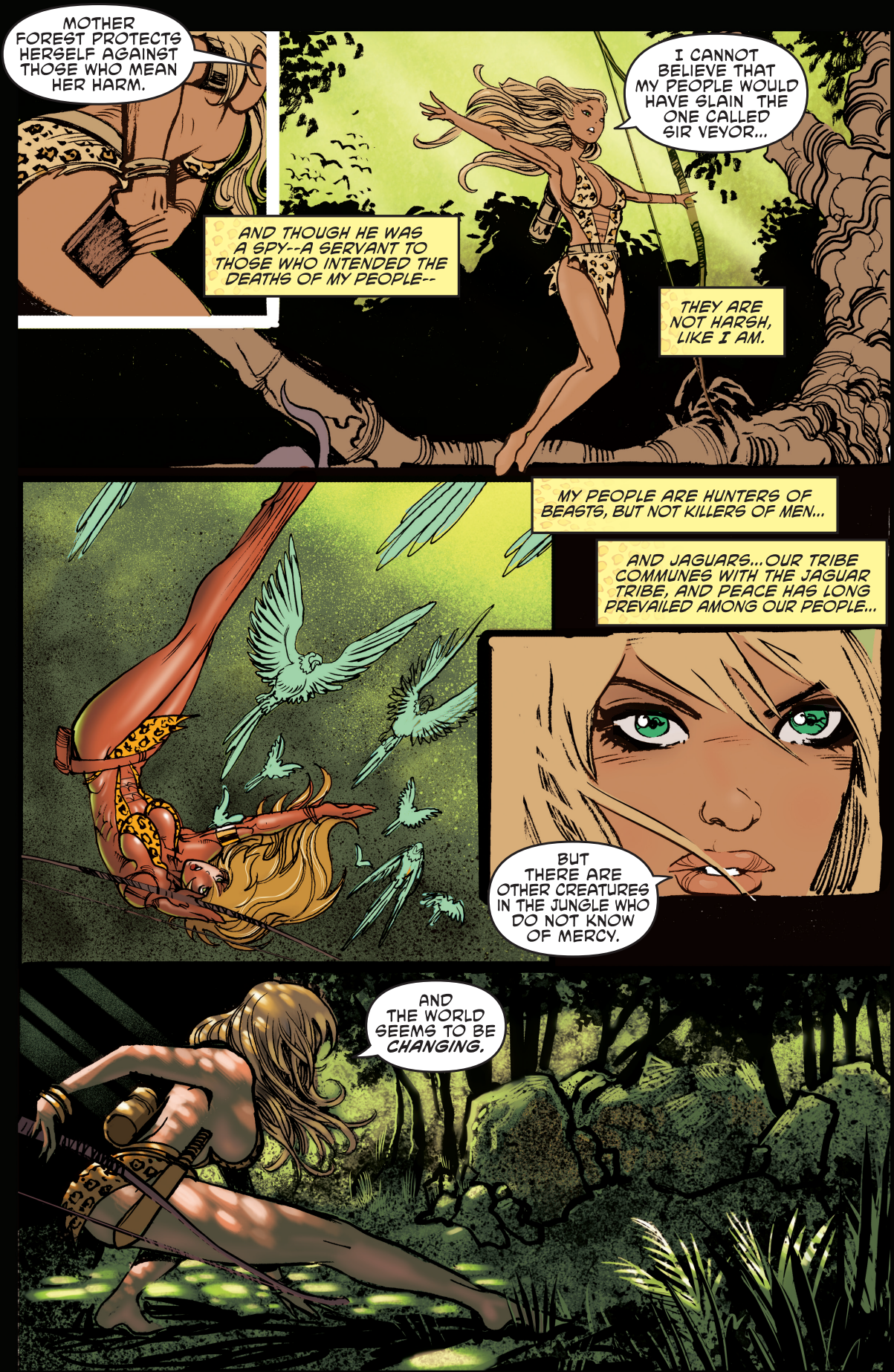

(STRIP MINING CAMP #3434)
"WE REPRESENT *CADWELL INDUSTRIES*.
"WHAT CADWELL WANTS, CADWELL *GETS*.
"THEY HIRED US TO RETRIEVE THEIR SURVEYOR, OR MAKE SURE THE NEXT ONE DOESN'T "DISAPPEAR," YOU UNDERSTAND?
"CADWELL WANTS WHAT'S IN THIS FOREST.
"AND NOTHING--ESPECIALLY NOT A BUNCH OF UNCIVILIZED JUNGLE RATS--ARE GOING TO GET IN THEIR WAY."


I'M NOT A BAD GUY.
BUT IF THE SIMPLEST ANSWER IS THE BEST...
AND THE SIMPLEST ANSWER IS *TO GET YOU OUT OF THE WAY...*
TAKE AIM, BOYS...
NO!
CHIM! THE METAL TURTLE!
EEK!
YOU SAY YOU WOULD BUTCHER US BECAUSE NO ONE KNOWS WE EXIST.
BUT SOMEONE *DOES* KNOW.
CRUSH
THERE ARE EYES FARTHER-REACHING THAN *YOURS.*

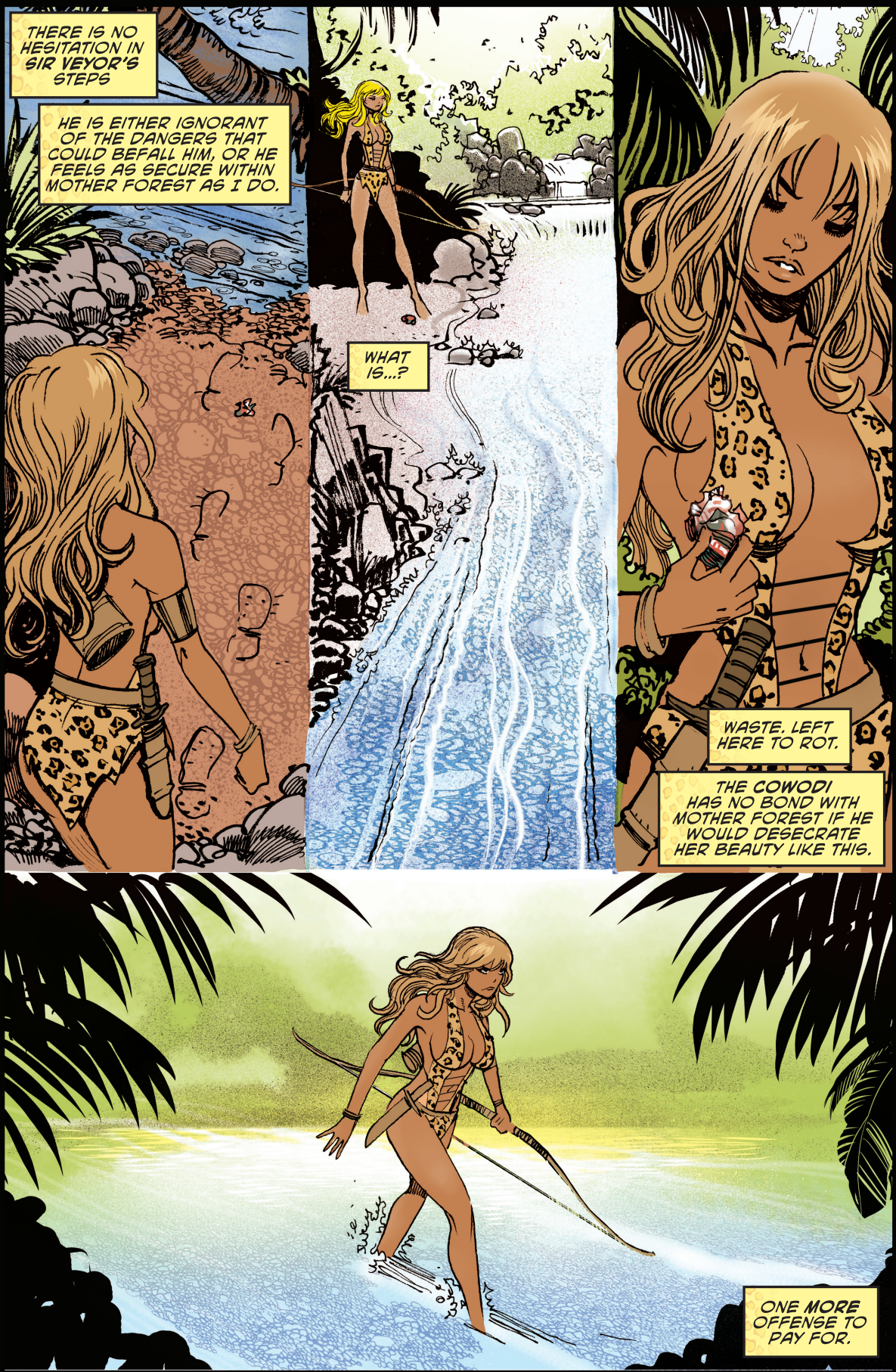

THIS SPY IS NOT ONE OF *YOUR* MASTERS', IS IT?
I THOUGHT NOT!
WHO *ELSE* HAS FLYING EYES THAT CAN SPY ON WHAT MY PEOPLE DO IN THE FOREST... AND ON WHAT YOUR PEOPLE DO IN THE FOREST?
YOU HAVE NO FEAR OF GAMBLING WITH OUR LIVES...
BUT ARE YOU AS FEARLESS WHEN YOU GAMBLE WITH *YOUR OWN?*
...
YOU'VE GOT *THREE DAYS* TO FIND OUR SURVEYOR.
IF NOT, WE WILL ABSOLUTELY BY GUARANTEEING *THE NEXT ONE* DOESN'T GO MISSING...
...BY MAKING SURE THERE'S NOT *A MAN, WOMAN, OR BEAST* LEFT IN THIS JUNGLE TO HARM HIM.

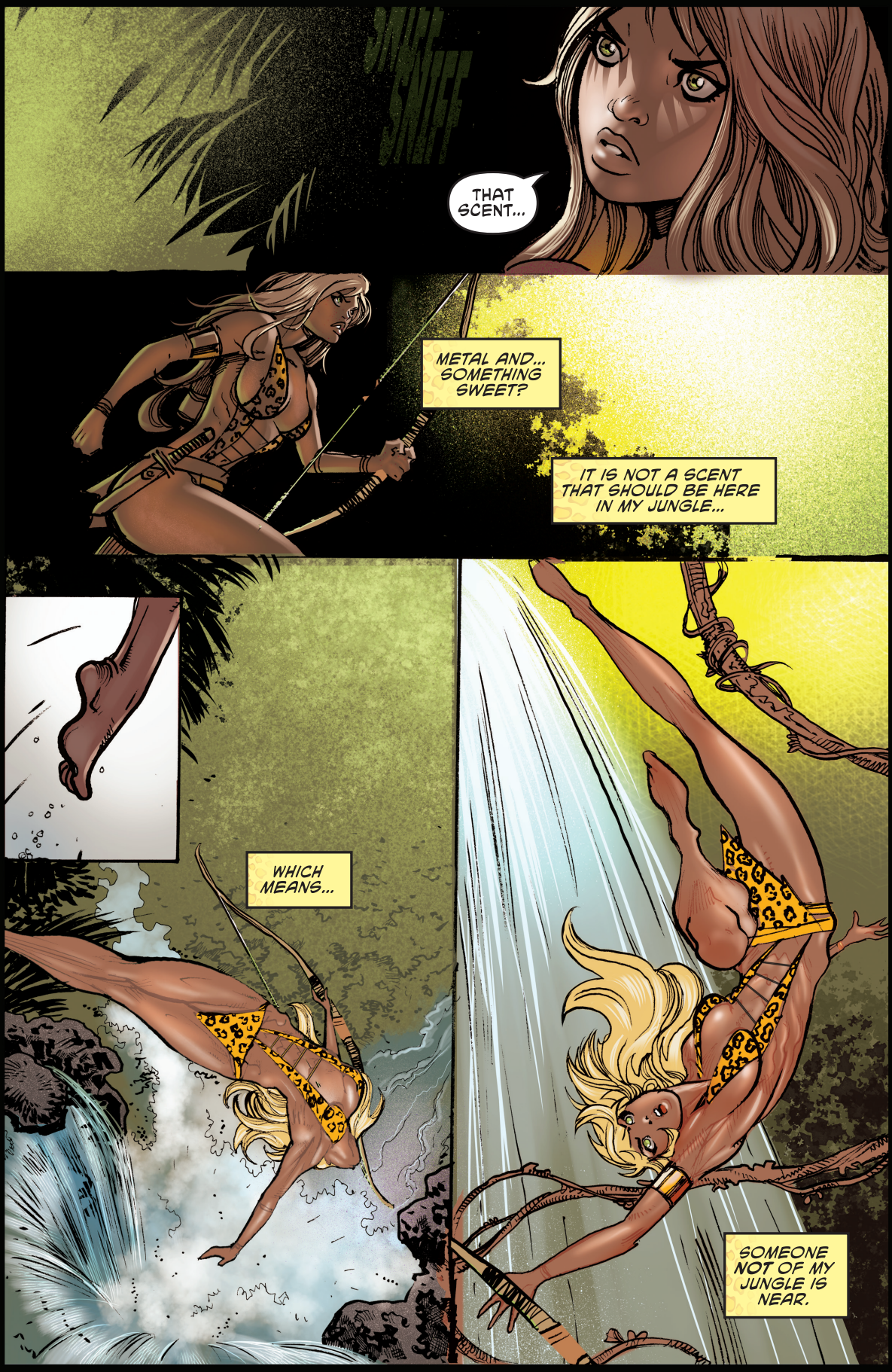

COME, DO NOT FEAR THE COWOD! THREATS. WE WILL RESOLVE THIS ISSUE WITHOUT BLOODSHED.
MEN, MOVE OUT!
MOTHER FOREST WILL PROTECT US, AS SHE ALWAYS HAS. WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR.
...SHEENA...
DON'T LET THOSE MEN FRIGHTEN YOU, LIRIO. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.
BUT SHEENA... I THINK THEY MAY HAVE BEEN TELLING THE TRUTH.
IF THIS "SIR VEYOR" CAME THROUGH THE VILLAGE...
I SAW THE MAN THEY SPEAK OF WEARING THE MARK OF THE COWOD! ON HIS CLOTHING. HE WENT EAST--
IF SIR VEYOR CAME THROUGH THE VILLAGE...
THANK YOU, SISTER. I WILL FIND HIM. I WILL BRING HIM BACK ALIVE.
...DID WE HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS DISAPPEARANCE AFTER ALL?

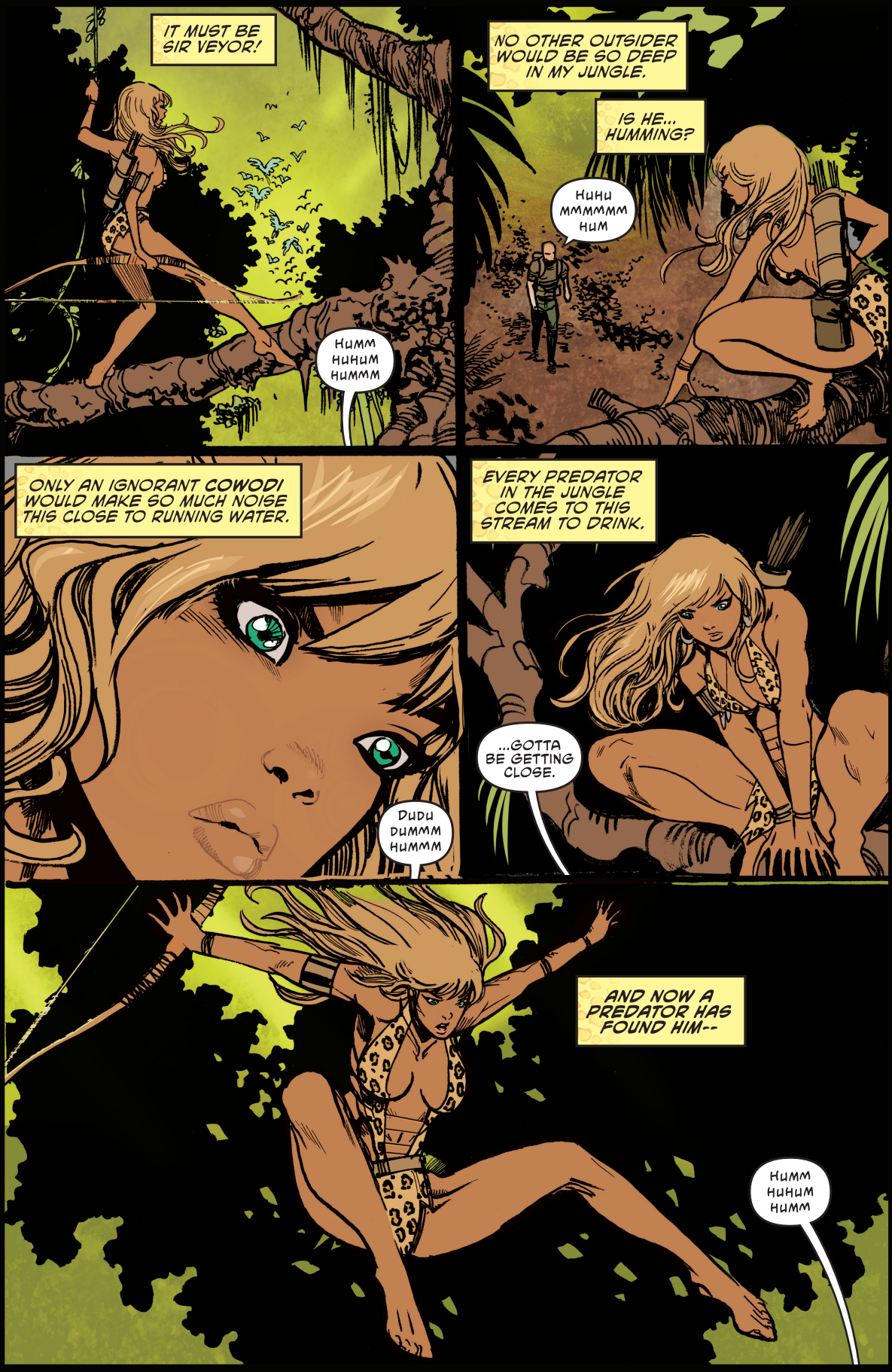

THREE DAYS TO FIND ONE MAN, IN ALL THIS JUNGLE, AND I HAVE BEEN HUNTING FOR HOURS UPON HOURS ALREADY...
THIS TASK SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, YAGUA.
THE JAGUARS MAY HAVE GOTTEN HIM, OR THIRST, OR HEAT, OR A FALL, OR POISON FROGS, OR HUNGRY SNAKES, OR SODDEN GROUND, OR FESTERING WOUNDS...
THE ELDER MAY NOT BE TELLING THE TRUTH...
THERE ARE SO MANY DANGERS IN THE JUNGLE FOR THOSE WHO COME HERE *UNINVITED.*
AND WE HAVE SEEN, IN THE TEMPLE OF THE DEAD, HOW OFTEN TRESPASSERS MEET DARK FATES...
...OR ARE TRANSFORMED INTO *MONSTERS.*

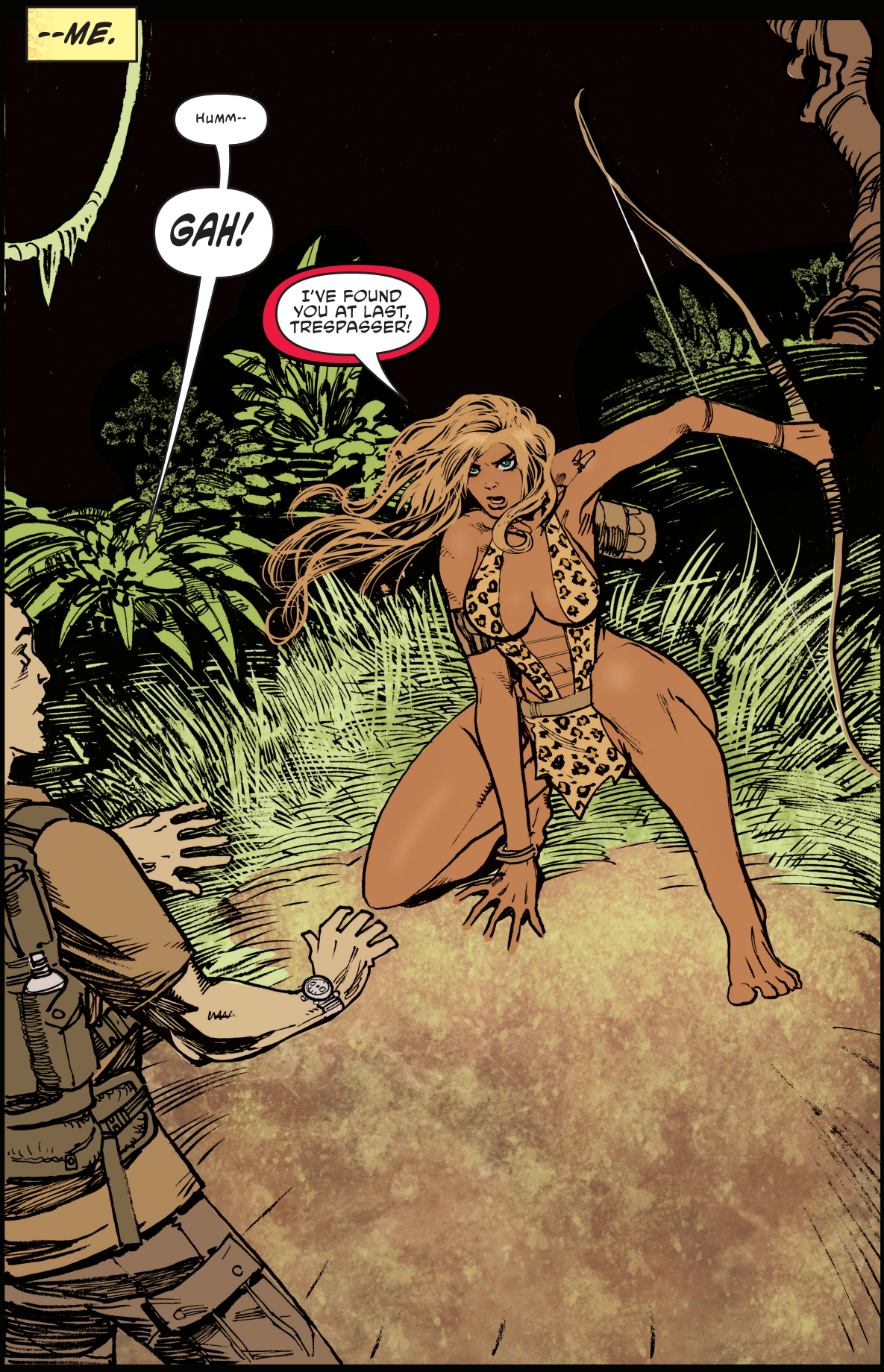

MOTHER FOREST PROTECTS HERSELF AGAINST THOSE WHO MEAN HER HARM.
I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT MY PEOPLE WOULD HAVE SLAIN THE ONE CALLED SIR VEYOR...
AND THOUGH HE WAS A SPY--A SERVANT TO THOSE WHO INTENDED THE DEATHS OF MY PEOPLE--
THEY ARE NOT HARSH, LIKE I AM.
MY PEOPLE ARE HUNTERS OF BEASTS, BUT NOT KILLERS OF MEN...
AND JAGUARS...OUR TRIBE COMMUNES WITH THE JAGUAR TRIBE, AND PEACE HAS LONG PREVAILED AMONG OUR PEOPLE...
BUT THERE ARE OTHER CREATURES IN THE JUNGLE WHO DO NOT KNOW OF MERCY.
AND THE WORLD SEEMS TO BE CHANGING.


TWICE NOW THE COWODI HAVE SENT THEIR FLYING EYES TO THE JUNGLE.
PERHAPS THEIR FLYING EYES WERE LOOKING FOR THEIR LOST KIN?
PERHAPS THE REASON THE INTRUDERS CAME TO MY VILLAGE, THE REASON WE ARE ALL IN SUCH DANGER NOW, IS BECAUSE I SHOT DOWN THEIR FLYING EYES...
IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE NOW. WHAT CAN HIDE FROM COWODI EYES CANNOT HIDE FROM MINE.

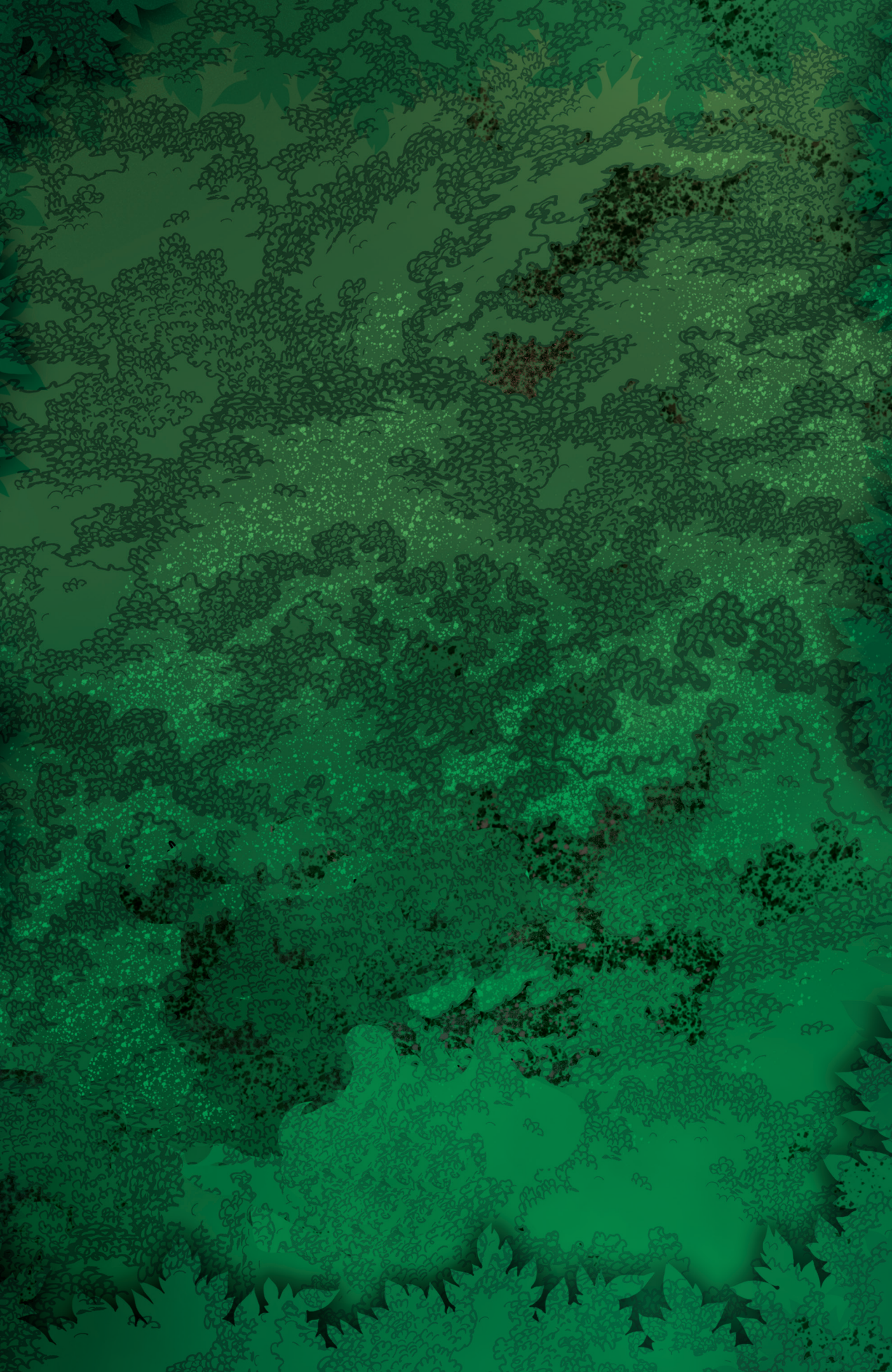

THERE IS NO HESITATION IN SIR VEYOR'S STEPS
HE IS EITHER IGNORANT OF THE DANGERS THAT COULD BEFALL HIM, OR HE FEELS AS SECURE WITHIN MOTHER FOREST AS I DO.
WHAT IS...?
WASTE. LEFT HERE TO ROT.
THE COWODI HAS NO BOND WITH MOTHER FOREST IF HE WOULD DESECRATE HER BEAUTY LIKE THIS.
ONE MORE OFFENSE TO PAY FOR.


SNIFF SNIFF
THAT SCENT...
METAL AND... SOMETHING SWEET?
IT IS NOT A SCENT THAT SHOULD BE HERE IN MY JUNGLE...
WHICH MEANS...
SOMEONE NOT OF MY JUNGLE IS NEAR.


IT MUST BE SIR VEYOR!
Humm huhum hummm
NO OTHER OUTSIDER WOULD BE SO DEEP IN MY JUNGLE.
IS HE... HUMMING?
Huhu mmmmmm hum
ONLY AN IGNORANT COWODI WOULD MAKE SO MUCH NOISE THIS CLOSE TO RUNNING WATER.
Dudu dummm hummm
EVERY PREDATOR IN THE JUNGLE COMES TO THIS STREAM TO DRINK.
...GOTTA BE GETTING CLOSE.
AND NOW A PREDATOR HAS FOUND HIM--
Humm huhum hummm

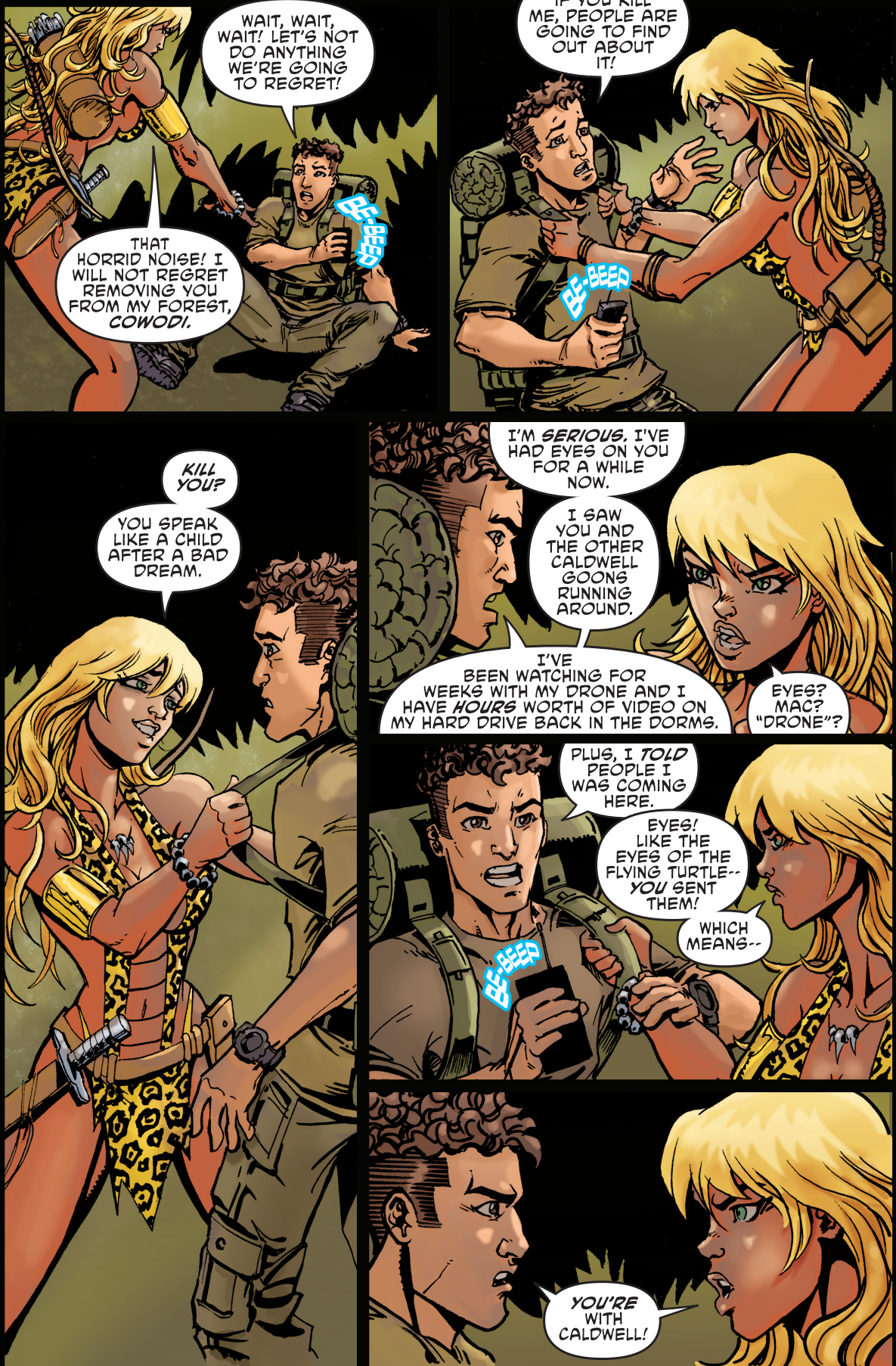

--ME.
HUMM--
GAH!
I'VE FOUND YOU AT LAST, TRESPASSER!

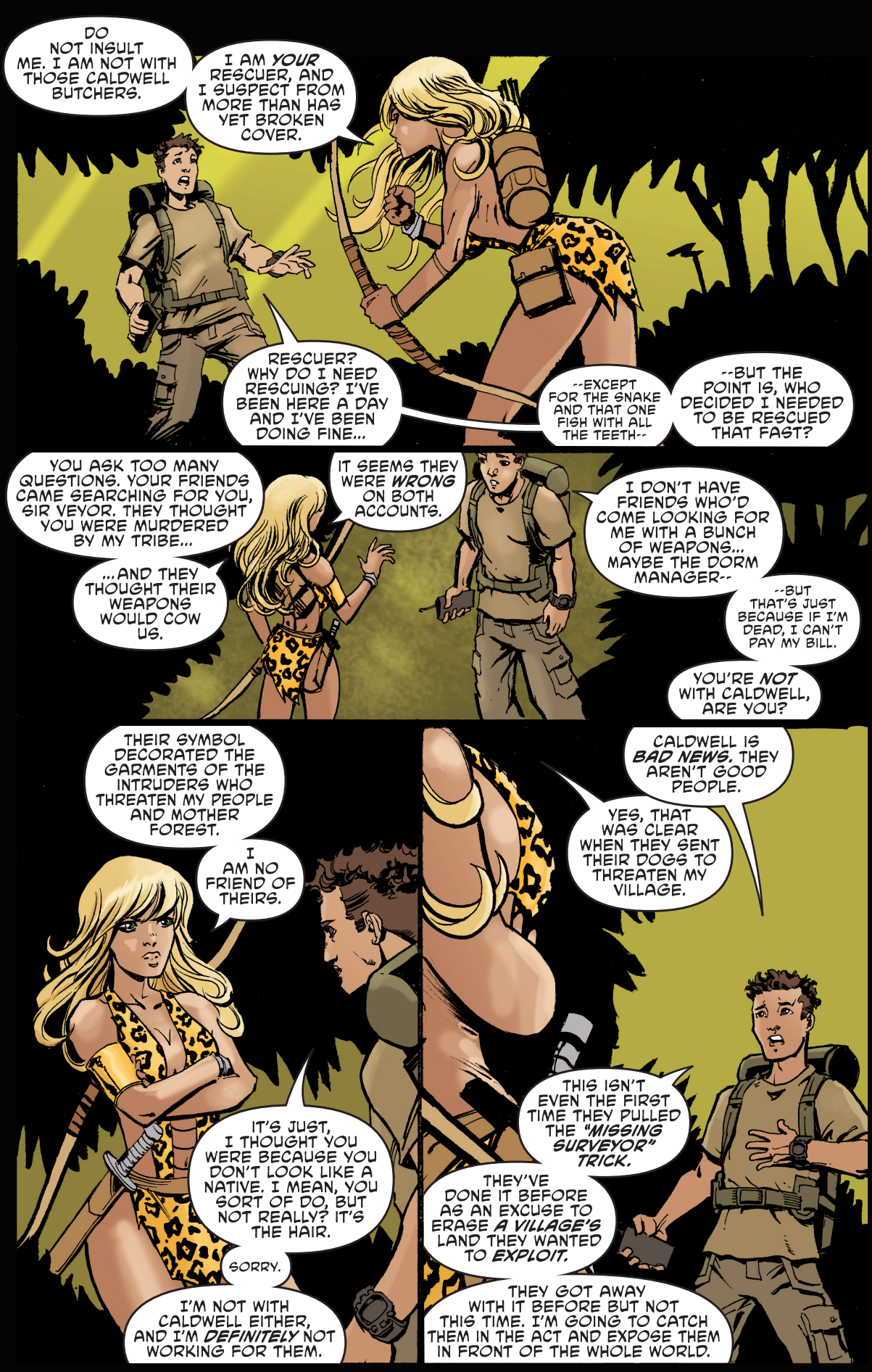

ISSUE #2 COVER
ART AND COLORS BY
MIKE McKONE

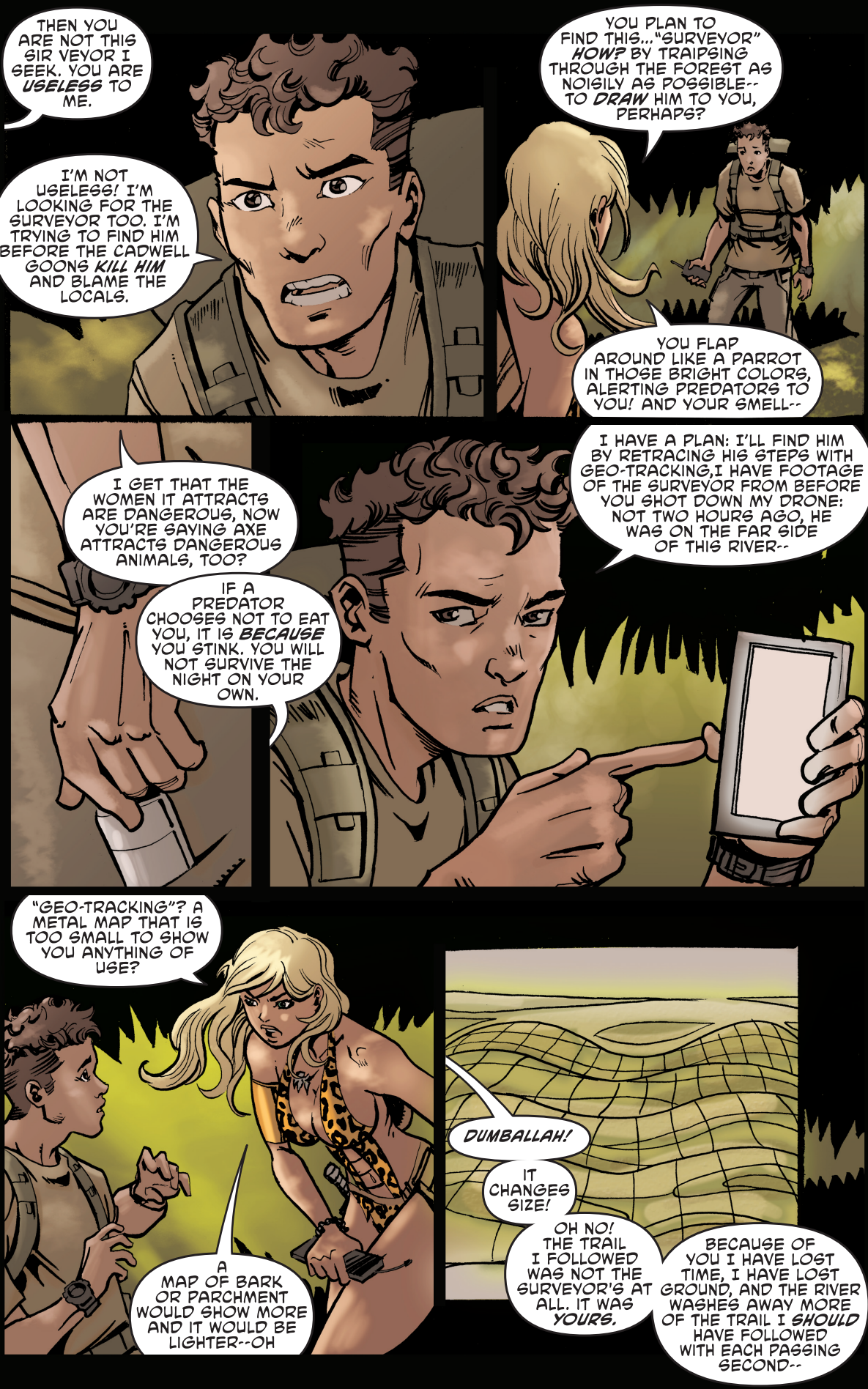


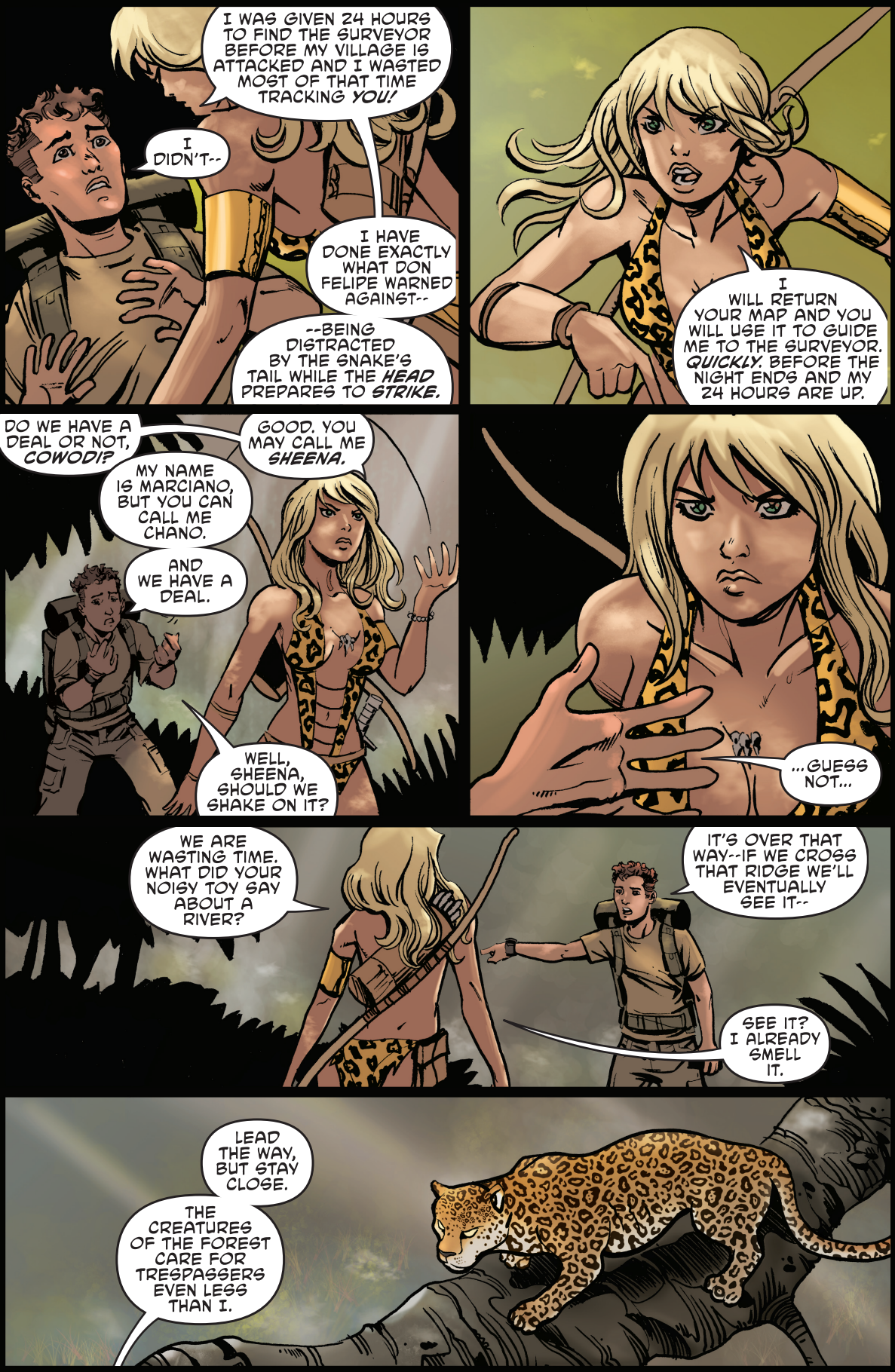

AT LAST, SIR VEYOR--
I HAVE FOUND YOU.
OH SH--
YOU HAVE PLACED MY VILLAGE IN PERIL WITH YOUR WANDERINGS.
I WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR MASTERS AND GIVE THEM A CHOICE: THEY PUT YOU ON A LEASH--
--OR I PUT YOU DOWN.
!
EAT PEPPER SPRAY, FREAK!
FEH! THE SMELL OF ROTTEN CHILES! ALMOST AS BAD AS YOUR OWN SCENT!
!
WHAT THE--? THAT'S SUPPOSED TO STOP BEARS--HOW COULD--WAIT, MY SCENT? THAT'S AXE "EXCITE"-- THEY SAID IT'D MADE WOMEN ATTACK ME, BUT I SWEAR I NEVER EXPECTED--

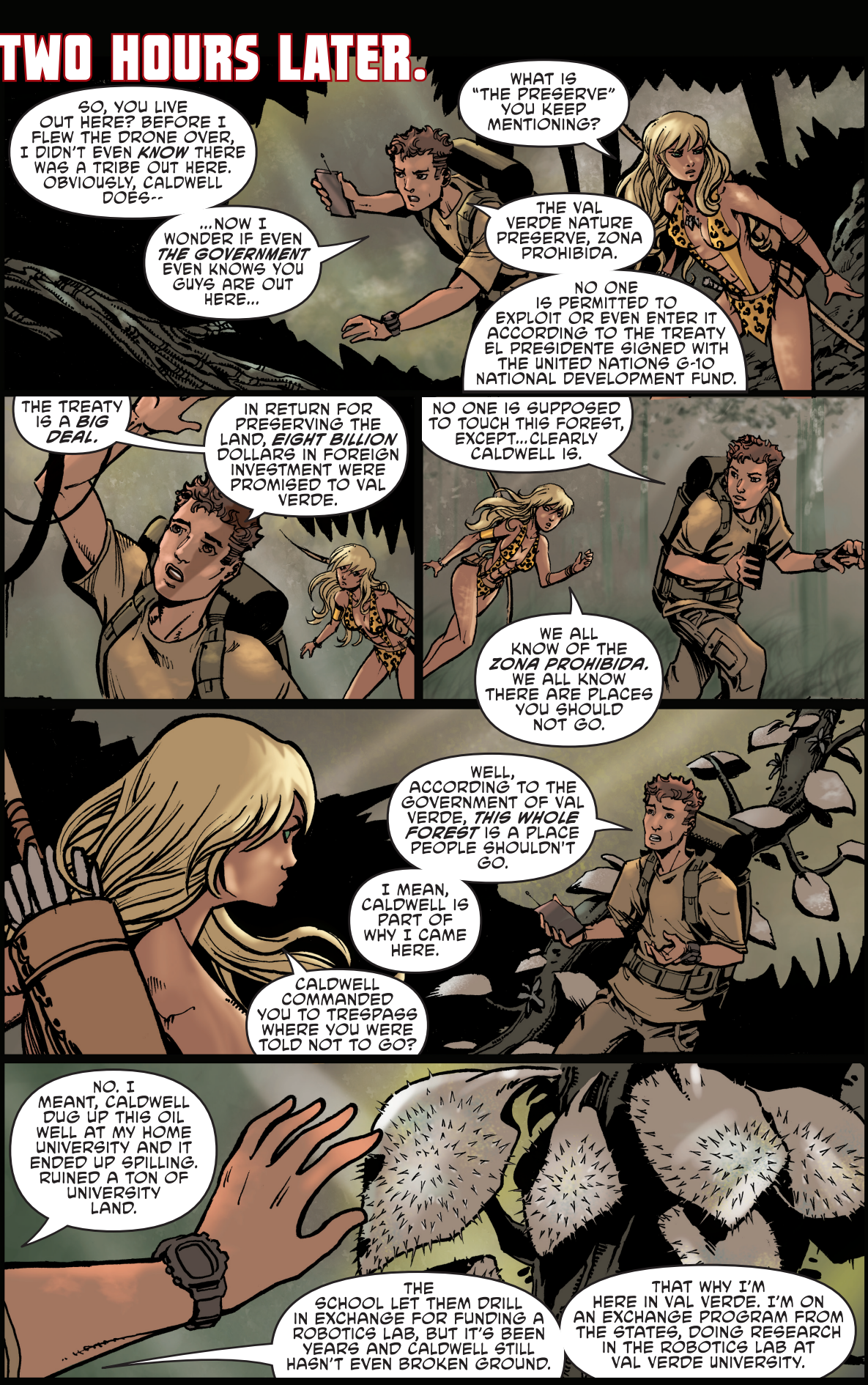

DON'T SWEAR TO JUST ANYTHING, TRESPASSER.
SWEAR-- TO--ME.
BZZZ

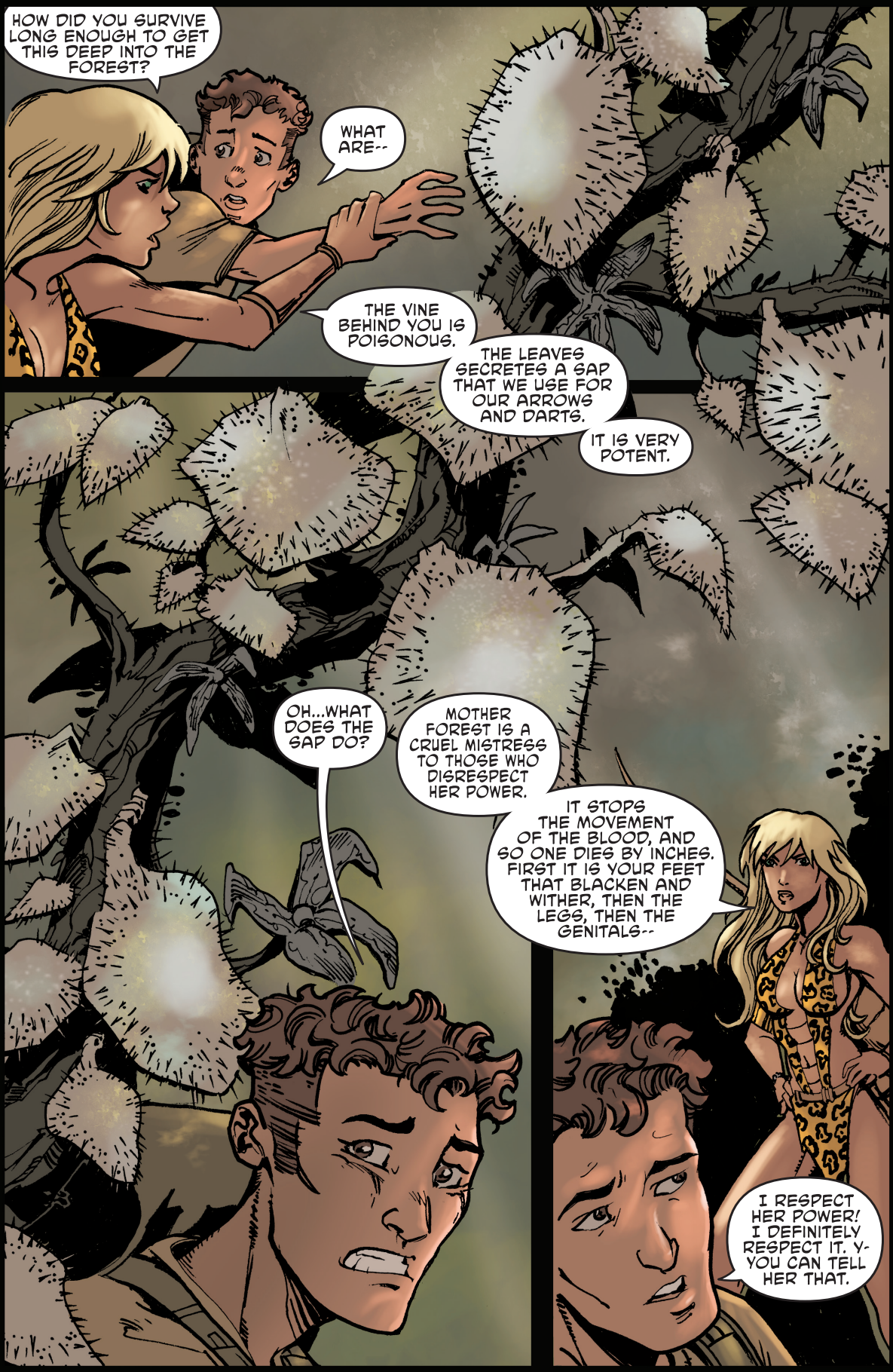

WAIT, WAIT, WAIT! LET'S NOT DO ANYTHING WE'RE GOING TO REGRET!
THAT HORRID NOISE! I WILL NOT REGRET REMOVING YOU FROM MY FOREST, COWODI.
BE-BEEP
LOOK, IF YOU KILL ME, PEOPLE ARE GOING TO FIND OUT ABOUT IT!
BE-BEEP
KILL YOU?
YOU SPEAK LIKE A CHILD AFTER A BAD DREAM.
I'M SERIOUS. I'VE HAD EYES ON YOU FOR A WHILE NOW.
I SAW YOU AND THE OTHER CALDWELL GOONS RUNNING AROUND.
I'VE BEEN WATCHING FOR WEEKS WITH MY DRONE AND I HAVE HOURS WORTH OF VIDEO ON MY HARD DRIVE BACK IN THE DORMS.
EYES? MAC? "DRONE"?
PLUS, I TOLD PEOPLE I WAS COMING HERE.
EYES! LIKE THE EYES OF THE FLYING TURTLE-- YOU SENT THEM!
WHICH MEANS--
BE-BEEP
YOU'RE WITH CALDWELL!


DO NOT INSULT ME. I AM NOT WITH THOSE CALDWELL BUTCHERS.
I AM *YOUR* RESCUER, AND I SUSPECT FROM MORE THAN HAS YET BROKEN COVER.
RESCUER? WHY DO I NEED RESCUING? I'VE BEEN HERE A DAY AND I'VE BEEN DOING FINE...
--EXCEPT FOR THE SNAKE AND THAT ONE FISH WITH ALL THE TEETH--
--BUT THE POINT IS, WHO DECIDED I NEEDED TO BE RESCUED THAT FAST?
YOU ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS. YOUR FRIENDS CAME SEARCHING FOR YOU, SIR VEYOR. THEY THOUGHT YOU WERE MURDERED BY MY TRIBE...
...AND THEY THOUGHT THEIR WEAPONS WOULD COW US.
IT SEEMS THEY WERE *WRONG* ON BOTH ACCOUNTS.
I DON'T HAVE FRIENDS WHO'D COME LOOKING FOR ME WITH A BUNCH OF WEAPONS... MAYBE THE DORM MANAGER--
--BUT THAT'S JUST BECAUSE IF I'M DEAD, I CAN'T PAY MY BILL.
YOU'RE *NOT* WITH CALDWELL, ARE YOU?
THEIR SYMBOL DECORATED THE GARMENTS OF THE INTRUDERS WHO THREATEN MY PEOPLE AND MOTHER FOREST.
I AM NO FRIEND OF THEIRS.
IT'S JUST, I THOUGHT YOU WERE BECAUSE YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A NATIVE. I MEAN, YOU SORT OF DO, BUT NOT REALLY? IT'S THE HAIR.
SORRY.
I'M NOT WITH CALDWELL EITHER, AND I'M *DEFINITELY* NOT WORKING FOR THEM.
CALDWELL IS *BAD NEWS.* THEY AREN'T GOOD PEOPLE.
YES, THAT WAS CLEAR WHEN THEY SENT THEIR DOGS TO THREATEN MY VILLAGE.
THIS ISN'T EVEN THE FIRST TIME THEY PULLED THE *"MISSING SURVEYOR" TRICK.*
THEY'VE DONE IT BEFORE AS AN EXCUSE TO ERASE *A VILLAGE'S* LAND THEY WANTED TO *EXPLOIT.*
THEY GOT AWAY WITH IT BEFORE BUT NOT THIS TIME. I'M GOING TO CATCH THEM IN THE ACT AND EXPOSE THEM IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE WORLD.


THEN YOU ARE NOT THIS SIR VEYOR I SEEK. YOU ARE *USELESS* TO ME.
I'M NOT USELESS! I'M LOOKING FOR THE SURVEYOR TOO. I'M TRYING TO FIND HIM BEFORE THE CADWELL GOONS *KILL HIM* AND BLAME THE LOCALS.
YOU PLAN TO FIND THIS..."SURVEYOR" *HOW?* BY TRAIPSING THROUGH THE FOREST AS NOISILY AS POSSIBLE-- TO *DRAW* HIM TO YOU, PERHAPS?
YOU FLAP AROUND LIKE A PARROT IN THOSE BRIGHT COLORS, ALERTING PREDATORS TO YOU! AND YOUR SMELL--
I GET THAT THE WOMEN IT ATTRACTS ARE DANGEROUS, NOW YOU'RE SAYING AXE ATTRACTS DANGEROUS ANIMALS, TOO?
IF A PREDATOR CHOOSES NOT TO EAT YOU, IT IS *BECAUSE* YOU STINK. YOU WILL NOT SURVIVE THE NIGHT ON YOUR OWN.
I HAVE A PLAN: I'LL FIND HIM BY RETRACING HIS STEPS WITH GEO-TRACKING,I HAVE FOOTAGE OF THE SURVEYOR FROM BEFORE YOU SHOT DOWN MY DRONE: NOT TWO HOURS AGO, HE WAS ON THE FAR SIDE OF THIS RIVER--
"GEO-TRACKING"? A METAL MAP THAT IS TOO SMALL TO SHOW YOU ANYTHING OF USE?
A MAP OF BARK OR PARCHMENT WOULD SHOW MORE AND IT WOULD BE LIGHTER--OH
DUMBALLAH!
IT CHANGES SIZE!
OH NO! THE TRAIL I FOLLOWED WAS NOT THE SURVEYOR'S AT ALL. IT WAS *YOURS.*
BECAUSE OF YOU I HAVE LOST TIME, I HAVE LOST GROUND, AND THE RIVER WASHES AWAY MORE OF THE TRAIL I *SHOULD* HAVE FOLLOWED WITH EACH PASSING SECOND--


I WAS GIVEN 24 HOURS TO FIND THE SURVEYOR BEFORE MY VILLAGE IS ATTACKED AND I WASTED MOST OF THAT TIME TRACKING YOU!
I DIDN'T--
I HAVE DONE EXACTLY WHAT DON FELIPE WARNED AGAINST--
--BEING DISTRACTED BY THE SNAKE'S TAIL WHILE THE HEAD PREPARES TO STRIKE.
I WILL RETURN YOUR MAP AND YOU WILL USE IT TO GUIDE ME TO THE SURVEYOR. QUICKLY. BEFORE THE NIGHT ENDS AND MY 24 HOURS ARE UP.
DO WE HAVE A DEAL OR NOT, COWODI?
GOOD. YOU MAY CALL ME SHEENA.
MY NAME IS MARCIANO, BUT YOU CAN CALL ME CHANO.
AND WE HAVE A DEAL.
WELL, SHEENA, SHOULD WE SHAKE ON IT?
...GUESS NOT...
WE ARE WASTING TIME. WHAT DID YOUR NOISY TOY SAY ABOUT A RIVER?
IT'S OVER THAT WAY--IF WE CROSS THAT RIDGE WE'LL EVENTUALLY SEE IT--
SEE IT? I ALREADY SMELL IT.
LEAD THE WAY, BUT STAY CLOSE.
THE CREATURES OF THE FOREST CARE FOR TRESPASSERS EVEN LESS THAN I.


TWO HOURS LATER.
SO, YOU LIVE OUT HERE? BEFORE I FLEW THE DRONE OVER, I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THERE WAS A TRIBE OUT HERE. OBVIOUSLY, CALDWELL DOES--
...NOW I WONDER IF EVEN THE GOVERNMENT EVEN KNOWS YOU GUYS ARE OUT HERE...
WHAT IS "THE PRESERVE" YOU KEEP MENTIONING?
THE VAL VERDE NATURE PRESERVE, ZONA PROHIBIDA.
NO ONE IS PERMITTED TO EXPLOIT OR EVEN ENTER IT ACCORDING TO THE TREATY EL PRESIDENTE SIGNED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS G-10 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND.
THE TREATY IS A BIG DEAL.
IN RETURN FOR PRESERVING THE LAND, EIGHT BILLION DOLLARS IN FOREIGN INVESTMENT WERE PROMISED TO VAL VERDE.
NO ONE IS SUPPOSED TO TOUCH THIS FOREST, EXCEPT...CLEARLY CALDWELL IS.
WE ALL KNOW OF THE ZONA PROHIBIDA. WE ALL KNOW THERE ARE PLACES YOU SHOULD NOT GO.
WELL, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF VAL VERDE, THIS WHOLE FOREST IS A PLACE PEOPLE SHOULDN'T GO.
I MEAN, CALDWELL IS PART OF WHY I CAME HERE.
CALDWELL COMMANDED YOU TO TRESPASS WHERE YOU WERE TOLD NOT TO GO?
NO. I MEANT, CALDWELL DUG UP THIS OIL WELL AT MY HOME UNIVERSITY AND IT ENDED UP SPILLING. RUINED A TON OF UNIVERSITY LAND.
THE SCHOOL LET THEM DRILL IN EXCHANGE FOR FUNDING A ROBOTICS LAB, BUT IT'S BEEN YEARS AND CALDWELL STILL HASN'T EVEN BROKEN GROUND.
THAT WHY I'M HERE IN VAL VERDE. I'M ON AN EXCHANGE PROGRAM FROM THE STATES, DOING RESEARCH IN THE ROBOTICS LAB AT VAL VERDE UNIVERSITY.


HOW DID YOU SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GET THIS DEEP INTO THE FOREST?
WHAT ARE--
THE VINE BEHIND YOU IS POISONOUS.
THE LEAVES SECRETES A SAP THAT WE USE FOR OUR ARROWS AND DARTS.
IT IS VERY POTENT.
OH...WHAT DOES THE SAP DO?
MOTHER FOREST IS A CRUEL MISTRESS TO THOSE WHO DISRESPECT HER POWER.
IT STOPS THE MOVEMENT OF THE BLOOD, AND SO ONE DIES BY INCHES. FIRST IT IS YOUR FEET THAT BLACKEN AND WITHER, THEN THE LEGS, THEN THE GENITALS--
I RESPECT HER POWER! I DEFINITELY RESPECT IT. Y-YOU CAN TELL HER THAT.


YOU CANNOT SIMPLY SAY YOU RESPECT MOTHER FOREST, YOU MUST ACT WITH RESPECT AS WELL.
ALL RIGHT, WELL, AH--HOW DO I DO THAT?
YOU DO AS I TELL YOU.
THE FIRST STEP IS TO UNDERSTAND THAT, EVEN FOR ME AND MY PEOPLE, THERE ARE PLACES WE DO NOT GO.
SO, I'M GUESSING YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME THAT WE SHOULD AVOID THOSE PLACES.
WE ARE ALREADY IN TERRITORY THAT IS BEST AVOIDED. YOUR BUZZING MAP WILL DRAW UNDUE ATTENTION. SILENCE IT. THERE IS TRAIL SIGN I CAN FOLLOW ONCE AGAIN. FROM HERE ON, STAY CLOSE TO MY SIDE...AND AT LEAST TRY TO WALK LESS NOISILY THAN A RUTTING TAPIR.

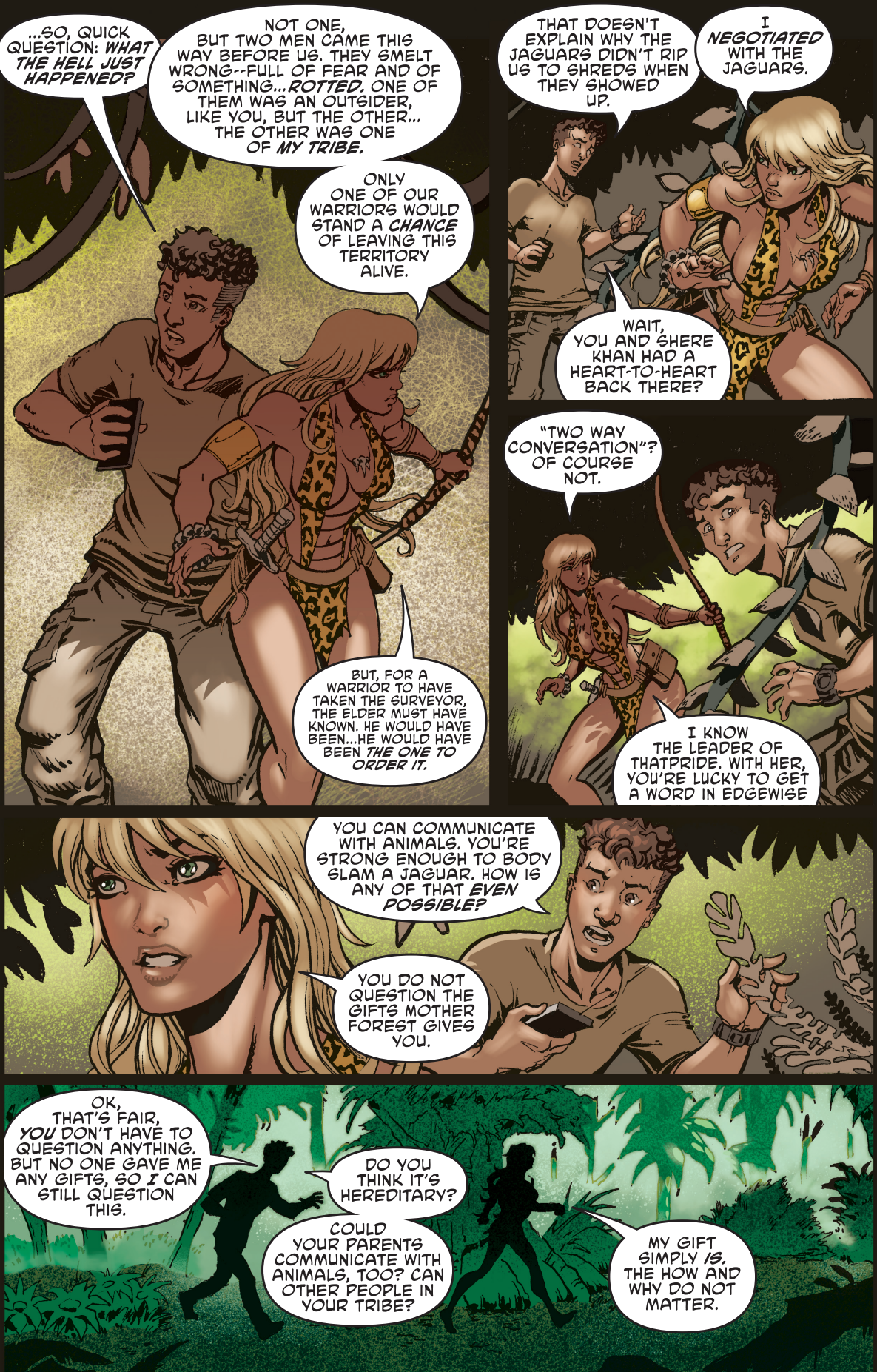

LESS LIKE A TAPIR, SURE. I CAN DO TH--
GRAAAAAA
GURRRRRR
AHHH!
CHANO!
STOP THIS! WE ARE NOT YOUR ENEMY!
RUN! SHEENA, RUN!
RIIPPP

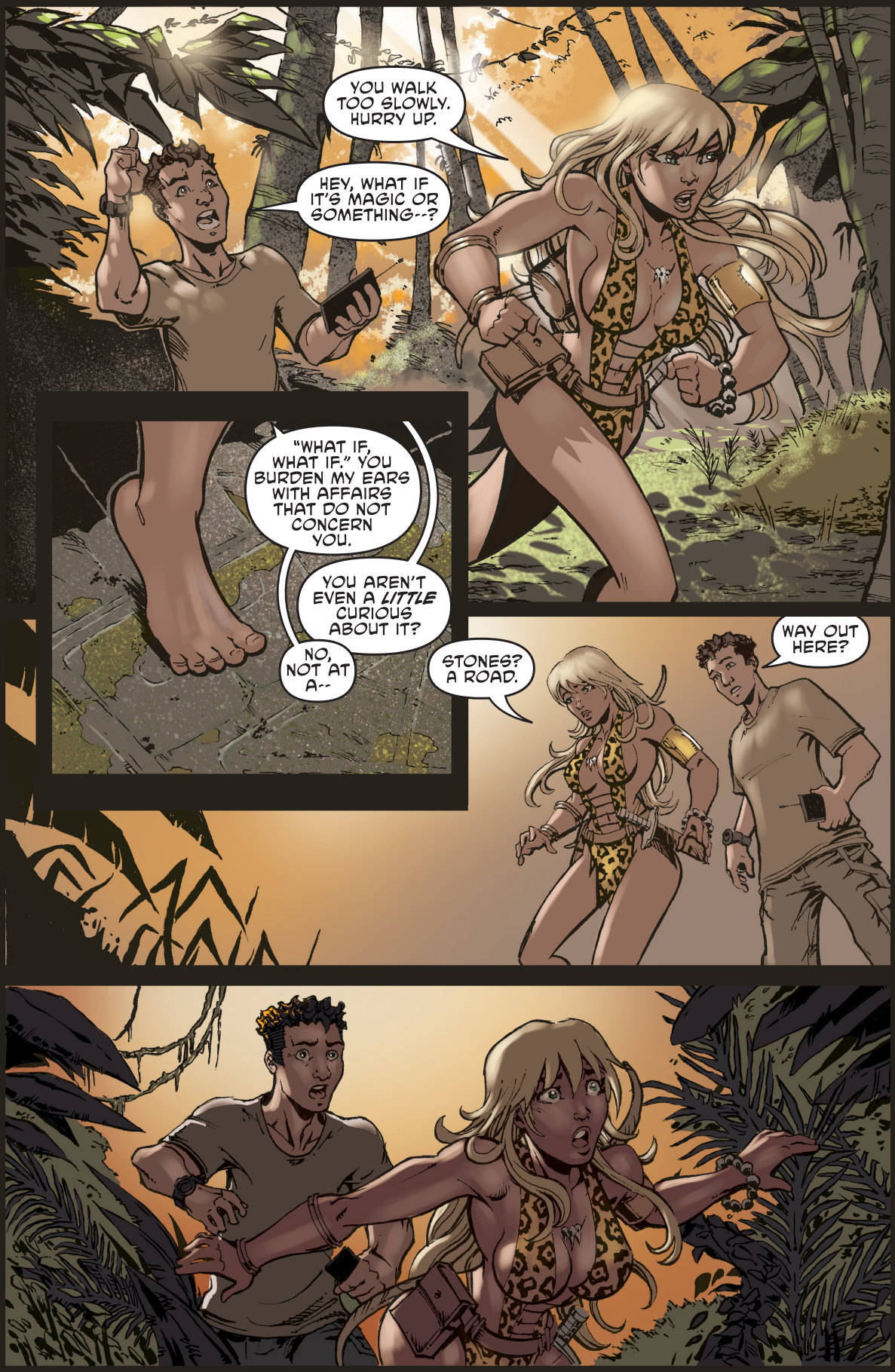

SHEENA!
DO NOT STRUGGLE, CHANO-- I WILL END THIS PEACEFULLY.
DHAKKA!!
WHAM
AAH--!
I WILL SAY THIS ONLY ONCE MORE; WE ARE NOT YOUR ENEMY.

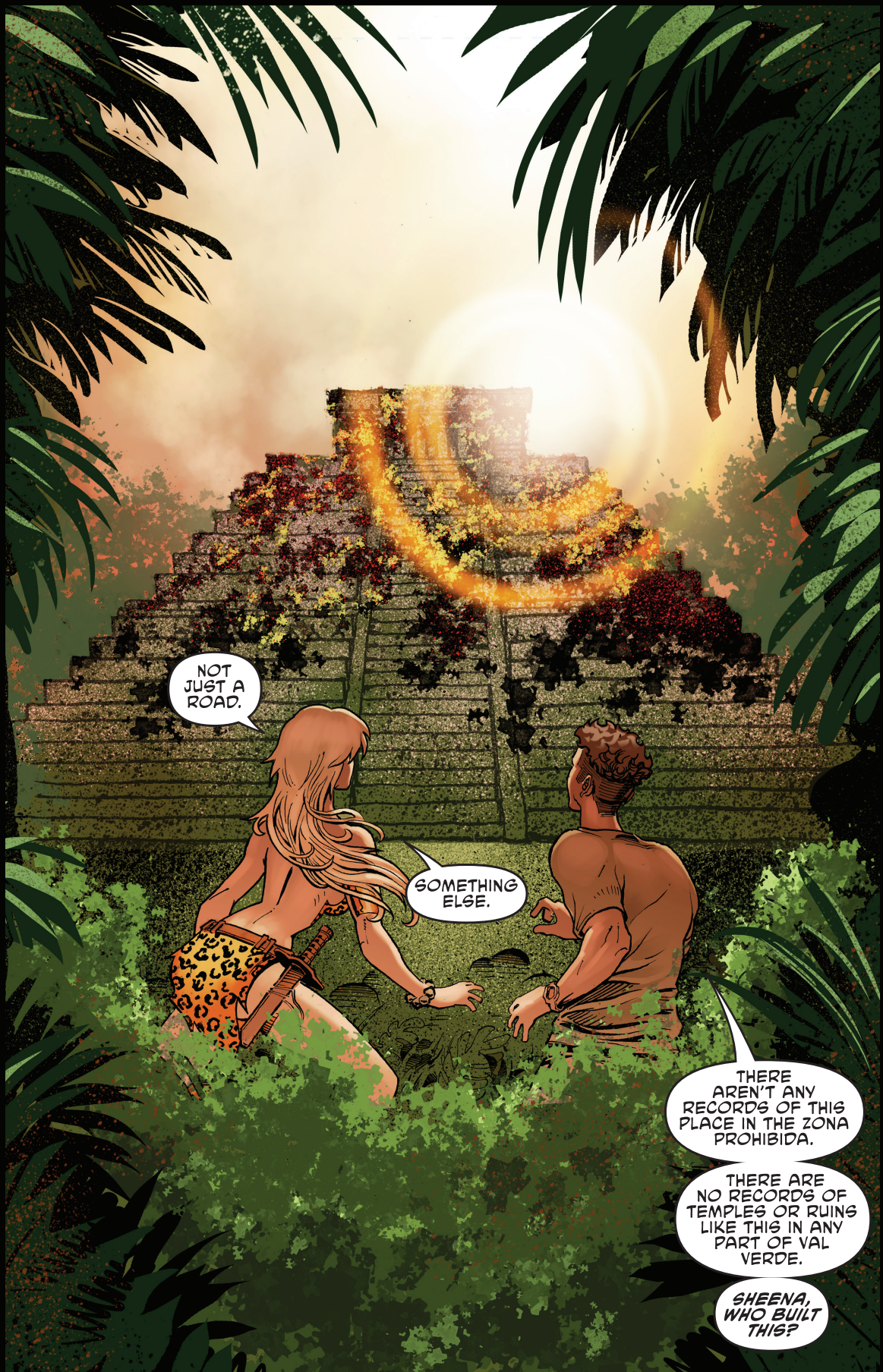

I KNOW WE HAVE TRESPASSED INTO YOUR TERRITORY, BUT WE ARE NOT HUNTING AND WE ARE NO DANGER TO YOU.
SH-SHEENA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SHEENA--
RRR
WE'RE GOING TO DIE. WE'RE GOING TO DIE.
STAY STILL OR *THEY WILL KILL YOU.*

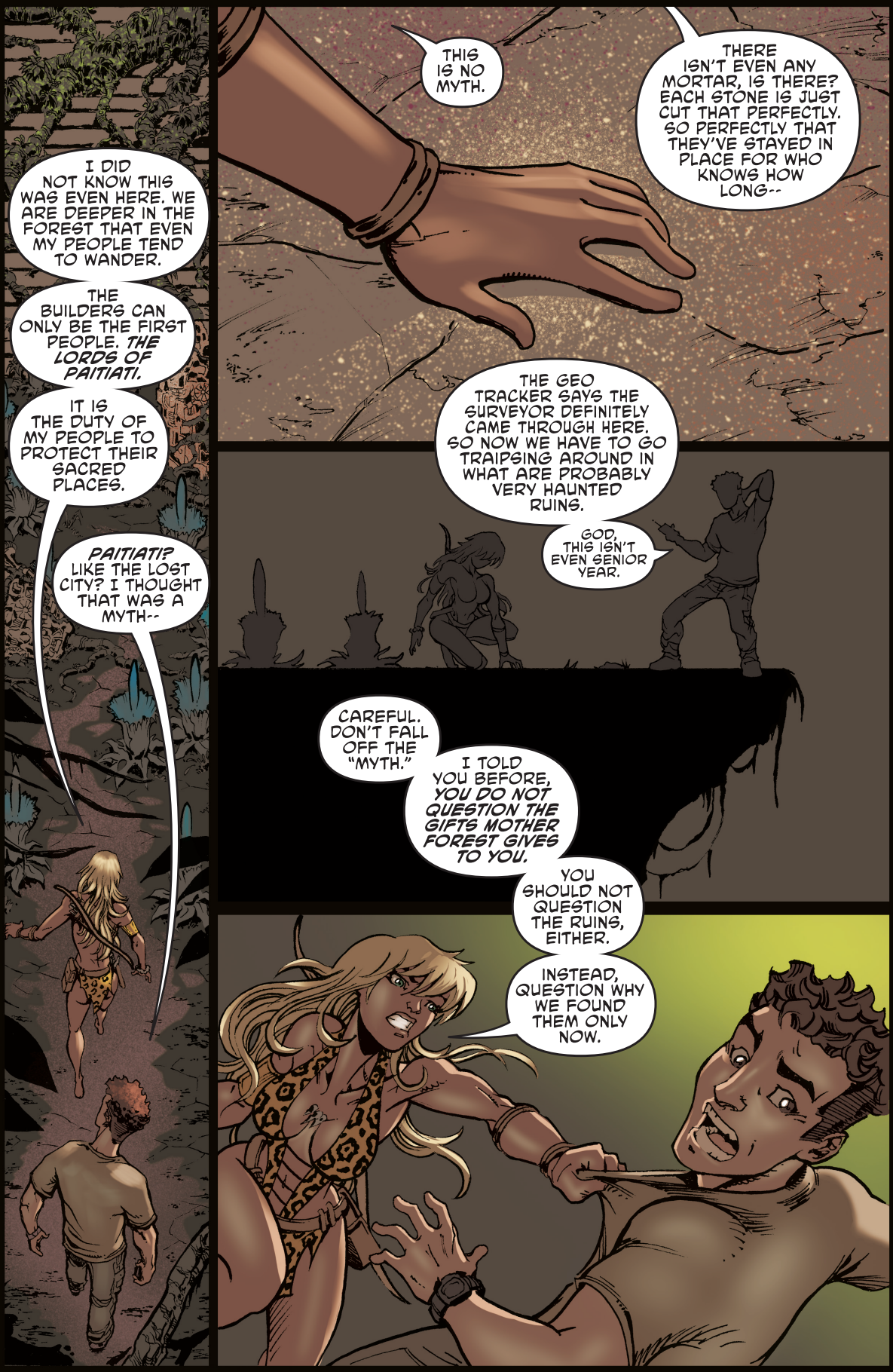

WHY AREN'T THEY KILLING US ALREADY?WHAT'S GOING ON?
BE QUIET.
OH NO, OH MAN, THIS IS SUCH A BAD IDEA.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

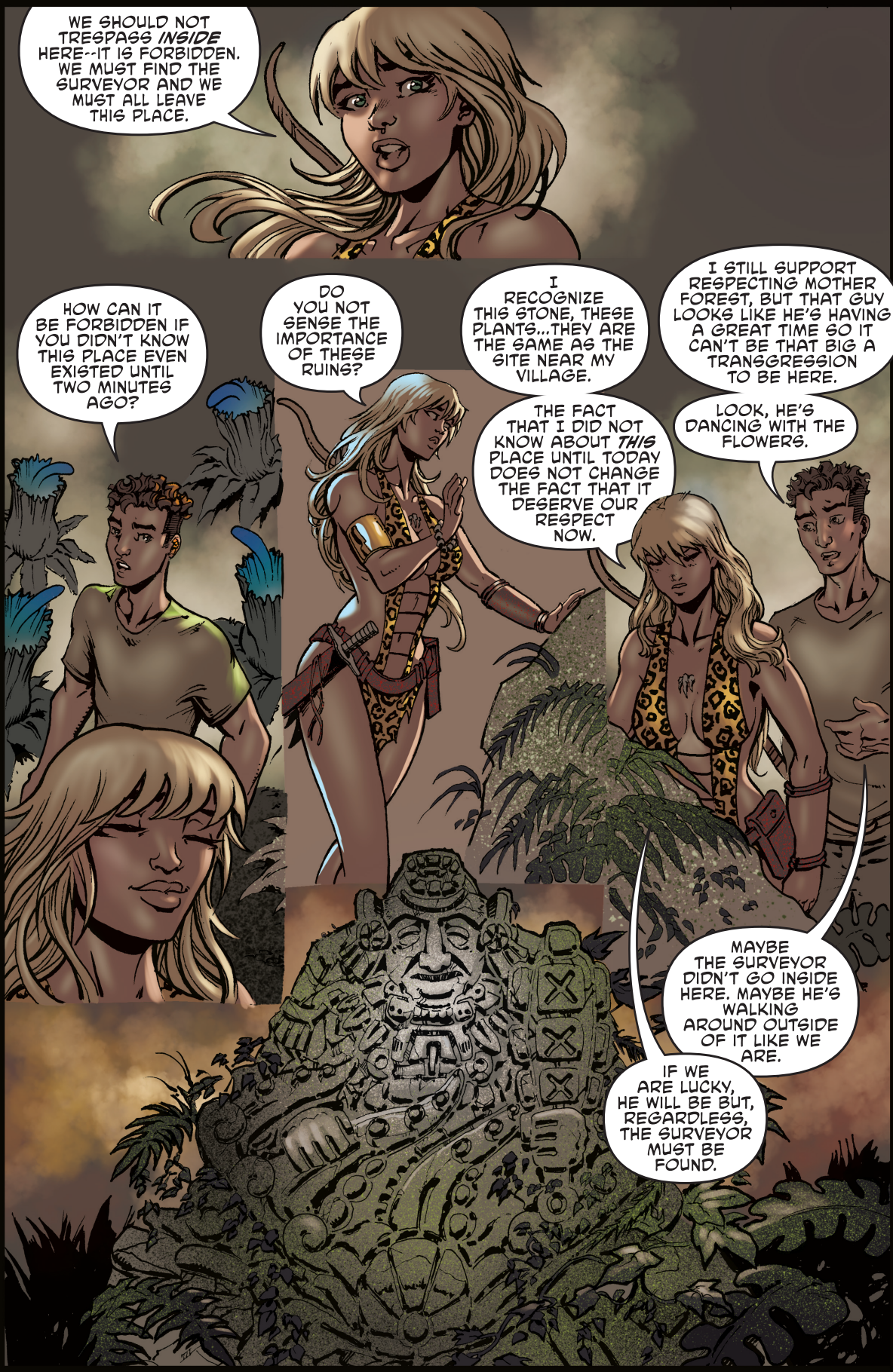

THE SURVEYOR WENT THAT WAY. COME, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
R-RIGHT BEHIND YOU...

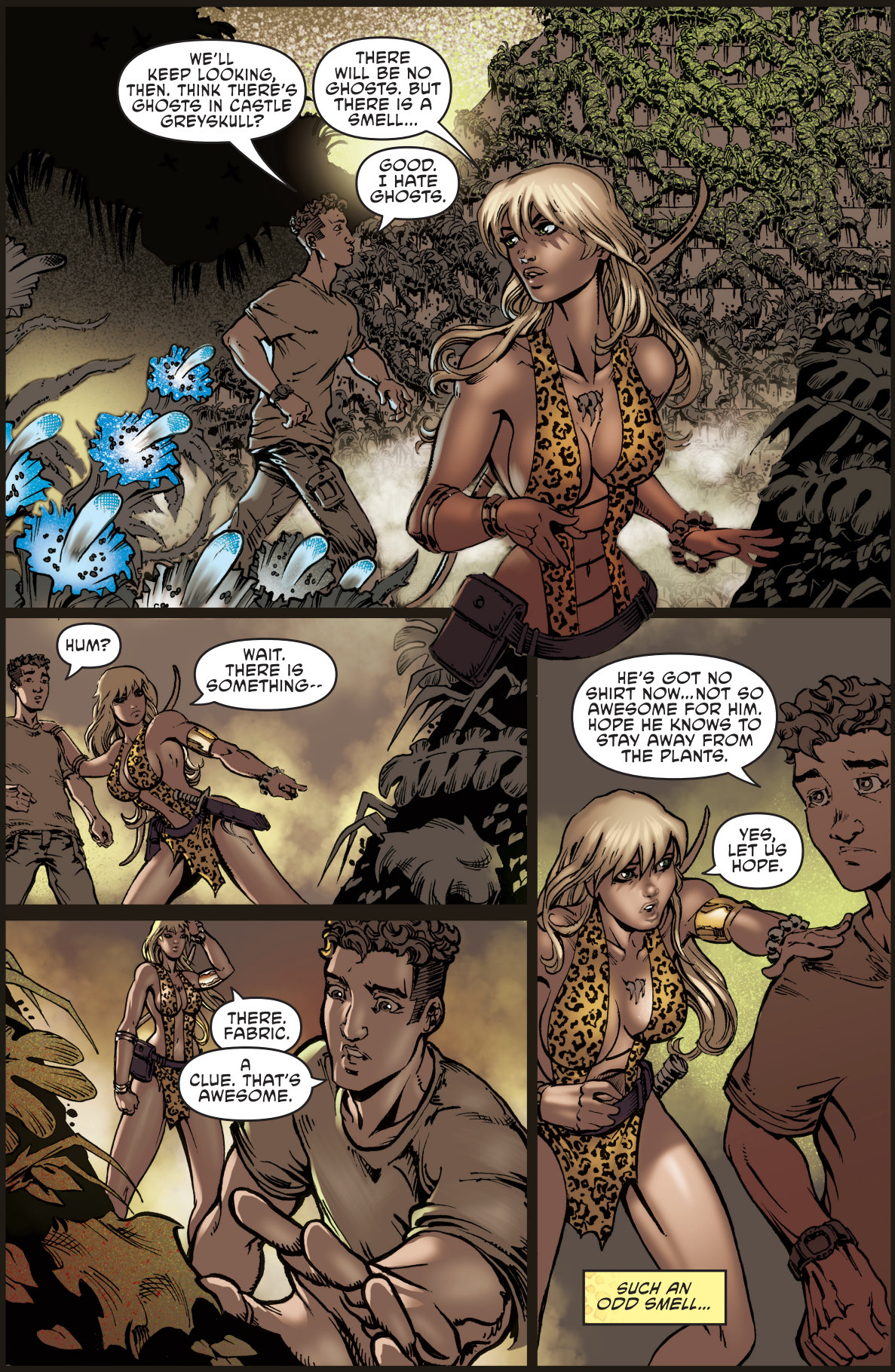

...SO, QUICK QUESTION: WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED?
NOT ONE, BUT TWO MEN CAME THIS WAY BEFORE US. THEY SMELT WRONG--FULL OF FEAR AND OF SOMETHING...ROTTED. ONE OF THEM WAS AN OUTSIDER, LIKE YOU, BUT THE OTHER... THE OTHER WAS ONE OF MY TRIBE.
ONLY ONE OF OUR WARRIORS WOULD STAND A CHANCE OF LEAVING THIS TERRITORY ALIVE.
BUT, FOR A WARRIOR TO HAVE TAKEN THE SURVEYOR, THE ELDER MUST HAVE KNOWN. HE WOULD HAVE BEEN...HE WOULD HAVE BEEN THE ONE TO ORDER IT.
THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY THE JAGUARS DIDN'T RIP US TO SHREDS WHEN THEY SHOWED UP.
I NEGOTIATED WITH THE JAGUARS.
WAIT, YOU AND SHERE KHAN HAD A HEART-TO-HEART BACK THERE?
"TWO WAY CONVERSATION"? OF COURSE NOT.
I KNOW THE LEADER OF THATPRIDE. WITH HER, YOU'RE LUCKY TO GET A WORD IN EDGEWISE
YOU CAN COMMUNICATE WITH ANIMALS. YOU'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO BODY SLAM A JAGUAR. HOW IS ANY OF THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?
YOU DO NOT QUESTION THE GIFTS MOTHER FOREST GIVES YOU.
OK, THAT'S FAIR, YOU DON'T HAVE TO QUESTION ANYTHING. BUT NO ONE GAVE ME ANY GIFTS, SO I CAN STILL QUESTION THIS.
DO YOU THINK IT'S HEREDITARY?
COULD YOUR PARENTS COMMUNICATE WITH ANIMALS, TOO? CAN OTHER PEOPLE IN YOUR TRIBE?
MY GIFT SIMPLY IS. THE HOW AND WHY DO NOT MATTER.

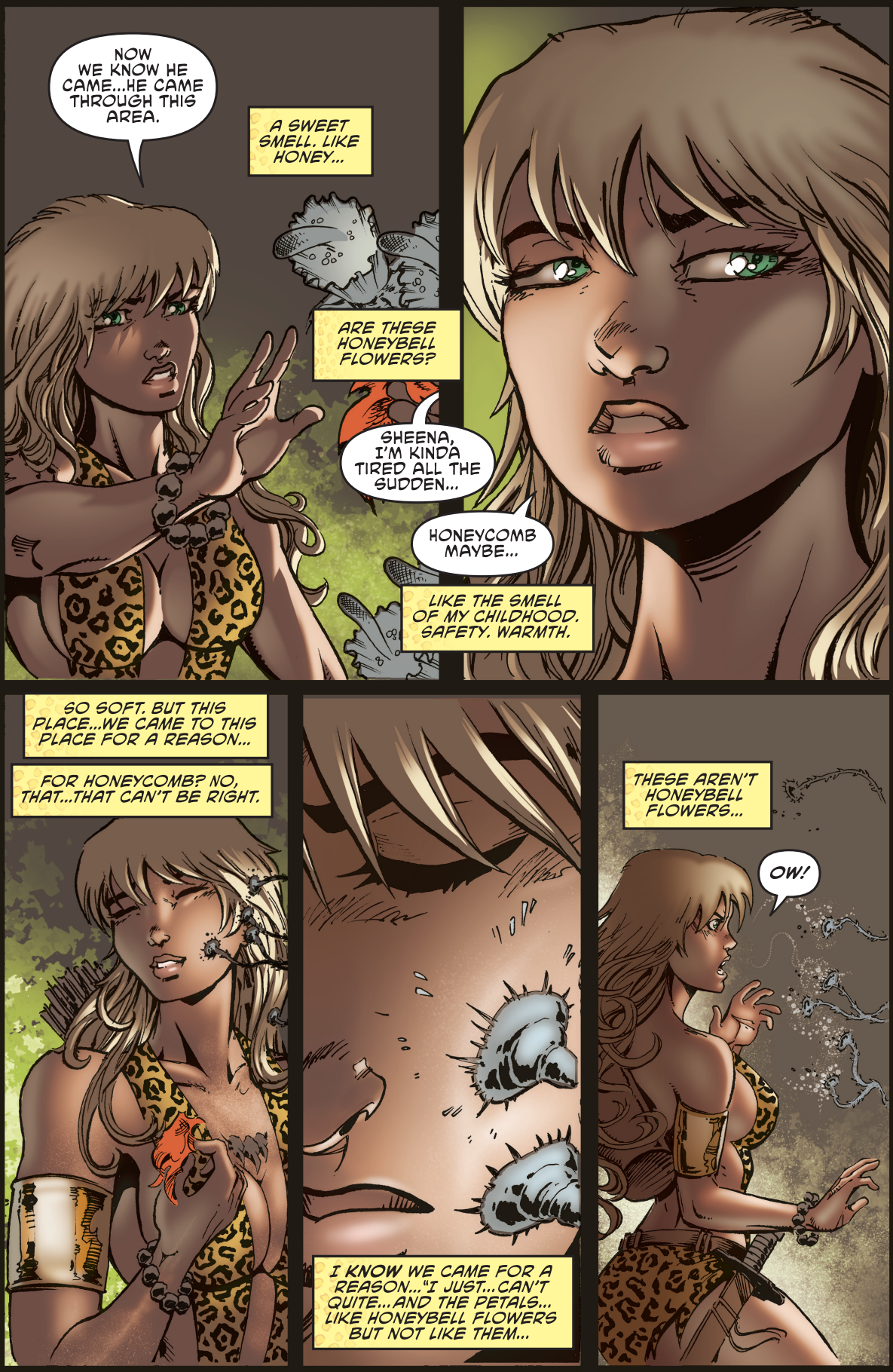

YOU WALK TOO SLOWLY. HURRY UP.
HEY, WHAT IF IT'S MAGIC OR SOMETHING--?
"WHAT IF, WHAT IF." YOU BURDEN MY EARS WITH AFFAIRS THAT DO NOT CONCERN YOU.
YOU AREN'T EVEN A *LITTLE* CURIOUS ABOUT IT?
NO, NOT AT A--
STONES? A ROAD.
WAY OUT HERE?

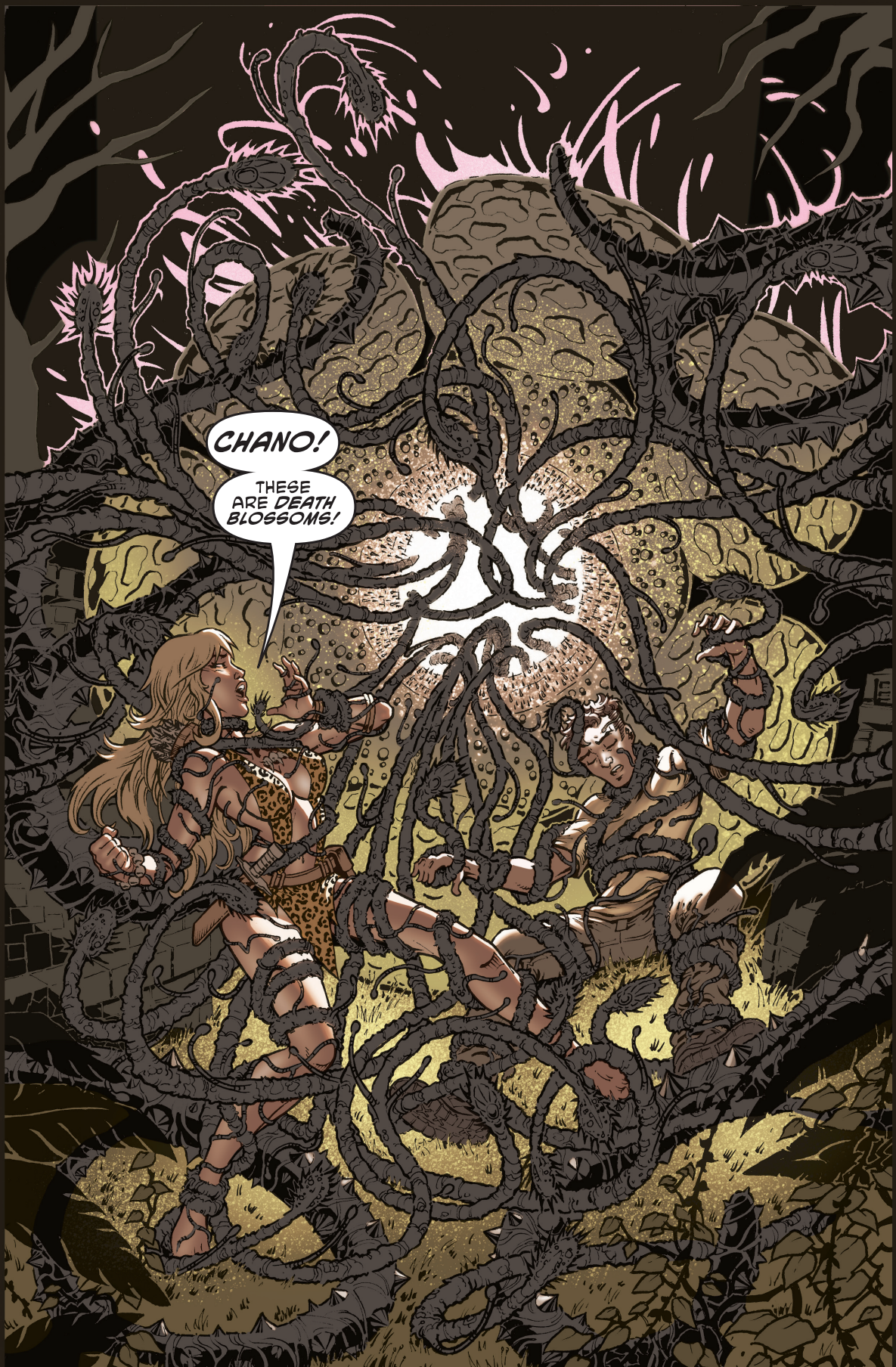

NOT JUST A ROAD.
SOMETHING ELSE.
THERE AREN'T ANY RECORDS OF THIS PLACE IN THE ZONA PROHIBIDA.
THERE ARE NO RECORDS OF TEMPLES OR RUINS LIKE THIS IN ANY PART OF VAL VERDE.
SHEENA, WHO BUILT THIS?


THIS IS NO MYTH.
THERE ISN'T EVEN ANY MORTAR, IS THERE? EACH STONE IS JUST CUT THAT PERFECTLY. SO PERFECTLY THAT THEY'VE STAYED IN PLACE FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG--
THE GEO TRACKER SAYS THE SURVEYOR DEFINITELY CAME THROUGH HERE. SO NOW WE HAVE TO GO TRAIPSING AROUND IN WHAT ARE PROBABLY VERY HAUNTED RUINS.
GOD, THIS ISN'T EVEN SENIOR YEAR.
CAREFUL. DON'T FALL OFF THE "MYTH."
I TOLD YOU BEFORE, *YOU DO NOT QUESTION THE GIFTS MOTHER FOREST GIVES TO YOU.*
YOU SHOULD NOT QUESTION THE RUINS, EITHER.
INSTEAD, QUESTION WHY WE FOUND THEM ONLY NOW.
I DID NOT KNOW THIS WAS EVEN HERE. WE ARE DEEPER IN THE FOREST THAT EVEN MY PEOPLE TEND TO WANDER.
THE BUILDERS CAN ONLY BE THE FIRST PEOPLE. *THE LORDS OF PAITIATI.*
IT IS THE DUTY OF MY PEOPLE TO PROTECT THEIR SACRED PLACES.
PAITIATI? LIKE THE LOST CITY? I THOUGHT THAT WAS A MYTH--

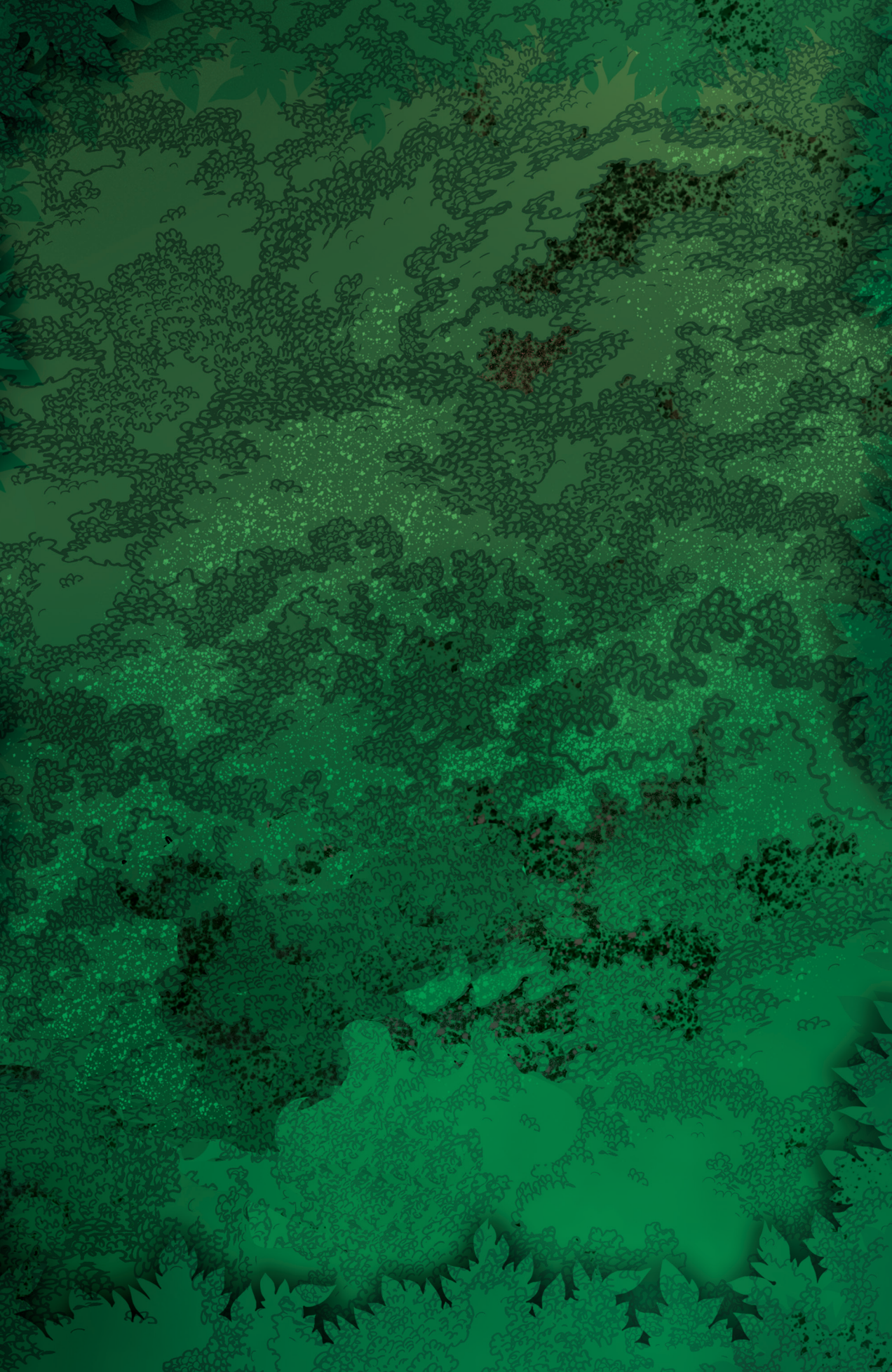

WE SHOULD NOT TRESPASS *INSIDE* HERE--IT IS FORBIDDEN. WE MUST FIND THE SURVEYOR AND WE MUST ALL LEAVE THIS PLACE.
HOW CAN IT BE FORBIDDEN IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW THIS PLACE EVEN EXISTED UNTIL TWO MINUTES AGO?
DO YOU NOT SENSE THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE RUINS?
I RECOGNIZE THIS STONE, THESE PLANTS...THEY ARE THE SAME AS THE SITE NEAR MY VILLAGE.
THE FACT THAT I DID NOT KNOW ABOUT *THIS* PLACE UNTIL TODAY DOES NOT CHANGE THE FACT THAT IT DESERVE OUR RESPECT NOW.
I STILL SUPPORT RESPECTING MOTHER FOREST, BUT THAT GUY LOOKS LIKE HE'S HAVING A GREAT TIME SO IT CAN'T BE THAT BIG A TRANSGRESSION TO BE HERE.
LOOK, HE'S DANCING WITH THE FLOWERS.
MAYBE THE SURVEYOR DIDN'T GO INSIDE HERE. MAYBE HE'S WALKING AROUND OUTSIDE OF IT LIKE WE ARE.
IF WE ARE LUCKY, HE WILL BE BUT, REGARDLESS, THE SURVEYOR MUST BE FOUND.


WE'LL KEEP LOOKING, THEN. THINK THERE'S GHOSTS IN CASTLE GREYSKULL?
THERE WILL BE NO GHOSTS. BUT THERE IS A SMELL...
GOOD. I HATE GHOSTS.
HUM?
WAIT. THERE IS SOMETHING--
THERE. FABRIC.
A CLUE. THAT'S AWESOME.
HE'S GOT NO SHIRT NOW...NOT SO AWESOME FOR HIM. HOPE HE KNOWS TO STAY AWAY FROM THE PLANTS.
YES, LET US HOPE.
SUCH AN ODD SMELL...


NOW WE KNOW HE CAME...HE CAME THROUGH THIS AREA.
A SWEET SMELL. LIKE HONEY...
ARE THESE HONEYBELL FLOWERS?
SHEENA, I'M KINDA TIRED ALL THE SUDDEN...
HONEYCOMB MAYBE...
LIKE THE SMELL OF MY CHILDHOOD. SAFETY. WARMTH.
SO SOFT. BUT THIS PLACE...WE CAME TO THIS PLACE FOR A REASON...
FOR HONEYCOMB? NO, THAT...THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.
I KNOW WE CAME FOR A REASON..."I JUST...CAN'T QUITE...AND THE PETALS... LIKE HONEYBELL FLOWERS BUT NOT LIKE THEM...
THESE AREN'T HONEYBELL FLOWERS...
OW!

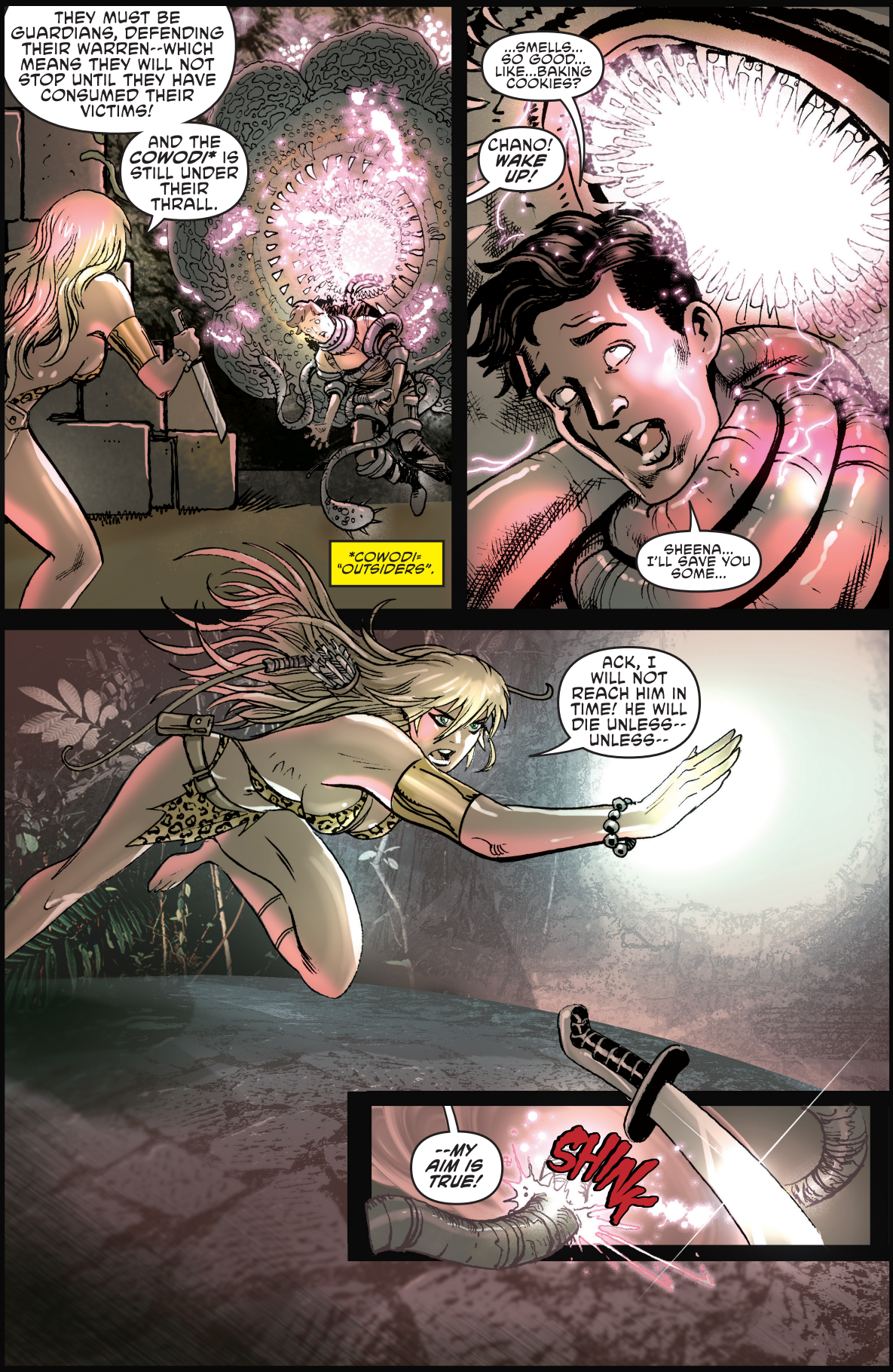

CHANO!
THESE ARE DEATH BLOSSOMS!


ISSUE #3 COVER
ART BY MARIA SANAPO
COLORS BY CECI DE LA CRUZ
SANAPO
de la Cruz

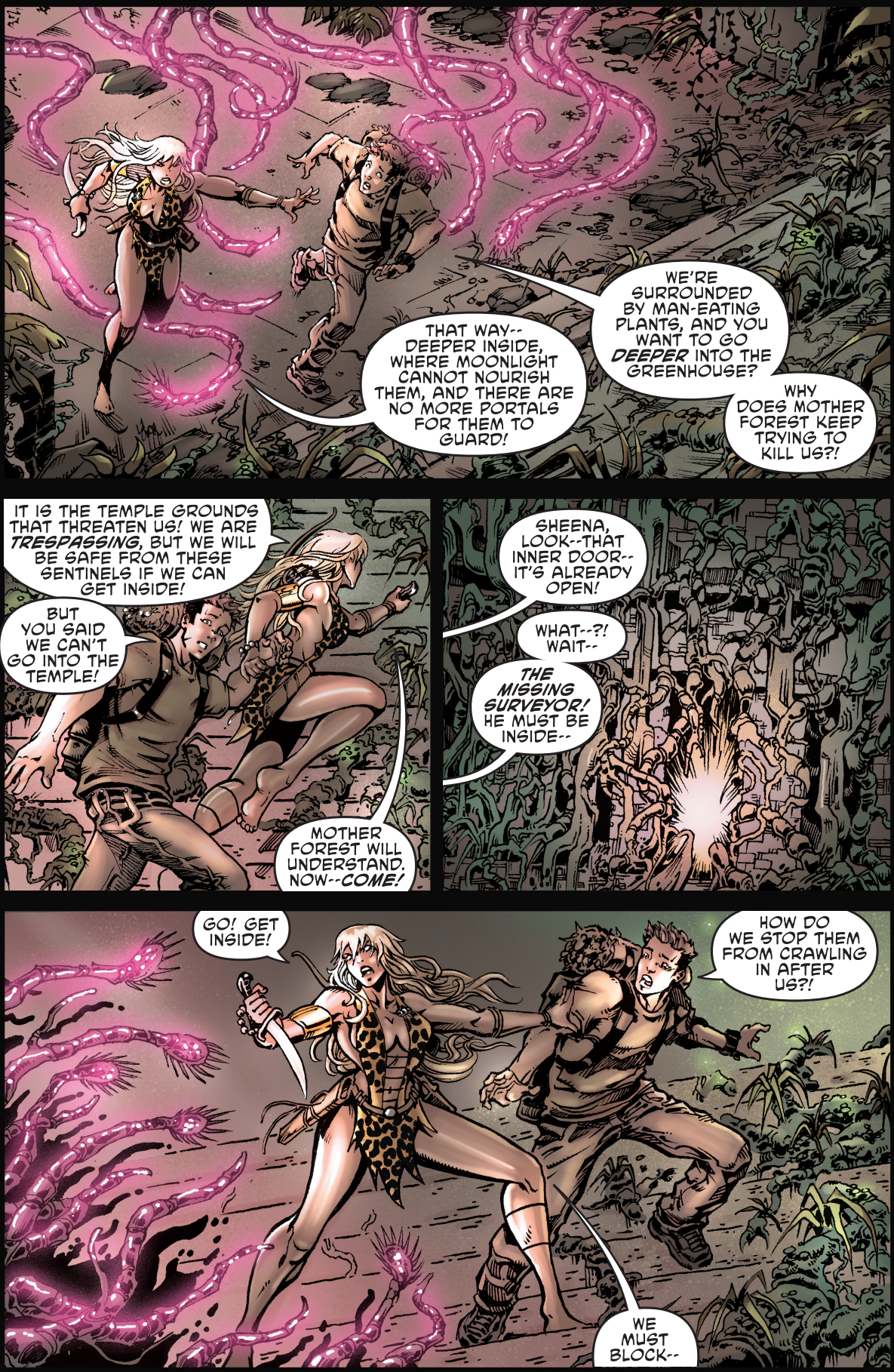



ZONA PROHIBIDA. THE AMAZON.
DEATH BLOSSOMS!

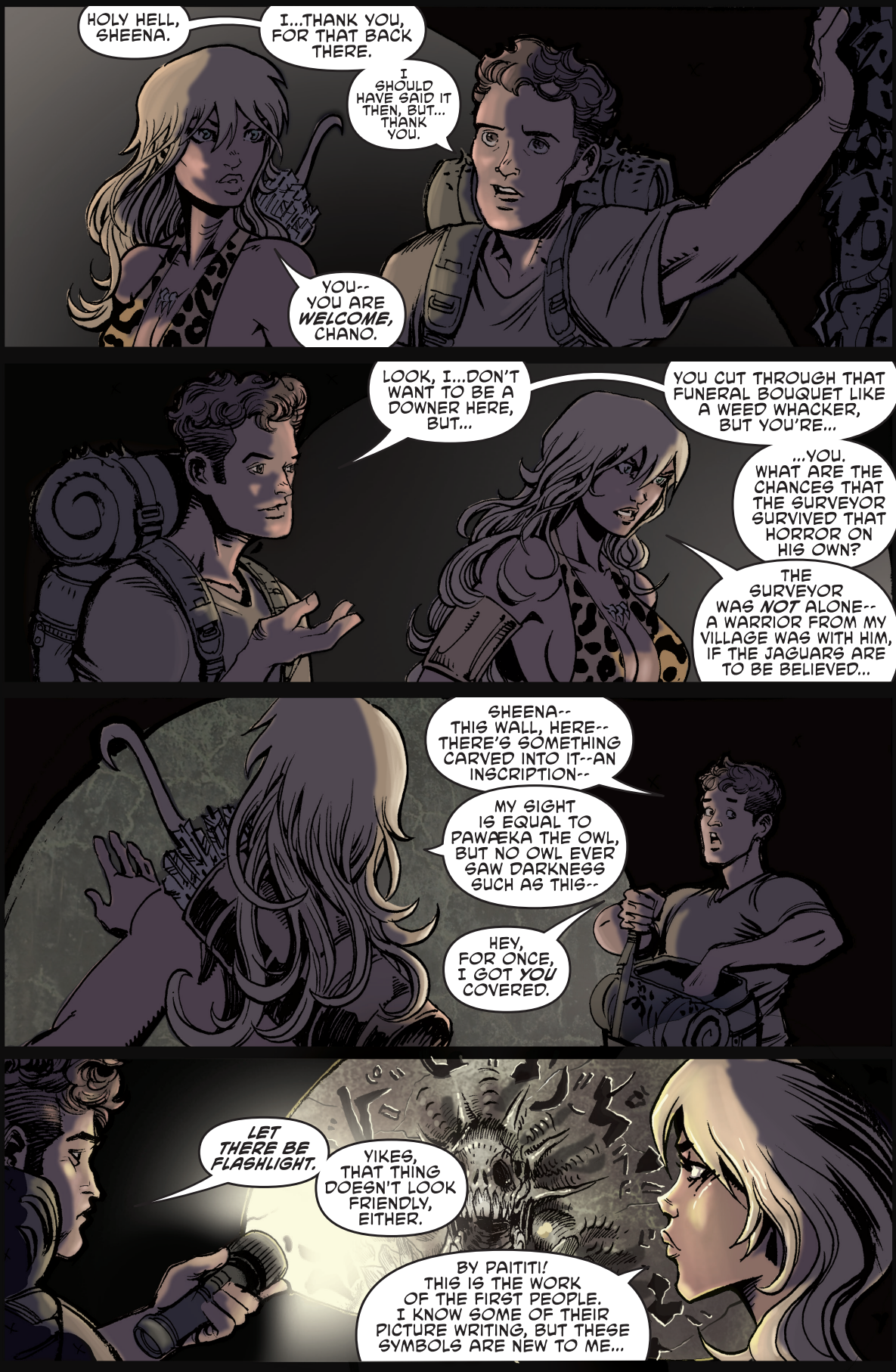

CHANO! YOU MUST NOT GIVE IN!
I'VE HEARD OF THIS FIEND, GROWING IN DARKNESS AND MOONLIGHT--
--THE POLLEN LULLS PREY INTO A DREAM-LIKE STUPOR BEFORE THE PLANT ATTACKS!
THERE ARE MYSTERIES OF MOTHER FOREST OF WHICH EVEN I KNEW NOTHING, BUT WHATEVER THE DANGER--
--I HAVE COME TOO FAR, AND TOO MANY DEPEND ON ME, TO BE DEFEATED BY A WEED!
DHAKKA!!
THE SAP GLOWS?
LIKE THE PLANTS THAT ATTACKED ME AT THE RUIN NEAR MY VILLAGE...

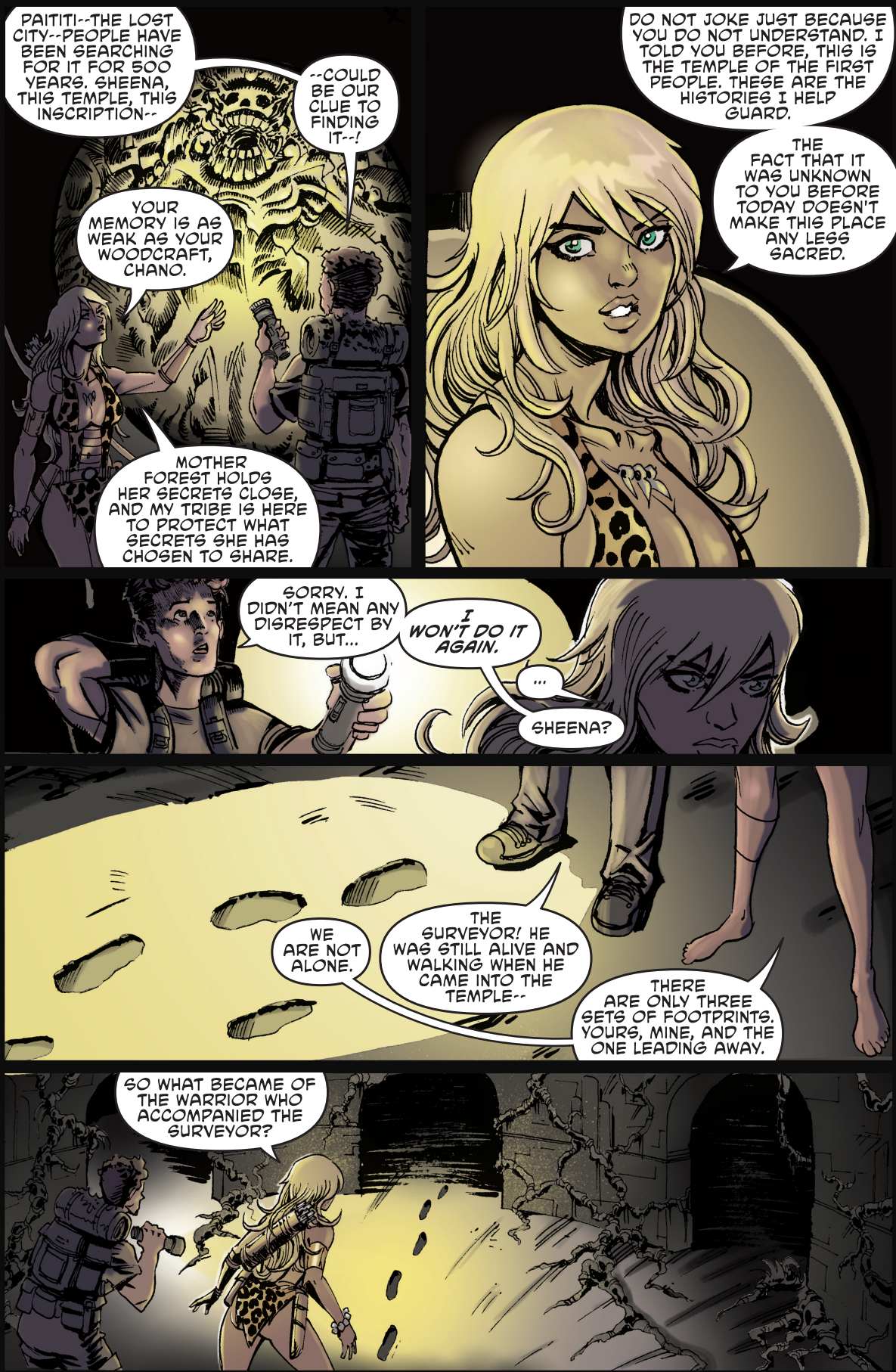

THEY MUST BE GUARDIANS, DEFENDING THEIR WARREN--WHICH MEANS THEY WILL NOT STOP UNTIL THEY HAVE CONSUMED THEIR VICTIMS!
AND THE COWODI* IS STILL UNDER THEIR THRALL.
*COWODI= "OUTSIDERS".
...SMELLS... SO GOOD... LIKE...BAKING COOKIES?
CHANO! WAKE UP!
SHEENA... I'LL SAVE YOU SOME...
ACK, I WILL NOT REACH HIM IN TIME! HE WILL DIE UNLESS-- UNLESS--
--MY AIM IS TRUE!
SHINK

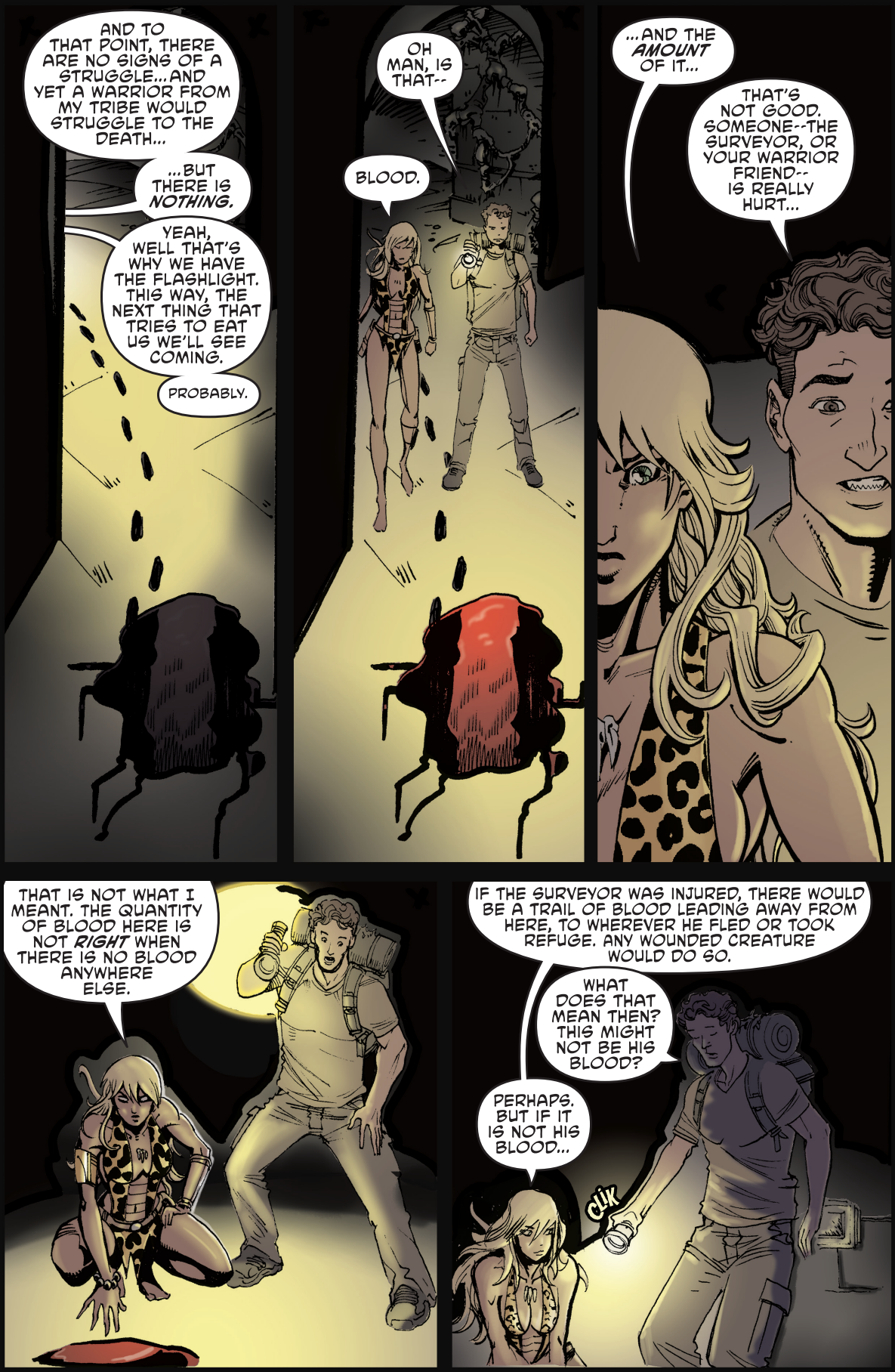

WAKE UP! DO NOT GIVE INTO THE DREAM, IT IS NOT REAL!
...UM-HUM...
FIND STRENGTH AND FIGHT BACK! RESIST THE ENCHANTMENT!
YOU SMELL LIKE FLOWERS, SHEENA...
IF I COULD RESIST THE POLLEN'S GRASP, WHY CAN'T YOU?
UNLESS...
PAIN WOKE ME FROM MY DAZE--
PERHAPS IT WILL WAKE YOU AS WELL!
GAH!
YOU SLAP LIKE MY DORM MANAGER--
SLAP
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
DEATH BLOSSOMS! NOW MOVE-- BEFORE THEY SHOW YOU HELL ON EARTH!

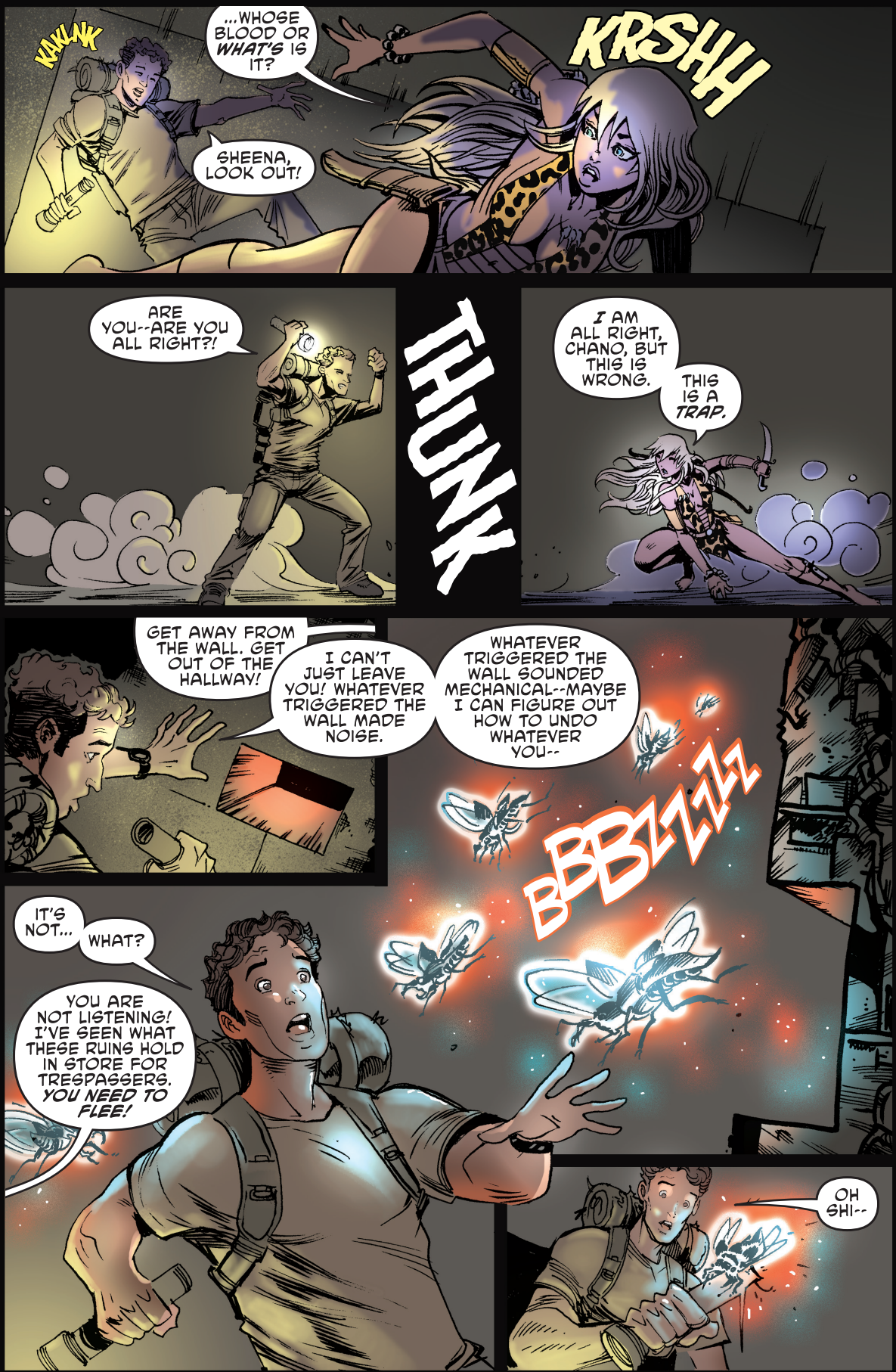

WHY DOES MOTHER FOREST KEEP TRYING TO KILL US?!
WE'RE SURROUNDED BY MAN-EATING PLANTS, AND YOU WANT TO GO *DEEPER* INTO THE GREENHOUSE?
THAT WAY--DEEPER INSIDE, WHERE MOONLIGHT CANNOT NOURISH THEM, AND THERE ARE NO MORE PORTALS FOR THEM TO GUARD!
IT IS THE TEMPLE GROUNDS THAT THREATEN US! WE ARE *TRESPASSING*, BUT WE WILL BE SAFE FROM THESE SENTINELS IF WE CAN GET INSIDE!
BUT YOU SAID WE CAN'T GO INTO THE TEMPLE!
MOTHER FOREST WILL UNDERSTAND. NOW--*COME!*
SHEENA, LOOK--THAT INNER DOOR--IT'S ALREADY OPEN!
WHAT--?! WAIT--
THE MISSING SURVEYOR! HE MUST BE INSIDE--
GO! GET INSIDE!
HOW DO WE STOP THEM FROM CRAWLING IN AFTER US?!
WE MUST BLOCK--


OOF!
SHEENA!
CHANO, NO! STAY WHERE YOU ARE--
MOONLIGHT HELPS STRENGTHEN THE VENOM BLOSSOMS--
SLIKK
--SO WE MUST BLOCK THE MOON.
AND IF WE CLOSE THE DOOR--
--THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REACH US.

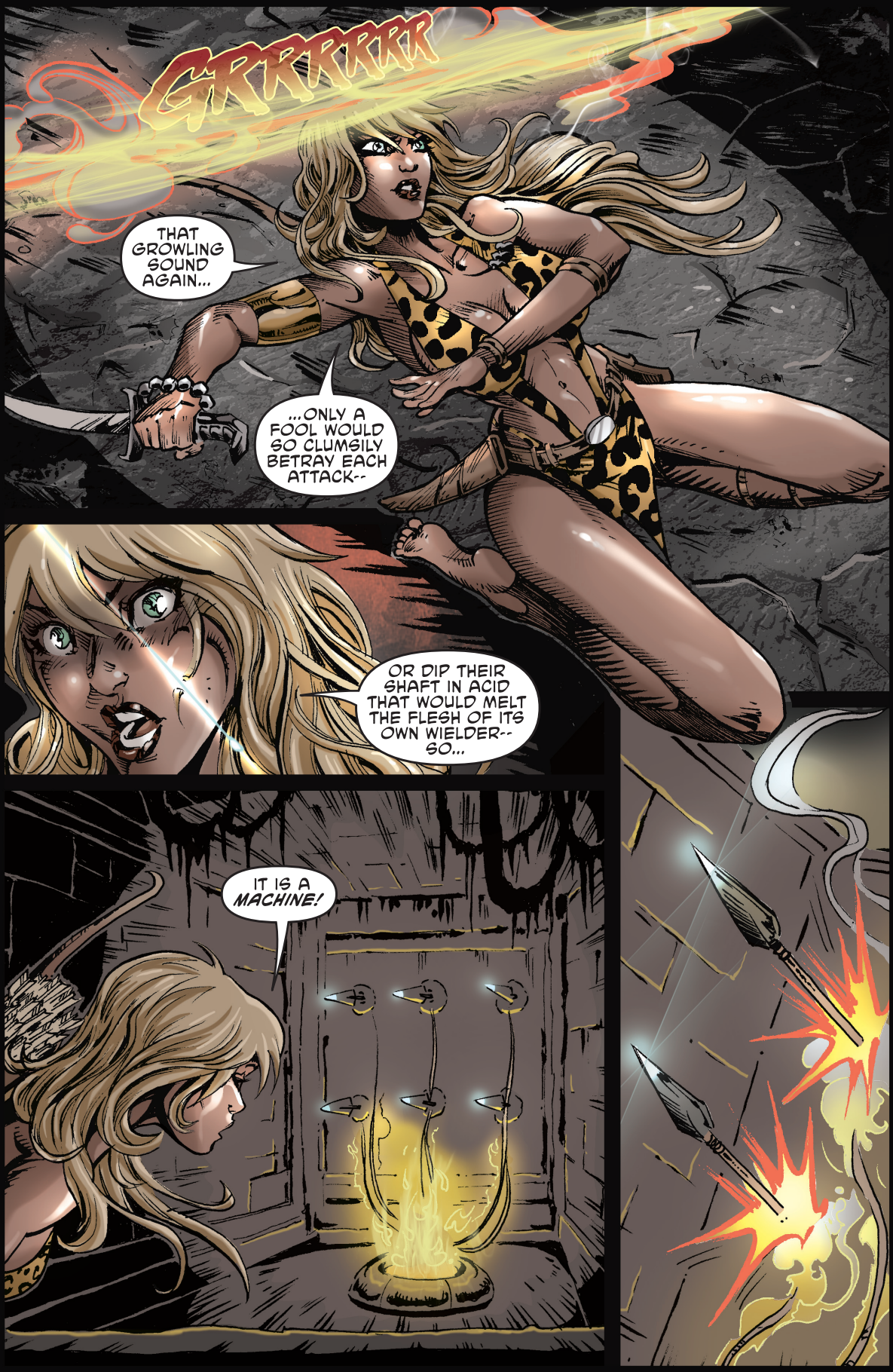

HOLY HELL, SHEENA.
I...THANK YOU, FOR THAT BACK THERE.
I SHOULD HAVE SAID IT THEN, BUT... THANK YOU.
YOU-- YOU ARE WELCOME, CHANO.
LOOK, I...DON'T WANT TO BE A DOWNER HERE, BUT...
YOU CUT THROUGH THAT FUNERAL BOUQUET LIKE A WEED WHACKER, BUT YOU'RE...
...YOU. WHAT ARE THE CHANCES THAT THE SURVEYOR SURVIVED THAT HORROR ON HIS OWN?
THE SURVEYOR WAS NOT ALONE-- A WARRIOR FROM MY VILLAGE WAS WITH HIM, IF THE JAGUARS ARE TO BE BELIEVED...
SHEENA-- THIS WALL, HERE-- THERE'S SOMETHING CARVED INTO IT--AN INSCRIPTION--
MY SIGHT IS EQUAL TO PAWÆKA THE OWL, BUT NO OWL EVER SAW DARKNESS SUCH AS THIS--
HEY, FOR ONCE, I GOT YOU COVERED.
LET THERE BE FLASHLIGHT.
YIKES, THAT THING DOESN'T LOOK FRIENDLY, EITHER.
BY PAITITI! THIS IS THE WORK OF THE FIRST PEOPLE. I KNOW SOME OF THEIR PICTURE WRITING, BUT THESE SYMBOLS ARE NEW TO ME...


PAITITI--THE LOST CITY--PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR IT FOR 500 YEARS. SHEENA, THIS TEMPLE, THIS INSCRIPTION--
--COULD BE OUR CLUE TO FINDING IT--!
YOUR MEMORY IS AS WEAK AS YOUR WOODCRAFT, CHANO.
MOTHER FOREST HOLDS HER SECRETS CLOSE, AND MY TRIBE IS HERE TO PROTECT WHAT SECRETS SHE HAS CHOSEN TO SHARE.
DO NOT JOKE JUST BECAUSE YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND. I TOLD YOU BEFORE, THIS IS THE TEMPLE OF THE FIRST PEOPLE. THESE ARE THE HISTORIES I HELP GUARD.
THE FACT THAT IT WAS UNKNOWN TO YOU BEFORE TODAY DOESN'T MAKE THIS PLACE ANY LESS SACRED.
SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN ANY DISRESPECT BY IT, BUT...
I WON'T DO IT AGAIN.
...
SHEENA?
WE ARE NOT ALONE.
THE SURVEYOR! HE WAS STILL ALIVE AND WALKING WHEN HE CAME INTO THE TEMPLE--
THERE ARE ONLY THREE SETS OF FOOTPRINTS. YOURS, MINE, AND THE ONE LEADING AWAY.
SO WHAT BECAME OF THE WARRIOR WHO ACCOMPANIED THE SURVEYOR?


AND TO THAT POINT, THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF A STRUGGLE...AND YET A WARRIOR FROM MY TRIBE WOULD STRUGGLE TO THE DEATH...
...BUT THERE IS *NOTHING.*
YEAH, WELL THAT'S WHY WE HAVE THE FLASHLIGHT. THIS WAY, THE NEXT THING THAT TRIES TO EAT US WE'LL SEE COMING.
PROBABLY.
OH MAN, IS THAT--
BLOOD.
...AND THE *AMOUNT* OF IT...
THAT'S NOT GOOD. SOMEONE--THE SURVEYOR, OR YOUR WARRIOR FRIEND--IS REALLY HURT...
THAT IS NOT WHAT I MEANT. THE QUANTITY OF BLOOD HERE IS NOT *RIGHT* WHEN THERE IS NO BLOOD ANYWHERE ELSE.
IF THE SURVEYOR WAS INJURED, THERE WOULD BE A TRAIL OF BLOOD LEADING AWAY FROM HERE, TO WHEREVER HE FLED OR TOOK REFUGE. ANY WOUNDED CREATURE WOULD DO SO.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN THEN? THIS MIGHT NOT BE HIS BLOOD?
PERHAPS. BUT IF IT IS NOT HIS BLOOD...
CLIK

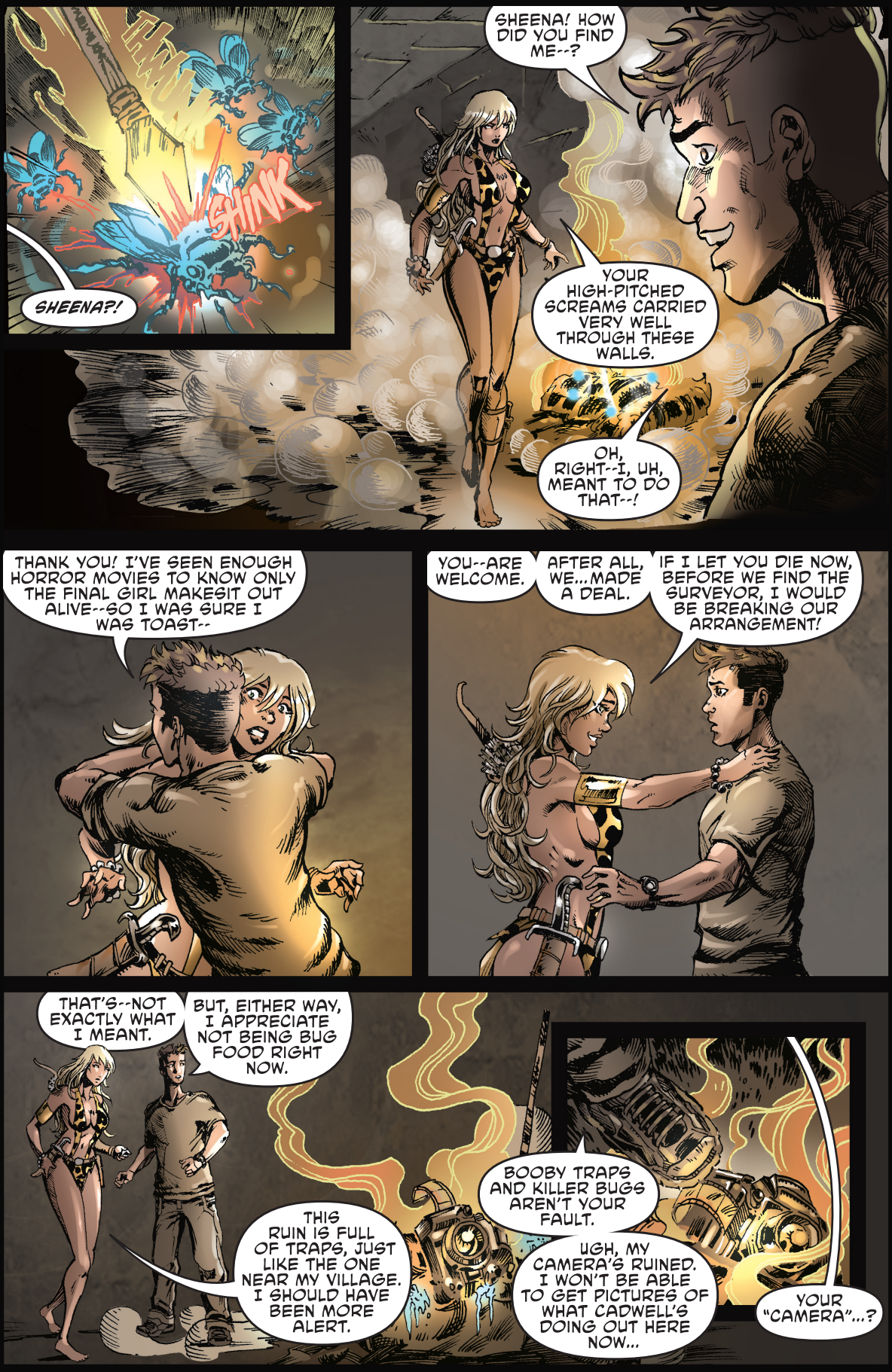

KAKLANK
...WHOSE BLOOD OR WHAT'S IS IT?
SHEENA, LOOK OUT!
KRSHH
ARE YOU--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
THUNK
I AM ALL RIGHT, CHANO, BUT THIS IS WRONG.
THIS IS A TRAP.
GET AWAY FROM THE WALL. GET OUT OF THE HALLWAY!
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU! WHATEVER TRIGGERED THE WALL MADE NOISE.
WHATEVER TRIGGERED THE WALL SOUNDED MECHANICAL--MAYBE I CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO UNDO WHATEVER YOU--
BBBZZZZZ
IT'S NOT...
WHAT?
YOU ARE NOT LISTENING! I'VE SEEN WHAT THESE RUINS HOLD IN STORE FOR TRESPASSERS. YOU NEED TO FLEE!
OH SHI--


AHHH!
CHANO! RUN!
GRRRRRR
WHAT GROWLS AT ME FROM HIDING? MAN OR BEAST, SHOW YOURSELF!
GRRRRRR
GRRRRRR
A SPEAR? NO BEAST, THEN-- YET THAT SOUND IS NOT HUMAN--
WOOSH
ACID, ON THE HEAD...?
HSSS


GRRRRRRR
THAT GROWLING SOUND AGAIN...
...ONLY A FOOL WOULD SO CLUMSILY BETRAY EACH ATTACK--
OR DIP THEIR SHAFT IN ACID THAT WOULD MELT THE FLESH OF ITS OWN WIELDER-- SO...
IT IS A *MACHINE!*

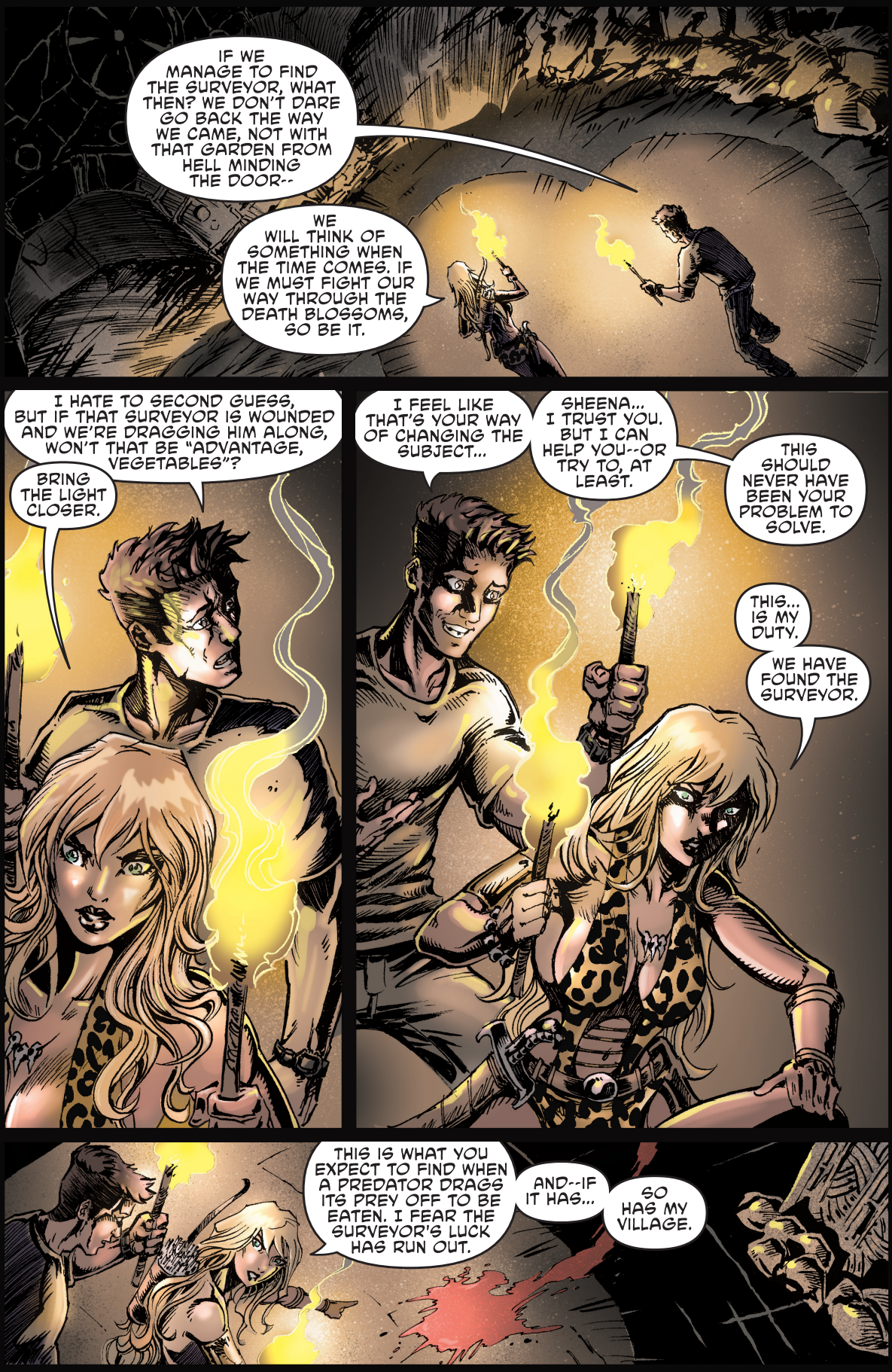

YOUR FIRE IS WHAT MAKES THE SPEARS FLY--
--SO I WILL DOUSE YOUR FLAME!
BUT TO GET PAST THE WALL...*HMM*...THE ACID MELTS THE STONE, BUT NOT THE SPEAR TIP...
PERHAPS WITH BOTH THE BLADE AND ITS FOUL BROTH, I CAN CARVE AN OPENING IN THE WALL...
FIND CHANO...
...*AND* THE SURVEYOR.
AHHH! GET OFF ME! *AHH!*

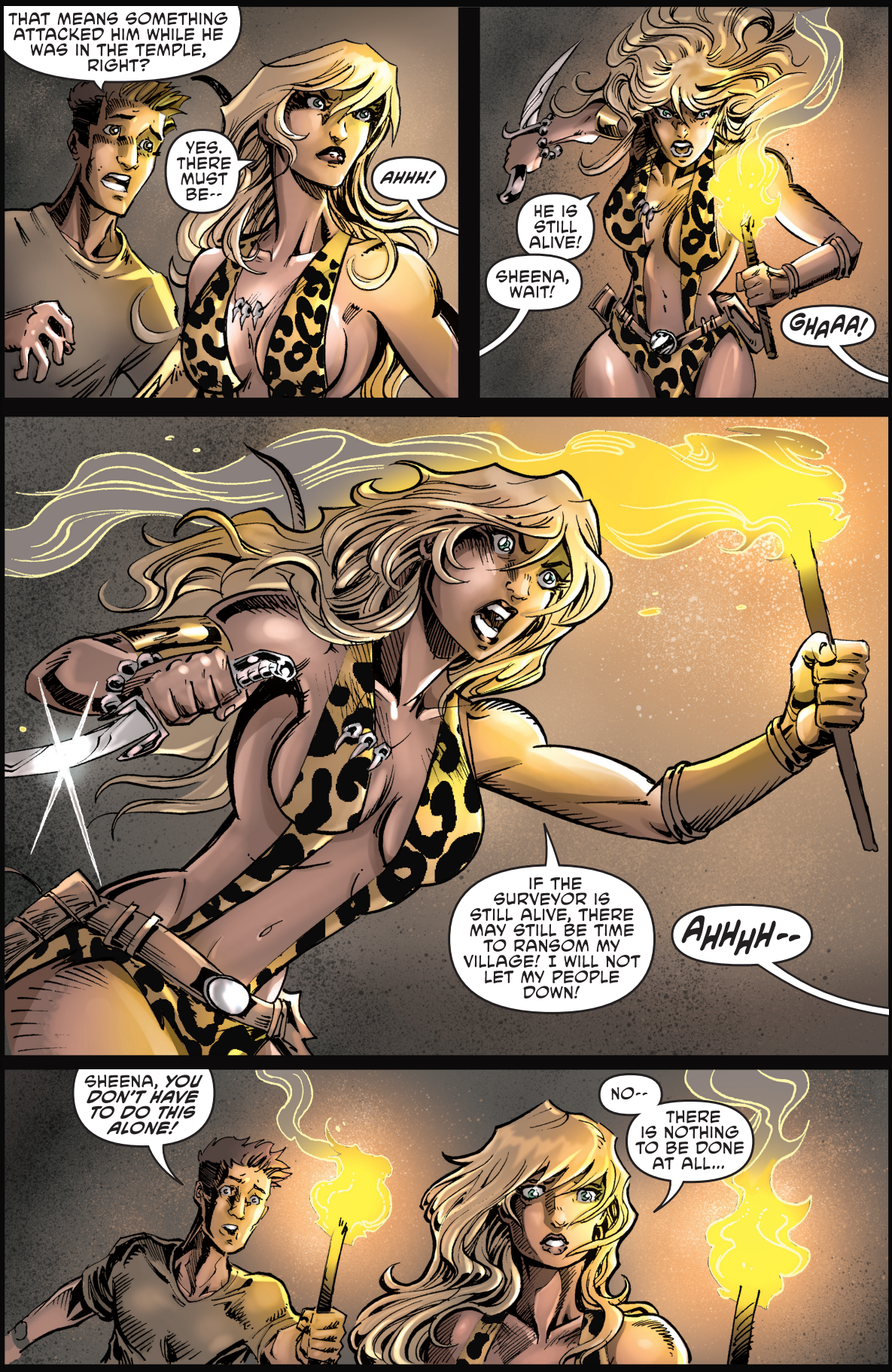

WHY IS EVERYTHING IN THIS JUNGLE TRYING TO EAT ME?!
NO, NO, NO, NO!
?!
GAH!
FINE! YOU CAN HAVE THE BACK PACK!


THUD
SHINK
SHEENA?!
SHEENA! HOW DID YOU FIND ME--?
YOUR HIGH-PITCHED SCREAMS CARRIED VERY WELL THROUGH THESE WALLS.
OH, RIGHT--I, UH, MEANT TO DO THAT--!
THANK YOU! I'VE SEEN ENOUGH HORROR MOVIES TO KNOW ONLY THE FINAL GIRL MAKESIT OUT ALIVE--SO I WAS SURE I WAS TOAST--
YOU--ARE WELCOME.
AFTER ALL, WE...MADE A DEAL.
IF I LET YOU DIE NOW, BEFORE WE FIND THE SURVEYOR, I WOULD BE BREAKING OUR ARRANGEMENT!
THAT'S--NOT EXACTLY WHAT I MEANT.
BUT, EITHER WAY, I APPRECIATE NOT BEING BUG FOOD RIGHT NOW.
THIS RUIN IS FULL OF TRAPS, JUST LIKE THE ONE NEAR MY VILLAGE. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE ALERT.
BOOBY TRAPS AND KILLER BUGS AREN'T YOUR FAULT.
UGH, MY CAMERA'S RUINED. I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET PICTURES OF WHAT CADWELL'S DOING OUT HERE NOW...
YOUR "CAMERA"...?

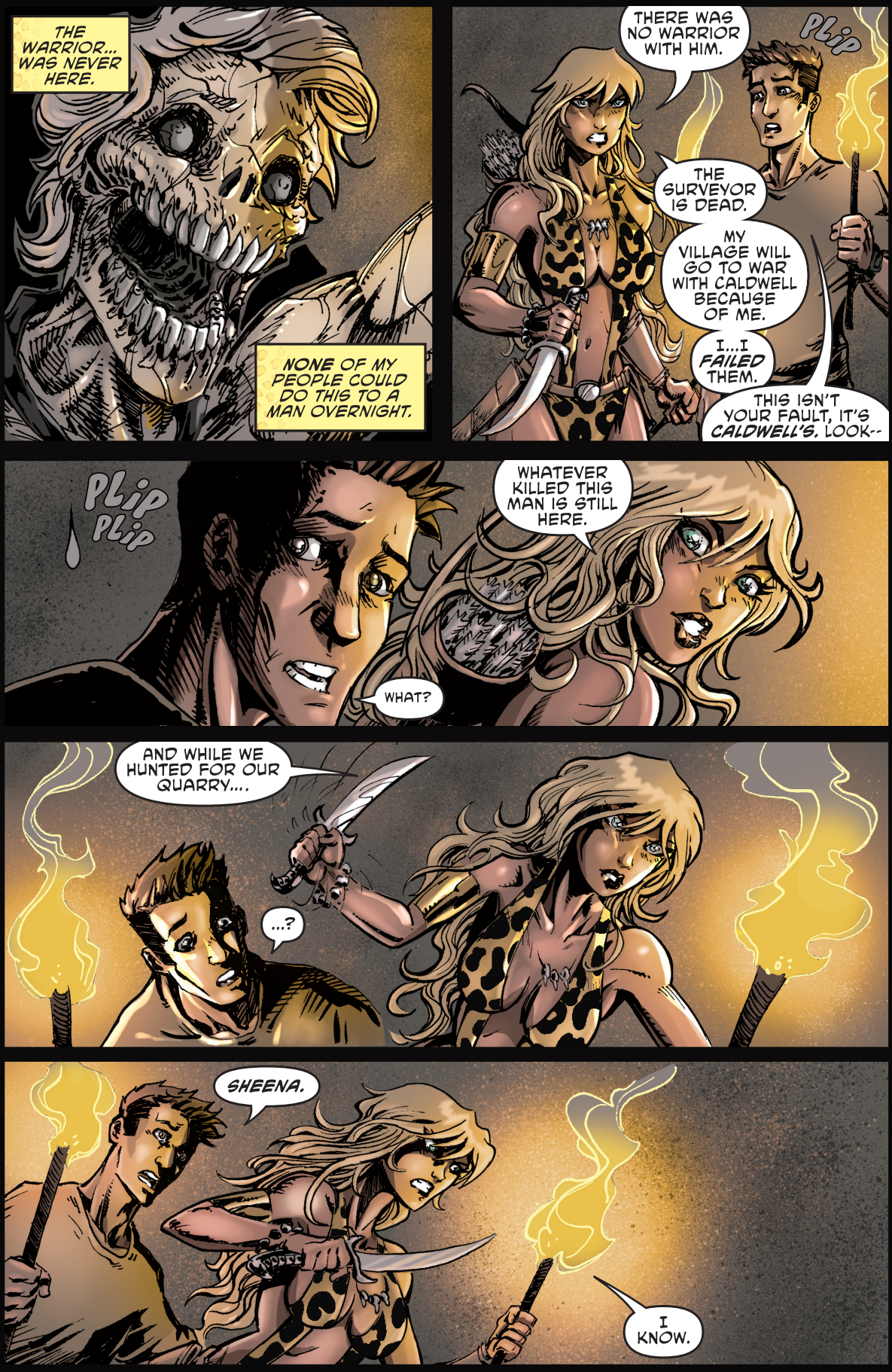

THAT RIBBON, INSIDE IT--
YOU MEAN THE FILM? YEAH, NORMALLY I GO DIGITAL, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BE UPLOADING ANYTHING TO THE CLOUD WAY OUT HERE AND I DON'T TRUST THE MEMORY CARD ALONE TO KEEP THINGS SAFE--
I HAVE SEEN SUCH, BEFORE--WITH IMAGES OF TRESPASSERS IN MOTHER FOREST, THEIR FACES REVEALED AS GHOSTS OR MONSTERS, LIKE THESE, HERE--
GHOSTS OR...? WHAT, YOU MEAN THE NEGATIVES? THEY'RE NOT MONSTERS--IT'S JUST THE WAY PEOPLE LOOK BEFORE THE PICTURES ARE DEVELOPED AND PRINTED.
WHERE DID YOU FIND UNDEVELOPED FILM? THE OTHER TEMPLE YOU KEEP MENTIONING?
IT... DOESN'T MATTER WHERE I FOUND IT.
WHAT MATTERS IS FINDING THE SURVEYOR. THE SUN RISES SOON, AND WITH IT BOTHNIGHT AND THE DEADLINE TO SAVE MY VILLAGE WILL END.
WE KNOW HE'S HERE SOMEWHERE.


NEGATIVES?
YEAH. YOU SAID IT YOURSELF--THERE ARE NO GHOSTS HERE. JUST PEOPLE, BUT I GUESS PEOPLE CAN BE BAD ENOUGH. LOOK AT EVERYTHING CADWELL DOES.
WHAT DO YOUR IMAGES LOOK LIKE WHEN THEY ARE DEVELOPED?
PEOPLE. JUST REGULAR PEOPLE.
WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER AND WE'VE FOUND THE SURVEYOR AND STOPPED CADWELL, I CAN DEVELOP THE FILM YOU HAVE. IF YOU WANT ME TO.
PERHAPS.
WE'LL FIND HIM.


IF WE MANAGE TO FIND THE SURVEYOR, WHAT THEN? WE DON'T DARE GO BACK THE WAY WE CAME, NOT WITH THAT GARDEN FROM HELL MINDING THE DOOR--
WE WILL THINK OF SOMETHING WHEN THE TIME COMES. IF WE MUST FIGHT OUR WAY THROUGH THE DEATH BLOSSOMS, SO BE IT.
I HATE TO SECOND GUESS, BUT IF THAT SURVEYOR IS WOUNDED AND WE'RE DRAGGING HIM ALONG, WON'T THAT BE "ADVANTAGE, VEGETABLES"?
BRING THE LIGHT CLOSER.
I FEEL LIKE THAT'S YOUR WAY OF CHANGING THE SUBJECT...
SHEENA... I TRUST YOU. BUT I CAN HELP YOU--OR TRY TO, AT LEAST.
THIS SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN YOUR PROBLEM TO SOLVE.
THIS... IS MY DUTY.
WE HAVE FOUND THE SURVEYOR.
THIS IS WHAT YOU EXPECT TO FIND WHEN A PREDATOR DRAGS ITS PREY OFF TO BE EATEN. I FEAR THE SURVEYOR'S LUCK HAS RUN OUT.
AND--IF IT HAS...
SO HAS MY VILLAGE.


THAT MEANS SOMETHING ATTACKED HIM WHILE HE WAS IN THE TEMPLE, RIGHT?
YES, THERE MUST BE--
AHHH!
HE IS STILL ALIVE!
SHEENA, WAIT!
GHAAA!
IF THE SURVEYOR IS STILL ALIVE, THERE MAY STILL BE TIME TO RANSOM MY VILLAGE! I WILL NOT LET MY PEOPLE DOWN!
AHHHH--
SHEENA, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE!
NO--
THERE IS NOTHING TO BE DONE AT ALL...


I AM TOO LATE.
OH MY CHRIST. I'M GOING TO BE SICK.
HOW... HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
WE JUST HEARD HIM CRY OUT, BUT THIS BODY...THIS IS NO FRESH KILL.
TO WHITHER SO, WOULD TAKE WEEKS IN THE BLAZING SUN--IN THIS COOL DARKNESS, EVEN LONGER...
BUT THIS IS THE MAN WE HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR! LOOK, HE HAS THE SYMBOL OF CALDWELL ON HIS NECKLACE...
LOOK, HE BEARS THE SYMBOL OF CALDWELL ON HIS NECK.
IF THIS IS THE SURVEYOR, WHY IS HE ALONE? WHERE'S THE WARRIOR WHO WAS WITH HIM?

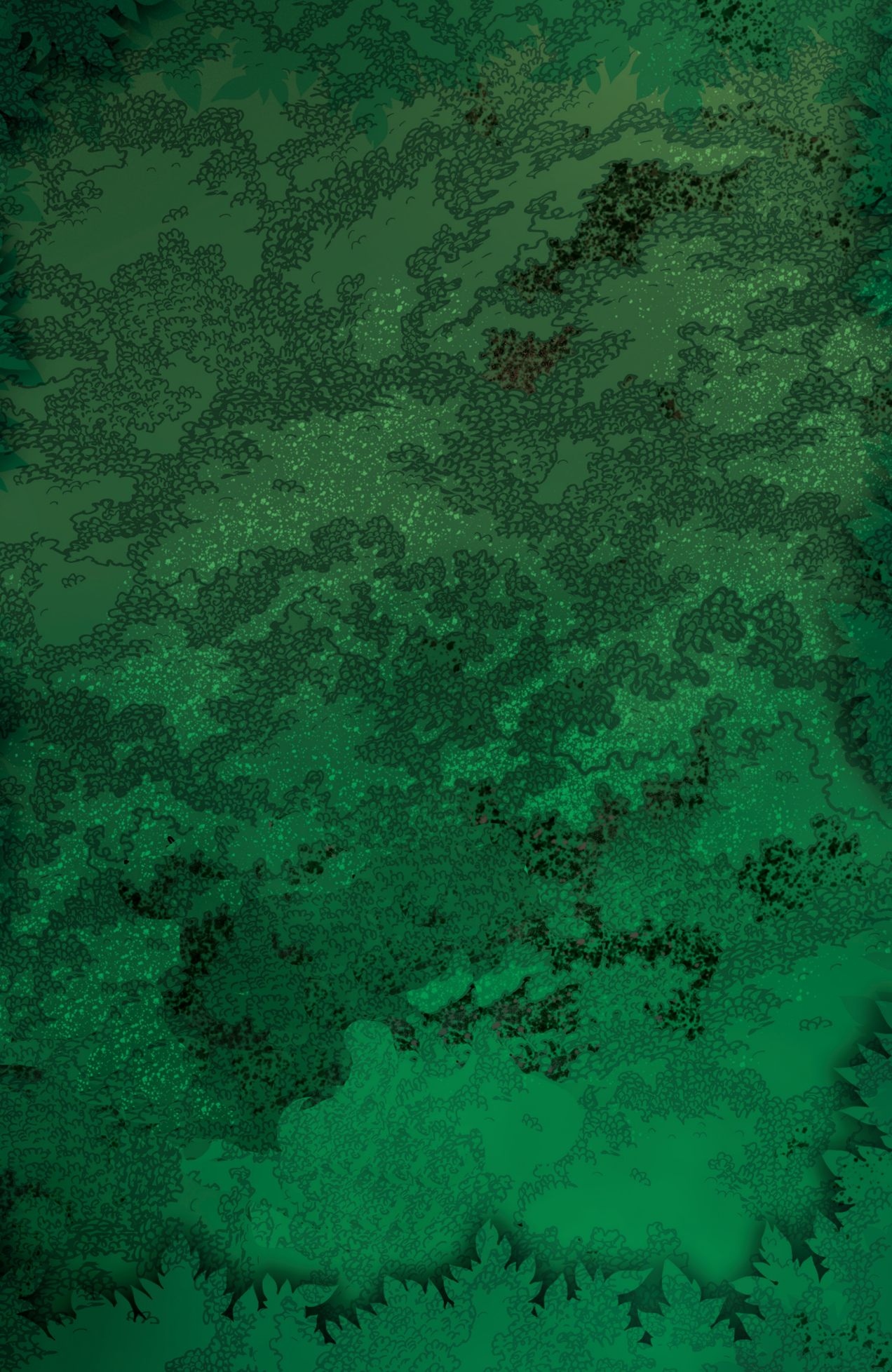

THE WARRIOR... WAS NEVER HERE.
NONE OF MY PEOPLE COULD DO THIS TO A MAN OVERNIGHT.
THERE WAS NO WARRIOR WITH HIM.
PLIP
THE SURVEYOR IS DEAD.
MY VILLAGE WILL GO TO WAR WITH CALDWELL BECAUSE OF ME.
I...I FAILED THEM.
THIS ISN'T YOUR FAULT, IT'S CALDWELL'S. LOOK--
PLIP PLIP
WHATEVER KILLED THIS MAN IS STILL HERE.
WHAT?
AND WHILE WE HUNTED FOR OUR QUARRY....
...?
SHEENA.
I KNOW.


THIS WHOLE TIME--
--THEY WERE HUNTING US.

ISSUE #4 COVER
ART BY **NOELLE RAEMER**
COLORS BY **MORITAT**



NOELLE RAEMER
AND
MORITAT




THE RUINED TEMPLE.
ZONA PROHIBIDA.
THE AMAZON.
SHEENA, WHAT THE HELL ARE THOSE THINGS?!
THEY ARE THE REASON THE MEN WE SEEK ARE LONG DEAD.
I HAVE HEARD OF THESE FIENDS, THOUGH I THOUGHT THEY WERE ONLY A MYTH...
...STORIES TO SCARE CHILDREN.


THEY-- THEY LOOK LIKE US!
WHY DO THEY LOOK LIKE US?!
THEY ARE CALLED FACE STEALERS.
FIRST, THEY TAKE YOUR FACE...
THEN...
SSSEEEHH!
...THEY TAKE YOUR LIFE!
KEEP THAT TORCH BACK AND HIGH, CHANO. I CANNOT SLAY WHAT I CANNOT SEE.
OH SHI--
SHEENA! BEHIND YOU!
WHAT, YET ANOTHER--?


UGH!
DUMBALLAH!
THEY ARE STRONGER THAN THEY LOOK--
--AND FAR FASTER!
THESE ARE NIGHTMARE CREATURES, REEKING OF ROT--OF DEATH IN DARK, WET PLACES.
!
DEAR MOTHER FOREST, I HAVE CLASHED WITH BEASTS, WITH MEN, WITH ALL THAT LIVES AND DIES BENEATH YOUR BRANCHES--
BUT HOW DO I FIGHT WHAT SHOULD NOT EXIST AT ALL?
MONSTERS OR NOT...
I WILL FACE THEM AS I WOULD FACE ANY WHO THREATEN MY HOME.
VILE CREATURES--
SSSEEHK!


BACK THE FRICK OFF!
SSS!
SSSEEEH--
GET AWAY FROM HER, YOU DAMN SLENDERMONKEY!
SSSSSSS!
CHANO! I TOLD YOU--
--STAY BACK!
YEAH, NO, NOT WHEN YOU NEED HELP.
THE FLAMES ARE GOING TO BURN OUT! WE WILL BE IN TOTAL DARKNESS WITH THESE CREATURES!
THEN I VOTE FOR A NICE SOOTHING ADRENALINE RUN.

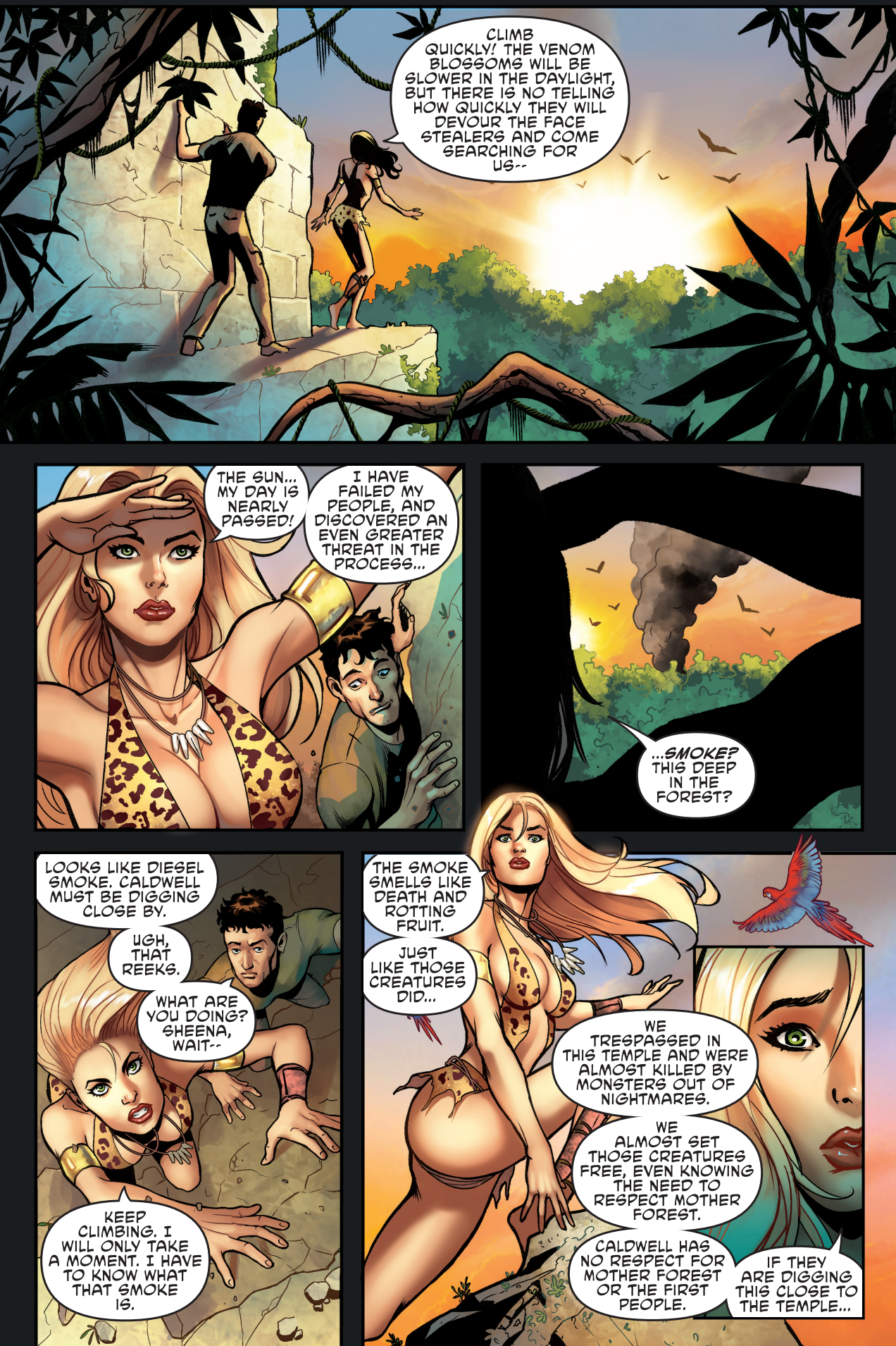

WE MUST BE GONE FROM HERE BEFORE THE FIRE BURNS OUT!
HOW?! THE BOOBYTRAP BLOCKED US OFF FROM THE EXIT!
THE WALL THAT SEPARATED US IS BROKEN, WE CAN GET OUT THE SAME WAY WE GOT IT--
WHAT ABOUT THE VENOM BLOSSOMS?!
I WILL TAKE THE PLANTS OVER THE FACE STEALERS!
FOLLOW ME--I REMEMBER THE PATH!
I AM BEGINNING TO THINK THE FIRST PEOPLE REALLY WANT US DEA--
YAHH!
CHANO!
IT'S OKAY, I GOT THIS!

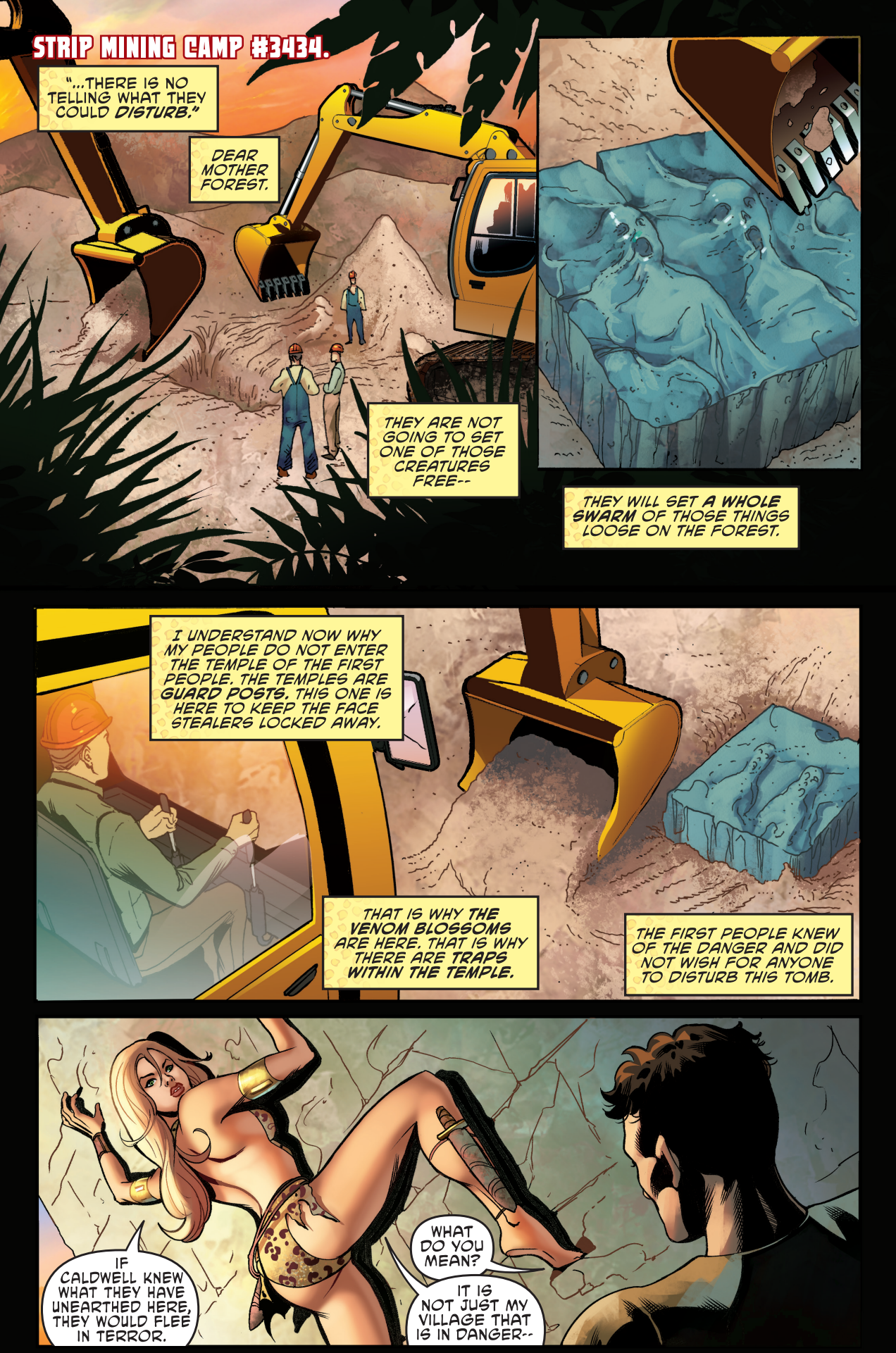

SSSSEHHHH
...OH NO.
SHEENA!
DHAKKA!!
ENOUGH!
RRRHAASSSH!
I AM THE GUARDIAN OF THIS FOREST, AND I WILL NOT RUN FROM MY ENEMIES!
I WILL FACE THIS THREAT--
AND I. WILL.
END IT!
HHHHHH--

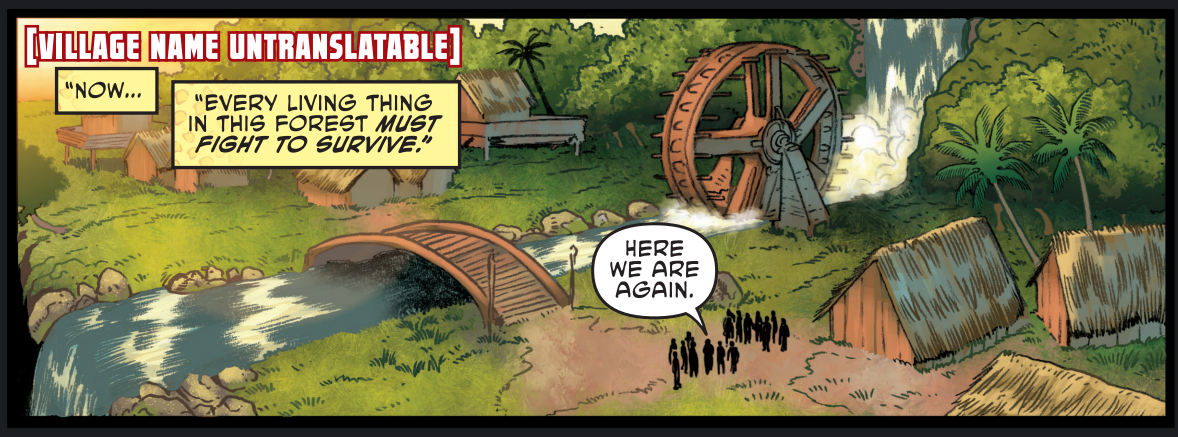

IF YOU LIVE, THEN YOU CAN DIE, JUST LIKE ANYTHING ELSE IN THIS FOREST.
I WILL MAKE SURE OF IT.
WHAT...?
IT IS... WARM?
HOW IS IT DOING THAT?
I-I DO NOT KNOW.
IT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO WARRIORS IN MY TRIBE FOR AS FAR BACK AS OUR MEMORIES STRETCH.
I UNDERSTAND NOW...
IT HAS NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE.
THIS BLADE...THIS BLADE IS A GIFT FROM THE FIRST PEOPLE.
I DO NOT PROTECT MOTHER FOREST FROM ENEMIES OUTSIDE HER BORDERS ALONE...
I MUST PROTECT HER FROM THE ENEMIES WITHIN, AS WELL.
I... I THINK I HAVE A PLAN.


ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?!
TRUST ME. THIS WILL WORK.
I TRUST YOU--
IT'S THOSE THINGS OUTSIDE I *DON'T* TRUST.
GET READY! WE ONLY HAVE ONE SHOT AT THIS--
SSSHHH
ON THE COUNT OF THREE.
SSSHHH
ONE--
TWO--
THREE!!


SSSSSHHH
NOW!
THIS WAY.
SSSHHHAAA!
LITERALLY RIGHT BEHIND YOU.

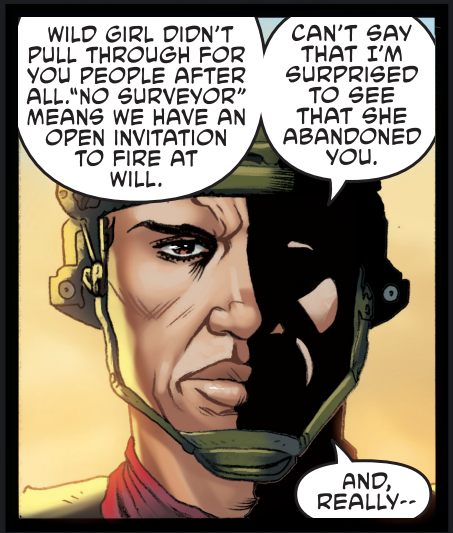

CLIMB QUICKLY! THE VENOM BLOSSOMS WILL BE SLOWER IN THE DAYLIGHT, BUT THERE IS NO TELLING HOW QUICKLY THEY WILL DEVOUR THE FACE STEALERS AND COME SEARCHING FOR US--
THE SUN... MY DAY IS NEARLY PASSED!
I HAVE FAILED MY PEOPLE, AND DISCOVERED AN EVEN GREATER THREAT IN THE PROCESS...
...SMOKE? THIS DEEP IN THE FOREST?
LOOKS LIKE DIESEL SMOKE. CALDWELL MUST BE DIGGING CLOSE BY.
UGH, THAT REEKS.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? SHEENA, WAIT--
KEEP CLIMBING. I WILL ONLY TAKE A MOMENT. I HAVE TO KNOW WHAT THAT SMOKE IS.
THE SMOKE SMELLS LIKE DEATH AND ROTTING FRUIT.
JUST LIKE THOSE CREATURES DID...
WE TRESPASSED IN THIS TEMPLE AND WERE ALMOST KILLED BY MONSTERS OUT OF NIGHTMARES.
WE ALMOST SET THOSE CREATURES FREE, EVEN KNOWING THE NEED TO RESPECT MOTHER FOREST.
CALDWELL HAS NO RESPECT FOR MOTHER FOREST OR THE FIRST PEOPLE.
IF THEY ARE DIGGING THIS CLOSE TO THE TEMPLE...


STRIP MINING CAMP #3434.
"...THERE IS NO TELLING WHAT THEY COULD DISTURB."
DEAR MOTHER FOREST.
THEY ARE NOT GOING TO SET ONE OF THOSE CREATURES FREE--
THEY WILL SET A WHOLE SWARM OF THOSE THINGS LOOSE ON THE FOREST.
I UNDERSTAND NOW WHY MY PEOPLE DO NOT ENTER THE TEMPLE OF THE FIRST PEOPLE. THE TEMPLES ARE GUARD POSTS. THIS ONE IS HERE TO KEEP THE FACE STEALERS LOCKED AWAY.
THAT IS WHY THE VENOM BLOSSOMS ARE HERE. THAT IS WHY THERE ARE TRAPS WITHIN THE TEMPLE.
THE FIRST PEOPLE KNEW OF THE DANGER AND DID NOT WISH FOR ANYONE TO DISTURB THIS TOMB.
IF CALDWELL KNEW WHAT THEY HAVE UNEARTHED HERE, THEY WOULD FLEE IN TERROR.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IT IS NOT JUST MY VILLAGE THAT IS IN DANGER--


[VILLAGE NAME UNTRANSLATABLE]
"NOW...
"EVERY LIVING THING IN THIS FOREST *MUST FIGHT TO SURVIVE.*"
HERE WE ARE AGAIN.

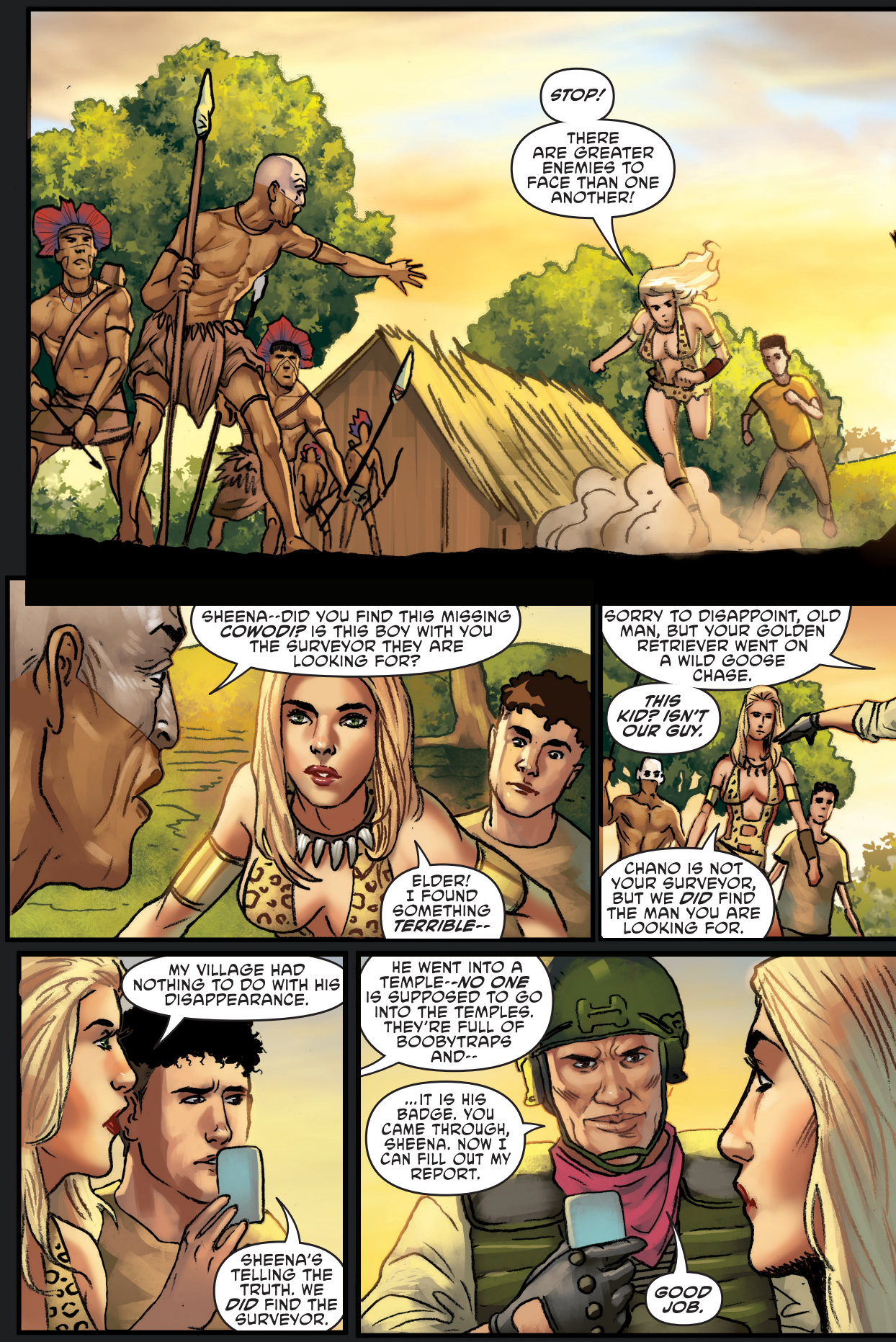

WE KEPT OUR PART OF THE DEAL, OLD MAN--
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO FIND OUR SURVEYOR ALIVE, *OR WE WIPE THIS VILLAGE OFF THE MAP.*


HEH. NOT THAT YOU WERE *EVER ON ONE TO BEGIN WITH.*
WE OFFERED YOU A CHANCE TO LEAVE OUR HOME IN PEACE ONCE. WE WILL NOT MAKE THE OFFER AGAIN.
THAT'S FUNNY. YOU SEEM TO THINK YOU PEOPLE HAVE AN ACTUAL CHANCE HERE.
LET ME CLUE YOU IN ON THE FACTS, GRANDPA.

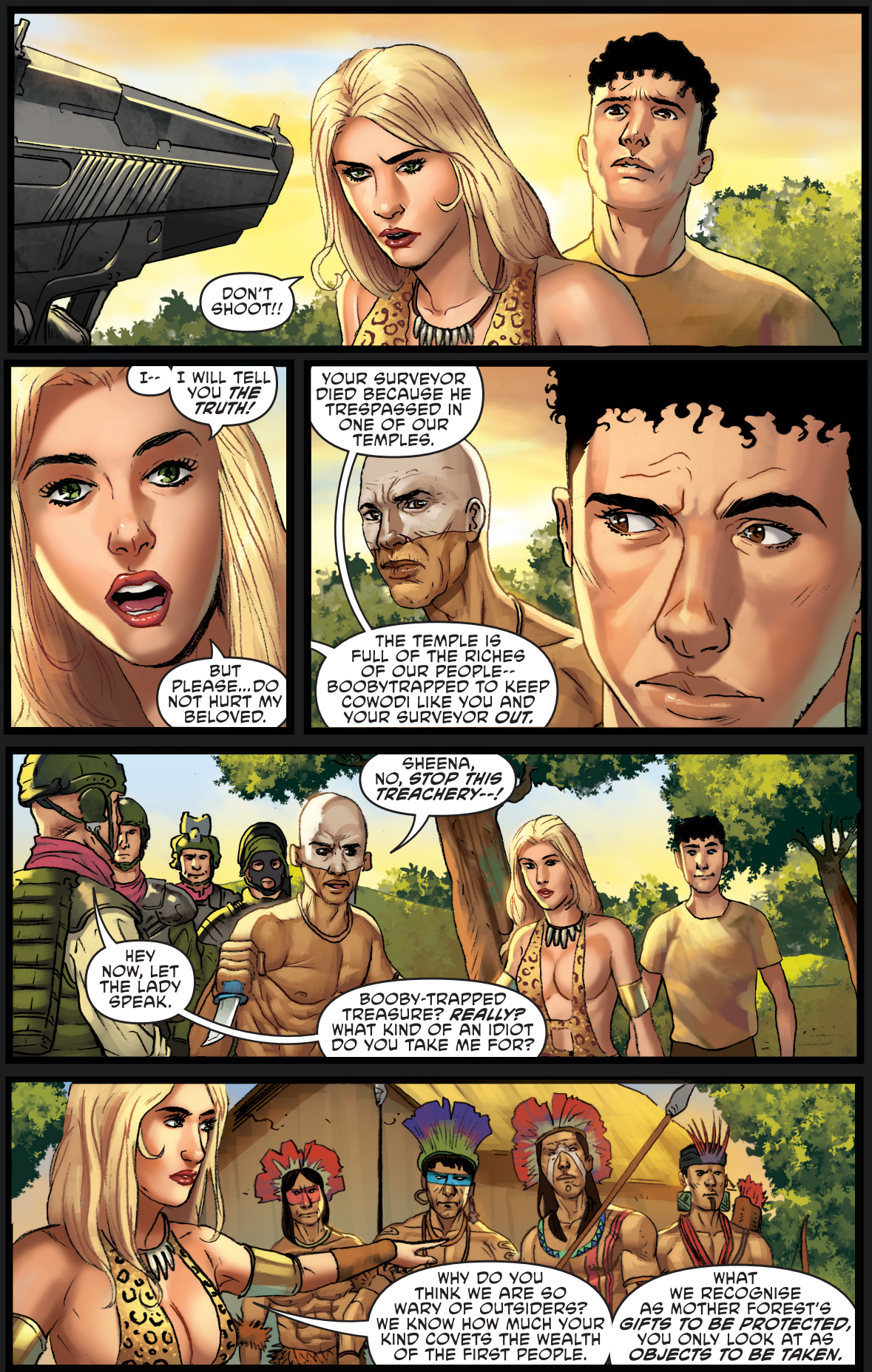

WILD GIRL DIDN'T PULL THROUGH FOR YOU PEOPLE AFTER ALL."NO SURVEYOR" MEANS WE HAVE AN OPEN INVITATION TO FIRE AT WILL.
CAN'T SAY THAT I'M SURPRISED TO SEE THAT SHE ABANDONED YOU.
AND, REALLY--


--I CAN'T SAY THAT I'M DISAPPOINTED EITHER.
I DON'T LIKE LOOSE ENDS.
AND THE NEW THROW RUG IS JUST A *PERK.*

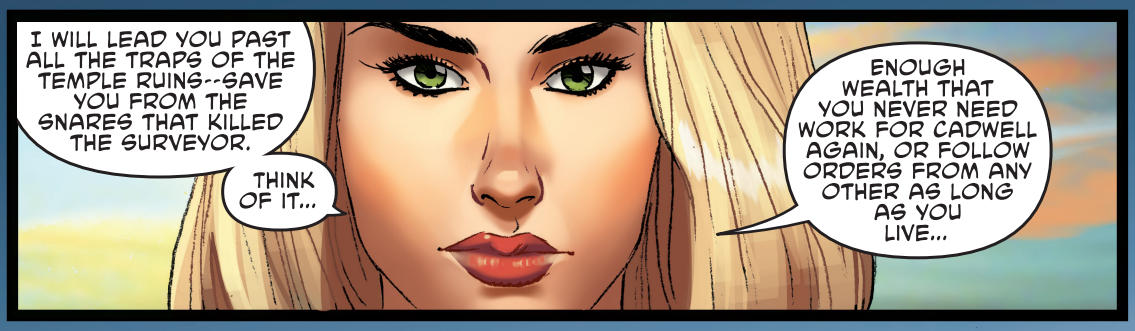

PEEW
I'M NOT A VENGEFUL GUY, YOU KNOW.
I JUST BELIEVE IN REPAYING YOUR DEBTS.
THE TIME FOR REASONING WITH THESE MEN IS OVER!
IT IS TIME TO DEFEND OUR HOME!
YOU'RE OFFSIDES, GRANDPA--
--TIME TO RETIRE YOU FROM THE GAME--
--ARRGH!
PING
ARCHERS!
FORM UP!
STOP!

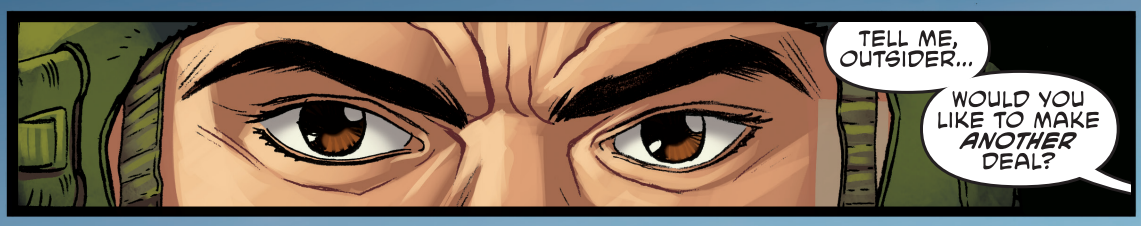

STOP!
THERE ARE GREATER ENEMIES TO FACE THAN ONE ANOTHER!
SHEENA--DID YOU FIND THIS MISSING *COWOD!?* IS THIS BOY WITH YOU THE SURVEYOR THEY ARE LOOKING FOR?
ELDER! I FOUND SOMETHING *TERRIBLE*--
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT, OLD MAN, BUT YOUR GOLDEN RETRIEVER WENT ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE.
THIS KID? ISN'T OUR GUY.
CHANO IS NOT YOUR SURVEYOR, BUT WE *DID* FIND THE MAN YOU ARE LOOKING FOR.
MY VILLAGE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS DISAPPEARANCE.
SHEENA'S TELLING THE TRUTH. WE *DID* FIND THE SURVEYOR.
HE WENT INTO A TEMPLE--*NO ONE* IS SUPPOSED TO GO INTO THE TEMPLES. THEY'RE FULL OF BOOBYTRAPS AND--
...IT IS HIS BADGE. YOU CAME THROUGH, SHEENA. NOW I CAN FILL OUT MY REPORT.
GOOD JOB.

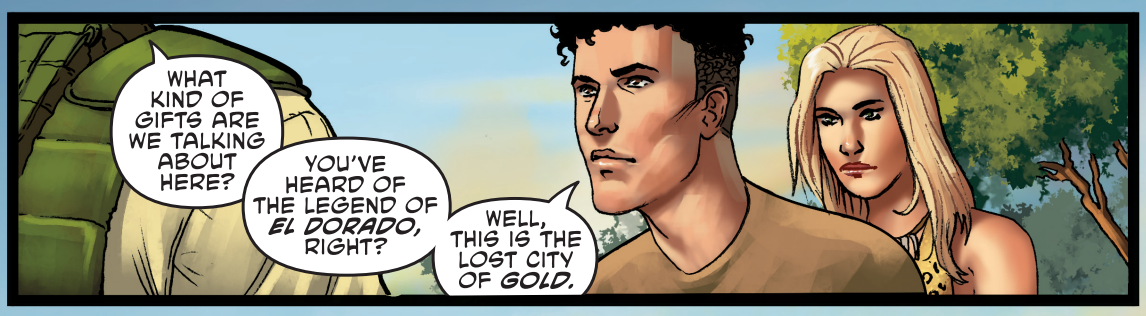

DON'T TELL ME, SHEENA THE MAYATANA, GONE ALL KUMBAYA? LAST TIME YOU SHOWED MORE BALLS.
WELL-- *HEH*--SORT OF.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, YOU FILTHY SKUNK PIG!
REALLY? WHERE IS HE, THEN? YOU GOT HIM HIDDEN UNDER A BUSH SOMEWHERE?
THE SURVEYOR IS DEAD.
SO YOU *ADMIT* THAT YOUR PEOPLE KILLED HIM?
WE'LL JUST LEAVE THIS OUT OF IT.
HUH? BUT THAT'S PROOF SHEENA'S TRIBE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SURVEYOR'S DEATH--
HE DOESN'T CARE, CHANO.
AND THE SURVEYOR IS STILL DEAD, ISN'T HE? AND SO IS THAT NICE BOY WHO WAS JUST OUT CAMPING.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THERE ISN'T ANY CAMPER OUT HERE--
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THERE ISN'T.


DON'T SHOOT!!
I--
I WILL TELL YOU *THE TRUTH!*
BUT PLEASE...DO NOT HURT MY BELOVED.
YOUR SURVEYOR DIED BECAUSE HE TRESPASSED IN ONE OF OUR TEMPLES.
THE TEMPLE IS FULL OF THE RICHES OF OUR PEOPLE-- BOOBYTRAPPED TO KEEP COWODI LIKE YOU AND YOUR SURVEYOR *OUT.*
SHEENA, NO, *STOP THIS TREACHERY--!*
HEY NOW, LET THE LADY SPEAK.
BOOBY-TRAPPED TREASURE? *REALLY?* WHAT KIND OF AN IDIOT DO YOU TAKE ME FOR?
WHY DO YOU THINK WE ARE SO WARY OF OUTSIDERS? WE KNOW HOW MUCH YOUR KIND COVETS THE WEALTH OF THE FIRST PEOPLE.
WHAT WE RECOGNISE AS MOTHER FOREST'S *GIFTS TO BE PROTECTED,* YOU ONLY LOOK AT AS *OBJECTS TO BE TAKEN.*


SHEENA, YOU FOOLISH CHILD--
WE CANNOT HIDE THE TRUTH FROM THEM ANY LONGER, ELDER!
IF IT WILL PROTECT OUR HOME, I WILL GLADLY LET THESE MEN TAKE EVERY LAST GIFT THE FIRST PEOPLE HAVE LEFT FOR US.

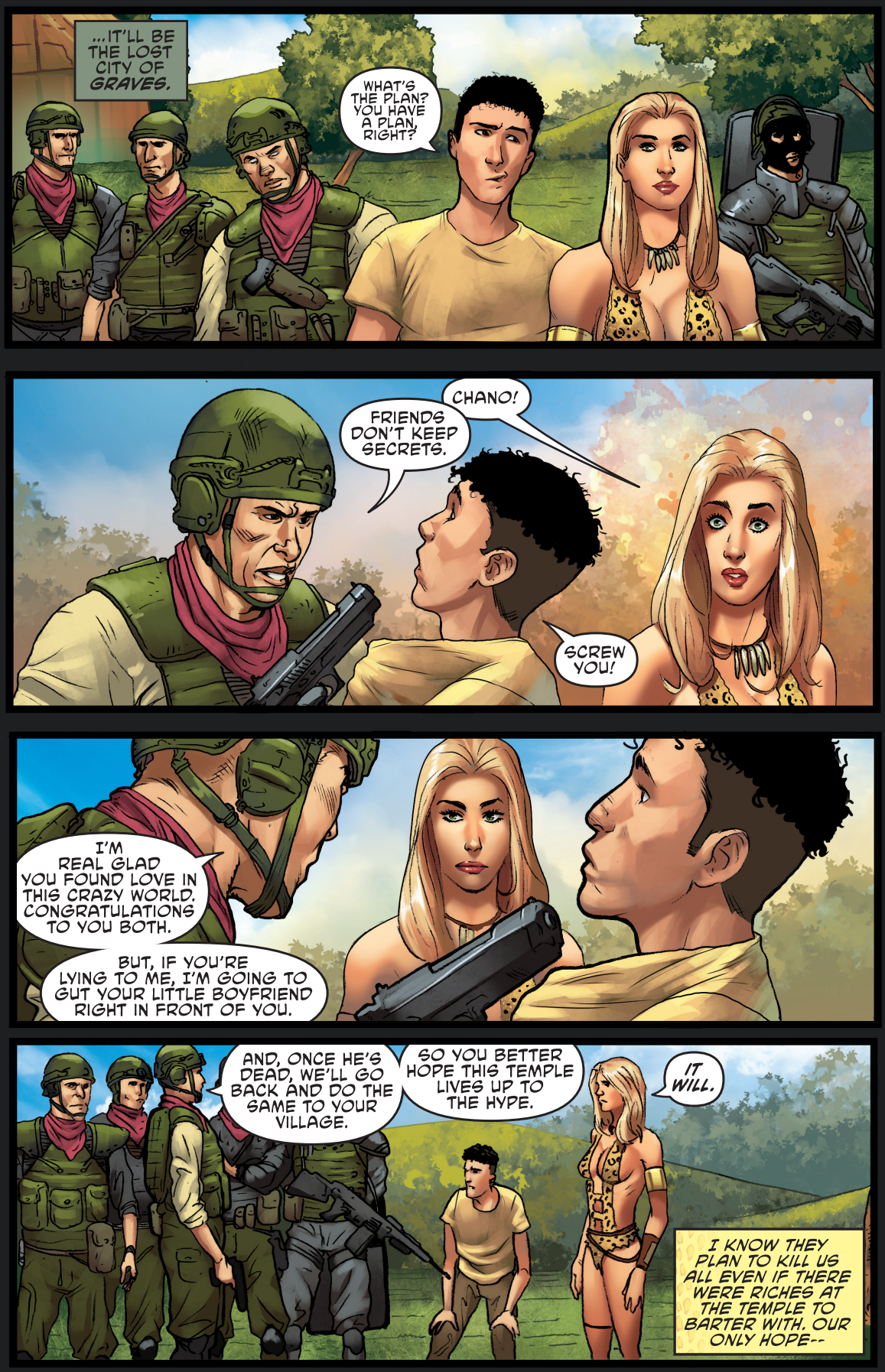

I WILL LEAD YOU PAST ALL THE TRAPS OF THE TEMPLE RUINS--SAVE YOU FROM THE SNARES THAT KILLED THE SURVEYOR.
THINK OF IT...
ENOUGH WEALTH THAT YOU NEVER NEED WORK FOR CADWELL AGAIN, OR FOLLOW ORDERS FROM ANY OTHER AS LONG AS YOU LIVE...

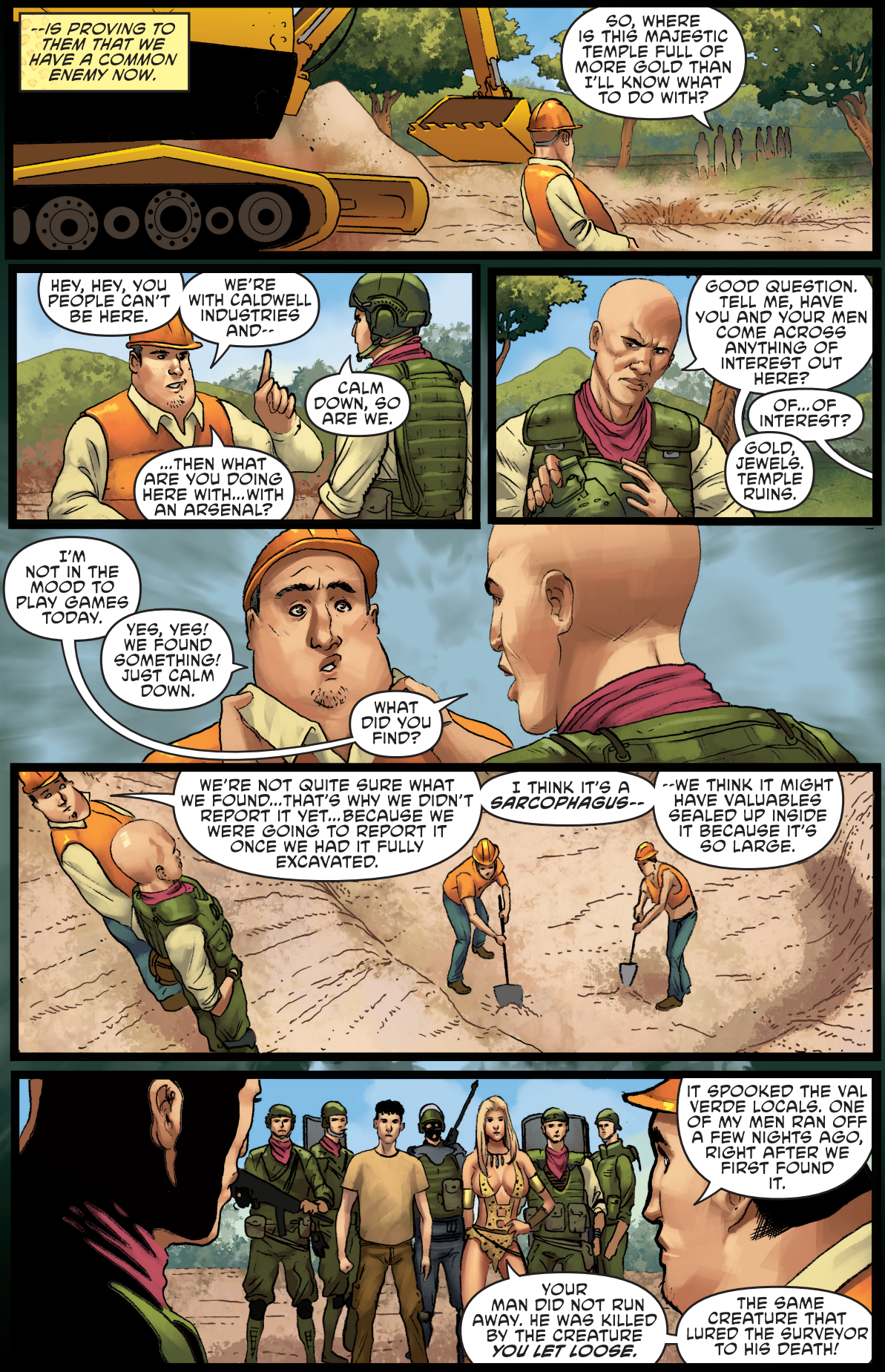

TELL ME, OUTSIDER...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE *ANOTHER* DEAL?


WHAT KIND OF GIFTS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT HERE?
YOU'VE HEARD OF THE LEGEND OF *EL DORADO*, RIGHT?
WELL, THIS IS THE LOST CITY OF *GOLD*.




FINE, CAMPER BOY.
BUT YOU'RE OUR INSURANCE...
ONE FALSE MOVE, AND IT WON'T BE THE LOST CITY OF GOLD...


...IT'LL BE THE LOST CITY OF GRAVES.
WHAT'S THE PLAN? YOU HAVE A PLAN, RIGHT?
CHANO!
FRIENDS DON'T KEEP SECRETS.
SCREW YOU!
I'M REAL GLAD YOU FOUND LOVE IN THIS CRAZY WORLD. CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH.
BUT, IF YOU'RE LYING TO ME, I'M GOING TO GUT YOUR LITTLE BOYFRIEND RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.
AND, ONCE HE'S DEAD, WE'LL GO BACK AND DO THE SAME TO YOUR VILLAGE.
SO YOU BETTER HOPE THIS TEMPLE LIVES UP TO THE HYPE.
IT WILL.
I KNOW THEY PLAN TO KILL US ALL EVEN IF THERE WERE RICHES AT THE TEMPLE TO BARTER WITH. OUR ONLY HOPE--

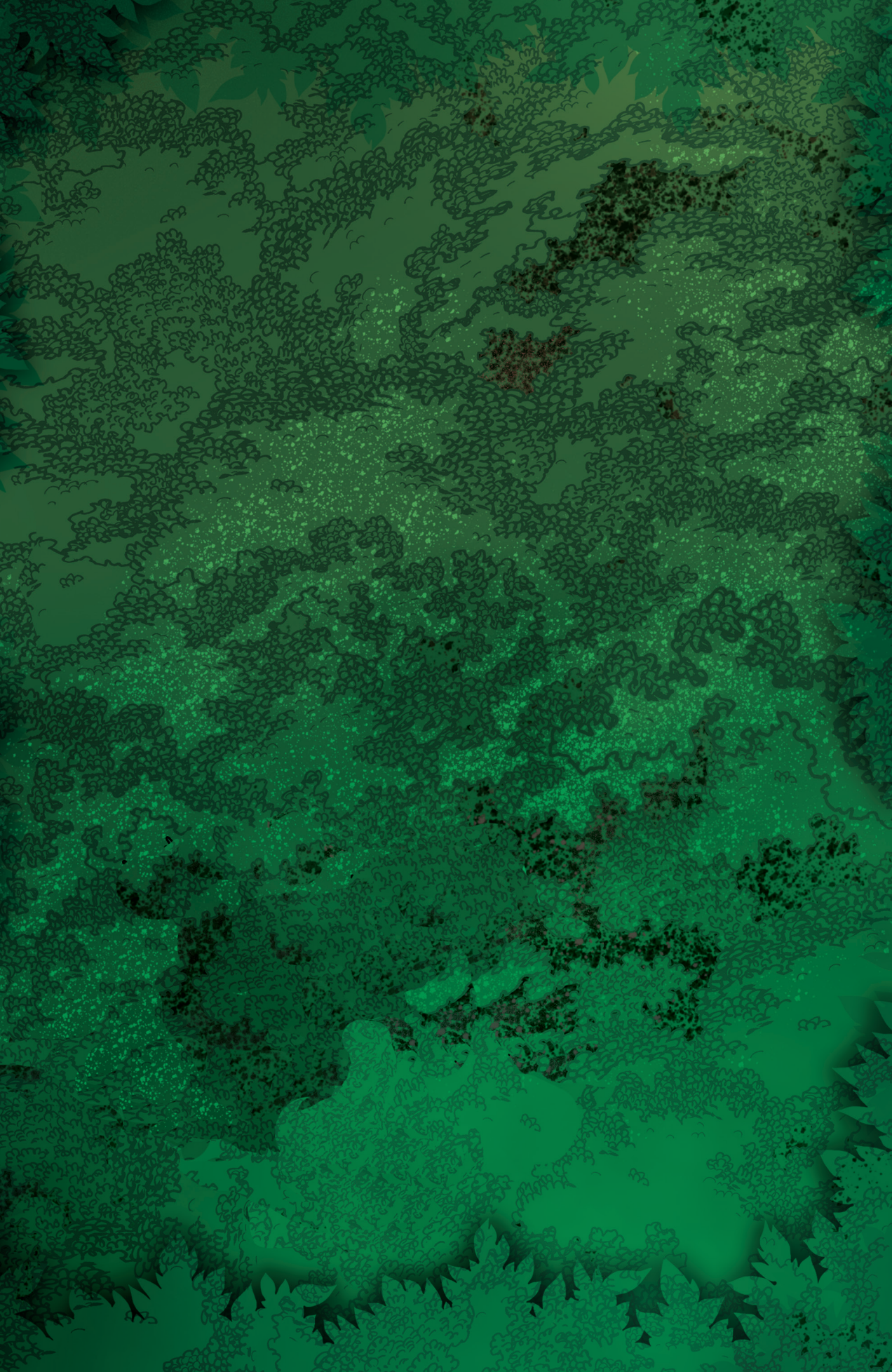

--IS PROVING TO THEM THAT WE HAVE A COMMON ENEMY NOW.
SO, WHERE IS THIS MAJESTIC TEMPLE FULL OF MORE GOLD THAN I'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH?
HEY, HEY, YOU PEOPLE CAN'T BE HERE.
WE'RE WITH CALDWELL INDUSTRIES AND--
CALM DOWN, SO ARE WE.
...THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE WITH...WITH AN ARSENAL?
GOOD QUESTION. TELL ME, HAVE YOU AND YOUR MEN COME ACROSS ANYTHING OF INTEREST OUT HERE?
OF...OF INTEREST?
GOLD, JEWELS. TEMPLE RUINS.
I'M NOT IN THE MOOD TO PLAY GAMES TODAY.
YES, YES! WE FOUND SOMETHING! JUST CALM DOWN.
WHAT DID YOU FIND?
WE'RE NOT QUITE SURE WHAT WE FOUND...THAT'S WHY WE DIDN'T REPORT IT YET...BECAUSE WE WERE GOING TO REPORT IT ONCE WE HAD IT FULLY EXCAVATED.
I THINK IT'S A SARCOPHAGUS--
--WE THINK IT MIGHT HAVE VALUABLES SEALED UP INSIDE IT BECAUSE IT'S SO LARGE.
IT SPOOKED THE VAL VERDE LOCALS. ONE OF MY MEN RAN OFF A FEW NIGHTS AGO, RIGHT AFTER WE FIRST FOUND IT.
YOUR MAN DID NOT RUN AWAY. HE WAS KILLED BY THE CREATURE YOU LET LOOSE.
THE SAME CREATURE THAT LURED THE SURVEYOR TO HIS DEATH!


LOOK, I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE.
THEN TELL YOUR MEN TO STOP DIGGING. IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO STOP ALL THIS.
ALRIGHT, WE'RE DONE HERE.
SHE'S TELLING THE TRUTH!
NO, SHE'S TELLING GHOST STORIES AND STALLING FOR TIME.
SEE, I THINK OUR LITTLE JUNGLE GIRL IS A *LIAR.*
FIRST, SHE TOLD ME SHE'D BRING THE SURVEYOR BACK *ALIVE.*
THEN, SHE TOLD ME SHE'D LEAD ME TO *TREASURE BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS.*
I DON'T THINK *ONE OLD COFFIN* IS WORTH KEEPING YOU ALIVE.
AND, UNLIKE YOUR GIRLFRIEND, I...
...AM A MAN OF MY WORD.
NOT HERE! DON'T DO THAT HERE!
IF YOU KILL HIM I WILL MAKE YOU WISH FOR DEATH A THOUSAND TIMES OVER BEFORE I LET MOTHER FOREST TAKE YOU.
SOMEHOW THAT DOESN'T SCARE--
GYAHAHH!

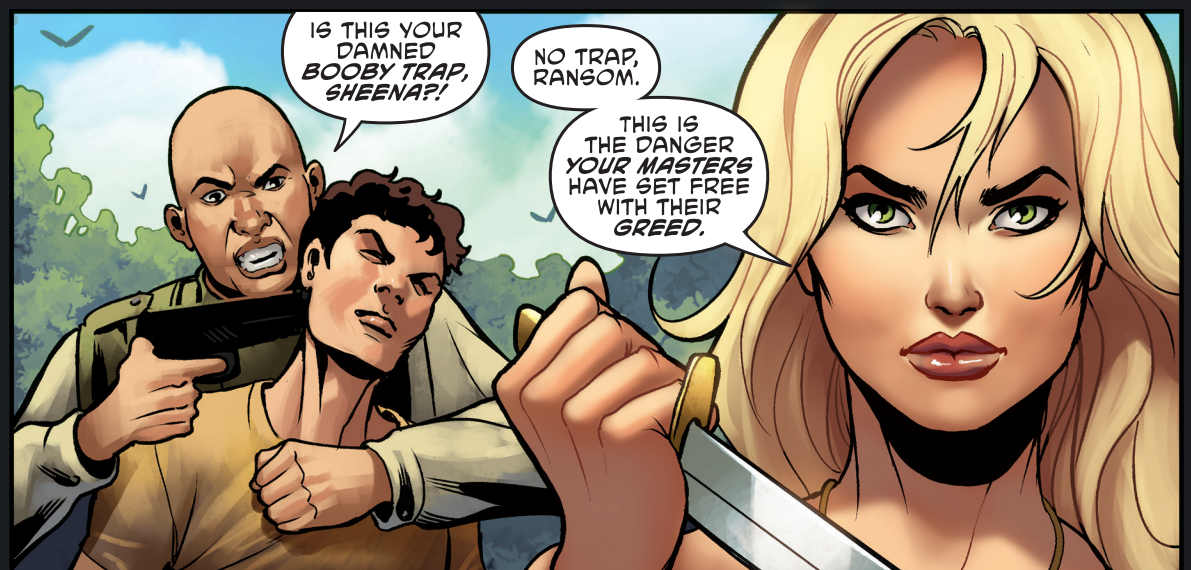

AHHHHHHHHH!
HOLY HELL, WHAT IS THAT?!
KILL IT! SHOOT IT!
I TOLD YOU THERE WERE MONSTERS HERE--
AND I DIDN'T JUST MEAN THE LOT OF YOU FIENDS.
IT'S NOT HURTING THEM!
LOOK WHAT THEY DID TO HIM!
WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?
SHE ALREADY TOLD YOU WHAT THEY ARE!
MONSTERS. FACE STEALERS. CADWELL'S MEN WOKE THEM--
"--AND IF THEY DON'T STOP DIGGING RIGHT NOW THEY WILL SET EVEN MORE OF THESE BEASTS LOOSE!"


THE FIRST PEOPLE LOCKED THESE MONSTERS AWAY FOR A REASON...
IF THEY GET LOOSE, THERE WILL BE NO STOPPING THEM--
WE ARE TOO LATE!


ISSUE #5 COVER
ART BY ART THIBERT
COLORS BY PETE PANTAZIS




CALDWELL MINERAL EXCAVATION SITE #216.
ZONA PROHIBIDA. THE AMAZON.
WE ARE TOO LATE, CHANO!
THE FACE STEALERS--
--HAVE BEEN SET FREE!


IS THIS YOUR DAMNED BOOBY TRAP, SHEENA?!
NO TRAP, RANSOM.
THIS IS THE DANGER YOUR MASTERS HAVE SET FREE WITH THEIR GREED.


THIS WAS A SET UP.
BRINGING US OUT HERE, CLAIMING THIS WAS THE LOST CITY OF PAITITI-- IT WAS ALL A LIE!
YOU WANT THOSE THINGS TO EAT US AND DO YOUR DIRTY WORK!
I DO NOT NEED ANY MAN OR BEAST TO TAKE CARE OF YOU AND YOUR MEN FOR ME, COWOD!.
I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO SEE THAT WE HAVE A COMMON ENEMY.
WHAT THE HELL IS IT DOING?!
FIRST THEY STEAL YOUR FACE...
OH GOD--!!
...THEN THEY STEAL YOUR LIFE.
THIS ISN'T POSSIBLE--!!
SHEENA TRIED TO WARN YOU--


AN ENEMY THAT SEES NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MY PEOPLE AND YOURS.
AN ENEMY THAT KNOWS ONLY HUNGER.
AHH!
!
DIE, YOU CREEPY SON OF A--
BULLETS CAN'T KILL IT!
--BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN.
!!
YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS, COWODI--
AHHH!
FIGHT WITH ME TO DEFEND MOTHER FOREST AND DEFEAT THESE CREATURES--


--OR DIE BY THE HAND OF THE MONSTERS YOUR MASTERS SET LOOSE.


FINE, YES, I'LL H-HELP!
GET THE DIGGERS TO SAFETY! THEY ARE NOT *WARRIORS,* THEY CANNOT--
--OOF!
SHEENA!
SHIT!
I AM FINE! FLEE WITH THE DIGGERS!
THE MORE LIVES THESE CREATURES DEVOUR, THE STRONGER THEY WILL BECOME!
I WILL DEAL WITH THIS *IMPOSTOR.*
SSSSEHHHH
DHAKKA!!


YOU HEARD HER! WE HAVE TO GET THE CONSTRUCTION CREW OUT OF HERE!
I DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM YOU--
THEN DO IT BECAUSE SHEENA TOLD YOU TO.
...FINE.
COME ON, FOLLOW ME! WE'LL GET YOU ALL OUT OF HERE!
FORM UP, BOYS! KEEP THOSE THINGS BACK!
AHHHHHHHHHH!
SSSSSHHHHH
HOLD ON!
LEAVE HIM, HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD!
SHEENA WOULDN'T LEAVE HIM BEHIND, AND I WON'T EITHER!
TAKE THIS, YOU--
SSSS
--?


OH CRAP.
SSSEEEHHH
SHEENA!
WHEN WE REACH THE TREES, EVERYONE SCATTER!
THEY'LL HAVE A HARDER TIME CATCHING US IF WE--
--STOP!
DON'T GET CLOSE TO THEM!
WHAT DO WE DO? BULLETS DIDN'T HURT THEM AT ALL--!


WE NEED THAT WOMAN, THAT JUNGLE WITCH!
SHE'S OUR ONLY CHANCE OF GETTING OUT OF HERE ALIVE--


SHE'S THE *ONLY ONE* THAT'S BEEN ABLE TO *KILL* THESE THINGS.


ENOUGH OF THIS!
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU CREATURES TO LEAVE THIS PLACE AND INFECT MOTHER FOREST!
SSSEEEHHH. SHHHHEENN.
SSSHHHHEEENNA...
...WORDS?
NO--A DISTRACTION!
ACH, DUMBALLAH! THERE ARE TOO MANY TO FIGHT ALONE!
BUT I DO NOT FIGHT ALONE.


TO SHEENA!
WE WILL DRIVE THESE CREATURES BACK!


I FIGHT WITH MY TRIBE. WITH MY FAMILY.
AND THEY FIGHT WITH ME.
THE DARTS AND THE ARROW HURT THESE THINGS WHEN BULLETS AREN'T EVEN LEAVING A SCRATCH--
THEY ARE COATED WITH A POISON KNOWN TO MY PEOPLE.
THE WEALTH OF THE FOREST BECOMES THE WEAPONS OF THE FOREST.
IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE HOW MANY WE SLAY IF THEIR NUMBERS ARE ENDLESS!
THE BROKEN SEAL...
IT IS LIKE THE SEAL I BROKE WHEN I TRESPASSED INTO THE TEMPLE...
A DOOR THAT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN OPENED...
BUT WE CAN CLOSE IT ONCE MORE.

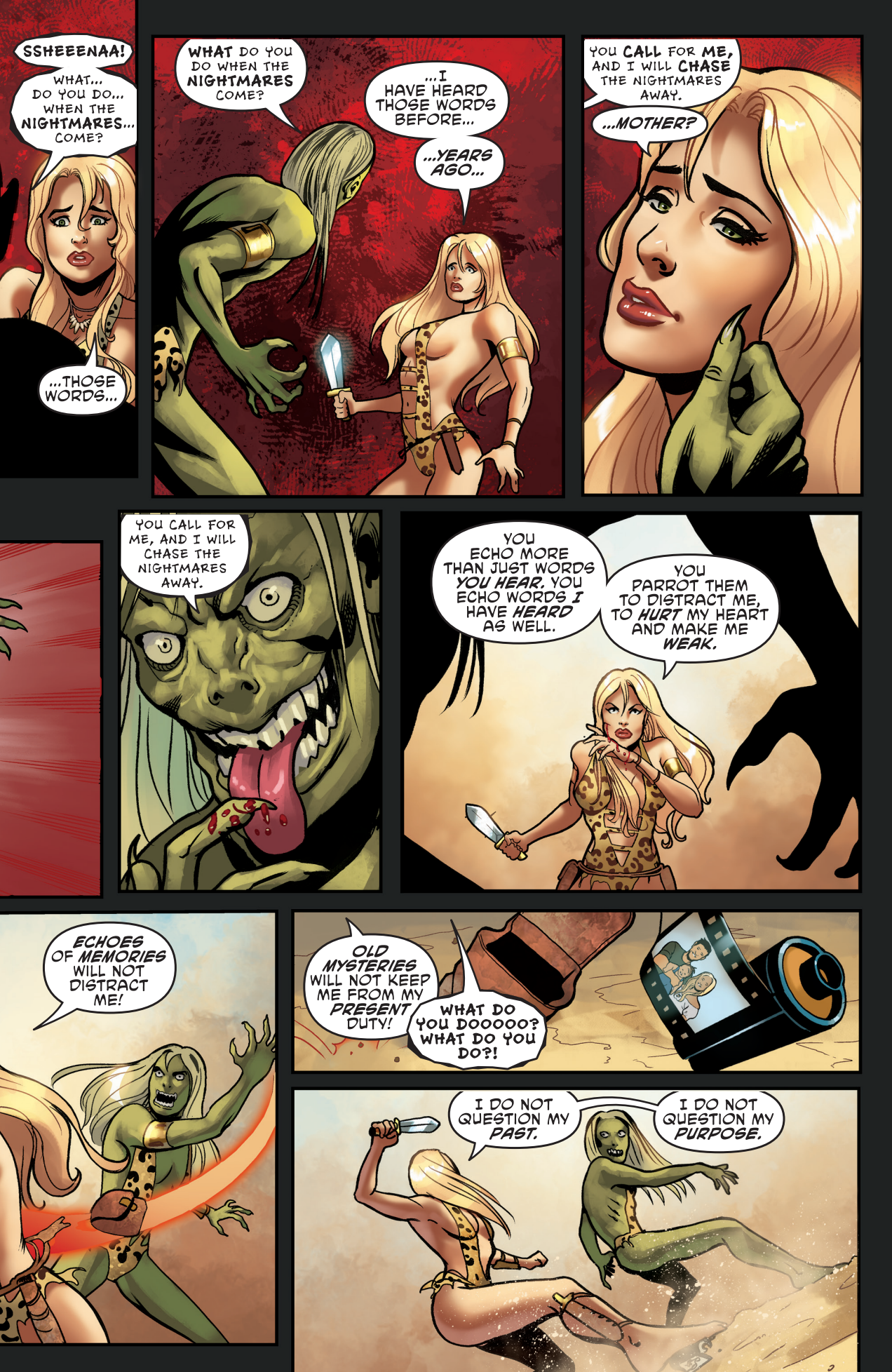

THE FACE STEALERS WERE *TRAPPED* BEHIND THE STONES BURIED AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PIT ONCE BEFORE, LOCKED AWAY BY THE *FIRST PEOPLE* WHO BUILT THE TEMPLES...
WE MUST FIND A WAY TO LOCK THE DOOR CLOSED IF WE ARE TO STAND A CHANCE AGAINST THESE CREATURES.
IF WE DO NOT, THEIR HUNGER...
...WILL DEVOUR THE WORLD.
I WILL DO IT!
I WILL FIND A WAY TO *CLOSE THE DOOR!*
SHEENA, WAIT! YOU CAN'T GO DOWN THERE *ALONE!*


CLEAR A PATH FOR SHEENA!
AND CHANO, TOO!!
I FAILED MY PEOPLE ONCE BEFORE--
NEVER AGAIN!
WHAM
UMPH


SH-SHEENA...IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT...
CALDWELL DID THIS... NOT YOU... CALDWELL CAME IN HERE AND MESSED WITH THINGS THEY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND...
SCEEEEHHH...
SHEENA, HER VILLAGE...THEY DIDN'T ASK FOR ANY OF THIS...
...BUT THEY'RE PROTECTING EVERYONE ANYWAY.
AM I ANY BETTER THAN CALDWELL'S MEN?
I CAME HERE TO PROVE CALDWELL WAS UP TO NO GOOD...
...BUT I'M NOT.
SHEENA IS.
GAHH!
SCK
SO I COULD BE THE HERO.
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT BEFORE, BUT THAT'S WHAT I WAS TRYING TO BE...
SHE PROTECTS PEOPLE, EVEN WHEN THEY DON'T DESERVE IT...
I WANT TO DESERVE IT.
I'M NOT GOING TO DIE HERE.
SQUISH
I'M GOING TO SURVIVE--


AND I'M GOING TO HELP SHEENA!
RAAAAAA!
CHANO! THE BROKEN SEAL IS AN OPEN DOOR--THERE MUST BE A WAY TO CLOSE IT, MAKE IT WHOLE ONCE MORE!
SHEENA, LOOK OUT--!
SSSHHEEENNNAAA!
CHANO! RUN FOR THE SEAL!!

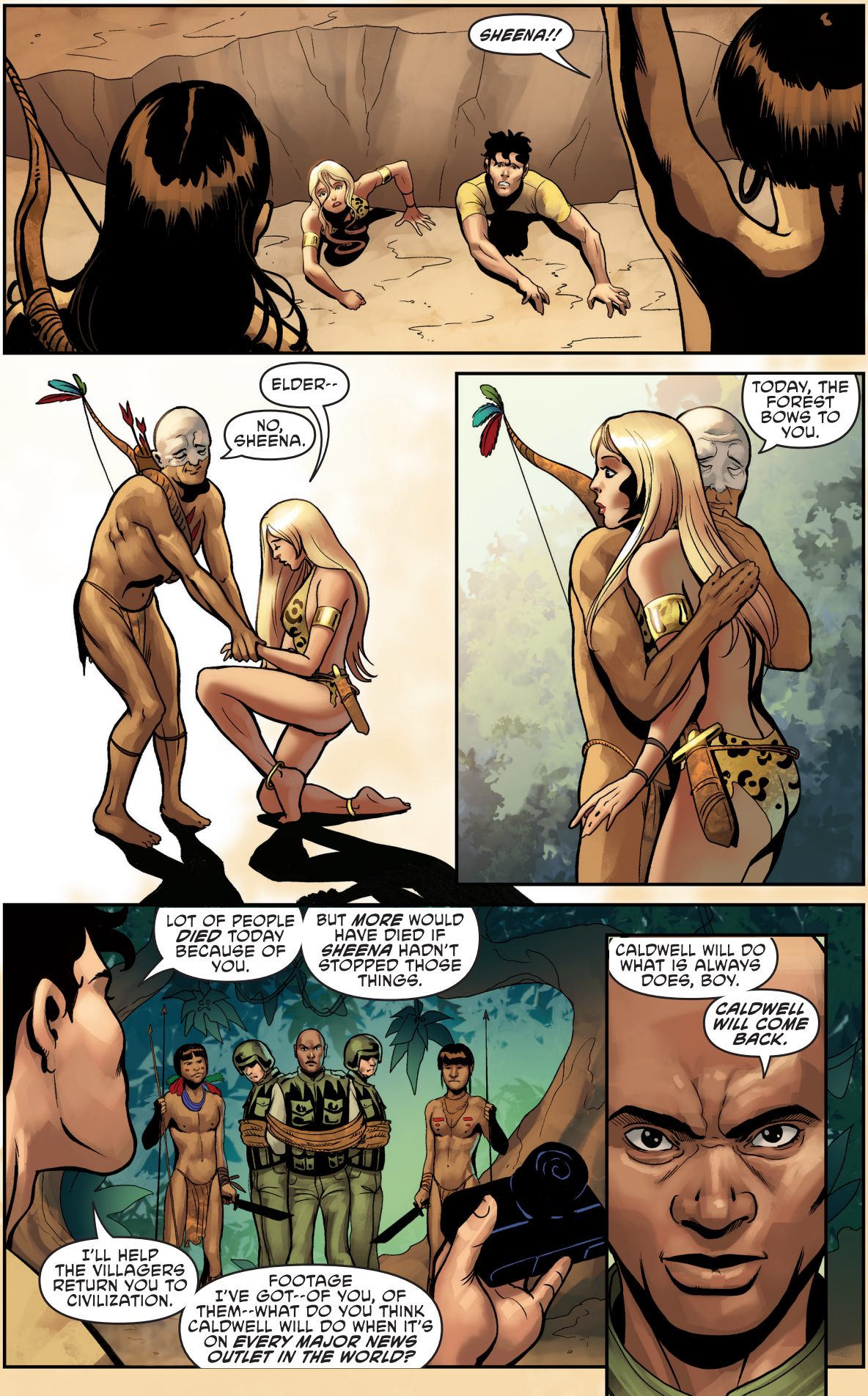

YOU MERELY ECHO THE WORDS YOU HAVE HEARD OTHERS SPEAK, LIKE GUA'A THE MACAW.
THERE IS NO MIND BEHIND THE WORDS. NO MEANING.
SHEEEEENNNAA. SHEENAAA.
WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE NIGHTMARES COME?
GAH!
MY HEART IS STRONGER THAN THAT!
SSHHEEENAA!

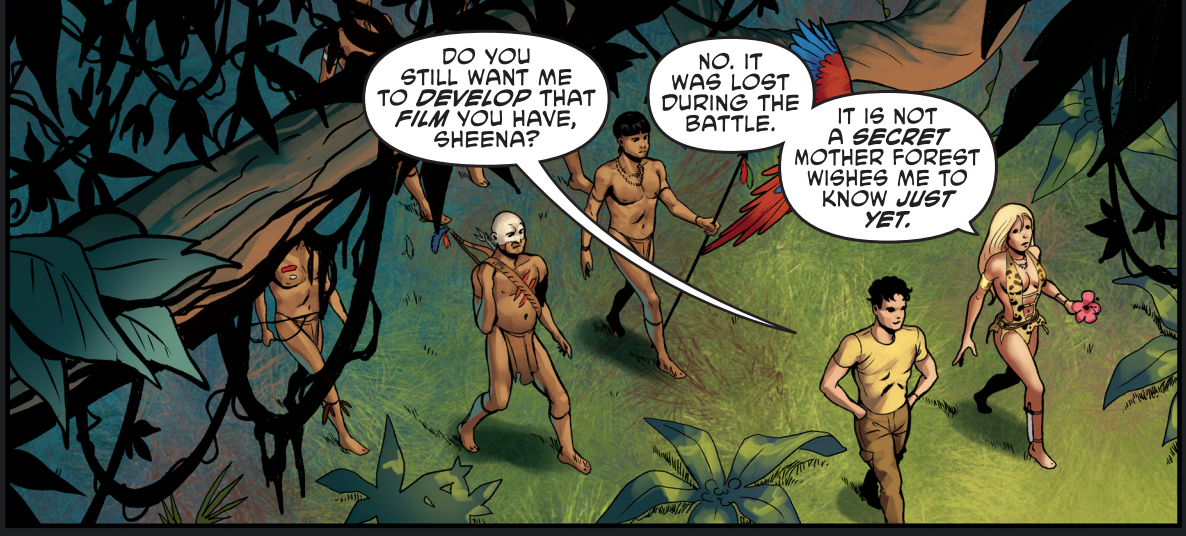

SSHEEENAA!
WHAT... DO YOU DO... WHEN THE NIGHTMARES... COME?
...THOSE WORDS...
WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE NIGHTMARES COME?
...I HAVE HEARD THOSE WORDS BEFORE...
...YEARS AGO...
YOU CALL FOR ME, AND I WILL CHASE THE NIGHTMARES AWAY.
...MOTHER?
YOU CALL FOR ME, AND I WILL CHASE THE NIGHTMARES AWAY.
YOU ECHO MORE THAN JUST WORDS YOU HEAR, YOU ECHO WORDS I HAVE HEARD AS WELL.
YOU PARROT THEM TO DISTRACT ME, TO HURT MY HEART AND MAKE ME WEAK.
ECHOES OF MEMORIES WILL NOT DISTRACT ME!
OLD MYSTERIES WILL NOT KEEP ME FROM MY PRESENT DUTY!
WHAT DO YOU DOOOOO? WHAT DO YOU DO?!
I DO NOT QUESTION MY PAST.
I DO NOT QUESTION MY PURPOSE.


I KNOW WHO I AM!
I AM SHEENA, MAYATANA AND GUARDIAN OF MOTHER FOREST!

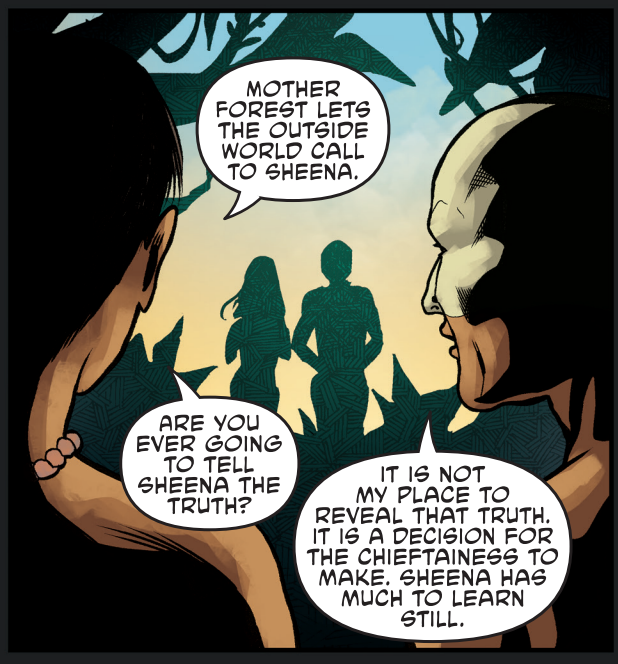

SHEENA!
I CAN'T MOVE THE STONE ENOUGH TO REACH THE OTHER PIECE!
YOU *HAVE* TO DO IT, SHEENA! IT HAS TO BE *YOU!*
DHAKKA!!
NO--!
IT IS NOT ENOUGH--
WE CANNOT CLOSE THE DOOR, UNLESS...
...IT MUST BE LOCKED...
...BY A KEY!


BOOOM
AHHHHHHHHHHH!
SSSSSSS
?

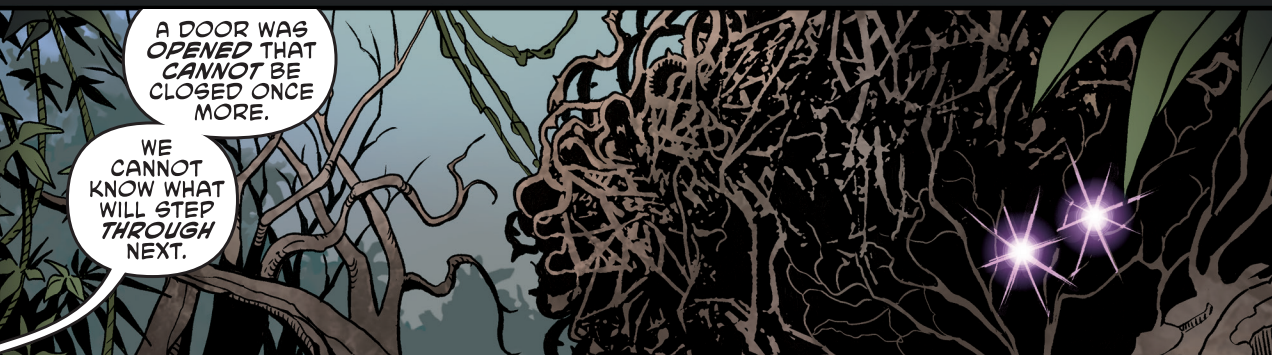

SHEENA!!
ELDER--
NO, SHEENA.
TODAY, THE FOREST BOWS TO YOU.
LOT OF PEOPLE *DIED* TODAY BECAUSE OF YOU.
BUT *MORE* WOULD HAVE DIED IF *SHEENA* HADN'T STOPPED THOSE THINGS.
I'LL HELP THE VILLAGERS RETURN YOU TO CIVILIZATION.
FOOTAGE I'VE GOT--OF YOU, OF THEM--WHAT DO YOU THINK CALDWELL WILL DO WHEN IT'S ON *EVERY MAJOR NEWS OUTLET IN THE WORLD?*
CALDWELL WILL DO WHAT IS ALWAYS DOES, BOY.
CALDWELL WILL COME BACK.


DO YOU STILL WANT ME TO *DEVELOP* THAT *FILM* YOU HAVE, SHEENA?
NO. IT WAS LOST DURING THE BATTLE.
IT IS NOT A *SECRET* MOTHER FOREST WISHES ME TO KNOW *JUST YET.*


DO YOU THINK SHE'D FORGIVE ME IF I EVER CAME BACK TO VISIT YOU? MOTHER FOREST, I MEAN.
SOMETIMES I SEE MY OWN REFLECTION AND WONDER...BUT THERE ARE STORIES OF MOTHER FOREST WELCOMING *COWOD!* IN HER FOREST BEFORE...
THAT'S VERY NICE OF HER.


MOTHER FOREST LETS THE OUTSIDE WORLD CALL TO SHEENA.
ARE YOU EVER GOING TO TELL SHEENA THE TRUTH?
IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO REVEAL THAT TRUTH. IT IS A DECISION FOR THE CHIEFTAINESS TO MAKE. SHEENA HAS MUCH TO LEARN STILL.


IT MAY BE FOOLISH TO REVEAL THE *TRAGEDY* OF HER *PAST* NOW, WHEN THERE IS SO MUCH IN FLUX.
THE WORLD HAS CHANGED IN WAYS IT HAS NOT SINCE THE TIME OF THE FIRST PEOPLE. I FEAR WE WILL NEED *SHEENA* TO *CHANGE* ALONG WITH IT.


A DOOR WAS *OPENED* THAT *CANNOT* BE CLOSED ONCE MORE.
WE CANNOT KNOW WHAT WILL STEP *THROUGH* NEXT.


ISSUE #1 COVER
ART AND COLORS BY
RYAN SOOK


ISSUE #1 COVER
ART BY MORITAT
COLORS BY ANDRE SZYMANOWICZ
MORITAT2014



ISSUE #1 COVER
ART BY CARLI IHDE
COLORS BY MICHAEL ATIYEH



ISSUE #1 COSPLAY PHOTO COVER
MODEL **ASHLEY DU (@UNDEADDU)**
PHOTOGRAPHER **ERIK PAREDES**


ISSUE #1 LIMITED EDITION CONTEST COVER
ART BY ROBERTO CASTRO
COLORS BY INLIGHT STUDIO


ISSUE #1 COMICS ELITE EXCLUSIVE COVER
ART BY RYAN KINCAID


ISSUE #2 COVER
ART AND COLORS BY
RODNEY BUCHEMI

ISSUE #2 COVER
ART BY **MORITAT**
COLORS BY **ANDRE SZYMANOWICZ**



MORITAT AND THIES



ISSUE #2 COSPLAY PHOTO COVER
MODEL **ASHLEY DU (@UNDEADDU)**
PHOTOGRAPHER **ERIK PAREDES**


ISSUE #2 LIMITED EDITION CONTEST COVER
ART BY ROBERTO CASTRO
COLORS BY INLIGHT STUDIO


ISSUE #3 COVER
ART AND COLORS BY
RODNEY BUCHEMI


ISSUE #3 COVER
ART BY MORITAT
COLORS BY ANDRE SZYMANOWICZ
MORITAT
2017



ISSUE #3 COSPLAY PHOTO COVER
MODEL **ASHLEY DU (@UNDEADDU)**
PHOTOGRAPHER **ERIK PAREDES**


ISSUE #3 LIMITED EDITION CONTEST COVER
ART BY ROBERTO CASTRO
COLORS BY INLIGHT STUDIO


ISSUE #4 COVER
ART BY MARIA SANAPO
COLORS BY CECI DE LA CRUZ
KID


ISSUE #4 COVER
ART AND COLORS BY
MARCO SANTUCCI



ISSUE #4 COSPLAY PHOTO COVER
MODEL ASHLEY DU (@UNDEADDU)
PHOTOGRAPHER ERIK PAREDES


ISSUE #4 LIMITED EDITION CONTEST COVER
ART BY ROBERTO CASTRO
COLORS BY INLIGHT STUDIO


ISSUE #5 COVER
ART BY MARIA SANAPO
COLORS BY CECI DE LA CRUZ
SANAPO
dela Cruz


ISSUE #5 COVER
ART BY MARCO SANTUCCI
COLORS BY MARIACRISTINA FEDERICO



ISSUE #5 COSPLAY PHOTO COVER
MODEL **ASHLEY DU (@UNDEADDU)**
PHOTOGRAPHER **ERIK PAREDES**



ISSUE #5 LIMITED EDITION CONTEST COVER
ART BY ROBERTO CASTRO
COLORS BY INLIGHT STUDIO


In this riveting relaunch, the guardian of the jungle, SHEENA, pursues a mysterious invader that has come to spy on the Amazon's most ancient secrets... Following the path of the trespasser, she encounters a forbidden ruin in which even more deadly dangers lie in wait -- and begins an adventure that will take her beyond her wildest imaginings!
This volume collects issues #0-5 of the hit Dynamite series by writers Marguerite Bennett (*Red Sonja*, *Bombshells*) and Christina Trujillo, and artists Moritat (*Jonah Hex*) and Maria Sanapo (*Grimm*), and features all of the covers by J. Scott Campbell, Mike McKone, Ryan Sook, and more!
RATED
T+
SUGGESTED FOR TEENS AND UP
ACTION
"We all need something with this much fun, adventure and quality on our pull-list!" - SnapPow