



epoch

EPISODE 3

# AEGIS



#3

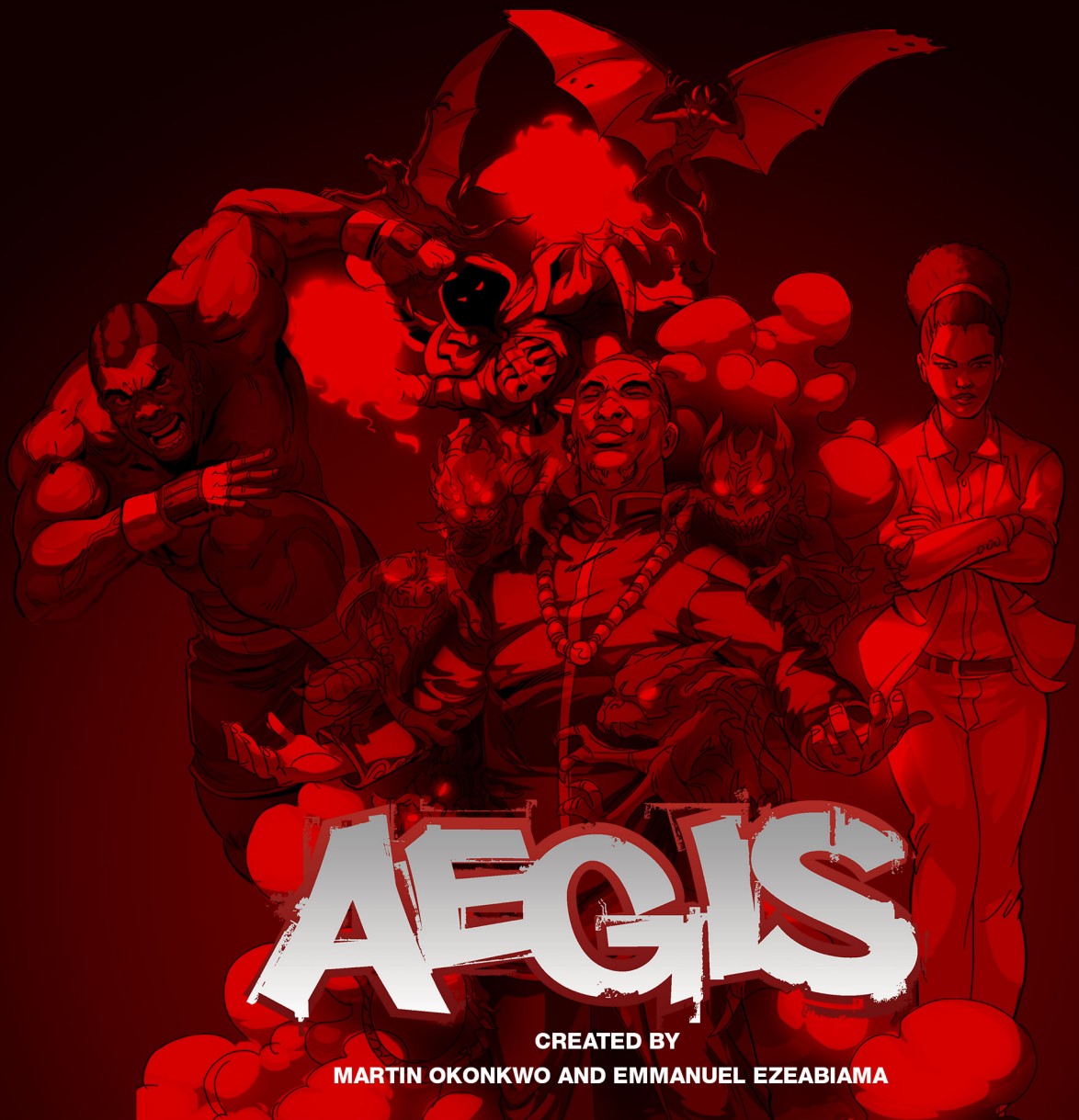
OKONKWO.  
ONUCHEYO.  
NOVA.





# AEGIS

EPISODE 3 SHEOL'S GATE



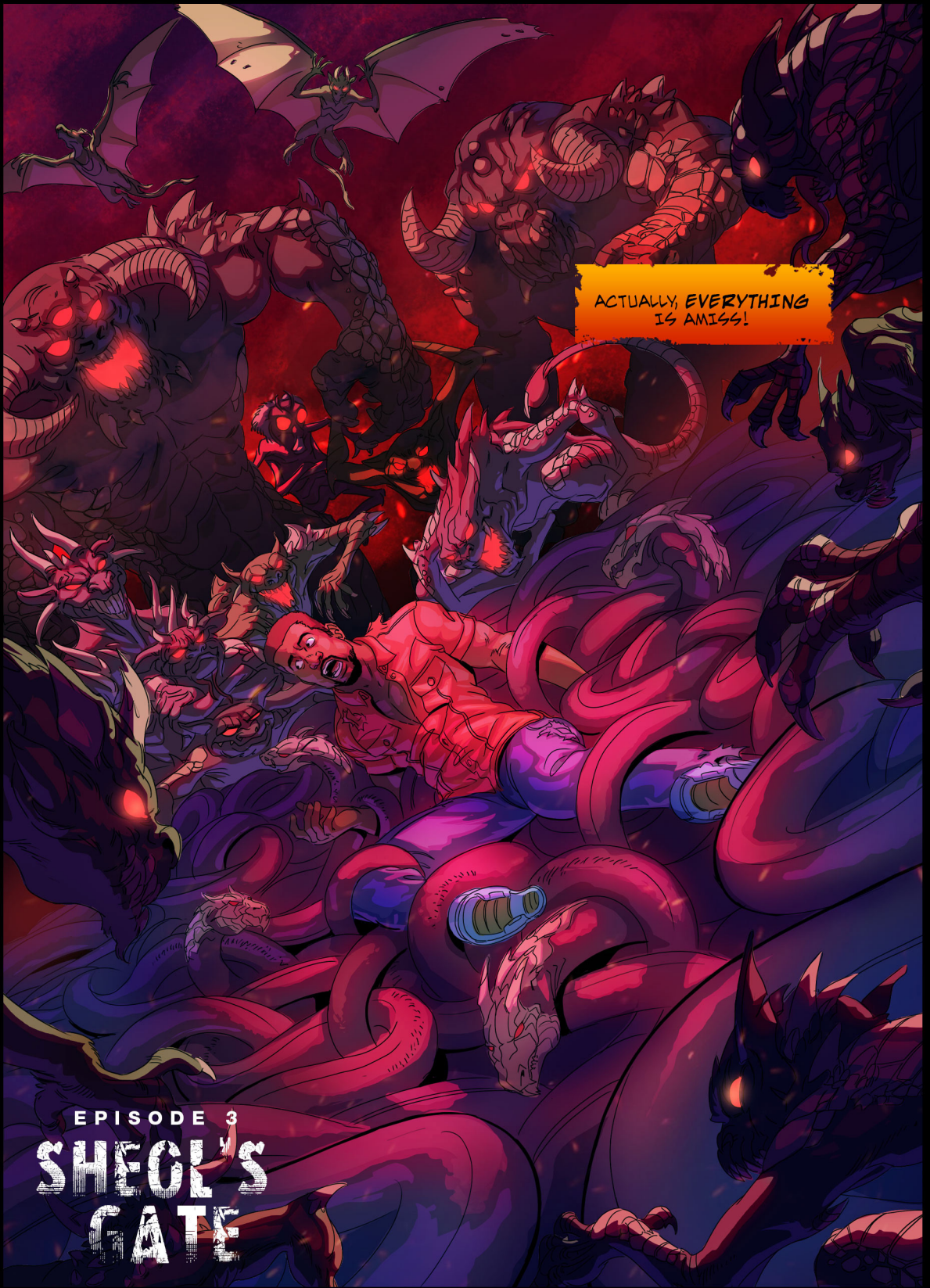
<b>PENCILS / INKS</b>	MARTIN OKONKWO
<b>COLOURS</b>	ETUBI ONUCHEYO
<b>LETTERS</b>	MARTIN OKONKWO
<b>COVER</b>	GODWIN AKPAN
<b>SCRIPT</b>	JOHN NOVA
<b>PROJECT MANAGER</b>	PATRICK IJITI

**SPECIAL THANKS TO**  
DAVID OGBUELI, OKECHUKWU EZE  
IFEANYI ENUKORAH, CHIMA EZEIBE,  
LINEGUAGE STUDIOS









ACTUALLY, EVERYTHING  
IS AMISS!

EPISODE 3  
**SHEOL'S  
GATE**





THE DARKNESS QUICKLY GIVES WAY TO MADNESS.



WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?



THERE WAS THE DESPAIR, THEN THERE WAS THE BAR AND THE ENDLESS DRINKS.

THERE WAS ALSO THE DESIRE FOR SUICIDE TO END THE SUFFERING.



DWELLER!!! WHY DO YOU RUN FROM YOUR WELCOME?!

WH-WHERE AM I?

ARE YOU NOT **GLAD** TO BE HERE?

**YOU, MY FRIEND, ARE AT THE GRAND RECEPTION OF THE DAMNED!**

**GOD! WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME? WHAT IS GOING ON?**

DON'T TELL ME YOU **DON'T KNOW** WHERE YOU ARE.



ELSEWHERE. THE MAN SEATED IS SAMSON GARBA. THEY CALL HIM "KILLER SAM" IN HIS CIRCLES.

TODAY HE PREPARES FOR ANOTHER FIGHT TO DEFEND HIS AFRICAN UFC CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE.

ONE OF THE WORLD'S FINEST MIXED MARTIAL ARTISTS WITH BLACK BELTS IN 7 OF THE DEADLY ARTS.

HIS APPROACH IS SIMPLE, AS ADVOCATED BY THE ONE KNOWN AS "THE SAMURAI SAINT"...

- WHATEVER THE MEANS

THE PRIMARY THING WHEN YOU TAKE A SWORD IN YOUR HANDS IS YOUR INTENTION TO CUT THE ENEMY

THE ONLY THING ON HIS MIND RIGHT NOW IS TO CUT. TO KILL. TO CUT. TO KILL...

NO, HE DIDN'T KILL MEN. HE ONLY BROKE THEM.

RUSTLE

HE HAS NEVER ACTUALLY KILLED ANYONE, THOUGH.

I AM TOLD THAT COACH ABDUL IS ONE OF THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS, SAMSON...

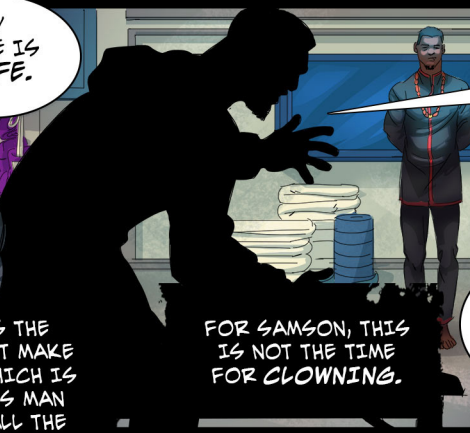
WHO ARE YOU?

BUT THAT MINDSET HAS MADE HIM WHO HE IS. TWO TIME WORLD KICK BOXING CHAMPION AND THE CURRENT CHAMPION FOR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS IN AFRICA.





MY NAME IS KNIFE.



PLEASUED TO MEET YOU, ER, KNIFE. HOWEVER, I HAVE A FIGHT IN 30 MINUTES.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHY YOU ARE HERE BUT...

OH, THAT'S EASY. I WAS JUST IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND THOUGHT I SHOULD DROP BY...

AS SAMSON WATCHES THE INTRUDER, HE CANNOT MAKE UP HIS MIND ABOUT WHICH IS STRANGER; HOW THIS MAN GAINED ENTRY, PAST ALL THE GUARDS

FOR SAMSON, THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR CLOWNING.

- OR HIS NAME.

I'LL KILL YOU, SEE A MOVIE - AND THEN I CAN RELAX FOR TODAY.

IF HIS FACE WASN'T SO STRAIGHT, YOU WOULD ALMOST THINK HE WAS JOKING...



AND HOW DO YOU INTEND TO DO THAT... ASSASSIN?

WELL. GOOD OLD FISTS.

...BUT ONE LOOK IN THOSE UNWAVERING EYES AND YOU COULD TELL THIS STRANGER WAS FOR REAL

THIS STRANGER WAS HERE TO KILL



AND WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?





SOMEONE WANTS ME TO DO A JOB AND WANTS YOU AS **PROOF** THAT I CAN GET THE MAIN JOB DONE.

I GET THE JOB IF YOUR **OBITUARY** IS ON THE NEWS TONIGHT - OR TOMORROW AT THE LATEST.

HUH?

YEAH...

SO TO **PROVE** YOU CAN DO ANOTHER JOB, YOU DECIDE YOU WILL **BEAT** ME TO DEATH, **RIGHT?**

**DUDE**, RIGHT NOW, YOU ARE ALONE WITH THE **AFRICA'S MIXED MARTIAL ARTS HEAVY WEIGHT CHAMP** - AND THERE IS **NO ONE** THAT CAN SAVE YOU.

RIGHT.

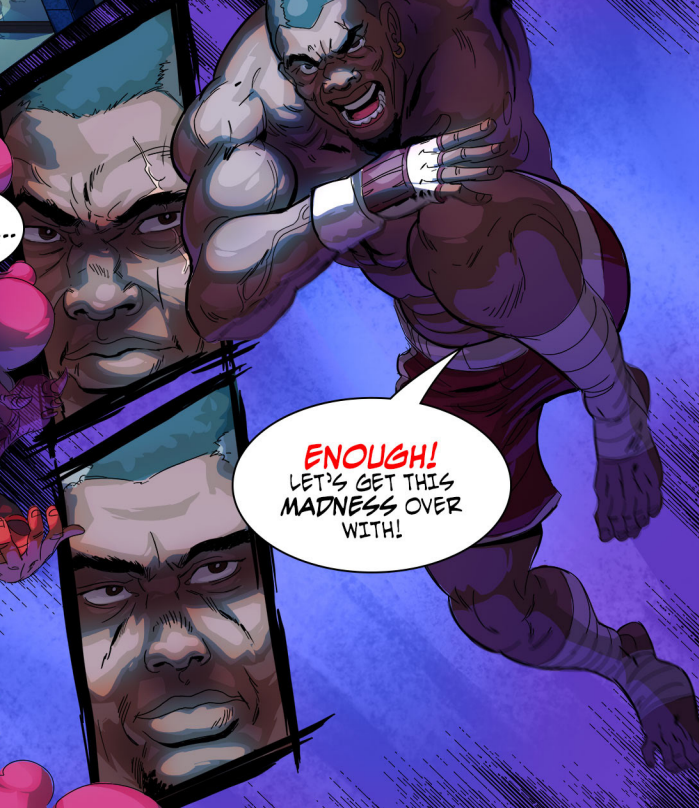
AND THEN, **GENIUS** THAT YOU ARE, YOU DECIDE YOU WILL **WALTZ** IN HERE, WITHOUT ANY **WEAPON**, TO TAKE ME OUT. **RIGHT?**

RIGHT.

ACTUALLY...



I AM NEVER ALONE. NO ONE IS...



**ENOUGH!** LET'S GET THIS **MADNESS** OVER WITH!





SAMSON HAS BEEN HERE MANY TIMES. HE IS A MASTER OF THIS DANCE.

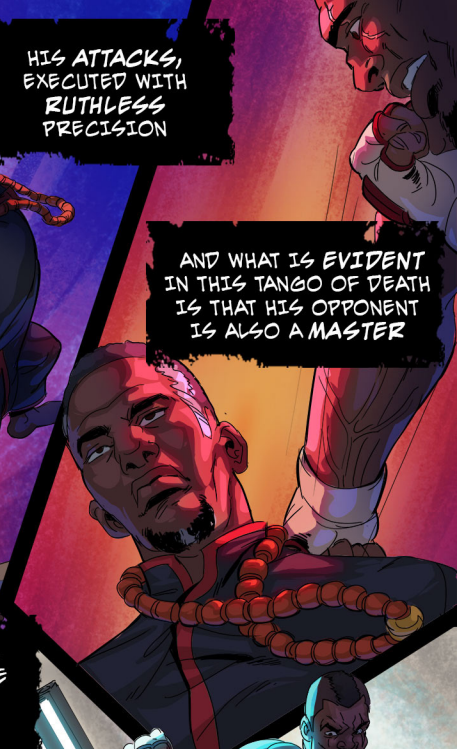


HIS ATTACKS, EXECUTED WITH RUTHLESS PRECISION

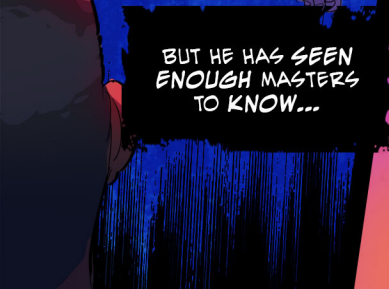
AND WHAT IS EVIDENT IN THIS TANGO OF DEATH IS THAT HIS OPPONENT IS ALSO A MASTER

SMASH

HIS TECHNIQUES, FLAWLESS, AS HE GAUGES KNIFE'S REACTION



THAT EVEN MASTERS...



BUT HE HAS SEEN ENOUGH MASTERS TO KNOW...



CAN BLEED!





\*GROAN\*

GET UP! I'M JUST GETTING STARTED!

BY THE TIME THE POLICE ARRIVE, THERE WON'T BE MUCH OF YOU LEFT TO TAKE TO JAIL!

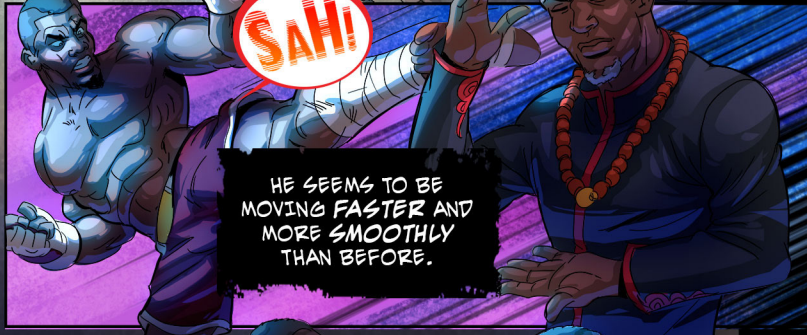


INTERESTING. HOWEVER, CONNECTING ONCE OUT OF SEVEN ATTACKS IS POOR...



I ONLY ATTACK MY OPPONENTS ONCE.

**COME!**



**SAH!**

HE SEEMS TO BE MOVING FASTER AND MORE SMOOTHLY THAN BEFORE.



THERE IS NO PAUSE OR HESITATION FROM SAMSON, THOUGH HE REALIZES THEY ARE BOTH FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES.

AND FOR ONE OF THEM, VERY SOON...



\*PFFT\*

THE HEART IS NORMALLY ENCASED IN A PROTECTIVE COVER, BUT WHEN THE CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT, THAT PROTECTION BECOMES ITS OWN UNDOING.

KRAK

EVERYTHING ENDS...

I HAVE SMASHED YOUR CHEST WALLS INWARD AND THEY HAVE PUNCTURED YOUR HEART.

YOU'RE A DEAD MAN, SAMSON. YOU HAVE FOUGHT YOUR LAST FIGHT - BUT YOU SHOULD BE CONTENT IN KNOWING IT WAS A GOOD FIGHT.

GOODBYE, SAMSON...

SAMSON GARBA!!!!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN JOIN ME AS I WELCOME TO THE ARENA THE UNDEFEATED, UNDISPUTED AND CURRENT UFC CHAMPION OF AFRICA...





SHE IS AISHA.

AND WHILE ON ONE HAND, I AGREE THERE IS A HUGE MARKET FOR MOBILE APPLICATIONS, WHICH MANY OF YOU HAVE EXPRESSED SIGNIFICANT INTEREST IN,

THE FACT IS THAT MANY PHONE USERS DO NOT USE SMART PHONES.

. SMART, TOUGH, PROFESSIONAL, BRIMMING WITH COMPETENCE...



BRIMMING WITH SECRETS.

RRRING!



I REALLY HAVE TO TAKE THIS.

I ALSO THINK IT'S QUITE LATE IN THE DAY, SO WE CAN CONTINUE THIS TOMORROW. DAN WILL SEND THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING WITH NEXT STEPS. THANKS EVERYONE...



<WHY ARE YOU CALLING?>

<THERE'S A VERY SERIOUS SITUATION.>

<AND WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?>

<GO TO SLEEP>

<HMM... WHEN?>



RIGHT NOW!



LET'S DO THIS!



CLEARLY, THIS IS THE DOMAIN OF THE DAMNED AND THE FINAL "RESTING PLACE" OF LOST SOULS.

THE TRUTH IS, THERE IS NO RESTING AT ALL TO BE DONE IN THIS PLACE, EXCEPT ONE CAN FIND AN EASE IN TORTURE THAT CONTINUES INTO 'FOREVER'...

AND THEN SOME...

I TRUST YOU LIKE THE VIEW; THE PLEASING REDNESS OF THE SKIES, THE WONDERFUL SCENT OF SULPHUR,

LET ME GO PLEASE!!!!

AH! I WOULD NOT DO THAT FOR THE WORLD, DWELLER!

...AND THE SOOTHING SCREAMS OF TORTURE!

WHAT ELSE IS AS PLEASURABLE AS SEEING ONE OF YOUR MEASLY KIND DROWNING, FOREVER, IN A POOL OF PURE BUBBLING LAVA!

WHY? WHAT HAVE I DONE?

OH, NOTHING. I JUST HATE YOUR KIND!



SUDDENLY, AND FROM LITERALLY NOWHERE, SOMEONE ELSE MAKES AN ENTRANCE.

I AM HERE FOR DEDE.

MAP

WHO ARE YOU? AND HOW DID YOU COME HERE?

I AM AISHA AND LIKE I SAID, I AM NOT LEAVING WITHOUT THE MAN

SOME OF US CAN STAND IN THAT GAP BETWEEN THE LIVING AND THE DEAD...

I SAID, HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

BETWEEN WHAT IS SEEN AND WHAT IS UNSEEN.

IN THIS PLACE, YOU HAVE NO POWER!


AND IN THIS PLACE, YOU REMAIN A LIAR!

PUNY WOMAN! I WILL PURIFY YOU WITH THE FIRE OF HELL!

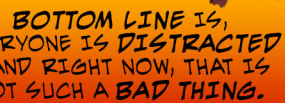





JUST WHEN I THOUGHT IT  
COULDN'T GET ANY CRAZIER,  
SOMEONE NEW STEPS INTO  
THIS FRAY OF MADNESS!



CAN'T HELP WONDERING WHO  
THE TOUGH TALKING  
NEWCOMER IS. SHE LOOKS LIKE  
A NICE PERSON. WE MIGHT  
MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY



BOTTOM LINE IS,  
EVERYONE IS DISTRACTED  
- AND RIGHT NOW, THAT IS  
NOT SUCH A BAD THING.



UNDER FAIRLY  
DIFFERENT  
CIRCUMSTANCES.  
POSSIBLY



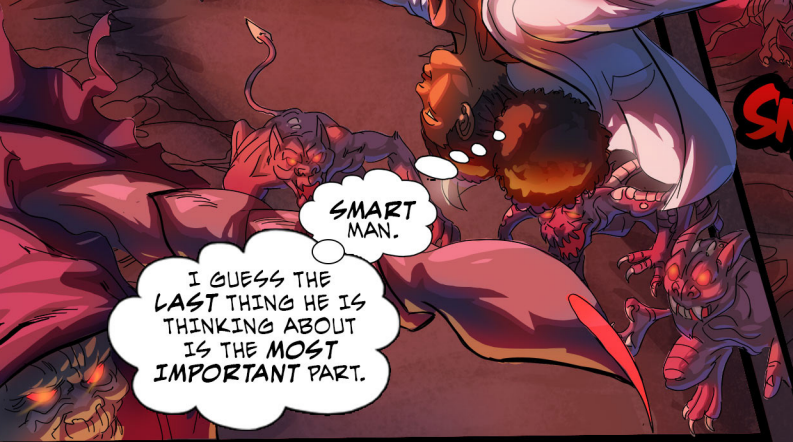
HOWEVER, BUT  
TODAY IS NOT THAT  
DAY!



HOW THE HELL  
DO YOU GET OUT  
OF HELL?!



SMART  
MAN.



I GUESS THE  
LAST THING HE IS  
THINKING ABOUT  
IS THE MOST  
IMPORTANT PART.

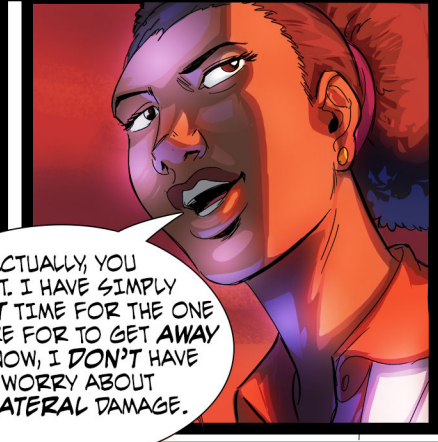


SNARL!!!

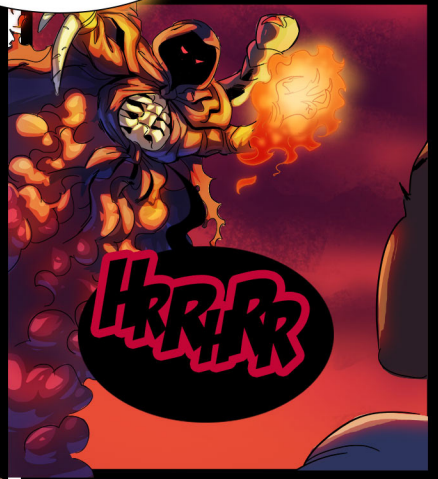




O-KAY. MY TIME HERE IS ALMOST OVER, SO I GUESS I WILL HAVE TO WRAP THIS UP REAL QUICK.



ACTUALLY, YOU DON'T. I HAVE SIMPLY BOUGHT TIME FOR THE ONE I AM HERE FOR TO GET AWAY - AND NOW, I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT COLLATERAL DAMAGE.



**HRRRR**



**KRAK**



**WAK**



**SHOOOM**



COME ON!

SHE IS NO  
ORDINARY LADY.

THIS ONE IS A WARRIOR  
- AND SHE IS NOT AFRAID  
TO MOUNT A RESISTANCE  
AGAINST PRETOR WARRIORS.

AND WHEN SHE  
RESISTS THE EVIL  
ONE...

THEY FLEE!

LADY,  
I DON'T KNOW  
WHO YOU ARE, WHAT  
YOU ARE OR WHERE  
YOU ARE FROM. BUT  
IF YOU CAN,  
PLEASE....

HELP ME.

DEDE. YOU  
NEED TO STOP  
RUNNING.

THAT IS WHY  
I AM HERE DEDE.  
I AM HERE TO HELP  
YOU. BUT YOU WILL  
HAVE TO...

THE RUNNER IS STILL  
RUNNING, AWAY FROM  
THE COMOTION,  
AWAY FROM DEMONS  
THAT PLAGUE HIM...

BUT IN THIS  
PLACE, THERE IS  
NO DISTANCE.





OPEN YOUR  
EYES!!!

next:  
**EXTRICATION**





epoch

EPISODE 3



**MOON  
DUST**

**ISSUE 3**

**COMING SOON!**

PROMO ART, COURTESY: LINEGUAGE STUDIOS