



ISSUE 01

O
R
I
G
I
N

MOON DUST

- OKONKWO
- EZEABIAMA
- JOSIAH
- KWAME

#1



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MOON DUST

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ISSUE #1

O R I G I N

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NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.



IT ALL *STARTED* HERE,
THE VERY BEGINNING....

IT BEGAN AS A *NORMAL*
SCHOOL DAY, BUT WHO
KNEW THAT ONE *FREAK* LAB
-ACCIDENT WOULD ALMOST
END MY LIFE...



... BUT I HAVE TO ADMIT,
IT FEELS LIKE MY *LIFE*
JUST BEGAN ...

A *SECOND* CHANCE
USUALLY *PROVES* TO BE
EITHER A BLESSING OR A
CURSE. IN MY CASE, IT'S
LOOKING LIKE *BOTH*.

STUDYING HERE WAS A GREAT **ADVANTAGE** FOR ME, I **COULD** PURSUE MY HIGH **ASPIRATIONS**, EVEN BEST MY ELDER BROTHERS...

...WHO **SCHOOLED** HERE TOO, EVEN DAD GOT ONE OF HIS **DOCTORATES** FROM HERE.

KAZ, ARE WE **STILL** VISITING **NIGERIA** THIS SEMESTER'S END? DON'T WANT TO MISS **DAVIDO'S** CONCERT IN LAGOS

MIKE! DAVIDO IS **NOT** RUNNING AWAY...YOU NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON THE **LECTURE**, YOU'RE DISTRACTING **KEN** AND I...

YOU HEARD THE MAN...YOU'RE **DISS**...TRACTING US...

YOU'RE **BOTH** JUST **GEEKS** WITHOUT GLASSES...BORING BUNCH...

GEEKS **RULE** THE WORLD, YO!...

SURE! AND **LIVING** THE MOST **BORING** LIVES, **WHILST** THEY'RE AT IT. WITH **ZERO** FRIENDS, JUST LIKE **PROFESSOR** RICHARD DUNNE...

...GREAT **RECIPE** FOR **WORLD** DOMINATION!

PROFESSOR RICHARD DUNNE LIKED TO **MENTOR** SOME OF HIS BEST STUDENTS, I WAS ALWAYS HIS **FIRST** PICK,

CLASS IS **DISMISSED!** TURN IN YOUR ASSIGNMENTS BY **THURSDAY**. KAZEEM, **KEN** AND **RAJESH** MEET ME AT THE **LAB**. I NEED YOU ON **SOMETHING**, RIGHT AWAY

AS A **BIOCHEMIST** HOPEFUL, I ALWAYS **JUMPED** ON THOSE OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSIST IN HIS **PERSONAL** RESEARCH...

ALWAYS THE **SUPER** TRIO! THE **AFRICAN**, THE **AFRICAN-AMERICAN** AND THE **INDIAN!**

FAVORITES OF THE PROF...DON'T YOU **THINK** HE'S EXPLOITING YOU THREE FOR HIS OWN **GAIN**? DO YOU EVEN GET **CREDITED** IN THE FINDINGS

NAH, MIKE! YOU AND YOUR **CONSPIRACY** THEORIES THOUGH. WE'RE ALWAYS **HAPPY** TO HELP HIM, JUST TO ACQUIRE **KNOWLEDGE** AND NOT FOR **FAME!**

SAME DAY...

WE WERE WORKING WITH PROF ON A NEW RESEARCH WITH LUNAR SOIL. HOW HE WAS ABLE TO GET SOME FINE FRACTION OF THE REGOLITH FOUND ON THE SURFACE OF THE MOON WE DON'T KNOW....

STRANGE FINDINGS WE'VE GOT HERE. PREVIOUS RESEARCH HAS PROVEN THAT THE DUST ON THE SURFACE OF THE MOON IS EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS WHEN INHALED...

WE DIDN'T BOTHER TO ASK. RAJESH BELIEVED IT WAS FROM NASA. NOT THAT I CARED. I WAS JUST GLAD TO BE PART OF THE TEAM... BUT MIKE'S WORDS KEPT PLAYING IN MY HEAD.

"A SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH THAT I AM PART OF" WAS ALL I COULD THINK OF...DAD WOULD BE PROUD. I COULD ALMOST SMELL A NOBEL PRIZE

ONCE WE CAN EXTRACT THE TOXIC FRACTION OF THE REGOLITH BY EXPOSING THE LUNAR SOIL TO HEAT, WHAT IS LEFT WILL CHANGE THE WAY WE VIEW THE MOON. THIS IS GROUND BREAKING ... THIS WILL IMPACT ENGINEERING, MEDICINE AND MANY ASPECTS OF OUR LIVES.....

YES, PROF... RAJESH IS ON TOP OF THAT, HIS MATH IS NEVER WRONG....

I ONLY HOPED MIKE WAS WRONG ABOUT PROF. NOTHING COULD GO WRONG.

SOMETHING DID GO WRONG...

KAZEEM, COME CARRY ON WITH THIS EXTRACTION WHILE I CHECK ON KEN AND RAJESH.....THEIR CALCULATIONS NEED TO BE ERROR PROOF

SOMETHING IS SO NOT RIGHT HERE, FEELING TOO HOT IN THIS SUIT..... MAYBE IT'S NORMAL....

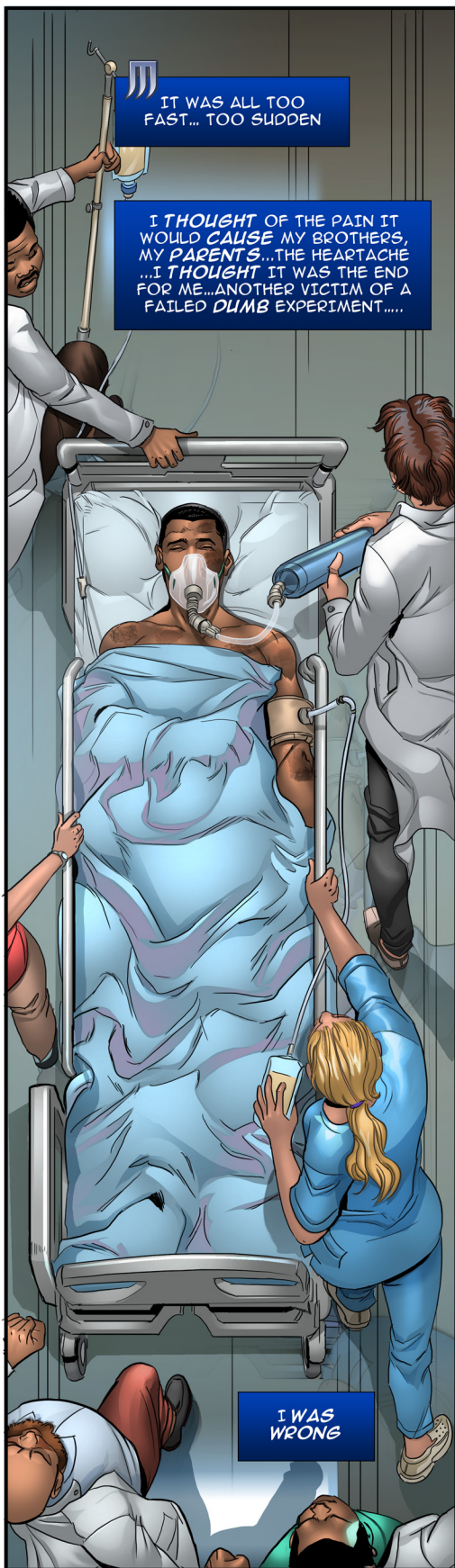
JUST AS IT IS WITH MANY SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENTS, THIS MUST BE THE DISASTER WHICH PRECEDES THE WIN

HELP!!! I'M ON FIRE!

KEN! GET THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER FAST!!!

SUDDENLY....





IT WAS ALL TOO FAST... TOO SUDDEN

I THOUGHT OF THE PAIN IT WOULD CAUSE MY BROTHERS, MY PARENTS...THE HEARTACHE ...I THOUGHT IT WAS THE END FOR ME...ANOTHER VICTIM OF A FAILED DUMB EXPERIMENT.....

I WAS WRONG



THE BURNS FROM THE EXPLOSION WERE SEVERE, BUT MY BODY HEALED TOO QUICKLY, THE DOCTORS CAN'T STILL EXPLAIN IT....

I LIVED, BUT I WAS IN A COMA FOR FIVE MONTHS....

WHILE UNCONSCIOUS, I SAW THINGS THAT I'M YET UNABLE TO EXPLAIN...

SIX MONTHS LATER I HAD TO LEAVE NOT JUST THE HOSPITAL, BUT THE UNITED STATES BACK HOME TO NIGERIA...

I WAS TRANSFERRED FROM NEW YORK UNIVERSITY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS. GOING HOME WAS EXCITING, BUT N.Y.U TO UNILAG?! NOT EXACTLY SO



MURTALA MUHAMMED INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, LAGOS

AND SO I WAS HOME....

**BANANA ISLAND
IKOYI, LAGOS**

*RESIDENCE OF
CHIEF SEGUN
OLADAPO*





THE FAMILY'S GYM

FIVE MORE MINUTES... FIVE MORE MINUTES LEFT....



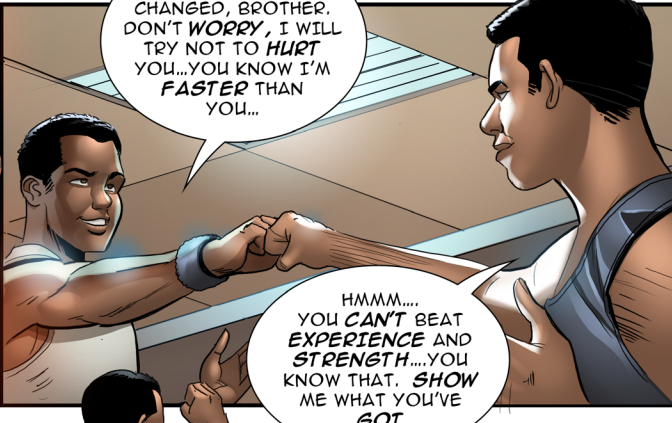
FIFTEEN MINUTES' PLANKING...IMPRESSIVE, KAZEEM YOU'RE DOING SO GOOD, BUT YOU STILL CAN'T BEAT MY TIME OF TWENTY FIVE MINUTES....



HA HA! CHESTBEATER I WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU BEAT YOUR OWN RECORD AGAIN, BUT YOU MUST CONCLUDE WITH THE PLANK AFTER YOU'VE DONE OTHER ROUTINES FOR TWO HOURS LIKE I JUST DID



LET'S SPAR IT'S BEEN WELL OVER A YEAR YOU'VE TRIED THIS, SINCE BEFORE THE ACCIDENT IN NEW YORK... LET'S SEE IF YOU STILL REMEMBER A THING OR TWO...



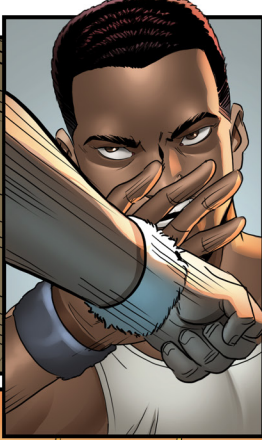
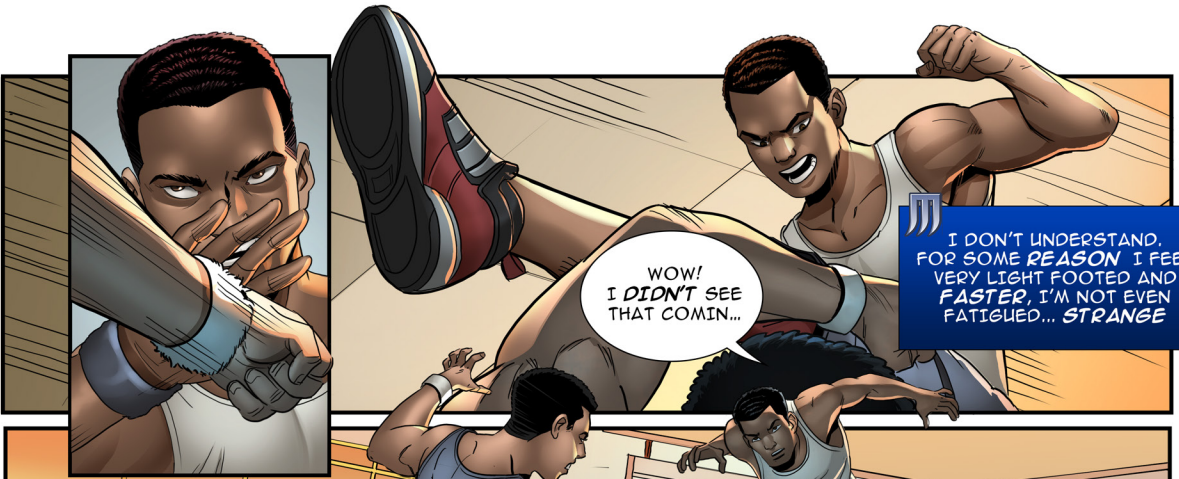
NOTHING HAS CHANGED, BROTHER. DON'T WORRY, I WILL TRY NOT TO HURT YOU...YOU KNOW I'M FASTER THAN YOU...

HMMM... YOU CAN'T BEAT EXPERIENCE AND STRENGTH...YOU KNOW THAT. SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT



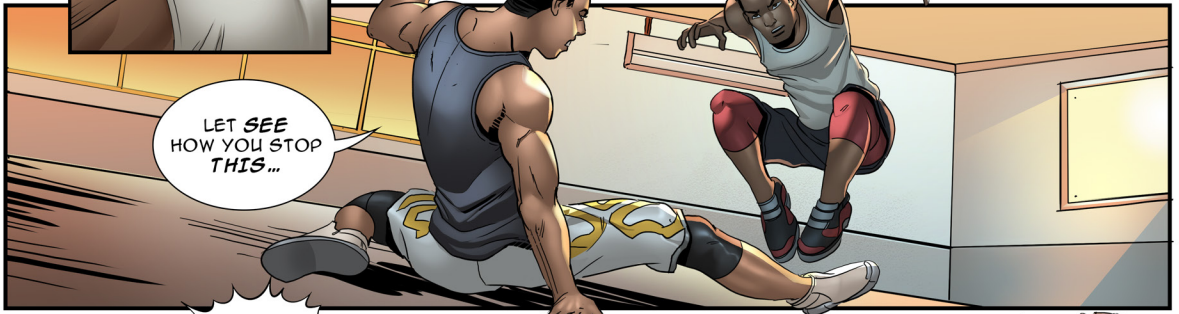
TASH!

HYAH!!!



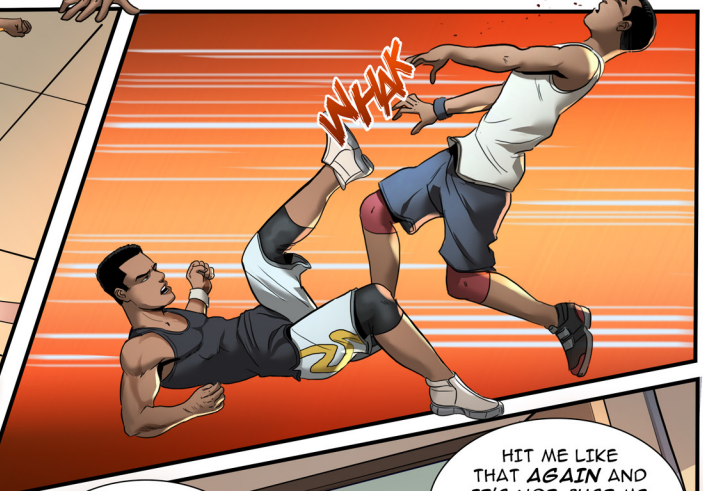
WOW!
I DIDN'T SEE
THAT COMIN...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
FOR SOME REASON I FEEL
VERY LIGHT FOOTED AND
FASTER, I'M NOT EVEN
FATIGUED... STRANGE



LET SEE
HOW YOU STOP
THIS...

HIYAAA
!!!



WHACK

SO SORRY
LITTLE BRO...
DIDN'T MEAN
TO HIT YOU THAT
HARD, YOU WERE
PRETTY FAST ...

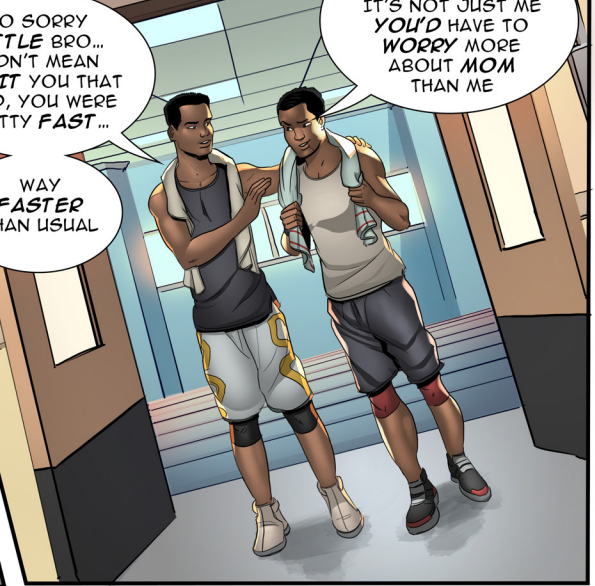
HIT ME LIKE
THAT AGAIN AND
IT'S NOT JUST ME
YOU'D HAVE TO
WORRY MORE
ABOUT MOM
THAN ME



IT
DIDN'T
HURT. WEIRD.

SOMETHING IS
NOT RIGHT HERE, I
DIDN'T FEEL ANY
PAIN FROM
HAKEEM'S KICK....

WAY
FASTER
THAN USUAL



THE NEXT DAY

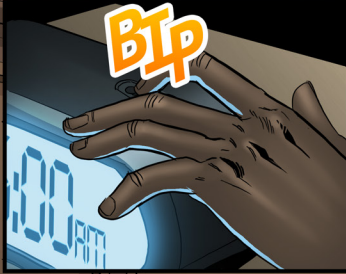


BIP

BIP

SINCE RETURNING FROM N.Y, I'VE BEEN AT A CORSSROADS.

DIDN'T I GET A CUT ON MY LOWER LIP YESTERDAY FROM TRAINING WITH HAKEEM?!



BIP

HOW DO I EXPLAIN THE SUBCONSCIOUS EXPERIENCES, THE UNUSUAL DREAMS...

I WAKE UP AGAIN TO THIS NAGGING FEELING THAT SOMETHING ISN'T QUITE RIGHT WITH MY BODY

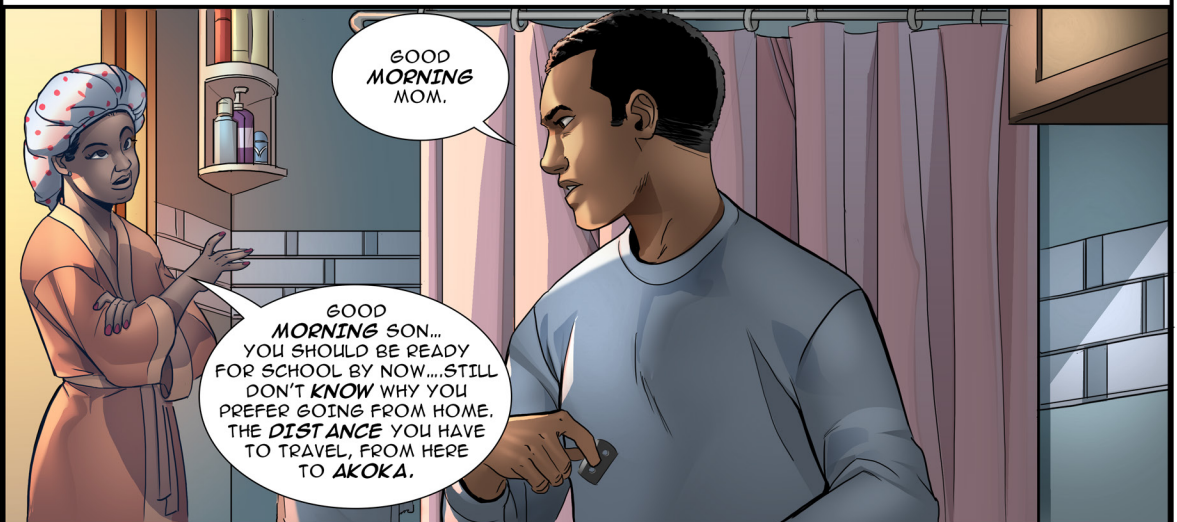


THE CUT HAS DISAPPEARED COMPLETELY...HEALED LIKE NOTHING WAS THERE. THIS IS STRANGE



WHAT IF I CUT MYSELF? WILL IT HEAL SPONTANEOUSLY ...OR IS THIS ALL JUST IN MY MIND?

KAZEEM!



GOOD MORNING MOM.

GOOD MORNING SON... YOU SHOULD BE READY FOR SCHOOL BY NOW...STILL DON'T KNOW WHY YOU PREFER GOING FROM HOME. THE DISTANCE YOU HAVE TO TRAVEL, FROM HERE TO AKOKA.



I DON'T MIND THE **DISTANCE**. JUST TRYING TO GET **USED** TO THE SCHOOL. YOU **KNOW** IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO **NY**...

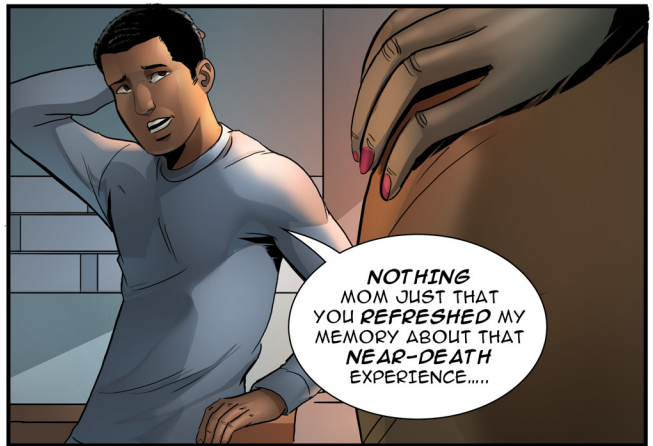
YOU'RE JUST THINKING ABOUT **GOING** BACK TO THE STATES...WE'VE **TALKED** ABOUT THIS. YOUR DAD AND I DECIDED AFTER THE **LAB ACCIDENT**, THAT...



THE **LAB ACCIDENT!**



WHAT ABOUT THE **ACCIDENT SON?**



NOTHING MOM JUST THAT YOU **REFRESHED** MY MEMORY ABOUT THAT **NEAR-DEATH** EXPERIENCE.....



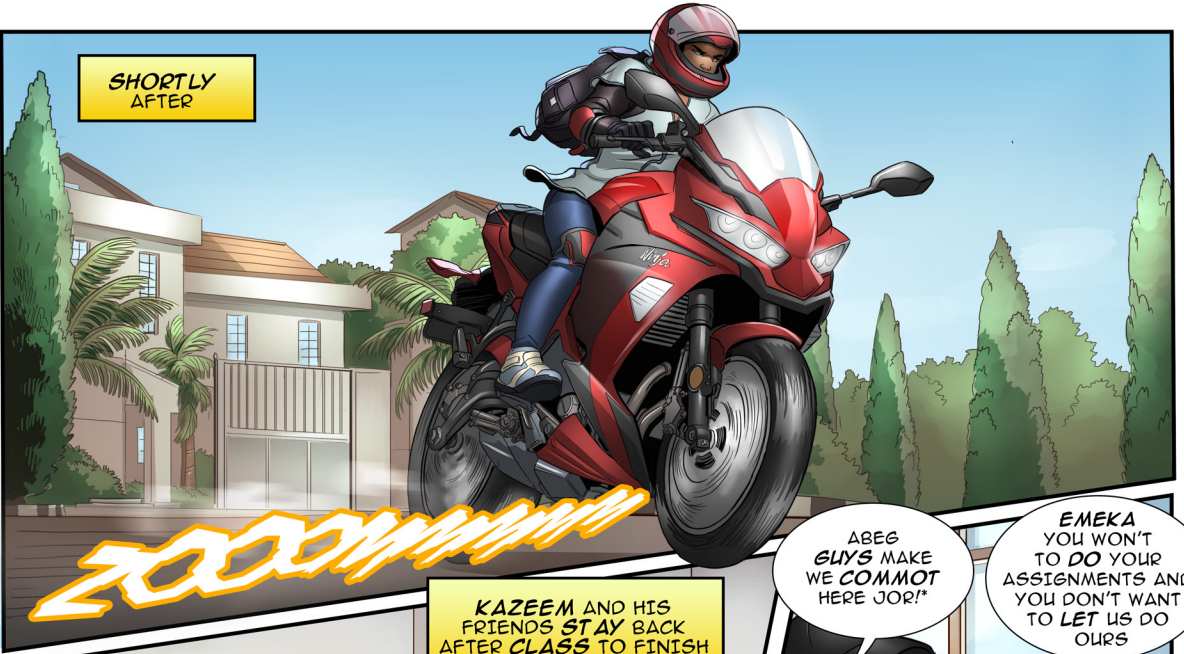
NO, SON, NOTHING WILL EVER **HARM** YOU BY **ANY** MEANS AGAIN... YOU'RE **SAFE** AND WILL ALWAYS BE. I **LOVE** YOU.

THANKS MOM, I **LOVE** YOU TOO...



GO GET SET THEN, **COME** SEE YOUR DAD BEFORE HE **LEAVES**.....

SHORTLY
AFTER



ZOOOMMMMM

KAZEEM AND HIS FRIENDS STAY BACK AFTER CLASS TO FINISH THEIR ASSIGNMENTS

ABEG GUYS MAKE WE COMMOT HERE JOR!*

EMEKA YOU WON'T TO DO YOUR ASSIGNMENTS AND YOU DON'T WANT TO LET US DO OURS

FEMI, MAKE I HEAR WORD JARE!*

*GUYS LET'S LEAVE THIS PLACE PLEASE!
*FEMI. PLEASE LET ME HAVE SOME PEACE!

UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS



STOP BICKERING, YOU TWO, WE'VE GOT COMPANY



HI, GUYS!



TOPE. HOW ARE YOU DOING?

GREAT!

SHOO! WETIN UNA DEY LOOK?! UNA NEVER SEE HUG BEFORE NI?*



*WHAT ARE YOU ALL STARRING AT? YOU'VE NOT SEEN TWO PEOPLE HUGGING BEFORE?!





THIS
STONE WILL
NOT BUDGE.....

LOOK
GUYS...THIS
SMELLS LIKE
TROUBLE....

IT'S
THE GUY FROM
THE CANTEEN?
AND HE IS WALKING
TOWARDS US....

I AM NOT
BLIND MY GUY,
I CAN SEE....I AM
NOT DUMB EITHER,
YOU HEAR?!

OF COURSE
I CAN HEAR,
BUT I CAN'T SAY
THE SAME FOR
YOU....

YOU
STILL GET
MOUTH
ABI?*

*YOU'RE STILL TALKING. RIGHT?

*OKAY

*YOU HAVE GRABBED THE LION BY THE TAIL

OYA,*
COME AND
RUN YOUR MOUTH
AGAINST THIS!
I KPAALA AGU AKA
NODUDU!*

GET
DOWN!!!

BANG!

IT ALL HAPPENED IN A
FLASH... I DIDN'T KNOW
WHAT I WAS THINKING...



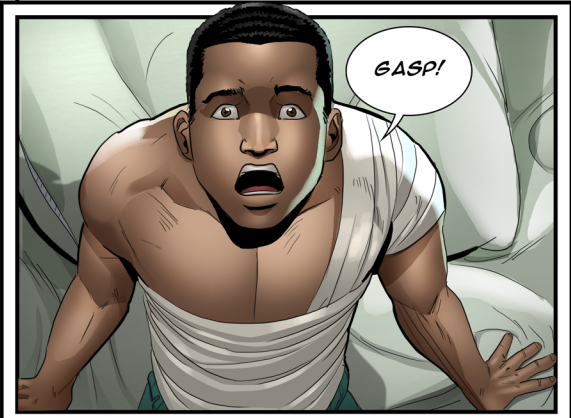
SOON
AFTERWARDS

THE *SHOOTER*
IS LONG GONE...

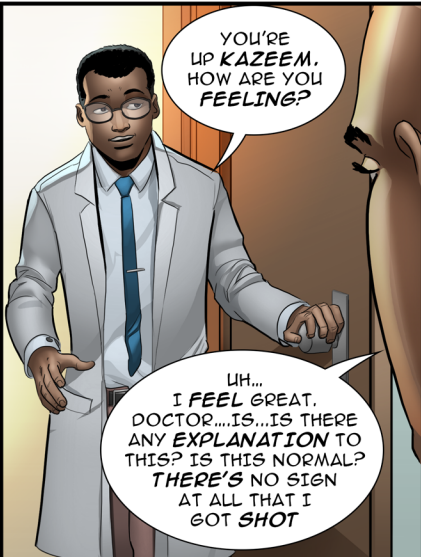
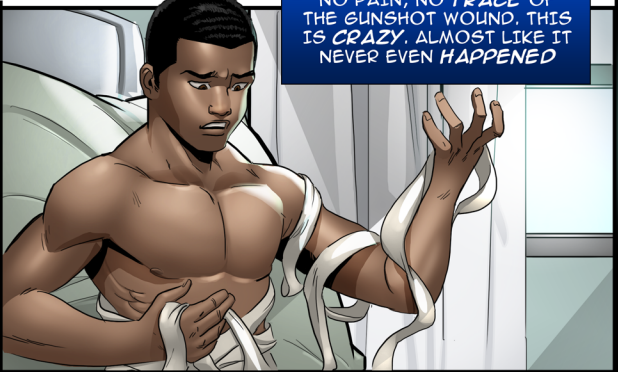


THREE DAYS
LATER...

NO PAIN, NO TRACE OF THE GUNSHOT WOUND. THIS IS *CRAZY*. ALMOST LIKE IT NEVER EVEN HAPPENED

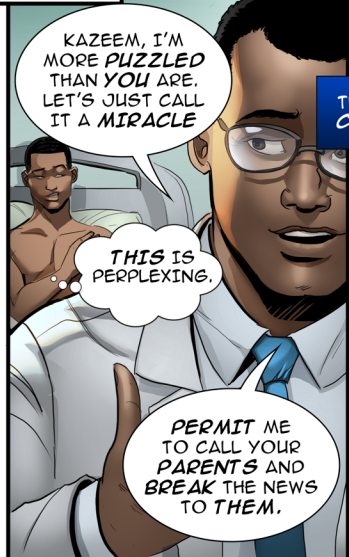


GASP!



YOU'RE UP KAZEEM. HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

UH... I FEEL GREAT. DOCTOR... IS... IS THERE ANY EXPLANATION TO THIS? IS THIS NORMAL? THERE'S NO SIGN AT ALL THAT I GOT SHOT



KAZEEM, I'M MORE PUZZLED THAN YOU ARE. LET'S JUST CALL IT A MIRACLE

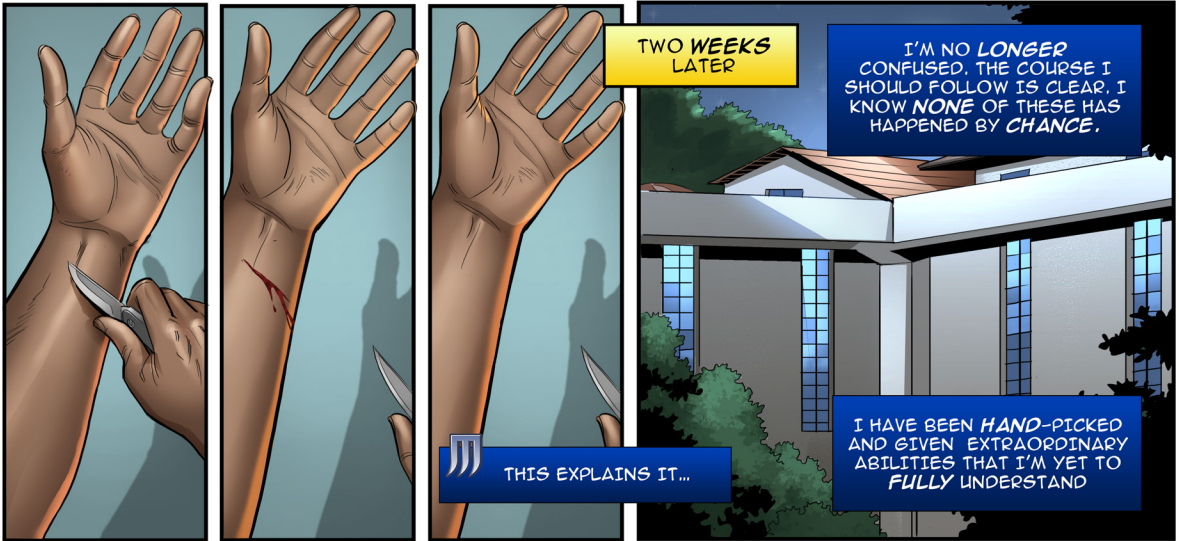
THIS IS PERPLEXING.

PERMIT ME TO CALL YOUR PARENTS AND BREAK THE NEWS TO THEM.



THIS IS NO MERE COINCIDENCE...

FIRST THE LAB EXPLOSION, THE COMA, THE SUBLIMINAL MESSAGES, THE RECOVERY, THE LIP WOUND, AND NOW THE GUNSHOT WOUND... SOMEHOW, EVERY TRAUMA GETS REVERSED. I KNOW IT'S ALL LINKED TO THE EXPLOSION



TWO WEEKS LATER

I'M NO LONGER CONFUSED. THE COURSE I SHOULD FOLLOW IS CLEAR. I KNOW NONE OF THESE HAS HAPPENED BY CHANCE.

THIS EXPLAINS IT...

I HAVE BEEN HAND-PICKED AND GIVEN EXTRAORDINARY ABILITIES THAT I'M YET TO FULLY UNDERSTAND



NEVERTHELESS, I DO UNDERSTAND THAT IT WAS GIVEN FOR A SINGULAR PURPOSE... A HIGHER PURPOSE. SERVICE TO HUMANITY...

I'LL BE CHARTING A NEW COURSE OF EXISTENCE...



AS
MOON
DUST

NEXT :
HERO AT
LARGE

WHAT'S YOUR THEME?



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COMING SOON

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THE MOON FAN BASE

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR.

Hey!

It became critical for us to do something about the original edition of MOONDUST #1. The art didn't quite age well, as it was done 22 years ago while the artist was still a student. Computers weren't even mainstream then. believe it or not, it was hand drawn, hand coloured and lettered. This is finally a breath of fresh air with this fully digital upgrade. We try to maintain great quality visuals for all our projects and this is no exception.

Surely you can tell that it's the same artist, just a bit "grown up", ... I suppose.

The colourist, Ebere Josiah, has proved that a newbie can make a quick entry into the industry and with the right amount of guidance, begin to prove themselves fast.

We decided not to alter the story too much, but to find ways to overlay it with the present Epoch Universe' theme. There is an angle to the lab incident and the ensuing coma that we've not revealed yet, so be on the look out for MOONDUST issue #2 remake (Yes, we're remaking that as well.) There'll be some journey into the sub-conscious plain. It couldn't have just been plain black-out during those five months in a coma. Something must've been going on in Kazeem's mind. Moondust is not just a superhero story, as generic as this origin story looks. You'll get to find out that there are many layers to it and more to it than meets the eye.

See you at issue #2 and the numerous sequels to come!

Do reach us via our website or any of our social media pages below. Like, comment and share our updates. Also feel free to let us know how we can make this better because you're the reason we do it

Stay inspired!

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