

THE UNITY OF RINGS

THE NAME
OF THE PLACE
IS *SIGIL*.

SOME CALL IT THE CENTER
OF THE *MULTIVERSE*.
OTHERS CALL IT THE *CAGE*.

A GOLD RING,
PLEASE, SUITABLE
FOR USE AS A
PORTAL KEY.

AH, WE HAVE A
VARIETY OF SUCH
WONDERS, ALL FOR
THE *DISCERNING*
BUYER.

PERHAPS
THIS MEETS
YOUR NEEDS.

STORY: *THE PLANESCAPE™ GROUP*
SCRIPT: *JEFF GRUBB*
ART & LETTERING:
*MARK HEIKE, BRAD GORBY,
CHRIS ALLEN, AND BILL BLACK*
COLORS: *BARBARA BRECKER*

ALSO CALLED THE
CITY OF DOORS.

NOT ALL OF THEM LOOK
LIKE DOORS. MOST LOOK
LIKE ARCHES OR WINDOWS
OR MANHOLES OR OTHER
BOUNDED SPACES.

BUT NO PORTAL
CAN BE OPENED
WITHOUT A KEY.

A KEY CAN
BE A WORD.
A GESTURE.
AN OBJECT. A
GOLDEN RING.

AND WHEN A PLANEWALKER
BRINGS THE RIGHT KEY
TO THE RIGHT PORTAL...

THE CUTTER CAN GO...

ELSEWHERE!

LOREMASTER.

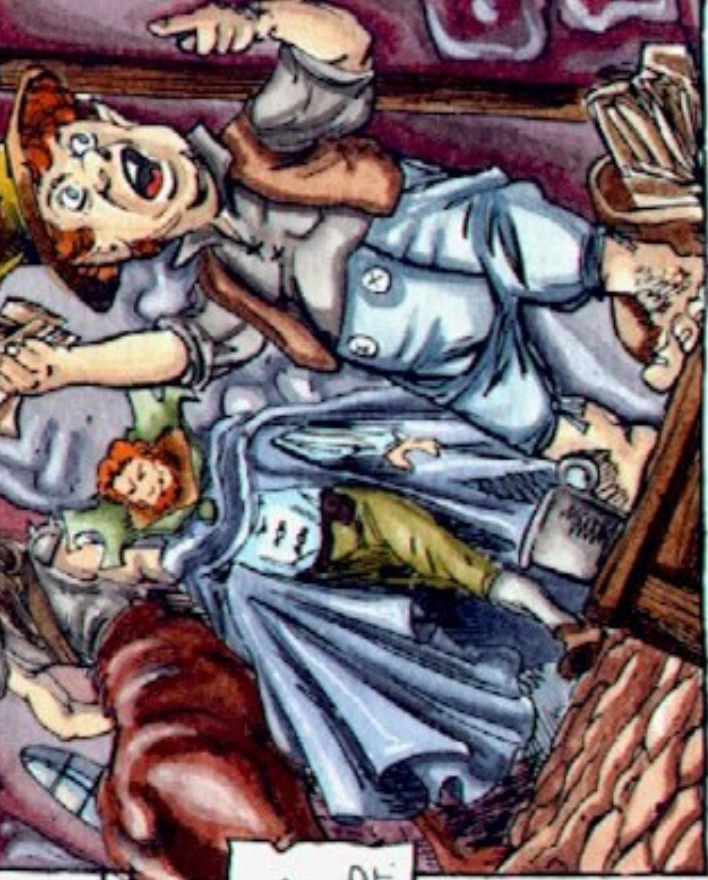


HE'S A
WIZARD-AND A
PLANEWALKER.

HE NEEDS THE
RING TO OPEN A
PARTICULAR DOOR.

A MAGICAL DOOR-
A PORTAL TO
ANOTHER PART OF
THE MULTIVERSE.

GMAR'S
the God's
Show



IT'S THE
RING THAT'S
IMPORTANT,
NOT THE
LEATHERHEAD
WHO HOLDS IT.



WANT TO KNOW
ABOUT THE PLANES?
JUST FOLLOW THE
RING.



IN THIS CASE, ELSEWHERE IS
THE OUTLANDS, JUST OUTSIDE
THE GATE-TOWN OF HOPELESS.

EACH GATE-TOWN OF THE OUTLANDS
HAS A MAGICAL **PORTAL** THAT LEADS
TO ONE OF THE **OUTER PLANES**.

SOME BERKS COME
TO THE GATE-TOWNS
FOR **ADVICE** FROM
POWERFUL BLOODS.

SOME COME TO
HIDE FROM THOSE
SAME BLOODS.

AND VALIEN?

VALIEN HAS
COME HERE
FOR **POWER**.



FOLLOW
THE RING.

...COMES
WITH A
PRICE.

FOLLOW
THE RING.

AREN'T THE ONLY
ONES WHO WALK
THE PLANES.



A BERK'S GOT TO
LOOK OUT FOR FIENDISH
TANAR'RI (LIKE THE *BALOR*),
FIERY ELEMENTALS, SHINING
ARCHONS, THE INFERNALLY
CUNNING *BATEZU*.

AND SINJOUS
FIENDS LIKE THE
MARILITH.



THEY ALL HAVE
THEIR OWN
REASONS
FOR BEING.

THEY ALL
HAVE THEIR
OWN *PLANS*.



THEY ALL HAVE
THEIR OWN
DESIRES.



FOLLOW
THE *RING*.



MOVE IT!
MOVE IT!
MOVE IT!

WHAT ARE
YOU, LARVAE?
WE GOT US A
BLOOD WAR
TO WIN!

ALL RIGHT,
YOU MAGGOTS!
GET YER SODDING
TAILFEATHERS
ON THE BOAT!

PLINK!

PLINK!

MAADOTS,
LISTEN UP!

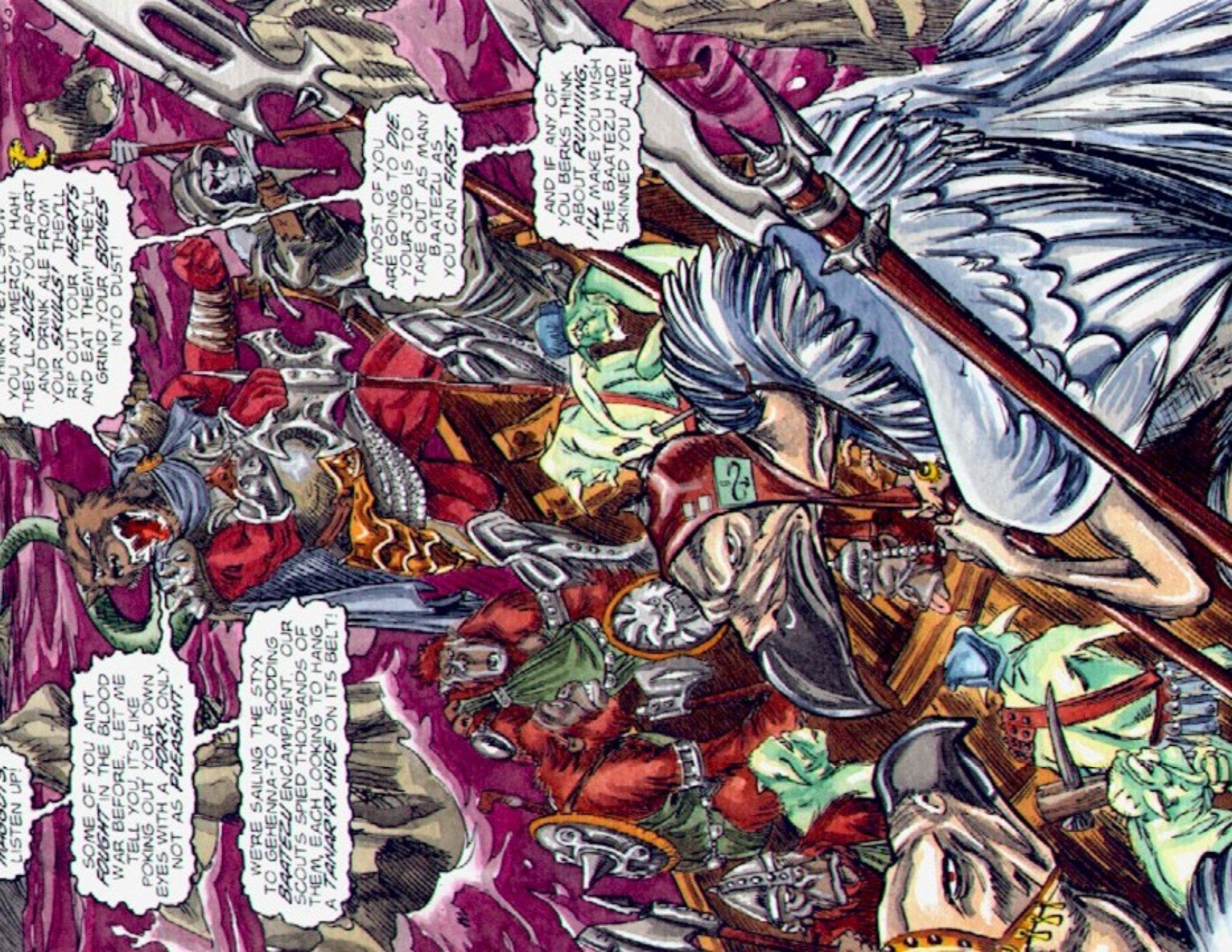
THINK THEY'LL SPARE
YOU ANY MERCY? HAH!
THEY'LL *SUICE* YOU APART
AND DRINK ALE FROM
YOUR *SKULLS*! THEY'LL
RIP OUT YOUR *HEARTS*
AND EAT THEM! THEY'LL
GRIND YOUR *BONES*
INTO DUST!

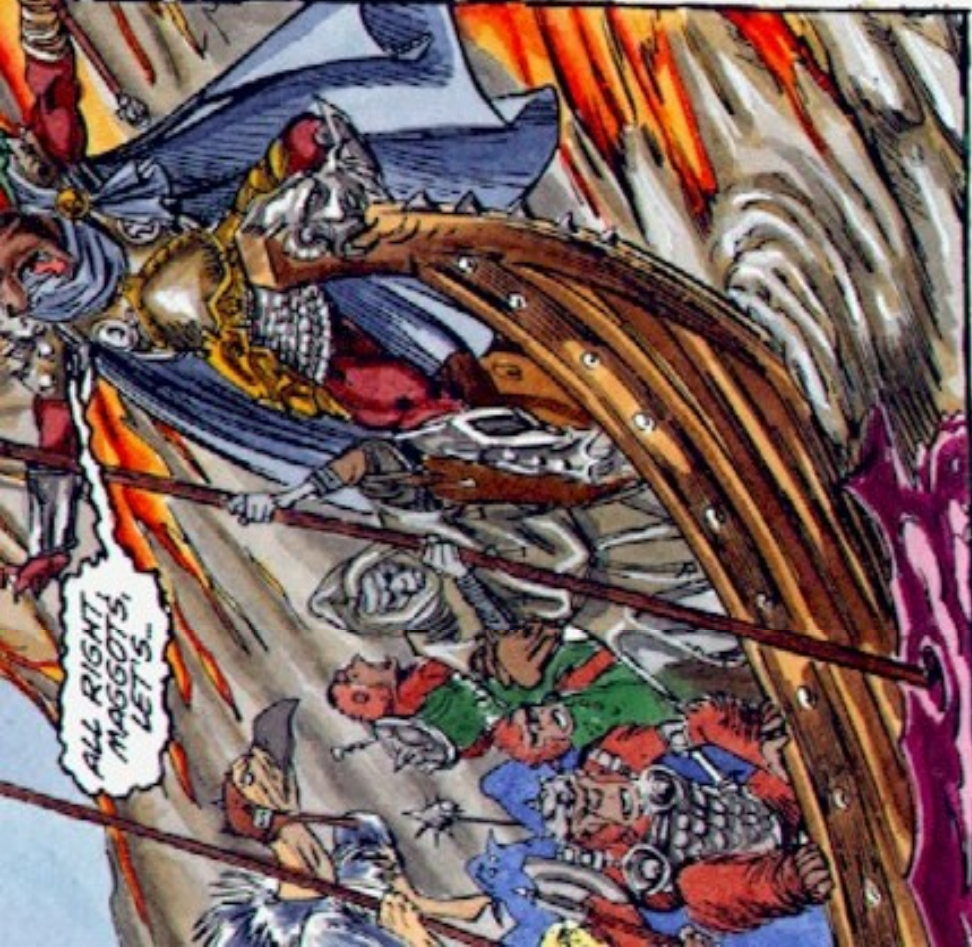
SOME OF YOU AINT
FOUGHT IN THE BLOOD
WAR BEFORE. LET ME
TELL YOU, IT'S LIKE
POKING OUT YOUR OWN
EYES WITH A *FORK*. ONLY
NOT AS *PLEASANT*.

WE'RE SAILING THE STYX
TO GEHENNA-TO A SODDING
BAATEZU ENCAMPMENT. OUR
SCOUTS SPIED THOUSANDS OF
THEM, EACH LOOKING TO HANG
A *TANAR'RI* HIDE ON ITS BELT!

MOST OF YOU
ARE GOING TO *DIE*.
YOUR JOB IS TO
TAKE OUT AS MANY
BAATEZU AS
YOU CAN *FIRST*.

AND IF ANY OF
YOU BERKS THINK
ABOUT *RUNNING*,
I'LL MAKE YOU WISH
THE BAATEZU HAD
SKINNED YOU ALIVE!





HAS NO BEGINNING.

IT HAS
NO END.

IT HAS NO
HOPE OR
VIRTUE.

IT HAS NO
MERCY
NO PITY,
NO CHIVALRY.

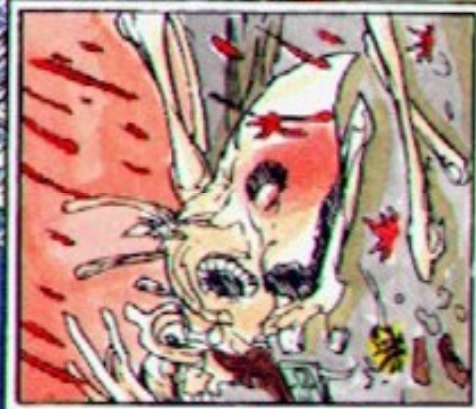
ALL IT HAS
IS VICTIMS.

AND THOSE IT
HAS IN GREAT
ABUNDANCE.

NO VICTIMS.

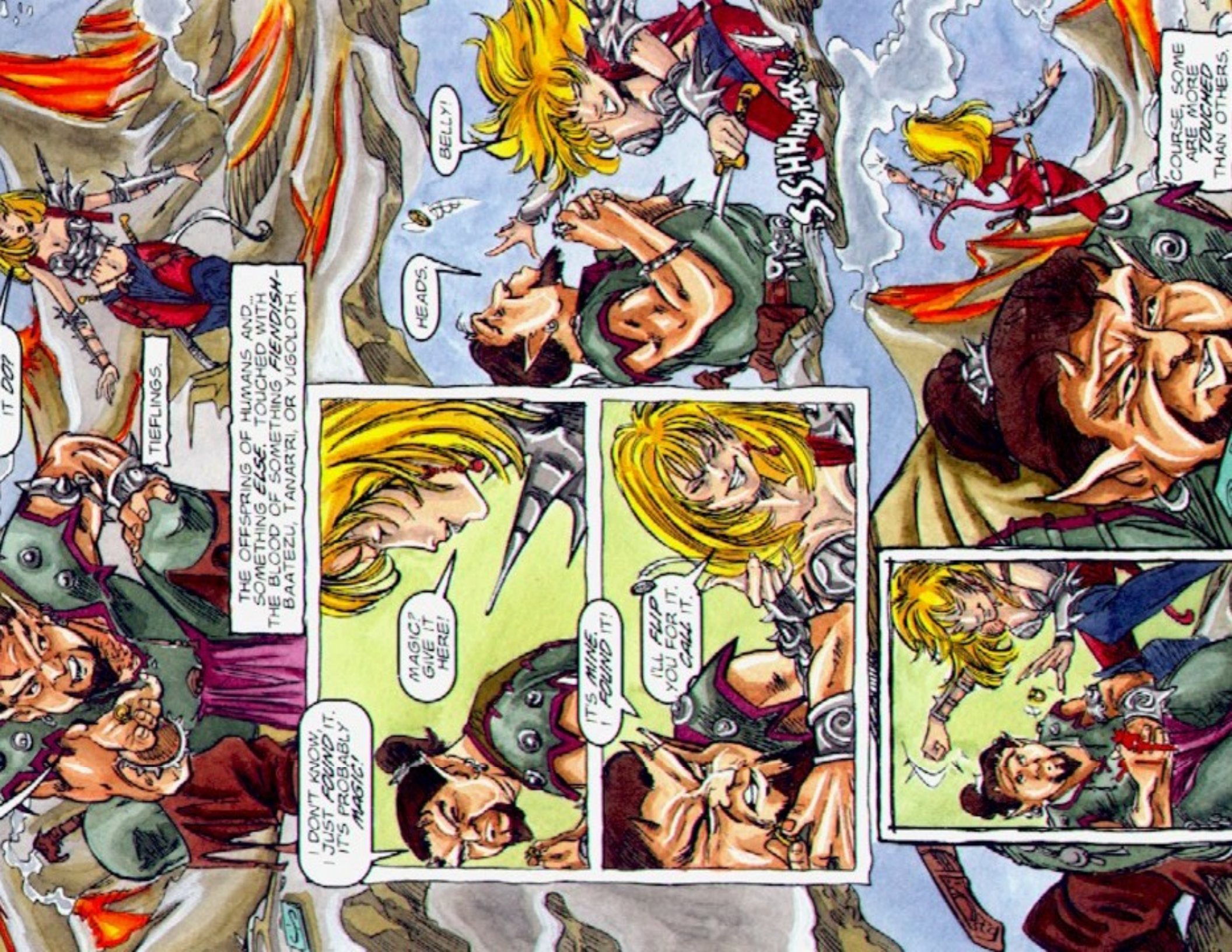


NO ONE TO
LOOT THE
DEADERS.



UNTIL...

LOOK, ALI!



IT DOO

TIEFLINGS.

THE OFFSPRING OF HUMANS AND...
SOMETHING *ELSE*. TOUCHED WITH
THE BLOOD OF SOMETHING *FENDISH*—
BAATEZU, TANARRI, OR YUGOLOTH.

I DON'T KNOW.
I JUST *FOUND* IT.
IT'S PROBABLY
MAGIC!

MAGIC?
GIVE IT
HERE!

BELLY!

HEADS.

IT'S MINE.
I FOUND IT!

I'LL FLIP
YOU FOR IT.
CALL IT.

SSHHHHH!!

COURSE, SOME
ARE MORE
TOUCHED
THAN OTHERS.





BEASTLANDS

ARBOREA

YSGARD

LIMBO

PANDEMONIUM

THE ABYSS

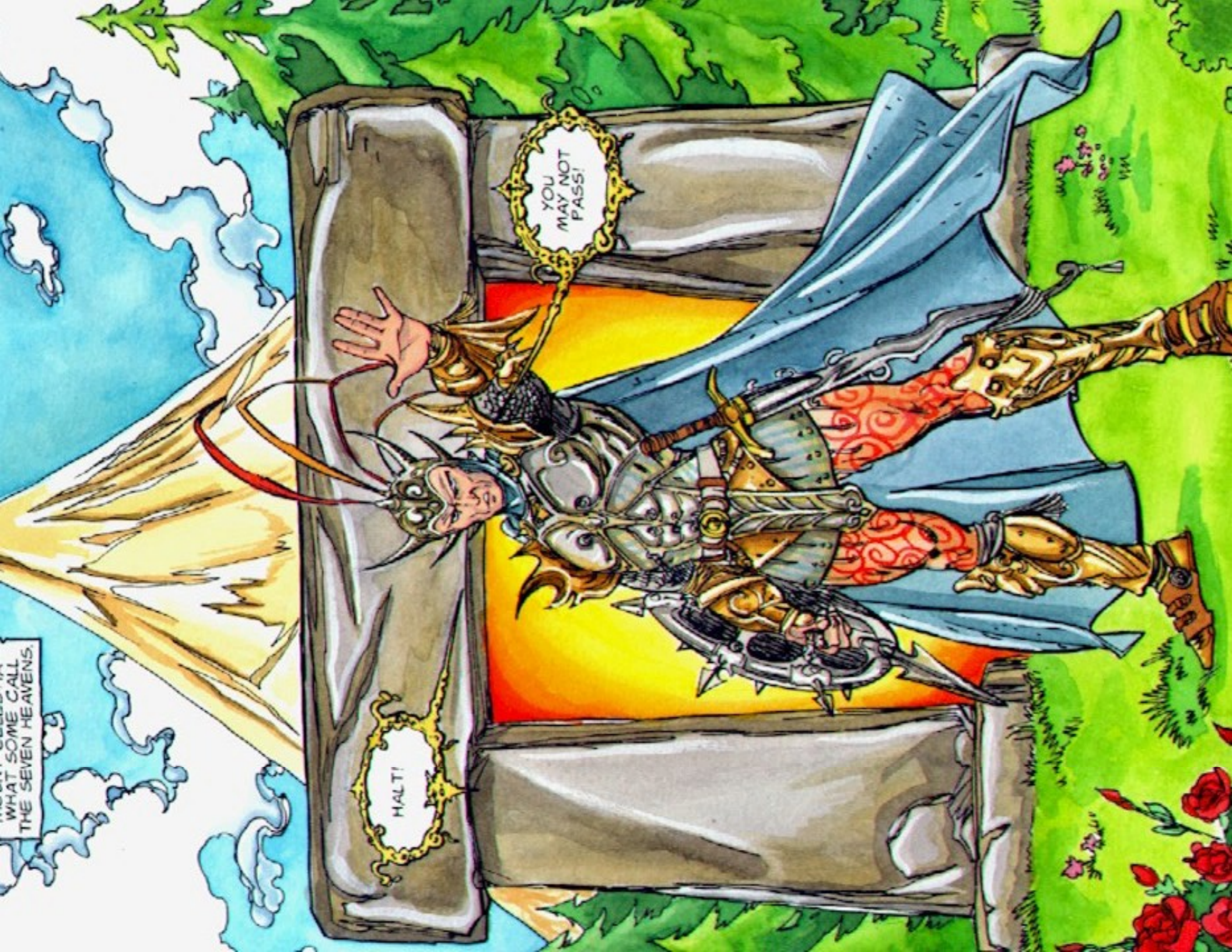
ARCERI



WHAT SOME CALL
THE SEVEN HEAVENS.

HALT!

YOU
MAY NOT
PASS!



KNEW HOW
LONG WE
HAVE
TRAVELED—



BE CALM, BES.
MOUNT CELESTIA IS
MY GOAL. IT WOULD
NOT DO TO START
TROUBLE HERE.

JUST... I SEEK ONLY
THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF
THE MOUNT. WHY MAY I
NOT PASS?



YOU ARE
UNSUITABLE!

I HAVE LIVED A
SOLEMN AND
NOBLE LIFE.
I HAVE STOPPED
MANY CROSS-
TRADERS FROM
ROBBING OTHERS,
HARMING OTHERS.
I HAVE GONE ON
MANY QUESTS FOR
YOUR CELESTIAL
MASTERS. WHY
AM I UNSUITABLE?



YOU ARE...

TOO HEAVY!

GREAT OSIRIS!
YOU HAVE
CLEANSED YOUR
SPIRIT FOR YEARS,
AND NOW YOU
CANNOT CLIMB THE
MOUNT BECAUSE
OF A WEIGHT
RESTRICTION?



LET US FIND
TWO SHOVELS
AND BURROW
OUR WAY IN!



OR PERHAPS AN
ARMY—AN ARMY
OF GNOMEES!
YOU WILL REACH
THE SEVENTH
HEAVEN,
SIR ROBERT!

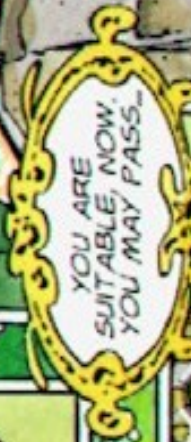
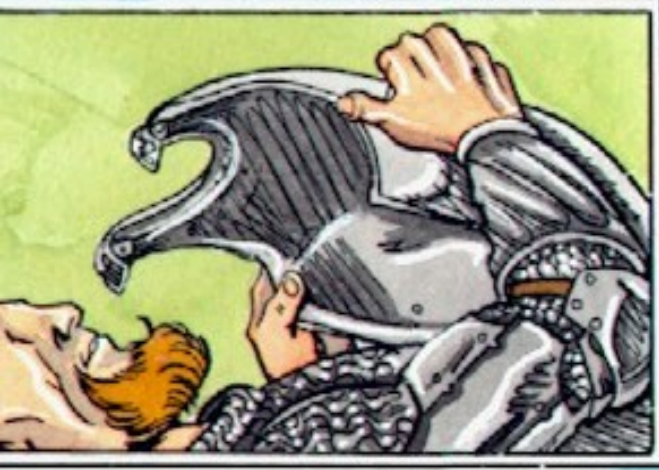
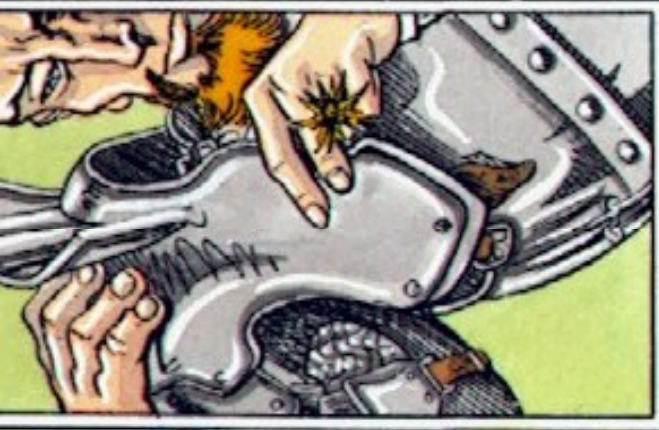
PERHAPS YOU
HAVE PUT ON
A FEW
POUNDS, BUT
THAT IS NO
REASON—

BES...



THAT'S
NOT
WHAT HE
MEANS.





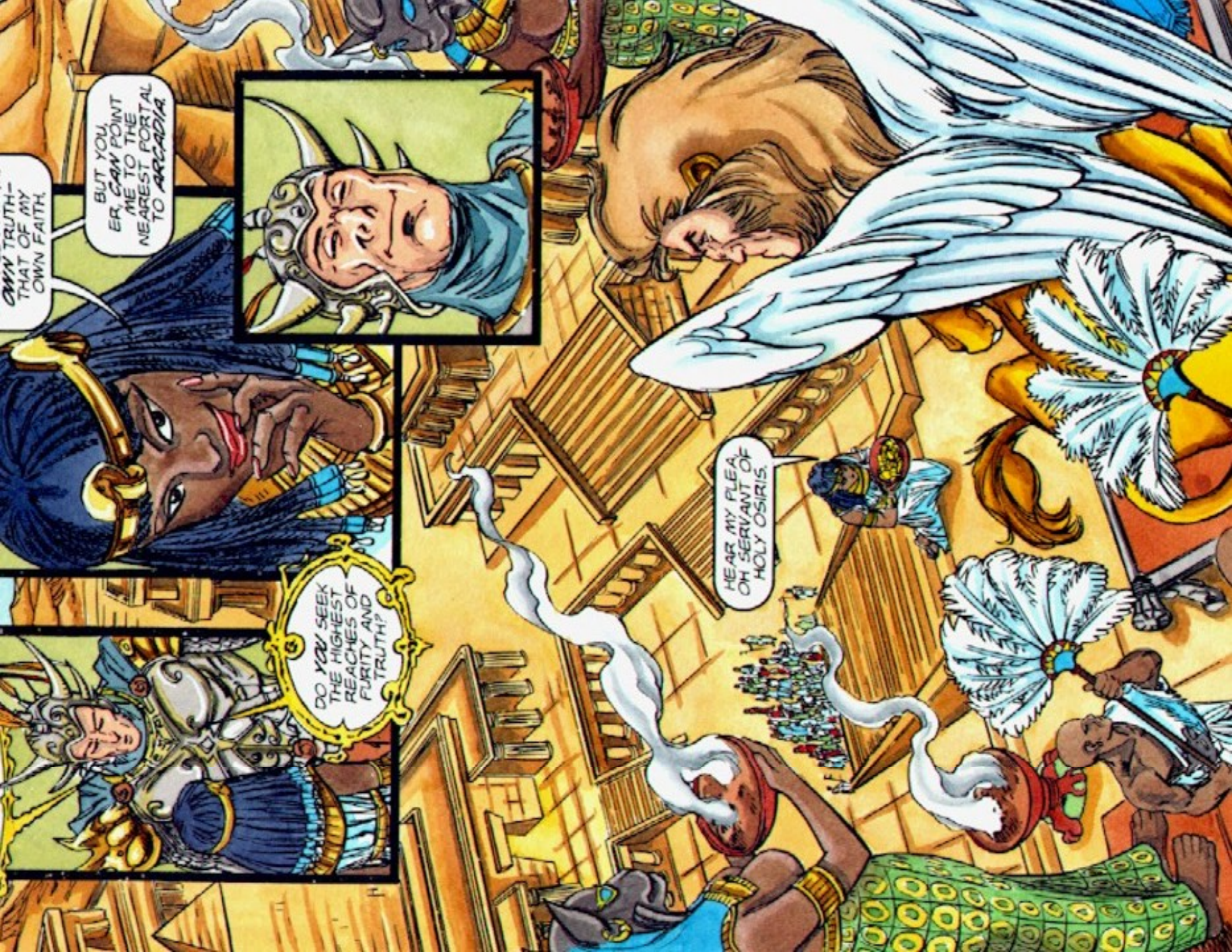
OWN TRUTH—
THAT OF MY
OWN FAITH.

BUT YOU,
ER, CAN POINT
ME TO THE
NEAREST PORTAL
TO ARCADIA.



DO YOU SEEK
THE HIGHEST OF
REACHES OF
FURY AND
TRUTH?

HEAR MY FLEA,
OH SERVANT OF
HOLY OSIRIS.



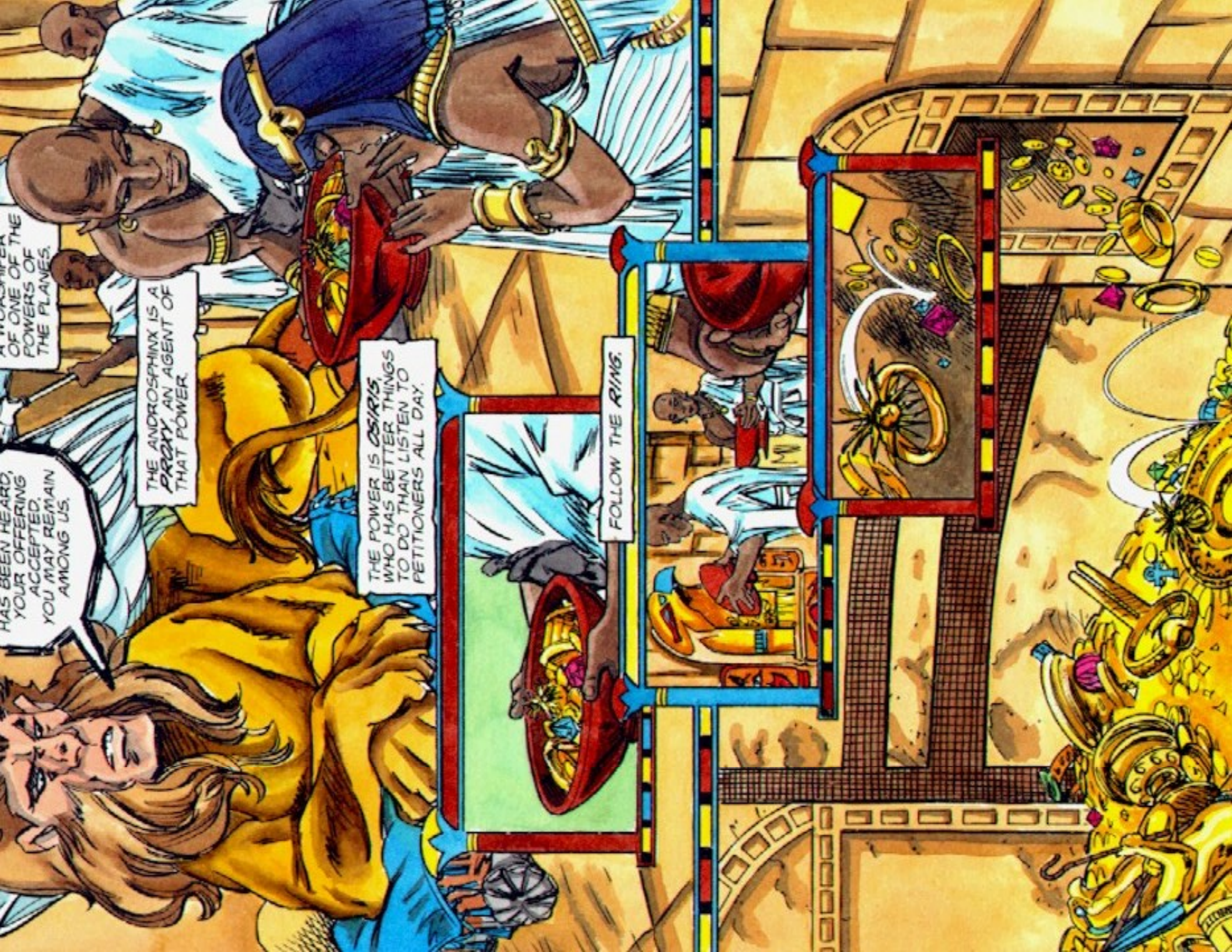
HAS BEEN HEARD,
YOUR OFFERING
ACCEPTED.
YOU MAY REMAIN
AMONG US.

A WORKER
OF ONE OF THE
POWERS OF
THE PLANES.

THE ANDROSphinx IS A
PRAGMATIC AGENT OF
THAT POWER.

THE POWER IS *OSIRIS*,
WHO HAS BETTER THINGS
TO DO THAN LISTEN TO
PETITIONERS ALL DAY.

FOLLOW THE RING.





CAREFUL
EASY NOW.

LOOK OUT
FOR TRAPS AND
WARDS...

HAI!
JUST LIKE
TAKING CANDY
FROM A...

BABY?

FOOSH!!



UH-OH!

CUT HIM DOWN!
CUT THAT
THIEF DOWN!

THE
PORTAL-
IT'S
TWO-WAY!

JUST TO
TIME TO
GIVE 'EM
THE
LAUGH!



AND I GOT OUT ALIV...

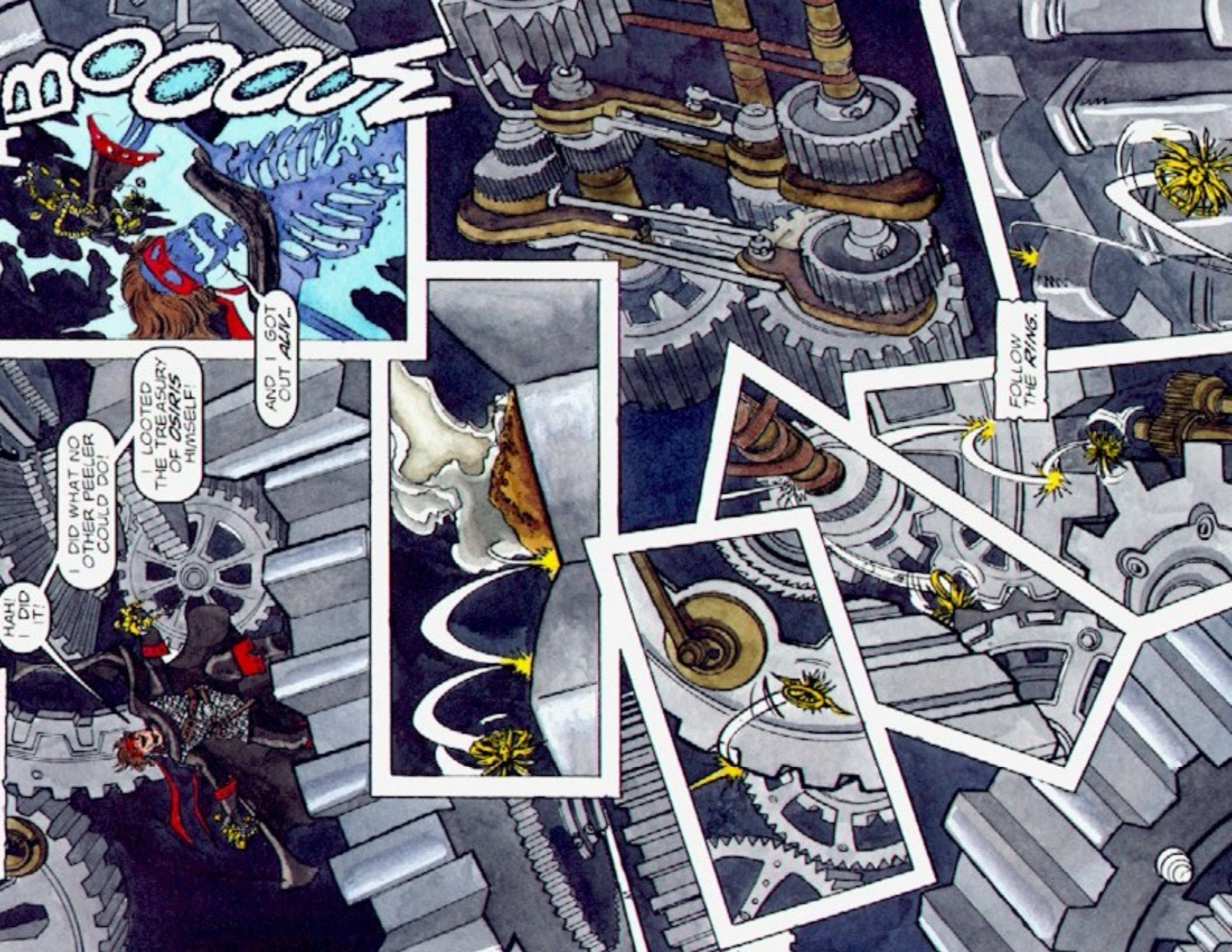
I LOOTED THE TREASURY OF OSIRIS HIMSELF!

I DID WHAT NO OTHER PEELEER COULD DO!

HAH! I DID IT!



FOLLOW THE RING.



...REASSIGN TWO UNITS OF
MONDRONES TO SECTOR
23. FINISH REPORTS ON
SECTOR 11B. PREPARE FOR
PLAN NINE...

A MONDRON.

A MEMBER OF A RACE
WITH A COMMON MIND
AND COMMON *PURPOSE*.

THE
OTHERS WILL
ARRIVE SOON.
WE CAN...

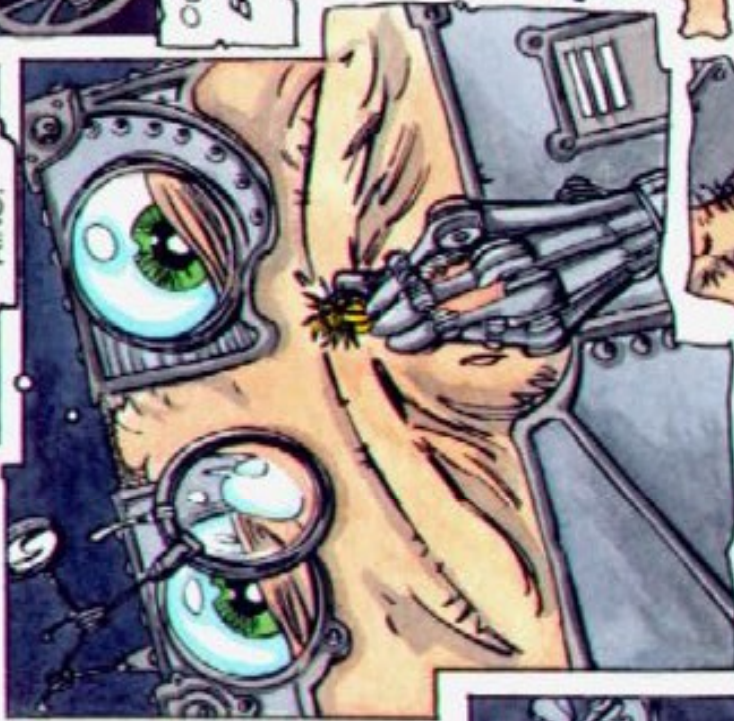
WE CAN...



OCCASIONALLY
A MEMBER
BREAKS THAT
ORDER.

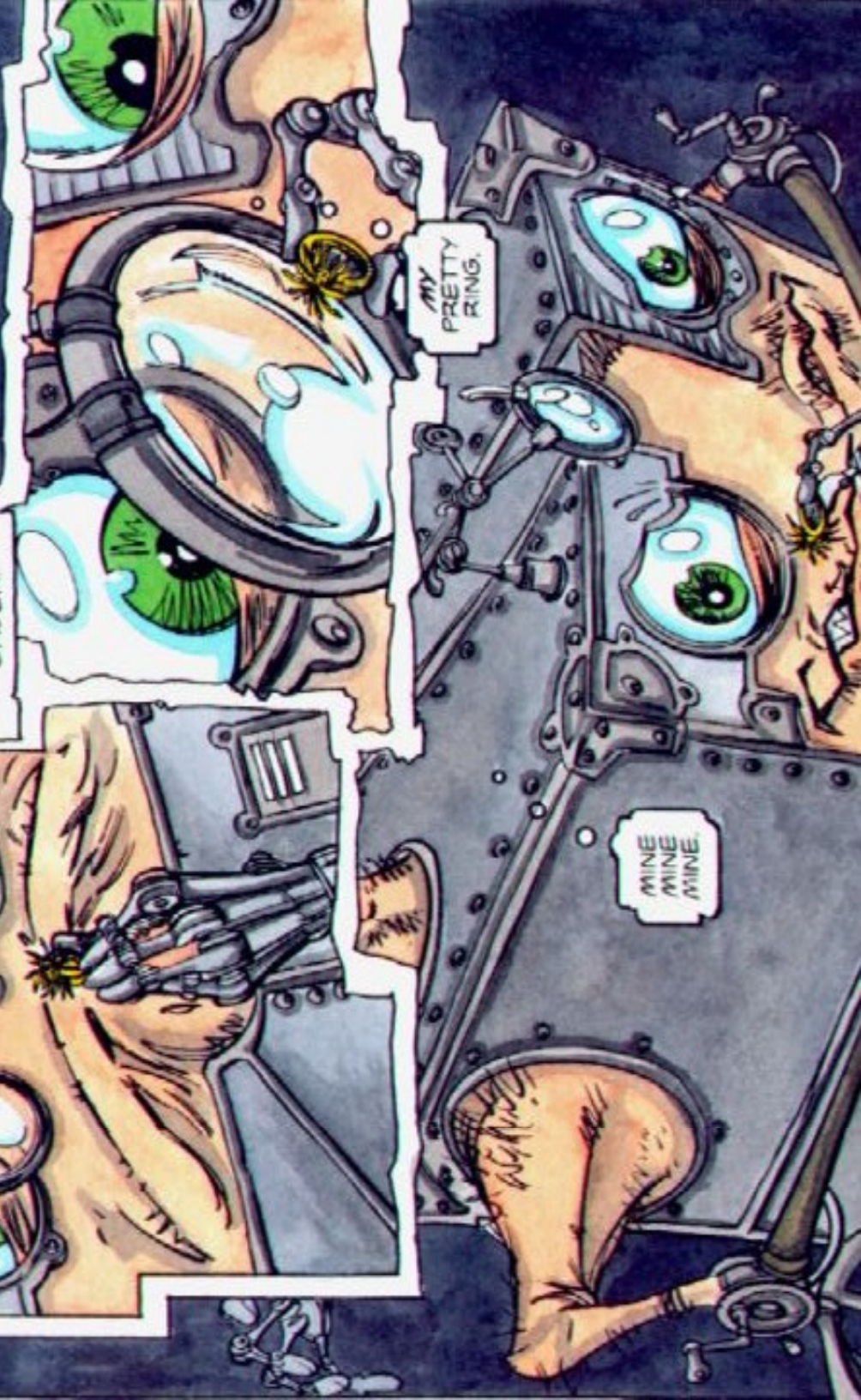
A PURPOSE
OF *ORDER*.

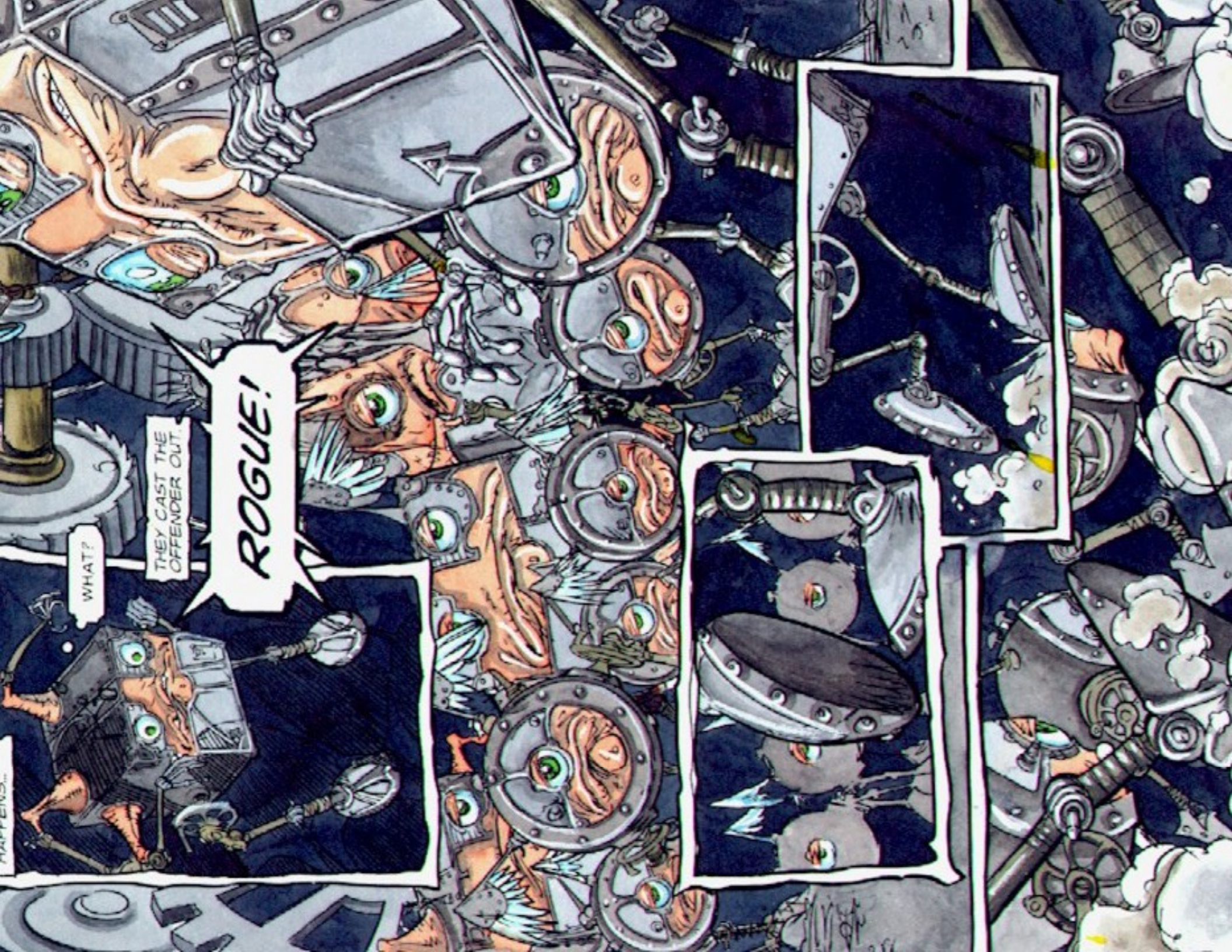
A RING.
A *Pretty*
RING.



MY
PRETTY
RING.

MINE
MINE
MINE.





HAPPENS...

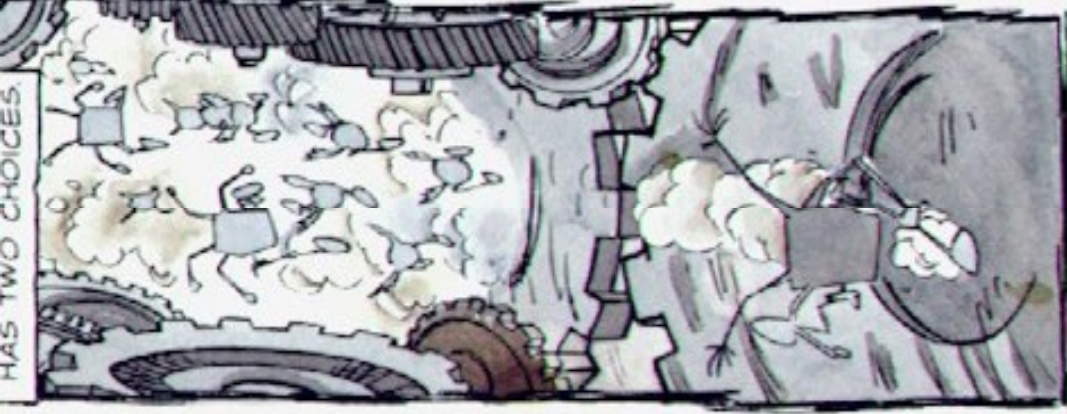
WHAT?

THEY CAST THE
OFFENDER OUT.

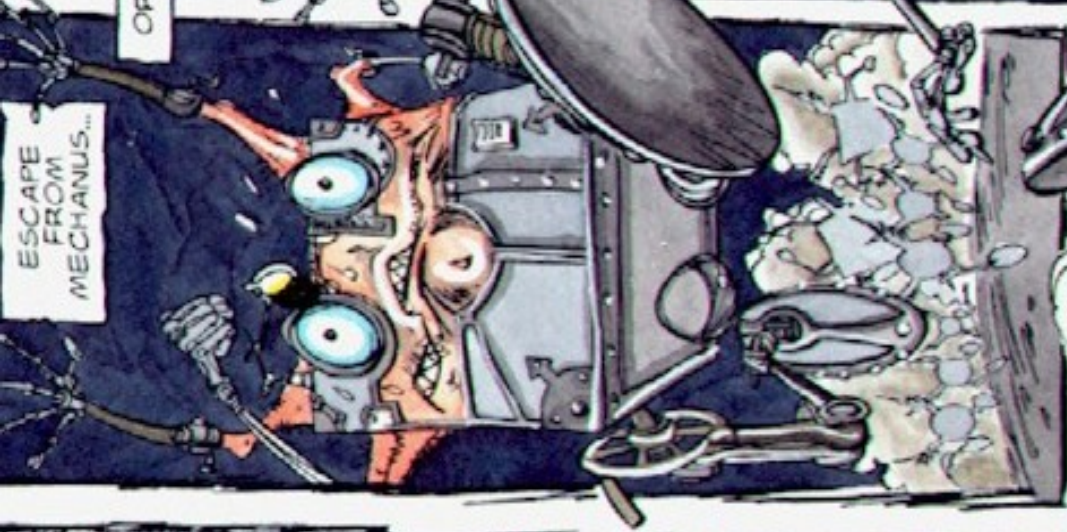
ROGUE!



HAS TWO CHOICES.

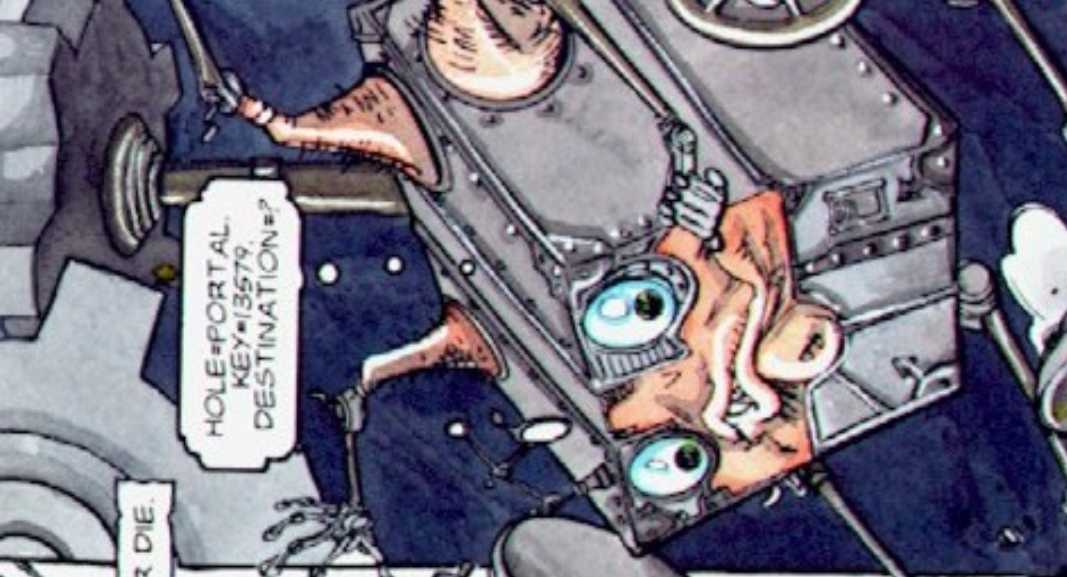


ESCAPE FROM MECHANUS...



OR DIE.

HOLE=PORTAL.
KEY=13579.
DESTINATION=?



AND ON A FEW RARE OCCASIONS...



13579!

INDEX

CAN BE
TRICKY
SOMETIMES,
BERK.

FOLLOW
THE RING.



THE MULTIVERSE IS
A UNITY OF RINGS,
A REGULAR CYCLE
OF LIFE.

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PLEASE, SUITABLE
FOR USE AS A
PORTAL KEY.

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END

