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SEPT

ELDRITCH SEED



ELDRITCH SEED

A FOREWORD TO YOU, DEAR READER!

FIRST AND FOREMOST, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BUYING THIS COMIC! I LOVE YOU FOR IT!

WHEN YOU CREATE SOMETHING LIKE THIS—A CREATIVE BEAST OF AN UNDERTAKING—YOU START APPRECIATING THE INTERIORS OF TYPICAL MONTHLY COMICS. USUALLY, YOU FIND A LONG LIST OF ARTISTS, WRITERS, AND EDITORS WHO CONTRIBUTE TO A SINGLE ISSUE. THERE'S NONE OF THAT HERE. IT'S JUST ME, BO.

I TAPPED INTO MY PAST, DRAWING ON ABILITIES IN GRAPHIC DESIGN, ARTISTRY, AND A PASSION FOR COMICS, HOPING TO MAKE SOMETHING MY FUTURE SELF CAN KEEP BUILDING UPON.

THE GRAPHOMANIA AND CREATIVE BUZZ I GOT FROM MAKING THIS ISSUE WAS INTOXICATING. EVEN THOUGH I MIGHT HAVE MESSED UP IN PLACES, I WANT MORE. I WILL IMPROVE. I WILL MAKE MORE.

IT TAKES DEDICATION TO CREATE A COMIC. SPEAKING OF THAT, I'D LIKE TO DEDICATE THIS PIECE TO SOME OF MY CHILDHOOD HEROES: SAM KIETH, JIM LEE, GREG CAPULLO, THE TODDFATHER, MIKE MIGNOLA, ROB LIEFELD, EASTMAN AND LAIRD. YOU LIVE IN MY LEFT (DRAWING) HAND.

SO MUCH 90S JUICE FROM THESE GUYS—I TRY TO CHANNEL THEM AT DIFFERENT TIMES, SOMETIMES WELL, SOMETIMES CRINGY.

IN MODERN TIMES, ED PISKOR AND JIM RUGG DESERVE A MENTION. THEY REKINDLED MY PASSION FOR COMICS. REST IN PEACE, ED, YOUR PASSION LIVES ON IN US.

FINALLY, I DEDICATE THIS TO MY 13-YEAR-OLD SELF—A COOL GUY WHO ALWAYS DREAMED OF MAKING COMICS.

THANK YOU, WIFE AND DAUGHTERS, FOR LETTING ME DRAW CRAZY, HYPER-VIOLENT WEIRDNESS IN THE EVENINGS. AND FOR ROOTING FOR ME.

SINCERELY,

BO THOMAS MICHELSEN



**KNIGHT
OF
INK**

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PROLOGUE: TWO DREAMERS

AT LAST, I SEE YOU.

FOR A LIFETIME, I HAVE
SEARCHED THE UNIVERSE
TO FIND YOU.
TO UNDERSTAND YOU.

I SENSE YOU... BUT WHAT
ARE YOU?

AN ABOMINABLE GOD?

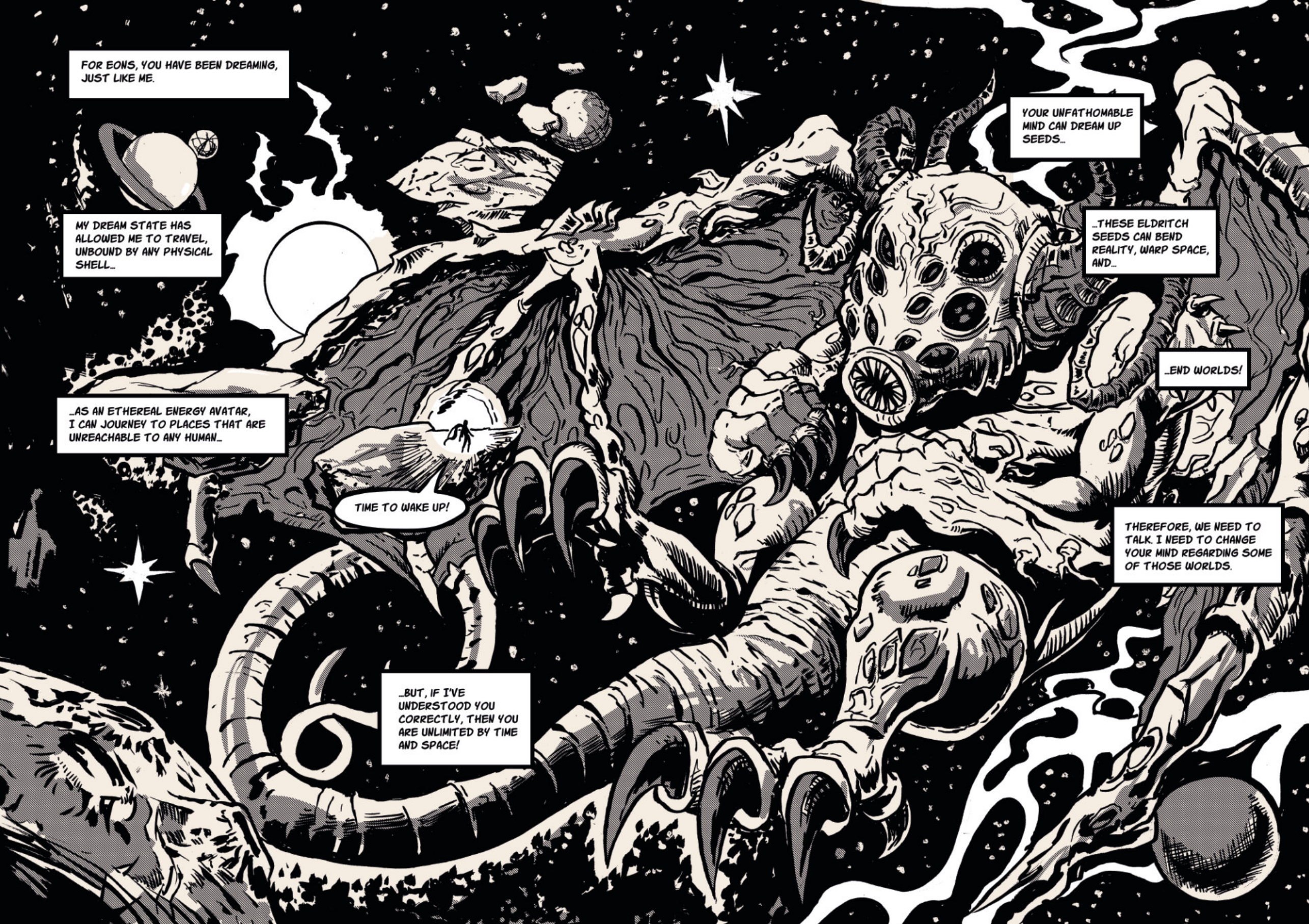
A PARIAH OF HELL?

NO!...

...YOU ARE A CREATOR.
...A MOTHER...

SO LET US TALK.
WOMAN TO WOMAN.





FOR EONS, YOU HAVE BEEN DREAMING,
JUST LIKE ME.

MY DREAM STATE HAS
ALLOWED ME TO TRAVEL,
UNBOUND BY ANY PHYSICAL
SHELL...

...AS AN ETHEREAL ENERGY AVATAR,
I CAN JOURNEY TO PLACES THAT ARE
UNREACHABLE TO ANY HUMAN...

TIME TO WAKE UP!

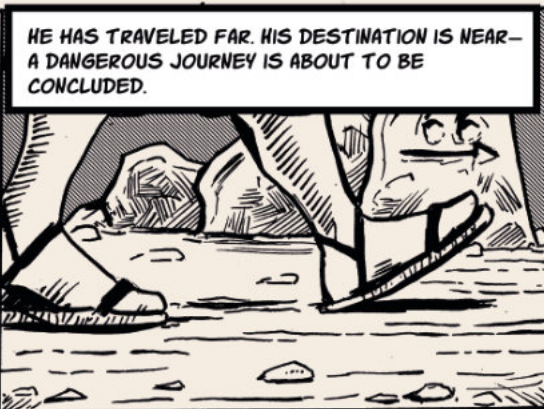
...BUT, IF I'VE
UNDERSTOOD YOU
CORRECTLY, THEN YOU
ARE UNLIMITED BY TIME
AND SPACE!

YOUR UNFATHOMABLE
MIND CAN DREAM UP
SEEDS...

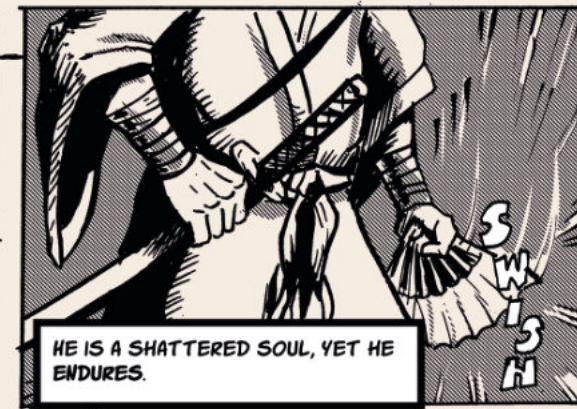
...THESE ELDRITCH
SEEDS CAN BEND
REALITY, WARP SPACE,
AND...

...END WORLDS!

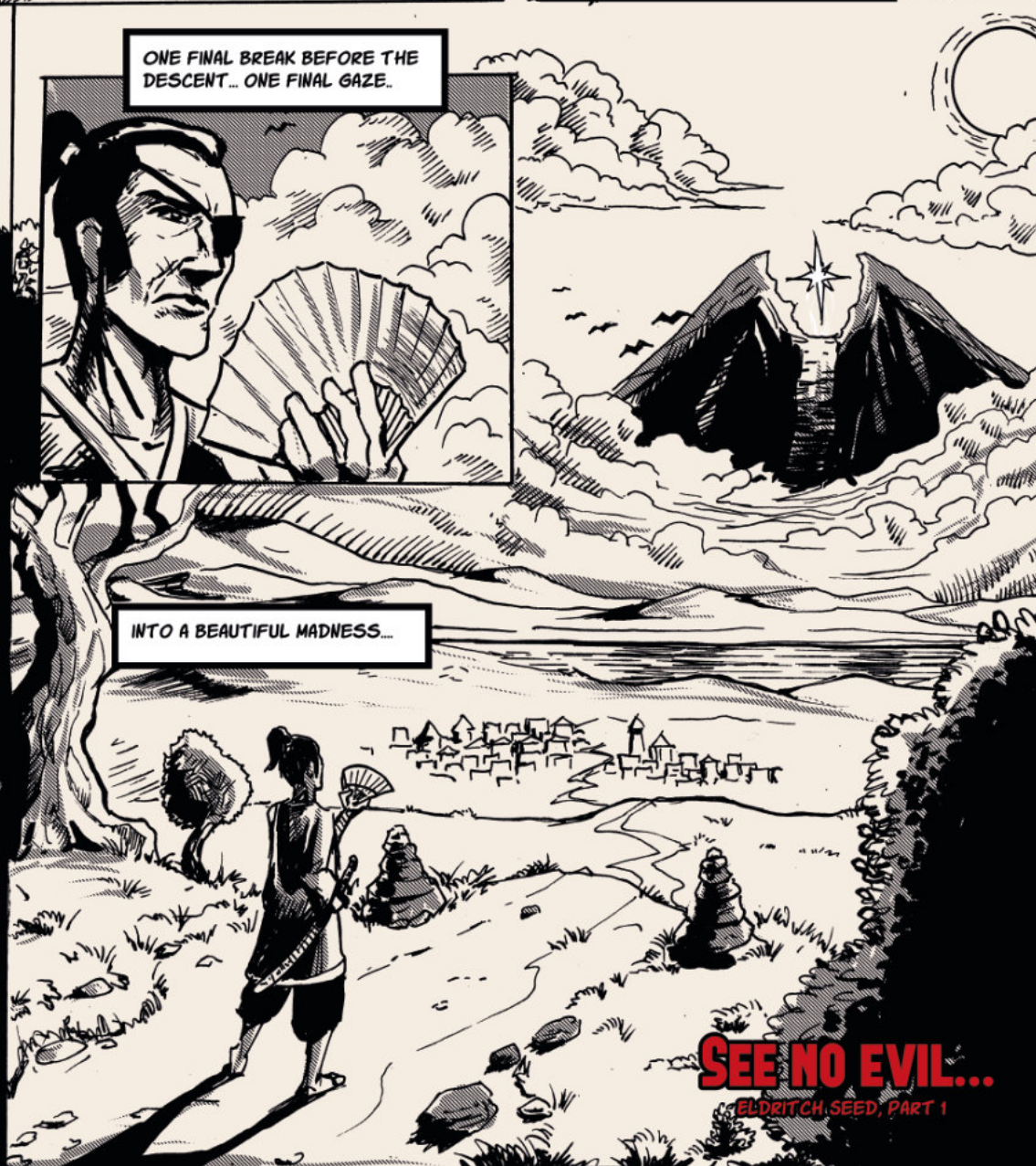
THEREFORE, WE NEED TO
TALK. I NEED TO CHANGE
YOUR MIND REGARDING SOME
OF THOSE WORLDS.



HE HAS TRAVELED FAR. HIS DESTINATION IS NEAR—
A DANGEROUS JOURNEY IS ABOUT TO BE
CONCLUDED.



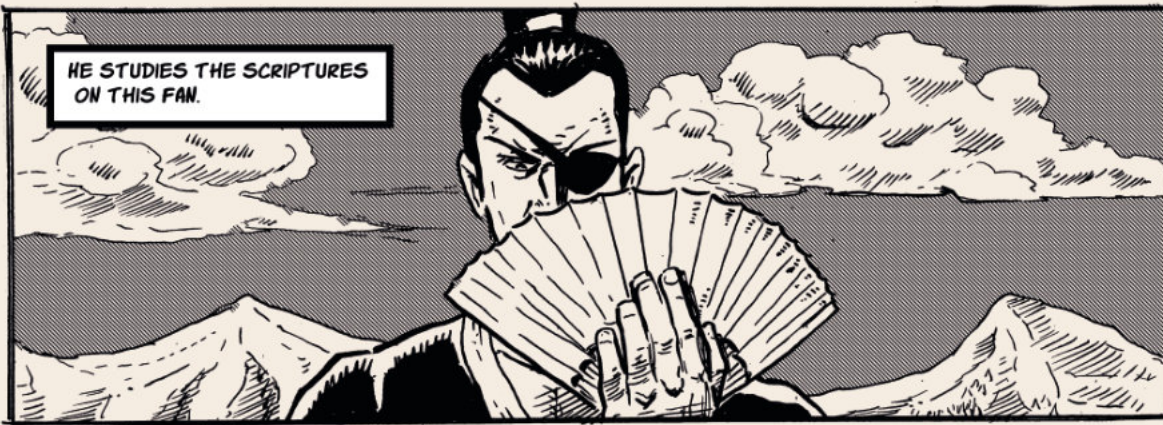
HE IS A SHATTERED SOUL, YET HE
ENDURES.



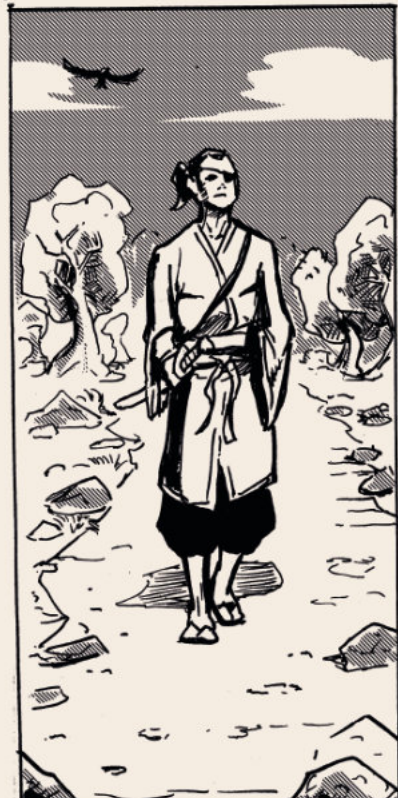
ONE FINAL BREAK BEFORE THE
DESCENT... ONE FINAL GAZE...

INTO A BEAUTIFUL MADNESS...

SEE NO EVIL...
ELDRITCH SEED, PART 1



HE STUDIES THE SCRIPTURES
ON THIS FAN.



THE HEAT IS STAGGERING AS HE
APPROACHES THE LONE MOUNTAIN.



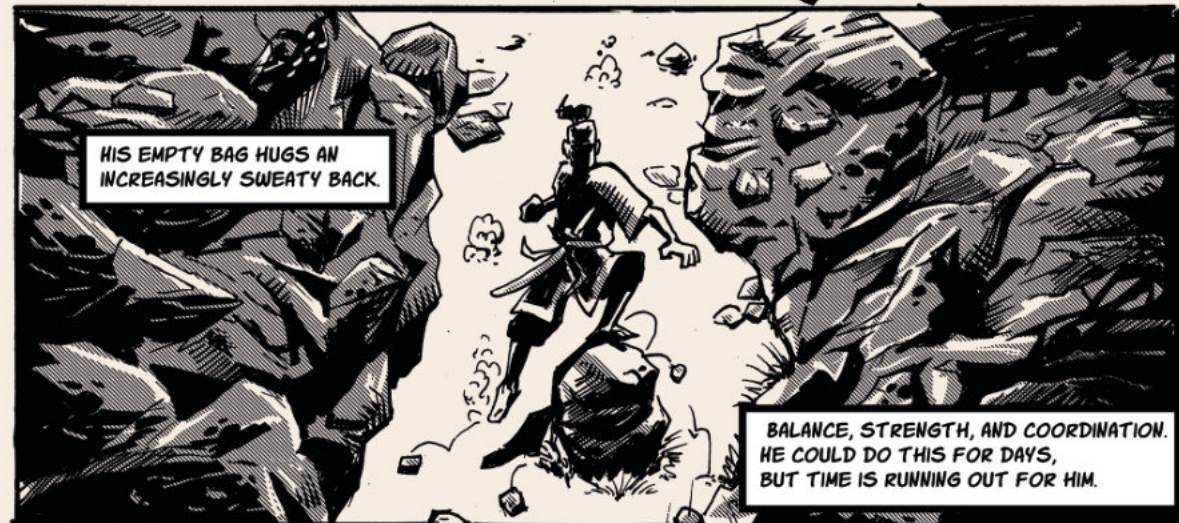
THE LAND IS QUICKLY CHANGING.
UNCANNY PLANTS SPROUT IN
THE GHASTLY LIGHT.



THEN THE ROAD IS GONE.



THE CLIFFSIDE IS STEEP.
ONE MISSTEP AND THE SAMURAI
WILL PLUNGE TO HIS DEATH.



HIS EMPTY BAG HUGS AN
INCREASINGLY SWEATY BACK.

BALANCE, STRENGTH, AND COORDINATION.
HE COULD DO THIS FOR DAYS,
BUT TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR HIM.



ONE STEEP PART BEFORE
HE REACHES A ROCKY PLATEAU.

THIS WOULD BE
THE IDEAL PLACE FOR A...

SHIT!!

...AN AMBUSH!



HIS BODY TWISTS AS AN ARROW WHISTLES PAST, SLICING THE AIR JUST INCHES FROM HIS NECK.



HE LAUNCHES INTO A FLUID SOMERSAULT, EVADING THE NEXT ARROW BY A HAIR'S BREADTH. AS HIS BODY SPINS, HIS HAND SNAPS OUT WITH LIGHTNING PRECISION.



IN ONE FLUID MOTION, HE HURLS THE ARROW BACK, SENDING IT WHISTLING THROUGH THE AIR WITH LETHAL INTENT.



HIS HAND SNAPS SHUT, CATCHING THE ARROW MID-FLIGHT WITH A GRIP OF IRON.



THE ARROW CLEAVES THE
HEAVY AIR, AS THOUGH
SLICING THE VERY FABRIC
OF REALITY ITSELF.

BEFORE THE ARCHER'S
TREMBLING HANDS CAN
RELOAD HIS BOW, HIS FATE
IS SEALED.

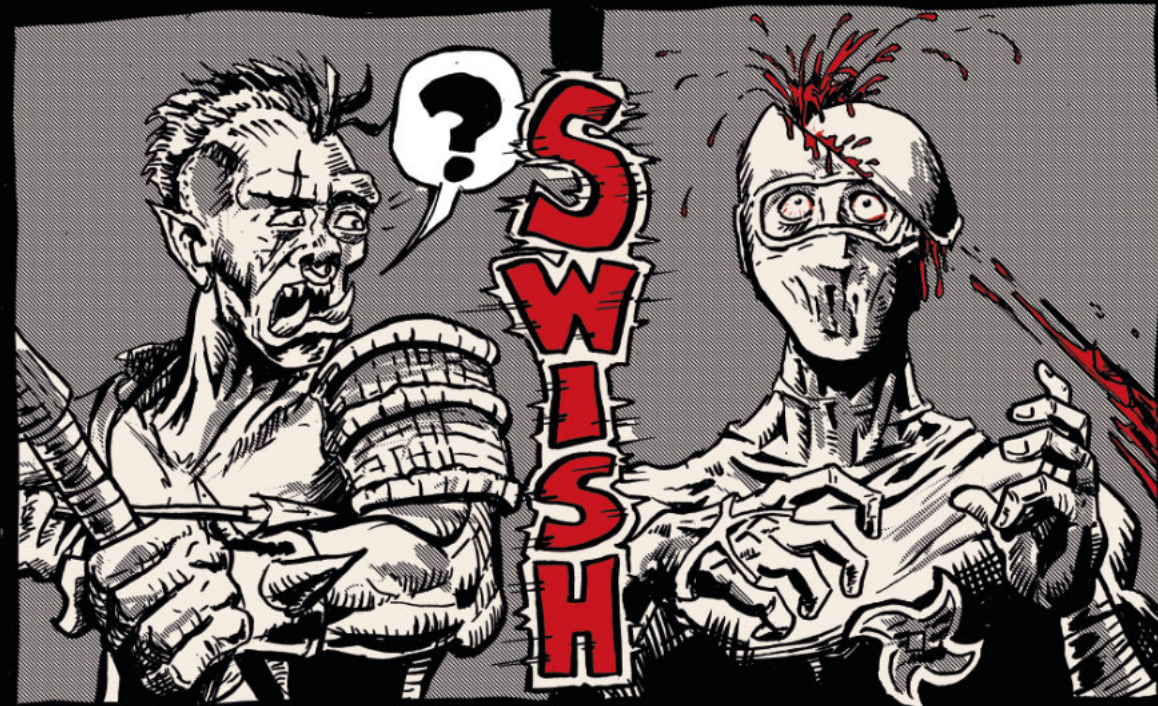
TIME SHUDDERS...

CHIGN

--TOO LATE. HIS
DOOM IS ALREADY
UPON HIM.

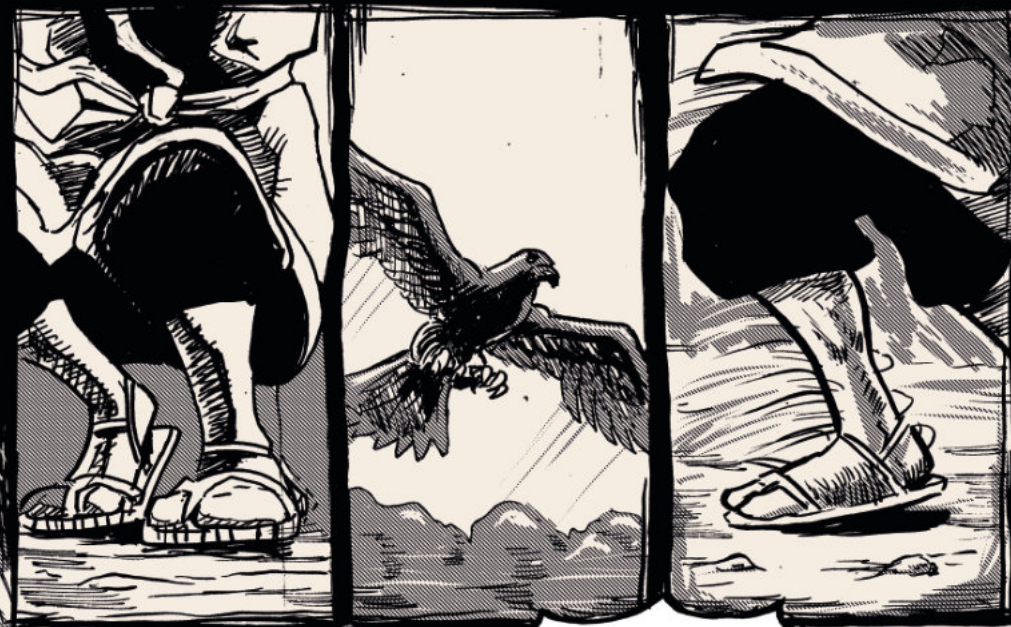
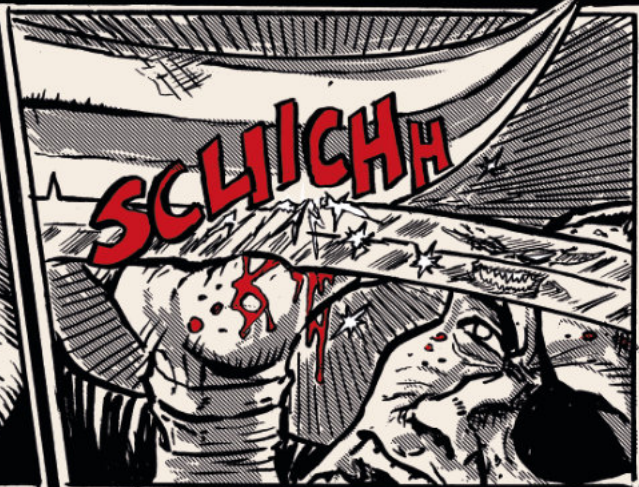
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THE NEXT FOES DON'T EVEN COMPREHEND
THEIR DEMISE. LIKE A SPECTER, HE APPEARS
BEFORE THE ONI --
HIS KATANA ALREADY CUTTING DEEP.







THE SAMURAI STANDS
AMIDST THE CARNAGE,
HIS BLADE SLICK WITH
THE BLOOD OF HIS
FALLEN ENEMIES.
THE AIR IS THICK WITH
THE WET, GURLING
SOUNDS OF THE
DYING--
THEIR BREATH STOLEN
BY HIS UNRELENTING
SWORD.

HE EXHALES, BUT IT'S
NOT RELIEF. THE
BLOOD OF THE SLAIN
SEEPS INTO HIS
WARAJI, WARM AND
SICKENING.

A SUDDEN, VIOLENT
SPASM RIPPLES
THROUGH HIM.

IT'S NOT DESIRE...
NOT WILL...

A DARK COMPULSION, PRIMAL
AND INSIDIOUS. HIS BODY
OBEYS BEFORE HIS MIND CAN
RESIST.



HE TOUCHED AN
ELDRITCH SEED
ONCE...

A SIMPLE GRAZE WAS
ENOUGH

JUST A FRACTION OF ITS
ANCIENT, UNFATHOMABLE
POWER WAS BESTOWED
UPON HIM.

THIS DARKEST SECRET
IS HIS SHAME-- THE
SYMBIOTIC FORCE
FEASTERING INSIDE HIM.

IT FORCES HIM TO
CONSUME THE SPIRITS
OF THOSE HE KILLS.

WHEN IT RAINS,
IT DROWNS.
WHEN YOU HUNGER,
YOU DEVOUR EVERYTHING.



THE HAWK SEES
WHAT MAN IS BLIND TO.

AN EYE EVOLVED
TO CURE HUNGER.



DEATH FEEDS LIFE...

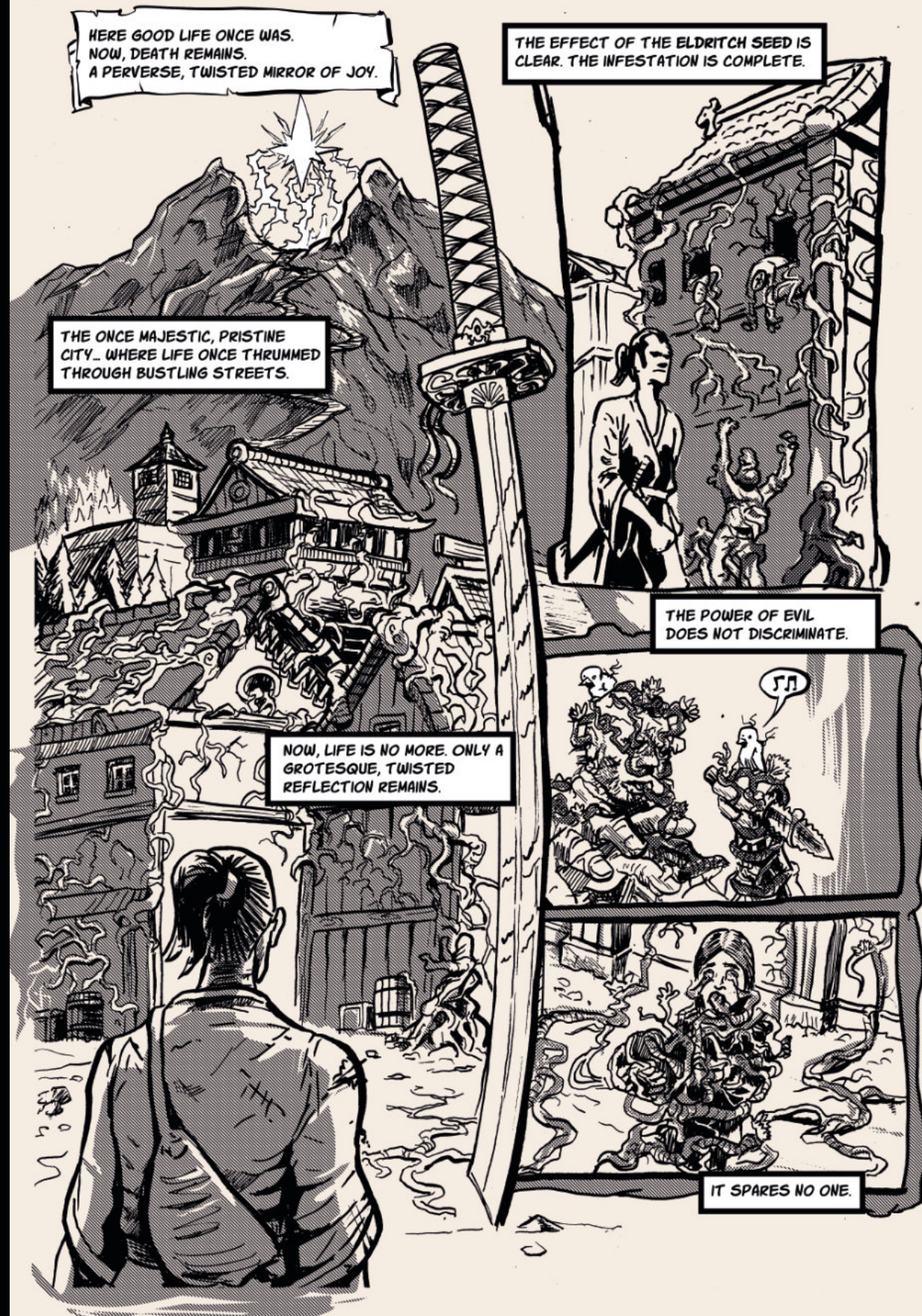


...AND LIFE FEEDS DEATH.



SEE NO EVIL...

...HEAR NO EVIL...



HERE GOOD LIFE ONCE WAS.
NOW, DEATH REMAINS.
A PERVERSE, TWISTED MIRROR OF JOY.

THE EFFECT OF THE ELDRITCH SEED IS
CLEAR. THE INFESTATION IS COMPLETE.

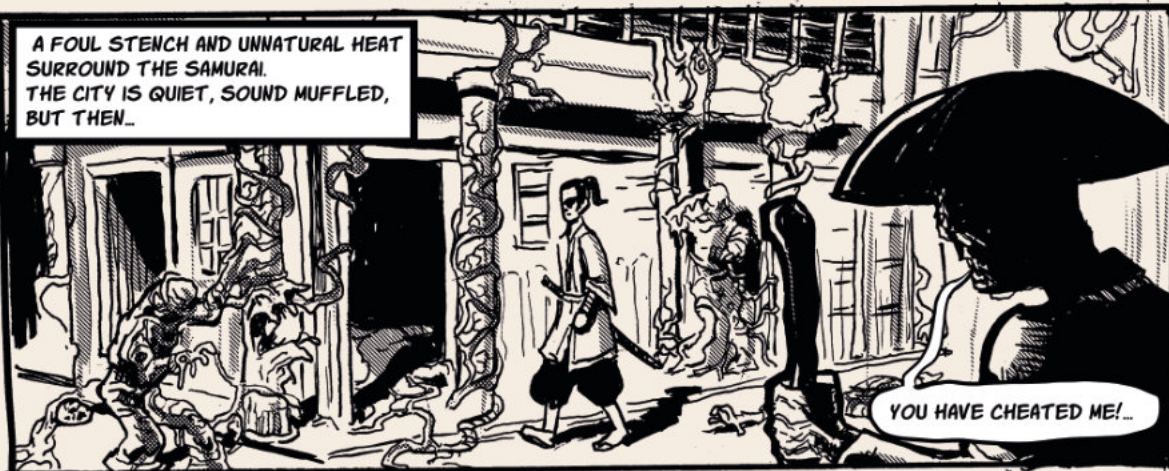
THE ONCE MAJESTIC, PRISTINE
CITY... WHERE LIFE ONCE THRUMLLED
THROUGH BUSTLING STREETS.

THE POWER OF EVIL
DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE.

NOW, LIFE IS NO MORE. ONLY A
GROTESQUE, TWISTED
REFLECTION REMAINS.

IT SPARES NO ONE.

A FOUL STENCH AND UNNATURAL HEAT
SURROUND THE SAMURAI.
THE CITY IS QUIET, SOUND MUFFLED,
BUT THEN...

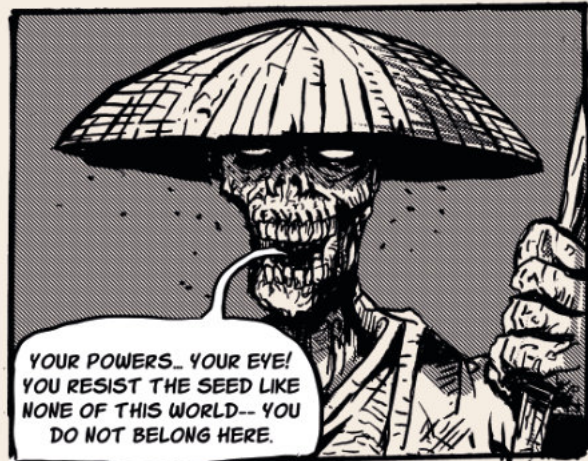


YOU HAVE CHEATED ME!...

YOUR SOUL SHOULD HAVE
BEEN MINE.



YOUR POWERS... YOUR EYE!
YOU RESIST THE SEED LIKE
NONE OF THIS WORLD... YOU
DO NOT BELONG HERE.



THE FORCE IN THE
MOUNTAIN...

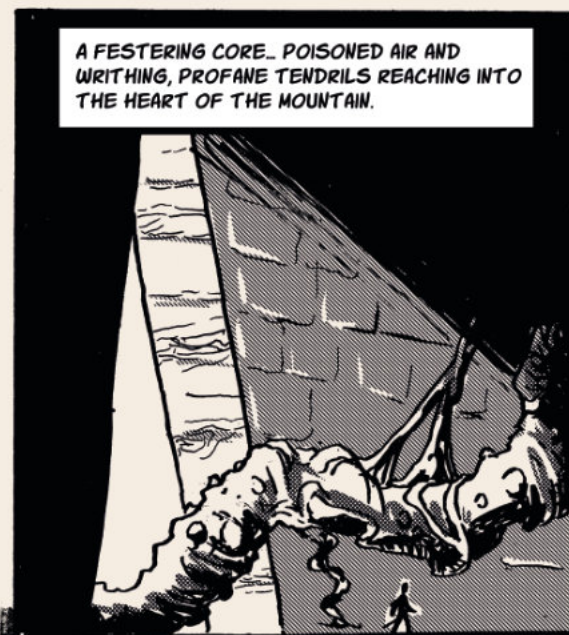
YOU MUST DESTROY IT.
BUT HURRY...



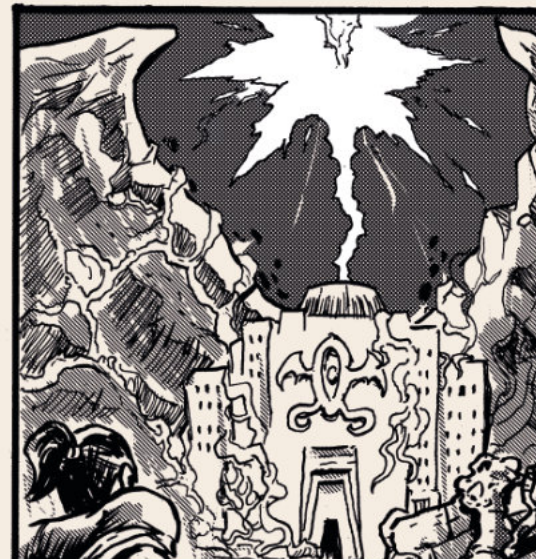
...IT IS ABOUT TO AWAKEN!



A FESTERING CORE... POISONED AIR AND
WRITHING, PROFANE TENDRILS REACHING INTO
THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAIN.



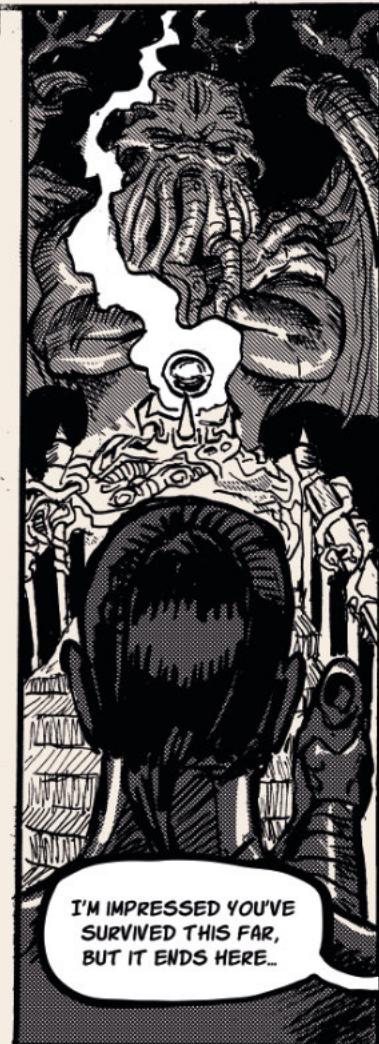
THE FORSAKEN TEMPLE... SWALLOWED BY TIME AND
SOMETHING NOT OF THIS WORLD.



IN THE ABYSSAL DEPTHS,
HE FINDS IT... THE SEED,
PULSING WITH MALEVOLENCE—
GUARDED BY A SLUMBERING
HORROR FROM FORGOTTEN
EONS.



ANCIENT CARVINGS WHISPER OF
AN EVIL THAT HAS LONG
THRIVED HERE.
FRESCOS GLORIFY THE
ELDRITCH SEED, REVERED IN
TWISTED RITES.



I'M IMPRESSED YOU'VE
SURVIVED THIS FAR,
BUT IT ENDS HERE...



ELDRITCH SEED



YOUR PREVIEW OF THE NEXT ISSUE OF ELDRITCH SEED

THE GUARDIAN AWAKENS!

CONCEPTS & IDEAS

HERE ARE SOME ROUGH SKETCHES I CREATED FOR THE COMIC. THE BADASS CHICK (HER NAME WILL BE REVEALED IN THE NEXT ISSUE) WAS ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED AS A CHARACTER FOR A VIDEO GAME I NEVER MADE. THE IDEA OF A LIVING SUIT THAT BENDS TO YOUR WILL BUT REFUSES TO CREATE MORE THAN A SKIMPY BIKINI SCREAMS 90S NOSTALGIA. GIVING HER A HEAVY MACE AND HELMET JUST MAKES HER FEEL EVEN MORE HARDCORE IN MY EYES. I'M EXCITED TO EXPLORE HER STORY.

THE HEAP OF LIVING ARMOR NEXT TO HER IS INSPIRED BY ALAN MOORE'S SWAMP THING, ALONG WITH WOLVERINE, HULK, CLAYFACE, AND CABLE. HIS STORY REVOLVES AROUND A CONSCIOUSNESS TRANSFERRED INTO THE STRANGE MATTER OF THE ELDRITCH SEED, BECOMING ITS OWN LIVING CREATURE. HOPEFULLY, HIS ARC WILL UNFOLD WHAT THOSE SPRAWLING ELDRITCH ROOTS TRULY ARE. HIS JOURNEY IS ABOUT SOLITUDE, EXISTENCE, ANGER, AND EXTREME DESTRUCTION. I CAN'T WAIT!

THE CHARACTER THE DREAMER, WHOM WE MET IN THE PROLOGUE, IS HEAVILY INSPIRED BY SEVERAL OF H.P. LOVECRAFT'S SHORT STORIES. OF ALL THE CHARACTERS I'VE CREATED SO FAR, I'M MOST EXCITED TO EXPLORE WHAT DROVE THE DREAMER ON HER QUEST TO FIND THE COSMIC SPACE DRAGON, THE FORGOTTEN ONE.

MY MIND IS A VOLCANO OF CREATIVITY— EVERY DAY, NEW CHARACTERS ARE FORGED IN ITS FIRE. BUT I'LL ONLY SHARE THE ONES WE'RE COMMITTED TO FOLLOWING. STAY TUNED TO SEE WHAT I CREATE NEXT, AND FEEL FREE TO HIT ME UP WITH ANY "ACTUALLY, THIS PLOTLINE IS WEIRD BECAUSE..." REMARKS. I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

FIND MORE INFO AND MY SOCIALS AT:

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YOU ARE LOOKING AT MY FIRST COMIC. PLEASE BUY IT, AND SUPPORT ME MAKING THE NEXT ONE. I'VE GOT SO MUCH PLANNED OUT FOR YOU.

ELDRITCH SEED IS A LOVE LETTER TO 90'S COMICS, AND LOVECRAFTIAN HORROR, MASHED TOGETHER IN A FLOPPY COMIC SANDWICH.

IN THIS SERIES, EACH ISSUE INTRODUCES NEW HEROES, ALL OF WHOM ARE ON A RELENTLESS QUEST TO FIND AND DEAL WITH THE ELDRITCH SEED - AN ANCIENT ARTIFACT CREATED BY THE FORGOTTEN ONES EONS AGO. THIS RELIC BESTOWS GOD-LIKE POWERS UPON ITS WIELDER, DRIVING EACH HERO TO CONFRONT UNIMAGINABLE CHALLENGES IN THEIR PURSUIT.