



#1 New York Times–bestselling creators
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THE ADVENTURE ZONE

Petals ^{to} the
Metal

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:01

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**ALLLLLLLLLLLLLLLRIGHT,
RACE FANS!**

**LET'S RECAP
THE ACTION THAT GOT
US WHERE WE ARE!**



Fantasy GASHAPON Card

Fantasy COSTCO Card

The Bureau of Balance presents:
ANGUS McDONALD'S GREAT TRAIN CAPER!

START!
You're on the MOON!
Welcome to the BoB

Stare at voidfish
(-1 MYSTERY point)

Vex the Director
(+1 FUN point)

High-five Killian
(-1 FRIENDSHIP POINT)

Fantasy Gashapon!
(Take 3 GASHAPON cards)

LAUNCH!
Roll until all players reach this spot, then yell in unison

Admire transport cannon

Costume change!
(+1 FASHION point)

Fantasy Costco!
(Verbally make a DEAL & take a COSTCO card)

Land in swamp!
(-1 FASHION point)

Level up!
(+1 LEVEL point)



CRAB MONSTER!
Spin DANGER SPINNER to see if you live

Find a BODY*
everyone has to SEARCH THE BODY (pick up Clue Cards)
*he's super dead

Gaze upon the PLEASURE chamber
(+1 FUN point)
OR -1 FUN point, if it skeeves you out.



Meet JESS the Beheader!
Interrogate with help from ANGUS

Mourn drink cart
(-1 FUN point)



MEAT MONSTER
Everyone loses a FUN point

LETTERMAN'S GAP
Spin DANGER SPINNER to see if you live

PARLOR SCENE
Players must work together to agree on who they think did the murder. ANGUS determines who was Most Helpful.



Villain speech!
All players heckle Jenkins again
(+1 FUN point)

FIGHT!!!
Spin Danger Spinner to enter the fray (spin below a 6 to progress)



suspects	alibi	evidence	notes
Angus	yer	none	TINY NERD
Jess the beheader		"beheader"	she's cool tho
Graham	uclap.		Jess???



Join the BoB and help out boy detective Angus McDonald as he solves his latest case: the hunt for the **ROCKPORT SLAYER!**



Welcome to Rockport!

Lie about name
(Make up a fake name out loud, +1 FUN Point)

Charm ticket seller
(Must roll a 3 to progress)

Meet ANGUS!
ANGUS player dons boy-detective glasses. Players take turns **INTERROGATING** him.

JENKINS TIME!
Everyone say something snarky to Jenkins (-1 FUN point)

Board train!
(Put all **WEAPON TOKENS** into the **CRYPTOSAFE**)

FINISH!
BoB Debrief with the Director
THE POINTS DON'T MATTER whoever found the **GOLD-ISH COMPASS** wins! It's the **OCULUS**. Place in **CRYPTOSAFE**.

Meet GRAHAM the Juicy Wizard
Interrogate with help from ANGUS

Speak to "HUDSON" on intercom.
Pick up one **CLUE** card.

COMPARE NOTES:
Players must stop gameplay to argue about theories. Shouting and diagrams encouraged.

Lunar Lyft!
Whoever has the most points gets a round of applause

You found the TELEPORT ROD!
How does it work? Who knows.

SCUTTLE BUDDY
In order for play to continue, player with this card must hand it to ANGUS player in exchange for 1 **CLUE** card.

Investigate CARGO CAR
(take a **CLUE** card)

Welcome to Eversummer!
Calculate **POINT TALLY** while waiting for teleport

You found the GOLD-ISH COMPASS
This probably isn't that important, right?

Steal Silverware
(-1 FUN point)

STOP MAJOR CATASTROPHE!!!
Player with **TELEPORT ROD** must use it to send train to **PLEASURE CHAMBER**. All other players must spin the **DANGER SPINNER** to pass.

PLAYER	Fun	Fashion	Friendship	TOTAL
Sasha				
MAGNUS				
Archie				
Angus				

Chapter 1



IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE MIDSUMMER SOLSTICE!

JOHANN PLAYING A HAPPY TUNE! FESTIVAL ON THE MOON!

WE'LL SCORE SOME DEALS AT FANTASY COSTCO-O-O-O!

EV'RYWHERE YOU GO!



WE SHOULD PROBABLY GO STRAIGHT TO THE PAVILION SO WE CAN REGISTER FOR THE COSTUME CONTEST...



...BECAUSE I LIKE MY CHANCES!



BUT AT WHAT PRICE?

THAT HAT IS NEVER GOING TO FIT ME AGAIN.



WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?



ROSS... FROM FRIENDS.

IT'S THE ONLY COSTUME I HAVE.



COME ON, YOU GUYS!





I GOTTA TELL YOU, JOHANN...



YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO FILL A DANCE FLOOR.

OM-NOM-NOM-NOM-NOM!





GUSTMASTER 5000
creates
magical winds
+STATS+
once a day,
manifests the "Gust
& Wind" spell









LORD STEVEN Q. FLETCHER,
ESQUIRE, GOLDFISH THE THIRD
RACE CYPRINIFORMES
+PROFICIENCIES+
STAYING ALIVE IN AN ENCLOSED
GLOBE OF WATER...THAT'S IT

POCKET SPA
Magical item with
RESTORATIVE POWERS
+STATS+
CHILL-OUT TENT THAT
EXPANDS TO ALLOW
PEOPLE TO REST
INSIDE AND RECOVER
LOST HIT POINTS.





BWOMMMMMMMMI

SHHKEESSHK!

SKRESHHESHSHIZZZ!

KRESHHZZ!



SKRRRRZZZHH!



WHEZZZHHKEN!











Chapter 2



THIS IS A LOT MORE FUN WHEN WE'RE NOT SCREAMING AS WE PLUNGE TOWARD OUR DEATHS.



YEAH, I'VE DEVELOPED A REAL PROFICIENCY FOR FLYING THESE THINGS.



THEY FLY THEMSELVES, PUNKIN. YOU JUST MAKE SURE YOU'RE PROFICIENT IN PULLING THE BRAKE.



THEY CERTAINLY HAVE SOME BIG-ASS DUST STORMS ROUND THESE PARTS.



GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE. THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING.

HEY, LOOK, FELLAS! IT'S OUR FRIEND THE GAME MASTER!

OH, COME ON, TAAKO, HE'S MORE THAN A FRIEND!

HE'S PRACTICALLY FAMILY!

TO THANK YOU FOR FLYING FANTASY AIRLINES, WE OFFER YOU COMPLIMENTARY "LEVELING UP"!

AND YOU KICKED SO MANY ASSES IN THE LAST GRAPHIC NOVEL, I'M BOOTING YOU UP TWO LEVELS!



COULD I HAVE ONE LEVEL AND A WARM TOWEL?



Griffin McCreel

- Race actual human being
- Class Game Master
- Proficiency
- Amazing scenarios
- Creating threats to heroes
- Laughing at those heroes when they screw up



WITH "EXTRA ATTACK" AND "ACTION SURGE," MAGNUS, YOU CAN THEORETICALLY ATTACK THREE TIMES IN ONE TURN...

I WILL "THEORETICALLY" DO THAT, MY GOOD MAN!

LEVEL UP!
MAGNUS
 FIGHTER LEVEL 6
 CONSTITUTION +2
 STRENGTH +2
 NEW ABILITIES
 EXTRA ATTACK
 ACTION SURGE



TRANSMUTER STONES ARE A KIND OF POWER GEM. YOU CAN EVEN USE THEM TO GIVE OTHERS MAGICAL ABILITIES!



LEVEL UP!
TAKA
 Transmutation
 Wizard Level 6
 Constitution +10
 Charisma +2
 NEW ABILITIES
 LEVEL 3 SPELLS, CREATION
 OF TRANSMUTER STONES

"OTHERS"?
 YEAH. *THAT* SOUNDS LIKE ME.




WITH "DAMPEN ELEMENTS," YOU CAN HALVE THE DAMAGE THOSE IN YOUR PARTY SUFFER FROM ELEMENTAL ATTACKS!

COULD I GET A WRITTEN INVOICE?
 NO WAY I'LL REMEMBER THAT.

LEVEL UP!
MERLE
 Cleric Level 6
 Nature Domain
 Constitution +1
 Dexterity +2
 NEW ABILITIES
 DESTROY UNDEAD
 DAMPEN ELEMENTS





NOW PLEASE SECURE
YOUR TRAYS AND RETURN YOUR
SEATS TO AN UPRIGHT POSITION
AS WE PREPARE TO LAND...



...IN GOLDCLIFF.



I AM
GOING TO STEAL
THAT *ENTIRE*
BUILDING.



...BUT THEY
REALLY SHOULD
HIRE A NEW
LANDSCAPER.



LOOK, FELLAS!

WAGONS!

I LOVE WAGONS!

LET'S GO LOOK AT THE WAGONS!

I'M SURE WE'LL BE TOO BUSY HUNTING DOWN THE MASTER CRIMINAL TO GO ON A JOYRIDE.



EXTEND THE FANTASY PERIMETER TO THE WEST SIDE!

I WANT SOME ANSWERS ABOUT THOSE BLACK AND SILVER PLANTS!

AND SOMEBODY GET SERGEANT DETECTIVE STRAWBERRY OUT OF THE VINES!!



Ohhh

DADDY ALERT!



HOW DO YOU KNOW HE HAS KIDS...?



OH, MY SWEET SUMMER CHILD.

I'LL EXPLAIN BACK AT BASE.







CHOP!
WHACK!
CHOPP!!
HACK!



SO, CAPTAIN... MAY I CALL YOU CAPTAIN?
I PREFER CAPTAIN.
COOL.
SO, C-CAP, WHAT'S YOUR HONEST OPINION: DO YOU THINK WE'RE A HIGH ENOUGH LEVEL TO HANDLE THIS?
YEAH, WE'RE ONLY SIX... THIS MANY...

CHOP! WHACK!
CHOPP! HACK!



LEVEL SIX?!

LEVEL SIXES WHO HAVE SEEN A LOT OF SHIT!

WE'VE BEEN AROUND THE BLOCK, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!

YEAH, THIS AIN'T OUR FIRST RODEO...



MORE LIKE OUR THIRD.

GASP

YOU GUYS DONT ACTUALLY

GASP

NEED TO LEAVE IT ALL TO ME!

GASP



I DON'T GET IT. RAILSPLITTER SHOULD BE ABLE TO SLICE AND DICE RIGHT THROUGH THESE PLANTS!

TREES! IT CUTS DOWN TREES! THESE AREN'T TREES—THEY'RE VINES.



LET THE PROFESSIONAL THROUGH, SONNY.

OH, THIS IS *NOT* GOING TO BE GOOD...



THIS STUFF IS SILVERPOINT. VERY TOXIC. VERY DANGEROUS.

YOU CAN'T JUST WHACK AT IT...



YOU HAVE TO USE A LITTLE FINESSE.



HEY THERE...



...I JUST GOT HERE A FEW MINUTES AGO, AND I CANNOT TAKE MY EYES OFF YOUR PISTILS AND STAMENS...



...AND THAT SWEET, SWEET POLLEN SAC!

SIXTY FEET AWAY, AND ALL I COULD THINK WAS, "DO NOT BE CHOPPIN' ON THIS BABY!"

NO-NO-NO-NO!!

WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO NAME THIS ARC "FIFTY SHADES OF GREEN."

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ONCE YOU'VE BEEN CULTIVATED BY MERLE—



—YOU'VE BEEN CULTIVATED FOR LIFE!

HA! IS "CULTIVATED" A FANCY WORD FOR "SCARRED"?

NOBODY SAYS THAT...



WHAP!



THWUMP

SAUCY!!!



DID ANYONE THINK TO BRING A BIG, BIG BOTTLE OF ROUNDUP?



ALL RIGHT, TEAM.

FIRST THING: SECURE THE SCENE! THEN: LOOK FOR CLUES THAT MIGHT TELL US WHERE THE RAVEN IS.



YOU DO THAT, MAGS.

I'M GONNA SEE IF THERE'S ANY LOOT IN THOSE TELLER BOOTHS.



I'M GONNA SEE IF I CAN FIND ANY OF THOSE PENS ON CHAINS I CAN TAKE?

YES!! TAAKO AND MERLE RUSH IN!!

RUSTLE



UHHHH, FELLAS...?

RUSTLE
CREEEAK



YOU MIGHT WANNA WATCH WHERE YOU'RE RUSHING!

FWUMP

KREEEEEEEE



WHUMPSHH



WHAT IN THE WHOLE HELL IS THAT THING?



I BELIEVE THAT IS...TRENT THE TREANT...A... SENTIENT TREE-LIKE MONSTER.

TRENT
Race Treant
Class Sentient tree-like monster
PROFICIENCIES
→ all bark, some bite
→ harkens back to his roots
→ trying to branch out

THAT'S A THING?
PLANTS CAN BE PEOPLE, TOO, TAAKO.



WAIT A SECOND!!



DID YOU SAY...
...*TREE*?



BLUHFEWEOOGHH!!



MERLE?
IF YOU WILL,
TRANSLATION,
PLEASE?

CERTAINLY...

AHEM
HE SAYS HE IS
GOING TO AGGRESSIVELY
RETALIATE AGAINST YOU
AND, IN THE PROCESS,
ATTEMPT TO CAUSE
YOU GRIEVOUS BODILY
HARM.



SO
MAYYYBEEEE...
SINCE YOU CAN
TALK TO IT...

...WE MIGHT TRY
A LITTLE DIPLOMACY
INSTEAD OF JUST
RANDOM HACKING
AND SLASHING?

YEAH, I
COULD DO
THAT!



BUHHHHH

HEYYY,
TRENT...
BUDDY...



"BUDDY"
NOTHING!!
THAT GUY JUST
CHOPPED MY
ENTIRE BUTT
OFF!!

THE *WHOLE*
THING!



LOOK, I'M
NOT REALLY
WITH THEM-

I'M LIKE
THIRTY MINUTES
OLD! I'M A BABY,
MAN!!

AND HE
JUST...CHOPPED
OFF MY BUTT! IT'S
RIGHT THERE ON
THE GROUND! I'M
LOOKING AT IT!



LISTEN, I
HAVE THESE
NIFTY NATURE
POWERS! I
CAN HEAL
YOU!

YOU'RE
BARKING UP THE
WRONG TREE,
BUTTCHOPPER.

C'MAAAAAN!
WE HAVE TO
STOP THIS SILLY
CONFLICT AND
JUST BE BUDS!



HEH...

...BUDS.



KRA-KOON



THE BIRD LADY WHO GREW ME OUT OF THE GROUND TOLD ME NOT TO LET ANYBODY UPSTAIRS...

I FEEL AN OBLIGATION TO HER FOR, YOU KNOW, GIVING ME LIFE AND EVERYTHING...

SKRITCH SKRITCH



SO IF YOU'LL FIX ME, I'LL JUST KILL YOUR FRIENDS AND, LIKE...

...MAIM YOU...?



WHAT'S THE NEXT OPTION AFTER DIPLOMACY?



...



PRUNING.



ZZZASSHH!!









YOU KNOW, YOU PROBABLY COULD'VE JUST GENTLY PUSHED IT TO ONE SIDE. DO YOU HAVE TO "PHANTOM FIST" EVERYTHING?

Magic Rope
allows user to magically affix rope to some point

YUP!



BUT WHAT IS IT ATTACHED TO?
AN EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL... ANCHOR...THING!

I DON'T HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THE SPELLS! I JUST CAST THEM!









CRAB!

POIT!

phew

SHUFFLE JUMP
creates
portal to another
reality

WHERE THE
HELL DID YOU
GO?

I DON'T
KNOW...BUT I'M
NEVER GOING
THERE AGAIN!

CAN WE TALK
ABOUT IT WHEN WE'RE
NOT BEING CHASED
BY GIANT WEEDS?

...ANY
SUGGESTIONS?

LET'S THINK
ABOUT THIS...

WHAT DO
WE USUALLY
DO IN THESE
SITUATIONS?

...



OH, I KNOW...



WE LEAVE IT UP TO THE MAGIC GUY.




"V" FOR "VAULT"!

I CALLED IT!!



THE THREE OF YOU...

...ARE NOT WELCOME.



YOU SHOULD NOT BE HERE.


The RAVEN
Race HALF-ELF
CLASS CRIMINAL
+PROFICIENCIES+
→ MISDEMEANORS
→ FELONIES
→ RELUCTANT MAYHEM



AND "V" FOR "VILLAIN"! WE'RE TWO FOR TWO!



WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE NAMED THE RAVEN, AND SHE'S GOT A RAVEN MASK.



SO EITHER SHE'S IN COSPLAY, OR—



WE'RE CRUSHING IT!



I CAN MAKE THE VINES PULL BACK AND GIVE YOU AN EXIT FROM THE BUILDING.

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT YOU NEED TO LEAVE...NOW!!



SO YOU CAN JUST, LIKE, ROB THE PLACE?

THERE'S GOTTA BE A LESS APOCALYPTIC WAY TO MAKE A BUCK IN THIS TOWN!

HA!



OH, IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MONEY, DWARF.

I'M BEYOND THAT NOW.



I HAVE BECOME UNTO A GOD!!



LISTEN, RAVEN, WE'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE!

THE LAST TIME ONE OF THESE ITEMS WAS IN THE HANDS OF SOMEONE—



THERE'S *NOTHING* LIKE THIS BELT ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!!

THERE WAS!! THERE WAS A GAUNTLET! IT LEVELED AN *ENTIRE CITY!*

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE DIED BECAUSE ITS WIELDER DIDN'T LISTEN TO US!





OKAY, WELL.

IGNORE THAT. I WAS...PRACTICING FOR MY ACTING CLASS!

VERY METHOD!



I JUST WANT TO STATE THAT MAGNUS'S ATTACKS AGAINST HER WILL BE NONLETHAL!

SO FAR, SHE HAS MADE NO MOVE AGAINST US.



RAVEN!



I'M ALL ABOUT JUSTICE, SO I'LL TRY NOT TO HURT YOU TOO BAD!



WHOOOM!



SNASH!

I SO... SAW THAT... COMING...

HOW ABOUT... YOU, MERLE?

MERLE?

LITTLE MAN...?

I GAVE YOU FAIR WARNING!

SNA-AAAP!

WSHHAAP!



OKAY,
THAT'S IT.



YOU'VE JUST
BEEN UPGRADED TO
SEMILETHAL!!

FWOOSH!

STUMBLE



KA-CHUNK!

GRAB!

ZZZZ!
ZZZZ!

ZLSSHAMFF!

AHHHH!!!



I'VE GOT YOU...RIGHT WHERE...

...I WANT YOU...



ALL THAT BRAVADO, AND YOU WEREN'T EVEN A CHALLENGE FOR ME.



PITY.



SLOANE!!

NO!!









Chapter 3









THE POWER THAT THE RELICS GRANT CAN CORRUPT YOU SO COMPLETELY THAT YOU LOSE CONTROL.

THE FACT THAT SHE DIDN'T KILL YOU OUTRIGHT MAKES ME THINK SHE'S SOMEHOW TRYING TO RESIST THE THRALL.

SPEAKING AS A PROFESSIONAL THRALL-RESISTER, I THINK YOU MAY BE RIGHT.

MAYBE THERE'S A WAY TO GET THROUGH TO THE RAVEN... TALK HER INTO GIVING UP THE SASH...



...AND SAVE HER SOUL.

I THINK YOU'VE ALREADY MET THE PERFECT PERSON FOR THE JOB...



...IF SHE'S WILLING TO DO IT AT ALL.





SO, HOW FAST WILL THIS WAGON GO?

HAS IT GOT A TIGHT TURN RADIUS?

I BET IT GETS GOOD MILEAGE!

DOES IT GET GOOD MILEAGE?

CAN I DRIVE? CAN I? CAN I? CAN I?

NO! WE'RE ALREADY HERE!

OKAY... BUT ON THE WAY BACK?



SERGEANT Detective STRAWBERRY
Rank Sergeant... Maybe Detective?
PROFICIENCIES
→ Observing the obvious
→ cueing exposition
→ Having a rich backstory we'll never know



SO, IS ALL THIS "MONK HEALING CHI" STUFF REALLY GOING TO HELP ME, LIEUTENANT?

THIS "STUFF" IS THE ONLY THING THAT'S SAVING YOU, STRAWBERRY.

YOU'RE LUCKY THIS IS A POISON I CAN HEAL. I SAW SOME SILVERPOINT BARBS IN THERE, AND THOSE ARE TOXIC WAY ABOVE MY PAY GRADE, ANTIDOTE-ALLY SPEAKING.



TOXIC LIKE, SAY, A REALLY BAD RELATIONSHIP?

VERY SMOOTH, POOKIE, NOT LEADING IN THE SLIGHTEST.

ORDERLY!!









BUT...



...SHE WAS SURPRISINGLY ELUSIVE.



I CHASED DOWN LEADS, QUESTIONED SUSPECTED ASSOCIATES...AND PURSUED HER TIRELESSLY.

BUT SHE WAS ALWAYS A STEP AHEAD OF ME.



I LEARNED EVERYTHING ABOUT HER THAT I COULD.

HER METHODS, HER MOTIVES, THE WAY SHE TAKES HER TEA.

AND I...



AFTER ALL THAT, I PROBABLY KNOW HER BETTER THAN ANYBODY ELSE.

AND I *KNOW* THAT I CAN REACH HER AND SNAP HER OUT OF THIS.







...DURING MY INVESTIGATION,
I *FINALLY* FOUND SLOANE.

NOT AT THE SCENE OF
ANY CRIME, MIND YOU.

Sloane
Race half-elf
CLASS RACER
+PROFICIENCIES+
→ Battlewagon Racing
→ Vehicle Design
→ Just Misdemeanors

I FOUND HER ON THE RACETRACK.

WAIT,
THE WHAT?

THE
BATTLEWAGON
RACING TRACK?
THAT SURROUNDS
THE CITY? IT'S
KIND OF HARD TO
MISS.

NO, I
MEAN—WHAT'S
BATTLEWAGON
RACING?

IT'S THE UNOFFICIAL,
PSEUDO-ILLEGAL FAVORITE
SPORT OF THE CITY
OF GOLDCLIFF.

HOW'S
IT WORK?

THERE ARE
WAGONS. THEY
RACE WHILE
BATTLING.

ASKED AND
ANSWERED!

I HAD HER CORNERED.
MY DUTIES AS AN OFFICER
COMPELLED ME TO
APPREHEND HER.

BUT...BY THEN, I WAS—
AS THEY SAY—IN TOO DEEP.

I COULDN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT
THE LIFE SHE LED EXCITED ME
MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE
I'D EVER ENCOUNTERED.

SO, INSTEAD OF ARRESTING HER...



...I ASKED HER TO TEACH
ME HOW TO RACE.

I THOUGHT I'D LEARNED EVERYTHING ABOUT "THE RAVEN" DURING MY INVESTIGATION.

BUT I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND HER UNTIL I HEARD HER TALK ABOUT BATTLEWAGONS.

SHE DIDN'T TAKE ANY JOY IN THE THINGS SHE DID TO FUND HER RACING CAREER.

FOR HER, IT WAS ALL ABOUT THE THRILL OF THE RACE. SHE JUST...LIVED FOR IT.

SHE TOOK ME UNDER HER WING—

HA!

...OKAY, I WALKED INTO THAT ONE.

AND...

...IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE WE WERE RACING TOGETHER.

The **RAM**
Race halfling
CLASS RACER
+PROFICIENCIES+
→ BATTLEWAGON RACING
→ MASK-MAKING
→ (EVEN MORE) ASS-KICKING

WE MADE *SUCH* A GOOD TEAM.



Battlewagon Racing!



SHOTGUN!

OH, HELL, YEAH!

I CALLED IT! YOU ALL HEARD ME CALL IT!

WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU DO WITH THIS BAD BOY?

BATTLEWAGON RACING IS THE FAVORITE BETTING SPORT OF THE RICH AND THE FAMOUS HERE IN GOLDCLIFF.

BUT THE AUTHORITIES TURN A BLIND EYE TOWARD IT BECAUSE GOLDCLIFF'S MOST POWERFUL, INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE CAN'T DO WITHOUT IT.

IT'S A SIX-MILE COURSE THAT STARTS WAY OUT IN THE WASTELAND OUTSIDE THE CITY AND ENDS RIGHT UP BY THE CLIFF TO THE WEST OF GOLDCLIFF. LIKE...RIGHT BY IT! LOST A LOT OF GOOD WAGONS TO THAT THERE CLIFF.

THA-A-A-A-T'S CAPITALISM!!

THEY'RE EQUAL PARTS AUTO RACE AND BATTLE ROYALE! AND ALSO, TECHNICALLY SPEAKING: SUPER, SUPER ILLEGAL!

I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS WAGON FOR WEEKS, STRIPPING THE BEST PARTS OFF WAGONS I'VE WON IN SOME PINK-SLIP RACES.

I THINK IT CAN BEAT SLOANE, BUT I NEED HELP GETTING MY HANDS ON A PART.

HOOD ORNAMENT?

CUP HOLDERS?

TRUCK NUTS?





Chapter 4





TO BE FAIR, WE DID ASK THE GUY TO UNLOCK THE SECURITY GATE AND LET US IN.

AND VERY DEMEANING.

AND HE WAS VERY AGGRESSIVE IN HIS REFUSAL.

HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW HE WAS ALLERGIC TO... AX CHOPPING?

AN HONEST MISTAKE!



WE'RE NOT GONNA HAVE TIME TO SEARCH ALL THIS.



I HAVE A SPELL CALLED CLAIR-VISION.



I CAN MANIFEST A THIRD EYE AND SEE INSIDE CLOSED BUILDINGS.

THAT SOUNDS MADE-UP.











HEY, GUYS!

THESE ARE SOME NEW RECRUITS.

JUST SHOWING THEM AROUND THE PLACE. GO ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS.



MARVU
RACE HUMAN
CLASS THUG
+PROFICIENCIES+
→ THUGGERY
→ MUGGERY
→ SKULLDUGGERY

AND YOU WOULD BE...?

I'M JERRY...



WE'RE BRAND-NEW. I ASKED AROUND: "WHO'S THE BEST? WE WANNA LEARN FROM THEM!"

EVERYBODY SAID: "THEY'RE DOING GOOD STUFF IN GOLDCLIFF!"

...FROM THE... NEW ELFINGTON... CHAPTER.



YEAH, WHATEVER.

WHUD!



CAREFUL WITH THE HEAD! GOT SOME SENSITIVE HARDWARE UP THERE THAT THE BOSS WANTS TO LOOK AT.

SORRY, BOSS.









NOT KILLING IS REALLY HARD!

HOW DOES BATMAN DO IT?

...LACK OF FOLLOW-THROUGH...?



WHAMMP!



YOU KNOW WHAT?

SHZZ!



I'M STARTING TO THINK YOU GUYS AREN'T FROM THE NEW ELFINGTON CHAPTER AT ALL!



WHUPP!



SPLUDD!





ROAARR!!

OH, SHIT!

G'NASH
RACE BUGBEAR
+PROFESSION
FORMER CRIME BOSS
+PROFICIENCIES
→ DISMEMBERING
→ TEA STEEPING
→ NOT INTO BONDAGE

WHERE THE HELL YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, LEONARD?

GET BACK H—



I DON'T MEAN TO SHO—

ZZAXXX!



—CK YOU...

I WAS GONNA SAY "SHOCK YOU."

WOBBLE

KLUNK

I'M SORRY. I FUCKED THE TIMING UP.





HEY, G'NASH!
YOU REMEMBER
US! YOU'RE OUR
BUDDY!

STAY BACK,
OR I *SWEAR*
I'LL KILL HIM!



DO YOU
HAVE...*ANY*
IDEA...WHAT A
ROUGH FEW
MONTHS I'VE
HAD?

I CAN
IMAGINE IT'S
BEEN PRETTY
BAD...

BUT
WE'RE HERE
TO HELP...WHICH
WE CAN'T DO IF
YOU KILL THAT
MAN.



LET HIM
GO, AND I'LL
GET YOU...
CHAMOMILE?
IS THAT
YOUR JAM?

OOLONG!
CHAMOMILE IS
FOR POSERS!

Koff!

BUCKETS OF
OOLONG, THEN!
PIPING HOT!



NO DEAL!!

WHAMM!



GRAB



WHUUKS HHH!



LISTEN TO ME!

IF I EVER SEE YOU GUYS AGAIN, I SWEAR—



IT'S GONNA...



...UMM...



WROOOOM!!

IT'S GONNA BE SUPER BAD!

FOR YOU!



YEAH, WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO WORSE THAN 'BARF KEYS'!!

VVRRRUMMBLE



AHHRRROOOO!



AHHRRROOOOOO!

I TOLD YA WE SHOULDA KILLED LEONARD.

Chapter 5





OUR PARTNERSHIP...IT
STARTED OUT ABOUT RACING.

BUT IT TURNED INTO
SOMETHING MORE.

WE'D SPEND TIME
TOGETHER—TALKING STRATEGY,
SCOPING OUT THE OTHER TEAMS,
PREPPING FOR THE NEXT RACE...

PRETTY SOON...

...WE REALIZED WE WANTED TO
SPEND ALL OUR TIME TOGETHER.





WE STARTED DATING
A COUPLE MONTHS IN.

THINGS WERE COMPLICATED,
OF COURSE. IT TOOK WORK TO
BRING OUR WORLDS TOGETHER.



WE WERE COMING
FROM DIFFERENT, UH...
PROFESSIONS...



BUT WE BOTH WANTED
TO MAKE THIS CITY BETTER.



AND SHE'S JUST...



I LOVE
HOW FIERCE
AND DETERMINED
SHE IS.



SHE MAKES
ME WANT TO BE
BRAVER.

BUT THINGS CHANGED...
SHE CHANGED ABOUT
A MONTH AGO.



SUDDENLY, SHE HAD
THESE SUPERHUMAN, ALMOST
GODLIKE POWERS.



SHE GOT RECKLESS. NOT
JUST WITH HER OWN LIFE, BUT
WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S.



SHE INSISTED SHE
WAS FINE, BUT I COULD TELL
SOMETHING WAS WRONG...



...AND SHE
STARTED PULLING
AWAY.



THINGS BOILED OVER WHEN SHE STARTED TO USE HER POWERS IN BATTLEWAGON RACES.



THE LAST LAP WE RAN TOGETHER...



SHE LOST CONTROL



RACING IS DANGEROUS. FATALITIES HAPPEN.



BUT THIS WAS... DIFFERENT.



HORRIBLE.





THE SLOANE I KNEW WOULD NEVER BE SO HURTFUL. I KNEW I NEEDED TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS CONTROLLING HER...

AND STOP IT.



A LITTLE WHILE BACK, RUMORS STARTED CIRCULATING THAT SHE WOULD RETURN TO THE TRACK AS A SOLO DRIVER.

SO, I DECIDED TO COMPETE IN THE RACE, TOO.

THEN, YOU THREE CAME ALONG, AND I REALIZED I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO IT ALONE--



THANKS TO MY INTREPID NEW BATTLEWAGON RACING TEAM!





















I DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN HEAR THIS ANYMORE.



BUT ON THE OFF CHANCE YOU'RE LISTENING...

...ON THE OFF CHANCE YOU'RE STILL... YOU...

I WANTED TO GIVE YOU FAIR WARNING.



YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE TOMORROW.

AND THEN...



...AND THEN YOU'RE GONNA COME HOME.

Chapter 6



SO, EXPLAIN TO ME WHY WE HAD TO RIDE INSIDE THIS THING, SWEATING OUR BALLS OFF?

VRUMMMM!



IT KEEPS THINGS FAIR. YOU CAN'T REALLY SCOUT OUT THE OTHER VEHICLES AHEAD OF TIME.

DON'T WORRY, THEY'LL BE STOPPING SOON AND OFF-LOADING THE CRATE.



RSHHHK!



WHOONFF!



BTW, MERLE, THAT BIG RED BUTTON...?

YES?

DON'T TOUCH IT!

WHY NOT? WHAT DOES IT DO—



THAT HORN IS THE READY SIGNAL!

WHEN THE SECOND ONE SOUNDS... WE GO!



REMEMBER, WE HAVE FIFTEEN OPPONENTS.

EACH TEAM IS A WELL-TRAINED GROUP OF RACERS AND MERCILESS KILLERS!



BUT THE ONLY ONE WE REALLY HAVE TO BEAT...

...IS SLOANE.



AND *DON'T* KILL HER!



EVEN THOUGH, GIVEN THE CHANCE, SHE'LL PROBABLY TRY TO KILL *US*...

YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO SUCK THE FUN OUT OF A CRATE, YOU KNOW THAT?



VRRUMMMM



VROOM MM!

THE START HORN WILL SOUND ANY SECOND...



...ANY LAST WORDS?

YES!

VROOM VROOM



EVER SINCE MY YOUTH—

AROOOOO!!!



SLAM!

VRROOM!

RUMBLE!

SPD. 
ATK. 
YOU HAVE TO BE IMPRESSED WITH THOSE HORNS! JUST LOOK AT 'EM!

VRMMMM!



VWOOSH!



**SHRSHH! SHOOOSH!
SHOORSHH!
SHUSSSRSH! SWOOSH!**



SKREEE!



**WHUMPF! WHOOM!
WHOOOF! WHUMPF!
WHOOM!**

**Roood!
Roood! Roood!
Roood!
Roood!!!**

HOLY SMOKES!
MERE SECONDS INTO
THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL
GOLDCLIFF CLASSIC, AND
ALREADY THE KLAXONS
ARE SOUNDING!!

FIVE KLAXONS
MEANS WE'RE DOWN
FROM SIXTEEN
BATTLEWAGONS
TO ELEVEN!



THERE SHE IS!

WE'RE RUNNING ONE AND TWO!

WE'VE GOT A SHOT AT THIS!!



VROOM!



OBJECTS IN MIRROR ARE MORE DANGEROUS THAN THEY APPEAR

HERE COMES THE GERBIL WHEEL, UTILIZING THAT SUPERIOR SPEED TO MAKE A MOVE ON THE RAMWAGON!!

SPD. (7 stars)
ATK. (2 skulls)
That is one extremely adorable wheel of death!



WHUMMADDA
WHUMMADDA
WHUMMADDA
WHUMMADDA



LOOK AT THOSE LITTLE GUYS!

THAT'S ADORABLE!!















THE USUAL

SPD. ATK. I LOOK INTO THIS CRYSTAL BALL AND SEE PAIN.

VROOM!



BLURGLE!

BLUB!

TRANSLATION FROM DROWN-ISH: "DON'T LET THIS THING KILL ME!"



LITTLE HELP??



I HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING AROUND HERE!



OCTO-PISS OFF!!

Diminish Size REDUCES TARGET TO 1/8TH SIZE



ZAMM!!

BLOOOBLE!! BLUGH-BLOO-BLOOT!!

TRANSLATION: "AWWW! IT'S SO CUTE!"



SNAP!

BLAWWW!!

TRANSLATION: "OWWWW!!!"





CATCH!



SPASHH!



CATCH!



...



SLIP



NO, LI'L OCTO!
NO-O-O-O!!



FLUMPI!

PHEW.



VROOOOM!

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DROP BACK AND TRY TO RAM THEM!

NO PUN INTENDED!

YOU TWO NEED TO JUMP!!

OKAY, AFTER YOU!

YOU DON'T SERIOUSLY THINK YOU CAN MAKE IT, DO YOU?

SURE! I'M SURPRISINGLY AERODYNAMIC!

I COULD TRY AND HOIST YOU UP AND JUMP WITH YOU...

DON'T BE SILLY! I'M SURE I'LL BE... FINE!

YOU GO ON! LEAP! THIS WILL WORK!



FOR MAGNUS, IT'S A 19! WAY TO GO!

AND FOR MERLE, IT'S—





"SPIRIT SEED"

SUMMONS
SPIRITUAL MOUNT

BUT HE
PREFERS
"GARYL"!!

WHUMPI!

SKUDDA-KJUMP!
SKUDDAH-KJOMP!

WELCOME
ABOARD,
LITTLE
MAN.









TEAM RAM IS ABOUT TO GET SOME UNWANTED COMPETITION FROM THE VELOCIRAPTORS!



SPD. [3 stars]
ATK. [4 skulls]
WHOOPS, THEY DID IT AGAIN!
(GET IT? ALL THOSE SPEARS?)











HERE COME THE BOAR TEAM, THE SHARK TEAM, AND THE CRICKET TEAM!

SPD: [5 stars]
ATK: [3 skulls]
IN THIS CASE, IT'S THE PORK DOING THE PULLING

SPD: [5 stars]
ATK: [3 skulls]
Too scary even for Fantasy Shark week

SPD: [5 stars]
ATK: [3 skulls]
admit it: these crickets can really get into your head

KROOM!



SO, WHADDAYA SAY, LITTLE MAN? GOT A PLAN?

ATTACK THE BOAR GUYS!



I THINK THE BIG GUNS GOT THAT COVERED.



SHWIP

DODGE!



WHAPPK!



GRAB!





LET'S GO AFTER THE BOAR NOW!

HELL YEAH! DO SOME MORE OF THAT MAGIC, MAGIC KID!



I LIKE THAT IDEA!

BLAST & FIRE!
FROM LIKE 104 PAGES AGO



WIDOMSH!

WHO WANTS BACON?!



GRAB!



I GOTTA TELL YA-



-I REALLY LOVE THIS GAME!!

FWOOSH!



[scribble]







GUYS!!
TAAKO'S BEING
CONTROLLED!



HE'S
TAKEN OFF HIS
HARNESS!!

DO
SOMETHING!!



I'M TOO
FAR AWAY!!

MERLE?

GARYL!
CAN WE-



I'M
SORRY,
KID.

I'M
FAST,
BUT...

...HE'S
ALREADY
GONE!



VRRRR



THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE, WASN'T IT?

SPD. ★★★★★
ATK. ☠️
BORN TO BE Wi-i-i-ILD!!!







IF YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE IN THIS RACE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU!

YOU'RE MY VERY GOOD FRIEND, TAAKO, AND I DON'T WANT ANYTHING BAD TO HAPPEN TO YOU!



HEY, HUGBEAR! HOW'S IT GOING?

IT'S GOOD! IT'S GOOD!

DID YOU KNOW YOUR PIG IS ON FIRE?

IN FACT, I DID KNOW THAT!!

VROOM!



HEY! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT US A CONVOY!!

G'NASH, GARYL! GARYL, G'NASH!

PLEASURE!

ALL MINE, MY DUDE.



SO, UHH... IS HE CHARMED AGAIN?

I HAVE NO IDEA, BUT AS LONG AS HE'S NOT TRYING TO KILL US, I SAY WE GO WITH IT!

VRROOM!

SO, G'NASH,
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING IN THIS
RA—

CAN Y'ALL
CHEESE IT WITH THE
REUNIONS? WE GOT
A RACE TO WIN!

KA-

CHUNK!

SHE
SEEMS
NICE.

YEAH,
HURLEY'S THE
BEST!

HUP!

CHUNK!

FLING!

BONK

WELP,
I'M OUT OF
IDEAS.



WOMMMM

IT'S IRONY, LEONARD. WE'RE DRESSED LIKE FISH—

—BUT WE'RE REELING *THEM* IN. IRONICAL, INDEED.

GREEN

SO, G'NASH, LISTEN...WE'RE BUDS, APPARENTLY? FOR LIFE?

ARE YOU ASKING IF WE'RE MAIN DUDES?

YEAH...?

WOBBLE GRAB!

I WOULD SAY ABSOLUTELY WE'RE MAIN DUDES!

GREAT!

I'M GONNA NEED YOU TO HOP OVER ONTO THAT SHARK TANK THERE!



WHUMP!

UHH, MAARVY--?

DON'T WORRY! THERE'S *NO* WAY HE CAN GET THROUGH THAT ROOF!

LEAP!

WHAT NOW, DEAR TAAKOP?

NOW...

VRRR

VWUM-

HIT THE DECK!

VREE--

FSSSSZZSH!

FZZZAP!

FWOOSH!

FWOOSH!

FWOOSH!

PREEEL

SKRRRESSH-

POP!

THANKS, BUD!



THIS IS BAD FOR TEAM RAM!

CHO-OMP!

WRRR-

SLAM!



...AND THE RAVEN STRETCHES HER LEAD AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE FINISH LINE!!

THE SHARKWAGON HAS PUT THE BITE ON THEM...

WROOM!



WE'VE GOT TO GET THAT SHARK OFF HURLEY'S RIDE!!

WE'LL NEED MERLE'S FANTASY MONKEY WRENCH!

WHERE THE HELL IS HE, ANYWAY?



YAAAAA-



—HOOOO!!!



THANKS FOR THE SAVE, MERLE!

NO PROBLEM!



I'VE NEVER BEEN RESCUED BY A BINICORN BEFORE! WHAT AN HONOR!

MUTUAL, MAN-BEAR.

VWUMMM



VWUMMM

NOW, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I'M READY TO DIP ON OUT OF THIS BLOOD SPORT.

I AGREE.

EXIT, PURSUED BY LASERS!

ZZZYEW



Y'ALL TAKE IT SLEAZY!

PYEW!

ZZAPI!

ZAPI!

PSSH ZAPI!

MAGNUS!
COULD YOU GIVE ME
A LITTLE HELP WHILE
I DO YOUR JOB, YOU
KNOW...REPELLING
BOARDERS?

TAAKO,
WOULD YOU
MIND--?

SURE,
SURE!

LEAPI!

SFOOM!
SPHOOM!

SPHOOM!

THAT DOESN'T
EVEN MAKE ANY
SENSE!

CONCUSSIVE FORCE!
a FORCE OF CONCUSSION
(SORRY! I MISPLACED
my thesaurus)

ARRROOOO!!

SKUMPPP!

KLUNK





NOT REALLY!
I WAS JUST TRYING
TO BE POLITE!





I BET YOU'RE EMBARRASSED.



OH, I'M SURE I'LL FEEL BETTER...



...REAL SOON!!

SHUNK!



I DOUBT IT.



WHUMP!

DONK DONK



...



WE REALLY LET THE "NO MURDER" THING GET AWAY FROM US, HUH?

SEEMS LIKE.

AND WITH THAT, THE SHARK TANK IS OUT OF COMMISSION! THE RAVEN IS STILL IN THE LEAD, BUT THE RAMWAGON IS CLOSING THE GAP.

WILL THEY HAVE ENOUGH TIME? THE FINISH LINE—AND THE BIG-ASS CLIFF JUST BEHIND IT—IS MOMENTS AWAY!!

TAAKO IS IN THIRD, DESPERATELY LOOKING FOR A WAY TO BOOST THE SPEED OF HIS MOTORCYCLE!

CLUTCH... SEAT-HEATER... EMERGENCY BRAKE...

MUST... THINK... OUTSIDE THE BUN...



KRUM!
KRUMMMM!

KLUNK



ZZAP!

WBOOOOP!

ENLARGE!
increases size
OF TARGET TWOFOLD

WRRROOOOM!

WROOOOOM!



WAIT!

WHY DID THAT WORK?!



THE WHEELS ARE BIGGER, ERGO THEY MOVE FASTER?

NO...

THE ENGINE'S LARGER...SO IT'S MORE POWERFUL?

I DON'T THINK THAT MAKES ANY SENSE!

WELL, JUST AS LONG AS THE RAVEN DOESN'T WIN, RIGHT?



YEAH...



...RIGHT...



KLIK



KA-CHUNK!



WOOOOSH!







ZOOM!



WE'RE COMING DOWN TO THE WIRE, AND IT'S A DEAD HEAT!

VRROOM!

WHIRROOM!



35th ANNUAL
OLDLUFF CLASSIC
FINISH
10 DAYS SINCE LAST CRASH



C'MON, HURLEY...





HUMMMMMMMMM



FWASH!

RRUUMMBLE!





WE'RE NOT GONNA MAKE IT!

WAIT!



LOOK!



TAAKO'S DOING A THING!!



YOU MAGNIFICENT, MAGICAL BASTARD.



YANK



WAM!

SKIDDDDD!



Pop!

Pop!

Wwoosh!

SKIDD DOOOO!

NISH

AND THAT, FOLKS...

...IS WHAT WE IN THE MAGIC BUSINESS CALL...

...THE PRESTIGE.

WAND of SWITCHEROO

ALLOWS WIELDER TO INSTANTLY CHANGE PLACES WITH ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL + STATS + ONE DAILY CHARGE OF TRANSLUCATION MAGIC

Chapter 7



NOW SOMEBODY GIVE ME SOME MILK!

LIKE IN THE SHOWS!!
TO DRINK!



ROOF
FINISH
RUFF



SCREEECH!



YOU KNOW...

THE WAY I SEE IT, WE WERE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM! AS SOON AS ONE OF US CROSSED...WE ALL WON!

IT'S NOT REALLY BASED ON THE VEHICLE.

IF YOU LOOK IN THE BATTLEWAGON RULE BOOK, WHICH I HAVE RIGHT HERE—



SKRUNCH!
WHANG!
KA-THOOM!



ZAP!
KA-THOOM!



SO, IT LOOKS LIKE THE WHOLE "BEAT HER AND SHE'LL GIVE US THE SASH" THING WAS A BUST.

IT WOULD APPEAR SO.



RUMBLE!

SKRUNCHHH!

ZZAP!





CAP'N!
HURLEY IS
THE RAM!

READ
THE ROOM,
STRAWBERRY.



AND
I'VE BEEN...



...MAGNUS
THE WHOLE TIME!



IT WAS A
SWEET THOUGHT,
MAGS.

VERY, VERY
HEROIC.









WRRROOM!



SLAMM!



SCREECH!

**VROOM!
VROOM!
VROOM!**

FWAASH!





VROOOM!

RAM-1

KER-ASH!

SSCHZING!







KRA - KROOM!



HURLEY!
WHAT DO WE
DO?! YOU
KNOW HER!

I DON'T
KNOW HER
LIKE THIS!



LET'S GO
STRAIGHT TO
THE SOURCE!

ZONE
of
TRUTH

SLOANE!!
HOW DO WE
SAVE YOU?!





...BUT YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO BRING HER DOWN...

...OR DIE TRYING.







IT MEANS WE'RE IN "LIMITED OPTIONS" TERRITORY!!

"GOUT + FLAMES!"
BLASTS FORTH WITH DEVASTATING FIRE...

WHOOMSH!



...Theoretically.

PURT



SHIT.

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA WASTE YOUR LAST SPELL ON, MERLE?

O YE OF LITTLE FAITH...



MY HP! MY PRECIOUS HP! YOU'VE RETURNED TO ME!

Blessings of the CHERUBIM
heals entire party



GREAT! WE'RE LESS DEAD THAN WE WERE A FEW SECONDS AGO!

NOW WHAT?



I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING!

TMP
TMP

TMP



SLOANE?
HEY, MAGNUS.
I'M ONE OF HURLEY'S
NEW FRIENDS.



WE'RE FOND OF
HER, AND SHE'S SUPER
FOND OF YOU, SO I'M
POLITELY ASKING YOU
TO GIVE THIS UP
BEFORE...SOMEBODY
GETS HURT.



WELL, WE
WOULDN'T WANT
THAT, WOULD WE?



WHAMMI!



...AW, BEANS.



WHAP!
CRACK!
KERACKKKK!



OKAY, I DON'T THINK I CAN HEAL HIM THROUGH ALL THAT!!

HURLEY, WE GOTTA DO SOMETHING!



HURLEY?



I THOUGHT YOU WERE OUT OF SPELL SLOTS!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL YOU, MERLE.

SHIT'S BEEN WEIRD TODAY.

HHHUMMMM

KA-KA-BOOM



I AM...

...IMPRESSED.

AND YET...

...YOU MISJUDGE ME.



I AM NOT SOME CHAFF, MEANT TO BE WINNOWNED AND BURNED AWAY.

WUMMMM



I AM THE FURY THAT MOVES THE WINDS.

RRRUMBLE



I AM THE POWER OF THE EARTH BENEATH YOUR FEET!!

WASSSHH!!



WATCH IT, KIDDIES! THAT'S SILVERPOINT, REMEMBER?



ITS POISON IS CURSED! YOU GET TOUCHED BY IT...

...AND THAT'S THE BALLGAME!

CRUMBLE



UNLESS ANYONE ELSE HAS SOME FANTASY NITROUS FOR MY UMBRELLA TO EAT, I THINK I'M OFFICIALLY OUT OF MY DEPTH HERE.

I'VE STILL GOT...A FEW GOOD CHOPS...LEFT IN ME.




DO WE KNOW HOW TO DO, LIKE, FUSION ATTACKS? CAN TAAKO SET YOUR AX ON FIRE...?

I'M LIKING... WHAT I'M HEARING... SO FAR.


HAND IT OVER! NO HARM IN—

NO.




YOU HEARD
THE THING.

WE'RE NOT GOING
TO SAVE SLOANE BY
FIGHTING AGAINST IT.



THEN, WHAT
WOULD YOU
SUGGEST WE—



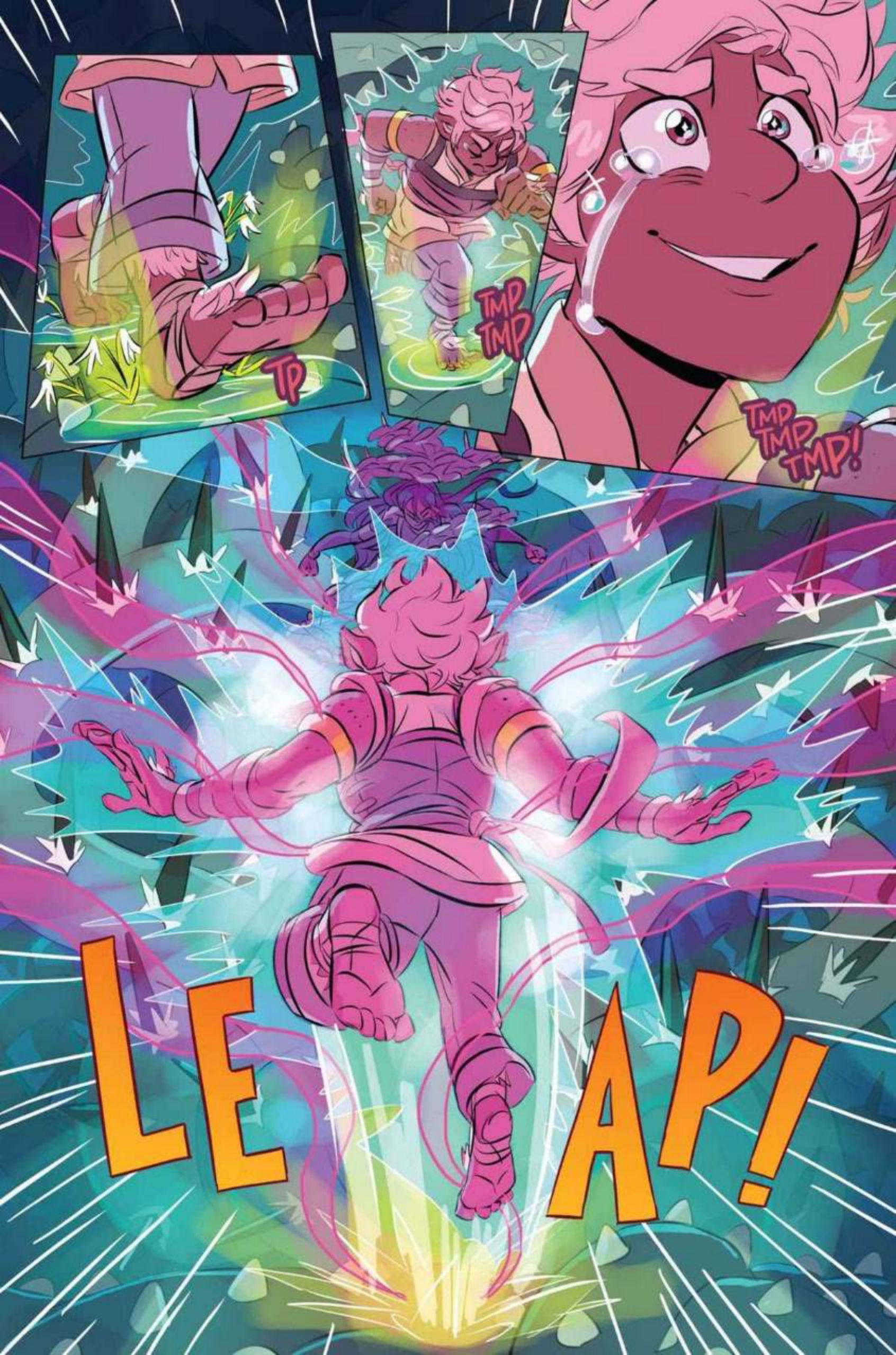
THANK
YOU...

...FOR
EVERYTHING.





SCHRRUMMMM



LEAP!

**TMP
TMP
TMP!**

TP

**TMP
TMP**

TING!



HUMMMMMMM

KAAA-AA-AASHH!



KSHH H H H H H H H H

Chapter 8



KWEE-OOH
WEE-OOOH



KWEE-OOH
WEE-OOOH



ALL RIGHT,
LET'S-



STAND DOWN,
STRAWBERRY.



BUT,
CAP-

JUST...
GIVE THEM A
MINUTE.



YOU'RE IN
TROUUUUBLLEEE.



OH,
I KNOW,
OFFICER.











IF WE DO THIS, EVERYTHING'S GOING TO CHANGE. WE'LL HAVE TO—






GENTLEMEN,
I WANT TO THANK
YOU FOR EVERYTHING
YOU'VE DONE.

BUT I HAVE
ONE REQUEST
OF YOU.



ANYTHING
YOU NEED.



ARE THERE
REALLY OTHER
OBJECTS IN THIS WORLD
THAT ARE AS POWERFUL
AS THIS BELT?



YES.

BUT THERE ARE FEWER, THANKS TO US.



GOOD.



THEN DON'T
LET THIS HAPPEN
AGAIN.



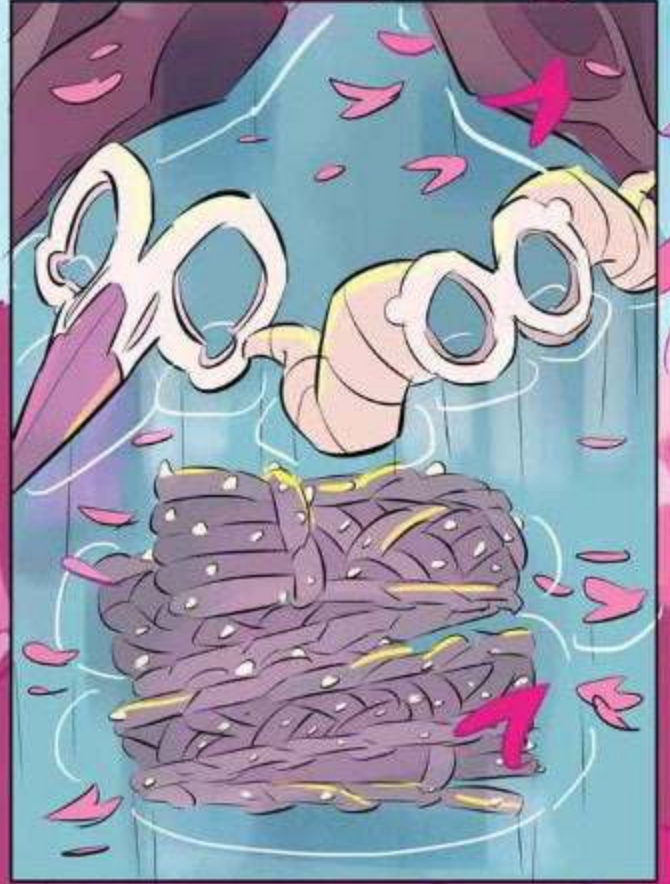


AAA-AASHH!

A large, stylized sound effect in a bold, blue, blocky font with a white outline. The text is set against a background of purple and blue energy swirls and motion lines, suggesting a powerful release of energy or a significant event.













I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP TO FUCK AN ONION!



SNERK!

PFFT!

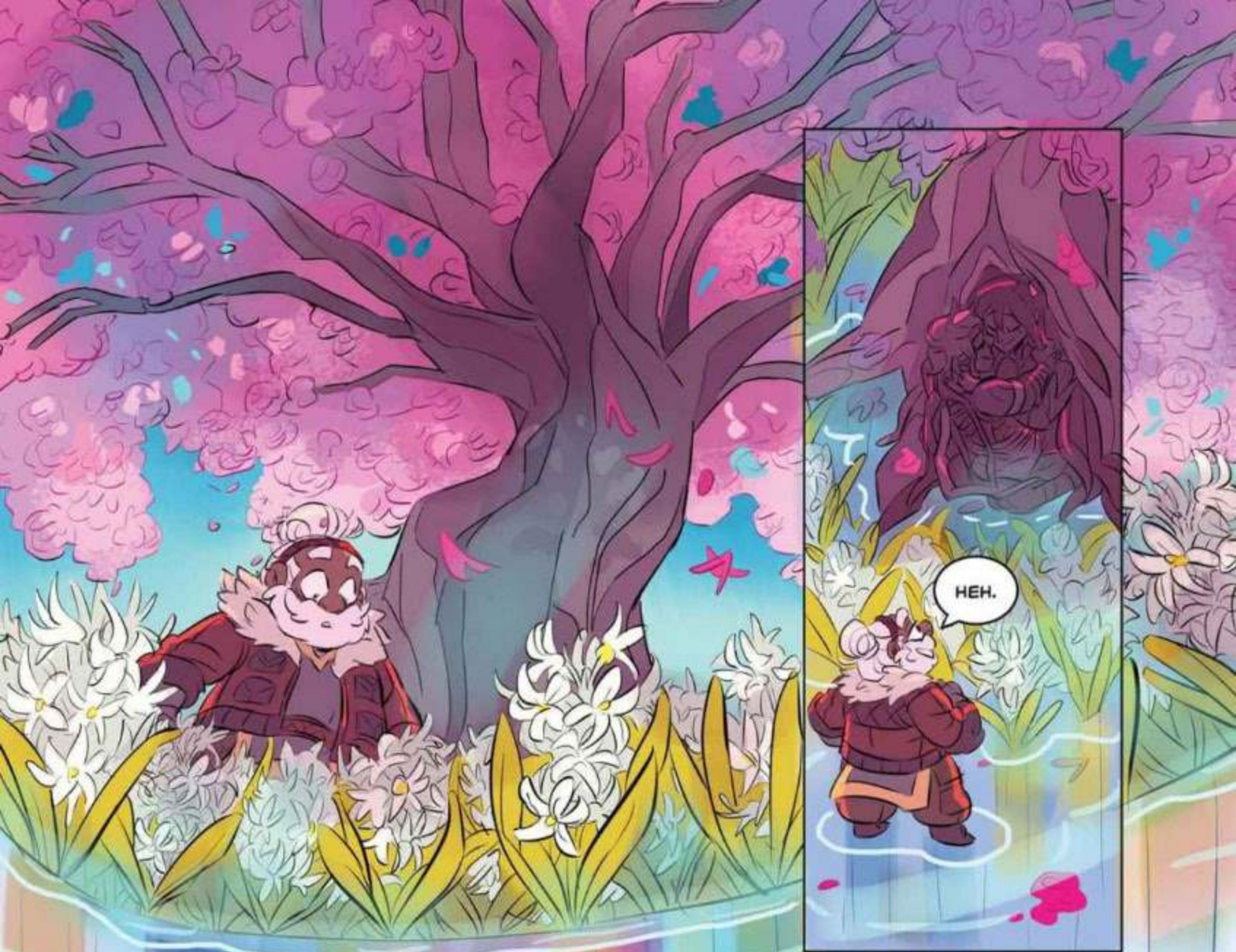


YOU TELL 'EM, MERLE!

STAND IN YOUR TRUTH!









WE'VE GOT A DEBRIEFING TO GET TO.















MURDERED?

I
SAVED
YOU.



AND IN DOING
SO, SAVED CAPTAIN
BANE FROM HIS OWN
TWISTED DESIRES.



SEE, IT'S THAT
KIND OF TALK
THAT REALLY
GIVES OFF THE
"FEAR" VIBES.



IF YOU NEED
SOMETHING TO BE
AFRAID OF, YOU'LL
FIND NO SHORTAGE
DURING YOUR
QUEST.

THE RELICS?
THEY'RE A PIECE
OF CAKE!



NOT THE
RELICS.









Chapter 9







THE RED ROBES ARE AN ORDER OF EXILED SORCERERS WHO FORGED THE GRAND RELICS AND UNLEASHED THEIR CHAOS UPON OUR REALM.

I HAD HOPED THAT WE WOULDN'T ENCOUNTER THEM UNTIL OUR QUEST WAS COMPLETE.



BUT IT SEEMS THAT ONE OF THEIR SURVIVING AGENTS HAS CAUGHT WIND OF OUR OPERATION.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT FALSEHOODS THEY MAY HAVE SPUN FOR YOU, BUT REST ASSURED—

THEIR MOTIVES FOR PURSUING THE RELICS ARE SINISTER BEYOND IMAGINATION.

FUNNY, THEY SUGGESTED THE *EXACT* SAME THING...



...ABOUT YOU.





TAAKO,
WHATEVER
DOUBTS YOU MAY
STILL HARBOR
ABOUT MY—

EASY,
BOSS.



I THINK I
SPEAK FOR ALL
OF US WHEN I
SAY—WE'RE ALL
IN NOW.

SECONDED.



I DON'T THINK
IT FULLY SANK
IN WHAT THESE
THINGS WERE
CAPABLE OF
UNTIL TODAY.

FOR WHATEVER
REASON WE—AND WE
ALONE—ARE ABLE TO
DO SOMETHING
ABOUT IT.



THERE'S STILL
SO MUCH OF THIS MESS
I'M UTTERLY CONFUSED
ABOUT—

WHICH IS PAR
FOR THE COURSE,
REALLY.

BUT YEAH,
NO MORE SALES
PITCHES. WE'RE TOTES
COMMITTED.



HUH?



SORRY.



SOMETHING THE MATTER, MERLE?

PAT.



OH, NO. I'M WITH YOU.

I JUST...



...I DON'T GET IT.

I CAN'T COMPREHEND THE KIND OF HEARTLESS BASTARD WHO COULD LET SOMETHING LIKE THAT SASH OUT INTO THE WORLD.

MAYBE, BEING
A MAN OF THE CLOTH,
I'M DISPOSED TO THINK
THAT MOST FOLKS ARE,
AT THEIR CORE, GOOD.

BUT THE WHOLE TIME
WE'VE BEEN WORKING
FOR YOU...EVERYTHING
I'VE SEEN IS EVIDENCE
OF THE CONTRARY.

BOGARD.
SLOANE.
BANE.

BUT REALLY,
ARE THEY CHANGING
UNDER THE RELICS'
INFLUENCE?

EVERYONE
WHO COMES NEAR
THESE THINGS...
TURNS.

OR JUST
REVEALING
THEIR TRUE
COLORS?

ARE WE ALL
JUST VILLAINS IN
WAITING?


JUST...
LOOKING FOR
THE BEST
OFFER BEFORE
WE SWITCH
SIDES?

UH...
I MEAN...


HEY, ANYONE
UP FOR SOME
DAY-OLD
CARNIVAL GRUB?
MY TREAT!

MERLE...



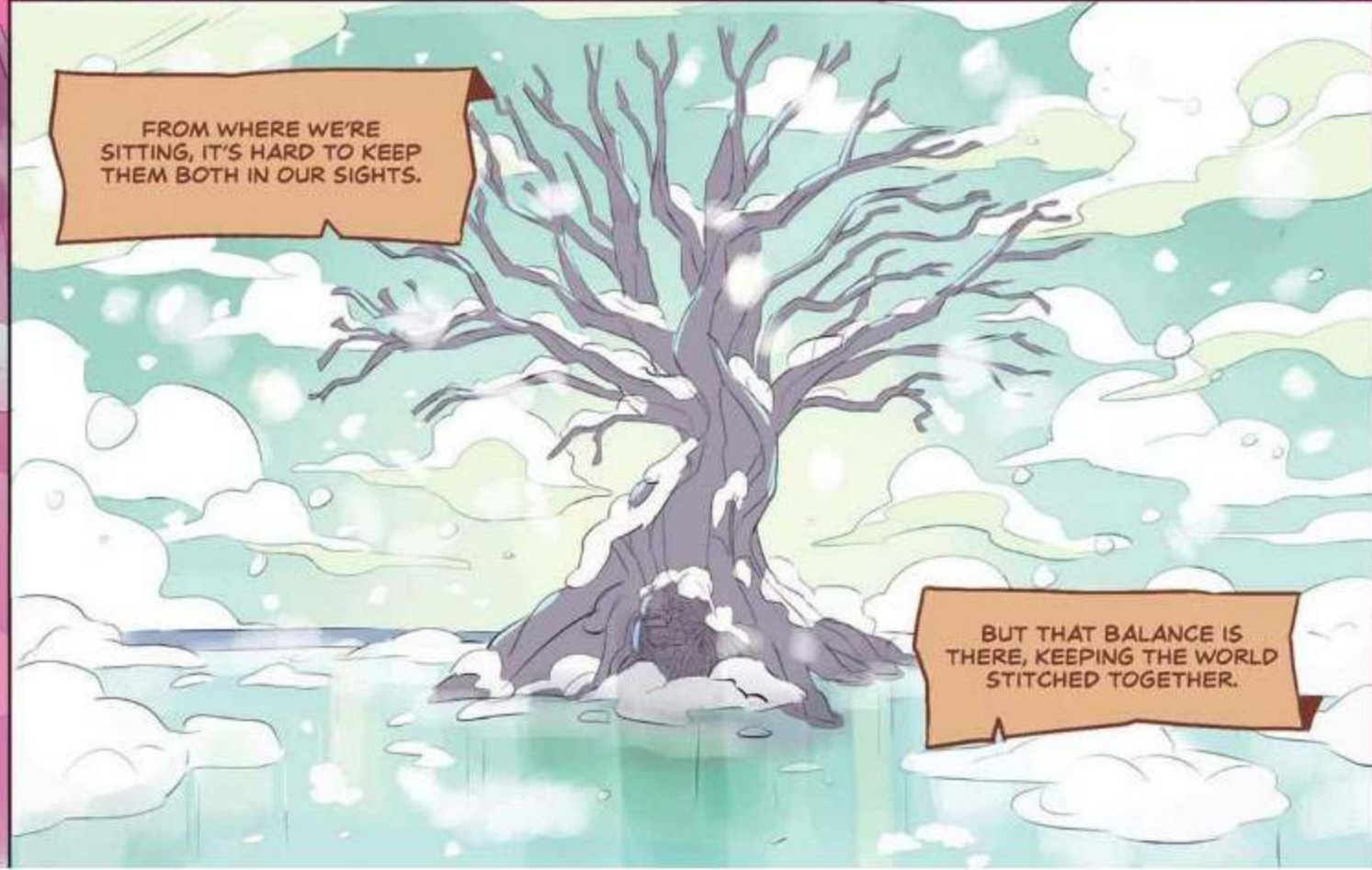


IT'S BECAUSE THE WORLD'S DESIGN,
IF SUCH A THING EXISTS, IS ONE OF
MASTERFUL EQUILIBRIUM.



FOR EVERY EVIL
IMPULSE DRAWN FROM
A TEMPTED HEART...

...THERE IS A HEROIC
DEED, SPURRED ON BY
UNIMAGINABLE BRAVERY.



FROM WHERE WE'RE
SITTING, IT'S HARD TO KEEP
THEM BOTH IN OUR SIGHTS.

BUT THAT BALANCE IS
THERE, KEEPING THE WORLD
STITCHED TOGETHER.



FOR EVERY
WRONGDOING, THERE
IS A RIGHT.



FOR EACH INJUSTICE,
AN ACT OF KINDNESS.



FOR EVERY
WOUND...



...A REMEDY.



NO PERSON IS INHERENTLY EVIL, MERLE, NOR ARE THEY INHERENTLY GOOD.



VILLAINS CAN CHOOSE TO BE MERCIFUL. HEROES CAN CHOOSE TO BE VINDICTIVE.



OUR CHOICES DEFINE WHO WE ARE. BUT OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE, IS WHAT WE BELIEVE.

AND I BELIEVE...



...FOR EVERY PERSON YOU MEET WHO WOULD DO YOU HARM...




...THERE IS A PERSON WHO WOULD LEND YOU AID ON YOUR DARKEST DAYS.









...IF YOU FIND COMFORT
WHERE YOU CAN...



...AND FIND
COURAGE WHEN
YOU MUST...



...THEN YOUR
STRENGTH WILL
NEVER FALTER...





...NO MATTER
WHAT TOMORROW
HAS IN STORE.

The ADVENTURE CONTINUES in

THE ADVENTURE ZONE

Crystal
Kingdom

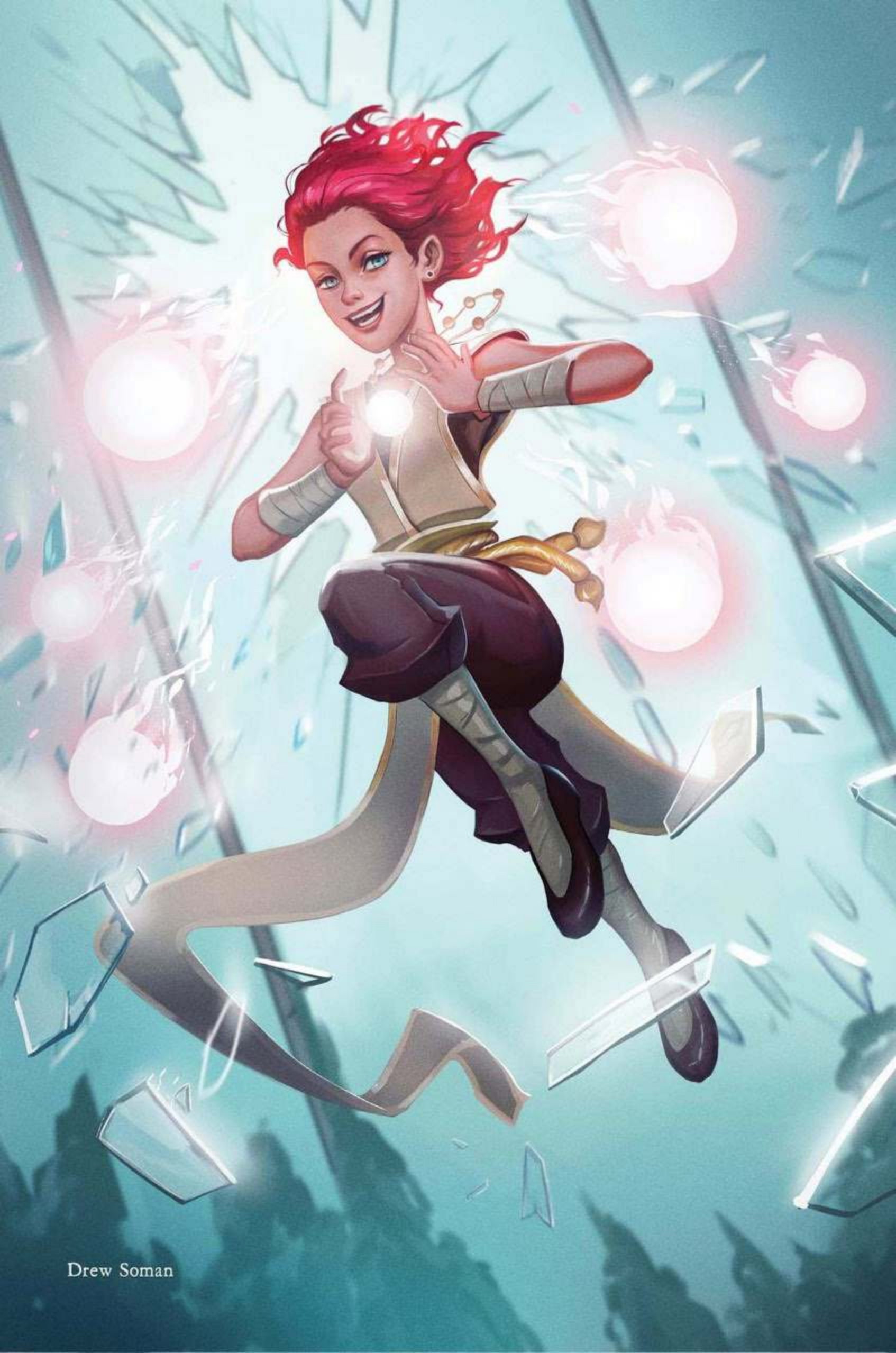


Coming Soon!

Fan Art Gallery

The Adventure Zone has been lucky enough to garner a passionate and deeply creative fandom. Many thanks to the fan artists who contributed pieces to this gallery—and to all the writers, artists, creators, and fans of all stripes who have made *The Adventure Zone* what it is.





Drew Soman



Angela Tong



April Leong



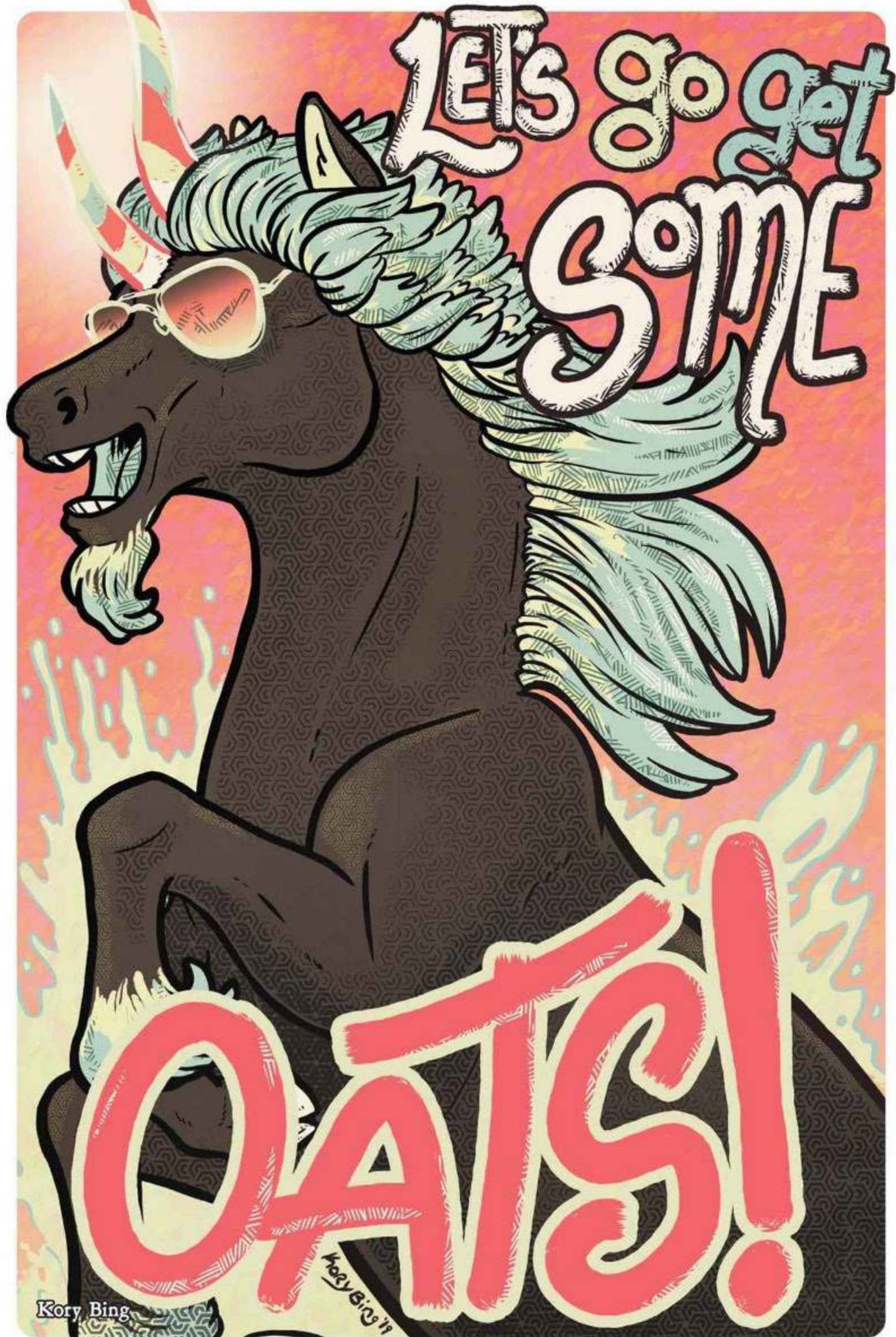
Emily K. Smith



Julia Maddalina



Gabriela Epstein



LET'S go get

SOME

OATS!

Kory Bing

Kory Bing '19







Nathanael Whale



Nick Leerie





Alex Flis



"Full of charm and snark and wit. Join the party!"

—FELICIA DAY, author of *Embrace Your Weird*

Praise for
The Adventure Zone series:

"The McElroys' storytelling strength has long been in their humor, and this is a good introduction to the unexpected and sometimes almost Dadaesque way they pull laughter out of thin air."

—THE A.V. CLUB

"Gorgeous art—the characters come to life!

I am so happy that this graphic novel is a thing that exists in the world."

—HANK GREEN, *Crash Course*,
The Lizzie Bennet Diaries