



ISSUE 1

STRIKE GUARD

Ayodele
ELEGBA
Stanley
OBENDE
Raphael
KAZEEM



BEADS OF FURY





IN LOVING
MEMORY OF
PETER ANTAL

Arbomevaki

Created By Ayodele Elegba



STRIKEGUARD



A young Nigerian undergraduate gets a second chance at life and to live the legacy of a close friend when he invites the SPIRIT of an ancient African Warrior to Co-habit his body. By this act, Abolaji Coker gets a second chance to avenge the death of his best friend, win the love of his sweet heart and save the world from such oppression that killed his father. He bonds with AJAGBEJA and together they are known as.....

STRIKEGUARD



Strike Guard is published by Vortex Comics, a subsidiary of Vortex, Inc. located at Lekki Phase 1, Rahman Adebayojo Street, Plot 12A, Lagos, Nigeria Tel: +234 816 126 7753 | 7 Westbourne roads, Hillingdon Uxbridge UB83AZ, Tel: +44 7730 324485 email: comics@vortex247.com. The Strike Guard characters, story, concepts is created by Ayodele Elegba and copyright of VORTEX, INC. All rights reserved. All June XII franchise and elements are trademarks of VORTEX COMICS the stories, characters and incidents in this issue are completely fictional, any relations to any entity or person, living or dead are pure coincidence.

TODAY MARKS ONE YEAR EXACTLY SINCE MY DEAR FRIEND CHOI TOOK A BULLET FOR ME. HE IS THE HERO OF MY LIFE.

TIMES LIKE THIS I WISH I COULD BRING HIM BACK FROM THE DEAD AND TELL HIM THAT ONE OF HIS CREATED COMIC BOOK CHARACTERS IS NOW ALIVE AND WALKING THE STREETS OF LAGOS NIGERIA.

WISH I COULD TELL HIM THAT HIS BEST FRIEND, ABOLAJI CASTRO, IS NOW A SUPER HERO WHO DONS A SUIT THAT ONCE WAS JUST A DRAWING ON PAPER. MISS YOU BROTHER!

REALLY I AM SICK OF THIS MELANCHOLIC NATURE OF YOURS. SOMETIMES I WISH SOMEONE WITH A LITTLE MORE GUTS AND ATTITUDE HAD FALLEN INTO MY GRAVE.

YOU CHOSE ME DIDN'T YOU. I WAS ON MY WAY TO HEAVEN WHEN YOU STOPPED ME. I NEVER ASKED FOR THIS.

BUT YOU ACCEPTED MY OFFER AND BECAUSE OF ME YOU HAVE A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE. YOU HAVE A CHANCE WITH THAT SEXY LOOKING GIRL....

THAT REMINDS ME. ARE YOU NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HAVING A MAKEUP LUNCH MEETING ABOUT THIS TIME OF DAY?

OH NO!
CHICHI WILL
KILL ME.



ARE YOU GOING TO HIT IT TONIGHT?

HIT WHAT? I THOUGHT YOU BELIEVED IN MARRIAGE BEFORE SEX.



YES I USED TO BUT ITS BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME...AAAAAAGKKHH!

YISSSSSSSSHH!!! MY HEAD!



WHAT WAS THAT? I FELT A VERY SHARP PAIN AT THE BACK OF MY HEAD! AS IS WAS TRYING TO REMEMBER SOMETHING

I CANT EVEN SAY, BUT IT DOESN'T FEEL GOOD.

IT FELT LIKE A STRONG CALL FROM THE PAST.



WHATEVER! JUST MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T DISTURB WHAT I HAVE WITH CHRISTY TONIGHT.

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS,

IT'S ME AJAGBEJA YOUR KINDRED SPIRIT. YOUR SOUL MATE?

SO WHERE ARE YOU LOVE BIRDS GOING TONIGHT?



SLAM!!

OULUHHH! YOU SOUND LIKE A FAGGOT, AJAGBEJA. ANYWAY WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE, REMEMBER WE DON'T SHARE!

YOU HAVE TO THREAD SOFTLY BOY. SHE HAS THAT DREADED LOOK

WHAT LOOK? WOULD YOU JUST GET OUT OF MY HEAD A SEC?

I WARNED YOU!

I'M SORRY I'M LATE. I FELL ASLEEP. THEN I WAS FOR A WHILE LOST IN THOUGHT THEN... CAN I SIT DOWN?

WHAT FOR? I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE.

I THOUGHT WE CALLED THIS MEETING TO MAKE A TRUCE.

HEY! I AM NOT THE ONE WHO'S THIRTY MINUTES LATE!

THEN I BEGIN TO WONDER IF THIS RELATIONSHIP ACTUALLY MEANS ANYTHING TO YOU

THATS IT AGAIN! YOU SAW IT DIDN'T YOU

WHAT LOOK? SHE'S NOT EVEN LOOKING AT ME? WHAT THE...?

OFF COURSE YOU MEAN A LOT TO ME. YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU. JUST BECAUSE I COME LATE FOR AN "I AM SORRY MEETING" DOESN'T MEAN I DON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE! SEE CHICHI TODAY IS JUST A BAD DAY FOR ME THAT'S ALL.

YOU KNOW, EVER SINCE YOUR BEST FRIEND DIED, YOU'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN THE SAME BOLAJI COKER I KNOW.

IT'S LIKE THE SAME BODY BUT THERE'S A DIFFERENT YOU INSIDE THERE

SO? IS THAT IT? IS THAT THE LOOK?

EXACTLY! BECAUSE WHEN SHE FINALLY LOOKS UP, SHE GOES FOR THE KILL. WAIT FOR IT...

???

SOMEWHERE CLOSE...

AHA, BROS! YOU WON FINISH AM. ABEG GIVE ME! YOU NO DEY SHAME SEF, YOU WON BRING WOMAN COME UNDER BRIDGE.

THAT PARTY WAS SOMETHING ELSE. THE CHIEF JUST KEPT ON SPRAYING DOLLARS AND THE WOMEN WERE... SWEET. GOD I WISH I COULD HAVE BROUGHT ONE HOME WITH ME.

MY PEOPLE, LOOK! NA DREAM OR THE GODS HAVE SMILED ON US

GOD!
GOD!!

AHA! ? E DON DO NOW. OYA NA MY TURN

FINE GABE...?

WHO IS SHE...?

HELLO LADY. DO YOU WANT TO JOIN US? HAVING A SWEET BABY LIKE YOURSELF...

IS HE HERE?



WHOP
I AM ALL YOU
NEED BABY.
COME OVER
HERE



I SENSE HIS
PRESENCE. REVEAL
HIM AT ONCE?



I THINK SHE'S
CRAZY. WHAT IS SHE
TALKING ABOUT?

CRAZY OR NO CRAZY I
THINK WE SHOULD TAKE HER.
WE ARE ALL ALONE HERE AND
THREE AGAINST ONE WHAT
CAN SHE DO?

WHAT IS THIS FOOLISHNESS?
DON'T YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
UNHAND ME AT ONCE?



WE KNOW
WHO YOU BE.
NO BE SOP?

COME
OVER HERE
MY LOVE

MALIK! AKILO!!
LET'S TAKE HER
INTO THAT
CORNER



UNHAND ME THIS
MINUTE OR YOU TASTE
MY WRATH



Art by Scott Leifer



ENOUGH I SAY!

NOW I ASK AGAIN BUT BE WARNED THAT YOUR LIVES HANG IN A DELICATE BALANCE. TELL ME WHERE IS AJAGBEJA?

WE... DON'T... KNOW!

I CAN SWEAR ON IT.

HONEST. WE DON'T KNOW WHO THIS AJAGBEJA IS!

DECEIVERS!!!

AAAAARRRGGGGGHHKKKK!!!



YEEIISHH!
MY HEAD?



I'M ASKING
FOR TOO MUCH
RIGHT? I'LL
JUST...



NO! ITS
NOT YOU. I
JUST HAVE A...
HEADACHE?!

ARE
YOU
OK?

I...
I AM OKAY.
YOU CAN
GO ON!

NO ITS NOT. YOU NEED TO
LEAVE HERE NOW. I WILL
SUGGEST YOU GET HER TO
SAFETY AND FAR AWAY FROM
YOU AS POSSIBLE



AND GET MISSING IN
ACTION AGAIN LIKE THE
LAST TIME. NO WAY.

WHY? WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

I BROUGHT HER HERE TO END A
FIGHT AND NOW YOU WANT ME
TO TELL HER SHE CAN GO HOME
WITHOUT US SOLVING THE
ISSUES AT HAND FIRST?

I SENSE A FAMILIAR SPIRIT IS
CLOSE BY AND IS COMING. YOU
NEED TO GET FAR AWAY FROM
HER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
YOU CAN PUT HER IN HARM'S
WAY.

ITS YOUR
CHOICE.



YOU ARE
LEAVING RIGHT,
ANOTHER
APPOINTMENT?

ENMMM! NO!
I JUST NEED
TO USE THE
BATHROOM.
EXCUSE ME!



THIS HAD
BETTER BE
GOOD!

OOO-KAY!
HERE WE GO
AGAIN

SO WHO IS IT THIS TIME?
NO WAIT, LET ME GUESS,
IT'S ANOTHER ONE OF
YOUR NEMESIS?

SOMEONE FROM
YOUR PAST WHO
JUST FOUND OUT
THAT YOU HAVE
POPPED BACK TO
LIFE IN THE
TWENTY SECOND
CENTURY.

AM I RIGHT?

YOUR
SECOND NAME
SHOULD BE
NEPA. YOU
KNOW?

THE *SPIRIT* PATTERN DOES
LOOK LIKE SOMETHING FROM
THE PAST BUT WE CAN'T BE TOO
SURE....

AND I DIDN'T NEED TO BE *PSYCHIC* TO
KNOW THAT. YOU KNOW, WHEN WE DID OUR
CONTRACT SIGNING THING DOWN DEEP IN
YOUR GRAVE AND YOU ALMIGHTY
WARRIOR, *AJASBEJA* GAVE ME A
SECOND CHANCE AT THIS LIFE, I THOUGHT I
HAD THE COOLEST GIFT EVER.

I THOUGHT I COULD CATCH THIEVES, SAVE
PEOPLE, SAVE THE WORLD FROM TYRANNY
AND ALL THOSE GOOD STUFF YOU READ IN
COMIC BOOKS. BUT NOW I FEEL I AM UNDER
A CURSE. A VERY BAD, NASTY CURSE I CANT
SEEM TO SHAKE OFF.

DON'T LETS GET CARRIED AWAY
NOW, OK. I AM HERE WITH YOU
ALL HE WAY AND I AM SURE LIKE
THE PAST, IT ISNT ANYTHING I CANT
HANDLE.

AND THAT'S THE
PROBLEM MR WARRIOR
FROM THE PAST, YOU
KEEP BRINGING ALL
YOUR EVIL FRIENDS
FROM THE PAST INTO
THE PRESENT.

YOU ARE AN OPEN
INVITATION TO EVIL
PEOPLE WHO WANT
REVENGE. DON'T YOU
GET IT

WHAT
WAS
THAT?

SHE IS HERE! I THINK YOU NEED TO
CHANGE INTO YOUR WAR CLOTHES
NOW. HER SPIRIT CALLS AT ME AND
IT'S VERY STRONG

AAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAGGG
GGGGGGHH
HHH! HELP!

OH NO!
CHICHI?

JUNE
XII

WE ARE JUSTICE,
FEAR NOTHING.



GAJ
2015

BLAST!!

WHY ARE YOU
LOOKING FOR THE DEAD
AMONG THE LIVING. THERE'S NO
POINT KILLING EVERYONE
JUST BECAUSE YOU WANT
TO PROVE YOU HAVE
A SPIRITUAL GPRS.

I KNOW YOU ARE HERE A.JAGBEJA. I CAN
SENSE YOUR AURA STRONG. COME OUT NOW
INTO ME AND FIGHT LIKE THE WARRIOR
YOU SAY YOU ARE. I WILL COUNT TO
THREE. ONE...TWO...

NO WONDER I COULDN'T FIND YOU IN TIME. YOU HAVE
FOUND A HOST. YOU HIDE YOURSELF LIKE A COWARD
BEHIND THE MORTAL FLESH OF THIS WEAKLING BOY.
WELL IT DOESN'T MATTER. I WILL DESTROY HIM AND
YOU WITH THE SAME PASSION THAT I HAVE
PRESERVED FOR ALL THIS YEARS.

I WILL SHOW YOU NO MERCY.
A.JAGBEJA. JUST LIKE YOU
SHOWED MY FATHER?



YOU DON'T KNOW HOW I
DESPISE YOU AND HOW MUCH
SATISFACTION I WOULD GAIN
TO SEE MY BEADS PLAYING
WITH YOUR ROTTEN HEAD



I CAN DO THIS
ALL DAY. JUST
SURRENDER AND
NO ONE WOULD
GET HURT.



SUCH HATE, O'S
LADY DEY VEX O,
THE AURA SURGING
THROUGH HER IS
SO POWERFUL.

GRRR!!

BUT I'M
SLOWLY
LOSING MY
PATIENCE
WITH YOU.

WE COULD
GRAB ICE
CREAM AND
POP CORN AND
GO TO THE
LAGOS COMIC
CON.

THE BEAD IS SHIELDING
HER VERY ESSENCE OUTSIDE
THE WALLS OF CREATION
AND I KNOW THE ONLY BEING
POWERFUL ENOUGH TO
CREATE SUCH FOUL AND
FORBIDDEN MAGIC, IKUYEYE
THE MISTRESS OF DEATH.



OKAY TALK
TO ME
MA'AM, WHY
SUCH
ANGER?

IT SEEMS THAT YOUR COWARDICE
HAS CHOIPPED SHORT YOUR
MEMORY OR YOU SIMPLY THINK
THAT YOUR PRETENSE CAN SAVE
YOU FROM ME.



TODAY I DO NOT ONLY AVENGE
MYSELF BUT ALSO THE LIVES
OF THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN
TAKEN BY YOUR HANDS

-DIE
MONSTER!

YOU'RE SO
FULL OF HATE
AND REVENGE.
DID I OFFEND
YOU IN ANY
WAY?



I'LL MAKE SURE YOU SUFFER LIKE YOU MADE HIM SUFFER.

EVEN THE GODS WILL WEEP UPON YOUR MISERY.



HEY, WATCH WHAT YOU THROW AROUND HERE, OKAY. AND THAT'S MR STRIKEGUARD TO YOU.

I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO DEFEAT THIS "BEAD WITCH" AJAGBEJA?!

SKREEEN

AND I'M SENDING YOU BACK TO WHATEVER DARKHOLE YOU CAME FROM.



TWHEP!

TSK! WHAT SORT OF TRICK IS THIS?

TWHEP!

TWHEP!



MISSY, YOU'RE STARTING TO GET ON MY NERVES.



SURELY YOU MUST REMEMBER THE CONQUEST OF "ENGBEDI". YOU LED THE WARRIORS OF IFE TO THAT SHAMEFUL BATTLE. YOU WERE THEIR MOST REVERED GENERAL. ONLY SECOND TO SAMOO THEY CALLED YOU.

HOW CAN I FORGET. IT WAS A BATTLE ANY GENERAL WOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER. THE KING OF ENGBEDI HAD DEFTED MY LORD BY REFUSING TO PAY TAXES. WE DESTROYED EVERYTHING.

YES YOU DID. AND WITH DELIGHT TOO. EVEN WHEN THE WEAK BEGGED FOR MERCY.

HOW CAN I FORGET. IT WAS A BATTLE ANY GENERAL WOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER. THE KING OF ENGBEDI HAD DEFTED MY LORD BY REFUSING TO PAY TAXES. WE DESTROYED EVERYTHING.

I BEG YOU GENERAL. SPARE MY LIFE. I AM BUT JUST A SIMPLE BEAD MAKER.

SPARE MY LIFE AND MY GENERATIONS UNBORN WILL SERVE YOU FOREVER.

SURELY YOU MUST ALSO REMEMBER THE BEAD MAKER WHO BEGGED YOU TO SPARE HIS LIFE.

BUT YOU DIDNT LISTEN. YOU DIDNT CARE. INSTEAD YOU MURDERED WITH PUNTY A FATHER RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIS SIX YEAR OLD DAUGHTER.

THAT DAY I WISHED YOU HAD FOUND ME AND KILLED ME TOO. YOU TOOK AWAY MY FUTURE. AJAGBEJA. YOU TOOK AWAY THE ONLY REASON I LIVED.

FATHER!!

HACK!!

SHAACKKKRAA!

BUT TODAY I TAKE
EVERYTHING BACK. TODAY YOU
PAY FOR ALL THE BLOOD YOU
SPILLED AT ENGBEN. TODAY
YOU DIE.

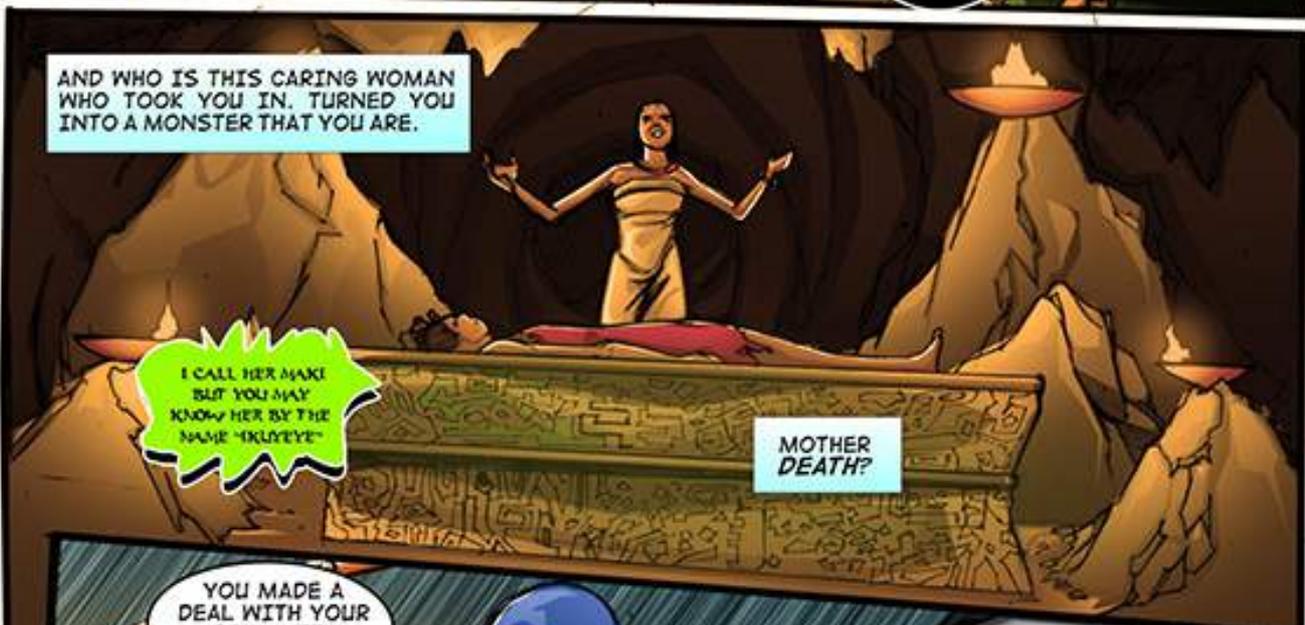
ARE YOU NOT CURIOUS
TO KNOW HOW I SURVIVED
WITHOUT MY FATHER.

I WAS ALONE FOR MONTHS IN A WORLD
OF WICKEDNESS. ALL I HAD WAS MY
FATHER'S NECKLACE TO KEEP ME
WARM. MANY TIMES I PRAYED THAT
THE EARTH WOULD SWALLOW ME UP
BUT IT DIDN'T.

I HAVE A
FEELING
YOU'LL TELL ME
ANYWAY.

DO YOU KNOW
HOW I MANAGED TO
TRANSCEND THROUGH SEVERAL
GENERATIONS UNTIL YOU WERE
REINCARNATED.

EVEN THE EARTH
UNDERSTOOD INJUSTICE
AND KNEW I NEEDED
MY REVENGE ON YOU.





YOU WILL BE PUNISHED

LISTEN LADY, I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU BUT

FOCUS AND ENGAGE YOUR ENEMY
OUCH!

HABA AJAGBEJA! WAS THAT REALLY NECESSARY?

THE PATH OF REVENGE IS TWISTED AND FILLED WITH PAINS AND UNENDING REGRETS.

NOT EXACTLY WHAT DADDY WOULD HAVE WANTED FOR HER LITTLE GIRL FROM MY OWN POINT OF VIEW.

AT LEAST YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE BECOMING ONE

BE QUIET YOU WORTHLESS MORTAL FOR YOU ALSO SHALL NOT BE SPARED FROM THE BEADMAIDEN'S WRATH



Art by [Signature]



THIS ENDS NOW. SAY CHEESE.

HEARD LIGHTNING BOLT? YOU AMUSE ME WARRIOR.

IF I CAN JUST BLAST THAT THING OFF HER NECK, IT SHOULD DO THE JOB. I HOPE.

IT SEEMS THAT IKUYEYE'S NECKLACE ON HER NECK FEEDS HER UNLIMITED DARK ENERGY, AND THAT GLOW SHOULD BE WHAT BINDS HER SOUL TO THE POWER OF THE BEADS.

WHAT CHANCE DOES IT HAVE AGAINST MY DEATH VENOMS



NOOOO STOP IT, IT HURTING ME! WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME! STOP! STOP! STOP!



AND LIKE A MIST IN THE DARK WIND, A SHADOW OF EVIL THAT DWARFENS WORDS FLED FROM HER SOUL

I SAW IT, THE TRUE FIEND THAT LURKED IN THE DARK FENCES OF HER SOUL...THE HATE AND THE DARKNESS THAT HAD COMFORTED HER FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.



AND IN THE FACE OF THIS CONFLICT I ASKED MY SELF IF THIS DEMON INSIDE OF ME WOULD DRIVE ME INTO MADNESS OR GRANT ME THE PEACE THAT I SEEK.

THE BATTLE FINALLY ENDS WITH MY ULTIMATE TRIUMPH. AH...REMINOS ME OF MY GLORY DAYS ON THE BATTLE FIELD DEFEATING DEMONS AND GIANTS ALIKE.

NO, YOU'RE WRONG. THIS STORY WASNT ABOUT US IT WAS ABOUT A LITTLE GIRL WAS TORN FROM HER WORLD FOREVER.

YOU'RE TRULY UNBELIEVABLE AJAGBEJA. I JUST FINISHED CLEANING UP THE MESS YOU MADE THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO AND YOU'RE GLOATING ON YOUR VICTORY FROM A BATTLE THAT WASNT SUPPOSE TO HAPPEN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HEY, DO NOT START WITH THAT SCORNFUL TONE. WE JUST WON THE BATTLE BOY, WE SHOULD CELEBRATE! OUR TALE OF CONQUEST CONTINUES.

A CREATURE OF INNOCENCE THAT WAS SCARRED WITH SORROW AND LONELINESS THAT HER TENDER HEART JUST COULDN'T BEAR. HER ONLY SOURCE OF JOY AND WILL TO LIVE TAKEN RIGHT BEFORE HER EYES.

ABANDONED, STARVED AND USED BY THOSE WHO MOCKED HER MISERY NOT KNOWING WHAT TO DO, NOR HAVING ANYONE TO CONFIDE IN.

NO FAMILY, NO HOME, NO ONE, NO HOPE.

SO TELL ME AJAGBEJA, IS THIS STORY REALLY ABOUT US?

OR ARE WE JUST THE ONES PUTTING THE P U Z Z L E S TOGETHER...PICKING UP THE BROKEN PIECES.

BUT YOU MUST KNOW THIS SON. JUST LIKE EVIL PREYED ON THE WEAK IN MY TIME, SO IT PERSISTS TODAY. IF YOU MUST DEFEAT THE APPROACHING DARKNESS, YOU MUST BE PREPARED.

WHATEVER.

DAYS LATER...

SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO TELL HER? SHE HASN'T PICKED ANY OF YOUR CALLS

I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE I SHOULD TELL HER TRUTH. THE TOUTH ALWAYS SETS FREE, RIGHT?

THAT WOULD BE NICE, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HOW YOU'LL INTRODUCE ME TO HER NICELY.

CHICHI! SEE WHO'S COMING, WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?

OH HERE'S YOUR CHANCE HERE SHE COMES.

OH NO! LET'S TALK BACK!

I THINK HE HAS ALREADY SEEN YOU SO YOU CAN'T HIDE.

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR HIM AND TELL HIM.

HI CLARA! HI CHICHE?!

HELLO BOLAJI, WHAT'S UP?

CLARA, I'LL JOIN YOU IN THE HOSTEL.

OKAY, BUY SOMETHING WHEN COMING BACK O.

CHICHE CAN I SEE YOU? I WON'T TAKE YOUR TIME







WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?

SHE THINKS YOU ARE IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE. WELL LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE, SHE DOESN'T THINK YOU ARE MAD.

AND BESIDES HOW DO YOU THINK SHE COULD EVER BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE.

I GUESS SOME SECRETS ARE JUST BETTER KEPT SECRET.

OR MAYBE I SHOULD FIND A WAY OF BECOMING WHO I USED TO BE AGAIN.

FROM THE DEPTH OF MY HEART, ABOLAJI, I AM TRULY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE OKAY. OR CANT I HAVE THAT. EVEN IF ITS JUST FOR A WHILE

TO BE CONTINUED...

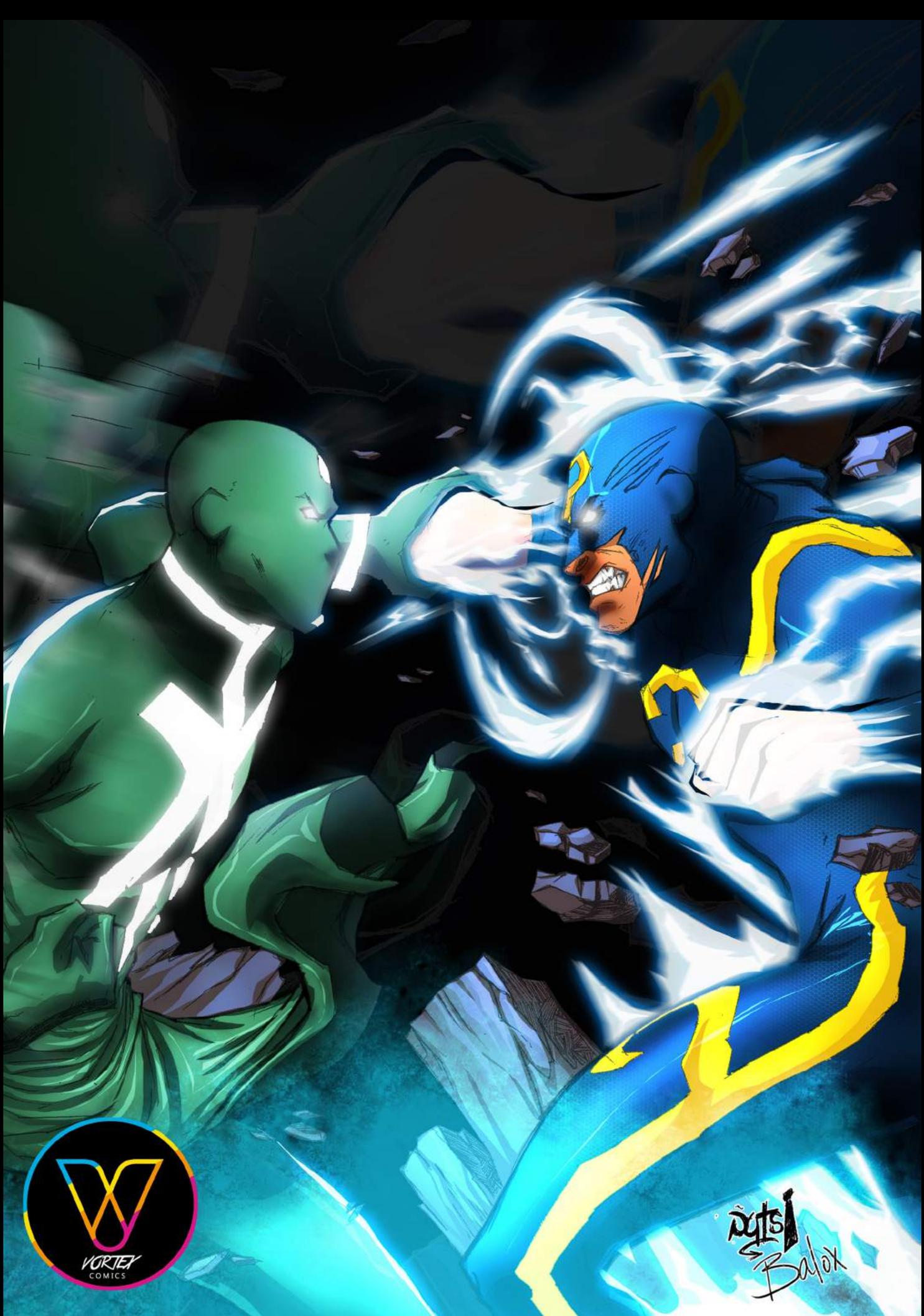
SOMEWHERE ELSE

I WONDER
HOW MUCH THIS
WILL FETCH ME.
IF I SELL IT!

WHY DON'T YOU
WEAR IT FIRST. SEE
HOW GOOD IT LOOKS
ON YOU!

YEAH! WHY
DON'T I GO SHOW
IT OFF TO THE
BOYS WHILE I
GET A BUYER.

IT'S NOT OVER
A-JAGBE JA. IT'S NOT
OVER STRIKEGUARD.
HAHAHAHAHA!



Pytsi
Balox

www.vortex247.com

