

ENVIRONMENTAL
CRUSADER
COMIC SERIES



MIGHTY JOO

GALAMSLAYED

(ILLEGAL MINING)



*James
Johnson*





MEANWHILE, A FEW MILES AWAY, IN THE HEART OF THE SACRED EFUTU FOREST, A LONELY BOAT IS SEEN SAILING ACROSS THE GENTLE WATERS OF THE EFUTU RIVER WITH WHAT SEEMS LIKE A SOPHISTICATED MARINE EQUIPMENT.

ON BOARD IS WANG, A SINISTER AGENT, WHO IS ON A MISSION TO EXPLOIT THE ENVIRONMENT FOR HER SELFISH GAINS.



beep!
beep!

I THINK MY ALLUVIAL GOLD DETECTOR IS PICKING UP SOMETHING...



beep!!
beep!!
beep!!

YEP! YEP! I T-O-L-D YOU!



WE FOUND A G-O-O-D SPOT! THERE'S PLENTY OF GOLD BENEATH. BRING IN THE DIGGING MACHINE. LET'S DIG AND MAKE SOME MONEY HEHEHE.

beep!
beep!

!?

WHO CARES ABOUT THE HARM IT DOES TO THIS WATER BODY HEHEHE

THE PRACTICE OF DREDGING THE BOTTOM OF STREAMS AND RIVERS FOR GOLD IS NOT ONLY HARMFUL TO THE ENVIRONMENT BUT TO THE LIVES OF COMMUNITIES LIVING IN AND AROUND SUCH WATER BODIES.

HELLO! HELLO! I'M LOOKING BUT I'M NOT SEEING YOU! CAN YOU DRIVE FAST AND GET HERE NOW NOW?? I'M WAITING!



**HONK!!
HONK!!**

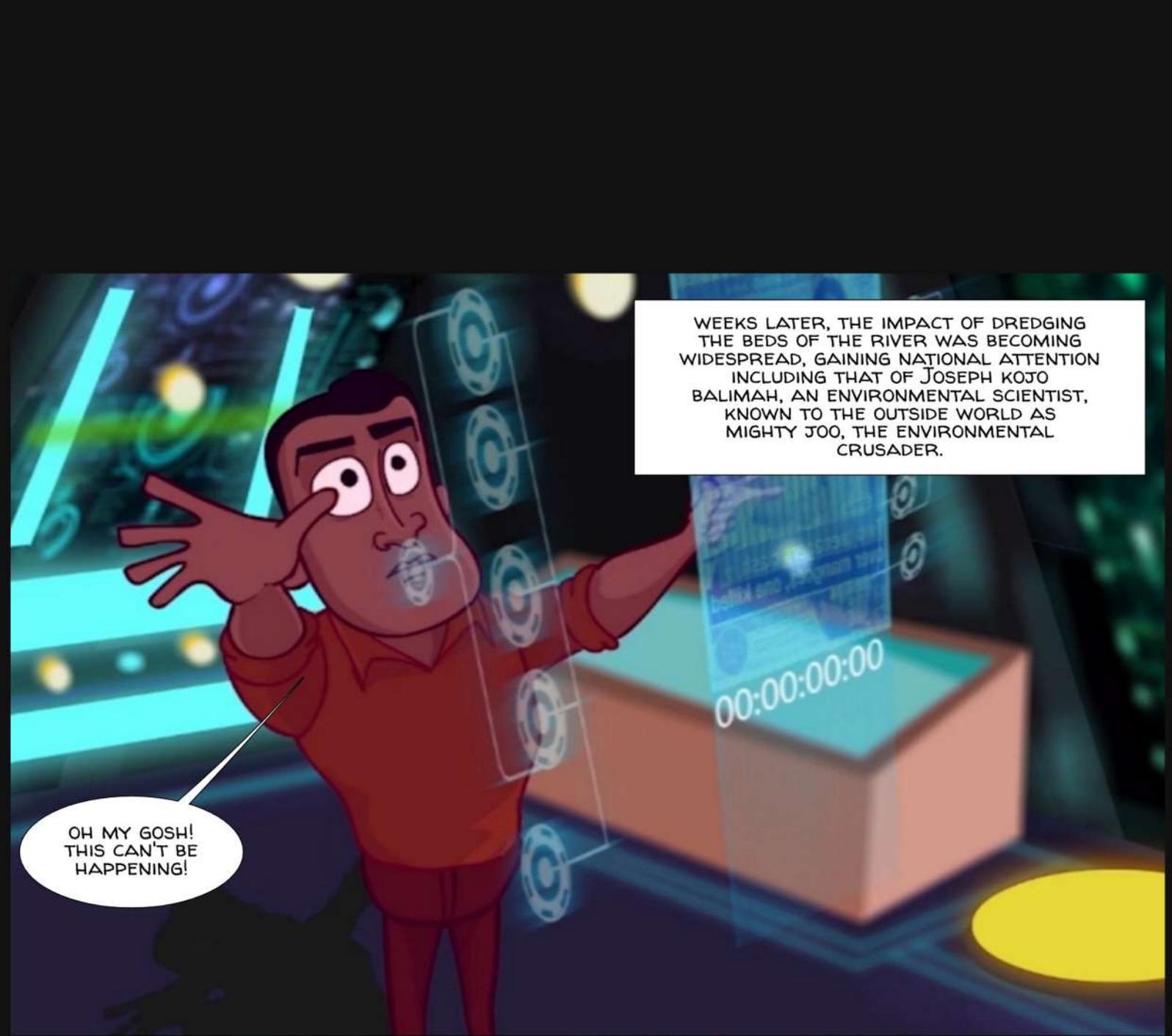


DON'T WORRY WANG! WE ARE HERE AT FULL CAPACITY.



HAHAHA...





WEEKS LATER, THE IMPACT OF DREDGING THE BEDS OF THE RIVER WAS BECOMING WIDESPREAD, GAINING NATIONAL ATTENTION INCLUDING THAT OF JOSEPH KOJO BALIMAH, AN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST, KNOWN TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD AS MIGHTY JOO, THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRUSADER.

OH MY GOSH!
THIS CAN'T BE
HAPPENING!

FROM HIS STATE-OF-THE-ART ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING LAB, KOJO BALIMA IS ABLE TO KEEP TRACK OF THE STATE/TRENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT.



NO! NO! NOT AGAIN!



"A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE HAD TO FIND WAYS OF KEEPING BODY AND SOUL TOGETHER AND I CAN UNDERSTAND IT, THAT THE FIRST DUTY OF ANY MAN OR WOMAN, IS TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR FAMILIES".



BUT THERE ARE THINGS THAT WE JUST CANNOT ALLOW TO HAPPEN. FOREST AREAS WHICH WE SHOULD PROTECT FOR THE SANCTITY OF OUR LIFE AND OUR ENVIRONMENT IS BEING DESTROYED BY THIS PHENOMENON KNOW AS GALAMSEY.

"THE ACTIVITIES THAT THEY ARE INVOLVED IN ARE JEOPARDIZING THE VEY SURVIVAL OF OUR NATION".



"THIS ILLEGAL MINING THAT IS TAKING PLACE IS BEGINNING TO AFFECT OUR WATER BODIES"....



..."OUR SPACE. ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE"...

..."ARE INVOLVED IN THIS PRACTICE".



..."DESTROYING OUR INHERITANCE WHICH OUR FATHERS, GRANDFATHERS, GREAT GRANDFATHERS BEREAVED TO US, ESPECIALLY THE GHANAIAN SPACE WHICH WE OCCUPY".

OH MY GOD! THIS HAS GOT TO STOP! THIS HAS GOT TO STOP! LET'S SEE WHAT AREAS HAVE BEEN AFFECTED!

tap
tap
tap...

GALAMSEY AFFECTED SITES



GOSH!! IT'S SO WIDESPREAD! THIS HAS GOT TO STOP, THIS HAS GOT TO STOP!!

"WE HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO SAY NO, THIS WE CANNOT ALLOW TO GO ON FOR THE SAKE OF OUR OWN SURVIVAL AND THE SURVIVAL OF THOSE WATER BODIES".

riiing...!

HELLO, KWAME
ASEM! WHAT IS
IT?

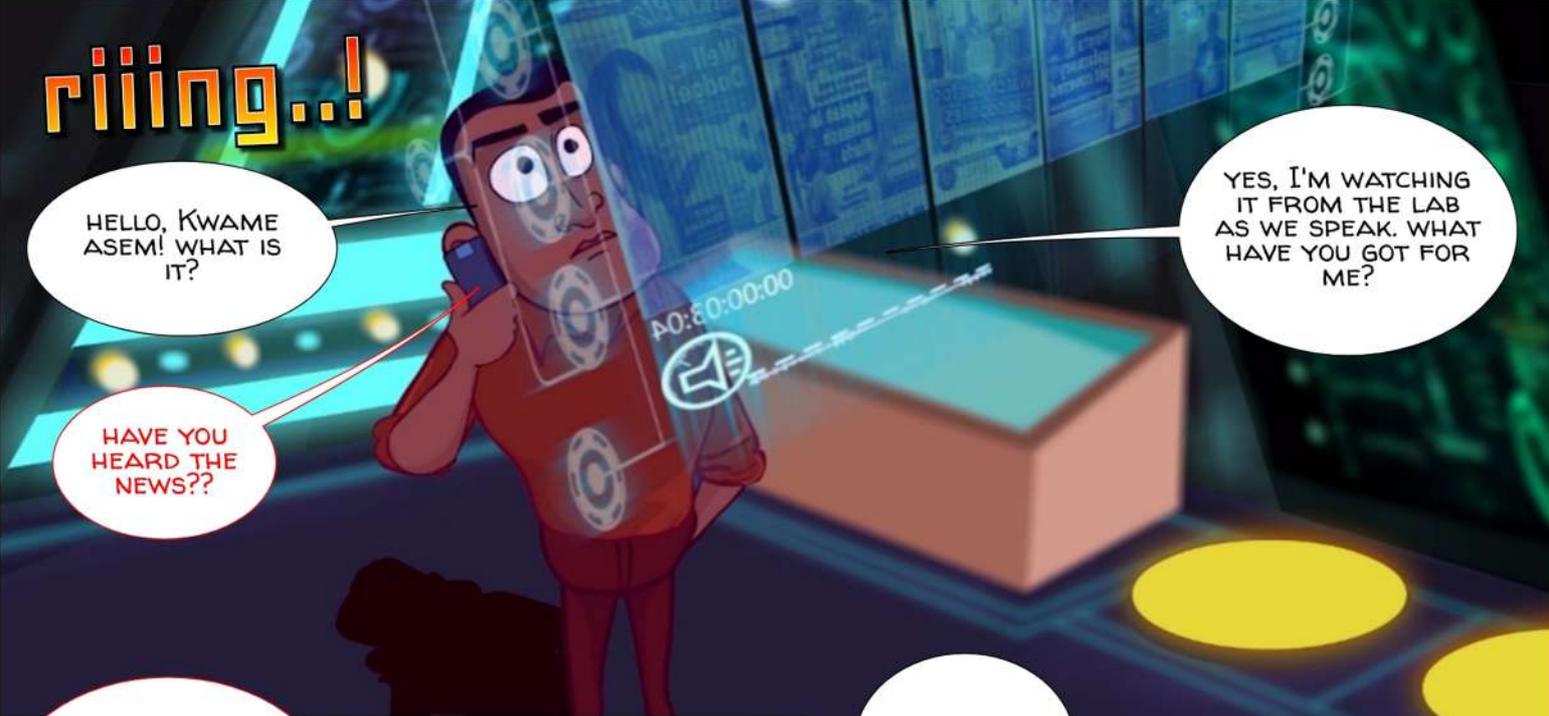
YES, I'M WATCHING
IT FROM THE LAB
AS WE SPEAK. WHAT
HAVE YOU GOT FOR
ME?

HAVE YOU
HEARD THE
NEWS??

40:50:00:00

KOJO, IT'S WORSE
THAN YOU THINK. I
THINK THE CRUSADER
IS NEEDED FOR
THIS.

SURE BUDDY,
I'M ON IT!



LIKE A MAN POSSESSED, KOJO BALIMA RACES UP A FLIGHT OF STAIRS WHICH LED HIM TO A SPECIAL DOOR. TOUCHING A SPECIAL BUTTON ON THE DOOR...

tzzzzz...

...HE IS USHERED INTO A SECRET CHAMBER THAT HOUSES A SPECIAL OUTFIT..



...WHICH, WHEN ADORNED...

click!

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY





..TRANSFORMS HIM INTO...

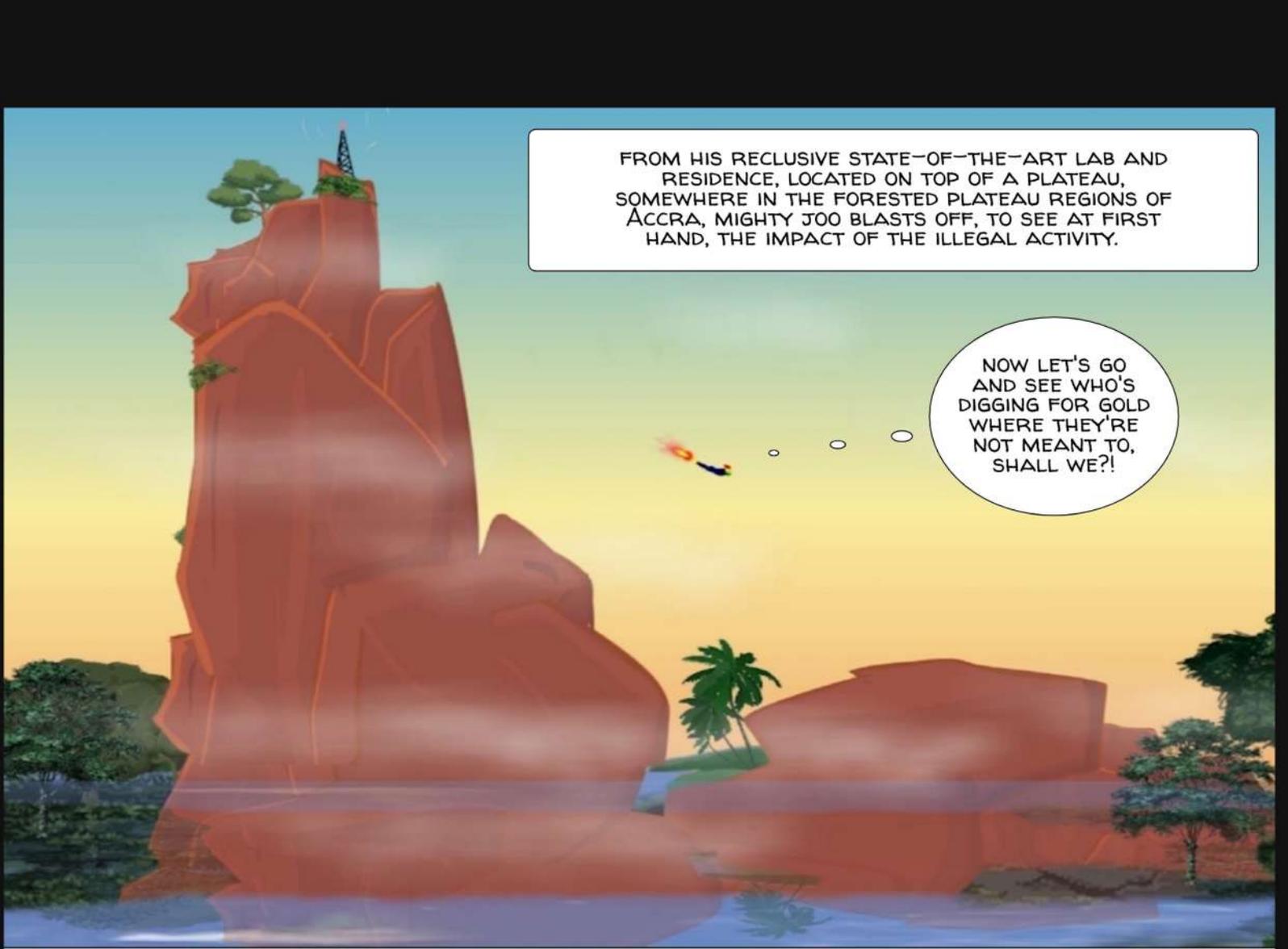
GOSH! THE FEELING I GET WHEN I WEAR THIS SUIT IS AMAZING! SO EMPOWERING!



...MIGHTY JOO, THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRUSADER.

IF THE KIND OF BADDIES I GO AFTER WERE YOUR EVERYDAY VILLAINS I'D SAY I'D LOVE TO WEAR IT EVERYDAY BUT UNFORTUNATELY, MY NEMESIS ARE ALWAYS DOING SOMETHING TERRIBLE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND THAT, I CANT ENTERTAIN.





FROM HIS RECLUSIVE STATE-OF-THE-ART LAB AND RESIDENCE, LOCATED ON TOP OF A PLATEAU, SOMEWHERE IN THE FORESTED PLATEAU REGIONS OF ACCRA, MIGHTY JOO BLASTS OFF, TO SEE AT FIRST HAND, THE IMPACT OF THE ILLEGAL ACTIVITY.

NOW LET'S GO AND SEE WHO'S DIGGING FOR GOLD WHERE THEY'RE NOT MEANT TO, SHALL WE?!

BEATS ME HOW PEOPLE CAN BE SO GREEDY THEY'LL WRECK HAVOC ON THE ENVIRONMENT...

RING! RING!

...AT EVERYBODY ELSE'S EXPENSE.

SUDDENLY, HIS INBUILT PHONE SYSTEM GOES OFF, BREAKING HIS THOUGHTS.



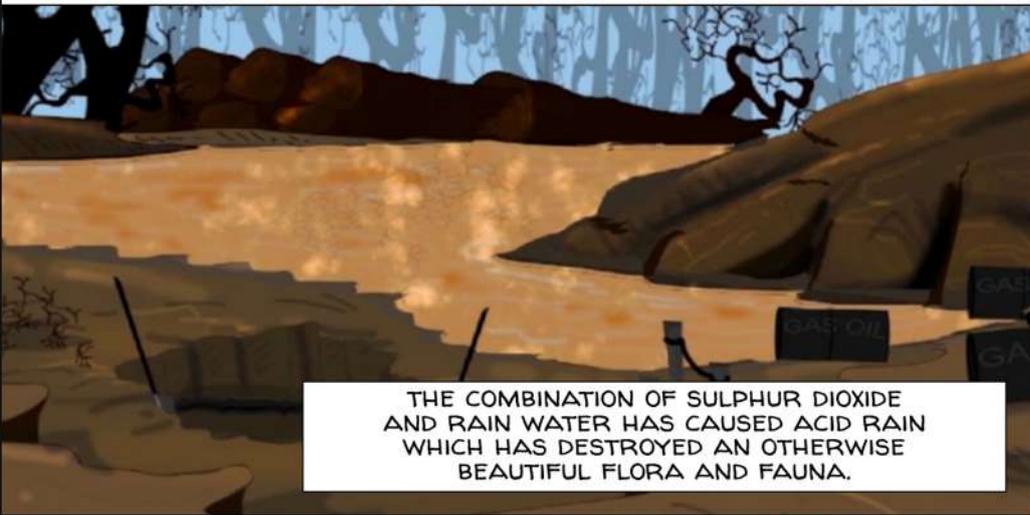
BLASTING THROUGH THE ACCRA-CAPE COAST AIR SPACE AT SONIC SPEED, MIGHTY JOO ARRIVES AT EFUTU IN THE CENTRAL REGION OF GHANA, THE SITE OF THE LATEST ILLEGAL MINING ACTIVITIES THAT HAS GRABBED THE NATIONS HEADLINES.

RIVER SYSTEMS THAT SUPPLY WATER TO COMMUNITIES TOTALLY CONTAMINATED...

OIL USED TO OPERATE MACHINERY SPILLED INTO THE RIVER, CONTAMINATING IT.

THE COMBINATION OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE AND RAIN WATER HAS CAUSED ACID RAIN WHICH HAS DESTROYED AN OTHERWISE BEAUTIFUL FLORA AND FAUNA.

THE CONTAMINATED WATER IN TURN REDUCED CARBON DIOXIDE. FISH ARE UNABLE TO BREATHE AND DIE AS A RESULT.





MIGHTY JOO WAS SHOCKED BEYOND WORDS. THE HEADLINES WERE NO SENSATIONALIZATION. THE THREATS ARE ALL TOO REAL...



...AND HE DOESN'T LIKE IT!!



NOT ONE BIT!! WHOEVER IS BEHIND THIS MUST BE BROUGHT TO BOOK...IMMEDIATELY!!

SWWOOSH!



THERE YOU ARE, YOU SCAVENGING VERMLINS!! YOUR LACK OF RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IS OBNOXIOUSLY DEPLORABLE!



LISTEN UP YOU SCAVENGERS, YOU HAVE EXACTLY TEN MINUTES TO STOP YOUR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND VACATE THIS AREA.

WHO'S THAT?

I DON'T KNOW!

I THINK ITS MIGHTY JOO! WE'RE IN TROUBLE!

?!
?!



YOU DO NOT WANT ME TO COME DOWN THERE, DO YOU?

...TIC-TOC-TIC-TOC...



ERMM...MR MIGHTY JOO, OUR BOSS SAY WE CAN WORK HERE.



AND THAT ORDER STILL STANDS!! WHO ARE YOU AND HOW DARE YOU TRESPASS MY PROPERTY?

IF I WAS YOU, I WOULD CRAWL BACK WHERE I CAME FROM.



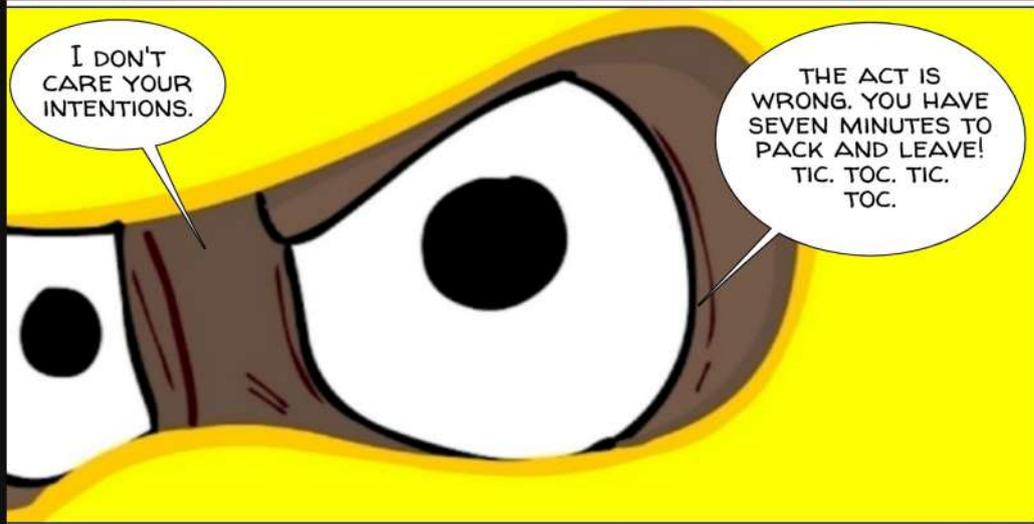
I AM MISS WANG AND NOBODY LIKES TO CROSS PATHS WITH ME!



YOU VERY MUCH KNOW YOU HAVE ENCROACHED ON COMMUNITY PROPERTY AND YOUR ACTIONS HERE ARE DISRUPTING THE ECHO-BALANCE. FOR THE SAKE OF POSTERITY, YOU CANNOT PROCEED ANY FURTHER!



I'M ONLY HELPING THESE POOR JOBLESS SOULS MAKE MONEY BY GATHERING THESE GOLD TO SELL. IS THAT A CRIME?



I DON'T CARE YOUR INTENTIONS.

THE ACT IS WRONG. YOU HAVE SEVEN MINUTES TO PACK AND LEAVE!
TIC. TOC. TIC. TOC.



I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO BE NICE TO YOU...



...BUT NOW, YOU LEAVE ME WITH NO OTHER OPTION...



NEITHER DO YOU!!



WHAT ARE STANDING THERE FOR!!??...

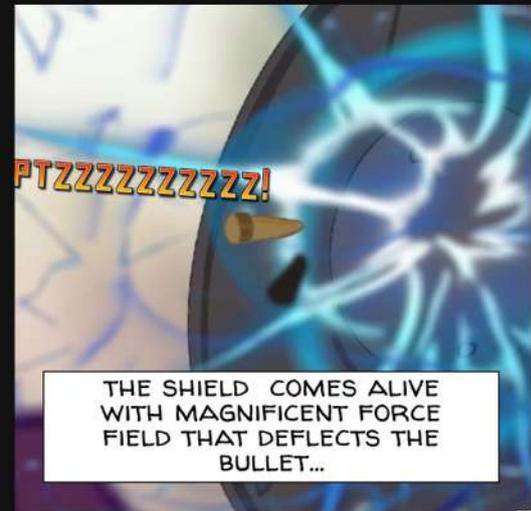
...**KILL HIM!!!!**



WITHOUT SECOND THOUGHTS, WANG'S HENCHMEN OPENED FIRE AT MIGHTY JOO WHO INSTINCTIVELY WIELDS HIS SHIELD, DESIGNED FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS AND INSTALLED WITH HIGH-TECH FUNCTIONS TO BLOCK THE RAIN OF BULLETS.



"LET'S SEE HOW YOU HANDLE IT WHEN I DEFLECT YOUR OWN BULLET BACK TO YOU".



POW!

IS THAT THE
RAIN? I LOVE THE
RAIN. DO YOU?

THUD!

ARGH!



NOW!...WHERE'S THAT LEADER OF YOURS??
WANG! WANG!



I'M RIGHT HERE, YOU NOSEY! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH I INVESTED IN THIS OPERATION??

**BANG! BANG!
BANG!**



ANOTHER BULLET!?!?



WITH LIGHTENING SPEED, MIGHTY JOO STAYS FOCUSED AND SIMPLY...



...MOVES OUT OF THE BALLETS' PRESET TRAJECTORY.



IS THAT ALL YOU GOT TO OFFER IN TERMS OF DEFENCE??



I'M IN THE PROCESS
OF LOSING
EVERYTHING I'VE
WORKED FOR SO NO,
ITS NOT ALL I'VE
GOT!

WHAT IS IT WITH YOU
AND THE ENVIRONMENT
ANYWAY? ITS NATURE'S
RESOURCE. IF PEOPLE
ARE STARVING AND CAN
EXPLOIT IT TO MAKE A
LIVING FOR THEMSELVES
WHY NOT?

WHO ARE YOU TO
TELL THEM WHAT TO
DO AND WHAT NOT
TO DO??



...**EEEEAAAAAHH...!!**

WANG CHARGES LIKE
A RANGING BULL...

...AND LAUNCHED HER FEET INTO MIGHTY JOO WITH SUCH A FORCE...

THUD...!!

...IT SENT MIGHTY JOO FLYING THROUGH THE AIR.

OUCH! THIS WOMAN CAN PACK A PUNCH! I FELT THAT!

SUDDENLY, HE WAS DISTRACTED BY A SHARP INCREASING ROTOR NOISE...

???

...OF AN ESCAPING HELICOPTER.

KEEP WANG BUSY ALL YOU CAN MY COSTUMED FRIEND BUT YOU CAN'T STOP ME FROM ENJOYING FRUITS OF MY LABOUR HAAAA!

OH NO!!

WOMEN'S GOLD TRADINGS



"SHE WASN'T WORKING ALONE. IT'S A SYNDICATE. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN. LOOK AT THE STATE OF THE RIVER!"



YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH THIS WANG!



MIGHTY JOO LAUNCHES HIMSELF ONTO WANG, UNLEASHING A BARRAGE OF KNOCKOUT PUNCHES OF HIS OWN.



YOU WERE ASKING EARLIER "WHAT IS IT WITH ME AND THE ENVIRONMENT?"...

...I'LL TELL YOU WHAT, PEOPLE LIKE YOU ANNOY ME. ALL YOU THINK ABOUT IS YOURSELF AND NO ONE ELSE!

DAZED AND OUT PUNCHED, WANG STOOD THERE LIKE A WOMAN DEFEATED IN BATTLE, WHILE MIGHTY JOO LEAPS INTO THE AIR TO DELIVER A DEVASTATING KICK...

I GOT NEWS FOR YOU...MILLIONS OF OTHERS DEPEND ON THE SAME ENVIRONMENT YOU'RE EXPLOITING FOR WEALTH.

MY JOB, WANG, IS TO STOP YOUR LIKES FROM MAKING AN ALREADY BAD SITUATION WORSE!



...THAT SENT HER FLYING THROUGH THE RAIN...

AAARRGGHHH...!!



...HELPLESSLY...



THUD!!

...TILL SHE SMASHES HER BACK INTO THE SIDE OF THE SURROUNDING MOUNTAINS...

OUCH!!

...AND DROPS INTO A RIVER BELOW.

OH YUK!! THIS WATER SMELLS DISGUSTING!

THAT'S THE KIND OF WATER YOU'RE ASKING THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES TO DRINK.

I AM NOT MY BROTHER'S KEEPER. WE MUST EACH DO WHAT WE MUST TO SURVIVE IN THIS "JUNGLE" WE LIVE IN.

WAIT TILL I PULL MYSELF OUT OF HERE, I WILL...HELP! THE WATER...ITS DRAGGING ME...

HELP!
...HELLLLPP!!



ARGHHH!!

OKAY! OKAY! I CHANGE. I'LL DO THE RIGHT THING NEXT TIME. HELP ME, PLEEEASSE!!...



TIC.TOC.TIC.TOC. SORRY WANG, YOU JUST RAN OUT OF TIME!

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GET THE COMMUNITY AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES INVOLVED TO CLEAN UP YOUR MESS.

BUT I PROMISE YOU I'LL HUNT DOWN THE REST OF YOUR SYNDICATE, EVERY ONE OF THEM!



OOH BRILLIANT! AWESOME!!

MONTHS LATER, KOJO BALIMA, MIGHTY JOO'S ALTER-EGO, IS SCROLLING THROUGH THE DAYS HEADLINES...



Daily Graphic
Soldiers protecting galamsey sites — Amewu
But Defence Minister promises to investigate
Aisha Huang angry with court for refusing her bail
Court restrains UCC over rusticated students
President to sport red on National Red Friday on May 26

THE COMMUNITY AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES TOOK MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS!



"THEY HAVE EVEN CREATED ENVIRONMENTAL VIGILANTES GROUP TO WARD OFF ANY ILLEGAL MINERS, THE RIVER HAS BEEN CLEANED THROUGH COMMUNAL LABOUR AND THE TREES HAVE BEEN PLANTED..."



IN FACT, EFUTU HAS TURNED INTO PARADISE ON EARTH. LIFE IS BOOMING. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MAN LEARNS TO LIVE IN HARMONY WITH ITS ENVIRONMENT. I COULDN'T HAVE WISHED FOR MORE."



TOTALLY SATISFIED WITH THE DAY'S NEWS, JOJO BALIMA ZIPS UP HIS BIKER JACKET...



...SPARKS LIFE INTO HIS MOTORCYCLE...



..AND SETS OFF IN SEARCH OF NEW THRILLS AND ADVENTURES. A FEW MINUTES INTO HIS RIDE, HIS PHONE RINGS...

RING! RIINNGG!!!

HELLO ASEM, WHAT'S UP? TELL ME YOU GOT SOMETHING INTERESTING FOR ME?!



"YOU GOING TO LOVE ME FOR THIS"

HIT ME BRO, I'M ALL EARS!

YOU KNOW HOW YOU SAID YOU LOSING SLEEP 'COS THE REST OF THE GANG GOT AWAY?...

YESS?...

VROOOOOM...

...WELL, I MANAGED TO TRACK THEM DOWN TO THE PIN, USING THE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM WE INSTALLED LAST WEEK. I CAN TELL YOU EXACTLY WHERE THEY'RE AT THIS VERY MOMENT.

VRRRRRR...

YOU'RE KIDDING ME RIGHT??

I WISH I WAS BRO'.

GOOD JOB BRO. SEND ME THE COORDINATES. I'M GOING TO PAY THEM A VISIT.

...VRRROOMMM!! *The End*