

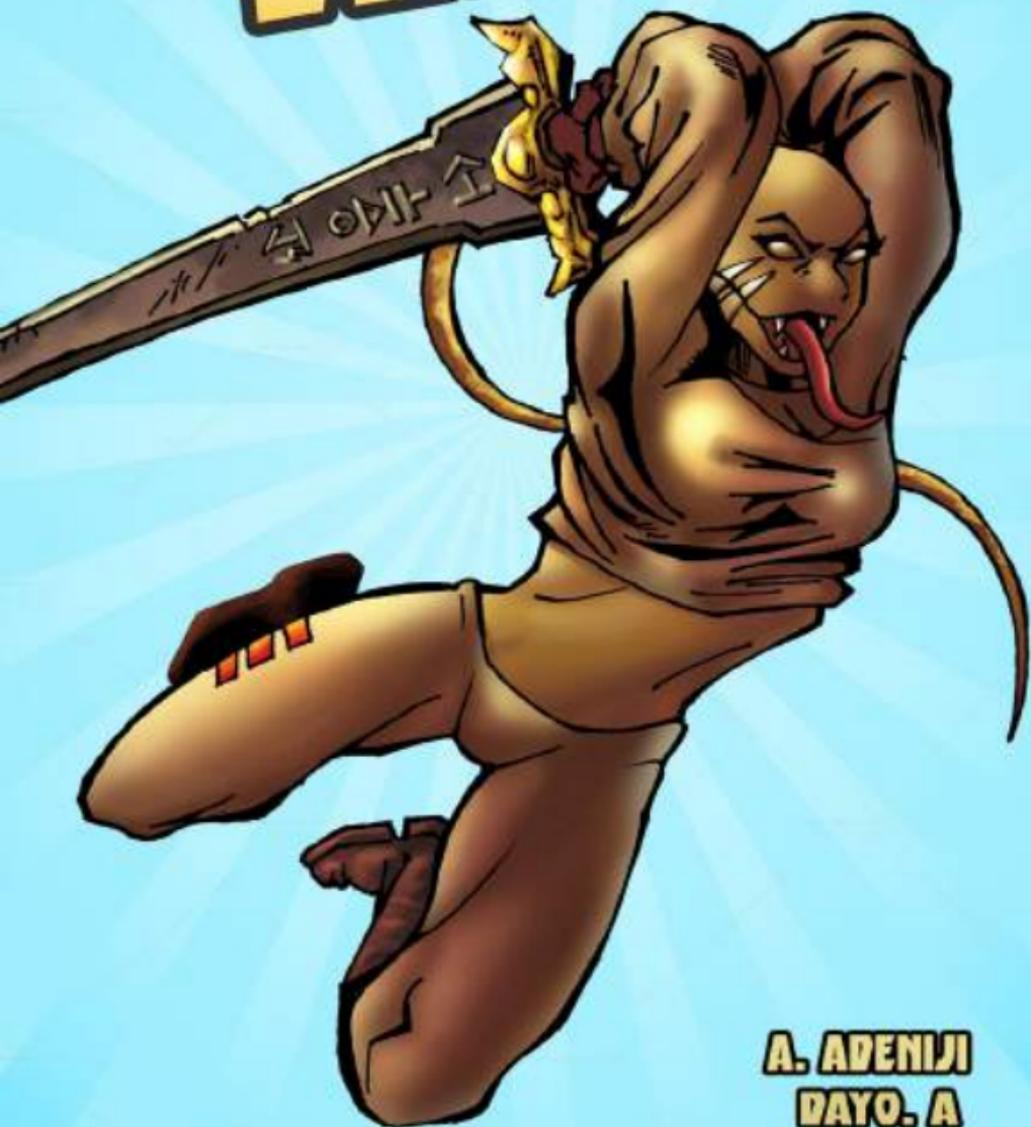
**COMIC  
BANDIT  
PRESS**

**#3**

**TRUE WILL DEFIES BELIEF**

# **VERSUS**

**VOL.1**



**A. ADENJI  
DAYO. A**

**TRUE WILL DEFIES BELIEF**  
**VERSUS**  
**ISSUE THREE**

**CREATED/WRITTEN/LETTERED  
ADENIYI ADENIJI**

**PENCILS AND INKS  
DAYO ANIMASHAUN**

**COVER ART AND COLORS BY  
CHIGOZIE AMADI AND THE  
FREE HD COMPANY**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OLUSEUN ADENIJI**

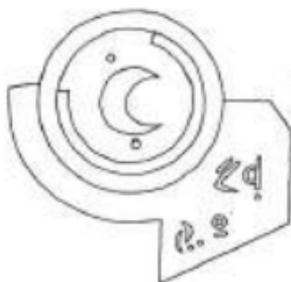
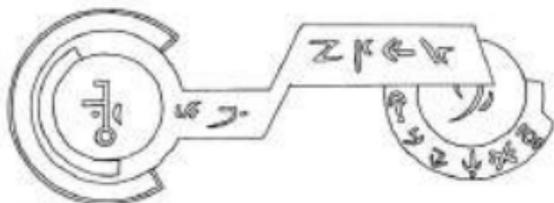


*ALL rights reserved. Used under authorization. Text and illustrations for VERSUS volume 1 (the Graphic Novel) are the copyright of Adeniyi Adeniji. ComicBandit Press and the ComicBandit Press logo are trademarks of Adeniyi Adeniji. Registered in various categories and countries. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of Adeniyi Adeniji. NAMES, CHARACTERS, PLACES, AND INCIDENTS FEATURED IN THIS PUBLICATION EITHER ARE THE PRODUCT OF THE AUTHOR'S IMAGINATION OR ARE USED FACTITIOUSLY. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS (LIVING OR DEAD), EVENTS, INSTITUTIONS, OR LOCALES, WITHOUT SATIRIC INTENT, IS COINCIDENTAL.*

ALERT!



AGENT OF THE  
PENTAGLES





WHAT  
THE HELL IS  
GOING ON  
HERE PRIEST!

IYAN'GURA  
HAS BEEN A  
LOYAL SERVANT OF  
THE ALLIANCE FOR  
MORE YEARS THAN  
I CARE TO REMEMBER.  
YOU DON'T HONESTLY  
EXPECT US TO  
BELIEVE HE'S TURNED  
HOOD AND SIDED  
WITH THE PENTACLES  
!!

WHAT YOU  
CHOOSE TO BELIEVE  
IS IRRELEVANT...  
THE FACTS ARE  
CONCLUSIVE.

HONESTLY  
COMMANDER...







**COWARDS  
!!**



**SOMEONE  
COMES TO DESTROY  
YOU AND YOU'RE ALL  
STILL WORRIED ABOUT  
WHO THE ENEMY IS...**



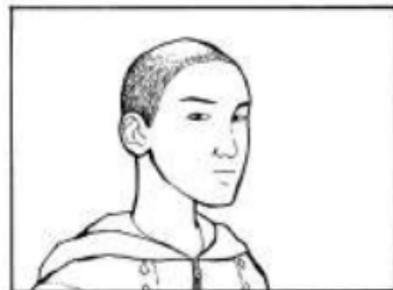
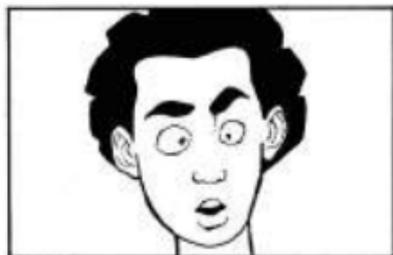
**I DON'T  
KNOW ABOUT  
THE REST OF  
YOU WEAKINGS  
BUT I CAME HERE  
TO FIGHT.**



**MY NAME IS  
JABARI...  
AND I FEAR  
NO MAN  
!!**









I GUESS  
NOT EVERYONE  
HAS HEARD  
OF THE  
DEATHLY SAINTS



ACTUALLY...  
YOU'D HAVE TO BE  
LIVING UNDER A ROCK  
IN THE MIDDLE OF AN  
UNDISCOVERED ASTEROID  
FIELD IN AN UNCHARTED  
PART OF THE UNKNOWN  
UNIVERSE NOT TO KNOW  
WHAT A DEATHLY SAINT  
WAS.



LOST IN THE  
FOLDS OF A  
FORGOTTEN  
HISTORY, THERE  
USED TO BE  
RACE OF BEINGS  
SO POWERFUL...

...THAT ALL  
WHO KNEW OF  
THEM TREMBLED  
AT THE MERE  
MENTION OF THEIR  
NAMES...

THE RANGHOL, ALSO SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS DEATH SEEKERS, POSSESSED TECHNOLOGY MORE ADVANCED THAN ANYTHING ANYONE HAD EVER SEEN.



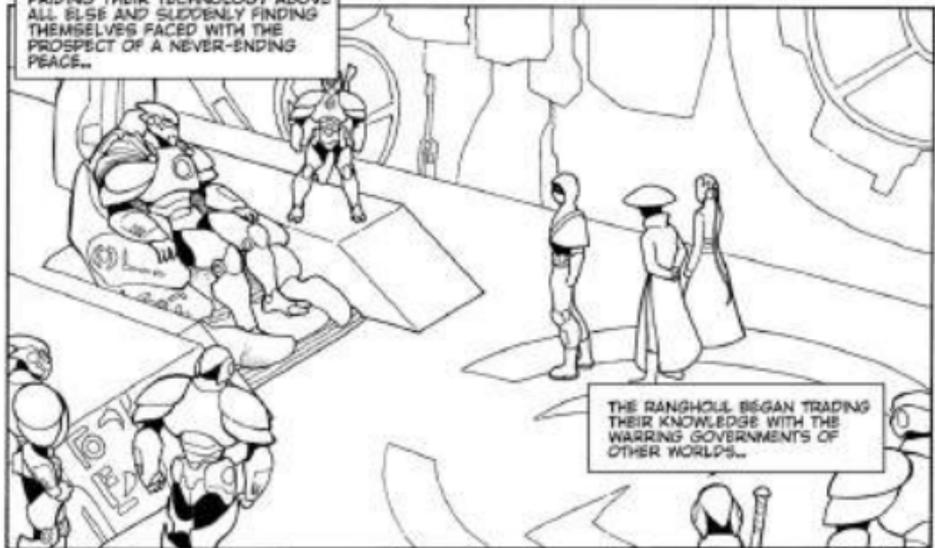
...AND WITH THIS TECHNOLOGY, THEY BROUGHT THE VERY UNIVERSE TO ITS KNEES.

THEIR DOMINATION OVER THEIR ENEMIES WAS SO COMPLETE, THAT SOON...



...THERE WAS NO ONE LEFT TO CHALLENGE THEM.

PRIDING THEIR TECHNOLOGY ABOVE ALL ELSE AND SUDDENLY FINDING THEMSELVES FACED WITH THE PROSPECT OF A NEVER-ENDING PEACE...



THE RANGHOLL BEGAN TRADING THEIR KNOWLEDGE WITH THE WARRING GOVERNMENTS OF OTHER WORLDS...



...IF FOR NOTHING ELSE THAN TO SEE THEIR TECHNOLOGY PUT TO GOOD USE.

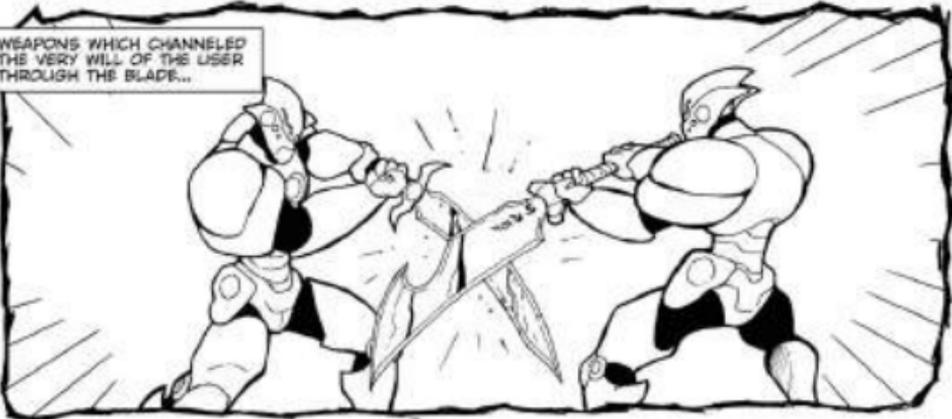
BUT FOR CENTURIES, THE MOST PRIZED WEAPON OF WAR IN THE RANGHOLL ARSENAL REMAINED OUT OF REACH...



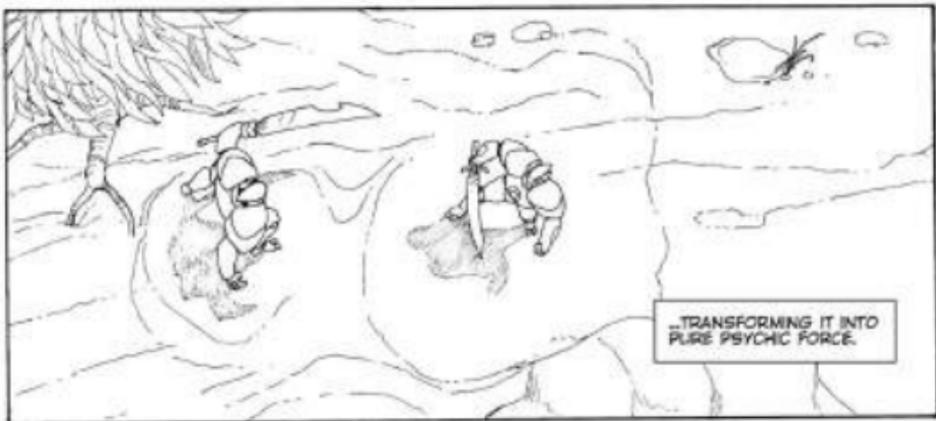
...THE FABLED SIGIL BLADES.



WEAPONS WHICH CHANNLED THE VERY WILL OF THE USER THROUGH THE BLADE...



...TRANSFORMING IT INTO PURE PSYCHIC FORCE.



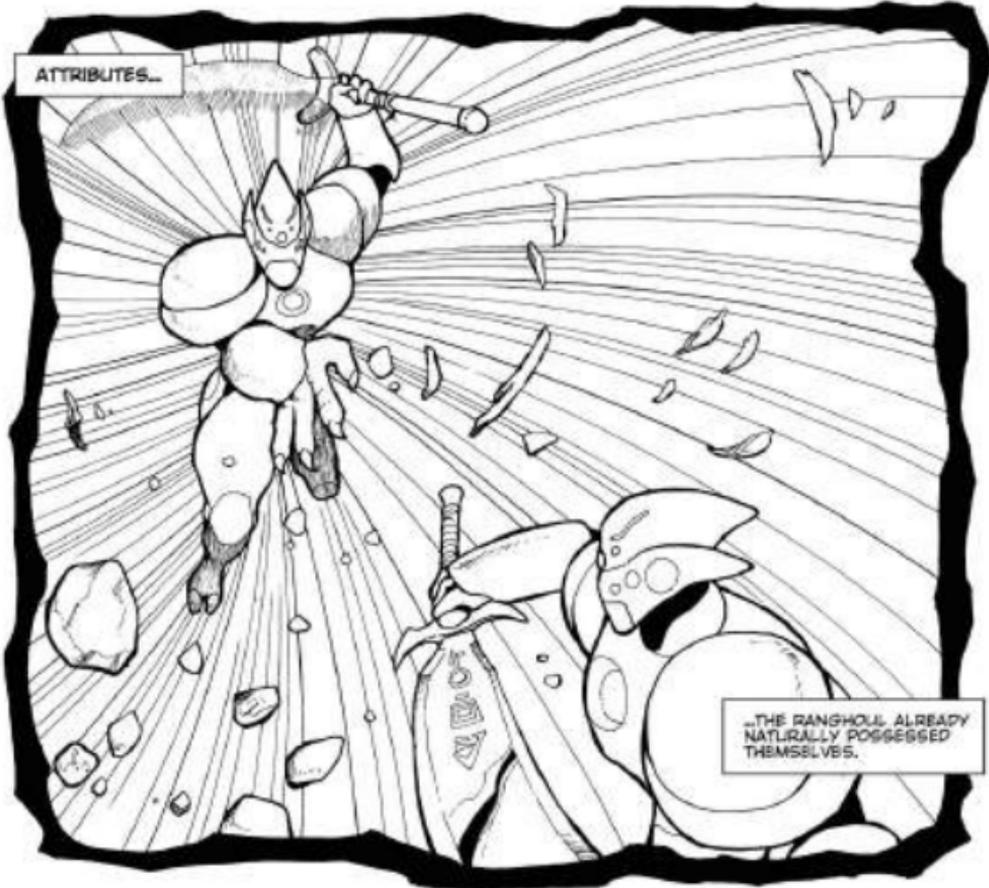
IN ORDER TO RELEASE  
THE SIGLS ON THE  
BLADE, THE USER WAS  
REQUIRED TO HAVE...



...CERTAIN MENTAL AND  
PHYSICAL SKILLS.



ATTRIBUTES...



...THE RANGHOLL ALREADY  
NATURALLY POSSESSED  
THEMSELVES.

AMONGST THE ENDLESS PLANETS OF THE COSMOS, ONLY A HANDFUL OF EACH SPECIE COUNTED THE GIFTED AMONGST THEIR NUMBER..



BUT THE UNIVERSE IS VAST, AND SO STILL, THE CHOSEN FLOCKED TO THE HOMEWORLD OF THE RANGHOL IN THE THOUSANDS.



THEY WOULD BE INSTRUCTED IN THE WAYS OF THE SIGIL MASTERS..



TO FIGHT AS THEY DID...



TO TEST THEIR LIMITS...



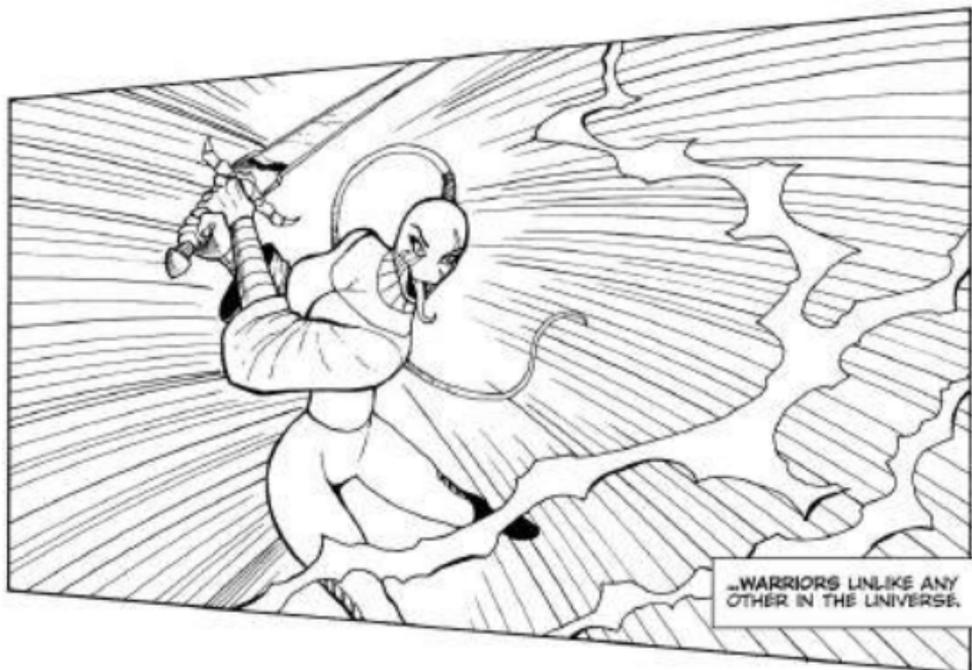
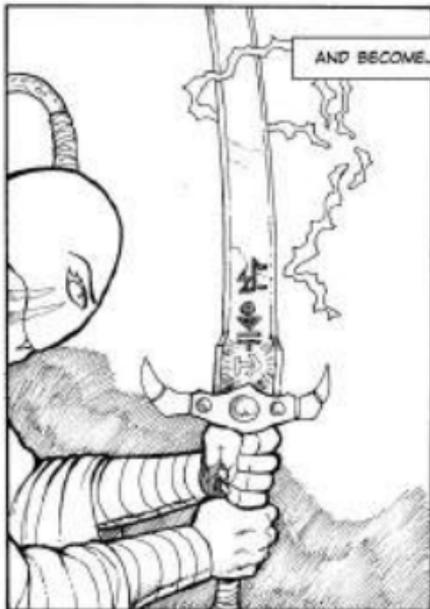
TO HONE THEIR SKILLS...



TO MASTER THE POWER  
OF THE SIGILS...



AND BECOME...



...WARRIORS UNLIKE ANY  
OTHER IN THE UNIVERSE.







THEIR KIND  
HAVEN'T BEEN  
HEARD OF SINCE  
THE TRAGIC EVENTS  
THAT SPARKED  
OFF THE  
LOST WARS...



HOWEVER...

YOU WERE  
TRAINED BY NONE  
OTHER THAN ONE OF  
THE  
13 LEGENDARY  
SAINTS OF  
SWORDS...

OHEN THE  
EMACULATE...



...GOD  
OF THE  
WHITE  
CLOTH  
!!

MASTER  
OHIN...  
PP





IMPRESSIVE  
GROUP YOU'VE  
GOT HERE...

BUT AS  
IT SO HAPPENS,  
IYAN'GURA  
ALSO HAPPENS  
TO BE ONE OF  
THE 13 SAINTS  
OF SWORDS.



A FACT  
I AM WELL  
AWARE  
OF...

...ONE FURTHER  
COMPLINED  
BY THE KNOWLEDGE  
THAT *IYAN'GURA*  
HAS ALSO BEEN  
TRAINING DISCIPLES  
OF HIS OWN.



THIS  
JUST KEEPS  
GETTING BETTER  
AND BETTER.

NOT MUCH IS KNOWN ABOUT  
IYAN'GURA'S DISCIPLES. WHAT  
LITTLE WE DO KNOW CAME  
FROM A RECENT DEFECTOR WHO  
IS CURRENTLY UNDER ALLIANCE  
PROTECTION.

WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT THESE  
DISCIPLES WEAR GREEN HOODED  
CLOAKS BEARING THE ENBLEM OF  
THE "MOON DRAGON" ON THEIR  
BACKS...IYAN'GURA'S HOUSE  
INSIGNIA AND THEY ARE HIGHLY  
SKILLED AND DANGEROUS  
INDIVIDUALS.

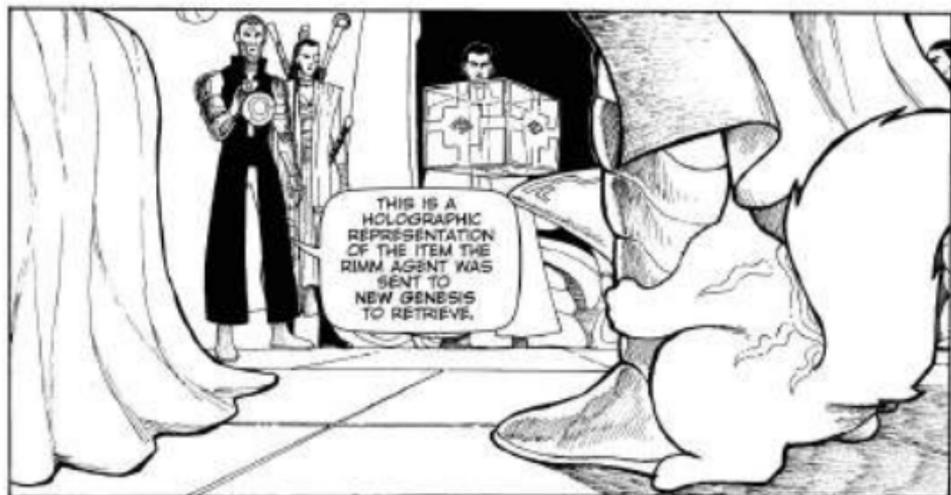
RECENTLY, WE WERE ABLE TO CONFIRM THE PRESENCE  
OF ONE OF THESE DISCIPLES ON ONE OF THE OLD BORDER  
COLONY PLANETS IN THE *REEMAR SYSTEM*.

AN AGENT OF THE RIMM GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTED  
TO PROQUIRE AN ITEM OF GREAT IMPORT FROM  
ONE OF THE SECRET INSTALLATIONS THE *PENTACLES*  
HAD ON A PLANET CALLED *NEW GENESIS*.

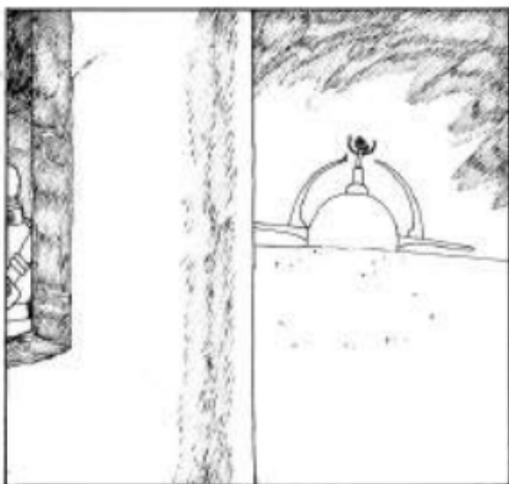
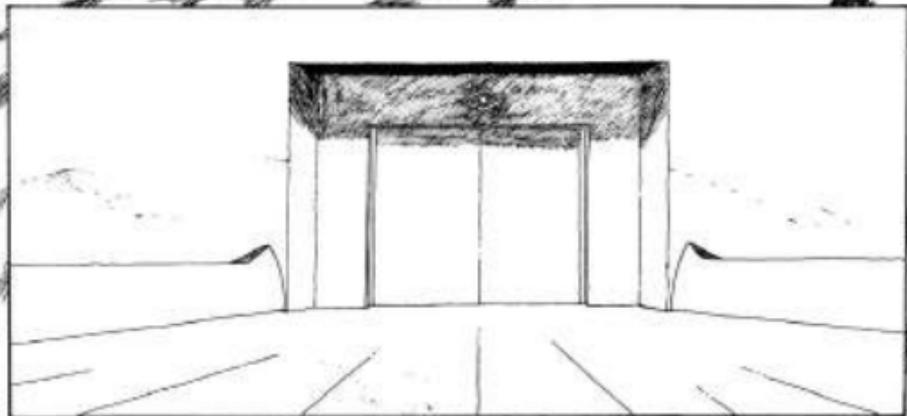
NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE MISSION WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.  
IYAN'GURA'S DISCIPLE INTERCEPTED THE COURIER  
BEFORE HE COULD DELIVER THE ITEM TO US.



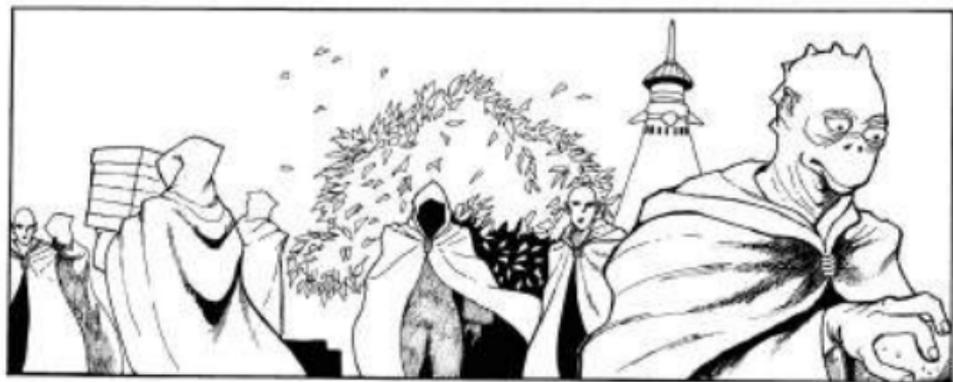
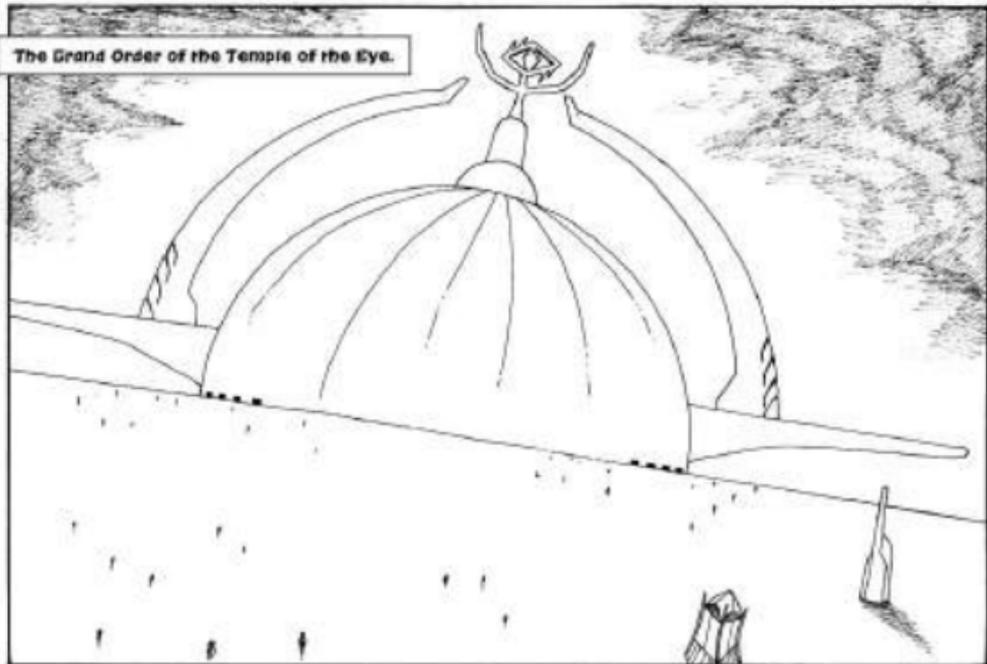
THE 'AUGUST PRIESTS' ARE DEVOUT FOLLOWERS OF THE AUGUST ID'LL AND THE MOST POWERFUL RELIGIOUS ORDER IN THE HUCMAN UNIVERSE. UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE SYMBOLS ON THEIR CLOAKS AND BARRICETS (ALSO KNOWN AS 'THE MARK OF FLESH') THE AUGUST PRIESTS HAVE BEEN AT THE CENTER OF POLITICAL AND SPIRITUAL POWER IN THE UNIVERSE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.



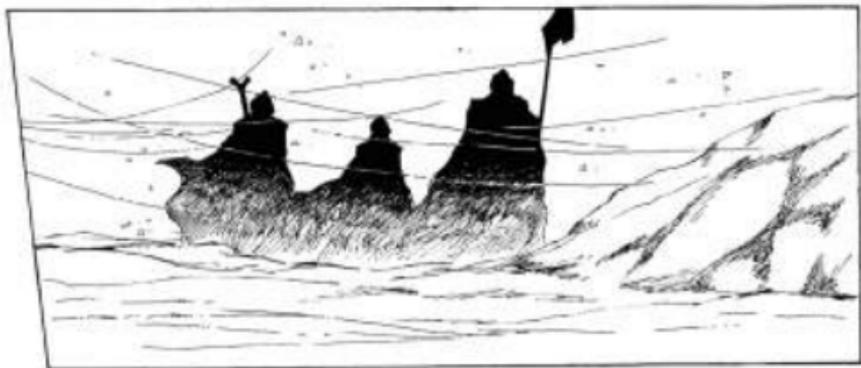
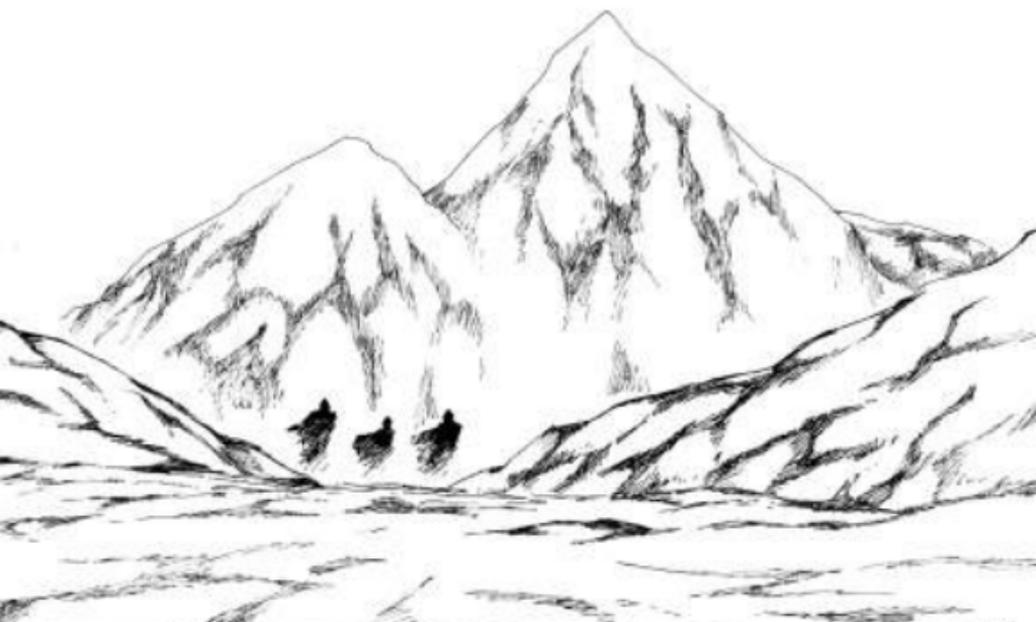
Planer Gask, Outer Rim.



The Grand Order of the Temple of the Eye.

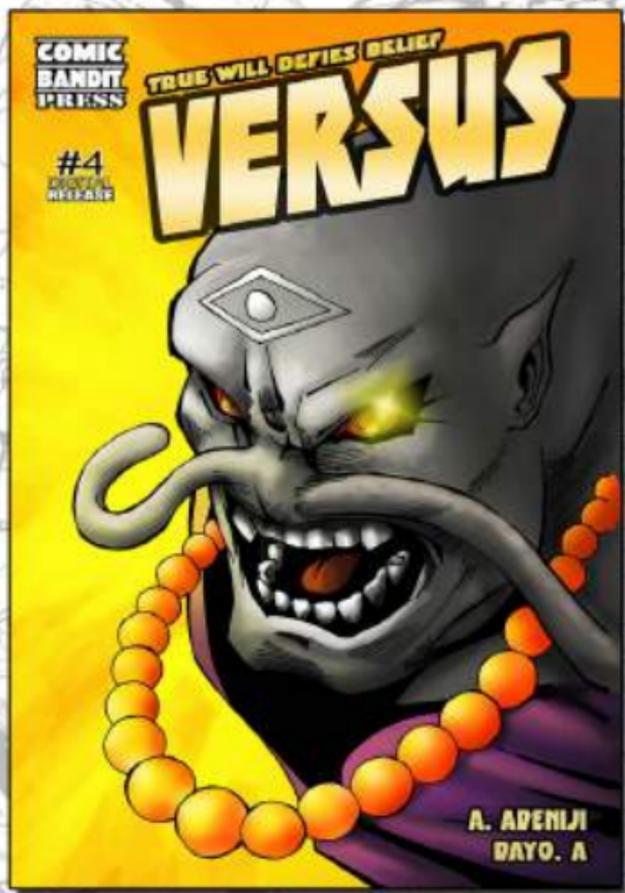


SFX: THE DISTANT WHIRRING OF A  
MECHANICAL ENGINE\*





**TO BE CONTINUED...**



**EVERY MONTH FIRST @  
WWW.COMICBANDIT.COM**

# THE SAINTS OF SWORDS



Ohin Longshadow is of a humanoid race from a planet called Dela Eden. Born a Soul Saint, and being one of the only of their kind amongst his people, he was immediately drafted into the Crucible-the Ranghoul Training camp for aspiring Deathly Saints- by the Elders of his home planet.

His somewhat diminutive stature instantly made him a target of snide remarks and jokes by the other Crucible candidates. Their jests were short-lived however, as the diminutive little boy showed a great flair for the art of swordplay, one which was further highlighted by the inability for majority of his peers to even land a single blow on his person, leaving the pure white garments he often wore practically unstained.

So, it would come as no surprise to the Sigil Masters when he would eventually become the Master of Isla (which means Island), a legendary single sigil sword and go on to become one of the 13 Legendary Saints of Swords and was hence known as "Ohin the Immaculate, god of the White Cloth".



The mysterious Deathly Saint known more commonly as "The Storm-Walker" is often claimed to have been the most powerful Deathly Saint of his time.

As Master of the Stormblade "Sutekh" it is often said that there were few (with the possible exception of the Sigil Masters themselves) who could challenge him. Having fought in the "Lost Wars" along with Ohin and Iyan'gura he would also be named as one of the 13 Legendary Saints of Swords.

# SIGIL SWORDS

The Sigils/Runes/Symbols on Sigil Swords are taking from the Ranghoul race's ancient language. Each symbol represents the embodiment of a fundamental law or element and grants the User of the weapons access to a pre-programmed manipulation of the element in question. The Swords themselves aren't magical, but a highly evolved form of technology. Technologically created conduits for a Saints massive psychic energy, programmed to replicate the synaptic process a Saint would otherwise have to learn through training or natural processes. Normally a Soul Saint would have to be taught specifically to control one or the other of these elements or would naturally attune themselves to one (or sometimes more) of these elements in question, often due to the nature of their environment. In other words, a Sigil Sword/Weapon does the brainwork for the Soul Saint and gives him/her access to fundamental or elemental forces they would otherwise spend a lifetime trying to master. This highly advanced synaptic replication has caused the Sigil blades to develop a sort of sentient intelligence of their own, as they record and mimic the brainwaves of their various Users. It has often happened, where Sigil Blades choose their Masters rather than just being giving to a Soul Saint. However, even with this, a Soul Saint/Deathly Saint, can often force or bend the blade to their will, if they know how.

The Power level of the symbols on a Sigil blade is determinant on the arrangement of the Sigils on the flat of the blade (as well as the power of the User). With the symbol close to the hilt being the weakest and the one at the top, towards the point of the blade being the strongest. The range and power of the elements the Sigils are able to access are also determinant on this arrangement. For instance, a Sigil sword with a "Force Sigil" at the top of the blade would be able to summon far more powerful attacks and a wider range of techniques, than one with the "Force Sigil" at the hilt. Also, the way a Sigil User combines the abilities of the symbols is also limited by this hierarchy. The position of the sigils on the blade also indicate the level or amount of Will a Soul Saint would have to muster to activate them, the least tasking of which being the weakest symbol at the hilt and the symbol above it, going up to the tip of blade, requiring the most psychic energy to activate. In order to activate the sigils, most Saints use "keywords" or "Mantras". In truth, these Mantras aren't really necessary, activating the symbols has nothing to do with the spoken word, but is initially used to train Saints through the mental process of unlocking the power of the Sigils.

Most Sigil Swords have three to two symbols. There are, however, Sigil weapons with only one symbol. These are often amongst the rarest Sigil Blades, due mostly to the great difficulty it took for the Ranghoul Sigil Masters to craft a single symbol weapon of any real worth or power. However, single sigil weapons are amongst the most powerful of the Sigil weapons, with legendary blades like Sutekh, Ista, Mongo and Shani, to name a few. It is also said that the most powerful Sigil weapon in history was also a single sigil weapon. Its ability was so feared, even by the Sigil Masters, that all record of its name was expunged from the Ranghoul archives.

It is also important to note that no civilization has ever been able to successfully replicate the technology of the Sigil Blades. Only the Order of Priests on a planet known as Brail ever came close.

"...and much to our combined dread, he called out the name of his sword and then his opponent...and his enemy was no more."

-ISHAK, SIGIL MASTER OF THE RANGHOUL.



TIME



SOUND



MOON



FORCE



ICE



LIGHT