



ISSUE 3

CHILDREN OF THE ARCH



A VORTEX ORIGINAL
COMIC SERIES

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CHILDREN OF THE ARCH

C.O.T.A CREATIVE TEAM # 3

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CHILDREN OF THE ARCH

In our reality there are worlds that exist within worlds, spirit realms running parallel to our human existence, yearning to cross over the void, so close, yet so far. The Students of PPA secondary school are not your ordinary students they are ARCHS. Children born with powerful dark Alkebulan spirits within them known as ROHO, these spirit beast are fighting to escape their mortal shells to consume all of humanity.

Unknown to many, PPA is a secret base for the WALINZI, an ancient cult of warriors and alchemist burdened with the sole responsibility to defend humanity from the dangers of the spirit. The WALINZI also called the protectors have taken the initiative to teach these CHILDREN of the ARCH through the school to control and dominate the ROHO within them.

However, when a new girl Rida arrives at PPA school, the lines between good and evil, between WALINZI and ROHO blur and the truth takes focus.



SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME,
WE HAVE SEEN BATTLES.
OFTEN THESE BATTLES ARE
FOUGHT BETWEEN TWO
FORCES...

NAETO!
NAETO!!

THERE'S NO
ESCAPE FOR YOU
OBINAETOUCHUKWU.

HA HA !
HA HA HA !!!

YOU CAN'T
RUN!

GOOD AND EVIL.

GRRRRH!!!

NAETO YOU
KNOW WHERE
YOU ARE!

SOME OF THESE WARS WERE
REGULAR, AND NATURAL, WHILE
OTHERS WERE SUPERNATURAL...
FOUGHT WITH SPIRITS.

VERY...

THUD!!!

VERY...

CRUMBLE!!!

NAETO!
FOLLOW MY
VOICE! GO
RIGHT!

JUMP!



NAETO! KEEP COMING!

NOW LET'S PRETEND WE'RE IN A DIFFERENT WORLD. ONE WHERE THESE SPIRITS LIVE AND THRIVE.

IN THIS WORLD, EVIL SPIRITS WILL BE VERY DANGEROUS BUT THEN AGAIN, THE CONCEPT OF EVIL DEPENDS ON PERSPECTIVE.

YOU WON'T GET FAR!

SLIDE!

WHERE ARE YOU?!

WHERE ARE YOU?!

I TOLD YOU

TODAY WE'LL BE LEARNING MORE ON THESE UNNATURAL WARS. ESPECIALLY THE WARS INVOLVING ARCH-SPIRITS.

EVEN WITH THAT, IT'S STILL A VERY DANGEROUS WORLD.

LEFT!

FOLLOW MY VOICE! JUMP!

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING NAETO?!

FOR THESE WARS ARE IMPORTANT AND IN THE END THEY SHAPE OUR LIVES. LEGEND HAS IT THAT SOME OF THESE WARS ARE STILL BEING FOUGHT.

YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT ALL THE SIDES IN THESE WARS.

NOW WITH ALL YOUR POWER, JUMP!

CC-CRUMBLE!!!

WE WILL LEARN LEGENDS OF THE ONGOING WAR BETWEEN TWO POWERFUL GROUPS AND THE PLACE OF ARCH-SPIRITS IN THIS WAR.

NO! NO!
WE ARE NOT
DONE! NOOOOOO
OOOOOO!

NAETO!

YOU WILL LEARN OF THE ARCH-HUMANS AND THE CHANGE THEY BRING.

THOUGH THESE ARE JUST LEGENDS... THEY WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER. TRUST ME, ALRIGHT CHILDREN, LET'S BEGIN WITH ARCH-HUMANS.

BANG!

THE ARCH-HUMAN IS A PECULIAR BREED. FIRST DESIGNED TO BE A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION, THE ARCH-HUMAN WAS FEARED...

THAT'S IF WE CAN AFTER WHAT WE SAW.

I CAN'T ANSWER THAT BUT I KNOW WE ALL NEED TO SLEEP.

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

I'M FINE. THANK YOU, YOUR DIRECTIONS HELPED A LOT.

WE DIDN'T GIVE YOU DIRECTIONS.

IF YOU DIDN'T THEN WHO DID?

WE'LL GO BACK THERE TOMORROW, SEE WHAT ELSE WE CAN FIND.

WHO GAVE ME DIRECTIONS?

AND IT STILL IS.

YOU KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT NAETO.

THEY WERE THE ULTIMATE WEAPON BUT THE TRUTH IS THEY WERE JUST MISLED.

WE ARE PART OF THE SAME ENTITY. THE SAME BEING.

I SAVED US BUT THAT IS JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG. WE CAN DO SO MUCH MORE.

I SAID THAT. I AM INSIDE YOU NAETO. I AM YOU.

WHO SAID THAT? WHERE ARE YOU?

THE ARCH-HUMANS GAINED A REPUTATION AND THEY WERE SEEN AS SOMETHING THAT NEEDED TO BE STOPPED.

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF NAETO.

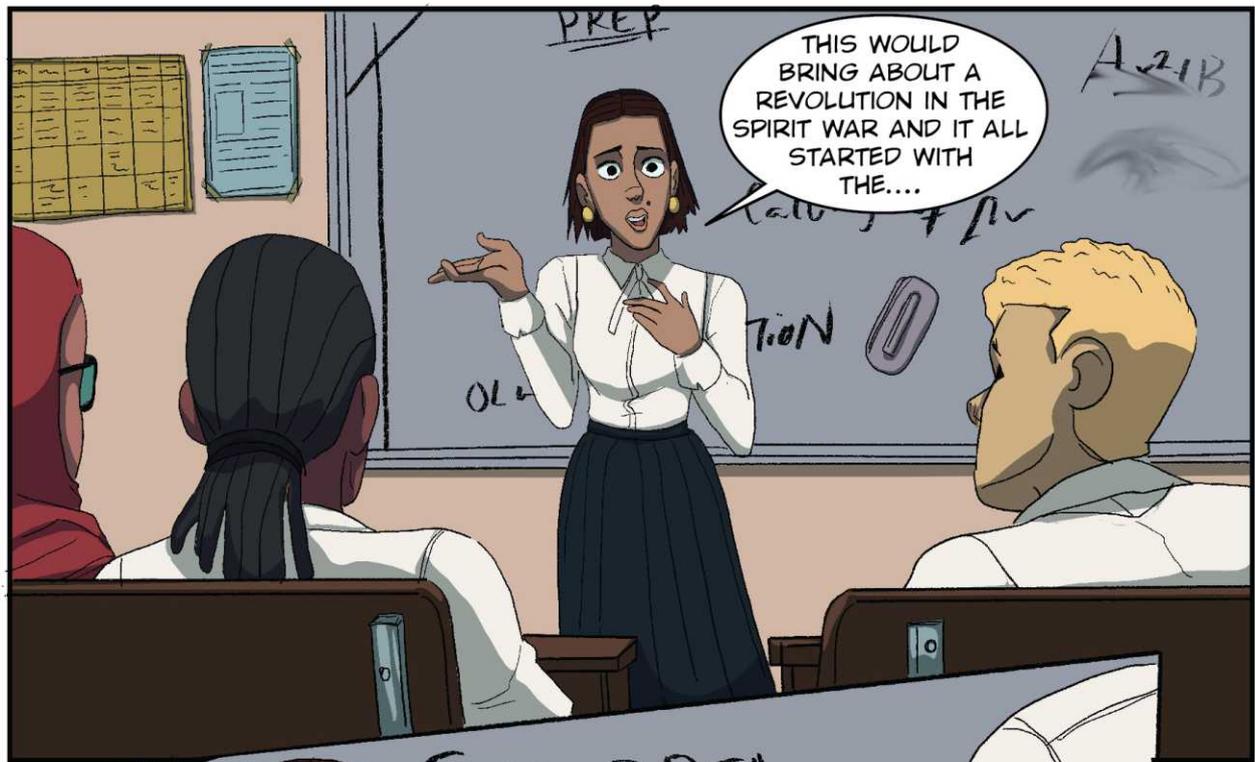
I SEE NOTHING.

WHAT MOST DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IS THAT ARCH-HUMANS AREN'T EVIL LIKE ARCH-SPIRITS. THEIR HUMAN ESSENCE CHANGES THEM.

THOSE THAT KNEW THIS, KNEW WHAT WAS CREATED TO SERVE EVIL WILL BE USED TO DESTROY EVIL.

BECAUSE YOU ARE USING YOUR PHYSICAL EYES. YOU HAVE THE POWER NAETO AND I CAN SHOW YOU. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS LOOK.

NOW YOU SEE ALL WE ARE. YOU SEE WHAT YOU HAVE KNOWN FOR YEARS. THE SPIRIT YOU FACED, THE ONE TERRORIZING YOUR DREAMS, IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO US. WE WILL STOP IT ONCE AND FOR ALL.





ALL IS TRUE. EVERYTHING THEY SAY DURING PREP IS TRUE.

AND YOU BELIEVE THAT?



WHAT DID WE SEE THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY?



I DON'T KNOW.

EXACTLY.

I DON'T KNOW... I THINK SO... WE HAVE TO FIND OUT.

NAETO IS RIGHT. WE NEED TO KNOW. TO GET ANSWERS.

DOES THIS MEAN WE'RE... WE'RE...



ANSWERS? I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE.



I'VE BEEN HAVING DREAMS AND THIS, ARCH-SPIRIT, COTA, IT ALL SEEMS CONNECTED.



WAIT, YOU'RE HAVING DREAMS TOO?



WE ALL HAVE THOSE DREAMS BUT NO ONE TALKS ABOUT IT.



I DON'T THINK YOU'VE HAD ANY LIKE MINE.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE IN MY DREAM.

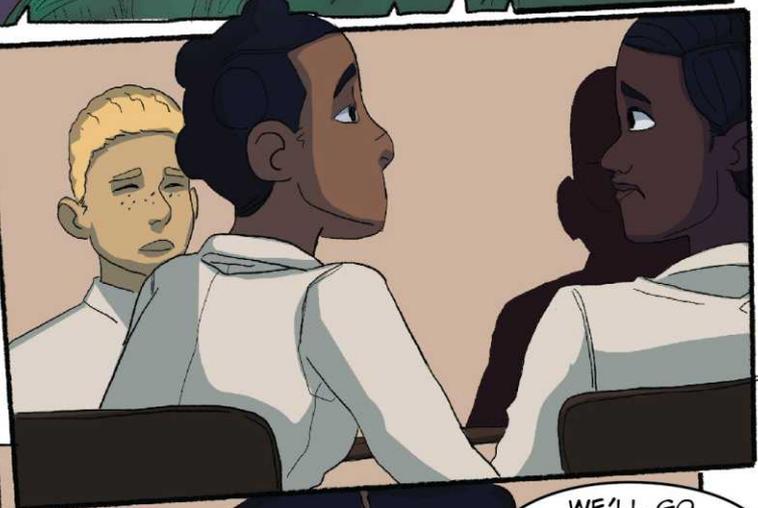


I'VE SEEN IT SINCE I WAS LITTLE. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN CHASING ME.



SEEING IT HERE MEANS WE'RE ONTO SOMETHING. NOW I'M DONE RUNNING FROM MY FEARS, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE WITH ME.

GBAM!



WE'RE WITH YOU.



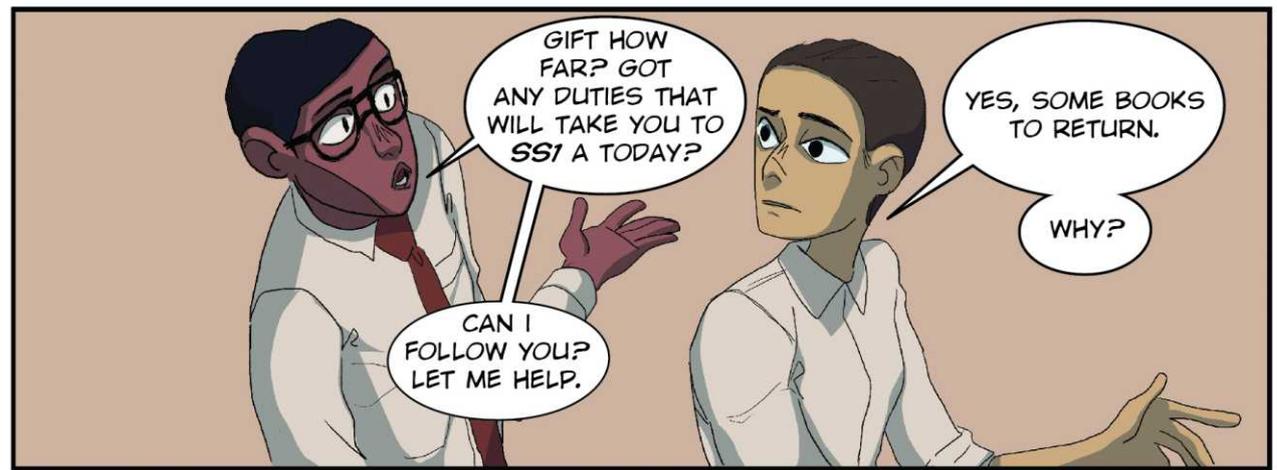
SO WHAT NEXT?



WE'LL GO BACK THERE TONIGHT, SEE WHAT ELSE WE CAN FIND.



IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE EXCUSE ME.

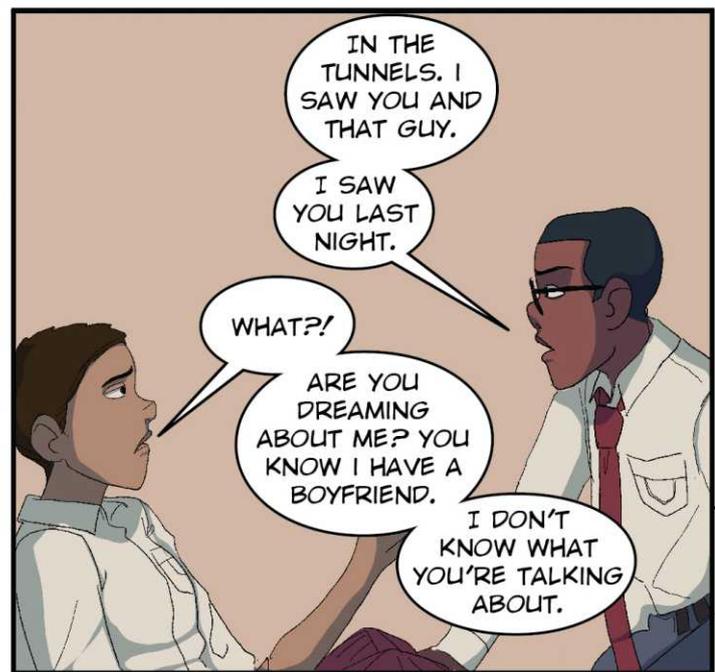


GIFT HOW FAR? GOT ANY DUTIES THAT WILL TAKE YOU TO SS1 A TODAY?

CAN I FOLLOW YOU? LET ME HELP.

YES, SOME BOOKS TO RETURN.

WHY?





DON'T PLAY DUMB, TITI, I SAW WHAT THE TWO OF YOU WERE DOING. I SAW WHAT HE DID. YOU OWE ME ANSWERS.



I DON'T OWE YOU ANYTHING.

I WONDER HOW EBI WILL FEEL WHEN HE FINDS OUT YOU'RE HARASSING ME OR HOW THE SCHOOL WILL FEEL WHEN THEY FIND OUT WHAT YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE UP TO.

DON'T MIND YOUR BUSINESS AND WE'LL FIND OUT.



NICE THREAT.

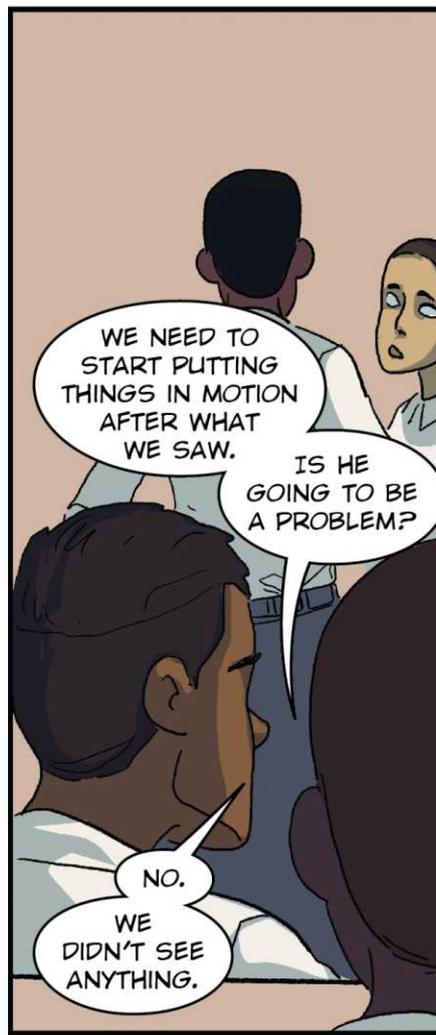
HERE'S ONE FOR YOU, I WONDER HOW EBI WILL FEEL WHEN HE FINDS OUT THAT YOU REALLY BLEW HIM OFF TO SNEAK AROUND WITH DATONYE NOT TO STUDY AND IF YOU TELL THE SCHOOL WHAT I'M DOING,

I COULD ALWAYS HIT YOU WITH THE SAME CLAIM SINCE NO ONE KNOWS WHAT YOU'RE REALLY UP TO.



WATCH YOUR BACK, TITI, BECAUSE I HAVE MY EYES ON YOU AND SOON I WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE.

IF ONLY YOU KNEW, NAETO, IF ONLY YOU KNEW.



WE NEED TO START PUTTING THINGS IN MOTION AFTER WHAT WE SAW.

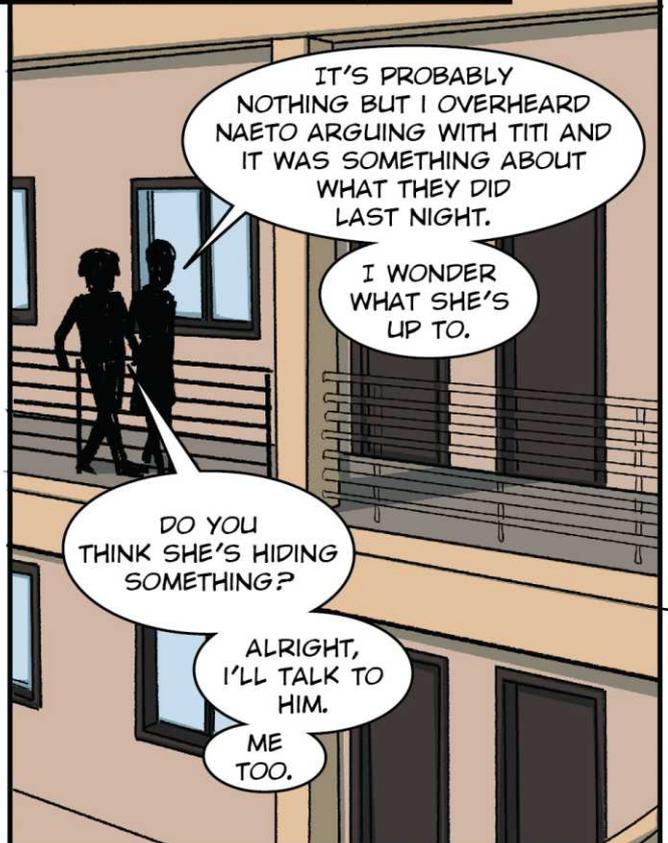
IS HE GOING TO BE A PROBLEM?

NO.

WE DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING.



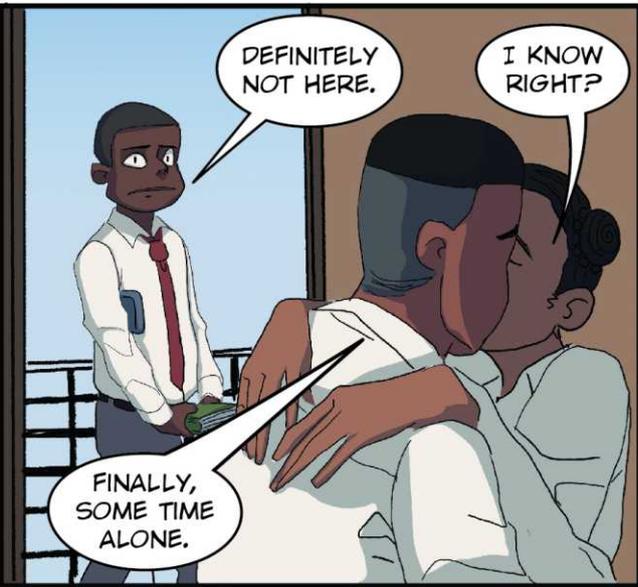
NOTHING HAS BEEN CONFIRMED YET. WE DON'T MOVE TILL THEN.







MIDDAY AND, IT'S TIME TO STUDY.



DEFINITELY NOT HERE.

I KNOW RIGHT?

FINALLY, SOME TIME ALONE.



DUKE, MARRYING YOUR BOOKS I SEE.

GOOD BECAUSE YOUR GRADES AREN'T DOING WELL.

SOMETHING TELLS ME HE'S MORE OF THE PROBLEM THAN THE SOLUTION.



DON'T WORRY SIR, I KNOW A GENIUS.

YES, SIR.



STUDY HARD DUKE.

YES, SIR...



THIS SEEMS PERFECT.





YESTERDAY WAS SUCCESSFUL, THOUGH WE DIDN'T WREAK HAVOC.

THE PLAN WASN'T TO WREAK HAVOC, YESTERDAY WAS SIMPLY A TEST.



WELL, WE SHOULD HAVE ANOTHER PLAN, USE ALL THIS TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

YES, THE PLAN IS COMING TOGETHER.



THE... DEFINITELY... WILL BE PLEASED... PERFECT CANDIDATES... MOST POWERFUL SET PPA HAS SEEN... ARCH LORD.



WE... ARCH-SPIRITS... HAVOC... DAY OF THE EVIL FIRE...THE HIDDEN.



QUEEN... HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN STANDING THERE?

I UHH...



LET ME GO!



FOLKTALES



WE'RE GOING TO NEED YOU TO BE HONEST, DEAR.

YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND; YOU'RE NOT LIKE US.

WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU PLANNING? WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

LET ME GO. YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T TAKE ME ON.



ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT? SEE HERE'S WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN, YOU'RE GOING TO FORGET EVERYTHING YOU HEARD AND STAY OUT OF OUR WAY.



LET'S HAVE SOME FUN NOW.

REALLY? HOW?

LET DOMINION SHOW YOU.



IT WON'T WORK; YOUR MAGIC ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO CHARM ME.

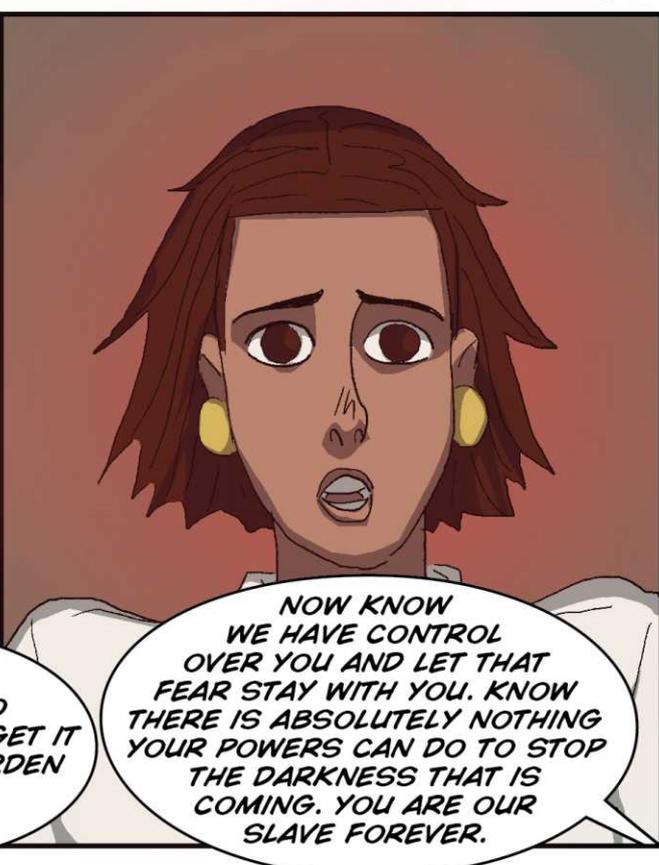
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT, NOW STAY STILL.



NO... NO SIR.

LISTEN TO ME QUEEN, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE BEING FORCED TO FORGET, IT'S JUST THAT YOU DON'T FIND THIS INFORMATION USEFUL AND YOU DO WANT TO CLOUD UP YOUR MEMORY DO YOU?

GOOD, WHY DON'T YOU GO ON NOW AND FORGET IT ALL? LET THE BURDEN LEAVE YOU.



NOW KNOW WE HAVE CONTROL OVER YOU AND LET THAT FEAR STAY WITH YOU. KNOW THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING YOUR POWERS CAN DO TO STOP THE DARKNESS THAT IS COMING. YOU ARE OUR SLAVE FOREVER.

CHILDREN
OF THE
ARCH

LATER

KNOCK!
KNOCK!!

WHAT ARE THESE ONES UP TO? LET'S WATCH THEM AND SEE.

OBINAETOCHUKWU I KNOW WHO, WHO, AND WHO IS BEHIND THAT DOOR AND WHAT YOU GUYS ARE UP TO SO YOU EITHER OPEN UP OR I STAND HERE LONG ENOUGH TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.

WELL YES... AND NO... NOT IN THE WAY YOU THINK BUT YES.

IF YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE OF TITI NOW IS NOT THE TIME.

STILL NOT THE TIME.

DON'T MAKE TOO MUCH NOISE. WHAT DO YOU WANT?

BLACK? REALLY?

WHAT HAPPENED WITH TITI AND DATONYE YESTERDAY?

I'LL LIKE YOU TO TELL ME WHAT EXACTLY THEY WERE DOING.

WHY?

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

NO POINT.

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD YOU.

WELL THAT'S WHAT'S ON THE SURFACE. UNDERNEATH LIES TRUTH.

WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWING WOKE AND IT HAS LED US TO MANY THINGS. THINGS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND. TELL ME EBI, HAVE YOU BEEN HAVING STRANGE DREAMS?

THE TYPE WITH SPIRITS THAT KNOW YOUR NAME. ALL IS TRUE EBI. WHAT THEY TELL US IN PREP IS REAL.

I DON'T KNOW YET.

TRY ME.

AS MUCH AS I'VE SEEN AND BEEN TOLD.

NOT THAT TYPE EBI.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT PPA?

YES, EVERYONE DREAMS.

WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH TITI?



SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE. OTHERS DIDN'T SEE THEM BUT I DID, THEN DATONYE HIT ME WITH SOMETHING THEN...

I KNOW TITI AND DATONYE SNEAKING AROUND ISN'T HER SO EXCEPT DATONYE IS A WIZARD AND HE PUT A SPELL ON HER WHICH IS STUPID THEN SOMETHING IS WRONG.

THE REST IS HARD TO EXPLAIN. WE HAVE TO GO NOW.

YOU DON'T EVEN WHAT TO KNOW.

I'M COMING WITH YOU. THEN? HOW SCARY CAN IT BE?



ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO? DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO?



GO! GO!!

THERE'S A CHANCE I'LL SEE TITI TODAY SO EITHER YOU TAKE ME WITH YOU OR I FOLLOW YOU.



WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?



EBI SNEAKING AROUND WITH OTHER STUDENTS... THAT CAN'T BE GOOD. STAY AWAY, DUKE.



WHAT AM I DOING SEF?



MEANWHILE.

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU INSIST WE SEARCH FOR MORE OUTLETS.

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU INSIST WE SEARCH FOR MORE OUTLETS.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE DON'T JUST CALL IT IN. THIS THING DEY TIRE PERSON.

GIVEN THE SENSITIVITY OF WHAT WE'RE DOING WE CAN'T JUST CALL IT IN. WE DON'T WANT TO MAKE MISTAKES.



BESIDES, THE ONLY REAL ISSUE WE'VE ENCOUNTERED IS THE FIRE AND THAT WAS TAKEN CARE OF EASILY.

WHATEVER. THESE ROUTES ARE TIRING.

WELL, WE HAVE TO BE THOROUGH.



YOUR THOROUGHNESS SEEMS LIKE LOVE TO ME.



YOU OF ALL PEOPLE KNOW I KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THIS IS. I WAS CHOSEN FOR A REASON.

YOU DON'T MEAN THAT, RIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK ANYMORE.



THE FATE OF THE WORLD DEPENDS ON WHAT WE DO HERE AND I'M READY TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL THAT IS GOOD.

NOTHING ELSE MATTERS TO ME.

I KNOW. I JUST WANTED TO HEAR YOU SAY IT.



THEN FOR YOUR SAKE, I HOPE THIS MISSION IS UNEVENTFUL. THAT TYPE OF FUN ISN'T AVAILABLE AT HOME.

BESIDES, THE GRAND PROTECTOR DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT NOT HAVING FUN.

DEFINITELY NOT. NOT EVEN__

NAETO AND THE REST?

IT CAN'T BE!

MULTIPLE MOVEMENTS AND AN INCREASE IN ENERGY.

NO, MULTIPLE SPIRITS ARE HERE AND THEY ARE ABOUT TO TRIGGER... AN ACTIVATION?

MY GOODNESS! WHAT IS ALL THIS?

OLO All IS TRUE
COTA

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

NOW, WE USE ME AS BAIT.

TO BE HONEST, NOT SURE BUT WE'RE CLOSE TO FINDING OUT.

SPIRITS?... MONSTERS?

MONSTERS EBI, ACTUALLY OJUJU.

THEY TYPE OF STUFF WEY GO MAKE YOU PISS OF TROUSER.

NAH, NOTHING FRIGHTENS ME.

BAIT FOR WHAT?



WHAT'S THIS ABOUT MONSTERS?

AWO!

GUY NO DEY GIVE PERSON HEART ATTACK.

ANYONE ELSE FEEL SOMETHING?



BANG!

HA HA !
HA HA HA !!

HA HA !
HA HA HA !!

HA HA !
HA HA HA !!

HERE WE GO.

NO! NO! I DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR THIS!

WHAT IS THAT?!

CC-CRUMBLE!!!



THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR NAETO.

WELL WELL WELL, YOU BROUGHT FRIENDS TO PLAY TODAY. I UNDERSTAND. DYING ALONE ISN'T NICE.

I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU! NOT ANYMORE!



BAM!

COME ON! COME ON!!



WAIT FOR WHAT? WE COULD HAVE A RELEASE ON OUR HANDS.



TITI WAIT!

WE'RE DONE, WE HAVE TO CALL IT IN!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. IT'S NOT A RELEASE, IT'S AN ACTIVATION! IT'S DANGEROUS TO BE OUT HERE.



SHOW ME.

SHOW ME!!

TITI WE NEED TO LEAVE THIS PLACE AND _



IFIHAN* REVEAL*

TITI?



I'VE SEEN ENOUGH, CLOSE IT.



F\$\$\$\$

MORE FRIENDS? THIS IS REALLY GOOD.

INDEED MY FRIEND.

THIS ENDS NOW!



NAETO WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

EMBRACING MYSELF.



ENOUGH OF THIS!

CR-CRUMBLE!!!



I WANTED TO COME HERE BUT NOT TO DIE. SEE I'VE HEARD VOICES. I KNOW WHAT I HAVE. I CAN TAKE YOU.

YOU BROUGHT YOURSELF HERE. YOU WANTED TO COME HERE... TO DIE.





NICE TRY
BUT YOU'RE
DEALING WITH
EXPERIENCE NOW.
WHO SENT
YOU?!

BUT YOU
CAN BE CONTROLLED
AND ORDERED. WHO
SENT YOU?!

SO YOU ARE
CONTROLLED. WAIT
THAT MEANS__

MY PURPOSE
IS CHAOS AND
IN CHAOS DO I PLEASE
MY MASTER. I AM TOO
POWERFUL EVEN FOR YOUR
ARCH-CHILDREN.
NO ONE CAN
STOP ME.

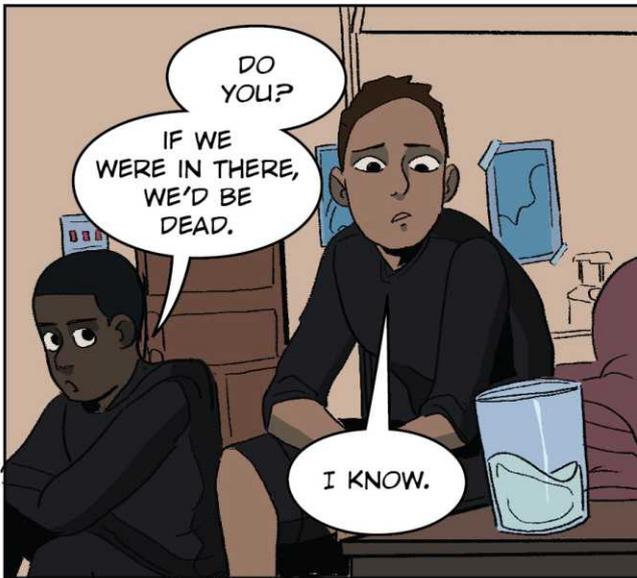
ONLY THOSE
THAT SERVE MY
MASTER DO I SERVE.
ONLY THOSE THAT ACT
ON HIS WILL CAN
CONTROL ME.



BOOM!!!

THWAK!

SMASHHH!!!



AKUKO NA- ATO UTO



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CHILDREN OF THE ARCH

3 - ABADA & THE MOUNTAIN



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