



# AKIIN



## II

# *Path of Darkness*

A VX ORIGINAL COMIC BOOK SERIES



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# CREDITS



## LINE ART

DAVID YUSUF & EZE KINGSLEY ONYEBUCHI

## COLOURS

FRANK SUNDAY & GODSTIME ISMAIL

## LETTERS

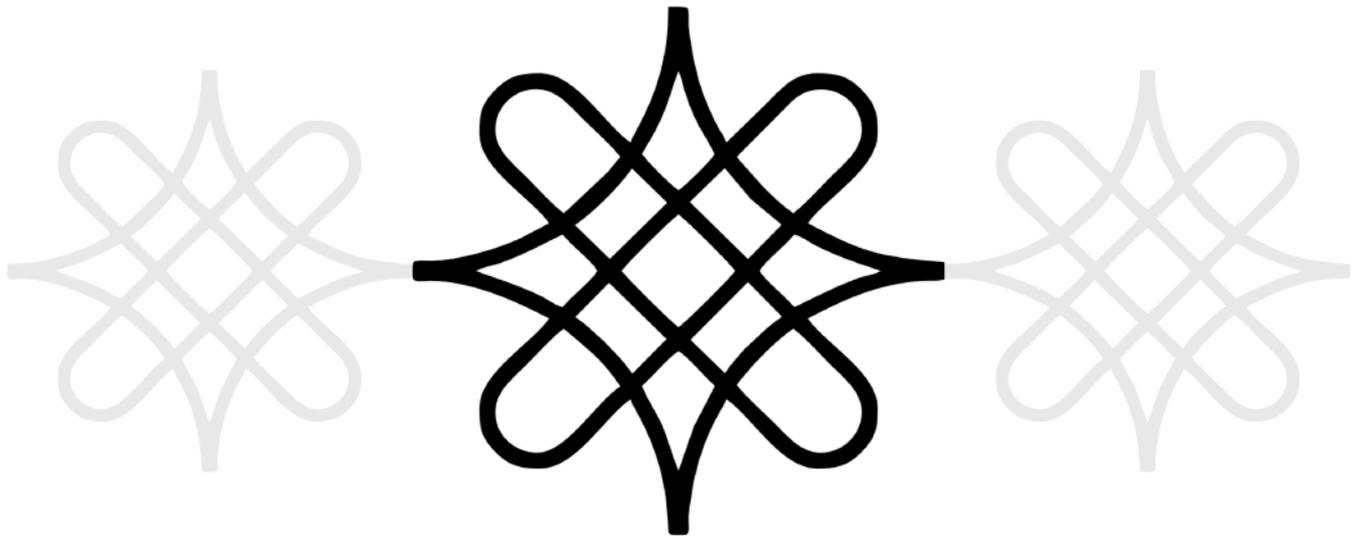
BLESSING OSSOM & DAMILOLA SAMUEL

## COVERS

AANU DAVID & TOYIN AJETUNMOBI

## SCRIPT & STORY

OLADAPO ORAROTIMI & SOMTO AJULUCHUKWU



**AKILI**, a man with a troubled past, was arrested six years ago for identity fraud and assault but has since transformed his life, working as a private investigator for the Nigerian Police Force. Though highly skilled, he remains a solitary figure, with few friends and an inseparable bond with his loyal dog, who seems to understand him in ways that defy explanation. Akili is also the bearer of a mysterious Arewa necklace, an ancient totem gifted by his mother when he was a child. This necklace is tied to the 4 Books of the Spirit—**The Book of Chains, The Book of Dreams, The Book of Time, and The Book of Death**—each holding immense power and mystery.

Akili's origins are shrouded in secrecy. Abandoned in the forest as a child, he was found with the necklace and cryptic photographs of his mother, each with strange messages behind them. Raised in an orphanage, his family background remains unknown, but the power of the Arewa necklace suggests that his past, and his destiny, are far from ordinary.

IKOYI





I ONLY CALLED TO CHECK ON YOUR DAUGHTER

I TOLD YOU NOT TO INTERFERE



BUT SHE'S THE MOTHER OF YOUR DAUGHTER. YOU SHOULD AT LEAST CHECK ON THAT CHILD ONCE IN A WHILE.

LEAVE ME ALONE, I WANT TO SLEEP.



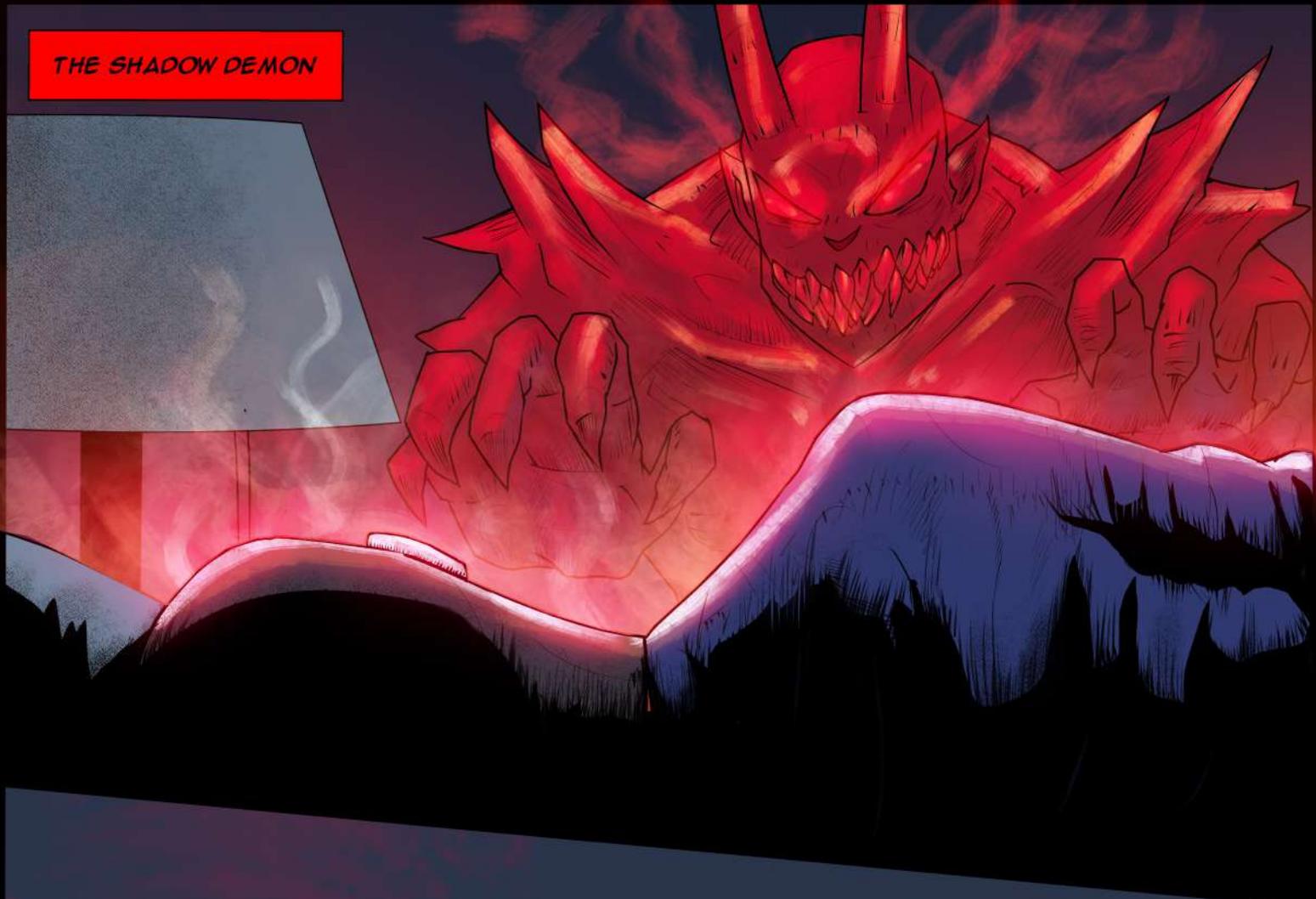
ARE YOU NOW ANGRY WITH ME?

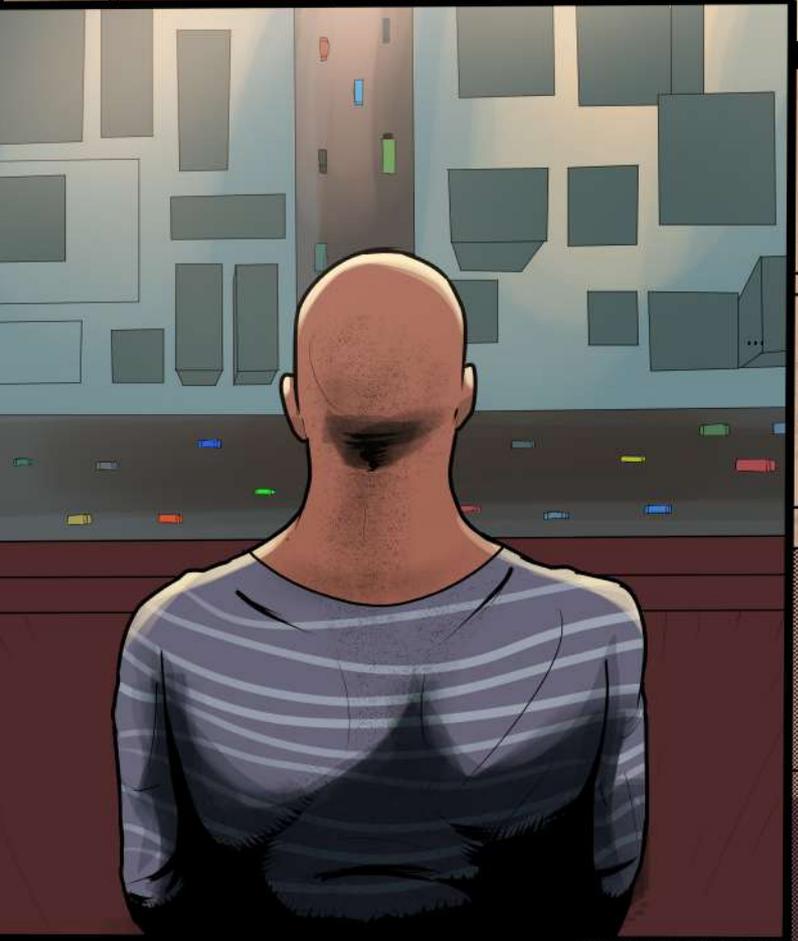
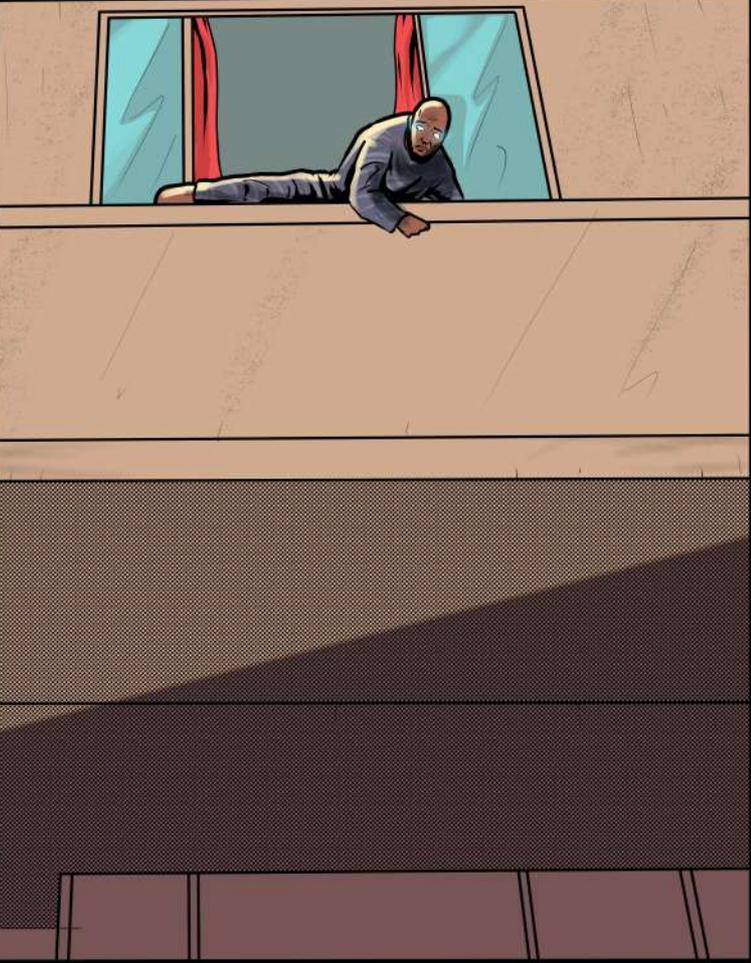
YES



SHADOW DEMON

THE SHADOW DEMON



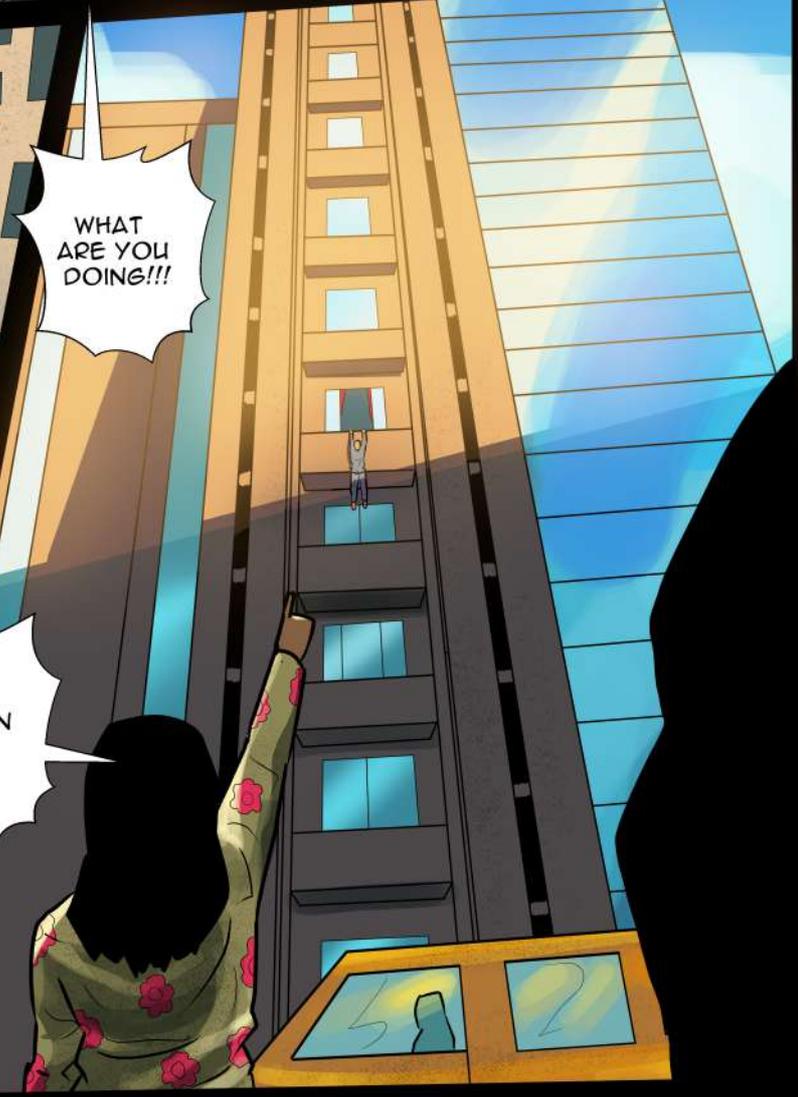




WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



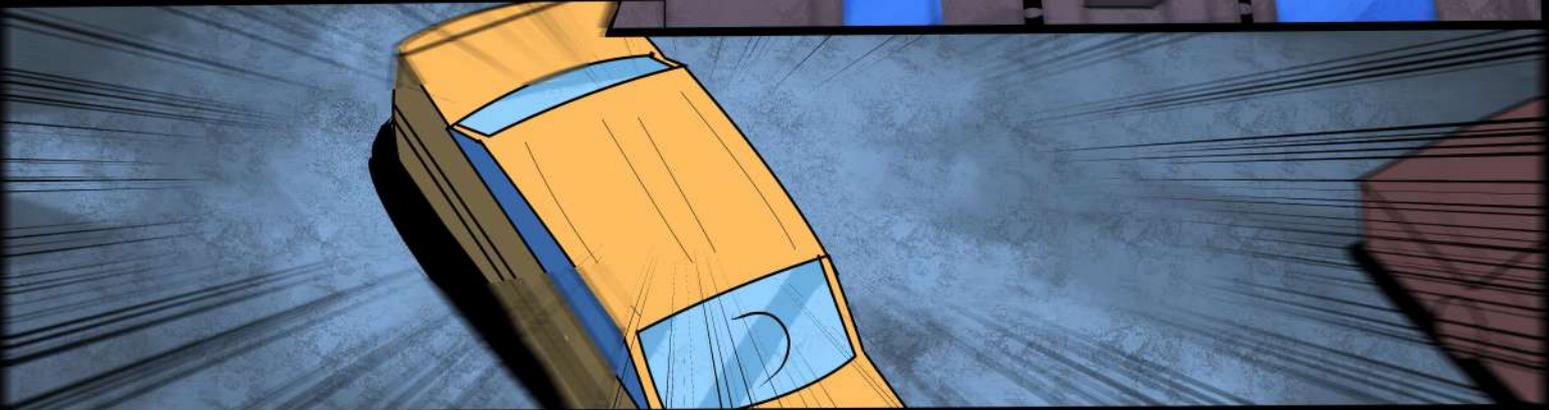
WHATS THAT MAN DOING THERE?



WHAT ARE YOU DOING!!!



NO  
OO  
!!!



DRIVER,  
HERE IS YOUR  
MONEY

# B A M !!!

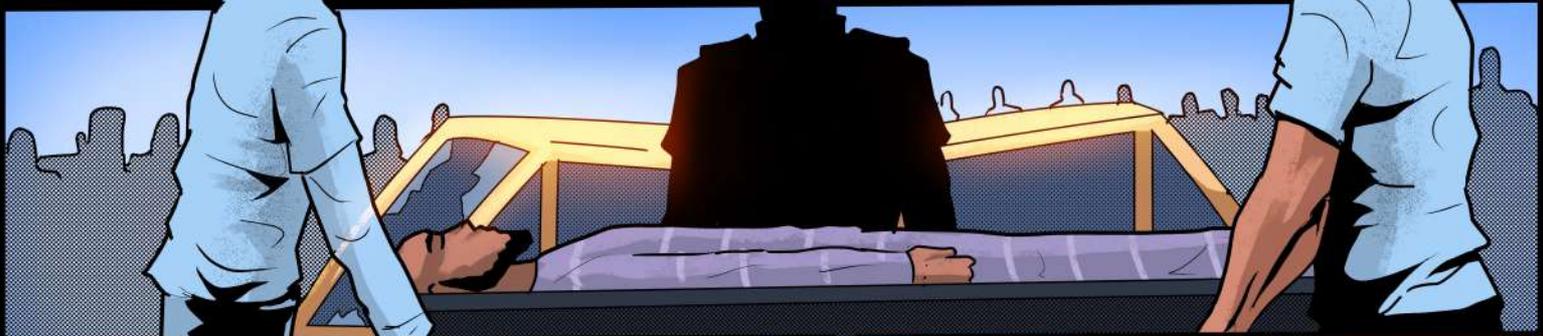
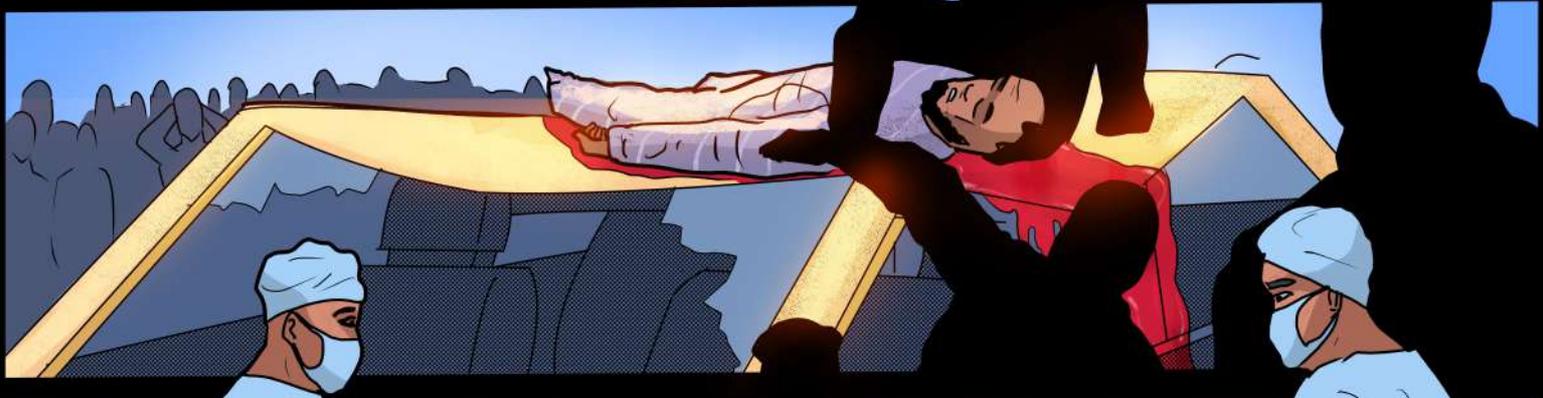


WHAT THE HELL



SOMEBODY  
CALL THE POLICE,  
CALL AN  
AMBULANCE.







FIVE YEARS AGO



AT THAT POINT, I'D OUTGROWN THE ORPHANAGE. I HAD TO FIGURE MY LIFE OUT

I HAD TO GO LOOK FOR MY MOTHER, MY BEST BET WAS TO FIND THE OGBONI CULT FIRST



BUT THE FUNNY THING ABOUT THE OGBONI CULT, YOU CAN'T FIND THEM, UNLESS THEY WANT TO SEE YOU.



THAT WAS HOW I MET WALE BADMUS, THE HEAD OF THE OGBONI CULT



AKILI, WE HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT.



IDANRE, OYO STATE, THE OGBONI CULT HQ



SHE DIED,  
FIGHTING FOR  
OUR CAUSE

WHERE  
IS SHE



I WILL TEACH  
YOU TO MASTER  
THESE GIFTS, JUST  
AS I THOUGHT  
YOUR MOTHER

AS YOUR  
MIND IS STRONG,  
SO MUST YOUR  
BODY BE



THERE IS  
NO REST FOR  
THE WICKED.

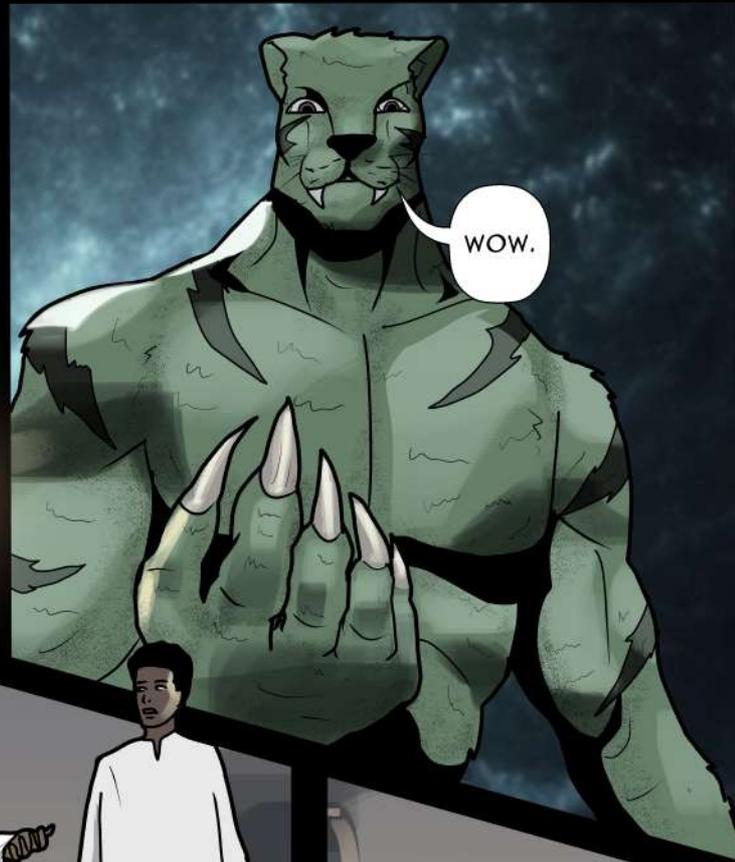
I'M  
TIRED



WE ARE NOT  
LIMITED TO OUR  
PHYSICAL BODIES,  
THERE IS MORE  
BEYOND THE PHYSICAL.  
YOU COULD SEE GHOSTS,  
BUT NOW YOU CAN  
BECOME MORE THAN  
THAT. THIS IS YOUR  
ASTRAL STATE.



IN OUR ASTRAL FORMS, WE TAKE ON THE FORMS OF OUR SPIRIT ANIMALS, I AM A LEO, YOU ARE A TIGRIS.



WOW.



YOUR MOTHER WAS THE RARE WHITE PANTHERA



YOU ARE A SON OF THE OGBONI, AND WE HAVE WATCHED OVER YOU, FROM THE BEGINNING. WE WATCHED YOU LIVE AMONGST YOUR FELLOW WOLVES IN THAT ORPHANAGE.

WOLVES?



PEOPLE LIKE US, WE ARE WOLVES, ORDINARY HUMAN BEINGS ARE SHEEP. TO LIVE AMONGST THEM OR NOT, THE CHOICE IS YOURS





THERE HAS BEEN ANOTHER REPORTED SUICIDE, A MAN, JUMPED DOWN FROM A SKY SCRAPER BUILDING, LANDING ON A TAXI CAB.



THIS HAS BEEN THE FOURTH SUICIDE THIS WEEK, IT'S NO LONGER SEEN AS ORDINARY AND THE LOCALS ARE STARTING TO BELIEVE THERE IS MORE TO IT, THAN MEETS THE EYE.





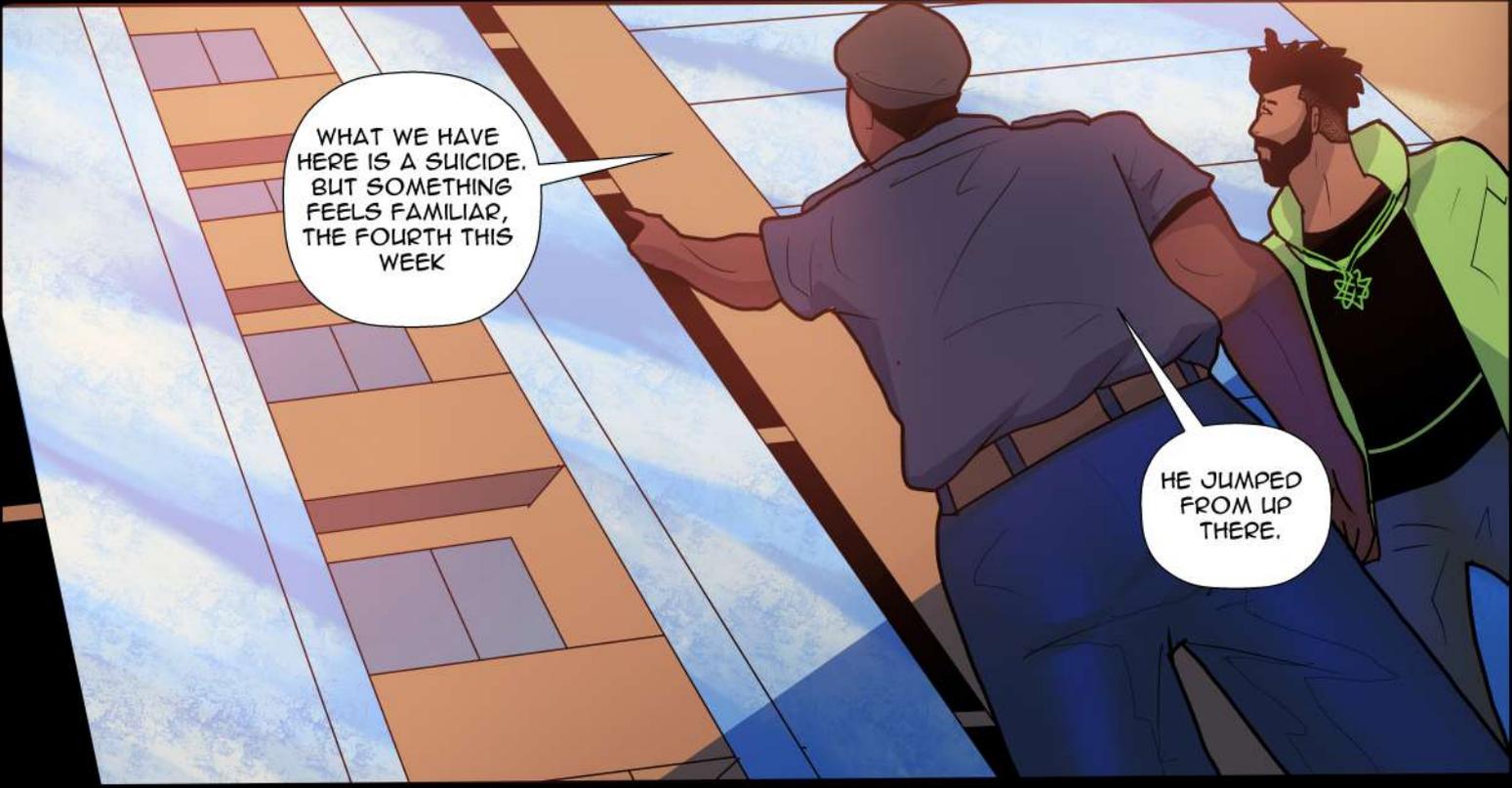
MR DPO,  
GOOD  
DAY



AKILI, YOU  
NEED TO STOP  
DOING THAT!  
YOU STARTLED  
ME!



WHAT  
DO YOU  
HAVE FOR  
ME



WHAT WE HAVE  
HERE IS A SUICIDE.  
BUT SOMETHING  
FEELS FAMILIAR,  
THE FOURTH THIS  
WEEK

HE JUMPED  
FROM UP  
THERE.

AND LANDED THERE.



WAS ANYONE WITH HIM ?



HIS WIFE.



NICE TATTOO



THANK YOU







DID HE ACT STRANGE ANYTIME BEFORE NOW?

THERE WERE TIMES HE WOULD ASK NOT TO BE DISTURBED, HE WOULD LOCK HIMSELF INSIDE AND SLEEP.



WHY?

HE WOULDN'T TELL ME, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE HIM UNTIL HE WAS AWAKE. SOME DAYS HE SLEPT FOR HOURS.

HMM.



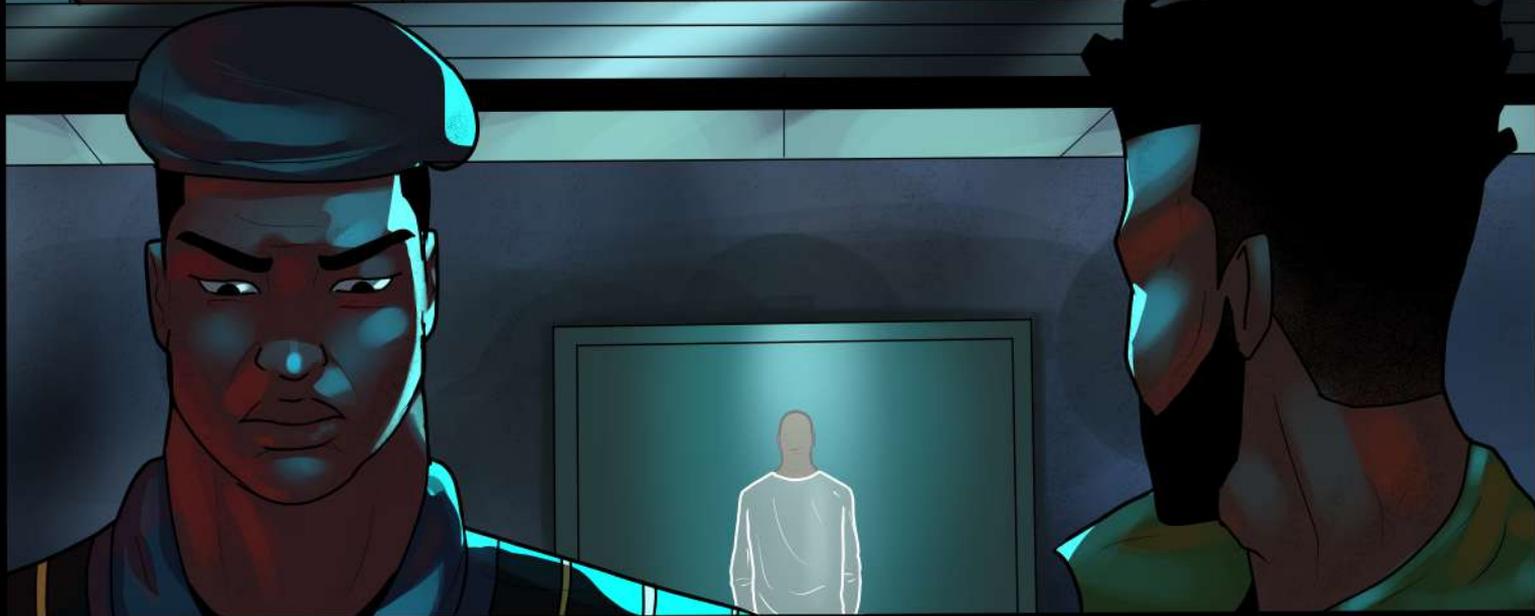
MADAM, WE ARE SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, BUT WE WILL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

CAN I SEE THE BODY

YES, I WILL TAKE YOU THERE.



THIS WAS NOT A SUICIDE



AKILI'S HOUSE, LATER THAT NIGHT



AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, THERE IS NO REST FOR THE WICKED.

THE MORTUARY

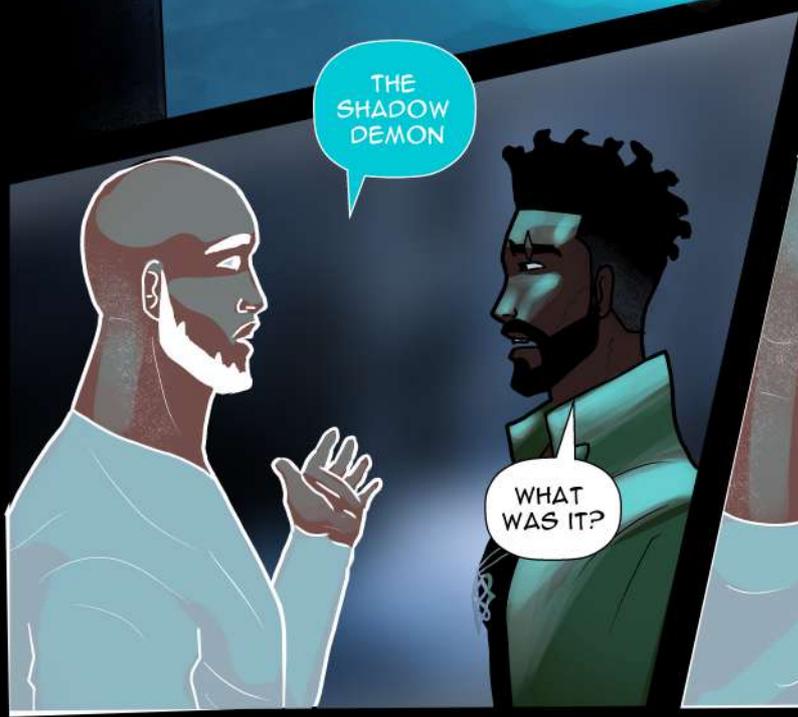


I HAD TO GO ASTRAL ON THIS ONE.



YOUR DEATH, HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

SOMETHING TOOK OVER ME



THE SHADOW DEMON

WHAT WAS IT?



WHY IS IT HERE?

TO MAKE SURE I STAY DEAD

WHY WERE YOU KILLED?



I BELIEVE THE QUESTION SHOULD BE WHO DID, OR WHY?

WHO KILLED YOU



YOU SHOULDN'T TRUST WALE BADMUS

IS HE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?



YOU'VE SEEN THE TATTOOS, I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T HAVE ONE, YOU'RE A SON OF THE OGBONI

I DIDN'T STAY.



YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE. I KNEW YOUR MOTHER.

YOU KNEW MY MOTHER?

SHE FOUND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT WALE BADMUS, THAT'S WHY SHE HID YOU, SHE THEN CONFRONTED HIM, HE HAD HER KILLED.



I WAS ONE OF THE MAFARKI TAFIYA, DREAM WALKERS. WE WALKED INTO POLITICIANS DREAMS, ARRANGED THE DREAM, PLANTED IDEAS IN THEIR HEADS.

BUT WALE BADMUS WANTED US TO USE THAT POWER FOR EVIL, ASSASSINATIONS. WE REFUSED AND LEFT.

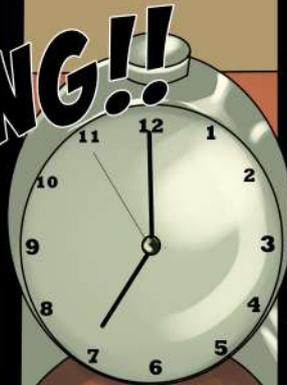
HE THEN CREATED A MONSTER OF HIS OWN TO DO HIS BIDDING, THE SHADOW DEMON. HE STARTED HELPING POLITICIANS TO KILL OPPONENTS.

ABACHA, ABIOLA, HOW ELSE DO YOU THINK THEY DIED? THIS WAS WHY YOUR MOTHER CONFRONTED HIM.

AFTER SOME OF US LEFT, SOME STAYED BACK TO HELP HIM CREATE HIS MONSTER, YOUR FRIEND, THE DPO WAS ONE OF THEM. BUT IT SEEMS HE'S RUN OUT OF FAVORS WITH BADMUS, THE DEMON WILL BE COMING FOR HIM NEXT.



**WRIING!!**



**WRIING!!**

I HAVE TO FIND ANSWERS

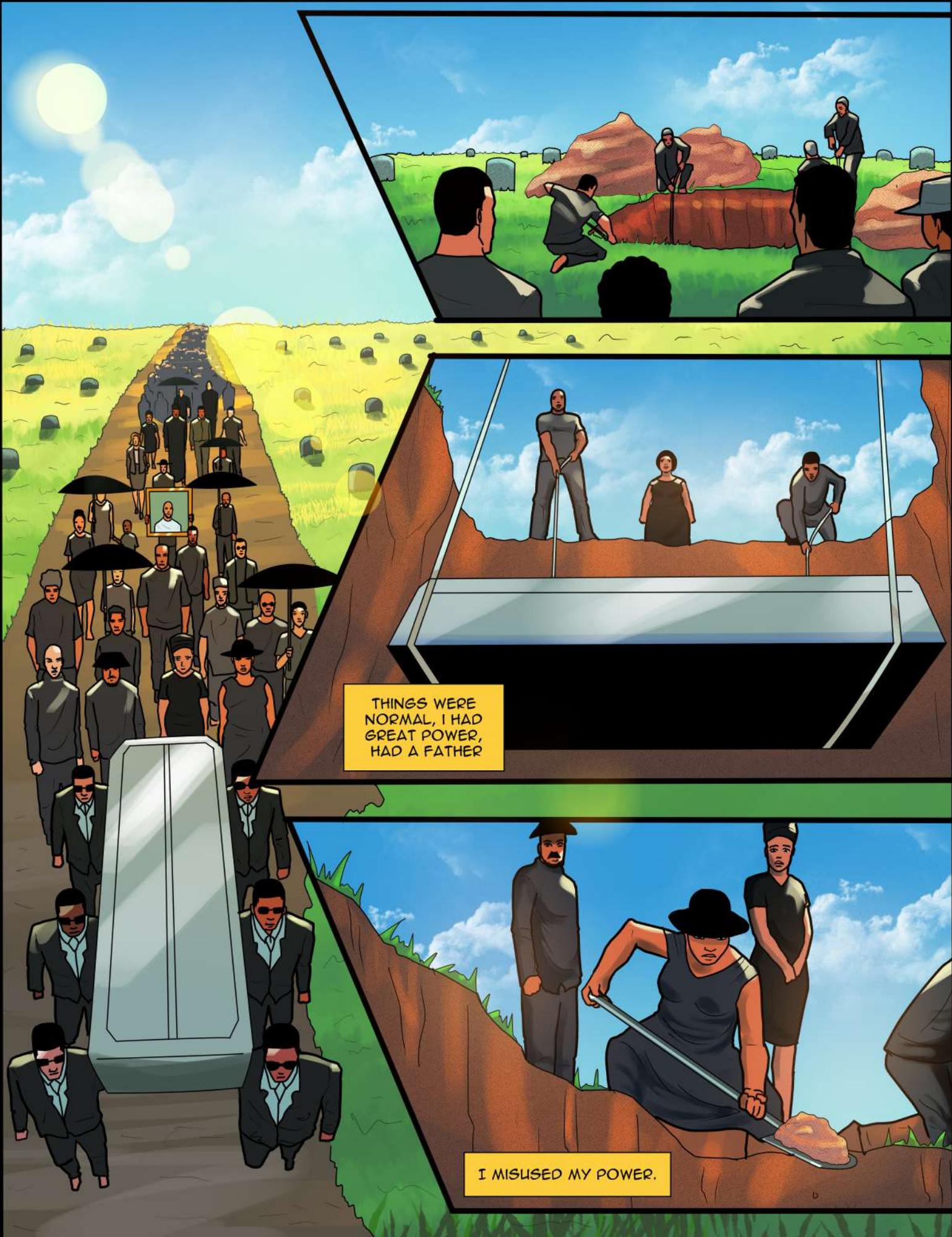


# THE DREAM VEIL

I HAVE TO FIND THE PROTECTOR OF THE  
DREAM REALM, THE DREAM WEAVER







THINGS WERE  
NORMAL, I HAD  
GREAT POWER,  
HAD A FATHER

I MISUSED MY POWER.

AND BECAUSE OF MY FOOLISHNESS,  
I NOW HAVE NO FATHER



YOU'RE  
LOOKING FOR  
ANSWERS



I'M AK...

MR  
AKILI.

I KNOW WHO  
YOU ARE, I FELT  
YOU IN MY DREAM  
YESTERDAY

I'M VERY  
SORRY FOR  
YOUR LOSS

MISTAKES DO  
HAPPEN, AND WE  
LEARN FROM  
THEM

IT  
WAS  
ALL MY  
FAULT

THIS MISTAKE  
COST MY FATHER  
HIS LIFE.



TROUBLE DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE, IT COMES TO EVERYONE AT SOME POINT

THE STRENGTH OF THE CROCODILE IS IN THE WATER, PEOPLE CAN BE STRONG IN THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT, YOUR ENVIRONMENT IS THE DREAM REALM

I DON'T DESERVE THIS POWER

ENOUGH WITH THE PROVERBS OLD MAN, JEEZ I FEEL MOTIVATED ALREADY

I'M NOT THAT OLD

I NEED YOUR HELP. THERE IS A SHADOW DEMON ON THE LOOSE.

SHADOW DEMONS. THEY'RE A HIGHER CLASS OF DREAM EATERS THEY'VE BEEN HIDING DEEP IN THE DREAM REALM FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

HAVE YOU EVER COME ACROSS ONE?

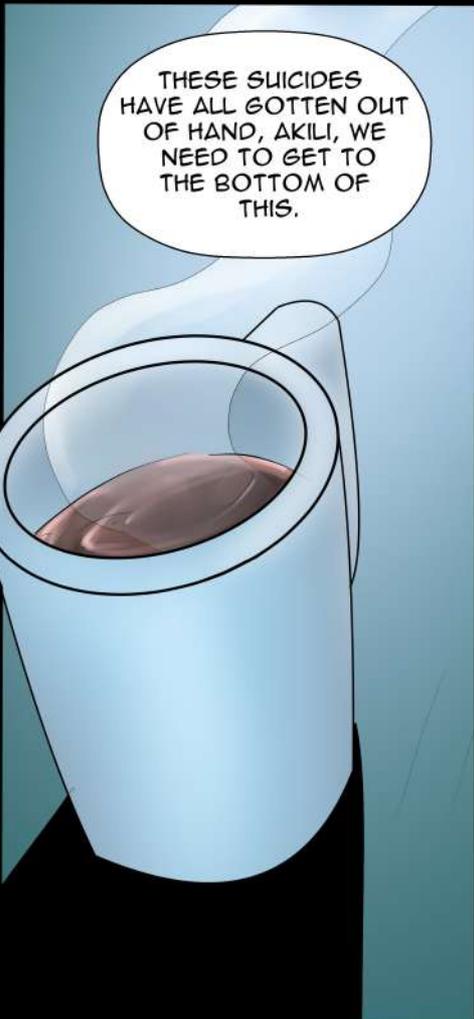
IT TAKES A VERY POWERFUL BEING TO CREATE ONE. SHADOW DEMONS ARE MOSTLY CONTROLLED FROM HERE, OUR REALM, AND THEY CAN MANIFEST HERE TOO, IN SPIRIT FORM

YEAH I'VE SEEN THAT FIRST HAND.

THEY TAKE THEIR VICTIMS TO LIMBO, TORTURE THEM, TAKE CONTROL OF THEM, AND MAKE THEM COMMIT SUICIDE.

LIMBO. HMM

THEY'VE BECOME MORE POWERFUL BECAUSE I'VE BEEN HEAVILY DISTRACTED





THE OGBONI CULT?



HAHA  
HA-

YES, THEY WANT YOU DEAD

ME? WHY WOULD THEY WANT ME DEAD?



YOU KNOW TOO MUCH

TOO MUCH OF WHAT?



LISTEN, YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH COFFEE, AND YOU DONT KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING

YOU NEED TO COME CLEAN



DID ETIM PUT YOU UP TO THIS?



LISTEN,  
THERE'S A LOT  
GOING ON  
HERE THAT  
YOU DON'T  
UNDERSTAND.

DOES  
THE NAME  
"WALE BADMUS"  
RING ANY  
BELLS?



THAT  
THING IS  
COMING  
FOR YOU  
NEXT



**BUT THEY ALWAYS COME  
RUNNING RIGHT BACK**



AND COME RUNNING BACK, HE DID



**SPLASH**



**KNOCK**



**TAT  
TAT**



**KNOCK**

**KNOCK**

BUT I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS GOING TO BE TONIGHT ❄️



YOU WERE RIGHT, AKILI, I NEED YOUR HELP, PLEASE

Shiver

I HELPED WALE BADMUS CREATE HIS SHADOW DEMON, ALL THIS IS PARTLY MY FAULT, AND NOW IT'S BACK TO HAUNT ME

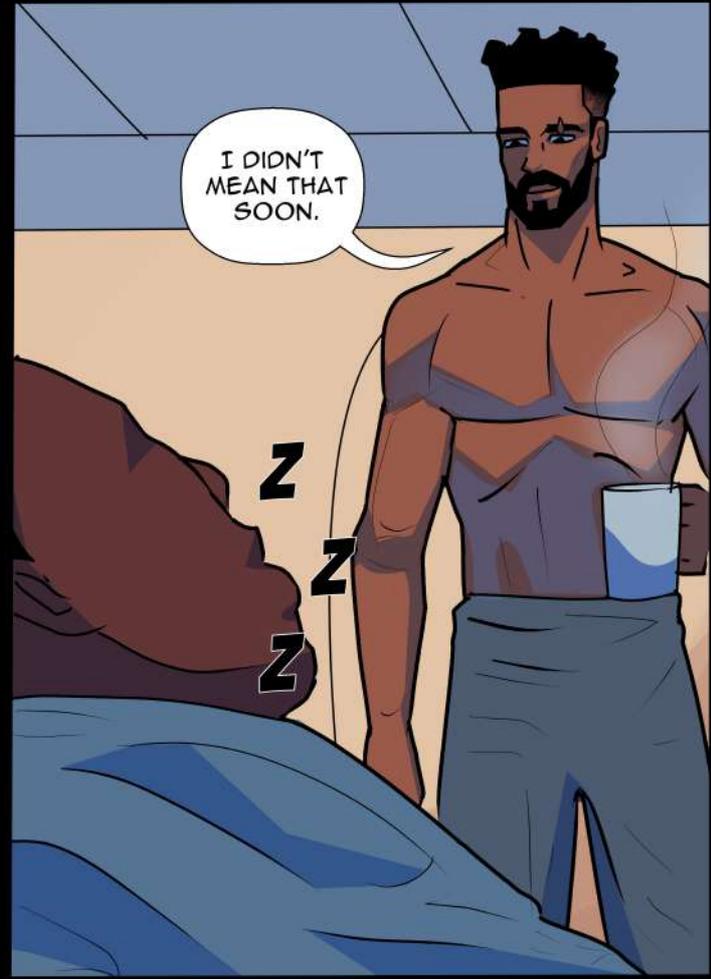


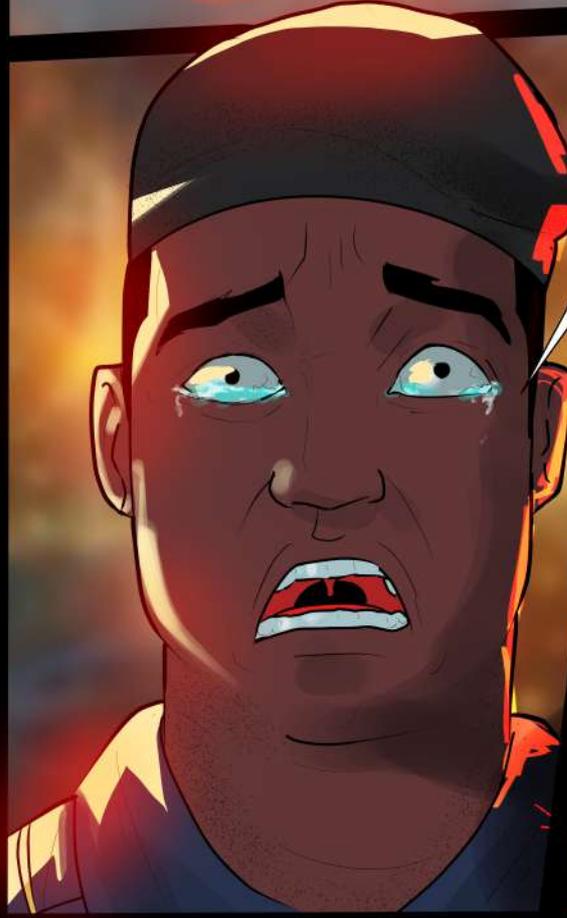
DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING OTHER THAN COFFEE



FOR WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A LOT OF ILANES DRINK UP

GULP!!!





WHERE AM I?  
WHAT'S THIS

NO,  
NO!



**CLASP!**

I'VE GOT YA

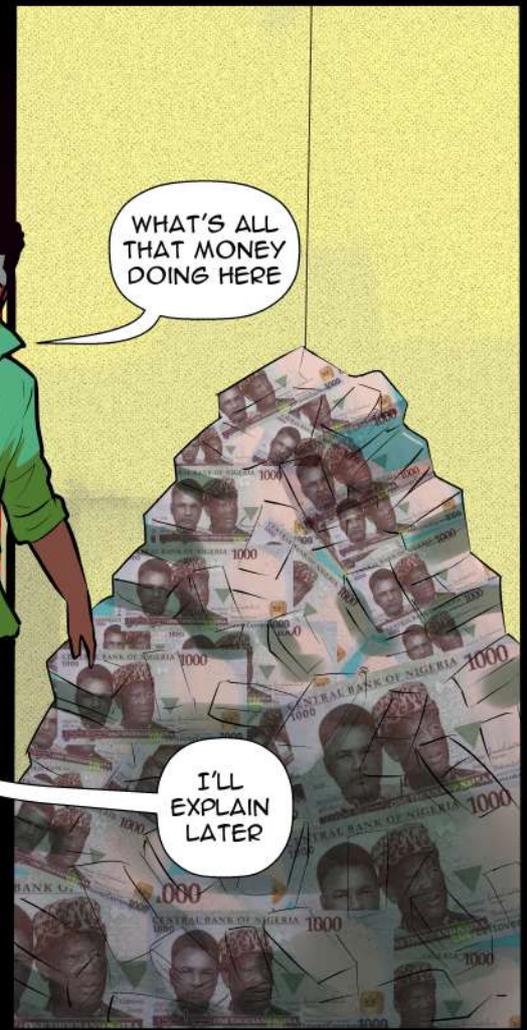


HOLD ON



WHERE ARE WE ?

WE'RE STILL IN YOUR HEAD, THAT THING IS STILL HERE SOMEWHERE



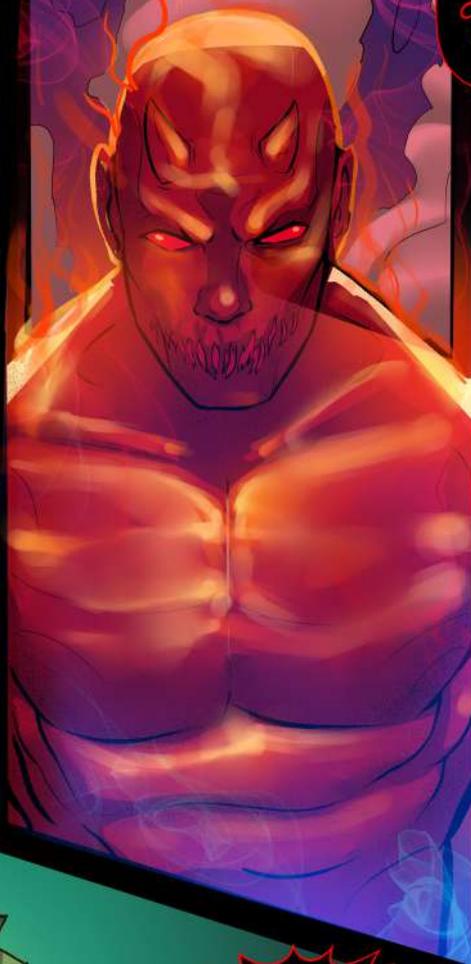
WHAT'S ALL THAT MONEY DOING HERE

I'LL EXPLAIN LATER

YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD RUN FROM ME?



YOU CAN'T RUN.



WALE BADMUS, YOUR REIGN OF TERROR ENDS HERE



YOU. YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER, THAN HELPING HIM.

YOU HAVE TO STOP, THIS IS MADNESS





**GLOW!**

**GLINT!!!**



**BZZZ!!!**

YOUR MOTHER  
WAS WISE TO LEAVE  
THAT NECKLACE WITH  
YOU. WITHOUT IT SHE  
WAS UNPROTECTED,



AND MADE  
HER AN EASY  
KILL

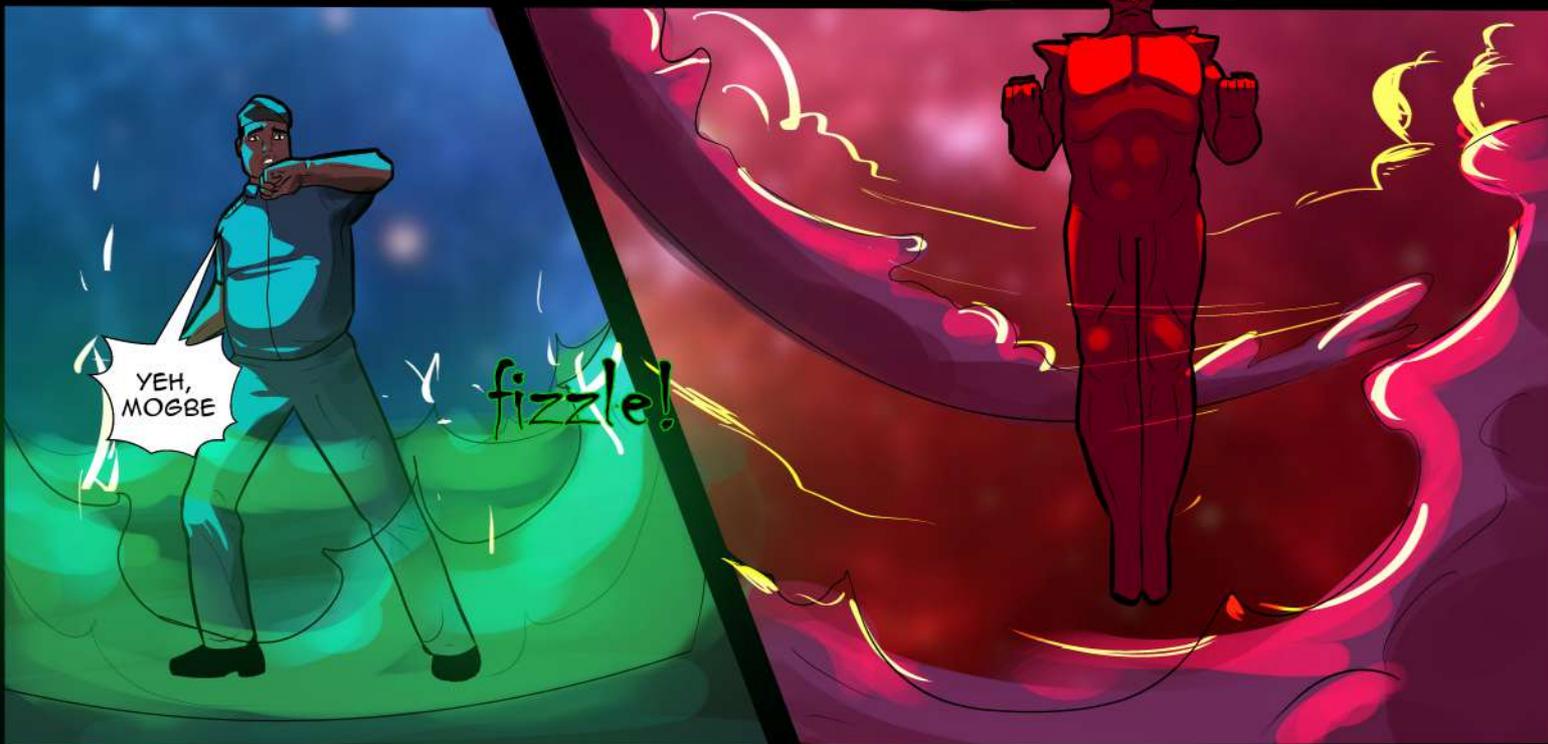


YOU  
KILLED  
HER



YES,  
AND I  
ENJOYED  
IT







I WILL RUIN YOUR MIND

BUT I WAS WITH YOU WHEN EVERYONE LEFT YOU, WHY?

YOU'VE OUTLIVED YOUR USEFULNESS. YOU KNOW TOO MUCH



AHHHH



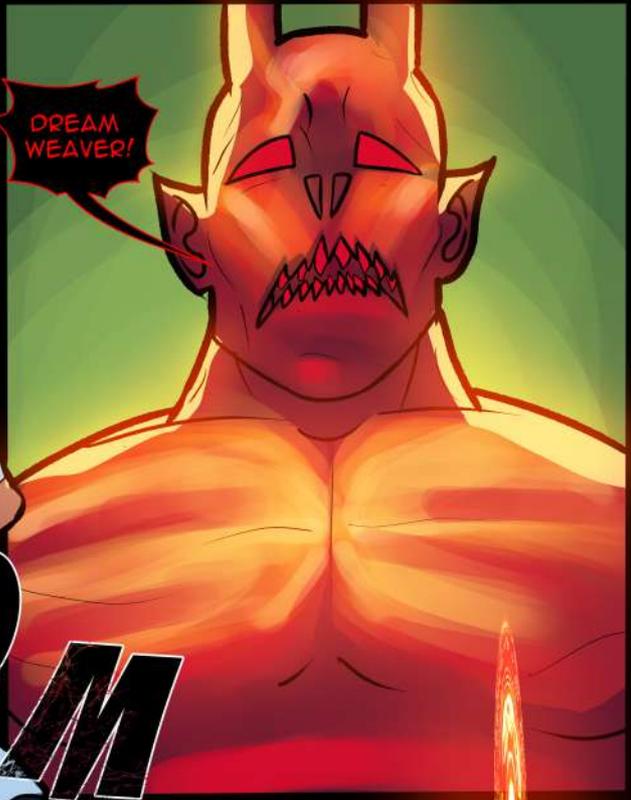
AHHHH



ALL YOU MIND, YOUR MEMORIES, WHEN YOU WAKE, YOU WILL COMMIT SUICIDE



GLOW!!



**THOOM!!!**



I'M THE CROCODILE, AND THESE ARE MY WATERS



NO! YOU  
CAN'T STOP  
ME

**CLASP!**

**BIND!**

SAYS  
WHO?

**G**

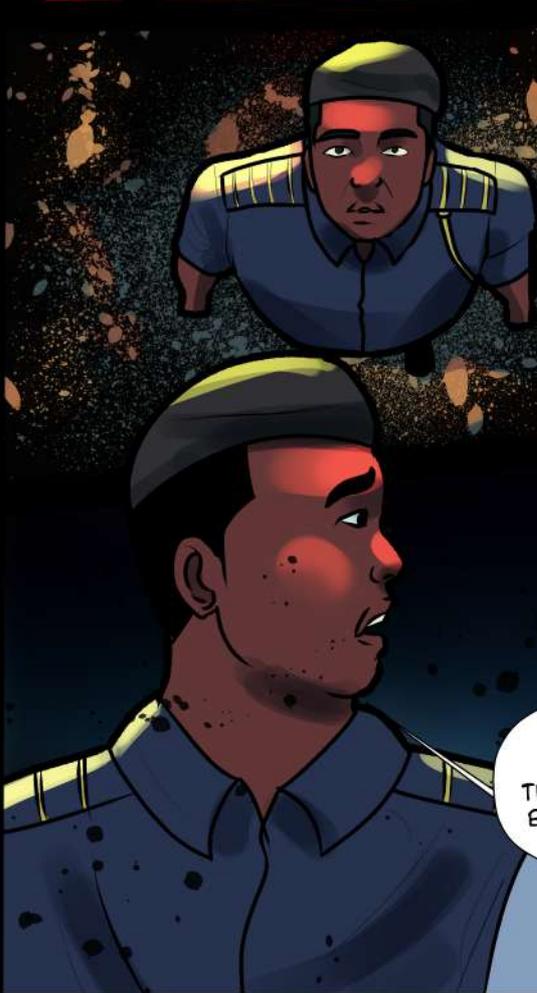
**L**

**O**

**W**



THIS ISN'T OVER



NOJIDE, THANK YOU

I SHOULD BE THANKING YOU, YOU INSPIRED ME TO CONTINUE

THE WHOLE CROCODILE THING, I NEED A BETTER CATCH PHRASE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SAVING ME, BOTH OF YOU, I HAVE A LOT OF REGRETS

YOU CAN START BY TELLING ME ABOUT THAT CASH

I HELPED SOME POLITICIANS LAUNDER MONEY, THE STATE POLICE FUNDS THAT I HELPED EMBEZZLE, GOD FORGIVE ME.

ALL THE BAD THINGS I DID WITH ALL THE OCCULT THINGS.

HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU

YOU DONT OWE ME ANYTHING, BUT YOU DO OWE ETIM A PUFF PIECE EDITORIAL

THE LOOTED POLICE FUNDS WILL MAKE FOR A GREAT HEADLINE STORY.

BACK TO THE REAL WORLD



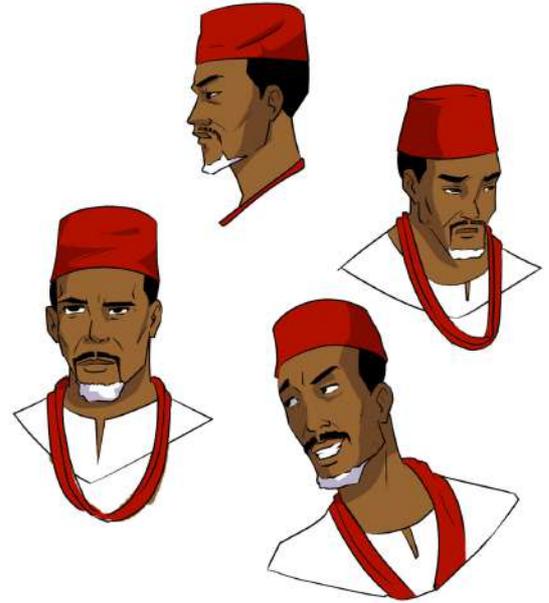
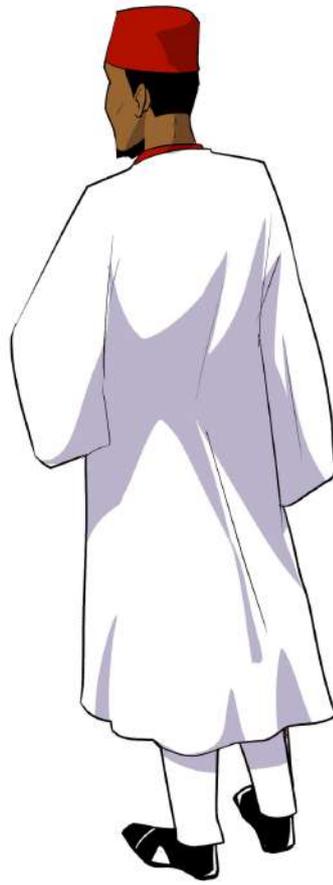
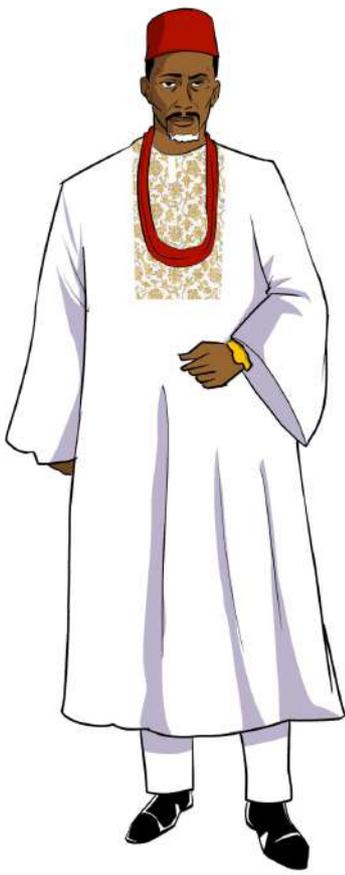
# HEAD LINE

HOW AN INSIDER HELPED TO LOOT AND EMBEZZLE POLICE FUNDS

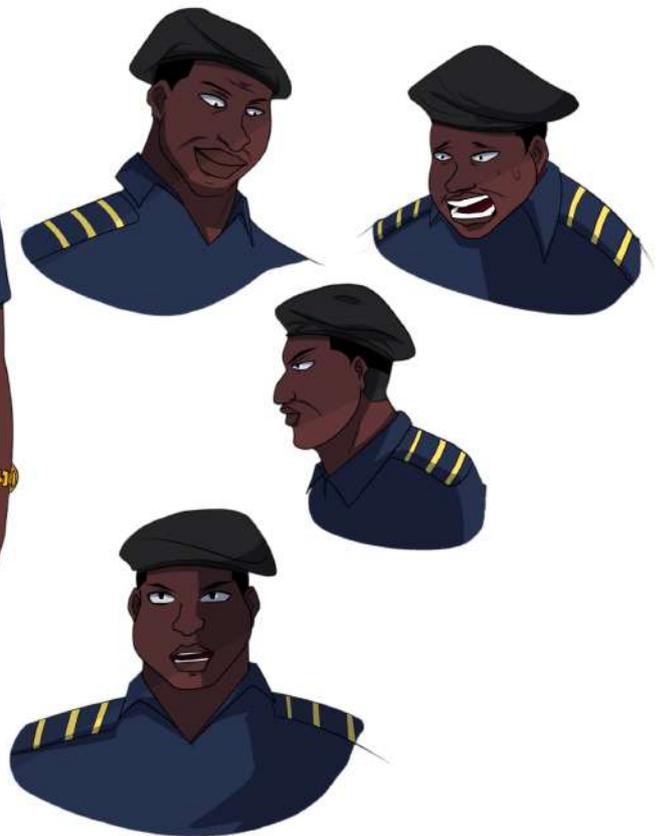
THE D.P.O. OF THE  
NIGERIAN POLICE  
DEPARTMENT HAS  
BEEN FOUND GUILTY.



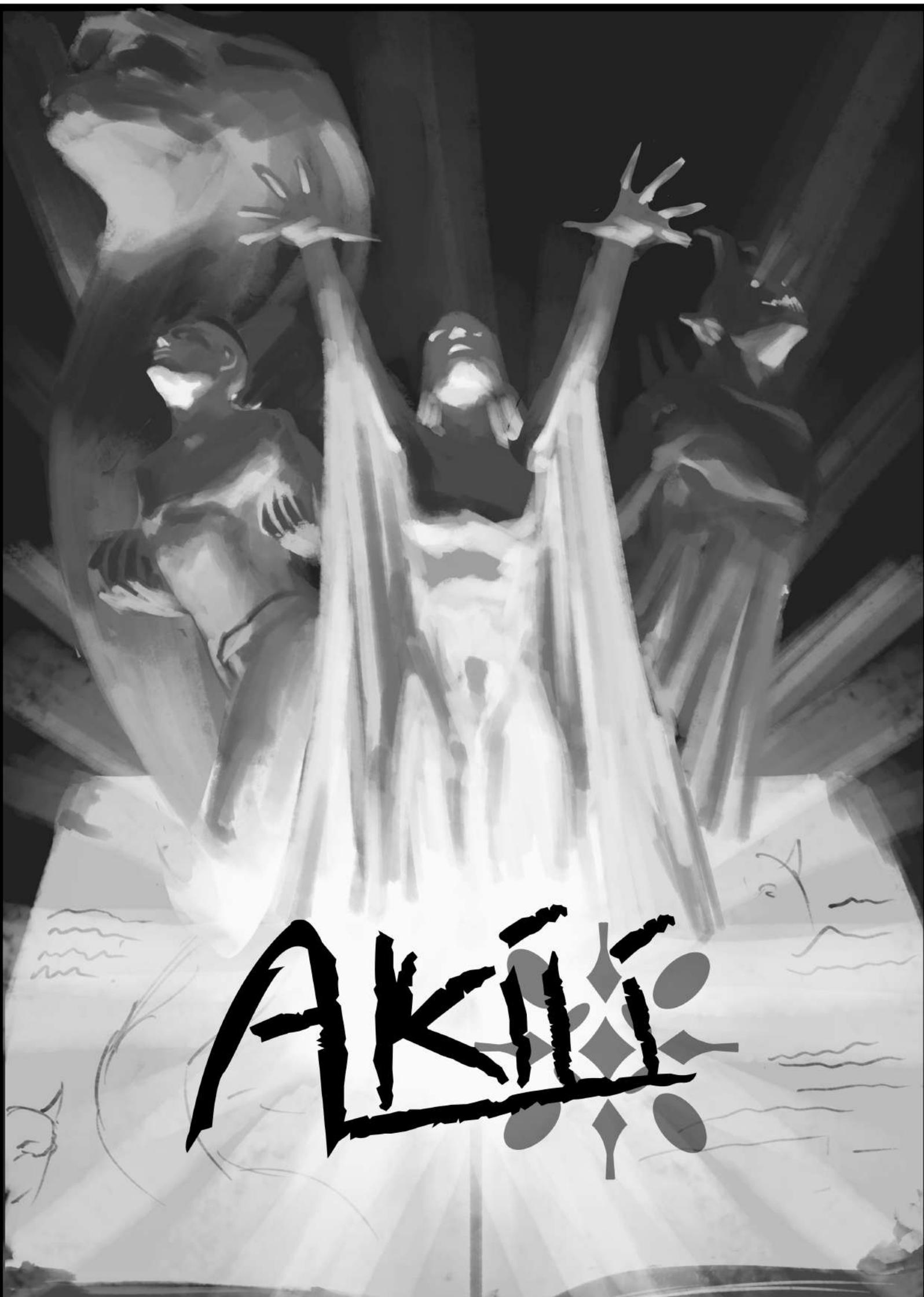
IN A SCANDAL THAT HAS RO  
LAW ENFORCEMENT, A WHIS  
BLOWER HAS  
A HUGE SUM OF 9 MILL  
WAS FOUND IN  
POLICE



WALE  
BADMLIS







**AKI!**



AKIRA