

NEW BREED

NOV 3 2008 \$5

# TOKU BOHU



ALBERTO  
ESTRADA

Hi-Fi

# NEW BREED™ COMICS

PRESENTS...

# TOKUBOHU™

Issue #3

# The RING of DREGS

WRITTEN BY:  
DAVID & SETH BIER

PENCILED BY:  
GABE ALBEROLA

INKED, COLORED & LETTERED BY:



**INKS:**  
DAVE BRYANT  
MIKE WORLEY

**LETTERING:**  
BRIAN RICE

**COLORS:**  
BRIAN MILLER  
JEAN MUNROE—COVER

COLOR ASSIST: KEVIN SENFT & PAUL ROBERT S.



## ETHERIANS

IN 3090, HUMANS EMERGE FROM THEIR UNDERGROUND HABITAT 800 YEARS AFTER A PLANET-DEVASTATING WORLD WAR, ENTERING A WORLD NO LONGER AS THE HUNTERS, BUT AS THE AGONYED. THEY BUILD THE UTOPIAN "TREETOP" SOCIETY OF ETHERIA. HUMAN CALIBRE ON THE FOREST FLOOR WERE CAPTURED AND BRED AS SLAVES. NOW, IN 3090, GENESIS XIVY HOPES TO CHANGE THAT. SHE HOPES TO GAIN THE TRUST OF THE NEW BREEDS AND FREE THE HUMAN SLAVES IN THE PROCESS.



## SHADOWHUNTERS

FOUNDED BY GENESIS XI, THE SHADOWHUNTERS ARE AN ELITE GROUP OF TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED HUMAN WARRIORS, DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HUMAN RACE. BY COMBINING ADVANCED HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT TECHNIQUES AND ESPIONAGE WITH SUPERIOR TECHNOLOGY FROM THE A.R.A.M.S. DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, THE SHADOWHUNTERS HAVE ESTABLISHED A FORTRESS-LIKE MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE RAIN FOREST.



## NEW BREEDS

ANOTHER NATURE HAS RECLAIMED RULE OF THE PLANET AND THROWN AWAY FROM ITS DEGRADATIONAL HIGH ABOVE THE FOOD CHAIN. "NANOACTIVE" FALLS OUT FROM WORLD WAR V HAS SUPERCHARGED EARTH'S NATURAL SELECTION, CREATING NEW BREEDS OF ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE FAR SUPERIOR TO THEIR ANCESTORS -- BOTH PHYSICALLY AND INTELLECTUALLY. THESE NEW BREEDS ARE IN CONTROL NOW, AND MANKIND CAN ONLY HOPE TO SURVIVE THE EVOLUTION AS EVOLUTION.

## Previously:

**B**EGINNING THE INVESTIGATION INTO GENESIS XI'S KIDNAPPING, NANTIS AND BOOMSLANG INTERROGATE THE RECENTLY CAPTURED TOMATO-HEAD BROTHERS. AFTER A LITTLE "PERSUASION", ONE BROTHER GIVES THEM A NAME: CYRUS BOGG.

MEANWHILE IN A CASINO DEEP IN BOGG CITY, CYRUS BOGG COMPLETES A SUCCESSFUL TRADE DEAL WITH THE LANSATORS BEFORE GETTING MISERABLE BY SLOGGEMATH THE OUTLAW. SLOGGEMATH TURNS A WANTED CRIMINAL OVER TO CYRUS, BUT WHEN CYRUS REFUSES TO PAY THE REWARD, SLOGGEMATH ATTACKS CYRUS' GOONS AND LEAVES CYRUS WITH A THREAT.

BACK IN ETHERIA, THE SHADOWHUNTERS PREPARE TO LEAVE THE SAFETY OF THEIR TREE KINGDOM TO HEAT FOR GENESIS IN BOGG CITY. CONDOR AND OWL DECIDE TO LEAD THE CRUISE, AGAINST THE YOUNGER SHADOWHUNTER'S WISHES. UPON ENTERING THE RING OF DREGS, THE SHADOWHUNTERS ARE ATTACKED BY ZOMBIE NEW BREEDS AND ARE DRAGGED UNDER THE SHAMP. ONLY VEIN AND VALYRIE ESCAPE.

VOODOO




THE RING OF DREGS --  
SOMEWHERE BENEATH  
THE SWAMP.



THE LABORATORY SMELLS OF  
DEATH AND DECAY. IT'S UNWILLING  
OCCUPANTS SIT IN EERIE  
SILENCE, CONTEMPLATING  
THEIR FATE--

--WATCHING MORE THAN JUST  
THEIR LIVES SLIPPING AWAY,  
DOWN THE DRAIN.



IT IS HERE WE FIND THE  
RECENTLY CAPTURED  
SHADOWHUNTERS.  
OVERPOWERED BY UNDEAD  
NEWBREDS, THE WARRIORS  
NOW JOIN THE RANKS OF  
THE PRISONERS HOUSED IN  
THIS GRUESOME DUNGEON.







YOU BE SILENT!  
IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE WAY OUT I DON'T NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU.

THERE IS NO WAY OUT.



I HATE TO BE THE BEARER OF BAD NEWS, BUT YOUR MISFORTUNE IS ONLY JUST BEGINNING.

SO PLEASE, I BEG YOU, BE SILENT.

THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR.



WHO ARE YOU?

JUST A FELLOW PRISONER.

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THIS PLACE?



I CAN TELL YOU NOTHING.



HE WILL HEAR ME.



WHO WILL HEAR YOU? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



PLEASE, SIR, YOU *MUST* TELL US WHAT YOU KNOW. WE CAN HELP YOU.

YOU CAN'T HELP ME. YOU CAN'T HELP YOURSELVES!

HE IS TOO POWERFUL!



PLEASE TELL US WHO HE IS.



JUST POINT HIM OUT SO I KNOW WHO TO KILL.



YOU FOOLS, YOU CANNOT KILL WHAT IS ALREADY DEAD.



NOW YOU'RE STARTING TO FREAK ME OUT.



STOP SPEAKING IN RIDDLES AND TELL ME WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH HERE!!

OH NO, HE'S HEARD US FOR SURE NOW.

THIS IS GETTING US NOWHERE, MANTIS.

WE NEED TO GET OUT OF THESE CAGES AND GET OUR A.R.M.S.S. BACK.

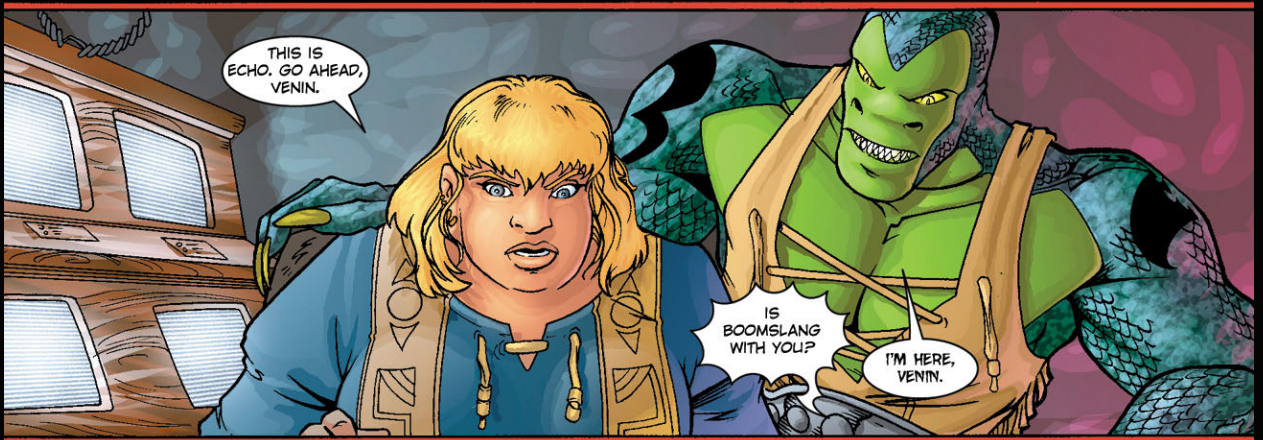
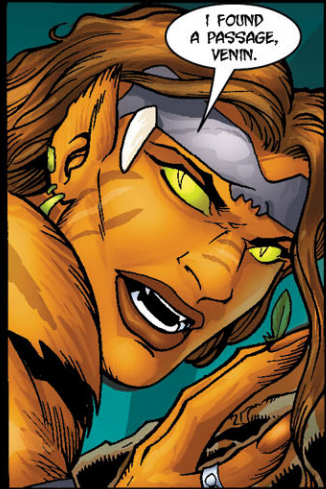


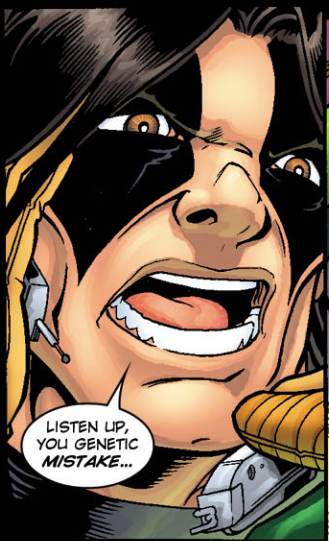
HE'S COMING! I CAN HEAR HIM.



"NOW SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE?"

THE RING OF DREGS





LISTEN UP, YOU GENETIC MISTAKE...



...WE WERE JUST ATTACKED BY A GANG OF DEAD FREAKS...  
...AND ALL WE DID IS FOLLOW YOUR DIRECTIONS.



I SENT YOU TO THE MOST REMOTE AREA OF THE RING SO YOU COULD GET IN UNDETECTED.  
I DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON OUT THERE.  
I'M FROM BOGG CITY.



EXACTLY MY POINT!  
ECHO, KEEP THAT FREAK OFF THE LINE. I DON'T TRUST HIM.



VENIN, WHAT IS...

VENIN OUT!



BEEP



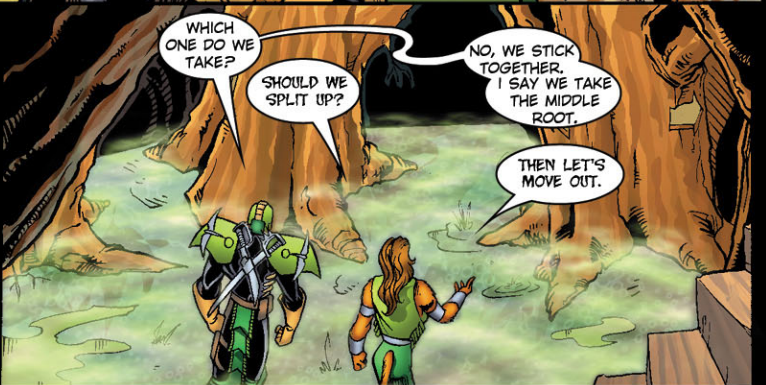
FEEL BETTER?

NOT REALLY. NO.



IF YOU'RE FINISHED SELLING AT EVERYONE MAYBE WE CAN GO FIND THE OTHERS.

I'M NOT STOPPIN' YOU.

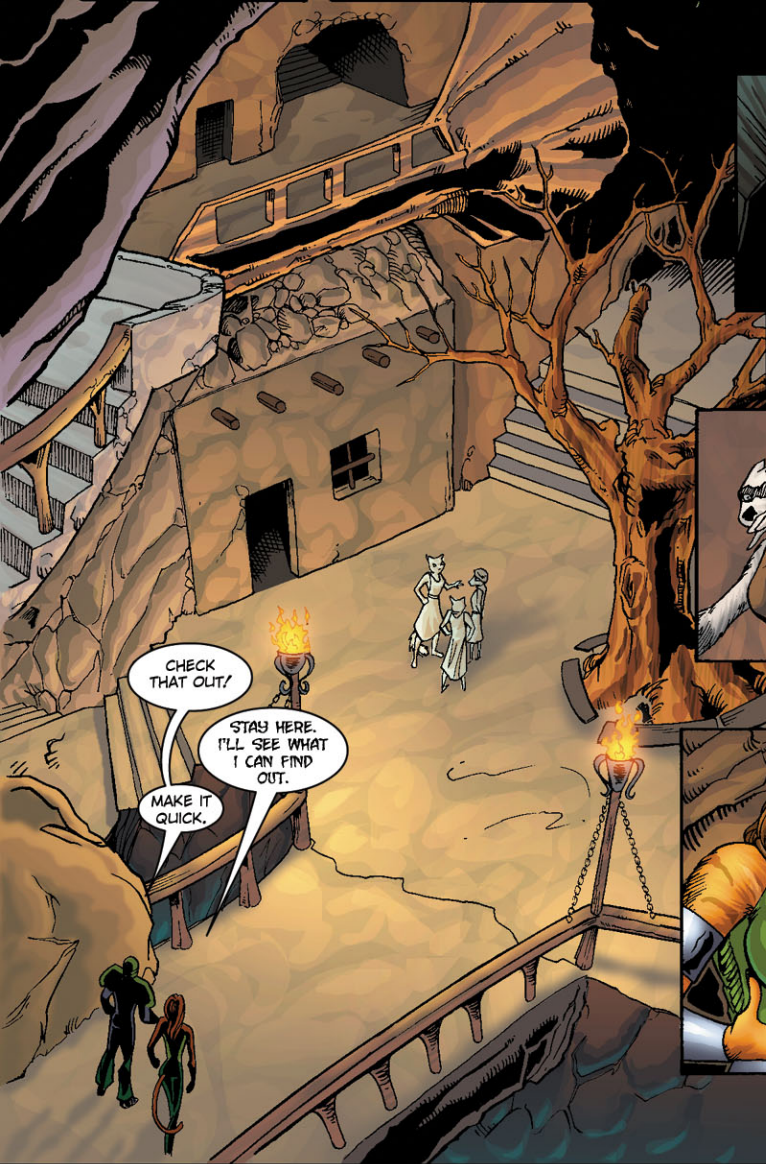
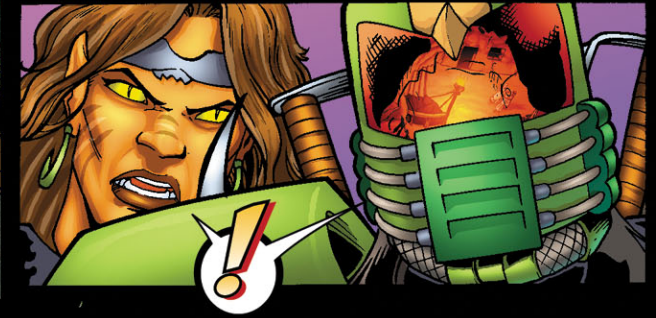
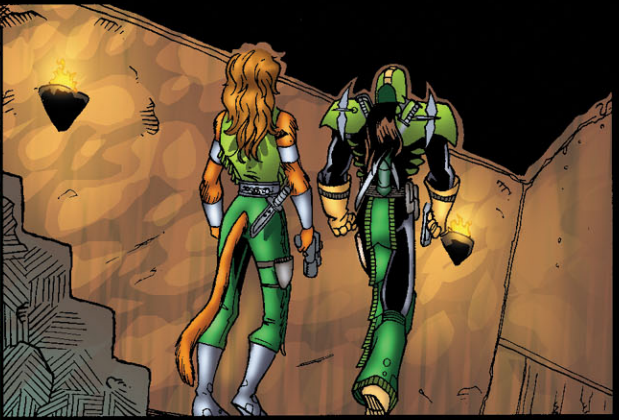


WHICH ONE DO WE TAKE?

SHOULD WE SPLIT UP?

NO, WE STICK TOGETHER. I SAY WE TAKE THE MIDDLE ROOT.

THEN LET'S MOVE OUT.



EXCUSE ME. MY FRIENDS AND I WERE ATTACKED IN THE SWAMP...  
...THEY WERE TAKEN BY...



HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE, CAT?

MY FRIENDS AND I WERE ATTACKED IN THE SWAMP BY CREATURES I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

YOUR FRIENDS ARE NOT HERE. THIS IS A PEACEFUL TOWN. WE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE.

I'M NOT HERE TO MAKE TROUBLE. I NEED HELP.

CHECK THAT OUT!

STAY HERE. I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT.

MAKE IT QUICK.





I KNOW WHERE YOUR FRIENDS ARE.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE ALONE, KID. WHERE'S YOUR MOTHER?

HE TOOK HER.

WHO'S HE?

HEMLOCK.



WHO'S HEMLOCK?

HE'S THE ONE THAT TOOK YOUR FRIENDS.

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HE DOES. THE ADULTS KNOW, BUT THEY'RE AFRAID.

HE'S NOT A HUNTER. HE USES HIS BEASTS TO CAPTURE PREY. ALONE HE ONLY SNATCHES BABIES AND FEMALES.



SOUNDS LIKE REAL SCUM. WHY AREN'T YOU AFRAID?



HE ALREADY TOOK MY MOM, SO I HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO LOSE.



BESIDES, WHEN I GROW UP I'M GONNA BE A GREAT WARRIOR LIKE BANDIT THE SNAKESLAYER. I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THOSE CREATURES WHO GRABBED OUR FRIENDS?

THEY WORK FOR HIM. MY UNCLE SAYS HE DOES STUFF THAT'S UNNATURAL.



HE CALLS IT 'MAGIC'.

YOUR UNCLE SOUNDS LIKE HE NEEDS TO LAY OFF THE SAUCE.

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. WHAT KIND OF MAGIC?

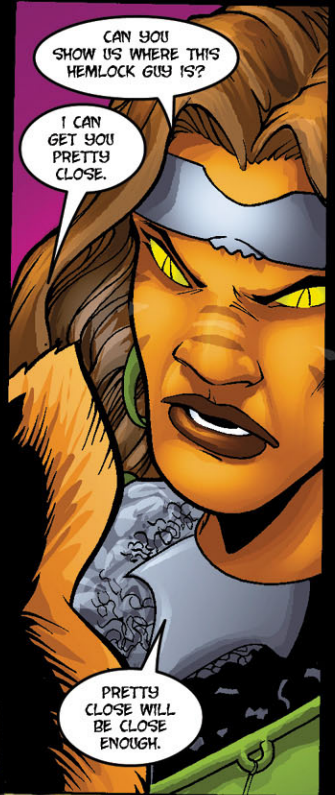


LIKE MAKING THE DEAD WALK AGAIN.



THIS IS RIDICULOUS.  
YEAH, IT SOUNDS RIDICULOUS TO ME TOO...

...BUT WE BOTH KNOW IT'S TRUE.



CAN YOU SHOW US WHERE THIS HEMLOCK GUY IS?  
I CAN GET YOU PRETTY CLOSE.

PRETTY CLOSE WILL BE CLOSE ENOUGH.

CHAPTER 15  
**HEMLOCK**



YOU ARE HUMANS, CORRECT?

WE ARE.

THIS SHOULD BE FUN.



OPEN THIS CAGE AND I'LL SHOW YOU FUN!!

IT'S DUE TIME.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ABDUCTION OF GENESIS XIX?

WHO?



GENESIS XIX, THE HEIR TO THE ETHERIAN THRONE.



THAT SOUNDS LIKE A POLITICAL ABDUCTION. MY INTERESTS ARE MUCH MORE SCIENTIFIC IN NATURE.



WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US?

I'VE NEVER EXPERIMENTED ON HUMANS BEFORE. I HAVE MUCH TO LEARN.

I UNDERSTAND THE HUMAN MIND IS CAPABLE OF GREAT EVIL...

...I HAVE MANY THEORIES ON HOW TO EXTRACT IT.



LET ME OUT OF THIS CAGE AND I'LL GIVE YOU A FREE SAMPLE!

I BELIEVE YOU WOULD.



WHOOOSH

BUT I'M NOT THE VIOLENT TYPE.



SO NOW, YOU THREE SLEEP.



GUARD, BRING THE OTHER TWO HUMANS TO ME.



WHAT IS THIS GARBAGE? HUMANS ARE SO VERY FRAGILE.

I WOULD THINK A SCIENTIST LIKE YOURSELF WOULD APPRECIATE THE TECHNOLOGY INVOLVED IN CREATING OUR A.R.M.S.S.

EVEN A MEDIOCRE SCIENTIST WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE IT.

YOUR INSULTS DO NOT PROVOKE ME BECAUSE I KNOW YOU ARE IGNORANT TO THE THINGS THAT HAVE PASSED BEFORE MY EYES.

THE FOREST IS FULL OF MANY STRANGE INGREDIENTS. FINDING THE RIGHT COMBINATIONS IS WHERE THE SKILL LIES.

TO KILL IS EASY. EVEN THE MOST BASIC CREATURES CAN DO THAT.

I HAVE RAISED THE DEAD.

UNTIL YOU CAN SAY THE SAME YOU WILL NEVER BE MY EQUAL.

BUT YOU KILL IN THE PROCESS.

NOBODY'S PERFECT.

BUT TO HAFTA SHIELD YOURSELVES WITH THIS FALSE BODY ARMOR-- IT'S ALMOST PATHETIC.

THIS DIVERSION WAS ALL MANTIS AND WIDOW NEEDED.

AS HEMLOCK INSPECTS MANTIS' HELMET, HE ACCIDENTALLY RELEASES A BLINDING MIST.

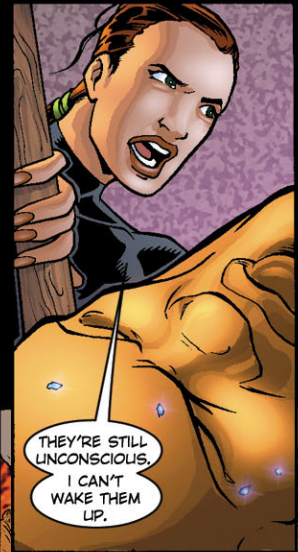
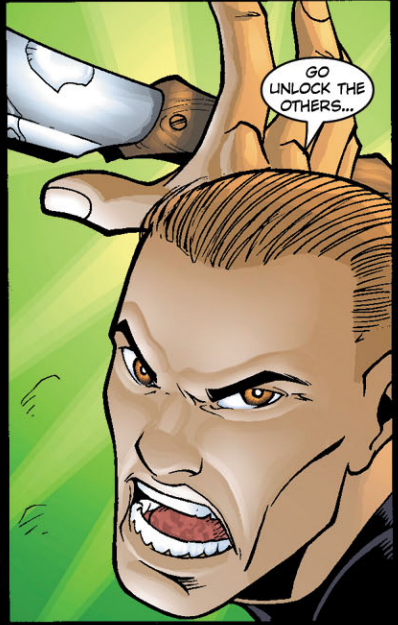
SSSSSS

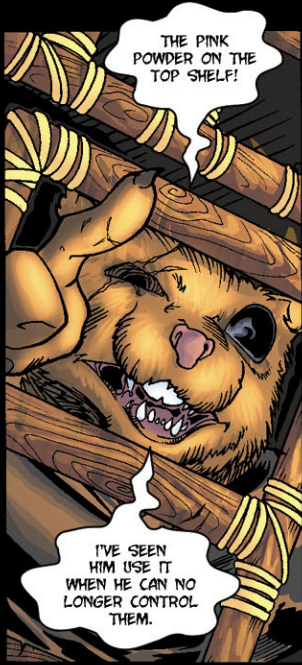
THONK

FLIP

FWISH

CRACK





THE PINK POWDER ON THE TOP SHELF!

I'VE SEEN HIM USE IT WHEN HE CAN NO LONGER CONTROL THEM.



IT STOPS THE EFFECTS OF THE REANIMATION POTION.



IT WORKED... THEY'VE STOPPED!



FOOLISH HUMANS, YOU CAN'T STOP MY ARMS. THEY WILL NEVER STOP.

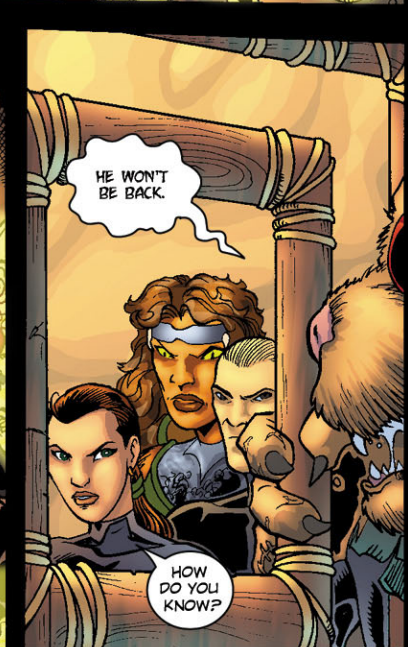
THE SOUND OF THE BELL BRINGS YOUR DEATH!



THAT'S NOT ALL IT BRINGS!



BURN COWARD!!





HE NO LONGER FEELS SAFE HERE. HE IS NOT A WARRIOR, HE IS A COWARD! A BABY KILLER!

HE WILL FIND SOMEONE WEAKER THAN HIM AND TAKE EVERYTHING THEY HAVE.

I KNOW THIS BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT HE DID TO ME.



THIS WAS YOUR LAB, WASN'T IT?



YES, BUT THAT WAS A VERY LONG TIME AGO. I'VE BEEN IN THIS CAGE FOR SO MANY YEARS I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT I USED TO FIND SO INTERESTING ABOUT THIS STUFF.



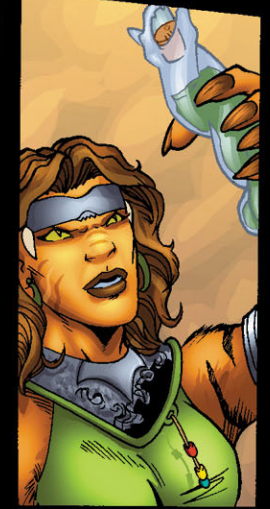
CLICK



CAN YOU HELP US WAKE UP OUR FRIENDS?



IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND AS TO GET ME THAT SNAKE BOTTLE OFF THE MIDDLE SHELF.



SNIFF SNIFF



HERE ARE YOUR A.R.M.S.S.

HURRY UP!



NO ARGUMENT HERE.



WE HAFTA FREE THE OTHER CAPTIVES.



MOMMA!



HEY KID, THANKS. NOW GET YOUR MOM OUTTA HERE.



WE ARE IN YOUR DEBT FOR HELPING US...  
...BUT I MUST ASK FOR ONE MORE FAVOR. WE NEED TO GET TO BOGG CITY. CAN YOU SHOW US THE FASTEST WAY?

THERE IS A TOWN NOT FAR FROM HERE. I'LL BE HAPPY TO TAKE YOU MOST OF THE WAY.



I DON'T WANNA BE HERE IF HEMLOCK'S ZOMBIES COME BACK.

YOU HEARD HIM...



...SHADOWHUNTERS, MOVE OUT!

# IN THE COMPANY OF WOLVES

THE TOWN IS JUST UP AHEAD. I'VE BEEN OUT OF THE LOOP FOR A WHILE, BUT LAST TIME I CHECKED SOME PRETTY ROUGH CHARACTERS FREQUENTED THIS TOWN. SO BE CAREFUL...



YOU'RE NOT COMING WITH US?

SOMEONE IN TOWN MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU.



I HAVE KIN NEARBY. I'LL BE OKAY. GOOD LUCK TO YOU.

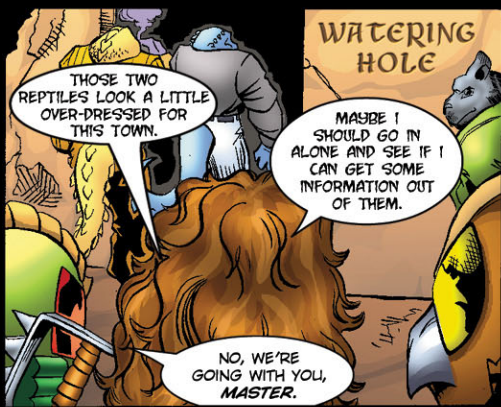
THANK YOU.



BE ALERT, BOYS AND GIRLS. WE GOT LUCKY WITH HEMLOCK.



WE WON'T GET THAT LUCKY AGAIN.



WATERING HOLE

THOSE TWO REPTILES LOOK A LITTLE OVER-DRESSED FOR THIS TOWN.

MAYBE I SHOULD GO IN ALONE AND SEE IF I CAN GET SOME INFORMATION OUT OF THEM.

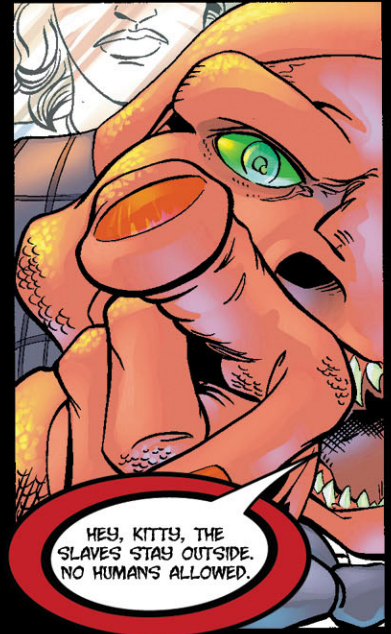
NO, WE'RE GOING WITH YOU, MASTER.



YOU KNOW THAT HAD TO HURT.

MASTER?

QUIET DOWN.





YOU SHOW SOME RESPECT WHEN YOU'RE TALKING TO MY MASTER.



WHOA! YOU REALLY SHOWED THEM. HEH, HEH.



I GUESS YOU WON'T BE NEEDING THIS.



SIT DOWN, TOUGH GUY!

IF WE WANT ANY OF YOUR INPLIT -- TRUST ME-- WE'LL ASK FOR IT.



AND AS FOR YOU, THE LADY ASKED YOU A QUESTION.



REAL LOW KEY, VENIN. GOOD JOB.

JUST PROTECTING MY MASTER.

COUGH IT UP. WHERE IS CYRUS BOGG?

I'LL TAKE YOU TO CYRUS BOGG. I HATE THAT FAT LITTLE PUNK.



AND WHO ARE YOU?

JUST A DOG TRYSIN' TO GET A BONE. BUT I KNOW WHERE HE IS.



MY NAME IS VANDAL AND I'LL TAKE YOU TO HIM, BUT IT'S GONNA COST YA.

HOW MUCH?

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY?



FIVE GOLD COINS.



TWENTY.



TEN, FIVE NOW AND FIVE WHEN WE SEE THE FROG.



LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT YOURSELVES AN ESCORT.



LET ME MAKE A FEW CALLS, TALK TO MY PEOPLE, AND SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO MAKE YOU, WELL, LESS CONSPICUOUS.

HUMANS ARE LIKE DIAMONDS DOWN HERE. EVERY NEWBREED YOU SEE SEES YOU AS A RETIREMENT FUND.



WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT, SLAVE?



DON'T ESE ME, PUNK.

YOU DEAF, BOY?

WHAT'S WITH YOU? WHY YOU LOOKIN' AT ME LIKE THAT?



'CAUSE I DON'T LIKE YOU.



KNOCK IT OFF, VENIN.

PLEASE TELL ME YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT HIS HEAD.

VENIN!



SO, WHAT'S THE PLAN?

WE WAIT TIL MIDNIGHT FOR MY BOYS TO COME THROUGH.



WE NEED YOU GUYS TO BE A LITTLE MORE -- INCOGNITO -- IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

SEE, YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR CYRUS BOGG, WHICH MEANS YOU NEED TO GO TO BOGG CITY...

...WHICH MEANS WE GOT A TRAIN TO CATCH.

