

HALE

THE RISE OF THE GRIFFINS



A GRAPHIC NOVEL - VOLUME 1

JK NOBLE



THE GRIFFIN CLAN

KINGDOM OF BIMMORUS

BANSHEE FOREST

EMSEQUET

ISLES OF NEPENTH

GORGES OF NAVMALA

ARKETCHA TRIBE

*The
Extraordinary
Division of
Malphora*

BAYO'S SECRET PLACE

ELDER'S DOME

WELDRING HORN

TREEDOME

PRIESTESS SANCTUARY

MARCUS'S COTTAGE

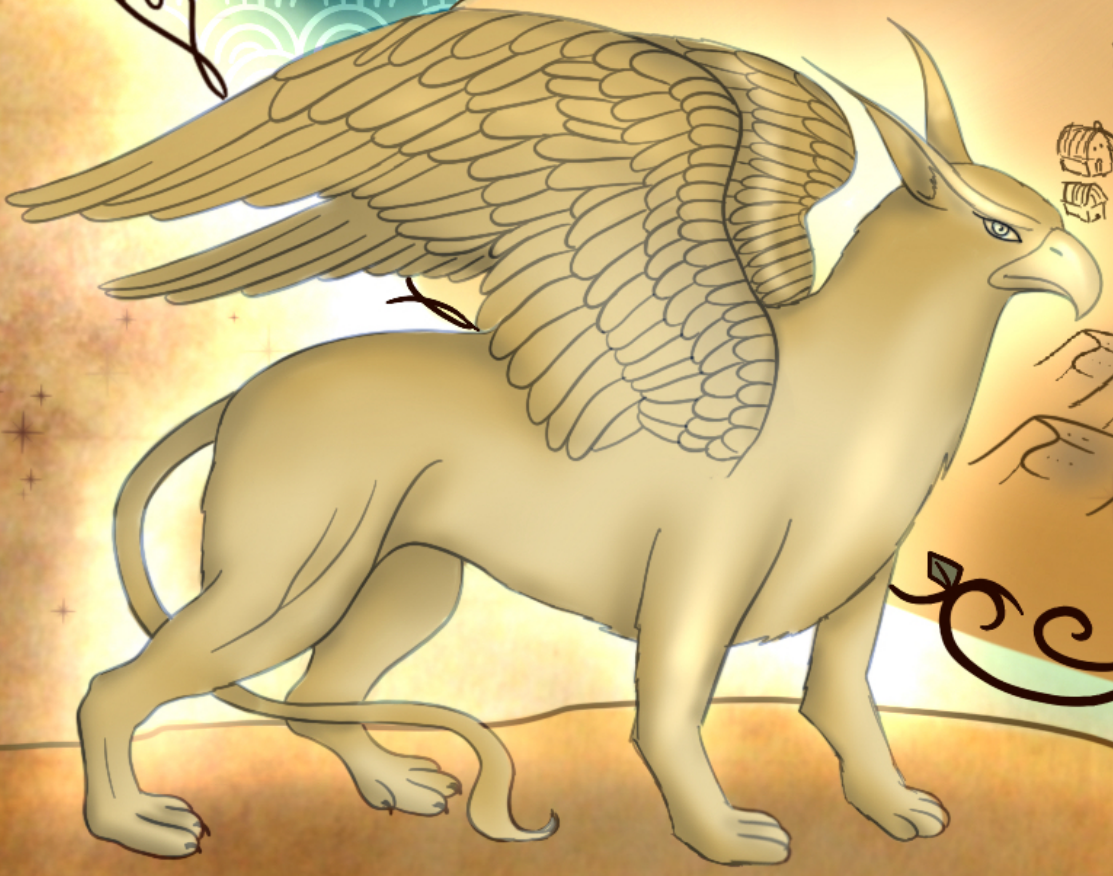
OBSERVATORY

ACADEMY

ROYAL PALACE

BREATHING BAY

TEMPLE AND CEMETERY





B A Y O

NATIONALITY: GRIFFIN

POWER: ENDURANCE, THE ABILITY TO INFLICT PHYSICAL ANGUISH ONTO THEIR VICTIMS.

G R E O N

NATIONALITY: GRIFFIN

POWER: LIGHT, THE ABILITY TO MENEFEST ANY IMAGE INTO THE PHYSICAL WORLD.



F E L I X

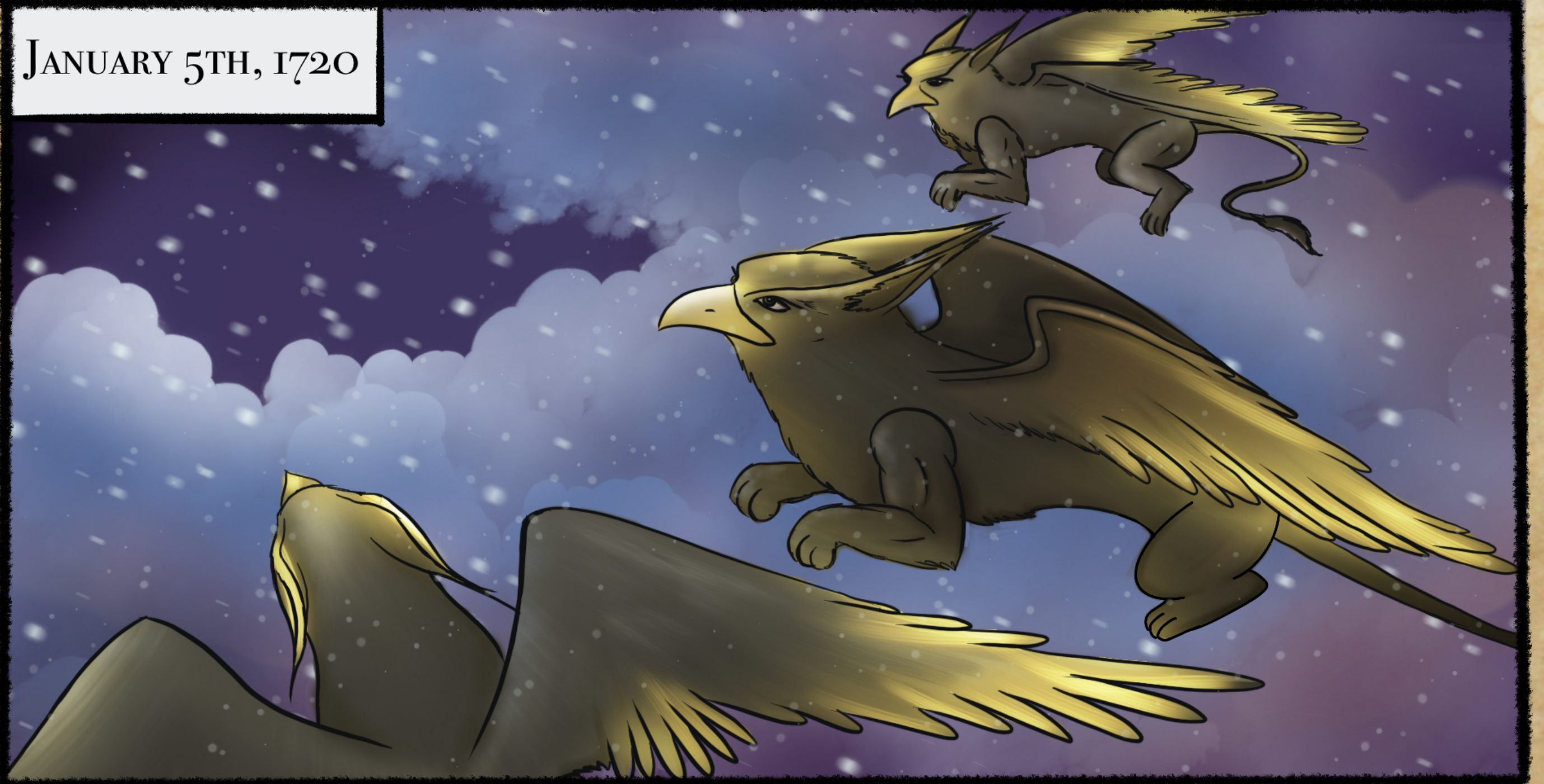
NATIONALITY: GRIFFIN

POWER: PROPHECY, THE ABILITY TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE.

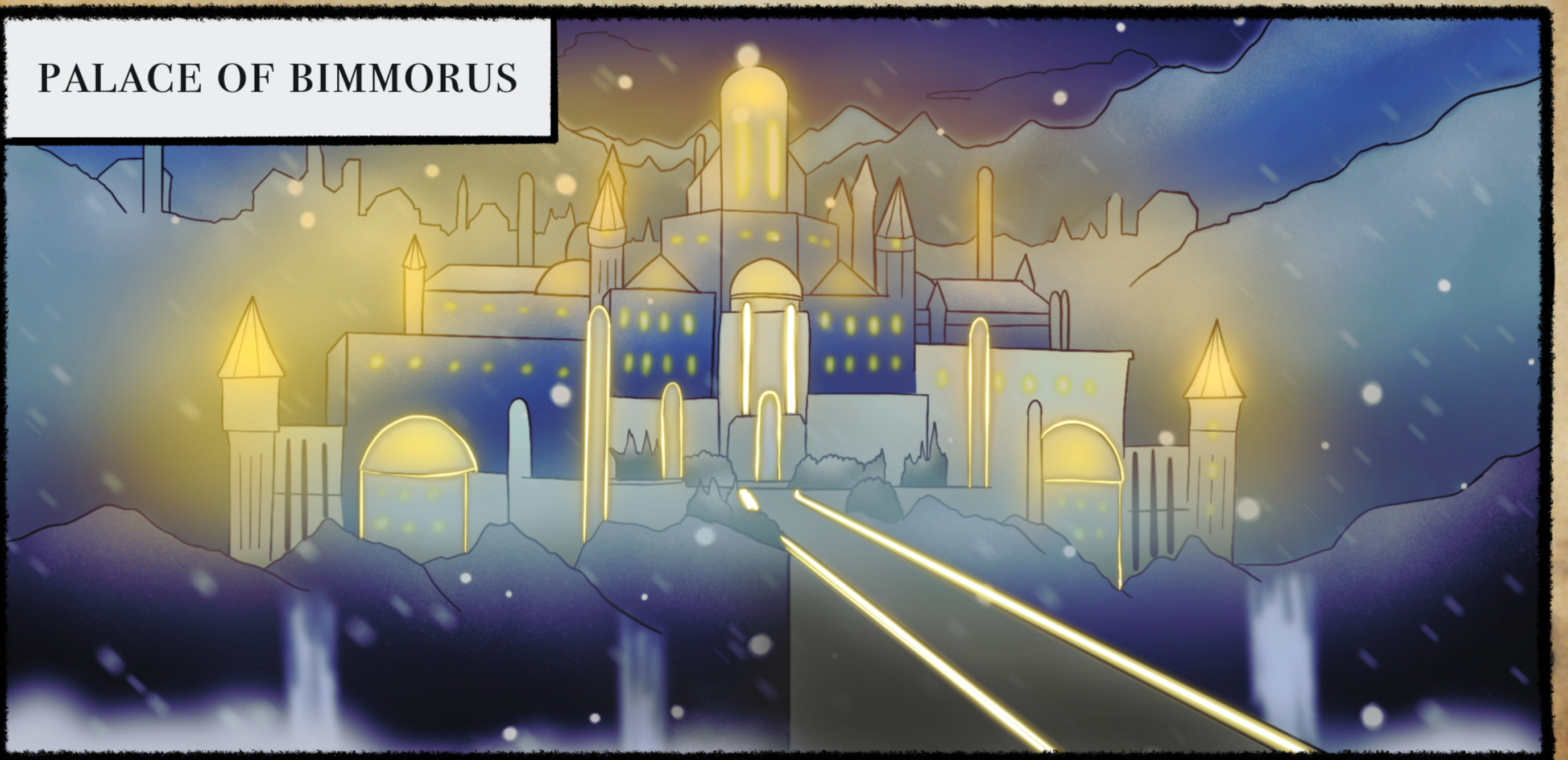


PROLOGUE

JANUARY 5TH, 1720



PALACE OF BIMMORUS





GREON CAN WILL ALL EYES BEFOR HIM TO SEE WHATEVER HE DARES TO IMAGINE. IN THIS CASE HE HAS MADE HIMSELF AND HIS COMPANIONS INVISIBLE. BUT HE HAS OVERLOOKED ON MINOR DETAIL... THEIR SHADOWS.

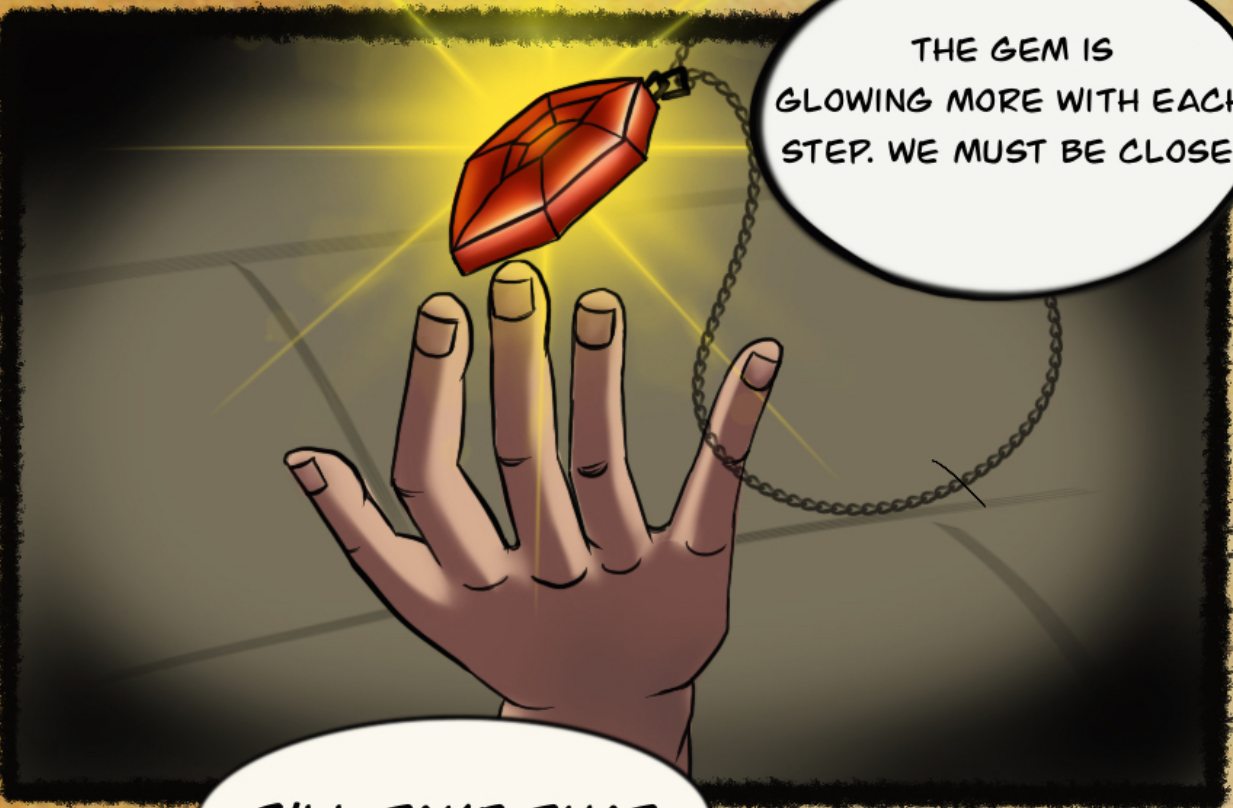


HUSH THYSELF. I CAN HEAR YOU QUIVERING FROM HERE.

HUSH NOW, I CANNOT CONCEAL SOUNDS

BAYO, ISN'T IT ASTONISHING THAT THE PERSON WHINING ABOUT THE NOISE IS CREATING ALL THE RACKET?

I WOULD NOT BE SO DISTRESSED IF YOUR WRETCHED FOOTSTEPS WERE NOT BOOMING THESE HALLS!



THE GEM IS GLOWING MORE WITH EACH STEP. WE MUST BE CLOSE.

I'LL TAKE THAT.



ARE YOU BOTH THROUGH? MY ULTIMATE TREASURE AWAITS!



* GROAN *
AHHHH!

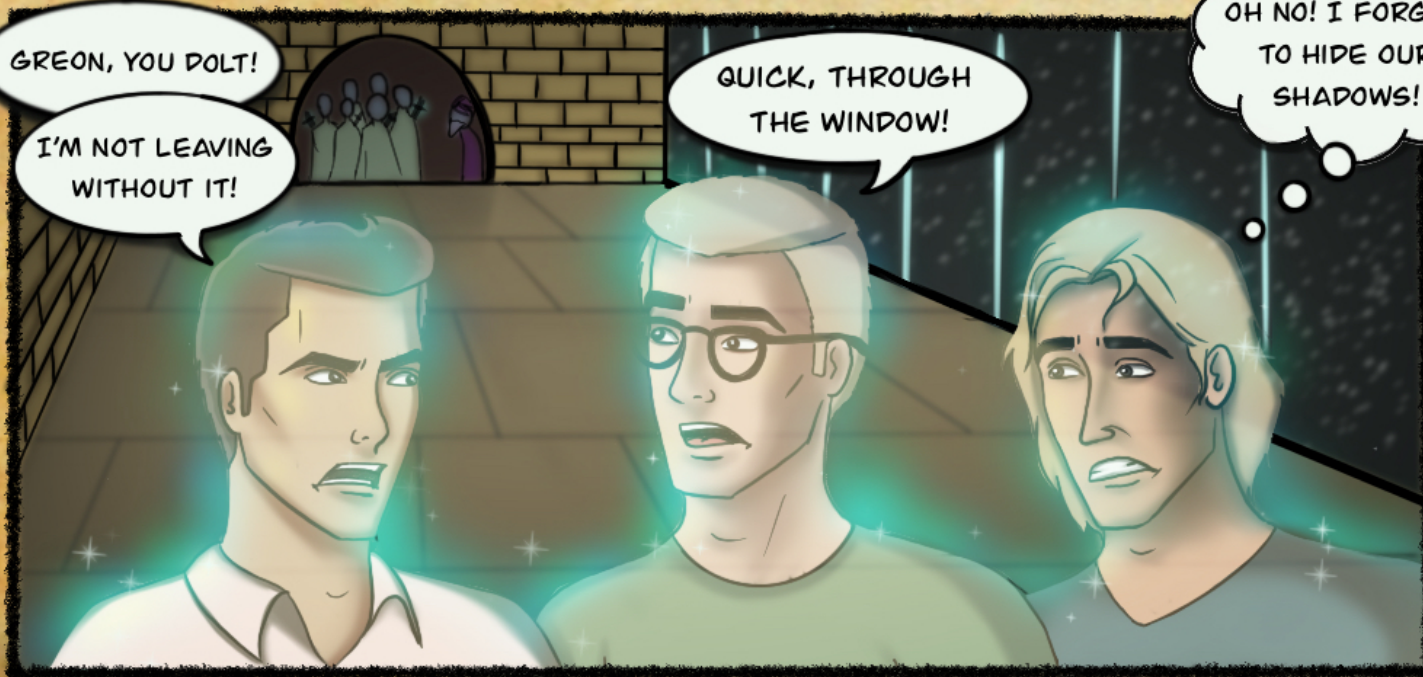
OH NO, BAYO USED HIS POWER OF ENDURANCE! HE CAN MAKE HIS VICTIMS EXPERIENCE IMMENSE PHYSICAL TORMENT!



HOW MANY WERE THERE?

SH-SHADOWS, SIR! WALKING ABOUT. I'VE NEVER S-SEEN SUCH A SIGHT! SPIRITS WALKIN' AMONG US, SIR!

THERE WERE THREE, SIR.

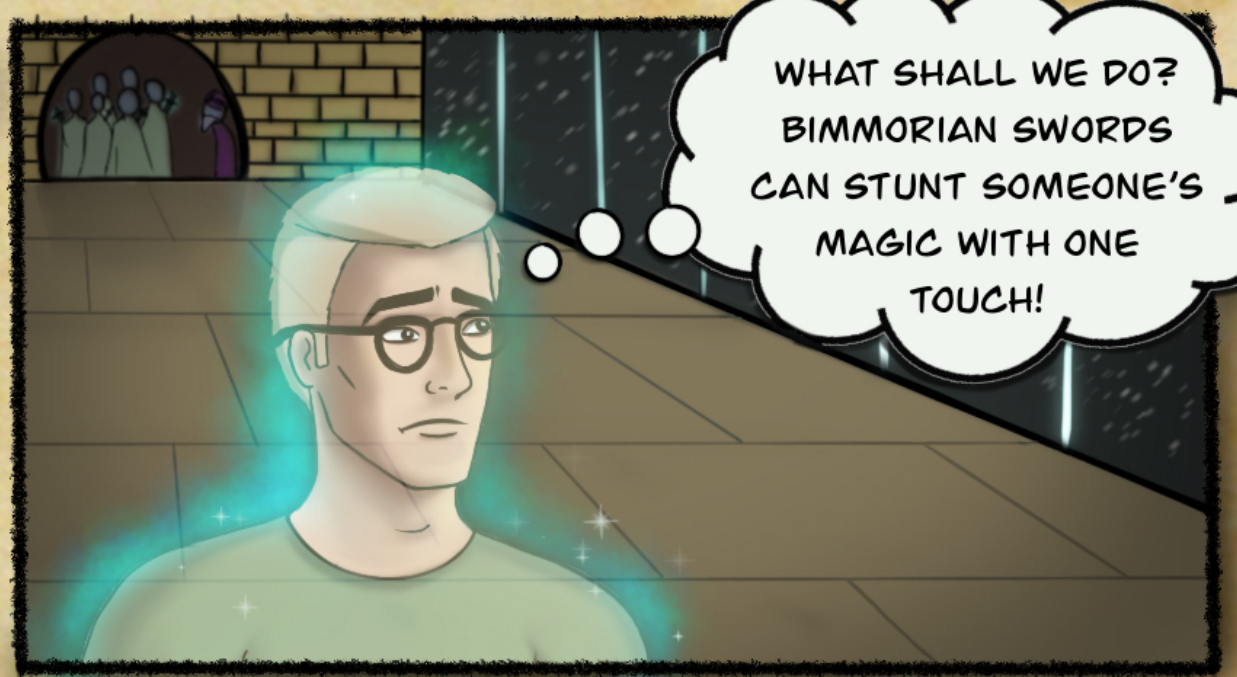


GREON, YOU DOLT!

I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT IT!

QUICK, THROUGH THE WINDOW!

OH NO! I FORGOT TO HIDE OUR SHADOWS!



WHAT SHALL WE DO? BIMMORIAN SWORDS CAN STUNT SOMEONE'S MAGIC WITH ONE TOUCH!



I HOPE GREON PULLS THROUGH... WHERE IS BAYO GOING?

PLEASE DON'T TOUCH ME! FOR MALPHORA'S SAKE!

THE PENDANT IS VIBRANT... IT MUST BE HIDDEN HERE... SOMEWHERE. I WORKED TOO HARD TO FIND IT, THE ONE WEAPON THAT COULD BE USED TO CONQUER THE WORLDS...

WHY ARE THE SWORDS RINGING? THERE IS NOTHING HERE.

AH, IT'S THE EYES. LET'S GO HOME MEN.

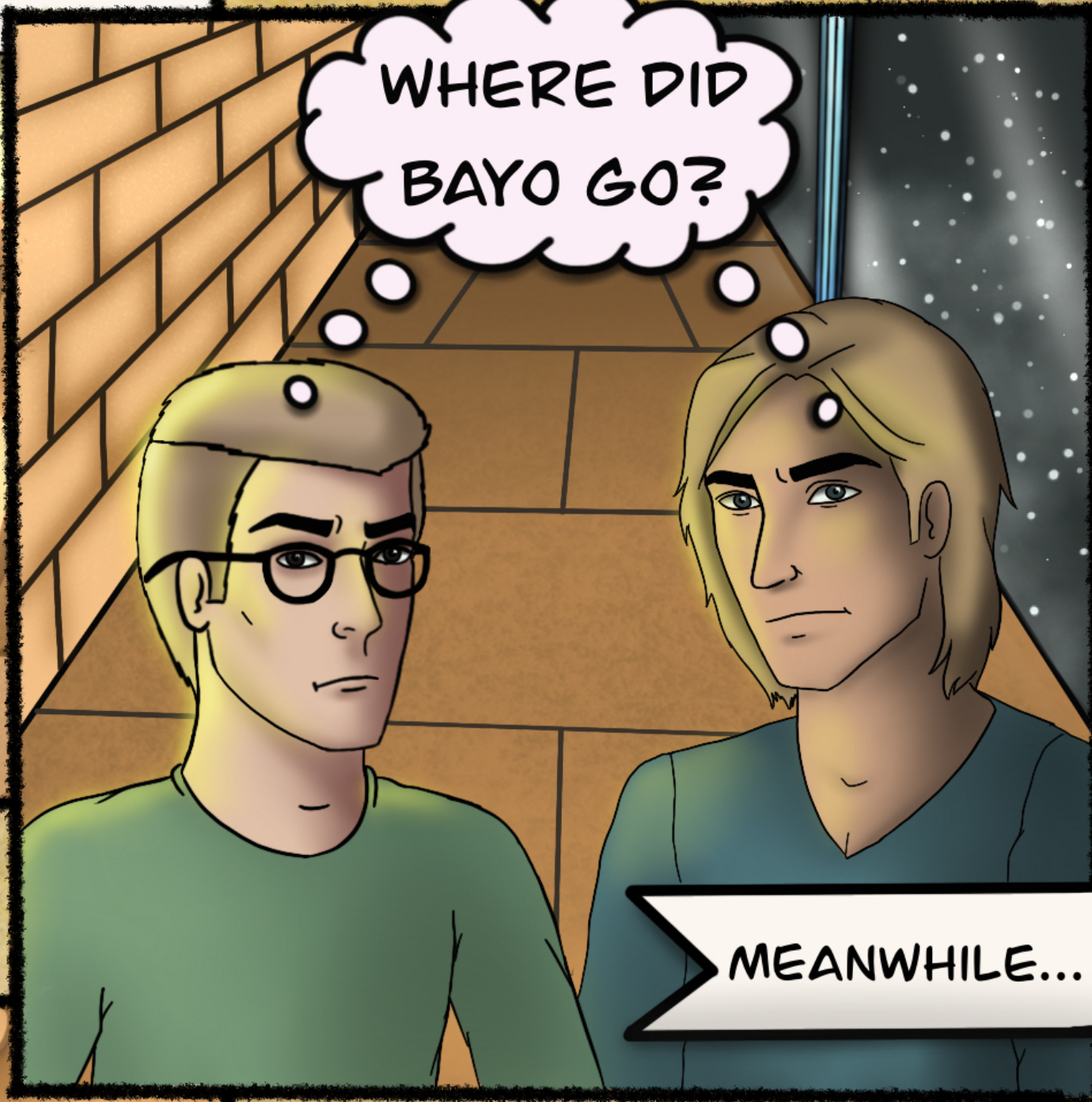
HMM, A DEAD END? THEN WHERE COULD IT-



AND BAYO REALIZED HIS HAND COULD PASS THROUGH THE WALL!

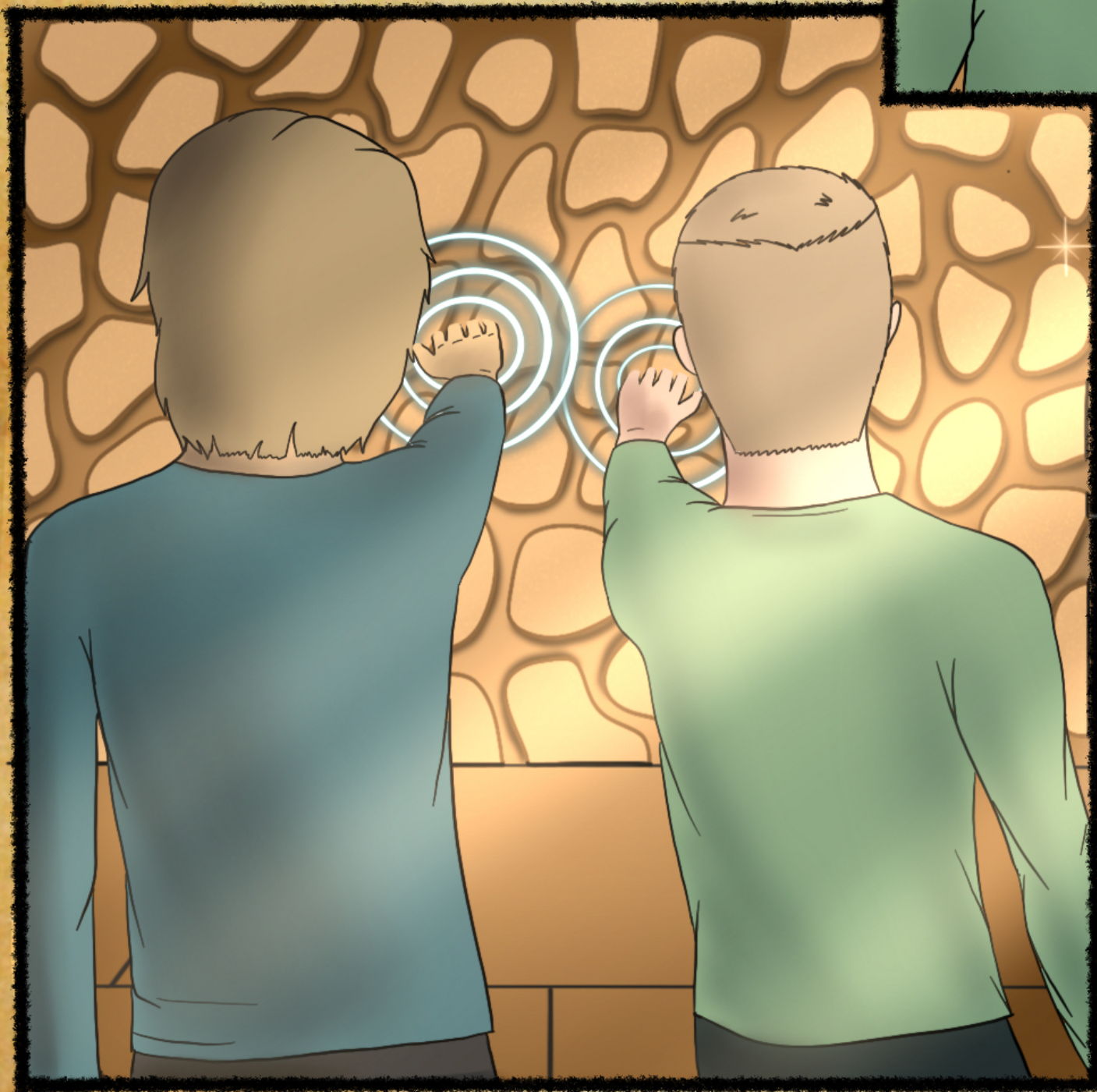


WHERE DID BAYO GO?

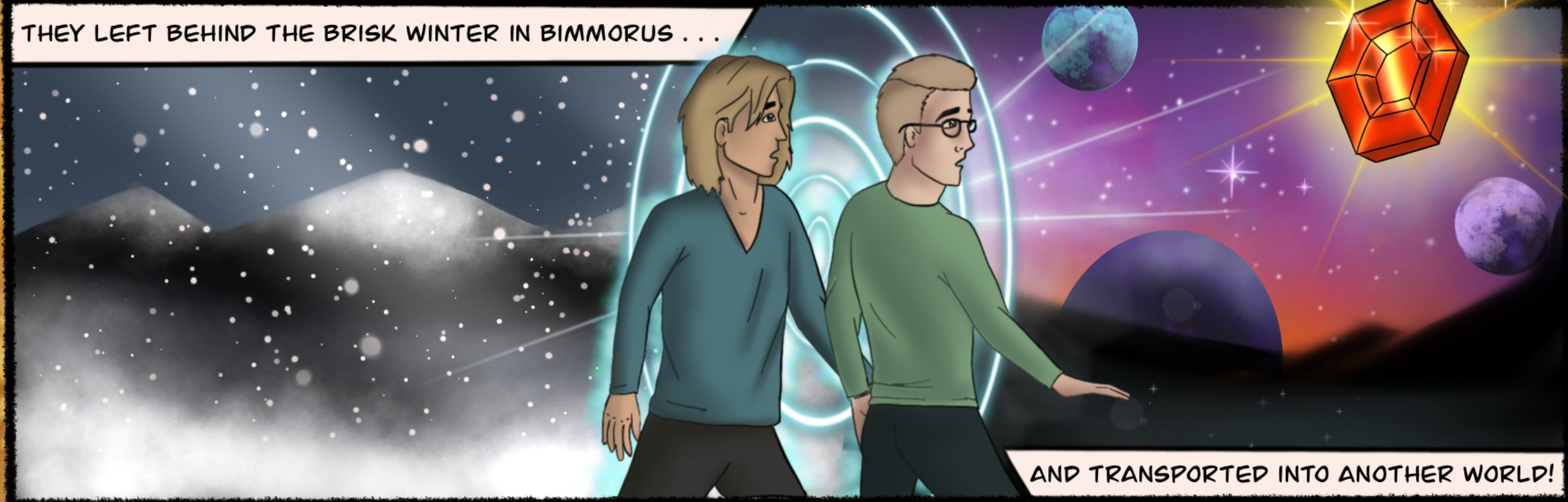


MEANWHILE...

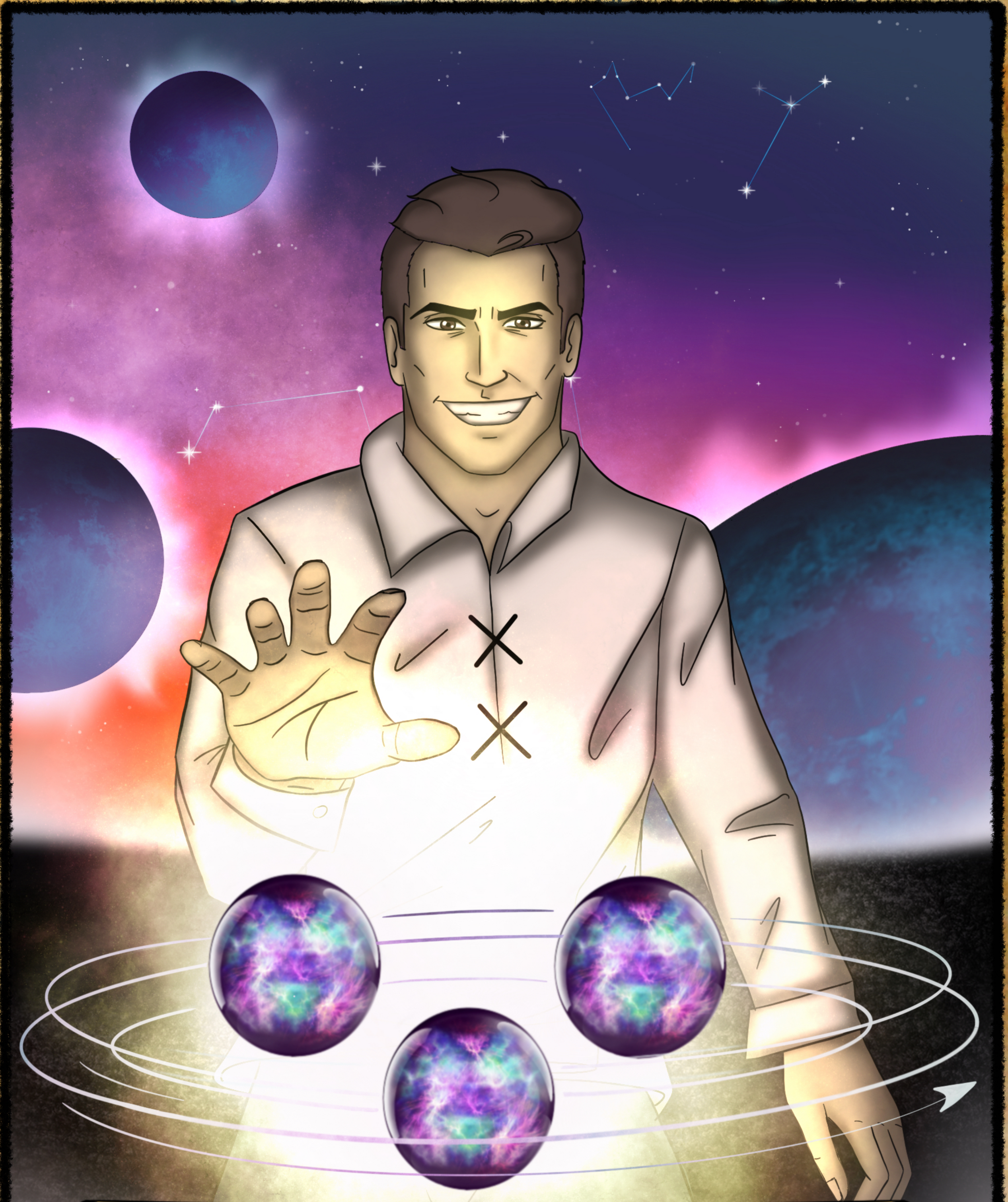
FELIX AND GREON SHARE AN ASTONISHED LOOK. NEITHER HAVE EXPERIENCED SUCH MAGIC BEFORE. THEY BOTH WALK THROUGH.



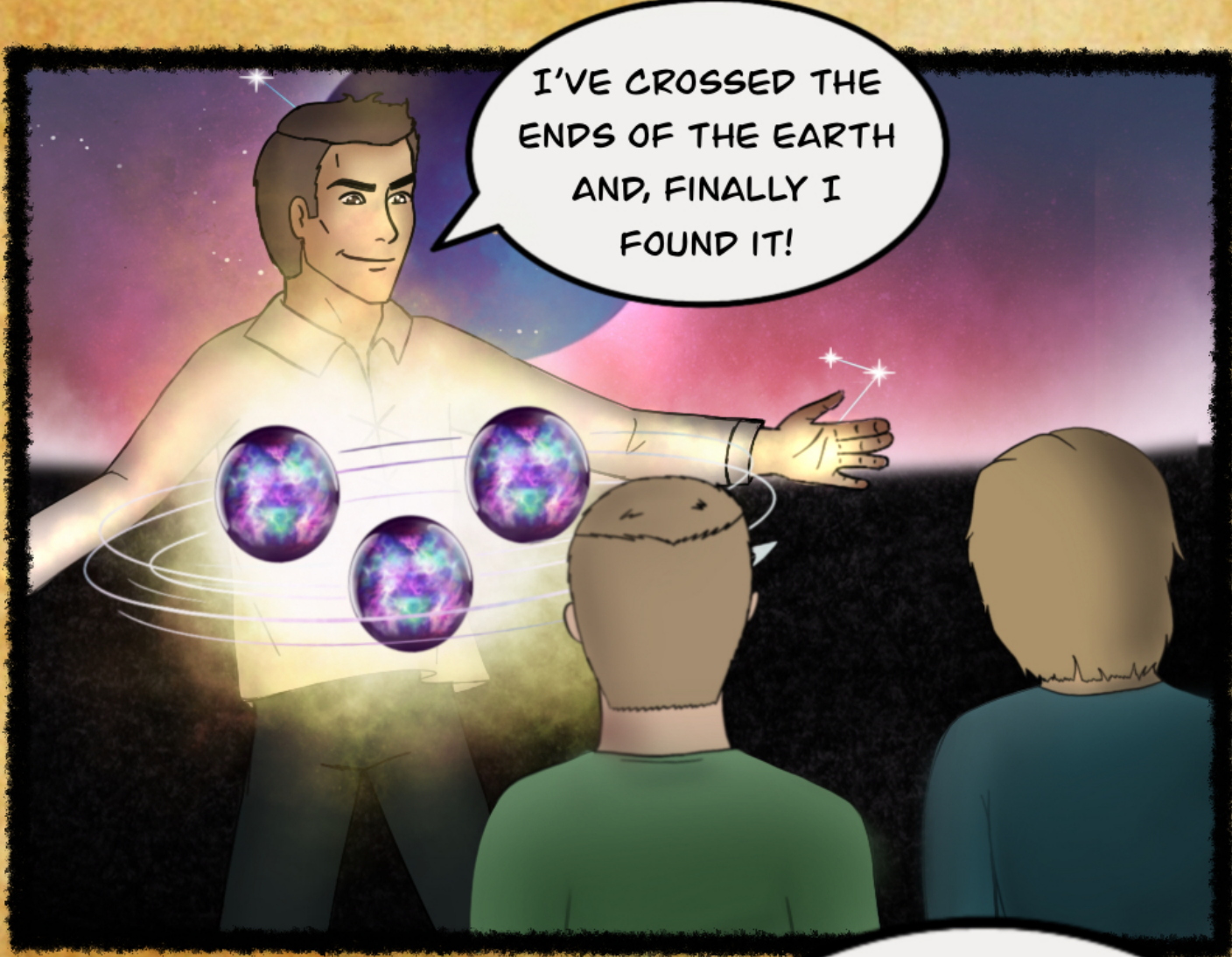
THEY LEFT BEHIND THE BRISK WINTER IN BIMMORUS . . .



AND TRANSPORTED INTO ANOTHER WORLD!



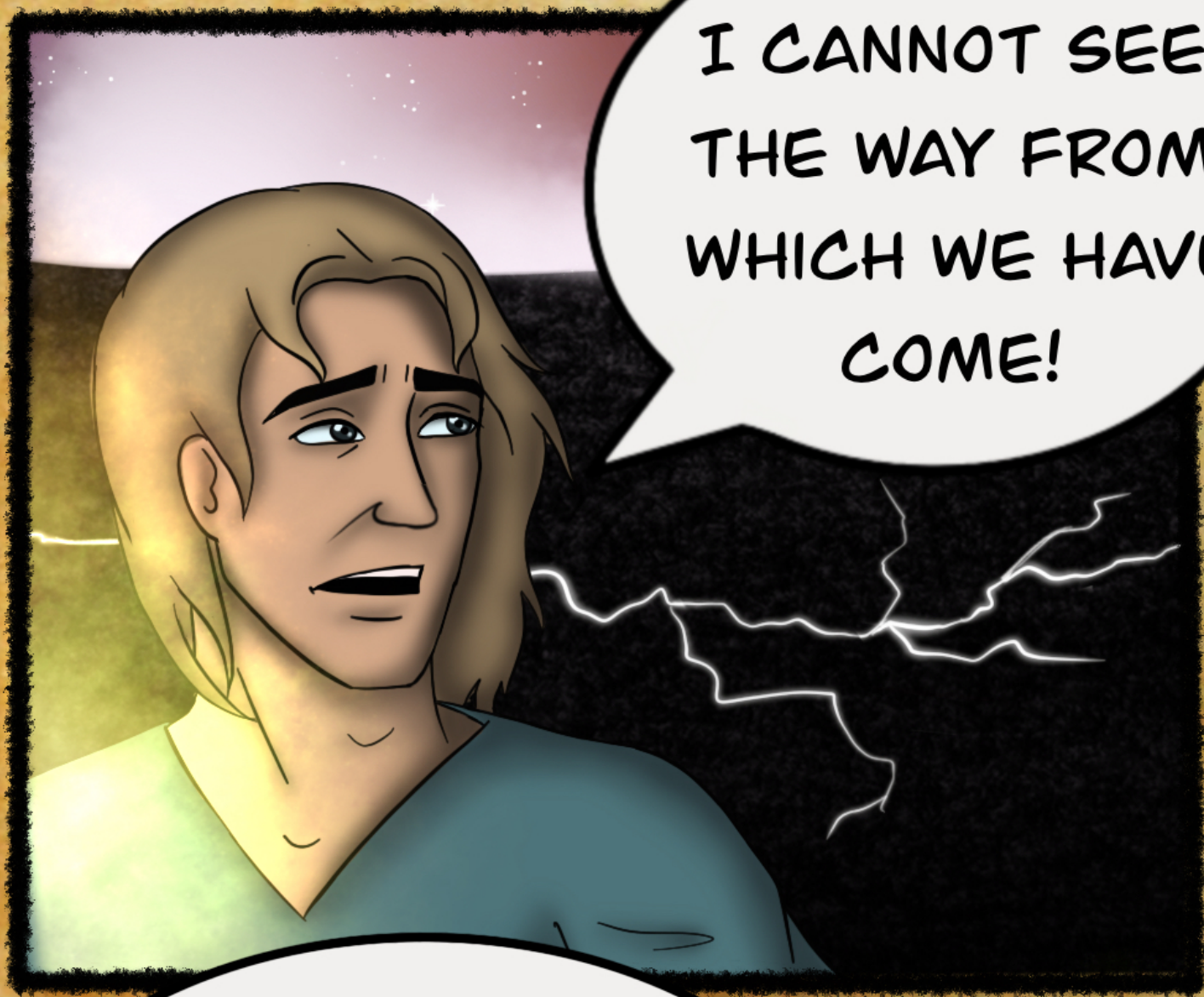
THE MYTHICAL THREE EYES.
BAYO BEHOLDS THEM IN THEIR BEAUTY, HIS ARMS
EXTENDING OUT TO TOUCH WHAT HE SO LONG SEARCHED
FOR. THIS WAS BAYO'S TREASURE.



I'VE CROSSED THE ENDS OF THE EARTH AND, FINALLY I FOUND IT!



WE MUST LEAVE! THE GROUND IS COLLAPSING BENEATH US!



I CANNOT SEE THE WAY FROM WHICH WE HAVE COME!

DO NOT FEAR FRIENDS. THESE ORBS ARE OUR SALVATION. COME CLOSER...



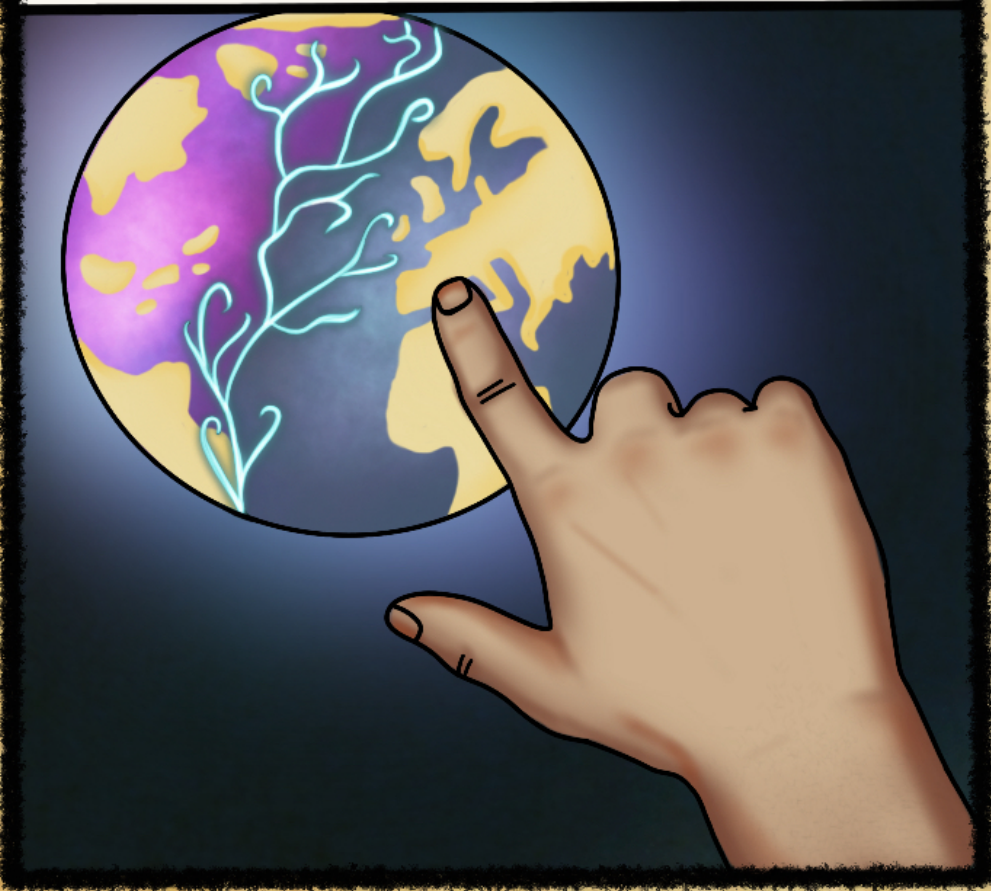
MALPHORA, THE REALM OF THE HUMANS, IS ALSO HOME TO THE EXTRAORDINARY. TO PROTECT THEIR PEOPLE, THE ANCIENTS OF ALL THE EXTRAORDINARY NATIONS CREATED A *DIVIDE* BETWEEN THE TWO REGIONS OF THE WORLD.

TO ACCOMPLISH SUCH A FEAT, THEY USED THE OLDEST MAGIC IN EXISTENCE: *THE THREE EYES* AND THE *OLDEST TREE* IN MALPHORA.

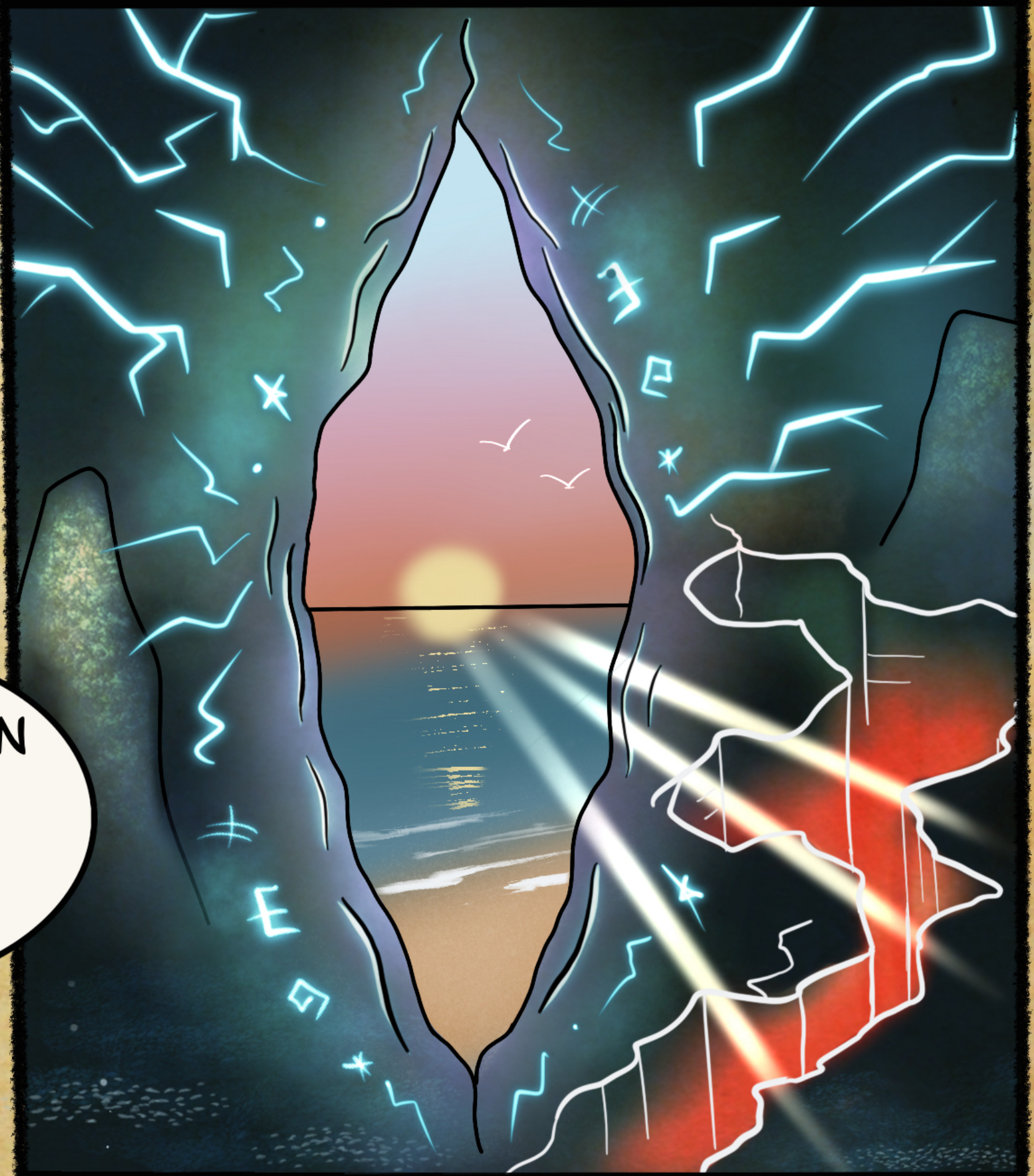
THOUSANDS OF YEARS PASSED, AND NEITHER HUMANS NOR THE EXTRAORDINARY COULD PASS THROUGH THE *DIVIDE* UNLESS THEY HAD THE ORBS OR THE LOCATION OF *THE OLDEST TREE*...



ONCE BAYO TOUCHED THE ORB OF MALPHORA...



THE WORLD AROUND THEM TURNS BLACK



AND A PORTAL CUTS THROUGH THE AIR!

THE HUMAN
DIVIDE...
FINALLY.



THE TRIO RUSH THROUGH THE PORTAL JUST
BEFORE THE GROUND CRUMBLES BENEATH
THEM...



BEFORE THIS STRANGE WORLD
FELL INTO OBLIVION

