

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

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ART BY MIKE HOLMES

WINGS OF FIRE

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



BOOK FIVE
THE BRIGHTEST
NIGHT

 SCHOLASTIC

DISCOVER
THE WORLD OF
WINGS OF FIRE

BOOK ONE
THE DRAGONET PROPHECY

BOOK TWO
THE LOST HEIR

BOOK THREE
THE HIDDEN KINGDOM

BOOK FOUR
THE DARK SECRET

BOOK FIVE
THE BRIGHTEST NIGHT

BOOK SIX
MOON RISING

BOOK SEVEN
WINTER TURNING

BOOK EIGHT
ESCAPING PERIL

BOOK NINE
TALONS OF POWER

BOOK TEN
DARKNESS OF DRAGONS

BOOK ELEVEN
THE LOST CONTINENT

BOOK TWELVE
THE HIVE QUEEN

BOOK THIRTEEN
THE POISON JUNGLE

BOOK FOURTEEN
THE DANGEROUS GIFT

LEGENDS
DARKSTALKER
DRAGONSLAYER

← GRAPHIC NOVELS →

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THE BRIGHTEST NIGHT



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THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

For Wyatt — talented artist, expert
Minecrafter, and hilarious friend
—T.T.S.

For Tui, Barry, Rachel, and Maarta — I'm
incredibly honored to be a part of this team!
—M.H.

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WINGS OF FIRE

THE BRIGHTEST NIGHT
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

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ART BY MIKE HOLMES
COLOR BY MAARTA LAIHO



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Queen Glacia
Palace

Ice Kingdom

Sky Kingdom

Burn's
Stronghold

Kingdom of
Sand

Under the Mountain

Scorpion Den

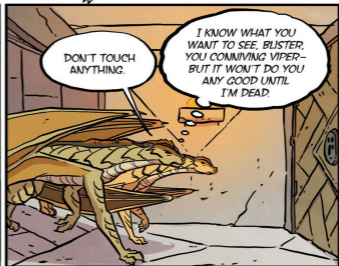
Jade Mountain

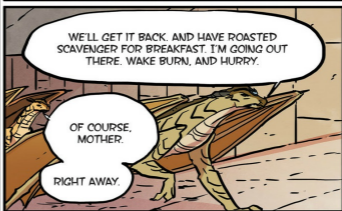


THE BRIGHTEST NIGHT

THE DRAGONET
PROPHECY

PROLOGUE: QUEEN OASIS, TWENTY YEARS AGO...





PART ONE: THE SHIFTING SANDS

WE'RE FULFILLING A PROPHECY! YOU CAN'T CONTROL DESTINY, MORROWSEER!

ON THE CONTRARY, I CERTAINLY CAN...

...CONSIDERING I'M THE ONE WHO MADE IT UP.

NO! WE WERE BORN TO END THE WAR!

AFRAID NOT. YOU'RE AS ORDINARY AS ANY DRAGON.

ALL THOSE DRAGONS WHO BELIEVE IN THE PROPHECY--IN US, WHO WILL SAVE THEM?

NO ONE.

SOB!

THE WAR WILL DRAG ON ENDLESSLY.

MORE DRAGONS WILL DIE EVERY DAY, FOR GENERATIONS, WONDERING ABOUT THE DRAGONETS WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO SAVE THEM...

BUT--

OBVIOUSLY--

FAILED.



RUMBLE







TSUNAMI NEVER WANTED TO FULFILL THE PROPHECY. SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HOW IMPORTANT IT IS.



CLAY WOULD BE HAPPY TO SLEEP AND EAT AND TAKE CARE OF US ALL DAY.



STARFLIGHT WOULD LOVE TO STOP WORRYING ABOUT IT.



AND GLORY HAS ENOUGH TO DO HERE, NOW THAT SHE'S QUEEN.

NONE OF THEM WILL FIGHT FOR OUR DESTINY.

THEY'LL TELL ME I'M SILLY, LIKE THEY ALWAYS DO.





THAT TUNNEL
LEADS TO THE
KINGDOM OF SAND.



IN THE DESERT
I COULD FLY AND FLY
ALL THE WAY TO THE
HORIZON WITHOUT EVER
STOPPING TO THINK.



YOU'RE JUST AS
ORDINARY AS ANY
OTHER DRAGON.



NIGHTWINGS!
YOUR HOME IS
GONE.


YOUR QUEEN
IS DEAD.



IF THE PROPHECY WAS
FAKE, WHY WAS EVERYONE SO
AWFUL TO GLORY ABOUT NOT
BEING IN IT? WHY MAKE HER
FEEL USELESS—IF WE'RE ALL
USELESS?

BECAUSE IT'S
REAL. IT HAS
TO BE.

HOW CAN
I PROVE IT?




THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO START OVER. IF YOU MESS IT UP, YOU'LL LOSE THIS HOME, TOO.



YOU WILL TREAT MY RAINWINGS WITH RESPECT.

AND IN RETURN, BECAUSE THAT'S THE KIND OF DRAGONS THEY ARE, THEY'LL BE MUCH KINDER THAN YOU DESERVE.



TONIGHT, YOU'LL STAY HERE. I DON'T WANT ANY NIGHTWINGS WANDERING OFF UNTIL WE CAN COUNT YOU.

IF YOU'RE FEELING LIKE WE DON'T TRUST YOU, IT'S BECAUSE WE DON'T. NONE OF YOU ARE WELCOME IN THE RAINWING VILLAGE UNTIL YOU EARN THAT TRUST.



BUT WE'LL GET WET OUT HERE!


FEEL FREE TO GO SLEEP ON YOUR NICE DRY ISLAND.




I HEAR IT'S QUITE WARM THERE.



THE NIGHTWINGS
DON'T LOOK AS
SORRY AS THEY
SHOULD.




I WONDER IF THE
RAINWINGS ARE
BEGINNING TO THINK
THIS WAS A HUGE
MISTAKE.




AFTER ALL, THE
NIGHTWINGS WERE
KIDNAPPING THEM
AND PLANNING TO
INVADE!



I MEAN, I KNOW
THE NIGHTWINGS
WERE STARVING
AND DESPERATE.



I KNOW THEIR
ISLAND WAS A LAVA-
RIDDEN WASTELAND,
EVEN BEFORE THE
VOLCANO ERUPTED.
BUT STILL, THEY
WERE SO TERRIBLE.



STARFLIGHT WAS
BRILLIANT FOR
OFFERING TO LET
THEM COME IF THEY
PLEGGED LOYALTY
TO QUEEN GLORY.



IT'S POETIC
JUSTICE FOR
THEM TO HAVE
A RAINWING
QUEEN.



BUT CAN WE
EVER REALLY
FORGIVE THEM?



SHOULD WE
EVEN TRY?



THEY LOOK SO BADLY SHAKEN AND SUBDUED.



SEEING THEIR HOME BURIED BY THE VOLCANO MUST HAVE BEEN AN AWFUL SHOCK.



PROBABLY A BIT LIKE BEING TOLD YOUR WHOLE LIFE IS A LIE, I IMAGINE.

THIS ONE! HE CAN'T STAY HERE!

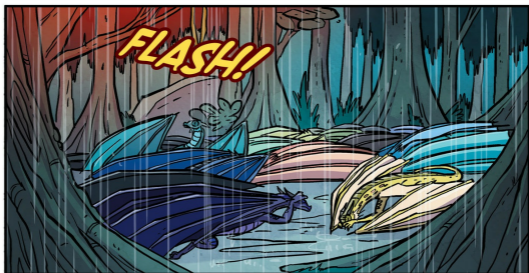


HE'S THE WORST OF ALL OF THEM!

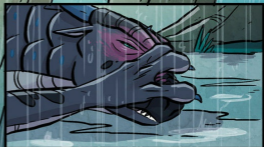
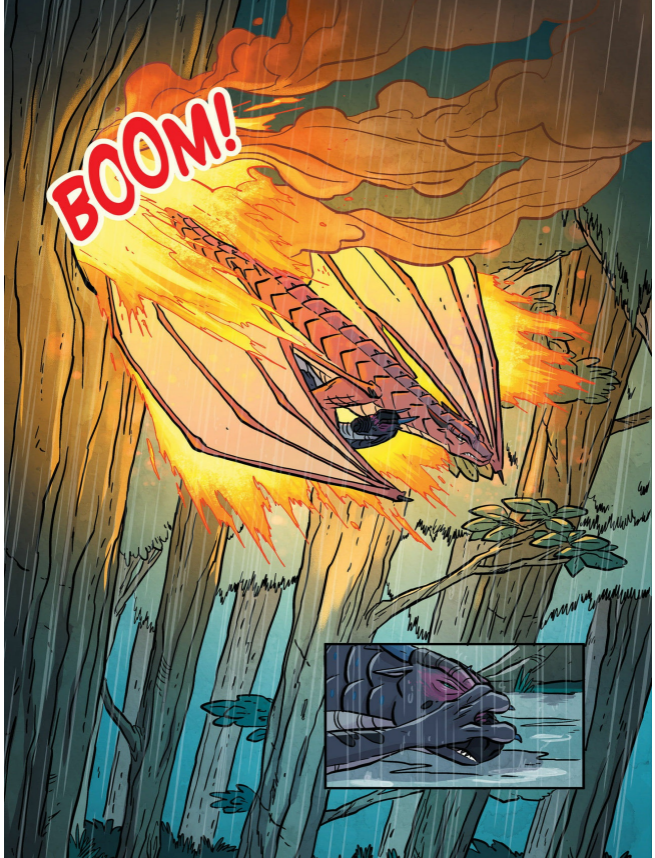
HE DID ALL THOSE VENOM EXPERIMENTS ON US!

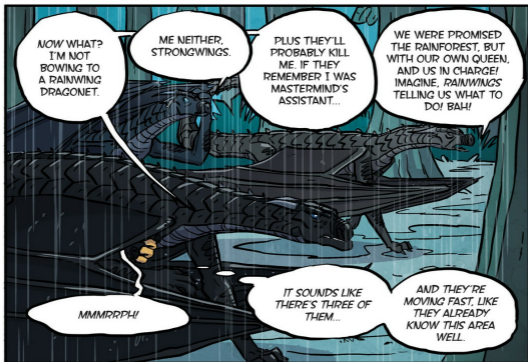


THAT'S STARFLIGHT'S FATHER, MASTERMIND.



BOOM!

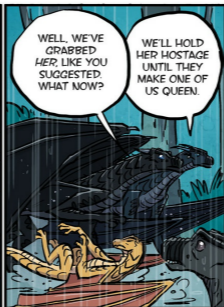






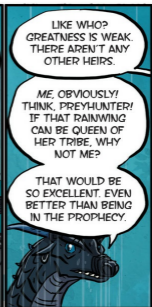
THESE ARE PROBABLY SOME OF THE DRAGONS WHO CAME THROUGH THE TUNNEL TO KIDNAP RAINWINGS.

WHAT DO THEY WANT WITH ME?



WELL, WE'VE GRABBED HER, LIKE YOU SUGGESTED. WHAT NOW?

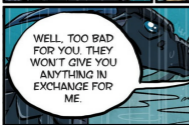
WE'LL HOLD HER HOSTAGE UNTIL THEY MAKE ONE OF US QUEEN.



LIKE WHO? GREATNESS IS WEAK. THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER HEIRS.

ME, OBVIOUSLY! THINK, PREYHUNTER! IF THAT RAINWING CAN BE QUEEN OF HER TRIBE, WHY NOT ME?

THAT WOULD BE SO EXCELLENT. EVEN BETTER THAN BEING IN THE PROPHECY.



WELL, TOO BAD FOR YOU. THEY WON'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING IN EXCHANGE FOR ME.



I'M NOBODY. JUST A WEIRD-LOOKING SANDWING WITH A USELESS TAIL.



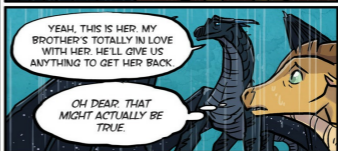
I'LL BE PRETTY ANNOYED IF I CARRIED THIS LITTLE THING THROUGH THE FOREST FOR NO REASON. FIERCETEETH, I THOUGHT YOU SAID SHE'D BE WORTH SOMETHING.

FIERCETEETH! STARFLIGHT'S HALF SISTER!



WE CAN USE HER IF SHE'S WHO I THINK SHE IS.

AREN'T YOU SUNNY? STARFLIGHT YAPPED ON AND ON ABOUT A SUNNY IN HIS SLEEP.

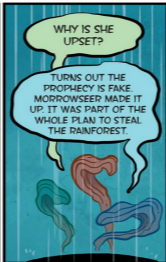
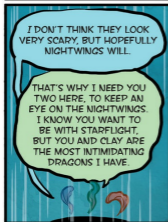


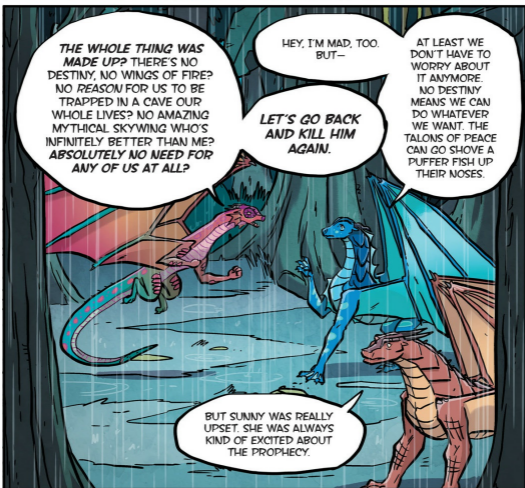
YEAH, THIS IS HER. MY BROTHER'S TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH HER. HE'LL GIVE US ANYTHING TO GET HER BACK.

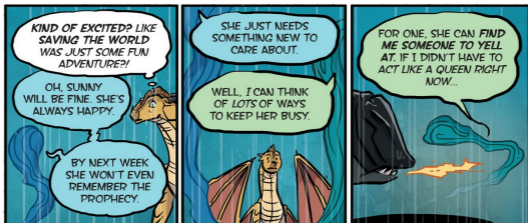
OH DEAR. THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE TRUE.













BUT... WHAT WOULD THEY DO TO GET ME BACK? ANYTHING?

OR WILL THEY FIGURE, "HEY, SHE'LL BE FINE AS A HOSTAGE. REMEMBER, SHE'S ALWAYS HAPPY ABOUT EVERYTHING! AND IT SHOULD BE PRETTY DISTRACTING, TOO! PERFECT!"

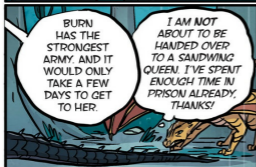
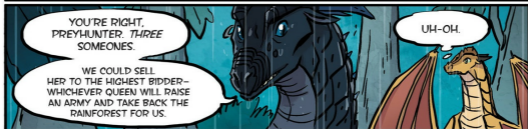
AS IF ACTING HAPPY MEANS I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT ANYTHING!

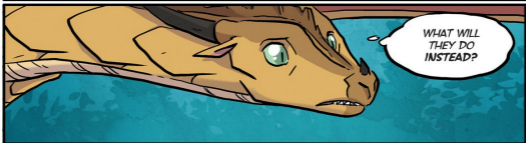
AS IF I COULD JUST BE DISTRACTED FROM ALL THE DRAGONS COUNTING ON US!

AS IF MY BRAIN WERE THE SIZE OF A BLUEBERRY! THREE MOONS!

I'LL JUST RESCUE MYSELF, THEN. THAT'LL SHOW THEM!

AND THEN I'LL FULFILL THE PROPHECY ALL BY MYSELF, TOO, AND THEY'LL SEE IT WAS REAL ALL ALONG!





BY ALL THE MOONS, STRONGWINGS! HOW COULD YOU LET HER ESCAPE?

SORRY...

WE'LL NEVER FIND HER NOW—NOT WITHOUT RISKING A RAINWING SPOTTING US.

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE SHE BRINGS BACK REINFORCEMENTS.

TALONS AND TAILS!

WE NEEDED HER!

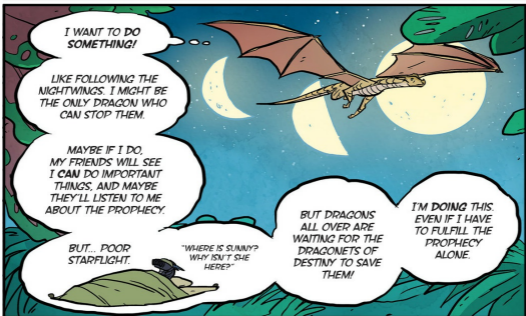
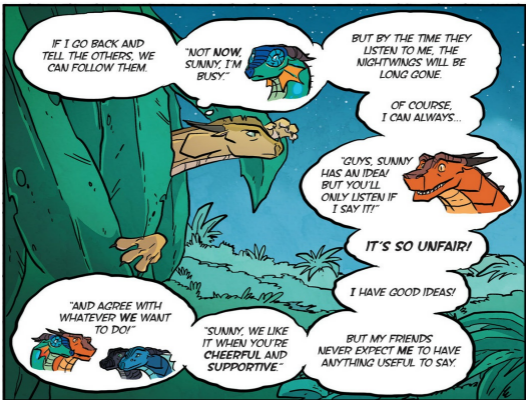
WE STILL HAVE USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THE NEXT SANDWING QUEEN.

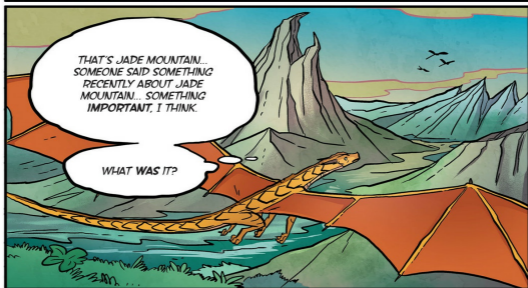
THEY ALL WANT TO KNOW WHERE THE DRAGONETS ARE. IF WE HURRY, WE'LL BE THE ONLY ONES SELLING THAT INFORMATION.

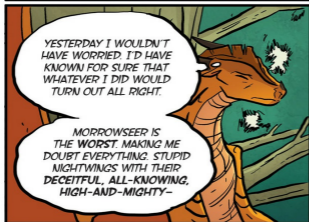
WE DON'T NEED THE SANDWING AS PROOF.

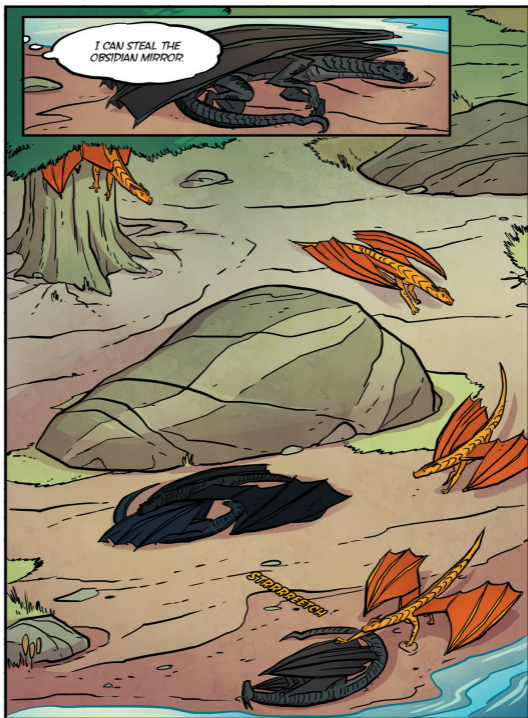
WE'RE NIGHTWINGS, EVERYONE BELIEVES US.

MAKES SENSE. LET'S GO.

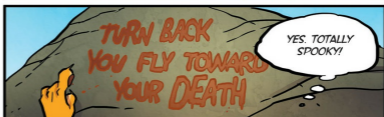




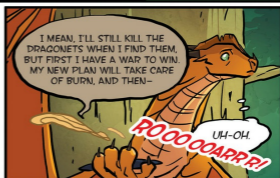


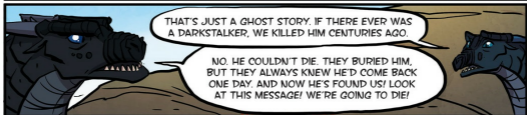


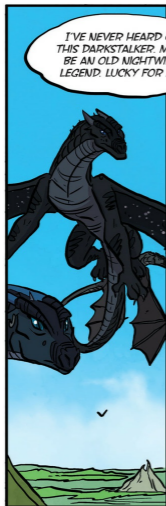












I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THIS DARKSTALKER. MUST BE AN OLD NIGHTWING LEGEND. LUCKY FOR ME.

ALTHOUGH I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY DIDN'T EVEN THINK FOR A MOMENT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ME! HMPH!

OH, WOW. THE KINGDOM OF SAND. THE DESERT. JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THOSE MOUNTAINS.



I'M GOING HOME.



IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS. THREE!


WE'D HAVE REACHED THE DESERT YESTERDAY IF THE NIGHTWINGS DIDN'T STOP TO REST SO OFTEN!

I'D LOVE TO LEAVE THEM MORE CREEPY MESSAGES, BUT THEY'VE BEEN TAKING TURNS KEEPING WATCH.

I COULD USE THE OBSIDIAN MIRROR TO CHECK IN ON MY FRIENDS OR LEARN MORE ABOUT BLISTER'S PLAN...



BUT USING THE MIRROR FEELS SO AWFUL I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT AGAIN!


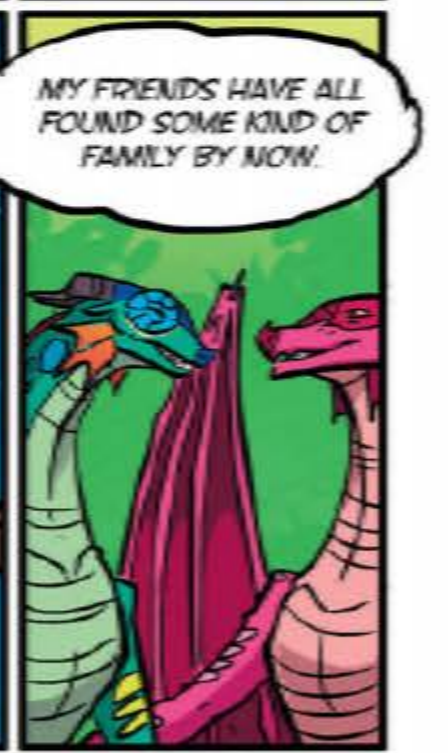


THE DESERT!

I WAS IN THE DESERT WHEN WE WERE CHASING AFTER MANGROVE, BUT I HARDLY HAD ANY TIME TO DIG MY TALONS INTO THE SAND.

AND NO TIME AT ALL TO LOOK FOR MY PARENTS.

MY FRIENDS HAVE ALL FOUND SOME KIND OF FAMILY BY NOW.


EVEN IF SOME OF IT WAS DISAPPOINTING FAMILY.



CLAY'S MOTHER WAS AWFUL, BUT HIS BROTHERS AND SISTERS WERE A LOT LIKE HIM, CLAY SAID.



TSUNAMI HAS TWO LITTLE SISTERS AND HER MOTHER IS QUEEN OF THE SEAWINGS! OF COURSE, SHE DID IMPRISON US.



POOR STARFLIGHT REALLY HAS THE WORST RELATIVES OF ALL.



BUT AT LEAST THEY KNOW— AT LEAST THEY'VE FOUND SOMEONE THEY ALL HAVE DRAGONS WHO WANT THEM IN SOME WAY.



WHY DID MY PARENTS LEAVE ME?

I HAVE ALMOST NOTHING TO GO ON IF I WANT TO LOOK FOR MY FAMILY. ALL KESTREL SAID WAS:

THE SCORPION DEN. I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT IS!

WAIT! I REMEMBER WHERE I HEARD ABOUT JADE MOUNTAIN. IT WAS FROM KESTREL!



WHEN YOU REALIZE YOU NEED ME, SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH THE DRAGON AT JADE MOUNTAIN.



SO A DRAGON LIVES THERE, BUT WHO WOULD LIVE SOMEWHERE SO SINISTER? WHY DO THEY LIVE ALONE?

IF MY FRIENDS HAD TRUSTED ME ENOUGH TO TELL ME ABOUT THEIR ESCAPE PLAN, I COULD HAVE ASKED DUNE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MY EGG BEFORE HE DIED.



THE SUN'S RISING... WE CAN'T BE MORE THAN AN HOUR'S FLIGHT FROM THE DESERT NOW.



THE NIGHTWINGS ARE TAKING ANOTHER REST STOP? THEY SERIOUSLY HAVE NO STAMINA.



LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE
SAFE FROM THEM FOR
A WHILE.



WHAT'S THAT
SOUND?



THERE'S DEFINITELY
SOMETHING UNDER THE
GROUND. GROUNDHOGS?
RABBITS?

NO... AND IT SOUNDS
DISTANT, TOO...



THERE'S A SMELL IN
THE SAME DIRECTION..
OLD BURNT WOOD.

IT'S THIS WAY.



A dragon with orange wings and a yellow body is in a forest. The ground is covered in ruins of a camp, including stone walls, a broken barrel, and a broken bell. In the background, there are more trees and a small tent. The dragon is looking at the ruins with a thoughtful expression.

IT'S LIKE A HOLE
BLASTED IN THE
FOREST.

SOMEBODY DEFINITELY
BUILT THIS. WERE THEY
KEEPING SOME KIND OF
SMALL ANIMAL HERE?

OH!
SCAVENGERS!

DID SCAVENGERS BUILD THIS
PLACE? CAN THEY MAKE THINGS
LIKE BELLS AND STATUES?

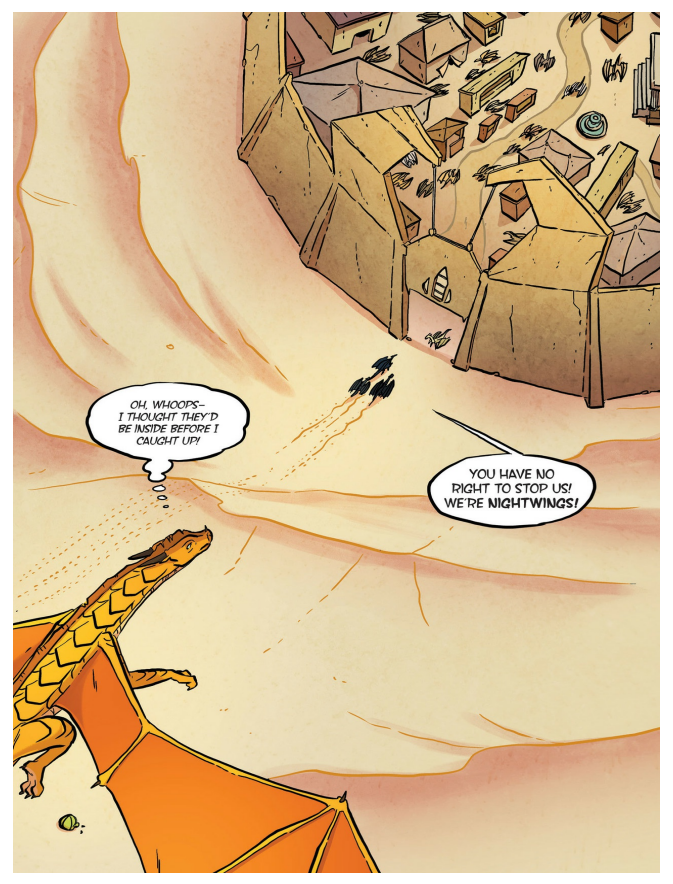
MAYBE DRAGONS BUILT
THIS PLACE TO KEEP
SCAVENGERS IN?

AND THEN BURNED IT
DOWN? WHY WOULD THEY
DO THAT?

OR MAYBE THERE'S
MORE TO SCAVENGERS
THAN WE WERE TAUGHT.

BUT WHO BURNED
DOWN THIS
SCAVENGER DEN...
AND WHY?



A dragon with orange and yellow scales and wings is shown in the lower-left foreground, looking towards the right. In the background, a village of tan-colored buildings is partially destroyed, with rubble and debris scattered around. A path of orange sand leads from the dragon towards the village. In the distance, a group of three black, bat-like creatures (Nightwings) is flying away, leaving a trail of orange sand behind them. The sky is a pale, hazy orange.

OH, WHOOPS—
I THOUGHT THEY'D
BE INSIDE BEFORE I
CAUGHT UP!

YOU HAVE NO
RIGHT TO STOP US!
WE'RE NIGHTWINGS!



THEN READ MY MIND. THE PART THAT SAYS, "GO EAT YOUR OWN TAILS." NO ONE GETS IN WITHOUT A CONTRIBUTION TO THE OUTLAWS.

OUTLAWS? THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL YOURSELVES? SERIOUSLY?



MY SCALES DON'T QUITE CAMOUFLAGE... HOPE NO ONE'S SEEN ME.

SURELY YOU CAN MAKE AN EXCEPTION? WE'RE NIGHTWINGS!
AND?



ARE YOU ASKING FOR TREASURE? OF COURSE WE DON'T HAVE TREASURE! OUR HOME WAS JUST—WHAT?



UM... WE COULD GIVE YOU A PROPHECY.



HAH! THAT WOULD BE FUNNY.

QIBLI!



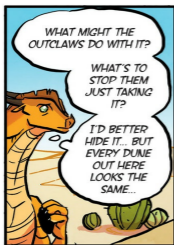
QIBLI, TELL THORN WE HAVE THREE NIGHTWINGS OFFERING THEIR PATHETIC SERVICES.

I THINK YOU MEAN PROPHETIC SERVICES.

UH-HUH.



WHAT CAN I OFFER THE GUARD? THE MIRROR IS THE ONLY THING I HAVE... BUT IS IT WORTH GIVING UP MY ONE ADVANTAGE?





CROCODILE STEW?

ROASTED SCORPION?

STOCK UP ON BRIGHTSTING CACTUS!

BAG OF CRICKETS?

BET YOU'D LIKE SOME GOLD FOR THEM GOLDEN SCALES!

NEED ANYONE KILLED, LITTLE LADY? HERE, TAKE MY CARD.

NAH, YOU DON'T WANT HIM. TOO EXPENSIVE, BARELY COMPETENT.



OUCH!

WAIT, IS THAT...?



ISN'T THAT...
OUR OLD TEACHER DUNE?
AND THAT ONE REALLY
LOOKS LIKE... IT CAN'T BE...
MORROWSEER? WHO'S
THE OTHER NIGHT-
WING?



COME ON, WE'RE
NEARLY THERE.



THAT SIGN...



IT'S EVERYWHERE.



BUT WHY?
WHO'S LOOKING
FOR THEM?



GOING OFF
DUTY, SIR.

ADDAX, QUIT
CALLING ME
"SIR." THAT'S
NOT HOW THE
OUTCLAWS
WORK.



YES, RIGHT, RIGHT.
UH, WHO'S YOUR
GUEST?

JUST
A VISITOR FOR
THORN. CARRY
ON.

SOME OF THESE FORMER SOLDIERS HAVE A HARD TIME BREAKING THEIR MILITARY HABITS. BUT ADDAX IS HARMLESS, DON'T WORRY.

I'M NOT SO SURE. THE WAY HE LOOKED AT ME MADE MY SPINE CREEP.

HUNGRY!

I'M SO SORRY. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING.

WHERE'S YOUR GUARDIAN, SQUIRT?

DON'T HURT HIM!

SORRY, SORRY, SORRY!

YOU MUST BE NEW HERE. HE SHOULDN'T BE STARVING. DRAGONETS GET A FREE MEAL EVERY MORNING AT THE POOL. SEND HIM AND HE'LL BE THE SIZE OF A REAL DRAGON SOON.

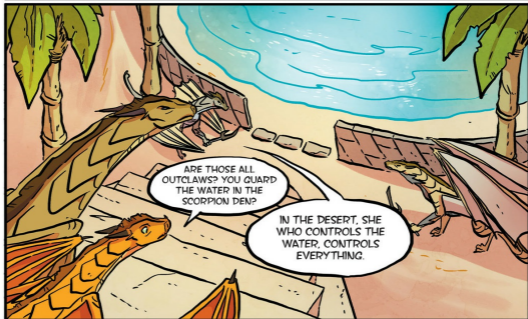
BUT, SIR, I HEARD THAT WAS A TRICK.

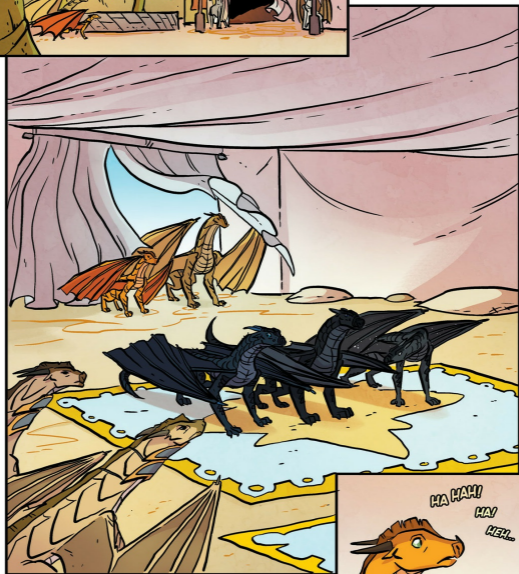
SIGH

LET ME GUESS— WE GRAB THEM AND FORCE THEM TO BECOME OUTLAWS? LISTEN, NOBODY'S GOING TO ABDUCT A BUNCH OF SCRAWNY KIDS. THORN JUST WANTS DRAGONETS TO STOP STARVING TO DEATH IN HER SCORPION DEN.

LOOK, SEND HIM TOMORROW OR I'LL COME AFTER YOU MYSELF.

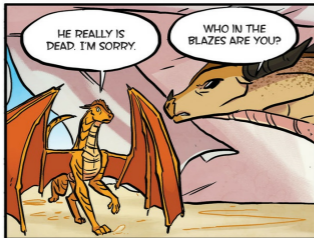
YES, SIR.















WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

SUNNY.

HMMM. YOU'RE
A LITTLE
UNUSUAL.

THIS IS JUST THE
WAY I HATCHED.

ON THE BRIGHTEST
NIGHT. SIX YEARS AGO.

YES.



ONE MORE QUESTION.
YOU COWARDLY LIZARDS.
TELL ME ABOUT A
NIGHTWING NAMED
STONEMOVER.

HE TOOK OFF SIX
OR SEVEN YEARS
AGO. NO ONE'S
HEARD FROM HIM
SINCE.



SIX-CLAWS, PUT THE
NIGHTWINGS SOMEWHERE
UNPLEASANT. I'LL DECIDE
WHAT TO DO WITH THEM
LATER.



COME WITH ME.

SHE'S SO CUTE.

DO YOU THINK SHE CAN
REALLY HELP SAVE US?

NEVER BELIEVED
IN THE PROPHECY
MYSELF--

--BARELY LOOKS LIKE
A SANDWING--

--HER SCALES ARE KIND OF
PRETTY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THORN'S
GOING TO DO WITH HER?



WOW.

IT IS DUNE.
BUT YOUNGER... AND MUCH
HEALTHIER. THIS MUST BE
BEFORE HE WENT INTO HIDING
TO TAKE CARE OF US.



DO YOU KNOW HIM?

UM-

RUSTLE



QIBLI, THIS
IS A PRIVATE
DISCUSSION.

I'M NOT LEAVING
YOU ALONE WITH A
STRANGER, THORN.
ALL PROPHECY-LIKE
OR NOT.

YOUR LOYALTY IS
CHARMING, BUT I THINK
I CAN HANDLE THIS
DRAGONET AS WELL AS
YOU CAN.



IT'S BETTER TO HAVE BACKUP.

I PROMISE I'LL BE QUIET.

WELL, THAT I DO HAVE TO SEE.

YOU REALLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS?



FOR ANY INFORMATION LEADING TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF TWO NIGHTWINGS ONCE SEEN AROUND THE SCORPION DEN KNOWN AS MOTTOUSEER AND STONE MOVER.

FOR ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRESENT LOCATION OF A SCAFFED SANDWING NAMED DUNG, LAST SEEN FREQUENTING THE NIGHT MARKET SEVEN YEARS AGO, WITH UNUSUAL FEATURES.

FOR ANY DRAGONET HATCHED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS COME BEFORE THORN AT THE OUTLAW POOL WITH ANYTHING. YOUR SAFETY GUARANTEED.

REWARD REWARD



THEY'RE ALL ALIKE! EXCEPT...
"FIVE YEARS AGO"... "THREE YEARS AGO"...
"TWO YEARS AGO"...

THIS HUNT HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR YEARS.



I DIDN'T KNOW. I HAVEN'T BEEN IN THE KINGDOM OF SAND. DUNE FOUND MY EGG ABANDONED IN THE DESERT, AND HE TOOK IT TO THE TALONS... I MEAN, I GUESS I FIT THE PROPHECY, AND...



AND MY PARENTS CLEARLY DIDN'T WANT ME.



HE DIDN'T *FIND* YOU. HE *STOLE* YOU FROM WHERE HE KNEW I'D HIDDEN YOU.



I DID WANT YOU, YOU WERE THE ONLY THING I WANTED.

THIS IS THE MOMENT WE ALL DREAMED ABOUT, ALL THOSE YEARS UNDER THE MOUNTAIN. NOT FULFILLING THE PROPHECY...



...FINDING OUR PARENTS.

SUNNY, YOU'RE MY DAUGHTER.



I KNEW YOU DIDN'T REALLY ABANDON ME!

I KNEW I'D FIND YOU ONE DAY.



I TRIED EVERYTHING TO FIND YOU. I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D JUST STROLL INTO MY TENT. FUNNY, BRAVE LITTLE DRAGON.



WHERE'S MY FATHER? IS-IS HE DUNE?

BRIGHT SMASHING SUNS, NO! BLECH. YOUR FATHER'S... NOT AROUND ANYMORE.

WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER.



THORN, BEGGING YOUR PARDON, BUT SHE COULD BE A CON ARTIST.

I'VE MET ENOUGH CON ARTISTS, SWAGGERING IN HERE OVER THE LAST SIX YEARS.

THIS IS MY DAUGHTER.



SPEAKING OF DUNE, HE'S ON THIS NEEDS TO BE VIOLENTLY DISMEMBERED LIST THAT I HAVE.

...HE'S ALREADY DEAD.

HE DIED TRYING TO PROTECT US, ACTUALLY.

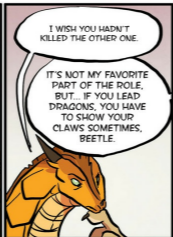


TEETH OF THE VIPER! I CANNOT BELIEVE ALL MY ENEMIES ARE DEAD BEFORE I COULD RIP THEIR HEADS OFF MYSELF!



WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO HAVE THOSE NIGHTWINGS KILLED?

NO, NO! ONE OF THEM IS MY FRIEND'S SISTER.



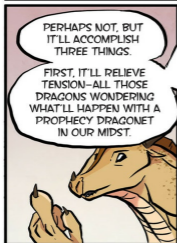
I WISH YOU HADN'T KILLED THE OTHER ONE.

IT'S NOT MY FAVORITE PART OF THE ROLE, BUT... IF YOU LEAD DRAGONS, YOU HAVE TO SHOW YOUR CLAWS SOMETIMES, BEETLE.



BEETLE?

IT WAS MY PET NAME FOR YOU IN THE EGG. BUT I LIKE SUNNY, TOO.





...EY!

DRAGONBITE
VIPER!



THORN!

WHAT IS IT?

DRAGONBITE
VIPER! NEAR THE
ORPHANAGE!



HAVE WE CONFIRMED IT'S
REALLY THERE?

NO, BUT SOMEONE
PANICKED AND SET THE
NEAREST STALLS ON FIRE.
THE ORPHANAGE WILL
GO UP IN FLAMES IF WE
DON'T PUT IT OUT.



WHAT CAN I DO?

YOU CAN STAY HERE SAFELY
SO I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT YOU. PLEASE.

DRAGONBITE
VIPERS ARE NOT TO
BE TRIFLED WITH.

QIBLI, YOU
STAY, TOO.



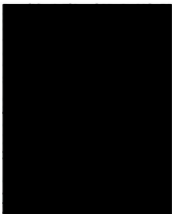
WHAT'S A DRAGONBITE
VIPER?



ONLY THE MOST DANGEROUS THING
IN THE DESERT. IN ALL OF PYRRHIA,
MAYBE! IT'S THE ONLY SNAKE THAT CAN
KILL A DRAGON WITH ONE BITE!

THERE'S A
SNAKE THAT CAN DO
THAT? CREEPY.







READY TO BE PRESENTED TO THE OUTCLAWS?

NOT EVEN REMOTELY.



THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, SIX-CLAWS. STOP WHERE YOU ARE.



I TAKE ORDERS FROM THORN AND NO ONE ELSE.

OH, IT'S NOT AN ORDER.

Hissssss!



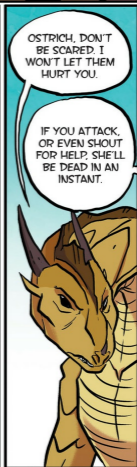
IT'S A SUGGESTION I THINK YOU'LL REALLY WANT TO LISTEN TO.



THAT'S THE CREEPY DRAGON FROM THE MARKETPLACE-ADDAX.

THE QUESTION IS WHICH YOU CARE ABOUT MORE- THORN'S ALLEGED LONG-LOST DAUGHTER, OR YOUR OWN?

OSTRICH!



OSTRICH, DON'T BE SCARED. I WON'T LET THEM HURT YOU.

IF YOU ATTACK, OR EVEN SHOUT FOR HELP, SHE'LL BE DEAD IN AN INSTANT.

BUT THIS DOESN'T HAVE TO GET ALL VIOLENT, SIX-CLAWS.

WE WANT THE DRAGONET OF DESTINY. IT'S A SIMPLE, FAIR TRADE.

THERE WAS NO DRAGONBITE VIPER, WAS THERE? YOU SET THAT FIRE TO DRAW THORN AWAY.

DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY DRAGONETS YOU COULD HAVE KILLED?

YES. DON'T MAKE IT ONE MORE.

SIX-CLAWS LOVES OSTRICH SO MUCH.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. MAKE THE TRADE. I'LL BE FINE.

WHAT DO YOU WANT HER FOR?

BURN WANTS THE DRAGONETS PRETTY BADLY. SHE'LL TAKE ME BACK IF I SHOW UP WITH ONE.

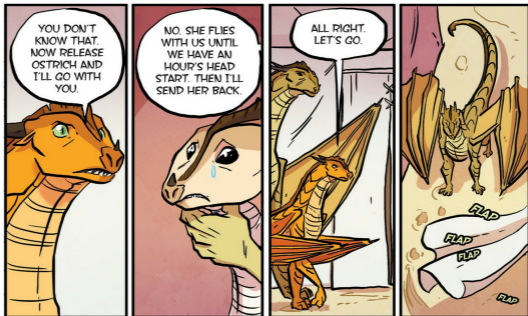
I WAS THROWN OUT, BUT MY FAMILY WASN'T. I NEED TO GET BACK TO THEM.

AW, SAD.

SUNNY, BY ALL THE MOONS, QUIT FEELING SORRY FOR DRAGONS WHO WANT TO ABDUCT YOU AND SELL YOU OFF!

BACK INTO HER ARMY? WHY WOULD YOU WANT THAT?

SIX-CLAWS, I SAID MAKE THE TRADE. MY MOTHER WILL UNDERSTAND.



PART TWO: BURN'S STRONGHOLD



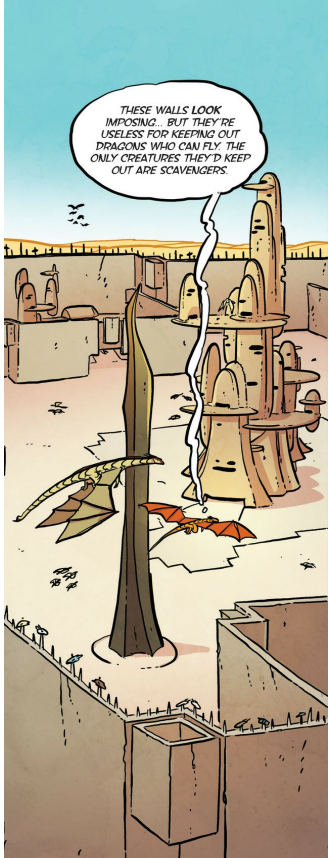
HOLD IT!

ADDAX? THAT YOU?

HO THERE. I BROUGHT A PRESENT FOR THE QUEEN.

RECOGNIZE THIS ONE?






THESE WALLS LOOK IMPOSING... BUT THEY'RE USELESS FOR KEEPING OUT DRAGONS WHO CAN FLY. THE ONLY CREATURES THEY'D KEEP OUT ARE SCAVENGERS.



A SCAVENGER KILLED BURN'S MOTHER. IS BURN AFRAID OF THEM?

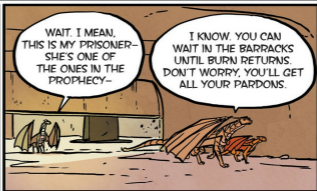


OH NO... THERE'S BURN.



ACK! IT'S BLISTER! HOW COULD BLISTER BE HERE?

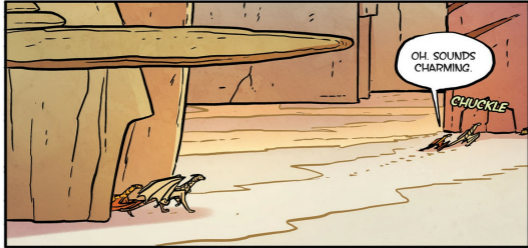
WAIT, THAT'S NOT HER. BUT HE LOOKS HORRIBLY LIKE BLISTER.

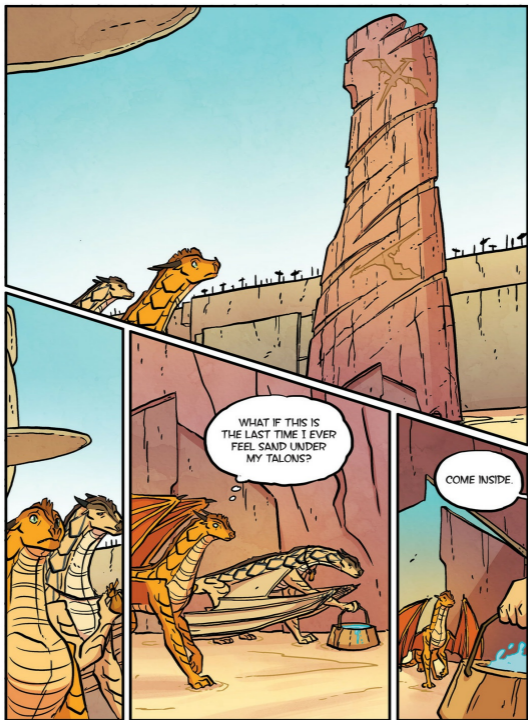






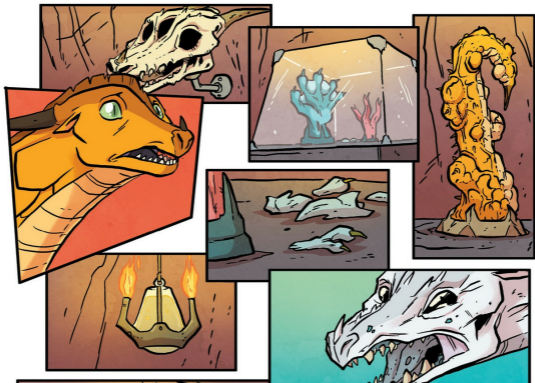
ALSO, MORE PSYCHOLOGICALLY DESTABILIZING.





WHAT IF THIS IS
THE LAST TIME I EVER
FEEL SAND UNDER
MY TALONS?

COME INSIDE.







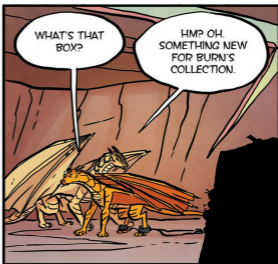




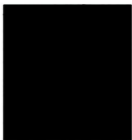












TUG

TUG
TUG!
TUG!

MMMRPH?



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

GOOD MORNING. I THOUGHT WE'D GO FOR A WALK.

ARE YOU JOKING? OR IS THAT JUST HOW YOUR VOICE ALWAYS SOUNDS?

TUG!
TUG!



HAH!



SOMEONE USED TO TEASE ME ABOUT THAT. SHE TOLD ME SHE'D ASSUME EVERYTHING I SAID WAS A JOKE, TO SIMPLIFY THINGS.

YOU CAN DO THAT, TOO, IF YOU WANT.



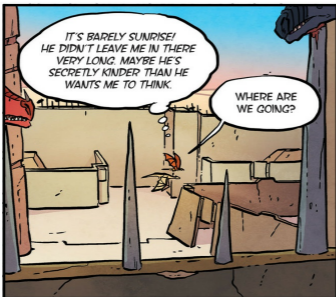
STEER CLEAR OF SCARLET. SHE'S IN A FOUL MOOD TODAY.

EVEROLL

I HEARD THAT!



SZZZZZZZZZZ





MAYBE A WAGON? THEY'RE GOOD AT MAKING THINGS.

WE ONLY FOUND HOOFPRI-NTS—THREE HORSES, GALLOPING FLAT OUT.




DID YOU FOLLOW THE PRINTS?

OK, THAT WAS DEFINITELY SARCASTM.

FOLLOW THEM! IF ONLY WE'D THOUGHT OF THAT!



WE ALL HEARD HER ROARING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND FLEW OUT OF THE PALACE.



AND THERE SHE WAS, DEAD. HAD BURN OR BLISTER—OR EVEN BLAZE—KILLED HER? WHY NOT IN A PROPER DUEL? WHO ELSE WOULD DARE? WHO ELSE COULD?

THE FIRST CLUE WE FOUND WAS FLOWER, TRYING TO HIDE. SHE WAS INJURED. THE ONLY "TREASURE" SHE HAD WAS A CUTE CLAW-SWORD THING.

THAT'S WHEN WE REALIZED WE WERE DEALING WITH SCAVENGER THIEVES. BURN WAS FURIOUS. WE FOLLOWED THEIR HOOFPRI-NTS—AND BURN DECIDED TO LET THEM LEAD US STRAIGHT TO THEIR DEN.

WE BURNED IT TO THE GROUND.

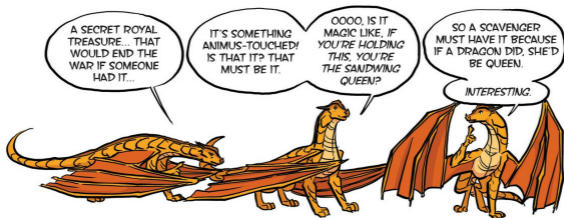
AND THEN WE SEARCHED THE ASHES. NO SIGN OF TREASURE. SOME SCAVENGER MUST HAVE ESCAPED WITH IT, AND HAS IT EVEN NOW.



YOU BURNED THE WHOLE VILLAGE? YIKES.

BURN SAID WE HAD TO STAMP OUT THE VERMIN BEFORE THEY DID IT AGAIN.











WE'LL GET THE BEST VIEW FROM HERE.



WHO'S ATTACKING?
SEAWINGS?
ICEWINGS?

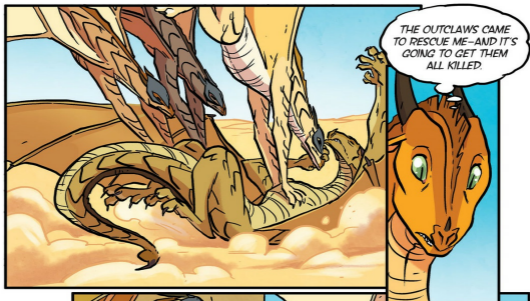


I'M NOT SURE... I
THOUGHT MAYBE
SKYWINGS? OR...



IT'S SANDWINGS
ATTACKING. IT'S THE
OUTLAWS!

IT'S MY
MOTHER.



THE OUTCLAWS CAME TO RESCUE ME--AND IT'S GOING TO GET THEM ALL KILLED.

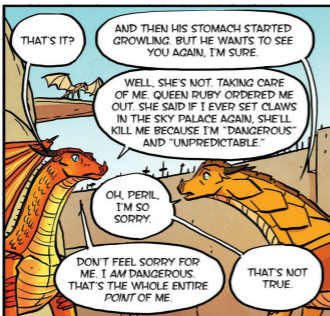


DON'T DIE TRYING TO RESCUE ME. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE DON'T DIE.


















SUNNY!

YOU CAME TO GET ME.

OF COURSE I DID, BEETLE. SIX-CLAWS TOLD ME EVERYTHING. I SPENT SEVEN YEARS LOOKING FOR YOU, I WASN'T ABOUT TO LOSE YOU AFTER ONLY TEN MINUTES OF CONVERSATION.




BESIDES, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO INVAD E BURN'S STRONGHOLD. I TAKE IT SHE'S NOT HERE.

LUCKILY, I DOUBT SHE'D HAVE SURRENDERED AS GRACIOUSLY AS SMOLDER.

WE SHOULD DO THE TOUR QUICKLY, THEN.



WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT IS?



HERE LIES
QUEEN OASIS
MOTHER OF
QUEEN BURN
HER BONES
NOW BELONG TO
THE SANDS
OF TIME









THIS IS AN
ODD WAY TO
GO ABOUT IT.

SUCH AN
INTERESTING GROUP
OF FRIENDS YOU'VE
BROUGHT.

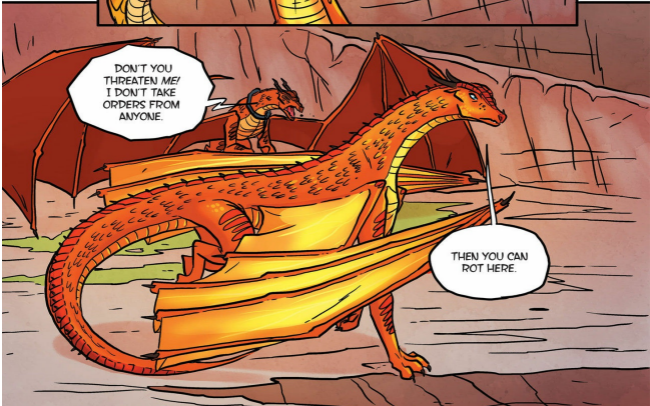


WHERE IS THE
NIGHTWING?
SHOW ME ITS
FACE.

LOOKING FOR
SOMEONE?
NOW WHY
WOULD I HELP
YOU?



BECAUSE I'M TELLING
YOU TO. DO IT IF YOU
WANT ME TO GET YOU
OUT OF HERE.



DON'T YOU
THREATEN ME!
I DON'T TAKE
ORDERS FROM
ANYONE.

THEN YOU CAN
ROT HERE.







SHE'S WRONG,
PERIL.



I CAN'T
PROMISE YOU
ANYTHING, BUT—I
MEAN, IF I KNOW
CLAY AT ALL, THE
WAY TO HIS HEART
IS BY HELPING HIS
FRIENDS.



AND I DON'T
THINK YOU'RE
A MONSTER.

PERIL'S BEEN
MONSTROUS,
BUT SHE CAN
CHANGE.



YOU CAN
CHOOSE
WHAT KIND OF
DRAGON YOU
WANT TO BE.

AND YOU DON'T
HAVE TO SET
SCARLET FREE.
YOU COULD
COME WITH ME
INSTEAD.

DON'T WORRY
ABOUT ME.
I'M FINE.



THORN, I THINK WE
HAVE SOMETHING
THAT BELONGS TO
YOU. IT'S IN
BURN'S LIBRARY...
I'LL JUST GO CHECK.
WAIT
HERE.

HA! NICE
TRY!



OR YOU CAN
COME ALONG!
IT'S RATHER A
MESS, IS ALL.



LOTS OF
PAPERS
EVERYWHERE.

I'LL WAIT
HERE.



BUT THE NIGHTWINGS ARE AWFUL! I DON'T WANT TO BE ANYTHING LIKE THEM!

SO DON'T BE.

NO ONE'S MAKING YOU BE AWFUL.

DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE FRIENDS WITH ONE?

STARFLIGHT IS DIFFERENT.

SO WAS STONEMOVER.



EIGHT YEARS AGO, I MET A DRAGON, OUT IN THE SANDS. HIS SCALES WERE LIKE THE DESERT SKY AT NIGHT. HE WAS ALWAYS NERVOUS, IN A SWEET, WORRIED WAY.



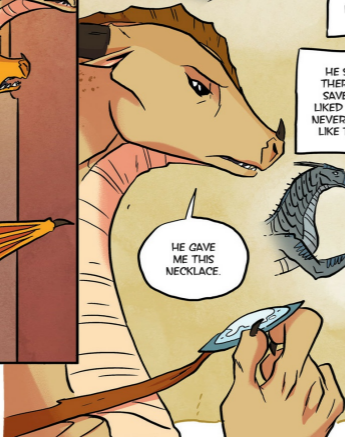
REMEMBER, I GREW UP IN THE OLD SCORPION DEN. BACK THEN, YOU HAD TO BE CUTTHROAT ALL THE TIME OR DIE.




I LIKED THE WAY HE DIDN'T PRETEND TO BE SCARIER OR MEANER THAN HE WAS. HE WAS JUST HIMSELF.

HE SAID HE WAS THERE TRYING TO SAVE HIS TRIBE. I LIKED THAT, TOO. I'D NEVER SEEN LOYALTY LIKE THAT BEFORE.

HE GAVE ME THIS NECKLACE.






HE SAID HE WAS DOING SOMETHING ESSENTIAL THAT NOBODY ELSE COULD.

TWO TUNNELS? I ONLY KNEW ABOUT ONE.

OH! THE TUNNELS! HE MUST BE THE ANIMUS WHO BUILT THE TWO TUNNELS!



ANYWAY, I KEPT COMING BACK TO BOTHER HIM WHILE HE LOOKED FOR THE RIGHT SPOT. FINALLY I GUESS HE FELL FOR ME, TOO.


WHO WOULDN'T?




BUT... DIDN'T ANYONE CARE THAT YOU WERE FROM TWO DIFFERENT TRIBES?

HARDLY ANYONE KNEW BESIDES SIX-CLAWS.

IF THEY KNEW NOW... WOULD YOU LOSE THE OUTCLAWS?




LISTEN TO ME. I DON'T TELL EVERYONE BECAUSE I LIKE MY PRIVACY, BUT I'M NOT ASHAMED OF YOU OR WHERE YOU CAME FROM.



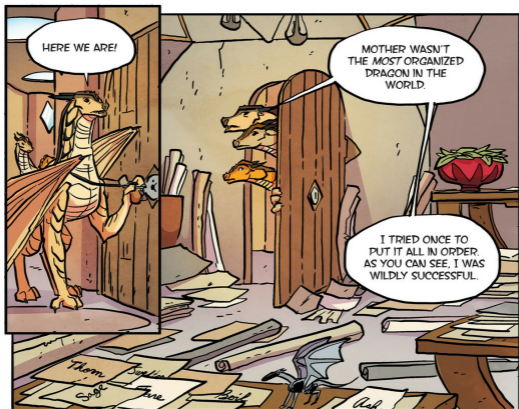
IT'S NOT AGAINST THE LAW TO BE WITH A DRAGON FROM ANOTHER TRIBE. IT JUST... HARDLY EVER HAPPENS.

DON'T EVER LET ANY DRAGON MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T EXIST.



SUNNY, YOU ARE PERFECT THE WAY YOU ARE.





HERE WE ARE!

MOTHER WASN'T THE MOST ORGANIZED DRAGON IN THE WORLD.

I TRIED ONCE TO PUT IT ALL IN ORDER, AS YOU CAN SEE, I WAS WILDLY SUCCESSFUL.

WHILE I WAS ORGANIZING, I DISCOVERED QUEEN OASIS HAD A SYSTEM FOR INTERCEPTING MESSAGES. A FAIR PERCENTAGE OF LETTERS SENT IN THE KINGDOM OF SAND COME HERE INSTEAD.

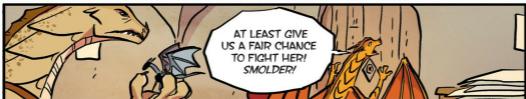
I GUESS THAT'S WHY MY MOTHER ALWAYS SEEMED TO KNOW EVERYTHING.

I KEEP IT GOING JUST IN CASE, EVEN THOUGH BURN DOESN'T CARE.

I ONCE SAW ONE MARKED "THORN" WHICH I CAREFULLY FILED SOMEWHERE USEFUL, I'M SURE.

HELP ME LOOK?









I DID IT!



THERE IS A LETTER FOR ME. HE WASN'T LYING ABOUT THAT PART. HOW ODD.



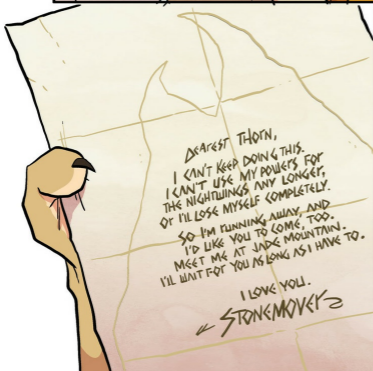
MOTHER, WE REALLY HAVE TO GO.

MOTHER?

THORN?



IT'S FROM HIM. YOUR FATHER. LISTEN.



DEAREST THORN,
I CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS. I CAN'T USE MY POWERS FOR THE NIGHTWINGS ANY LONGER, OR I'LL LOSE MYSELF COMPLETELY. SO I'M RUNNING AWAY, AND I'D LIKE YOU TO COME, TOO. MEET ME AT JADE MOUNTAIN. I'LL WAIT FOR YOU AS LONG AS I HAVE TO.
I LOVE YOU.
← STONEMOVER? →



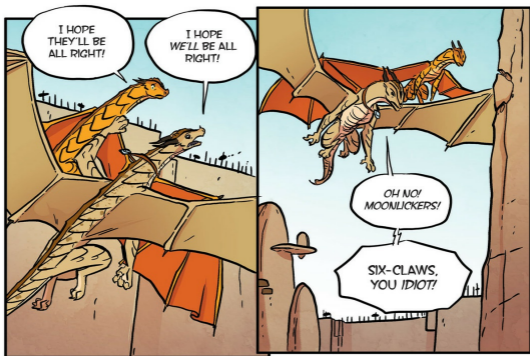
"...I'LL WAIT FOR YOU AS LONG AS I HAVE TO."

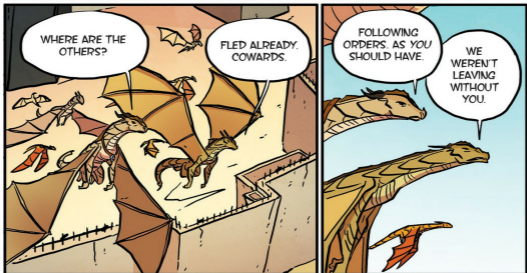
JADE MOUNTAIN!

RUMORS SAY A DRAGON LIVES THERE—MAYBE HE'S STILL WAITING FOR YOU AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! ISN'T THAT ROMANTIC?











YEAH! I DIDN'T TRUST THAT SMOLDER. DIDN'T I SAY SO? CAN'T TRUST A ROYAL.

BECAUSE YOU'VE MET SO MANY ROYAL DRAGONS IN YOUR LIFE, QIBLI, HAVE YOU?



NOBODY'S CHASING US YET.

IT'S PROBABLY CHAOS' BACK THERE.



I'M PRETTY SURE THAT BIG ONE IN FRONT IS BURN.

IN A FEW MINUTES SHE'LL FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED.

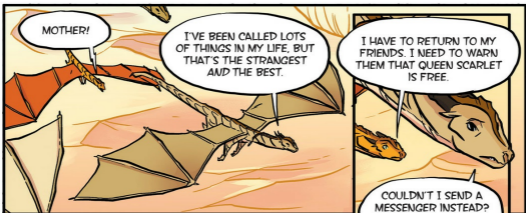


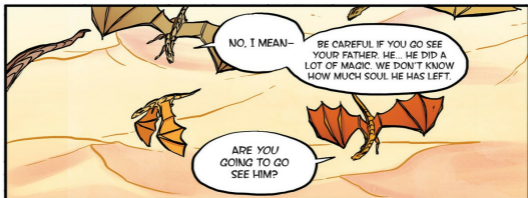
DID PERIL MAKE IT OUT SAFELY?



THAT MUST BE PERIL. SHE SET SCARLET FREE.

IF QUEEN SCARLET REALLY DOES KNOW WHERE MY FRIENDS ARE, HOW LONG UNTIL SHE COMES FOR THEM?





NO, I MEAN—

BE CAREFUL IF YOU GO SEE YOUR FATHER. HE... HE DID A LOT OF MAGIC. WE DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH SOUL HE HAS LEFT.

ARE YOU GOING TO GO SEE HIM?



SOMEDAY. APPARENTLY HE'S IN NO HURRY, SO I'LL TAKE CARE OF MY DRAGONS FIRST.



SEE YOU SOON, DAUGHTER.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I FOUND MY MOTHER. AND SHE CARES ABOUT ME.

I KIND OF WISH I COULD STAY WITH HER. BE A NORMAL DRAGON FOR A WHILE.

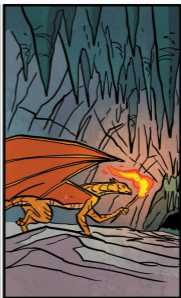
MAYBE TAKE A BREAK FROM WORRYING ABOUT SAVING THE WORLD.

BUT PROPHECY OR NOT, MY FRIENDS ARE MY WHOLE LIFE.

I'D NEVER LEAVE THEM IN DANGER.


EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING THE DESERT AND MY MOTHER...

I STILL FEEL LIKE I'M GOING HOME.





DO NOT PANIC.
LISTEN.



THAT'S NOT THE
SOUND OF SOMETHING
LURKING. THAT'S THE
SOUND OF A DRAGON
SLEEPING.



I THINK IT'S
THIS WAY.



IS THAT... MY
FATHER?



RRRRRAASP





OH, BECAUSE—WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? ARE YOU TURNING TO STONE?

IT'S MY ANIMUS CURSE.

YOUR MAGIC DID THIS? I THOUGHT YOU'D LOSE YOUR, YOU KNOW, SOUL.

I TURNED THE CURSE ON ITSELF. IT TURNS MY SCALES TO ROCK NOW, INSTEAD OF MY SOUL.

TOO LATE ANYWAY.

TOO LATE FOR WHAT?



MY SOUL.

THE THINGS I'VE DONE...



YOU MEAN LIKE BUILDING THE TUNNELS?




WHO ARE YOU?




I'M—

THIS FEELS SO AWKWARD.

OK. THE TRUTH IS, I'M YOUR DAUGHTER.



I ONLY JUST FOUND THORN, AND—I WANTED TO MEET YOU.



I HOPE THAT'S— I HOPE YOU— WELL, I KNOW IT'S WEIRD. SO—



WE HAD EGGS?



YOU HAD ME. AN EGG, ONE DRAGONET.



JUST ME.





WOW! HOW DID YOU TRAIN IT TO DO THAT?



I DIDN'T. I ENCHANTED HIM.

WITH ANIMUS MAGIC? BUT THAT ONLY WORKS ON THINGS.



TURNS OUT IT WORKS ON ANIMALS IF YOU'RE DESPERATE ENOUGH.

THAT'S CREEPY.



I ONLY ENCHANTED HIM TO BRING ME FOOD EVERY FEW DAYS. HE STILL HAS A FINE, ORDINARY LIFE AS A FOX.

DINNER DOESN'T MIND.




YOU CALL THE FOX DINNER? THAT'S... REALLY CREEPY.

IT WAS THIS OR STARVE.

BUT IF ANIMUS MAGIC WORKS ON LIVING THINGS... WOULD IT WORK ON SOMETHING BIGGER THAN A FOX?

SOMETHING LIKE ANOTHER DRAGON?





THAT'S WHAT MORROWSEER SAID. BUT WHY SHOULD WE TRUST HIM?

OH, LITTLE DRAGON. I PROMISE YOU THE PROPHECY IS NOT REAL. I WAS THERE WHEN THEY CAME UP WITH IT.

I WAS ALSO THERE WHEN THE NIGHTWING SCRIBES WERE ORDERED TO WRITE ABOUT OUR SO-CALLED POWERS.

QUEEN BATTLEWINNER PLANNED EVERY SCROLL, EVERY STORY CAREFULLY.

BUT NO NIGHTWING HAS SEEN THE FUTURE OR READ MINDS IN OVER A HUNDRED YEARS, IF ANY EVER DID.

THAT IS THE TRUTH.

NIGHTWINGS! YOU GUYS MAKE IT REALLY, REALLY HARD TO LIKE YOU!

WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?

BECAUSE I SUSPECT I AM DYING. SOMEONE SHOULD KNOW. IF NOT MY OWN DAUGHTER, THEN WHO?

ARE YOU REALLY DYING?

I'M ALWAYS DYING.

AT LEAST HE'S TELLING ME THE TRUTH. THAT'S MORE THAN I CAN SAY FOR MOST GROWN-UP DRAGONS I'VE KNOWN.

HE'S REALLY SAD

IMAGINE BEING BORN WITH ANIMUS POWERS INTO THAT TERRIBLE PLACE.

HE NEVER HAD A CHOICE ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH HIS LIFE.

MAYBE NOBODY DOES.

EVEN THOUGH I WANT TO END THE WAR SO BADLY, MAYBE THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.

THE PROPHECY REALLY IS FAKE. I'M REALLY NOT SPECIAL.

I'M REALLY NOT DESTINED TO SAVE THE WORLD.

CAN I STAY HERE TONIGHT?

PLEASE DO.







STONEMOVER??

MMMPH?

I HAVE TO GO.



ALREADY?
CAN'T YOU STAY?
IT'S REALLY... QUIET
HERE.

REALLY LONELY,
YOU MEAN.

I'M SORRY.



I THINK I'VE
FIGURED OUT
HOW TO END THE
WAR! AT LEAST, I
HAVE AN IDEA.

BUT... WHY? THE
PROPHECY ISN'T
REAL, REMEMBER?



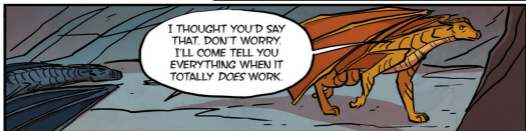
I'M NOT DOING IT
BECAUSE OF THE
PROPHECY. IF I CAN
STOP THE WAR, I THINK
I SHOULD. SOMEONE
HAS TO!

SOMEHOW I
SUSPECT IT WON'T
BE THAT EASY.

MAYBE IT WILL BE.
I'LL FIND THE EYE OF
ONYX AND GIVE IT TO
ONE OF THE QUEENS,
AND TA-DA! WAR
OVER.

HMM.

THAT'LL
NEVER
WORK.



I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY
THAT. DON'T WORRY.
I'LL COME TELL YOU
EVERYTHING WHEN IT
TOTALLY DOES WORK.



NONE OF MY FRIENDS GOT TO KNOW BOTH PARENTS. I'M LUCKY.

BUT NOW THAT I'VE MET THEM, I KNOW WHICH ONE I WANT TO BE LIKE.



THORN NEVER GAVE UP ON FINDING ME. I'M NOT GIVING UP EITHER. NO SITTING IN A CAVE MOPING FOR ME. I'M GOING TO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN.



BUT WHERE DO I GO FIRST? THE RAINFOREST TO THE EAST, OR THE SCAVENGER DEN TO THE WEST?

SHOULD I GO WARN MY FRIENDS ABOUT SCARLET AND THEN COME BACK?



BUT WHAT IF THE SCAVENGER LEAVES THE RUINS?




THIS COULD BE MY ONLY CHANCE TO FIND THE EYE OF ONYX AND STOP THE WAR.




IT'S A DETOUR, BUT I HAVE TO RISK IT.

PART THREE: THE EYE OF ONYX



I DON'T SEE ANY SCAVENGERS... BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THEY'RE NOCTURNAL OR PREFER THE DAY.



THE SCAVENGERS MIGHT NOT COME OUT IF THEY SEE A DRAGON PROWLING AROUND... BEST TO HIDE.



ARGH. I SHOULD GO. I HAVE TO GET BACK TO MY FRIENDS—

WAIT—WHAT'S THAT?



THERE'S A LIGHT. AND I THINK I HEAR LITTLE FOOTSTEPS.



THE TRICK IS APPROACHING THEM WITHOUT SCARING THEM OFF.

OR GETTING ATTACKED.

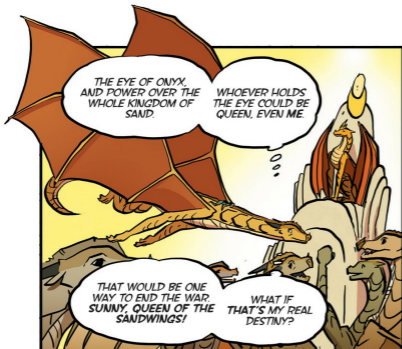


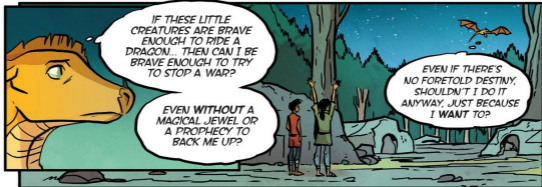
Wii! Waa! Waa!

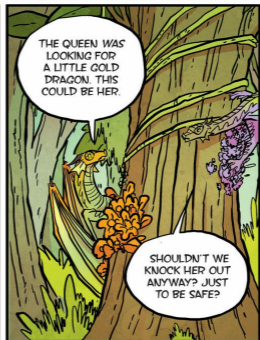


















SUNNY?
REALLY?



IT'S ME.
I'M HERE.

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

BETTER
THAN YOU
ARE.

I TOLD
HIM YOU
WERE
FINE!



I HAD A VISION! I
MEAN, IT WAS FUZZY,
BUT I WAS P**RETTY**
SURE YOU WERE
FINE.

I'M SORRY I
WASN'T HERE TO TAKE
CARE OF YOU.

I TOOK CARE
OF HIM.



AM I... JEALOUS
OF FATESPEAKER?
WOULDN'T THAT
MEAN... I DO LIKE
STARFLIGHT THE WAY
HE LIKES ME?



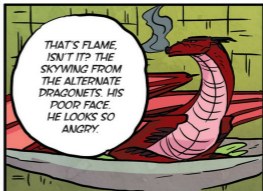
DON'T GET DISTRACTED!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR
ANY ROMANCE RIGHT NOW!
STARFLIGHT AND I CAN FIGURE
IT OUT AFTER WE STOP
THE WAR.



WOW, THERE ARE A LOT OF PATIENTS.



WEBS LOOKS LIKE HE'S DOING WELL.



THAT'S FLAME, ISN'T IT? THE SKYWING FROM THE ALTERNATE DRAGONETS. HIS POOR FACE. HE LOOKS SO ANGRY.



THOSE RAINWINGS MUST HAVE BEEN PRISONERS OF THE NIGHTWINGS.



LOOK AT WHAT THE NIGHTWINGS DID TO THEM.

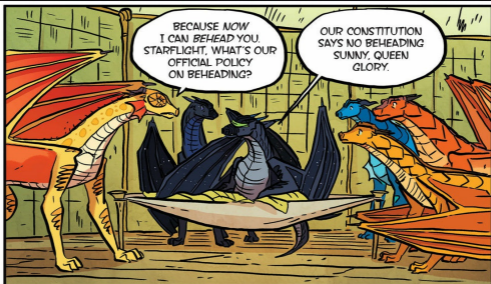


HOW WILL THE RAINWINGS EVER FORGIVE THEM?

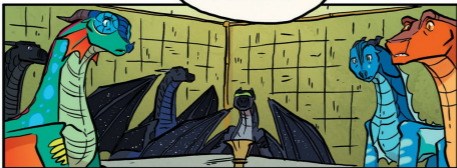
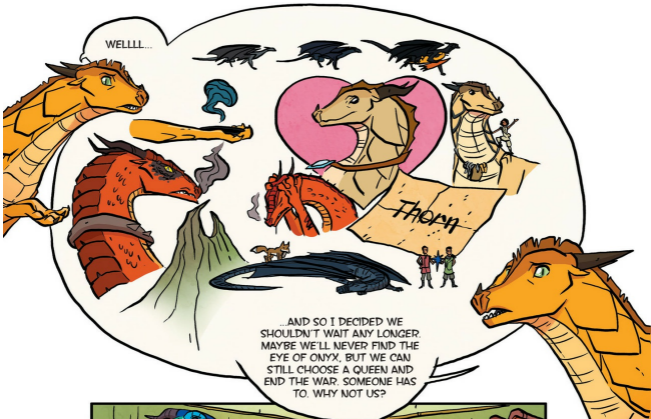


















NO.

WE ARE NOT
KILLING ANY
OF THEM.

WE ARE NOT
USING MAGIC TO
DO SOMETHING
UNDERHANDED.

WE ARE
GOING TO
GET ALL
THREE OF
THEM IN ONE
PLACE.

AND THEN WE'LL
EITHER HAVE A
COMPETITION LIKE
THE RAINWINGS
HAVE.

OR WE'LL
LET ALL THE
SANDWINGS
DECIDE.



LET THE
SANDWINGS
DECIDE? WHAT?

BY VOTING OR TALKING IT
OUT TOGETHER, TSUNAMI.
LIKE THE NIGHTWINGS, OR
QUEEN CORAL'S COUNCIL.

OR US.



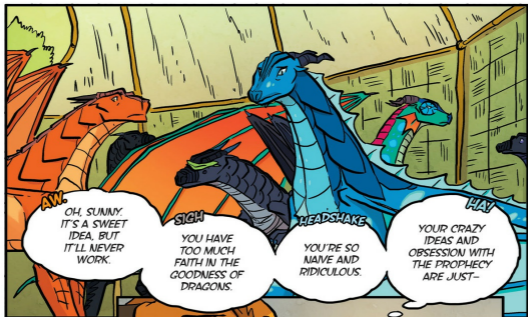
ALL THE SANDWINGS?
I DON'T SEE HOW THAT
WOULD WORK.

THE SISTERS
WILL NEVER
AGREE TO IT.




WELL, THAT'S
WHAT WE'RE
GOING TO TRY.

I THINK WE CAN GET
THEM ALL TOGETHER,
ESPECIALLY IF YOU GUYS
HELP ME. BUT IF YOU
WOULDN'T... I'M DOING IT
ANYWAY.






THE TALONS OF PEACE




WHERE IS THAT *BLASTED MUDWING*? HE'S *SO SLOW*, AND *ANNOYING*. WHY DID WE HAVE TO BRING HIM?




WE NEEDED *ONE* OF THE ALTERNATE DRAGONETS TO LEAD US TO THE TALONS CAMP. WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE.




NO, NO! I CAN'T LEAVE STARFLIGHT'S SIDE!



I'M NOT LETTING ANYONE SEE ME LIKE THIS!



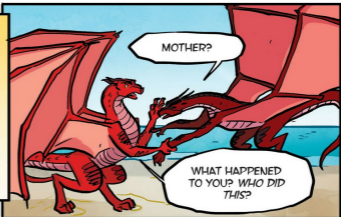
FINE. I GUESS. IF I HAVE TO, I NEED TO PACK MORE FRUIT. NOT GOING TO SHARE.



IF WE USED THE DREAMVISITOR, WE COULD AVOID THIS WHOLE TRIP.

TSUNAMI, IT'S NOT SAFE. IF WE CONTACT ANYONE, THEY COULD GLIMPSE THE RAINFOREST AND FIND US.







DO-DO I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS?



FATESPEAKER IS FINE... BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO SQUID.

VIPER IS DEAD. THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT. SHE FELL INTO LAVA—HER TAIL DID THAT TO FLAME'S FACE.



WHERE'S MORROWSEER? HE NEEDS TO HAVE A WORD WITH MY TAIL.



MORROWSEER IS DEAD, TOO. SO WE NEED YOUR HELP.

WE NEED TO SEND A MESSAGE TO BLISTER.

OH, REALLY. SUDDENLY THE WONDERFUL, INDEPENDENT DRAGONETS NEED US?



DON'T BE A ROTTING TOOTH. YOU WANT TO END THIS WAR, DON'T YOU?

IF WE AGREE, WHAT'S THE MESSAGE?

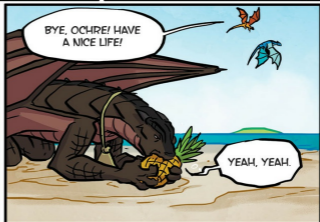
TELL HER TO MEET US TEN MIDNIGHTS FROM TONIGHT. IN THE STRONGHOLD'S COURTYARD. IF SHE DOESN'T SHOW UP, SHE FORFEITS HER CHANCE TO BE QUEEN.



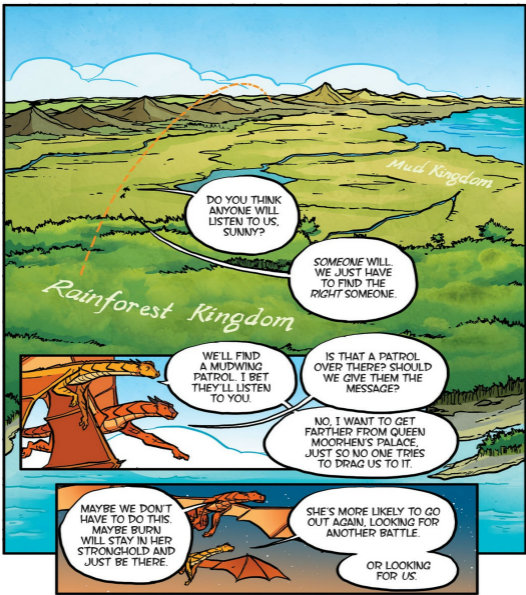
THIS IS IT? YOU'RE FULFILLING THE PROPHECY? AND CHOOSING BLISTER?

COME ALONG AND SEE. ANYONE WHO WANTS TO BRING ALL THE TALONS OF PEACE.

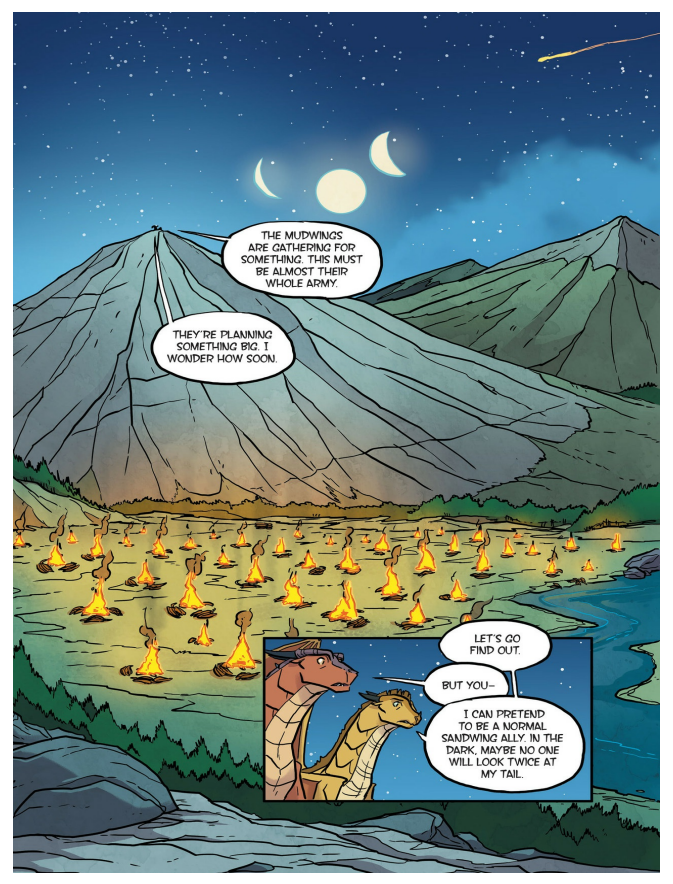
THIS IS IMPORTANT. IF BLISTER SHOWS UP AND EVERYTHING GOES AS PLANNED, THE WAR WILL BE OVER.











THE MUDWINGS
ARE GATHERING FOR
SOMETHING. THIS MUST
BE ALMOST THEIR
WHOLE ARMY.

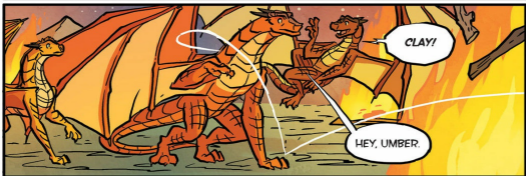
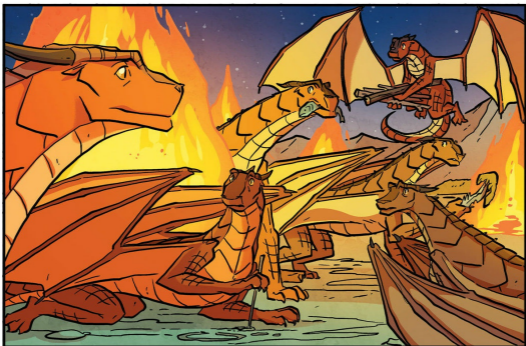
THEY'RE PLANNING
SOMETHING BIG. I
WONDER HOW SOON.

LET'S GO
FIND OUT.


BUT YOU—

I CAN PRETEND
TO BE A NORMAL
SANDWING ALLY. IN THE
DARK, MAYBE NO ONE
WILL LOOK TWICE AT
MY TAIL.












HUGE OFFENSIVE
TOMORROW MORNING.
WIPE OUT THE ICEWINGS
AND HOPE WE GET
BLAZE, TOO.



WORD AROUND
CAMP IS BURN WANTS
TO END THE WAR
BEFORE YOU GUYS
MESS EVERYTHING
UP.



QUEEN MOORHEN'S
LEADING US *HERSELF*.
AND QUEEN RUBY
IS BRINGING HER
TROOPS.




OUR ORDERS ARE
TO KEEP FIGHTING
UNTIL EVERY ICEWING
IS DEAD.



TAKE NO
PRISONERS.
KILL
EVERYONE.



UNLESS
WE ALL DIE
FIRST.



ALL OF YOU AGAINST
THE ICEWINGS? YOU
REALLY MIGHT WIPE
THEM OUT!



REED, THIS
IS A *SUICIDE*
MISSION.
SUICIDE OR
GENOCIDE.



WHAT ELSE
CAN WE DO?
THOSE ARE
ORDERS
FROM OUR
QUEEN.



QUEEN MOORHEN

ARE THOSE HER BROTHERS AND SISTERS?

I THINK SO.

ALL RIGHT. LET'S GO SOMEWHERE SAFER.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD BE THE ONE TO DO THIS.

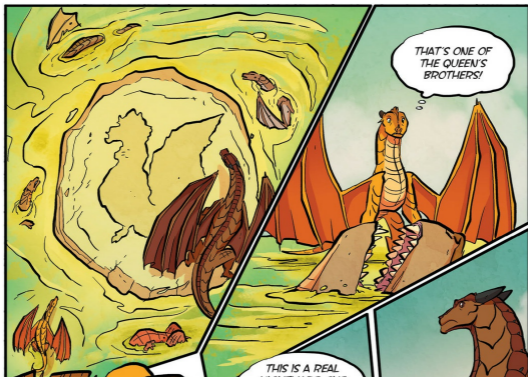
IF IT'S ME, SHE MIGHT THINK IT'S A NORMAL DREAM.

IF IT'S YOU, SHE'LL KNOW IT'S A REAL MESSAGE FROM THE DRAGONETS, BECAUSE NOBODY ELSE LOOKS LIKE YOU.

SO MAYBE THERE'S A GOOD REASON TO LOOK WEIRD.

YOU CAN DO IT, SUNNY. I'M COMPLETELY SURE.

PLEASE LET THIS WORK.



THAT'S ONE OF THE QUEEN'S BROTHERS!

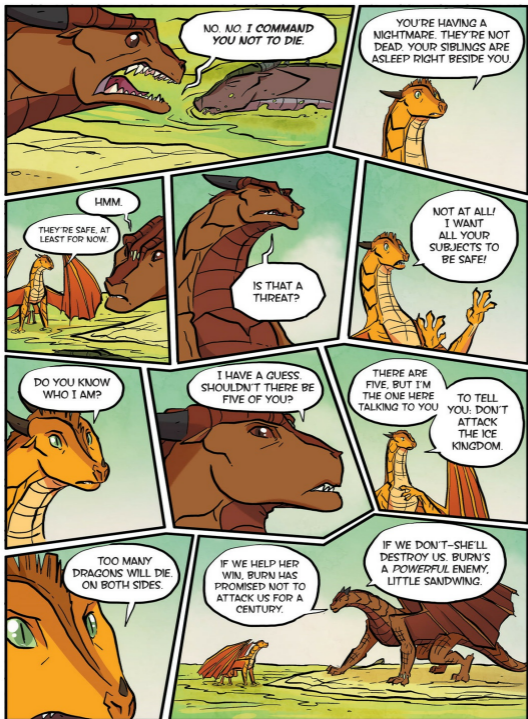


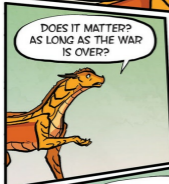
THIS IS A REAL NIGHTMARE. SHE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO HEAR ME.



I'M HARMLESS. I'M HERE TO TALK.

HERE? NOW? CAN'T YOU SEE EVERYONE IS DYING AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT?!







CLAY, WE CAN DO MORE. LOOK AT ALL THESE SLEEPING SOLDIERS.

IF EVEN A FEW DRAGONS TALK ABOUT OUR DREAM MESSAGES, MAYBE THAT'LL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

LET ME DO SOME, TOO.

THE WAR WILL BE OVER SOON.



THE WAR IS ALMOST OVER.



NO MORE KILLING.



YOU CAN CHANGE THINGS.

STOP FIGHTING.

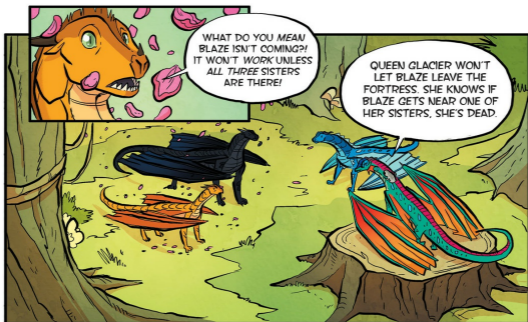


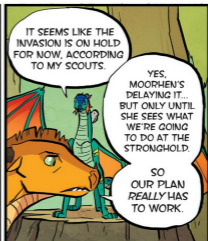
DON'T GO TO THE ICE KINGDOM.

SPREAD THE WORD.



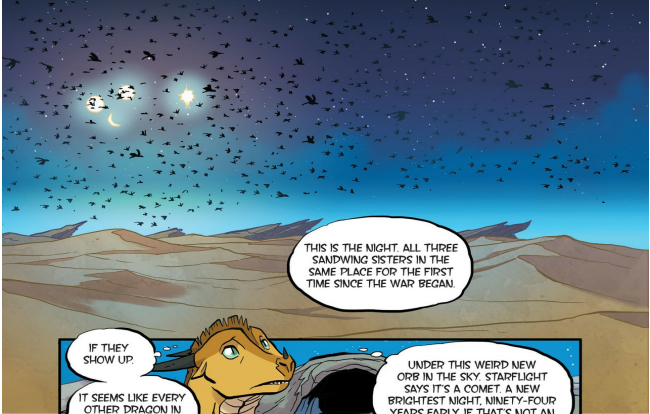












THIS IS THE NIGHT. ALL THREE SANDWING SISTERS IN THE SAME PLACE FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE WAR BEGAN.



IF THEY SHOW UP.

IT SEEMS LIKE EVERY OTHER DRAGON IN PYRRHIA MIGHT BE HERE.

UNDER THIS WEIRD NEW ORB IN THE SKY. STARFLIGHT SAYS IT'S A COMET. A NEW BRIGHTEST NIGHT, NINETY-FOUR YEARS EARLY. IF THAT'S NOT AN OMEN, WHAT IS?



STARFLIGHT, I DON'T THINK IT'S SAFE HERE. SHOULDN'T YOU STAY BEHIND?

NO. I'M NOT MISSING THIS— EVEN IF I CAN'T SEE IT.

WHERE'S GLORY?


RIGHT BEHIND US.



IT IS VERY WEIRD TO SEE YOU DISGUISED AS A SKYWING, GLORY.

IRONIC, RIGHT? NOW AT LEAST I LOOK LIKE I BELONG IN THE PROPHECY.

DEATHBRINGER, WATCH FROM THE STRONGHOLD WALLS. TAKE THE NIGHTWINGS. I'LL SHOUT IF I NEED YOU.




ALL THESE DRAGONS FROM DIFFERENT TRIBES... WHAT IF THEY TRY TO KILL EACH OTHER?

A BATTLE THAT HUGE MIGHT END THE WAR ITSELF, FATESPEAKER.

TOO MANY WOULD DIE. WE'LL STOP THEM IF WE HAVE TO.

RIGHT. BY ASKING NICELY? IS THAT THE PLAN?



YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW EFFECTIVE ASKING NICELY CAN BE. MAYBE IF YOU EVER TRIED IT, YOU'D KNOW.

YOWCH!



WELL, LET'S GET DOWN THERE BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS.



BEFORE WE GO...

I JUST--

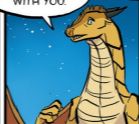
I JUST WANT YOU GUYS TO KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU. AND I DON'T REGRET ANYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED.

I'M NOT MAD ABOUT THE FAKE PROPHECY OR THE TALONS STEALING US...

BECAUSE WITHOUT ALL OF THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE GROWN UP WITH YOU.

AND YOU'RE MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN ANYTHING.

YOU'RE MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS. YOU'RE MY REAL FAMILY.



SO IT WAS WORTH IT. NO MATTER WHAT.



AWWW.

UH-OH, A MUSHY SPEECH. WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE, AREN'T WE?



GLORY MEANS SHE LOVES YOU, TOO. AND SO DO I.

ME TOO.



WHAT IF THE QUEENS DON'T COME?



LOOK AT ALL THESE
DIFFERENT TRIBES
SITTING TOGETHER.



THAT'S WHAT I REALLY
WANT—FOR ALL DRAGONS
TO SEE WE'RE BASICALLY
THE SAME.

A PYRRHIA
WHERE YOU CAN HAVE
FRIENDS FROM ANY
TRIBE. LIKE US.



MY MOTHER/
THORN WILL
CARE ABOUT ME
WHETHER OR NOT I
SAVE THE WORLD.

MAYBE THAT'S
EVEN BETTER
THAN A GREAT
DESTINY.



IT'S THEM!

THE FIVE
DRAGONETS!

LIKE THE
PROPHECY
SAID!









NO ONE IS GOING TO LET YOU DO THAT.

IN FACT, I'VE ALREADY MADE A GESTURE OF PEACE. DIDN'T YOU GET MY PRESENT, BURN?



THIS WAR HAS GONE ON TOO LONG. I THOUGHT A GIFT... SOMETHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED... COULD HELP MEND FENCES AND REUNITE THE FAMILY.

AHA, THAT WAS FROM YOU.

SMOLDER! BRING ME THE BOX.



BURN, BE CAREFUL. I THINK THIS MIGHT BE A TRICK.

OF COURSE IT'S A TRICK.



AS IF I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE HISS OF THE DRAGONBITE VIPER WHEN I HEAR IT.

Hsssssss

IT'S NO TRICK. I KNOW YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED ONE.



DRAGONBITE VIPER?

THE ONLY SNAKE THAT CAN KILL A DRAGON WITH ONE BITE.



CRACK

SNAP

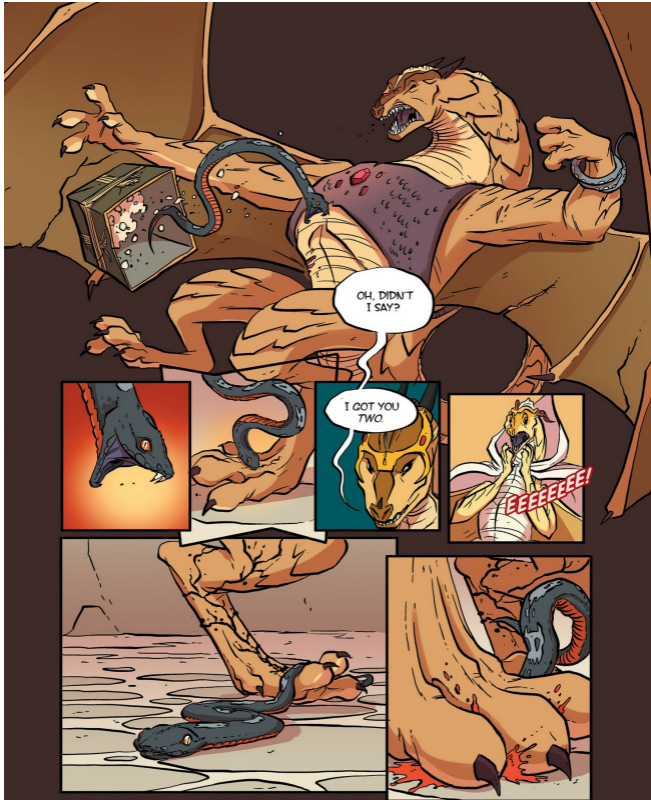
SNAP



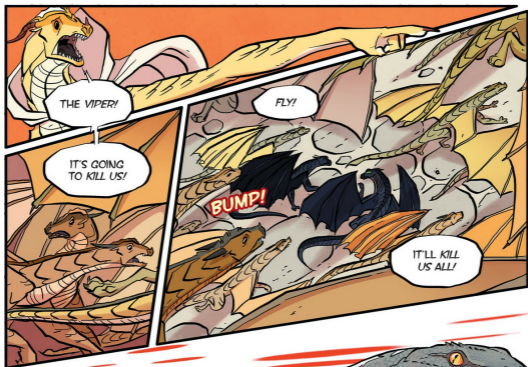
I KNOW YOUR SICK, TWISTED MIND, BLISTER. YOU THOUGHT THIS WOULD KILL ME.



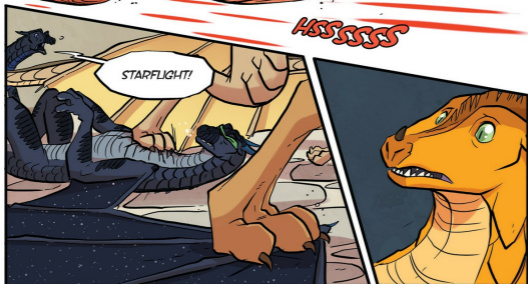
SO IT'LL BE VERY POETIC WHEN IT KILLS YOU INSTEAD.



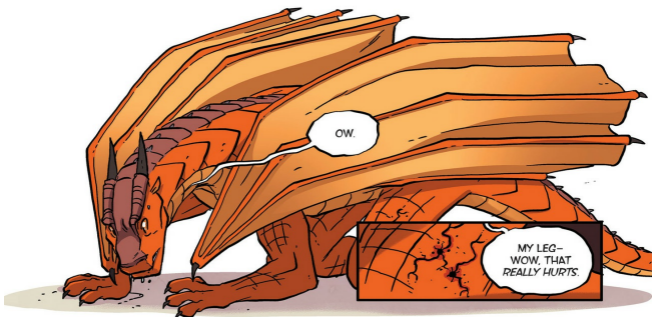





HSSSSSS











SUNNY! GET EVERYONE OUT OF THE WAY!



YOU CAN'T DIE!
I WON'T LET YOU!



DON'T- PERIL,
WHAT ARE YOU-?



I'M BURNING OUT
THE POISON.



HOLD HIM
DOWN!

DEATHBRINGER,
GET DOWN HERE!



THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME. I COULDN'T GET TO YOU IN TIME.

MOTHER...

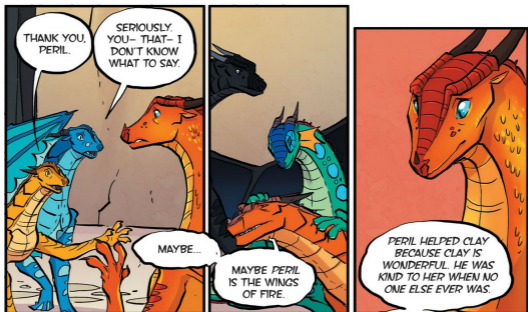
HE CAN. MAYBE NO ONE ELSE, BUT HE CAN. FIREPROOF SCALES.

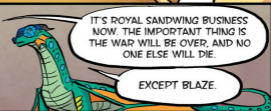
I'M NOT SURE HE CAN SURVIVE THAT BIG OF A BURN...

THAT'S ALL THE VENOM BURNED OUT, I THINK.

CLAY? CLAY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

IT WORKED!







POOR BLAZE.
IT DOESN'T
SEEM FAIR.

I WISH SOMEONE
ELSE COULD BE
QUEEN. BLISTER
IS SO CREEPY.

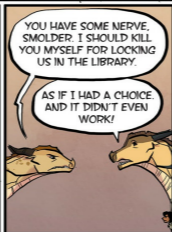
AND SMART. WITH A
UNITED SANDWING ARMY,
SHE'LL BE THE MOST
DANGEROUS DRAGON
IN PYRRHIA.

HELLO.



DO YOU THINK
BLISTER IS GOING
TO LET ME LIVE? I'M
GUESSING NO.

THORN,
COULD YOU USE
ANOTHER
OUTLAW,
PERHAPS?



YOU HAVE SOME NERVE,
SMOLDER. I SHOULD KILL
YOURSELF FOR LOCKING
US IN THE LIBRARY.

AS IF I HAD A CHOICE.
AND IT DIDN'T EVEN
WORK!



I SHOULD BE MAD
AT HIM, TOO. BUT
SMOLDER'S NOT EVIL—
HE'S NOT EVEN MEAN.
HE COULD HAVE KILLED
ME OR LEFT ME IN THE
TOWER.



I MUST ADMIT, I
NEVER EXPECTED
TO OUTLIVE HER.

PROBABLY NOT BY
MUCH, IF THAT'S ANY
CONSOLATION.

SMOLDER, ISN'T
THERE ANYONE ELSE
IN LINE FOR THE
SANDWING THRONE?



NO. MOTHER WAS VERY STRICT
AND VERY CAREFUL. THREE
DAUGHTERS, NO GRAND-DAUGHTERS.
NO DRAGONETS FOR ANY OF US.

YOU SHOULD HAVE
BETTER CHOICES! THERE
SHOULD BE A WAY
TO GIVE THE SANDWINGS
SOMEONE ELSE! A
BETTER QUEEN.



האיש הזה
הוא זה!

TUG
TUG YANK



האיש הזה
הוא זה!

THIS IS THE ONE WHO
STOLE THE TREASURE?
HEY, SQUISH-FACE, THIS
IS ALL YOUR FAULT, YOU
KNOW.

SHE'S TRYING TO
TELL US
SOMETHING.

YANK
TUG

SNIFF SNIFF



WHAT'S THE
SCAVENGER
TRYING TO
SAY?

I NEVER
KNOW.

YOU WANT ME
OVER HERE?
WHY?



האיש הזה
הוא זה!!

THIS IS A LITTLE
MORBID, FLOWER.
THE DRAGON YOU
KILLED IS BURIED
HERE.



THIS FIGHT CAN'T LAST
MUCH LONGER. BLISTER'S
DRAWING IT OUT FOR THE
CROWD.

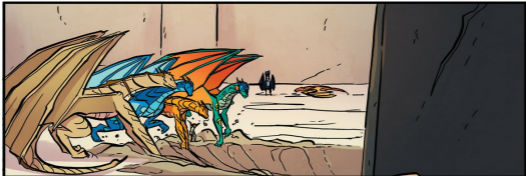
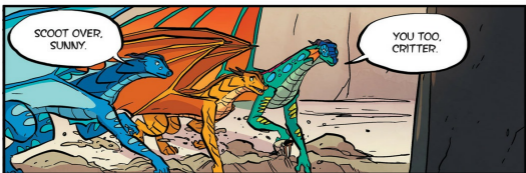


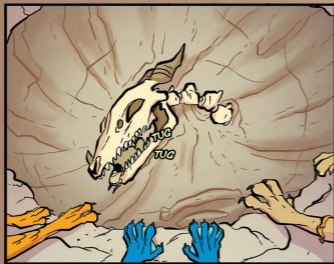
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?

DIGGING.

WHY?

BECAUSE FLOWER
WANTS ME TO.







SUNNY, WITH THIS, YOU COULD BE QUEEN.

NOBODY WANTS BLISTER. THEY'D FOLLOW YOU, IF YOU WANT THE THRONE.

AND I PROMISE NOT TO BE JEALOUS.

EVEN THOUGH THIS IS ALL *HIGHLY UNFAIR* BECAUSE WHY AREN'T THRONES JUST FALLING INTO MY LAP?

THEY'RE RIGHT. I CAN SENSE THE MAGIC ISN'T CONFINED TO ROYALTY. ANY SANDWING WHO HOLDS THE EYE OF ONYX CAN RULE.

I'D HAVE AN ARMY, TREASURE, AND POWER.

I COULD MAKE THE KINGDOM OF SAND A SAFE, PEACEFUL PLACE.

WOULD I BE A GOOD QUEEN?

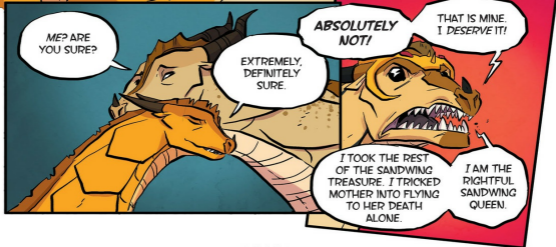
WOULD I BE ABLE TO PUNISH DRAGONS WHO OPPOSE ME? TO DEFEND THE KINGDOM IF ANOTHER TRIBE ATTACKED?

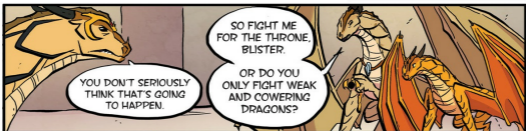
WOULD I HAVE TO BECOME A DIFFERENT KIND OF DRAGON COMPLETELY?

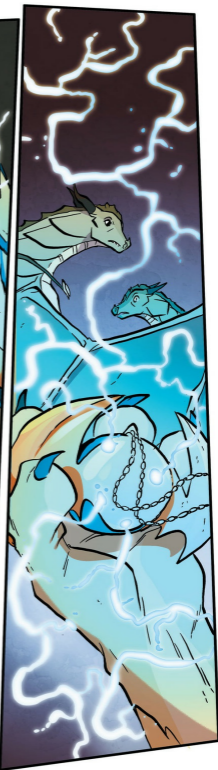
... I DON'T WANT TO BE QUEEN.

I WANT TO BE WITH MY FRIENDS. I WANT TO TEACH DRAGONETS HOW TO MAKE PEACE INSTEAD OF WAR.

I JUST WANT TO BE ME, SUNNY.













EPILOGUE

CAN'T YOU IMAGINE
A SCHOOL HERE?

THE STUDENTS CAN
USE THE CAVES AS
CLASSROOMS, BUT GO
OUTSIDE, TOO.

LOTS OF SUNSHINE.
MANDATORY SUNSHINE.

AND FIELD TRIPS, AND
MANGOES. MANDATORY
MANGOES!

AND LOTS AND LOTS OF
SCROLLS... I WISH—

WE'LL FIND A WAY TO
MAKE SCROLLS YOU CAN
READ, STARFLIGHT.

I'M GLAD
STARFLIGHT AND
I FINALLY TALKED.

I'M SORRY,
STARFLIGHT.
I LOVE YOU,
BUT—

LIKE A
BROTHER.

NOT LIKE
FATESPEAKER
LOVES YOU.

SHE REALLY
CARES
ABOUT YOU.

ALSO, SHE'S
HILARIOUS.



MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS WILL COME, I THINK.



UMBER'S READING IS NOT SO GREAT. HE'D LOVE TO LEARN MORE.



KINKAJOU AND TAMARIN WILL WANT TO COME, FOR SURE.




THEY NEED REAL TEACHERS, NOT THE SCRAPS OF TIME I HAVE.



DON'T FORGET MIGHTYCLAWS.



AND THE LITTLE ONE WHOSE MOTHER HID HER EGG IN THE RAINFOREST.



MOONWATCHER.



AND MY SISTERS!




ALTHOUGH THEN WE MIGHT HAVE TO LET QUEEN CORAL VISIT, LIKE, EVERY DAY.



WE SHOULD ASK WEBS TO BE A TEACHER.



HE CAN'T GO HOME. CORAL WILL NEVER FORGIVE HIM.





FATESPEAKER, THE COMET DIDN'T FALL ON US. DIDN'T *THAT* CONVINCE YOU?

IT COULD STILL COME BACK.

WHAT ABOUT OUR PROPHECY? WON'T IT CONFUSE EVERYONE IF WE TELL THEM IT WASN'T REAL?

WE COULD SAY THE NIGHTWINGS LOST THEIR POWERS ALONG WITH THEIR HOME.

SO THAT WAS IT—THE LAST PROPHECY.

THREE MOONS. YES. I VOTE FOR NO MORE PROPHECIES, EVER AGAIN.

I GUESS WE MAKE IT UP FROM HERE.

BAD NEWS, SUNNY. I'M *PRETTY* SURE WE'VE BEEN MAKING IT UP THIS WHOLE TIME.

AND THINGS TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT.

I WANT MY DESTINY TO BE SLEEPING AND BEING WITH YOU GUYS.

OH, WAIT, ALSO FEASTING!

BEST DESTINY EVER.



WE CAN MAKE
IT HAPPEN.

