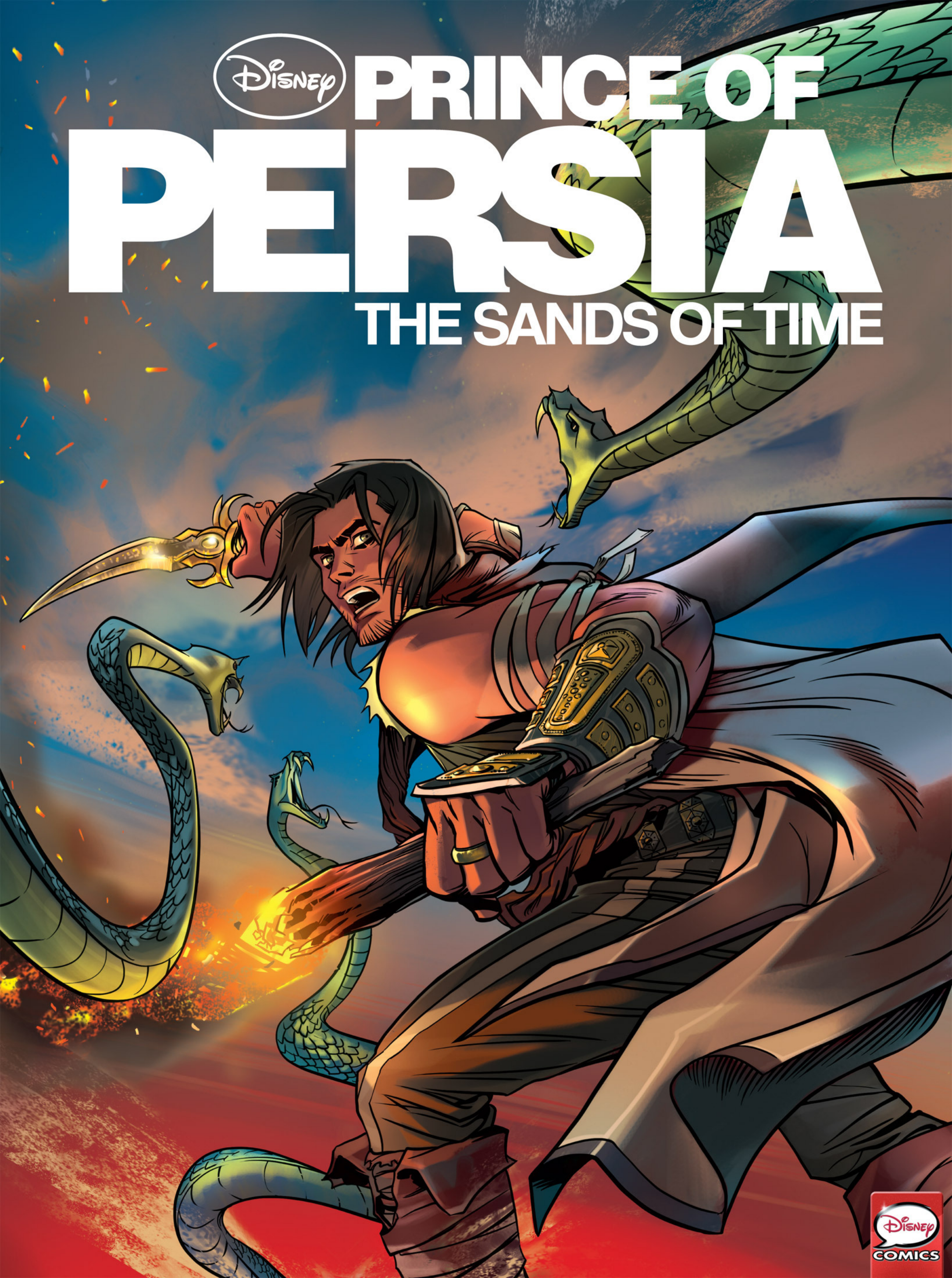




PRINCE OF PERSIA

THE SANDS OF TIME



BEFORE THE COMING OF THE PROPHET MOHAMMED, A VASTE **EMPIRE** ROSE OUT OF A HARSH LAND! THAT EMPIRE WAS **PERSIA**, AND ITS CAPITAL WAS **NASAF**!

• **NASAF**

ITS REACH EXTENDED FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN TO CHINA. BUT LIKE ANY EMPIRE, IT WAS ONLY AS GREAT AS ITS PRINCES...

...THOSE WHO WOULD ONE DAY BE KING, LIKE THE YOUNG **SHARAMAN**!

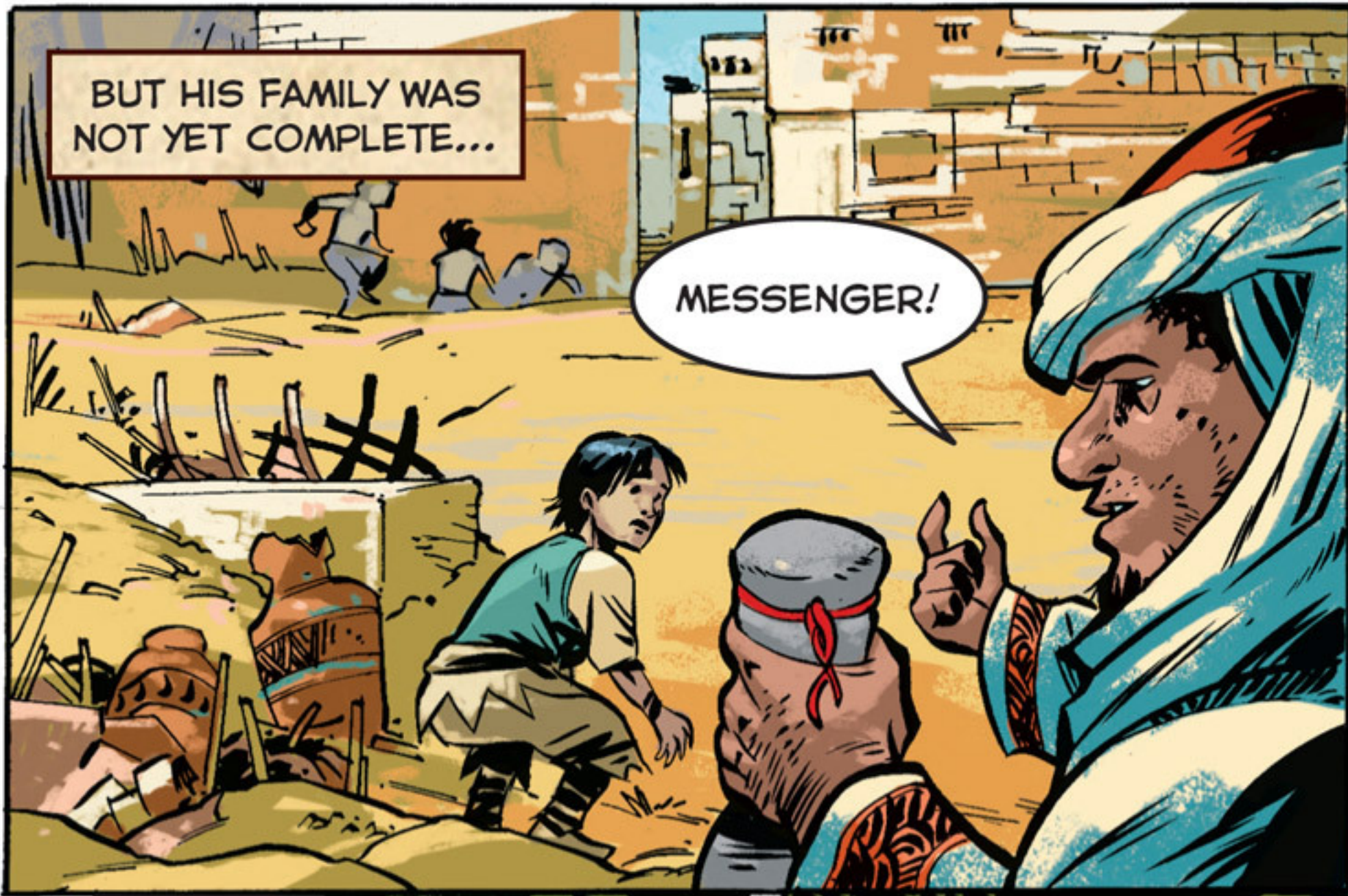
GRRROWL

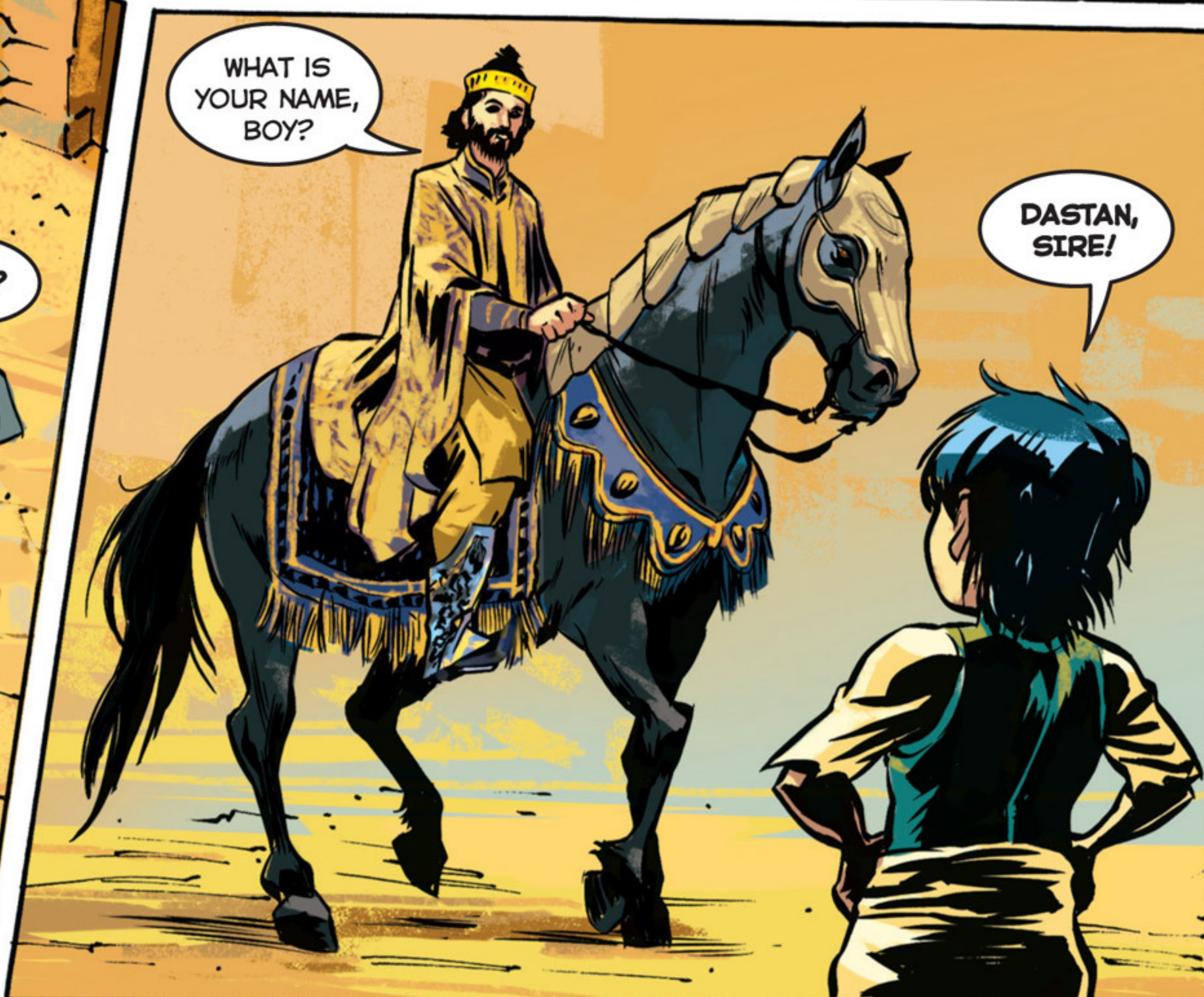
FOREVER BONDED TO HIS **BROTHER NIZAM**, WHO ONCE SAVED HIS LIFE...

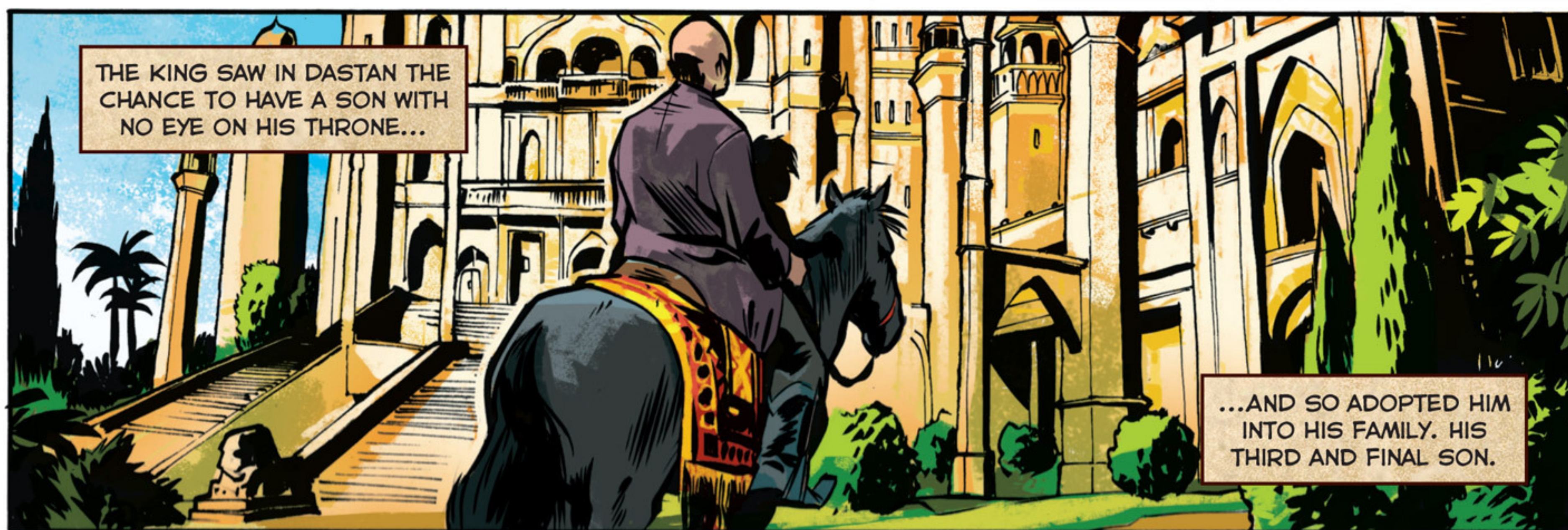
...THE KING FOUGHT HARD TO SPREAD THE EMPIRE!

HIS FORTUNES GREW AND SO DID HIS FAMILY.

HE HAD TWO SONS: **TUS** AND **GARSIV**!









"...AND
OUR OTHER
BROTHER".

COME ON,
DASTAN! I'VE BET
MY ENTIRE MONTH'S
ALLOWANCE.



WHERE
IS PRINCE
DASTAN?

YOUR
HIGHNESS,
PRINCE TUS HAS
CONVENED A WAR
COUNCIL.

HAVE I STILL GOT
ALL MY TEETH,
BIS?



IN THE
ROYAL
TENT...

YOU WERE FIGHTING WITH
COMMON SOLDIERS AGAIN! ALLOW
THEM TO STRIKE YOU, THEY LOSE
FEAR OF US ALL!

THAT'S
FINE WITH ME.
COWARDS LEAD
BY FEAR.



SAVE
YOUR FURY FOR
ALAMUT.

ALAMUT? BUT
THE KING...



THE KING DOESN'T
KNOW ALAMUT IS SELLING
WEAPONS TO OUR ENEMIES
IN KOSHKHAN!



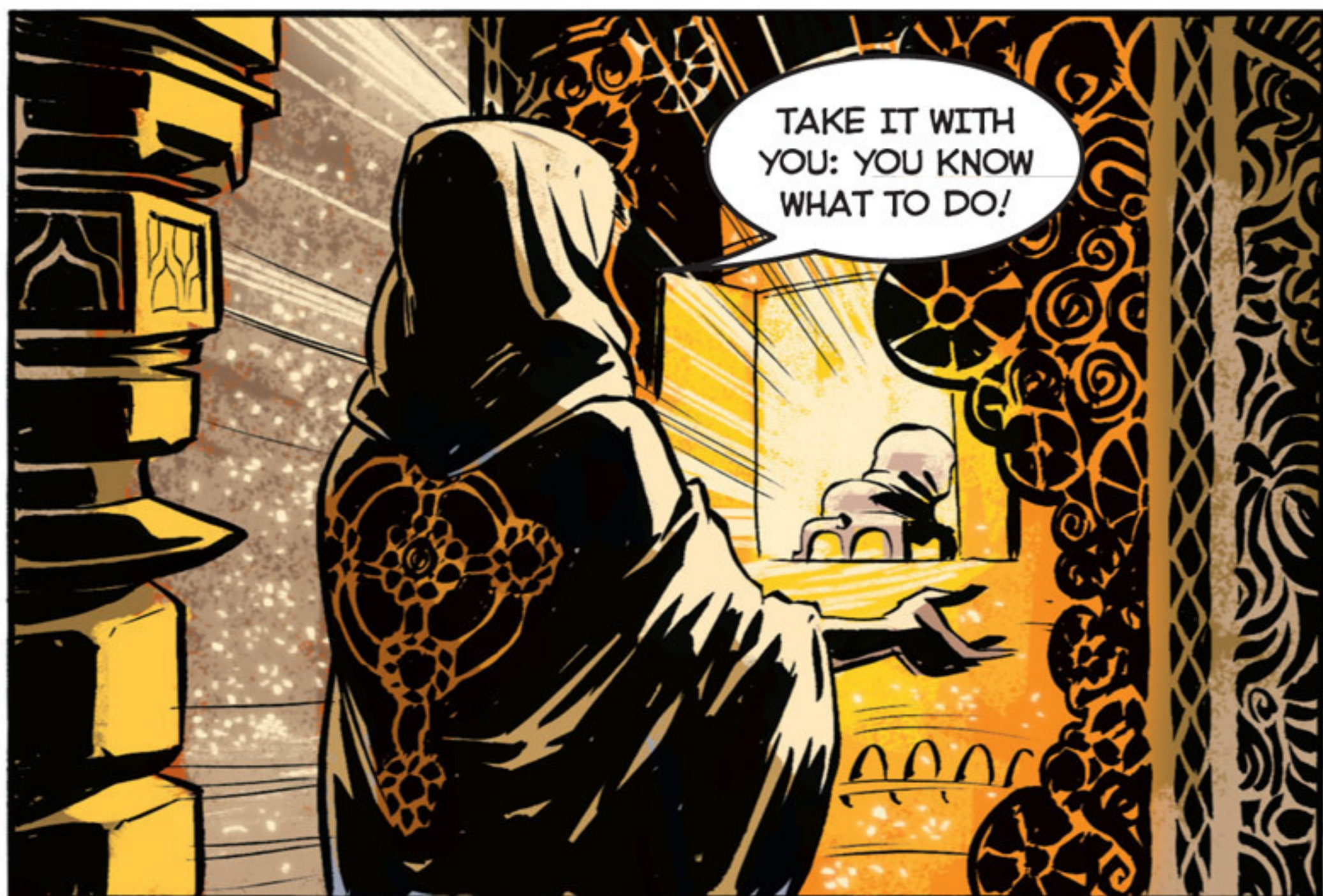




SHASH

UURGH







BUT TAMINA HAS SEEN THE ENEMY
HAS THE SACRED DAGGER!

WAIT!



PRINCE TUS,
SWEAR TO ME THE
PEOPLE OF ALAMUT WILL
BE TREATED WITH
MERCY.

THE FOLLOWING DAY...

TUS,
I HAVE SOME
EXPLAINING TO
DO...

NO, WE HAVE
SOME **CELEBRATING**
TO DO!



A BEAUTIFUL DAGGER.
SINCE YOU TOOK THE HONOR
OF THE FIRST ASSAULT, YOU
OWE ME A GIFT OF
HOMAGE.

HE DELIVERED
YOU THE CITY AND
THE PRINCESS.
I THINK THAT'S
HOMAGE
ENOUGH.



YOUR FATHER
WILL BE HERE BEFORE
TOMORROW'S
SUN SETS.

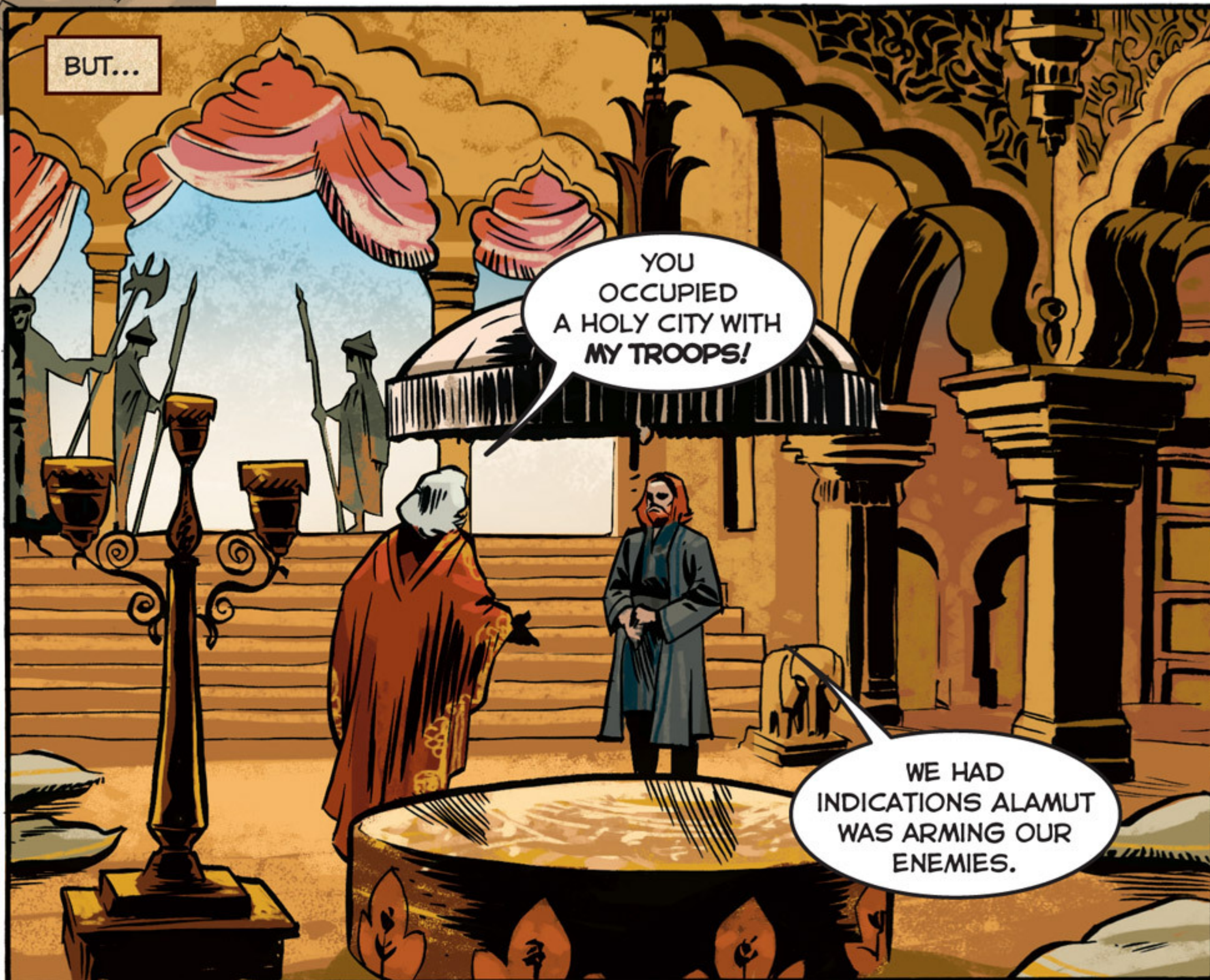
NO
DOUBT
TO COMMEND
US ON OUR
GREAT
VICTORY.

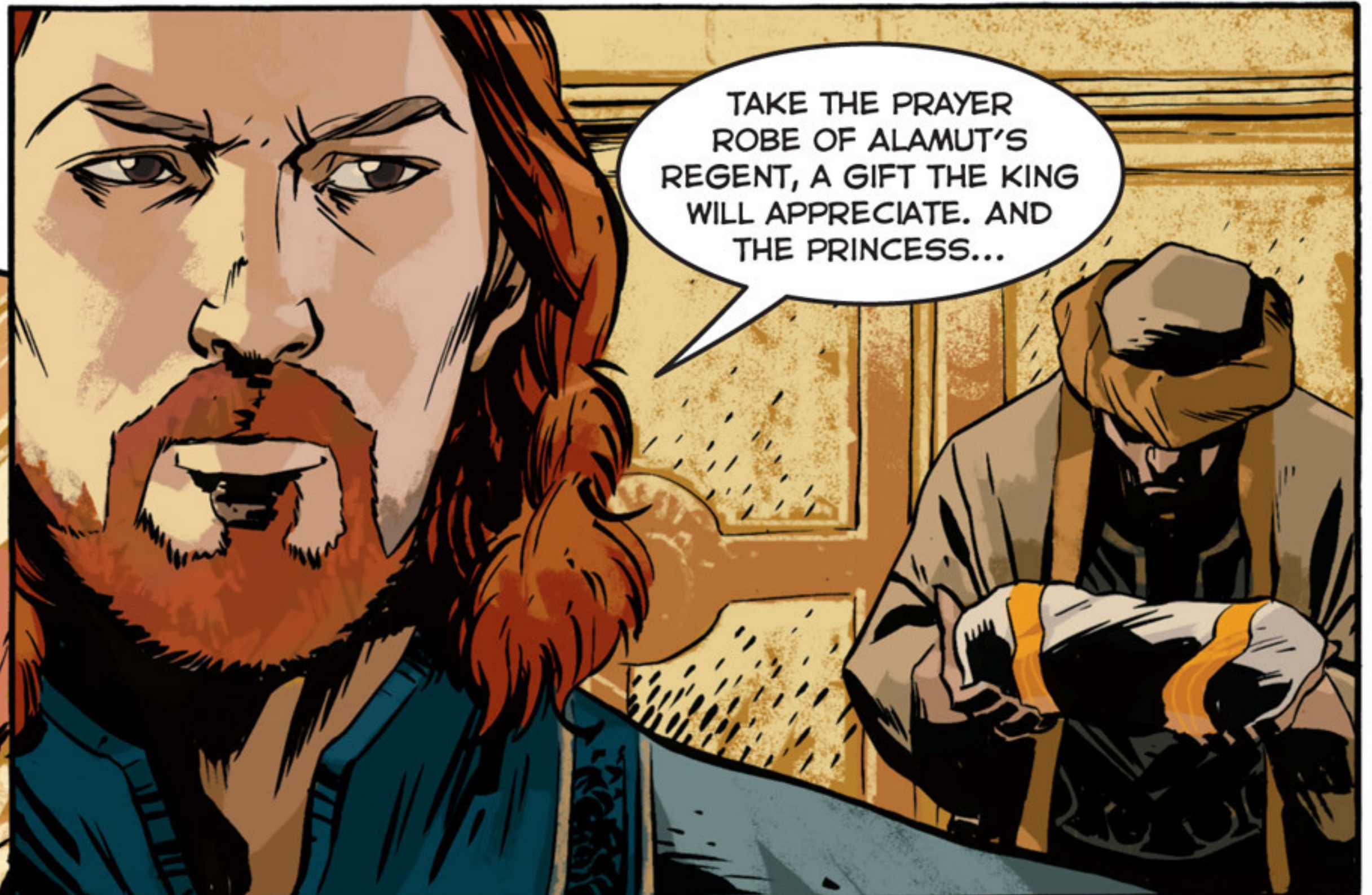


BUT...

YOU
OCCUPIED
A HOLY CITY WITH
MY TROOPS!

WE HAD
INDICATIONS ALAMUT
WAS ARMING OUR
ENEMIES.





IF FATHER
DOESN'T APPROVE,
I WANT YOU TO END HER
LIFE WITH YOUR
OWN HAND!



THE CELEBRATION...

MY LORD AND FATHER,
PRINCE TUS OFFERS THE
WEALTH OF TEN ENEMY
LORDS!



AND
WHAT DO YOU
OFFER IN YOUR
NAME?

THEIR HEADS!



WHAT MIGHT
I GRANT YOU IN
RETURN?

THE HONOR
OF RIDING YOUR
GREAT STALLION
AKSH INTO
BATTLE.



I'M TOLD
ANOTHER OF MY
SONS HAS JOINED
THE RANKS OF
GREAT PERSIAN
WARRIORS!



THE
BOND BETWEEN
BROTHERS IS THE
SWORD THAT DEFENDS OUR
EMPIRE. I PRAY THAT
SWORD REMAINS
STRONG.





A GOOD MAN WOULD HAVE DONE AS YOU DID, DASTAN.



BUT A GREAT MAN WOULD HAVE STOPPED THE ATTACK!



I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU. THE PRAYER ROBE OF ALAMUT'S REGENT!



IT'S MY DEEPEST WISH THAT THIS WINS YOUR APPROVAL. AND THIS...



...IS PRINCESS TAMINA. TUS WISHES TO MAKE A UNION WITH HER PEOPLE THROUGH MARRIAGE.

SHE WILL MAKE A FINE QUEEN, BUT TUS ALREADY HAS ENOUGH WIVES.



THE PRINCESS OF ALAMUT WILL BE YOUR FIRST WIFE!

HUH?



AARGH!

FATHER...

THE ROBE...









GO FOR THAT
SWORD AGAIN AND
I SWEAR I'LL BREAK
YOUR ARM!

BUT I HAVE
A SOLUTION...



AGAIN? YOU'VE
USED UP ALL
THE SAND!



INCREDIBLE!
RELEASING THE
SAND... TURNS
BACK TIME!

YOU DON'T
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
DOING!



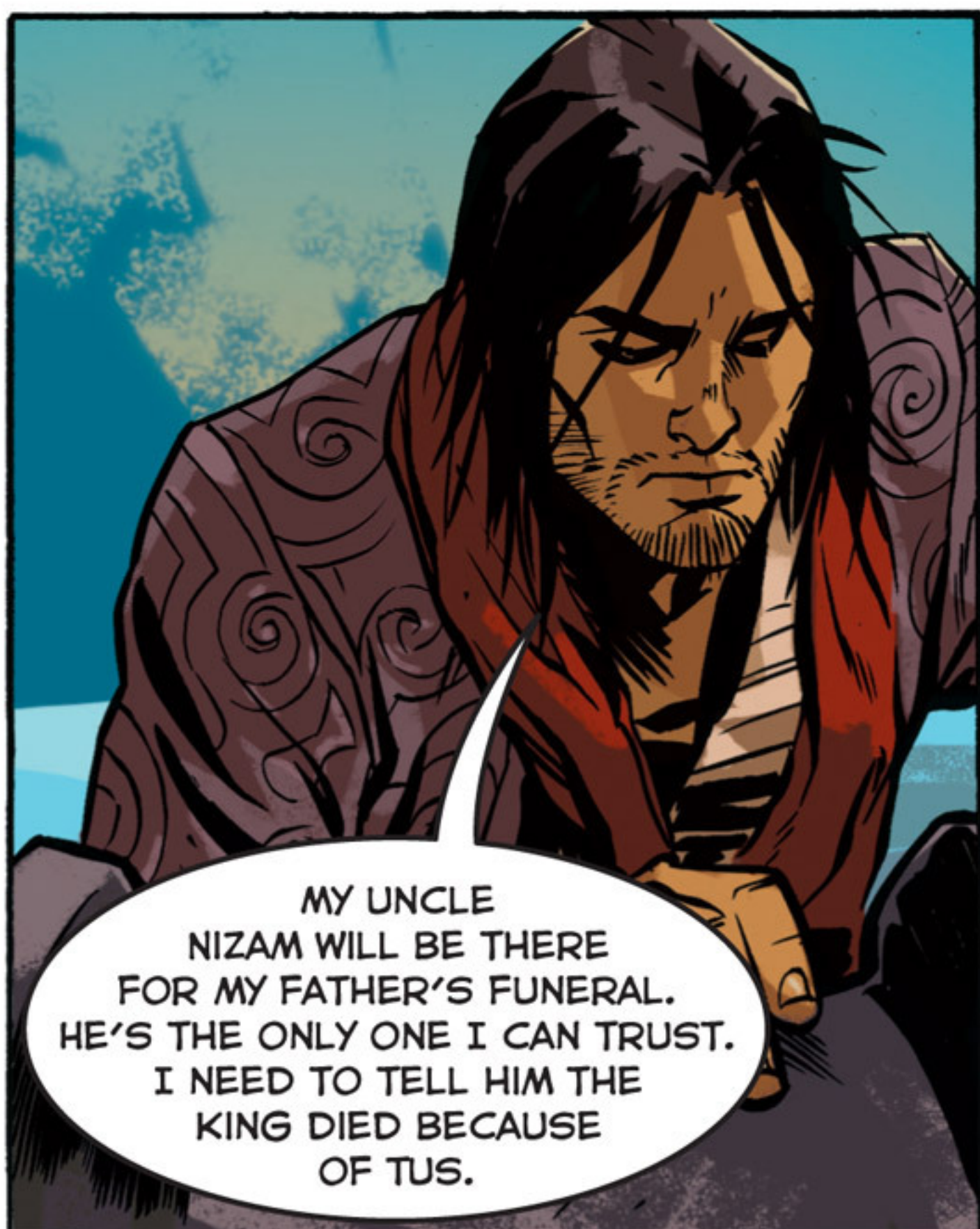
ONLY
THE HOLDER
OF THE DAGGER IS
AWARE OF WHAT'S
HAPPENED!



LATER...

WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

TO THE
HOLY CITY OF
AVRAT, WHERE
PERSIAN KINGS
ARE BURIED.



MY UNCLE
NIZAM WILL BE THERE
FOR MY FATHER'S FUNERAL.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE I CAN TRUST.
I NEED TO TELL HIM THE
KING DIED BECAUSE
OF TUS.



EVERY ROAD
WILL BE COVERED
WITH PERSIAN
TROOPS!

I'M GOING
THROUGH **THE VALLEY
OF THE SLAVES!**



SO
YOU'RE GOING
TO LEAVE ME HERE?
IN THE MIDDLE OF
NOWHERE?

GIVE ME
THE STRENGTH
NOT TO KILL
HER...

ALAMUT...

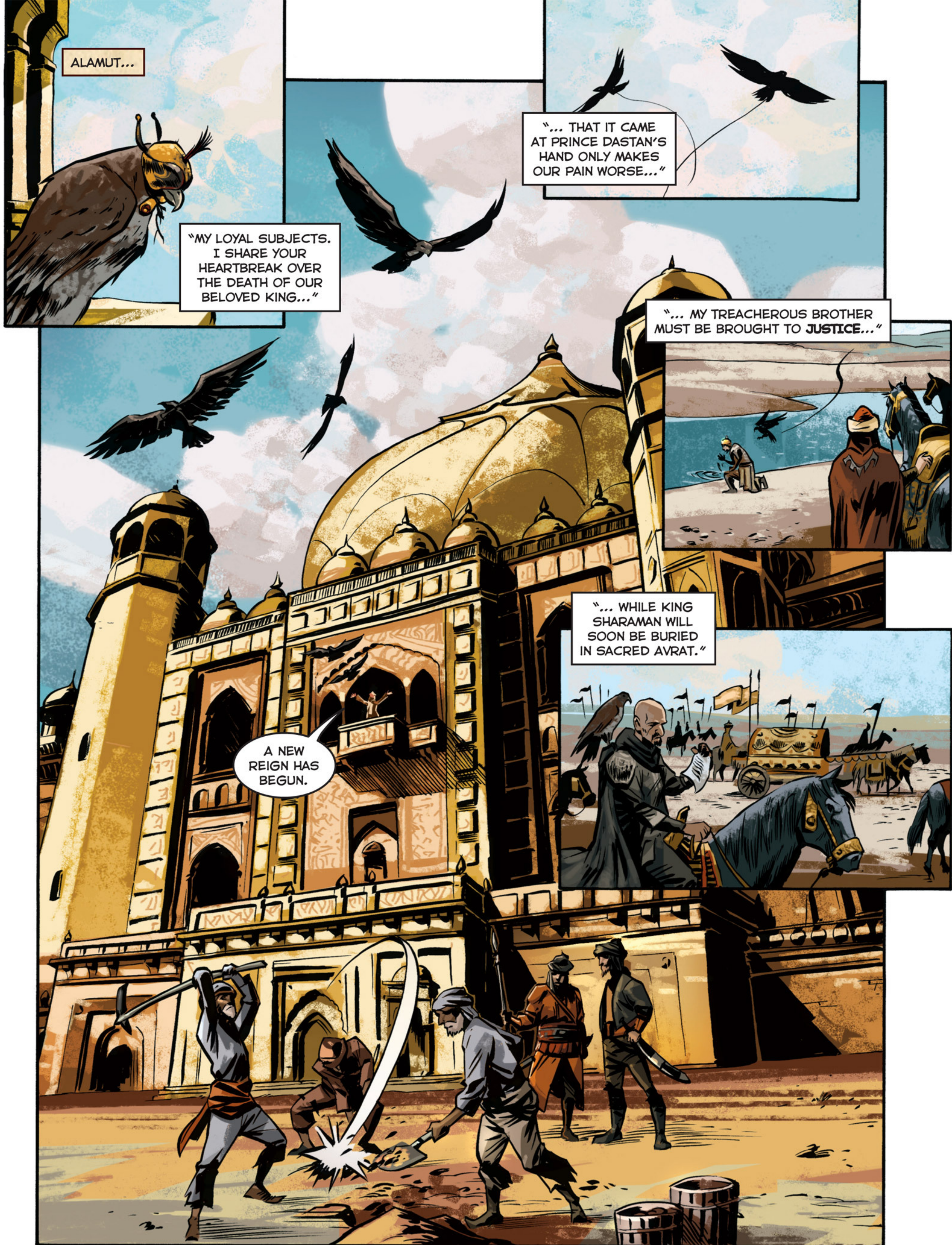
"... THAT IT CAME
AT PRINCE DASTAN'S
HAND ONLY MAKES
OUR PAIN WORSE..."

"MY LOYAL SUBJECTS.
I SHARE YOUR
HEARTBREAK OVER
THE DEATH OF OUR
BELOVED KING..."

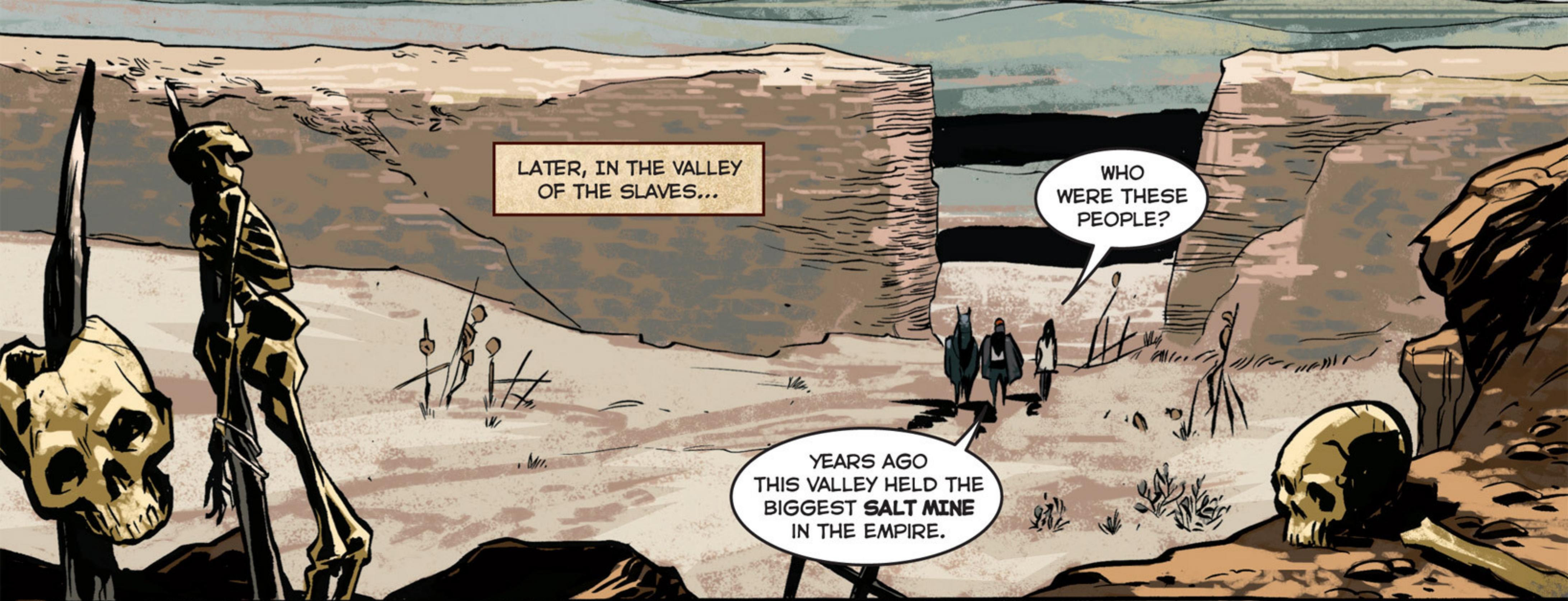
"... MY TREACHEROUS BROTHER
MUST BE BROUGHT TO **JUSTICE...**"

"... WHILE KING
SHARAMAN WILL
SOON BE BURIED
IN SACRED AVRAT."

A NEW
REIGN HAS
BEGUN.







LATER, IN THE VALLEY OF THE SLAVES...

WHO WERE THESE PEOPLE?

YEARS AGO THIS VALLEY HELD THE BIGGEST **SALT MINE** IN THE EMPIRE.



UNTIL ITS SLAVES ROSE UP. **KILLED THEIR MASTERS.**



OOH! I'M DESPERATE FOR A DROP OF WATER...

YOU EMPTIED OUR CANTEEN HOURS AGO.



TAMINA! CAN YOU HEAR ME?



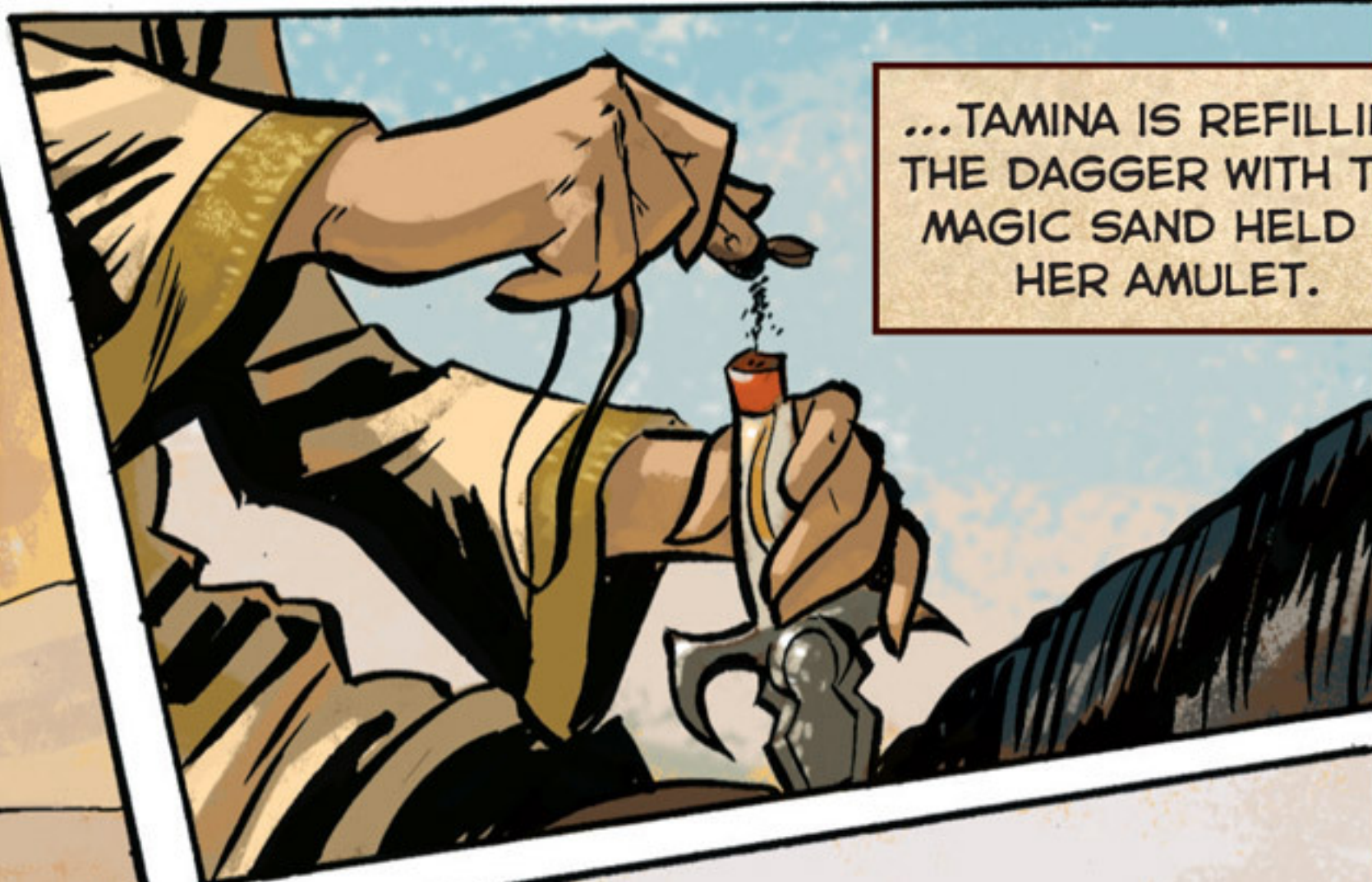
YES, DASTAN, I CAN HEAR YOU!



SORRY, THE DAGGER MUST GO BACK TO THE TEMPLE.



IN THE HEART OF SUDAN THERE'S A TRIBE OF WARRIORS CALLED NGBAKA. THEY ARE MASTERS OF THE THROWING KNIFE.















"THE GUARDS PAY NO ATTENTION TO A SULTAN'S SERVANT, DASTAN..."

TUS ISN'T COMING. HE'S STILL IN ALAMUT.



THE SAND THAT FUELS THE DAGGER. THERE'S MORE OF IT HIDDEN IN ALAMUT, ISN'T THERE?

Y-YES...



THAT'S WHY TUS STAYS THERE. THAT'S WHAT HE HAS OUR ARMY SEARCHING FOR!



I HAVE TO GET MY UNCLE A MESSAGE TO MEET ME!

WHAT?

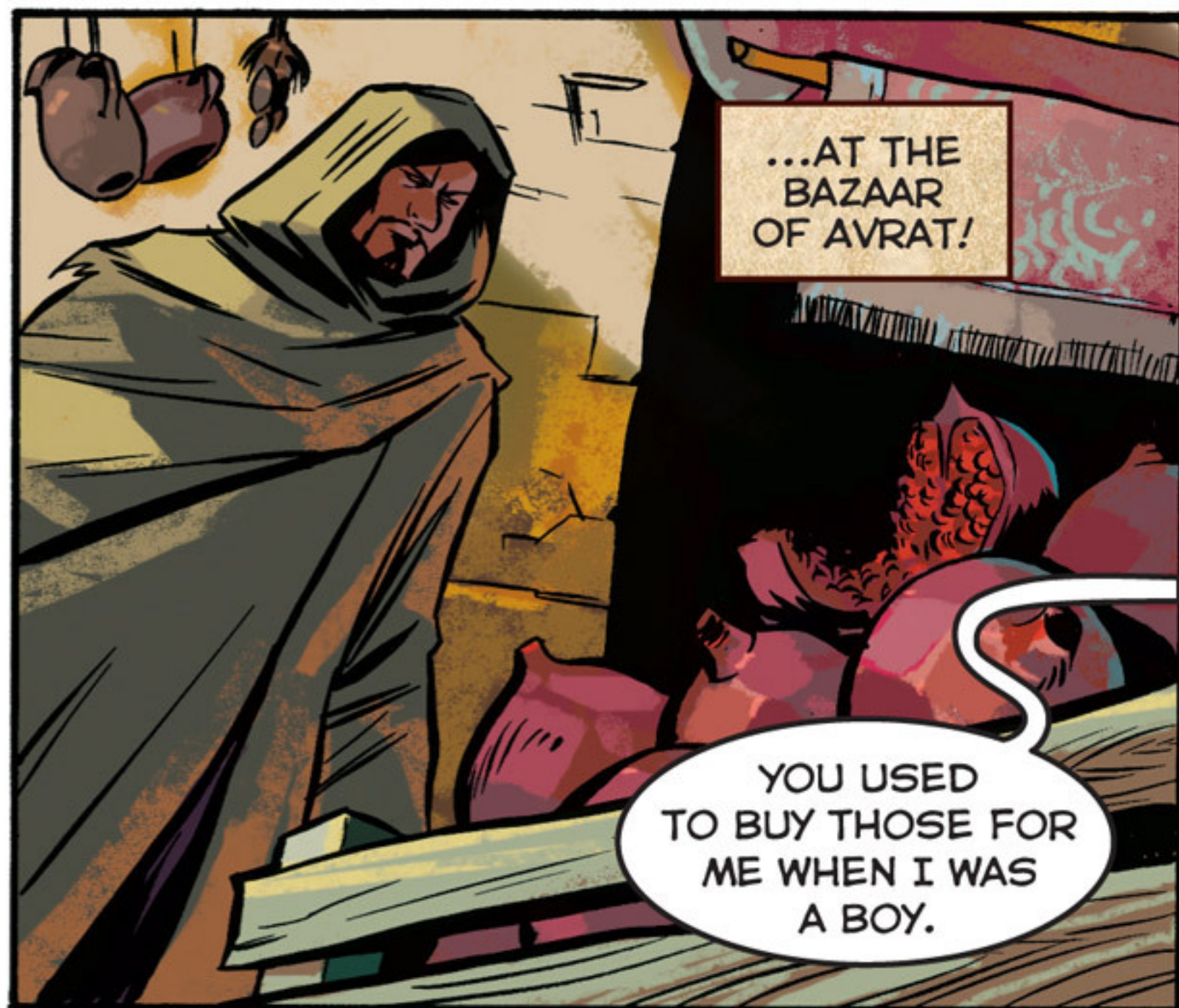


"THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE..."



"DIFFICULT, NOT IMPOSSIBLE!"

DASTAN'S MESSAGE IS DELIVERED. A MEETING WITH HIS UNCLE IS ARRANGED...



...AT THE
BAZAAR
OF AVRAT!

YOU USED
TO BUY THOSE FOR
ME WHEN I WAS
A BOY.



YOU SHOULD
NOT HAVE ASKED ME
HERE, DASTAN.

IT WAS
TUS THAT GAVE ME
THE ROBE, POISONED
BY HIS HAND.



NOW HE
SEARCHES FOR
THE SAND TO FUEL
A MYSTICAL
DEVICE!

MYSTICAL
DEVICE? **THIS** IS
WHY YOU BROUGHT
ME HERE?



IT HAS
INCREDIBLE
POWERS!



IS THIS
SOME SORT OF
JOKE, DASTAN? A
NUTCRACKER?!



I HAD,
I...!



YOUR
HANDS. THEY'RE
BURNED!

YES,
FROM TRYING TO
PULL THE POISONED
ROBE OFF YOUR
FATHER!



HOW MANY
TIMES DID SHARAMAN
TELL OF YOU SAVING HIM
FROM THAT LION?
IT WAS HIS...













WHY WOULD DASTAN
COME TO AVRAT, WHERE
HE KNOWS IT'S
DANGEROUS?

I WAS
WONDERING
THE SAME
THING.



HE CAME
TO AVRAT TO
KILL ME!

I CHANGED
MY MIND. TELL ME
ABOUT DASTAN,
UNCLE.



THIS IS
DIFFICULT TO SAY...
BUT PUTTING DASTAN
ON TRIAL WOULD ONLY
GIVE HIM A STAGE FOR
HIS SEDITION.



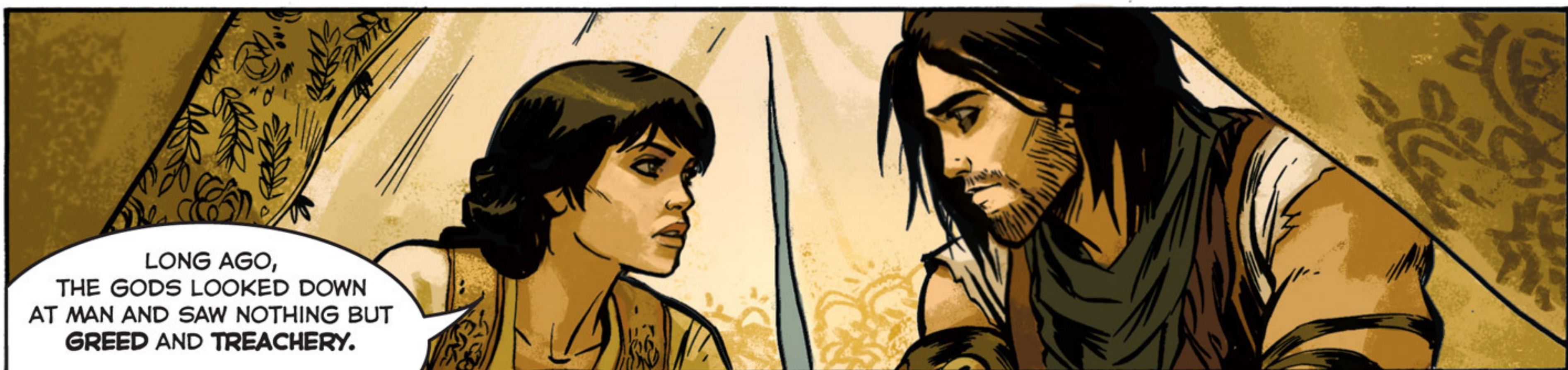
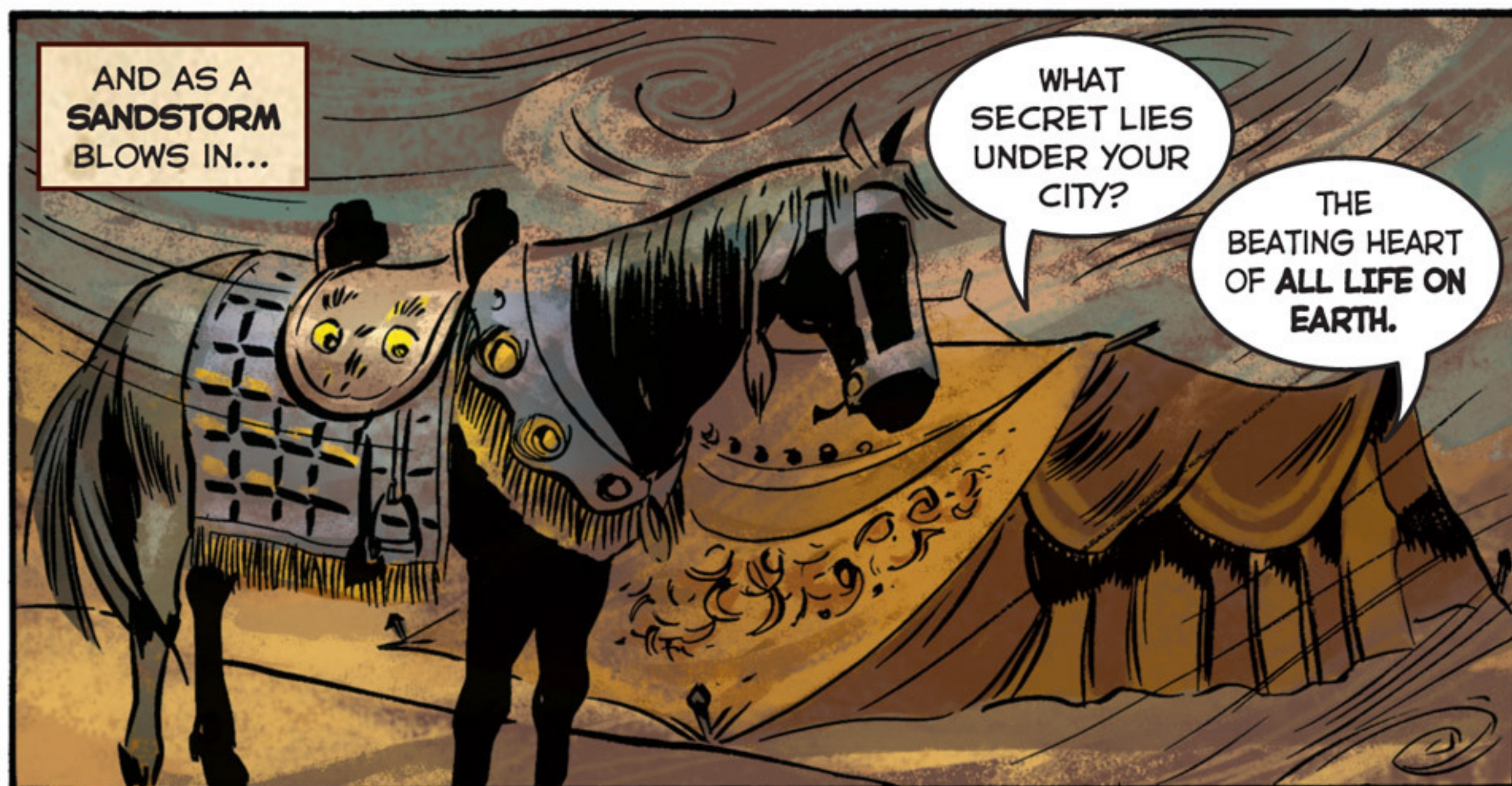
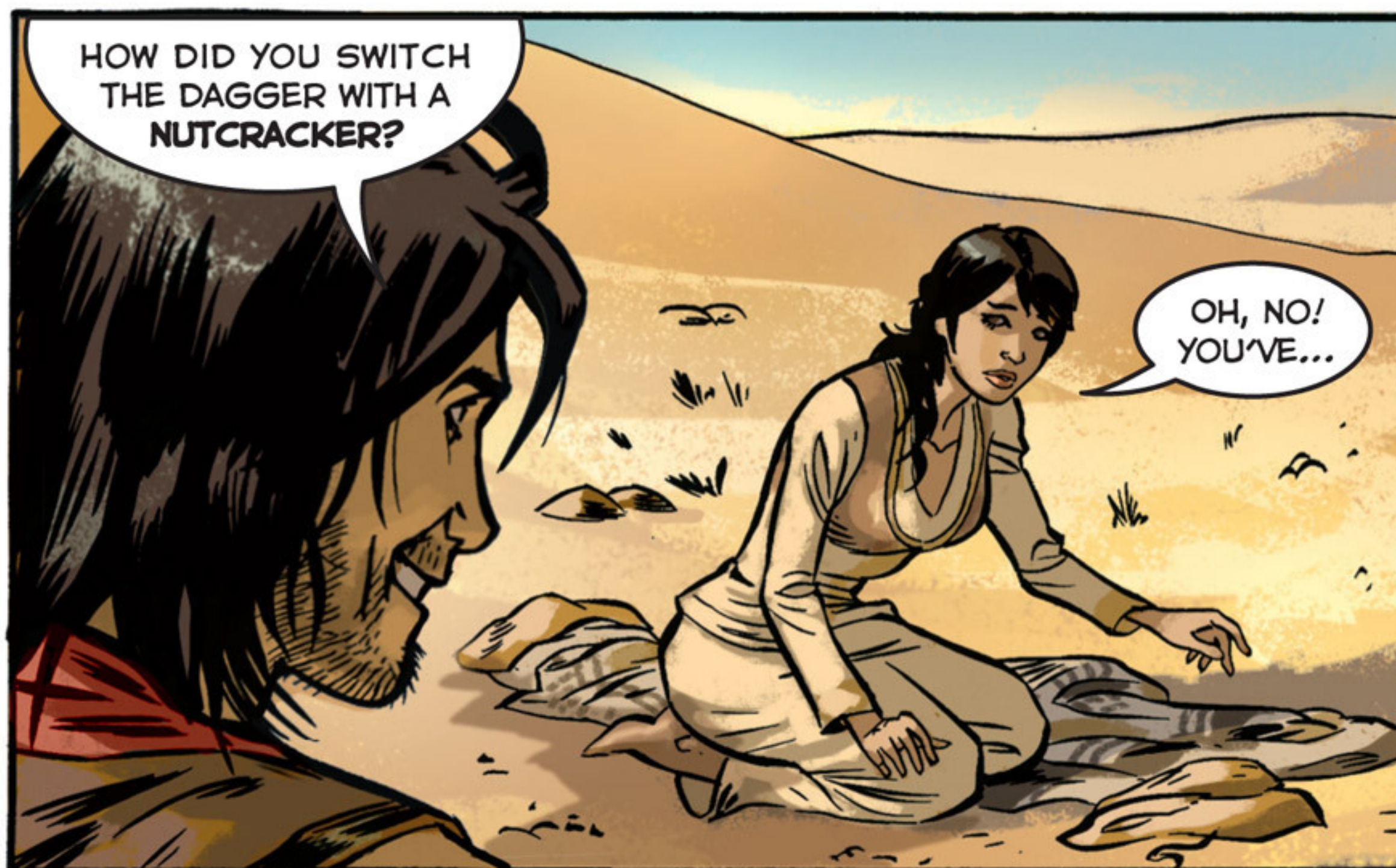
DON'T
BRING HIM
BACK TO NASAF
ALIVE.

LATER, ACROSS THE DESERT,
A CARAVAN PROCEEDS...
FOLLOWED BY AN **ESCAPING**
PRINCESS!



AFTERWARD, WAKING UP
JUST BEFORE DAWN...







"SHE BEGGED THE GODS TO GIVE MANKIND ANOTHER CHANCE, OFFERING HER LIFE IN EXCHANGE."



"SO THEY RETURNED MAN TO EARTH AND SWEEPED THE SAND INTO A MYTHICAL SANDGLASS..."



THE SANDGLASS CONTROLS **TIME ITSELF** AND MAN'S **SURVIVAL!**



AND WHAT ABOUT THE DAGGER?

GIVEN TO THE GIRL, TO BE USED IN DEFENSE OF THE SANDGLASS.



ITS BLADE IS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN PIERCE THE GLASS.



THE HANDLE ONLY HOLDS ONE MINUTE WORTH OF SAND.

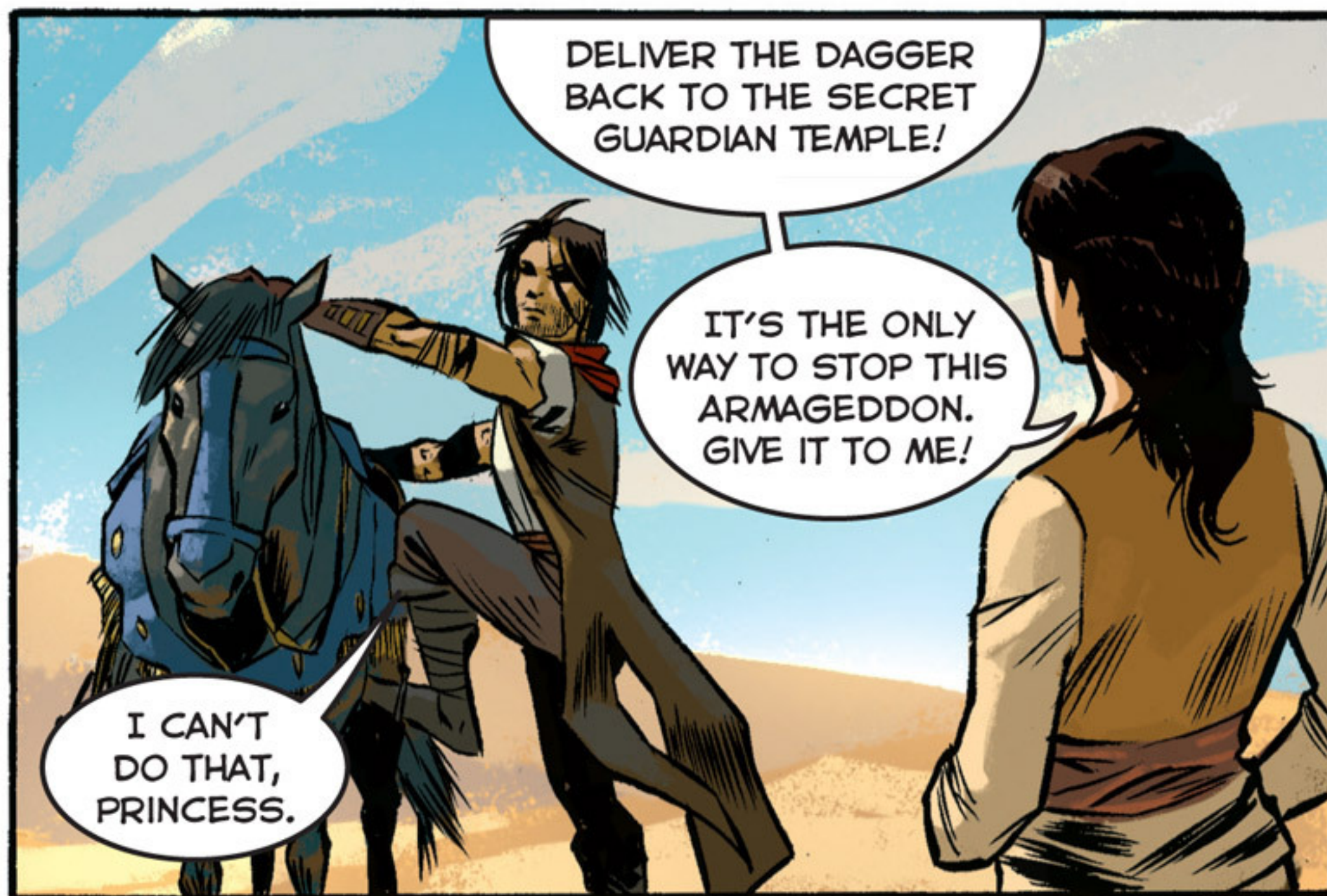
BUT IF ONE WERE TO PLACE THE DAGGER IN THE SANDGLASS...

... SAND WOULD FLOW THROUGH **ENDLESSLY**, GUSHING OUT OF THE KNIFE'S HANDLE AS IF FROM A **FAUCET!**

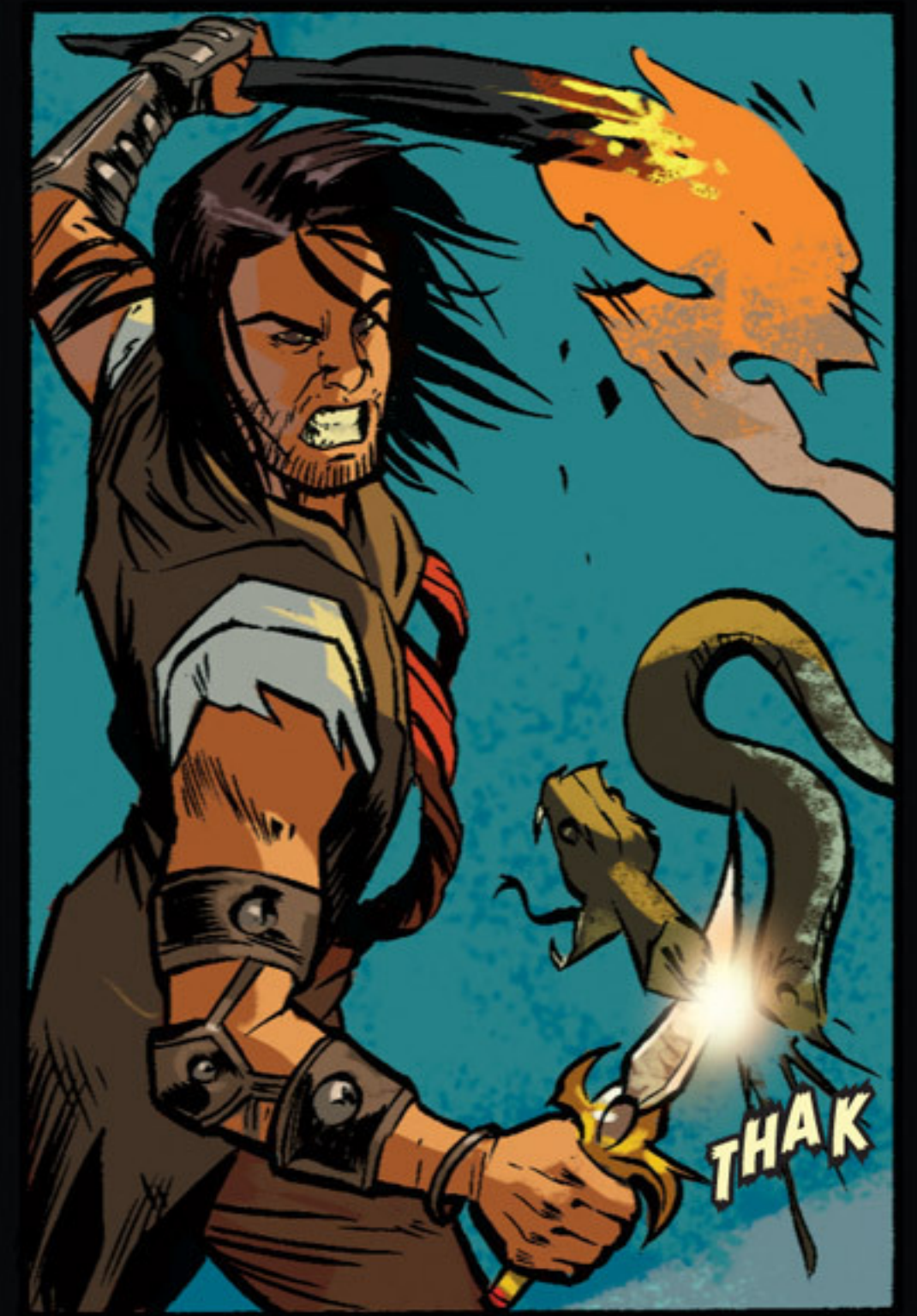


WHEN MY FATHER WAS A BOY, NIZAM SAVED HIS LIFE WHILE HUNTING.











BUT THE HASSANSINS AREN'T THE ONLY THING THREATENING DASTAN AND TAMINA'S MISSION. **GARSTV** HASN'T GIVEN UP ON THE HUNT!



AND THE JOURNEY TO THE **HIDDEN TEMPLE** IS FULL OF DANGERS! THE **KHYBER PASS** IS AN **ICY HELL!**

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING?

I MEMORIZED THIS PATH AS A CHILD. EVERY PRINCESS MUST.

"AFTER SHE BEGGED THE GODS' MERCY, THE YOUNG GIRL WAS TOLD TO TRAVEL BY FAITH..."

"... TO A PLACE OF DIVINE BEAUTY!"

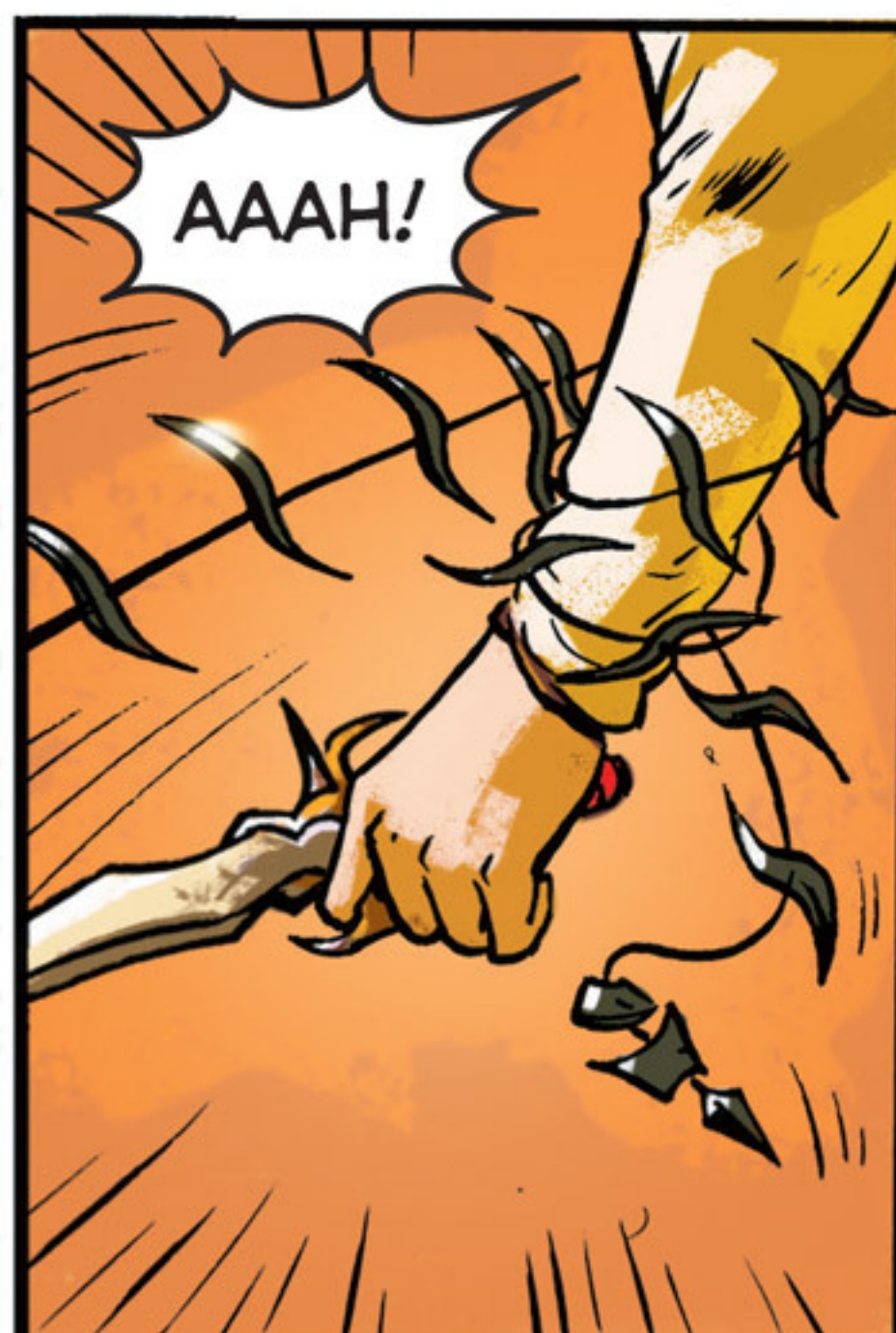
"THERE SHE FOUND THE STONE WHICH HELD AN EMBLEM OF THE GODS' TRUST IN HER: THE **DAGGER OF TIME!**"

YOU'RE DESCENDED FROM HER, AREN'T YOU?

HER DESCENDANTS ARE **GUARDIANS**. ALAMUT'S ROYAL FAMILY, PRIESTS OF THIS TEMPLE...

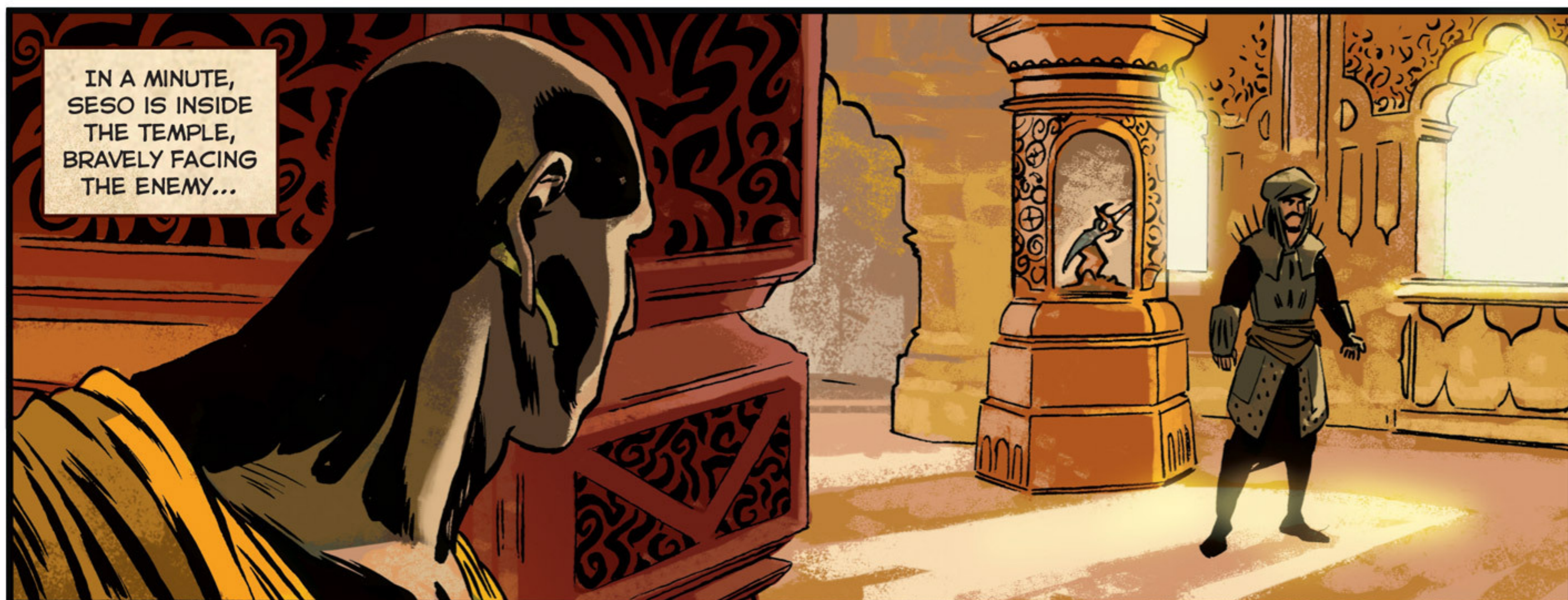


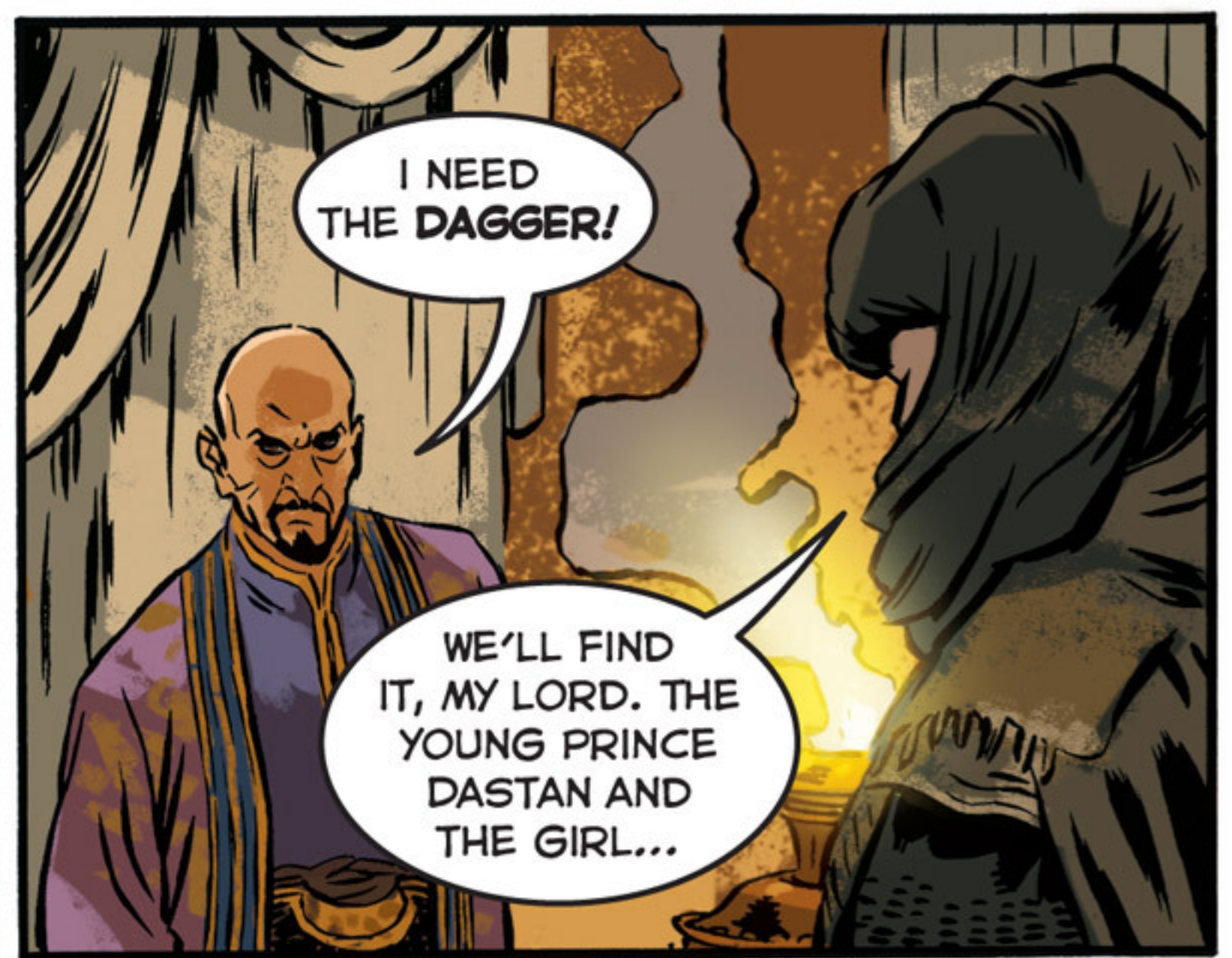
















HE TOOK HIS OWN LIFE...

THEN GOD HAVE MERCY ON THE TRAITOR, FOR HE CHOSE THE PATH OF THE COWARD.



WE BOTH KNOW DASTAN WAS MANY THINGS BUT NOT A COWARD, NIZAM...



... NO MATTER WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES!

NO!



A MOMENT AGO YOU **DIED** BEFORE MY EYES!



I SEE DASTAN HAS INDEED RETURNED.

HOW...

TUS! REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU!



TZAK

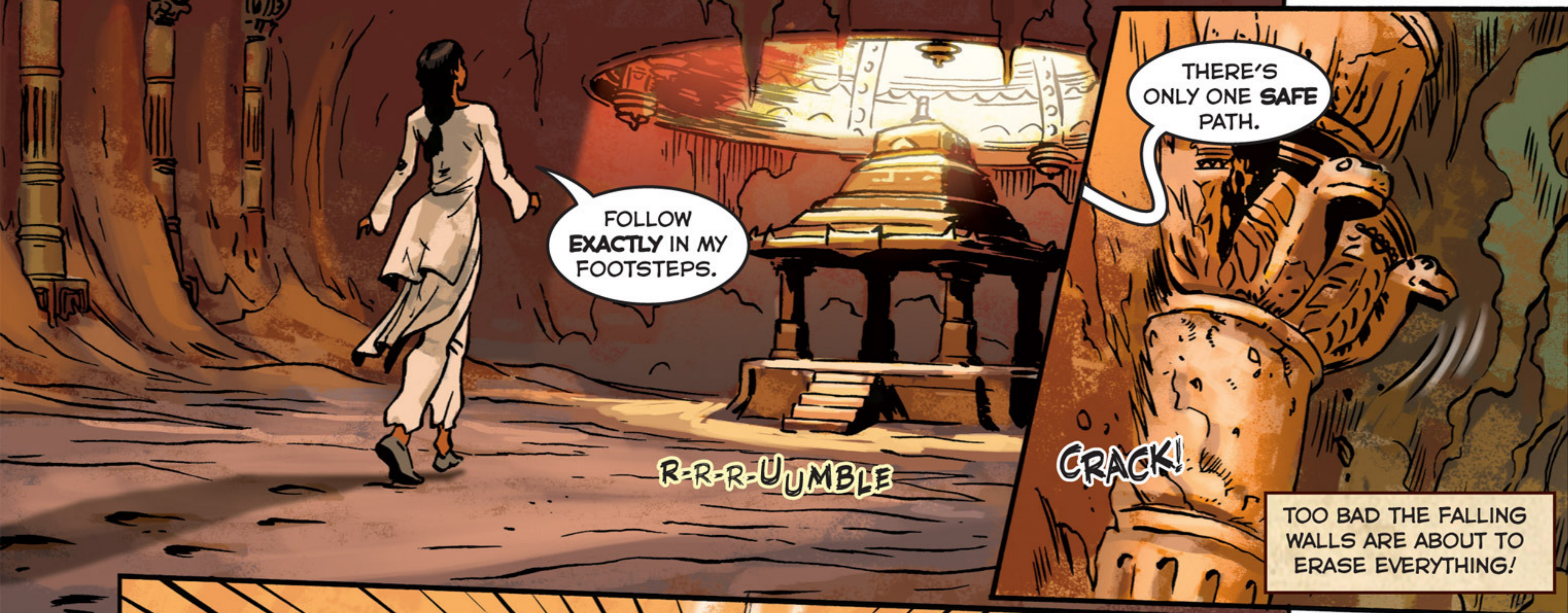




R-R-RUUMBLE

THE
DIGGING IS
UNDERMINING
THE CITY!

IT'S
THE GODS! NIZAM
MUST HAVE BREACHED
THE CHAMBER OF THE
SANDGLASS.



FOLLOW
EXACTLY IN MY
FOOTSTEPS.

R-R-R-UUMBLE

THERE'S
ONLY ONE **SAFE**
PATH.

CRACK!

TOO BAD THE FALLING
WALLS ARE ABOUT TO
ERASE EVERYTHING!



UNLESS...

I'M WORKING
ON IT...

I THOUGHT
I SAY TO FOLLOW IN
MY FOOTSTEPS!

BUT SOMETIMES IT'S
A MATTER OF DETAILS,
AND THE SMALLEST PIECE...
CAN BE THE MOST
DANGEROUS!

TUDI!

WHAT
DID YOU
DO?

SHHOOOOO

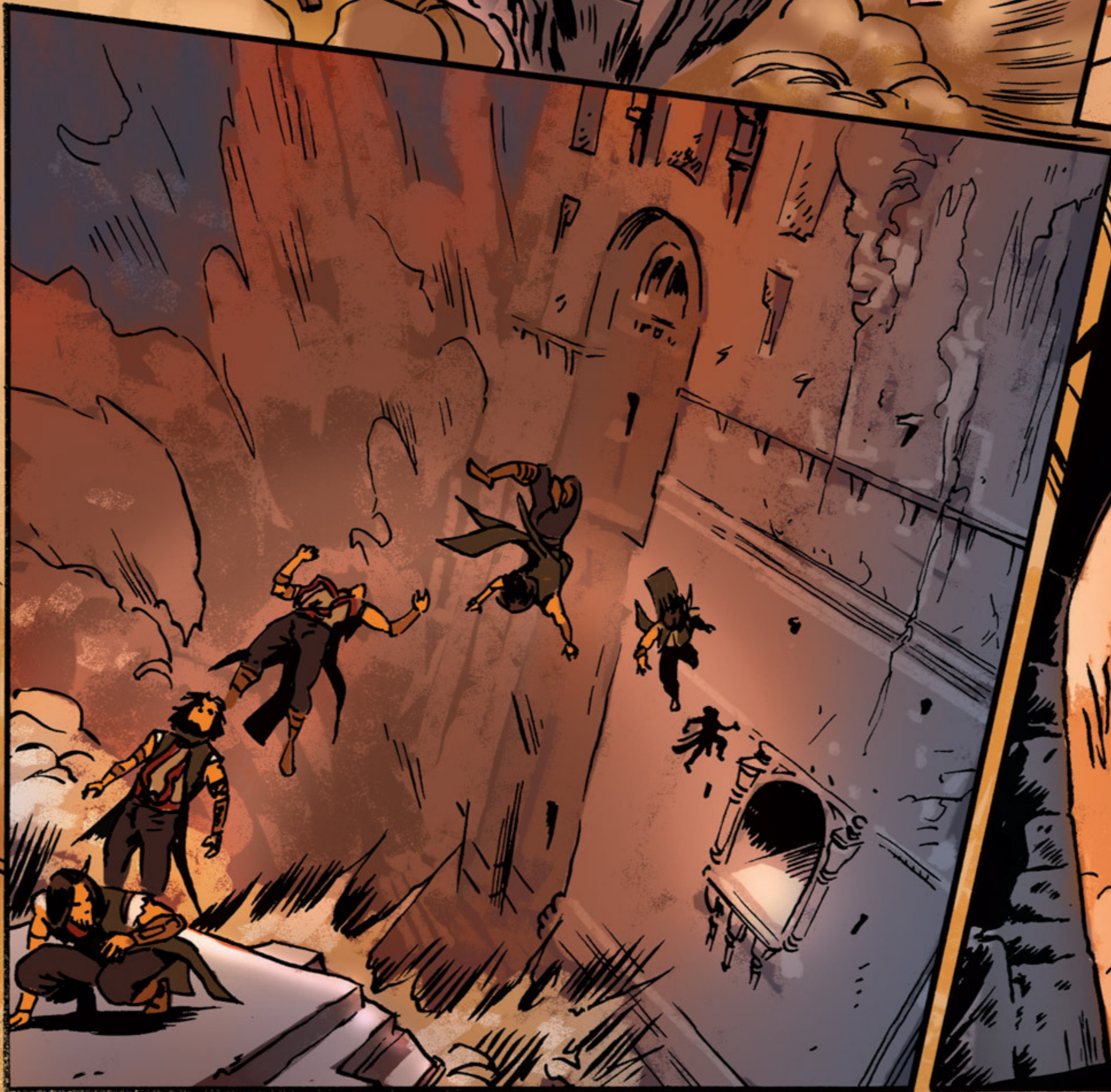
VRROOARRR

DASTAN!

KEEP
GOING! STOP
NIZAM!

RRROAM







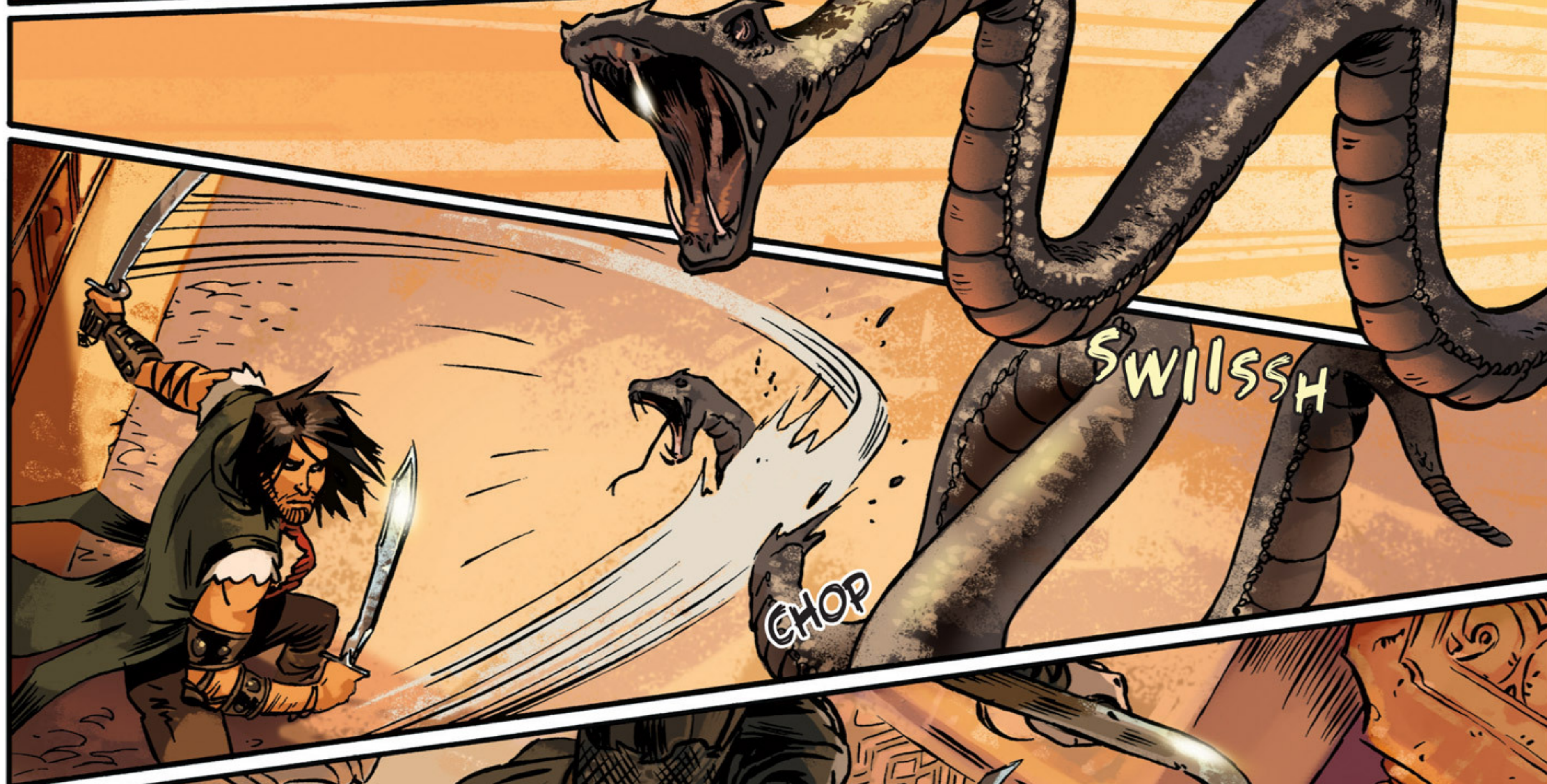
IN THE MEANTIME, TAMINA
IS LOOKING FOR DASTAN...

OH, NO!
NO!



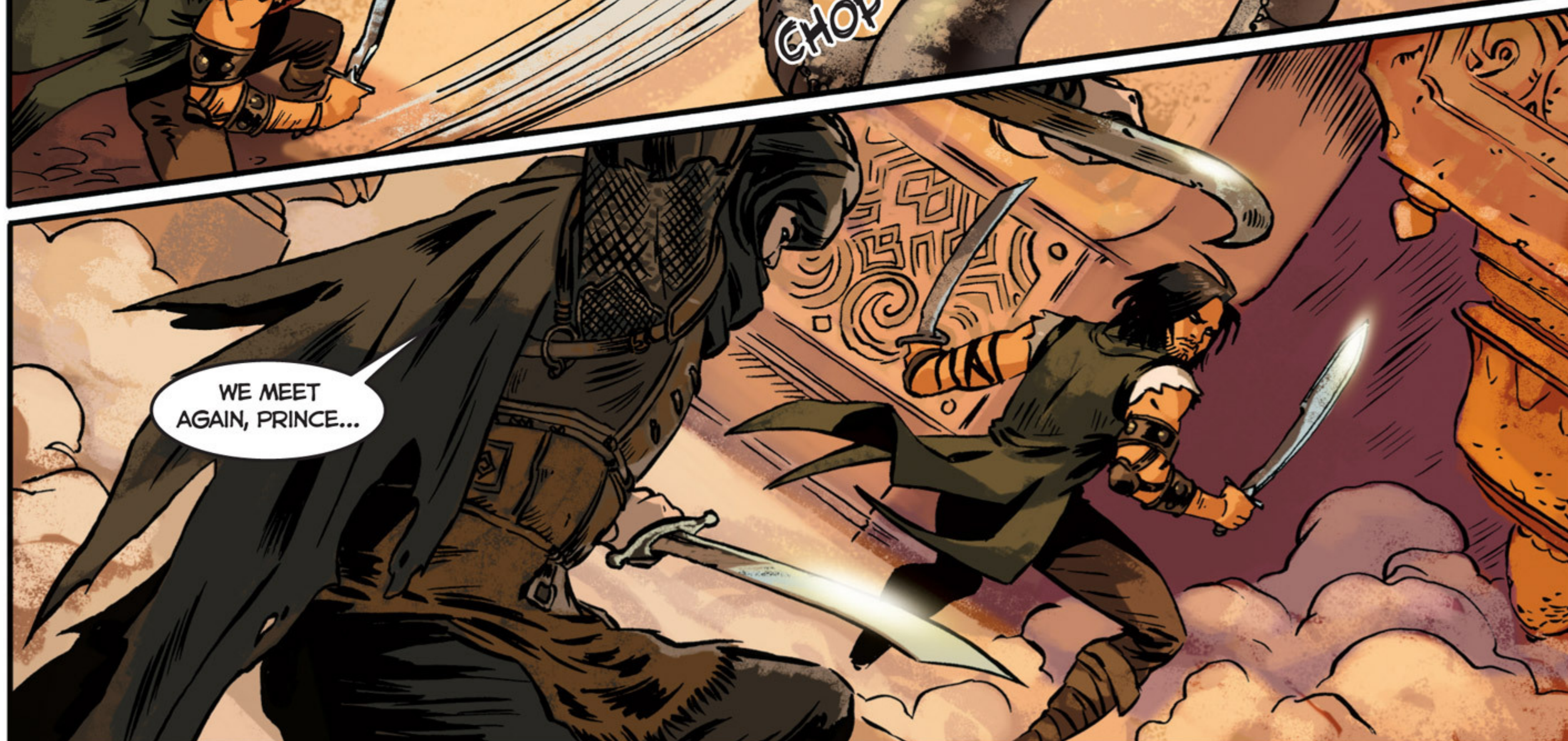
... WHO IS FALLING AGAIN!

SCREEECH



SWISSH

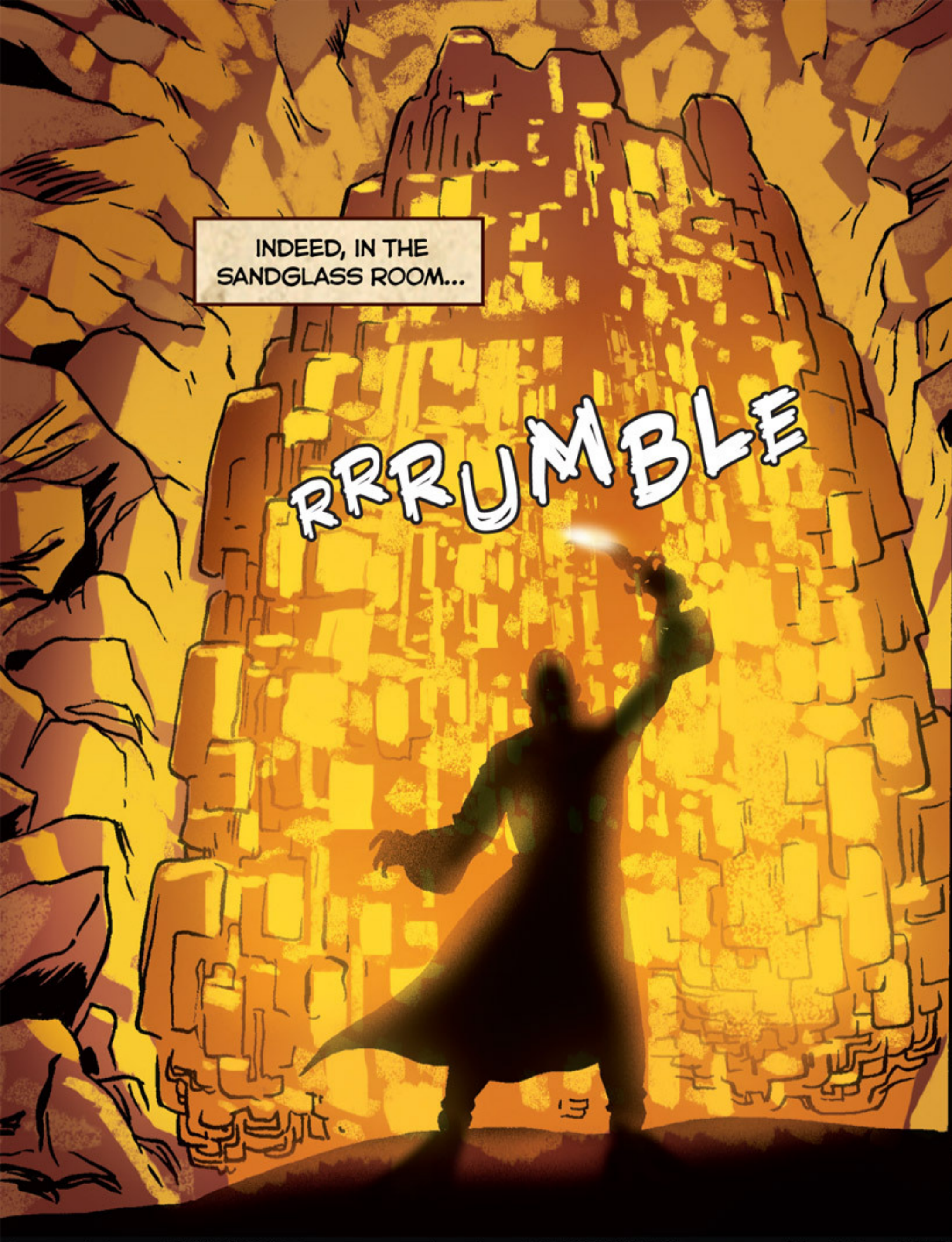
CHOP



WE MEET
AGAIN, PRINCE...

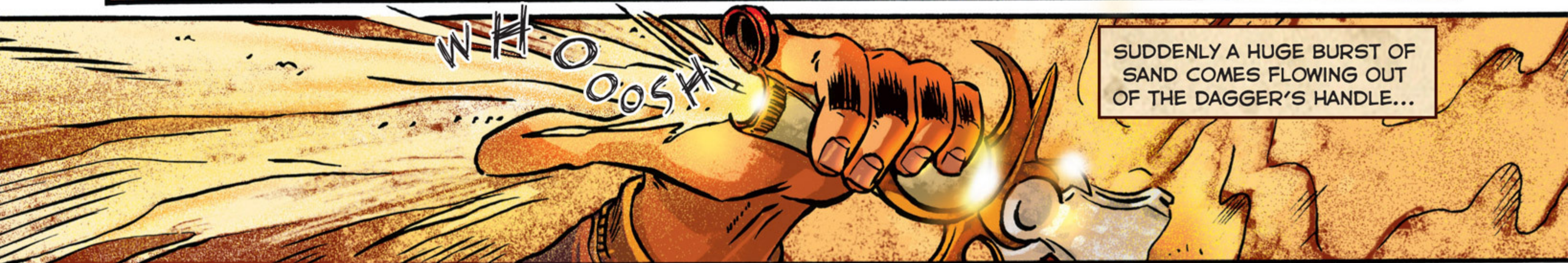
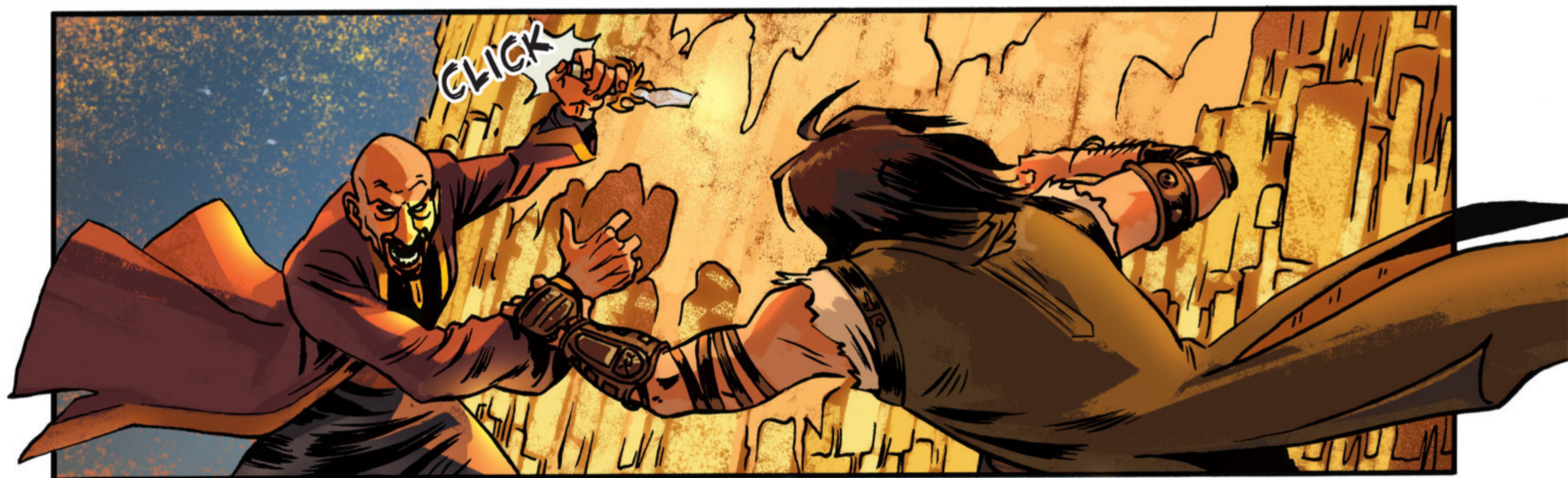










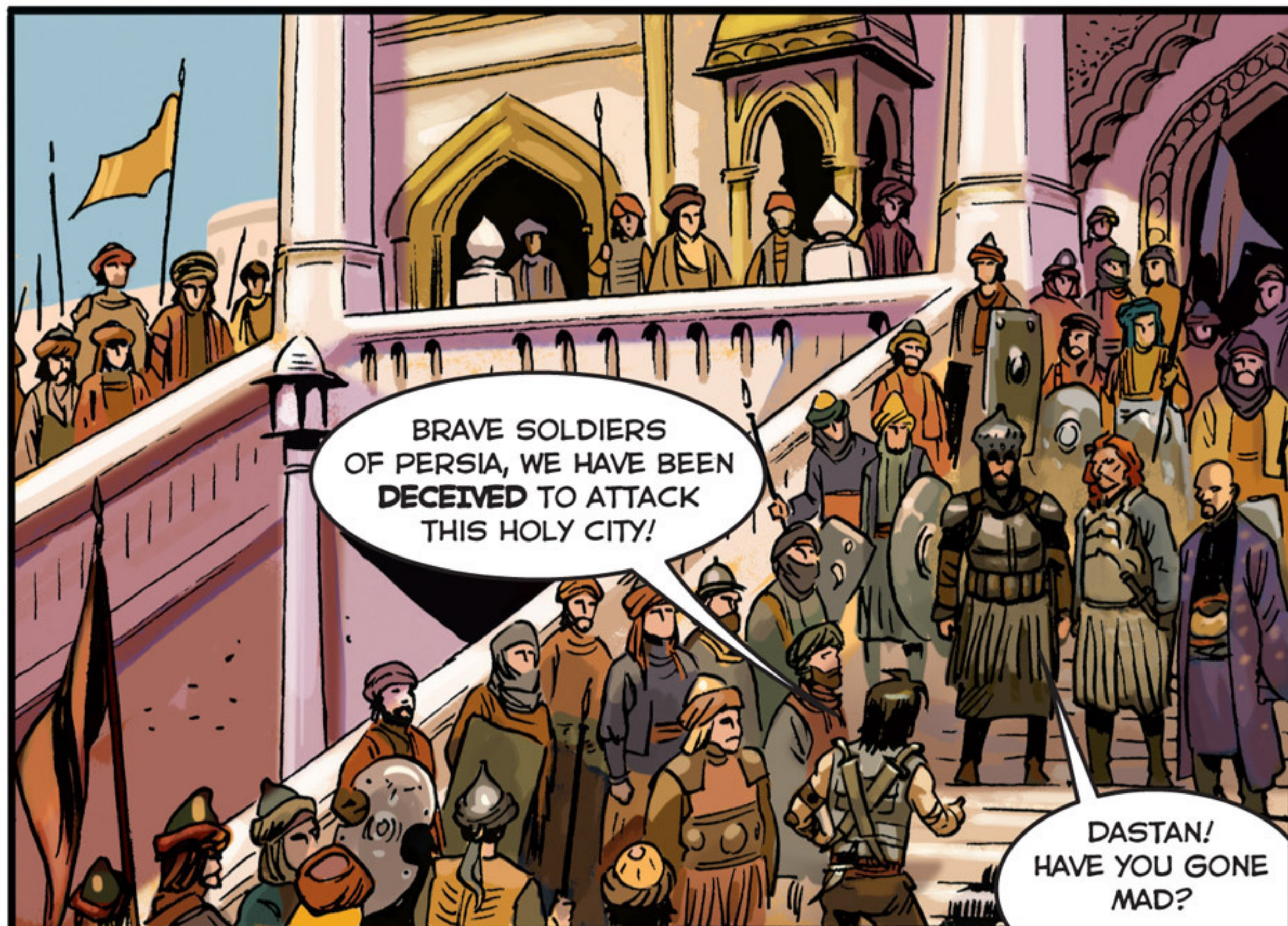


SUDDENLY A HUGE BURST OF SAND COMES FLOWING OUT OF THE DAGGER'S HANDLE...

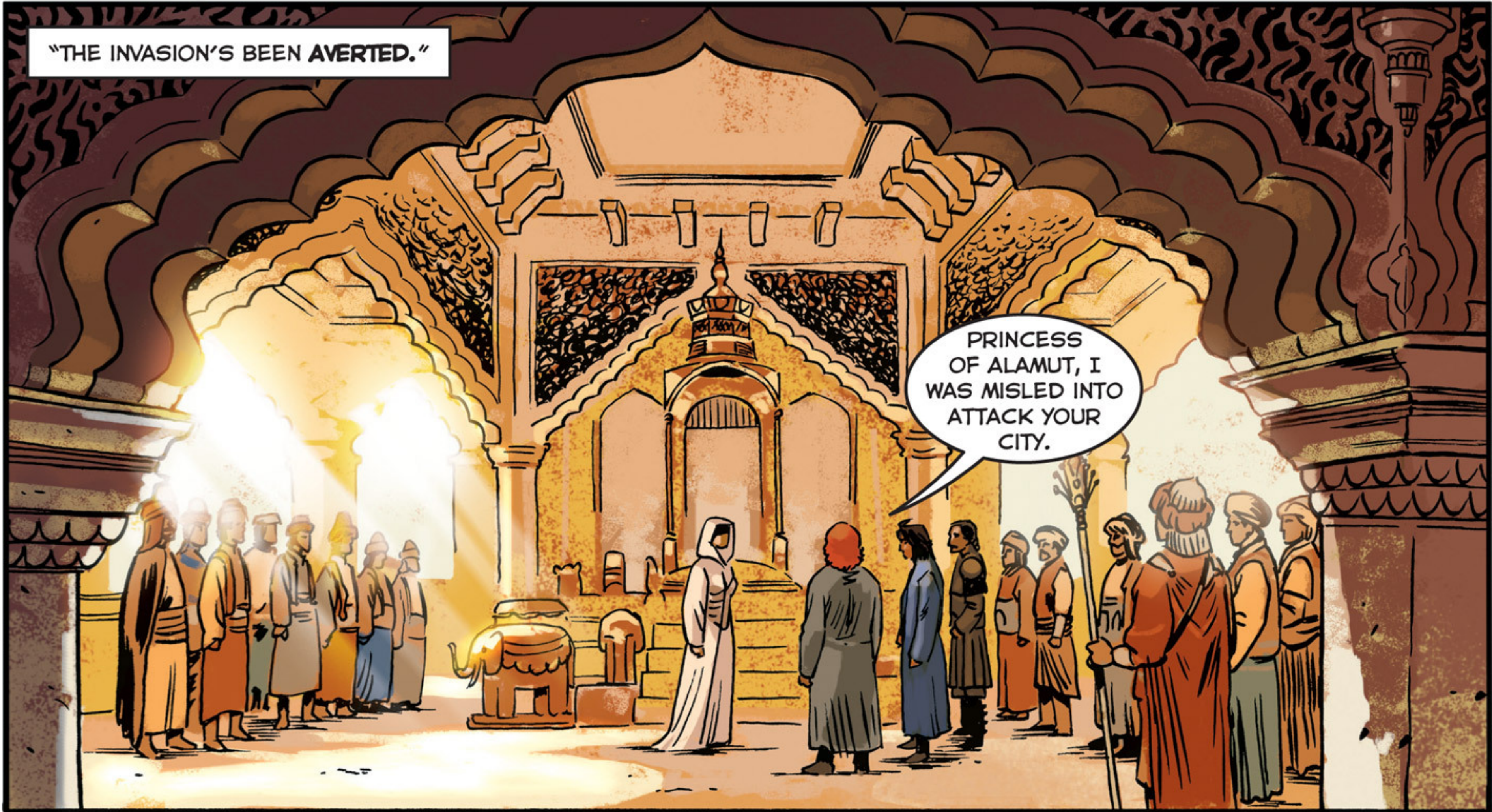


... AND TIME REWINDS FASTER AND FASTER!





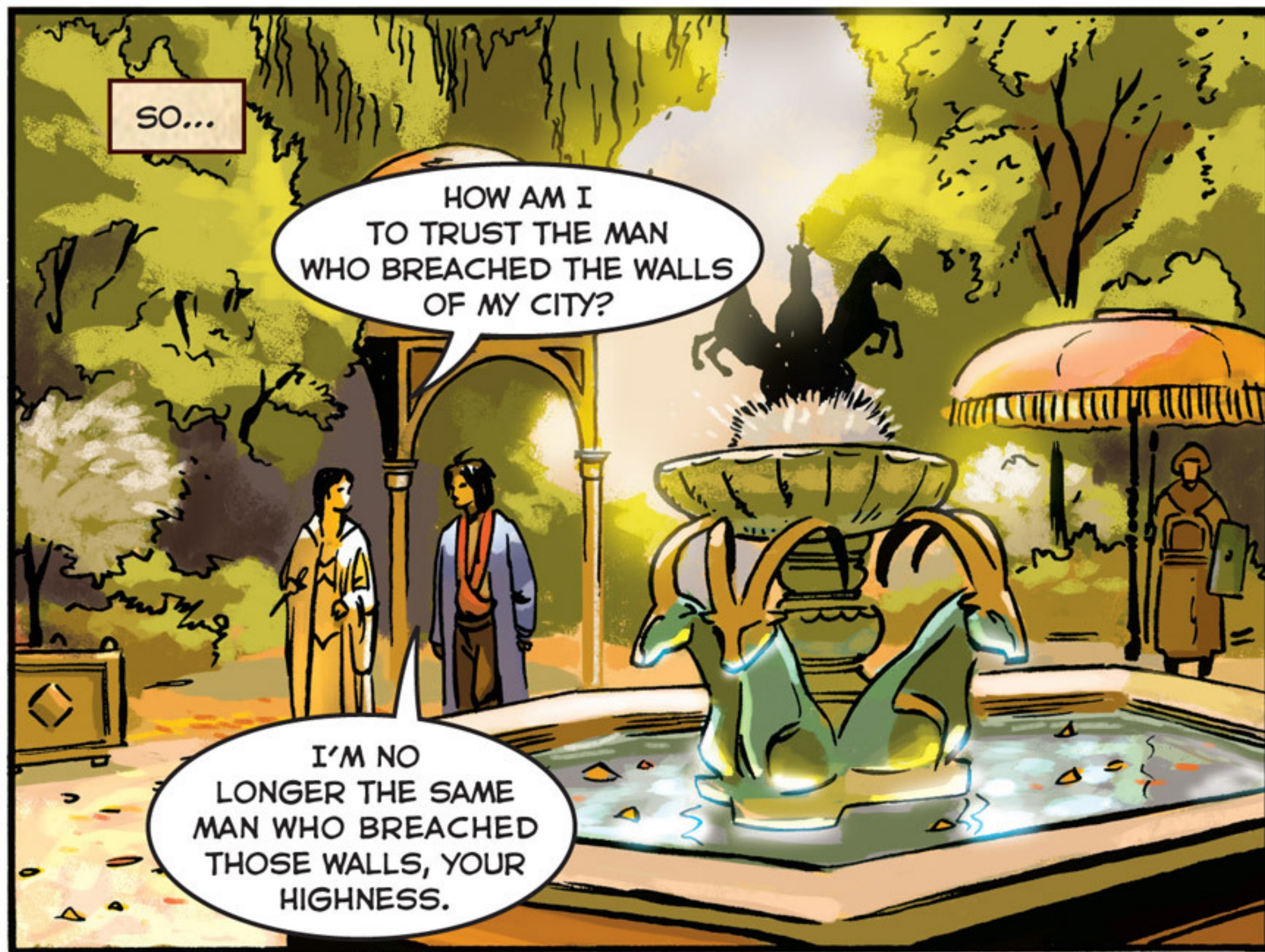






... SAVE THAT WHICH WAS ALREADY YOURS.

WALK WITH ME, PRINCE DASTAN.



SO...

HOW AM I TO TRUST THE MAN WHO BREACHED THE WALLS OF MY CITY?

I'M NO LONGER THE SAME MAN WHO BREACHED THOSE WALLS, YOUR HIGHNESS.



IT SOUNDS AS IF YOU'VE DISCOVERED SOMETHING IN MY CITY.

LIKE MY DESTINY?



I BELIEVE WE MAKE OUR OWN DESTINY.

YOU HAVE AN UNFORTUNATE LACK OF SPIRITUAL CURIOSITY...



NO DOUBT ONE OF MY MANY FLAWS.

DON'T MOCK ME, PRINCE.



I HARDLY THINK WE KNOW EACH OTHER WELL ENOUGH FOR THAT, PRINCESS.

