

EVERQUEST

THE RUINS OF KUNARK



BRAD McQUAID • JIM LEE • DAN NORTON

A brand new EverQuest tale crafted by game co-creator Brad McQuaid and legendary artist Jim Lee!

Firiona Vie, chosen of the goddess Tunare and daughter of King Thex, has mysteriously disappeared while searching for the Ring of Scale...

It is the Age of Turmoil - a time filled with wonder and perilous adventure in the land of Norrath. Galeth Veredeth, high paladin and captain of the Fier'Dal guards, has been gone many years. The elder races have begun to reclaim their former glory while the younger races have grown far and wide across the continents of Odus, Antonica, and Faydwer. The clash of sword on shield still rings out, but it has been centuries since war has plagued the lands. A myriad of alliances and factions exist, and now rumors are whispered that evil is brewing in a long forgotten corner of the realm...

Sony Online Entertainment and Wildstorm Productions present...

The Ruins of Kunark

DIRECT SALES

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EVERQUEST

THE RUINS OF KUNARK

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EVERQUEST: THE RUINS OF KUNARK.

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Printed in Canada.

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MORRATH, THE GREATER FAYDARK,
HOME TO WOOD ELVES, ORCS,
PIXIES, AND THE LIKE.

TRAVELERS OFTEN ARRIVE
AND DEPART FROM ITS WIZARD
SPIRES, BUT RARELY HAS
THERE BEEN A GROUP SUCH
AS THIS; NINE WEARY, BATTLE-
HARDENED ADVENTURERS
RETURNING FROM AFAR...





WHERE ARE WE?

IS THIS IT?

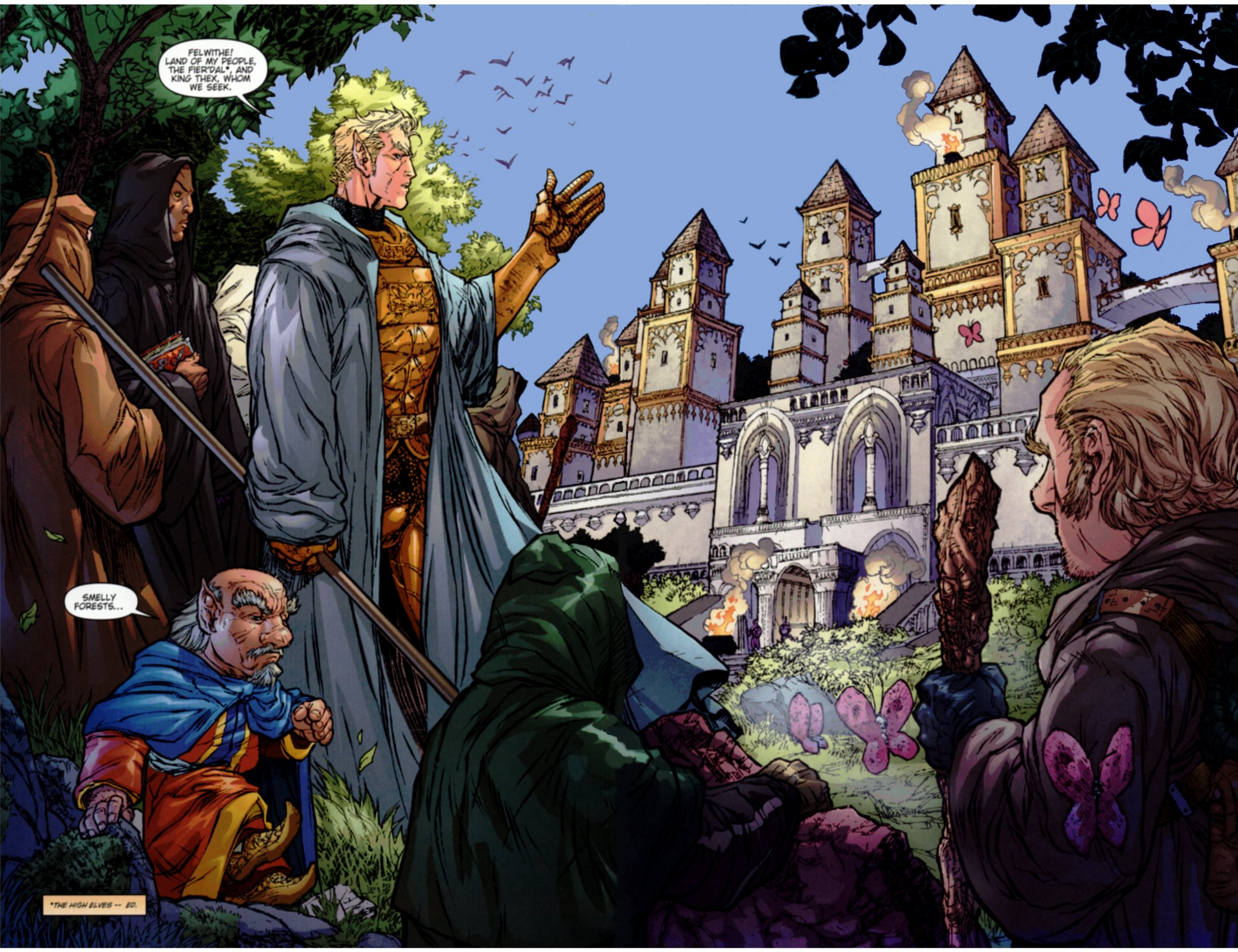
YES, MY FRIENDS, WE HAVE ARRIVED.

HOME...



FELWITHE!
LAND OF MY PEOPLE,
THE FIER'DAL*, AND
KING THEX, WHOM
WE SEEK.

SMELLY
FORESTS...





HALT!
WHO APPROACHES
OUR FAIR CITY?



SOLDIER, DO
YOU NOT RECOGNIZE
ME? IT IS I, GALETH
VEREDETH, CAPTAIN
OF THE HIGH GUARD,
LOYAL SERVANT TO
OUR KING.

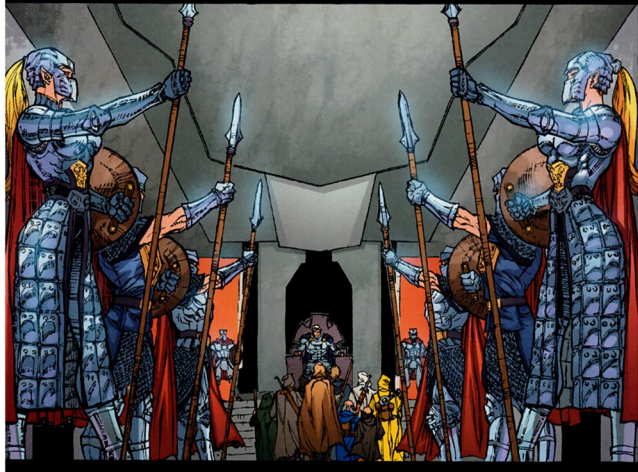


AYE, MY LORD, BUT
YOU'VE BEEN GONE SO
LONG AND WHO ARE
THESE OUTSIDERS?



MY COMRADES
AND FRIENDS, OPEN
THE GATES. I WILL
VOUCH FOR THEM.







YOU'VE BEEN... "MISSING", CAPTAIN, FOR SOME TIME. NOW YOU RETURN BEARING NEWS AND A GROUP OF OUTSIDERS AT YOUR HEEL? I DO NOT RECALL GRANTING YOU LEAVE FROM YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES.



SIRE, MY LOYALTY TO YOU IS ETERNAL, AND IT WAS YOUR DAUGHTER WHO MADE ME DEPART FELWITHE.

AND IT IS NEWS OF HER I BRING.



MY COMPANIONS AND I HAVE JOURNEYED FAR; EACH HAS THEIR OWN STORY, AND I WOULD INTRODUCE THEM TO YOU.



*THUBR AXEBRINGER OF KALADM...



*DREEZIL POCKETDIP OF RIVERVALE...



*SINACHE HEARTSINGER OF FREEPORT...

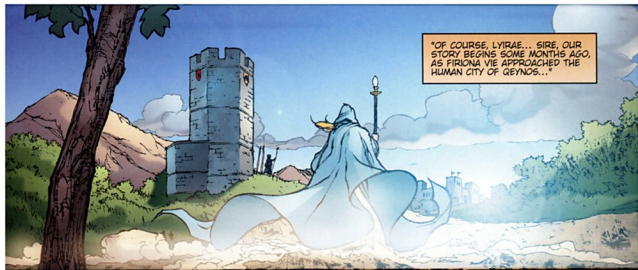


*SIR JEVIK ISQUAL OF QEYNOS...



*LYIRAE OAKWYND OF...

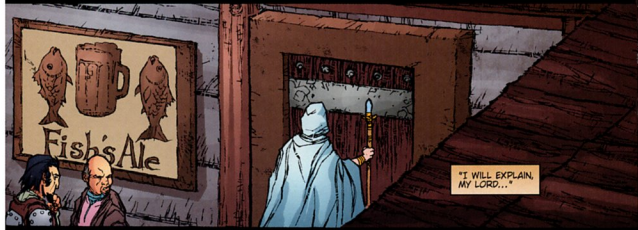
MY LORD, I APOLOGIZE, BUT MY BROTHER LORISYN WAS SLAIN AND THE KING'S DAUGHTER IS LOST. IF WE MIGHT BEGIN TO TELL OUR TALE...



"OF COURSE, LYRAE... SIRE, OUR STORY BEGINS SOME MONTHS AGO, AS FIRIONA VIE APPROACHED THE HUMAN CITY OF GEYNOS..."



"MY DAUGHTER AMONGST THE HUMANS... BUT WHY?"

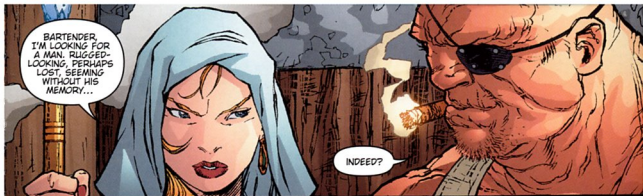


"I WILL EXPLAIN, MY LORD..."



GIVE HIM ANOTHER!

MORE TONICS!

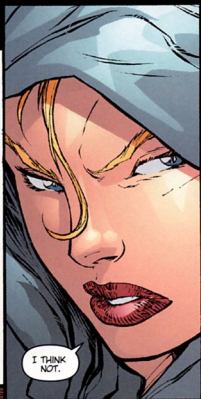


BARTENDER, I'M LOOKING FOR A MAN, RUGGED-LOOKING, PERHAPS LOST, SEEMING WITHOUT HIS MEMORY...

INDEED?



HONEY, I'M THE LAST MAN YOU'LL EVER NEED.



I THINK NOT.



LADY, I WASN'T OFFERING YOU A CHOICE.



CRETINI!

BOOOOOO



?!?



NOW, WILL YOU HELP ME FIND MY FRIEND, OR SHALL I SEARCH THIS DUMP MYSELF?



OVER OUR DEAD BODIES!



WITH PLEASURE.



AAAAH!

LIGH!



SIR JEVIK ISQUAL, IS THAT YOU?



-HIC-

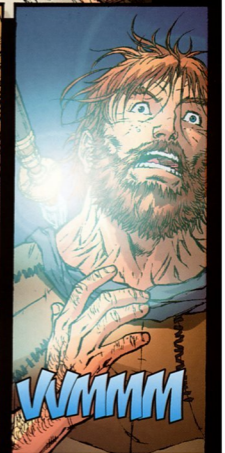


AH, NO, WHAT HAS BECOME OF YOU?



YOU MUST REMEMBER...

LET THE PAST BE REVEALED...



WMMM



"NAY, SIR JEVIK, THE OUTRIDER OF KARANA IS ON HIS OWN QUEST SOMEWHERE IN THE PLANES."

"BESIDES, WE MUST REUNITE OUR ORIGINAL GROUP AND RETURN TO KLINARK. WE MUST CONFRONT THE RING OF SCALE AND FORCE THOSE FOUL WYRMS TO EXPLAIN WHY THEY TOOK OUR MEMORIES!"





THE TREE CITY KELETHIN, HOME OF THE KOADA'DAL*, AND HIDDEN DEEP WITHIN THE FOG-ENSHROUDED GREATER FAYDARK.

LADY FIRIONA, OVER IN THAT DALE...

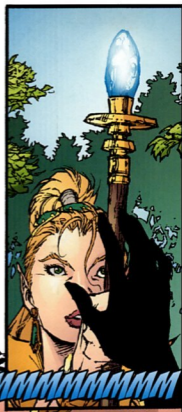
YES, I SEE HER TOO.

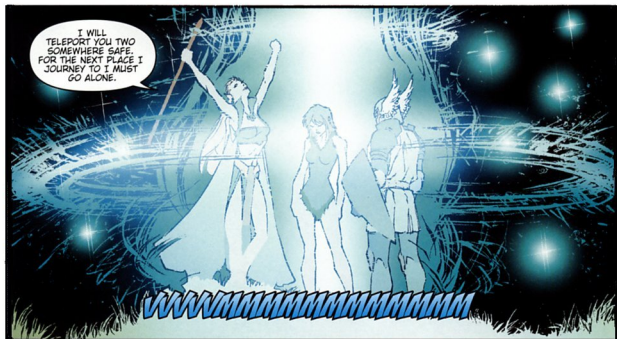
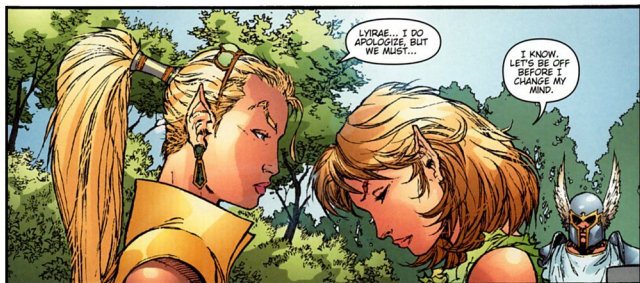
AH, SARIEL, YOU'LL NOT CATCH ME!

LYRAE OAKWYND, I'VE COME FOR YOU.

YOU MUST RETURN WITH ME TO KUNARK, MY FRIEND.

KUNARK?! BAH! THE PLACE DOESN'T EVEN EXIST! WHO IN THE NAME OF TUNARE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!



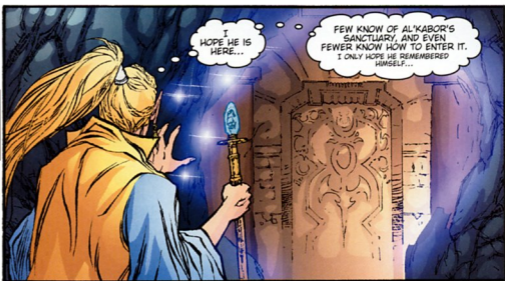




THE HOLE, A CHASM BLASTED INTO THE BOWELS OF THE ISLAND-CONTINENT ODLUS BY GREAT MAGICS IN AN ANCIENT WAR...

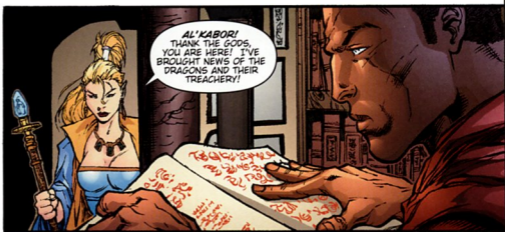


I HATED LEAVING THEM BEHIND, BUT GETTING PAST THE SPELLS PROTECTING AN ARCH-WIZARD'S LAIR WILL TAKE MY FULL CONCENTRATION.



I HOPE HE IS HERE...

FEW KNOW OF AL'KABOR'S SANCTUARY, AND EVEN FEWER KNOW HOW TO ENTER IT. I ONLY HOPE HE REMEMBERED HIMSELF...



AL'KABOR! THANK THE GODS, YOU ARE HERE! I'VE BROUGHT NEWS OF THE DRAGONS AND THEIR TREACHERY!



IT'S NOT NEWS TO AL'KABOR, CHOSEN OF TUNARE. THE RING OF SCALE'S ENCHANTMENTS HELD ME ONLY A SHORT TIME.

I'M SURPRISED HOW LONG IT'S TAKEN YOU TO FIND ME. WE MUST NOT TARRY. I KNOW WHERE THE DRAGONS HAVE HIDDEN THE OTHERS.



IMPERTINENT WIZARD! YOU COULD HAVE SOUGHT ME OUT EARLIER!

WITH
AL'KABOR'S AID
WE QUICKLY MADE
OUR WAY TO HIGH
PASS KEEP, NESTLED
DEEP IN THE
SERPENTSPINE
MOUNTAINS, TO
RESCUE DREEZIL
POCKETDIP...

* ... PURSUED PERHAPS
WRONGLY, PERHAPS
RIGHTLY, FOR CERTAIN
GAMBLING DEBTS...



"TO THE DISTANT HAVEN OF HIGH PALADIN **GALECTH VEREBETH**, WHO AGREED TO DON HIS ARMOR AND JOIN OUR QUEST...

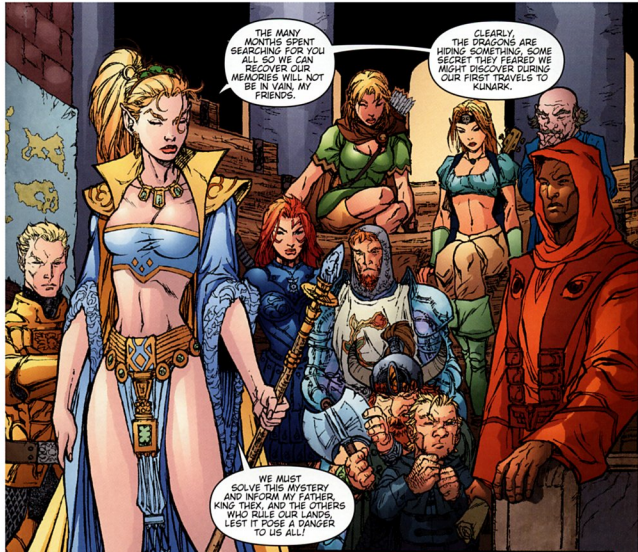
"TO AK'ANON, MECHANO-MAGICAL CITY OF THE GNOMES, TO RECOVER **OGNIT EZNERTO**, SKILLED TINKERER AND MAGE...

"TO COLDWIND SHORES IN THE DISTANT PLAINS OF KARANA...

"...THE PEACEFUL FISHING VILLAGE WHEREIN **DAGDA ICEFURY** WAS FOUND...

"TO FREEPORT, ON THE EASTERN ANTONICAN COAST, TO FREE **SIONACHIE HEARTSINGER**, PRISONER OF THE CITY'S GUARDS FOR STAGING PLAYS AND OTHER PERFORMANCES EXPOSING THEIR CORRUPTION...

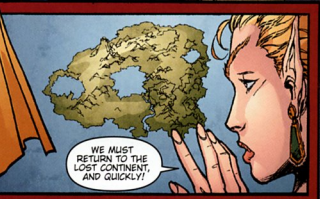
"AND LASTLY TO THE MINES DEEP UNDER THE DWARVEN CITY OF KALADIM, WHERE **THUBR AXEBRINGER** WAS STUBBORNLY CONVINCED TO REJOIN THEIR PARTY..."



THE MANY MONTHS SPENT SEARCHING FOR YOU ALL SO WE CAN RECOVER OUR MEMORIES WILL NOT BE IN VAIN, MY FRIENDS.

CLEARLY, THE DRAGONS ARE HIDING SOMETHING, SOME SECRET THEY FEARED WE MIGHT DISCOVER DURING OUR FIRST TRAVELS TO KUNARK.

WE MUST SOLVE THIS MYSTERY AND INFORM MY FATHER, KING THEX, AND THE OTHERS WHO RULE OUR LANDS, LEST IT POSE A DANGER TO US ALL!



WE MUST RETURN TO THE LOST CONTINENT, AND QUICKLY!



INDEED, I'VE FOUND THE MEANS. A NEW INCANTATION!

ACK! NOT MORE TELEPORTING! YOU KNOW WHAT IT DOES TO MY STOMACH...



AND SO, SIRE,
THE MIGHTY WIZARD
AL'KABOR USED HIS NEWLY
FOUND MAGICS TO TELEPORT
YOUR DAUGHTER AND OUR
BAND TO A FORGOTTEN
LAND...

...KNOWN ONLY AS
TRAKANON'S TEETH...
HIDDEN IN THE VAST
EMERALD JUNGLE IN THE
DEPTHS OF LOST
KUNARK.



"WE SEARCHED FOR
DAYS FOR ANY CLUE
OF THE RING OF SCALE
OR WHAT THEY WERE
HIDING."



"UNTIL..."

DID YOU HEAR
SOMETHING?

YES! MY
HEIGHTENED
TRACKING SKILLS
SENSE SOMETHING
AS WELL...



BEWARE!
FROGLOK!

INCOMING!

SOMETHING
IS AMISS...

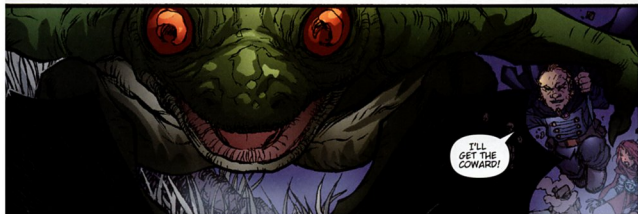


IT'S
UNDEAD! I'LL
STUN IT!



I WONDER
WHERE IT CAME
FROM?

IT
FLEES SO
QUICKLY!



I'LL
GET THE
COWARD!



DREEZIL!
WAIT! DO
NOT FOLLOW
IT INTO THE
JUNGLE!



BAH! WITH
MY JOURNEYMAN
BOOTS, I'LL
RUN IT DOWN.



YOU WON'T
ESCAPE A
POCKETDIP
SO EASILY,
FROGGIE!



BACKSTABBED BY
RAGEBRINGER!



--CROAK--



THAT'S RIGHT, FROGGIE. I BET YOU FELT THAT.

ARM... I WONDER WHAT YOU WERE DOING ALONE OUT HERE IN THIS JUNGLE...



NOW, WHERE DID EVERYONE ELSE GO?

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?



BY BRISTLEBANE! WHAT ARE THEY? METHINKS IT'S TIME TO ADVANCE TO THE REAR!



MEANWHILE...

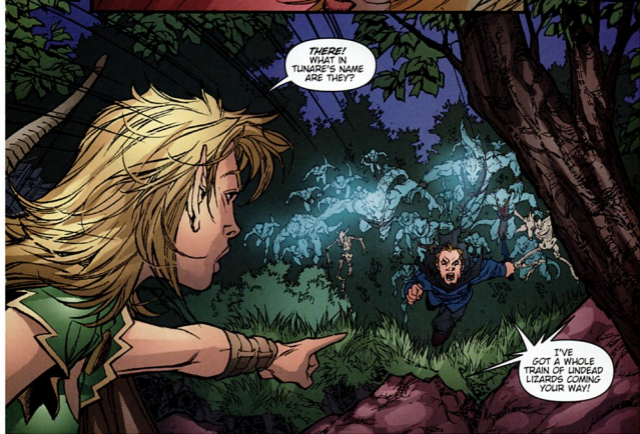
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE SMALL ONE.

AND WHY ARE THERE UNDEAD OUTDOORS? THEY'RE USUALLY IN THE DEPTHS OF NASTY DUNGEONS.

SO LIKE A ROGUE TO RUN OFF.



WAIT! I'M TRACKING SOMETHING. THEY'RE VERY CLOSE!



THERE! WHAT IN TUNARE'S NAME ARE THEY?

I'VE GOT A WHOLE TRAIN OF UNDEAD LIZARDS COMING YOUR WAY!



TO ARMS!

ITAK ZHITZAM
DOLTH DERTH
DOZTSAM!



WHAT ARE
THESE FOUL
BEASTS?

THEY ARE
CALLED IKSAR AND
THEY RULED KUNARK
LONG AGO. WHY
THEY ARE UNDEAD,
I KNOW NOT.



I WILL SING A SONG OF HEALING...



ASSIST ME!



HOLD THE LINE! WE CAN TAKE THEM DOWN!



ARRGH!

KRRZZAP

OVER-CONFIDENCE FROM SUCH A YOUNG RACE, SOFT-SKIN? IT WILL BE YOUR DOWNFALL!



METHINKS THAT'S THEIR LEADER...

WHO ARE YOU AND WHY HAVE YOU ATTACKED US?



I AM VENRIL SATHRI! LICH-KING, RULER OF THE EMPIRE OF IK...

"...AND ARCHITECT
OF YOUR DOOM!"







WE DIDN'T WANT TO ABANDON YOUR DAUGHTER, MY LORD, BUT SHE LEFT US LITTLE CHOICE AND PROBABLY SAVED OUR LIVES...

WE TOOK SHELTER IN A NEARBY CAVE, TENDED OUR WOUNDS...

AND PLANNED OUR RESCUE OF FIRIONA VIE.

"LATER, WE LEFT THE CAVE. LYIRAE, THE RANGER, WAS ABLE TO TRACK FIRIONA'S SCENT.

"IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF A RUINED CITY -- AL'KABOR CALLED IT SEBILIS -- WE FOUND HER... ALIVE."

POSSST...

LOOK HERE!

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

BE PATIENT AND LISTEN, POCKETIP...



I WANT TO
KNOW WHAT THESE
OUTSIDERS ARE DOING
HERE! THIS COULD RUIN
OUR PLANS! WHICH
ONE OF YOU
BETRAYED
US?!

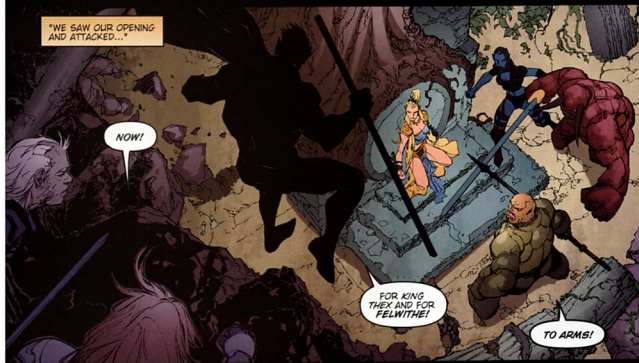
AT LEAST WE
HAVE THIS ELF
AS A HOSTAGE. I
SENSE GREAT POWER
WITHIN THIS STAFF.
AN ARTIFACT,
PERHAPS...



WE NOT
BETRAY YOU,
LORD! WE BASH
OUTSIDERS!



INDEED,
OUR INVASION
PLANS WILL NOT
BE THWARTED
SO EASILY!







WHAT THE...?!



WE'RE LEAVING?!?

PERSONALLY
~SUCKS~ I DON'T
~SUCKS~ MIND
THE TIMING...



COWARDS!

FLEE LIKE FROGGIE TADS!

Scratch
Scratch



SOMETHING IS WRONG...

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE AL'KABOR AND HIS LACKEYS...

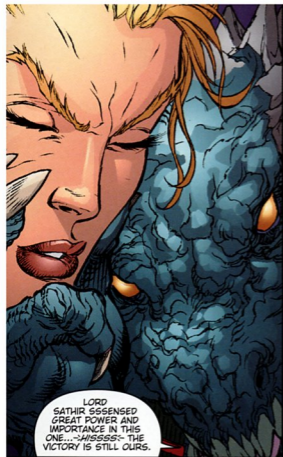
BUT WE SSSSTILL HAVE THE ELF...



"LORD SSSATHIR WILL NOT BE TOO DISPLEASED..."



AND... ~HISSSSS~ SHE'LL HELP US ALL BY REVEALING THEIR PLANSSS...



LORD SATHIR SSENSED GREAT POWER AND IMPORTANCE IN THIS ONE...~~SATHIR~~ THE VICTORY IS STILL OURS.



ELSEWHERE...



OXKULLA FOREST, DEEP IN THE CENTER OF THE ISLAND-CONTINENT OGIUS...



WE MUST TELL THE KING WHAT'S OCCURRED. WARN HIM OF THE KRSAR ALLIANCE WITH THE DARK RACES, AND HIS DAUGHTER'S FLIGHT.





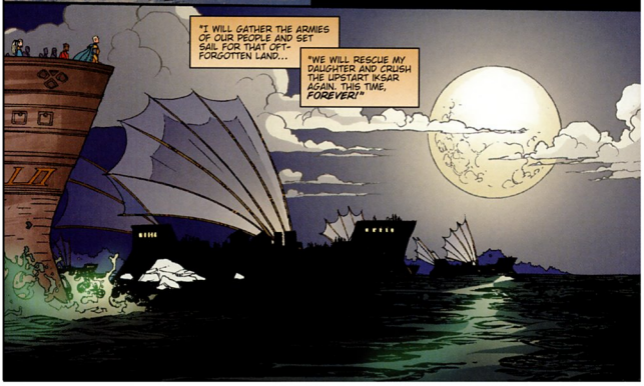
THIS NEWS INVOLVES ALL THE FORCES OF GOOD! IT APPEARS VERNIL SATHIR CONTROLS A MASSIVE ARMY OF UNDEAD AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE!



MY COMRADES ARE TRUSTWORTHY AND COULD HELP US! WE SHOULD SEEK ALLIES!



NO! THE FIERDAL HAVE FOUGHT THE FORCES OF KUNARK BEFORE CENTURIES AGO... AND WE SHALL DO SO AGAIN. HAVE YOU SO SOON FORGOTTEN?



"I WILL GATHER THE ARMIES OF OUR PEOPLE AND SET SAIL FOR THAT OFT-FORGOTTEN LAND..."

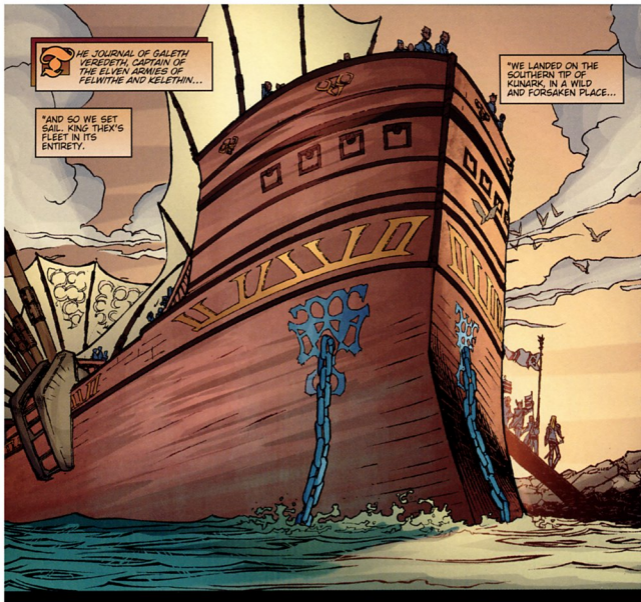
"WE WILL RESCUE MY DAUGHTER AND CRUSH THE UPSTART IKSAR AGAIN. THIS TIME, FOREVER!"



HE JOURNAL OF GALETH
VEREETH, CAPTAIN OF
THE ELVEN ARMIES OF
FELWITHE AND KELETHIN...

"AND SO WE SET
SAIL... KING THEX'S
FLEET IN ITS
ENTIRETY.

"WE LANDED ON THE
SOUTHERN TIP OF
KUNARK, IN A WILD
AND FORSAKEN PLACE...



FOR WE WILL RESCUE FIRIONA
VIE... AND VENRIL SATHIR WILL
PAY DEARLY. THIS I SWEAR...



*...ESTABLISHED AN
OUTPOST THERE AND
NAMED IT AFTER
OUR LOST PRINCESS.

"I ORDERED A STATUE
BUILT IN HER IMAGE
THAT ALL MIGHT SEE.
FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE.



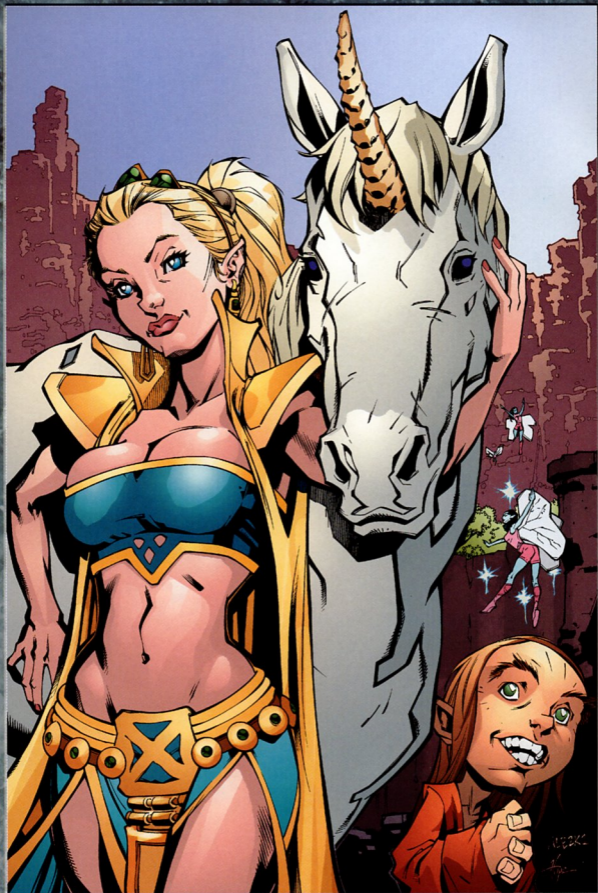
HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA



WHILCE PORTACIO



RICHARD FRIEND • JIM LEE • GUY MAJOR



ALÉ GARZA • SANDRA HOPE • GUY MAJOR



KEVIN HAMPTON • RICHARD FRIEND • GUY MAJOR