



## This is a Leeds Arts University Repository copy of: The Legend of La Mariposa - The Demon Gauntlet

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**Author:** James Lawrence

**Output type:** Artefact

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**Citation:** Lawrence, J. (2019). The Legend of La Mariposa – The Demon Gauntlet.

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### Abstract

The artefact is a young adult graphic novel created by James Lawrence.

**Research process:** This project was primarily practice-based, involving initial research into the social, historical, folkloric and metaphysical aspects of Lucha Libre before utilising findings to inform a fantasy action-adventure setting pitched at a young adult audience. The story explores themes of duty, trust and the keeping of oaths and also serves as an attempt to extrapolate the tropes and traditions of Lucha Libre into a foundation for fantasy worldbuilding. Lawrence handled all roles in the production of this output, including all the design and generation of visual and narrative elements.

**Research insights:** The output furthered an ongoing inquiry into the semiotics and narrative techniques unique to sequential art with a goal of developing an accessible but distinct visual vocabulary.

**Dissemination:** This output has been disseminated via Kickstarter, at Thoughtbubble Comic Art Festival in 2020 and 2021, and at Glasgow Comic Con in 2022. It is also available for purchase through online stores.

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# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

THE DEMON GAUNTLET



JAMES LAWRENCE



# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

## THE DEMON GAUNTLET



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# INTRODUCTION

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED BY LUCHADORES.

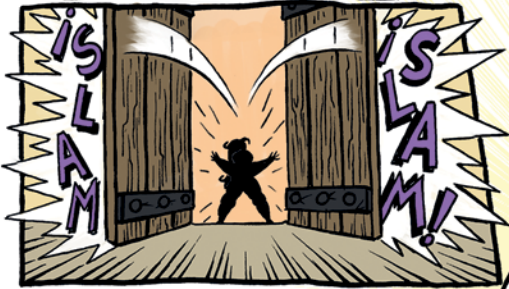
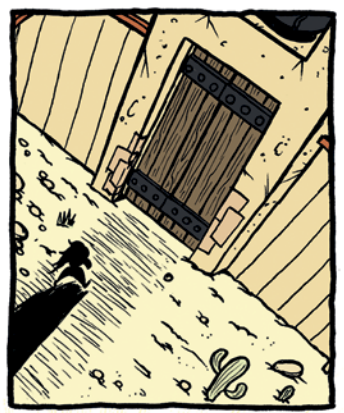
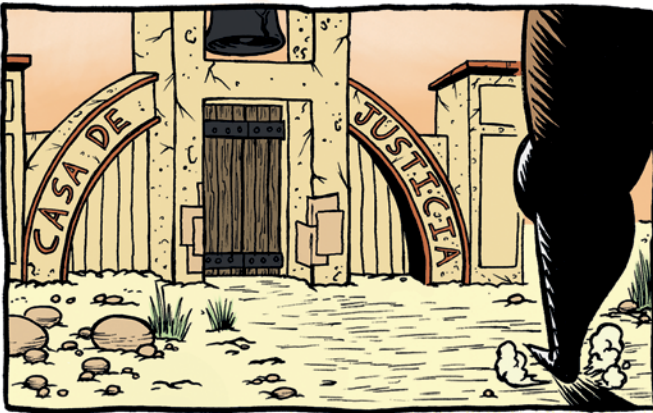
THERE'S A FUN SORT OF MAGICAL REALISM TO BE FOUND IN THE TRADITION OF LUCHA LIBRE, FROM THE CONCEPT OF SUBSUMING ONE'S IDENTITY TO BECOME AN AVATAR, ABSORBING THE ENERGY OF THE CROWD AS A SOURCE OF POWER, TO THE IDEA OF A DYNASTY OF WRESTLERS PERFORMING UNDER A SINGLE INHERITED PERSONA.

THE SUPERHERO PARALLELS ARE OBVIOUS, BUT IN MY MIND THE LUCHADOR HAS MORE IN COMMON WITH THE MUCH OLDER CONCEPT OF FOLK HEROES, A NOTION THAT IS BOLSTERED BY THOSE OLD FILMS WHEREIN LUCHADORES ARE PITTED AGAINST VARIOUS MONSTERS, SUCH AS VAMPIRES, WEREWOLVES AND EVEN THE DEVIL HIMSELF.

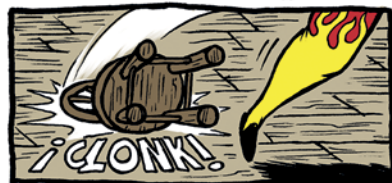
WITH ALL THIS IN MIND, WHAT INITIALLY STARTED AS A ONE-SHOT GAG COMIC QUICKLY BLOSSOMED INTO SOMETHING A LITTLE GRANDER; A PULP FANTASY WORLD WHERE THE LAWS OF LUCHA LIBRE INFORM THE LAWS OF THE WORLD, AND THE LUCHADOR OCCUPIES THE ROLE OF THE WANDERING HERO IN SEARCH OF GLORY.

THUS BEGINS THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA.  
**RING THE BELL!!**









...BARGIN' IN HERE WITHOUT AN INVITATION.

OH SANTO, IT'S  
**SCORPIO III**

...I HAVE 5 OF YOUR SHIRTS.

YOU GOT A LOTTA NERVE...



5 OF MY SHIRTS?

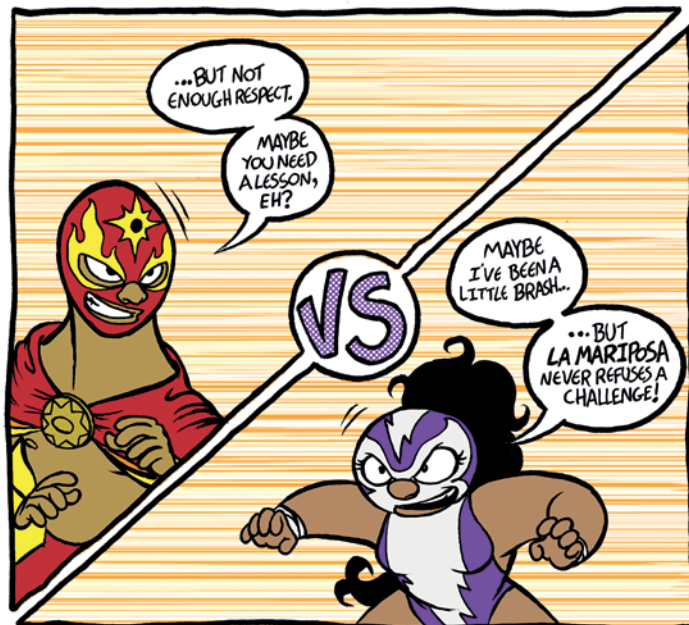


NOD NOD



HA!

WELL, YOU GOT GOOD TASTE IN MERCH...



...BUT NOT ENOUGH RESPECT.

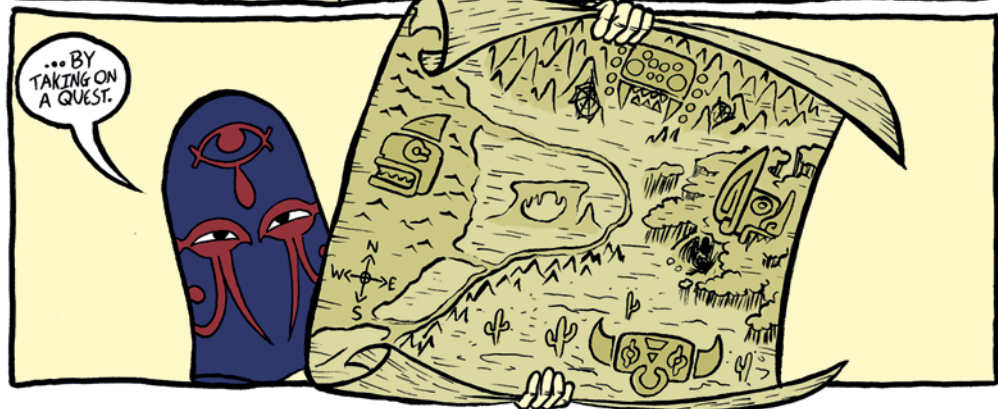
MAYBE YOU NEED A LESSON, EH?

MAYBE I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BRASH...

...BUT LA MARIPOSA NEVER REFUSES A CHALLENGE!



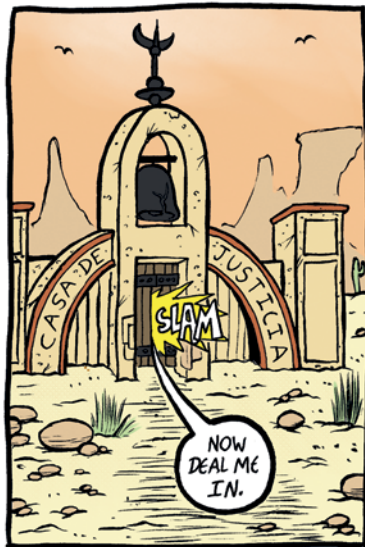
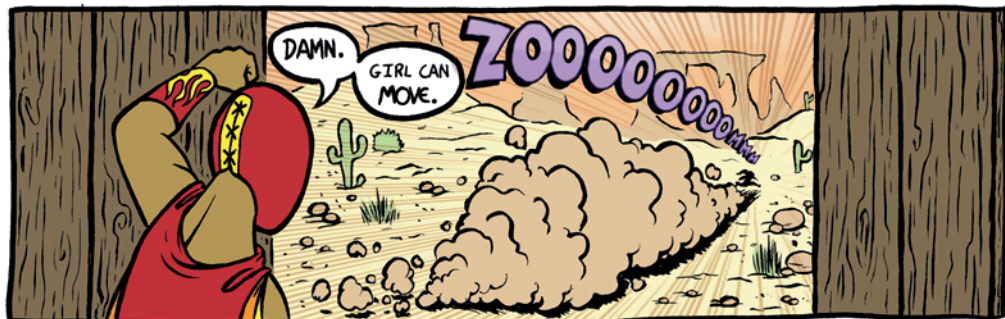
WAIT.









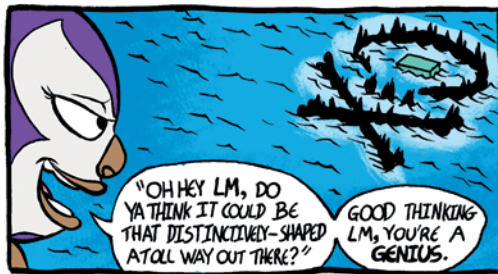
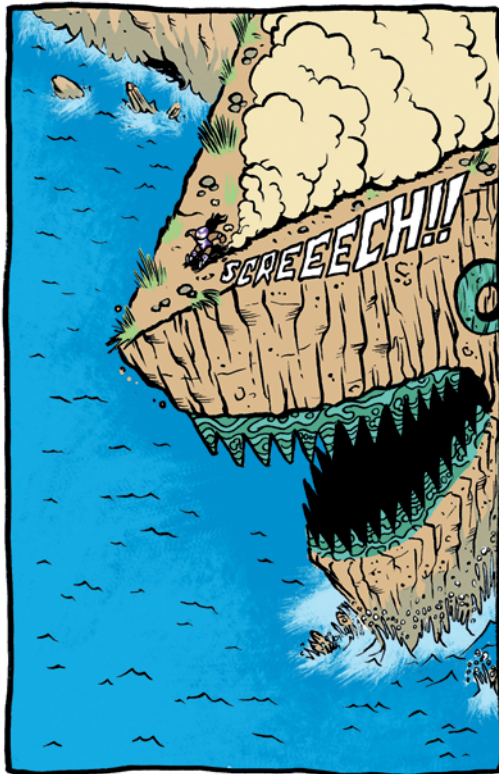
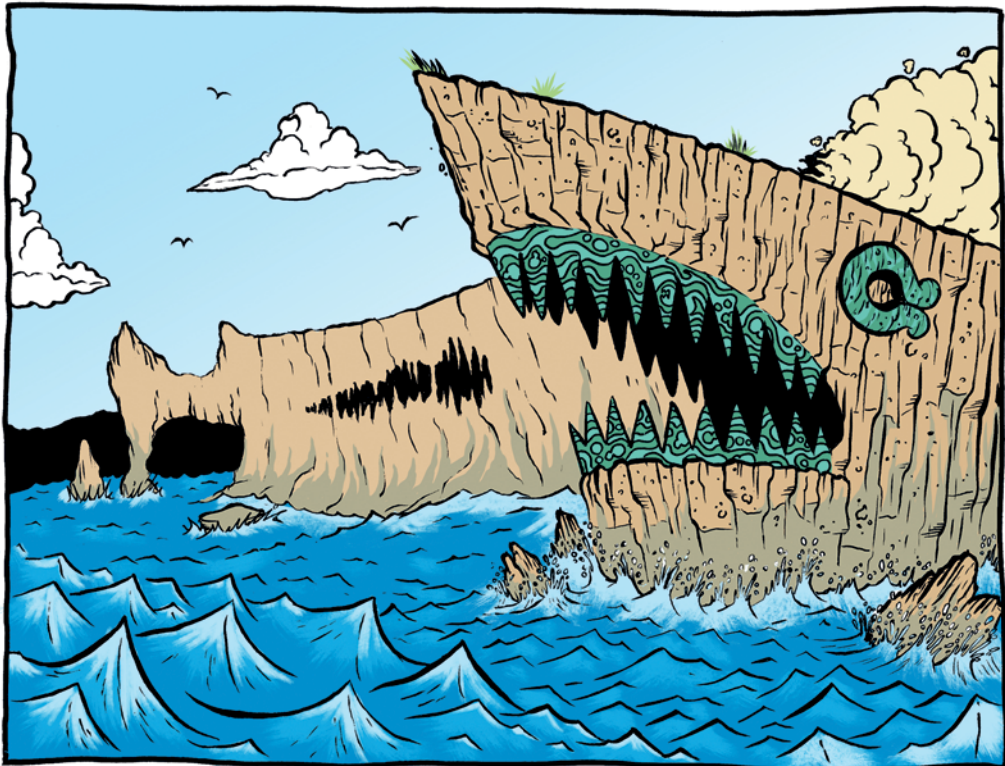


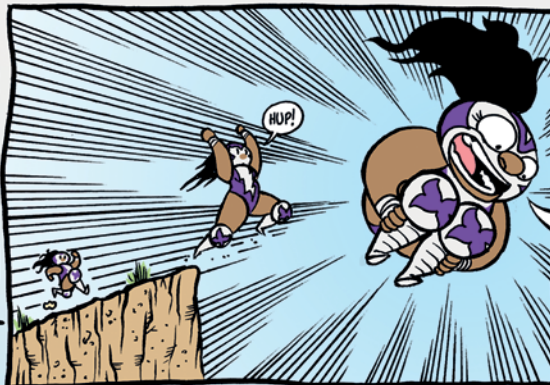


# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

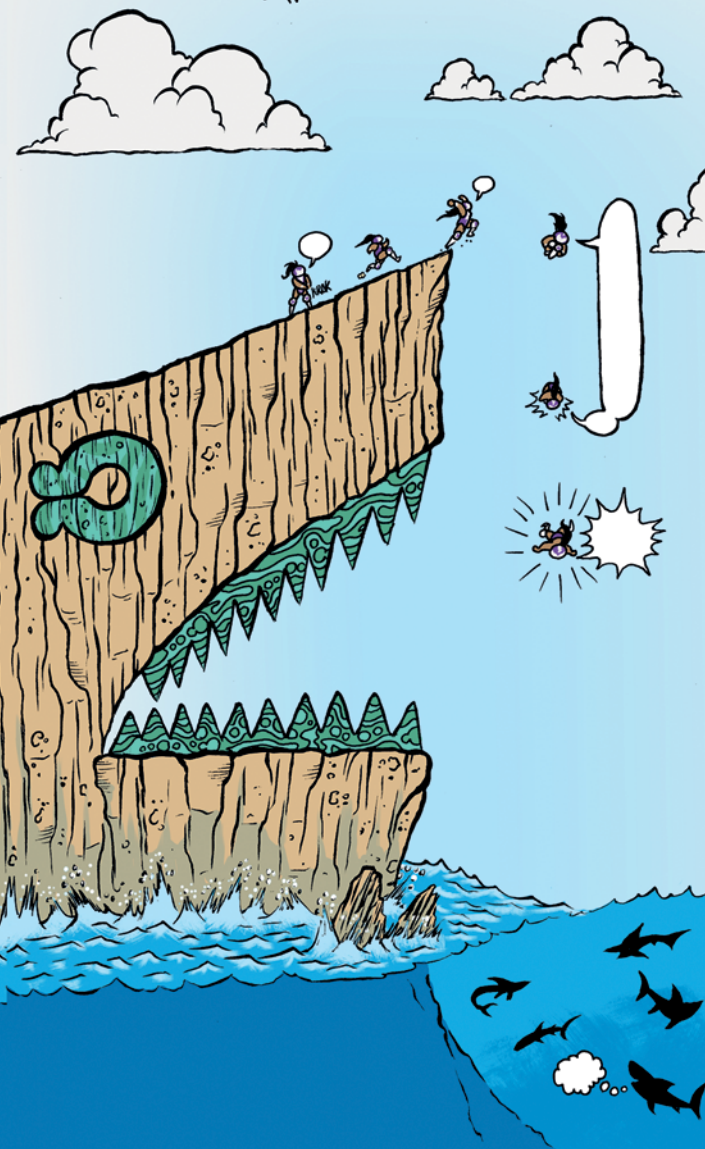
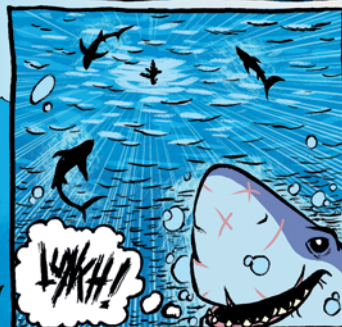
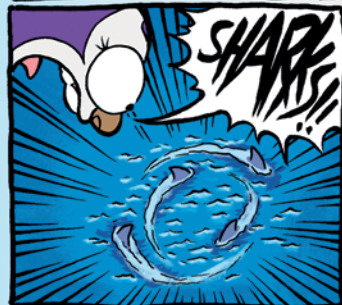
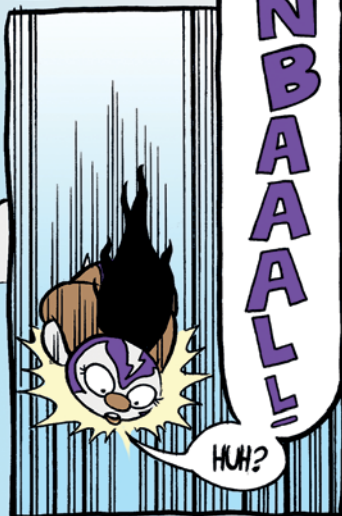
## THE DEMON GAUNTLET: CHAPTER 1



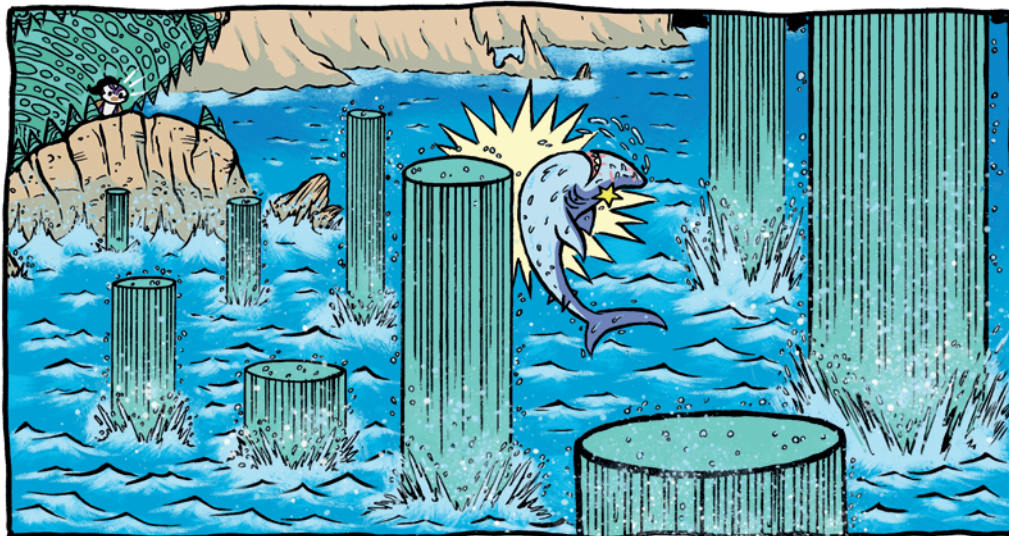
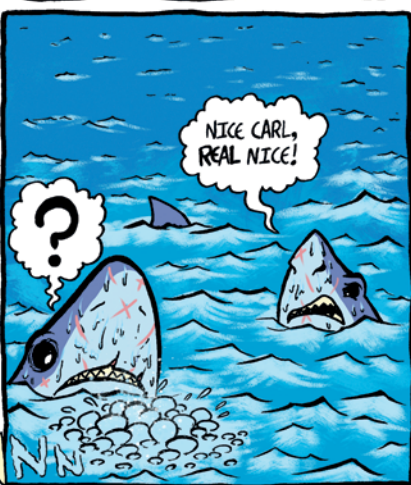




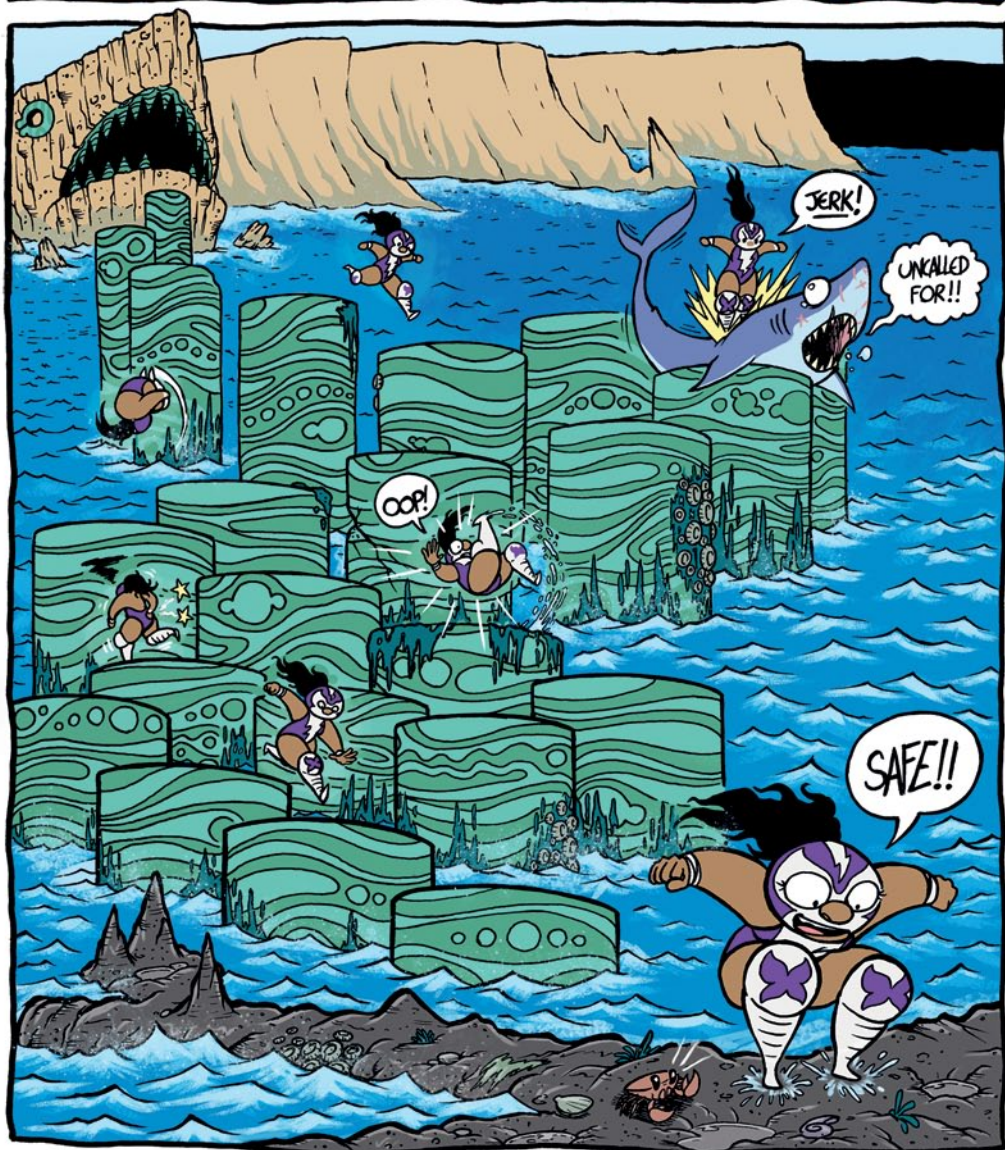
CANNONBALL!



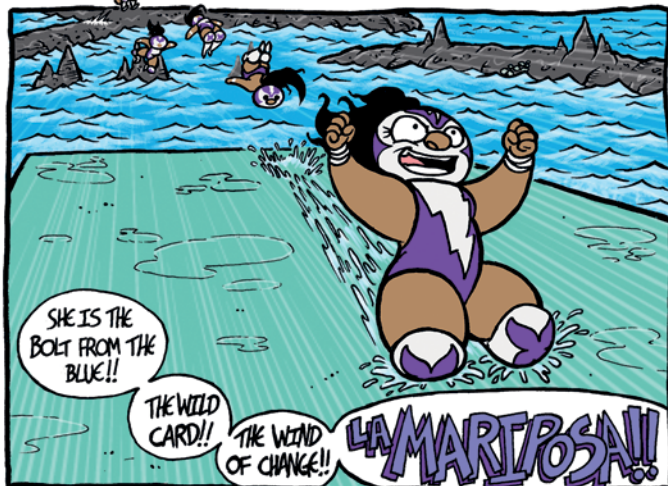
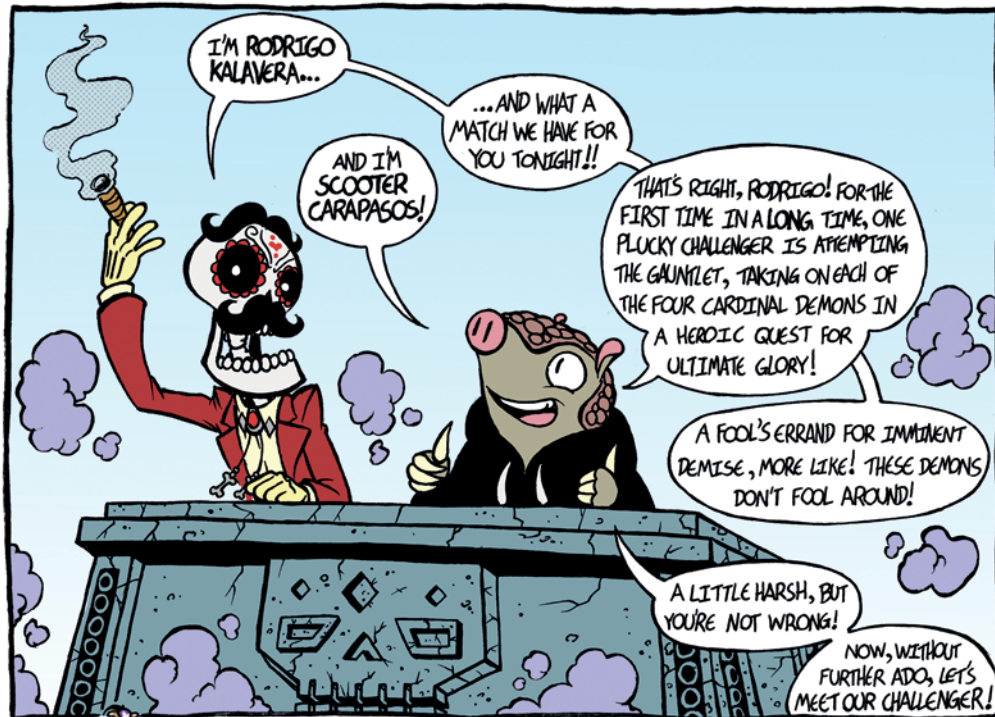
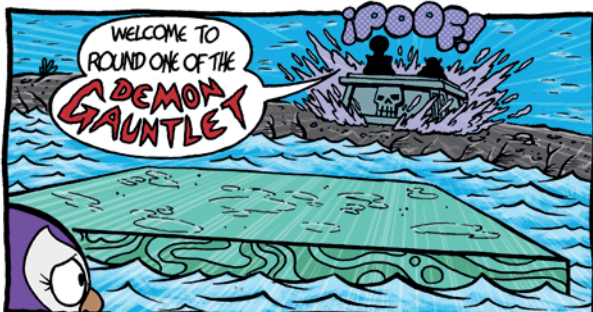




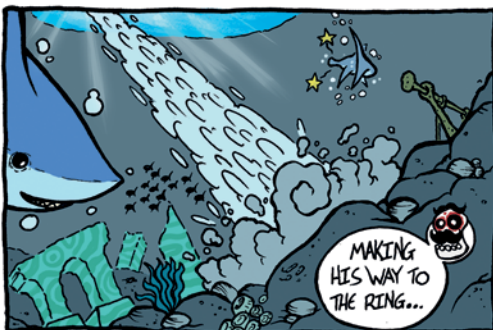
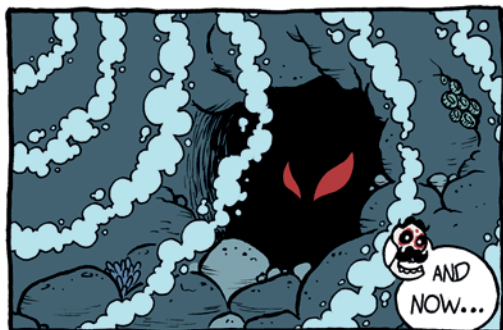
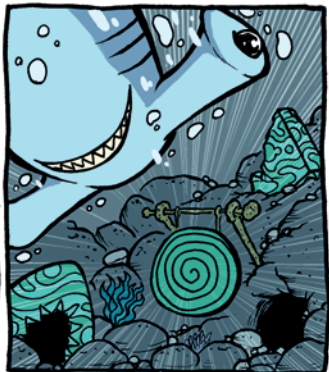
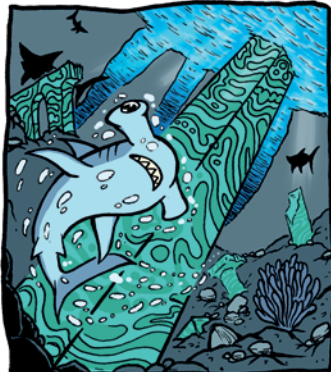












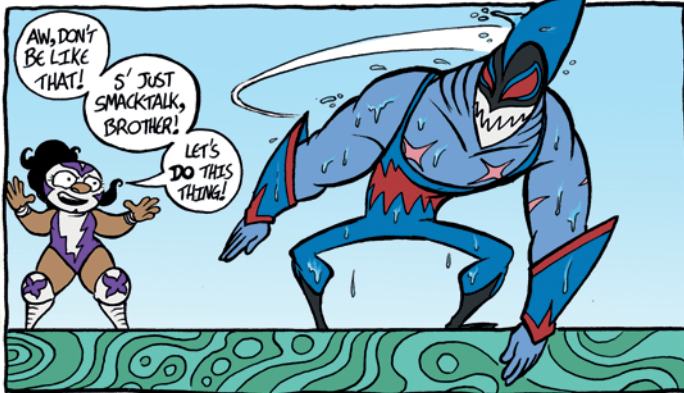




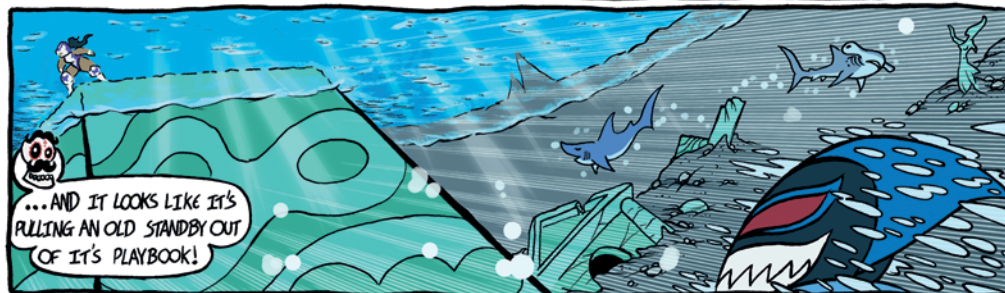
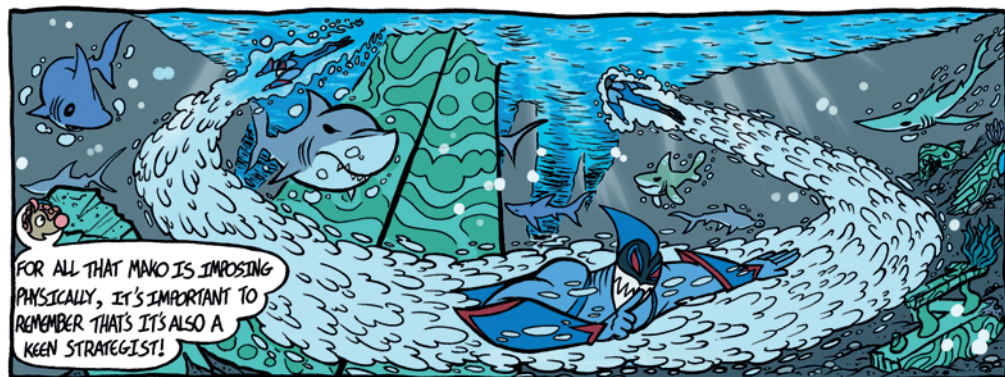
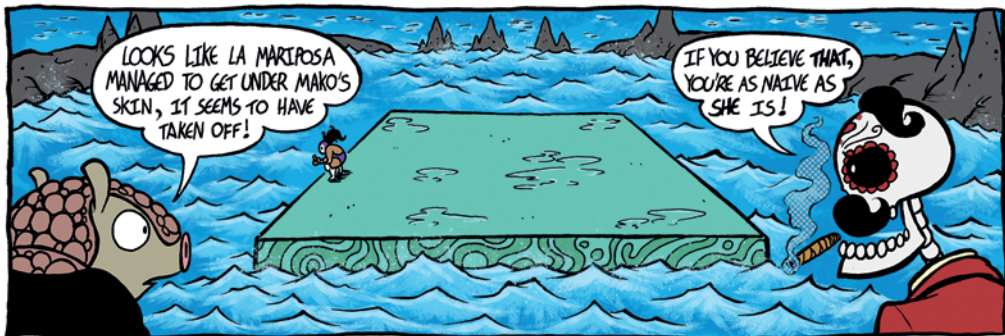
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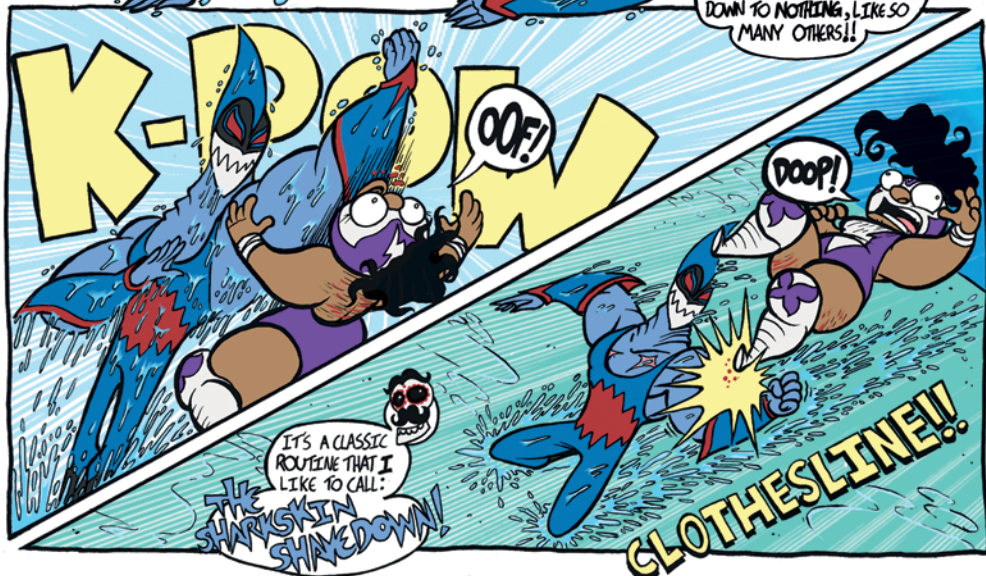
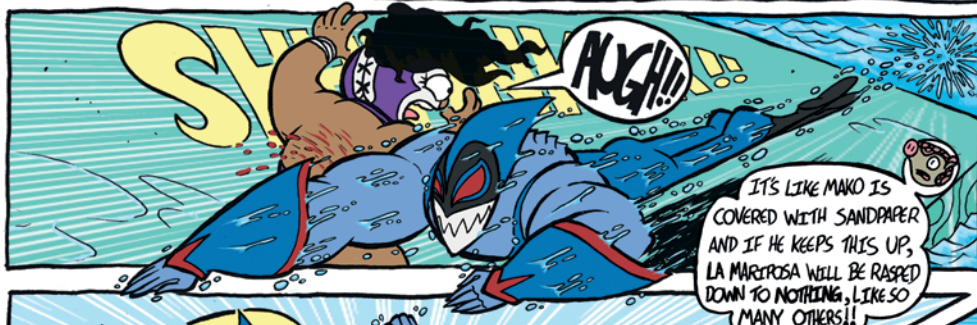
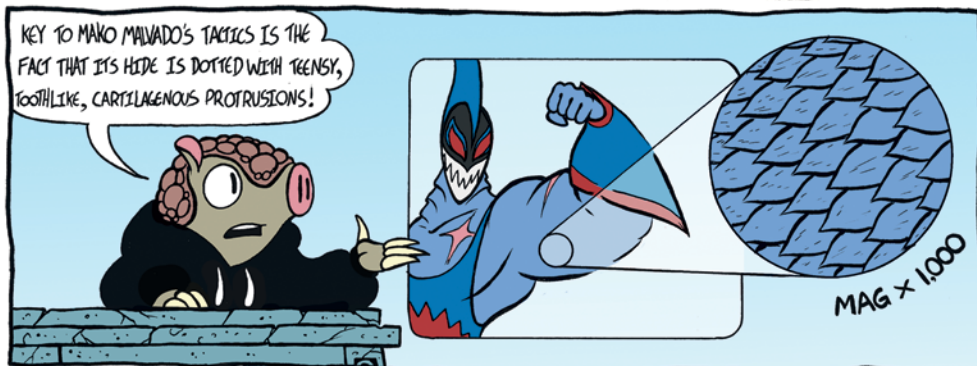
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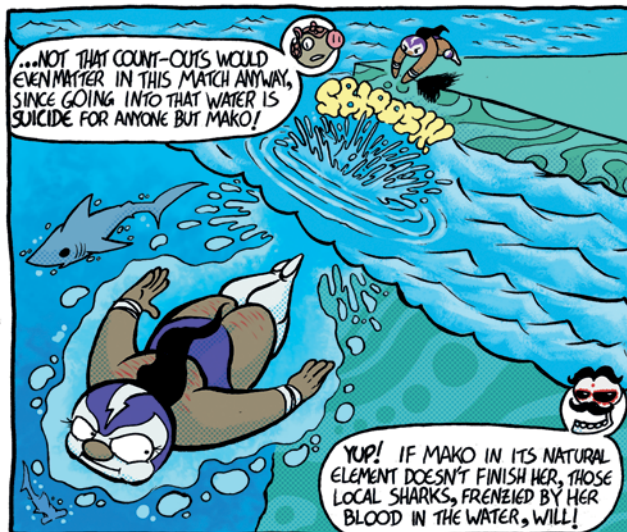
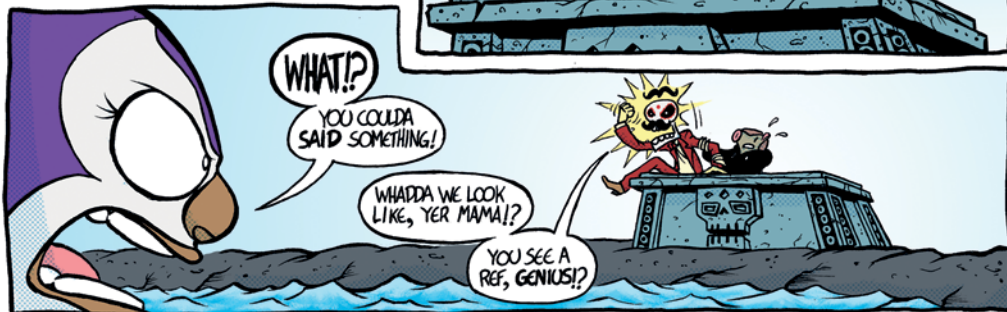
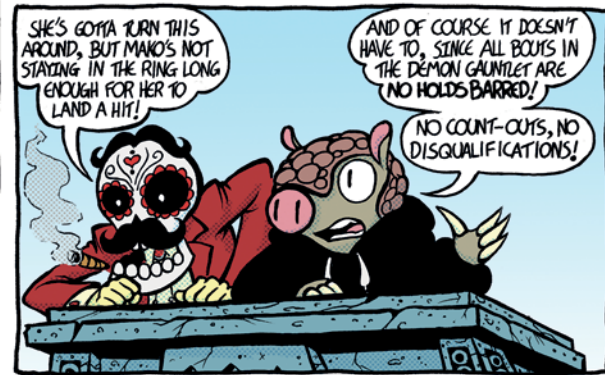




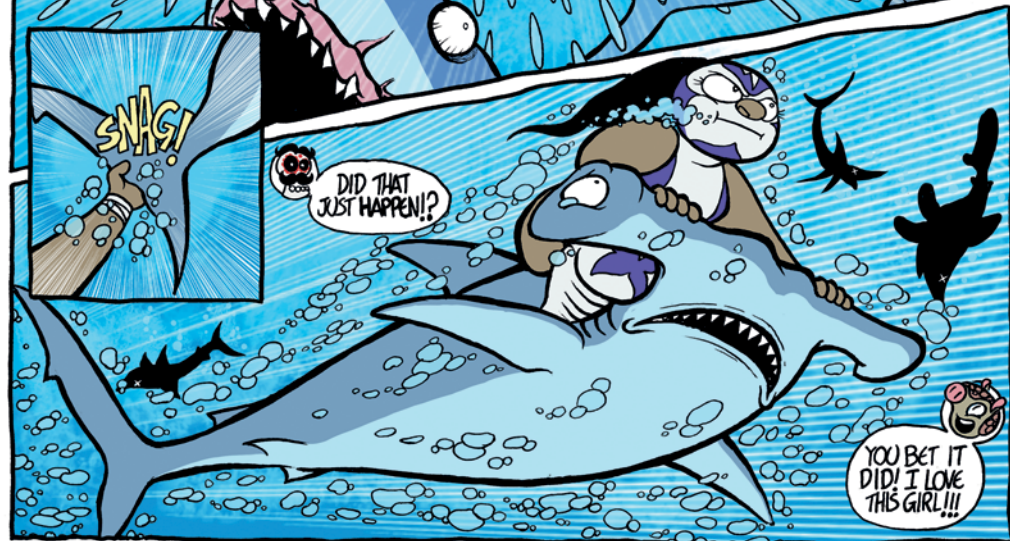




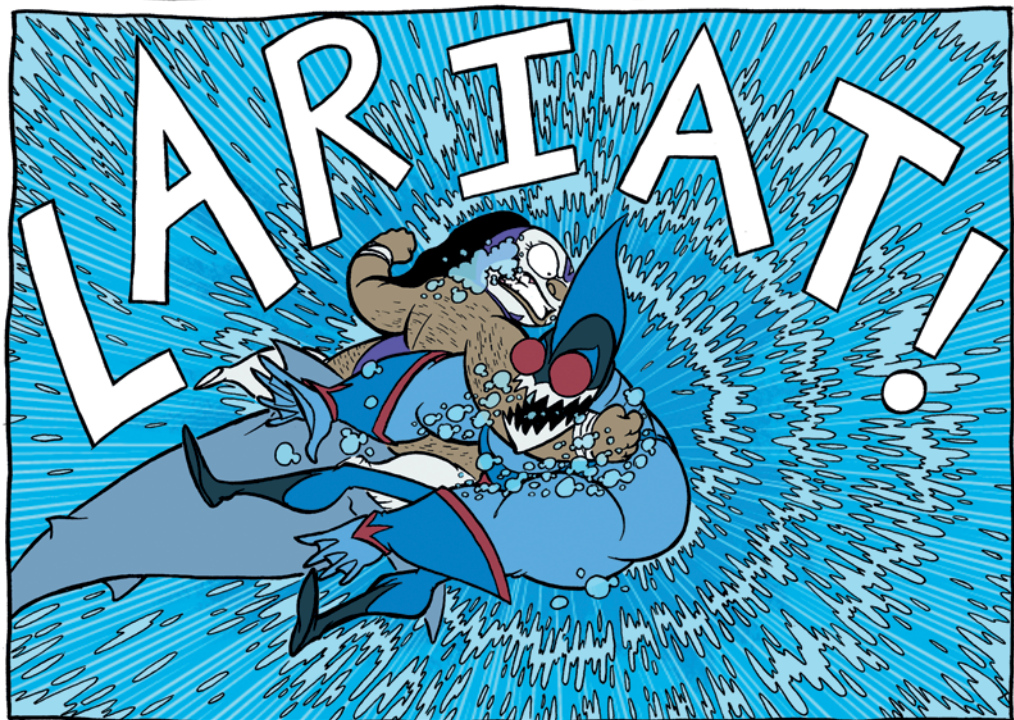
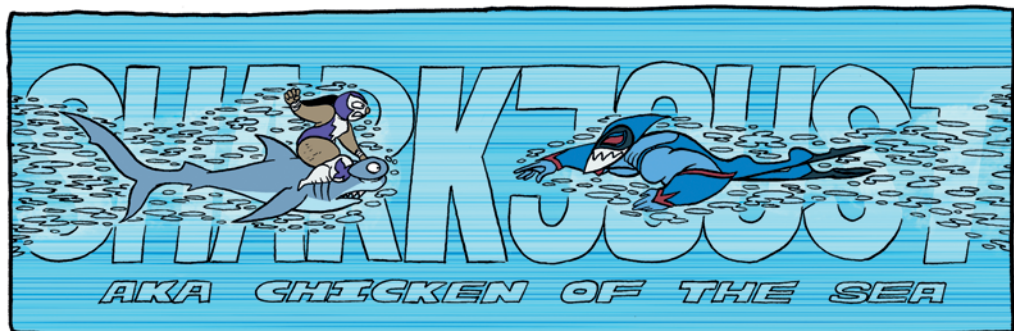
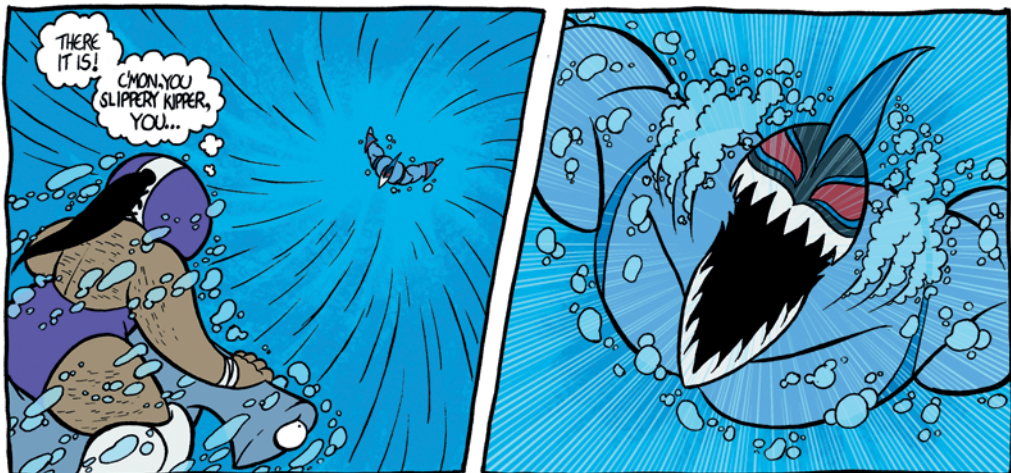




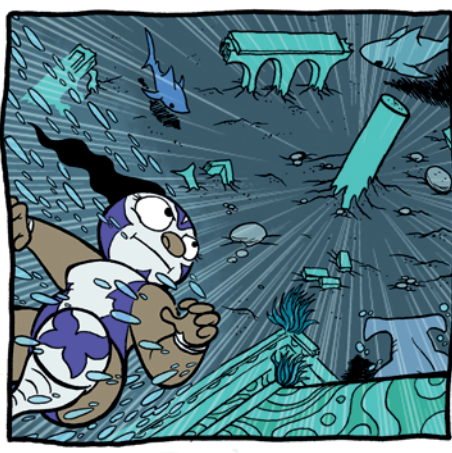
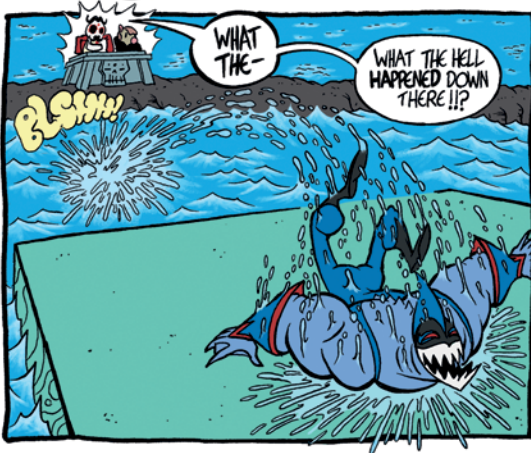
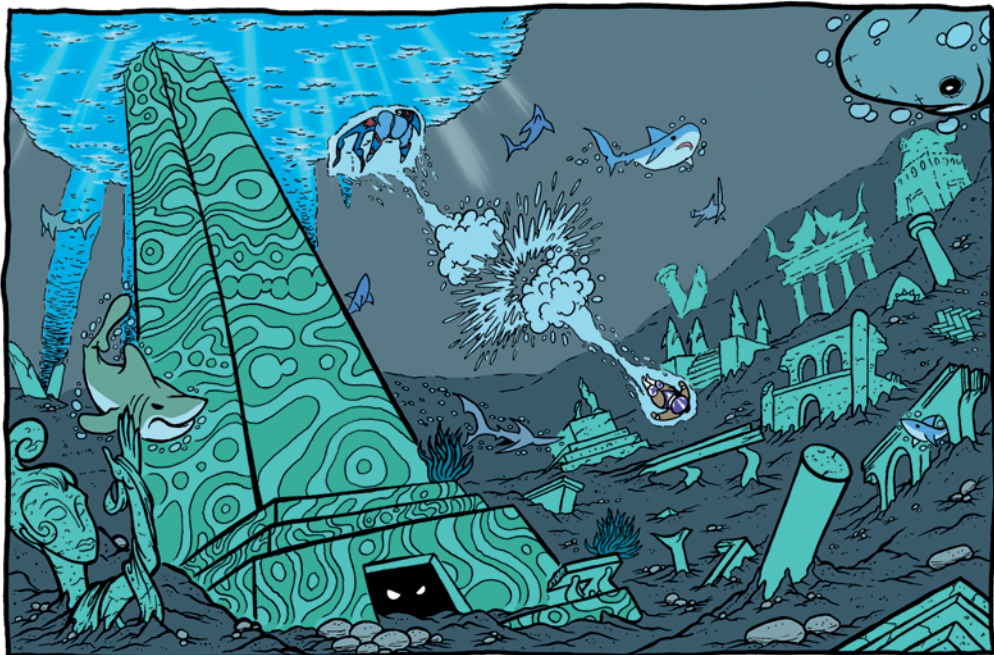
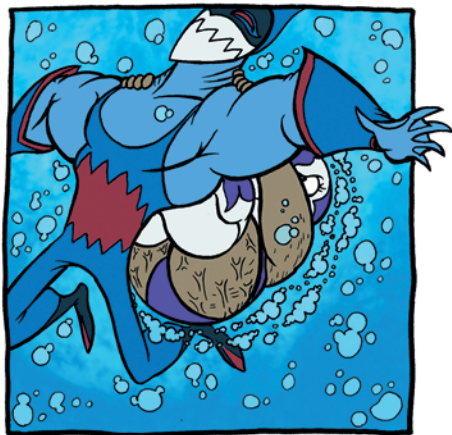
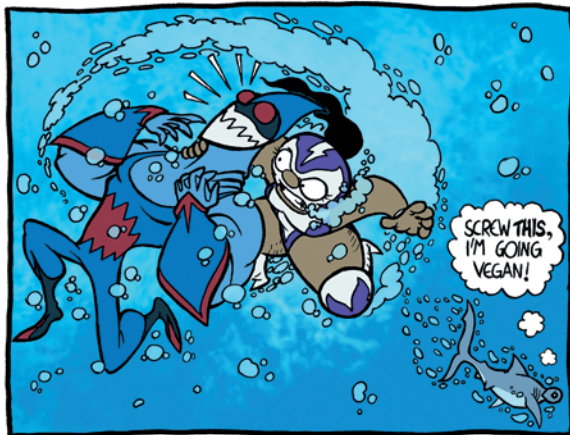




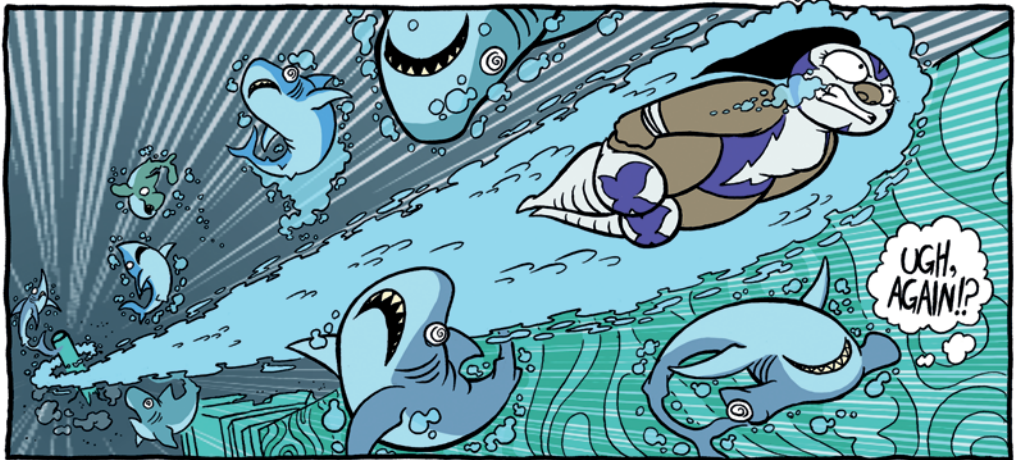
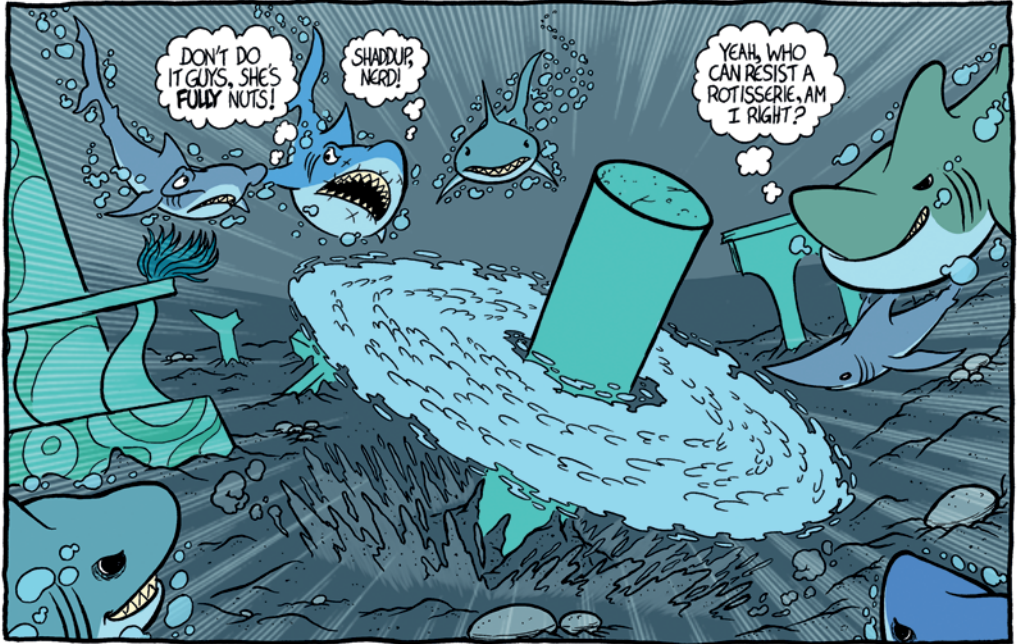
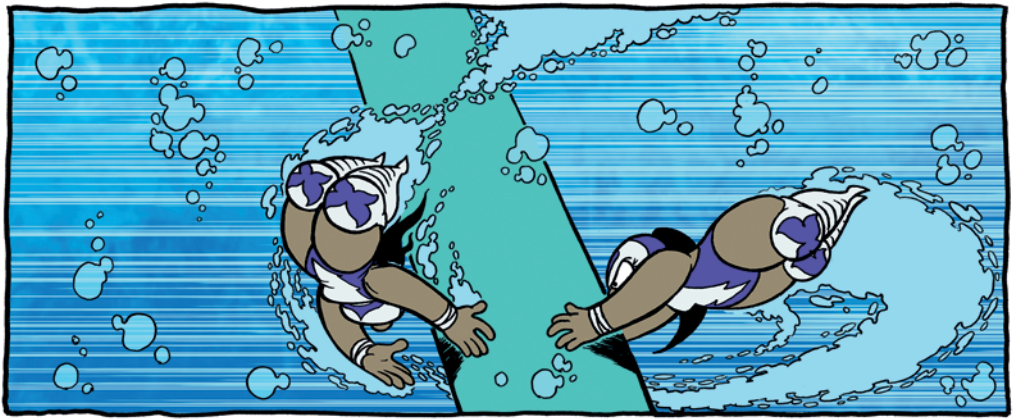




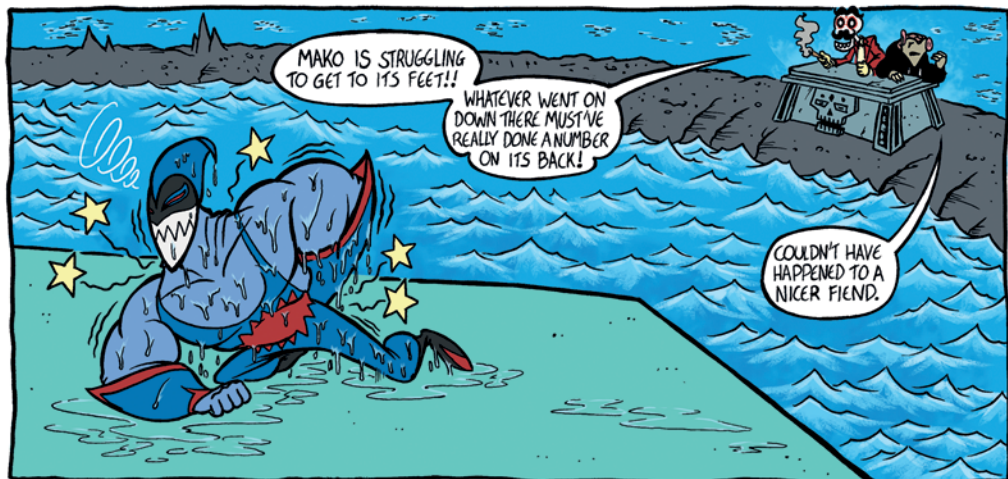




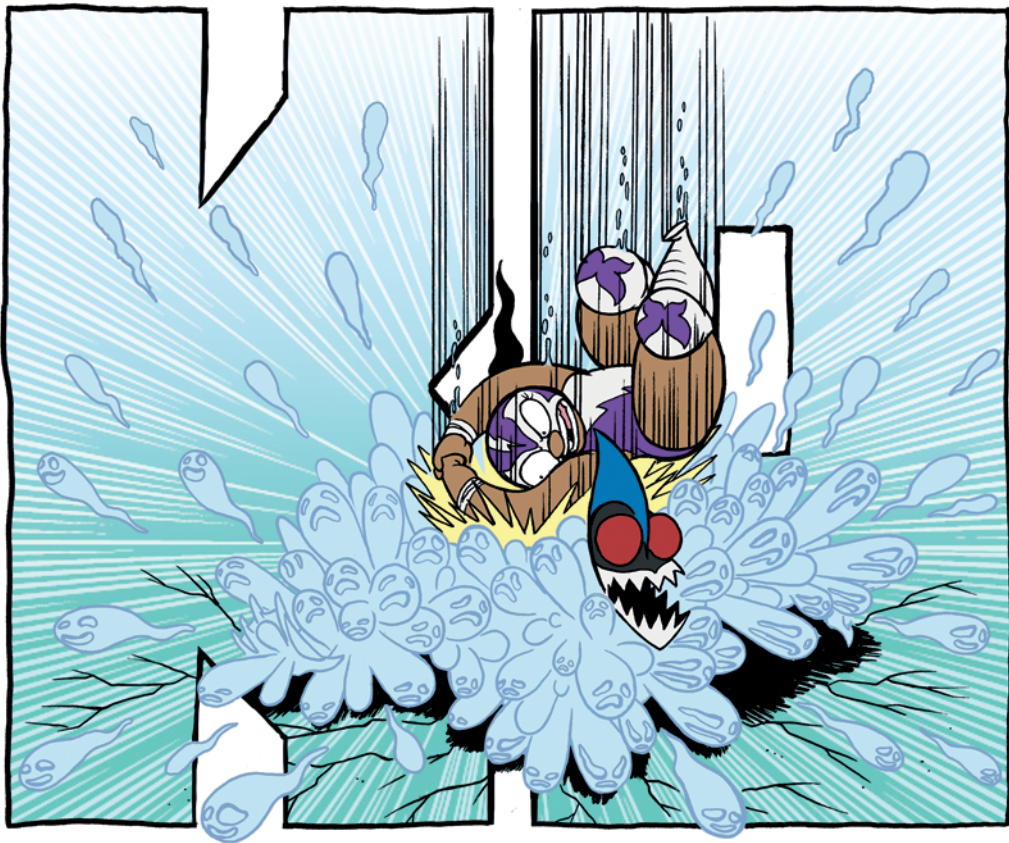
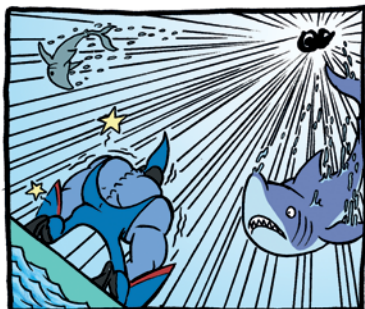


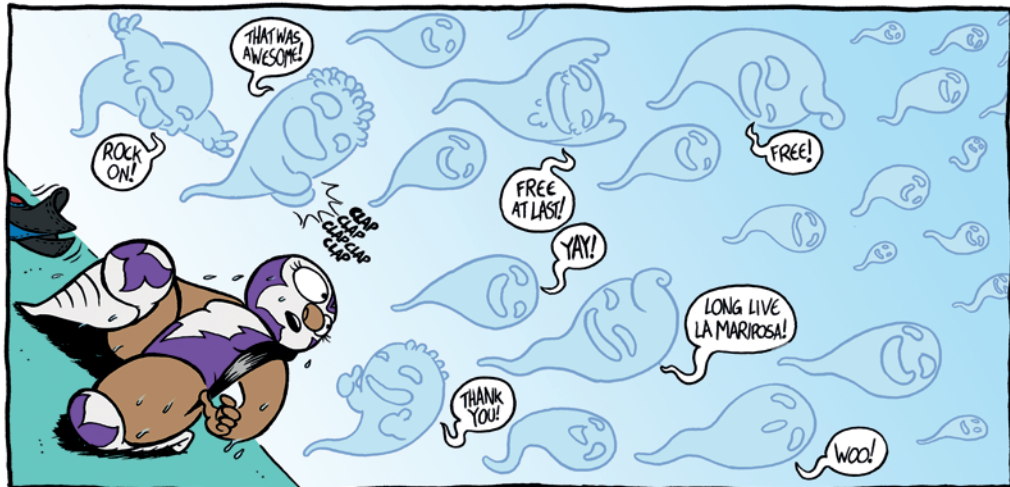








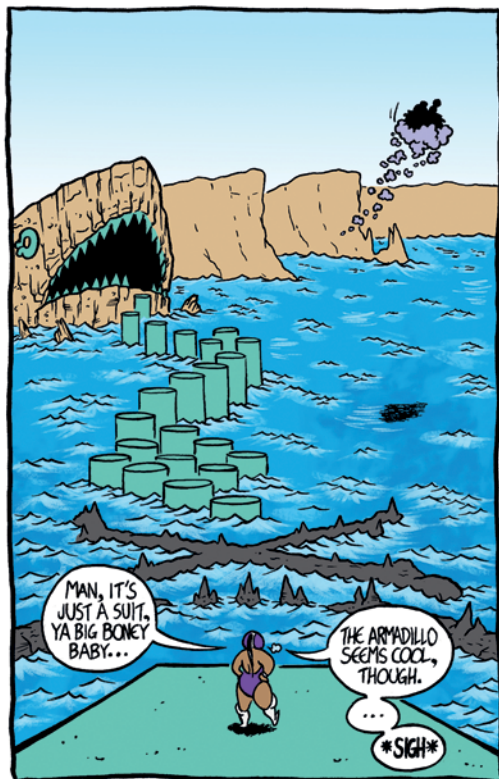
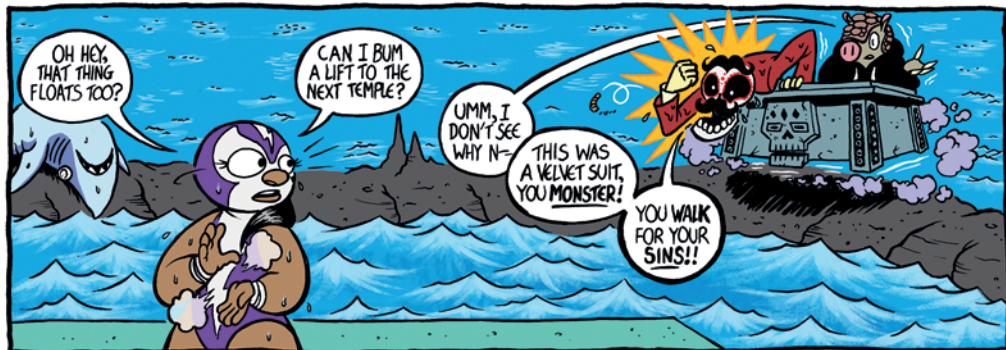








## INVENTORY

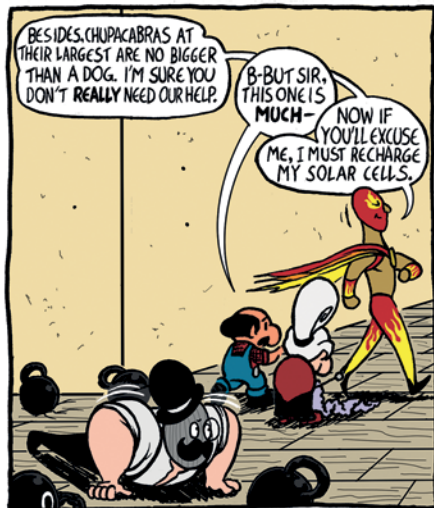
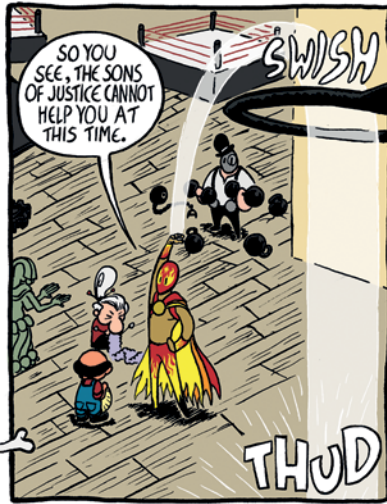
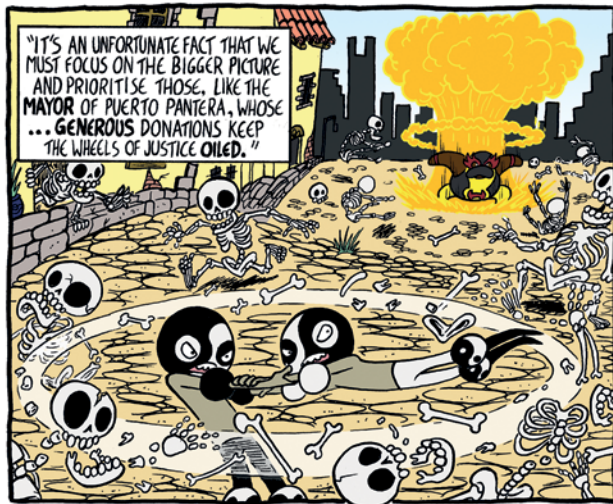
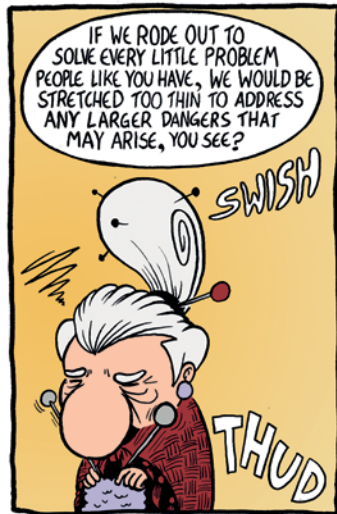


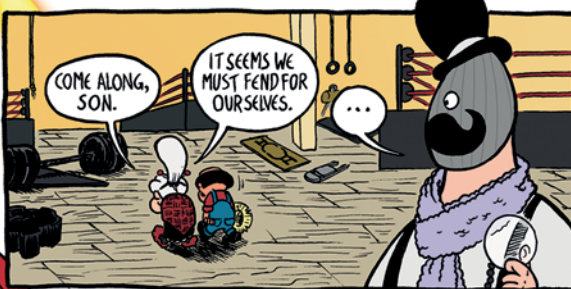
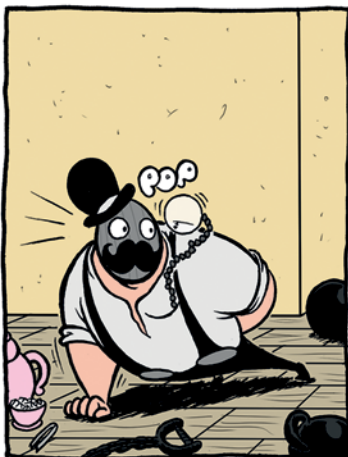




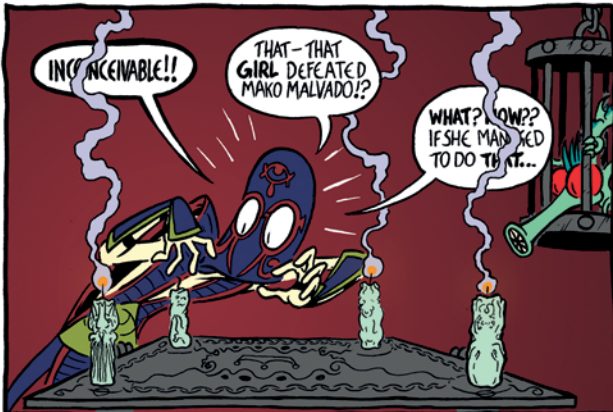










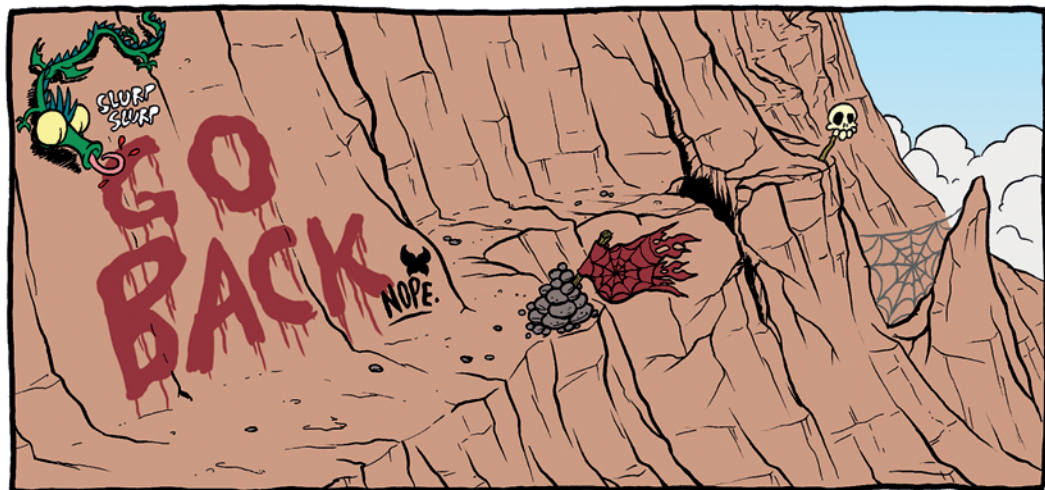


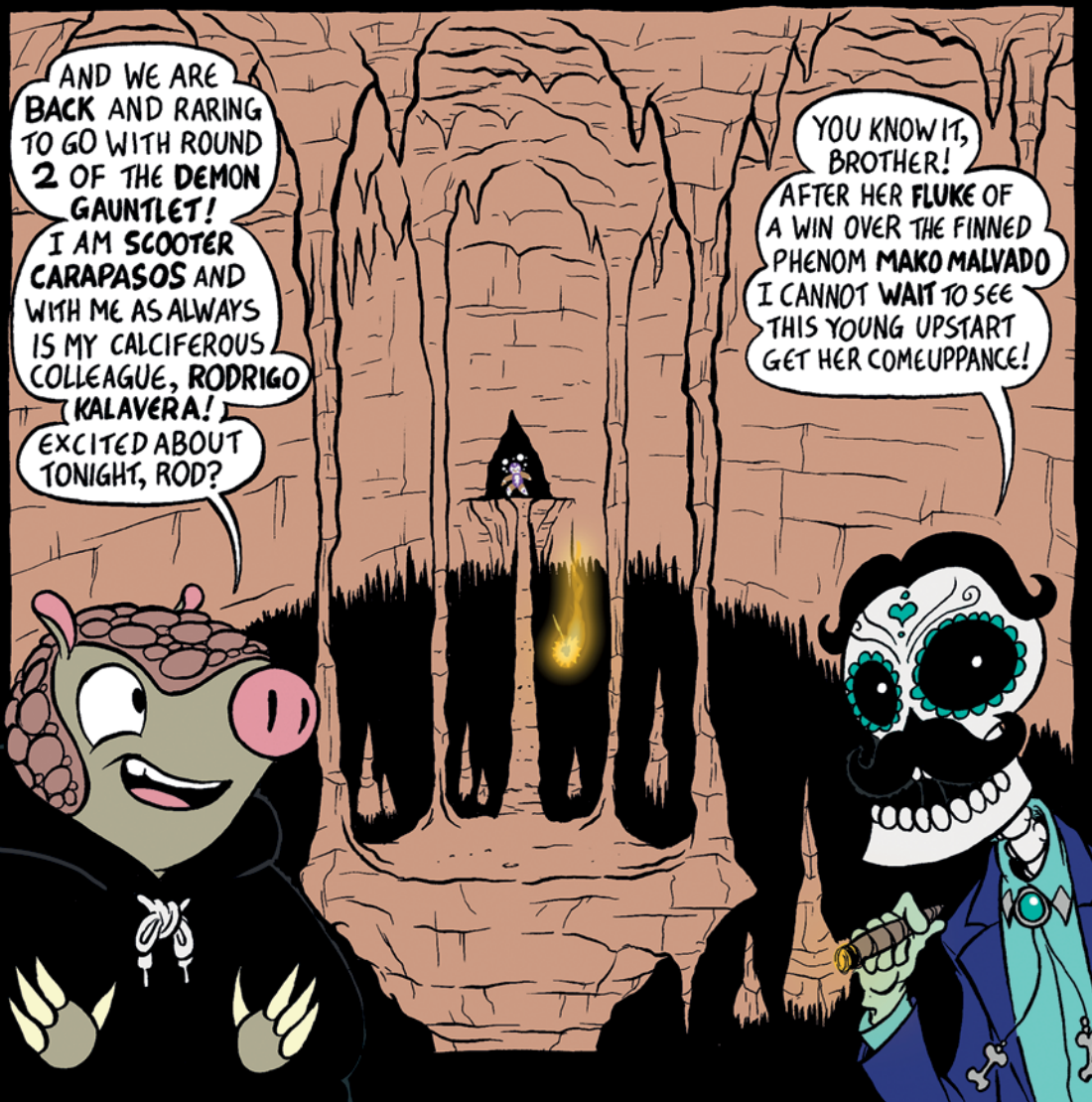
# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

THE DEMON GAUNTLET: CHAPTER 2















CRUNCH!











AND  
NOW...

THE **SECOND**  
OF THE DEMONS  
OF THE GAUNTLET...



IT IS...  
**THE WEBBED  
WARLORD!!**



**THE ARACHNID  
ATROCITY!**

**THE SILK-WEAVING  
SULTAN OF SMACKDOWN!!!**

\*GULP\*

STRAIGHT FROM  
THE AUTHOR'S  
NIGHTMARES...

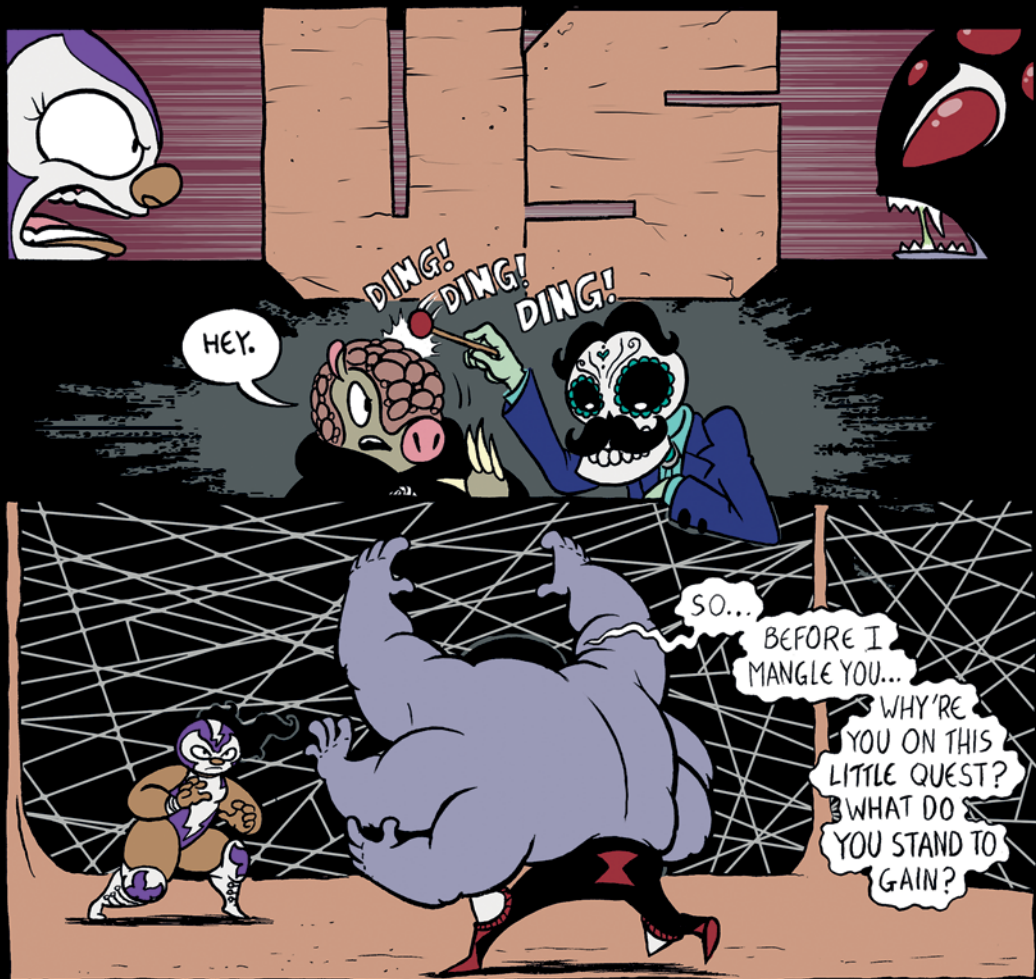
**TAR  
ANTULAR!!**

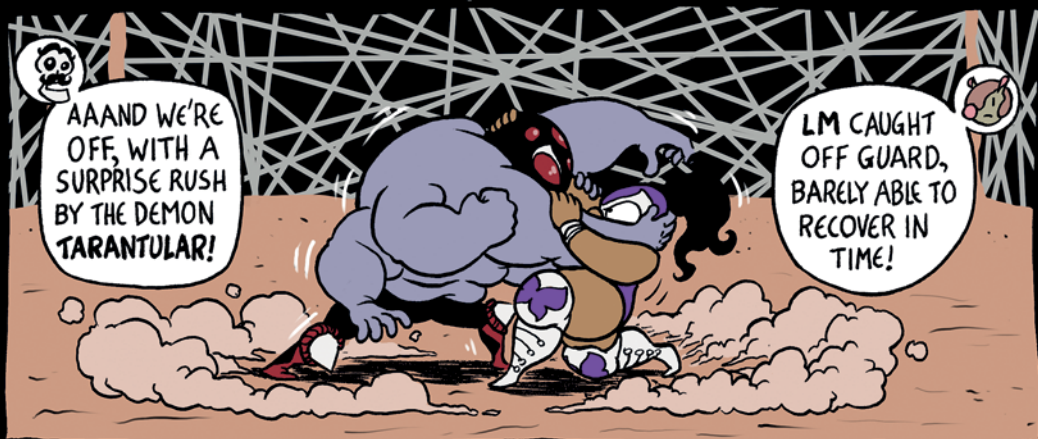










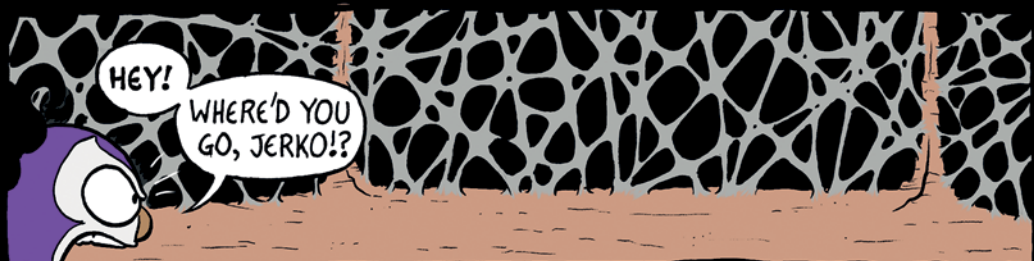






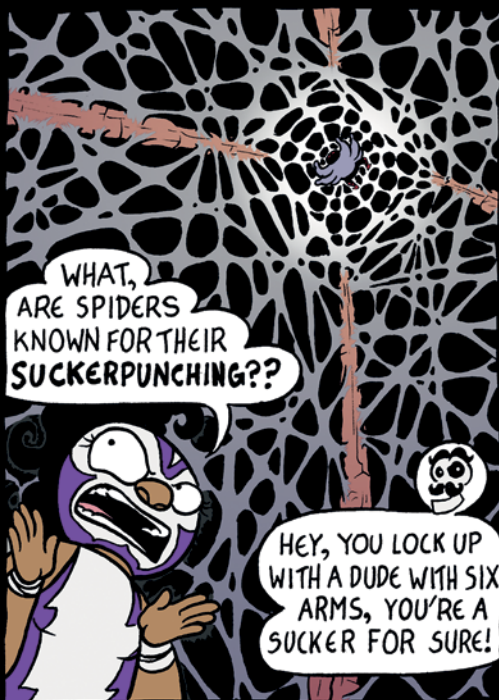
LM ABLE  
TO REALIGN  
HERSELF...

THAT WEBBING IS  
SOME TOUGH STUFF!  
IT'LL DO SOME DAMAGE  
IF YOU HIT IT WRONG!



HEY!

WHERE'D YOU  
GO, JERKO?!



WHAT,  
ARE SPIDERS  
KNOWN FOR THEIR  
SUCKERPUNCHING???

HEY, YOU LOCK UP  
WITH A DUDE WITH SIX  
ARMS, YOU'RE A  
SUCKER FOR SURE!



HAH!

YOU  
KNOW IT  
GIRLY!!

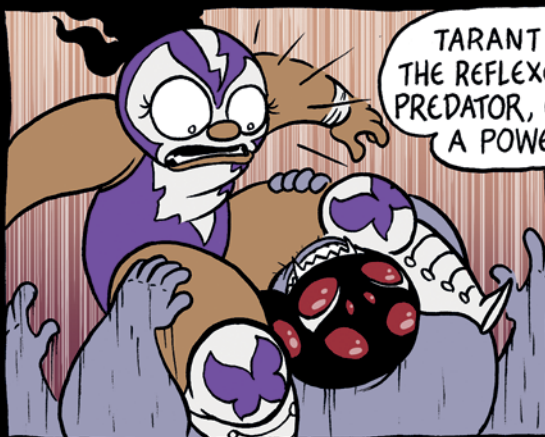


YA DON'T  
OFTEN SEE A  
GUY DROP THREE  
ELBOWS ATTH'  
SAME DANG  
TIME!!



LM SEIZES ON  
THE OPENING, GOING  
FOR -WHOA!- A  
FRONT-FLIP  
LEGDROP!!

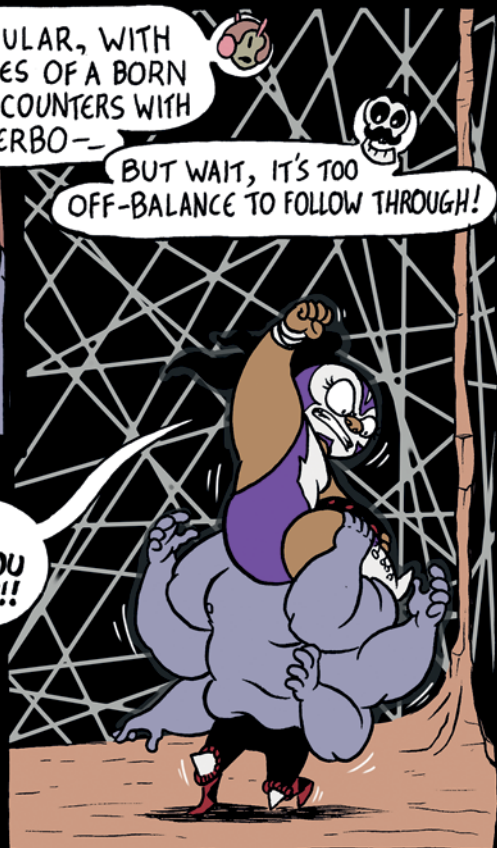




TARANTULAR, WITH  
THE REFLEXES OF A BORN  
PREDATOR, COUNTERS WITH  
A POWERBO--



BUT WAIT, IT'S TOO  
OFF-BALANCE TO FOLLOW THROUGH!



OH  
NO YOU  
DON'T!!

OOOOOOOOOOUCH...



KRAK!

KRAK!

KRAK!

KRAK!

KRAK!



# ENOUGH!!!



HEY!









NNGH...

HEFT

TARANTULAR'S BRUTAL CHOP  
COMBO HAS SLAPPED THE FIGHT  
OUTTA LA MARIPOSA!

6 TIMES THE  
HANDS EQUALS 6  
TIMES THE PAIN!

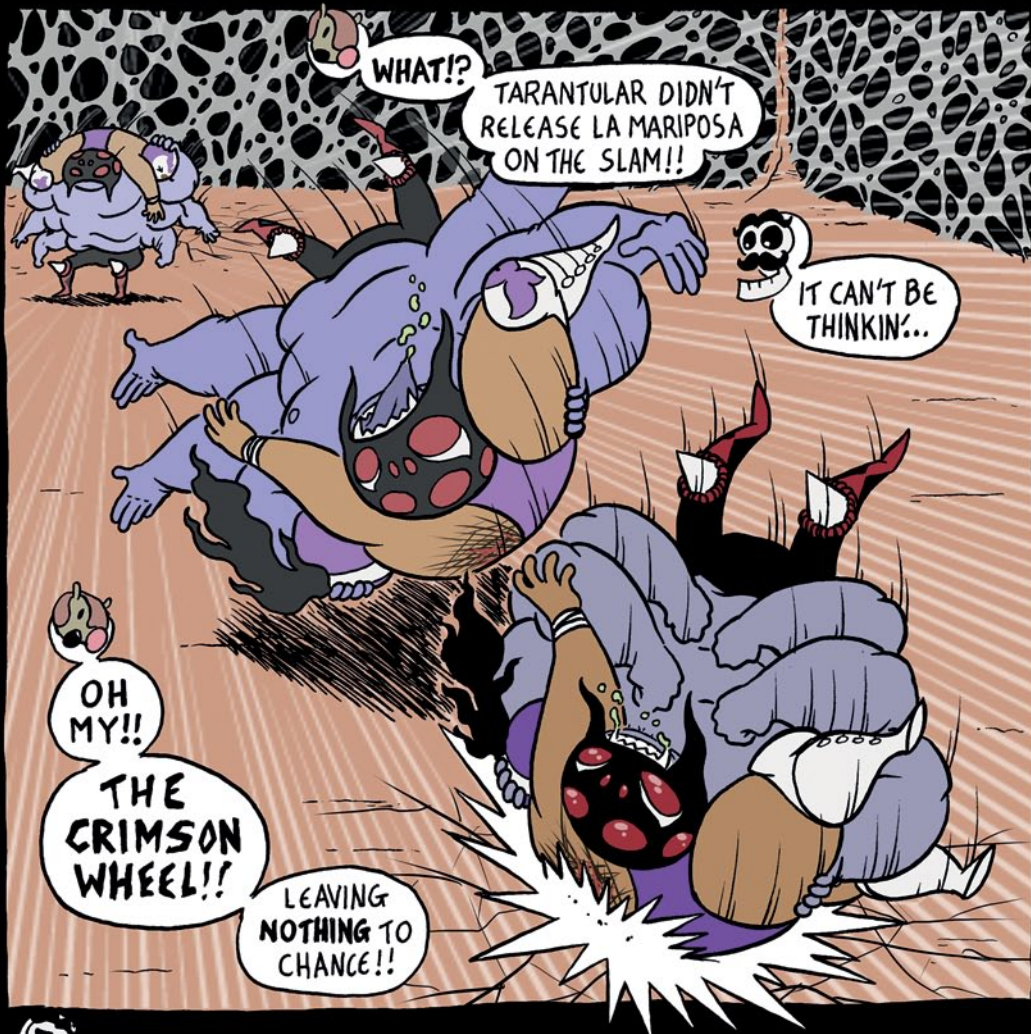
IT'S NOT FINISHED YET THOUGH,  
LIFTING LM INTO A FIREMAN'S CARRY!



BAH GAWD  
IT'S TH'

ROLLING  
VENOM  
SLAM!!





WHAT!?

TARANTULAR DIDN'T  
RELEASE LA MARIPOSA  
ON THE SLAM!!

IT CAN'T BE  
THINKIN'...

OH  
MY!!

THE  
CRIMSON  
WHEEL!!

LEAVING  
NOTHING TO  
CHANCE!!

SHE'S NOT  
MOVING...



COULD THIS  
BE IT FOR LA  
MARIPOSA?





YOU KNOW  
THE **SAD** PART OF  
ALL THIS?

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT  
YOU'RE **REALLY** DOING HERE.

YOU GOT SENT ON THIS FOOL'S  
ERRAND, SO STARSTRUCK YOU  
NEVER THOUGHT TO ASK WHY.

AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO  
DIE, ALONE AND IGNORANT, IN  
THIS FORGOTTEN CAVE.



MA-RI-  
PO-SA!!

CLAP-CLAP  
CLAPCLAPCLAP

MA-RI-PO-SA!

CLAP-CLAP-CLAPCLAPCLAP

MA-R-PO-SA!

CLAP-CLAP-CLAP

MA-R-PO-SA!

CLAP-CLAP-CLAP





I'M GLAD YOU'RE AWAKE.  
I WANT YOU TO SEE HOW  
IT ENDS FOR YOU.

YOUR BONES,  
A POWDER.

NNGH!!

CRK

CK

CRNCH

YOUR LEGEND,  
A FOOTNOTE.



...AND  
YOUR FACE...



...A  
MESS!!



BAH GAWD,  
LA MARIPOSA RALLIES  
AND TARANTULAR IS  
SPLIT OPEN!!

W-WAIT,  
DID...

DID SHE  
JUST..?





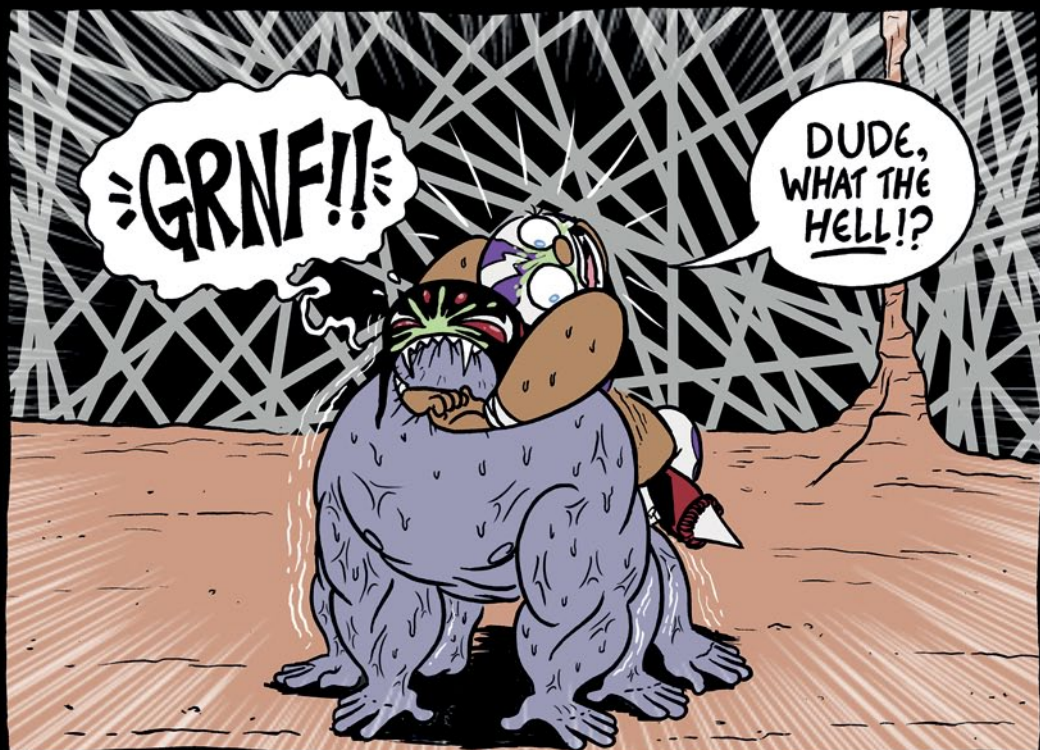




**GHRAAAAAA!!!**











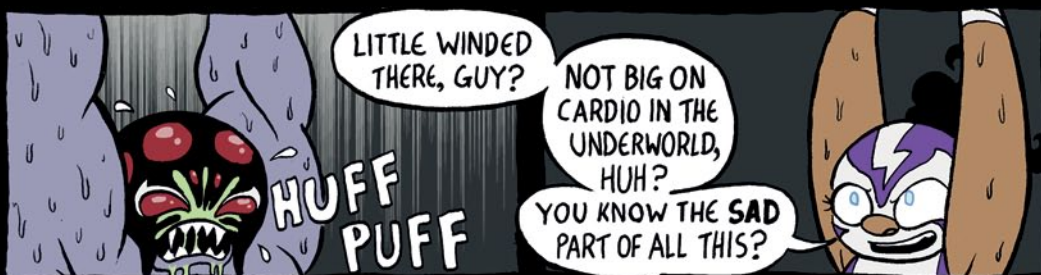
WHAT  
IS TARANTULAR  
THINKING RIGHT  
NOW??

IS IT  
PLANNING TO  
USE GRAVITY TO  
SHAKE LM  
OFF?

IT AIN'T  
PLANNIN' ANYTHING!  
THIS IS PURE  
DESPERATION!















LA MARIPOSA SWIFTLY REVISES  
HER SUBMISSION STRATEGY, LOCKING  
IN A NEW HOLD. BUT KEEPING  
HER WEIGHT FORWARD TO  
PREVENT TARANTULAR  
TRYING THAT HANDWALKING  
STUNT AGAIN!

WILL YOU  
JUDGE ME IF I  
SAY I'M STARTIN' TO  
ROOT FOR THIS  
GIRL??



TAP!



FFF

NEVER!



KKK



TAP!!



T-TO THE  
DEATH!!



...SO BE  
IT, DEMON.

**CRACK!!!**



TAP! TAP!

TAP!

TAP!

TAP!

TAP!

AAA

**ARRRRGH!!!**



# WINNER LA MARIPOSA!



IT WAS A  
CLOSE CALL,  
BUT LA MARIPOSA  
HAS BEATEN  
TARANTULAR!!

"JUST  
A HUMAN",  
MY PATOOT!

THE PURPLE  
POWERHOUSE IS  
ONE STEP CLOSER  
TO THE PRIZE!!





NOOOOOOAAAAA



THEY  
EAT THEIR  
WOUNDED.





NO GHOSTS  
THIS TIME?

THE LAST GUY  
WAS GHOSTS.



BIG  
FAN.



NICE.



SO THAT'S  
TWO DOWN, TWO  
TO GO!

NEXT UP, THE  
HIGH-FLYING HELLION,  
EL MURCIELAGO!

GONNA BE QUITE  
A SHOWDOWN, EH  
SCOOTS?

YEAH...

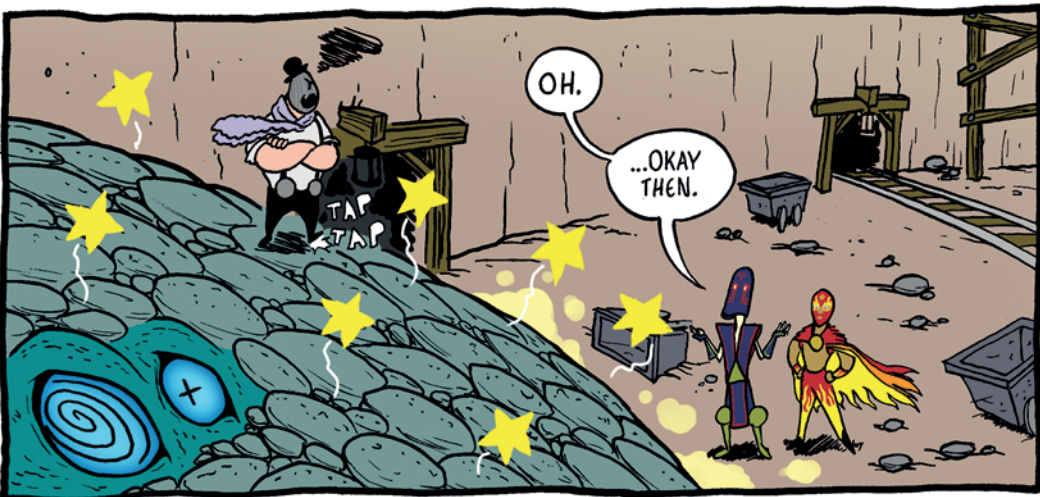
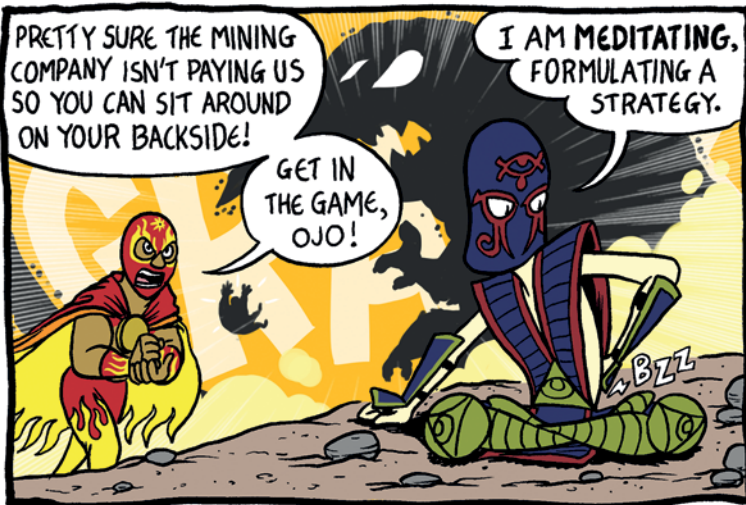
...CAN'T  
WAIT.



MEANWHILE...











# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

THE DEMON GAUNTLET: CHAPTER 3





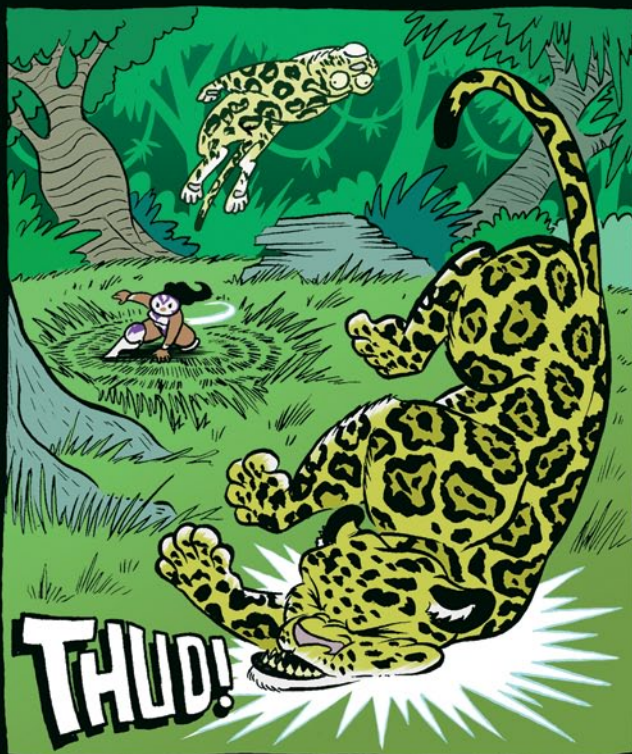
















OKAY...  
SO THE NEXT  
TEMPLE SHOULD BE  
RIGHT AROUND...



...OH.







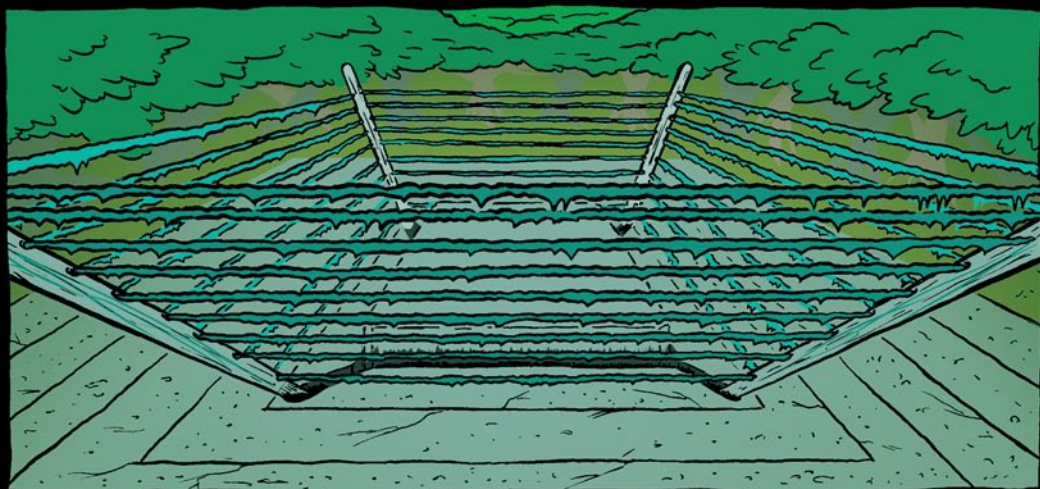














IMPRESSIVE...

WOULDA  
THOUGHT TH' HUMIDITY'D  
GUM UP TH' WORKS...

THAT'S ANCIENT ENGINEERIN'  
FOR YA! THEY DON'T BUILD 'EM  
LIKE THEY USED TO!!

WE ARE HERE AT  
THE NOBLE AN' STORIED  
CHANGIN' PYRAMID  
OF CAMATZO!

I'M RODRIGO  
KALavera!

THAT'S  
SCOOTER  
CARAPASOS!

DRUM  
DRUM

...AN' THIS  
IS ROUND 3 OF  
TH' DEMON GAUN-

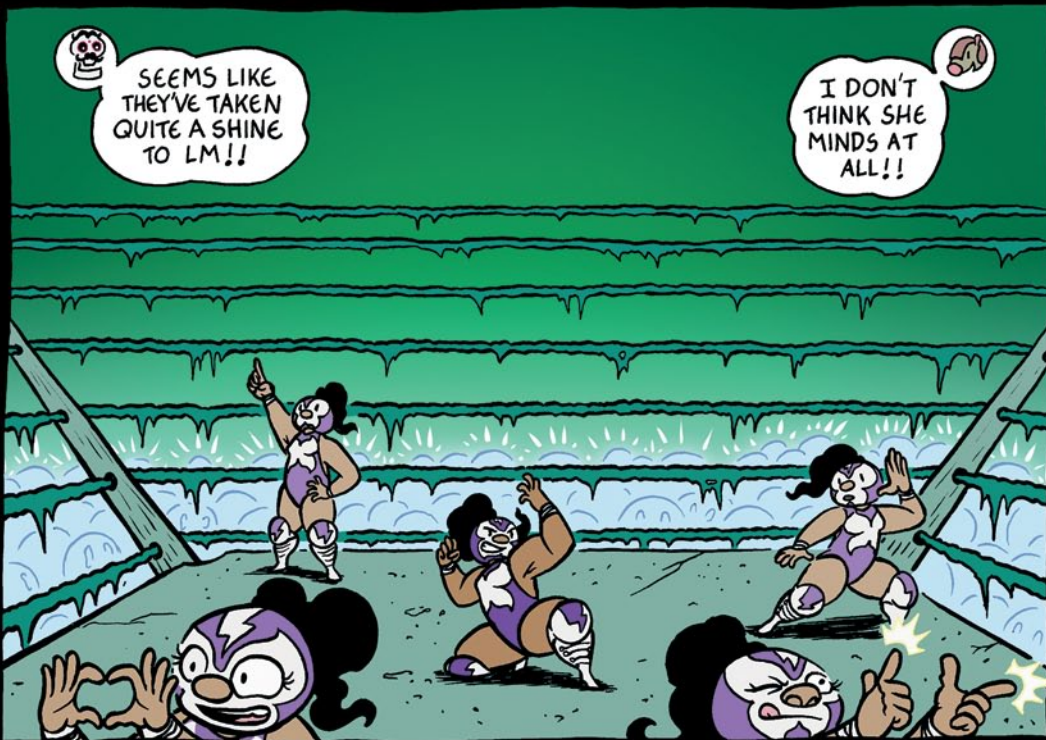
HI GUYS!!  
LONG TIME,  
NO SEE!

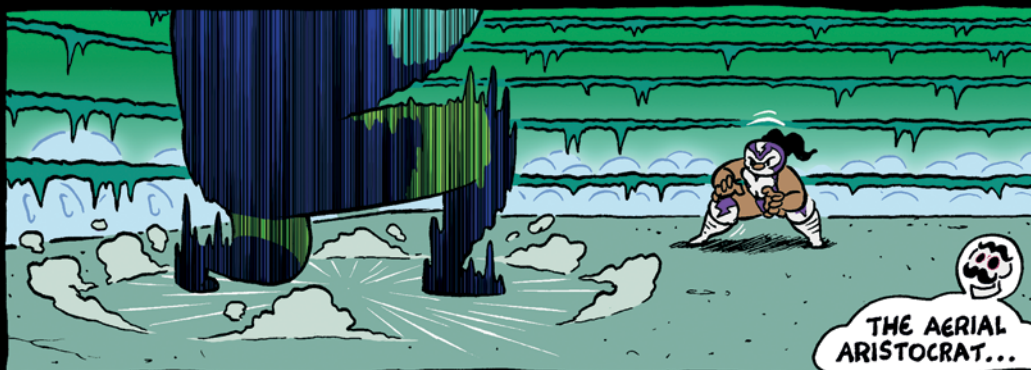
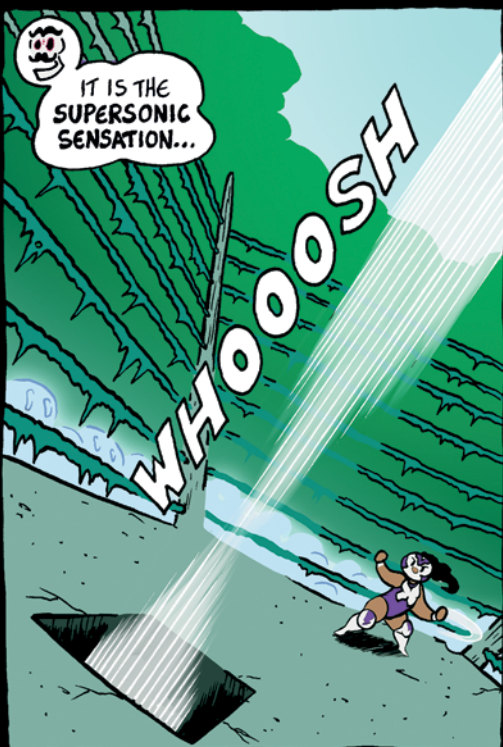
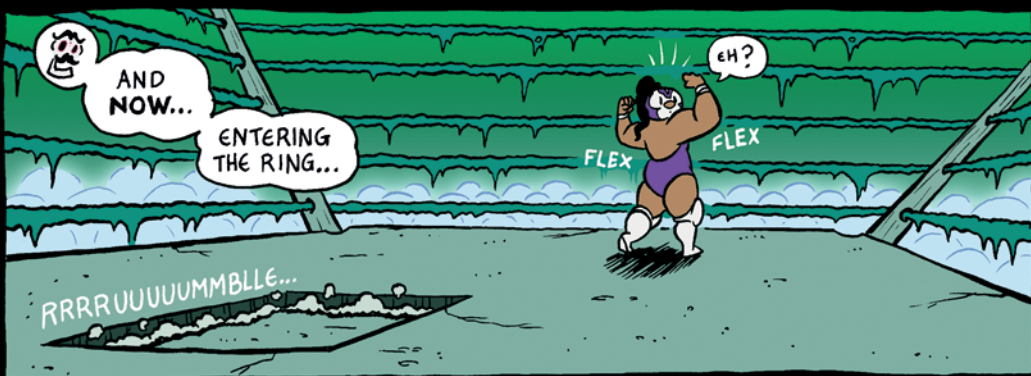
SCOOTER,  
ARE YOU WEARIN'  
A BOW TIE!?

YOU LOOK  
ADORABLE!

AWGEE  
HA HA











# MURKIELAGO





HEY, LISTEN, I KNOW  
IT'S TRADITION TO THROW  
SOME SHADE BEFORE  
A FIGHT...

...BUT I WALKED  
LIKE TWENTY MILES  
THROUGH JUNGLE TO GET  
HERE AN' IT'S GETTIN'  
ON FOR TIME...

...SO CAN  
WE JUST SKIP  
STRAIGHT TO THE  
BODYSLAM?

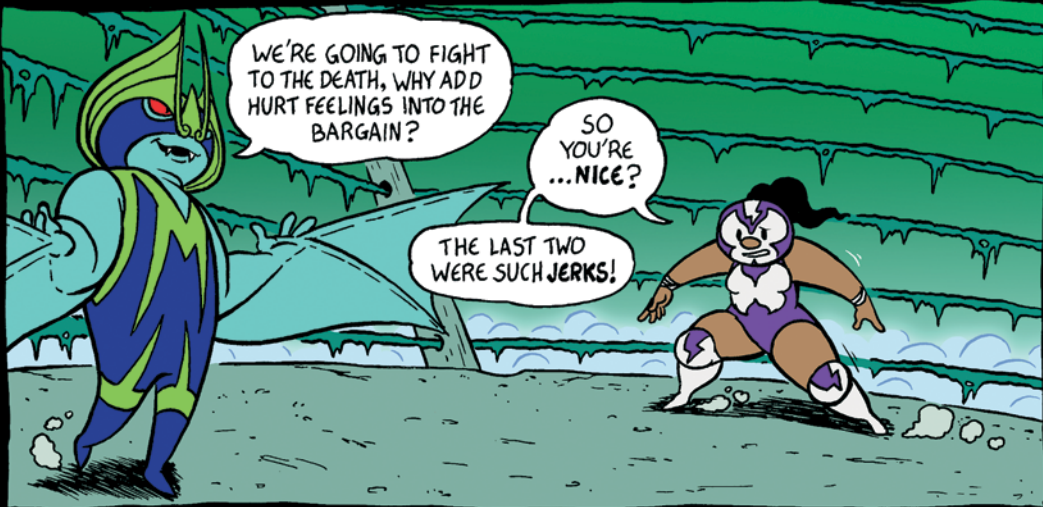
...SURE.

SHRUG

OH WHATEVER,  
IT WAS WORTH  
A...

WAIT,  
WHAT?

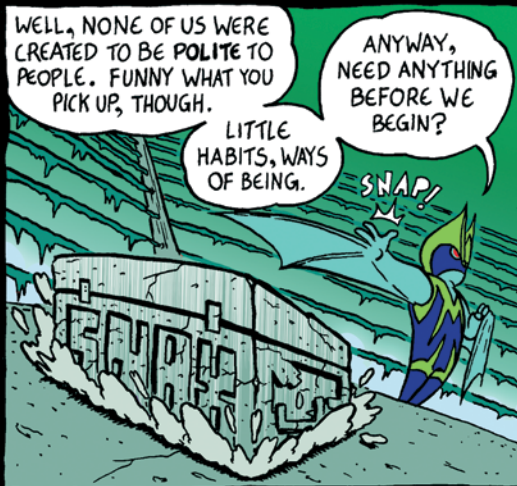




WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT  
TO THE DEATH, WHY ADD  
HURT FEELINGS INTO THE  
BARGAIN?

SO  
YOU'RE  
...NICE?

THE LAST TWO  
WERE SUCH JERKS!



WELL, NONE OF US WERE  
CREATED TO BE POLITE TO  
PEOPLE. FUNNY WHAT YOU  
PICK UP, THOUGH.

ANYWAY,  
NEED ANYTHING  
BEFORE WE  
BEGIN?

LITTLE  
HABITS, WAYS  
OF BEING.

SNAP!



GOT WATER... CHIPS  
'N' GUAC... GOT A NICE  
CHARDONNAY IN HERE  
SOMEWHERE...

UH, I'M  
GOOD TO  
GO, MY  
DUDE.

HEY, YOU SEEM  
PRETTY CHILL, I  
KINDA FEEL BAD  
ABOUT HAVIN'  
TO EXPLODE YA.



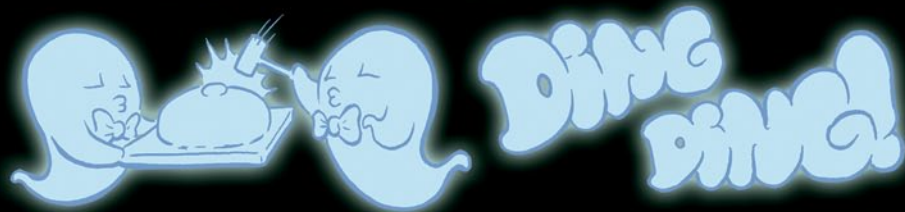
CAN'T WE...  
FIGURE SOMETHING  
OUT?

RULES ARE RULES.  
YOU NEED THIS MASK,  
AND I CAN'T LET YOU  
TAKE IT FROM ME.

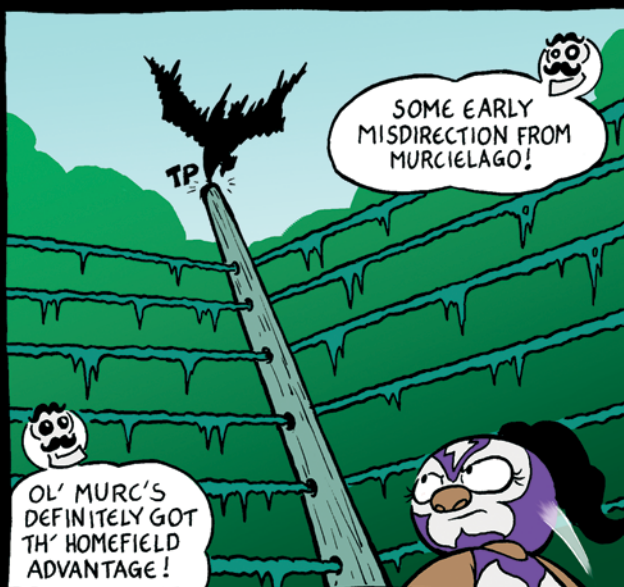
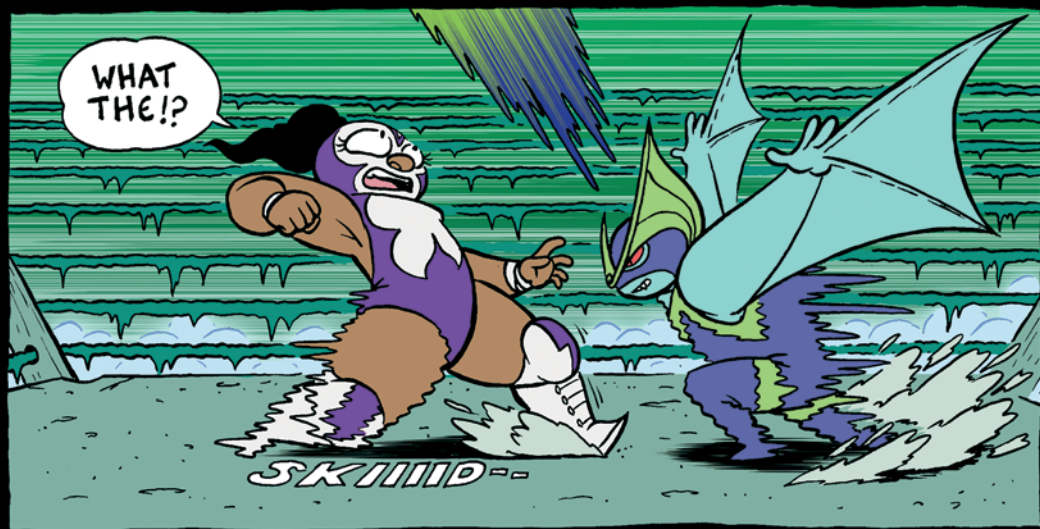
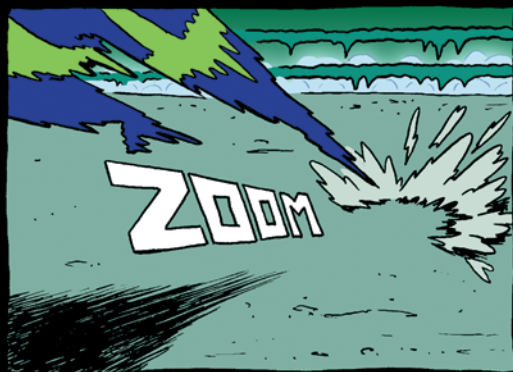
IF IT MAKES YOU  
FEEL BETTER, IF  
YOU PULL YOUR  
PUNCHES...

...I  
WILL KILL  
YOU.

SNAP!



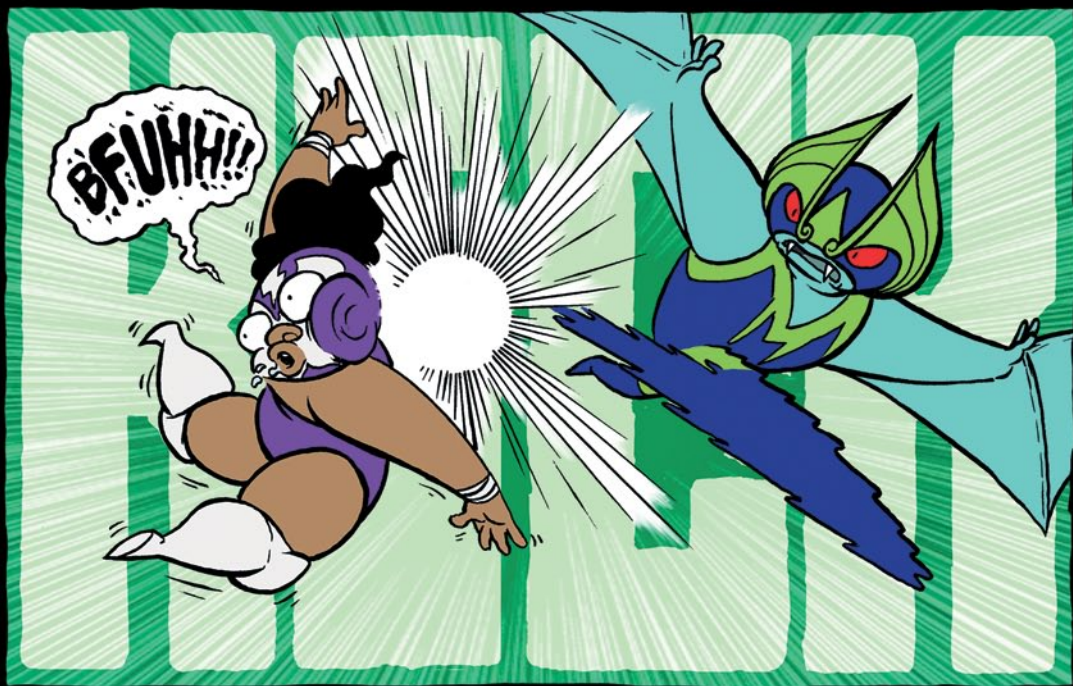




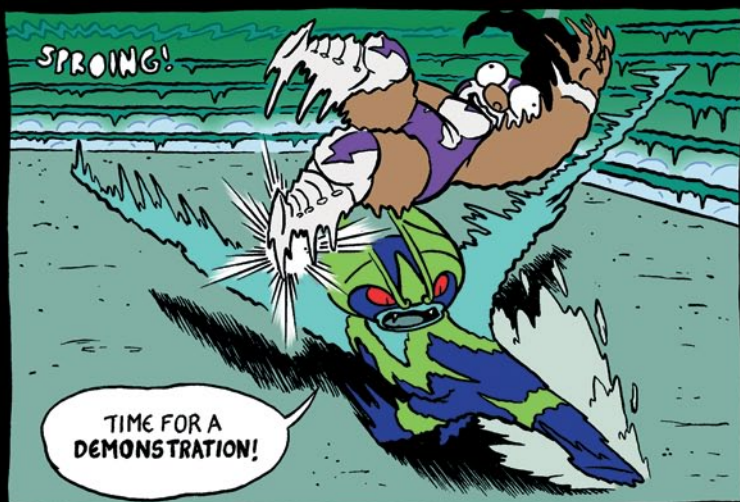
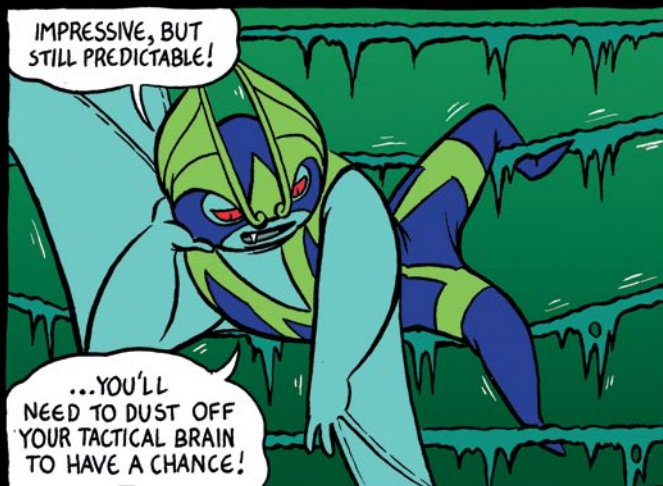
















MISDIRECTION!

PLAYING ON THE  
ASSUMPTION THAT AN  
OBVIOUS HIGHFLYER  
WON'T GO FOR THE  
LEGS!



WHAT'S  
WITH ALL  
THE  
ADVICE?

AIN'T  
WE FIGHTIN'  
TO THE DEATH  
HERE?



...I  
DON'T  
KNOW.

I **HAVE** TO DESTROY  
ANYONE WHO WANTS TO  
TAKE THIS MASK...

IT'S AN  
IMPERATIVE WOVEN  
INTO THE FABRIC OF  
MY BEING.

AND YET, I'M  
CONFLICTED.

THESE GHOSTS, THE RAW  
MATTER THAT FORMERLY  
COMPOSED THE BODIES  
OF **MAKO MALVADO**  
AND **TARANTULAR**...



...THEY SEEM TO  
BE DRAWN TO YOU  
SOMEHOW...

MAYBE THOSE  
SHAPING ME FEEL  
THAT CONNECTION  
TOO?



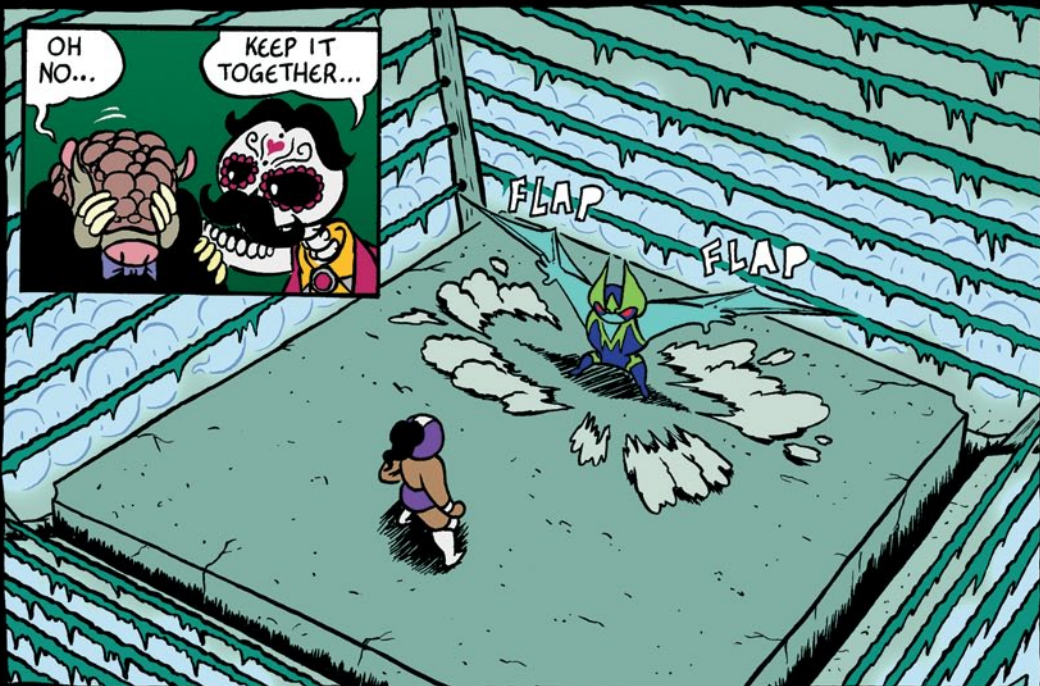
IT DOESN'T  
MATTER.

NO MORE  
ADVICE.

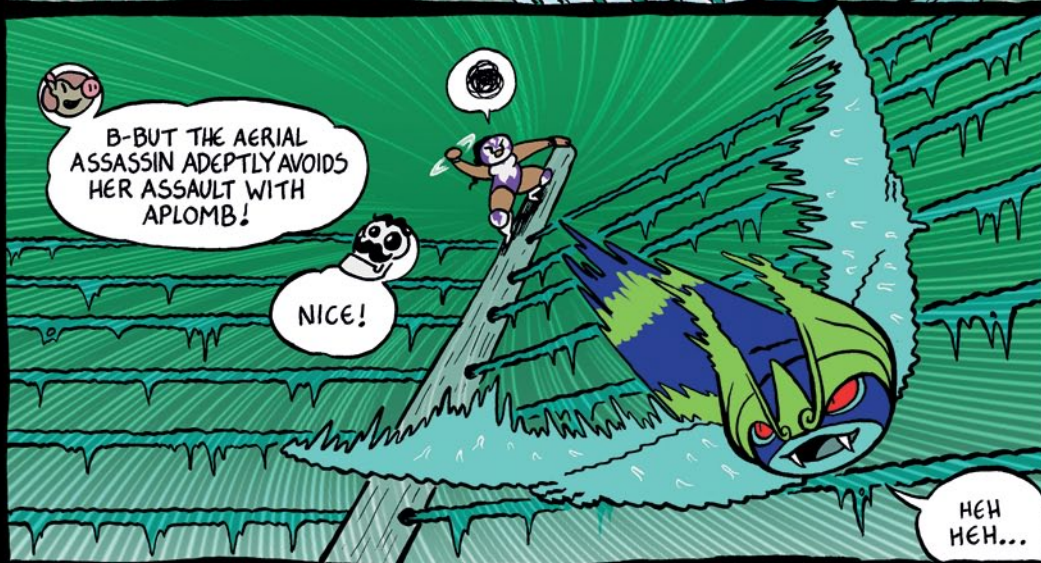
NO MORE  
MERCY.



















THAT ONE  
REALLY RANG  
MY BELL...

NEXT ONE'S  
LIABLE TO TAKE  
MY HEAD OFF.



MURC'S BACKED  
OFF, AIN'T PRESSIN'  
HIS ADVANTAGE FOR  
SOME REASON...



IS HE...  
CATCHING HIS  
BREATH?

HUFF  
PUFF



HE WAS RIGHT  
ABOUT ONE THING,  
THOUGH...

I CAN'T  
BULL MY WAY  
THROUGH  
THIS.

GOTTA  
ANALYSE AN'  
STRATEGISE!

$$(x) = \frac{\Delta \theta}{\Delta t}$$

$$u \sin \theta$$

$$u \cos \theta$$

$$v_{ab} - m_b \left( \frac{v_{az} - 0}{\Delta t} \right)$$

$$\theta = (t)_2 (t_1 - t_2) + \frac{1}{2} a (t_E - t_0)^2$$

$$T_N = \sqrt{m}$$

$$F = \frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

$$N + F \sin \theta \leq \mu N$$

OKAY, HE'S GOT BEEFY  
ARMS BUT ATTACKS WITH  
JUST KICKS... DELICATE  
WING MEMBRANES?

BURLY

DAINTY?

HE CAN'T DO HOLDS  
WITH THOSE ARMS, AND  
HE AIN'T GOT THE MASS  
FOR DIVES TO BE  
EFFECTIVE...



BETWEEN HIS NATURAL  
SPEED AND THE ADDED  
BOOST FROM HIS WINGS,  
AIN'T NO WAY I CAN  
CHASE HIM DOWN...



HE PREFERS TO  
HIT 'N' RUN RATHER'N  
KEEP UP TH' PRESSURE...  
IS HE TOYIN' WITH  
ME, OR...



HE DOESN'T SO MUCH  
FLY AS **GLIDE** OR GET  
MORE LIFT ON JUMPS...



AND HE KEEPS  
PERCHIN' OUTTA  
REACH... TO REST?

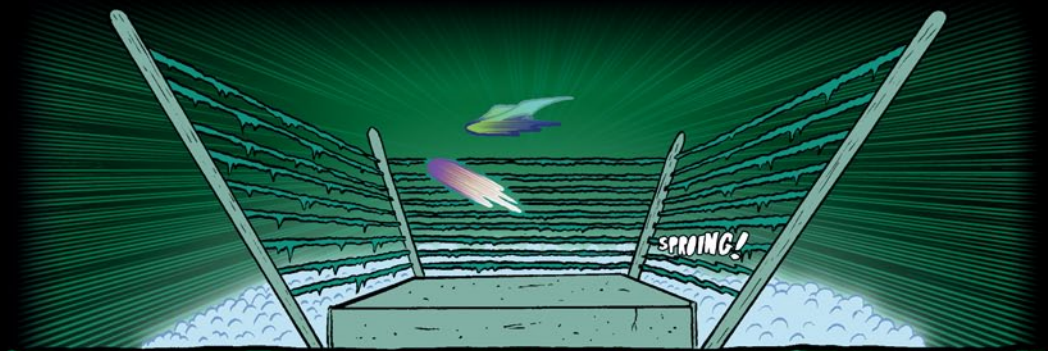


GOT  
IT!!

SNAP!











GOTTA  
>HUFF<  
LAND!



ME  
AGAIN!

ACK!!



>HUFF< I'M  
EXHAUSTED...

SLOWIN'  
DOWN, HUH?

I THINK I'M  
GETTIN' TH' HANG  
OF THESE  
ROPES!



CAN  
BARELY KEEP  
ALOFT...





















GUESS MY SURNAME'S NOT  
CARAPASOS FOR NOTHING, HUH?



HEH...



HA  
HA...



≥AHEM≤

SO... WHAT  
ABOUT HER?

IS  
SHE..?

HUZZWHUH!?









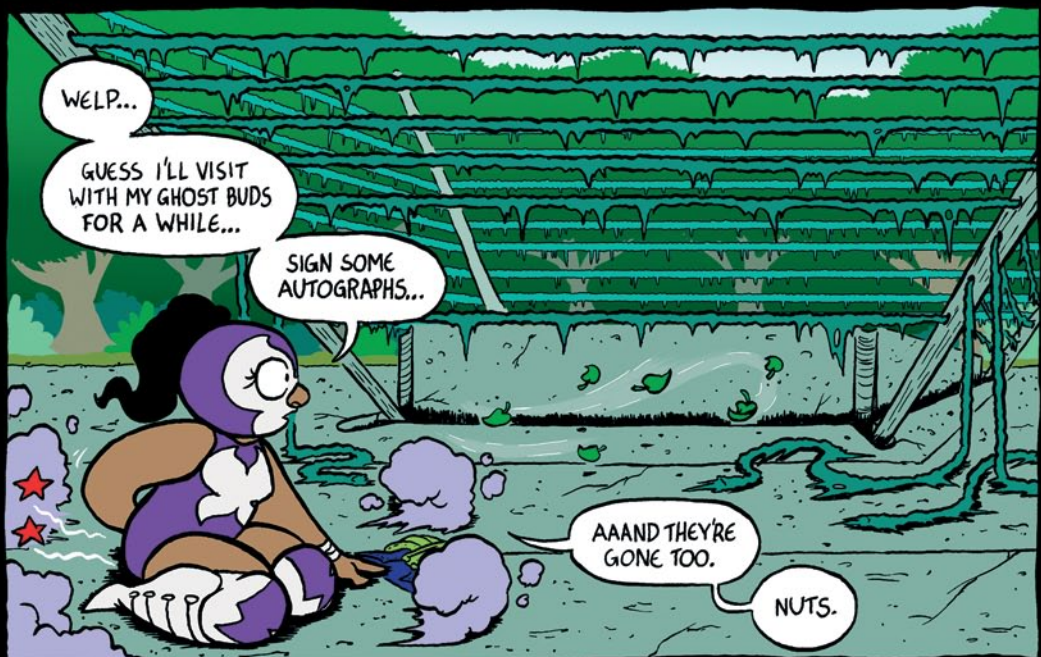










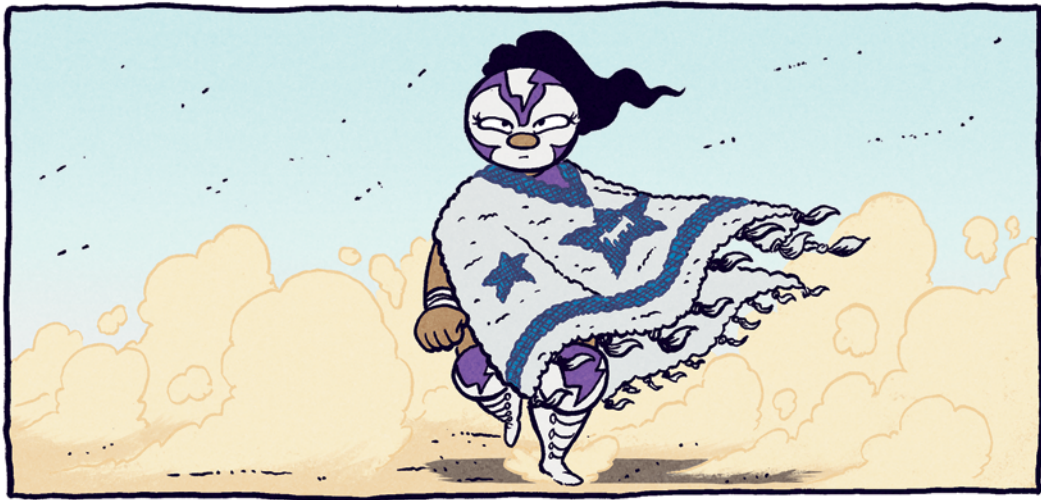
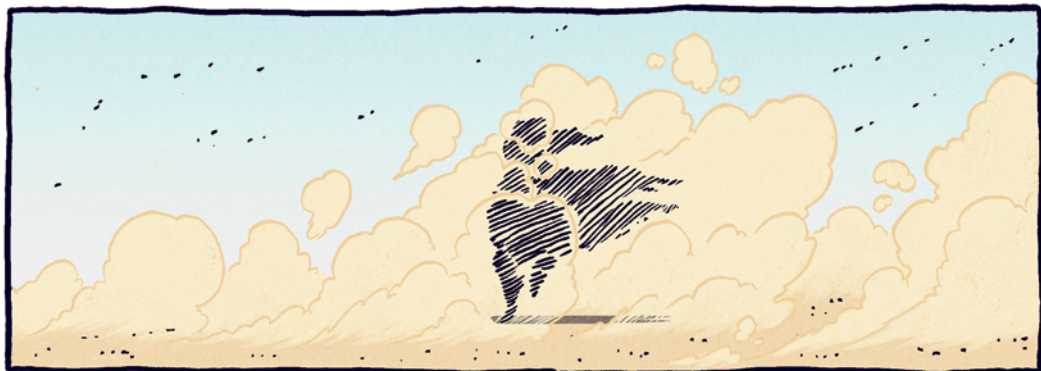
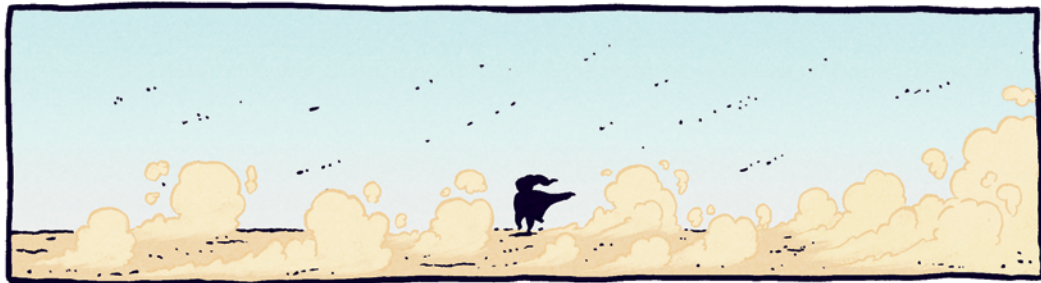


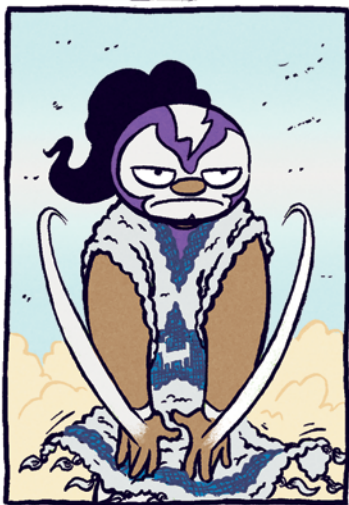
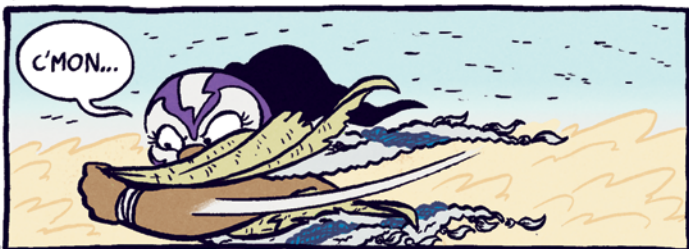
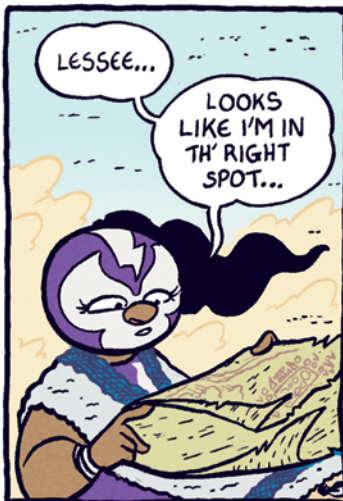
# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

THE DEMON GAUNTLET: CHAPTER 4







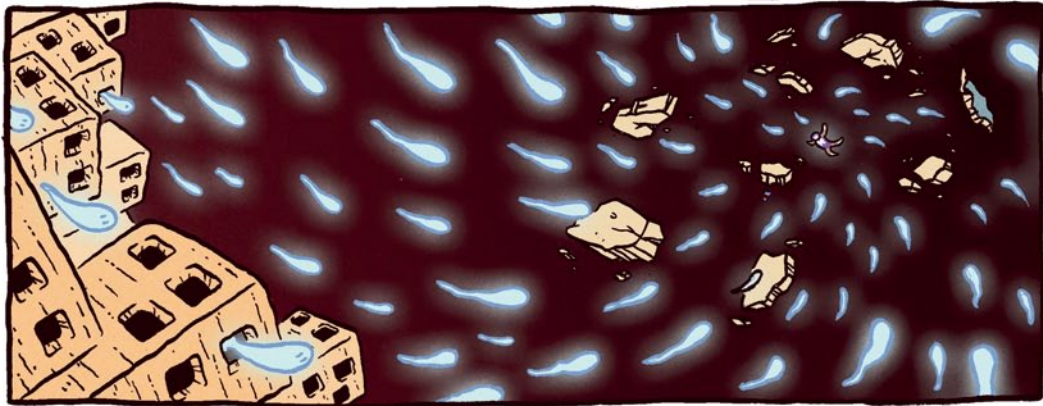
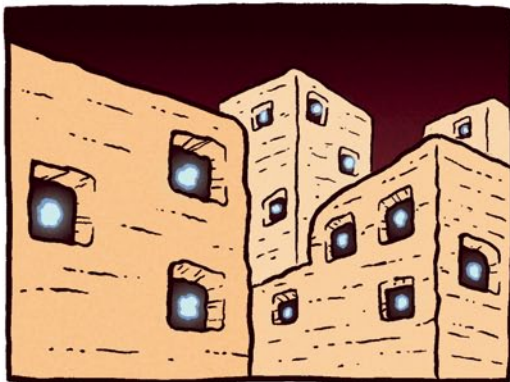




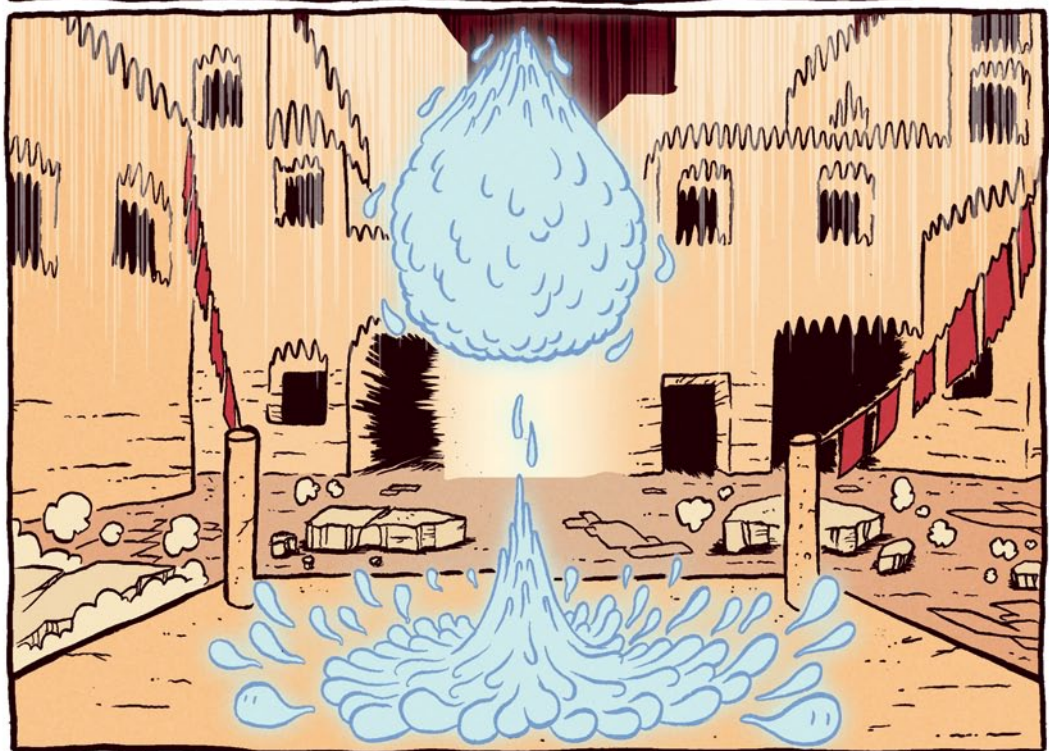
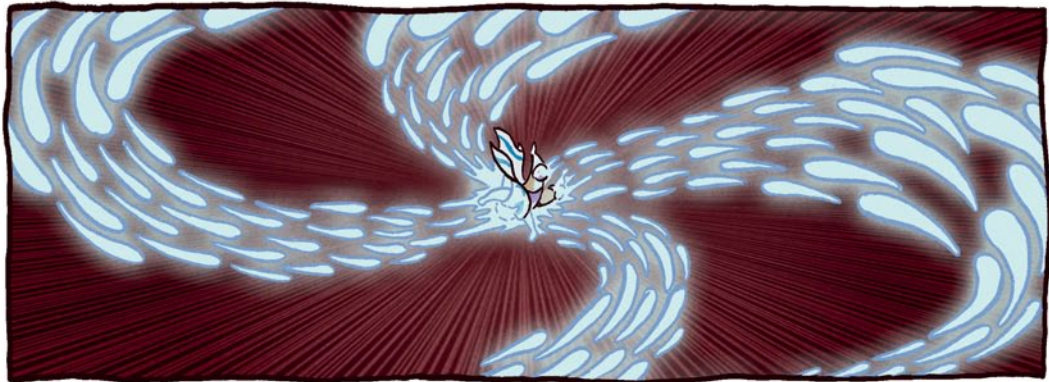




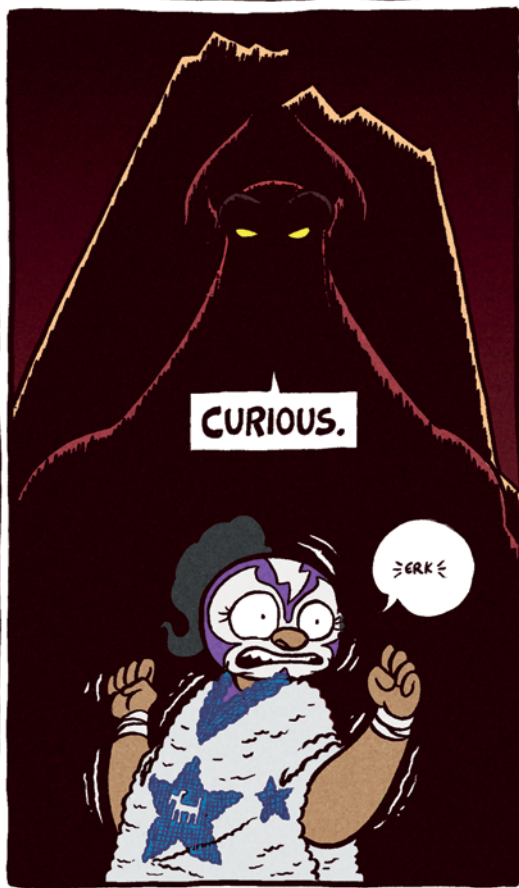












I FELT YOU  
DEFEAT THE  
OTHERS.



I KNEW  
YOU WOULD  
COME SOON.





I WATCHED YOU FALL,  
AND REINA REVENANTA'S  
GHOSTS...

...THOSE THAT ONCE FORMED  
MAKO MALVADO AND  
TARANTULAR...

...BORE YOU  
TO SAFETY.

I FEEL WITHIN THEM...  
AN AFFECTION.

A DESIRE TO SUPPORT...  
AND DEFEND... AND  
SERVE YOU.

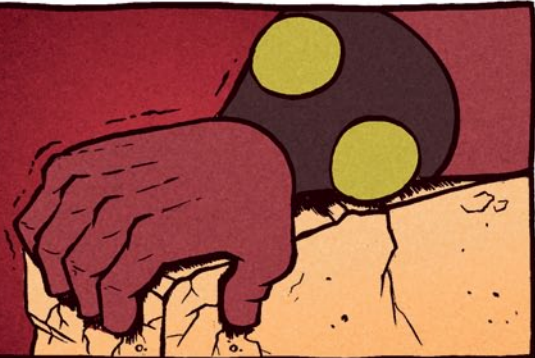
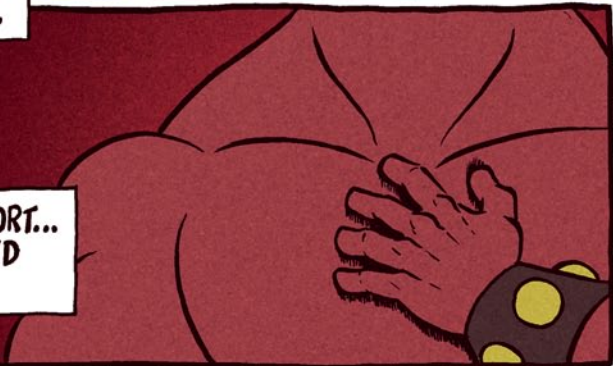
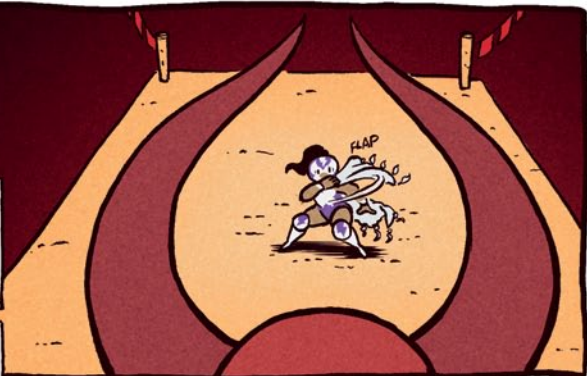
EVEN WITHIN THOSE  
GHOSTS THAT FORM THIS  
BODY, I FEEL...

...A RELUCTANCE TO  
STRIKE YOU DOWN.

BUT SOMETHING  
ELSE...

SOMETHING  
ALIEN...

...COMPELS  
ME.





NOW...

THE  
FINAL BOUT.



WHOA,  
HOLD UP.

JUST A  
SECOND.



SOMETHIN'  
AIN'T RIGHT  
HERE.

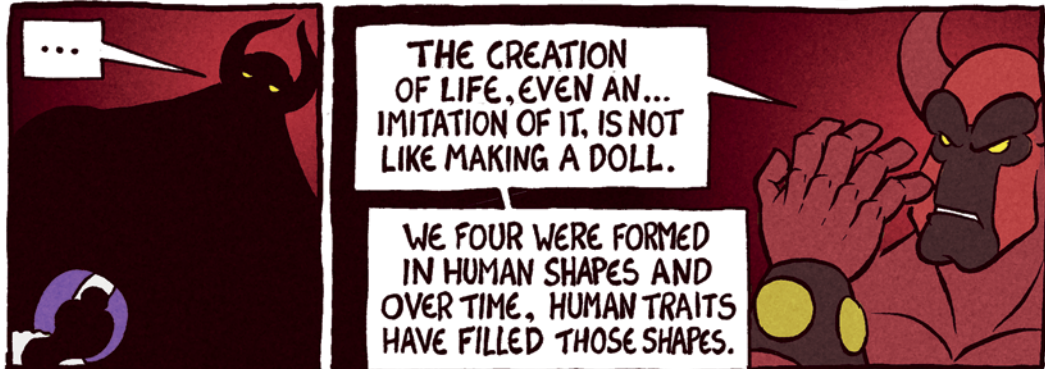
I'M GETTIN'  
A REAL WEIRD VIBE  
ABOUT THIS  
WHOLE DEAL.

Y'ALL KEEP  
TALKIN' ABOUT  
"BEING COMPELLED"...

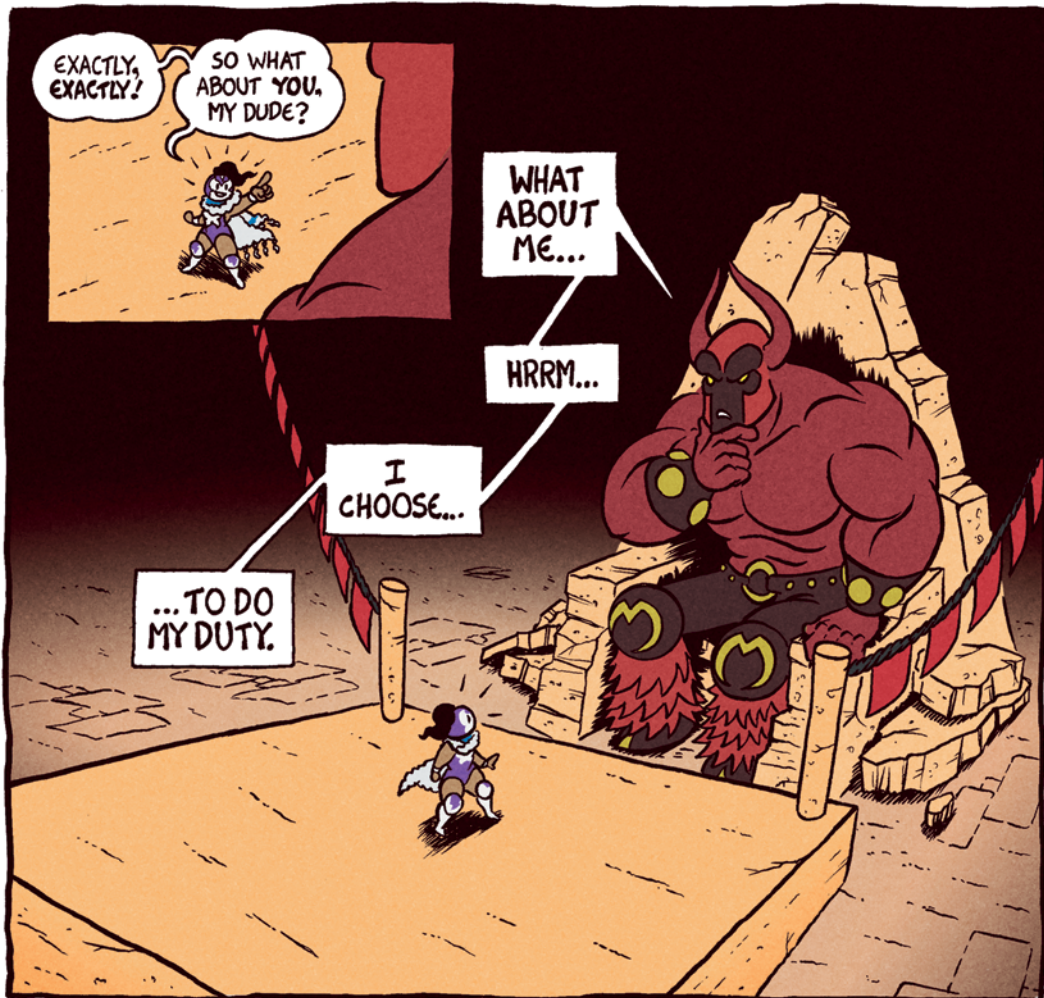
...SO I'M  
GUESSIN' THERE'S  
SOME KINDA MAGIC  
BINDIN' IN EFFECT.

BUT I DUNNO IF  
THAT BINDIN' IS AS  
IRONCLAD AS WE'VE BEEN  
ASSUMIN' IT IS.

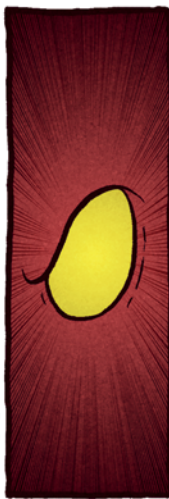
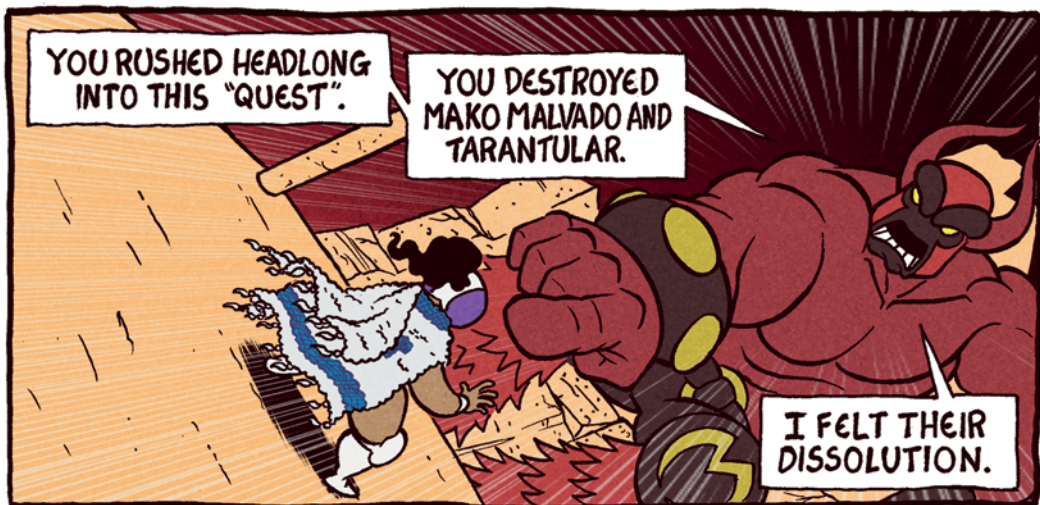
















THE MASKS OF MY  
BROTHERS ARE NOT  
TRINKETS TO BE  
TRADED.

YOU STARTED DOWN THIS  
PATH. I WILL FORCE  
YOU TO FINISH IT.

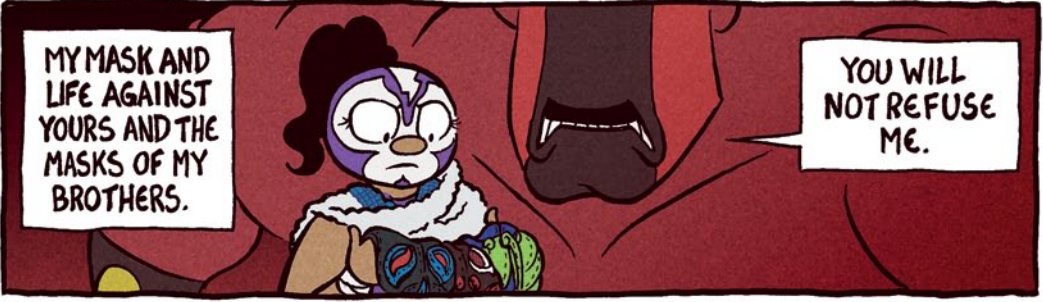
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU  
TO MAKE THEIR DEFEAT  
MEANINGLESS.

B  
O  
M



THE FINAL BOUT.  
LUCHA DE  
APUESTAS.

NO HOLDS BARRED.  
WINNER TAKE ALL.



MY MASK AND  
LIFE AGAINST  
YOURS AND THE  
MASKS OF MY  
BROTHERS.

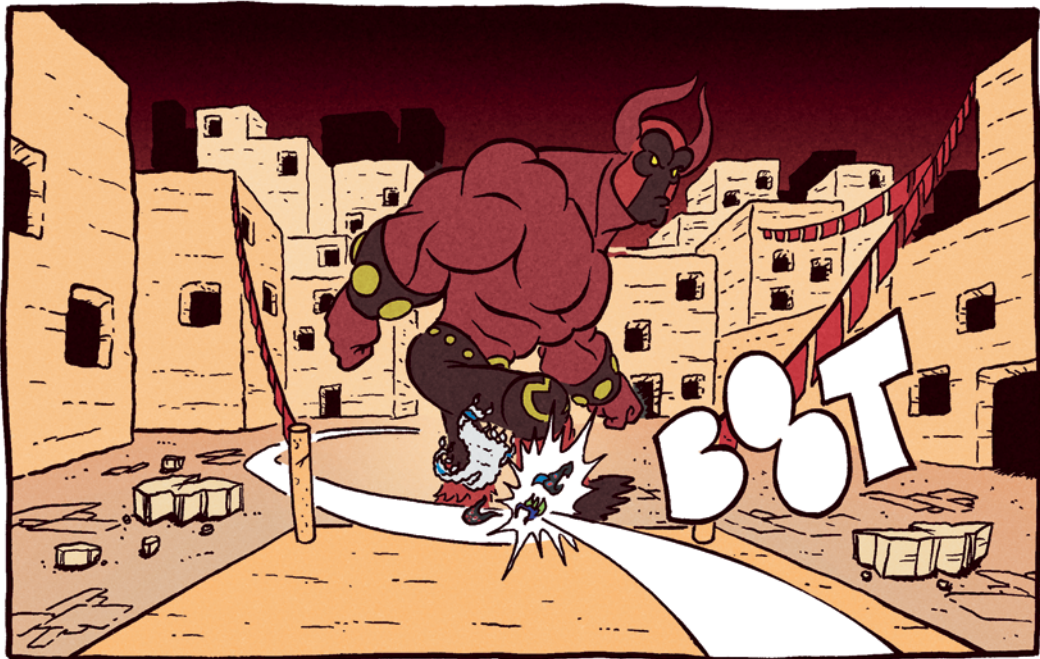
YOU WILL  
NOT REFUSE  
ME.



...  
YOU'RE  
ON.

VS

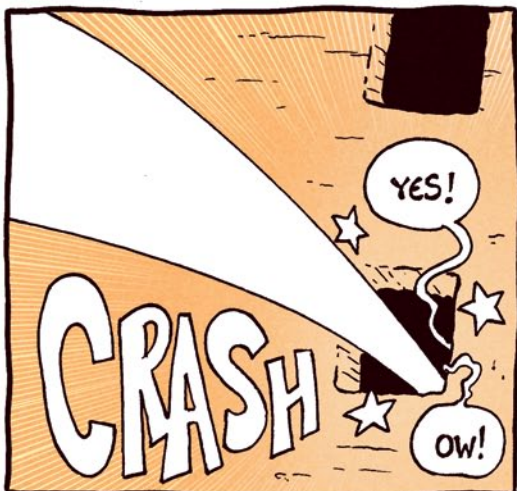








PLEASE THE WINDOW, PLEASE THE WINDOW...



YES!

CRASH

OW!



OOOOGH...

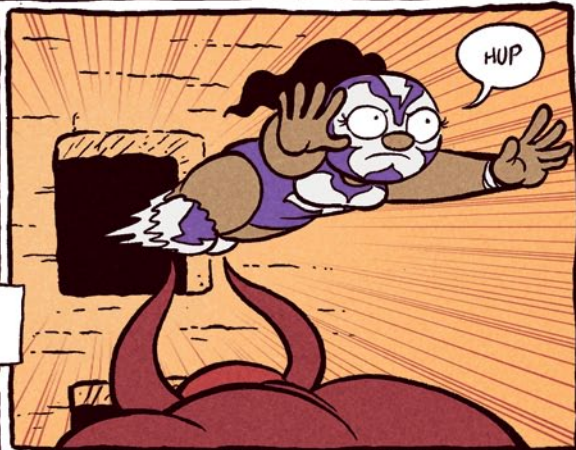




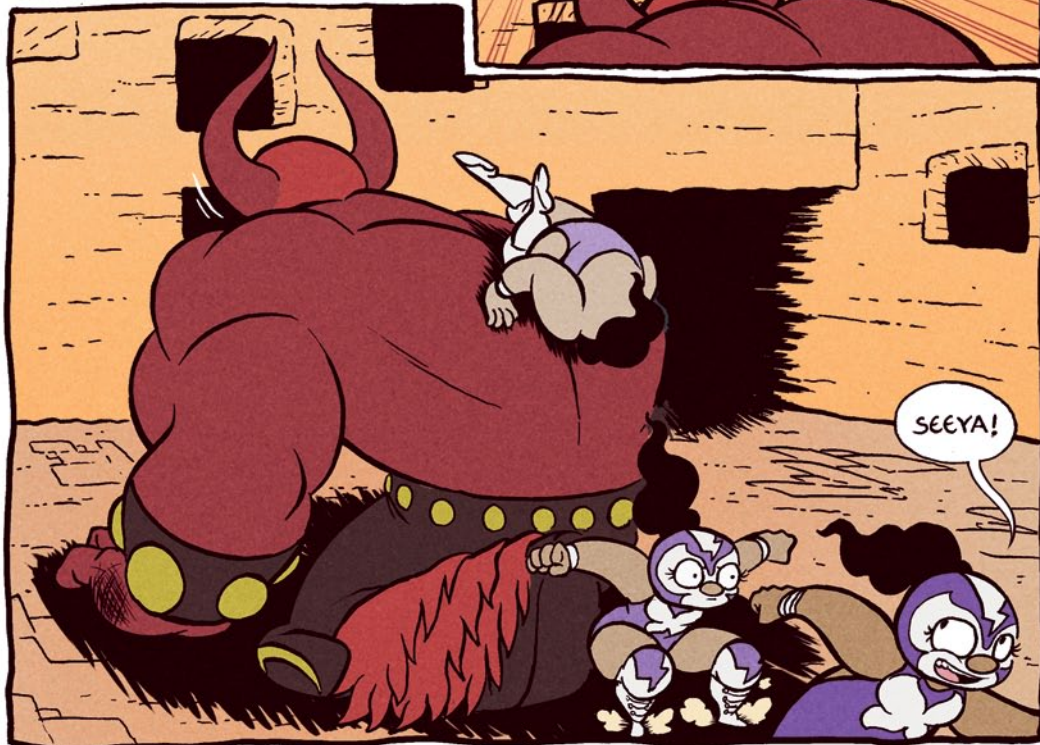


DO YOU STILL  
LIVE, LA MARIPOSA?  
SURELY YOU MUST.

THIS CANNOT BE  
OVER SO SOON.



HUP



SEEYA!



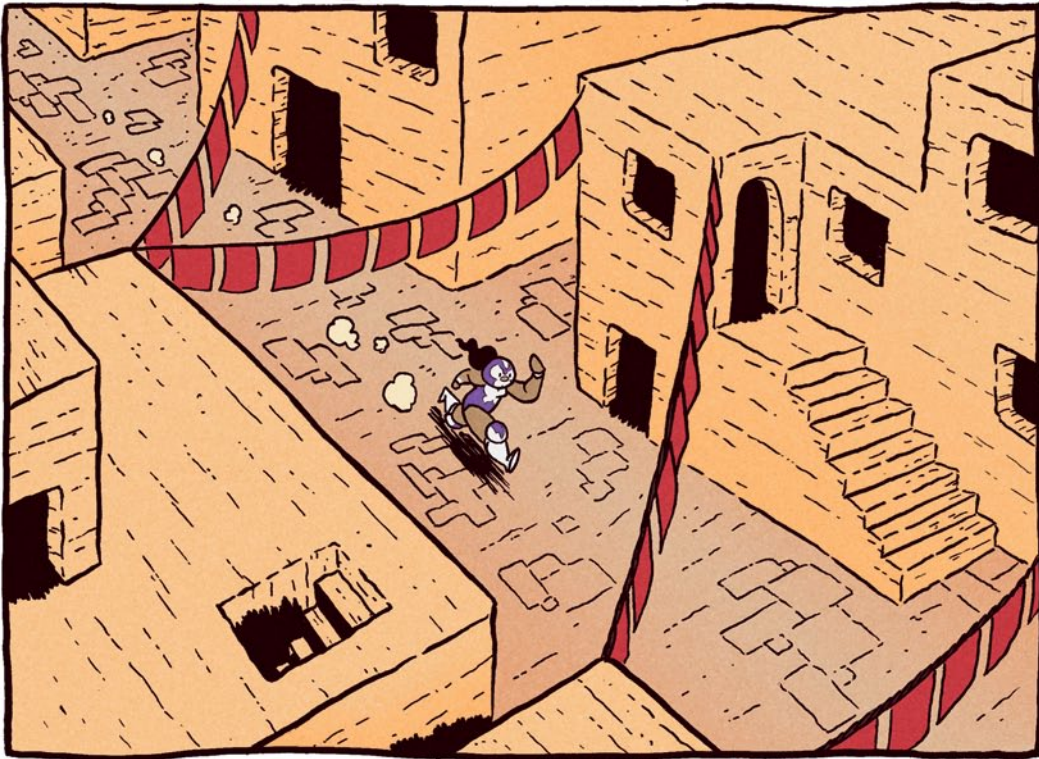
COME BACK  
AND FIGHT,  
COWARD!



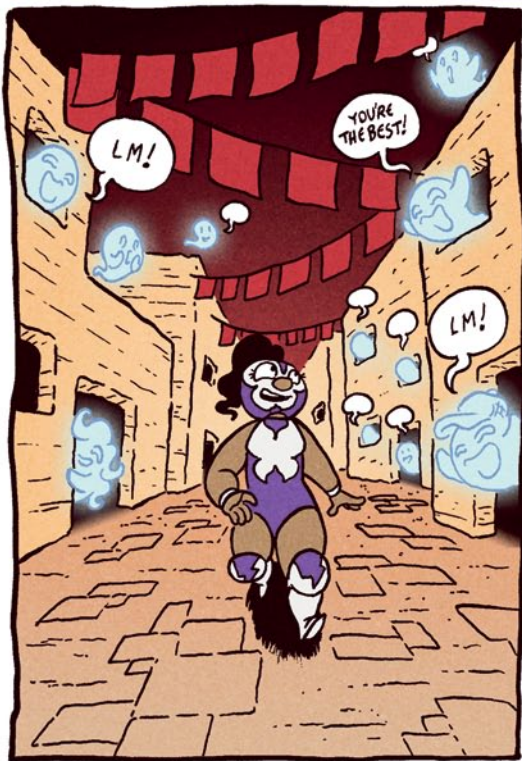
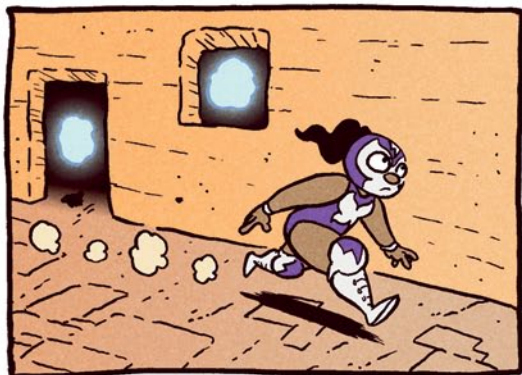
NO HOLDS  
BARRED,  
REMEMBER?

IF YOU  
THINK I'M TAKIN'  
ON A MEGAHOSS  
LIKE YOU TOE TO  
TOE, YOU'RE  
NUTS!

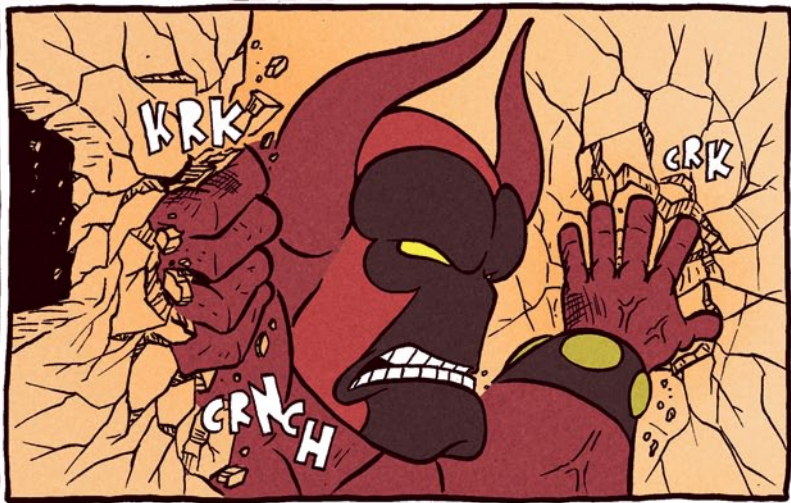
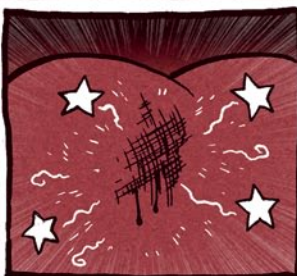
PEACE!



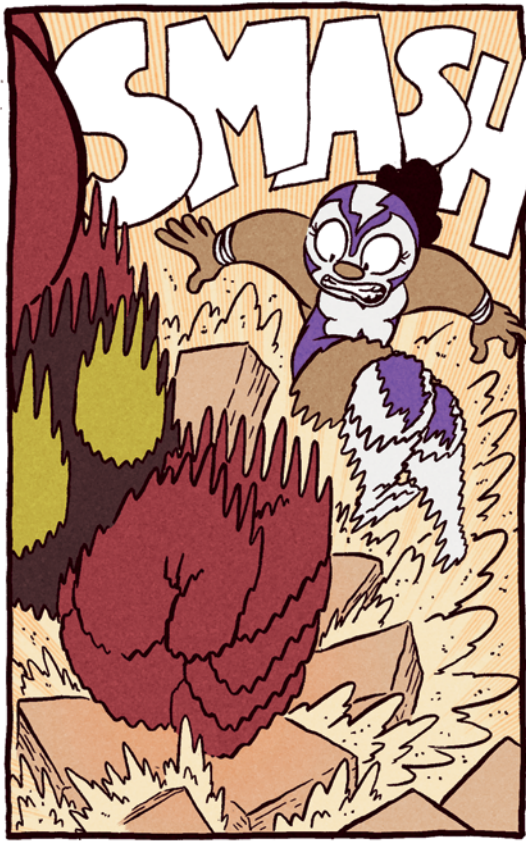
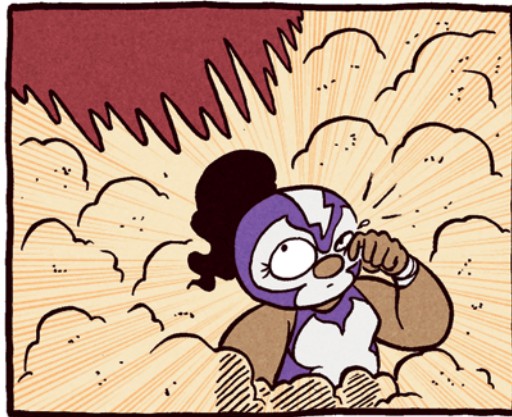
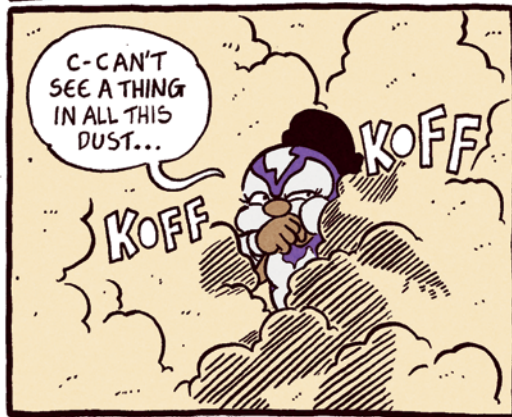




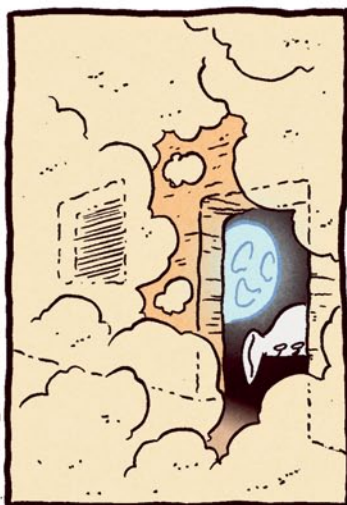




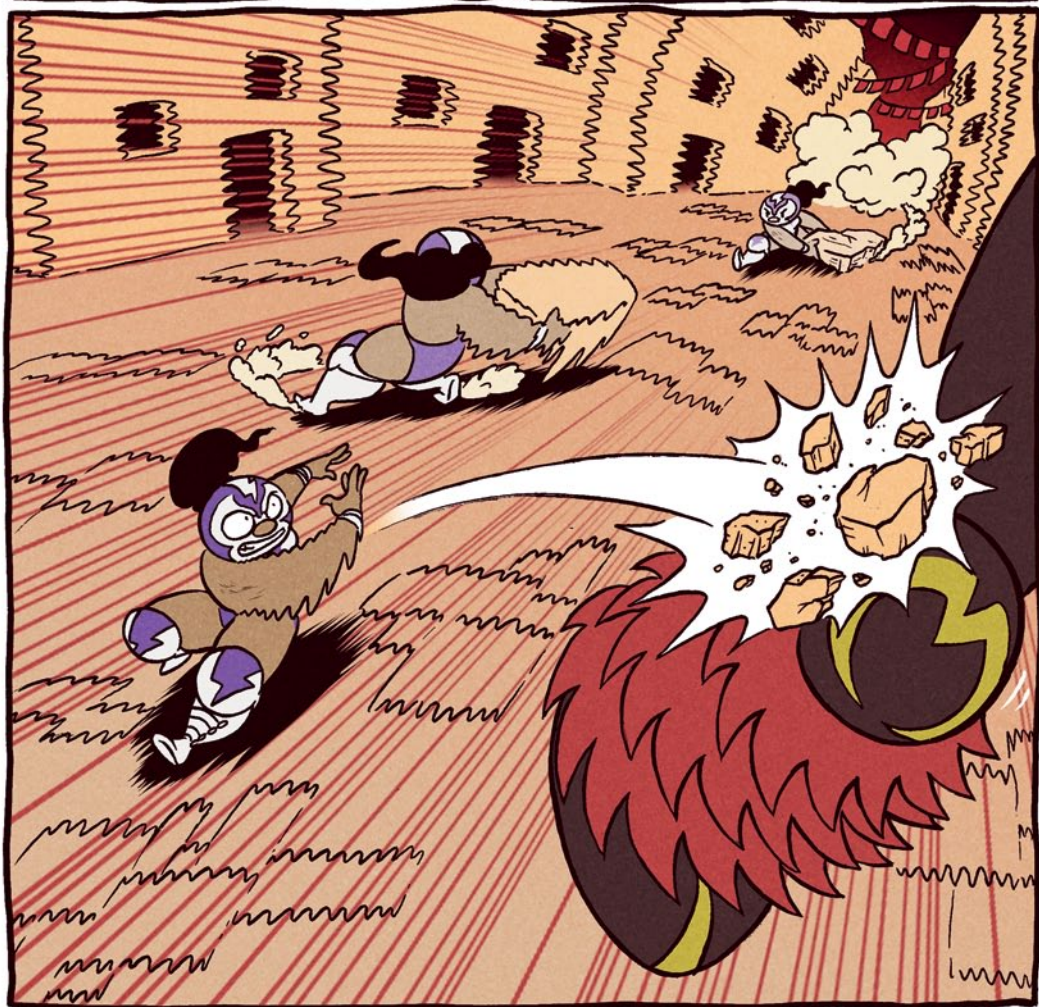




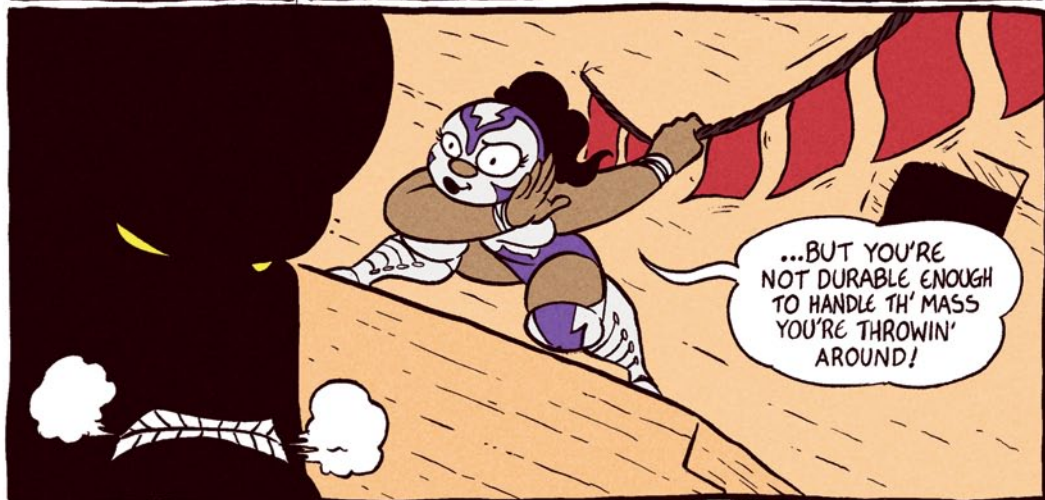




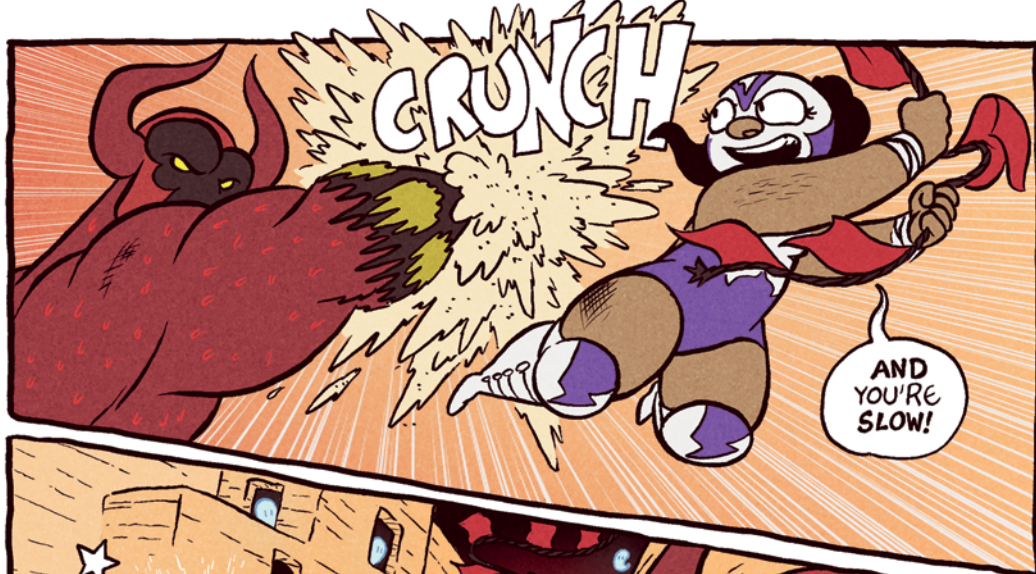








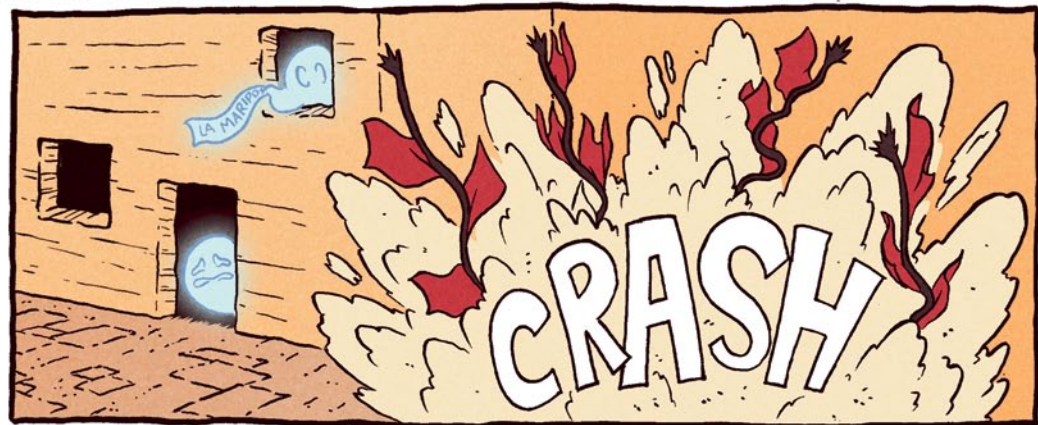
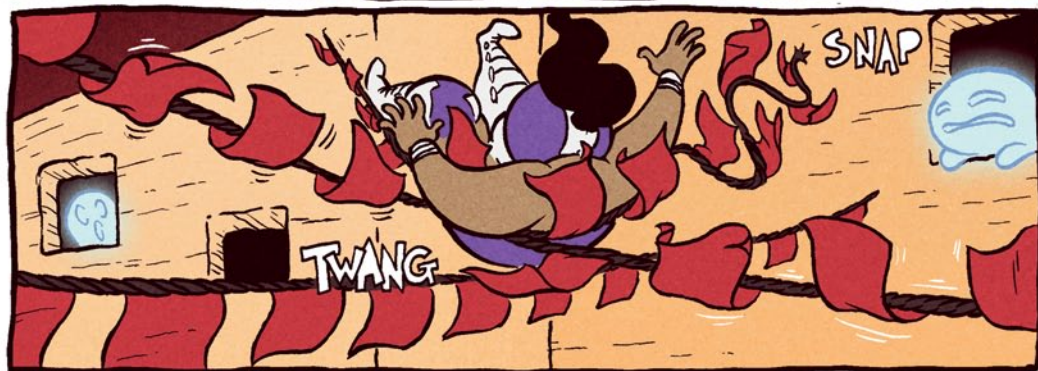
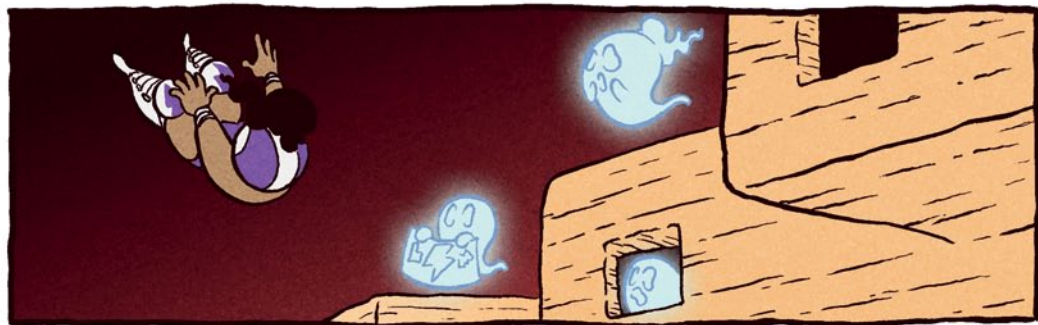




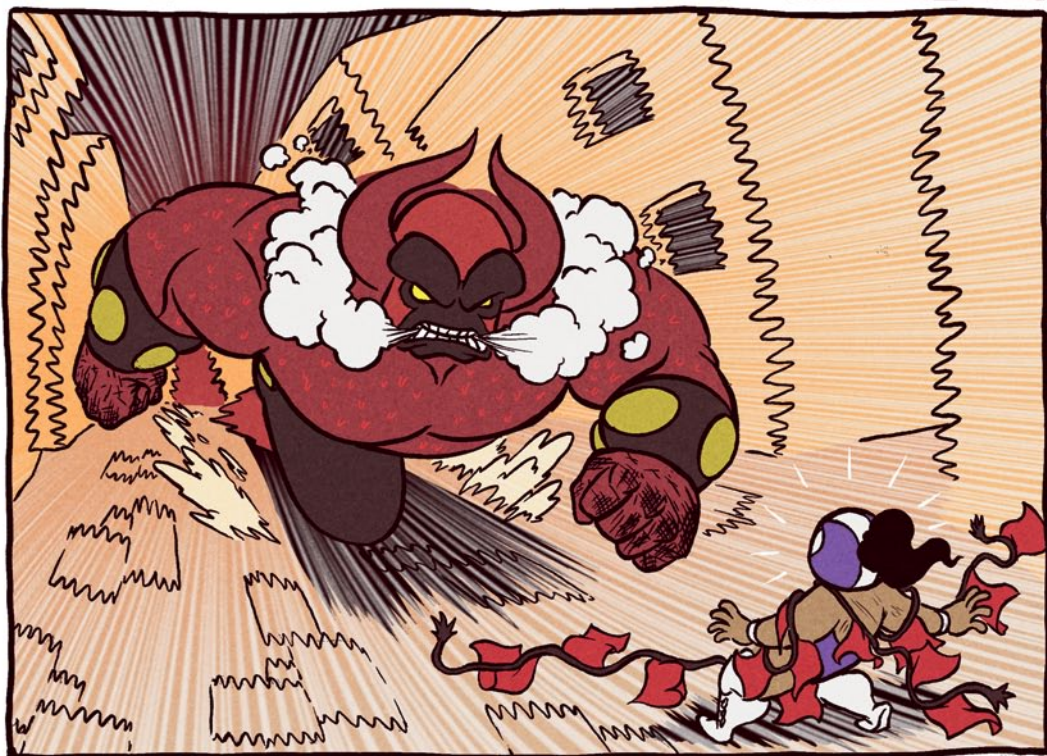




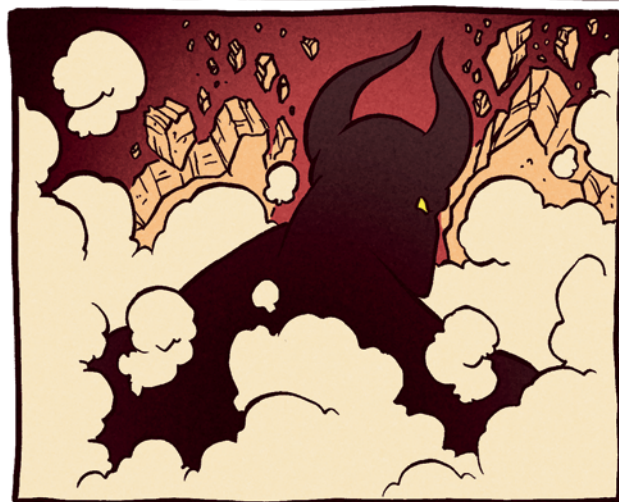
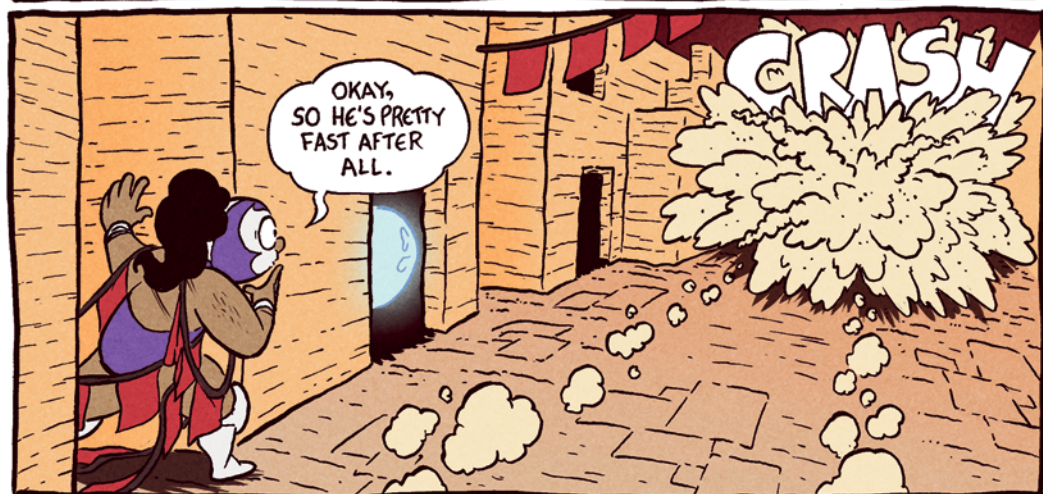
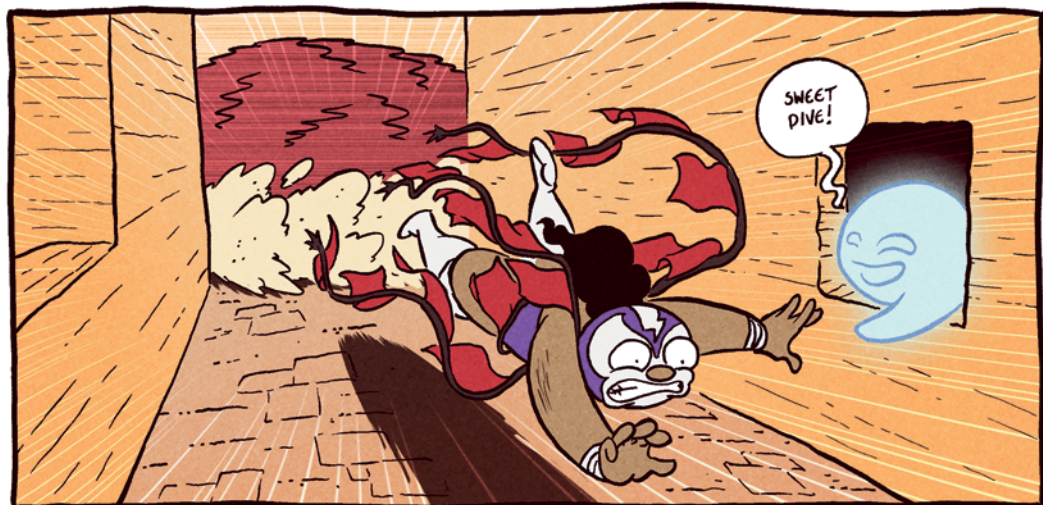




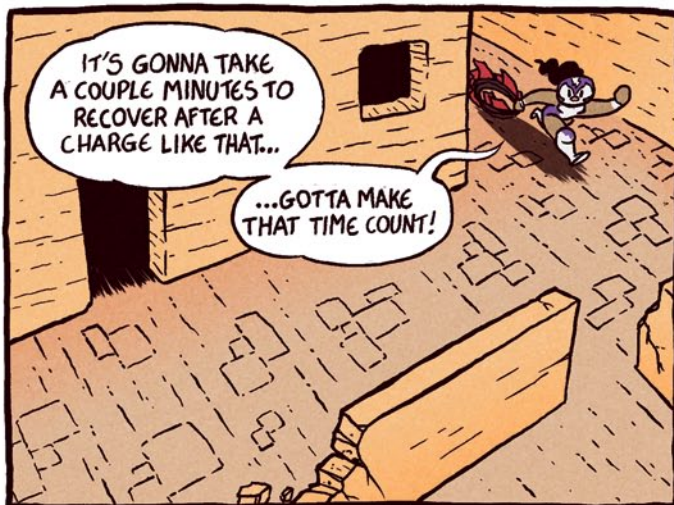




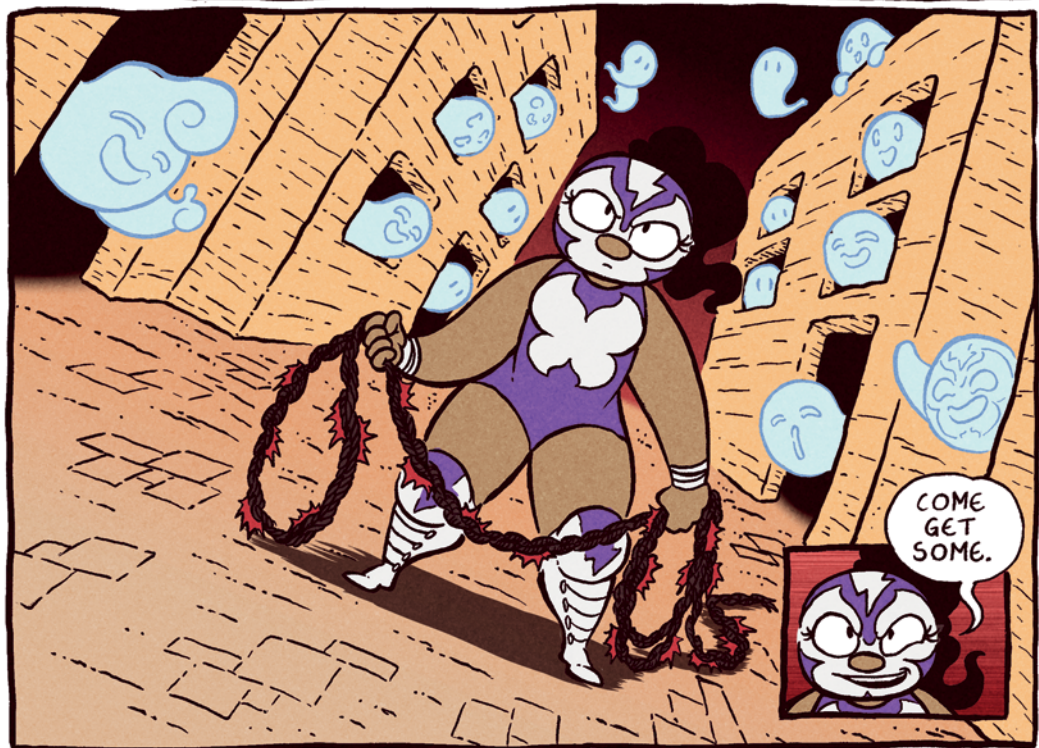
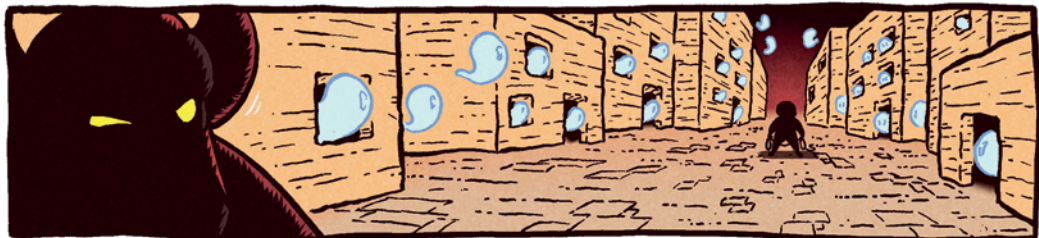
















YOU  
GUYS WITH  
ME?



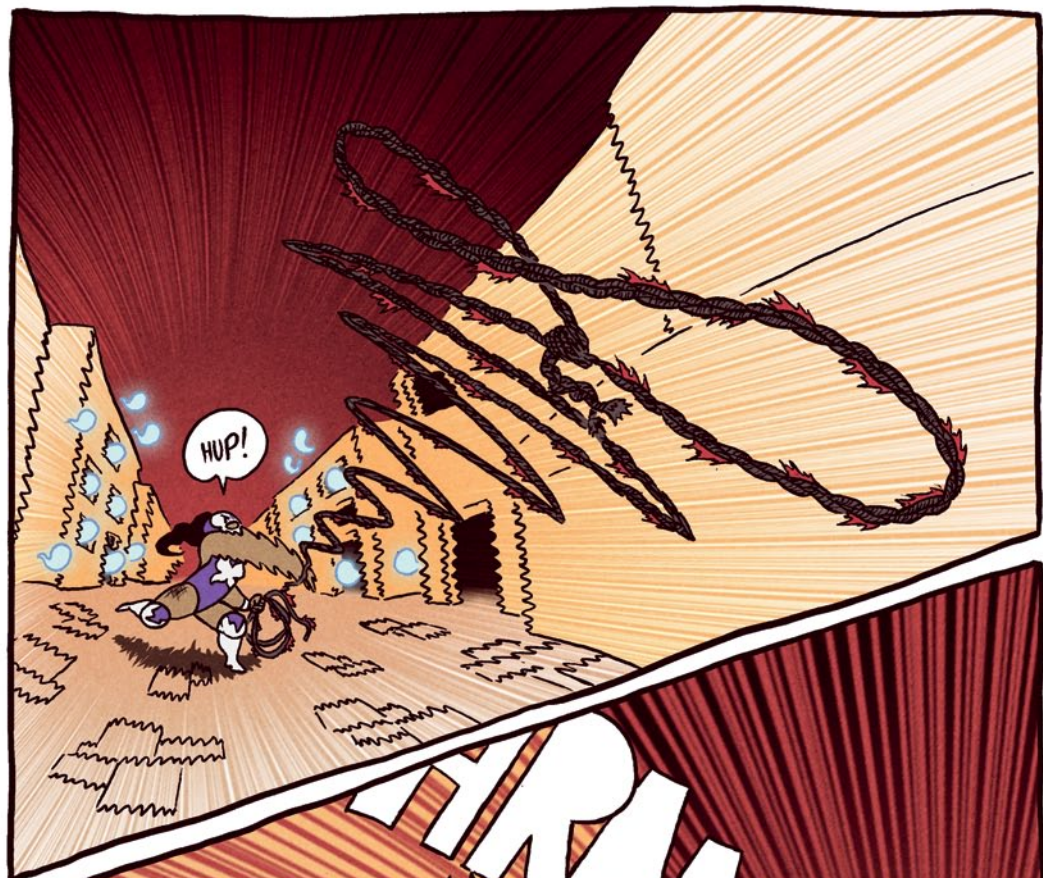
YA  
WITH  
ME!?



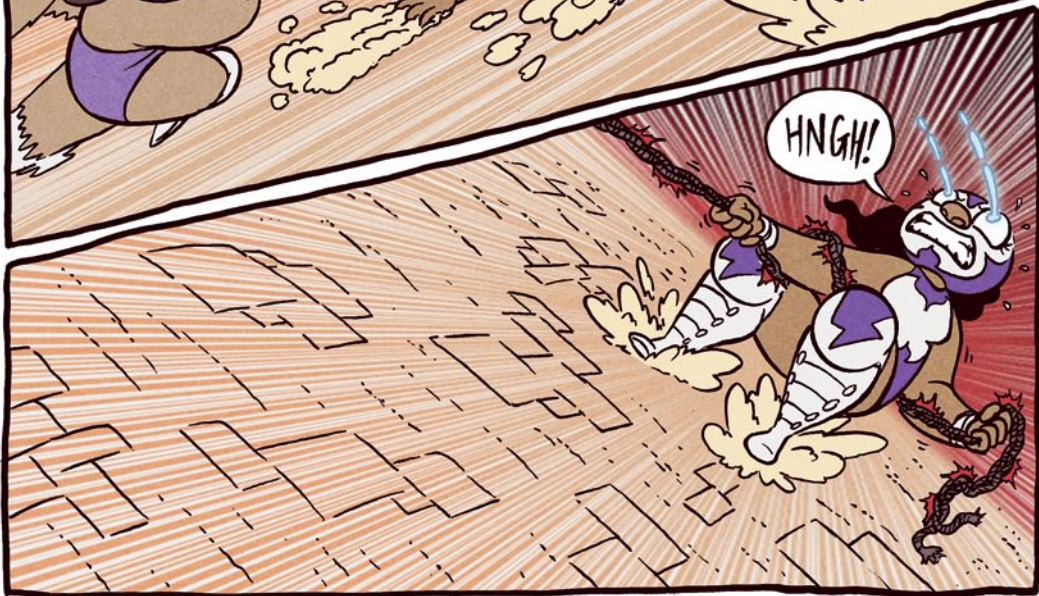
AW YEAH,  
I'M FEELIN'  
IT!!

LET'S  
DO  
THIS!



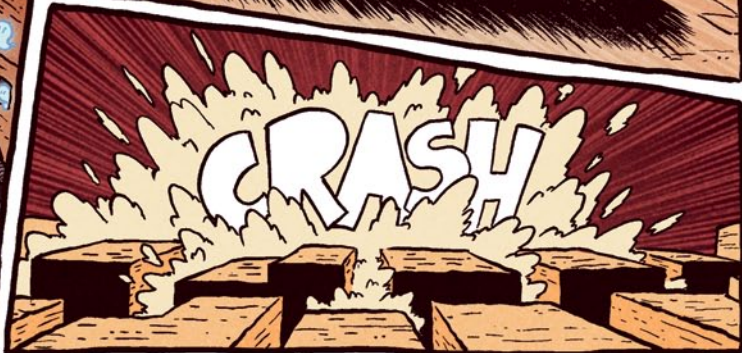
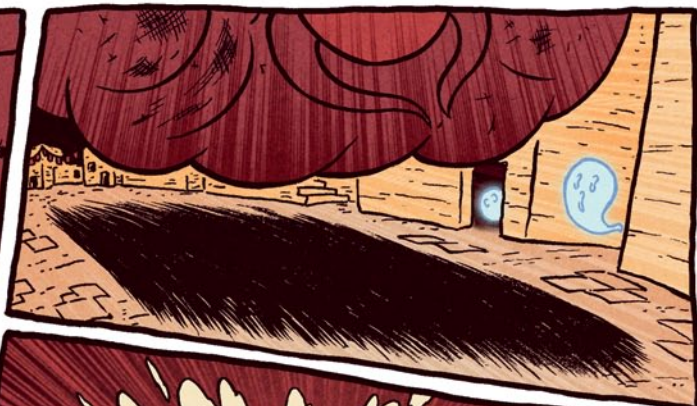








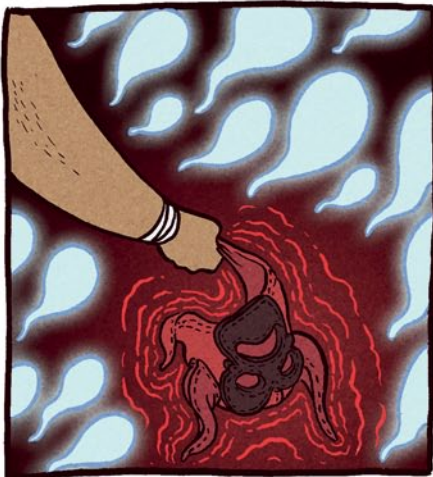












# WINNER LA MARIPOSA

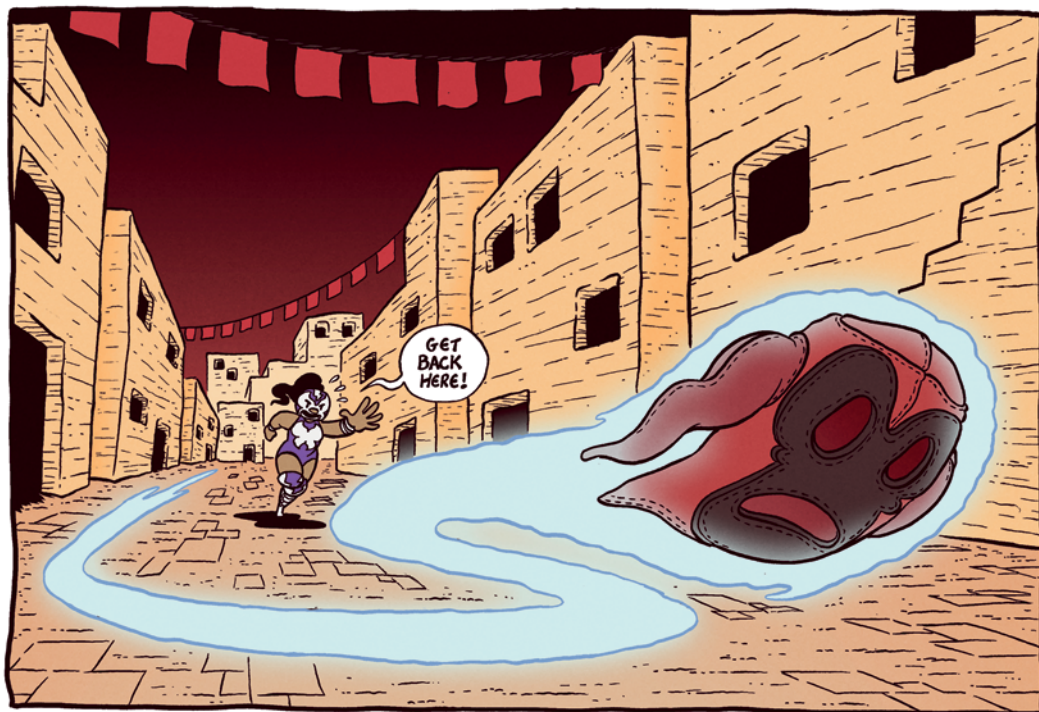
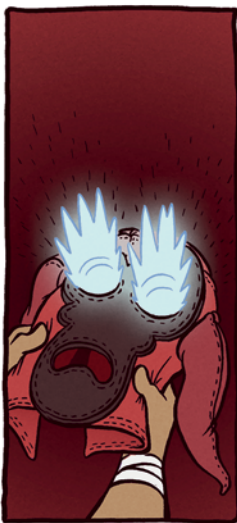




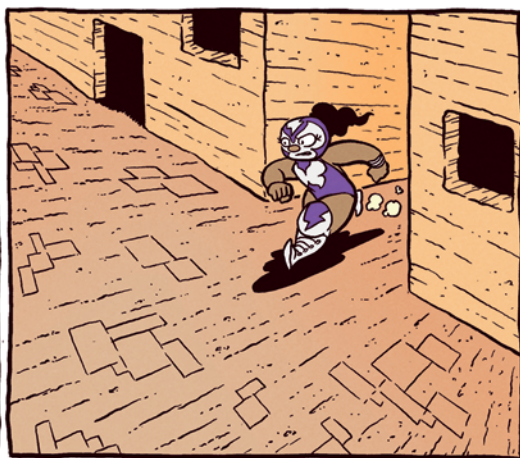
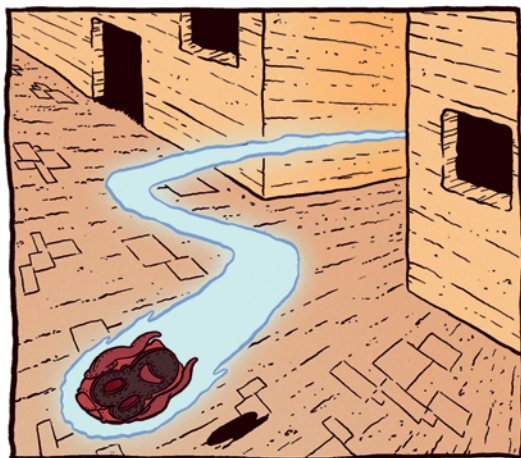
# THE LEGEND OF LA MARIPOSA

THE DEMON GAUNTLET: FINAL CHAPTER

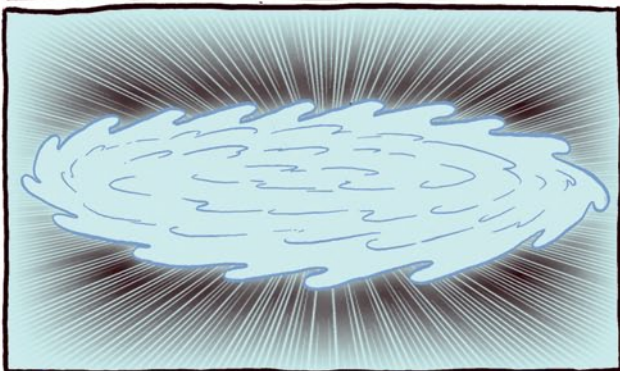




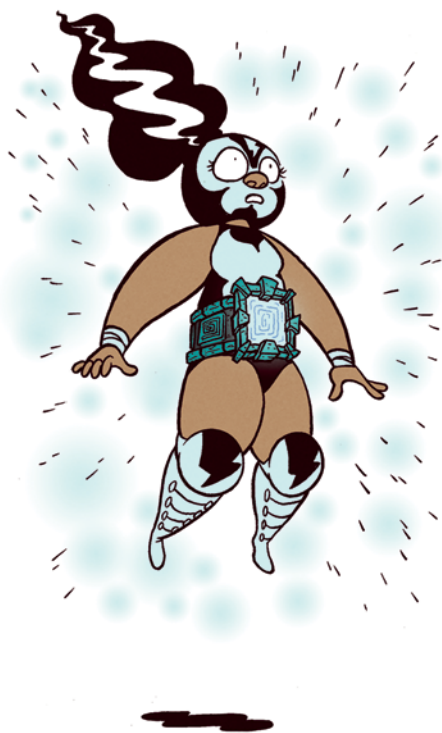
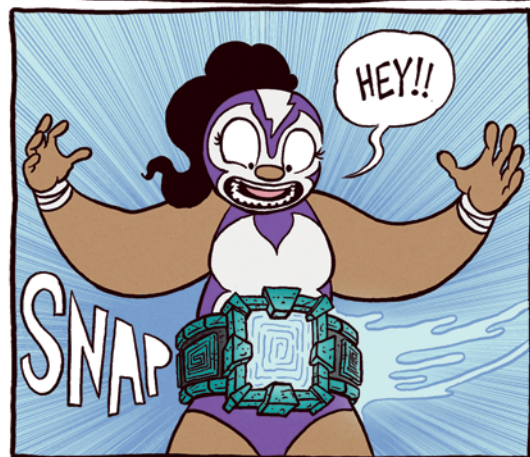
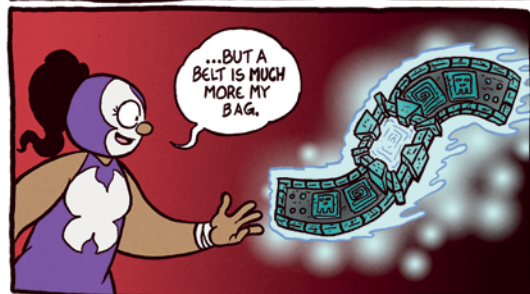
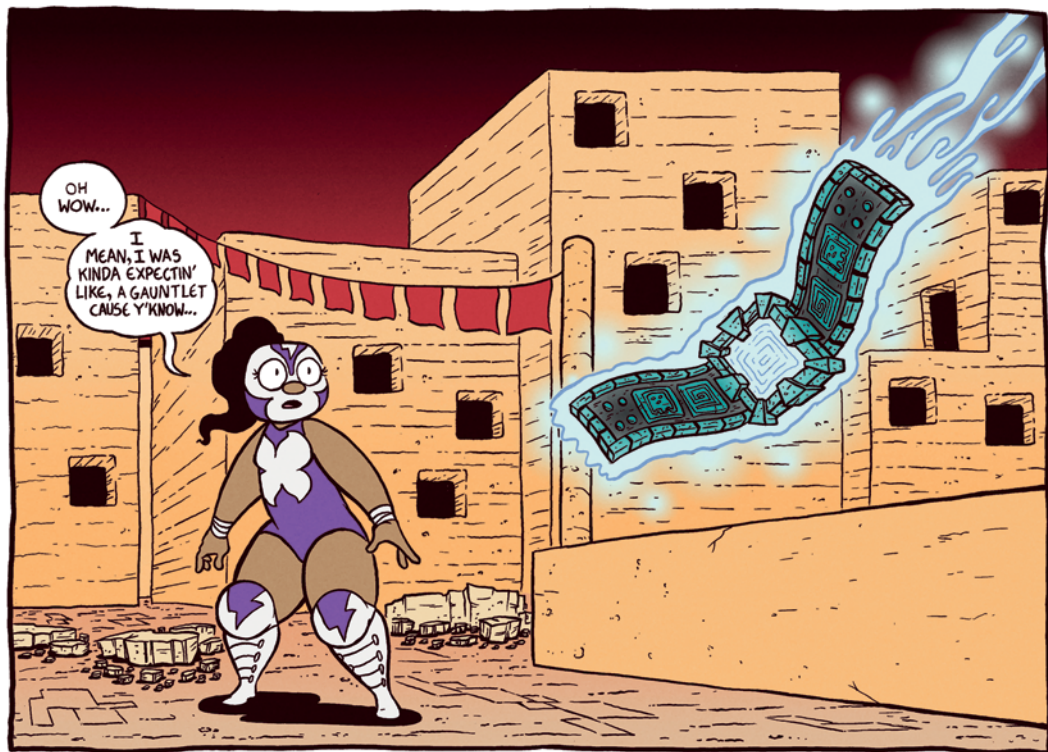


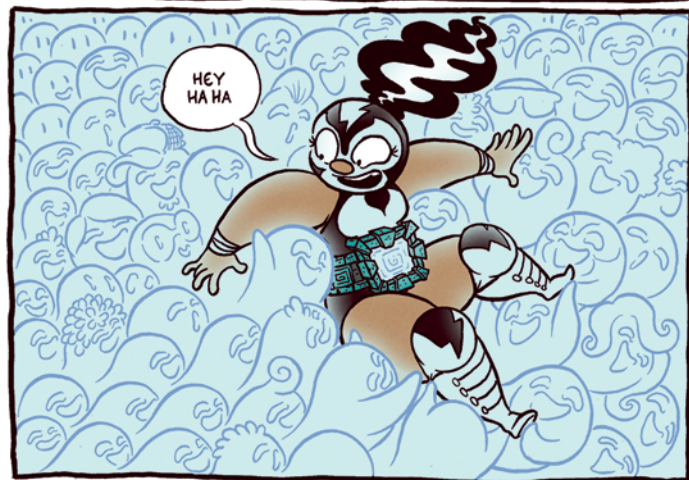
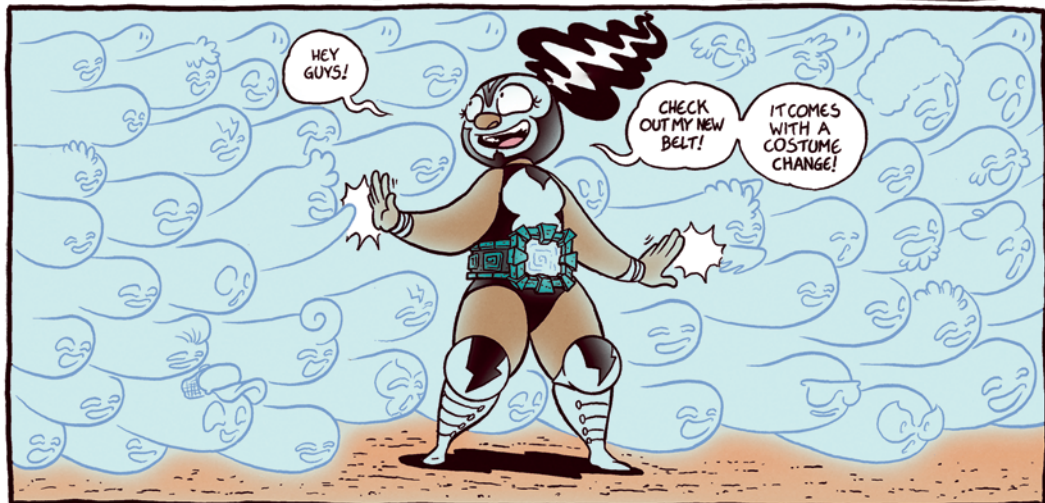
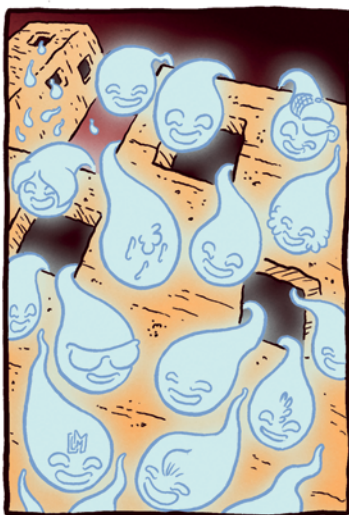
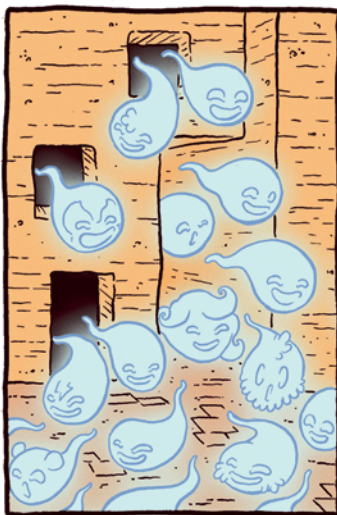
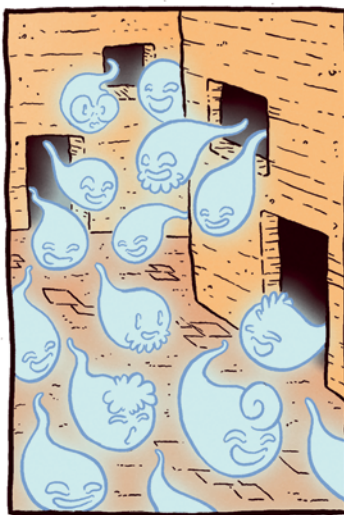




















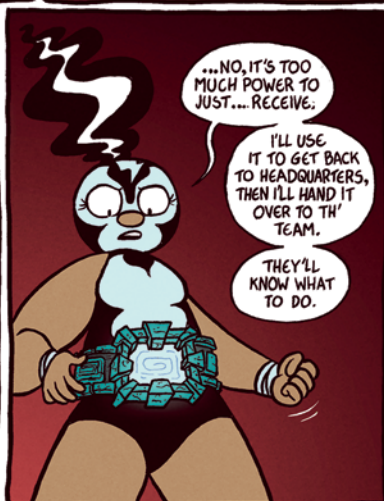


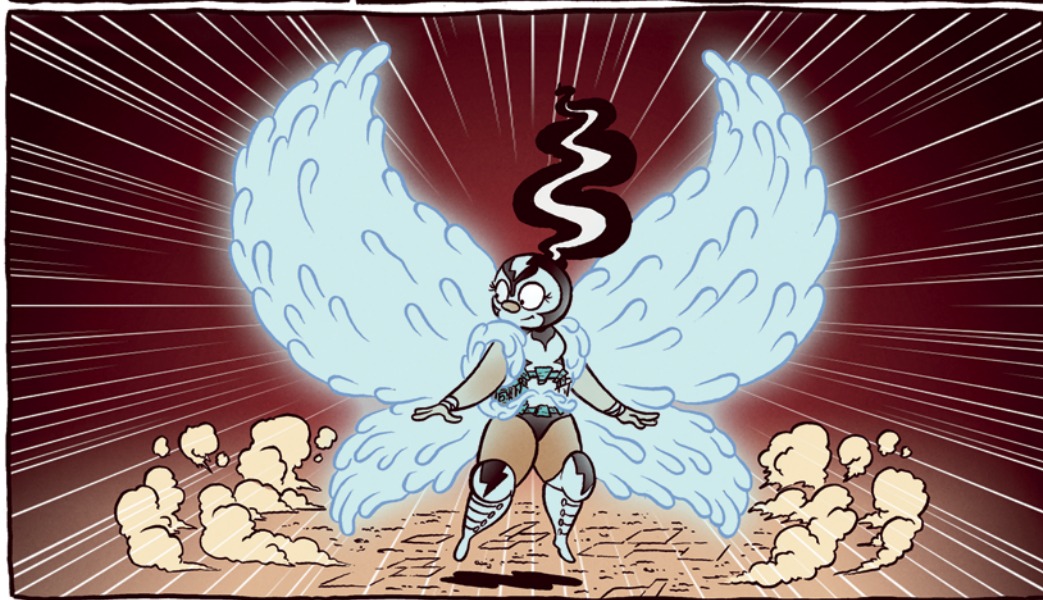
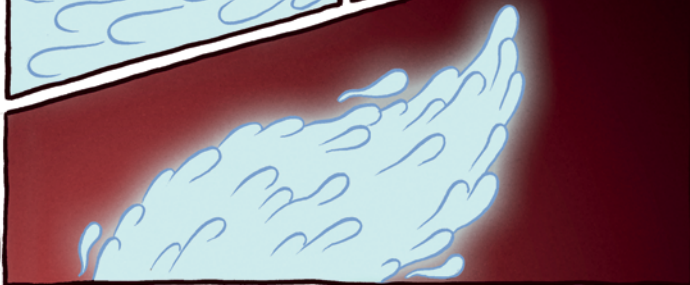
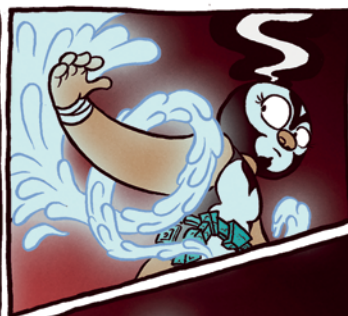




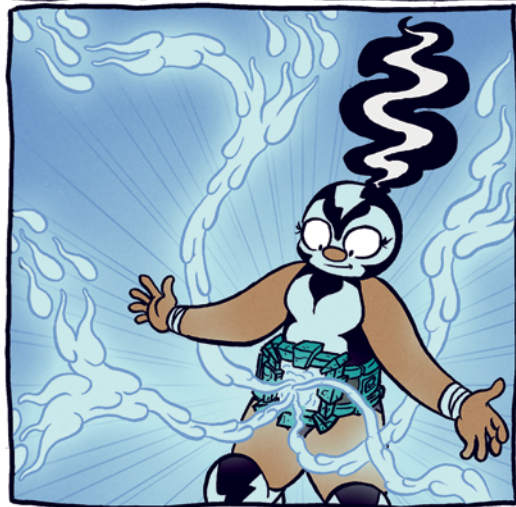
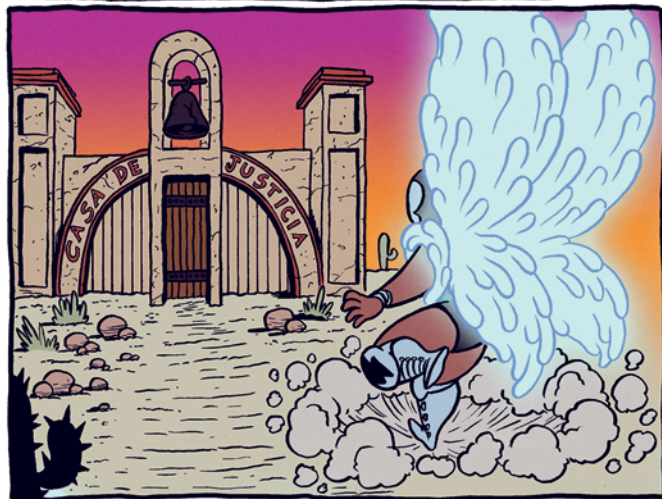




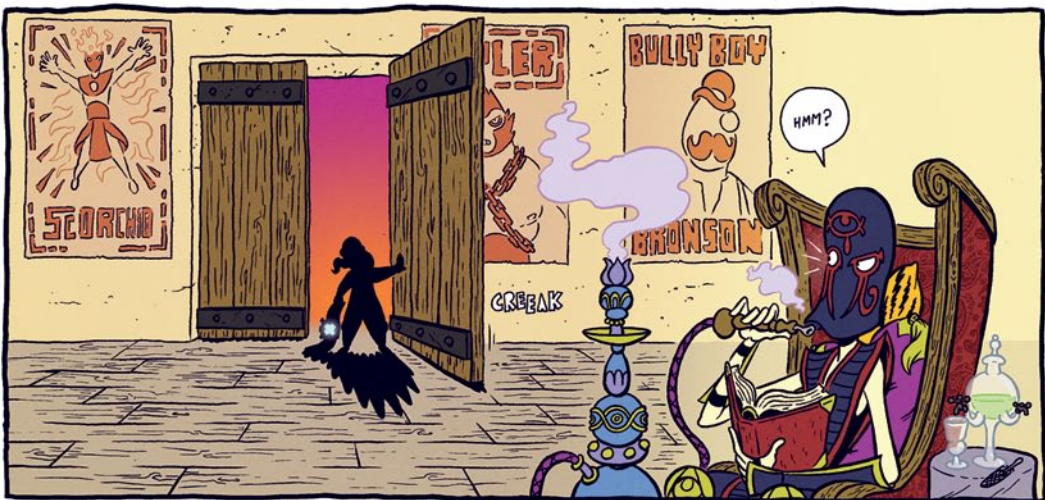




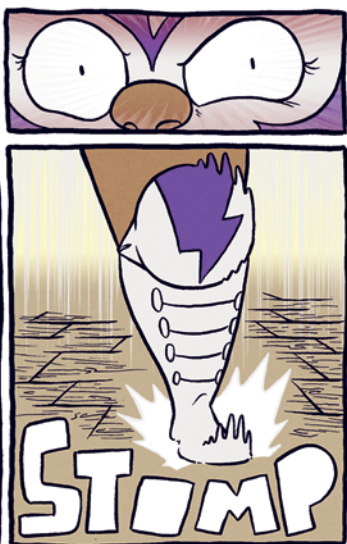




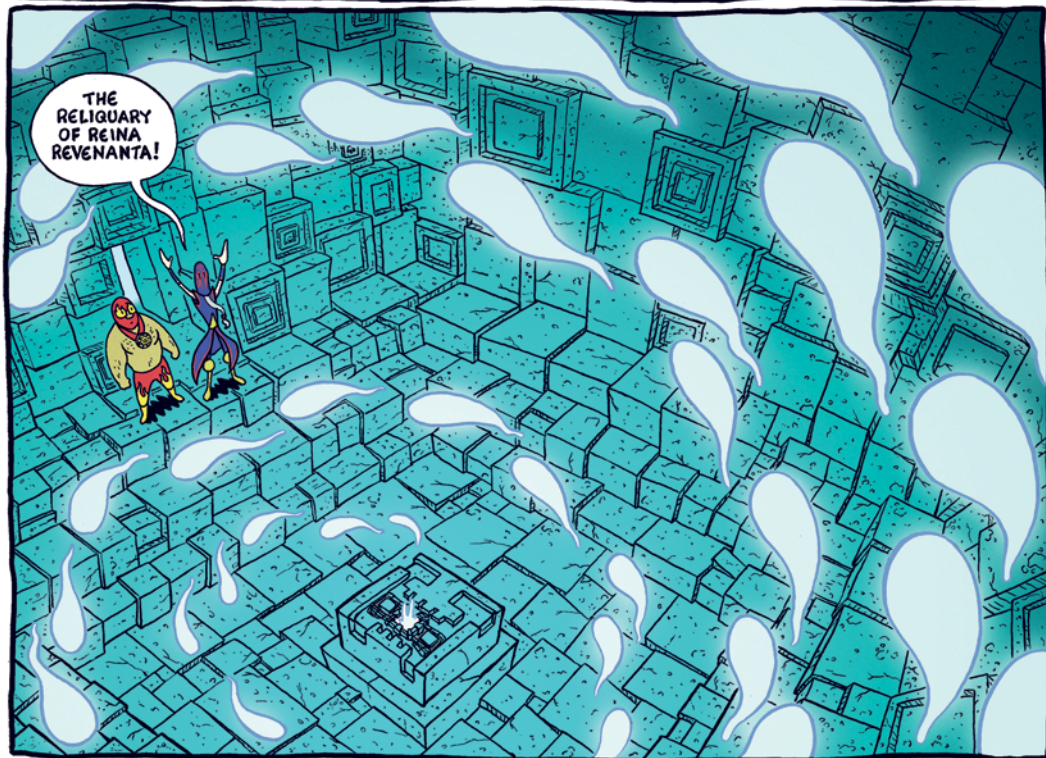
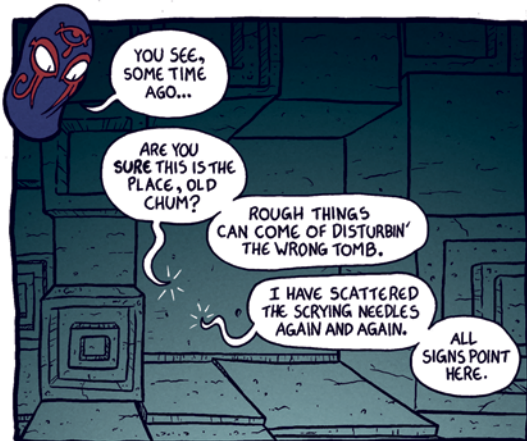




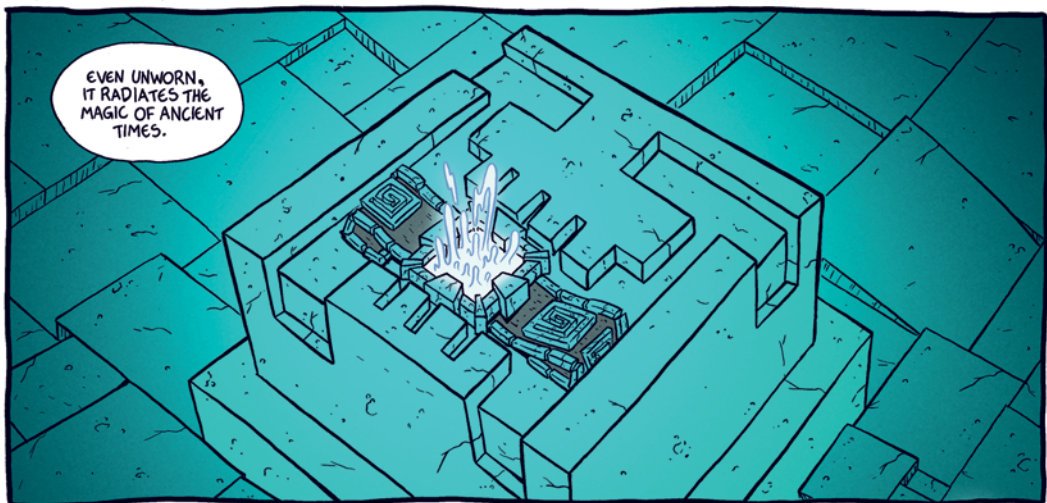




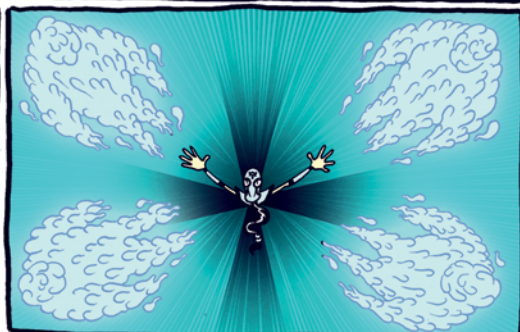
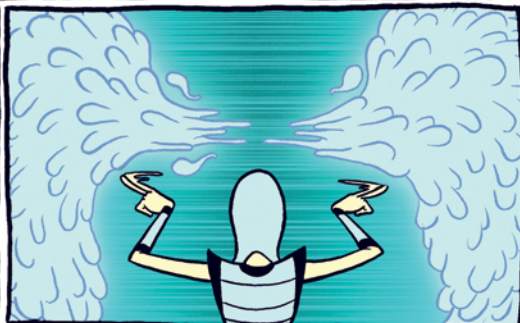
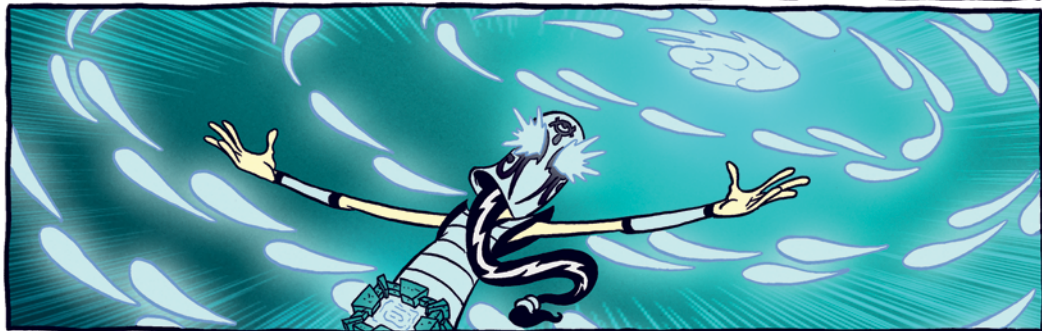
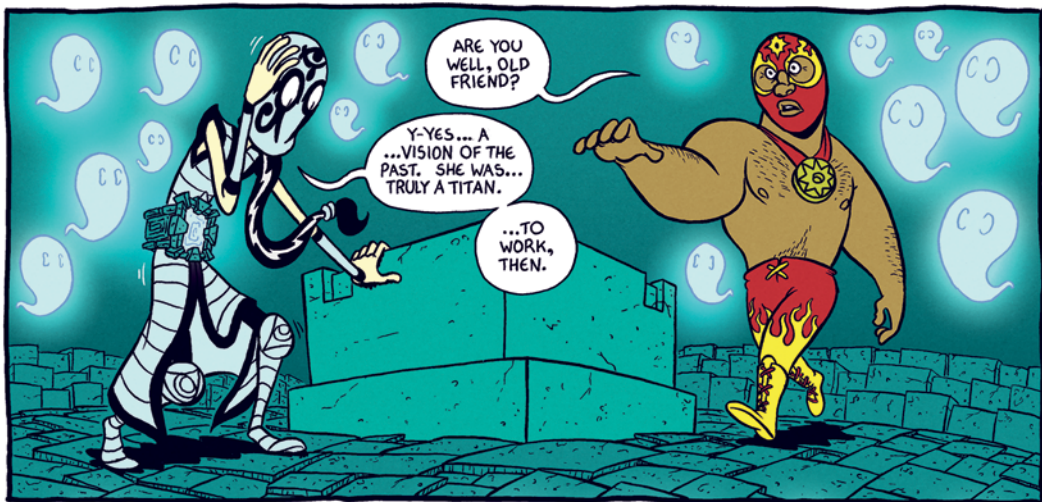




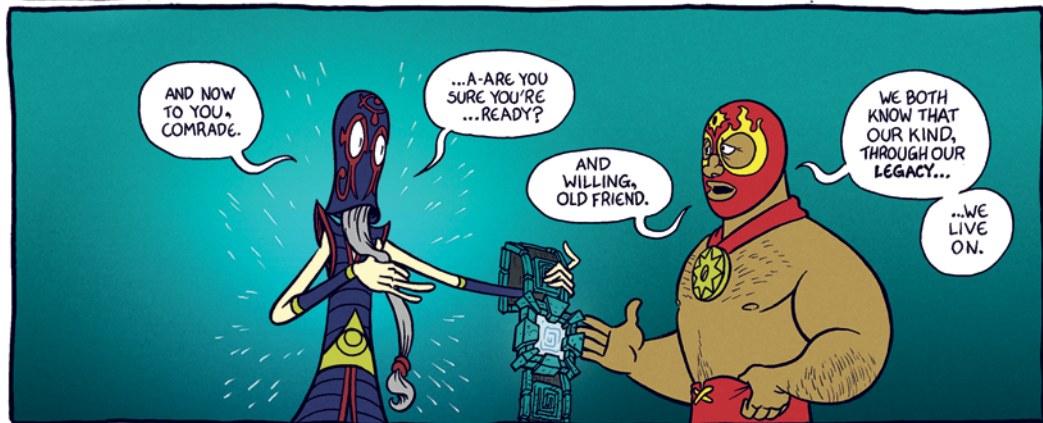
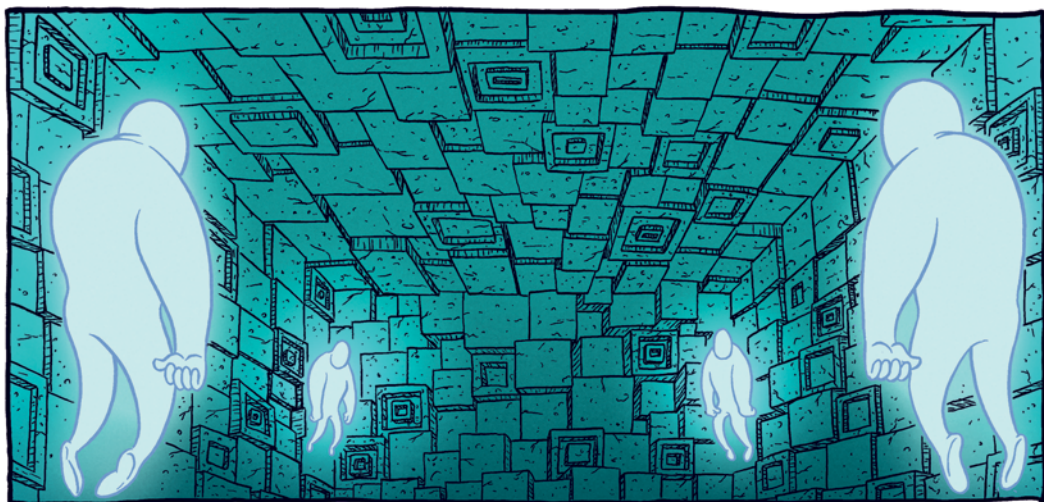




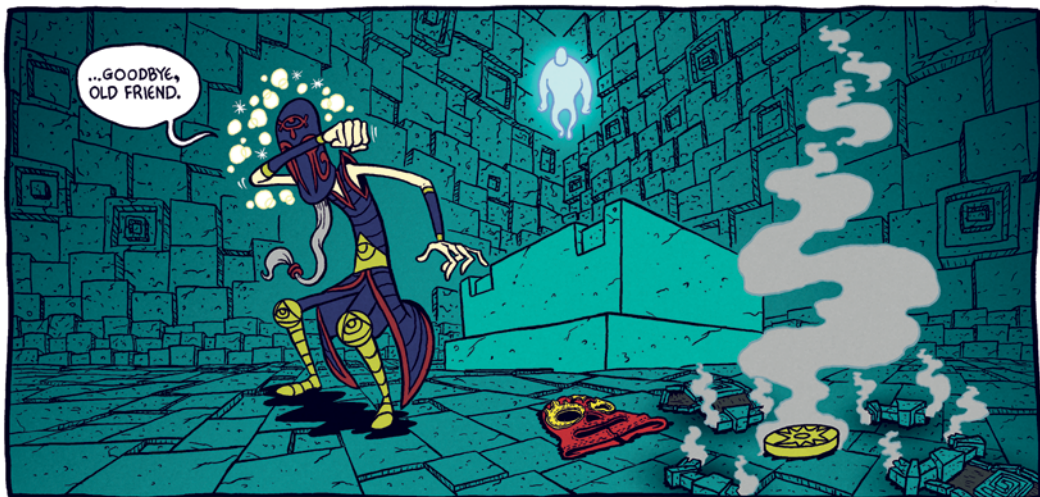




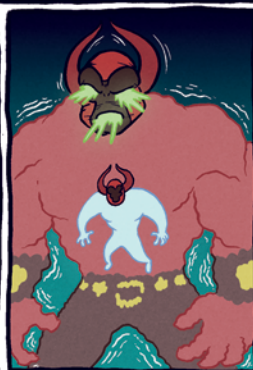
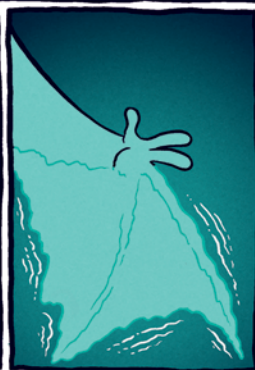
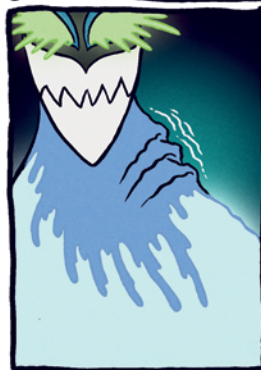
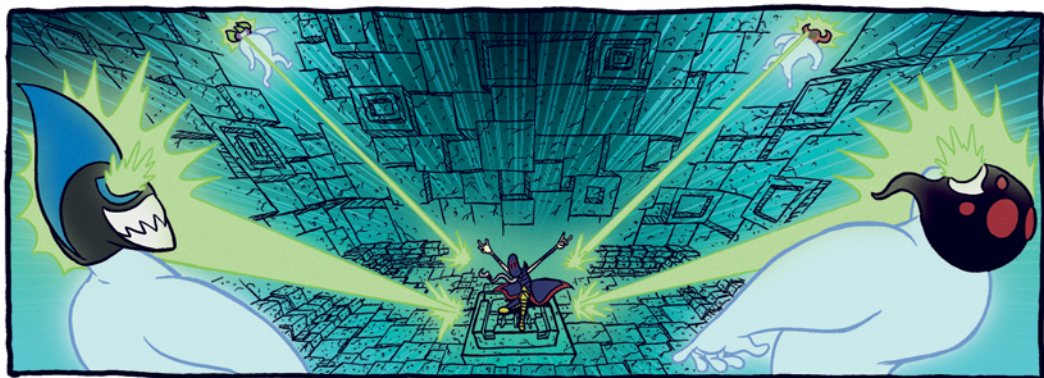




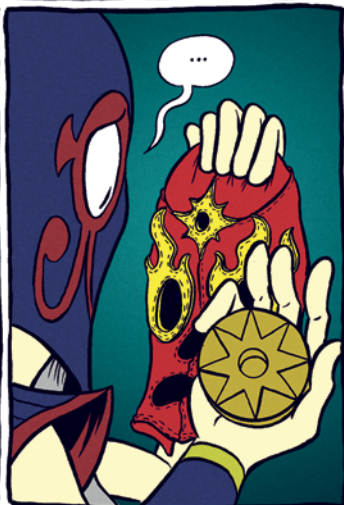
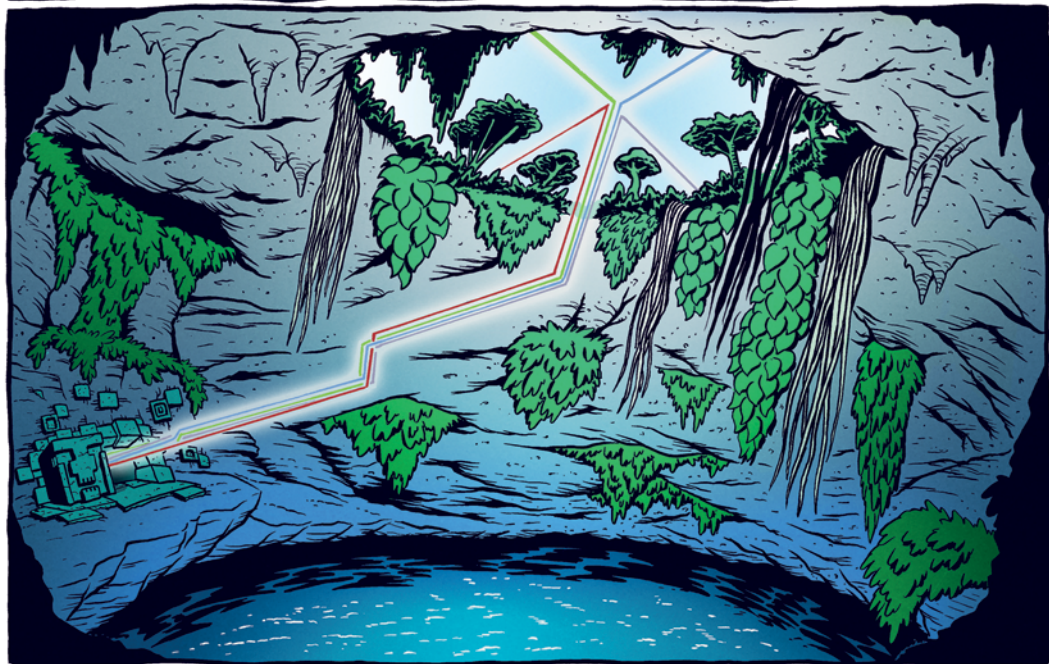




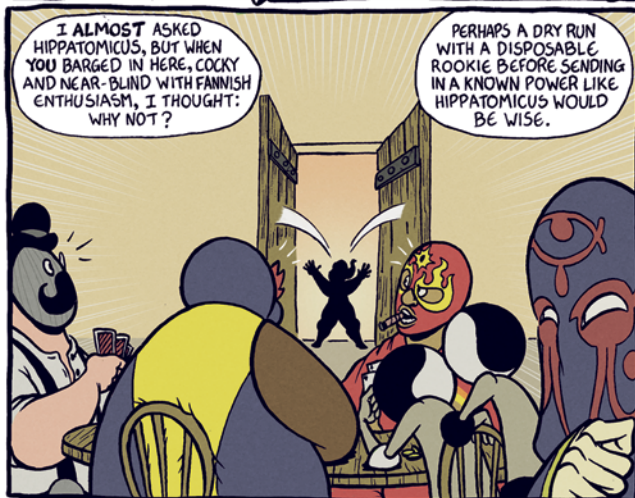
















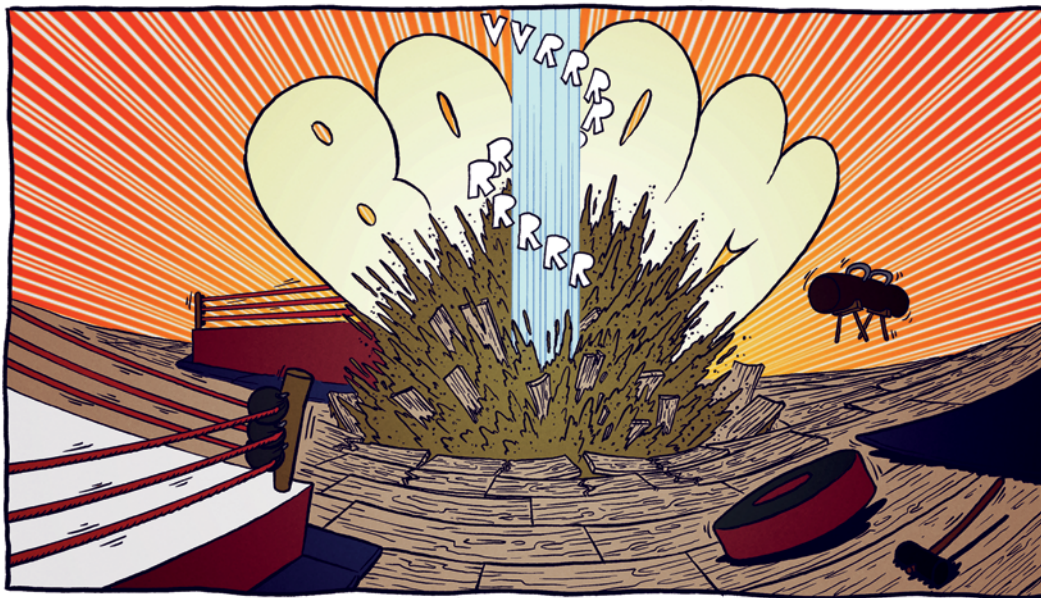
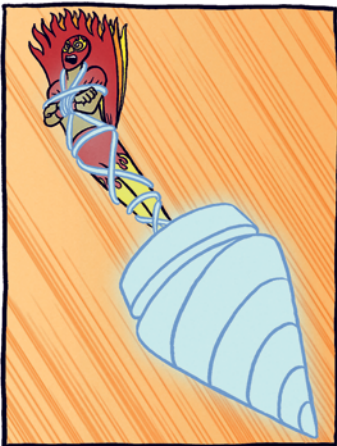














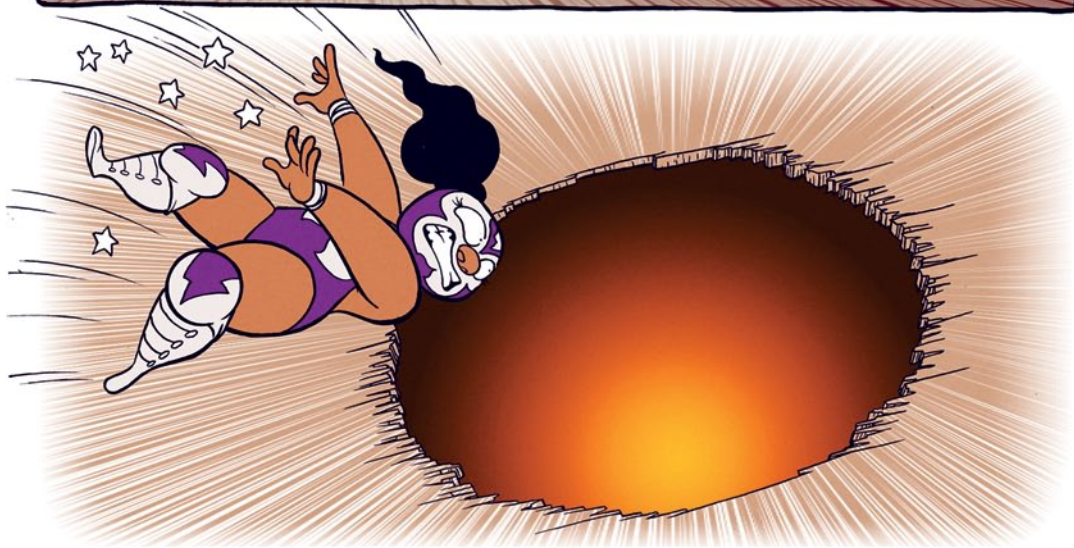




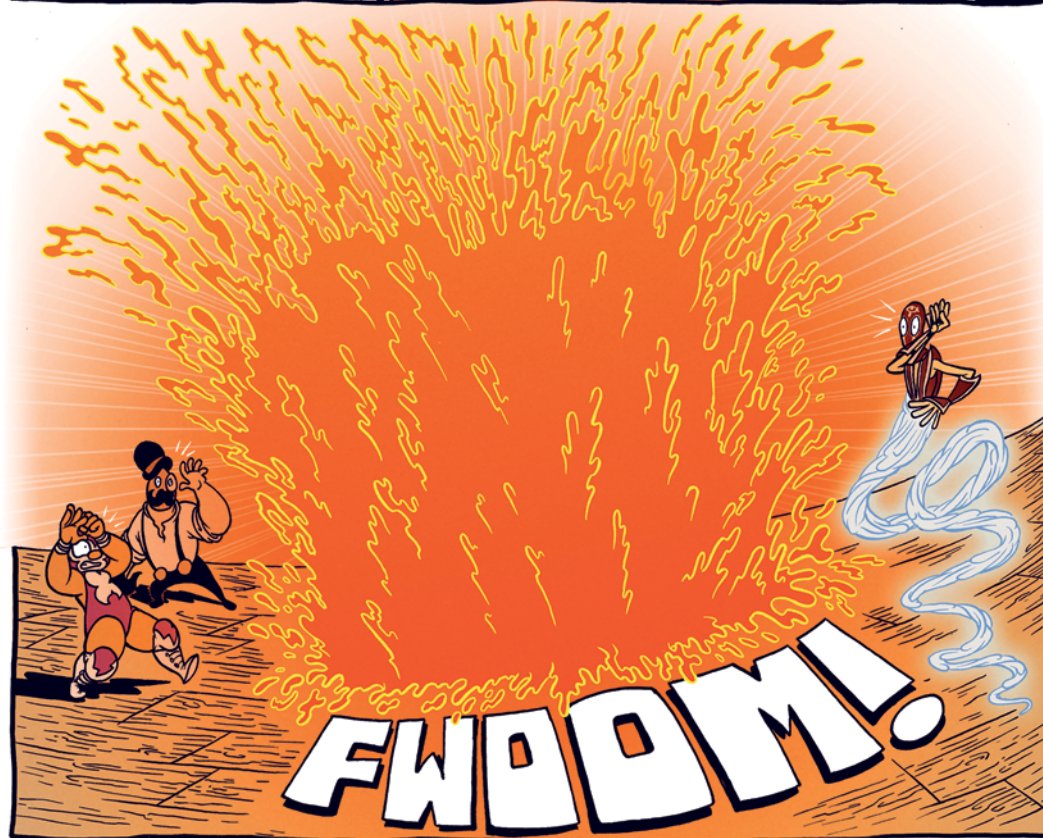


















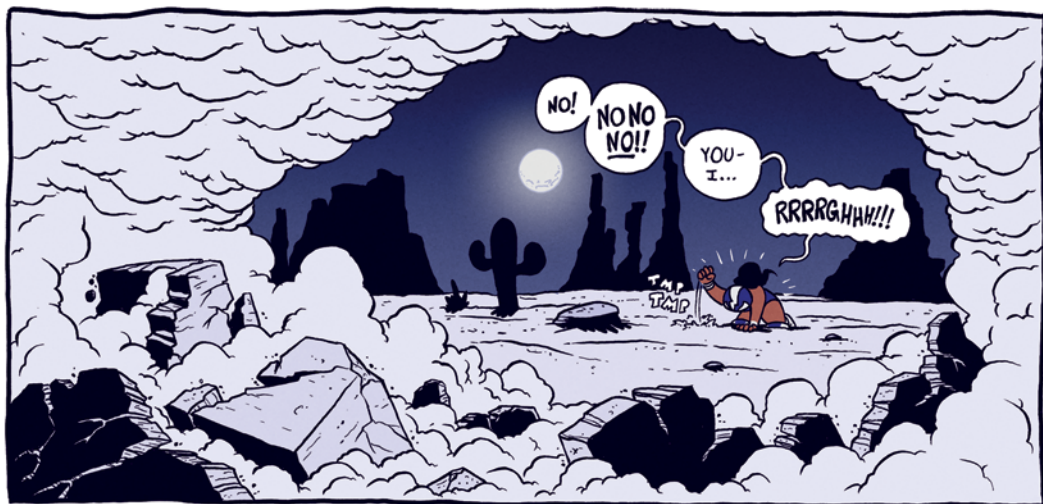






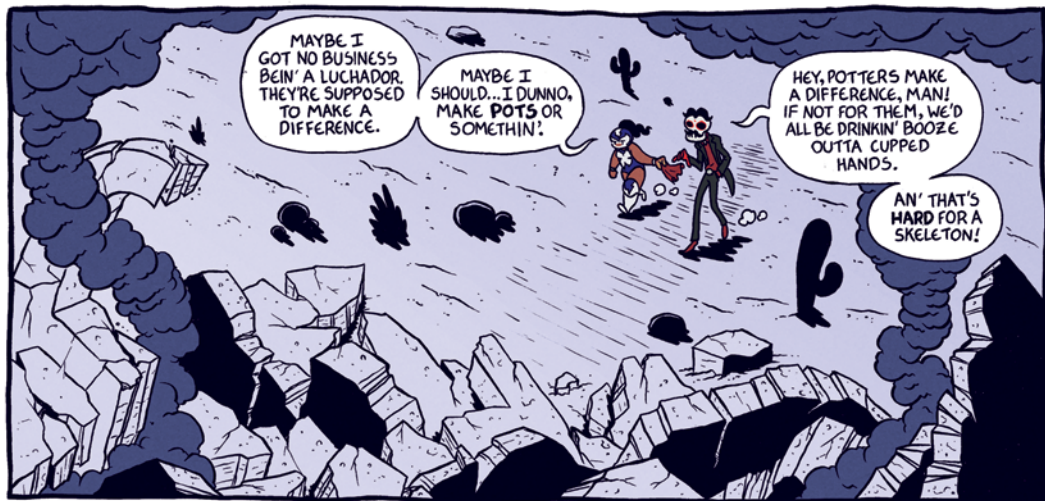












MAYBE I GOT NO BUSINESS BEIN' A LUCHADOR. THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

MAYBE I SHOULD... I DUNNO, MAKE POTS OR SOMETHIN'!

HEY, POTTERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE, MAN! IF NOT FOR THEM, WE'D ALL BE DRINKIN' BOOZE OUTTA CUPPED HANDS.

AN' THAT'S HARD FOR A SKELETON!



≥sigh≤

...LOOK. YOU HELPED TWO PEOPLE, ONE OF WHOM IS MY BEST FRIEND, BREAK THE BONDS SET DOWN FOR 'EM SO THEY COULD FORGE THEIR OWN DESTINY TOGETHER.

THAT'S MAKIN' A DIFFERENCE.



A SMALL ONE MAYBE, IN TH' GRAND SCHEME OF TH' UNIVERSE...

BUT TO SCOOTER 'N' MURCIELAGO? WELL...



...I'M HAPPY FOR 'EM, BUT DOES ONE GOOD DEED MAKE UP FOR A SERIES OF BAD DECISIONS?

I MEAN... I NEVER THOUGHT. I JUST... WENT AFTER IT.

OJO WOULD ME UP, LET ME GO AND I JUST WENT OFF IN A STRAIGHT LINE, NEVER ASKIN' QUESTIONS.

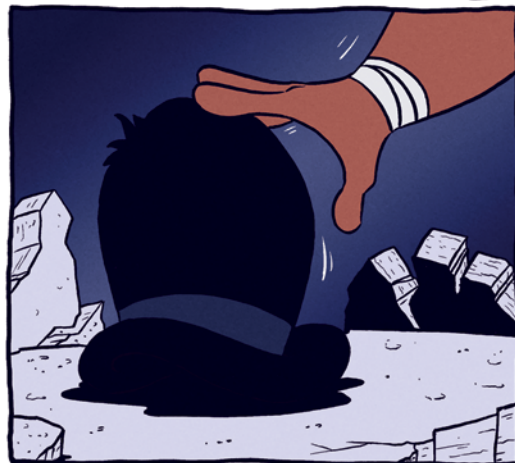
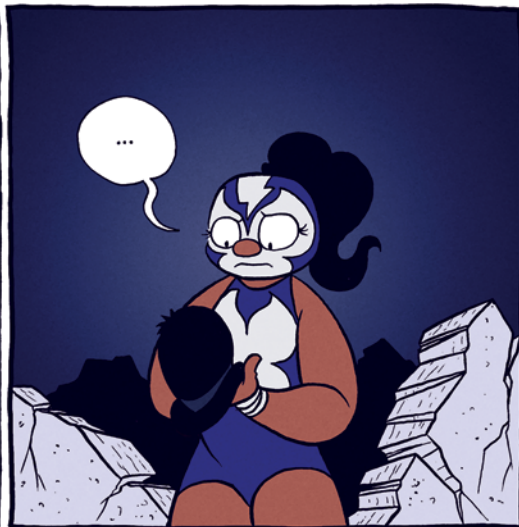
I MEAN, WHO DOES THAT?



...DURIN' TH' GAUNTLET, YOU SOMEHOW WERE ABLE T' CHANNEL TH' POWER OF REINA REVENANTA'S GHOSTS.

ANCIENT POWER TENDS TO GIVE MORTALS TUNNEL VISION.

IT COULDA MAYBE BEEN A FACTOR. IS WHAT I'M SAYIN'.







... SO WHAT  
DO YOU THINK?

I DUNNO.  
SHE'S GOT GOOD  
INTENTIONS, BUT  
SHE'S NAIVE...

YOU THINK SO STILL?  
IT SEEMS LIKE THIS WAS  
AN IDEAL LESSON.

BUT WILL SHE LEARN  
FROM IT? SHE'S BEEN  
BADLY SHAKEN.

THAT'S UP TO HER, BUT  
I FEEL SHE'LL CHOOSE  
THE BEST PATH.

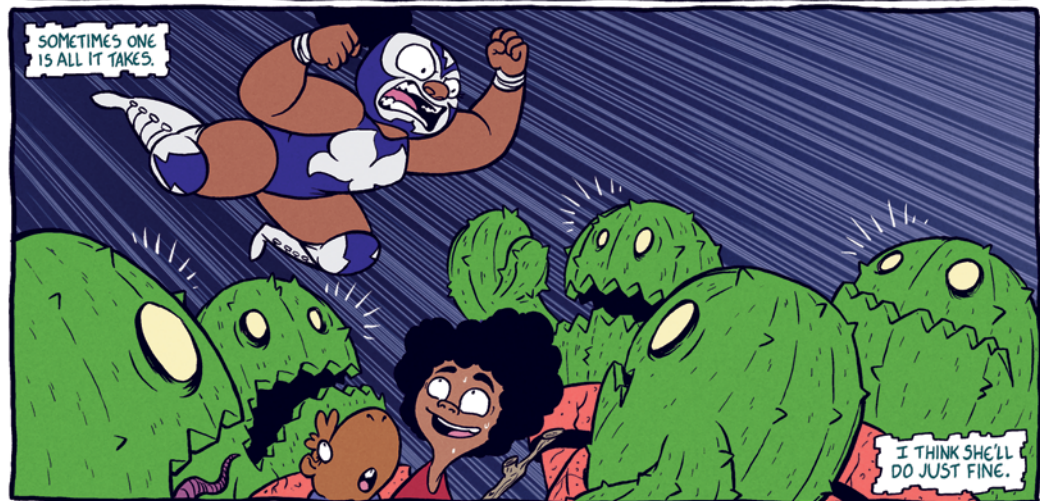


THE BEST  
PATH FOR  
HER?

...WHO  
CAN  
SAY?

NICE  
DODGE. VERY  
MYSTERIOUS.

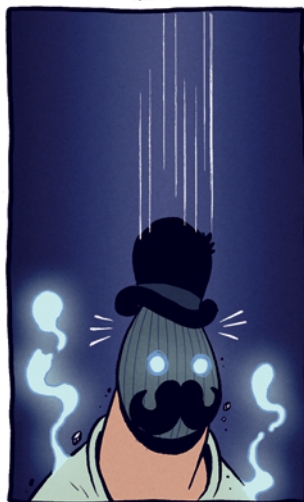
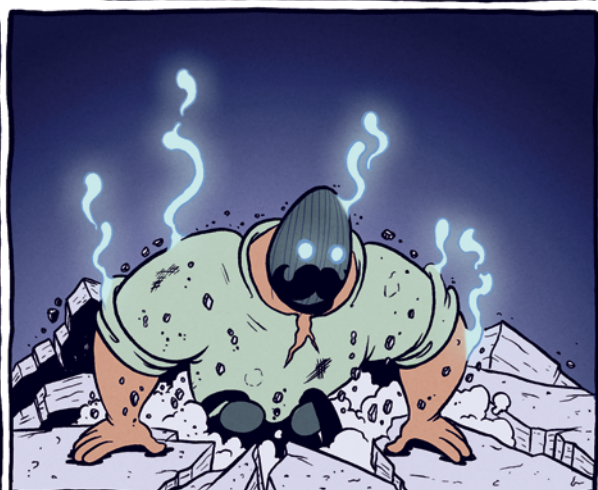
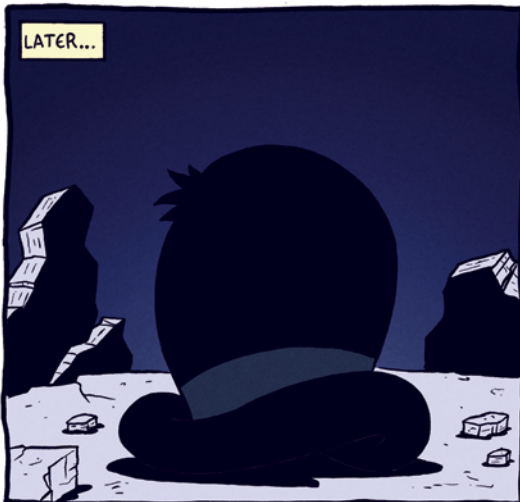
WILL SHE  
BE ENOUGH,  
THOUGH?



SOMETIMES ONE  
IS ALL IT TAKES.

I THINK SHE'LL  
DO JUST FINE.

LATER...













# THANK YOU!!

DAN WHITEHEAD, SOL FOSTER, CHARLES DOWD, FERMIN SERENA HORTAS, BRANDON STOKES, JAY LOFSTEAD, MORGANE BELLON, MATT HARDING, JEN S., MIKE GARLEY, ERIC S. SCHAEFER, MICHAEL MAZZACANE, LOCH NESS, JEREMIAH DOGSBREATH, ZACK Q., RALPH RATAUL, LYNDON WHITE, FRANCESCA DARE, ALEX "FOX" DELL, BRANDON EAKER, DEBBIE LYNN SMITH, ELL J WALKER, RACHEL H SANDERS, @8\_BIT\_HOBO, ANAXPHONE, CHARLOTTE AND MICHAEL HEIDE, NIALl PRESNALL, AARON HOMER, CZAR, RUSSELL MOUNTFORD, THE BREWGOODERS, THIS MAN, THIS PETE!, NATHAN LYON, LOBSTER SQUIRREL, ROZ H./BOOKCASEQUEEN, GIAO DUONG, SERGEY ANIKUSHIN, ALICIA WILLIAMS, ROOK, NIKI PENTLAND, SWORDFIRE, SAMUEL COHNER, SAMUEL KOHNER, ALIOSCIA MARTINELLI, MICHAEL NIMMO, JAKE HAINEY, FRASER CAMPBELL, KATE ASHWIN, BABY SNAKES, COLIN BELL, OWEN MICHAEL JOHNSON, SARAH AND STEF, DECLAN REAY, GEORGE O'CONNOR, AL KENNEDY, MARC ELLERBY, ROGER LONG, TORIA MCCALLUM, ERAKLIS PETMEZAS, CHRIS MOLE, PETER JAMES MAGGS, MICHAEL FRANCIS, MELANIE S. NAZELROD, SALVATORE CUCINOTTA, MATTHEW PL MURPHY, RORY GEOGHEGAN, MATT SIMMONS, ERICH 'SERMON' DONALDSON, STEVEN INGRAM, JAMINX, AARON STOKER, JOHN J OSTROSKY JR, PAUL Y COD ASYN JARMAN, DANIEL KING, JOSH HICKS, AMY JESKINS, IDRIS CARADOC EARDWULF, JAMES GIBBS, JOE SPARROW, JON LOCK, NICOLA LOVE, LAN PITTS, MIKE CASSELLA, CHRIS MCCLUSKEY, NICH ANGELL, JOE DARLINGTON, BOBBY MCGILL, MICHAEL SKVARLA, DAMON & PENI GRIFFIN, ANNA WHITEHEAD, CHRISTIAN ETADAFE, BHP COMICS, ALEX THOMAS, ALIX DEMITCHELL, BRIAN ERBE, KARIFA ;), CODY DELORME, SIMON "GINGER" TAYLOR, KEVIN KLEINROCK OF MASKED REPUBLIC, TOM 'THE FISH-MAN' SPARKE, VINCE 'THE MAD BARON' HUNT, JOHN PRICE, JEFF MARTIN, ABBY BULMER, WILL S., JASON GARRATTLEY, STACEY "SQUIGGLE" TAYLOR, ALICE ANGELL, JOHN MACLEOD, STANLEY GAVIGAN, MIKE ARMSTRONG, JAMES D'AMATO, BROOKE BRITE, TOM OLIVER, ABILASH PULICKEN, DANNY DENIS 'THE MENACE' PEARSON, DR. OMEGA, ALEX TODD, JO MOORE, JACE SILVESTRE, ALEX RUDOLPH, EVE GREENWOOD, FORPE, LIV, HELENE STØVRING, CHARLES ALPHONCE SHROPSHIRE II, KT COOPE, MIKKEL STUBBE TEGLBJÆRG, LEE WARD, IZ MCAULIFFE, EL STYGGELSE, NO NEED, THANKS!, ALANNAH DAW, NEIL SLORANCE, SELINA LOCK, MARK O'DONOVAN, MEGHAN O'SULLIVAN, SAM BOSWELL, NULANI T'ACRAYA, ÁNGEL PRIETO, DEVON P, BRENT DOTSON, CHRIS GUIDORIZZI, RANDALL NICHOLS, WHITNEY, TRUE BELIEVERS COMIC FESTIVAL, THOMAS BONZECK, C MITCHELL, STUART HENDERSON



# THANK YOU!!

LARS VAD, JOSH RANDALL, ANDREW G. RYAN, MDPENMAN, MIKE DUZINKEWYCZ, KEN LAU, NEAL & JESSICA GR, SHAUN MARTLAND, ANNA DIXON, ADAM VINCENT, GRACE BERRIOS, NICK PROLIX, ALEXI WHEELER, MARK BIRRELL, ANDREW & GEORGIA LUCAS-VESMA, PAUL JARDINE, CYBERPILATE, CHIDO COMICS, CJ BARRETT, SENOR HACKETT, SION HOPES, MIGHTERBUMP, MILLIE AND FRANCES, CAFEMOCHA, FRANKLYN OBIDI, AARON EPPY, DB GOODMAN, SIERRA MARIE JACKSON, PHIL SMITH, CARLOS P., ROBERT D HYDE, RIQUI GARDNER, MRS BADMEK, ALEXANDER BELFOR, SCOTT FARRELL, WILL BARLOW, CHRIS MANSON, LAURA EWING, ADAM CADWELL, VERNON WELLES, RICH HARDIMAN, AFONSO FERREIRA, @AUNTYSMAIM, AURELIAN, KRAKENSKECH SERGIO ACUÑA, NIC G, HOLGER, ANDREAS PEIRIS, LEROY BROWN, ANTON (TON-TON) ABELA, IAIN HEPBURN, HEATHER SMITH, DANIELLE, ELLIE DURKIN, MELISSA HOOPER, PETE DAVIES, ROBERT LUCKETT & RACHEL LUCKETT, MA CREATIVE WRITING @ EDINBURGH NAPIER UNIVERSITY, MATT LAWRENCE, KINGJIMMEH, CHARLIE (FREAKYBEAR), PERRY WAKEMAN, TONI GREGG, CHERDOODLE, UDO & LUKEN, KIERAN, DJCONNER, KATO REGAMA, SAM HESKETH, BRIAN WINKELER, JAMIE SMART, MARTHA HORLER, DAVE DESMOND, JAMES POWELL, CORY TILSON ELOISÉ BARCHHA-GEE, G-MAN (COMICS ANONYMOUS), ALANA DOLAN, WEI INGNAN, BILL & ANGELA LAWRENCE, KLUM, GOSH! COMICS, KEN MCFARLANE, KAZEOLU, RUSHAUN ROSWELL.

WOW, A LOT  
OF PEOPLE SURE  
LIKE OUR GIRL,  
HUH?



NO  
ACCOUNTIN'  
FOR TASTE,  
I GUESS...



# SPECIAL THANKS

TO MY FAMILY, FOR THEIR LIMITLESS PATIENCE AND SUPPORT, AND FOR KEEPING ME ALIVE UNTIL I COULD MORE OR LESS DO IT MYSELF.

TO MARK PENMAN, FOR BEING MY BEST BUD, COMIX COMRADE-IN-ARMS AND ALL AROUND SOLID DUDE.

TO KATY COOPE, FOR MAKING MY DANG WEBSITE WORK AND NOT SHAMING ME FOR PAYING HER IN GIN IN LIEU OF ACTUAL CASH. IN MY DEFENCE, IT WAS **REALLY** GOOD GIN.

TO RICH HARDIMAN, FOR CONTINUOUSLY GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND THE DUTIES OF A PRINTER AND BEING MUCH NICER THAN HE SEEMS ON TWITTER.

TO RACHAEL SMITH, FOR BEING MY KICKSTARTER SENSEI, SCHOOLING ME IN THE SECRET ARTS OF PROMOTION AND FULFILMENT.

TO DIMITRIS ZACH (@ROUGHTIMECOMIX) AND DOZERDRAWS (@LITTLEDZERBABY) FOR THEIR TRULY EXCELLENT PIN-UPS.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JAMES LAWRENCE IS A TUTOR AND CARTOONIST BASED IN MANCHESTER, UK.

HIS SIGNATURE MOVE IS THE UNINTENTIONALLY HARD HIGH FIVE.



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**AS A ROOKIE LUCHADORA, LA MARIPOSA  
HAS EVERYTHING TO PROVE.**

SEEKING INITIATION INTO THE ILLUSTRIOUS SONS OF JUSTICE, LA MARIPOSA IS DISPATCHED ON A QUEST TO DEFEAT A QUARTET OF DEMONIC WARRIORS AND RETURN WITH THEIR ENCHANTED MASKS AS PROOF OF VICTORY.

HOWEVER, NOT ALL IS AS IT SEEMS. AS THE PLUCKY PURPLE POWERHOUSE FINDS HERSELF ENTANGLED IN A WEB OF SECRETS AND AMBITION SPANNING GENERATIONS, LA MARIPOSA MUST LEARN THE HARD WAY THAT A WARRIOR'S ROAD DOES NOT ALWAYS RUN IN A STRAIGHT LINE.

**"LA MARIPOSA DESERVES TO BE MASSIVE. MASTERING THAT UNIQUE SKILL OF BEING BOTH EXHILARATING AND HILARIOUS ALL AT ONCE. ARTWORK WHICH ABSOLUTELY SMASHES IT OUT THE PARK, WHILE THE STORY RACES ALONG AT A BREATHLESS PACE, THIS IS COMIC MAKING AT ITS BEST."**

**- JAMIE SMART (LOOSHKIN,  
BUNNY VS MONKEY, CORPORATE SKULL)**

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**- KYLE STARKS (RICK AND MORTY,  
MARS ATTACKS, ROCK CANDY MOUNTAIN)**

**"I LOVED THE CHARACTER DESIGNS. THEIR BACKSTORY AND HOW LA MARIPOSA HAD TO LEARN HOW TO ADAPT TO EACH OPPONENT. AS SOMEONE THAT IS CALLED THE "RESILIENT ROOKIE" I FELT LA MARIPOSA'S JOURNEY AS IF I HAD BEEN ON IT MYSELF."**

**- GREEN ANT, LUCHADOR**