

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

TUI T. SUTHERLAND

ART BY MIKE HOLMES

WINGS OF FIRE

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



BOOK FOUR

THE DARK SECRET

 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 ◀—————

BOOK ONE
THE DRAGONET PROPHECY

BOOK TWO
THE LOST HEIR

BOOK THREE
THE HIDDEN KINGDOM

BOOK FOUR
THE DARK SECRET

A decorative border with a repeating floral or scrollwork pattern in a light blue color, framing the central text area.

WINGS OF FIRE

THE DARK SECRET
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

For Oscar and Beatrice, two of the most awesome
people ever — we feel so lucky to have you as friends!
—T.T.S.

For Ruby and Gabby, who I hope will always
let me know if my art's any good
—M.H.

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WINGS OF FIRE

THE DARK SECRET
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

BY **TUI T. SUTHERLAND**

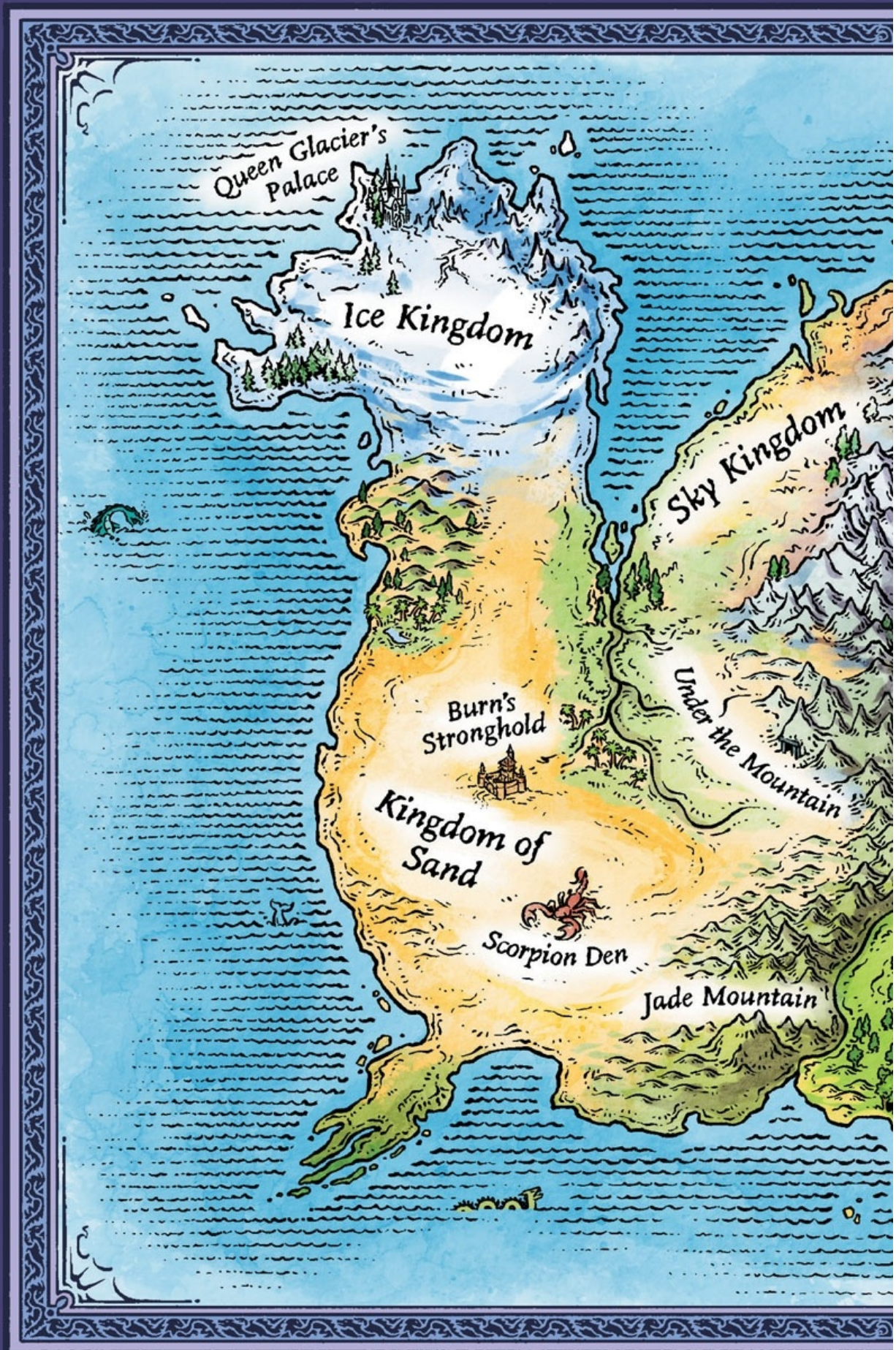
ADAPTED BY **BARRY DEUTSCH**
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THE DARK SECRET


THE DRAGONET
PROPHECY

WHEN THE WAR HAS LASTED TWENTY YEARS...
THE DRAGONETS WILL COME.
WHEN THE LAND IS SOAKED IN BLOOD AND TEARS...
THE DRAGONETS WILL COME.

FIND THE SEAWING EGG OF DEEPEST BLUE,
WINGS OF NIGHT SHALL COME TO YOU.

THE LARGEST EGG IN MOUNTAIN HIGH
WILL GIVE TO YOU THE WINGS OF SKY.

FOR WINGS OF EARTH, SEARCH THROUGH THE MUD
FOR AN EGG THE COLOR OF DRAGON BLOOD.
AND HIDDEN ALONE FROM THE RIVAL QUEENS,
THE SANDWING EGG AWAITS UNSEEN.



OF THREE QUEENS WHO BLISTER AND BLAZE AND BURN
TWO SHALL DIE AND ONE SHALL LEARN
IF SHE BOWS TO A FATE THAT IS STRONGER AND HIGHER,
SHE'LL HAVE THE POWER OF WINGS OF FIRE.



FIVE EGGS TO HATCH ON BRIGHTEST NIGHT,
FIVE DRAGONS BORN TO END THE FIGHT.
DARKNESS WILL RISE TO BRING THE LIGHT.
THE DRAGONETS ARE COMING...

PROLOGUE

WE'RE ALL
GOING TO DIE!
JUST LIKE
CRANE!

MARSH! KEEP
IT TOGETHER!

I CAN'T LOSE
ANOTHER SIBLING!
IT'LL KILL ME.

RETREAT!!

I THINK WE
LOST THEM.

I PROTECTED THEM *THIS*
TIME, BUT I COULDN'T PROTECT
CRANE WHEN IT MATTERED.
WHAT IF I FAIL AGAIN?

I'M NOT EVEN SUPPOSED TO *BE*
THE BIGWINGS. IT'S SUPPOSED TO
BE OUR BROTHER CLAY.



PART ONE: THE SECRET PLAN

WHERE AM I?
WHERE ARE MY
FRIENDS?

IS SUNNY OKAY?

EVERYTHING IS FUZZY...
I CAN'T REMEMBER...

MAYBE I DREAMED IT ALL.
MAYBE WE'RE STILL UNDER THE
MOUNTAIN AND IT WAS ALL
A NIGHTMARE.

NO, I COULDN'T
HAVE MADE UP
MORROWSEER.

NIGHTWINGS HAVE A
REPUTATION TO UPHOLD.
YOU MUST MAKE THE
OTHERS FEAR AND FOLLOW
YOU, OR YOU'LL BE THE
GREATEST DISAPPOINTMENT
IN NIGHTWING HISTORY.

OR THE
RAINFOREST...
THAT'S WHERE
I WAS, WHEN
SOMETHING...

I THINK THERE'S
SOMETHING WRONG
WITH HIM.

MAYBE THEY KILLED
HIM. THAT'D BE ALL RIGHT.
THEN I CAN BE IN THE
PROPHECY INSTEAD.





I DON'T THINK
THAT'S HOW IT WORKS,
FIERCETEETH.

I BET HE'D
WAKE UP IF I
BIT HIM.

HE'D BETTER
WAKE UP AND
BE INTERESTING
SOON.

I BET MORROWSEER WOULD
THROW YOU IN THE VOLCANO
IF HE FOUND TOOTH MARKS
ON HIS PROPHECY PET!

OOH, I HAVE
AN IDEA!

SUNNY,
I HOPE
YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT.

PLEASE DON'T
HATE ME FOR
WHAT THE OTHER
NIGHTWINGS
HAVE DONE.

I COULDN'T BEAR IT IF YOU
THOUGHT I WAS LIKE THEM.



ACK!

SPUTTER!

SPLASH!!



IT WORKED!

DRAT.

I THOUGHT
HE WAS DEAD.



WHO ARE YOU?

HUH. I THOUGHT
HE WAS GOING TO
ATTACK US.

THAT'S WHAT
I'D HAVE DONE.



HE DOESN'T LOOK VERY
DANGEROUS. I THOUGHT
THEY'D PICK A DRAGONET
FOR THE PROPHECY WHO
WAS BIG AND FIERCE.

YOU SOUND
LIKE A
TINY-BRAIN
RAINWING.



THEY TOOK HIM FOR THE
PROPHECY WHEN HE WAS JUST
AN EGG. THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT
HE'D BE LIKE. OR ELSE OBVIOUSLY
THEY'D HAVE CHOSEN A GIRL.

LIKE
ME.

WHY DOES HER
BREATH SMELL
SO AWFUL?





IS THIS... A PRISON?
IT LOOKS MORE LIKE
A DORMITORY.



I DON'T SEE ANY
GUARDS. BUT MAYBE
THERE'S SOMETHING
REALLY CREEPY OUT
THERE, KEEPING US IN.



ALL THESE DRAGONETS
LOOK LIKE THEY'RE
STARVING.



WE CAN'T AFFORD
TO LOSE ANY DRAGONETS,
EVEN PECULIAR LITTLE
ONES.

BACK IN THE
SKY KINGDOM,
MORROWSEER
HINTED THAT
SOMETHING WAS
WRONG...



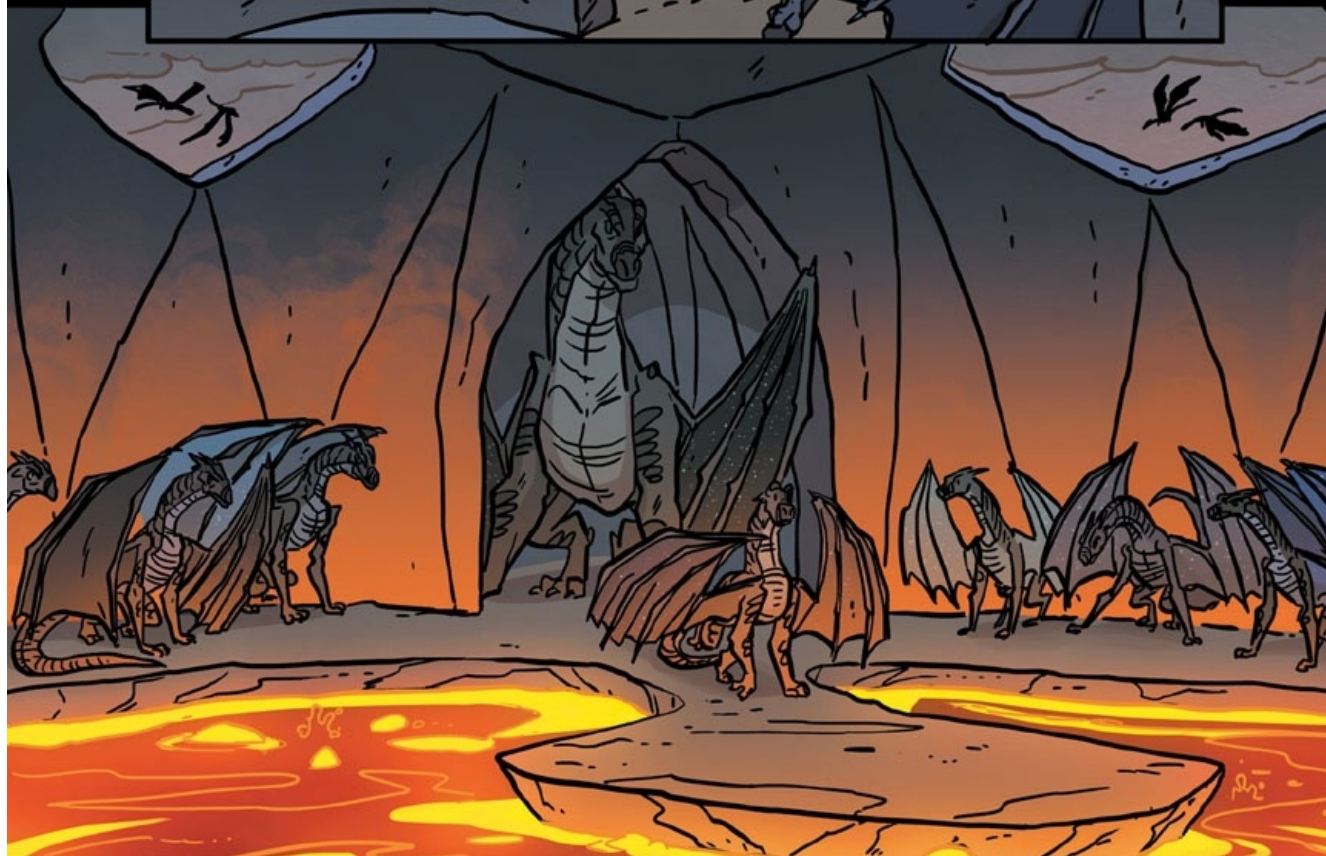
ALL THESE EMPTY BEDS...
PLACES FOR DRAGONETS,
BUT NO DRAGONETS TO
FILL THEM.

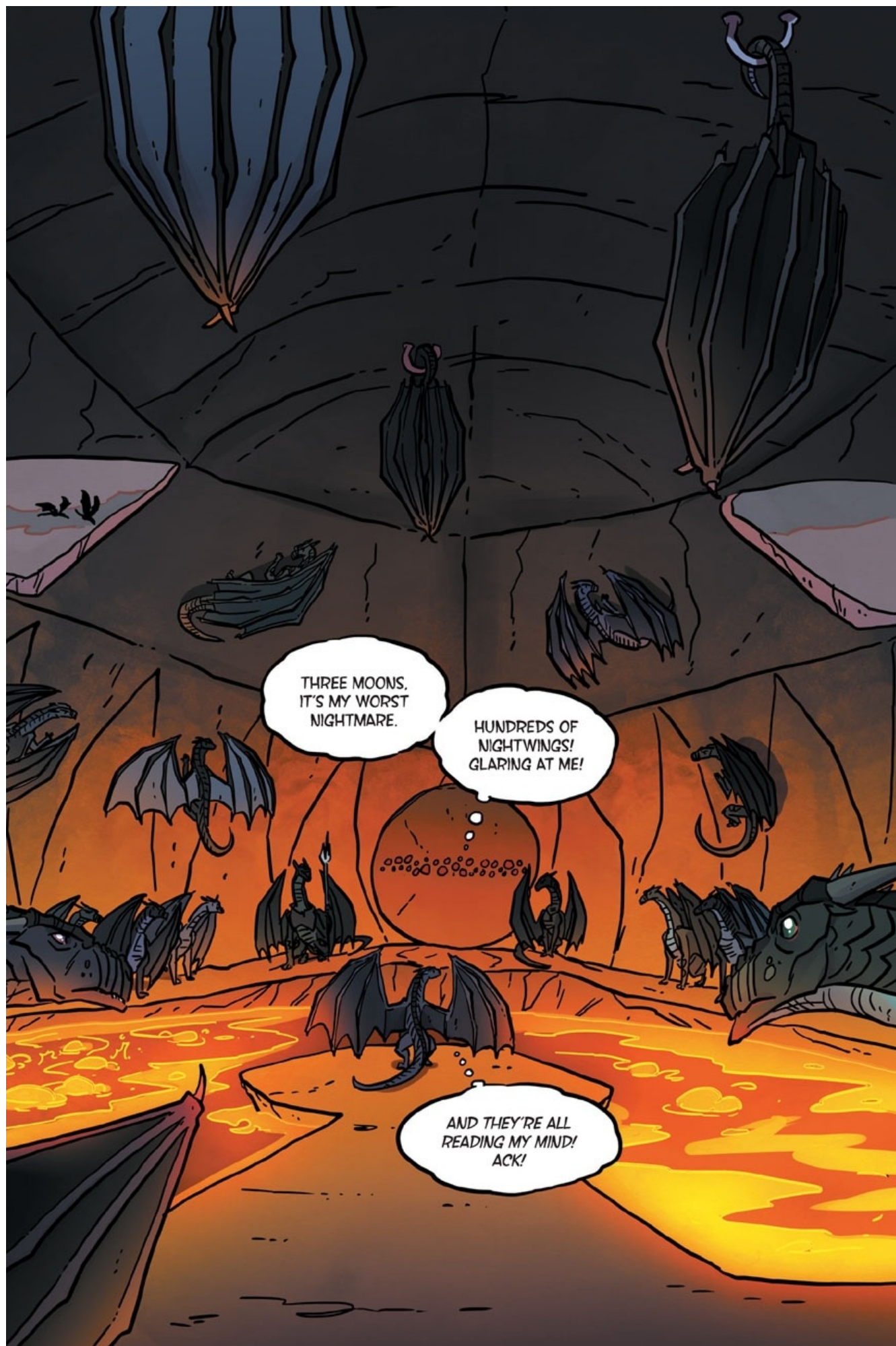
EVEN THE ONES WHO
SURVIVE ARE IN PRETTY
BAD SHAPE.

WHAT IS WRONG
WITH MY TRIBE?







































GIANT ALBATROSS.



I KILLED IT. I'M CERTAINLY GOING TO EAT IT.















VERY WELL. WE'LL
GO SEE MASTERMIND.
AND AFTER THAT, I'LL
TAKE YOU TO SEE THE
ALTERNATES.

THE WHAT?



OH! IF NIGHTWINGS ONLY EAT
CARRION, THAT EXPLAINS THE BAD
BREATH ON ALL THE DRAGONETS
IN THE DORMITORY.

BUT NOT DEATHBRINGER.
HE MUST HUNT LIVE PREY
ON HIS MISSIONS.



THE VOLCANO DESTROYED
PART OF THE FORTRESS...
I WONDER HOW LONG AGO
THAT WAS.



WHAT IF IT
ERUPTS AGAIN?
WHILE WE'RE
INSIDE?





OH... NOT CLAY.
WHO IS THIS?

OH MY GOSH,
IT'S YOU!

I HAD A VISION ABOUT
YOU! HAVE YOU HAD ANY
VISIONS ABOUT ME?

YOU DID?
BUT SHE'S MY AGE! AND
I'VE STILL HAD NO VISIONS!



FATESPEAKER! I TOLD YOU
TO STAY IN YOUR CAVE WITH
THE OTHERS!















COME! I'LL SHOW
YOU WHAT I'M
WORKING ON.

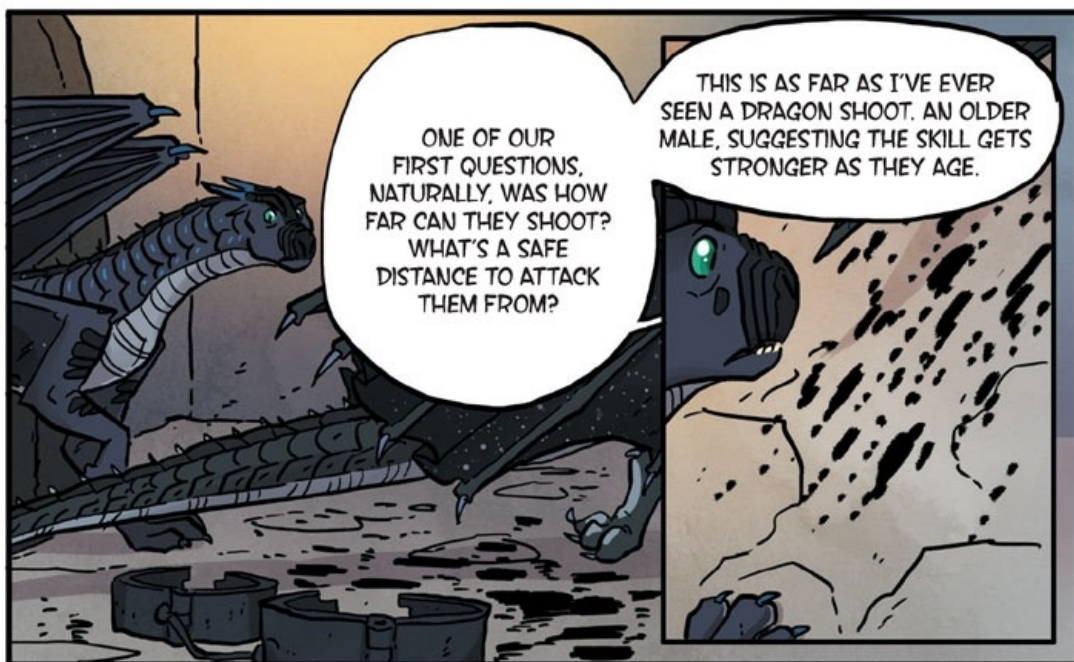
THIS IS MY DESALINIZATION
CONTRAPTION! WE TAKE OUT
THE SALT TO MAKE SEAWATER
DRINKABLE.

THIS PLACE IS
PRETTY COOL.

IT'S AMAZING.

HERE'S MY
VOLCANOLOGY
RESEARCH INTO
MATERIALS THAT CAN
WITHSTAND ERUPTIONS.
NOT GOING WELL, AS
YOU CAN SEE.

AND HERE! WE'VE
DISCOVERED A TRULY,
TRULY ASTONISHING
NATURAL PHENOMENON.





THE NEXT QUESTION, OF COURSE, WAS WHAT DOESN'T REACT TO THE VENOM? WHAT COULD WE USE FOR PROTECTION? METAL, FOR ONE THING.

CLANG
CLANG



BUT ANYTHING BIOLOGICAL, IT DESTROYS.

EWV!



IF IT GETS IN YOUR EYES OR YOUR BLOOD-STREAM, YOU'RE DEAD, ALMOST INSTANTLY. IF IT HITS YOUR SCALES, YOU ONLY WISH YOU WERE.



I KNOW WHAT IT CAN DO. I'VE SEEN IT KILL TWO DRAGONS.

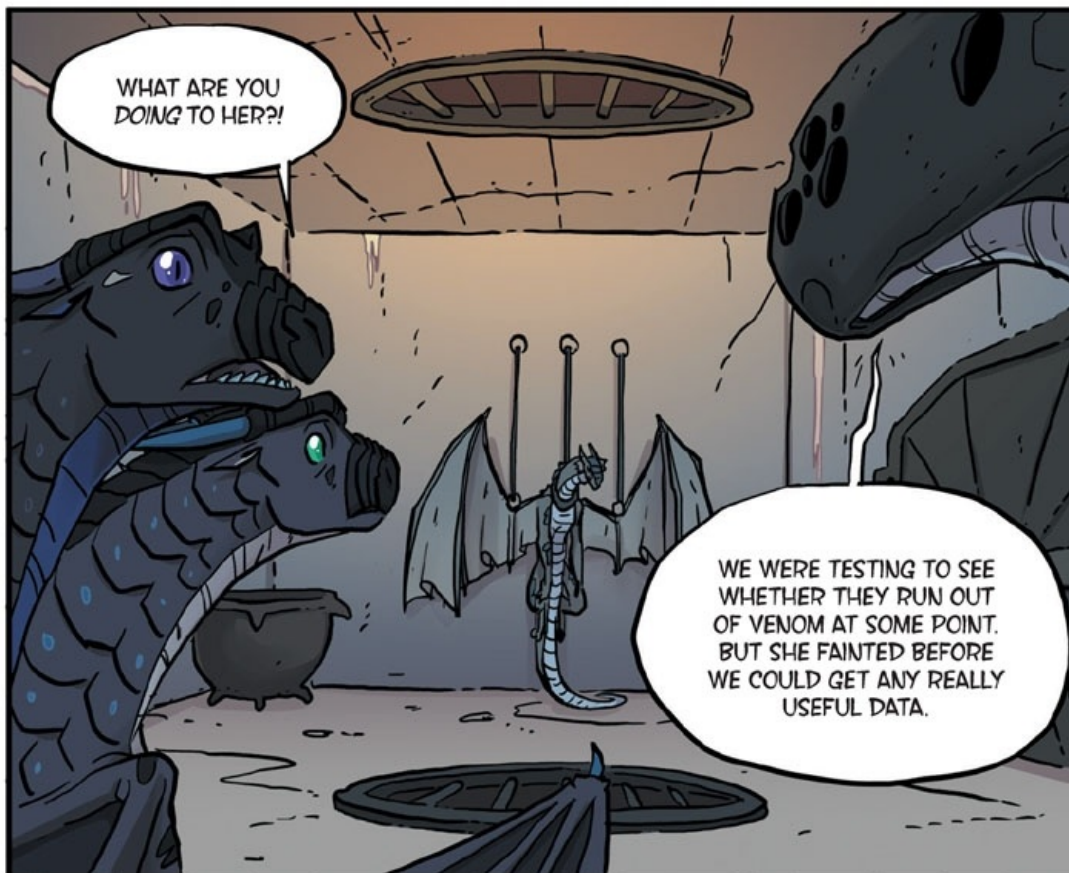
THREE, IF QUEEN SCARLET IS DEAD.

TWO, REALLY? HOW SURPRISINGLY CARELESS. WE HAVEN'T PICKED UP ANY RAINWINGS WITH THAT LITTLE CONTROL YET.



IT WASN'T "CARELESS." IT WAS ON PURPOSE.

ON PURPOSE? THAT CHANGES THINGS ENTIRELY! I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING! HOW LONG DID DEATH TAKE, WHAT PROMPTED THE ATTACK—









ALL RIGHT, WHATEVER.
HEY, WHEN DO I GET A
HELMET LIKE THIS?

THIS IS JUST A
PROTOTYPE.



AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THE
HARDEST PART OF CREATING
VENOM-PROOF ARMOR IS
MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO
SEE! THIS IS AN IMPERFECT
SOLUTION—PERIPHERAL VISION
IS DUBIOUS AT BEST. I'D BE
INTERESTED IN HEARING YOUR
THOUGHTS!



HOLD STILL, YOU.

CLICK

BUT WHY ARE
YOU DOING THIS?
WHY STUDY THEIR
VENOM AT ALL?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THIS IS SCIENCE!
ADVANCING DRAGON
KNOWLEDGE!

BUT... THE RAINWINGS
NEVER HURT ANYBODY.
WHY WOULD YOU EVER
NEED VENOM-RESISTANT
ARMOR?



THE QUEEN HAS HER
REASONS. I AM NOT
INVOLVED IN THEM. THE
THRILL OF SCIENTIFIC
DISCOVERY IS REASON
ENOUGH FOR ME.

SURELY YOU
UNDERSTAND
THAT, AS
MY SON.





THERE YOU ARE.
IF YOU'RE *QUITE*
FINISHED WITH YOUR
LITTLE CHAT—

MORROWSEER,
HE'S ALL SPECIAL AND
CHOSEN, TOO! HOW
CAN WE *BOTH* BE IN
THE PROPHECY?



ONLY ONE OF YOU WILL
BE IN THE PROPHECY,
FATESPEAKER. THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE BOTH HERE—SO WE
CAN DECIDE WHICH ONE.

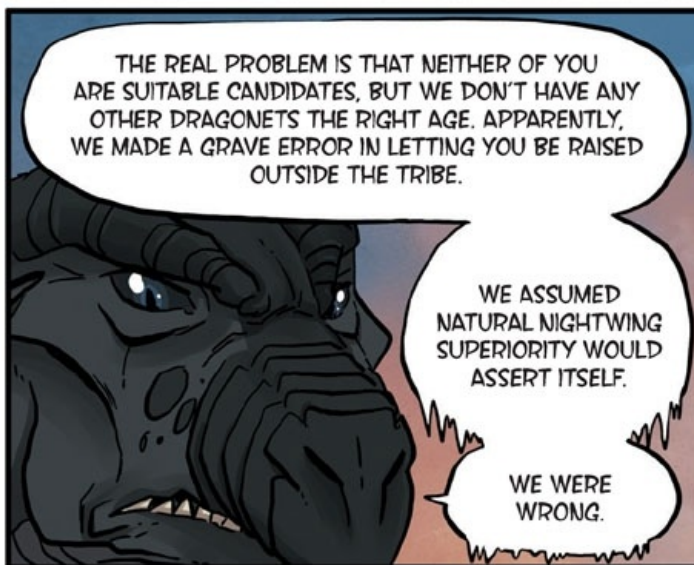
SO THERE'S
STILL HOPE
FOR ME?

DON'T YOU
KNOW? DIDN'T
YOU DELIVER THAT
PROPHECY?



PROPHECIES CAN BE
COMPLICATED.

OOO, GOOD COMEBACK.
I SHOULD WRITE THAT
DOWN.



THE REAL PROBLEM IS THAT NEITHER OF YOU
ARE SUITABLE CANDIDATES, BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANY
OTHER DRAGONETS THE RIGHT AGE. APPARENTLY,
WE MADE A GRAVE ERROR IN LETTING YOU BE RAISED
OUTSIDE THE TRIBE.

WE ASSUMED
NATURAL NIGHTWING
SUPERIORITY WOULD
ASSERT ITSELF.

WE WERE
WRONG.




WH-WHY
AREN'T I
SUITABLE?

YOU HAVE NO
LEADERSHIP QUALITIES
WHATSOEVER. AND
YOU ANTAGONIZED
OUR ALLY.




COME ALONG.






MOVE NOW OR I
WILL KILL YOU BOTH,
PROPHECY OR NO
PROPHECY!



HAVE YOU HAD ANY
VISIONS THAT MIGHT
GIVE US A HINT? ABOUT
THEIR SECRET PLAN?



NO. WAIT! YES!
IT INVOLVES BOTH OF US
AND WE'RE GOING TO BE
HEROES AND THEN WE'LL
BE KING AND QUEEN!



UM... WE ARE?

LA DI DA DI DA.



BUT WHAT
ABOUT
SUNNY?

WHY ARE THEY TORTURING
THE RAINWINGS? I CAN
FIGURE THIS OUT.



MAYBE THEY WANT TO
USE RAINWING VENOM
THEMSELVES? THEY'RE
ON QUEEN BLISTER'S
SIDE. MAYBE THEY'LL USE
RAINWING VENOM TO FIGHT
FOR HER?



BUT WHY WOULD THEY
JOIN NOW, EIGHTEEN YEARS
INTO THE WAR?



PERHAPS BLISTER
PROMISED THE
NIGHTWINGS SOMETHING.
THE WAY BLAZE IS GIVING
UP TERRITORY TO THE
ICEWINGS IN EXCHANGE
FOR THEIR HELP.



TERRITORY!
MORE THAN ANYTHING,
THE NIGHTWINGS NEED A
NEW HOME. THE ISLAND IS A
HORRIBLE PLACE TO LIVE, AND
THE VOLCANO IS EXTREMELY
DANGEROUS.



MASTERMIND'S EXPERIMENTS
ARE ALL ABOUT HOW TO
DEFEND AGAINST RAINWING
VENOM BECAUSE THE
NIGHTWINGS ARE PLANNING
TO INVADE THE RAINFOREST!



THINK,
STARFLIGHT,
THINK!



THAT'S WHAT BLISTER
PROMISED THEM. IF THE
NIGHTWINGS HELP BLISTER
WIN THE WAR, BLISTER WILL
USE HER ARMIES AND MAGIC
TUNNEL FROM THE DESERT
TO HELP THE NIGHTWINGS
DESTROY THE RAINWINGS.



AND I'M THE ONLY ONE
WHO KNOWS. BUT I'M...
I'M NOT BRAVE OR STRONG.
HOW CAN I SAVE THE
RAINWINGS? HOW DO I
STOP MY OWN TRIBE?





PART TWO: THE QUEEN'S SECRET

BEHOLD, THE ALTERNATE
DRAGONETS OF DESTINY.

STARFLIGHT, MEET
MY FRIENDS! THIS
SHRIMPY SEAWING
IS *SQUID*.

WHO IS THAT?
HE LOOKS LIKE
FATESPEAKER.
UGH, IS HE GOING
TO BE ANNOYING
LIKE HER?

AND THE SANDWING
WITH THE SOUR
EXPRESSION IS *VIPER*.


MORROWSEER, WHERE HAVE YOU
BEEN? NO ONE HAS CHECKED ON US IN
A DAY AND A HALF AND WE'VE BEEN
FED NOTHING EXCEPT WHAT LOOKS
LIKE ROTTEN LEFTOVERS FROM THREE
MONTHS AGO.

MOST OF WHICH *OCBRE*
THREW UP.

OCBRE'S THE TRAGIC
MUDWING OVER THERE.

IT WAS AWFUL! YOU'RE
LUCKY I'M STILL ALIVE!





QUITE LUCKY. SINCE
I WAS EXTREMELY
TEMPTED TO KILL HIM.

AND THAT'S *FLAME*.
HE'S OUR SKYWING,
OBSIOUSLY.

IF THERE'S A WHOLE
OTHER SET OF FIVE
DRAGONETS—THEN
NOBODY NEEDS US
AT ALL...

THEY WANTED US
DEAD BECAUSE IT
WOULDN'T DO TO
HAVE TWO SETS
OF DRAGONETS OF
DESTINY RUNNING
AROUND.

IT WOULD HAVE
BEEN US UNTIL WE
ANGERED—UNTIL I
ANGERED BLISTER.
THEY DECIDED TO KILL
US BECAUSE I FAILED
TO CONVINCE THE
OTHERS TO PICK HER
AS THE QUEEN.











THE GOOD NEWS IS,
THEY'RE NEW TO THE
ISLAND AND DON'T KNOW ITS
GEOGRAPHY WELL.

THE BAD NEWS
IS, NEITHER
DO I!

THE FOREST IS ALL THE
WAY ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN.
TOO FAR.

GLORY SAID THE TUNNEL
TO THE RAINFOREST IS IN A
CAVE ABOVE SOME BLACK
SAND BEACH. SHOULD I
SEARCH FOR IT?

NO, THEY'D CATCH
ME BEFORE I EVER
FOUND IT.

ACK! SKYWINGS
ARE FAST!

HOW CLOSE ARE
THEY? I'LL SNEAK
A PEEK...

AAACK!
THEY'RE RIGHT
BEHIND ME!

THEY'RE GOING TO
CATCH ME! I'M GOING
TO DIE!

DON'T PANIC,
STARFLIGHT!

FATESPEAKER ISN'T WITH
THEM. DISOBEYING ORDERS?
OR SNEAKING UP SOME
OTHER WAY?

I'LL FLY CLOSE
TO THE GROUND—
IT'LL BE HARDER TO
SEE ME NEAR THOSE
BLACK ROCKS.

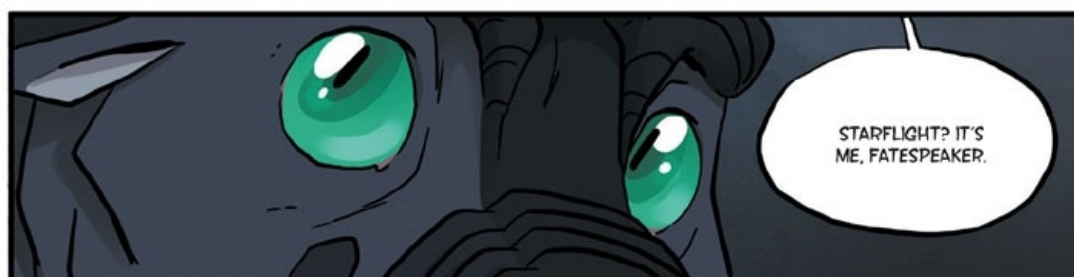


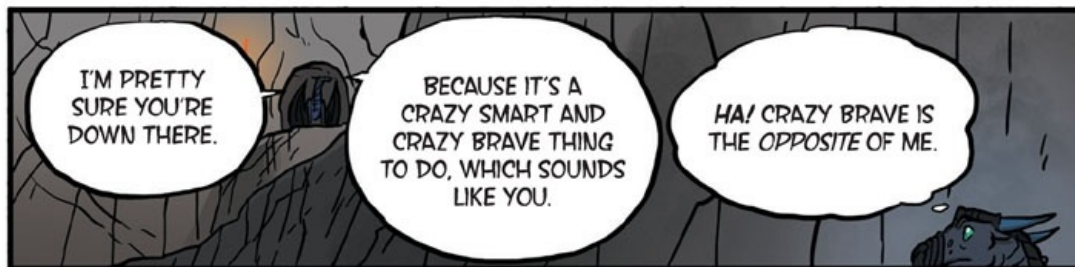


















A NEW SCROLL,
STARFLIGHT?
WHAT'S THIS ONE
ABOUT?

IT'S ABOUT US,
SUNNY. ABOUT THE
DRAGONETS OF
DESTINY.

IT'S THEORIES ABOUT WHO
AND WHERE WE ARE AND HOW
WE MIGHT STOP THE WAR.

GREAT! ANY
WAR-STOPPING
SUGGESTIONS ARE
SO WELCOME.

SHE'S
TOUCHING ME!

ISN'T IT WONDERFUL TO KNOW
WE'RE HERE FOR A REASON? I
LOVE THAT WE'RE DESTINED TO DO
SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT AND
MAKE SO MANY DRAGONS HAPPY.

WHAT'S IT
SAY?



UH...

ONE THEORY IS
THAT ALL THE
DRAGONETS ARE
ROYAL DAUGHTERS,
SO THEY'LL ALL
BECOME QUEENS
AND STOP THE WAR
THAT WAY.

I CAN TOTALLY
SEE CLAY AS
A MUDWING
PRINCESS.

GIVE ME THAT!

BUT KESTREL—

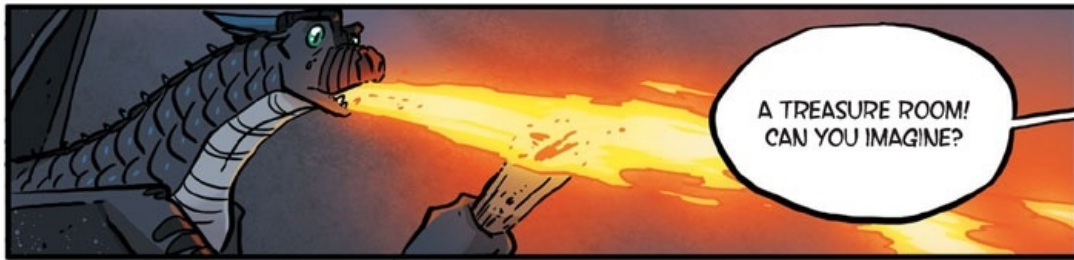
HEY!

RRRRIP!

WE DON'T NEED TRASH
LIKE THIS CLUTTERING UP
YOUR TINY LITTLE MINDS.









BUT SHE'S NOT
TERRIBLE. SHE'S BETTER
THAN QUEEN SCARLET,
THAT'S FOR SURE.
OR BLISTER.



I BET THE SANDWINGS WOULD
BE HAPPIER IF THEY COULD FIND
THE TREASURE THAT SCAVENGER
STOLE, THOUGH.

MAYBE. THERE WERE SOME FAMOUS
PIECES TAKEN—AND RUMOR HAS IT
THAT SOME OF THAT TREASURE WAS
MAGICKED BY AN ANIMUS.



THOSE PIECES WOULD
BE LEFT WITH SOME
SORT OF POWER—LIKE A
NECKLACE THAT CAN MAKE
YOU INVISIBLE.

OR A STATUE
THAT KILLS
HEIRS TO
THE SEAWING
THRONE.

STARFLIGHT...



THIS LOOKS LIKE
THE PLACE.





HOW DID THEY DIE?

MY GUESS IS THEY GOT CAUGHT HERE DURING THE ERUPTION AND NO ONE COULD GET TO THEM UNTIL THE LAVA COOLED.

HOW INCREDIBLY AWFUL.



I WONDER WHAT I'D DO WITH A PILE OF TREASURE...

UNLESS IT COULD STOP THE WAR OR GET ME BACK TO MY FRIENDS, IT'D BE USELESS TO ME.



MAYBE WE SHOULD GO.

I THINK SO. I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH AIR IS DOWN HERE, BUT I DON'T WANT TO FIND OUT BY RUNNING OUT.



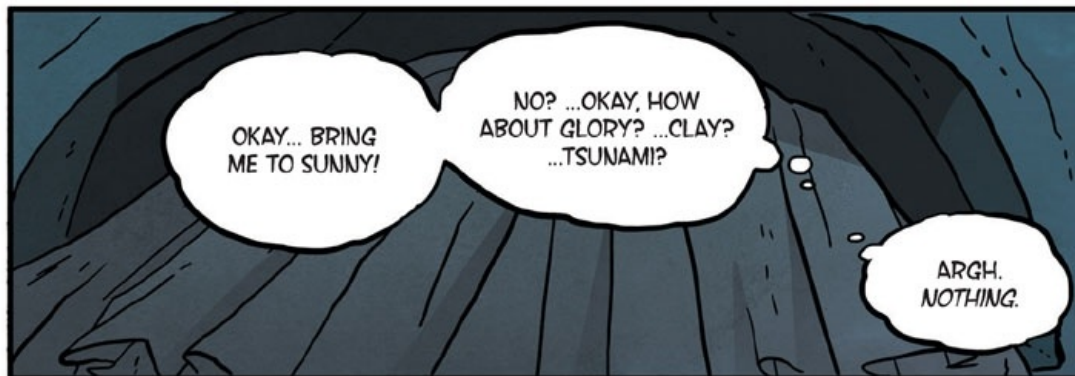
YIKES! THAT'S ALL YOU HAD TO SAY!

DID I SEE SOMETHING—?



A DREAMVISITOR!







I'M IN THE
RAINFOREST!



THERE'S KINKAJOU...
OH NO, IS SHE HURT?



I'M NOT IN KINKAJOU'S
DREAM. I'M SEEING WHAT'S
AROUND HER. I GUESS
SHE'S NOT DREAMING
RIGHT NOW.



HOW IS THE
QUEEN?

MAD.
SUPER
MAD.



SUNNY!



I KEEP TELLING HER THERE'S
NO WAY STARFLIGHT WENT
TO THE NIGHTWINGS ON HIS
OWN, BUT SHE'S CONVINCED
HE BETRAYED US.



"THE QUEEN"... DOES
SHE MEAN GLORY?

GLORY THINKS I
BETRAYED THEM?



I GUESS I DID TELL THE
NIGHTWING COUNCIL
THE RAINWINGS ARE
PLANNING TO ATTACK.
I DIDN'T EVEN ARGUE
WITH MORROWSEER
OR TRY TO STOP THE
NIGHTWINGS.



MAYBE I DON'T
BELONG IN THE
PROPHECY. MAYBE
FATESPEAKER IS THE
BETTER DRAGON TO
SAVE THE WORLD.





LONGER...



BETTER HIDE THE
DREAMVISITOR.



SUNNY WAS SO
CLOSE... AND YET SHE
MIGHT AS WELL HAVE
BEEN ON ONE OF
THE MOONS.

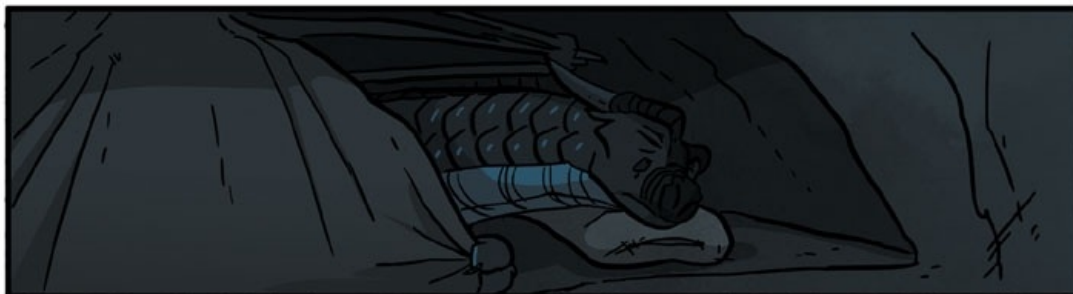


MY FRIENDS
THINK I BETRAYED
THEM—

—OR IF THEY
DON'T, IT'S BECAUSE
THEY THINK I'M A
COWARD.



I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER
FELT MORE LONELY THAN
I AM RIGHT NOW.





UP!



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TO SEE IF ANY OF YOU ARE WORTH SPENDING MORE TIME ON. SO TODAY WE HAVE ANOTHER TEST.



A TEST? ON WHAT? WE HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO STUDY!

SOMETIMES IT'S VERY HARD NOT TO BITE YOU.



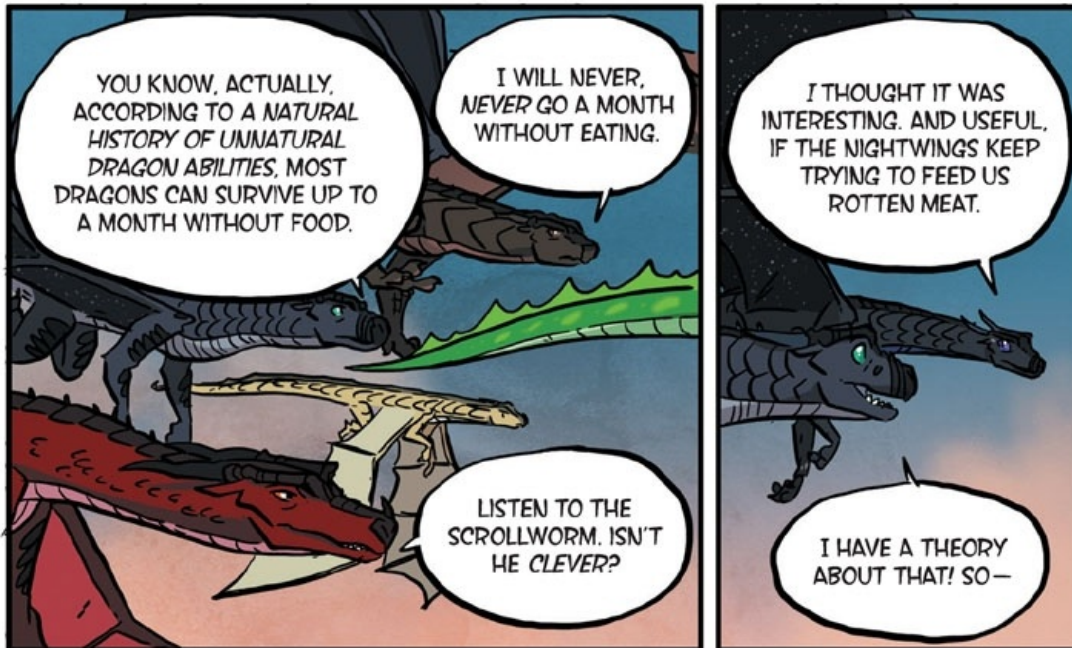
SHUT UP, SQUID.

FOLLOW ME CLOSELY.

YOU'RE NOT MAKING ME FLY ON AN EMPTY STOMACH, ARE YOU? I WILL LITERALLY DIE!



WE'RE FLYING OVER THE OCEAN! ARE WE GOING TO THE MAINLAND?







THE CLAWS
OF THE CLOUDS
MOUNTAINS.

SO WE'RE AT THE
NORTH EDGE OF
PYRRHIA... SKYWING
TERRITORY...

I'D HOPED MAYBE—BUT
I CAN'T FLY BACK TO MY
FRIENDS FROM HERE.
IT'S TOO FAR.



I'M SORRY, SUNNY.
I CAN'T FIND MY WAY
BACK TO YOU.



IS SOMEONE...
FOLLOWING US?

THAT'S NONE OF
YOUR CONCERN.



ATTENTION,
ALL OF YOU.
SEE THAT?

THAT'S THE MOST
REMOTE OUTPOST OF
THE SKYWING ARMY.

THEIR ASSIGNMENT IS TO
GUARD AGAINST ATTACKS
FROM THE NORTH IN CASE
QUEEN GLACIER DECIDES TO
TRY THIS APPROACH
TO THE PALACE. THERE
ARE NO OTHER DRAGONS
FOR MILES.

THIS IS
YOUR TEST.



YOU WANT
US TO KILL
THEM ALL?

SHUT UP OR
I'LL BITE YOU.

EEEP! WHAT
IF SOMEONE
BITES ME?



YOU'RE *NOT* HERE
TO KILL THEM. YOU'RE
THE DRAGONETS OF
THE GREAT PROPHECY.
REMEMBER?

SO ACT LIKE IT.
GO IN THERE AND CONVINCE
THEM TO SWITCH ALLEGIANCE
FROM BURN TO BLISTER.

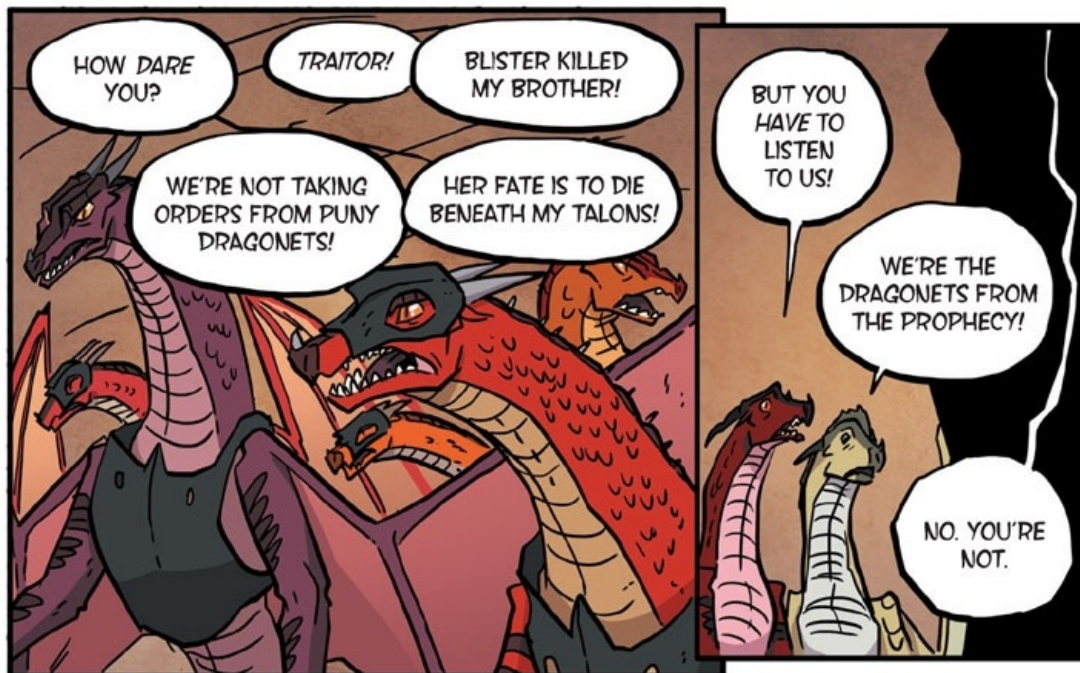








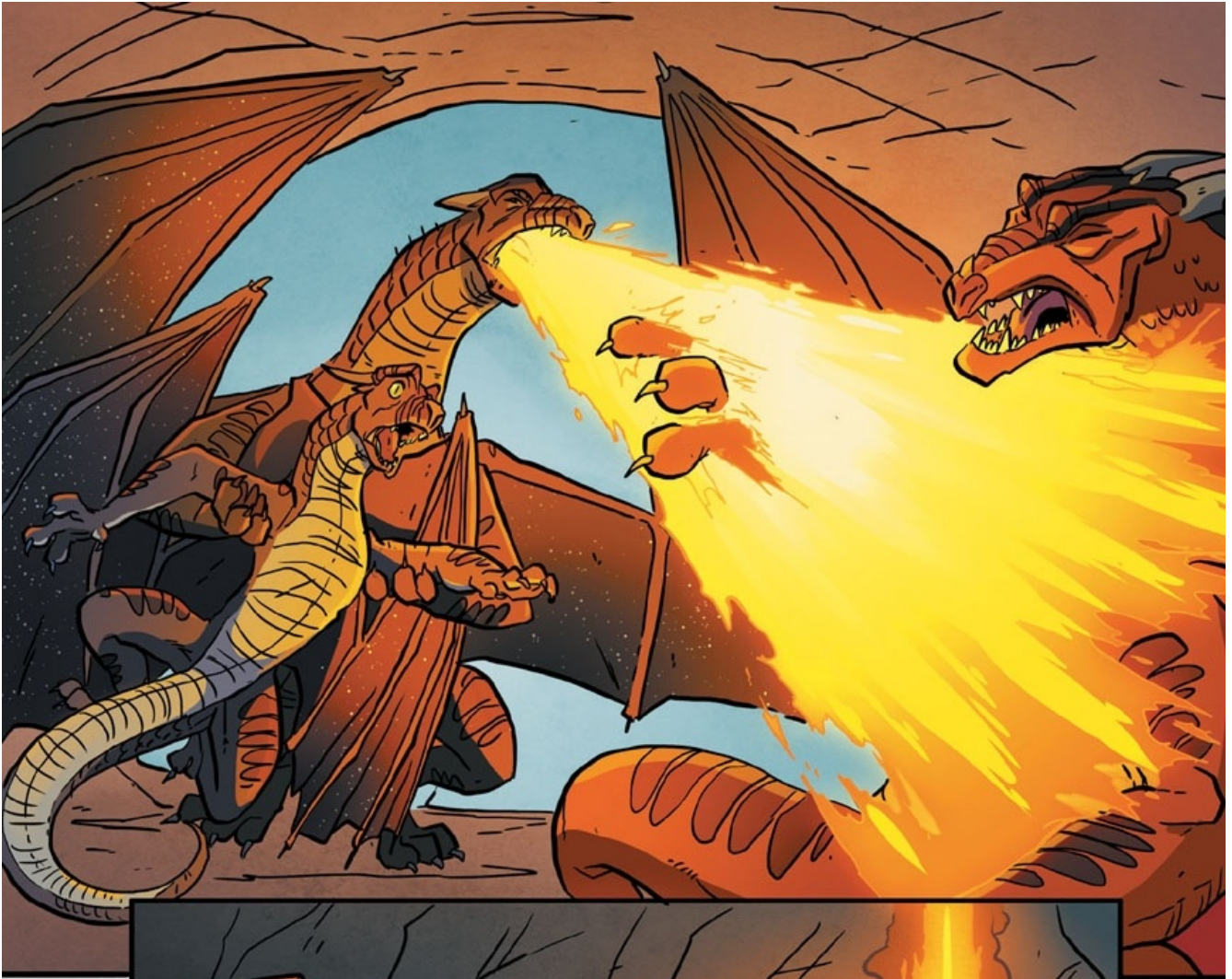


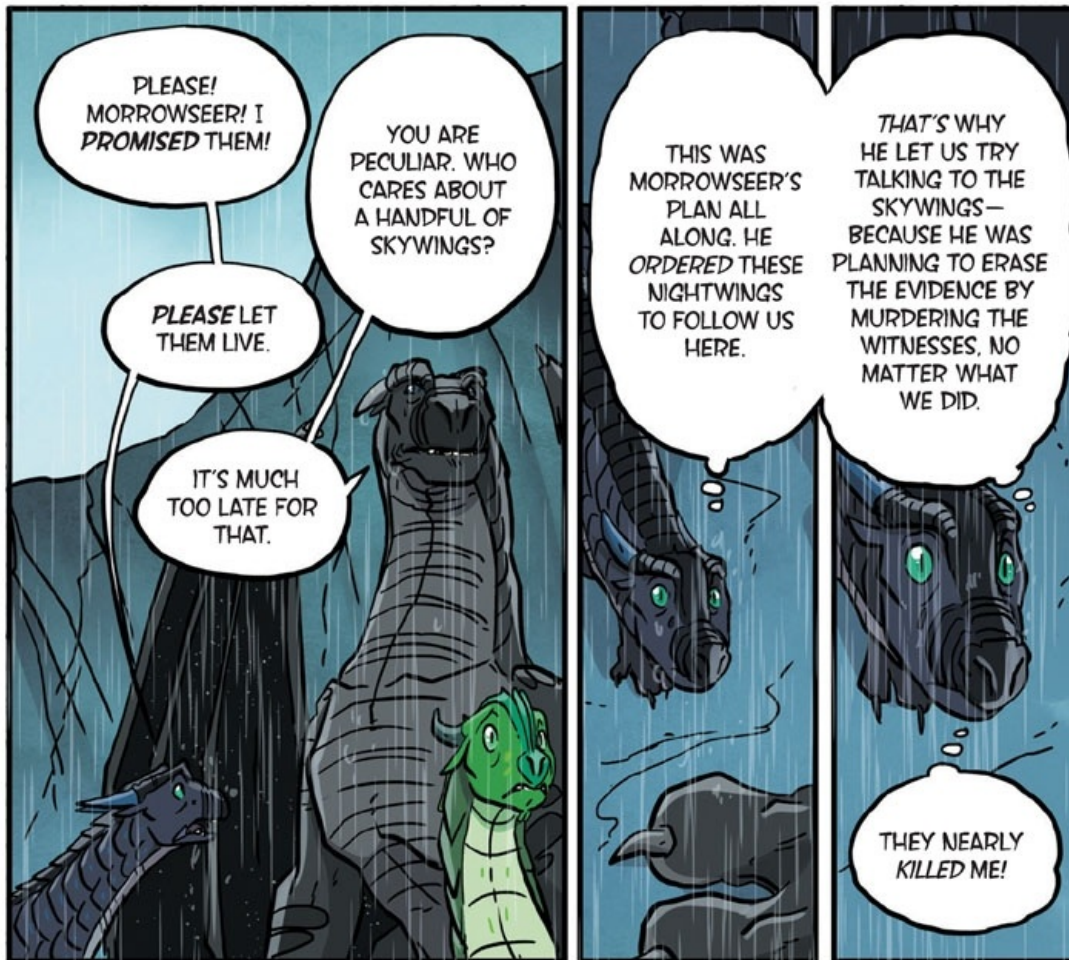


















TRAINING AT DAWN.

SO... NOTHING TO EAT?

NO.



WE HAVE TO TALK TO THE QUEEN.

WE?

YOU AND ME. WITHOUT MORROWSEER.



MAYBE IF WE CAN FIND HER, SHE'LL LET US BOTH LIVE, AND RELEASE THE RAINWINGS, AND LET THE PROPHECY HAPPEN HOWEVER IT'S SUPPOSED TO!



THAT'S A LOT OF HOPE PILED ONTO A VERY SLIM POSSIBILITY.

WORTH A TRY!



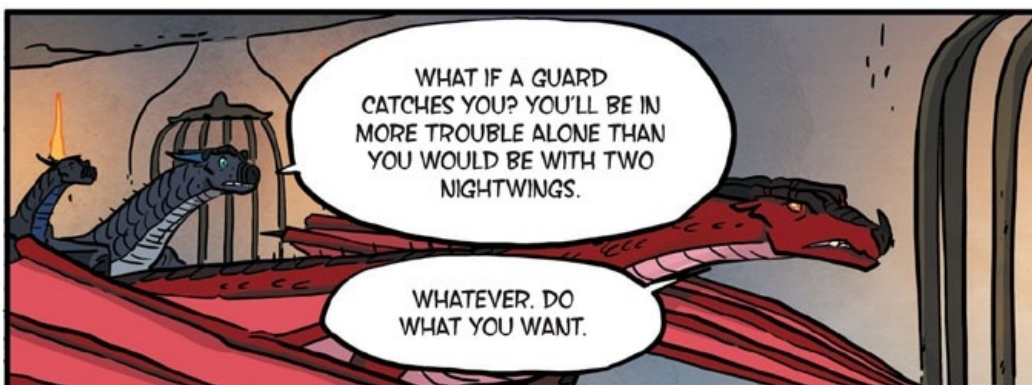
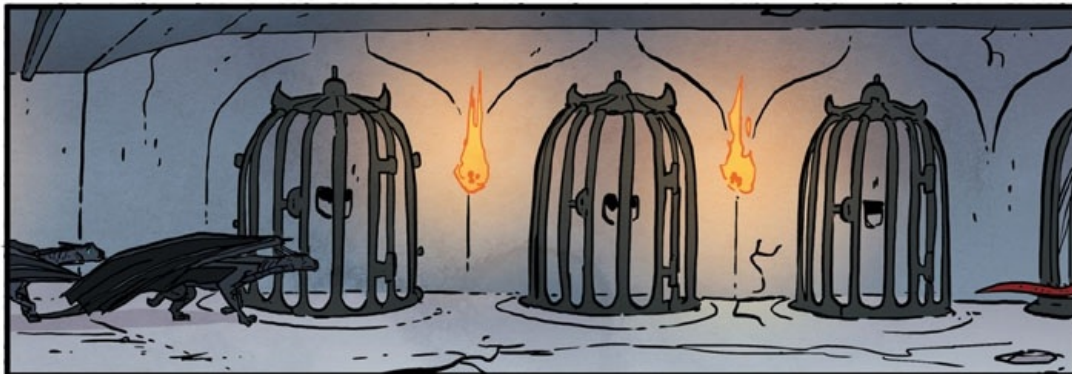
SHE PROBABLY KEEPS HERSELF HIDDEN FOR A REASON.

AND MAYBE WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THAT REASON IS.

SLEEP NOW AND I'LL WAKE YOU LATER.









AND HELLO, STAR-FLIGHT. I DON'T THINK I KNOW YOUR FRIEND.



WHO IS THIS?

THIS IS DEATHBRINGER. HE'S AN ASSASSIN.



HE WAS SENT TO KILL MY FRIENDS, BUT INSTEAD HE LET US GO AND FREED GLORY FROM THE NIGHTWINGS.



KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN! I THINK I'M THE ONLY DRAGON DOWN HERE, APART FROM QUEEN SPLENDOR, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW.



THAT'S QUEEN SPLENDOR?

THE FIRST RAINWING CAPTURED.



THE IDEA WAS, ONCE WE HAD THEIR QUEEN, THEY'D DO WHATEVER WE WANTED.



LITTLE DID WE KNOW THAT NOT ONLY DO RAINWINGS HAVE MULTIPLE QUEENS, APPARENTLY THEY CAN GO FOR MONTHS WITHOUT NOTICING ONE'S MISSING.



DOESN'T SURPRISE ME.



THAT'S ALL GOING TO CHANGE.



BECAUSE OF GLORY?



OH.

IS THAT WHAT MY FACE LOOKS LIKE WHEN I THINK OF SUNNY?

YES.

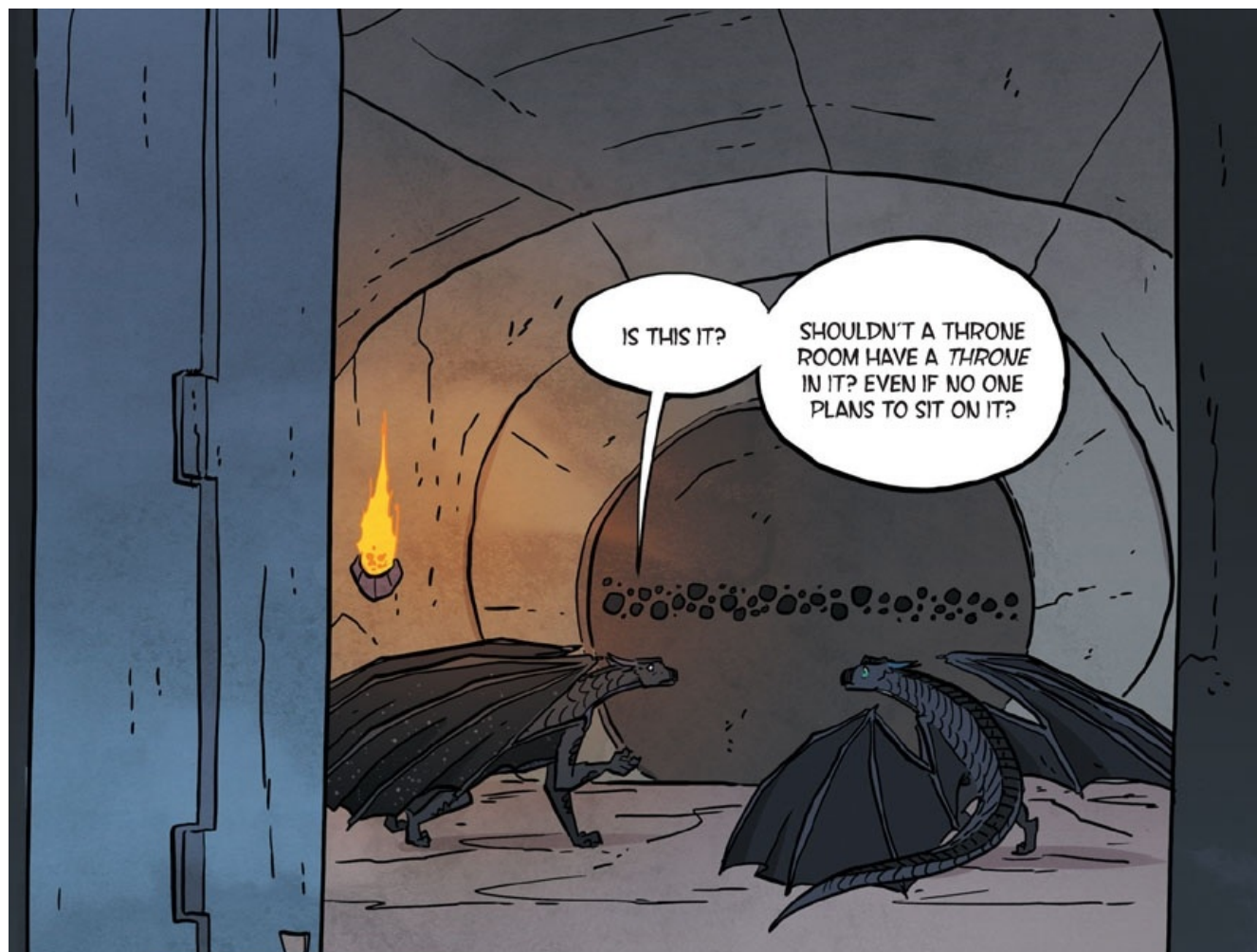












IS THIS IT?

SHOULDN'T A THRONE ROOM HAVE A *THRONE* IN IT? EVEN IF NO ONE PLANS TO SIT ON IT?



MAYBE THE THRONE IS BEHIND THE SCREEN.

STILL SEEMS LIKE IT SHOULDN'T GET TO BE CALLED A THRONE ROOM, THEN.



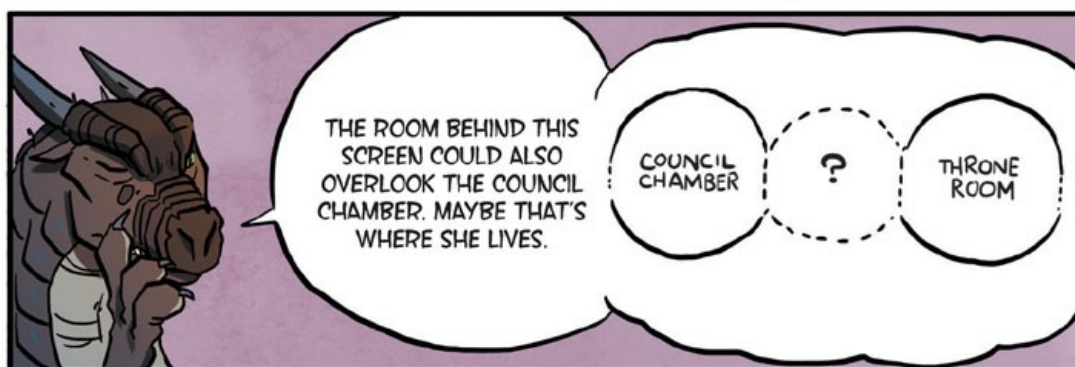
FATESPEAKER! WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO LOOK AT HER!

DON'T PANIC. IT'S ALL DARK BACK THERE ANYWAY.



MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING GLOWING, BUT IT JUST LOOKS LIKE FIRE.











I'M HAVING
A VISION!

SO IN YOUR VISIONS, THERE
IS A QUEEN BATTLEWINNER?

I SEE US STANDING
IN FRONT OF QUEEN
BATTLEWINNER! THIS
IS GOING TO WORK!

SHE'S ALIVE?
SHE EXISTS?

OF COURSE!
WHY?

BECAUSE IF SHE WERE
DEAD, THIS WOULD BE A
PRETTY CLEVER PLAN.
GREATNESS CAN RULE IN
BATTLEWINNER'S NAME, BUT
NO ONE CAN CHALLENGE
HER FOR THE THRONE.

HMM. I FORESEE THAT
THIS IS GOING TO BE MAD
SCARY. YOU GO FIRST.

THERE'S MORE TUNNEL
IF WE CRAWL OVER THIS
BOULDER. BUT IT GETS
SMALLER.

THAT'S WAY SNEAKY.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT OF THAT.



WELL, IF ANYONE
DOES CATCH US, THEY
CAN'T KILL *BOTH* OF US.
THEY NEED AT LEAST
ONE OF US ALIVE.



THIS IS IT. HERE'S
WHERE SHE CAN SEE
THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER.



AND HERE'S THE
THRONE ROOM.
THERE'S A FEW OTHER
SPY HOLES, TOO.



ALL THAT AND
A FREAKY HUGE
LAVA POOL.

BUT NO QUEEN.
COULD SHE BE
DEAD AFTER ALL?







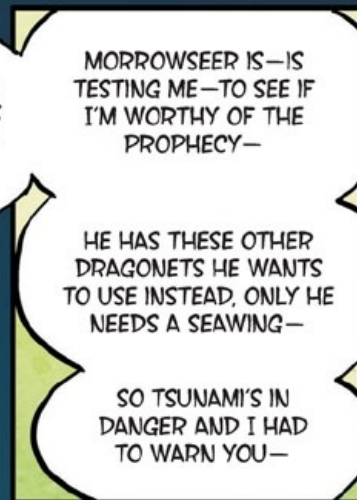






LATER THAT NIGHT







...REALLY WORRIED ABOUT TSUNAMI. PLEASE TELL HER TO BE CAREFUL.

HA, SURE, AND YOU TELL CLAY TO STOP BEING HUNGRY.



HE REALLY DOES DREAM ABOUT FOOD. LIKE, LOTS AND LOTS AND LOTS OF FOOD.



WELL, APPARENTLY I DREAM ABOUT HOMEWORK, EVEN THOUGH THERE AREN'T ANY SCROLLS IN THE RAINFOREST.



I'LL PUT SOME GUARDS ON TSUNAMI, BUT I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOU. IT SOUNDS LIKE MORROWSEER MIGHT KILL YOU AT ANY MOMENT.



BUT MY TRIBE... THEY'RE NOT READY. IF I TRY TO RESCUE YOU TODAY, THEY'LL BE SLAUGHTERED.



FORGET THE RAINWINGS! COME RESCUE ME NOW!!!



I'M ALL RIGHT. I'LL TAKE CARE OF MYSELF UNTIL YOU GET HERE.



STARFLIGHT, I THINK THAT MIGHT BE THE BRAVEST THING YOU'VE EVER SAID.



WELL. YOU KNOW... DON'T TAKE TOO LONG.

HA!



SO DEATHBRINGER'S
IN TROUBLE FOR
HELPING ME.



I'M SURE HE
UNDERSTOOD THE
RISKS WHEN HE
DECIDED TO SET
YOU FREE.



HMMM.

I'M SURE HE THOUGHT
HE COULD CHARM HIS
WAY OUT OF ANYTHING.

IDIOT.



WELL, HE STILL
MIGHT. I DON'T THINK
GREATNESS WANTS TO
EXECUTE HIM.



ACTUALLY, I'M NOT EVEN
SURE GREATNESS WANTS
TO RULE. SHE SEEMS...
NOT VERY REGAL.



I, UH, I THINK I
HAVE TO GO. IT MUST
ALMOST BE DAWN.

OKAY.



BUT COME BACK
TOMORROW NIGHT
IF YOU CAN.



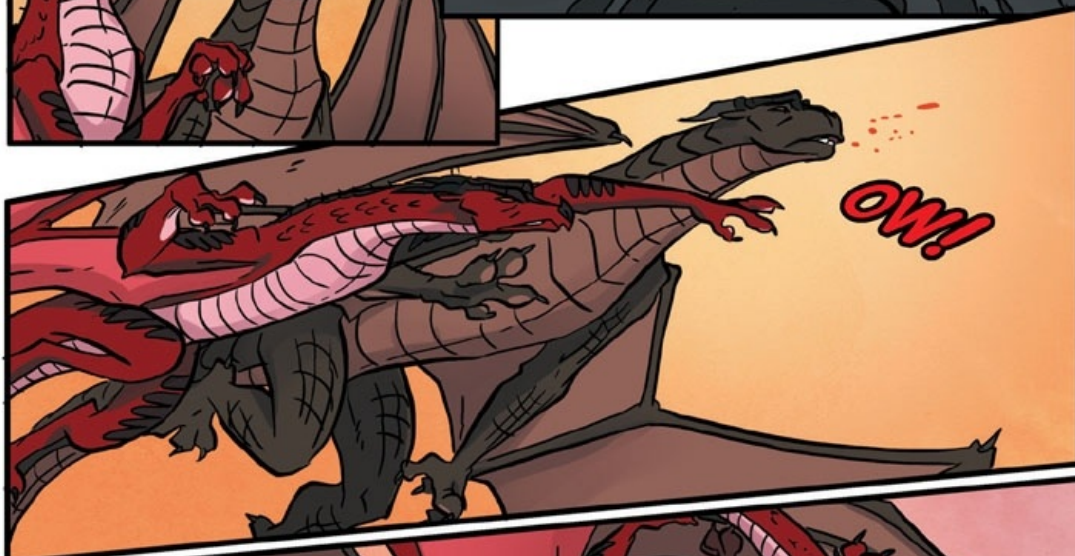
WE CAN FIGURE THIS
OUT, STARFLIGHT. IT'S
GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.

















IF SHE'S EVEN
SCRATCHED BY VIPER'S
TAIL, SHE COULD DIE!
MAYBE NOT INSTANTLY,
BUT THE INFECTION—

IF YOU'RE SO
WORRIED, JUMP IN
YOURSELF.

SKYWING, HAS NO ONE
TAUGHT YOU TO HOLD YOUR
FIRE UNTIL IT'S AT MAXIMUM
TEMPERATURE? AND,
FATESPEAKER, STOP ROLLING
AROUND AND USE YOUR
CLAWS!

STARFLIGHT,
HELP ME!

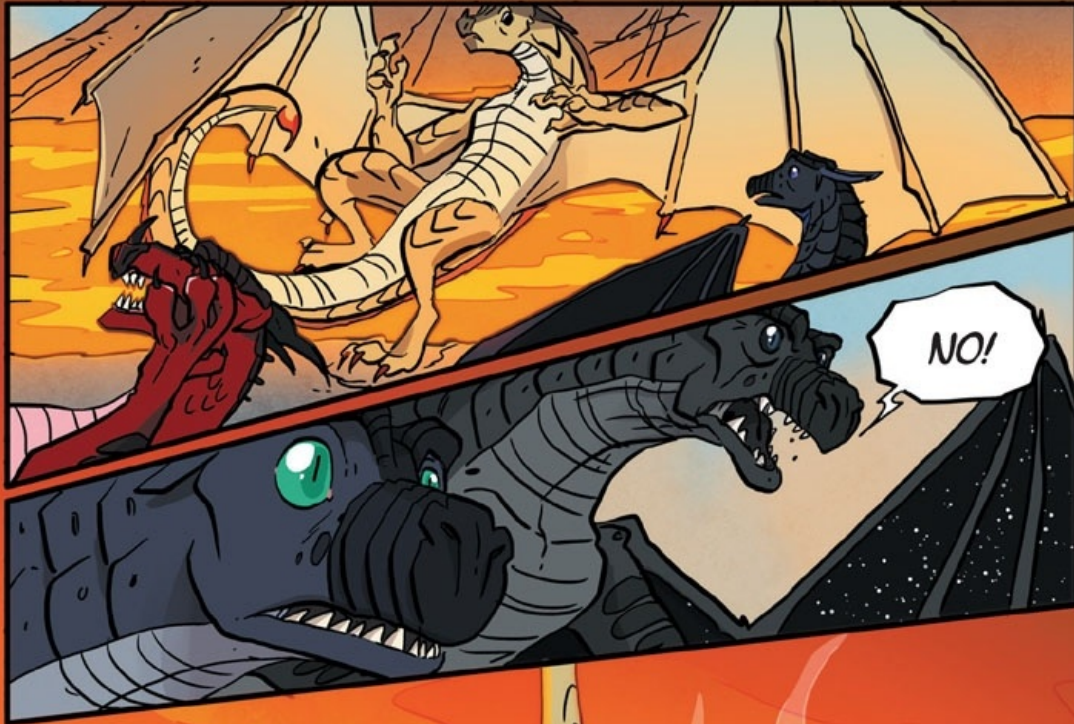
I'M NOT GOOD
AT FIGHTING.
EVERYONE KNOWS
I'M A COWARD!

AND IF I FIGHT,
FLAME AND
VIPER COULD
KILL ME!

BUT I CAN'T LEAVE
FATESPEAKER TO
FIGHT ALONE!

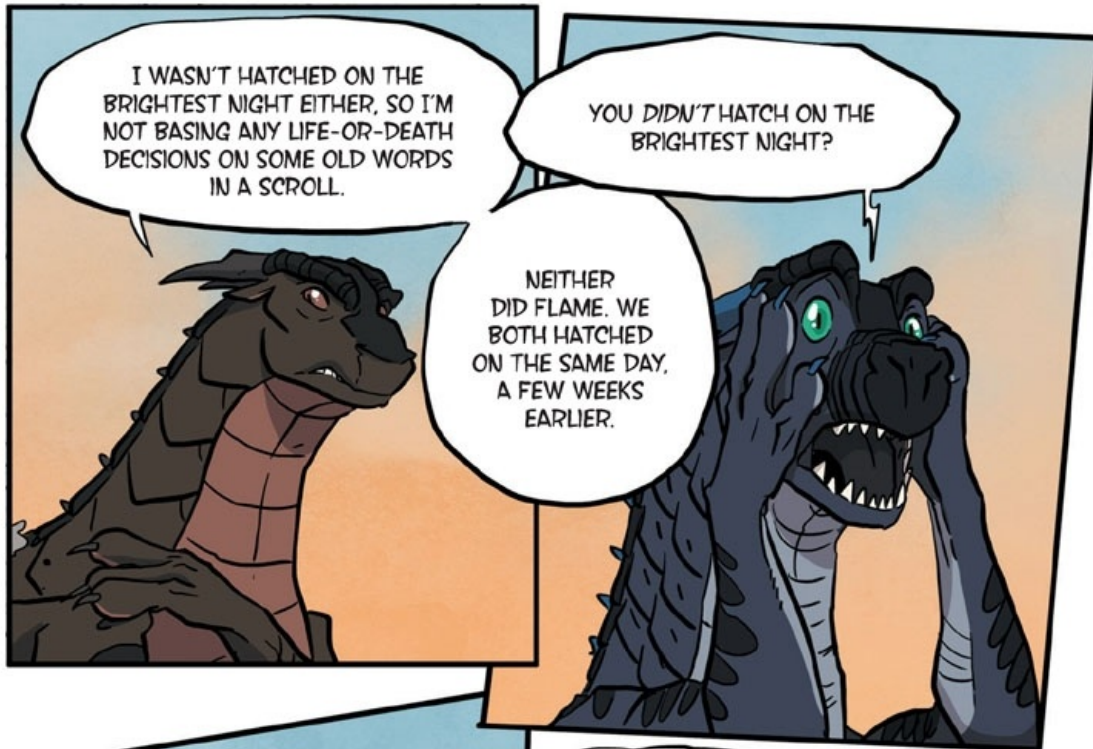
WHAT WOULD
TSUNAMI DO? WHAT
WOULD SUNNY DO?





EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE














WHAT MORROWSEER
SAID... ABOUT YOU NOT HAVING
POWERS... YOU'RE LUCKY.


I AM?

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO
EXCITED ABOUT MY NIGHTWING
POWERS, BUT THEY'RE TOTALLY
USELESS. THEY COULDN'T EVEN
WARN ME ABOUT WHAT WAS
GOING TO HAPPEN
TO MY FRIENDS.


ALL MY VISIONS
WERE ABOUT WALRUSES AND
WELCOME-HOME PARTIES AND
PARENTS WHO WERE HAPPY
TO MEET ME.



SO MUCH FOR THAT.



DO YOU KNOW WHO
YOUR PARENTS ARE?
DO ANY OF YOU?



SQUID'S DAD IS
THE LEADER OF THE
TALONS OF PEACE. ALL OF
THEIR PARENTS ARE IN
THE TALONS.

AND MY EGG
HATCHED HERE,
A COUPLE OF MONTHS
AFTER THE BRIGHT-
EST NIGHT.

THAT'S WHY
MORROWSEER
PICKED US. WE
WERE CONVENIENT.

MORROWSEER
TOOK ME TO THE
TALONS WHEN I
WAS STILL NEWLY
HATCHED.

I BET THAT'S
AROUND WHEN
THEY DECIDED
THEY NEEDED A
BACKUP PLAN. IN
CASE THEY DIDN'T
LIKE HOW WE
TURNED OUT.

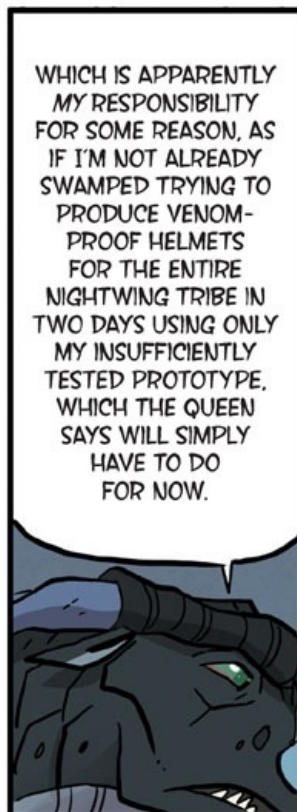






MEDICAL RECORDS,
MEDICAL RECORDS.

HELP ME BRAIN-
STORM. THE QUEEN IS
VERY ANGRY ABOUT
WHAT HAPPENED
TO THE SKYWING
DRAGONET. I'M AFRAID
HE'LL BE DEAD BY
MORNING IF WE CAN'T
COUNTERACT THE
SANDWING POISON.



WHICH IS APPARENTLY
MY RESPONSIBILITY
FOR SOME REASON, AS
IF I'M NOT ALREADY
SWAMPED TRYING TO
PRODUCE VENOM-
PROOF HELMETS
FOR THE ENTIRE
NIGHTWING TRIBE IN
TWO DAYS USING ONLY
MY INSUFFICIENTLY
TESTED PROTOTYPE,
WHICH THE QUEEN
SAYS WILL SIMPLY
HAVE TO DO
FOR NOW.



WAIT. DID YOU SAY
TWO DAYS?

IN CASE WE DECIDE TO
ATTACK. I TOLD THEM MY
RESEARCH IS INCOMPLETE
AND I CAN'T GUARANTEE
IT WILL GO SMOOTHLY.



THE PROBLEM
IS I'VE NEVER STUDIED
SANDWING VENOM.
BUT IF IT'S ANYTHING
LIKE RAINWING VENOM,
THERE'S NOTHING THAT
CAN COUNTERACT IT.

HE HASN'T FIGURED
OUT THAT A RELATIVE'S
VENOM IS THE ANTIDOTE
FOR RAINWING VENOM?

IF ALL THE
RAINWINGS MANAGED TO KEEP THAT
SECRET, MAYBE THEY'RE TOUGHER AND
SMARTER THAN ANYONE THINKS.



NIGHTWINGS KEEP
THEMSELVES ISOLATED TO SEEM
MORE POWERFUL, BUT IT MEANS
THEY'RE CUT OFF FROM SO MUCH
KNOWLEDGE. IF THEY DIDN'T FEEL
SO SUPERIOR TO OTHER DRAGONS,
MAYBE THEY'D LEARN
SOMETHING NEW.

UNLIKELY...
TRIED THAT
ON RAINWING
VENOM, DIDN'T
WORK...



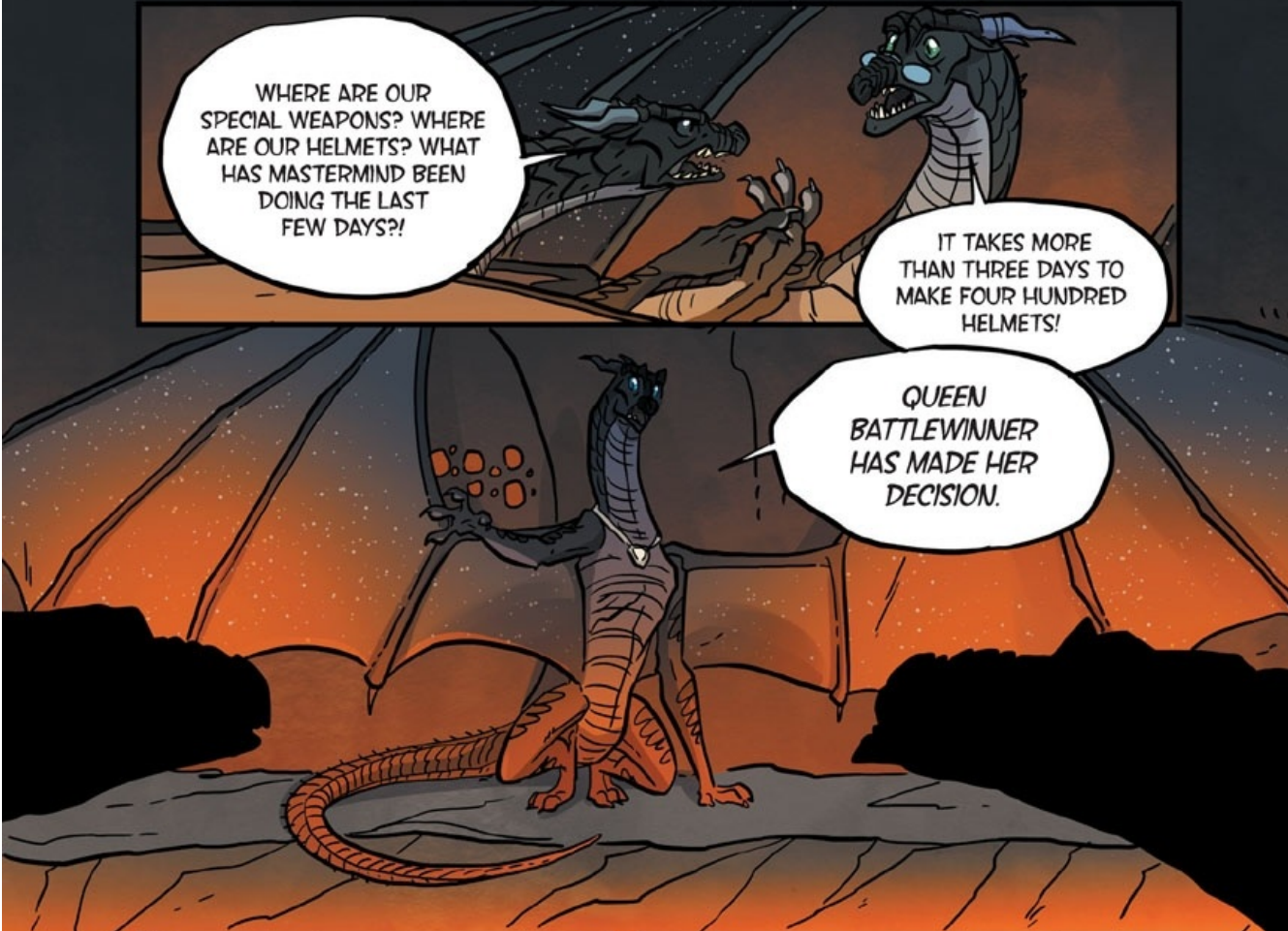
NONE NEARBY...
DOUBTFUL...

FOR NIGHTWING
"EYES ONLY!"










WHERE ARE OUR
SPECIAL WEAPONS? WHERE
ARE OUR HELMETS? WHAT
HAS MASTERMIND BEEN
DOING THE LAST
FEW DAYS?!

IT TAKES MORE
THAN THREE DAYS TO
MAKE FOUR HUNDRED
HELMETS!

QUEEN
BATTLEWINNER
HAS MADE HER
DECISION.



WE CANNOT DELAY.
WE MUST GO UNDER COVER
OF DARKNESS AND KILL ALL
THE RAINWINGS.



TONIGHT
AT MIDNIGHT...
WE ATTACK.

PART THREE: THE TRUTH...

I CAN WARN THEM. FOR
ONCE I CAN REALLY HELP.

EVEN IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE DAY, SOMEONE
WILL BE ASLEEP.

MAYBE KINKAJOU
AGAIN.












THAT'S THE
THING, FATESPEAKER.
HELPING THE RAIN-
WINGS MEANS STOPPING
THE NIGHTWING PLAN...
WHICH MEANS LEAVING
OUR OWN TRIBE
STUCK ON THIS
AWFUL ISLAND.




IT'S HARD. I CAN SEE
HOW MISERABLE THEY ARE
HERE. BUT I CAN'T LET
THEM DO THIS TO
THE RAINWINGS.

ME NEITHER.




WAIT!
FATESPEAKER!
WHERE ARE YOU
GOING?

TO WARN
THE RAINWINGS
LIKE WE
DECIDED.



YOU MEAN... GO TO
THE RAINFOREST?

YES! THIS IS WHAT
WE HAVE TO DO! ACK!
TERRIFYING! BUT WE
HAVE TO!

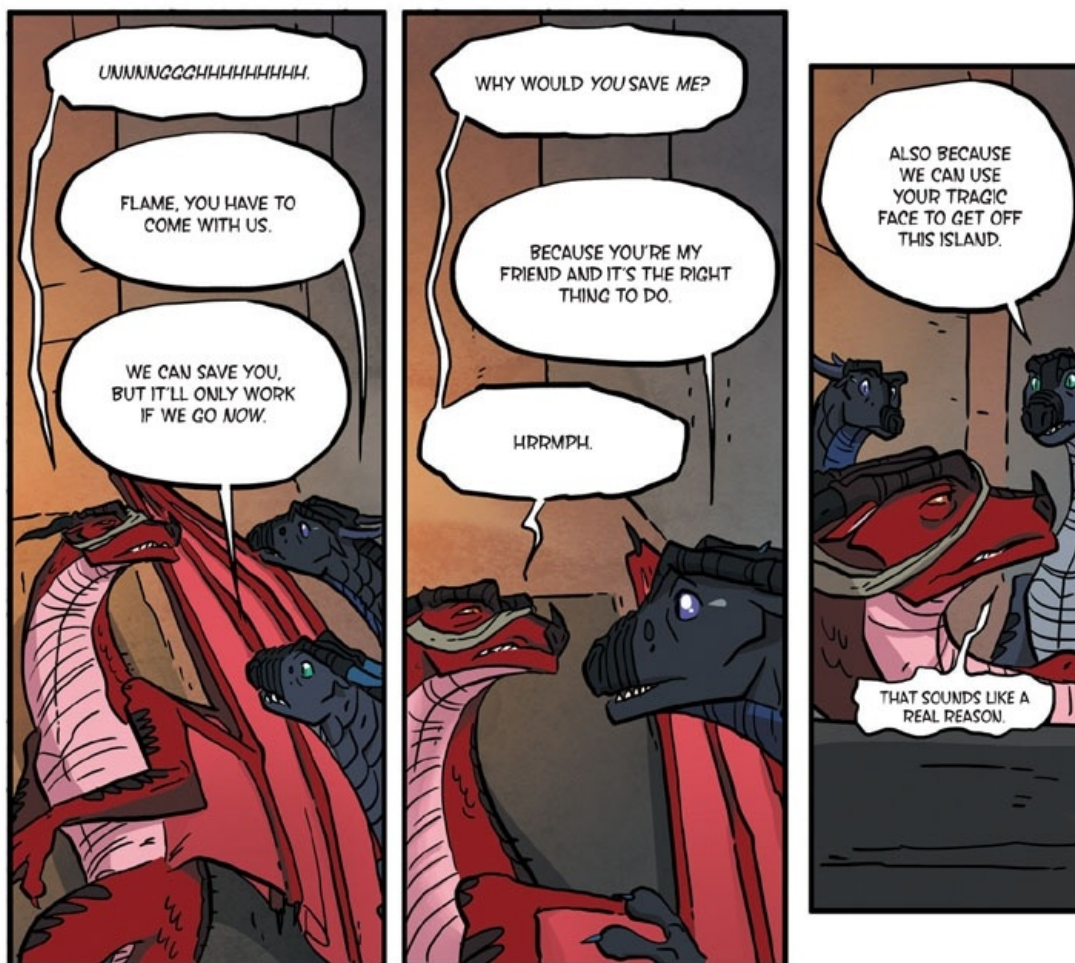


OKAY—WELL, WE
CAN'T FLY OVER THE
SEA TO THE RAINFOREST.
IT'LL TAKE TOO LONG.

SO WE HAVE
TO GO THROUGH THE
TUNNEL. BUT THERE'LL
BE A MILLION DRAGONS
GUARDING IT.



















I CAN'T GET OVER
HOW AMAZING THIS
PLACE IS!

THE RAINWING VILLAGE
IS PRETTY COOL, TOO.

MEOW!

IT MAKES ME FEEL
SORRY FOR THE NIGHTWINGS.
MAYBE IF THEY'D GROWN UP
SOMEPLACE LIKE THIS THEY
WOULDN'T BE SO
HORRIBLE.

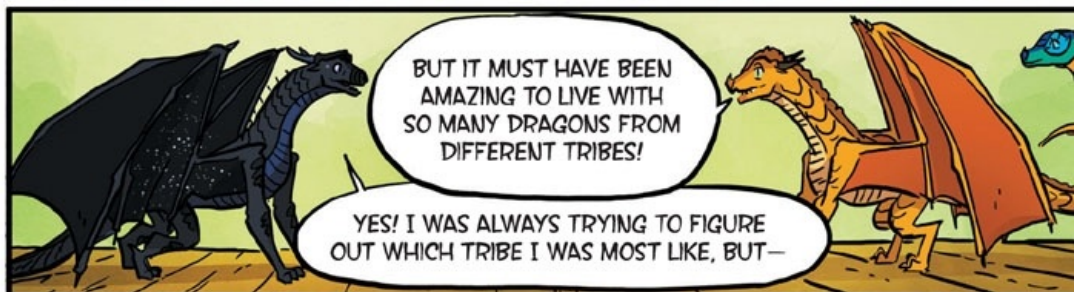
MAYBE. IN FACT,
PROBABLY.

BUT I THINK BEING A
GOOD DRAGON IS ABOUT
THE CHOICES YOU MAKE NO
MATTER WHERE YOU ARE
OR WHO RAISED YOU.































YOU KNOW I
DON'T LIKE GIVING
SPEECHES...

SO I'LL JUST
SAY THIS.

WE'RE *GOING* TO RESCUE
OUR FELLOW RAINWINGS, AND
WE'RE *GOING* TO MAKE THIS
RAINFOREST SAFE.

AND WE'RE GOING
TO DO IT LIKE
RAINWINGS.

AND BY THE THREE
MOONS, TRY NOT TO TALK
OR SNEEZE OR FALL ASLEEP
IN THE TUNNEL, OKAY?

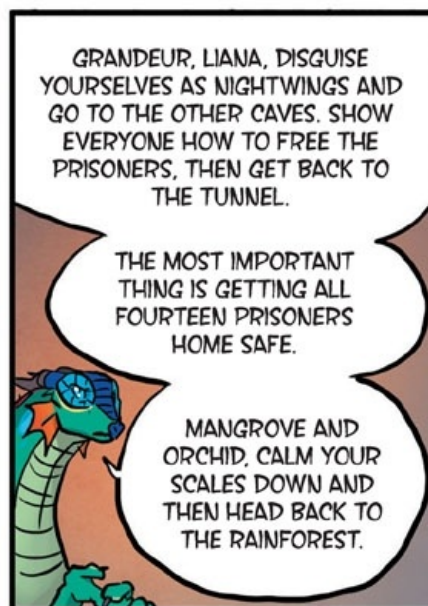








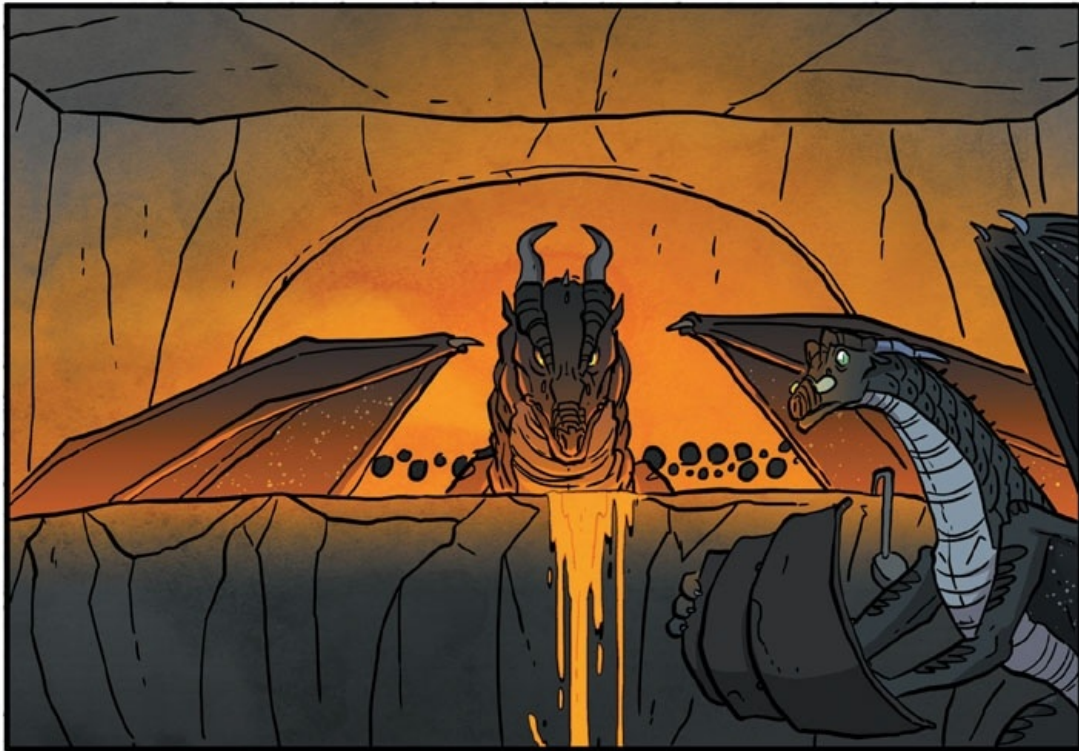








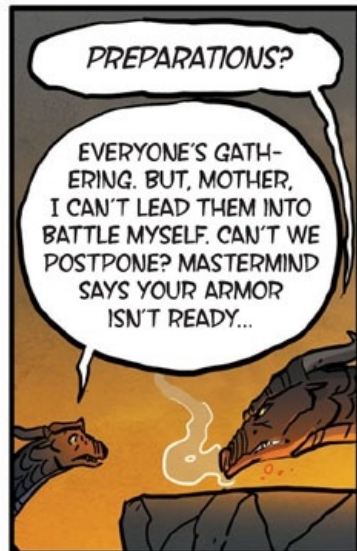




THAT'S HOW THE
QUEEN PLANS TO GET
TO THE RAINFOREST. MY
FATHER IS MAKING HER A
PORTABLE LAVA DEVICE.



HOW WOULD IT STAY
HOT AWAY FROM THE
VOLCANO? CAN ANY METAL
REALLY CONTAIN IT?



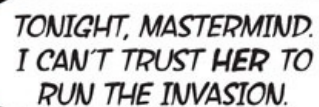
PREPARATIONS?

EVERYONE'S GATH-
ERING. BUT, MOTHER,
I CAN'T LEAD THEM INTO
BATTLE MYSELF. CAN'T WE
POSTPONE? MASTERMIND
SAYS YOUR ARMOR
ISN'T READY...

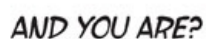


IT WILL BE.
TONIGHT.

I'M AFRAID
I DON'T THINK SO.
I NEED MORE TIME
TO MAKE SURE THIS
WILL WORK.



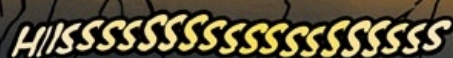
YOU *SHOULDN'T*! I DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO DO. SO I WAS COMING
TO ASK YOU, AND THEN—



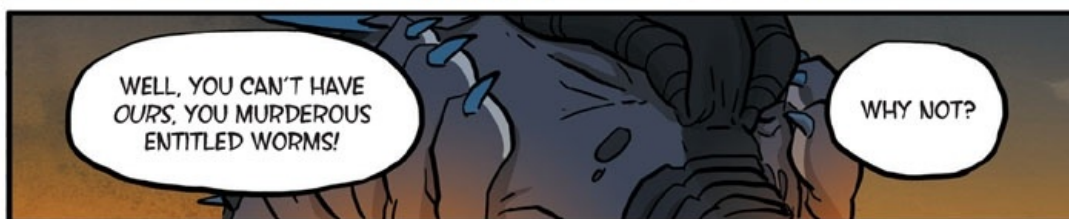
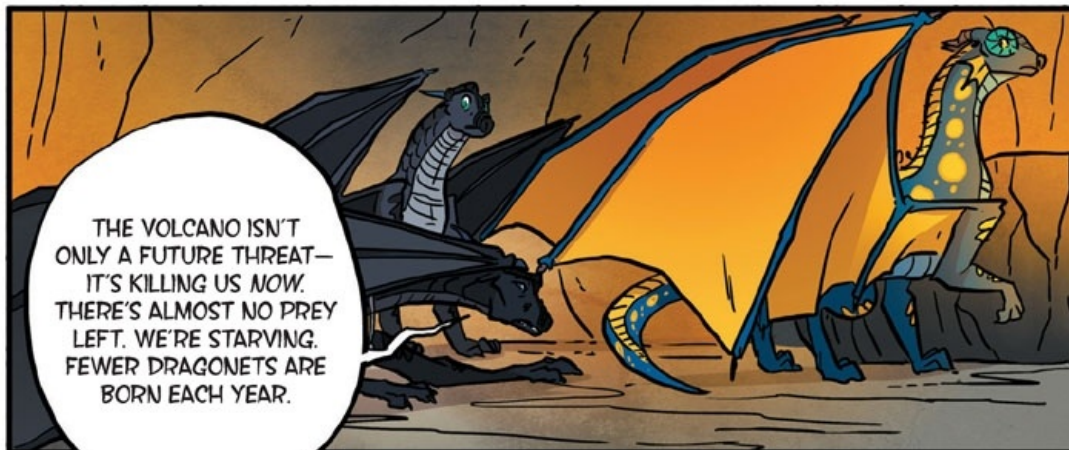
QUEEN GLORY OF
THE RAINWINGS. I'VE COME
TO GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE TO
END THIS WAR BEFORE WE
DESTROY YOU.



IF YOU THINK AN ICEWING ATTACK IS HARD TO LIVE WITH, TRY RAINWING VENOM. YOUR LAVA BATH WON'T HELP WITH THAT.











GIVE US A CHANCE—PLEASE! I PROMISE WE CAN BE BETTER!



SHAMEFUL.

IT'S NOT UP TO YOU. YOU'RE STUCK HERE. WE'RE NEGOTIATING WITH GREATNESS.



COME ON, PRINCESS. LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS SOMEWHERE ELSE.

NO!!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS!

I WON'T LET YOU!

MOTHER! GET BACK IN THE LAVA!

YOUR MAJESTY! YOU CAN'T COME OUT!

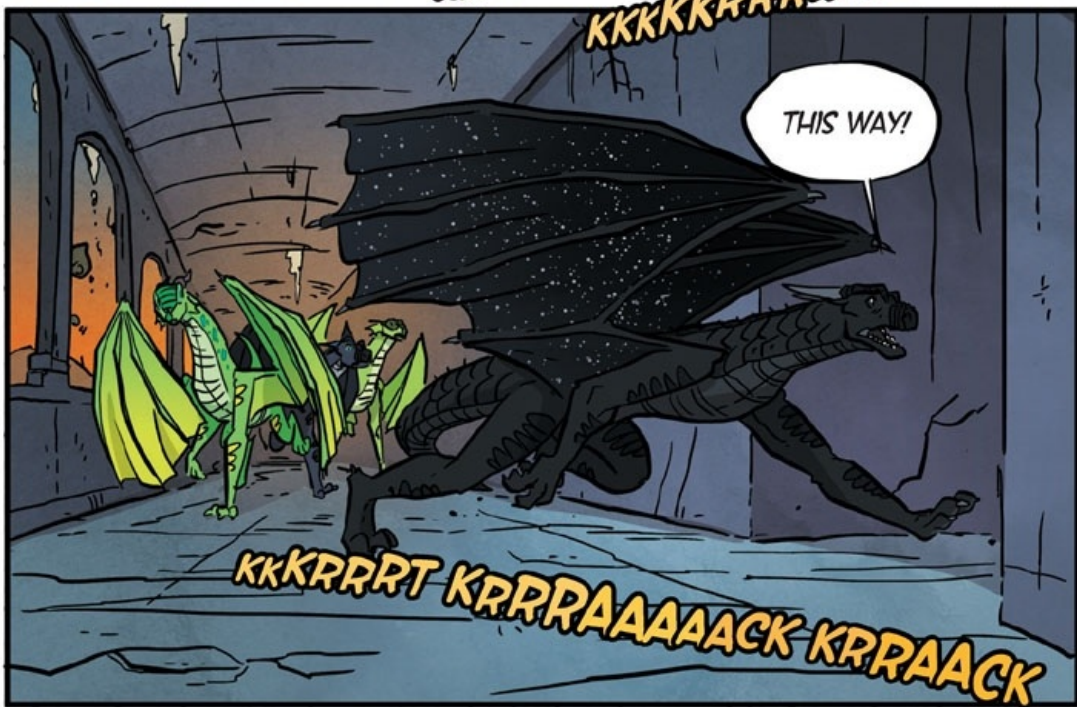














WE HAVE TO BRING THEM TO THE RAINFOREST, GLORY! OR THE ENTIRE NIGHTWING TRIBE COULD BE WIPED OUT TODAY!

I KNOW! ARRRGH, IT WOULD KIND OF SERVE THEM RIGHT, THOUGH!

YOU GO TO THE RAINFOREST AND MAKE SURE THE RAINWINGS ARE ALL RIGHT! I'LL GATHER THE NIGHTWINGS AND BRING THEM THROUGH!

FINE! BUT WE'LL HAVE OUR SPEARS AND VENOM AND SLEEPING DARTS READY IF THEY TRY ANYTHING!

DEATHBRINGER AND SPLENDOR, COME WITH ME!

KKKKKT
KRRRRRAAKKKKKKT
KRRRRRT

I CAN'T BELIEVE I JUST OFFERED TO STAY HERE LONGER!

NO TIME FOR WORRYING... OR PANICKING... STOP PANICKING, STARFLIGHT!





COME ON, QUICKLY.

QUEEN GLORY!

SAY IT LIKE YOU
MEAN IT!

QUEEN GLORY!

QUEEN GLORY!

THIS IS SO
WRONG.

THINK OF ALL
THE FOOD!

REAL TREES! REAL
SUNSHINE! MANGOS
EVERYWHERE!

I'LL TAKE ANY QUEEN
AS LONG AS WE GET
TO EAT.

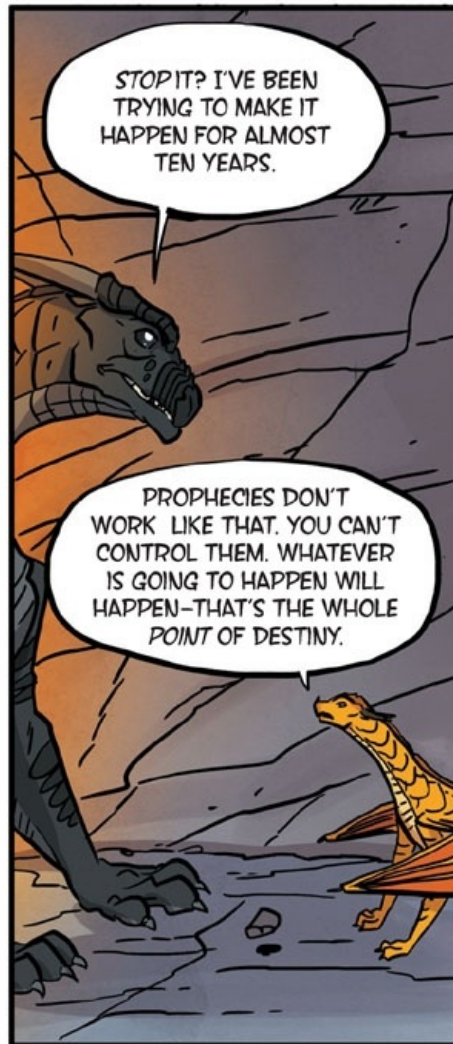
I'M SO GLAD
I WON'T HAVE TO
BE QUEEN.

STARFLIGHT, YOU'RE
BRILLIANT! THIS IS THE
BEST PLAN!

UH, STARFLIGHT?









YOU WHAT?

WAIT... THE PROPHECY... ISN'T REAL?

THE DRAGONET PROPHECY ISN'T REAL.

YOU'RE JUST SAYING THAT TO BE AWFUL!

SSSSZZZZZZ

QUEEN BATTLEWINNER AND I WROTE IT TOGETHER AFTER THE LAST ERUPTION DESTROYED PART OF THE FORTRESS.

WE KNEW WE'D NEED A NEW HOME SOON.

AND THE PROPHECY WAS OUR PLAN TO GET IT.

WHAT DOES THE PROPHECY HAVE TO DO WITH WHERE THE NIGHTWINGS LIVE?

WE PLANNED TO CONTROL THE DRAGONETS BY INCLUDING A NIGHTWING WHO, NATURALLY, WOULD BE THE LEADER.

WE HAD NO IDEA YOU'D BE SUCH AN ABYSMAL FAILURE.

THE NEXT STEP WAS TO CHOOSE A SANDWING QUEEN AND JOIN FORCES TO GUARANTEE SHE'D WIN.

THEN YOUR ALLY, WHOEVER YOU PICKED, WOULD HELP YOU TAKE OVER THE RAINFOREST.









OH, LOOK, ALL
THE DRAGONETS I
WANT DEAD, IN ONE
CONVENIENT PLACE.

SSSSHHHHHOOOOOMMM!!!







CLAY! THANK YOU,
CLAY, AND YOUR
FIREPROOF SCALES.

IT FEELS LIKE
WE'RE IN THE
TUNNEL.

WILL THE FIRE
FOLLOW US OUT THE
RAINFOREST SIDE?

THAT COOL AIR FEELS
SO NICE. WE MUST BE IN
THE RAINFOREST NOW.

SAFE.

I WONDER WHY
I CAN'T SEE
ANYTHING.

STARFLIGHT, YOU
WERE SO BRAVE.

SUNNY! ...OR
IS THAT
FATESPEAKER?

...OW...
EVERYTHING
HURTS...

SOMEONE JUST
PRICKED ME WITH A
SLEEPING DART...

SUCH A GOOD IDEA





TUI T. SUTHERLAND is the author of the #1 *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling Wings of Fire series, the Menagerie trilogy, and the Pet Trouble series, as well as a contributing author to the bestselling Spirit Animals and Seekers series (as part of the Erin Hunter team). In 2009, she was a two-day champion on *Jeopardy!* She lives in Massachusetts with her wonderful husband, two awesome sons, and two very patient dogs. To learn more about Tui's books, visit her online at www.tuibooks.com.

BARRY DEUTSCH is an award-winning cartoonist and the creator of the Hereville series of graphic novels, about yet another troll-fighting 11-year-old Orthodox Jewish girl. He lives in Portland, Oregon, with a variable number of cats and fish.

MIKE HOLMES has drawn for the series Secret Coders, Adventure Time, and Bravest Warriors. He created the comic strip True Story, the art project *Mikenesses*, and his work can be seen in *MAD* Magazine. He lives in Philadelphia with his wife Meredith and son Oscar, along with Heidi the dog and Ella the cat.

MAARTA LAIHO spends her days and nights as a comic colorist, where her work includes the comics series Lumberjanes, Adventure Time, and The Mighty Zodiac. When she's not doing that, she can be found hoarding houseplants and talking to her cat. She lives in the woods of Maine.

