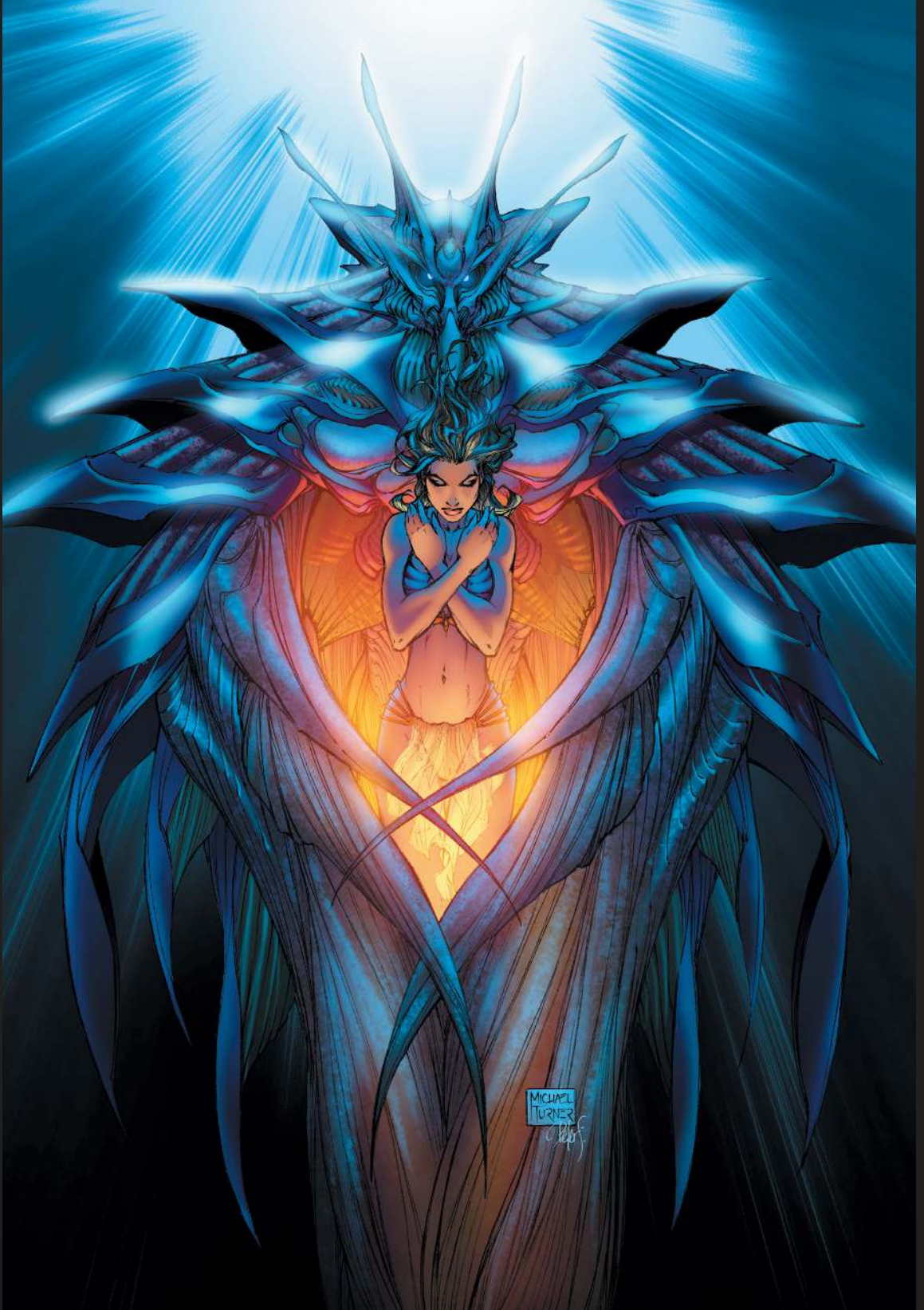




COLLECTED

M I C H A E L T U R N E R P R E S E N T S :

ASPEN™ THE EXTENDED EDITION



M I C H A E L T U R N E R P R E S E N T S :

 ASPEN™ THE EXTENDED EDITION

Michael Turner Presents

ASPEN
the
EXTENDED
EDITION

F R O M
the
D E P T H S
they
R I S E

story by

GEOFF JOHNS

pencils by

MICHAEL TURNER

colors by

PETER STEIGERWALD

letters by

DREAMER DESIGN

editor

FRANK MASTROMAURO

WATER IS LIFE.



IT IS WHERE ALL LIFE BEGAN,
WHERE MY LIFE BEGAN.



MY LIFE.



I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED BY THE OCEANS.

GROWING UP, MY ADOPTIVE FATHER TOOK ME TO EVERY MARINE BIOLOGIST IN THE SAN DIEGO AREA. IT WAS THE ONLY TIME THAT THIS SHY LITTLE GIRL WOULD REALLY SPEAK.

ASK QUESTION AFTER QUESTION.

I COULDN'T TALK WITH THEM ENOUGH--

--SO I BECAME ONE MYSELF TOP OF MY CLASS TOO. I WAS EVEN OFFERED ACCESS TO THE GOVERNMENT'S SECRET UNDERSEA OPERATIONS.

I THOUGHT I WAS ON THE RIGHT TRACK-- UNTIL SOMEONE TOLD ME I "WASN'T HUMAN." I WAS--

--"OF THE WATER."



BORN IN A WORLD NO ONE KNOWS EXISTS. A HIDDEN RACE LIVING IN THE OCEANS. THEY CALL THEMSELVES...THE BLUE.

BUT I WAS DIFFERENT THAN EVEN THE BLUE. NOT JUST BECAUSE OF WHERE I WAS RAISED--

--BUT BECAUSE OF WHAT I COULD DO.

THERE WERE NO WAVES THIS MORNING.

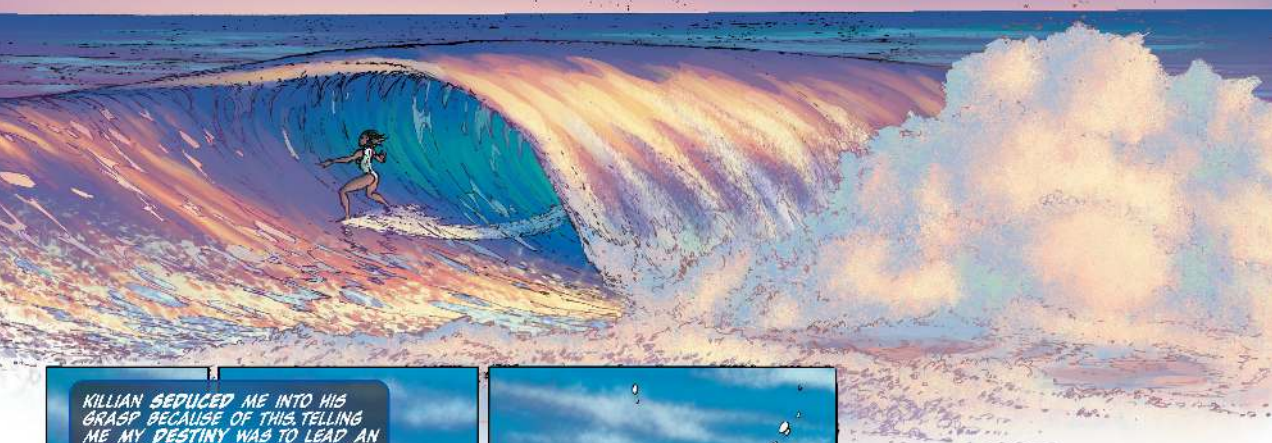


I WANTED TO GO SURFING.



SO I MADE SOME.

I CAN MOVE WATER WITH
A THOUGHT. I CAN BECOME
WATER WITH ANOTHER.



KILLIAN SEDUCED ME INTO HIS
GRASP BECAUSE OF THIS, TELLING
ME MY DESTINY WAS TO LEAD AN
ATTACK ON THE SURFACE WORLD.



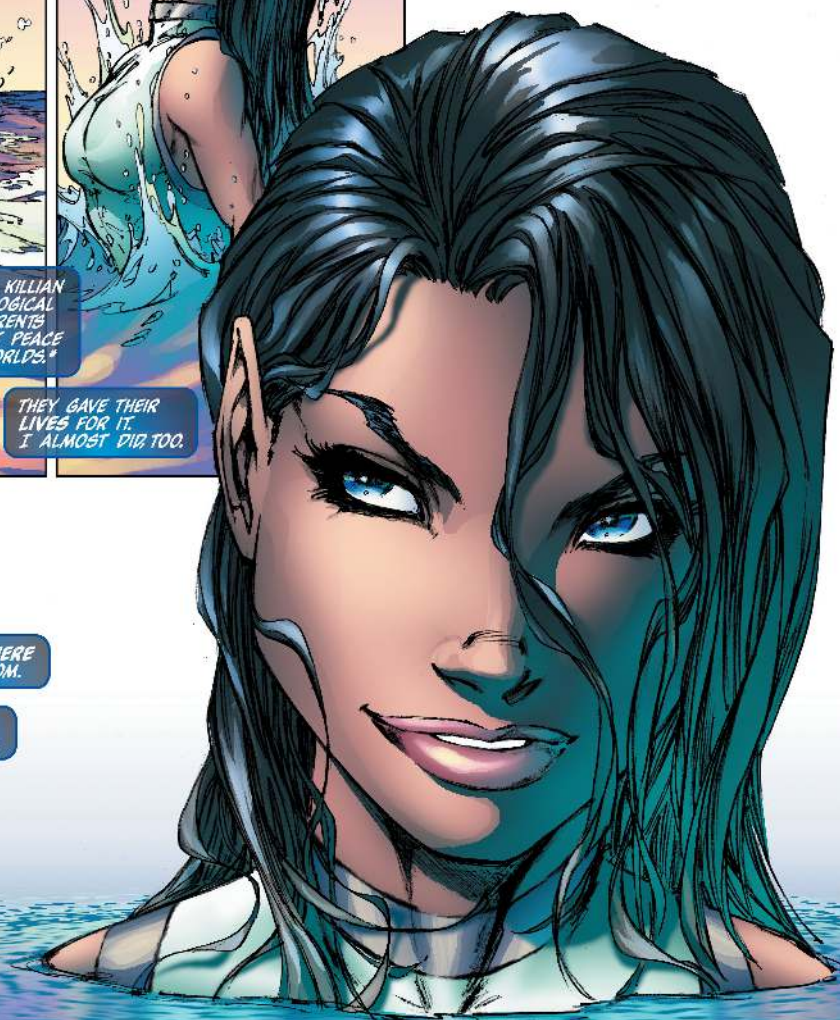
BUT THE TRUTH IS— KILLIAN
MURDERED MY BIOLOGICAL
PARENTS, AND MY PARENTS
WANTED NOTHING BUT PEACE
BETWEEN MY TWO WORLDS.*

*SEE FATHOM:
BLUE DESCENT.

THEY GAVE THEIR
LIVES FOR IT.
I ALMOST DID, TOO.

I KNOW WHERE
I COME FROM.

I KNOW
WHO I AM.



AND I'M READY
FOR WHATEVER
TOMORROW BRINGS.

