
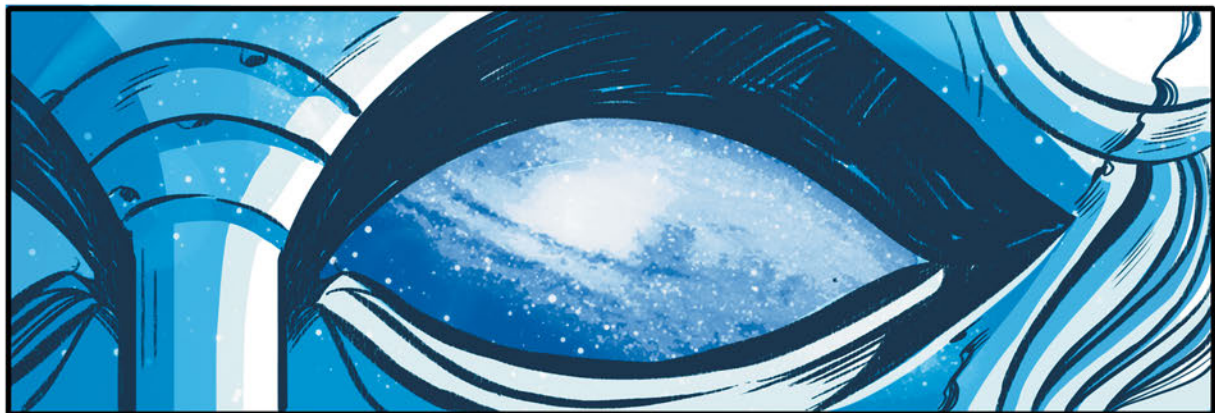




"FIRST, THERE IS *BRAHMA*,  
THE *SELF-AWARE*  
*IMMENSITY*, FROM WHOSE  
THOUGHT-SUBSTANCE ARE  
CREATED ALL KNOWN  
AND UNKNOWN THINGS.



"IN THIS VAST, INFINITE  
EXPANSE OF AWARENESS,  
ONE SINGLE DAY LASTS  
FOUR BILLION, THREE  
HUNDRED AND TWENTY  
MILLION YEARS..."



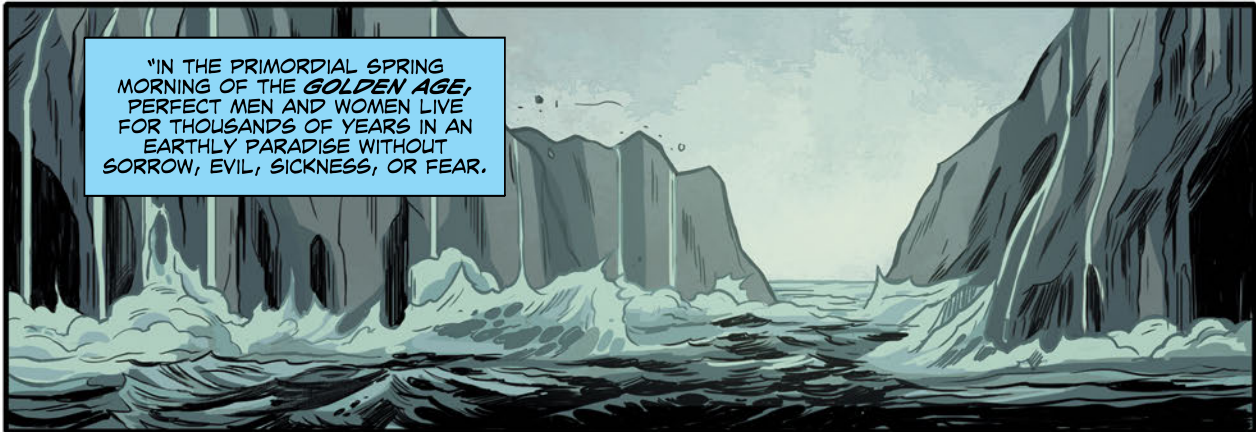
"...OR ONE *GREAT DAY*, IN WHICH THE FOUR AGES OF THE EARTH REPEAT LIKE THE CYCLE OF SEASONS.



"IN THIS EBB AND FLOW OF COSMIC KARMA LIES THE WEB OF ALL EXISTENCE, ECHOES OF HUMANS, GODS, WARRIORS, SUPER SCIENCE, AND SAGES."



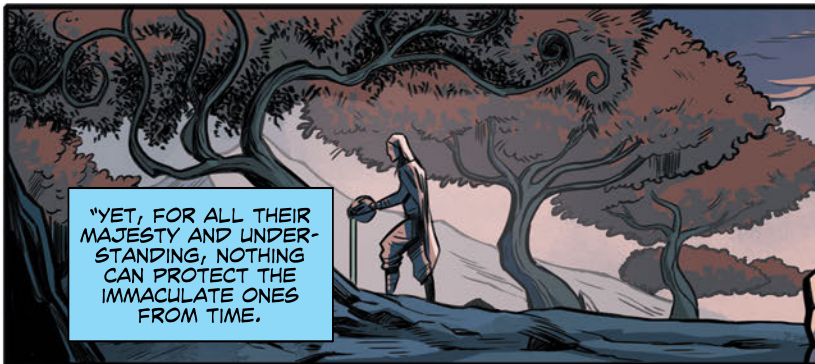
"IN THE PRIMORDIAL SPRING MORNING OF THE *GOLDEN AGE*, PERFECT MEN AND WOMEN LIVE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS IN AN EARTHLY PARADISE WITHOUT SORROW, EVIL, SICKNESS, OR FEAR.



"NATURE, GOD, AND MAN ARE ONE IN ECSTASY HERE.




"HEAVENLY BLISS AND SUPREME WISDOM BLESS THE IMMACULATE ONES BORN TO THIS HAPPY DAWN."



"YET, FOR ALL THEIR MAJESTY AND UNDERSTANDING, NOTHING CAN PROTECT THE IMMACULATE ONES FROM TIME.



"AND SO, IN THE *SECOND AGE OF SILVER*, EVIL COMES TO THE EARTH, IN THE FORM OF GREED.



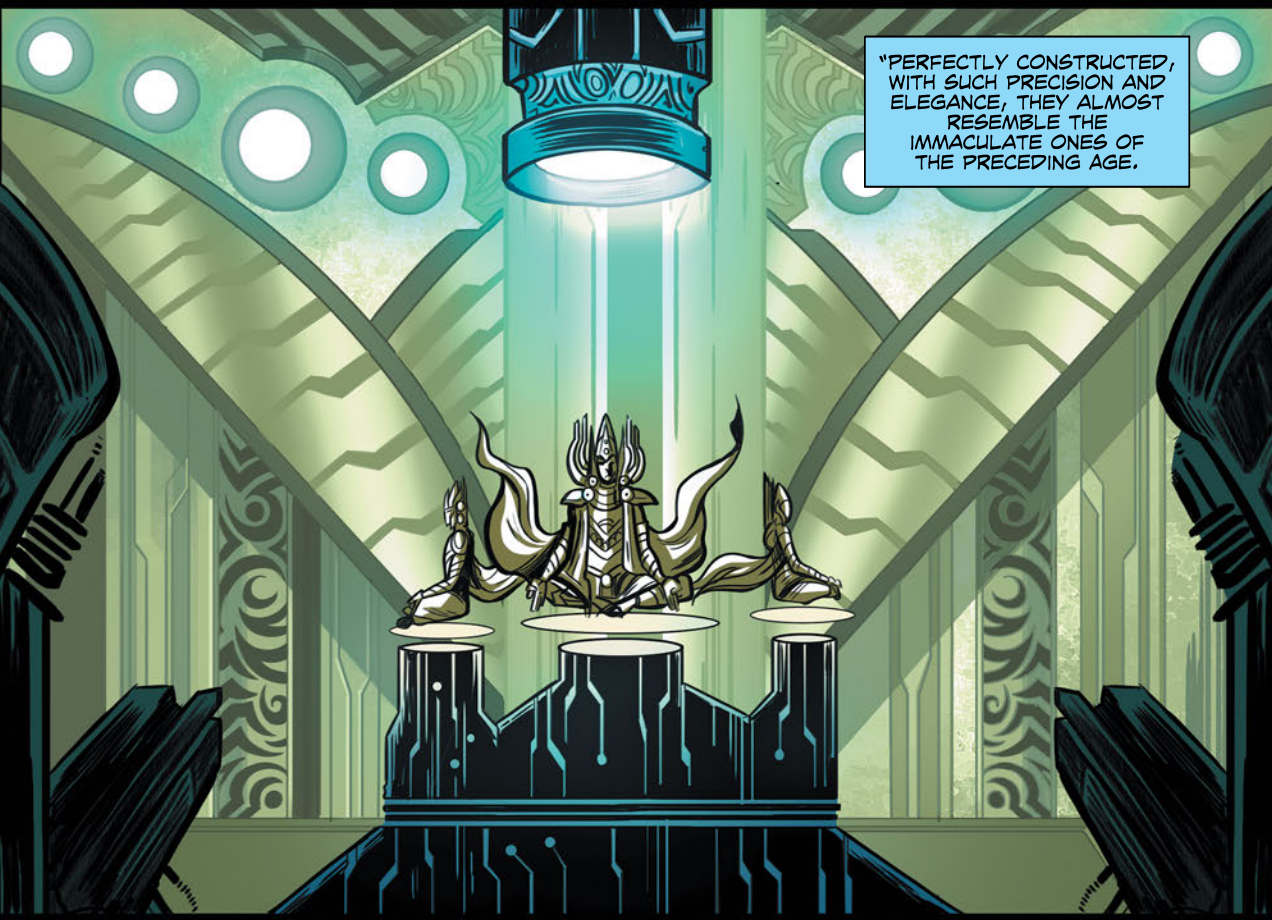
"IN THE GREAT SUMMER AFTERNOON, GLORIOUS PARAGONS LIKE *RAMA* COME TO CONTEND WITH THE ENCROACHING POWERS OF DARKNESS AND IGNORANCE.



"WAR IS BORN."



"WITH WAR COME THE *SUPERWARRIORS*, A NEW RACE OF ULTIMATE MEN AND WOMEN SENT TO STEM CIVILIZATION'S DECLINE AT THE END OF THE SECOND AGE.



"PERFECTLY CONSTRUCTED, WITH SUCH PRECISION AND ELEGANCE, THEY ALMOST RESEMBLE THE IMMACULATE ONES OF THE PRECEDING AGE.



"AND FOR A TIME, THEY SUCCEED."