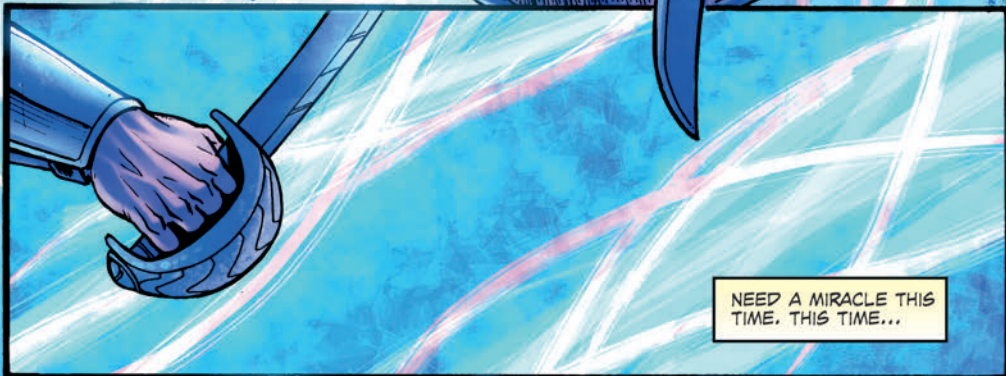


FALLING FOR A SECOND.

FALLING FOR A CENTURY.

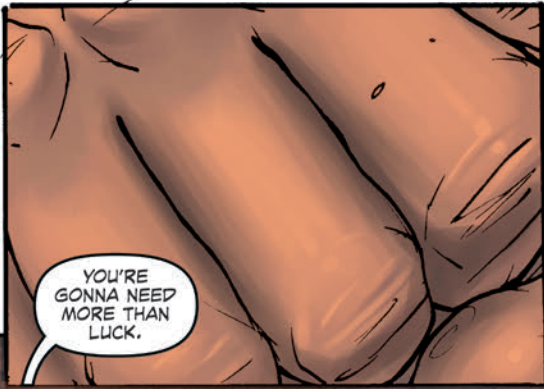
TIME AND MEMORIES...
BLURRING TOGETHER.



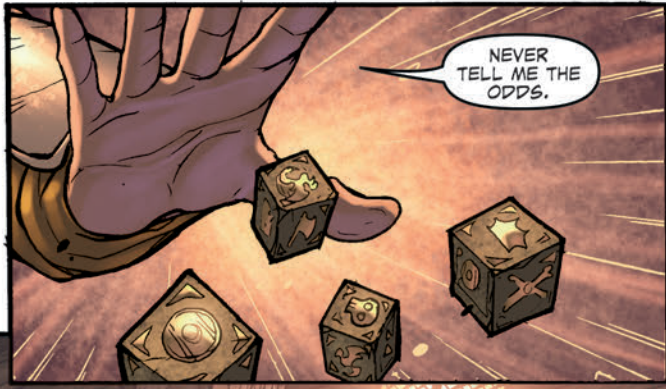
NEED A MIRACLE THIS
TIME. THIS TIME...



...I NEED MORE
THAN LUCK.



YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE THAN LUCK.



NEVER TELL ME THE ODDS.



TWO BONES, TWO DRAGONS, THREE TIMES IN A ROW. POT'S MINE.

BUT... BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



OF COURSE IT IS.



HE'S SWITCHED OUT THE DICE.

TO BE FAIR, PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU WERE CHEATING FIRST.



WELL, HE WAS. BAD AT IT, TOO.



KLANG

CRASH

WHUMP

KA-THUMP

GET HIM!

NO, OVER THERE!

CHEATIN' SON OF A—



WHOOME



A LITTLE MUCH, CAP'N JINX.

HAD TO GET YOUR ATTENTION, SERGEANT FELL. GOT A JOB FOR YOU.



WAR'S OVER. DON'T WANT A JOB.

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TALENTS, SUCH AS THEY ARE.

WHAT ARE MY TALENTS?

NOT DYING IN IMPROBABLE CIRCUMSTANCES.



I DON'T NEED THE MONEY.

GOOD. THE PAY IS LOUSY. JUST HEAR THE OFFER.

AND IF IT SOUNDS LIKE A BAD IDEA?

THEN YOU'RE PAYING ATTENTION.

LATER.

YOU MAY CALL ME TRASGAR.

SERGEANT—
ADRIC. ADRIC
FELL.



WHAT DO YOU DO EXACTLY, FELL?

IN THE WAR, MY JOB WAS KEEPING CAP'N JINX HERE ALIVE.

JUST FILL HIM IN, TRASGAR.

WE ARE ON A SURVEY EXPEDITION TO SOME NEARBY RUINS.

THERE ARE NO NEARBY RUINS.

SO LITTLE MINDS BELIEVE. NO OFFENSE.



I DON'T FOLLOW.

GOOD, THEN NO ONE ELSE WILL. THAT'S JUSTIN, MY SERVING BOY, AND PHILOMENA, MY APPRENTICE.

H'LO.

FOCUS, PHILOMENA. OR THE FLAME WILL—

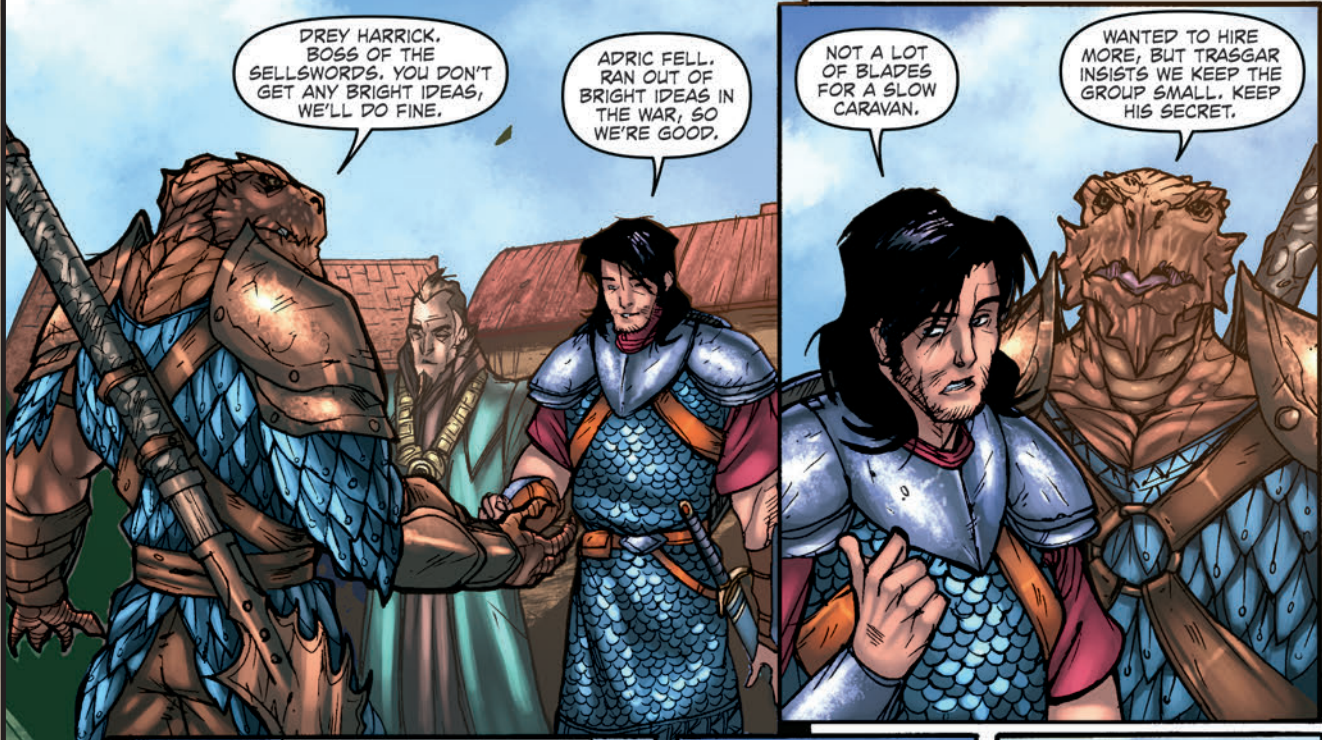
FOOM

AHHH!

INDEED.

ALTHOUGH MY RESEARCH CONCLUSIVELY PROVES THE RUINS ARE ABANDONED, I'VE HIRED GUARDS FOR THE JOURNEY.





DREY HARRICK, BOSS OF THE SELLSWORDS, YOU DON'T GET ANY BRIGHT IDEAS, WE'LL DO FINE.

ADRIC FELL, RAN OUT OF BRIGHT IDEAS IN THE WAR, SO WE'RE GOOD.

NOT A LOT OF BLADES FOR A SLOW CARAVAN.

WANTED TO HIRE MORE, BUT TRASGAR INSISTS WE KEEP THE GROUP SMALL. KEEP HIS SECRET.



YOU CAN'T TELL HIM OUR DESTINA—

WE'RE HEADING NORTH INTO THE MOUNTAINS ALONG THE OLD GOSFORD TRAIL, ANY OTHER BRANCH-OFF FROM THIS MAIN ROAD'S OUTSIDE THE RANGE OF RATIONS YOU PACKED.

NOT JUST A SURVEY. I SAW RUNECLOTH AND NULLSTONES, SO YOU'RE PLANNING ON BRINGING SOME MAGIC BACK. NO DWARF, THOUGH, SO YOU'RE NOT GOING UNDERGROUND.

SO WIZARD'S TOWER OR LOST CITY.



TRY NOT TO LOSE HIM OR BREAK HIM, TRASGAR. HE'S SURPRISINGLY USEFUL.

AHH—YES. INDEED.



THEY SHOULD HAVE MORE GUARDS.

I KNOW. REMEMBER— "TEN SECONDS."

I TAUGHT YOU THAT.



"STAY OUT OF TROUBLE, CAP'N."

"USE YOUR GIFTS, SERGEANT."