



BBC THE TENTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

YEAR THREE

TEN #03  
**DOCTOR WHO**

NICK ABADZIS  
GIORGIA SPOSITO  
ARIANNA FLOREAN

SHARPER THAN  
A SERPENT'S TOOTH  
PART 1

# DOCTOR WHO

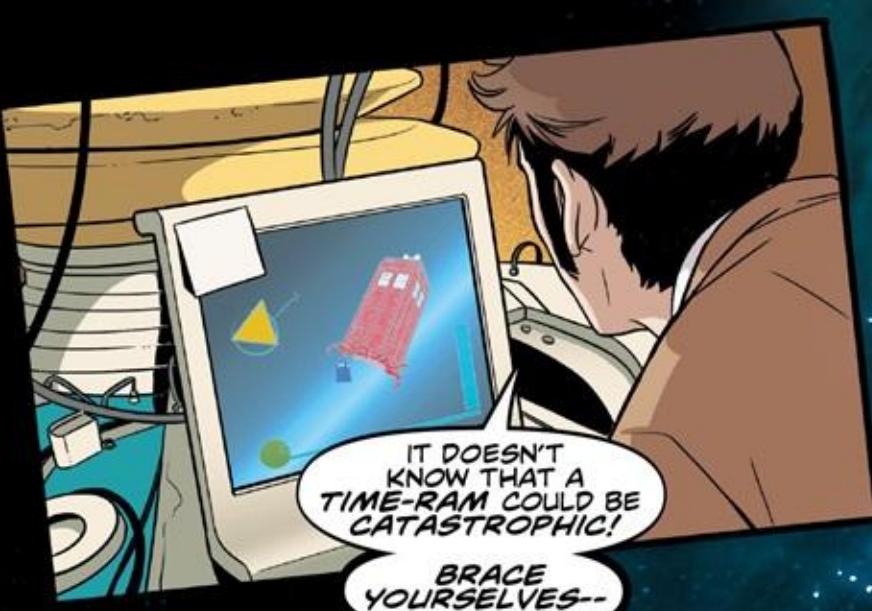


TRUST ME  
I'M THE  
DOCTOR

COVER A  
IOLANDA ZANFARDINO

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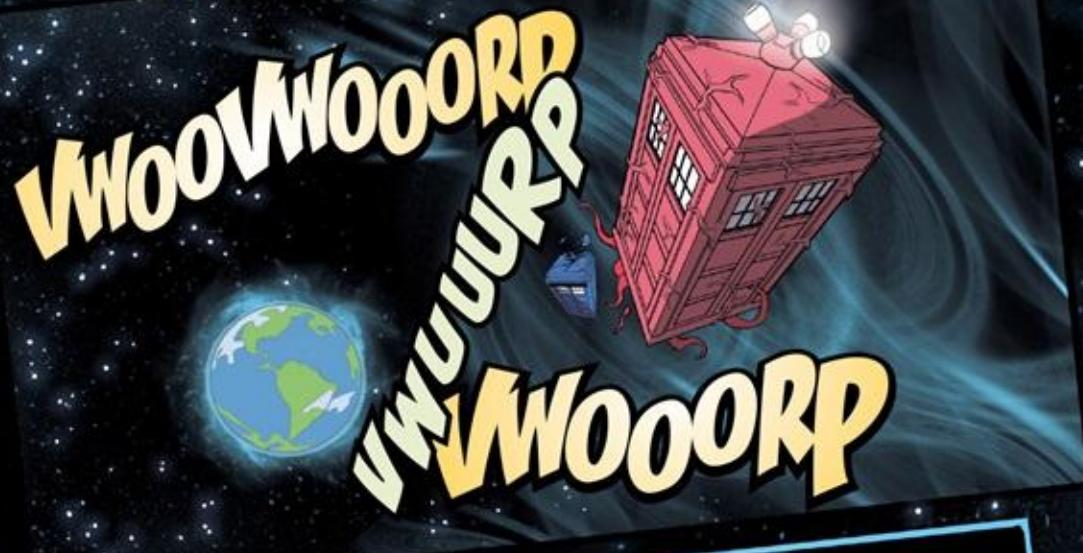




**KA-THUNNN**



**VWOOWOOORP  
VNUURP  
VWOOWOOORP**



FATHER, TELL ME A STORY.

AND NOT ONE OF THOSE BORING ONES ABOUT A LANDOWNER AND AN OFFICIAL.

TELL ME A STORY  
THAT HAS A  
DRAGON IN IT.

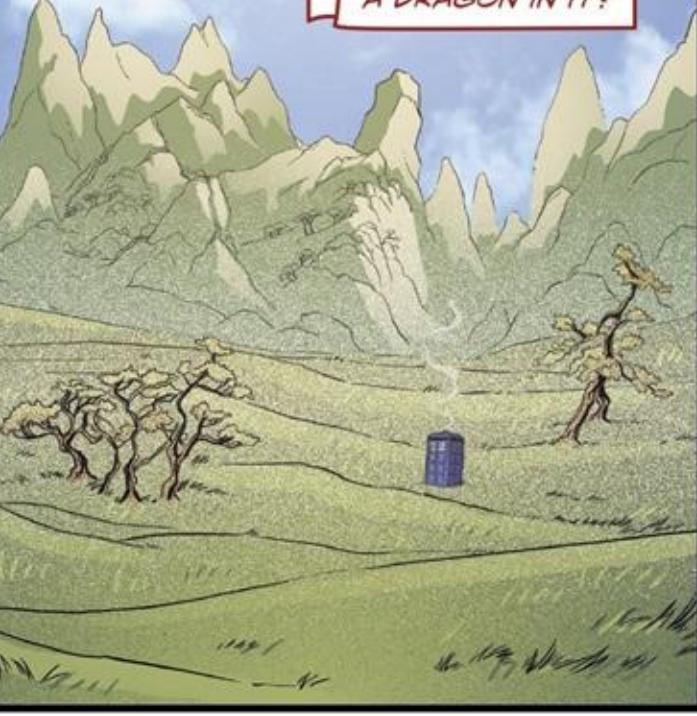
WILL IT BE  
WORTHWHILE  
ONLY IF THERE'S  
A DRAGON IN IT?

NO, IT NEEDS  
SOME DEMONS AND  
GHOSTS, TOO.

IS  
THE TARDIS  
OKAY?

THE  
PLASMIC SHELL'S  
SELF-REPAIRING.  
SHE'LL REGENERATE  
THE DAMAGED AREAS,  
BUT SHE'LL NEED A  
LITTLE REST.

WHERE  
ARE WE?



SMELLS  
LIKE... DEEP, OLD  
ZHONGHUA.

ANCIENT  
CHINA.

YOU CAN  
TELL THAT  
JUST FROM  
THE AIR?

GOT  
A BEAD ON  
HER. NORTH-  
EAST.

HUMAN  
SETTLEMENTS.  
HORSE  
POOP.  
HE ONCE  
LIVED HERE, SO  
HE SAYS.

YEAH, WITH  
NO TARDIS  
TELEPATHIC  
CIRCUITS TO HELP  
ME OUT, SO I COULD  
LEARN THE  
DIALECTS.

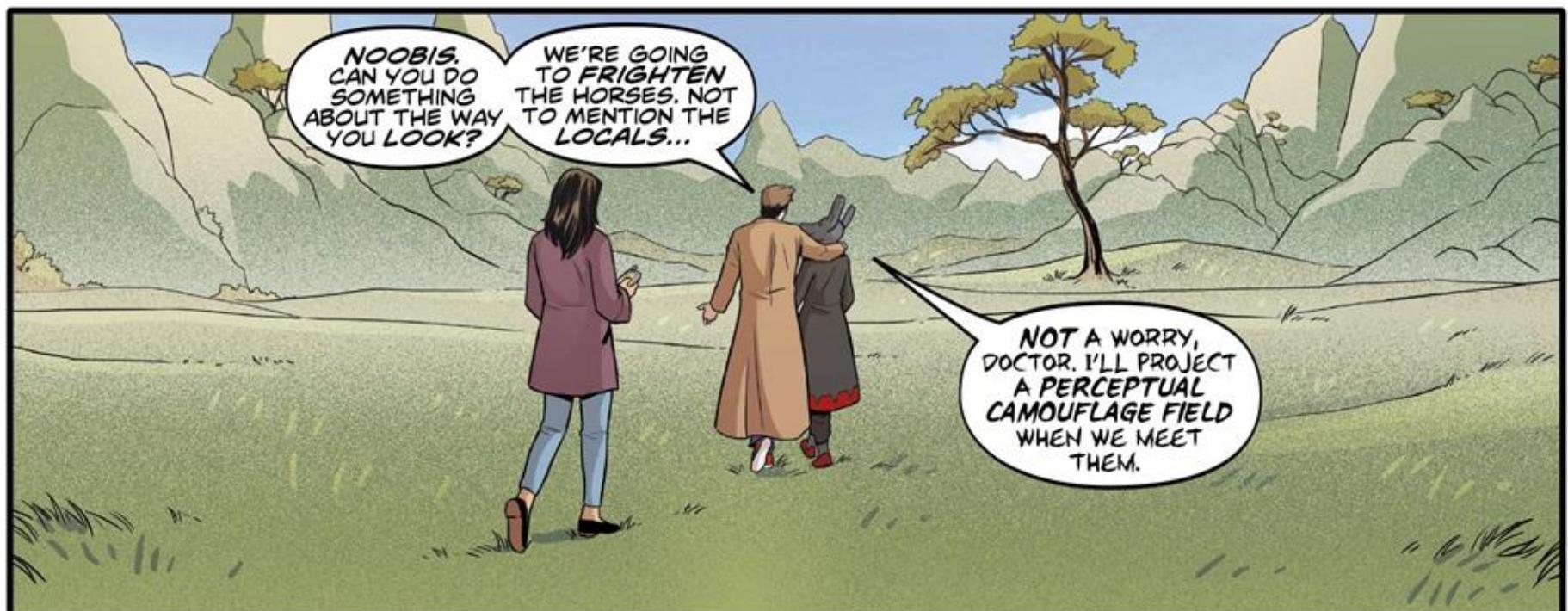
COME  
ON!

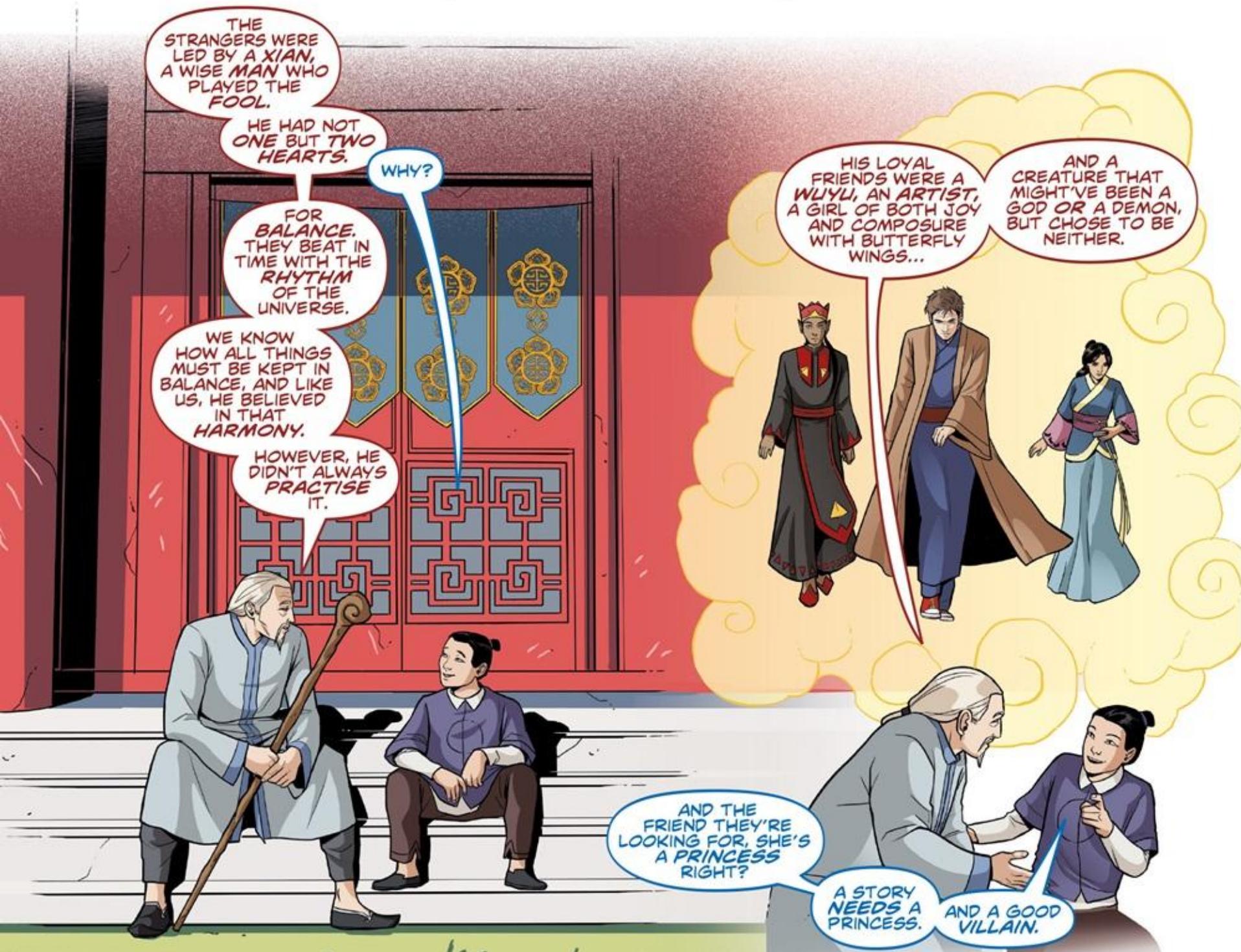
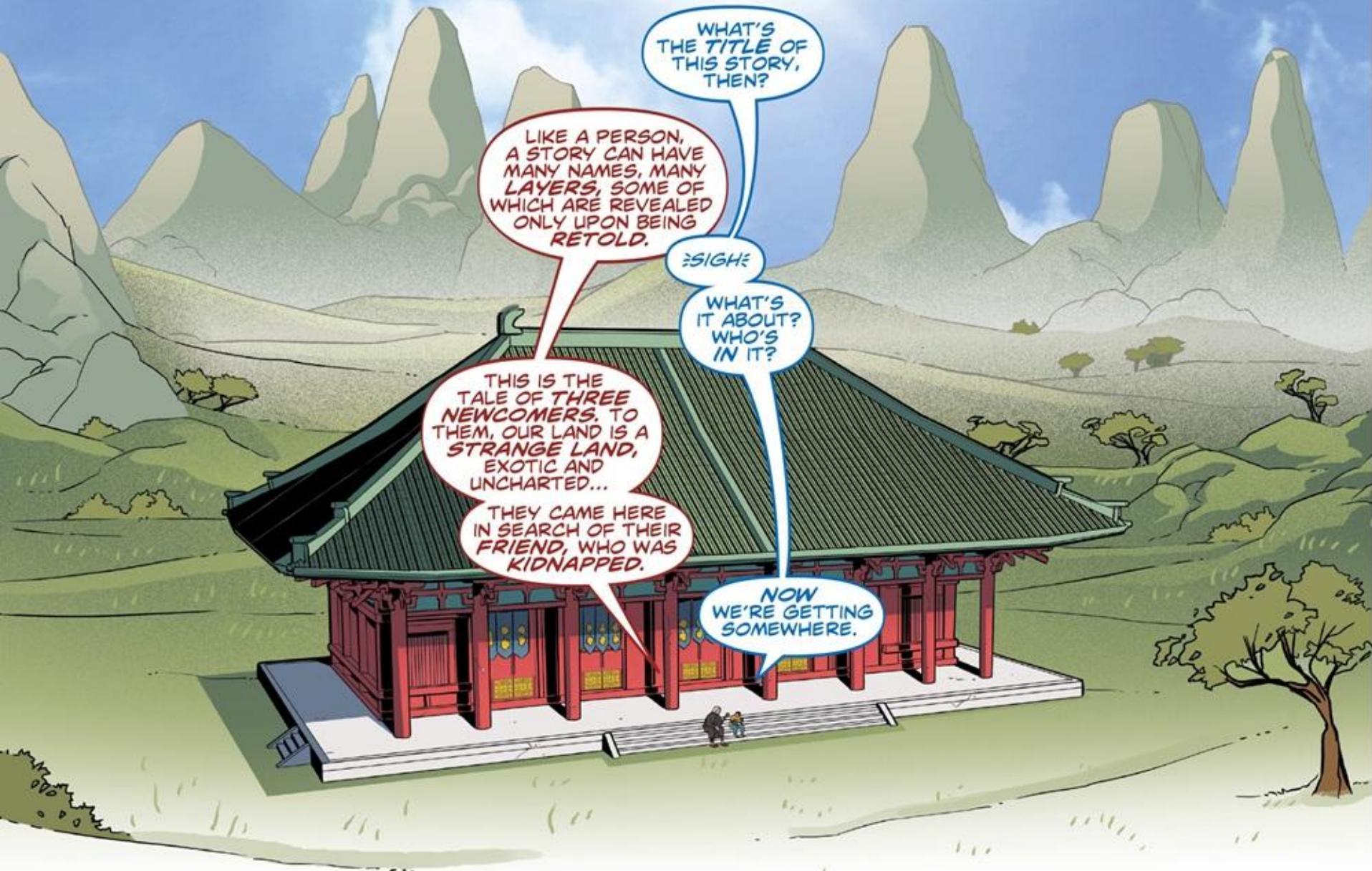


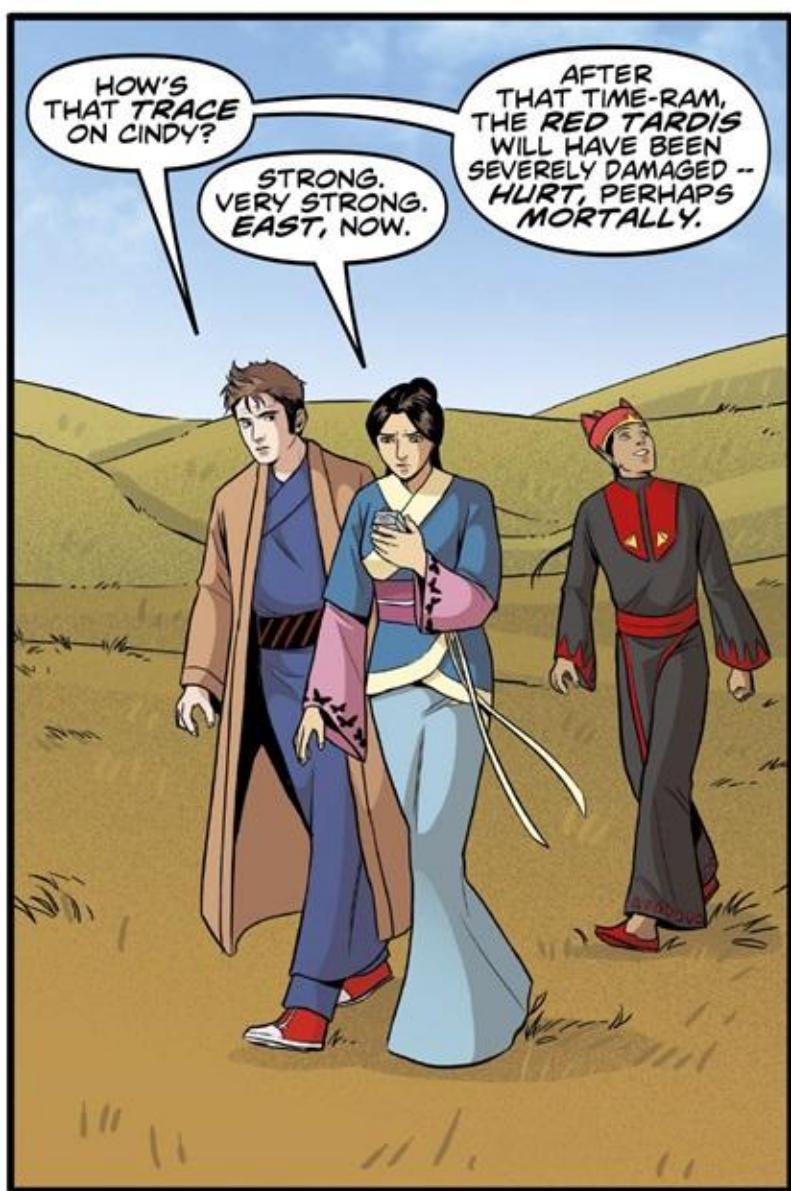
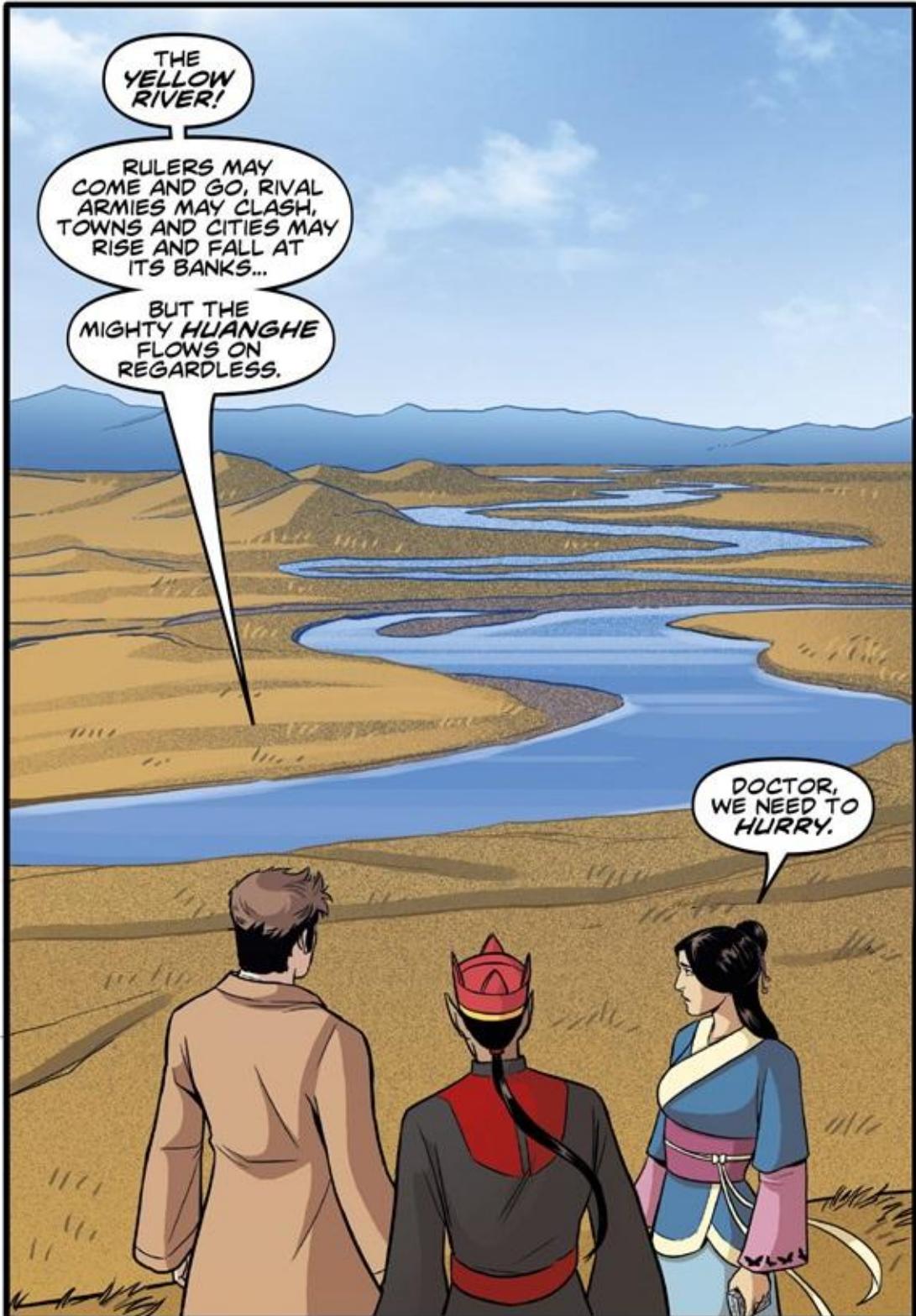
NOOBIS.  
CAN YOU DO  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT THE WAY  
YOU LOOK?

WE'RE GOING  
TO FRIGHTEN  
THE HORSES. NOT  
TO MENTION THE  
LOCALS...

NOT A WORRY,  
DOCTOR. I'LL PROJECT  
A PERCEPTUAL  
CAMOUFLAGE FIELD  
WHEN WE MEET  
THEM.









HONORED TEACHER...  
I AM HUMBLY ASKING YOU  
TO INDULGE MY MAYFLY'S  
SENSE OF URGENCY.

PLEASE...  
I FEAR FOR  
THE SAFETY  
OF MY DEAR  
FRIEND.

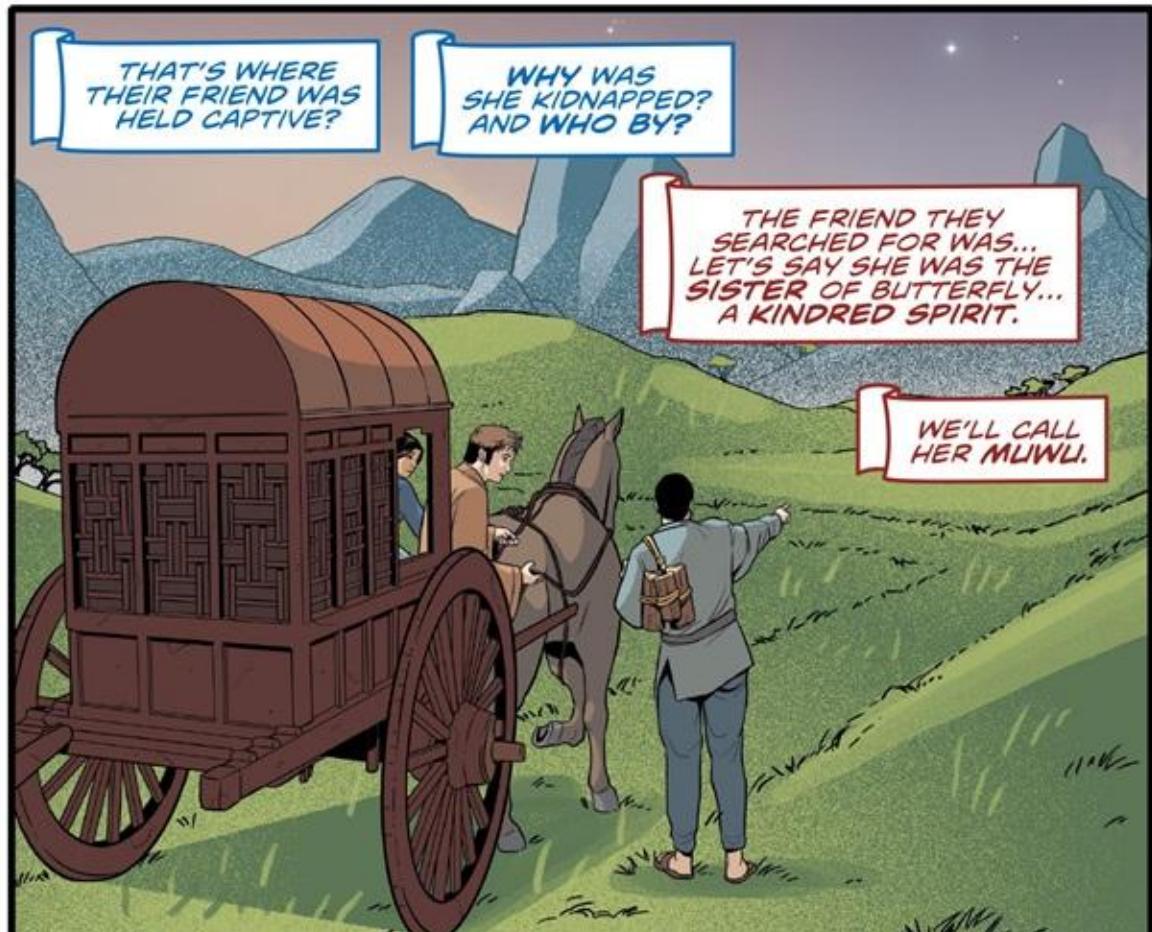


AS ANY WISE MAN KNOWS,  
YOU ARE NEVER SO WISE AS  
TO NOT LISTEN TO THOSE  
YOU TRUST, WHOSE INSTINCTS  
AND PERCEPTIONS MAY  
DIFFER FROM YOUR OWN.



THE NEWCOMERS  
HAD JOURNEYED  
FAR, AND HAD FAR  
YET TO TRAVEL.

IT WAS A LONG WAY  
TO MOUNT BUZHOU.



THAT'S WHERE  
THEIR FRIEND WAS  
HELD CAPTIVE?

WHY WAS  
SHE KIDNAPPED?  
AND WHO BY?

THE FRIEND THEY  
SEARCHED FOR WAS...  
LET'S SAY SHE WAS THE  
SISTER OF BUTTERFLY...  
A KINDRED SPIRIT.

WE'LL CALL  
HER MUWU.



THEY TRAVELED DAY  
AND NIGHT, AS FAST  
AS A STRONG, SINGLE  
HORSE COULD PULL  
THEIR OLD CART...

THE TRIO WERE  
MAKING THEIR WAY  
TO THE VALLEY OF  
THE SLEEPING  
TIGER.

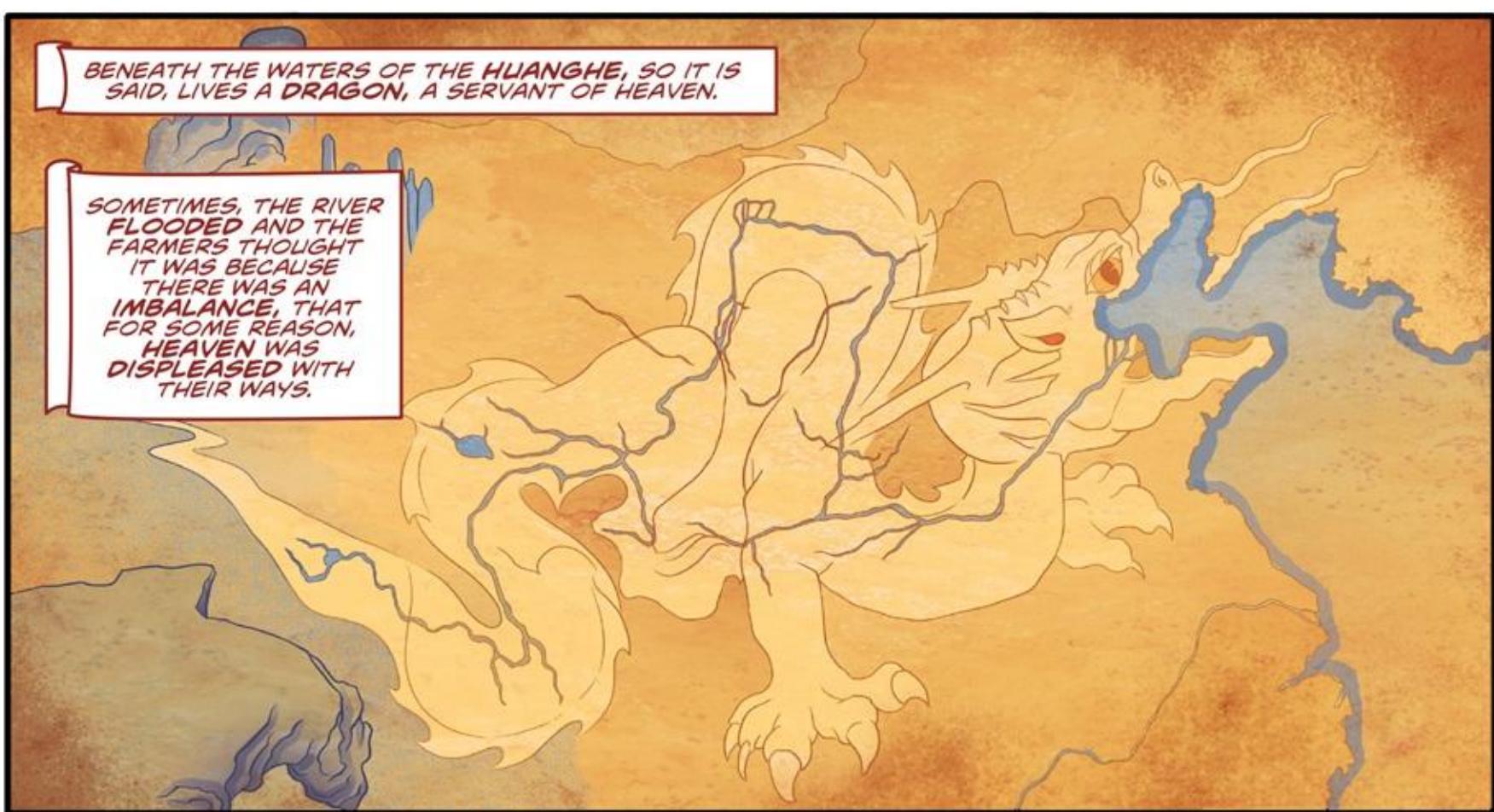
IT NESTLES IN A LEE OF  
MOUNT BUZHOU, AND IS FED  
AT ITS MOUTH BY A CURVE  
OF THE MIGHTY HUANGHE.

HERE, FARMERS TILLED THE  
FERTILE SOIL AT ITS BANKS  
AND LIVED A GOOD LIFE IN  
UNISON WITH NATURE...  
WHEN THE MOODS OF THE  
SEASONS ALLOWED IT.



BENEATH THE WATERS OF THE HUANGHE, SO IT IS  
SAID, LIVES A DRAGON, A SERVANT OF HEAVEN.

SOMETIMES, THE RIVER  
FLOODED AND THE  
FARMERS THOUGHT  
IT WAS BECAUSE  
THERE WAS AN  
IMBALANCE, THAT  
FOR SOME REASON,  
HEAVEN WAS  
DISPLEASED WITH  
THEIR WAYS.



THEY BOTH FEARED  
AND WORSHIPPED THE  
DRAGON THAT CAUSED  
THE FLOODWATERS, WHICH  
BROUGHT SO MUCH  
DEATH AND MISERY.

RECENTLY, THERE'D  
BEEN A FLOOD SO  
CATASTROPHIC IT HAD  
CAUSED DEVASTATION  
FOR AS FAR AS THE  
EYE COULD SEE.

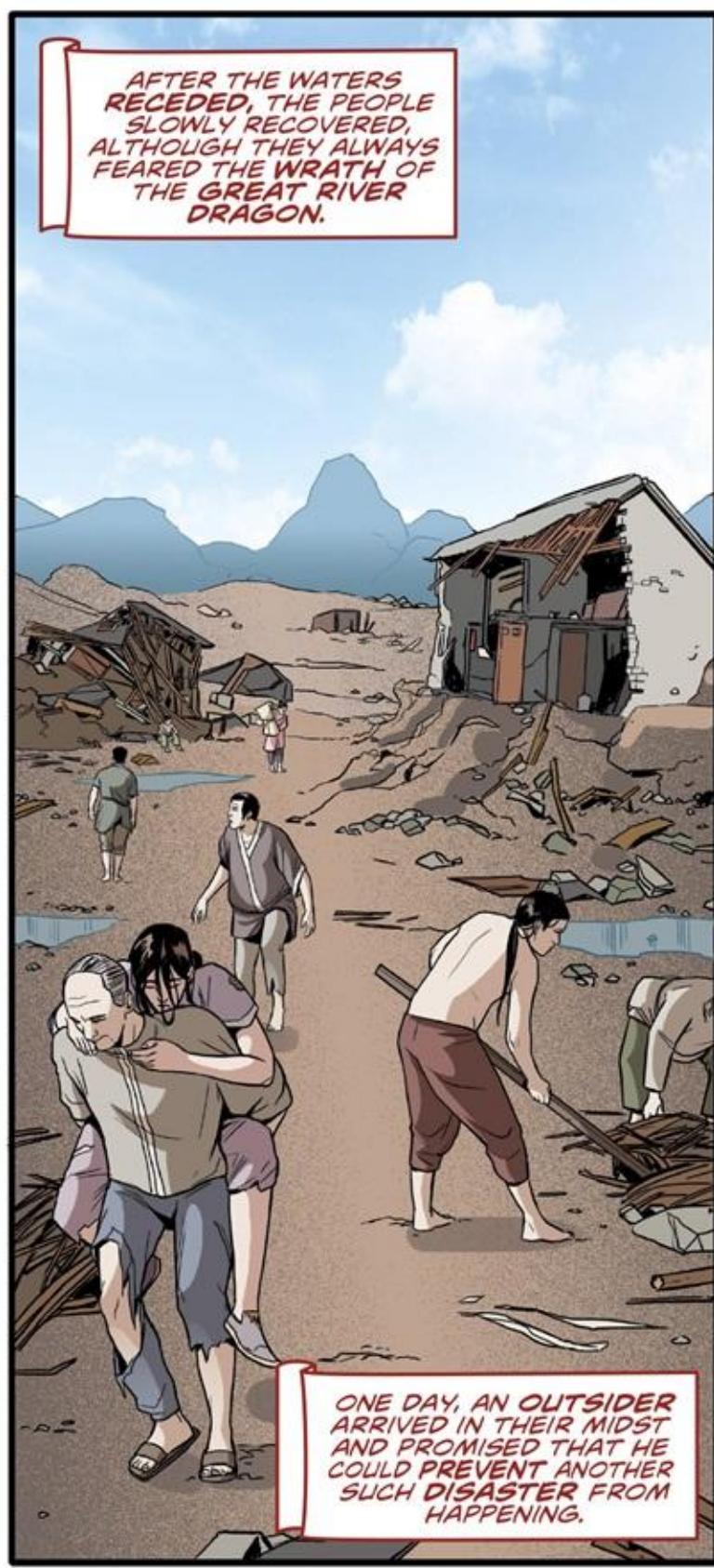


THE RIVER SPILLED THROUGH FIELD AND MANOR, THROUGH MEETING HALL AND PAVILION. IT DROWNED THE FLATLANDS AND EVEN THREATENED HILLTOPS THOUGHT SAFE.



EVERY FAMILY IN THE VALLEY FACED TRAGEDY... FLOODWATERS DO NOT KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PALACE OR A PEASANT'S HUT.

AFTER THE WATERS RECEDDED, THE PEOPLE SLOWLY RECOVERED, ALTHOUGH THEY ALWAYS FEARED THE WRATH OF THE GREAT RIVER DRAGON.



ONE DAY, AN OUTSIDER ARRIVED IN THEIR MIDST AND PROMISED THAT HE COULD PREVENT ANOTHER SUCH DISASTER FROM HAPPENING.

THE PEOPLE LISTENED. HOW COULD THEY NOT? HE DID NOT SPEAK WITH HIS MOUTH, AND YET THEY HEARD HIM ANYWAY.

CLEARLY, HE MUST BE AN ENVOY FROM SOME OTHER, UNEARTHLY REALM.



HE TOLD THEM THAT HE WOULD BUILD A WALL TO STOP THE RIVER FROM FLOODING.

AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HE DID.

WHAT IS IT? A DAM?



IT'S A GREAT WALL. IN ANCIENT CHINA. IN TOTALLY THE WRONG PLACE.

FASCINATING. IT'S WAY BEYOND THE CONSTRUCTION ABILITIES OF THIS PERIOD, BUT CLEARLY MADE WITH LOCAL MATERIALS.

A HISTORICAL ANOMALY? DUE PERHAPS TO THE INFLUENCE OF THE RED BOX...?

ONE THING'S FOR SURE. IT GOT HERE EARLIER THAN WE DID, IF IT'S HAD TIME TO BUILD THAT.

WHAT THE OUTSIDER DID NOT TELL THE PEOPLE OF THE VALLEY WAS HOW MUCH THE WALL WOULD COST THEM.



CINDY'S IN THERE. HOW-HOW ARE WE EVER GOING TO GET PAST IT?

INTO IT?

CLIMB...? HAVE THEY INVENTED AIRCRAFT HERE YET? BALLOONS?

SHALL WE JUST TRY KNOCKING AT THE DOOR?

SEE WHAT HAPPENS, EH? LET'S GIVE IT A TRY.

BUT THE  
WOULD-BE  
RESCUERS  
COULD NOT  
GET NEAR  
THE DOOR.

THEY DID NOT  
YET KNOW OF  
THE OUTSIDER,  
OR HOW THE  
WALL HAD COME  
TO BE.

THEY DID  
NOT KNOW THAT  
HE HAD INSTALLED  
GUARDIANS OF  
HIS REALM, WHO  
CHALLENGED THE  
XIAN AND HIS TWO  
FRIENDS AS THEY  
APPROACHED.

THEN THERE  
WAS A WOMAN  
MADE OF FIRE,  
WHO SOUGHT TO  
BURN THEM...

THERE WAS AN  
EARTH BEAST  
THAT WOULD  
DEVOUR AND  
BURY THEM...

THE FIRST WAS  
A BEING MADE  
OF A STORM, A  
LIVING TORNADO,  
WHO SWEEP THEM  
OFF THEIR FEET...

A MONSTER OF  
WOOD, THORNS  
AND BRACKEN THAT  
WOULD PIERCE  
AND SUFFOCATE  
THEM...

AND A MAN OF  
METAL WHO WOULD  
CUT THEM WITH HIS  
BLADED LIMBS.

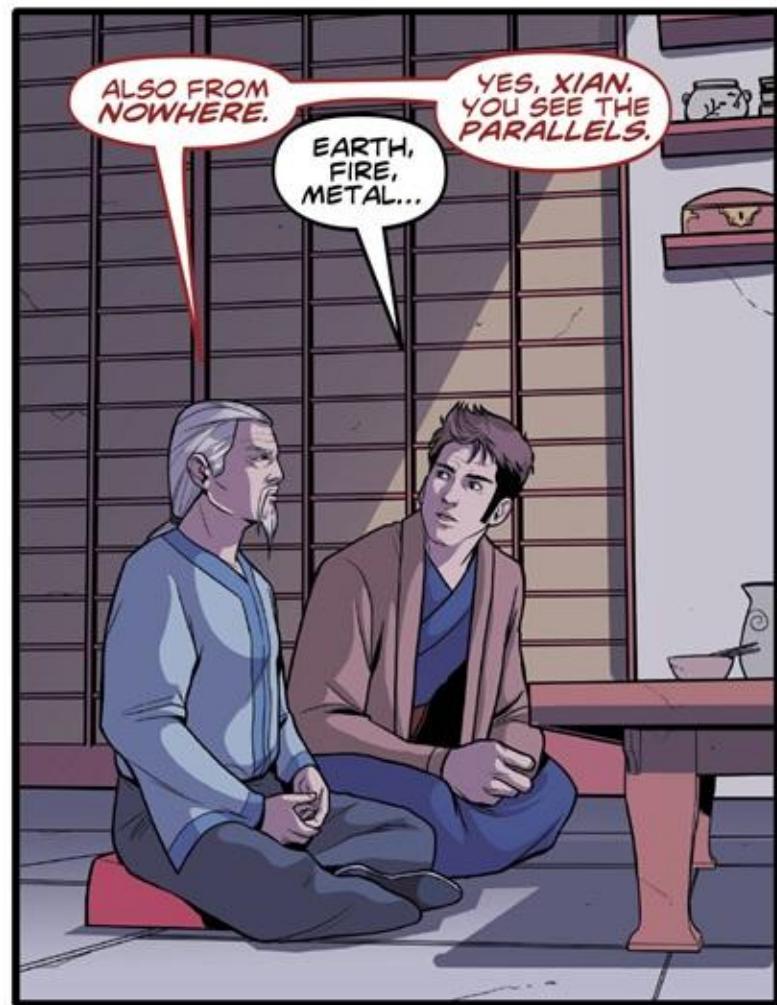
INDEED, THESE  
CREATURES  
PROVED TO BE  
IMPASSABLE.

WELL...?  
WHAT  
HAPPENED  
NEXT?

YOU CAN ASK  
THE TRAVELERS  
YOURSELF...



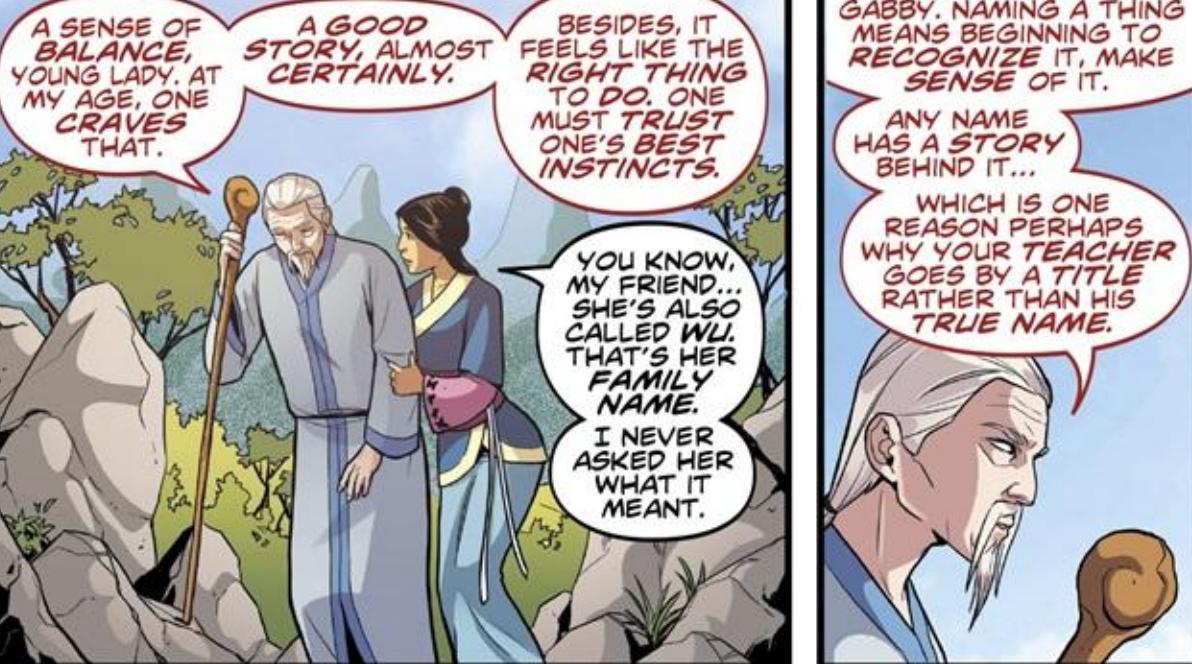




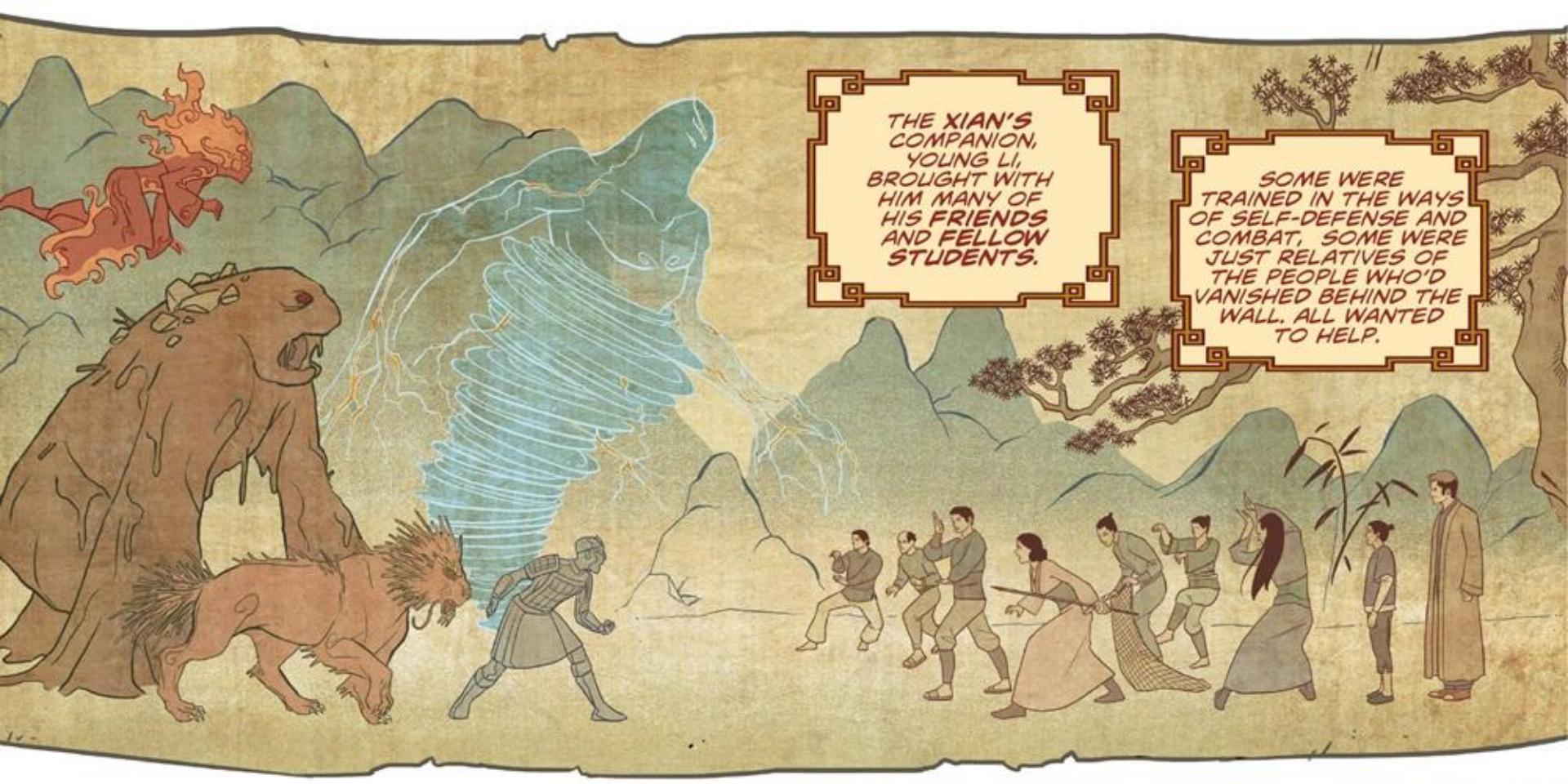




AND SO IT WAS THAT THE TRAVELERS WERE JOINED IN THEIR QUEST FOR THEIR BELOVED FRIEND THE MUWU BY THE BENIGN BUT MYSTERIOUS OLD FATHER AND HIS SON...

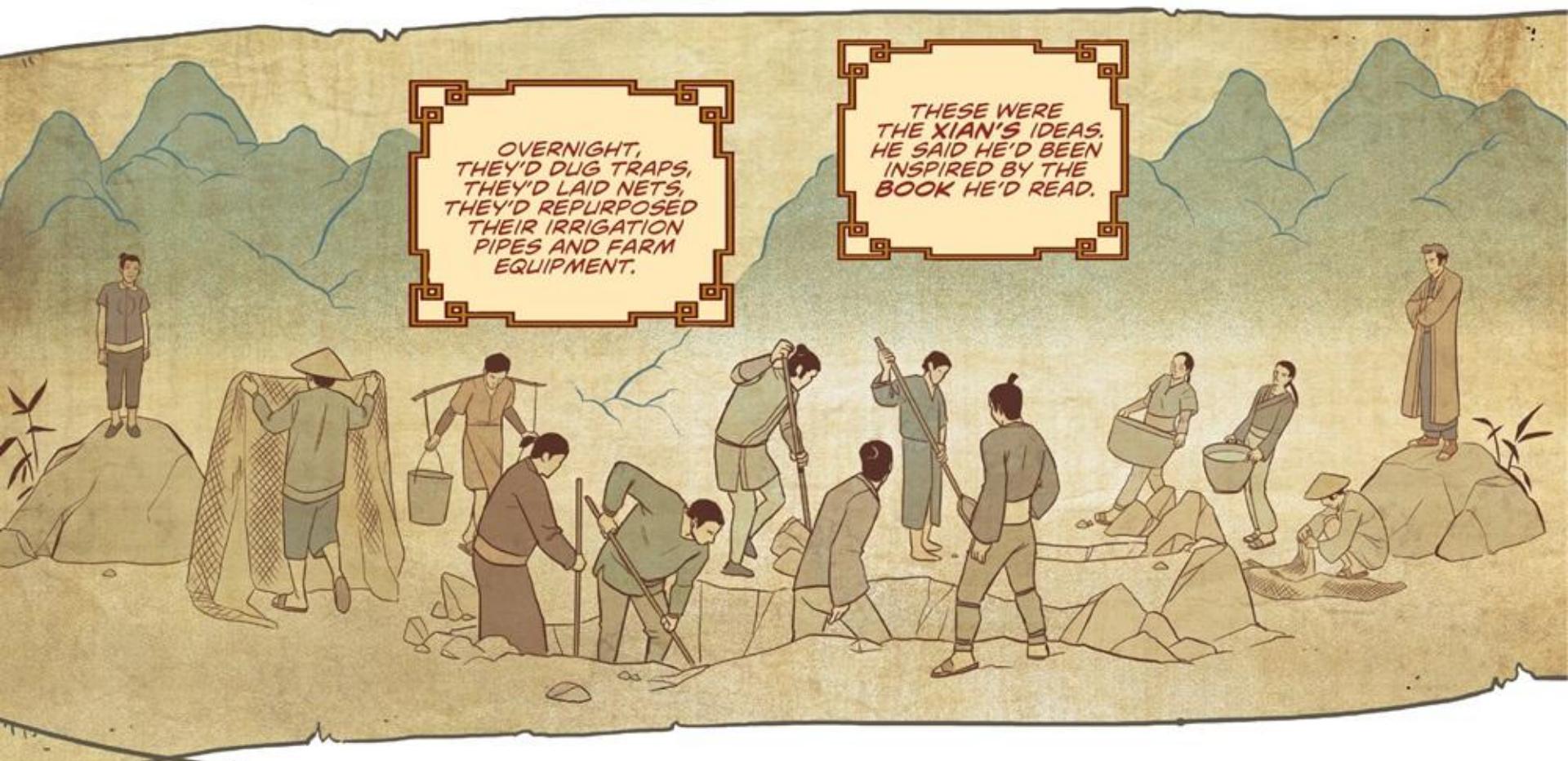






THE XIAN'S COMPANION, YOUNG LI, BROUGHT WITH HIM MANY OF HIS FRIENDS AND FELLOW STUDENTS.

SOME WERE TRAINED IN THE WAYS OF SELF-DEFENSE AND COMBAT, SOME WERE JUST RELATIVES OF THE PEOPLE WHO'D VANISHED BEHIND THE WALL. ALL WANTED TO HELP.



OVERNIGHT, THEY'D DUG TRAPS, THEY'D LAID NETS, THEY'D REPURPOSED THEIR IRRIGATION PIPES AND FARM EQUIPMENT.

THESE WERE THE XIAN'S IDEAS. HE SAID HE'D BEEN INSPIRED BY THE BOOK HE'D READ.



TOGETHER, LED BY THE XIAN, THIS PEOPLE'S ARMY CONFUSED THE ELEMENTALS, AND LURED THEM AWAY FROM THE WALL.

THEY DROVE THE EARTH MONSTER INTO THE WATER SO HE BECAME AS MUD AND DISSOLVED INTO THE WATERS OF THE HUANGHE.

WHEWE!

KAY. NOOBIS,  
THAT WHOLE  
MANEUVER'S GONNA  
NEED A LITTLE  
FINE-TUNING.

THE LIVING STORM  
WAS NETTED LIKE  
A FLY IN COBWEBS,  
AND BLINDED, HE  
SMASHED INTO  
A ROCK.



