

MARVEL

2

LGY#708

AARON
DEL MUNDO





THOR IS BACK. WHILE STILL UNWORTHY OF LIFTING HIS HAMMER MJOLNIR,
HE IS ONCE MORE THE GOD OF THUNDER.

JUST IN TIME, TOO. THOR MUST STOP MALEKITH'S ATTEMPT TO CONQUER ALL OF THE TEN REALMS, BUT HE'S GOING THROUGH HAMMERS FASTER THAN HIS DWARVEN FRIENDS CAN FORGE THEM, AND WITH THE RAINBOW BRIDGE SHATTERED, HE HAS NO WAY OF TAKING THE FIGHT TO THE DARK ELF KING.

OR HE DIDN'T...UNTIL LOKI SHOWED UP. OFFERING TO ACT AS THOR'S RAINBOW BRIDGE—FOR AN UNDISCLOSED PRICE—LOKI TRIED TO TELEPORT HIS BROTHER AWAY TO THE WAR'S FRONT LINE. BUT THOR DRAGGED LOKI ALONG WITH HIM, AND NOW THEY'VE LANDED TOGETHER IN HEL, WHERE BALDER THE BRAVE AND SKURGE THE EXECUTIONER JUST FOUND THEM!

"THE ODINSON BOYS RIDE AGAIN"

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THOR CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER & JACK KIRBY

"LISTEN, BROTHER.
CAN YOU HEAR THAT
BEAUTIFUL CHORUS?"

"ALONG THE BANKS OF
THE VENOMOUS RIVER
GJOLL, THE LOST SOULS
BURIED UP TO THEIR NECKS
ARE WAILING THEIR HYMNS OF
SORROW AS THE BLOODY ICE-
WAVES COME CRASHING IN."

NIFFLEHEIM

"IN NASTROND, ALONG THE
SHORE OF CORPSES, THE
GREAT DRAGON MIDHOGG
ROARS AND FEASTS ON THE
FLESH OF OATH-BREAKERS."

HALL OF
PLAQUE
helheim

VALGRINDR
the fence
of the fallen

NASTROND
the shore
of corpses

HVERGELMIR

BRIDGE
GIALLERBRU

HELVEGR
ROAD TO HEL

"AND THE GLEAMING SNOW
GARDENS THAT SURROUND
HVERGELMIR, THE HOLY
WELLSPRING OF ALL RIME AND
COLD, ECHO WITH ANCIENT
DIRGES AND LAMENTATIONS
AS GREAT PYRES ARE LIT TO
WELCOME THE FRESHLY FALLEN."

"THE DAMNED AND BLESSED
ALIKE, THE LOWLY AND
DIVINE, THE LOST AND
ETERNALLY VALIANT."

"I'D LIKE TO THINK
THOSE PYRES WERE
ALSO LIT FOR MY
RETURN."

"BUT WE KNOW
THAT ISN'T TRUE,
DON'T WE?"

"HEL HAS
FORGOTTEN ALL
ABOUT ME."

CHOO!
CHOO!

IF THERE'S ONE THING THE DEAD HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT...IT'S FORGETTING. BEFORE I CAME ALONG, THEY'D OFTEN FORGET THEY WERE EVEN DEAD.

YOU HAD ROTTING SOULS WANDERING AIMLESSLY ALL OVER THE REALMS. I WAS THE ONE WHO GAVE THEM A HOME.

WHO LOVED THEM.

NO ONE LOVES THE DEAD AS MUCH AS ME. WE WILL HELP THEM REMEMBER THAT, WON'T WE, BROTHER?

WE WILL HELP THEM REMEMBER THEIR--

OY!

QUIT YER YAMMERING OR WE'LL SEW A CHUNK OF EMBERS IN YER FLAMING FACE-HOLE!

YEAH, SHUT YOUR GOB AND BE GLAD THE QUEEN OF CINDERS WANTS YOU ALIVE.

HEH. SO SHE CAN EXECUTE YOU HERSELF. HA HA HA!

GRRRRRR

EASY, BROTHER. THESE INVADERS' TIME WILL COME.

WE RIDE THE HELLWAY. SOON WE WILL BE BACK AMONG THE DEAD.

"SOON WE WILL BE HOME."

BALDER... IS IT TRULY YOU?

HELLO, THOR. I'VE MISSED YOU, BROTHER.



ALL OF ASGARD HAS MISSED BALDER THE BRAVE, MOST ESPECIALLY LADY FREYJA.

WOULD THAT WE HAD TIME TO SPEAK OF MOTHERS AND DAYS OF OLD. BUT THIS IS NOT ASGARD. HERE IN NIFFLEHEIM, IT IS NOT WISE TO LINGER IN THE OPEN FOR LONG.

WAR HAS COME TO HEL, BROTHER.

AND I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT SOME HEL OF YOUR OWN.

MANY JOYFUL GREETINGS, LORD OF CORPSES.

KEEP YOUR HANDS AND YOUR WORDS TO YOURSELF, LOKI. EVEN IN THE LAND OF THE DEAD, I TEND NOT TO EMBRACE THOSE WHO'VE PREVIOUSLY MURDERED ME.

OH, YOU'RE NOT STILL SORE ABOUT THAT WHOLE MISTLETOE THING, ARE YOU? THAT WAS SO VERY LONG AGO. AND I ONLY MURDERED YOU A LITTLE.

ARE YOU GOING TO RUMINATE WITH THE GOAT AS WELL, OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET MOVING, YOUR HIGHNESS?

I SMELL GOBLIN BREATH ON THE AIR. THEY COULD BE ON US ANY MOMENT.

SKURGE IS RIGHT. WE SHOULD BE--

BURN THE
DEAD THINGS!
ALL HAIL THE
QUEEN OF
CINDERS!

TOO LATE!
FIREPEDES
INCOMING!

ROTEN
FLAMING BASTARDS.
YOU SEEK TO
CONQUER HEL, SONS
OF MUSPEL?!

THERE'S
A DEAD MAN
HERE WHO
SAYS THEE
NAY!

DOOT DOOT
DOOT DOOT

YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS. THAT
IS THE UGLIEST BOAT I HAVE EVER
SEEN. AND HERE WE MAKE THEM
FROM THE FINGERNAILS OF THE
DEAD. YOU WOULD RISK YOUR
LIFE FOR THAT HEAP OF
RUBBISH?

THAT HEAP
OF RUBBISH IS
ALL I HAVE,
BALDER!

I SEE DEATH HASN'T
CHANGED THE
EXECUTIONER.

GET IN THE
TRUCK! HURRY OR
WE'LL HAVE THEIR
WHOLE ARMY
DOWN ON OUR
HEADS!

WAIT! I
SHALL NOT
ABANDON MY
VESSEL!

LIFE HAS
CLEARLY NOT
BEEN KIND TO
YOU OF LATE,
BROTHER. BUT
WE CAN'T--

OH, STAND
ASIDE AND LET
A SORCERER
WORK.

TOOTHGNASHER

WE'RE
NOT LOSING
THEM!

CAN'T
YOU MAKE
IT FLY
FASTER?

THAT GOAT'S
MORE MY BROTHER
THAN YOU ARE,
SCOUNDREL.

MAYBE IF
THE GOAT
GOT OUT AND
PUSHED.

TOOTHGRINDER,
TAKE THE WHEEL.
CHORI, WITH ME.

GROWL

AYE.

FOR--
MURDER!!!
I WAS
GOING TO SAY
"FOR ASGARD," BUT
THAT'S CLOSE
ENOUGH.

THE GOD OF THUNDER DOES
NOT FEAR DEATH. I HAVE
FACED DEATH MANY TIMES,
AND FOR ME, NEVER HAS IT
BEEN THE END.

BUT THIS PLACE IS
ANOTHER MATTER.
HEL HAS ALWAYS
SCARED THE HEL
OUT OF ME.

I'M
STARTING TO
REMEMBER WHY I
HAVEN'T MISSED
YOUR FAMILY,
BALDER!

BRP!
BRP!
BRP!

IF THESE
GOBLIN SCOUTS
CALL IN OUR POSITION,
THE QUEEN OF CINDERS
WILL DROP EVERY BOMB
SHE'S GOT
ON US!

YOUR BROTHER
KNOWS THAT EVEN
DEAD MEN CAN
BURN, RIGHT?



FOR ONCE, THIS LAND IS NOT MY ENEMY. NOT A PRISON I MUST FIGHT TO ESCAPE.

BIGGER ARSENAL!

AND THOR! THE MURDER DOG, TOO!

THE GOD OF THUNDER IS HERE TO SAVE HEL.

AND MAYBE RAISE A LITTLE, TOO.

WHOA. BIG MURDER.

WHAT THE...

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

WHILE YOU PEOPLE ARE SQUABBLING WITH HER FOOT SOLDIERS, SINDR IS OUT THERE RIGHT NOW CONSOLIDATING HER POWER OVER...

WAIT. HOLY TROLL GIZZARDS.

WHAT IS THIS, AN ODINSON REUNION?



"...LET US JUST HOPE IT IS GOING BADLY."

I LOOK AROUND ME TODAY, AND I SEE THE TRUE LEADERS OF THIS REALM.

THE LEGENDARY NIDHOGG, DRAGON MASTER OF NASTROND.

BRUN, LEADER OF THE SOUL-DEVOURING DISIR.

BLACKBONE OF THE DRAUGR.

GAR-ZOOM, LORD OF THE MURDERERS.

THE SPIDERS OF HEL.

LADY ALLMOUR OF THE PLEASURE LANDS.

YOU ARE THE TRIBAL CHIEFTAINS OF NIFFLEHEIM. IN TRUTH, IT'S YOU WHO RULE THE LAND OF THE DEAD. NOT KING BALDER.

OR AT LEAST... YOU USED TO. NOW...

...IT'S ME. THIS REALM BELONGS TO SINDR, QUEEN OF MUSPELHEIM.

JOIN ME AND SPARE YOURSELVES MUCH MISERY AND BURNING.

YOUR FIRST INSTINCT IS TO DEFY ME. I UNDERSTAND. I WOULDN'T RESPECT YOU OTHERWISE.

BUT LOOK AROUND YOU. MY FIRE GOBLIN ARMIES ALREADY OCCUPY THIS LAND, WHILE BALDER'S FORCES ARE ROUTED AND SCATTERED.

CHANGE IS HAPPENING, ALL ACROSS THE REALMS. YOU MUST EMBRACE THAT CHANGE, EVEN HERE IN HEL, OR ELSE BE GROUNDED UNDER ITS FIERY WHEELS.

AND AS THE STORIES TELL US, WHEN THOSE TWO PRIMORDIAL FORCES FIRST CAME TOGETHER IN THE YAWNING VOID, ALL LIFE AS WE KNOW IT WAS BORN FROM THE EXPLOSION.

WHAT DOES THAT TELL YOU?

SINCE BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, OUR TWO REALMS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AT ODDS. MUSPELHEIM IS WHERE FIRE WAS BORN, AND HERE IN NIFFLEHEIM IS WHERE THE FIRST ICE EMERGED.

WHEN OUR TWO REALMS COME TOGETHER... WE CAN MAKE HISTORY. WE CAN MAKE MIRACLES.

WHAT MIRACLES ARE THESE YOU SPEAK OF, QUEEN OF CINDER? I THINK YOU TALK OF CHANGE WHEN YOU REALLY MEAN WAR.

AND IN PLACE OF MIRACLES, ALL YOU WOULD MAKE HERE... IS SLAVES OF US ALL.

WHY? BECAUSE YOU FEAR US.

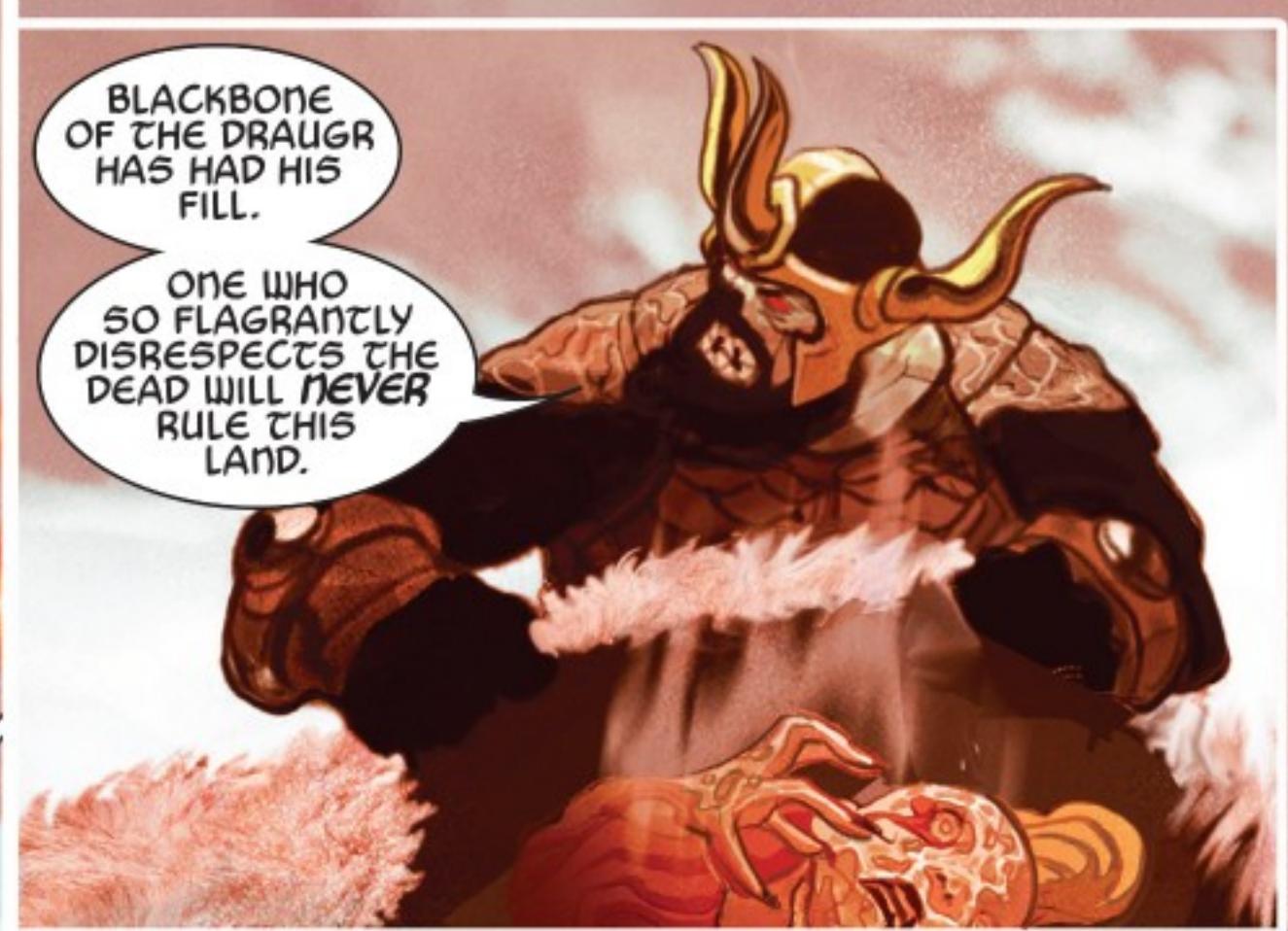
NIFFLEHEIM IS THE LARGEST REALM IN ALL EXISTENCE. AND BY FAR THE MOST HEAVILY POPULATED. BECAUSE EVERYONE WHO HAS EVER DIED RESIDES HERE ON THESE FROZEN SHORES.

AND WHEN THE DEAD ALL STAND TOGETHER... NO FORCE IN ALL THE REALMS CAN HOPE TO--

MIRACLES?



ARRGGHH!!!



YOU DON'T SPEAK FOR ME, DEADMAN.



GAR-TOOM
THE BLOODDRINKER
SPEAKS FOR ALL
MURDERERS
IN HEL.

KING BALDER
WOULD NEVER LET
US KILL. NEITHER
WOULD HELA
BEFORE HIM.

WILL
YOU?



IF YOU
FIGHT FOR
me, GAR-TOOM,
YOU HAVE MY
FLAME-BOUND
WORD...

...THERE
WILL INDEED
BE VERY MUCH
KILLING.



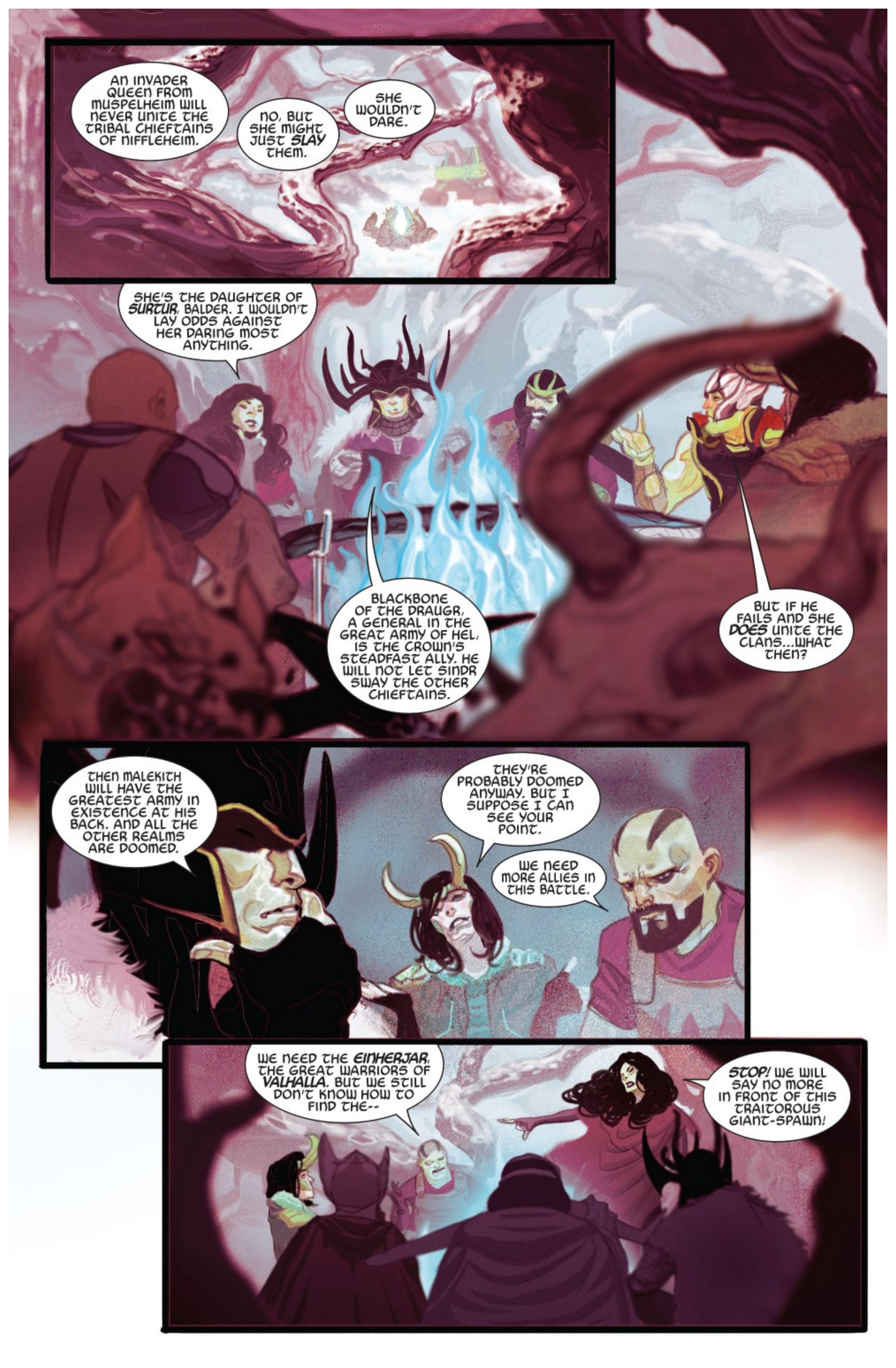
THEN
CONGRATULATIONS,
QUEEN SINDR. THE
GREATEST KILLERS
WHO'VE EVER DIED
ARE now yours to
COMMAND.

AND HOW
ABOUT THE
REST OF
YOU LOT?
READY TO
COME IN OUT
OF THE COLD?
HMM?

AH,
SPLENDID.



"SHE'LL NEVER BE
ABLE TO DO IT."



An INVADER QUEEN FROM MUSPELHEIM WILL NEVER UNITE THE TRIBAL CHIEFTAINS OF NIFFLEHEIM.

NO, BUT SHE MIGHT JUST SLAY THEM.

SHE WOULDN'T DARE.



SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF SURTUR, BALDER. I WOULDN'T LAY ODDS AGAINST HER DARING MOST ANYTHING.

BLACKBONE OF THE DRAUGR, A GENERAL IN THE GREAT ARMY OF HEL, IS THE CROWN'S STEADFAST ALLY. HE WILL NOT LET SINDR SWAY THE OTHER CHIEFTAINS.

BUT IF HE FAILS AND SHE DOES UNITE THE CLANS...WHAT THEN?



THEN MALEKITH WILL HAVE THE GREATEST ARMY IN EXISTENCE AT HIS BACK. AND ALL THE OTHER REALMS ARE DOOMED.

THEY'RE PROBABLY DOOMED ANYWAY. BUT I SUPPOSE I CAN SEE YOUR POINT.

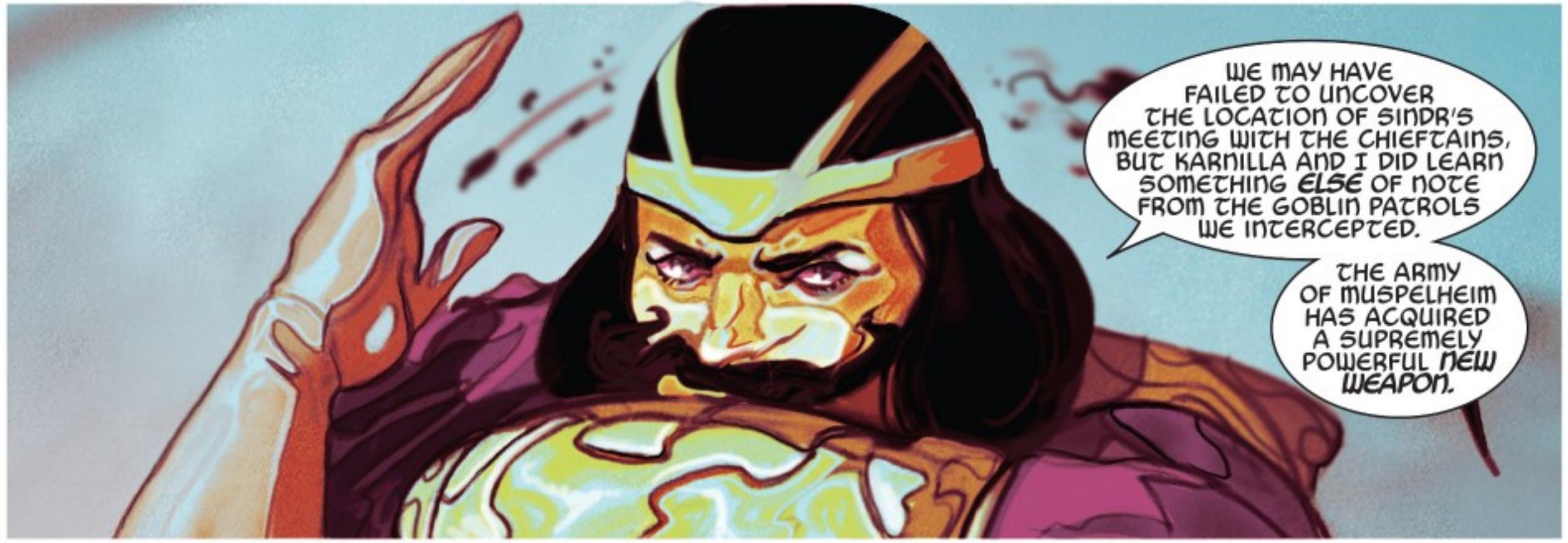
WE NEED MORE ALLIES IN THIS BATTLE.

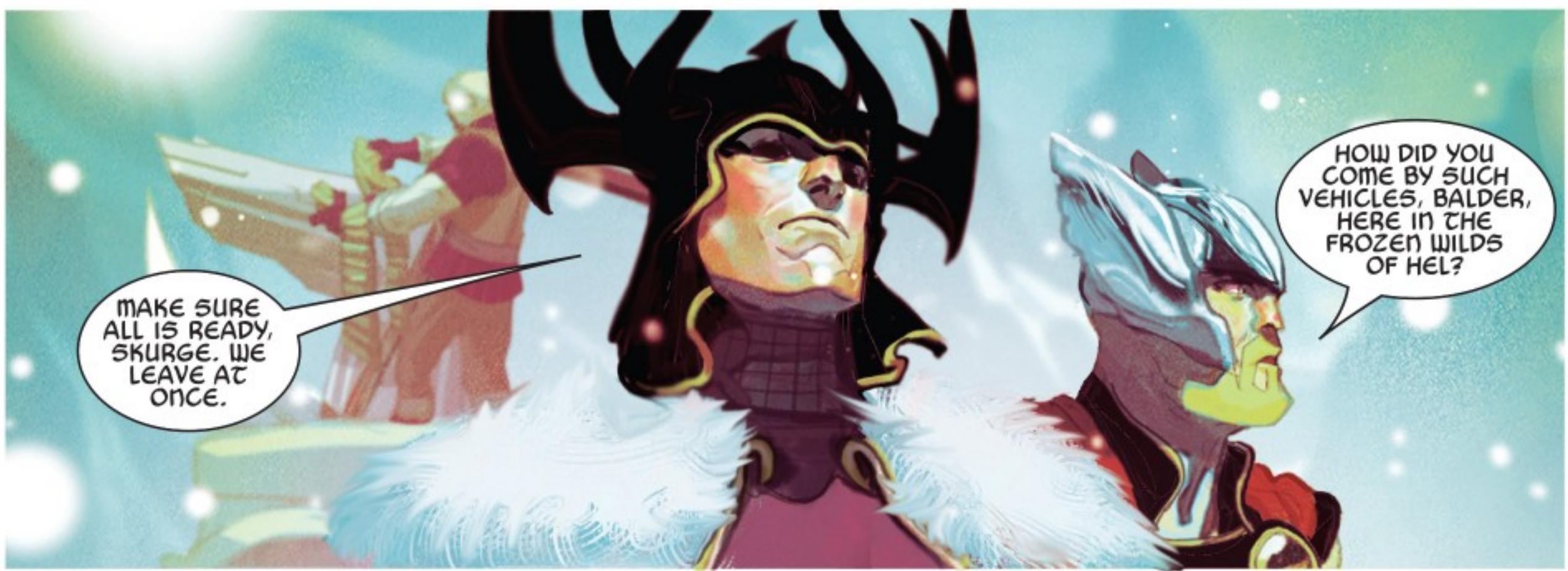


WE NEED THE EINHERJAR, THE GREAT WARRIORS OF VALHALLA. BUT WE STILL DON'T KNOW HOW TO FIND THE--

STOP! WE WILL SAY NO MORE IN FRONT OF THIS TRAITOROUS GIANT-SPAWN!







"ARE YOU SURE
THIS WILL
WORK, THOR?"

"IF BALDER AND KARNILLA CAN
KEEP THEM DISTRACTED, THEN
THE GOBLINS WON'T NOTICE
THE PLOY UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE."

PP
ENGINE,
ENGINE, NUMBER
NINE

PP
ON THE
HELWAY TRANSIT
LINE

"BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND
HOW JUST A HAMMER CAN
TAKE OUT A BRIDGE OF
THAT SIZE!"

"MY HAMMERS ARE QUITE
DIFFERENT THAN THEY ONCE
WERE. I NOW EMPLOY DIFFERENT
ONES FOR DIFFERENT JOBS.
THIS PARTICULAR MODEL..."

PP
IF MY
TRAIN GOES
OFF THE
TRACK

...I LIKE
TO CALL...
THE BOMB
HAMMER.

YOU MIGHT
WANT TO
COVER YOUR
EARS.

KRAA
KRAA
KRAA-oom



PICK IT UP!
PICK IT UP!
PICK IT UP!

AAAAAAABGGHHH

I'LL SEE
YOU IN HELL,
LOVER!

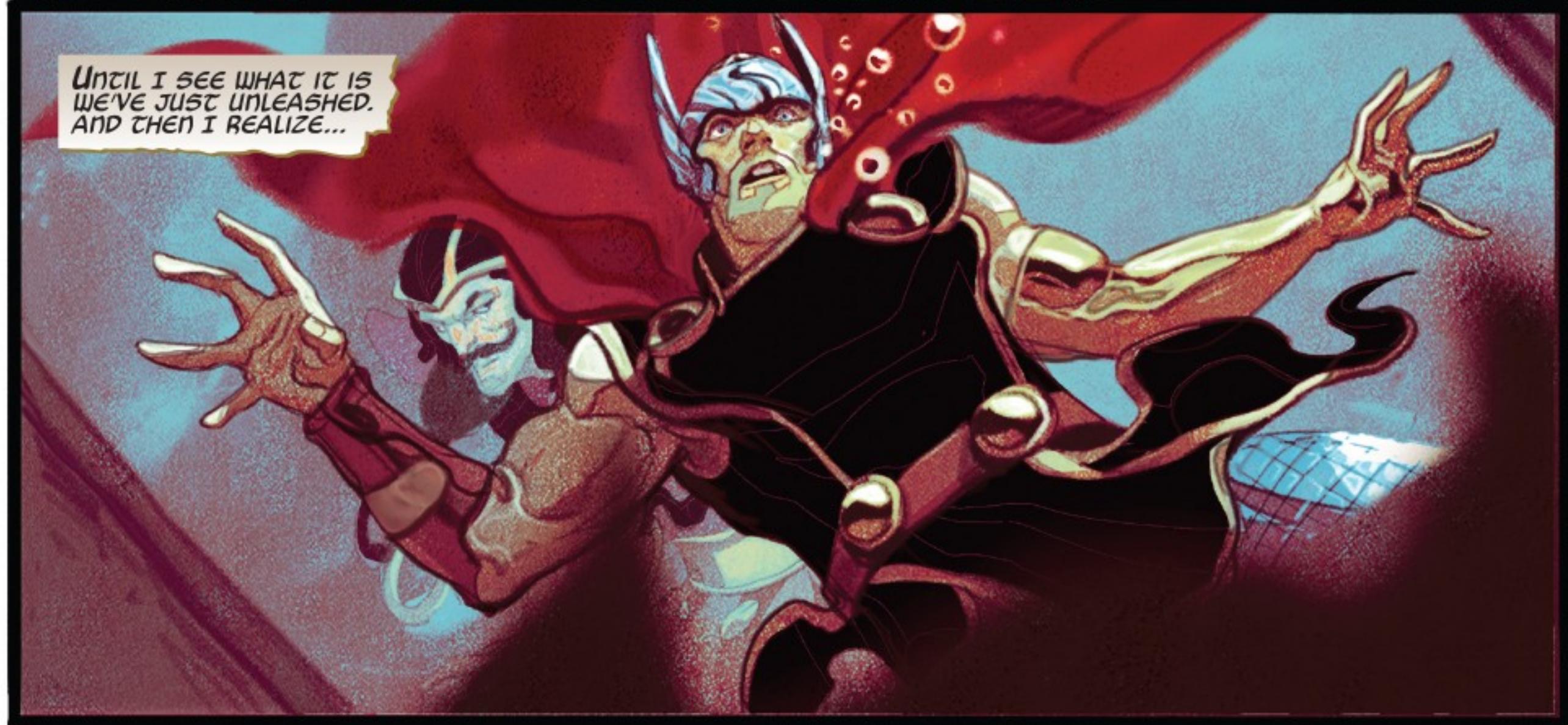
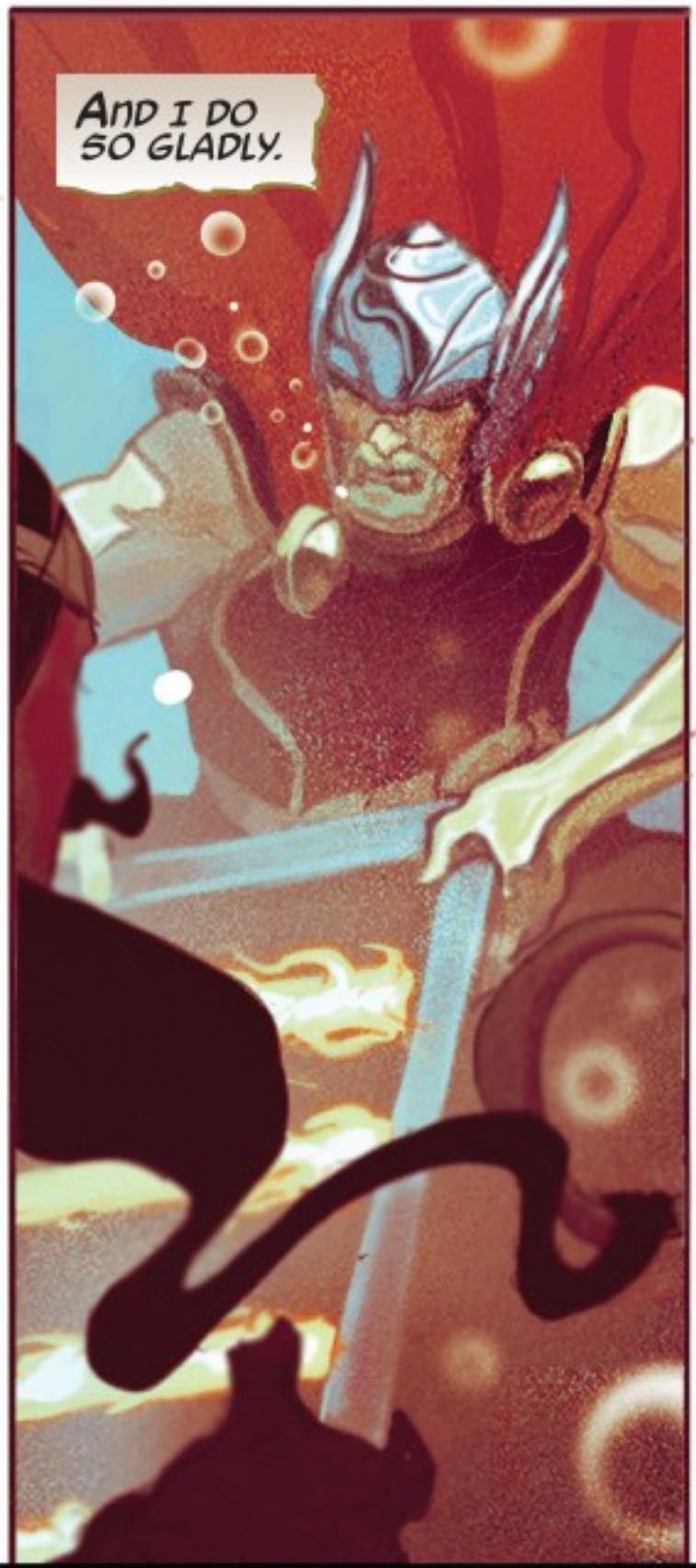
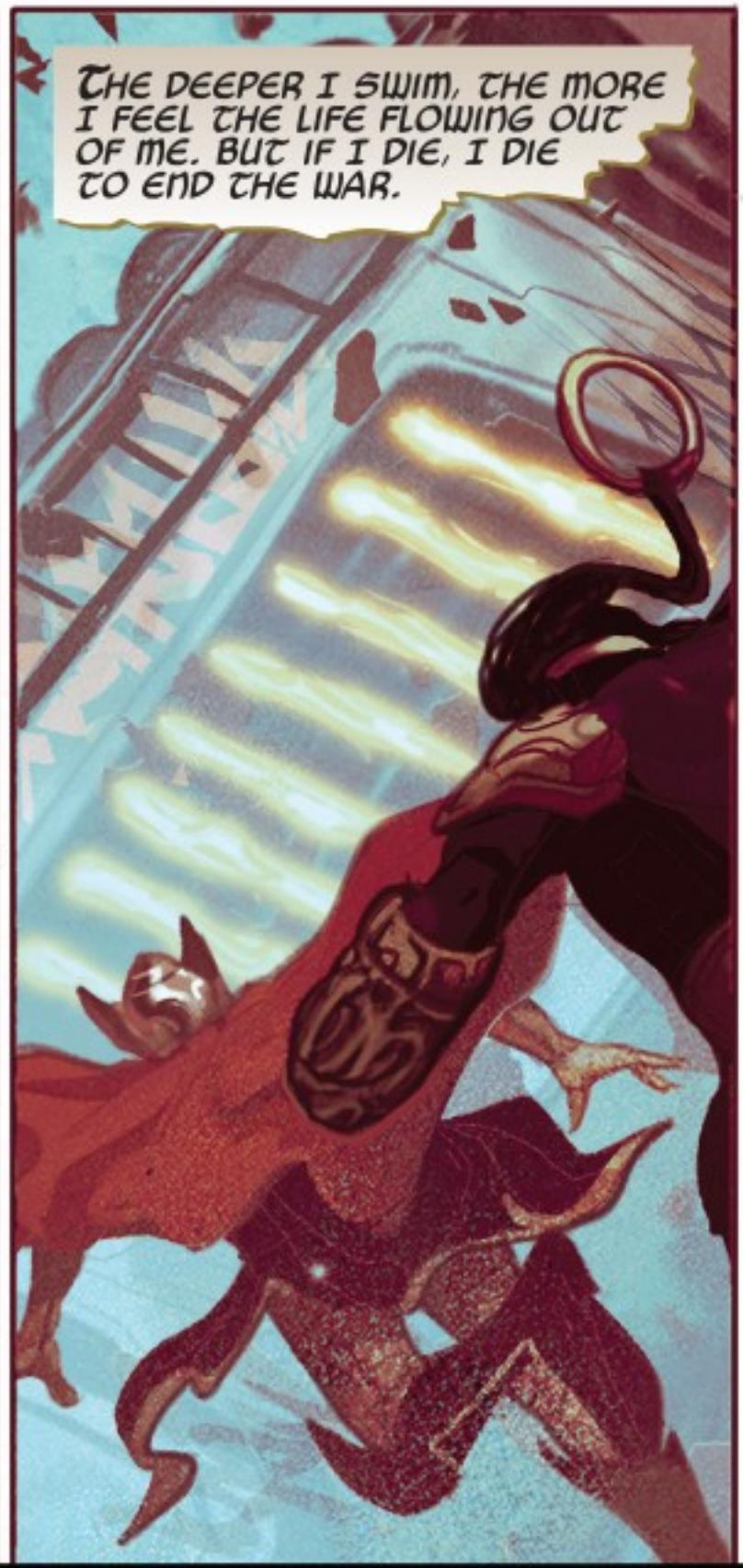
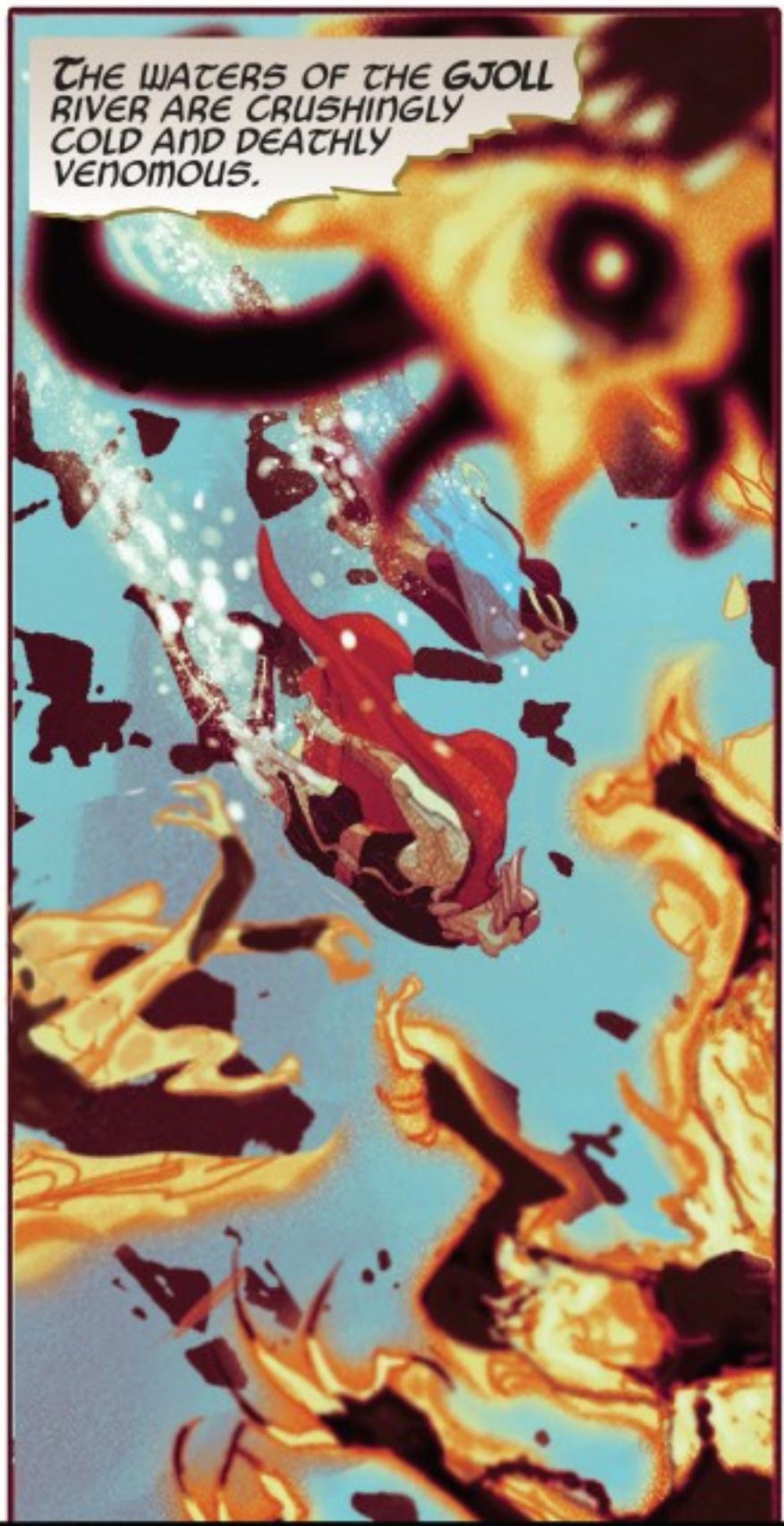
NOT IF
I SEE YOU
FIRST!

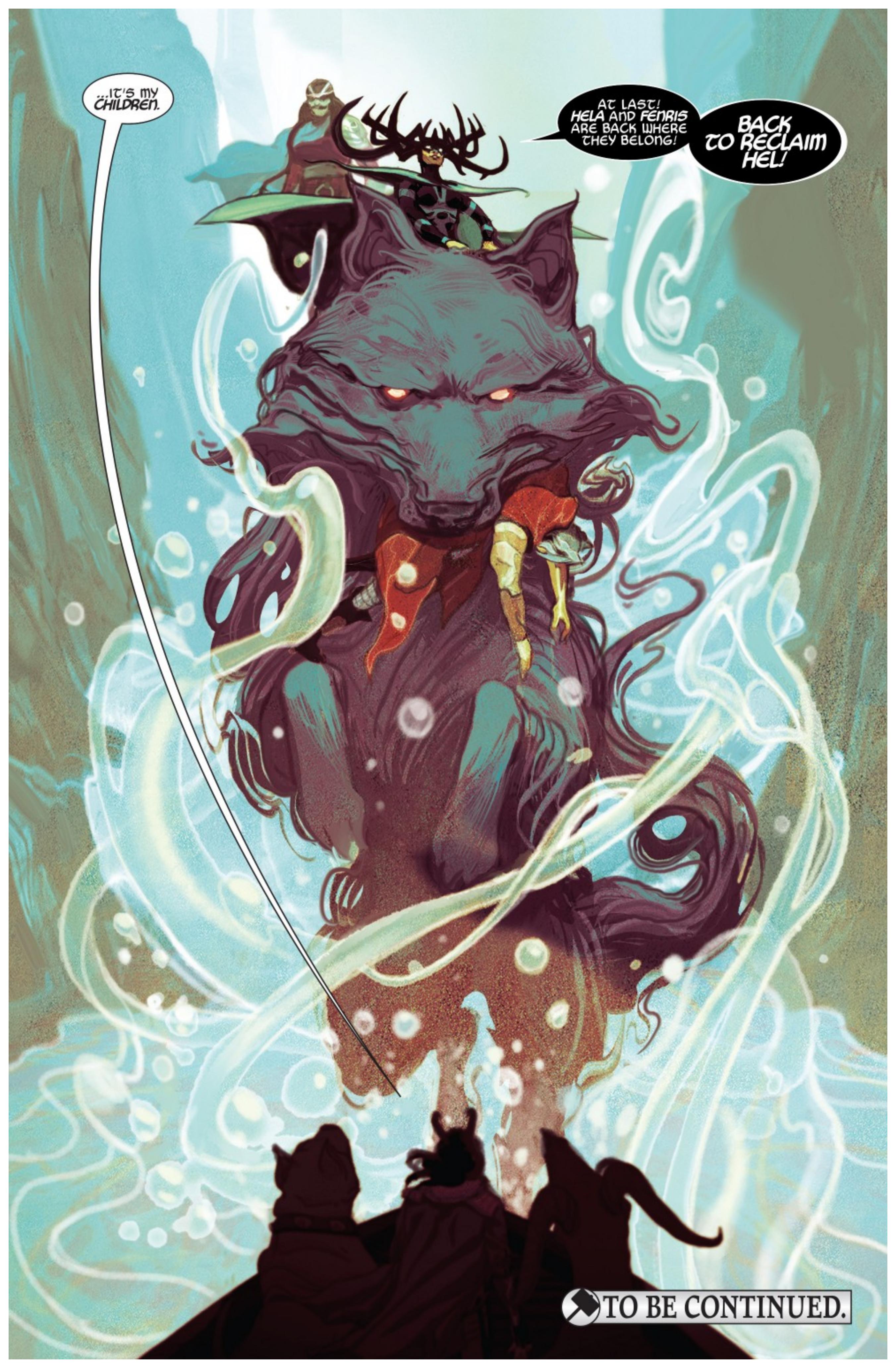
CRASH!

THE
WEAPON WAS
IN THE TRAIN'S
FIRE CAGE.

I SAW
IT.

CAGE? WHAT
SORT OF WEAPON
MUST BE KEPT
IN A CAGE?





...IT'S MY CHILDREN.

AT LAST!
HELA AND FENRIS
ARE BACK WHERE
THEY BELONG!

BACK
TO RECLAIM
HEL!

 TO BE CONTINUED.

NEXT:



EXCITED TO SEE THE ODINSON BACK IN THE SADDLE? TELL US ABOUT IT! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO MHEROES@MARVEL.COM AND DON'T FORGET TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!