

FOLK TALES



AVAHOMEZ

THE REALM WITHIN





COMIC
REPUBLIC

ANGOMA

THE REALM WITHIN



MR. IGHORODJE

OBENDE

ONUCHEYO

DEDICATION

To all our numerous friends, fans and families who have stayed and supported us all through the long years it took to get us here, we say thank you sincerely friend. May you live hale, hearty and long till the heavens rain stars and the seas boil.

*******WELCOME*******



AVONOME IS THE STORY OF HILDA AVONOMEMI MOSES, BORN IN 1937, IN THE REMOTE VILLAGE OF ETUNOR, A SETTLEMENT IN IGHARA, EDO STATE. SHE DISAPPEARS WITHOUT A TRACE ONLY TO REAPPEAR IN A CEMETERY IN RECENT TIMES, STILL UNCHANGED, WITH NO MEMORY OF WHO SHE WAS OR WHERE SHE HAD BEEN ALL THIS WHILE, EXCEPT A KNOWLEDGE OF HER NAME, A MYSTEROUS COMPANION AND AN UNBELIEVABLE GIFT - THE ABILITY TO SEE SPIRITS...

AVONOME CREATED BY STANLEY OBENDE

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I AM NOT YOUR SHIELD,
I CANNOT PROTECT YOU.
I AM NOT AN ANGEL,
I WAS NOT SENT BACK TO PRAY FOR YOU.
I AM NOT HIBISCUS OR ROSE,
THOSE THINGS ARE BEAUTIFUL...
I AM NOT.

I AM SWORD, DOUBLE EDGED;
I'LL KILL FOR YOU.
HALF SHADOW AND LIGHT;
I WALK THE THIN LINE FOR YOU.
I AM A CROWN OF THORNS;
A GOURD OF SCREAMING VOICES.

THE SPIRITS SAY I HAVE LIVED THROUGH
THREE LIVES;
DIED TWICE TO FINALLY LIVE ONCE - FREE.
THIS LIFETIME IS MY WALK TOWARDS
REDEMPTION.

-AVONOMEMI



THUNDER CRACKLES.

MY EARS, NUMB TO THEIR TUNE, BARELY EVEN REGISTER THE UNEARTHLY MELODY IN ITS SCREAMS.

THE WINDS HOWL AND EVEN THE HEAVENS WEEP FOR ME. IT IS A SAD NIGHT TONIGHT.

...A COLD SAD NIGHT.

I WISH THIS WAS THE STORY YOU CAME TO HEAR, ONE OF HEROES SHOWING GREAT VALOR, MEN AND WOMEN IN SPANDEX, SUPER POWERED VILLAINS AND STRANGE GODS DOING BATTLE AND GREAT DEEDS.

...SORRY.

THIS MAY DISAPPOINT YOU, FOR AS YOU HAVE ALREADY GUESSED BY NOW, HEROES DO NOT DIE IN THEIR STORIES.

BUT I LIE THERE ON THE COBBLED STREETS, IN MY BLOOD. UNABLE TO FEEL THE RAIN OR WINDS, MY HEART BEAT DRUMMING SLOWLY LIKE OMINOUS BELLS TOLLING.

AN ENCHANTED BLADE PINS ME IN PLACE TO THE EARTH, BLEEDING ME DRY.

I CANNOT HEAL MY WOUNDS. AND THEN, LIKE WE READ IN THE BOOKS...

LIGHTNING FLASHES...

AND WITH IT...

MY LIFE OF SEVERAL MOMENTS AGO DAZZLES BEFORE MY EYES, SLOWLY TAKING ME BACK TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN.

**TITLE:
LIFE BEFORE
DEATH**

ATOP ONE OF THE SEVERAL
ROOF TOPS OF CMS. IN THE
COMPANY OF AN ANGEL AND
MY BABYSITTING SHAPESHIFTER...

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,
CMS, LAGOS.
ABOUT 4 HOURS EARLIER.

COMIC REPUBLIC

#6

MIGHT OF GUARDIAN PRIME



MART
ONUCHEYO
DEEN

COMING SOON..



I HAVE FOLLOWED
THE FAINT TRACES OF SPIRIT
PARTICLES LEFT BY THE
CREATURE. THIS---

KRAAAANAK!!!

IT'S KARNAK!
CALM DOWN HISNABEK.

I WILL OPEN A
'WAY GATE' READY YOURSELF
AVONOME. WE SHALL PASS
THROUGH THE IMMATERIAL
REALM.

I CLOSE MY EYES AND RELY ON MY
ONLY TALENT AND THE GIFTS IT BRINGS.

THE ABILITY TO SEE SPIRITS AND WALK
THROUGH SPACES WHERE THEY DWELL.

HARNESSING THE SPIRIT GIFT IS NEVER
EASY. TO DO THIS, I MUST SUMMON THE
FORCES, SHADOW AND LIGHT AND MAKE
A CHOICE.

FOCUS...
FOCUS... THIS IS
EASY...
FOCUS.

EVERYTIME, IT IS A BATTLE BETWEEN
POSSESSION AND FREEWILL, LIGHT
AND DARKNESS... GOOD AND EVIL.



TRAVELLING BY THE SPIRIT PLANE
ALWAYS FASCINATES ME! FOR A
MOMENT I CAN BE IN CMS.

SPEND A SPLIT SECOND STARING
AT THE REALM IN BETWEEN...

REMEMBER...
LEAVE NO TRACE
OF YOUR PASSAGE
OR---

"...SOME
'SHADES' ARE SURE
TO FOLLOW YOU BACK".
SERIOUSLY, THIS IS
NOT MY FIRST TIME!"

AND THEN THE NEXT I CAN BE
STANDING SOMEWHERE ELSE...

MILES APART.

YABA.

NOW, YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT IN THIS REALM I CANNOT DIRECTLY AFFECT THE HAPPENINGS OR CHANGE ANYTHING. ANGELS ARE NOT DIVINE AS YOUR BOOKS SAY.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU CAN'T HELP ME HERE. THIS IS NOT MY FIRST TIME ON 'THE JOB'... BESIDES, I'VE GOT HISNABEK.

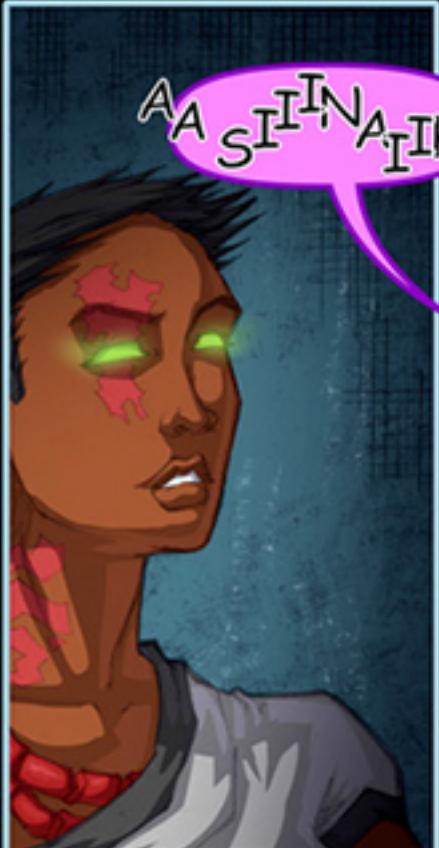
GULURT
WHUUP??
WHEREEE??

YOU ARE
SUPPOSED TO
BE MY BABY-
SITTER.

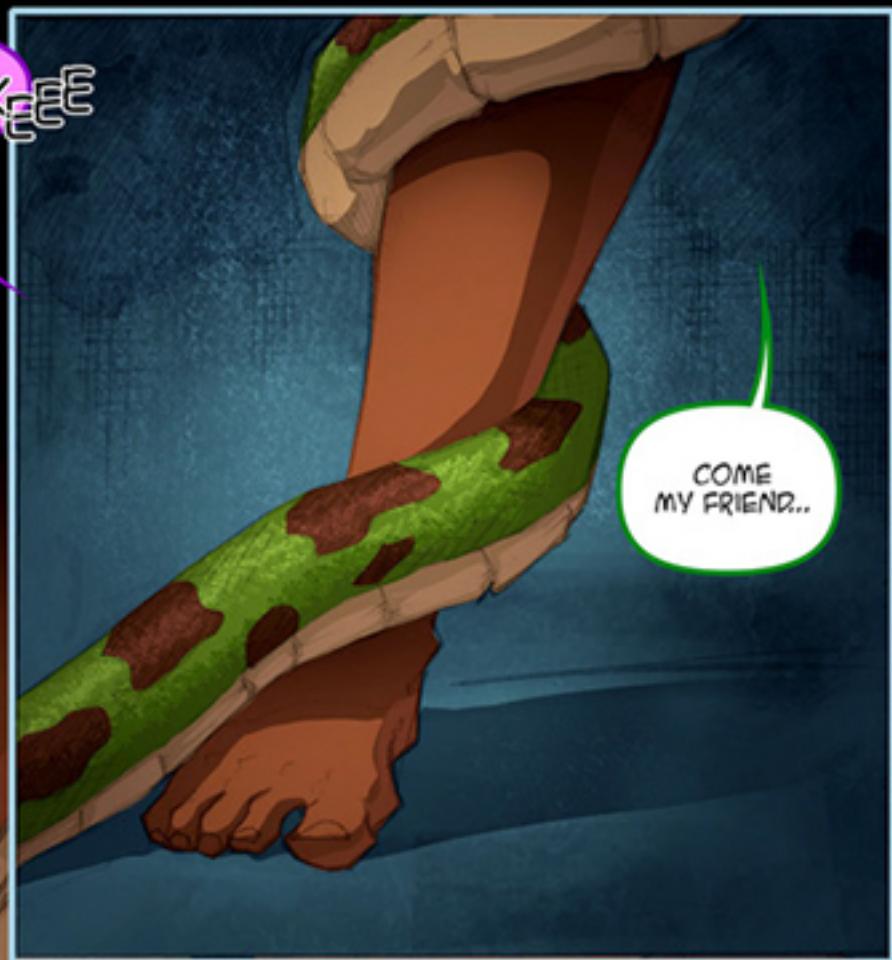
REMIND ME
WHY AND FOR
WHOM WE WAIT
FOR AGAIN?

WE ARE AT A MAJOR JUNCTION. SPIRITS USUALLY CONGREGATE HERE... WE AWAIT MY INFORMANT.

DASSS A LIEEEE.
WEE AWAIT
ANOOZIIE...
WE AWAIT...

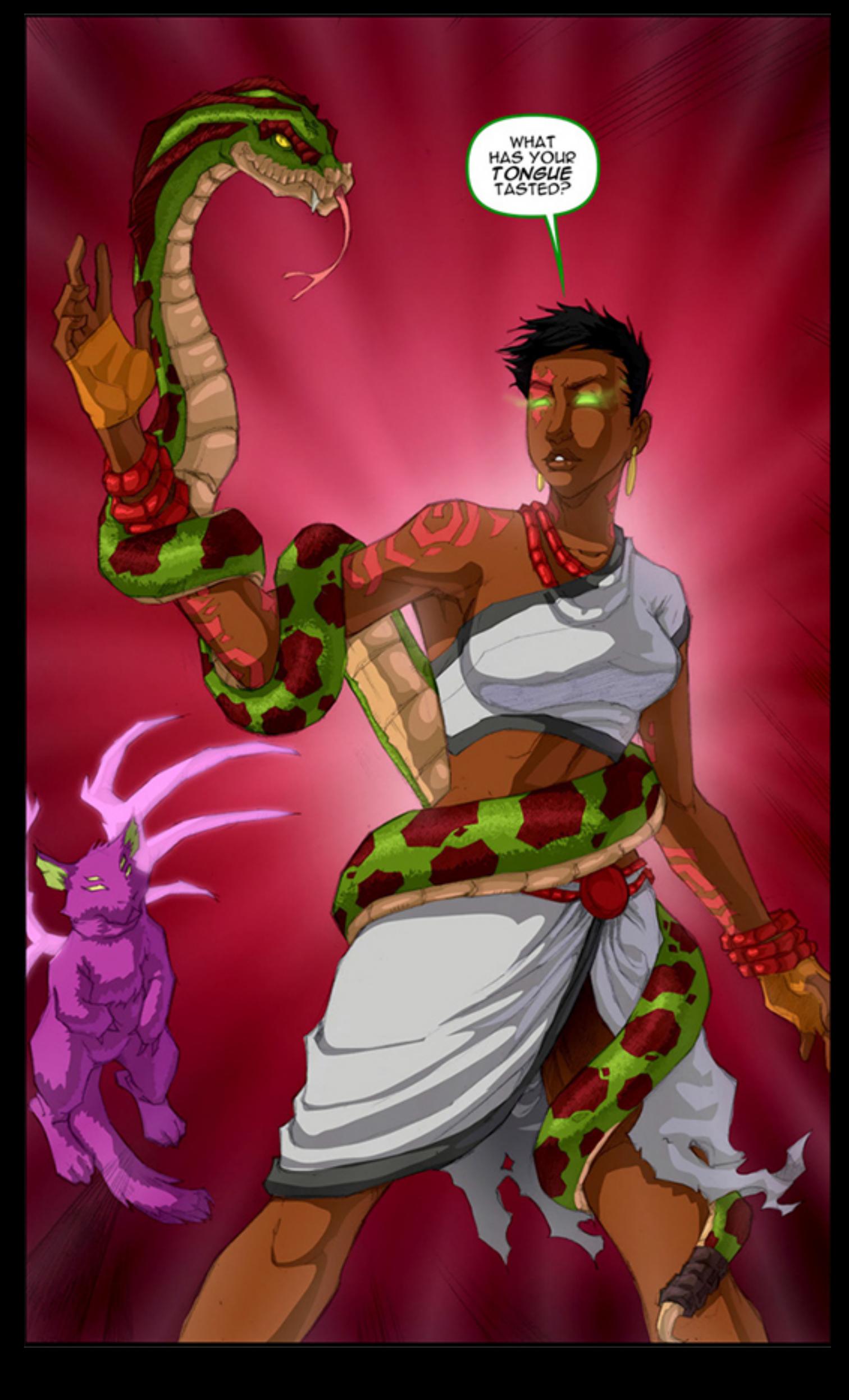


AA SIIINAIKEEE

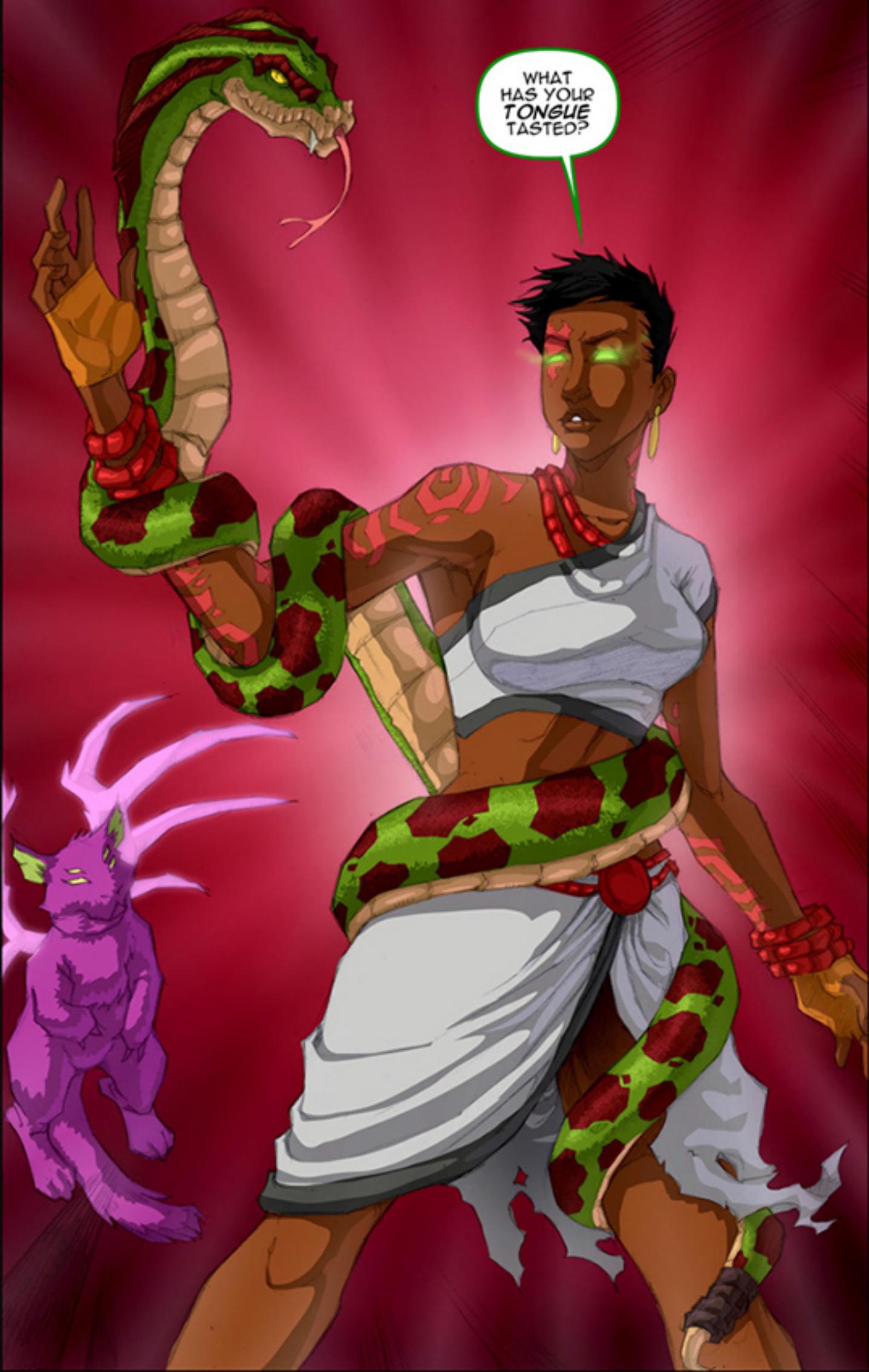


TELL ME OF
THE PATHS YOU
HAVE SLITHERED
THROUGH.

SPEAK...
WHAT HAVE YOUR
EYES SEEN?



WHAT
HAS YOUR
TONGUE
TASTED?



SPIRITWALK

"Ciao. Yene. Nyarodu. Nyoruvah."

The words above mean Hello, good morning, good afternoon and good evening in the language of my people (don't you dare ask me where I'm from...bleeah)!

I am really teary eyed here *sniff sniff*. Thank you for reading the very official first issue of a comic that has been 8 years in coming. For those of you who have waited longer than you deserve to see this, fear not, your wait was never in vain. E Kpa te wo fun won! (Yoruba for "clap for them") Lol!

Clears throat When I first formed the concept of this comic book, I was just out of senior secondary school (high school), getting whooped endlessly by my dad for drawing what my dad would call rubbish on stained pages of unused school books - but I felt somehow, this was what I was meant to do with my life, my higher purpose on earth... blablabla *place inspiring quote here*. Try as much as I could, I felt what I had was not just 'kickass' enough for where I wanted to take this dream to, then began my sojourn of finding the best people who could bring my vision of this project alive and that is where Xavier (Mr.) came in.

Xavier's unique creating ability actually made Avonome more electrifying, lol, bone washing sha (forget the flattery), you can testify to it (if you can't you will soon). He enlarged the scope and took Avonome to a whole new level, but that was the easy part, then came the hard work. We needed to get this project out to you in a way that ensured we kept the quality and tone maintained while our engine at MudHouseBlack remained properly oiled, episodes coming out as at when due and we the creative team won't go entirely hungry - entirely being the key word here. After much prayers we got a surprise visit from none other than the folks of COMIC REPUBLIC with a decent offer from the foremost comic distribution platform (whoop-whoop) in the country (Nigeria) and after days of prayers, fasting, endless meetings we were finally acquired.

This piece of comic book you have in your hands (or more appropriately 'you have your eyes upon) is the outcome of several sleepless nights, a lot of discarded art and scripts, 132 pencils (hell yeah I counted), fights, arguments and silent treatments + the good souls of COMIC REPUBLIC all in a mission to give you characters you truly care and love in a world that would be most memorable to visit!

You have no idea what is in store for you and frankly, we are still unsure of where this journey would lead us all to. But suspend your worries friend and traveller, for a while, and join us on this amazing adventure that is AVONOME!

Special thanks to my friend, brother, father, mentor and teacher Mr. Ibrahim Ganiyu (Sirgai) for everything, more than words could ever reveal. Sincerely appreciate everything."

- Stanley Obende.

PS: Please don't forget to send us your fan arts, queries, prayers, offerings, libations or okin soap to our mailing address; avonome.sw@gmail.com and also on our facebook page  www.facebook.com/avonomemini. Best art and first fan mail gets published with a free customized SPIRITWALK tee-shirt. Contents of mails marked PRIVATE will not be disclosed to the public.

POST CREDIT SCENE IN NEXT PAGE.

Advert

NOW...

REMOTE HIDDEN VILLAGE OF ORIKIRI...

THERE ARE HORRORS IN THIS WORLD OF MEN, ONE OUR HISTORY BOOKS DO NOT DARE CHRONICLE FOR, WORDS ALONE CANNOT DO THEM JUSTICE.

THESE ARE TALES MORE FRIGHTENING THAN THE ONES ADULTS USE TO BRING TERROR TO CHILDREN WHEN THEY ERR. TALES THAT MAKE ADULTS BLOOD CURDLE AND MARROW RUN DRY...

BONE DRY.

FOR HOW DOES ONE TELL THE TALE OF A CHILD TAKEN BARELY AT HER TENTH NAMING YEAR BY THE BONE AND CURSED IN THOSE EARLY DAYS WHEN ORACLES SAID THE GODS STILL MILKED SILVER FROM THE STARS.

CURSED AND THEN INITIATED INTO THE MYSTERIOUS GUILD, THE BURDEN BEARERS, THE KIRIJI, DOOMED TO BEAR THE BURDEN OF THE OKIKI BOOK OF SHADES.

BE AFRAID...

ABIKU IS COMING.

NAME: ABIKU

SYMBOL MEANING: Ø THE VOID
GROUP AFFILIATION: THE KIRIJI
ROLE: DEBT COLLECTOR
CURSE: IKUKU BOOK OF BONES

**TO BE
CONTINUED...**

OLD ARTS

Here are some old artworks done during the build-up of this book.



AVONOFANS

Thanks so much to the many supporters who have been before this book.
And also to those who did their fan arts. Lovely pieces!



**ETUBI
ONUCHEYO**



**TOYIN
AJETUNMOBI**



2014/01/03 07:12PM

**NEWMAN CHIKE
NWANKWO**



**OLUMIDE
WARYWATCHER**



Avenome

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BALOGUN

NEXT ON AVONOME

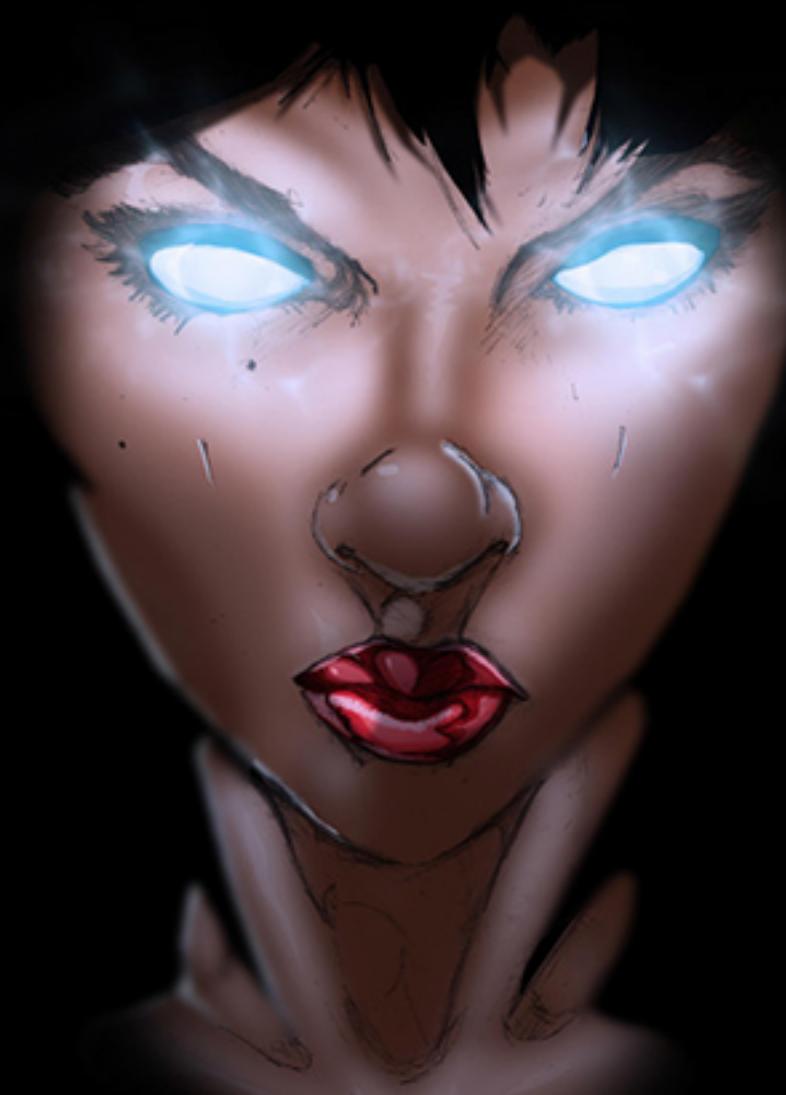


F O L K T A L E S



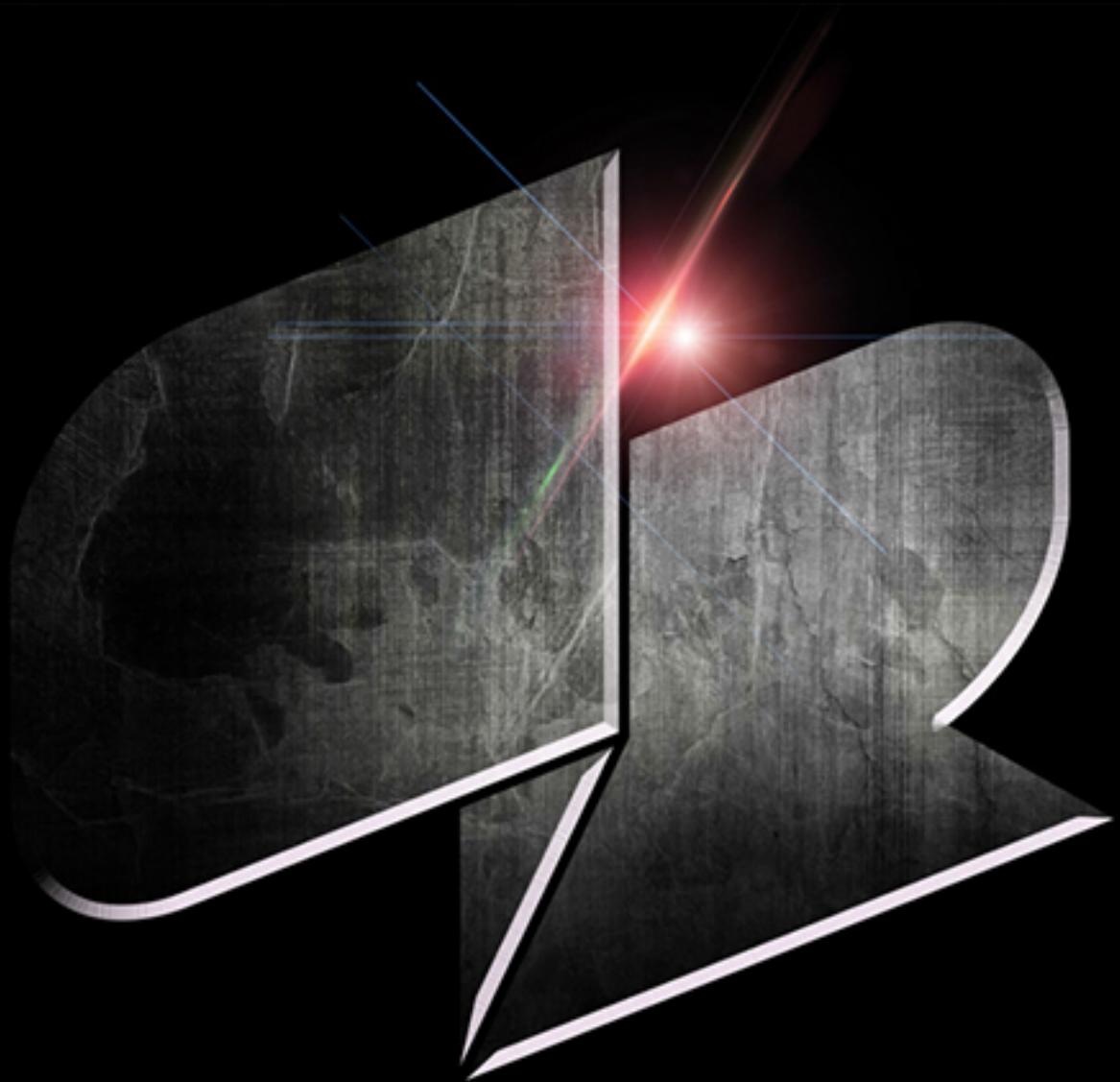
COMIC REPUBLIC

#1



MARTIN . EZEOGU . AW

COMING SOON..



**COMIC
REPUBLIC**™