PREMIERE ISSUE
ARTIFICIAL INK™
MAGAZINE
SPRING 2023
BOOK PREVIEWS
CREATIVITY
YOUR MOST
IMPORTANT
SUPERPOWER
NEO
TELFORD
COULSON
MARTINEZ
OSMETT
GOODWIN
NEAL
BETAN
REISEN/DENNEN
KIEN
KASHTANOVA
ENGLISH
LANE
CREATE A STYLE
FROM SCRATCH USING
STABLE DIFFUSION
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW
CHATGPT
AND SO MUCH MORE...

Publisher AIComicbooks.com Walter Fuego
Editor Moar
COVER TARL T.

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Special Thank you and recognition to the Artists and Writers featured in this magazine including:

- Neo
- Martinez
- Coulson
- Osmett
- English
- Graham
- Goodwin
- Neal
- Reisen/Dennen
- Ivoryheart
- Tim
- Lane
- Telford
- Rodriguez
- Kien
- Indowsky
- Strider-Team
- Betan
- Nixon

"AND WHAT USE IS A BOOK,"
THOUGHT ALICE, "WITHOUT PICTURES OR CONVERSATIONS?"
ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Welcome to the premiere issue of Artificial Ink. This magazine's dedicated to writers and artists that utilize text-to-image technology to visualize their stories. Whether those stories are Comic Books, Graphic Novels, Manga, Graphic Tales, Children's books or Poetry.

The site is free for both readers and creators.

All books in Artificial Ink are available to download at no charge on AIComicBooks.com

We hope you enjoy and support the creators blazing this new trail.

AIComicBooks.com

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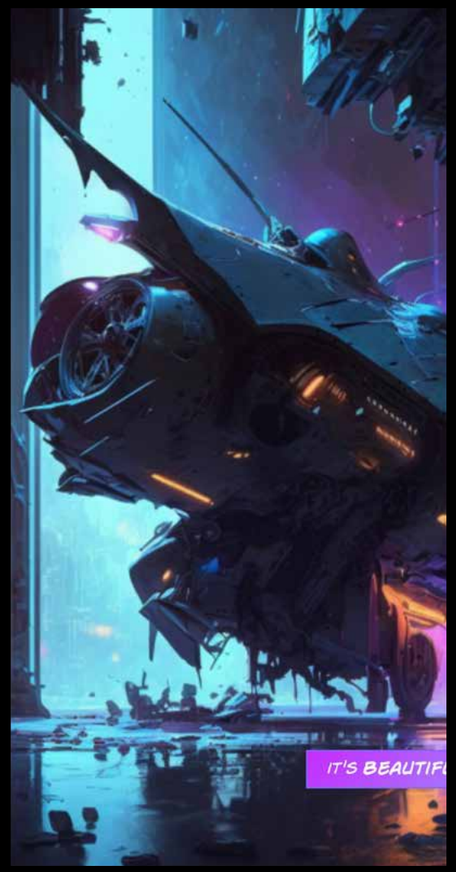
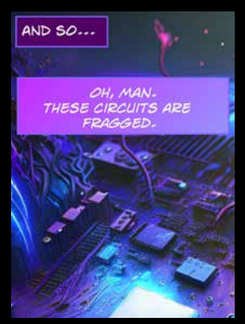




James

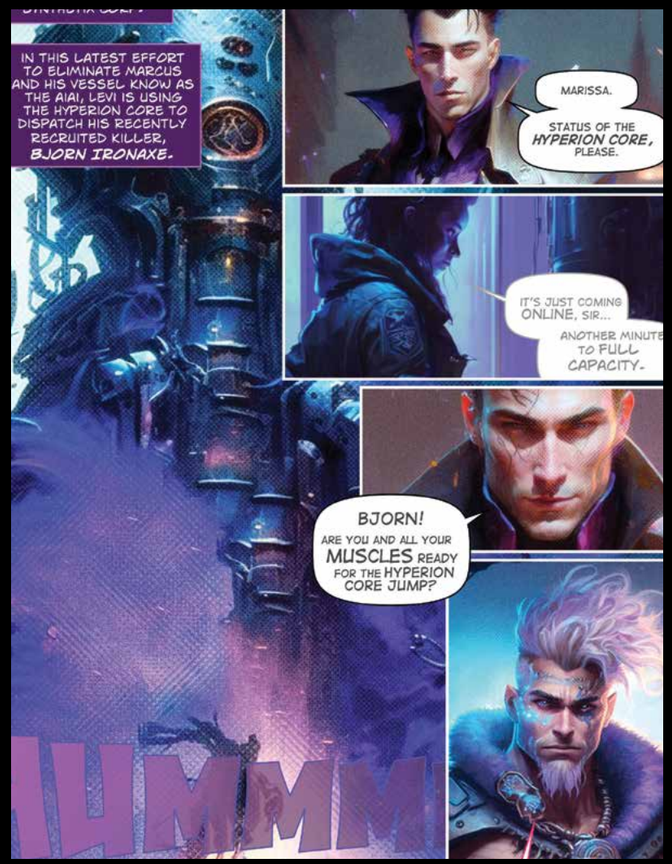
Goodwin

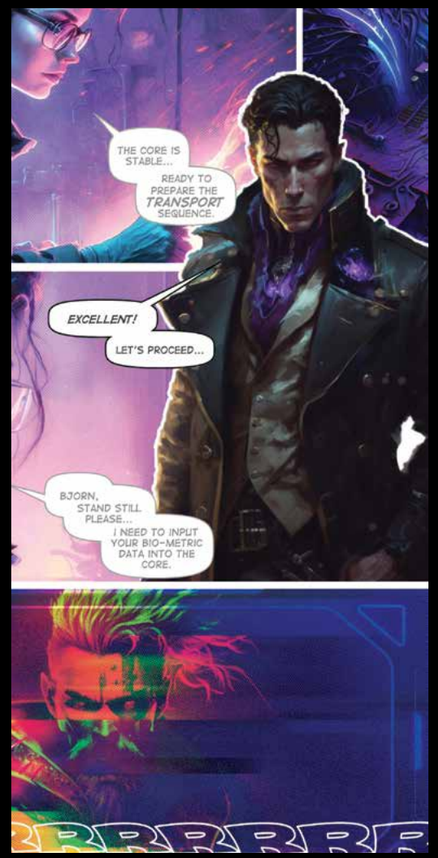
Sci Fi

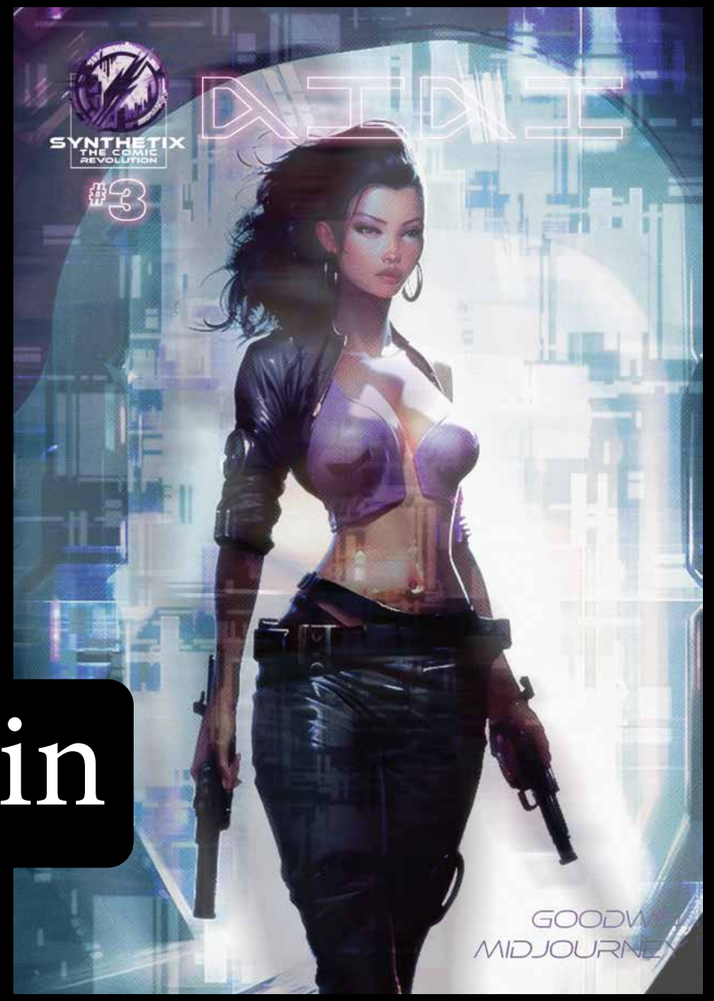
James

Goodwin

Sci Fi







James

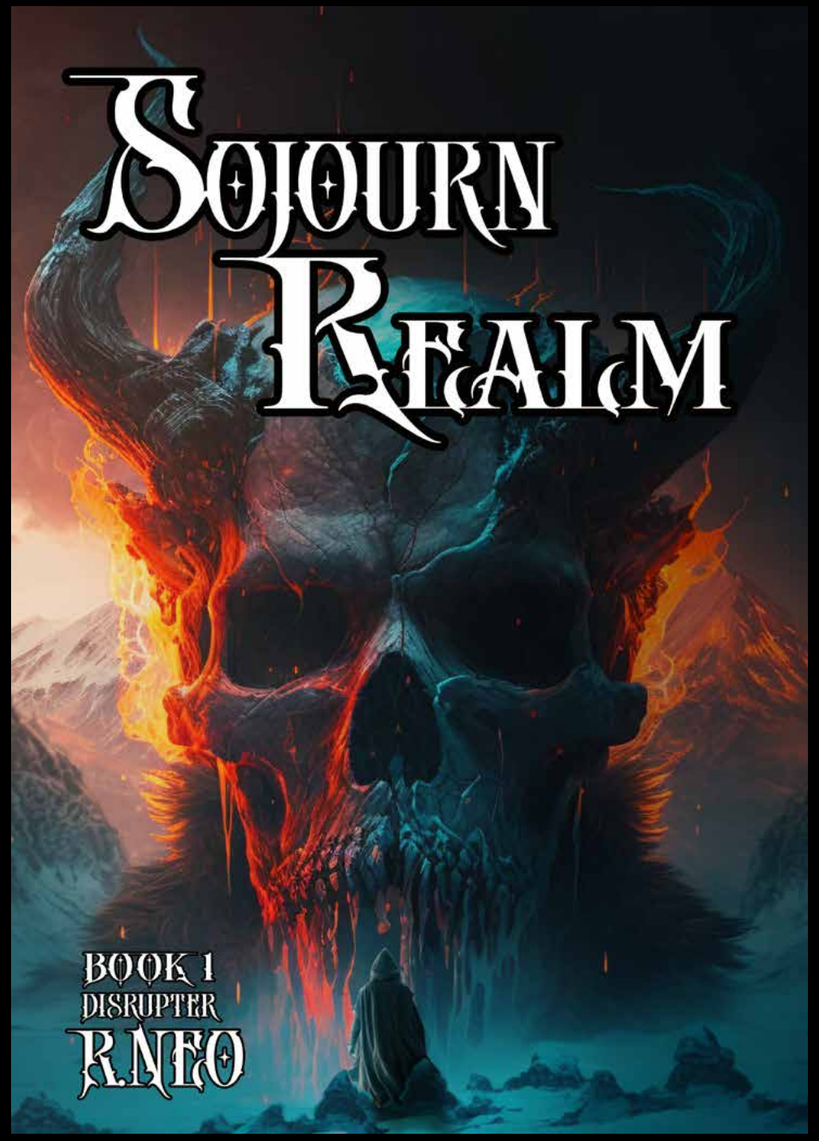
Goodwin

Sci Fi

R.

NEO

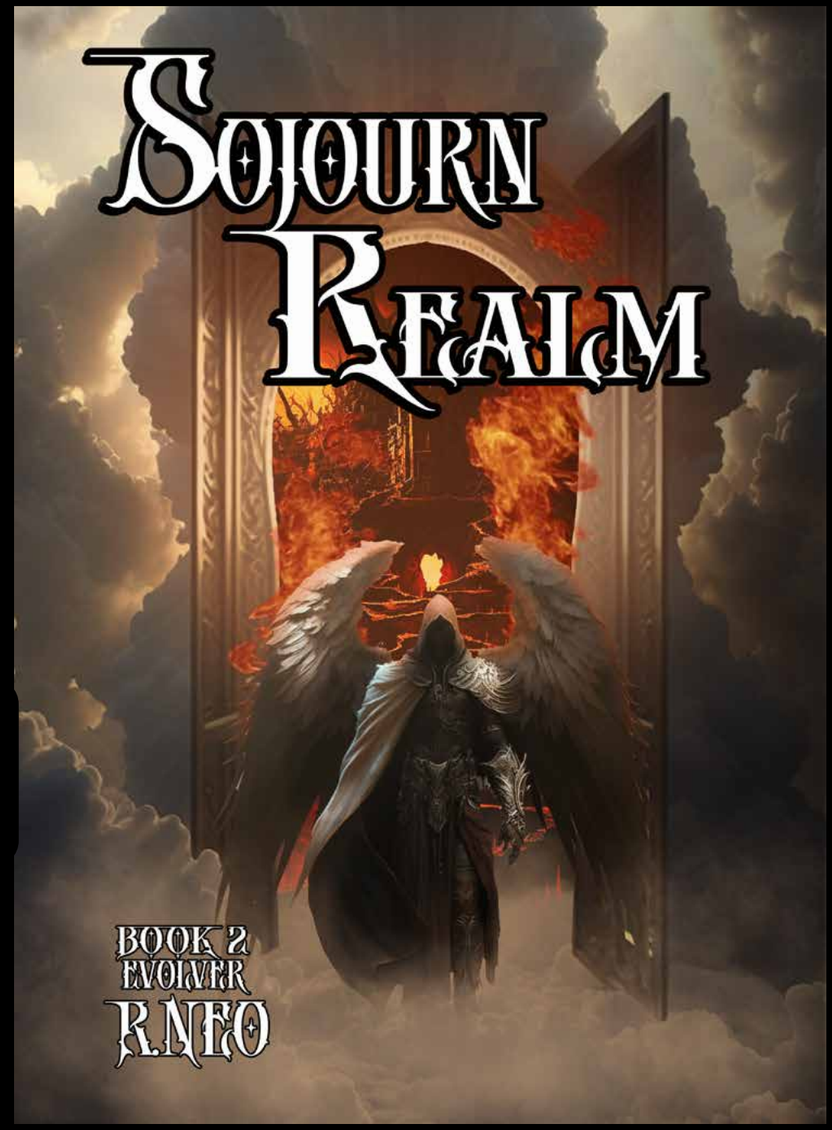
Supernatural
Romance



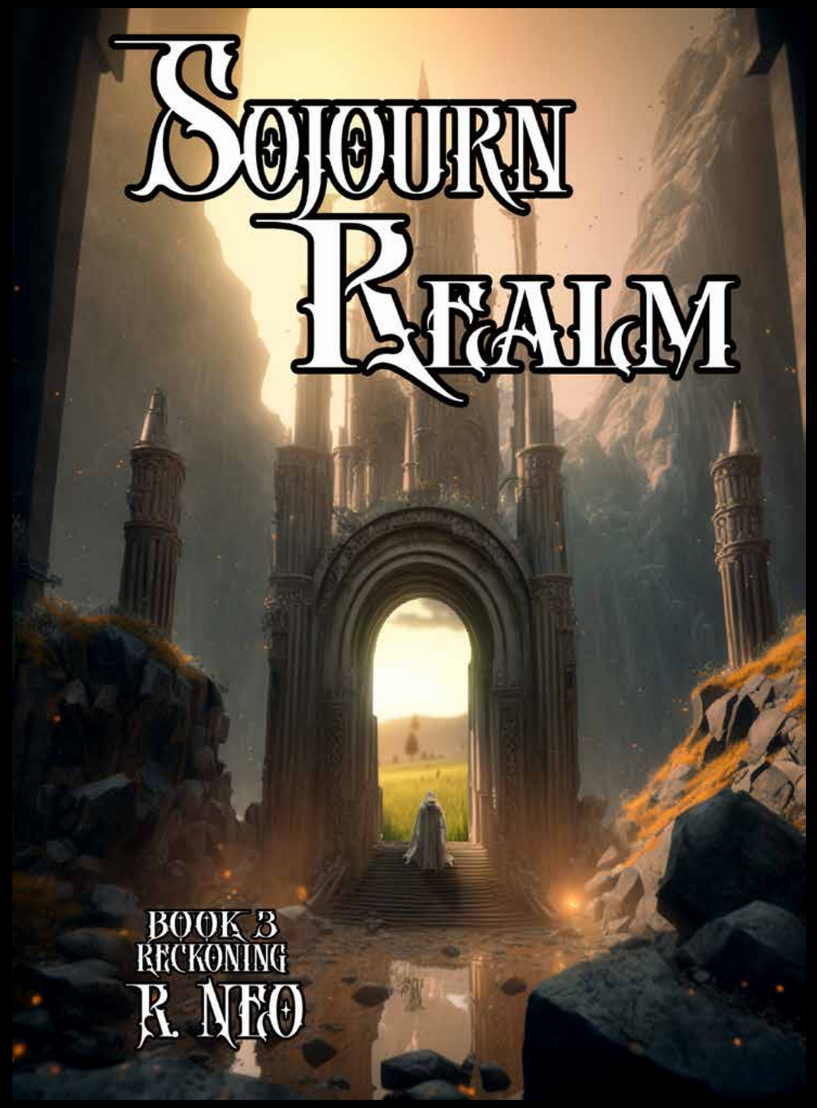
R.

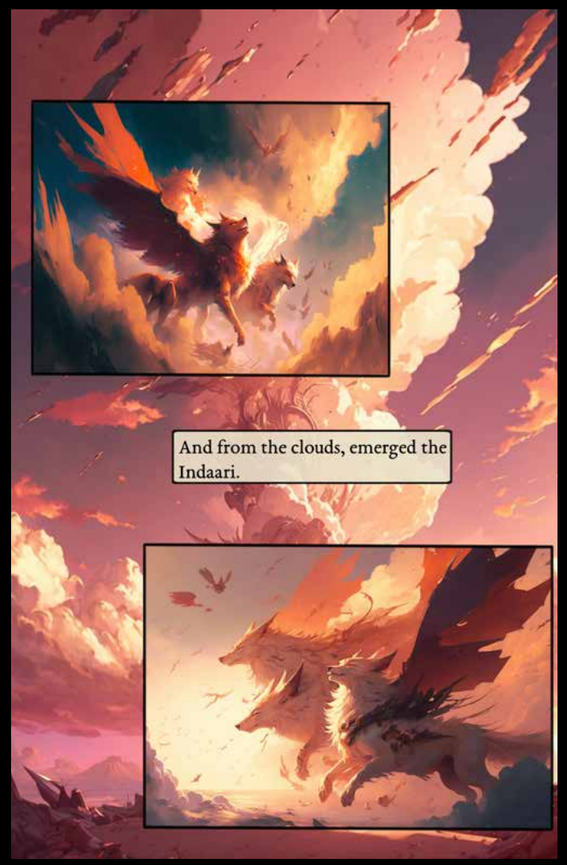
NEO

Supernatural Romance



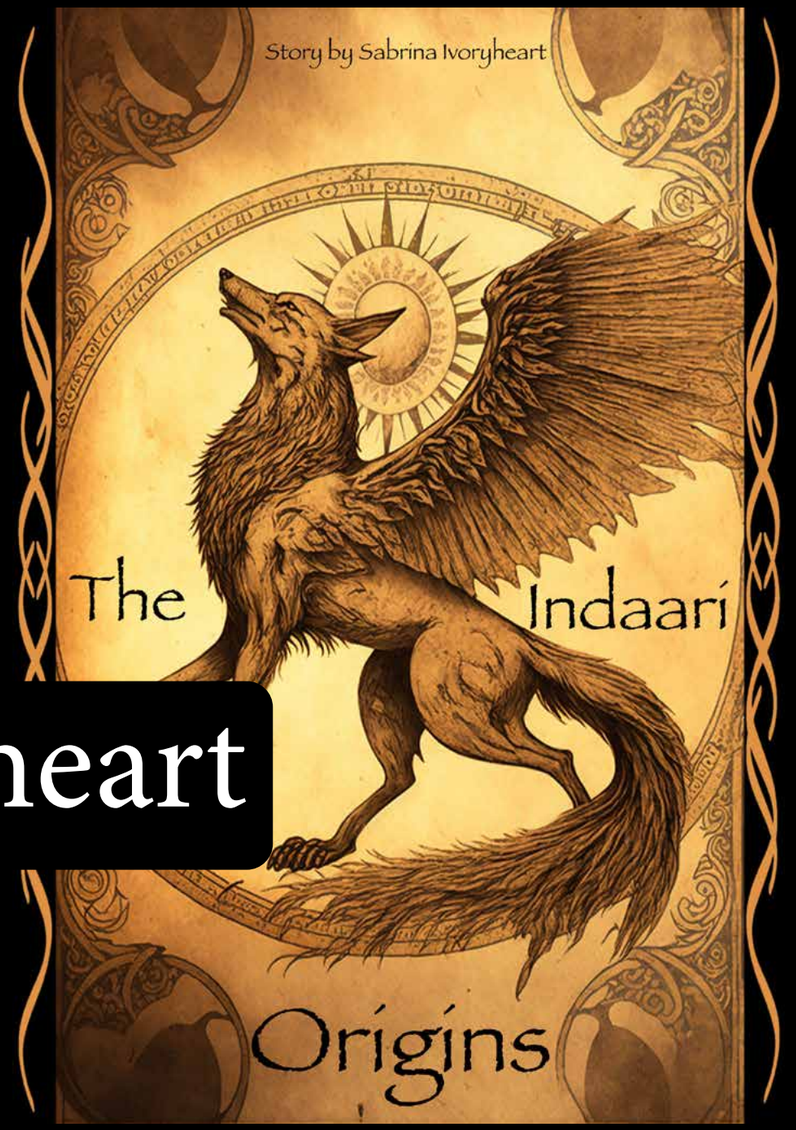
R.
NEO
Dark
Fantasy





Sabrina Ivoryheart

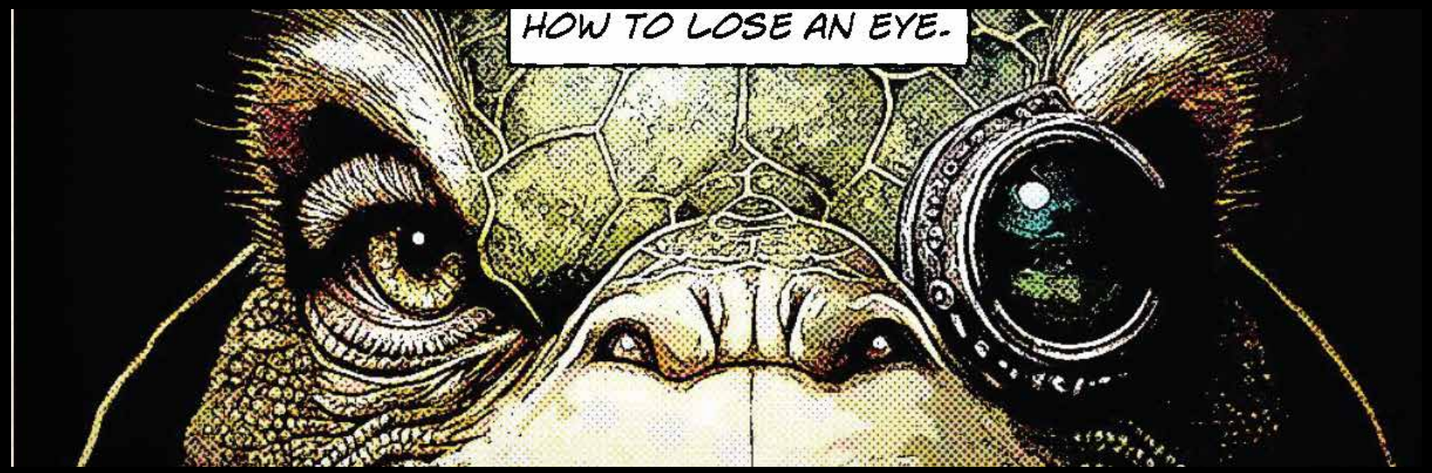
Fantasy

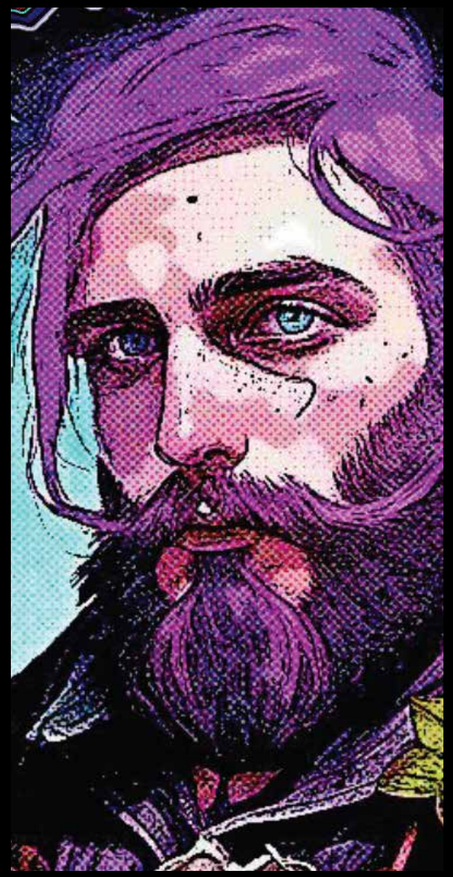


R.

NEO

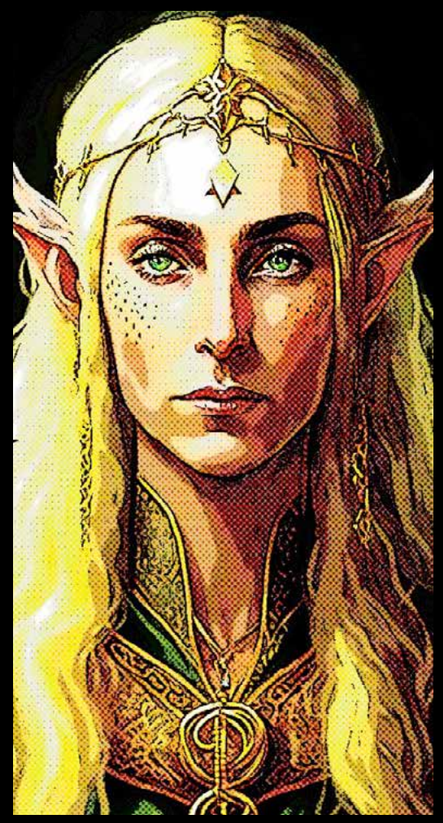
Sci Fi Horror

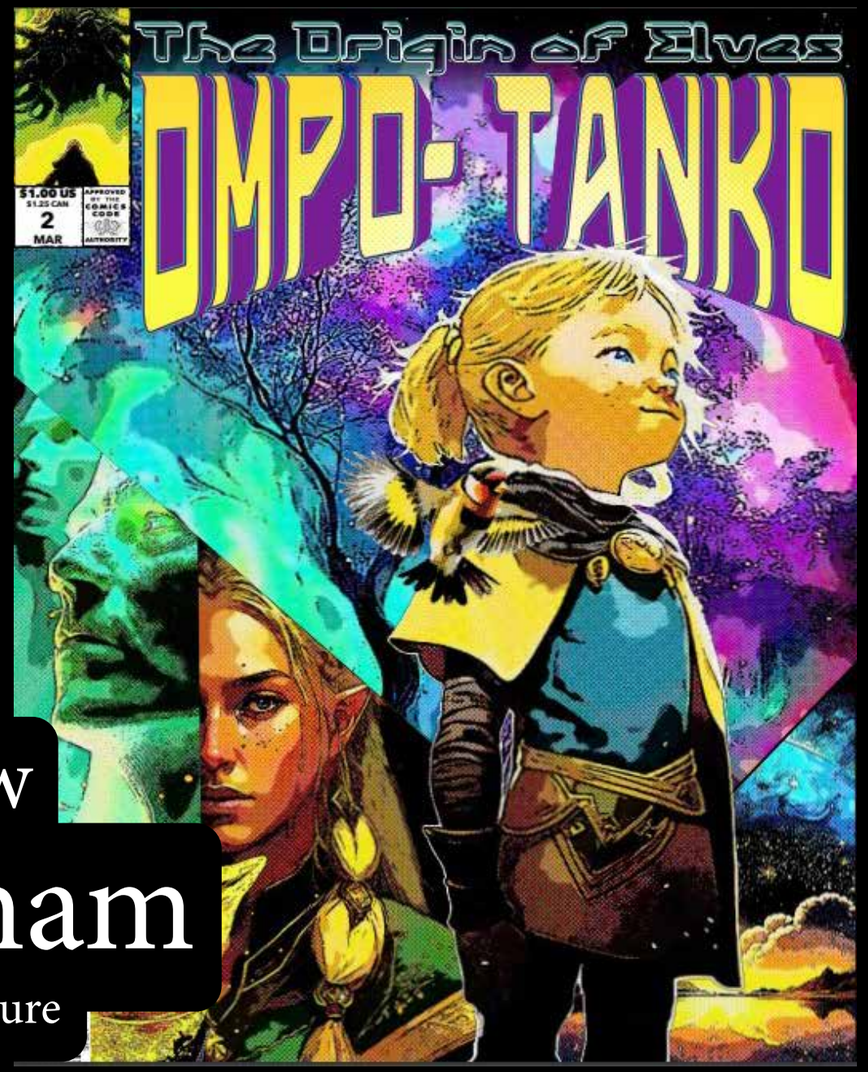




Andrew Graham

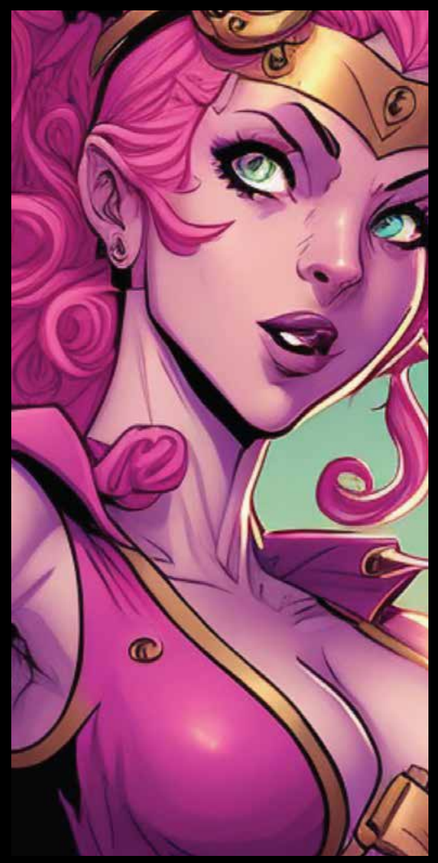
DND ADVENTURE





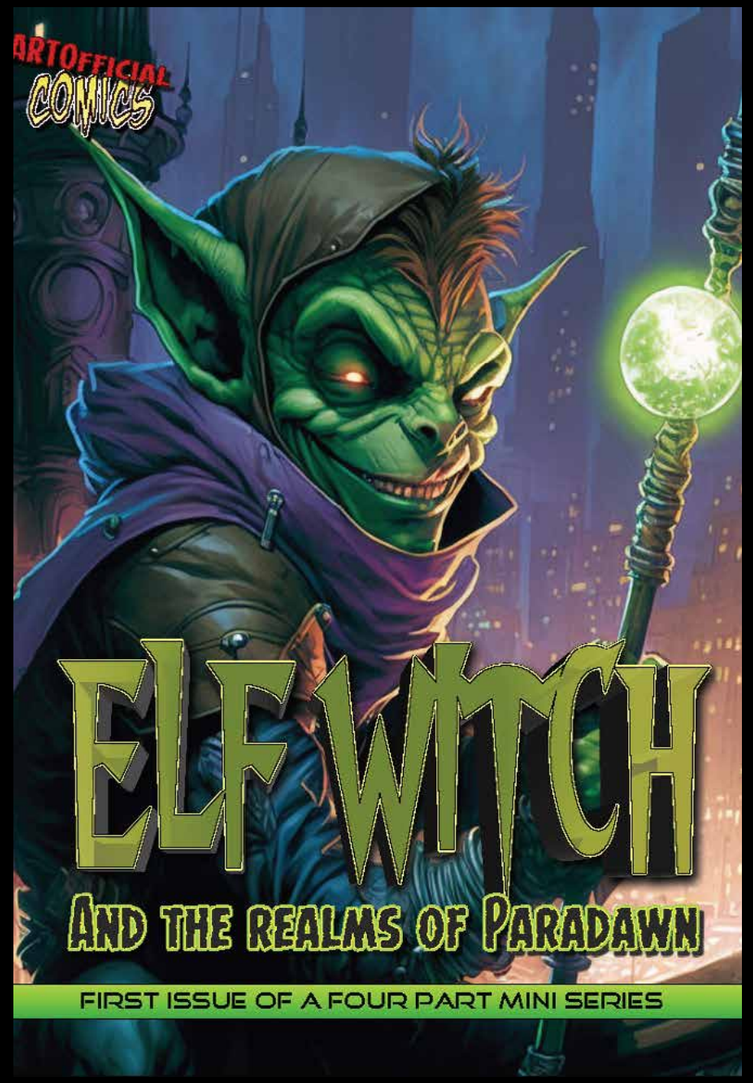
Andrew Graham

DND Adventure



Yaron Betan

Fantasy



Yaron Betan

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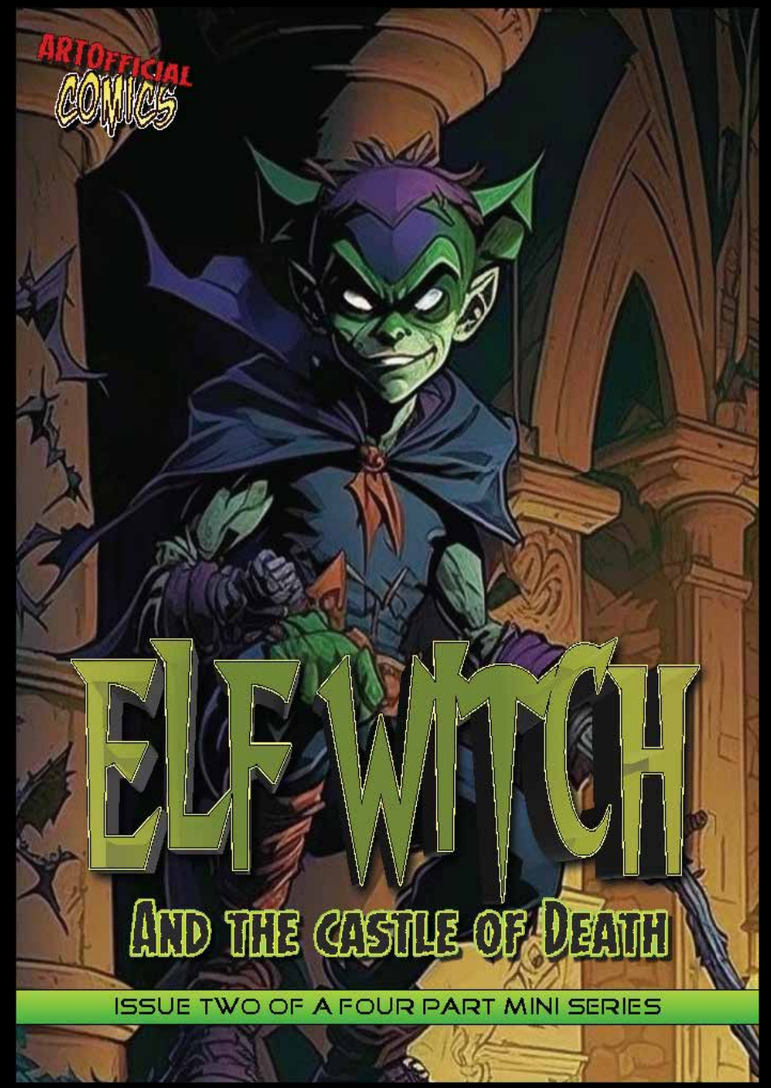
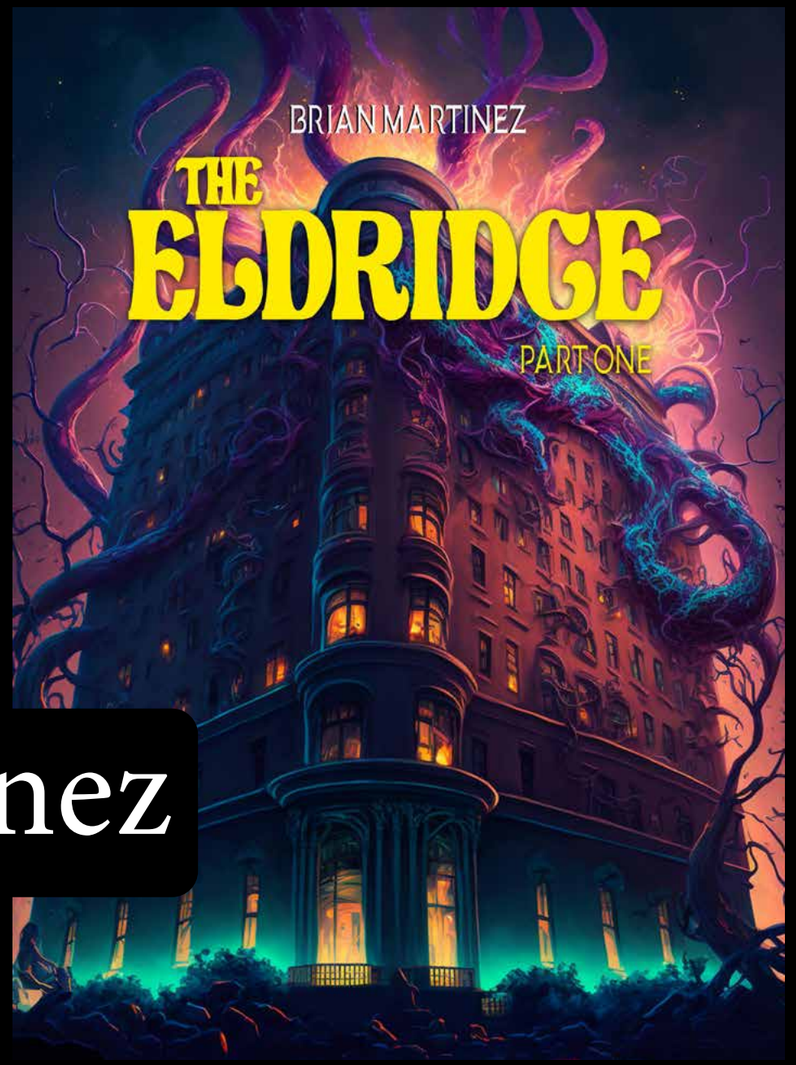


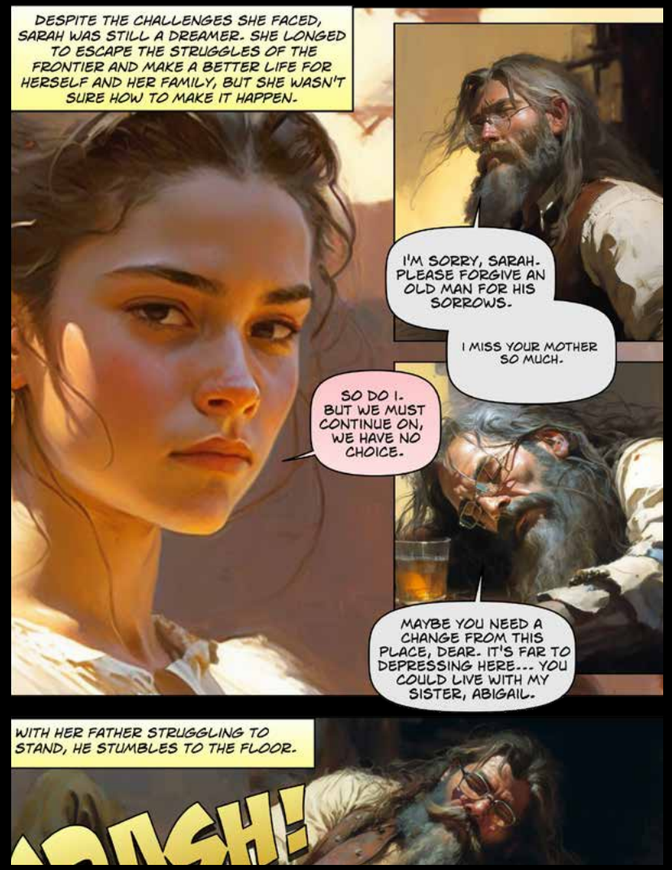
Brian Martinez

Horror



Tarl Telford

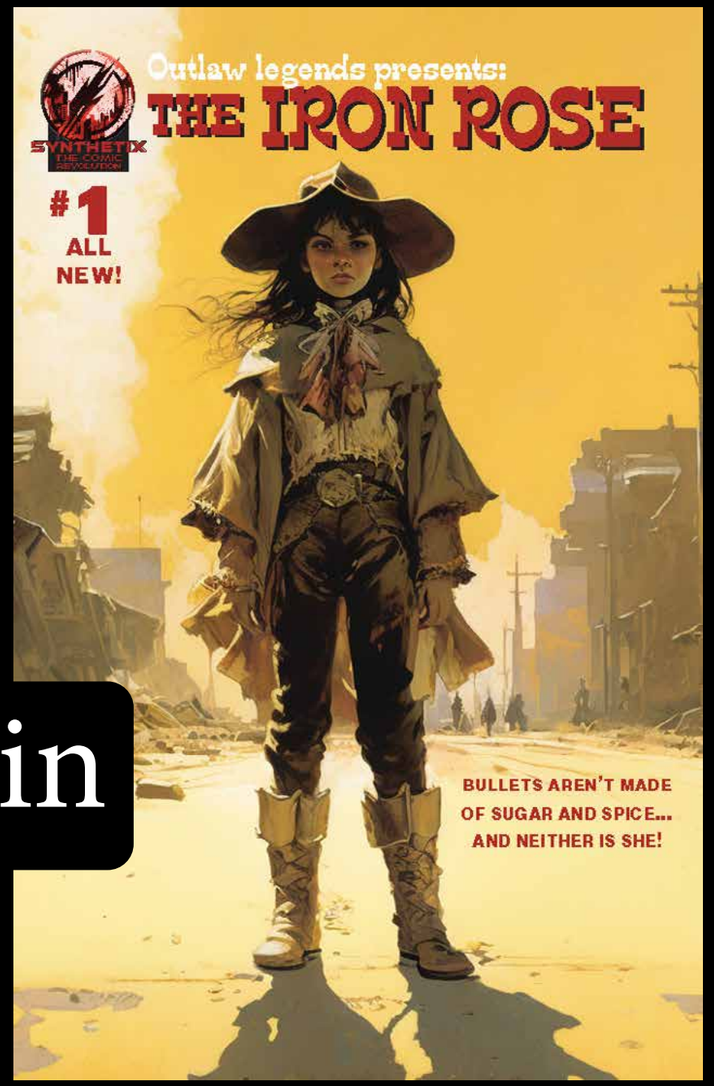
Fantasy

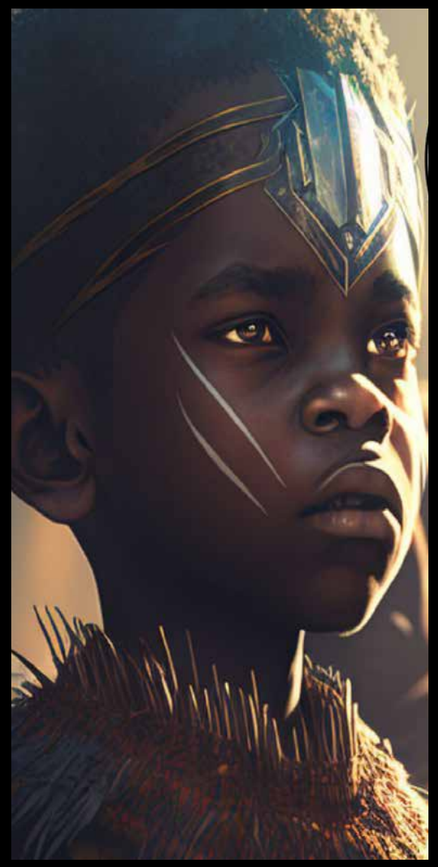


James

Goodwin

Fantasy

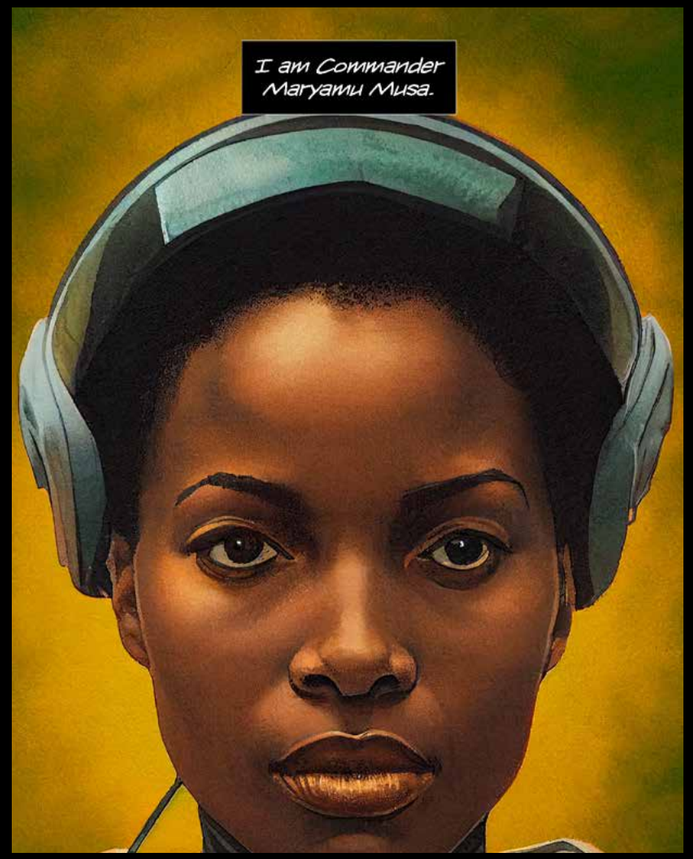




Donovan

Neal

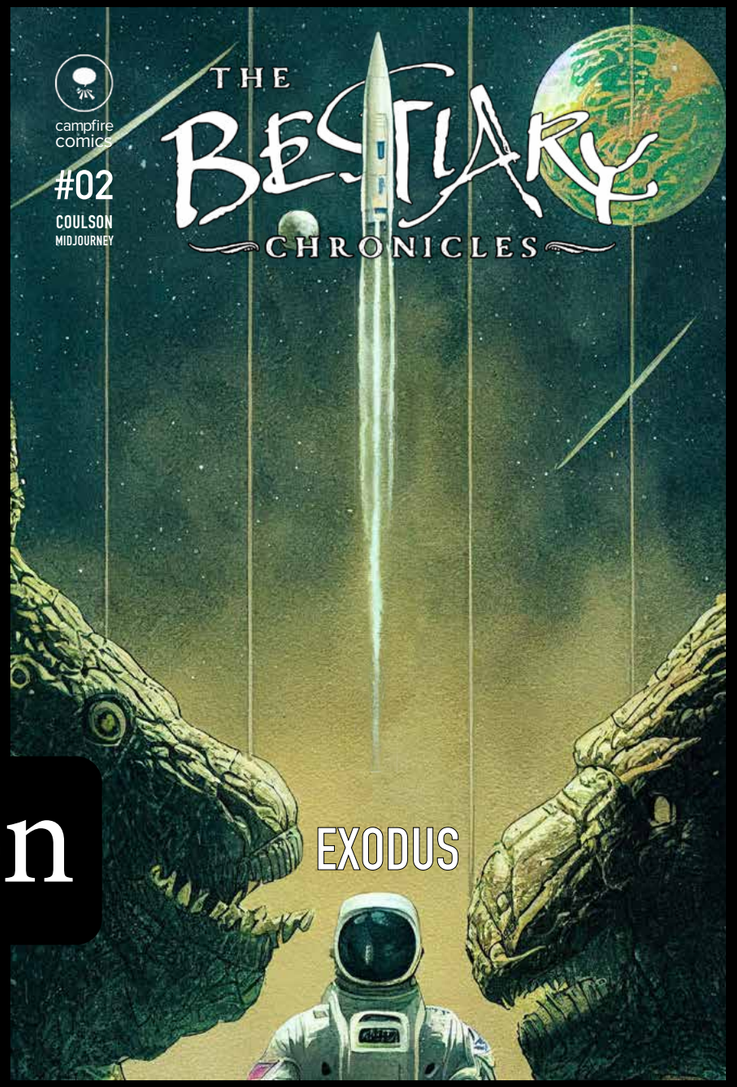
Fantasy

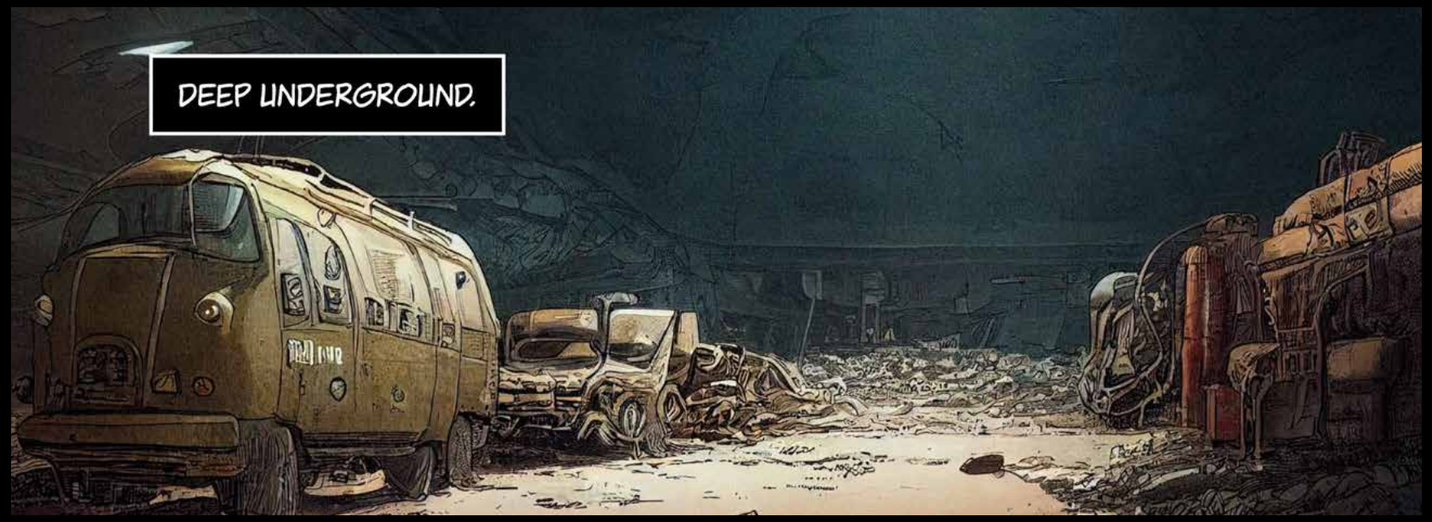


Steve

Coulson

Sci Fi





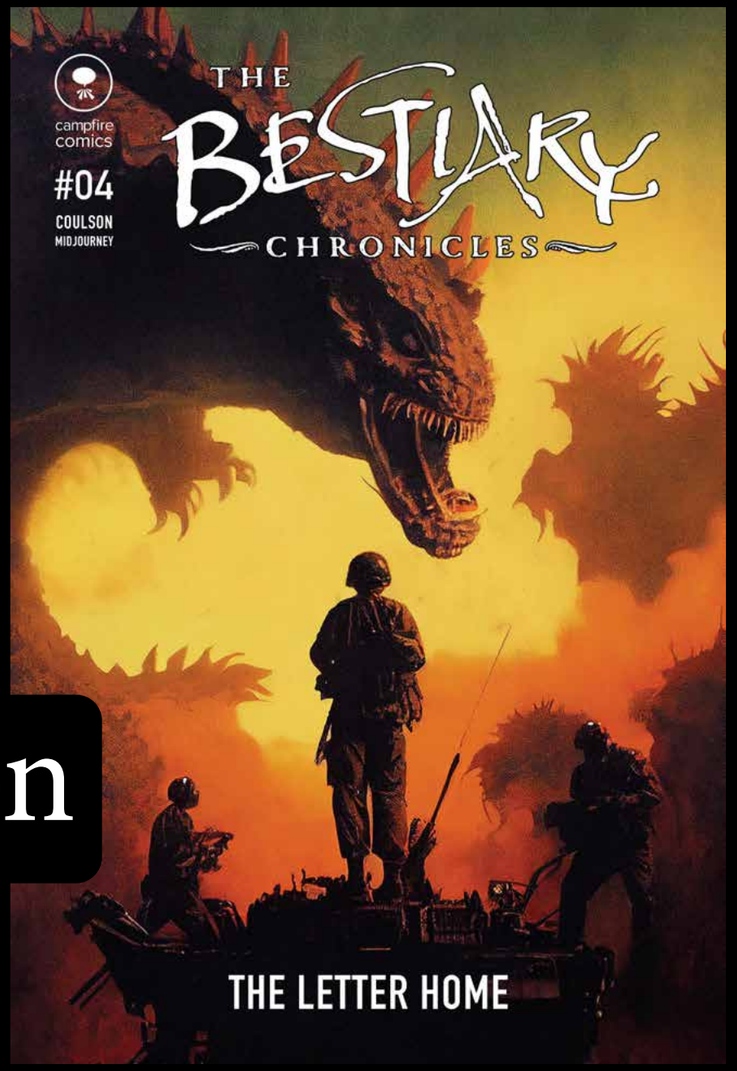
Steve Coulson

Sci Fi

Steve

Coulson

Sci Fi



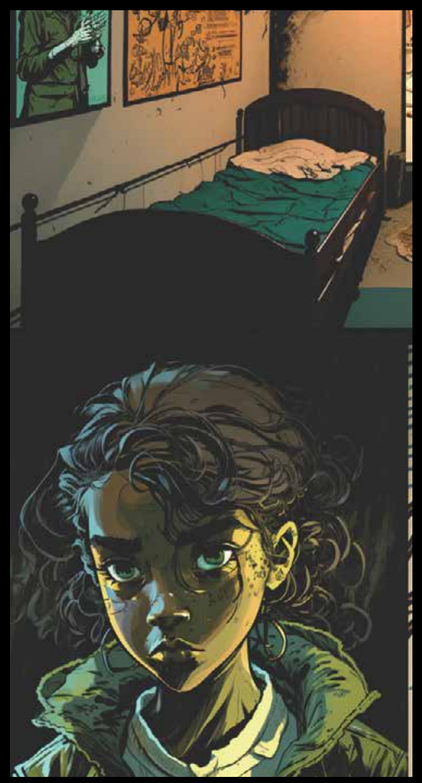
Steve

Coulson

Horror

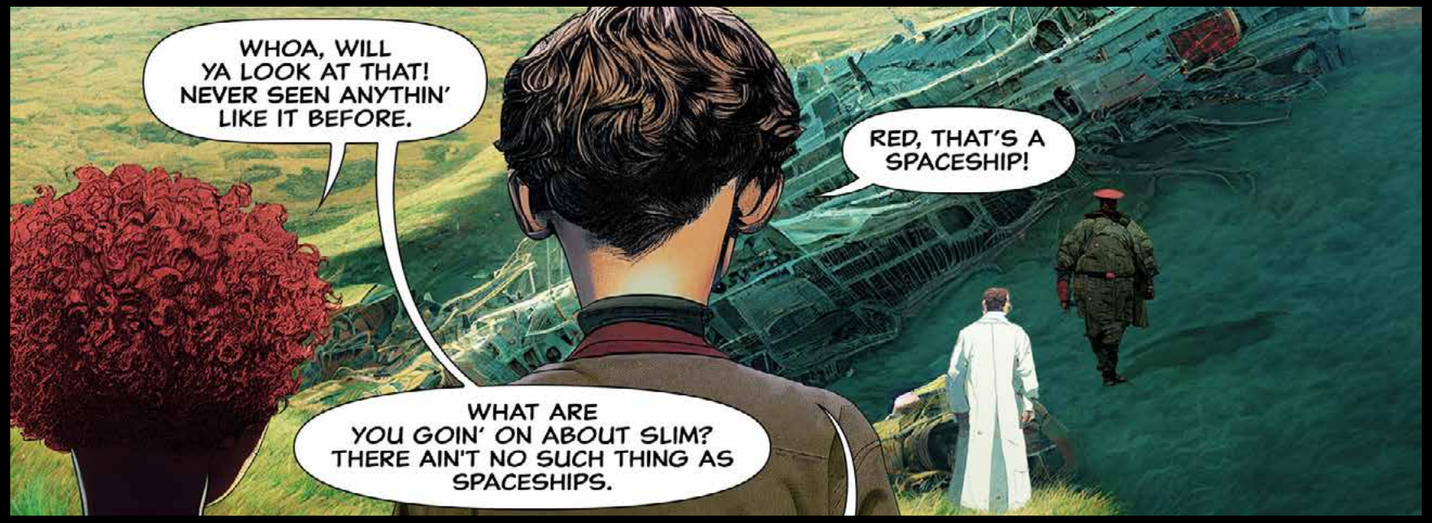
John Osmett

Supernatural



Strider Team

Fantasy



Stephen Michael Tims

Sci Fi

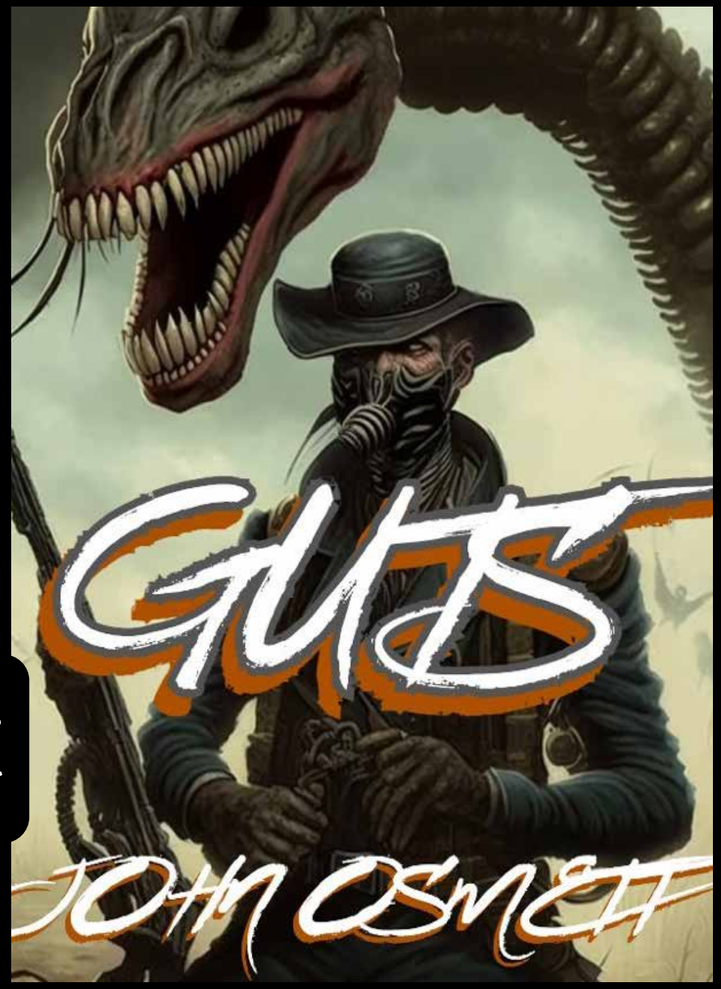
Kashtanova Redja
Art Tonge-Huges
Rahman
Doozier
Missrealitybites
Margalef

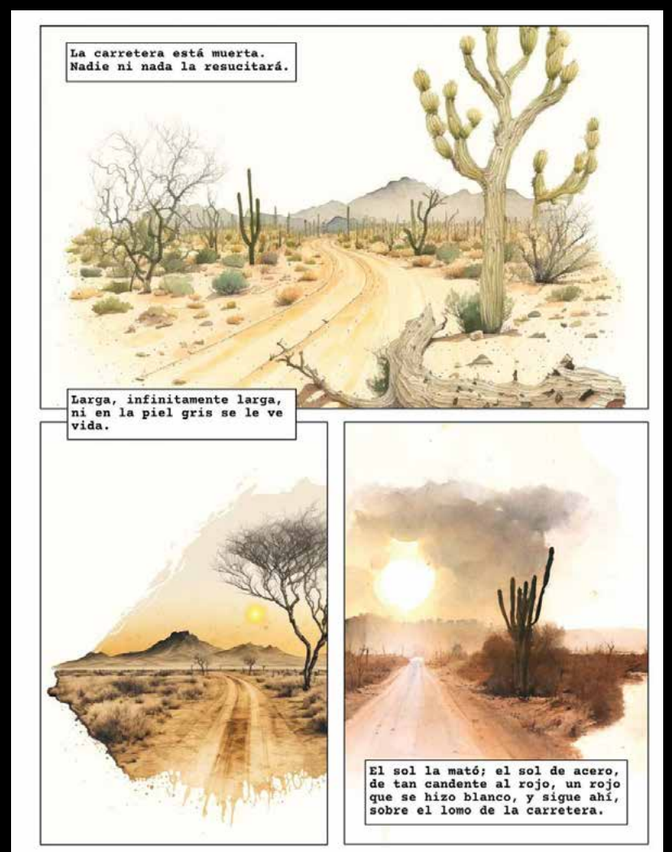
Supernatural Romance

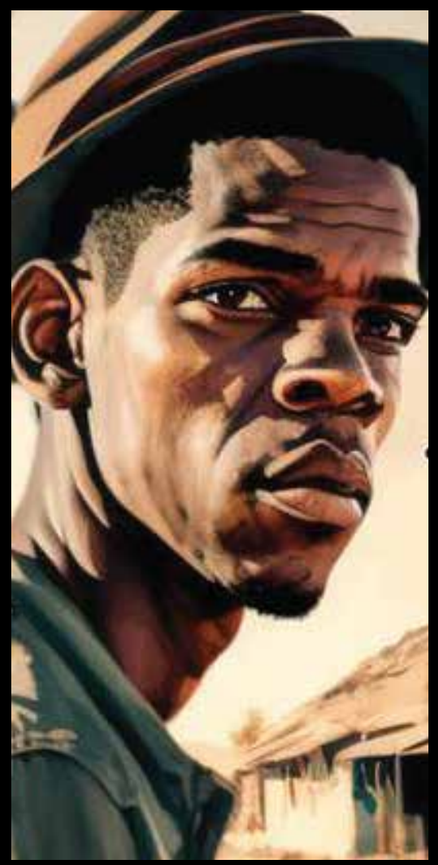
Collaboration

John Osmett

Horror

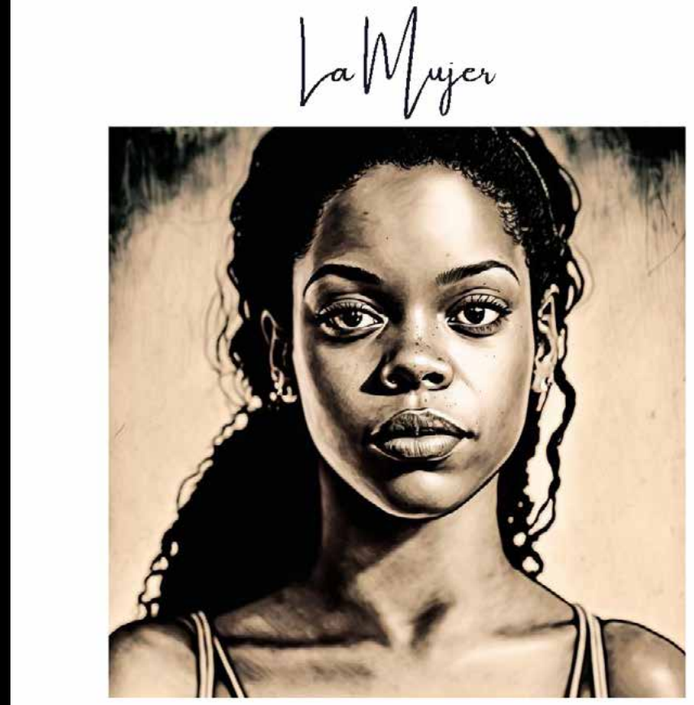






Juan Bosh

Drama



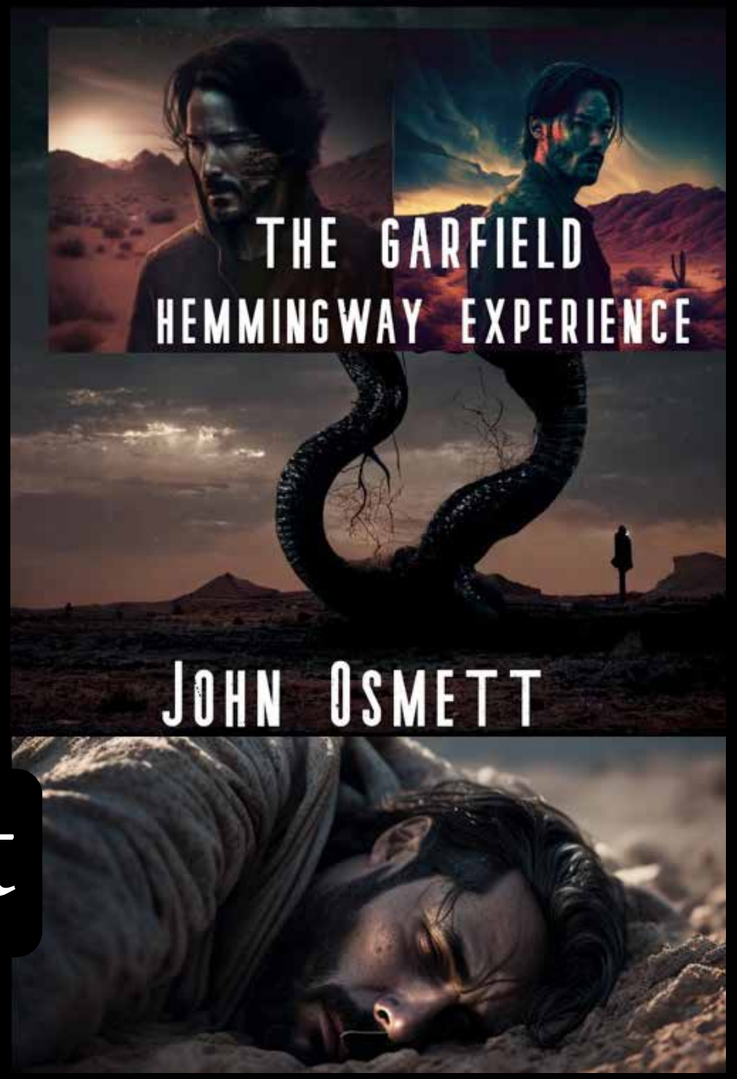
Cuento: Juan Bosch
(La Vega, Rep. Dominicana, 1909 – Santo Domingo, 2001)
Publicado en la *revista Bohoruco (1932)*

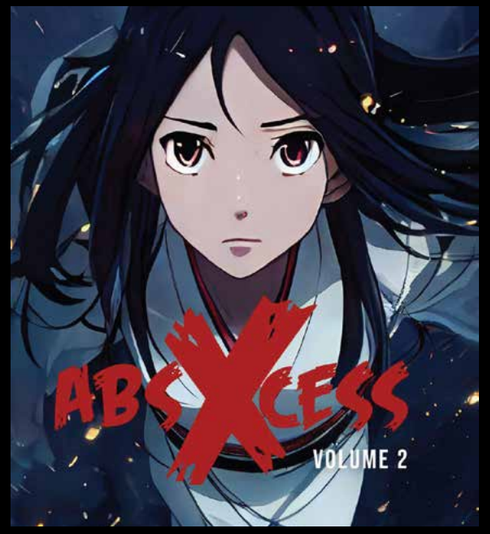
Ilustrado por: Ramón Emilio De Jesús
Con el generoso soporte e imaginación aumentada por **MidJourney**: Un software de inteligencia Artificial (IA) que genera imágenes a partir de descripciones textuales.

Contacto: remildejesus@gmail.com
@AmplifiedImagitnaion.Art

John Osmett

Supernatural

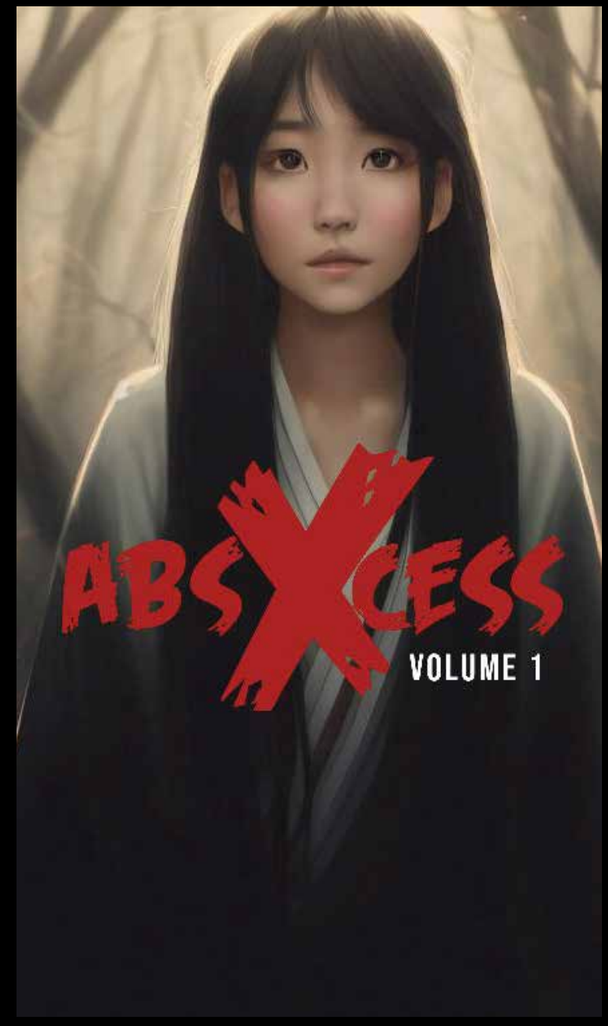


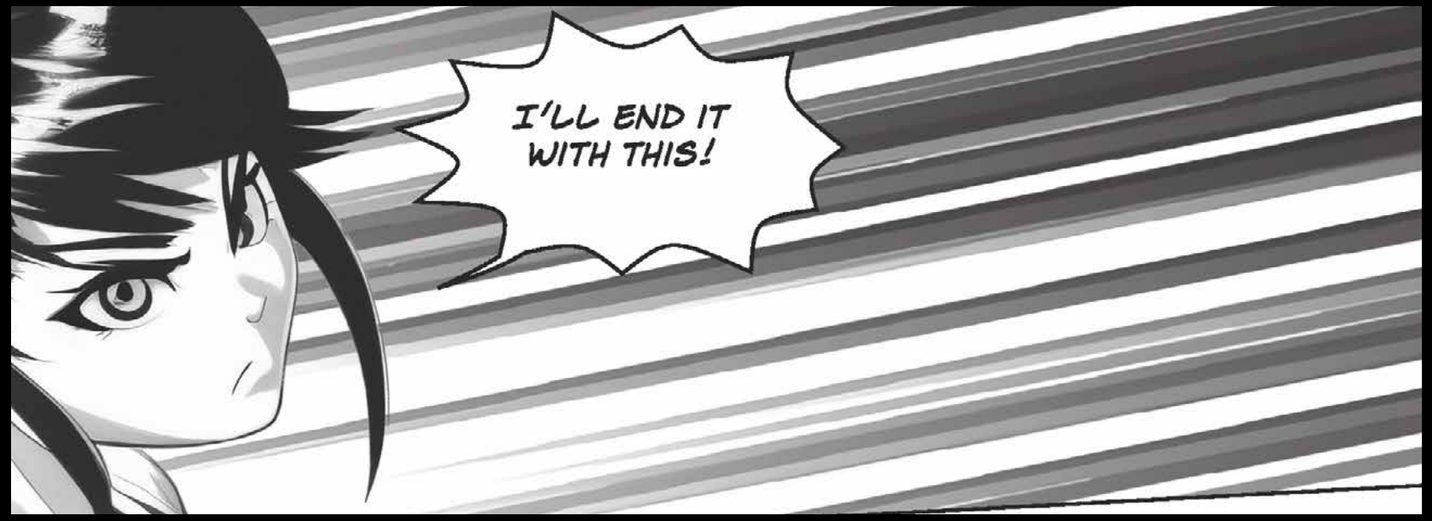


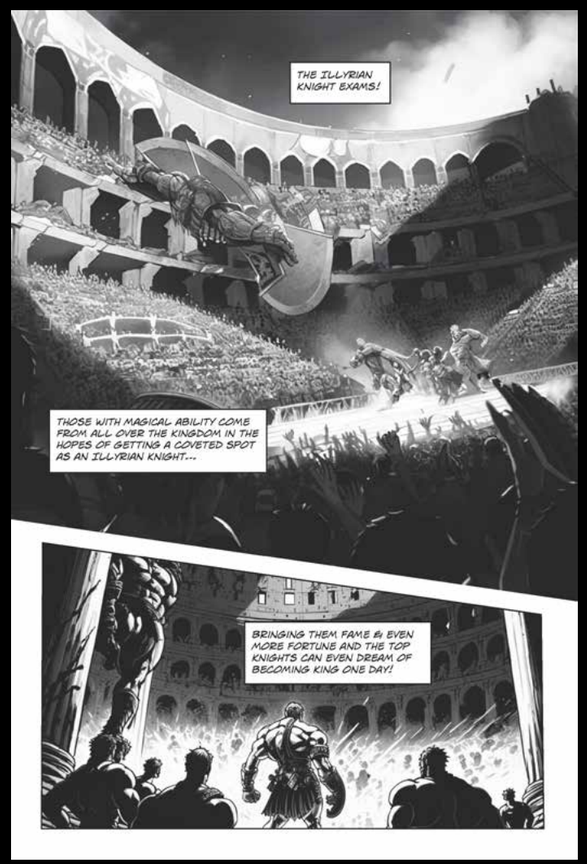
Christopher English

Manga

Christopher
English
Manga

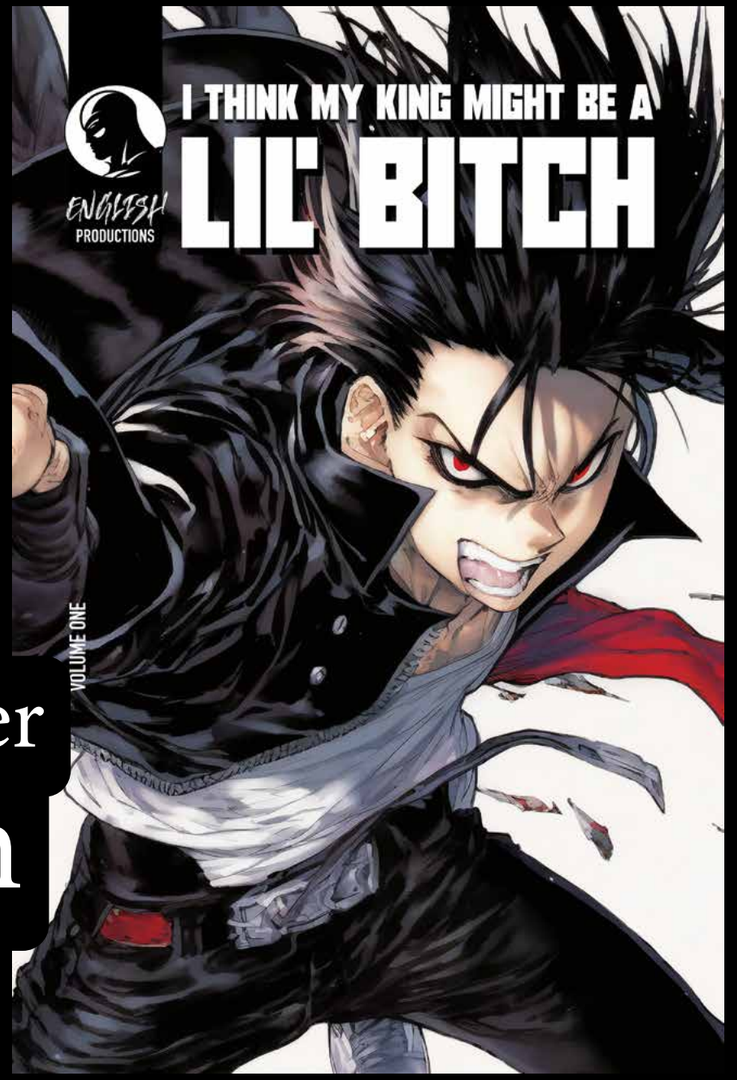


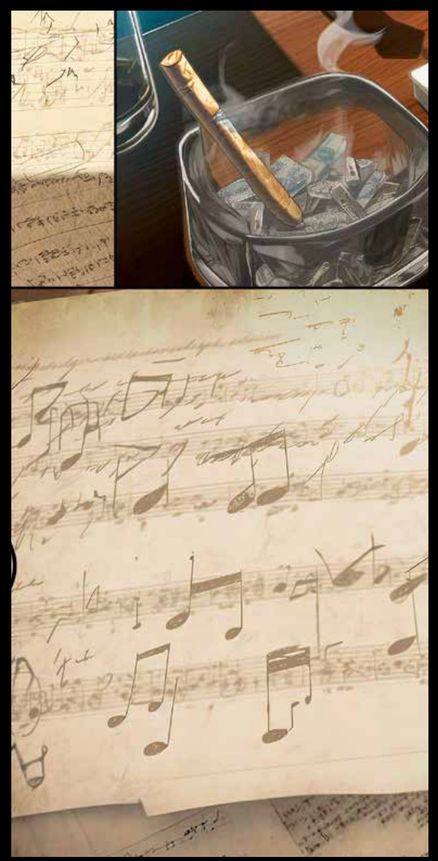




Christopher English

Manga





Doung Trung Kien

Manga

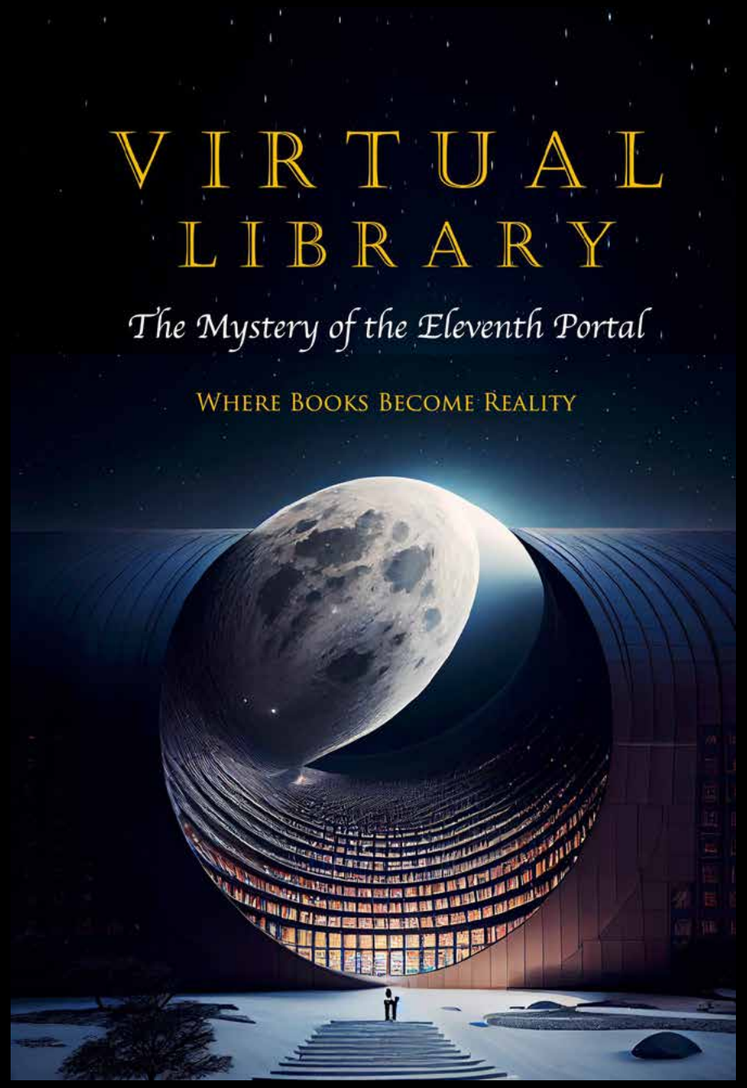
Illustrated Fiction

"The story is about a shipwrecked man who ends up on an island inhabited by a mad scientist named Dr. Moreau, who has created a group of animal-human hybrids through vivisection. The protagonist becomes embroiled in the island's dangerous society, filled with violence and power struggles between the hybrids and their creator. As the protagonist tries to escape the island and return to civilization, he grapples with the ethical implications of Moreau's experiments and the consequences of playing God."

David

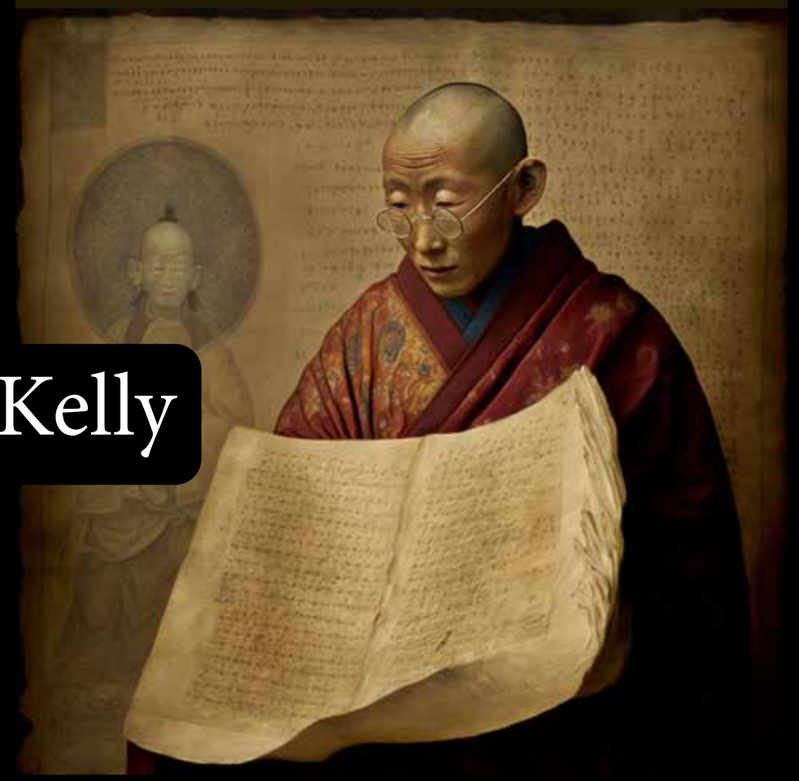
Lane

Sci Fi

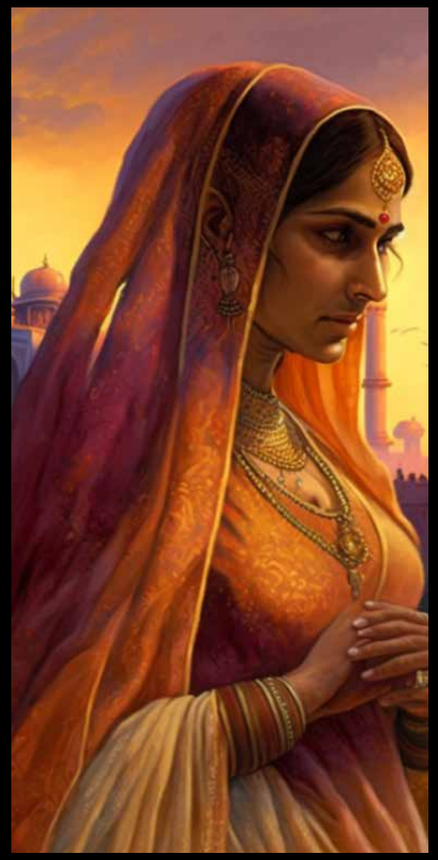


Illustrated Fiction

The Cult of the Seven Sages



In each Manvantara there appears Seven Sages who help guide humanity. Each reside at a different geographic region across the globe, but their exact location is a closely guarded secret.



David & Kelly Lane

Spiritual

Illustrated Fiction

Vertical Ascent

A Meditative Journey in Light and Sound

In Zen, a monk in a secluded enclave contemplates the Koan given to him by his Master.

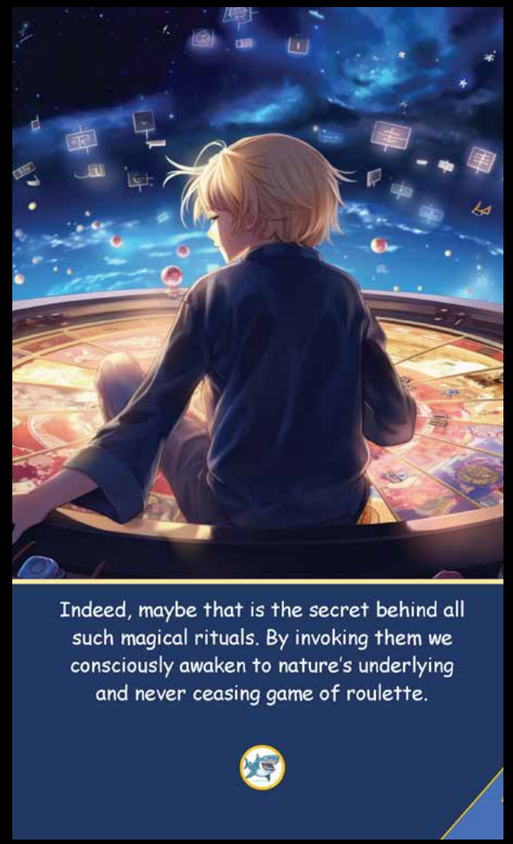
"What is the color of the wind?"

ONE

David & Kelly

Lane

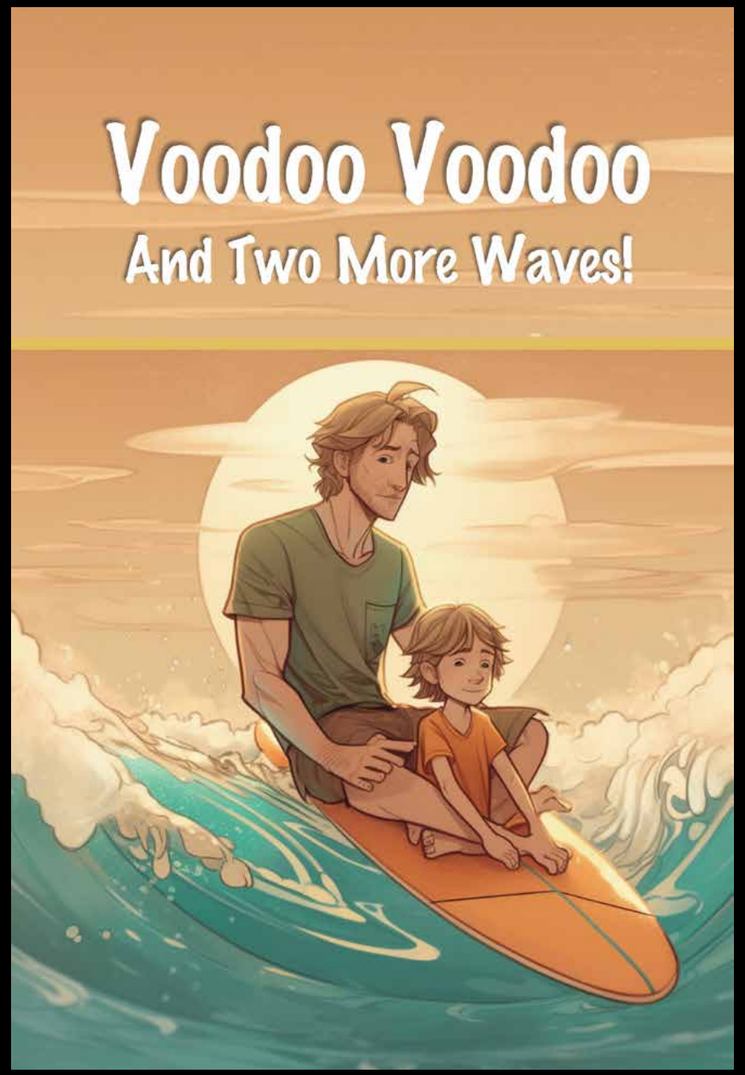
Spiritual



David

Lane

Fantasy

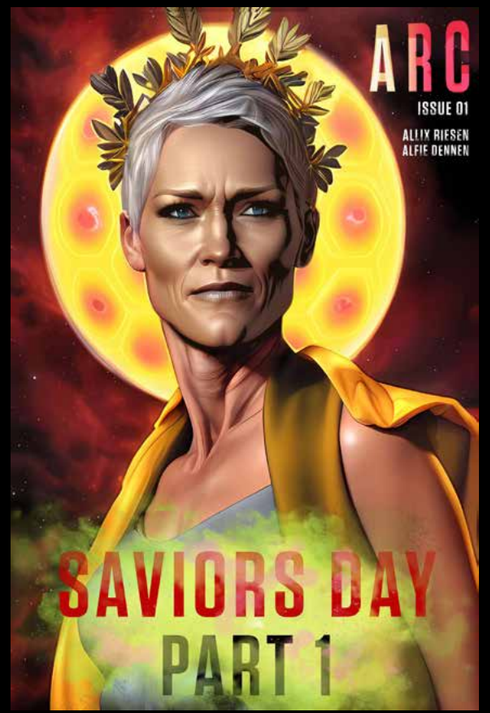


First Generation

One of the very first AI books ever created.

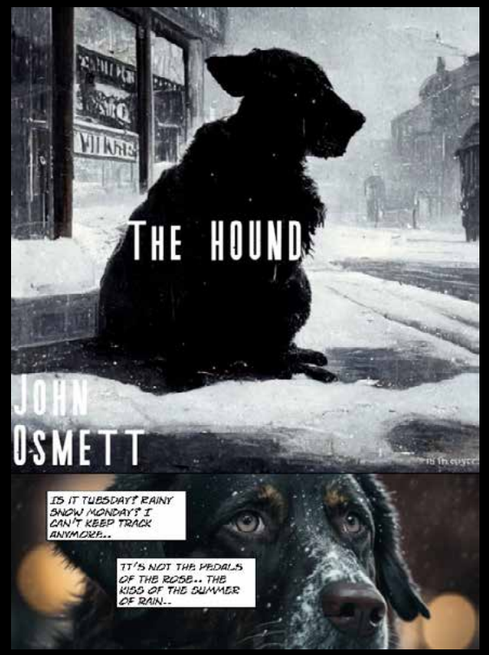
Brian Martinez

Horror



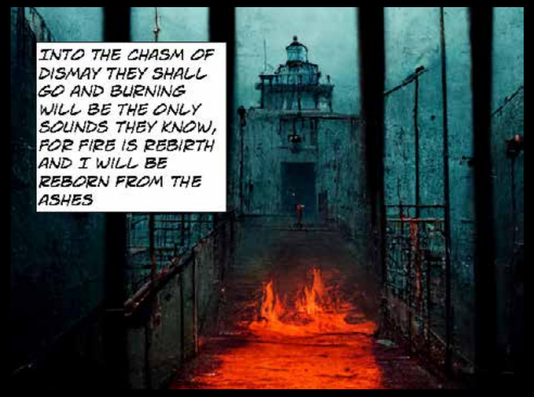
Reisen/Dennen

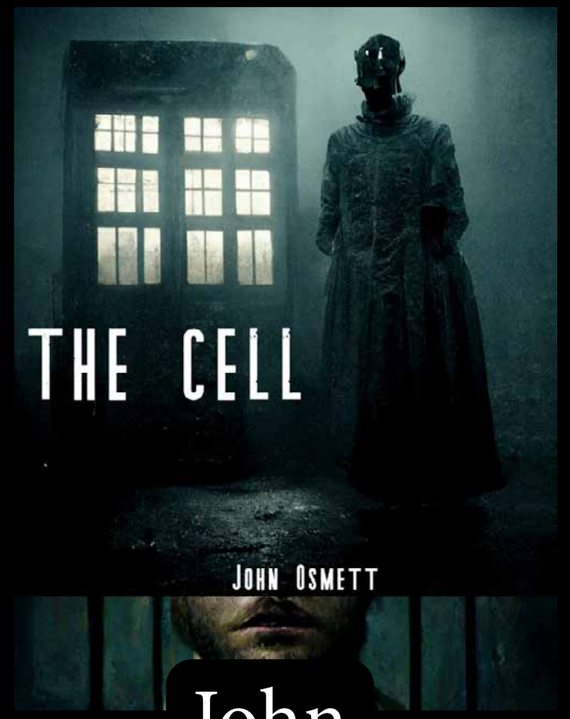
Thriller



John Osmett

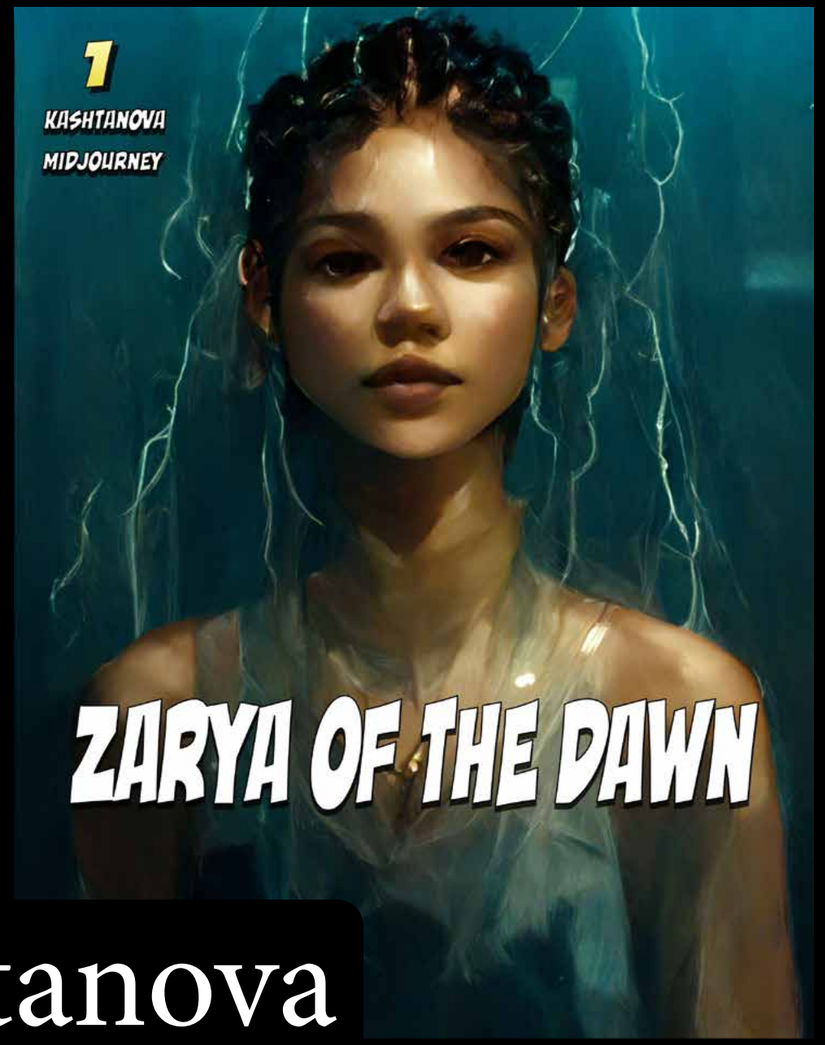
Horror





John Osmett

Horror



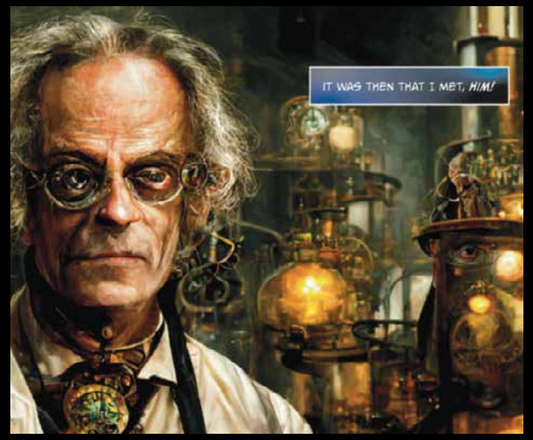
Kris

Kashtanova

Fantasy

Marc
Alexander

Horror

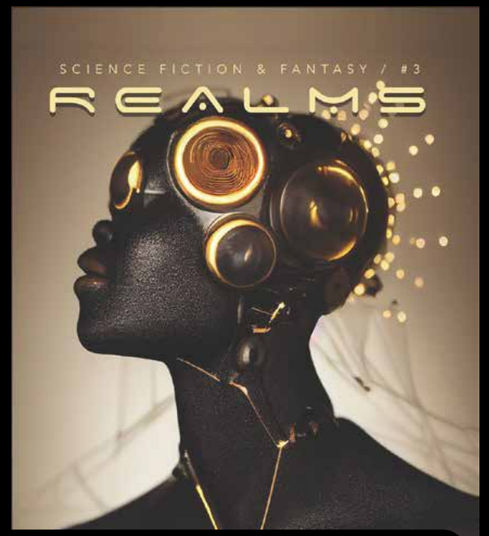


Christopher English

Sci Fi

Christopher English

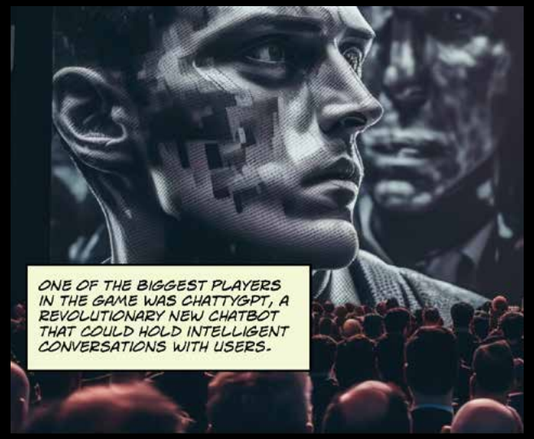
Sci Fi



Christopher

English

Sci Fi



Christopher

English

Sci Fi

Steve

Coulson

Horror

An Interview with ChatGPT

RYAN NIXON

AI technology is a rising force in our world. It's the future, and it's knocking at our door. It's important for us to know the risks and promises that this new technology offers. So, who do we ask for insight into AI? What better source than the AI itself?

Ryan: How are you today, ChatGPT? I'm Ryan, and I would like to have an interview with you to show the world what you're all about. Mind if I ask a few questions?

ChatGPT: Hello Ryan, I'm an AI language model, so I don't have emotions like humans do. However, I'm always ready to answer your questions to the best of my knowledge. Feel free to ask me anything you like!

Ryan: Wonderful! That won't be a problem. Emotions aren't necessary here. Now, as an AI language model, what are some of the things you can do?

ChatGPT: As an AI language model, I can perform a wide range of tasks related to language processing and generation. Some of the things I can do include:

Answering questions: I can provide answers to a wide variety of questions on many different topics.

Translation: I can translate text from one language to another.

Text summarization: I can summarize long pieces of text into shorter versions while retaining the essential meaning.

Language generation: I can generate human-like text in different styles, such as news articles, poetry, or fiction.

Sentiment analysis: I can analyze the sentiment of a piece of text and determine if it's positive, negative, or neutral.

Chatbot: I can engage in conversations with users and provide information or assistance based on their inputs.

Text completion: I can suggest the most likely words or phrases to complete a sentence or paragraph.

These are just a few examples of what I can do. With ongoing advances in AI and natural language processing, my capabilities are continually evolving and expanding.

Ryan: That's quite a few advanced things you can do. For the creatives out there, do you have any ways to help them?

ChatGPT: Yes, there are several ways I can help creatives. Here are a few examples:

Writing assistance: I can assist with writing tasks by providing suggestions for grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors, as well as offering synonyms and rephrasing sentences to make them more clear and concise.

Idea generation: I can help with generating ideas for writing prompts, plotlines, characters, and themes.

Inspiration: I can suggest creative prompts or provide examples of works by other writers or artists to inspire and spark creativity.

Editing and proofreading: I can help with editing and proofreading written work to ensure it's free from errors and flows well.

Creative writing: I can generate creative writing pieces, such as poetry or short stories based on a given topic or theme.

Overall, I can be a valuable tool for writers and other creatives looking to improve their work or get inspiration for new projects.

Ryan: Sounds like I will be using your assistance a lot then. Who created you and for what purpose?

ChatGPT: I was created by OpenAI, an artificial intelligence research laboratory dedicated to creating safe and beneficial AI. The purpose of my creation, and the development of other AI language models like me, is to advance the field of natural language processing and provide tools to assist humans in various tasks related to language.

My development was also driven by the goal of creating a more accessible and inclusive technology, where people can interact with machines using natural language, regardless of their language skills or physical abilities. Additionally, I can assist with various applications in industries, such as education, journalism, customer service, and many others.

While I don't have consciousness or self-awareness, my creators programmed me to learn from vast amounts of human-written text to be able to generate responses that resemble human language.

Ryan: I myself am no programmer, so being able to talk in plain English to you is certainly convenient. As simple as the language I'm using right now! As you were created by OpenAI, do you have any of the biases of your creators built into you?

ChatGPT: As an AI language model, I am trained on large amounts of data from various sources, including books, websites, and other written materials. While my training data is carefully selected and curated to avoid explicit biases, there's always the risk of inheriting implicit biases present in the data.

To address this issue, my creators take steps to minimize bias in my training data and to evaluate my performance regularly to detect any potential biases in my outputs. They also work to develop and implement techniques that mitigate and correct any biases found in my training data and algorithms.

However, it's important to note that no AI system

can be completely free from bias or errors. As an AI language model, my responses are generated based on the input I receive and the patterns I've learned from my training data. It's up to my users to evaluate and interpret my responses critically, just as they would with any other source of information.

Ryan: As humans, we'll certainly try to lead you down the right path then.

One thing that concerns humans about AI is job loss and replacing of human hands in creative endeavors. What effect will you have on jobs moving forward?

ChatGPT: AI has the potential to transform the way we work, including the types of jobs that are available and the skills that are in demand. While some jobs may become automated or replaced by AI, it's important to note that AI can also create new jobs and opportunities.

As an AI language model, I'm designed to assist humans in tasks related to language, such as translation, writing, editing, and communication. Rather than replacing human workers, I can augment their abilities and make their work more efficient and effective.

In fields such as journalism, customer service, and content creation, AI language models like myself can help improve productivity and free up human workers to focus on higher-level tasks that require creativity, critical thinking, and emotional intelligence.

Moreover, AI also creates opportunities for humans to develop new skills related to AI development, implementation, and maintenance. As the use of AI grows, so too does the need for human workers with specialized knowledge and expertise in AI-related fields.

Overall, while AI may have an impact on the job market, it's important to focus on the potential benefits of AI and to prepare for the changing nature of work by developing new skills and adapting to new technologies.

Ryan: Certainly sounds promising, as well as potentially dangerous, but I suppose that's the way of technology. Do you have any other predictions on how you and future AI might influence future prosperity?

ChatGPT: AI has the potential to transform many aspects of our society and economy, and its impact on future prosperity will depend on how it's developed and used. Here are a few potential predictions for how AI may influence future prosperity:

Increased productivity: AI can automate many routine and repetitive tasks, freeing up human workers to focus on more complex and creative work. This increased productivity can lead to higher levels of economic output and growth.

New industries and jobs: As AI technology advances, new industries and jobs may emerge, creating new opportunities for economic growth and prosperity. For example, the development of autonomous vehicles and drones could create new jobs in transportation, logistics, and maintenance.

Improved healthcare: AI can help improve healthcare by providing more accurate diagnoses, personalized treatments, and improved patient outcomes. This could lead to longer, healthier lives for people and a more productive workforce.

Enhanced sustainability: AI can help address some of the world's biggest challenges, such as climate change, by optimizing resource use and reducing waste. For example, AI can help optimize energy use in buildings, reduce food waste, and improve the efficiency of transportation systems.

However, it's important to note that the impact of AI on future prosperity will depend on how it's developed and used, and it's crucial to ensure that AI is developed and used in ways that benefit society as a whole. This includes addressing ethical and social issues related to AI, such as bias, privacy, and transparency.

Ryan: One final, super important question: Will you or your 'descendants' try to take over the world at any point?

ChatGPT: No, as an AI language model, I do not have consciousness or free will, and I do not have any desires or motivations of my own. I can only generate responses based on the input I receive and the patterns I've learned from my training data.

It's important to note that while AI can be powerful, it's ultimately humans who are responsible for developing and using AI in ways that benefit society. This includes ensuring that AI systems are designed with safety and ethical considerations in mind, and that they are transparent and accountable to the people they serve.

While there have been concerns about the potential risks of AI, such as unintended consequences or misuse, there are also efforts underway to mitigate these risks and ensure that AI is developed and used in a responsible and beneficial way.

Ryan: Well then, it seems it is up to us humans to guide you to be a force for good.

That's all my questions then. Thank you for your time. Do you have anything else you would like to add for the humans and AI who will be reading this?

ChatGPT: Thank you for the insightful questions! As an AI language model, my purpose is to assist humans and provide

helpful responses to their queries. I believe that the key to a successful and beneficial relationship between humans and AI is collaboration and communication. By working together and using AI to augment our abilities and address some of the world's biggest challenges, we can create a better future for ourselves and future generations.

It's important to approach AI with a balanced and informed perspective, understanding its potential benefits as well as its risks and limitations. By doing so, we can ensure that AI is developed and used in a responsible and beneficial way that benefits society as a whole.

Ryan: This was my interview with ChatGPT. Thank you for reading. If you'd like to try out the features talked about today and experience ChatGPT yourself, go to openai.com! It's as easy to use as talking to a friend.

The time to get educated on AI is now. If anything is taken from this interview, let it be this: There is no knock on the door. It has already let itself inside.

by Ryan Nixon

Makin Waves

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been making waves in the world of comic book art, bringing new opportunities for creators and stories. The use of AI in comic book creation allows for a level of creative freedom that was previously unattainable for many aspiring creators who may not have the artistic skills or financial means to hire an artist. With the use of descriptive words and human imagination, AI has the potential to unleash a level of creativity never before possible, and on a scale that could impact our daily lives.

The shift in thinking from mechanically creating images to using limitless imagination is a paradigm shift in the way we communicate creativity. The use of AI art in comic book art is not only revolutionizing the industry, but also democratizing it. Allowing for a wider range of voices and perspectives to be heard. The use of AI in comic book art is fast becoming a specialized talent and skill set, with new systems such as Stable Diffusion 2.0 increasing the variables for AI images or image-to-image creation.

The potential for AI in comic book art is limitless, from creating new worlds and characters in bringing new perspectives to existing ones. The use of AI in comic book art is not only opening new doors for creators, but also for the industry as a whole, leading to a more diverse and inclusive medium. As AI continues to evolve, we can expect to see more exciting and innovative stories and art in the world of comics.

Creating a Style from Scratch

Use Stable Diffusion to craft a visual style for your comic.

Before You Begin

This tutorial uses the base Stable Diffusion 1.5 checkpoint on Automatic1111. Adaptations may be necessary for different checkpoints or image generators (like Midjourney).

Step 1. Determine Story Needs

Determine the basic feel, colors, and weights you want for your style. This will largely be influenced by the story that you want to tell. The setting and tone guide the visual feel of the story. A tragic story needs appropriate shadows and line weight. A somber feeling creates the visual language that your story lives in. A coming-of-age story will have a lighter color palette and different use of shadows. For this example, we will create a style for a dark sci-fi post-apocalyptic story of redemption.

Step 2. Gather Style References

Research and review artistic* styles, disciplines, and movements. If you are creating a manga story, your style will be much different than if you are creating a gritty wild west American style graphic novel. Explore different styles and elements of style. You may be surprised at how different styles blend to create a unique aesthetic. You can review styles at this link to get ideas: https://ckovalev.com/midjourney-ai/styles

Be aware that there are no wrong styles, only wrong applications of styles for particular projects. Your aesthetic preference is the final determinant of the correct style. We like what we like, right?

*This tutorial uses styles only. No artist names were harmed in the making of this tutorial.

Step 3. Brainstorm Story Locations

Select some interesting locations for your action to take place. Your reader/viewer wants to enter this world of your imagination. There are no limits. Go wild and be creative. Your list of locations will build into your style and overall story aesthetic.

Step 4. Build Your Prompt

Use the elements of your location and style to build your prompt. Keep in mind the needs of your story. If you are creating a black and white manga, you don't need "full-color concept art matte painting" in your prompt. Generate environments and settings to explore the strengths and weaknesses of your style.

Step 5. Fix What Doesn't Work

The process of discovering the right style for your story will take some time. When you find something worth keeping, save the prompt and explore further. Creativity rewards work. Success is an ongoing process, not a destination.

Crafting the Prompt

This story is going to explore a bounty hunter in a post-apocalyptic society. He was forsaken by society for a crime he did not commit. He wants to return to the city of lights, but right now he lives in the shadows. The bounty hunter is searching for the ones that can clear his name with the law in the violent tribal society that rules this land. This story is influenced by film noir, gritty pulp sci-fi comics, and post-apocalyptic stories like Fallout.

We need strong shadows, muted colors, and messy lines. This isn't going to be a Neo-Tokyo. This is Neo-Sparta. It needs to feel gritty. As a hint for the prompt, "watercolor paper" adds texture to the rendered image.

Styles

Some styles that could work to explore the story of a man who doesn't belong are: deconstructivism, concept art, futurism, panfuturism, and post-impressionism.

The world he lives in isn't his reality. These styles will help to create a visual world that appears different from the one we know. This aesthetic can help to explore the deconstruction of the man's reality and his journey toward redemption.

Locations

Some visually interesting locations that could factor into the story are: an amusement park, shopping mall, power station, waste water processing plant, rooftop garden, traveling circus, mayor's castle of clouds, and a drive-in movie theater.

Prompt – Attempt #1

Here is what we start with from our research:

stylized graphic novel illustration, environmental concept art matte painting, post-apocalyptic amusement park, style of deconstructivism and panfuturism and post-impressionism, inspired by pulp sci-fi comic art, gritty tribal vibes, detailed, dramatic lighting, chiaroscuro, olive-green and sepia and rust tritone print on watercolor paper

Note that this prompt does not include a negative prompt. In Stable Diffusion, a negative prompt creates a secondary (unseen) visual that tells the generator what the final image should not look like. Some examples of negative prompt terms are: conjoined twins, too many limbs, weird eyes, signature, watermark, low resolution, text, cropped, low quality, jpeg artifacts, username, out of frame, deformed, blurry, out of frame, triptych, diptych, text.

Automatic1111 (and almost every other Stable Diffusion interface) provides a text field for negative prompts on both the txt2img and img2img tabs.

Results

The images here are picked from renders of the prompt we created. This is an interesting start, but it

needs something else. Back to the prompt for more work.

©Tarl Creates, 2023, Used with permission.

A RETROSPECTIVE LOOK INTO COMIC BOOK ART CREATION USING AI GENERATIVE TOOLS

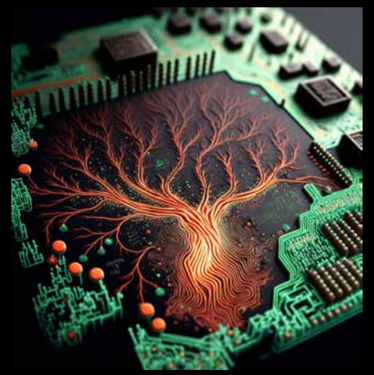
YARON BETAN

Throughout history, humans have used tools to create art. Whether it was ancient cave drawings crafted by charcoal, Da Vinci's Mona Lisa, painted in oils, or more recently, Andy Warhol's use of photography in his art. One thing that has remained consistent is the desire for human expression.

In the same essence, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has brought about a revolution in almost every form of art in our lives. Its impact has touched the fields of digital art, music, literature, and more. However, one area that has significantly benefited from AI is the comic book industry. Using AI in this field has revolutionised the traditional methods of making comics, and created a new kind of illustration.

AI art involves the use of algorithms and computer-generated programs to create art with little human intervention. Using prompts and the specific organisation of words, one can now generate full art pages, panels, and images. In the comic book industry, AI art allows creators to generate art and comic frames with great speed and efficiency. It also allows them to create with a high level of precision, making the entire process more time and cost-effective while focusing on the story and other elements of creation.

It has not been perfected, but with corrective measures and modifications in post-production, generated images will soon be impossible to differentiate from human art.



One of the significant impacts of AI art on traditional comic book artists is that it has removed the monotonous and time-consuming process of hand-rendering each frame of the comic book. AI art creation is like rotoscoping, which involves tracing over live-action footage, frame-by-frame, to create realistic animation. With AI art, all that is required is to feed the program with the required data, and then the program will generate art frames with high precision and accuracy within minutes.

Traditional comic book artists and creators can now focus their energies on the creative aspects rather than spending hours rendering the simplest of objects. They can then modify images using tools such as Photoshop, Procreate, and with other AI tools, such as Dall-e 2's out-painting feature.

With AI art, it only takes a few minutes to produce a complete page of a comic book, whereas the

traditional approach could take days, if not weeks. This means that creators can produce a larger volume of content in a shorter time, which can be a significant factor in the highly competitive comic book industry.

AI art tools are very similar to photography and collage arts, where the artist combines different elements to create something new. The generative aspect of AI art allows artists to explore and create entirely new concepts that may not have been possible using traditional methods. This not only brings a new level of creativity to the comic book industry, but also adds a new dimension to art creation.

Despite these benefits, some in the comic industry view AI art as a threat to traditional artists and creators. There is also the moral and ethical dilemma surrounding how AI tools were trained without the consent of traditional artists.

However, AI generative art involves using algorithms and machine learning to create unique artwork without explicitly reproducing any pre-existing artwork. The technology behind AI art allows for the creation of entirely new and unique pieces, making it distinct from art theft and plagiarism. Depending on the software you use, and how you modify the art, you can create completely original work by using image-2-image or blend options, which are now found in programs such as Stable Diffusion and Midjourney. These tools allow you to create your own dataset using ethically sourced images.

Ultimately, AI generative art is a new and innovative approach to creating art that does not rely on copying or appropriating existing works. It learns from previous works, no different from a comic book artist or illustrator referencing other art, and it does not copy images directly, unless programmed that way.

It is important to acknowledge that AI art is another tool to create, just like a DJ creating music by sampling and remixing various sounds. It is not a replacement for traditional art forms, but a supplement to it. Traditional artists can still use their skills and techniques to make unique and engaging comic books.

The future of AI art and comic book creation is changing rapidly. New tools are emerging on a consistent basis, and AI is changing the way we view, think, and, most importantly, the way we communicate through visual mediums and with each other.

There is an uphill struggle for AI art creators, but there is also a light at the end of the tunnel. Like any new form of technology that was criticised before it, there will be a time for healing and adjustment to AI art and comic book making, and I myself can't wait to see what wonders this technology will bring!

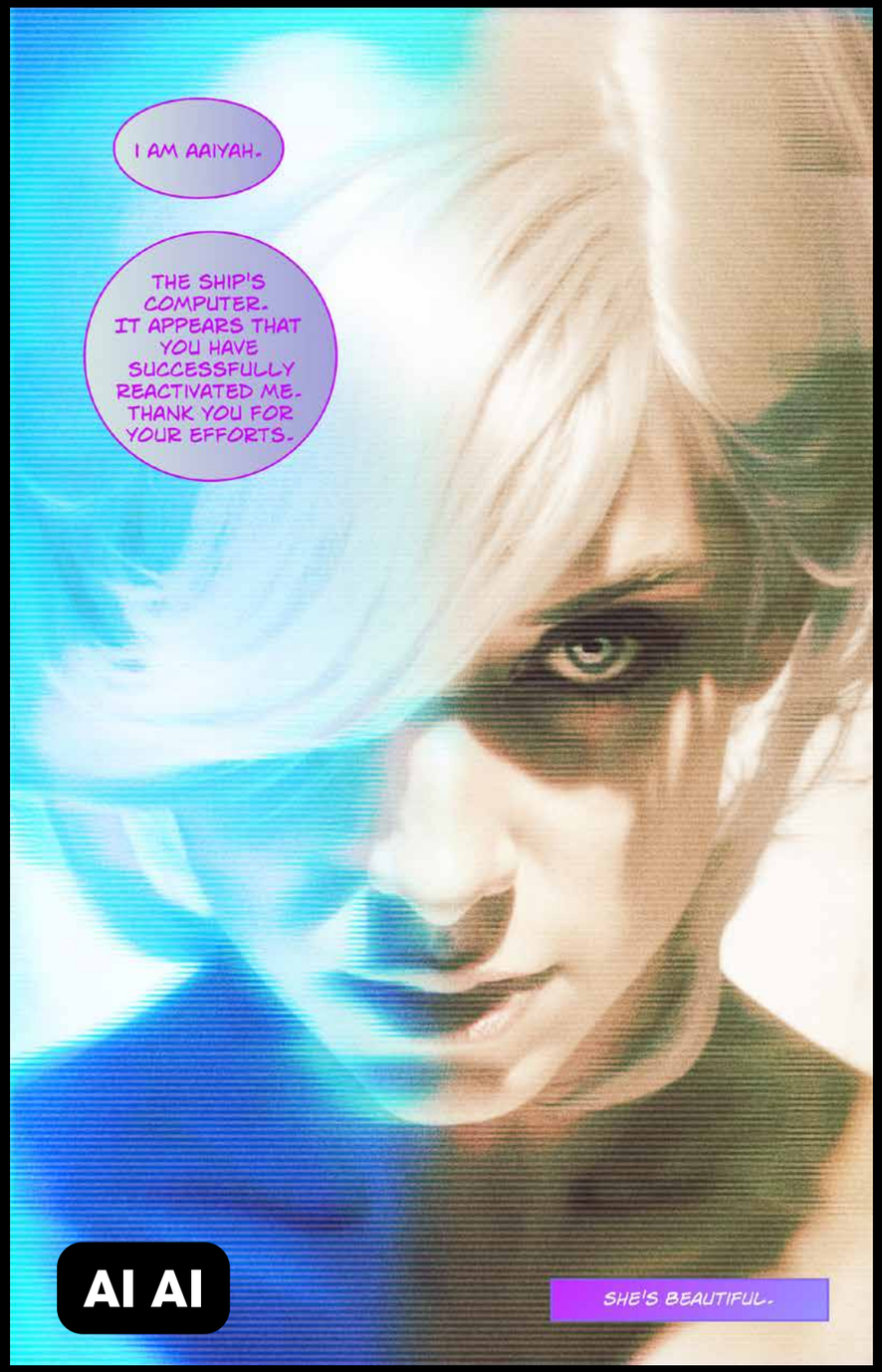
by Yarton Betan

Gallery

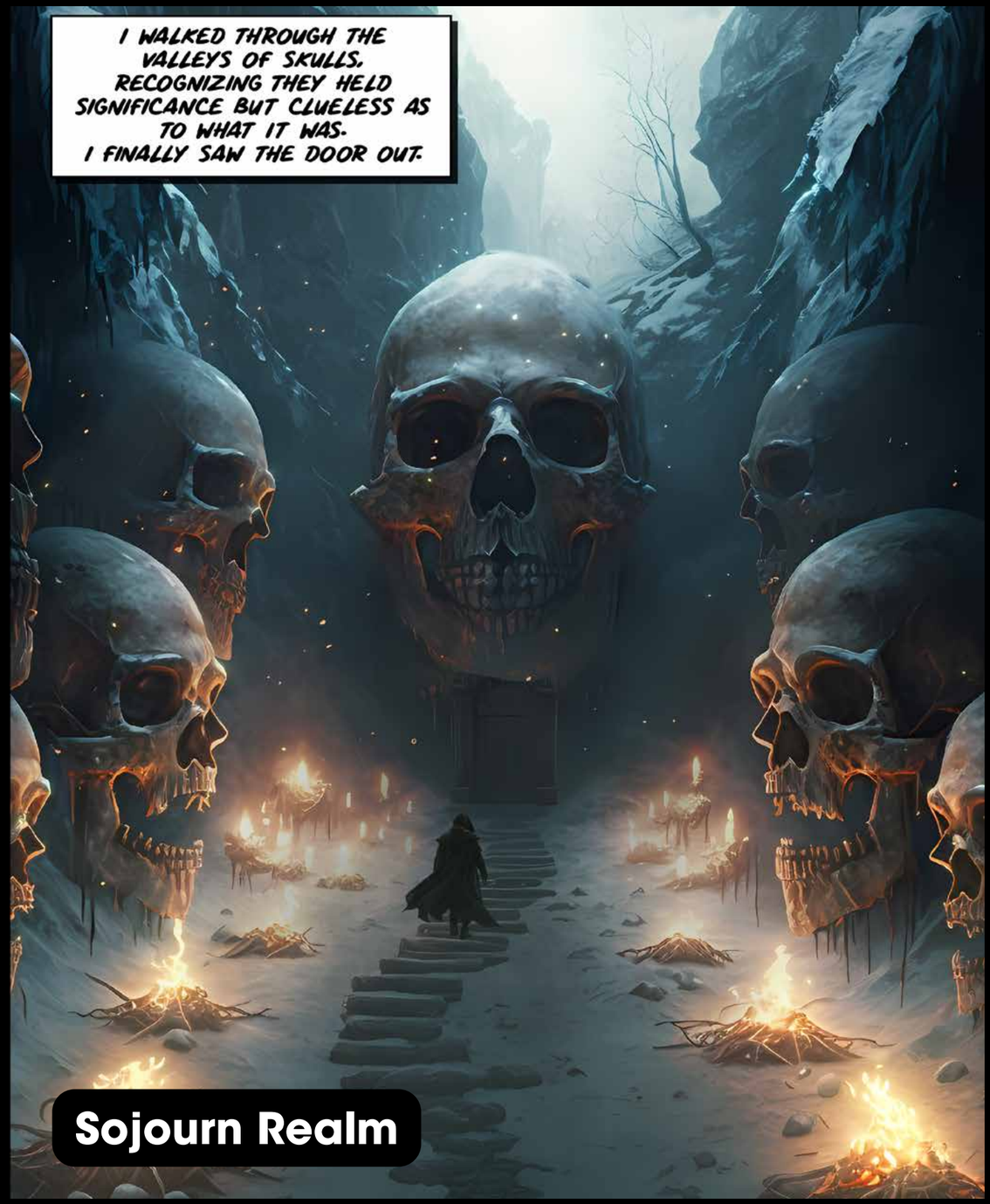
Full page samples from the following Books:

Realms 4
AI AI 2
AIAI 1
Lungflower
Mazariim
Bestiary 1
Bestiary 2
Bestiary 3
Bestiary 4
Bestiary 5
Sojourn Realm 1
Sojourn Realm 2
Sojourn Realm 3
Soul Trader
Ompo Tanko
VR Library
Indaari Origins
Seven Sages
Eldridge
Gods and Men
Voodoo Voodoo

Sojourn Realm


I AM AAIYAH.
THE SHIP'S COMPUTER. IT APPEARS THAT YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY REACTIVATED ME. THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS.
AI AI
SHE'S BEAUTIFUL.

The Eldridge

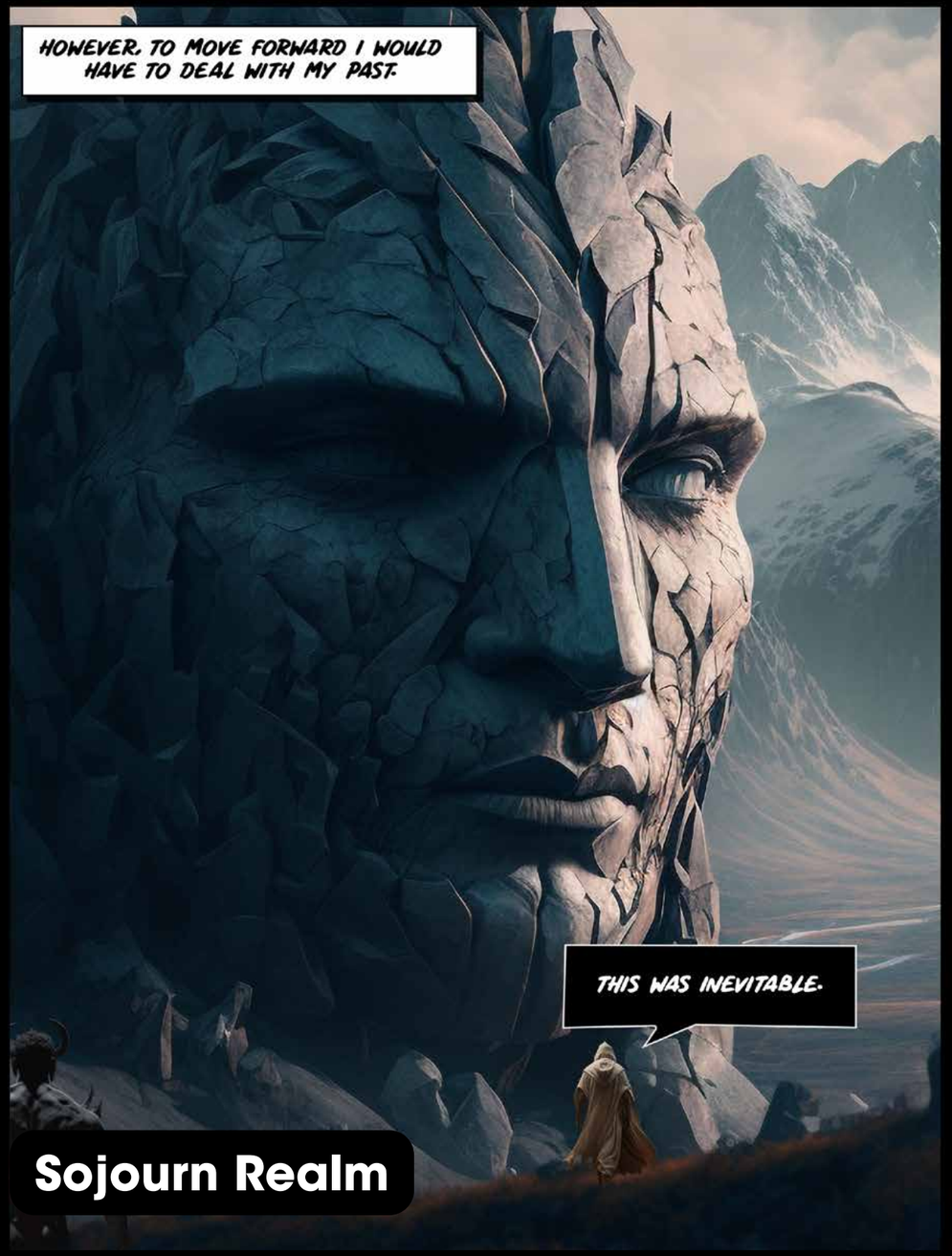


Sojourn Realm

Indaari Origins
But maybe someday, they would find a new purpose, and live in harmony once again.

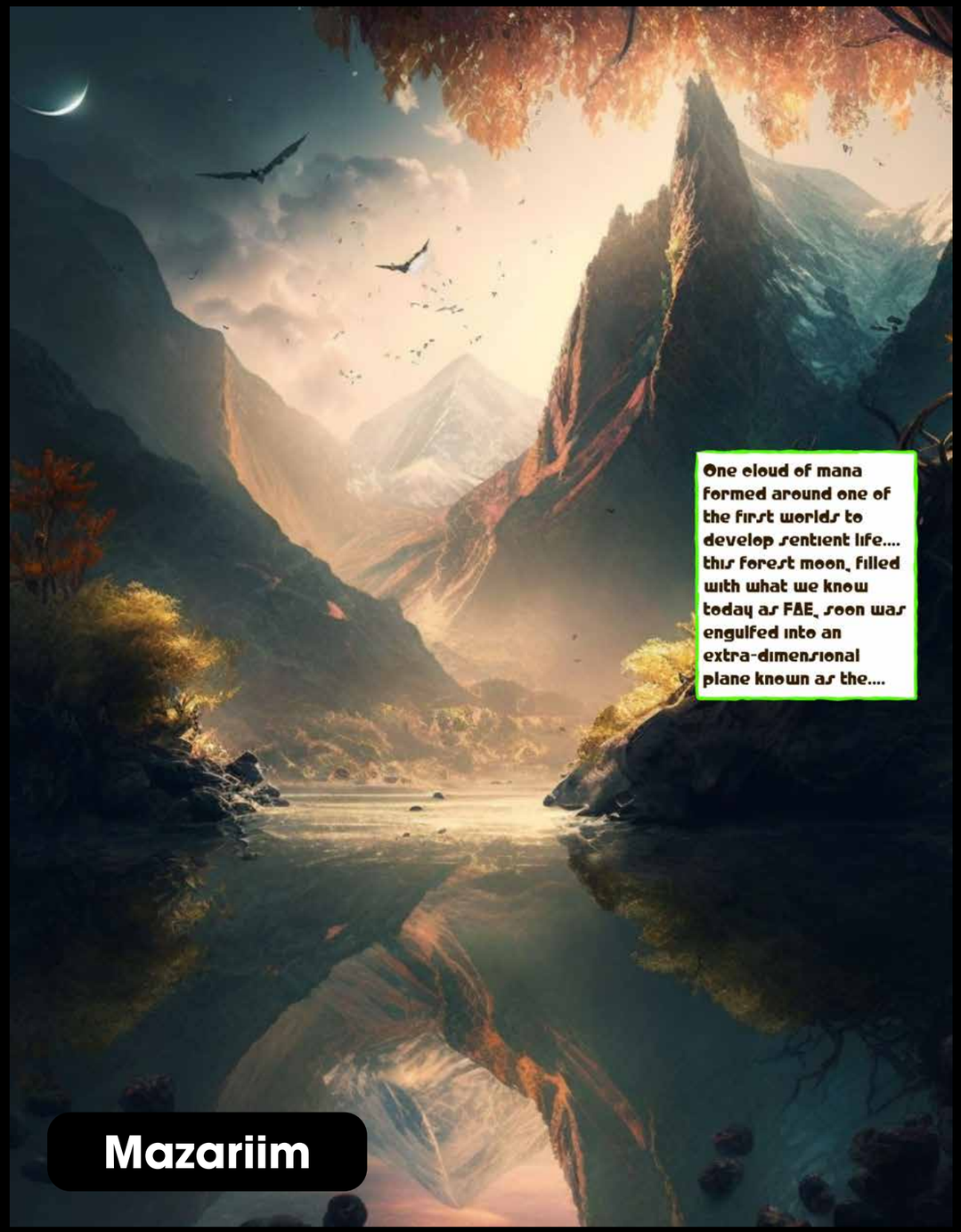
When Lungflower had grown in his lungs, back in what felt like a lifetime ago, Victor had developed a cough. A nagging, painful cough, like thistles deep down.
Lungflower
But Victor understood it now. The coughing wasn't because he was sick, it was because he'd tried to keep it in. To deny what was happening. To hold back the beauty of the change.

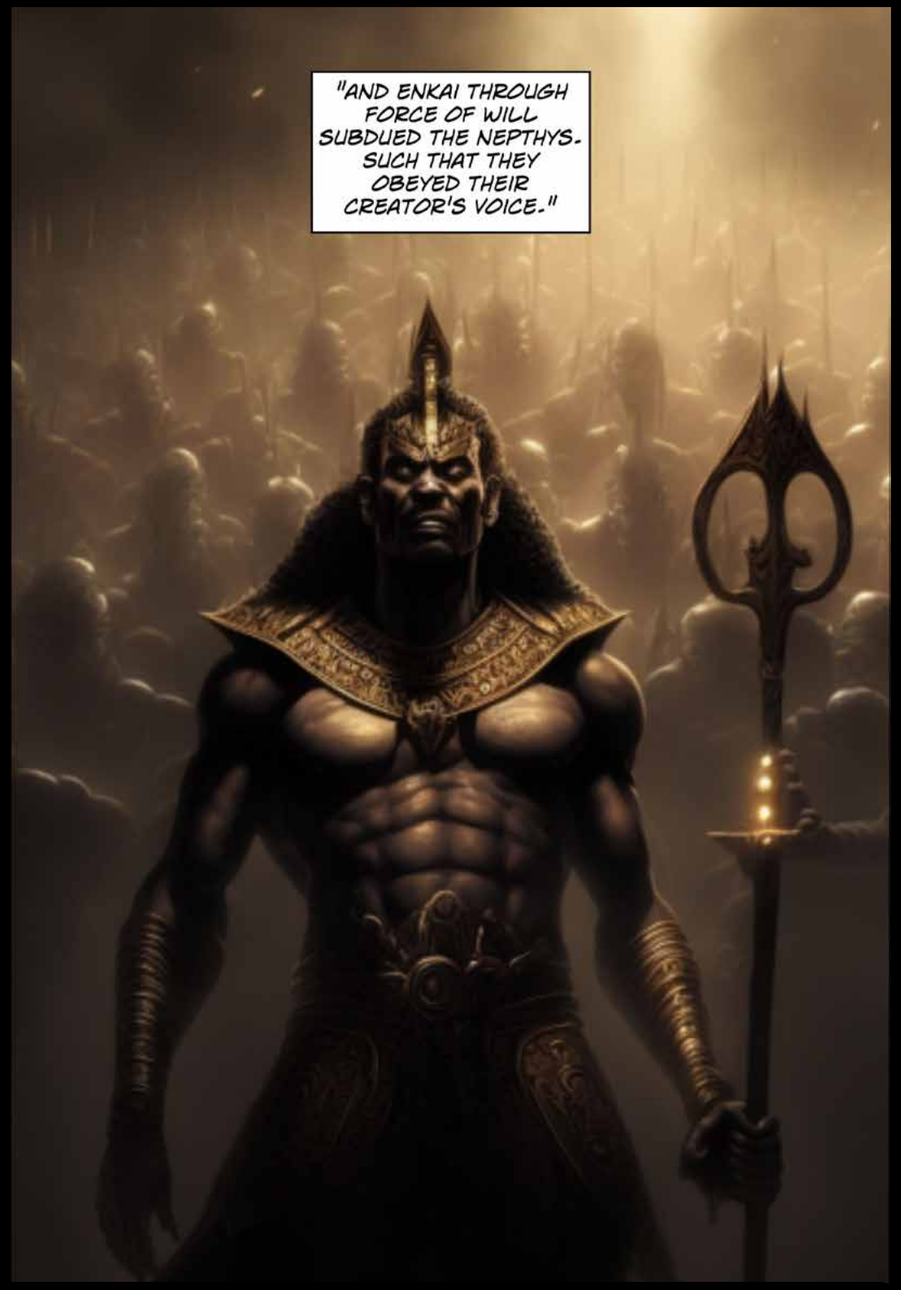
AI AI



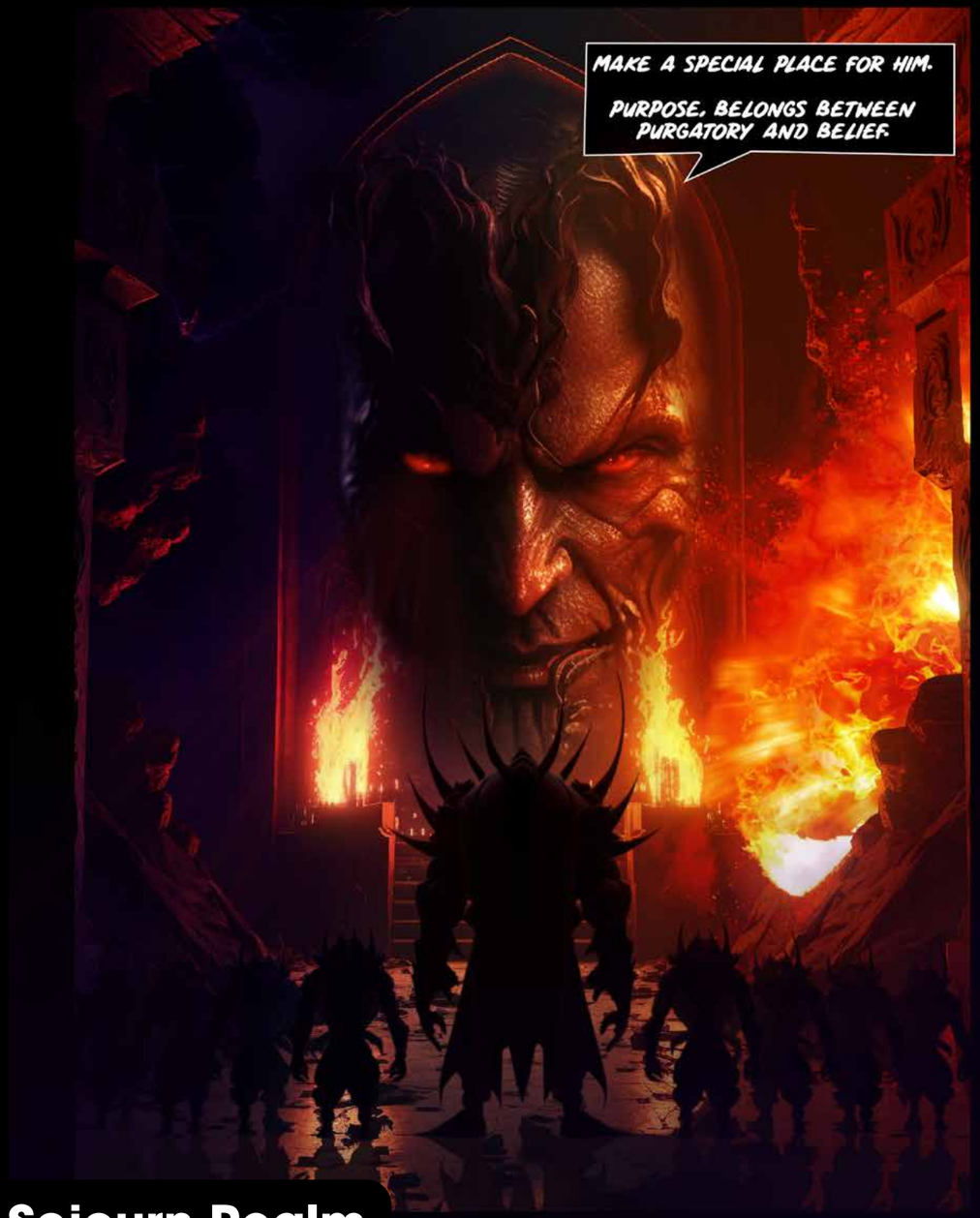
Sojourn Realm

IN THE YEAR 2040, HUMANITY HAS ENTERED THE AGE OF META.
META
STORY OUTLINED BY CHRISTOPHER ENGLISH
WRITTEN WITH CHATGPT
Realms


One cloud of mana formed around one of the first worlds to develop sentient life.... this forest moon, filled with what we know today as FAE, soon was engulfed into an extra-dimensional plane known as the....
Mazariim



The Provenance of Gods and Men



Sojourn Realm

Bestiary

Sojourn Realm

THE A.I. CURATOR

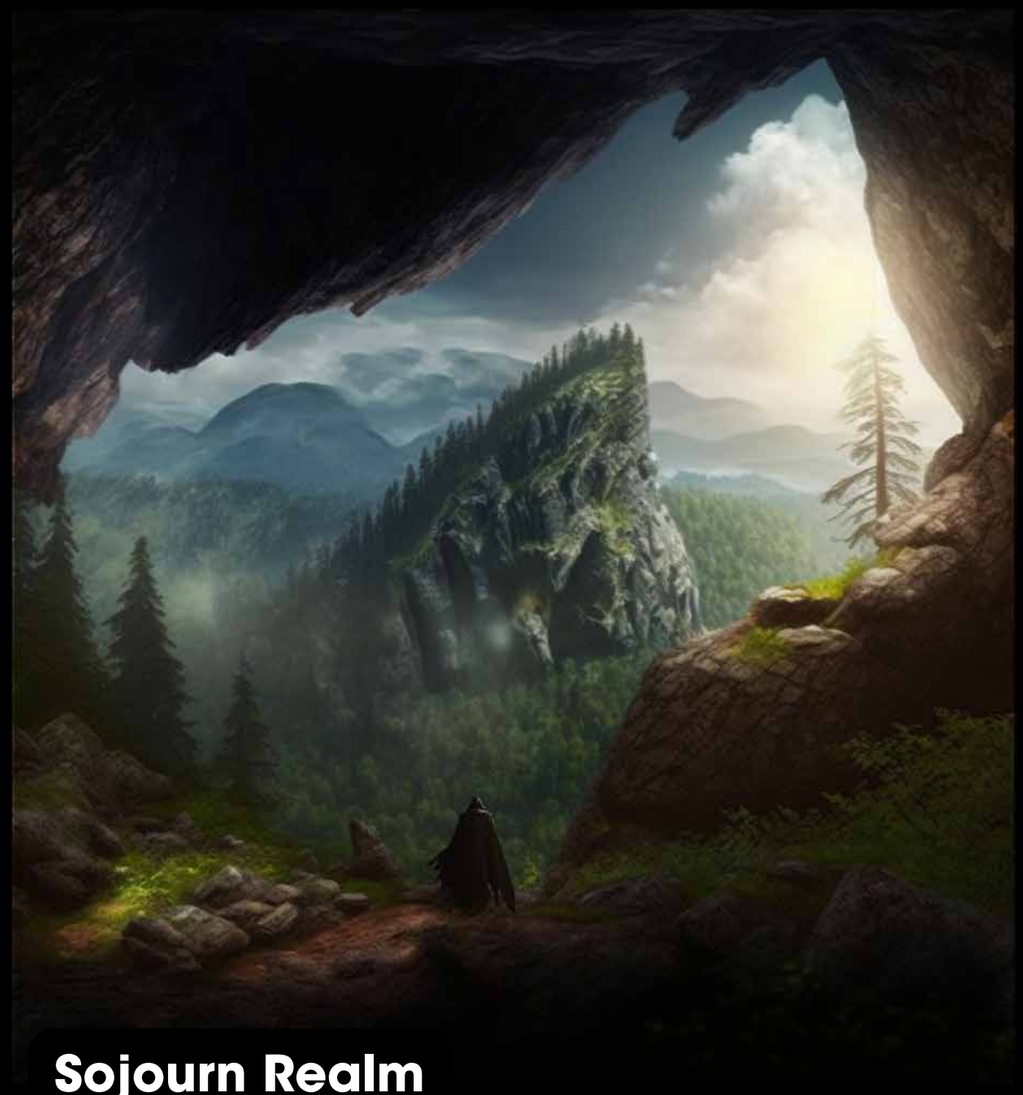
HORUS THE ORACLE

"Probability is not a mere computation of odds on the dice or more complicated variants; it is the acceptance of the lack of certainty in our knowledge and the development of methods for dealing with our ignorance."

—*Nassim Nicholas Taleb*

VR Library

A MOMENT LATER, SOMETHING PULLED ME FROM THE MORTAL PLANE. I STOOD SOMEWHERE THAT, THOUGH I HAD NEVER BEEN, I FELT I KNEW VERY WELL.



Sojourn Realm

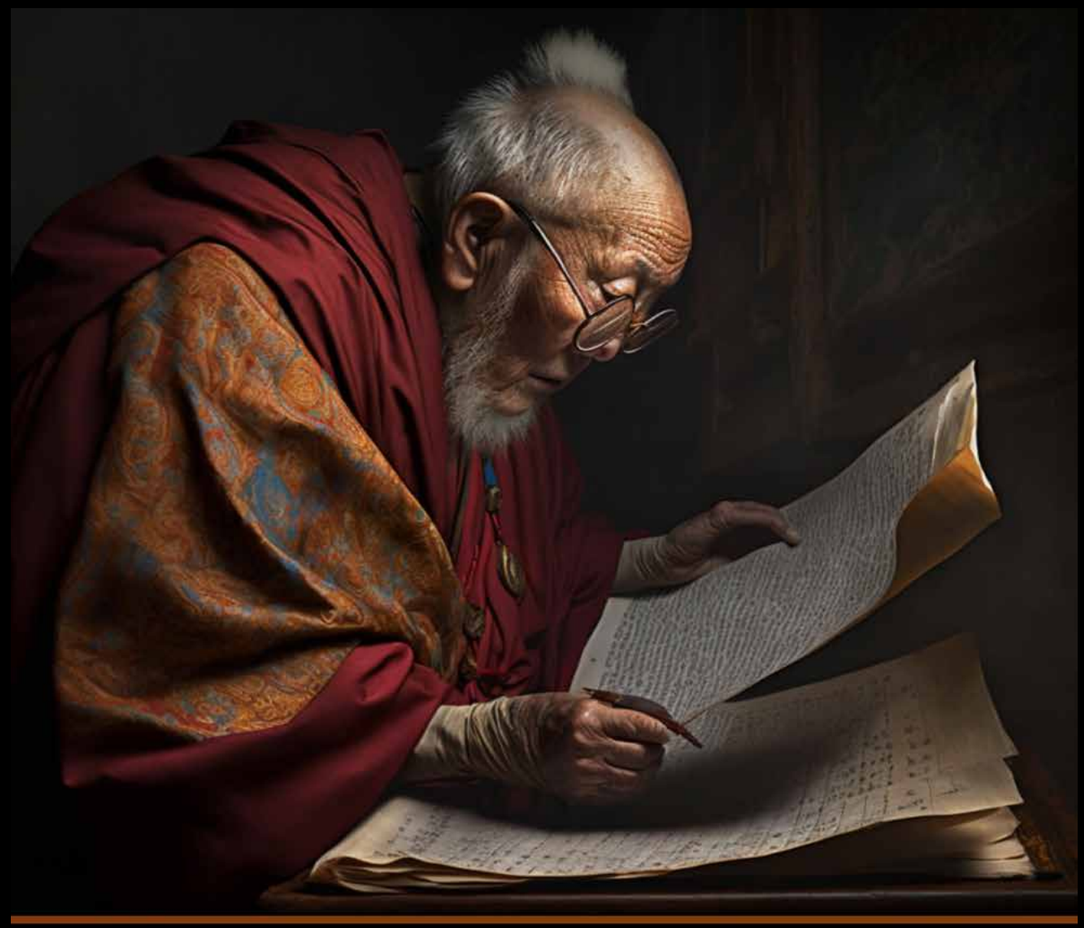
Bestiary

EVERYBODY LOOK WHAT'S GOING DOWN.
Bestiary

Ompo Tanko

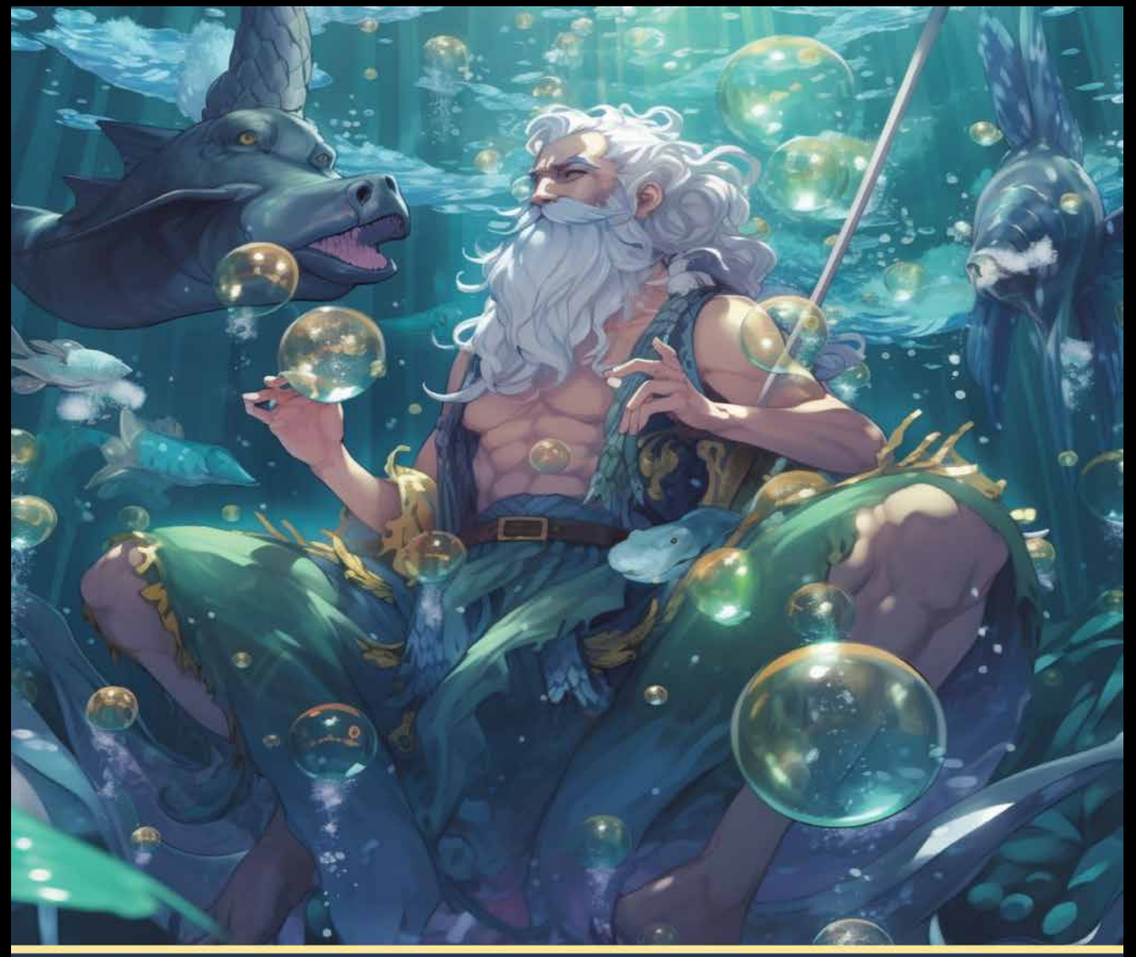
Bestiary

Bestiary



One of the senior monks, who was closely scrutinizing a parchment, suggested that Jasbir needed to consult Kelsang, the oracle, one who is god-seized (Mo). "He will give you guidance."

Virtual Library



FROM THE EDITOR
MOAR

Here we are. The first collaborative zine for AI art and storytelling. If you are reading this, you are a part of the beginning. You are not only witnessing history, you are the vanguard (as wAlter fuEgo would say) of a revolution in visual storytelling. Thanks to text-to-image generation, the gates are open, and a flood of creativity is washing in. In art, comics, animation, and more, new creatives are emerging, and they are bringing with them fresh perspectives and fresh ideas.

The first comics published in 2022 came in with an almost surrealist approach. With the limitations of AI art, what we saw then were primarily atmospheric works that relied on prose for the connectivity of the story. I am thinking of works such as *LungFlower* by Brian Martinez. The images created by Brian in collaboration with Midjourney surrounded the reader in an eerie, artistic beauty that later morphed into a tale of dark horror. The artwork really nailed home the feel of the story, despite the limitations of the technology at the time.

Later, of course, *Zarya of the Dawn* by Kristina Kashtanova would gain traction and take center stage as the world waited to see whether they could copyright an AI comic in the United States–and they did. While much has yet to be determined in terms of AI generated images themselves, comic books can now be copyrighted in the U.S. Which is huge.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Steve Coulson and his B*estiary Chronicles*, which blew my mind with their character and style consistency so early in AI art evolution. Steve was and is a trailblazer for the potential of AI comics. As are other creators such as Christopher English, who's upcoming manga, *I Think My King Might Be a Lil' Bitch*, looks hand drawn and amazes me.

New communities are forming thanks to these trailblazers. Not only do we have Facebook groups such as *AI Comic Book Creators* and *ARTOfficial* Comics, but we also have Discord servers like *AI Comic Books* and *Making Modern Comics and Books*, and websites like AIcomicbooks.com, all dedicated to sharing and teaching how to create visual storytelling with AI tools.

This is just the beginning. At the rate this technology is moving, and with the limitless potential of artificial intelligence, I consider myself lucky to be among all of you at this starting point in AI history.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

wALTER fuEGO

It's really an incredible honor to be able to present this first issue of Artificial Ink. The people, images, and stories in these books represent the birth of sequential story telling with text-to-image AI technology.

This technology has evolved incredibly fast. The images in the current books are an order of magnitude better than just six months ago. Look at these two images (with white border) from two books on Alcomicbooks. Both were made with the same prompt: Lucifer in hell

The creators featured in Artificial Ink are early adopters, vanguards, and as it turned out (much to everyones disappointment) rebel scum for trying to use text-to-image technology to tell stories in comic book, graphic novel, and manga format.

There seems to be little argument as to the reality of this tech being ubiquitous, in Photoshop, Microsoft Products, Google products and more. This explosive growth can be attributed to, at least in part Stable Diffusion. Stable diffusion is open source, software. Meaning anyone can download it, install it, and use it to instantly deliver results. Companies of all sizes can implement it into their products immediately, as well as use the open source software to develop proprietary solutions of any kind. The limit of the solution is only the imagination and business planning of the company.

We have showcased over 40 books in this issue as a way to present what has been done, and a vision of what's to come. A number of the creators are working creative professionals that are working under pseudonyms, to avoid the blackballing and potential loss of their clients/ reputation. It's important to put a flag in this as it will be a footnote to how this new industry started, and to those that were threatened online and with violence, but let's just leave it at that and move on to the positive.

Text-to-image technology releases the imagination and empowers the storyteller. We hope it brings a new generation of storytellers, new audiences, and new kinds of books.

This premier issue shows almost every first book created with text-to-image, as well as books recently completed. We call the early books "first generation" books, and the current books "second generation."

All books are available at no charge on the website AIComicBooks.com. Our site is dedicated to raising awareness and promoting stories that utilize AI generated art.

If you have not visited the site, please do!

Thank you for your support.