mazariim
worlds without number
issue 001 - genesis

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WRITTEN, ILLUSTRATED, AND CREATED BY HARRIS TERRY

A GRAPHIC NOVEL OF THE SHORT STORY MAZARIIM: WORLDS WITHOUT NUMBER

WRITTEN BY HARRIS INDOWSKY, (C) 2013-2023

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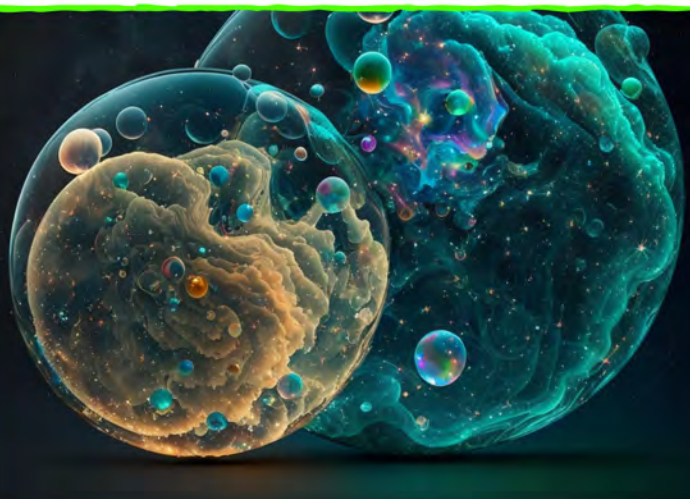
PART 1 - CREATION

In the limitless expanse of the multiverse, two universes drifted close to one another, an improbable event in an infinite multiverse full of bubble universes...

Countless galaxies, planets, worlds had formed in them over trillions of years...

Gravitational ripples and fluxuations grew...

Quantum instabilities rose as the two began to drift into each other until...

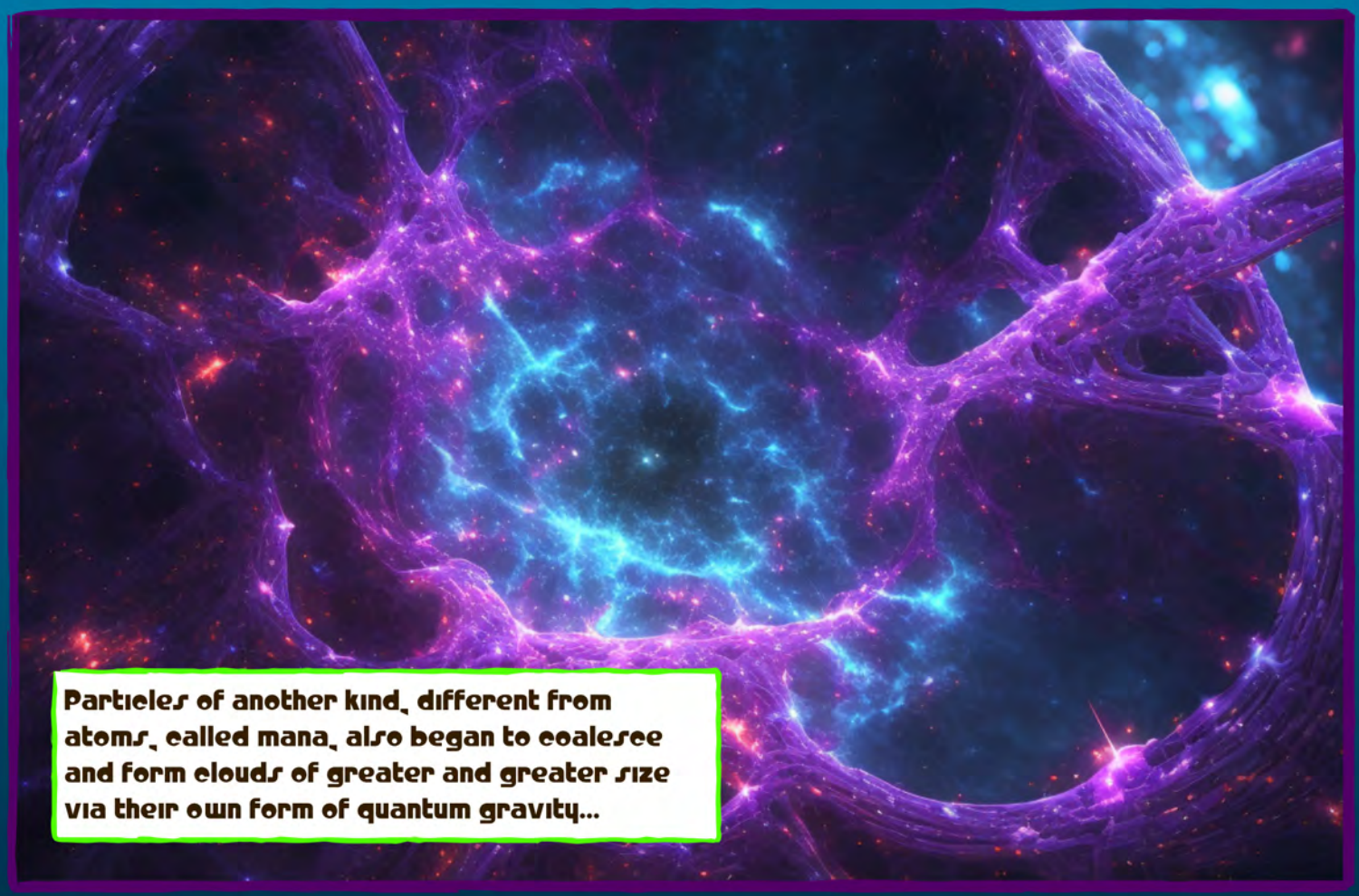


KAAAAABOOOOOOOOM

In less than a millionth of a second, the two universes annihilated each other, creating a new universe from the remains of the previous universes in a new Big Bang. Space-time inflated to enormous proportions as the universe cooled, atoms formed, time began to flow, and the universe began to calm...

Clouds of dust formed stars, stars formed galaxies, and galaxies formed clusters over vast amounts of incomprehensible time...

The galaxy clusters formed filaments, at scales beyond the understanding of anything yet to exist....


Particles of another kind, different from atoms, called mana, also began to coalesce and form clouds of greater and greater size via their own form of quantum gravity...

Soon these mana particles would begin to form a disk due to quantum gravity and angular momentum, spinning and growing and turning...

Millions of years past as one of the largest clouds in the entire universe began to form a consciousness... an awareness of its existence... a sentience.

Eventually, after millions of years in a dream-like cosmic slumber, the first and most powerful consciousness awakened, its ever-watchful eye opening to observe the universe and all its wonders. The first of what would become known as ENTITIES had come to life, made of particles of mana arranged in what would become a sort of neural network well beyond what a biological mind could ever become...

MAU THE WATCHER had been born...

...and with its birth came unexpected consequences... its magical energies and quantum fluctuations caused its entire form to slip into the higher dimensions of the universe, dimensions most creatures could never comprehend. And with that, the ASTRAL SEA was born.

...a vast, rolling emptiness that connects parts of space-time as well as overlaps the entire universe. In the future, as other Entities would form, they would find their home in their own higher extra-dimensional planes, all which would exist within this new sea of azure and turquoise, a place of transit and silence and speed determined by intellect...

And then... an unexpected miracle, a mixture of magic and physics, occurred...

As Mau observed the universe, its act of observation collapsed the wave function of the mana particles that permeate the universe, specifically the brains of living creatures scattered around the universe...

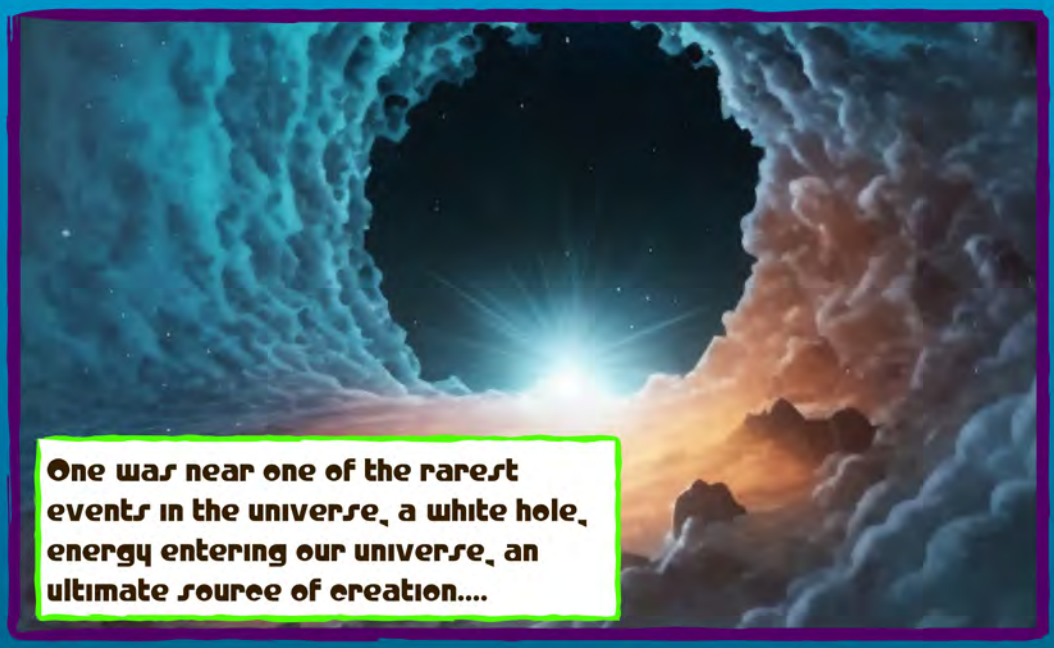
...and as they died, copies of their biological brains would separate and journey to the Astral Plane...

...rejoining the energies of the universe without the loss of information...

...and although the racees of the planet of Mazariim would not exist for billions of years...
THE SOUL HAD BEEN BORN

PART 2 - AWAKENINGS

The awakening of Mau the Watcher sent hyperluminal shockwaves through the cosmos, disturbing other clouds of mana millions of light-years away, waking them from their slumber....

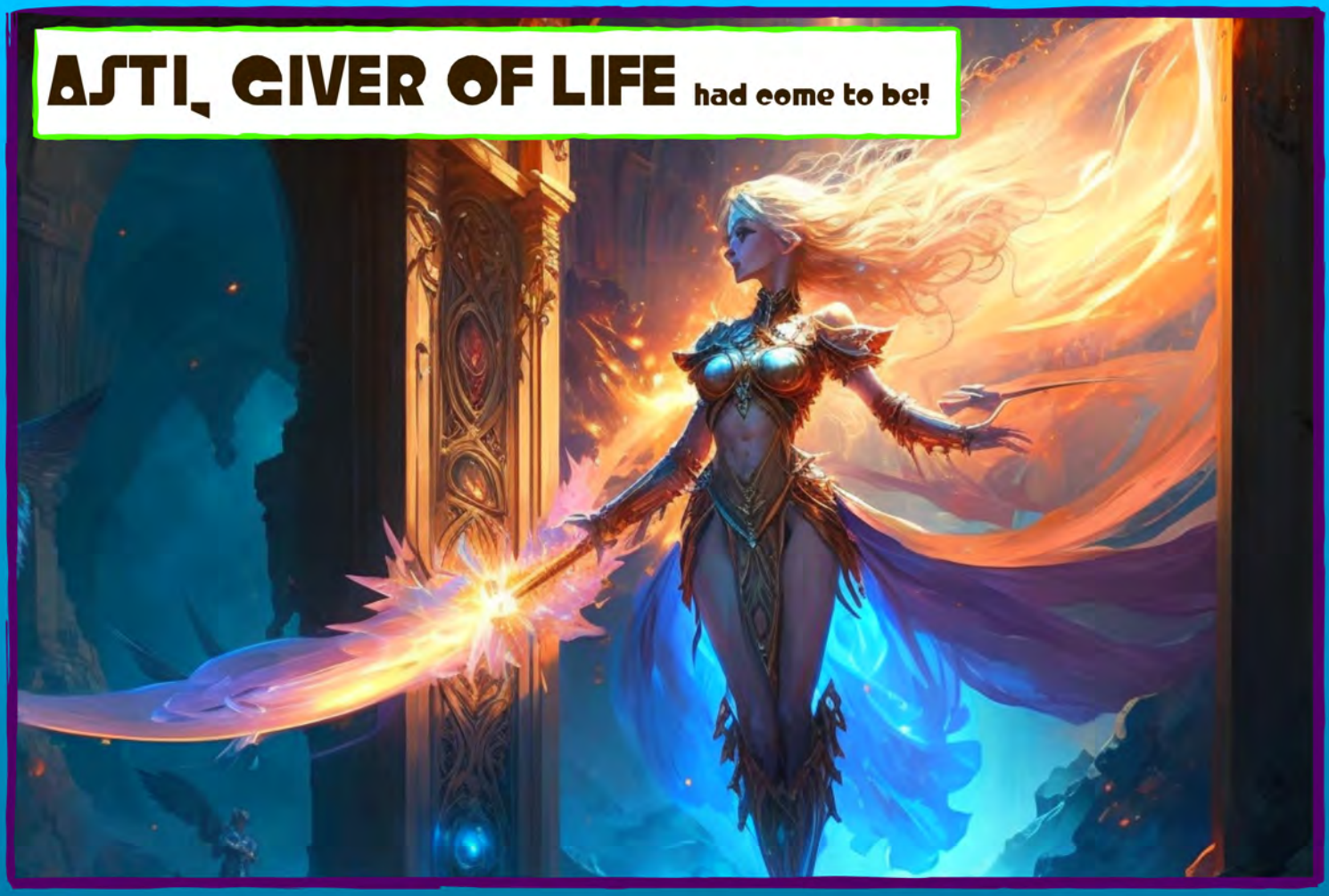


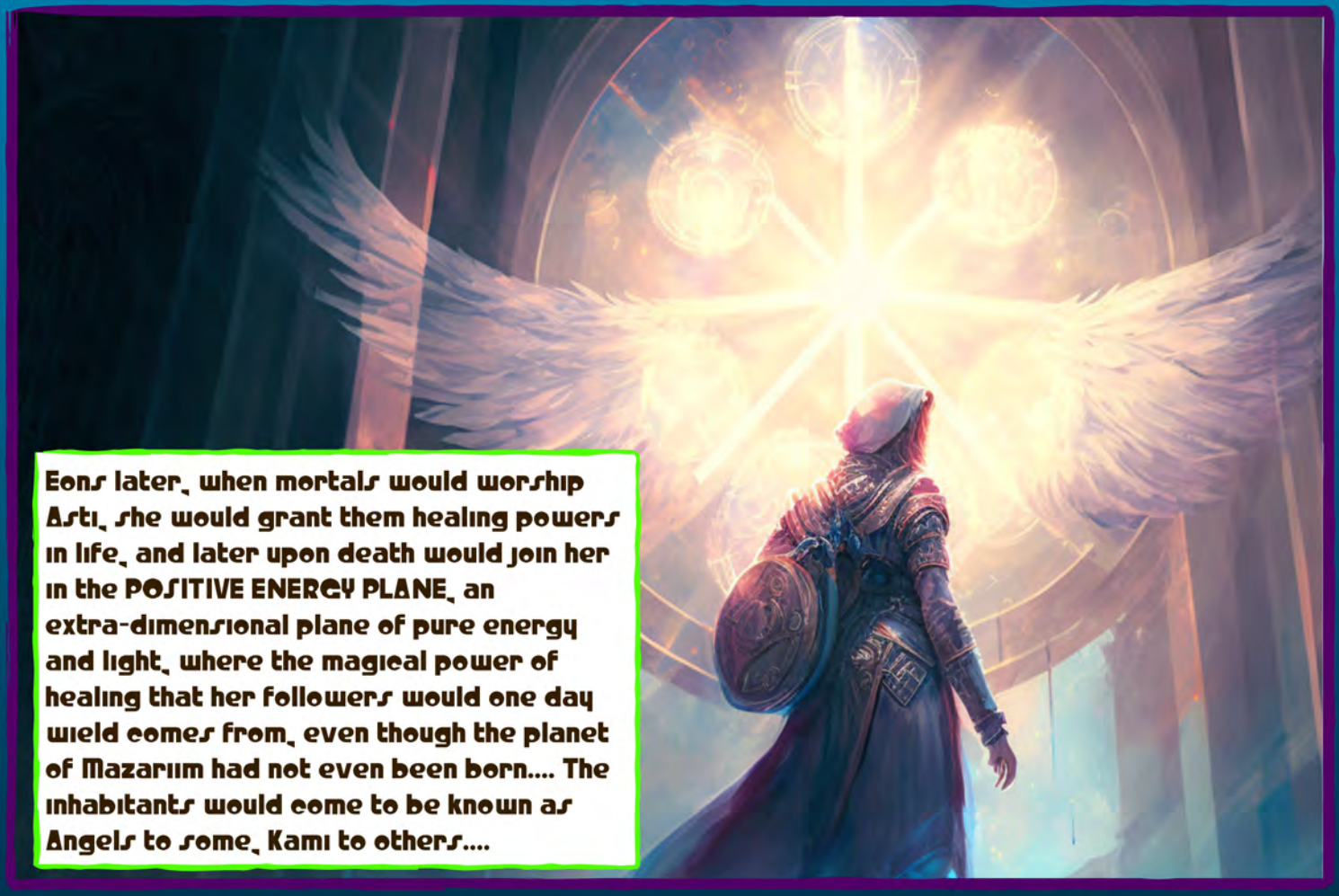
One was near one of the rarest events in the universe, a white hole, energy entering our universe, an ultimate source of creation....

Mana began to approach a critical mass....

KAAAAA-THAAAAAKKKKK!

An eerie calm and stillness settled as the while hole and mana were gone....


ASTI, GIVER OF LIFE had come to be!


Eons later, when mortals would worship Asti, she would grant them healing powers in life, and later upon death would join her in the POSITIVE ENERGY PLANE, an extra-dimensional plane of pure energy and light, where the magical power of healing that her followers would one day wield comes from, even though the planet of Mazarium had not even been born.... The inhabitants would come to be known as Angels to some, Kami to others....

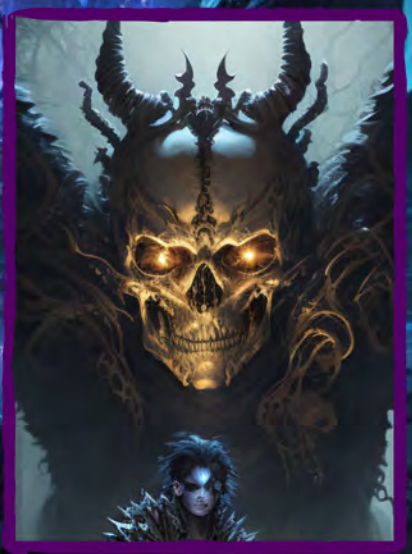
Meanwhile, in another part of another nearby galaxy, a huge cloud of mana had been pulled towards a black hole, slowly getting eaten after almost a billion years of slumber. The odds and math of the universe and infinity conspired against the future of the peoples of Mazariim as another ENTITY was born, to be known as

Zebulba the Destroyer!!

An extra-dimensional plane of entropy and destruction, Zebulba itself was a part of the NEGATIVE ENERGY PLANE with no real form.

But to the poor souls of the mortals that would one day worship him in exchange for powers over death and the undead....

They would in time become the servitors of Zebulba, as well as the servants of his mortal worshipers in the mortal realms.



These negative energy elementals, Nightstalkers, undead of all kinds, Oni, all experience the worst of sufferings.....

Similar occurrences would happen across the cosmos of the next few billion years.... a star would form near a mana cloud, and...
Pyrantor, LORD OF SUNS
was born, along with the PLANE OF FIRE!

A drifting mana cloud, asleep and dreaming for millions of years, settles on a frozen water moon around a gas giant, and when it reaches its critical mass...

Iquinias, MASTER OF WATER

came into being, along with the PLANE OF WATER!

A rocky barren world, full of gems and impossible minerals, orbited a double star system as the mana cloud grew... and finally

DIRGIN, KING OF THE EARTH

awoke from its slumber, creating the PLANE OF EARTH!

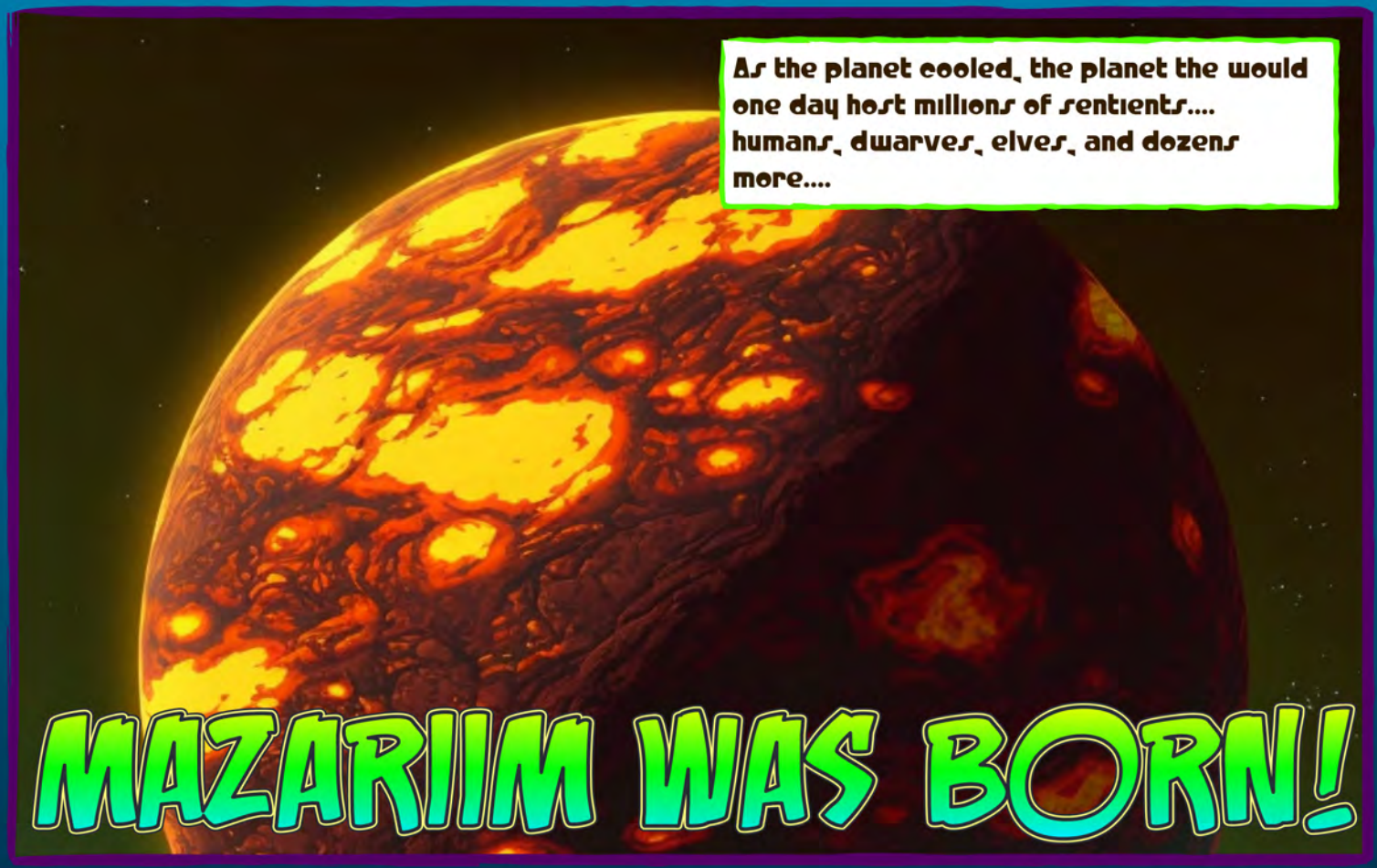
A cloud of mana was caught up in the incredible winds of a hot gas giant, melding with the incredible gales within, mixing with the mana particles over millions of years, and then finally....

Vuala, MISTRESS OF AIR rose to observe the universe.

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....

the FAE LANDS, ruled by
Gruhathyrir the
Night Dancer,
lord of all Fae for all time!

After billions of years, a small planet began to form and cool around a small star, with two moons one day to be known as Io'el and Randir'el circling it slowly....


As the planet cooled, the planet the would one day host millions of sentients.... humans, dwarves, elves, and dozens more....
MAZARIIM WAS BORN!