



Mother...

...I thought all that mattered was finding answers about your death...

...but it turns out your life is what I should have been hunting all along.

NO! LET GO! LET GO!



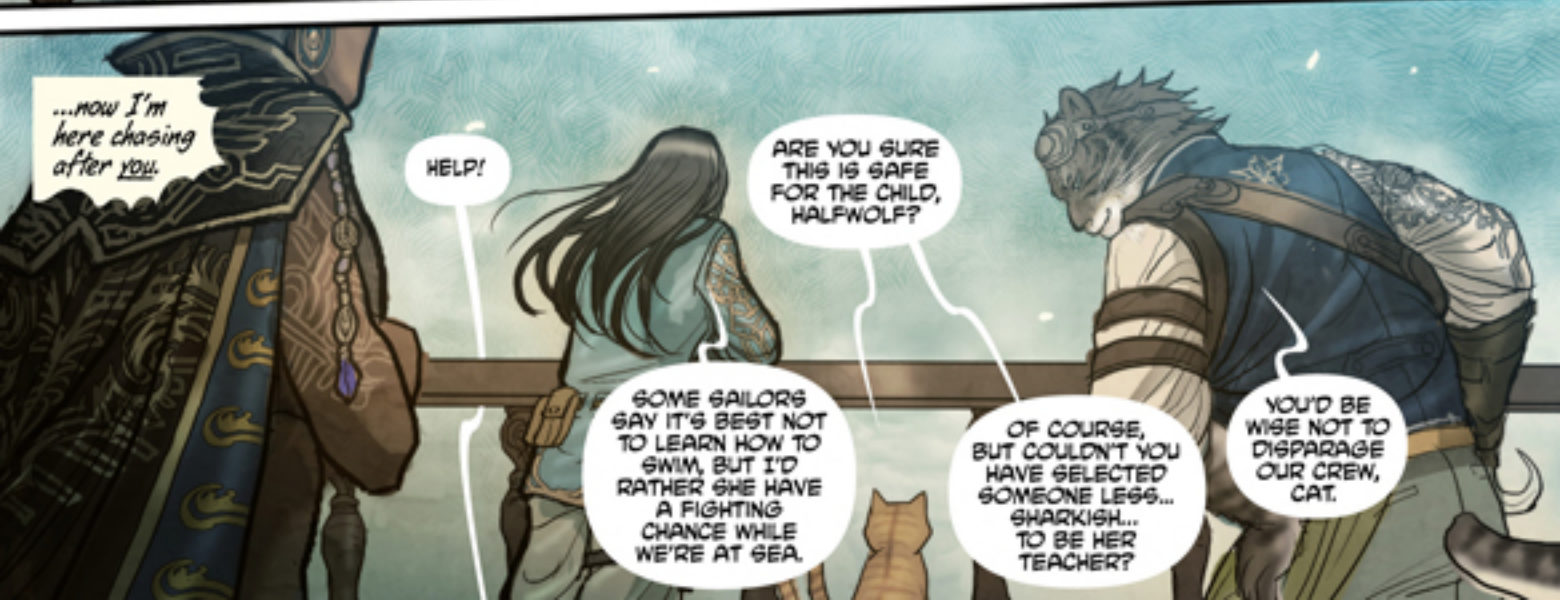
You sailed these very seas when you went searching for your answers...

THE CREW IS BACK FROM THE WELL STATION, CAPTAIN. ALL THE DRINKING WATER IS ABOARD.

GOOD, JAN. TIME WE HAD THE WIND BEHIND OUR SAILS.

I HAD A DREAM LAST NIGHT WE WERE BEING WATCHED, AND THAT DREAM ENDED IN BLOOD.

SEA DREAMS ARE NOT TO BE IGNORED, CAPTAIN. THOUGH WHAT THEY MEAN ONLY THE POETS CAN KNOW FOR CERTAIN.



...now I'm here chasing after you.

HELP!

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS SAFE FOR THE CHILD, HALFWOLF?

SOME SAILORS SAY IT'S BEST NOT TO LEARN HOW TO SWIM, BUT I'D RATHER SHE HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE WHILE WE'RE AT SEA.

OF COURSE, BUT COULDN'T YOU HAVE SELECTED SOMEONE LESS... SHARKISH... TO BE HER TEACHER?

YOU'D BE WISE NOT TO DISPARAGE OUR CREW, CAT.





Even though you're dead, there's a part of me that believes maybe I'll find you.

YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE WHAT HAPPENS.

HSSST!



The truth is...all I'll ever find is your ghost. But for someone like me...a ghost is better than nothing.

I AM SICK TO DEATH OF BEING THREATENED BY MONGREL TIGER-KIN. PUT ANOTHER CLAW IN MY FACE, AND I'LL HAVE IT FOR A NECKLACE!

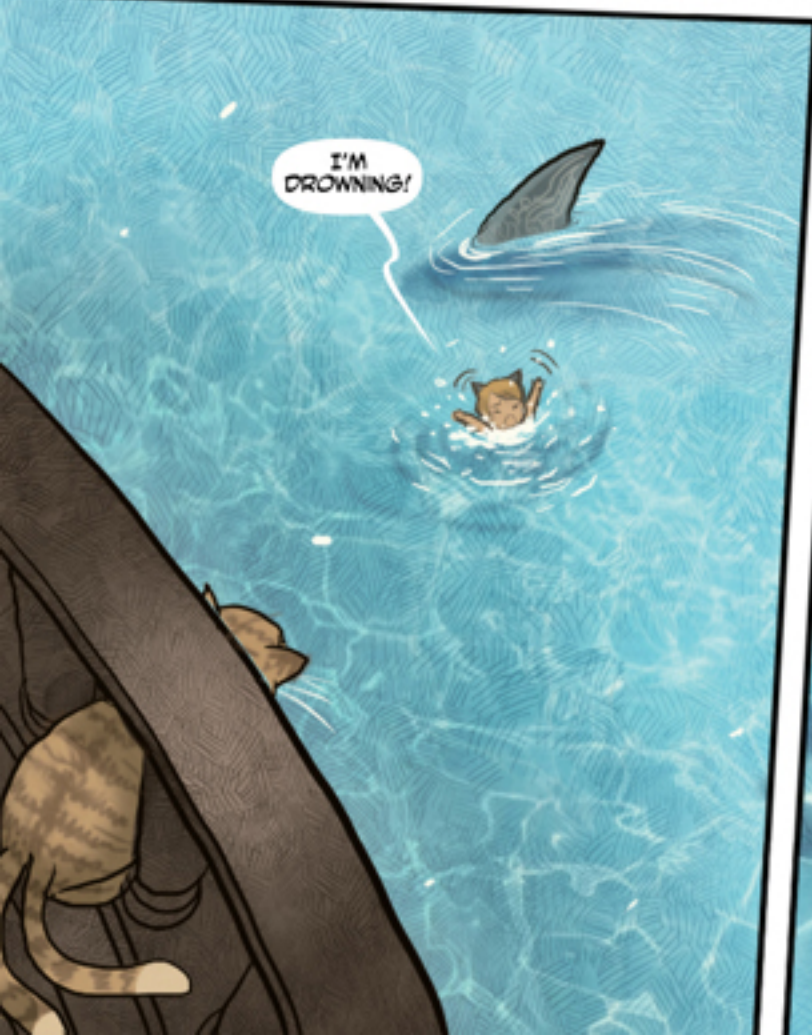


YOU, HALFWOLF? CAN YOU SWIM?

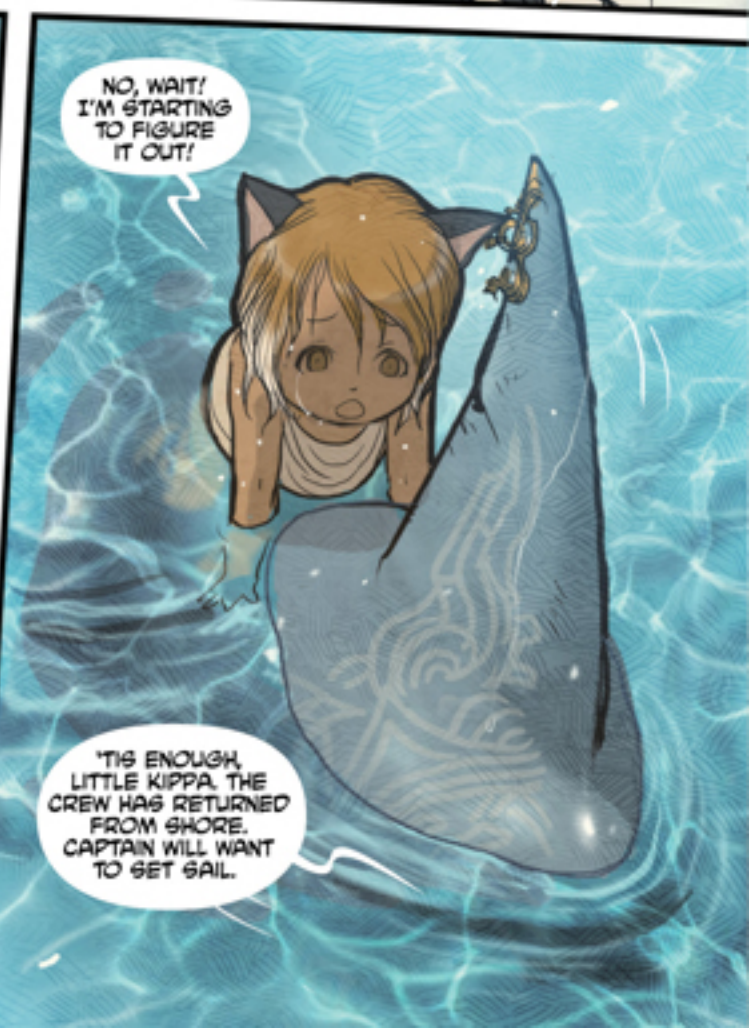
I CAN OUTSWIM YOU.

YOU'RE EITHER A LIAR OR A FOOL. NEITHER WILL LAST LONG OUT HERE.

LOOK! LOOK!



I'M DROWNING!



NO, WAIT! I'M STARTING TO FIGURE IT OUT!

'TIS ENOUGH, LITTLE KIPPA. THE CREW HAS RETURNED FROM SHORE. CAPTAIN WILL WANT TO GET GAIL.



THANK YOU FOR TRYING TO TEACH ME SWIMMING, MISS... OLD TOOTH.

I'M SORRY I JUMPED WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU. THAT WAS VERY RUDE.

YOU HAD NO REASON TO KNOW I AM AN ARCANIC. YOU LANDERS HAVE BEEN DRY SO LONG YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE FACES OF YOUR SEA SISTERS AND BROTHERS.

JAN, LEAVE THE NEKOMANCER ALONE. HE MIGHT ENSLAVE YOUR GHOST AFTER YOU DIE.

HE'LL NEED TO GROW A FEW EXTRA TAILS IF HE WANTS TO TAKE MY SOUL, CAPTAIN.

RAISE THE ANCHOR! RIXA, THE SAILS!

MASTER REN! DID YOU SEE ME DROWNING?

YES.

KIPPA.

I DID.

MISS! MISS! I WAS IN THE SEA!

YOU, HALFPUP. I HEARD THE WAY YOU TALKED TO THE CAPTAIN JUST NOW. THAT WON'T DO.

NOT FROM A HUMAN. NOT FROM ANYONE.

I'M AS ARCANIC AS YOU.

THAT'S PLENTY RICH. YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE THAN A DROP OF TRUE BLOOD TO MAKE YOU ONE OF US.