



I HAVE QUESTIONS.



WHY WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME?

WE THINK... THAT MIKEY IS LOOKING FOR THE MAGES ON EARTH. SO WE THOUGHT IF WE FOUND THE MAGES... WE'D FIND MIKEY.

MICHAEL IS NOT LOOKING FOR THE MAGES, WENDY. HE'S HUNTING US.

THIS IS WHY I SENT A DIVINER AFTER HIM.

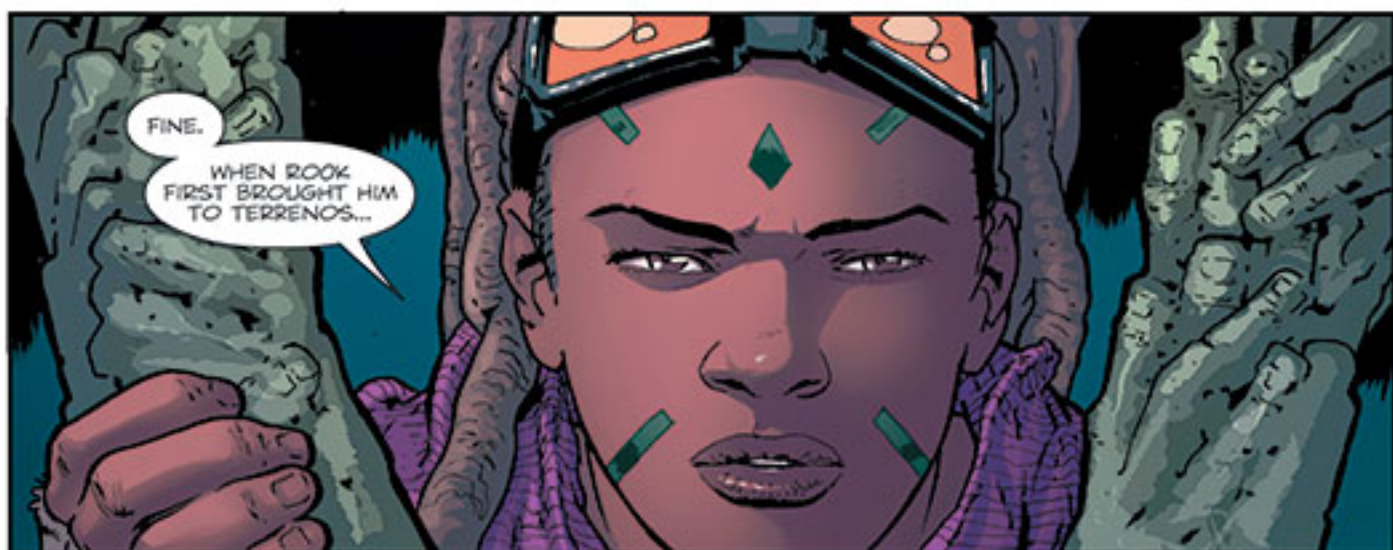


YOU WHAT?! HOW COULD YOU DO SOMETHING SO DANGEROUS, MASTEMA?

I BELIEVE I AM THE ONE ASKING QUESTIONS HERE, RYA.

BESIDES, THE CHOSEN ONE SOMEHOW DEFEATED THE DIVINER.

NOW, IF THE PAIR OF YOU EVER WISH TO BE FREE AGAIN, YOU WILL TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT MICHAEL RHODES. UNDERSTOOD?



FINE.

WHEN ROOK FIRST BROUGHT HIM TO TERRENOS...

"HE WAS JUST A SNOT-NOSED BRAT WHO MISSED HIS PARENTS AND WHINED ABOUT WANTING TO GO HOME ALL THE TIME. BUT I COULD TELL...HE WAS KIND.

"AS HE PRACTICED AND DEVELOPED HIS SKILLS, HE FOUND HIS CALLING AND STARTED TO LOOK LIKE THE HERO I...*WE* NEEDED. BUT STILL, I COULD SEE THAT A HEART LIKE HIS DIDN'T BELONG IN A WORLD LIKE OURS...

"HE'D SAVE A VILLAGE OR LEAD US INTO BATTLE AGAINST SOME MONSTER ARMY, AND FIND HIS CONFIDENCE ON THE BATTLEFIELD...NEVER LOSING SIGHT OF WHAT MATTERED MOST TO HIM...*FAMILY*.




WE HAD...A *PLAN*. I WAS GOING TO LEAD A FORCE AGAINST LORE'S ARMY, AND MIKEY WOULD GO AFTER LORE HIMSELF.

MIKEY HAD BEEN TRAINING HIS WHOLE LIFE FOR THAT MOMENT. TO FINALLY DESTROY THE GOD KING LORE.

THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD *US*, TOO. HE SAID HE *DID* SAVE TERRENOS AND *KILLED* LORE.





"BUT YOU KNOW THAT TERRENOS... IT'S A HARD PLACE TO LIVE. EVEN A BEAUTIFUL SOUL LIKE MIKEY'S FOUND IT HARD TO KEEP ANY CHILDLIKE QUALITIES AND...IDEALS..."

"IN A LOT OF WAYS, LOSING HIS **HEART** WAS WHAT HE NEEDED FOR THE FINAL BATTLE WITH LORE. HE WASN'T JUST A HERO OR A WARRIOR...HE WAS THE LEADER OF ALL THE FREE CITIZENS OF TERRENOS."

BUT HE LIED, DIDN'T HE?

SOMETHING HAPPENED AND IT LEAD TO HIM BECOMING POSSESSED BY A NEVERMIND.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.

BUT TERRENOS IS STILL AT WAR. LORE'S FORCES ARE ON FULL BLOODY ASSAULT. IT'S WORSE THAN IT'S EVER BEEN. I DON'T THINK...TERRENOS CAN HANDLE MUCH MORE.