

THE BLACK FOREST.

HESSIA, WHO ARE THEY?

I DO NOT KNOW, THEKLA.

AMAZONS!

STAND DOWN!

WE HAVE HEARD OF YOUR ALLIANCE WITH THE JOTUNS, AND YOU ARE NO DOUBT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BASE ABDUCTION OF ONE OF ODIN'S HONORED SHIELD MAIDENS!

UNTRUE. WE HAVE SEEN NONE OF YOUR COMRADES THIS DAY OR ANY OTHER.

WE ARE HERE TO RETRIEVE SOME OF OUR OWN WHO WERE ALSO KIDNAPPED FROM US BY THESE--

LIES!

WE HAVE HEARD WHAT THE JOTUNS ARE SCHEMING. YOU ARE HERE TO MATE WITH THEM TO REPRODUCE!

WHAT??

GREAT VALKYRIE, IF I MAY SPEAK...

...THOUGH I HAVE KNOWN THESE AMAZONS FOR ONLY A SHORT WHILE, I HAVE FOUGHT BESIDE THEM.

THEY ARE TRUE WARRIORS WHOSE HONOR IS BEYOND COMPARE...

...AND NO MORE YOUR ENEMY THAN ANY VIKING WHO WOULD SEE VALHALLA.

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET FALLEN IN BATTLE, LITTLE VIKING...



... THEN YOU ARE OF NO CONCERN TO ODIN'S HONORED.

AAGH--!!



WHAT HAPPENED?

A SPELL OF SLUMBER... OUR WORDS ARE *NOT* FOR MORTAL EARS.

THE VIKINGS--THEY'RE-- ALL UNCONSCIOUS.



SISTER--

I AM *NOT* YOUR "SISTER," SOUTHRON.

ALL WOMEN ARE SISTERS, VALKYRIE, AND SHARE A COMMONALITY OF WHICH WE SHOULD ALL BE PROUD.

AND ON MY HONOR AS AN AMAZON AND A WARRIOR, WE HAVE NOT DONE THIS HEINOUS DEED YOU SPEAK OF.

WE ARE HERE TO RETRIEVE OUR OWN COMRADES AND NOTHING MORE. ONCE WE HAVE THEM, WE SHALL BE ON OUR WAY HOME TO OUR NATIVE LAND OF THEMYSIRA.



NOT FAR AWAY...

THAT JOTUN SPOKE TRUE.

THERE THEY ARE...

... RIPE FOR THE PLUCKING.



ARE YOU SURE THIS IS WISE? THEY DEFEATED US EASILY BEFORE. AND SINCE WHEN DO WE TRUST JOTUNS?

LET THE JOTUN PLAY HIS HAND. AND WHEN HE DOES, THESE FOREIGNERS WILL RUE THE DAY THEY DARED TO EMBARRASS US.

MEANWHILE...

PERHAPS WE HAVE MISJUDGED YOU, SOUTHRON.

AFTER ONE OF OUR OWN WAS ABDUCTED, WE ASSUMED THAT YOU WERE TO BLAME.

I UNDERSTAND. THE LOSS OF COMRADES CAN OFTTIMES CLOUD THE MIND AND BURDEN THE HEART.



AYE. THAT IT DOES.

WE HAVE LONG KNOWN OF THE JOTUNS' DESIRE TO IMPROVE THEIR STOCK.

WE THINK THAT *SORCERY* IS AFOOT, BUT--



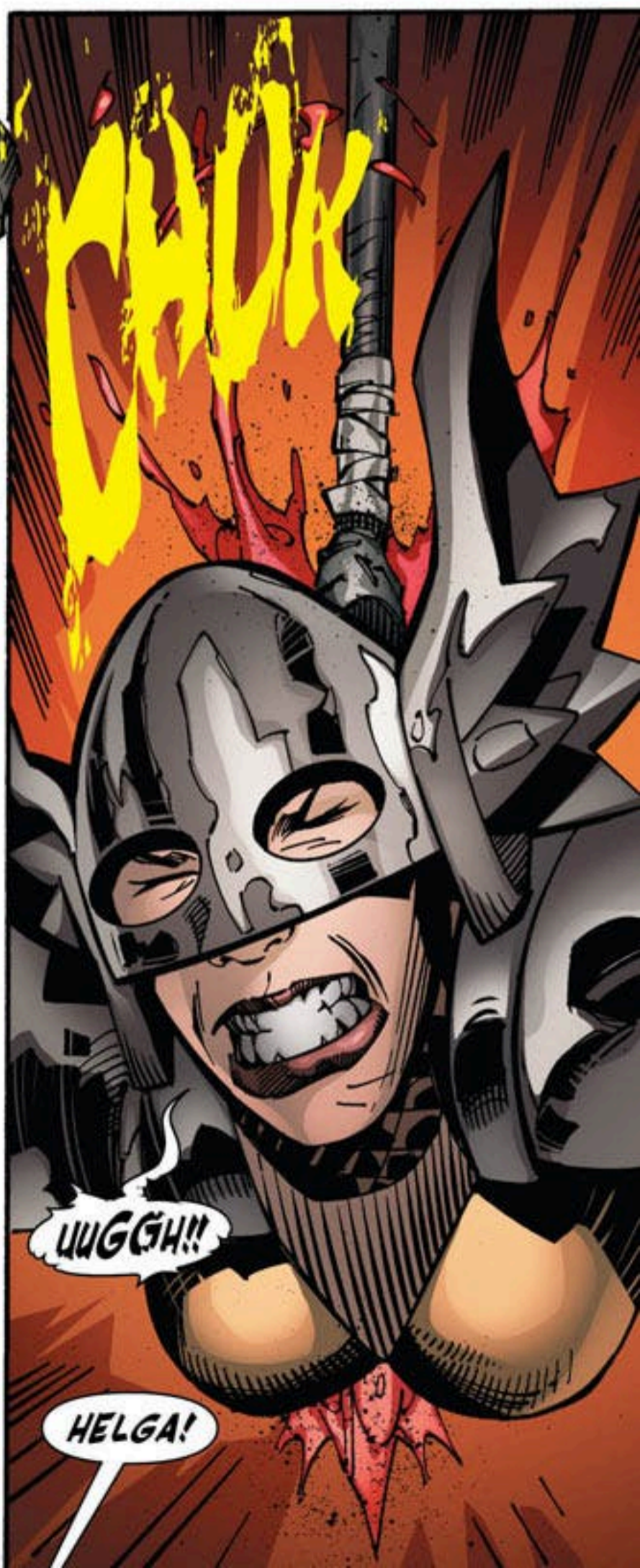
TROLLS!

TO SLAUGHTER WITH THE VALKYRIE SCUM!!

WHA--??



DIE, VALKYRIE!



UUGGH!!

HELGA!

THE DEADLY TROLLS CAN GIVE EVEN THE MOST SKILLED IMMORTALS PAUSE.

THOUGH CAUGHT UNAWARES, THESE WARRIORS WILL NOT GO GENTLY INTO THAT GOOD NIGHT.

THE TROLLS' PROWESS WAS VIOLENTLY, AND WITH PASSION.

BUT TRY AS THEY MIGHT, THE STONE-COVERED ASSAILANTS ARE NO MATCH FOR THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THE AMAZONS AND ODIN'S FINEST.

CURSE THESE TROLLS--

NO! THIS WAS OUR TIME--!!

AND IT ENDS THE ONLY WAY THAT IT COULD.

--THEY HAVE DWELLED UPON MIDGARD LONG ENOUGH!

OUR T--

**CHACK**

