

STALINVERSE TIMELINE

- 1922** JOSEPH STALIN ASSASSINATES VLADIMIR LENIN AND BECOMES LEADER OF THE SOVIET UNION.
- 1934** RUSSIA FORMS THE SOVIET UNION BY ANNEXING THE BALTIC STATES AS WELL AS POLAND, HUNGARY, GERMANY AND FRANCE.
- 1939** GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR OF EUROPE BEGINS.
- 1945** SOVIET UNION EMERGES TRIUMPHANT AFTER THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR.
- 1946** SOVIET UNION ENVELOPES ALL OF EUROPE EXCEPT FOR GREAT BRITAIN.
- 1947** BATTLE OF BRITAIN. ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND FALL UNDER SOVIET RULE.
- 1948** WAR FOR ASIA BEGINS.
- 1949** SOVIET UNION DROPS ATOM BOMB ON TOKYO, ENDING THE WAR FOR ASIA.
- 1951** USSR INSTALLS JOSEPH McCARTHY AS PUPPET PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
- 1960** SOVIET UNION ACCELERATES DEEP SPACE EXPLORATION.
- 1963** SINO-SOVIET PACT SIGNED.
- 1968** AMERICAN CIVIL WAR II BEGINS.
- 1969** THE FIRST BATTLE OF LOS ANGELES.
- 1972** SOVIET UNION ANNEXES SOUTH AMERICA AND NORTH AMERICAN WEST COAST.
- 1973** AMERICAN REBEL LEADER, JOHN KENNEDY, IS ASSASSINATED OFF THE COAST OF CUBA.
- 1987** COSMONAUTS BEGIN MAPPING NEIGHBORING GALAXIES.
- 1993** THE SECOND BATTLE OF LOS ANGELES.
- 1994** SEATTLE PEACE ACCORDS ARE SIGNED.
- 1995** THE AMERICAS OFFICIALLY BECOME SOVIET COLONIES. MASS INSURGENCIES CONTINUE.
- 2012** ARIC, SON OF THE REVOLUTION, APPEARS IN ROMANIA.
- 2016** THE RED BRIGADE IS FORMALLY ANNOUNCED AS WORLD SECURITY FORCE.

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BANG! BANG!

"MY FATHER TAUGHT ME THAT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS ON EARTH."

"HE TAUGHT ME THAT FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD."

BANG!



BANG!



UNCHAIN YOUR SOULS!

BANG!



"I WILL TAKE IT UPON MYSELF TO SET THOSE FREE WHO ARE DOOMED TO DIE."





THE GULAG ISN'T A PRISON TO ME, CAPTAIN BAGROFF...

IT'S JUST AN UGLY CHURCH.

AND I AM ITS SHEPHERD...



YOU KNOW, MY FATHER WAS A "MAN OF GOD."

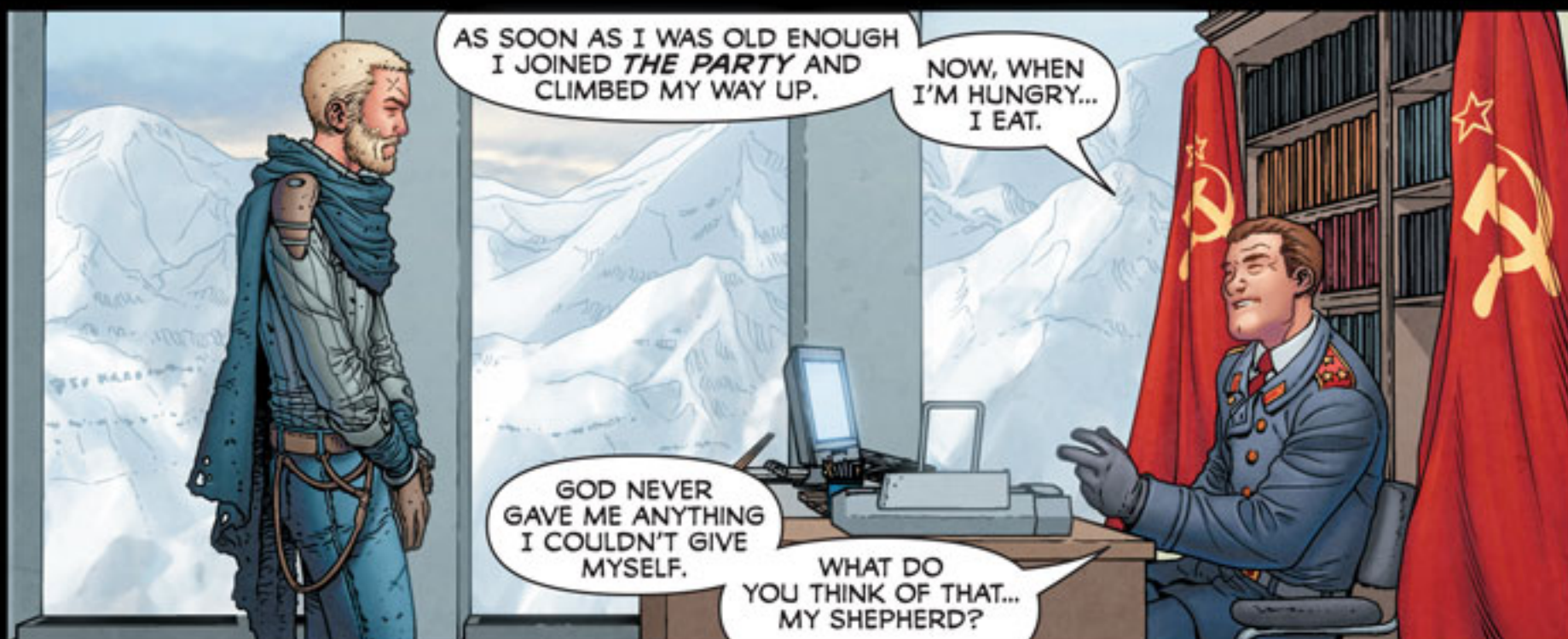


HE SPENT MORE TIME ON HIS KNEES THAN HE DID WORKING WITH HIS HANDS.



I WOULD GO TO BED HUNGRY SOME NIGHTS--MOST NIGHTS-- BUT HE ALWAYS HAD HIS PRETTY WORDS FOR ME...

"DON'T WORRY BORIS, THERE IS A FEAST WAITING FOR YOU IN PARADISE."



AS SOON AS I WAS OLD ENOUGH I JOINED *THE PARTY* AND CLIMBED MY WAY UP.

NOW, WHEN I'M HUNGRY... I EAT.

GOD NEVER GAVE ME ANYTHING I COULDN'T GIVE MYSELF.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT... MY SHEPHERD?



I THINK...



THAT THE LORD WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS--



HAHAHA!

OF COURSE, HE DOES! HOW COULD I FORGET?!

HAHAHA!



CHILDREN LAUGH AT WHAT THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND.



ESLAAAA!

NO!



FAIRY TALES AREN'T REAL!



I'LL PROVE IT.




SO YOUR GOD WORKS THROUGH YOU, YES? YOU ARE HIS VESSEL?

YES.




THEN I'LL MAKE A WAGER WITH YOU...



"THERE IS A PRISONER. HE HAS RESISTED THE GUARD'S AUTHORITY, *MY* AUTHORITY. HELL...ANY AND EVERY AUTHORITY COME TO THINK OF IT.


"SO I LOCKED HIM IN SOLITARY AND THREW AWAY THE KEY.

"I CAN'T CONTROL HIM. NO ONE CAN.



"SO LET'S SEE WHAT YOUR 'GOD' CAN DO.

"IF YOU AND YOUR RELIGION CAN GET HIM BACK ON HIS FEET, WELL...



"I'LL GIVE YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT.

"FREEDOM. WOMEN. ANYTHING. THINK OF ME LIKE A GENIE, AND YOU GET ONE WISH.



"BUT FAIL...



"THEN ANY INMATE I CATCH EVEN WHISPERING TO 'GOD' GETS SHOT.

"I GET TO SLEEP EVERY NIGHT KNOWING THAT I WAS RIGHT."

EXCUSE ME, *SIR*?

I BROUGHT YOU A BOOK TO READ.

KNOCK! KNOCK!





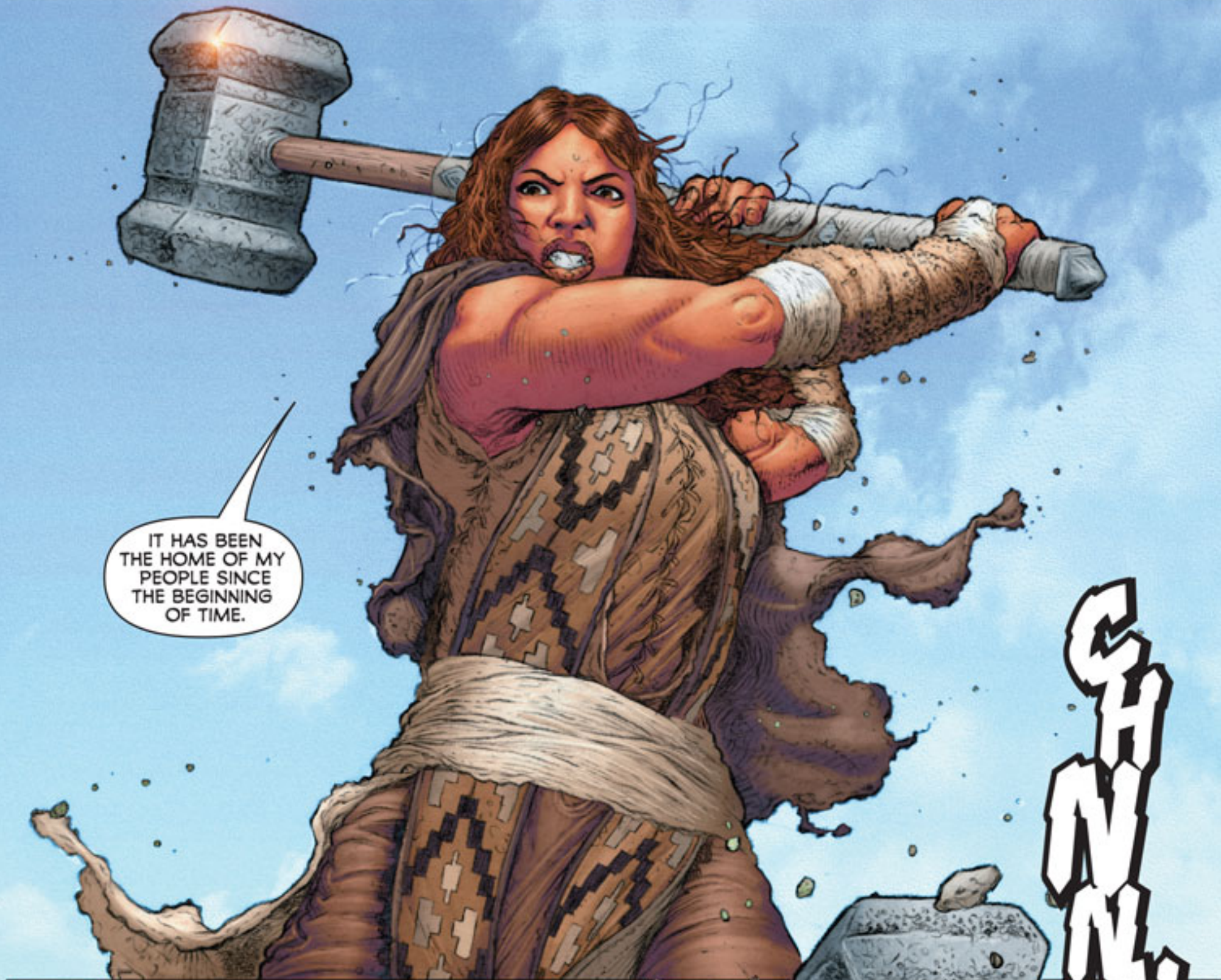
**THE
ORIGIN
OF THE
PIONEER**



DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU STAND? DO YOU KNOW THE HISTORY OF WHERE YOU ARE?



DO YOU KNOW OF THE GREATNESS IN THE BONES THAT LIE BURIED AT YOUR FEET?

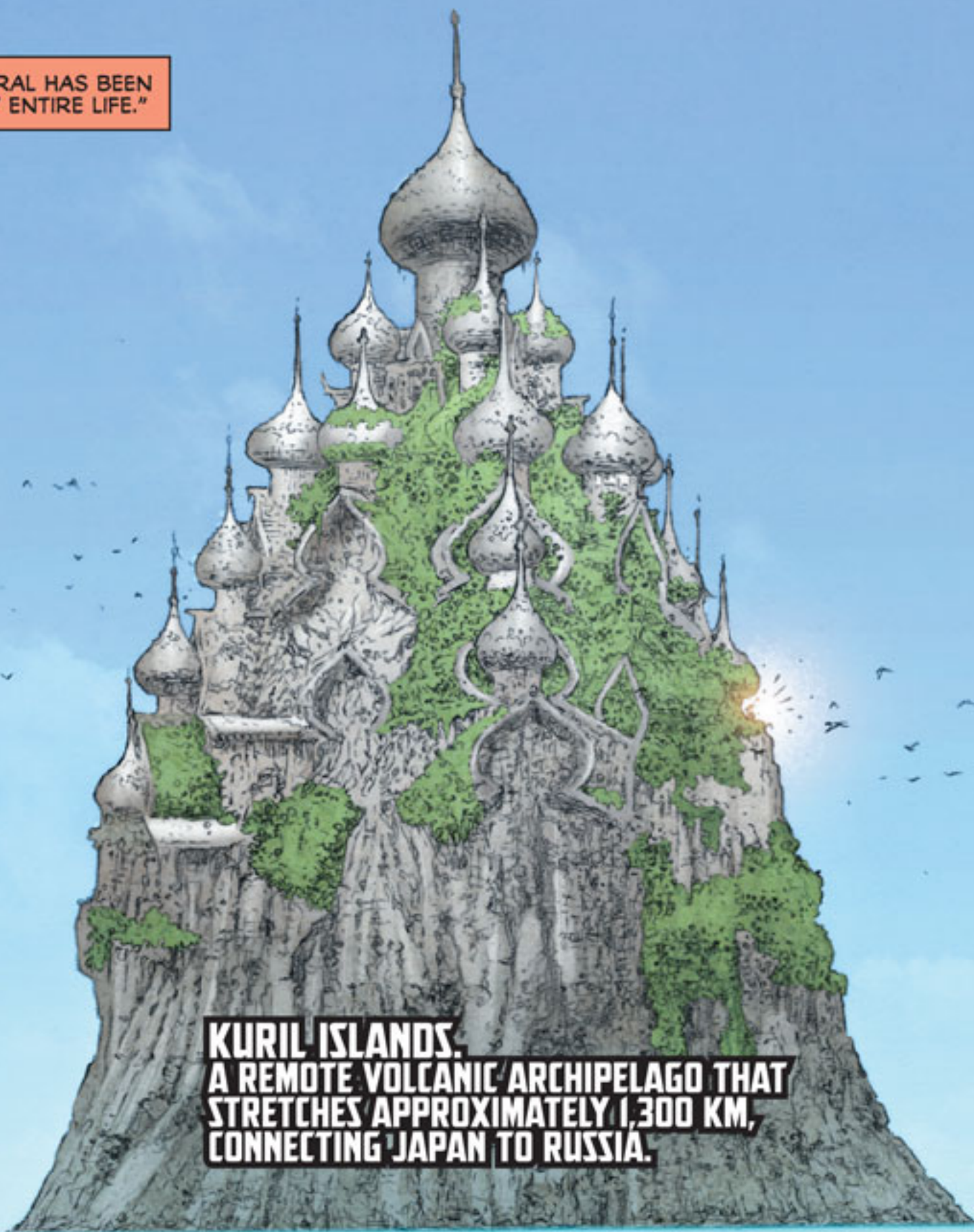


IT HAS BEEN THE HOME OF MY PEOPLE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME.

CHUNK!



"THIS CATHEDRAL HAS BEEN MY HOME MY ENTIRE LIFE."



KURIL ISLANDS.
A REMOTE VOLCANIC ARCHIPELAGO THAT STRETCHES APPROXIMATELY 1,300 KM, CONNECTING JAPAN TO RUSSIA.



LIFETIMES OF TOIL AND SWEAT MADE WHAT YOU SEE BEFORE YOU TODAY.

CHUNK!



I MAKE NO CLAIM TO THIS GREATNESS. I MERELY STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS.

FOR GENERATIONS WE LIVED HERE IN PEACE. WITH NO CARE FOR THE OUTSIDE WORLD AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD IGNORANT OF OUR EXISTENCE.



WE WERE A CLOSED SOCIETY, GROWING AND EVOLVING OVER TIME. BUT OUR CATHEDRAL WAS NOT ALWAYS HERE. THIS CATHEDRAL...

"WAS ONCE AN ISLAND LIKE ANY OTHER."



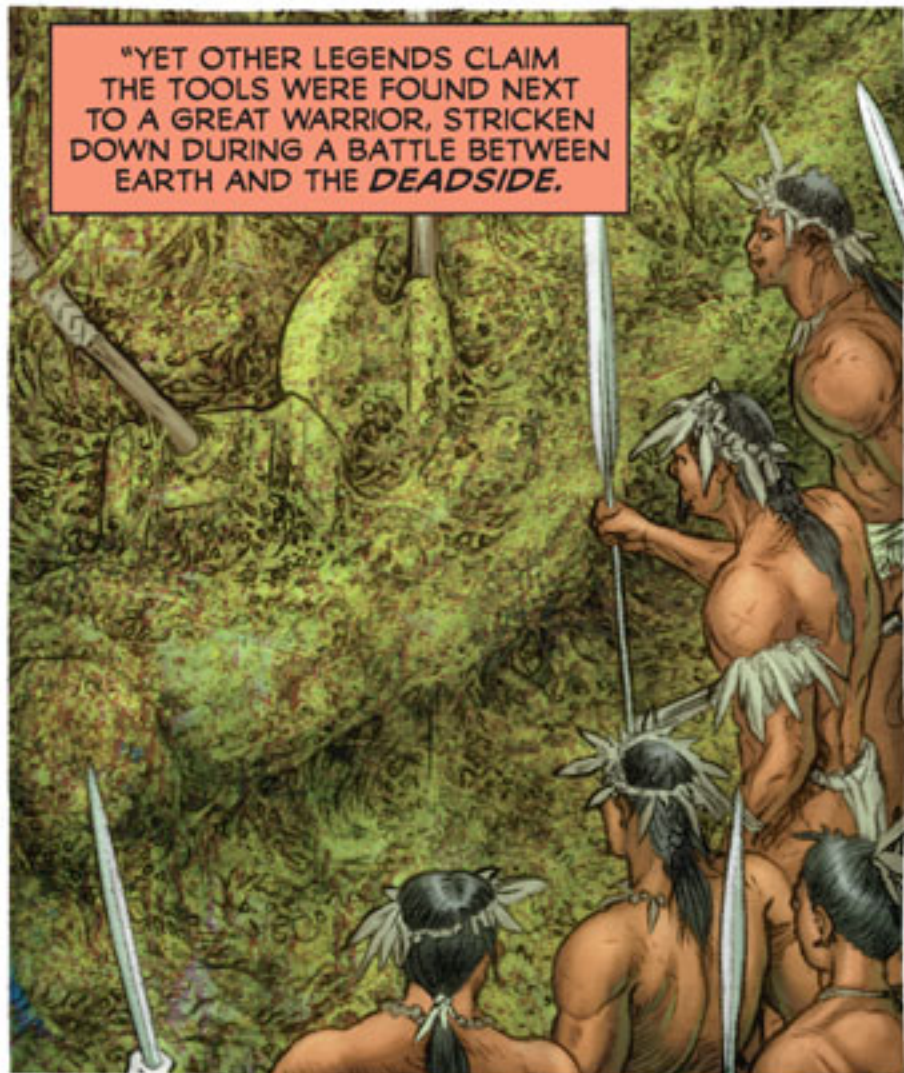
"THE EARLY LEGENDS DIFFER IN MANY WAYS. SOME SAY THE GREAT HAMMER AND AXE FELL FROM THE HEAVENS AND BIRTHED US ALL."



"OTHER LEGENDS SAY THEY SIMPLY GREW FROM THE UNDERWORLD BELOW. A GIFT FROM UNKNOWN DEMONS."



"YET OTHER LEGENDS CLAIM THE TOOLS WERE FOUND NEXT TO A GREAT WARRIOR, STRICKEN DOWN DURING A BATTLE BETWEEN EARTH AND THE *DEAD* SIDE."



"WHAT IS KNOWN, IS THAT ONLY THE *CHOSEN ONE* OF A GENERATION IS ABLE TO *LIFT* THE TOOLS... LET ALONE *WIELD* THEM."

