



WITNESS NOW, THE LAND OF THE GODS--YOU ARE NOT MEANT TO SEE THIS PLACE, BUT DO NOT BE AFRAID.

IT IS DARK, FOR IT IS BENEATH THE WORLD. BUT THE WATERS ARE COOL AND SOOTHING--AND IT IS WHERE YOUR PRAYERS GO, WHEN YOU REMEMBER TO SAY THEM.



IT IS WHERE **OGUN**, SMELLING OF HOT IRON AND RUM, APPROACHES HIS WIFE.



ERZULIE--  
ERZULIE FRÉDA? IS IT TRULY YOU, WIFE?

NON. OUI. AFTER A FASHION.



SOMETHING **NEW** LIES BEHIND YOUR EYES.

I WAS... MARINETTE OF THE DRY BONES. AND NOW I LIVE IN HERE. AS ERZULIE.



AH. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I AM PLANTING A TREE. FOR **AGWE**.



IN THIS PLACE WHERE NOTHING GROWS?

YOU PLANT A TREE FOR YOUR **OTHER** HUSBAND, BUT NOT FOR ME? I AM **HURT**, WIFE.

I AM PLANTING A TREE FOR AGWE, BECAUSE AGWE IS **DEAD**.







MY BELOVED CO-HUSBAND IS DEAD?! HOW CAN THAT BE?!

THE SOIL IS TOO HARD, DAMN IT.



IT IS TOO HARD!



I TRIED TO SAVE HIM. BUT ANANSE THE SPIDER...HE TRICKED US. HE WOULD NOT HELP.

HE KILLED ME TOO, AND NOW I AM MARINETTE, AND I AM ERZULIE, AND...

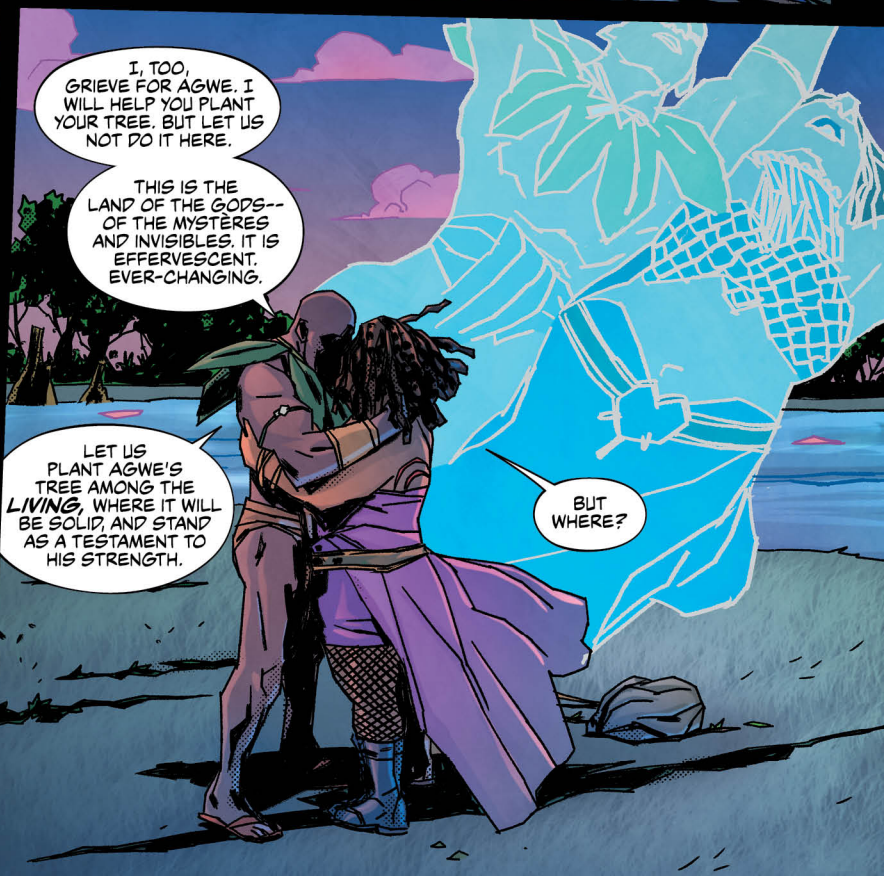


I AM TRYING TO PLANT A TREE. BUT THE SOIL IS TOO HARD.



HUSH, WIFE. THESE TEARS YOU CRY... YOU TRULY ARE MY ERZULIE.

AND YOU ARE MY OGUN.



I, TOO, GRIEVE FOR AGWE. I WILL HELP YOU PLANT YOUR TREE. BUT LET US NOT DO IT HERE.

THIS IS THE LAND OF THE GODS-- OF THE MYSTERES AND INVISIBLES. IT IS EFFERVESCENT. EVER-CHANGING.

LET US PLANT AGWE'S TREE AMONG THE **LIVING**, WHERE IT WILL BE SOLID, AND STAND AS A TESTAMENT TO HIS STRENGTH.

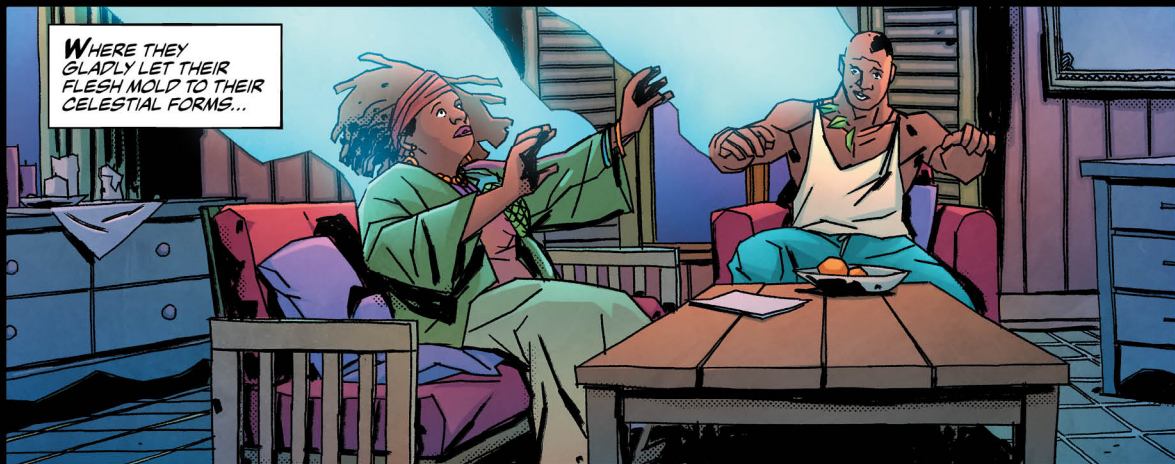
BUT WHERE?



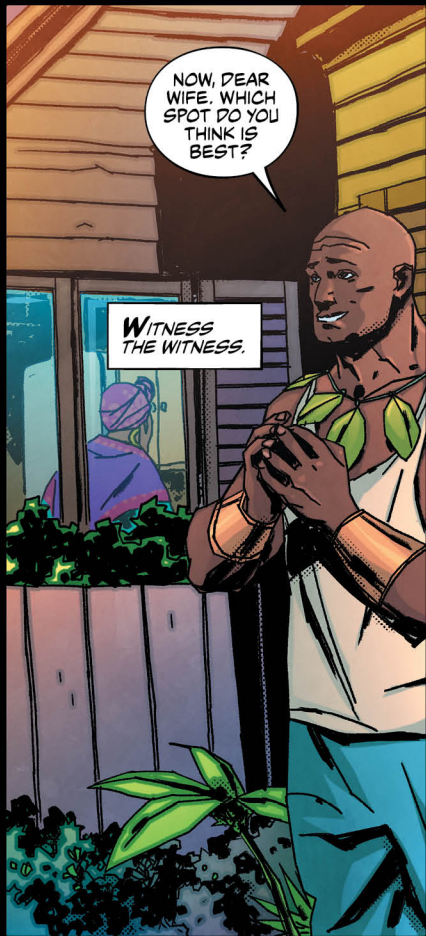


WITNESS NOW, A SMALL TOWN. MAYBE YOU YOURSELF ARE FROM A TOWN LIKE THIS. PERHAPS NOT.

BUT THIS IS WHERE TWO WORSHIPPERS GLADLY TAKE THEIR GODS INSIDE AS RIDERS...

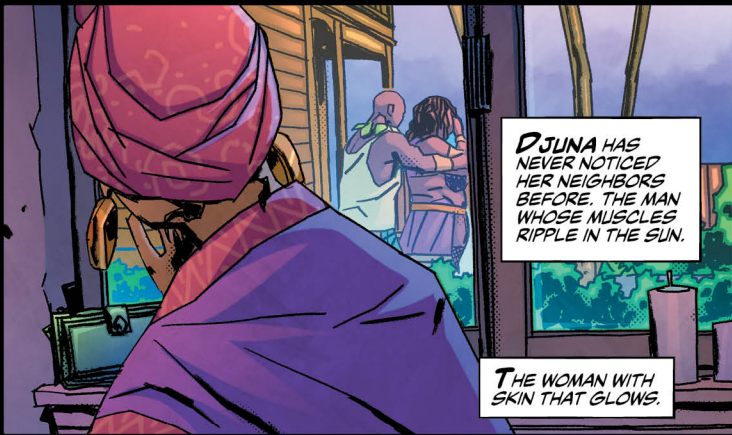


WHERE THEY GLADLY LET THEIR FLESH MOLD TO THEIR CELESTIAL FORMS...



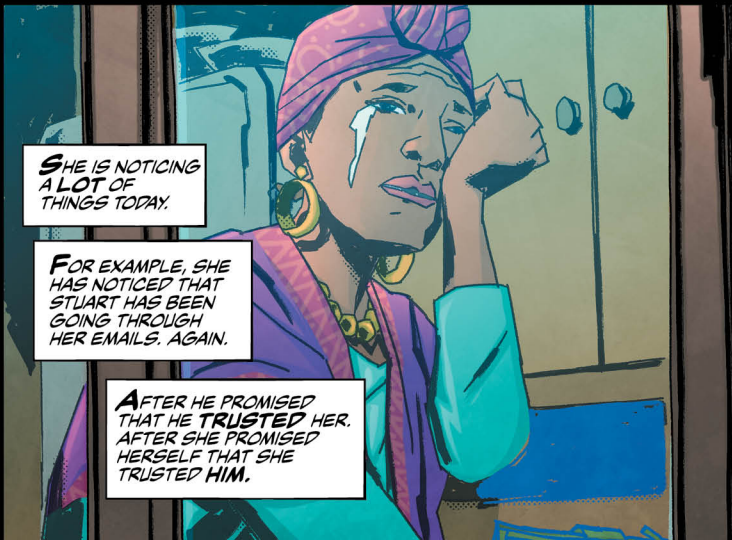
NOW, DEAR WIFE, WHICH SPOT DO YOU THINK IS BEST?

WITNESS THE WITNESS.



DJUNA HAS NEVER NOTICED HER NEIGHBORS BEFORE. THE MAN WHOSE MUSCLES RIPPLE IN THE SUN.

THE WOMAN WITH SKIN THAT GLOWS.



SHE IS NOTICING A LOT OF THINGS TODAY.

FOR EXAMPLE, SHE HAS NOTICED THAT STUART HAS BEEN GOING THROUGH HER EMAILS. AGAIN.

AFTER HE PROMISED THAT HE TRUSTED HER. AFTER SHE PROMISED HERSELF THAT SHE TRUSTED HIM.



