









# VENDHYA.

## THE MOUNTAINS OF NIGHT

THE  
VENDHYAN ARMY  
IS IN COMPLETE  
DISARRAY.  
THEY'RE IN FULL  
RETREAT.



GOOD.  
THEY'LL LIVE  
LONGER.

BUT  
THERE'S A  
PROBLEM.

VENDHYA  
HAS SENT  
REINFORCE-  
MENTS.



"THE GOOD NEWS: THE FIRST  
ARMY FLED IN SUCH A PANIC, I  
DOUBT THEY HAD TIME TO WARN  
THEIR RELIEF FORCE OF WHAT  
THEY WERE MARCHING INTO."



BUT  
IF THEY  
MEET UP WITH  
THE RETREATING  
ARMY, WE LOSE  
THE ELEMENT OF  
SURPRISE.

AND WE  
WILL FIND  
OURSELVES  
BESIEGED AGAIN,  
BUT *THIS TIME*,  
BY A MUCH  
LARGER  
FORCE.



AGREED.

WE MUST  
ENGAGE THE  
REINFORCEMENTS  
BEFORE THEY CAN  
MEET UP WITH THE  
RETREATING  
ARMY.

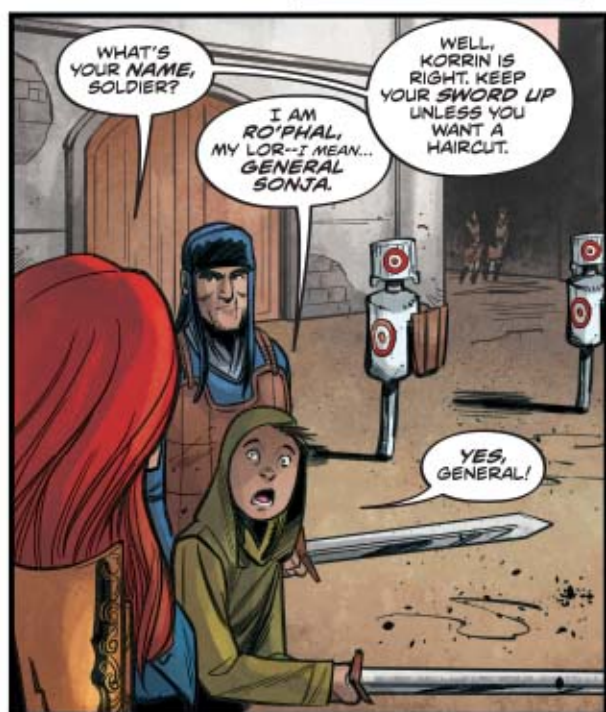


SHOULD I  
STAY HERE AND  
COMMAND THE  
FORTRESS?

NO.  
I WANT  
YOU WITH  
ME.









# VULPINE PASS

## THE MOUNTAINS OF NIGHT.

I HAVE  
DEVOTED  
MY LIFE TO  
SERVICE.

WHICH  
SOUNDS  
BETTER TO  
YOU?

"THE EMPIRE  
OF KHITAI" OR  
"KHITAI AND ITS  
DOMINIONS"?

UNABLE TO HAVE CHILDREN  
OF MY OWN, I HAVE ALWAYS  
RATHER THOUGHT OF HIM  
AS MY SON. AS MY HOPE...

THEY  
BOTH CARRY  
A CERTAIN  
ELEGANCE.

...THAT MY STOLEN LIFE  
MIGHT YET YIELD SOME  
GOOD THROUGH HIS.

BUT  
HAS IT?

I'M TELLING  
YOU...

...MAKING THE SHE-  
DEVIL THE MASTER OF  
WAR WAS THE BEST  
DECISION I EVER  
MADE.

3MUNCHE

IF YOU  
SAY SO,  
SIRE.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, TORTOISE?  
JEALOUS? WORRIED THAT I  
NOW HAVE A NEW AND MORE  
TALENTED ADVISOR?

IF NOT--

--PERHAPS  
YOU SHOULD  
BE.

DO YOU  
REMEMBER  
THE FIRST TIME WE  
PASSED THROUGH THE  
MOUNTAINS OF NIGHT, SIRE?