



HOULIHAN!  
YOU OL' BILGE  
BEAST!

THOU HAST GAINED  
SOME GIRTH WHILST  
WE HATH BEEN ABSENT  
FROM THY REALM! AND  
THY HAIRLINE--!

≡ HNNFFF ≡

WELL,  
THANKS FOR  
NOTICING,  
KNOX...!



LISTEN UP --  
ALL YOU HUMPS THAT  
SHOWED UP THINKING  
YOU WERE GONNA BE  
SLAPPIN' BRACELETS  
ON THESE GUYS  
ARE SADLY MISTAKEN!

MOST A' YOU ARE  
TOO YOUNG TO KNOW  
THIS -- BUT TAKE MY  
WORD FER IT! KNOX  
AND HIS CREW ARE  
THE REAL DEAL!



OFFICER HOULIHAN WAS E'ER AN  
ALLY DURING OUR LAST ADVENTURES  
HERE! 'TIS GOOD TO SEE A  
FRIENDLY FACE, EH, COUSINS?

INDEED...  
BUT LET US  
ALIGHT TO  
THE BAR! MINE  
THIRST  
MUST BE  
QUENCHED!

THOU  
SPEAKEST OF  
"FRIENDLY  
FACES,"  
KNOX...

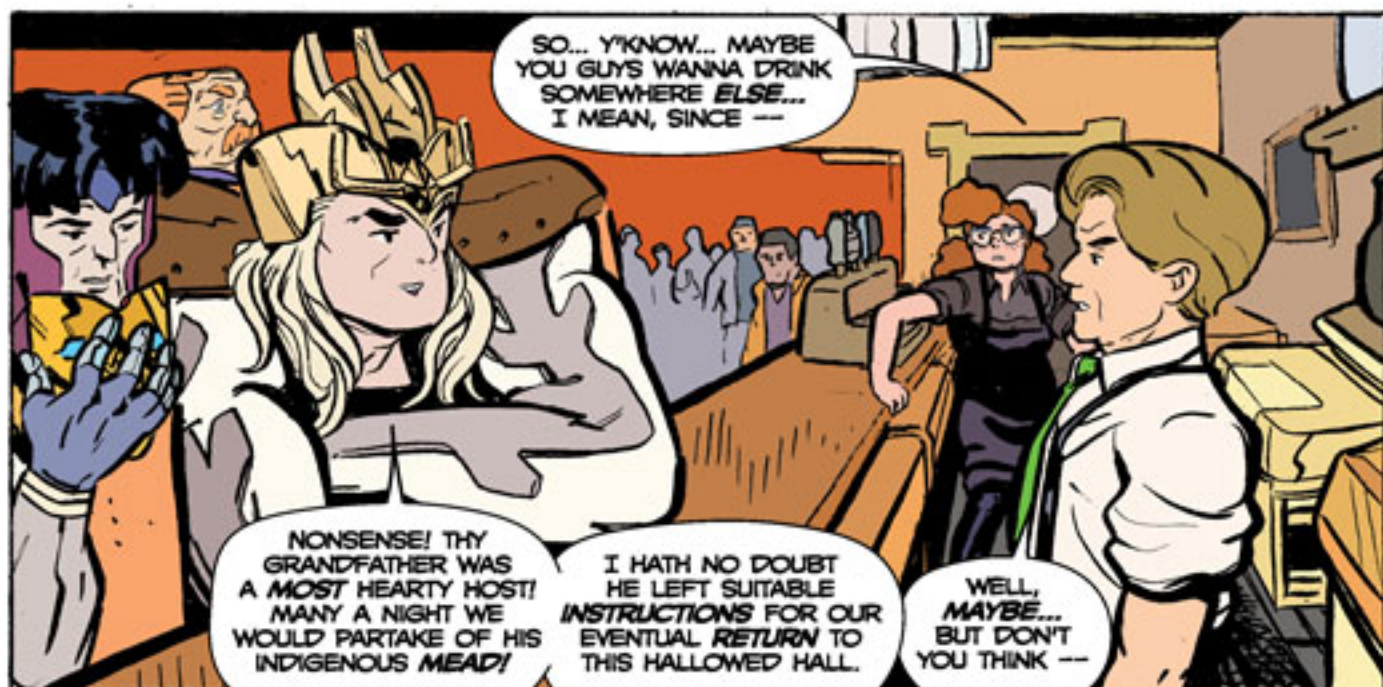


... I FEAR  
HIS BE NOT  
ONE OF  
THEM.

UMMM...  
YEAH.

I'M ALBERT RILEY.  
GEORGE RILEY --  
THE PREVIOUS  
OWNER OF THIS  
PLACE -- WAS MY  
GRANDFATHER.





SO... Y'KNOW... MAYBE YOU GUYS WANNA DRINK SOMEWHERE ELSE... I MEAN, SINCE ---

NONSENSE! THY GRANDFATHER WAS A MOST HEARTY HOST! MANY A NIGHT WE WOULD PARTAKE OF HIS INDIGENOUS MEAD!

I HATH NO DOUBT HE LEFT SUITABLE INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUR EVENTUAL RETURN TO THIS HALLOWED HALL.

WELL, MAYBE... BUT DON'T YOU THINK ---



TAKE HEED, YOUNGLING. WE HATH TRAVELED GREAT DISTANCES TO KICK OFF THE GLUTTONALIA HERE!

SO TAKETH THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THY FATHER'S GOOD WORKS! OR FACE THE INGLORIOUS WRATH OF JHAGO THE IRRITATOR!



FOUND THESE IN THE BACK, AL...

⇒ NIFF! ⇐

... I TOOK A PEEK INSIDE. EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW IS IN HERE...!



THIS IS POPPA'S HANDWRITING, ALRIGHT...

... "THIS HAS BEEN PROPERLY FERMENTED... JUST ADD THE LISTED AMOUNTS OF HONEY, YEAST AND SPOTTED NEWT'S TAIL..."

⇒ SIGH ⇐  
... OKAY, LET'S DO WHAT HE SAYS...



'T WILL BE A RIGHTEOUS MOMENT TO TOUCH MY LIPS TO THIS FLAGON ONCE AGAIN!

LIKE AN OLD FRIEND...

'T IS TIME FOR A TOAST, THEN...!



STAND YE FAST AND LOFT  
THY SPIRITS HIGH! FROM THE  
SPIRAL SEAS OF OGLATH TO  
THE GOLDEN CLIFFS OF  
AZMUTH... MINE IMMORTAL  
EYES HATH SEEN MUCH  
BEAUTY IN MY TIME!

BUT NE'ER HATH  
MINE EYES GAZED  
WITH SUCH ENDLESS  
WONDER AT A  
SINGLE WORLD --  
UNTIL I TRAVELED  
HERE, TO EARTH!

THE BATTLES  
FOUGHT HERE! THE  
TRIUMPHS WE  
HATH ENJOYED! NOW  
THIS REALM OF  
MORTAL MAN  
SERVES A NEW  
PURPOSE!

INDEED! EVEN  
GODS MUST TAKETH  
THE RARE, PRECIOUS  
MOMENT TO LET  
LOOSE WITH ALL OF  
OUR PASSIONS!

AYE! THIS BE  
THE VERY PURPOSE  
OF THE GLUTTONALIA --  
TO BREAK OUT OF OUR  
GODLY RESPONSIBILITIES  
AND DRINK DEEP  
FROM THE FOUNT OF  
LIFE ITSELF!

WE ARE  
BROTHERS-IN-ARMS...  
AND BROTHERS-IN-  
CELEBRATION! SO HAVE  
AT THEE WITH ALL THE  
MERRIMENT AND  
INDULGENCE  
THOU CAN MUSTER!





IN THE NAME OF **VIKEN** WE IMBIBE!

WHEN WORD OF THESE EXPLOITS TRAVELS **BACK** TO THE HOLIEST OF REALMS, THE LEGEND SHALL **SOUND LOUDLY** — HOW WE DARED TO TAKE IT TO THE **HIGHEST PLATEAU!**



'TIS AN ART FORM ALL ITS **OWN** TO EMBRACE SUCH MIGHTY HEDONISM!

I'LL GLADLY DRINK TO **THAT**, O' GLORIOUS ONE!



YOU GUYS... I THINK ONE OF MY GREAT **UNCLES** TOLD ME ABOUT YOU...!

BUT THE THINGS HE **SAID**... I JUST THOUGHT HE WAS **SENILE** OR SOMETHING...!

HA!

SAFE TO SAY YOU'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE, ARE YOU...?



SUCH AN **UNDERSTATEMENT!** THOU HAST NO **IDEA**, YOUNG SQUIRE!

WHERE WE HAIL FROM... THOU HAST NOT THE **PERCEPTIONS** TO EVEN CONCEIVE E'EN AN **IOTA** OF ITS **GRANDEUR!**



FORGIVE **JHAGO'S BLUSTER**, MORTALS. HE LIVES FOR THE **GLUTTONALIA**... PERHAPS TO A **FAULT**.

BUT ALLOW ME TO **ENLIGHTEN** YOU WHILST I ATTEMPT TO **DESCRIBE** WHAT IS MAYHAP **INDESCRIBABLE!** FOR NOW...



... CLEAR YOUR MINDS OF ANYTHING THAT EARTHLY **SCIENCE** HAS PROVEN, FOR THERE EXISTS AN ETERNAL REALM **BEYOND** ALL IMAGINATION!

'TIS A REALM OF **IMMORTAL MAGIC!** 'TIS A PLACE WHERE **GODS** ARE SPAWNED!

IT HAS A NAME **REVERED** THROUGHOUT ALL OF COSMIC REALITY —



— A PLACE KNOWN ONLY AS **VIKEN!**

WHILST **LIFE** AND **EXISTENCE** CAREEN THROUGH THE KNOWN DIMENSIONS OF CONSCIOUSNESS, **VIKEN** HOLDS STEADY **BEYOND** SUCH MORTAL CONSTRAINTS. ITS **ORIGIN** IS UNKNOWN, BUT 'TIS BEEN THE CRADLE OF **GODHOOD** FOR ALL **ETERNITY!**

'TIS WHERE BEINGS SUCH AS WE WERE BORN AND BRED. 'TIS THE WELLSPRING OF **ALL THINGS...** FROM WHICH WE **LEAP HEADLONG** INTO THE SURROUNDING REALMS, AIDED BY MULTIPLE **SLIPSTREAMS** WHICH EMANATE NATURALLY FROM DEEP WITHIN **VIKEN'S SEETHING CORE!**

**ONE** SUCH SLIPSTREAM IS THE PATHWAY THAT LEADS DIRECTLY TO **EARTH!** BUT THERE ARE **OTHERS** WHICH LEAD TO REALITIES **UNDREAMED OF!**



**MANY** TIMES HATH WE LEAPT INTO THE FRAY VIA **SLIPSTREAM TRAVEL!** **MANY WARS** HAVE BEEN FOUGHT AND WON THANKS TO OUR **GODLY INTERVENTION!**

VERILY, 'TIS OUR SACRED **DUTY** TO BRING **PEACE** WHERE THERE BE NONE...



... EVEN IF 'TIS BY THE **EDGE** OF OUR **BLADES!**

THE **BLUNT** FORCE OF OUR **WEAPONRY!**

THE WILL TO COMBAT **EVIL** SHALL E'ER BE **OURS!**



