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**VANN
D'ARMINI
BLOCH**

THE SPIDER KING



THE SPIDER KING

CHAPTER 4 - THE END OF DAYS -

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PREVIOUSLY...

Guided by the slave girl Helga, Sigrid made her way to the Rhund camp to assassinate Aarek, unaware that he had bonded with the alien parasite Slarpax to become The Spider King. Easily defeated by the monstrous tyrant, Sigrid was stripped of her newly acquired alien weapons. Among her belongings, The Spider King found a spaceship master control key that Sigrid had been wearing as a necklace. The jewel led the King and his mutated army back to Sigrid's homeland of Jorduna, and the impenetrable Lombard fortress.

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JORDUNA.

TERRITORY OF THE LOMBARD CLAN.



COME ON THEN, YOU FUCKING BUTCHERS.

PROVE YOUR WORTH TO THE HEATHEN GOD THAT MADE YOU.



THERE IS NO GOD BUT ME

MAKE YOUR PEACE WITH THE SPIDER KING

AND THEN DIE



I HAVE NO SURRENDER IN ME.

SO DO YOUR WORST...

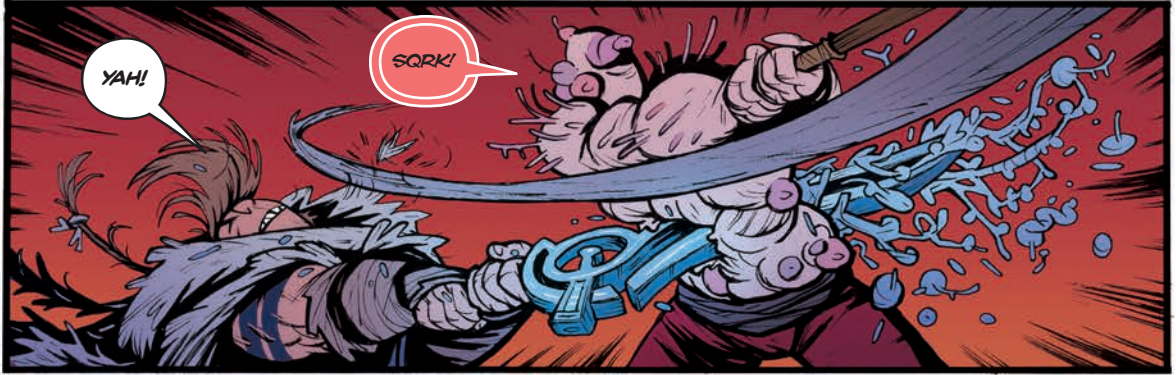
...BECAUSE I CERTAINLY WILL.



STIRRING LAST WORDS, SISTER. BEFITTING A WARRIOR.

THE GREAT HALLS OF VALHALLA MUST BE FULL OF BRAVE LOMBARD WOMEN...







STILL NO SIGN OF SIGRID.

OR HER CORPSE.

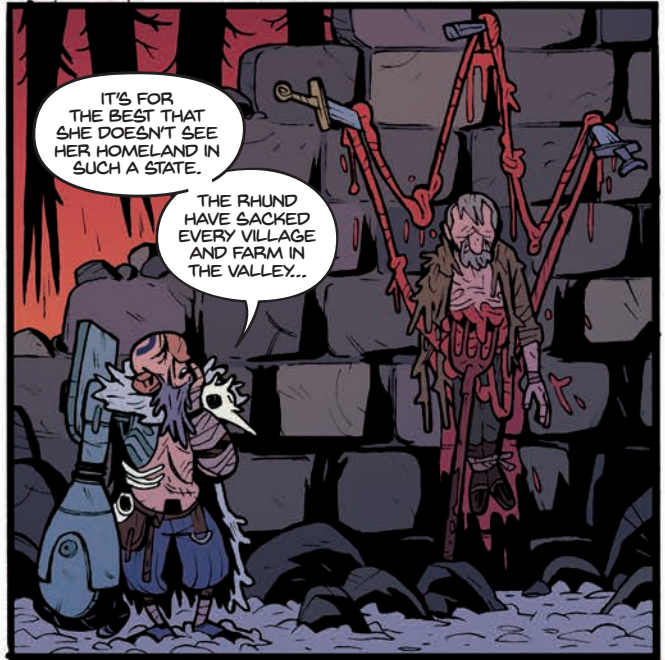


WHICH ISN'T THE WORST POSSIBLE SCENARIO.

THE SPIDER KING MIGHT HAVE TRANSFORMED HER INTO ONE OF THESE CREATURES.

SIGRID? SUBMIT TO A MAN?

UN-FUCKING-LIKELY.



IT'S FOR THE BEST THAT SHE DOESN'T SEE HER HOMETOWN IN SUCH A STATE.

THE RHUND HAVE SACKED EVERY VILLAGE AND FARM IN THE VALLEY...



...AND THEY'VE TAKEN THE LOMBARD FORTRESS, WHICH I DIDN'T THINK WAS EVEN POSSIBLE.



THOSE WALLS MIGHT HAVE REPELLED INVADERS IN THE PAST...

...BUT JORDUNA HAS NEVER SEEN AN INVASION FORCE LIKE THIS BEFORE.

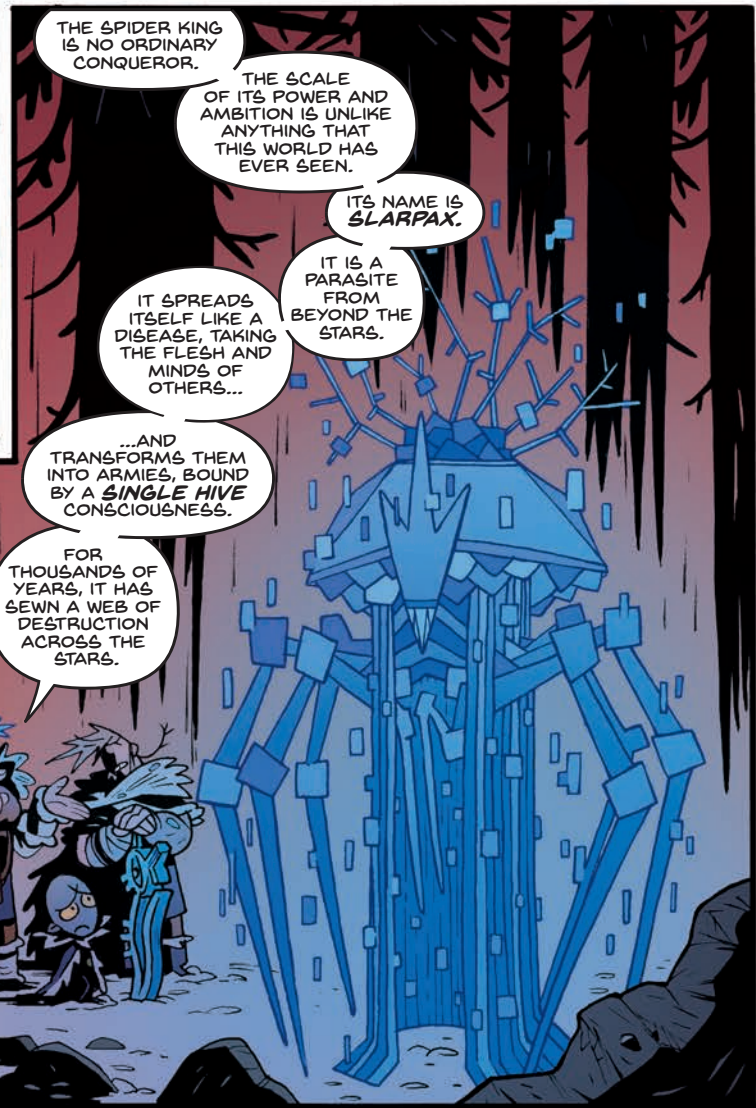
AND YOU HAVE?

NOT WITH MY OWN EYES...



...BUT WHEN THAT RHUND WARRIOR SMASHED THE DATASPHERE OVER MY HEAD, ITS HARD DRIVE DOWNLOADED DIRECTLY INTO MY BRAIN.

SO NOW I KNOW MORE THAN I WISH TO.



THE SPIDER KING IS NO ORDINARY CONQUEROR.

THE SCALE OF ITS POWER AND AMBITION IS UNLIKE ANYTHING THAT THIS WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

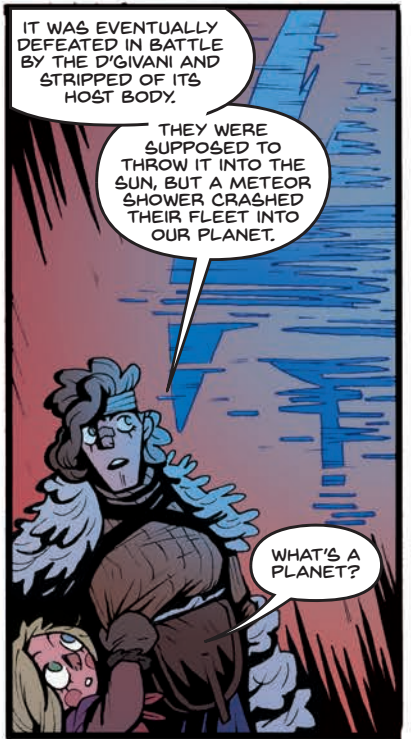
ITS NAME IS **SLARPAX**.

IT IS A PARASITE FROM BEYOND THE STARS.

IT SPREADS ITSELF LIKE A DISEASE, TAKING THE FLESH AND MINDS OF OTHERS...

...AND TRANSFORMS THEM INTO ARMIES, BOUND BY A **SINGLE HIVE CONSCIOUSNESS**.

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, IT HAS SEWN A WEB OF DESTRUCTION ACROSS THE STARS.



IT WAS EVENTUALLY DEFEATED IN BATTLE BY THE D'GIVANI AND STRIPPED OF ITS HOST BODY.

THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO THROW IT INTO THE SUN, BUT A METEOR SHOWER CRASHED THEIR FLEET INTO OUR PLANET.

WHAT'S A PLANET?



I UNDERSTOOD **NONE** OF THAT.

YOU'RE SPEAKING IN THE SAME TONGUES AS THIS **STRANGE CHILD**.

EXCUSE YOU!

HIS NAME IS FRODI.

...AND HE HAILS FROM THE SAME FARAWAY PLACE.

