

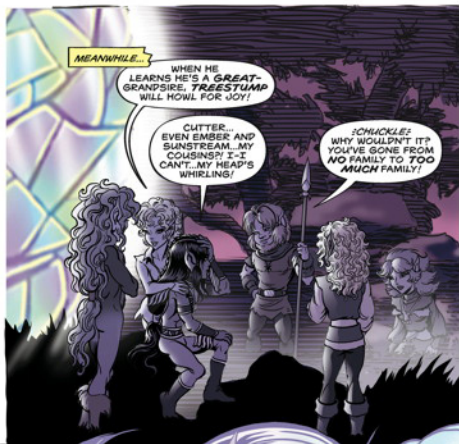
"NO ELF MUST  
DIE." I VOWED THAT  
WHEN I WAS A YOUNGER  
CHIEF THAN YOU, EVEN  
THOUGH IT WENT AGAINST  
HOW WE'D LIVED SINCE  
THE DAYS OF *TIMMORN*  
YELLOW-EYES.

"THE WAY"  
IS SIMPLE. WE  
USED TO BE CONTENT  
WITHIN ITS LIMITS,  
BUT THE *PALACE*  
HAS NONE.

THAT'S WHY  
THE FIRSTCOMERS  
WERE SO FRIGHTENED  
AND LOST WHEN THE  
HUMANS PROVE  
THEM FROM IT.

IT'S WHY THE  
FROZEN MOUNTAINS  
RAN REP WITH OUR BLOOD  
AS WE FOUGHT TO RECLAIM  
THE PALACE FOR ALL  
THE HIGH ONES'  
CHILDREN.





MEANWHILE...

WHEN HE LEARNS HE'S A GREAT-GRANDSIRE, TREESTUMP WILL HOWL FOR JOY!

CUTTER... EVEN EMBER AND SUNSTREAM... MY COUSINS? I-I CAN'T... MY HEAD'S WHIRLING!

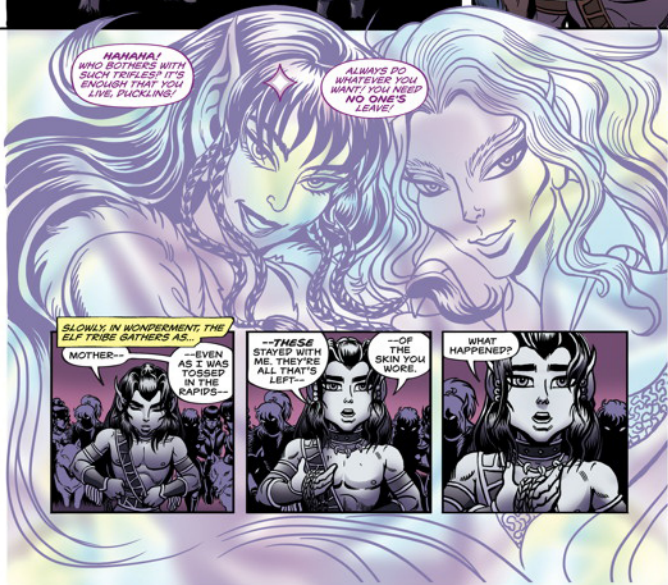
CHUCKLE: WHY WOULDN'T IT? YOU'VE GONE FROM NO FAMILY TO TOO MUCH FAMILY!



CALL ME WINDKIN, IF YOU LIKE. TYLDAK WAS ALWAYS TYLDAK TO ME.

WE WERE FRIENDS.

"FRIENDS" WITH YOUR FATHER...!



HAHAHA! WHO BOTHERS WITH SUCH TRIFLES? IT'S ENOUGH THAT YOU LIVE, PUCKLING!

ALWAYS DO WHATEVER YOU WANT! YOU NEED NO ONE'S LEAVE!

SLOWLY, IN WONDERMENT, THE ELF TRIBE GATHERS AS...

MOTHER--

--EVEN AS I WAS TOSSED IN THE RAPIDS--

--THESE STAYED WITH ME. THEY'RE ALL THAT'S LEFT--

--OF THE SKIN YOU WORE.

WHAT HAPPENED?



IN THE FLESH YOU ANSWERED TO NONE, BELOVED GIFT THESE WITH AN ANSWER NOW!

NOW...? OH, YES... "TIME."

OH, VERY WELL! THAT ROUND-EARED PEST, LEHRIGEN! I THINK I SEE HIS SPIRIT FLASH BY ON ITS OWN JOURNEY.

BUT IT'S JUST BEFORE YOU WOLFRIPEES WAKE FROM YOUR LONG SLEEP THAT THE STRIPLING BRAGGART AND I MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME.

TROLL PLUNG!

A WOMAN'S BODY, BUT SMALL-- WITH THE EYES AND EARS OF A WILD BEAST!

HOLY THREKSHIT! WHAT IS IT?

WHAT LUCK! ALL MY LIFE I'VE HOPED FOR THIS-- TO SIGHT A PEMON!

WE MUST PROVE IT! WE MUST TAKE HER ALIVE!

