TO THINK THAT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN KINGDOMS AND EMPIRES TO RIVAL OUR OWN, VANISHED ALL BUT COMPLETELY FROM THE HISTORICAL RECORD.
THEY SAY THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE BRITISH EMPIRE, BUT MIGHT A DAY COME THAT WE FALL TO DARKNESS, TOO?
THERE'S MANY BACK IN THE STATES WHO WOULDN'T MIND FORGETTING ALL ABOUT THE EMPIRE YOU BRITS BUILT, McALLISTER.
BUT I'VE HAD MY OWN FAIR SHARE OF EXPERIENCE WITH LOST CIVILIZATIONS AND FORGOTTEN SOCIETIES, THAT'S FOR SURE.
THINGS THAT WERE BURIED AND GONE, LONG TIME AGO.
AND MORE THAN A FEW OF THEM DESERVED TO BE LEFT IN THE DARK.
PROBLEM BEING, NOT EVERYTHING STAYS LOST AND FORGOTTEN FOR GOOD.

HOW LONG MUST THIS HAVE BEEN HERE, TO HAVE EROSED SO MUCH?
BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE KINGDOM OF FUNAN, AT LEAST.
I'VE HEARD OF THAT LOT!
MET A HISTORIAN CHAP AT THE PEGU CLUB WHO KEPT BANGING ON ABOUT THEM, A FEW MONTHS BACK.
ALGERNON PRYSE, PROFESSOR OF ORIENTAL HISTORY AT RANGOON UNIVERSITY.
WHAT LITTLE WE KNOW ABOUT THE FUNANESE IS DRAWN ENTIRELY FROM A FEW SPARSE MENTIONS IN CHINESE COURT DOCUMENTS IN THE THIRD CENTURY A.D.
THEY SEEM TO HAVE DIED OFF OR VANISHED AROUND THE SIXTH CENTURY, BUT NO ONE KNOWS WHY FOR CERTAIN.

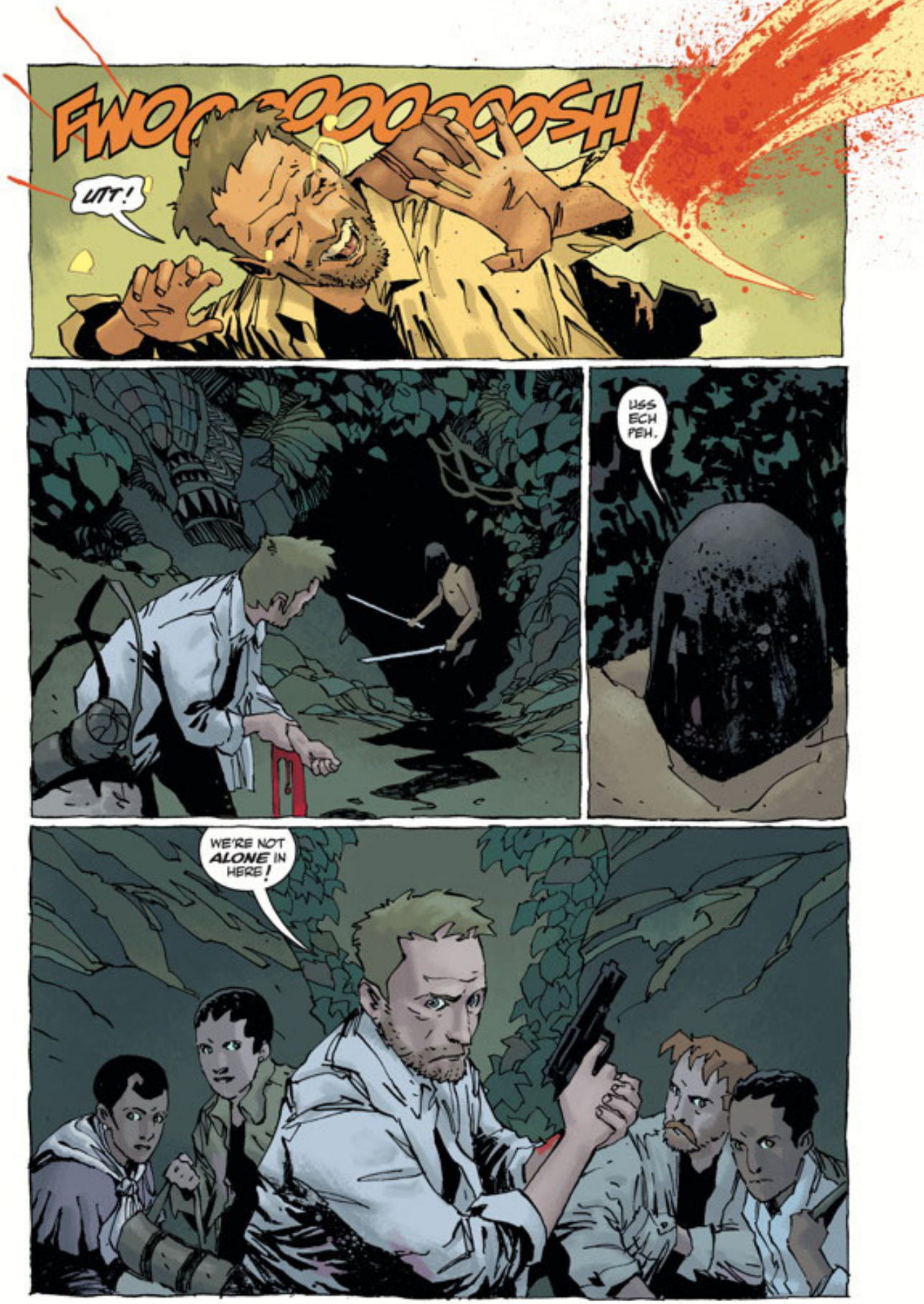
CRUNCH
WHAT IN--?
THAT SOUNDED LIKE...BRITTLE BONES BREAKING.
COULD BE SOME PREDATOR IS USING THESE RUINS AS ITS LAIR. A JUNGLE CAT, PERHAPS?
HERE, ALLOW ME.
SKRITCH
AH. WELL.

I DON'T RECKON A JUNGLE CAT KILLED ALL OF THESE FOLKS.
THIS LOOKS MORE LIKE A RITUAL SITE TO ME, BUT ONE THAT AIN'T BEEN USED FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.

ALAS, POOR WHAT'S-HIS-NAME. A FELLOW OF INFINITE SOMETHING-OR-OTHER, OF MOST EXCELLENT--
HONESTLY, SARAH.

JEWELL IS RIGHT. HOWEVER THESE PEOPLE WERE KILLED, THEIR REMAINS HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE ELEMENTS FOR A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME.
BUT FROM THE POSITIONING OF THE BODIES, IT APPEARS THAT THEY ALL SIMPLY FELL DOWN. NO STRIATIONS FROM A KNIFE OR SWORD, NO BROKEN BONES.

TIK
?


FWOOOOOOOOOOOSH
UTT!
USS ECH PEH.
WE'RE NOT ALONE IN HERE!