

GROWING UP, I WAS NEVER AFRAID OF THE USUAL THINGS.

SNAKES.

SKELETONS.

YES! EVEN THOUGH I'VE RENDERED HIM "NEVER-LIVING"...

MONSTERS.



...MUMM-RA'S DIRTY REMAINS ARE STILL SURPRISINGLY QUITE POTENT.

NO, WHAT CAUSED MY HEART TO QUICKEN AND MY PALMS TO SWEAT...IT WAS WORRYING ABOUT THE FUTURE.

FATE.

DESTINY.

**FWOOSH**

THAT'S RICH.

YOU CALLING MY REMAINS DIRTY.

MUMM-RA?! YOU CAN STILL MAKE YOURSELF HEARD...GIVEN YOUR PRESENT CONDITION?

BUT... HOW...?

SO LONG AS EVIL EXISTS... MUMM-RA LIVES!



AND WHETHER OR NOT I WILL EVER LIVE UP TO MINE...

SO IT WOULD SEEM...

AND YET THE ANCIENT SPIRITS OF EVIL CHOSE YOU OVER MUMM-RA?

YOU, MY ASHEN FRIEND, FAILED YOUR MASTERS ONE TOO MANY TIMES...



... WHILE I HAVE PROMISED TO GRANT THEM THE THING THEY'VE WANTED ABOVE ALL OTHERS--FREEDOM FROM THE BLACK PYRAMID!

THEIR FREEDOM--?

THOUGH THE SNAKE SPIRIT WAS LONG GONE FROM EXISTENCE, I SOON DISCOVERED THAT HER BRETHREN WERE STILL ALIVE AND KICKING...

... WELL, YOU KNOW, IN THEIR ALL-POWERFUL ANCIENT SPIRIT-Y WAY!

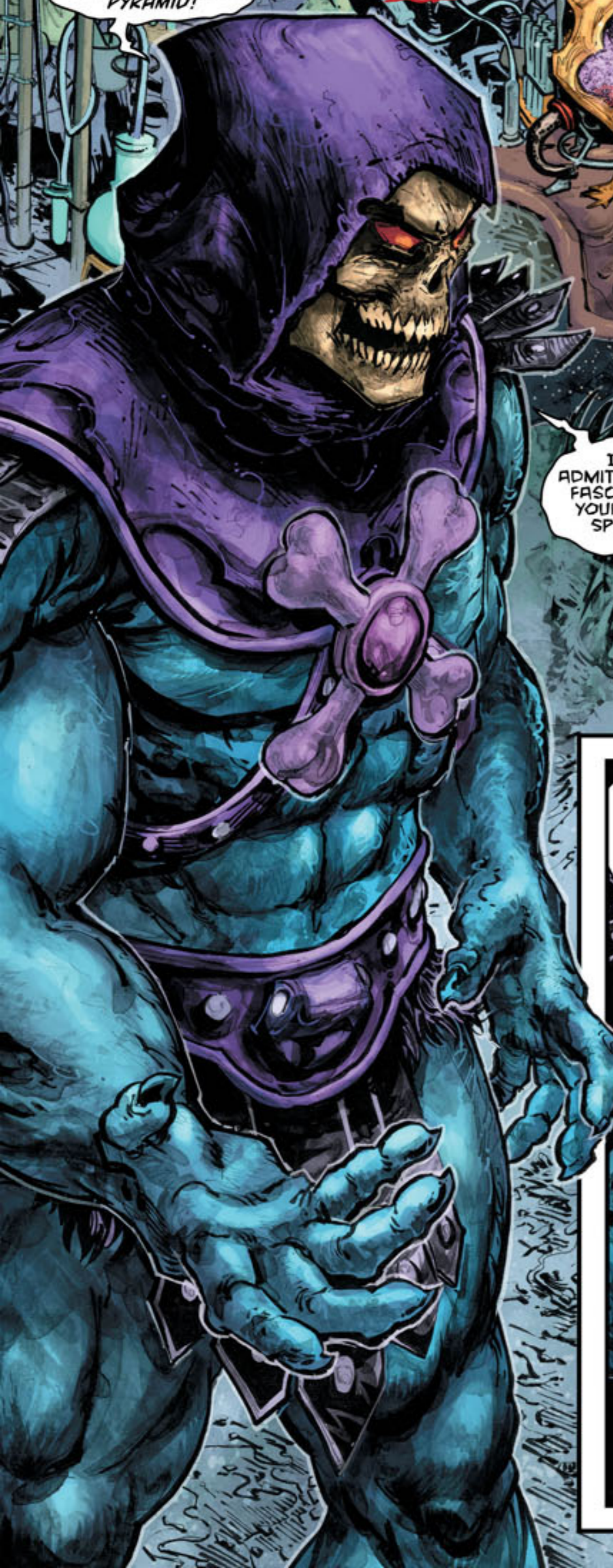
... AN ANCIENT TREASURE TROVE OF LORE LEFT ON ETERNIA BY THE WISEST MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNIVERSE.

THE SERPENT'S TRUE HISTORY WAS REVEALED TO ME THROUGH MY STUDY OF THE GOLDEN DISKS OF KNOWLEDGE...

I MUST ADMIT I AM QUITE FASCINATED BY YOUR ANCIENT SPIRITS OF EVIL.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS VERY EDIFICE IN WHICH WE STAND, SNAKE MOUNTAIN, WAS CONCEIVED TO HONOR ONE OF THE ANCIENT SPIRITS OF EVIL?

THE SERPENT! LONG LOST SISTER SPIRIT TO THE FOUR YOU SERVED.



IT'S UNFORTUNATE THE ANCIENT SPIRITS OF EVIL NO LONGER HAVE A USE FOR YOU...

... BUT CHIN UP, I DO!

TAP TAP TAP



I HAVE BEEN SCHEMING FOR... WELL, FOREVER... TO USE HE-MAN'S SWORD TO MAKE THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL MY OWN...

... BUT THAT POWER IS SO TREMENDOUS IT WOULD KILL ANY WHO SUMMONED IT...

... IF THEY WEREN'T... "UP TO SNUFF" SHALL WE SAY, IN THE WORTHINESS DEPARTMENT.

BUT YOU, MUMM-RA, YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO MY FATAL CHARACTER SHORTCOMINGS.



YOU'RE THE WHOLE REASON I BECAME INVOLVED WITH THE ANCIENT SPIRITS OF EVIL AND INSISTED THEY MAKE YOU PART OF THE BARGAIN.

WHY BOTHER BEING WORTHY WHEN I CAN MORE EASILY, AND EVIL-Y, BE EVER-LIVING?

ALL I NEED DO IS COMPLETE THIS POTION...

THEN I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING.

WELL, THERE'S THE MUSCLE-BRAINED BUFFOON WHO ALWAYS INSISTS ON BEING A BOTHER...

SOME SEE DUTY AND EXPECTATION AS NOTHING BUT BURDEN... BUT I TAKE THEM UPON MYSELF WILLINGLY. AS AN HONOR.

NOT BECAUSE I'M BETTER THAN ANYONE.

...BUT WITHOUT HIS SWORD OF POWER...

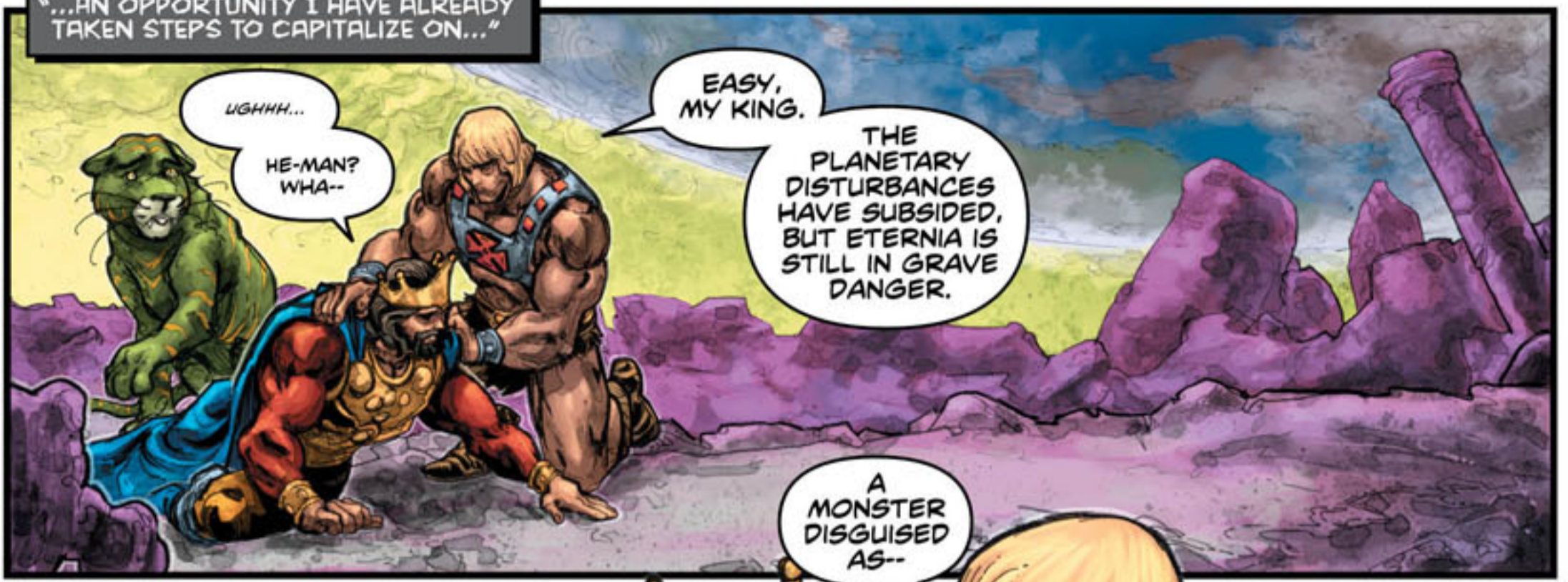
BUT BECAUSE I AM DESPERATE TO PROVE MYSELF.

TO PROVE THAT I AM NOT JUST A SILLY BOY WHO IS IN OVER HIS HEAD.



...HE-MAN HAS NEVER BEEN MORE VULNERABLE...

"...AN OPPORTUNITY I HAVE ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO CAPITALIZE ON..."



UGH...  
HE-MAN?  
WHA--

EASY,  
MY KING.

THE  
PLANETARY  
DISTURBANCES  
HAVE SUBSIDED,  
BUT ETERNIA IS  
STILL IN GRAVE  
DANGER.

A  
MONSTER  
DISGUISED  
AS--



**ADAM!**  
WHERE IS  
ADAM?! IS MY  
SON SAFE?!



OH YEAH.  
HE'S SAFE.  
COULDN'T BE  
SAFER.

I PUT ADAM  
OUT OF HARM'S  
WAY BEFORE I  
RETURNED TO TEND  
TO YOU. THE PRINCE  
IS FINE.

I... I'M  
SURE HE'S  
WORRYING  
ABOUT  
YOU.



WELL THEN,  
AS LONG AS  
EVERYONE IS  
SAFE...



...I  
SUPPOSE  
THERE'S  
ABSOLUTELY  
NOTHING TO  
WORRY  
ABOUT!