

**DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK**



LOOK AT THAT--BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT? THIS COUNTRY NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME.

PROFESSOR WALLACE, HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE WE WERE?

WHY, I'VE BEEN OBSERVING YOU THREE FOR SOME TIME.

AT FIRST, I WASN'T SURE WHAT TO DO. BUT THEN YOUR FRIEND SONJA'S ACTIONS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME NOT TO INTERVENE.



HOW DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT HYRKANIA?

BECAUSE, MY DEAR SONJA, I AM THE SAME AS YOU.

YOU'RE A HOMICIDAL SWORD-WIELDING MANIAC?



NOT EXACTLY. HOW DO YOU THINK I BECAME THE WORLD'S FOREMOST EXPERT ON THE HYBORIAN AGE?

"IT SEEMS SO LONG AGO NOW. I WAS A TEACHER BACK THEN TOO. MY SPECIALTY WAS ADVANCED MAGICAL ARTS.

"I KNEW KULAN GATH WAS A THREAT, BUT I WAS SO IMMERSED IN MY RESEARCH I HAD NO IDEA WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE REAL WORLD.

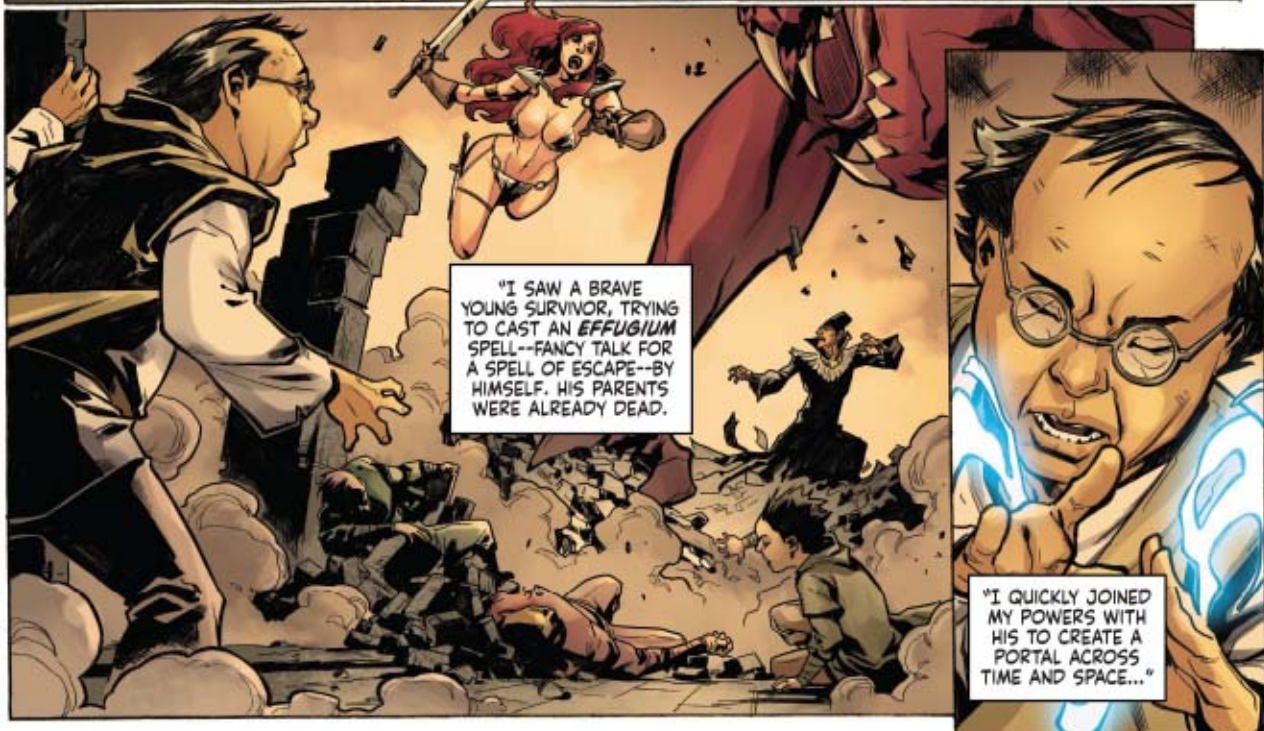


"UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.



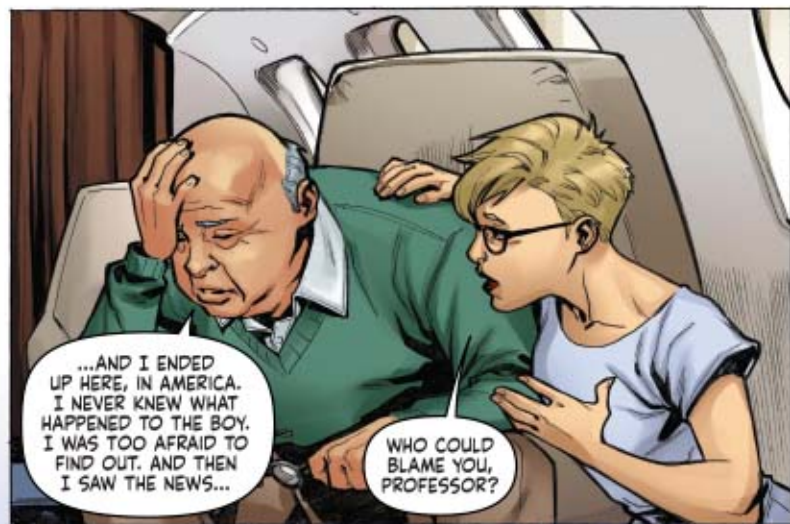
"I COULDN'T BELIEVE HOW QUICKLY EVERYTHING WAS DESTROYED. THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF MERUVIAN CULTURE, KNOWLEDGE.

"ALL GONE. ALL THOSE LIVES LOST. IT WAS TERRIFYING.



"I SAW A BRAVE YOUNG SURVIVOR, TRYING TO CAST AN EFFUGIUM SPELL--FANCY TALK FOR A SPELL OF ESCAPE--BY HIMSELF. HIS PARENTS WERE ALREADY DEAD.

"I QUICKLY JOINED HIS POWERS WITH MY OWN TO CREATE A PORTAL ACROSS TIME AND SPACE..."



...AND I ENDED UP HERE, IN AMERICA. I NEVER KNEW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BOY. I WAS TOO AFRAID TO FIND OUT. AND THEN I SAW THE NEWS...

WHO COULD BLAME YOU, PROFESSOR?



I DON'T KNOW... IT'S BEEN SO MANY YEARS. AMERICA IS MY HOME NOW...BUT I CAN HELP YOU RETURN, SONJA.



IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GO BACK.



IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO TO MAKEUP FOR MY COWARDICE.

AH, HERE WE ARE. WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA?

"PALO ALTO, TO BE EXACT. BIRTHPLACE OF SILICON VALLEY AND HOME TO MY CURRENT PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT, STANFORD UNIVERSITY."

HELLO.

HELLO.

PROFESSOR?! WHICH ONE IS THE REAL YOU?!

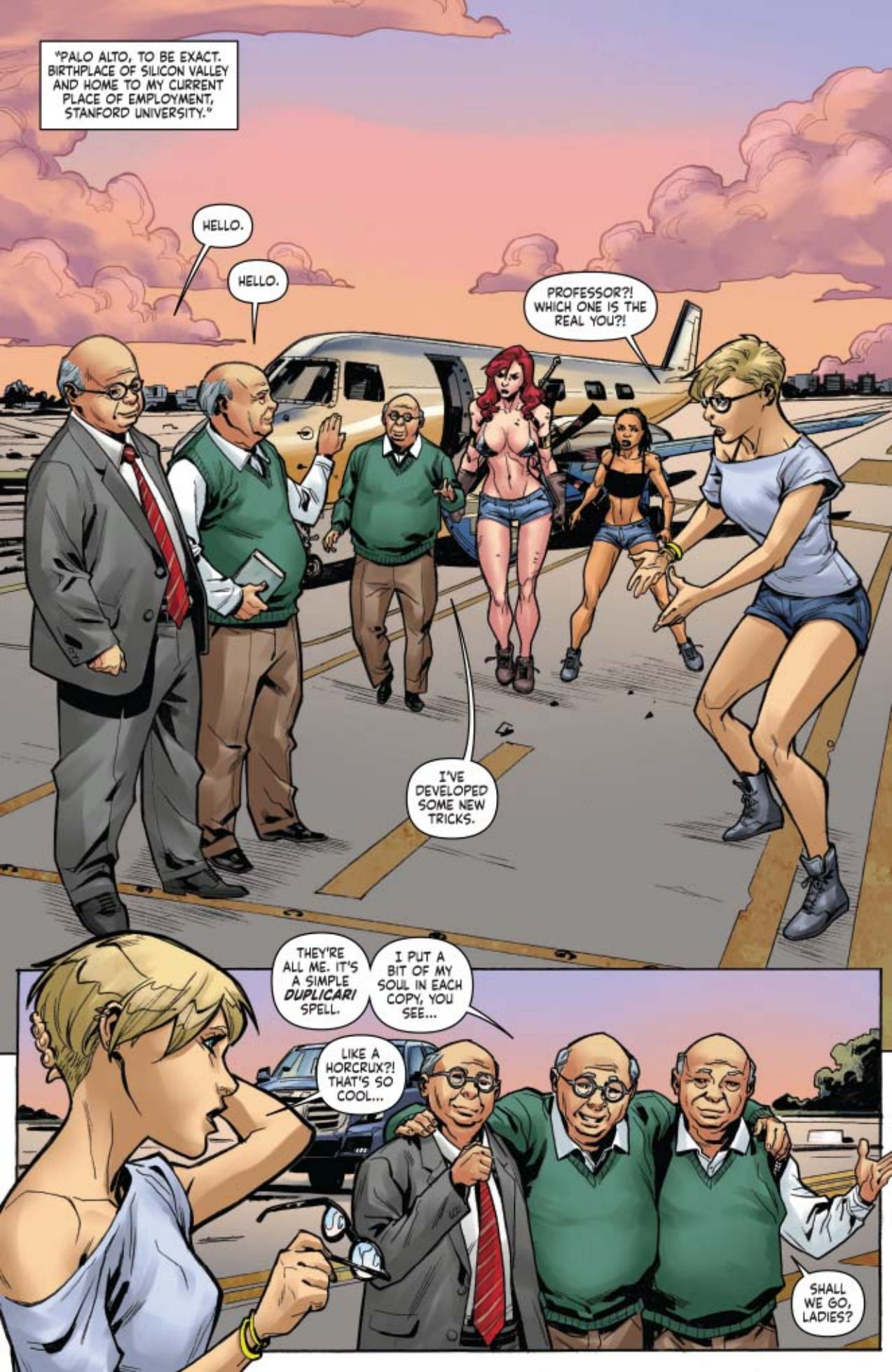
I'VE DEVELOPED SOME NEW TRICKS.

THEY'RE ALL ME. IT'S A SIMPLE **DUPLICARI** SPELL.

I PUT A BIT OF MY SOUL IN EACH COPY, YOU SEE...

LIKE A HORCRUX?! THAT'S SO COOL....

SHALL WE GO, LADIES?

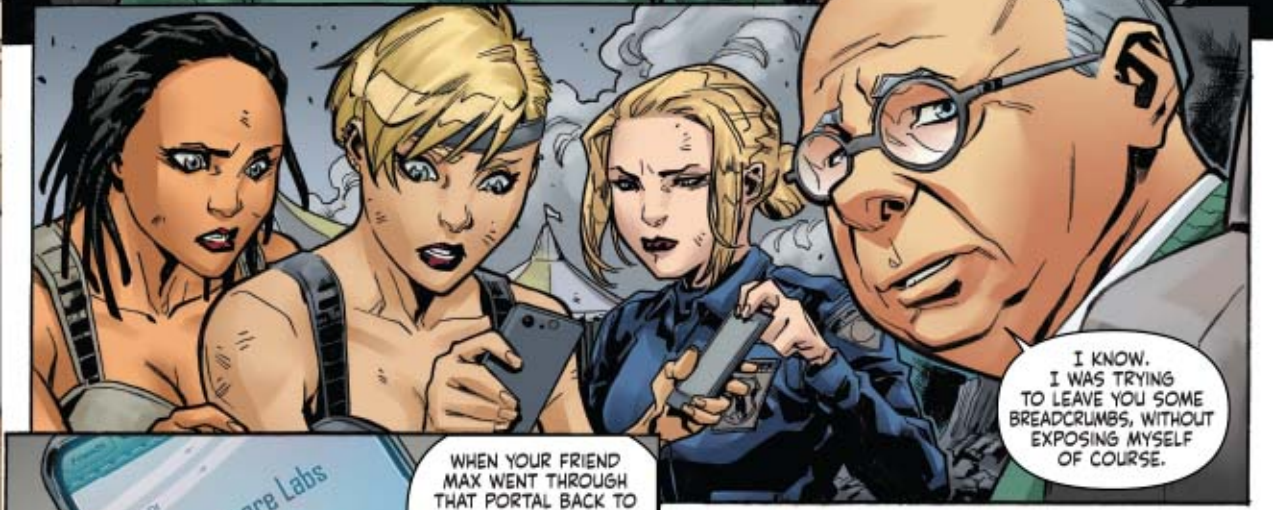




I STILL DON'T GET IT. WHAT ARE WE DOING. VISITING GOOGLE?

WELL, YOU'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR FRIEND MAX, AREN'T YOU? WE'RE JUST A FEW MILES AWAY, HOPEFULLY.

OH, MAX'S LAST CELL PHONE SIGNAL... REMEMBER?



I KNOW. I WAS TRYING TO LEAVE YOU SOME BREADCRUMBS, WITHOUT EXPOSING MYSELF OF COURSE.



WHEN YOUR FRIEND MAX WENT THROUGH THAT PORTAL BACK TO HYRKANIA, I WAS ABLE TO REDIRECT HIS PHONE SIGNAL TO SOMEWHERE USEFUL.



BASICALLY, SONJA, TO RETURN YOU HOME AND BRING YOUR FRIEND MAX BACK, WE WILL NEED MAGIC AND A POWERFUL ENERGY SOURCE.

LIVERMORE LABS IS A TOP SECRET DEFENSE RESEARCH FACILITY. WITH A STATE OF THE ART MAGNETIC FUSION ENERGY GENERATOR.

AND WE'RE JUST GOING TO WALK IN?

EXACTLY.