

IZU - NIKOLAVITCH - ZHANG XIAOYU

# CRUSADIES

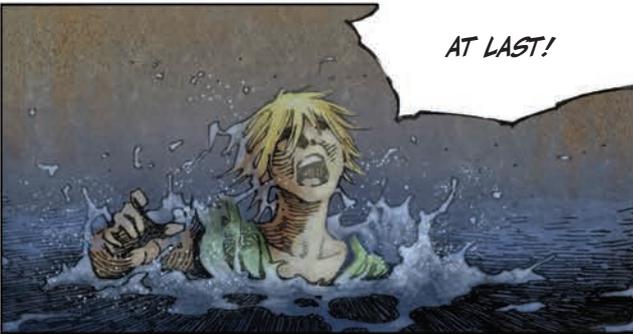


**HUMANOIDS**

DAMIETTA, NOVEMBER 4, 1219:  
THE FIFTH CRUSADE...



AT LAST!



SPEAK UP THEN!  
WHETHER WE ALLOW  
THIS PAGAN TO LIVE  
DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU  
HAVE DISCOVERED.



WITHOUT DOUBT, MY LORD  
DAMIEN, THERE IS A PASSAGE AT  
THE BOTTOM OF THE MOAT! THE  
ONLY WAY TO GET THERE IS BY  
HOLDING YOUR BREATH, AND ONCE  
ON THE OTHER SIDE, THERE IS A  
HUGE WELL-LIT ROOM...





PREPARE YOURSELVES, MEN.  
WE ARE ALL GOING. IT IS  
CRUCIAL WE DISCOVER THE  
TRUTH.

RID YOURSELVES  
OF YOUR ARMOR, BUT  
HOLD ON TO YOUR  
SWORDS...



BEGGING YOUR PARDON, MY  
LORD...BUT SHOULD WE NOT WARN  
OUR SUPERIORS AND THEN  
ENTER IN NUMBERS?



WE CANNOT HOPE  
TO TAKE DAMIETTA  
BY OURSELVES...



AH, YOUTH...



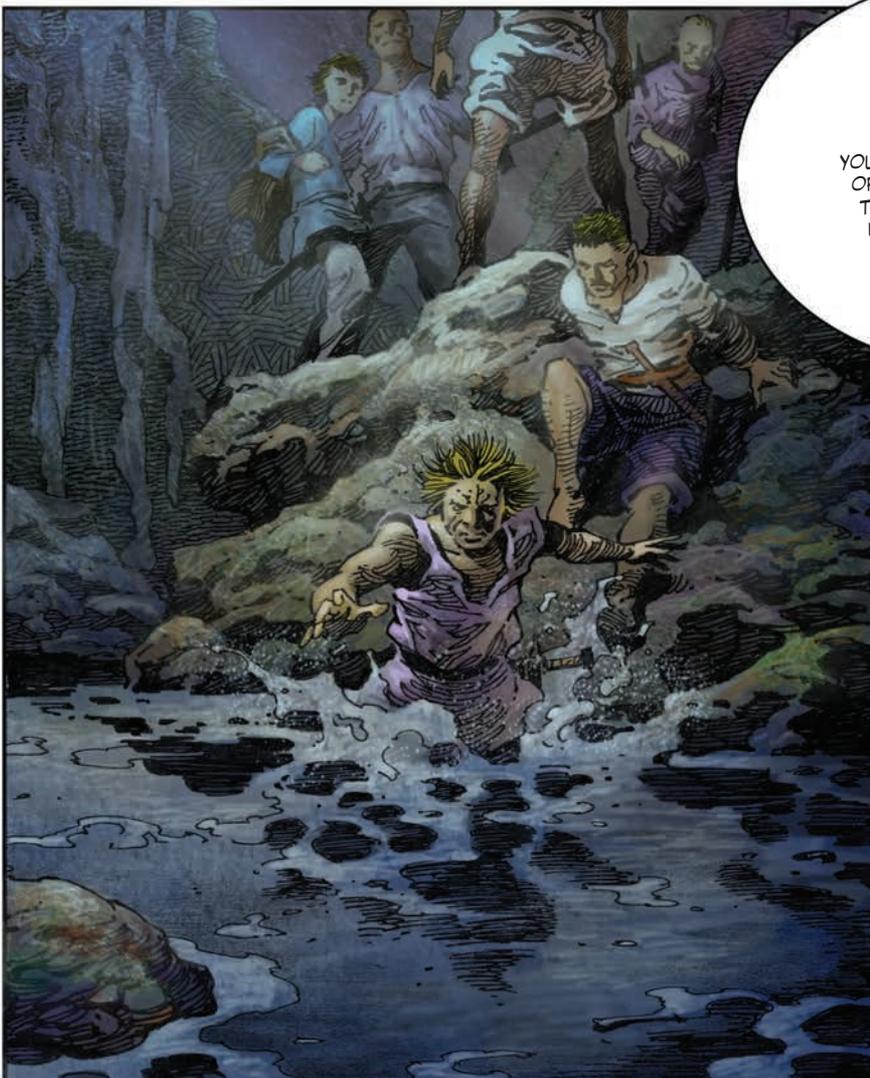
PAY NO HEED TO THEIR JIBES... IT IS NOT MERELY A QUESTION OF TAKING THE CITY OURSELVES BUT RATHER OF PASSING UNDER THE WALL IN ORDER TO OPEN THE GATES SO *THE REST* OF OUR ARMY MAY ENTER. IF TOO MANY SLIP THROUGH AT ONCE, THE SARACENS WILL SUSPECT OUR INTENTIONS.



I UNDERSTAND... I AM JUST GRIEVED TO BE A BURDEN ON YOU...



DO NOT FRET, FRANCIS. WE ALL STILL REMEMBER OUR FIRST BATTLE... AND YOURS CERTAINLY ISN'T ONE OF THE EASIEST. SO JUST CONCENTRATE ON YOUR ONE AND ONLY OBJECTIVE TOMORROW: *TO BECOME A MAN!*



AND STOP TREMBLING LIKE A DAMSEL! I PROMISED YOUR FATHER I WOULD TAKE CARE OF YOU. AND IT CERTAINLY ISN'T THE SULTAN'S ARMY THAT WILL IMPEDE ME FROM DOING SO.



THANK YOU, JOHN.

