

ZONA PROHIBIDA. THE AMAZON.



MOTHER FOREST KEEPS HER SECRETS.

SHE HIDES THEM BELOW HER CANOPY, CLOSE TO HER HEART.



SHE GUARDS HER HURTS JUST AS CLOSELY.

FROM ABOVE, NO ONE WOULD EVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENED HERE.



I FEAR NOW SHE HIDES HER SECRETS AND HURTS EVEN FROM ME.

I FEAR SOMETHING MONSTROUS HAS CREPT INTO THE JUNGLE.



SOMETHING I MISSED WHEN THE DOOR TO THE ABYSS* WAS CLOSED.

SOMETHING THAT IS HARMING MOTHER FOREST.

*FOLLOW SHEENA'S SAVAGE STORIES IN ISSUES #1-#5!

EVERYTHING FEELS DIFFERENT NOW. AS IF MOTHER FOREST IS SUFFERING.

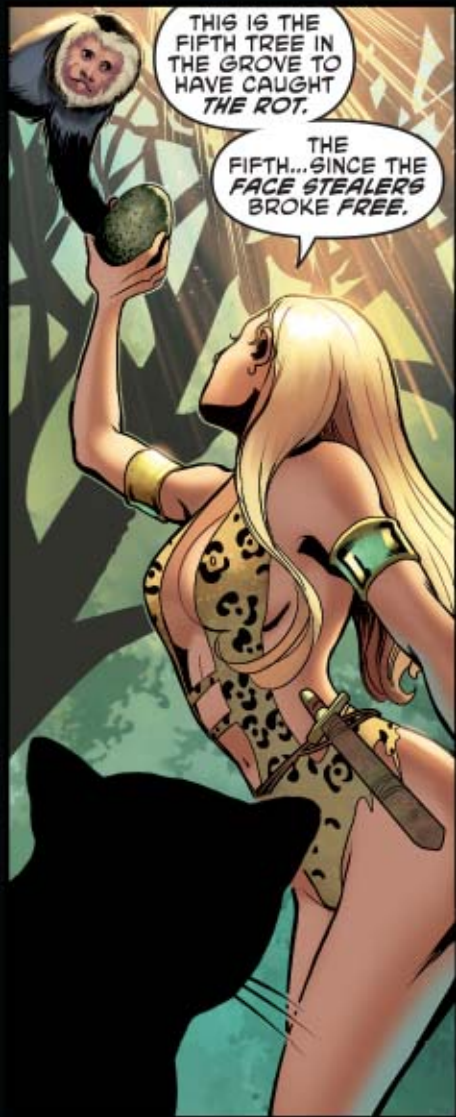
...BECAUSE OF ME.

YOU FOUND MORE OF THE ROT, CHIM?



THIS IS THE FIFTH TREE IN THE GROVE TO HAVE CAUGHT THE ROT.

THE FIFTH... SINCE THE FACE STEALERS BROKE FREE.



AND WHEN I CUT IT WITH THE KNIFE...

EUGH. IT REEKS LIKE SPOILED FLESH.



PERHAPS LIRIO WILL BE KNOW WHAT THE SCENT MEANS-- SHE IS CLEVER AS A COATI, AND FAR MORE SWEET...



IF ONLY I HAD MORE ALLIES LIKE HER, I-- OH!





CHANO'S FLYING TURTLE!

HIS, AH-- DRONE!



HE WISHES TO KEEP WATCH ON MOTHER FOREST.

HE WISHES TO GIVE ME AID.

SEE, IT'S A SMALL ONE. I'LL ONLY FLY IT HIGH, SO I'M NOT BEING PERY OR ANYTHING. NOT, LIKE, SPYING ON YOU--IT WOULD JUST BE TO KEEP CADWELL INDUSTRIES AWAY.

ACH, CHANO... I DO NOT NEED YOU OR YOUR FLYING TOY TO PROTECT MOTHER FOREST.



BUT! I WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR TOY DOWN FROM THE SKY.

THE EYES OF A FRIEND ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

YOU'RE HUMORING ME, AREN'T YOU?

YES.



YAGUA, CHIM, PETE--I HAVE NOT TOLD ANYONE OTHER THAN YOU THAT I ALLOW CHANO'S TOY TO FLY.

THE VILLAGE... WOULD NOT APPROVE OF A COWD! WATCHING MOTHER FOREST SO CLOSELY.

AND PERHAPS I SHOULD NOT APPROVE EITHER.



BWWWW BWWWW

THE CONCH--! SHE'S BACK!



THE
CHIEFTAINESS
IS BACK!

SHE
HAS RETURNED
FROM BATTLE
VICTORIOUS!

COCHA HAS
BEEN AWAY SO
LONG, WITH SO
MANY OF OUR
WARRIORS!

DOES SHE
KNOW? DOES
SHE KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED?



WE'RE
SO GLAD
YOU ARE
SAFE!

SO
MUCH HAS
HAPPENED--

CHIEFTAINESS
COCHA RETURNS
AT LAST.

IT'S BEEN SO
LONG, LIRIO--
I FEARED SHE
MIGHT NEVER
RETURN.

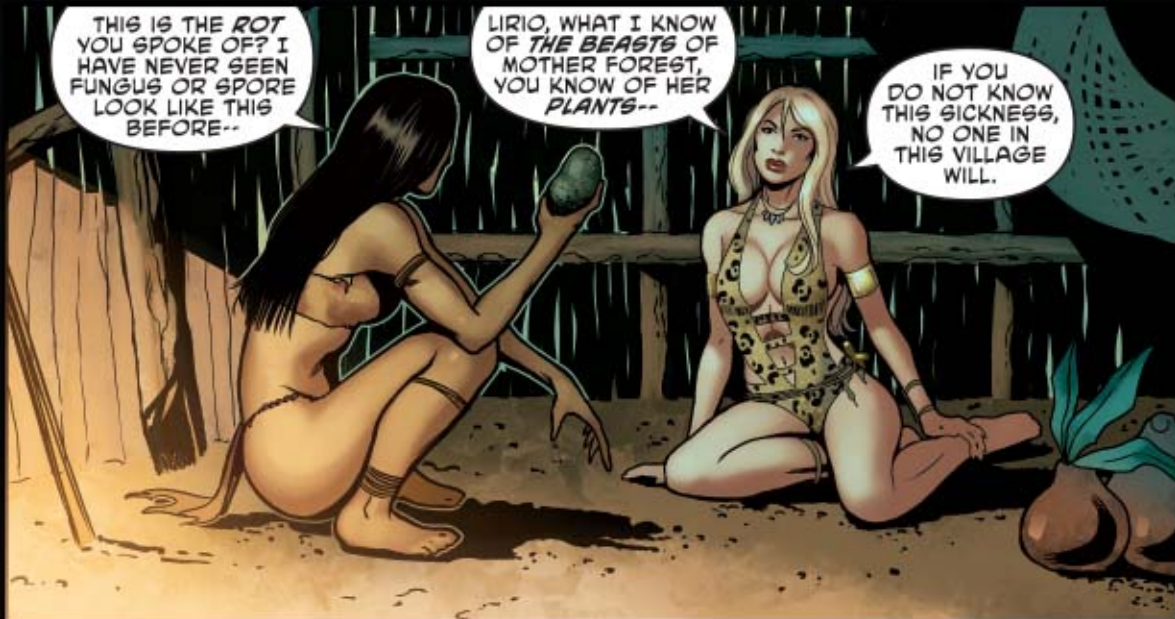


AFTER EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED--*THE FACE STEALERS, THE COWODI INTRUDERS*-- YOU AND I FELT THAT FEAR AS ONE.

FELT *MANY THINGS* AS ONE.

I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO REPAY YOUR LOYALTY, SUPPORTING ME AFTER ALL THE DANGER I BROUGHT TO OUR VILLAGE...

OH, SHEENA...



THIS IS THE *ROT* YOU SPOKE OF? I HAVE NEVER SEEN FUNGUS OR SPORE LOOK LIKE THIS BEFORE--

LIRIO, WHAT I KNOW OF *THE BEASTS* OF MOTHER FOREST, YOU KNOW OF HER *PLANTS*--

IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THIS SICKNESS, NO ONE IN THIS VILLAGE WILL.



MANY TREES ARE INFECTED. WE MAY NEED TO BURN THEM TO STOP THE SPREAD.

WE NEED TO TELL *THE ELDER*--

--AND CHIEFTAINESS COCHA.



YES, WE DO. IT'S ONE MORE THING I MUST ATONE FOR.

YOU DIDN'T *CAUSE* THE ROT, SHEENA.

AND YOU DO NOT NEED TO ATONE FOR *SAVING* THIS VILLAGE.

IT WAS MY DUTY TO GUARD THIS VILLAGE AND OUR FOREST WHILE SHE AND THE WARRIORS WERE AWAY--