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NNEDI OKORAFOR

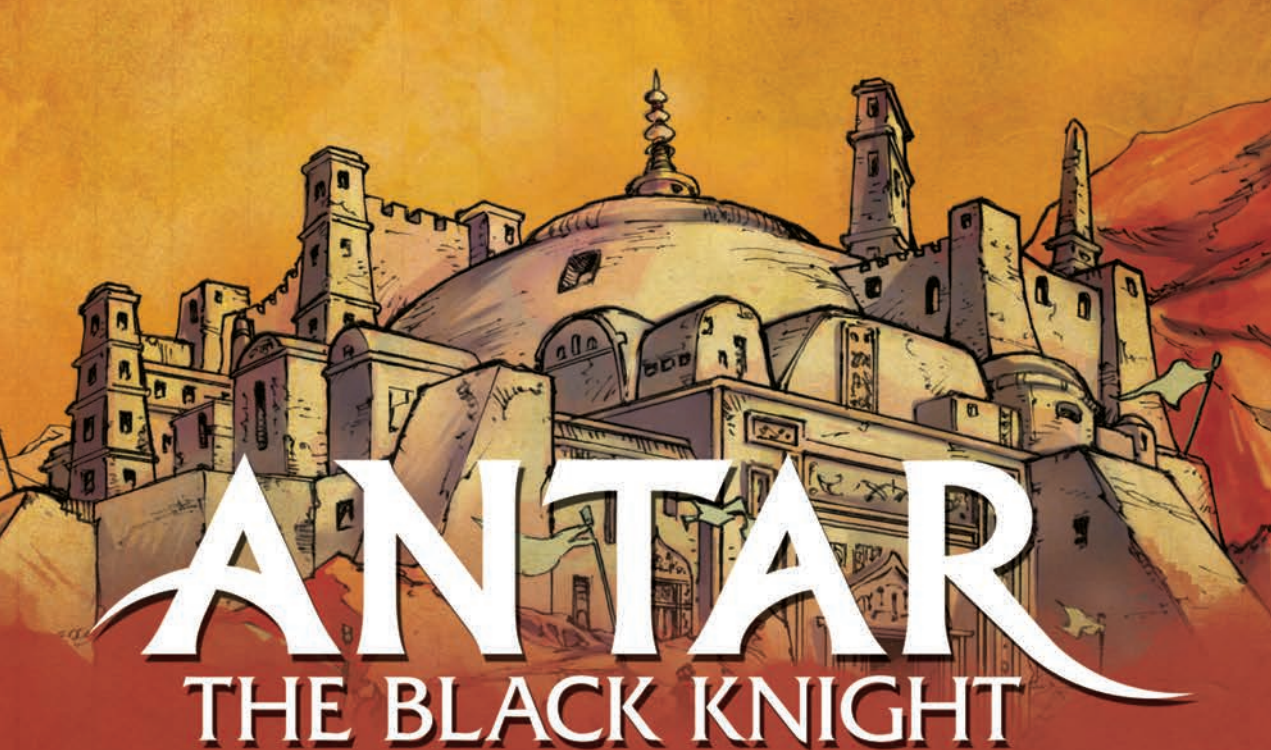
ANTAR

THE BLACK KNIGHT



ERIC BATTLE

BATTLE



ANTAR

THE BLACK KNIGHT

Written by:
NNEDI OKORAFOR

Art by:
ERIC BATTLE

Colors by:
JASON SCOTT JONES

Letters by:
THOMAS MAUER

Edits by:
SOHAIB AWAN

Produced by:
JABAL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC

Production Design by:
CHRISTA MIESNER

Edits for IDW by:
DAVID HEDGECK

Publisher:
GREG GOLDSTEIN



COVER A
Art by Eric Battle
Colors by Jason Scott Jones



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Art by Eric Battle

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*"I pierced him with my spear, and then I set upon him with
my Indian sword pure of steel, and keen. A warrior, so stately
in size as if his clothes were on a high tree: soft leather shoes
are worn by him and he is not twinned."*

—From "The Poem of Antar"
(580 C.E.) by Antar ibn Shaddad.



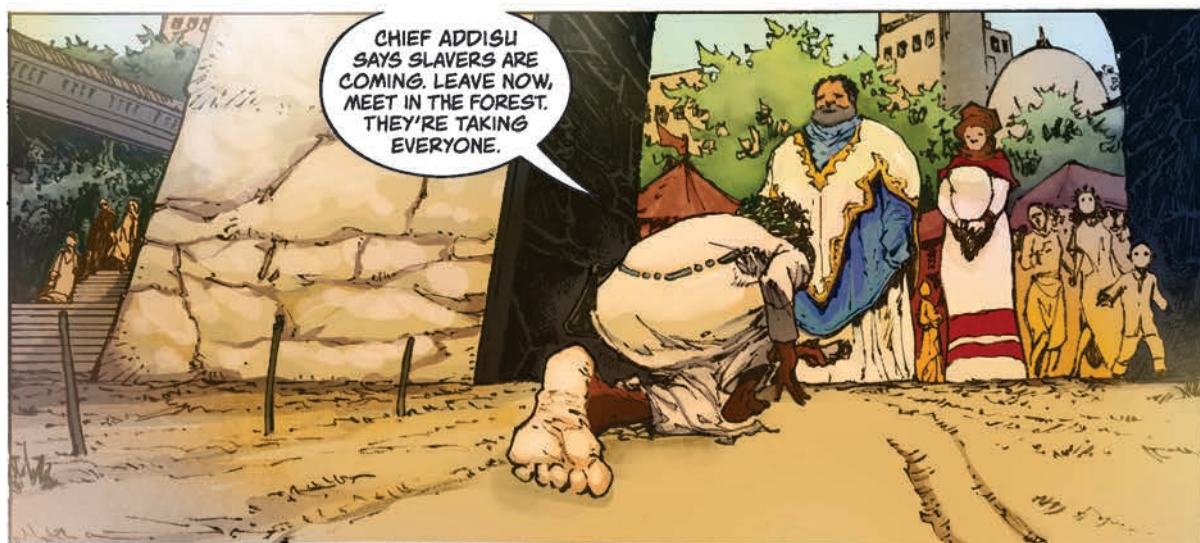
FROM A YOUNG AGE,
I LEARNED THAT THE
PRIVILEGED WILL DO
THE NASTIEST THINGS
TO PROTECT THEIR
POSITION.

HOWEVER,
ONE BECOMES
MORE WITHOUT
COMFORT.

BREAK
HIM!









NO.

I
HAVE TO
GO.

MY MOTHER TOLD
ME HER FINAL NIGHT IN
HER HOMELAND WAS
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
NIGHT ON EARTH.



UNTIL...



IT'S A WOMAN
MESSENGER.

THESE
AXUM
ARE TRULY
ANIMALS.

SHE TOLD ME ABOUT
THIS BEATING ONLY
ONCE. SHE SAID EVEN
WITH THE FULL MOON,
IT WAS TOO DARK TO
SEE THEIR FACES.

