

"...THEY  
SERVED  
WITHOUT  
QUESTION."

CASTAWAYS AND  
REFUGEES FROM YOUR  
WARS POPULATE THESE  
SKYLANDS. A  
DANGEROUS ROAD  
TO CHOOSE.

NOT  
BY MY  
DESIGN.

I GAVE THESE  
ISLES TO MY  
ELDEST SON,  
VOLMER.

TO RULE  
ANY WAY HE SAW  
FIT, PROVIDED HE  
DIDN'T OBSTRUCT  
MY WORK.



SO,  
THAT'S  
EXACTLY  
WHAT HE  
DID.

LEARNED  
FROM THE  
BEST.

I THINK IT HAS  
MORE TO DO WITH  
FATHERS AND SONS  
IN GENERAL. THERE  
ARE SO FEW  
HAPPY ENDINGS.



I LOVED  
MY DAD.

YET, IF HE'D  
LIVED, WOULD  
YOU BE ON  
YOUR WAY TO  
A CURE?

NEVER  
KNOW--YOU  
TOOK HIM  
FROM ME.



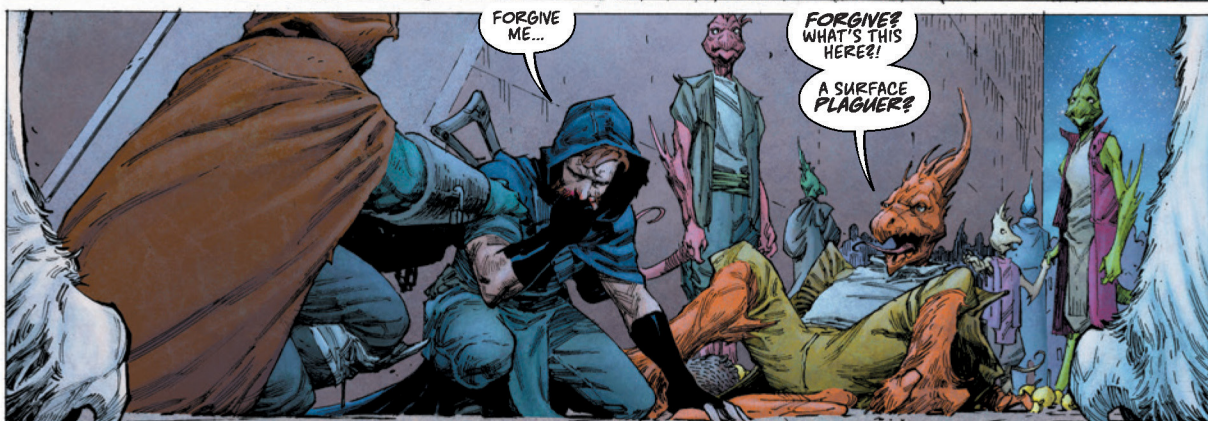
PERHAPS  
THERE'S  
ANOTHER WAY  
TO LOOK AT  
WHAT I DID.

PERHAPS  
IT WAS A  
MERCY...

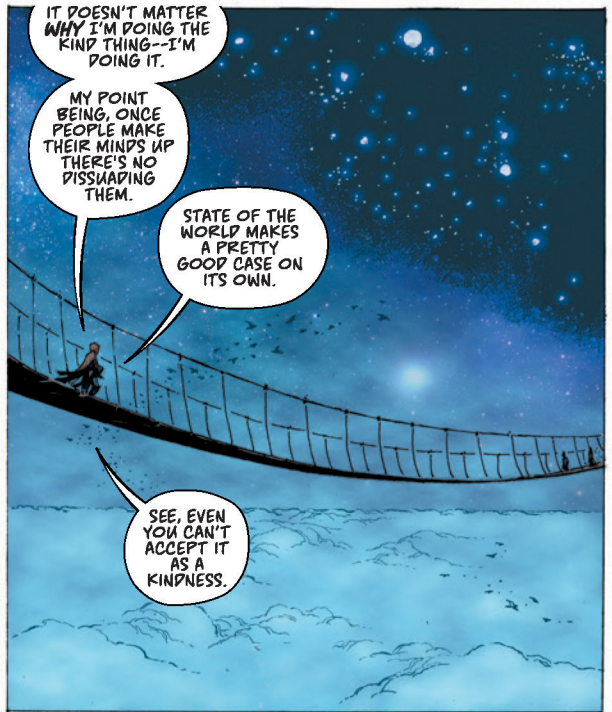
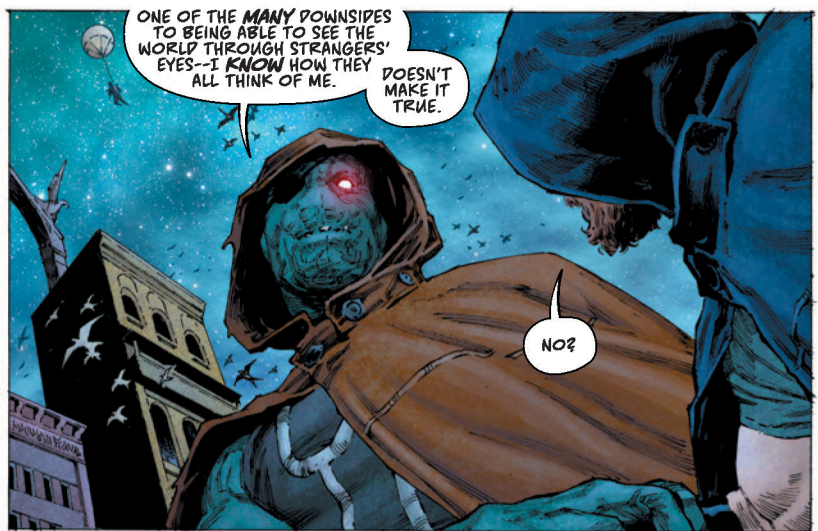




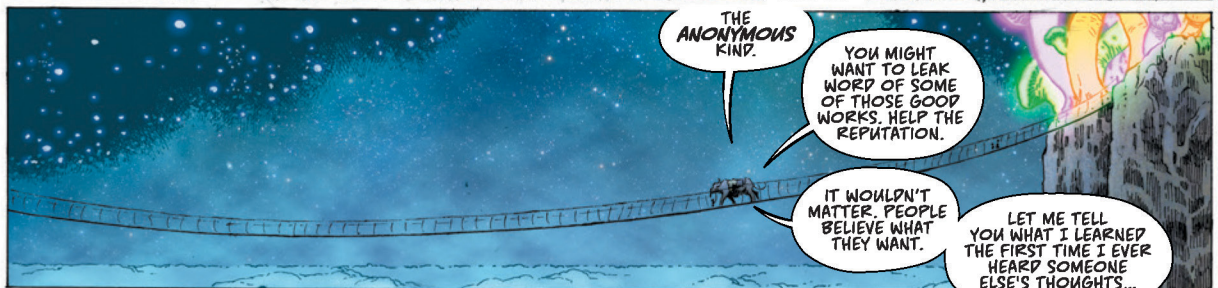






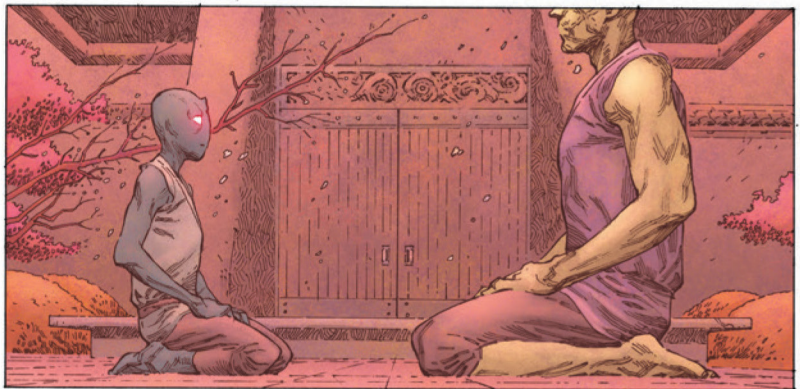






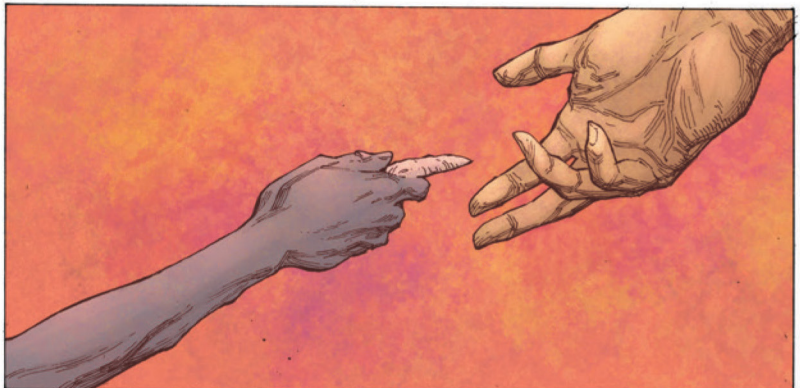
"AFTER YEARS BEGGING ON THE STREETS, A SEEKER DISCOVERED I WAS A CONDUIT FOR THE WELL AND THE MOSAK TOOK ME IN. IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE AN ORPHAN, IT'S FORTUNATE TO HAVE MOSAK GIFTS.

"DACROUS, THE MONK ASSIGNED TO ME, WAS IN THE FIRST STAGES OF DISCOVERING WHAT ASPECT OF THE WELL I CONNECTED WITH. WHAT MY MOSAK CHANNEL COULD BE USED FOR.



"THOUGH HE DIDN'T KNOW IT, HE REVEALED IT BY ACCEPTING AN OFFER I HAD MADE HIM. A TRADE: HE WOULD GIVE ME AN EXTRA PIECE OF DESSERT AND I WOULD STUDY AN HOUR LONGER. IN DOING SO HE INADVERTENTLY LET ME INTO HIS MIND.

"HE'D BEEN TEACHING ME FOR MONTHS, I'D BEGUN TO SEE HIM AS A FRIEND. IN MY DESPERATION EVEN BEGUN TO LOVE HIM. BUT THERE I WAS INSIDE HIS MIND, SURROUNDED BY WHAT HE TRULY THOUGHT.



"HE HATED ME.

"SAW ME AS A HALF-BREED, RABBLE THAT WAS BENEATH HIS STATION. HE WAS FURIOUS AT BEING ASSIGNED SUCH A LOW PUPIL. SAW IT AS A REFLECTION OF HOW THE OTHERS RATED HIM. HE ONLY CARED FOR ME TO APPEAR CHARITABLE.

"I SAW AT THAT MOMENT THE ONLY THING THAT STOPPED HIM FROM OPENING MY THROAT AND THROWING ME INTO THE GUTTER WAS APPEARANCES.

"AS THE YEARS WENT ON, THE MORE HEADS I WORMED INTO, THE CLEARER IT ALL BECAME..."

