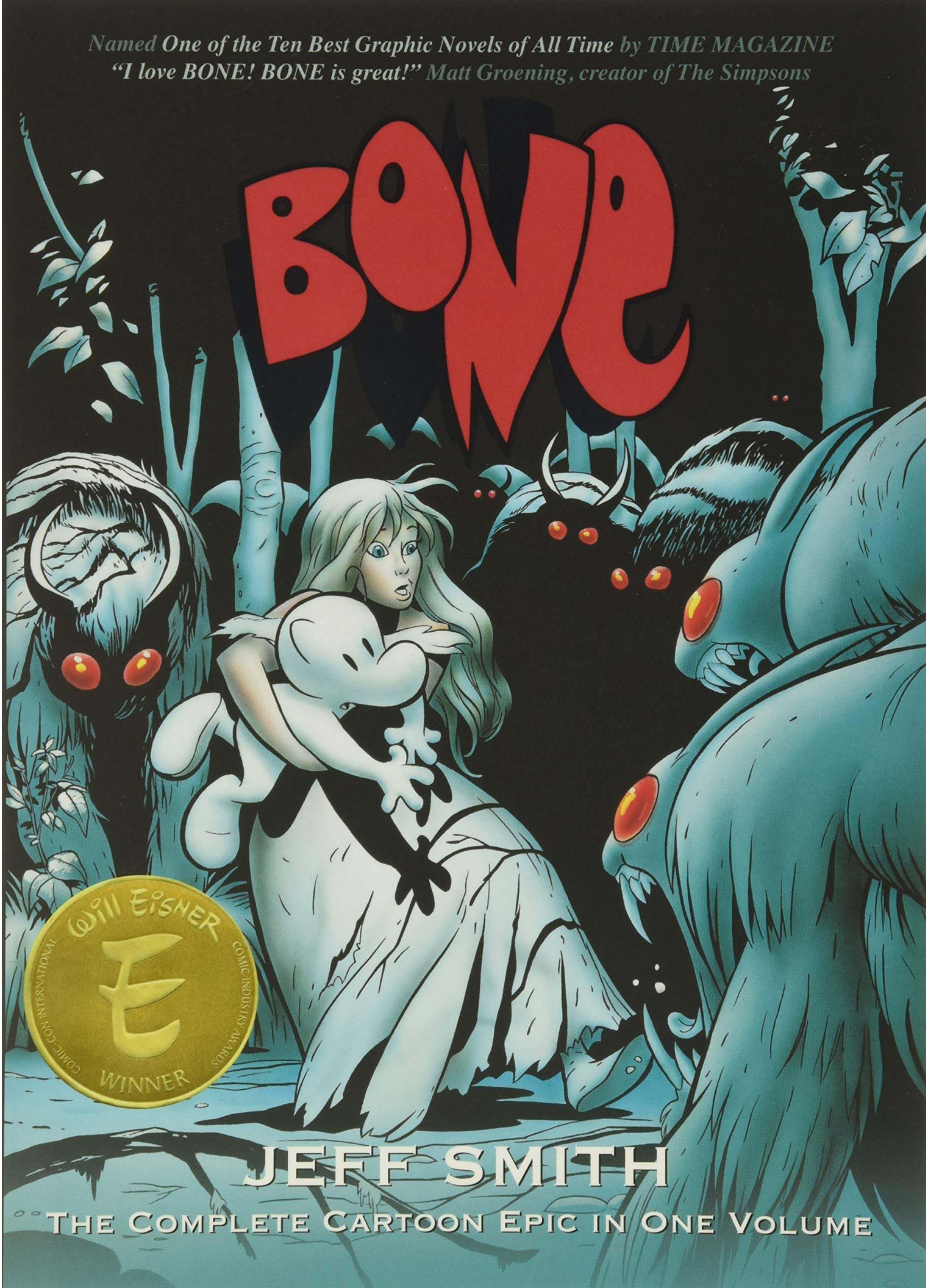
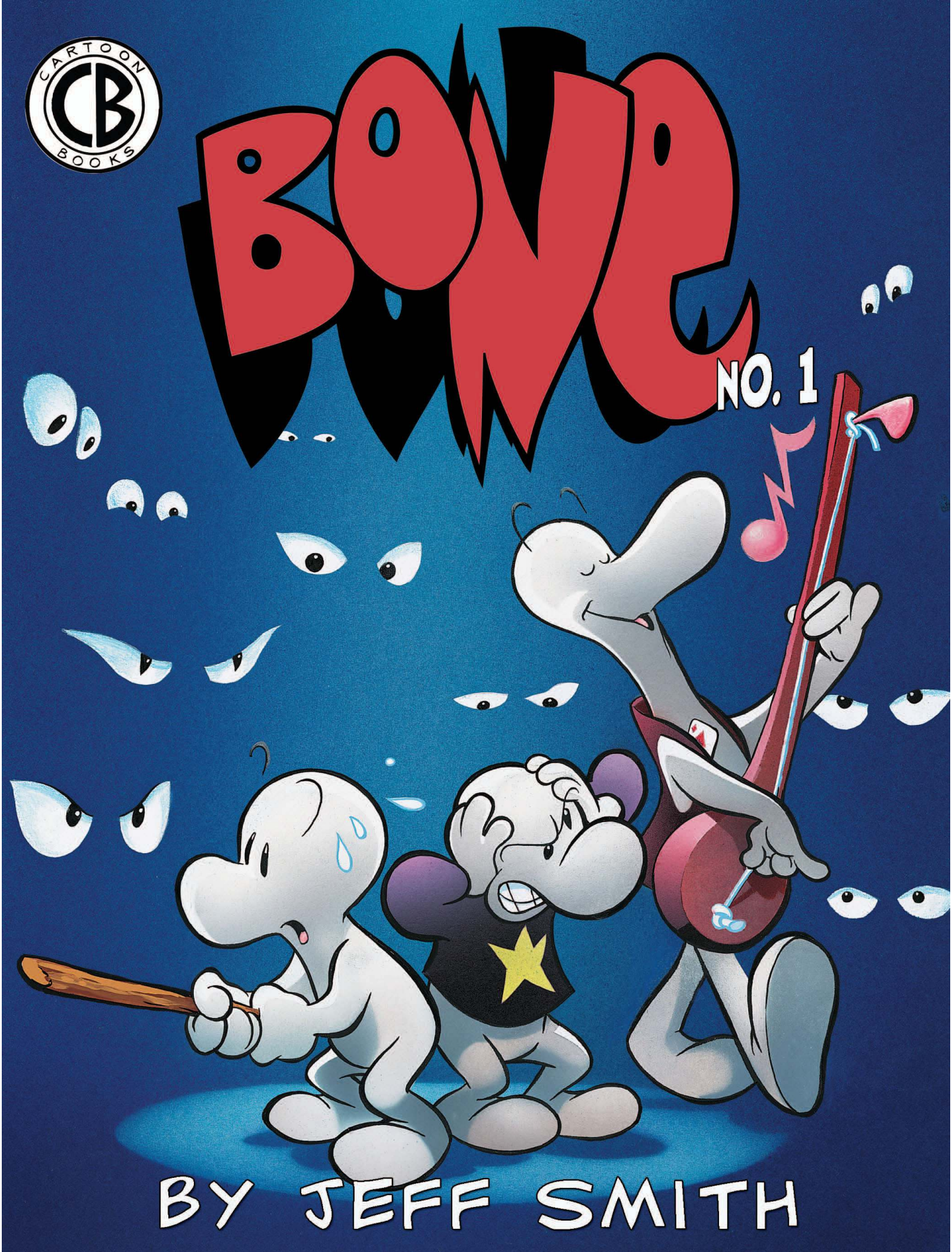
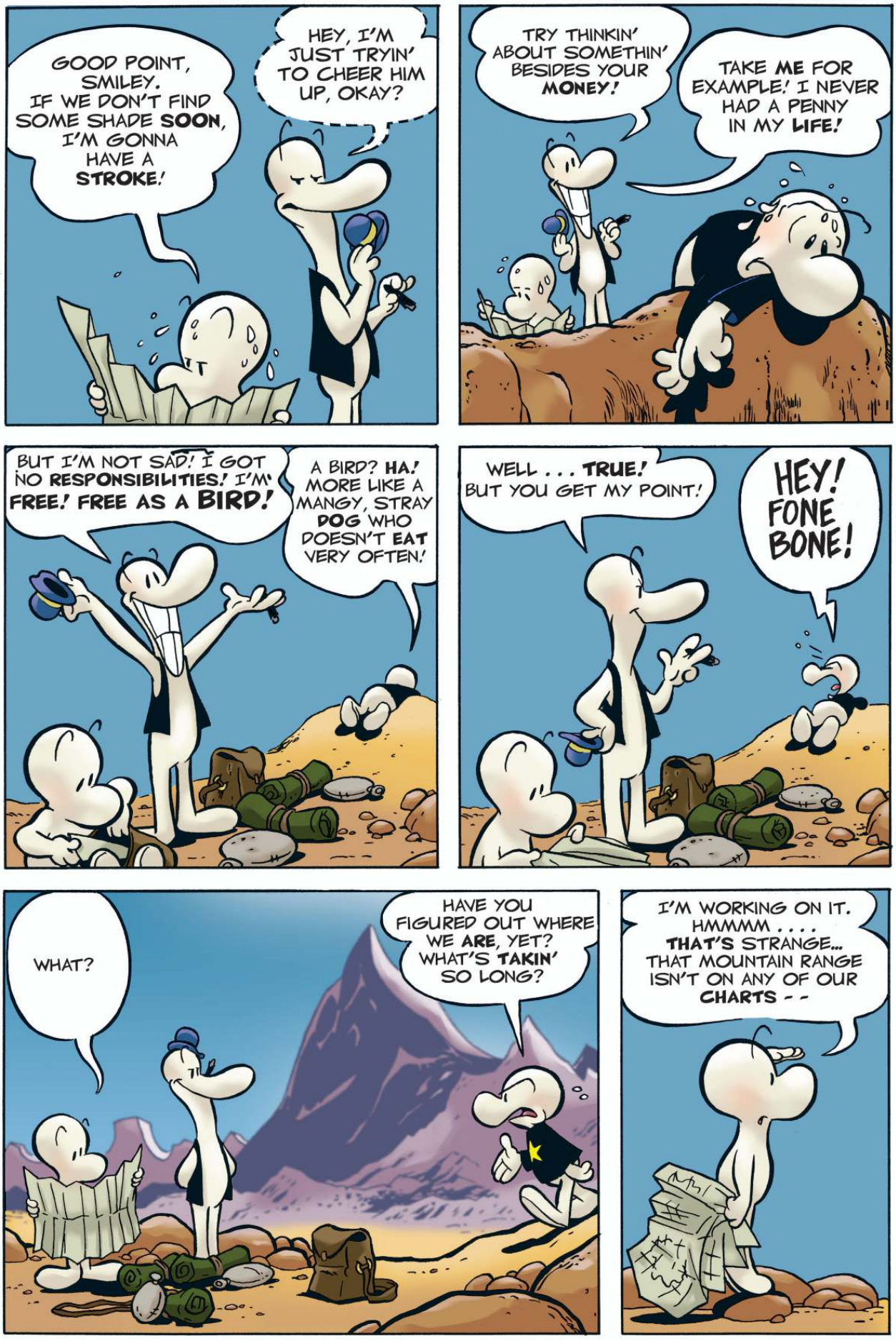
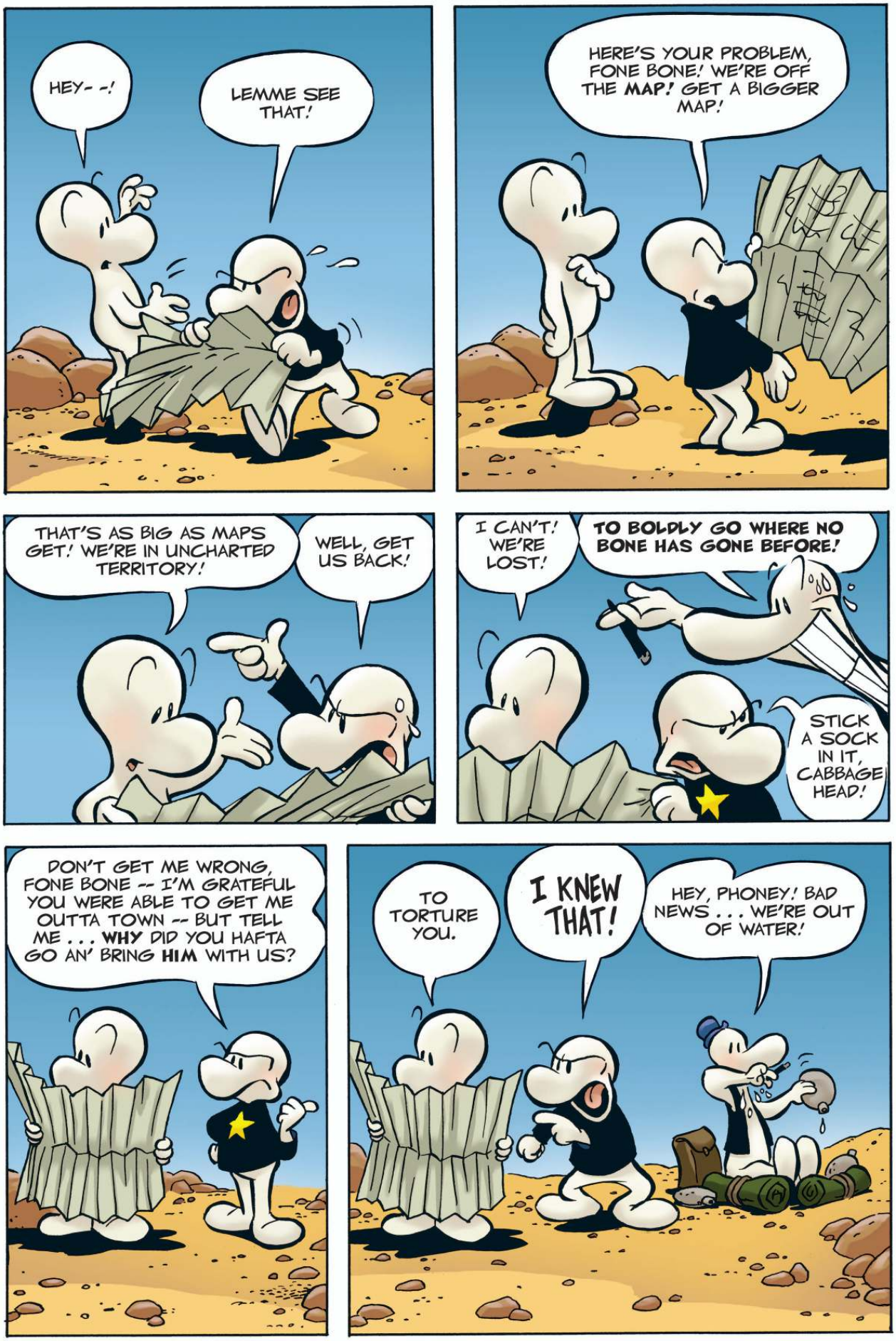

Named One of the Ten Best Graphic Novels of All Time by TIME MAGAZINE
"I love BONE! BONE is great!" Matt Groening, creator of The Simpsons
BONE
Will Eisner
COMIC-CON INTERNATIONAL
COMIC INDUSTRY AWARDS
WINNER
JEFF SMITH
THE COMPLETE CARTOON EPIC IN ONE VOLUME

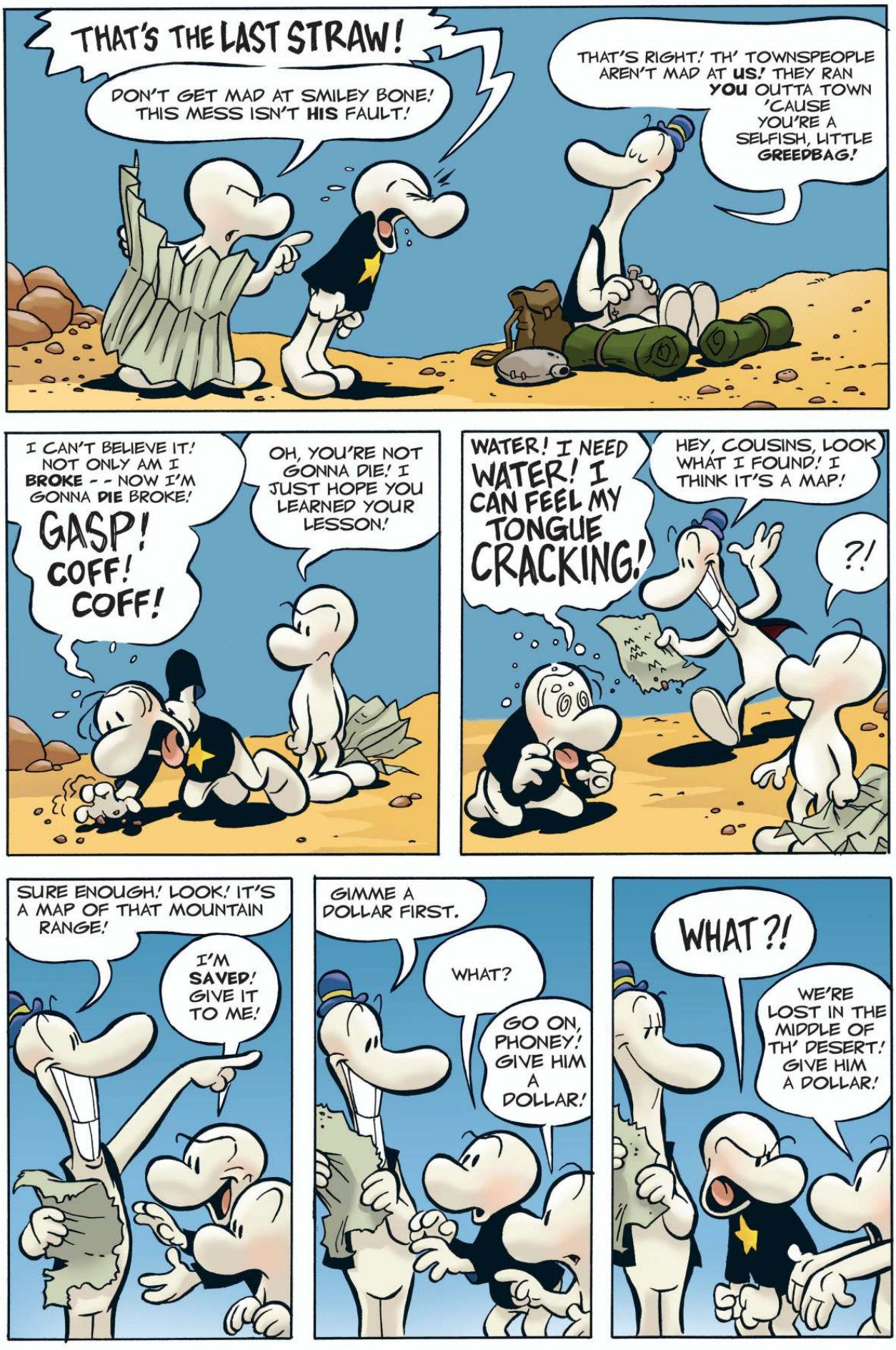

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
NO. 1
BY JEFF SMITH

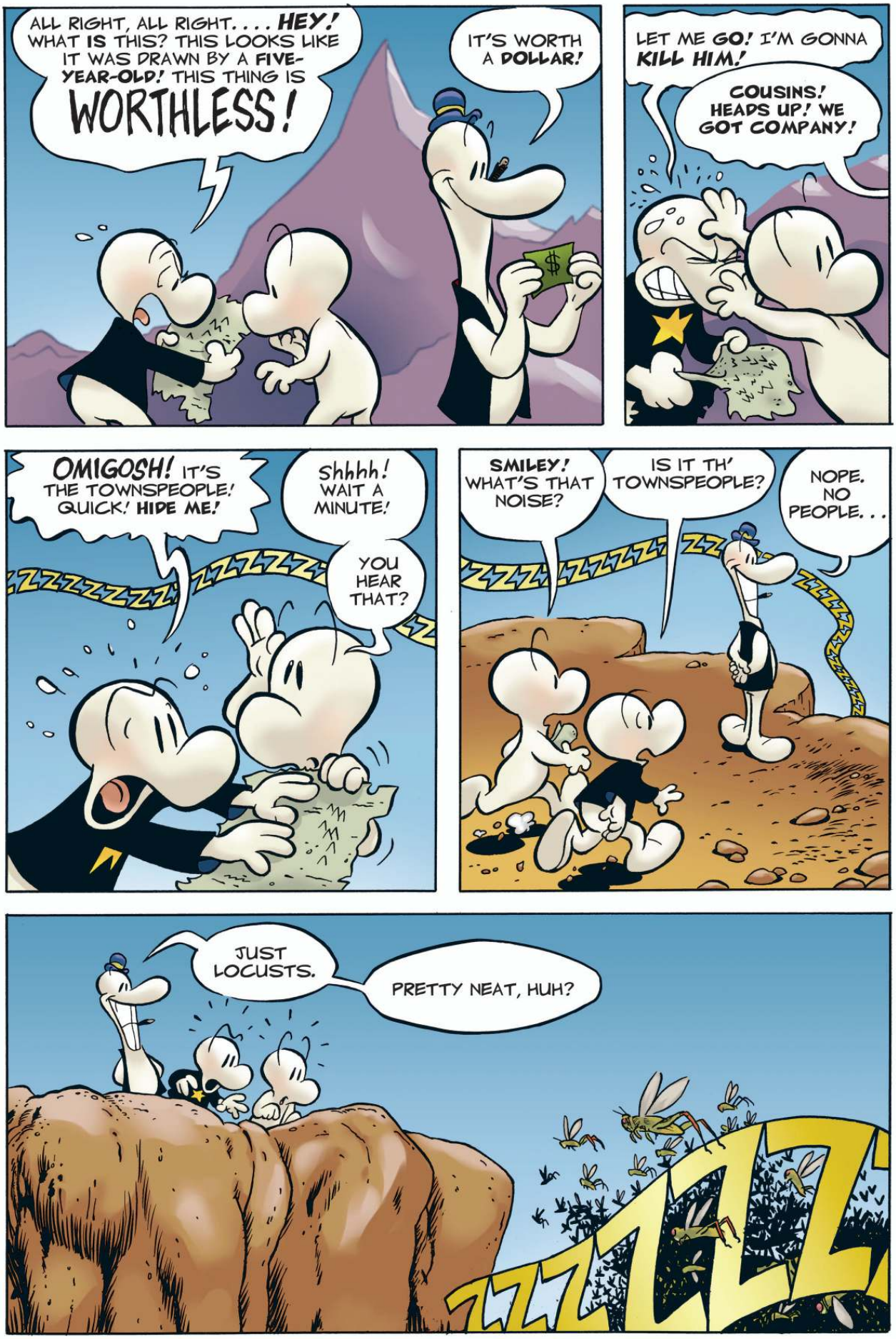

BONE
STILL NO SIGN OF THE TOWNSPEOPLE.
HEY! YA HEAR THAT, PHONEY? TH' COAST IS CLEAR!
LOOK AT HIM! WE GOT CHASED OUTTA BONEVILLE OVER TWO WEEKS AGO, AN' HE'S STILL MOPIN' AROUND!
. . . OH, WELL . . . I GUESS YOU CAN WHINE ALL YOU WANT, WHEN YER TH' RICHEST GUY IN TH' WHOLE TOWN.
AAAH!
OOPS! SILLY ME. EX-RICHEST!

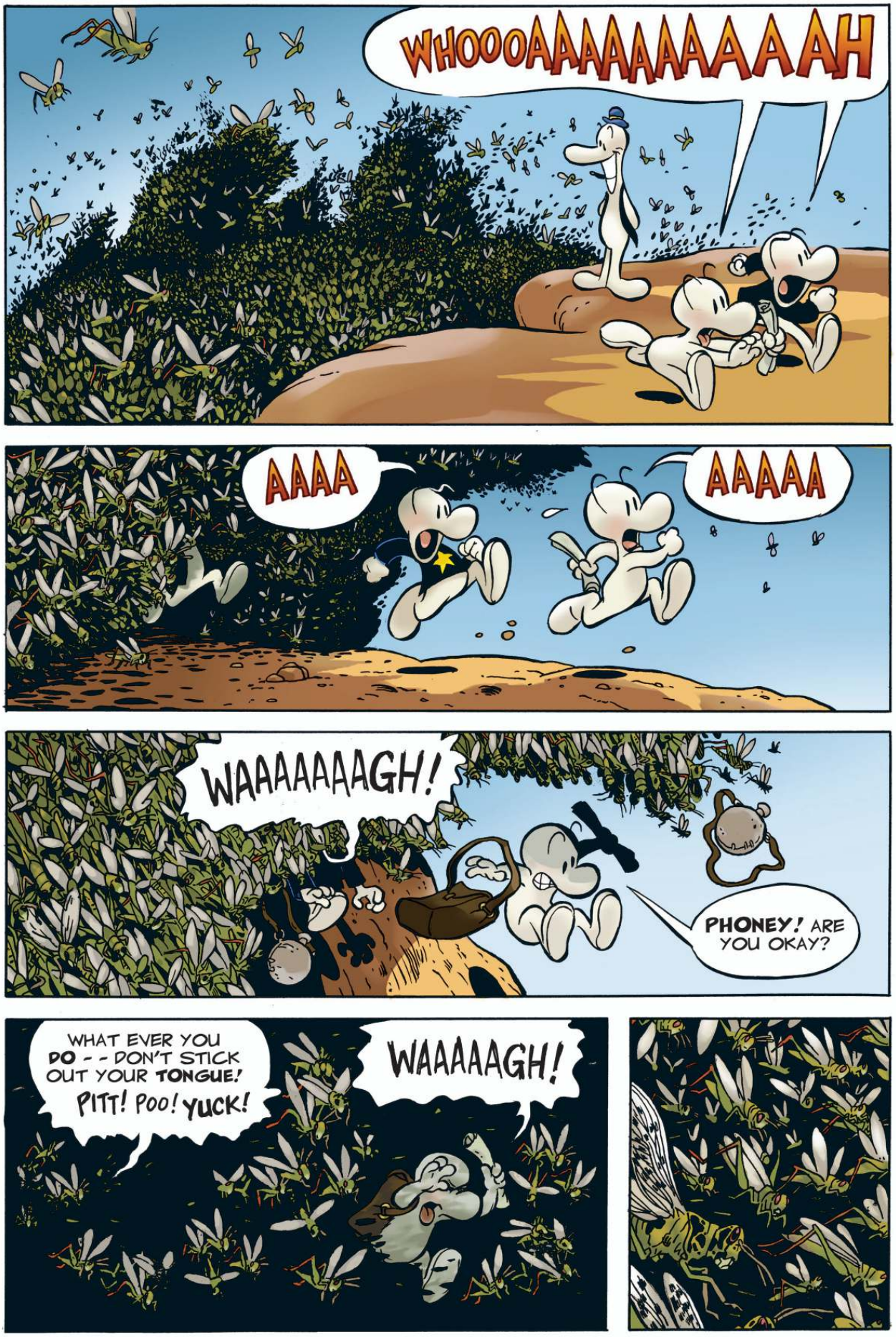

DON'T GET HIM STARTED.
THEY CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO A RICH PERSON THAT HE DOESN'T WANT!
GASP! OH! TH' HORRIBLE INJUSTICE OF IT ALL! I'M STILL REELING WITH SHOCK!!
I'M A RESPECTED COMMUNITY LEADER! A SHINING PILLAR OF MORAL STRENGTH!
... SO A COUPLE OF SHADY BUSINESS DEALS WENT SOUR... IS THAT ANY REASON TO RUN TH' MOST BELOVED BONE IN BONEVILLE OUT ON A RAIL?!
YES.
BELOVED? TH' MAYOR DECLARED A SCHOOL HOLIDAY JUST SO TH' KIDS COULD COME AND THROW ROCKS AT YOU!
INGRATES!
OH, THEY'LL RUE TH' DAY THEY CHASED PHONCIBLE P. BONE OUTTA THEIR CRUMMY OL' TOWN!
SNIFF!
NOW, NOW, LITTLE BUCKAROO! DON'T BE SAD! IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY! THERE'S NOT A CLOUD IN TH' SKY!

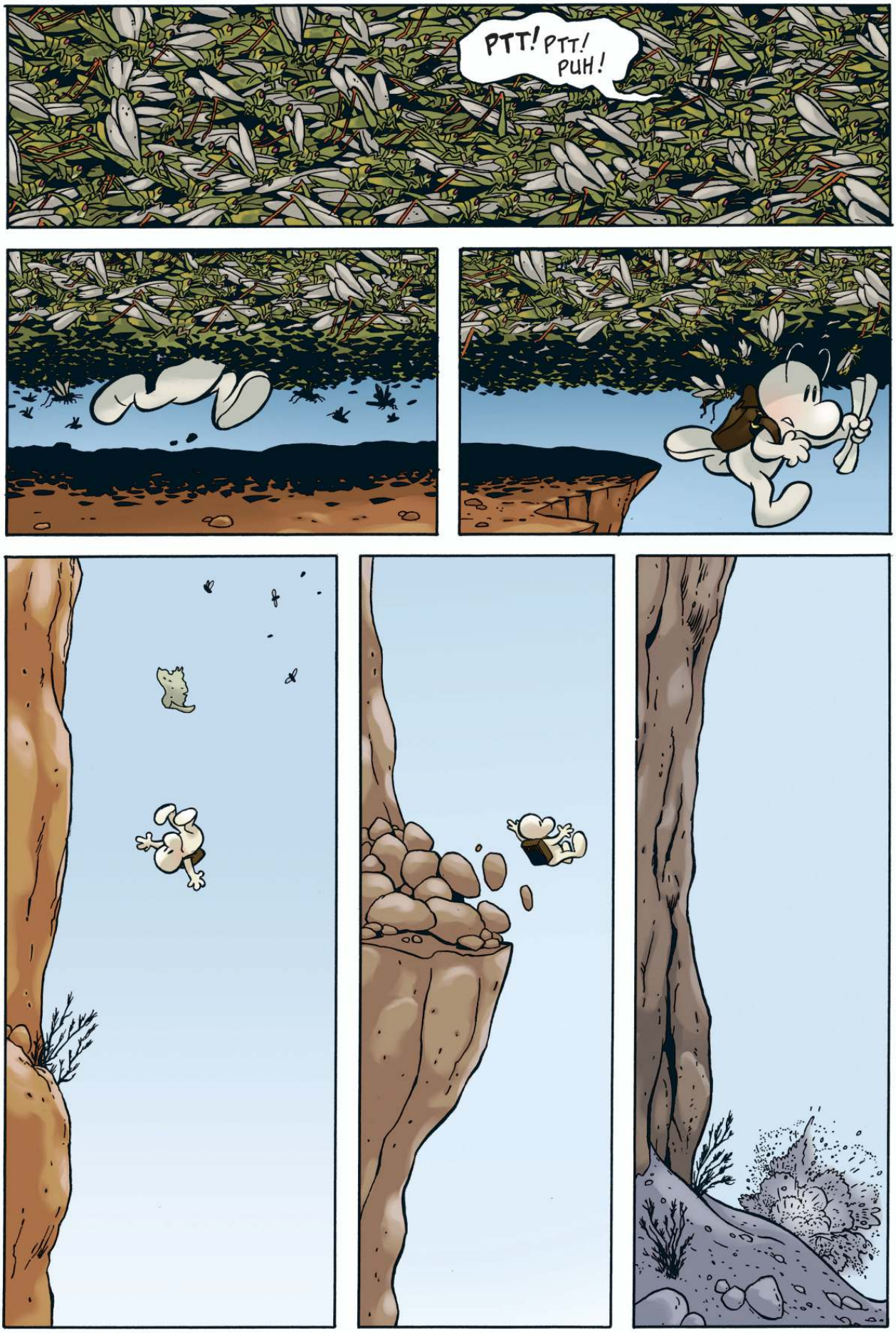

GOOD POINT, SMILEY. IF WE DON'T FIND SOME SHADE SOON, I'M GONNA HAVE A STROKE!
HEY, I'M JUST TRYIN' TO CHEER HIM UP, OKAY?
TRY THINKIN' ABOUT SOMETHIN' BESIDES YOUR MONEY!
TAKE ME FOR EXAMPLE! I NEVER HAD A PENNY IN MY LIFE!
BUT I'M NOT SAD! I GOT NO RESPONSIBILITIES! I'M FREE! FREE AS A BIRD!
A BIRD? HA! MORE LIKE A MANGY, STRAY DOG WHO DOESN'T EAT VERY OFTEN!
WELL . . . TRUE! BUT YOU GET MY POINT!
HEY! FONE BONE!
WHAT?
HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT WHERE WE ARE, YET? WHAT'S TAKIN' SO LONG?
I'M WORKING ON IT. HMMMM . . . . THAT'S STRANGE... THAT MOUNTAIN RANGE ISN'T ON ANY OF OUR CHARTS - -


HEY- -!
LEMME SEE THAT!
HERE'S YOUR PROBLEM, FONE BONE! WE'RE OFF THE MAP! GET A BIGGER MAP!
THAT'S AS BIG AS MAPS GET! WE'RE IN UNCHARTED TERRITORY!
WELL, GET US BACK!
I CAN'T! WE'RE LOST!
TO BOLDLY GO WHERE NO BONE HAS GONE BEFORE!
STICK A SOCK IN IT, CABBAGE HEAD!
DON'T GET ME WRONG, FONE BONE -- I'M GRATEFUL YOU WERE ABLE TO GET ME OUTTA TOWN -- BUT TELL ME . . . WHY DID YOU HAFTA GO AN' BRING HIM WITH US?
TO TORTURE YOU.
I KNEW THAT!
HEY, PHONEY! BAD NEWS . . . WE'RE OUT OF WATER!

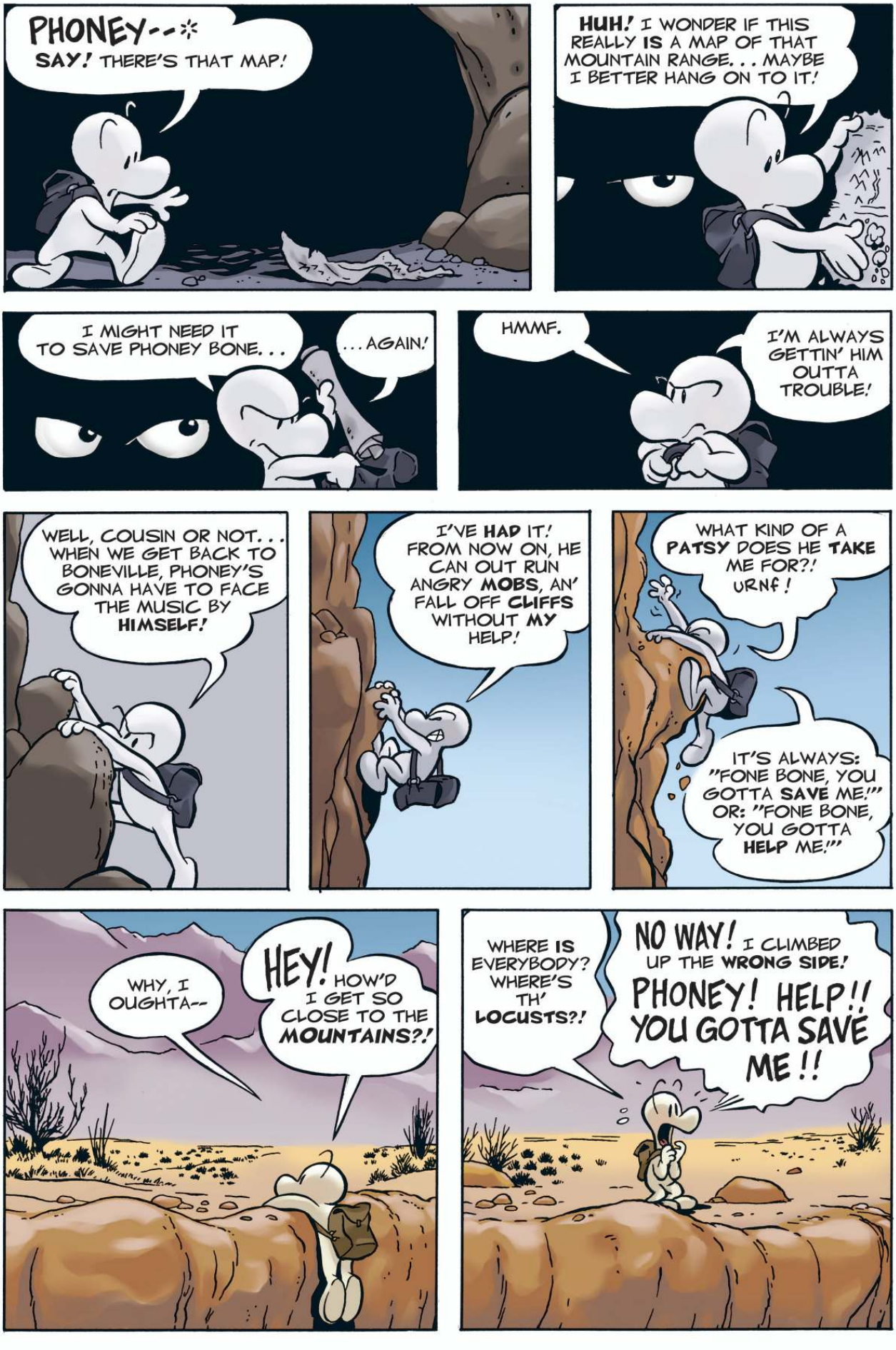

THAT'S THE LAST STRAW!
DON'T GET MAD AT SMILEY BONE! THIS MESS ISN'T HIS FAULT!
THAT'S RIGHT! TH' TOWNSPEOPLE AREN'T MAD AT US! THEY RAN YOU OUTTA TOWN 'CAUSE YOU'RE A SELFISH, LITTLE GREEDBAG!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! NOT ONLY AM I BROKE - - NOW I'M GONNA DIE BROKE!
GASP! COFF! COFF!
OH, YOU'RE NOT GONNA DIE! I JUST HOPE YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSON!
WATER! I NEED WATER! I CAN FEEL MY TONGUE CRACKING!
HEY, COUSINS, LOOK WHAT I FOUND! I THINK IT'S A MAP!
?!
SURE ENOUGH! LOOK! IT'S A MAP OF THAT MOUNTAIN RANGE!
I'M SAVED! GIVE IT TO ME!
GIMME A DOLLAR FIRST.
WHAT?
GO ON, PHONEY! GIVE HIM A DOLLAR!
WHAT?!
WE'RE LOST IN THE MIDDLE OF TH' DESERT! GIVE HIM A DOLLAR!

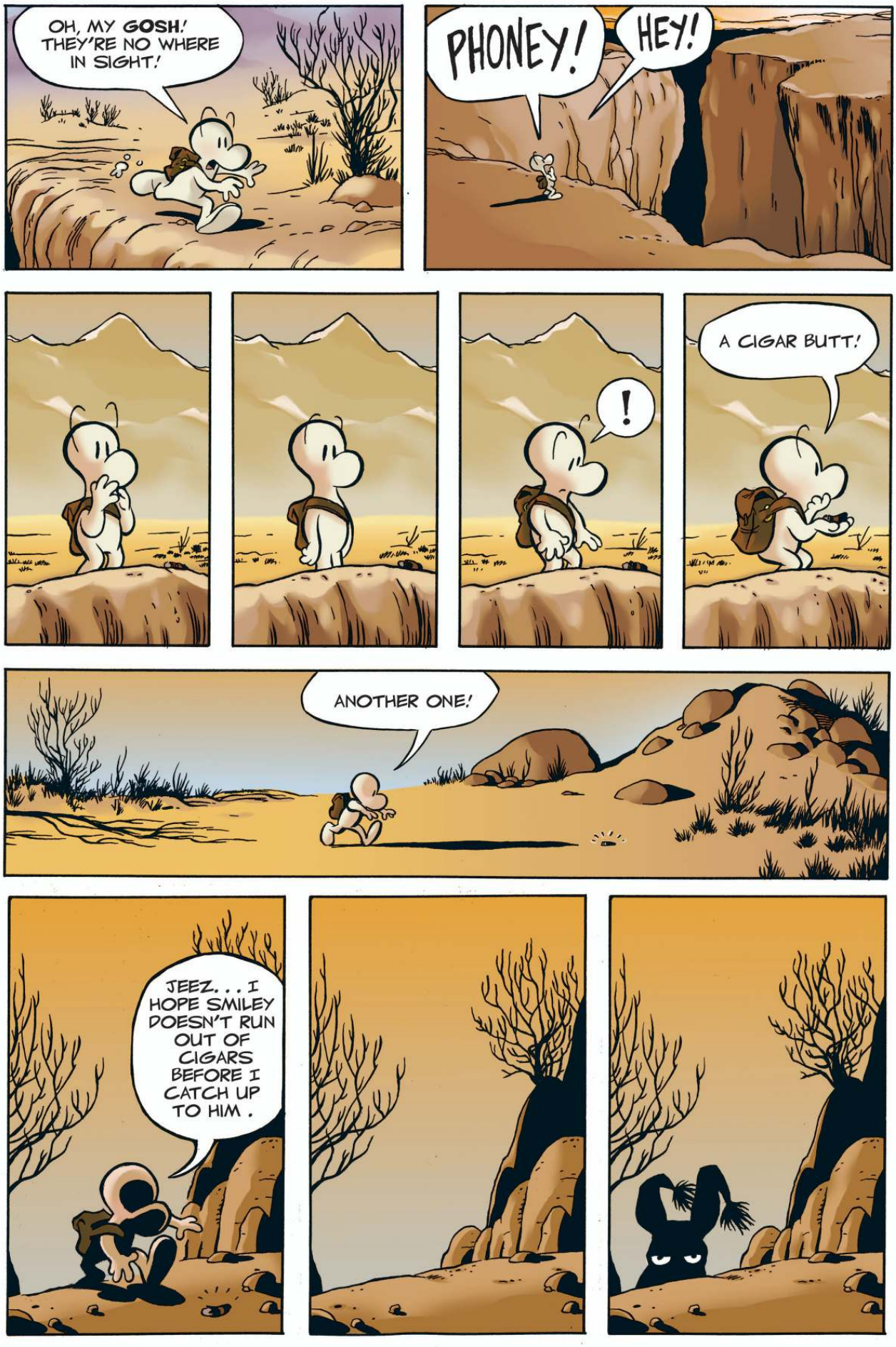

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. . . . HEY! WHAT IS THIS? THIS LOOKS LIKE IT WAS DRAWN BY A FIVE-YEAR-OLD! THIS THING IS WORTHLESS!
IT'S WORTH A DOLLAR!
LET ME GO! I'M GONNA KILL HIM!
COUSINS! HEADS UP! WE GOT COMPANY!
OMIGOSH! IT'S THE TOWNSPEOPLE! QUICK! HIDE ME!
Shhhh! WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU HEAR THAT?
SMILEY! WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
IS IT TH' TOWNSPEOPLE?
NOPE. NO PEOPLE. . .
JUST LOCUSTS.
PRETTY NEAT, HUH?
ZZZZZZ


WHOOOAAAAAAAAAAAH
AAAA
AAAAA
WAAAAAAAGH!
PHONEY! ARE YOU OKAY?
WHAT EVER YOU DO - - DON'T STICK OUT YOUR TONGUE!
PITT! POO! YUCK!
WAAAAAGH!


PTT! PTT! PUH!


YEEEE! I CAN'T BELIEVE I WASN'T JUST KILLED!
PHONEY! SMILEY! GO BACK! DON'T COME THIS WAY! IT'S A CLIFF!
. . . MAYBE THEY'RE ALREADY DOWN HERE!
PHONEY BONE! SMILEY!
HEY!
HEY, GUYS! I'M DOWN IN THIS GULLEY! CAN YOU HEAR ME?!!


PHONEY--*
SAY! THERE'S THAT MAP!
HUH! I WONDER IF THIS REALLY IS A MAP OF THAT MOUNTAIN RANGE... MAYBE I BETTER HANG ON TO IT!
I MIGHT NEED IT TO SAVE PHONEY BONE...
...AGAIN!
HMMF.
I'M ALWAYS GETTIN' HIM OUTTA TROUBLE!
WELL, COUSIN OR NOT... WHEN WE GET BACK TO BONEVILLE, PHONEY'S GONNA HAVE TO FACE THE MUSIC BY HIMSELF!
I'VE HAD IT! FROM NOW ON, HE CAN OUT RUN ANGRY MOBS, AN' FALL OFF CLIFFS WITHOUT MY HELP!
WHAT KIND OF A PATSY DOES HE TAKE ME FOR?! URNF!
IT'S ALWAYS: "FONE BONE, YOU GOTTA SAVE ME!" OR: "FONE BONE, YOU GOTTA HELP ME!"
WHY, I OUGHTA--
HEY! HOW'D I GET SO CLOSE TO THE MOUNTAINS?!
WHERE IS EVERYBODY? WHERE'S TH' LOCUSTS?!
NO WAY! I CLIMBED UP THE WRONG SIDE!
PHONEY! HELP!! YOU GOTTA SAVE ME!!


OH, MY GOSH! THEY'RE NO WHERE IN SIGHT!
PHONEY!
HEY!
!
A CIGAR BUTT!
ANOTHER ONE!
JEEZ. . . I HOPE SMILEY DOESN'T RUN OUT OF CIGARS BEFORE I CATCH UP TO HIM .



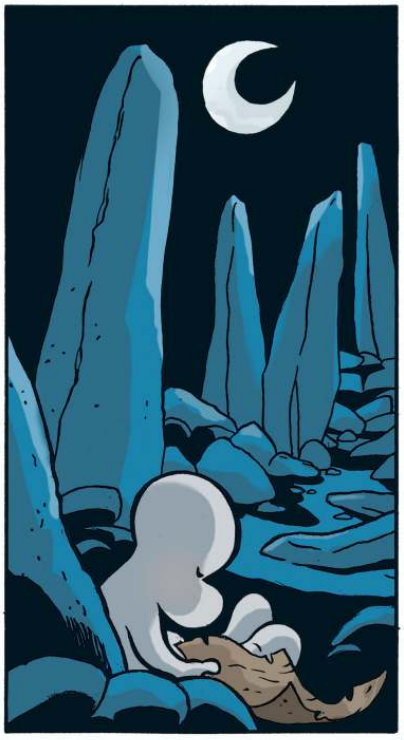

HUH
HUH
HUH


HUFF!
WHERE TH' HECK ARE THOSE GUYS? WE'RE GOIN' STRAIGHT INTO TH' MOUNTAINS!

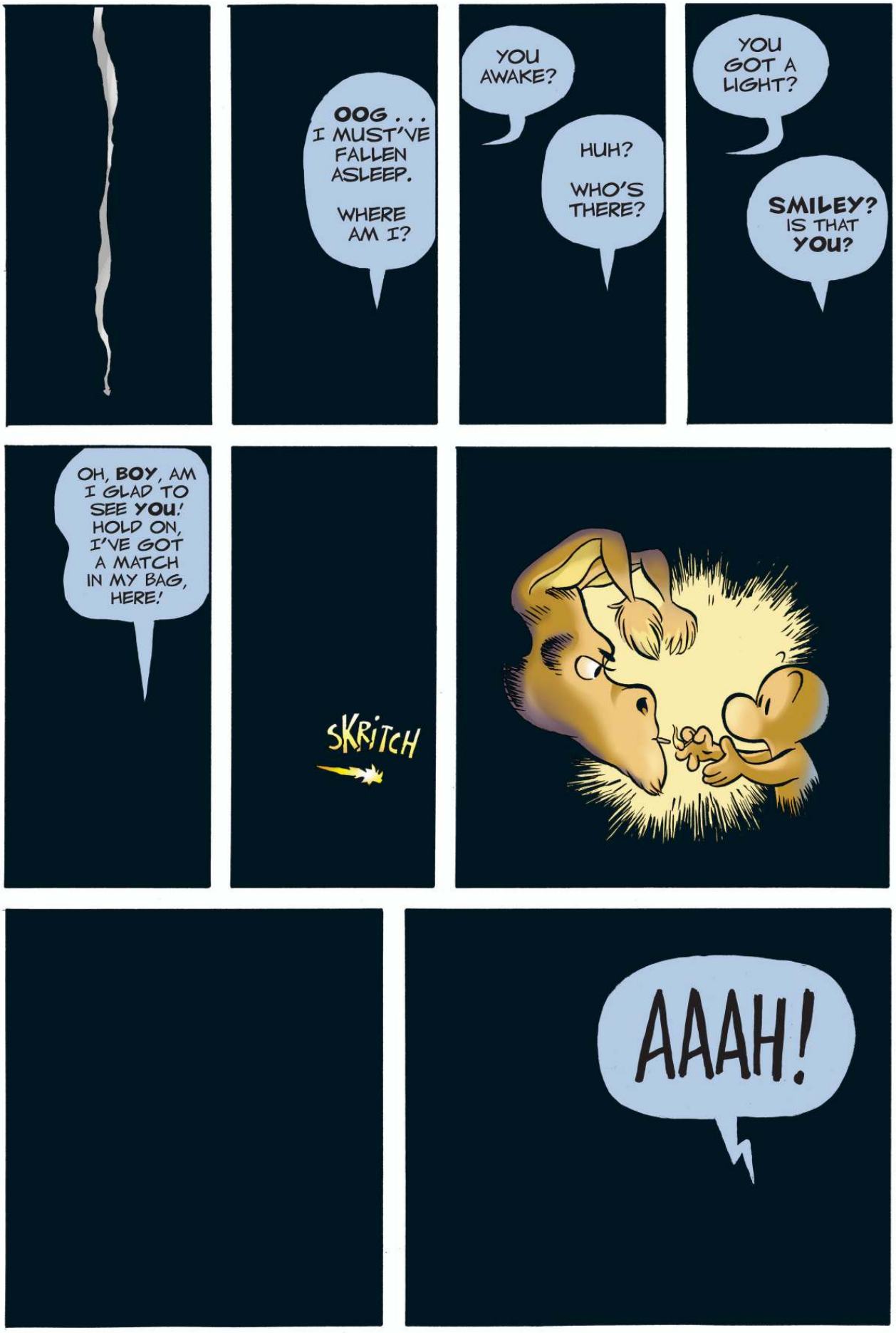

I HOPE I CATCH UP TO 'EM BEFORE IT GETS DARK . . . .

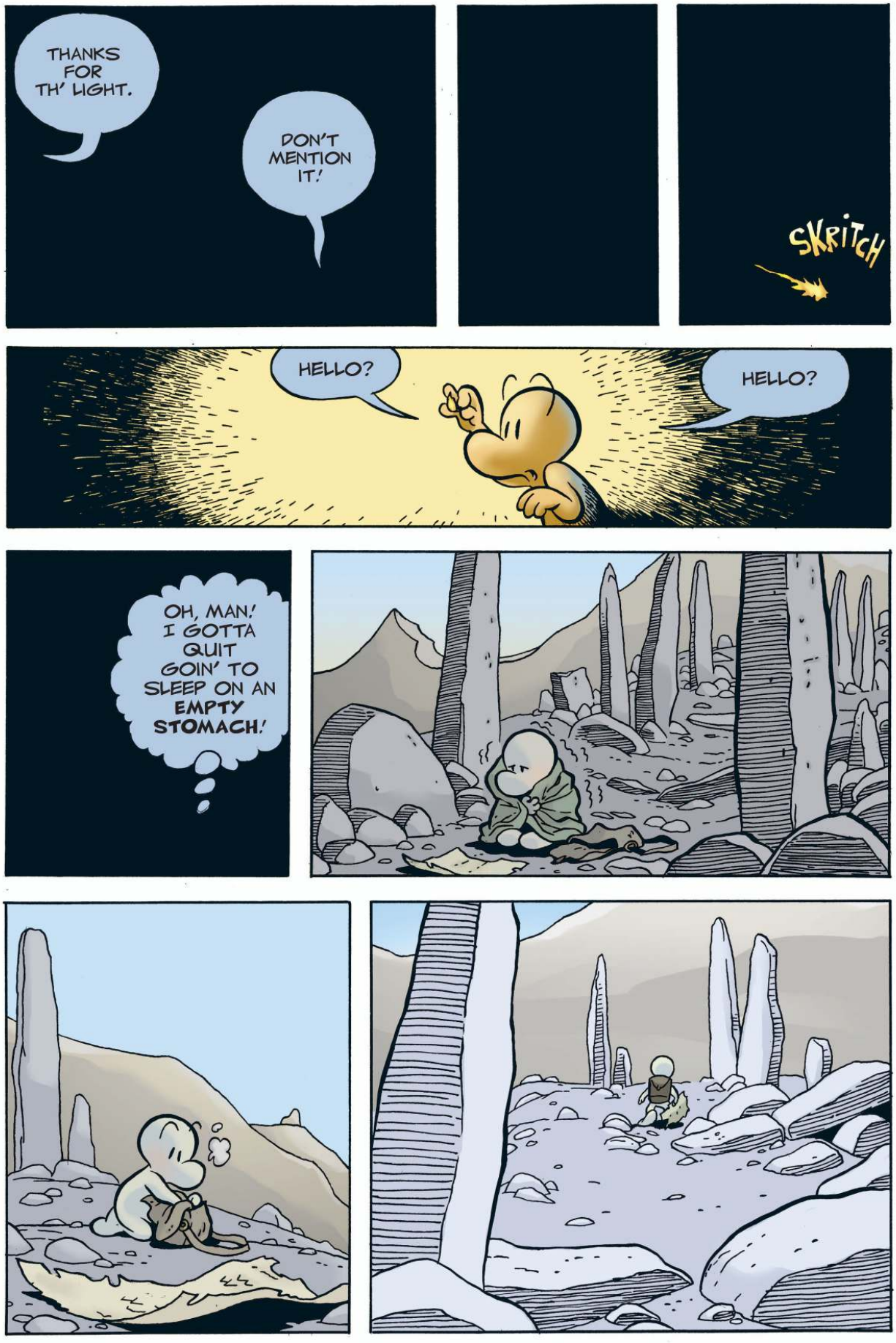

THE LAST THING I WANT TO DO IS SPEND THE NIGHT OUT HERE BY MYSELF!


. . . OF COURSE, AFTER A DAY LIKE TODAY, IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE THAT ANYTHING WORSE COULD HAPPEN . . .
YAWN!

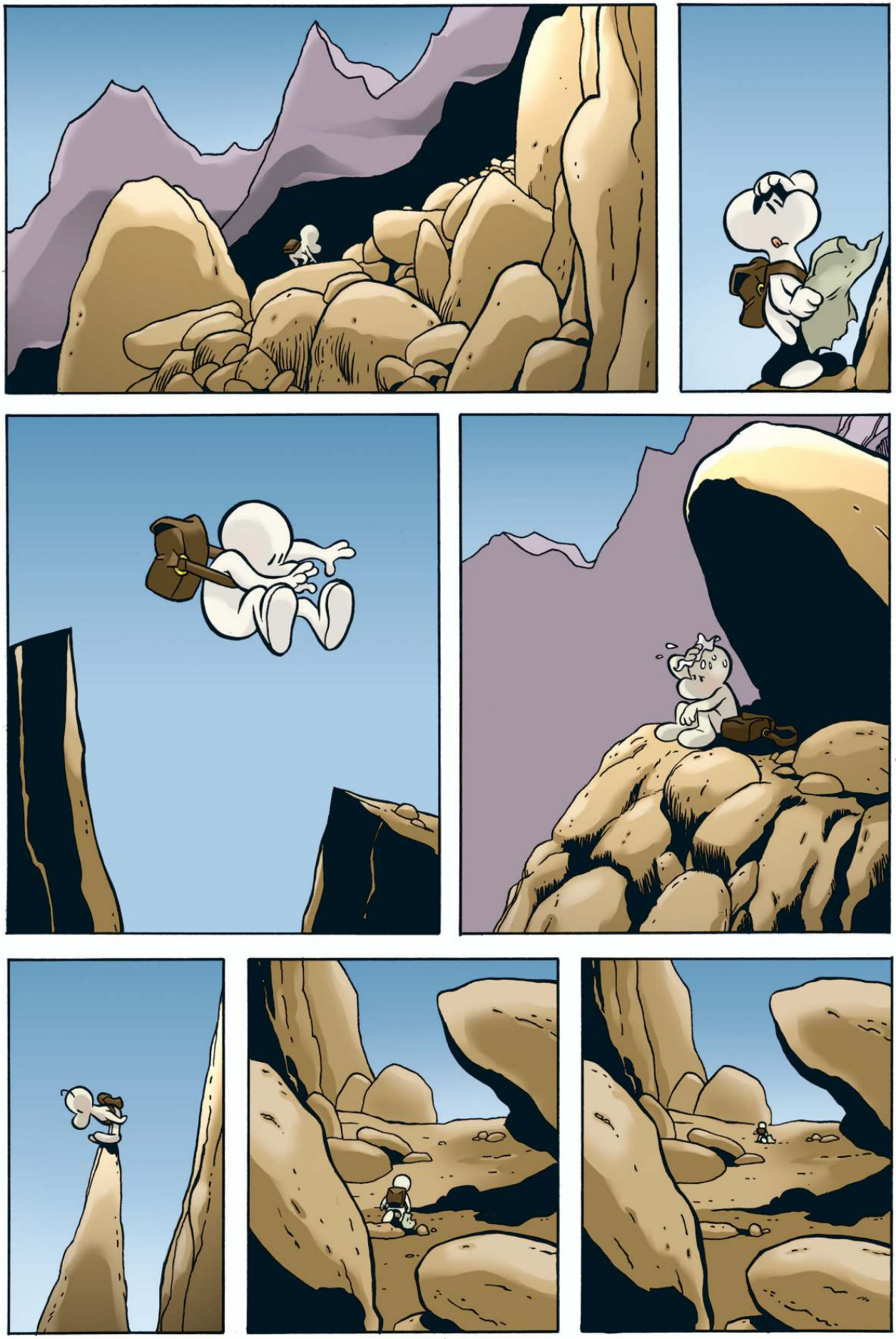


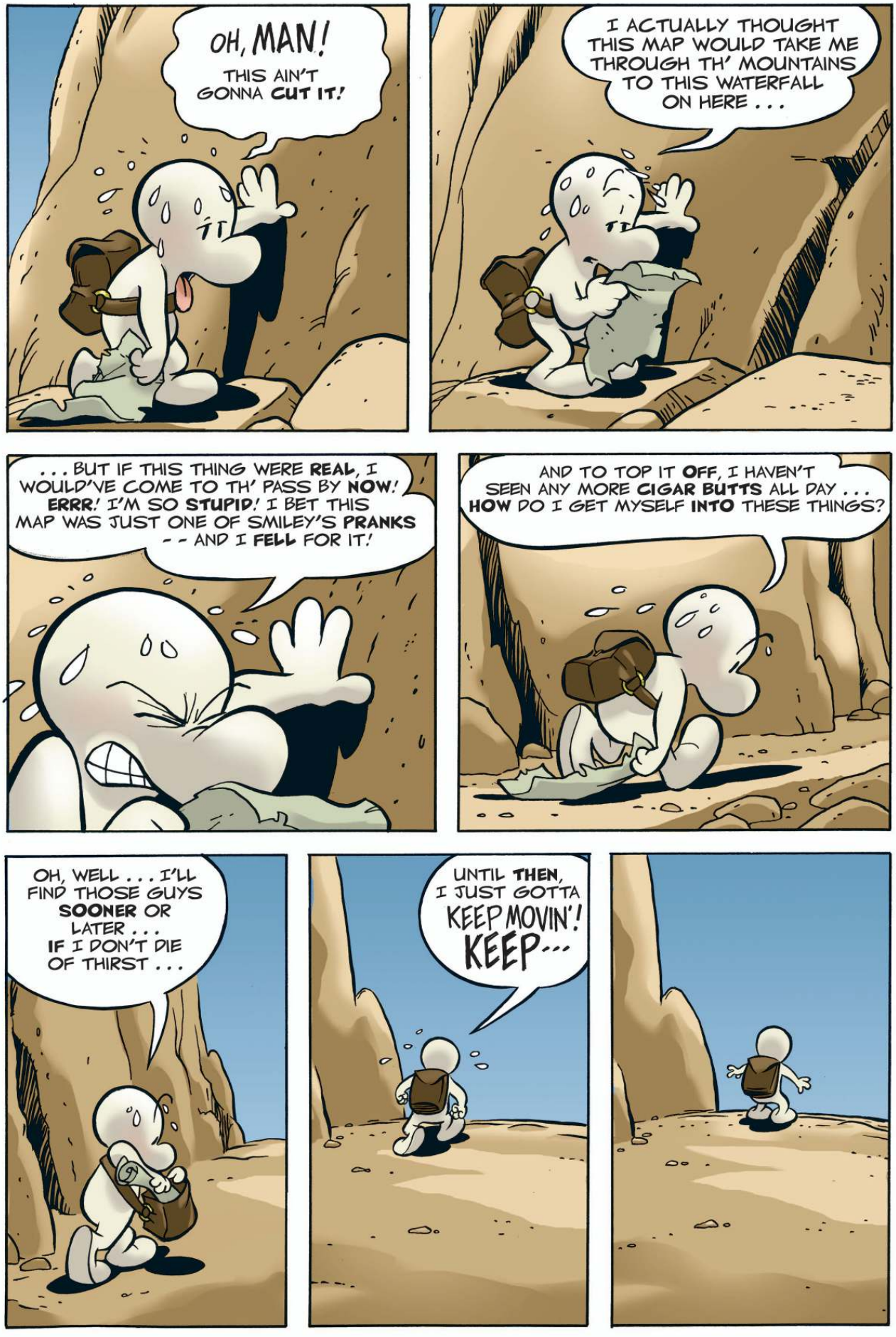

LIGHT THE TORCH...
...IS IT HIM?... IS IT THE ONE WE SEEK?
...I CAN NOT TELL... LOOK FOR THE STAR ON ITS CHEST..
...NO STAR... THIS ISN'T THE ONE....
....NO... IT IS NOT HE..... ...VERY WELL.... KILL IT.... IT WILL BE OUR SUPPER....
WHO'S GONNA BE YOUR SUPPER?
HISS!
GO AWAY!
DO NOT MEDDLE IN AFFAIRS THAT ARE TOO BIG FOR YOU, BOY!
WHO YOU CALLIN' BOY?
AIEEEEEEEEE! THE GREAT RED DRAGON!!

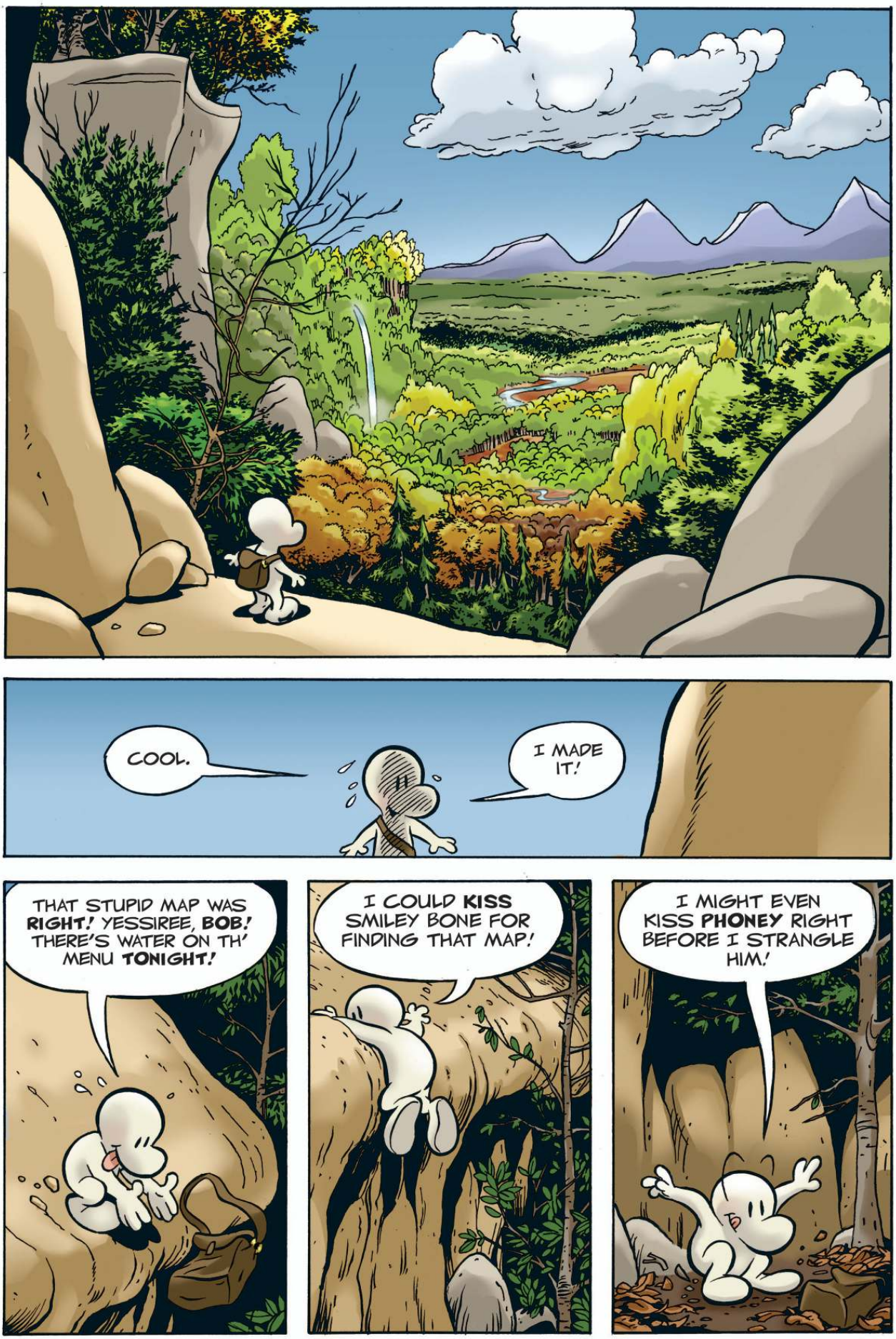

OOG . . . I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP. WHERE AM I?
YOU AWAKE?
HUH? WHO'S THERE?
YOU GOT A LIGHT?
SMILEY? IS THAT YOU?
OH, BOY, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! HOLD ON, I'VE GOT A MATCH IN MY BAG, HERE!
SKRITCH
AAAH!

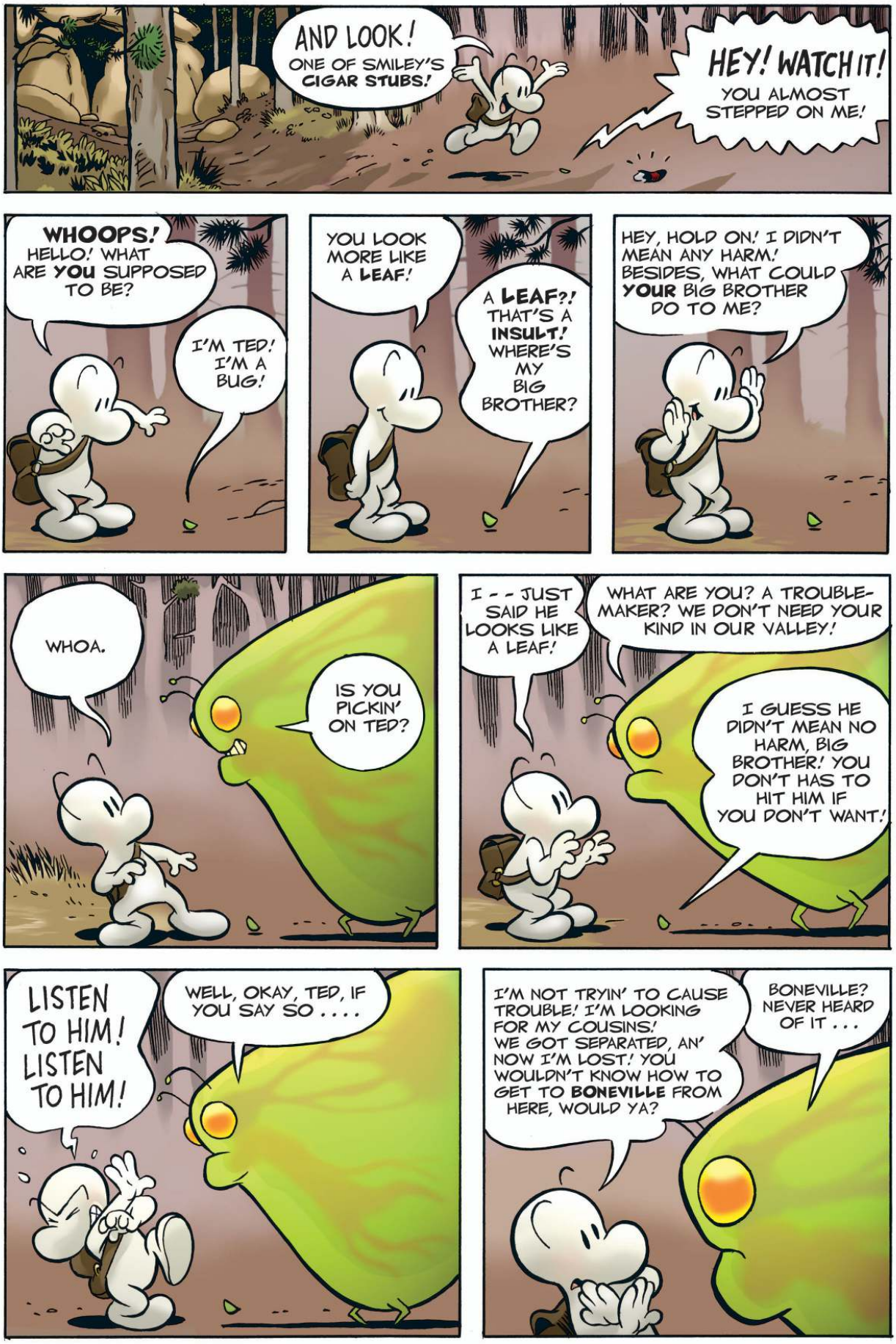


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

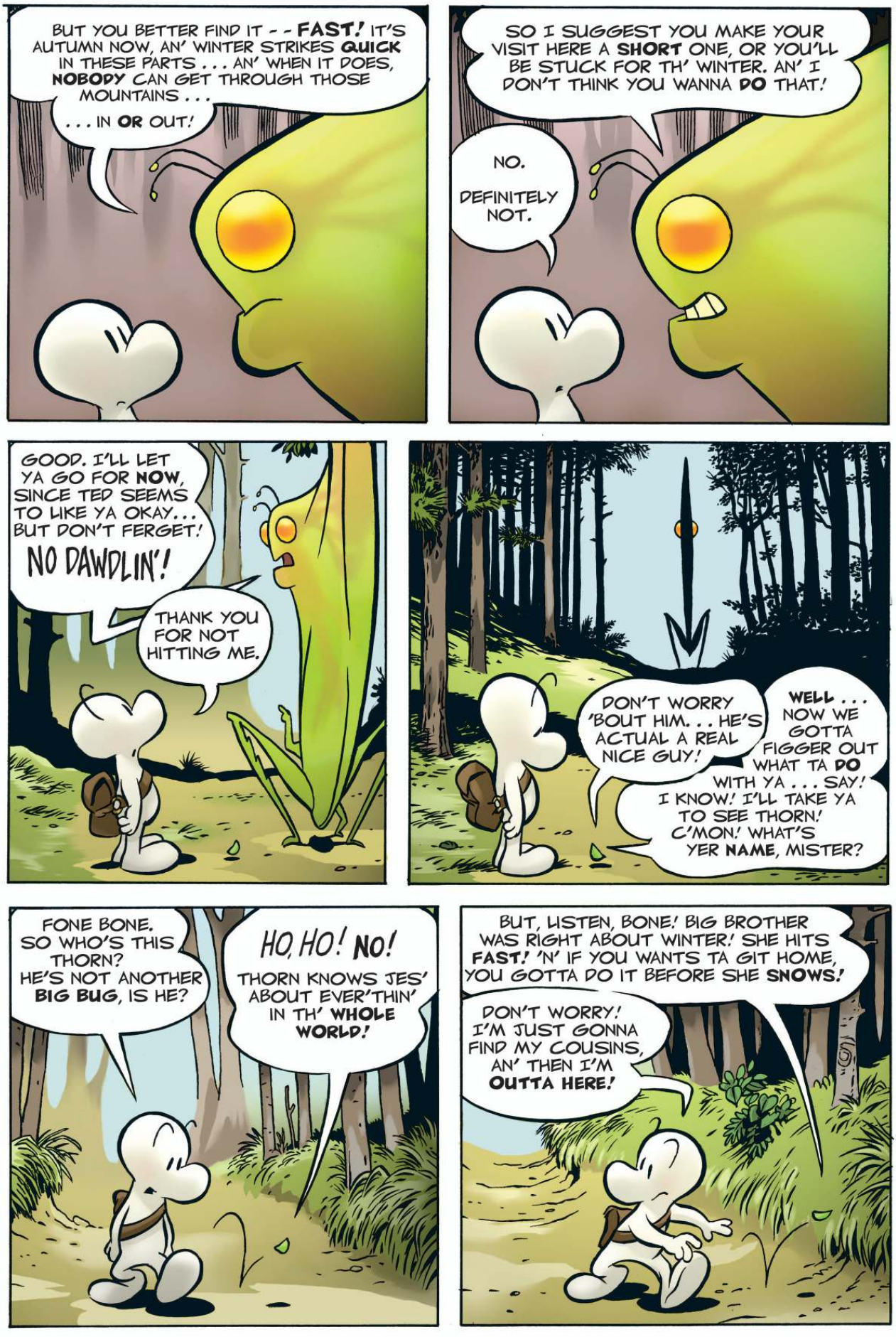



OH, MAN!
THIS AIN'T GONNA CUT IT!
I ACTUALLY THOUGHT THIS MAP WOULD TAKE ME THROUGH TH' MOUNTAINS TO THIS WATERFALL ON HERE . . .
. . . BUT IF THIS THING WERE REAL, I WOULD'VE COME TO TH' PASS BY NOW! ERRR! I'M SO STUPID! I BET THIS MAP WAS JUST ONE OF SMILEY'S PRANKS -- AND I FELL FOR IT!
AND TO TOP IT OFF, I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY MORE CIGAR BUTTS ALL DAY . . . HOW DO I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS?
OH, WELL . . . I'LL FIND THOSE GUYS SOONER OR LATER . . . IF I DON'T DIE OF THIRST . . .
UNTIL THEN, I JUST GOTTA KEEP MOVIN'! KEEP . . .


COOL.
I MADE IT!
THAT STUPID MAP WAS **RIGHT!** YESSIREE, **BOB!** THERE'S WATER ON TH' MENU **TONIGHT!**
I COULD **KISS** SMILEY BONE FOR FINDING THAT MAP!
I MIGHT EVEN KISS **PHONEY** RIGHT BEFORE I STRANGLE HIM!

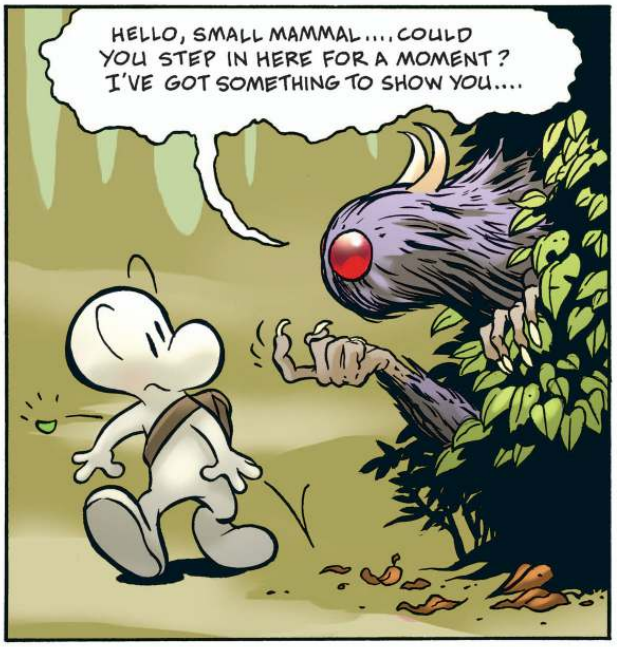


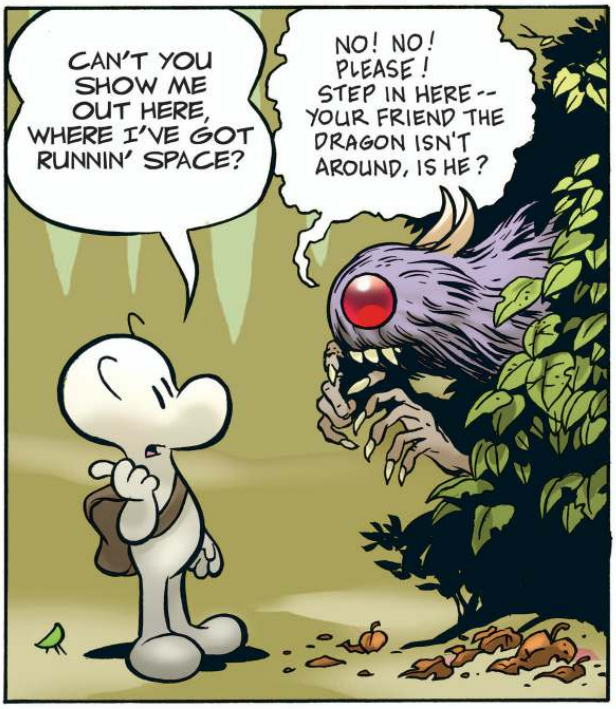
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

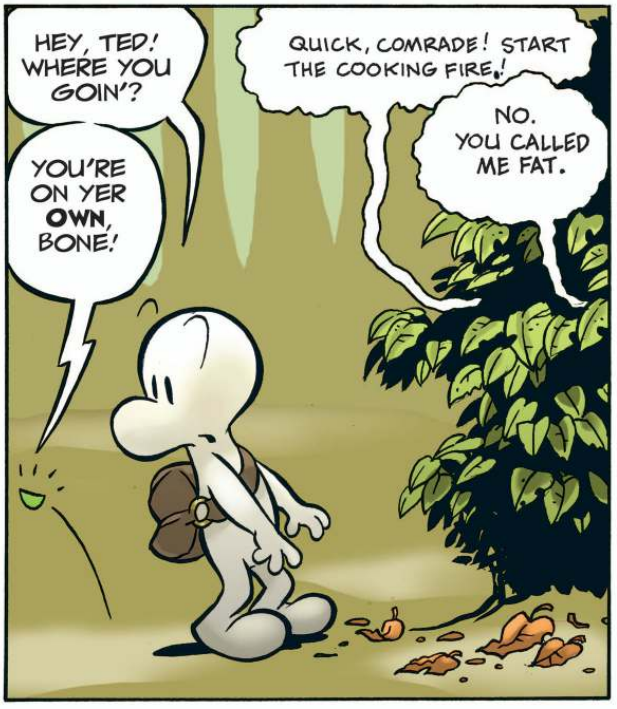

BUT YOU BETTER FIND IT - - FAST! IT'S AUTUMN NOW, AN' WINTER STRIKES QUICK IN THESE PARTS . . . AN' WHEN IT DOES, NOBODY CAN GET THROUGH THOSE MOUNTAINS . . .
. . . IN OR OUT!
SO I SUGGEST YOU MAKE YOUR VISIT HERE A SHORT ONE, OR YOU'LL BE STUCK FOR TH' WINTER. AN' I DON'T THINK YOU WANNA DO THAT!
NO.
DEFINITELY NOT.
GOOD. I'LL LET YA GO FOR NOW, SINCE TED SEEMS TO LIKE YA OKAY... BUT DON'T FERGET!
NO DAWDLIN'!
THANK YOU FOR NOT HITTING ME.
DON'T WORRY 'BOUT HIM. . . HE'S ACTUAL A REAL NICE GUY!
WELL . . . NOW WE GOTTA FIGGER OUT WHAT TA DO WITH YA . . . SAY! I KNOW! I'LL TAKE YA TO SEE THORN! C'MON! WHAT'S YER NAME, MISTER?
FONE BONE. SO WHO'S THIS THORN? HE'S NOT ANOTHER BIG BUG, IS HE?
HO, HO! NO!
THORN KNOWS JES' ABOUT EVER'THIN' IN TH' WHOLE WORLD!
BUT, LISTEN, BONE! BIG BROTHER WAS RIGHT ABOUT WINTER! SHE HITS FAST! 'N' IF YOU WANTS TA GIT HOME, YOU GOTTA DO IT BEFORE SHE SNOWS!
DON'T WORRY! I'M JUST GONNA FIND MY COUSINS, AN' THEN I'M OUTTA HERE!

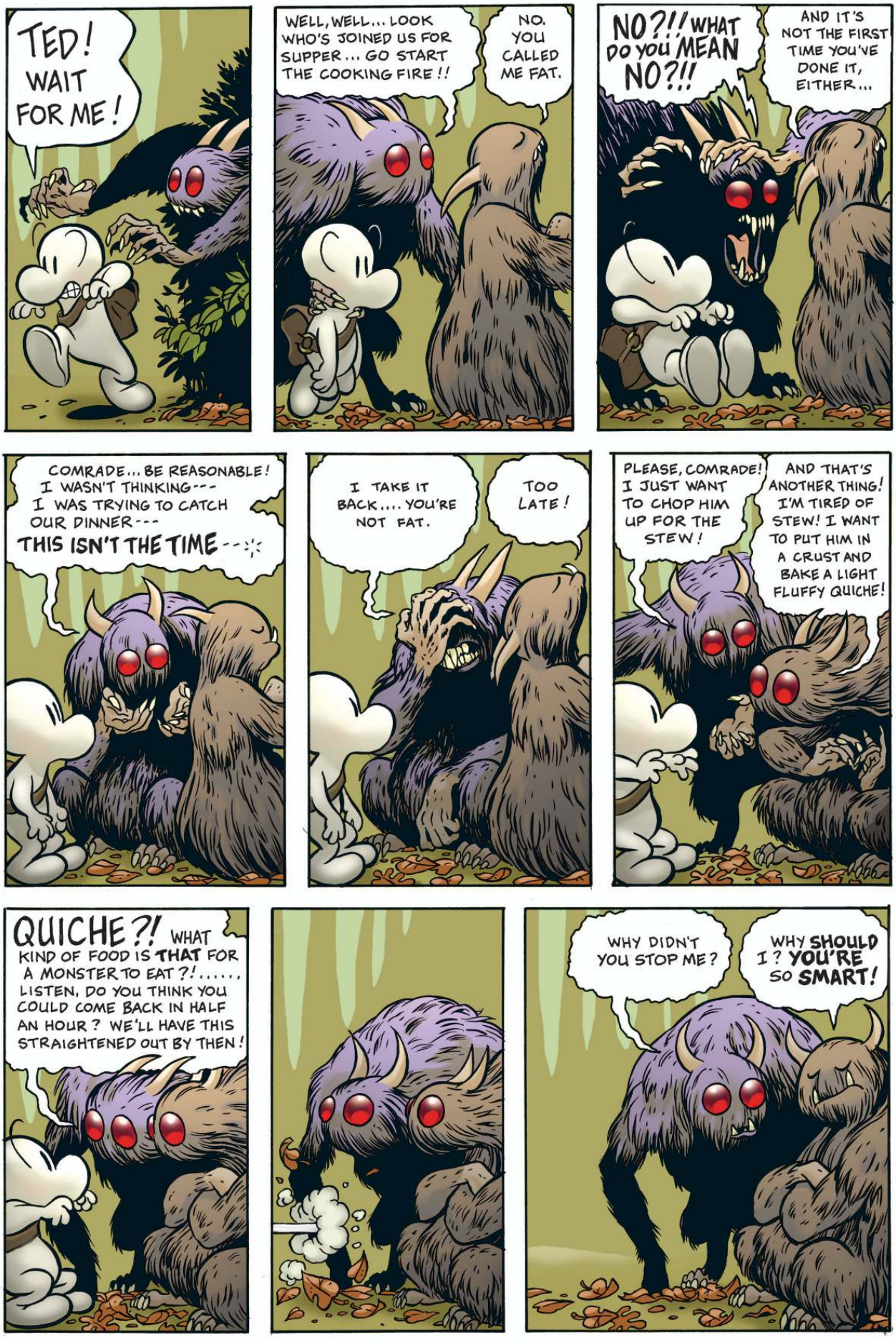

WHERE CAN I GET SOMETHING TO DRINK? I'M DYIN' OF THIRST!
WE CAN STOP BY TH' BARRELHAVEN! THEY BREWS TH' BEST STUFF AROUN'!
eh?


COMRADE! WE ARE ABOUT TO FEAST! QUICK! GET YOUR FAT CARCASS BEHIND THIS BUSH AND GET READY!


HELLO, SMALL MAMMAL..., COULD YOU STEP IN HERE FOR A MOMENT? I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU....

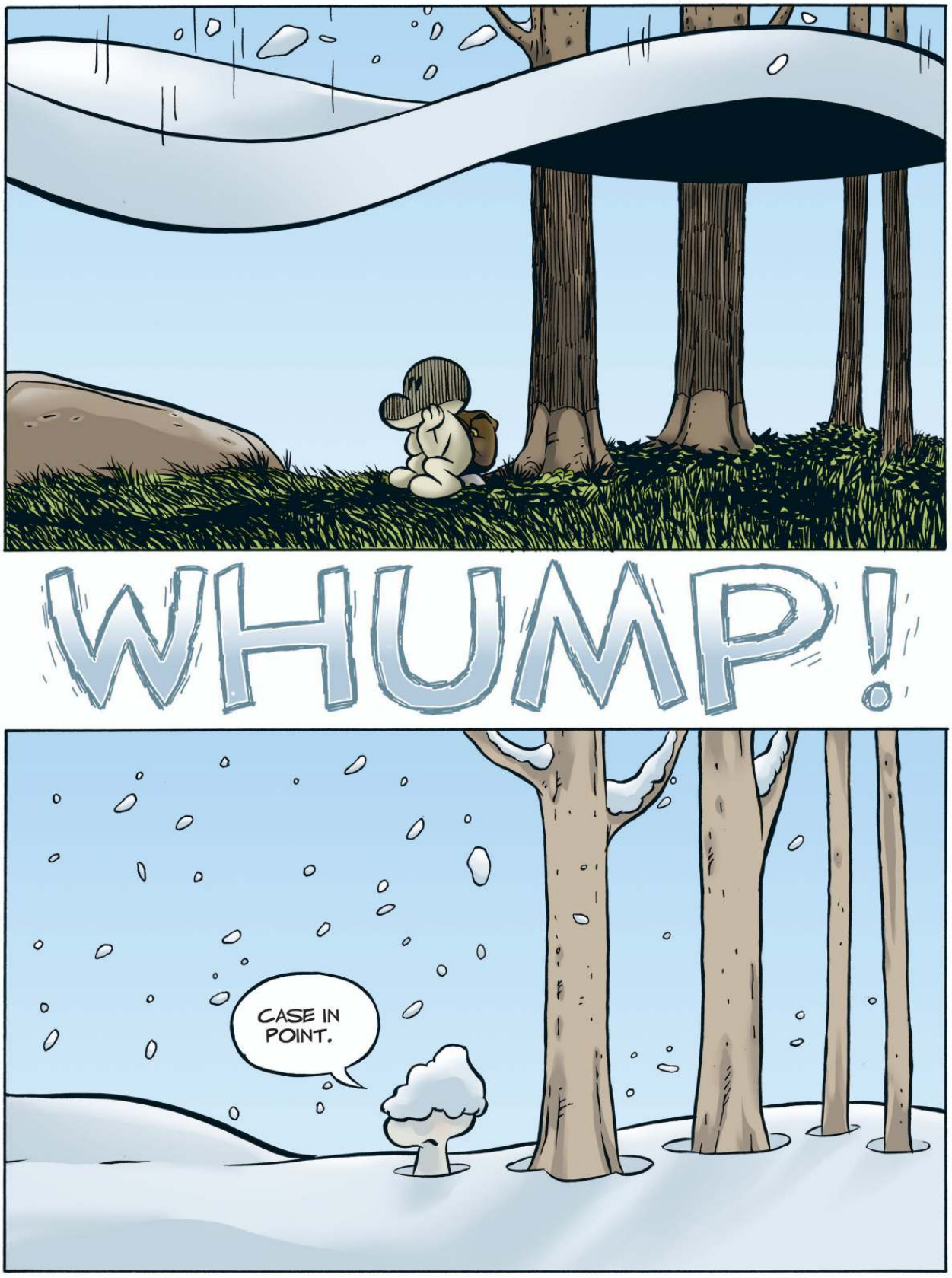

CAN'T YOU SHOW ME OUT HERE, WHERE I'VE GOT RUNNIN' SPACE?
NO! NO! PLEASE! STEP IN HERE -- YOUR FRIEND THE DRAGON ISN'T AROUND, IS HE?

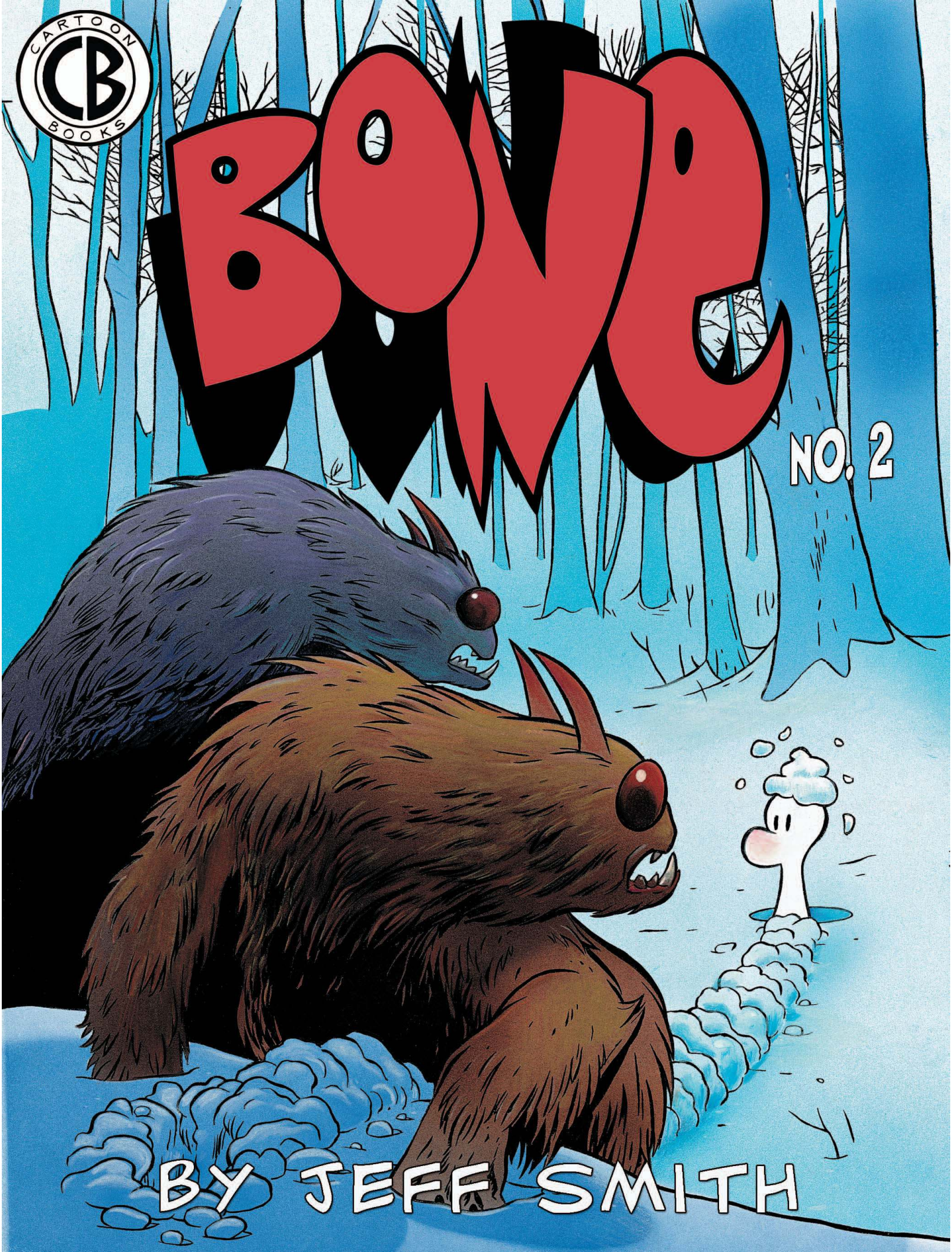

HEY, TED! WHERE YOU GOIN'?
YOU'RE ON YER OWN, BONE!
QUICK, COMRADE! START THE COOKING FIRE!
NO. YOU CALLED ME FAT.


TED! WAIT FOR ME!
WELL, WELL... LOOK WHO'S JOINED US FOR SUPPER... GO START THE COOKING FIRE!!
NO. YOU CALLED ME FAT.
NO?!! WHAT DO YOU MEAN NO?!!
AND IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE DONE IT, EITHER...
COMRADE... BE REASONABLE! I WASN'T THINKING--- I WAS TRYING TO CATCH OUR DINNER--- THIS ISN'T THE TIME---
I TAKE IT BACK.... YOU'RE NOT FAT.
TOO LATE!
PLEASE, COMRADE! I JUST WANT TO CHOP HIM UP FOR THE STEW!
AND THAT'S ANOTHER THING! I'M TIRED OF STEW! I WANT TO PUT HIM IN A CRUST AND BAKE A LIGHT FLUFFY QUICHE!
QUICHE?! WHAT KIND OF FOOD IS THAT FOR A MONSTER TO EAT?!..... LISTEN, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD COME BACK IN HALF AN HOUR? WE'LL HAVE THIS STRAIGHTENED OUT BY THEN!
WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP ME?
WHY SHOULD I? YOU'RE SO SMART!



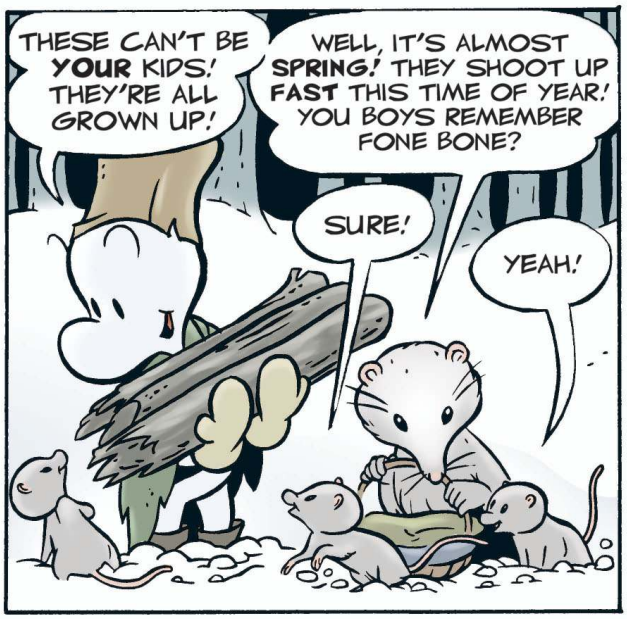
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


WHUMP!
CASE IN POINT.

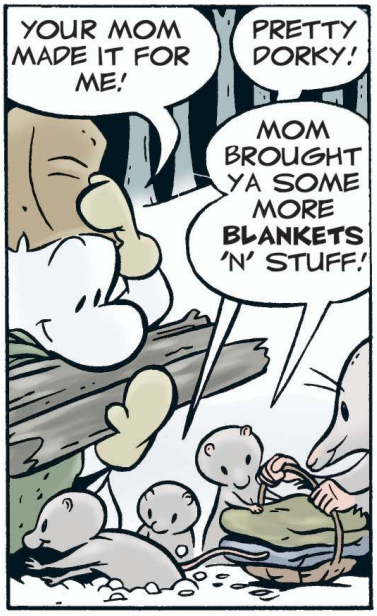

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
NO. 2
BY JEFF SMITH

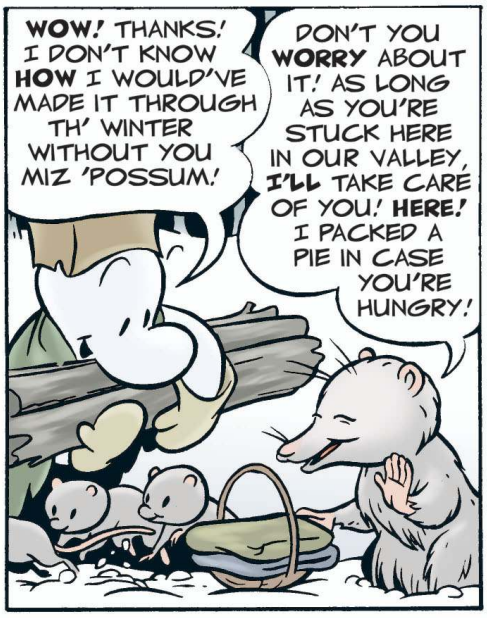

BONE™
CRACK!
PERFECT! NOW ALL I NEED IS ONE MORE GOOD SIZED STICK, AND I'LL HAVE ENOUGH!
OH, BONE! MISTER BONE! YOO-HOO!


HELLO, MIZ 'POSSUM! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS!
OH, I DON'T GET OUT OF TH' HOUSE MUCH IN WINTER 'SPECIALLY WITH YOUNGUNS!

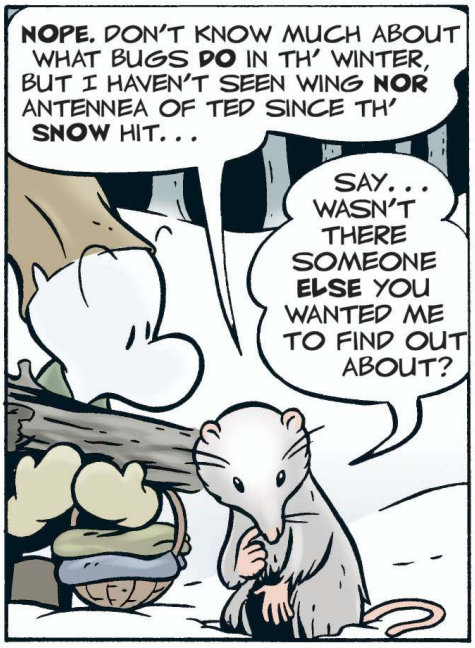

THESE CAN'T BE YOUR KIDS! THEY'RE ALL GROWN UP!
WELL, IT'S ALMOST SPRING! THEY SHOOT UP FAST THIS TIME OF YEAR! YOU BOYS REMEMBER FONE BONE?
SURE!
YEAH!

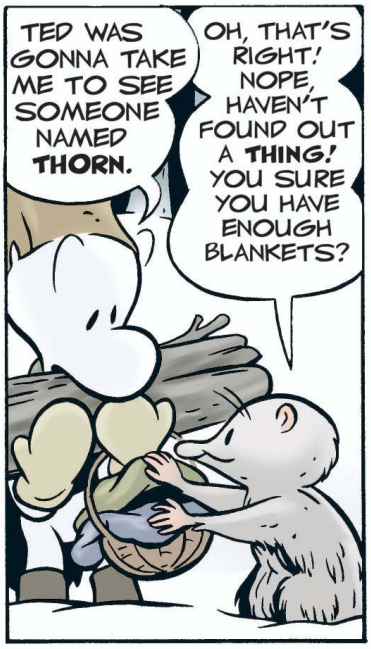

HOW YOU GUYS DOIN'?
WE'RE COOL!
WHERE'D YA GET TH' HAT?

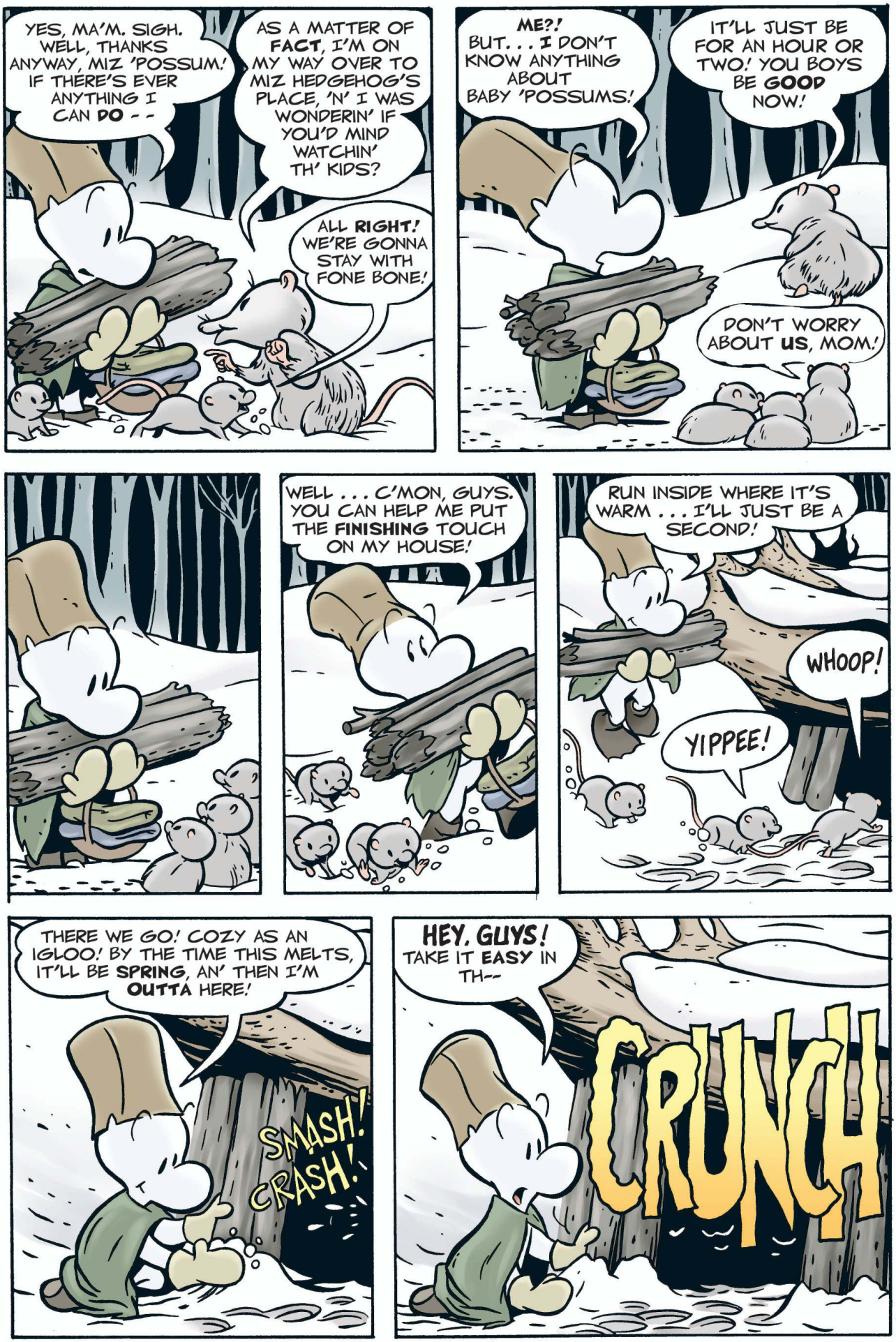

YOUR MOM MADE IT FOR ME!
PRETTY DORKY!
MOM BROUGHT YA SOME MORE BLANKETS 'N' STUFF!

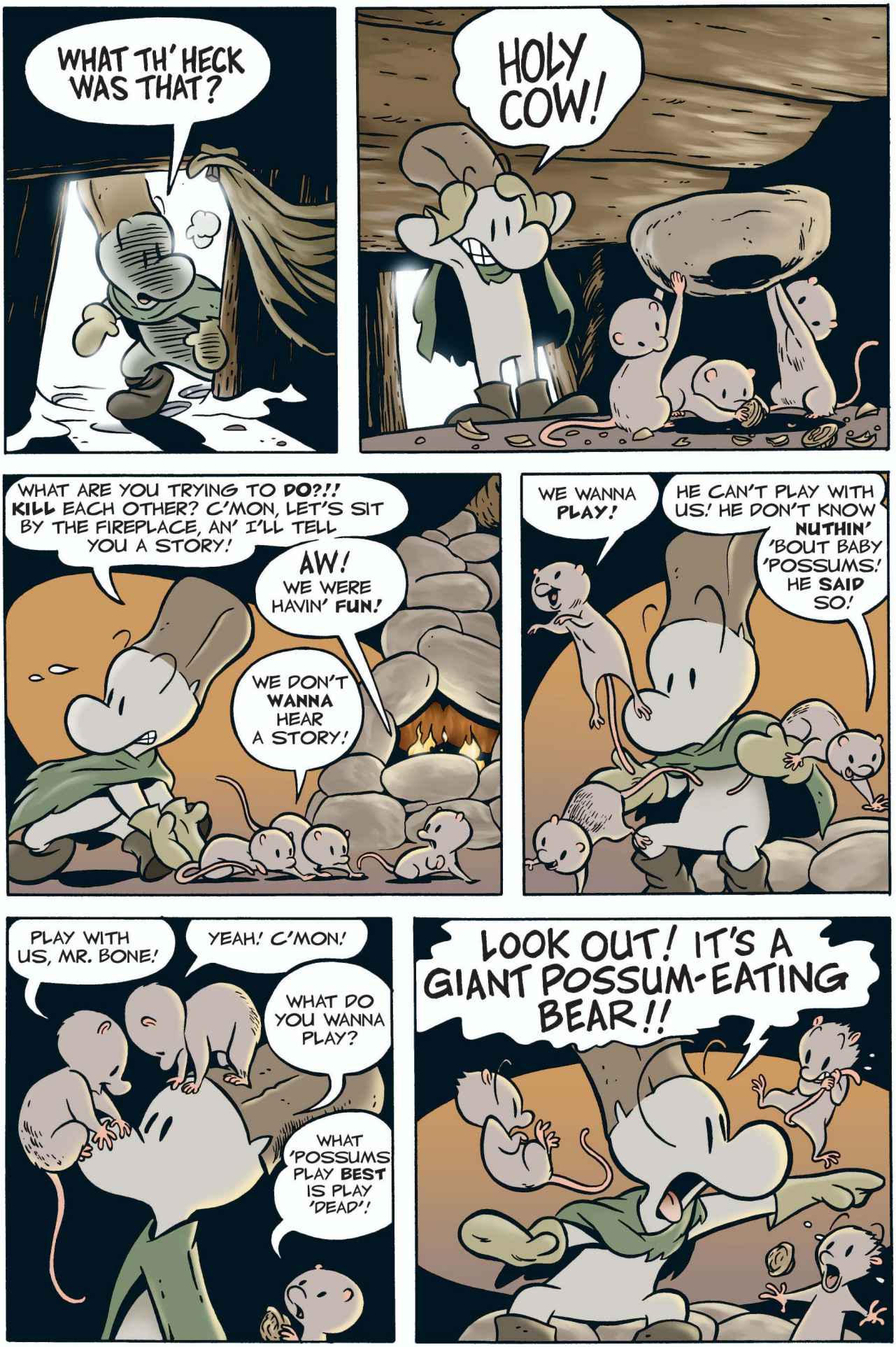

WOW! THANKS! I DON'T KNOW HOW I WOULD'VE MADE IT THROUGH TH' WINTER WITHOUT YOU MIZ 'POSSUM!
DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT IT! AS LONG AS YOU'RE STUCK HERE IN OUR VALLEY, I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU! HERE! I PACKED A PIE IN CASE YOU'RE HUNGRY!

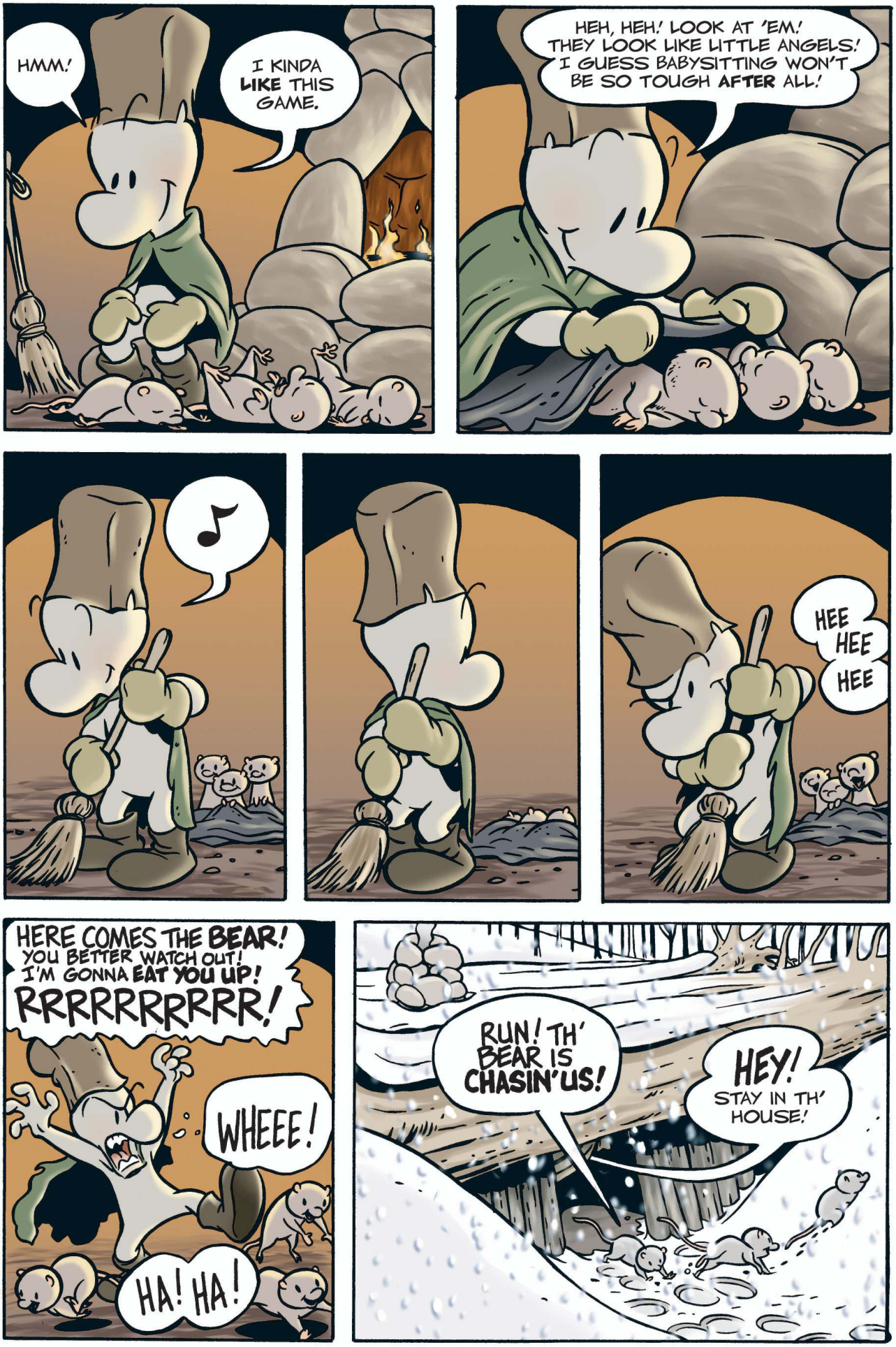

DID YOU EVER FIND THOSE COUSINS OF YOURS?
NO, NOT YET. HAVE YOU SEEN TED SINCE I TALKED TO YOU LAST?

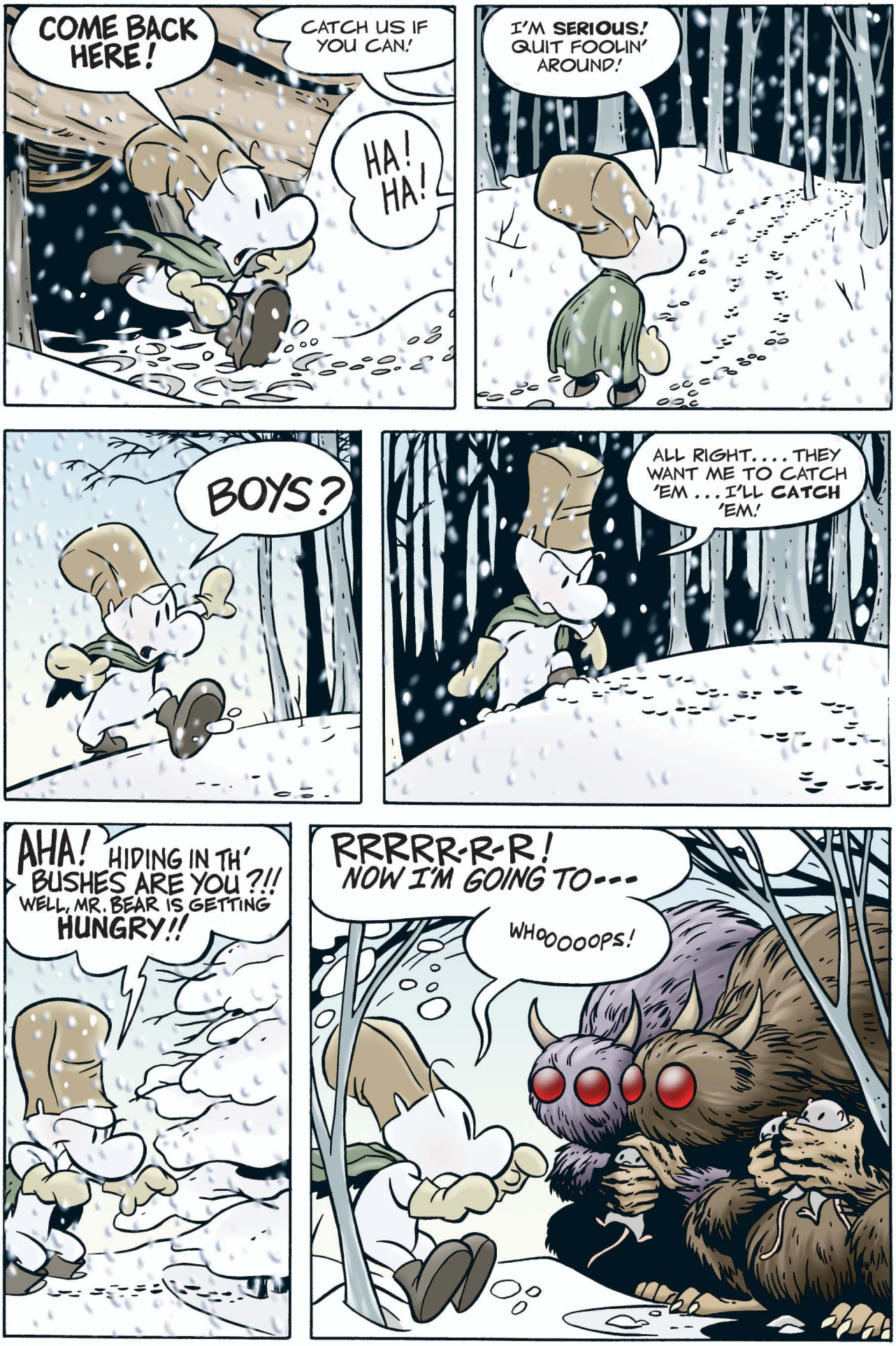

NOPE. DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT WHAT BUGS DO IN TH' WINTER, BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN WING NOR ANTENNEA OF TED SINCE TH' SNOW HIT...
SAY... WASN'T THERE SOMEONE ELSE YOU WANTED ME TO FIND OUT ABOUT?


TED WAS GONNA TAKE ME TO SEE SOMEONE NAMED THORN.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! NOPE, HAVEN'T FOUND OUT A THING! YOU SURE YOU HAVE ENOUGH BLANKETS?


YES, MA'M. SIGH. WELL, THANKS ANYWAY, MIZ 'POSSUM! IF THERE'S EVER ANYTHING I CAN DO - -
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'M ON MY WAY OVER TO MIZ HEDGEHOG'S PLACE, 'N' I WAS WONDERIN' IF YOU'D MIND WATCHIN' TH' KIDS?
ALL RIGHT! WE'RE GONNA STAY WITH FONE BONE!
ME?! BUT. . . I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT BABY 'POSSUMS!
IT'LL JUST BE FOR AN HOUR OR TWO! YOU BOYS BE GOOD NOW!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT US, MOM!
WELL . . . C'MON, GUYS. YOU CAN HELP ME PUT THE FINISHING TOUCH ON MY HOUSE!
RUN INSIDE WHERE IT'S WARM . . . I'LL JUST BE A SECOND!
WHOOP!
YIPPEE!
THERE WE GO! COZY AS AN IGLOO! BY THE TIME THIS MELTS, IT'LL BE SPRING, AN' THEN I'M OUTTA HERE!
SMASH! CRASH!
HEY, GUYS! TAKE IT EASY IN TH--
CRUNCH

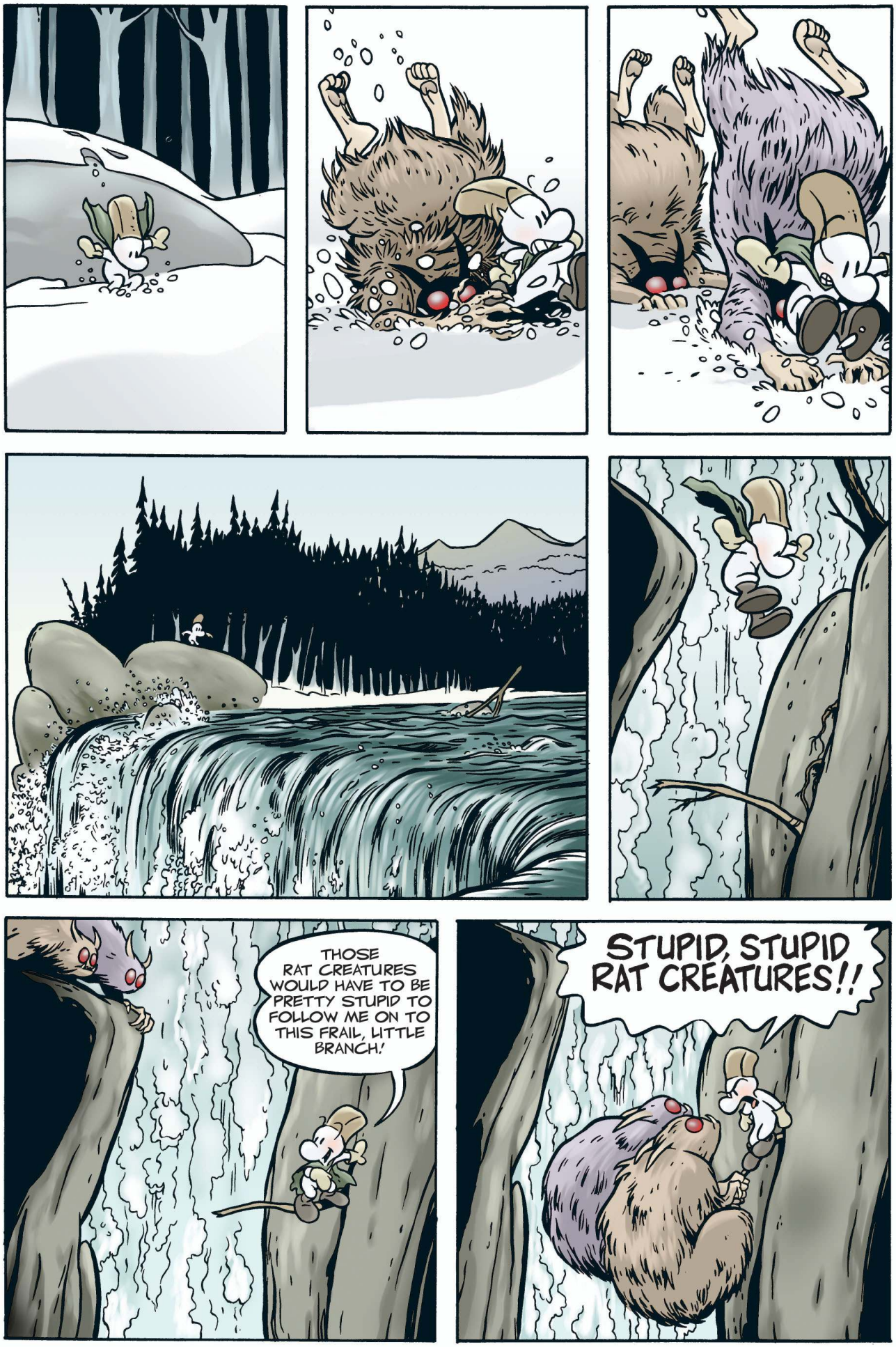

WHAT TH' HECK WAS THAT?
HOLY COW!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?!! KILL EACH OTHER? C'MON, LET'S SIT BY THE FIREPLACE, AN' I'LL TELL YOU A STORY!
AW! WE WERE HAVIN' FUN!
WE DON'T WANNA HEAR A STORY!
WE WANNA PLAY!
HE CAN'T PLAY WITH US! HE DON'T KNOW NUTHIN' 'BOUT BABY 'POSSUMS! HE SAID SO!
PLAY WITH US, MR. BONE!
YEAH! C'MON!
WHAT DO YOU WANNA PLAY?
WHAT 'POSSUMS PLAY BEST IS PLAY 'DEAD'!
LOOK OUT! IT'S A GIANT POSSUM-EATING BEAR!!


HMM.
I KINDA LIKE THIS GAME.
HEH, HEH! LOOK AT 'EM! THEY LOOK LIKE LITTLE ANGELS! I GUESS BABYSITTING WON'T BE SO TOUGH AFTER ALL!
HEE HEE HEE
HERE COMES THE BEAR! YOU BETTER WATCH OUT! I'M GONNA EAT YOU UP! RRRRRRRRR!
WHEEE!
HA! HA!
RUN! TH' BEAR IS CHASIN' US!
HEY! STAY IN TH' HOUSE!

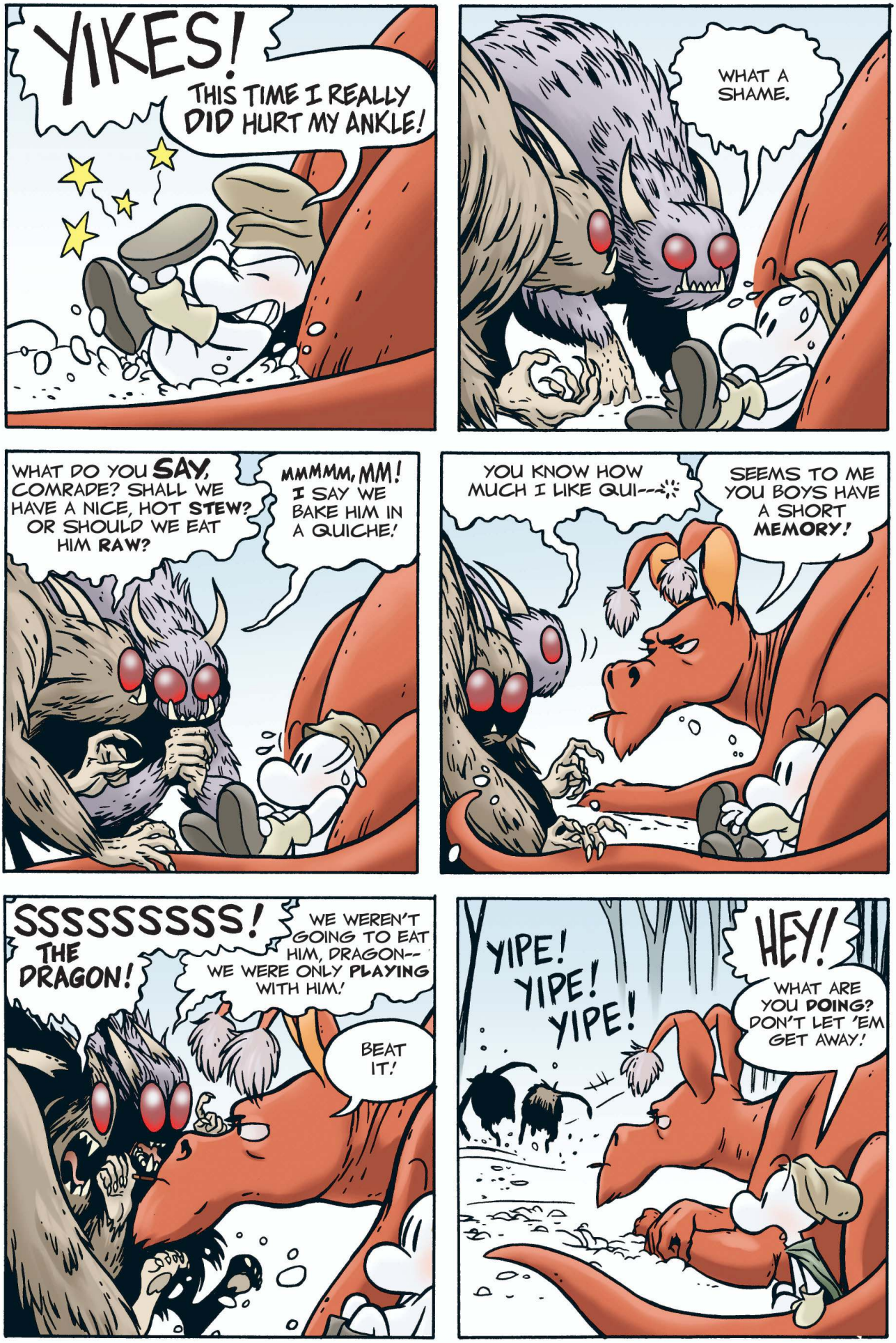

COME BACK HERE!
CATCH US IF YOU CAN!
HA! HA!
I'M SERIOUS! QUIT FOOLIN' AROUND!
BOYS?
ALL RIGHT.... THEY WANT ME TO CATCH 'EM... I'LL CATCH 'EM!
AHA! HIDING IN TH' BUSHES ARE YOU?!! WELL, MR. BEAR IS GETTING HUNGRY!!
RRRRR-R-R! NOW I'M GOING TO---
WHOOOOOPS!


HI, FELLAS. LONG TIME NO SEE!
SSSSssssssss
YOU DON'T SAY! WELL, NICE TALKIN' WITH YA! THANKS FOR WATCHIN' TH' KIDS! GOTTA GO!
AARRAAARRAAR
QUICK! YOU KIDS RUN HOME! I'LL SLOW 'EM DOWN!
HELP! MOMMA!
THE RAT CREATURES ARE AFTER US!!
OW! OW! OOOOOH! MY ANKLE!
MRRARR
AAAR


MAN!
WHAT TH' HECK DID YOU EAT FOR LUNCH?!
!
THAT LITTLE DEAD THING WE FOUND UNDER A BUSH . . . YOU HAD SOME, DIDN'T YOU?
YES. IT WAS QUITE GOOD.
HEY! WHERE'D HE GO?


THOSE RAT CREATURES WOULD HAVE TO BE PRETTY STUPID TO FOLLOW ME ON TO THIS FRAIL, LITTLE BRANCH!
STUPID, STUPID RAT CREATURES!!

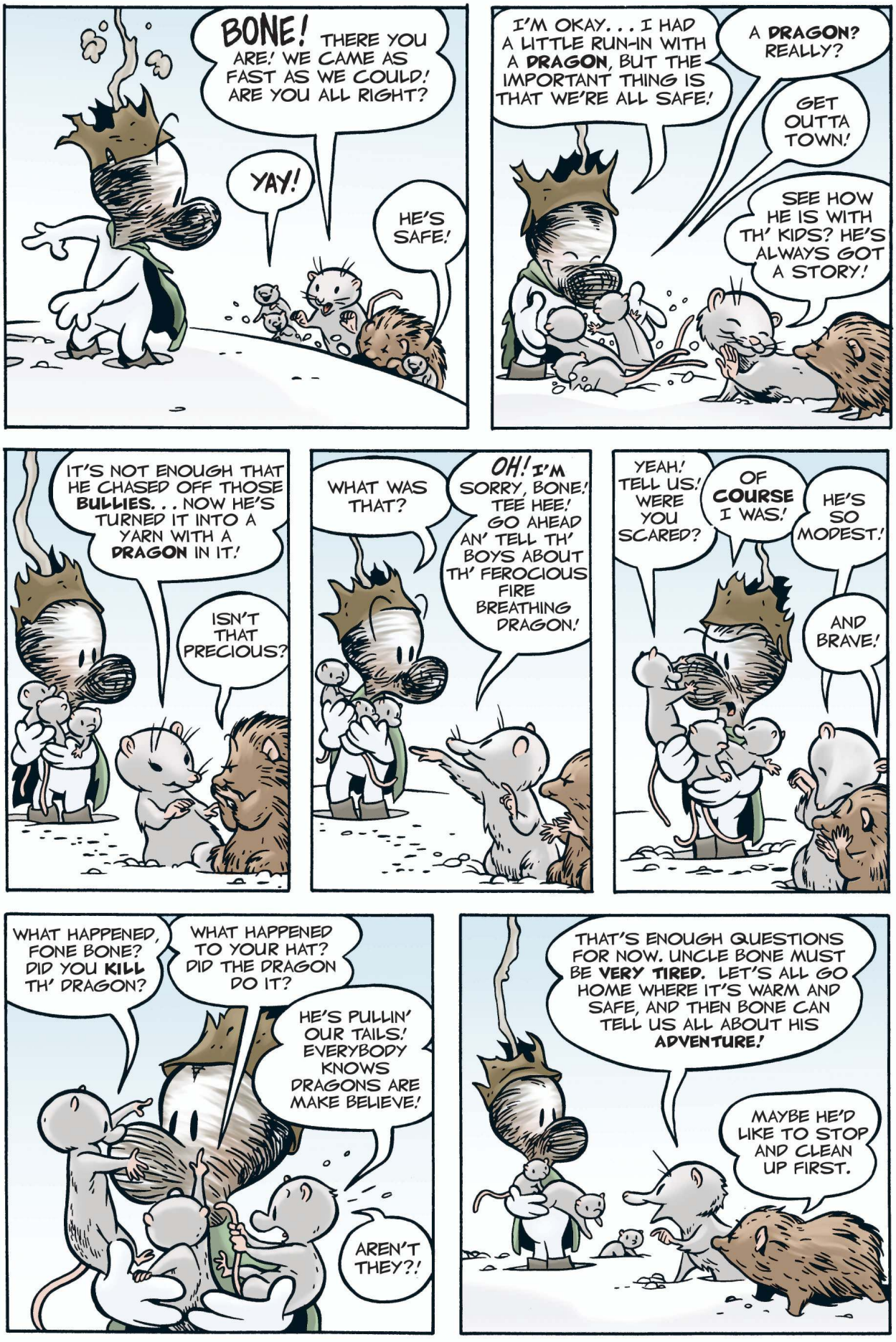

SNAP!
GASP!
OW!


YIKES!
THIS TIME I REALLY DID HURT MY ANKLE!
WHAT A SHAME.
WHAT DO YOU SAY, COMRADE? SHALL WE HAVE A NICE, HOT STEW? OR SHOULD WE EAT HIM RAW?
MMMMM, MM! I SAY WE BAKE HIM IN A QUICHE!
YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LIKE QUI---
SEEMS TO ME YOU BOYS HAVE A SHORT MEMORY!
SSSSSSSSS! THE DRAGON!
WE WEREN'T GOING TO EAT HIM, DRAGON-- WE WERE ONLY PLAYING WITH HIM!
BEAT IT!
YIPE! YIPE! YIPE!
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? DON'T LET 'EM GET AWAY!

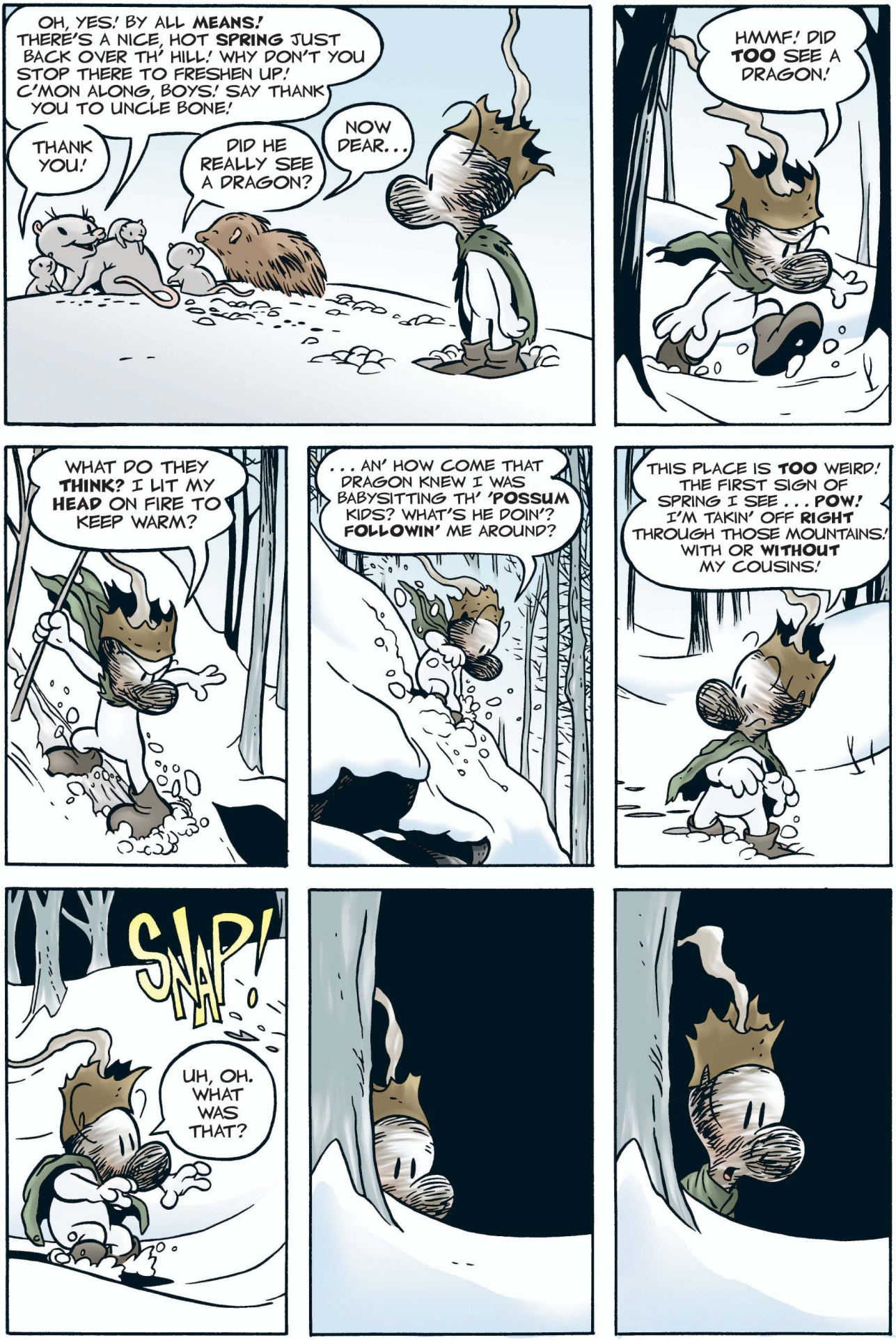

MM?
YOU'RE LETTIN' 'EM GET AWAY!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY TRIED TO DO?
OW! OW! OOOOTCH! OW!
THEY TRIED TO EAT TH' LITTLE KIDS I WAS BABYSITTING!
WHY DIDN'T YOU DO SOMETHING?! IF I WAS A DRAGON I WOULDA BLASTED 'EM WITH FIRE!
WHAT'S TH' MATTER? CAN'T YOU BREATHE FIRE?
FOOMP
UM.
THAT'S RIGHT, KID. NEVER PLAY AN ACE IF A TWO WILL DO.



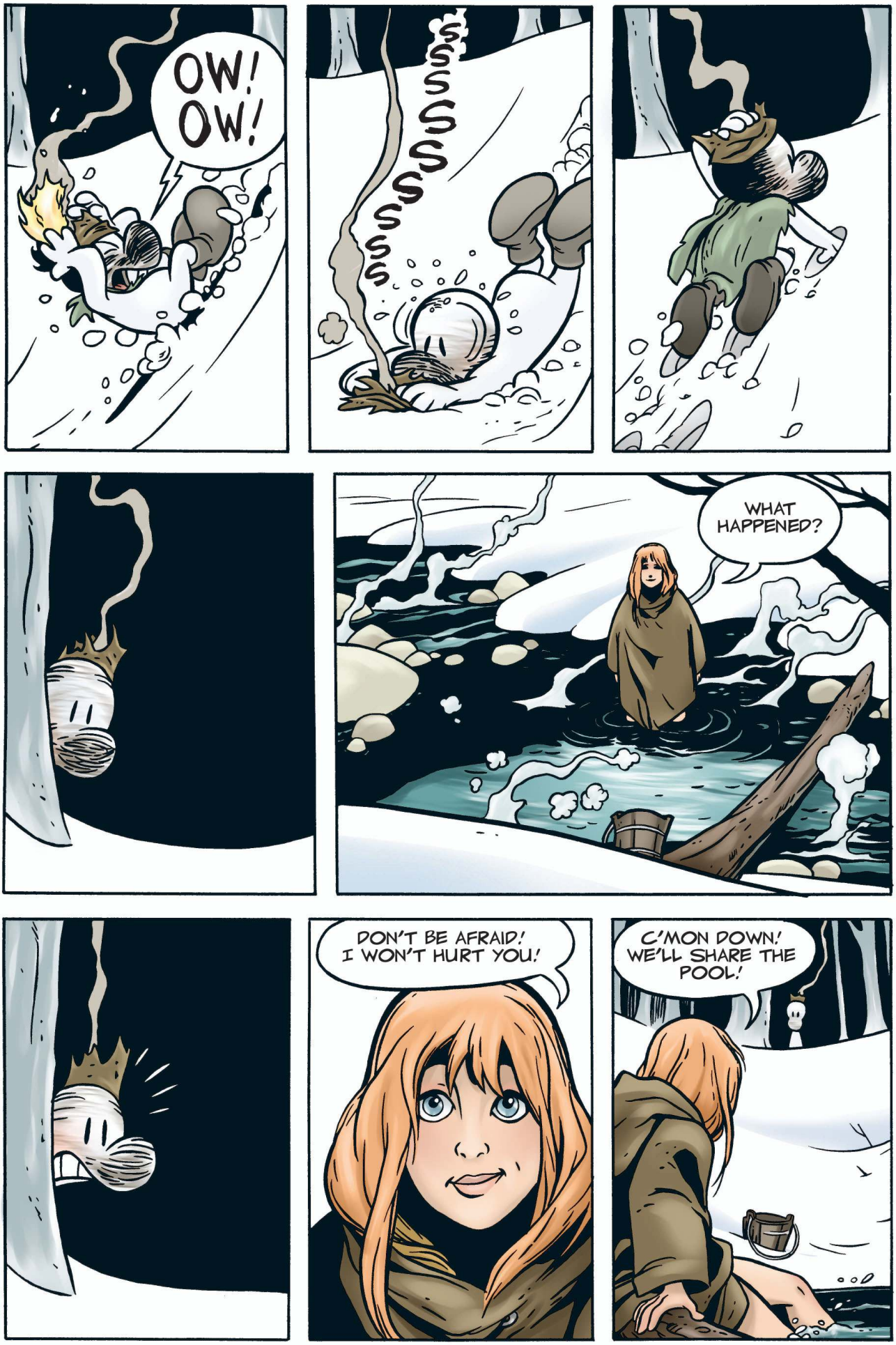
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

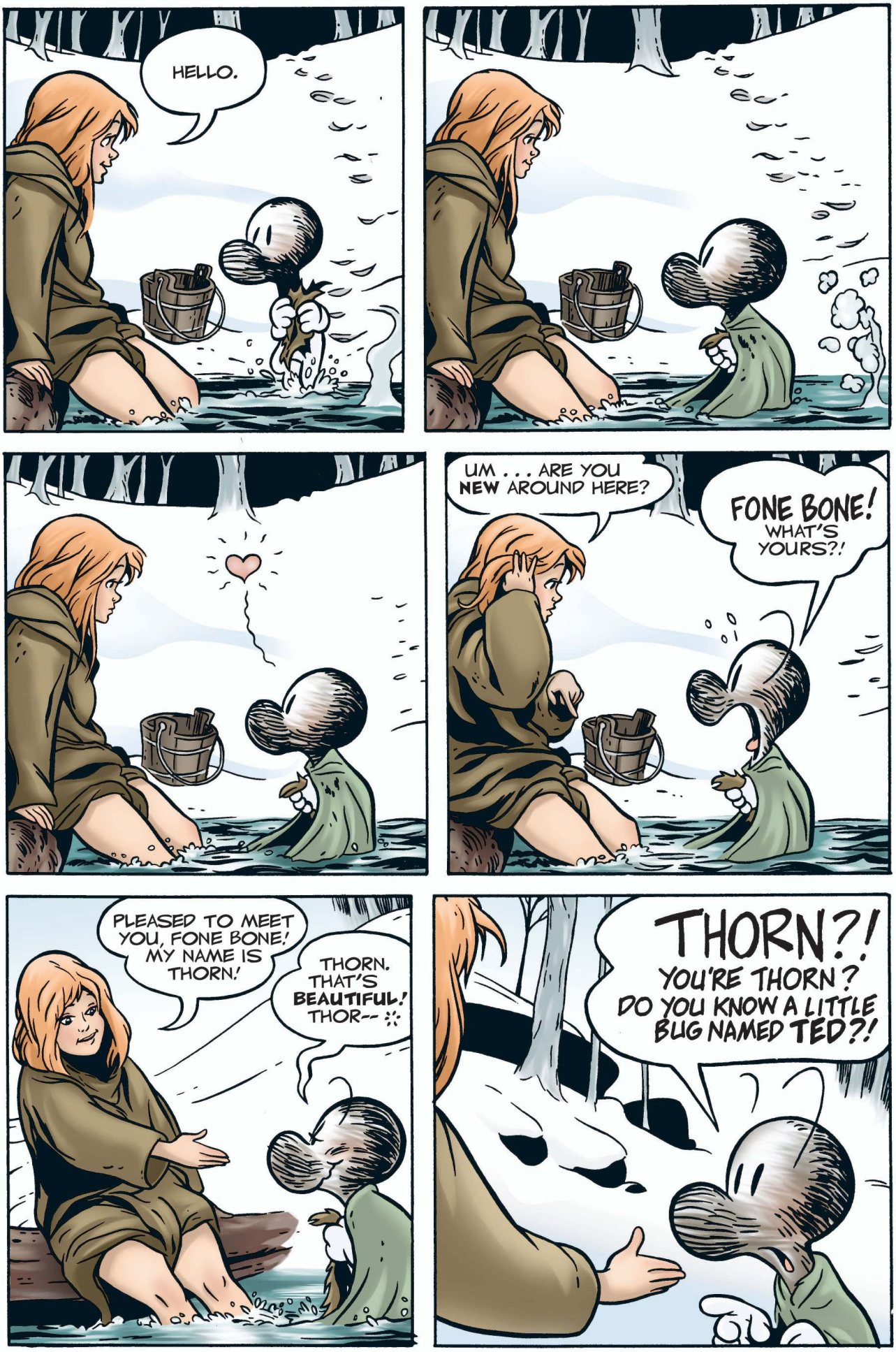


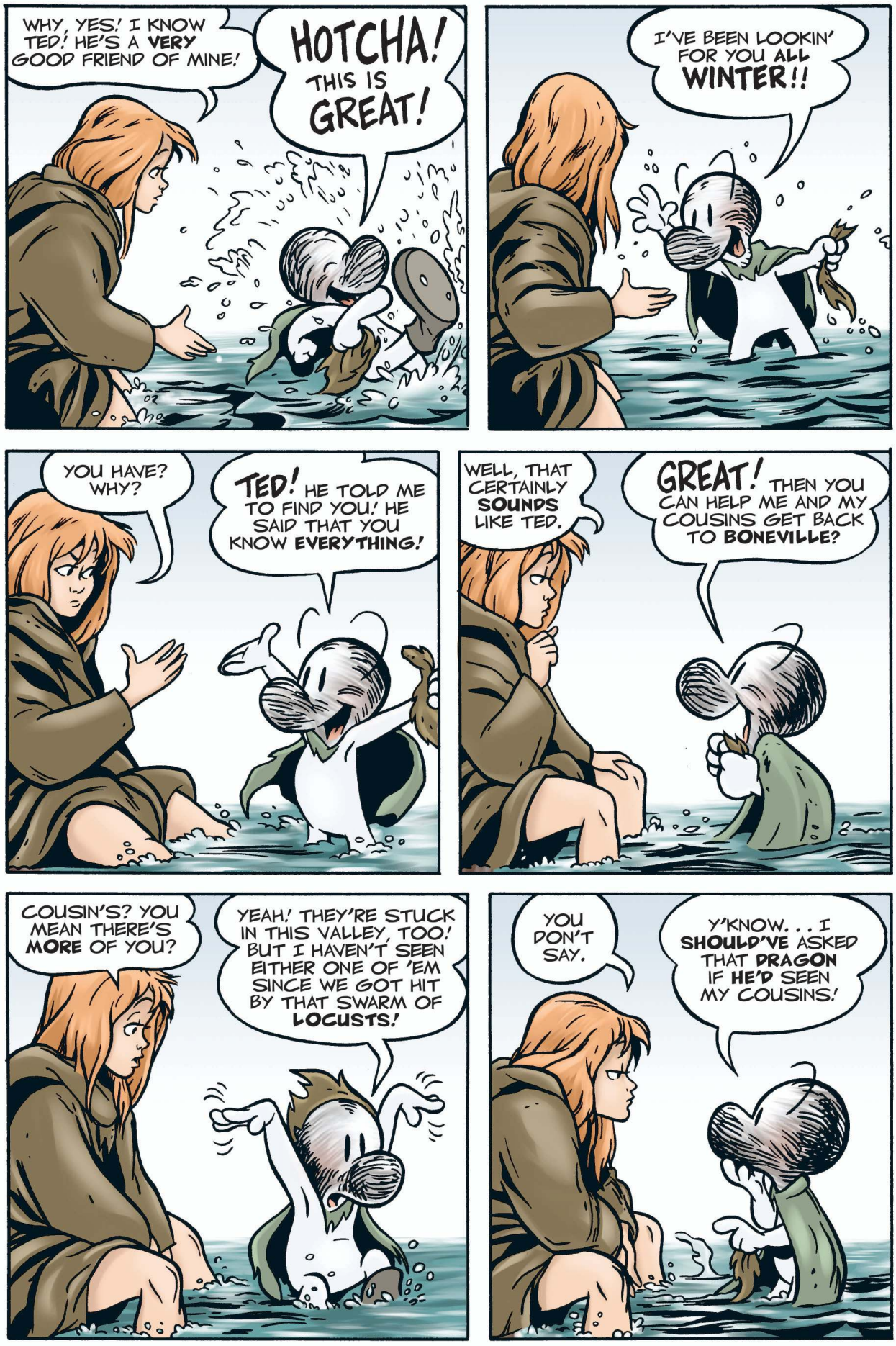
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


OH, YES! BY ALL MEANS! THERE'S A NICE, HOT SPRING JUST BACK OVER TH' HILL! WHY DON'T YOU STOP THERE TO FRESHEN UP! C'MON ALONG, BOYS! SAY THANK YOU TO UNCLE BONE!
THANK YOU!
DID HE REALLY SEE A DRAGON?
NOW DEAR...
HMMF! DID TOO SEE A DRAGON!
WHAT DO THEY THINK? I LIT MY HEAD ON FIRE TO KEEP WARM?
... AN' HOW COME THAT DRAGON KNEW I WAS BABYSITTING TH' 'POSSUM KIDS? WHAT'S HE DOIN'? FOLLOWIN' ME AROUND?
THIS PLACE IS TOO WEIRD! THE FIRST SIGN OF SPRING I SEE ... POW! I'M TAKIN' OFF RIGHT THROUGH THOSE MOUNTAINS! WITH OR WITHOUT MY COUSINS!
SNAP!
UH, OH. WHAT WAS THAT?

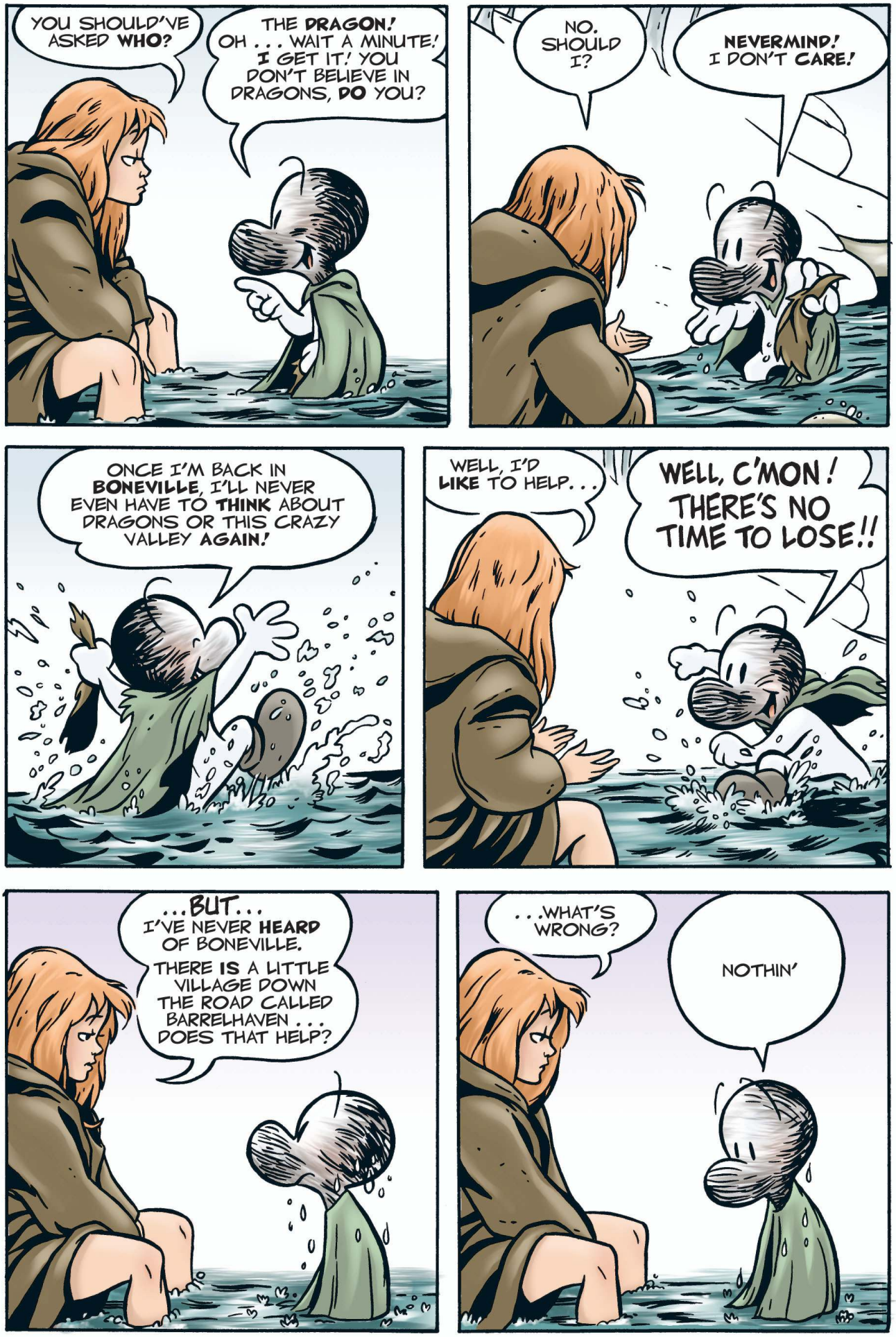

♪ MMMMMM ♪
FOOM!

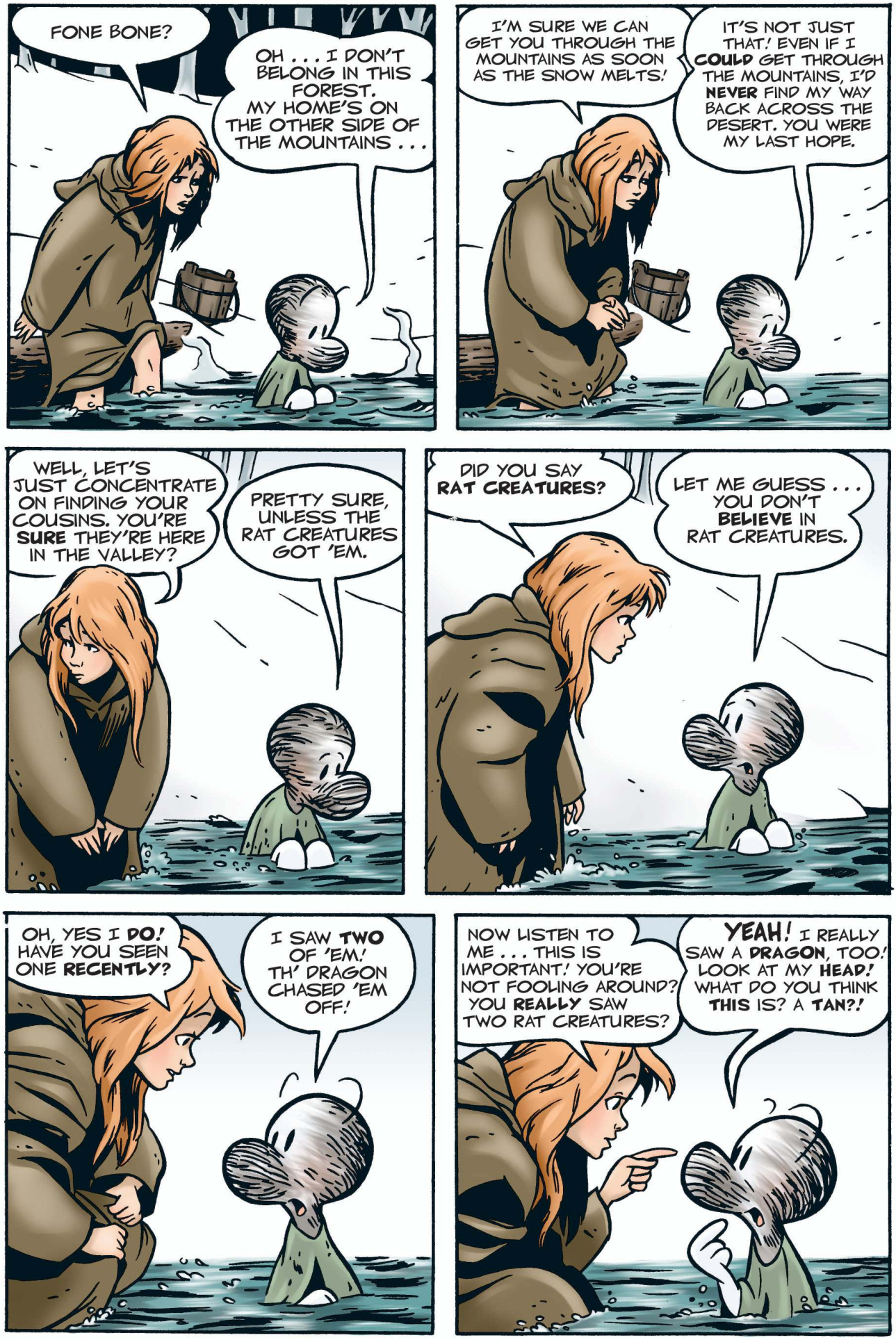

OW! OW!
SSSSSSSSS
WHAT HAPPENED?
DON'T BE AFRAID! I WON'T HURT YOU!
C'MON DOWN! WE'LL SHARE THE POOL!

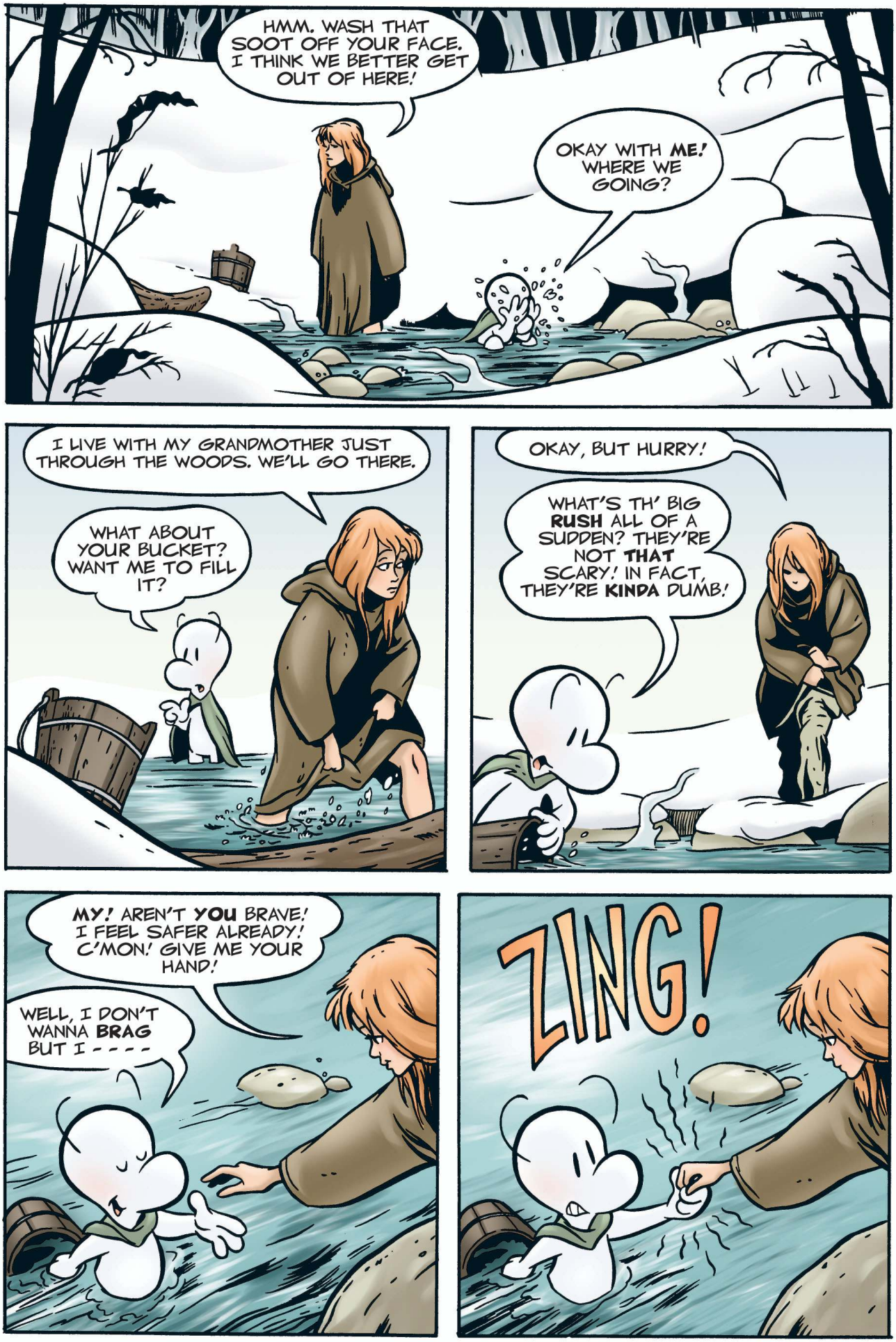

HELLO.
UM . . . ARE YOU NEW AROUND HERE?
FONE BONE! WHAT'S YOURS?!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, FONE BONE! MY NAME IS THORN!
THORN. THAT'S BEAUTIFUL! THOR--
THORN?! YOU'RE THORN? DO YOU KNOW A LITTLE BUG NAMED TED?!



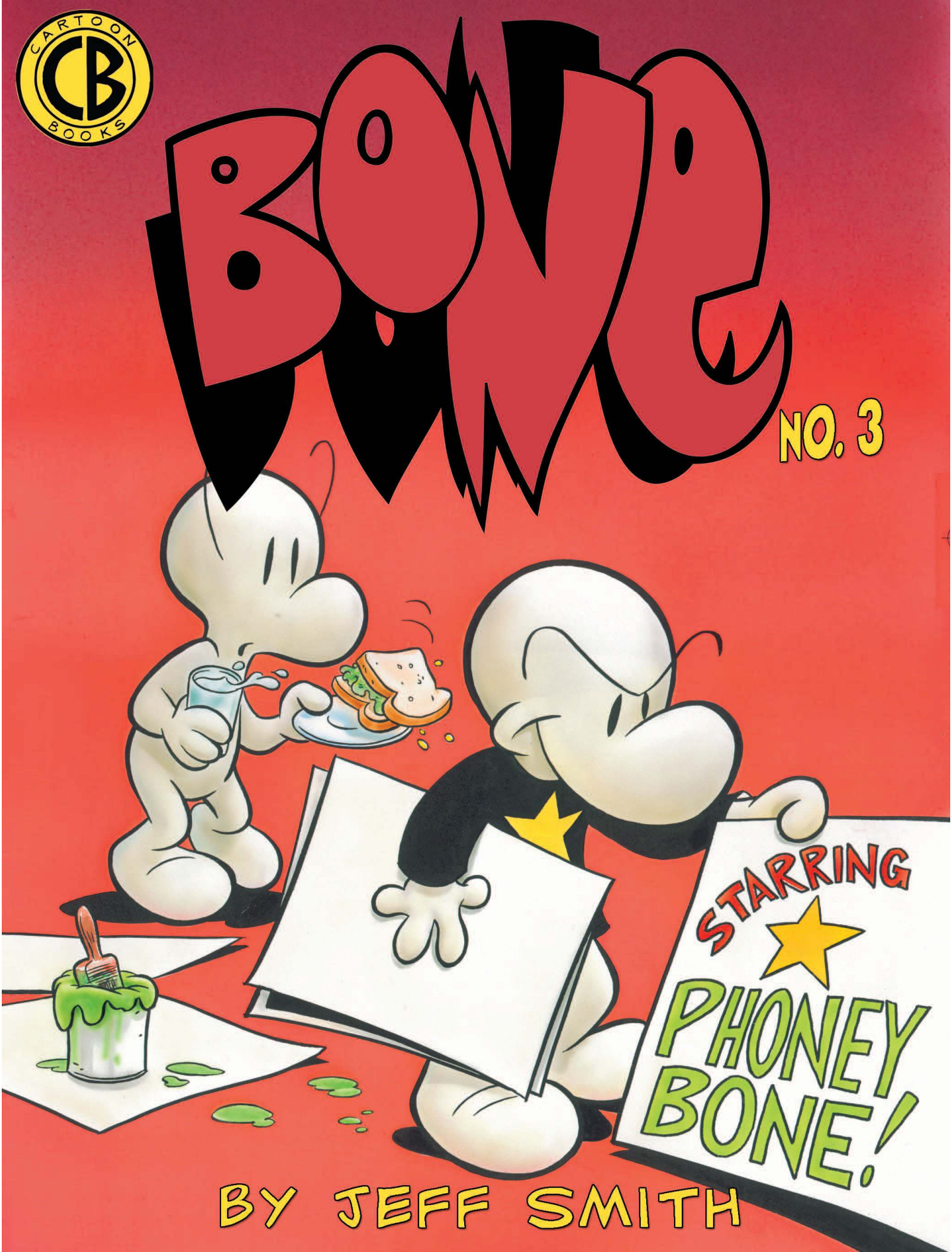
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

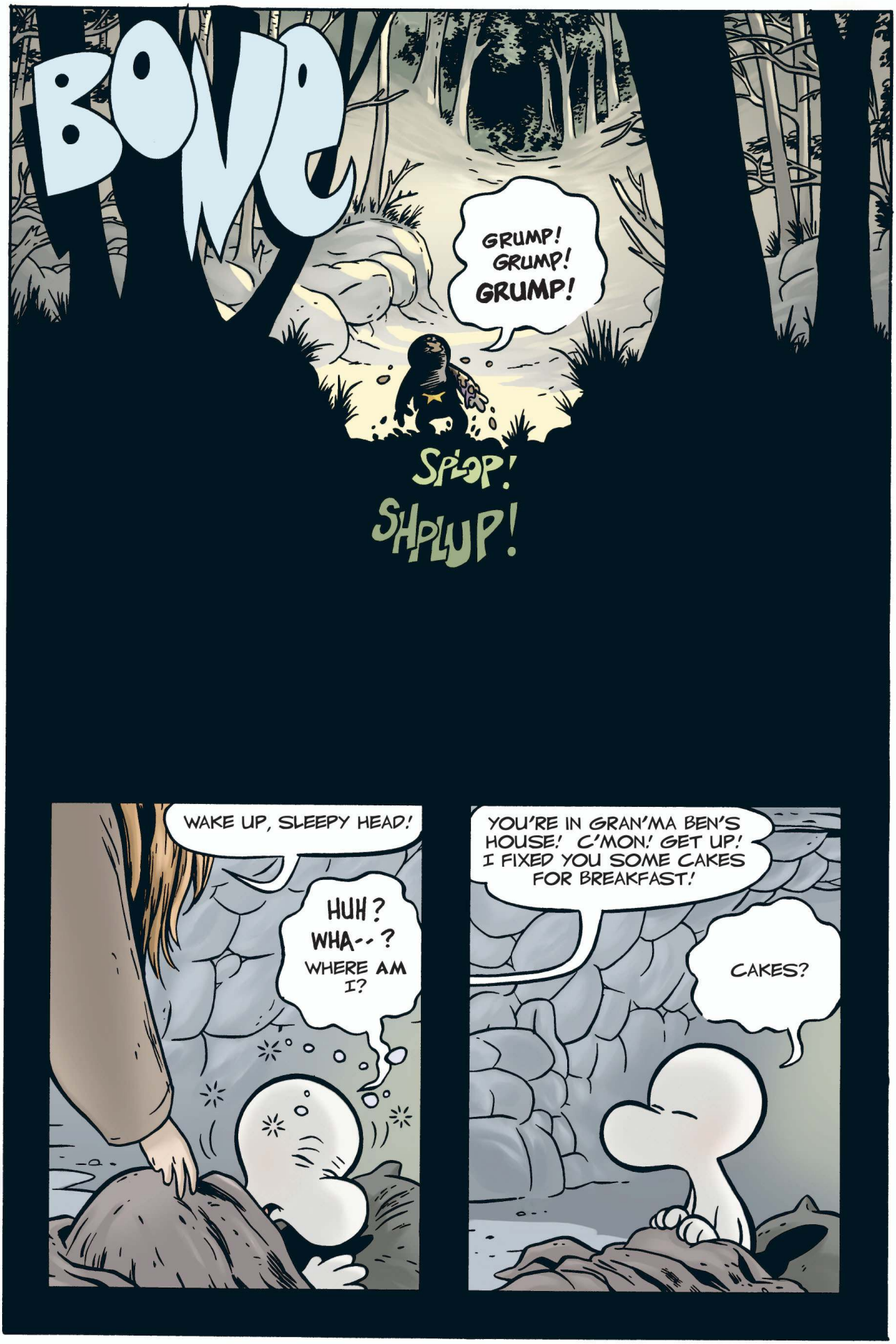

YOU SHOULD'VE ASKED **WHO?**
THE **DRAGON!** OH . . . WAIT A MINUTE! **I** GET IT! YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN DRAGONS, **DO** YOU?
NO. SHOULD I?
NEVERMIND! I DON'T **CARE!**
ONCE I'M BACK IN **BONEVILLE**, I'LL NEVER EVEN HAVE TO **THINK** ABOUT DRAGONS OR THIS CRAZY VALLEY **AGAIN!**
WELL, I'D **LIKE** TO HELP. . .
WELL, C'MON! THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE!!
. . . BUT. . . I'VE NEVER **HEARD** OF BONEVILLE. THERE **IS** A LITTLE VILLAGE DOWN THE ROAD CALLED BARRELHAVEN . . . DOES THAT HELP?
. . .WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHIN'

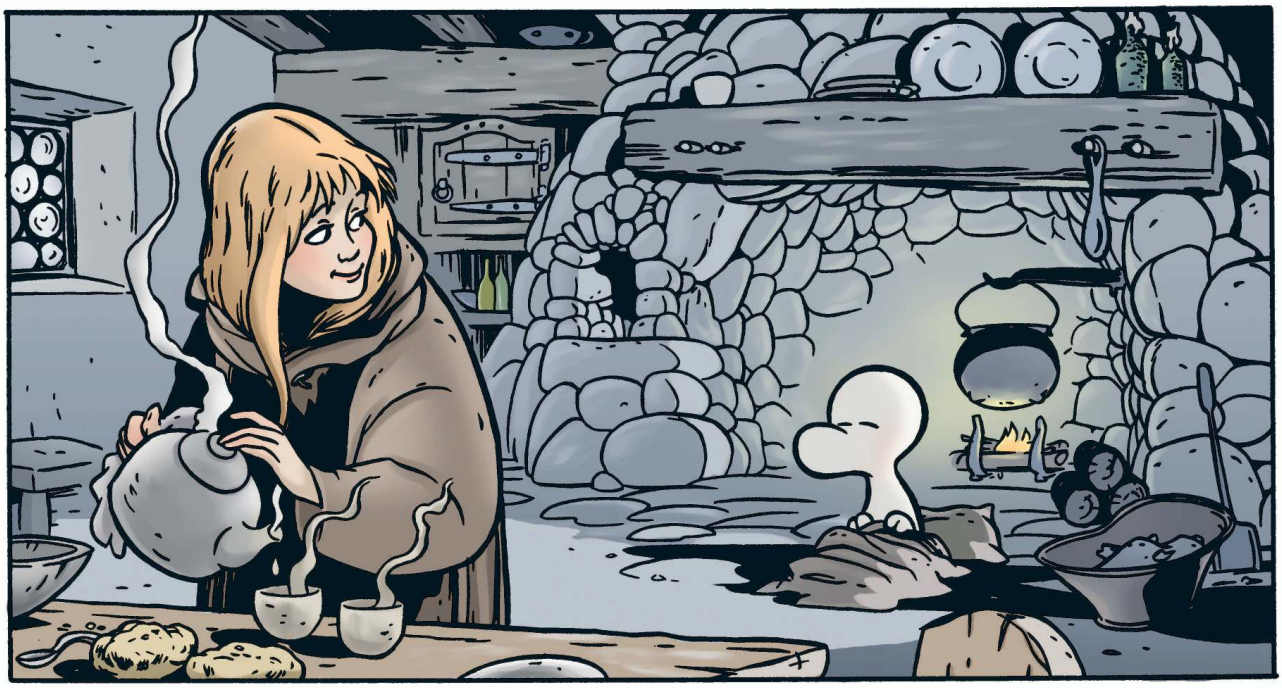

FONE BONE?
OH . . . I DON'T BELONG IN THIS FOREST. MY HOME'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAINS . . .
I'M SURE WE CAN GET YOU THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS AS SOON AS THE SNOW MELTS!
IT'S NOT JUST THAT! EVEN IF I **COULD** GET THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS, I'D **NEVER** FIND MY WAY BACK ACROSS THE DESERT. YOU WERE MY LAST HOPE.
WELL, LET'S JUST CONCENTRATE ON FINDING YOUR COUSINS. YOU'RE **SURE** THEY'RE HERE IN THE VALLEY?
PRETTY SURE, UNLESS THE RAT CREATURES GOT 'EM.
DID YOU SAY **RAT CREATURES?**
LET ME GUESS . . . YOU DON'T **BELIEVE** IN RAT CREATURES.
OH, YES I **DO!** HAVE YOU SEEN ONE **RECENTLY?**
I SAW **TWO** OF 'EM! TH' DRAGON CHASED 'EM OFF!
NOW LISTEN TO ME . . . THIS IS IMPORTANT! YOU'RE NOT FOOLING AROUND? YOU **REALLY** SAW TWO RAT CREATURES?
YEAH! I REALLY SAW A **DRAGON**, TOO! LOOK AT MY **HEAD!** WHAT DO YOU THINK **THIS** IS? A **TAN?!**


HMM. WASH THAT SOOT OFF YOUR FACE. I THINK WE BETTER GET OUT OF HERE!
OKAY WITH ME! WHERE WE GOING?
I LIVE WITH MY GRANDMOTHER JUST THROUGH THE WOODS. WE'LL GO THERE.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR BUCKET? WANT ME TO FILL IT?
OKAY, BUT HURRY!
WHAT'S TH' BIG RUSH ALL OF A SUDDEN? THEY'RE NOT THAT SCARY! IN FACT, THEY'RE KINDA DUMB!
MY! AREN'T YOU BRAVE! I FEEL SAFER ALREADY! C'MON! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
WELL, I DON'T WANNA BRAG BUT I - - - -
ZING!


WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE! LET'S GO!
OH, LISTEN! THE FIRST BIRDS OF SPRING! WE'LL HAVE YOU AND YOUR COUSINS BACK IN BONEVILLE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
.....BONEVILLE....?
....WHAT'S BONEVILLE?

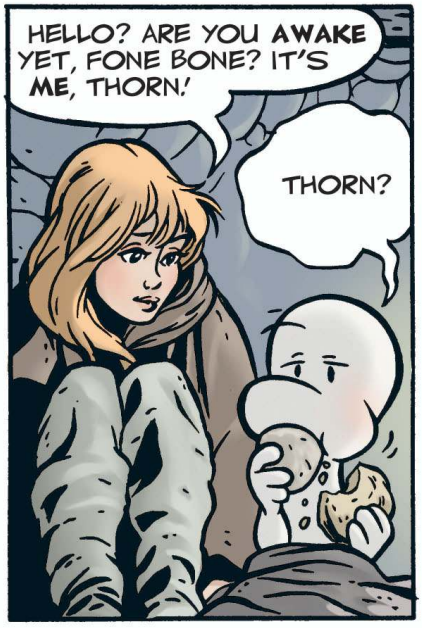

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
NO. 3
STARRING
PHONEY BONE!
BY JEFF SMITH

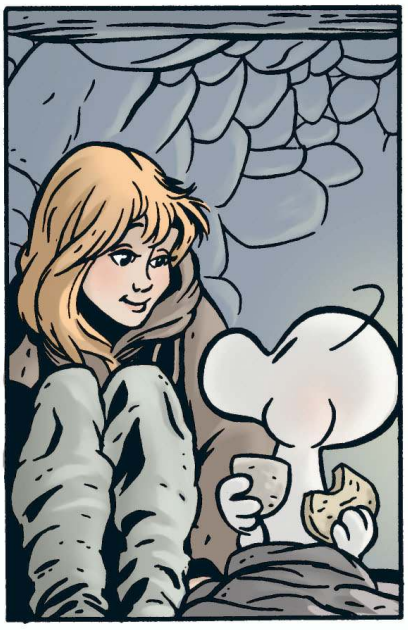

BONE
GRUMP! GRUMP! GRUMP!
SPLOP!
SHPLUP!
WAKE UP, SLEEPY HEAD!
HUH? WHA--? WHERE AM I?
YOU'RE IN GRAN'MA BEN'S HOUSE! C'MON! GET UP! I FIXED YOU SOME CAKES FOR BREAKFAST!
CAKES?

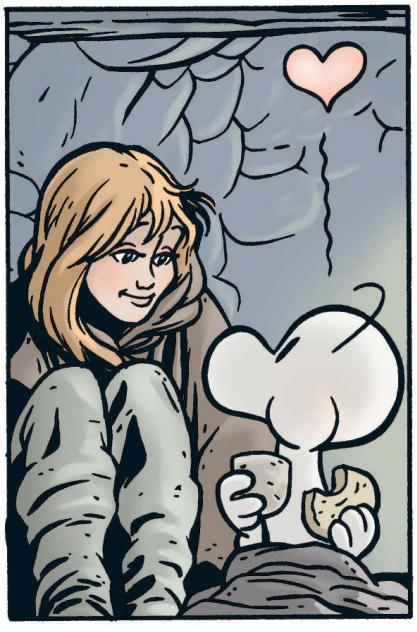


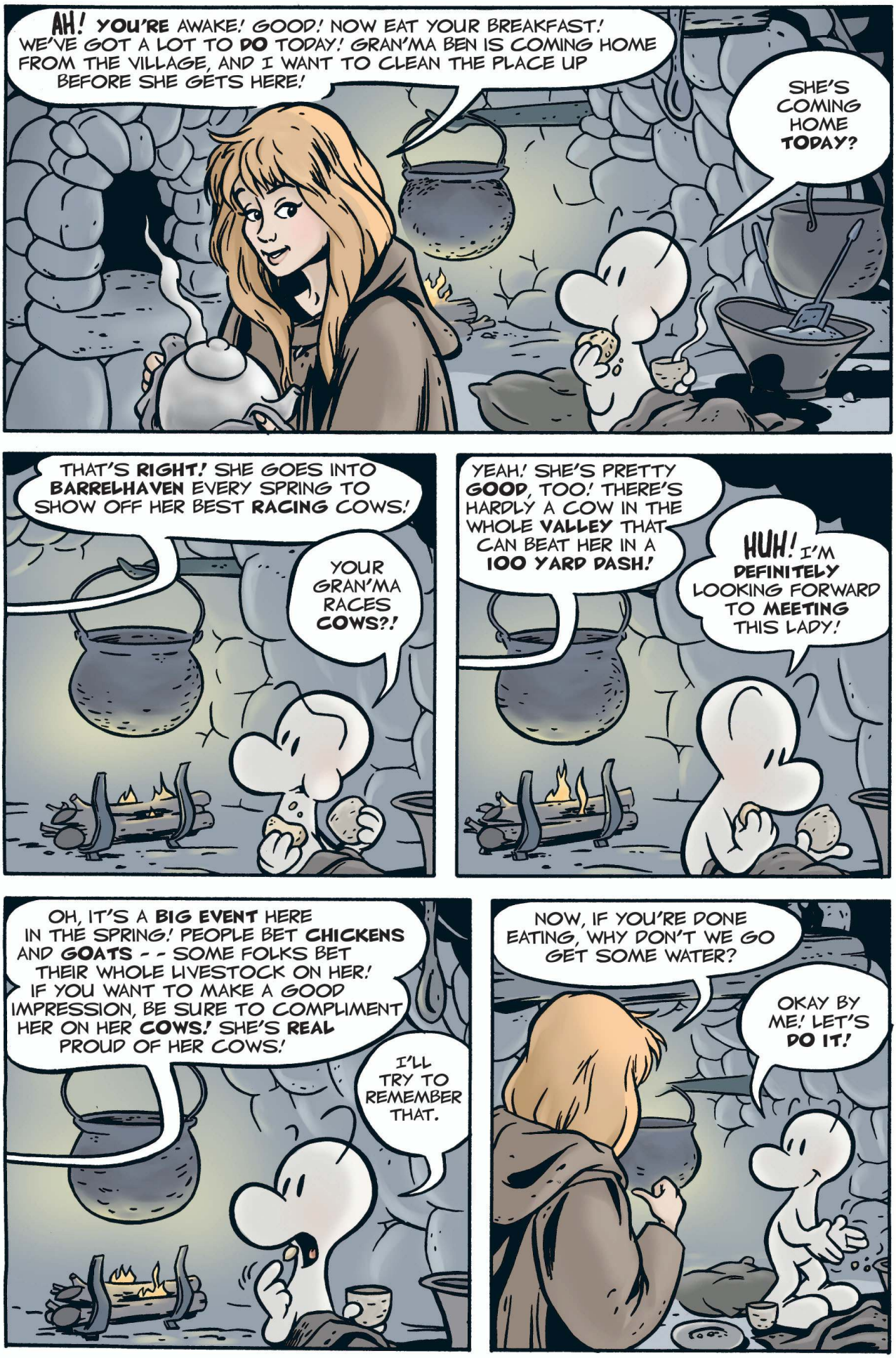

MY! YOU MUST'VE ENJOYED YOUR FIRST NIGHT IN A HOUSE AFTER SLEEPING IN THE WOODS! YOU DIDN'T EVEN HEAR ME WHEN I CAME DOWNSTAIRS!
CAKES?

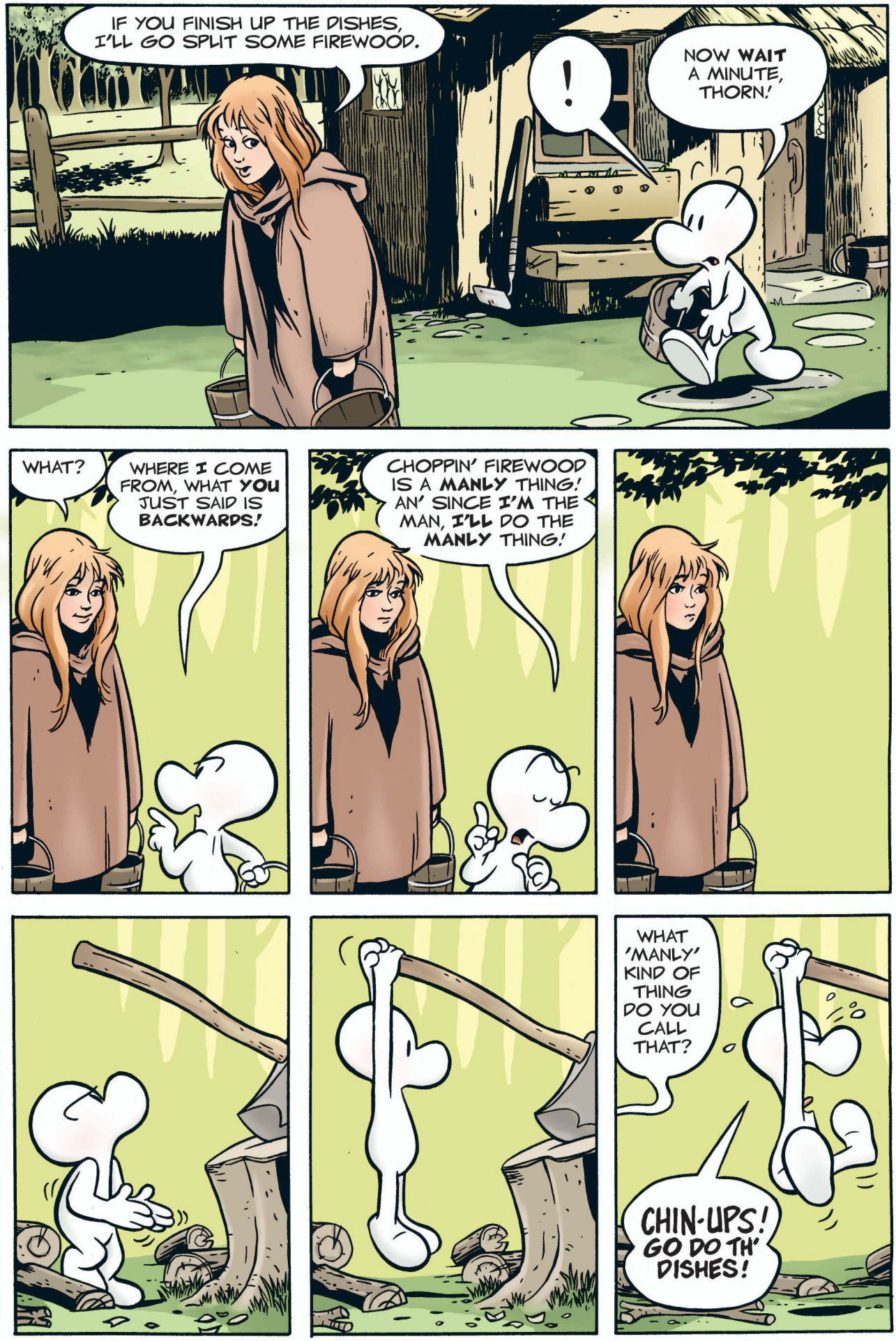

HERE'S YOUR CAKES! AND HERE'S SOME TEA!
THENK YOU.

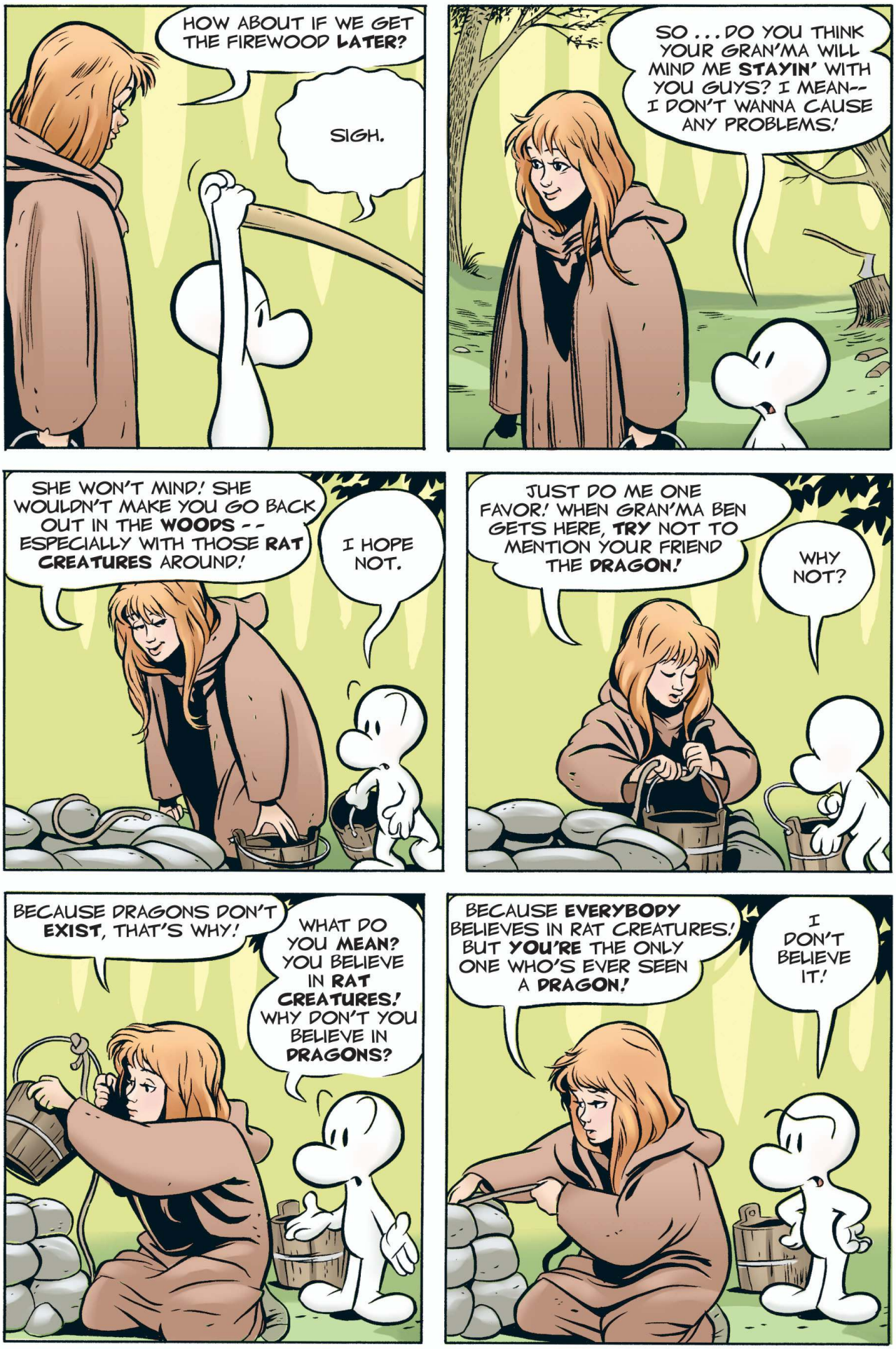

HELLO? ARE YOU AWAKE YET, FONE BONE? IT'S ME, THORN!
THORN?

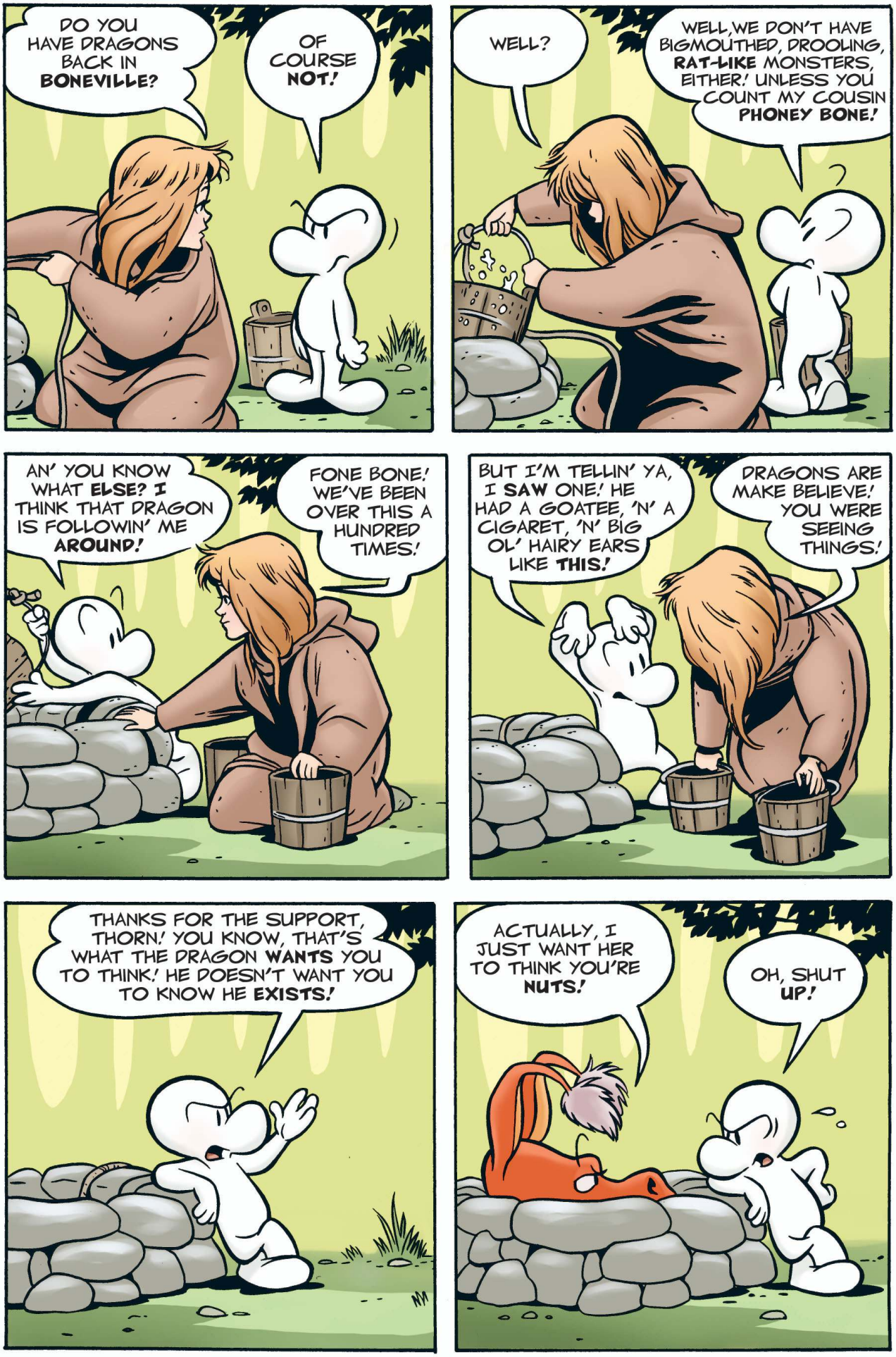


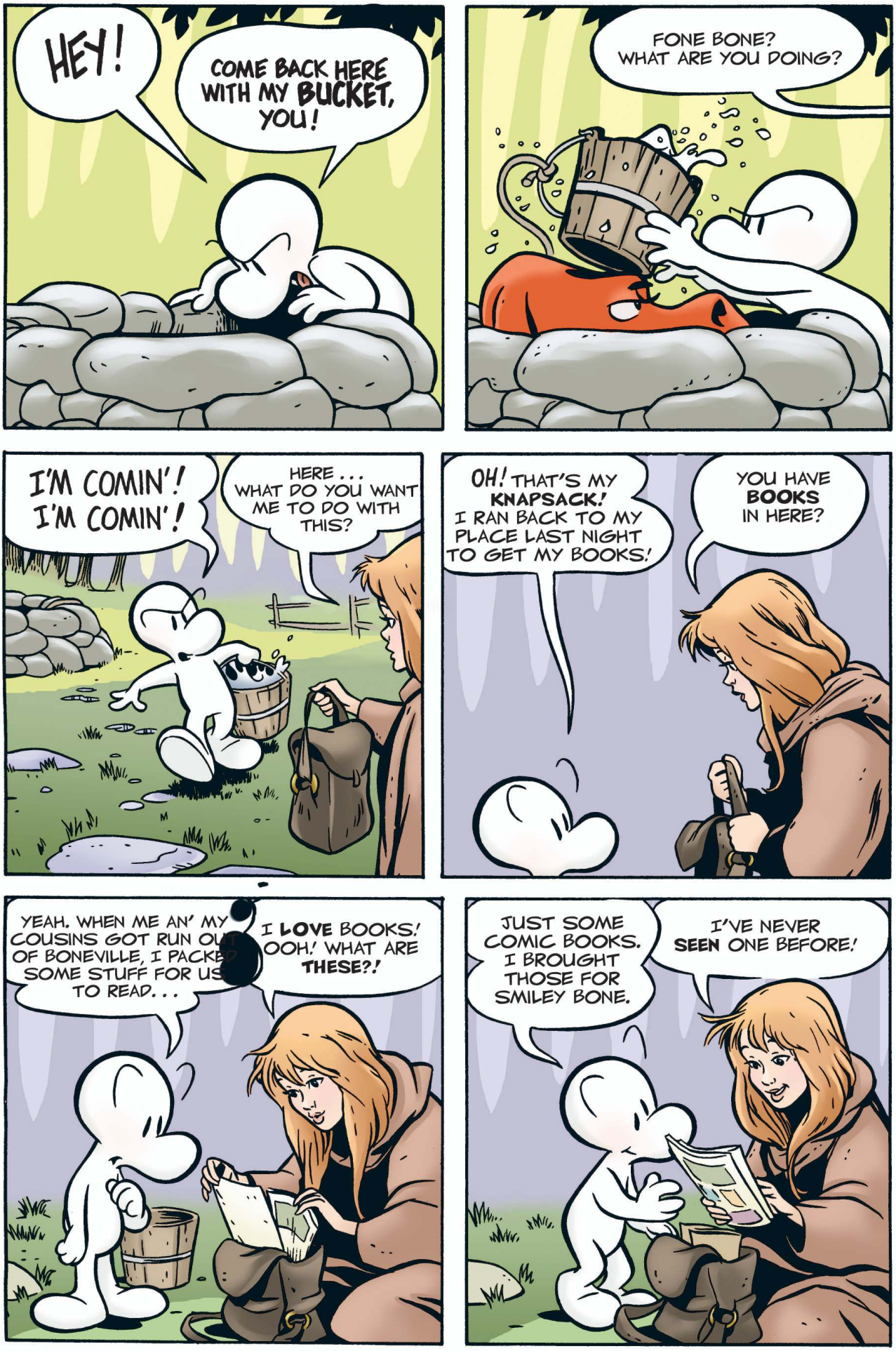


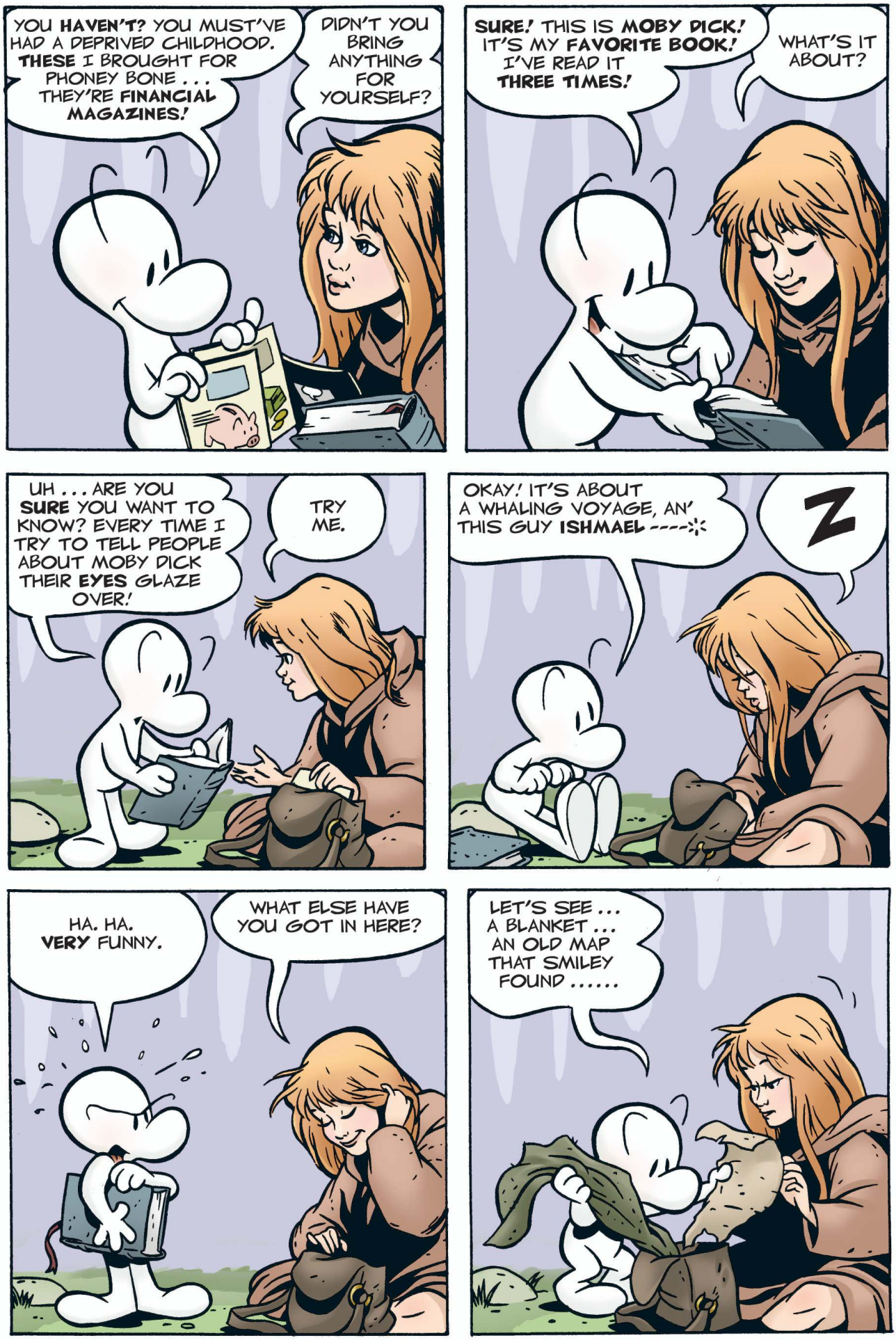

AH! YOU'RE AWAKE! GOOD! NOW EAT YOUR BREAKFAST! WE'VE GOT A LOT TO DO TODAY! GRAN'MA BEN IS COMING HOME FROM THE VILLAGE, AND I WANT TO CLEAN THE PLACE UP BEFORE SHE GETS HERE!
SHE'S COMING HOME TODAY?
THAT'S RIGHT! SHE GOES INTO BARRELHAVEN EVERY SPRING TO SHOW OFF HER BEST RACING COWS!
YOUR GRAN'MA RACES COWS?!
YEAH! SHE'S PRETTY GOOD, TOO! THERE'S HARDLY A COW IN THE WHOLE VALLEY THAT CAN BEAT HER IN A 100 YARD DASH!
HUH! I'M DEFINITELY LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING THIS LADY!
OH, IT'S A BIG EVENT HERE IN THE SPRING! PEOPLE BET CHICKENS AND GOATS - - SOME FOLKS BET THEIR WHOLE LIVESTOCK ON HER! IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION, BE SURE TO COMPLIMENT HER ON HER COWS! SHE'S REAL PROUD OF HER COWS!
I'LL TRY TO REMEMBER THAT.
NOW, IF YOU'RE DONE EATING, WHY DON'T WE GO GET SOME WATER?
OKAY BY ME! LET'S DO IT!

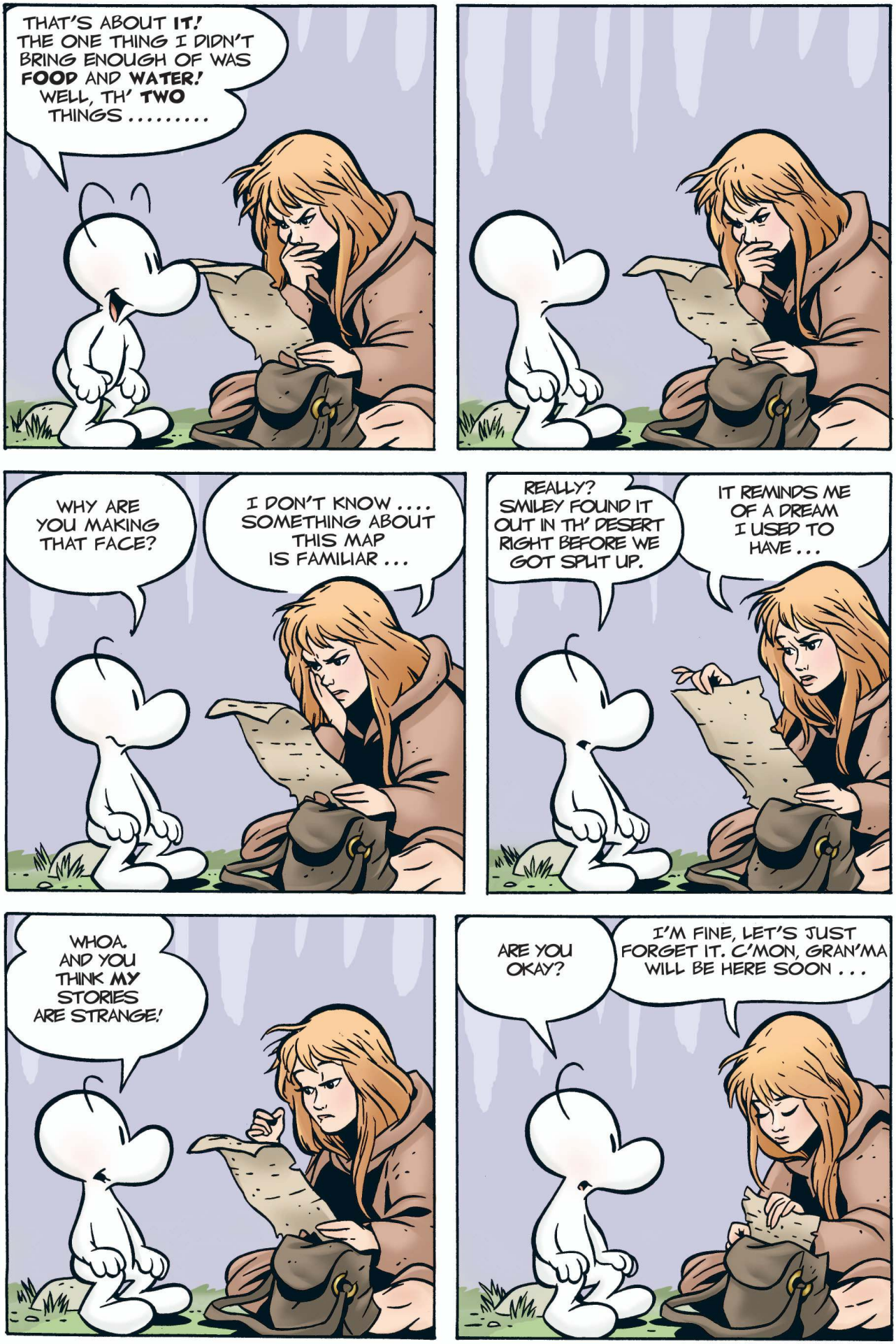

IF YOU FINISH UP THE DISHES, I'LL GO SPLIT SOME FIREWOOD.
!
NOW WAIT A MINUTE, THORN!
WHAT?
WHERE I COME FROM, WHAT YOU JUST SAID IS BACKWARDS!
CHOPPIN' FIREWOOD IS A MANLY THING! AN' SINCE I'M THE MAN, I'LL DO THE MANLY THING!
WHAT 'MANLY' KIND OF THING DO YOU CALL THAT?
CHIN-UPS! GO DO TH' DISHES!


HOW ABOUT IF WE GET THE FIREWOOD LATER?
SIGH.
SO . . . DO YOU THINK YOUR GRAN'MA WILL MIND ME STAYIN' WITH YOU GUYS? I MEAN-- I DON'T WANNA CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS!
SHE WON'T MIND! SHE WOULDN'T MAKE YOU GO BACK OUT IN THE WOODS -- ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE RAT CREATURES AROUND!
I HOPE NOT.
JUST DO ME ONE FAVOR! WHEN GRAN'MA BEN GETS HERE, TRY NOT TO MENTION YOUR FRIEND THE DRAGON!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE DRAGONS DON'T EXIST, THAT'S WHY!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU BELIEVE IN RAT CREATURES! WHY DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN DRAGONS?
BECAUSE EVERYBODY BELIEVES IN RAT CREATURES! BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S EVER SEEN A DRAGON!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!


DO YOU HAVE DRAGONS BACK IN BONEVILLE?
OF COURSE NOT!
WELL?
WELL, WE DON'T HAVE BIGMOUTHED, DROOLING, RAT-LIKE MONSTERS, EITHER! UNLESS YOU COUNT MY COUSIN PHONEY BONE!
AN' YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE? I THINK THAT DRAGON IS FOLLOWIN' ME AROUND!
FONE BONE! WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS A HUNDRED TIMES!
BUT I'M TELLIN' YA, I SAW ONE! HE HAD A GOATEE, 'N' A CIGARET, 'N' BIG OL' HAIRY EARS LIKE THIS!
DRAGONS ARE MAKE BELIEVE! YOU WERE SEEING THINGS!
THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT, THORN! YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHAT THE DRAGON WANTS YOU TO THINK! HE DOESN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW HE EXISTS!
ACTUALLY, I JUST WANT HER TO THINK YOU'RE NUTS!
OH, SHUT UP!


HEY!
COME BACK HERE WITH MY BUCKET, YOU!
FONE BONE? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M COMIN'! I'M COMIN'!
HERE . . . WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO WITH THIS?
OH! THAT'S MY KNAPSACK! I RAN BACK TO MY PLACE LAST NIGHT TO GET MY BOOKS!
YOU HAVE BOOKS IN HERE?
YEAH. WHEN ME AN' MY COUSINS GOT RUN OUT OF BONEVILLE, I PACKED SOME STUFF FOR US TO READ. . .
I LOVE BOOKS! OOH! WHAT ARE THESE?!
JUST SOME COMIC BOOKS. I BROUGHT THOSE FOR SMILEY BONE.
I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE!


YOU HAVEN'T? YOU MUST'VE HAD A DEPRIVED CHILDHOOD. THESE I BROUGHT FOR PHONEY BONE . . . THEY'RE FINANCIAL MAGAZINES!
DIDN'T YOU BRING ANYTHING FOR YOURSELF?
SURE! THIS IS MOBY DICK! IT'S MY FAVORITE BOOK! I'VE READ IT THREE TIMES!
WHAT'S IT ABOUT?
UH . . . ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO KNOW? EVERY TIME I TRY TO TELL PEOPLE ABOUT MOBY DICK THEIR EYES GLAZE OVER!
TRY ME.
OKAY! IT'S ABOUT A WHALING VOYAGE, AN' THIS GUY ISHMAEL ----
Z
HA. HA. VERY FUNNY.
WHAT ELSE HAVE YOU GOT IN HERE?
LET'S SEE . . . A BLANKET . . . AN OLD MAP THAT SMILEY FOUND . . . . . .


THAT'S ABOUT **IT!** THE ONE THING I DIDN'T BRING ENOUGH OF WAS **FOOD** AND **WATER!** WELL, TH' **TWO** THINGS .....
WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE?
I DON'T KNOW .... SOMETHING ABOUT THIS MAP IS FAMILIAR ...
REALLY? SMILEY FOUND IT OUT IN TH' DESERT RIGHT BEFORE WE GOT SPLIT UP.
IT REMINDS ME OF A DREAM I USED TO HAVE ...
WHOA. AND YOU THINK **MY** STORIES ARE STRANGE!
ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE, LET'S JUST FORGET IT. C'MON, GRAN'MA WILL BE HERE SOON ...


GRUMP!
GRUMP!
GRUMP!

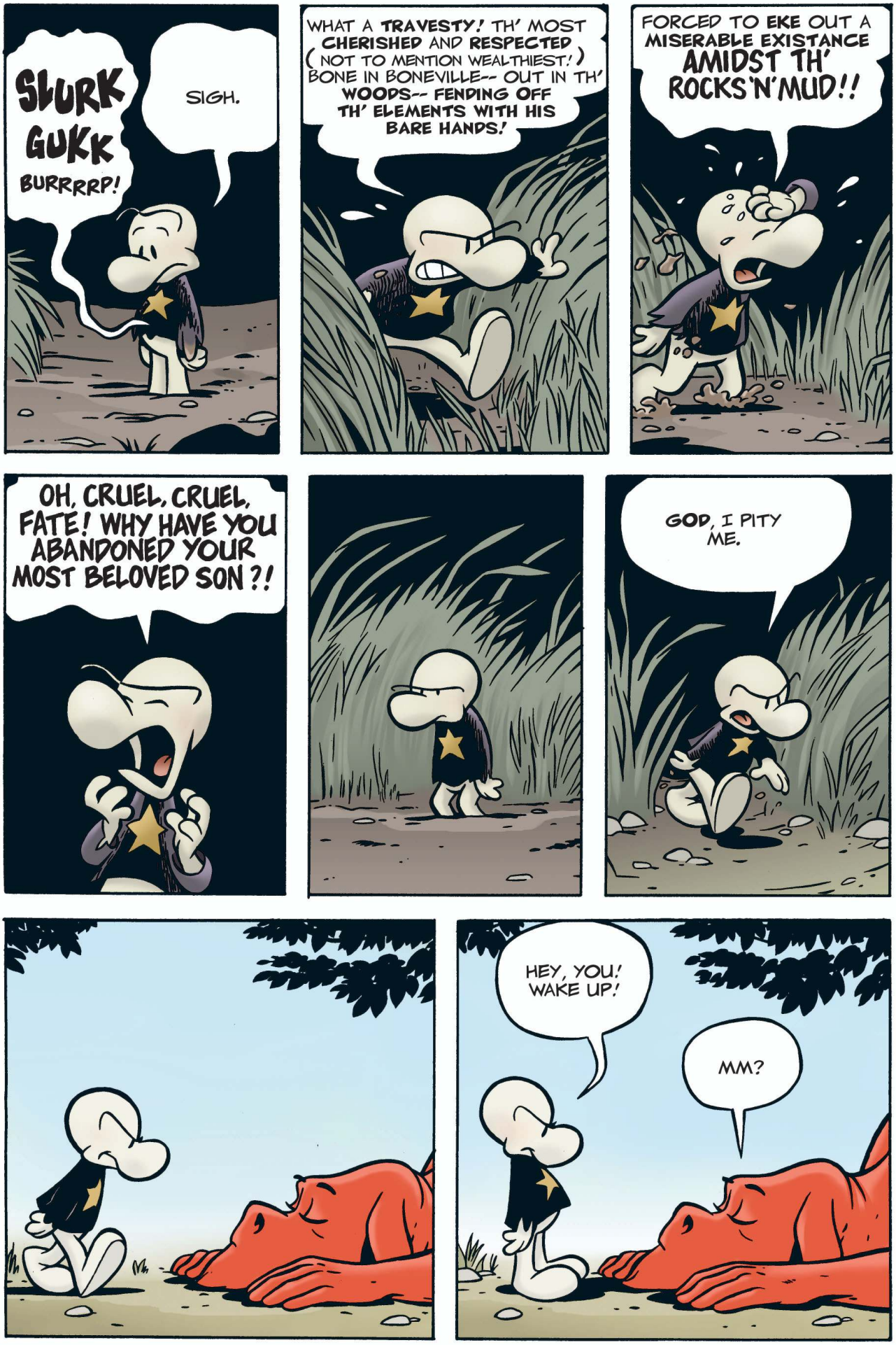

GRUMP!
SPLOP
SPLOOOSH


OOOH! WAIT'LL I GET MY HANDS ON THAT COUSIN OF MINE!

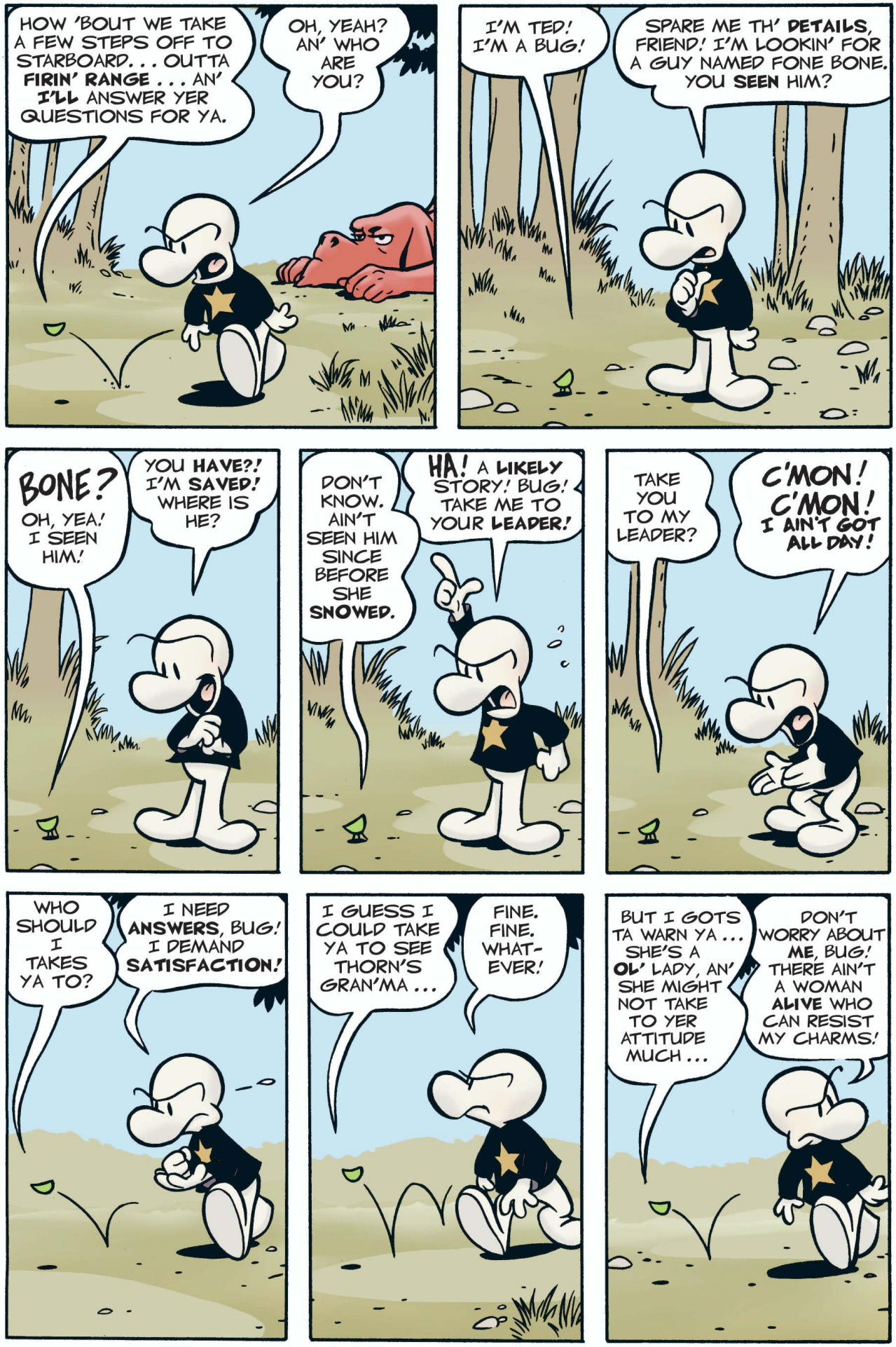

I CAN'T **BELIEVE** FONE BONE WOULD JUST **LEAVE** ME OUT HERE WANDERING AROUND HELPLESS AND HUNGRY!

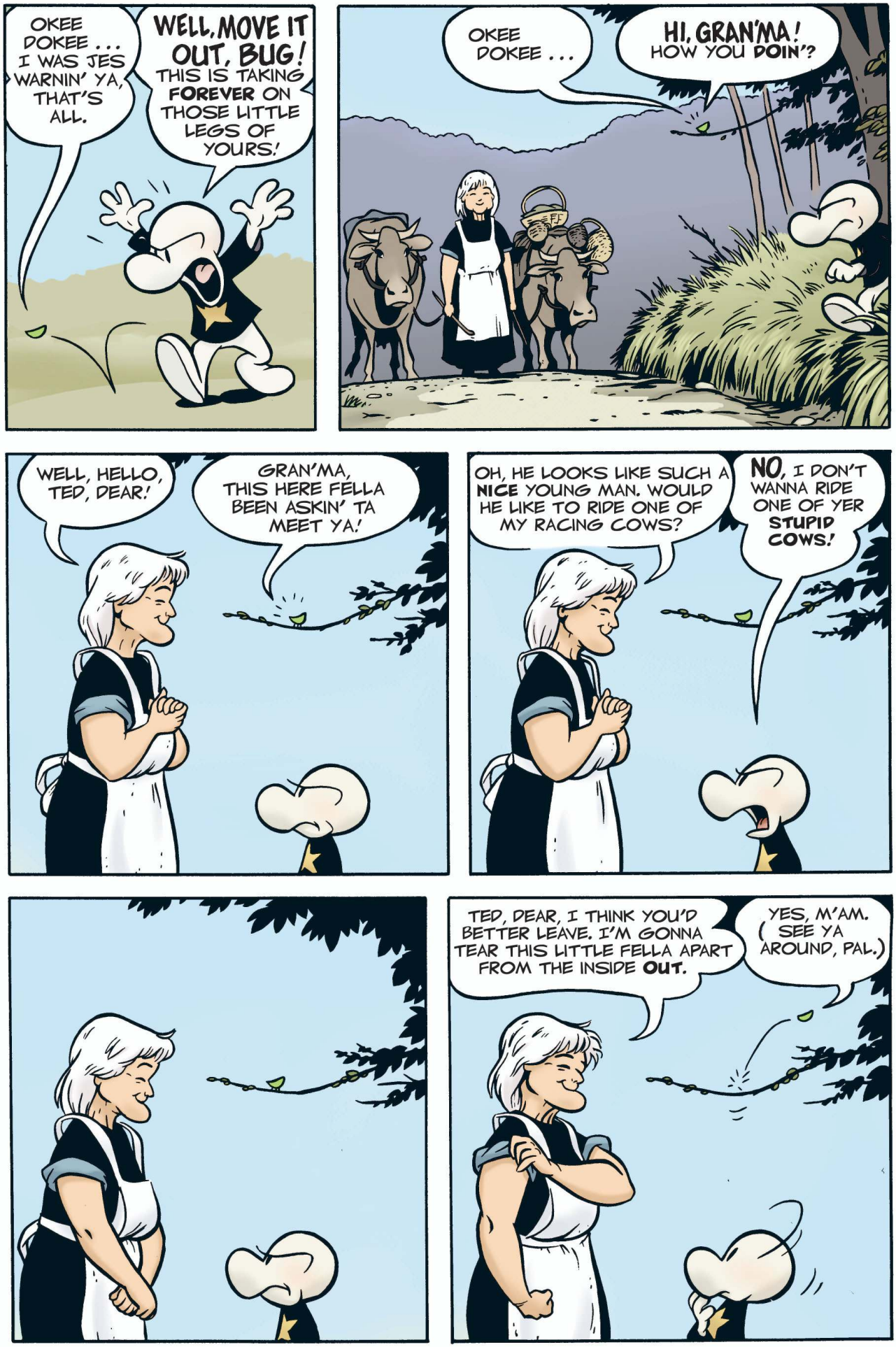

I'LL BET HE'S BACK IN BONEVILLE **RIGHT NOW.** SITTING IN **MY** HOUSE, EATING **MY** FOOD!
GLORP!
RUMBLE!
GRRRR

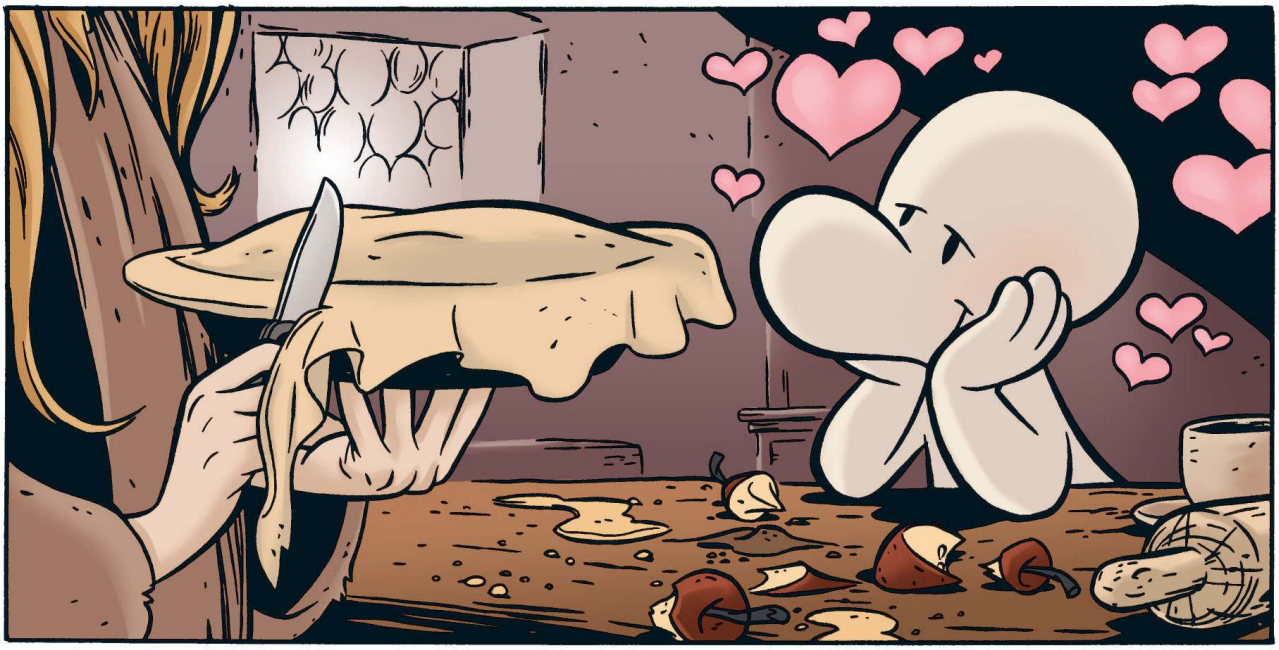

GROWL!
HEY! **SHUT UP!** I JUST ATE A **STICK** AN HOUR AGO! WHAT DO YOU **WANT** FROM ME?!

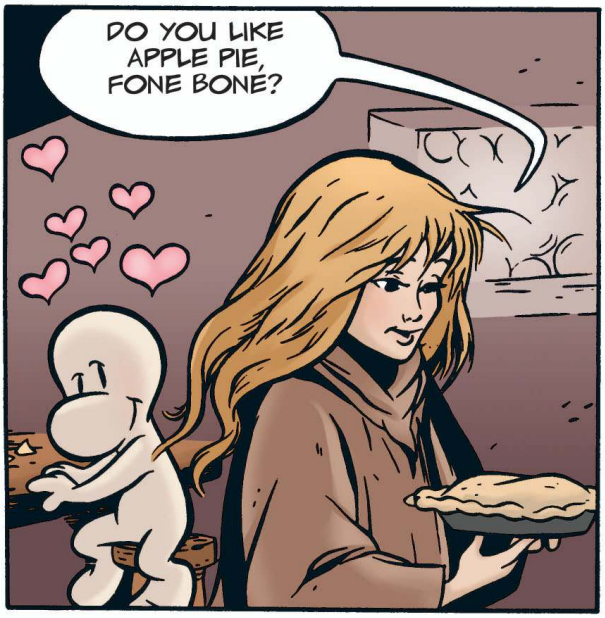

SLURK GUKK BURRRRP!
SIGH.
WHAT A TRAVESTY! TH' MOST CHERISHED AND RESPECTED (NOT TO MENTION WEALTHIEST!) BONE IN BONEVILLE-- OUT IN TH' WOODS-- FENDING OFF TH' ELEMENTS WITH HIS BARE HANDS!
FORCED TO EKE OUT A MISERABLE EXISTANCE AMIDST TH' ROCKS'N'MUD!!
OH, CRUEL, CRUEL, FATE! WHY HAVE YOU ABANDONED YOUR MOST BELOVED SON?!
GOD, I PITY ME.
HEY, YOU! WAKE UP!
MM?

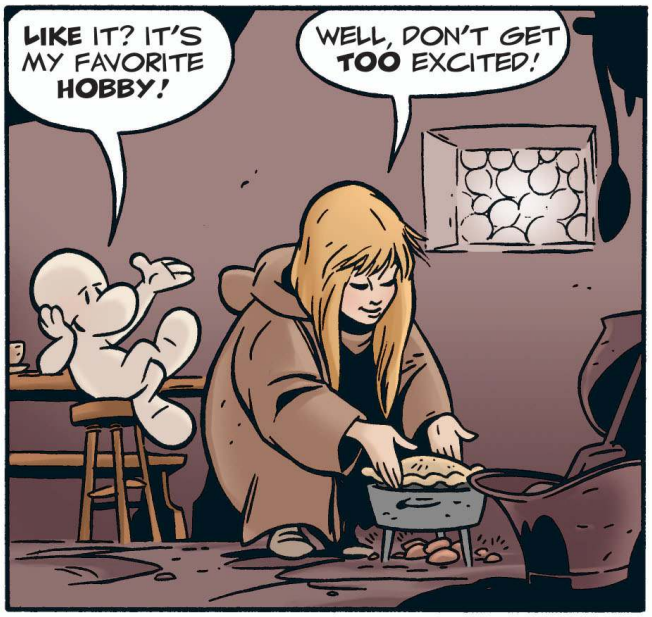

THE NAME'S PHONEY BONE... TH' RICHEST BONE IN BONEVILLE! YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD OF ME! I'M LOOKIN' FOR A GUY NAMED FONE BONE. YOU SEEN HIM?
HEY! LET'S KICK THAT PEA-SIZED DINOSAUR BRAIN INTO HIGH GEAR, HUH?
WOULD IT HELP IF I ASKED TH' QUESTION AGAIN SLOWER?
HAVE.....YOU.....
...SEEN FONE BONE..... ....A-ROUND?
UH, HEY, THERE, MISTER! MAYBE YOU BETTER LET ME HELP YOU!
MAYBE I BETTER! IT COULD BE DAYS BEFORE TH' MESSAGE REACHES THIS GUY'S BRAIN!

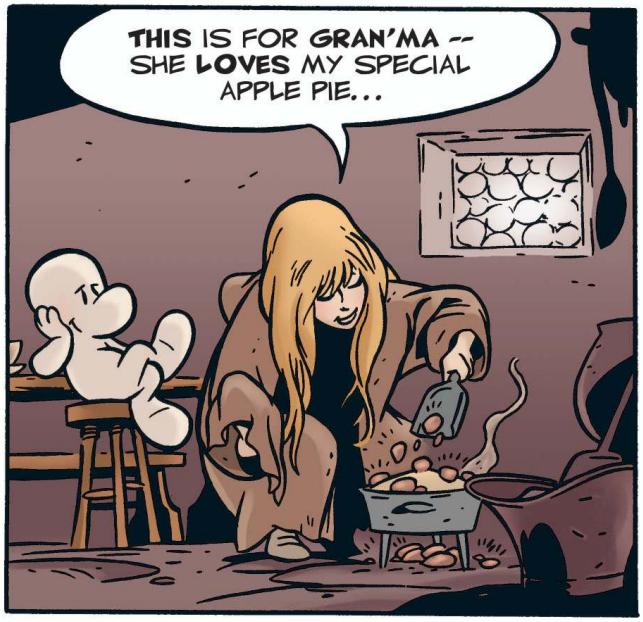

HOW 'BOUT WE TAKE A FEW STEPS OFF TO STARBOARD... OUTTA FIRIN' RANGE... AN' I'LL ANSWER YER QUESTIONS FOR YA.
OH, YEAH? AN' WHO ARE YOU?
I'M TED! I'M A BUG!
SPARE ME TH' DETAILS, FRIEND! I'M LOOKIN' FOR A GUY NAMED FONE BONE. YOU SEEN HIM?
BONE? OH, YEA! I SEEN HIM!
YOU HAVE?! I'M SAVED! WHERE IS HE?
DON'T KNOW. AIN'T SEEN HIM SINCE BEFORE SHE SNOWED.
HA! A LIKELY STORY! BUG! TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER!
TAKE YOU TO MY LEADER?
C'MON! C'MON! I AIN'T GOT ALL DAY!
WHO SHOULD I TAKES YA TO?
I NEED ANSWERS, BUG! I DEMAND SATISFACTION!
I GUESS I COULD TAKE YA TO SEE THORN'S GRAN'MA...
FINE. FINE. WHAT-EVER!
BUT I GOTS TA WARN YA... SHE'S A OL' LADY, AN' SHE MIGHT NOT TAKE TO YER ATTITUDE MUCH...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, BUG! THERE AIN'T A WOMAN ALIVE WHO CAN RESIST MY CHARMS!

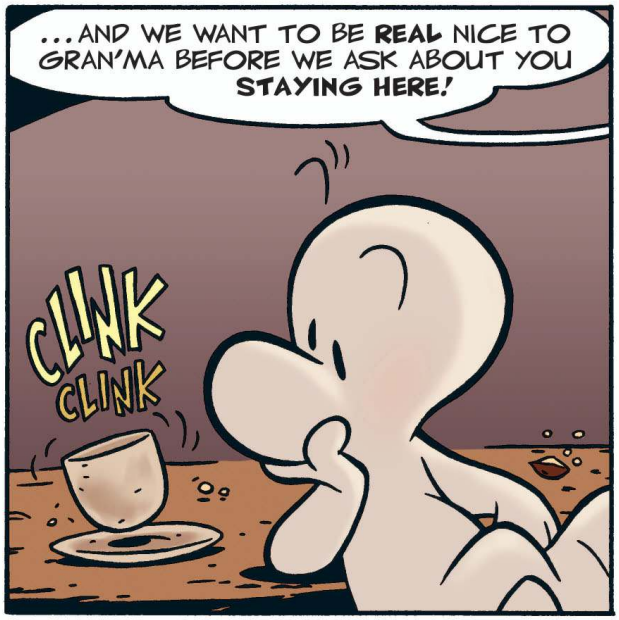

OKEE DOKEE . . . I WAS JES WARNIN' YA, THAT'S ALL.
WELL, MOVE IT OUT, BUG! THIS IS TAKING FOREVER ON THOSE LITTLE LEGS OF YOURS!
OKEE DOKEE . . .
HI, GRAN'MA! HOW YOU DOIN'?
WELL, HELLO, TED, DEAR!
GRAN'MA, THIS HERE FELLA BEEN ASKIN' TA MEET YA!
OH, HE LOOKS LIKE SUCH A NICE YOUNG MAN. WOULD HE LIKE TO RIDE ONE OF MY RACING COWS?
NO, I DON'T WANNA RIDE ONE OF YER STUPID COWS!
TED, DEAR, I THINK YOU'D BETTER LEAVE. I'M GONNA TEAR THIS LITTLE FELLA APART FROM THE INSIDE OUT.
YES, M'AM. (SEE YA AROUND, PAL.)

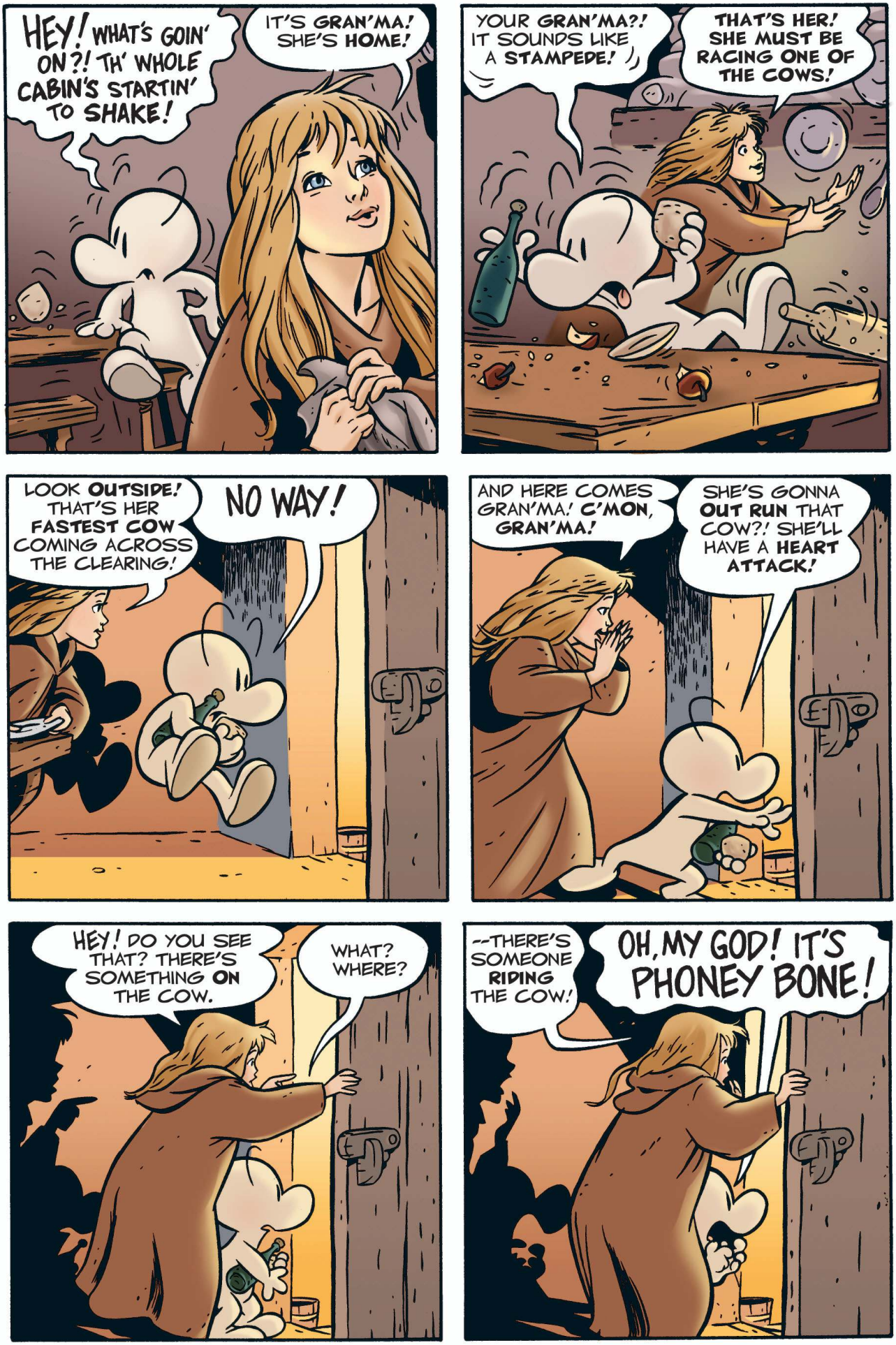



DO YOU LIKE APPLE PIE, FONE BONE?

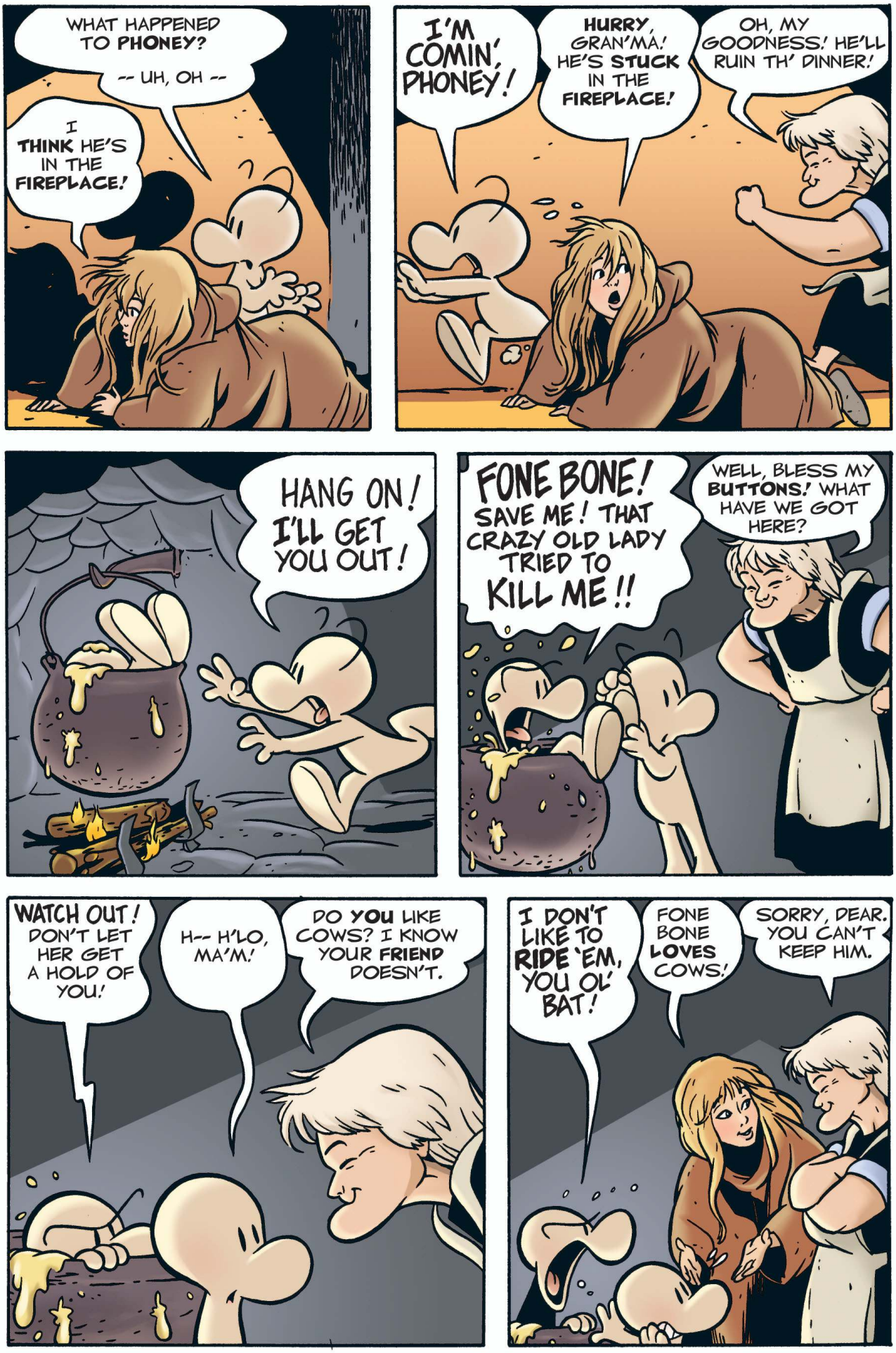

LIKE IT? IT'S MY FAVORITE HOBBY!
WELL, DON'T GET TOO EXCITED!

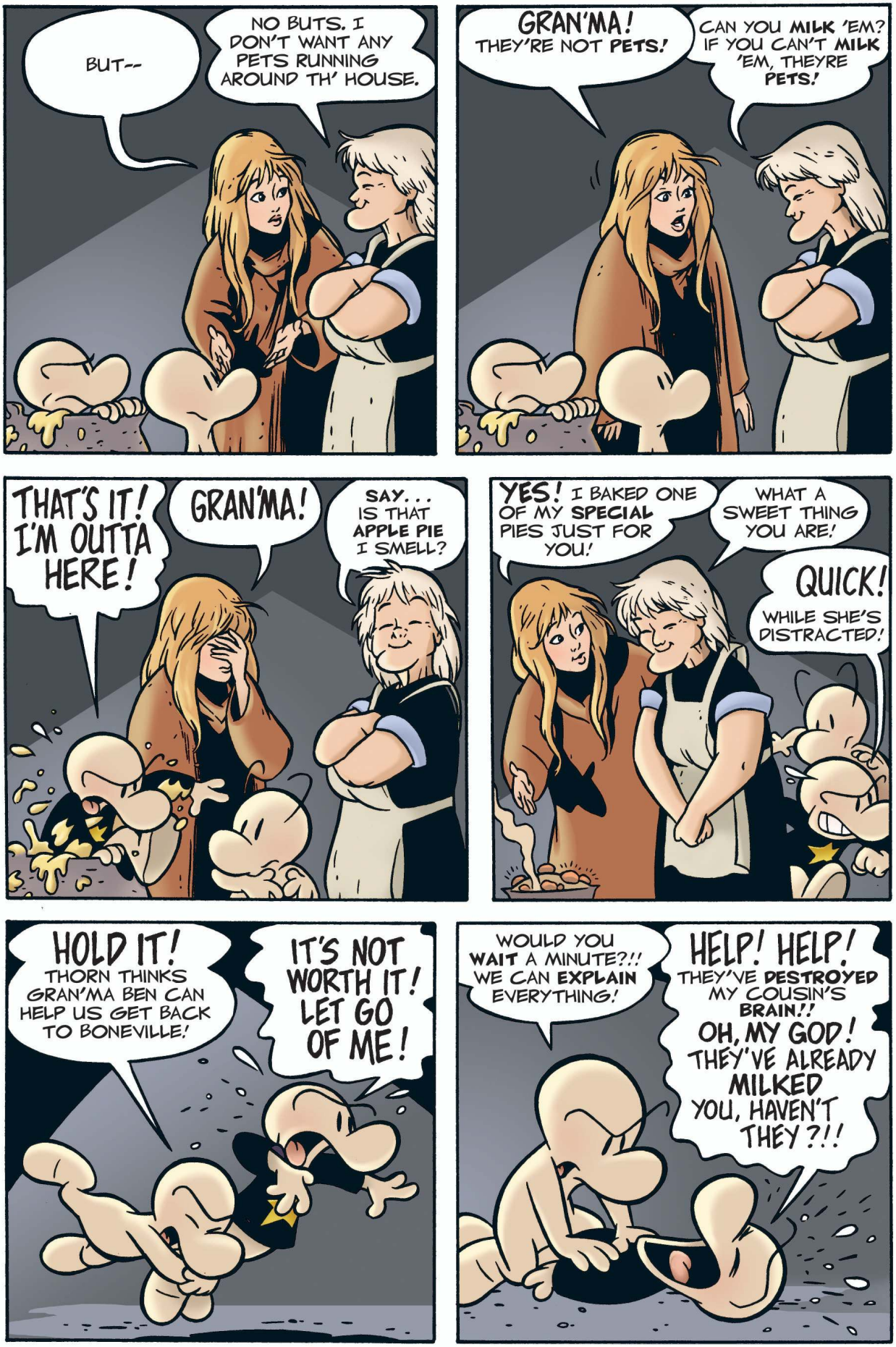

THIS IS FOR GRAN'MA -- SHE LOVES MY SPECIAL APPLE PIE...


...AND WE WANT TO BE REAL NICE TO GRAN'MA BEFORE WE ASK ABOUT YOU STAYING HERE!
CLINK
CLINK

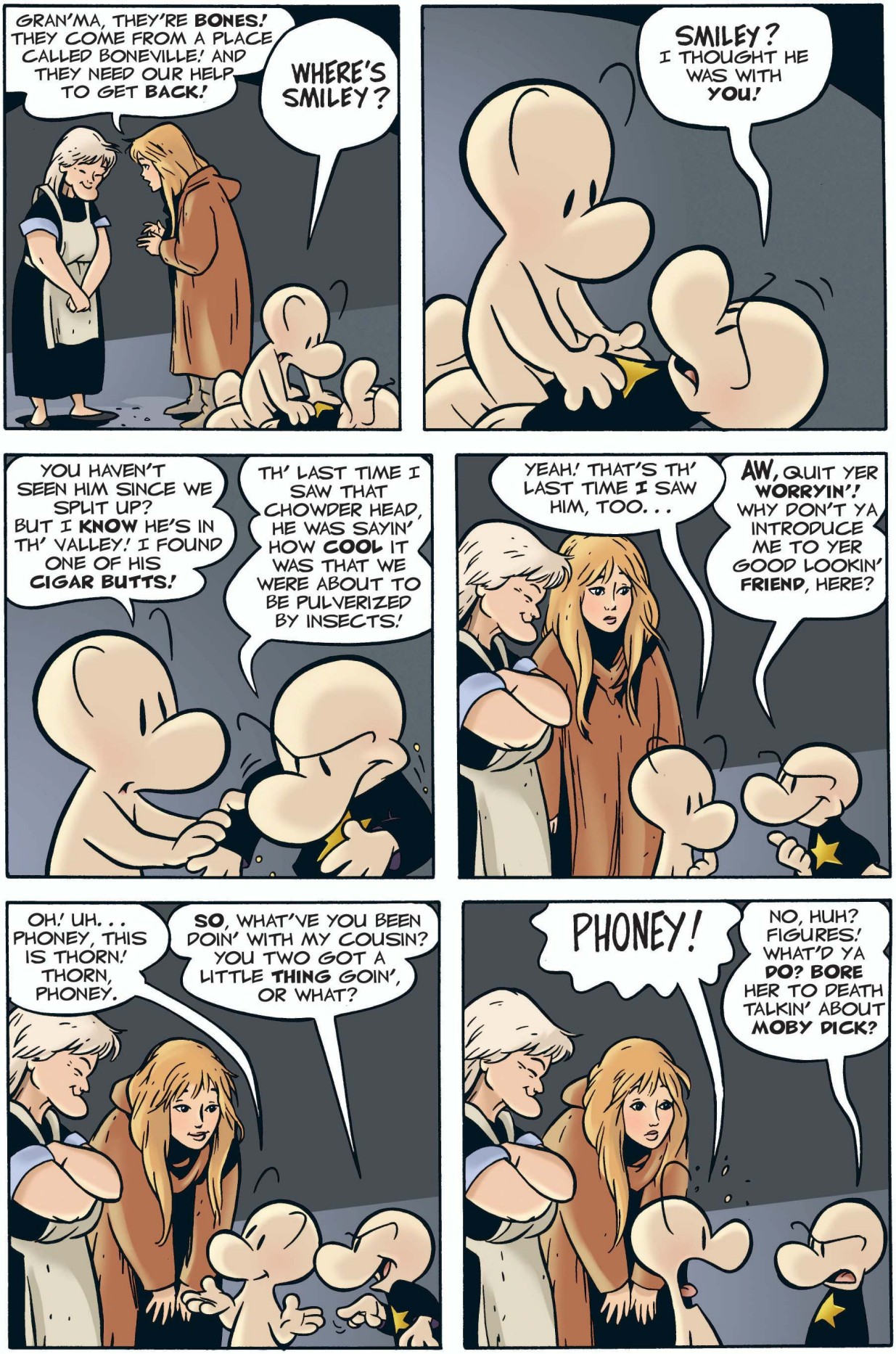

HEY! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?! TH' WHOLE CABIN'S STARTIN' TO SHAKE!
IT'S GRAN'MA! SHE'S HOME!
YOUR GRAN'MA?! IT SOUNDS LIKE A STAMPEDE!
THAT'S HER! SHE MUST BE RACING ONE OF THE COWS!
LOOK OUTSIDE! THAT'S HER FASTEST COW COMING ACROSS THE CLEARING!
NO WAY!
AND HERE COMES GRAN'MA! C'MON, GRAN'MA!
SHE'S GONNA OUT RUN THAT COW?! SHE'LL HAVE A HEART ATTACK!
HEY! DO YOU SEE THAT? THERE'S SOMETHING ON THE COW.
WHAT? WHERE?
--THERE'S SOMEONE RIDING THE COW!
OH, MY GOD! IT'S PHONEY BONE!


WHAT'S HE DOING?
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S HEADING STRAIGHT FOR US!
HE'S OUT OF CONTROL!
HOLY COW! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!!
SCREEECH!
MOO!
ZZZEEE
KABONG!
CRASH!
WHAT HAPPENED?!
JEEZ! YOUR GRAN'MA STOPPED TH' COW BY TH' TAIL!
MOO!

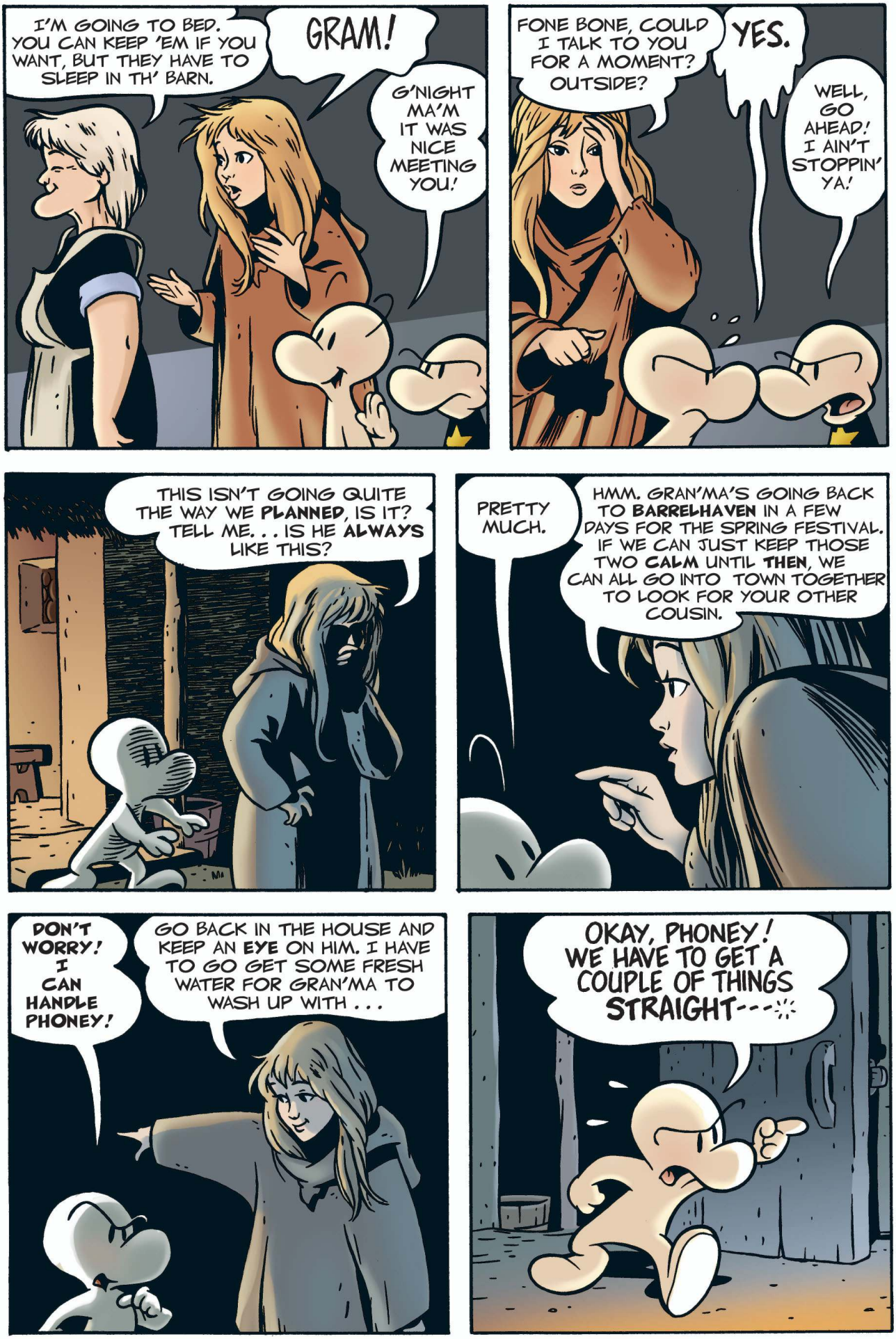

WHAT HAPPENED TO PHONEY?
-- UH, OH --
I THINK HE'S IN THE FIREPLACE!
I'M COMIN', PHONEY!
HURRY, GRAN'MA! HE'S STUCK IN THE FIREPLACE!
OH, MY GOODNESS! HE'LL RUIN TH' DINNER!
HANG ON! I'LL GET YOU OUT!
FONE BONE! SAVE ME! THAT CRAZY OLD LADY TRIED TO KILL ME!!
WELL, BLESS MY BUTTONS! WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE?
WATCH OUT! DON'T LET HER GET A HOLD OF YOU!
H-- H'LO, MA'M!
DO YOU LIKE COWS? I KNOW YOUR FRIEND DOESN'T.
I DON'T LIKE TO RIDE 'EM, YOU OL' BAT!
FONE BONE LOVES COWS!
SORRY, DEAR. YOU CAN'T KEEP HIM.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

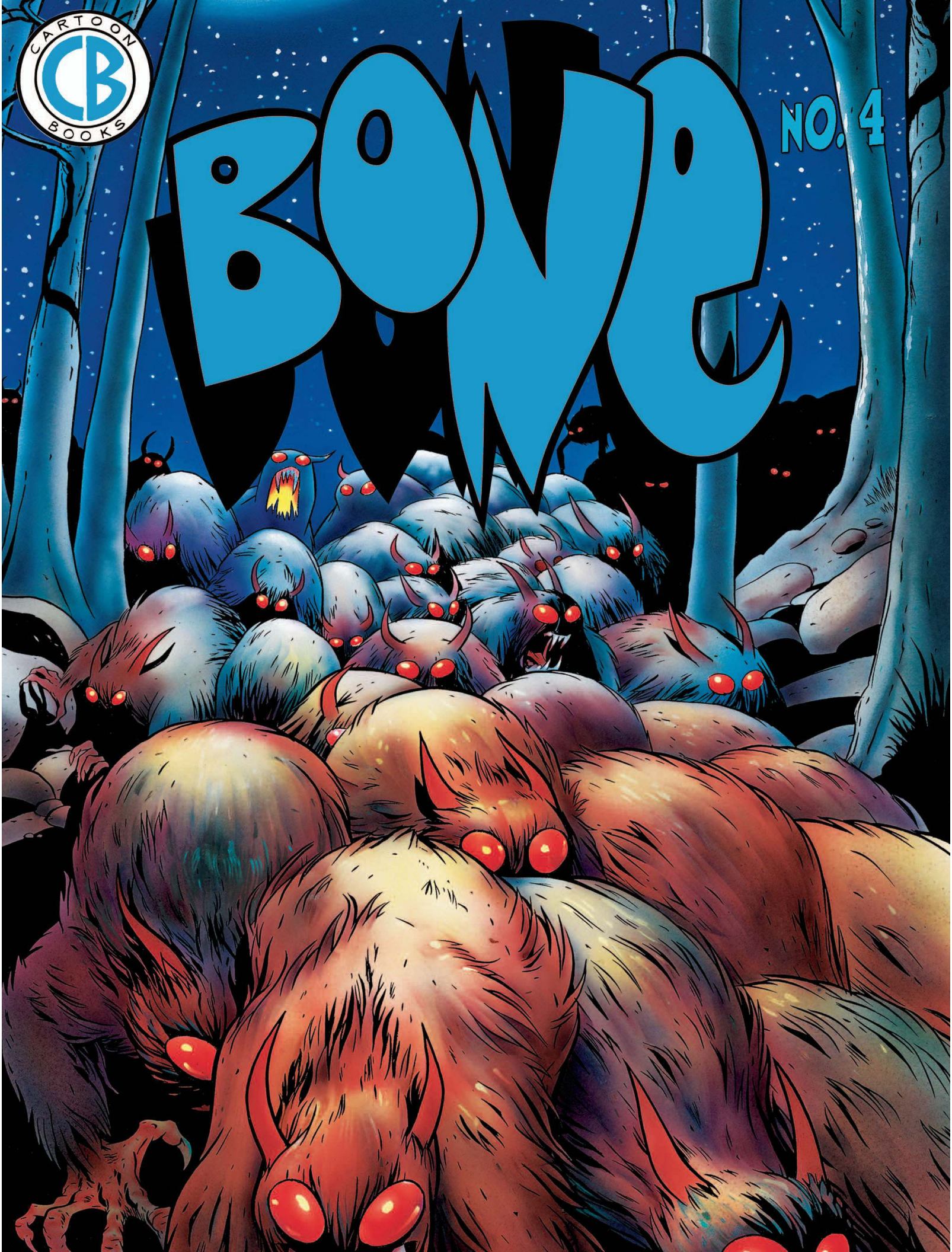


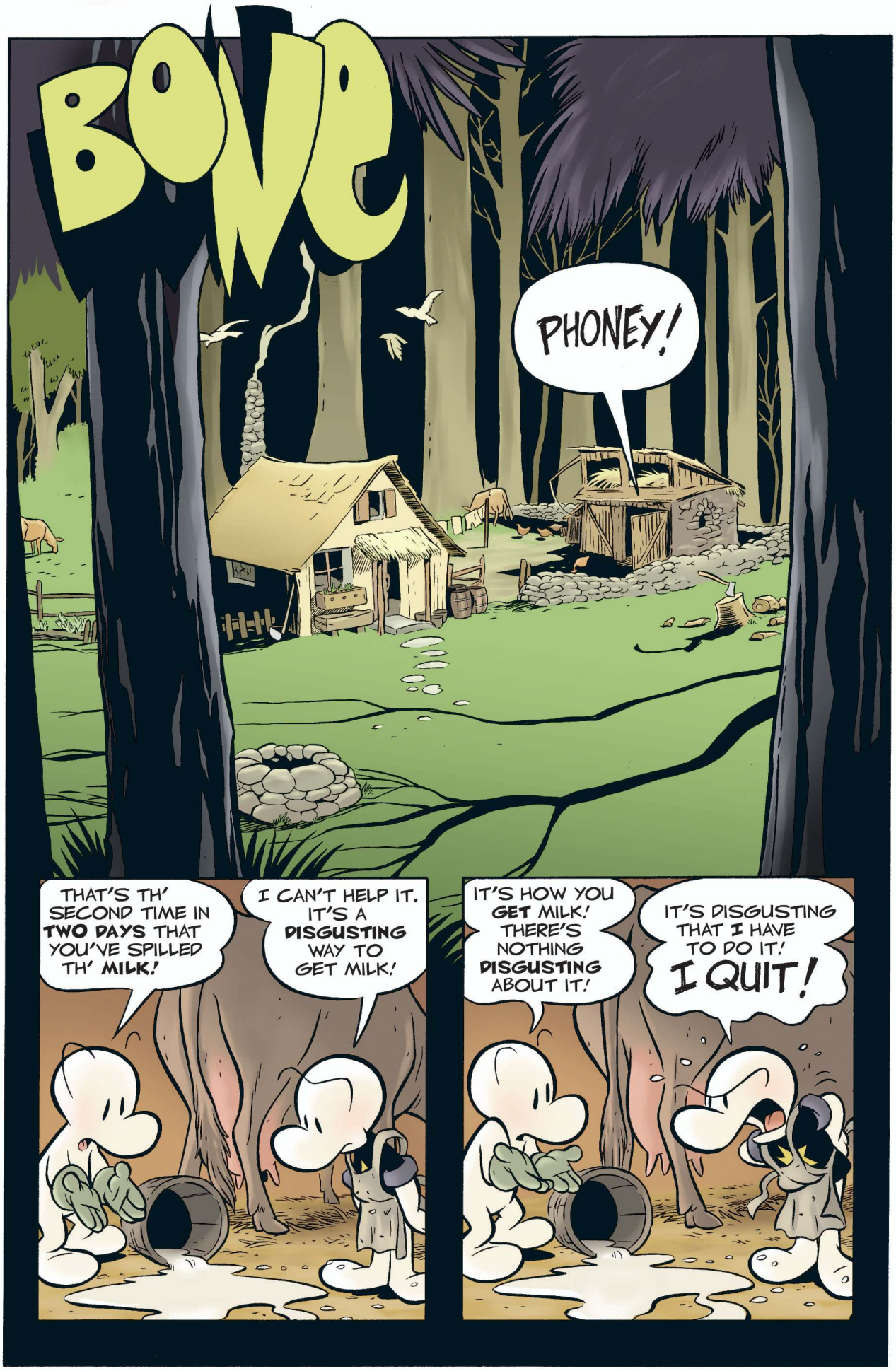
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

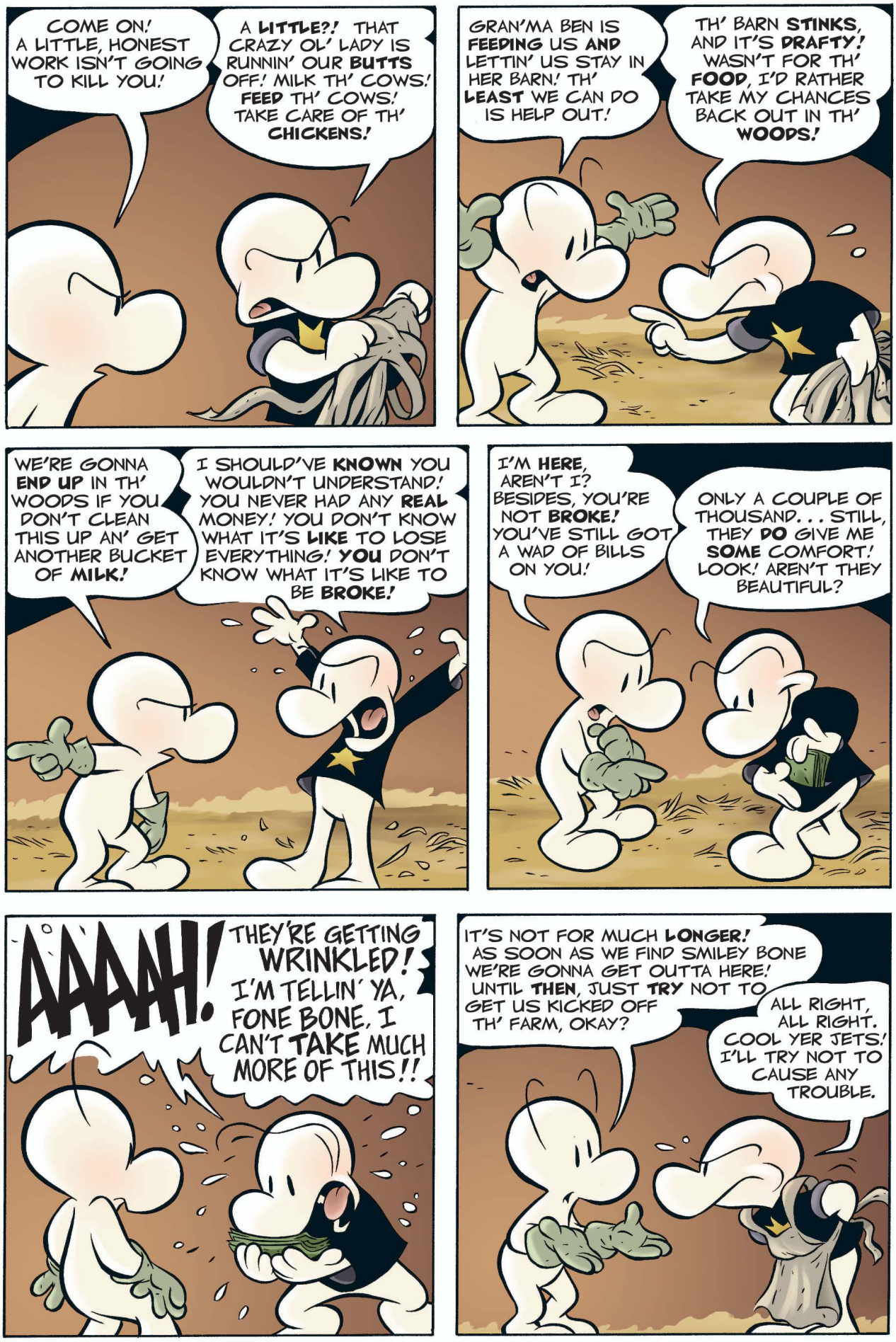

I'M GOING TO BED. YOU CAN KEEP 'EM IF YOU WANT, BUT THEY HAVE TO SLEEP IN TH' BARN.
GRAM!
G'NIGHT MA'M IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU!
FONE BONE, COULD I TALK TO YOU FOR A MOMENT? OUTSIDE?
YES.
WELL, GO AHEAD! I AIN'T STOPPIN' YA!
THIS ISN'T GOING QUITE THE WAY WE **PLANNED**, IS IT? TELL ME. . . IS HE **ALWAYS** LIKE THIS?
PRETTY MUCH.
HMM. GRAN'MA'S GOING BACK TO **BARRELHAVEN** IN A FEW DAYS FOR THE SPRING FESTIVAL. IF WE CAN JUST KEEP THOSE TWO **CALM** UNTIL **THEN**, WE CAN ALL GO INTO TOWN TOGETHER TO LOOK FOR YOUR OTHER COUSIN.
DON'T WORRY! I CAN HANDLE PHONEY!
GO BACK IN THE HOUSE AND KEEP AN **EYE** ON HIM. I HAVE TO GO GET SOME FRESH WATER FOR GRAN'MA TO WASH UP WITH . . .
OKAY, PHONEY! WE HAVE TO GET A COUPLE OF THINGS **STRAIGHT**---

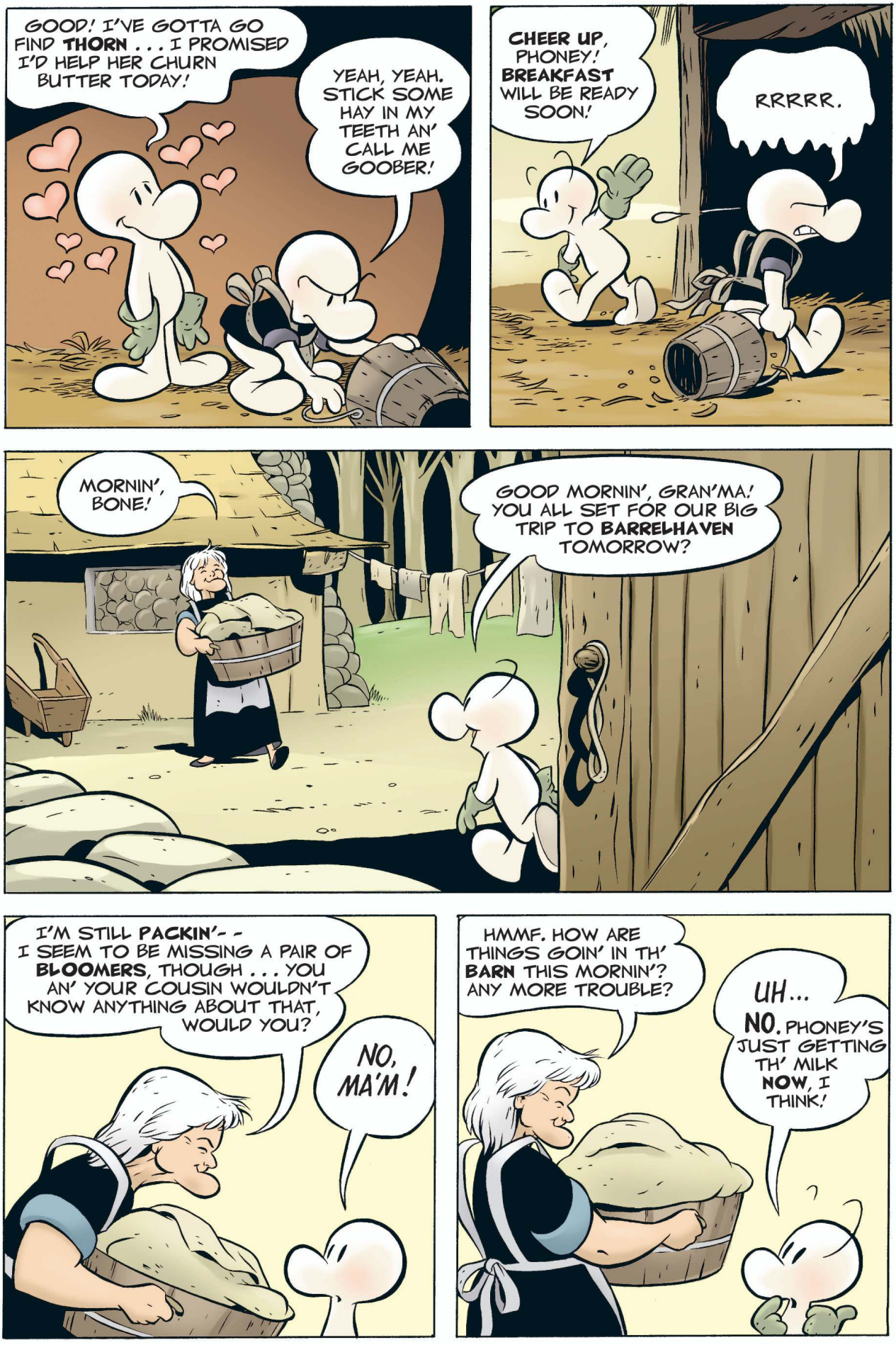


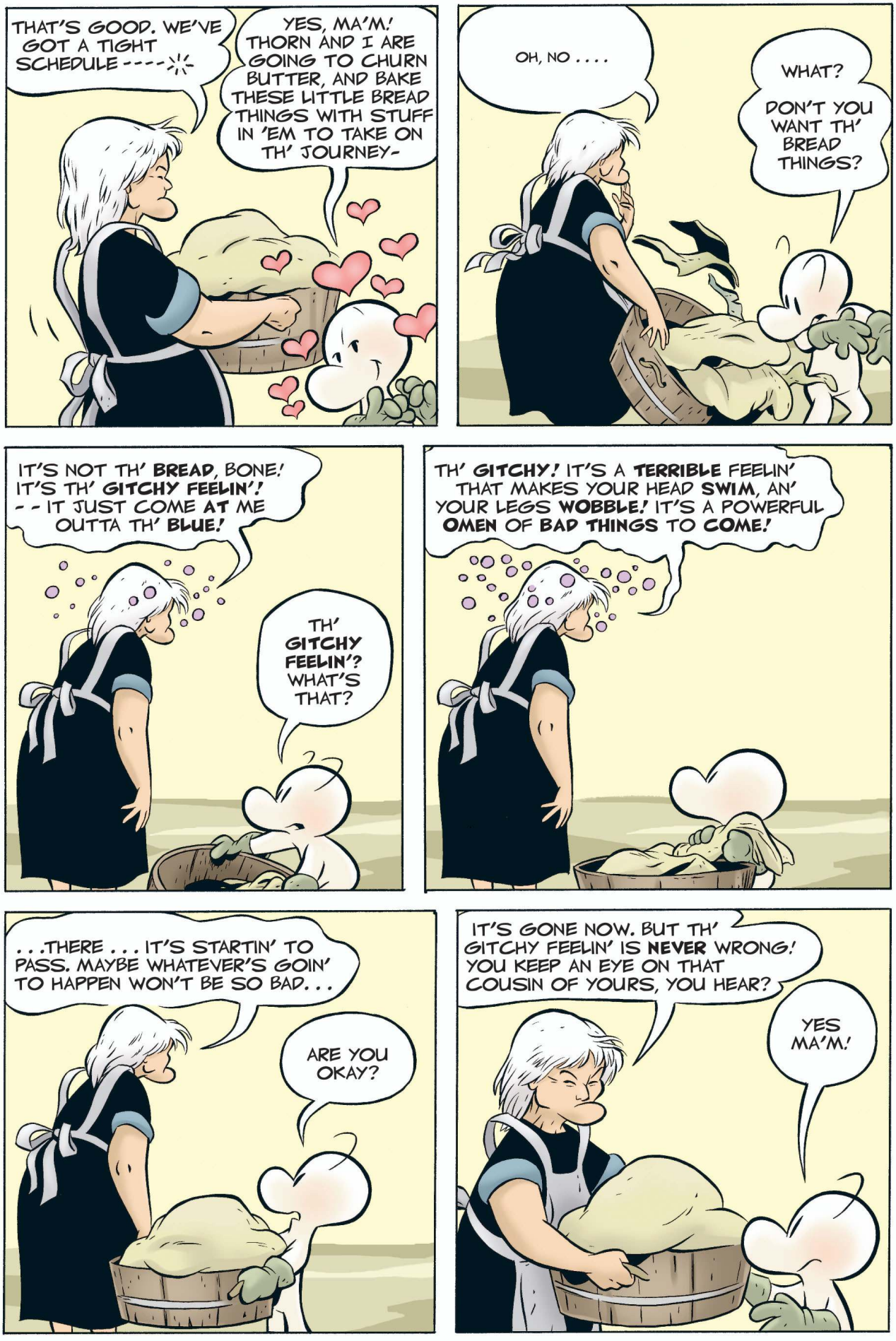
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

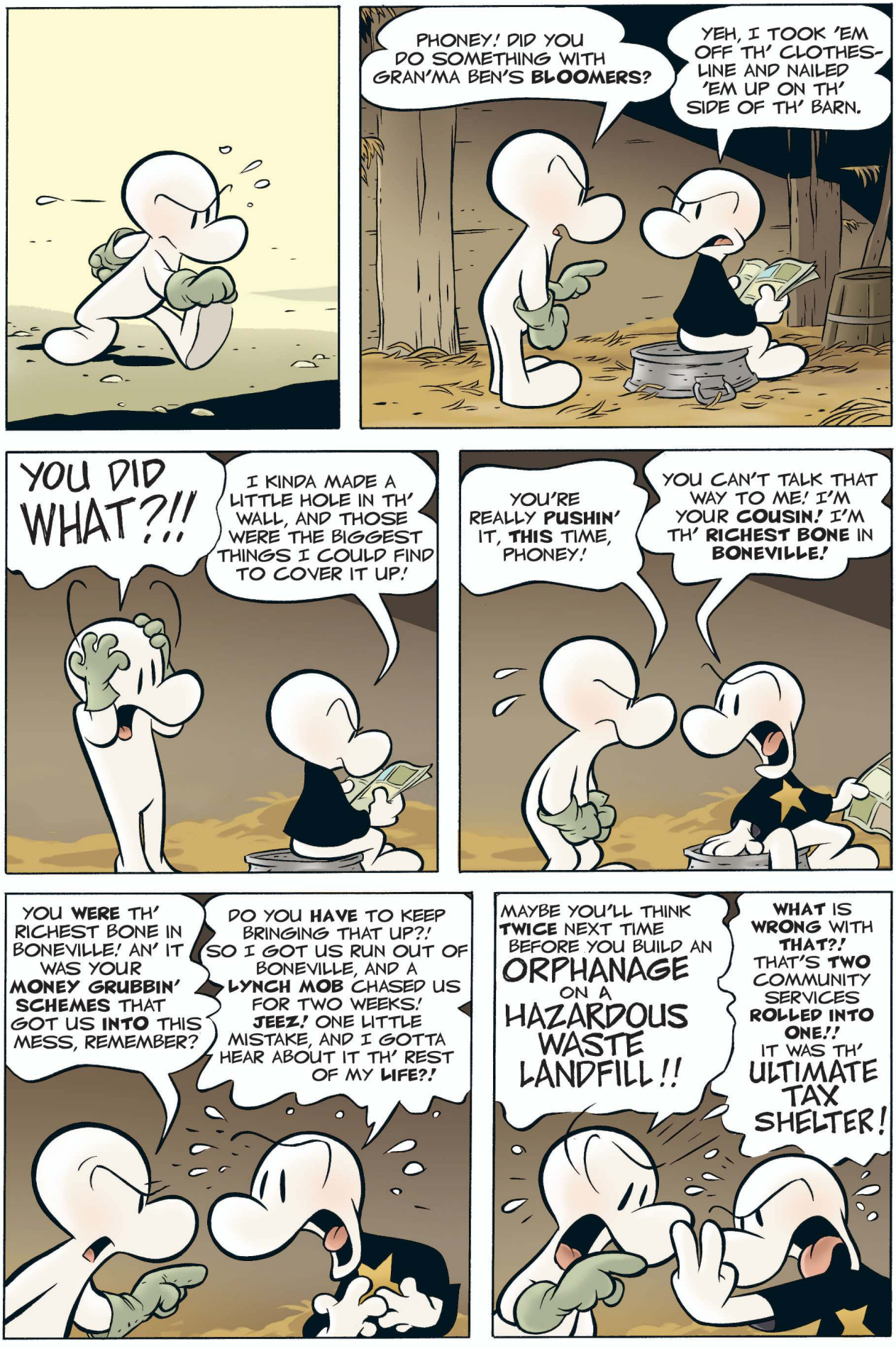

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
NO. 4

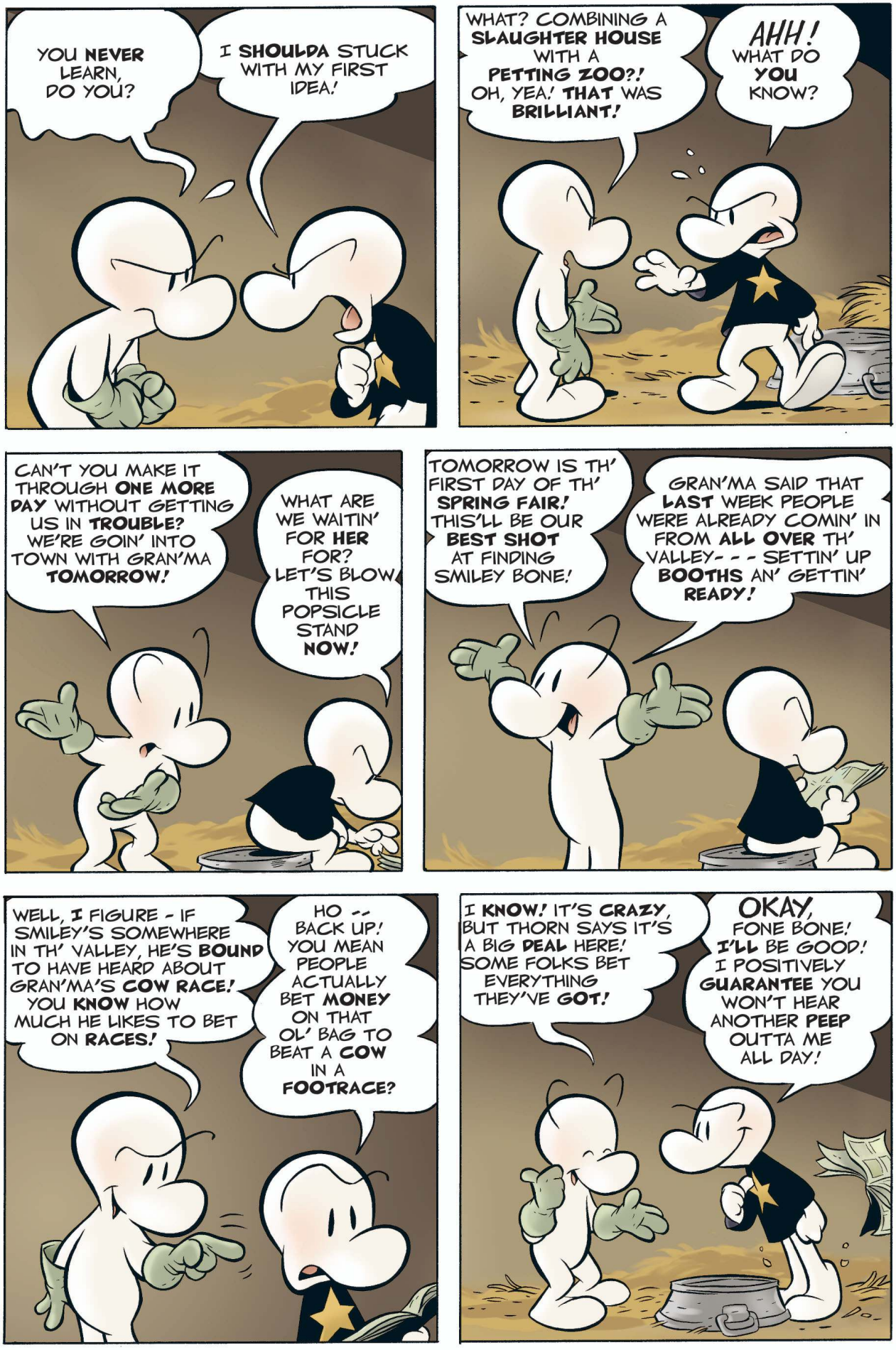

BONE
PHONEY!
THAT'S TH' SECOND TIME IN TWO DAYS THAT YOU'VE SPILLED TH' MILK!
I CAN'T HELP IT. IT'S A DISGUSTING WAY TO GET MILK!
IT'S HOW YOU GET MILK! THERE'S NOTHING DISGUSTING ABOUT IT!
IT'S DISGUSTING THAT I HAVE TO DO IT! I QUIT!

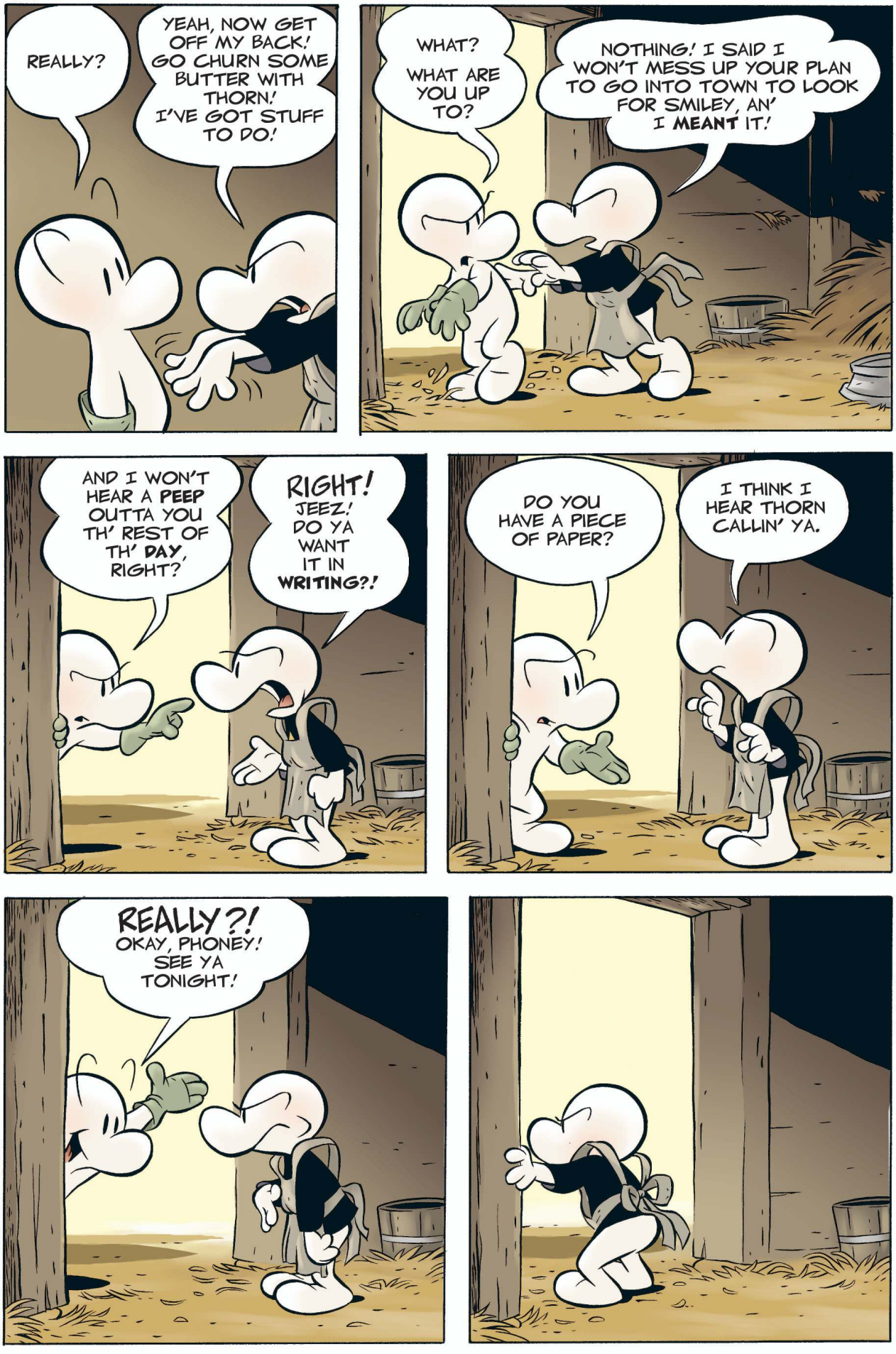

COME ON! A LITTLE, HONEST WORK ISN'T GOING TO KILL YOU!
A LITTLE?! THAT CRAZY OL' LADY IS RUNNIN' OUR BUTTS OFF! MILK TH' COWS! FEED TH' COWS! TAKE CARE OF TH' CHICKENS!
GRAN'MA BEN IS FEEDING US AND LETTIN' US STAY IN HER BARN! TH' LEAST WE CAN DO IS HELP OUT!
TH' BARN STINKS, AND IT'S DRAFTY! WASN'T FOR TH' FOOD, I'D RATHER TAKE MY CHANCES BACK OUT IN TH' WOODS!
WE'RE GONNA END UP IN TH' WOODS IF YOU DON'T CLEAN THIS UP AN' GET ANOTHER BUCKET OF MILK!
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND! YOU NEVER HAD ANY REAL MONEY! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE EVERYTHING! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE BROKE!
I'M HERE, AREN'T I? BESIDES, YOU'RE NOT BROKE! YOU'VE STILL GOT A WAD OF BILLS ON YOU!
ONLY A COUPLE OF THOUSAND... STILL, THEY DO GIVE ME SOME COMFORT! LOOK! AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL?
AAAAH!
THEY'RE GETTING WRINKLED! I'M TELLIN' YA, FONE BONE, I CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS!!
IT'S NOT FOR MUCH LONGER! AS SOON AS WE FIND SMILEY BONE WE'RE GONNA GET OUTTA HERE! UNTIL THEN, JUST TRY NOT TO GET US KICKED OFF TH' FARM, OKAY?
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. COOL YER JETS! I'LL TRY NOT TO CAUSE ANY TROUBLE.

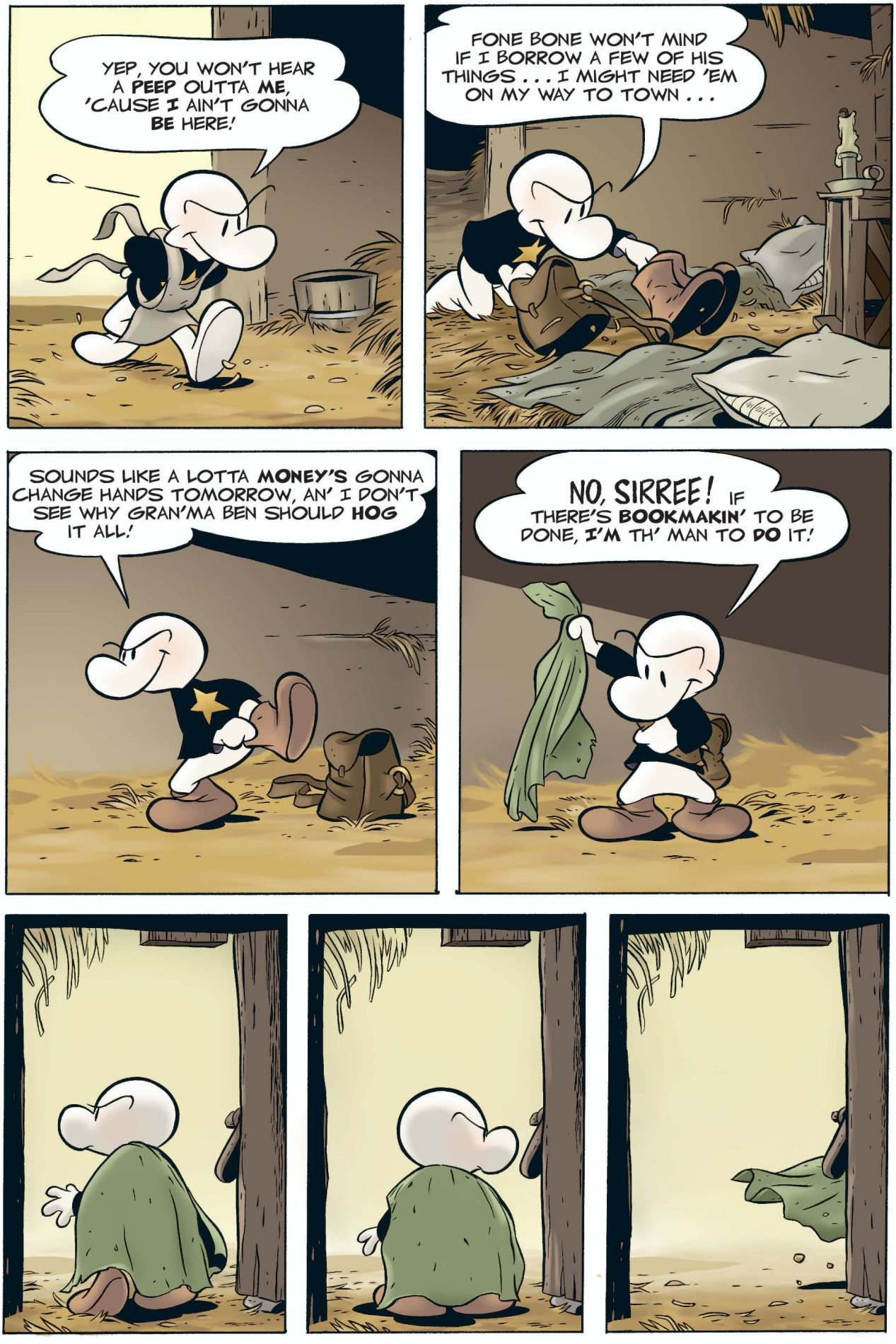

GOOD! I'VE GOTTA GO FIND **THORN** . . . I PROMISED I'D HELP HER CHURN BUTTER TODAY!
YEAH, YEAH. STICK SOME HAY IN MY TEETH AN' CALL ME GOOBER!
CHEER UP, PHONEY! **BREAKFAST** WILL BE READY SOON!
RRRRR.
MORNIN', BONE!
GOOD MORNIN', GRAN'MA! YOU ALL SET FOR OUR BIG TRIP TO **BARRELHAVEN** TOMORROW?
I'M STILL **PACKIN'**- - I SEEM TO BE MISSING A PAIR OF **BLOOMERS**, THOUGH . . . YOU AN' YOUR COUSIN WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, WOULD YOU?
NO, MA'M!
HMMF. HOW ARE THINGS GOIN' IN TH' **BARN** THIS MORNIN'? ANY MORE TROUBLE?
UH...
NO. PHONEY'S JUST GETTING TH' MILK **NOW**, I THINK!

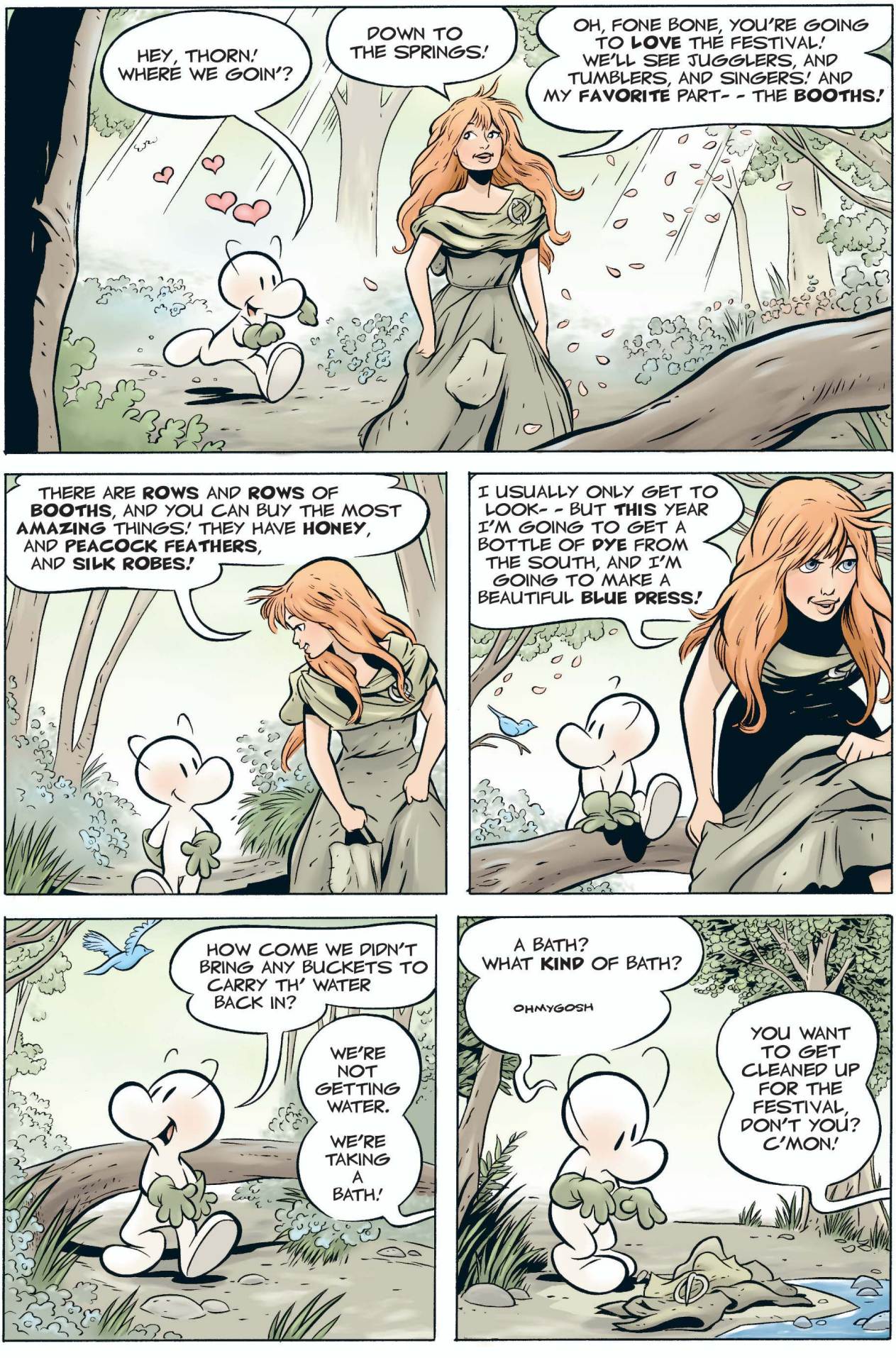

THAT'S GOOD. WE'VE GOT A TIGHT SCHEDULE----
YES, MA'M.! THORN AND I ARE GOING TO CHURN BUTTER, AND BAKE THESE LITTLE BREAD THINGS WITH STUFF IN 'EM TO TAKE ON TH' JOURNEY-
OH, NO....
WHAT? DON'T YOU WANT TH' BREAD THINGS?
IT'S NOT TH' BREAD, BONE! IT'S TH' GITCHY FEELIN'! - - IT JUST COME AT ME OUTTA TH' BLUE!
TH' GITCHY FEELIN'? WHAT'S THAT?
TH' GITCHY! IT'S A TERRIBLE FEELIN' THAT MAKES YOUR HEAD SWIM, AN' YOUR LEGS WOBBLE! IT'S A POWERFUL OMEN OF BAD THINGS TO COME!
...THERE... IT'S STARTIN' TO PASS. MAYBE WHATEVER'S GOIN' TO HAPPEN WON'T BE SO BAD...
ARE YOU OKAY?
IT'S GONE NOW. BUT TH' GITCHY FEELIN' IS NEVER WRONG! YOU KEEP AN EYE ON THAT COUSIN OF YOURS, YOU HEAR?
YES MA'M.!

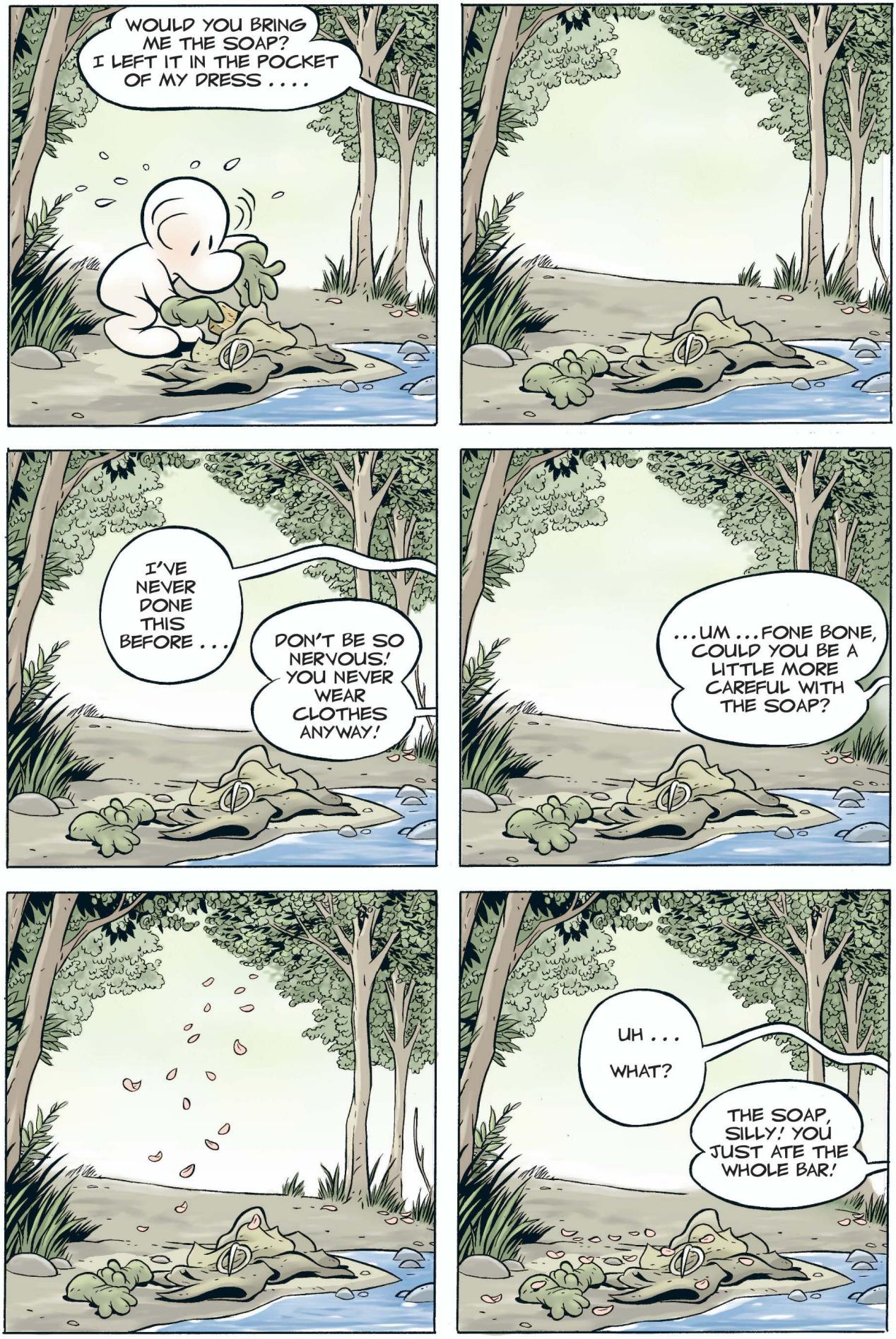

PHONEY! DID YOU DO SOMETHING WITH GRAN'MA BEN'S BLOOMERS?
YEH, I TOOK 'EM OFF TH' CLOTHES-LINE AND NAILED 'EM UP ON TH' SIDE OF TH' BARN.
YOU DID WHAT?!!
I KINDA MADE A LITTLE HOLE IN TH' WALL, AND THOSE WERE THE BIGGEST THINGS I COULD FIND TO COVER IT UP!
YOU'RE REALLY PUSHIN' IT, THIS TIME, PHONEY!
YOU CAN'T TALK THAT WAY TO ME! I'M YOUR COUSIN! I'M TH' RICHEST BONE IN BONEVILLE!
YOU WERE TH' RICHEST BONE IN BONEVILLE! AN' IT WAS YOUR MONEY GRUBBIN' SCHEMES THAT GOT US INTO THIS MESS, REMEMBER?
DO YOU HAVE TO KEEP BRINGING THAT UP?! SO I GOT US RUN OUT OF BONEVILLE, AND A LYNCH MOB CHASED US FOR TWO WEEKS! JEEZ! ONE LITTLE MISTAKE, AND I GOTTA HEAR ABOUT IT TH' REST OF MY LIFE?!
MAYBE YOU'LL THINK TWICE NEXT TIME BEFORE YOU BUILD AN ORPHANAGE ON A HAZARDOUS WASTE LANDFILL!!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH THAT?! THAT'S TWO COMMUNITY SERVICES ROLLED INTO ONE!! IT WAS TH' ULTIMATE TAX SHELTER!

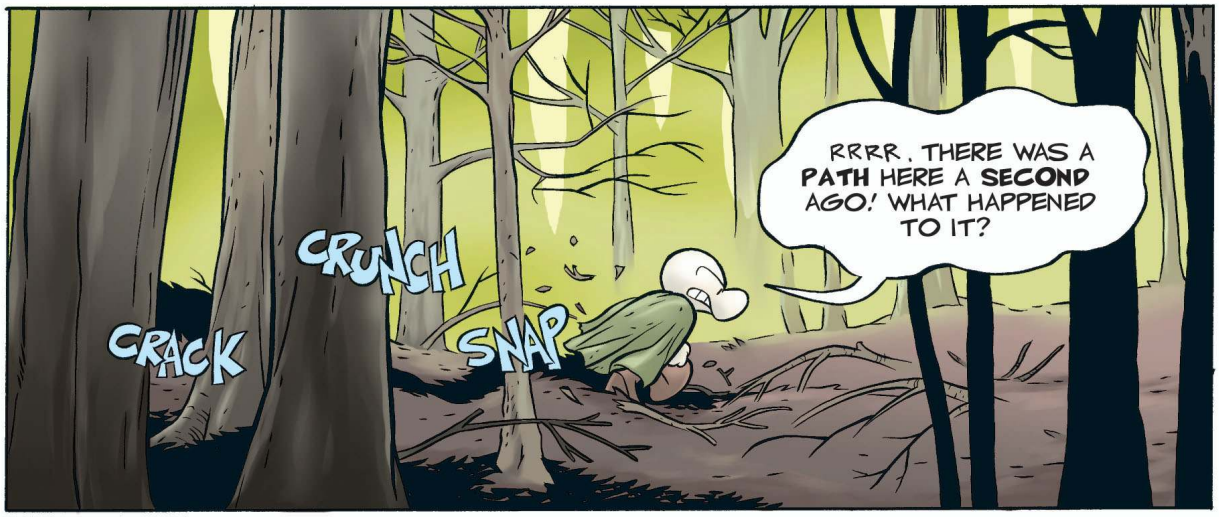

YOU NEVER LEARN, DO YOU?
I SHOULDA STUCK WITH MY FIRST IDEA!
WHAT? COMBINING A SLAUGHTER HOUSE WITH A PETTING ZOO?! OH, YEA! THAT WAS BRILLIANT!
AHH! WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
CAN'T YOU MAKE IT THROUGH ONE MORE DAY WITHOUT GETTING US IN TROUBLE? WE'RE GOIN' INTO TOWN WITH GRAN'MA TOMORROW!
WHAT ARE WE WAITIN' FOR HER FOR? LET'S BLOW THIS POPSICLE STAND NOW!
TOMORROW IS TH' FIRST DAY OF TH' SPRING FAIR! THIS'LL BE OUR BEST SHOT AT FINDING SMILEY BONE!
GRAN'MA SAID THAT LAST WEEK PEOPLE WERE ALREADY COMIN' IN FROM ALL OVER TH' VALLEY- - - SETTIN' UP BOOTHS AN' GETTIN' READY!
WELL, I FIGURE - IF SMILEY'S SOMEWHERE IN TH' VALLEY, HE'S BOUND TO HAVE HEARD ABOUT GRAN'MA'S COW RACE! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH HE LIKES TO BET ON RACES!
HO -- BACK UP! YOU MEAN PEOPLE ACTUALLY BET MONEY ON THAT OL' BAG TO BEAT A COW IN A FOOTRACE?
I KNOW! IT'S CRAZY, BUT THORN SAYS IT'S A BIG DEAL HERE! SOME FOLKS BET EVERYTHING THEY'VE GOT!
OKAY, FONE BONE! I'LL BE GOOD! I POSITIVELY GUARANTEE YOU WON'T HEAR ANOTHER PEEP OUTTA ME ALL DAY!


REALLY?
YEAH, NOW GET OFF MY BACK! GO CHURN SOME BUTTER WITH THORN! I'VE GOT STUFF TO DO!
WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
NOTHING! I SAID I WON'T MESS UP YOUR PLAN TO GO INTO TOWN TO LOOK FOR SMILEY, AN' I MEANT IT!
AND I WON'T HEAR A PEEP OUTTA YOU TH' REST OF TH' DAY, RIGHT?
RIGHT! JEEZ! DO YA WANT IT IN WRITING?!
DO YOU HAVE A PIECE OF PAPER?
I THINK I HEAR THORN CALLIN' YA.
REALLY?! OKAY, PHONEY! SEE YA TONIGHT!


YEP, YOU WON'T HEAR A PEEP OUTTA ME, 'CAUSE I AIN'T GONNA BE HERE!
FONE BONE WON'T MIND IF I BORROW A FEW OF HIS THINGS . . . I MIGHT NEED 'EM ON MY WAY TO TOWN . . .
SOUNDS LIKE A LOTTA MONEY'S GONNA CHANGE HANDS TOMORROW, AN' I DON'T SEE WHY GRAN'MA BEN SHOULD HOG IT ALL!
NO, SIRREE! IF THERE'S BOOKMAKIN' TO BE DONE, I'M TH' MAN TO DO IT!


HEY, THORN! WHERE WE GOIN'?
DOWN TO THE SPRINGS!
OH, FONE BONE, YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THE FESTIVAL! WE'LL SEE JUGGLERS, AND TUMBLERS, AND SINGERS! AND MY FAVORITE PART- - THE BOOTHS!
THERE ARE ROWS AND ROWS OF BOOTHS, AND YOU CAN BUY THE MOST AMAZING THINGS! THEY HAVE HONEY, AND PEACOCK FEATHERS, AND SILK ROBES!
I USUALLY ONLY GET TO LOOK- - BUT THIS YEAR I'M GOING TO GET A BOTTLE OF DYE FROM THE SOUTH, AND I'M GOING TO MAKE A BEAUTIFUL BLUE DRESS!
HOW COME WE DIDN'T BRING ANY BUCKETS TO CARRY TH' WATER BACK IN?
WE'RE NOT GETTING WATER.
WE'RE TAKING A BATH!
A BATH? WHAT KIND OF BATH?
OHMYGOSH
YOU WANT TO GET CLEANED UP FOR THE FESTIVAL, DON'T YOU? C'MON!


WOULD YOU BRING ME THE SOAP? I LEFT IT IN THE POCKET OF MY DRESS . . . .
I'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE . . .
DON'T BE SO NERVOUS! YOU NEVER WEAR CLOTHES ANYWAY!
. . . UM . . . FONE BONE, COULD YOU BE A LITTLE MORE CAREFUL WITH THE SOAP?
UH . . .
WHAT?
THE SOAP, SILLY! YOU JUST ATE THE WHOLE BAR!



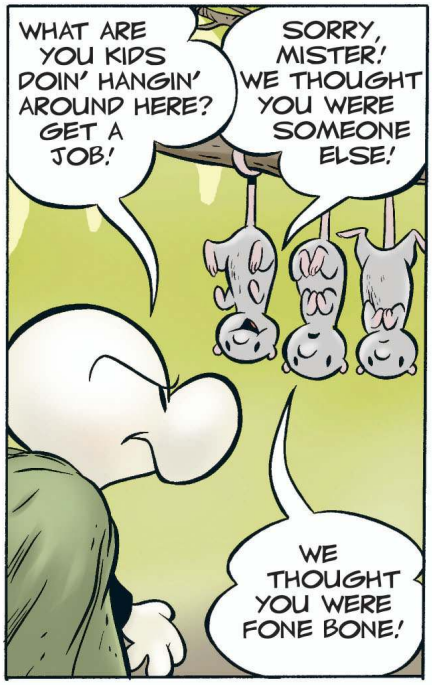




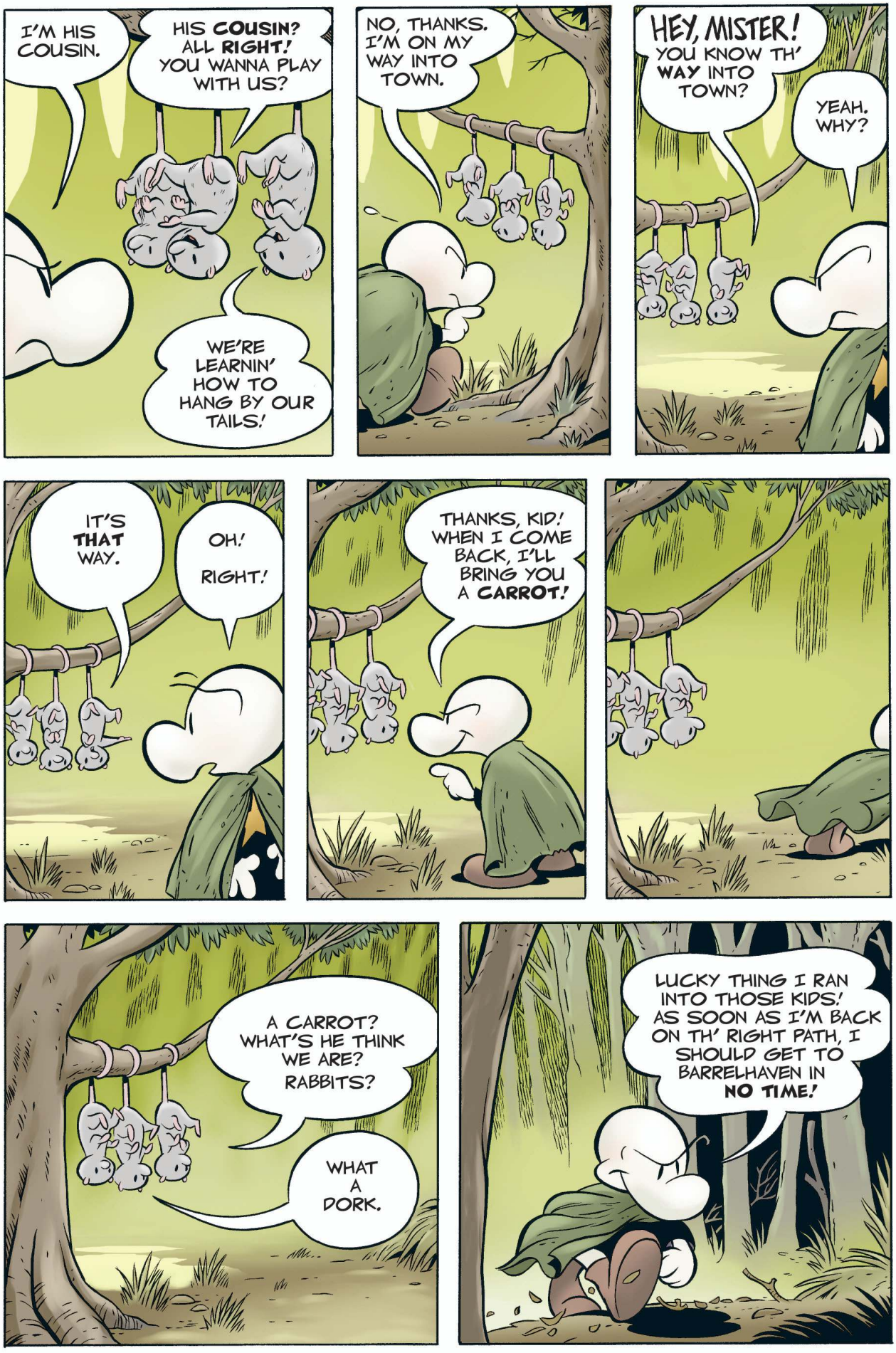


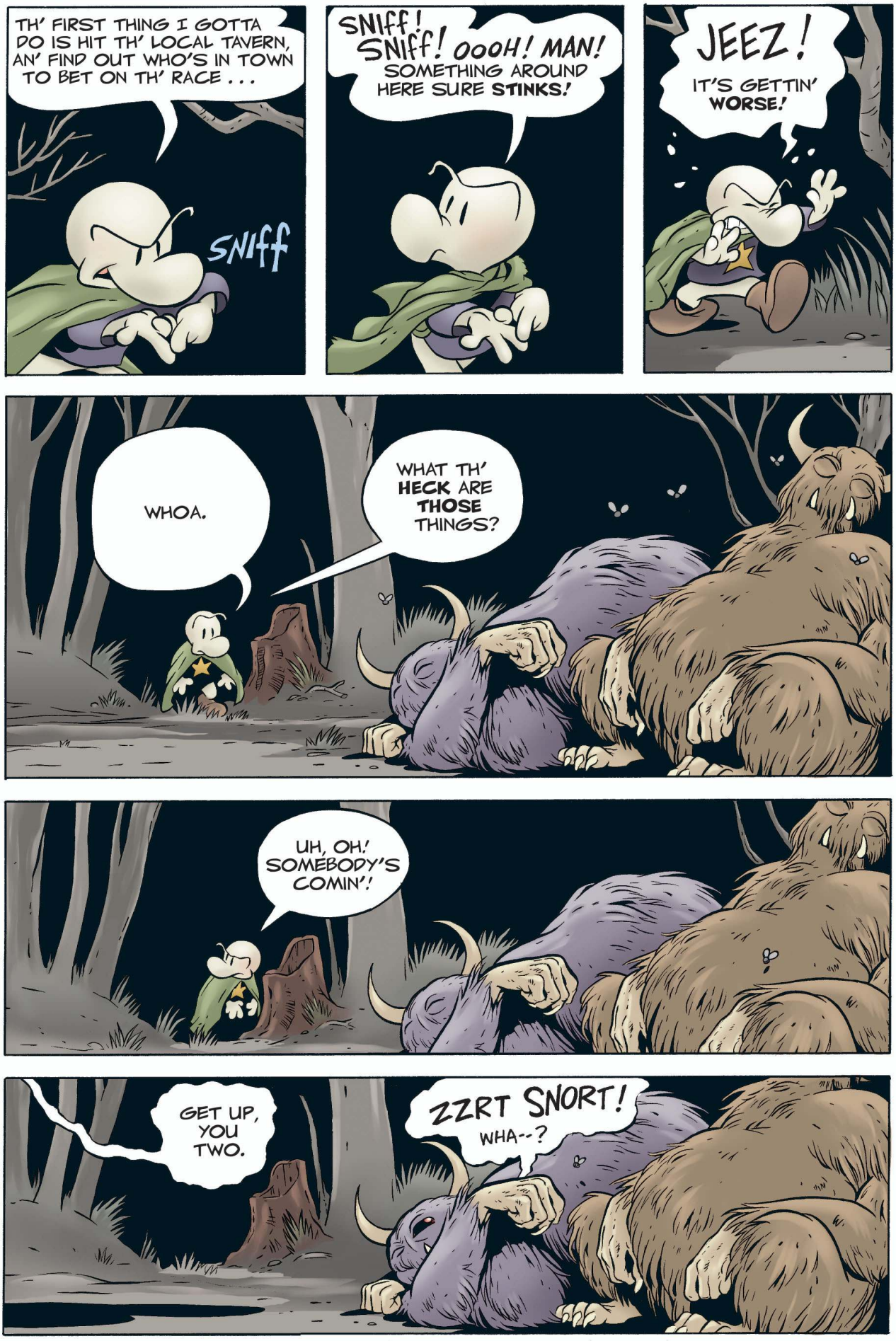




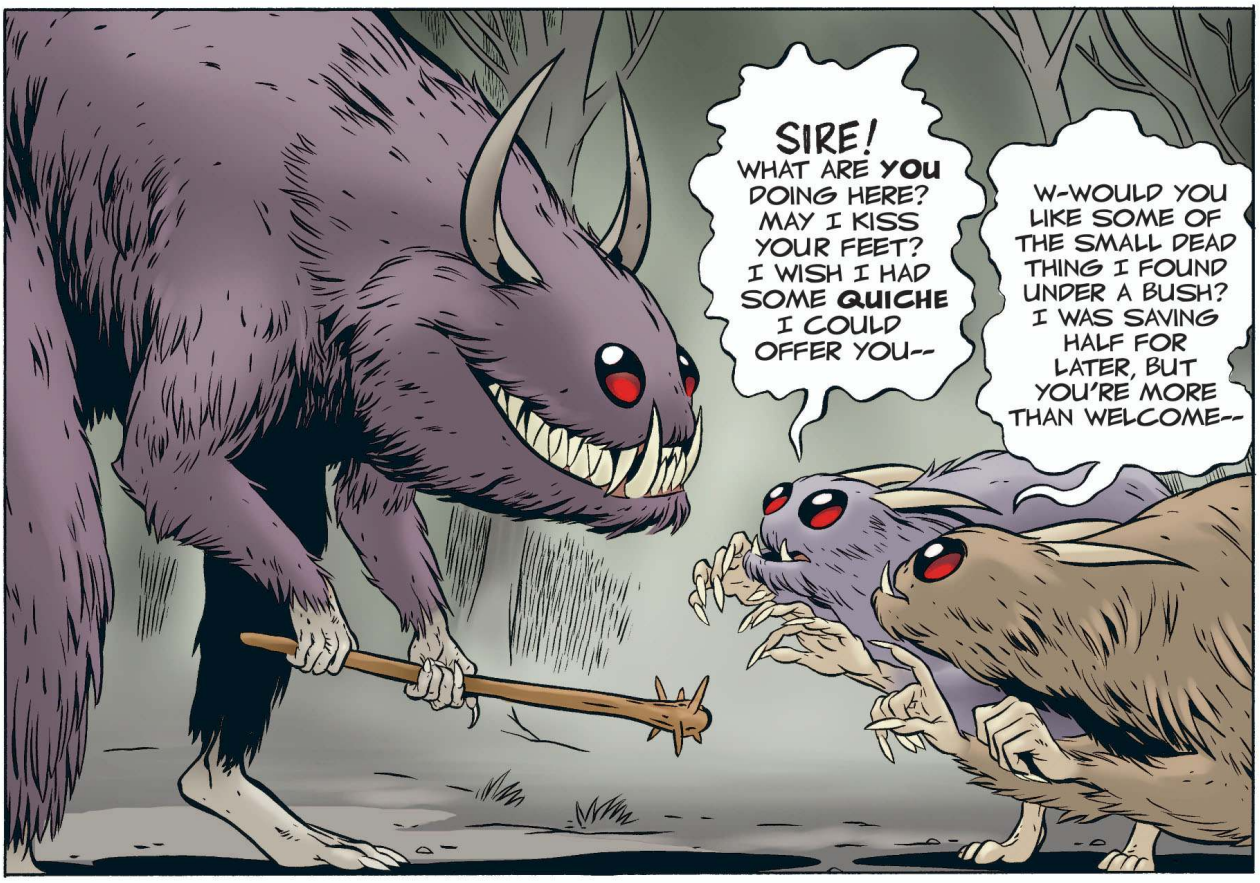


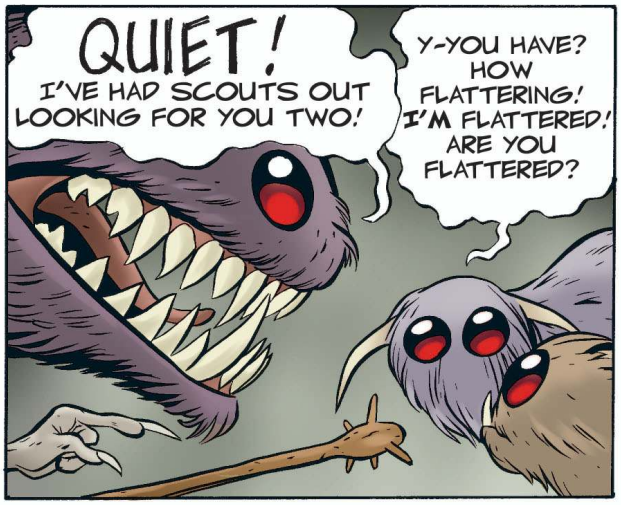
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

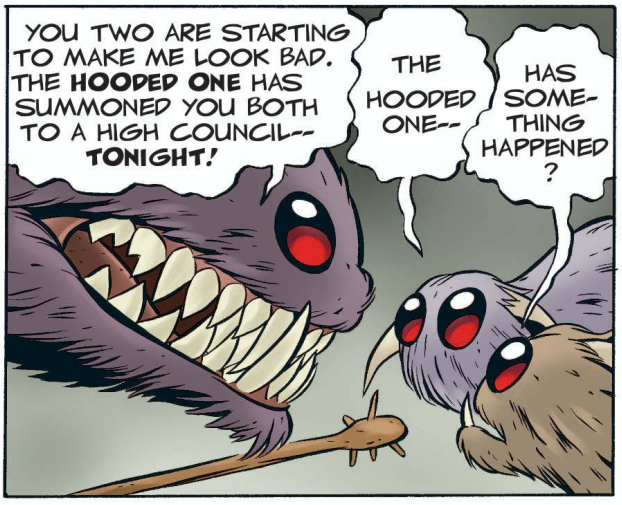

I'M HIS COUSIN.
HIS COUSIN? ALL RIGHT! YOU WANNA PLAY WITH US?
WE'RE LEARNIN' HOW TO HANG BY OUR TAILS!
NO, THANKS. I'M ON MY WAY INTO TOWN.
HEY, MISTER! YOU KNOW TH' WAY INTO TOWN?
YEAH. WHY?
IT'S THAT WAY.
OH! RIGHT!
THANKS, KID! WHEN I COME BACK, I'LL BRING YOU A CARROT!
A CARROT? WHAT'S HE THINK WE ARE? RABBITS?
WHAT A DORK.
LUCKY THING I RAN INTO THOSE KIDS! AS SOON AS I'M BACK ON TH' RIGHT PATH, I SHOULD GET TO BARRELHAVEN IN NO TIME!


TH' FIRST THING I GOTTA DO IS HIT TH' LOCAL TAVERN, AN' FIND OUT WHO'S IN TOWN TO BET ON TH' RACE . . .
SNIFF
SNIFF! SNIFF! OOOH! MAN! SOMETHING AROUND HERE SURE STINKS!
JEEZ! IT'S GETTIN' WORSE!
WHOA.
WHAT TH' HECK ARE THOSE THINGS?
UH, OH! SOMEBODY'S COMIN'!
GET UP, YOU TWO.
ZZRT SNORT!
WHA--?

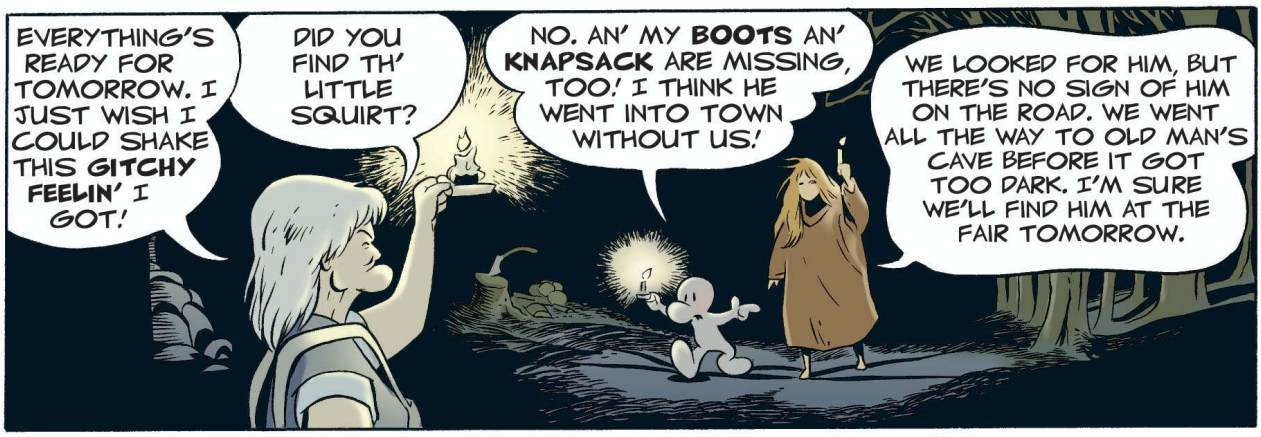

GET UP BEFORE I CRUSH YOUR HEADS.
KINGDOK!
KINGDOK?


SIRE! WHAT ARE **YOU** DOING HERE? MAY I KISS YOUR FEET? I WISH I HAD SOME **QUICHE** I COULD OFFER YOU--
W-WOULD YOU LIKE SOME OF THE SMALL DEAD THING I FOUND UNDER A BUSH? I WAS SAVING HALF FOR LATER, BUT YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME--

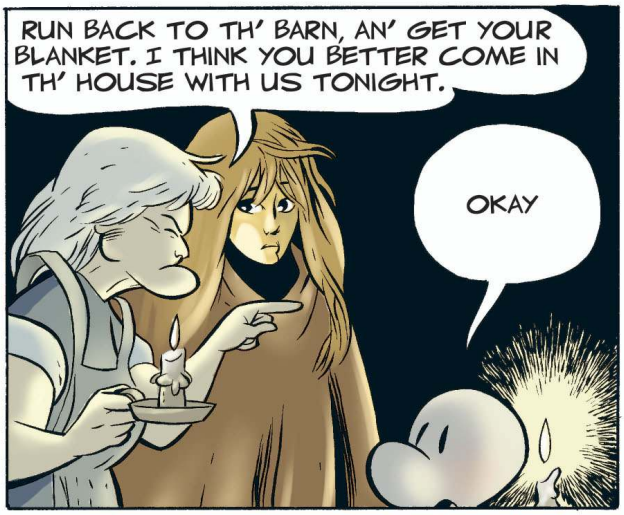

QUIET! I'VE HAD SCOUTS OUT LOOKING FOR YOU TWO!
Y-YOU HAVE? HOW FLATTERING! **I'M** FLATTERED! ARE YOU FLATTERED?


YOU TWO ARE STARTING TO MAKE ME LOOK BAD. THE **HOODED ONE** HAS SUMMONED YOU BOTH TO A HIGH COUNCIL-- **TONIGHT!**
THE HOODED ONE--
HAS SOME-THING HAPPENED ?


HE HAS RECEIVED WORD THAT THE ONE WE SEEK-- THE SMALL, BALD CREATURE WITH THE **STAR** ON IT'S CHEST-- HAS BEEN SEEN IN THE VALLEY!
HE **HAS**?! BUT-- BUT--
HE WAS LAST SEEN IN **YOUR** TERRITORY!
COME WITH ME!
YES, SIRE! RIGHT AWAY!

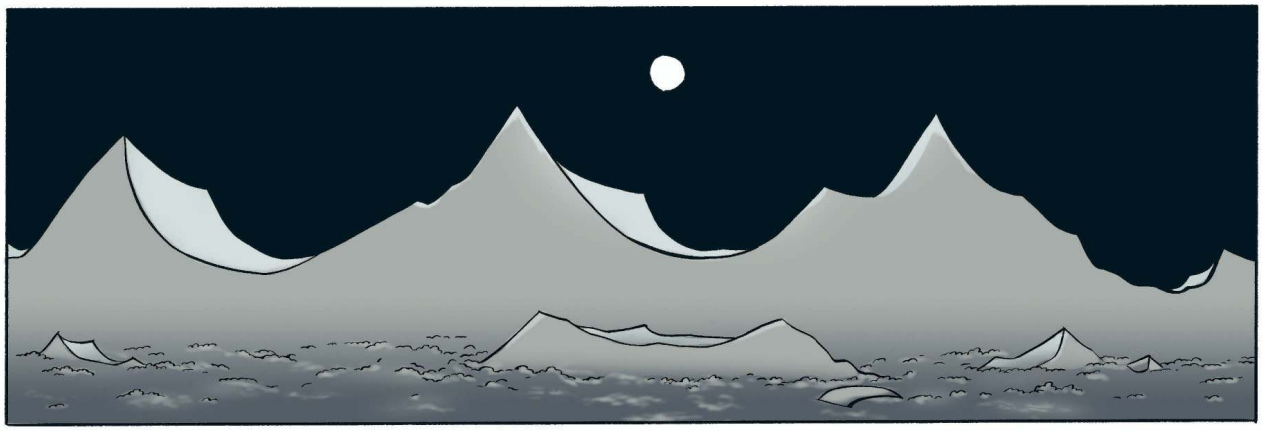

EVERYTHING'S READY FOR TOMORROW. I JUST WISH I COULD SHAKE THIS **GITCHY FEELIN'** I GOT!
DID YOU FIND TH' LITTLE SQUIRT?
NO. AN' MY **BOOTS** AN' **KNAPSACK** ARE MISSING, TOO! I THINK HE WENT INTO TOWN WITHOUT US!
WE LOOKED FOR HIM, BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF HIM ON THE ROAD. WE WENT ALL THE WAY TO OLD MAN'S CAVE BEFORE IT GOT TOO DARK. I'M SURE WE'LL FIND HIM AT THE FAIR TOMORROW.


HMM. I DON'T LIKE IT. AN' THERE'S A BAD MOON OUT TONIGHT, TOO.


RUN BACK TO TH' BARN, AN' GET YOUR BLANKET. I THINK YOU BETTER COME IN TH' HOUSE WITH US TONIGHT.
OKAY





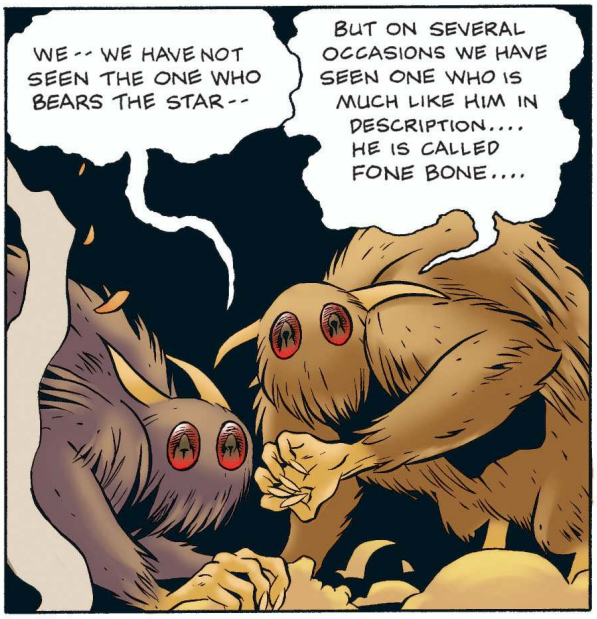




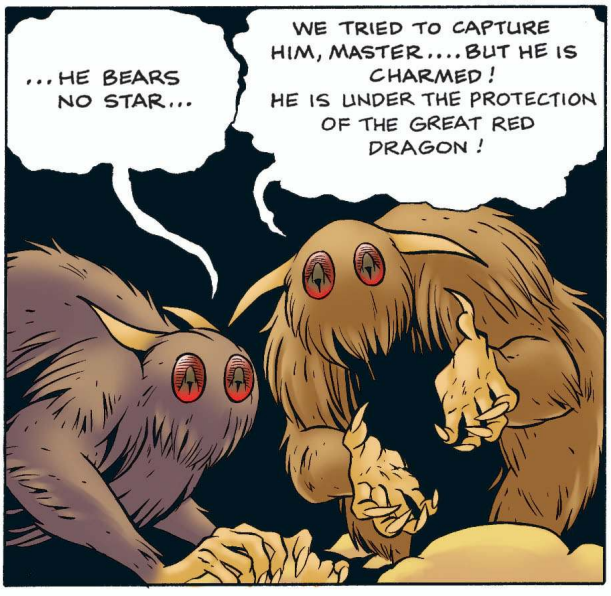


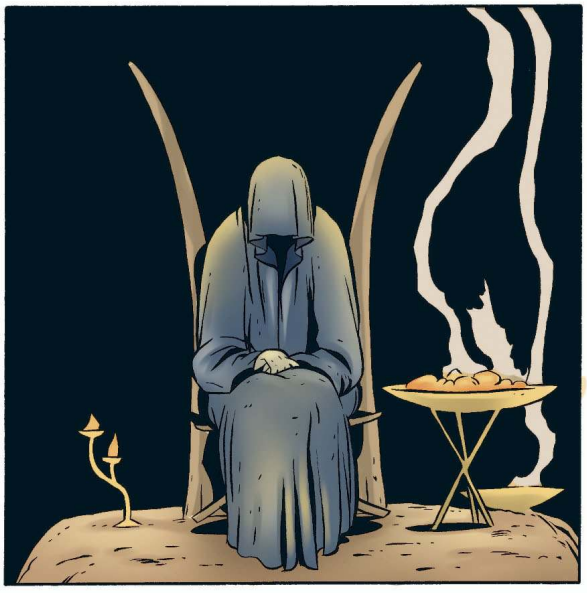




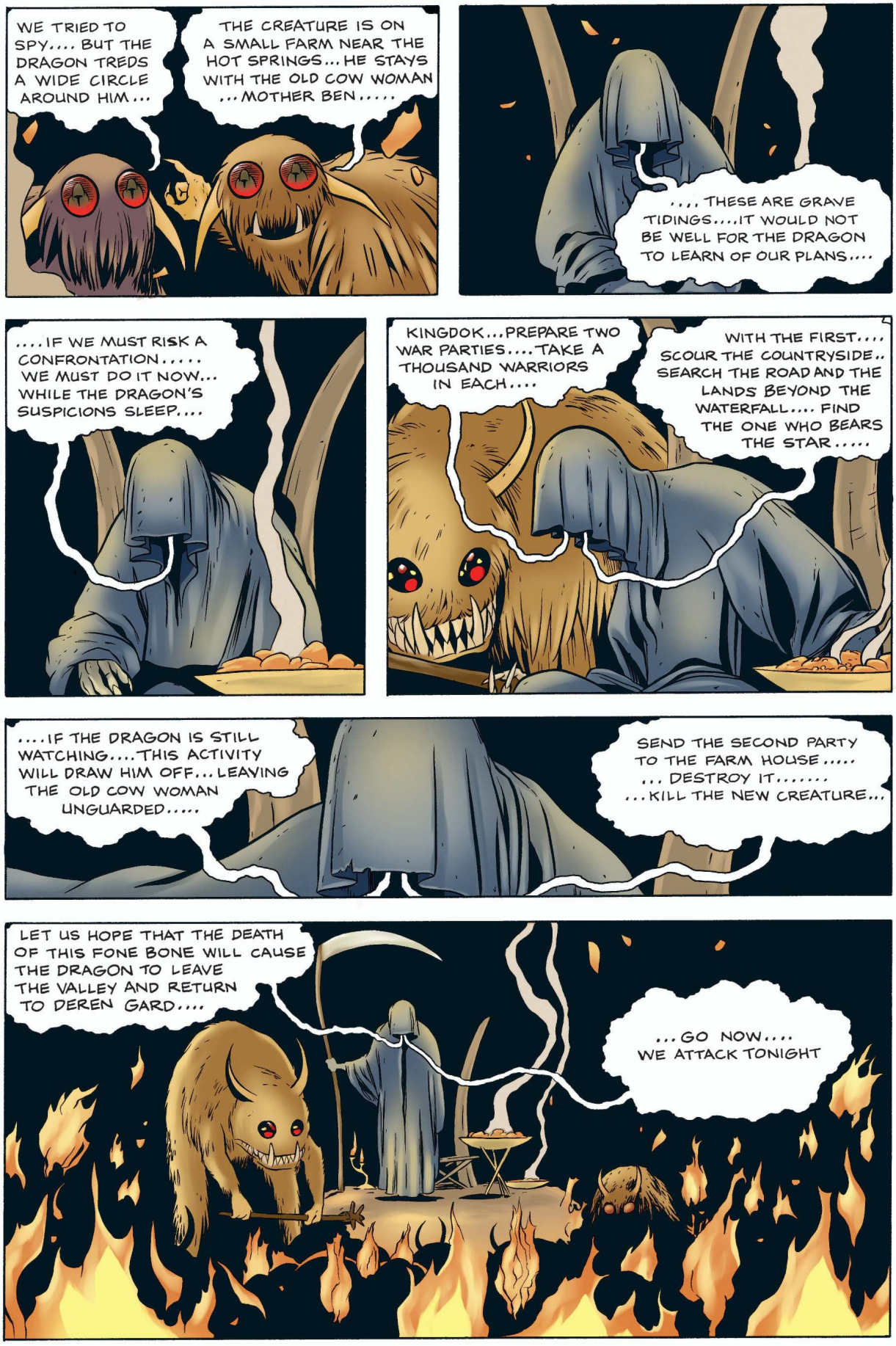






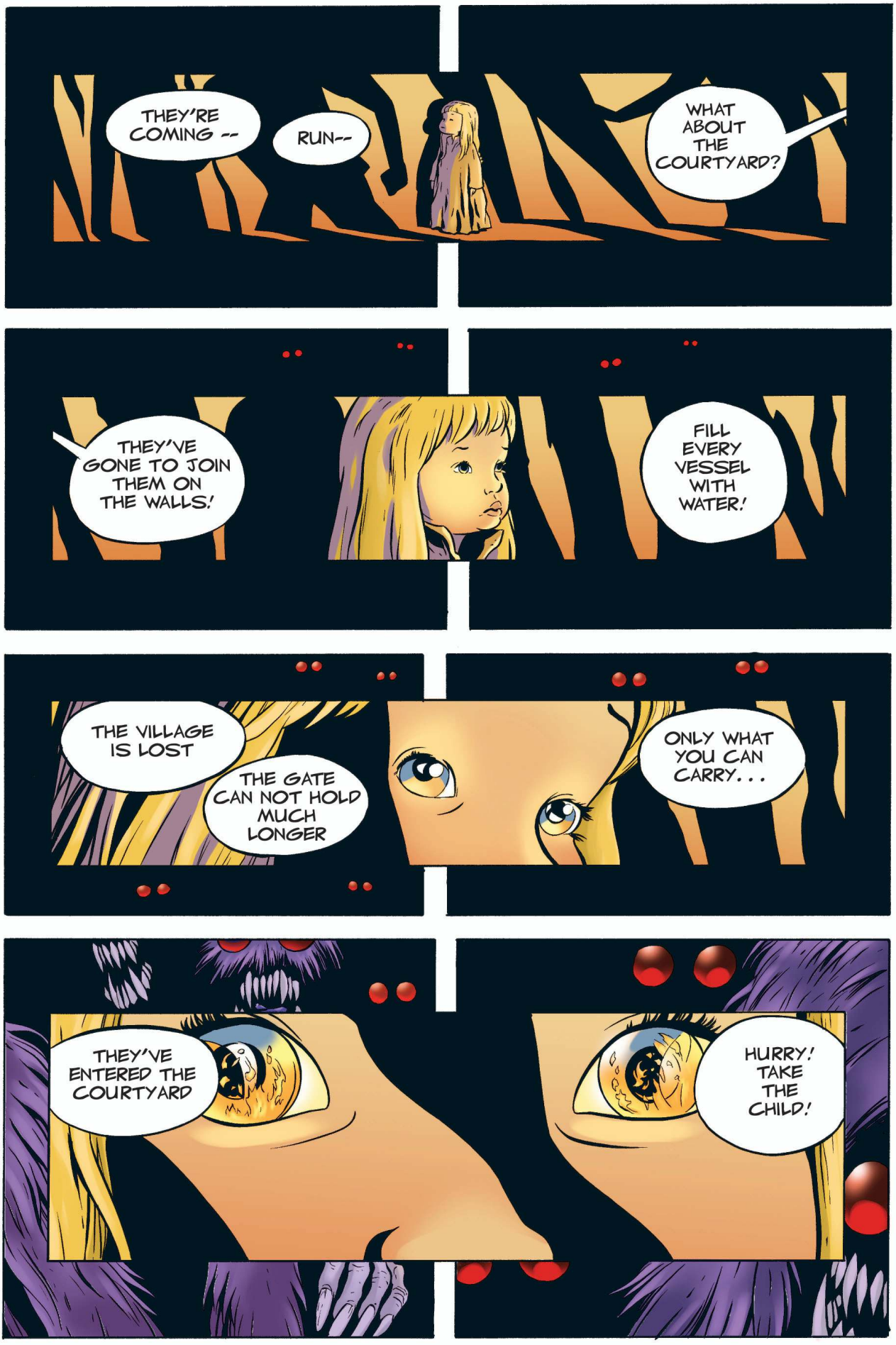


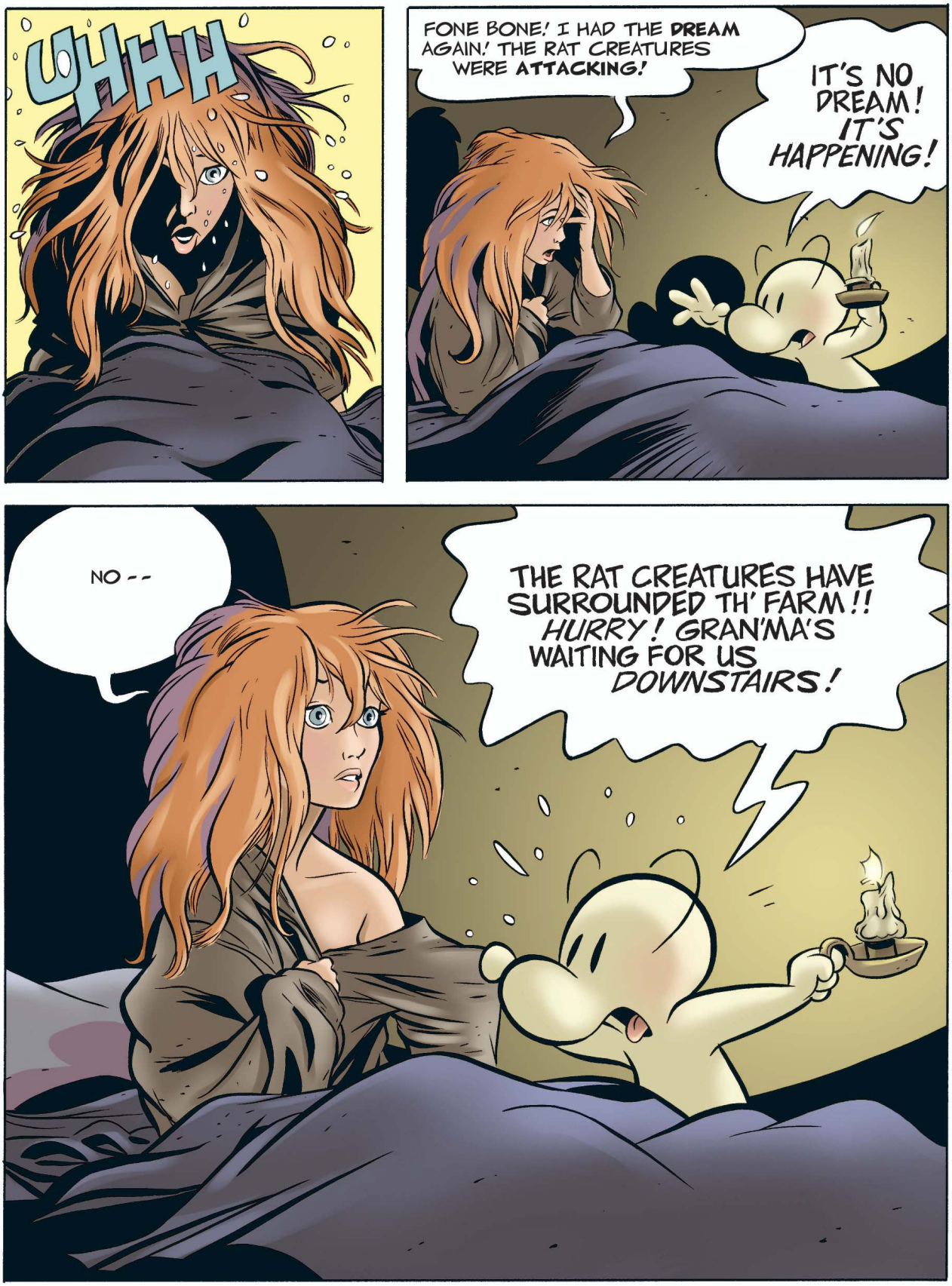
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


SNICK SKRITCH
SKITTER
SKITTER

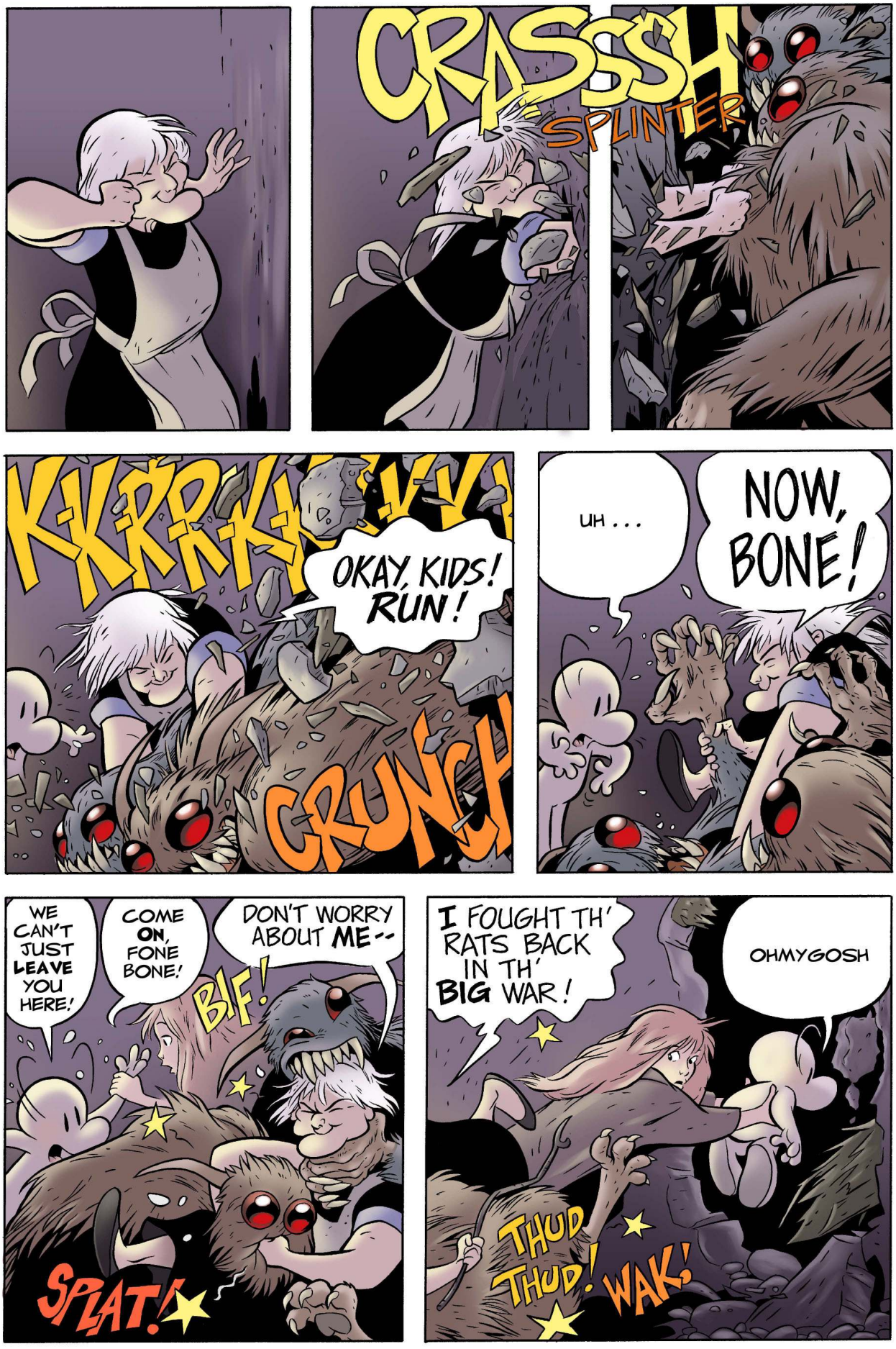

THEY'RE COMING --
RUN--
WHAT ABOUT THE COURTYARD?
THEY'VE GONE TO JOIN THEM ON THE WALLS!
FILL EVERY VESSEL WITH WATER!
THE VILLAGE IS LOST
THE GATE CAN NOT HOLD MUCH LONGER
ONLY WHAT YOU CAN CARRY...
THEY'VE ENTERED THE COURTYARD
HURRY! TAKE THE CHILD!


UHHH
FONE BONE! I HAD THE DREAM AGAIN! THE RAT CREATURES WERE ATTACKING!
IT'S NO DREAM! IT'S HAPPENING!
NO--
THE RAT CREATURES HAVE SURROUNDED TH' FARM!! HURRY! GRAN'MA'S WAITING FOR US DOWNSTAIRS!


CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
NO. 5

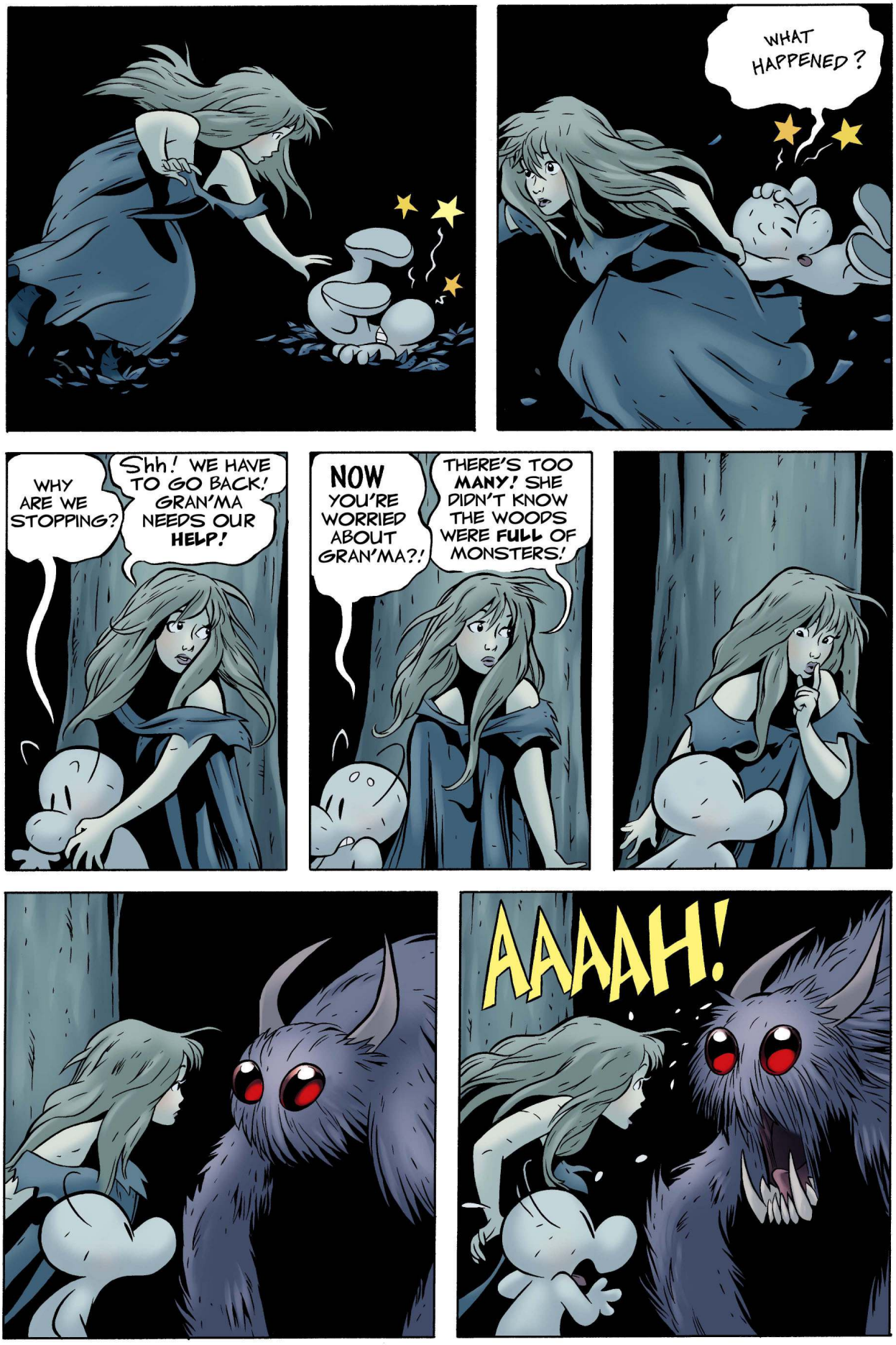

BONE
GRAN'MA?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHERE ARE THEY?
THEY'VE SURROUNDED THE HOUSE . . . HURRY DOWN HERE!
DO YOU THINK IT'S SAFE TO HAVE ALL THESE LIGHTS BURNIN'? MAYBE WE SHOULD DOUSE 'EM!
NO. TH' LIGHTS ARE KEEPIN' TH' MONSTERS BACK!
IF IT WAS DARK IN HERE, AN' THE RAT CREATURES THOUGHT WE WERE ASLEEP- - WE'D BE DEAD RIGHT NOW.


HOW MANY ARE THERE?
DON'T KNOW . . . HERE, BONE. HOLD THIS!
OH, MAN!
I CAN HEAR 'EM MOVIN' AROUND OUT THERE!
THORN, DEAR . . . BRING ME A POKER FROM THE FIREPLACE - - AND YOU BETTER PUT SOME SHOES ON . . .
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN, GRAN'MA?
I HAVE AN IDEA THAT MIGHT WORK.
OKAY, CHILDREN! LISTEN CLOSELY! THIS IS WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO. . .
- - WHEN I SAY RUN . . . . . YOU RUN! GOT THAT?
WHAT?!
THAT'S YOUR PLAN? RUN WHERE?
READY?
HERE WE GO!


CRASSSH
SPLINTER
K-K-R-R-K-K-V-V-
OKAY, KIDS! RUN!
CRUNCH
UH . . .
NOW, BONE!
WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU HERE!
COME ON, FONE BONE!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME--
BIF!
SPLAT!
I FOUGHT TH' RATS BACK IN TH' BIG WAR!
OHMYGOSH
THUD THUD!
WAK!


OHMYGOSH
OHMYGOSH


GET UP! GET UP!


WHAT HAPPENED?
WHY ARE WE STOPPING?
Shh! WE HAVE TO GO BACK! GRAN'MA NEEDS OUR HELP!
NOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT GRAN'MA?!
THERE'S TOO MANY! SHE DIDN'T KNOW THE WOODS WERE FULL OF MONSTERS!
AAAAH!


BONK!
HEY!
I'M SORRY! IT WAS A REFLEX!
RUN FASTER!
ME?!

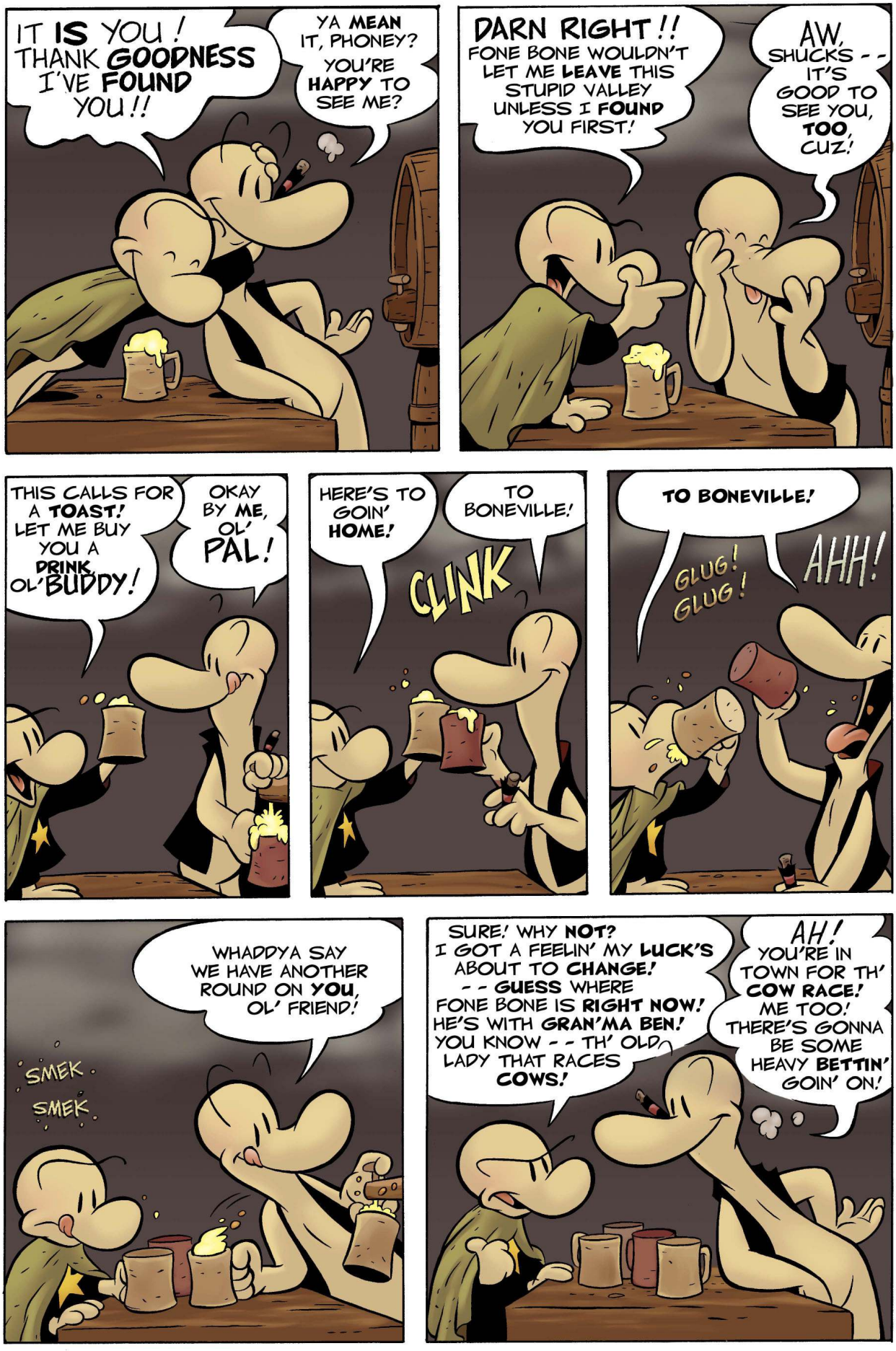


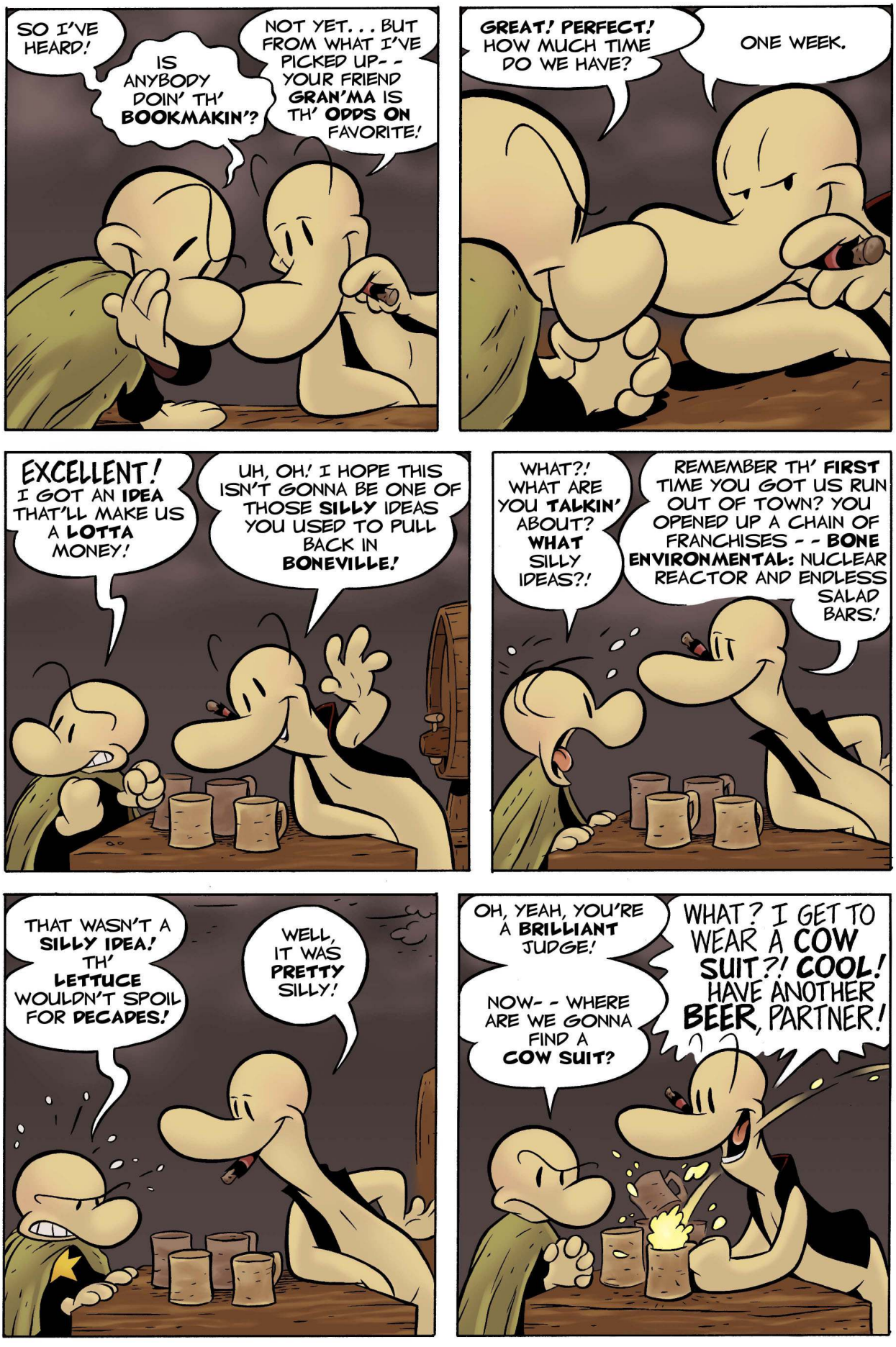
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

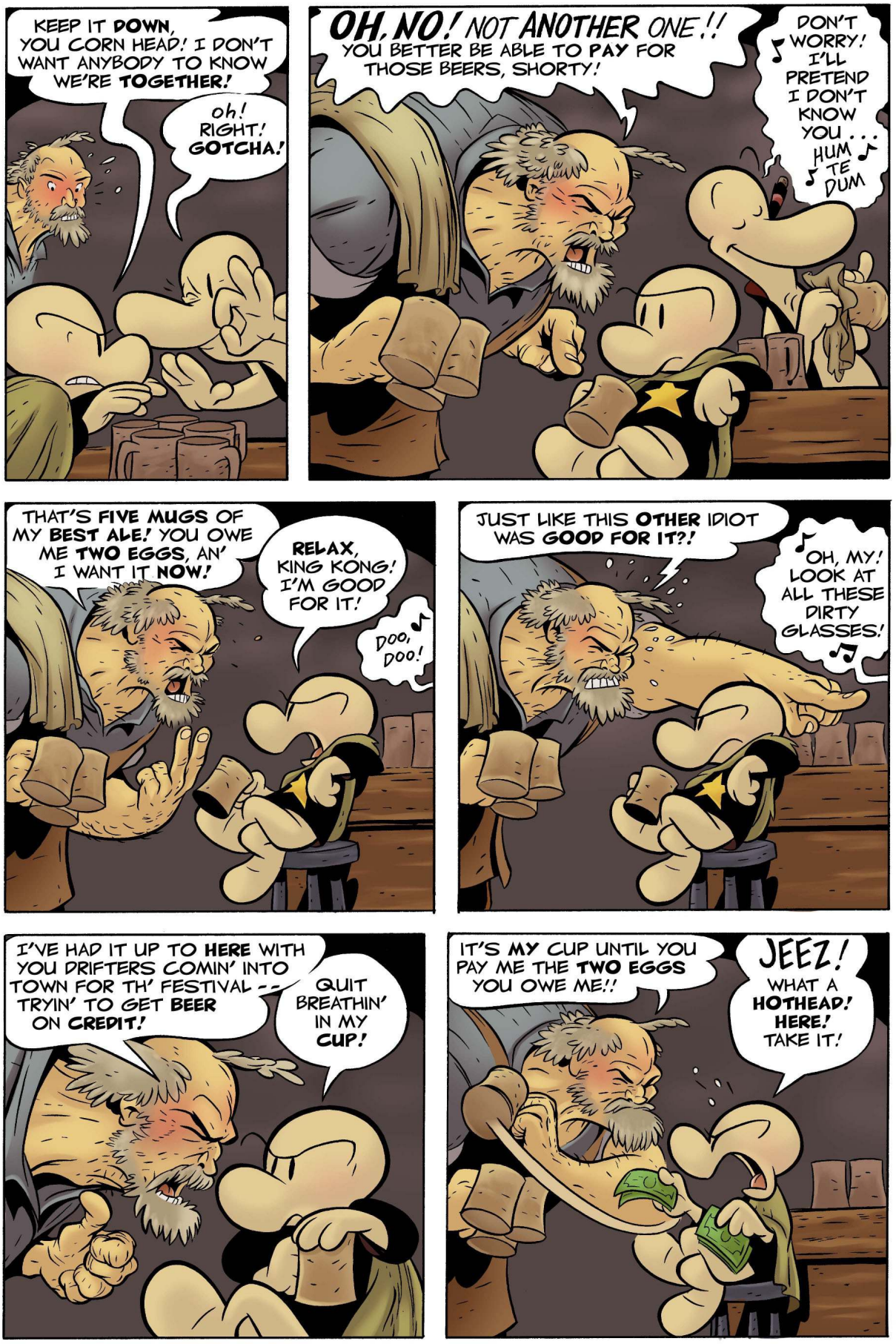


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

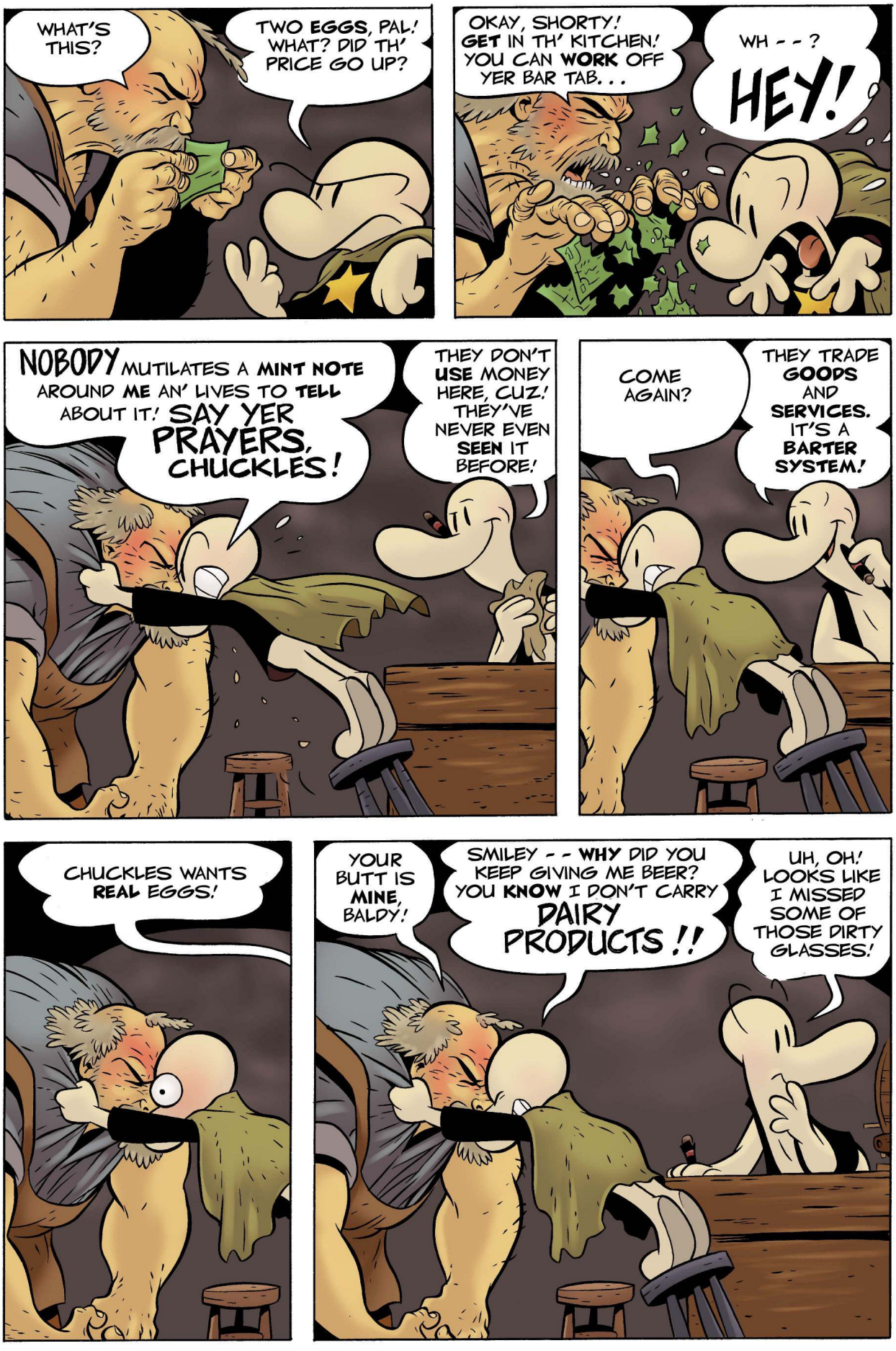

BARTENDER!
BRING ME A BEER!
WHAT'S EVERYBODY STARIN' AT?!
JEEZ! YA ACT LIKE YA NEVER SEEN A GUY ORDER A BEER BEFORE!
BARTENDER!
WHERE'S MY -----
CLUNK
SQUINKY
SQUINKY
SMILEY?
IS THAT YOU?!
HOWDY HOWDY HOWDY!


IT IS YOU! THANK GOODNESS I'VE FOUND YOU!!
YA MEAN IT, PHONEY? YOU'RE HAPPY TO SEE ME?
DARN RIGHT!! FONE BONE WOULDN'T LET ME LEAVE THIS STUPID VALLEY UNLESS I FOUND YOU FIRST!
AW, SHUCKS -- IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, TOO, CUZ!
THIS CALLS FOR A TOAST! LET ME BUY YOU A DRINK, OL' BUDDY!
OKAY BY ME, OL' PAL!
HERE'S TO GOIN' HOME!
TO BONEVILLE!
CLINK
TO BONEVILLE!
GLUG! GLUG!
AHH!
WHADDYA SAY WE HAVE ANOTHER ROUND ON YOU, OL' FRIEND!
SMEK SMEK
SURE! WHY NOT? I GOT A FEELIN' MY LUCK'S ABOUT TO CHANGE! -- GUESS WHERE FONE BONE IS RIGHT NOW! HE'S WITH GRAN'MA BEN! YOU KNOW -- TH' OLD LADY THAT RACES COWS!
AH! YOU'RE IN TOWN FOR TH' COW RACE!
ME TOO! THERE'S GONNA BE SOME HEAVY BETTIN' GOIN' ON!

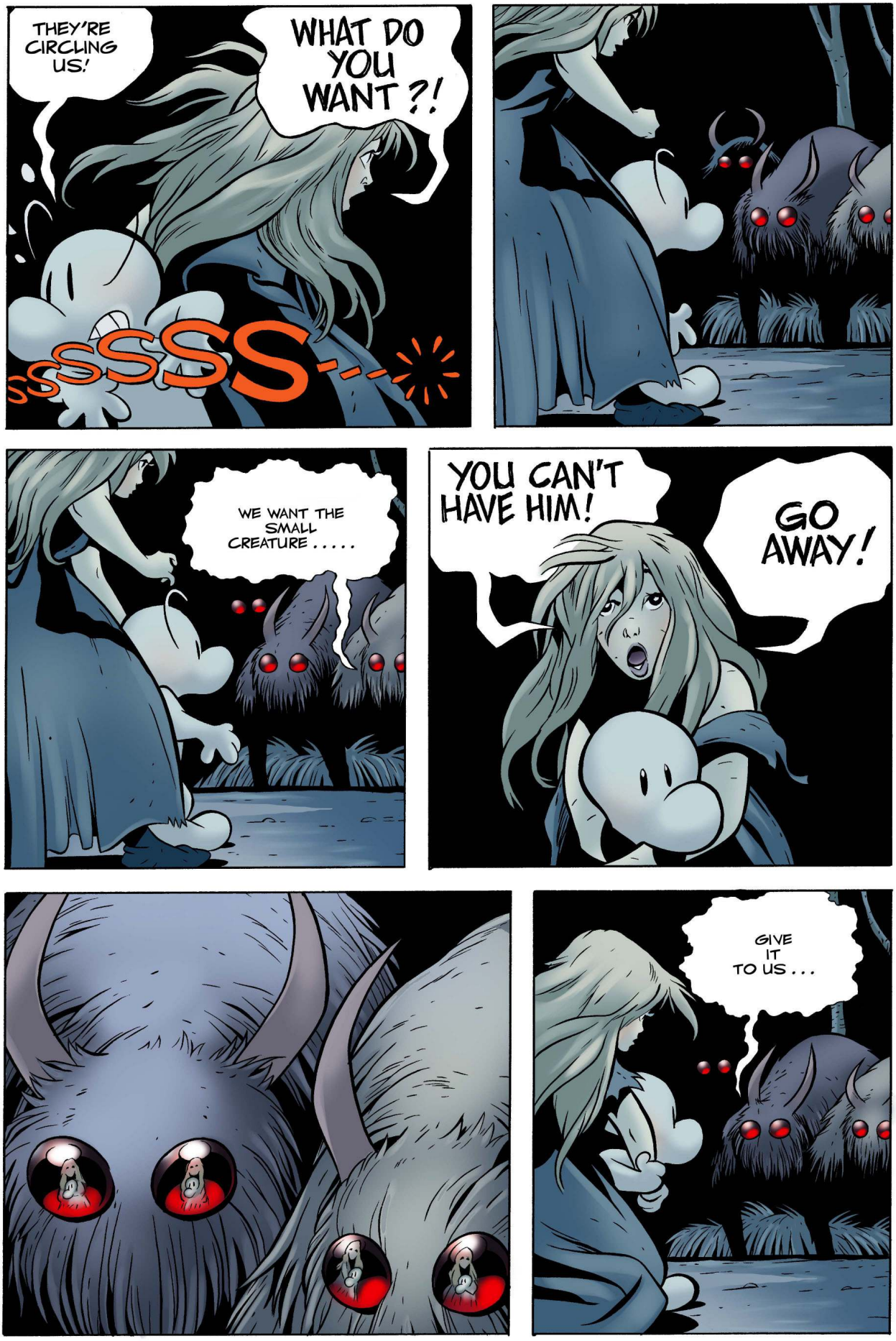

SO I'VE HEARD!
IS ANYBODY DOIN' TH' BOOKMAKIN'?
NOT YET... BUT FROM WHAT I'VE PICKED UP-- YOUR FRIEND GRAN'MA IS TH' ODDS ON FAVORITE!
GREAT! PERFECT! HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE?
ONE WEEK.
EXCELLENT! I GOT AN IDEA THAT'LL MAKE US A LOTTA MONEY!
UH, OH! I HOPE THIS ISN'T GONNA BE ONE OF THOSE SILLY IDEAS YOU USED TO PULL BACK IN BONEVILLE!
WHAT?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? WHAT SILLY IDEAS?!
REMEMBER TH' FIRST TIME YOU GOT US RUN OUT OF TOWN? YOU OPENED UP A CHAIN OF FRANCHISES -- BONE ENVIRONMENTAL: NUCLEAR REACTOR AND ENDLESS SALAD BARS!
THAT WASN'T A SILLY IDEA! TH' LETTUCE WOULDN'T SPOIL FOR DECADES!
WELL, IT WAS PRETTY SILLY!
OH, YEAH, YOU'RE A BRILLIANT JUDGE!
NOW-- WHERE ARE WE GONNA FIND A COW SUIT?
WHAT? I GET TO WEAR A COW SUIT?! COOL! HAVE ANOTHER BEER, PARTNER!

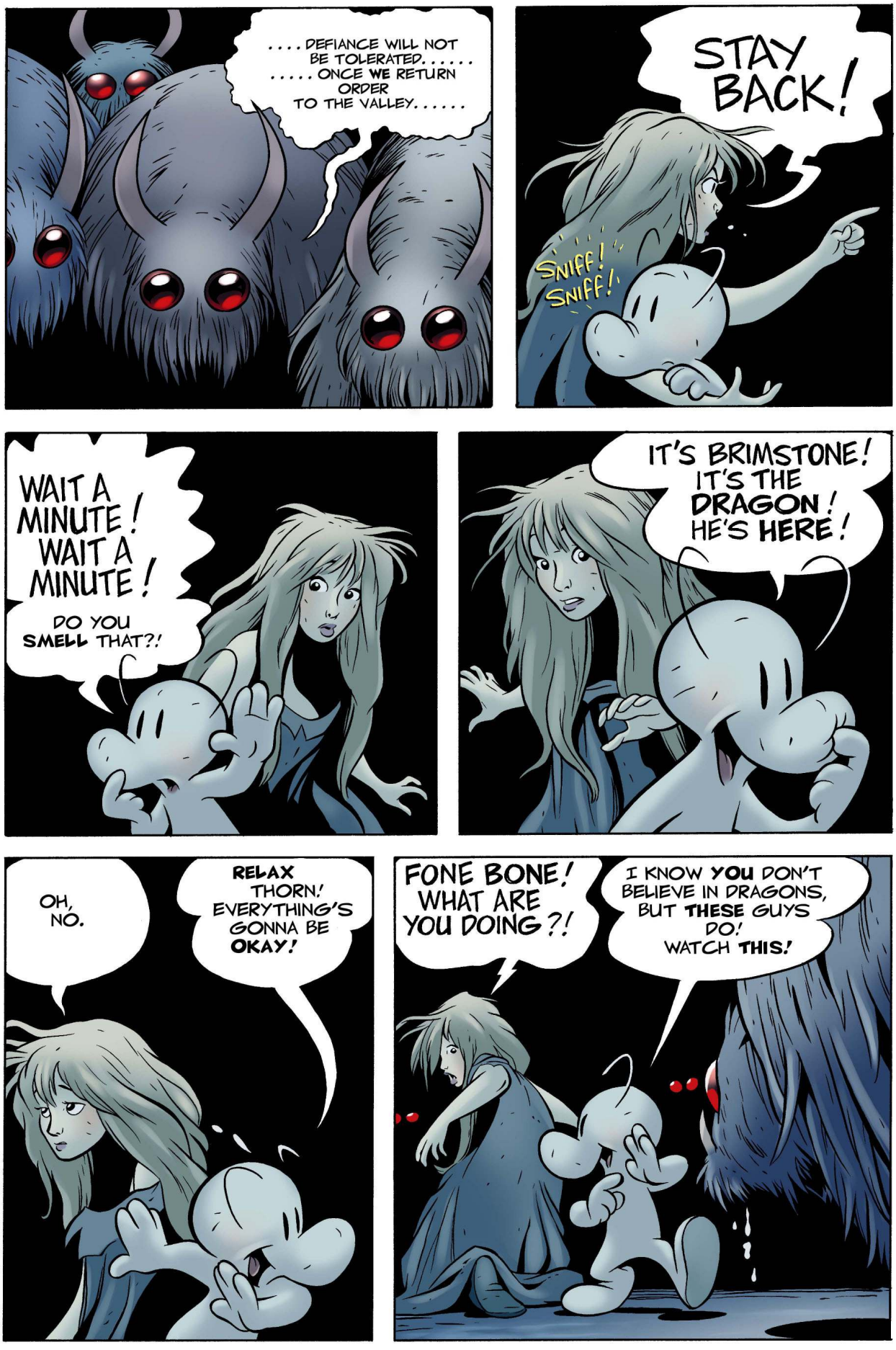


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

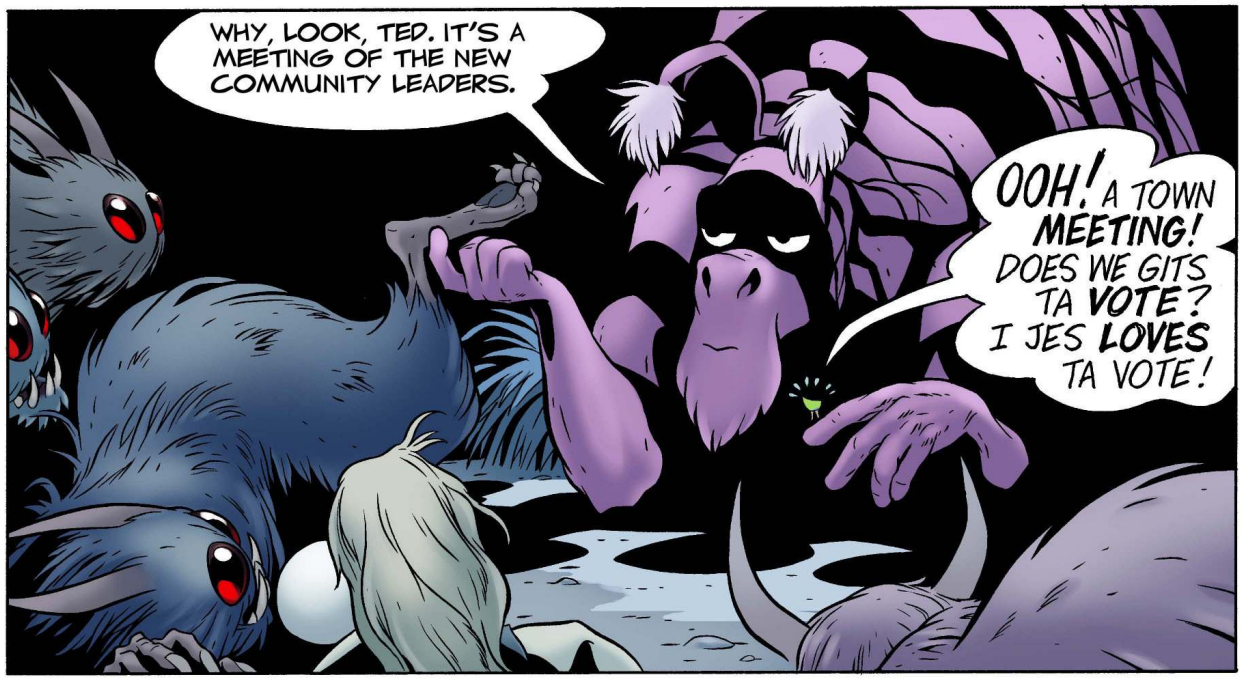

WHAT'S THIS?
TWO EGGS, PAL! WHAT? DID TH' PRICE GO UP?
OKAY, SHORTY! GET IN TH' KITCHEN! YOU CAN WORK OFF YER BAR TAB...
WH - - ?
HEY!
NOBODY MUTILATES A MINT NOTE AROUND ME AN' LIVES TO TELL ABOUT IT! SAY YER PRAYERS, CHUCKLES!
THEY DON'T USE MONEY HERE, CUZ! THEY'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN IT BEFORE!
COME AGAIN?
THEY TRADE GOODS AND SERVICES. IT'S A BARTER SYSTEM!
CHUCKLES WANTS REAL EGGS!
YOUR BUTT IS MINE, BALDY!
SMILEY - - WHY DID YOU KEEP GIVING ME BEER? YOU KNOW I DON'T CARRY DAIRY PRODUCTS!!
UH, OH! LOOKS LIKE I MISSED SOME OF THOSE DIRTY GLASSES!

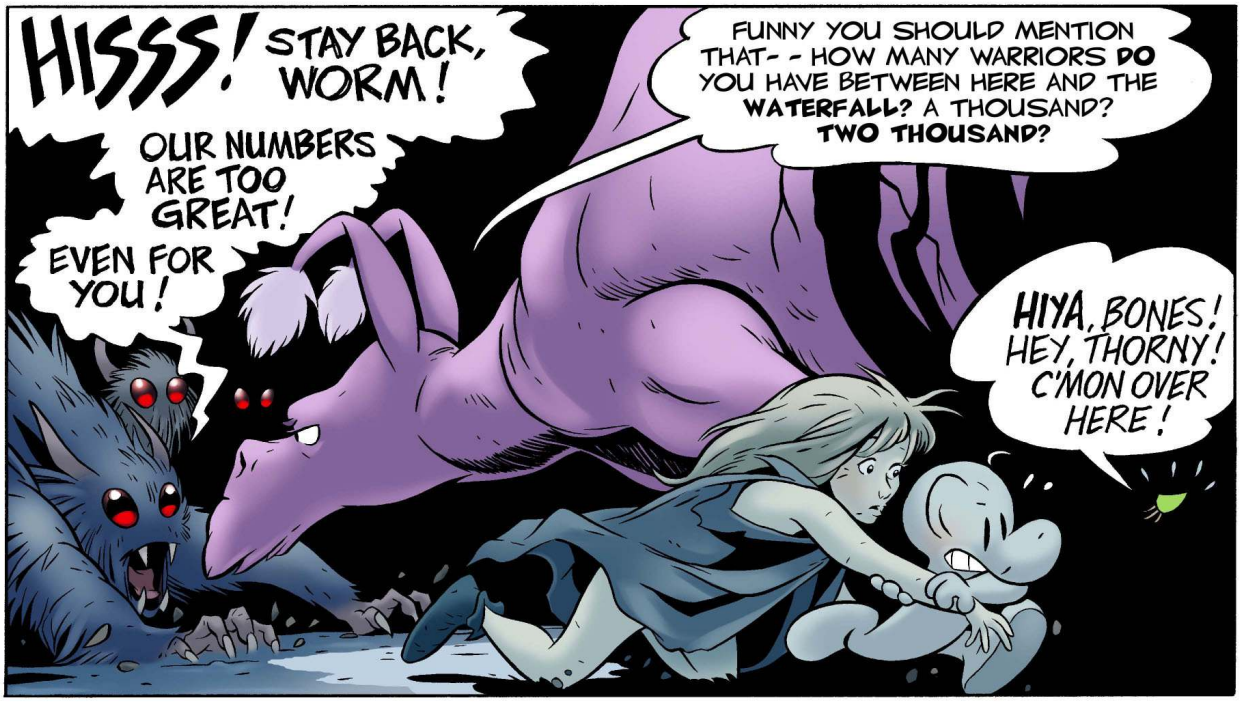

CHUFF
RRRRRRR
SSSSSSSSS
SSS
SSS
SSS
SSSSS


THEY'RE CIRCLING US!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
SSSSSS---
WE WANT THE SMALL CREATURE.....
YOU CAN'T HAVE HIM!
GO AWAY!
GIVE IT TO US...


. . . . DEFIANCE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. . . . . ONCE WE RETURN ORDER TO THE VALLEY. . . . . .
STAY BACK!
SNIFF! SNIFF!
WAIT A MINUTE! WAIT A MINUTE!
DO YOU SMELL THAT?!
IT'S BRIMSTONE! IT'S THE DRAGON! HE'S HERE!
OH, NO.
RELAX THORN! EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE OKAY!
FONE BONE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
I KNOW YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN DRAGONS, BUT THESE GUYS DO! WATCH THIS!


OKAY, FELLAS! PARTY'S OVER! BREAK IT UP! LET'S GO! TH' DRAGON'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE NOW, AN' YOU DON'T WANNA BE HERE WHEN HE SHOWS UP!
JUST THE SIGHT OF TH' DRAGON SENDS THESE GUYS INTO A PANIC! THEY RUN LIKE THEIR FUR'S ON FIRE!
ARE YOU STILL HERE? GO ON! SHOO!
I SMELL NOTHING...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? YOU DON'T SMELL BRIMSTONE?
SSSSSS
NO.
SNIFF! SNIFF! THAT'S WEIRD! I DON'T SMELL IT ANYMORE, EITHER!
LOOK OUT!
AARR
OOF!
CHUNK

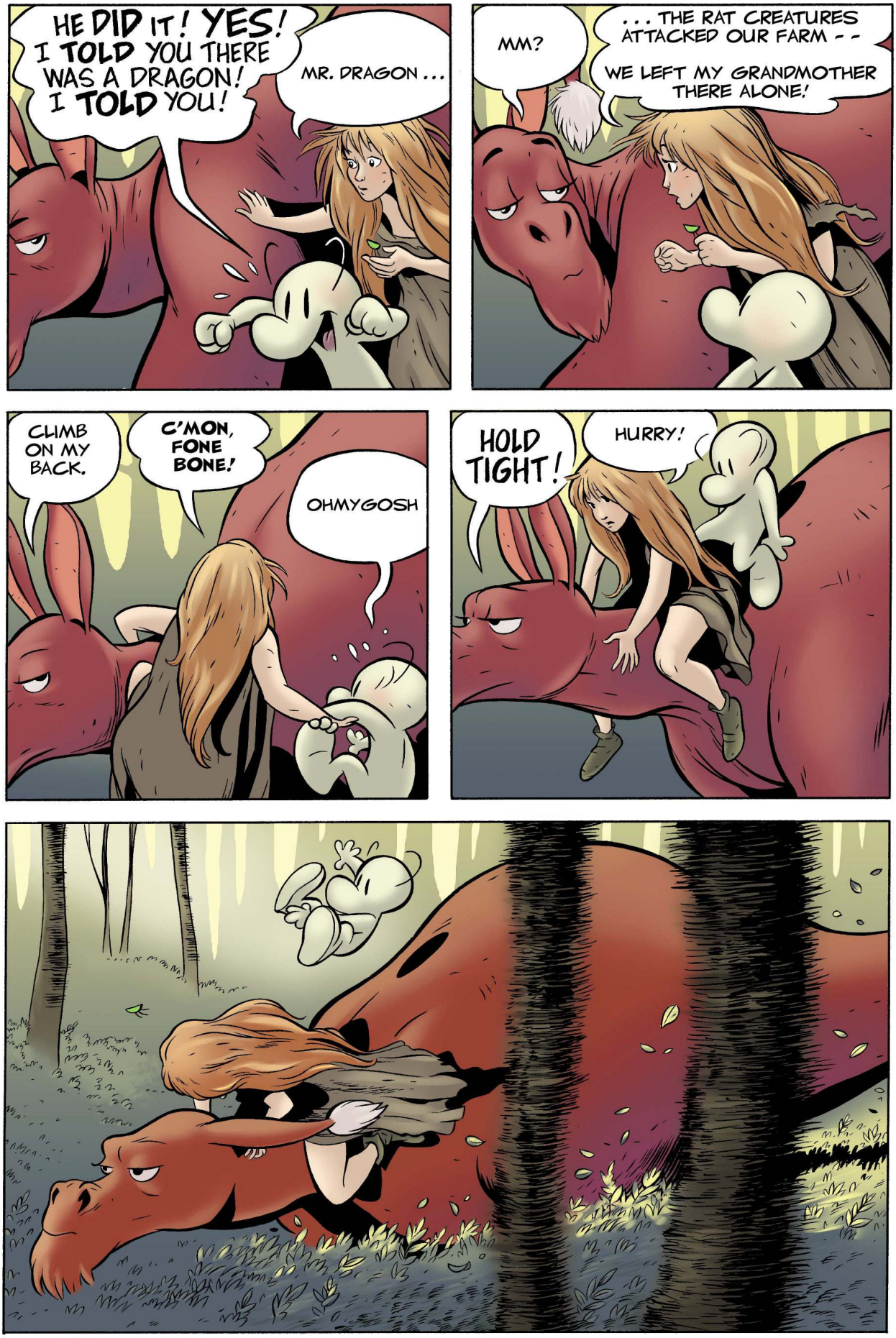

WHY, LOOK, TED. IT'S A MEETING OF THE NEW COMMUNITY LEADERS.
OOH! A TOWN MEETING! DOES WE GITS TA VOTE? I JES LOVES TA VOTE!


HISSS! STAY BACK, WORM!
OUR NUMBERS ARE TOO GREAT!
EVEN FOR YOU!
FUNNY YOU SHOULD MENTION THAT- - HOW MANY WARRIORS DO YOU HAVE BETWEEN HERE AND THE WATERFALL? A THOUSAND? TWO THOUSAND?
HIYA, BONES! HEY, THORNY! C'MON OVER HERE!

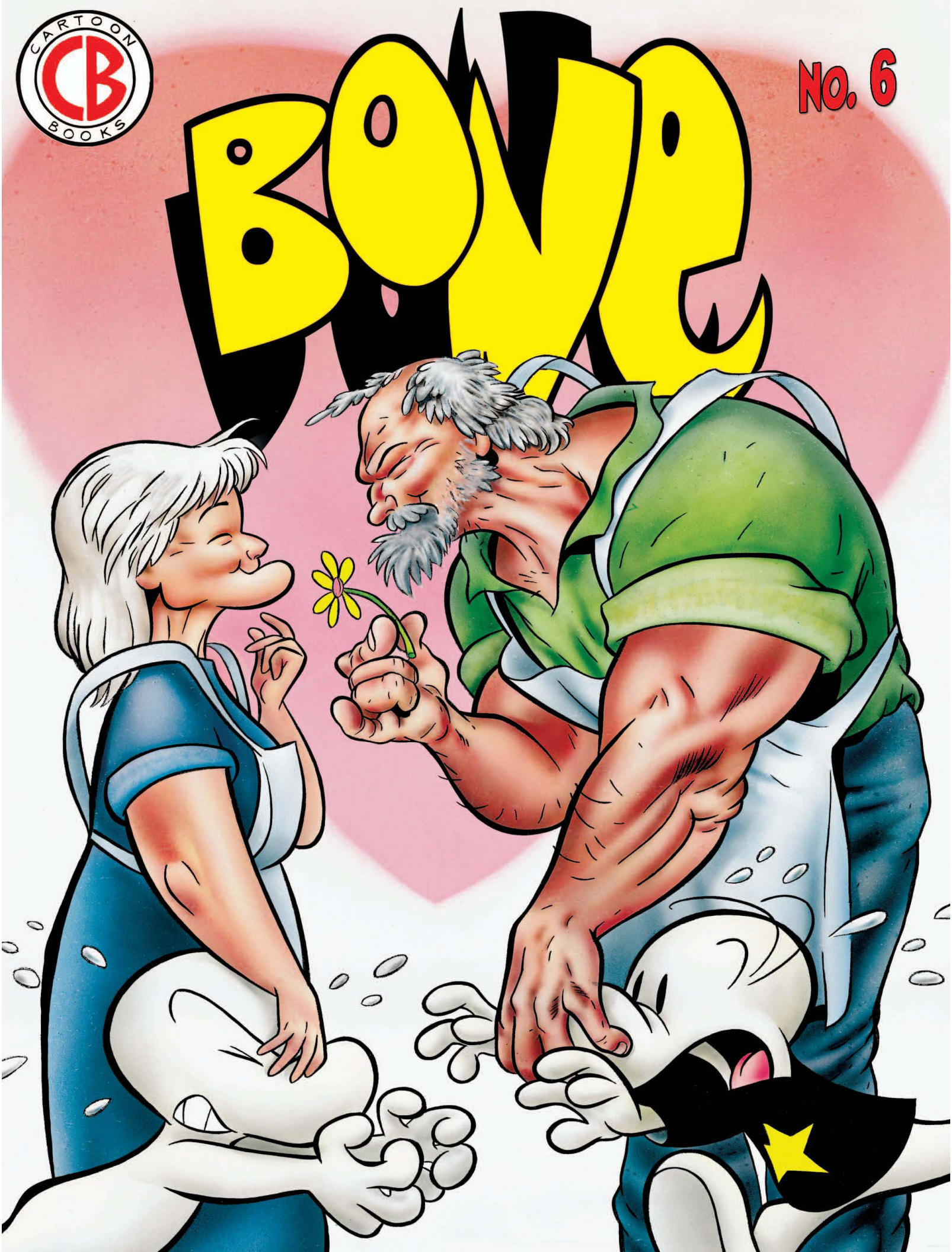

SSSSSS
I BELIEVE THIS VIOLATES OUR AGREEMENT. . .


YOU WOULD NOT BE SO BOLD IF KINGDOK WERE HERE!
YOU RUN AND TELL KINGDOK THAT I'M WATCHIN' HIM!


WE ARE NOT AFRAID OF YOU !!
WHO'S WE?
COMRADES! KILL THE DRA----
HISSS!


HE DID IT! YES! I TOLD YOU THERE WAS A DRAGON! I TOLD YOU!
MR. DRAGON ...
MM?
... THE RAT CREATURES ATTACKED OUR FARM - -
WE LEFT MY GRANDMOTHER THERE ALONE!
CLIMB ON MY BACK.
C'MON, FONE BONE!
OHMYGOSH
HOLD TIGHT!
HURRY!


STOP! STOP! LOOK!
WE'RE TOO LATE - -

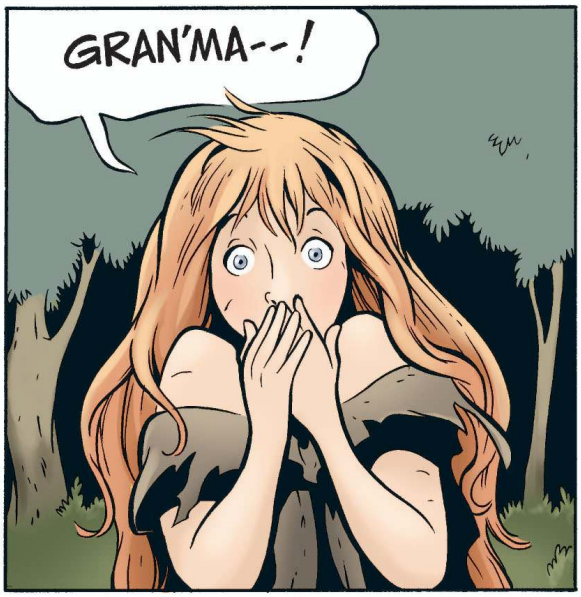

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
No. 6

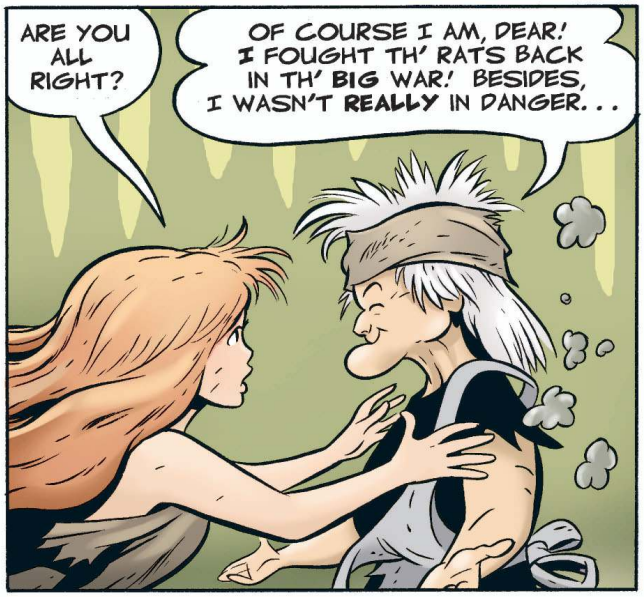

BONE
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
THEY DESTROYED YOUR GRAN'MA'S HOUSE!
LET ME DOWN!!
WAIT A MINUTE--
...I KNOW IT LOOKS BAD, BUT WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL! WE'RE NOT GONNA HELP YOUR GRANDMOTHER BY RUSHIN' OUT IN TH' OPEN!
WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THERE'RE NO RAT CREATURES HANGIN' AROUND...

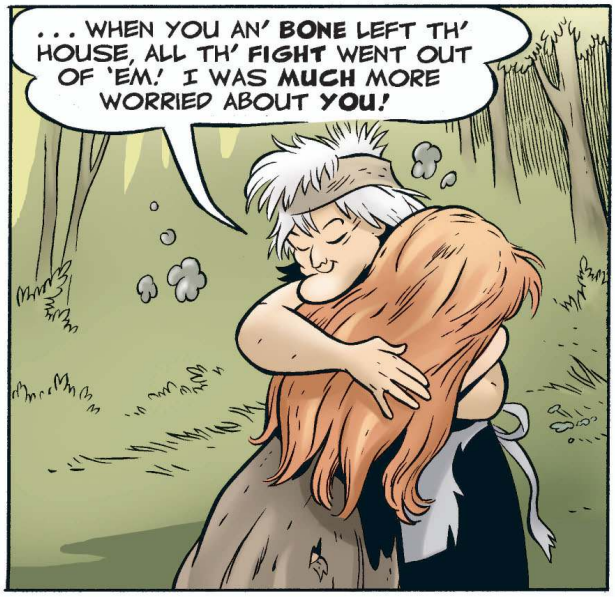


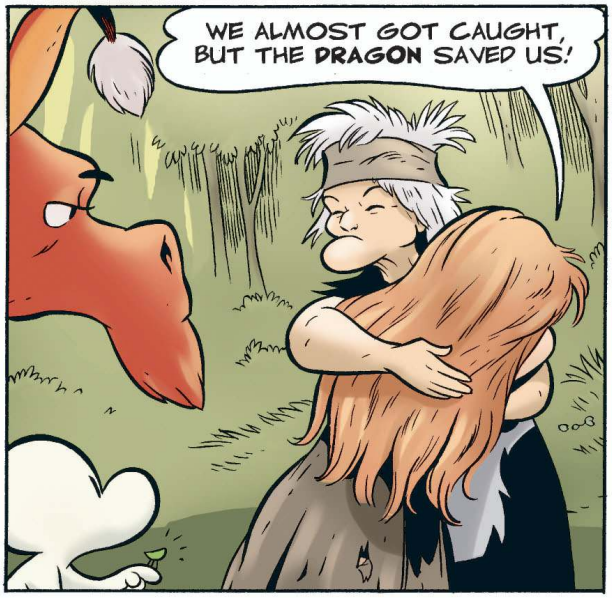
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THORN? IS THAT YOU, DEAR?
OH, GOOD! YOU'RE SAFE!
CRUNCH!
TINK!

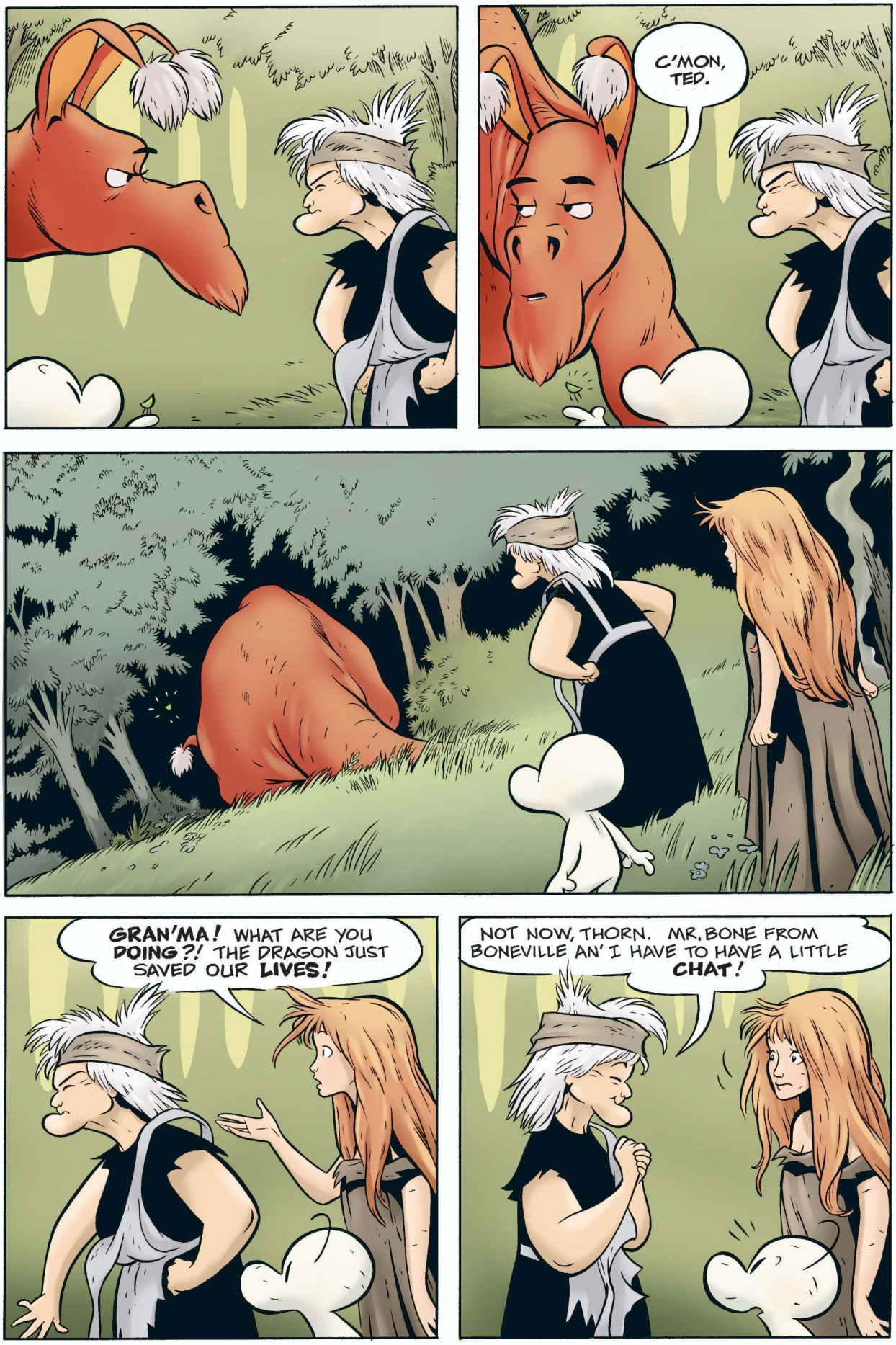

GRAN'MA--!

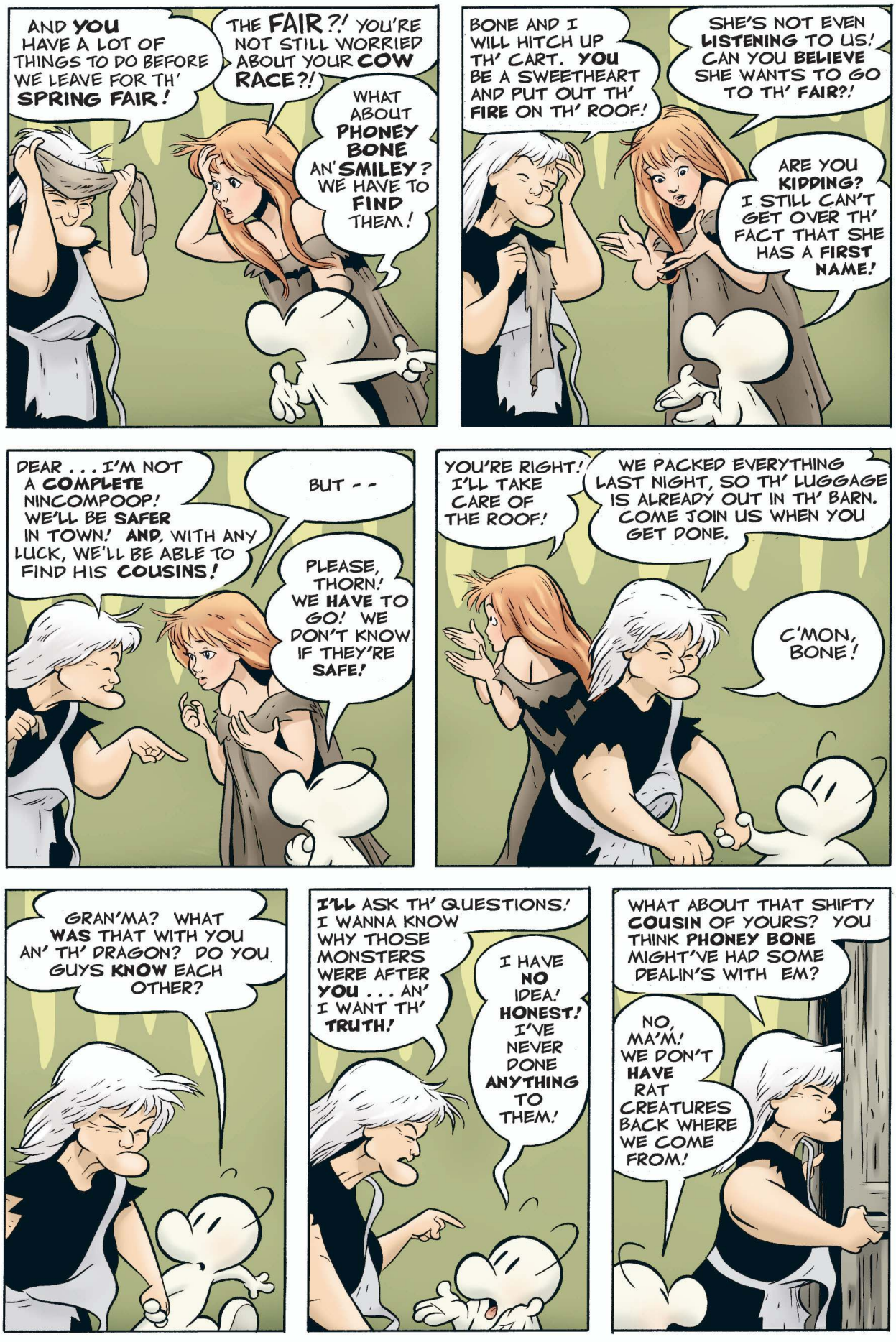

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
OF COURSE I AM, DEAR! I FOUGHT TH' RATS BACK IN TH' BIG WAR! BESIDES, I WASN'T REALLY IN DANGER. . .

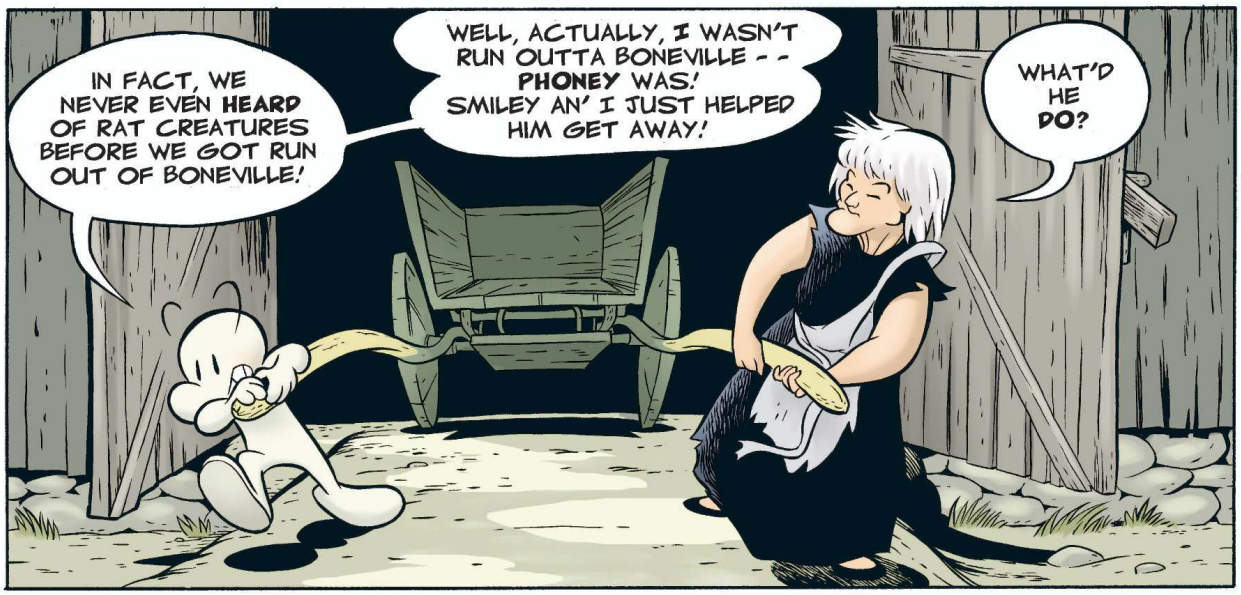

. . . WHEN YOU AN' BONE LEFT TH' HOUSE, ALL TH' FIGHT WENT OUT OF 'EM.' I WAS MUCH MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

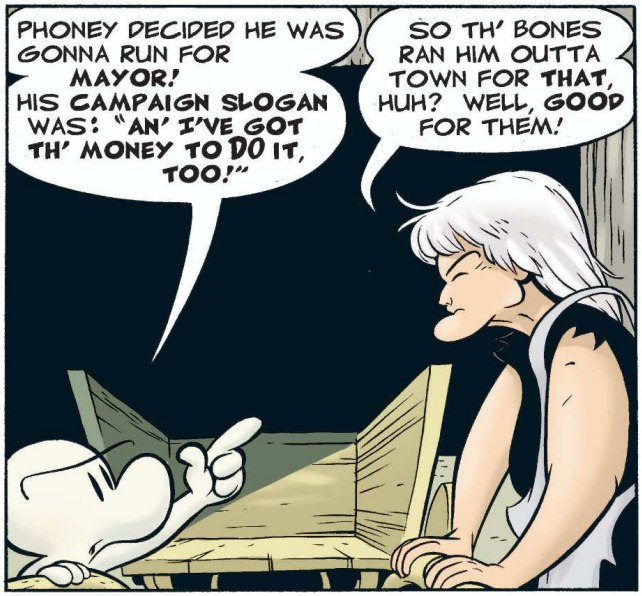

WE ALMOST GOT CAUGHT, BUT THE DRAGON SAVED US!

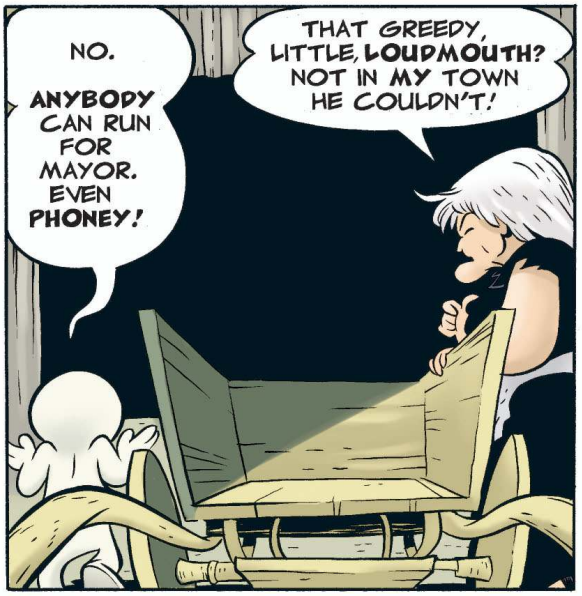

A REAL DRAGON, GRAN'MA! LOOK!
I CAN SEE.
HELLO, DRAGON.
HELLO, ROSE.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
YEP.
WELL . . . LOOKS LIKE EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL HERE. GUESS I'LL BE GOIN'.
YEP.

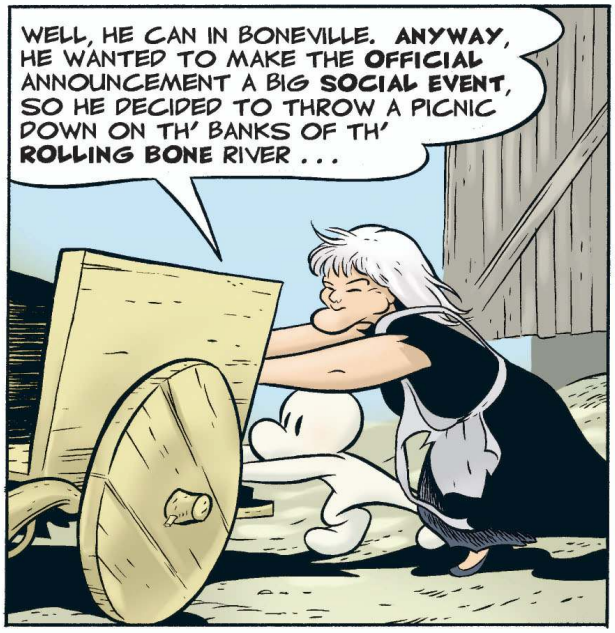

C'MON, TED.
GRAN'MA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THE DRAGON JUST SAVED OUR LIVES!
NOT NOW, THORN. MR. BONE FROM BONEVILLE AN' I HAVE TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT!

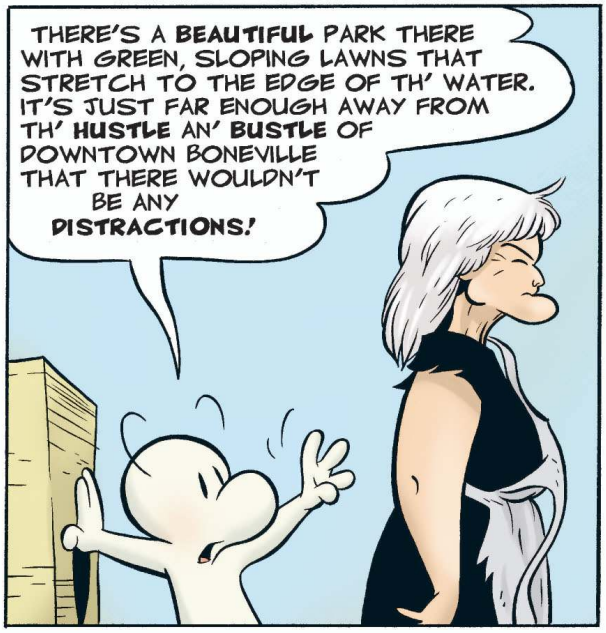

AND YOU HAVE A LOT OF THINGS TO DO BEFORE WE LEAVE FOR TH' SPRING FAIR!
THE FAIR?! YOU'RE NOT STILL WORRIED ABOUT YOUR COW RACE?!
WHAT ABOUT PHONEY BONE AN' SMILEY? WE HAVE TO FIND THEM!
BONE AND I WILL HITCH UP TH' CART. YOU BE A SWEETHEART AND PUT OUT TH' FIRE ON TH' ROOF!
SHE'S NOT EVEN LISTENING TO US! CAN YOU BELIEVE SHE WANTS TO GO TO TH' FAIR?!
ARE YOU KIDDING? I STILL CAN'T GET OVER TH' FACT THAT SHE HAS A FIRST NAME!
DEAR . . . I'M NOT A COMPLETE NINCOMPOOP! WE'LL BE SAFER IN TOWN! AND, WITH ANY LUCK, WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIND HIS COUSINS!
BUT - -
PLEASE, THORN! WE HAVE TO GO! WE DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE SAFE!
YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE ROOF!
WE PACKED EVERYTHING LAST NIGHT, SO TH' LUGGAGE IS ALREADY OUT IN TH' BARN. COME JOIN US WHEN YOU GET DONE.
C'MON, BONE!
GRAN'MA? WHAT WAS THAT WITH YOU AN' TH' DRAGON? DO YOU GUYS KNOW EACH OTHER?
I'LL ASK TH' QUESTIONS! I WANNA KNOW WHY THOSE MONSTERS WERE AFTER YOU . . . AN' I WANT TH' TRUTH!
I HAVE NO IDEA! HONEST! I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING TO THEM!
WHAT ABOUT THAT SHIFTY COUSIN OF YOURS? YOU THINK PHONEY BONE MIGHT'VE HAD SOME DEALIN'S WITH EM?
NO, MA'M! WE DON'T HAVE RAT CREATURES BACK WHERE WE COME FROM!

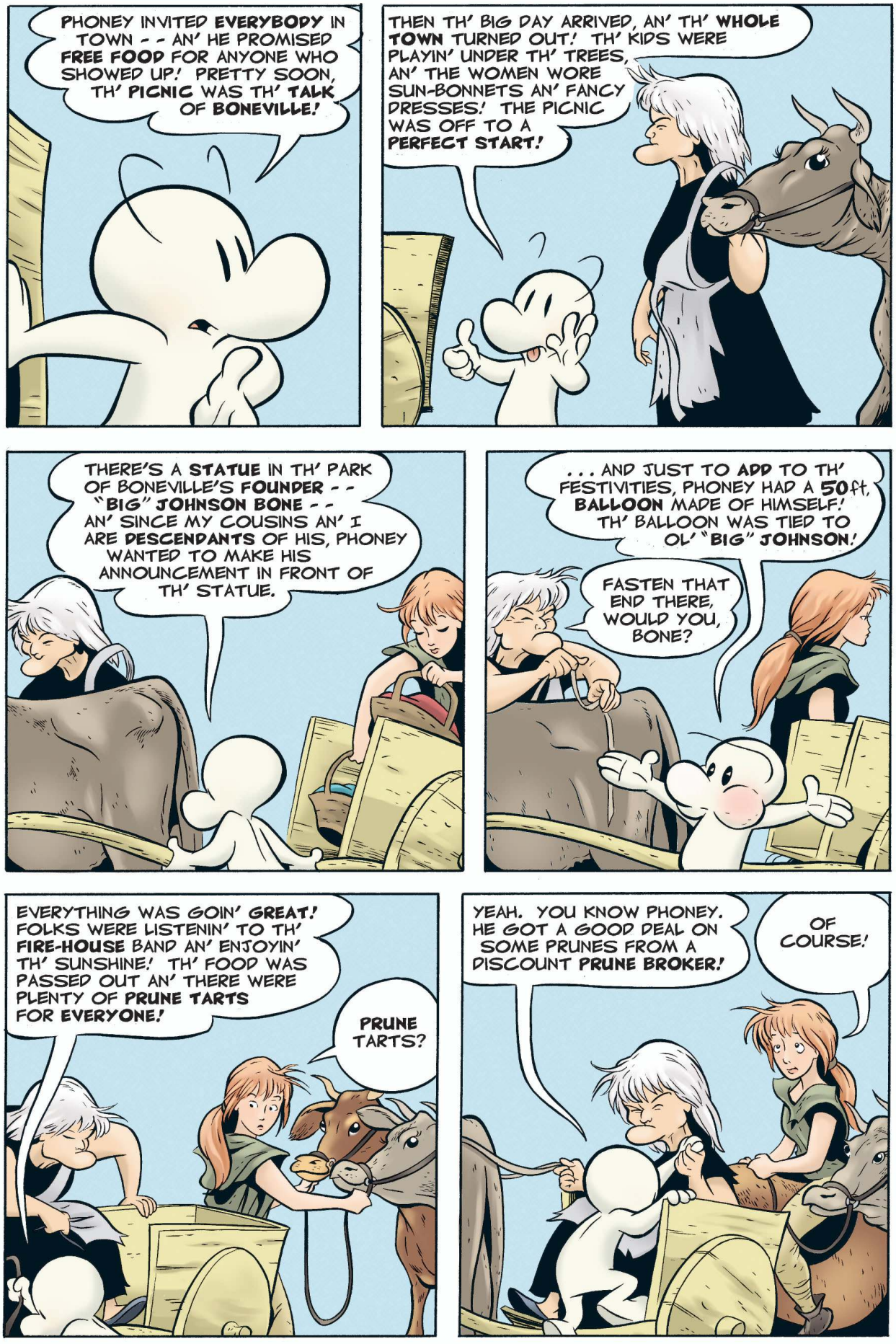

IN FACT, WE NEVER EVEN **HEARD** OF RAT CREATURES BEFORE WE GOT RUN OUT OF BONEVILLE!
WELL, ACTUALLY, I WASN'T RUN OUTTA BONEVILLE - - **PHONEY** WAS! SMILEY AN' I JUST HELPED HIM GET AWAY!
WHAT'D HE **DO?**

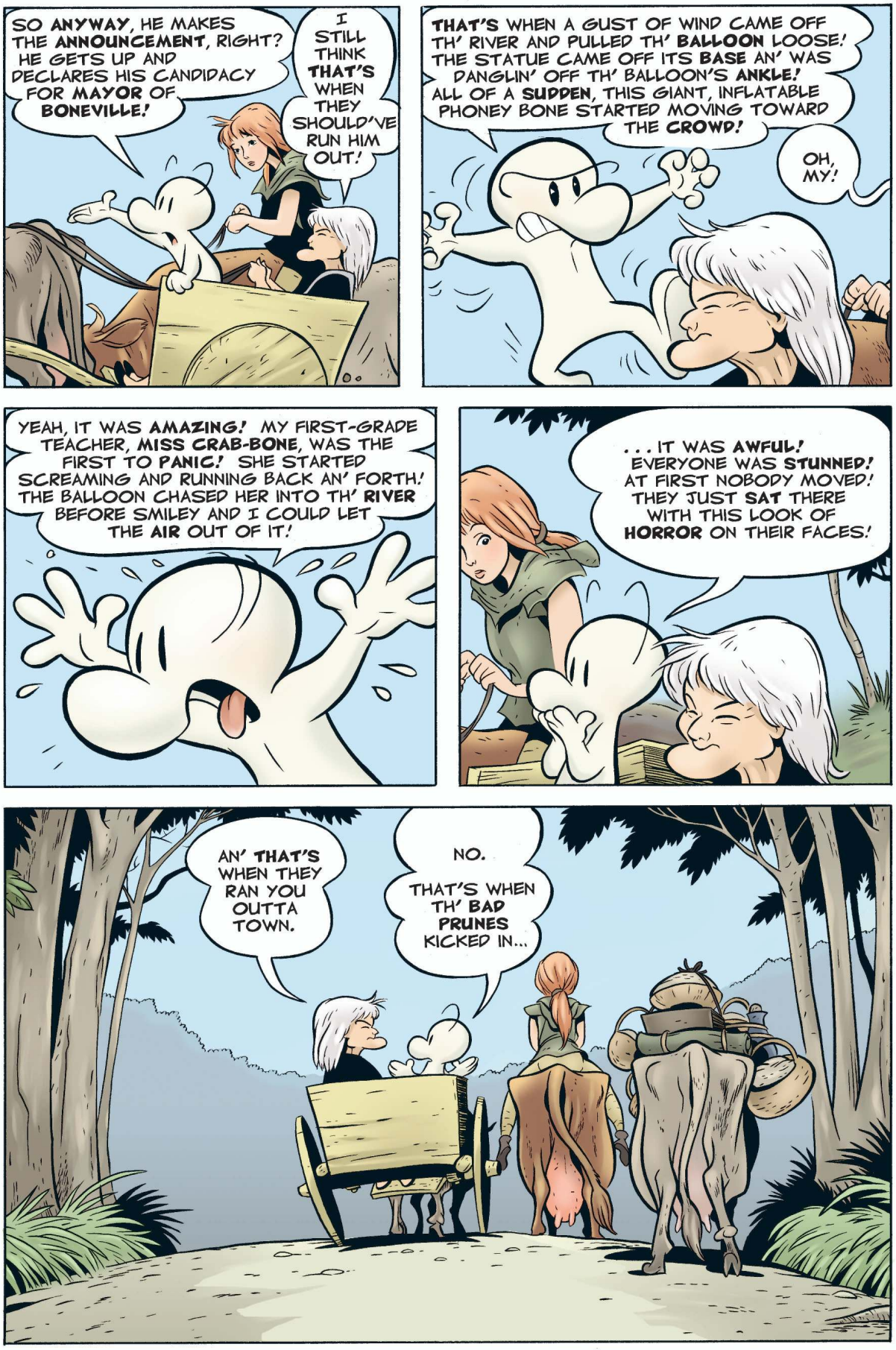

PHONEY DECIDED HE WAS GONNA RUN FOR **MAYOR!** HIS **CAMPAIGN SLOGAN** WAS: "**AN' I'VE GOT TH' MONEY TO DO IT, TOO!**"
SO TH' BONES RAN HIM OUTTA TOWN FOR **THAT,** HUH? WELL, **GOOD** FOR THEM!


NO. **ANYBODY** CAN RUN FOR MAYOR. EVEN **PHONEY!**
THAT GREEDY, LITTLE, **LOUDMOUTH?** NOT IN **MY** TOWN HE COULDN'T!

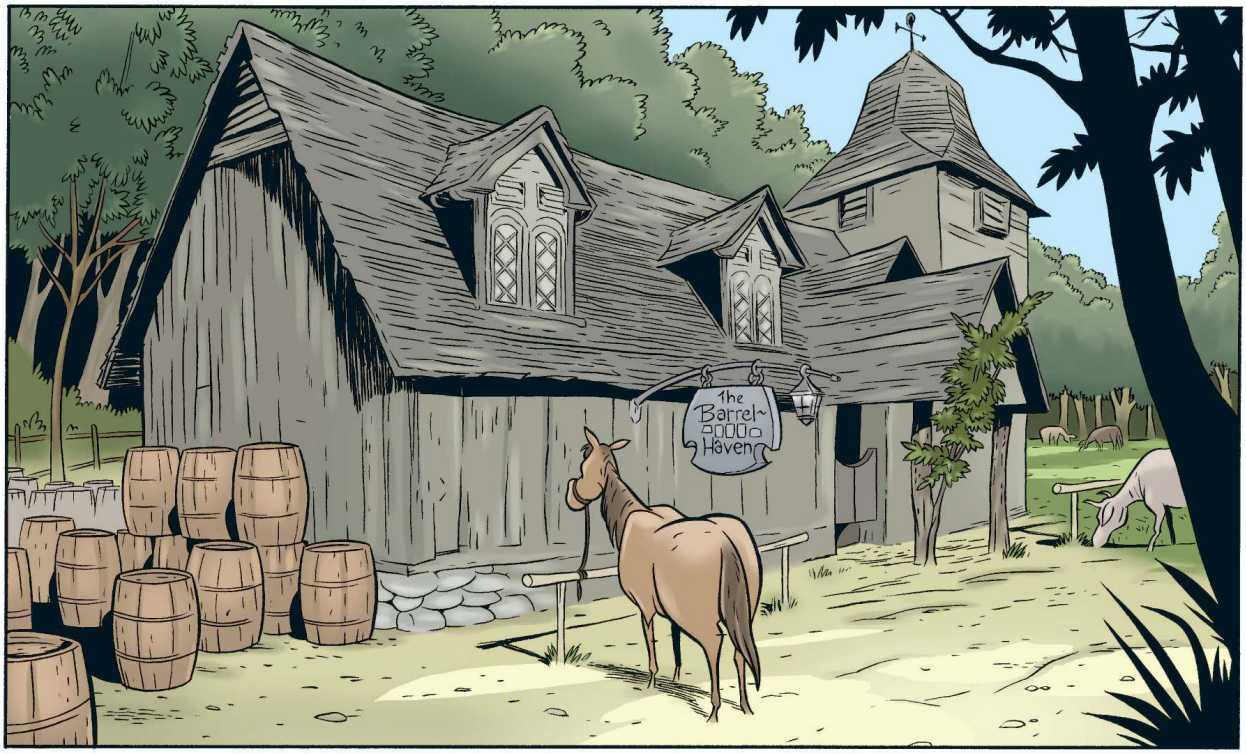

WELL, HE CAN IN BONEVILLE. **ANYWAY,** HE WANTED TO MAKE THE **OFFICIAL** ANNOUNCEMENT A BIG **SOCIAL EVENT,** SO HE DECIDED TO THROW A PICNIC DOWN ON TH' BANKS OF TH' **ROLLING BONE** RIVER . . .


THERE'S A **BEAUTIFUL** PARK THERE WITH GREEN, SLOPING LAWNS THAT STRETCH TO THE EDGE OF TH' WATER. IT'S JUST FAR ENOUGH AWAY FROM TH' **HUSTLE** AN' **BUSTLE** OF DOWNTOWN BONEVILLE THAT THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY **DISTRACTIONS!**


PHONEY INVITED EVERYBODY IN TOWN - - AN' HE PROMISED FREE FOOD FOR ANYONE WHO SHOWED UP! PRETTY SOON, TH' PICNIC WAS TH' TALK OF BONEVILLE!
THEN TH' BIG DAY ARRIVED, AN' TH' WHOLE TOWN TURNED OUT! TH' KIDS WERE PLAYIN' UNDER TH' TREES, AN' THE WOMEN WORE SUN-BONNETS AN' FANCY DRESSES! THE PICNIC WAS OFF TO A PERFECT START!
THERE'S A STATUE IN TH' PARK OF BONEVILLE'S FOUNDER - - "BIG" JOHNSON BONE - - AN' SINCE MY COUSINS AN' I ARE DESCENDANTS OF HIS, PHONEY WANTED TO MAKE HIS ANNOUNCEMENT IN FRONT OF TH' STATUE.
. . . AND JUST TO ADD TO TH' FESTIVITIES, PHONEY HAD A 50ft. BALLOON MADE OF HIMSELF! TH' BALLOON WAS TIED TO OL' "BIG" JOHNSON!
FASTEN THAT END THERE, WOULD YOU, BONE?
EVERYTHING WAS GOIN' GREAT! FOLKS WERE LISTENIN' TO TH' FIRE-HOUSE BAND AN' ENJOYIN' TH' SUNSHINE! TH' FOOD WAS PASSED OUT AN' THERE WERE PLENTY OF PRUNE TARTS FOR EVERYONE!
PRUNE TARTS?
YEAH. YOU KNOW PHONEY. HE GOT A GOOD DEAL ON SOME PRUNES FROM A DISCOUNT PRUNE BROKER!
OF COURSE!

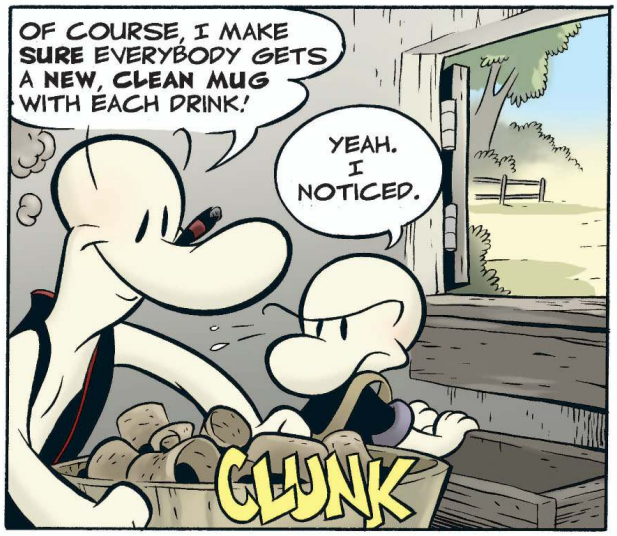


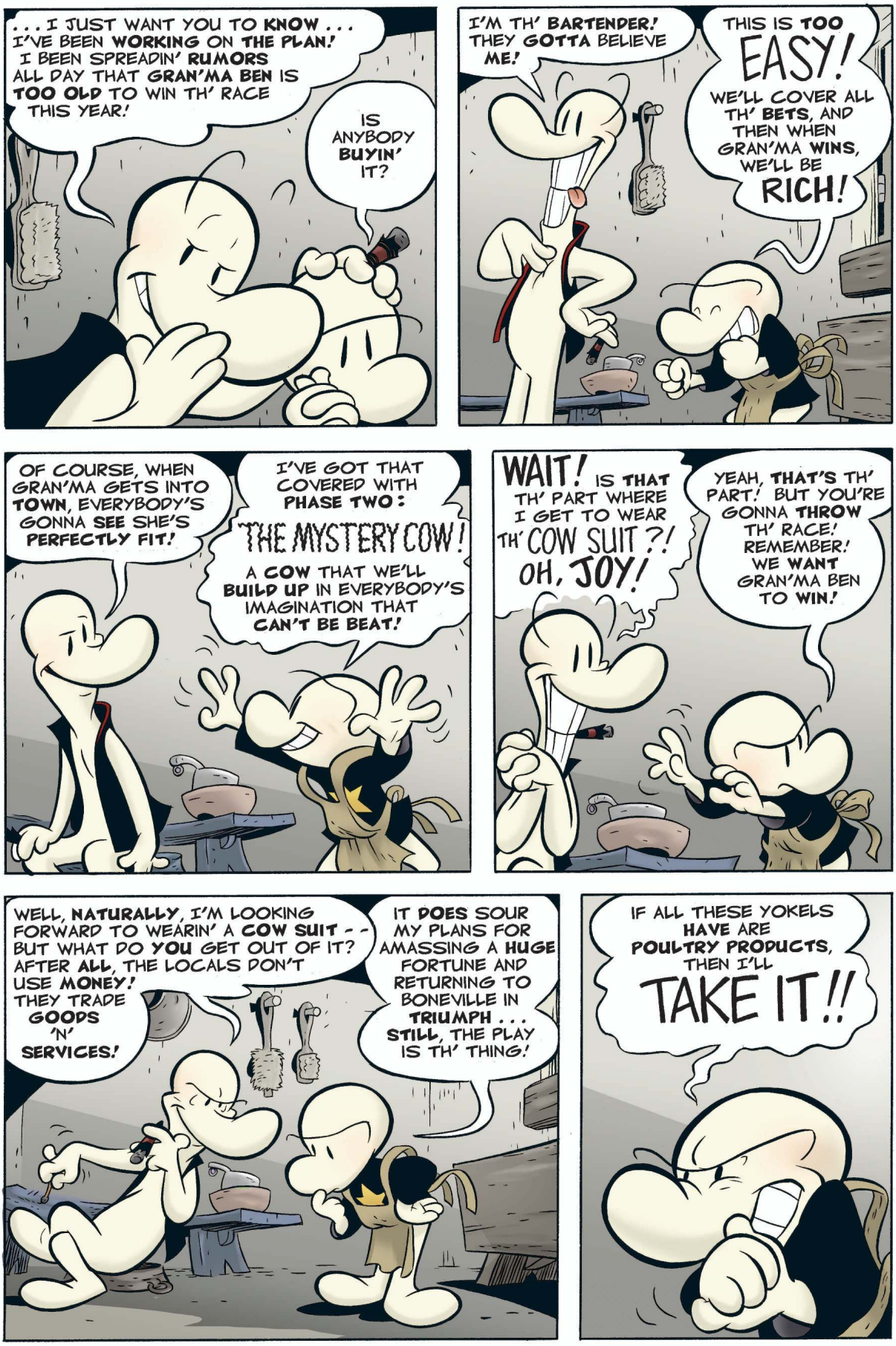
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


The Barrel-o-Ooo Haven

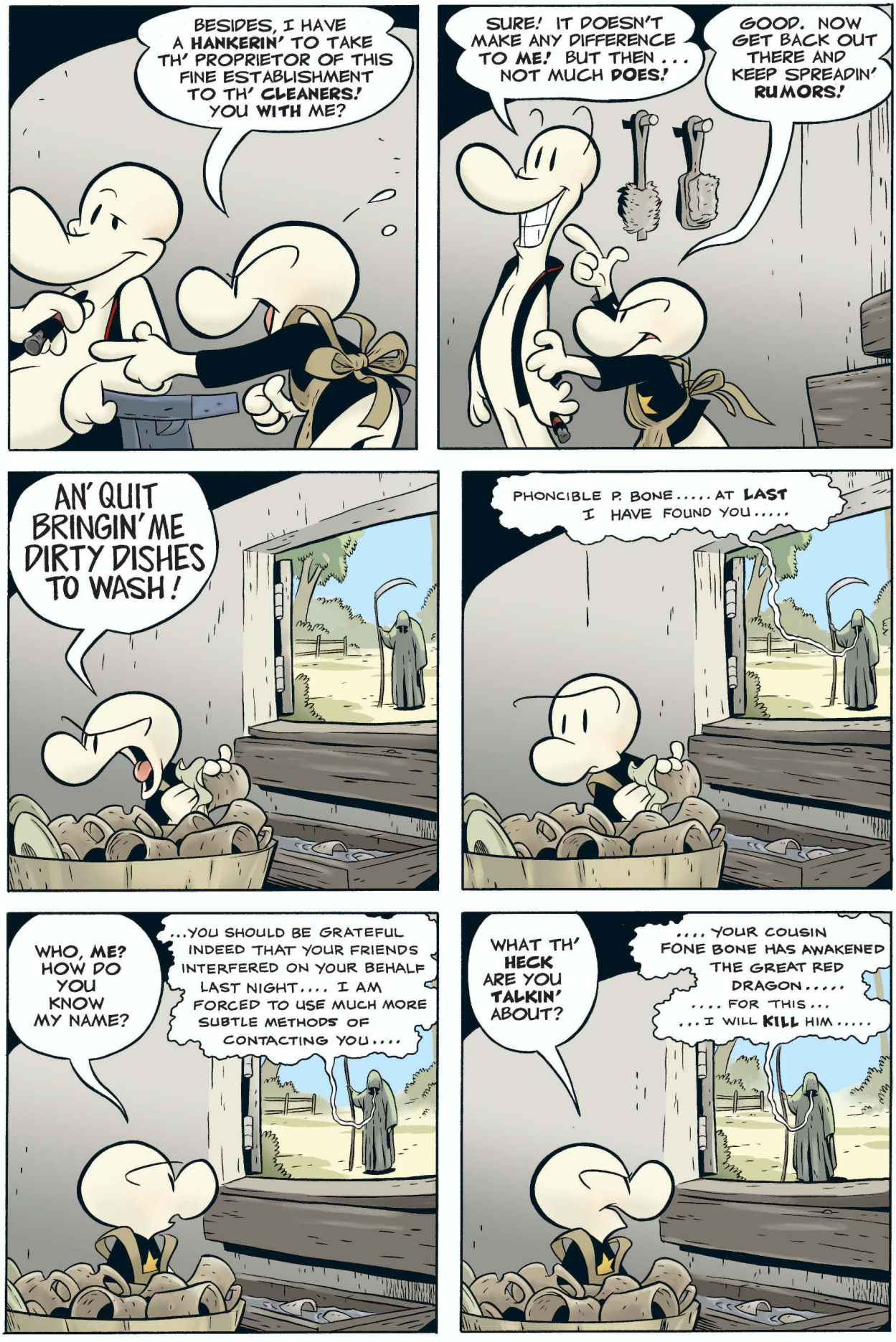

HEY, SMILEY! TAKE THAT TUB OF GLASSES BACK TO YOUR BUDDY! WE'RE OUT OF MUGS AGAIN!
YES, SIR, MISTER DOWN!

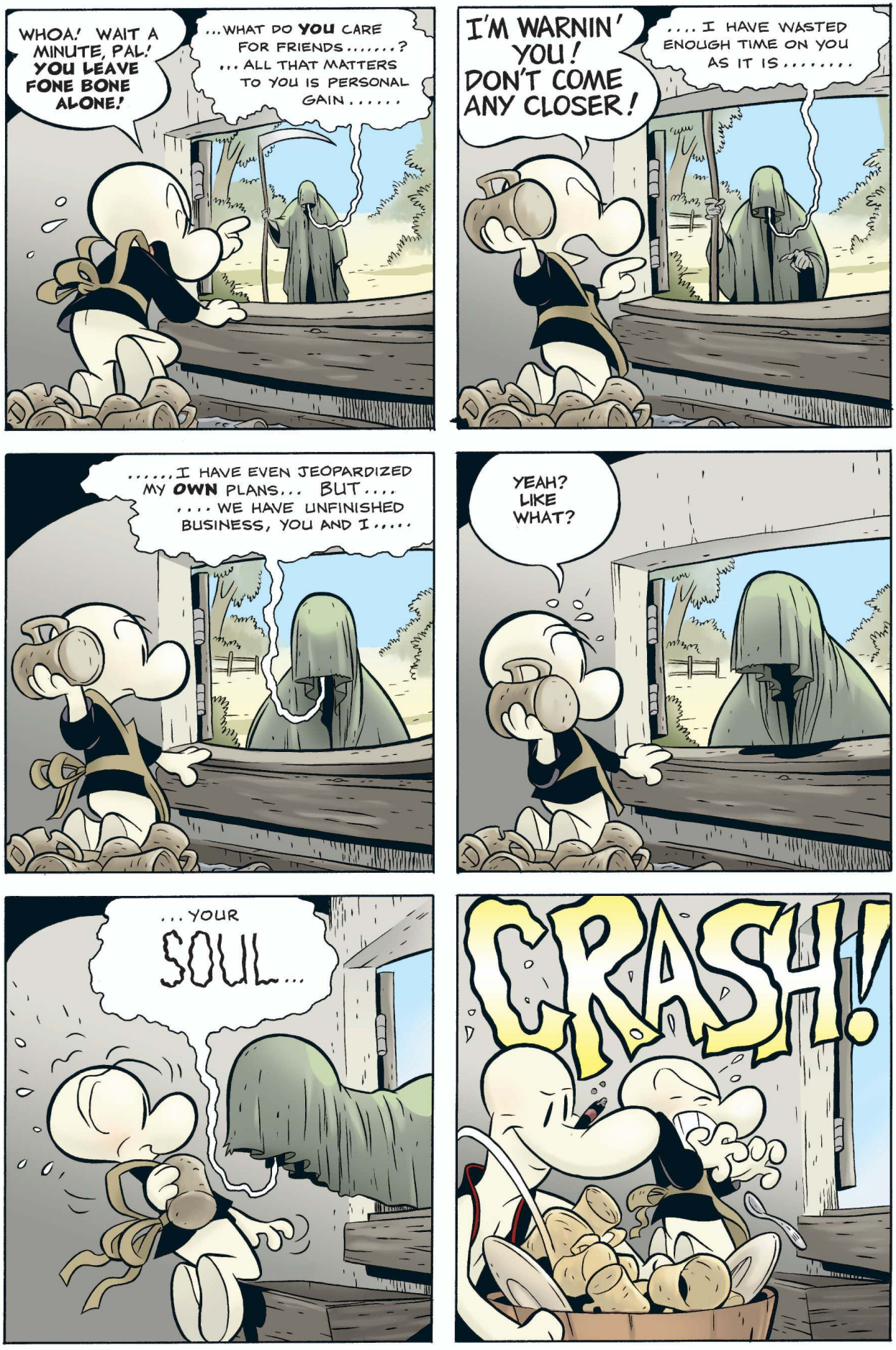

HEY, THERE, PHONEY! LUCIUS SAYS YA GOTTA WASH THESE, PRONTO! WE GOT A LOT OF THIRSTY CUSTOMERS OUT FRONT!

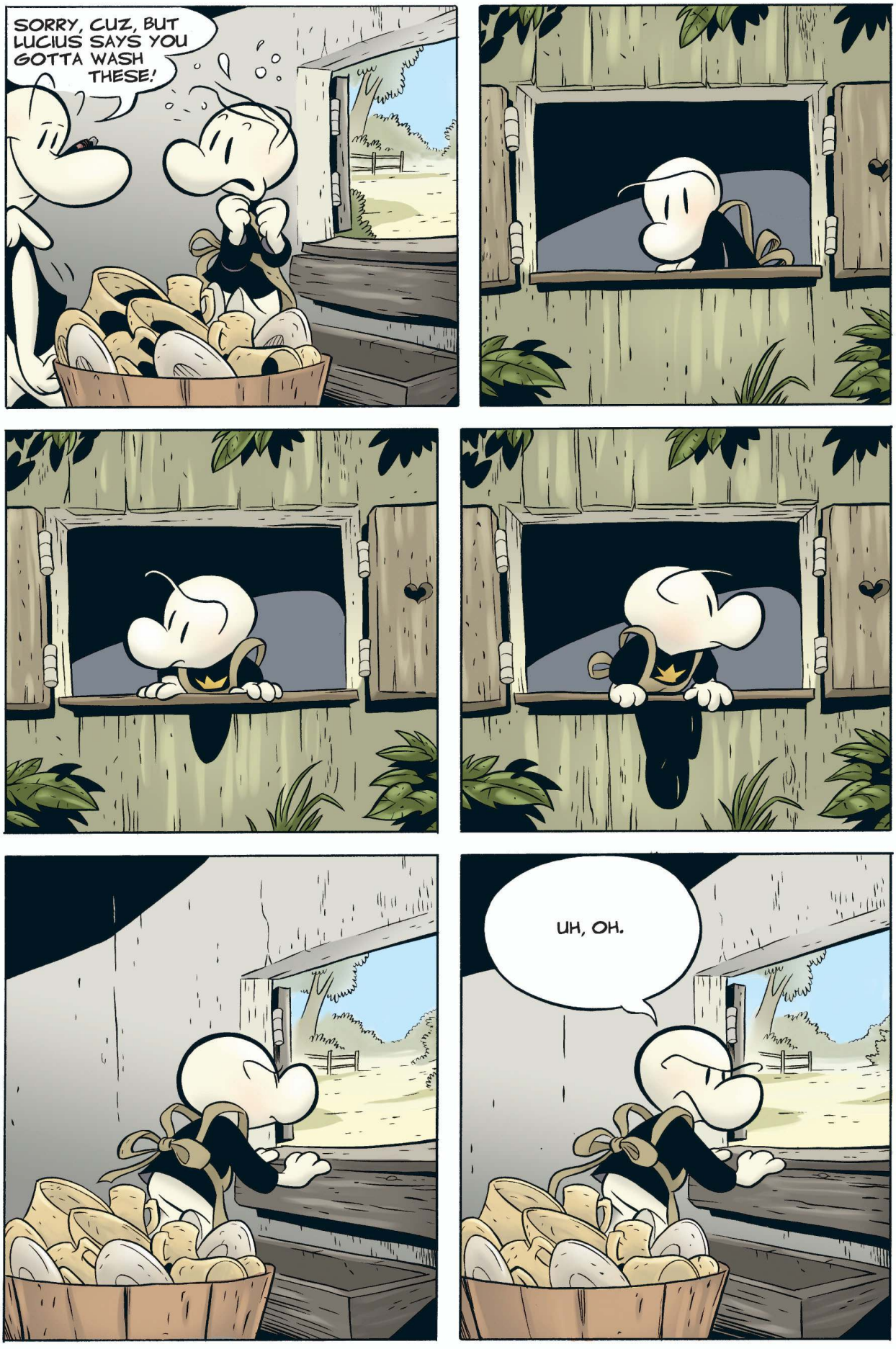

OF COURSE, I MAKE SURE EVERYBODY GETS A NEW, CLEAN MUG WITH EACH DRINK!
YEAH. I NOTICED.
CLUNK

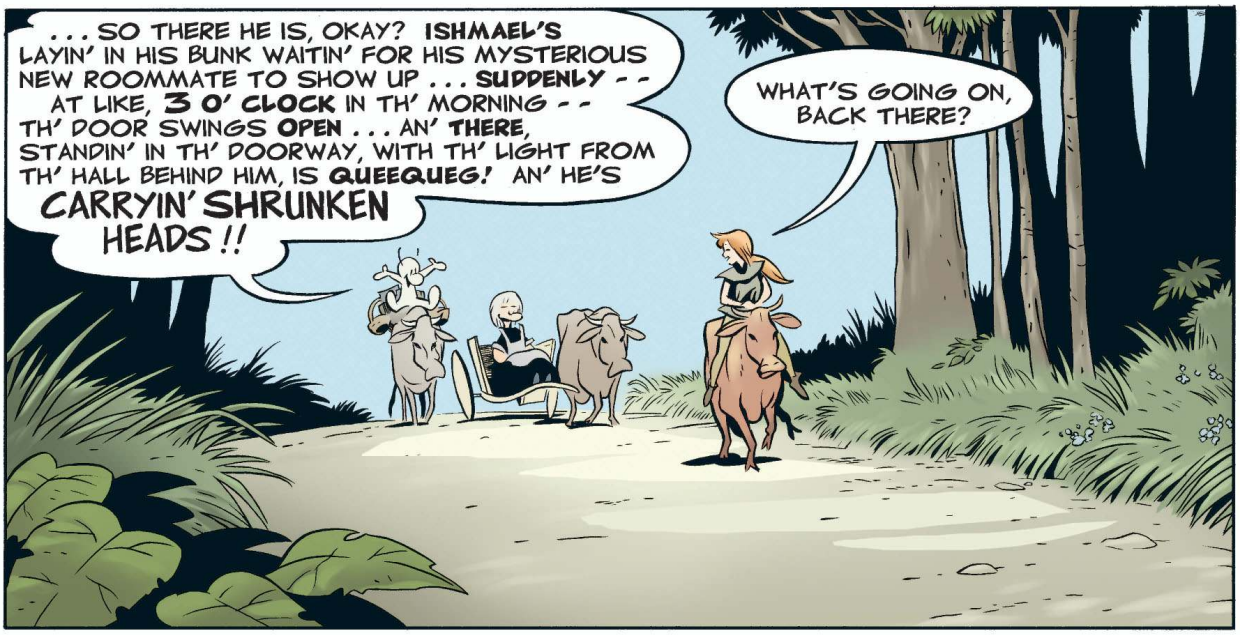


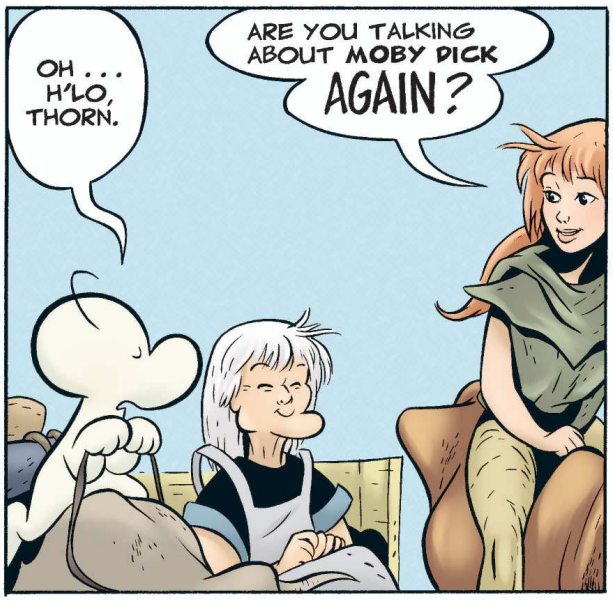
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

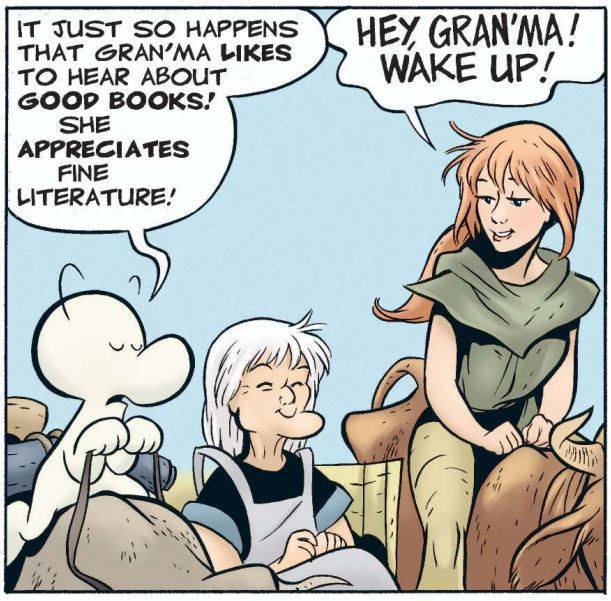

BESIDES, I HAVE A HANKERIN' TO TAKE TH' PROPRIETOR OF THIS FINE ESTABLISHMENT TO TH' CLEANERS! YOU WITH ME?
SURE! IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO ME! BUT THEN . . . NOT MUCH DOES!
GOOD. NOW GET BACK OUT THERE AND KEEP SPREADIN' RUMORS!
AN' QUIT BRINGIN' ME DIRTY DISHES TO WASH!
PHONCIBLE P. BONE..... AT LAST I HAVE FOUND YOU.....
WHO, ME? HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
...YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL INDEED THAT YOUR FRIENDS INTERFERED ON YOUR BEHALF LAST NIGHT.... I AM FORCED TO USE MUCH MORE SUBTLE METHODS OF CONTACTING YOU....
WHAT TH' HECK ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
.... YOUR COUSIN FONE BONE HAS AWAKENED THE GREAT RED DRAGON..... .... FOR THIS... ...I WILL KILL HIM.....

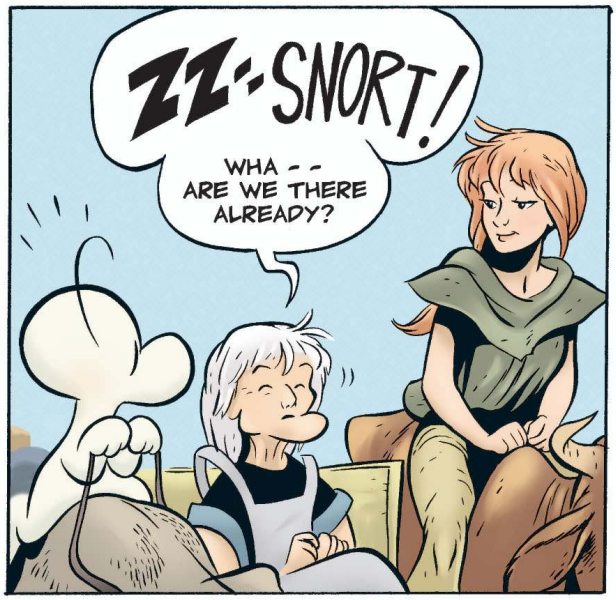

WHOA! WAIT A MINUTE, PAL! YOU LEAVE FONE BONE ALONE!
...WHAT DO YOU CARE FOR FRIENDS.....? ...ALL THAT MATTERS TO YOU IS PERSONAL GAIN.....
I'M WARNIN' YOU! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
....I HAVE WASTED ENOUGH TIME ON YOU AS IT IS.....
.....I HAVE EVEN JEOPARDIZED MY OWN PLANS... BUT.... ....WE HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS, YOU AND I.....
YEAH? LIKE WHAT?
...YOUR SOUL...
CRASH!

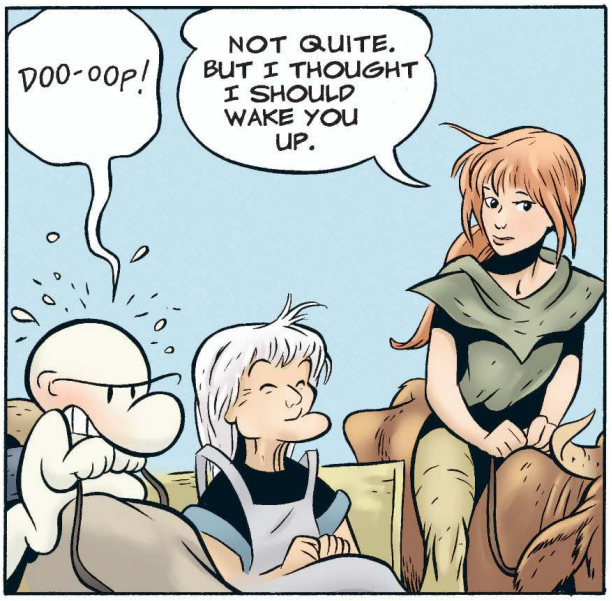

SORRY, CUZ, BUT LUCIUS SAYS YOU GOTTA WASH THESE!
UH, OH.

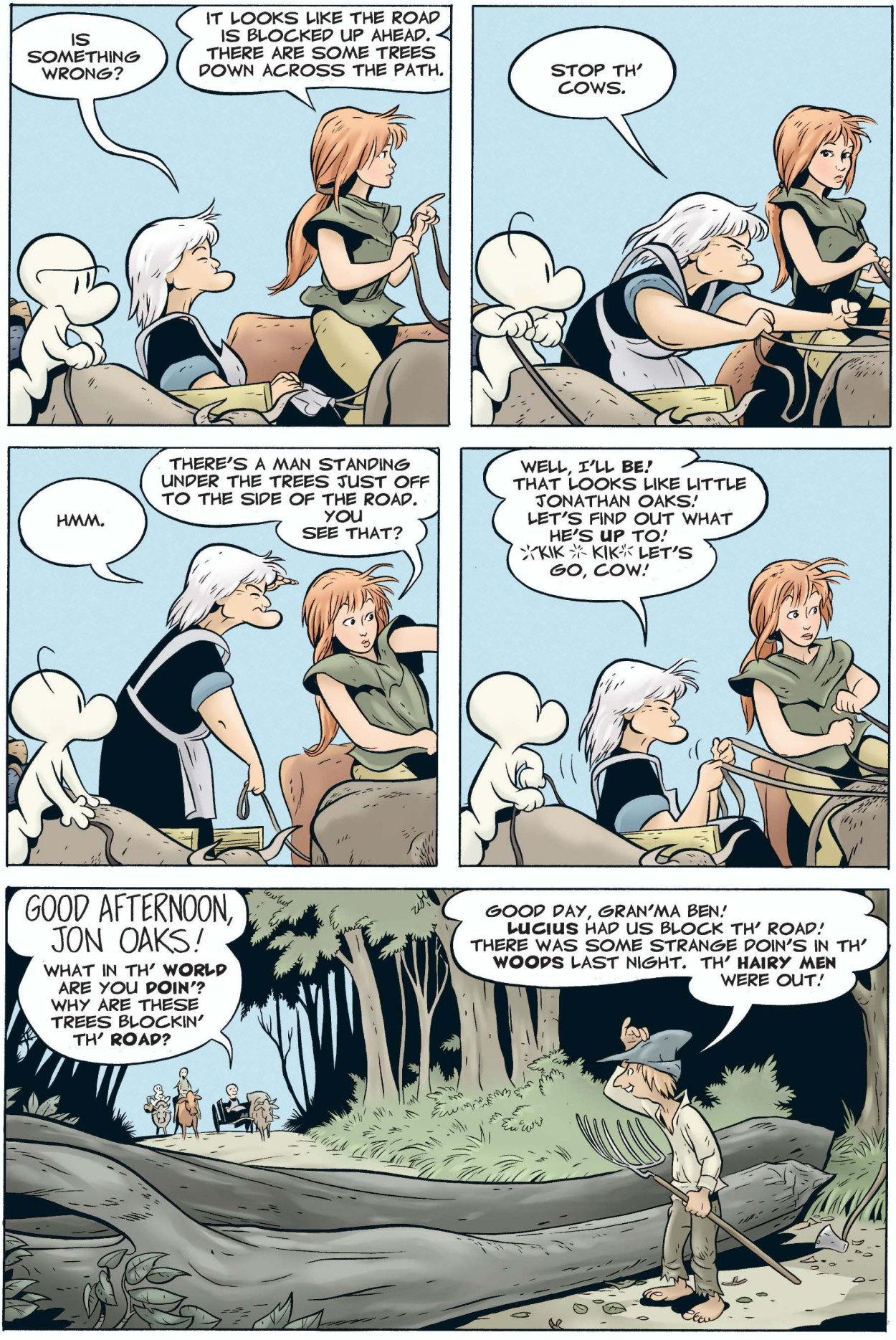

. . . SO THERE HE IS, OKAY? ISHMAEL'S LAYIN' IN HIS BUNK WAITIN' FOR HIS MYSTERIOUS NEW ROOMMATE TO SHOW UP . . . SUDDENLY - - AT LIKE, 3 O' CLOCK IN TH' MORNING - - TH' DOOR SWINGS OPEN . . . AN' THERE, STANDIN' IN TH' DOORWAY, WITH TH' LIGHT FROM TH' HALL BEHIND HIM, IS QUEEQUEG! AN' HE'S CARRYIN' SHRUNKEN HEADS!!
WHAT'S GOING ON, BACK THERE?

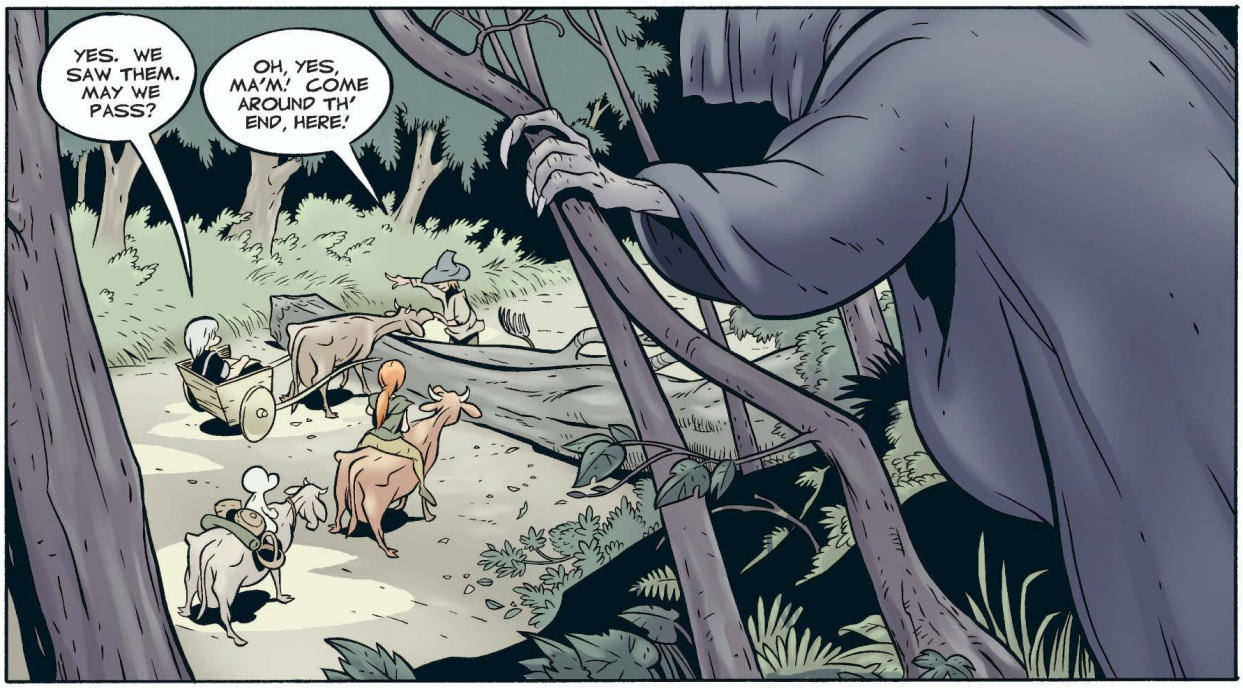

OH . . . H'LO, THORN.
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT MOBY DICK AGAIN?

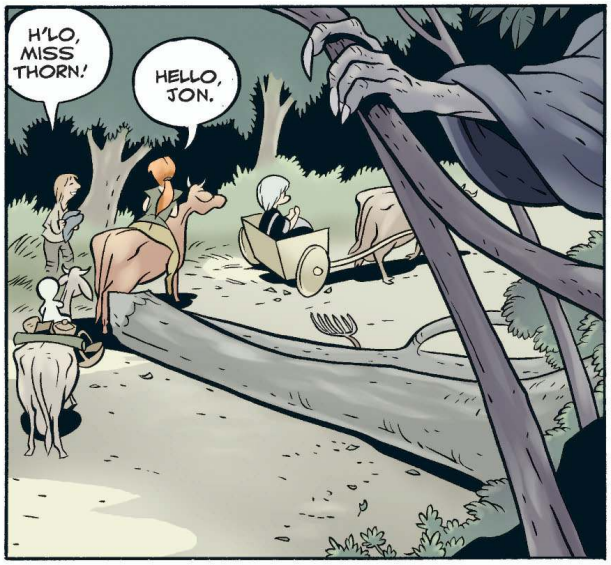

IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT GRAN'MA LIKES TO HEAR ABOUT GOOD BOOKS! SHE APPRECIATES FINE LITERATURE!
HEY, GRAN'MA! WAKE UP!


ZZ-SNORT!
WHA - - ARE WE THERE ALREADY?

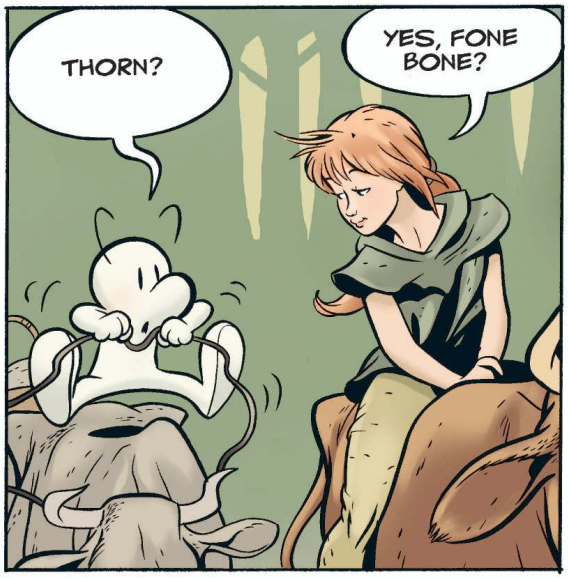

DOO-OOP!
NOT QUITE. BUT I THOUGHT I SHOULD WAKE YOU UP.

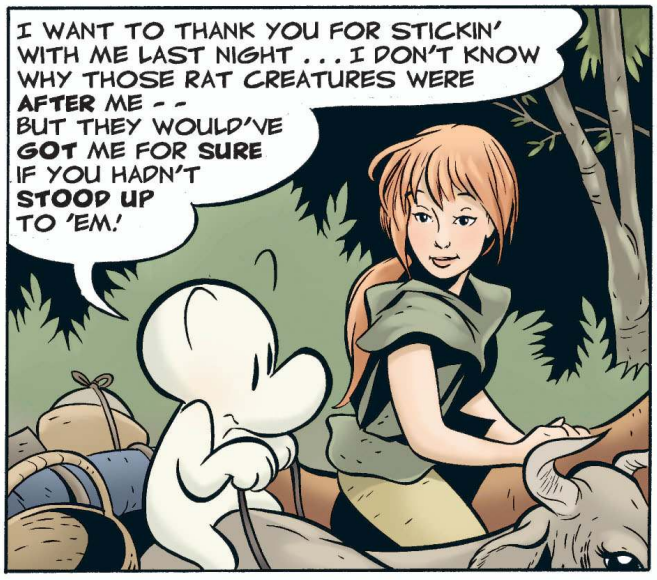

IS SOMETHING WRONG?
IT LOOKS LIKE THE ROAD IS BLOCKED UP AHEAD. THERE ARE SOME TREES DOWN ACROSS THE PATH.
STOP TH' COWS.
HMM.
THERE'S A MAN STANDING UNDER THE TREES JUST OFF TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. YOU SEE THAT?
WELL, I'LL **BE**! THAT LOOKS LIKE LITTLE JONATHAN OAKS! LET'S FIND OUT WHAT HE'S **UP** TO! KIK KIK LET'S GO, COW!
GOOD AFTERNOON, JON OAKS! WHAT IN TH' **WORLD** ARE YOU **DOIN'**? WHY ARE THESE TREES BLOCKIN' TH' **ROAD**?
GOOD DAY, GRAN'MA BEN! **LUCIUS** HAD US BLOCK TH' ROAD! THERE WAS SOME STRANGE DOIN'S IN TH' **WOODS** LAST NIGHT. TH' **HAIRY MEN** WERE OUT!

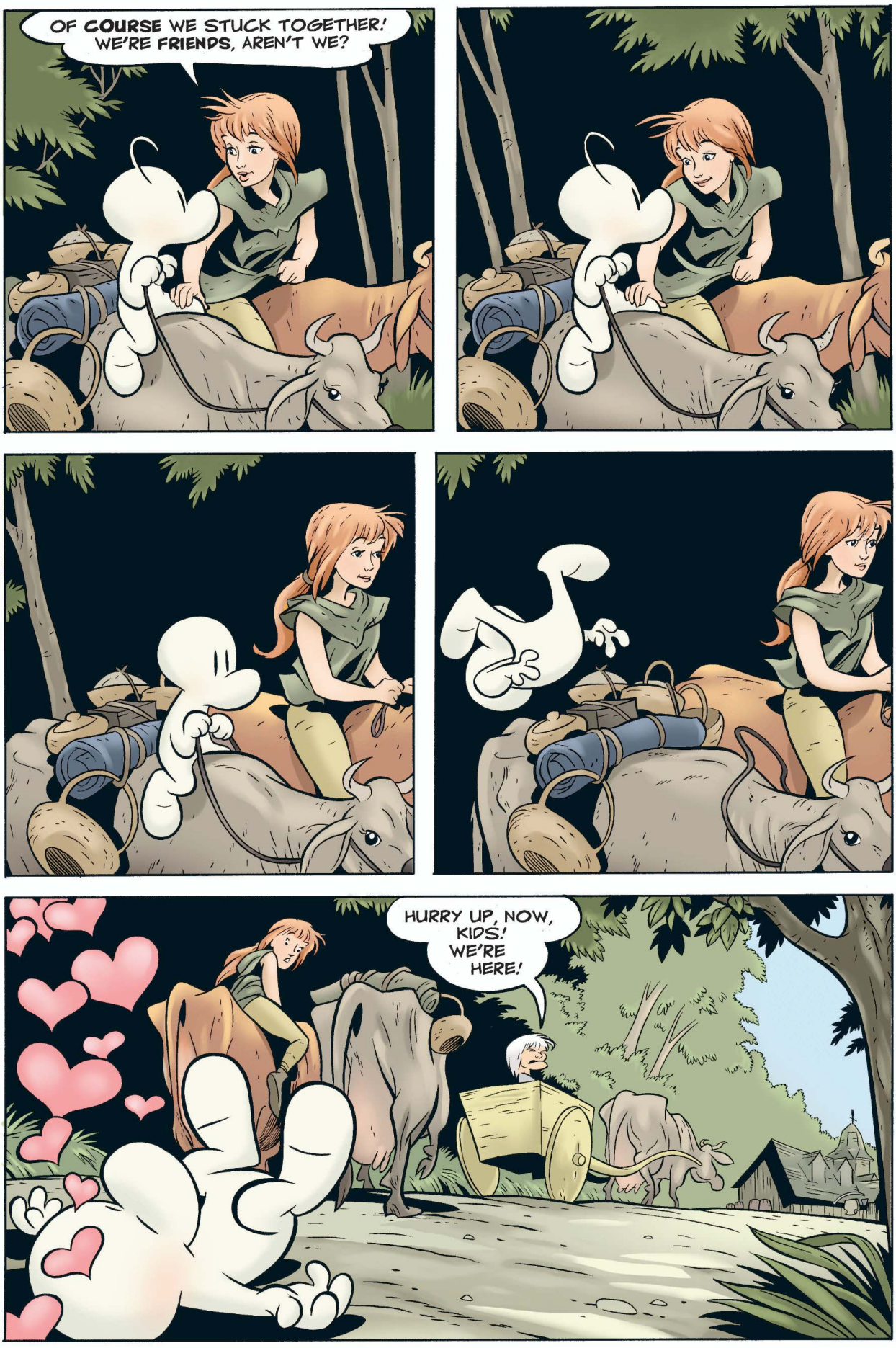

YES. WE SAW THEM. MAY WE PASS?
OH, YES, MA'M! COME AROUND TH' END, HERE!


H'LO, MISS THORN!
HELLO, JON.


GOOD LUCK WITH TH' BIG **RACE**, GRAN'MA! EVERYONE'S **BETTIN'** ON YA!
THANK YOU, DEAR!

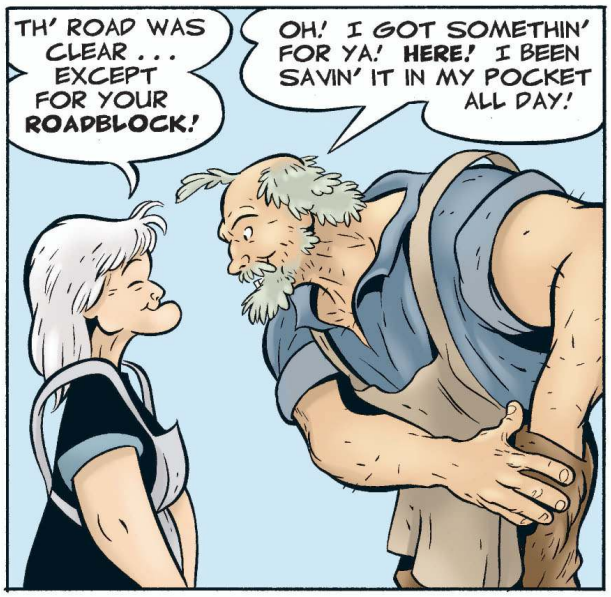

THORN?
YES, FONE BONE?

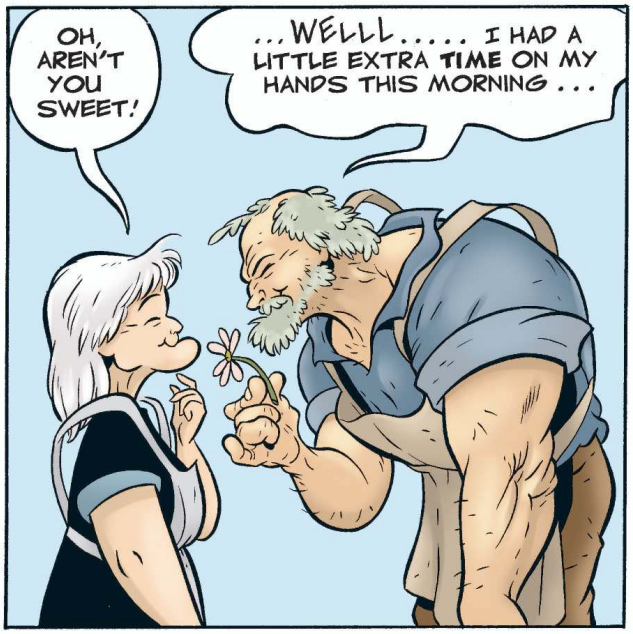

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR STICKIN' WITH ME LAST NIGHT . . . I DON'T KNOW WHY THOSE RAT CREATURES WERE **AFTER** ME - - BUT THEY WOULD'VE **GOT** ME FOR **SURE** IF YOU HADN'T **STOOD UP** TO 'EM!


OF COURSE WE STUCK TOGETHER! WE'RE FRIENDS, AREN'T WE?
HURRY UP, NOW, KIDS! WE'RE HERE!

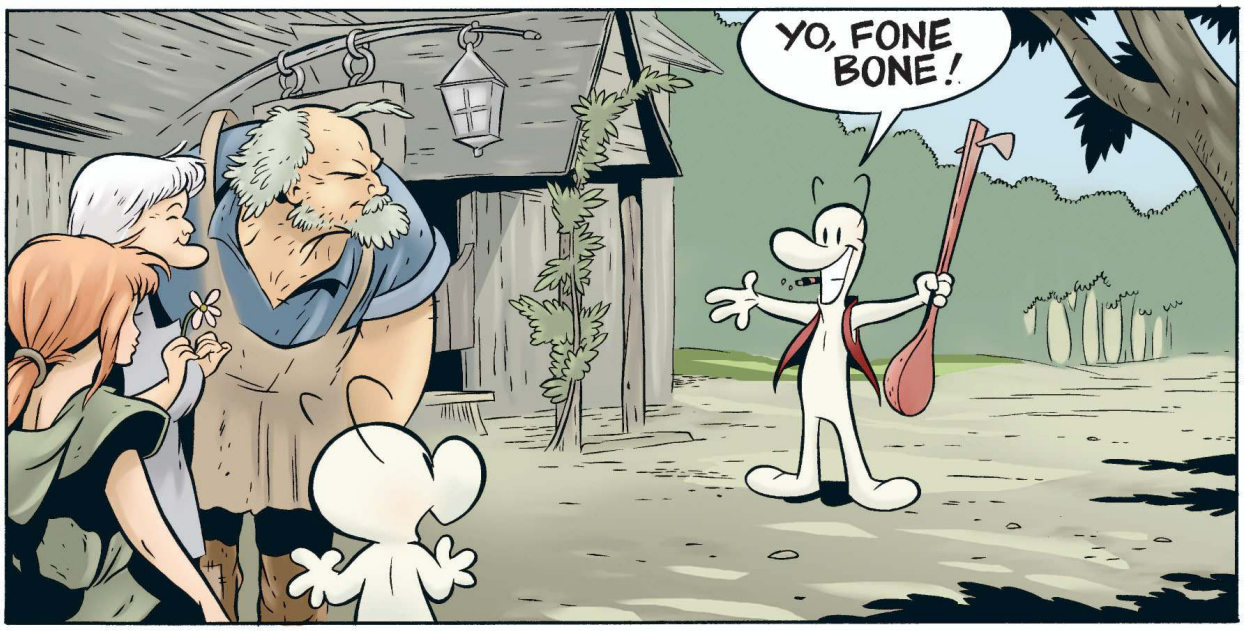

the Barrel~Haven
Est. Down Prop.
WELL, WELL . . . IT'S ABOUT TIME!

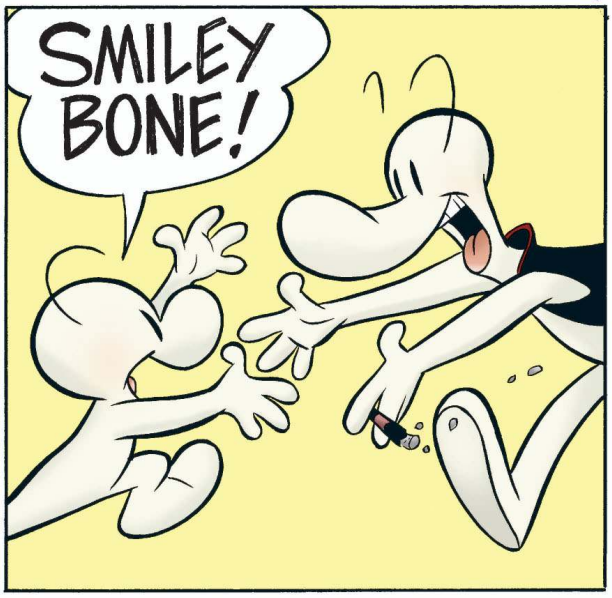

HELLO, LUCIUS!
HOW YA DOIN', ROSIE? WAS TH' ROAD SAFE? I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YA!

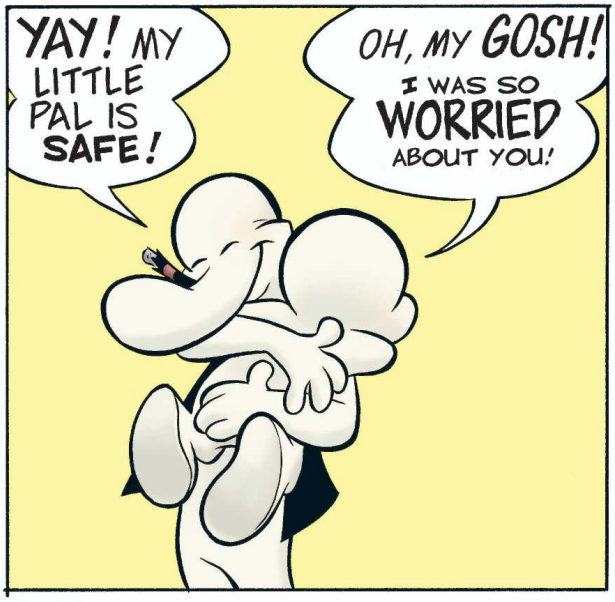

TH' ROAD WAS CLEAR . . . EXCEPT FOR YOUR ROADBLOCK!
OH! I GOT SOMETHIN' FOR YA! HERE! I BEEN SAVIN' IT IN MY POCKET ALL DAY!

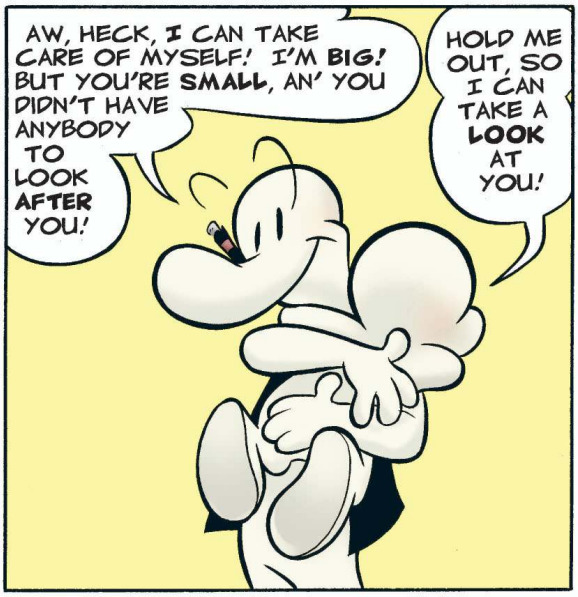

OH, AREN'T YOU SWEET!
. . . WELLL . . . . . I HAD A LITTLE EXTRA TIME ON MY HANDS THIS MORNING . . .

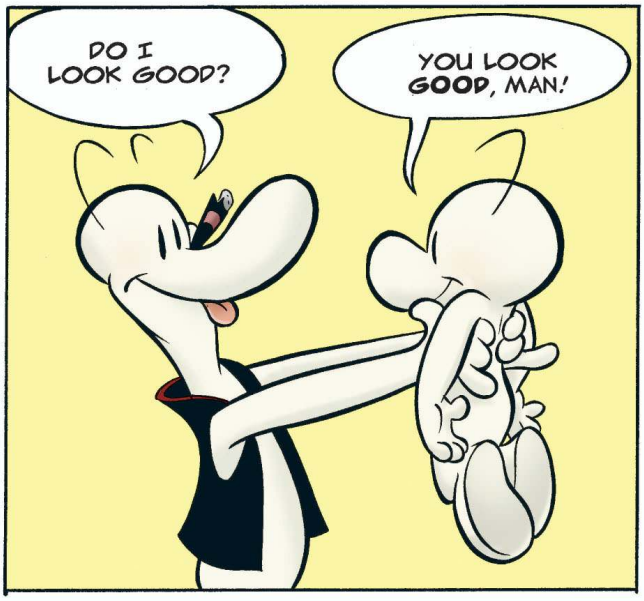

. . . I GOT A COUPLE OF DEAD BEATS INSIDE TAKIN' CARE OF TH' CUSTOMERS - - IN FACT, THEY LOOK A LOT LIKE THIS LITTLE FELLA YOU GOT HERE.
THEY DO?!

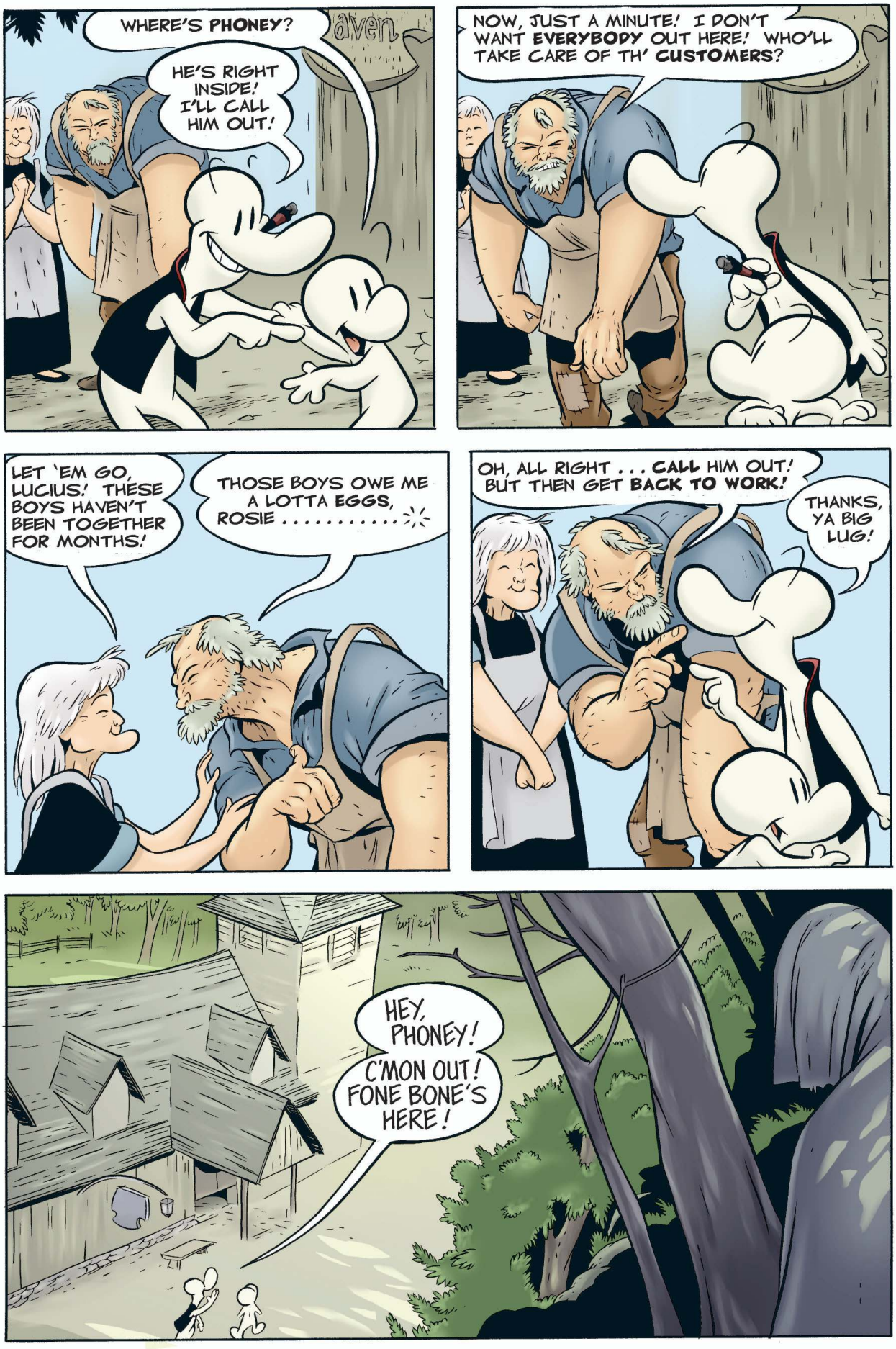

YO, FONE BONE!

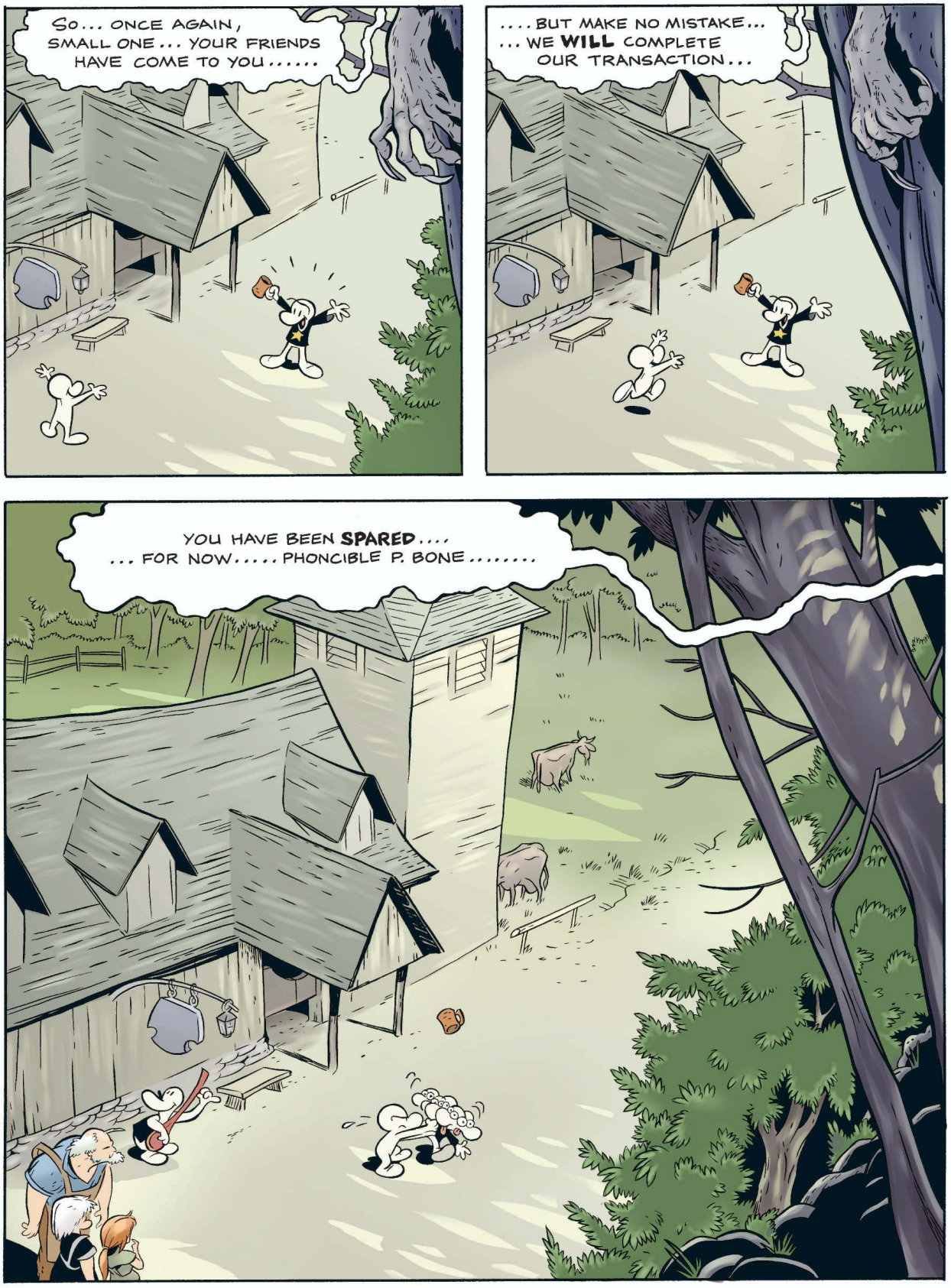

SMILEY BONE!

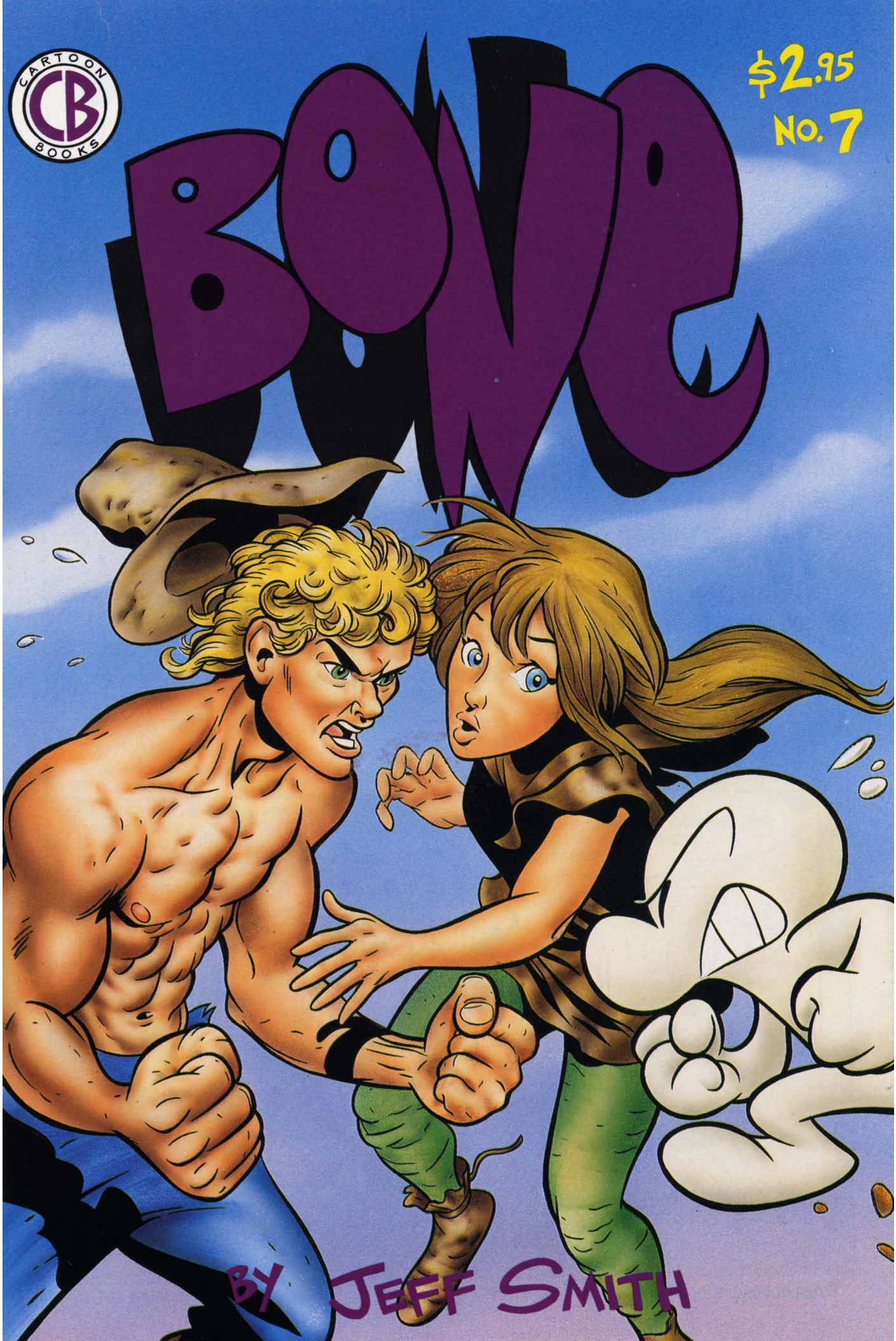

YAY! MY LITTLE PAL IS SAFE!
OH, MY GOSH! I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

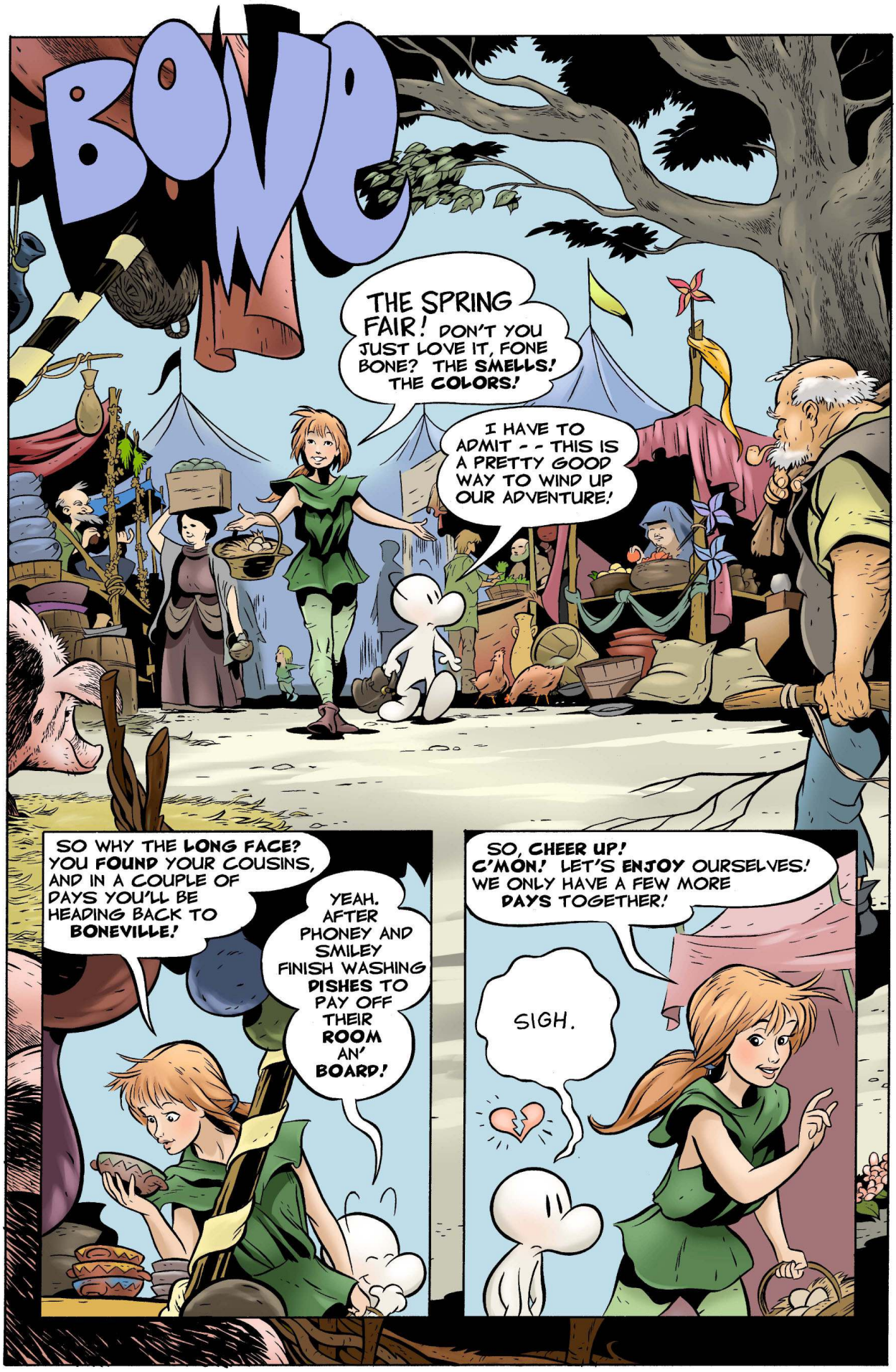

AW, HECK, I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF! I'M BIG! BUT YOU'RE SMALL, AN' YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANYBODY TO LOOK AFTER YOU!
HOLD ME OUT, SO I CAN TAKE A LOOK AT YOU!

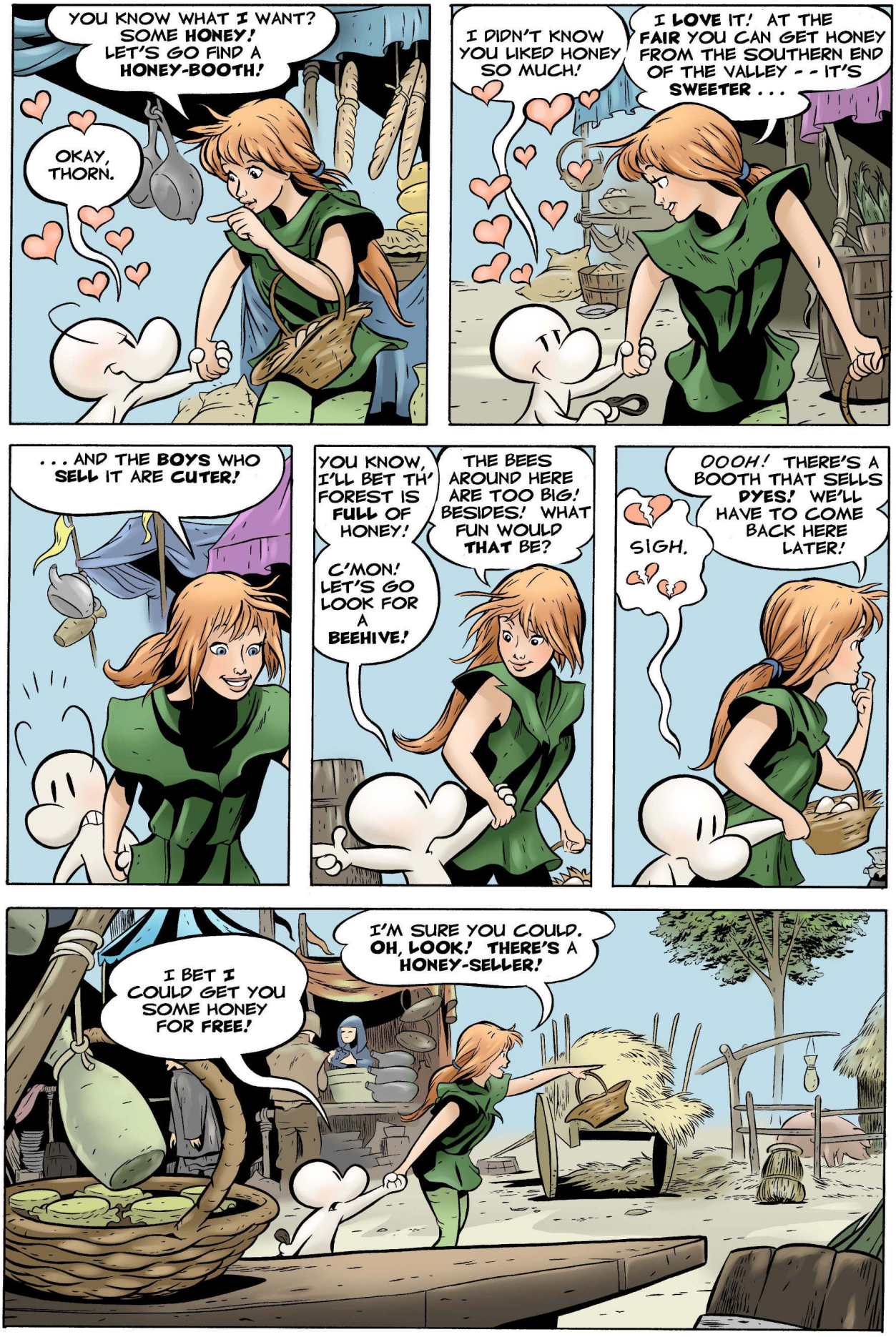

DO I LOOK GOOD?
YOU LOOK GOOD, MAN!

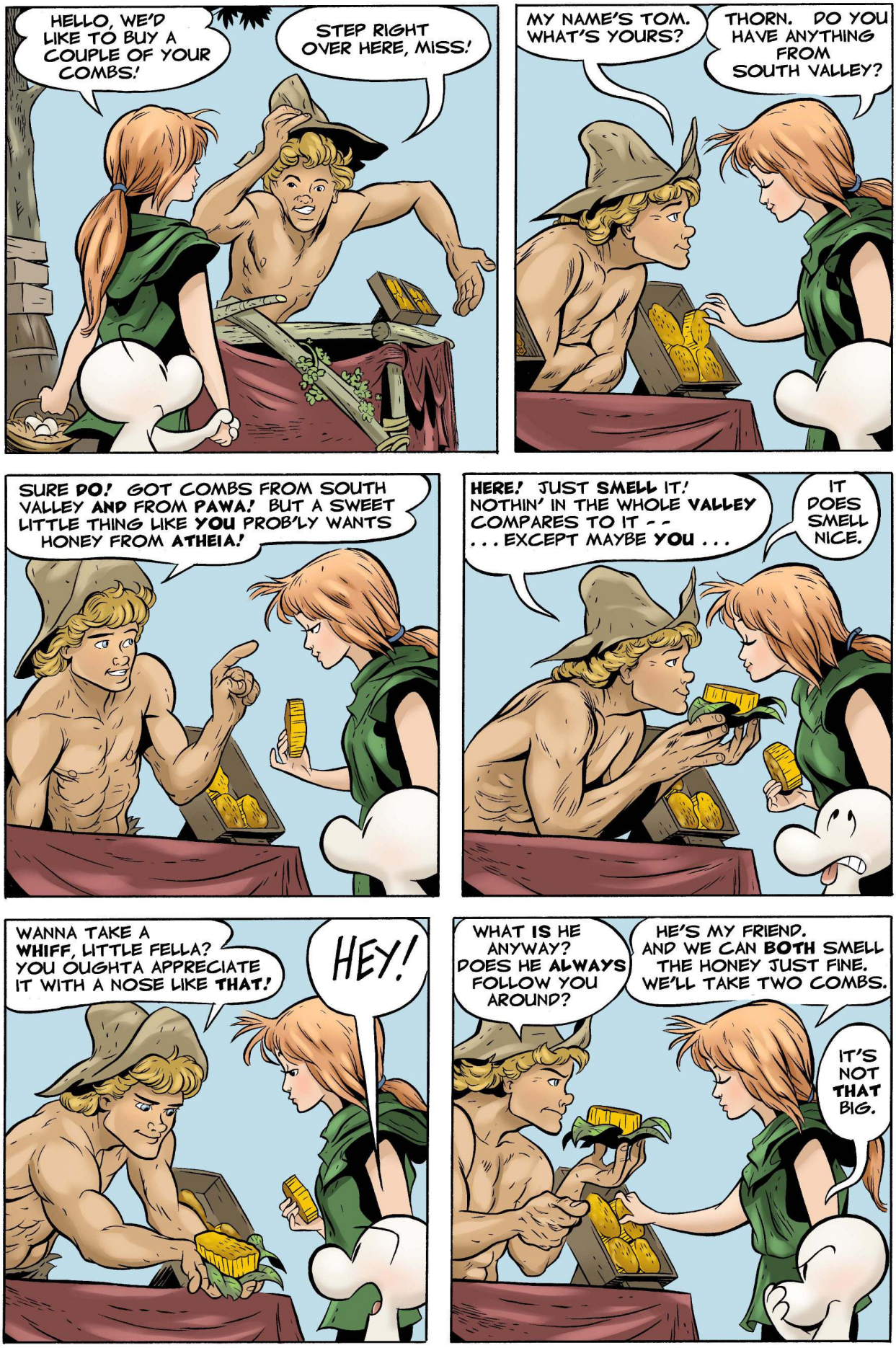

WHERE'S PHONEY?
HE'S RIGHT INSIDE! I'LL CALL HIM OUT!
NOW, JUST A MINUTE! I DON'T WANT EVERYBODY OUT HERE! WHO'LL TAKE CARE OF TH' CUSTOMERS?
LET 'EM GO, LUCIUS! THESE BOYS HAVEN'T BEEN TOGETHER FOR MONTHS!
THOSE BOYS OWE ME A LOTTA EGGS, ROSIE . . . . . .
OH, ALL RIGHT . . . CALL HIM OUT! BUT THEN GET BACK TO WORK!
THANKS, YA BIG LUG!
HEY, PHONEY! C'MON OUT! FONE BONE'S HERE!

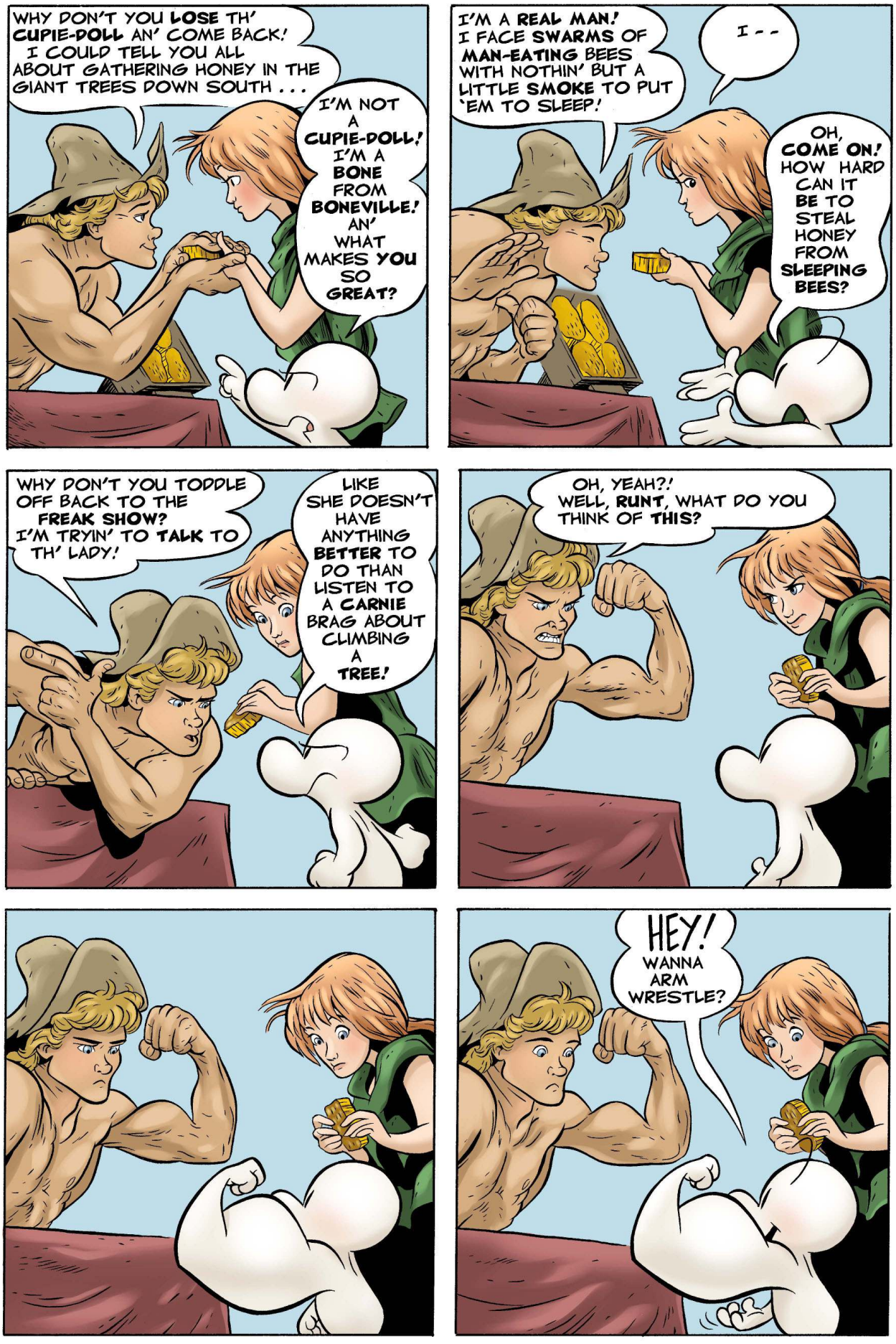

So... once again, small one... your friends have come to you.....
....but make no mistake... ...we **WILL** complete our transaction...
you have been **SPARED**.... ...for now..... Phoncible P. Bone.....

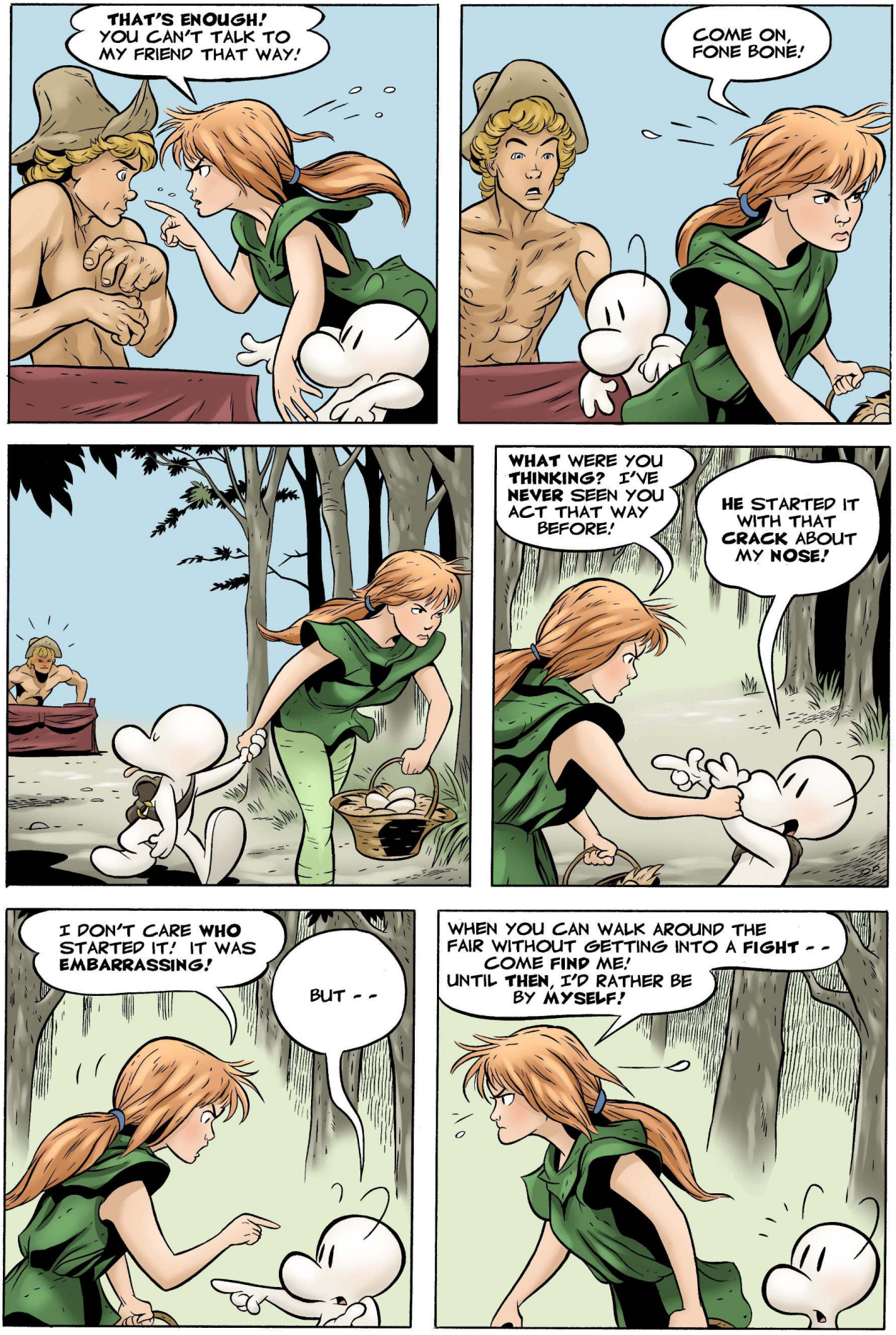

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
NO. 7
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
THE SPRING FAIR! DON'T YOU JUST LOVE IT, FONE BONE? THE SMELLS! THE COLORS!
I HAVE TO ADMIT - - THIS IS A PRETTY GOOD WAY TO WIND UP OUR ADVENTURE!
SO WHY THE LONG FACE? YOU FOUND YOUR COUSINS, AND IN A COUPLE OF DAYS YOU'LL BE HEADING BACK TO BONEVILLE!
YEAH. AFTER PHONEY AND SMILEY FINISH WASHING DISHES TO PAY OFF THEIR ROOM AN' BOARD!
SO, CHEER UP! C'MON! LET'S ENJOY OURSELVES! WE ONLY HAVE A FEW MORE DAYS TOGETHER!
SIGH.

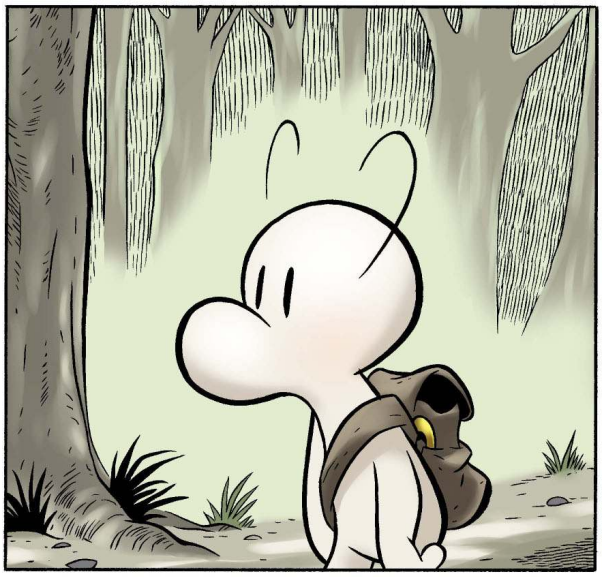

YOU KNOW WHAT I WANT? SOME HONEY! LET'S GO FIND A HONEY-BOOTH!
OKAY, THORN.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU LIKED HONEY SO MUCH!
I LOVE IT! AT THE FAIR YOU CAN GET HONEY FROM THE SOUTHERN END OF THE VALLEY - - IT'S SWEETER . . .
. . . AND THE BOYS WHO SELL IT ARE CUTER!
YOU KNOW, I'LL BET TH' FOREST IS FULL OF HONEY!
C'MON! LET'S GO LOOK FOR A BEEHIVE!
THE BEES AROUND HERE ARE TOO BIG! BESIDES! WHAT FUN WOULD THAT BE?
SIGH.
OOOH! THERE'S A BOOTH THAT SELLS DYES! WE'LL HAVE TO COME BACK HERE LATER!
I BET I COULD GET YOU SOME HONEY FOR FREE!
I'M SURE YOU COULD. OH, LOOK! THERE'S A HONEY-SELLER!

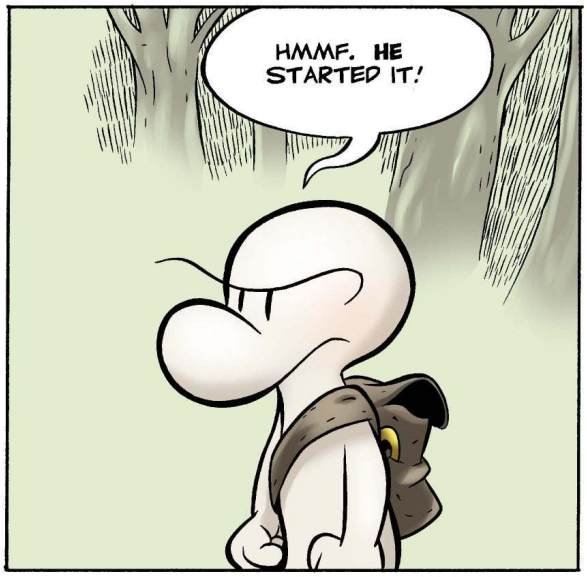

HELLO, WE'D LIKE TO BUY A COUPLE OF YOUR COMBS!
STEP RIGHT OVER HERE, MISS!
MY NAME'S TOM. WHAT'S YOURS?
THORN. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FROM SOUTH VALLEY?
SURE DO! GOT COMBS FROM SOUTH VALLEY AND FROM PAWA! BUT A SWEET LITTLE THING LIKE YOU PROB'LY WANTS HONEY FROM ATHEIA!
HERE! JUST SMELL IT! NOTHIN' IN THE WHOLE VALLEY COMPARES TO IT -- ... EXCEPT MAYBE YOU ...
IT DOES SMELL NICE.
WANNA TAKE A WHIFF, LITTLE FELLA? YOU OUGHTA APPRECIATE IT WITH A NOSE LIKE THAT!
HEY!
WHAT IS HE ANYWAY? DOES HE ALWAYS FOLLOW YOU AROUND?
HE'S MY FRIEND. AND WE CAN BOTH SMELL THE HONEY JUST FINE. WE'LL TAKE TWO COMBS.
IT'S NOT THAT BIG.

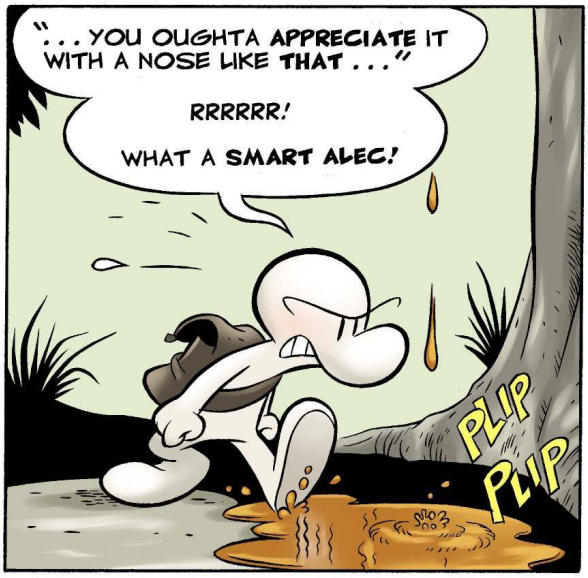

WHY DON'T YOU LOSE TH' CUPIE-DOLL AN' COME BACK! I COULD TELL YOU ALL ABOUT GATHERING HONEY IN THE GIANT TREES DOWN SOUTH . . .
I'M NOT A CUPIE-DOLL! I'M A BONE FROM BONEVILLE! AN' WHAT MAKES YOU SO GREAT?
I'M A REAL MAN! I FACE SWARMS OF MAN-EATING BEES WITH NOTHIN' BUT A LITTLE SMOKE TO PUT 'EM TO SLEEP!
I - -
OH, COME ON! HOW HARD CAN IT BE TO STEAL HONEY FROM SLEEPING BEES?
WHY DON'T YOU TODDLE OFF BACK TO THE FREAK SHOW? I'M TRYIN' TO TALK TO TH' LADY!
LIKE SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING BETTER TO DO THAN LISTEN TO A CARNIE BRAG ABOUT CLIMBING A TREE!
OH, YEAH?! WELL, RUNT, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?
HEY! WANNA ARM WRESTLE?

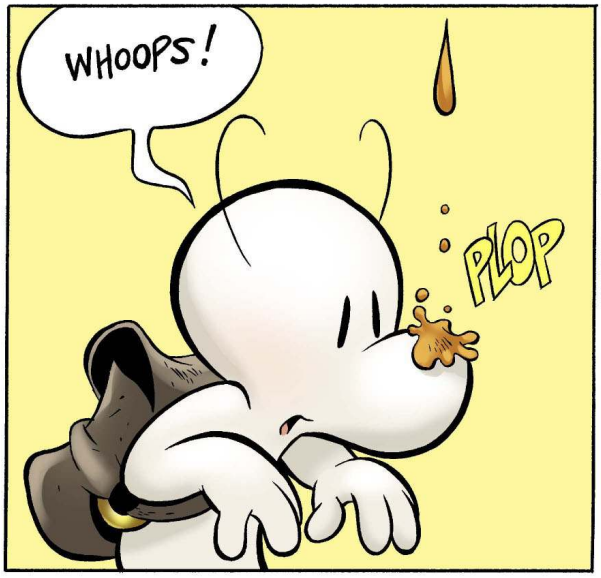

THAT'S ENOUGH! YOU CAN'T TALK TO MY FRIEND THAT WAY!
COME ON, FONE BONE!
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING? I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU ACT THAT WAY BEFORE!
HE STARTED IT WITH THAT CRACK ABOUT MY NOSE!
I DON'T CARE WHO STARTED IT! IT WAS EMBARRASSING!
BUT - -
WHEN YOU CAN WALK AROUND THE FAIR WITHOUT GETTING INTO A FIGHT - - COME FIND ME! UNTIL THEN, I'D RATHER BE BY MYSELF!



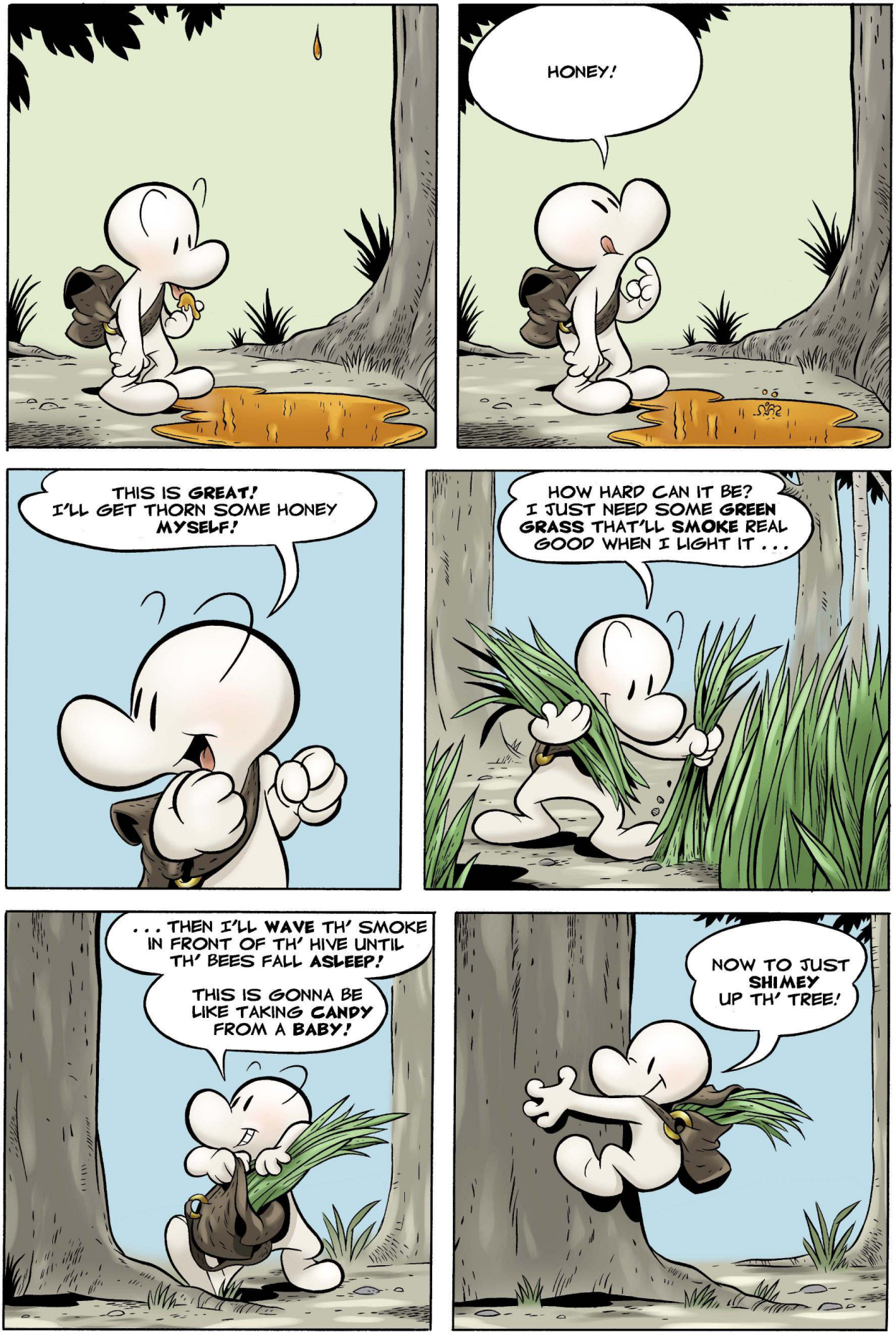


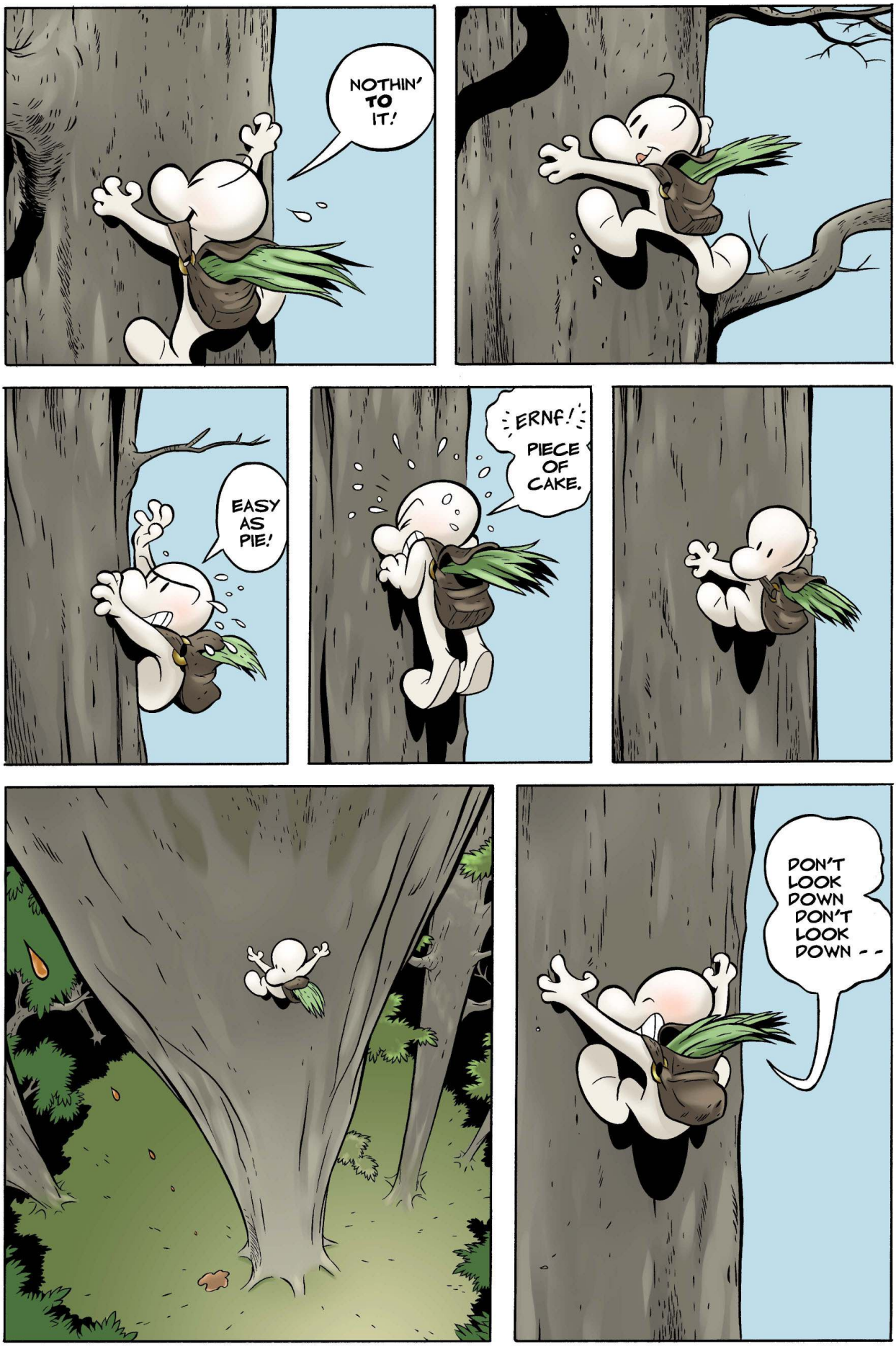


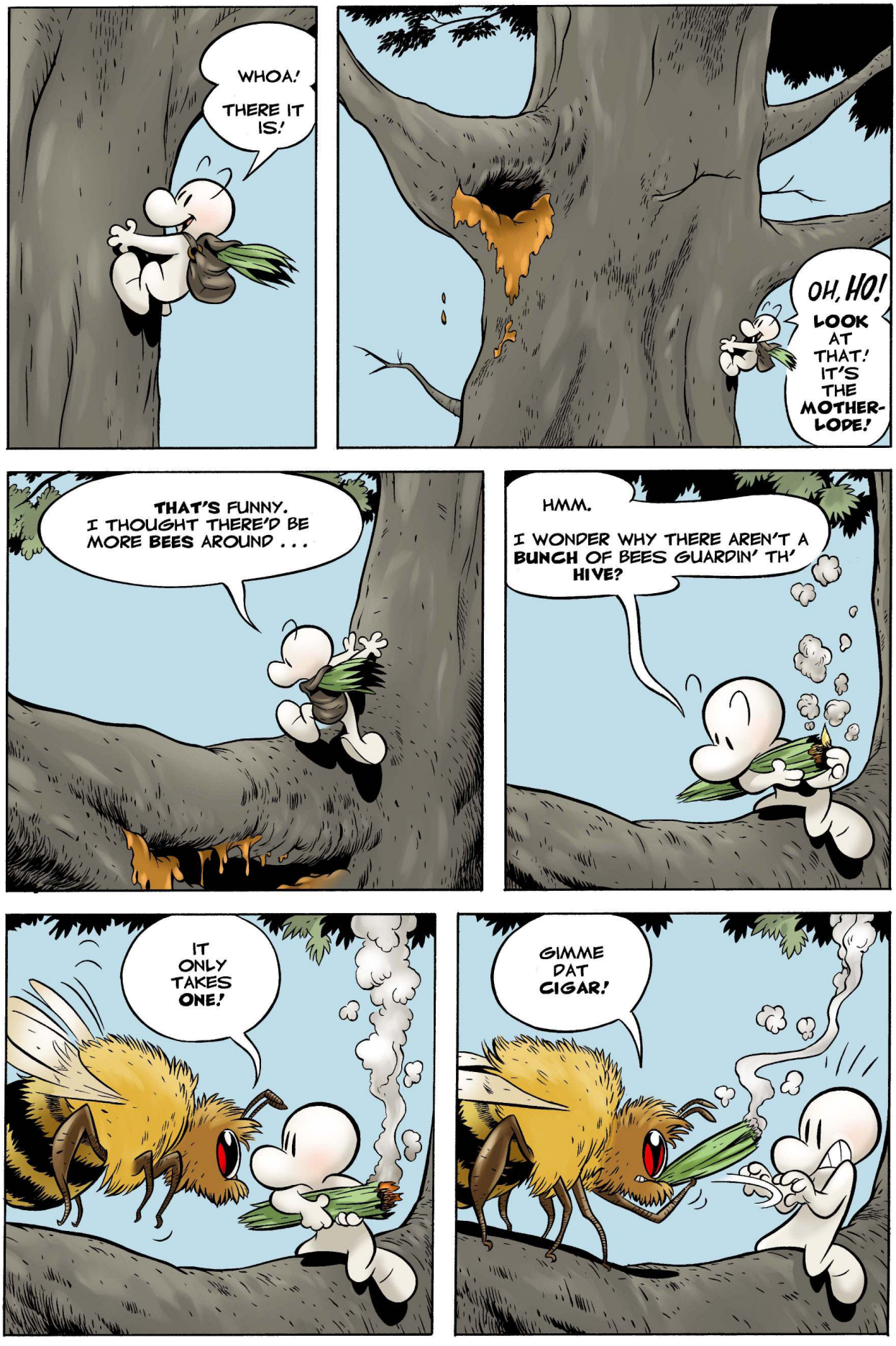


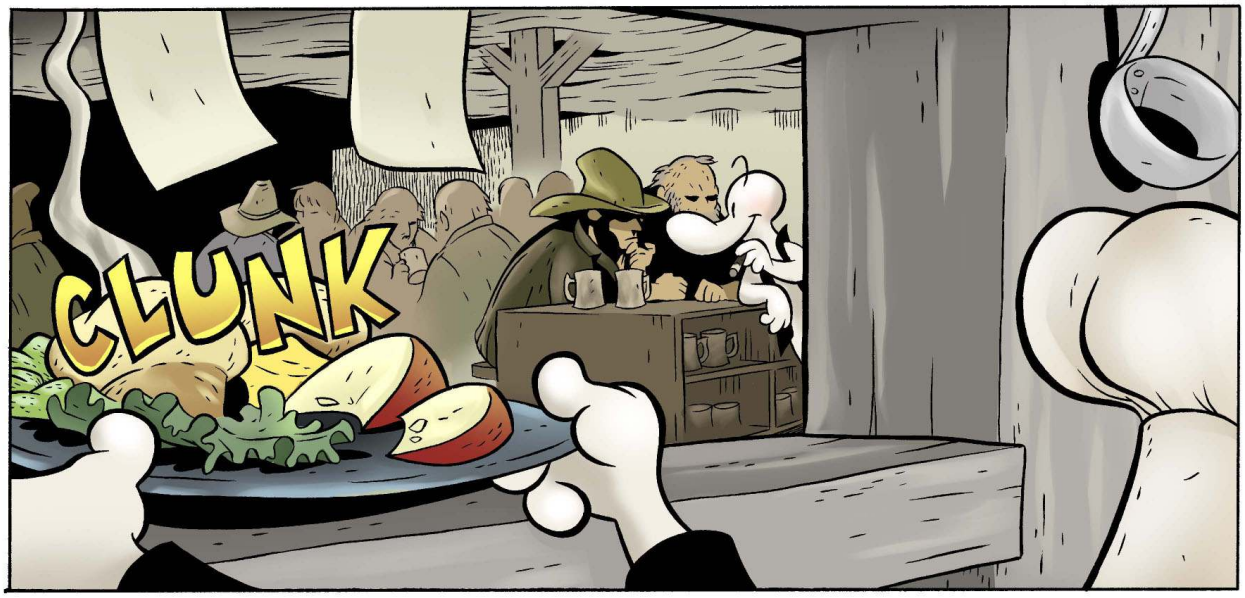


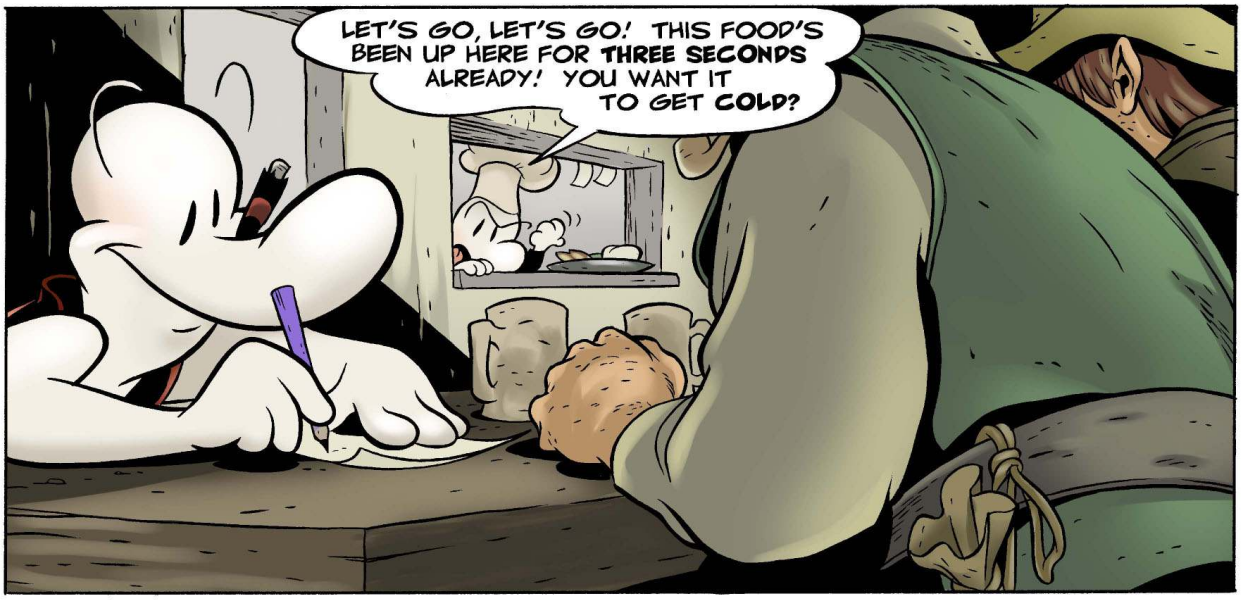
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

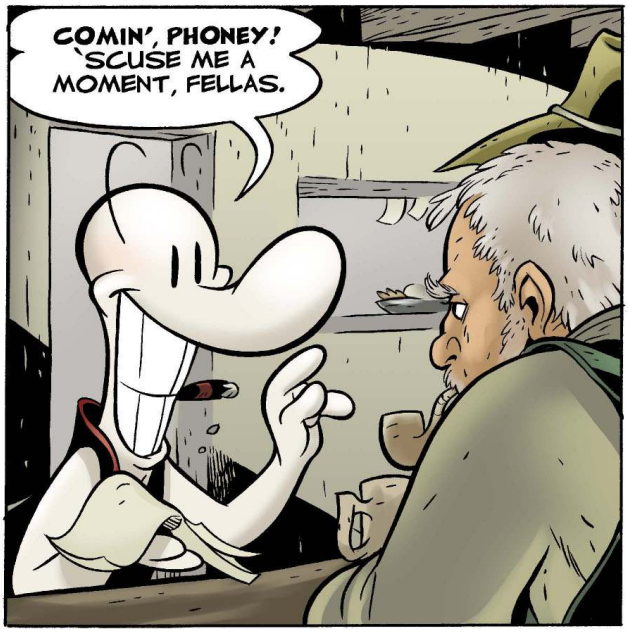

HONEY!
THIS IS GREAT! I'LL GET THORN SOME HONEY MYSELF!
HOW HARD CAN IT BE? I JUST NEED SOME GREEN GRASS THAT'LL SMOKE REAL GOOD WHEN I LIGHT IT . . .
. . . THEN I'LL WAVE TH' SMOKE IN FRONT OF TH' HIVE UNTIL TH' BEES FALL ASLEEP!
THIS IS GONNA BE LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY!
NOW TO JUST SHIMEY UP TH' TREE!


NOTHIN' TO IT!
EASY AS PIE!
ERNF! PIECE OF CAKE.
DON'T LOOK DOWN DON'T LOOK DOWN - -

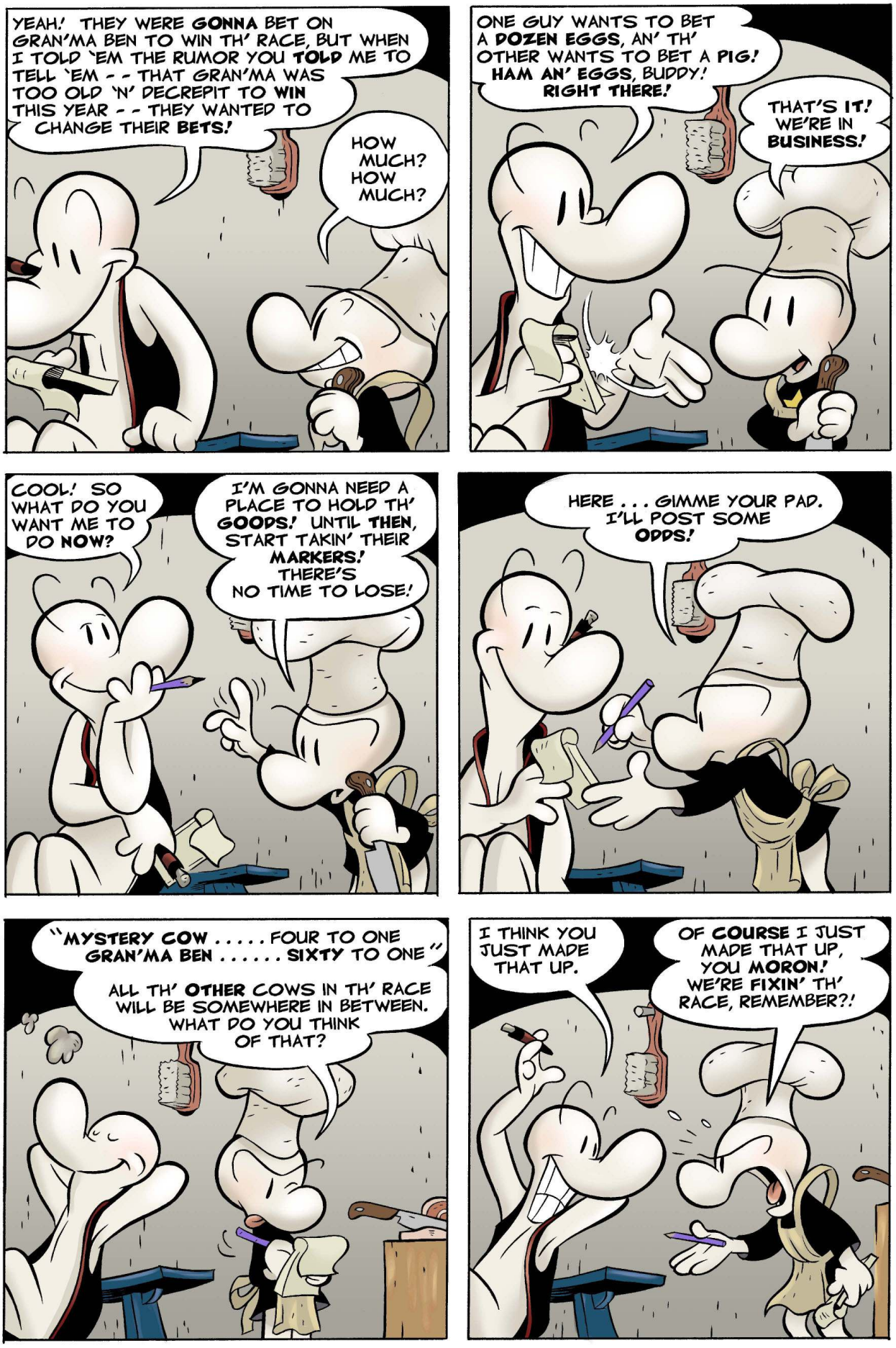

WHOA!
THERE IT IS!
OH, HO!
LOOK AT THAT! IT'S THE MOTHER-LODE!
THAT'S FUNNY. I THOUGHT THERE'D BE MORE BEES AROUND . . .
HMM.
I WONDER WHY THERE AREN'T A BUNCH OF BEES GUARDIN' TH' HIVE?
IT ONLY TAKES ONE!
GIMME DAT CIGAR!

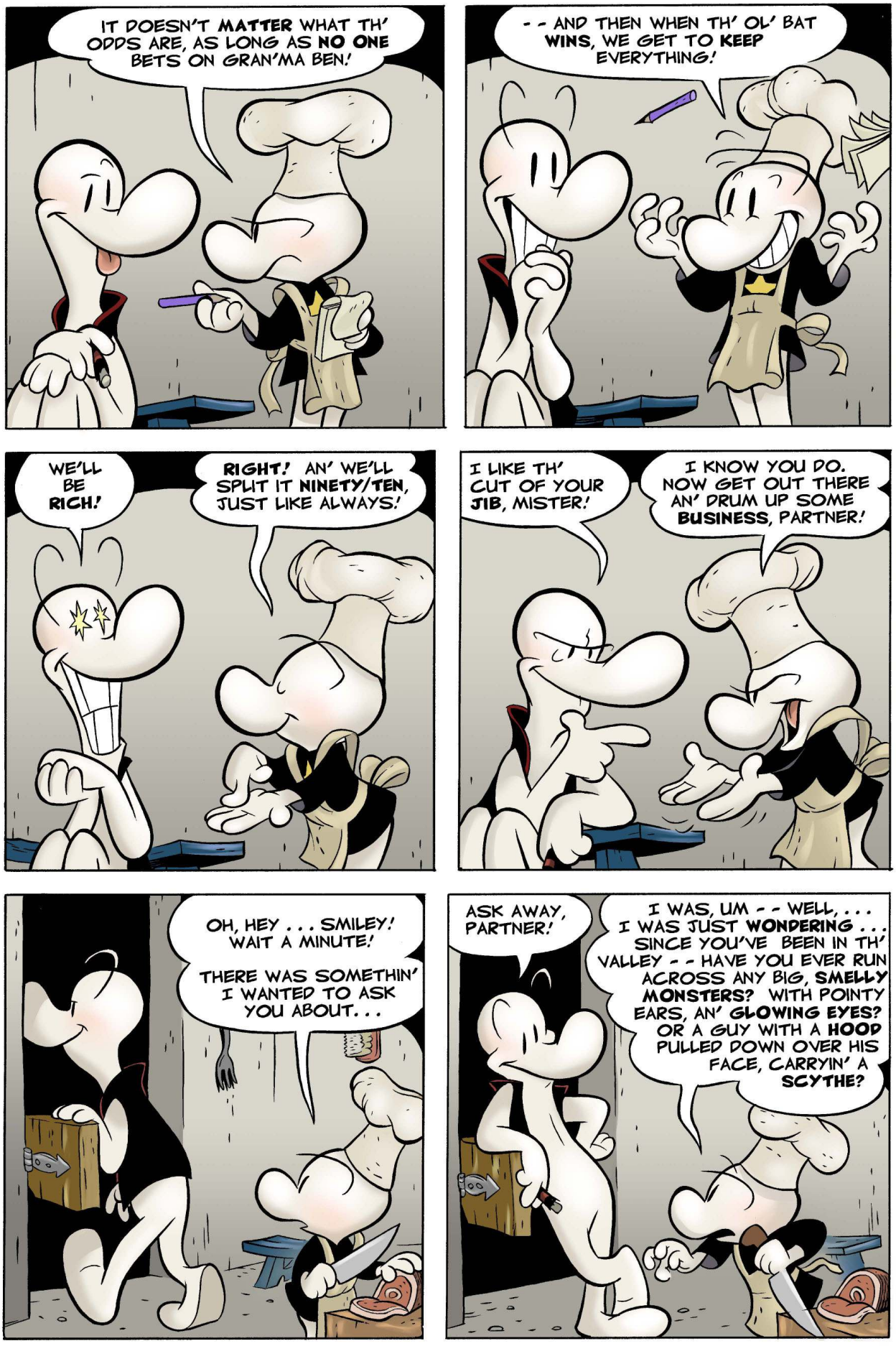

CLUNK

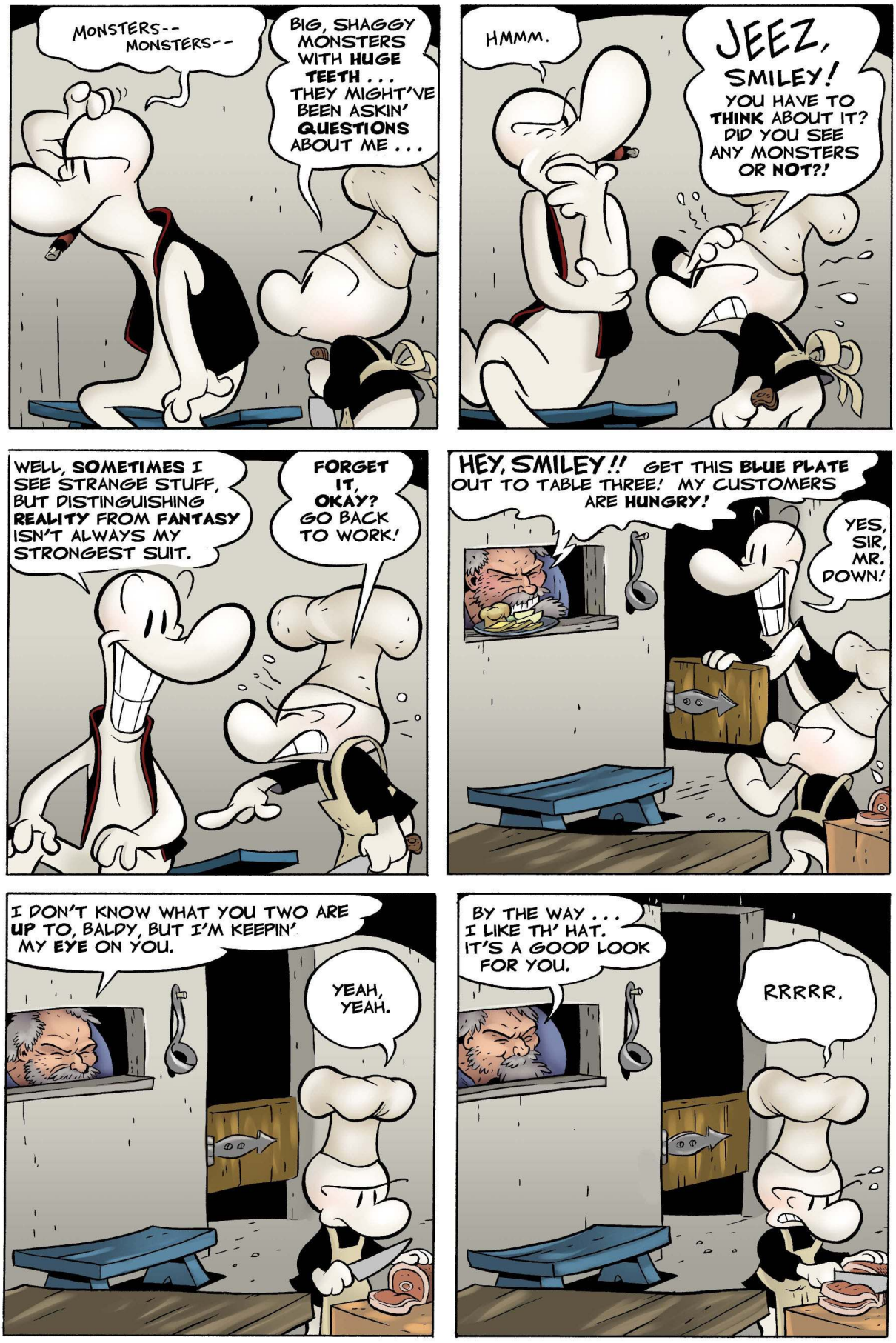

LET'S GO, LET'S GO! THIS FOOD'S BEEN UP HERE FOR THREE SECONDS ALREADY! YOU WANT IT TO GET COLD?


COMIN', PHONEY! 'SCUSE ME A MOMENT, FELLAS.


HEY! I GOT TWO GUYS OUT HERE WHO WANT TO BET ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
YOU DO?

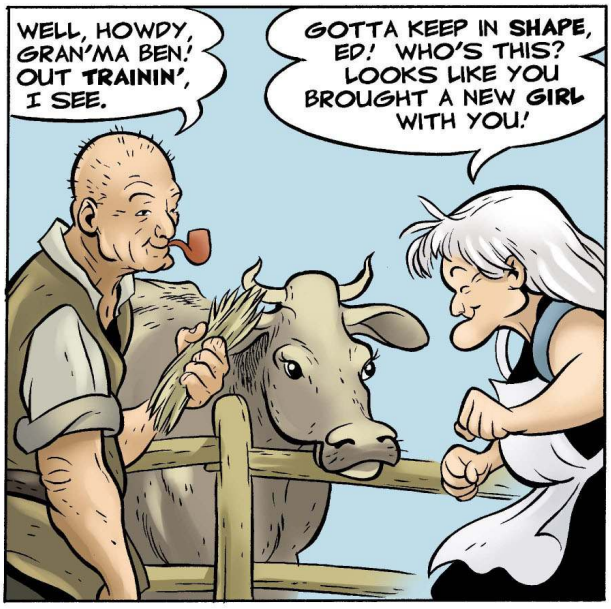

YEAH! THEY WERE GONNA BET ON GRAN'MA BEN TO WIN TH' RACE, BUT WHEN I TOLD 'EM THE RUMOR YOU TOLD ME TO TELL 'EM - - THAT GRAN'MA WAS TOO OLD 'N' DECREPIT TO WIN THIS YEAR - - THEY WANTED TO CHANGE THEIR BETS!
HOW MUCH? HOW MUCH?
ONE GUY WANTS TO BET A DOZEN EGGS, AN' TH' OTHER WANTS TO BET A PIG! HAM AN' EGGS, BUDDY! RIGHT THERE!
THAT'S IT! WE'RE IN BUSINESS!
COOL! SO WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO NOW?
I'M GONNA NEED A PLACE TO HOLD TH' GOODS! UNTIL THEN, START TAKIN' THEIR MARKERS! THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE!
HERE . . . GIMME YOUR PAD. I'LL POST SOME ODDS!
"MYSTERY COW . . . . . FOUR TO ONE GRAN'MA BEN . . . . . SIXTY TO ONE"
ALL TH' OTHER COWS IN TH' RACE WILL BE SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
I THINK YOU JUST MADE THAT UP.
OF COURSE I JUST MADE THAT UP, YOU MORON! WE'RE FIXIN' TH' RACE, REMEMBER?!


IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT TH' ODDS ARE, AS LONG AS NO ONE BETS ON GRAN'MA BEN!
- - AND THEN WHEN TH' OL' BAT WINS, WE GET TO KEEP EVERYTHING!
WE'LL BE RICH!
RIGHT! AN' WE'LL SPLIT IT NINETY/TEN, JUST LIKE ALWAYS!
I LIKE TH' CUT OF YOUR JIB, MISTER!
I KNOW YOU DO. NOW GET OUT THERE AN' DRUM UP SOME BUSINESS, PARTNER!
OH, HEY . . . SMILEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
THERE WAS SOMETHIN' I WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT. . .
ASK AWAY, PARTNER!
I WAS, UM - - WELL, . . . I WAS JUST WONDERING . . . SINCE YOU'VE BEEN IN TH' VALLEY - - HAVE YOU EVER RUN ACROSS ANY BIG, SMELLY MONSTERS? WITH POINTY EARS, AN' GLOWING EYES? OR A GUY WITH A HOOD PULLED DOWN OVER HIS FACE, CARRYIN' A SCYTHE?



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

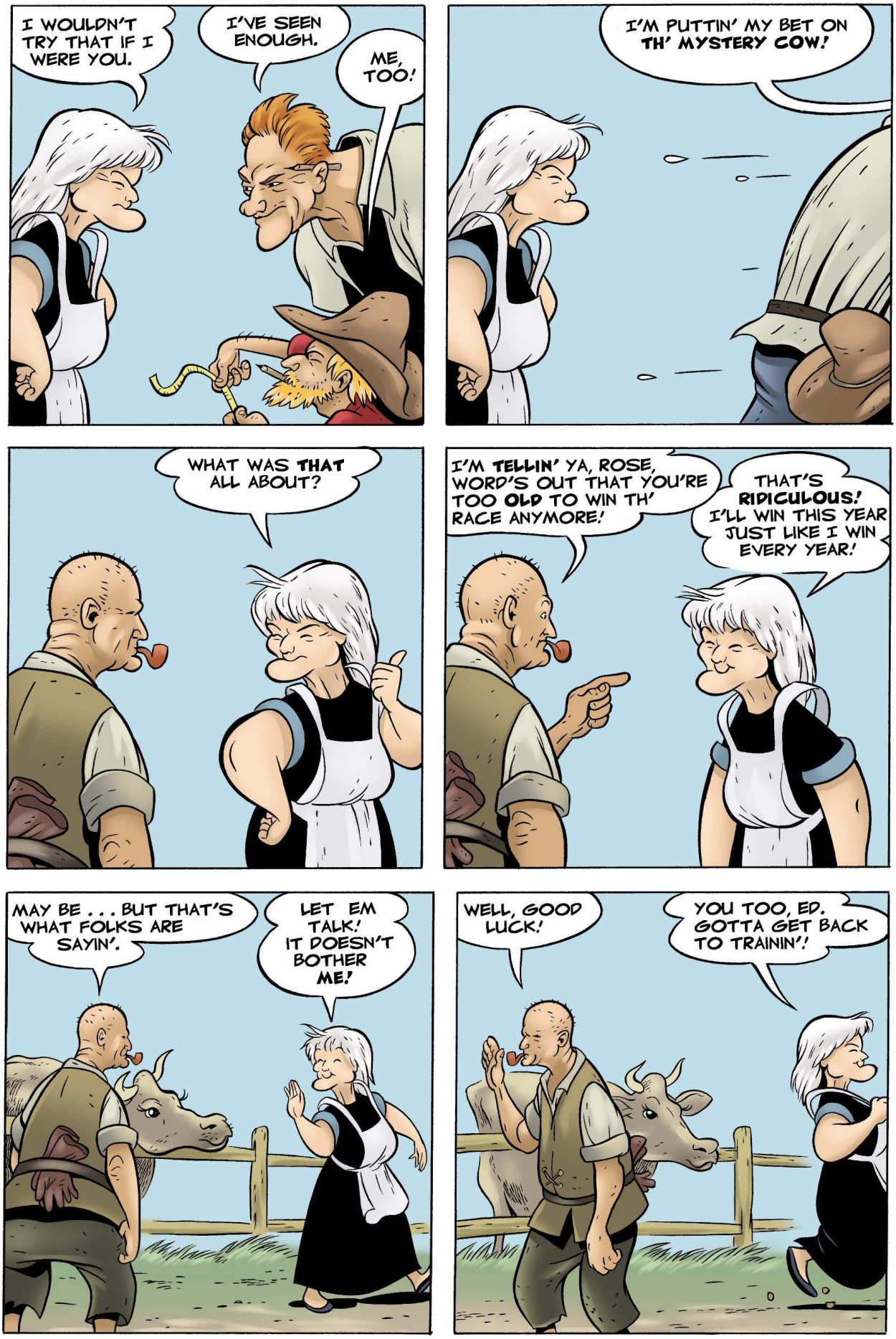


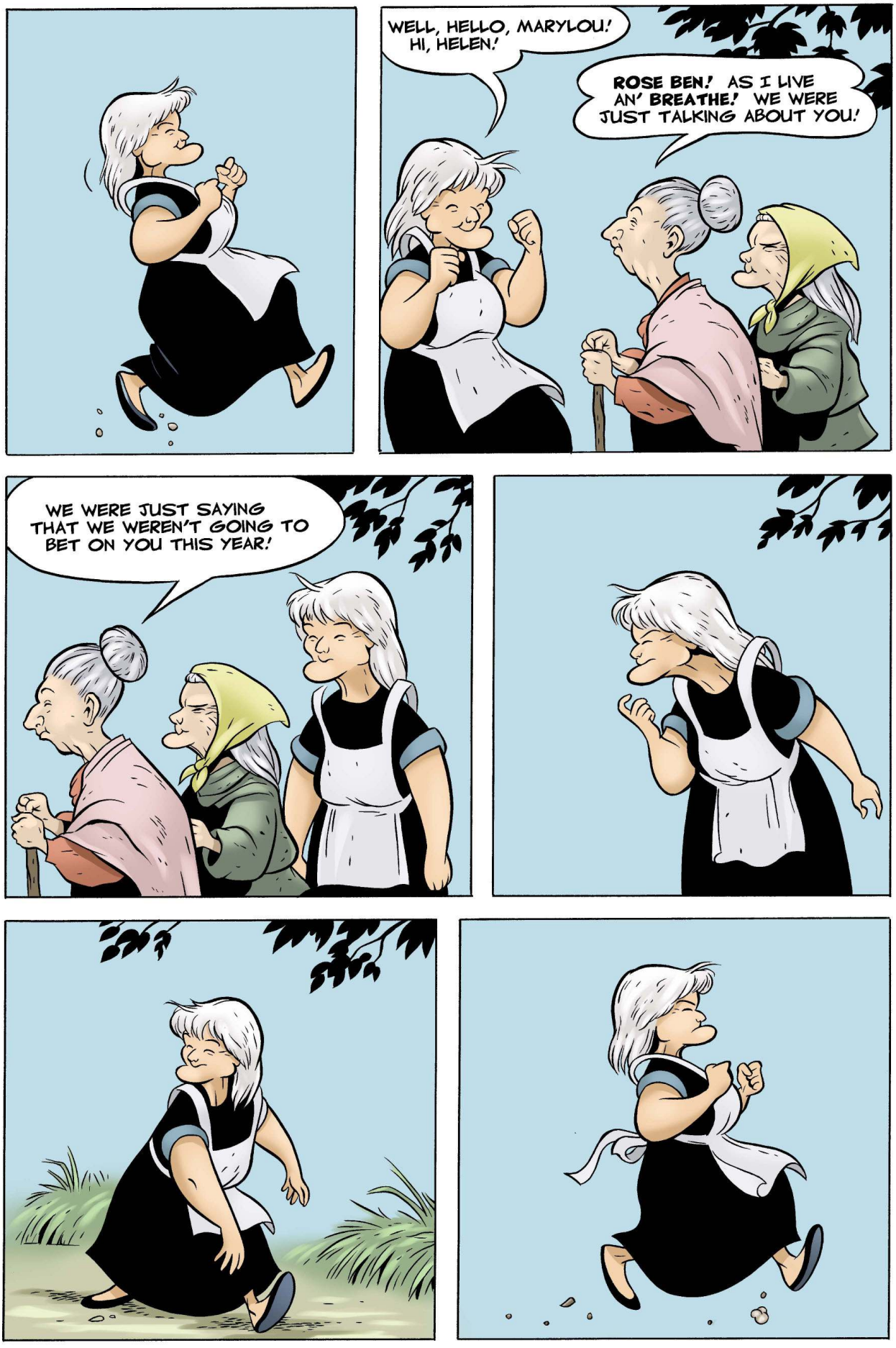


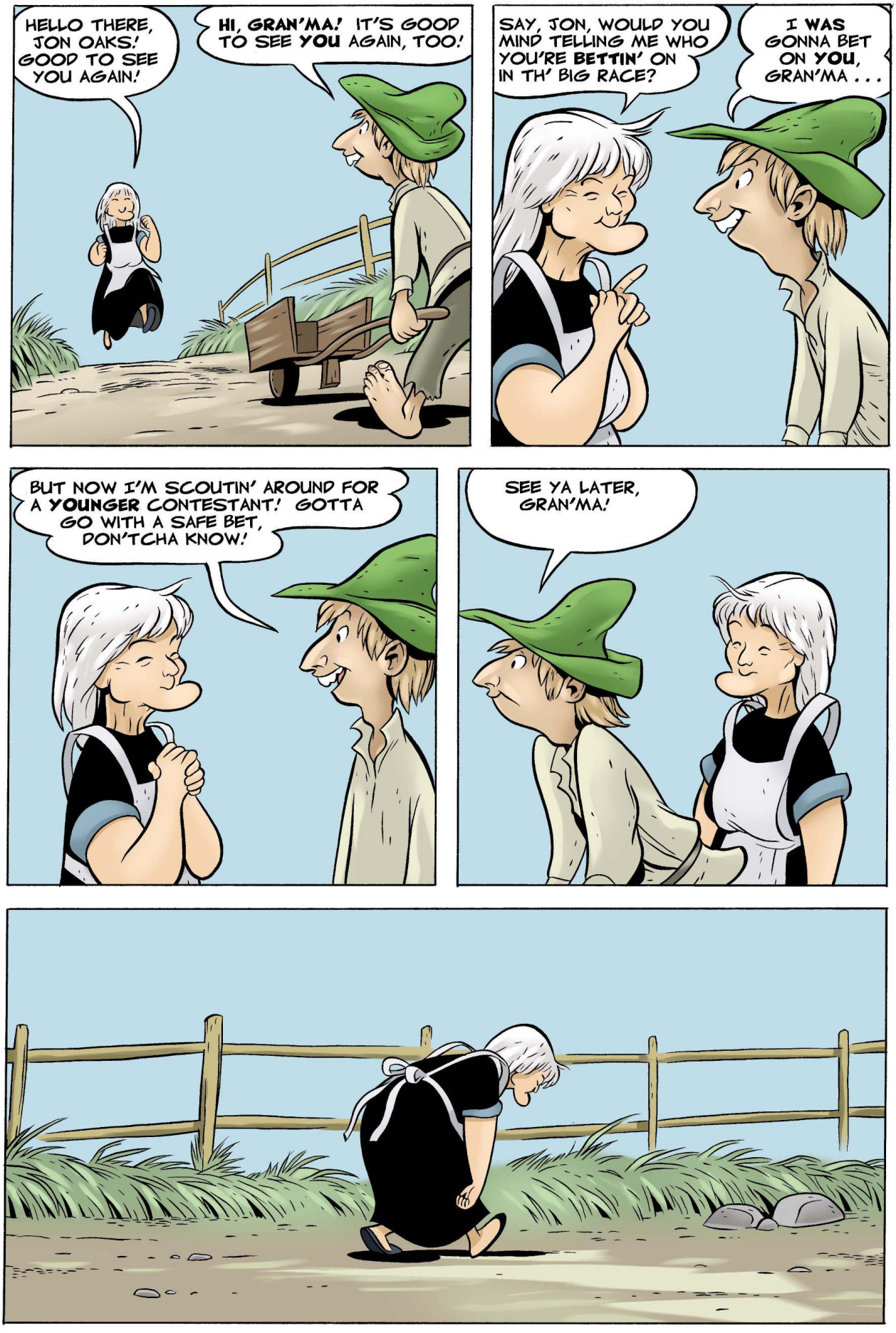


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

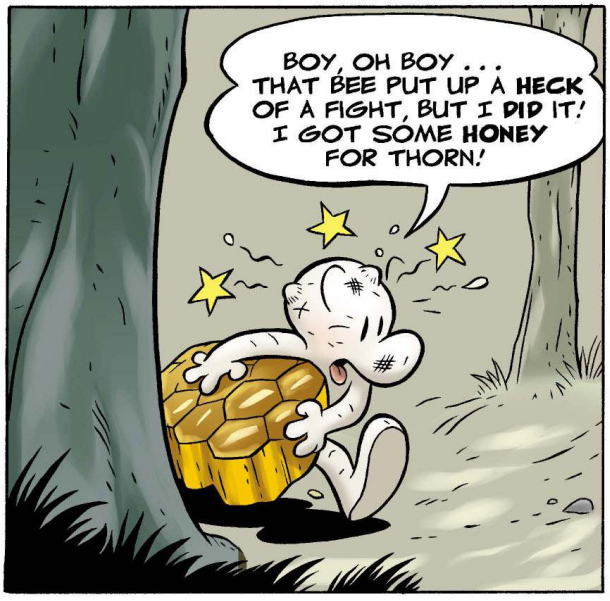

THIS HERE IS TH' FASTEST COW I SEEN IN TWENTY YEARS! I THINK WE MIGHT EVEN BEAT YA THIS TIME, ROSE!
WELL, GOOD LUCK, ED! AND YOU, TOO, SUSAN!
Y'KNOW, I'M SURPRISED YOU'RE STILL DOIN' THIS RACE! I HEARD YOU WEREN'T FEELIN' WELL . . .
NOT FEELIN' WELL? NONSENSE! I JUST JOGGED FIFTEEN MILES AN' I DIDN'T EVEN BREAK A SWEAT!
WHERE DID YOU EVER HEAR SUCH A SILLY - -
THERE SHE IS!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
CAN'T BE SURE.
NOPE.
I DOUBT IT.
CAN I HELP YOU BOYS?
HMM.
LET'S MEASURE HER THIGHS!


I WOULDN'T TRY THAT IF I WERE YOU.
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH.
ME, TOO!
I'M PUTTIN' MY BET ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
I'M TELLIN' YA, ROSE, WORD'S OUT THAT YOU'RE TOO OLD TO WIN TH' RACE ANYMORE!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! I'LL WIN THIS YEAR JUST LIKE I WIN EVERY YEAR!
MAY BE . . . BUT THAT'S WHAT FOLKS ARE SAYIN'.
LET EM TALK! IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME!
WELL, GOOD LUCK!
YOU TOO, ED. GOTTA GET BACK TO TRAININ'!

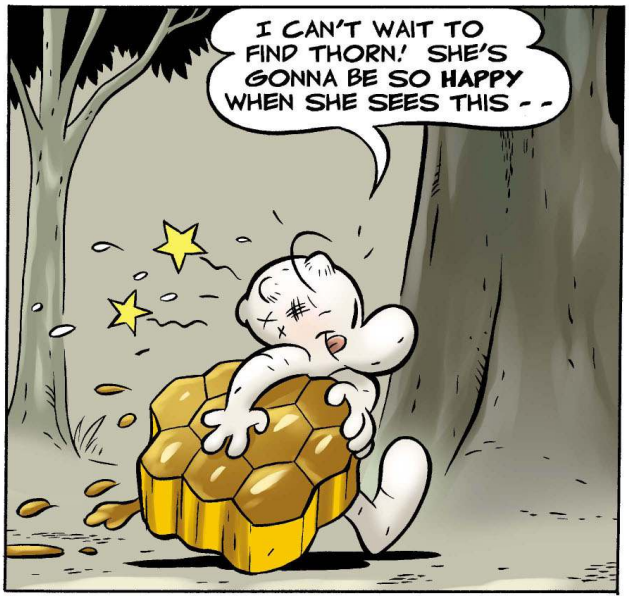

WELL, HELLO, MARYLOU!
HI, HELEN!
ROSE BEN! AS I LIVE AN' BREATHE! WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT YOU!
WE WERE JUST SAYING THAT WE WEREN'T GOING TO BET ON YOU THIS YEAR!


HELLO THERE, JON OAKS! GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
HI, GRAN'MA! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, TOO!
SAY, JON, WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME WHO YOU'RE BETTIN' ON IN TH' BIG RACE?
I WAS GONNA BET ON YOU, GRAN'MA . . .
BUT NOW I'M SCOUTIN' AROUND FOR A YOUNGER CONTESTANT! GOTTA GO WITH A SAFE BET, DON'TCHA KNOW!
SEE YA LATER, GRAN'MA!


HUFF! PUFF!

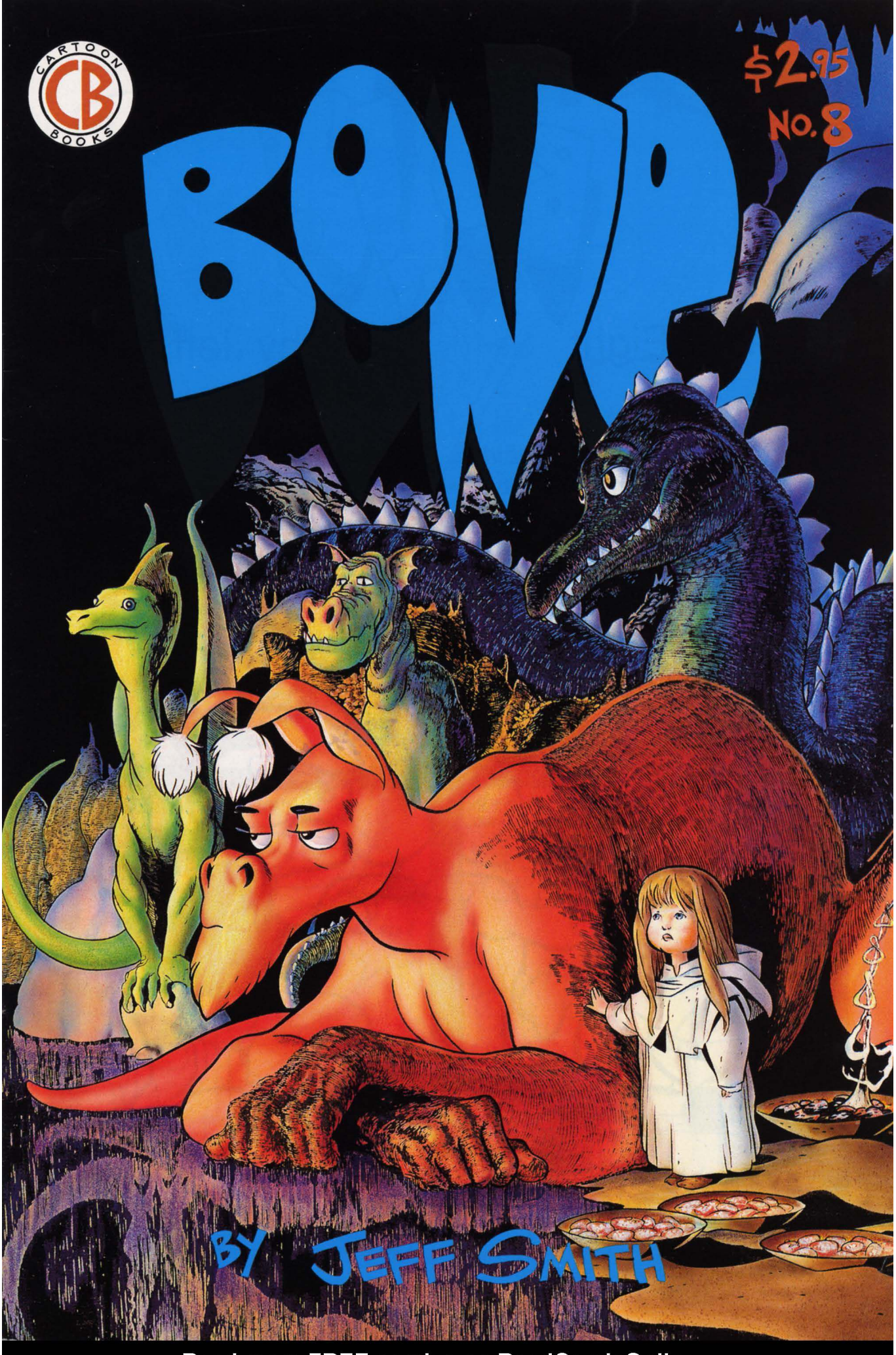

BOY, OH BOY . . . THAT BEE PUT UP A **HECK** OF A FIGHT, BUT I **DID** IT! I GOT SOME **HONEY** FOR THORN!


AND WON'T **SHE** BE SURPRISED! I'LL BET THAT **HONEY-SELLER** DOESN'T HAVE ANY HONEYCOMBS LIKE **THIS** SUCKER!


I CAN'T WAIT TO FIND THORN! SHE'S GONNA BE SO **HAPPY** WHEN SHE SEES THIS - -

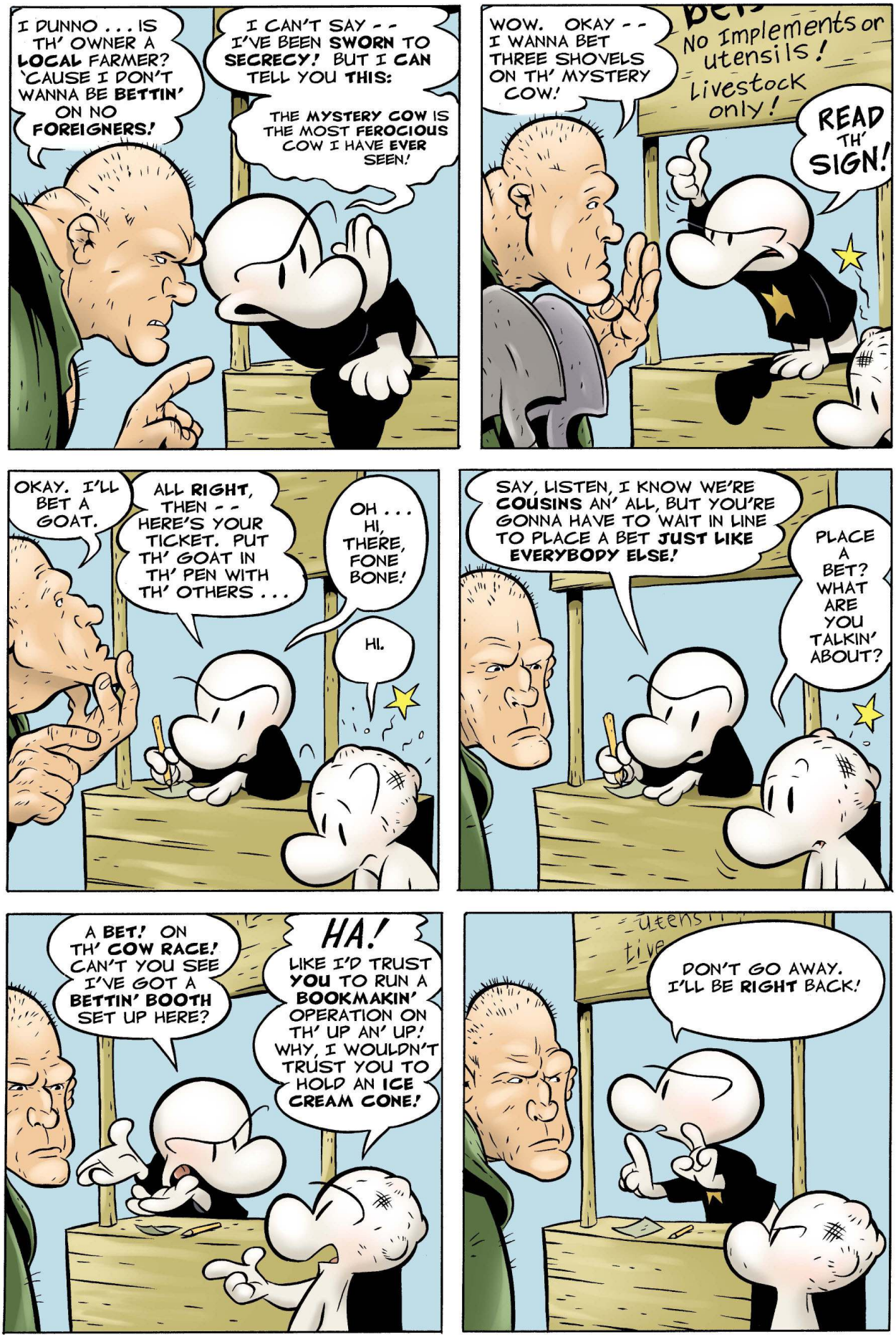


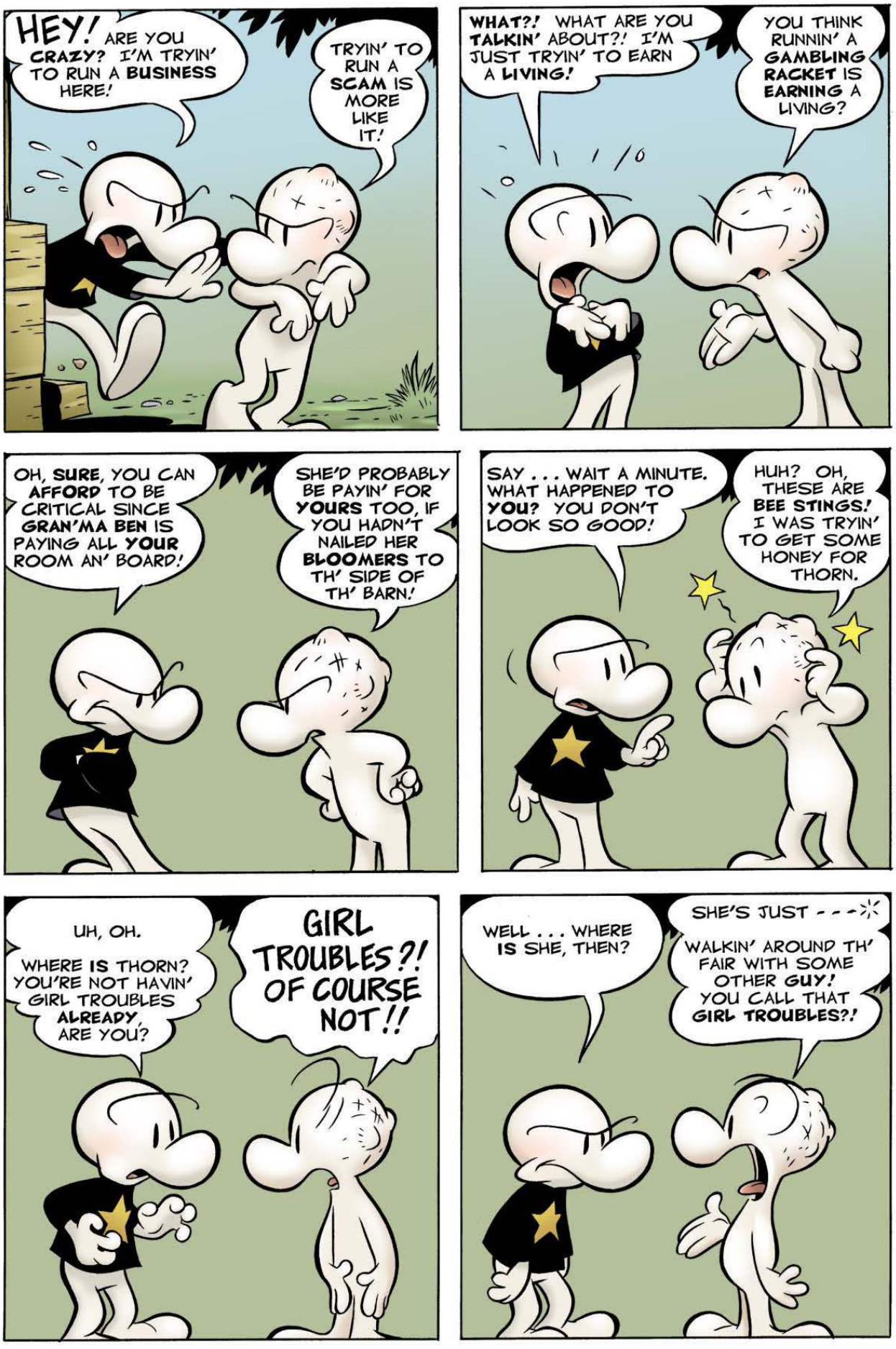


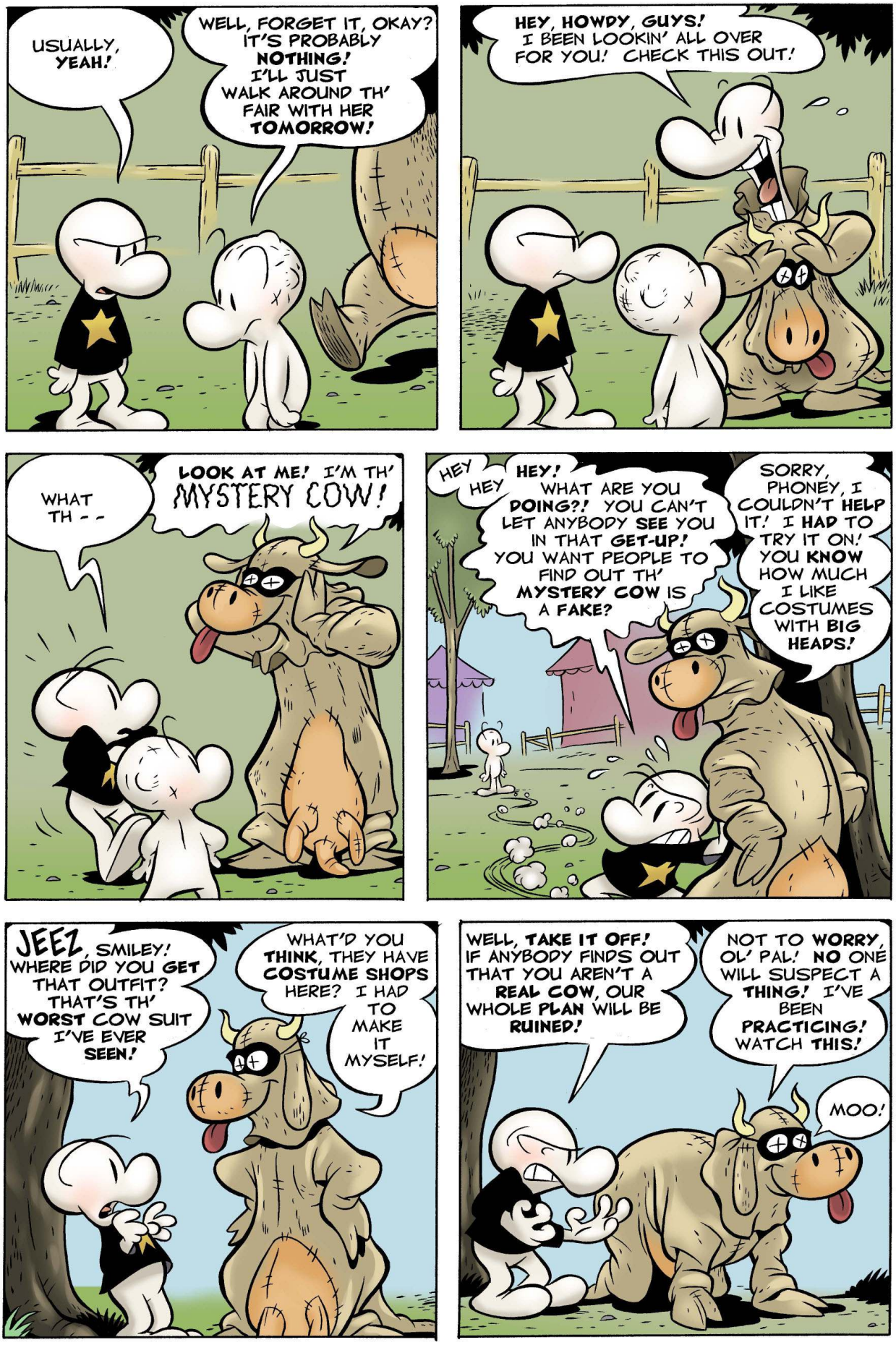


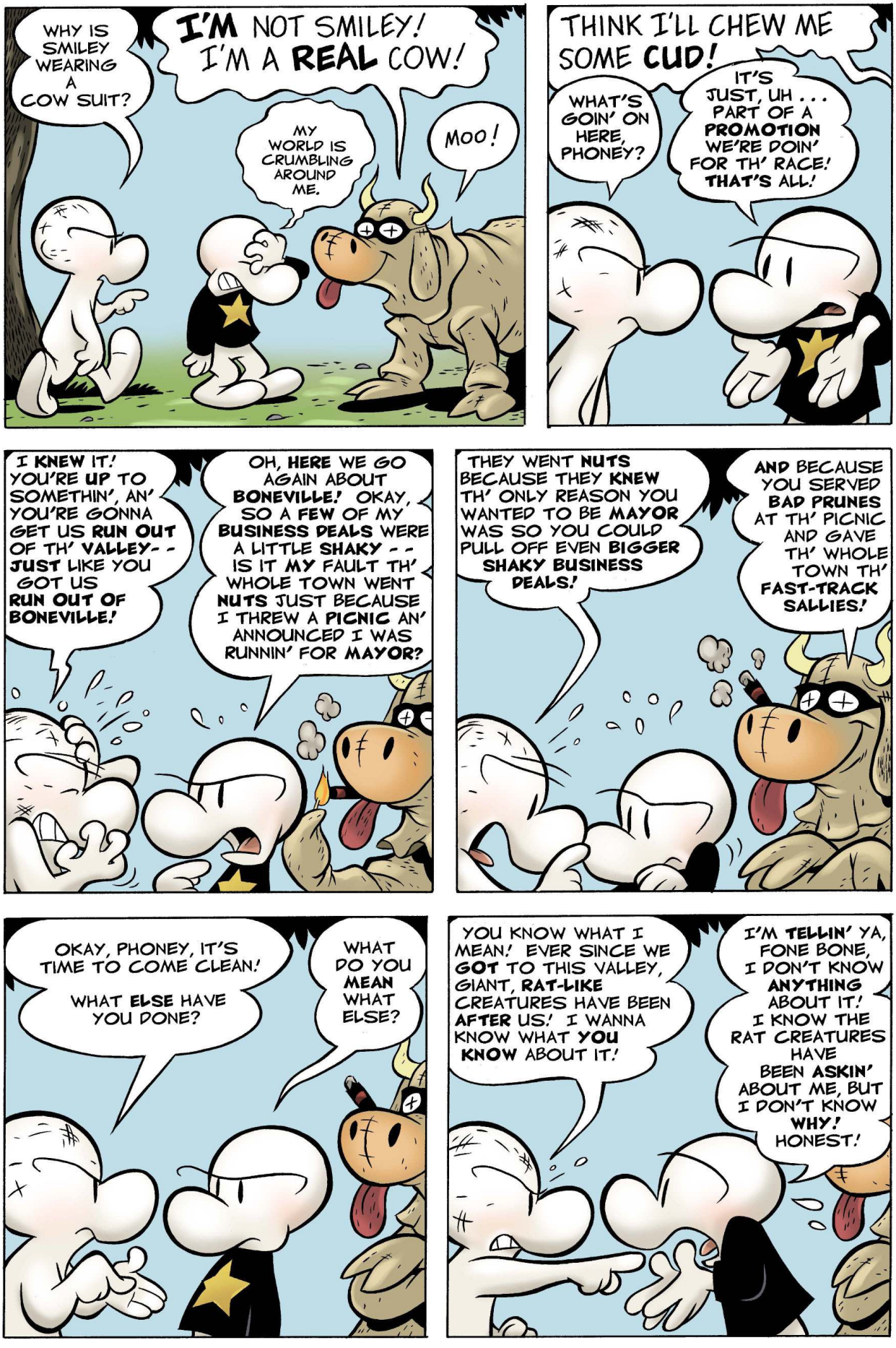
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

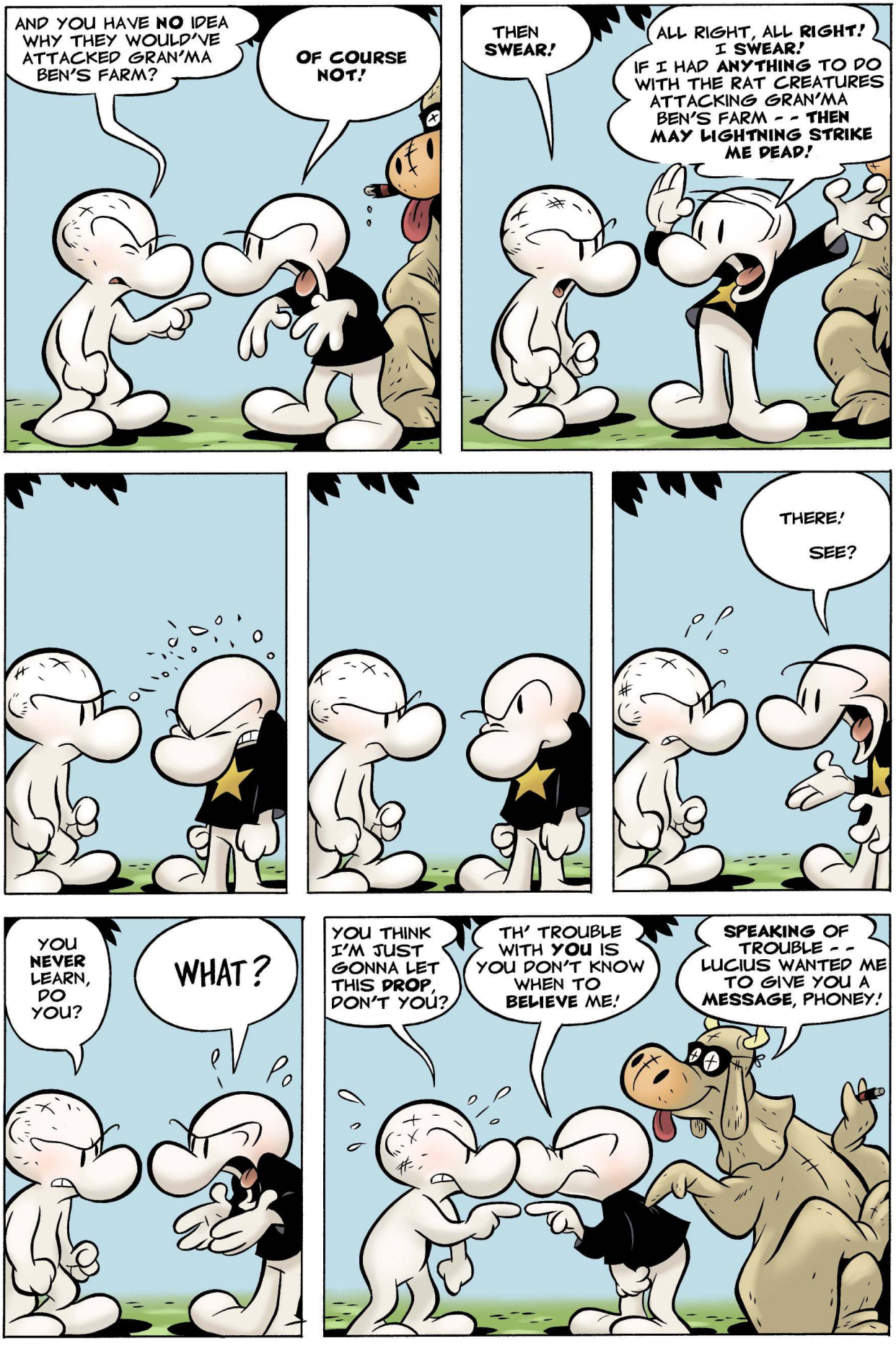

BONE
NEXT!
Place your bets here
PLACE YER BET, BUB!
WHAT'RE TH' ODDS ON TH' MYSTERY COW?
4 TO 1
4 TO 1? TO BEAT GRAN'MA BEN? SAY . . . THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE! WHO OWNS THIS MYSTERY COW, ANYWAY?
IT'S A MYSTERY, PAL! YOU GONNA BET, OR WHAT?

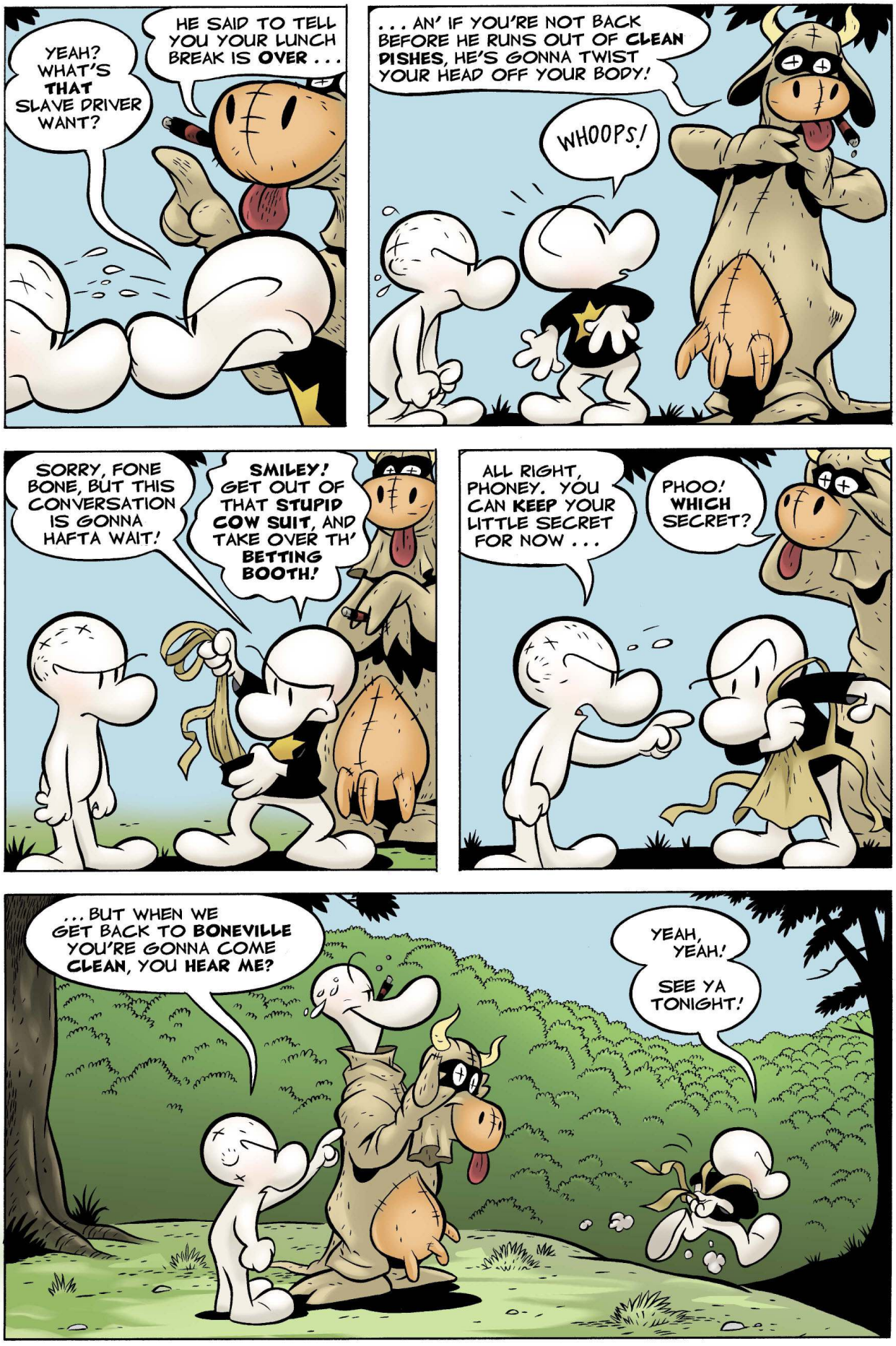

I DUNNO . . . IS TH' OWNER A LOCAL FARMER? 'CAUSE I DON'T WANNA BE BETTIN' ON NO FOREIGNERS!
I CAN'T SAY - - I'VE BEEN SWORN TO SECRECY! BUT I CAN TELL YOU THIS:
THE MYSTERY COW IS THE MOST FEROCIOUS COW I HAVE EVER SEEN!
WOW. OKAY - - I WANNA BET THREE SHOVELS ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
No Implements or utensils!
Livestock only!
READ TH' SIGN!
OKAY. I'LL BET A GOAT.
ALL RIGHT, THEN - - HERE'S YOUR TICKET. PUT TH' GOAT IN TH' PEN WITH TH' OTHERS . . .
OH . . . HI, THERE, FONE BONE!
HI.
SAY, LISTEN, I KNOW WE'RE COUSINS AN' ALL, BUT YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO WAIT IN LINE TO PLACE A BET JUST LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE!
PLACE A BET? WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
A BET! ON TH' COW RACE! CAN'T YOU SEE I'VE GOT A BETTIN' BOOTH SET UP HERE?
HA!
LIKE I'D TRUST YOU TO RUN A BOOKMAKIN' OPERATION ON TH' UP AN' UP! WHY, I WOULDN'T TRUST YOU TO HOLD AN ICE CREAM CONE!
DON'T GO AWAY. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!


HEY! ARE YOU CRAZY? I'M TRYIN' TO RUN A BUSINESS HERE!
TRYIN' TO RUN A SCAM IS MORE LIKE IT!
WHAT?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?! I'M JUST TRYIN' TO EARN A LIVING!
YOU THINK RUNNIN' A GAMBLING RACKET IS EARNING A LIVING?
OH, SURE, YOU CAN AFFORD TO BE CRITICAL SINCE GRAN'MA BEN IS PAYING ALL YOUR ROOM AN' BOARD!
SHE'D PROBABLY BE PAYIN' FOR YOURS TOO, IF YOU HADN'T NAILED HER BLOOMERS TO TH' SIDE OF TH' BARN!
SAY . . . WAIT A MINUTE. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD!
HUH? OH, THESE ARE BEE STINGS! I WAS TRYIN' TO GET SOME HONEY FOR THORN.
UH, OH.
WHERE IS THORN? YOU'RE NOT HAVIN' GIRL TROUBLES ALREADY, ARE YOU?
GIRL TROUBLES?! OF COURSE NOT!!
WELL . . . WHERE IS SHE, THEN?
SHE'S JUST - - -
WALKIN' AROUND TH' FAIR WITH SOME OTHER GUY! YOU CALL THAT GIRL TROUBLES?!


USUALLY, YEAH!
WELL, FORGET IT, OKAY? IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING! I'LL JUST WALK AROUND TH' FAIR WITH HER TOMORROW!
HEY, HOWDY, GUYS! I BEEN LOOKIN' ALL OVER FOR YOU! CHECK THIS OUT!
WHAT TH - -
LOOK AT ME! I'M TH' MYSTERY COW!
HEY HEY
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU CAN'T LET ANYBODY SEE YOU IN THAT GET-UP! YOU WANT PEOPLE TO FIND OUT TH' MYSTERY COW IS A FAKE?
SORRY, PHONEY, I COULDN'T HELP IT! I HAD TO TRY IT ON! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LIKE COSTUMES WITH BIG HEADS!
JEEZ, SMILEY! WHERE DID YOU GET THAT OUTFIT? THAT'S TH' WORST COW SUIT I'VE EVER SEEN!
WHAT'D YOU THINK, THEY HAVE COSTUME SHOPS HERE? I HAD TO MAKE IT MYSELF!
WELL, TAKE IT OFF! IF ANYBODY FINDS OUT THAT YOU AREN'T A REAL COW, OUR WHOLE PLAN WILL BE RUINED!
NOT TO WORRY, OL' PAL! NO ONE WILL SUSPECT A THING! I'VE BEEN PRACTICING! WATCH THIS!
MOO!


WHY IS SMILEY WEARING A COW SUIT?
I'M NOT SMILEY! I'M A REAL COW!
MY WORLD IS CRUMBLING AROUND ME.
MOO!
THINK I'LL CHEW ME SOME CUD!
WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE, PHONEY?
IT'S JUST, UH . . . PART OF A PROMOTION WE'RE DOIN' FOR TH' RACE! THAT'S ALL!
I KNEW IT! YOU'RE UP TO SOMETHIN', AN' YOU'RE GONNA GET US RUN OUT OF TH' VALLEY- - JUST LIKE YOU GOT US RUN OUT OF BONEVILLE!
OH, HERE WE GO AGAIN ABOUT BONEVILLE! OKAY, SO A FEW OF MY BUSINESS DEALS WERE A LITTLE SHAKY - - IS IT MY FAULT TH' WHOLE TOWN WENT NUTS JUST BECAUSE I THREW A PICNIC AN' ANNOUNCED I WAS RUNNIN' FOR MAYOR?
THEY WENT NUTS BECAUSE THEY KNEW TH' ONLY REASON YOU WANTED TO BE MAYOR WAS SO YOU COULD PULL OFF EVEN BIGGER SHAKY BUSINESS DEALS!
AND BECAUSE YOU SERVED BAD PRUNES AT TH' PICNIC AND GAVE TH' WHOLE TOWN TH' FAST-TRACK SALLIES!
OKAY, PHONEY, IT'S TIME TO COME CLEAN!
WHAT ELSE HAVE YOU DONE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHAT ELSE?
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN! EVER SINCE WE GOT TO THIS VALLEY, GIANT, RAT-LIKE CREATURES HAVE BEEN AFTER US! I WANNA KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT IT!
I'M TELLIN' YA, FONE BONE, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT! I KNOW THE RAT CREATURES HAVE BEEN ASKIN' ABOUT ME, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHY! HONEST!


AND YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHY THEY WOULD'VE ATTACKED GRAN'MA BEN'S FARM?
OF COURSE NOT!
THEN SWEAR!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! I SWEAR! IF I HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE RAT CREATURES ATTACKING GRAN'MA BEN'S FARM - - THEN MAY LIGHTNING STRIKE ME DEAD!
THERE! SEE?
YOU NEVER LEARN, DO YOU?
WHAT?
YOU THINK I'M JUST GONNA LET THIS DROP, DON'T YOU?
TH' TROUBLE WITH YOU IS YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO BELIEVE ME!
SPEAKING OF TROUBLE - - LUCIUS WANTED ME TO GIVE YOU A MESSAGE, PHONEY!

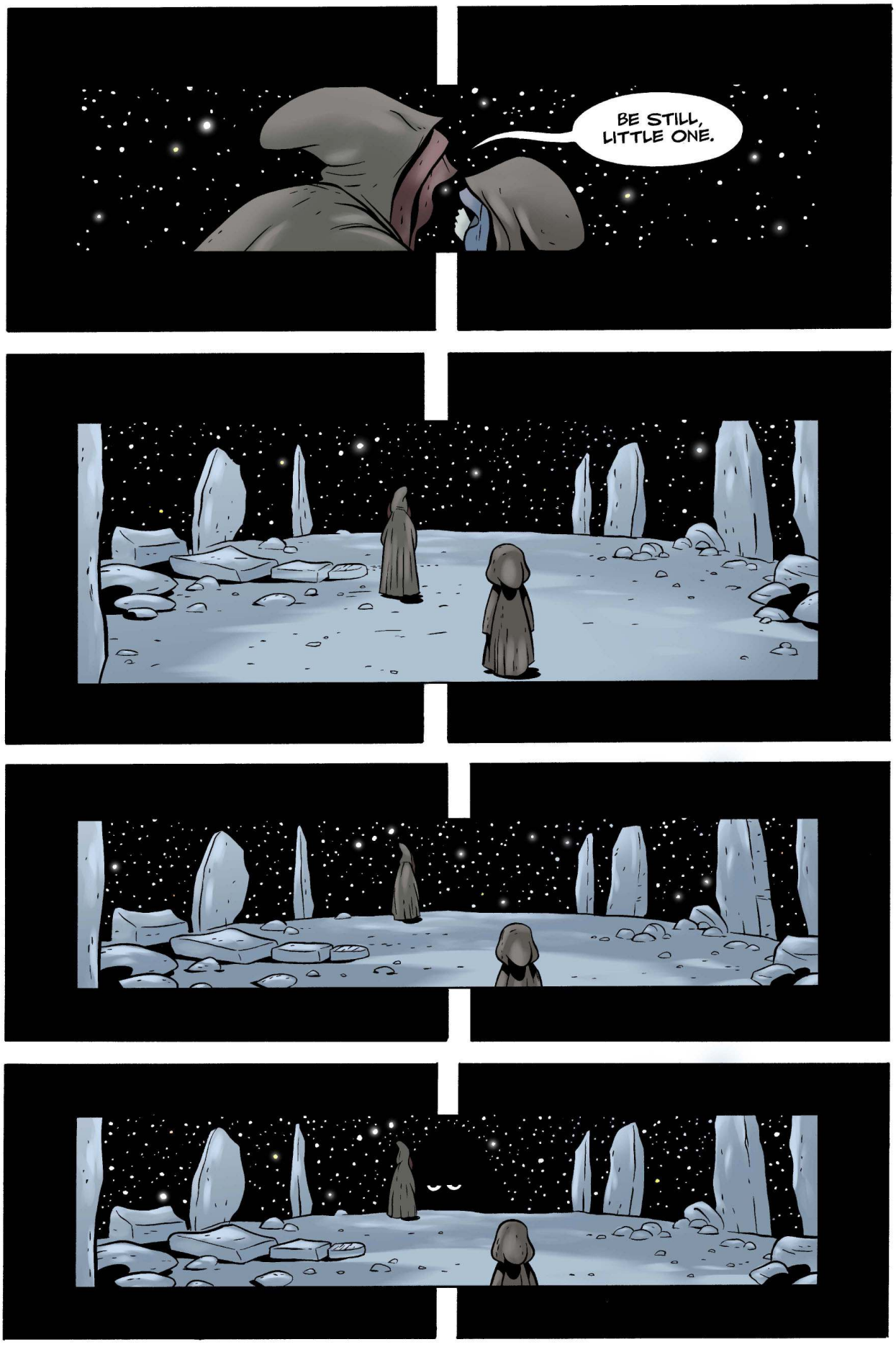

YEAH? WHAT'S **THAT** SLAVE DRIVER WANT?
HE SAID TO TELL YOU YOUR LUNCH BREAK IS **OVER** . . .
. . . AN' IF YOU'RE NOT BACK BEFORE HE RUNS OUT OF **CLEAN DISHES**, HE'S GONNA TWIST YOUR HEAD OFF YOUR BODY!
WHOOPS!
SORRY, FONE BONE, BUT THIS CONVERSATION IS GONNA HAFTA WAIT!
SMILEY! GET OUT OF THAT **STUPID COW SUIT**, AND TAKE OVER TH' **BETTING BOOTH!**
ALL RIGHT, PHONEY. YOU CAN **KEEP** YOUR LITTLE SECRET FOR NOW . . .
PHOO! **WHICH** SECRET?
. . . BUT WHEN WE GET BACK TO **BONEVILLE** YOU'RE GONNA COME **CLEAN**, YOU **HEAR ME?**
YEAH, YEAH!
SEE YA TONIGHT!

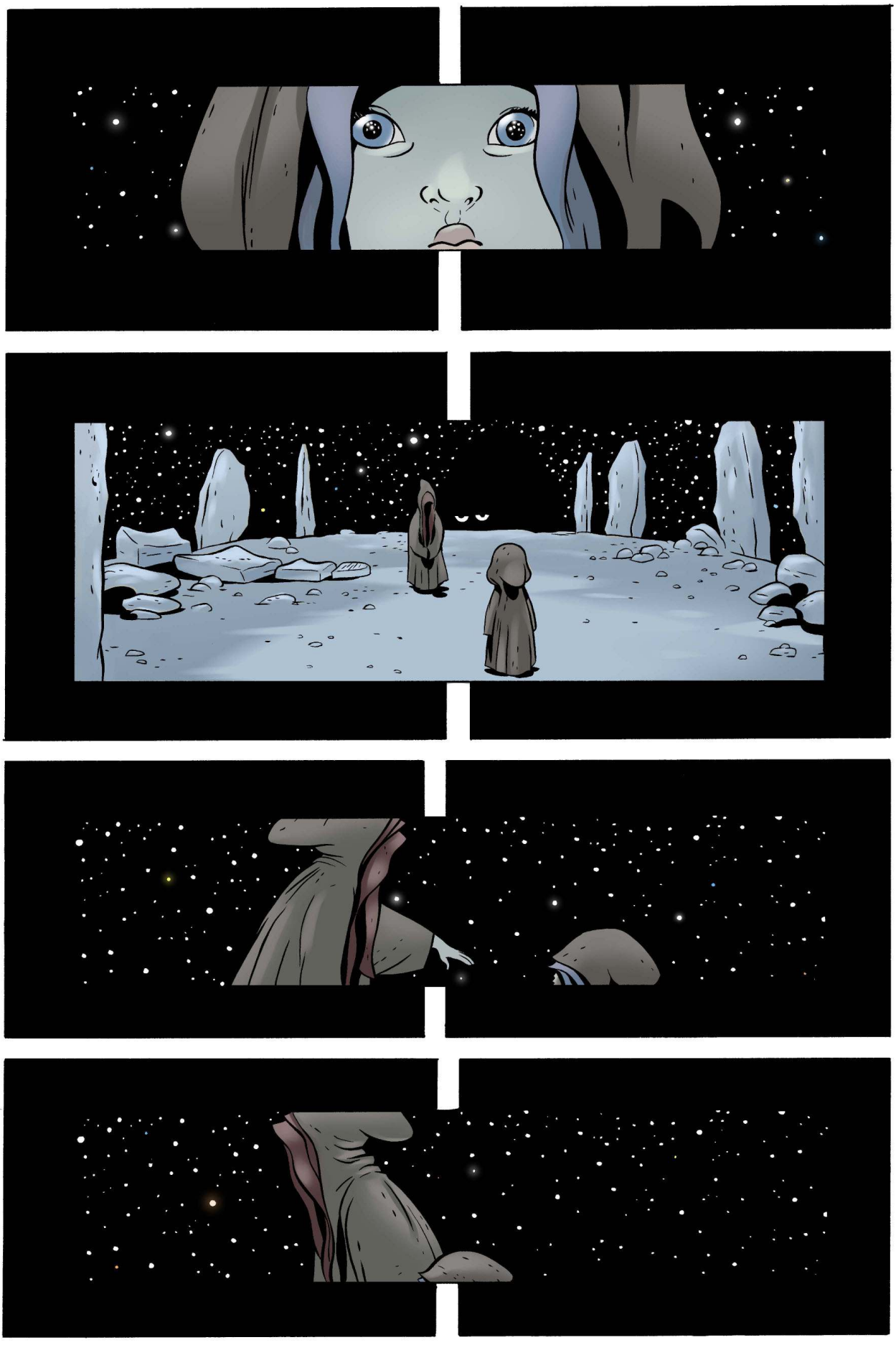


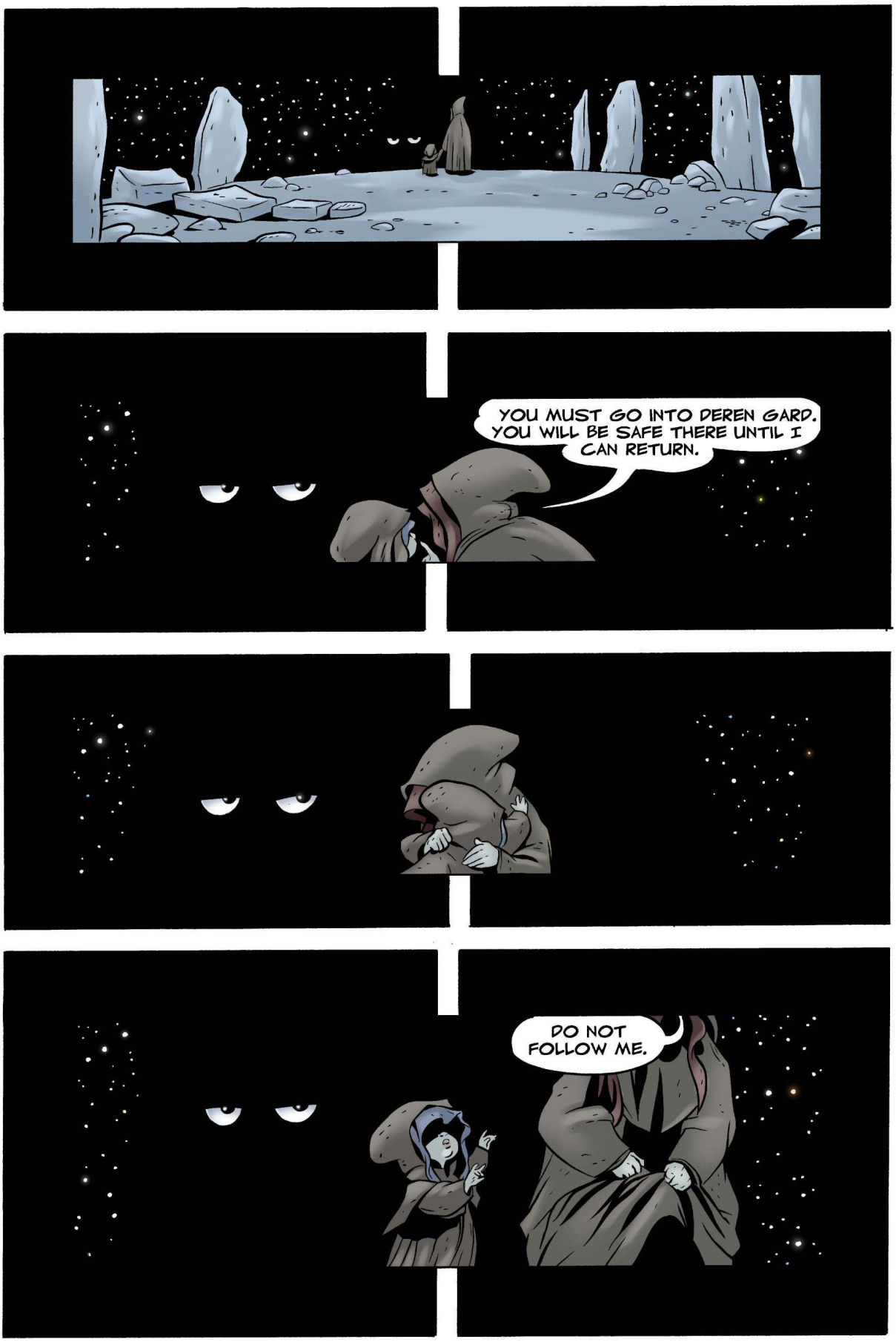

the Barrel Haven


QUICKLY! BRING THE CHILD! WE ARE ALMOST THERE!
THERE ARE SOUNDS IN THE PASS BEHIND US!
WE ARE BETRAYED!
IT CAN NOT BE!
GO! GO!

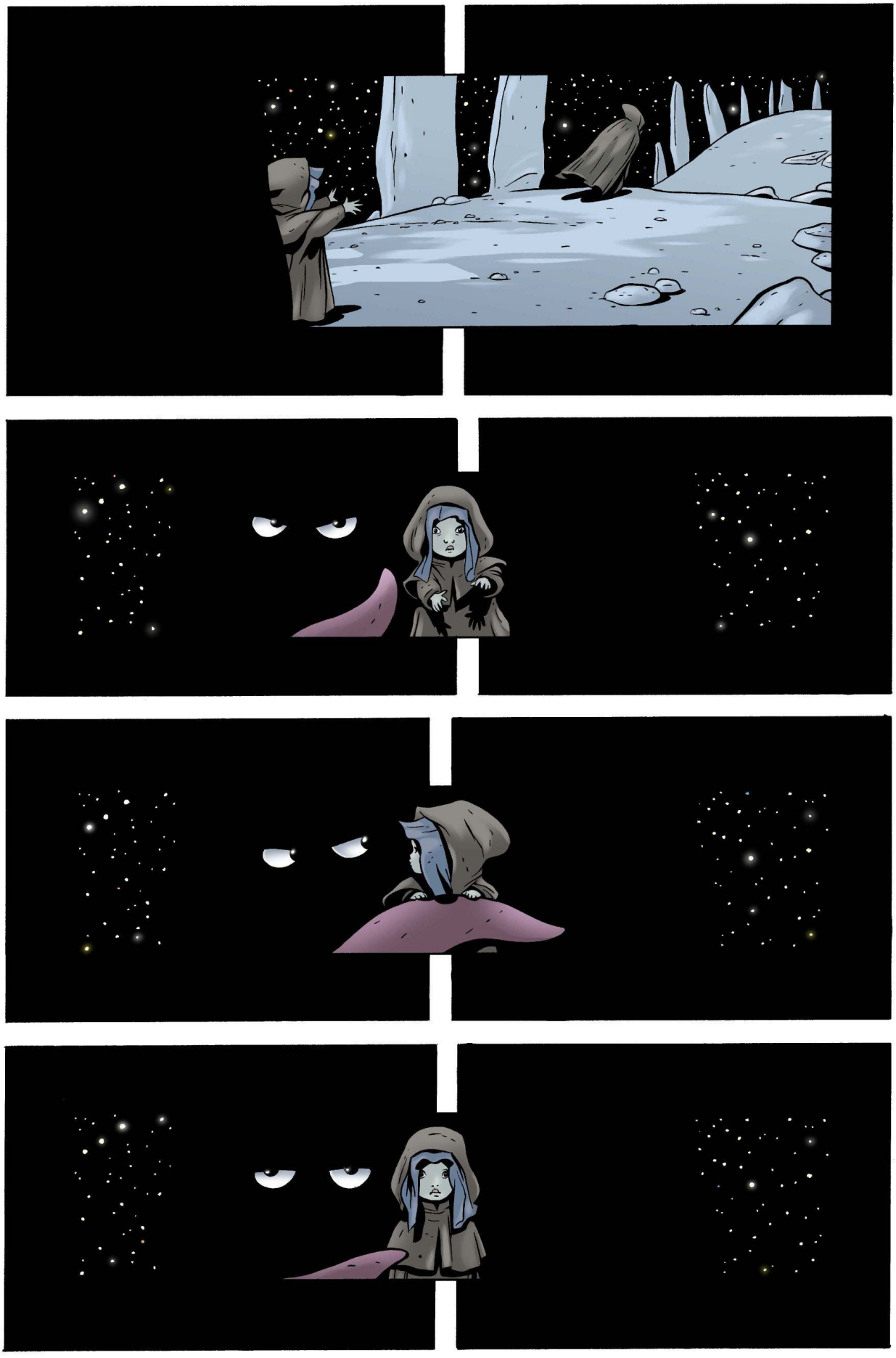

YOU MUST TURN BACK. I WILL GO ON WITH THE GIRL.
HURRY! HE IS WAITING!


BE STILL, LITTLE ONE.





Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline




SKREEAH
GET IN THE CAVE.
NOW.





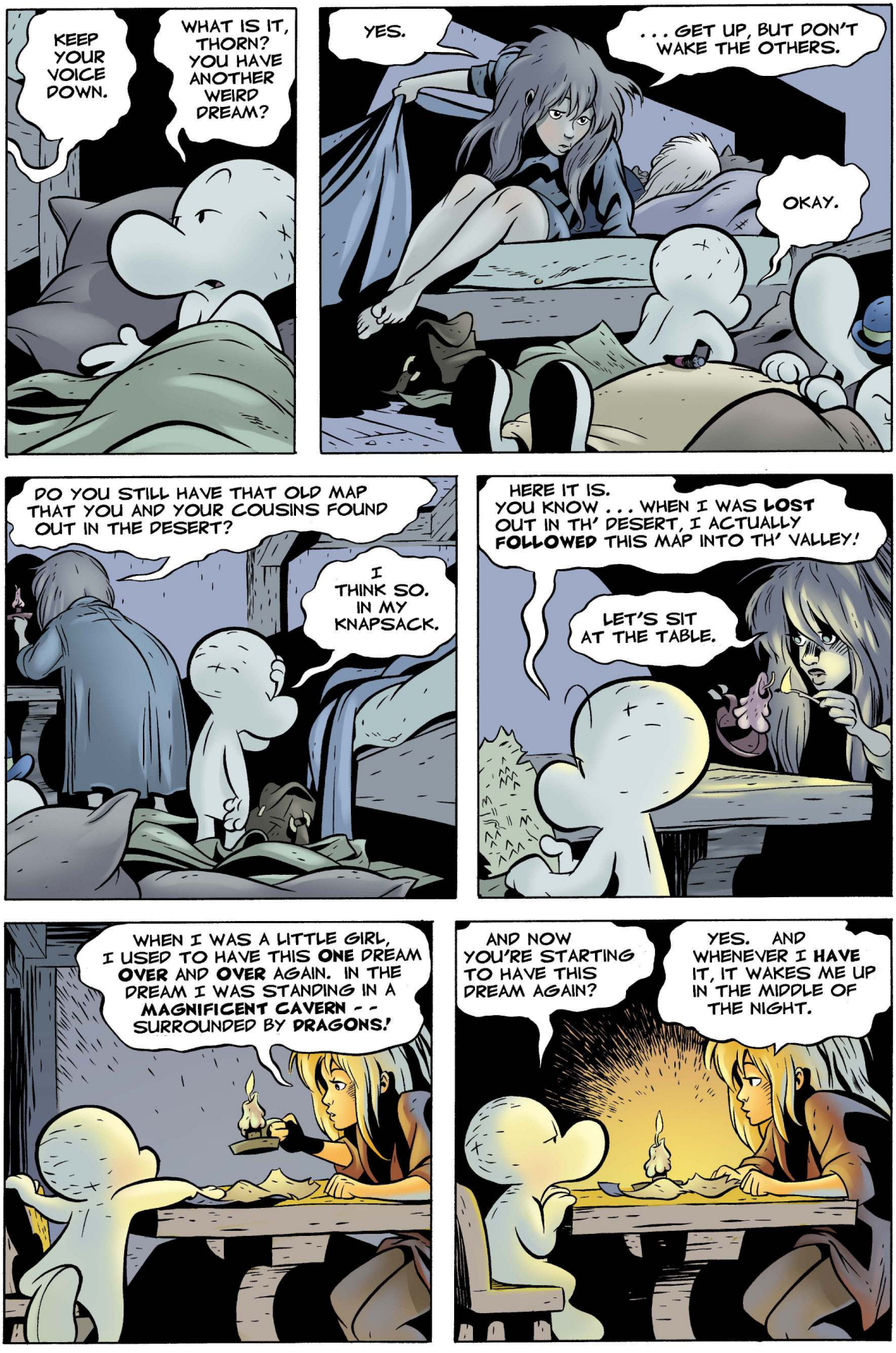


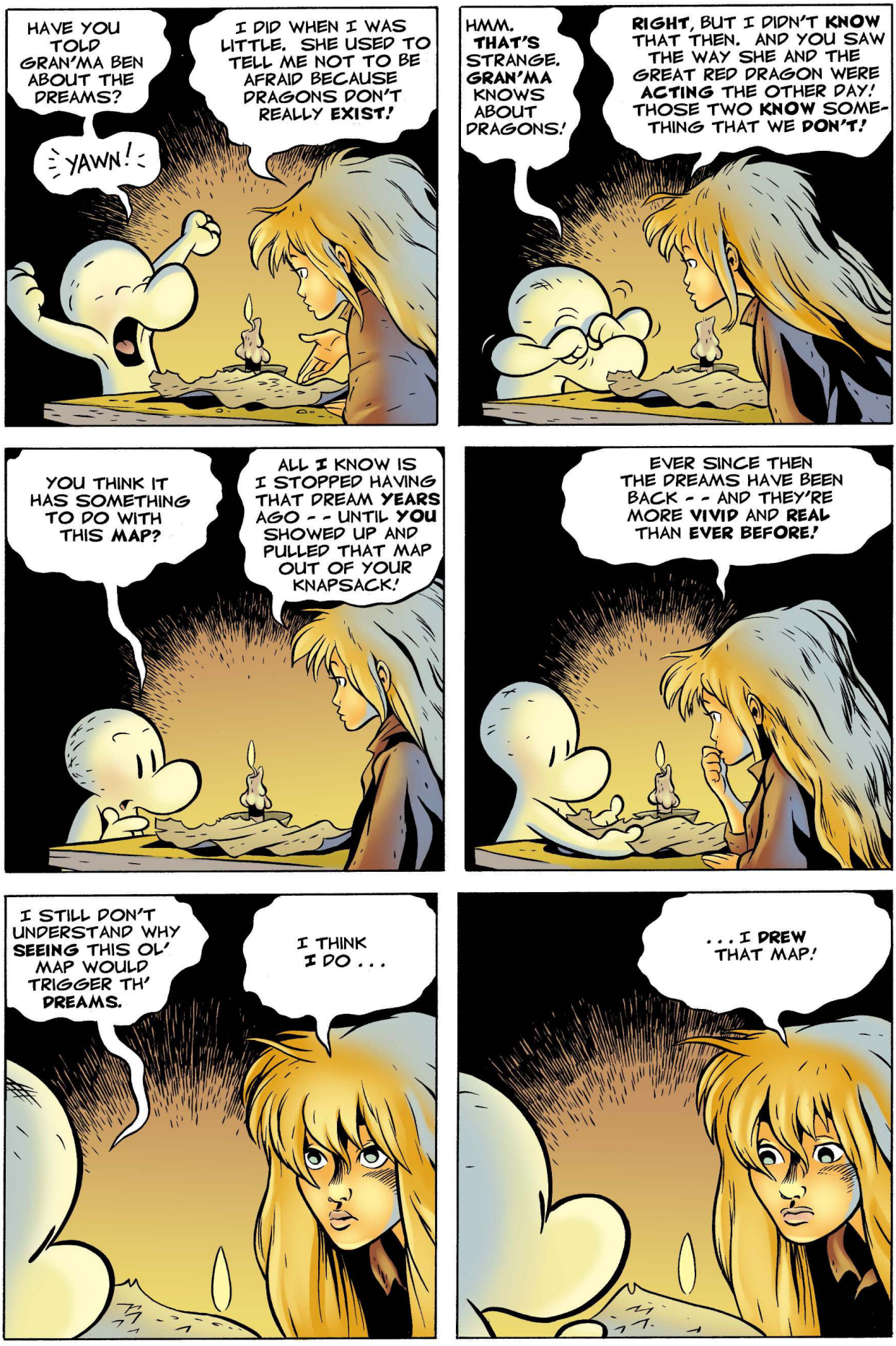


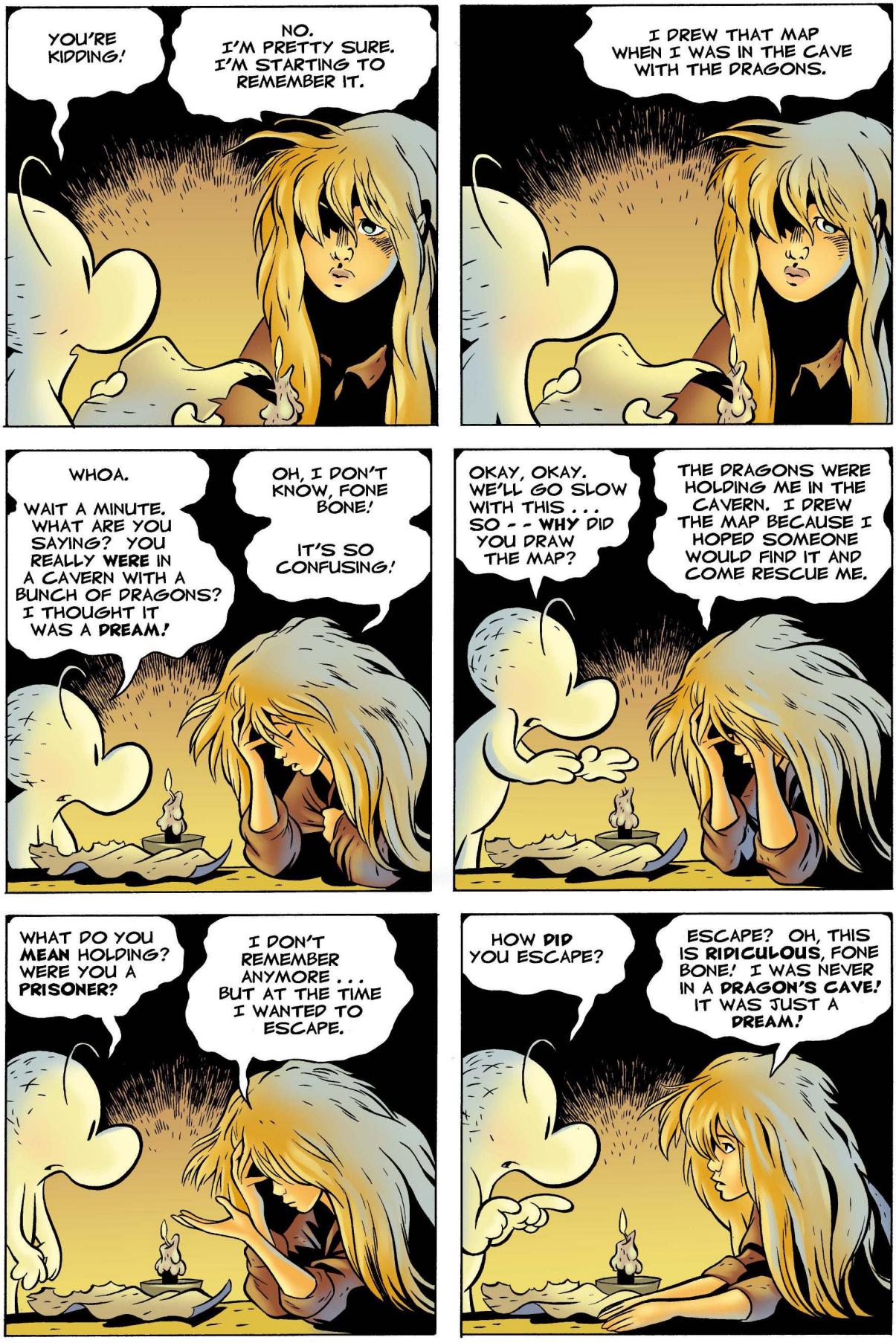

FONE BONE?
ARE YOU AWAKE?


NO.

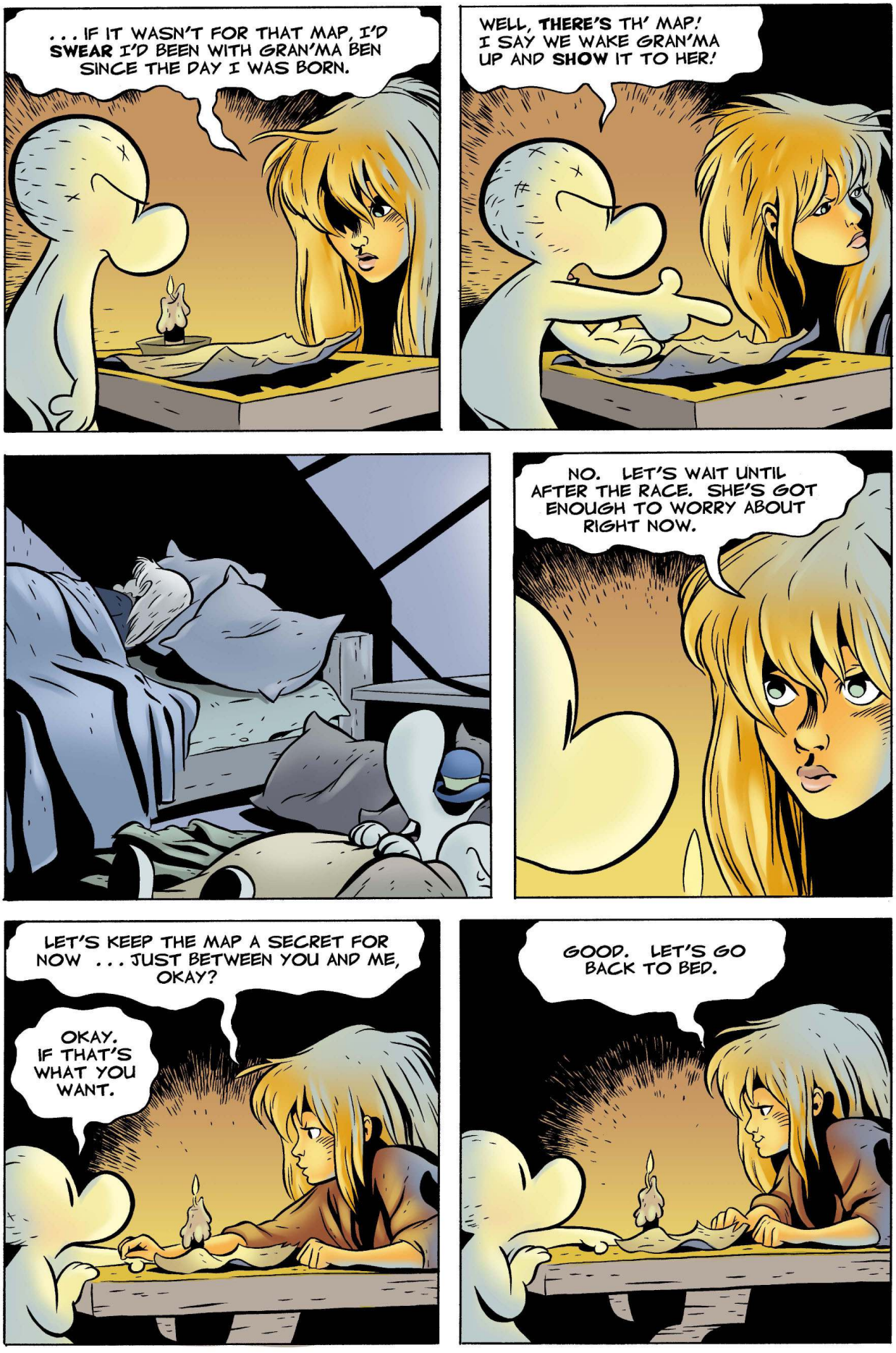

FONE BONE . . .
MM? WHAT?

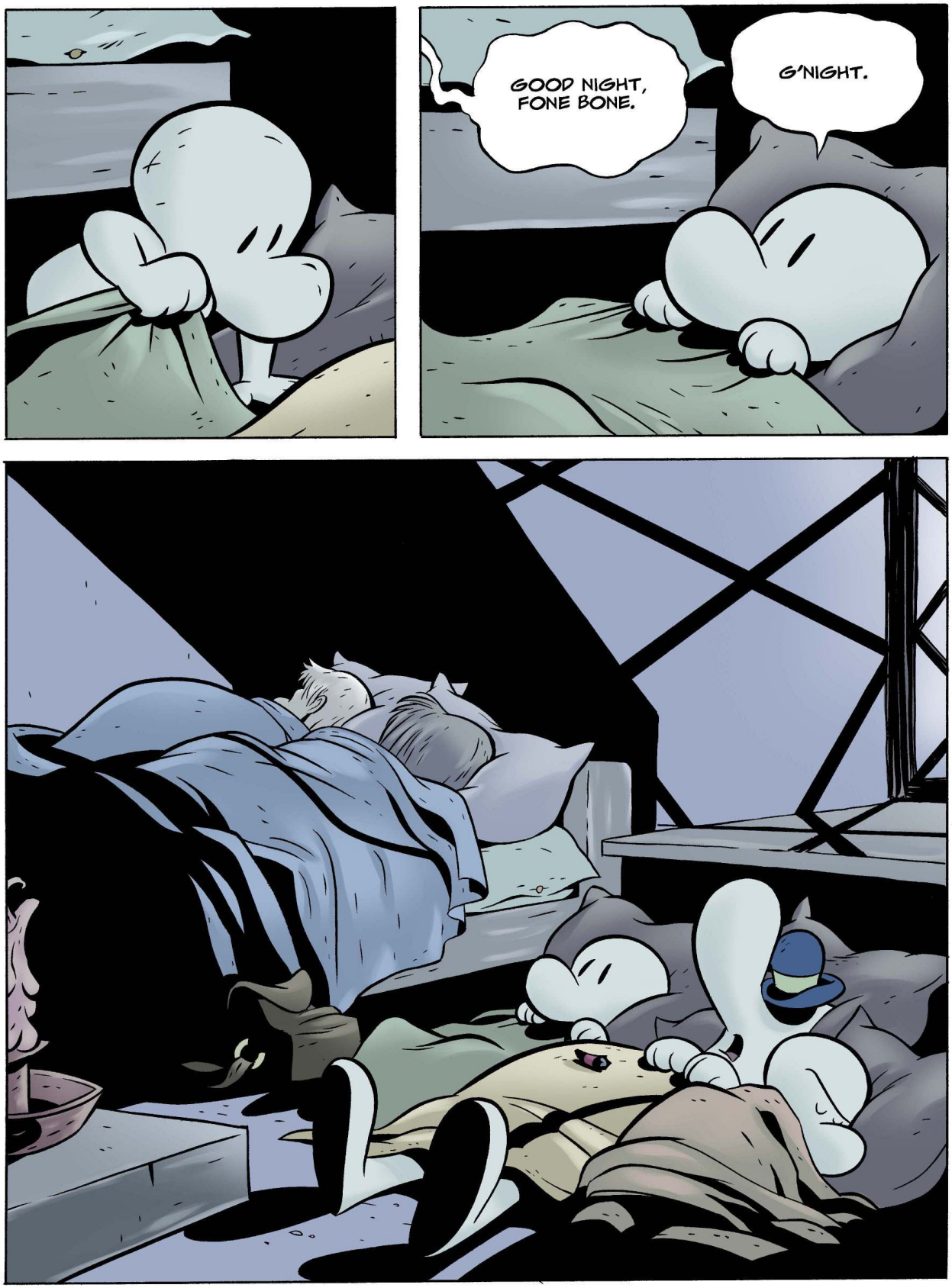

KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN.
WHAT IS IT, THORN? YOU HAVE ANOTHER WEIRD DREAM?
YES.
. . . GET UP, BUT DON'T WAKE THE OTHERS.
OKAY.
DO YOU STILL HAVE THAT OLD MAP THAT YOU AND YOUR COUSINS FOUND OUT IN THE DESERT?
I THINK SO. IN MY KNAPSACK.
HERE IT IS. YOU KNOW . . . WHEN I WAS **LOST** OUT IN TH' DESERT, I ACTUALLY **FOLLOWED** THIS MAP INTO TH' VALLEY!
LET'S SIT AT THE TABLE.
WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL, I USED TO HAVE THIS **ONE** DREAM **OVER** AND **OVER** AGAIN. IN THE DREAM I WAS STANDING IN A **MAGNIFICENT CAVERN** -- SURROUNDED BY **DRAGONS!**
AND NOW YOU'RE STARTING TO HAVE THIS DREAM AGAIN?
YES. AND WHENEVER I **HAVE** IT, IT WAKES ME UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

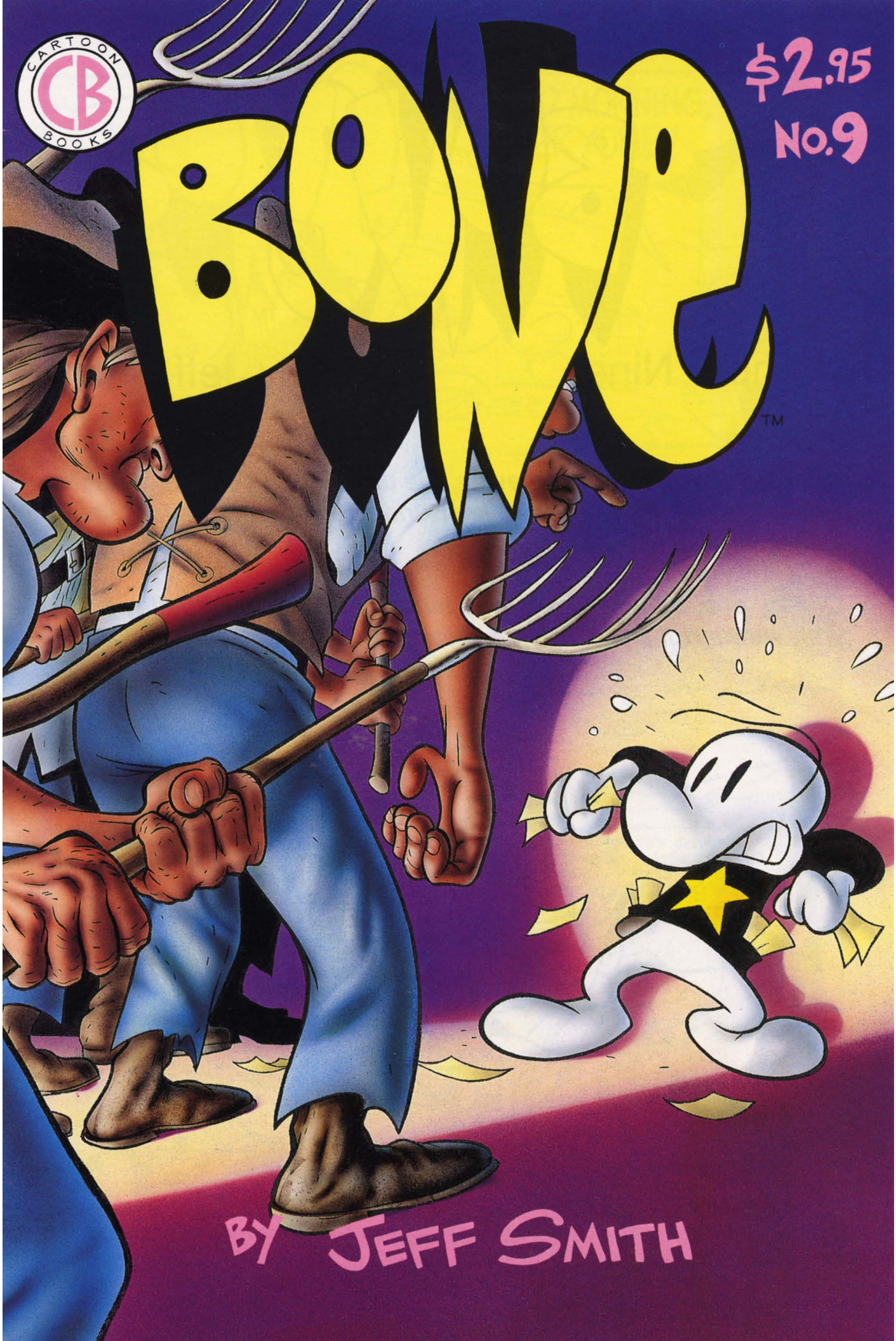

HAVE YOU TOLD GRAN'MA BEN ABOUT THE DREAMS?
YAWN!
I DID WHEN I WAS LITTLE. SHE USED TO TELL ME NOT TO BE AFRAID BECAUSE DRAGONS DON'T REALLY EXIST!
HMM. THAT'S STRANGE. GRAN'MA KNOWS ABOUT DRAGONS!
RIGHT, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THAT THEN. AND YOU SAW THE WAY SHE AND THE GREAT RED DRAGON WERE ACTING THE OTHER DAY! THOSE TWO KNOW SOMETHING THAT WE DON'T!
YOU THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS MAP?
ALL I KNOW IS I STOPPED HAVING THAT DREAM YEARS AGO - - UNTIL YOU SHOWED UP AND PULLED THAT MAP OUT OF YOUR KNAPSACK!
EVER SINCE THEN THE DREAMS HAVE BEEN BACK - - AND THEY'RE MORE VIVID AND REAL THAN EVER BEFORE!
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY SEEING THIS OL' MAP WOULD TRIGGER TH' DREAMS.
I THINK I DO . . .
. . . I DREW THAT MAP!

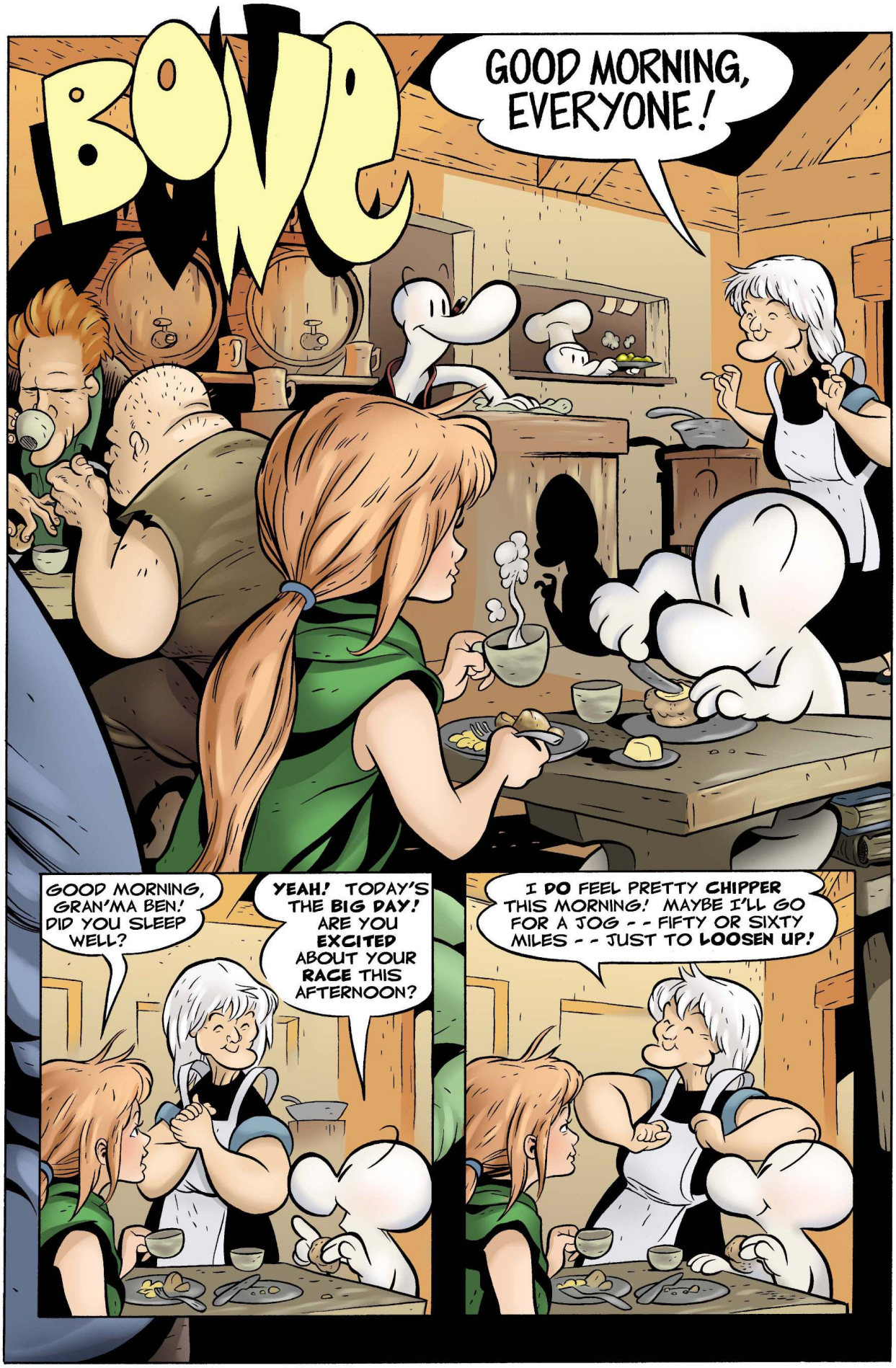


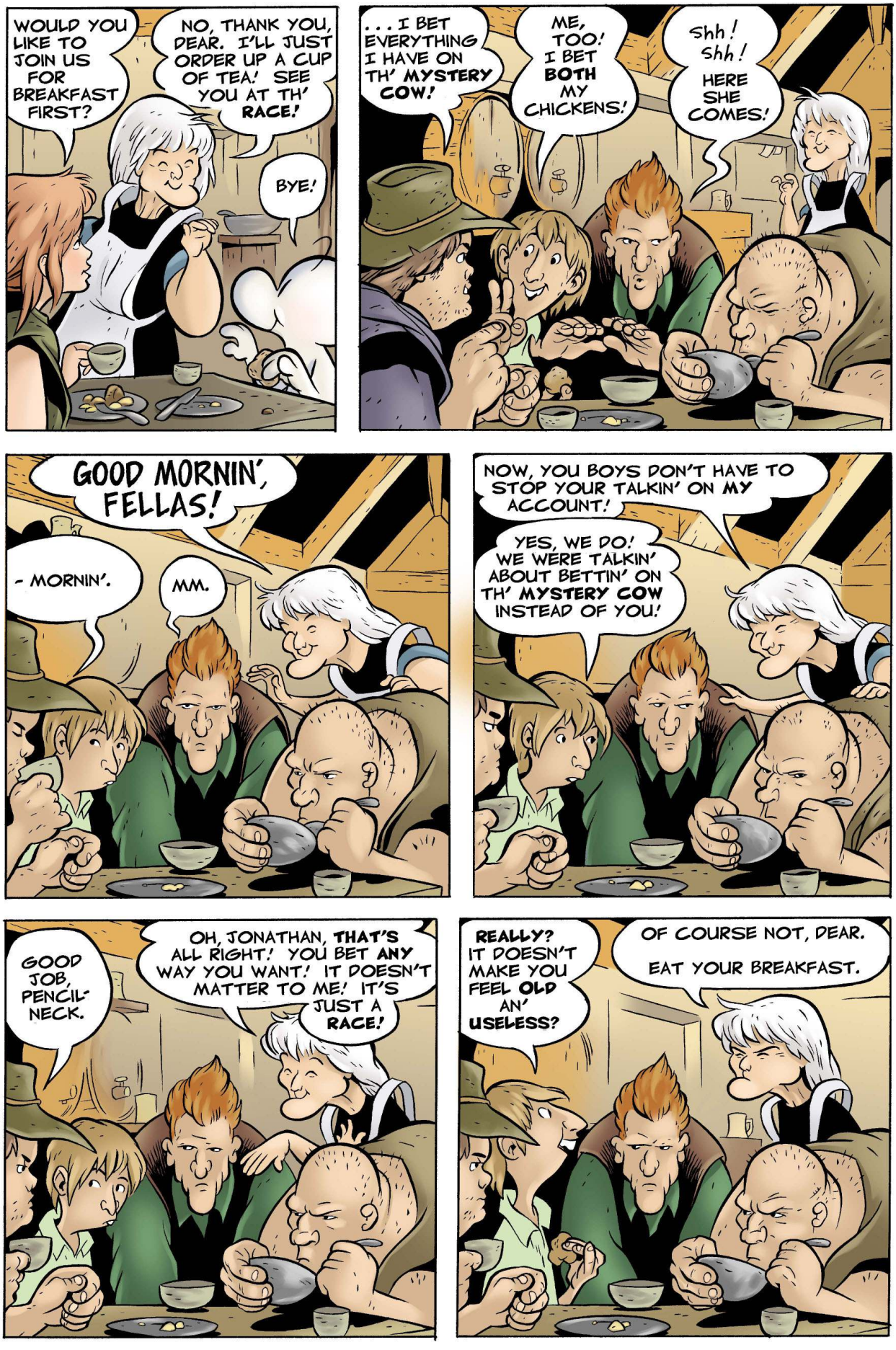
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

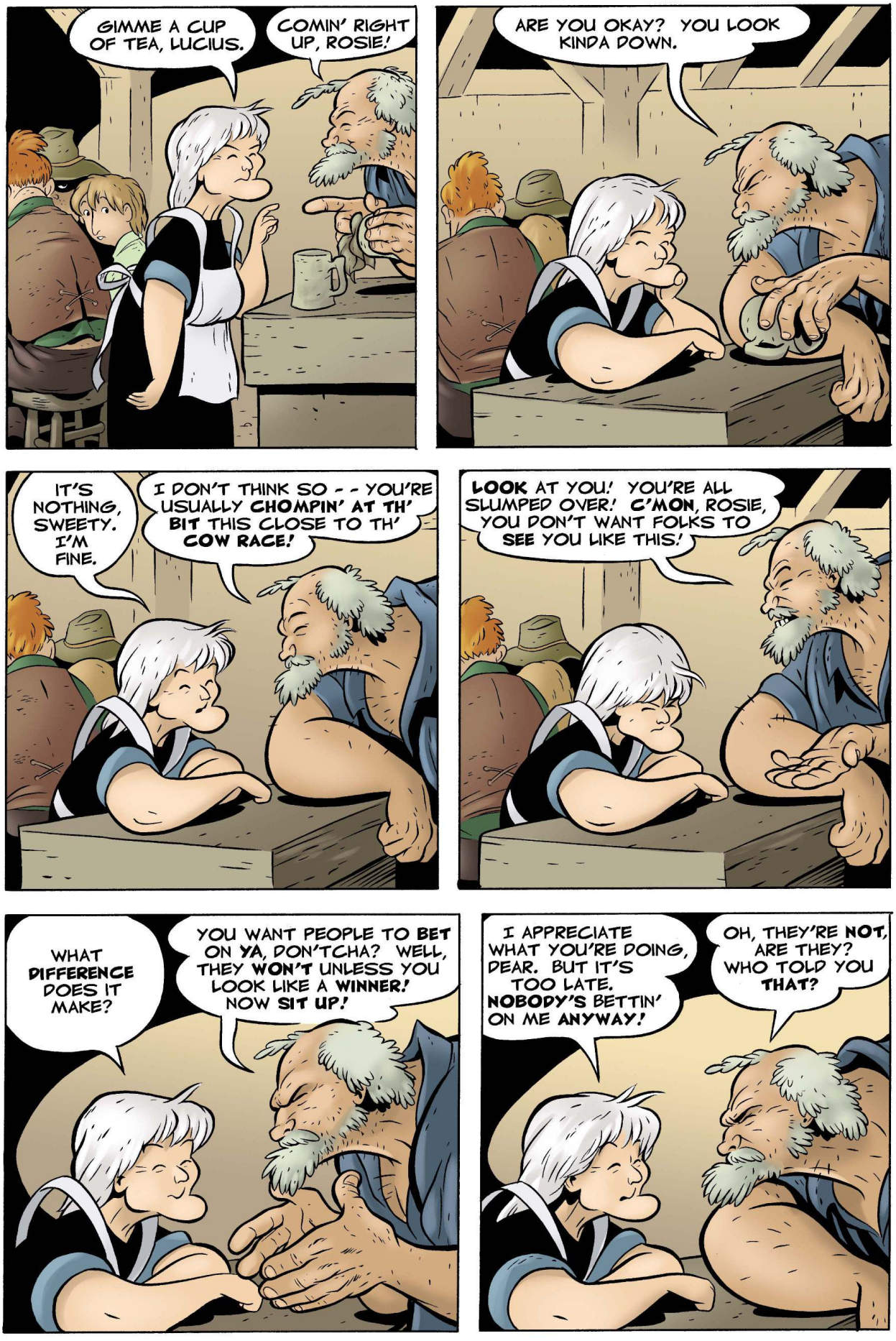

. . . IF IT WASN'T FOR THAT MAP, I'D SWEAR I'D BEEN WITH GRAN'MA BEN SINCE THE DAY I WAS BORN.
WELL, THERE'S TH' MAP! I SAY WE WAKE GRAN'MA UP AND SHOW IT TO HER!
NO. LET'S WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE RACE. SHE'S GOT ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT RIGHT NOW.
LET'S KEEP THE MAP A SECRET FOR NOW . . . JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, OKAY?
OKAY. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT.
GOOD. LET'S GO BACK TO BED.

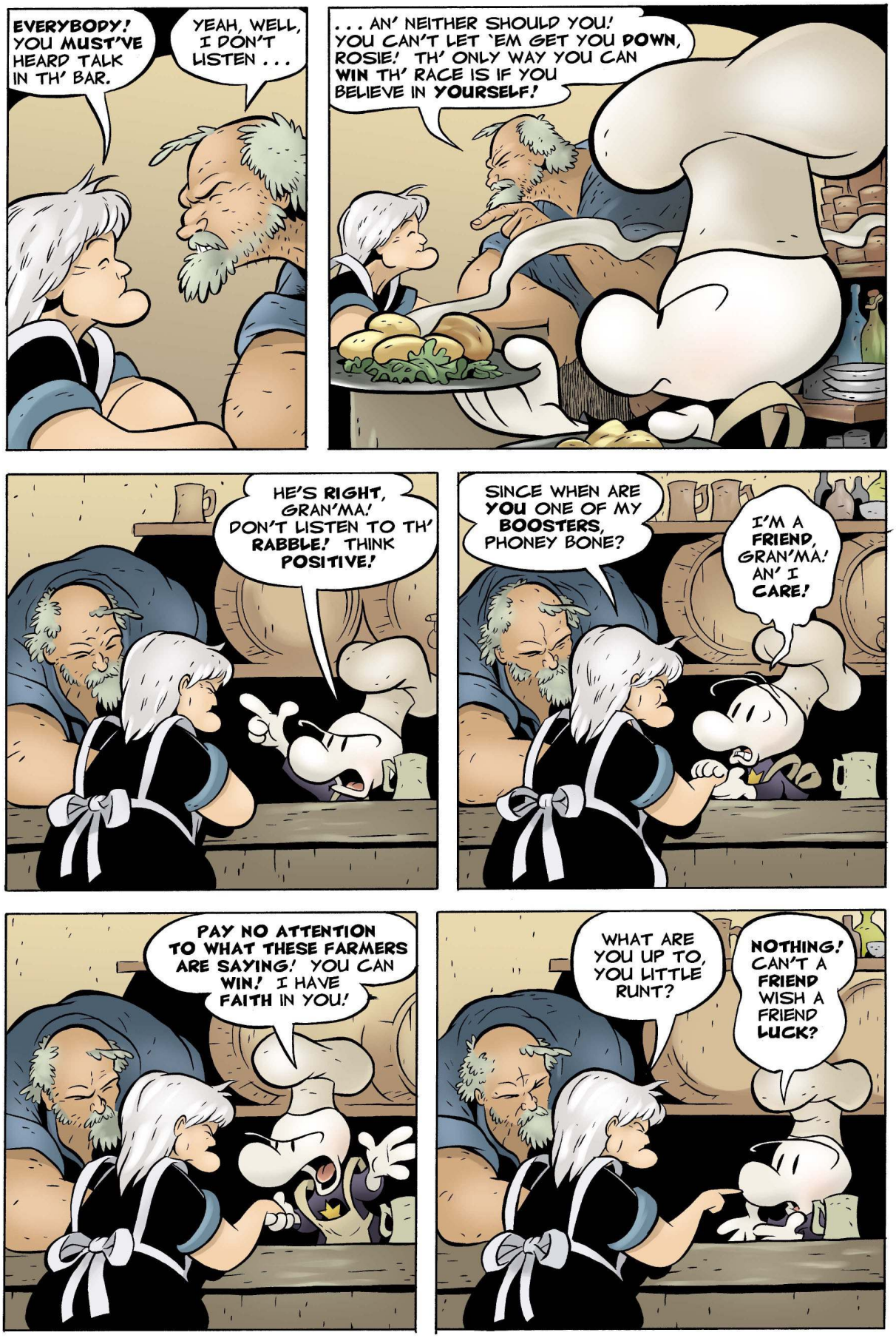

GOOD NIGHT, FONE BONE.
G'NIGHT.


CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
No.9
BY JEFF SMITH

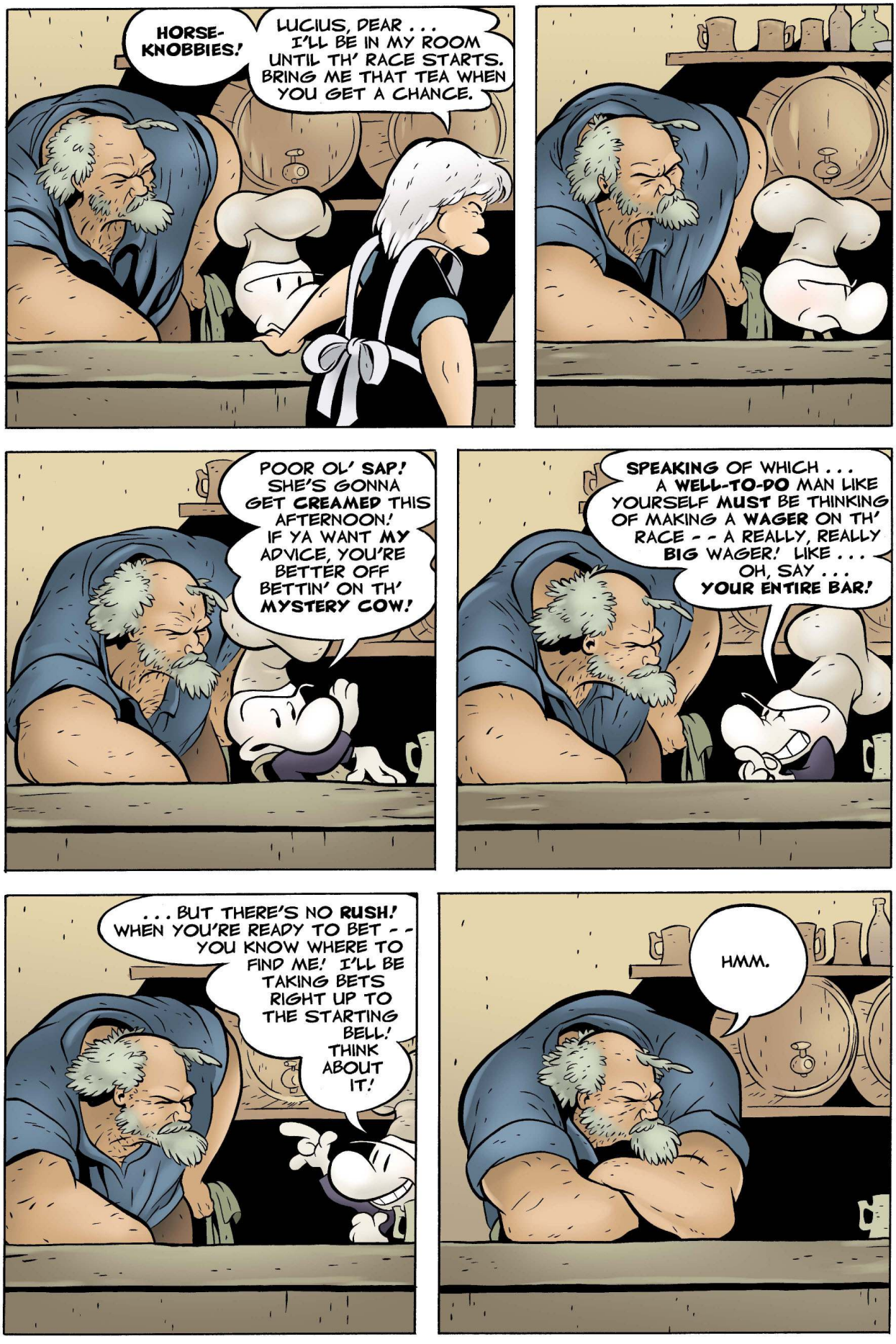

BONE
GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE!
GOOD MORNING, GRAN'MA BEN! DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
YEAH! TODAY'S THE BIG DAY! ARE YOU EXCITED ABOUT YOUR RACE THIS AFTERNOON?
I DO FEEL PRETTY CHIPPER THIS MORNING! MAYBE I'LL GO FOR A JOG - - FIFTY OR SIXTY MILES - - JUST TO LOOSEN UP!

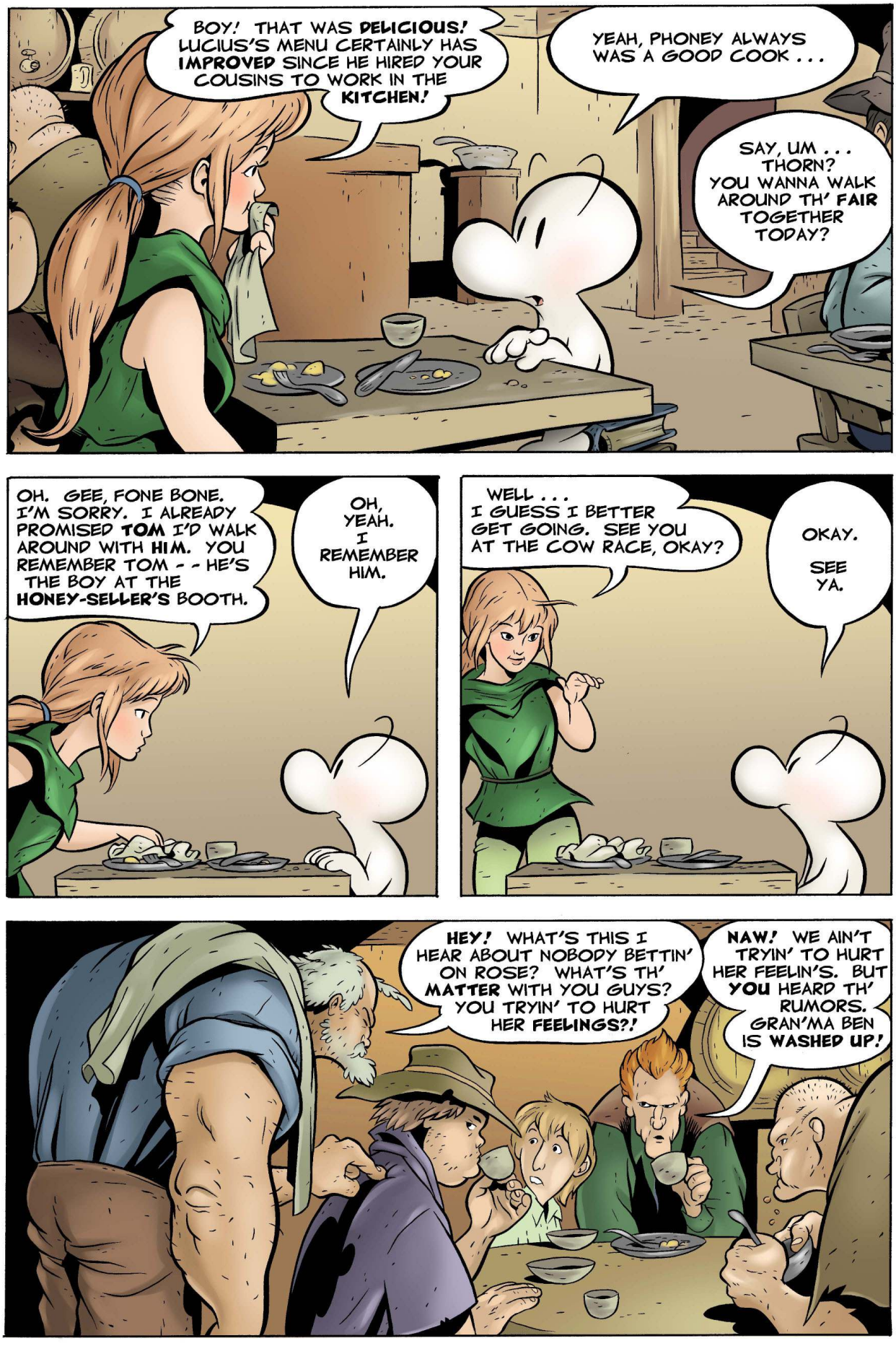

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST FIRST?
NO, THANK YOU, DEAR. I'LL JUST ORDER UP A CUP OF TEA! SEE YOU AT TH' RACE!
BYE!
. . . I BET EVERYTHING I HAVE ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
ME, TOO! I BET BOTH MY CHICKENS!
Shh! Shh! HERE SHE COMES!
GOOD MORNIN', FELLAS!
- MORNIN'.
MM.
NOW, YOU BOYS DON'T HAVE TO STOP YOUR TALKIN' ON MY ACCOUNT!
YES, WE DO! WE WERE TALKIN' ABOUT BETTIN' ON TH' MYSTERY COW INSTEAD OF YOU!
GOOD JOB, PENCIL-NECK.
OH, JONATHAN, THAT'S ALL RIGHT! YOU BET ANY WAY YOU WANT! IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME! IT'S JUST A RACE!
REALLY? IT DOESN'T MAKE YOU FEEL OLD AN' USELESS?
OF COURSE NOT, DEAR. EAT YOUR BREAKFAST.

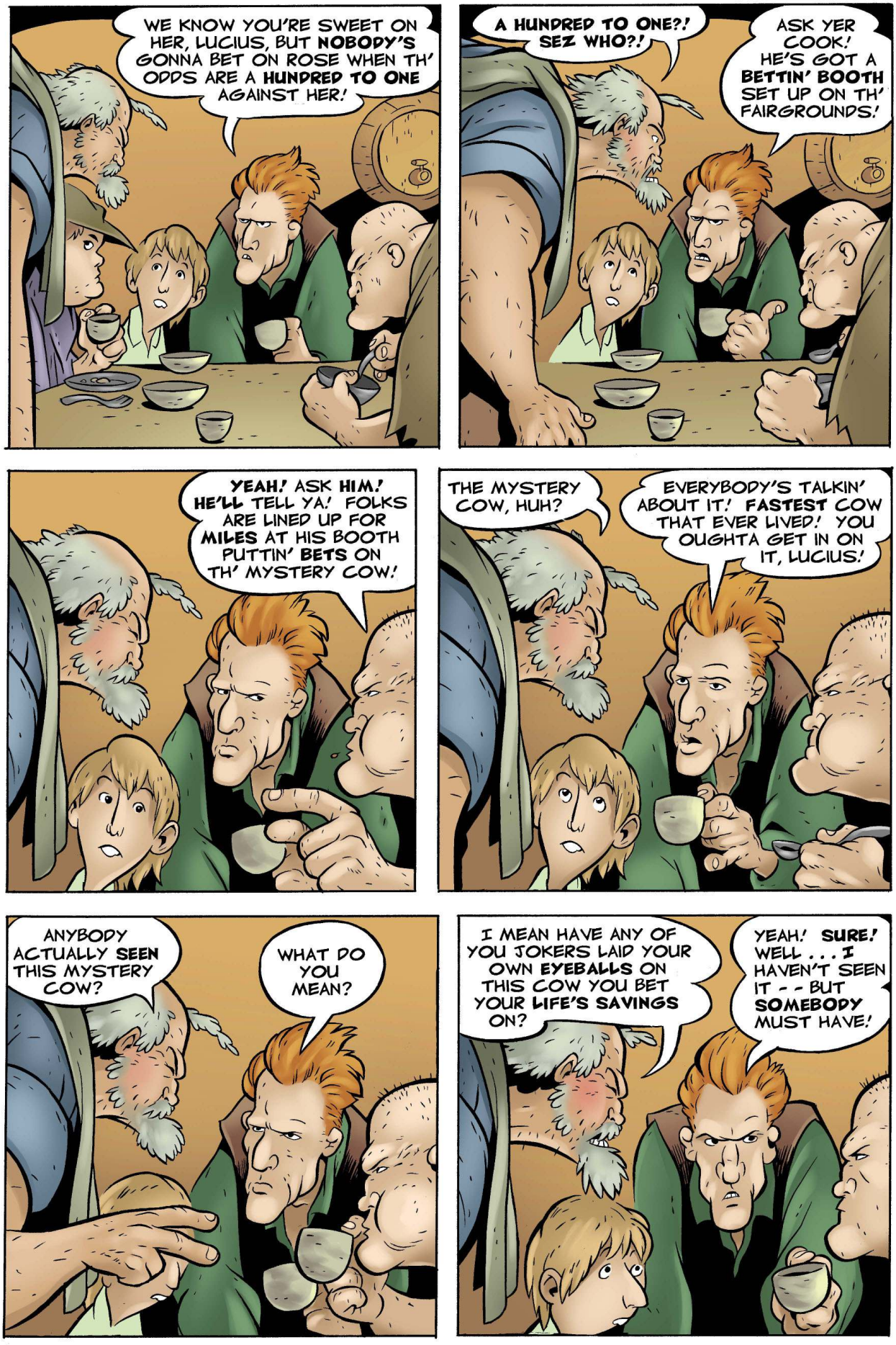

GIMME A CUP OF TEA, LUCIUS.
COMIN' RIGHT UP, ROSIE!
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU LOOK KINDA DOWN.
IT'S NOTHING, SWEETY. I'M FINE.
I DON'T THINK SO - - YOU'RE USUALLY CHOMPIN' AT TH' BIT THIS CLOSE TO TH' COW RACE!
LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE ALL SLUMPED OVER! C'MON, ROSIE, YOU DON'T WANT FOLKS TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS!
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?
YOU WANT PEOPLE TO BET ON YA, DON'TCHA? WELL, THEY WON'T UNLESS YOU LOOK LIKE A WINNER! NOW SIT UP!
I APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE DOING, DEAR. BUT IT'S TOO LATE. NOBODY'S BETTIN' ON ME ANYWAY!
OH, THEY'RE NOT, ARE THEY? WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

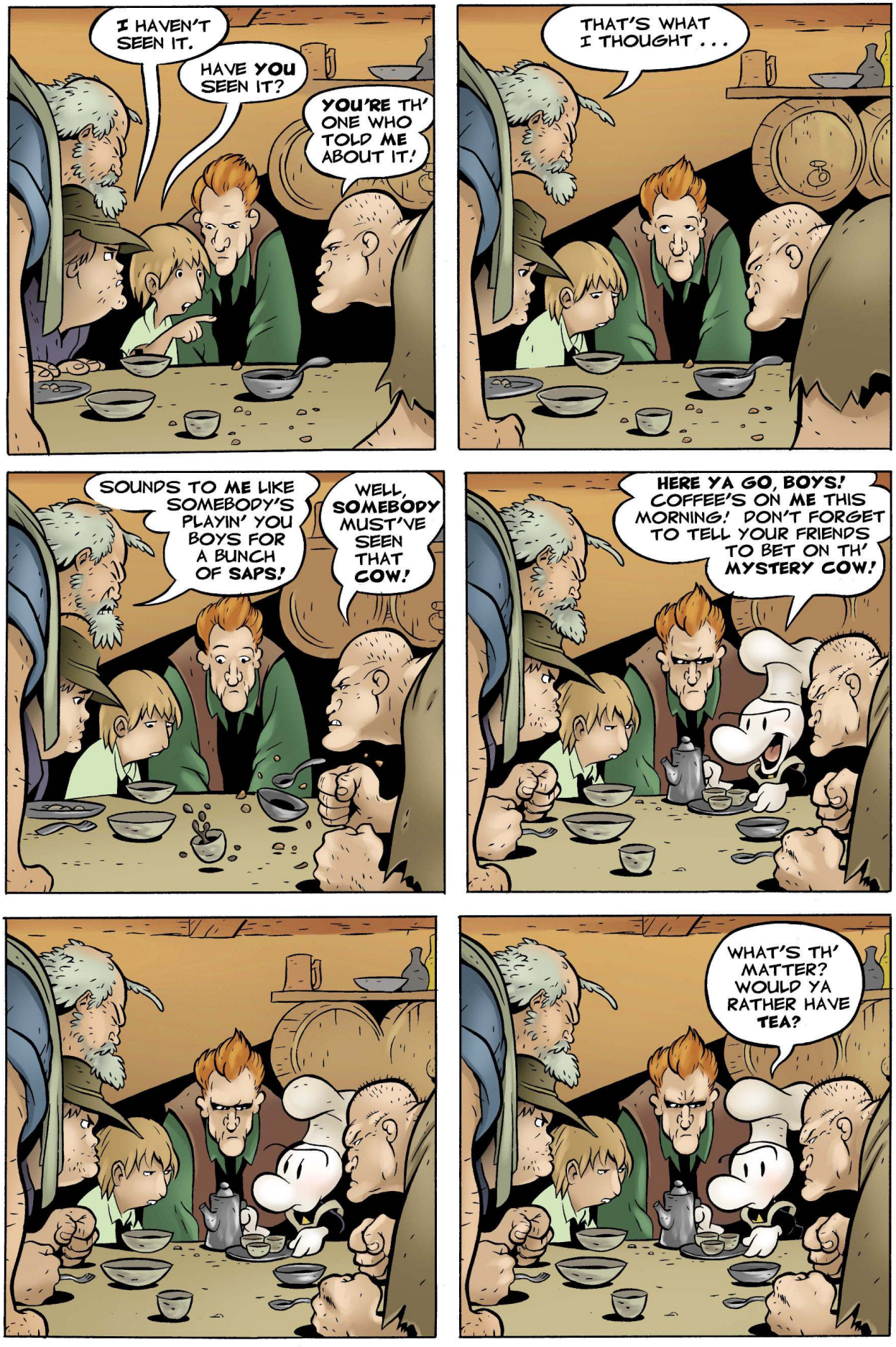


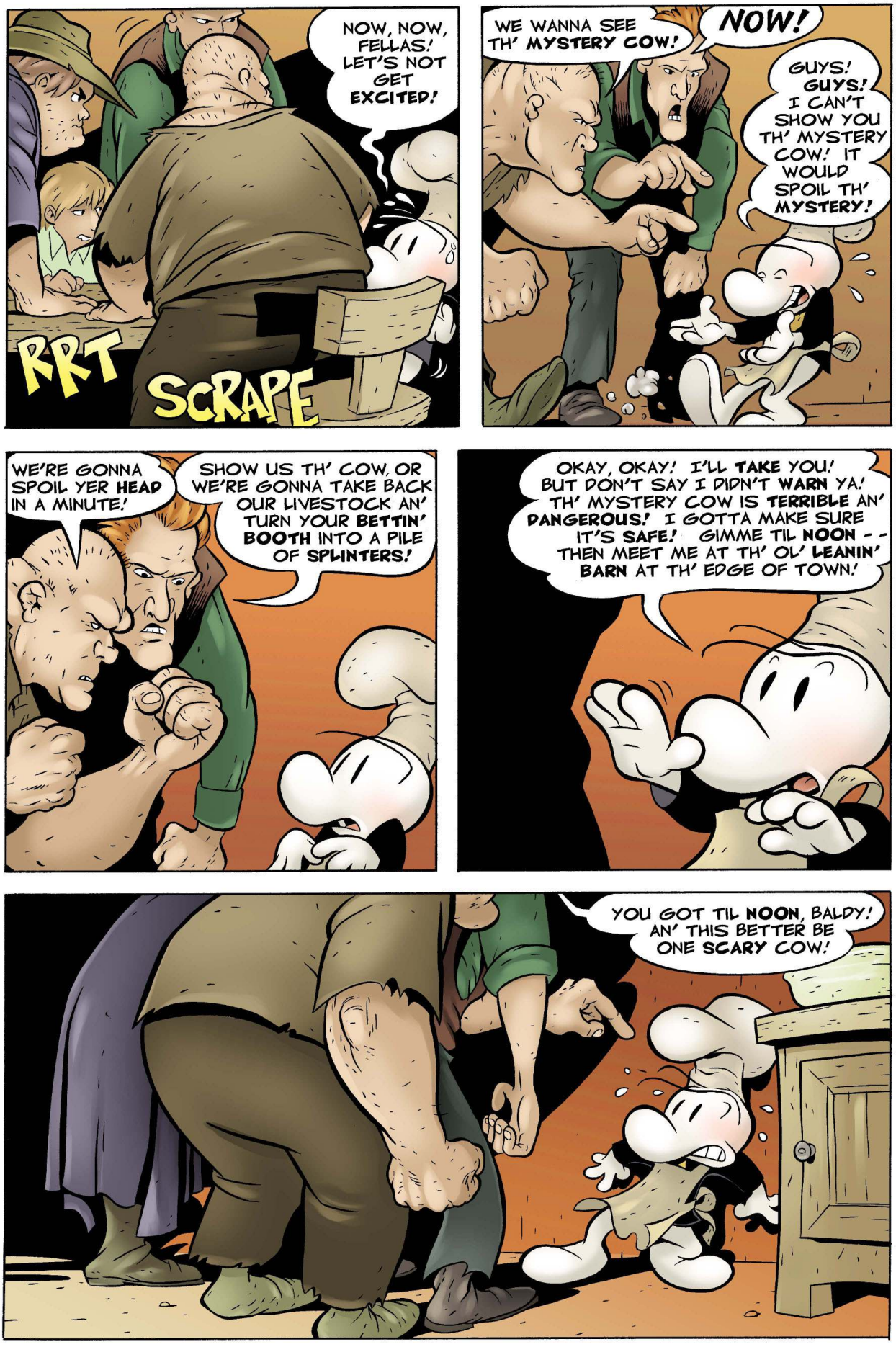
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

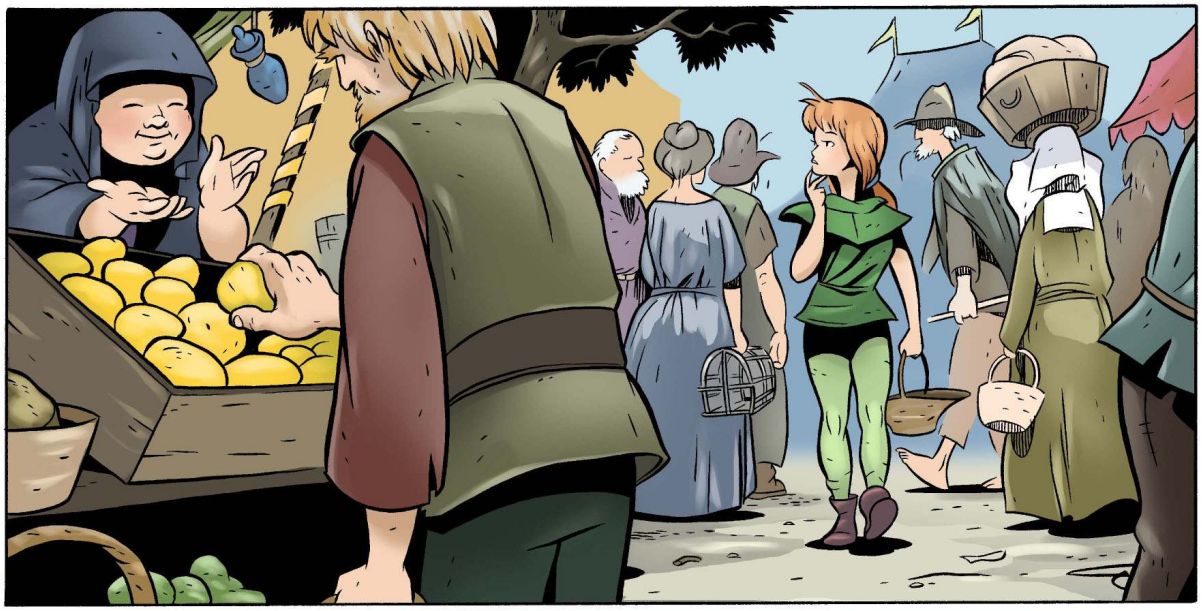

HORSE-KNOBBIES!
LUCIUS, DEAR . . . I'LL BE IN MY ROOM UNTIL TH' RACE STARTS. BRING ME THAT TEA WHEN YOU GET A CHANCE.
POOR OL' SAP! SHE'S GONNA GET CREAMED THIS AFTERNOON! IF YA WANT MY ADVICE, YOU'RE BETTER OFF BETTIN' ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
SPEAKING OF WHICH . . . A WELL-TO-DO MAN LIKE YOURSELF MUST BE THINKING OF MAKING A WAGER ON TH' RACE - - A REALLY, REALLY BIG WAGER! LIKE . . . OH, SAY . . . YOUR ENTIRE BAR!
. . . BUT THERE'S NO RUSH! WHEN YOU'RE READY TO BET - - YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME! I'LL BE TAKING BETS RIGHT UP TO THE STARTING BELL! THINK ABOUT IT!
HMM.


BOY! THAT WAS DELICIOUS! LUCIUS'S MENU CERTAINLY HAS IMPROVED SINCE HE HIRED YOUR COUSINS TO WORK IN THE KITCHEN!
YEAH, PHONEY ALWAYS WAS A GOOD COOK . . .
SAY, UM . . . THORN? YOU WANNA WALK AROUND TH' FAIR TOGETHER TODAY?
OH. GEE, FONE BONE. I'M SORRY. I ALREADY PROMISED TOM I'D WALK AROUND WITH HIM. YOU REMEMBER TOM - - HE'S THE BOY AT THE HONEY-SELLER'S BOOTH.
OH, YEAH. I REMEMBER HIM.
WELL . . . I GUESS I BETTER GET GOING. SEE YOU AT THE COW RACE, OKAY?
OKAY. SEE YA.
HEY! WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT NOBODY BETTIN' ON ROSE? WHAT'S TH' MATTER WITH YOU GUYS? YOU TRYIN' TO HURT HER FEELINGS?!
NAW! WE AIN'T TRYIN' TO HURT HER FEELIN'S. BUT YOU HEARD TH' RUMORS. GRAN'MA BEN IS WASHED UP!


WE KNOW YOU'RE SWEET ON HER, LUCIUS, BUT NOBODY'S GONNA BET ON ROSE WHEN TH' ODDS ARE A HUNDRED TO ONE AGAINST HER!
A HUNDRED TO ONE?! SEZ WHO?!
ASK YER COOK! HE'S GOT A BETTIN' BOOTH SET UP ON TH' FAIRGROUNDS!
YEAH! ASK HIM! HE'LL TELL YA! FOLKS ARE LINED UP FOR MILES AT HIS BOOTH PUTTIN' BETS ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
THE MYSTERY COW, HUH?
EVERYBODY'S TALKIN' ABOUT IT! FASTEST COW THAT EVER LIVED! YOU OUGHTA GET IN ON IT, LUCIUS!
ANYBODY ACTUALLY SEEN THIS MYSTERY COW?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I MEAN HAVE ANY OF YOU JOKERS LAID YOUR OWN EYEBALLS ON THIS COW YOU BET YOUR LIFE'S SAVINGS ON?
YEAH! SURE! WELL . . . I HAVEN'T SEEN IT - - BUT SOMEBODY MUST HAVE!

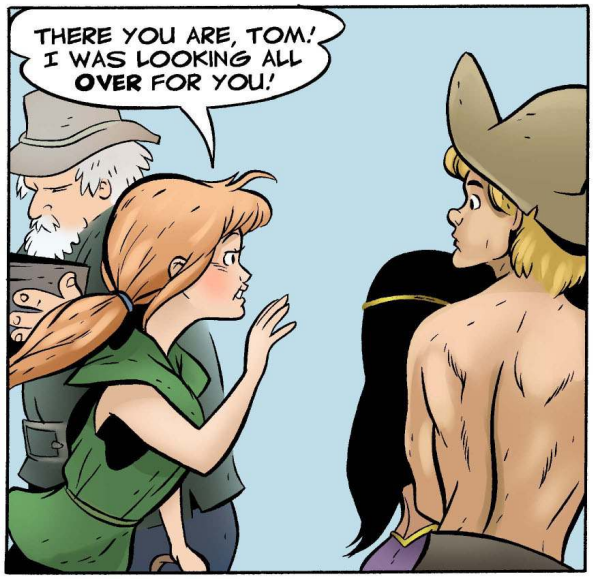

I HAVEN'T SEEN IT.
HAVE YOU SEEN IT?
YOU'RE TH' ONE WHO TOLD ME ABOUT IT!
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT . . .
SOUNDS TO ME LIKE SOMEBODY'S PLAYIN' YOU BOYS FOR A BUNCH OF SAPS!
WELL, SOMEBODY MUST'VE SEEN THAT COW!
HERE YA GO, BOYS! COFFEE'S ON ME THIS MORNING! DON'T FORGET TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS TO BET ON TH' MYSTERY COW!
WHAT'S TH' MATTER? WOULD YA RATHER HAVE TEA?

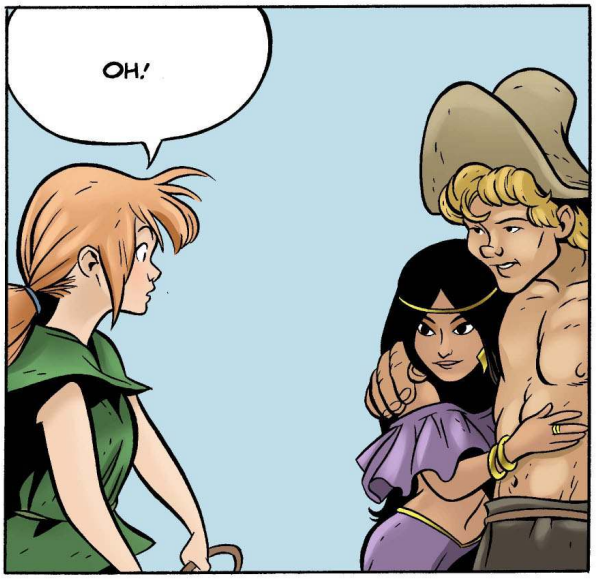

NOW, NOW, FELLAS! LET'S NOT GET EXCITED!
RRT
SCRAPE
WE WANNA SEE TH' MYSTERY COW!
NOW!
GUYS! GUYS! I CAN'T SHOW YOU TH' MYSTERY COW! IT WOULD SPOIL TH' MYSTERY!
WE'RE GONNA SPOIL YER HEAD IN A MINUTE!
SHOW US TH' COW, OR WE'RE GONNA TAKE BACK OUR LIVESTOCK AN' TURN YOUR BETTIN' BOOTH INTO A PILE OF SPLINTERS!
OKAY, OKAY! I'LL TAKE YOU! BUT DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YA! TH' MYSTERY COW IS TERRIBLE AN' DANGEROUS! I GOTTA MAKE SURE IT'S SAFE! GIMME TIL NOON -- THEN MEET ME AT TH' OL' LEANIN' BARN AT TH' EDGE OF TOWN!
YOU GOT TIL NOON, BALDY! AN' THIS BETTER BE ONE SCARY COW!



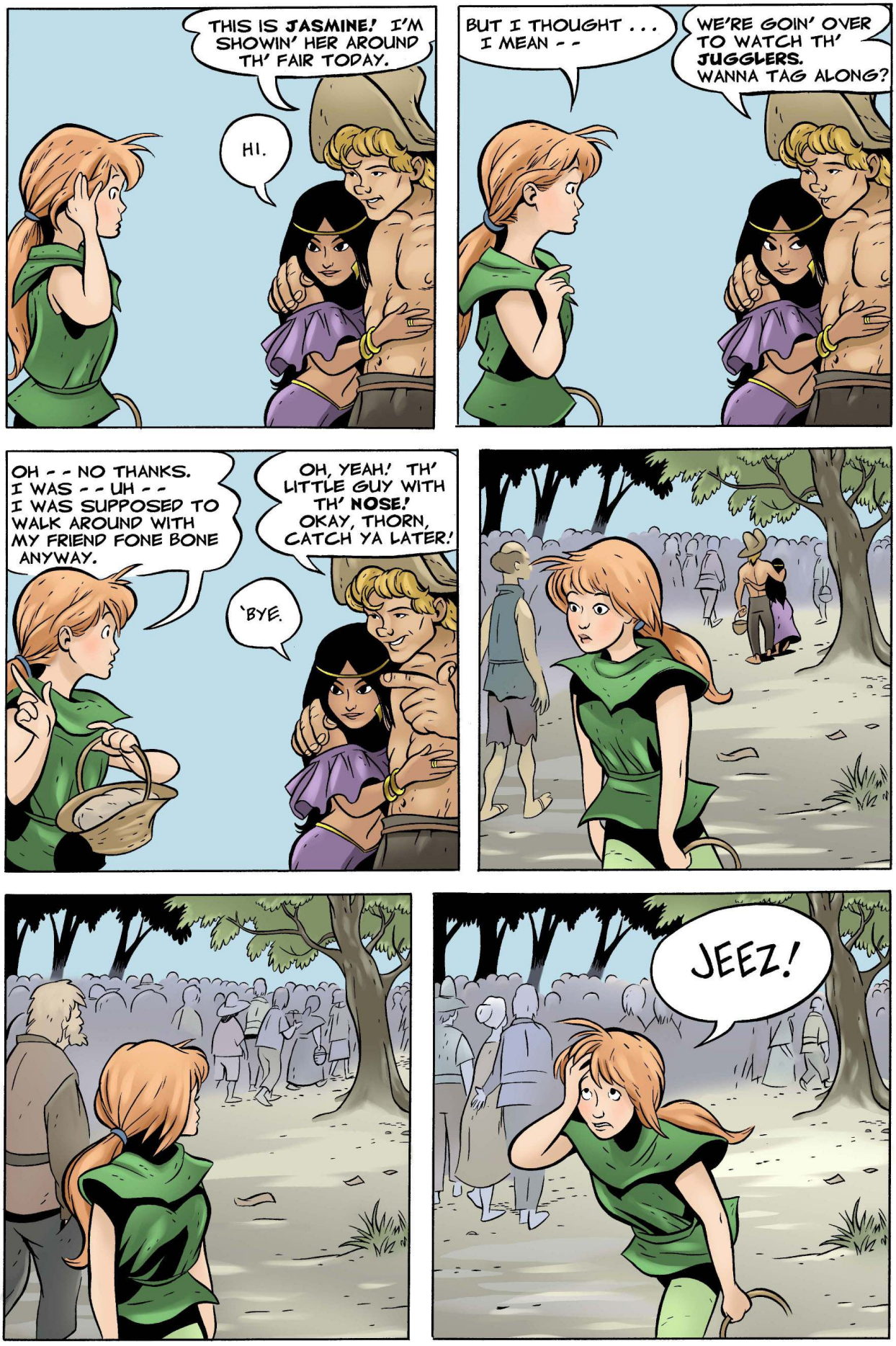


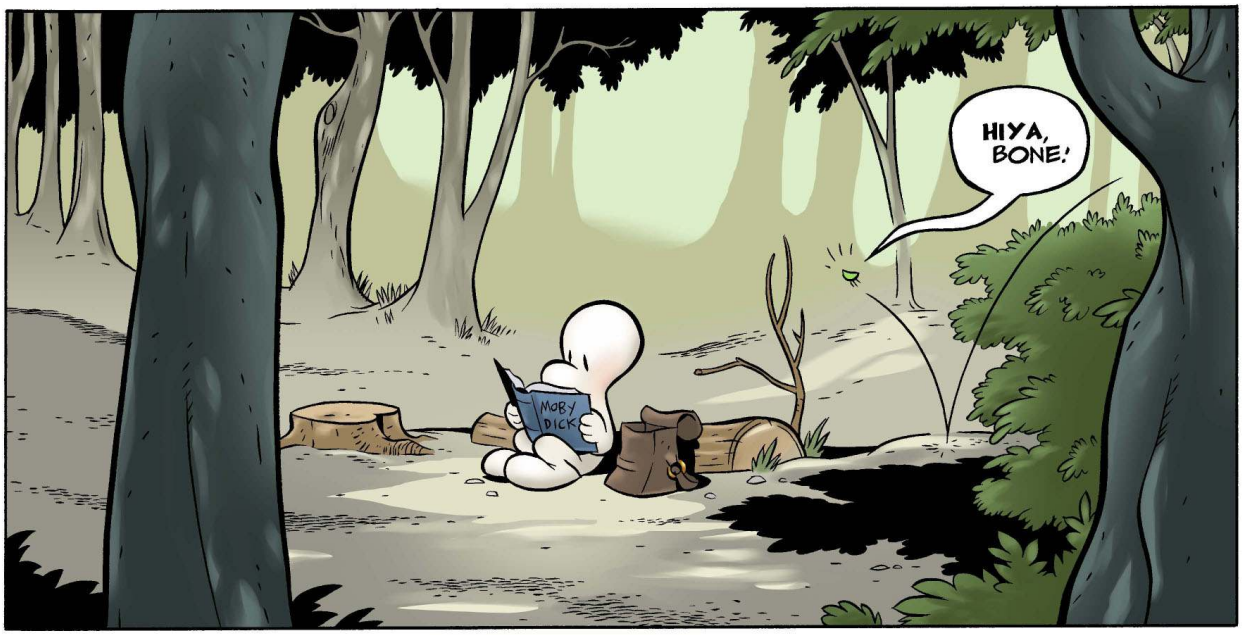


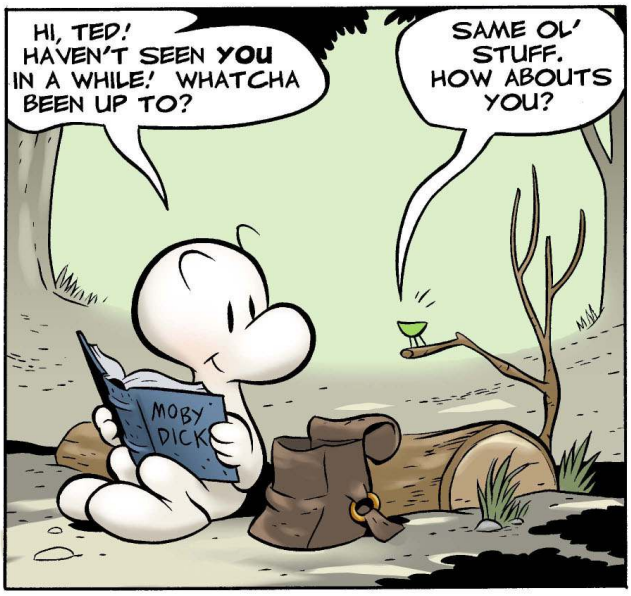


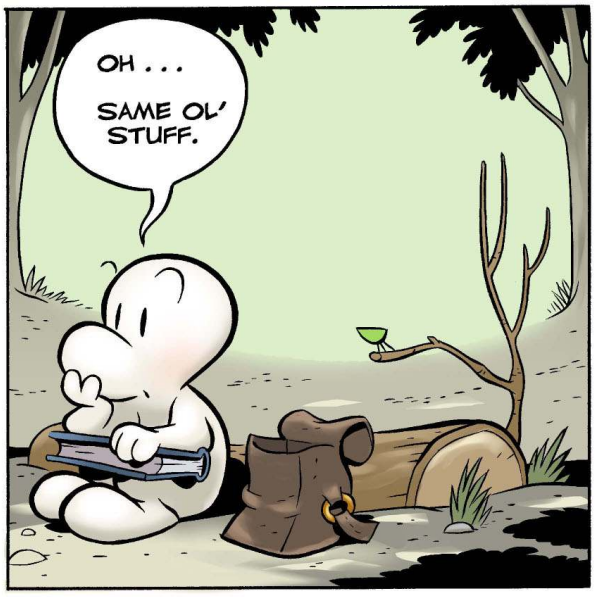


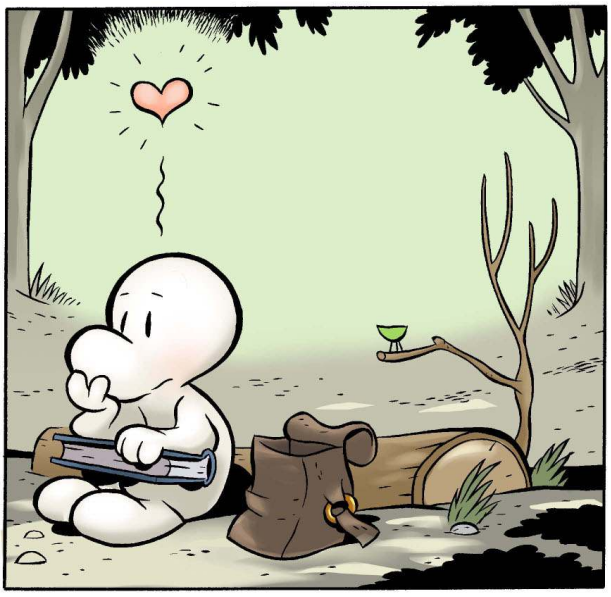
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THIS IS JASMINE! I'M SHOWIN' HER AROUND TH' FAIR TODAY.
HI.
BUT I THOUGHT . . . I MEAN - -
WE'RE GOIN' OVER TO WATCH TH' JUGGLERS. WANNA TAG ALONG?
OH - - NO THANKS. I WAS - - UH - - I WAS SUPPOSED TO WALK AROUND WITH MY FRIEND FONE BONE ANYWAY.
OH, YEAH! TH' LITTLE GUY WITH TH' NOSE! OKAY, THORN, CATCH YA LATER!
'BYE.
JEEZ!

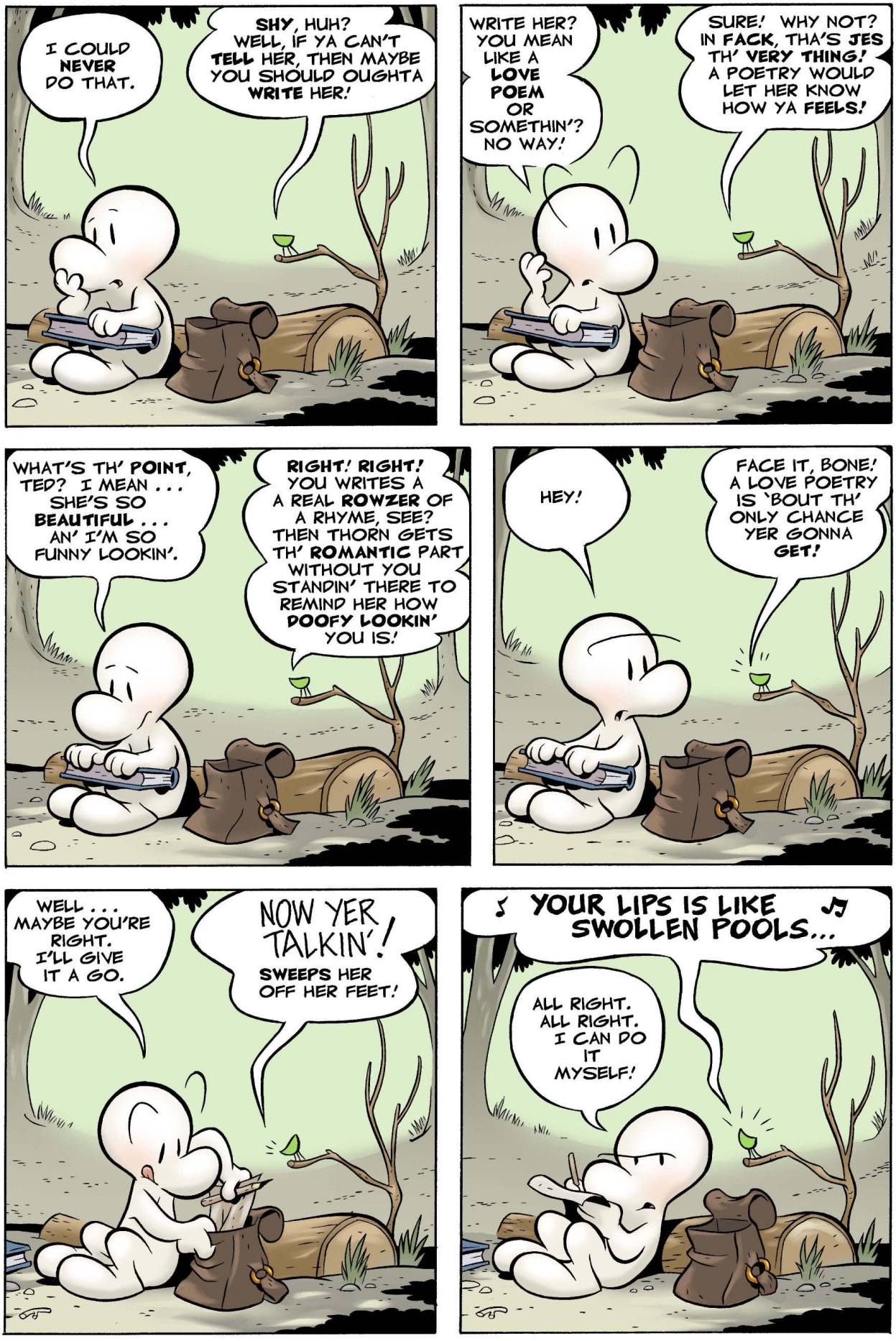

HIYA, BONE!
MOBY DICK


HI, TED! HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE! WHATCHA BEEN UP TO?
SAME OL' STUFF. HOW ABOUTS YOU?
MOBY DICK


OH . . .
SAME OL' STUFF.




SIGH.
WHY DON'T YA JES TELL THORN THAT YA LIKES HER -- INSTEAD OF MOPIN' AROUN' OUT HERE IN TH' WOODS?


I COULD NEVER DO THAT.
SHY, HUH? WELL, IF YA CAN'T TELL HER, THEN MAYBE YOU SHOULD OUGHTA WRITE HER!
WRITE HER? YOU MEAN LIKE A LOVE POEM OR SOMETHIN'? NO WAY!
SURE! WHY NOT? IN FACK, THA'S JES TH' VERY THING! A POETRY WOULD LET HER KNOW HOW YA FEELS!
WHAT'S TH' POINT, TED? I MEAN . . . SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL . . . AN' I'M SO FUNNY LOOKIN'.
RIGHT! RIGHT! YOU WRITES A A REAL ROWZER OF A RHYME, SEE? THEN THORN GETS TH' ROMANTIC PART WITHOUT YOU STANDIN' THERE TO REMIND HER HOW DOOFY LOOKIN' YOU IS!
HEY!
FACE IT, BONE! A LOVE POETRY IS 'BOUT TH' ONLY CHANCE YER GONNA GET!
WELL . . . MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL GIVE IT A GO.
NOW YER TALKIN'! SWEEPS HER OFF HER FEET!
♪ YOUR LIPS IS LIKE SWOLLEN POOLS... ♪
ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT. I CAN DO IT MYSELF!

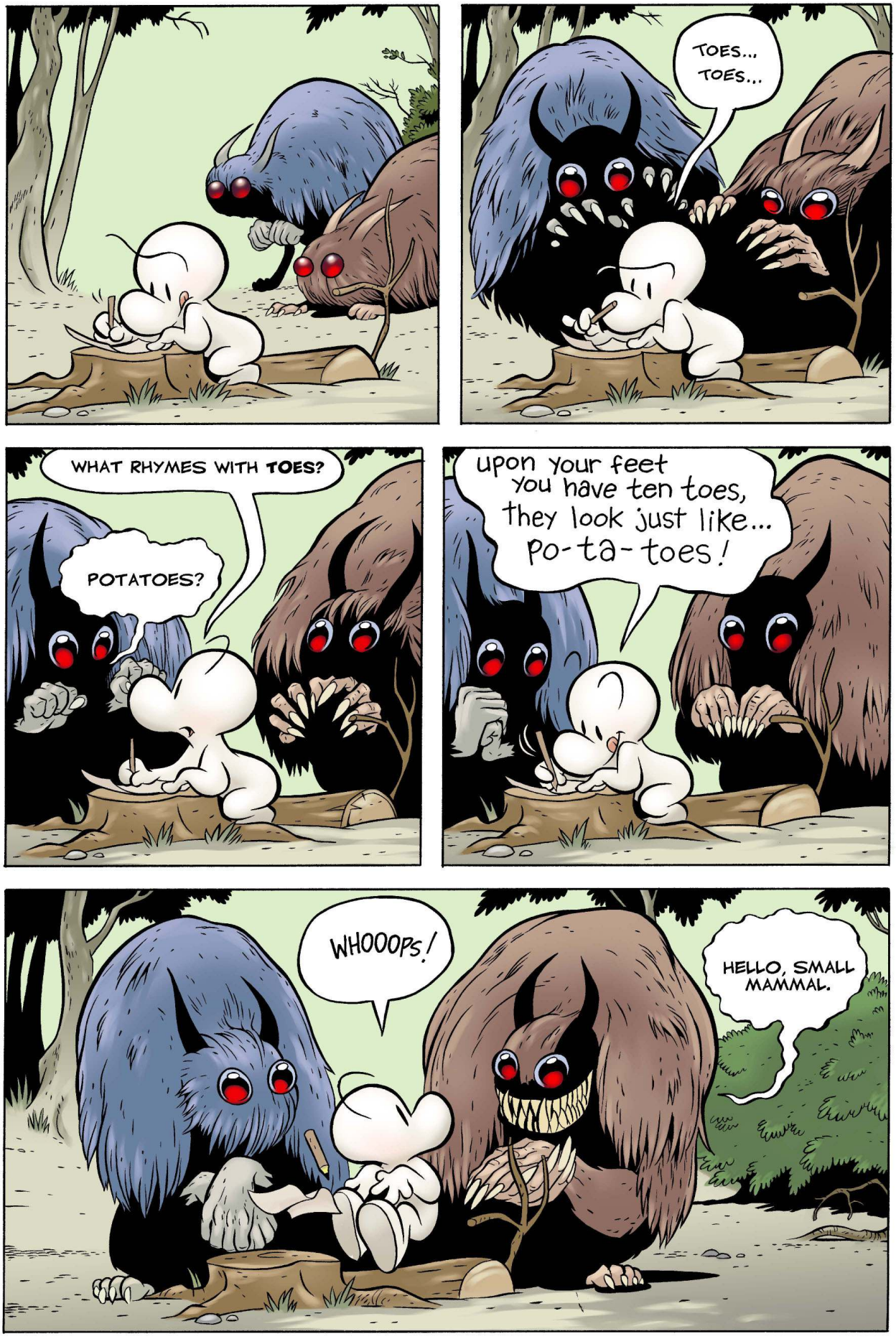

OKEE DOKEE, PAL! I'LL BE BACK TO HELPS WITH TH' JUICY PARTS!
AT LAST!
LOOK! LOOK! COMRADE, IT IS HE! THE LITTLE BONE CREATURE . . .

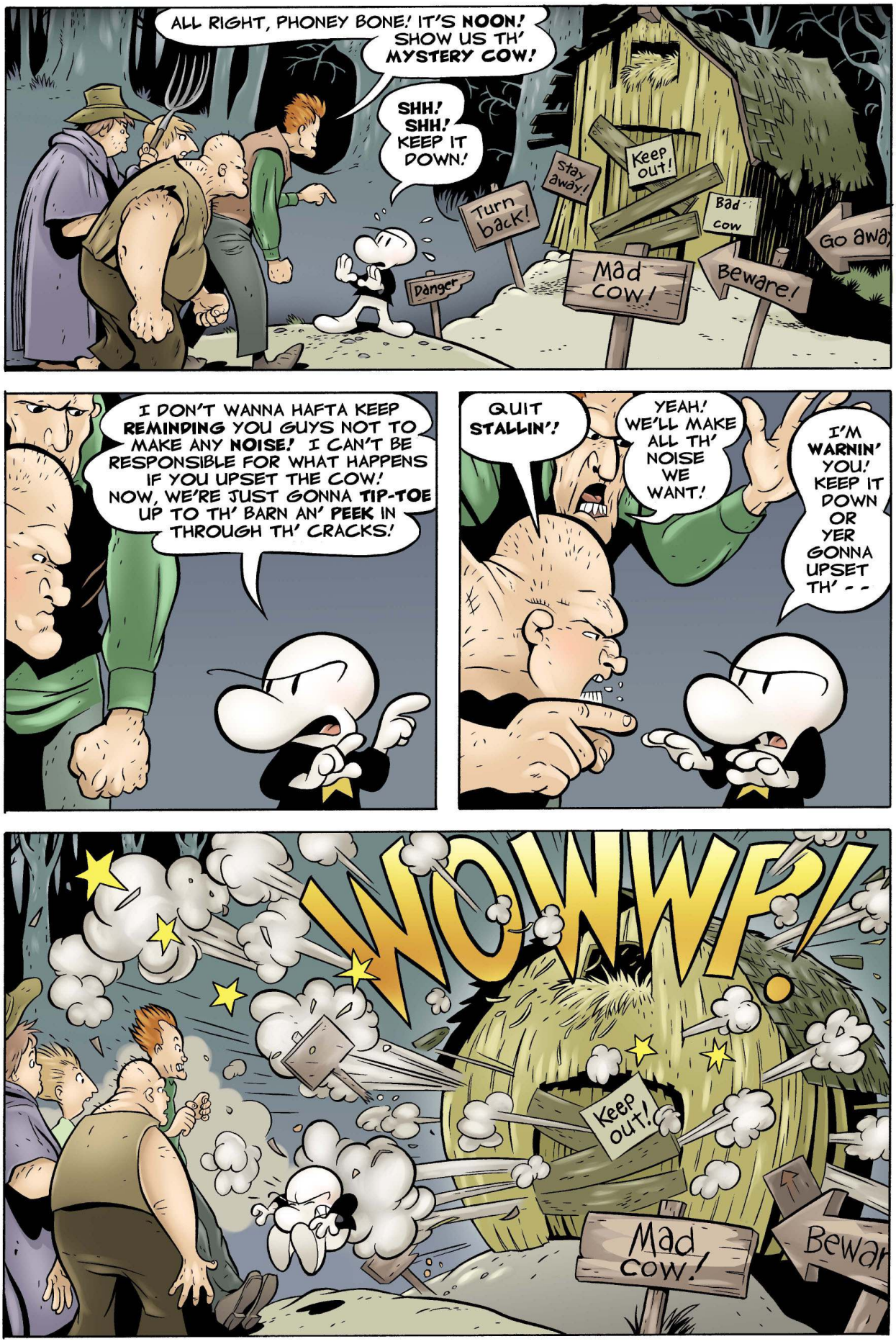

. . . THE MOIST, SUCCULENT, MARBLED WITH FAT, LITTLE BONE CREATURE!
ARE YOU SURE WE'RE ALLOWED TO EAT THAT ONE? THEY ALL LOOK ALIKE TO ME!

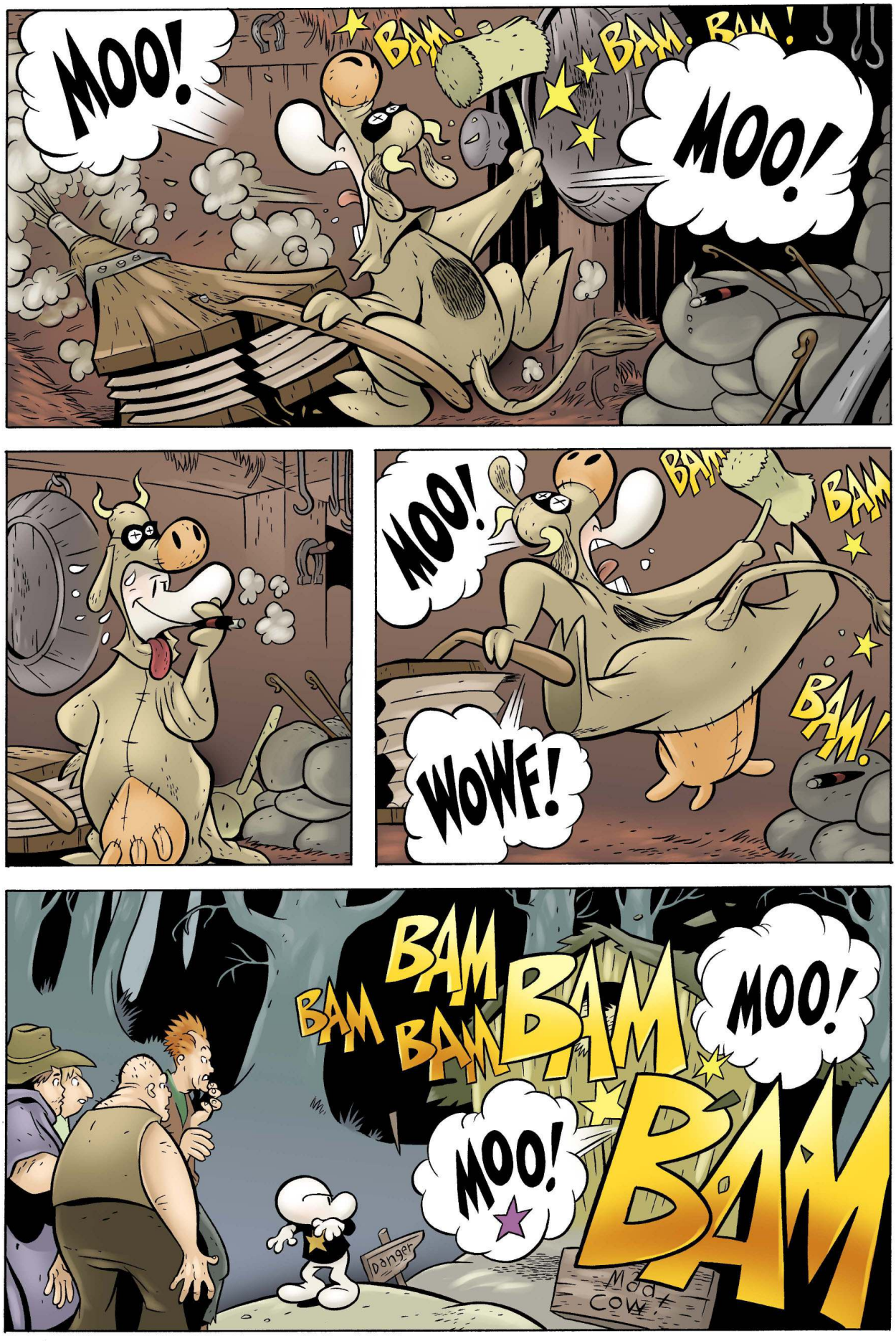

YES, I'M SURE! THE ONE WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO EAT HAS A STAR ON ITS CHEST!
YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S THAT TROUBLE-MAKER FONE BONE!
WE BETTER CATCH HIM AND TAKE HIM TO KINGDOK!

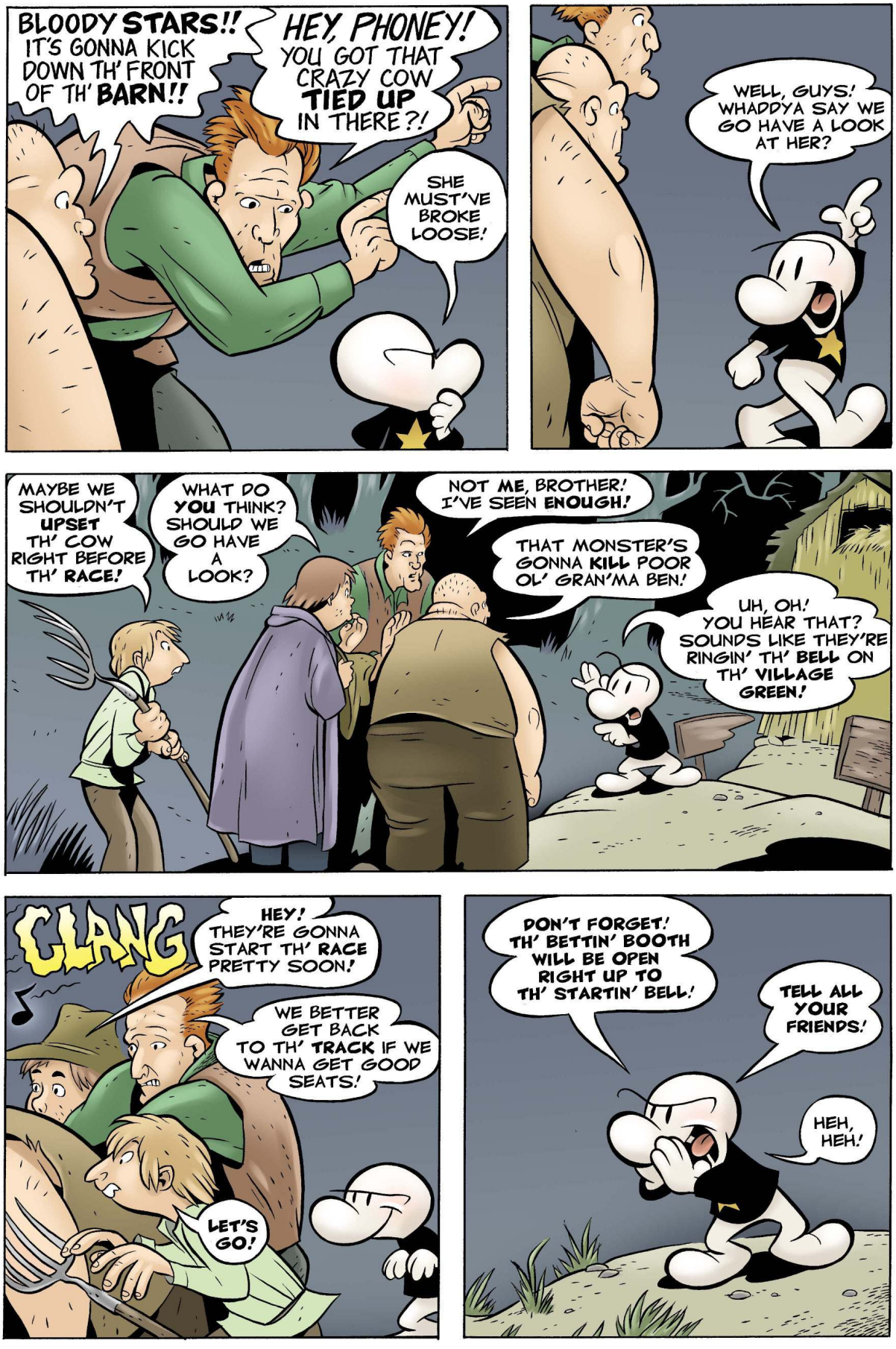

FORGET KINGDOK! IF WE KEEP HIM FOR OURSELVES, WE CAN DO ANYTHING WE WANT WITH HIM!
OH, REALLY?! DOES THAT INCLUDE BAKING HIM IN A QUICHE?!


NO, IT DOES NOT INCLUDE THAT! IT INCLUDES EATING HIM RAW!
THAT'S TOO BAD. HE WOULD'VE MADE A FINE PASTRY FILLING.

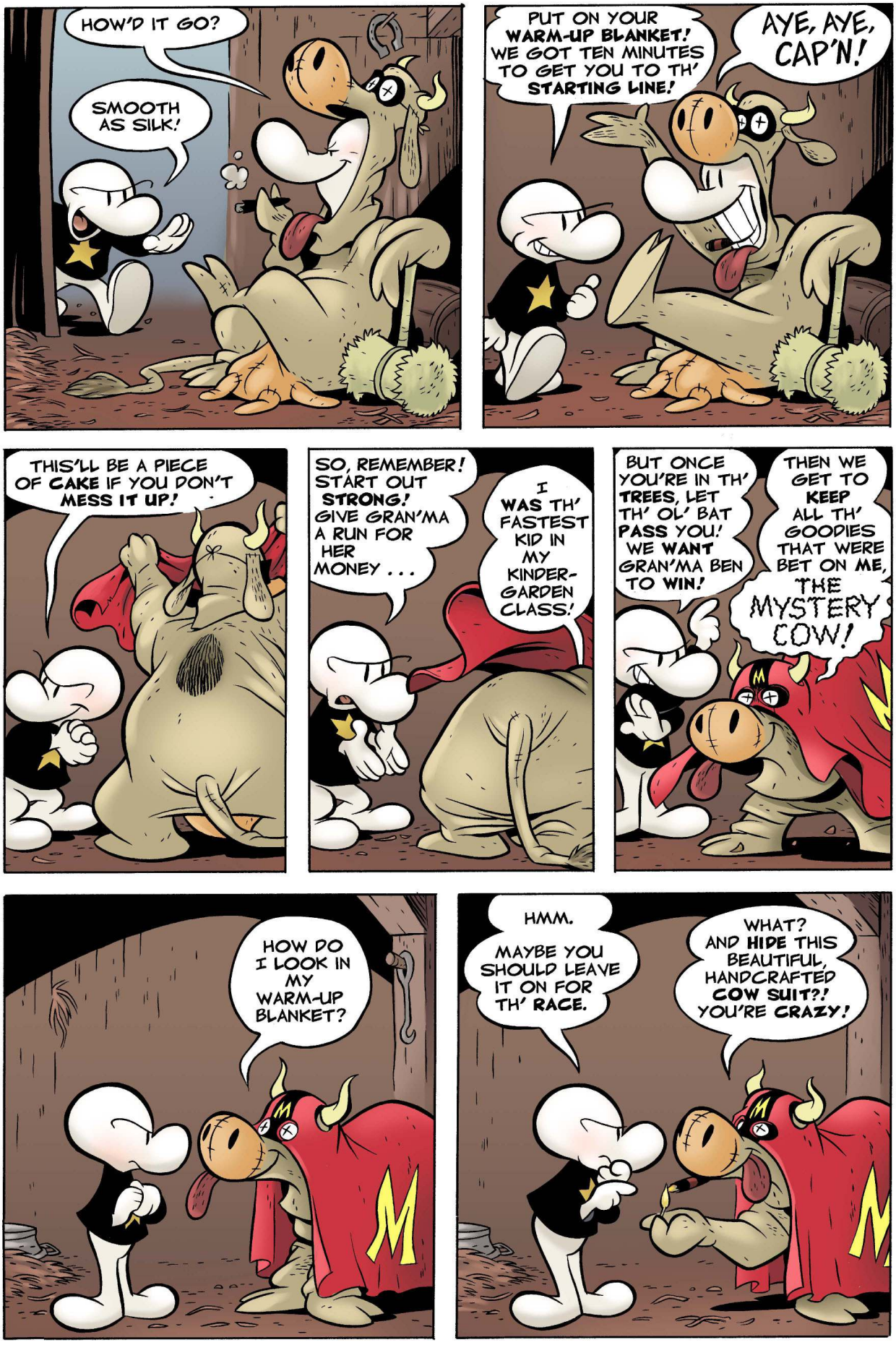

TOES...
TOES...
WHAT RHYMES WITH **TOES**?
POTATOES?
upon your feet
you have ten toes,
they look just like...
po-ta-toes!
WHOOOPS!
HELLO, SMALL MAMMAL.


ALL RIGHT, PHONEY BONE! IT'S NOON! SHOW US TH' MYSTERY COW!
SHH! SHH! KEEP IT DOWN!
Keep out!
Stay away!
Turn back!
Bad cow
Go away
Danger
Mad cow!
Beware!
I DON'T WANNA HAFTA KEEP REMINDING YOU GUYS NOT TO MAKE ANY NOISE! I CAN'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU UPSET THE COW! NOW, WE'RE JUST GONNA TIP-TOE UP TO TH' BARN AN' PEEK IN THROUGH TH' CRACKS!
QUIT STALLIN'!
YEAH! WE'LL MAKE ALL TH' NOISE WE WANT!
I'M WARNIN' YOU! KEEP IT DOWN OR YER GONNA UPSET TH' - -
KAWWP!
Keep out!
Mad cow!
Bewar

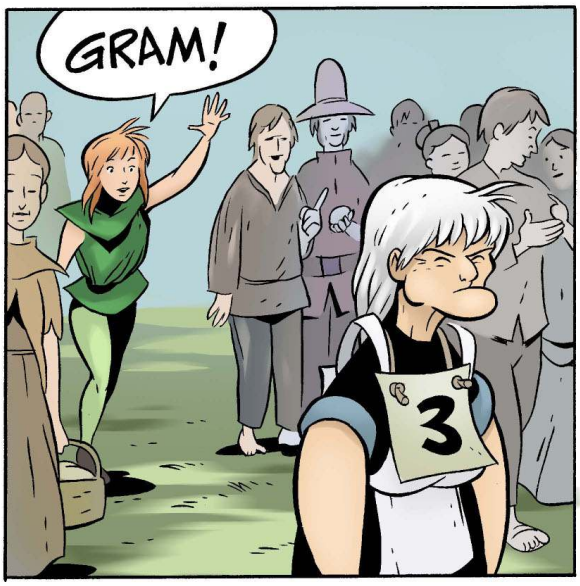

MOO!
BAM.
BAM.
BAM!
MOO!
MOO!
BAM
BAM
BAM!
WOWF!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
MOO!
MOO!
BAM
danger
Mad
COW!

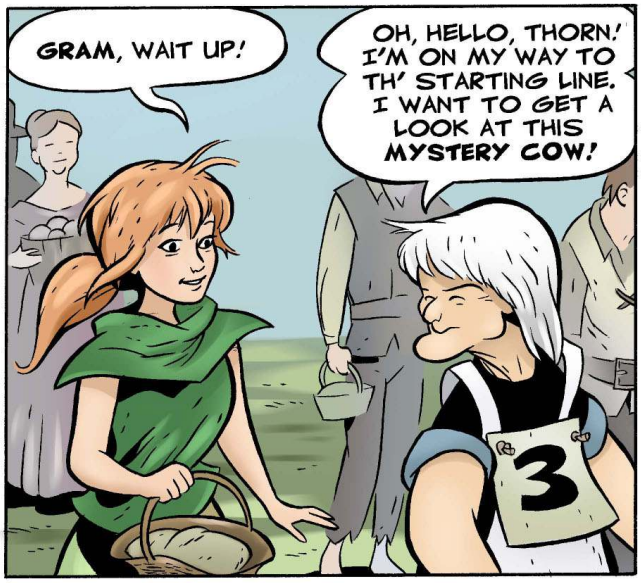


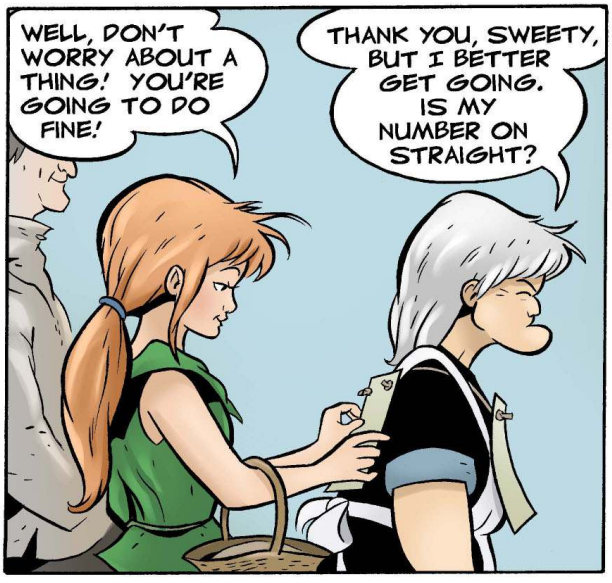
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

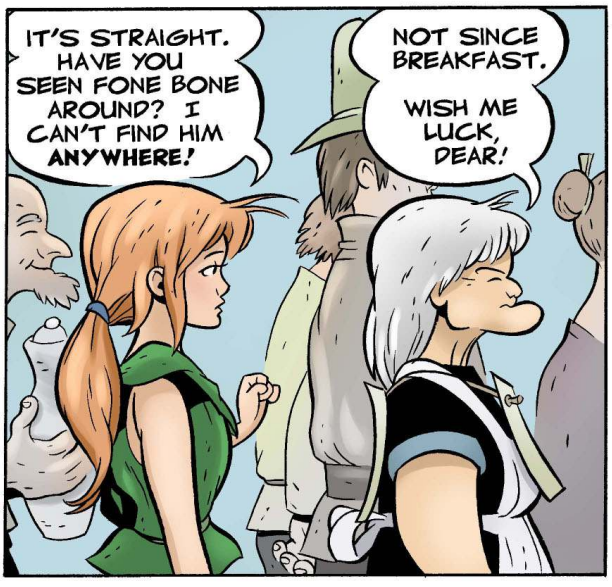

HOW'D IT GO?
SMOOTH AS SILK!
PUT ON YOUR WARM-UP BLANKET! WE GOT TEN MINUTES TO GET YOU TO TH' STARTING LINE!
AYE, AYE, CAP'N!
THIS'LL BE A PIECE OF CAKE IF YOU DON'T MESS IT UP!
SO, REMEMBER! START OUT STRONG! GIVE GRAN'MA A RUN FOR HER MONEY . . .
I WAS TH' FASTEST KID IN MY KINDER-GARDEN CLASS!
BUT ONCE YOU'RE IN TH' TREES, LET TH' OL' BAT PASS YOU! WE WANT GRAN'MA BEN TO WIN!
THEN WE GET TO KEEP ALL TH' GOODIES THAT WERE BET ON ME, THE MYSTERY COW!
HOW DO I LOOK IN MY WARM-UP BLANKET?
HMM.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD LEAVE IT ON FOR TH' RACE.
WHAT? AND HIDE THIS BEAUTIFUL, HANDCRAFTED COW SUIT?! YOU'RE CRAZY!

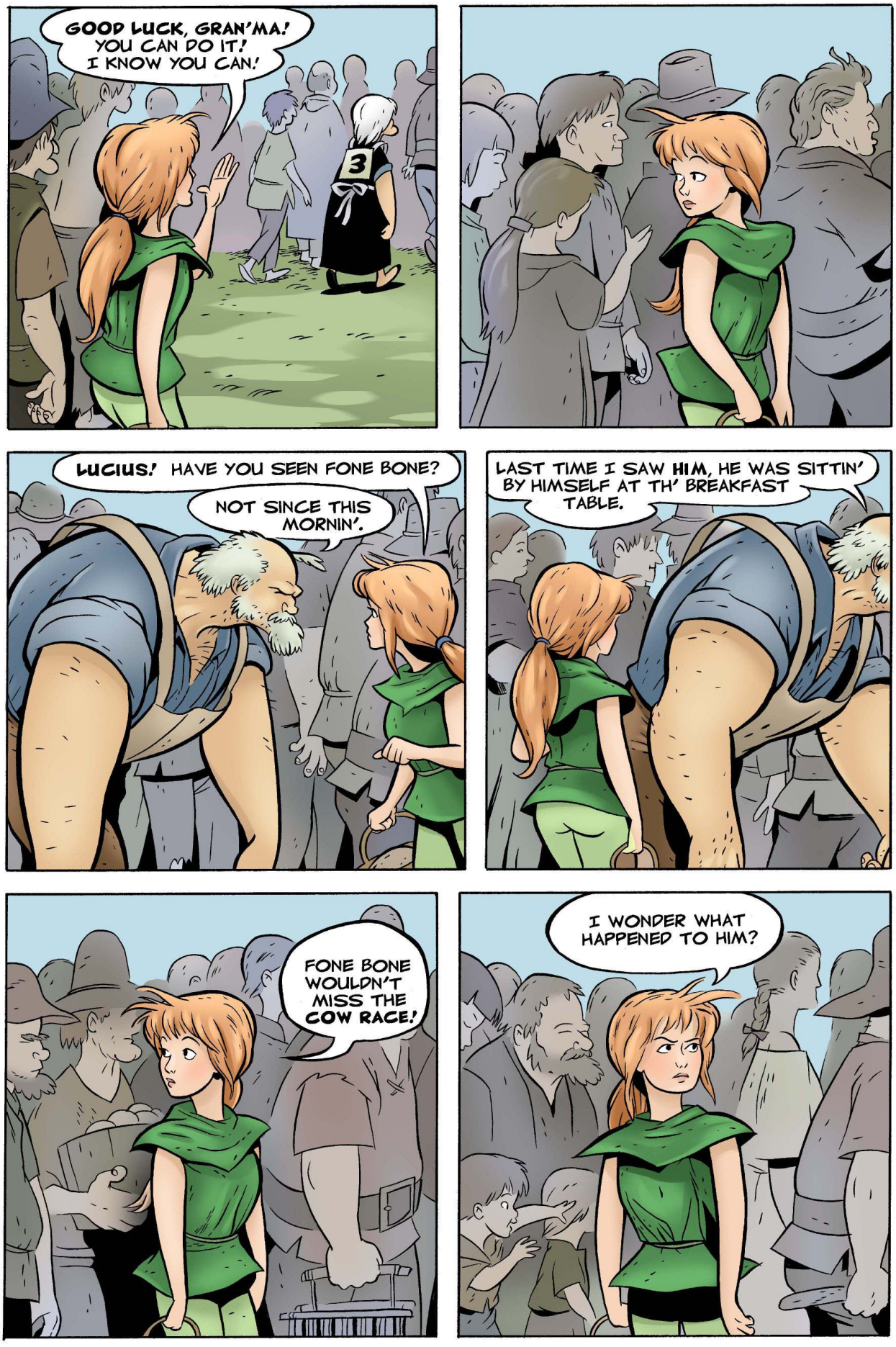

CLANG
3


GRAM!
3

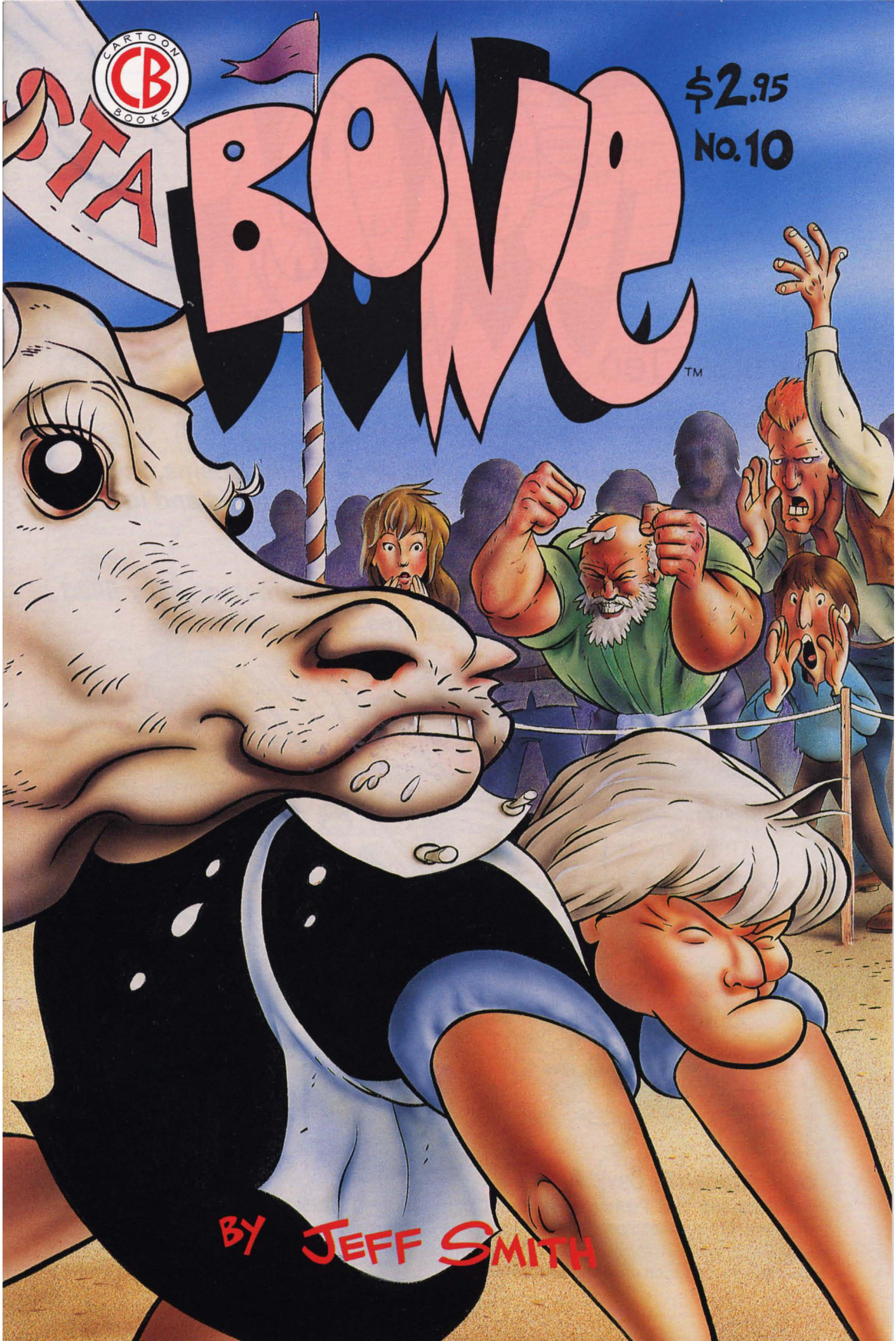

GRAM, WAIT UP!
OH, HELLO, THORN! I'M ON MY WAY TO TH' STARTING LINE. I WANT TO GET A LOOK AT THIS MYSTERY COW!
3

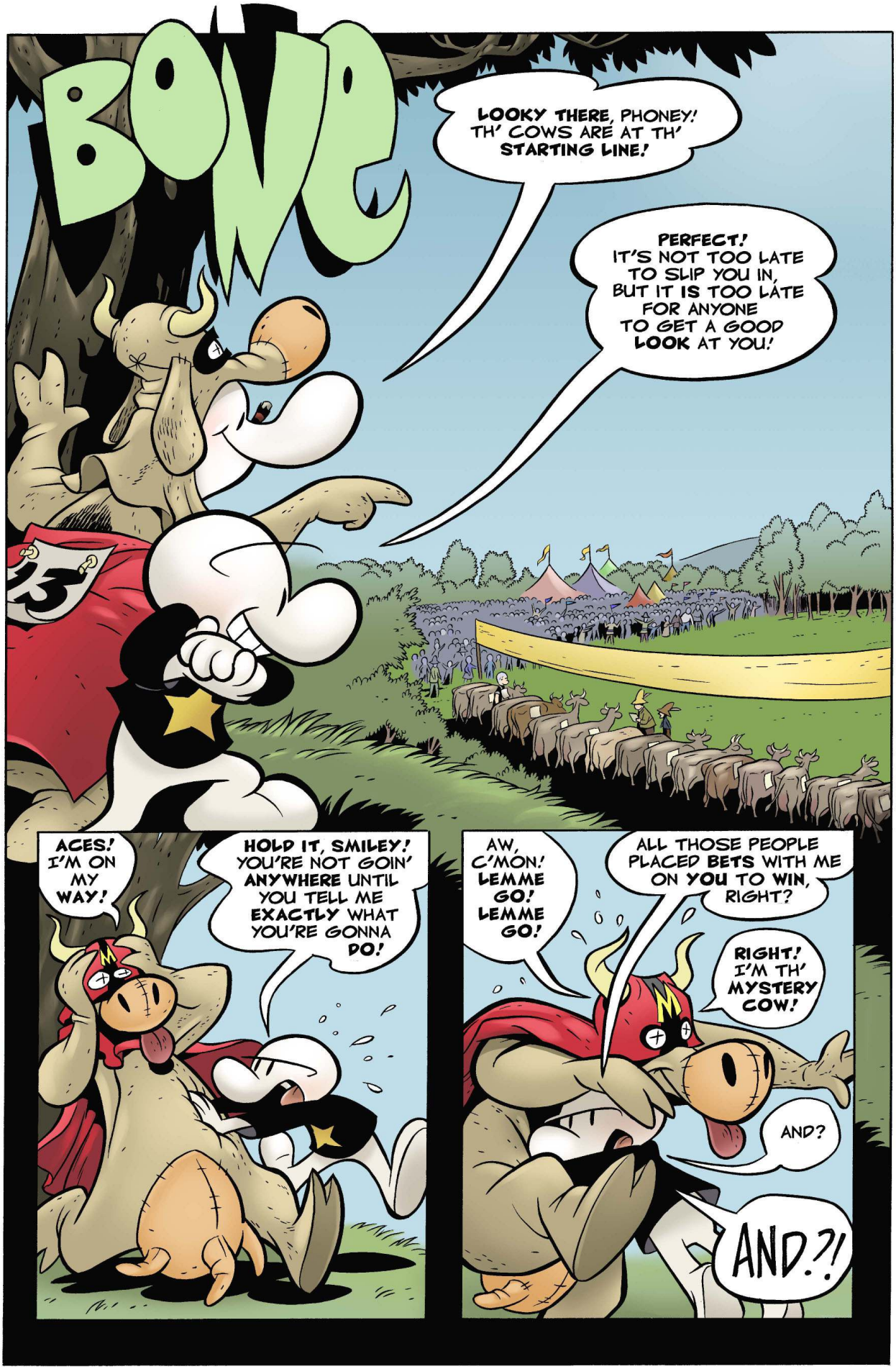

WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING! YOU'RE GOING TO DO FINE!
THANK YOU, SWEETY, BUT I BETTER GET GOING. IS MY NUMBER ON STRAIGHT?

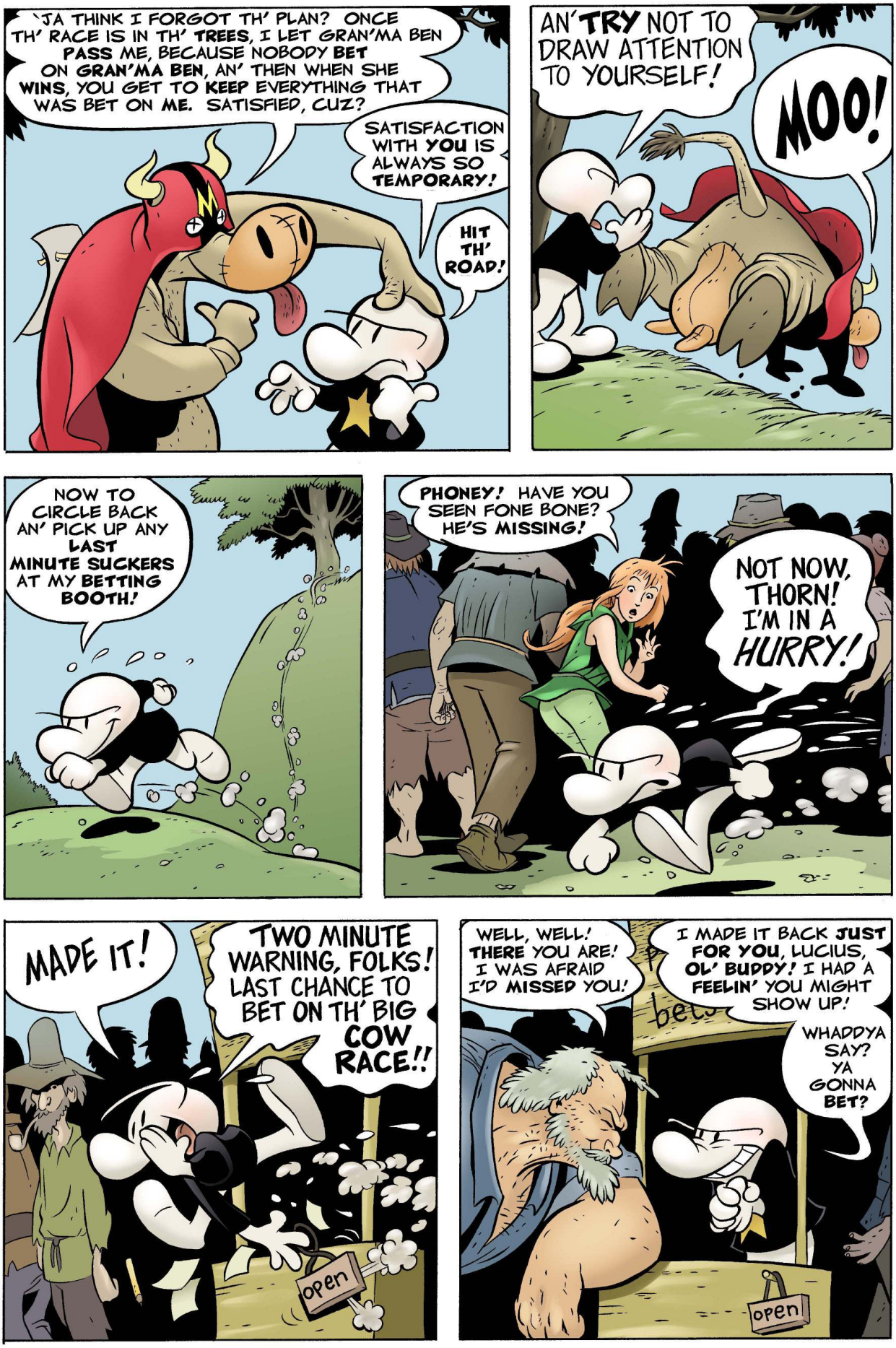

IT'S STRAIGHT. HAVE YOU SEEN FONE BONE AROUND? I CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE!
NOT SINCE BREAKFAST.
WISH ME LUCK, DEAR!

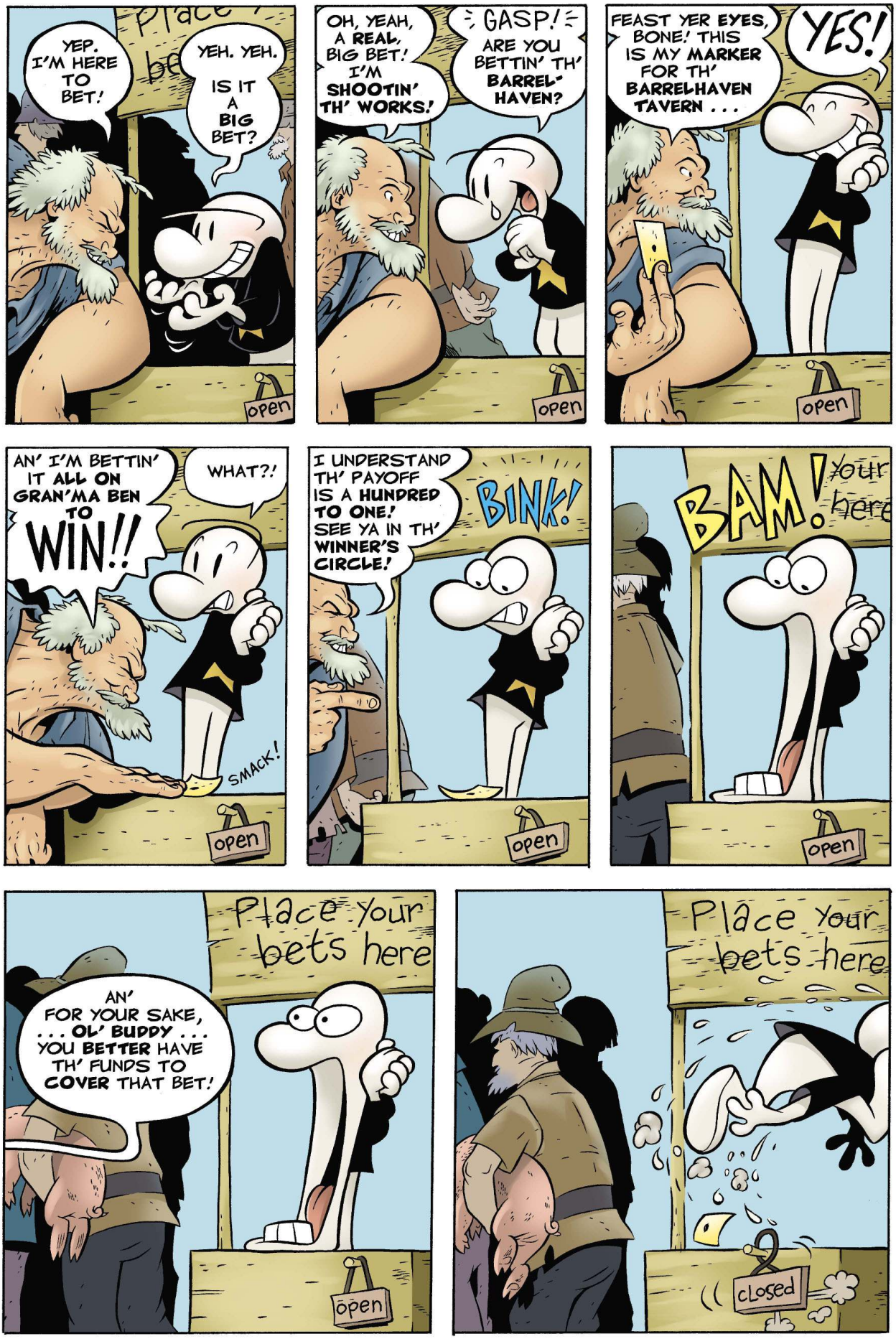

GOOD LUCK, GRAN'MA! YOU CAN DO IT! I KNOW YOU CAN!
3
LUCIUS! HAVE YOU SEEN FONE BONE?
NOT SINCE THIS MORNIN'.
LAST TIME I SAW HIM, HE WAS SITTIN' BY HIMSELF AT TH' BREAKFAST TABLE.
FONE BONE WOULDN'T MISS THE COW RACE!
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?




CARTOON BOOKS
CB
STA
BONE
$2.95
No.10
BY JEFF SMITH

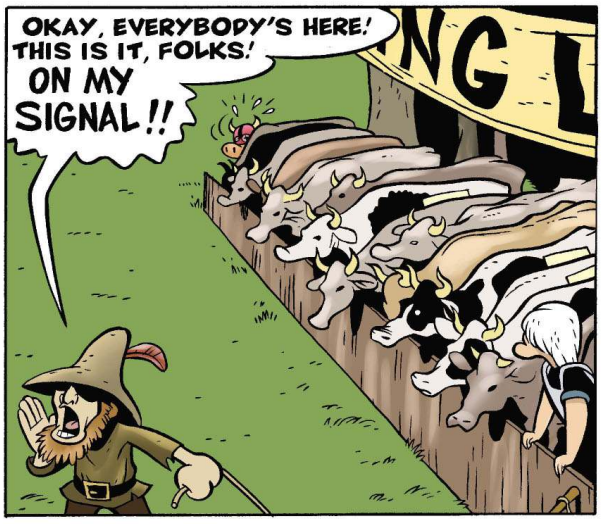

BONE
LOOKY THERE, PHONEY! TH' COWS ARE AT TH' STARTING LINE!
PERFECT! IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SLIP YOU IN, BUT IT IS TOO LATE FOR ANYONE TO GET A GOOD LOOK AT YOU!
13
ACES! I'M ON MY WAY!
HOLD IT, SMILEY! YOU'RE NOT GOIN' ANYWHERE UNTIL YOU TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO!
AW, C'MON! LEMME GO! LEMME GO!
ALL THOSE PEOPLE PLACED BETS WITH ME ON YOU TO WIN, RIGHT?
RIGHT! I'M TH' MYSTERY COW!
AND?
AND?!

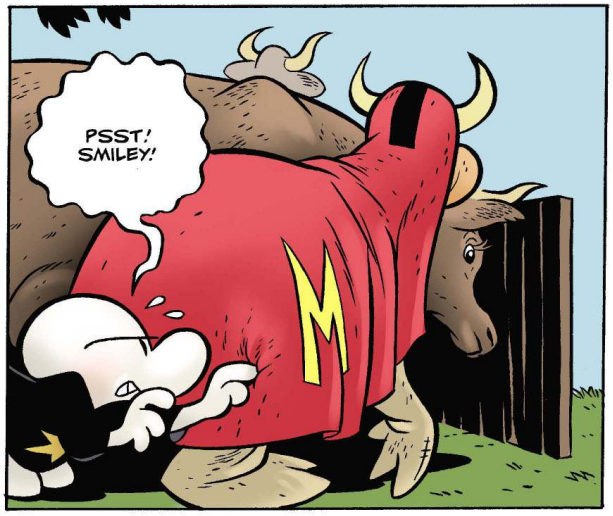

`JA THINK I FORGOT TH' PLAN? ONCE TH' RACE IS IN TH' TREES, I LET GRAN'MA BEN PASS ME, BECAUSE NOBODY BET ON GRAN'MA BEN, AN' THEN WHEN SHE WINS, YOU GET TO KEEP EVERYTHING THAT WAS BET ON ME. SATISFIED, CUZ?
SATISFACTION WITH YOU IS ALWAYS SO TEMPORARY!
HIT TH' ROAD!
AN' TRY NOT TO DRAW ATTENTION TO YOURSELF!
MOO!
NOW TO CIRCLE BACK AN' PICK UP ANY LAST MINUTE SUCKERS AT MY BETTING BOOTH!
PHONEY! HAVE YOU SEEN FONE BONE? HE'S MISSING!
NOT NOW, THORN! I'M IN A HURRY!
MADE IT!
TWO MINUTE WARNING, FOLKS! LAST CHANCE TO BET ON TH' BIG COW RACE!!
open
WELL, WELL! THERE YOU ARE! I WAS AFRAID I'D MISSED YOU!
I MADE IT BACK JUST FOR YOU, LUCIUS, OL' BUDDY! I HAD A FEELIN' YOU MIGHT SHOW UP!
WHADDYA SAY? YA GONNA BET?
bet
open

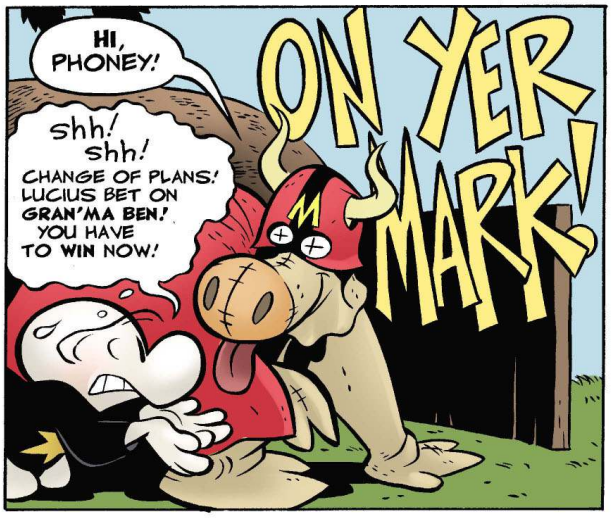

YEP. I'M HERE TO BET!
YEH. YEH. IS IT A BIG BET?
open
OH, YEAH, A REAL, BIG BET! I'M SHOOTIN' TH' WORKS!
GASP! ARE YOU BETTIN' TH' BARREL-HAVEN?
open
FEAST YER EYES, BONE! THIS IS MY MARKER FOR TH' BARRELHAVEN TAVERN . . .
YES!
open
AN' I'M BETTIN' IT ALL ON GRAN'MA BEN TO WIN!!
WHAT?!
SMACK!
open
I UNDERSTAND TH' PAYOFF IS A HUNDRED TO ONE! SEE YA IN TH' WINNER'S CIRCLE!
BINK!
open
BAM!
open
AN' FOR YOUR SAKE, . . . OL' BUDDY . . . YOU BETTER HAVE TH' FUNDS TO COVER THAT BET!
Place your bets here
open
Place your bets here
closed


COULD WE HAVE EVERYONE BEHIND TH' ROPES, PLEASE? WE'RE ABOUT TO START TH' COW RACE!
STARTING LINE


DID TH' MYSTERY COW SHOW UP, YET? GOOD!

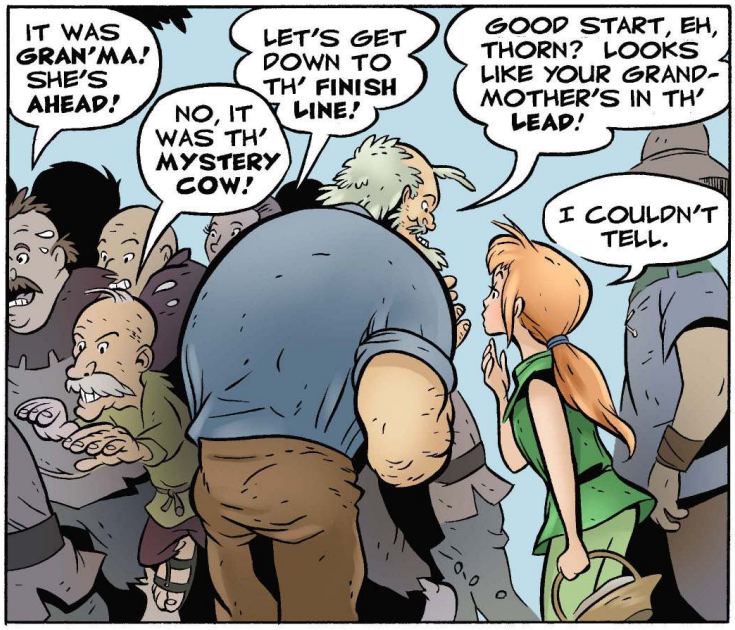

OKAY, EVERYBODY'S HERE! THIS IS IT, FOLKS! ON MY SIGNAL!!

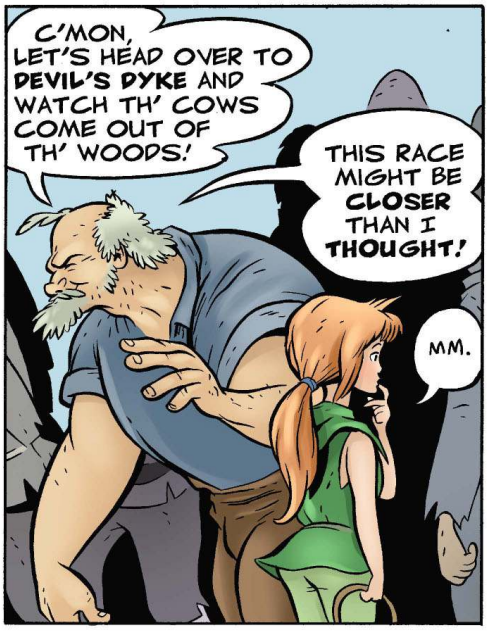

PSST! SMILEY!


HI, PHONEY!
shh! shh!
CHANGE OF PLANS! LUCIUS BET ON GRAN'MA BEN! YOU HAVE TO WIN NOW!
ON YER MARK!

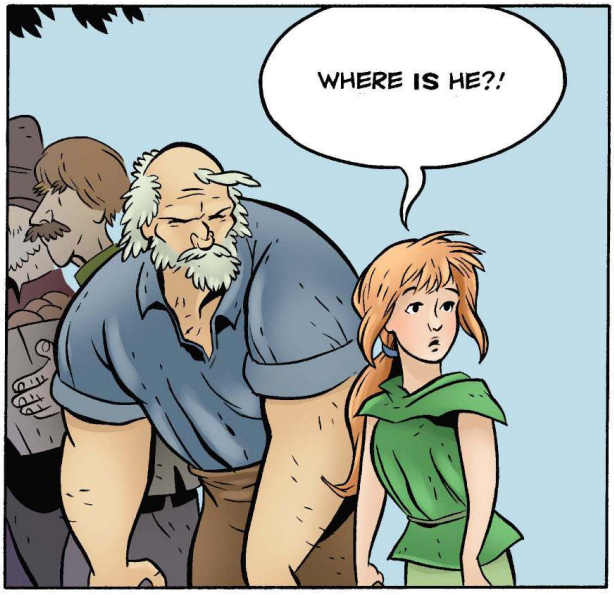

WHAT?
YOU HAVE TO WIN NOW!! LUCIUS BET TH' BAR ON GRAN'MA BEN! WE'LL BE RUINED!
GET SET..
MOVE OVER!! I'M GETTIN' IN!!
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!!
GO!
ERRUUMMMMMBLE
STARTING
ROAR!
WAIT! WAIT! I'M NOT IN YET!!
MAN! THESE COWS ARE FAST!
GO, MYSTERY COW!
C'MON, GRAN'MA!
RUN, ROSIE!


GO! GO!
RUMMBLE
THERE THEY GO!
THEY'RE IN TH' TREES!
WHO WAS TH' FIRST ONE IN?!


IT WAS GRAN'MA! SHE'S AHEAD!
NO, IT WAS TH' MYSTERY COW!
LET'S GET DOWN TO TH' FINISH LINE!
GOOD START, EH, THORN? LOOKS LIKE YOUR GRAND-MOTHER'S IN TH' LEAD!
I COULDN'T TELL.

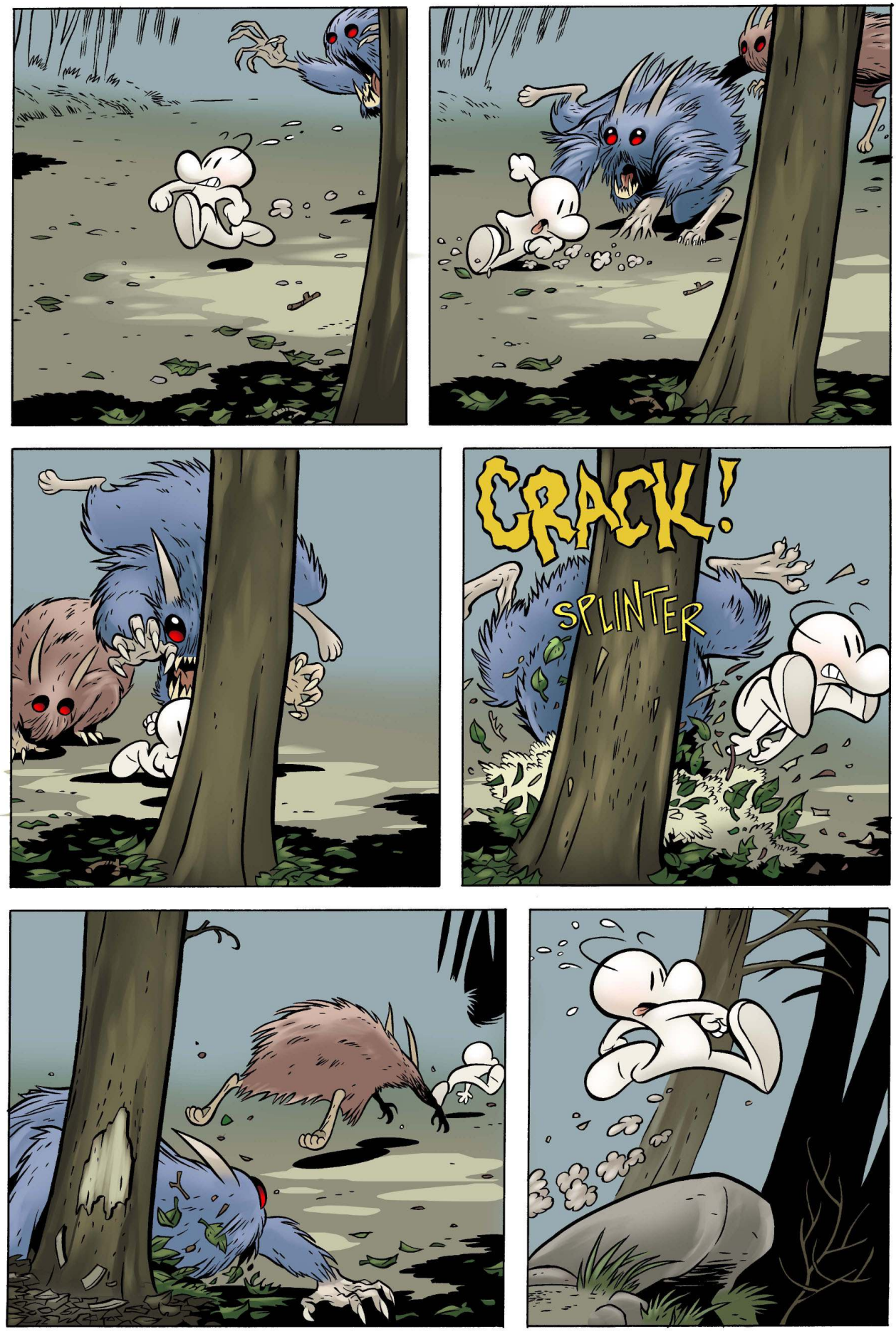

C'MON, LET'S HEAD OVER TO DEVIL'S DYKE AND WATCH TH' COWS COME OUT OF TH' WOODS!
THIS RACE MIGHT BE CLOSER THAN I THOUGHT!
MM.


WHAT'S TH' MATTER?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY FONE BONE ISN'T HERE! I'M STARTING TO GET WORRIED!

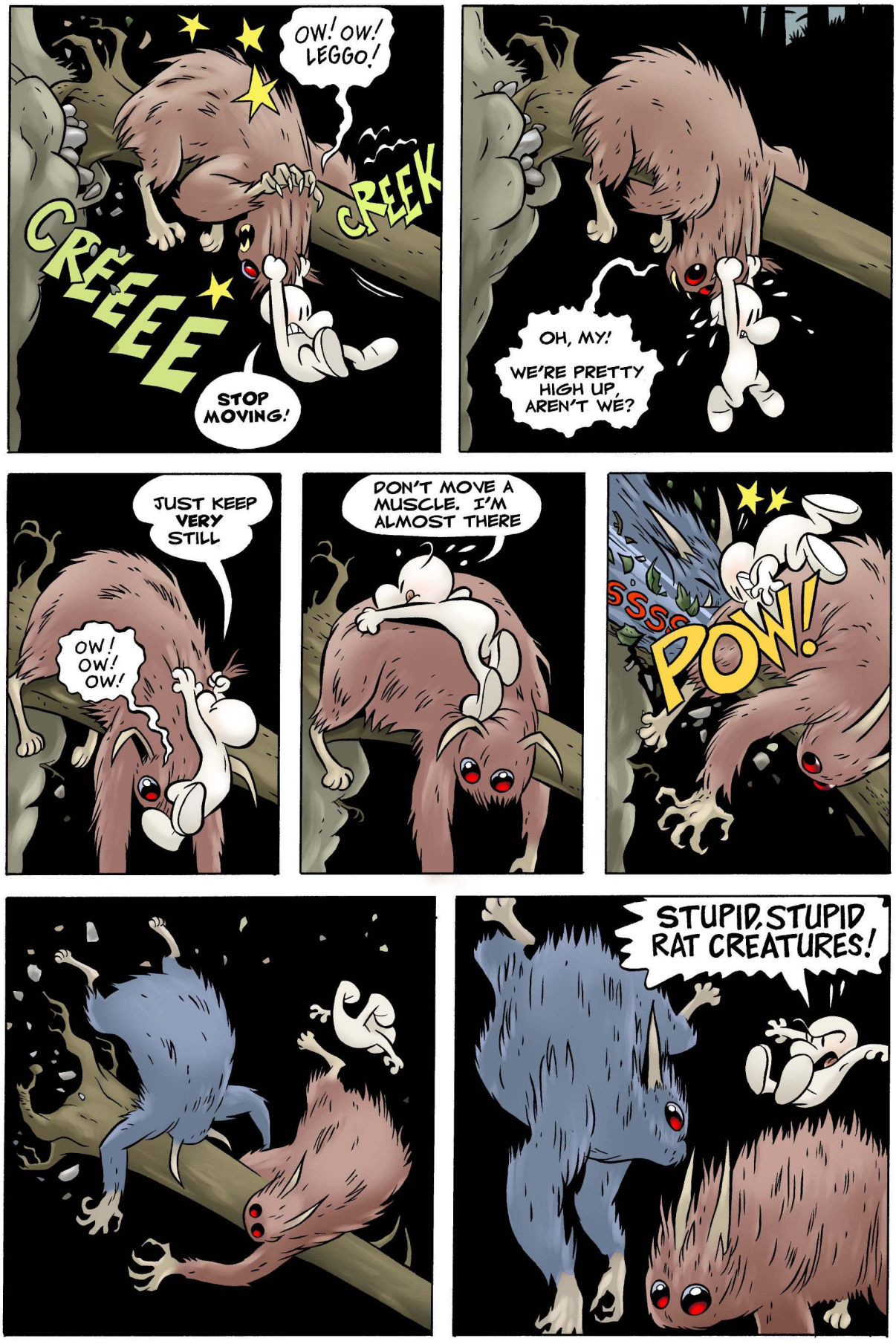

WHERE IS HE?!



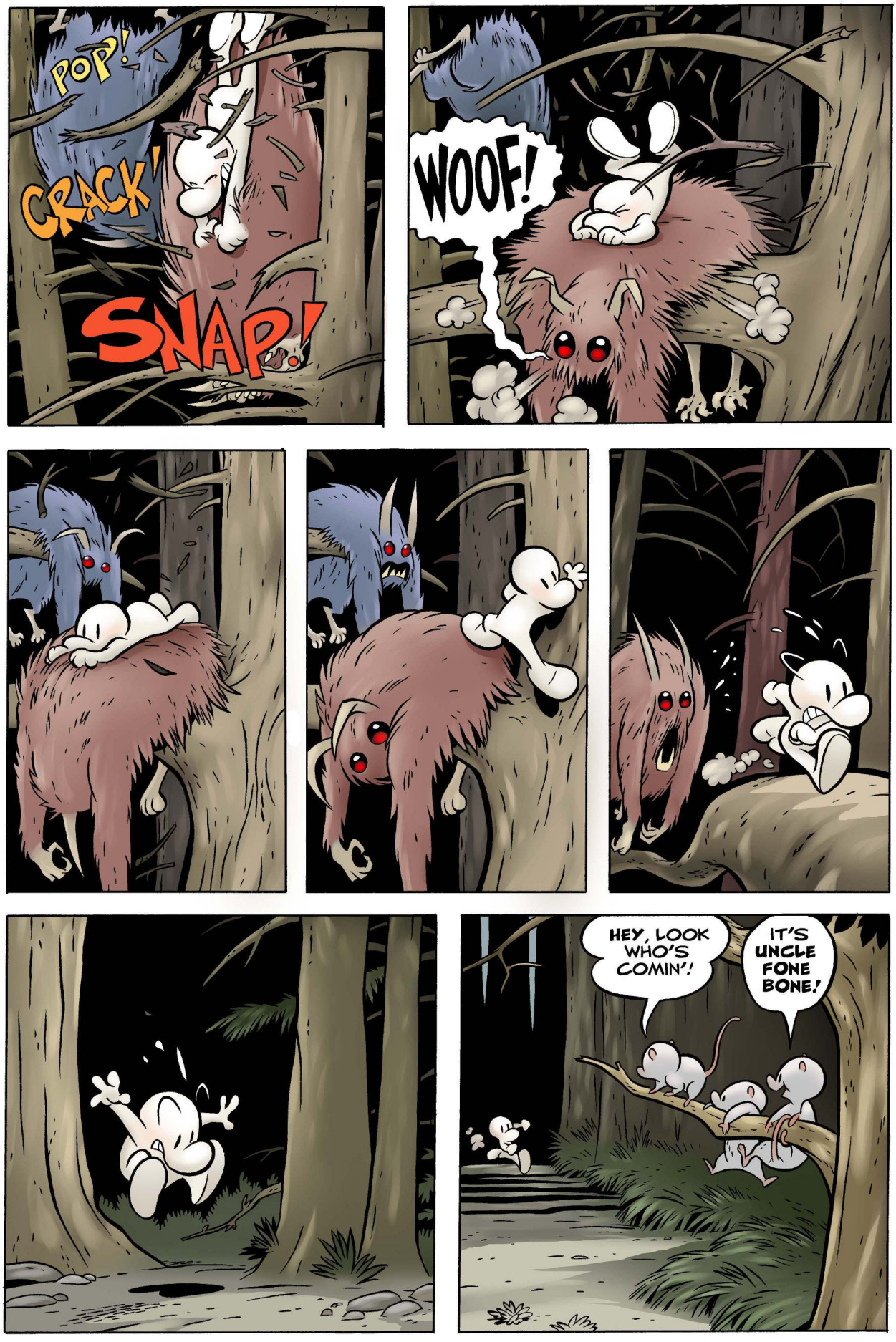
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

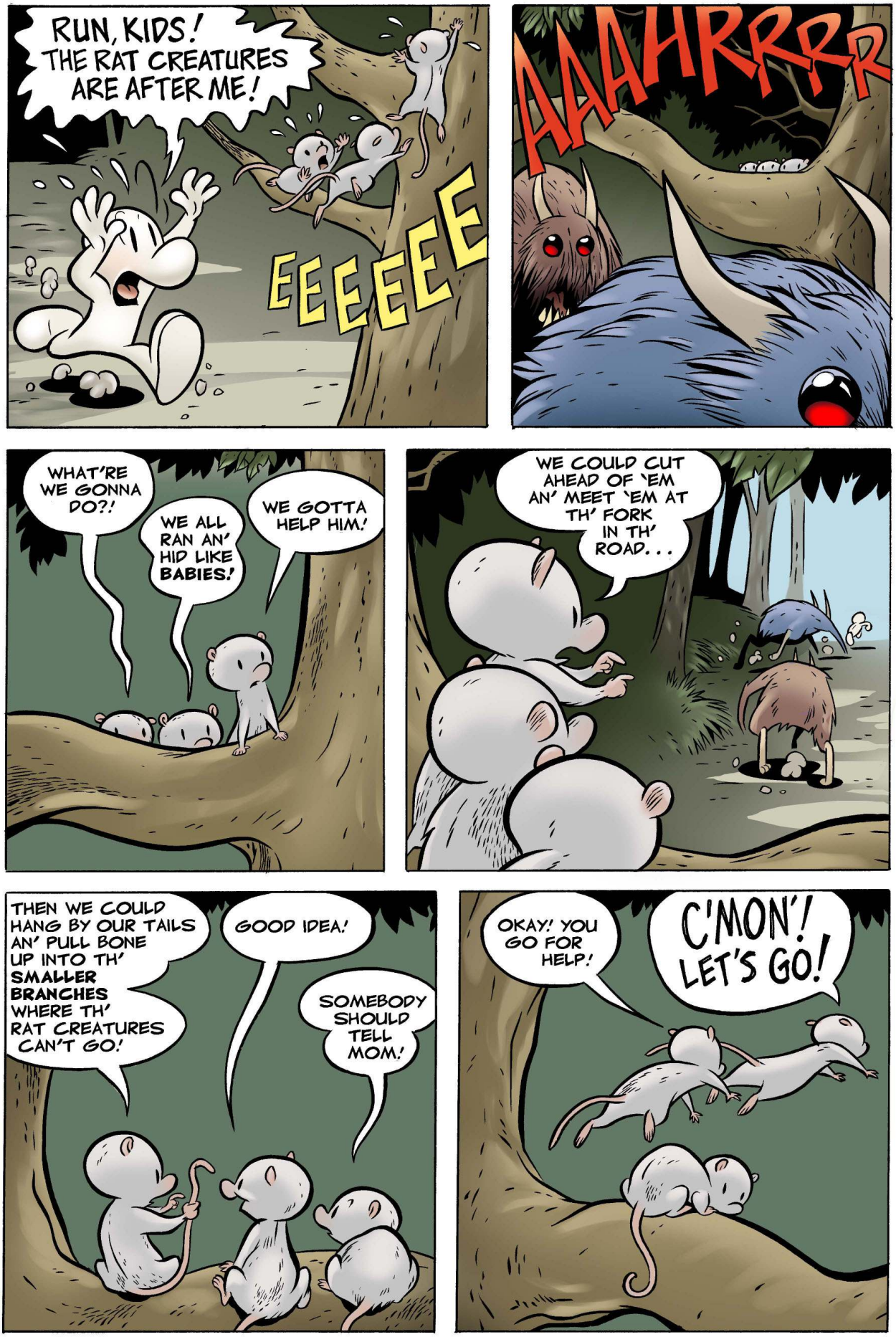

CRACK!
SPLINTER


WHOA!
WHOA!
WHOA!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


POP!
CRACK!
SNAP!
WOOF!
HEY, LOOK WHO'S COMIN'!
IT'S UNCLE FONE BONE!


RUN, KIDS! THE RAT CREATURES ARE AFTER ME!
EEEEEE
AAAHRRRR
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!
WE ALL RAN AN' HID LIKE BABIES!
WE GOTTA HELP HIM!
WE COULD CUT AHEAD OF 'EM AN' MEET 'EM AT TH' FORK IN TH' ROAD...
THEN WE COULD HANG BY OUR TAILS AN' PULL BONE UP INTO TH' SMALLER BRANCHES WHERE TH' RAT CREATURES CAN'T GO!
GOOD IDEA!
SOMEBODY SHOULD TELL MOM!
OKAY! YOU GO FOR HELP!
C'MON'! LET'S GO!

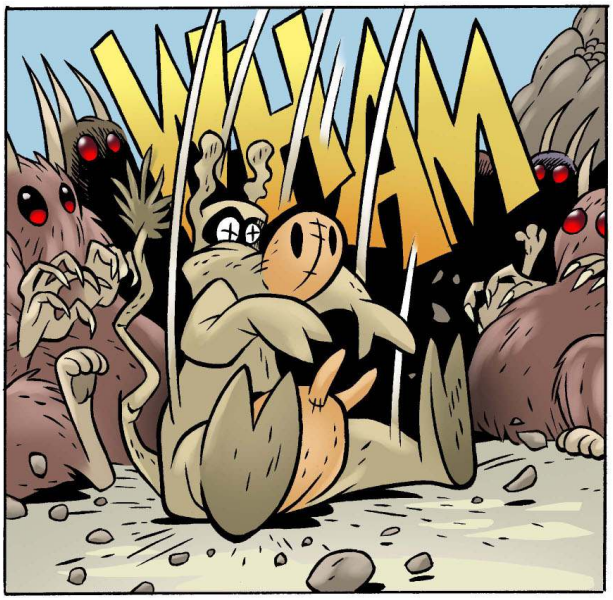

GO! GO! GO! WIN! WIN! WIN!
ALL RIGHT, LITTLE MISS MYSTERY COW . . .

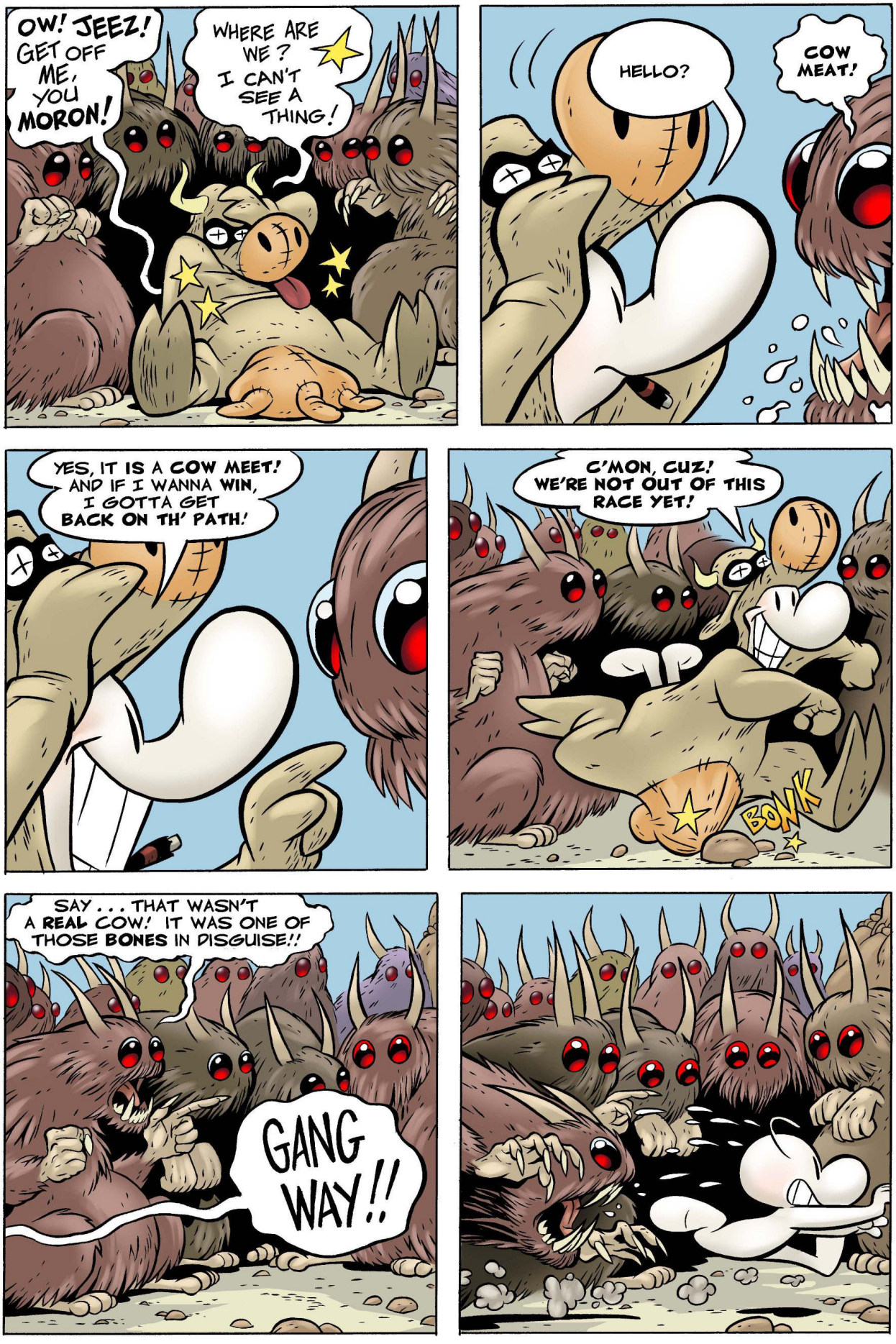

. . . I THINK IT'S TIME I GOT A GOOD LOOK AT YOU!
KEEP AWAY FROM HER!
HEY!

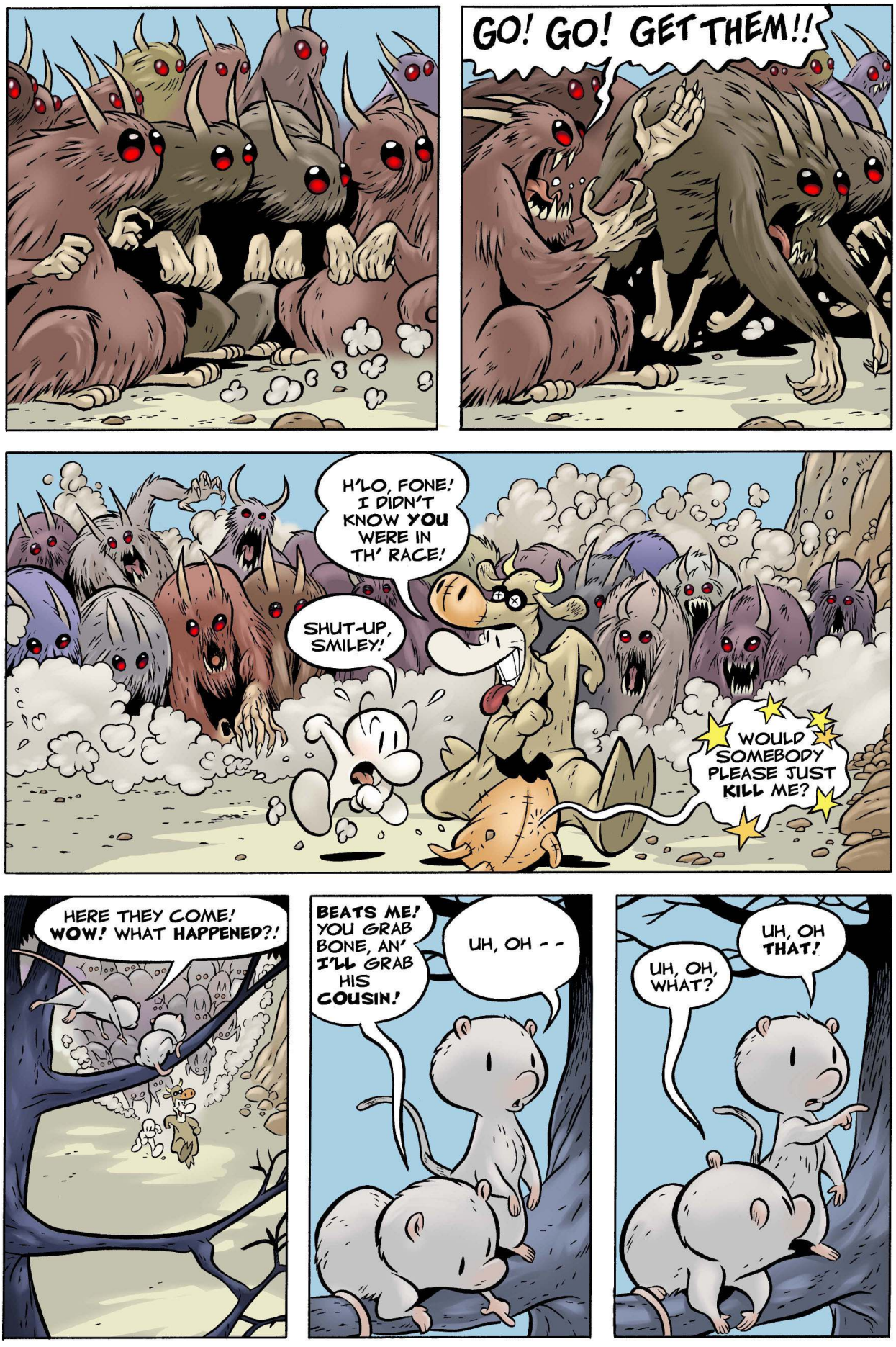

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! STAY ON TH' PATH!!
I CAN'T SEE!

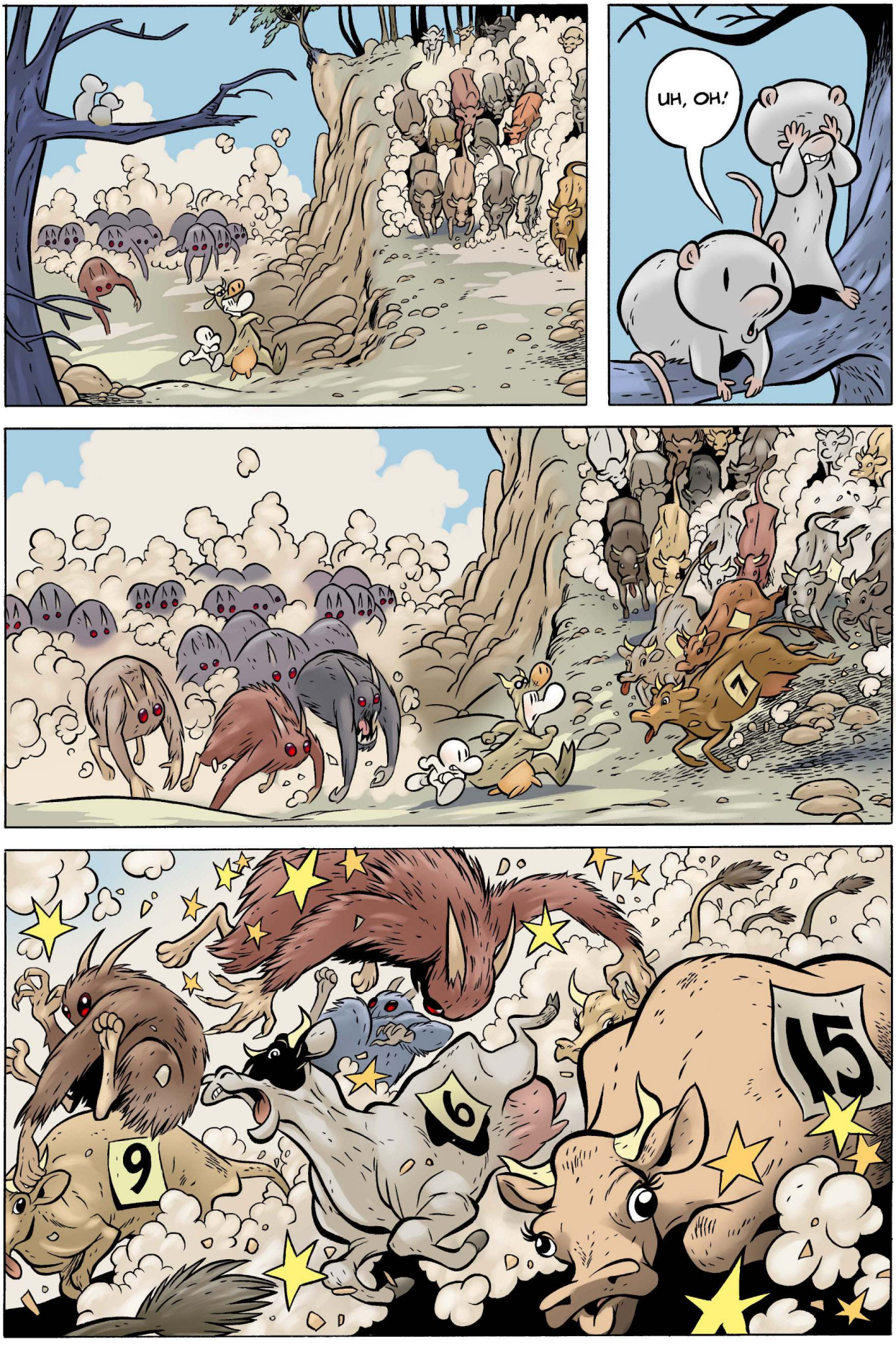

OW! OW! OW!
GET BACK ON TH' PATH!
BONK
CRASH
GET BACK ON TH' PATH!

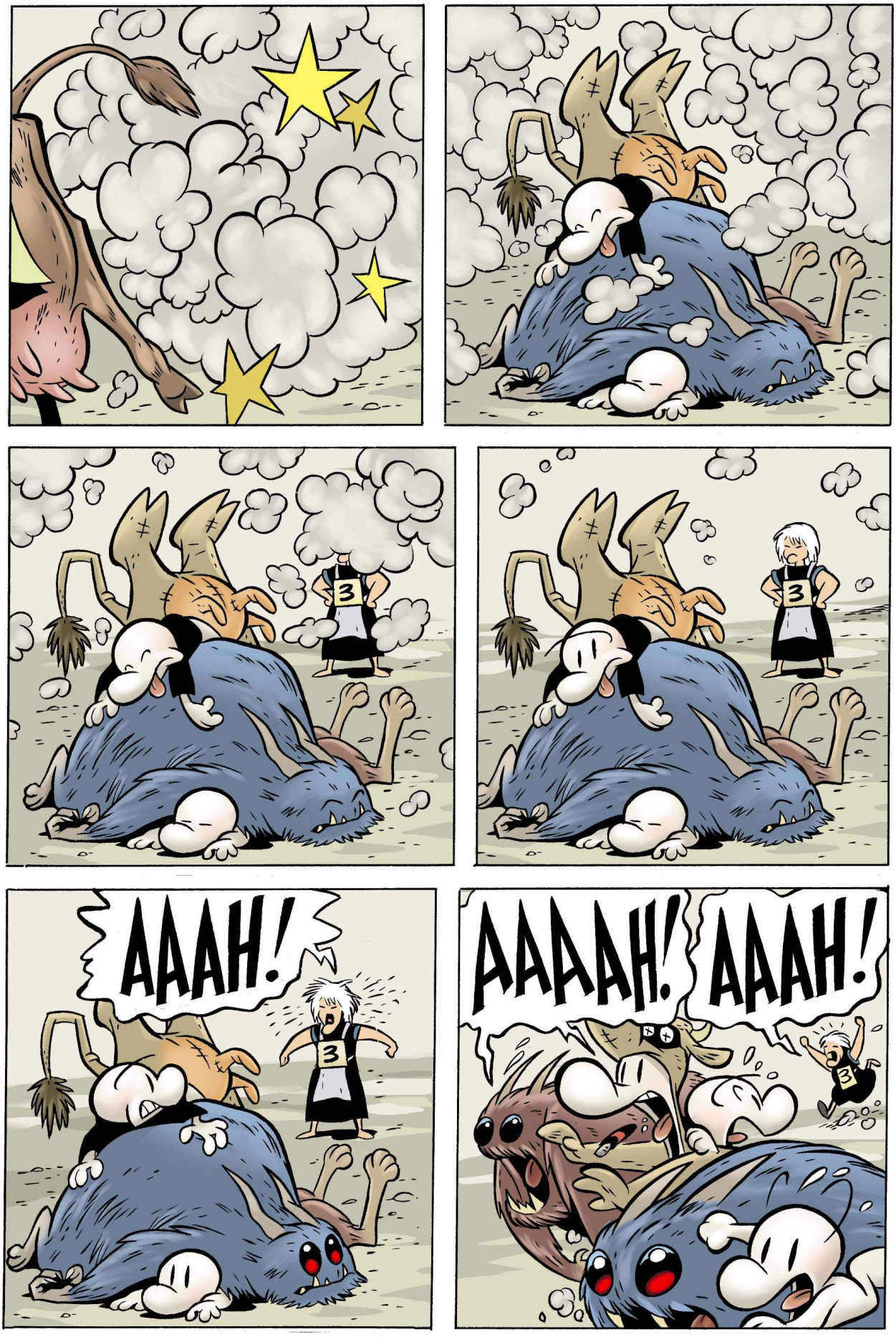

SKRITCH
SKRITCH

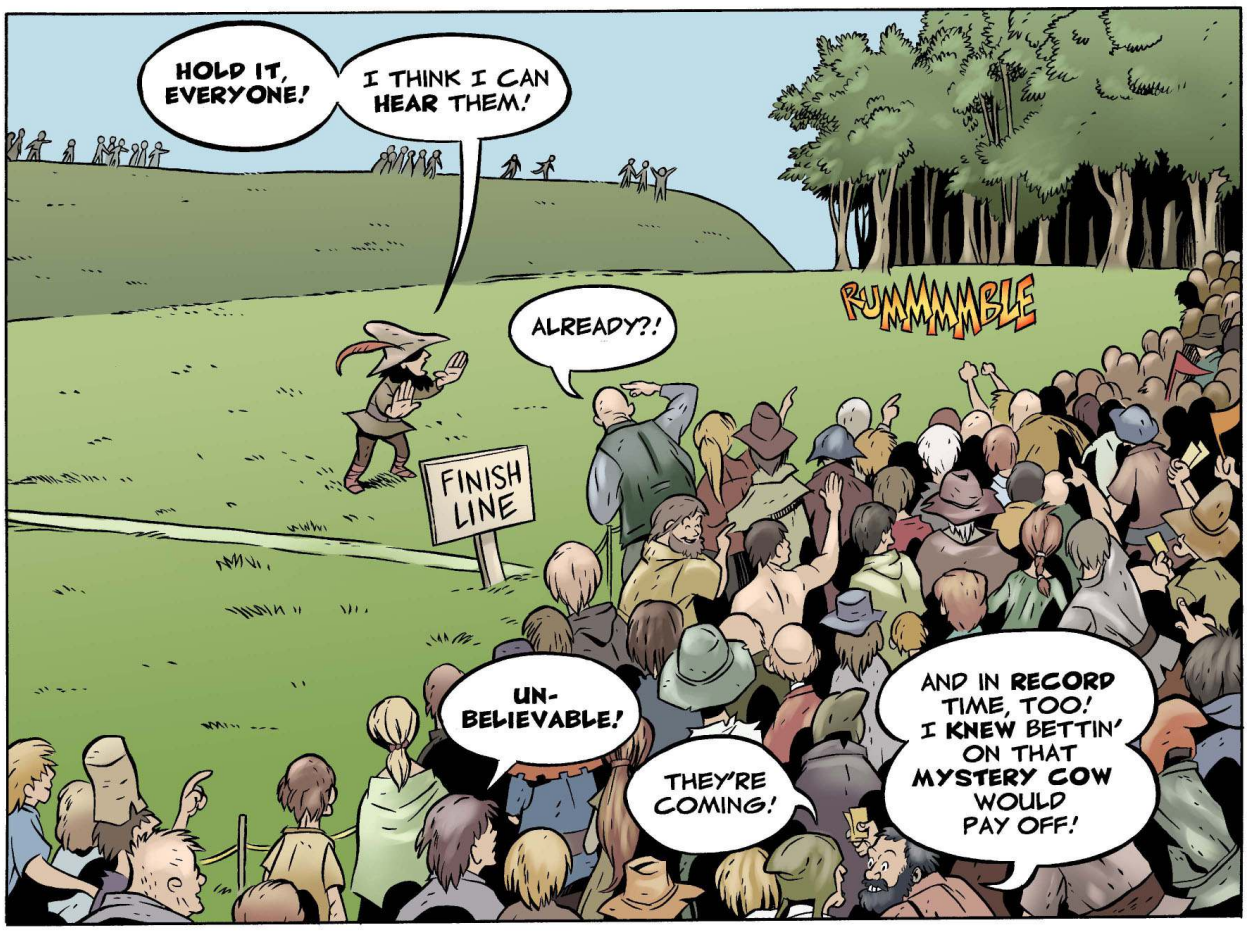

WHAM

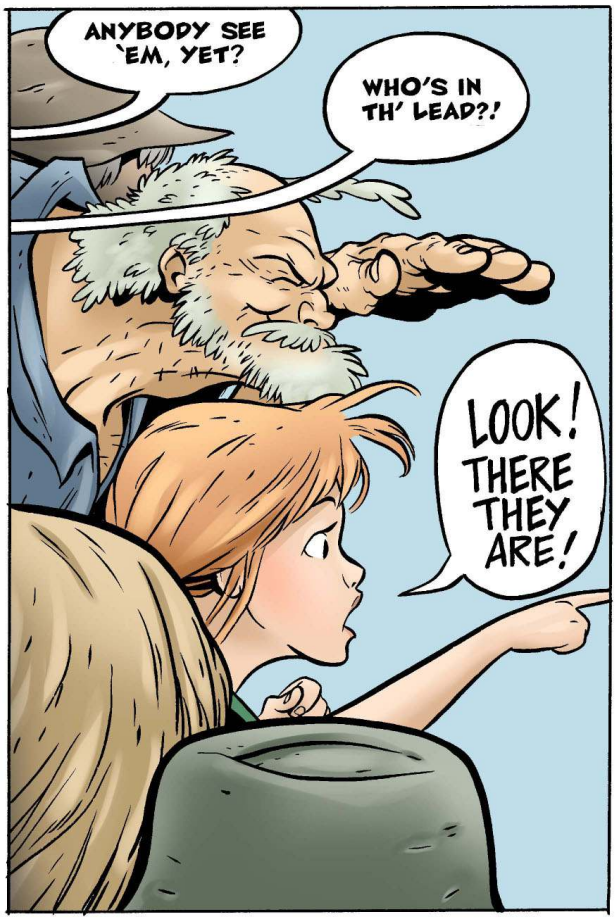

OW! JEEZ! GET OFF ME, YOU MORON!
WHERE ARE WE? I CAN'T SEE A THING!
HELLO?
COW MEAT!
YES, IT IS A COW MEET! AND IF I WANNA WIN, I GOTTA GET BACK ON TH' PATH!
C'MON, CUZ! WE'RE NOT OUT OF THIS RACE YET!
BONK
SAY . . . THAT WASN'T A REAL COW! IT WAS ONE OF THOSE BONES IN DISGUISE!!
GANG WAY!!


GO! GO! GET THEM!!
H'LO, FONE! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE IN TH' RACE!
SHUT-UP, SMILEY!
WOULD SOMEBODY PLEASE JUST KILL ME?
HERE THEY COME! WOW! WHAT HAPPENED?!
BEATS ME! YOU GRAB BONE, AN' I'LL GRAB HIS COUSIN!
UH, OH - -
UH, OH, WHAT?
UH, OH THAT!


UH, OH!
7
9
6
15


AAAH!
AAAAH!
AAAH!


HOLD IT, EVERYONE!
I THINK I CAN HEAR THEM!
RUMMMMMBLE
ALREADY?!
FINISH LINE
UN-BELIEVABLE!
THEY'RE COMING!
AND IN RECORD TIME, TOO! I KNEW BETTIN' ON THAT MYSTERY COW WOULD PAY OFF!

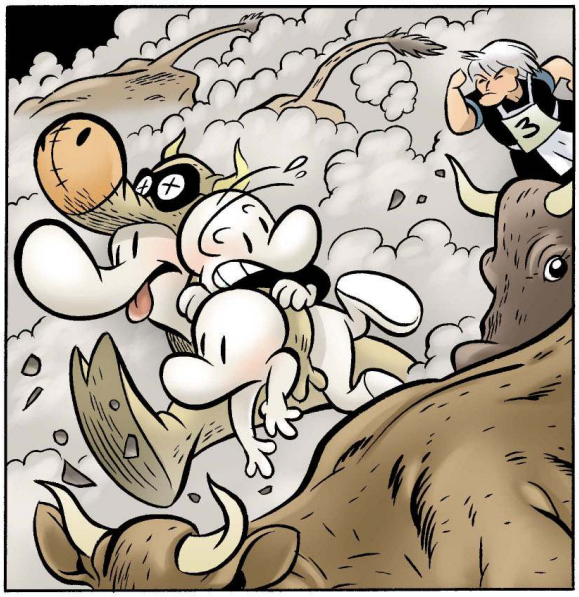

ANYBODY SEE 'EM, YET?
WHO'S IN TH' LEAD?!
LOOK! THERE THEY ARE!

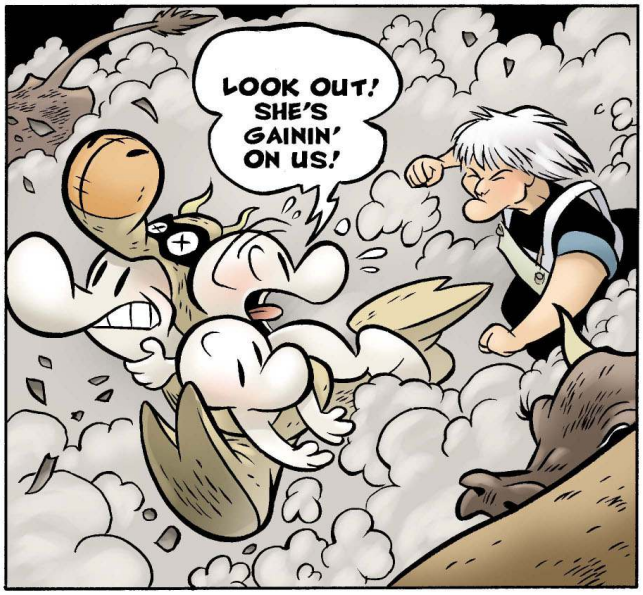

HERE THEY COME! HERE THEY CO--
WHAT TH--?

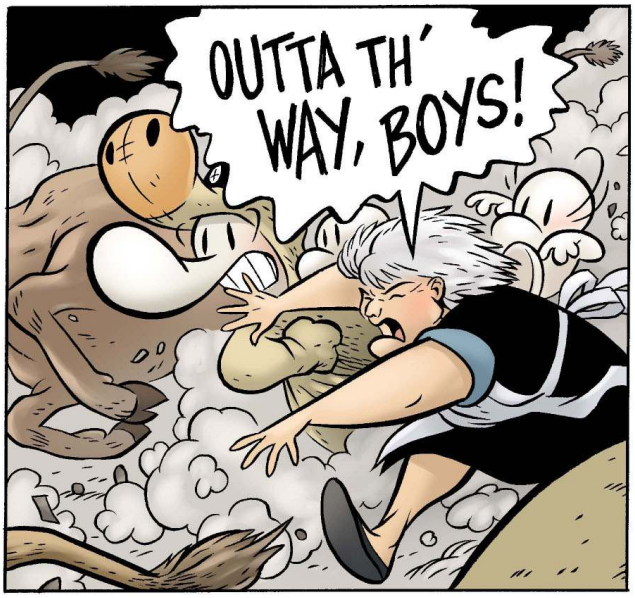


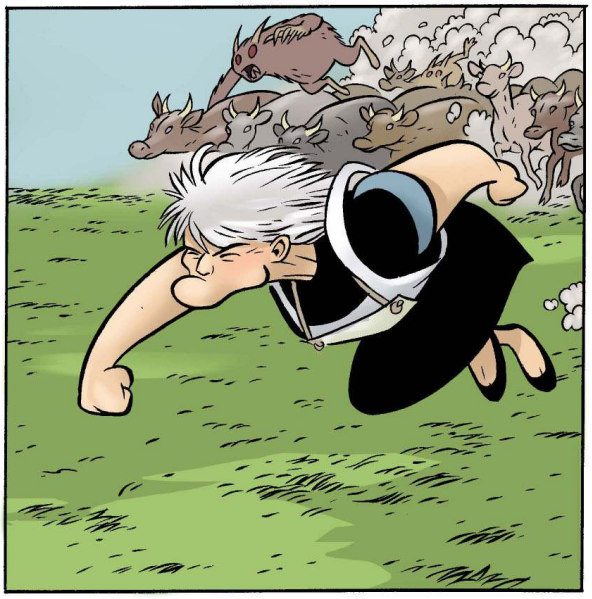
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


12

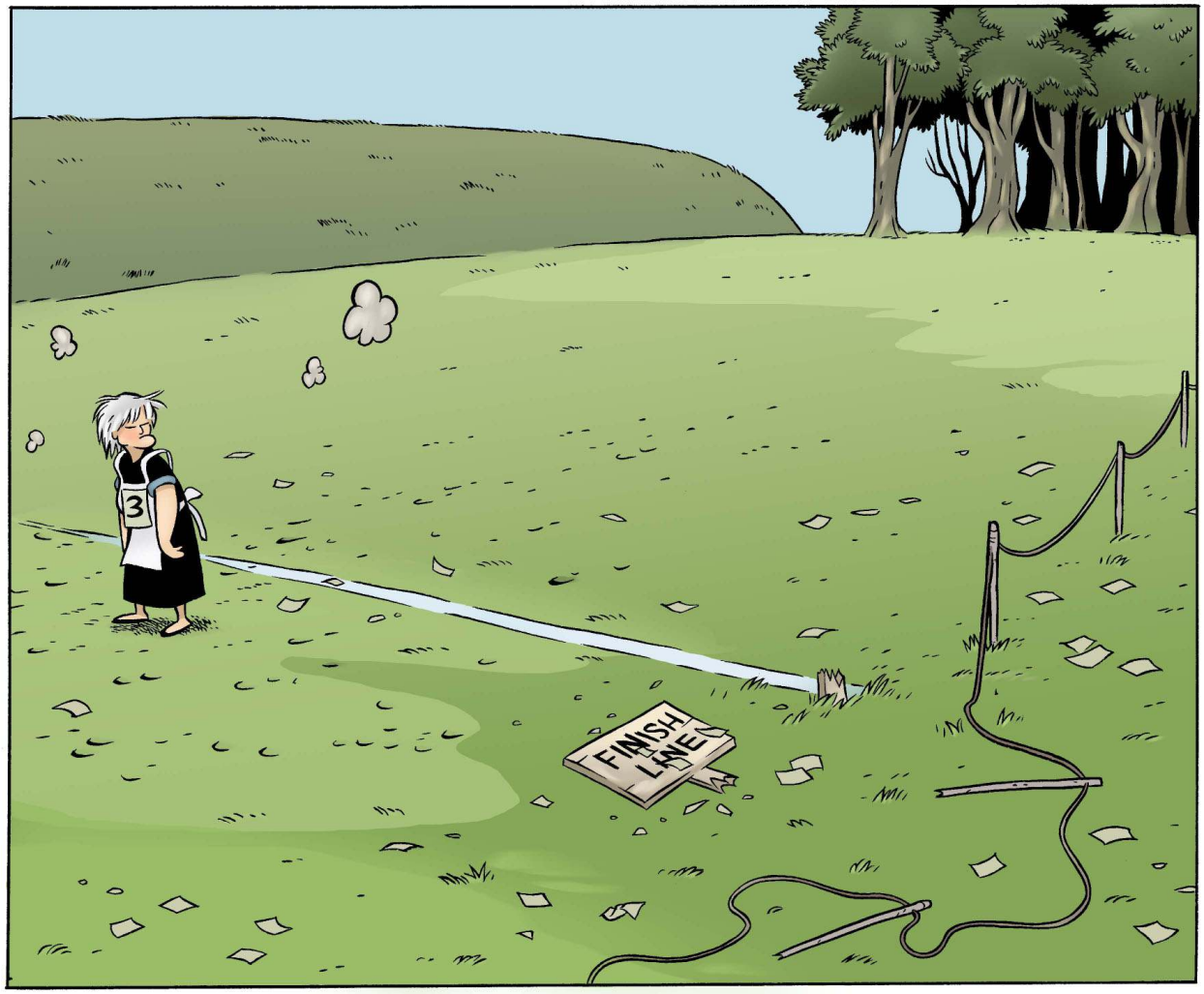

3


LOOK OUT! SHE'S GAININ' ON US!


OUTTA TH' WAY, BOYS!

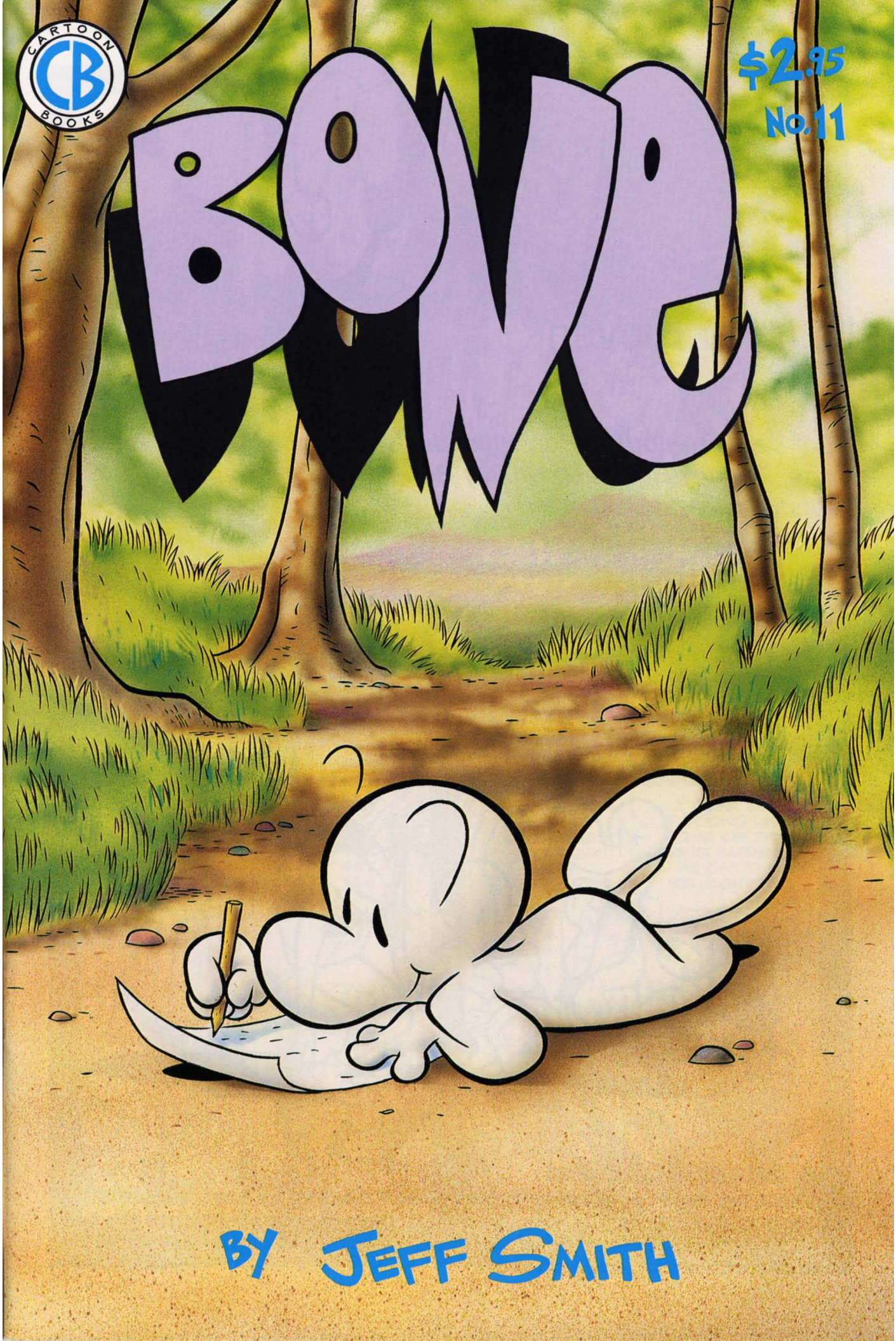



HAH! I WON!
3
3
3


3
FINISH LINE


HOT DIGGITY DOG!!
THAT WAS TH' BEST COW RACE EVER!
3


...NOW TO GET MY HANDS ON THOSE BONE BOYS!

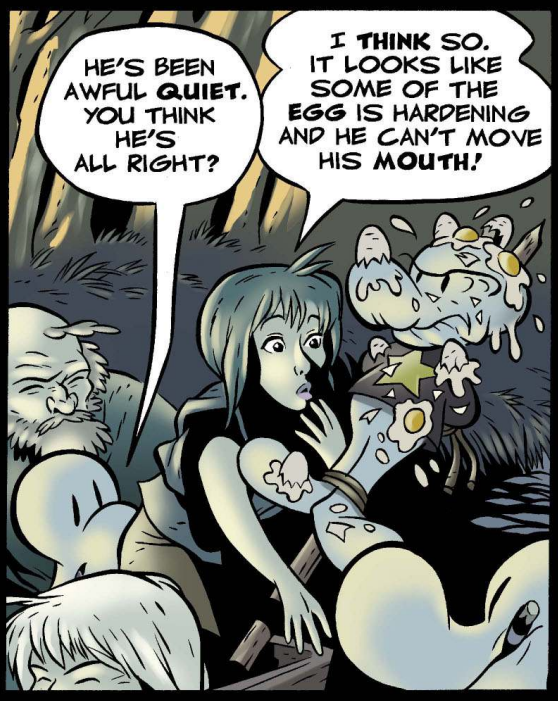

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
No. 11
BY JEFF SMITH

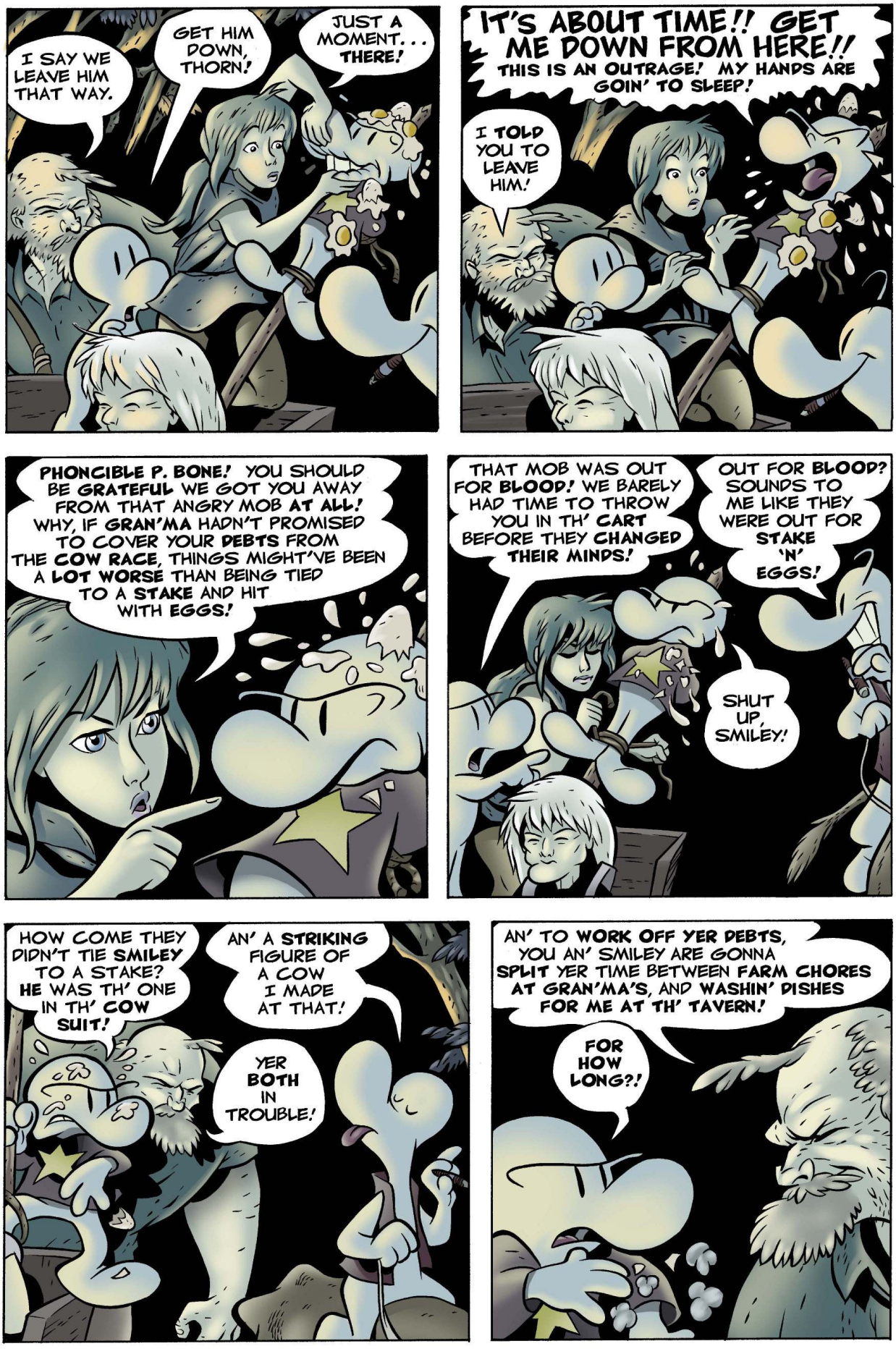
BONE

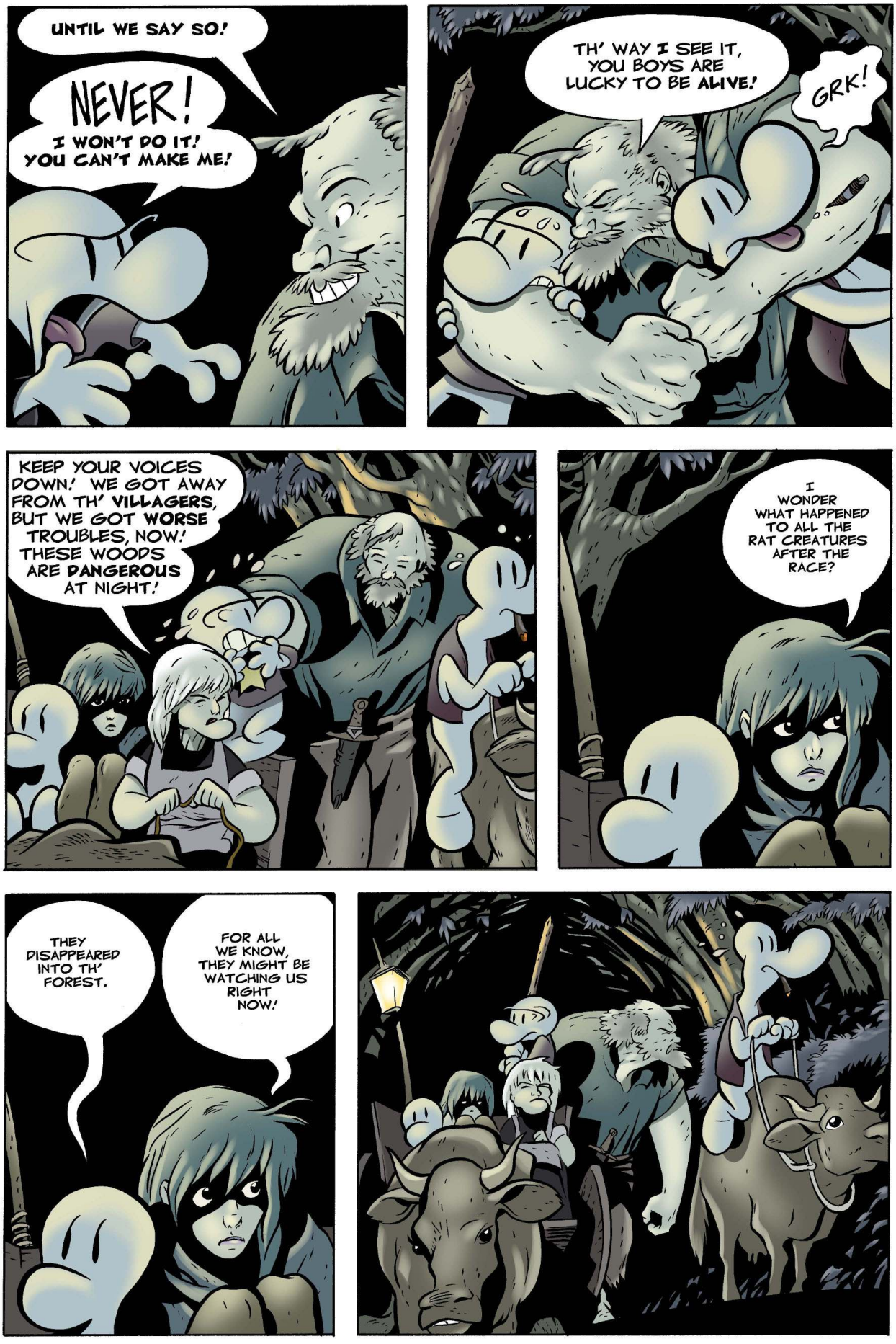


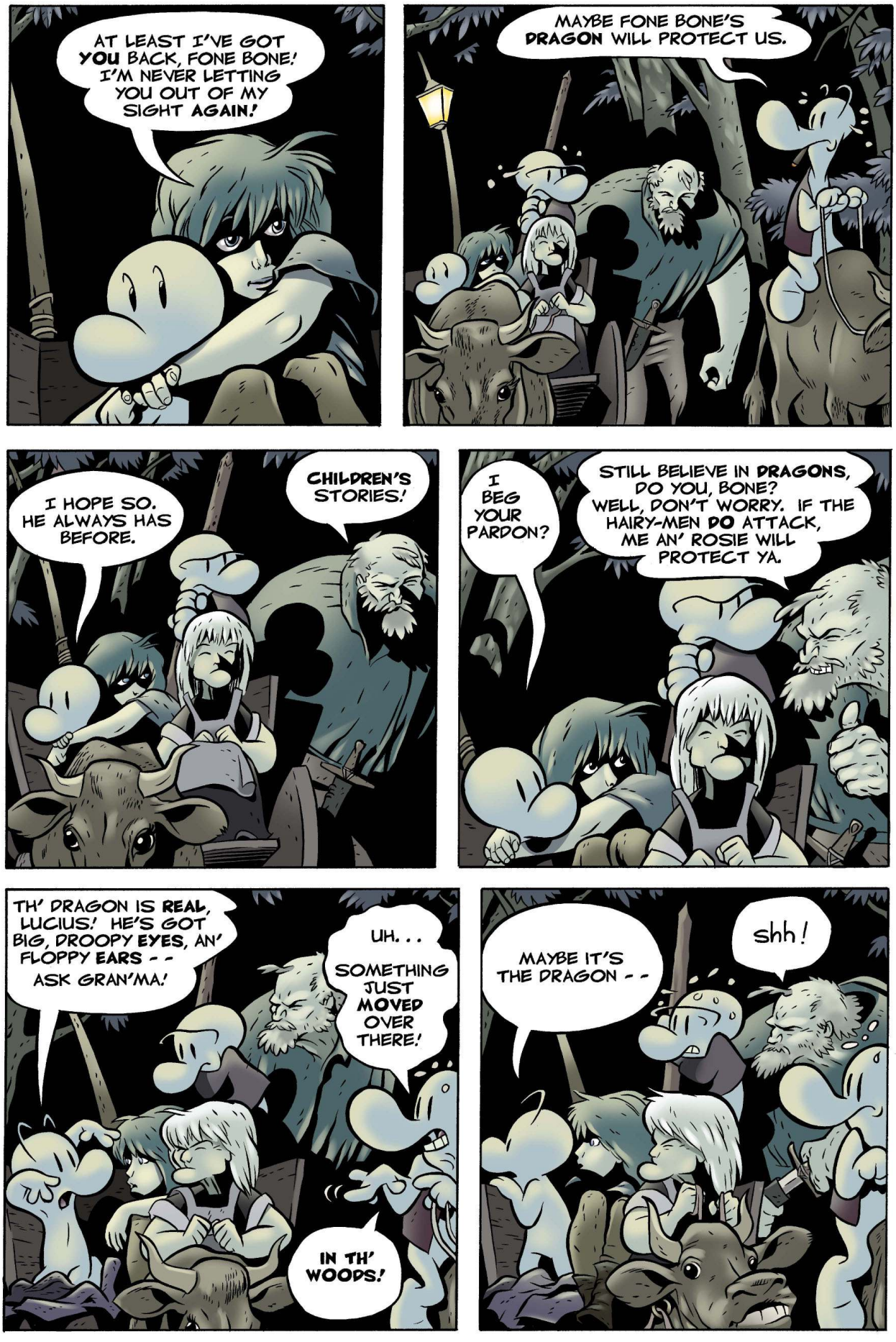
CLIP CLOP CLIP CLOP






I SAY WE LEAVE HIM THAT WAY.
GET HIM DOWN, THORN!
JUST A MOMENT... THERE!
IT'S ABOUT TIME!! GET ME DOWN FROM HERE!!
THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! MY HANDS ARE GOIN' TO SLEEP!
I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE HIM!
PHONCIBLE P. BONE! YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL WE GOT YOU AWAY FROM THAT ANGRY MOB AT ALL! WHY, IF GRAN'MA HADN'T PROMISED TO COVER YOUR DEBTS FROM THE COW RACE, THINGS MIGHT'VE BEEN A LOT WORSE THAN BEING TIED TO A STAKE AND HIT WITH EGGS!
THAT MOB WAS OUT FOR BLOOD! WE BARELY HAD TIME TO THROW YOU IN TH' CART BEFORE THEY CHANGED THEIR MINDS!
OUT FOR BLOOD? SOUNDS TO ME LIKE THEY WERE OUT FOR STAKE 'N' EGGS!
SHUT UP, SMILEY!
HOW COME THEY DIDN'T TIE SMILEY TO A STAKE? HE WAS TH' ONE IN TH' COW SUIT!
AN' A STRIKING FIGURE OF A COW I MADE AT THAT!
YER BOTH IN TROUBLE!
AN' TO WORK OFF YER DEBTS, YOU AN' SMILEY ARE GONNA SPLIT YER TIME BETWEEN FARM CHORES AT GRAN'MA'S, AND WASHIN' DISHES FOR ME AT TH' TAVERN!
FOR HOW LONG?!

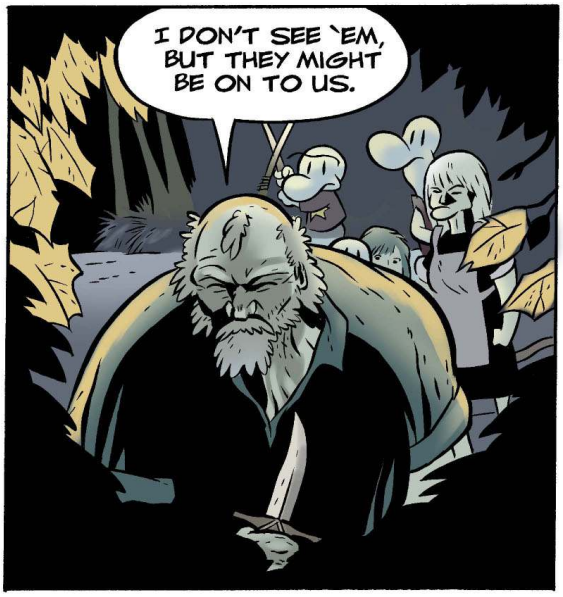

UNTIL WE SAY SO!
NEVER!
I WON'T DO IT! YOU CAN'T MAKE ME!
TH' WAY I SEE IT, YOU BOYS ARE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE!
GRK!
KEEP YOUR VOICES DOWN! WE GOT AWAY FROM TH' VILLAGERS, BUT WE GOT WORSE TROUBLES, NOW! THESE WOODS ARE DANGEROUS AT NIGHT!
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THE RAT CREATURES AFTER THE RACE?
THEY DISAPPEARED INTO TH' FOREST.
FOR ALL WE KNOW, THEY MIGHT BE WATCHING US RIGHT NOW!


AT LEAST I'VE GOT **YOU** BACK, FONE BONE! I'M NEVER LETTING YOU OUT OF MY SIGHT **AGAIN!**
MAYBE FONE BONE'S **DRAGON** WILL PROTECT US.
I HOPE SO. HE ALWAYS HAS BEFORE.
CHILDREN'S STORIES!
I BEG YOUR PARDON?
STILL BELIEVE IN **DRAGONS**, DO YOU, BONE? WELL, DON'T WORRY. IF THE HAIRY-MEN **DO** ATTACK, ME AN' ROSIE WILL PROTECT YA.
TH' DRAGON IS **REAL**, LUCIUS! HE'S GOT BIG, DROOPY **EYES**, AN' FLOPPY **EARS** - - ASK GRAN'MA!
UH. . . SOMETHING JUST **MOVED** OVER THERE!
IN TH' WOODS!
MAYBE IT'S THE DRAGON - -
shh!



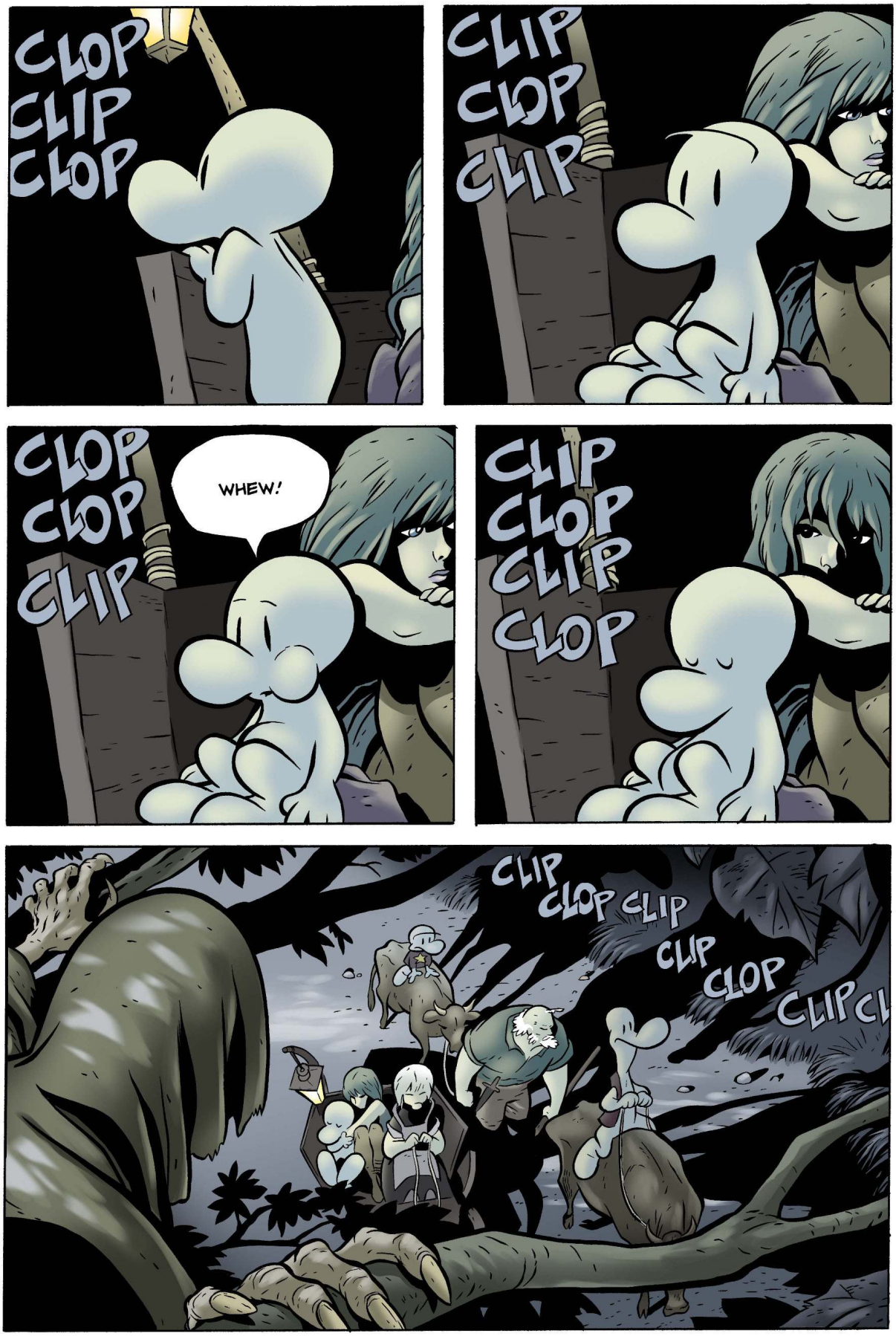

WHERE WAS IT?
RIGHT THERE WHERE YOU'RE LOOKIN'.



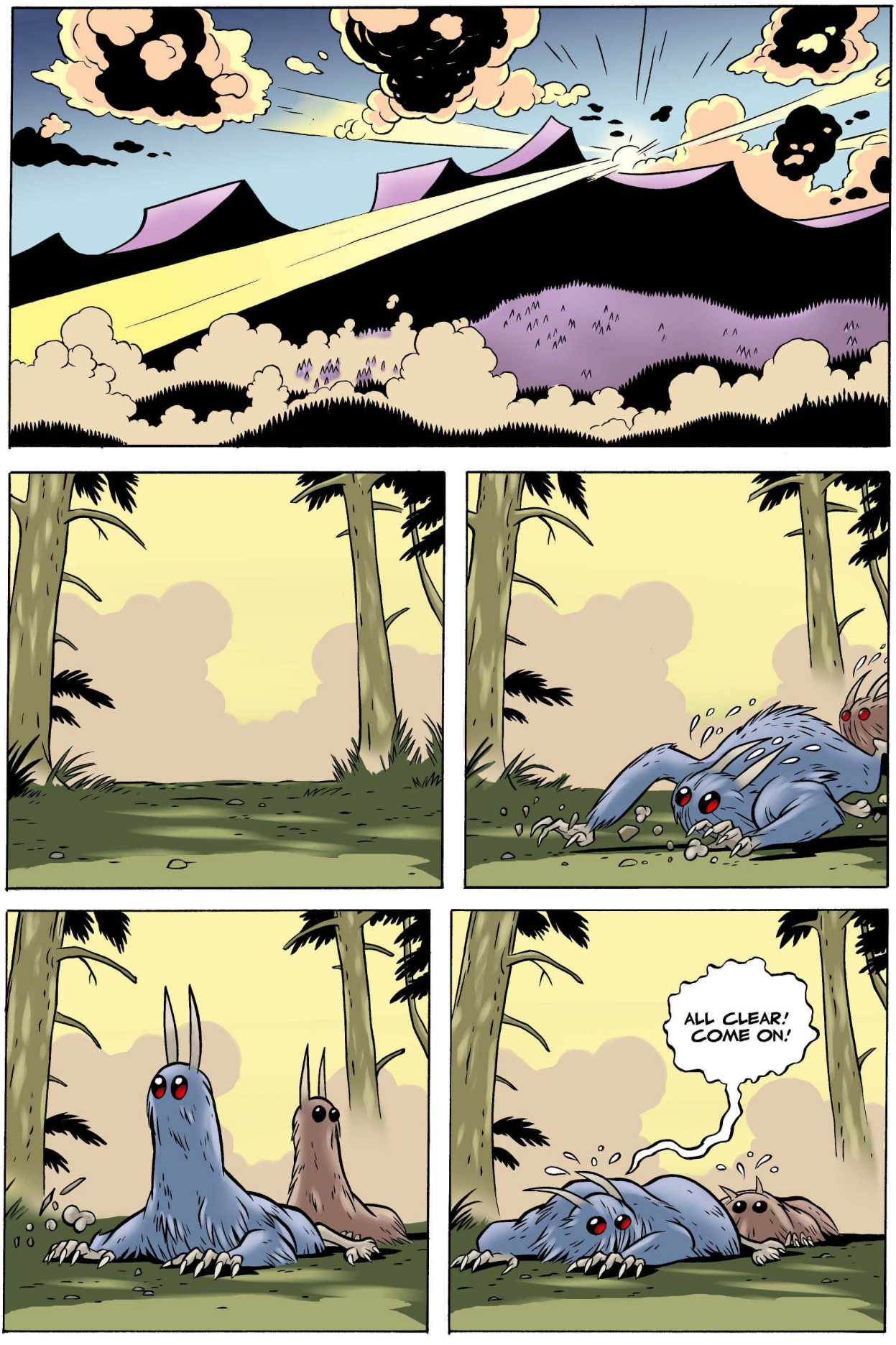

I DON'T SEE `EM, BUT THEY MIGHT BE ON TO US.


ALL RIGHT. LET'S GET MOVING. AN' NO MORE TALKING UNTIL WE GET TO TH' FARM!

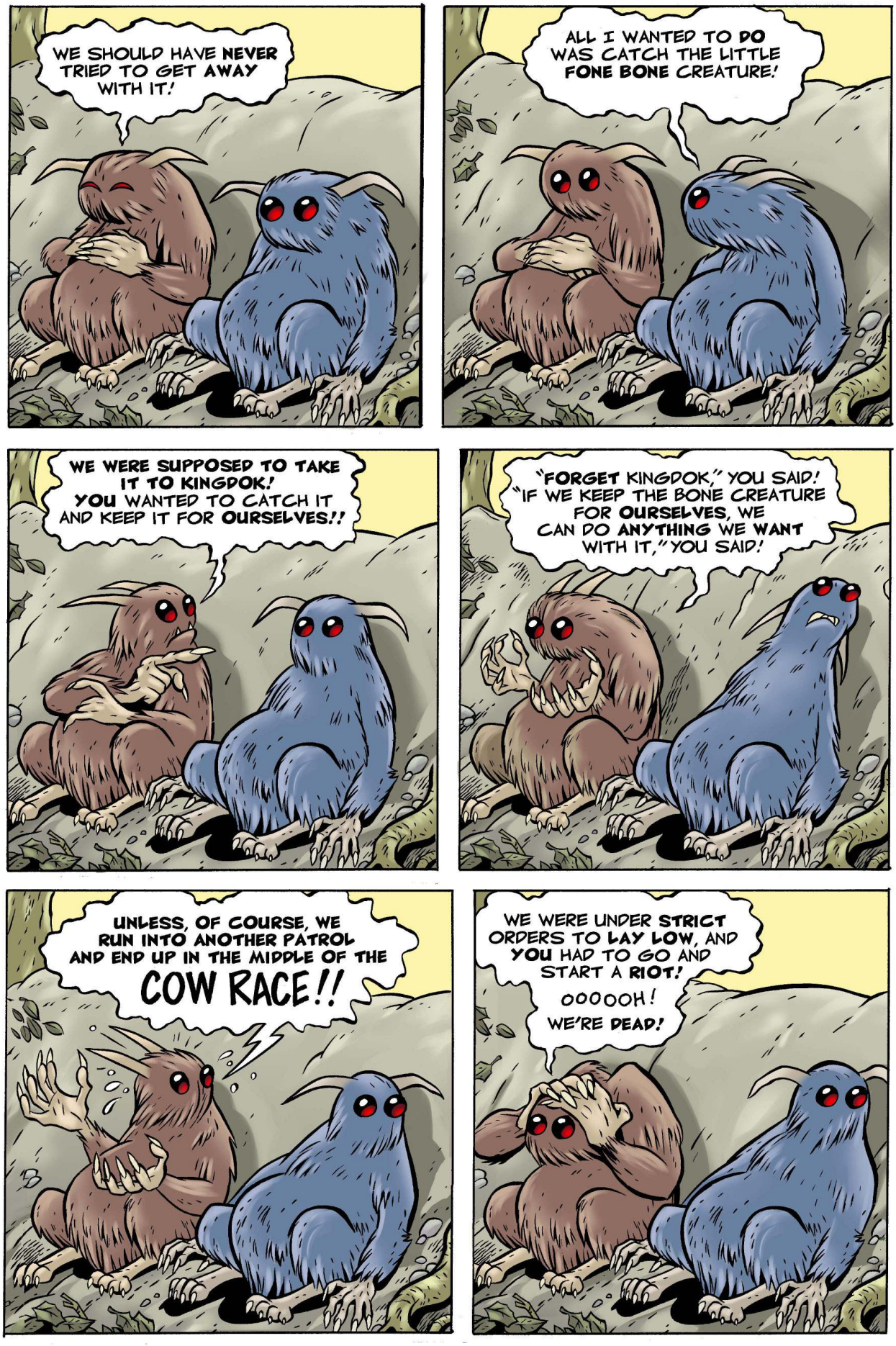

CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLIP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP
CLIP

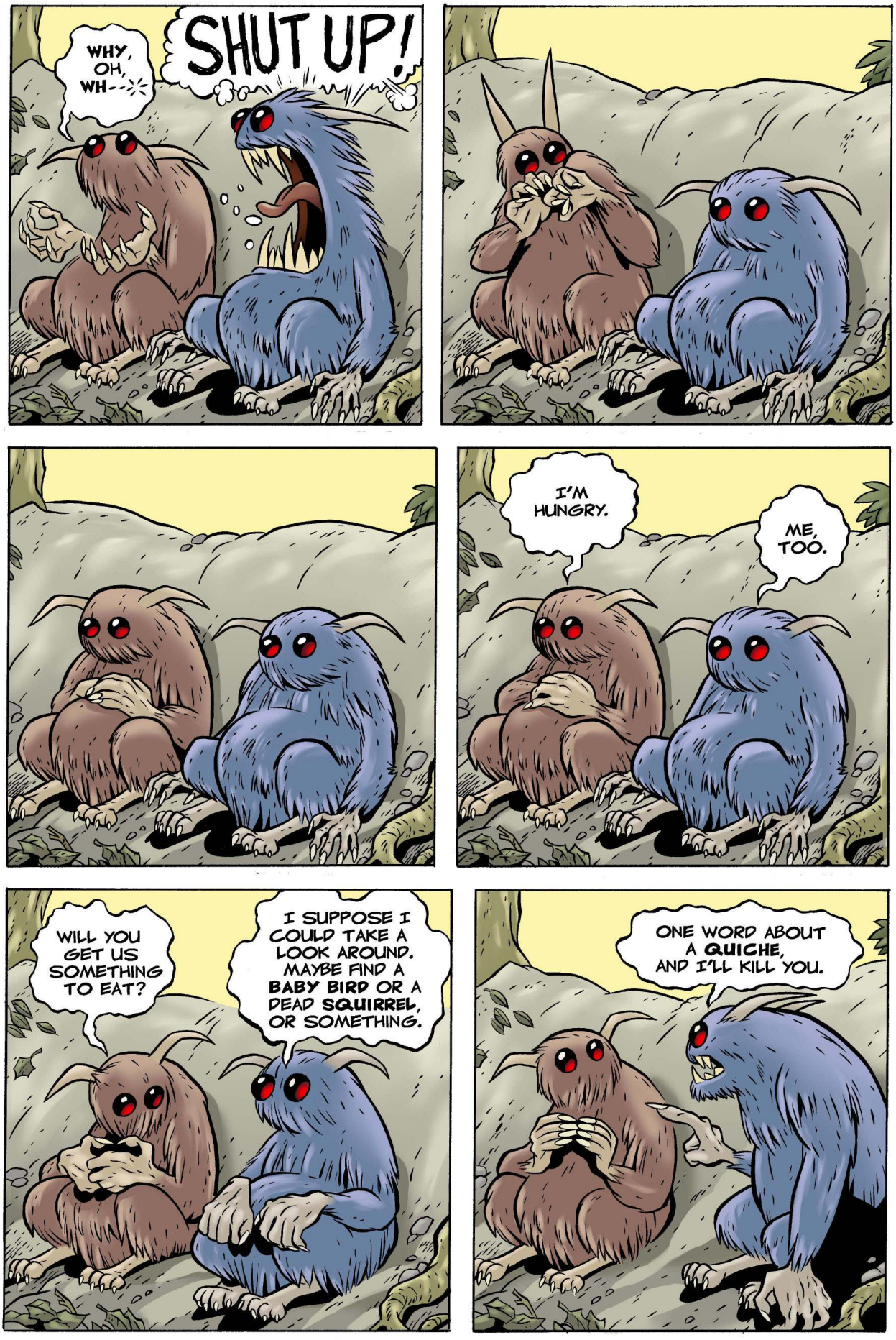


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

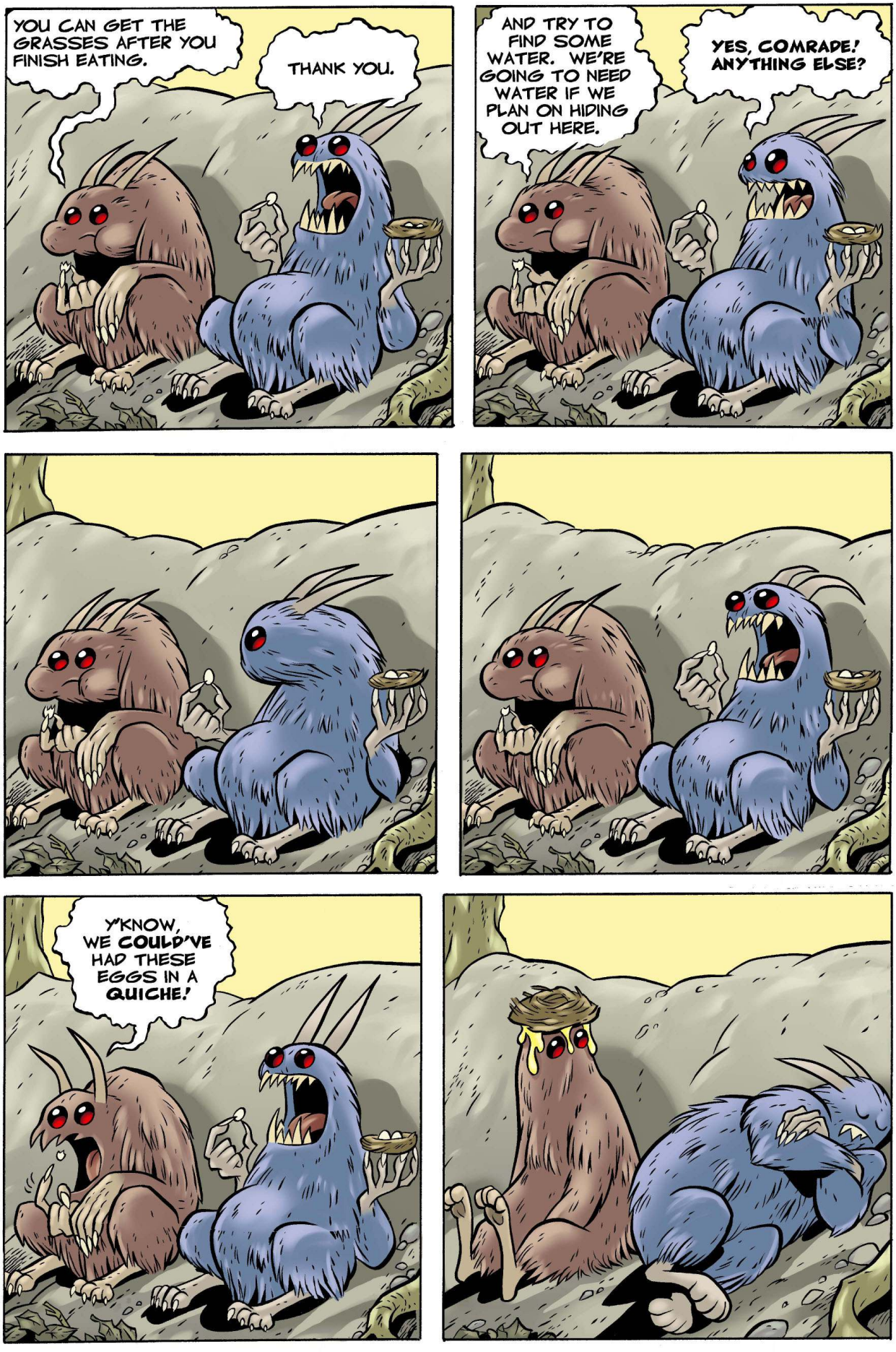

ALL CLEAR! COME ON!


I CAN'T BELIEVE WE DID IT! OH, I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US, COMRADE?
THIS HOLLOW WILL BE A GOOD PLACE TO HIDE FOR A FEW DAYS!
WE'LL HAVE TO HIDE FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES! WE DIDN'T MEAN FOR IT TO HAPPEN! WHAT'LL WE DO IF KINGDOK FINDS OUT?
IT WAS YOU! YOU MADE ME DO IT! IT WAS YOUR IDEA!
NO ONE IS GOING TO FIND OUT ANYTHING! NOW GET IN THE HOLLOW AND STOP YOUR BABBLING!


WE SHOULD HAVE NEVER TRIED TO GET AWAY WITH IT!
ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS CATCH THE LITTLE FONE BONE CREATURE!
WE WERE SUPPOSED TO TAKE IT TO KINGDOK! YOU WANTED TO CATCH IT AND KEEP IT FOR OURSELVES!!
"FORGET KINGDOK," YOU SAID! "IF WE KEEP THE BONE CREATURE FOR OURSELVES, WE CAN DO ANYTHING WE WANT WITH IT," YOU SAID!
UNLESS, OF COURSE, WE RUN INTO ANOTHER PATROL AND END UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE COW RACE!!
WE WERE UNDER STRICT ORDERS TO LAY LOW, AND YOU HAD TO GO AND START A RIOT!
OOOOOH! WE'RE DEAD!

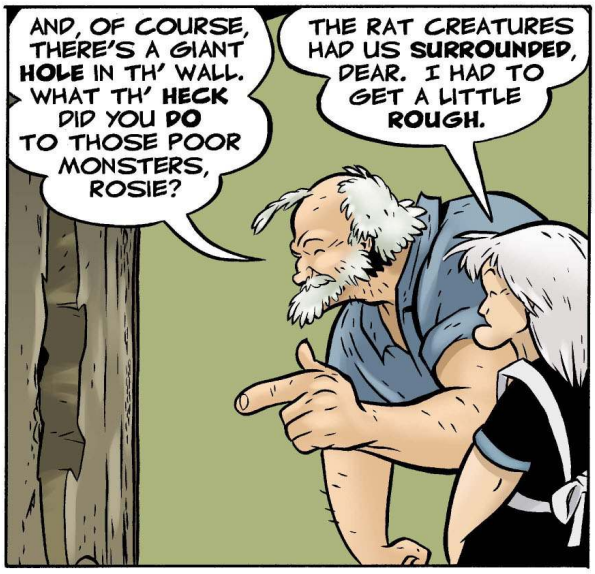

WHY, OH, WH--
SHUT UP!
I'M HUNGRY.
ME, TOO.
WILL YOU GET US SOMETHING TO EAT?
I SUPPOSE I COULD TAKE A LOOK AROUND. MAYBE FIND A BABY BIRD OR A DEAD SQUIRREL, OR SOMETHING.
ONE WORD ABOUT A QUICHE, AND I'LL KILL YOU.

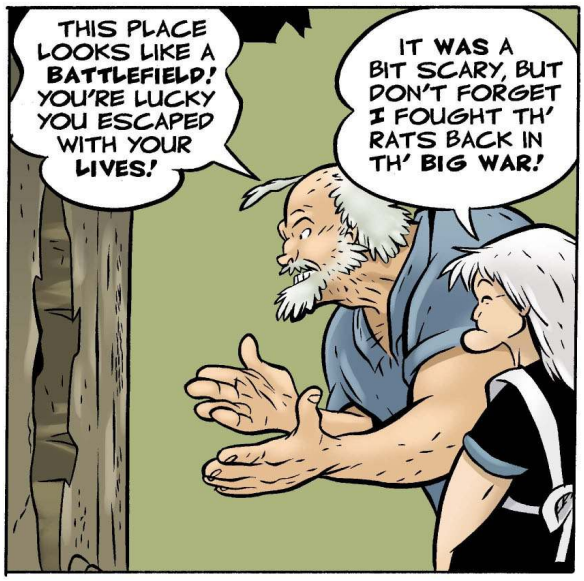

WHILE YOU'RE UP THERE, TRY TO FIND SOME NICE, SOFT GRASSES WE CAN SIT ON AND BE MORE COMFORTABLE.
YES, COMRADE.
HERE. I FOUND SOME EGGS TO SUCK ON.
DID YOU REMEMBER TO GET THE GRASSES?
NO. I FORGOT.
ARE YOU GOING TO GET THE GRASSES?
CAN I EAT FIRST?
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SAY YOU'LL DO THINGS IF YOU DON'T MEAN IT.
I MEANT IT! I JUST FORGOT!

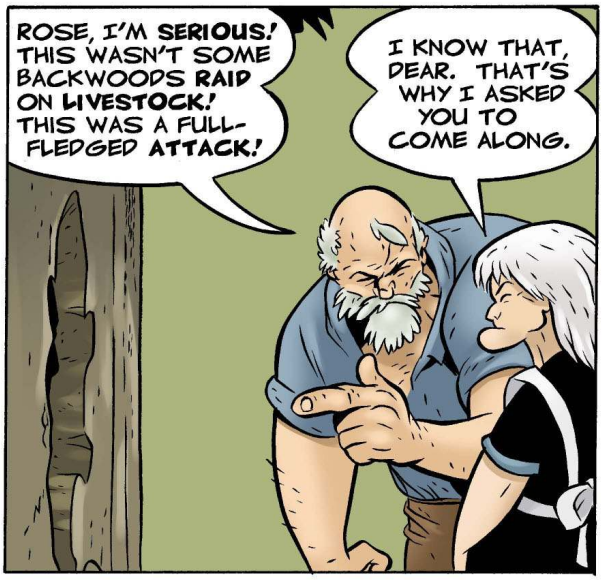

YOU CAN GET THE GRASSES AFTER YOU FINISH EATING.
THANK YOU.
AND TRY TO FIND SOME WATER. WE'RE GOING TO NEED WATER IF WE PLAN ON HIDING OUT HERE.
YES, COMRADE! ANYTHING ELSE?
Y'KNOW, WE COULD'VE HAD THESE EGGS IN A QUICHE!



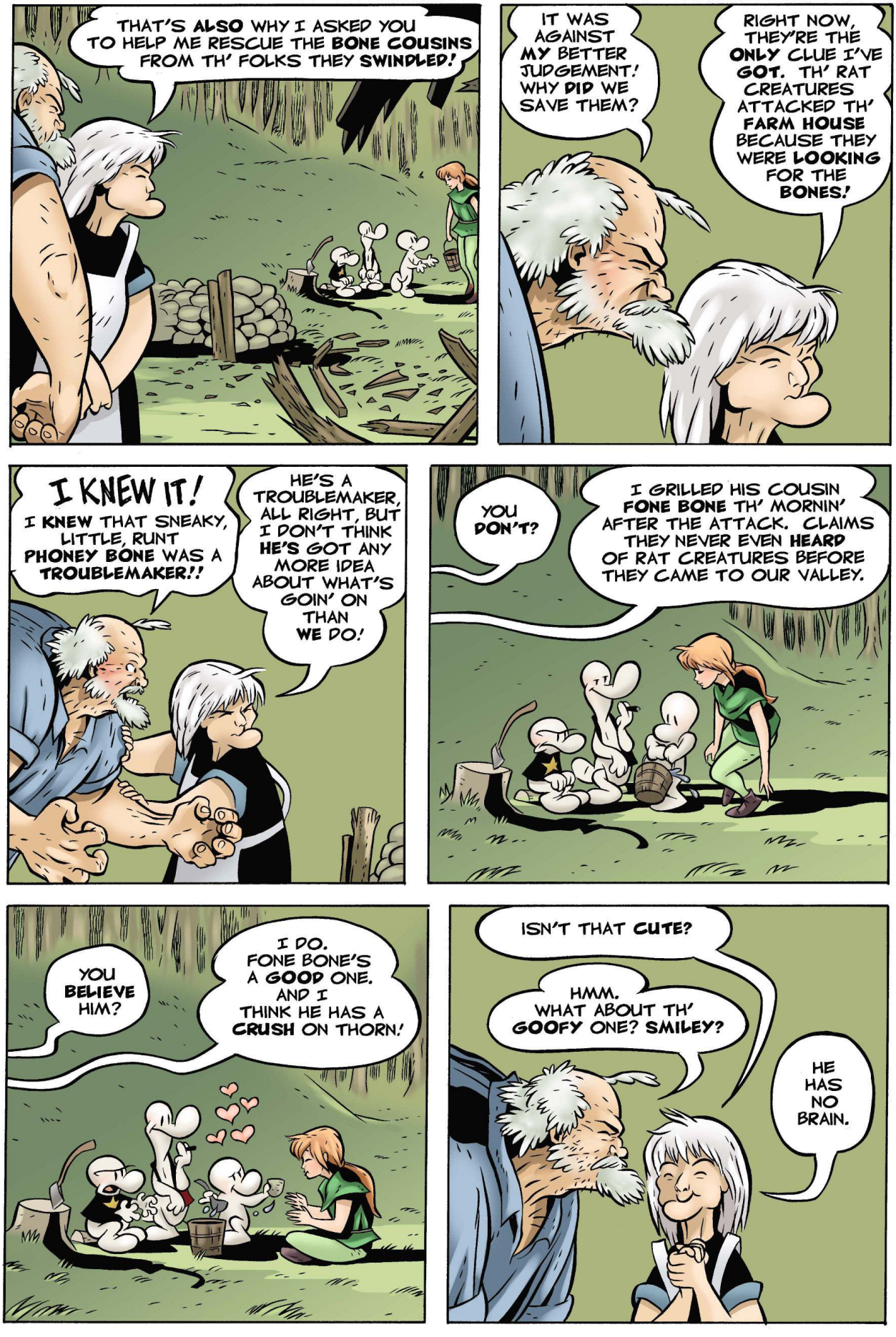


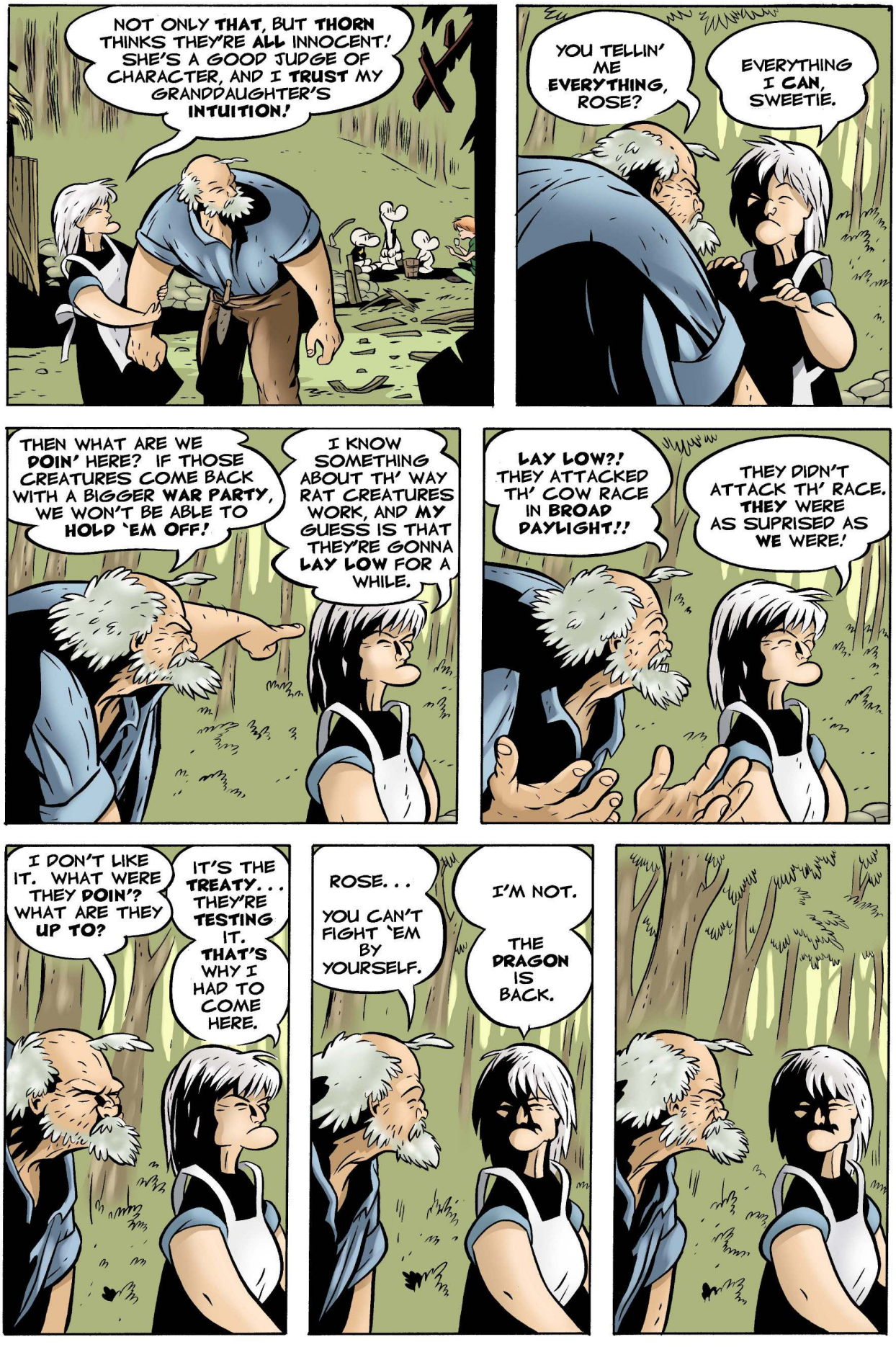


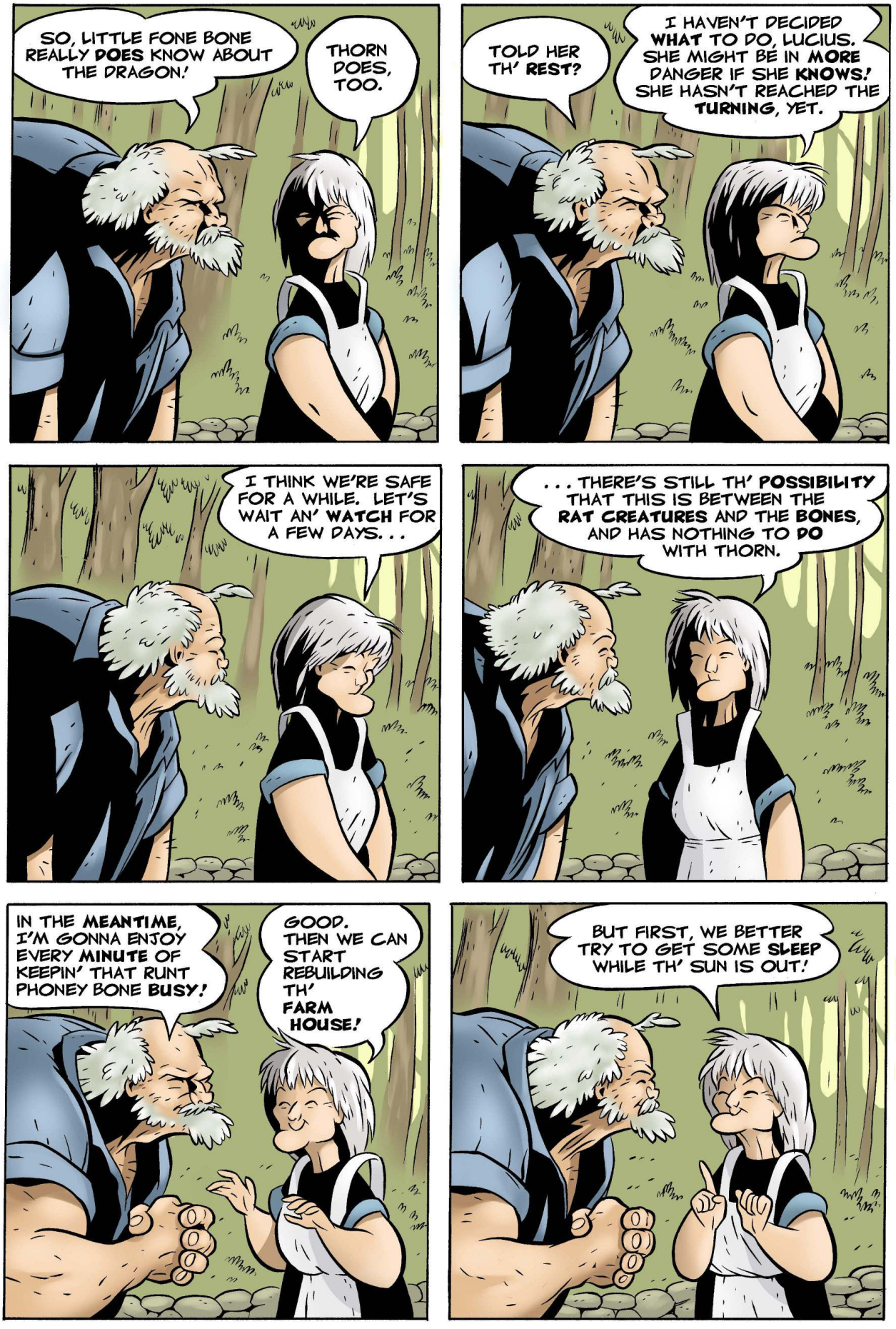


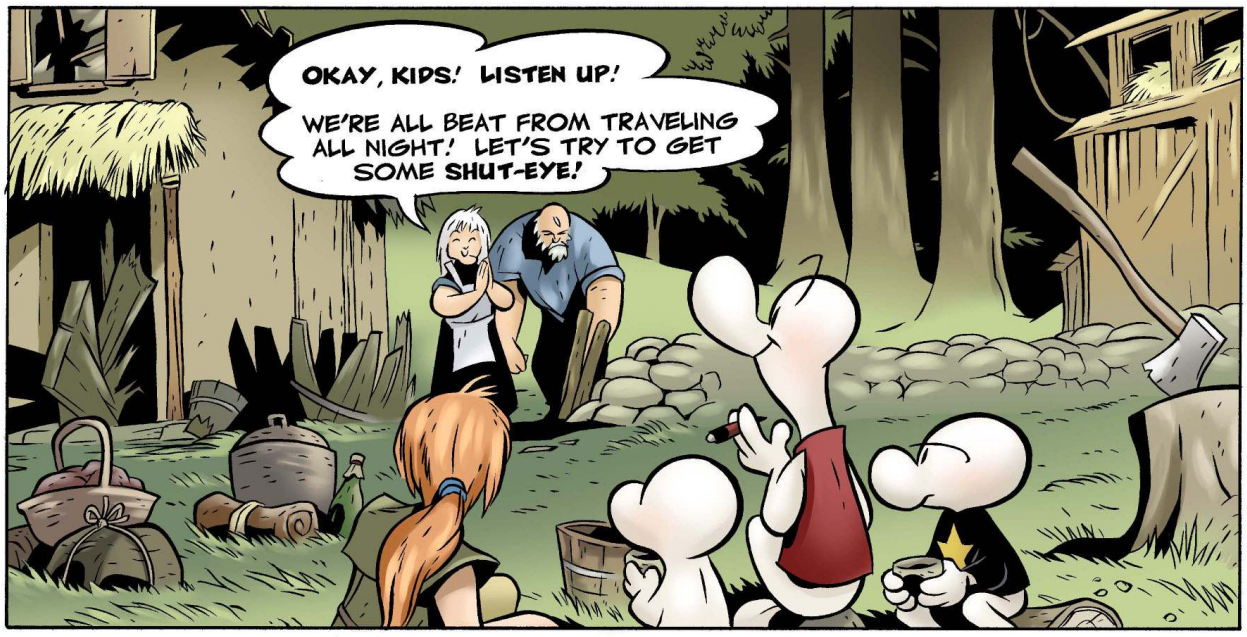


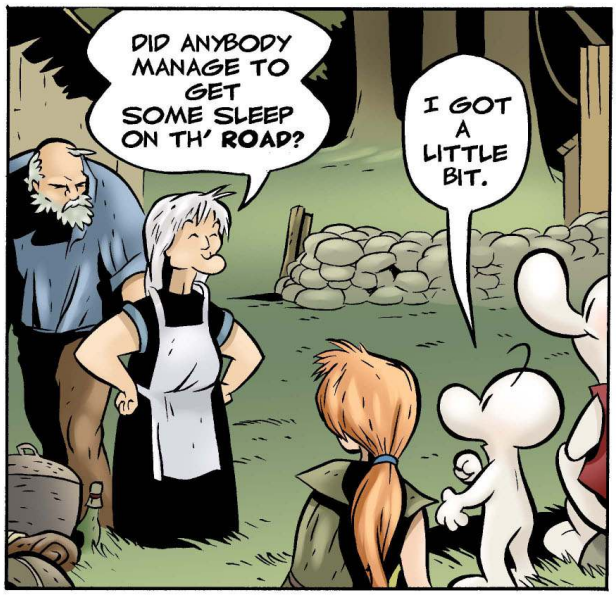
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THAT'S ALSO WHY I ASKED YOU TO HELP ME RESCUE THE BONE COUSINS FROM TH' FOLKS THEY SWINDLED!
IT WAS AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT! WHY DID WE SAVE THEM?
RIGHT NOW, THEY'RE THE ONLY CLUE I'VE GOT. TH' RAT CREATURES ATTACKED TH' FARM HOUSE BECAUSE THEY WERE LOOKING FOR THE BONES!
I KNEW IT!
I KNEW THAT SNEAKY, LITTLE, RUNT PHONEY BONE WAS A TROUBLEMAKER!!
HE'S A TROUBLEMAKER, ALL RIGHT, BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S GOT ANY MORE IDEA ABOUT WHAT'S GOIN' ON THAN WE DO!
YOU DON'T?
I GRILLED HIS COUSIN FONE BONE TH' MORNIN' AFTER THE ATTACK. CLAIMS THEY NEVER EVEN HEARD OF RAT CREATURES BEFORE THEY CAME TO OUR VALLEY.
YOU BELIEVE HIM?
I DO. FONE BONE'S A GOOD ONE. AND I THINK HE HAS A CRUSH ON THORN!
ISN'T THAT CUTE?
HMM. WHAT ABOUT TH' GOOFY ONE? SMILEY?
HE HAS NO BRAIN.

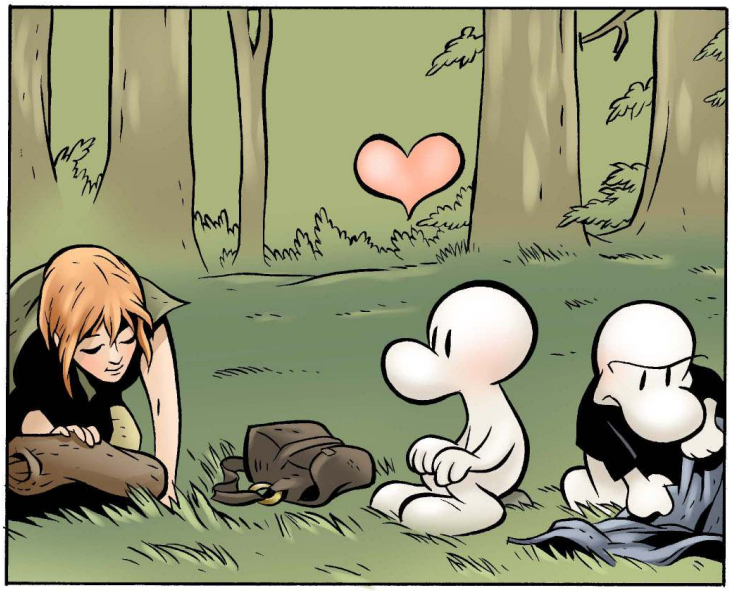

NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THORN THINKS THEY'RE ALL INNOCENT! SHE'S A GOOD JUDGE OF CHARACTER, AND I TRUST MY GRANDDAUGHTER'S INTUITION!
YOU TELLIN' ME EVERYTHING, ROSE?
EVERYTHING I CAN, SWEETIE.
THEN WHAT ARE WE DOIN' HERE? IF THOSE CREATURES COME BACK WITH A BIGGER WAR PARTY, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD 'EM OFF!
I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT TH' WAY RAT CREATURES WORK, AND MY GUESS IS THAT THEY'RE GONNA LAY LOW FOR A WHILE.
LAY LOW?! THEY ATTACKED TH' COW RACE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!!
THEY DIDN'T ATTACK TH' RACE. THEY WERE AS SUPRISED AS WE WERE!
I DON'T LIKE IT. WHAT WERE THEY DOIN'? WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?
IT'S THE TREATY... THEY'RE TESTING IT. THAT'S WHY I HAD TO COME HERE.
ROSE...
YOU CAN'T FIGHT 'EM BY YOURSELF.
I'M NOT.
THE DRAGON IS BACK.

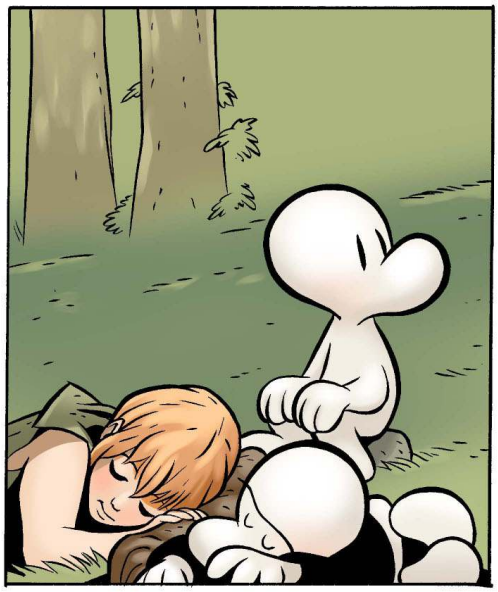

SO, LITTLE FONE BONE REALLY DOES KNOW ABOUT THE DRAGON!
THORN DOES, TOO.
TOLD HER TH' REST?
I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHAT TO DO, LUCIUS. SHE MIGHT BE IN MORE DANGER IF SHE KNOWS! SHE HASN'T REACHED THE TURNING, YET.
I THINK WE'RE SAFE FOR A WHILE. LET'S WAIT AN' WATCH FOR A FEW DAYS...
...THERE'S STILL TH' POSSIBILITY THAT THIS IS BETWEEN THE RAT CREATURES AND THE BONES, AND HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THORN.
IN THE MEANTIME, I'M GONNA ENJOY EVERY MINUTE OF KEEPIN' THAT RUNT PHONEY BONE BUSY!
GOOD. THEN WE CAN START REBUILDING TH' FARM HOUSE!
BUT FIRST, WE BETTER TRY TO GET SOME SLEEP WHILE TH' SUN IS OUT!

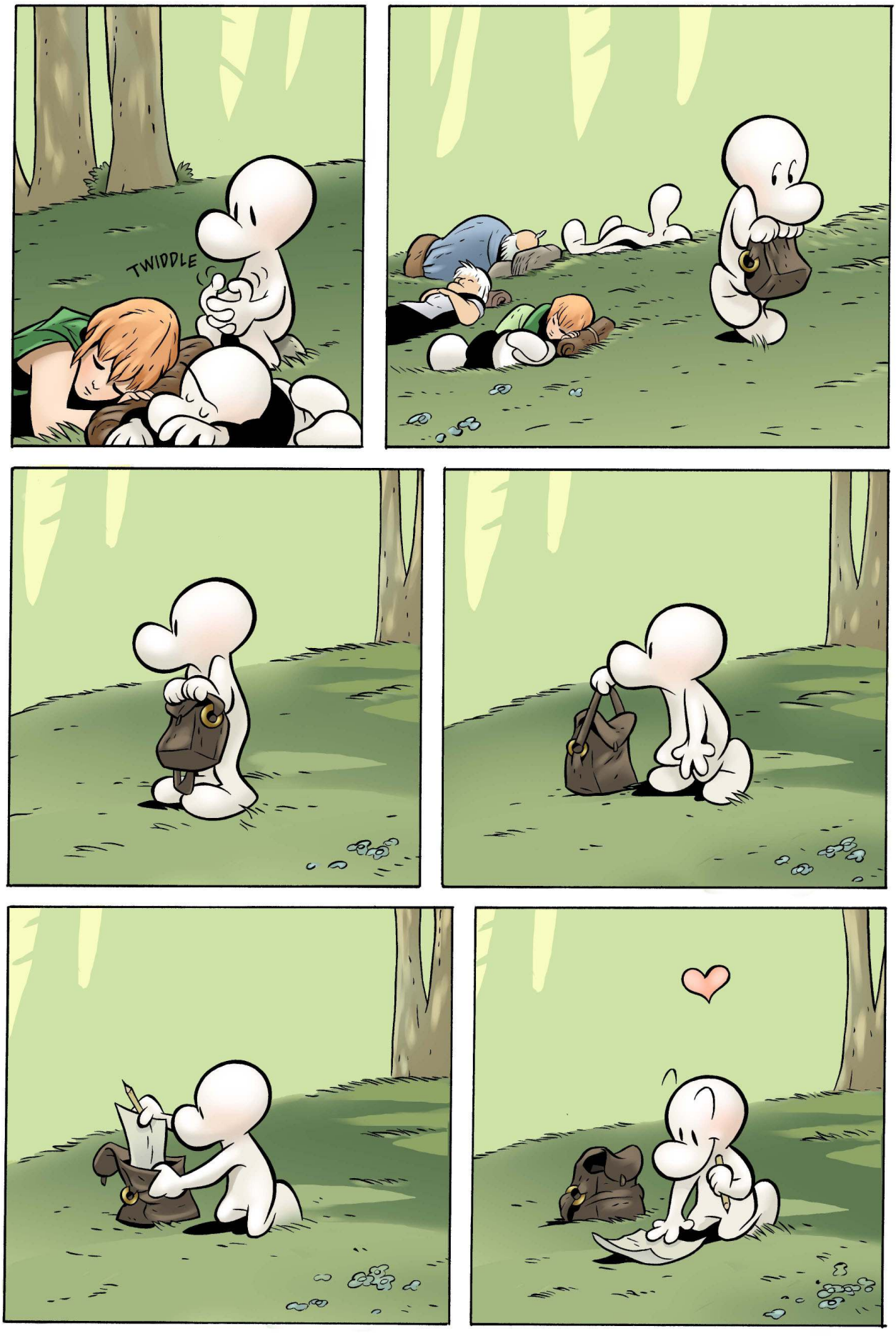

OKAY, KIDS! LISTEN UP!
WE'RE ALL BEAT FROM TRAVELING ALL NIGHT! LET'S TRY TO GET SOME SHUT-EYE!


DID ANYBODY MANAGE TO GET SOME SLEEP ON TH' ROAD?
I GOT A LITTLE BIT.

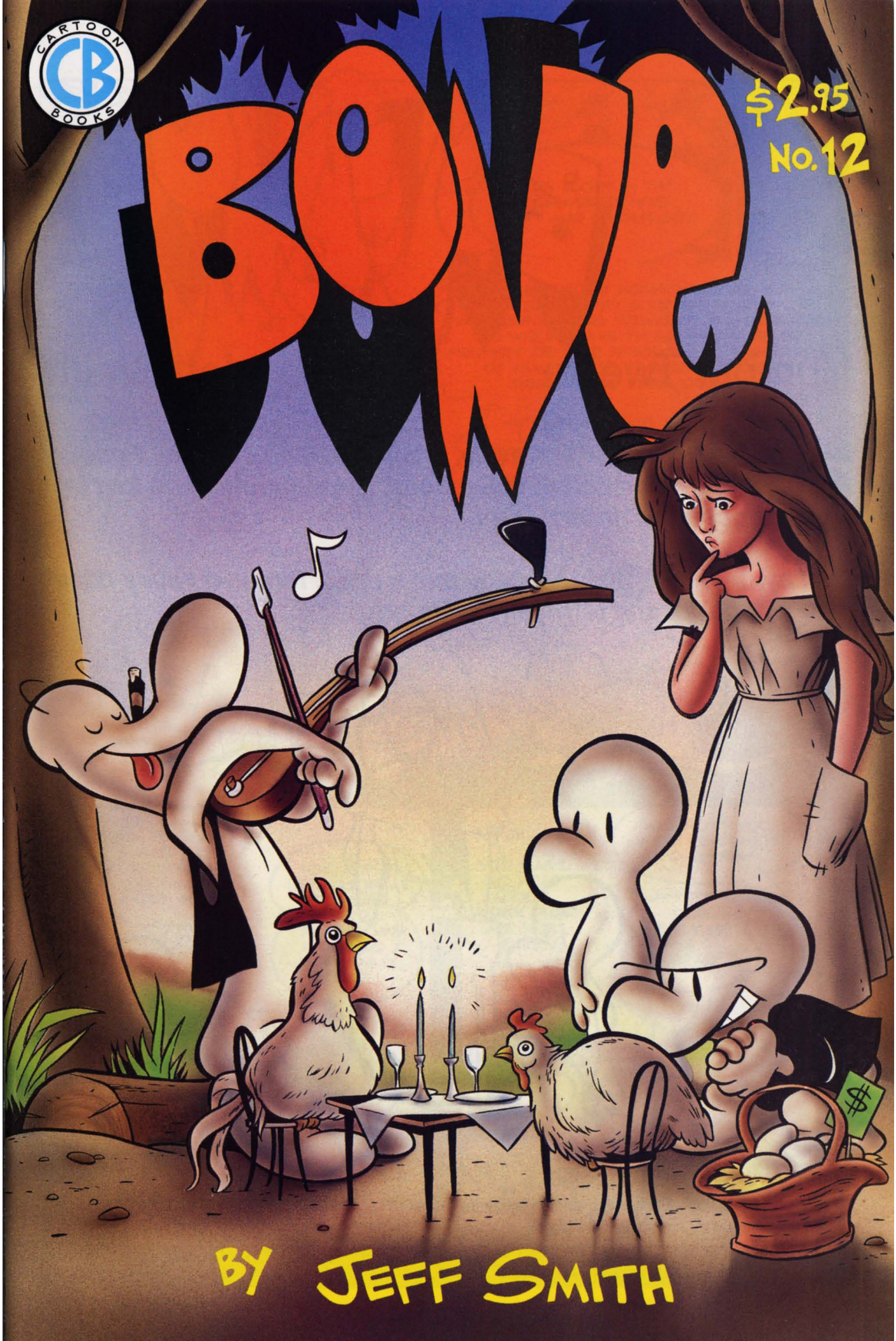

OKAY, BONE. YOU GOT TH' FIRST WATCH.

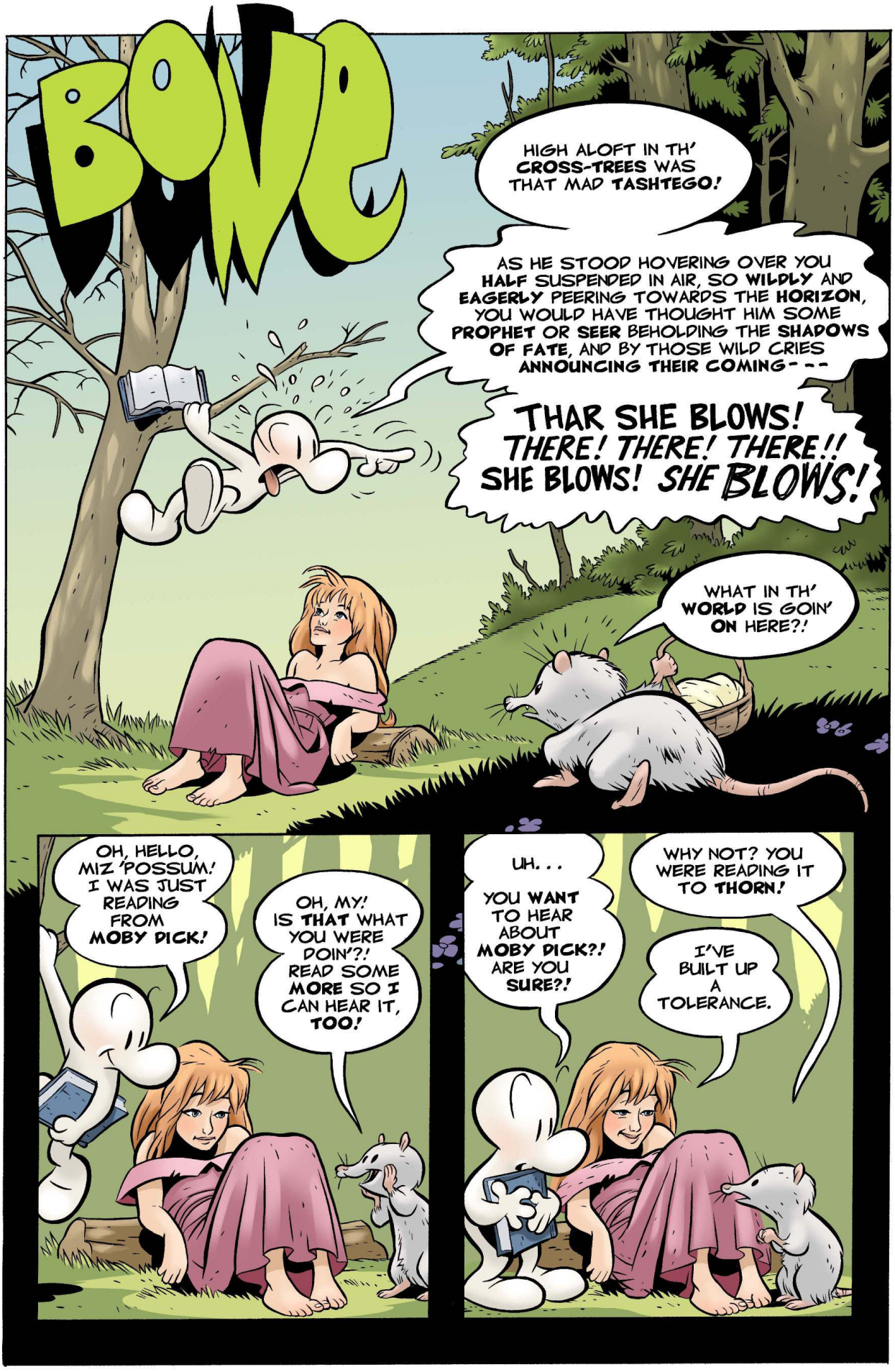


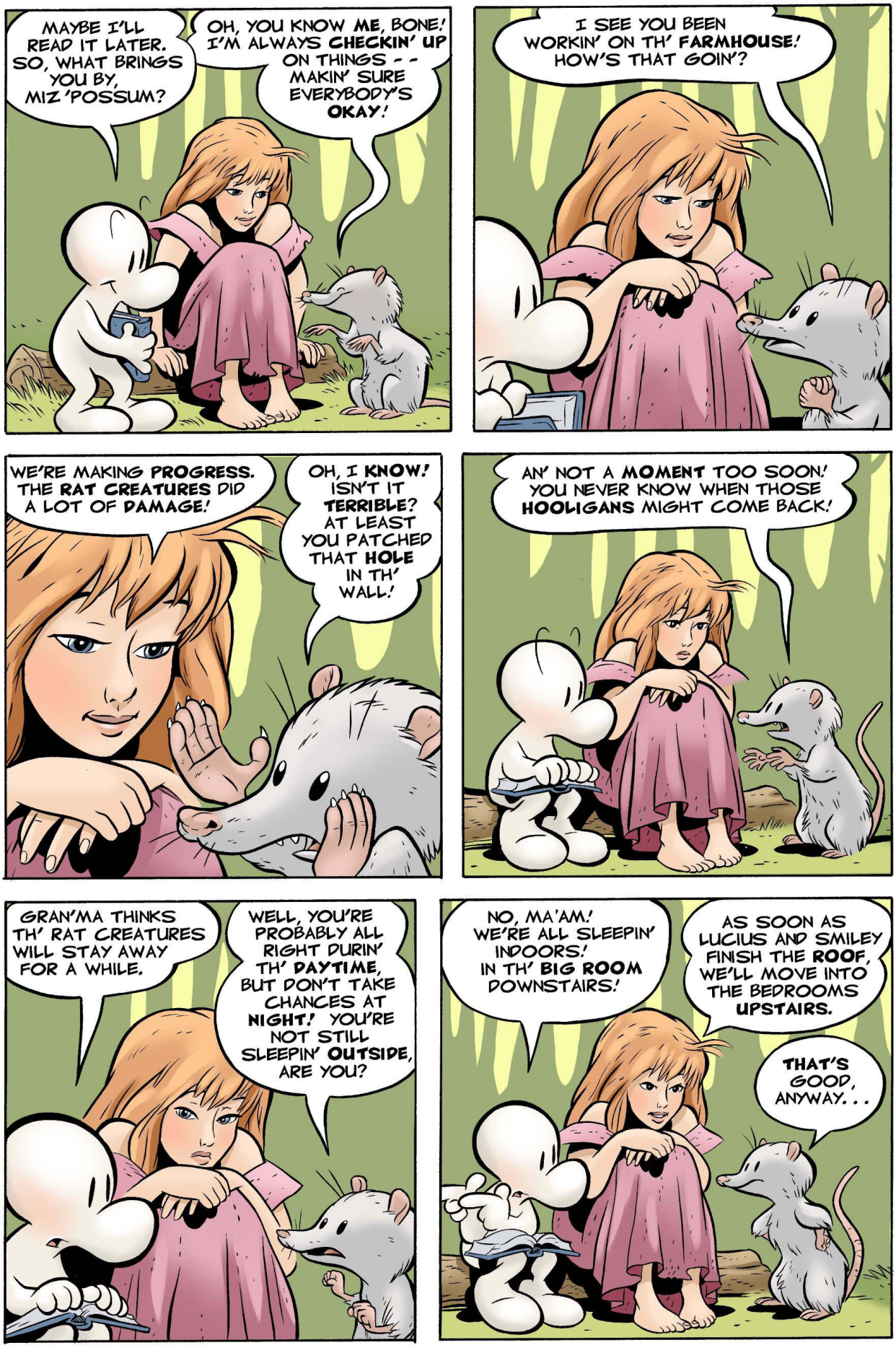


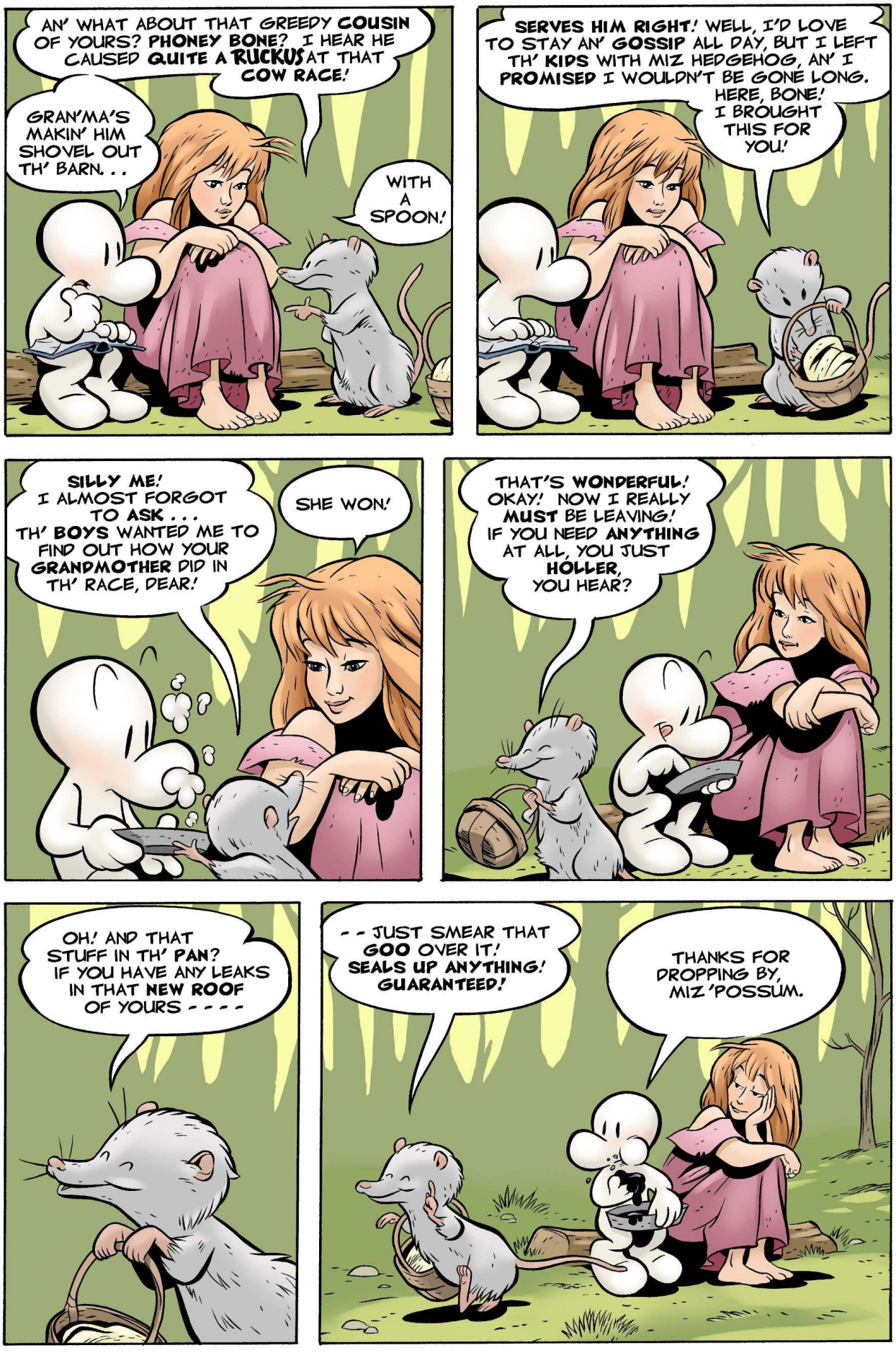

TWIDDLE

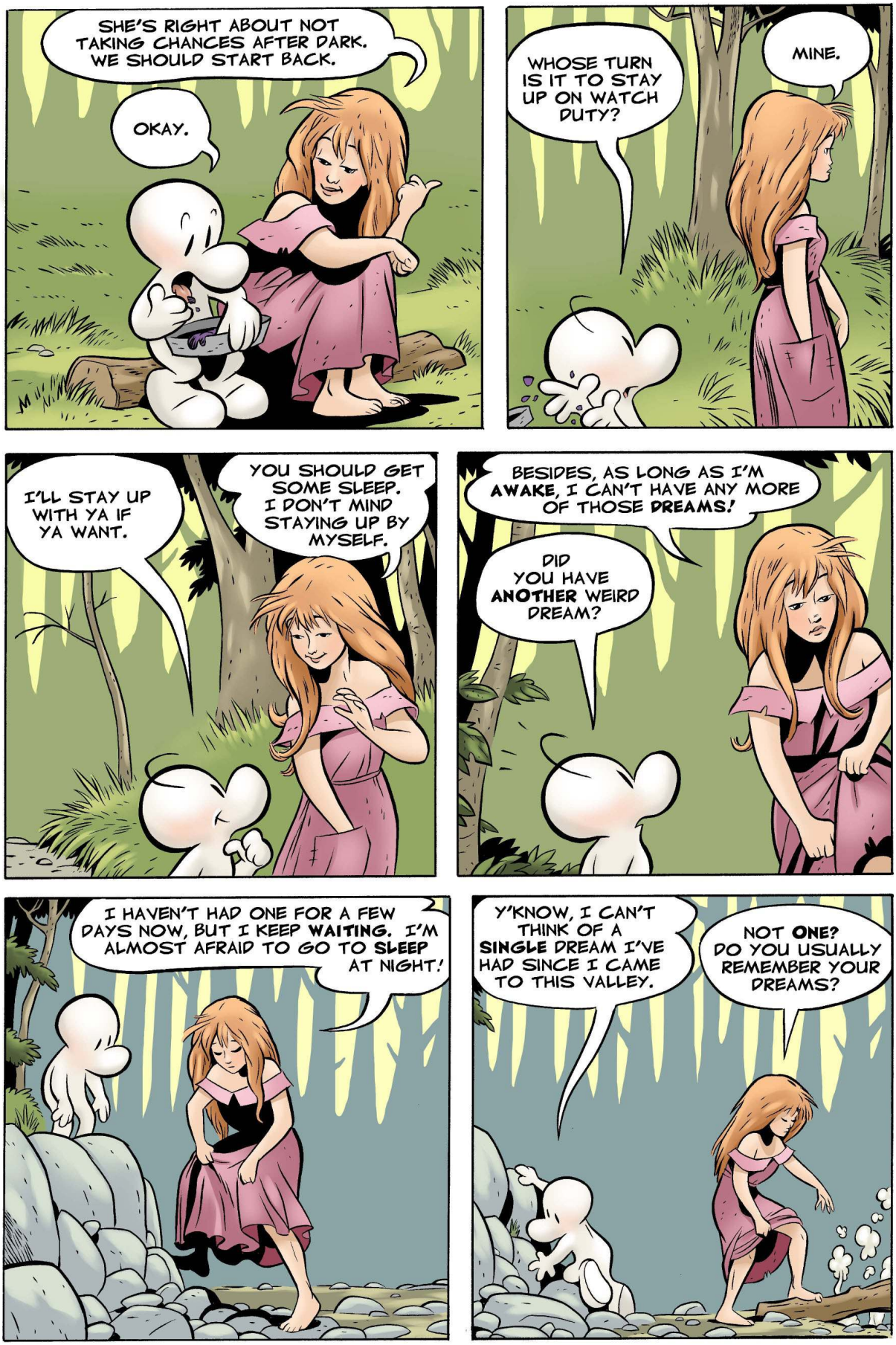

Dear Thorn,
I know that I am short, bald, and have a big nose,
but I like you a lot!
signed,
a secret admirer
XXXOOO


CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
NO. 12
BY JEFF SMITH

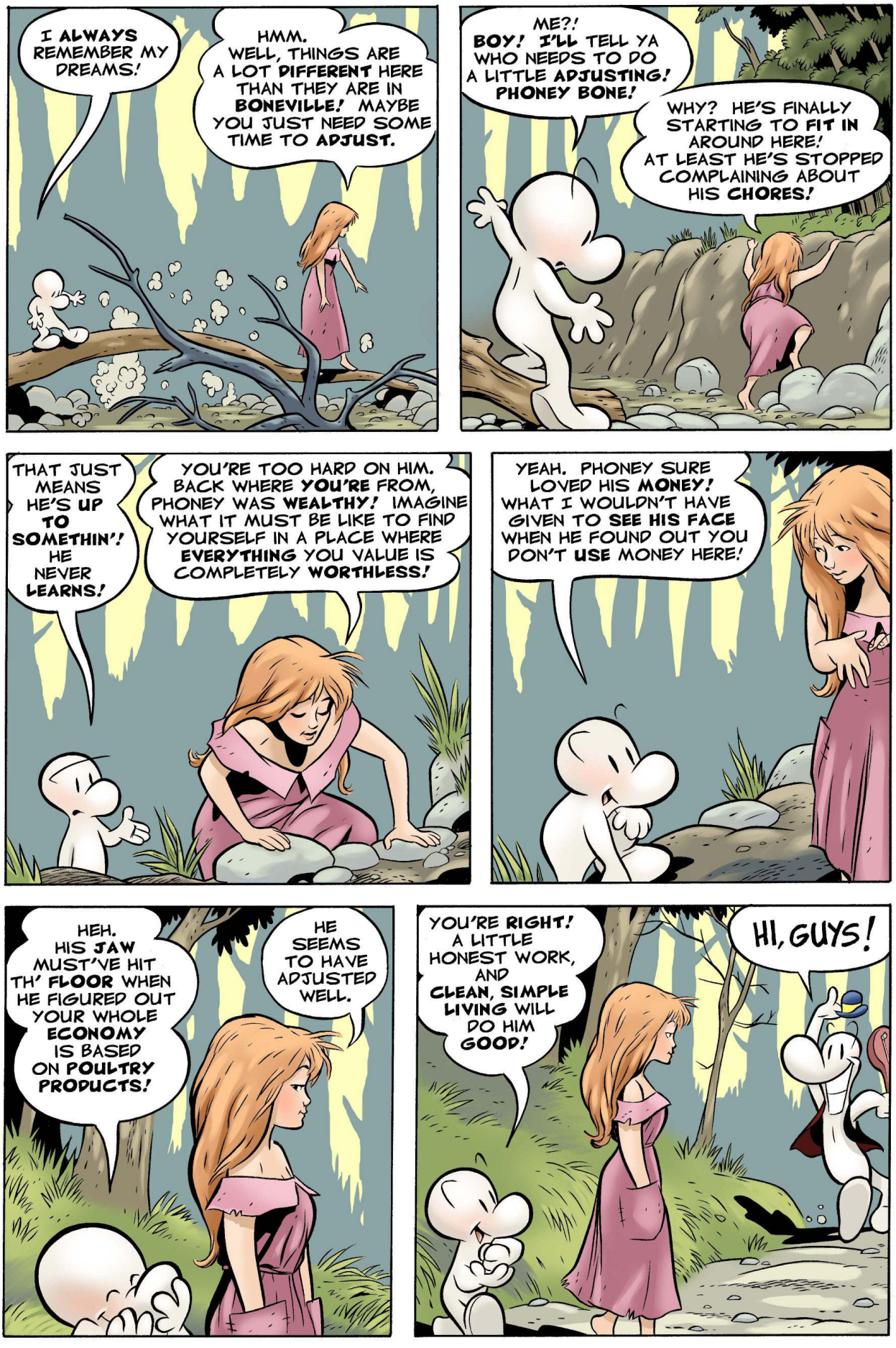

BONE
HIGH ALOFT IN TH' CROSS-TREES WAS THAT MAD TASHTEGO!
AS HE STOOD HOVERING OVER YOU HALF SUSPENDED IN AIR, SO WILDLY AND EAGERLY PEERING TOWARDS THE HORIZON, YOU WOULD HAVE THOUGHT HIM SOME PROPHET OR SEER BEHOLDING THE SHADOWS OF FATE, AND BY THOSE WILD CRIES ANNOUNCING THEIR COMING- - -
THAR SHE BLOWS! THERE! THERE! THERE!! SHE BLOWS! SHE BLOWS!
WHAT IN TH' WORLD IS GOIN' ON HERE?!
OH, HELLO, MIZ 'POSSUM! I WAS JUST READING FROM MOBY DICK!
OH, MY! IS THAT WHAT YOU WERE DOIN'?! READ SOME MORE SO I CAN HEAR IT, TOO!
UH. . . YOU WANT TO HEAR ABOUT MOBY DICK?! ARE YOU SURE?!
WHY NOT? YOU WERE READING IT TO THORN!
I'VE BUILT UP A TOLERANCE.

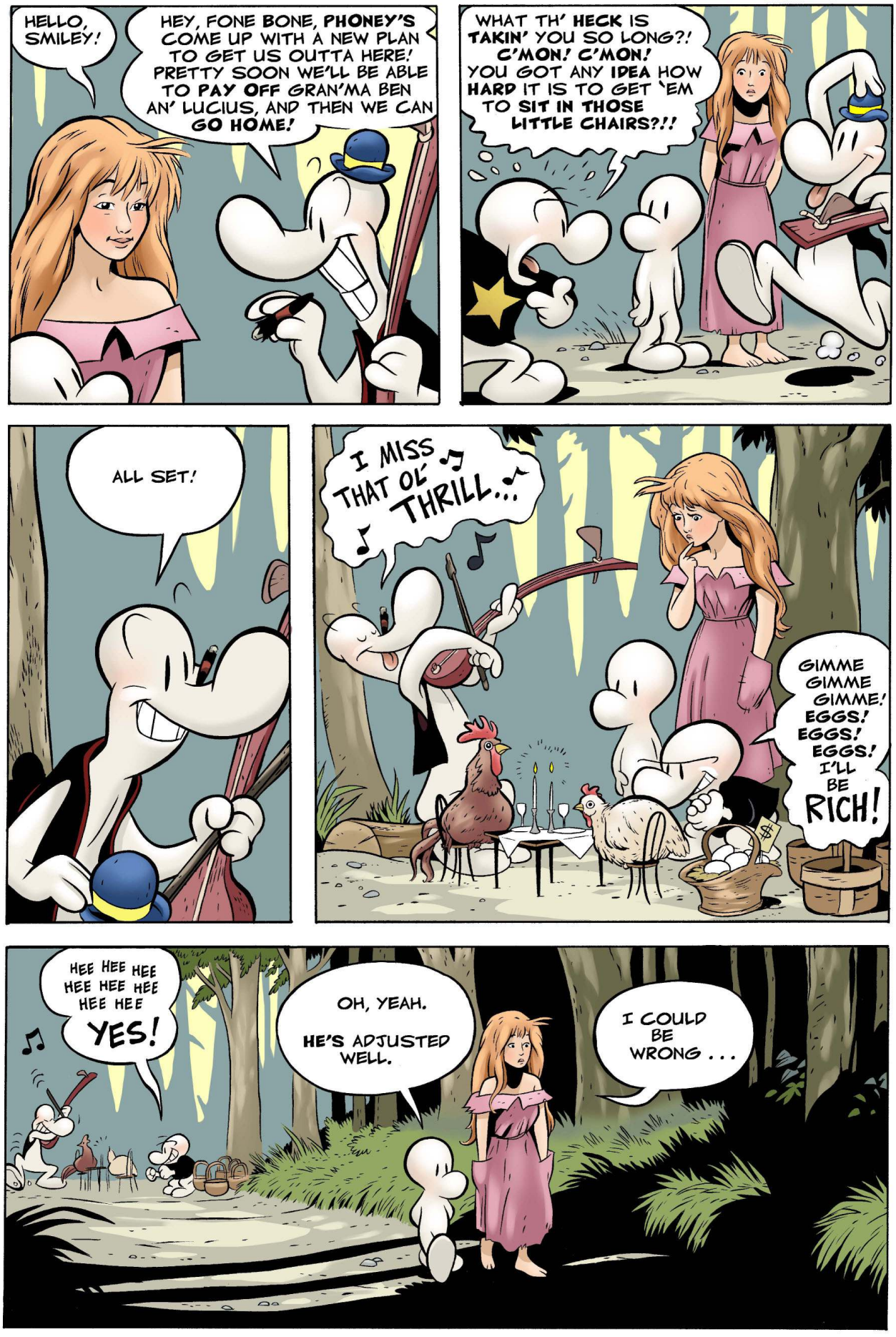

MAYBE I'LL READ IT LATER. SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU BY, MIZ 'POSSUM?
OH, YOU KNOW ME, BONE! I'M ALWAYS CHECKIN' UP ON THINGS - - MAKIN' SURE EVERYBODY'S OKAY!
I SEE YOU BEEN WORKIN' ON TH' FARMHOUSE! HOW'S THAT GOIN'?
WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS. THE RAT CREATURES DID A LOT OF DAMAGE!
OH, I KNOW! ISN'T IT TERRIBLE? AT LEAST YOU PATCHED THAT HOLE IN TH' WALL!
AN' NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON! YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN THOSE HOOLIGANS MIGHT COME BACK!
GRAN'MA THINKS TH' RAT CREATURES WILL STAY AWAY FOR A WHILE.
WELL, YOU'RE PROBABLY ALL RIGHT DURIN' TH' DAYTIME, BUT DON'T TAKE CHANCES AT NIGHT! YOU'RE NOT STILL SLEEPIN' OUTSIDE, ARE YOU?
NO, MA'AM! WE'RE ALL SLEEPIN' INDOORS! IN TH' BIG ROOM DOWNSTAIRS!
AS SOON AS LUCIUS AND SMILEY FINISH THE ROOF, WE'LL MOVE INTO THE BEDROOMS UPSTAIRS.
THAT'S GOOD, ANYWAY. . .


AN' WHAT ABOUT THAT GREEDY COUSIN OF YOURS? PHONEY BONE? I HEAR HE CAUSED QUITE A RUCKUS AT THAT COW RACE!
GRAN'MA'S MAKIN' HIM SHOVEL OUT TH' BARN. . .
WITH A SPOON!
SERVES HIM RIGHT! WELL, I'D LOVE TO STAY AN' GOSSIP ALL DAY, BUT I LEFT TH' KIDS WITH MIZ HEDGEHOG, AN' I PROMISED I WOULDN'T BE GONE LONG.
HERE, BONE! I BROUGHT THIS FOR YOU!
SILLY ME! I ALMOST FORGOT TO ASK . . . TH' BOYS WANTED ME TO FIND OUT HOW YOUR GRANDMOTHER DID IN TH' RACE, DEAR!
SHE WON!
THAT'S WONDERFUL! OKAY! NOW I REALLY MUST BE LEAVING! IF YOU NEED ANYTHING AT ALL, YOU JUST HOLLER, YOU HEAR?
OH! AND THAT STUFF IN TH' PAN? IF YOU HAVE ANY LEAKS IN THAT NEW ROOF OF YOURS - - - -
- - JUST SMEAR THAT GOO OVER IT! SEALS UP ANYTHING! GUARANTEED!
THANKS FOR DROPPING BY, MIZ 'POSSUM.

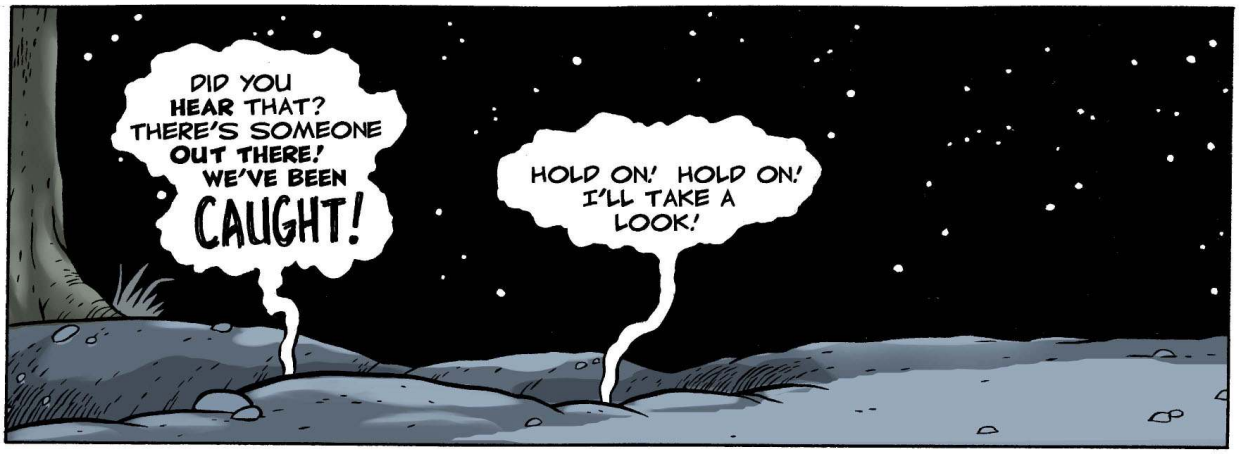


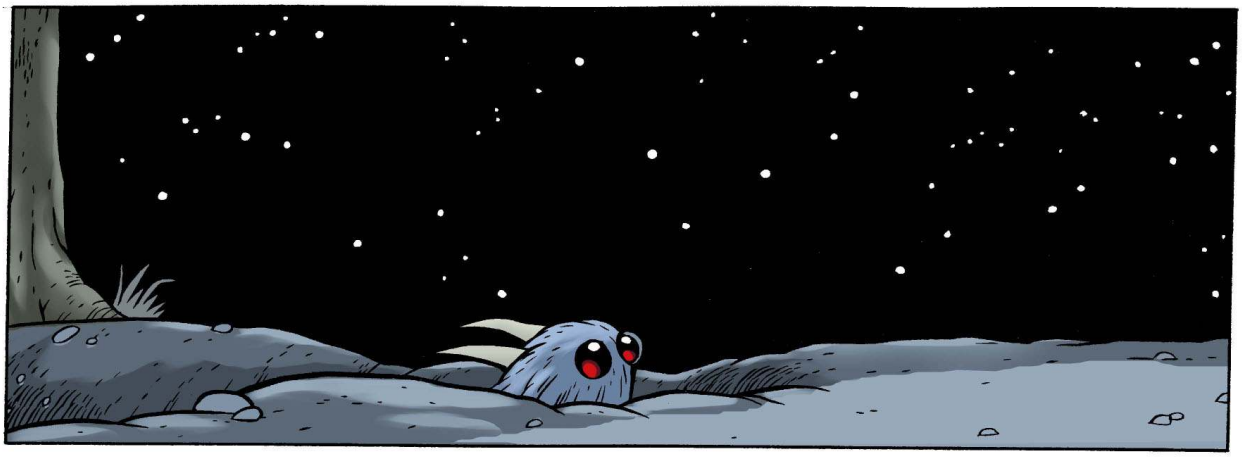
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

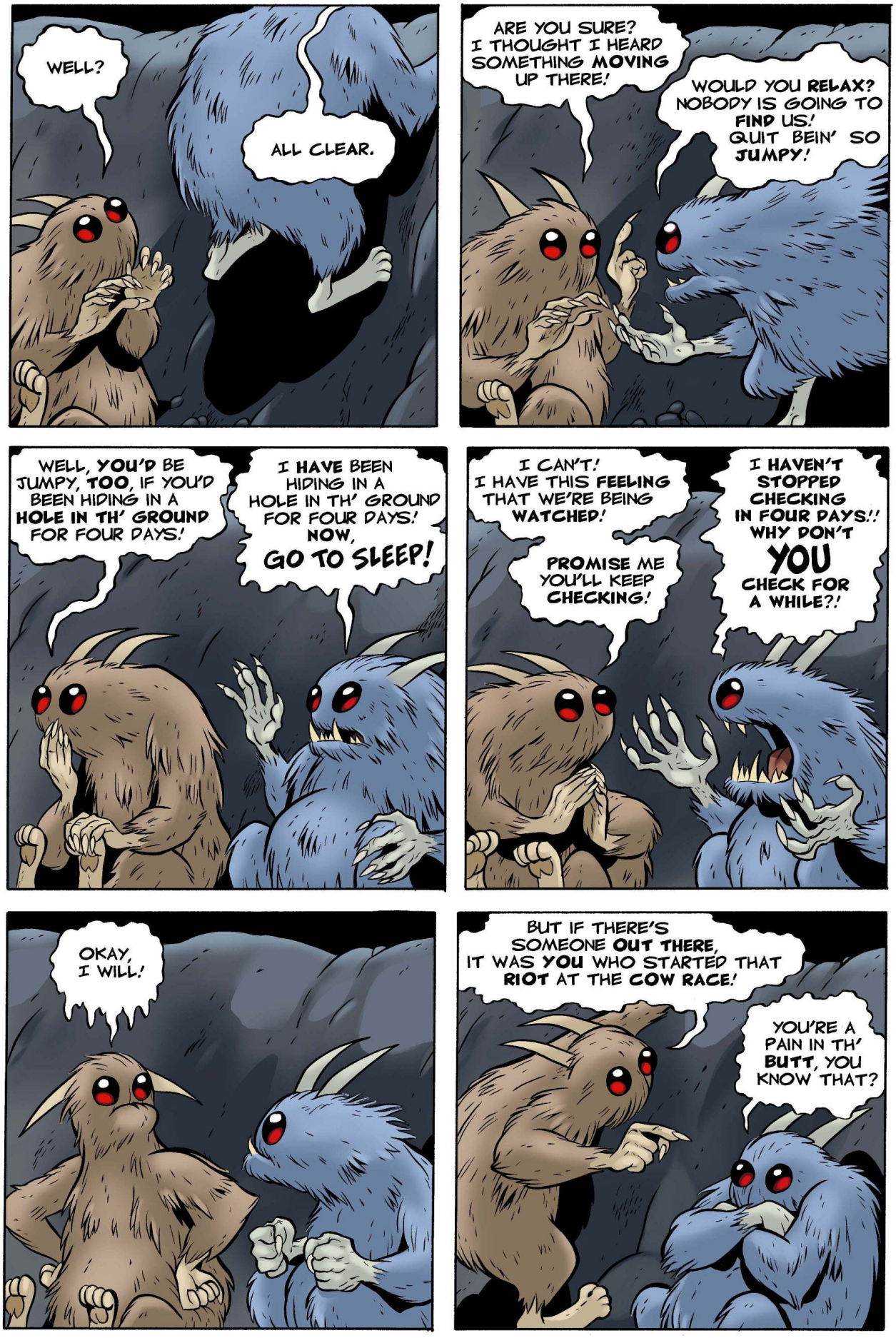

I ALWAYS REMEMBER MY DREAMS!
HMM. WELL, THINGS ARE A LOT DIFFERENT HERE THAN THEY ARE IN BONEVILLE! MAYBE YOU JUST NEED SOME TIME TO ADJUST.
ME?! BOY! I'LL TELL YA WHO NEEDS TO DO A LITTLE ADJUSTING! PHONEY BONE!
WHY? HE'S FINALLY STARTING TO FIT IN AROUND HERE! AT LEAST HE'S STOPPED COMPLAINING ABOUT HIS CHORES!
THAT JUST MEANS HE'S UP TO SOMETHIN'! HE NEVER LEARNS!
YOU'RE TOO HARD ON HIM. BACK WHERE YOU'RE FROM, PHONEY WAS WEALTHY! IMAGINE WHAT IT MUST BE LIKE TO FIND YOURSELF IN A PLACE WHERE EVERYTHING YOU VALUE IS COMPLETELY WORTHLESS!
YEAH. PHONEY SURE LOVED HIS MONEY! WHAT I WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN TO SEE HIS FACE WHEN HE FOUND OUT YOU DON'T USE MONEY HERE!
HEH. HIS JAW MUST'VE HIT TH' FLOOR WHEN HE FIGURED OUT YOUR WHOLE ECONOMY IS BASED ON POULTRY PRODUCTS!
HE SEEMS TO HAVE ADJUSTED WELL.
YOU'RE RIGHT! A LITTLE HONEST WORK, AND CLEAN, SIMPLE LIVING WILL DO HIM GOOD!
HI, GUYS!


HELLO, SMILEY!
HEY, FONE BONE, PHONEY'S COME UP WITH A NEW PLAN TO GET US OUTTA HERE! PRETTY SOON WE'LL BE ABLE TO PAY OFF GRAN'MA BEN AN' LUCIUS, AND THEN WE CAN GO HOME!
WHAT TH' HECK IS TAKIN' YOU SO LONG?! C'MON! C'MON! YOU GOT ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT IS TO GET 'EM TO SIT IN THOSE LITTLE CHAIRS?!!
ALL SET!
I MISS THAT OL' THRILL...
GIMME GIMME GIMME! EGGS! EGGS! EGGS! I'LL BE RICH!
HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE YES!
OH, YEAH. HE'S ADJUSTED WELL.
I COULD BE WRONG . . .

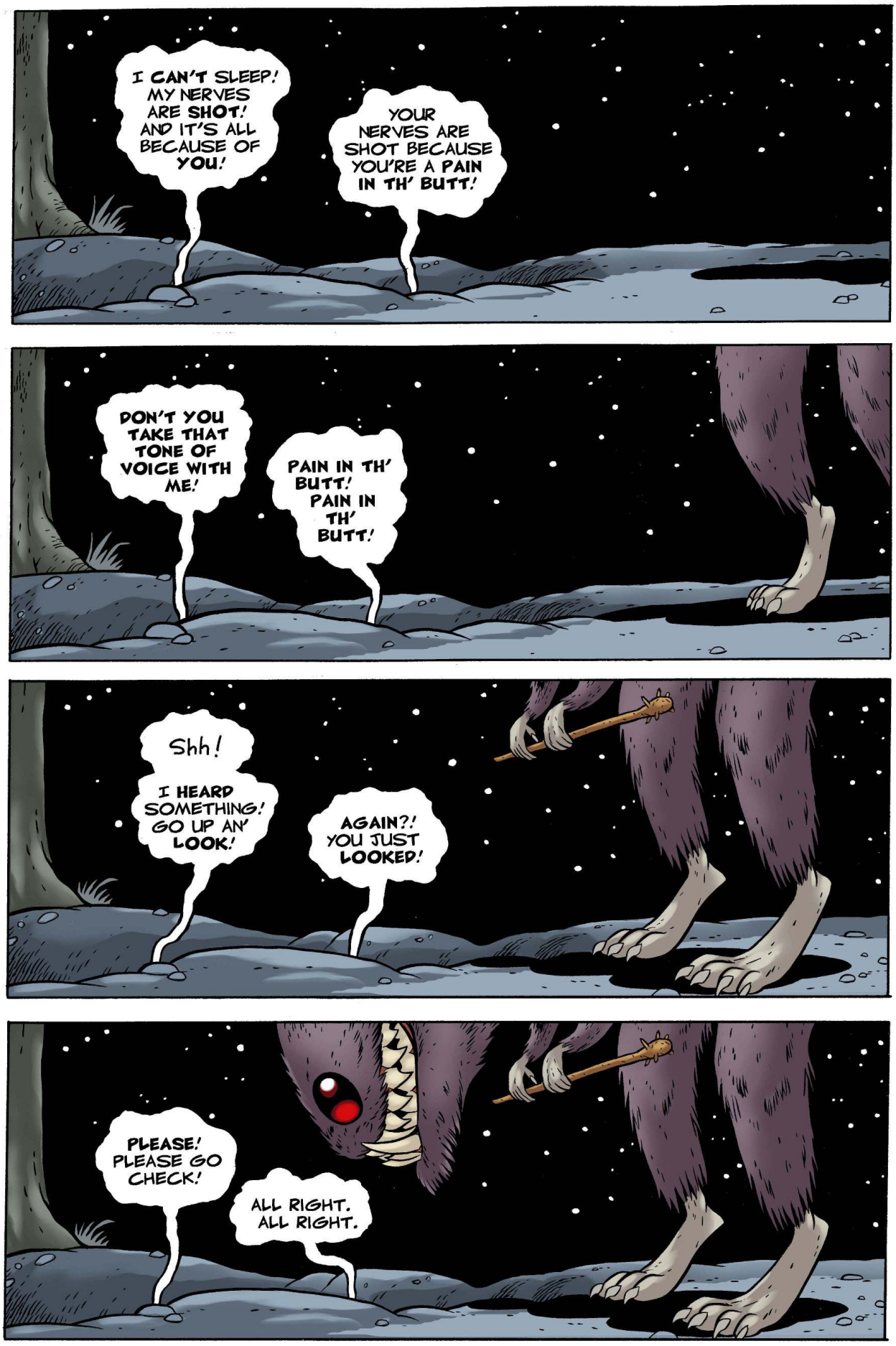



DID YOU HEAR THAT? THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE! WE'VE BEEN CAUGHT!
HOLD ON! HOLD ON! I'LL TAKE A LOOK!

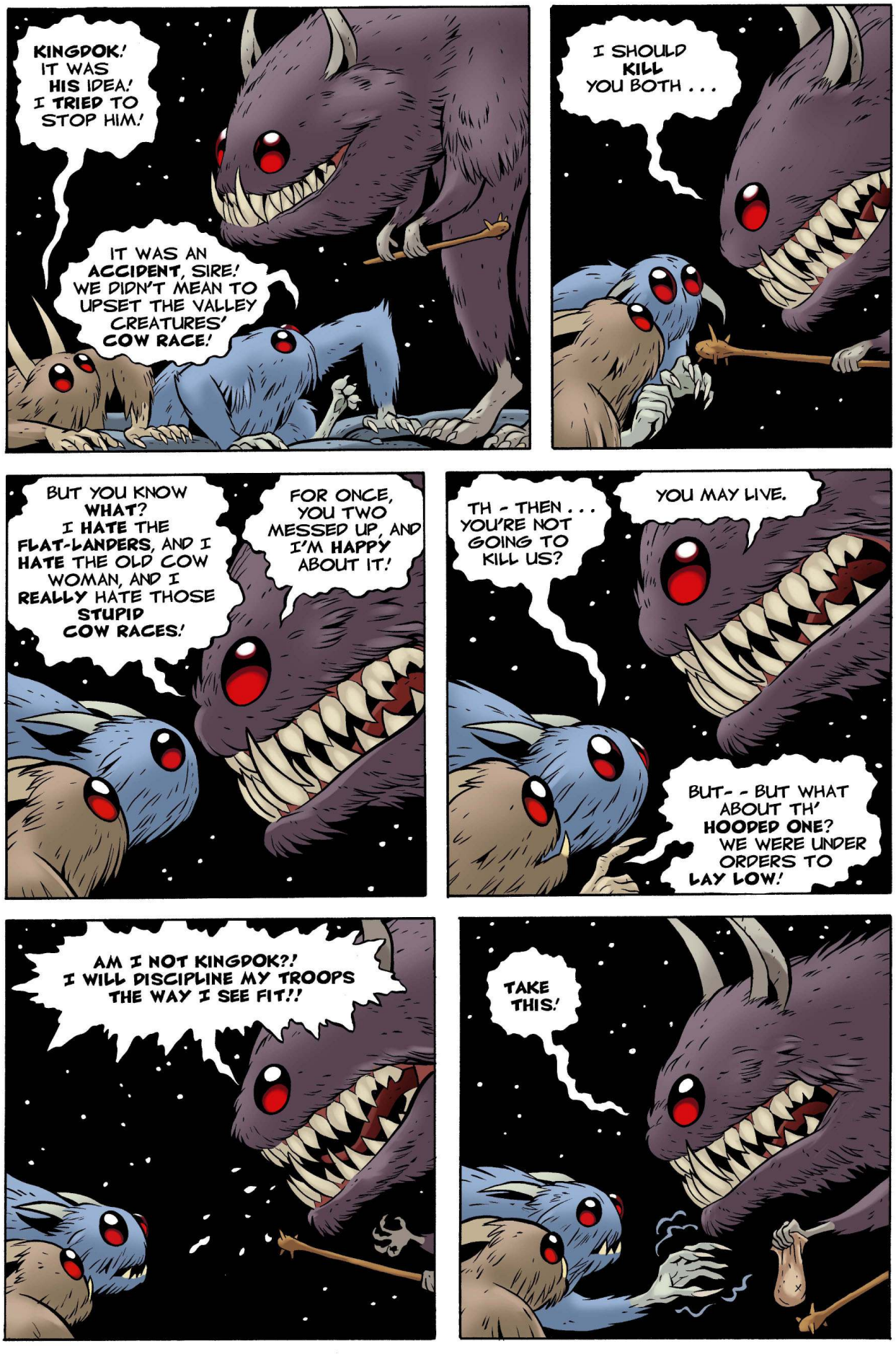



WELL?
ALL CLEAR.
ARE YOU SURE? I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING MOVING UP THERE!
WOULD YOU RELAX? NOBODY IS GOING TO FIND US! QUIT BEIN' SO JUMPY!
WELL, YOU'D BE JUMPY, TOO, IF YOU'D BEEN HIDING IN A HOLE IN TH' GROUND FOR FOUR DAYS!
I HAVE BEEN HIDING IN A HOLE IN TH' GROUND FOR FOUR DAYS! NOW, GO TO SLEEP!
I CAN'T! I HAVE THIS FEELING THAT WE'RE BEING WATCHED!
PROMISE ME YOU'LL KEEP CHECKING!
I HAVEN'T STOPPED CHECKING IN FOUR DAYS!! WHY DON'T YOU CHECK FOR A WHILE?!
OKAY, I WILL!
BUT IF THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE, IT WAS YOU WHO STARTED THAT RIOT AT THE COW RACE!
YOU'RE A PAIN IN TH' BUTT, YOU KNOW THAT?


WASN'T ANYBODY **OUT** THERE, WAS THERE?
NO. BUT THERE **COULD'VE** BEEN.
KINGDOK WILL **NEVER** FIND US! WE'RE **SAFE** HERE! NOW **SHUT UP** AND GO TO SLEEP!


I CAN'T SLEEP! MY NERVES ARE SHOT! AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!
YOUR NERVES ARE SHOT BECAUSE YOU'RE A PAIN IN TH' BUTT!
DON'T YOU TAKE THAT TONE OF VOICE WITH ME!
PAIN IN TH' BUTT! PAIN IN TH' BUTT!
Shh!
I HEARD SOMETHING! GO UP AN' LOOK!
AGAIN?! YOU JUST LOOKED!
PLEASE! PLEASE GO CHECK!
ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT.


THERE! SATISFIED?! THERE'S NO ONE OUT HERE!
NOW, GO TO SLEEP, YOU BIG, FAT PAIN IN TH'
HAH.
YOUR MAJESTY! FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!
GET OUT HERE.

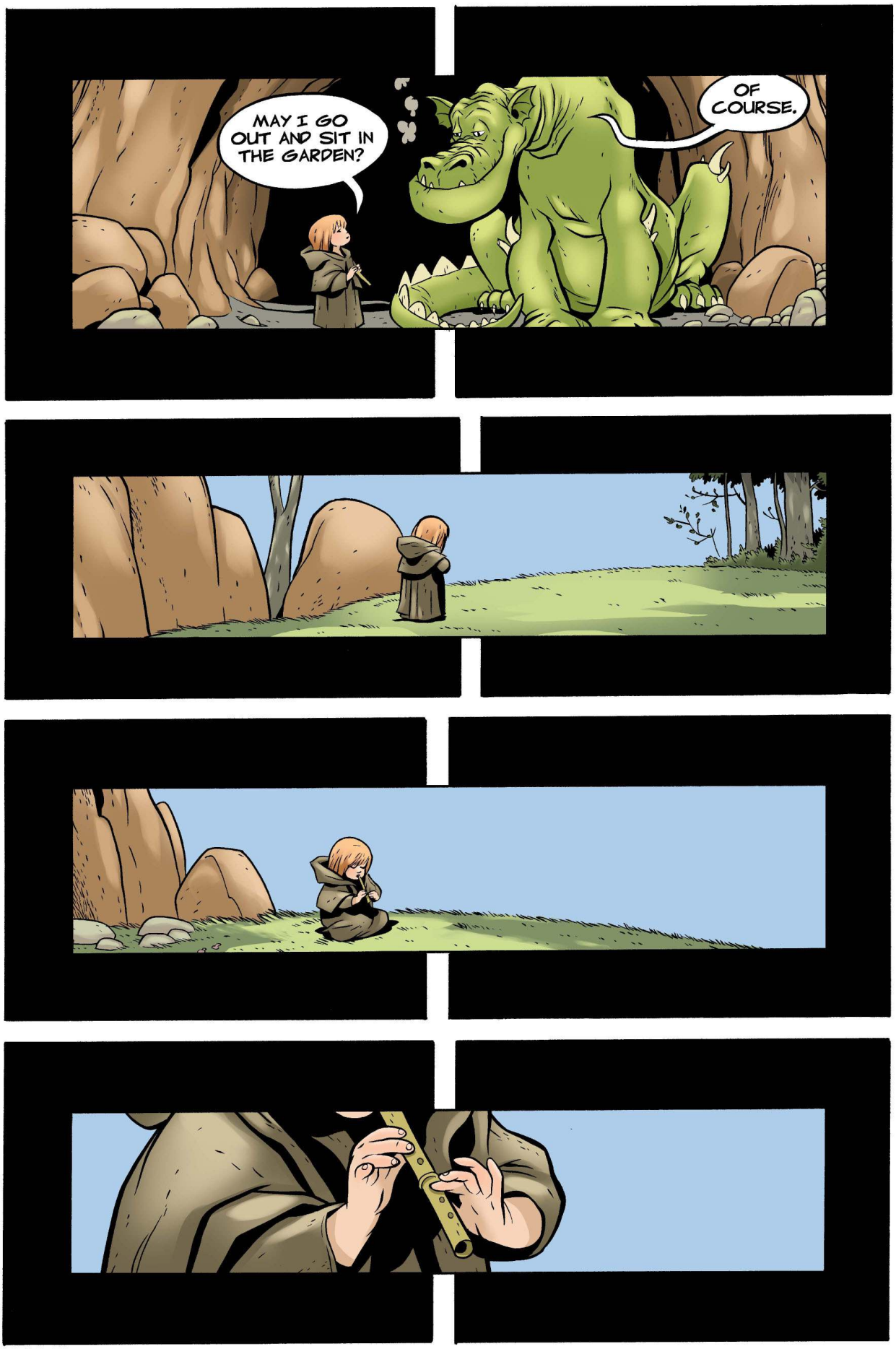

KINGDOK! IT WAS HIS IDEA! I TRIED TO STOP HIM!
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, SIRE! WE DIDN'T MEAN TO UPSET THE VALLEY CREATURES' COW RACE!
I SHOULD KILL YOU BOTH . . .
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? I HATE THE FLAT-LANDERS, AND I HATE THE OLD COW WOMAN, AND I REALLY HATE THOSE STUPID COW RACES!
FOR ONCE, YOU TWO MESSED UP, AND I'M HAPPY ABOUT IT!
TH - THEN . . . YOU'RE NOT GOING TO KILL US?
YOU MAY LIVE.
BUT- - BUT WHAT ABOUT TH' HOODED ONE? WE WERE UNDER ORDERS TO LAY LOW!
AM I NOT KINGDOK?! I WILL DISCIPLINE MY TROOPS THE WAY I SEE FIT!!
TAKE THIS!


IT'S A SACK FULL OF RABBITS!
THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY A GOOD, HOT MEAL TONIGHT! THEY'RE ALL SKINNED AN' EVERYTHING!
HEH, HEH, HEH.
GOOD JOB, BOYS! CARRY ON!






WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I AM LEARNING TO PLAY. THE RED DRAGON IS TEACHING ME.
HE IS A GOOD TEACHER.
AND YOU ARE PRACTICING. YOU ARE A GOOD PUPIL.

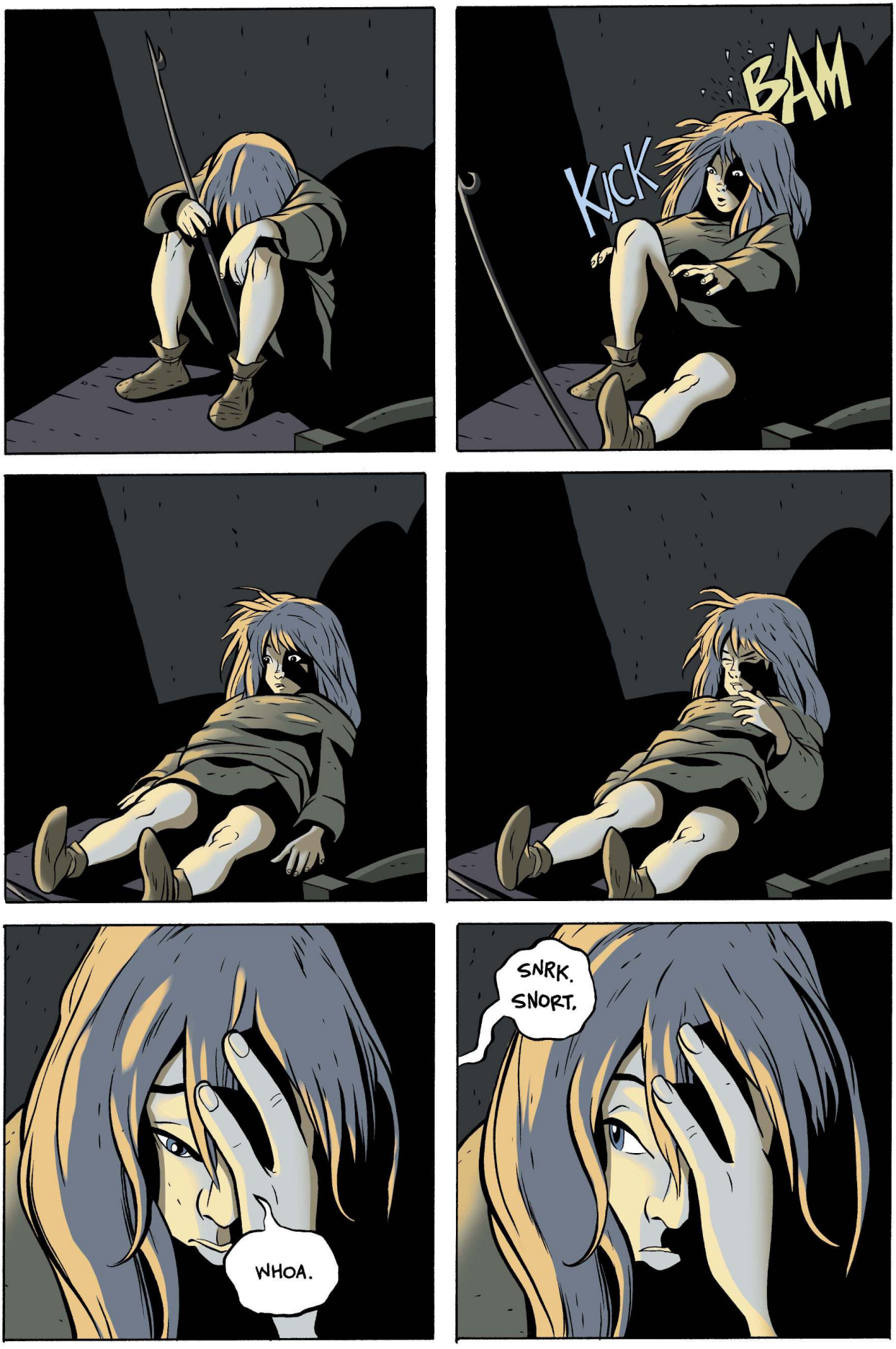

MAY I GO OUT AND SIT IN THE GARDEN?
OF COURSE.

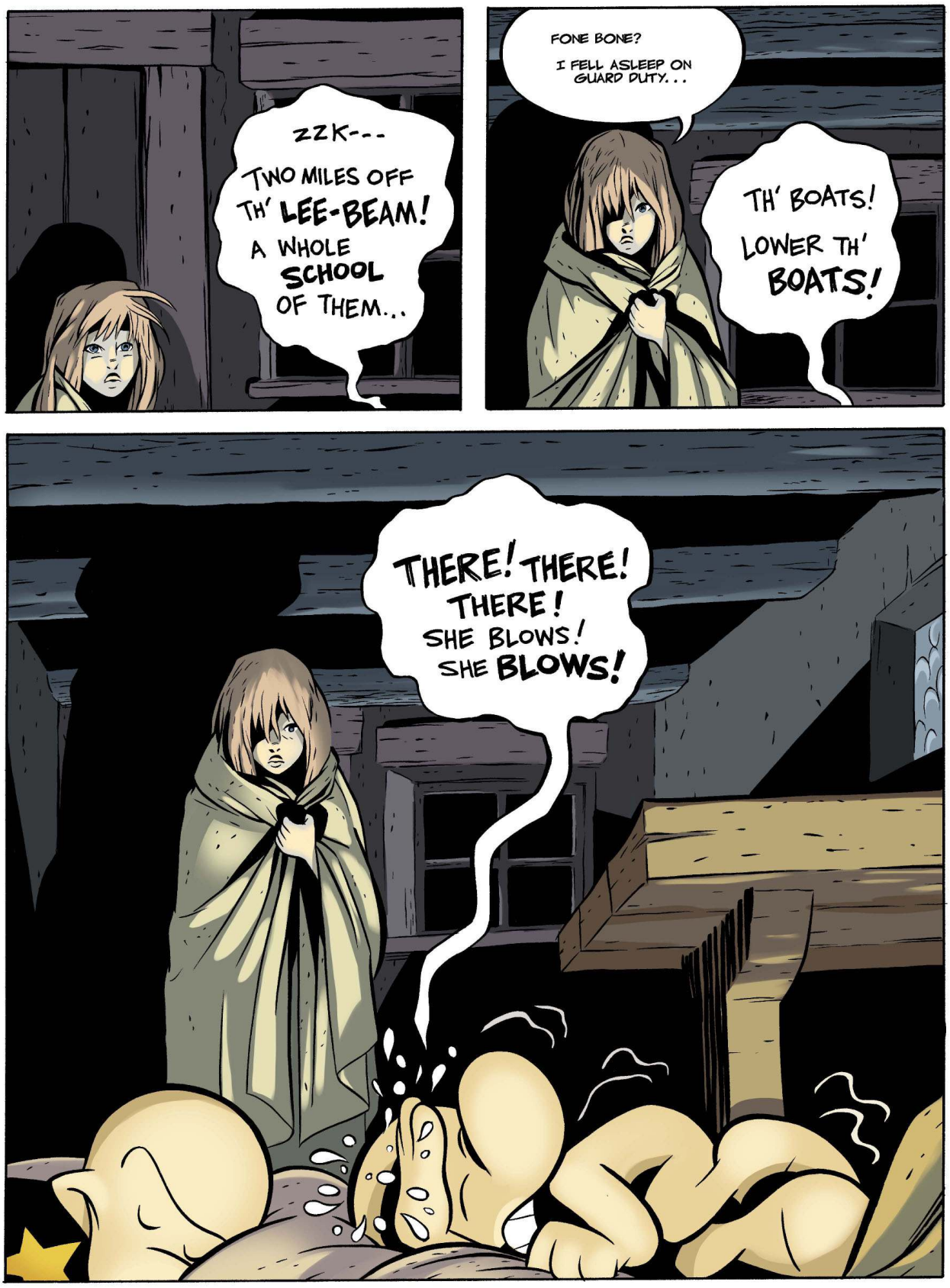


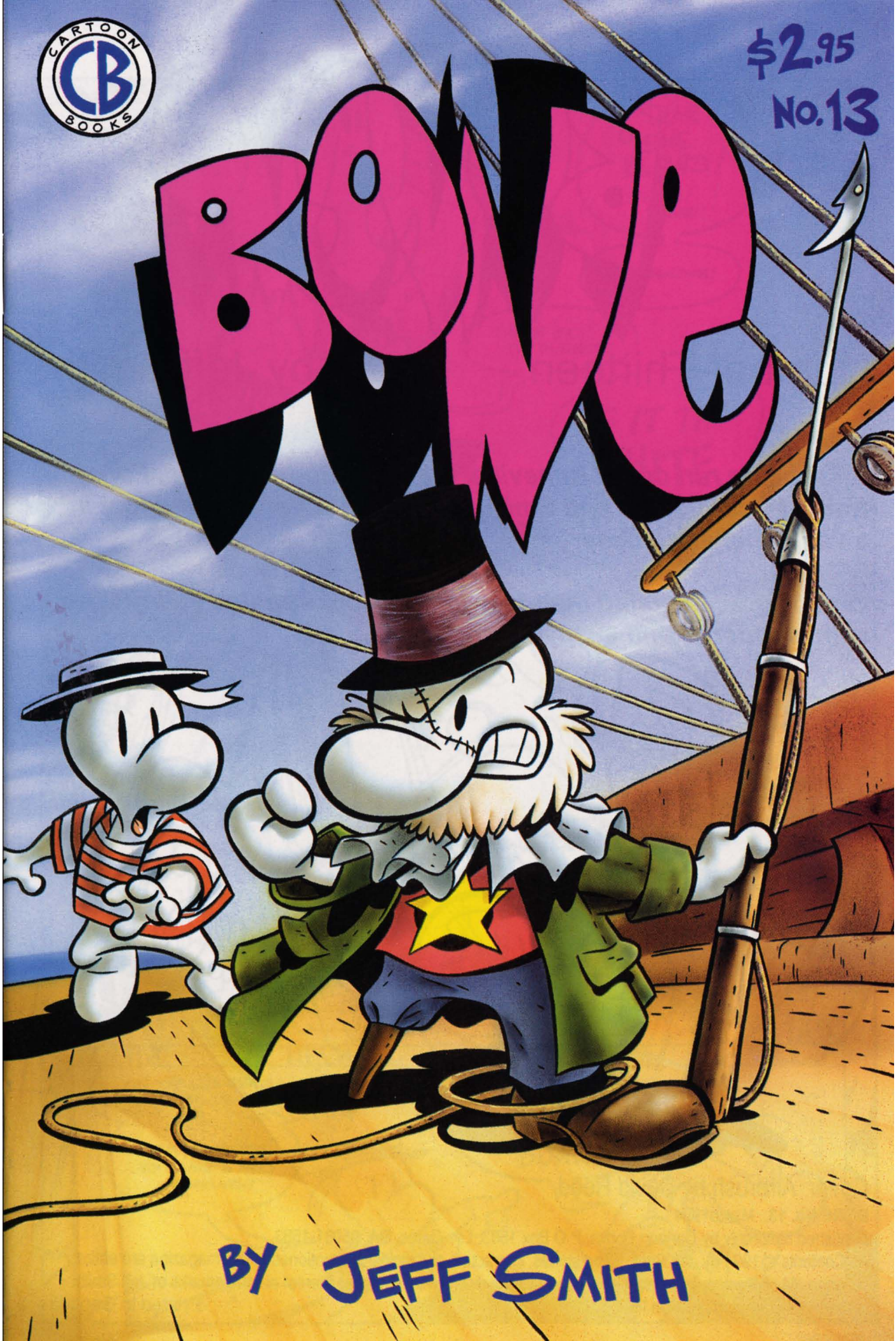
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

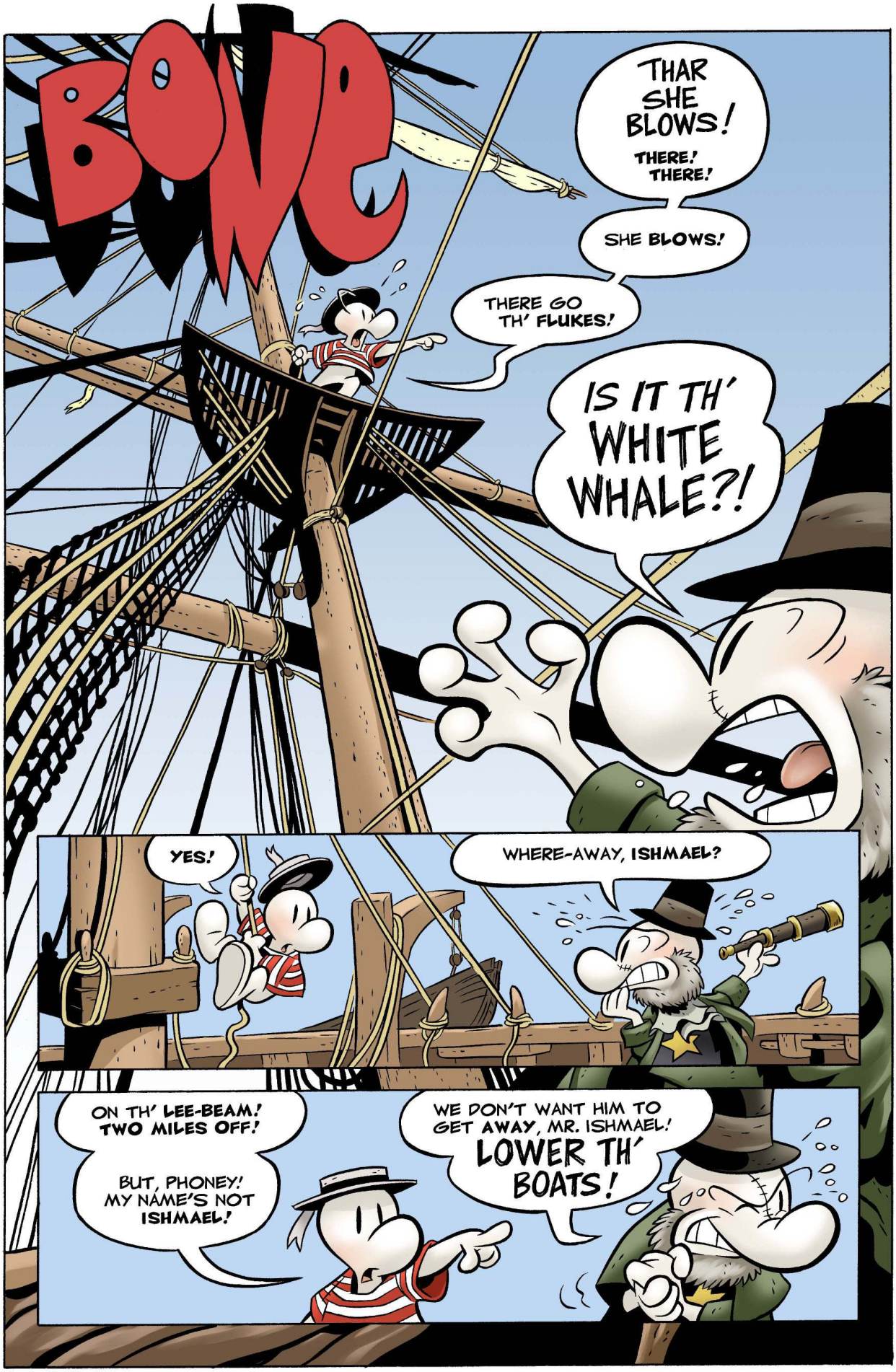


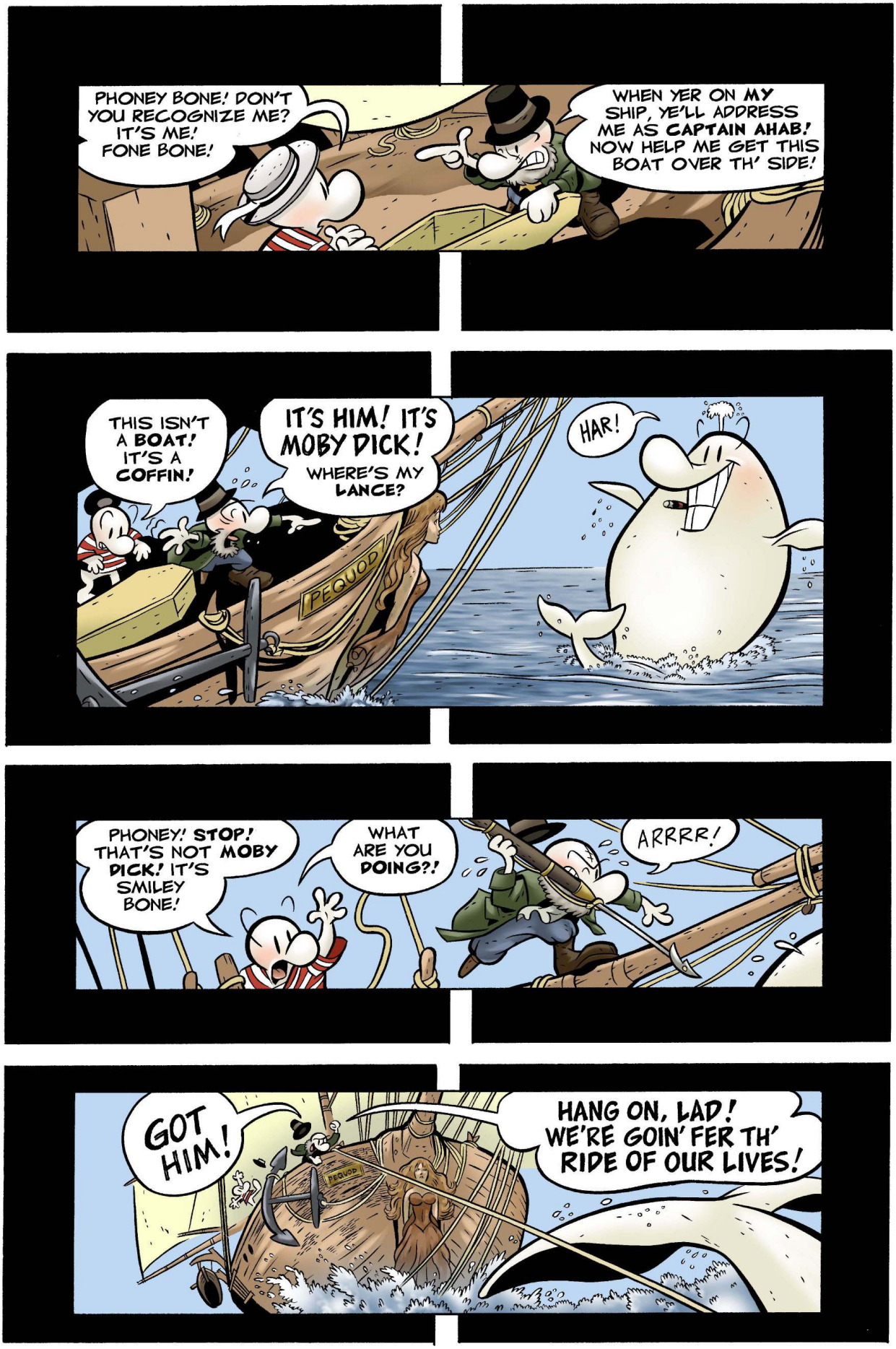
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

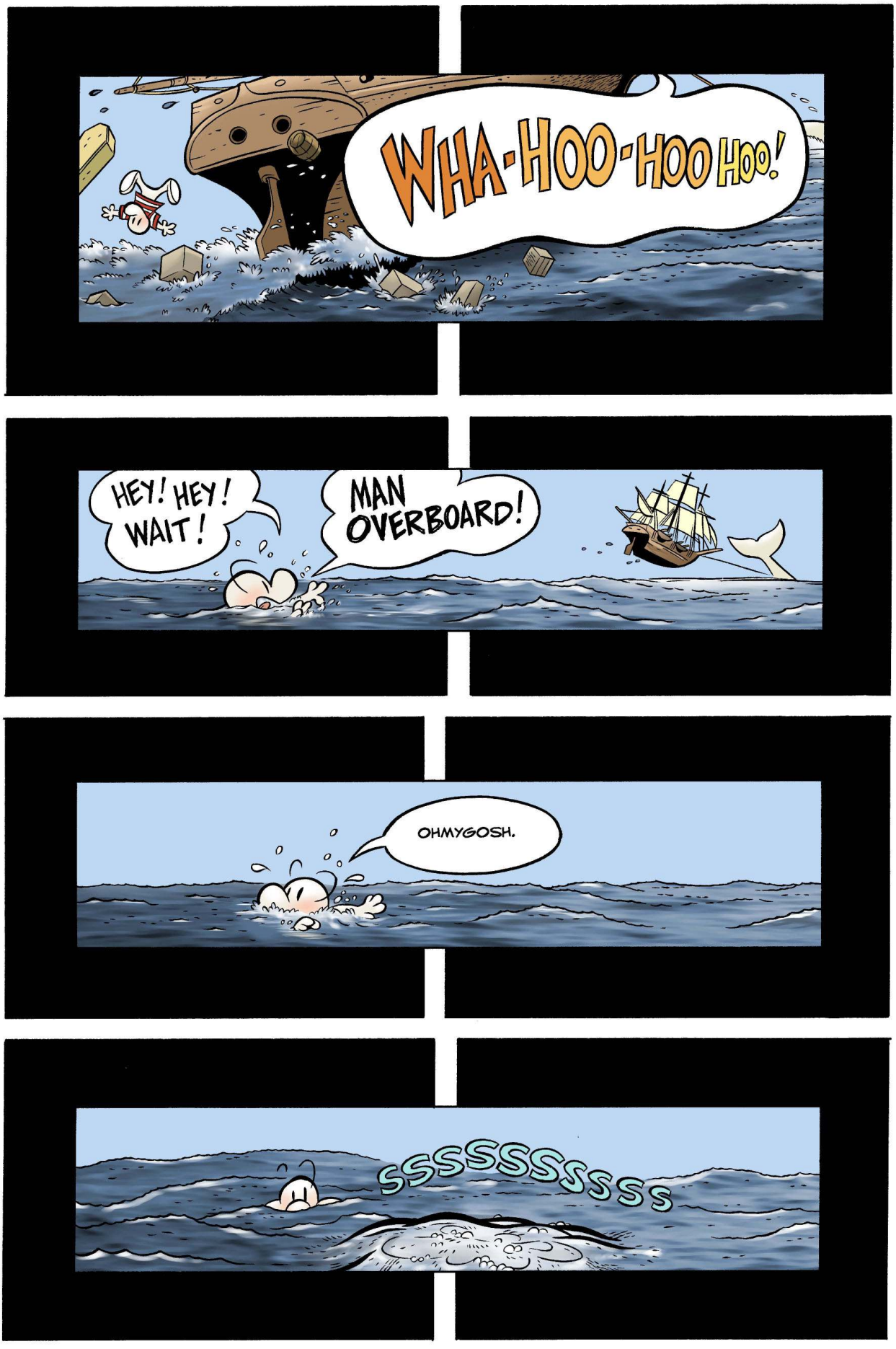

KICK
BAM
WHOA.
SNRK.
SNORT.

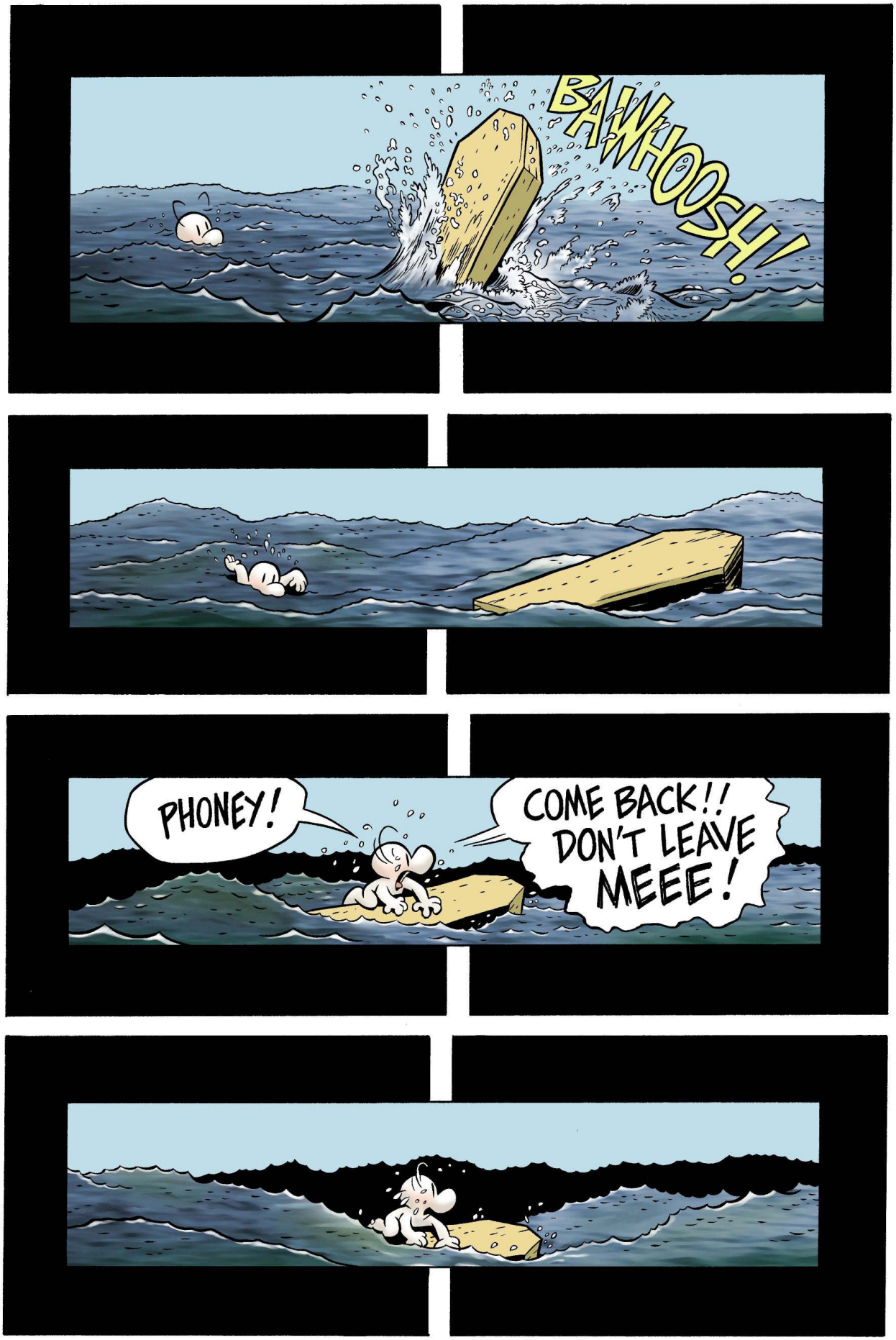

zzk---
TWO MILES OFF TH' LEE-BEAM! A WHOLE SCHOOL OF THEM...
FONE BONE?
I FELL ASLEEP ON GUARD DUTY...
TH' BOATS! LOWER TH' BOATS!
THERE! THERE! THERE! SHE BLOWS! SHE BLOWS!

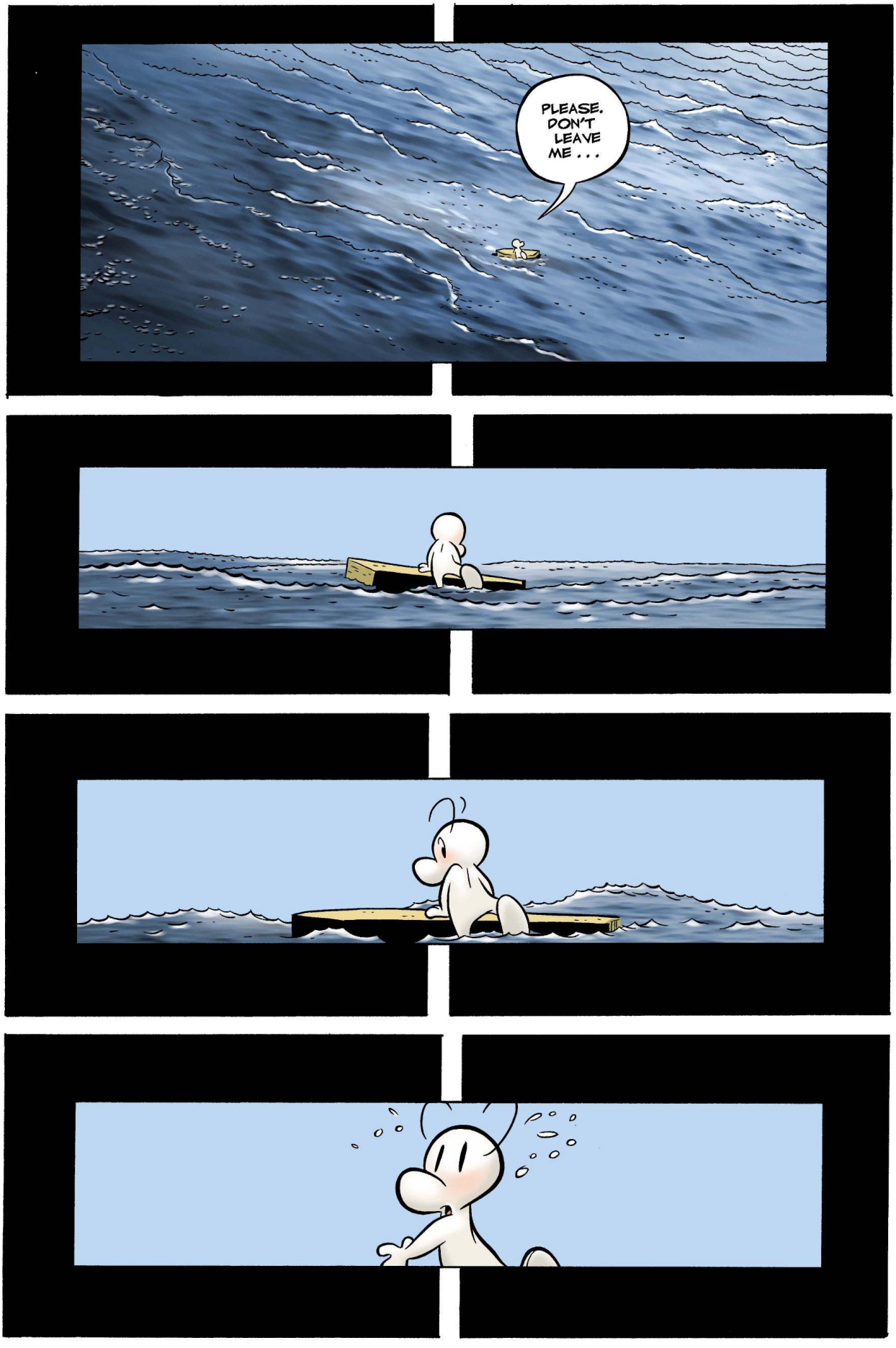

CARTOON BOOKS
$2.95
No. 13
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
THAR SHE BLOWS! THERE! THERE!
SHE BLOWS!
THERE GO TH' FLUKES!
IS IT TH' WHITE WHALE?!
YES!
WHERE-AWAY, ISHMAEL?
ON TH' LEE-BEAM! TWO MILES OFF!
BUT, PHONEY! MY NAME'S NOT ISHMAEL!
WE DON'T WANT HIM TO GET AWAY, MR. ISHMAEL! LOWER TH' BOATS!


PHONEY BONE! DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME? IT'S ME! FONE BONE!
WHEN YER ON MY SHIP, YE'LL ADDRESS ME AS CAPTAIN AHAB! NOW HELP ME GET THIS BOAT OVER TH' SIDE!
THIS ISN'T A BOAT! IT'S A COFFIN!
IT'S HIM! IT'S MOBY DICK! WHERE'S MY LANCE?
HAR!
PEQUOD
PHONEY! STOP! THAT'S NOT MOBY DICK! IT'S SMILEY BONE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
ARRRR!
GOT HIM!
HANG ON, LAD! WE'RE GOIN' FER TH' RIDE OF OUR LIVES!


WHA-HOO-HOO HOO!
HEY! HEY! WAIT!
MAN OVERBOARD!
OHMYGOSH.
SSSSSSSSSS

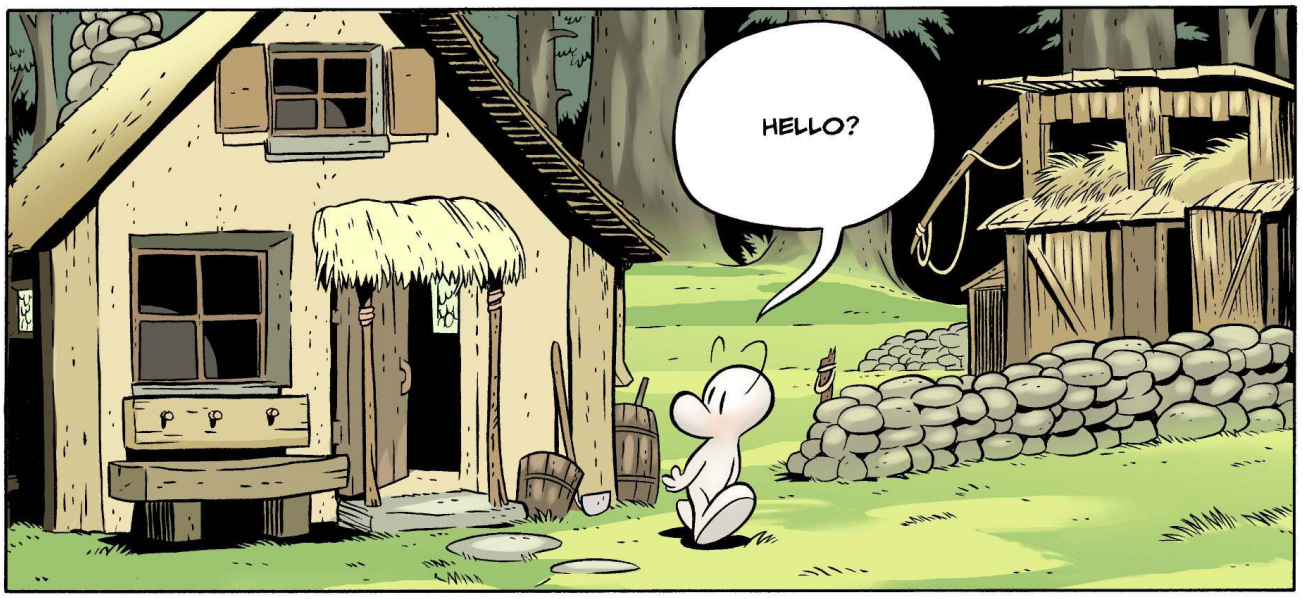

BAWHOOSH!
PHONEY!
COME BACK!! DON'T LEAVE MEEE!

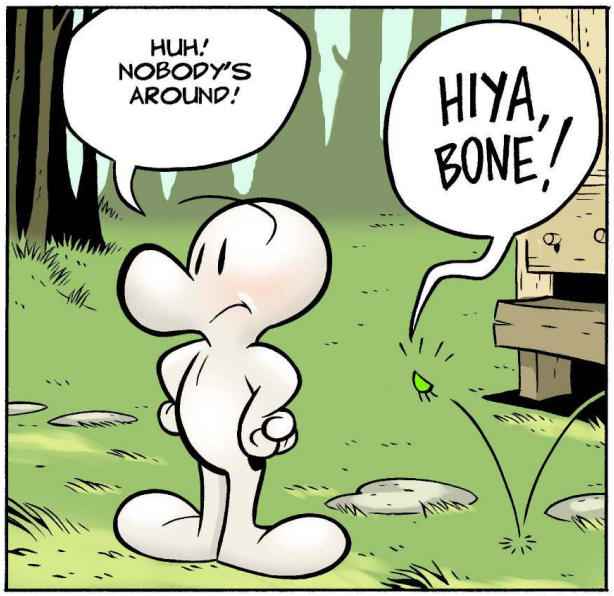

PLEASE. DON'T LEAVE ME . . .

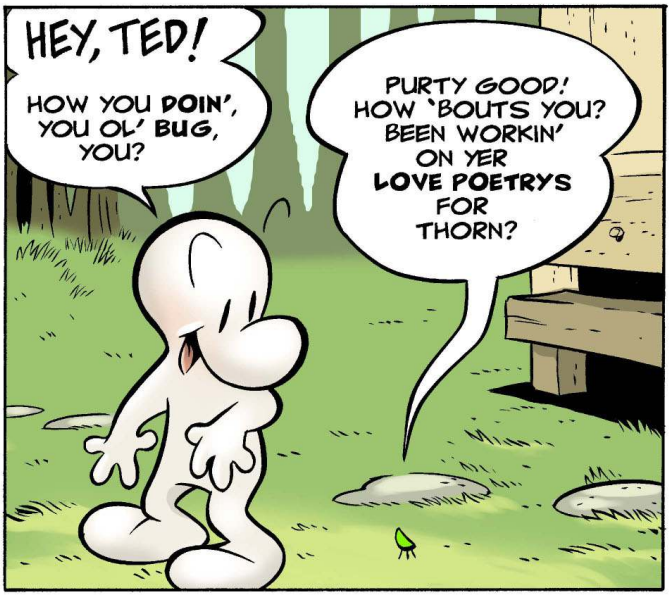


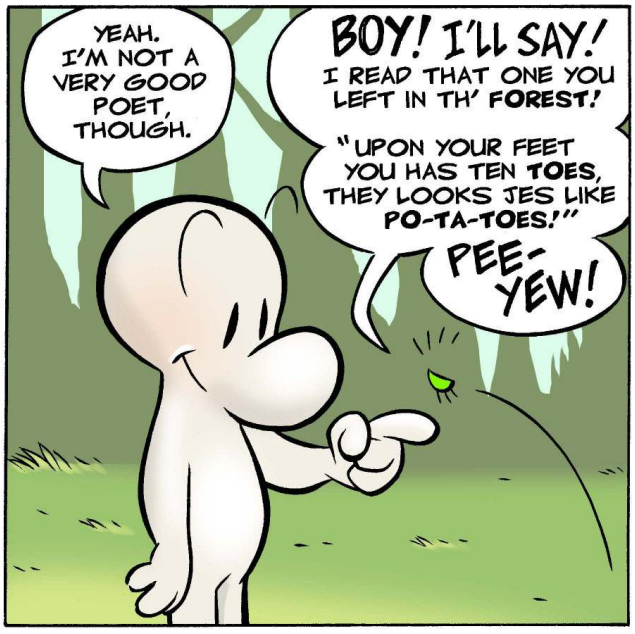
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

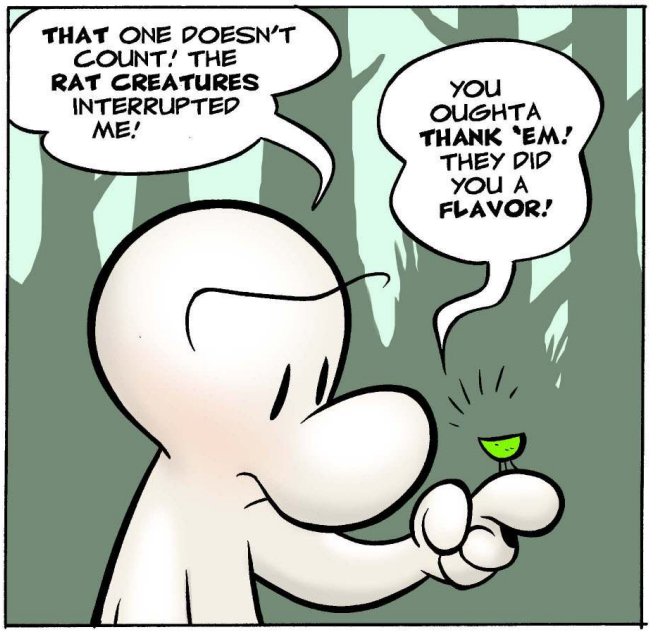

MMMMM. SNRK! SNRK!
UNH.
WHOA. WHERE AM I?
JEEZ! TH' SUN'S BEEN UP FOR HOURS!
UH, OH! I OVERSLEPT!
WONDER WHERE EVERYBODY IS? PHONEY?
HELLO? GRAN'MA? THORN?
HMMM. MUST BE OUT AN' ABOUT ALREADY!

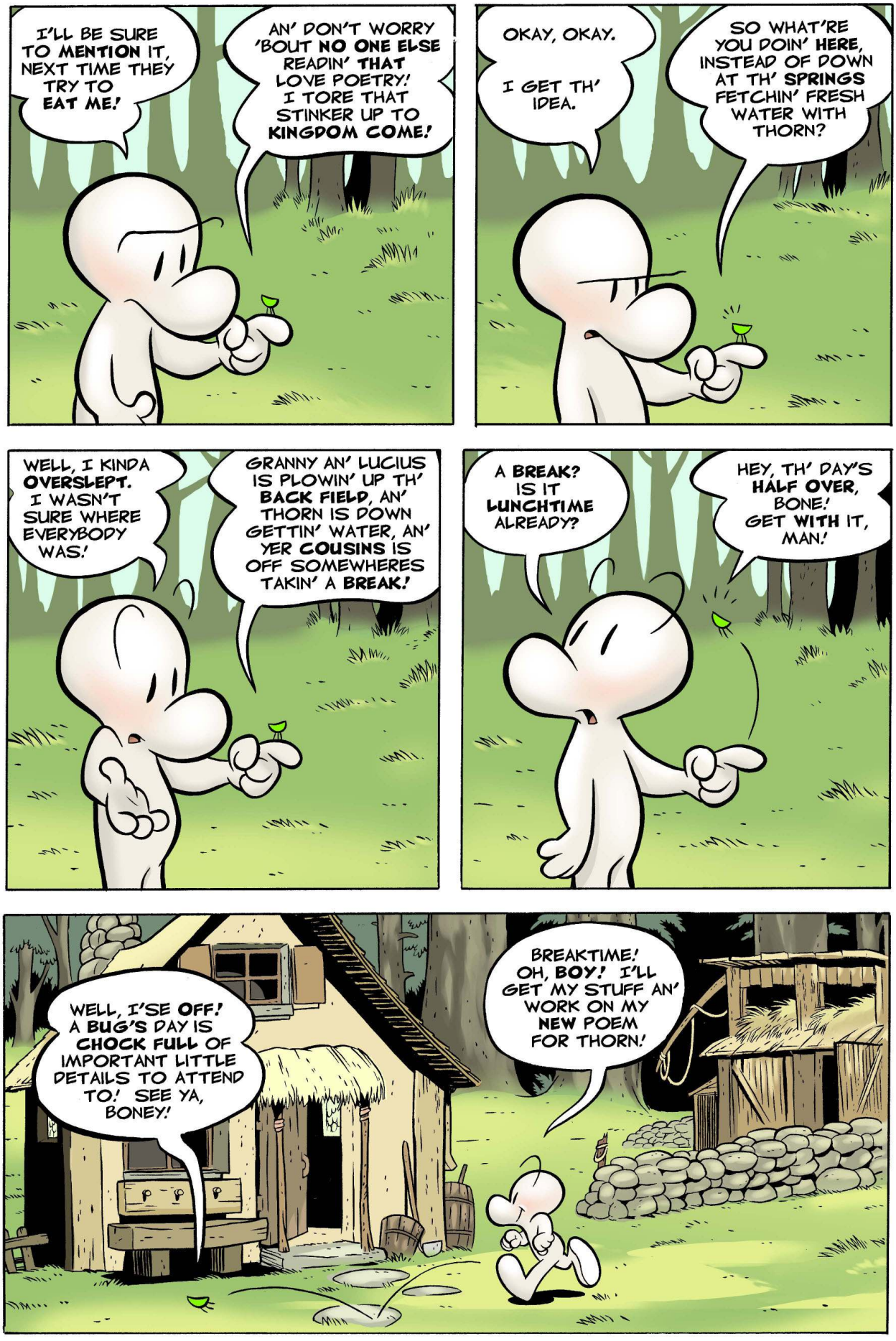

HELLO?

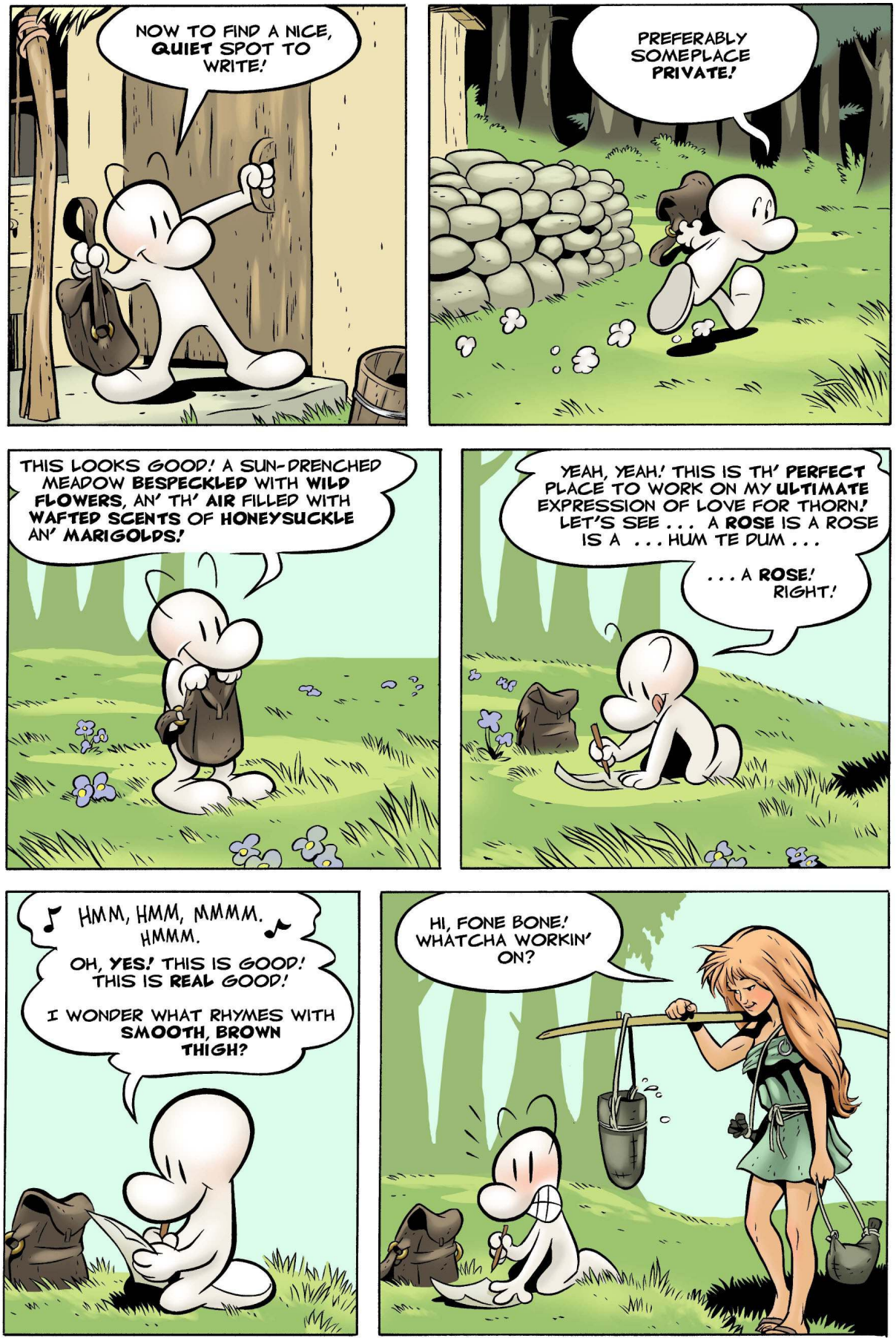

HUH! NOBODY'S AROUND!
HIYA, BONE!


HEY, TED!
HOW YOU DOIN', YOU OL' BUG, YOU?
PURTY GOOD! HOW 'BOUTS YOU? BEEN WORKIN' ON YER LOVE POETRYS FOR THORN?

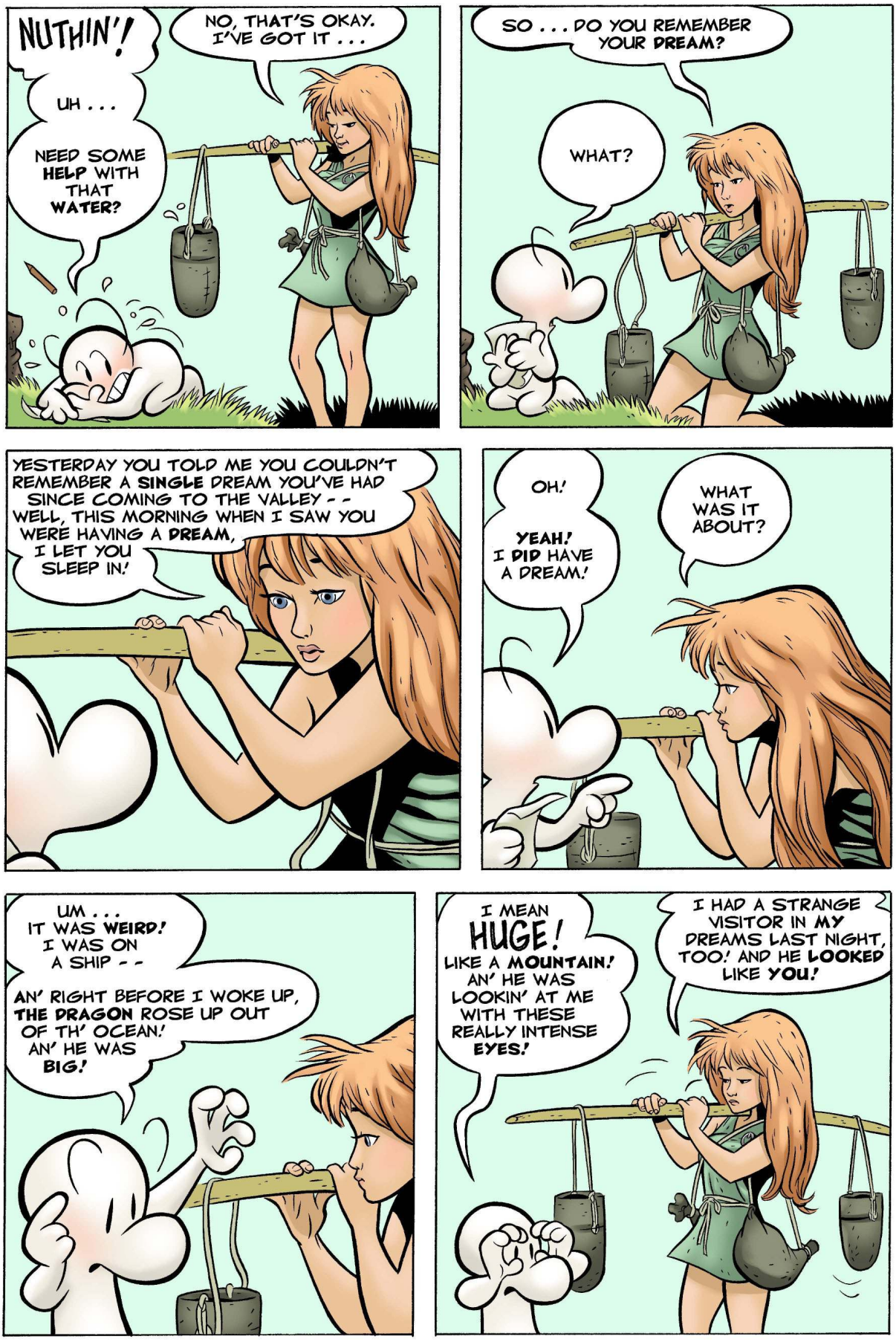

YEAH. I'M NOT A VERY GOOD POET, THOUGH.
BOY! I'LL SAY! I READ THAT ONE YOU LEFT IN TH' FOREST!
"UPON YOUR FEET YOU HAS TEN TOES, THEY LOOKS JES LIKE PO-TA-TOES!"
PEE-YEW!


THAT ONE DOESN'T COUNT! THE RAT CREATURES INTERRUPTED ME!
YOU OUGHTA THANK 'EM! THEY DID YOU A FLAVOR!

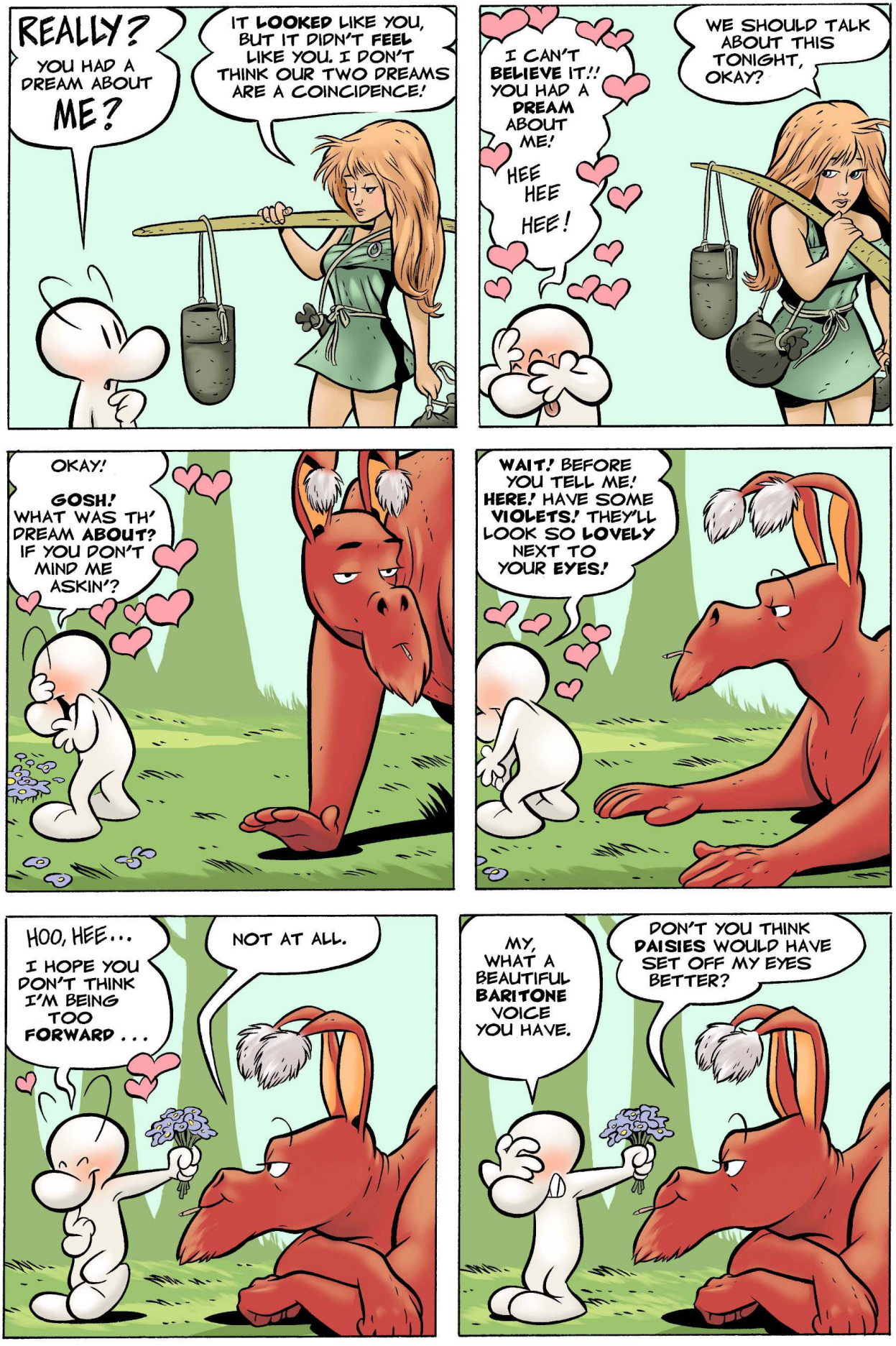

I'LL BE SURE TO MENTION IT, NEXT TIME THEY TRY TO EAT ME!
AN' DON'T WORRY 'BOUT NO ONE ELSE READIN' THAT LOVE POETRY! I TORE THAT STINKER UP TO KINGDOM COME!
OKAY, OKAY.
I GET TH' IDEA.
SO WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE, INSTEAD OF DOWN AT TH' SPRINGS FETCHIN' FRESH WATER WITH THORN?
WELL, I KINDA OVERSLEPT. I WASN'T SURE WHERE EVERYBODY WAS!
GRANNY AN' LUCIUS IS PLOWIN' UP TH' BACK FIELD, AN' THORN IS DOWN GETTIN' WATER, AN' YER COUSINS IS OFF SOMEWHERES TAKIN' A BREAK!
A BREAK? IS IT LUNCHTIME ALREADY?
HEY, TH' DAY'S HALF OVER, BONE! GET WITH IT, MAN!
WELL, I'SE OFF! A BUG'S DAY IS CHOCK FULL OF IMPORTANT LITTLE DETAILS TO ATTEND TO! SEE YA, BONEY!
BREAKTIME! OH, BOY! I'LL GET MY STUFF AN' WORK ON MY NEW POEM FOR THORN!

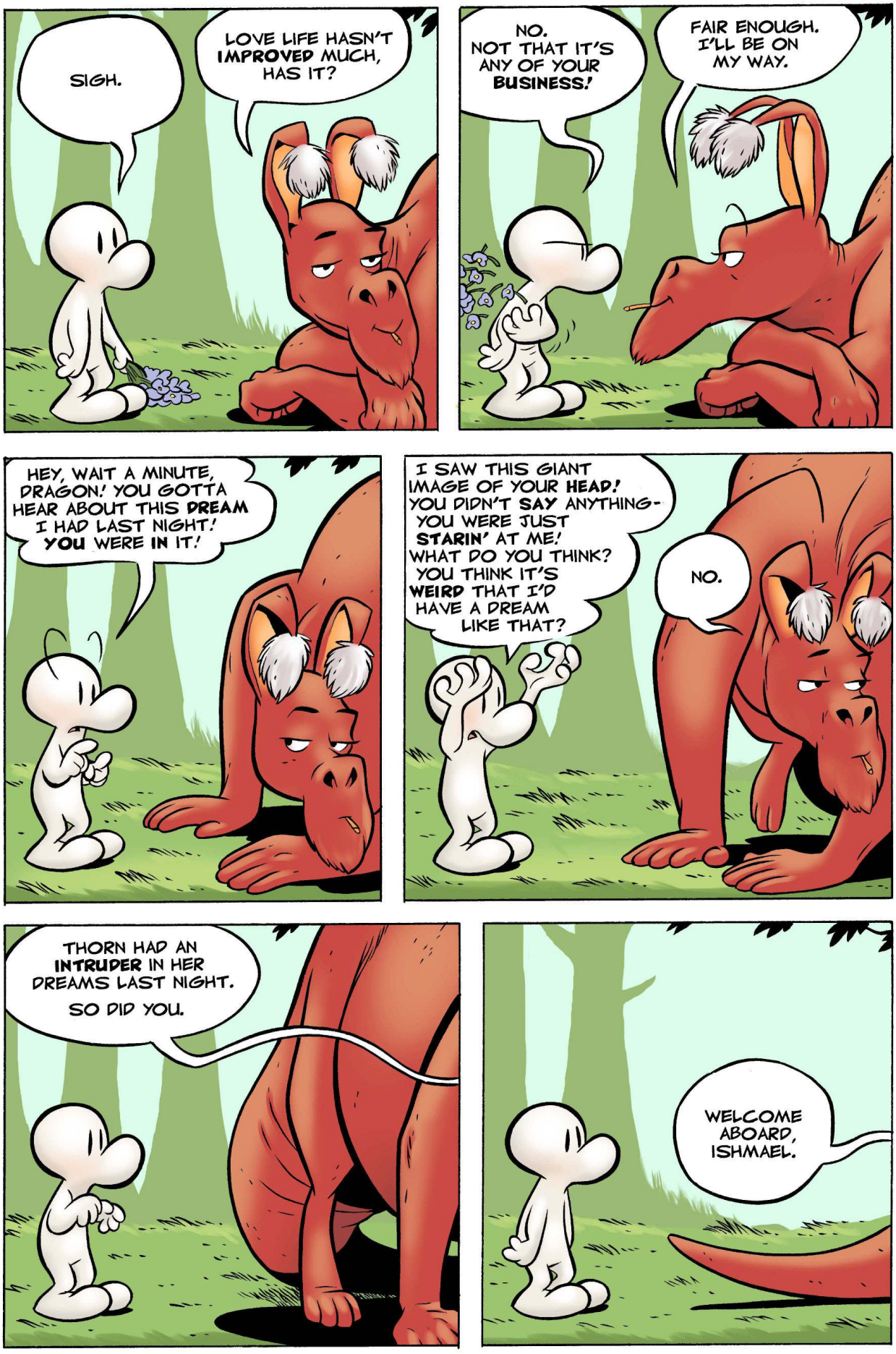


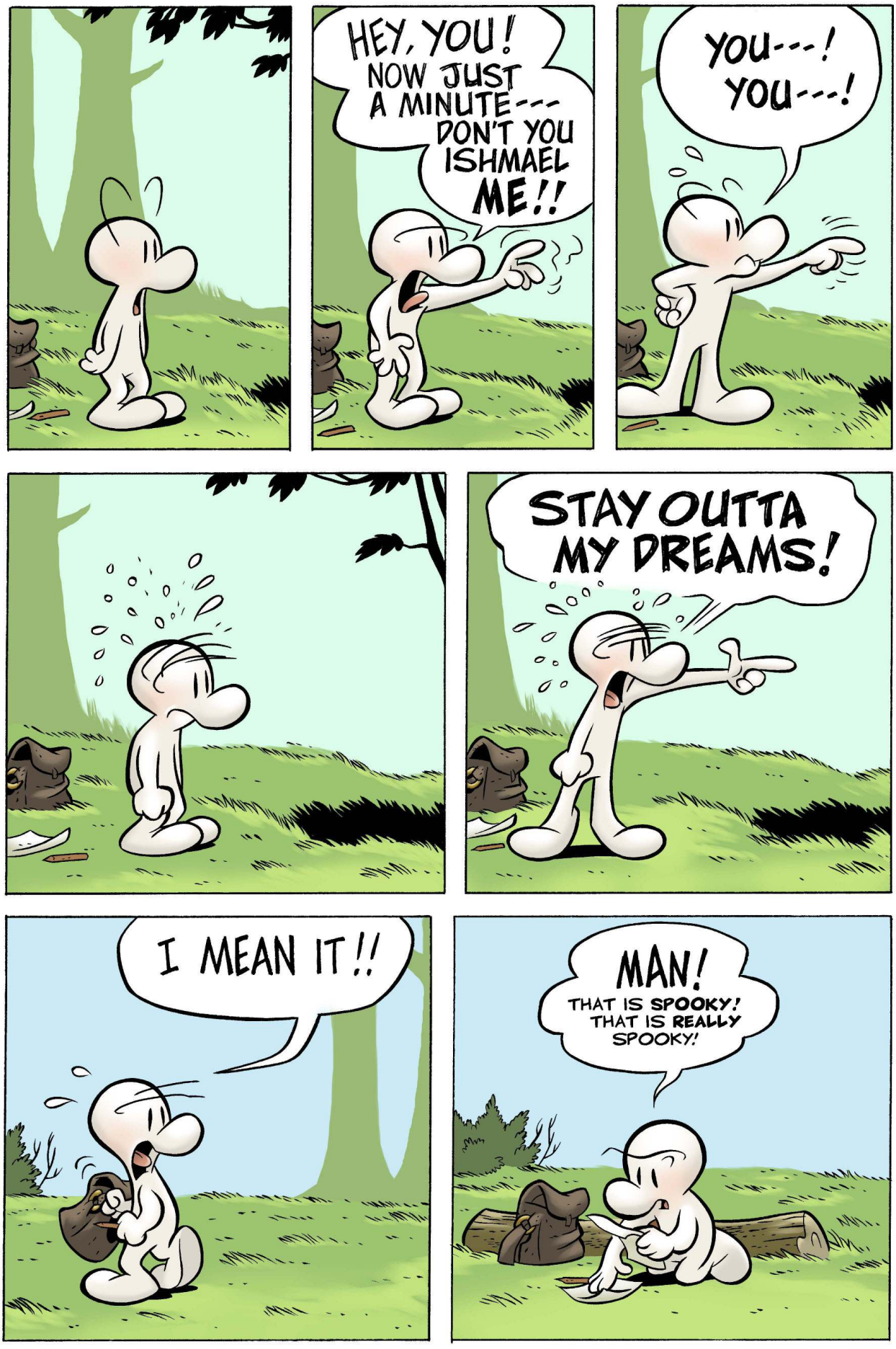
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

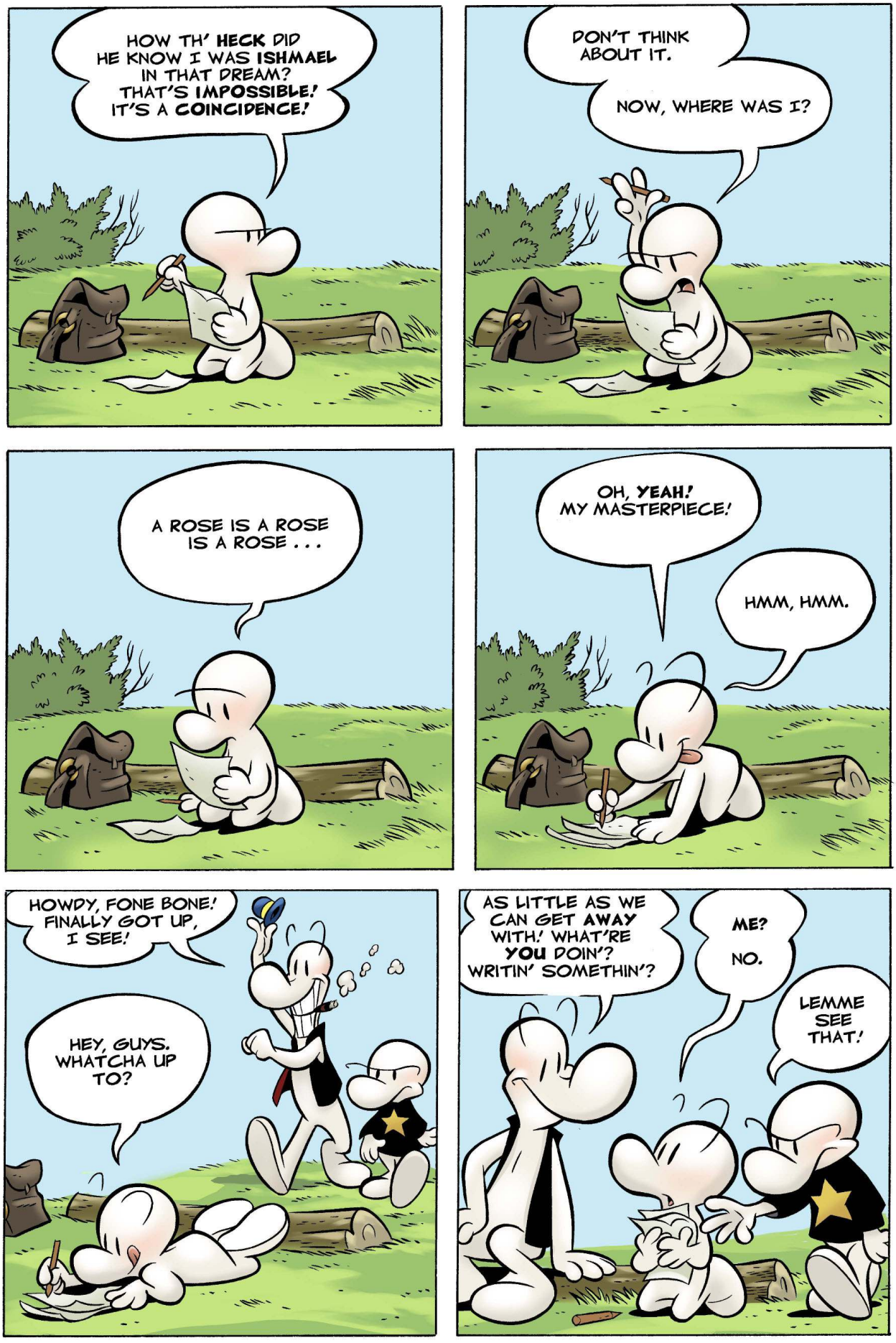


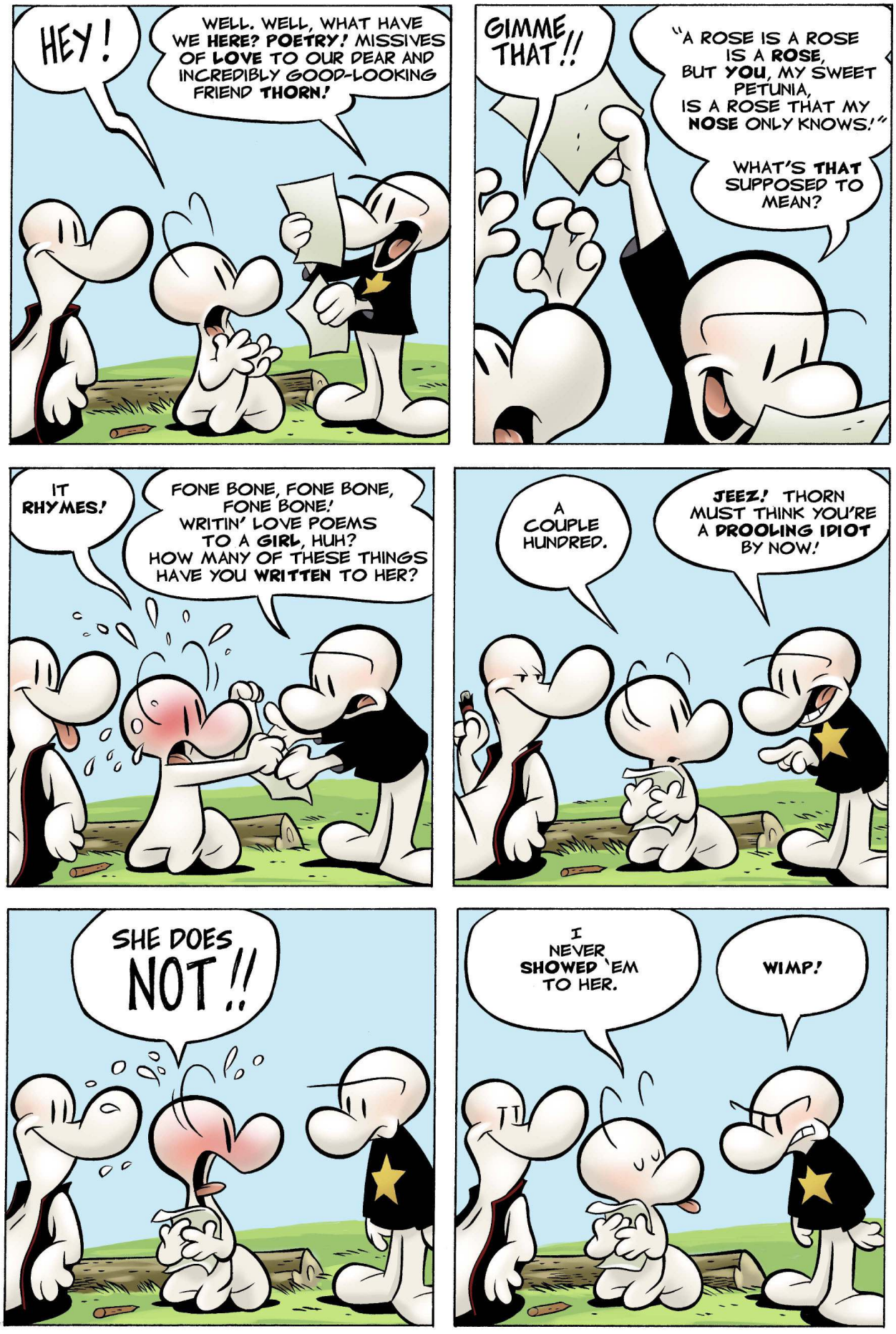
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

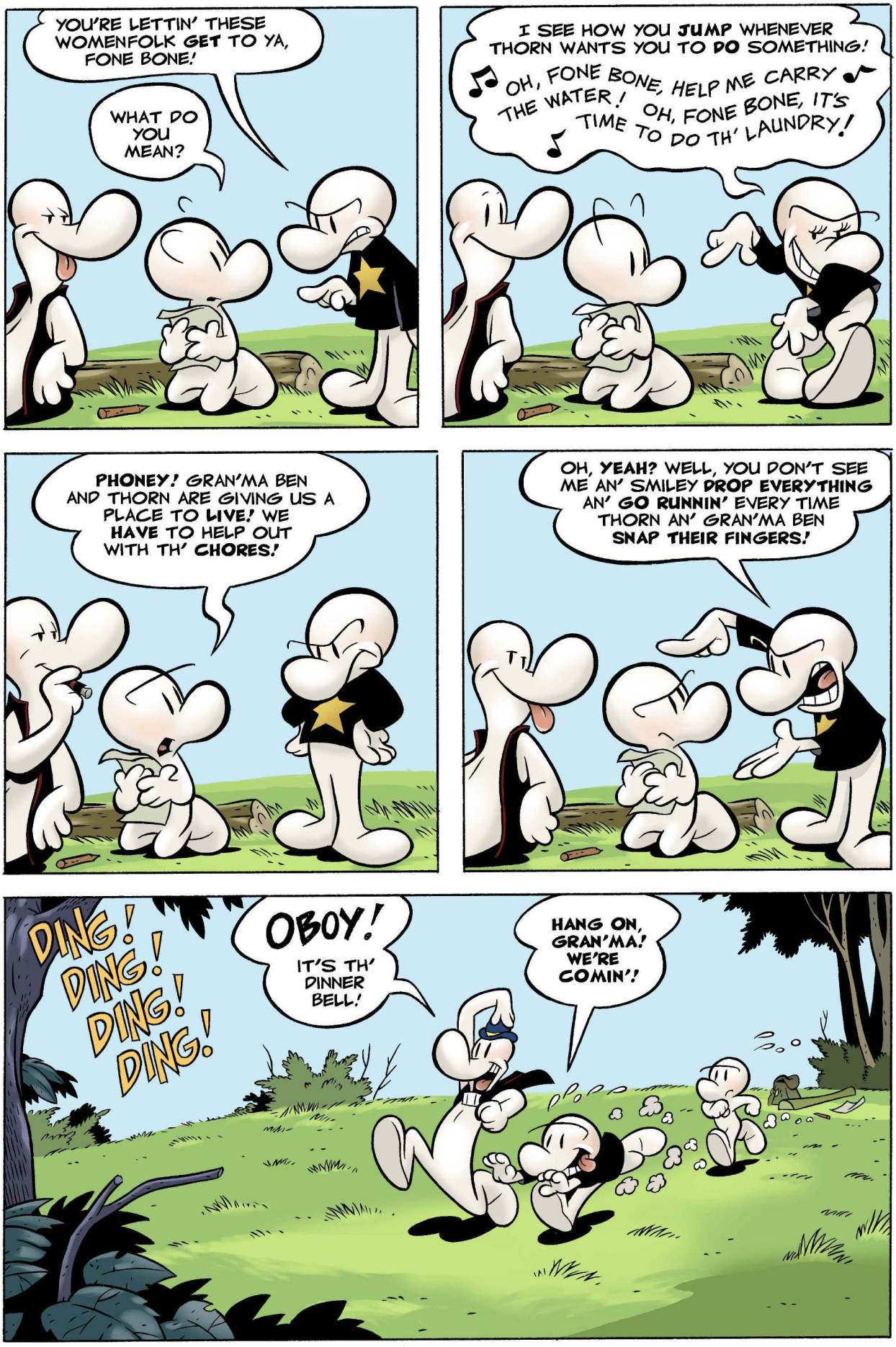

REALLY?
YOU HAD A DREAM ABOUT ME?
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU, BUT IT DIDN'T FEEL LIKE YOU. I DON'T THINK OUR TWO DREAMS ARE A COINCIDENCE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! YOU HAD A DREAM ABOUT ME! HEE HEE HEE!
WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT THIS TONIGHT, OKAY?
OKAY! GOSH! WHAT WAS TH' DREAM ABOUT? IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKIN'?
WAIT! BEFORE YOU TELL ME! HERE! HAVE SOME VIOLETS! THEY'LL LOOK SO LOVELY NEXT TO YOUR EYES!
HOO, HEE... I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK I'M BEING TOO FORWARD . . .
NOT AT ALL.
MY, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BARITONE VOICE YOU HAVE.
DON'T YOU THINK DAISIES WOULD HAVE SET OFF MY EYES BETTER?

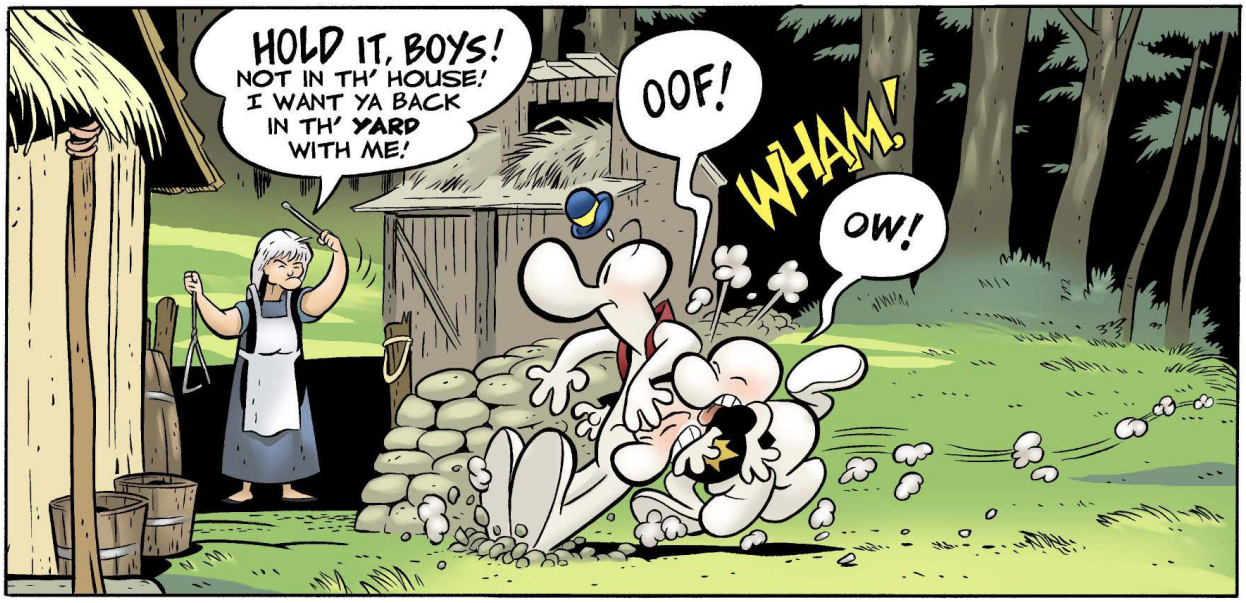

SIGH.
LOVE LIFE HASN'T IMPROVED MUCH, HAS IT?
NO. NOT THAT IT'S ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS!
FAIR ENOUGH. I'LL BE ON MY WAY.
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE, DRAGON! YOU GOTTA HEAR ABOUT THIS DREAM I HAD LAST NIGHT! YOU WERE IN IT!
I SAW THIS GIANT IMAGE OF YOUR HEAD! YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING- YOU WERE JUST STARIN' AT ME! WHAT DO YOU THINK? YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD THAT I'D HAVE A DREAM LIKE THAT?
NO.
THORN HAD AN INTRUDER IN HER DREAMS LAST NIGHT.
SO DID YOU.
WELCOME ABOARD, ISHMAEL.

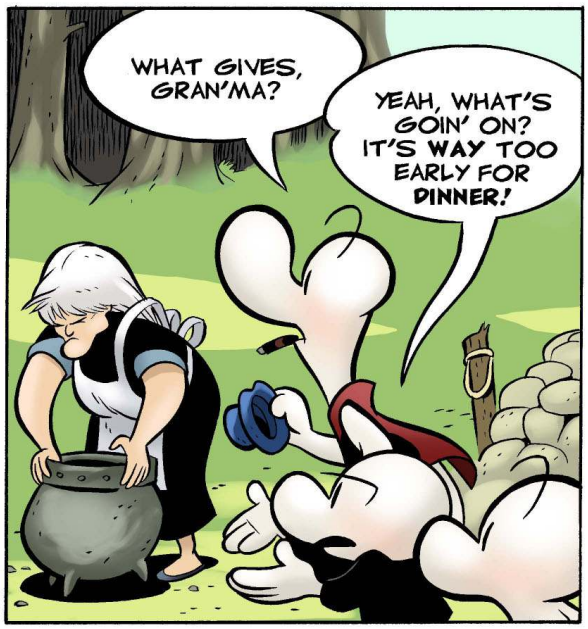

HEY, YOU! NOW JUST A MINUTE--- DON'T YOU ISHMAEL ME!!
YOU---! YOU---!
STAY OUTTA MY DREAMS!
I MEAN IT!!
MAN! THAT IS SPOOKY! THAT IS REALLY SPOOKY!

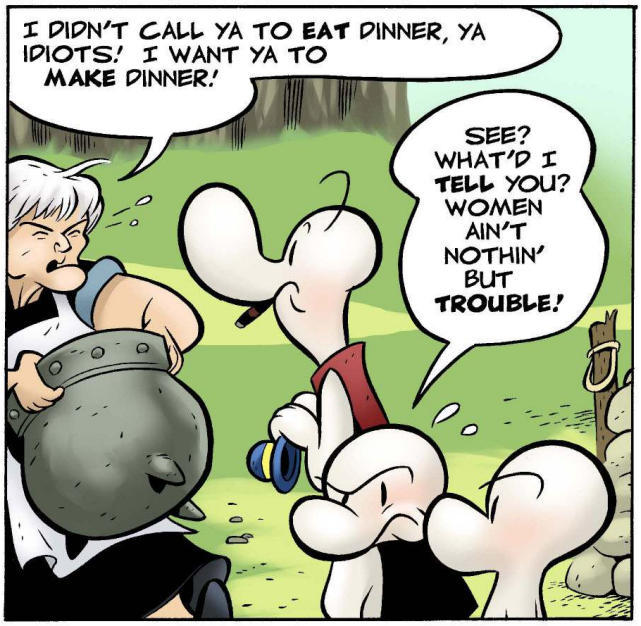

HOW TH' HECK DID HE KNOW I WAS ISHMAEL IN THAT DREAM? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! IT'S A COINCIDENCE!
DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.
NOW, WHERE WAS I?
A ROSE IS A ROSE IS A ROSE . . .
OH, YEAH! MY MASTERPIECE!
HMM, HMM.
HOWDY, FONE BONE! FINALLY GOT UP, I SEE!
HEY, GUYS. WHATCHA UP TO?
AS LITTLE AS WE CAN GET AWAY WITH! WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'? WRITIN' SOMETHIN'?
ME?
NO.
LEMME SEE THAT!

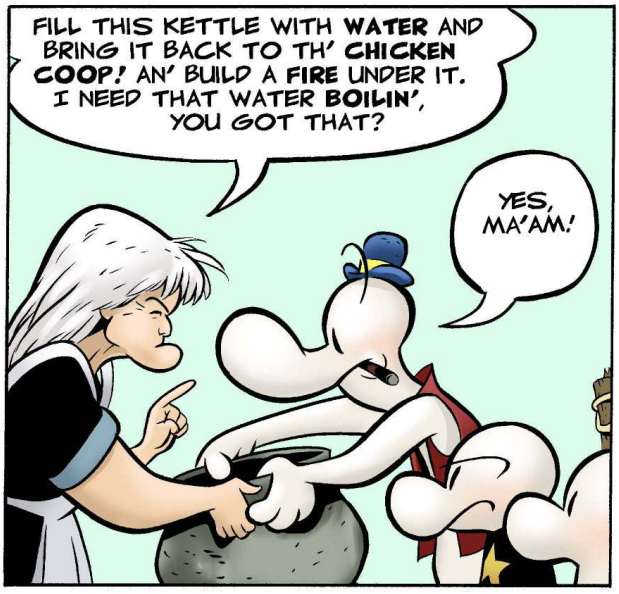

HEY!
WELL. WELL, WHAT HAVE WE HERE? POETRY! MISSIVES OF LOVE TO OUR DEAR AND INCREDIBLY GOOD-LOOKING FRIEND THORN!
GIMME THAT!!
"A ROSE IS A ROSE IS A ROSE, BUT YOU, MY SWEET PETUNIA, IS A ROSE THAT MY NOSE ONLY KNOWS!"
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
IT RHYMES!
FONE BONE, FONE BONE, FONE BONE! WRITIN' LOVE POEMS TO A GIRL, HUH? HOW MANY OF THESE THINGS HAVE YOU WRITTEN TO HER?
A COUPLE HUNDRED.
JEEZ! THORN MUST THINK YOU'RE A DROOLING IDIOT BY NOW!
SHE DOES NOT!!
I NEVER SHOWED 'EM TO HER.
WIMP!

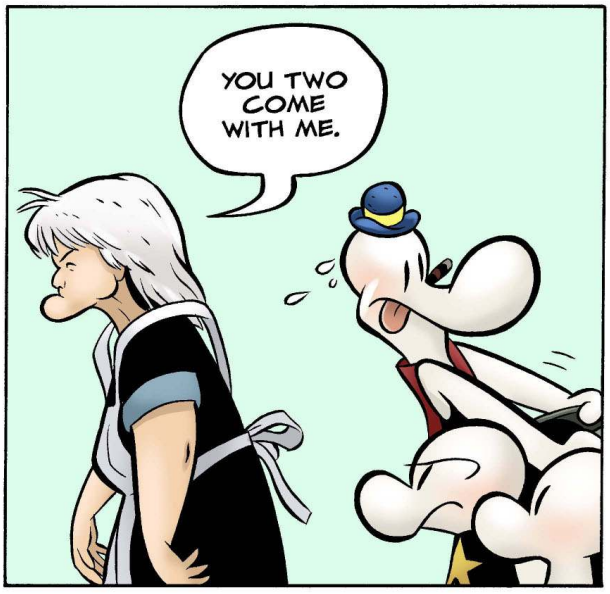

YOU'RE LETTIN' THESE WOMENFOLK GET TO YA, FONE BONE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I SEE HOW YOU JUMP WHENEVER THORN WANTS YOU TO DO SOMETHING!
OH, FONE BONE, HELP ME CARRY THE WATER! OH, FONE BONE, IT'S TIME TO DO TH' LAUNDRY!
PHONEY! GRAN'MA BEN AND THORN ARE GIVING US A PLACE TO LIVE! WE HAVE TO HELP OUT WITH TH' CHORES!
OH, YEAH? WELL, YOU DON'T SEE ME AN' SMILEY DROP EVERYTHING AN' GO RUNNIN' EVERY TIME THORN AN' GRAN'MA BEN SNAP THEIR FINGERS!
DING! DING! DING! DING!
OBOY! IT'S TH' DINNER BELL!
HANG ON, GRAN'MA! WE'RE COMIN'!

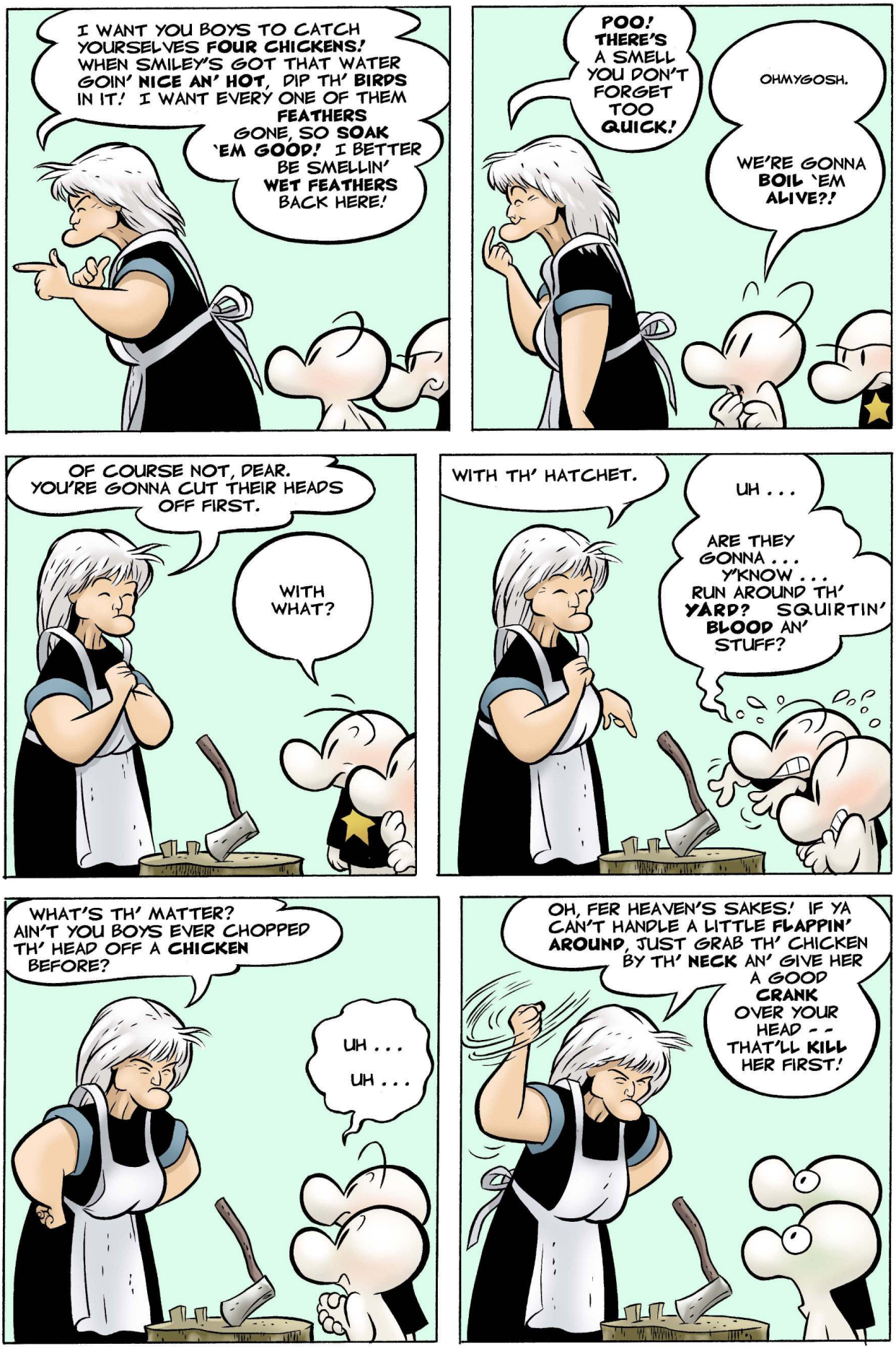

HOLD IT, BOYS! NOT IN TH' HOUSE! I WANT YA BACK IN TH' YARD WITH ME!
OOF!
WHAM!
OW!


WHAT GIVES, GRAN'MA?
YEAH, WHAT'S GOIN' ON? IT'S WAY TOO EARLY FOR DINNER!

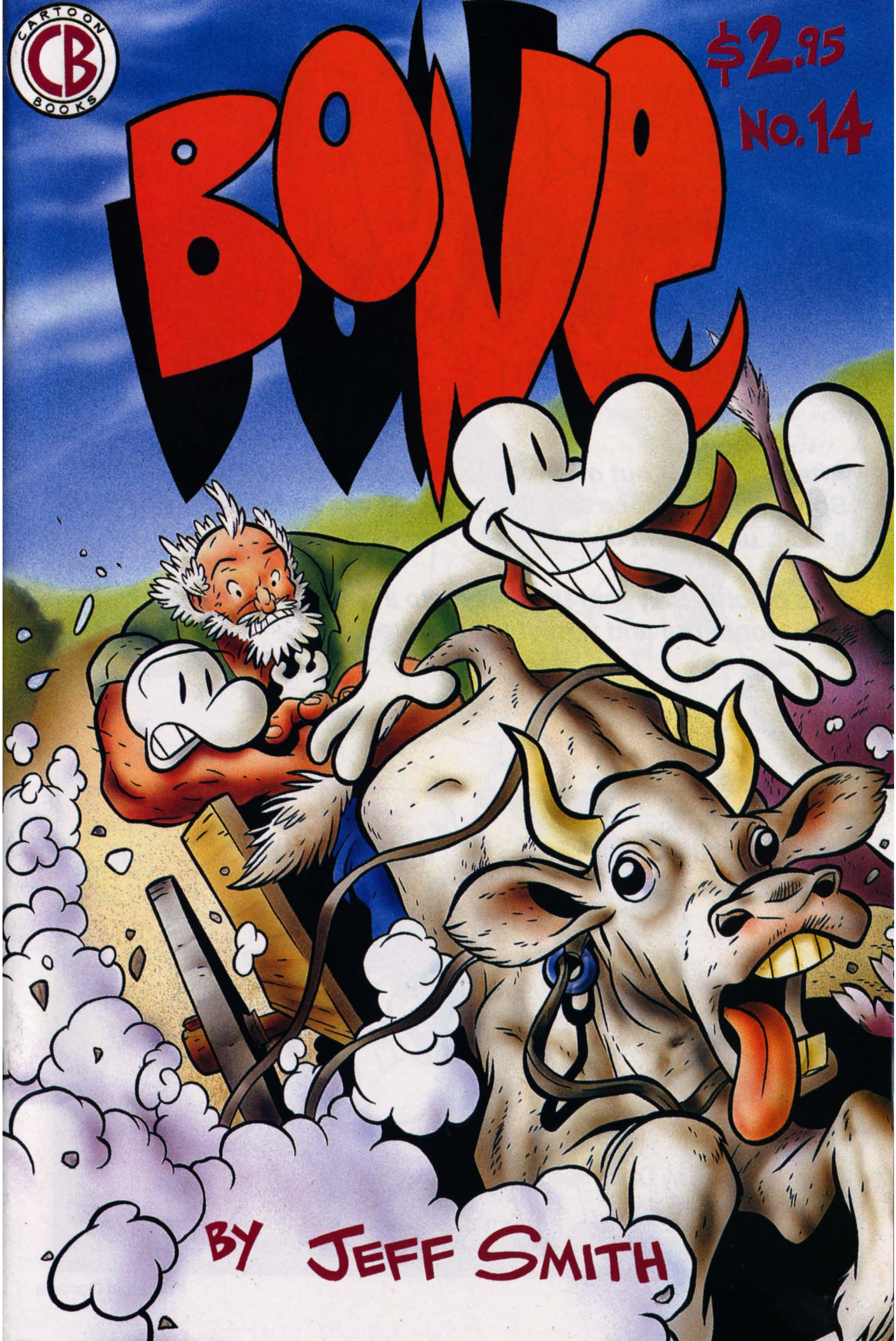

I DIDN'T CALL YA TO EAT DINNER, YA IDIOTS! I WANT YA TO MAKE DINNER!
SEE? WHAT'D I TELL YOU? WOMEN AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT TROUBLE!

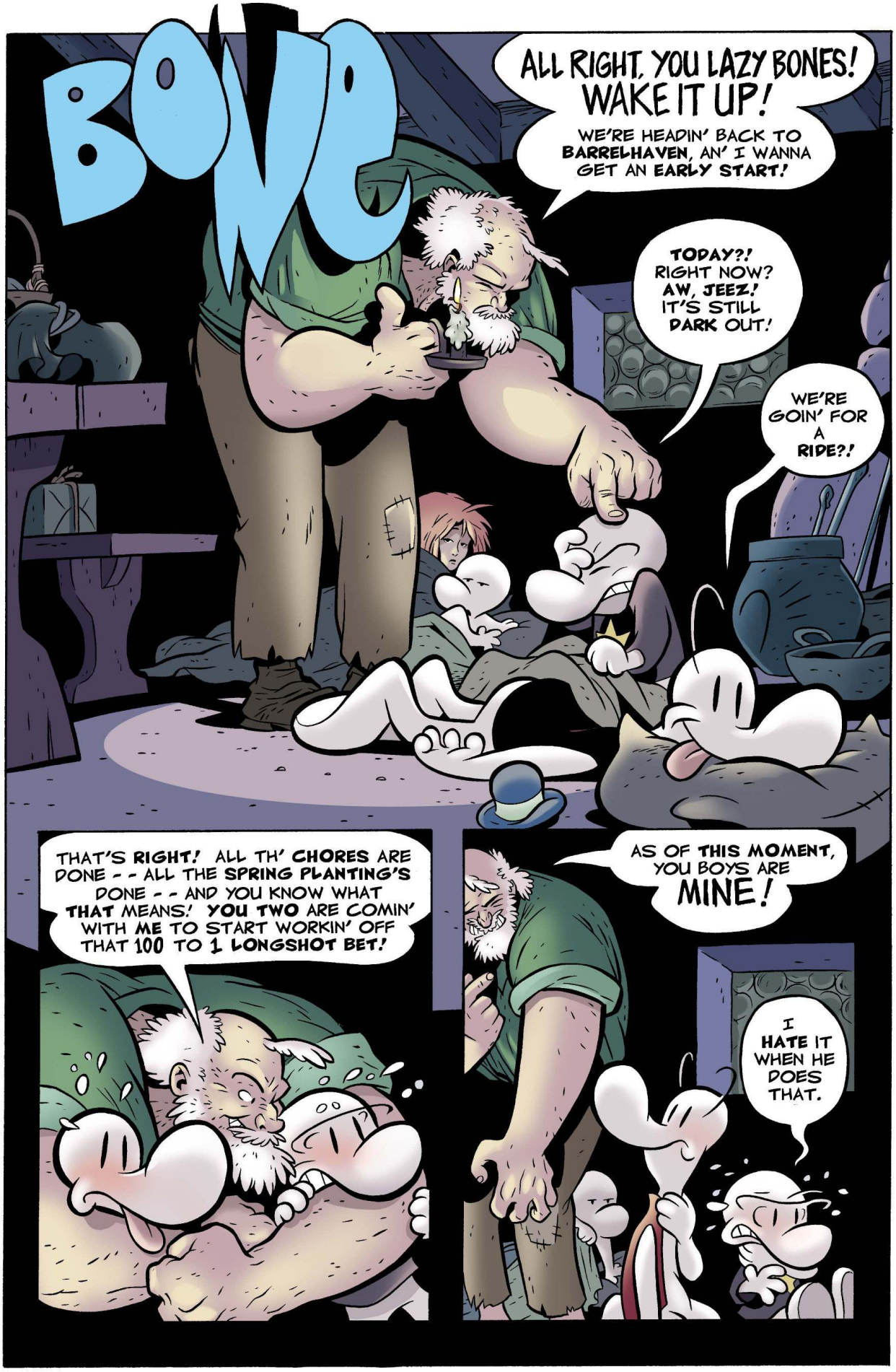

FILL THIS KETTLE WITH WATER AND BRING IT BACK TO TH' CHICKEN COOP! AN' BUILD A FIRE UNDER IT. I NEED THAT WATER BOILIN', YOU GOT THAT?
YES, MA'AM!

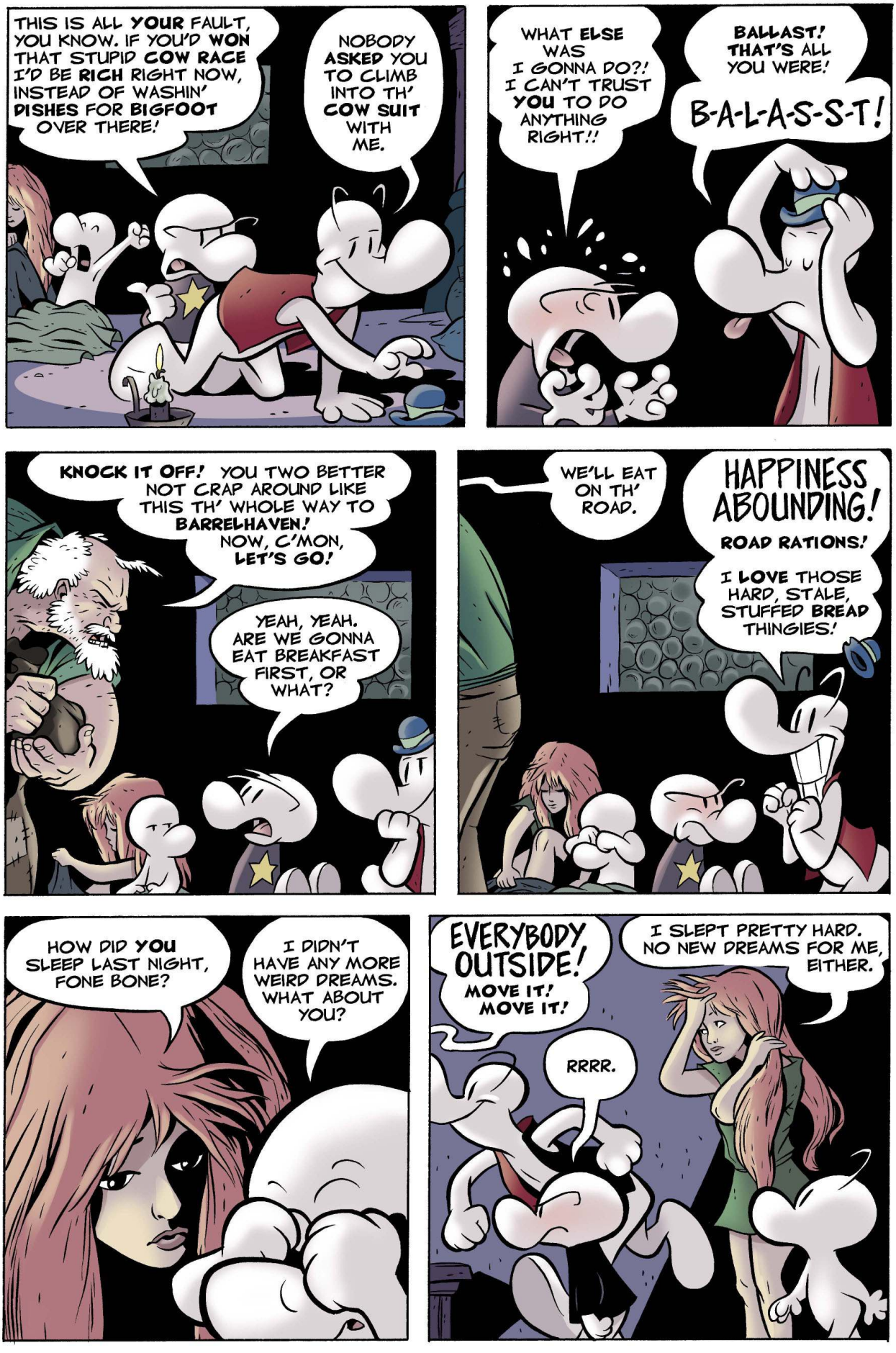

YOU TWO COME WITH ME.

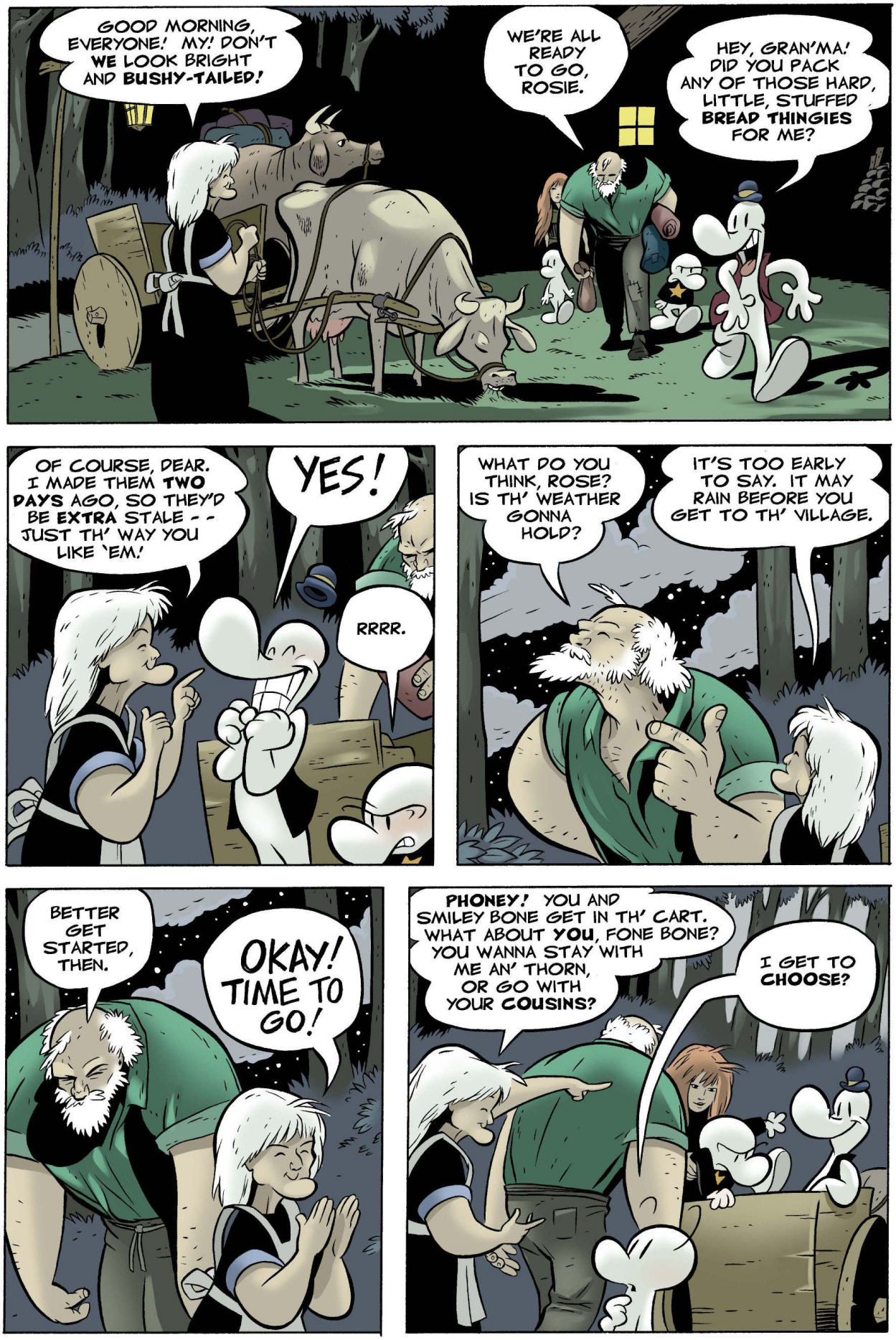

I WANT YOU BOYS TO CATCH YOURSELVES FOUR CHICKENS! WHEN SMILEY'S GOT THAT WATER GOIN' NICE AN' HOT, DIP TH' BIRDS IN IT. I WANT EVERY ONE OF THEM FEATHERS GONE, SO SOAK 'EM GOOD! I BETTER BE SMELLIN' WET FEATHERS BACK HERE!
POO! THERE'S A SMELL YOU DON'T FORGET TOO QUICK!
OHMYGOSH.
WE'RE GONNA BOIL 'EM ALIVE?!
OF COURSE NOT, DEAR. YOU'RE GONNA CUT THEIR HEADS OFF FIRST.
WITH WHAT?
WITH TH' HATCHET.
UH . . .
ARE THEY GONNA . . . Y'KNOW . . . RUN AROUND TH' YARD? SQUIRTIN' BLOOD AN' STUFF?
WHAT'S TH' MATTER? AIN'T YOU BOYS EVER CHOPPED TH' HEAD OFF A CHICKEN BEFORE?
UH . . .
UH . . .
OH, FER HEAVEN'S SAKES! IF YA CAN'T HANDLE A LITTLE FLAPPIN' AROUND, JUST GRAB TH' CHICKEN BY TH' NECK AN' GIVE HER A GOOD CRANK OVER YOUR HEAD -- THAT'LL KILL HER FIRST!

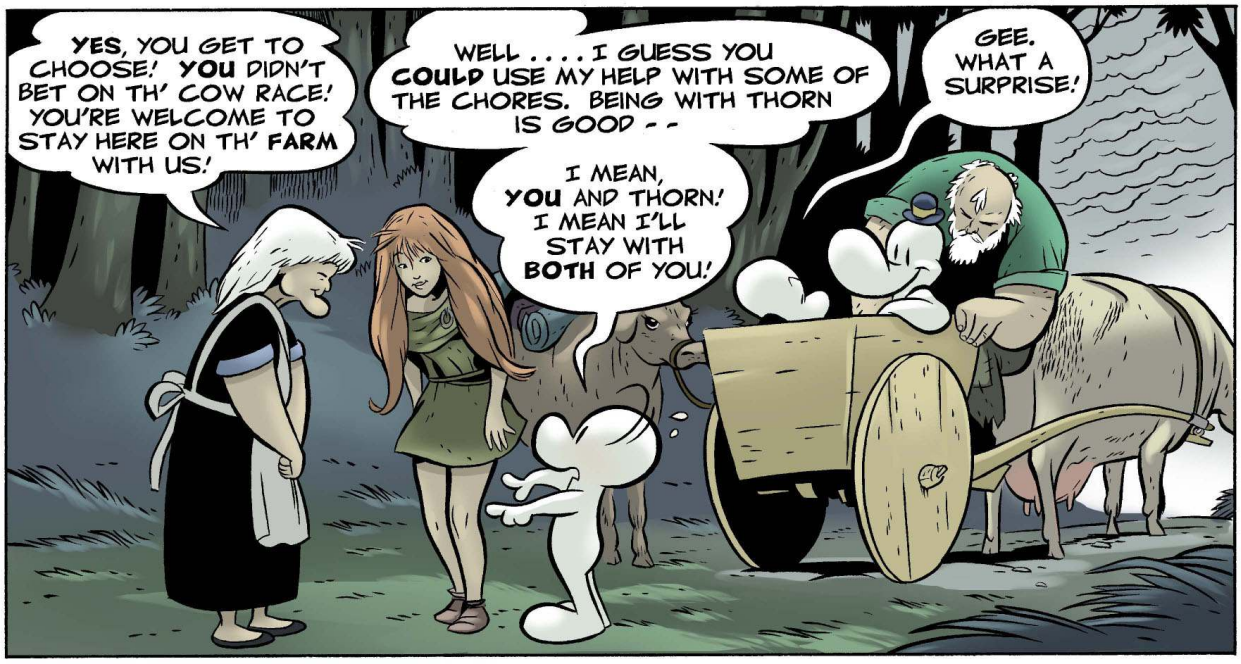

MMMMP!
FLOP!
HMMF.
CITY BOYS!

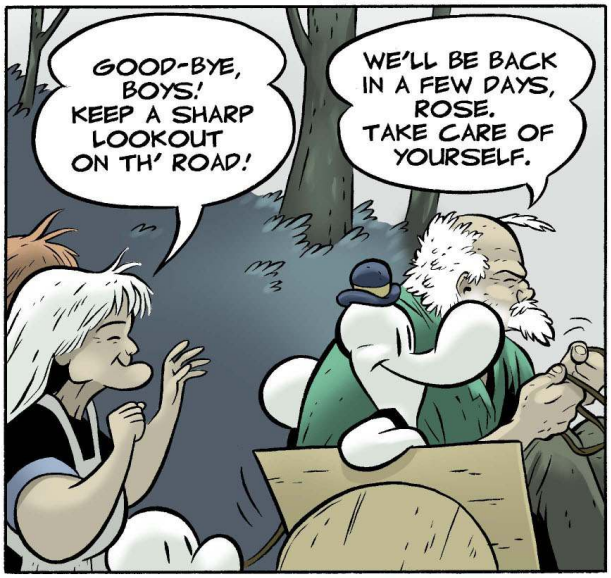

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
No. 14
BY JEFF SMITH

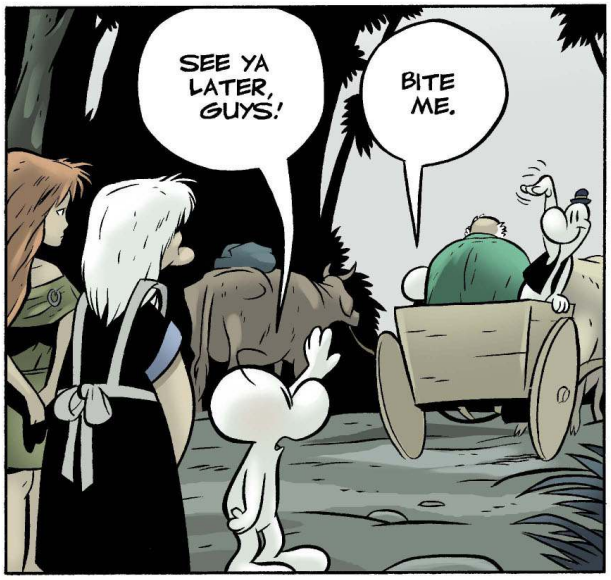

BONE
ALL RIGHT, YOU LAZY BONES! WAKE IT UP!
WE'RE HEADIN' BACK TO BARRELHAVEN, AN' I WANNA GET AN EARLY START!
TODAY?! RIGHT NOW? AW, JEEZ! IT'S STILL DARK OUT!
WE'RE GOIN' FOR A RIDE?!
THAT'S RIGHT! ALL TH' CHORES ARE DONE - - ALL THE SPRING PLANTING'S DONE - - AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS! YOU TWO ARE COMIN' WITH ME TO START WORKIN' OFF THAT 100 TO 1 LONGSHOT BET!
AS OF THIS MOMENT, YOU BOYS ARE MINE!
I HATE IT WHEN HE DOES THAT.

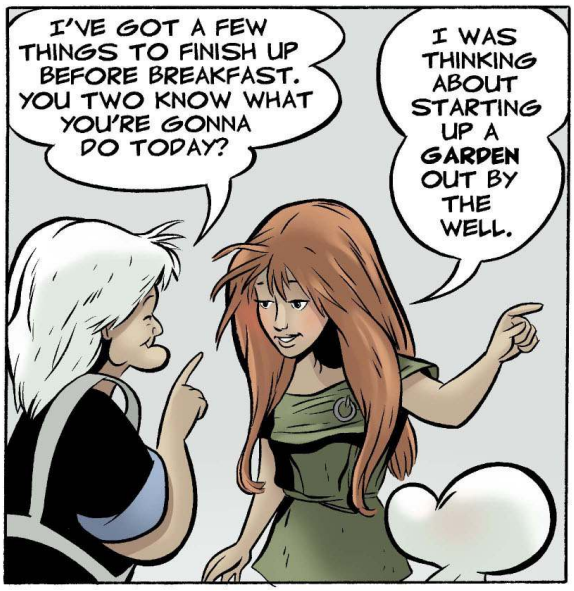

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, YOU KNOW. IF YOU'D WON THAT STUPID COW RACE I'D BE RICH RIGHT NOW, INSTEAD OF WASHIN' DISHES FOR BIGFOOT OVER THERE!
NOBODY ASKED YOU TO CLIMB INTO TH' COW SUIT WITH ME.
WHAT ELSE WAS I GONNA DO?! I CAN'T TRUST YOU TO DO ANYTHING RIGHT!!
BALLAST! THAT'S ALL YOU WERE!
B-A-L-A-S-S-T!
KNOCK IT OFF! YOU TWO BETTER NOT CRAP AROUND LIKE THIS TH' WHOLE WAY TO BARRELHAVEN! NOW, C'MON, LET'S GO!
YEAH, YEAH. ARE WE GONNA EAT BREAKFAST FIRST, OR WHAT?
WE'LL EAT ON TH' ROAD.
HAPPINESS ABOUNDING!
ROAD RATIONS!
I LOVE THOSE HARD, STALE, STUFFED BREAD THINGIES!
HOW DID YOU SLEEP LAST NIGHT, FONE BONE?
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY MORE WEIRD DREAMS. WHAT ABOUT YOU?
EVERYBODY OUTSIDE! MOVE IT! MOVE IT!
RRRR.
I SLEPT PRETTY HARD. NO NEW DREAMS FOR ME, EITHER.

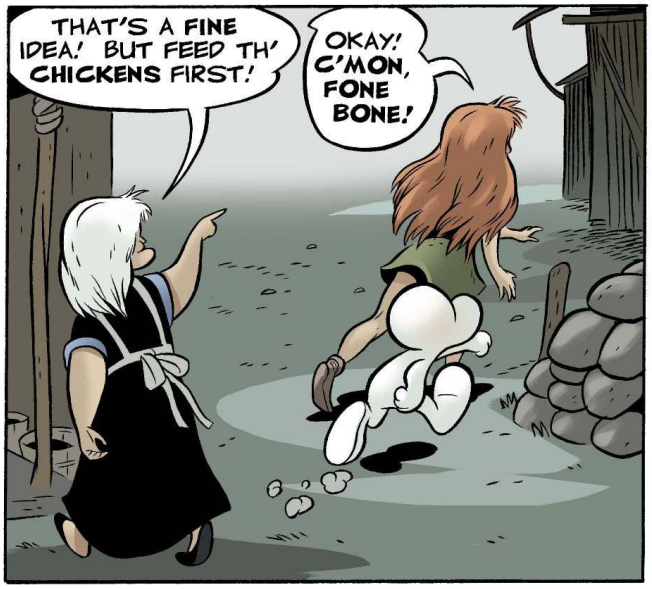

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE! MY! DON'T WE LOOK BRIGHT AND BUSHY-TAILED!
WE'RE ALL READY TO GO, ROSIE.
HEY, GRAN'MA! DID YOU PACK ANY OF THOSE HARD, LITTLE, STUFFED BREAD THINGIES FOR ME?
OF COURSE, DEAR. I MADE THEM TWO DAYS AGO, SO THEY'D BE EXTRA STALE -- JUST TH' WAY YOU LIKE 'EM!
YES!
RRRR.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, ROSE? IS TH' WEATHER GONNA HOLD?
IT'S TOO EARLY TO SAY. IT MAY RAIN BEFORE YOU GET TO TH' VILLAGE.
BETTER GET STARTED, THEN.
OKAY! TIME TO GO!
PHONEY! YOU AND SMILEY BONE GET IN TH' CART. WHAT ABOUT YOU, FONE BONE? YOU WANNA STAY WITH ME AN' THORN, OR GO WITH YOUR COUSINS?
I GET TO CHOOSE?

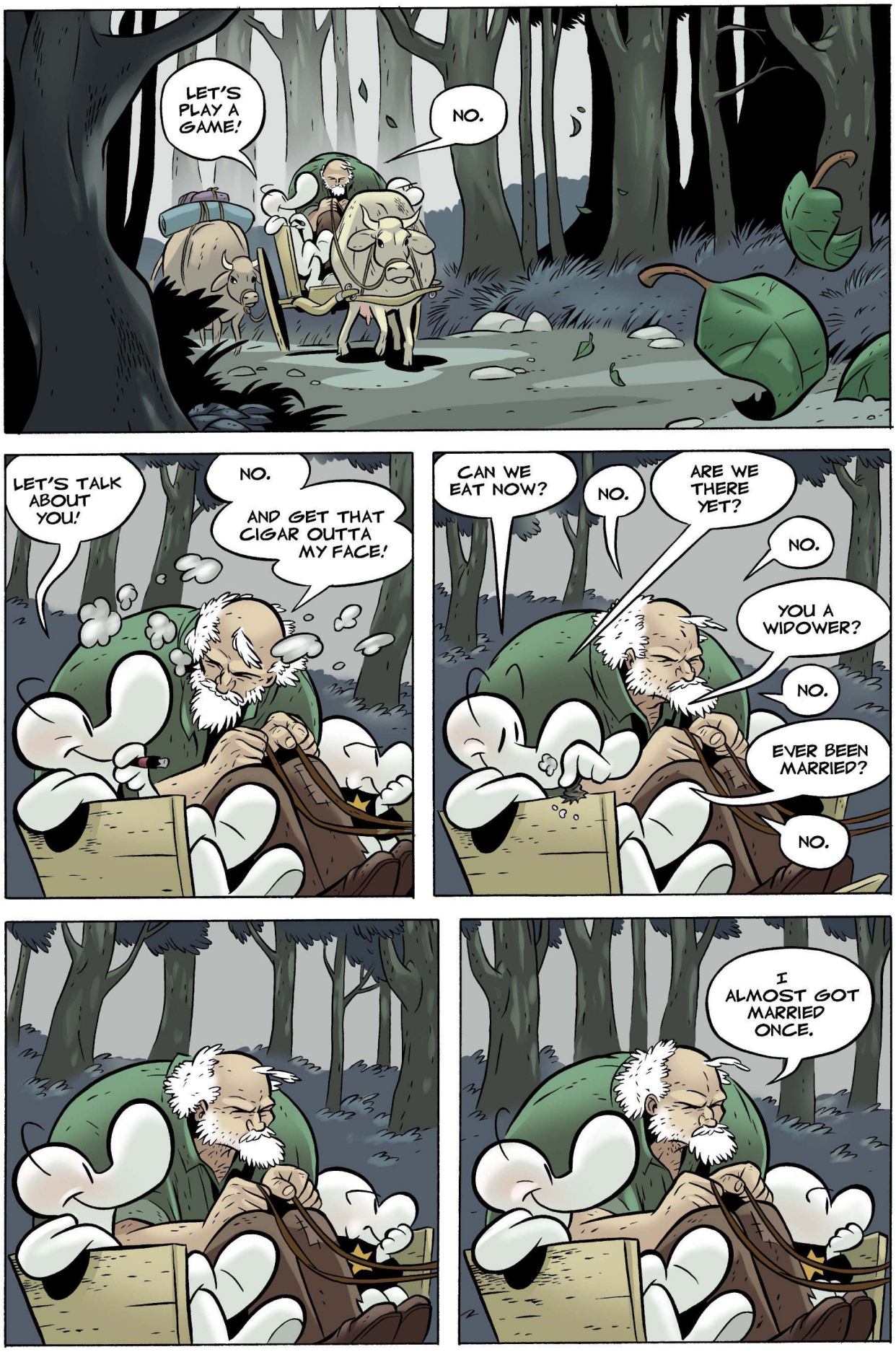

YES, YOU GET TO CHOOSE! YOU DIDN'T BET ON TH' COW RACE! YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY HERE ON TH' FARM WITH US!
WELL . . . . I GUESS YOU COULD USE MY HELP WITH SOME OF THE CHORES. BEING WITH THORN IS GOOD - -
I MEAN, YOU AND THORN! I MEAN I'LL STAY WITH BOTH OF YOU!
GEE. WHAT A SURPRISE!

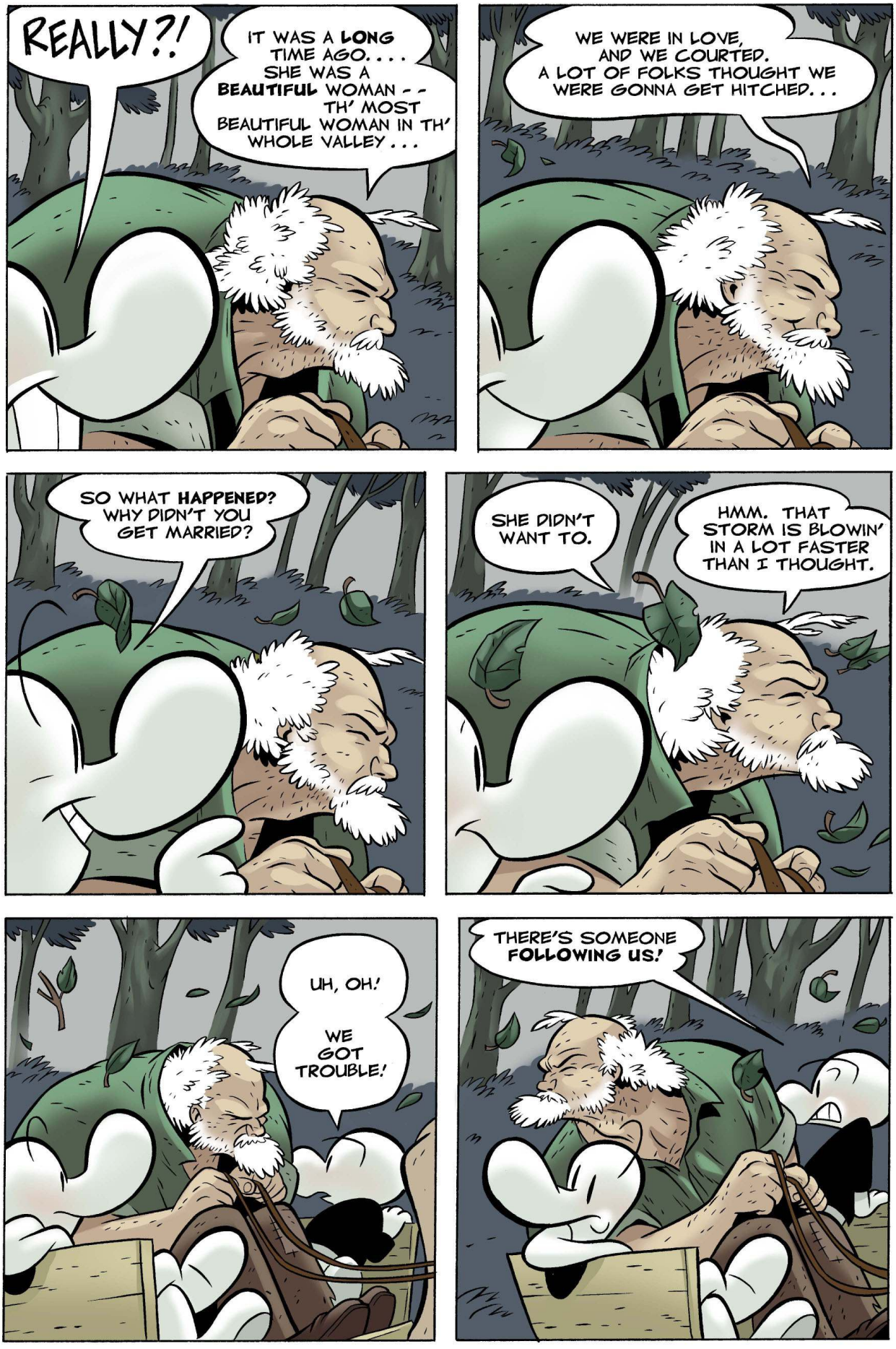

GOOD-BYE, BOYS! KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT ON TH' ROAD!
WE'LL BE BACK IN A FEW DAYS, ROSE. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

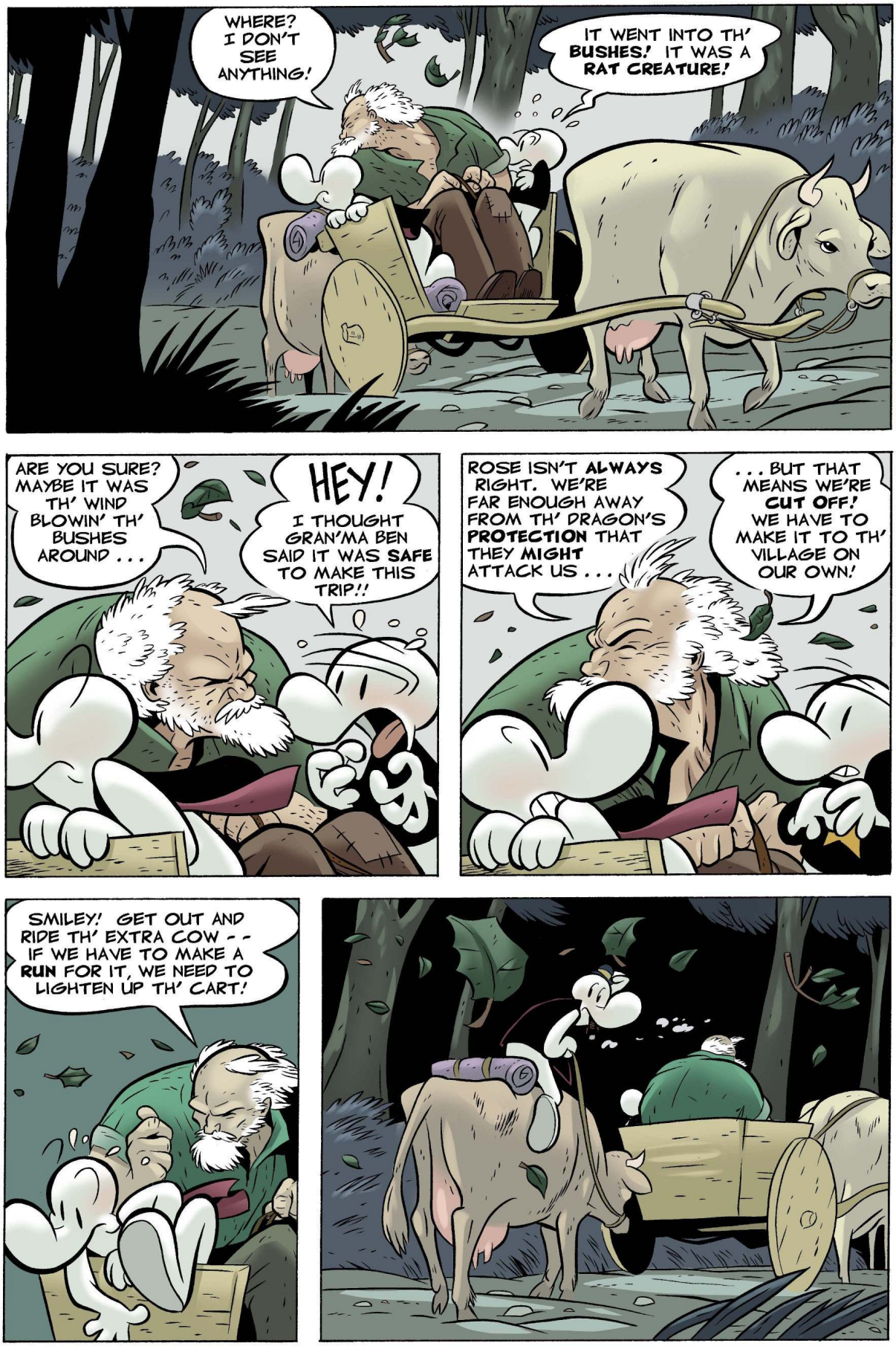

SEE YA LATER, GUYS!
BITE ME.


I'VE GOT A FEW THINGS TO FINISH UP BEFORE BREAKFAST. YOU TWO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO TODAY?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT STARTING UP A GARDEN OUT BY THE WELL.

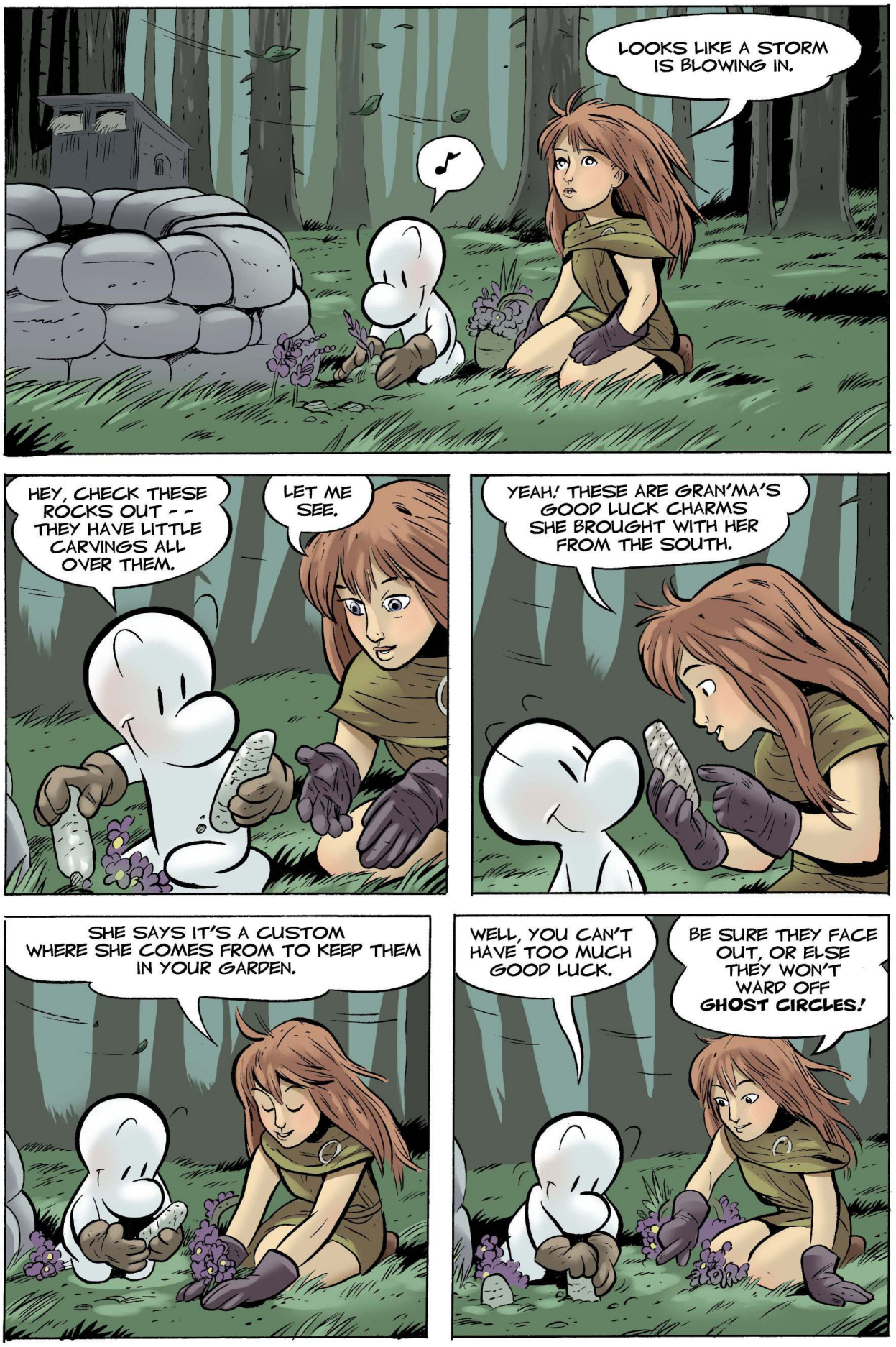

THAT'S A FINE IDEA! BUT FEED TH' CHICKENS FIRST!
OKAY! C'MON, FONE BONE!

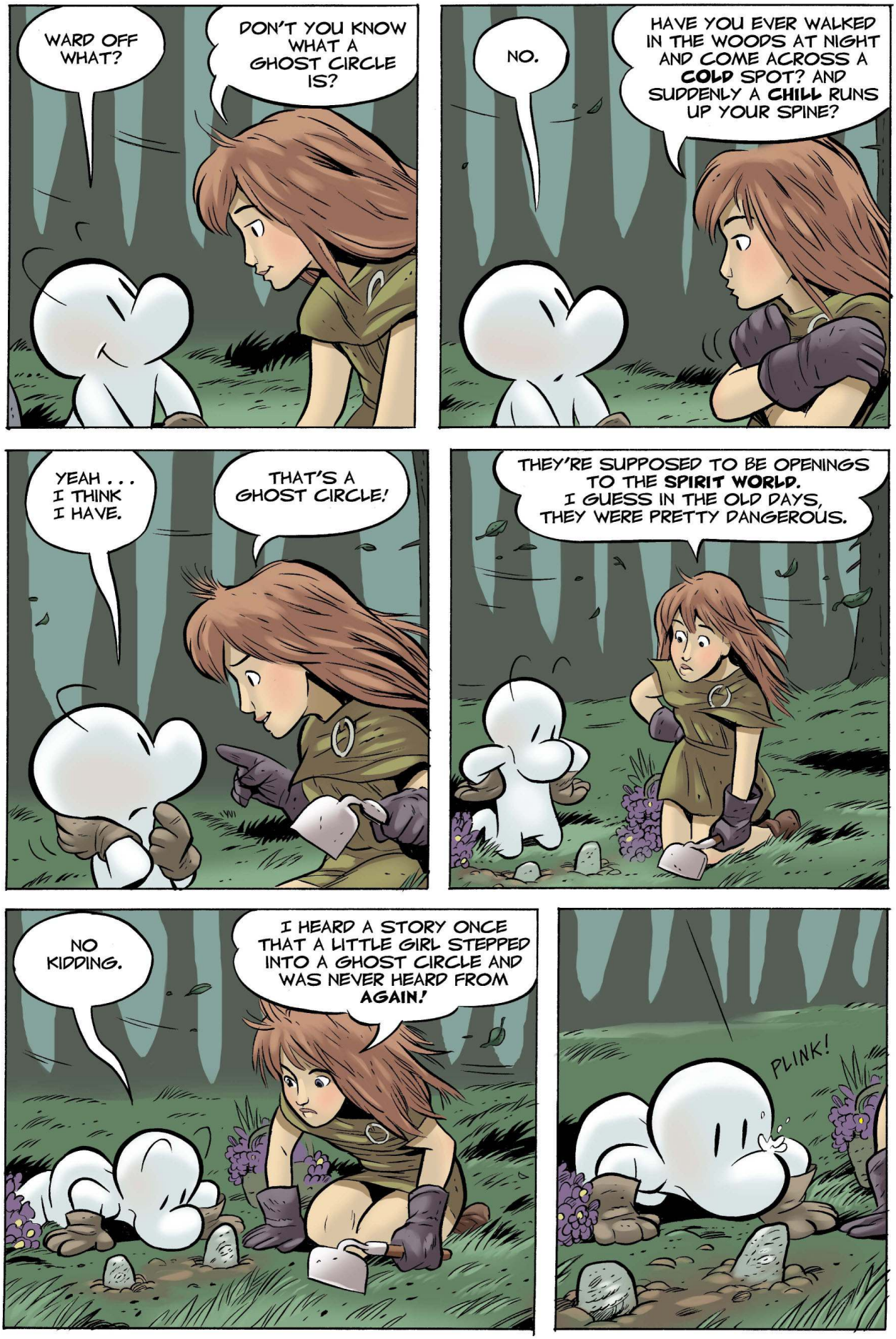

LET'S PLAY A GAME!
NO.
LET'S TALK ABOUT YOU!
NO.
AND GET THAT CIGAR OUTTA MY FACE!
CAN WE EAT NOW?
NO.
ARE WE THERE YET?
NO.
YOU A WIDOWER?
NO.
EVER BEEN MARRIED?
NO.
I ALMOST GOT MARRIED ONCE.

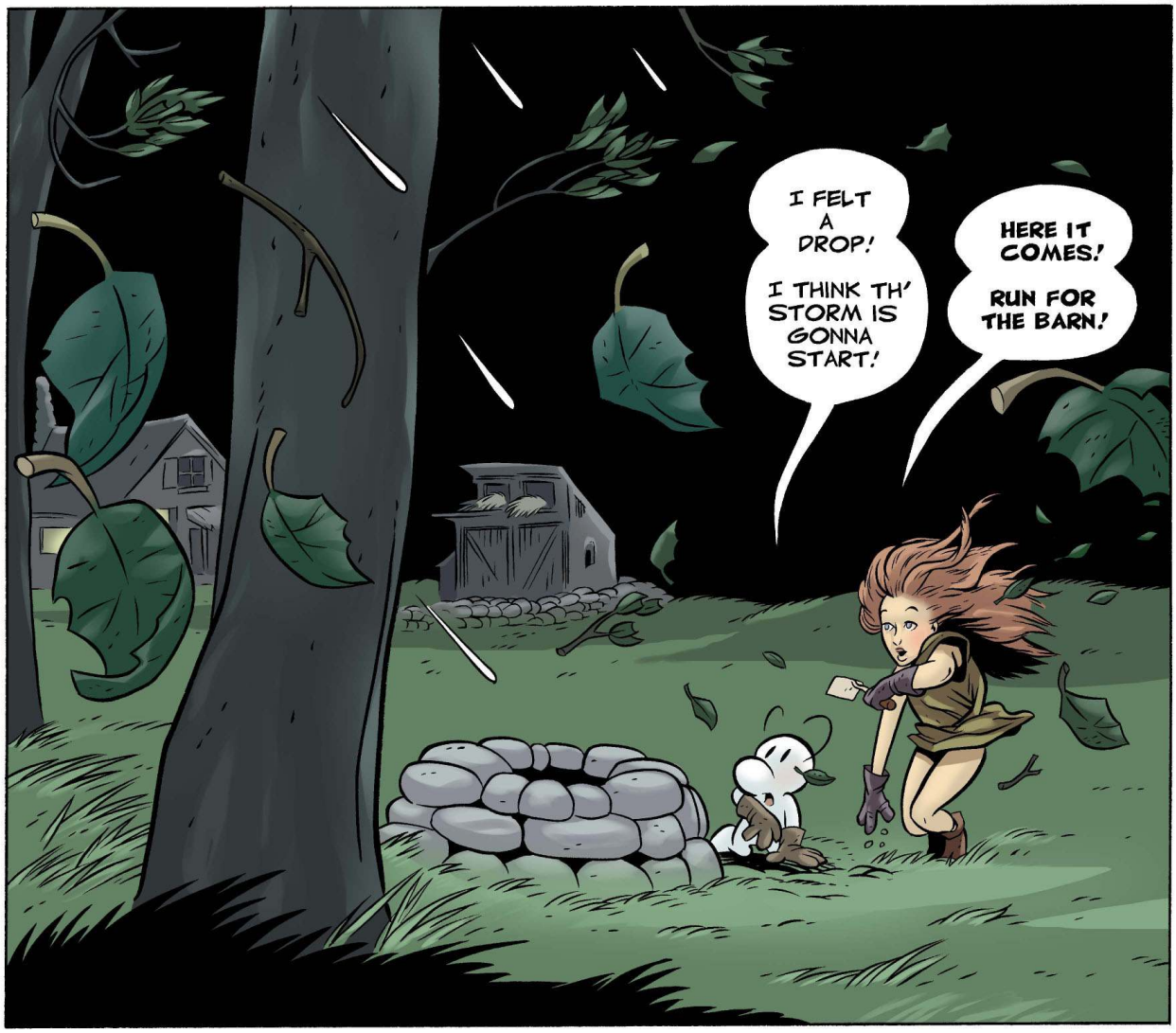

REALLY?!
IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.... SHE WAS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN -- TH' MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN TH' WHOLE VALLEY...
WE WERE IN LOVE, AND WE COURTED. A LOT OF FOLKS THOUGHT WE WERE GONNA GET HITCHED...
SO WHAT HAPPENED? WHY DIDN'T YOU GET MARRIED?
SHE DIDN'T WANT TO.
HMM. THAT STORM IS BLOWIN' IN A LOT FASTER THAN I THOUGHT.
UH, OH! WE GOT TROUBLE!
THERE'S SOMEONE FOLLOWING US!



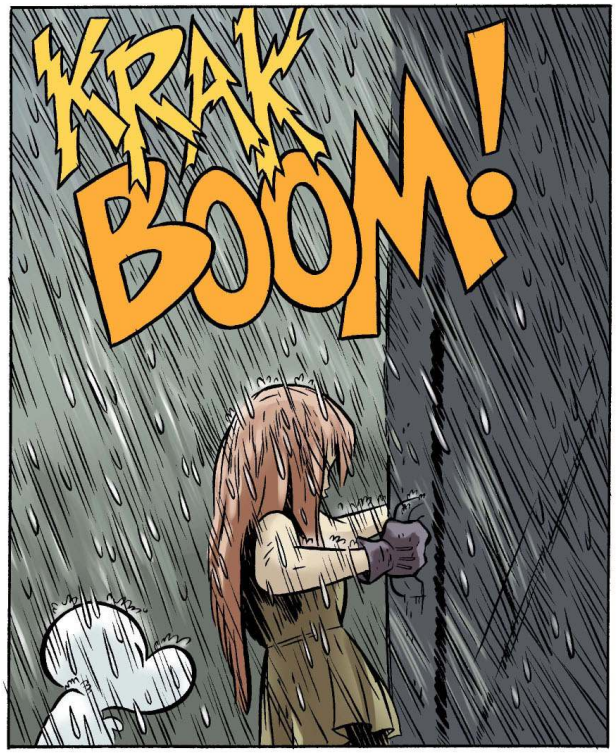
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

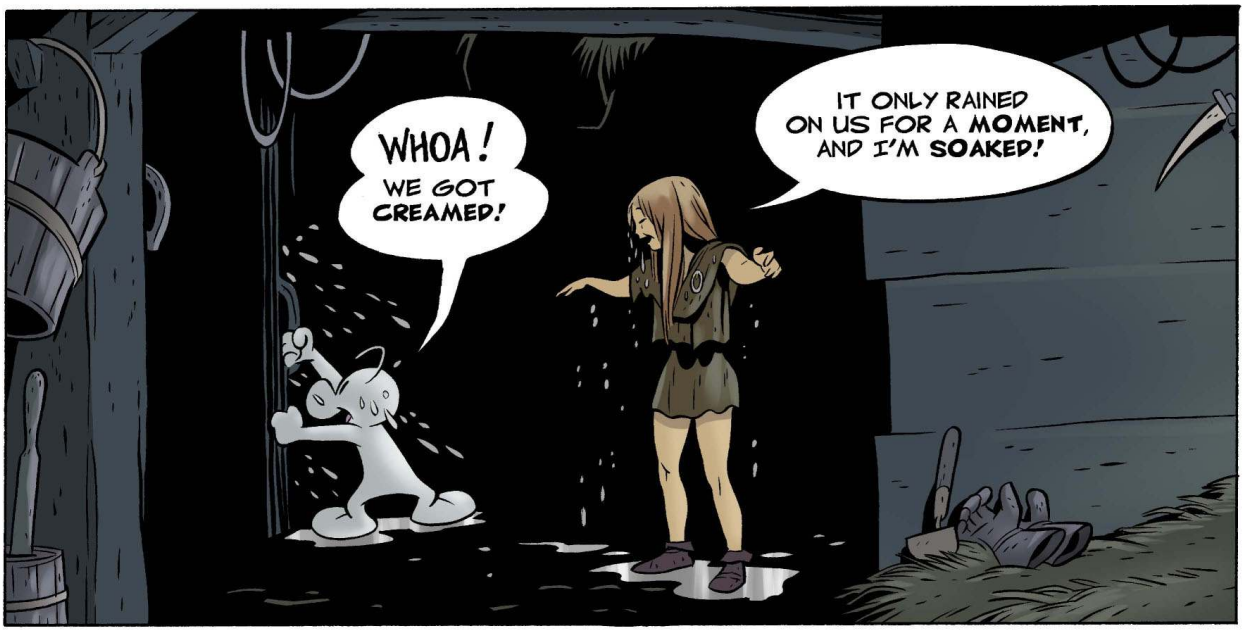

LOOKS LIKE A STORM IS BLOWING IN.
HEY, CHECK THESE ROCKS OUT -- THEY HAVE LITTLE CARVINGS ALL OVER THEM.
LET ME SEE.
YEAH! THESE ARE GRAN'MA'S GOOD LUCK CHARMS SHE BROUGHT WITH HER FROM THE SOUTH.
SHE SAYS IT'S A CUSTOM WHERE SHE COMES FROM TO KEEP THEM IN YOUR GARDEN.
WELL, YOU CAN'T HAVE TOO MUCH GOOD LUCK.
BE SURE THEY FACE OUT, OR ELSE THEY WON'T WARD OFF GHOST CIRCLES!

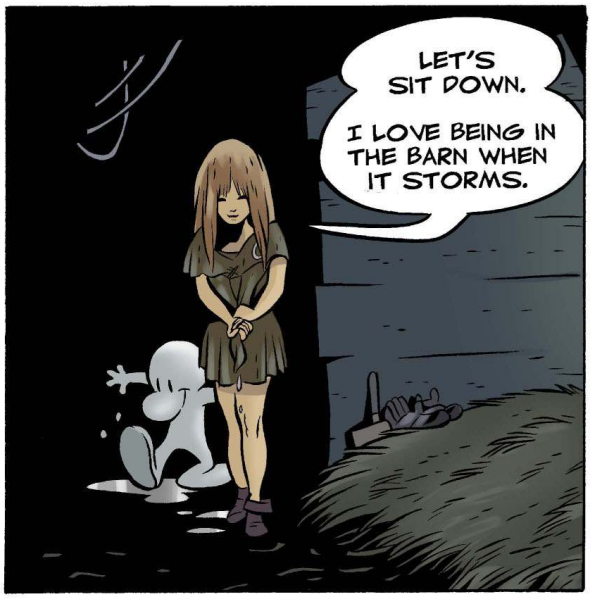

WARD OFF WHAT?
DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT A GHOST CIRCLE IS?
NO.
HAVE YOU EVER WALKED IN THE WOODS AT NIGHT AND COME ACROSS A COLD SPOT? AND SUDDENLY A CHILL RUNS UP YOUR SPINE?
YEAH . . . I THINK I HAVE.
THAT'S A GHOST CIRCLE!
THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE OPENINGS TO THE SPIRIT WORLD. I GUESS IN THE OLD DAYS, THEY WERE PRETTY DANGEROUS.
NO KIDDING.
I HEARD A STORY ONCE THAT A LITTLE GIRL STEPPED INTO A GHOST CIRCLE AND WAS NEVER HEARD FROM AGAIN!
PLINK!

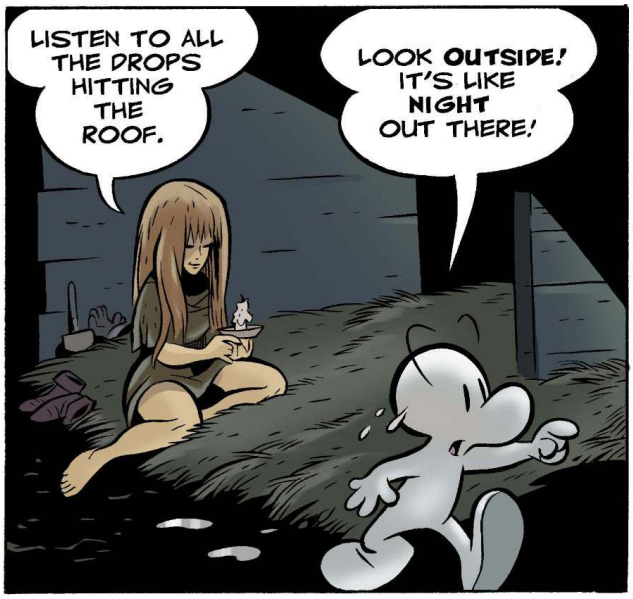

I FELT A DROP!
I THINK TH' STORM IS GONNA START!
HERE IT COMES!
RUN FOR THE BARN!

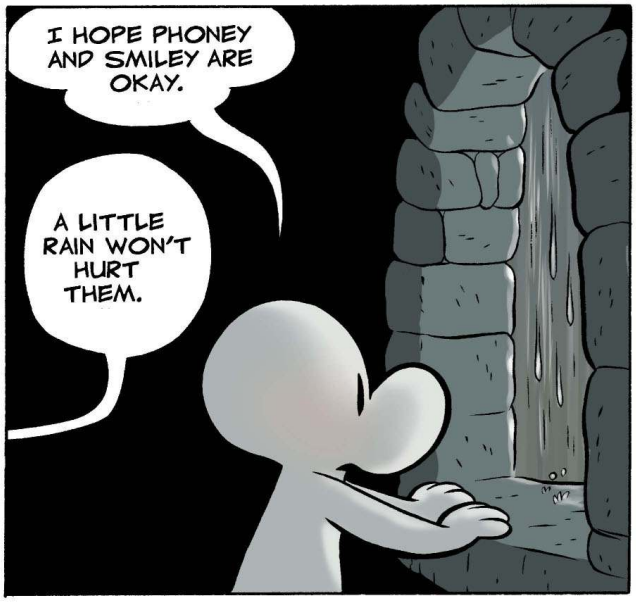


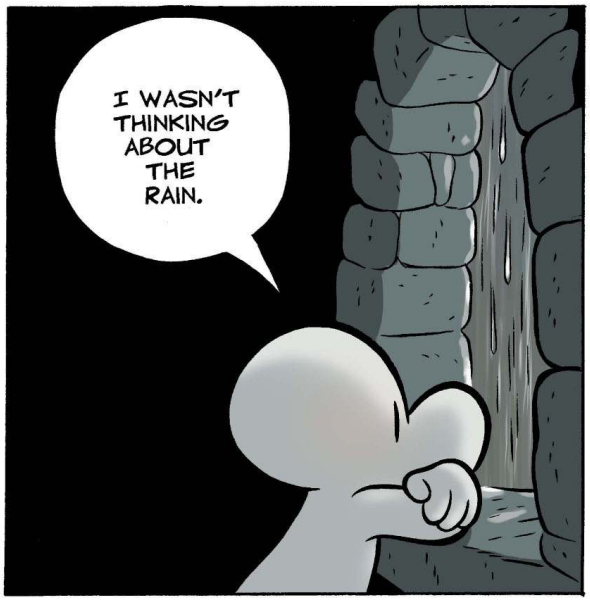

KRAK BOOM!

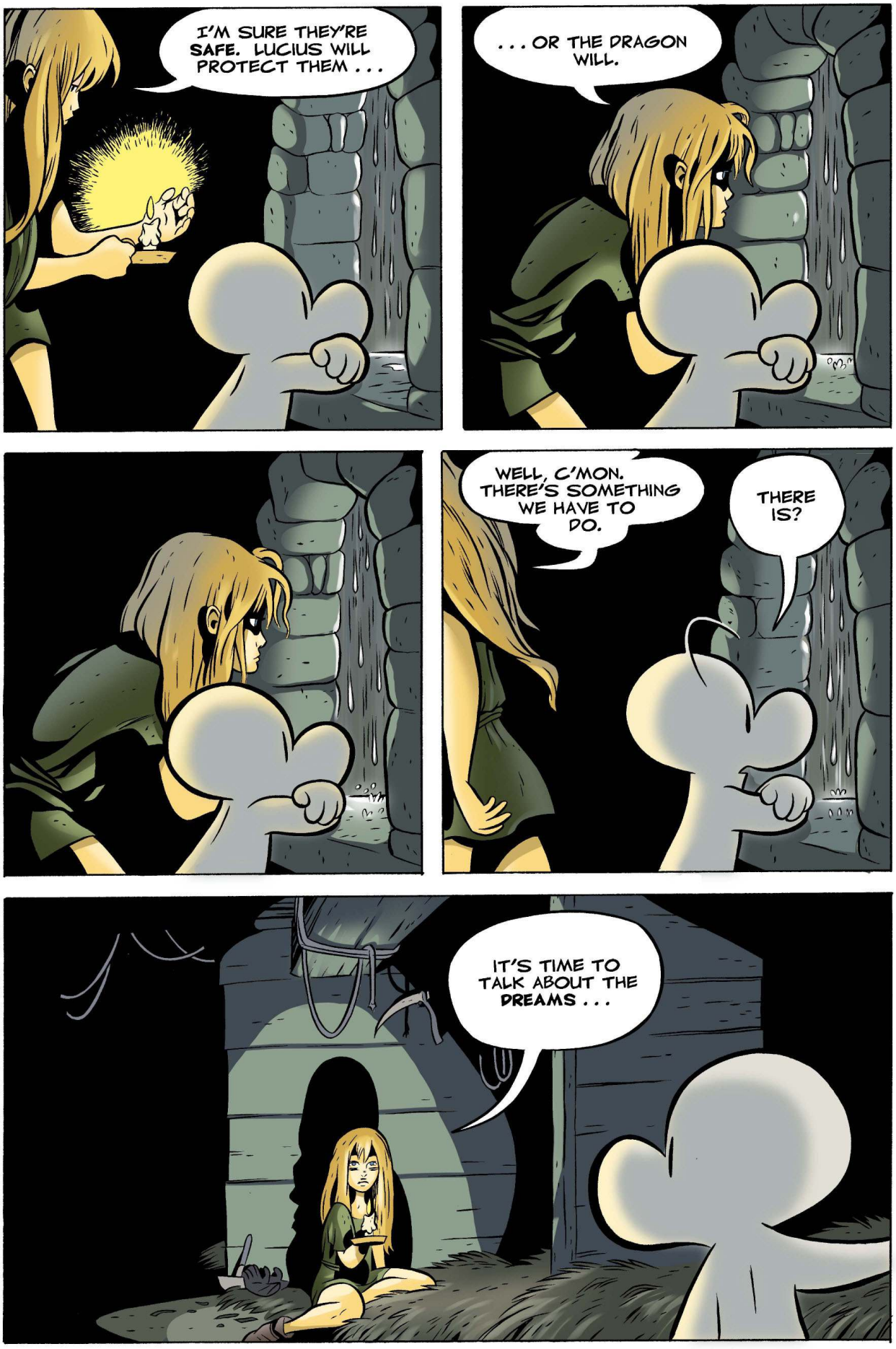

WHOA! WE GOT CREAMED!
IT ONLY RAINED ON US FOR A MOMENT, AND I'M SOAKED!

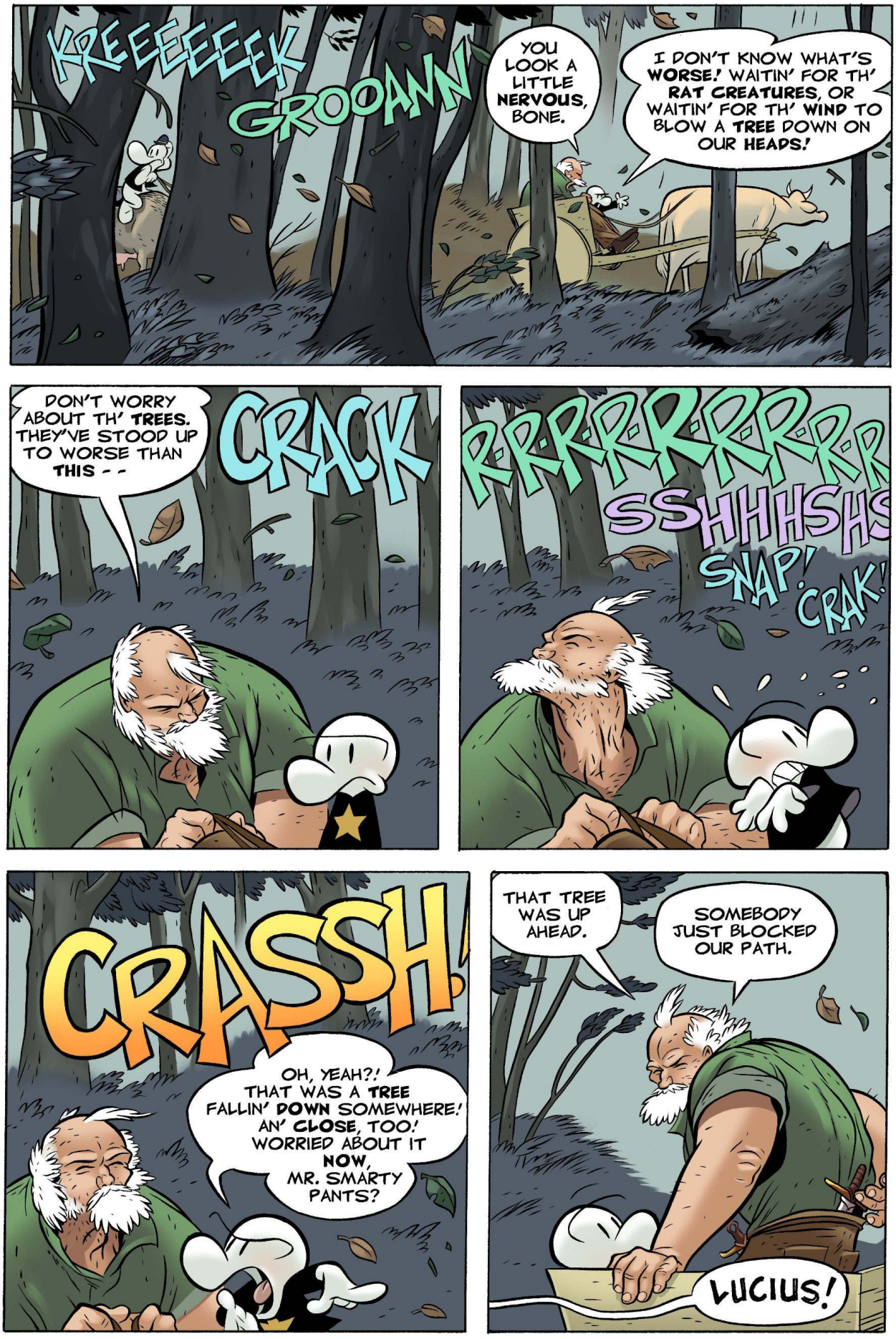

LET'S SIT DOWN.
I LOVE BEING IN THE BARN WHEN IT STORMS.


LISTEN TO ALL THE DROPS HITTING THE ROOF.
LOOK OUTSIDE! IT'S LIKE NIGHT OUT THERE!

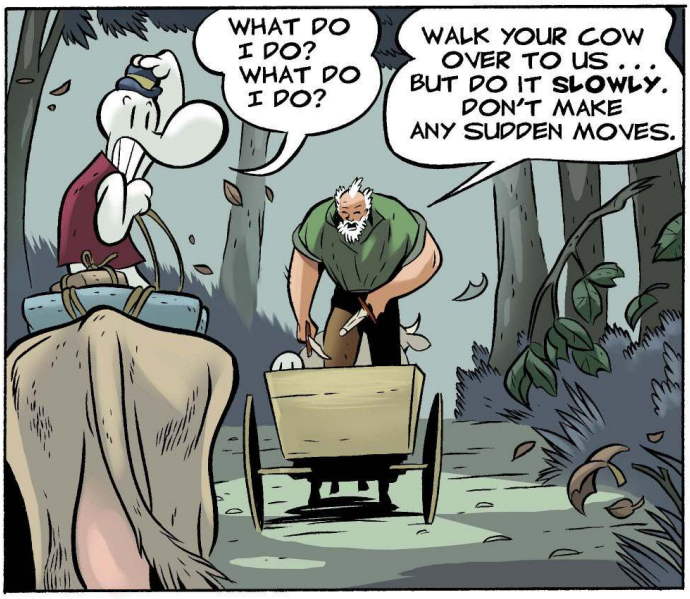

I HOPE PHONEY AND SMILEY ARE OKAY.
A LITTLE RAIN WON'T HURT THEM.

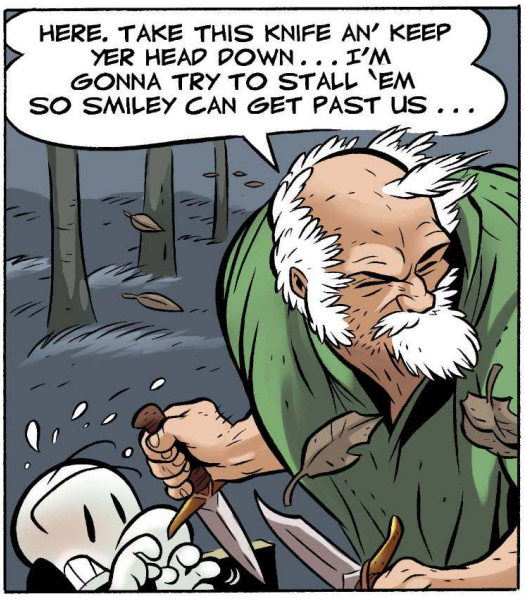

I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT THE RAIN.


I'M SURE THEY'RE SAFE. LUCIUS WILL PROTECT THEM . . .
. . . OR THE DRAGON WILL.
WELL, C'MON. THERE'S SOMETHING WE HAVE TO DO.
THERE IS?
IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT THE DREAMS . . .


KREEEEEEEK
GROOANN
YOU LOOK A LITTLE NERVOUS, BONE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE! WAITIN' FOR TH' RAT CREATURES, OR WAITIN' FOR TH' WIND TO BLOW A TREE DOWN ON OUR HEADS!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT TH' TREES. THEY'VE STOOD UP TO WORSE THAN THIS - -
CRACK
R-R-R-R-R-R-R-R-R-R-R
SSHHHSHS
SNAP!
CRAK!
CRASSH!
OH, YEAH?! THAT WAS A TREE FALLIN' DOWN SOMEWHERE! AN' CLOSE, TOO! WORRIED ABOUT IT NOW, MR. SMARTY PANTS?
THAT TREE WAS UP AHEAD.
SOMEBODY JUST BLOCKED OUR PATH.
LUCIUS!



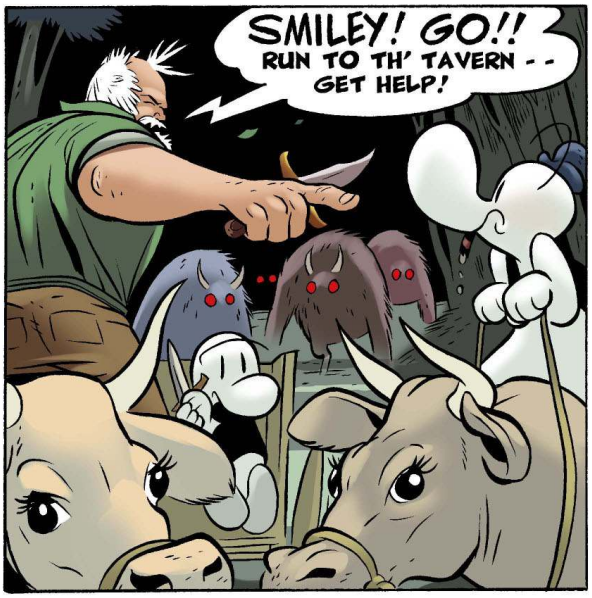

WHAT DO I DO? WHAT DO I DO?
WALK YOUR COW OVER TO US . . . BUT DO IT SLOWLY. DON'T MAKE ANY SUDDEN MOVES.

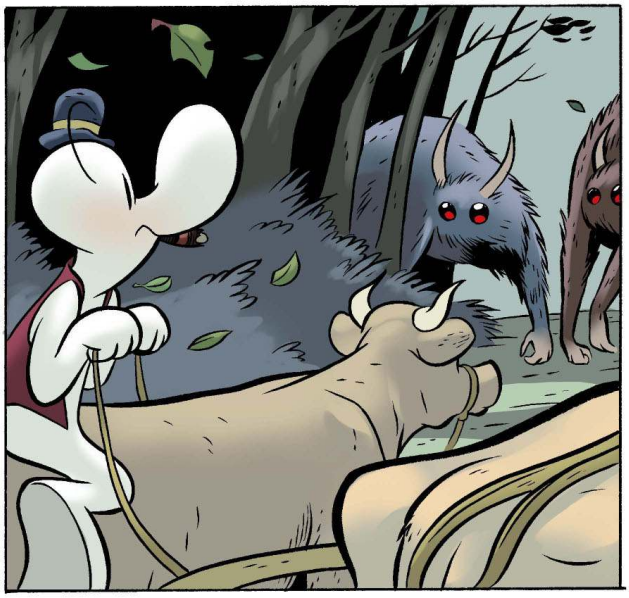

HERE. TAKE THIS KNIFE AN' KEEP YER HEAD DOWN . . . I'M GONNA TRY TO STALL 'EM SO SMILEY CAN GET PAST US . . .


HAIRY MEN!
WHY HAVE YOU STOPPED US?!
SSSSSSS

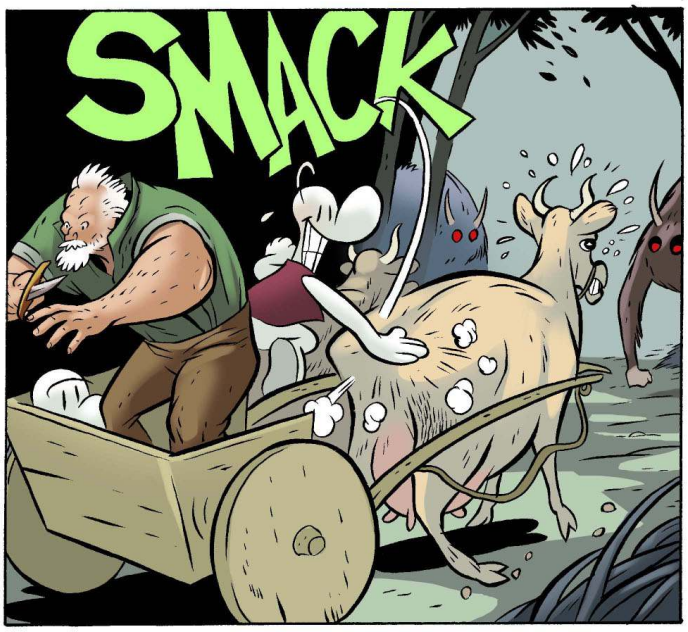

SSSSS
GIVE US THE CREATURE . . .
. . . WITH THE STAR ON ITS CHEST . . .


. . . GIVE IT TO US . . .
. . AND WE WILL LET YOU GO ON YOUR WAY . . . .


SMILEY! GO!!
RUN TO TH' TAVERN - - GET HELP!




TOO LATE!


SMACK



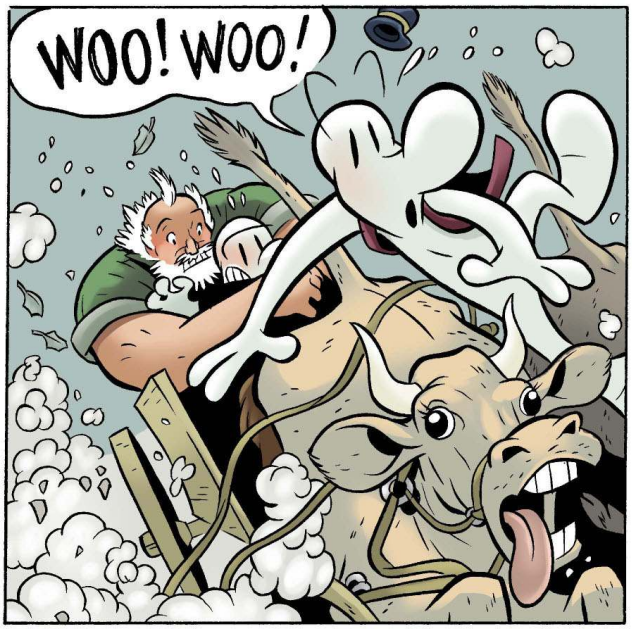
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THE REINS!
WHAT?
GET TH' REINS!!
BAM!
CRUNCH
OH, NO!
WHAT?! WHAT?!
OLD MAN'S CAVE!!




YIP! YIP! YIP!

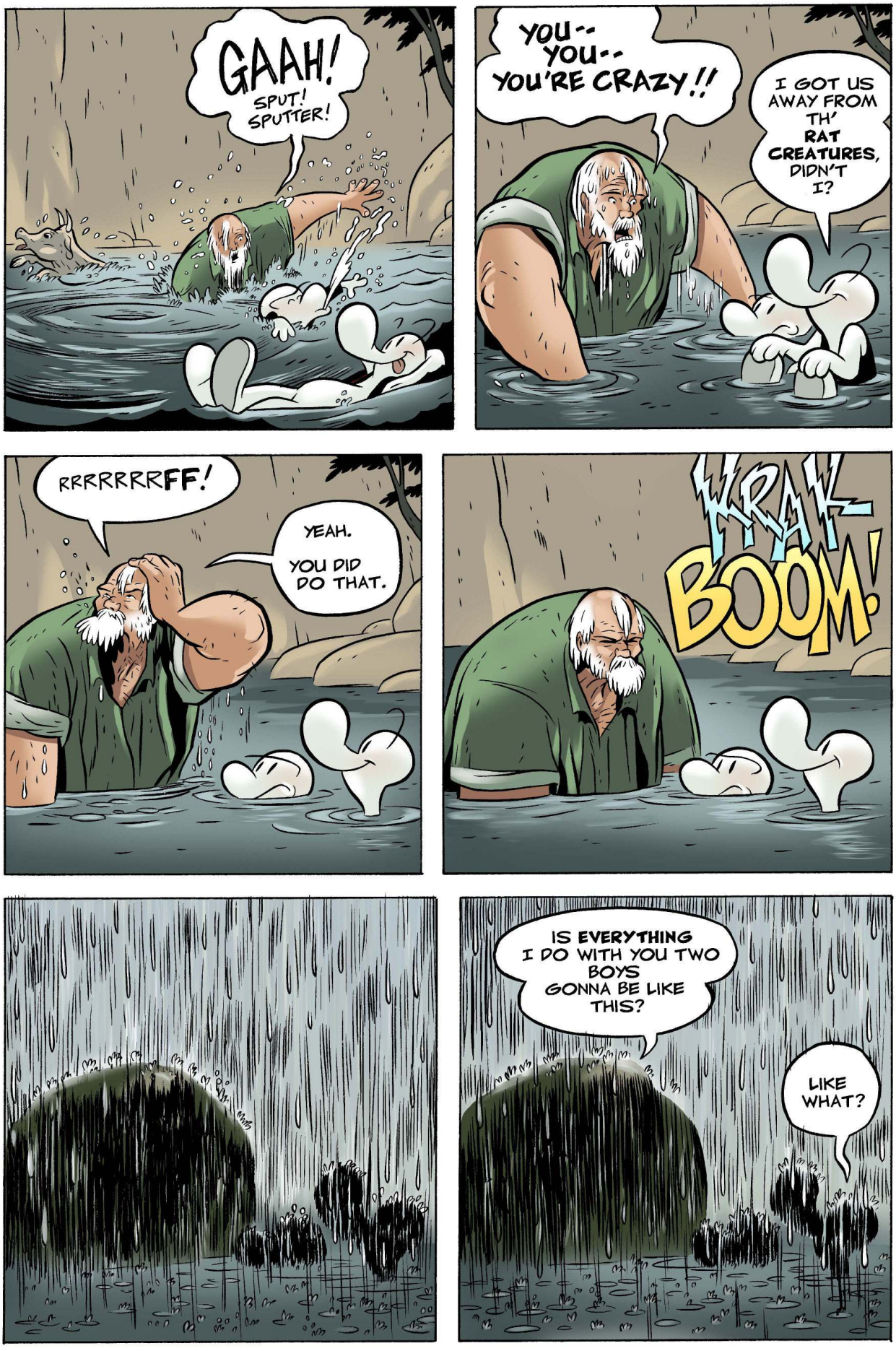

YIP! YIP! YIP! YIP!

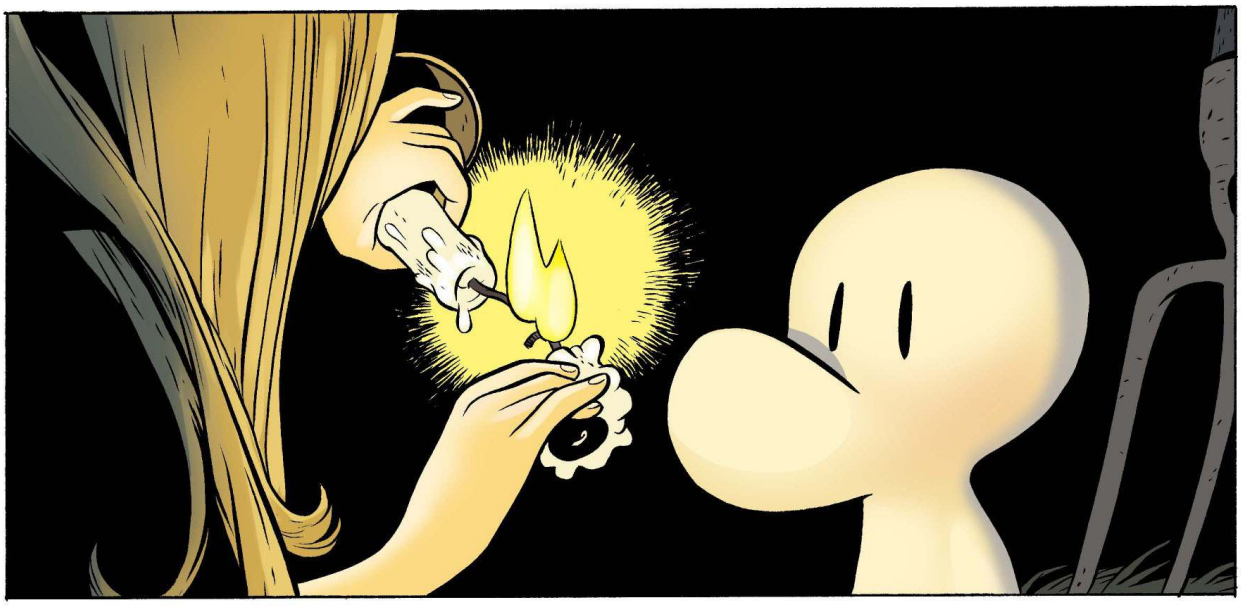

WOO! WOO!

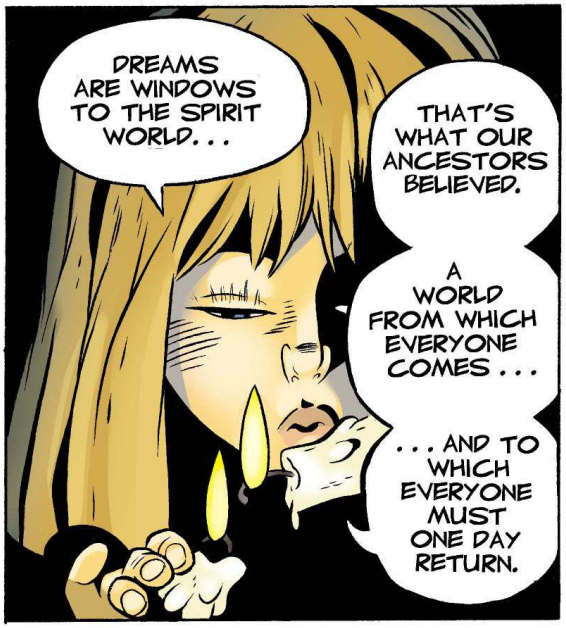

SMILEY! YOU SAVED US!
YAH HOO!

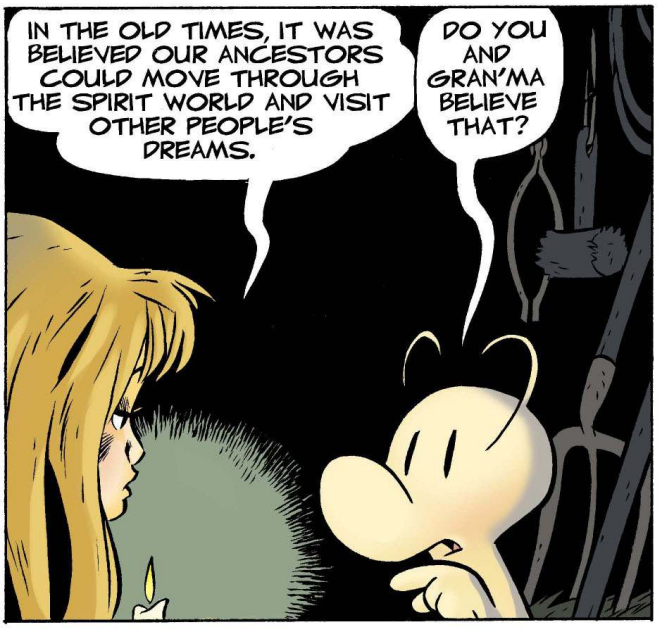

SMILEY! THE CLIFF!!
I'M WITH YA!
GIT ALONG LI'L DAWGIE!
YAH! YAH!

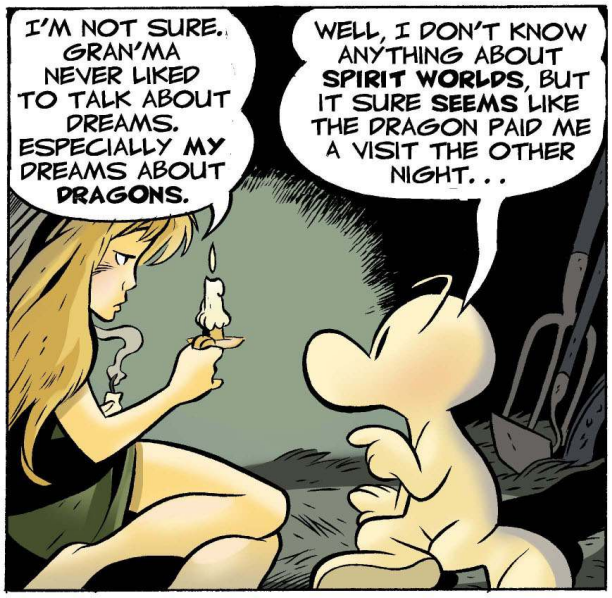

YAAAAAAA
AAAAH

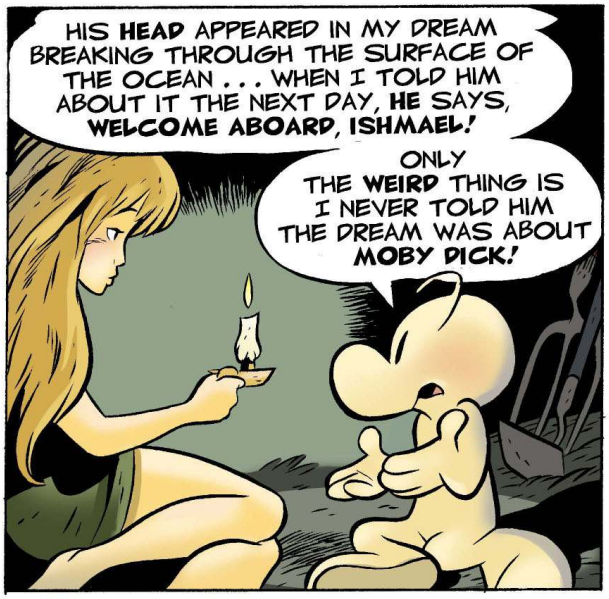

GAAH!
SPUT! SPUTTER!
YOU-- YOU-- YOU'RE CRAZY!!
I GOT US AWAY FROM TH' RAT CREATURES, DIDN'T I?
RRRRRRRFF!
YEAH. YOU DID DO THAT.
KRAK-BOOM!
IS EVERYTHING I DO WITH YOU TWO BOYS GONNA BE LIKE THIS?
LIKE WHAT?

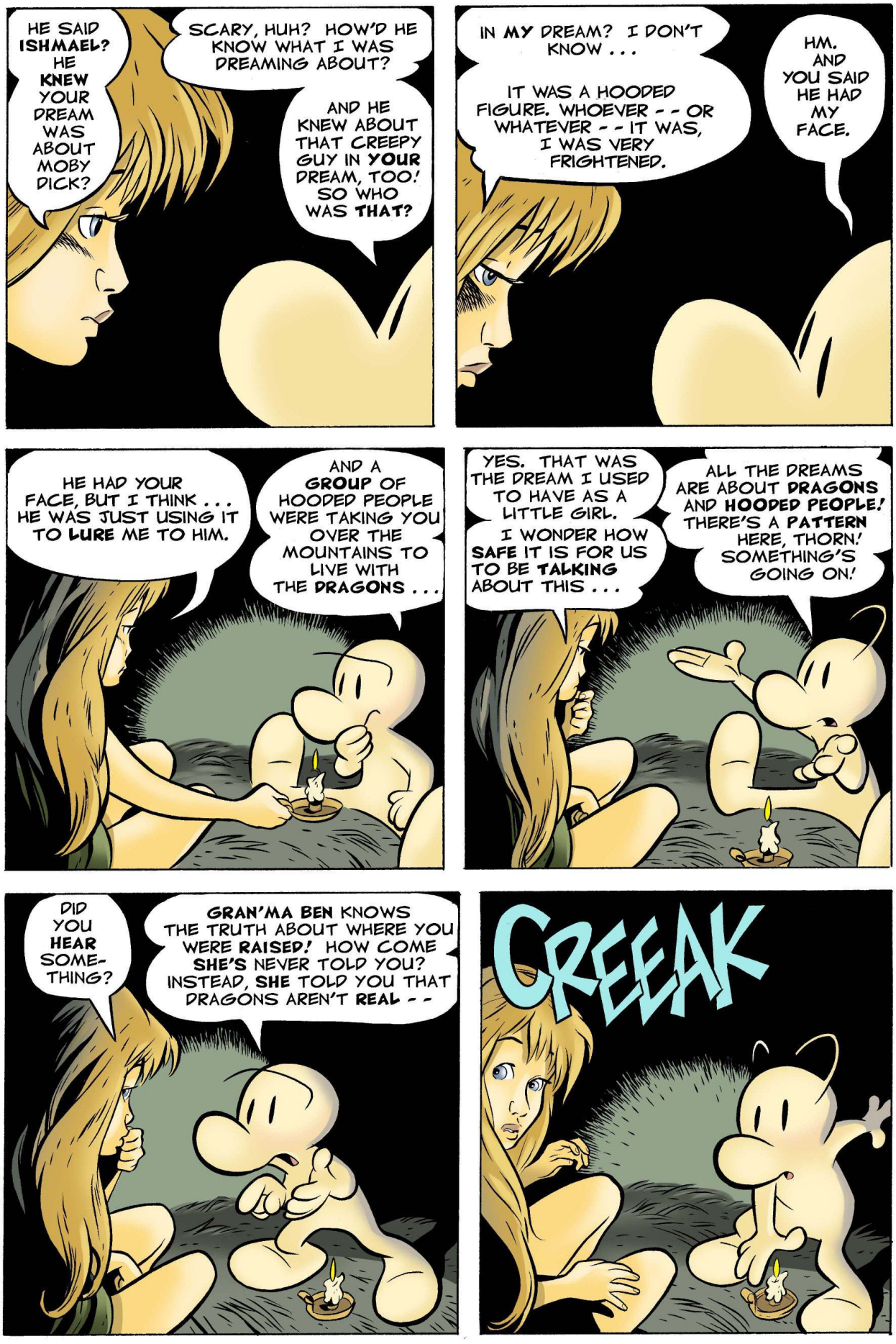


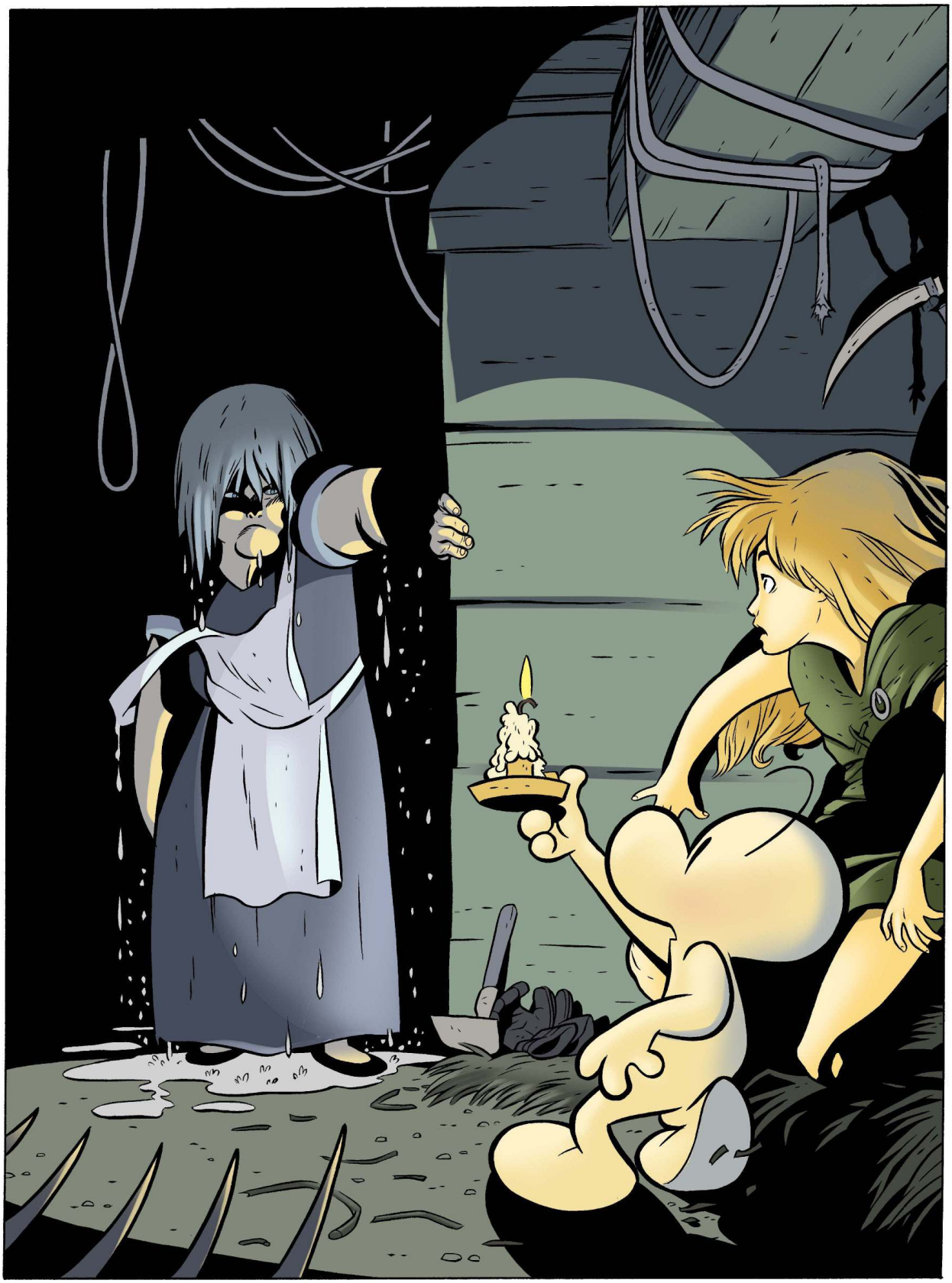

DREAMS ARE WINDOWS TO THE SPIRIT WORLD...
THAT'S WHAT OUR ANCESTORS BELIEVED.
A WORLD FROM WHICH EVERYONE COMES...
...AND TO WHICH EVERYONE MUST ONE DAY RETURN.

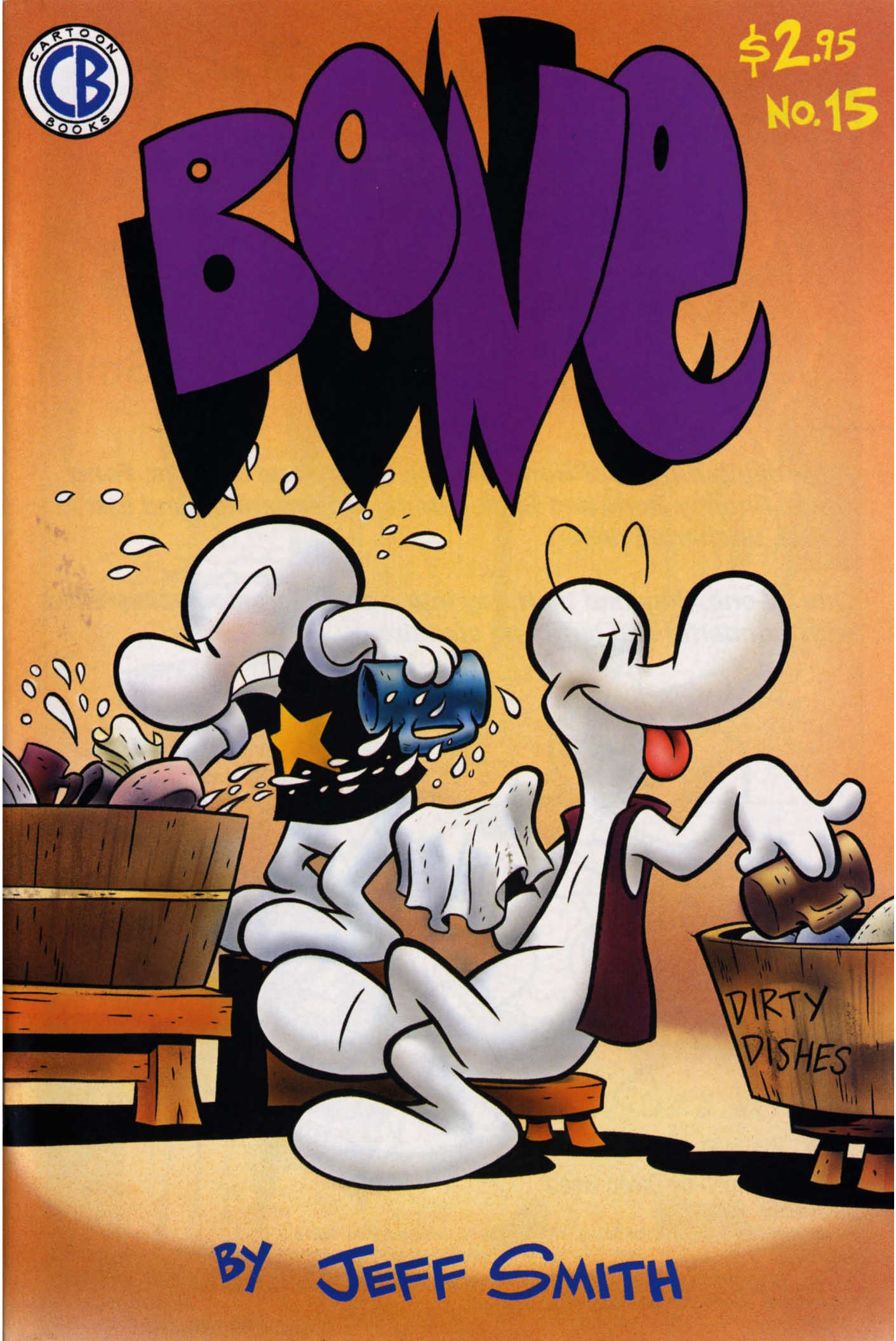

IN THE OLD TIMES, IT WAS BELIEVED OUR ANCESTORS COULD MOVE THROUGH THE SPIRIT WORLD AND VISIT OTHER PEOPLE'S DREAMS.
DO YOU AND GRAN'MA BELIEVE THAT?

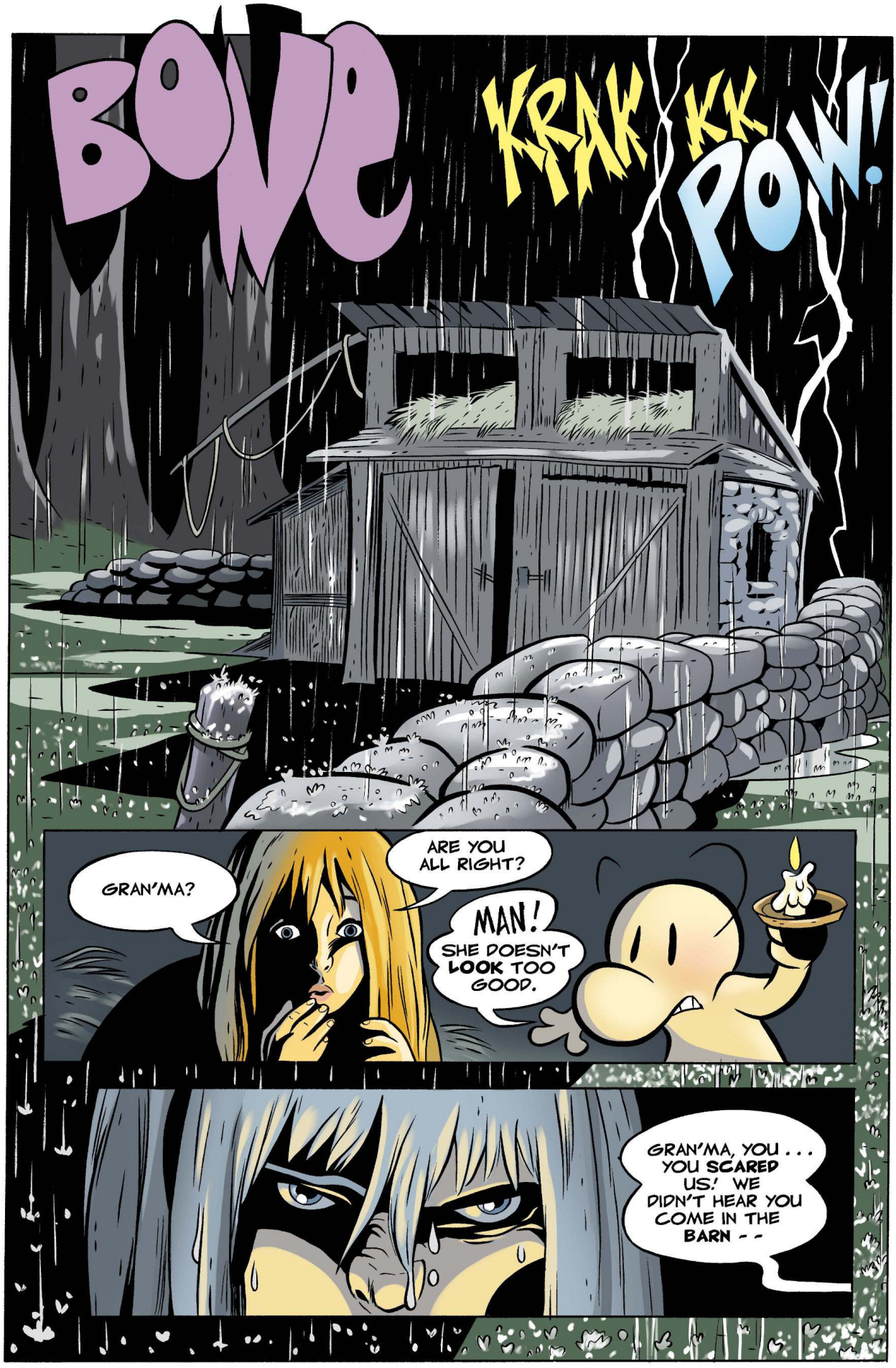

I'M NOT SURE. GRAN'MA NEVER LIKED TO TALK ABOUT DREAMS. ESPECIALLY **MY** DREAMS ABOUT **DRAGONS**.
WELL, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT **SPIRIT WORLDS**, BUT IT SURE **SEEMS** LIKE THE DRAGON PAID ME A VISIT THE OTHER NIGHT...

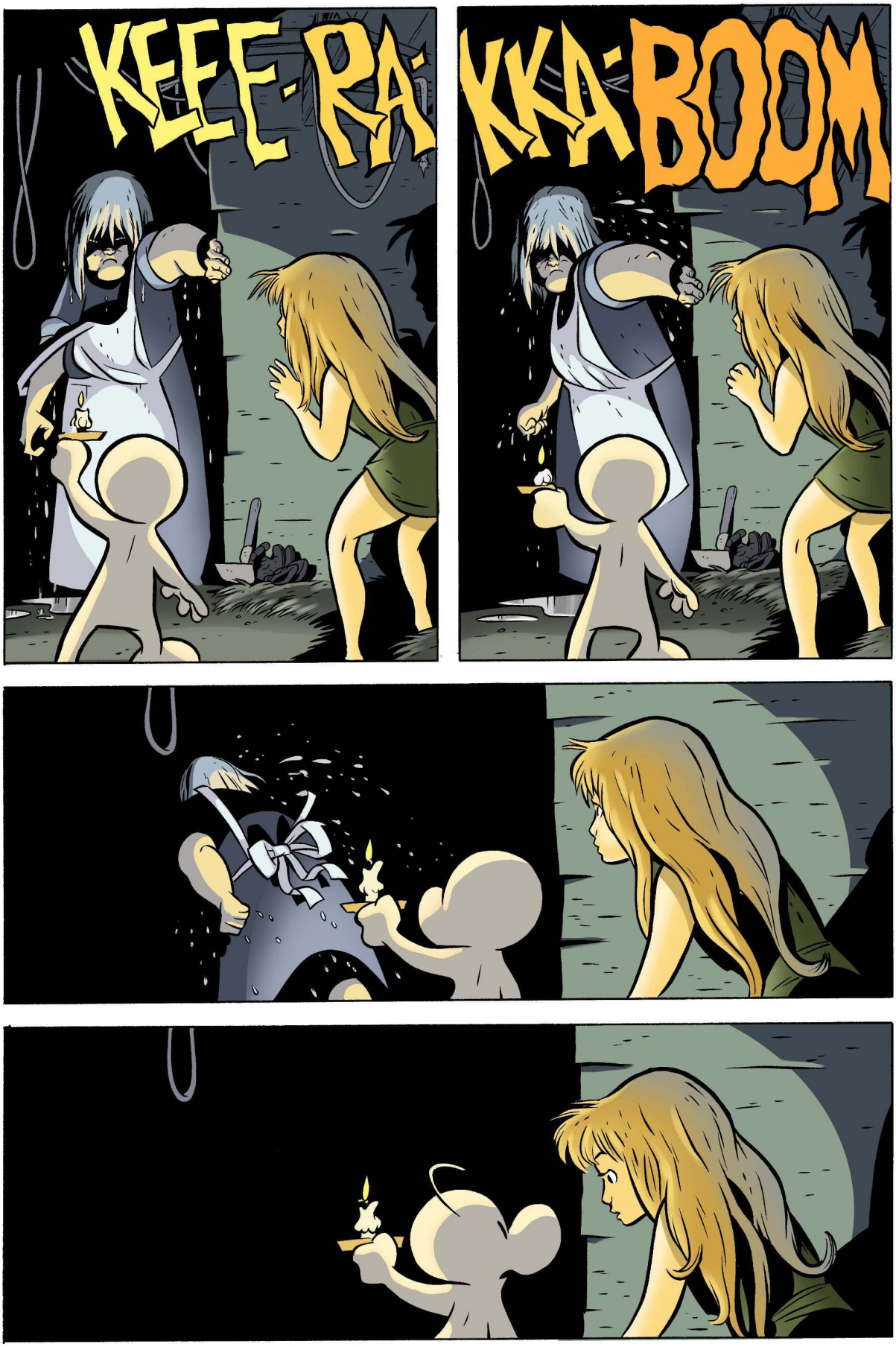

HIS **HEAD** APPEARED IN MY DREAM BREAKING THROUGH THE SURFACE OF THE OCEAN... WHEN I TOLD HIM ABOUT IT THE NEXT DAY, **HE** SAYS, **WELCOME ABOARD, ISHMAEL!**
ONLY THE **WEIRD** THING IS I NEVER TOLD HIM THE DREAM WAS ABOUT **MOBY DICK!**


HE SAID ISHMAEL? HE KNEW YOUR DREAM WAS ABOUT MOBY DICK?
SCARY, HUH? HOW'D HE KNOW WHAT I WAS DREAMING ABOUT?
AND HE KNEW ABOUT THAT CREEPY GUY IN YOUR DREAM, TOO! SO WHO WAS THAT?
IN MY DREAM? I DON'T KNOW . . .
IT WAS A HOODED FIGURE. WHOEVER - - OR WHATEVER - - IT WAS, I WAS VERY FRIGHTENED.
HM. AND YOU SAID HE HAD MY FACE.
HE HAD YOUR FACE, BUT I THINK . . . HE WAS JUST USING IT TO LURE ME TO HIM.
AND A GROUP OF HOODED PEOPLE WERE TAKING YOU OVER THE MOUNTAINS TO LIVE WITH THE DRAGONS . . .
YES. THAT WAS THE DREAM I USED TO HAVE AS A LITTLE GIRL.
I WONDER HOW SAFE IT IS FOR US TO BE TALKING ABOUT THIS . . .
ALL THE DREAMS ARE ABOUT DRAGONS AND HOODED PEOPLE! THERE'S A PATTERN HERE, THORN! SOMETHING'S GOING ON!
DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
GRAN'MA BEN KNOWS THE TRUTH ABOUT WHERE YOU WERE RAISED! HOW COME SHE'S NEVER TOLD YOU? INSTEAD, SHE TOLD YOU THAT DRAGONS AREN'T REAL - -
CREEAK

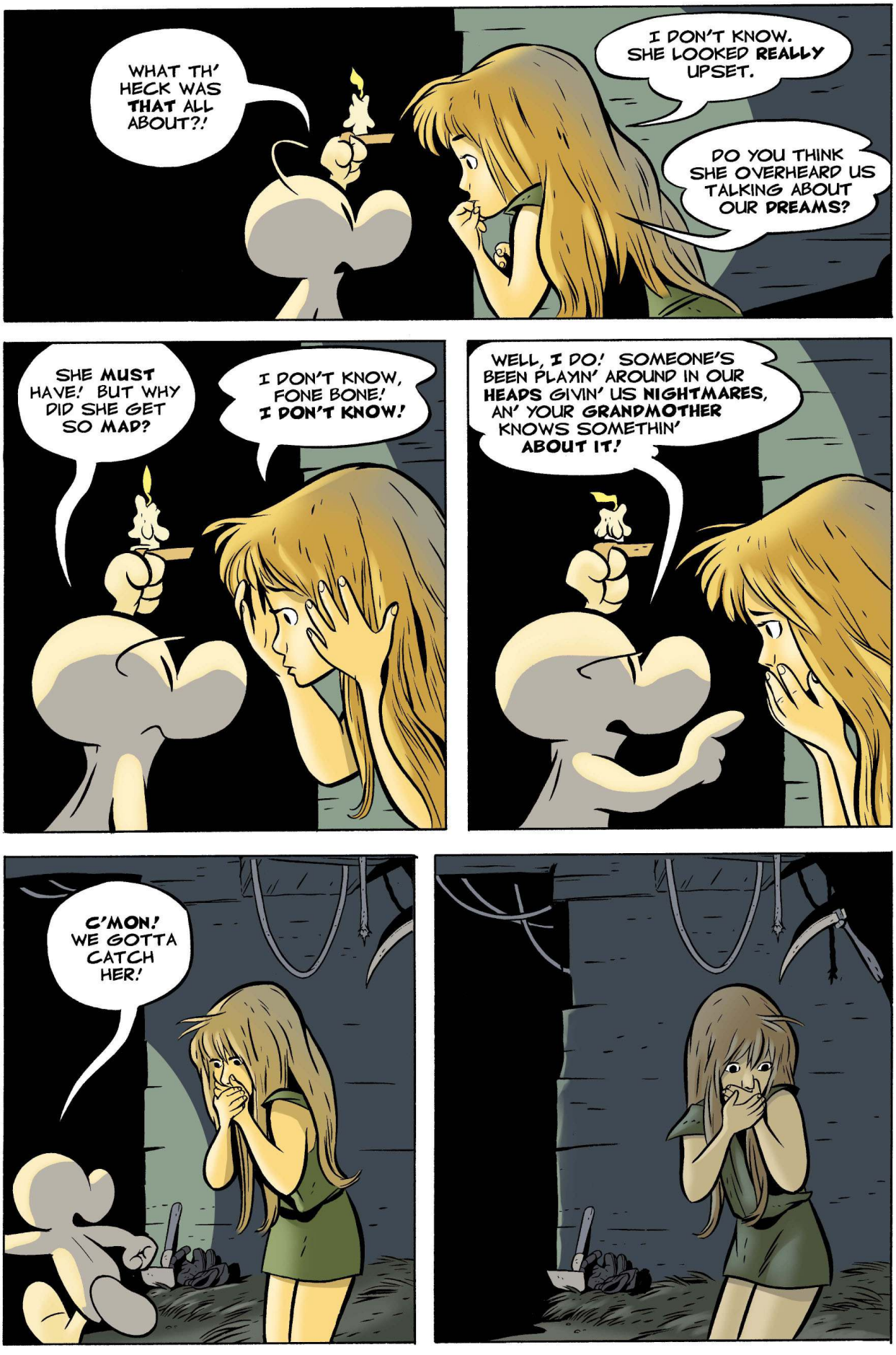


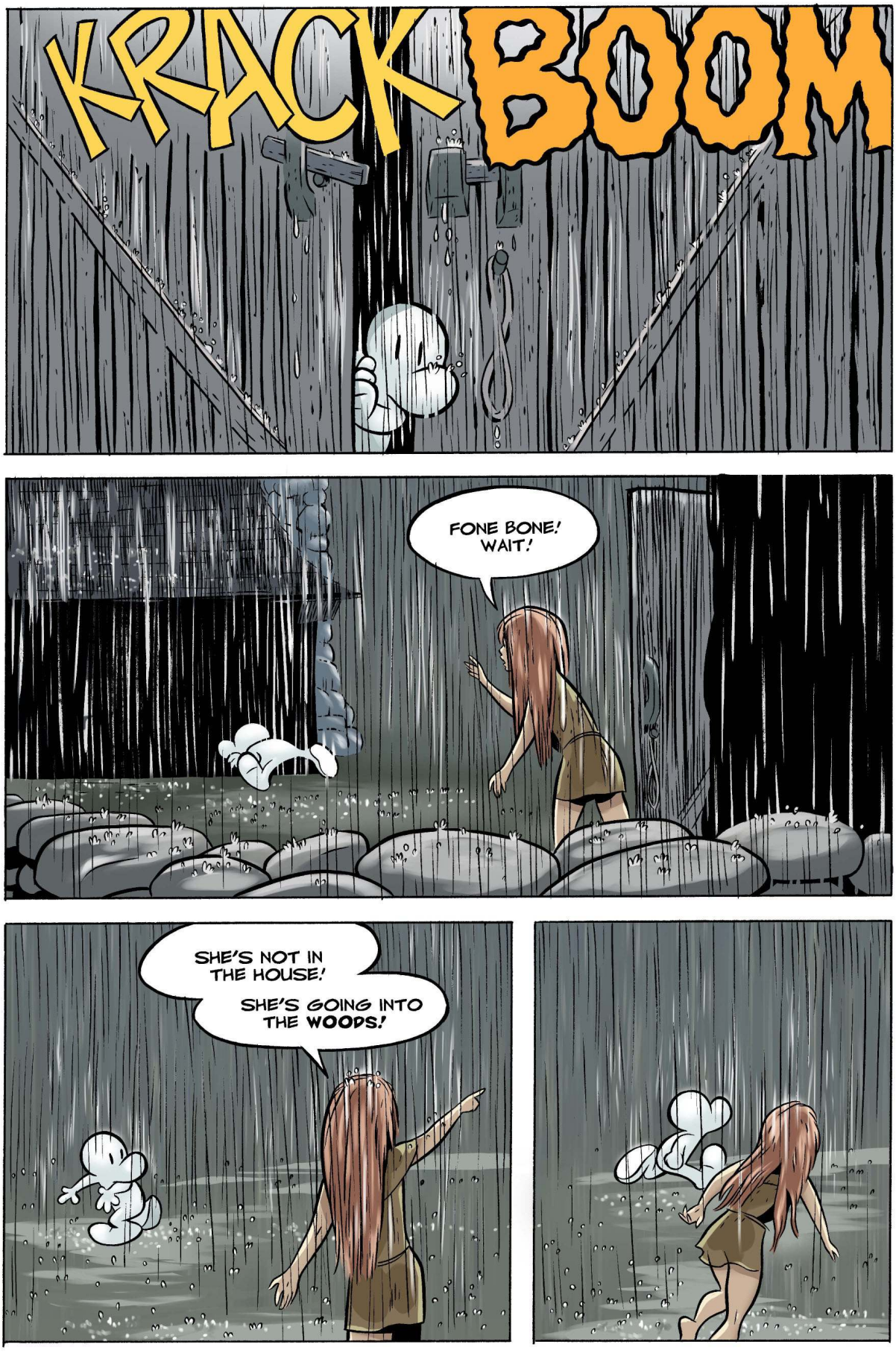

CARTOON BOOKS
CB
BONE
$2.95
No. 15
DIRTY DISHES
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
KRAK KK POW!
GRAN'MA?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MAN! SHE DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD.
GRAN'MA, YOU . . . YOU SCARED US! WE DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN THE BARN - -



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

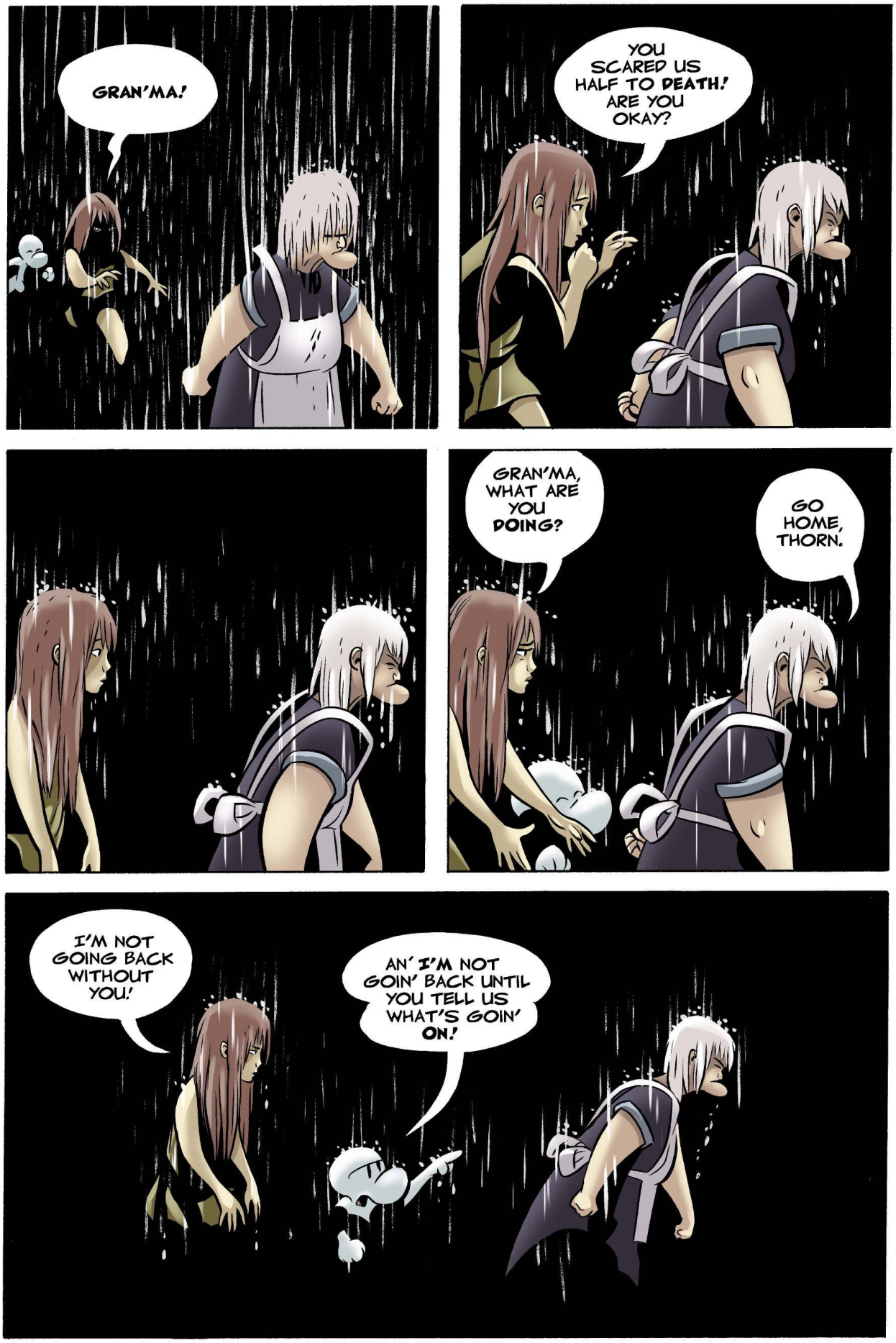

WHAT TH' HECK WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?!
I DON'T KNOW. SHE LOOKED REALLY UPSET.
DO YOU THINK SHE OVERHEARD US TALKING ABOUT OUR DREAMS?
SHE MUST HAVE! BUT WHY DID SHE GET SO MAD?
I DON'T KNOW, FONE BONE! I DON'T KNOW!
WELL, I DO! SOMEONE'S BEEN PLAYIN' AROUND IN OUR HEADS GIVIN' US NIGHTMARES, AN' YOUR GRANDMOTHER KNOWS SOMETHIN' ABOUT IT!
C'MON! WE GOTTA CATCH HER!



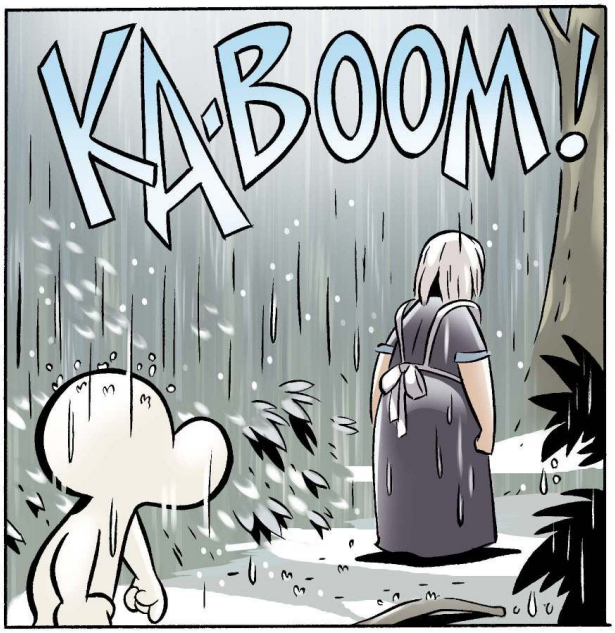
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


KKRAK
YIKES!
BABOOM
WHOA! THAT LIGHTNING WAS CLOSE!
OKAY, I GIVE! LET'S GO BACK TO TH' HOUSE!
THORN!
WE CAN'T STAY OUT HERE! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
I'M GONNA FIND GRAN'MA BEN!
GRAN'MA!

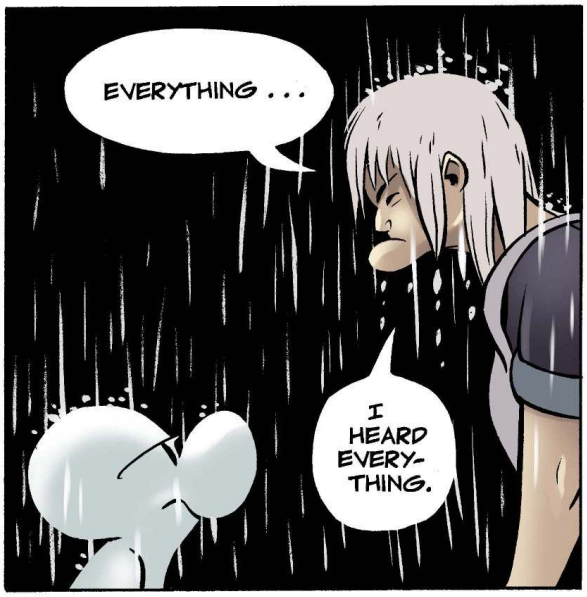

WE'LL NEVER FIND HER! WE CAN'T EVEN SEE TWO FEET IN FRONT OF US!
THORN!
STOP!
NO!
SHE WAS HEADED THIS WAY! WE'LL FIND HER!
KRAAKKLE!

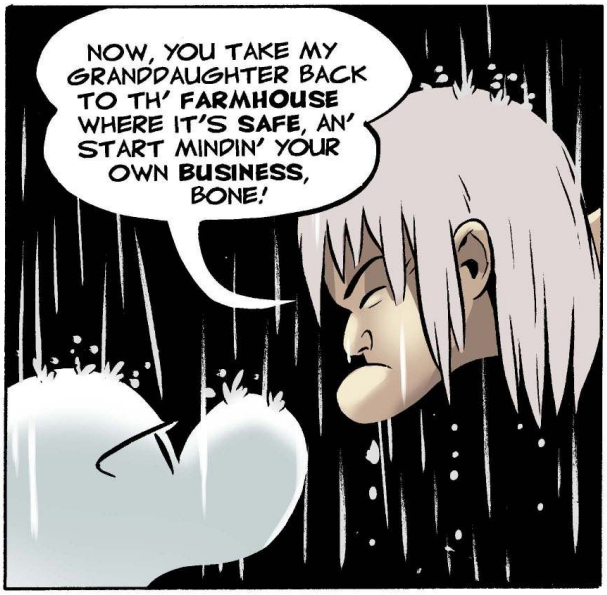

GRAN'MA!
YOU SCARED US HALF TO DEATH! ARE YOU OKAY?
GRAN'MA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
GO HOME, THORN.
I'M NOT GOING BACK WITHOUT YOU!
AN' I'M NOT GOIN' BACK UNTIL YOU TELL US WHAT'S GOIN' ON!

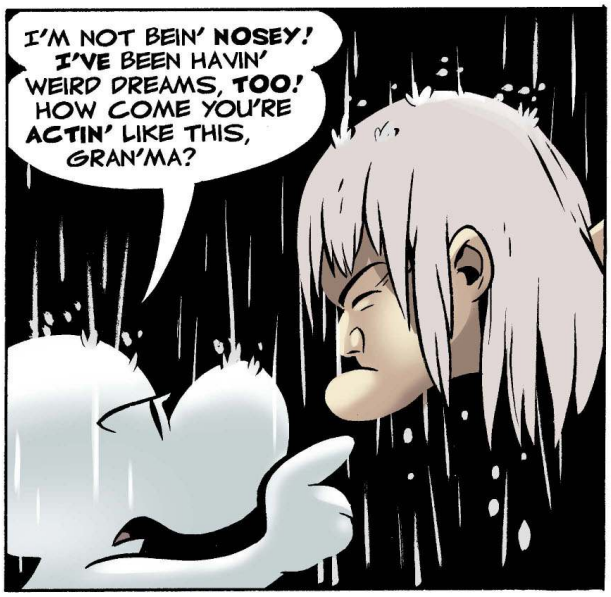

HOW MUCH DID YOU **OVERHEAR** OF ME AN' THORN TALKIN' ABOUT OUR **DREAMS**?

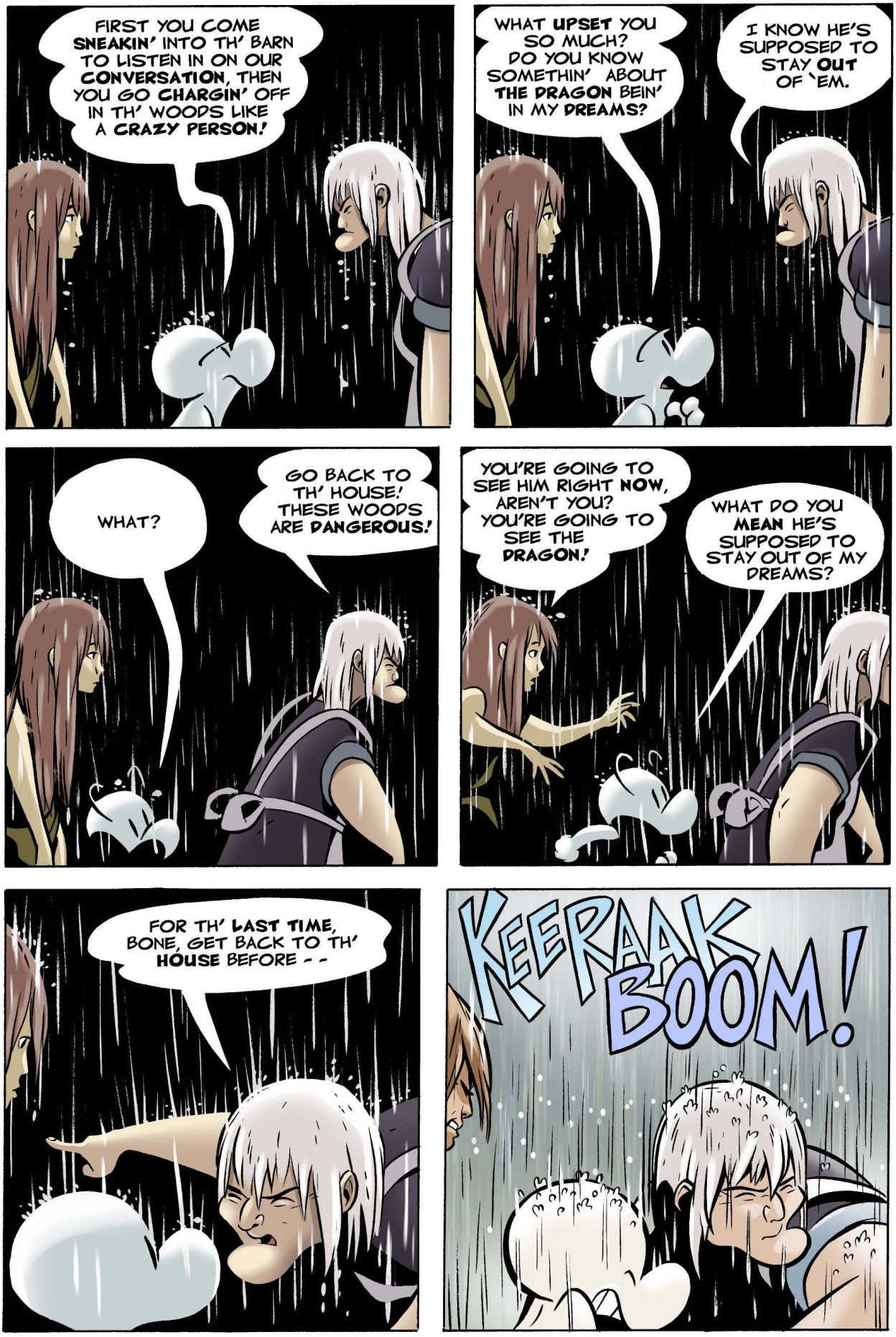

KA-BOOM!

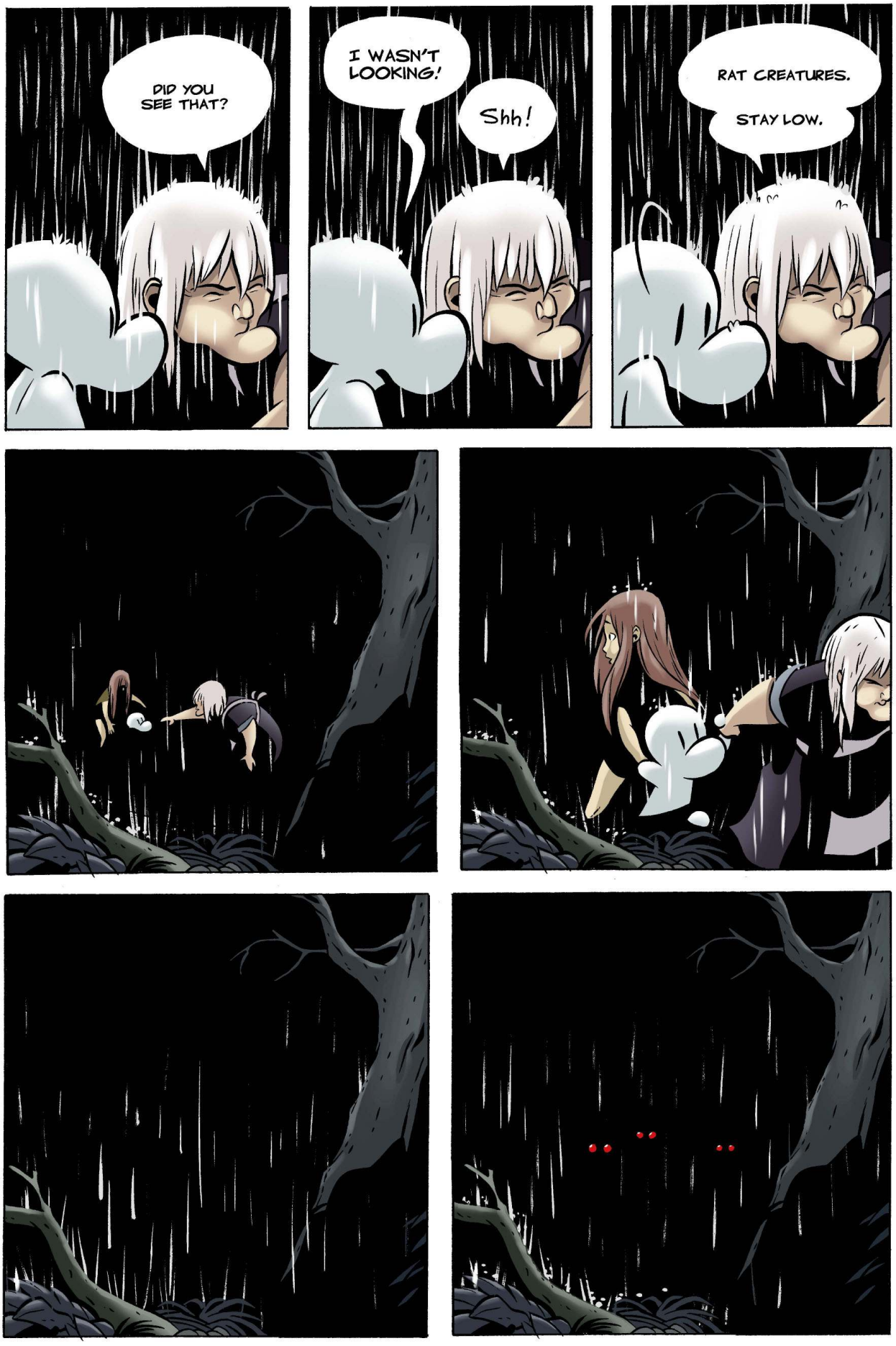



EVERYTHING . . .
I HEARD EVERY-THING.

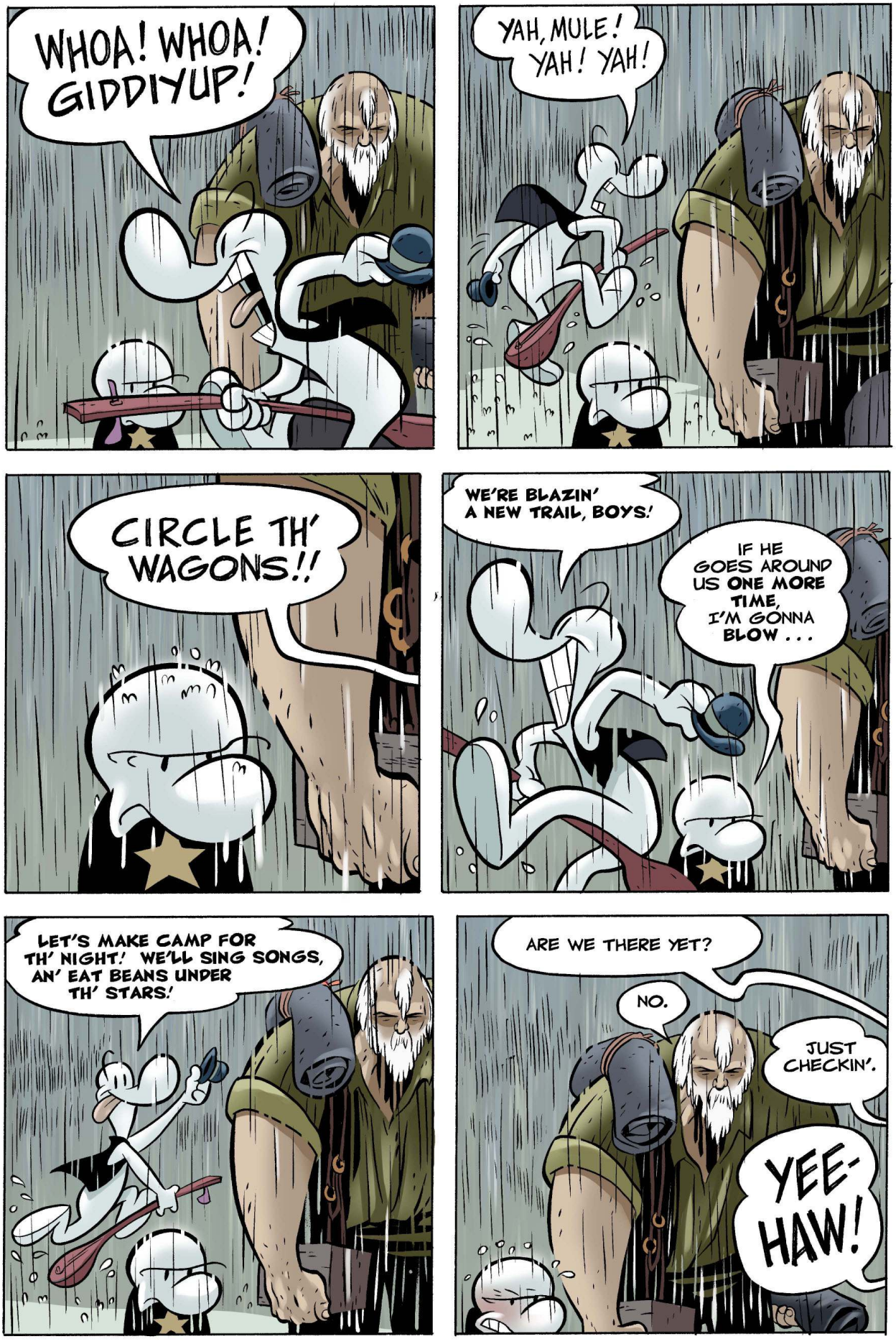

NOW, YOU TAKE MY GRANDDAUGHTER BACK TO TH' **FARMHOUSE** WHERE IT'S **SAFE**, AN' START MINDIN' YOUR OWN **BUSINESS**, BONE!

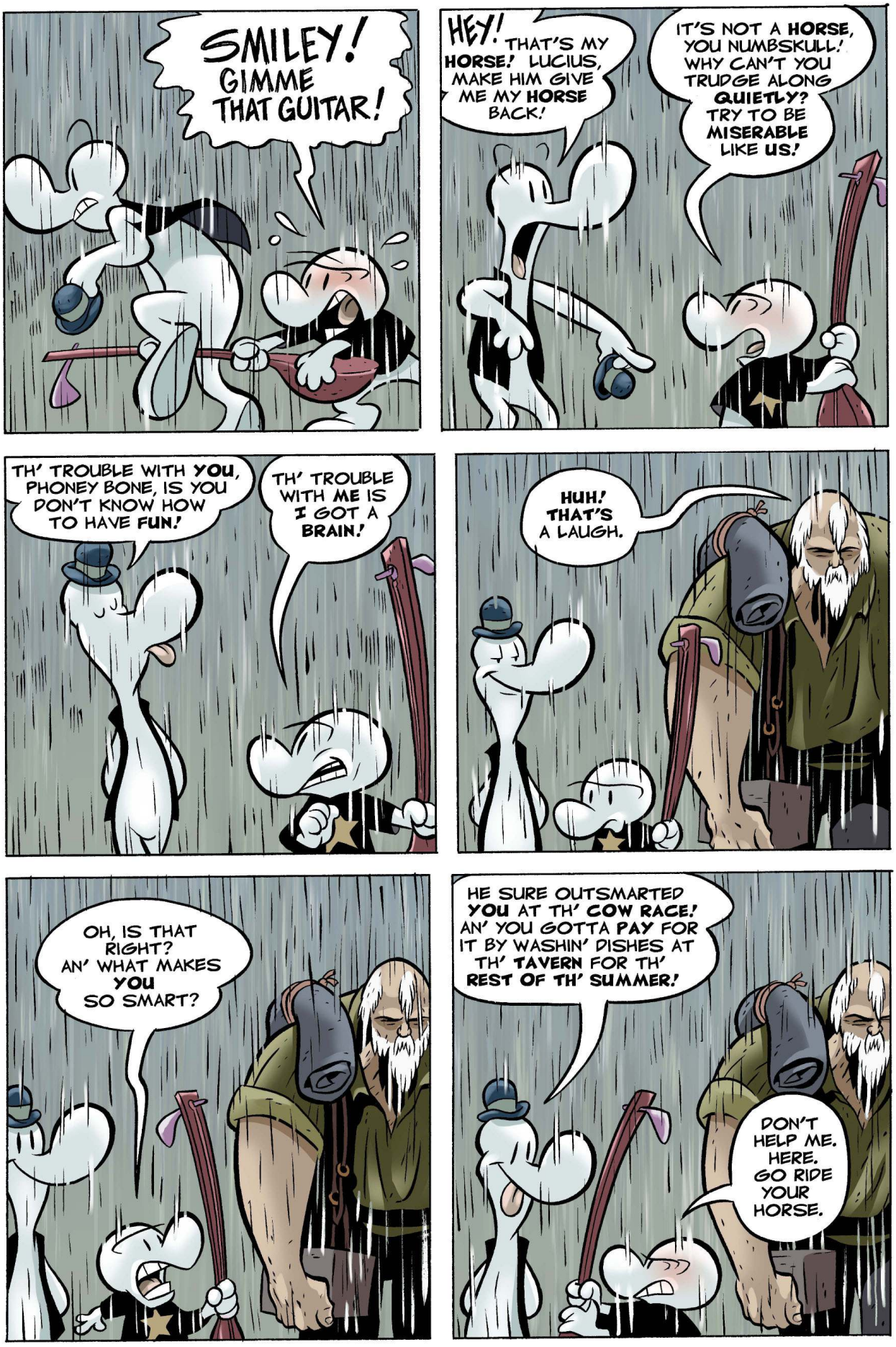

I'M NOT BEIN' **NOSEY**! **I'VE** BEEN HAVIN' WEIRD DREAMS, **TOO**! HOW COME YOU'RE **ACTIN'** LIKE THIS, GRAN'MA?

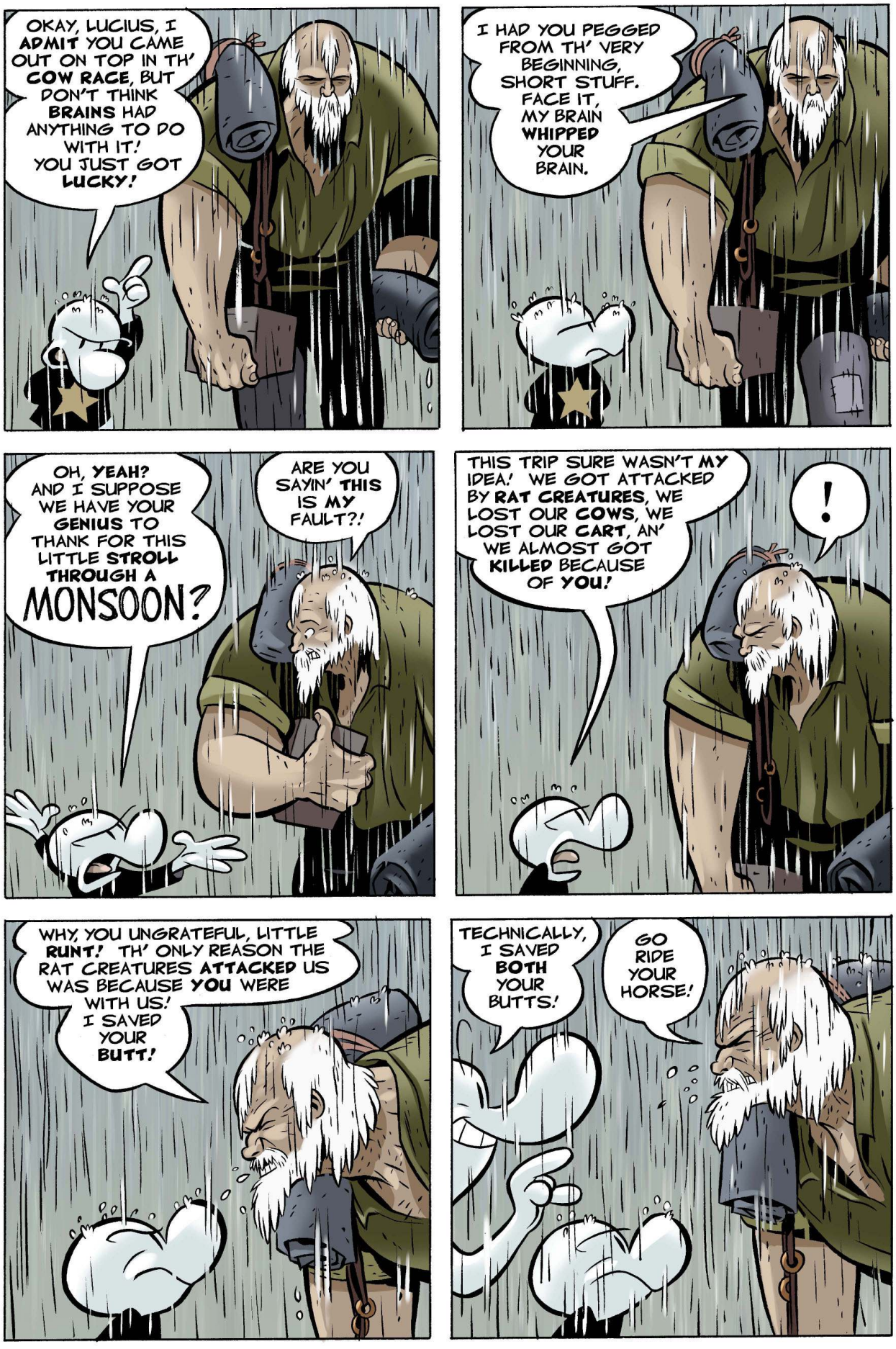

FIRST YOU COME SNEAKIN' INTO TH' BARN TO LISTEN IN ON OUR CONVERSATION, THEN YOU GO CHARGIN' OFF IN TH' WOODS LIKE A CRAZY PERSON!
WHAT UPSET YOU SO MUCH? DO YOU KNOW SOMETHIN' ABOUT THE DRAGON BEIN' IN MY DREAMS?
I KNOW HE'S SUPPOSED TO STAY OUT OF 'EM.
WHAT?
GO BACK TO TH' HOUSE! THESE WOODS ARE DANGEROUS!
YOU'RE GOING TO SEE HIM RIGHT NOW, AREN'T YOU? YOU'RE GOING TO SEE THE DRAGON!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE'S SUPPOSED TO STAY OUT OF MY DREAMS?
FOR TH' LAST TIME, BONE, GET BACK TO TH' HOUSE BEFORE - -
KEERAAK
BOOM!

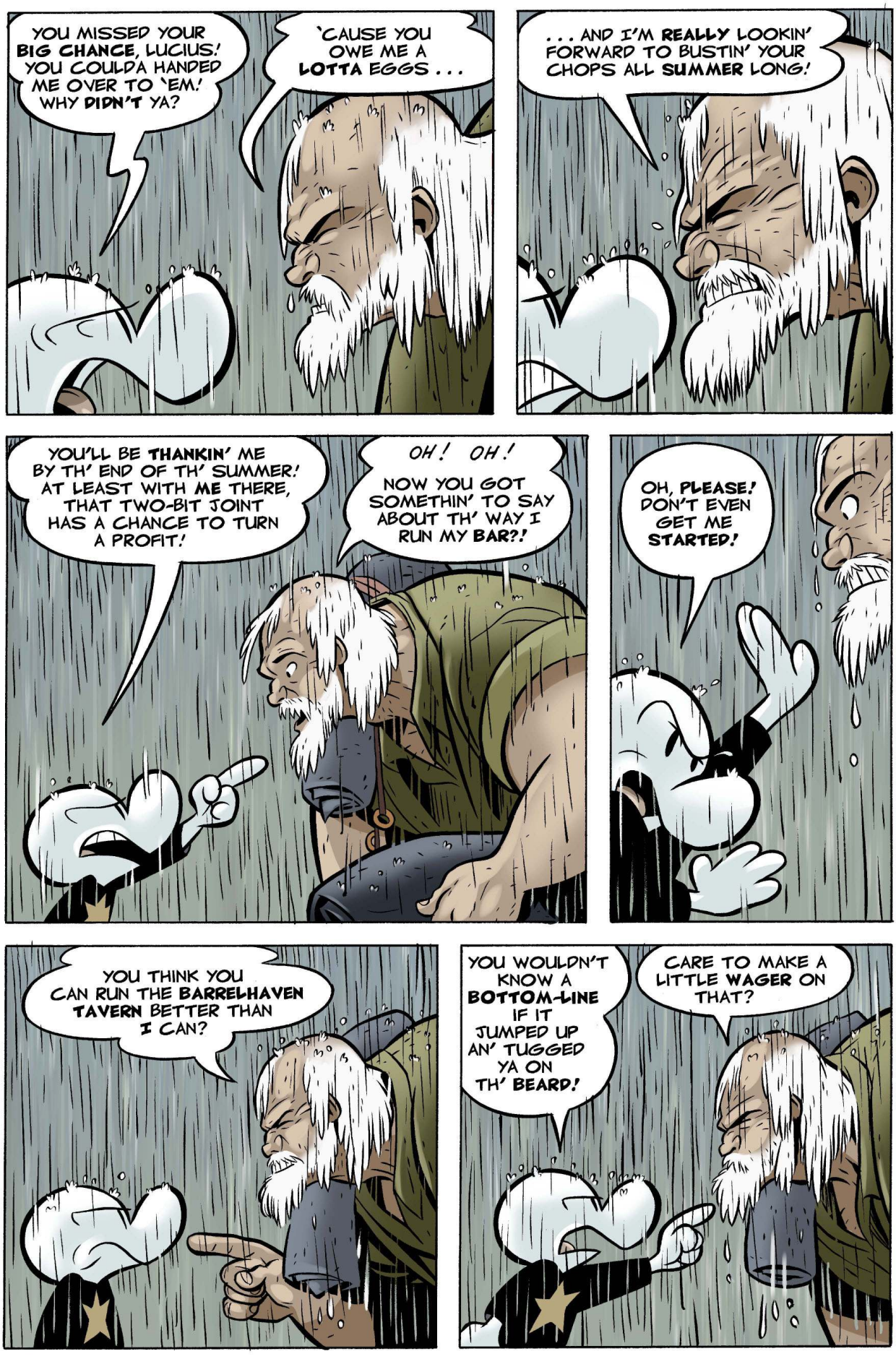

DID YOU SEE THAT?
I WASN'T LOOKING!
Shh!
RAT CREATURES.
STAY LOW.

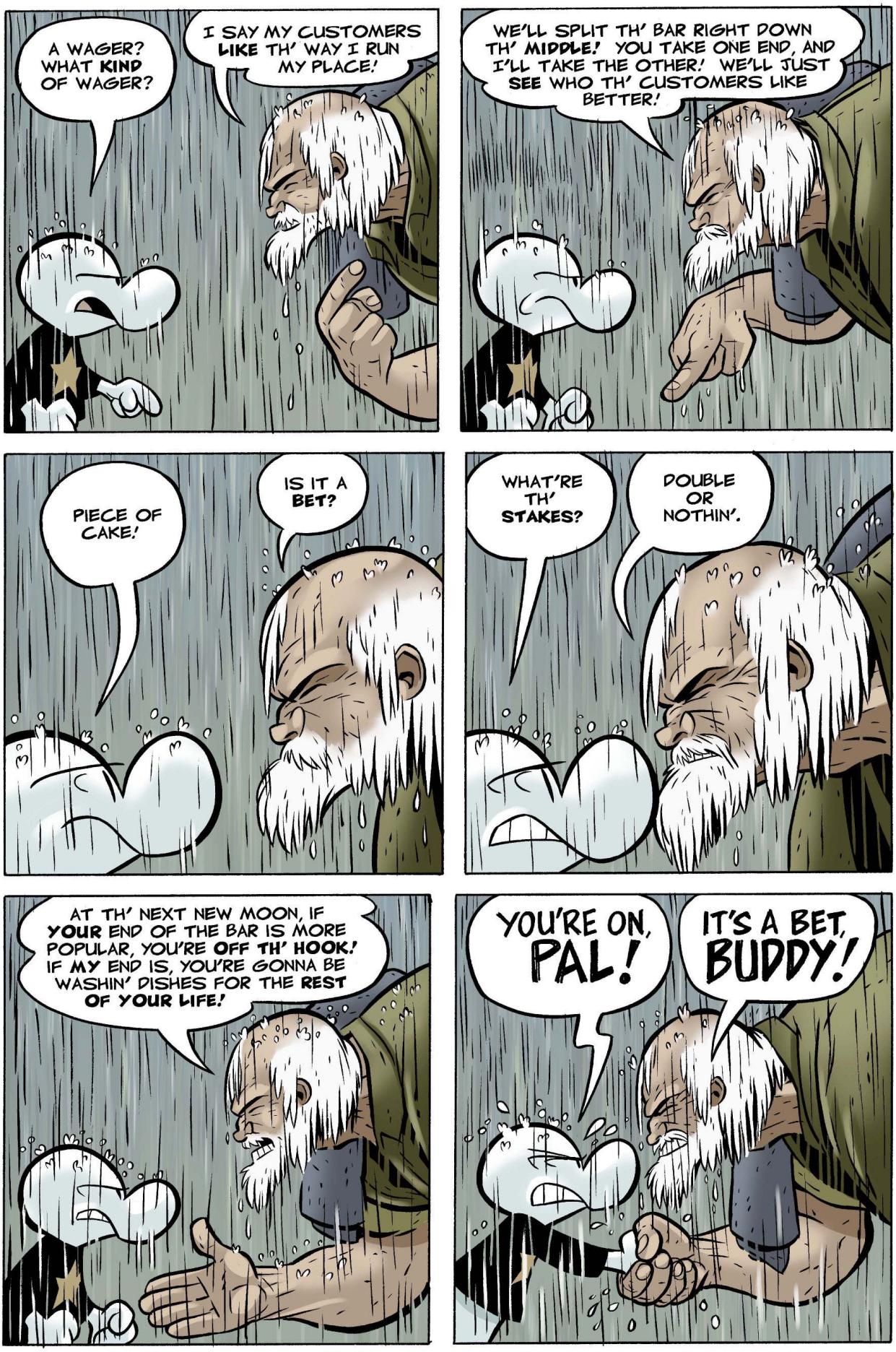

RUMMMMMMBLE
ARE WE THERE YET?
NO.
JUST CHECKIN'.
WHOA, HOSS! YAH! EASY BOY!


WHOA! WHOA! GIDDIYUP!
YAH, MULE! YAH! YAH!
CIRCLE TH' WAGONS!!
WE'RE BLAZIN' A NEW TRAIL, BOYS!
IF HE GOES AROUND US ONE MORE TIME, I'M GONNA BLOW . . .
LET'S MAKE CAMP FOR TH' NIGHT! WE'LL SING SONGS, AN' EAT BEANS UNDER TH' STARS!
ARE WE THERE YET?
NO.
JUST CHECKIN'.
YEE-HAW!


SMILEY! GIMME THAT GUITAR!
HEY! THAT'S MY HORSE! LUCIUS, MAKE HIM GIVE ME MY HORSE BACK!
IT'S NOT A HORSE, YOU NUMBSKULL! WHY CAN'T YOU TRUDGE ALONG QUIETLY? TRY TO BE MISERABLE LIKE US!
TH' TROUBLE WITH YOU, PHONEY BONE, IS YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN!
TH' TROUBLE WITH ME IS I GOT A BRAIN!
HUH! THAT'S A LAUGH.
OH, IS THAT RIGHT? AN' WHAT MAKES YOU SO SMART?
HE SURE OUTSMARTED YOU AT TH' COW RACE! AN' YOU GOTTA PAY FOR IT BY WASHIN' DISHES AT TH' TAVERN FOR TH' REST OF TH' SUMMER!
DON'T HELP ME. HERE. GO RIDE YOUR HORSE.


OKAY, LUCIUS, I ADMIT YOU CAME OUT ON TOP IN TH' COW RACE, BUT DON'T THINK BRAINS HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT! YOU JUST GOT LUCKY!
I HAD YOU PEGGED FROM TH' VERY BEGINNING, SHORT STUFF. FACE IT, MY BRAIN WHIPPED YOUR BRAIN.
OH, YEAH? AND I SUPPOSE WE HAVE YOUR GENIUS TO THANK FOR THIS LITTLE STROLL THROUGH A MONSOON?
ARE YOU SAYIN' THIS IS MY FAULT?!
THIS TRIP SURE WASN'T MY IDEA! WE GOT ATTACKED BY RAT CREATURES, WE LOST OUR COWS, WE LOST OUR CART, AN' WE ALMOST GOT KILLED BECAUSE OF YOU!
!
WHY, YOU UNGRATEFUL, LITTLE RUNT! TH' ONLY REASON THE RAT CREATURES ATTACKED US WAS BECAUSE YOU WERE WITH US! I SAVED YOUR BUTT!
TECHNICALLY, I SAVED BOTH YOUR BUTTS!
GO RIDE YOUR HORSE!

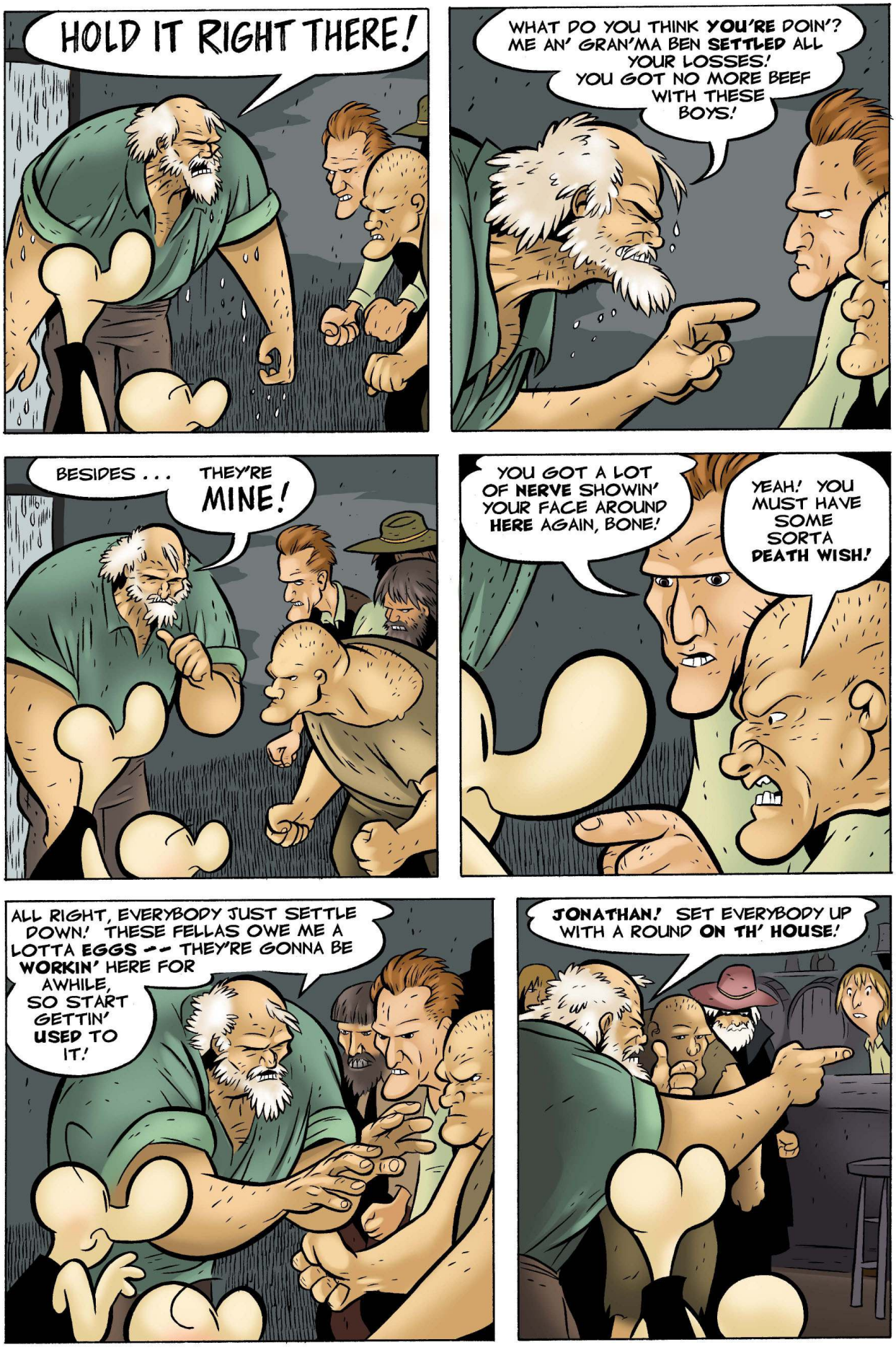

YOU MISSED YOUR BIG CHANCE, LUCIUS! YOU COULDA HANDED ME OVER TO 'EM! WHY DIDN'T YA?
'CAUSE YOU OWE ME A LOTTA EGGS . . .
. . . AND I'M REALLY LOOKIN' FORWARD TO BUSTIN' YOUR CHOPS ALL SUMMER LONG!
YOU'LL BE THANKIN' ME BY TH' END OF TH' SUMMER! AT LEAST WITH ME THERE, THAT TWO-BIT JOINT HAS A CHANCE TO TURN A PROFIT!
OH! OH!
NOW YOU GOT SOMETHIN' TO SAY ABOUT TH' WAY I RUN MY BAR?!
OH, PLEASE! DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED!
YOU THINK YOU CAN RUN THE BARRELHAVEN TAVERN BETTER THAN I CAN?
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW A BOTTOM-LINE IF IT JUMPED UP AN' TUGGED YA ON TH' BEARD!
CARE TO MAKE A LITTLE WAGER ON THAT?


A WAGER? WHAT KIND OF WAGER?
I SAY MY CUSTOMERS LIKE TH' WAY I RUN MY PLACE!
WE'LL SPLIT TH' BAR RIGHT DOWN TH' MIDDLE! YOU TAKE ONE END, AND I'LL TAKE THE OTHER! WE'LL JUST SEE WHO TH' CUSTOMERS LIKE BETTER!
PIECE OF CAKE!
IS IT A BET?
WHAT'RE TH' STAKES?
DOUBLE OR NOTHIN'.
AT TH' NEXT NEW MOON, IF YOUR END OF THE BAR IS MORE POPULAR, YOU'RE OFF TH' HOOK! IF MY END IS, YOU'RE GONNA BE WASHIN' DISHES FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!
YOU'RE ON, PAL!
IT'S A BET, BUDDY!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


HEY, EVERYBODY! LOOK! MR. DOWN IS BACK!
IT'S THOSE BONES!
TH' ONES THAT RIGGED TH' COW RACE!
LET'S GET `EM!

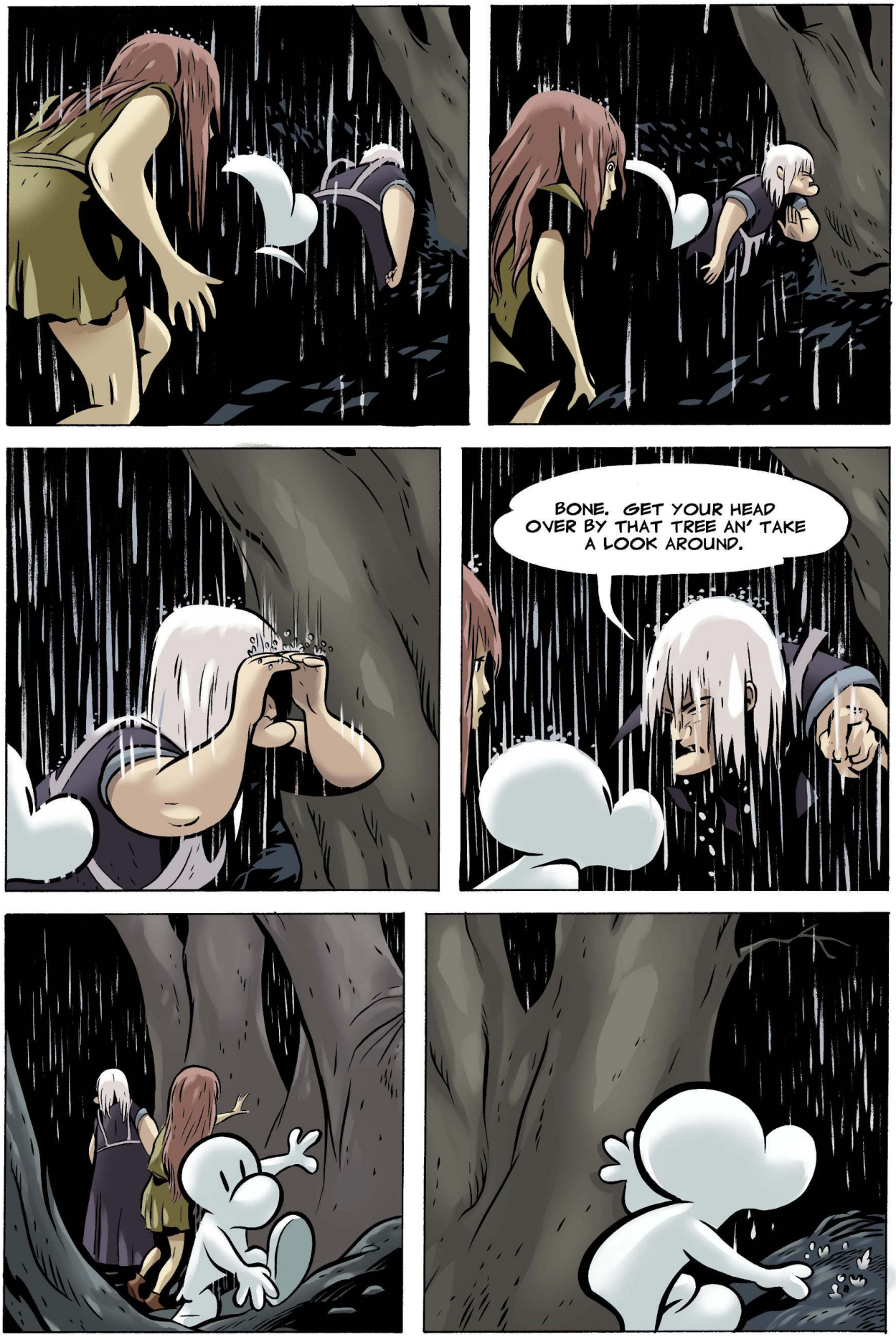

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOIN'? ME AN' GRAN'MA BEN SETTLED ALL YOUR LOSSES! YOU GOT NO MORE BEEF WITH THESE BOYS!
BESIDES . . . THEY'RE MINE!
YOU GOT A LOT OF NERVE SHOWIN' YOUR FACE AROUND HERE AGAIN, BONE!
YEAH! YOU MUST HAVE SOME SORTA DEATH WISH!
ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY JUST SETTLE DOWN! THESE FELLAS OWE ME A LOTTA EGGS -- THEY'RE GONNA BE WORKIN' HERE FOR AWHILE, SO START GETTIN' USED TO IT!
JONATHAN! SET EVERYBODY UP WITH A ROUND ON TH' HOUSE!

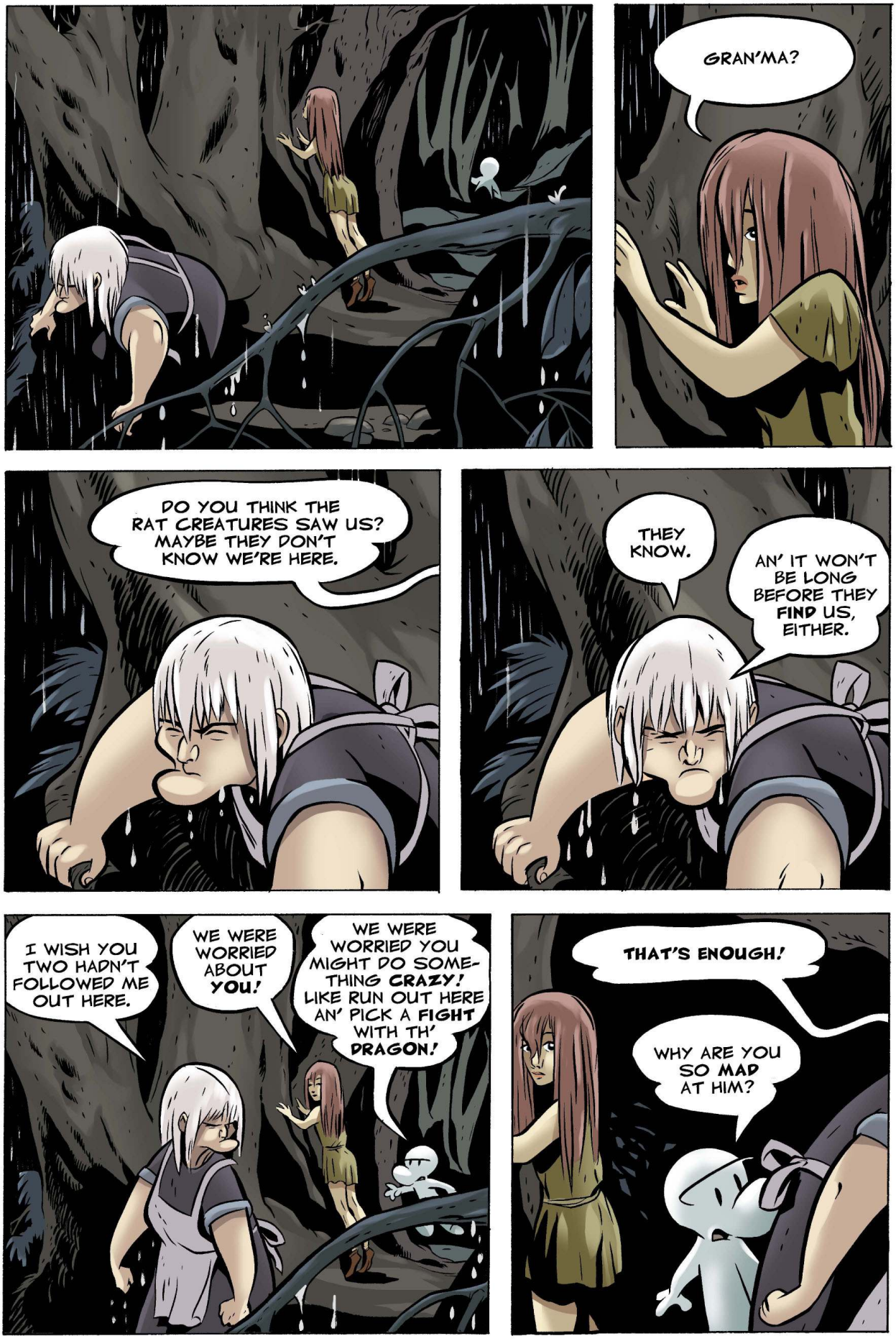

LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT YOUR WORK CUT OUT FOR YA IF YA WANNA BE TH' MOST POPULAR BARTENDER AROUND HERE, WOULDN'T YOU SAY SO, BONE?

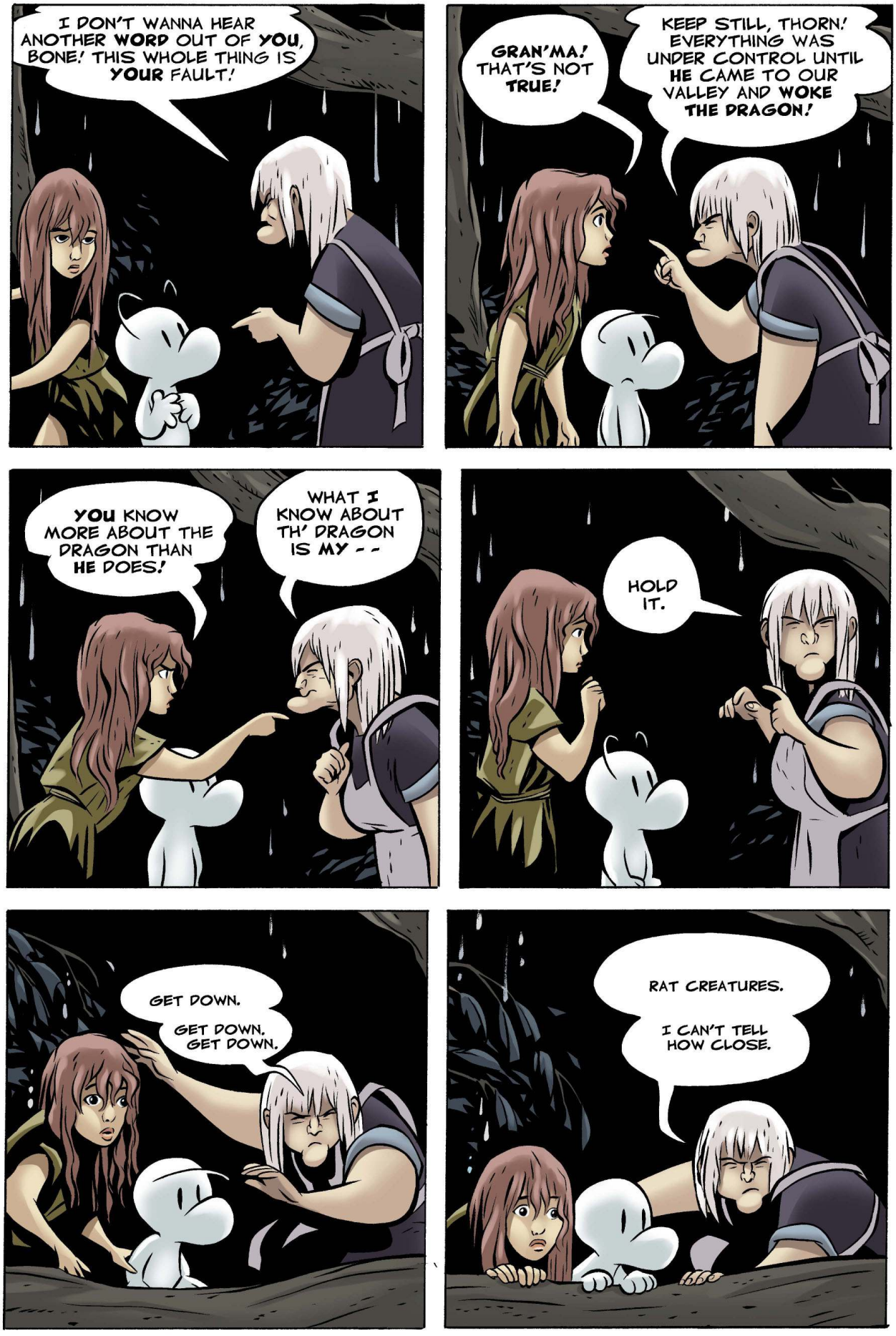

CARTOON
CB
BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
No.16

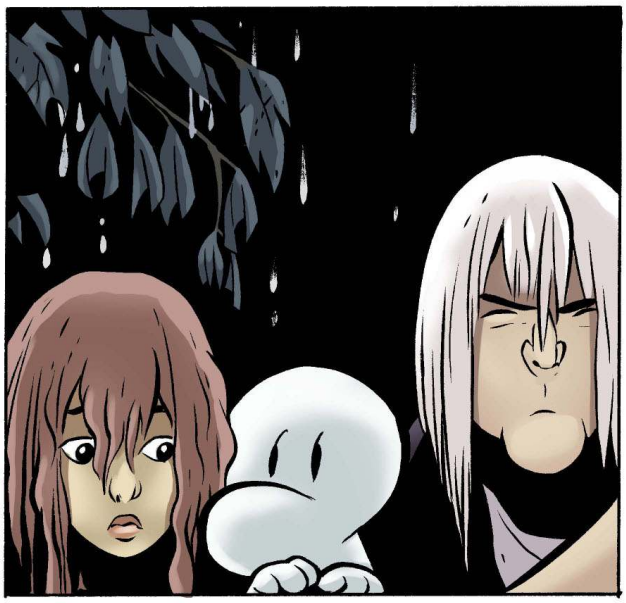

BONE

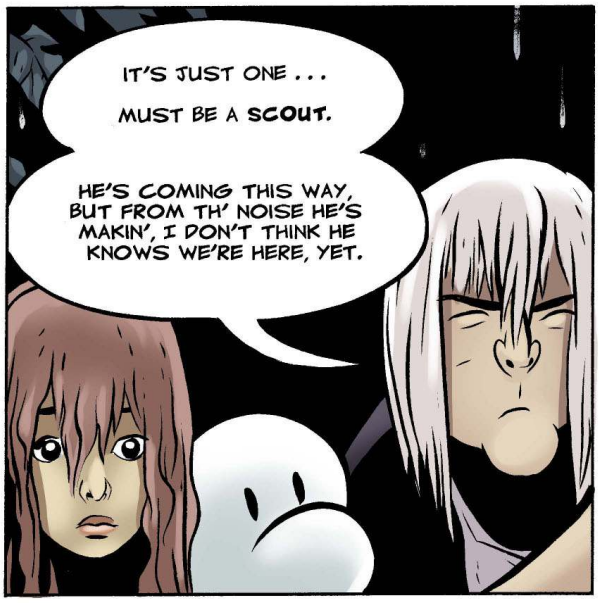

BOOM
KABABOOM

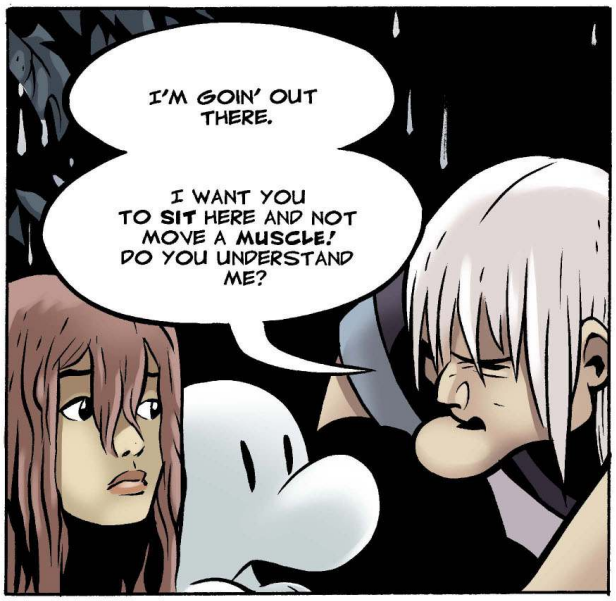

BONE. GET YOUR HEAD OVER BY THAT TREE AN' TAKE A LOOK AROUND.


GRAN'MA?
DO YOU THINK THE RAT CREATURES SAW US? MAYBE THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE HERE.
THEY KNOW.
AN' IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THEY FIND US, EITHER.
I WISH YOU TWO HADN'T FOLLOWED ME OUT HERE.
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
WE WERE WORRIED YOU MIGHT DO SOMETHING CRAZY! LIKE RUN OUT HERE AN' PICK A FIGHT WITH TH' DRAGON!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
WHY ARE YOU SO MAD AT HIM?

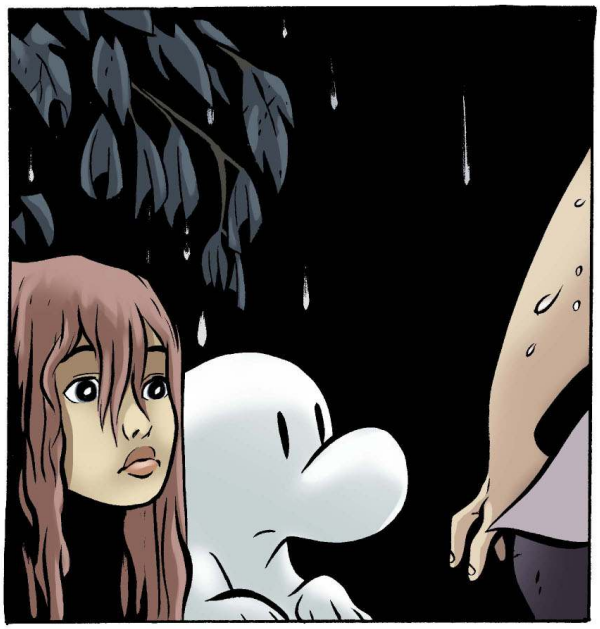

I DON'T WANNA HEAR ANOTHER WORD OUT OF YOU, BONE! THIS WHOLE THING IS YOUR FAULT!
GRAN'MA! THAT'S NOT TRUE!
KEEP STILL, THORN! EVERYTHING WAS UNDER CONTROL UNTIL HE CAME TO OUR VALLEY AND WOKE THE DRAGON!
YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THE DRAGON THAN HE DOES!
WHAT I KNOW ABOUT TH' DRAGON IS MY - -
HOLD IT.
GET DOWN.
GET DOWN. GET DOWN.
RAT CREATURES.
I CAN'T TELL HOW CLOSE.

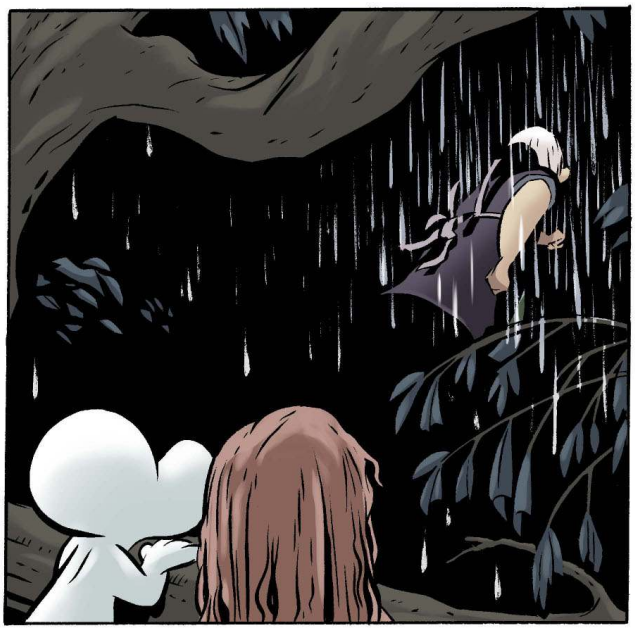


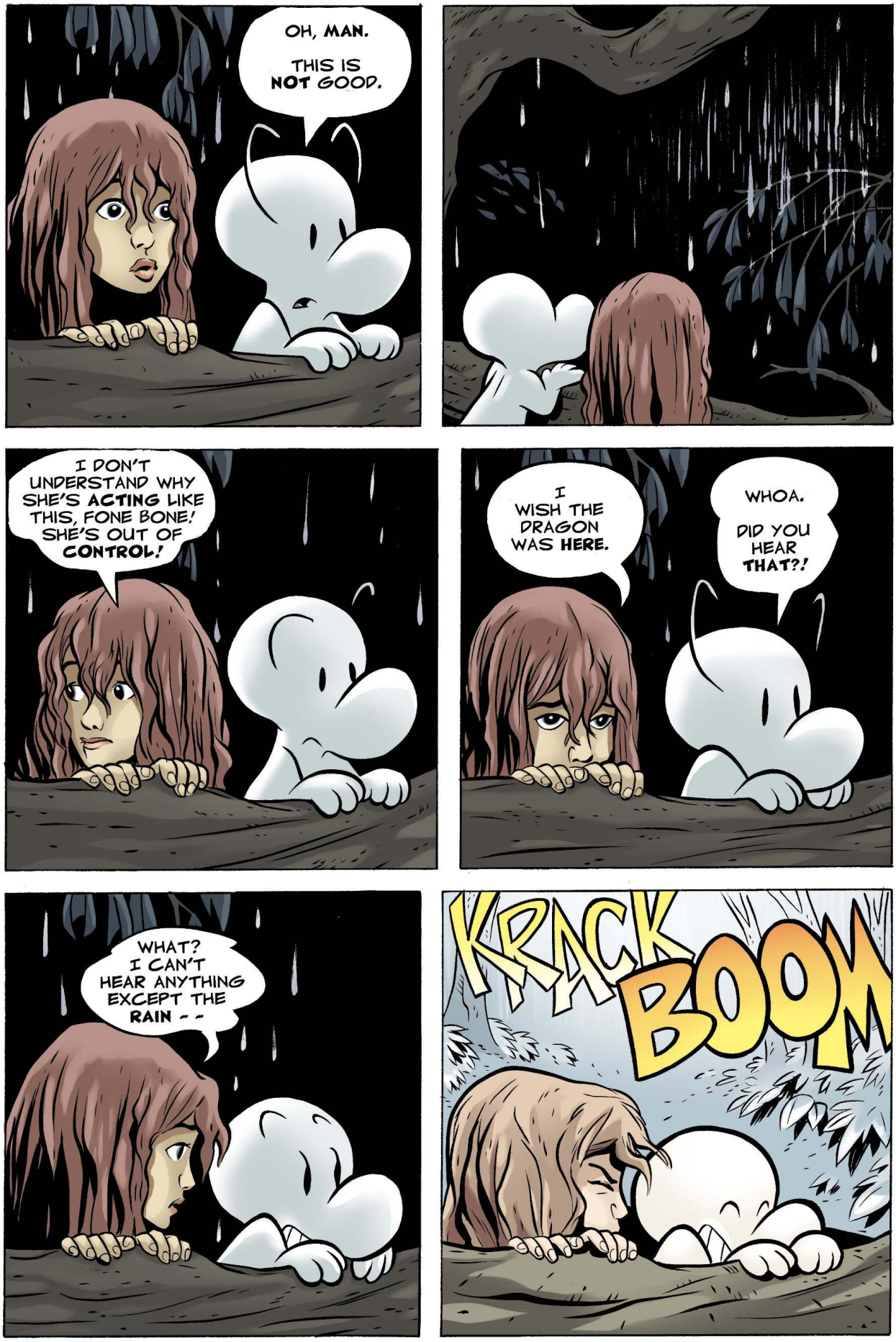

IT'S JUST ONE . . .
MUST BE A SCOUT.
HE'S COMING THIS WAY, BUT FROM TH' NOISE HE'S MAKIN', I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS WE'RE HERE, YET.

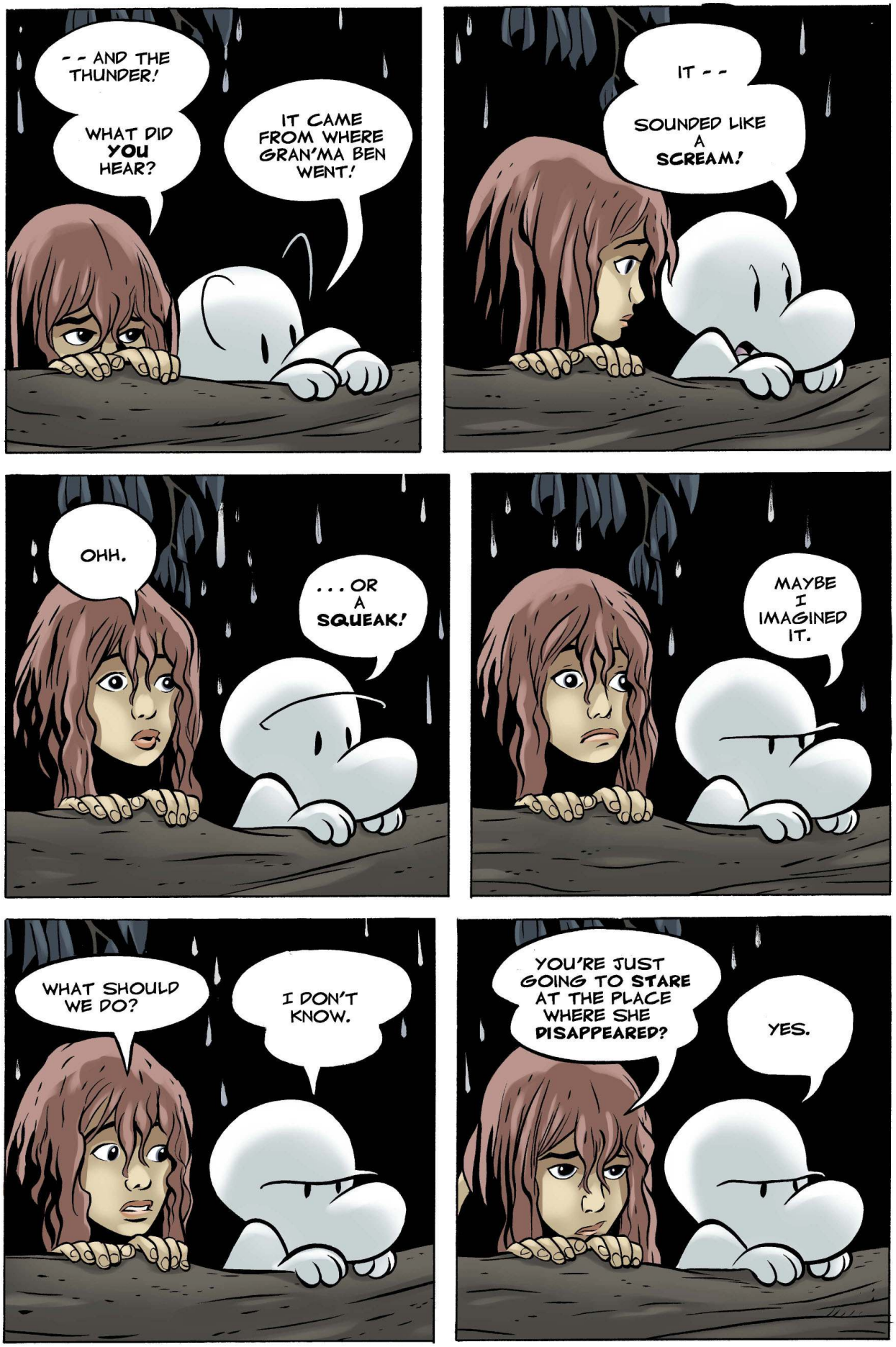

I'M GOIN' OUT THERE.
I WANT YOU TO SIT HERE AND NOT MOVE A MUSCLE! DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?

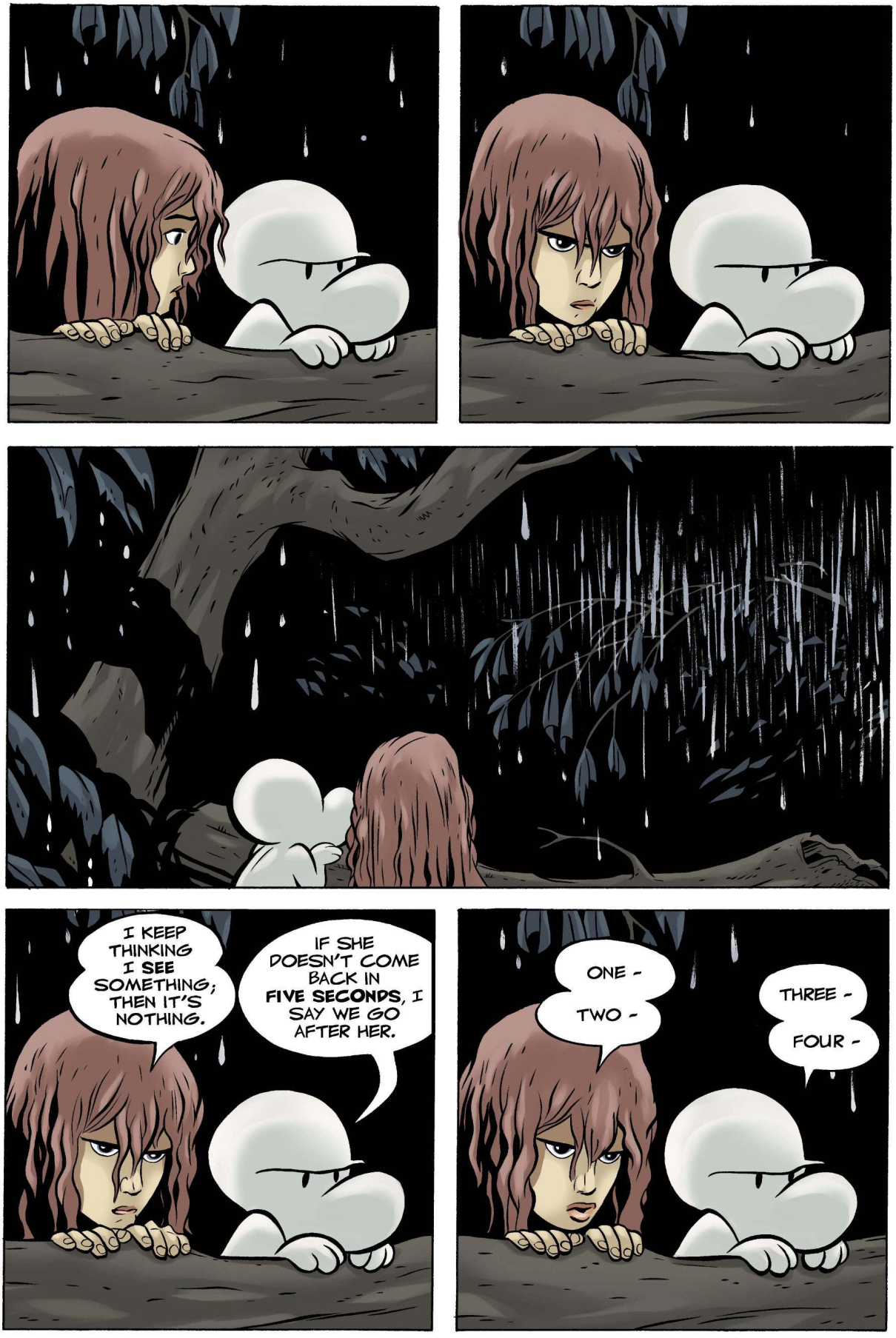

DO YOU?!
YES.
UH, HUH.





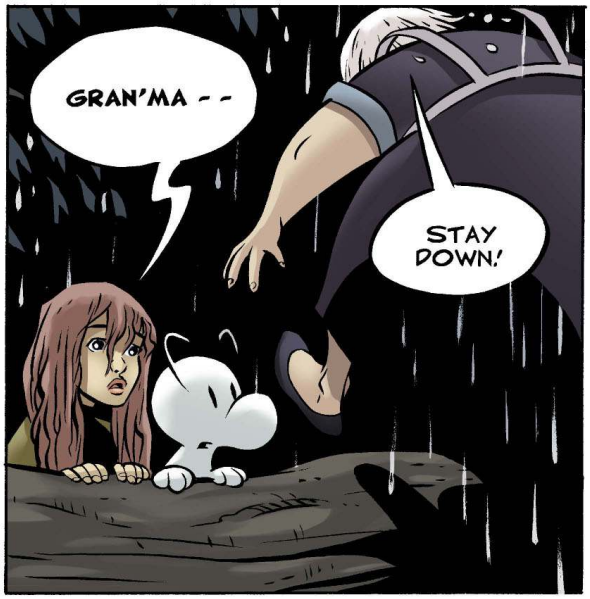

OH, MAN.
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY SHE'S ACTING LIKE THIS, FONE BONE! SHE'S OUT OF CONTROL!
I WISH THE DRAGON WAS HERE.
WHOA.
DID YOU HEAR THAT?!
WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING EXCEPT THE RAIN - -
KRACK
BOOM

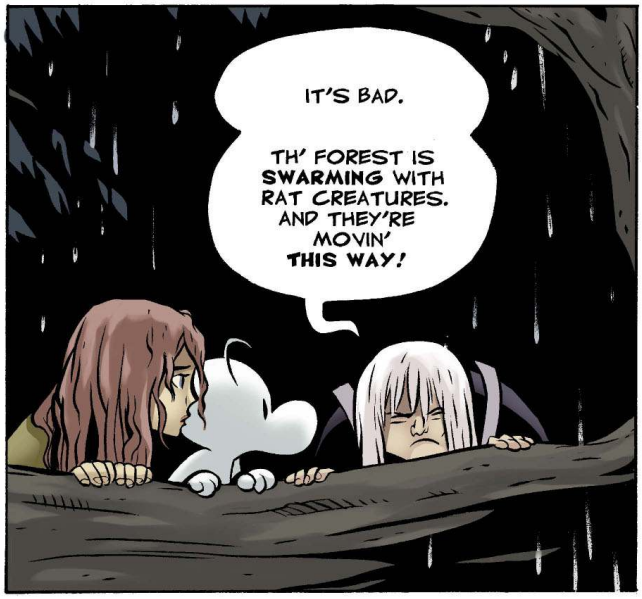

- - AND THE THUNDER!
WHAT DID YOU HEAR?
IT CAME FROM WHERE GRAN'MA BEN WENT!
IT - -
SOUNDED LIKE A SCREAM!
OHH.
. . . OR A SQUEAK!
MAYBE I IMAGINED IT.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STARE AT THE PLACE WHERE SHE DISAPPEARED?
YES.

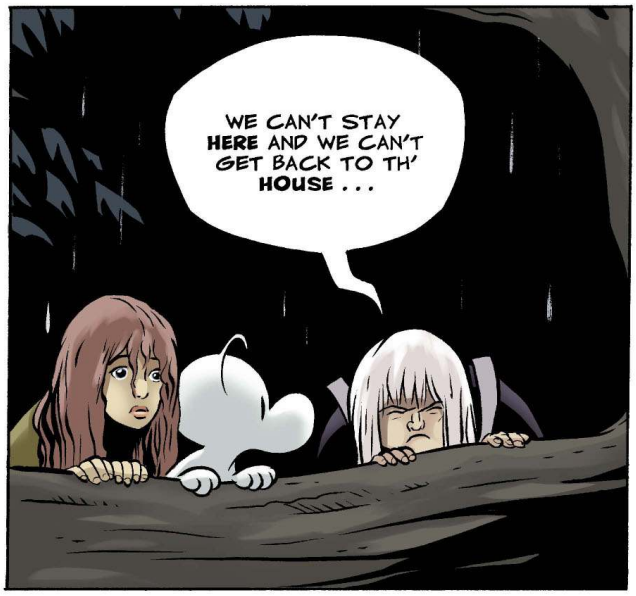


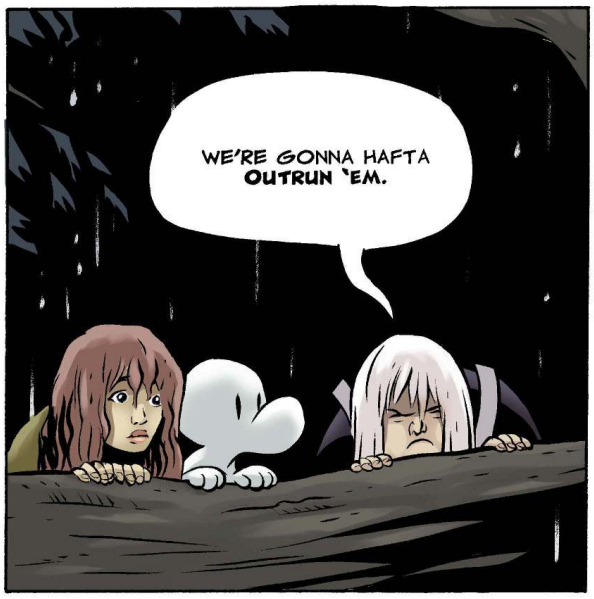
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

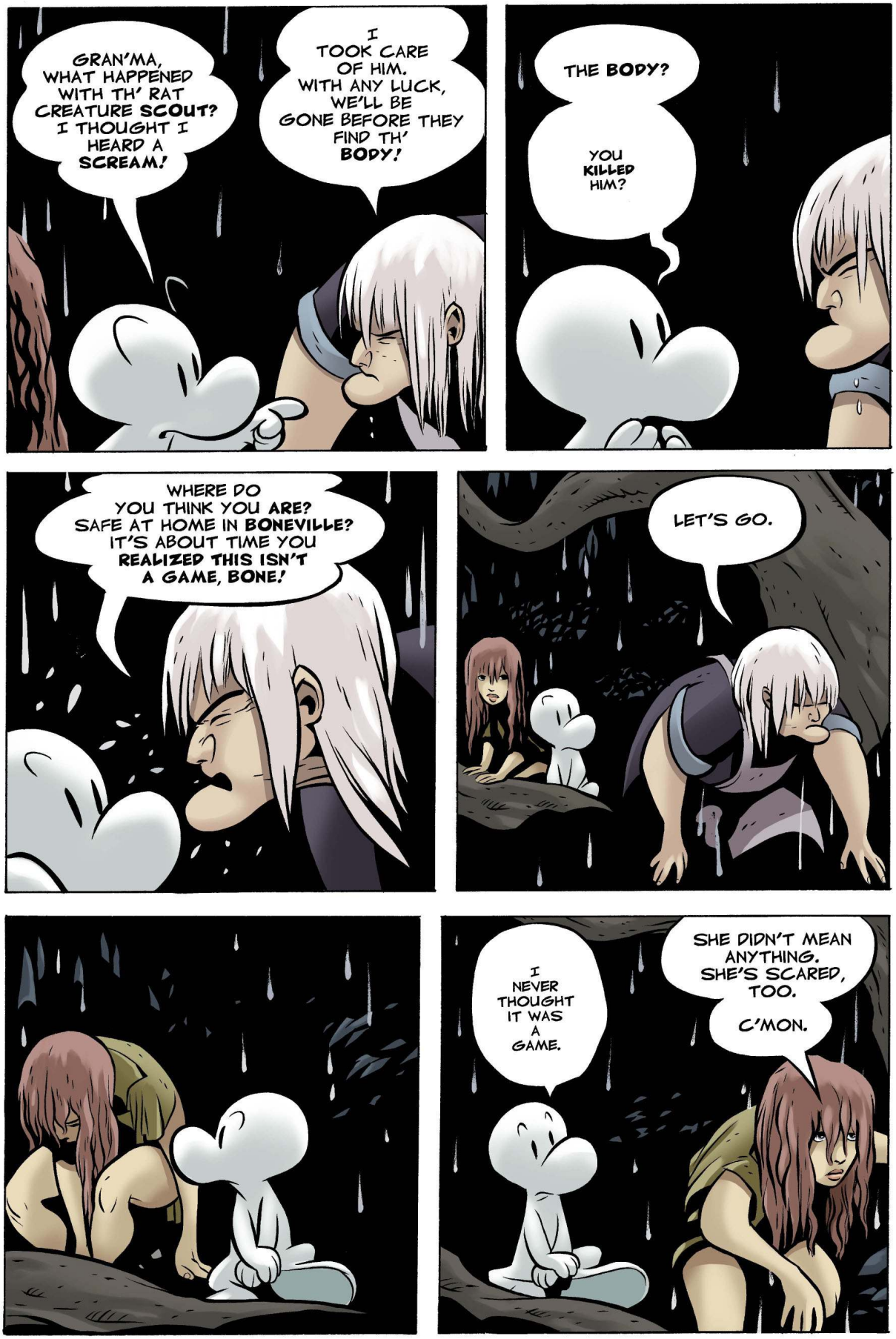



GRAN'MA - -
STAY DOWN!


IT'S BAD.
TH' FOREST IS SWARMING WITH RAT CREATURES. AND THEY'RE MOVIN' THIS WAY!


WE CAN'T STAY HERE AND WE CAN'T GET BACK TO TH' HOUSE . . .


WE'RE GONNA HAFTA OUTRUN 'EM.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

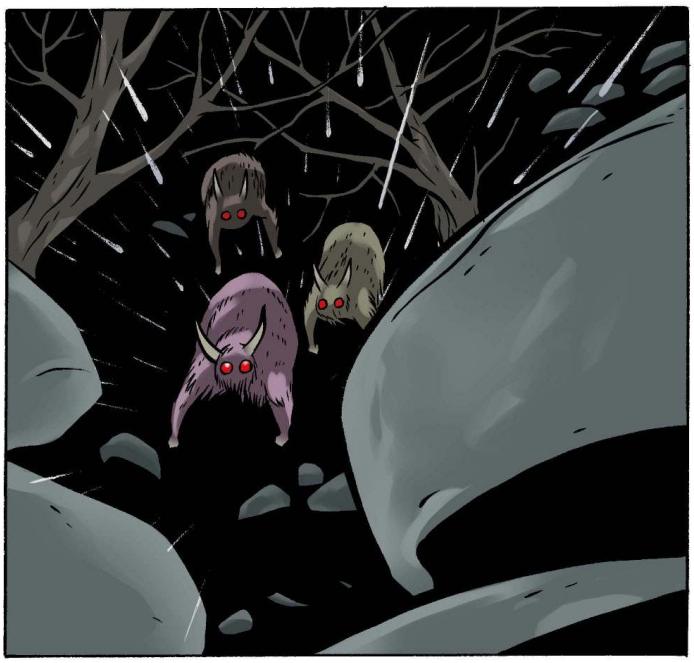








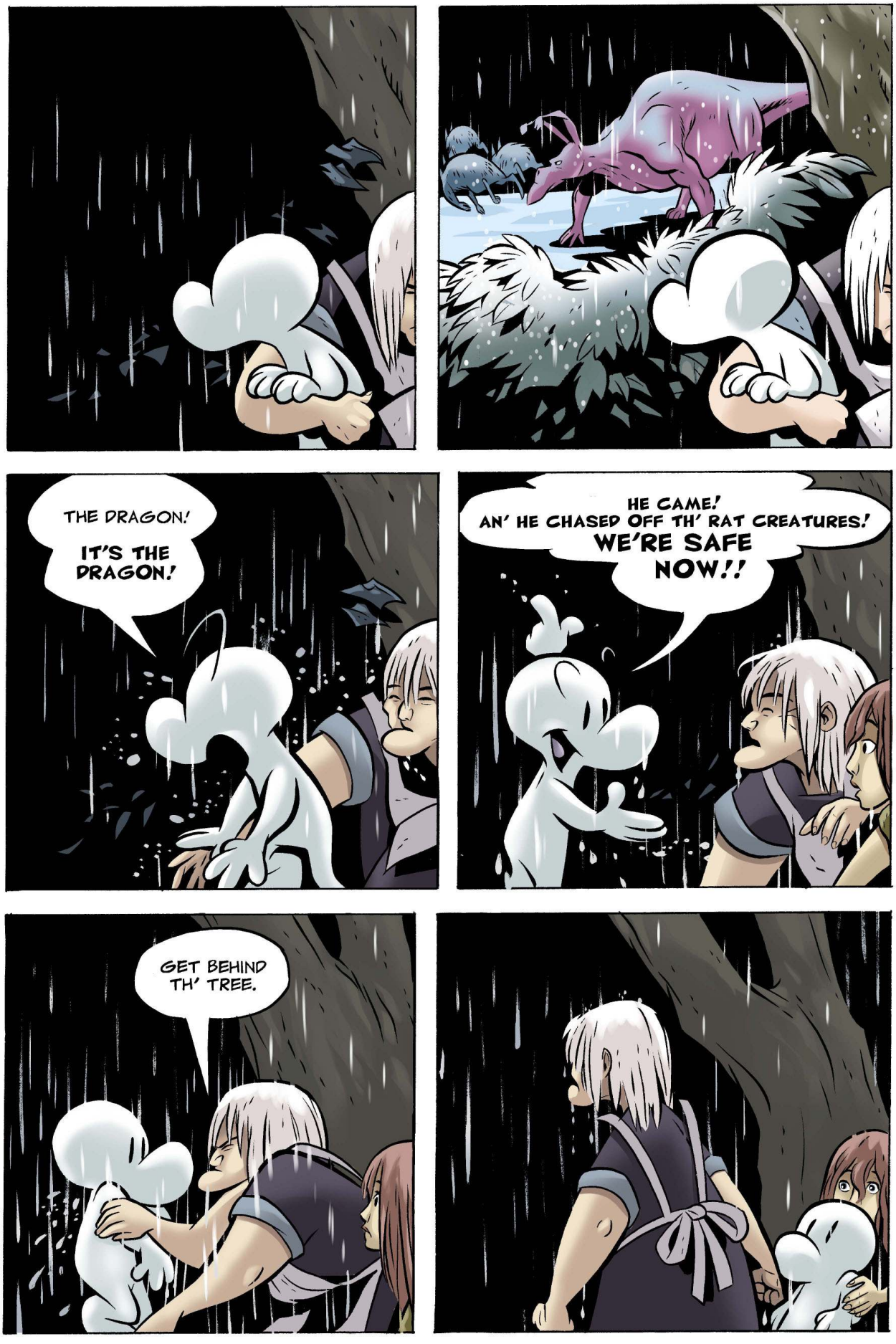


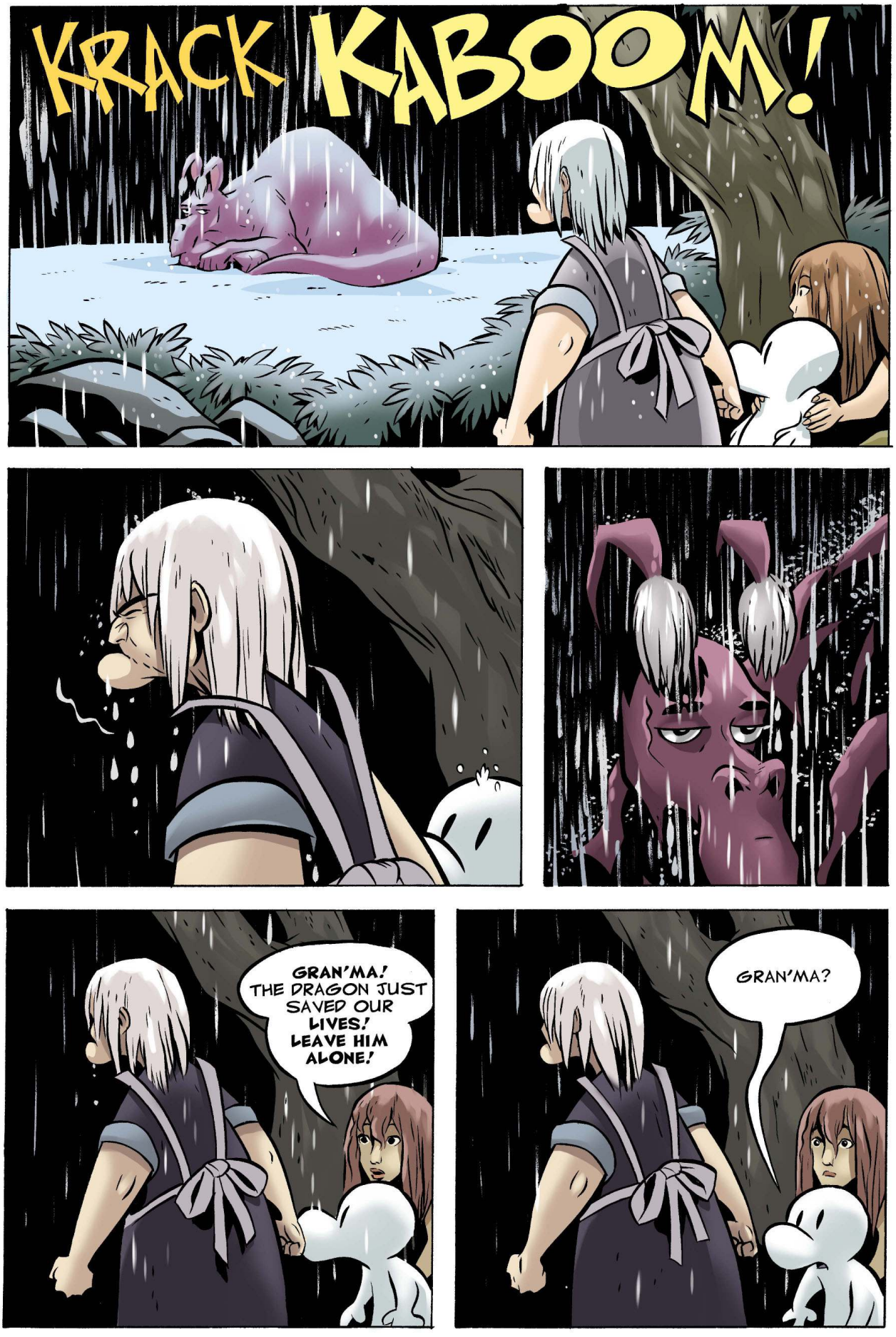


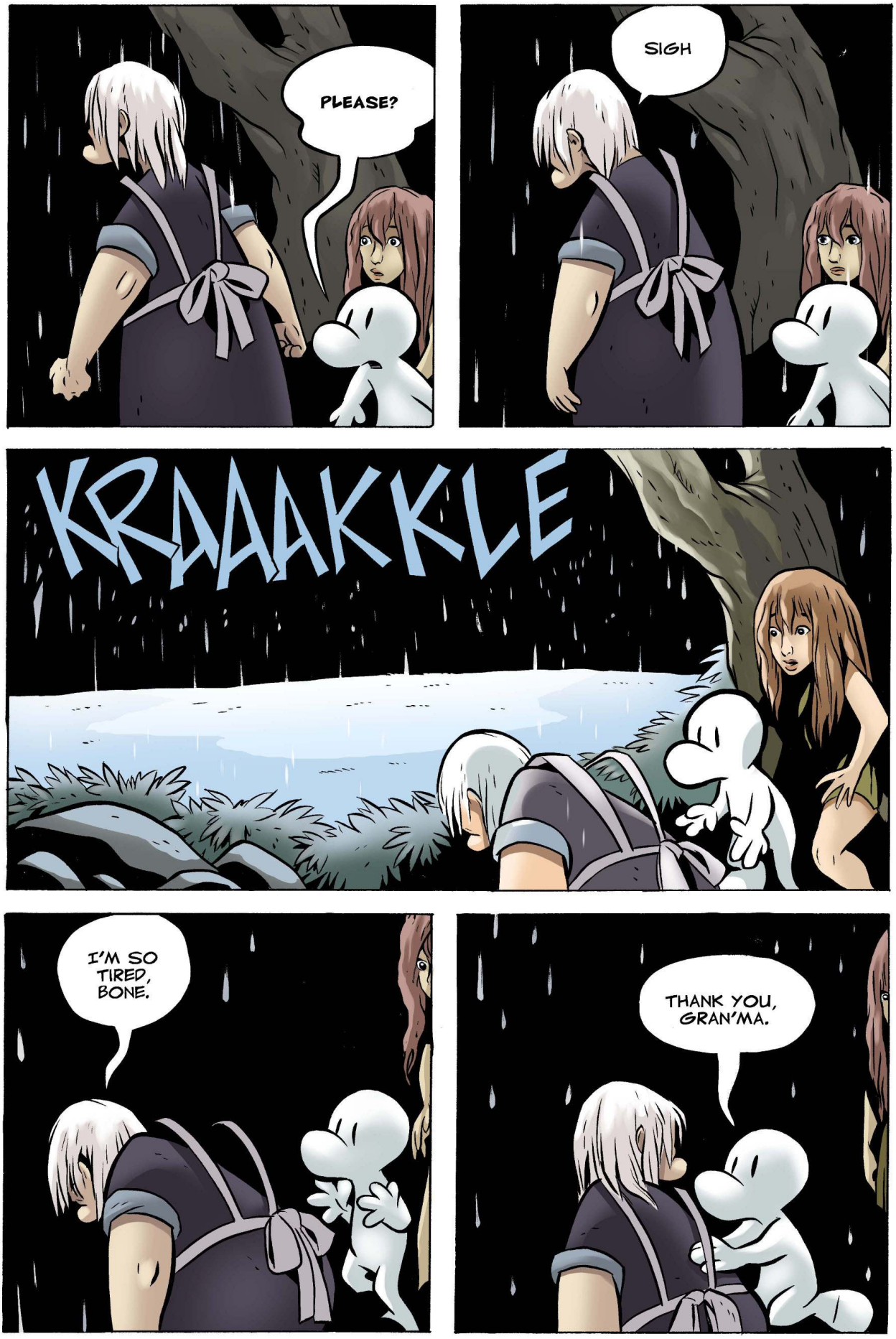

OHMYGOSH.
THORN! THEY SEE US!
HEY! LOOK OUT!!
SPLAT!
OHMYGOSH. OHMYGOSH.
HANG ON!
DRAGON! HELP US!
DRA-
MMMMF!


KEERAAKOW!


SNAP
CRUNCH!
KRACK!


THE DRAGON!
IT'S THE DRAGON!
HE CAME!
AN' HE CHASED OFF TH' RAT CREATURES!
WE'RE SAFE NOW!!
GET BEHIND TH' TREE.

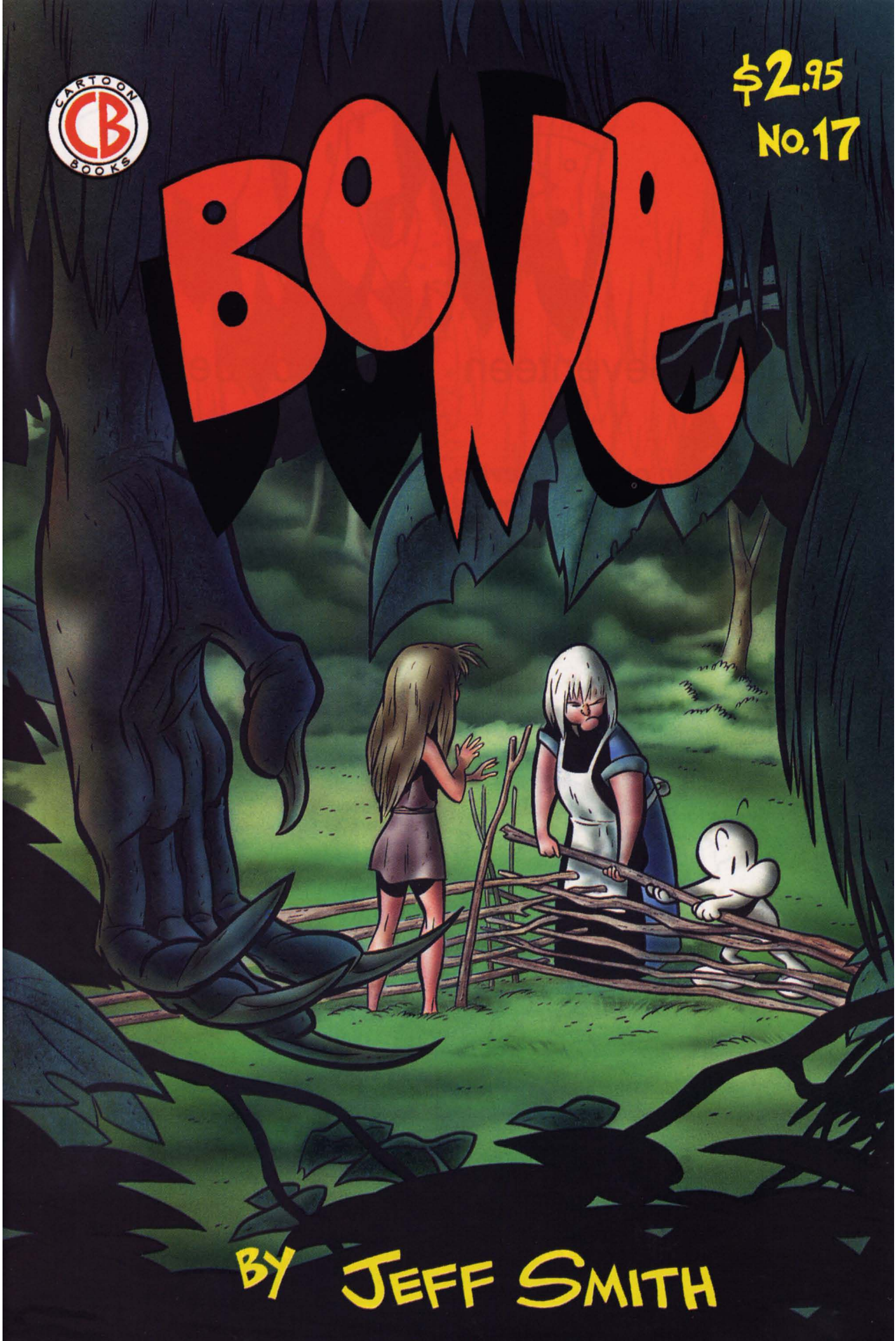

KRACK KABOOM!
GRAN'MA! THE DRAGON JUST SAVED OUR LIVES! LEAVE HIM ALONE!
GRAN'MA?


PLEASE?
SIGH
KRAAAKKLE
I'M SO TIRED, BONE.
THANK YOU, GRAN'MA.

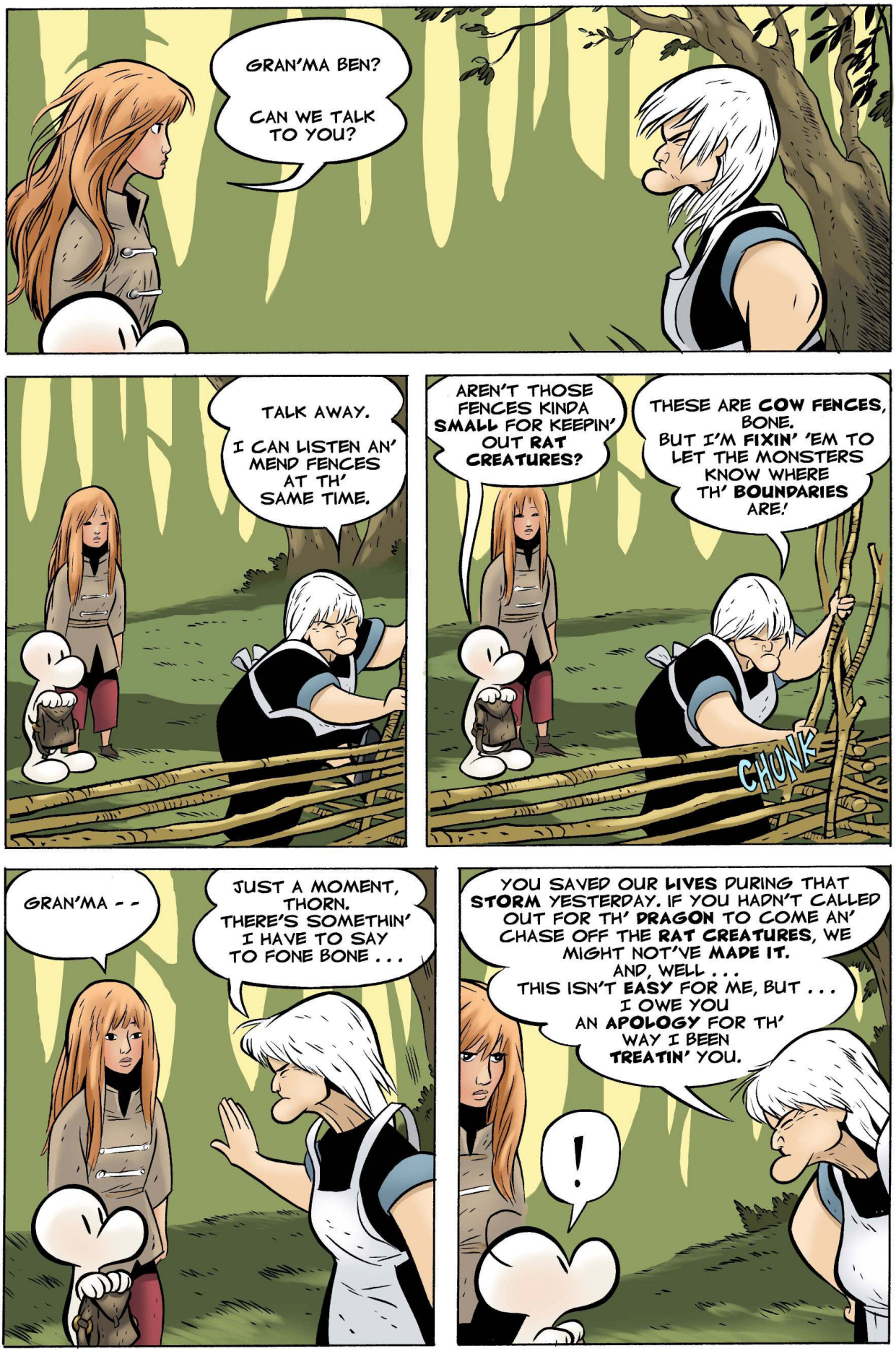

YOU THINK TH' DRAGON'LL BE THERE WHENEVER YOU NEED HIM . . .
. . . WELL, HE WON'T BE.
HE WASN'T ALWAYS THERE FOR ME.

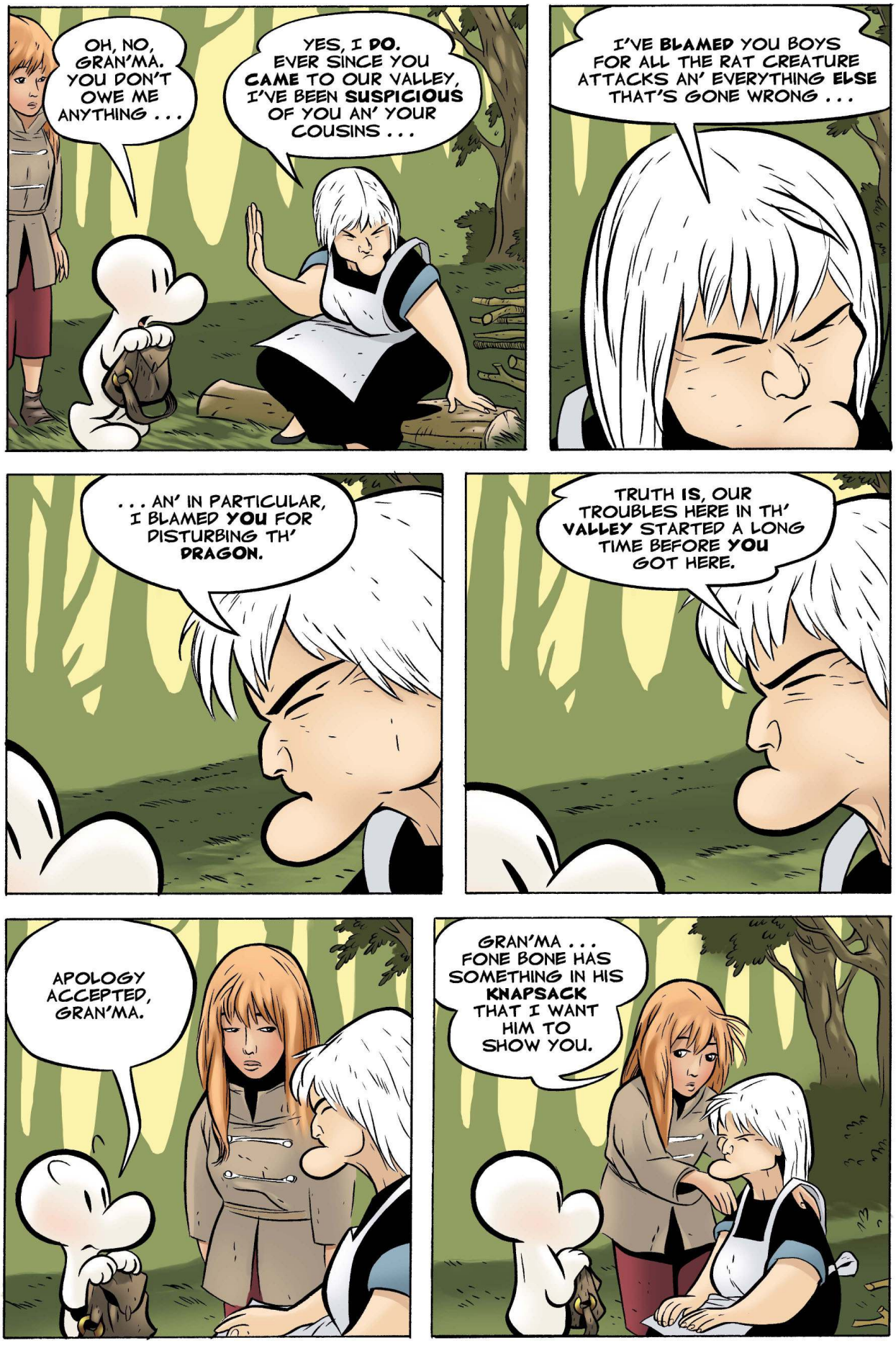


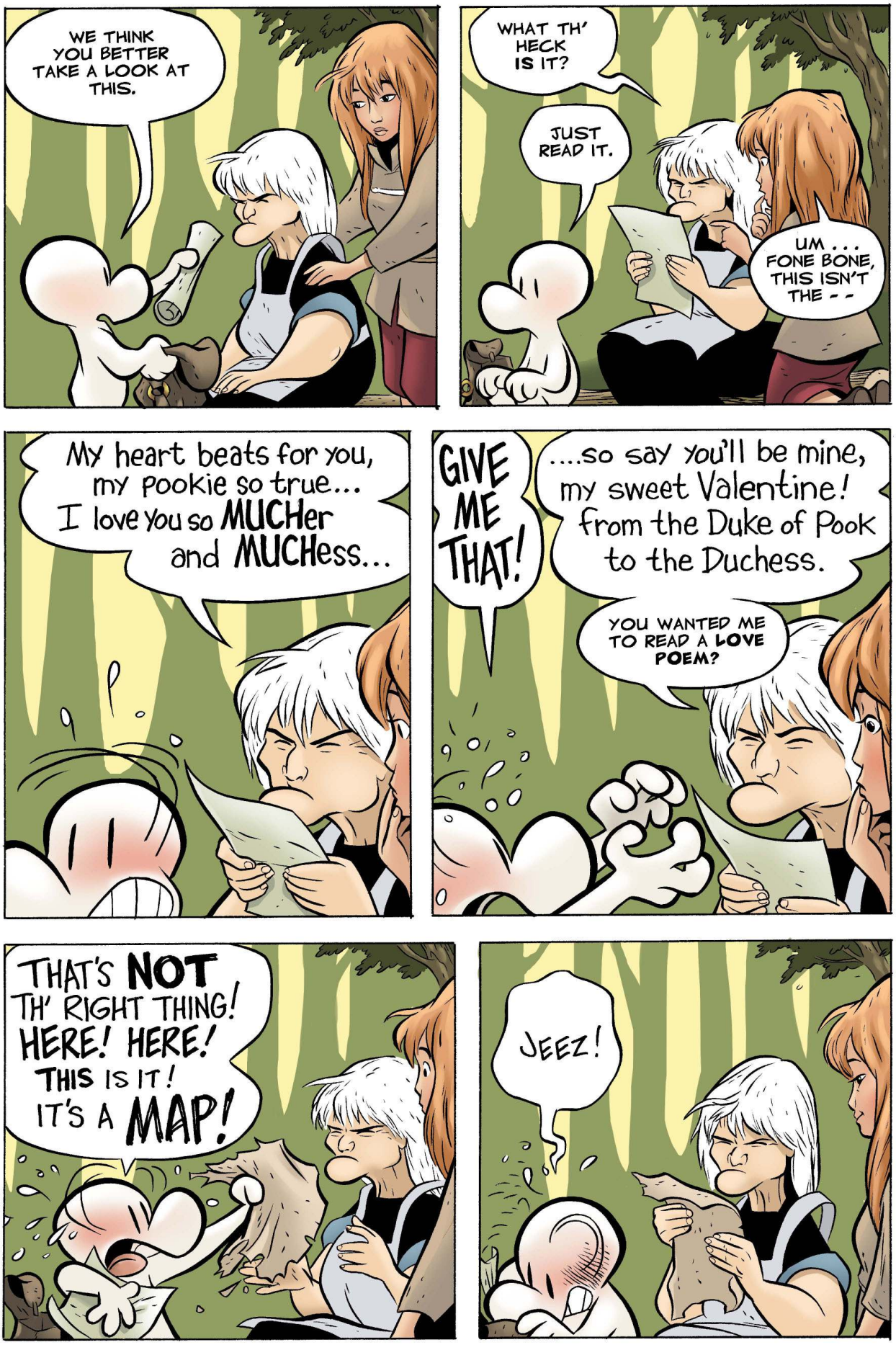
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

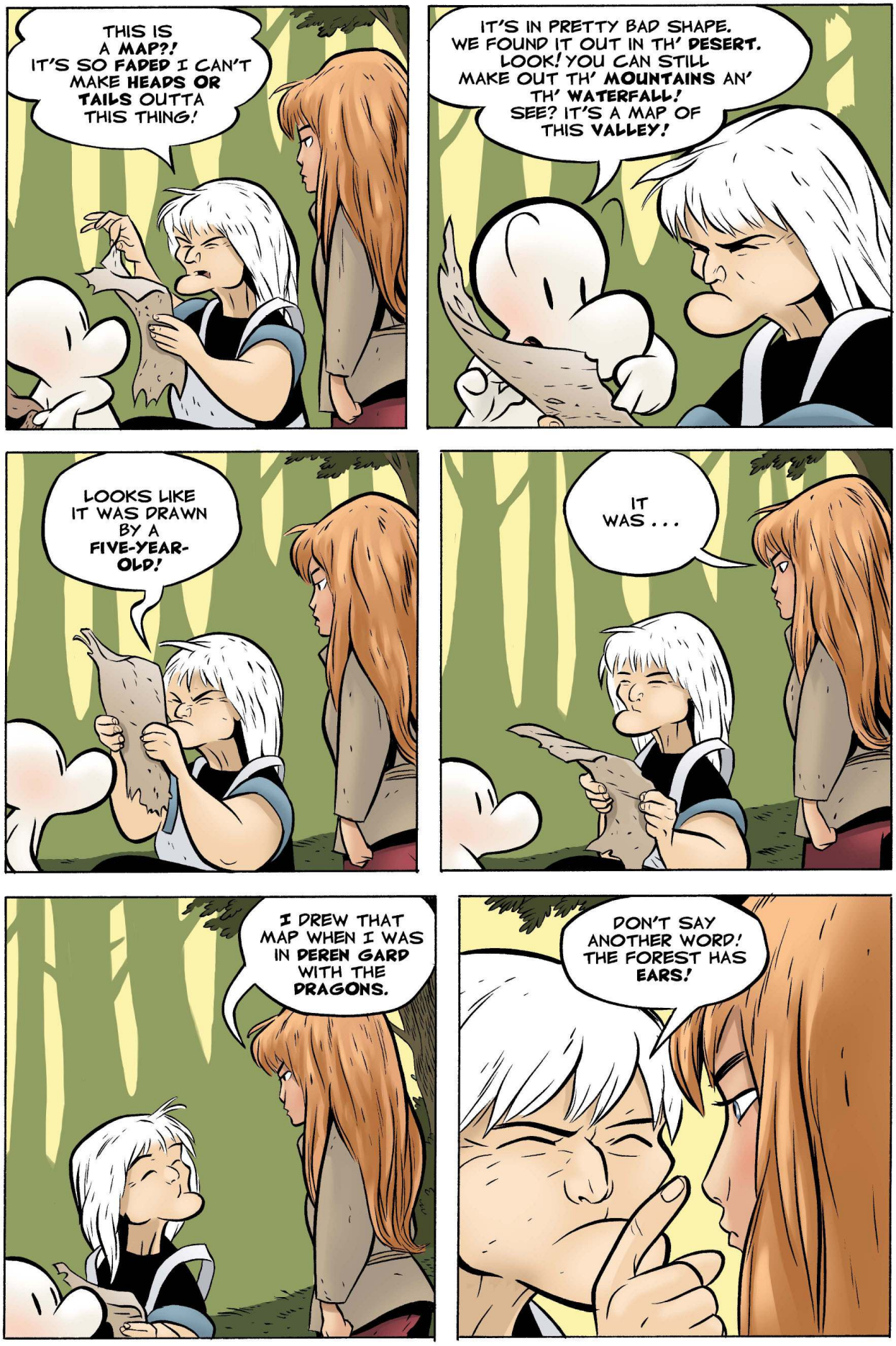

CARTOON BOOKS
$2.95
No. 17
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?
I CANNOT HEAR THEM . . .
shh!


GRAN'MA BEN?
CAN WE TALK TO YOU?
TALK AWAY.
I CAN LISTEN AN' MEND FENCES AT TH' SAME TIME.
AREN'T THOSE FENCES KINDA SMALL FOR KEEPIN' OUT RAT CREATURES?
THESE ARE COW FENCES, BONE.
BUT I'M FIXIN' 'EM TO LET THE MONSTERS KNOW WHERE TH' BOUNDARIES ARE!
CHUNK
GRAN'MA - -
JUST A MOMENT, THORN.
THERE'S SOMETHIN' I HAVE TO SAY TO FONE BONE . . .
YOU SAVED OUR LIVES DURING THAT STORM YESTERDAY. IF YOU HADN'T CALLED OUT FOR TH' DRAGON TO COME AN' CHASE OFF THE RAT CREATURES, WE MIGHT NOT'VE MADE IT.
AND, WELL . . .
THIS ISN'T EASY FOR ME, BUT . . .
I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY FOR TH' WAY I BEEN TREATIN' YOU.
!

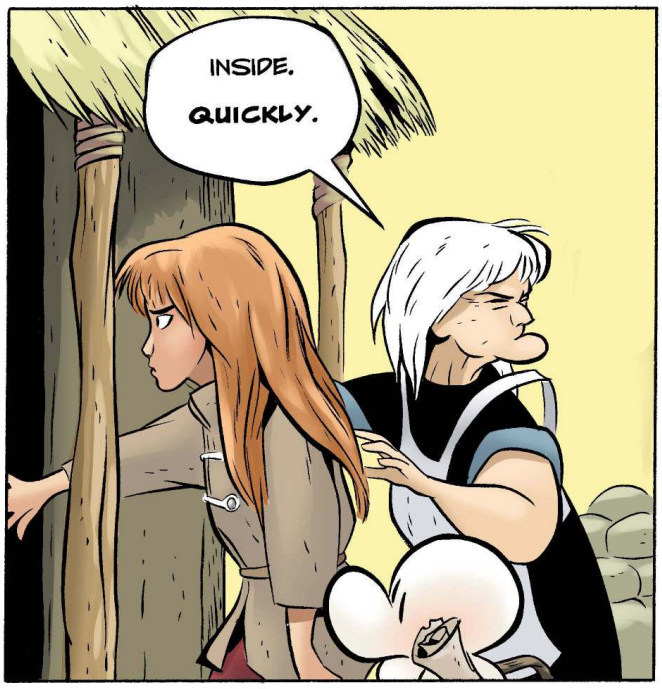

OH, NO, GRAN'MA. YOU DON'T OWE ME ANYTHING . . .
YES, I DO. EVER SINCE YOU CAME TO OUR VALLEY, I'VE BEEN SUSPICIOUS OF YOU AN' YOUR COUSINS . . .
I'VE BLAMED YOU BOYS FOR ALL THE RAT CREATURE ATTACKS AN' EVERYTHING ELSE THAT'S GONE WRONG . . .
. . . AN' IN PARTICULAR, I BLAMED YOU FOR DISTURBING TH' DRAGON.
TRUTH IS, OUR TROUBLES HERE IN TH' VALLEY STARTED A LONG TIME BEFORE YOU GOT HERE.
APOLOGY ACCEPTED, GRAN'MA.
GRAN'MA . . . FONE BONE HAS SOMETHING IN HIS KNAPSACK THAT I WANT HIM TO SHOW YOU.


WE THINK YOU BETTER TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
WHAT TH' HECK IS IT?
JUST READ IT.
UM . . . FONE BONE, THIS ISN'T THE - -
My heart beats for you, my pookie so true... I love you so MUCHer and MUCHess...
GIVE ME THAT!
....so say you'll be mine, my sweet Valentine! from the Duke of Pook to the Duchess.
YOU WANTED ME TO READ A LOVE POEM?
THAT'S NOT TH' RIGHT THING! HERE! HERE! THIS IS IT! IT'S A MAP!
JEEZ!

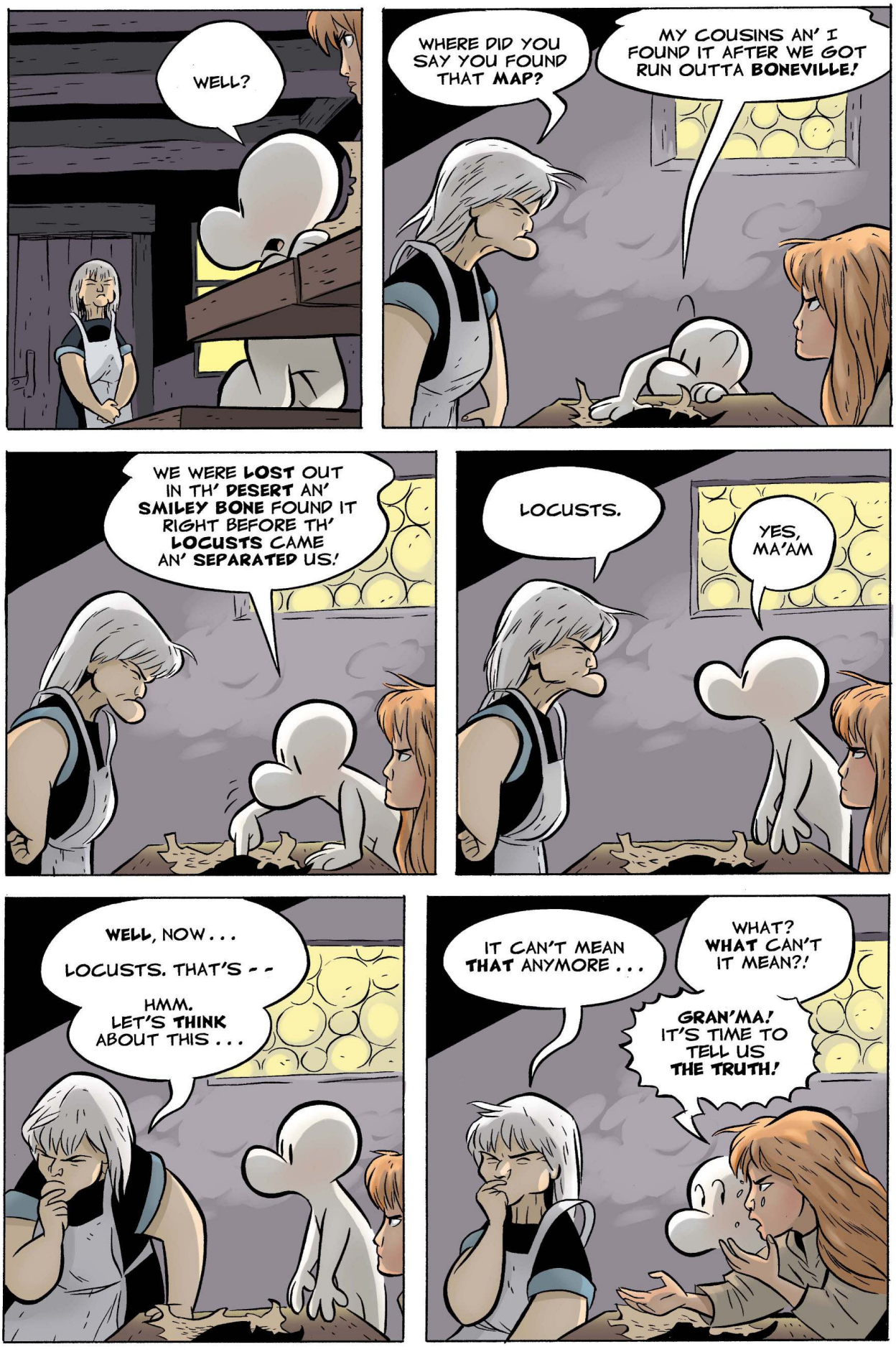

THIS IS A MAP?! IT'S SO FADED I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OUTTA THIS THING!
IT'S IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE. WE FOUND IT OUT IN TH' DESERT. LOOK! YOU CAN STILL MAKE OUT TH' MOUNTAINS AN' TH' WATERFALL! SEE? IT'S A MAP OF THIS VALLEY!
LOOKS LIKE IT WAS DRAWN BY A FIVE-YEAR-OLD!
IT WAS . . .
I DREW THAT MAP WHEN I WAS IN DEREN GARD WITH THE DRAGONS.
DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD! THE FOREST HAS EARS!

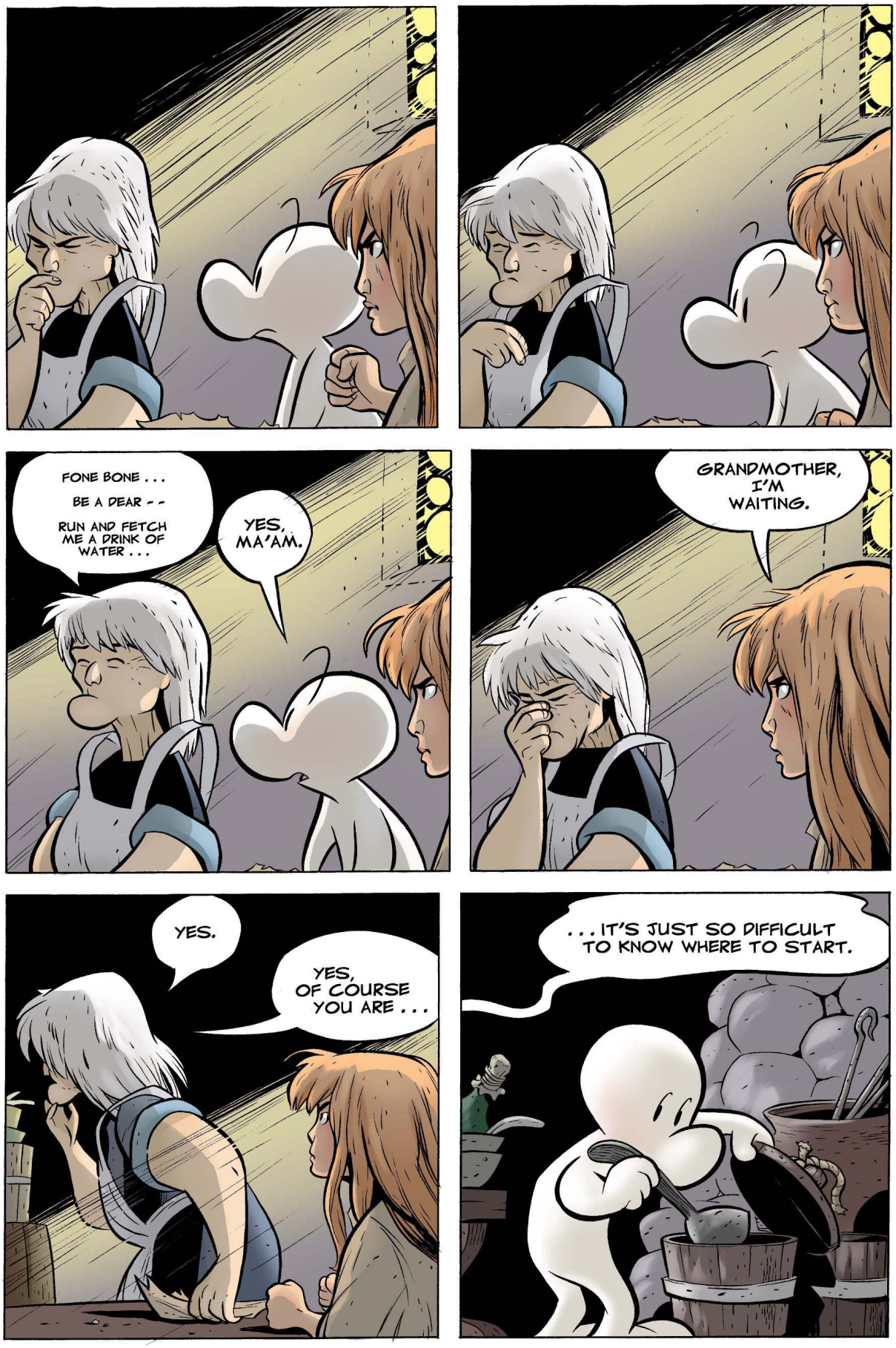




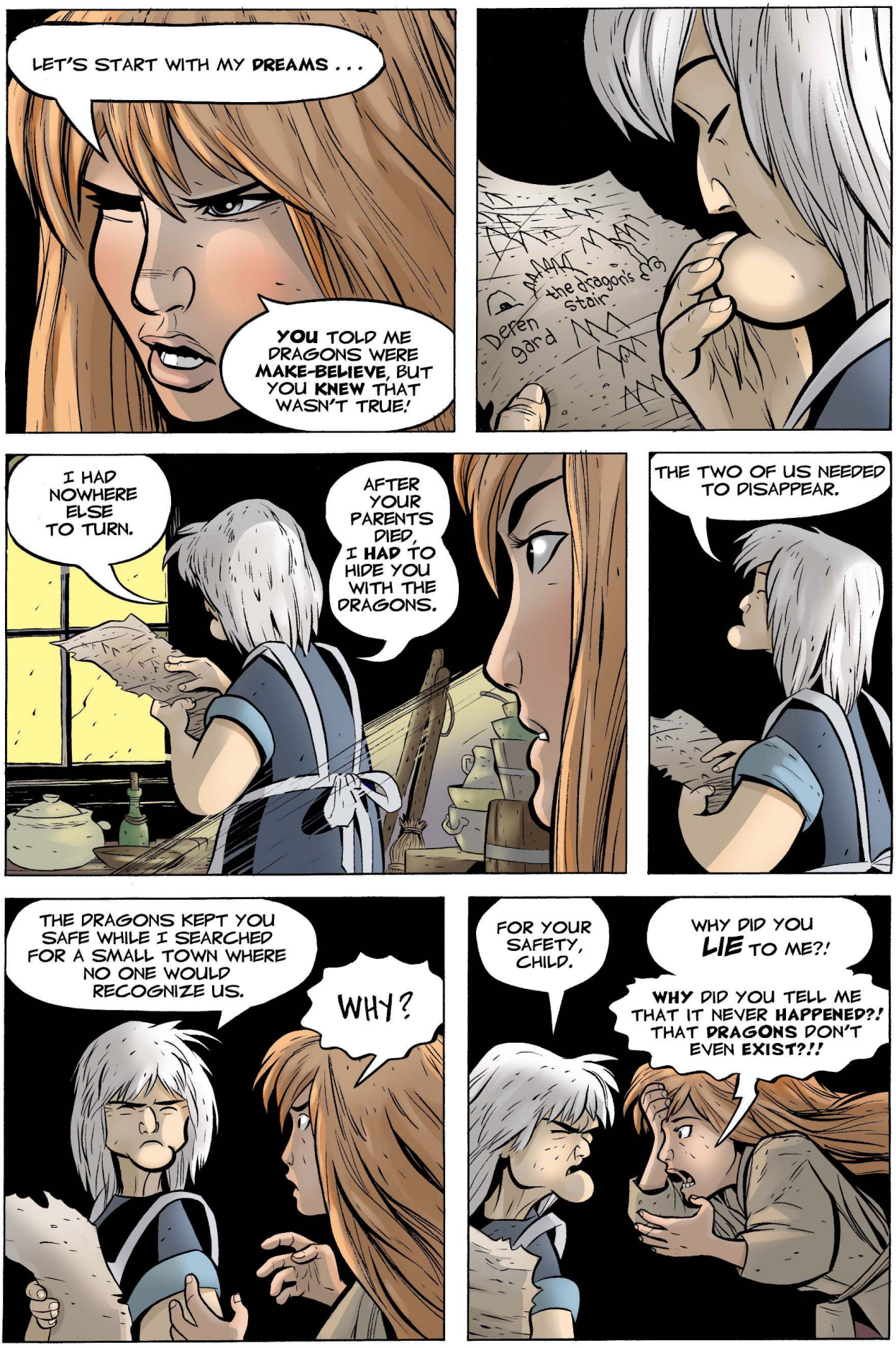

INSIDE.
QUICKLY.

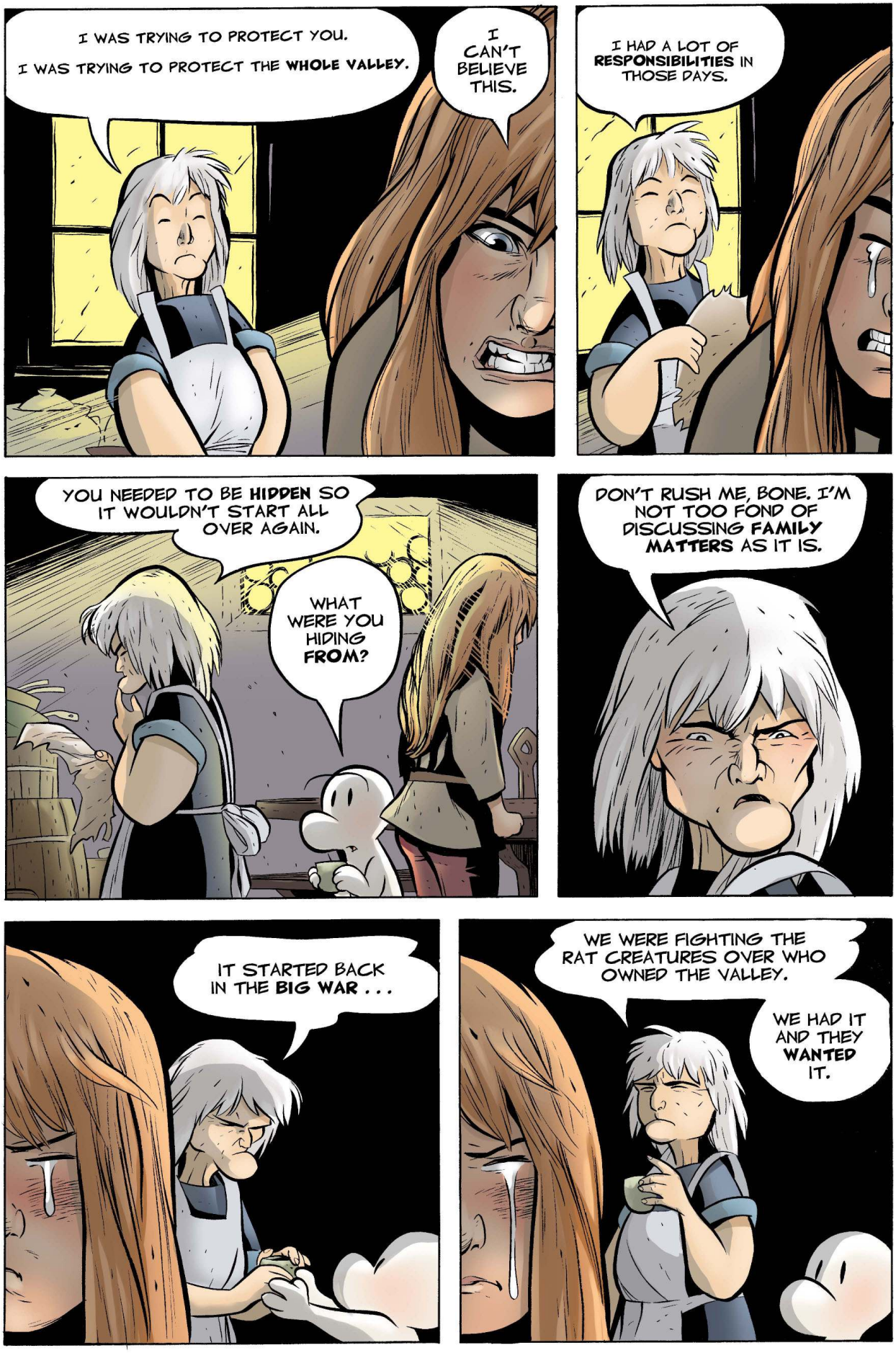


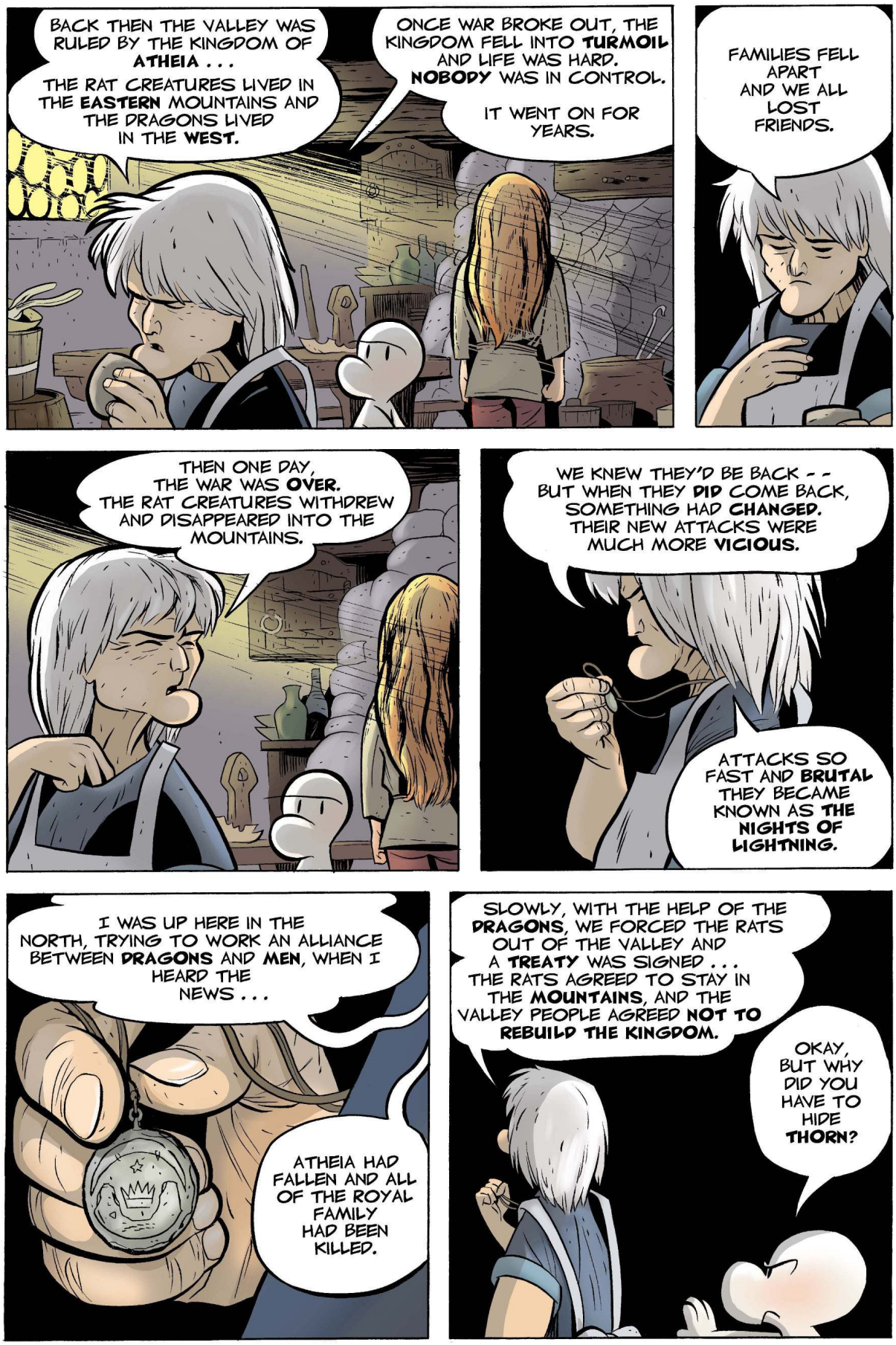

WELL?
WHERE DID YOU SAY YOU FOUND THAT MAP?
MY COUSINS AN' I FOUND IT AFTER WE GOT RUN OUTTA BONEVILLE!
WE WERE LOST OUT IN TH' DESERT AN' SMILEY BONE FOUND IT RIGHT BEFORE TH' LOCUSTS CAME AN' SEPARATED US!
LOCUSTS.
YES, MA'AM
WELL, NOW...
LOCUSTS. THAT'S - -
HMM. LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS...
IT CAN'T MEAN THAT ANYMORE...
WHAT? WHAT CAN'T IT MEAN?!
GRAN'MA! IT'S TIME TO TELL US THE TRUTH!



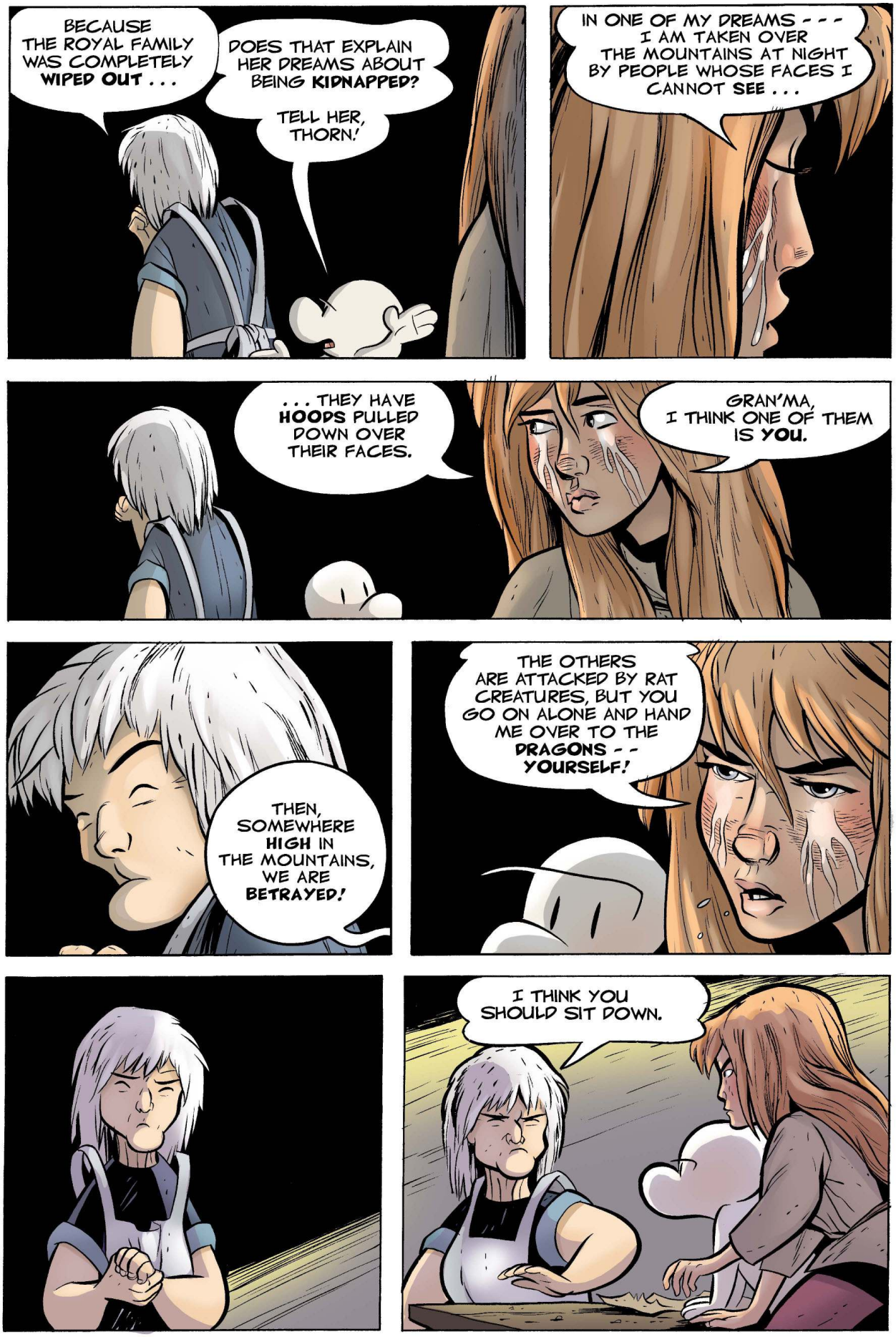
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

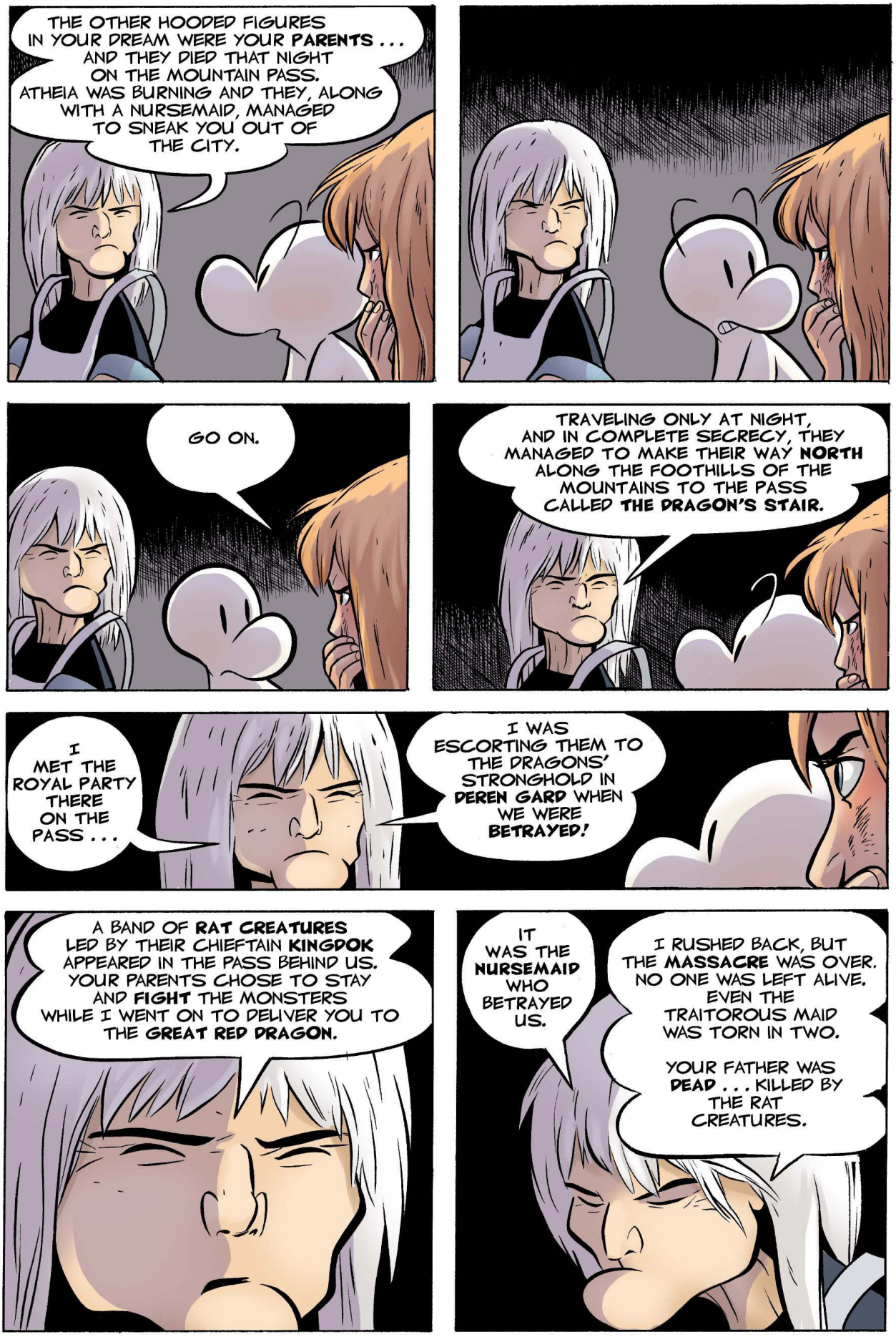

LET'S START WITH MY DREAMS . . .
YOU TOLD ME DRAGONS WERE MAKE-BELIEVE, BUT YOU KNEW THAT WASN'T TRUE!
the dragon's stair
Defen gard
I HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO TURN.
AFTER YOUR PARENTS DIED, I HAD TO HIDE YOU WITH THE DRAGONS.
THE TWO OF US NEEDED TO DISAPPEAR.
THE DRAGONS KEPT YOU SAFE WHILE I SEARCHED FOR A SMALL TOWN WHERE NO ONE WOULD RECOGNIZE US.
WHY?
FOR YOUR SAFETY, CHILD.
WHY DID YOU LIE TO ME?!
WHY DID YOU TELL ME THAT IT NEVER HAPPENED?! THAT DRAGONS DON'T EVEN EXIST?!!

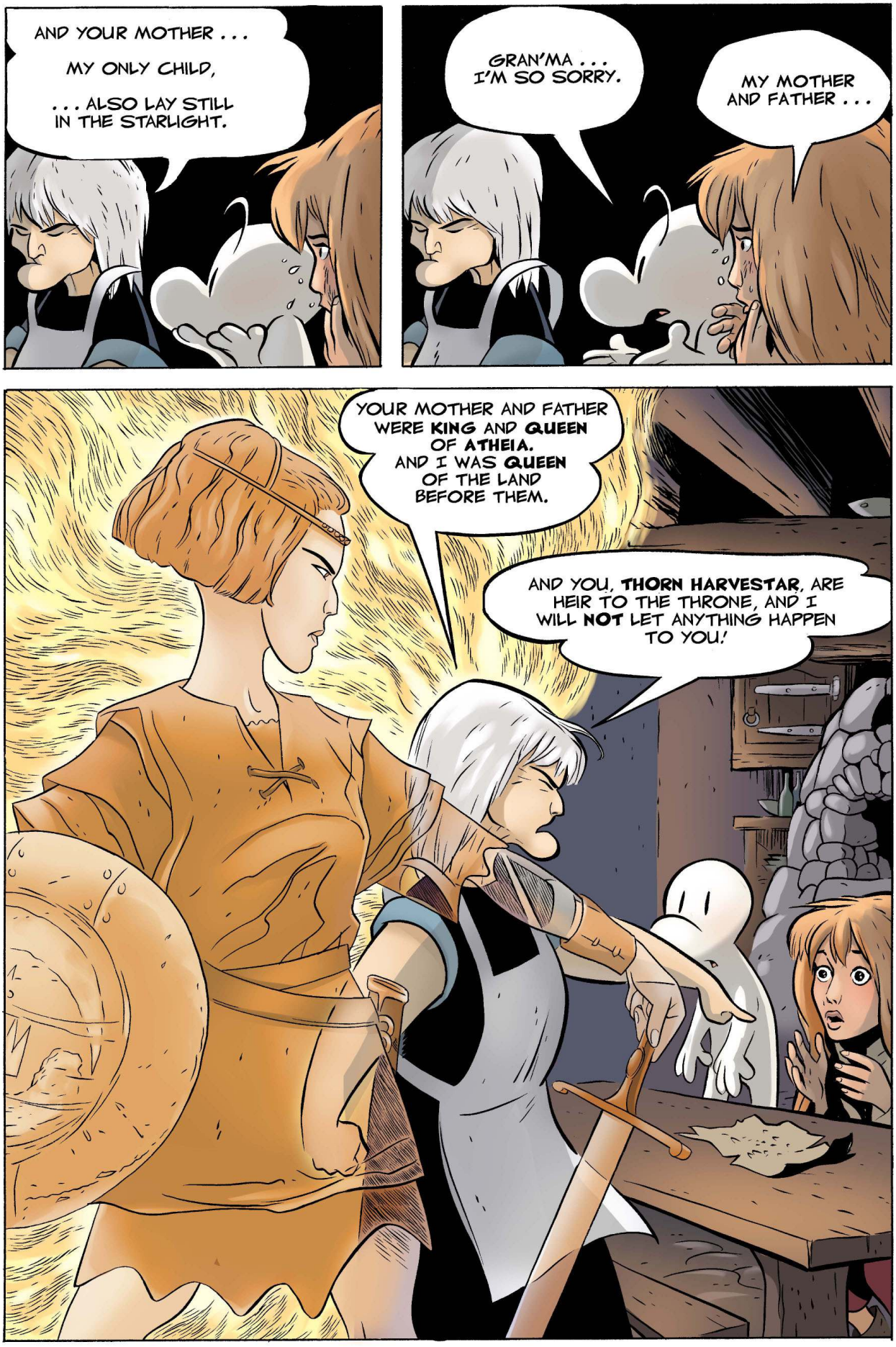

I WAS TRYING TO PROTECT YOU.
I WAS TRYING TO PROTECT THE WHOLE VALLEY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.
I HAD A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITIES IN THOSE DAYS.
YOU NEEDED TO BE HIDDEN SO IT WOULDN'T START ALL OVER AGAIN.
WHAT WERE YOU HIDING FROM?
DON'T RUSH ME, BONE. I'M NOT TOO FOND OF DISCUSSING FAMILY MATTERS AS IT IS.
IT STARTED BACK IN THE BIG WAR . . .
WE WERE FIGHTING THE RAT CREATURES OVER WHO OWNED THE VALLEY.
WE HAD IT AND THEY WANTED IT.

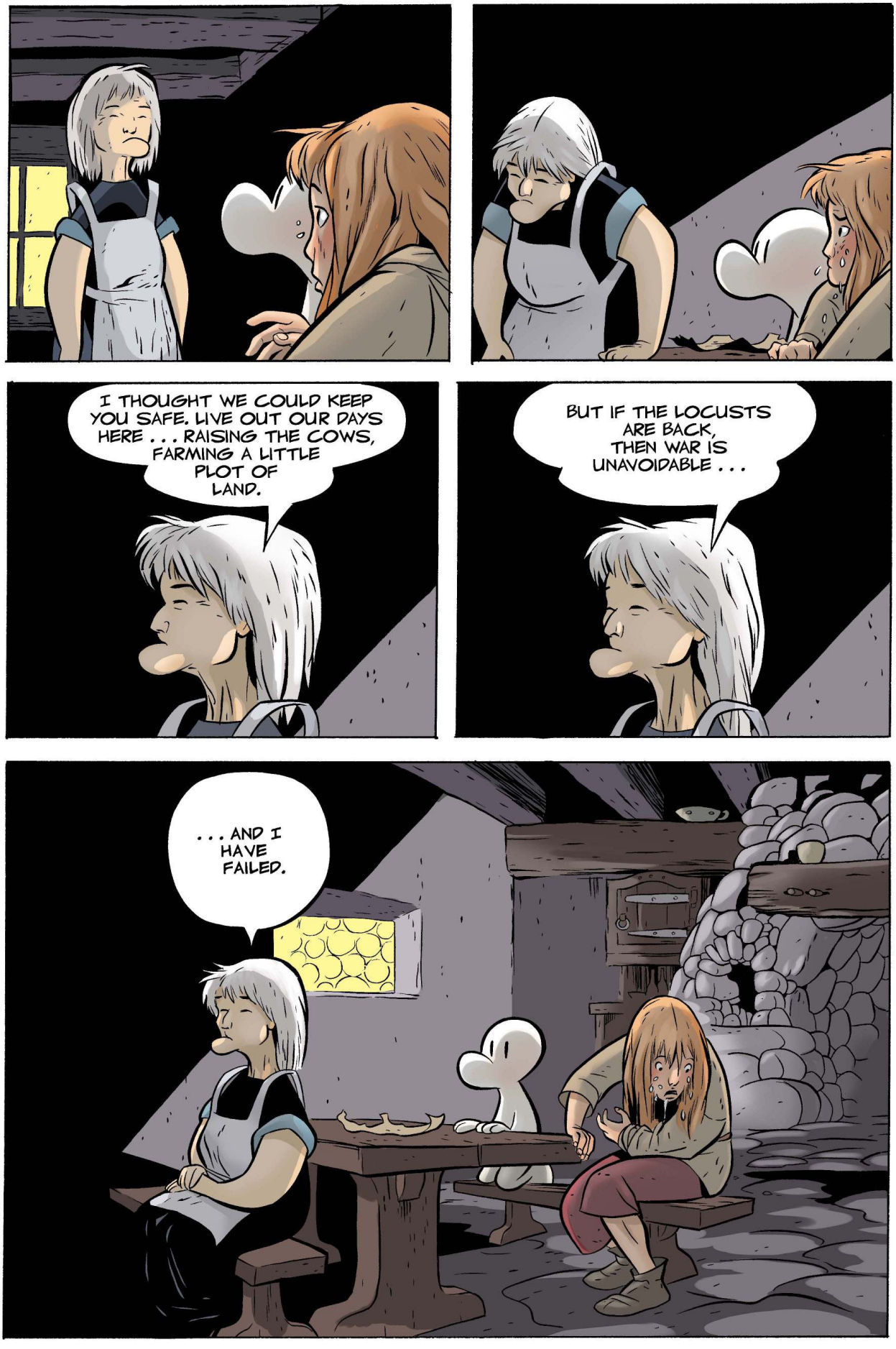


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


BECAUSE THE ROYAL FAMILY WAS COMPLETELY WIPED OUT . . .
DOES THAT EXPLAIN HER DREAMS ABOUT BEING KIDNAPPED?
TELL HER, THORN!
IN ONE OF MY DREAMS - - - I AM TAKEN OVER THE MOUNTAINS AT NIGHT BY PEOPLE WHOSE FACES I CANNOT SEE . . .
. . . THEY HAVE HOODS PULLED DOWN OVER THEIR FACES.
GRAN'MA, I THINK ONE OF THEM IS YOU.
THEN, SOMEWHERE HIGH IN THE MOUNTAINS, WE ARE BETRAYED!
THE OTHERS ARE ATTACKED BY RAT CREATURES, BUT YOU GO ON ALONE AND HAND ME OVER TO THE DRAGONS - - YOURSELF!
I THINK YOU SHOULD SIT DOWN.

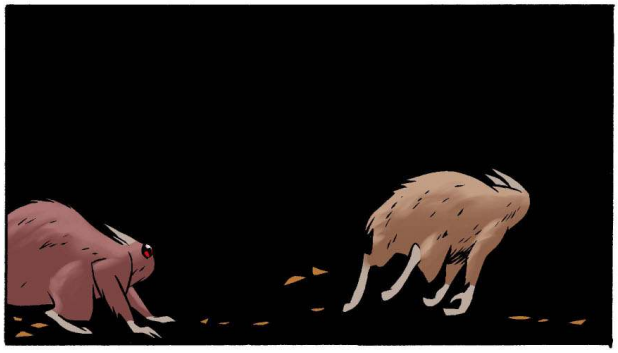

THE OTHER HOODED FIGURES IN YOUR DREAM WERE YOUR **PARENTS** . . . AND THEY DIED THAT NIGHT ON THE MOUNTAIN PASS. ATHEIA WAS BURNING AND THEY, ALONG WITH A NURSEMAID, MANAGED TO SNEAK YOU OUT OF THE CITY.
GO ON.
TRAVELING ONLY AT NIGHT, AND IN COMPLETE SECRECY, THEY MANAGED TO MAKE THEIR WAY **NORTH** ALONG THE FOOTHILLS OF THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PASS CALLED **THE DRAGON'S STAIR.**
I MET THE ROYAL PARTY THERE ON THE PASS . . .
I WAS ESCORTING THEM TO THE DRAGONS' STRONGHOLD IN **DEREN GARD** WHEN WE WERE **BETRAYED!**
A BAND OF **RAT CREATURES** LED BY THEIR CHIEFTAIN **KINGDOK** APPEARED IN THE PASS BEHIND US. YOUR PARENTS CHOSE TO STAY AND **FIGHT** THE MONSTERS WHILE I WENT ON TO DELIVER YOU TO THE **GREAT RED DRAGON.**
IT WAS THE **NURSEMAID** WHO BETRAYED US.
I RUSHED BACK, BUT THE **MASSACRE** WAS OVER. NO ONE WAS LEFT ALIVE. EVEN THE TRAITOROUS MAID WAS TORN IN TWO.
YOUR FATHER WAS **DEAD** . . . KILLED BY THE RAT CREATURES.

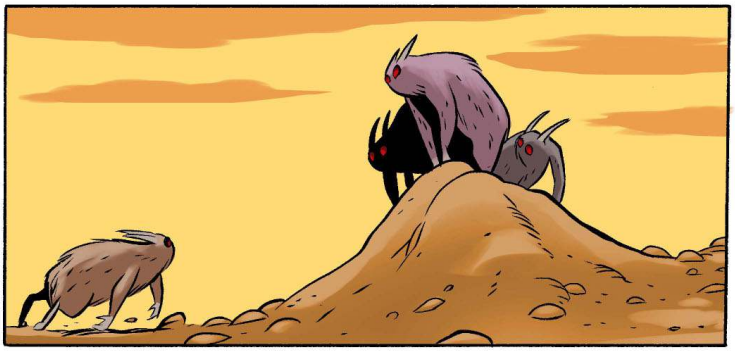

AND YOUR MOTHER . . .
MY ONLY CHILD,
. . . ALSO LAY STILL IN THE STARLIGHT.
GRAN'MA . . . I'M SO SORRY.
MY MOTHER AND FATHER . . .
YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER WERE KING AND QUEEN OF ATHEIA. AND I WAS QUEEN OF THE LAND BEFORE THEM.
AND YOU, THORN HARVESTAR, ARE HEIR TO THE THRONE, AND I WILL NOT LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU!


I THOUGHT WE COULD KEEP YOU SAFE. LIVE OUT OUR DAYS HERE . . . RAISING THE COWS, FARMING A LITTLE PLOT OF LAND.
BUT IF THE LOCUSTS ARE BACK, THEN WAR IS UNAVOIDABLE . . .
. . . AND I HAVE FAILED.





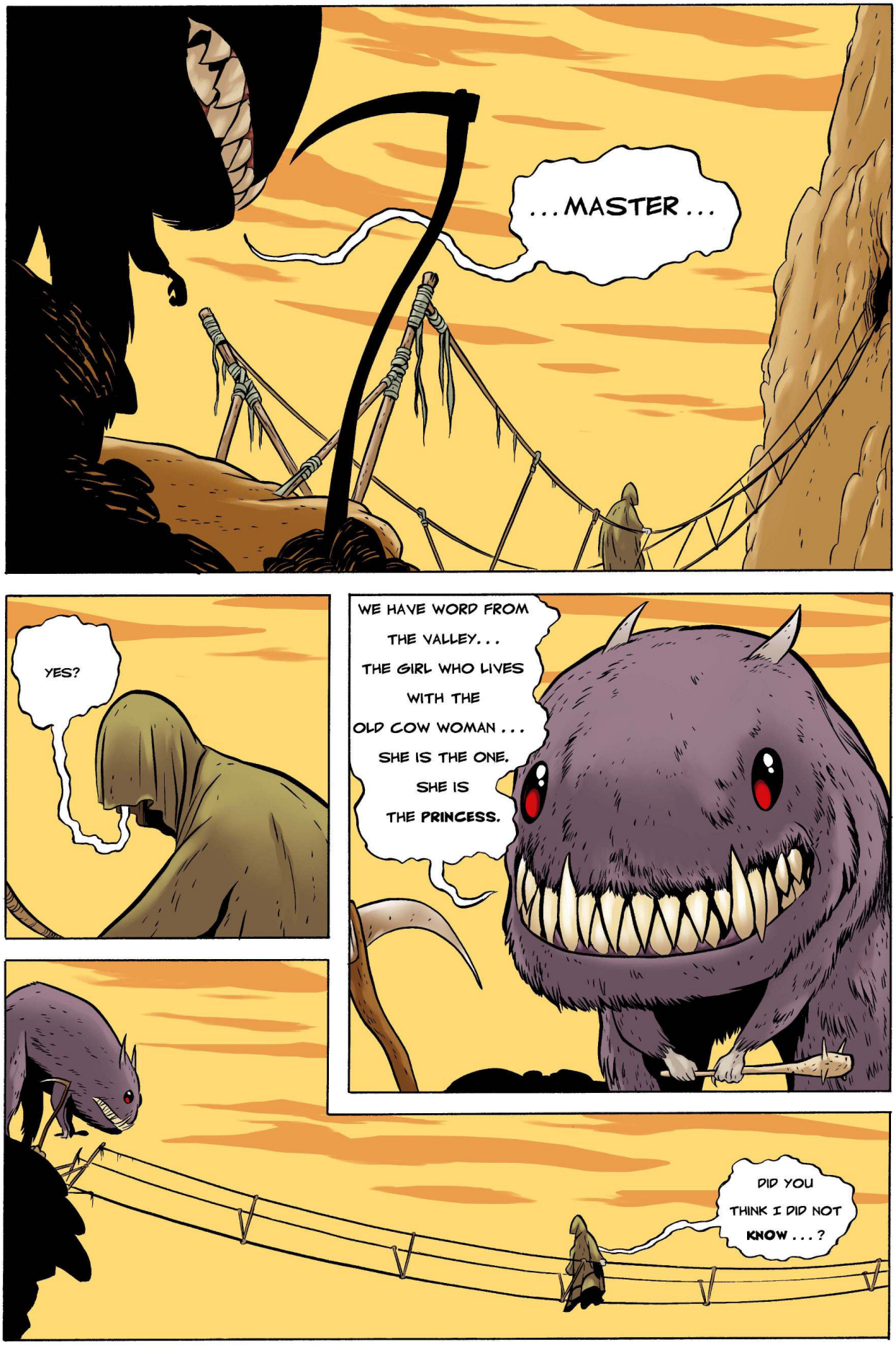








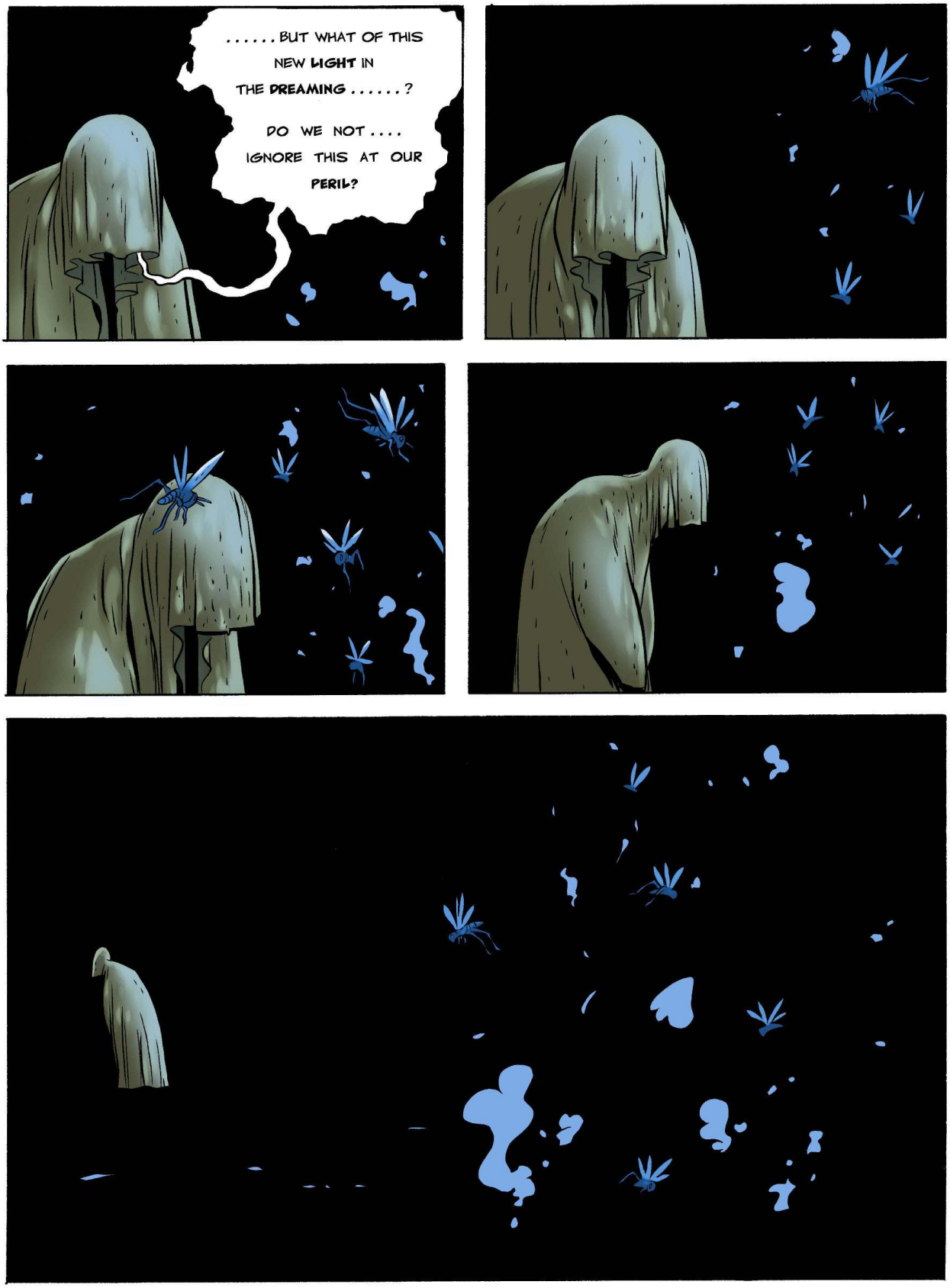


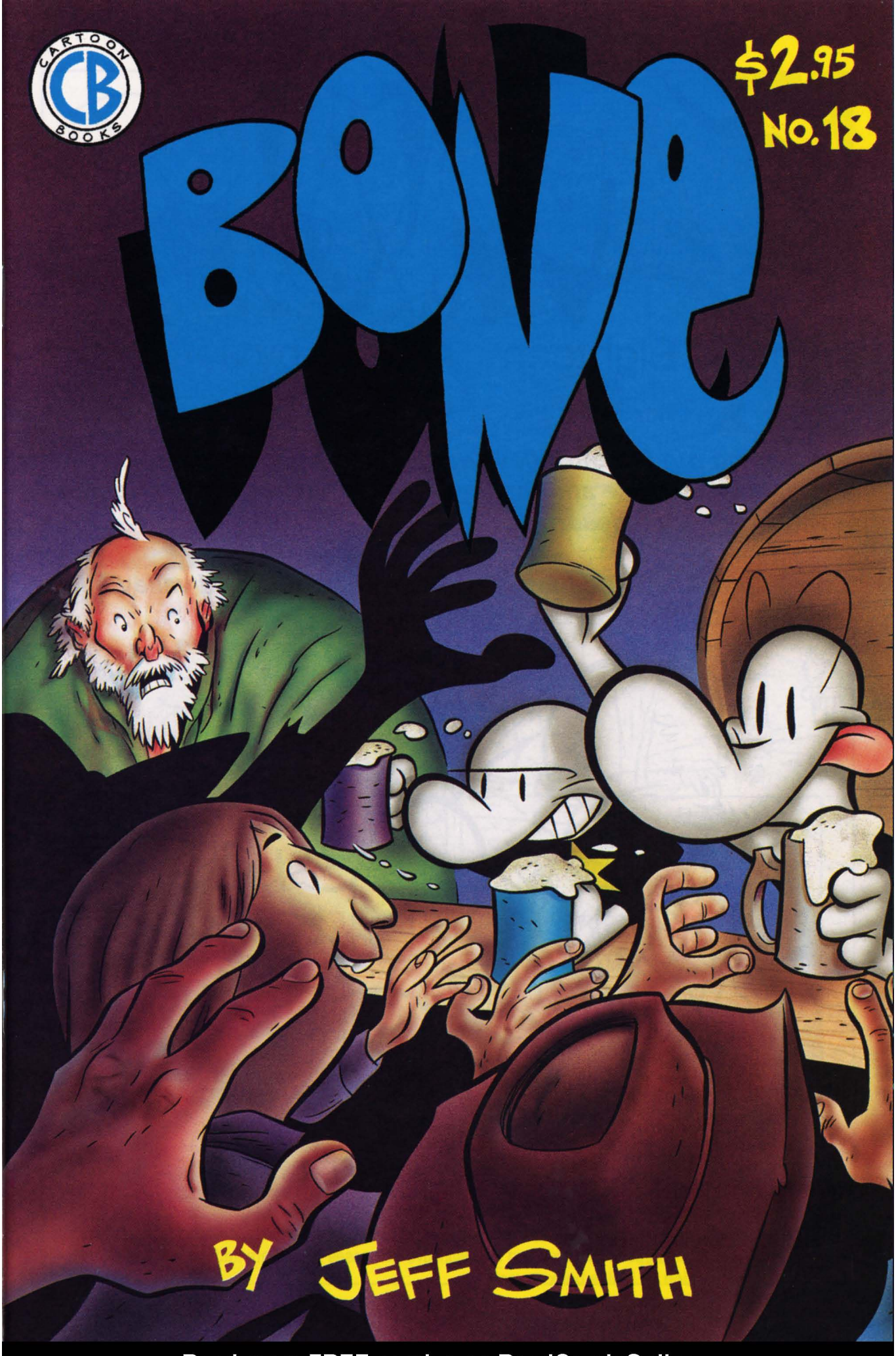

. . . MASTER . . .
YES?
WE HAVE WORD FROM THE VALLEY. . . THE GIRL WHO LIVES WITH THE OLD COW WOMAN . . . SHE IS THE ONE. SHE IS THE PRINCESS.
DID YOU THINK I DID NOT KNOW . . . ?


. . . MASTER?
. . . IF I WAITED . . .
FOR YOUR COWARDLY UNDERLINGS TO BRING ME INFORMATION . . . . . WE WOULD ALL GROW OLD LISTENING TO SILENCE . . . . .
I SUSPECT THAT IF YOU, KINGDOK . . . SHOWED LESS FEAR FOR THE RED DRAGON . . . YOUR WARRIORS MIGHT FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE . . .
NOW LEAVE ME . . .


WHAT NEWS DO YOU BRING US?

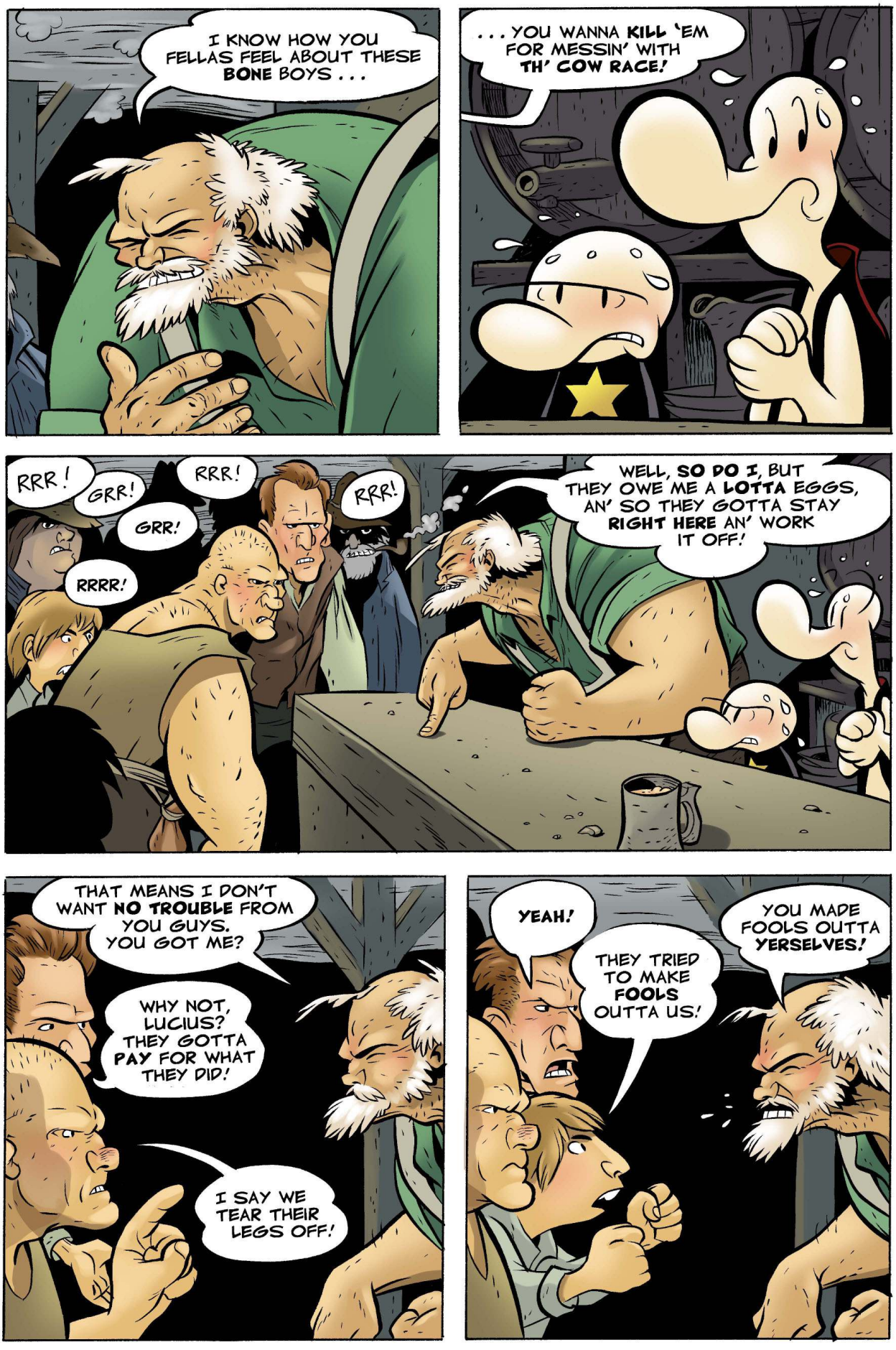

WE HAVE OUR ARMY.
THE POPULATION OF THE CAMP IS NEARING TEN THOUSAND . . . MORE RECRUITS ARRIVE EACH MORNING . . .
THAT IS GOOD.
THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE YOU WISH TO ASK US ABOUT?
THE GIRL . . . HER DREAMS ARE LIKE A BEACON . . . AND YET I CANNOT REACH HER . . .
IS HER STRENGTH SO GREAT?
EVEN IN HER IGNORANCE, HER STRENGTH IS GREAT . . . BUT THERE IS SOMETHING MORE . . . AS I REACHED OUT TO HER . . . A NEW BEACON APPEARED . . .
THE RED DRAGON SEEKS TO BRING A PAWN INTO PLAY. DO NOT CONCERN YOURSELF.
WHAT NEWS DO YOU BRING US OF THE STAR-BEARER?
THE ONE WHO BEARS A STAR IS AGAIN WITH THE VILLAGERS . . . IF IT IS YOUR DESIRE . . . WE WILL ATTACK THE TOWN.
AWAIT OUR INSTRUCTIONS.
MY LORD . . . THE RED DRAGON IS DANGEROUS. SHOULD WE NOT PREPARE - -
ASK NO MORE QUESTIONS.

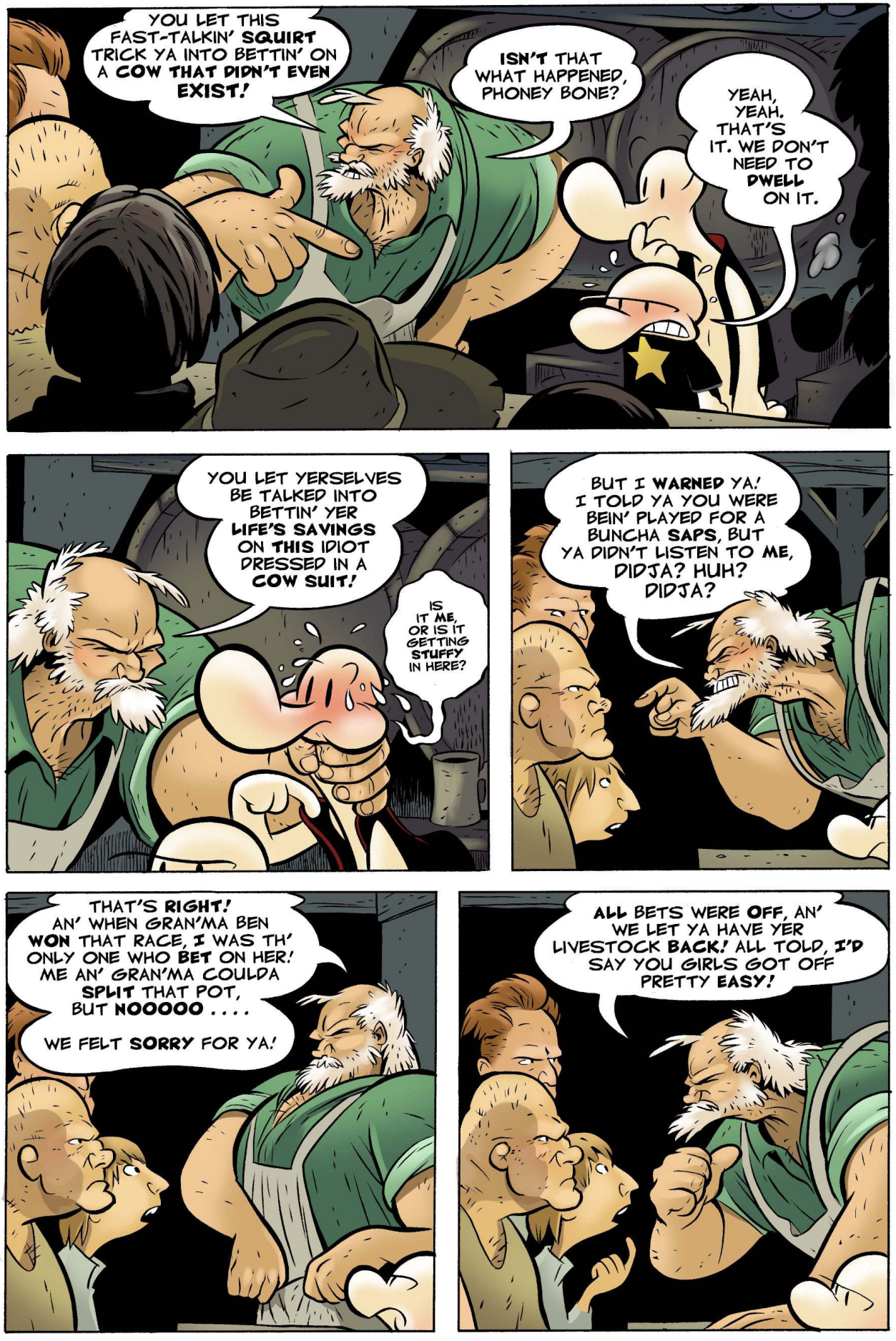

.....BUT WHAT OF THIS NEW LIGHT IN THE DREAMING.....?
DO WE NOT.... IGNORE THIS AT OUR PERIL?



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

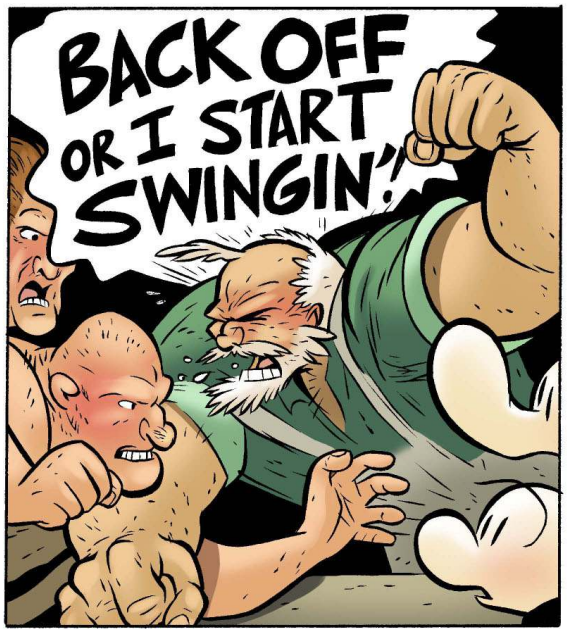

BONE
EVERYBODY GATHER 'ROUND! I GOT A LITTLE ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE!
The Barrel-Haven
L. Down. Prop.
THAT MEANS YOU, WENDELL!
AN' YOU, TOO, EUCLID!
ALL RIGHT NOW, LISTEN UP! I'M GONNA TELL YA ABOUT A CONTEST!
BUT FIRST . . .

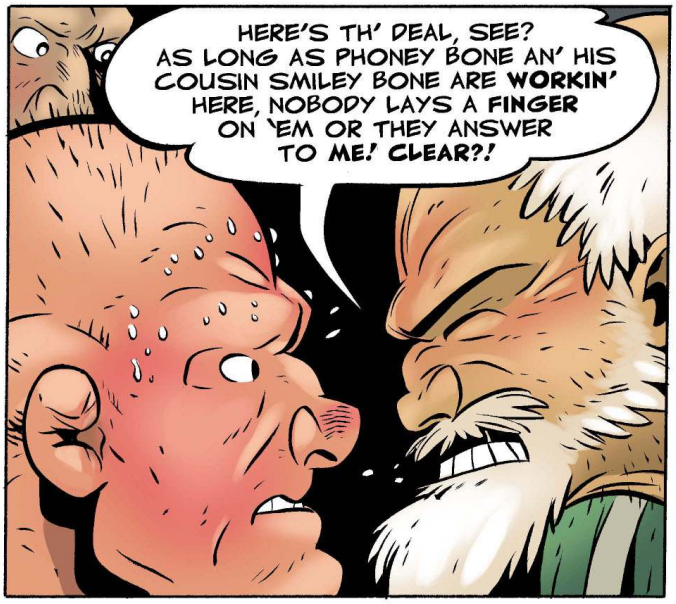

I KNOW HOW YOU FELLAS FEEL ABOUT THESE BONE BOYS . . .
. . . YOU WANNA KILL 'EM FOR MESSIN' WITH TH' COW RACE!
RRR!
GRR!
RRR!
GRR!
RRR!
RRRR!
WELL, SO DO I, BUT THEY OWE ME A LOTTA EGGS, AN' SO THEY GOTTA STAY RIGHT HERE AN' WORK IT OFF!
THAT MEANS I DON'T WANT NO TROUBLE FROM YOU GUYS. YOU GOT ME?
WHY NOT, LUCIUS? THEY GOTTA PAY FOR WHAT THEY DID!
I SAY WE TEAR THEIR LEGS OFF!
YEAH!
THEY TRIED TO MAKE FOOLS OUTTA US!
YOU MADE FOOLS OUTTA YERSELVES!


YOU LET THIS FAST-TALKIN' SQUIRT TRICK YA INTO BETTIN' ON A COW THAT DIDN'T EVEN EXIST!
ISN'T THAT WHAT HAPPENED, PHONEY BONE?
YEAH, YEAH. THAT'S IT. WE DON'T NEED TO DWELL ON IT.
YOU LET YERSELVES BE TALKED INTO BETTIN' YER LIFE'S SAVINGS ON THIS IDIOT DRESSED IN A COW SUIT!
IS IT ME, OR IS IT GETTING STUFFY IN HERE?
BUT I WARNED YA! I TOLD YA YOU WERE BEIN' PLAYED FOR A BUNCHA SAPS, BUT YA DIDN'T LISTEN TO ME, DIDJA? HUH? DIDJA?
THAT'S RIGHT! AN' WHEN GRAN'MA BEN WON THAT RACE, I WAS TH' ONLY ONE WHO BET ON HER! ME AN' GRAN'MA COULDA SPLIT THAT POT, BUT NOOOOO . . . .
WE FELT SORRY FOR YA!
ALL BETS WERE OFF, AN' WE LET YA HAVE YER LIVESTOCK BACK! ALL TOLD, I'D SAY YOU GIRLS GOT OFF PRETTY EASY!

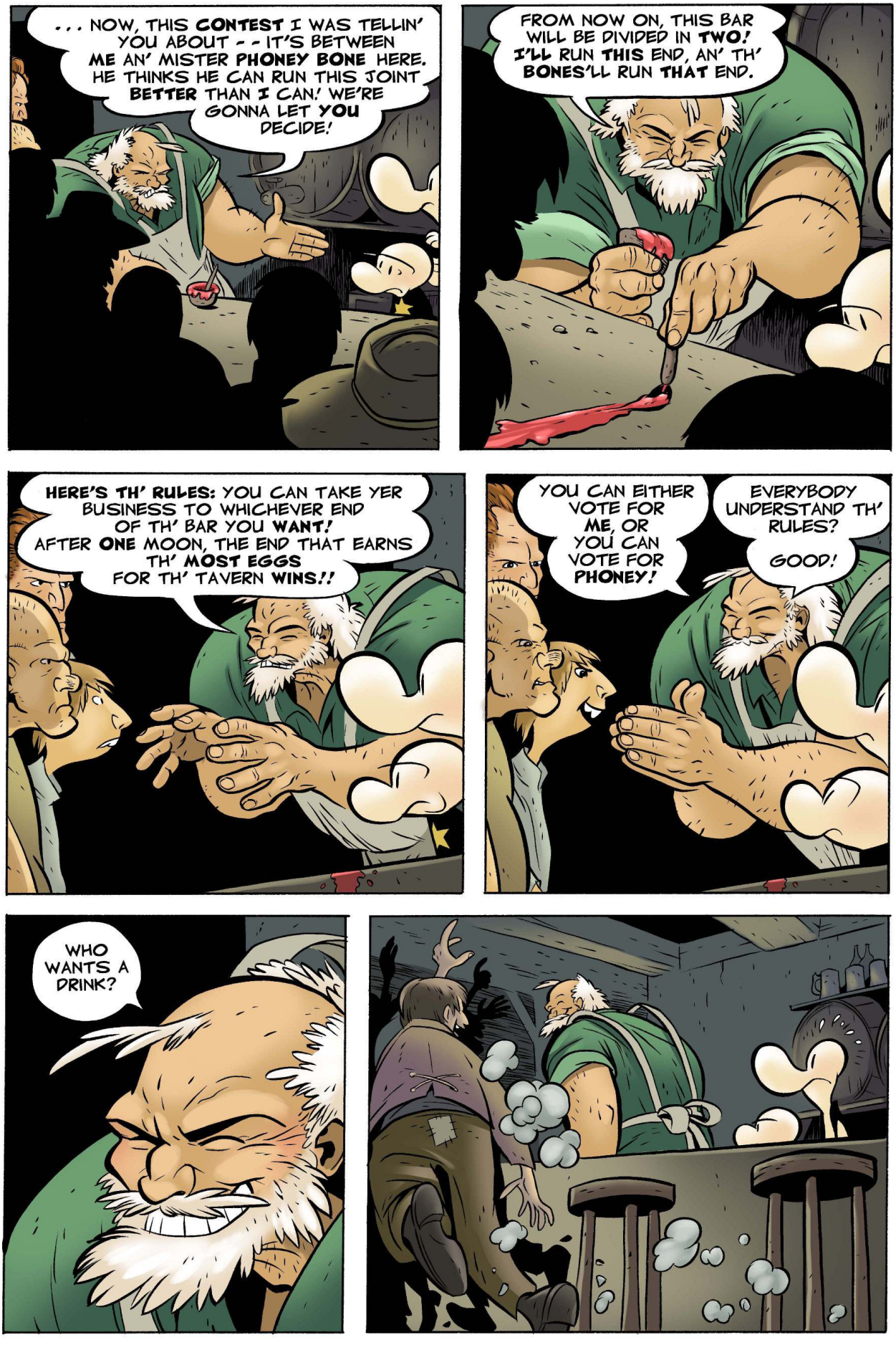

GRR!
RR!
OKAY, NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED, I WANNA TELL YA ABOUT THIS LITTLE CONTEST WE'RE GONNA HAVE . . .
RRR!
. . . THESE TWO - -

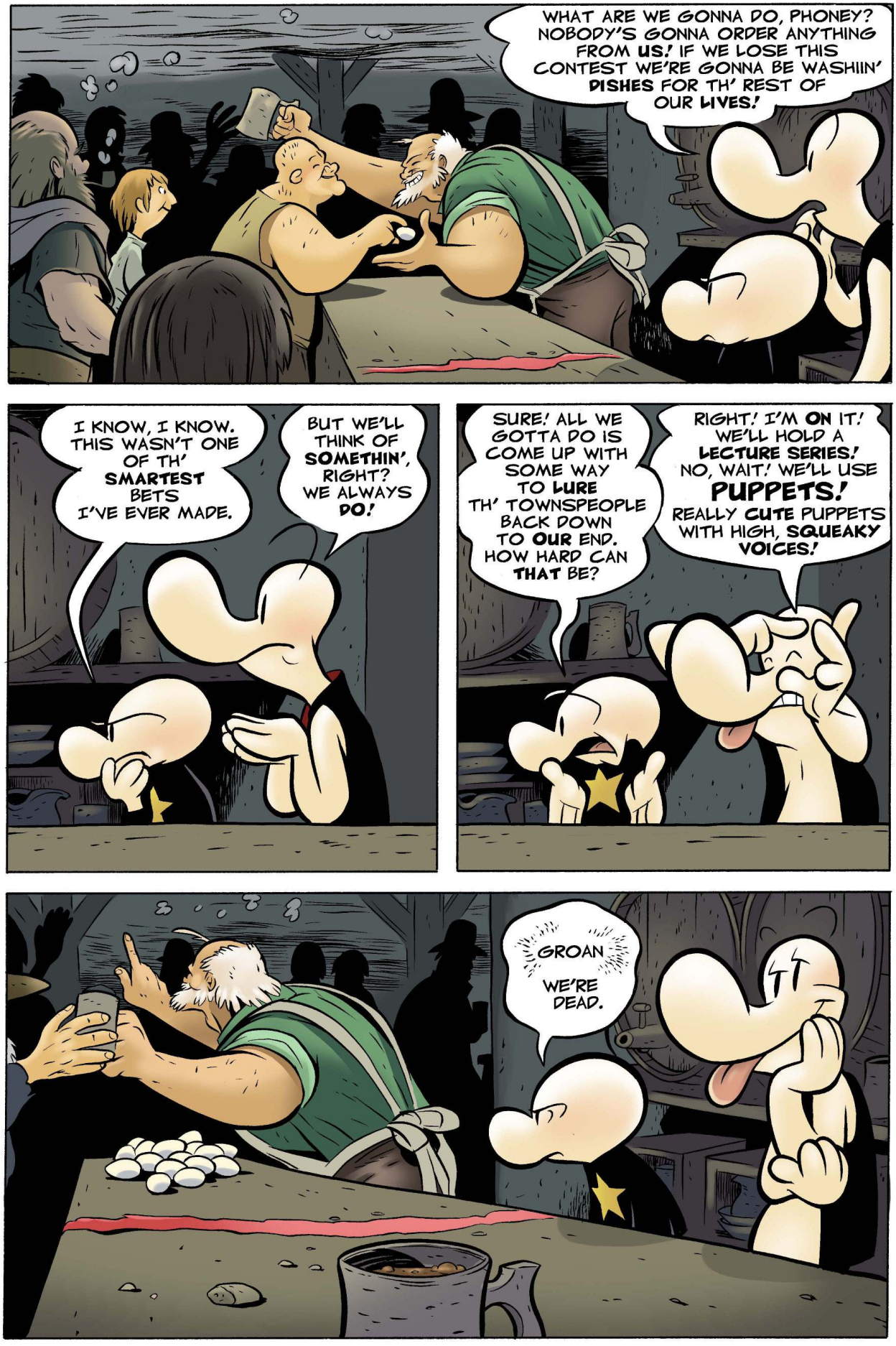

KILL`EM!
!
RIP THEIR HEADS OFF!


BACK OFF OR I START SWINGIN'!

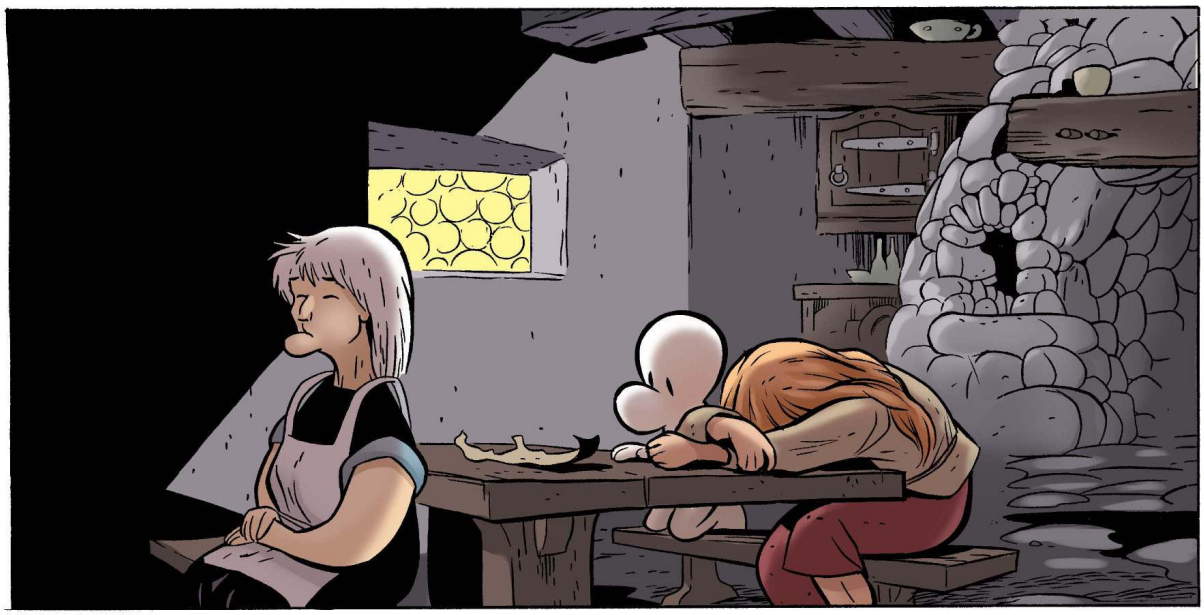

HERE'S TH' DEAL, SEE? AS LONG AS PHONEY BONE AN' HIS COUSIN SMILEY BONE ARE WORKIN' HERE, NOBODY LAYS A FINGER ON 'EM OR THEY ANSWER TO ME! CLEAR?!

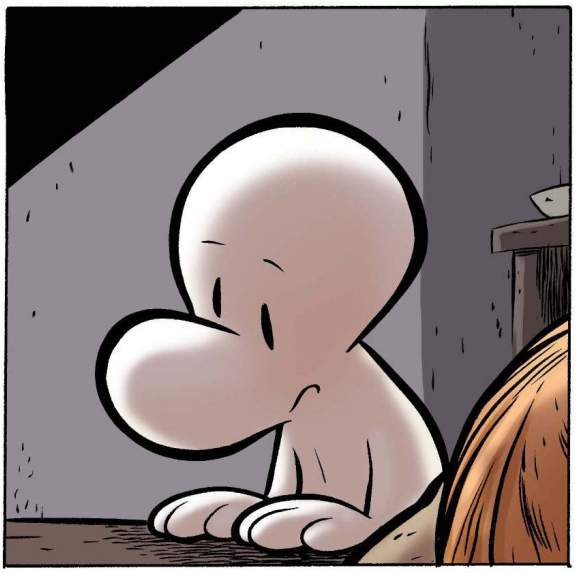

CLEAR.
ALL RIGHT THEN.

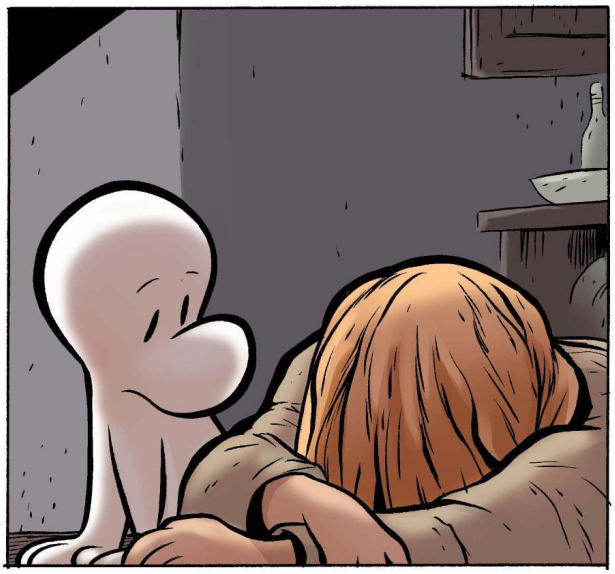

. . . NOW, THIS CONTEST I WAS TELLIN' YOU ABOUT - - IT'S BETWEEN ME AN' MISTER PHONEY BONE HERE. HE THINKS HE CAN RUN THIS JOINT BETTER THAN I CAN.' WE'RE GONNA LET YOU DECIDE!
FROM NOW ON, THIS BAR WILL BE DIVIDED IN TWO! I'LL RUN THIS END, AN' TH' BONES'LL RUN THAT END.
HERE'S TH' RULES: YOU CAN TAKE YER BUSINESS TO WHICHEVER END OF TH' BAR YOU WANT! AFTER ONE MOON, THE END THAT EARNS TH' MOST EGGS FOR TH' TAVERN WINS!!
YOU CAN EITHER VOTE FOR ME, OR YOU CAN VOTE FOR PHONEY!
EVERYBODY UNDERSTAND TH' RULES?
GOOD!
WHO WANTS A DRINK?


WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, PHONEY? NOBODY'S GONNA ORDER ANYTHING FROM **US!** IF WE LOSE THIS CONTEST WE'RE GONNA BE WASHIIN' **DISHES** FOR TH' REST OF OUR **LIVES!**
I KNOW, I KNOW. THIS WASN'T ONE OF TH' **SMARTEST** BETS I'VE EVER MADE.
BUT WE'LL THINK OF **SOMETHIN'**, RIGHT? WE ALWAYS **DO!**
SURE! ALL WE GOTTA DO IS COME UP WITH SOME WAY TO **LURE** TH' TOWNSPEOPLE BACK DOWN TO **OUR** END. HOW HARD CAN **THAT** BE?
RIGHT! I'M **ON** IT! WE'LL HOLD A **LECTURE SERIES!** NO, WAIT! WE'LL USE **PUPPETS!** REALLY **CUTE** PUPPETS WITH HIGH, **SQUEAKY VOICES!**
GROAN
WE'RE DEAD.

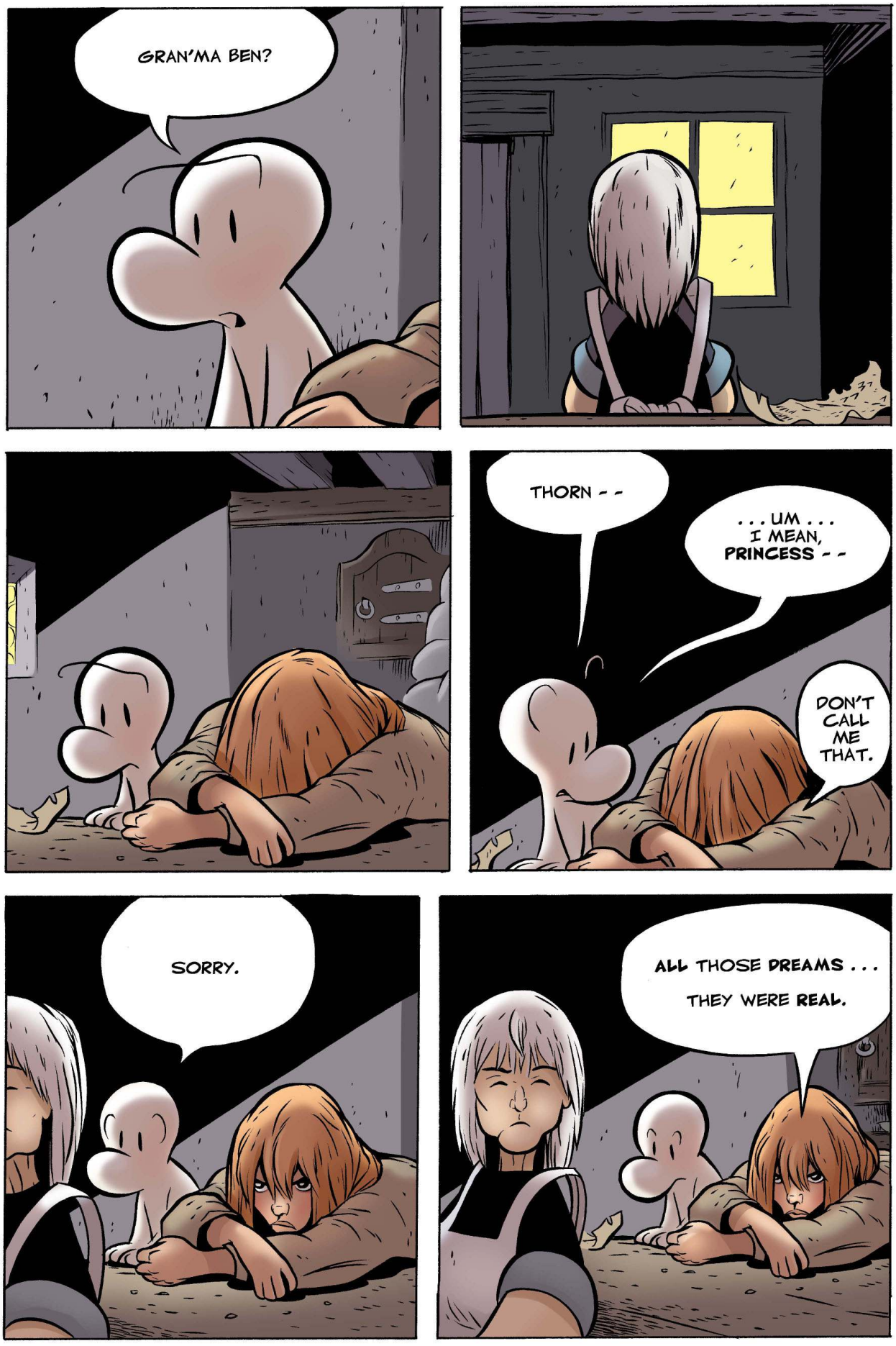


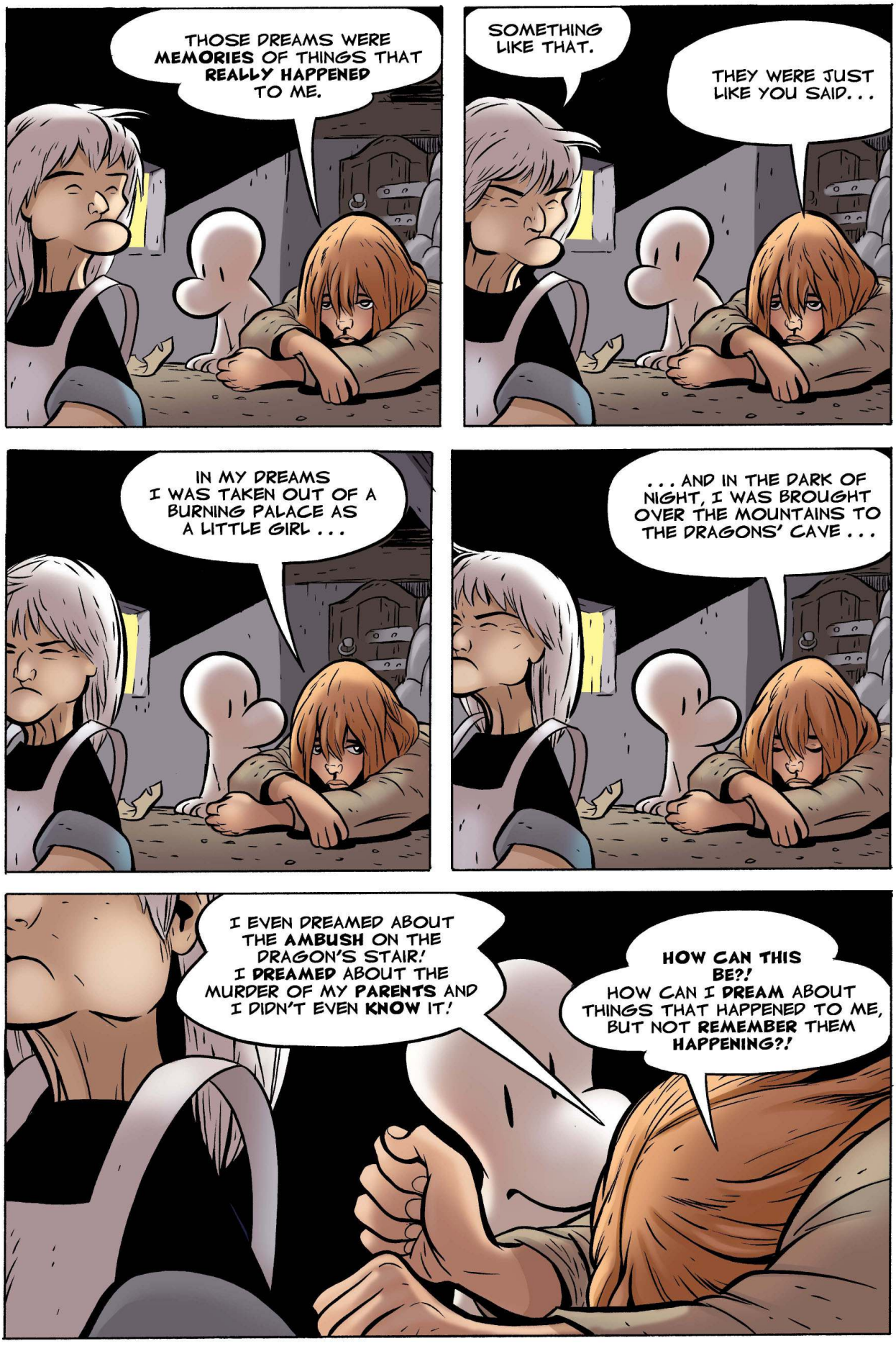


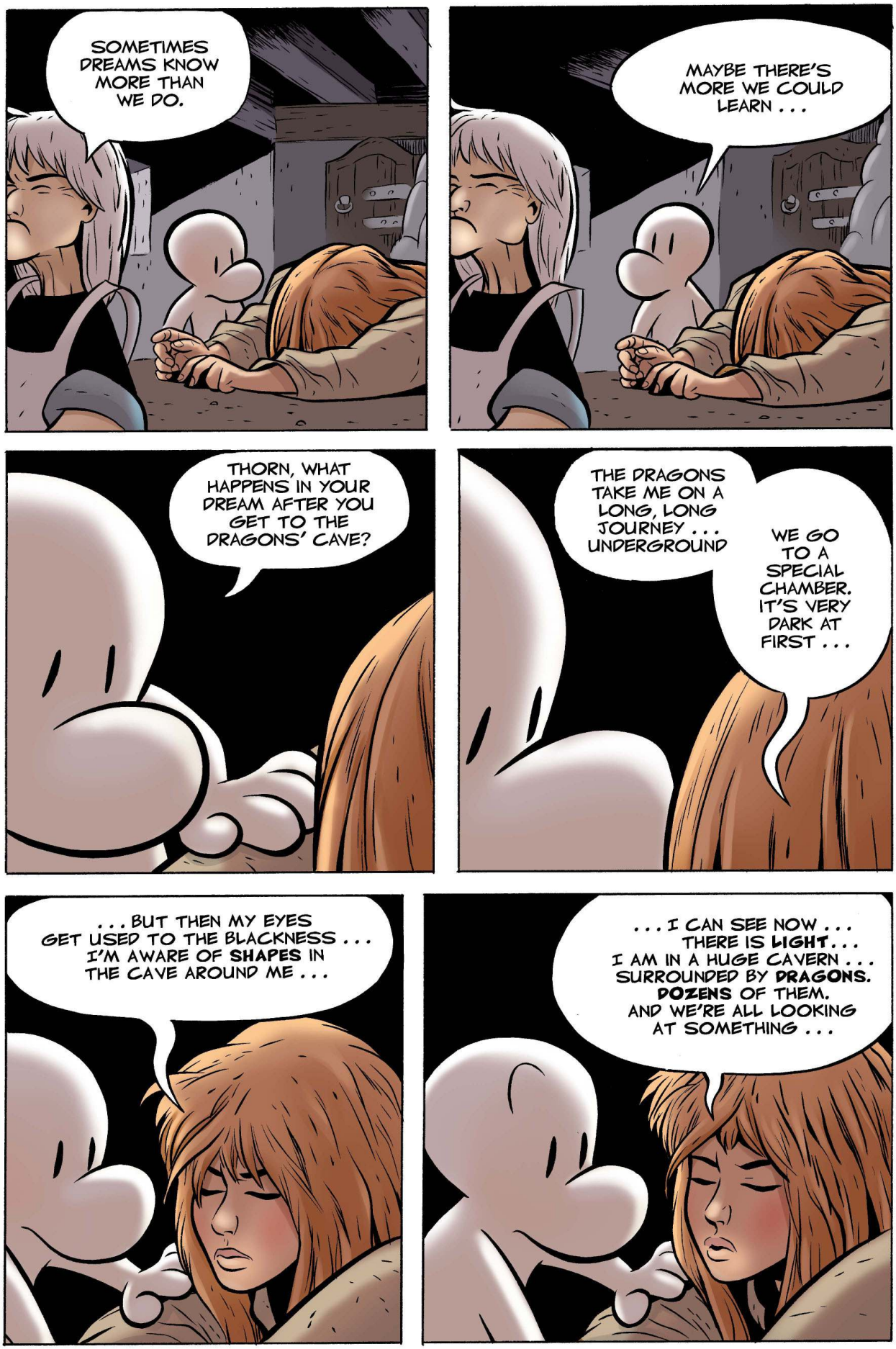


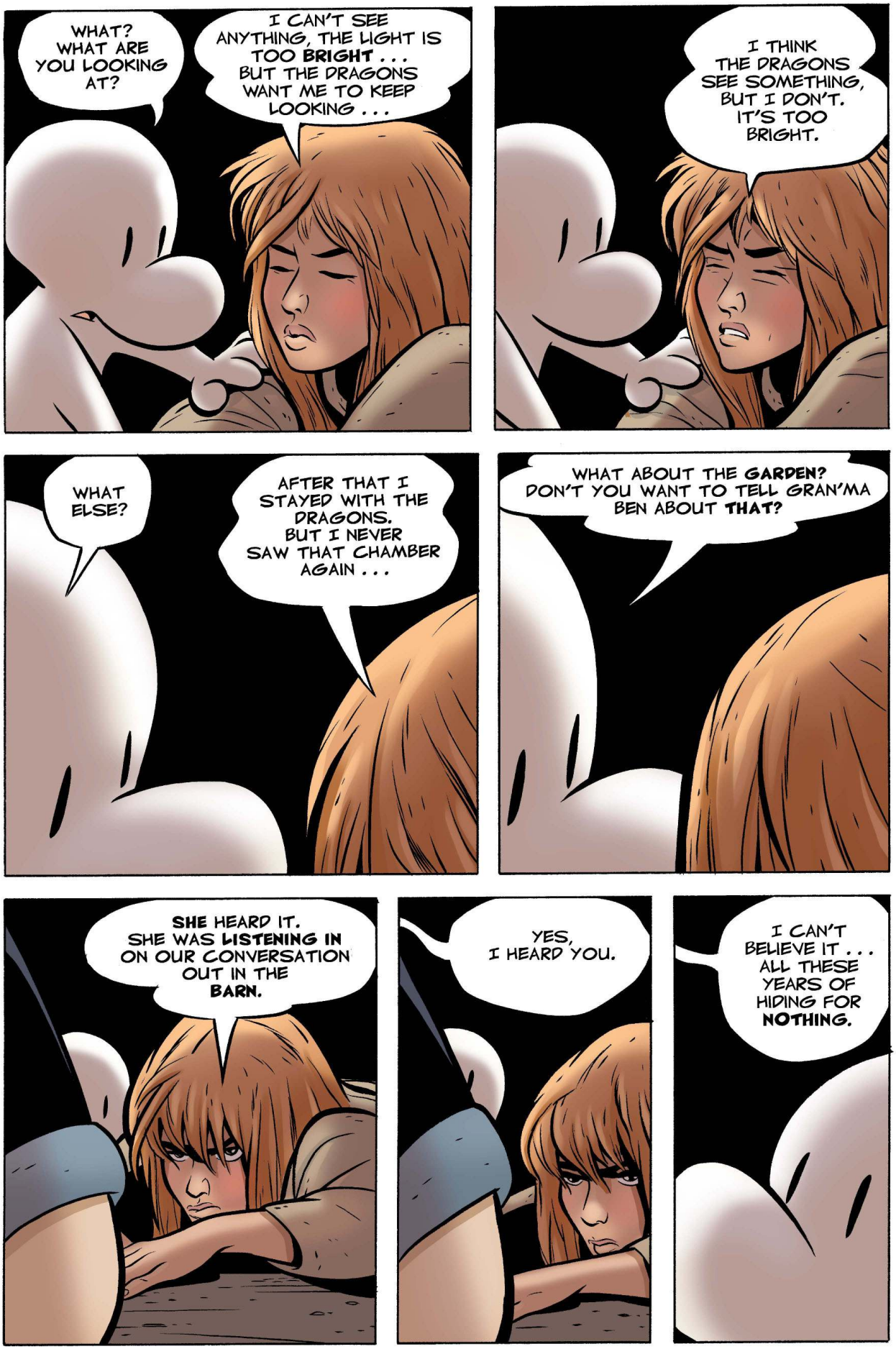


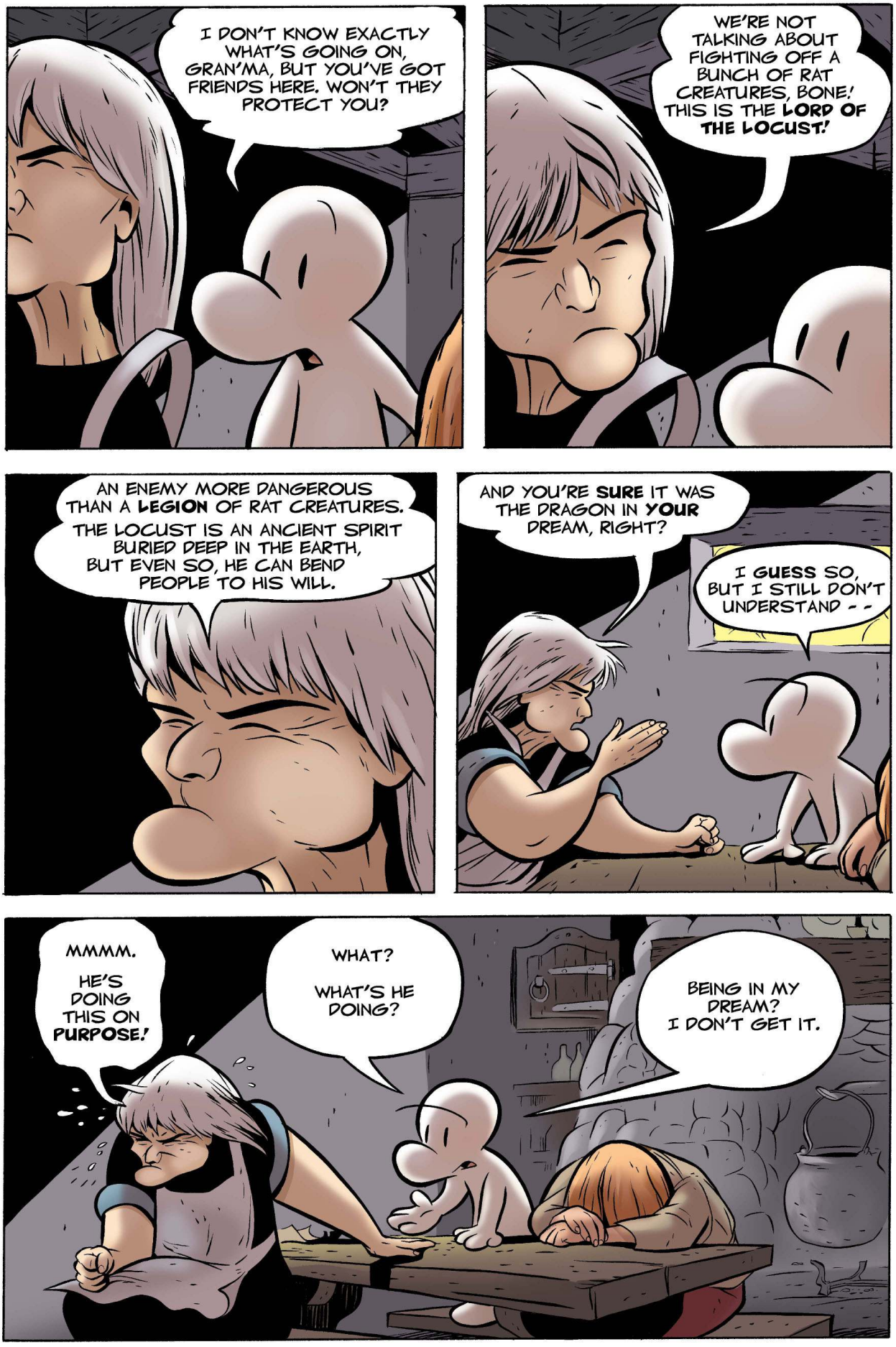
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

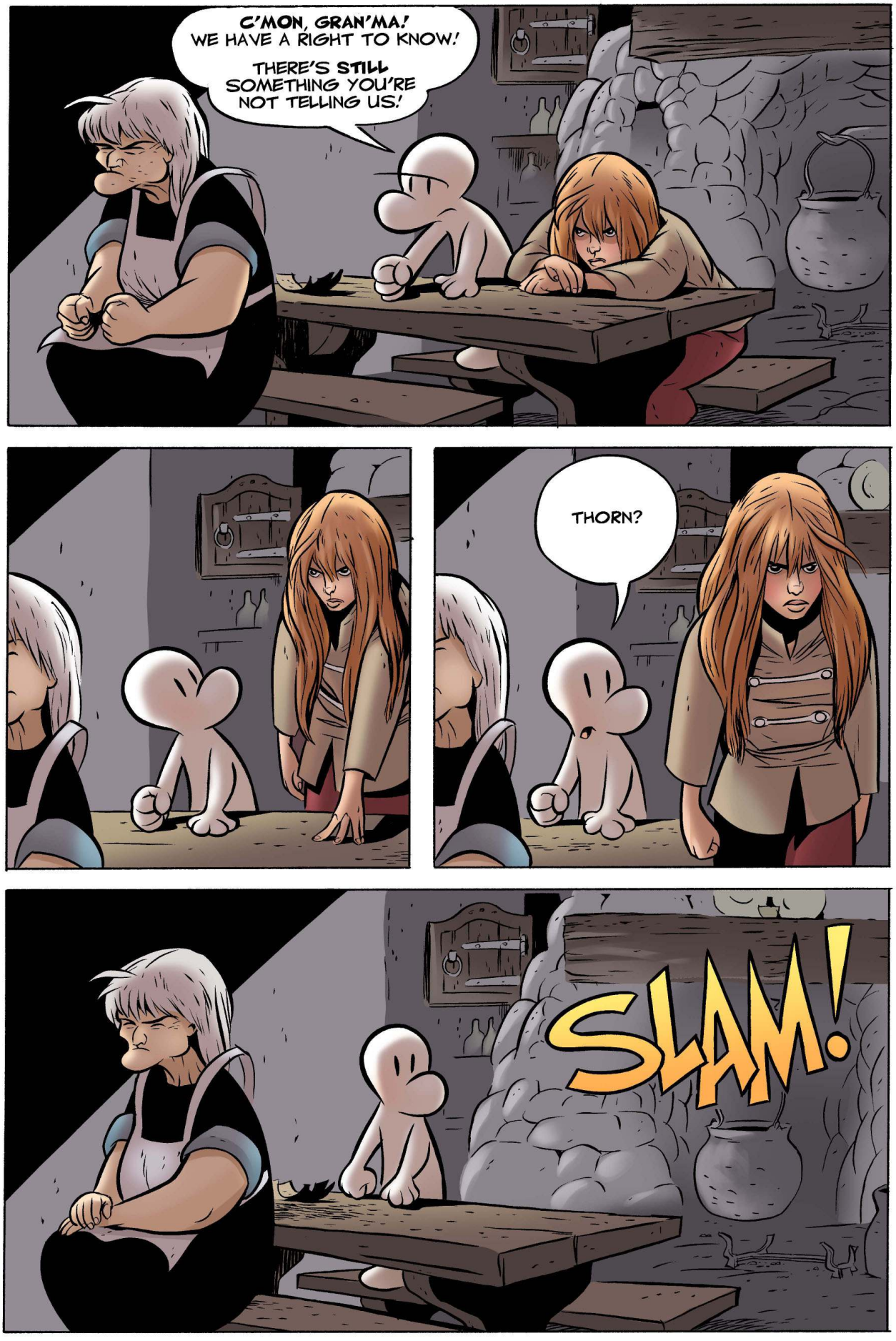

GRAN'MA BEN?
THORN - -
. . . UM . . .
I MEAN,
PRINCESS - -
DON'T CALL ME THAT.
SORRY.
ALL THOSE DREAMS . . .
THEY WERE REAL.

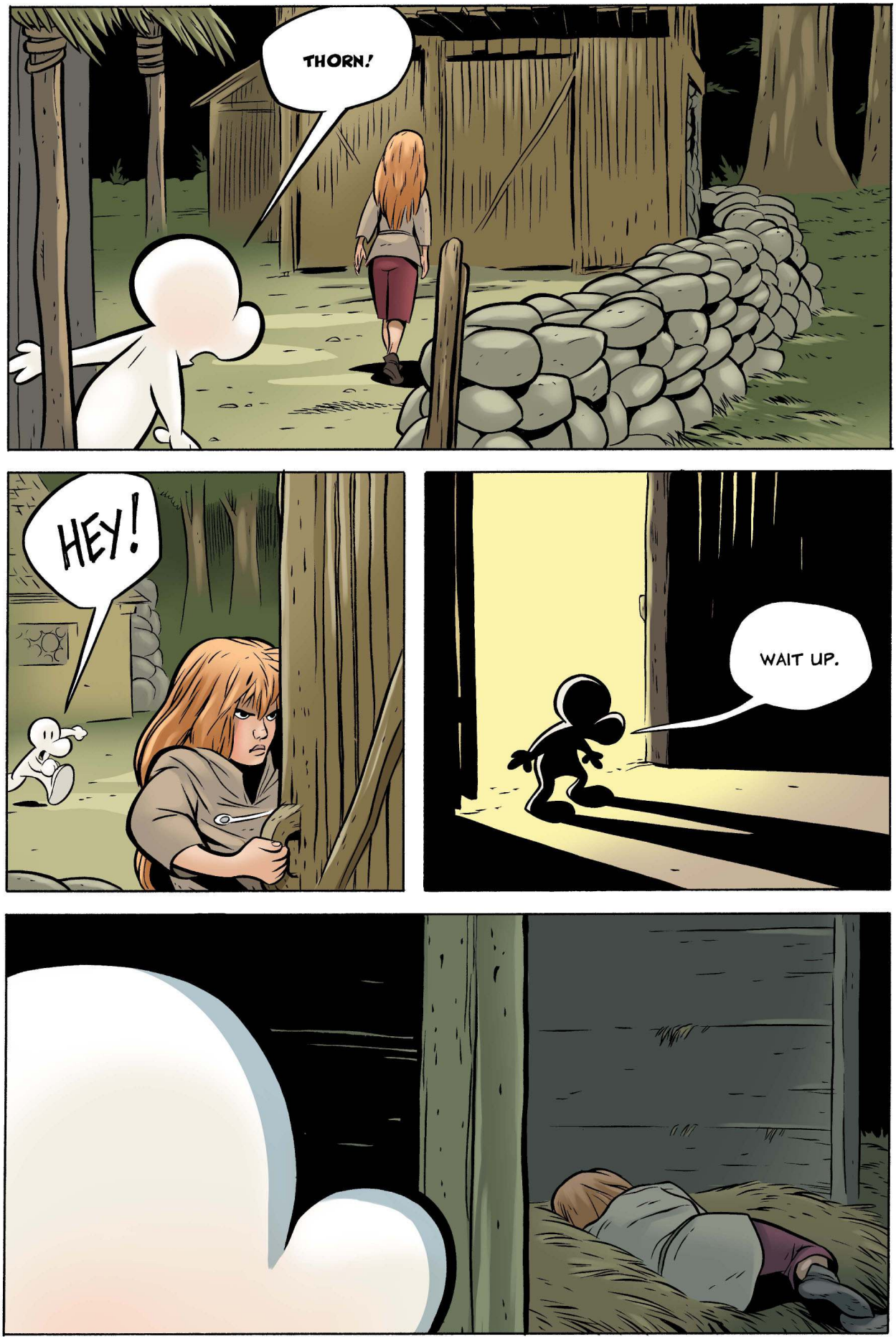

THOSE DREAMS WERE MEMORIES OF THINGS THAT REALLY HAPPENED TO ME.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THEY WERE JUST LIKE YOU SAID...
IN MY DREAMS I WAS TAKEN OUT OF A BURNING PALACE AS A LITTLE GIRL...
...AND IN THE DARK OF NIGHT, I WAS BROUGHT OVER THE MOUNTAINS TO THE DRAGONS' CAVE...
I EVEN DREAMED ABOUT THE AMBUSH ON THE DRAGON'S STAIR! I DREAMED ABOUT THE MURDER OF MY PARENTS AND I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT!
HOW CAN THIS BE?! HOW CAN I DREAM ABOUT THINGS THAT HAPPENED TO ME, BUT NOT REMEMBER THEM HAPPENING?!

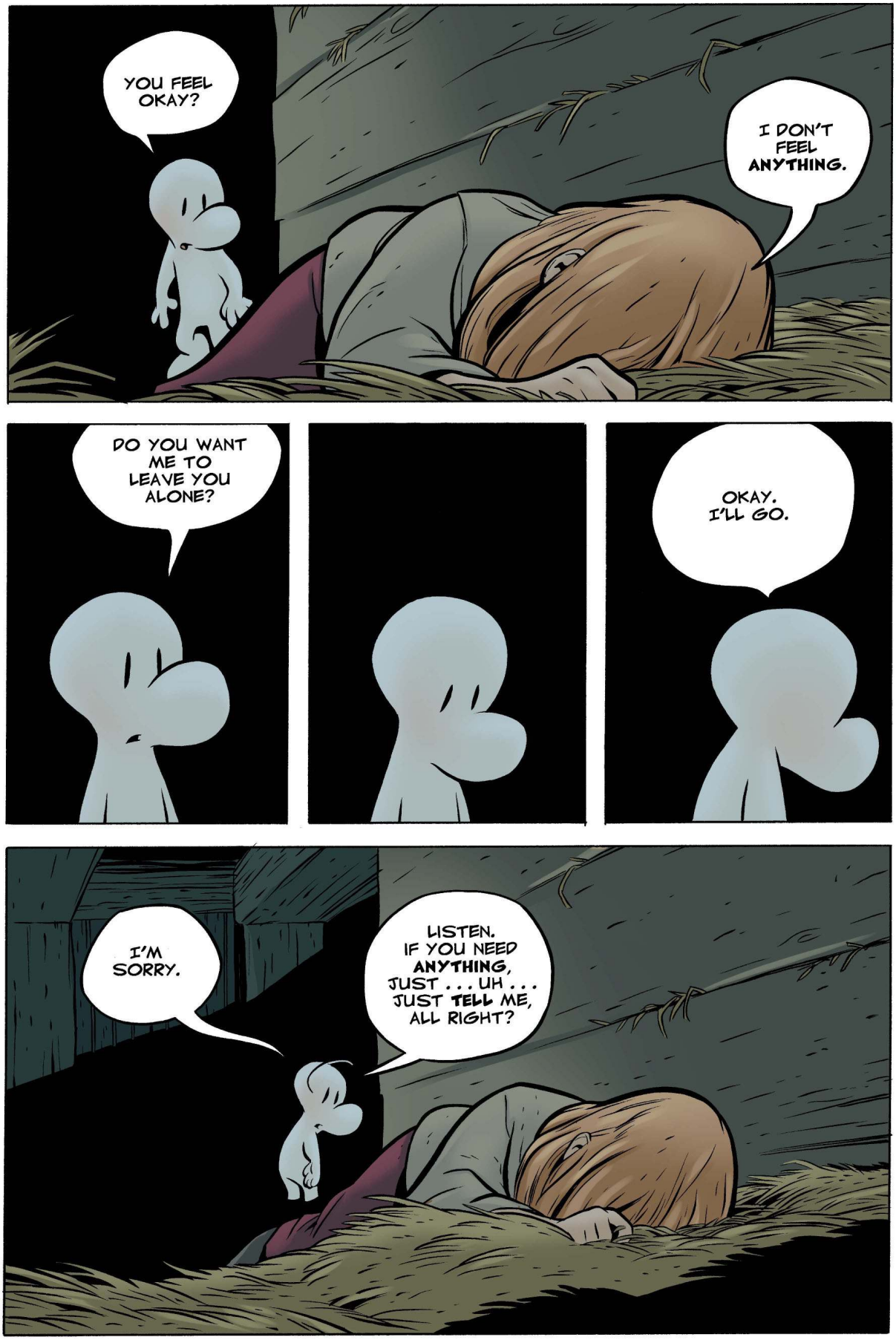

SOMETIMES DREAMS KNOW MORE THAN WE DO.
MAYBE THERE'S MORE WE COULD LEARN . . .
THORN, WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR DREAM AFTER YOU GET TO THE DRAGONS' CAVE?
THE DRAGONS TAKE ME ON A LONG, LONG JOURNEY . . . UNDERGROUND
WE GO TO A SPECIAL CHAMBER. IT'S VERY DARK AT FIRST . . .
. . . BUT THEN MY EYES GET USED TO THE BLACKNESS . . . I'M AWARE OF SHAPES IN THE CAVE AROUND ME . . .
. . . I CAN SEE NOW . . . THERE IS LIGHT . . . I AM IN A HUGE CAVERN . . . SURROUNDED BY DRAGONS. DOZENS OF THEM. AND WE'RE ALL LOOKING AT SOMETHING . . .


WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING, THE LIGHT IS TOO **BRIGHT** . . . BUT THE DRAGONS WANT ME TO KEEP LOOKING . . .
I THINK THE DRAGONS SEE SOMETHING, BUT I DON'T. IT'S TOO BRIGHT.
WHAT ELSE?
AFTER THAT I STAYED WITH THE DRAGONS. BUT I NEVER SAW THAT CHAMBER AGAIN . . .
WHAT ABOUT THE **GARDEN?** DON'T YOU WANT TO TELL GRAN'MA BEN ABOUT **THAT?**
SHE HEARD IT. SHE WAS **LISTENING IN** ON OUR CONVERSATION OUT IN THE **BARN.**
YES, I HEARD YOU.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT . . . ALL THESE YEARS OF HIDING FOR **NOTHING.**

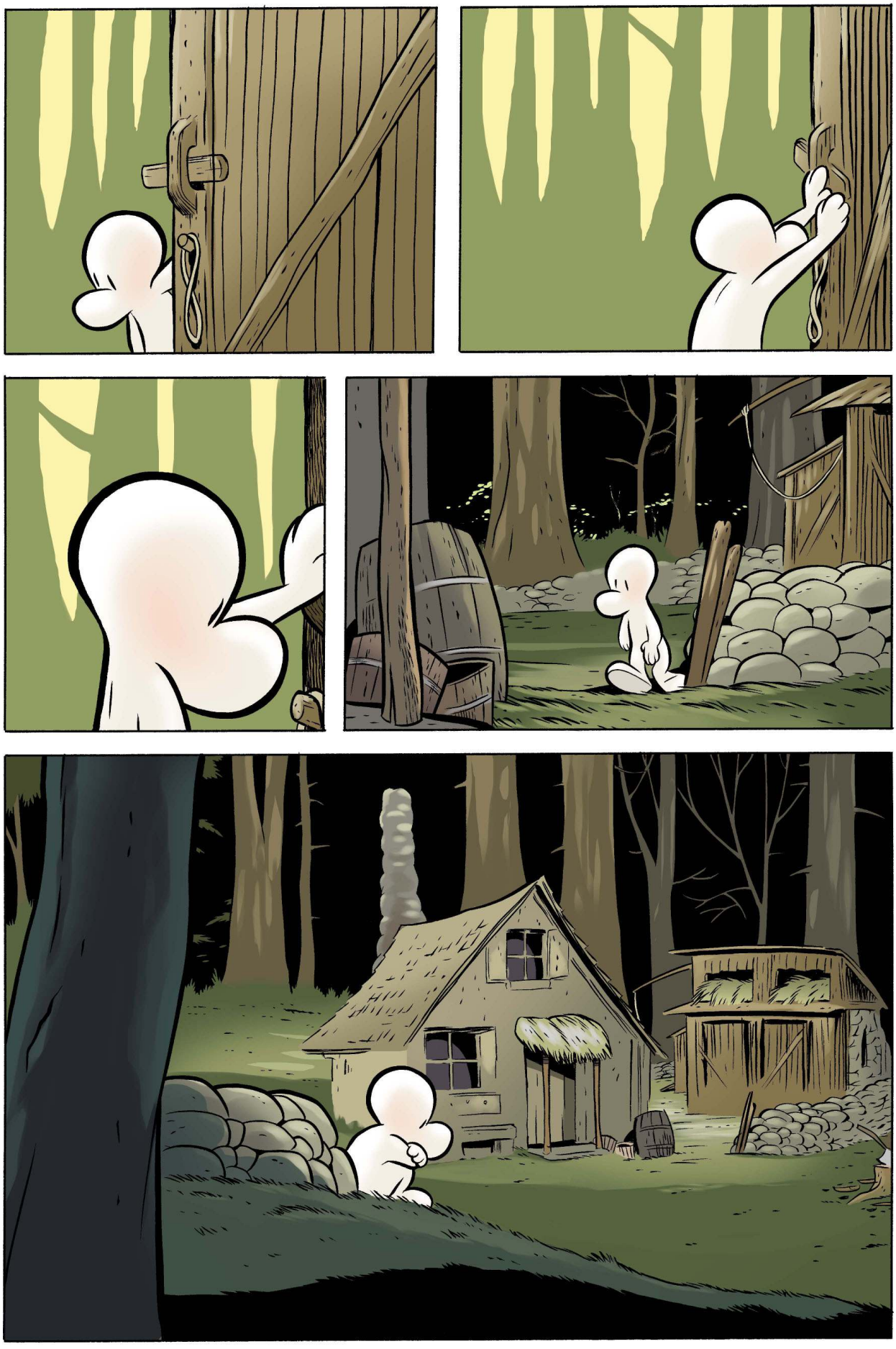

I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S GOING ON, GRAN'MA, BUT YOU'VE GOT FRIENDS HERE. WON'T THEY PROTECT YOU?
WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT FIGHTING OFF A BUNCH OF RAT CREATURES, BONE! THIS IS THE **LORD OF THE LOCUST!**
AN ENEMY MORE DANGEROUS THAN A **LEGION** OF RAT CREATURES.
THE LOCUST IS AN ANCIENT SPIRIT BURIED DEEP IN THE EARTH, BUT EVEN SO, HE CAN BEND PEOPLE TO HIS WILL.
AND YOU'RE **SURE** IT WAS THE DRAGON IN **YOUR** DREAM, RIGHT?
I **GUESS** SO, BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND - -
MMMM.
HE'S DOING THIS ON **PURPOSE!**
WHAT?
WHAT'S HE DOING?
BEING IN MY DREAM? I DON'T GET IT.

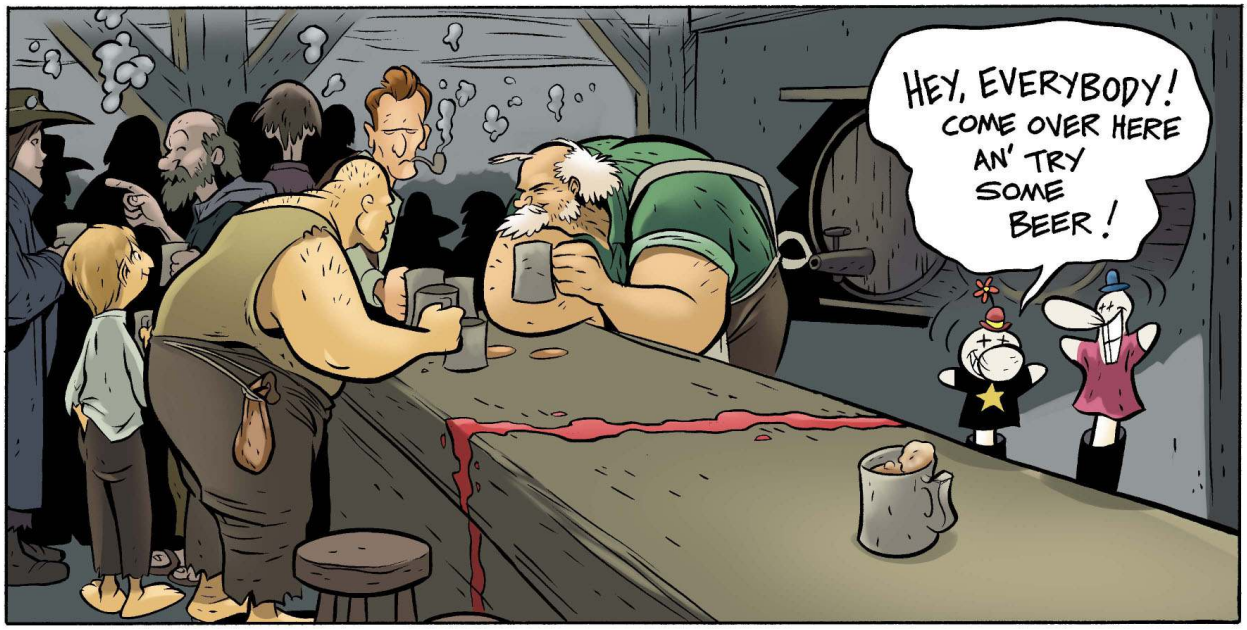

C'MON, GRAN'MA! WE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW!
THERE'S STILL SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT TELLING US!
THORN?
SLAM!

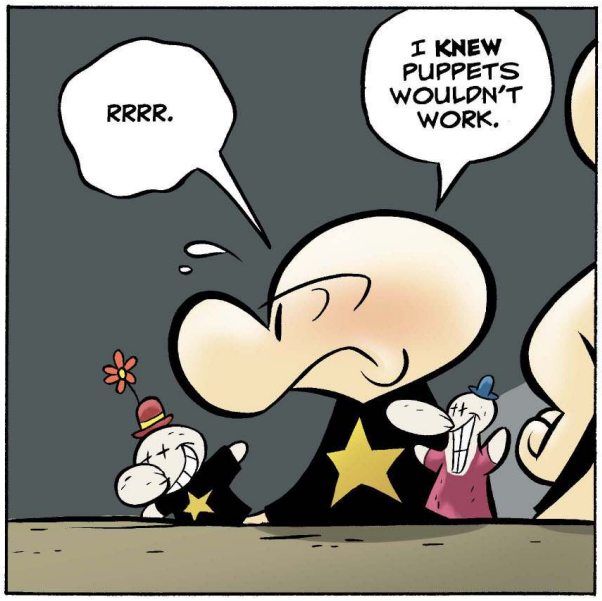

THORN!
HEY!
WAIT UP.



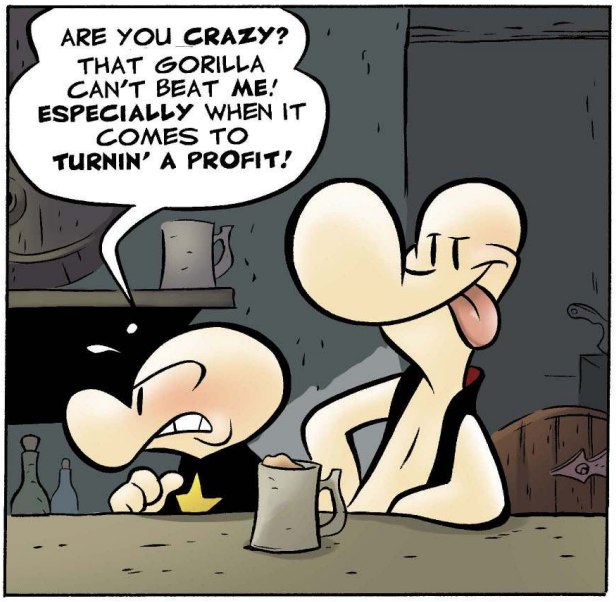
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

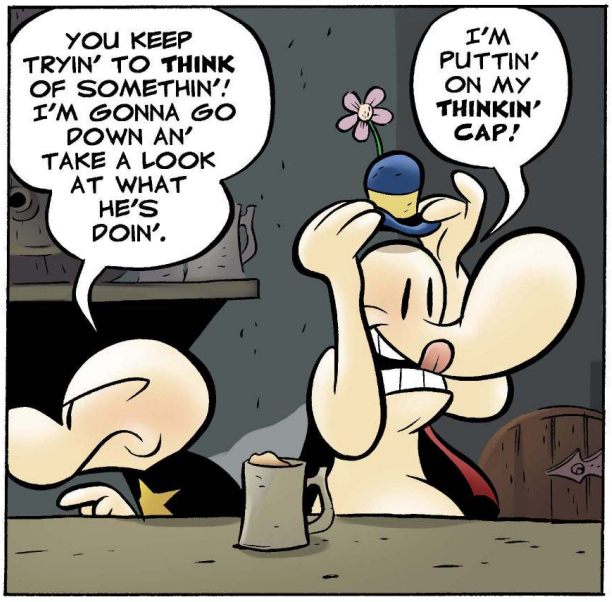



HEY, EVERYBODY! COME OVER HERE AN' TRY SOME BEER!

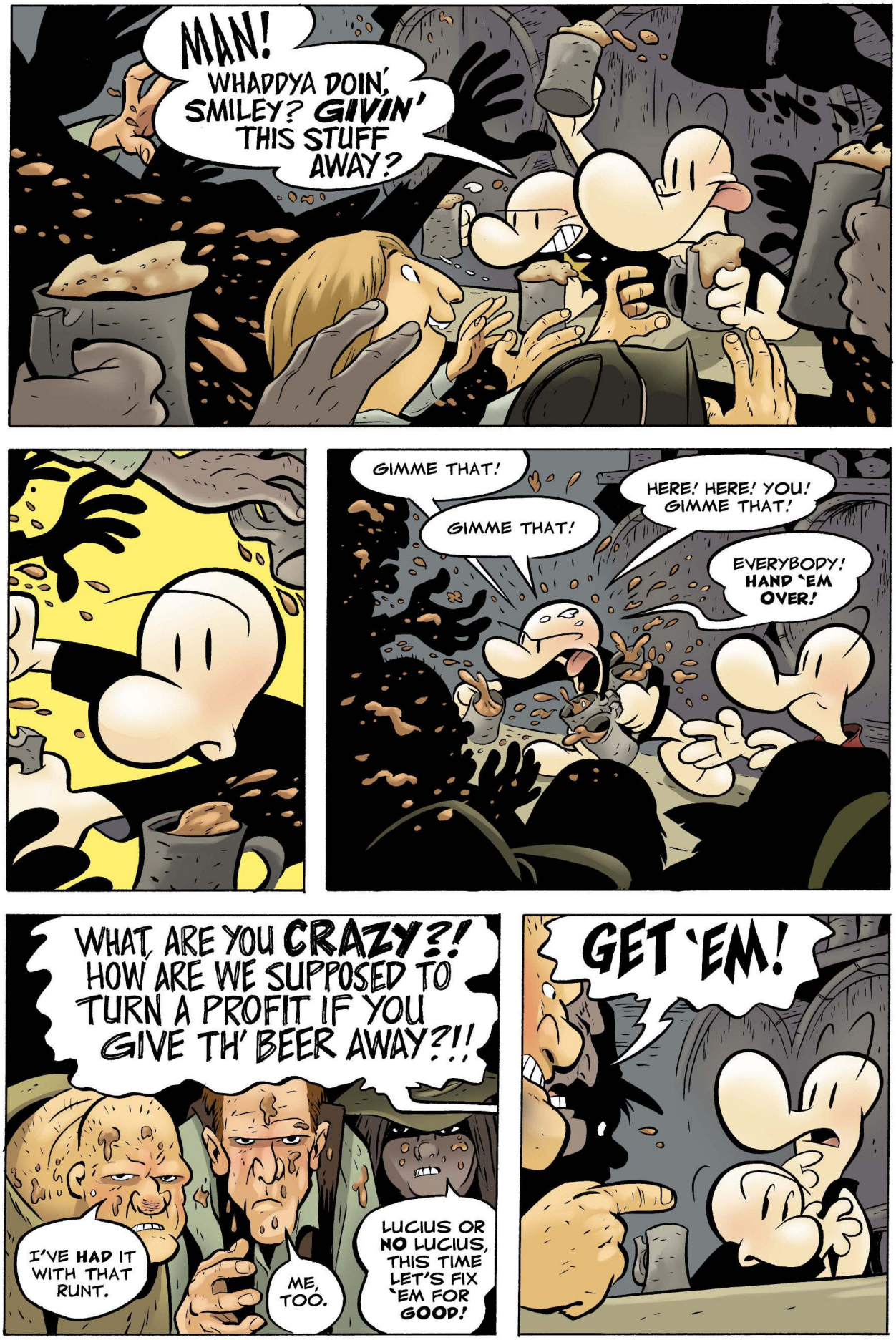

RRRR.
I KNEW PUPPETS WOULDN'T WORK.

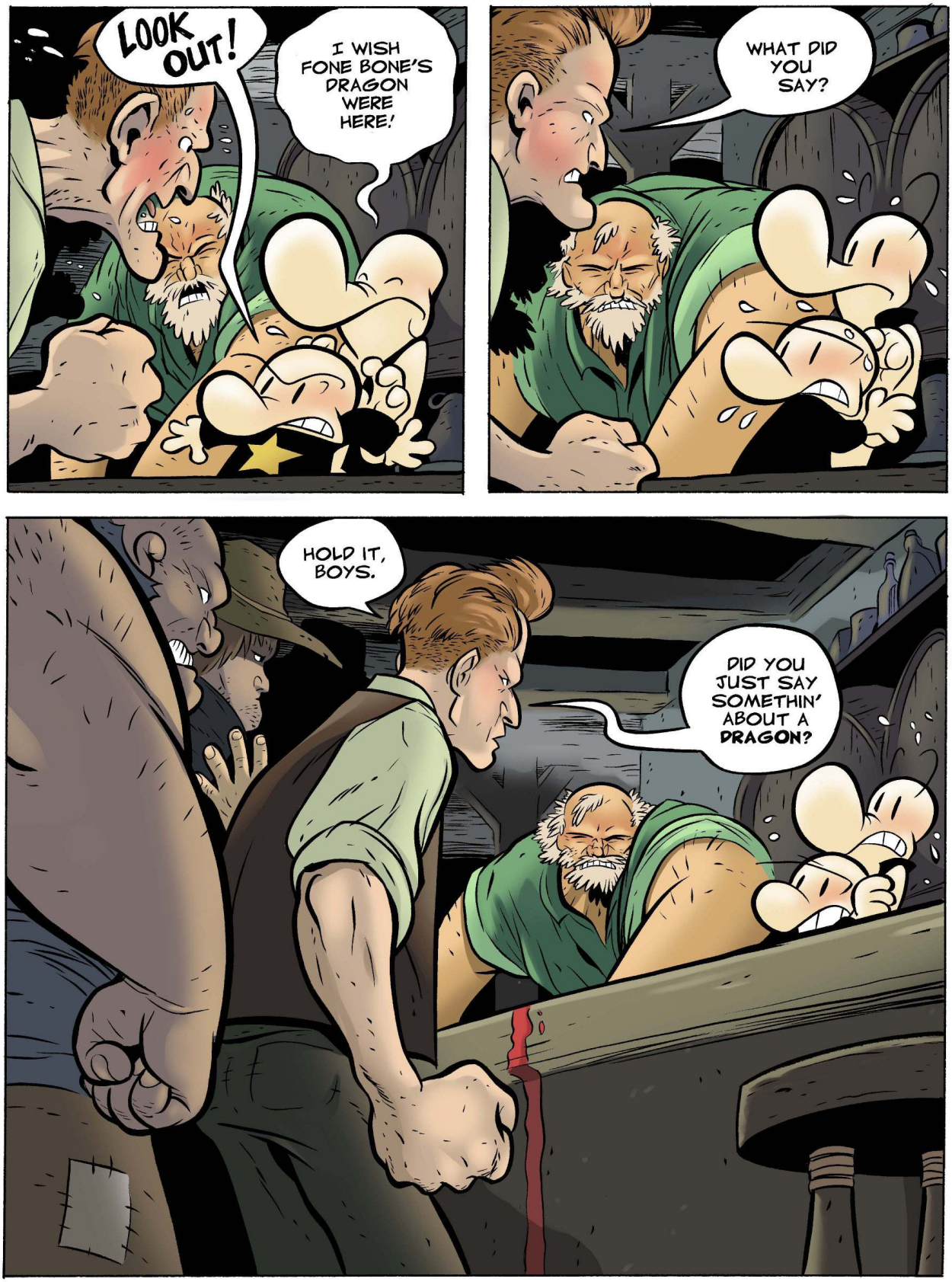

WELL, THAT'S IT! WE'RE BEATEN! NOBODY WANTS ANYTHING FROM US! READY TO THROW IN TH' TOWEL, CUZ?

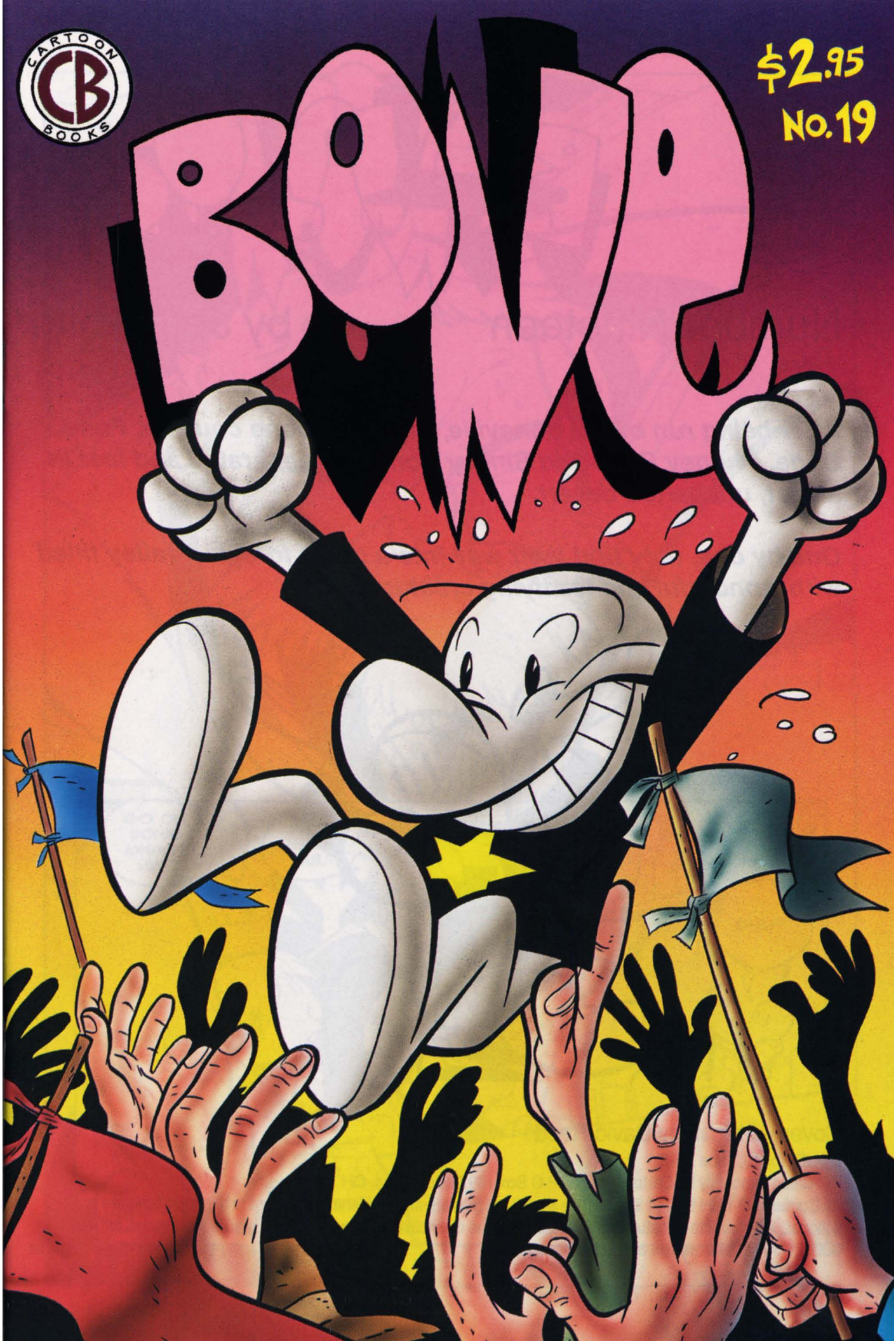

ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT GORILLA CAN'T BEAT ME! ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO TURNIN' A PROFIT!

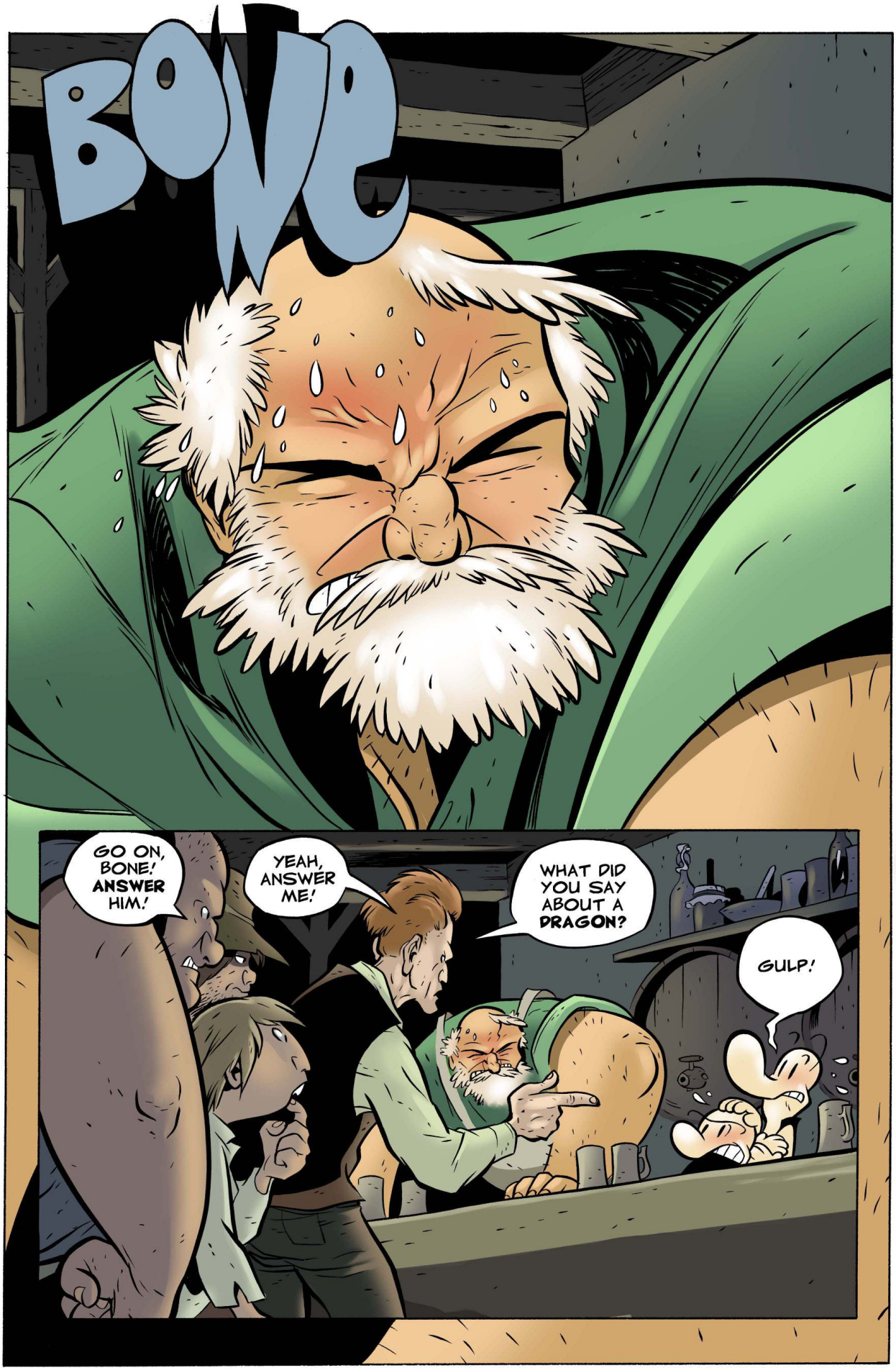

YOU KEEP TRYIN' TO THINK OF SOMETHIN'! I'M GONNA GO DOWN AN' TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT HE'S DOIN'.
I'M PUTTIN' ON MY THINKIN' CAP!

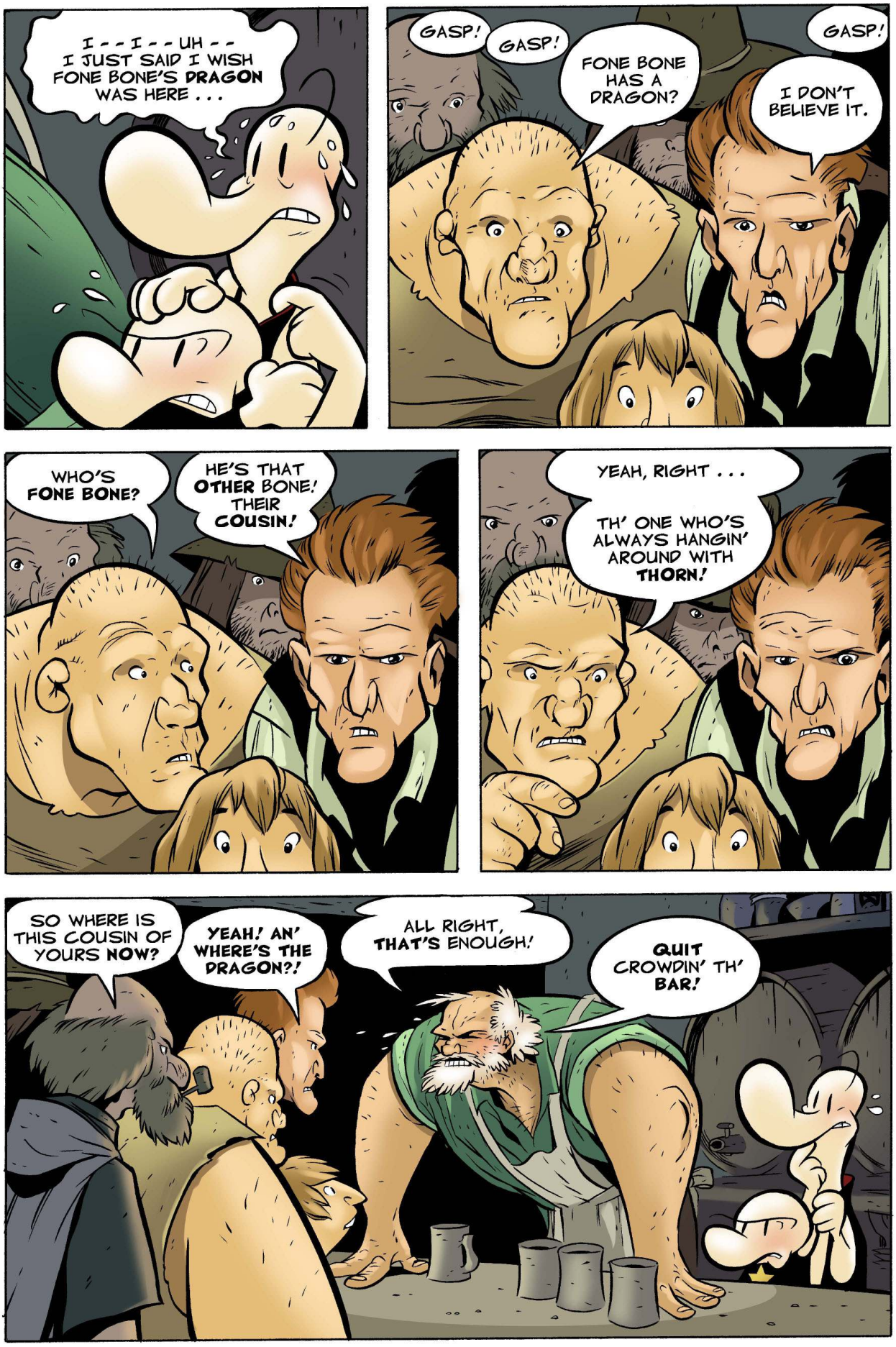

WELL, WELL, WELL, WELL . . . LOOK WHAT SLITHERED UP! READY TO CALL IT QUITS, SMART-GUY?
I ADMIT THIS MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT.
YOU'RE WELCOME TO HANG AROUND THIS END. YOU MIGHT LEARN SOMETHIN' ABOUT RUNNIN' A BUSINESS HERE ON TH' WINNING END OF TH' BAR!
DON'T GET SMUG! IT AIN'T OVER YET!
HEY - - WHAT'S EVERYBODY DOIN'?
HUH? HEY!
HEY!
WHERE'S EVERYBODY GOIN'?
WHAT TH'? WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
HOLY COW!
LOOKS LIKE TH' TABLES HAVE BEEN TURNED, PAL! EXCUSE ME WHILE I GET BACK TO TH' WINNING END OF TH' BAR!

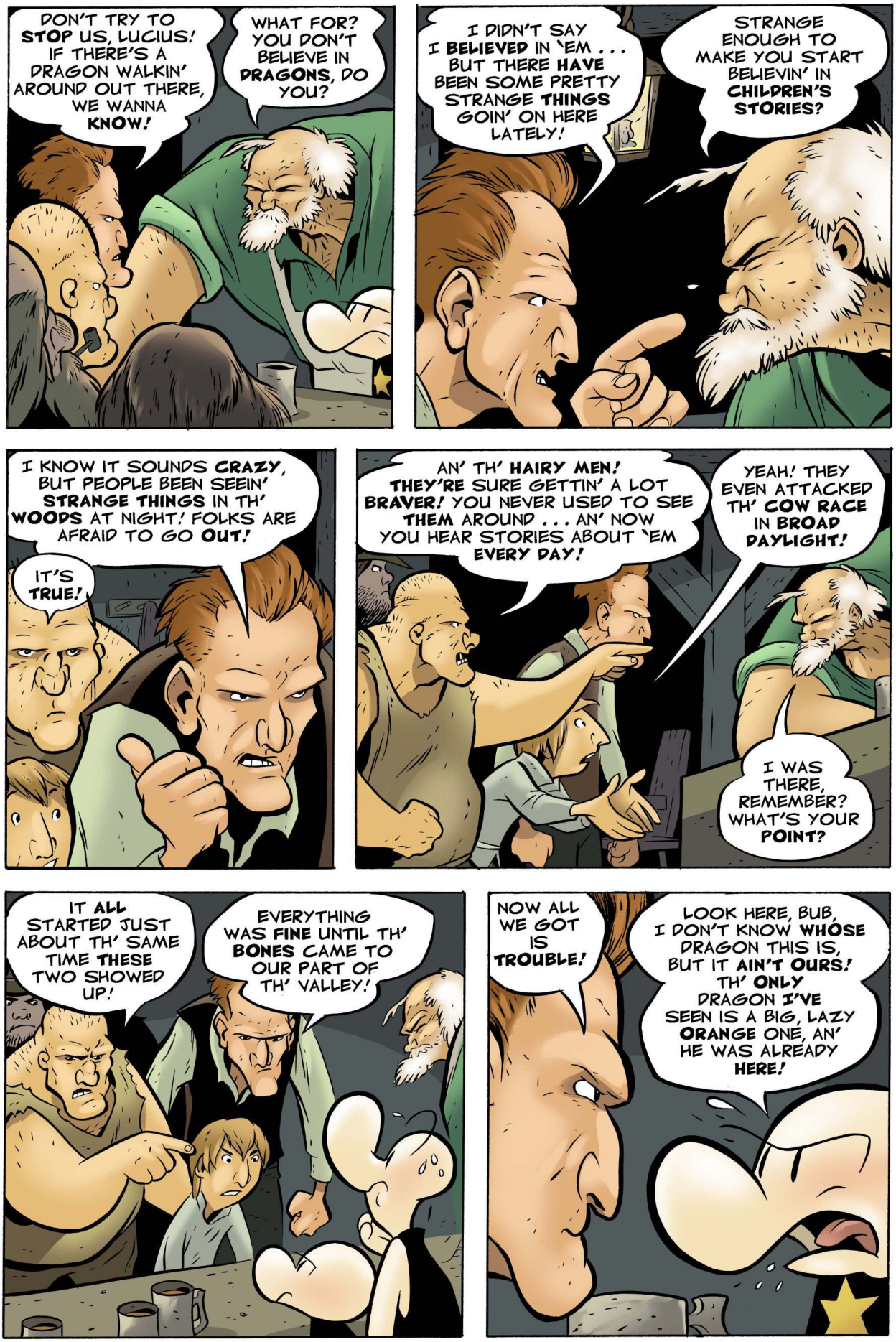

MAN! WHADDYA DOIN', SMILEY? GIVIN' THIS STUFF AWAY?
GIMME THAT!
GIMME THAT!
HERE! HERE! YOU! GIMME THAT!
EVERYBODY! HAND 'EM OVER!
WHAT ARE YOU CRAZY?! HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO TURN A PROFIT IF YOU GIVE TH' BEER AWAY?!!
I'VE HAD IT WITH THAT RUNT.
ME, TOO.
LUCIUS OR NO LUCIUS, THIS TIME LET'S FIX 'EM FOR GOOD!
GET 'EM!

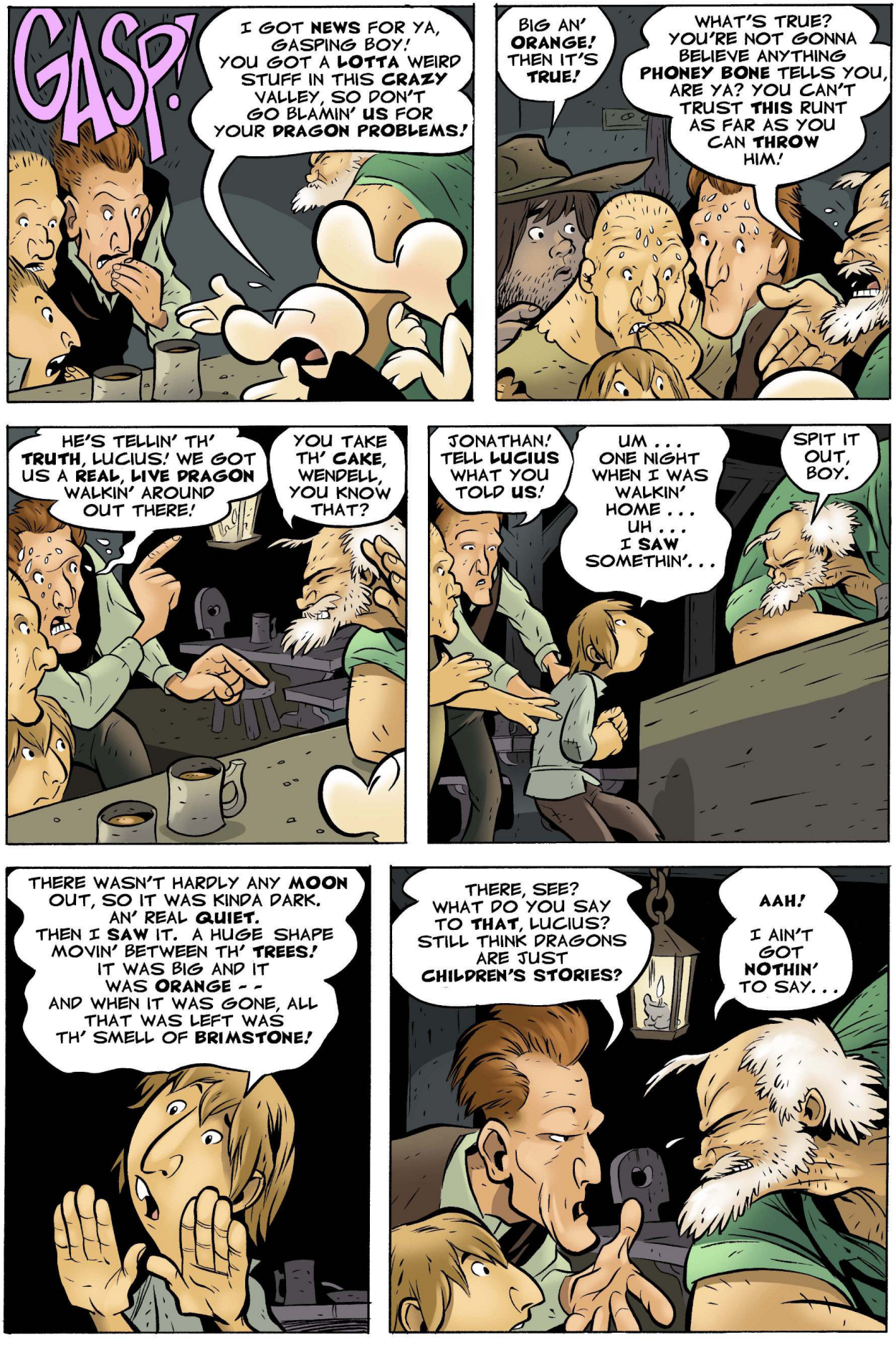

LOOK OUT!
I WISH FONE BONE'S DRAGON WERE HERE!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
HOLD IT, BOYS.
DID YOU JUST SAY SOMETHIN' ABOUT A DRAGON?


CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
No. 19

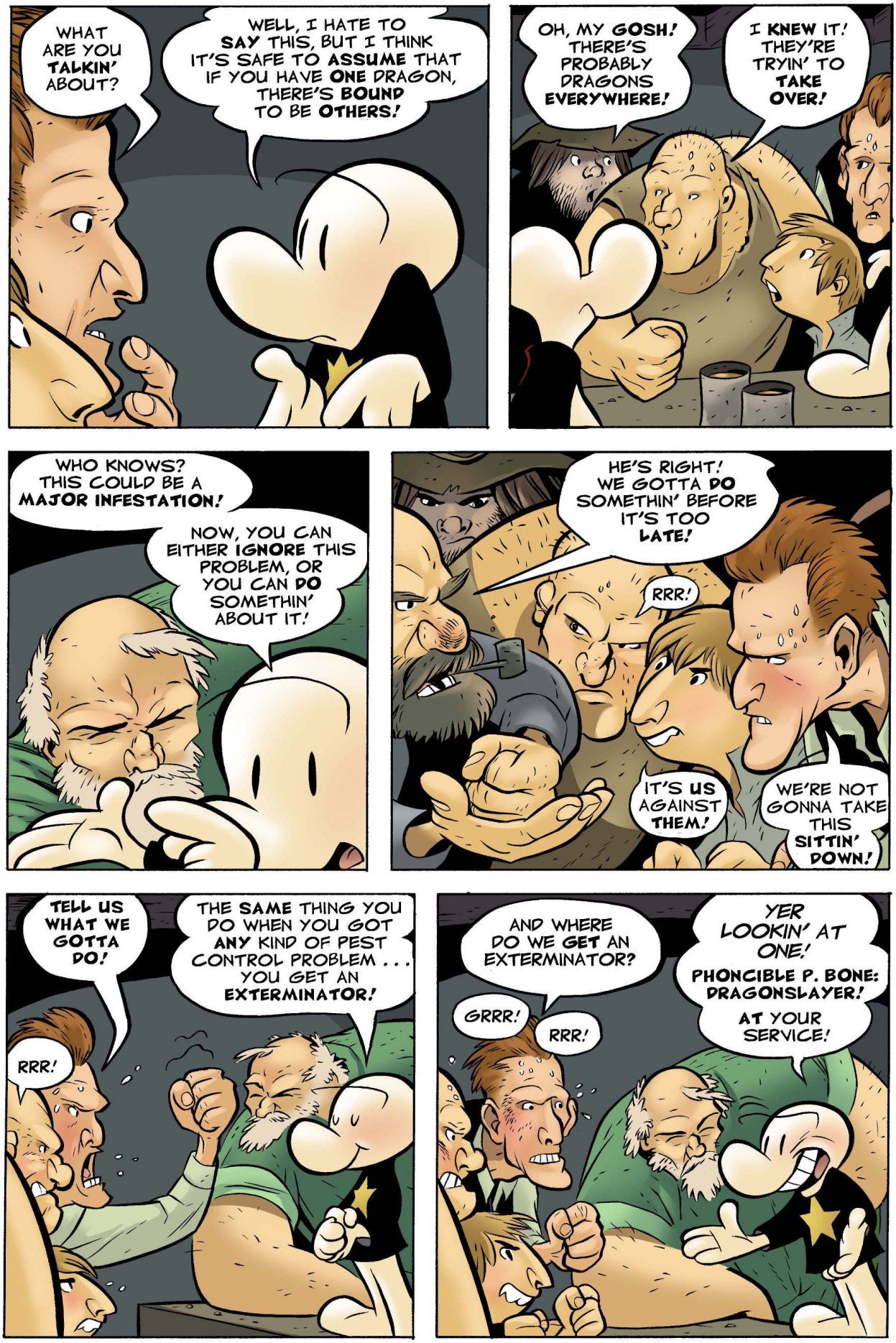

BONE
GO ON, BONE! ANSWER HIM!
YEAH, ANSWER ME!
WHAT DID YOU SAY ABOUT A DRAGON?
GULP!

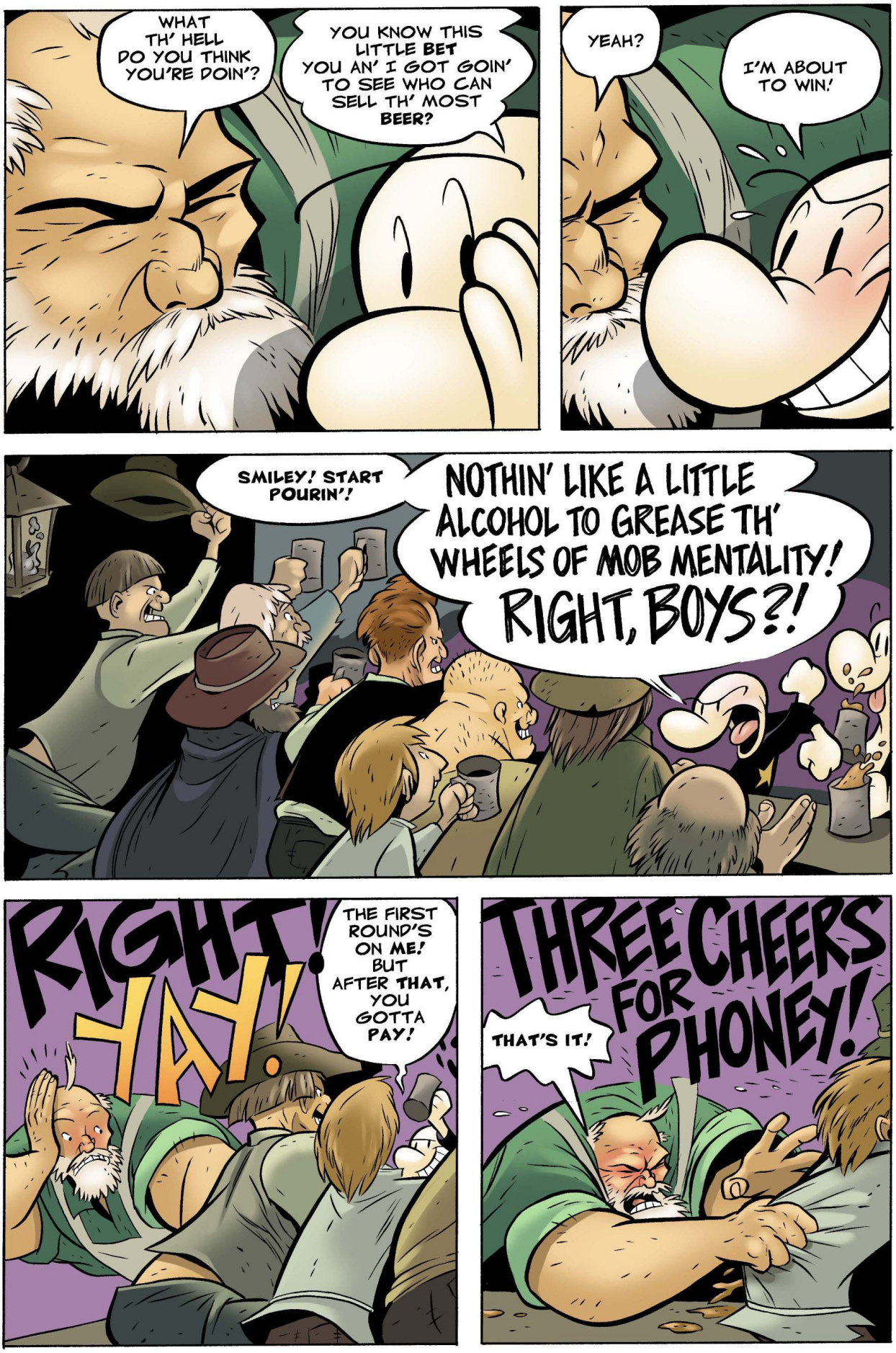

I - - I - - UH - - I JUST SAID I WISH FONE BONE'S DRAGON WAS HERE . . .
GASP!
GASP!
FONE BONE HAS A DRAGON?
GASP!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
WHO'S FONE BONE?
HE'S THAT OTHER BONE! THEIR COUSIN!
YEAH, RIGHT . . .
TH' ONE WHO'S ALWAYS HANGIN' AROUND WITH THORN!
SO WHERE IS THIS COUSIN OF YOURS NOW?
YEAH! AN' WHERE'S THE DRAGON?!
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH!
QUIT CROWDIN' TH' BAR!


DON'T TRY TO STOP US, LUCIUS! IF THERE'S A DRAGON WALKIN' AROUND OUT THERE, WE WANNA KNOW!
WHAT FOR? YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN DRAGONS, DO YOU?
I DIDN'T SAY I BELIEVED IN 'EM . . . BUT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME PRETTY STRANGE THINGS GOIN' ON HERE LATELY!
STRANGE ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU START BELIEVIN' IN CHILDREN'S STORIES?
I KNOW IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT PEOPLE BEEN SEEIN' STRANGE THINGS IN TH' WOODS AT NIGHT! FOLKS ARE AFRAID TO GO OUT!
IT'S TRUE!
AN' TH' HAIRY MEN! THEY'RE SURE GETTIN' A LOT BRAVER! YOU NEVER USED TO SEE THEM AROUND . . . AN' NOW YOU HEAR STORIES ABOUT 'EM EVERY DAY!
YEAH! THEY EVEN ATTACKED TH' COW RACE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!
I WAS THERE, REMEMBER? WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
IT ALL STARTED JUST ABOUT TH' SAME TIME THESE TWO SHOWED UP!
EVERYTHING WAS FINE UNTIL TH' BONES CAME TO OUR PART OF TH' VALLEY!
NOW ALL WE GOT IS TROUBLE!
LOOK HERE, BUB, I DON'T KNOW WHOSE DRAGON THIS IS, BUT IT AIN'T OURS! TH' ONLY DRAGON I'VE SEEN IS A BIG, LAZY ORANGE ONE, AN' HE WAS ALREADY HERE!


GASP!
I GOT NEWS FOR YA, GASPING BOY! YOU GOT A LOTTA WEIRD STUFF IN THIS CRAZY VALLEY, SO DON'T GO BLAMIN' US FOR YOUR DRAGON PROBLEMS!
BIG AN' ORANGE! THEN IT'S TRUE!
WHAT'S TRUE? YOU'RE NOT GONNA BELIEVE ANYTHING PHONEY BONE TELLS YOU, ARE YA? YOU CAN'T TRUST THIS RUNT AS FAR AS YOU CAN THROW HIM!
HE'S TELLIN' TH' TRUTH, LUCIUS! WE GOT US A REAL, LIVE DRAGON WALKIN' AROUND OUT THERE!
YOU TAKE TH' CAKE, WENDELL, YOU KNOW THAT?
JONATHAN! TELL LUCIUS WHAT YOU TOLD US!
UM . . . ONE NIGHT WHEN I WAS WALKIN' HOME . . . UH . . . I SAW SOMETHIN'. . .
SPIT IT OUT, BOY.
THERE WASN'T HARDLY ANY MOON OUT, SO IT WAS KINDA DARK. AN' REAL QUIET. THEN I SAW IT. A HUGE SHAPE MOVIN' BETWEEN TH' TREES! IT WAS BIG AND IT WAS ORANGE - - AND WHEN IT WAS GONE, ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS TH' SMELL OF BRIMSTONE!
THERE, SEE? WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT, LUCIUS? STILL THINK DRAGONS ARE JUST CHILDREN'S STORIES?
AAH! I AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' TO SAY. . .

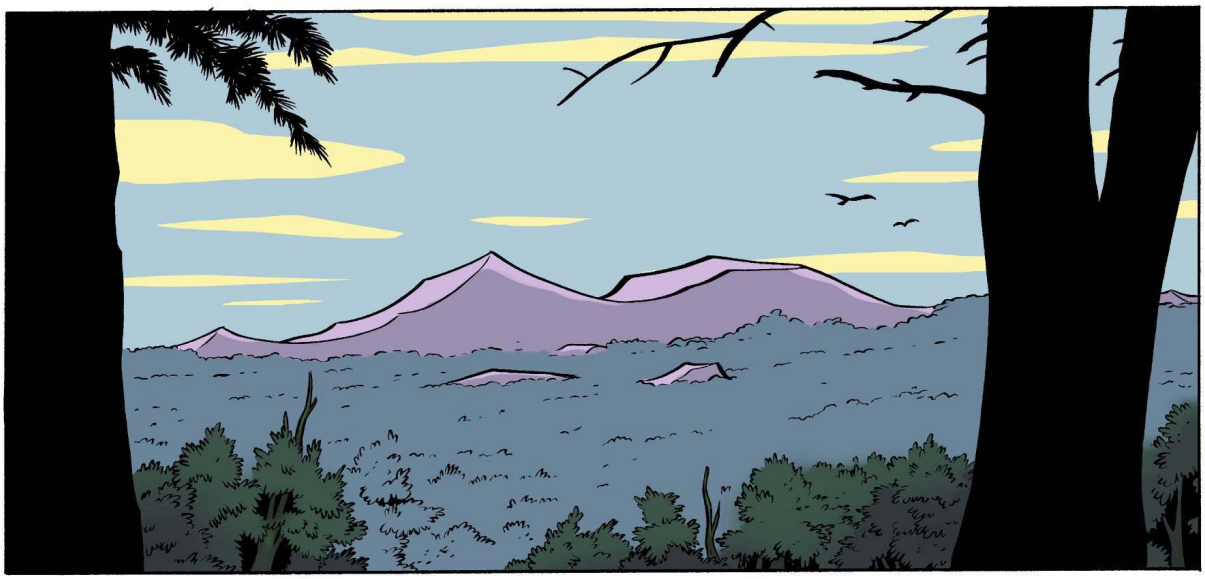

WELL, WELL! NOW, THIS IS INTERESTING . . .
YOU SAY YOU'VE SEEN SHAPES IN TH' WOODS . . . HEARD BUMPS IN TH' NIGHT . . .
. . . YOU SAY IT'S NOT SAFE TO GO OUTSIDE AFTER DARK . . .
YESSIR, I'VE SEEN THESE SYMPTOMS BEFORE!
OH, YOU THINK IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN IN A NICE, QUIET, LITTLE TOWN LIKE THIS . . . BUT YOU CAN'T STOP 'EM! THEY'RE HERE TO STAY!

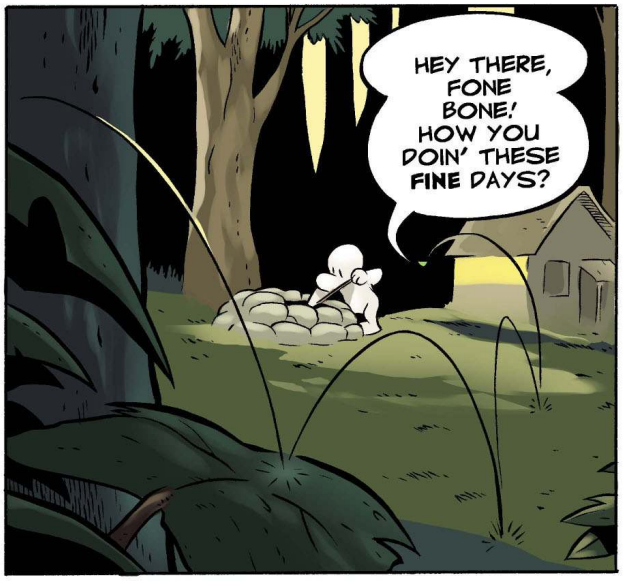

WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
WELL, I HATE TO SAY THIS, BUT I THINK IT'S SAFE TO ASSUME THAT IF YOU HAVE ONE DRAGON, THERE'S BOUND TO BE OTHERS!
OH, MY GOSH! THERE'S PROBABLY DRAGONS EVERYWHERE!
I KNEW IT! THEY'RE TRYIN' TO TAKE OVER!
WHO KNOWS? THIS COULD BE A MAJOR INFESTATION!
NOW, YOU CAN EITHER IGNORE THIS PROBLEM, OR YOU CAN DO SOMETHIN' ABOUT IT!
HE'S RIGHT! WE GOTTA DO SOMETHIN' BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
RRR!
IT'S US AGAINST THEM!
WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE THIS SITTIN' DOWN!
TELL US WHAT WE GOTTA DO!
THE SAME THING YOU DO WHEN YOU GOT ANY KIND OF PEST CONTROL PROBLEM . . . YOU GET AN EXTERMINATOR!
RRR!
AND WHERE DO WE GET AN EXTERMINATOR?
YER LOOKIN' AT ONE!
PHONCIBLE P. BONE: DRAGONSLAYER! AT YOUR SERVICE!
GRRR!
RRR!

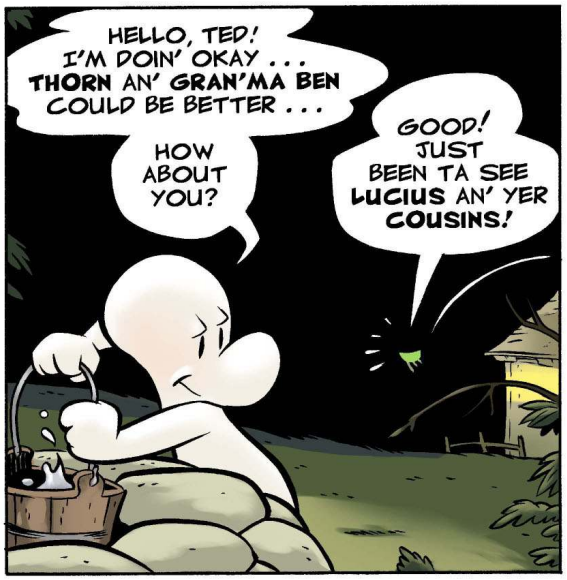

WHAT TH' HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOIN'?
YOU KNOW THIS LITTLE BET YOU AN' I GOT GOIN' TO SEE WHO CAN SELL TH' MOST BEER?
YEAH?
I'M ABOUT TO WIN!
SMILEY! START POURIN'!
NOTHIN' LIKE A LITTLE ALCOHOL TO GREASE TH' WHEELS OF MOB MENTALITY! RIGHT, BOYS?!
RIGHT! HA!
THE FIRST ROUND'S ON ME! BUT AFTER THAT, YOU GOTTA PAY!
THREE CHEERS FOR PHONEY!
THAT'S IT!


THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH!
I---*

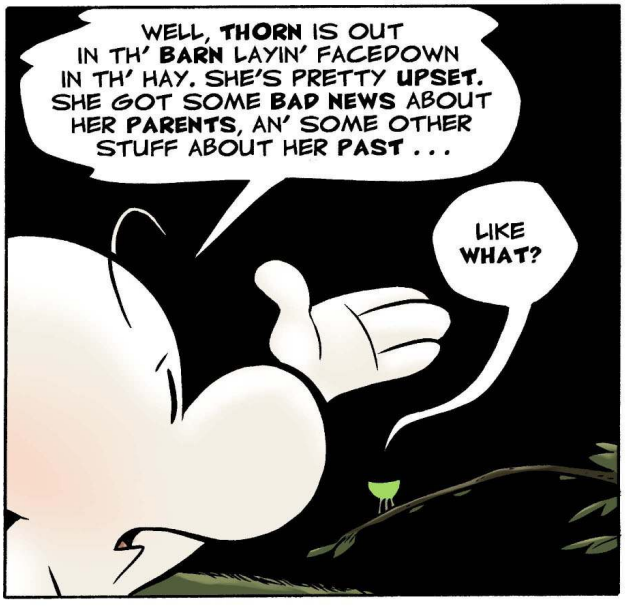

WELCOME, STRANGER. CAN I HELP YOU? YOU NEED A ROOM, OR JUST LOOKIN' TO SLAKE YOUR THIRST?
I BRING NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.
WAIT FOR ME OUTSIDE.



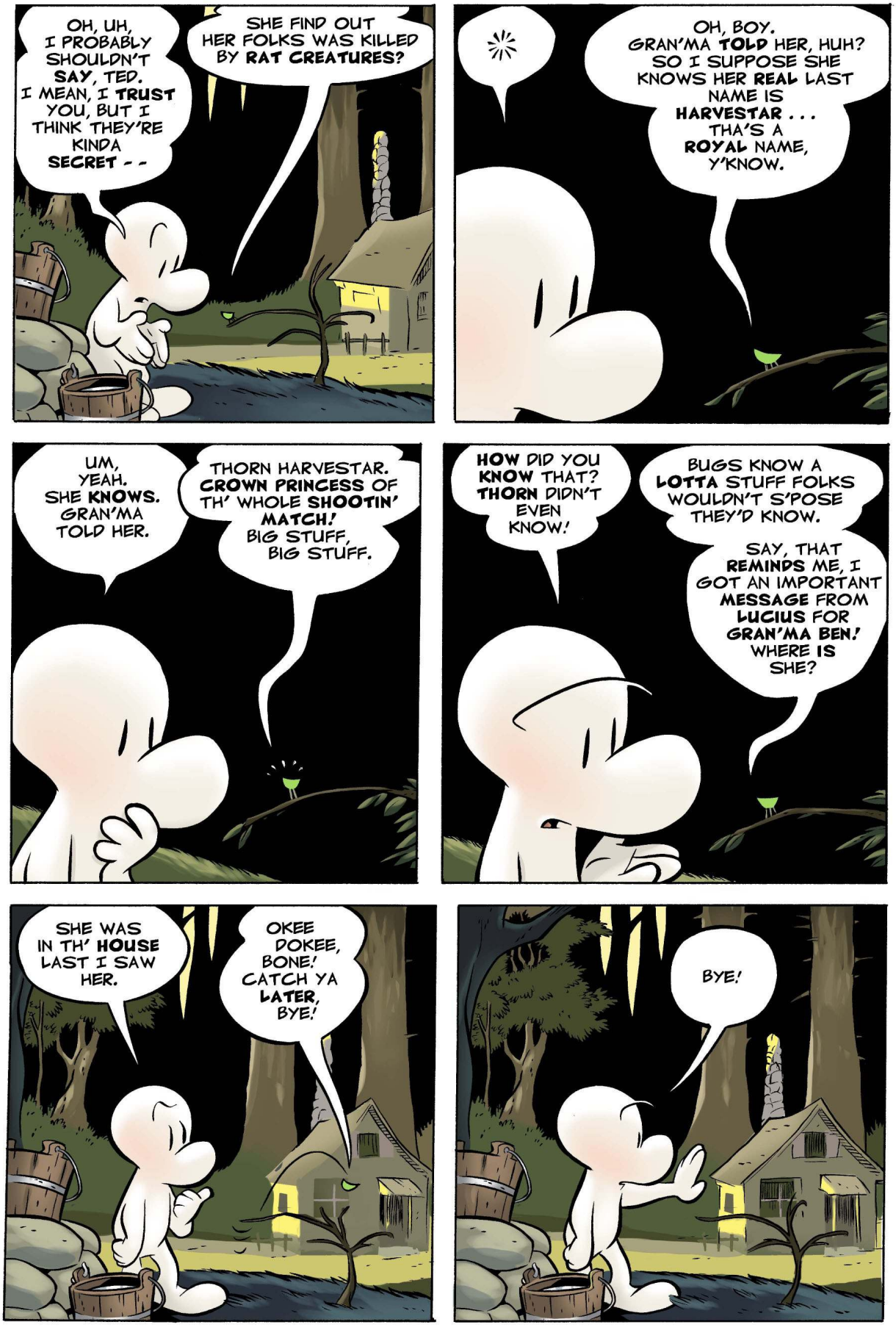








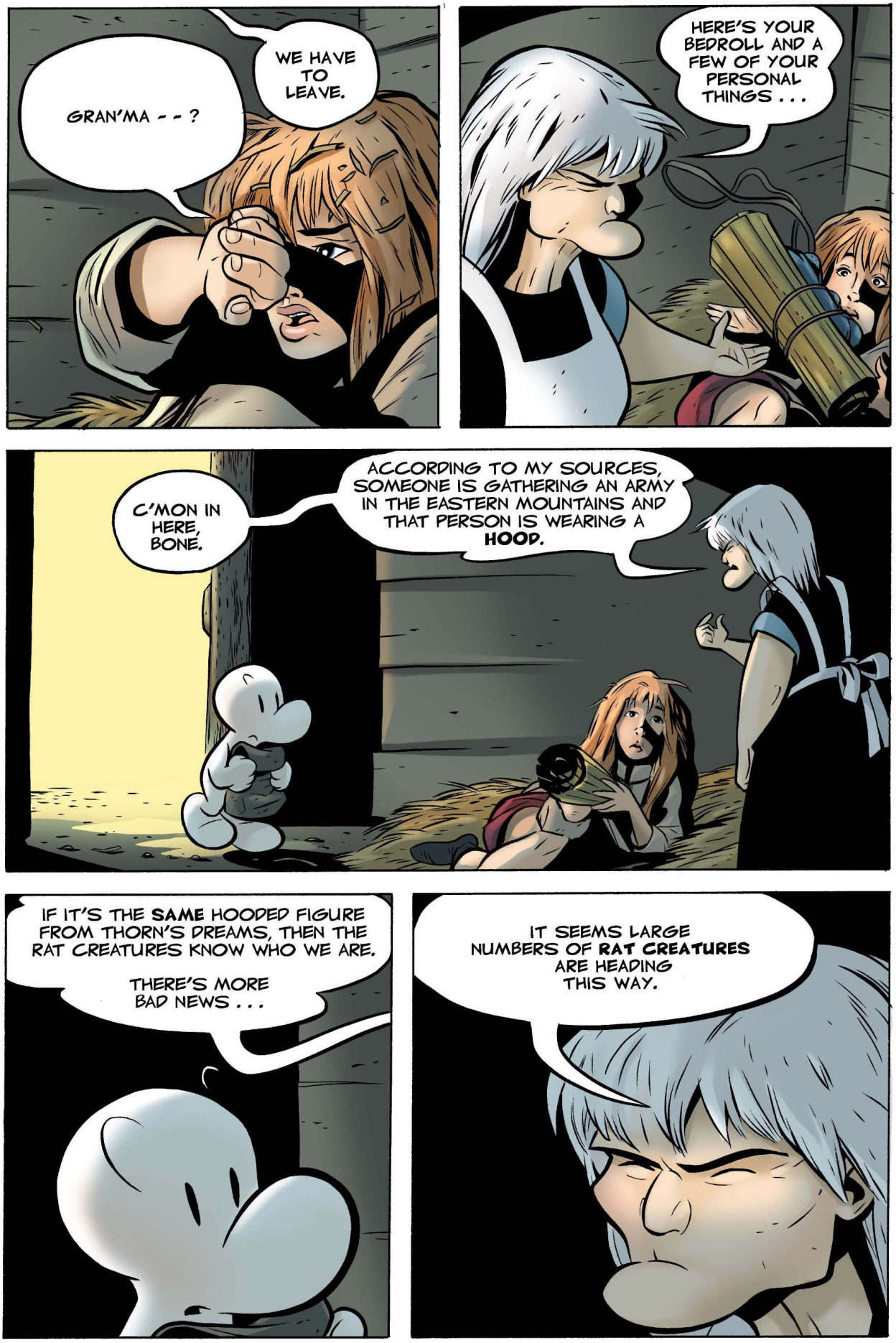
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

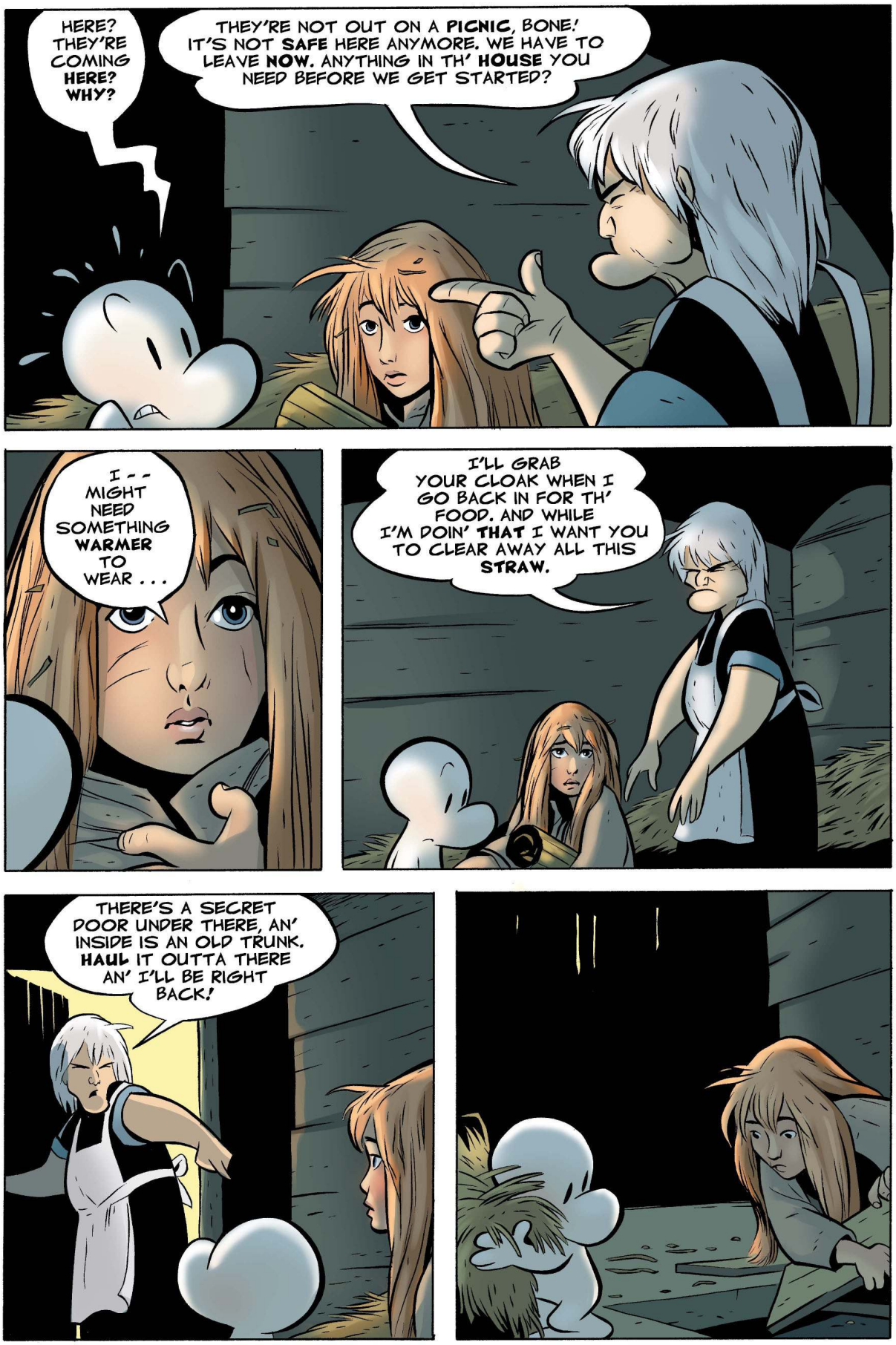


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

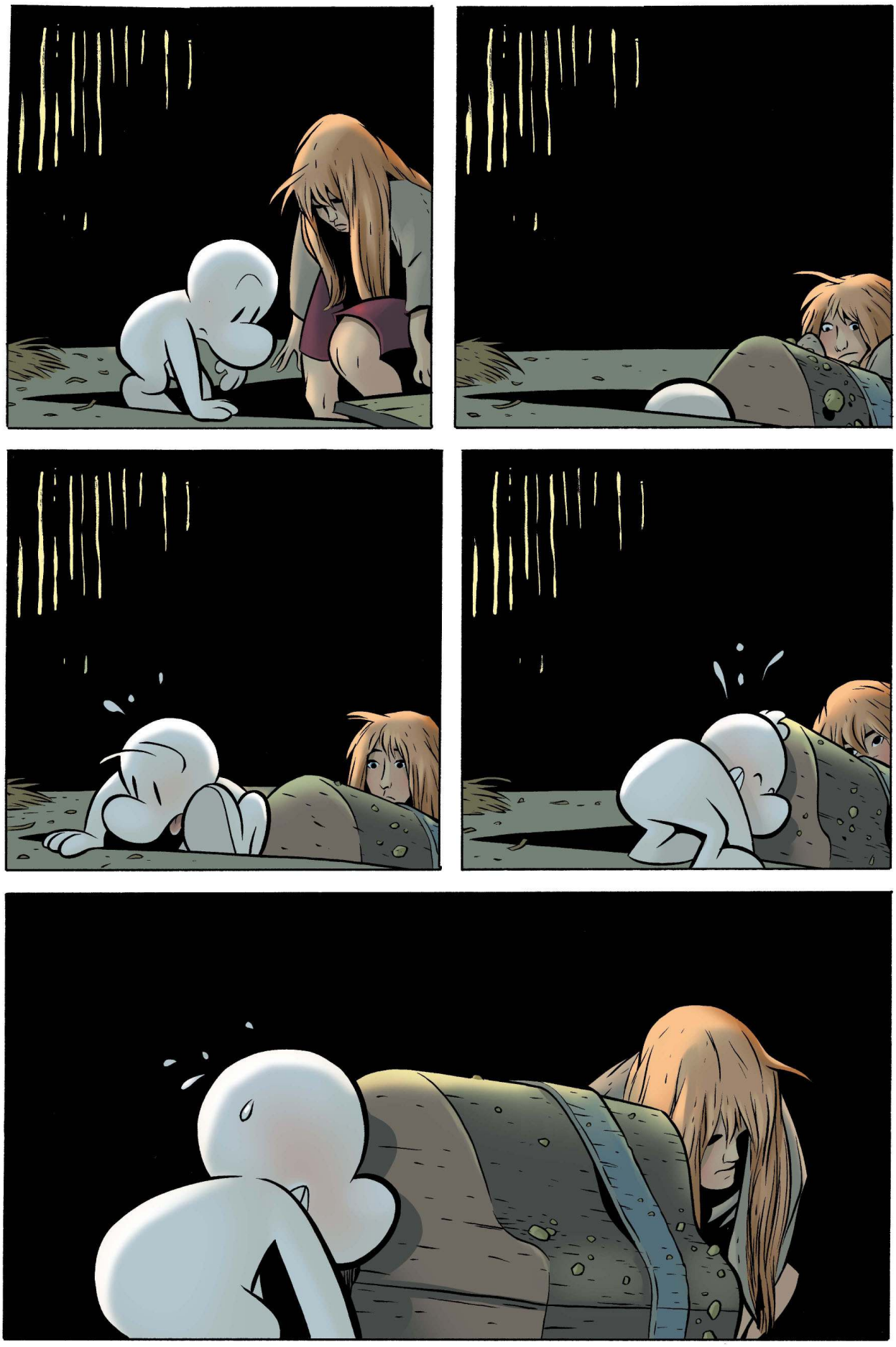

SLAM!
HEY, BONE! GO GRAB YOUR KNAPSACK AN' MEET ME IN TH' BARN! NOW!
YES, MA'AM!


SHUNK
GET UP, THORN.
I JUST RECEIVED WORD THAT TH' SITUATION DOWN SOUTH HAS CHANGED . . .

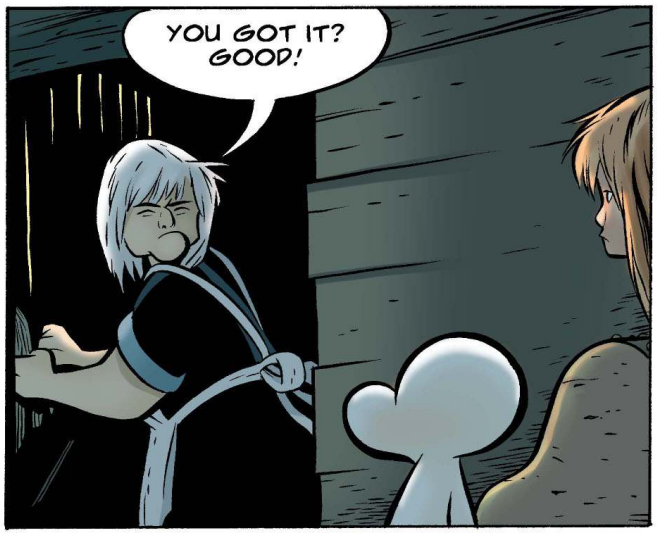

GRAN'MA - - ?
WE HAVE TO LEAVE.
HERE'S YOUR BEDROLL AND A FEW OF YOUR PERSONAL THINGS . . .
C'MON IN HERE, BONE.
ACCORDING TO MY SOURCES, SOMEONE IS GATHERING AN ARMY IN THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS AND THAT PERSON IS WEARING A **HOOD**.
IF IT'S THE **SAME** HOODED FIGURE FROM THORN'S DREAMS, THEN THE RAT CREATURES KNOW WHO WE ARE.
THERE'S MORE BAD NEWS . . .
IT SEEMS LARGE NUMBERS OF **RAT CREATURES** ARE HEADING THIS WAY.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

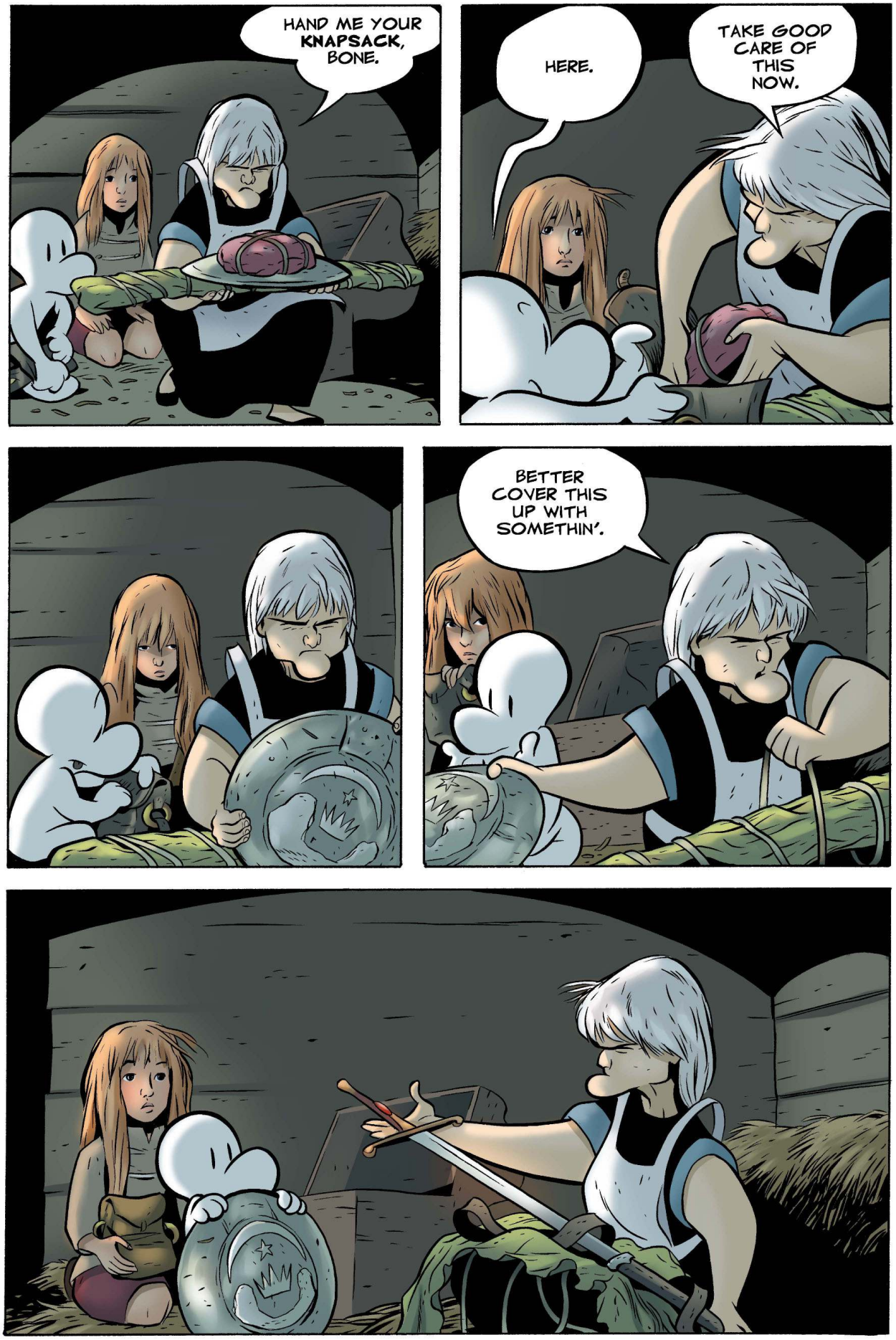


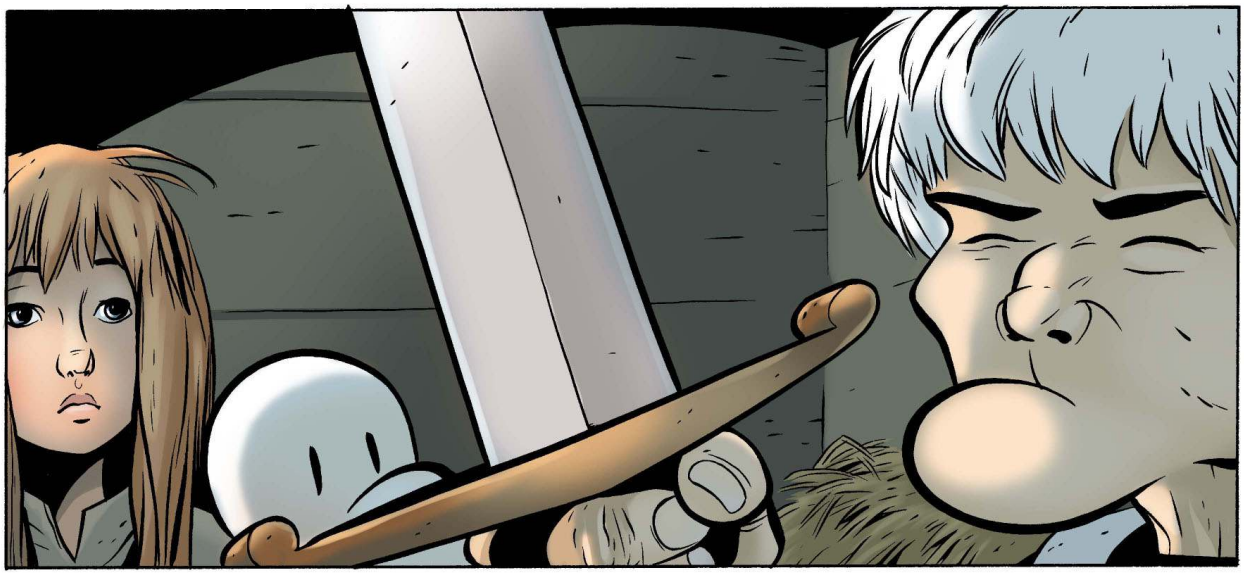


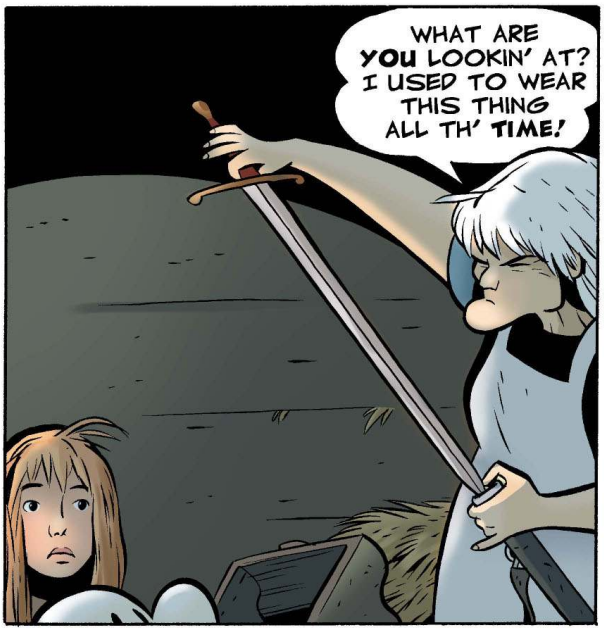

YOU GOT IT? GOOD!


OKAY, STEP BACK.



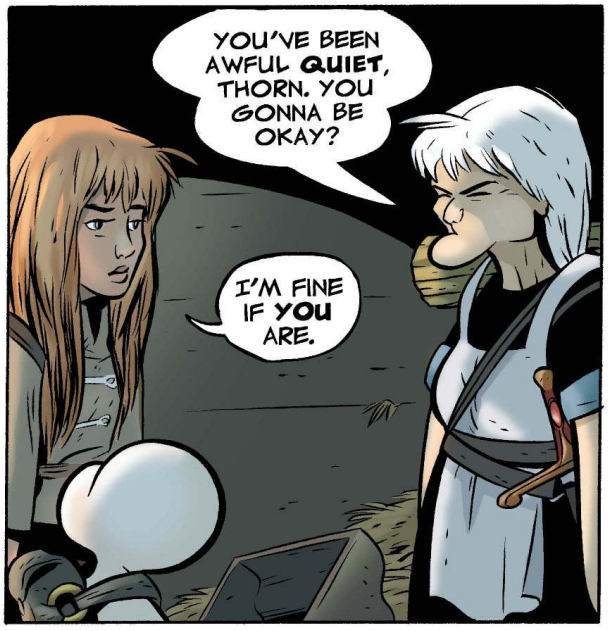

HAND ME YOUR KNAPSACK, BONE.
HERE.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF THIS NOW.
BETTER COVER THIS UP WITH SOMETHIN'.



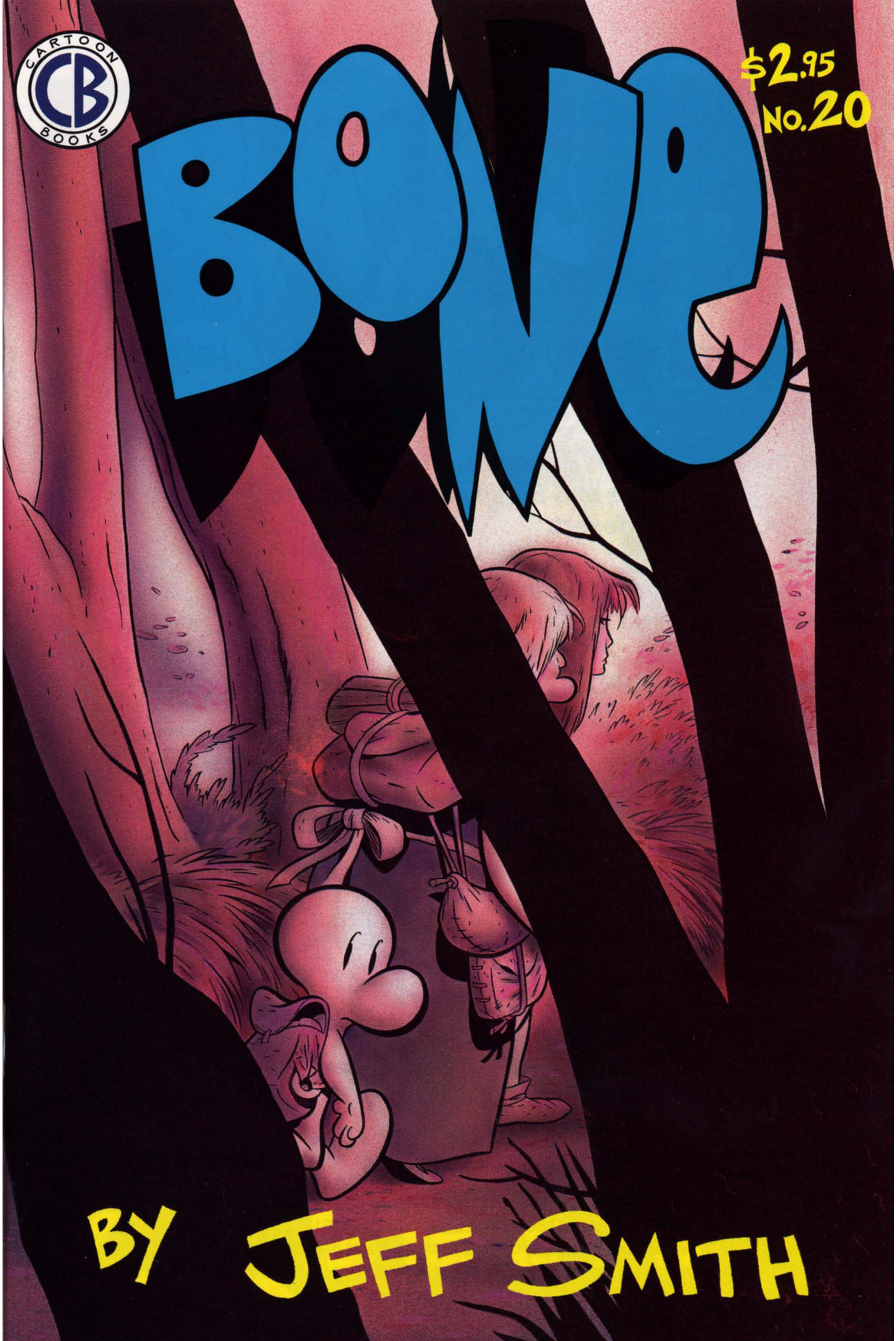

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKIN' AT? I USED TO WEAR THIS THING ALL TH' TIME!


ALL RIGHT, LOAD UP! AN' MAKE SURE YOUR PACKS ARE TIED DOWN GOOD AN' TIGHT! WE GOT A LONG WALK AHEAD OF US!


THAT'S IT? WE'RE JUST GONNA LEAVE?!
THAT'S IT.


YOU'VE BEEN AWFUL QUIET, THORN. YOU GONNA BE OKAY?
I'M FINE IF YOU ARE.

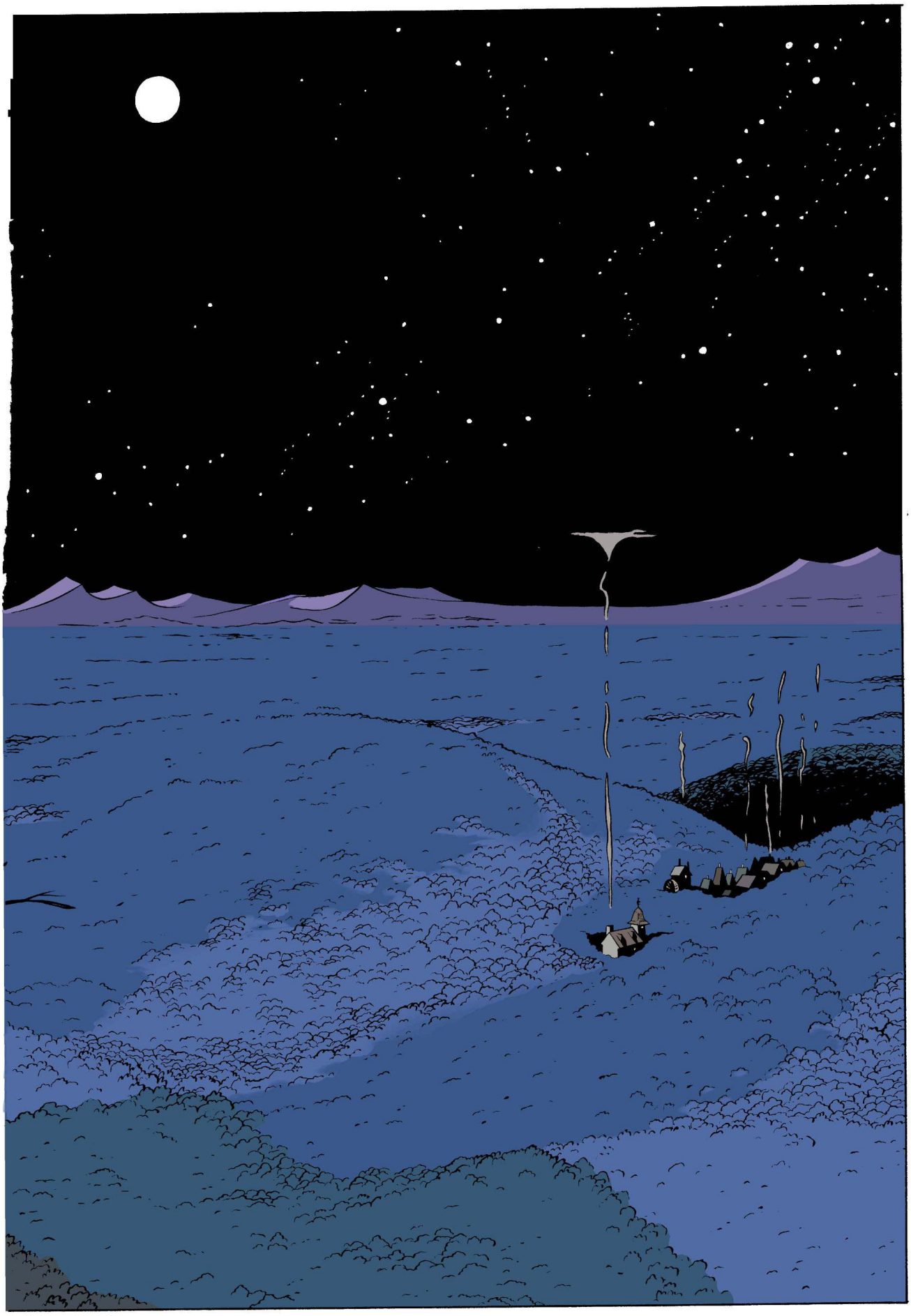

THEN LET'S GO.

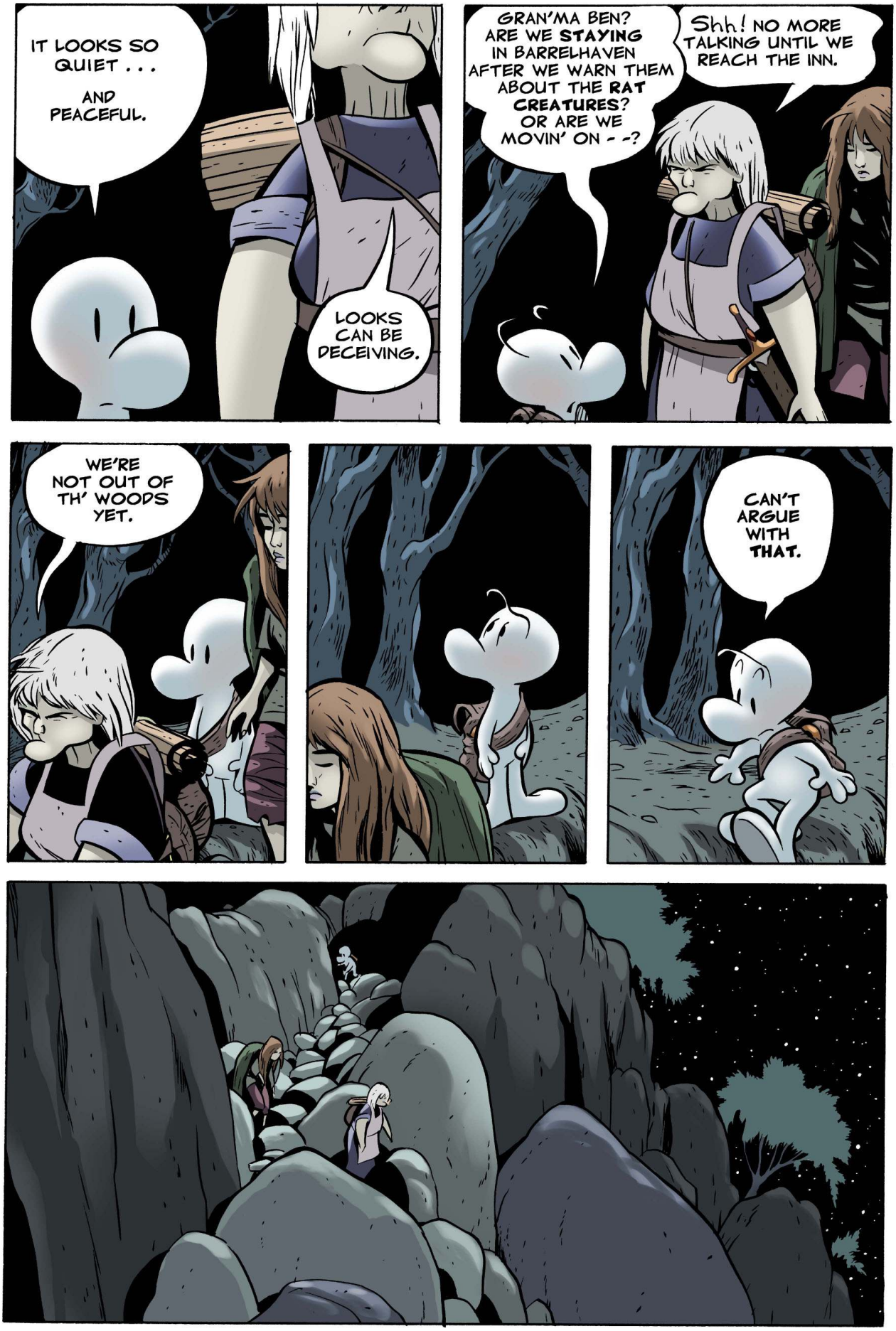

CARTOON BOOKS
BONE
$2.95
No. 20
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
MAN! WE'VE BEEN CLIMBING FOR DAYS, THORN! CAN'T WE GO PART OF THE WAY TO BARREL HAVEN ON LEVEL GROUND?
WE HAVE TO STAY OFF THE ROAD! WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES ON BEING SEEN.
I KNOW WE CAN'T WALK OUT IN TH' OPEN, BUT WHAT ARE WE DOIN' UP HERE?
GRAN'MA WANTS TO HAVE A LOOK AROUND.
JUST A LITTLE FARTHER, BONE. ON A CLEAR NIGHT LIKE THIS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE THE WHOLE VALLEY.
WOW.
IS THAT BARREL HAVEN? IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline




IT LOOKS SO QUIET . . .
AND PEACEFUL.
LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING.
GRAN'MA BEN? ARE WE STAYING IN BARRELHAVEN AFTER WE WARN THEM ABOUT THE RAT CREATURES? OR ARE WE MOVIN' ON - -?
Shh! NO MORE TALKING UNTIL WE REACH THE INN.
WE'RE NOT OUT OF TH' WOODS YET.
CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT.



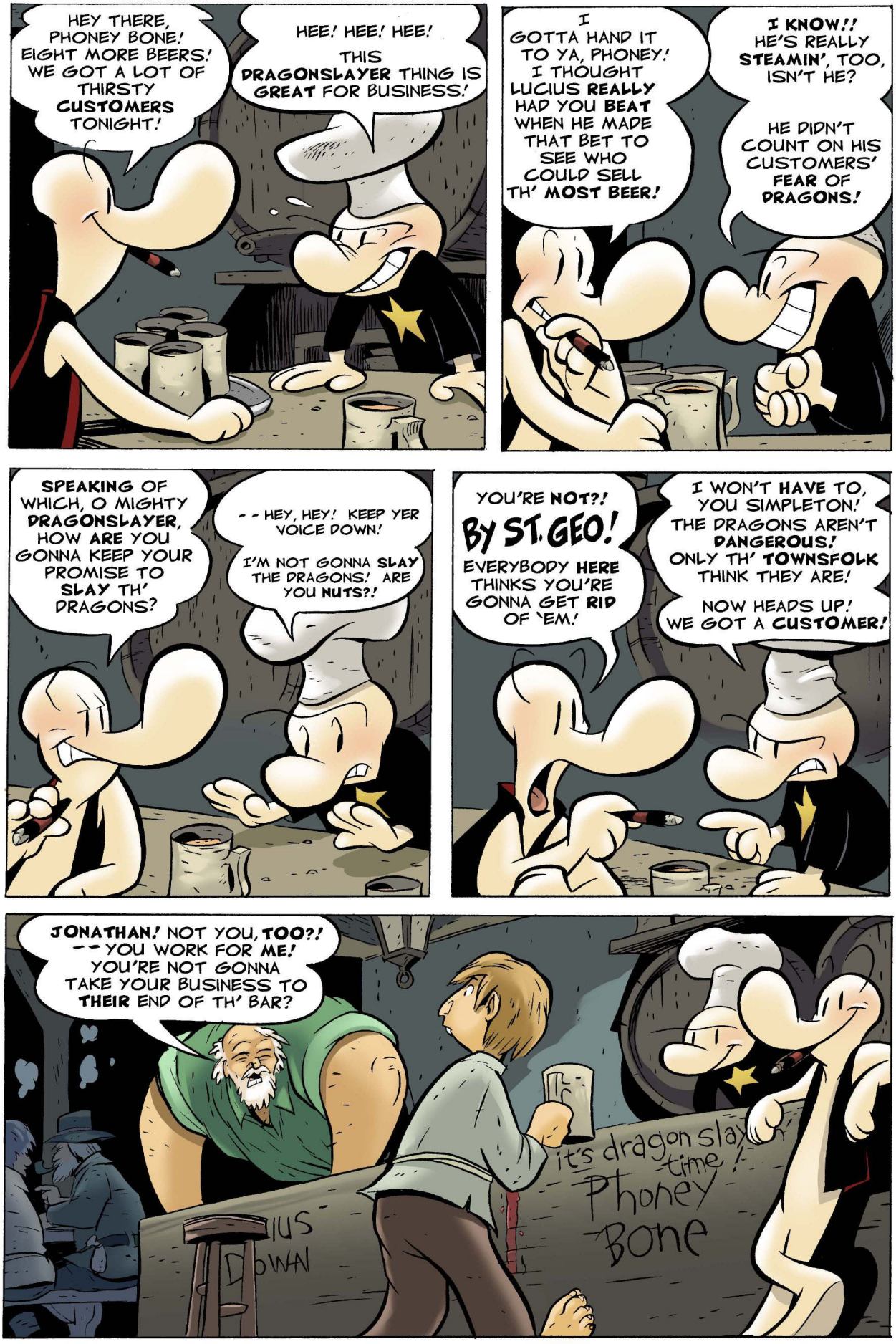

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT TANNER'S WIFE? SHE WAS OUT BY TH' WOODSHED AN' HEARD SOMETHIN' MOVIN' AROUND BACK IN TH' WOODS!
SHE SEE ANYTHING?

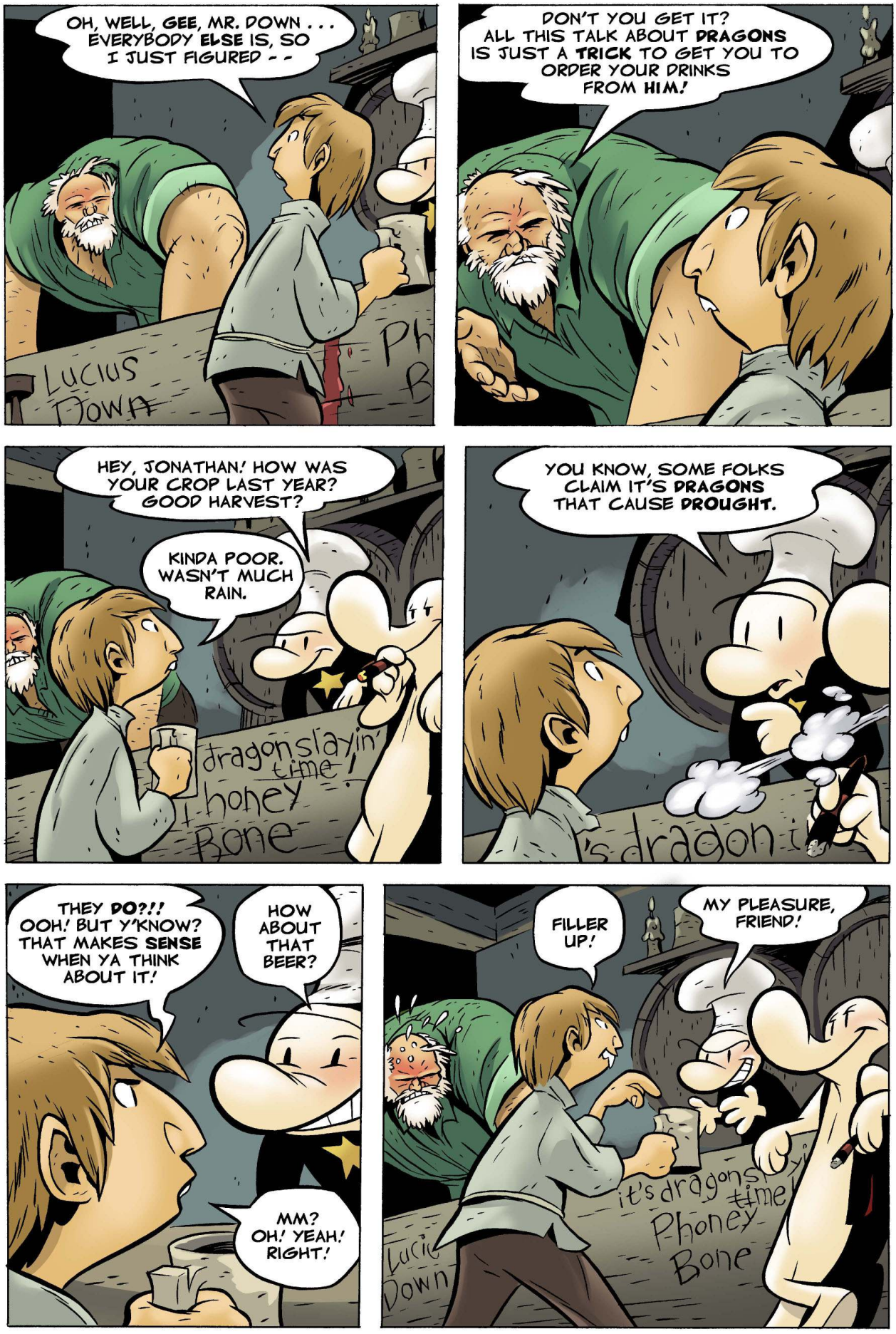

NO, BUT SHE SMELLED IT! BRIMSTONE!
NO!
YOU GUYS WANT ANOTHER ROUND?

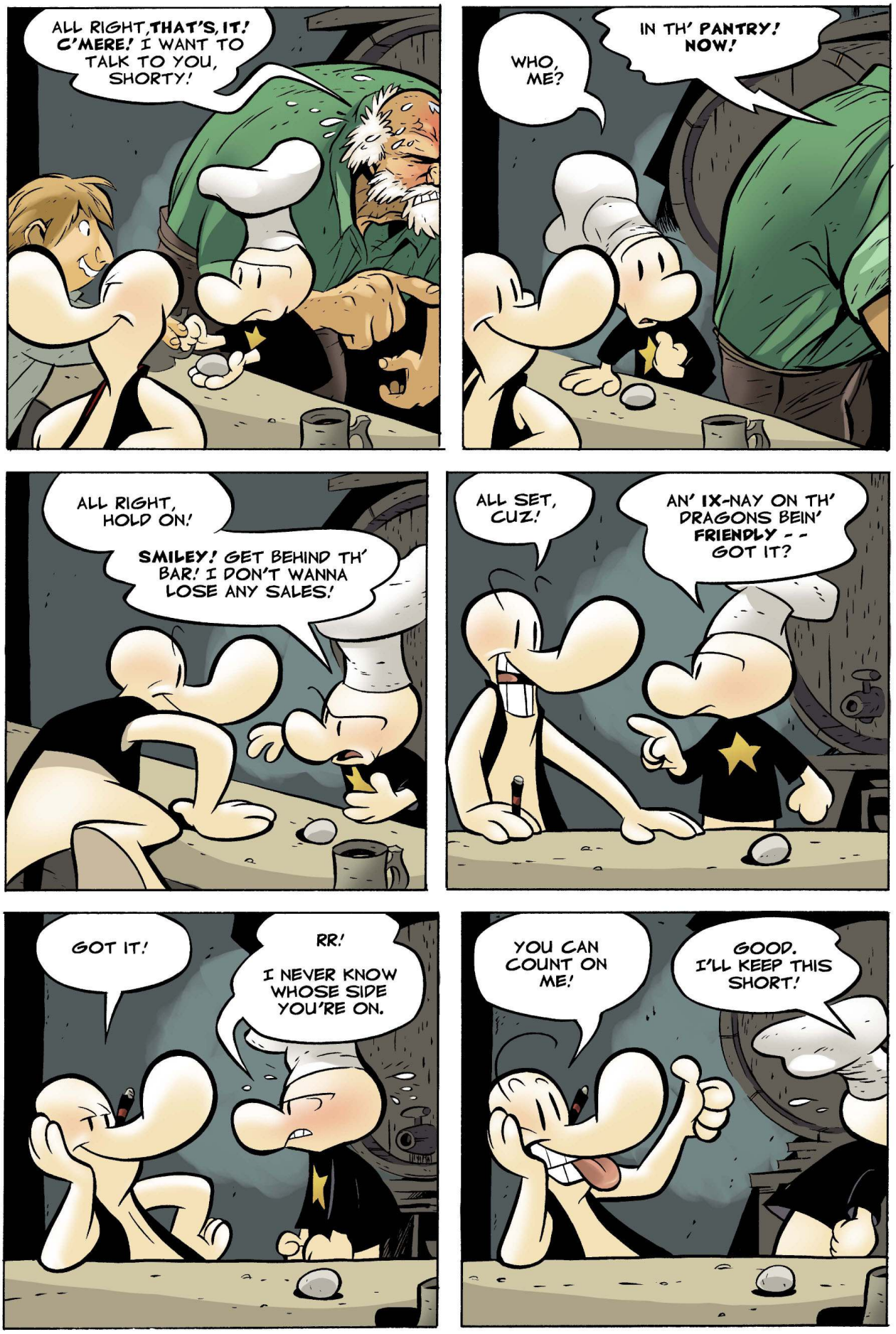

NAH. WE'RE GOOD.


SO WHAT HAPPENED?
BY TH' TIME TANNER GOT OUT TO THE SHED, TH' DRAGON WAS GONE!
HOWDY, FELLAS! ANOTHER ROUND?
SURE, BONE!
HOW 'BOUT YOU, MR. EUCLID?
YEAH! AN' BRING US SOME OF THOSE HARD, STUFFED, LITTLE BREAD THINGIES YOU'RE SO GOOD AT MAKIN!
SMILEY! MORE ALE OVER HERE!
ANOTHER ROUND - - COMIN' UP! NEED ANY LITTLE THING FROM TH' KITCHEN? CHEF PHONEY AWAITS YOUR ORDERS!
YEAH, GIMME TH' DRAGONSLAYER SPECIAL!
FLAME-BROILED CHICKEN! YOU GOT IT! BE RIGHT BACK!
. . . THEN I SAY, TH' BEST THING YOU CAN DO AT NIGHT IS KEEP YOUR FAMILY INDOORS!
RIGHT! YOU'RE RIGHT! YOU CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL WITH THIS DRAGON PROBLEM . . .
IS THAT ALL YOU GUYS TALK ABOUT? DRAGONS?!


WHAT'RE YOU GOIN' ON ABOUT NOW, LUCIUS?
DRAGONS! I'M SURROUNDED BY GROWN MEN TALKIN' ABOUT MAKE-BELIEVE AN' CHILDREN'S STORIES!
MAYBE DRAGONS DO EXIST. WHO ARE YOU TO SAY?
I GUESS NOBODY. YOU WANT ANYTHING FROM TH' BAR?
NO, THANKS.
IT'S DRAGON-SLAYIN' TIME!
WHO NEEDS ANOTHER DRINK TO PUT OUT THAT FIERY THIRST?
I'LL HAVE ANOTHER ONE.
YOU GOT IT!
ME, TOO!
AN' BREAD THINGIES!


HEY THERE, PHONEY BONE! EIGHT MORE BEERS! WE GOT A LOT OF THIRSTY CUSTOMERS TONIGHT!
HEE! HEE! HEE! THIS DRAGONSLAYER THING IS GREAT FOR BUSINESS!
I GOTTA HAND IT TO YA, PHONEY! I THOUGHT LUCIUS REALLY HAD YOU BEAT WHEN HE MADE THAT BET TO SEE WHO COULD SELL TH' MOST BEER!
I KNOW!! HE'S REALLY STEAMIN', TOO, ISN'T HE?
HE DIDN'T COUNT ON HIS CUSTOMERS' FEAR OF DRAGONS!
SPEAKING OF WHICH, O MIGHTY DRAGONSLAYER, HOW ARE YOU GONNA KEEP YOUR PROMISE TO SLAY TH' DRAGONS?
- - HEY, HEY! KEEP YER VOICE DOWN!
I'M NOT GONNA SLAY THE DRAGONS! ARE YOU NUTS?!
YOU'RE NOT?! BY ST. GEO! EVERYBODY HERE THINKS YOU'RE GONNA GET RID OF 'EM!
I WON'T HAVE TO, YOU SIMPLETON! THE DRAGONS AREN'T DANGEROUS! ONLY TH' TOWNSFOLK THINK THEY ARE!
NOW HEADS UP! WE GOT A CUSTOMER!
JONATHAN! NOT YOU, TOO?! - - YOU WORK FOR ME! YOU'RE NOT GONNA TAKE YOUR BUSINESS TO THEIR END OF TH' BAR?
it's dragon slay time Phoney Bone


OH, WELL, GEE, MR. DOWN . . . EVERYBODY ELSE IS, SO I JUST FIGURED - -
Lucius Down
DON'T YOU GET IT? ALL THIS TALK ABOUT DRAGONS IS JUST A TRICK TO GET YOU TO ORDER YOUR DRINKS FROM HIM!
HEY, JONATHAN! HOW WAS YOUR CROP LAST YEAR? GOOD HARVEST?
KINDA POOR. WASN'T MUCH RAIN.
dragonslayin' time! Phoney Bone
YOU KNOW, SOME FOLKS CLAIM IT'S DRAGONS THAT CAUSE DROUGHT.
THEY DO?!! OOH! BUT Y'KNOW? THAT MAKES SENSE WHEN YA THINK ABOUT IT!
HOW ABOUT THAT BEER?
MM? OH! YEAH! RIGHT!
FILLER UP!
MY PLEASURE, FRIEND!
it's dragonslayin' time Phoney Bone
Lucius Down

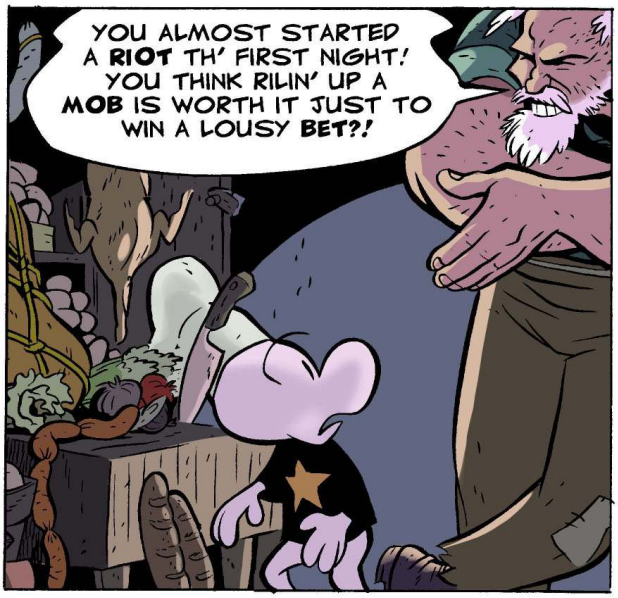

ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT! C'MERE! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU, SHORTY!
WHO, ME?
IN TH' PANTRY! NOW!
ALL RIGHT, HOLD ON!
SMILEY! GET BEHIND TH' BAR! I DON'T WANNA LOSE ANY SALES!
ALL SET, CUZ!
AN' IX-NAY ON TH' DRAGONS BEIN' FRIENDLY -- GOT IT?
GOT IT!
RR! I NEVER KNOW WHOSE SIDE YOU'RE ON.
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!
GOOD. I'LL KEEP THIS SHORT!


I HOPE THIS IS IMPORTANT, LUCIUS! I'M PRETTY **BUSY** OUT THERE!
I DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU'RE DOIN'.

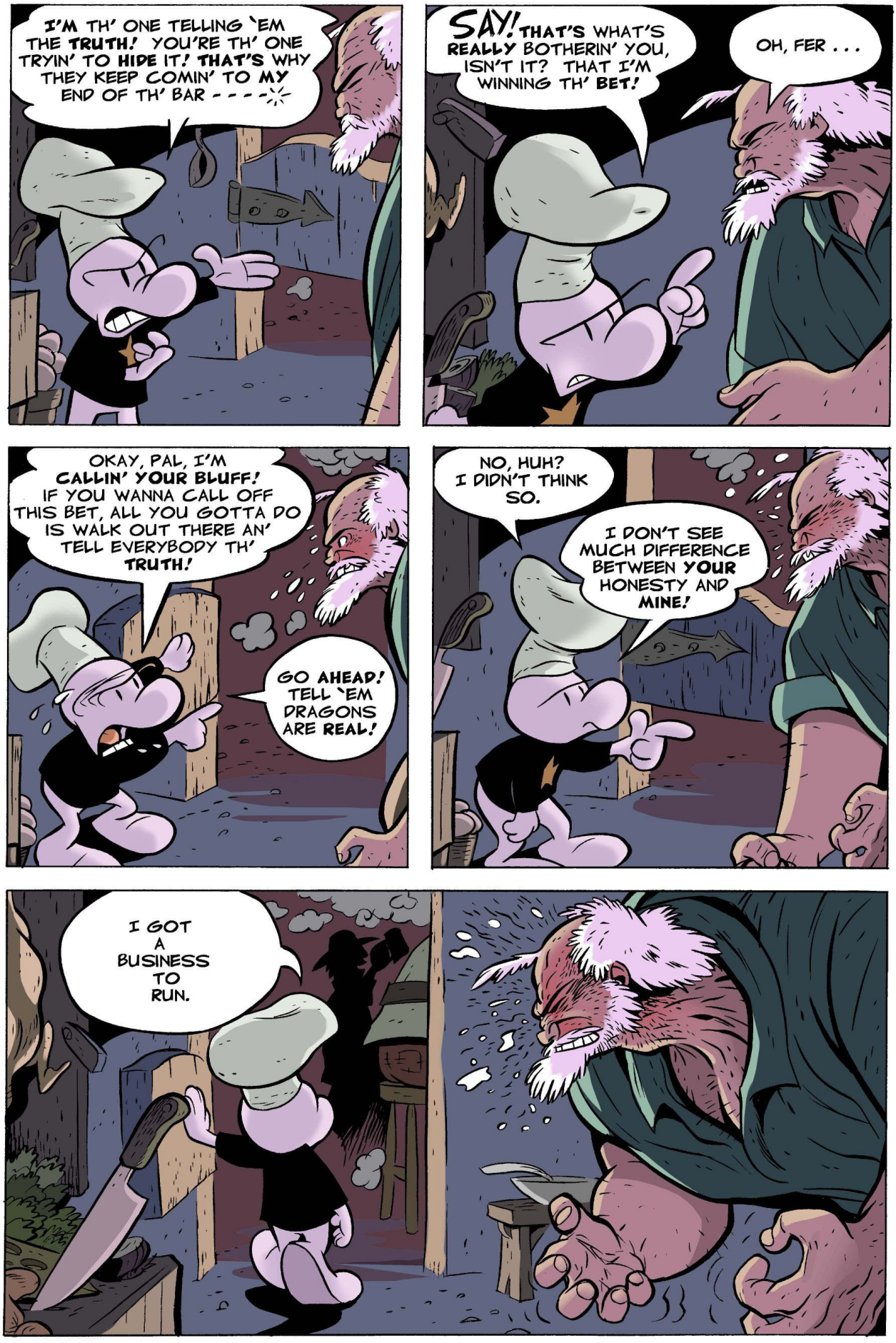

YOU DON'T LIKE WHAT I'M - - ? **WHAT?!** WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
I DON'T LIKE WHAT YER DOIN' WITH ALL THIS **DRAGON** STUFF! TH' BET'S OFF!


OFF?!
*NOW I **KNOW** YOU'RE CRAZY!* THIS BET IS TH' BEST THING THAT EVER **HAPPENED** TO THIS JOINT!


JUST LOOK AT TH' PANTRY! DID YOU **EVER** SEE TH' LARDER OVERFLOWIN' LIKE **THAT?** I DID THAT IN **TWO DAYS** WITH *ALL THIS **DRAGON** STUFF!*


YOU ALMOST STARTED A **RIOT** TH' FIRST NIGHT! YOU THINK RILIN' UP A **MOB** IS WORTH IT JUST TO WIN A LOUSY **BET?!**


FORGET, TH' BET - - WE CAN'T QUIT NOW! LOOK AT ALL THIS STUFF! WE'RE GETTIN' RICH! DON'T FORGET HALF THIS LOOT IS YOURS!
I DON'T WANT IT. IT AIN'T HONEST!
WHAT'S TH' BIG DEAL? EVENTUALLY TH' TOWNSFOLK'LL REALIZE THE DRAGONS AREN'T A THREAT, AND EVERYTHING WILL GO BACK TO NORMAL - - WHAT'S THE HARM?
WHAT'S THE HARM? YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH, BONE!
OH, YEAH? AN' YOU DO?
I KNOW THAT ONE DRAGON IN PARTICULAR HAS SAVED YOU AN' YER COUSINS' BUTTS MORE THAN A FEW TIMES!
AN' I KNOW TH' DRAGONS DON'T WANT ANYBODY TO KNOW THEY EXIST!
NOT THAT YOU'D HAVE TH' DECENCY TO RESPECT SOMEONE ELSE'S WISHES!
Y'KNOW . . . TH' IRONY OF ALL THIS MAY BE LOST ON YOU . . .
. . . BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE THAT I'M TH' ONE TELLIN' FOLKS THAT DRAGONS EXIST, AN' YOU'RE TH' ONE TRYIN' TO CONVINCE 'EM THAT THEY DON'T?
SO?

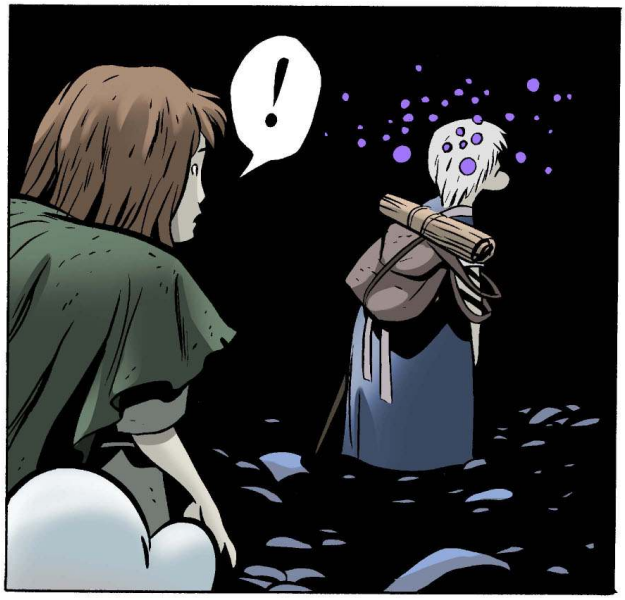

I'M TH' ONE TELLING 'EM THE TRUTH! YOU'RE TH' ONE TRYIN' TO HIDE IT! THAT'S WHY THEY KEEP COMIN' TO MY END OF TH' BAR - - - -
SAY! THAT'S WHAT'S REALLY BOTHERIN' YOU, ISN'T IT? THAT I'M WINNING TH' BET!
OH, FER . . .
OKAY, PAL, I'M CALLIN' YOUR BLUFF! IF YOU WANNA CALL OFF THIS BET, ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS WALK OUT THERE AN' TELL EVERYBODY TH' TRUTH!
GO AHEAD! TELL 'EM DRAGONS ARE REAL!
NO, HUH? I DIDN'T THINK SO.
I DON'T SEE MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOUR HONESTY AND MINE!
I GOT A BUSINESS TO RUN.

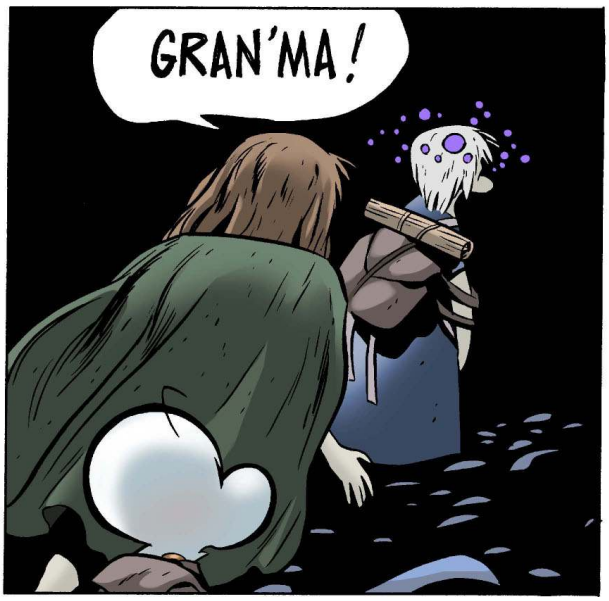




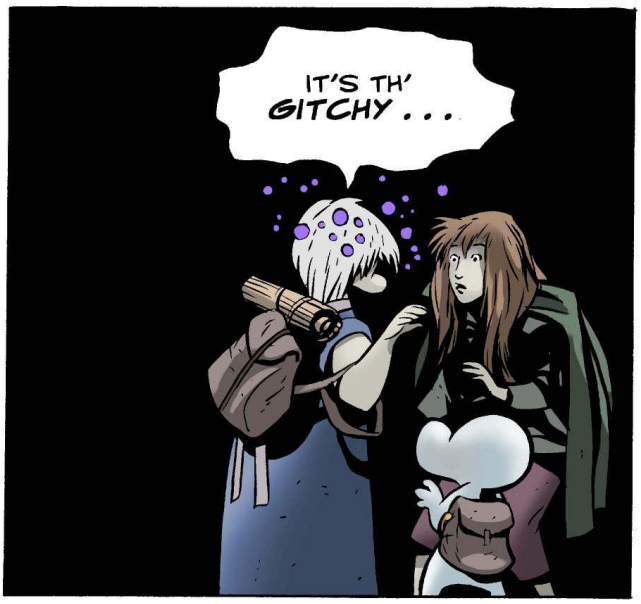
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

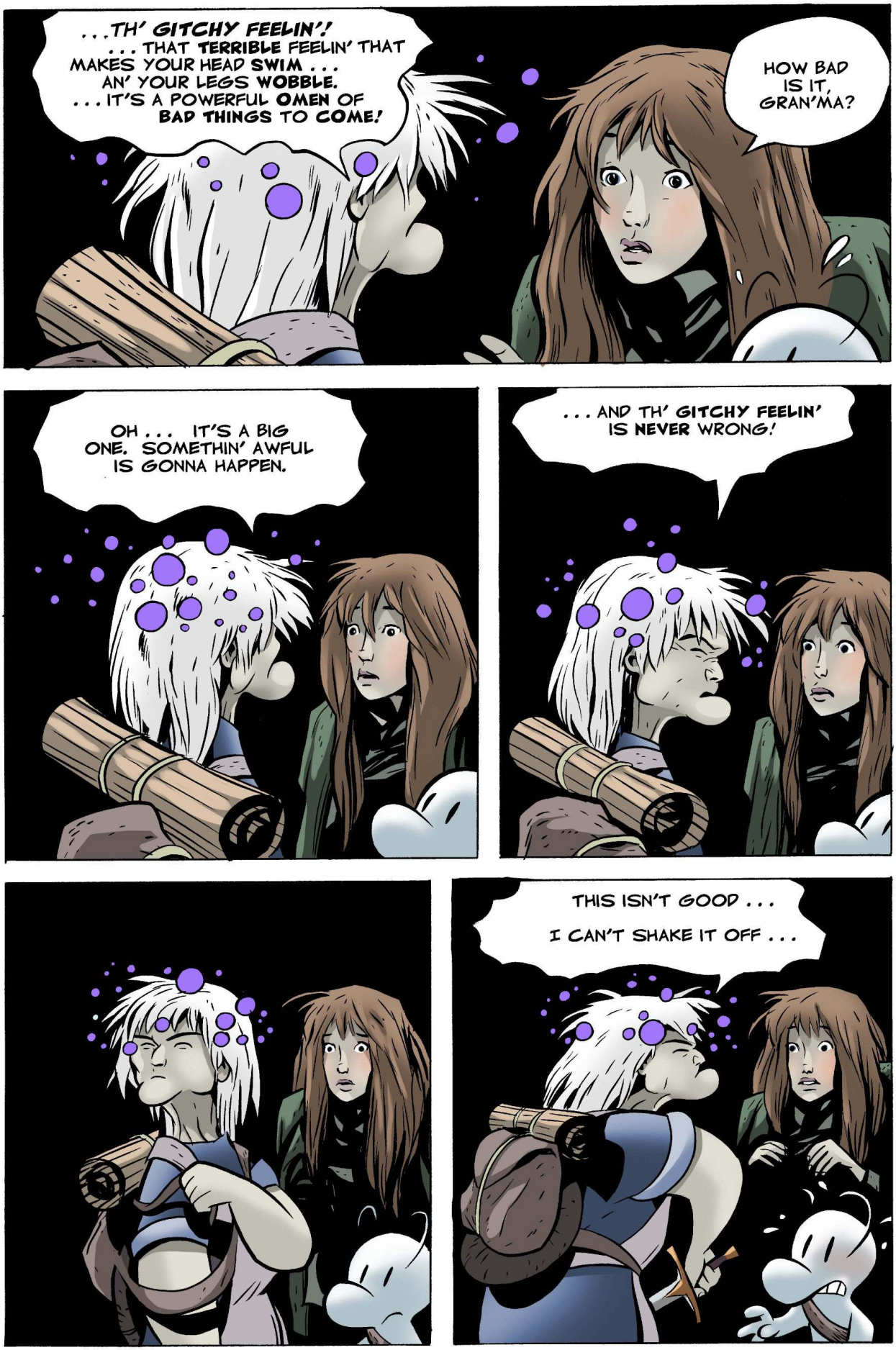



!


GRAN'MA!

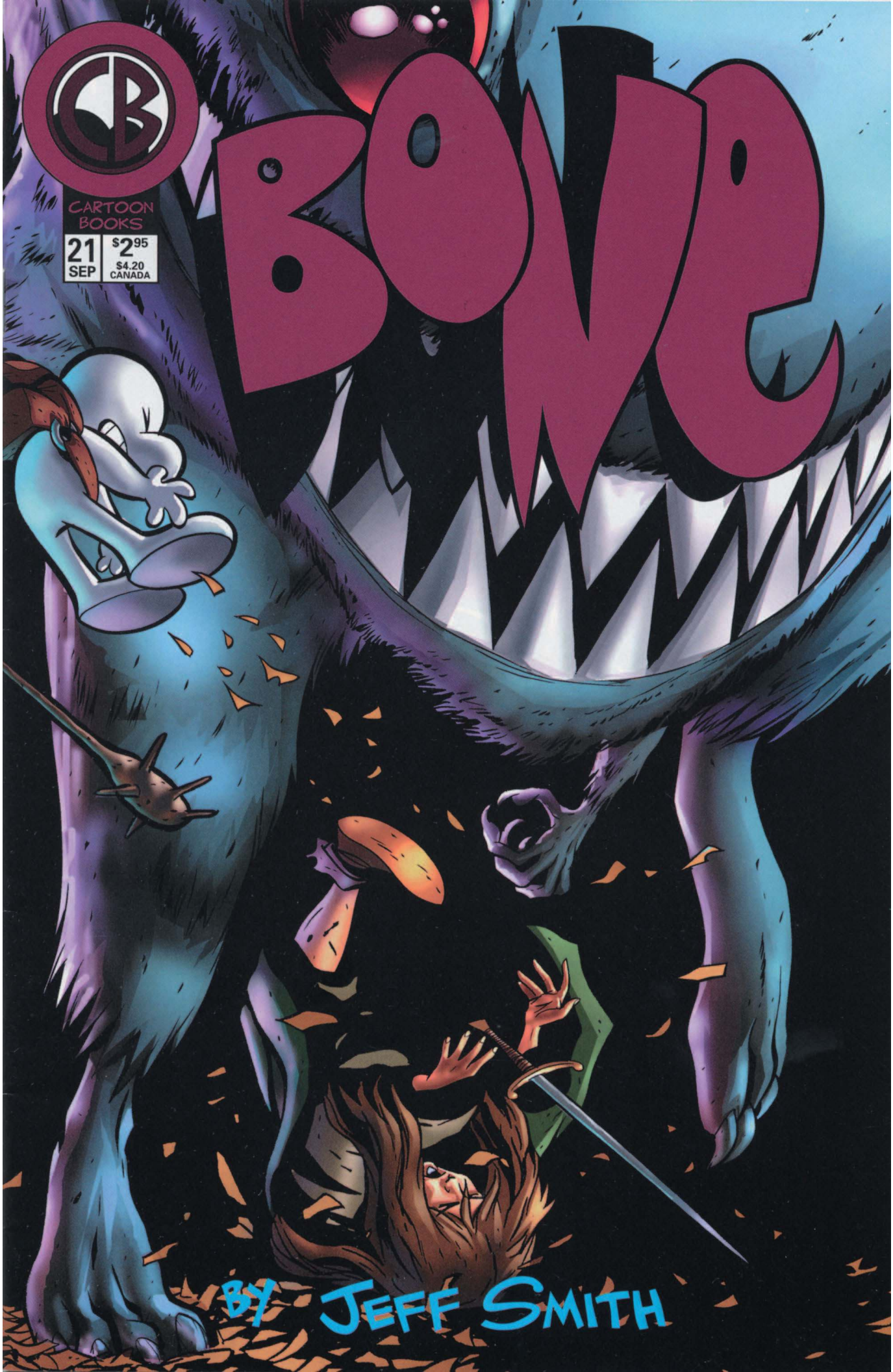

WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?


IT'S TH' GITCHY . . .

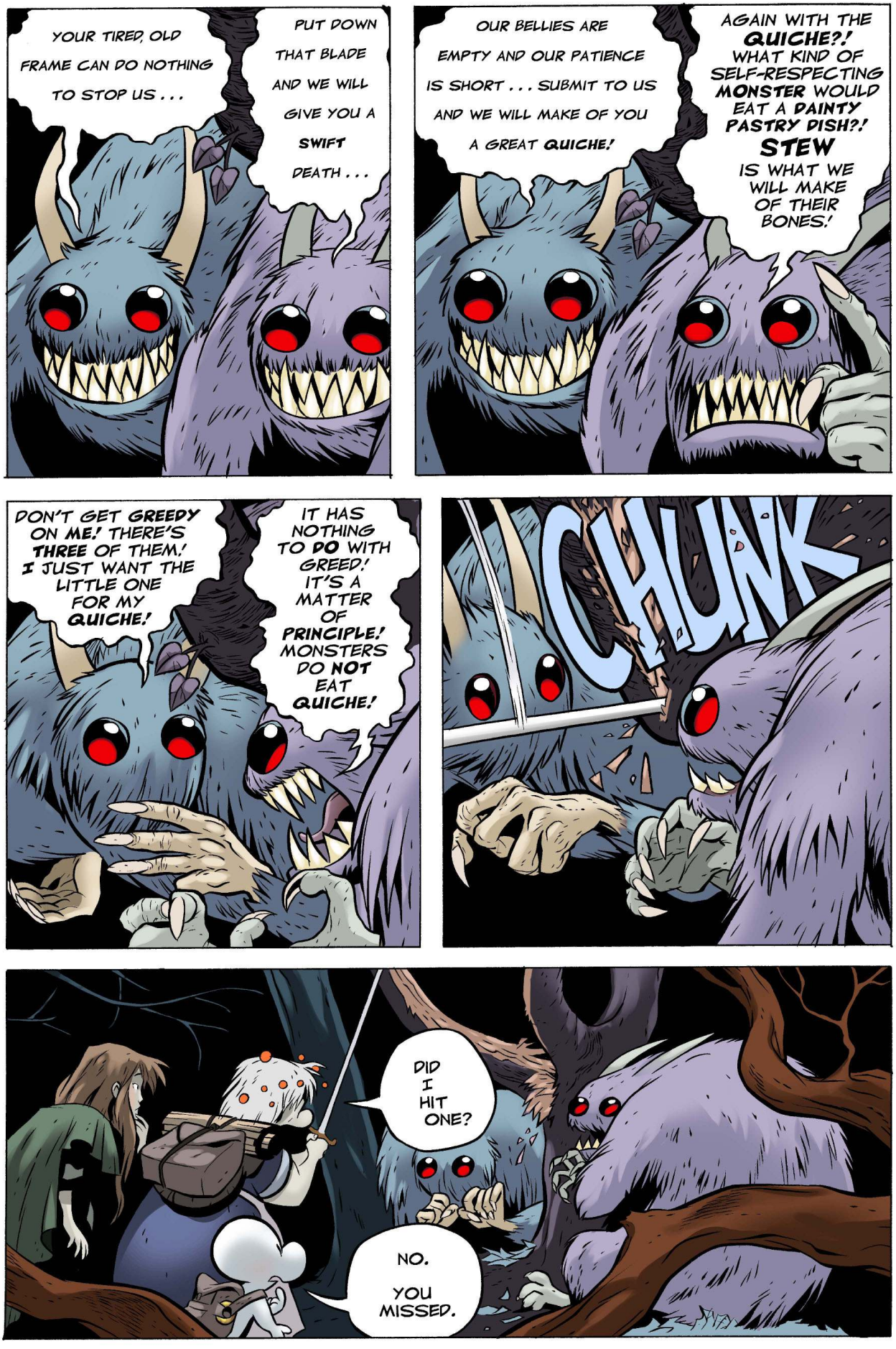

. . . TH' GITCHY FEELIN'!
. . . THAT TERRIBLE FEELIN' THAT MAKES YOUR HEAD SWIM . . . AN' YOUR LEGS WOBBLE.
. . . IT'S A POWERFUL OMEN OF BAD THINGS TO COME!
HOW BAD IS IT, GRAN'MA?
OH . . . IT'S A BIG ONE. SOMETHIN' AWFUL IS GONNA HAPPEN.
. . . AND TH' GITCHY FEELIN' IS NEVER WRONG!
THIS ISN'T GOOD . . .
I CAN'T SHAKE IT OFF . . .


WE HAVE TO . . .
GO STRAIGHT TO TH' INN.
QUICKLY.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN TRAVEL IN THIS CONDITION?
. . . DIFFICULT . . .
BUT WE CAN'T WAIT . . .
OH, MY.
GRAN'MA, DOES TH' GITCHY FEELIN' GIVE YOU ANY CLUE WHAT IT MIGHT BE WARNING YOU ABOUT? MAYBE WE COULD DO SOMETHING!
NO . . .
NO CLUE . . .
I JUST KNOW IT'LL BE BAD . . .
OH, IT WON'T BE SO BAD . . . NOT IF YOU LIKE QUICHE . . .


HELLO, SMALL MAMMAL.'


CARTOON BOOKS
21 SEP
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
MOVE! MOVE! GET BEHIND ME! DON'T LET 'EM SURROUND US!
MOVE IT, BONE! MOVE IT!
SSSSSSSSSSS
SSSSSS
I'M MOVIN'! I'M MOVIN'!
GRAN'MA -- HAS THE GITCHY FEELING WORN OFF YET?
NOT YET . . . BUT THEY DON'T KNOW THAT!
GIVE UP, COW WOMAN . . .

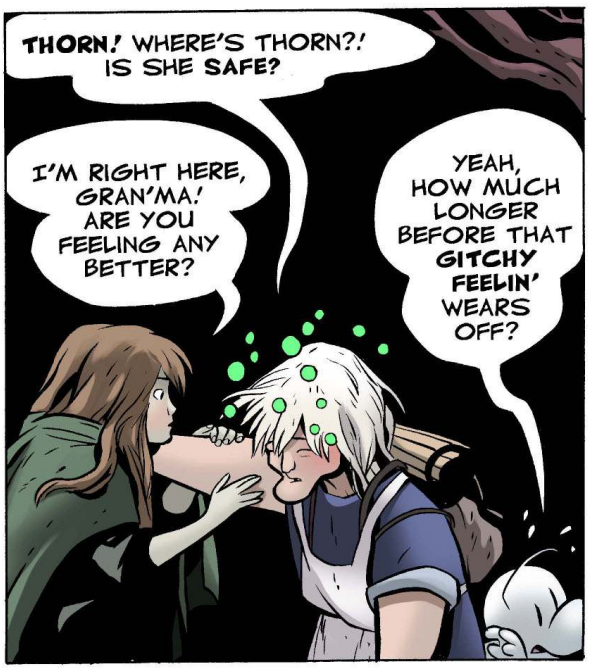

YOUR TIRED, OLD FRAME CAN DO NOTHING TO STOP US . . .
PUT DOWN THAT BLADE AND WE WILL GIVE YOU A SWIFT DEATH . . .
OUR BELLIES ARE EMPTY AND OUR PATIENCE IS SHORT . . . SUBMIT TO US AND WE WILL MAKE OF YOU A GREAT QUICHE!
AGAIN WITH THE QUICHE?! WHAT KIND OF SELF-RESPECTING MONSTER WOULD EAT A DAINTY PASTRY DISH?! STEW IS WHAT WE WILL MAKE OF THEIR BONES!
DON'T GET GREEDY ON ME! THERE'S THREE OF THEM! I JUST WANT THE LITTLE ONE FOR MY QUICHE!
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH GREED! IT'S A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE! MONSTERS DO NOT EAT QUICHE!
CHUNK
DID I HIT ONE?
NO. YOU MISSED.

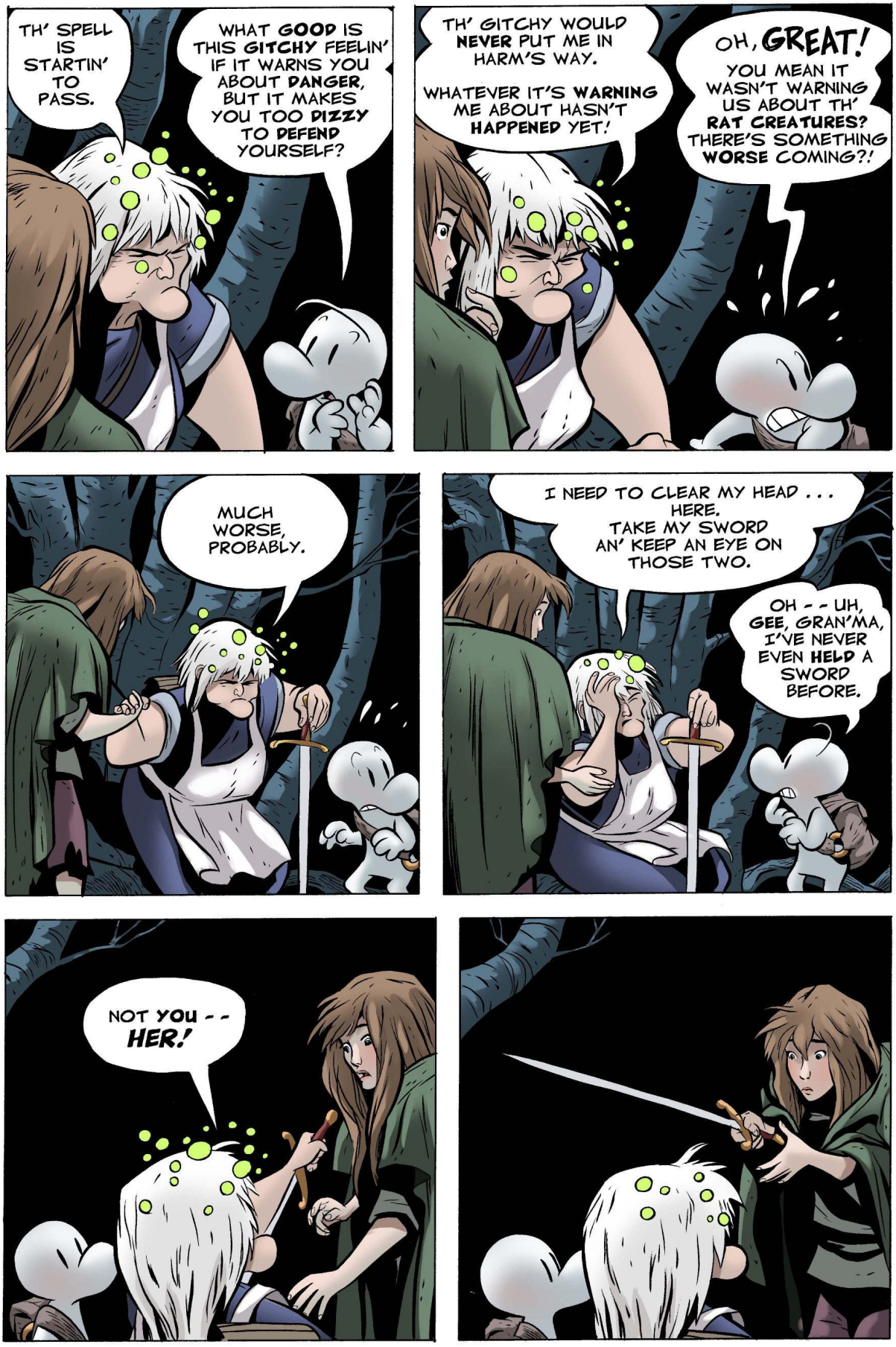

AIM A LITTLE TO THE LEFT!
TO THE RIGHT! TO THE RIGHT!
AAAHH!
AAAHH!


!!!!
YEEE!

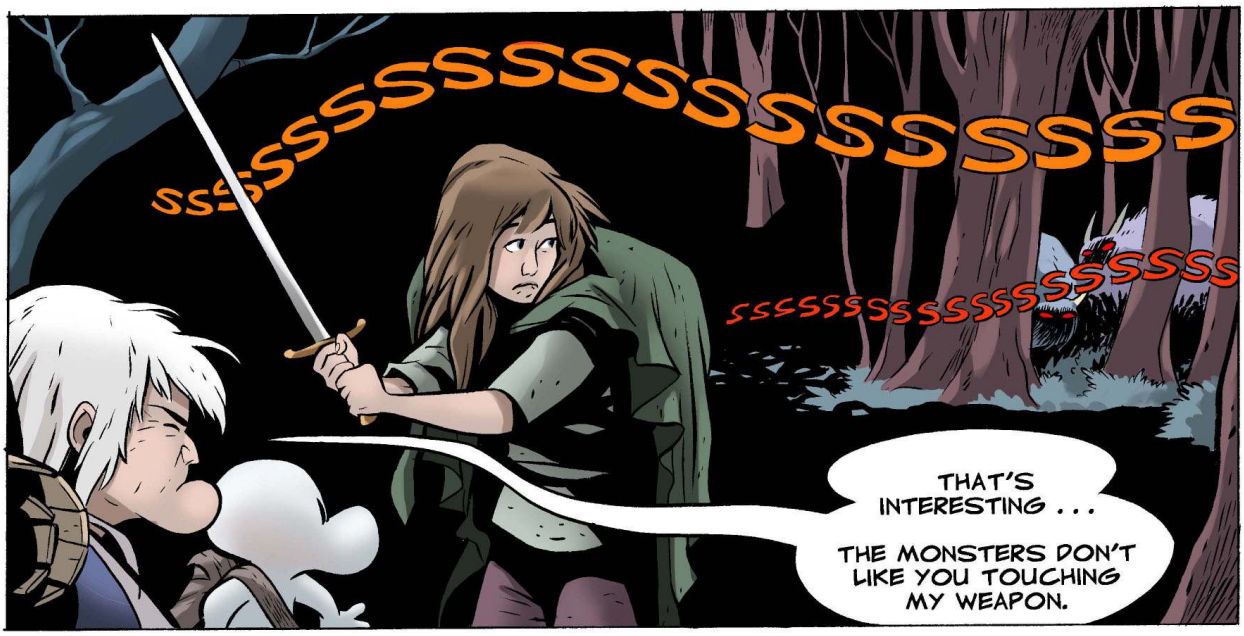

WOO!

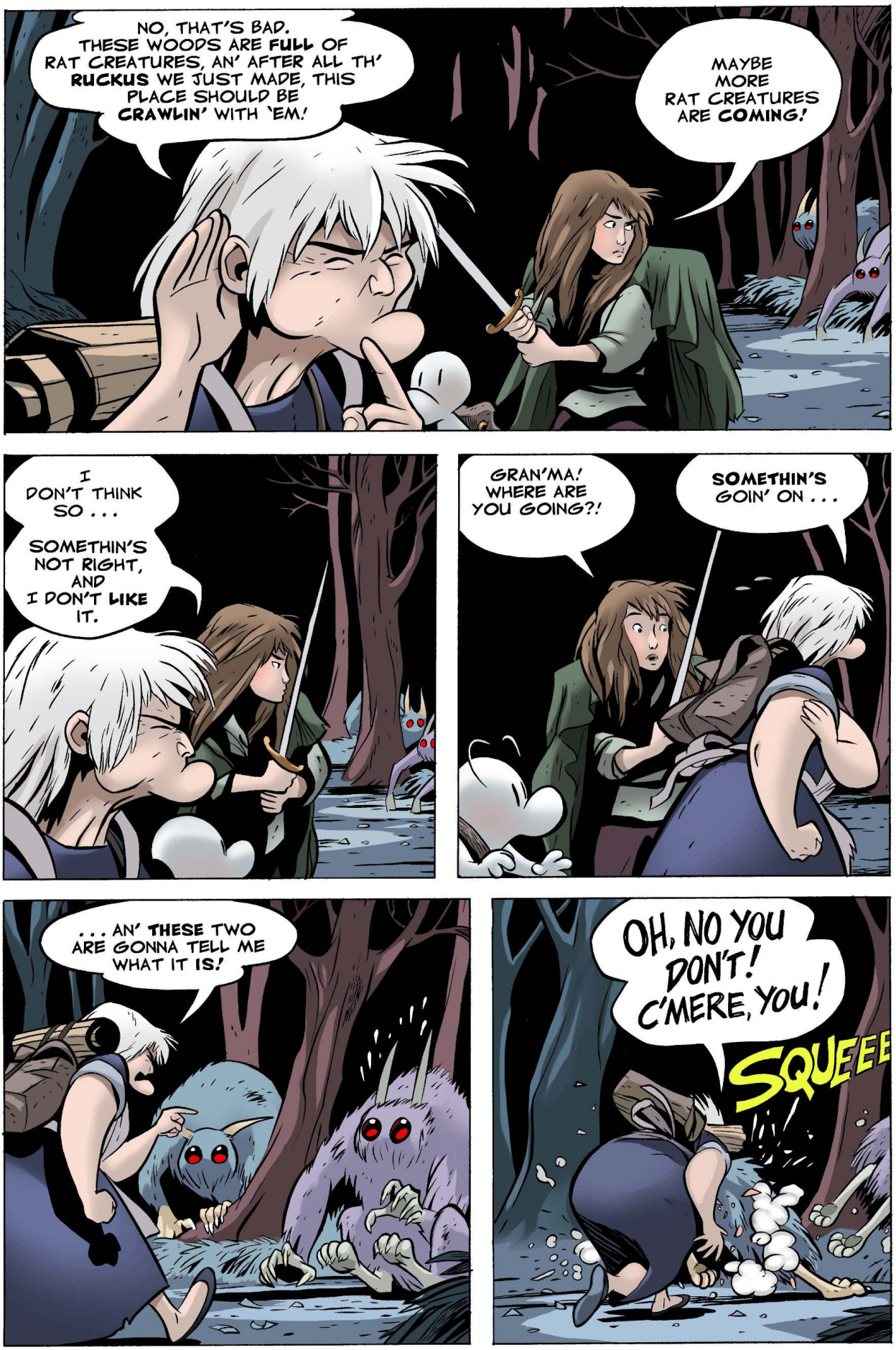

WHAT HAPPENED?
THEY RAN OFF! BUT NOT FAR.


THORN! WHERE'S THORN?! IS SHE SAFE?
I'M RIGHT HERE, GRAN'MA! ARE YOU FEELING ANY BETTER?
YEAH, HOW MUCH LONGER BEFORE THAT GITCHY FEELIN' WEARS OFF?



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

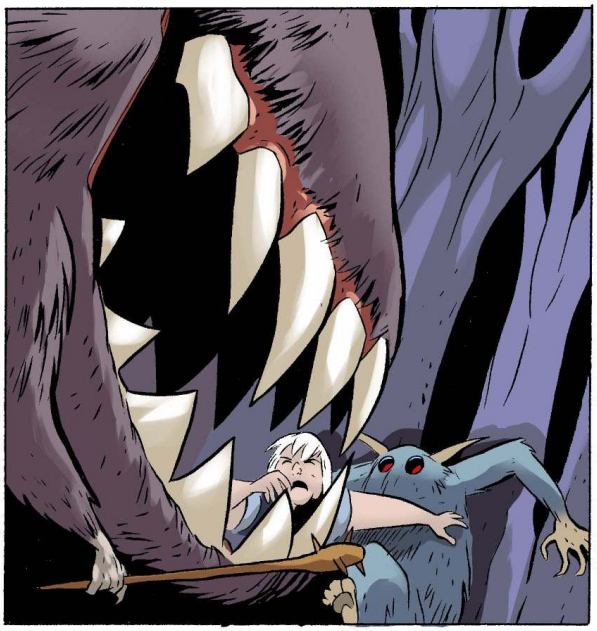

SSSS


NO, THAT'S BAD. THESE WOODS ARE FULL OF RAT CREATURES, AN' AFTER ALL TH' RUCKUS WE JUST MADE, THIS PLACE SHOULD BE CRAWLIN' WITH 'EM!
MAYBE MORE RAT CREATURES ARE COMING!
I DON'T THINK SO . . .
SOMETHIN'S NOT RIGHT, AND I DON'T LIKE IT.
GRAN'MA! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
SOMETHIN'S GOIN' ON . . .
. . . AN' THESE TWO ARE GONNA TELL ME WHAT IT IS!
OH, NO YOU DON'T! C'MERE, YOU!
SQUEEE


HOLD STILL!
SQUEEEEE
YOU'RE AN ORNERY ONE, AREN'T YA?
HISSSS
sSSSS
WHOMP!
QUIT STRUGGLIN'!
WHUMP
WHY ARE THE TWO OF YOU OUT HERE ALONE? WHERE ARE THE REST OF YOUR COMRADES?!
GRK!
GUK!
WE'VE BEEN ORDERED TO EVACUATE THE VALLEY . . .
TRAITOR!
IS THIS ALL IT TAKES TO MAKE YOU SPILL YOUR GUTS?! AN OLD WOMAN?!
KINGDOK!
O MIGHTY CHIEFTAIN! MERCY! I COULD NOT HELP MYSELF - -
SHE IS STRONG AND HARD AS A KNOTTED OLD TREE!


SILENCE!

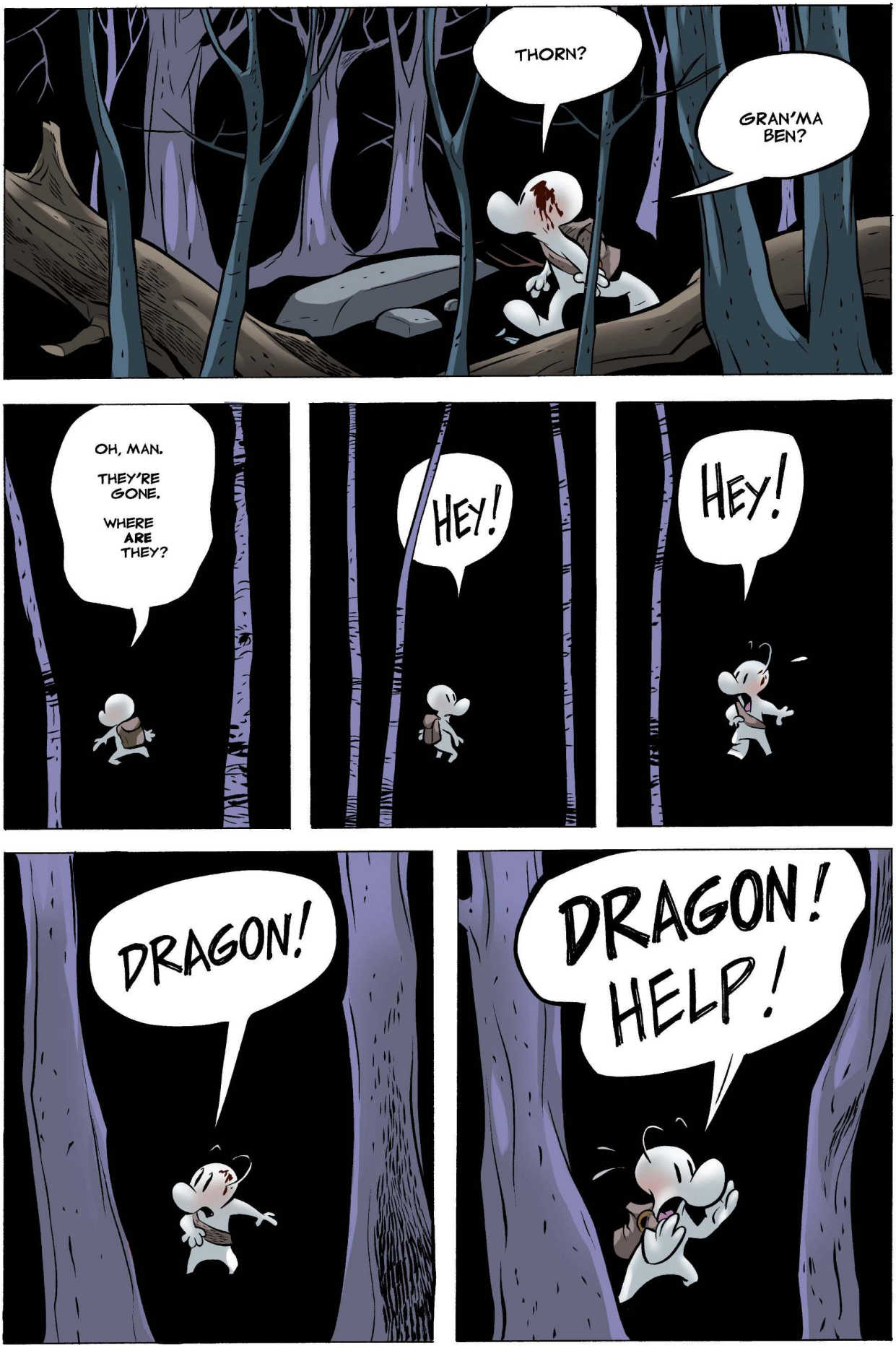

SHE IS NOTHING BUT AN OLD COW WOMAN . . .
GRAN'MA!



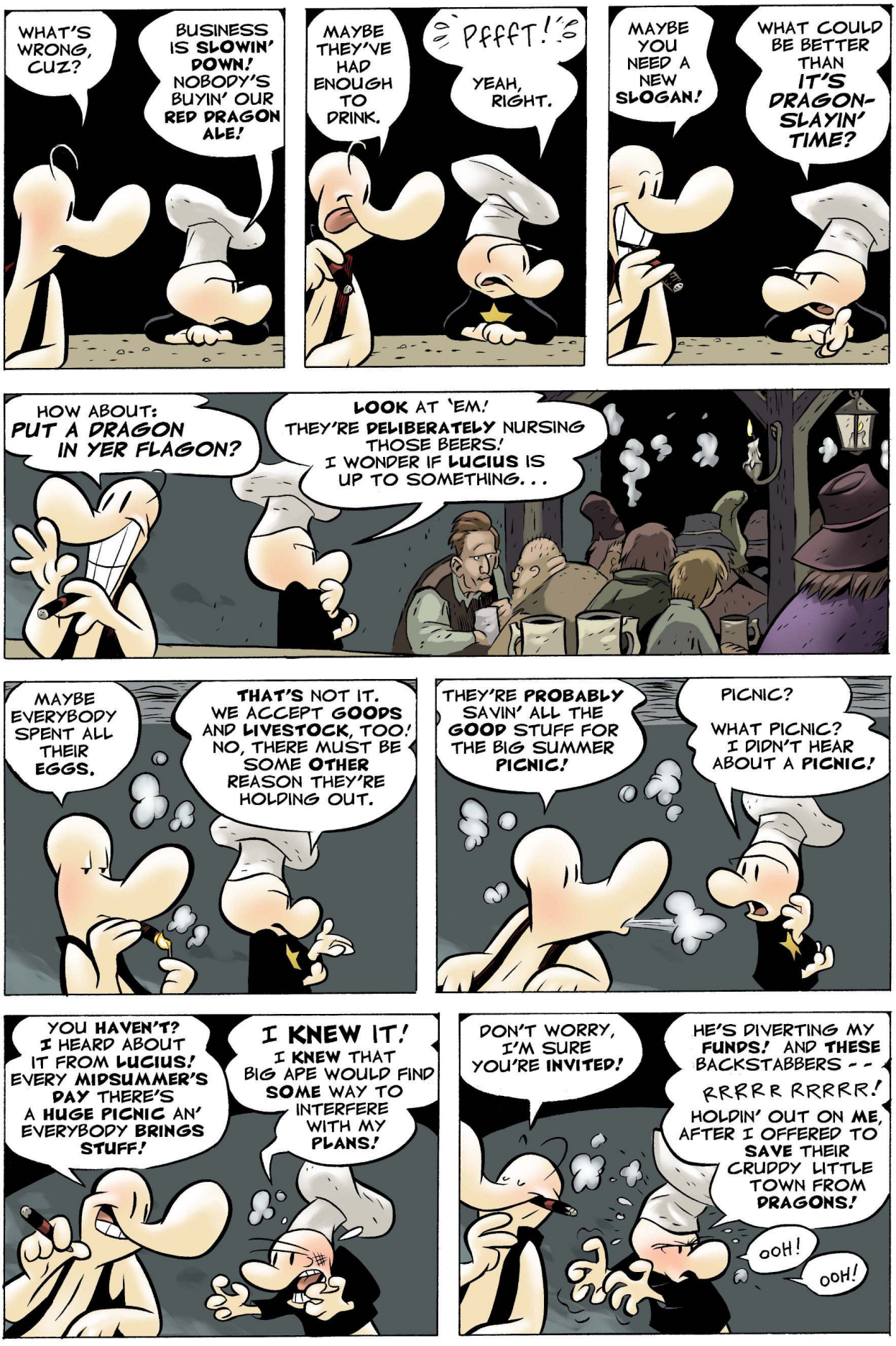


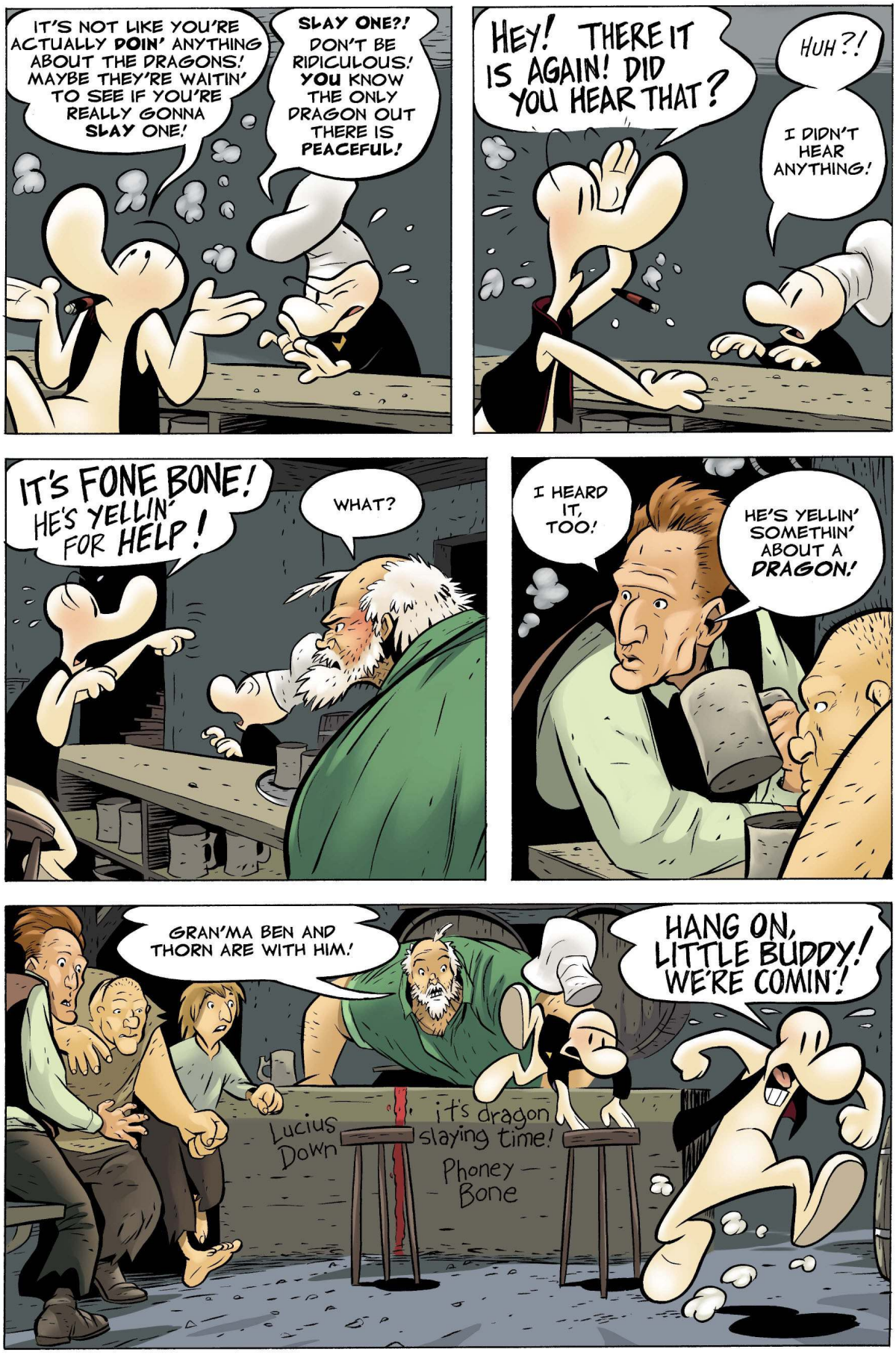



NO!
THORN?

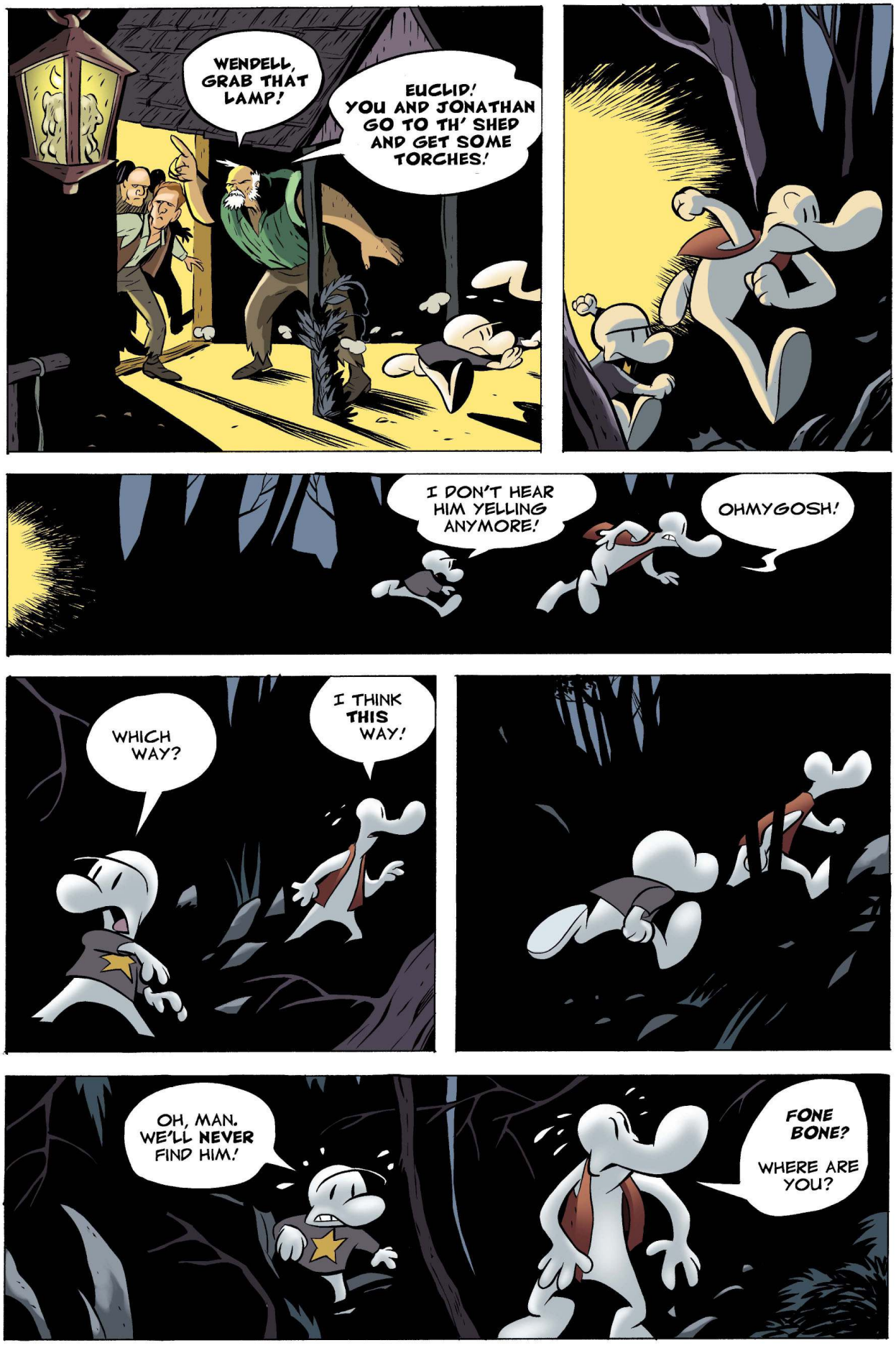

THORN?
GRAN'MA BEN?
OH, MAN.
THEY'RE GONE.
WHERE ARE THEY?
HEY!
HEY!
DRAGON!
DRAGON! HELP!

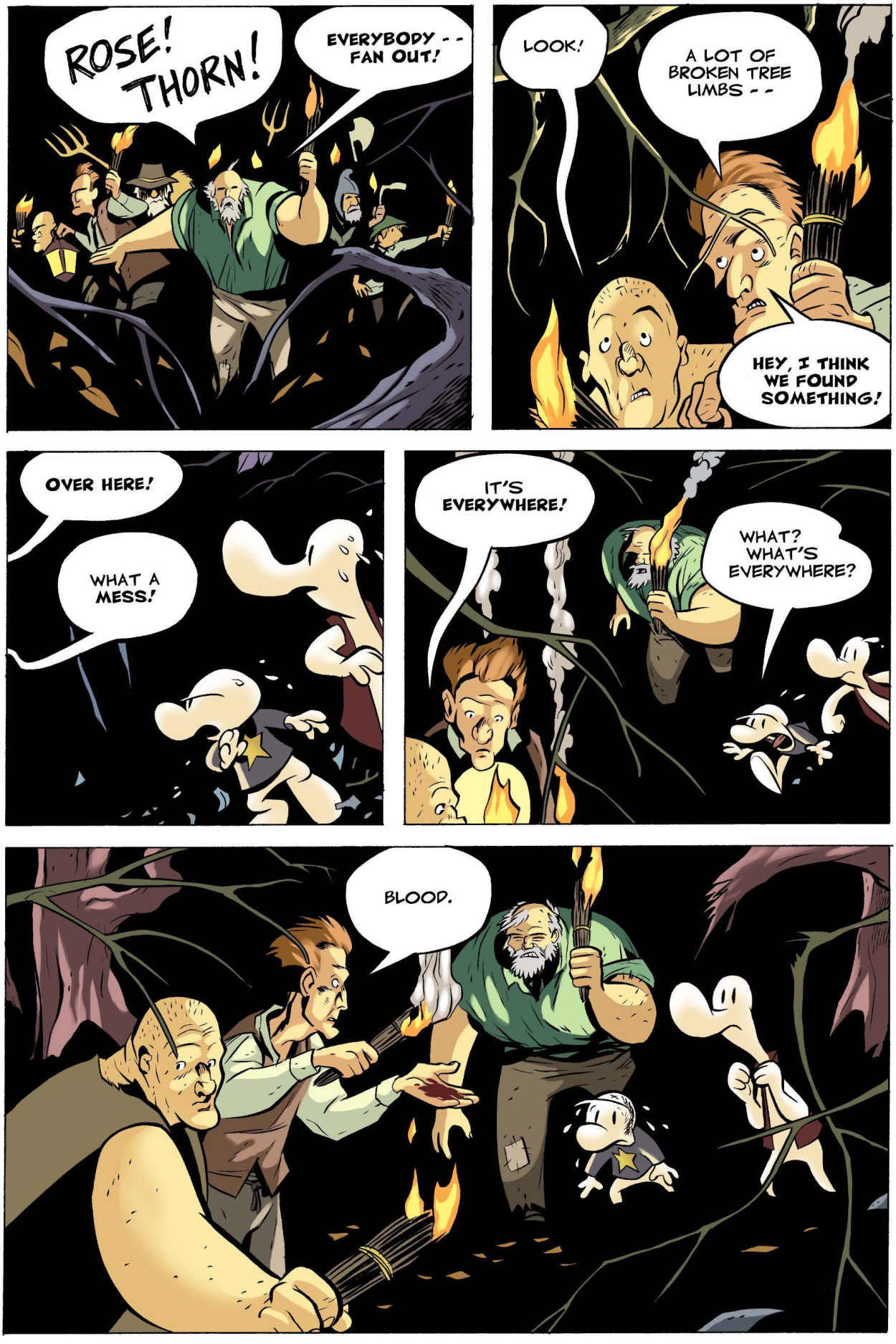

DRAGON!!
the Barrel Haven
L. Brown. Prop.
ZZK SNORT
FONE BONE?
I KNEW IT. SLEEPIN' ON TH' JOB AGAIN.
MM?
SMILEY! WAKE UP!
HEY, PHONEY. DID YOU JUST HEAR SOMETHIN'? SOUNDED LIKE FONE BONE.
I HEARD YOU SNORIN'! PAY ATTENTION, MAN! WE GOT A PROBLEM!


WHAT'S WRONG, CUZ?
BUSINESS IS SLOWIN' DOWN! NOBODY'S BUYIN' OUR RED DRAGON ALE!
MAYBE THEY'VE HAD ENOUGH TO DRINK.
PFFFT!
YEAH, RIGHT.
MAYBE YOU NEED A NEW SLOGAN!
WHAT COULD BE BETTER THAN IT'S DRAGON-SLAYIN' TIME?
HOW ABOUT: PUT A DRAGON IN YER FLAGON?
LOOK AT 'EM! THEY'RE DELIBERATELY NURSING THOSE BEERS! I WONDER IF LUCIUS IS UP TO SOMETHING...
MAYBE EVERYBODY SPENT ALL THEIR EGGS.
THAT'S NOT IT. WE ACCEPT GOODS AND LIVESTOCK, TOO! NO, THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER REASON THEY'RE HOLDING OUT.
THEY'RE PROBABLY SAVIN' ALL THE GOOD STUFF FOR THE BIG SUMMER PICNIC!
PICNIC? WHAT PICNIC? I DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT A PICNIC!
YOU HAVEN'T? I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM LUCIUS! EVERY MIDSUMMER'S DAY THERE'S A HUGE PICNIC AN' EVERYBODY BRINGS STUFF!
I KNEW IT! I KNEW THAT BIG APE WOULD FIND SOME WAY TO INTERFERE WITH MY PLANS!
DON'T WORRY, I'M SURE YOU'RE INVITED!
HE'S DIVERTING MY FUNDS! AND THESE BACKSTABBERS - - RRRRR RRRRR! HOLDIN' OUT ON ME, AFTER I OFFERED TO SAVE THEIR CRUDDY LITTLE TOWN FROM DRAGONS!
OOH!
OOH!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

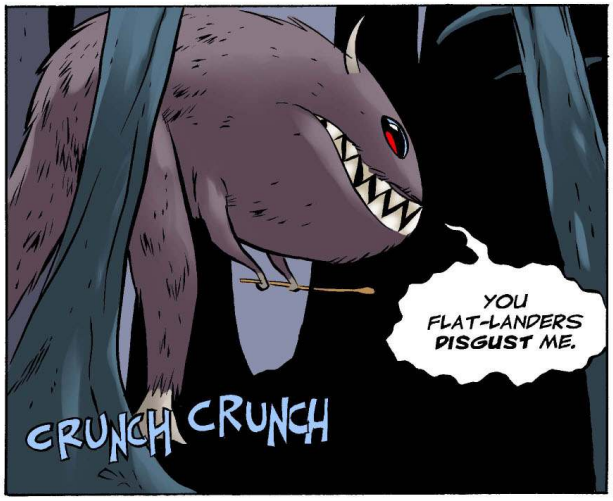

WENDELL, GRAB THAT LAMP!
EUCLID! YOU AND JONATHAN GO TO TH' SHED AND GET SOME TORCHES!
I DON'T HEAR HIM YELLING ANYMORE!
OHMYGOSH!
WHICH WAY?
I THINK THIS WAY!
OH, MAN. WE'LL NEVER FIND HIM!
FONE BONE? WHERE ARE YOU?

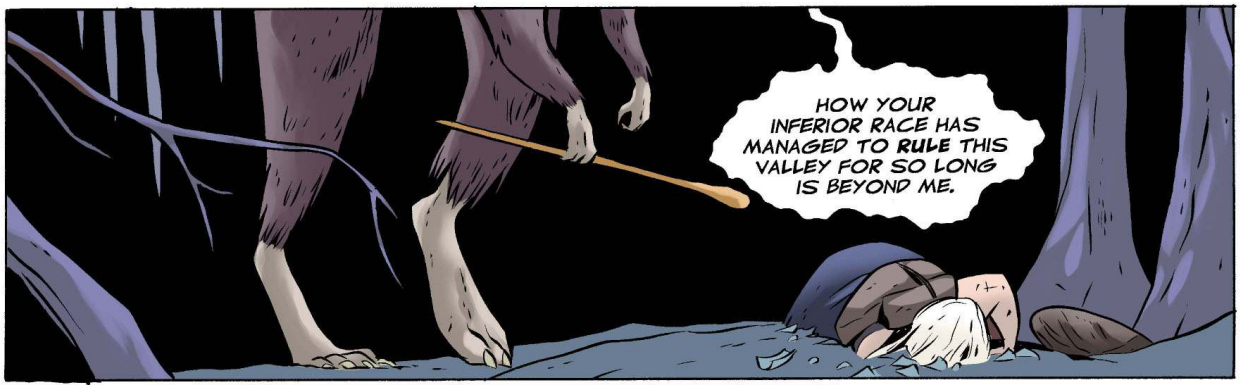

ROSE! THORN!
EVERYBODY - - FAN OUT!
LOOK!
A LOT OF BROKEN TREE LIMBS - -
HEY, I THINK WE FOUND SOMETHING!
OVER HERE!
WHAT A MESS!
IT'S EVERYWHERE!
WHAT? WHAT'S EVERYWHERE?
BLOOD.

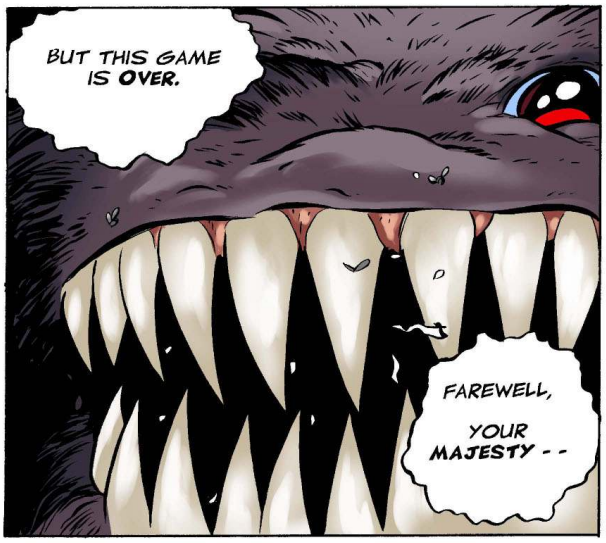

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
heh, heh, heh.
YOU'RE NOT QUITE SO TOUGH ONCE YOU'VE BEEN SOFTENED UP, ARE YOU, COW WOMAN?





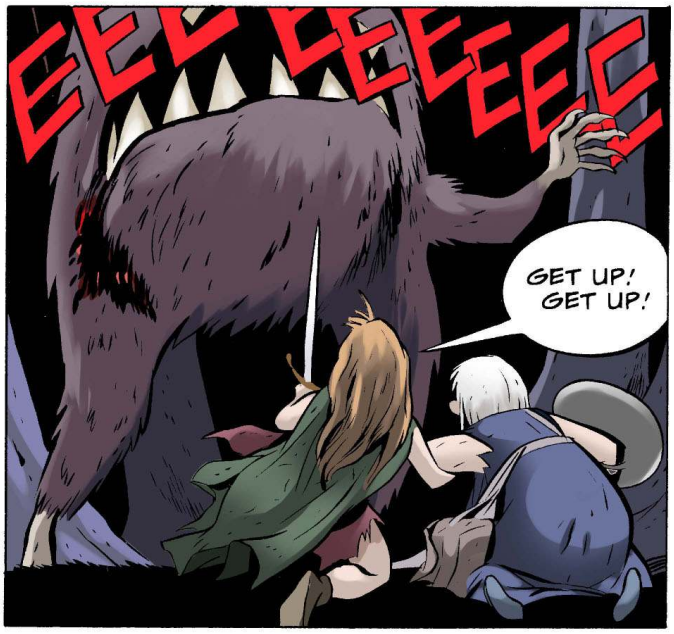

YOU FLAT-LANDERS DISGUST ME.
CRUNCH CRUNCH

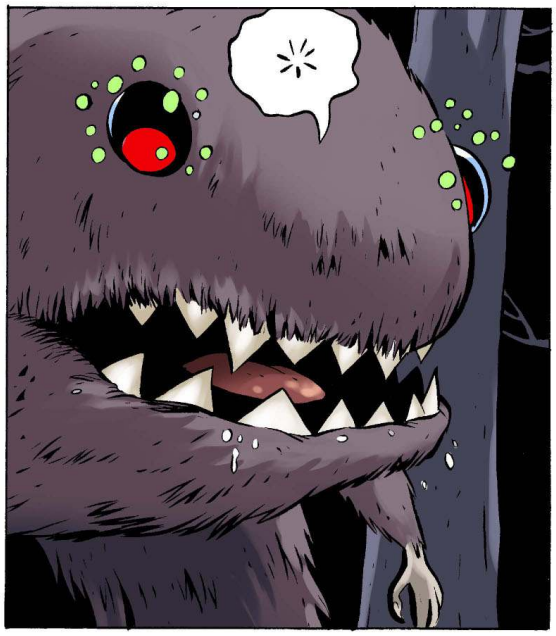

HOW YOUR INFERIOR RACE HAS MANAGED TO RULE THIS VALLEY FOR SO LONG IS BEYOND ME.


BUT THIS GAME IS OVER.
FAREWELL, YOUR MAJESTY - -


URK-

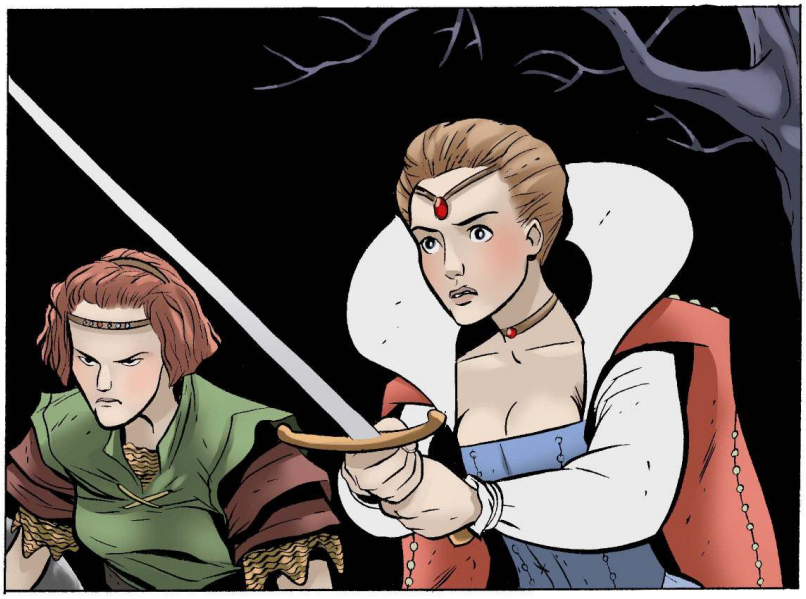


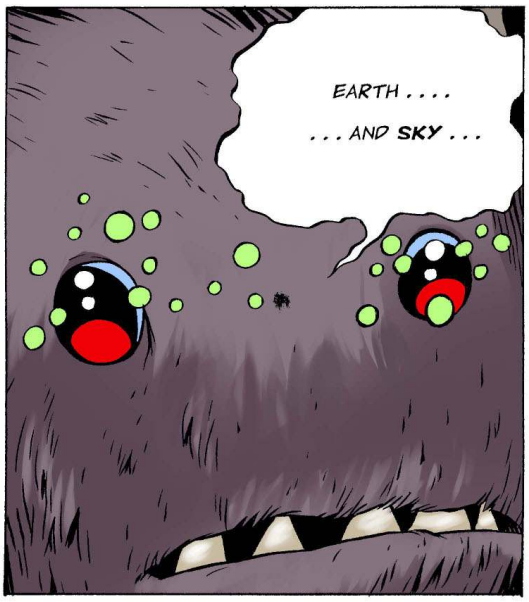

EEE EEEEEEE
GET UP!
GET UP!

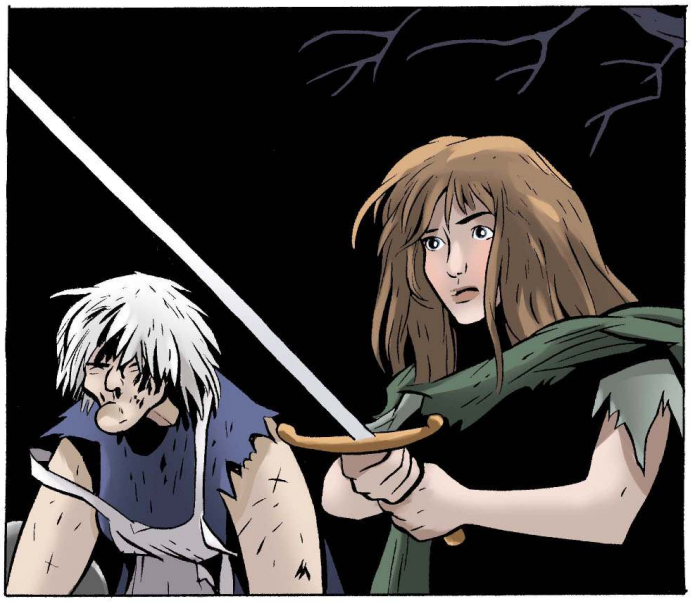









EARTH . . . .
. . . AND SKY . . .



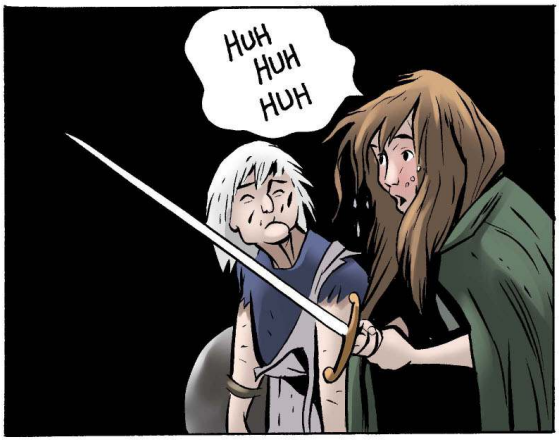

SKREEEAA

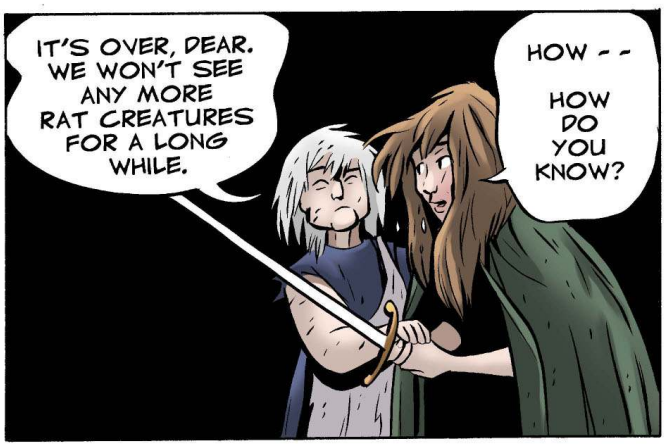


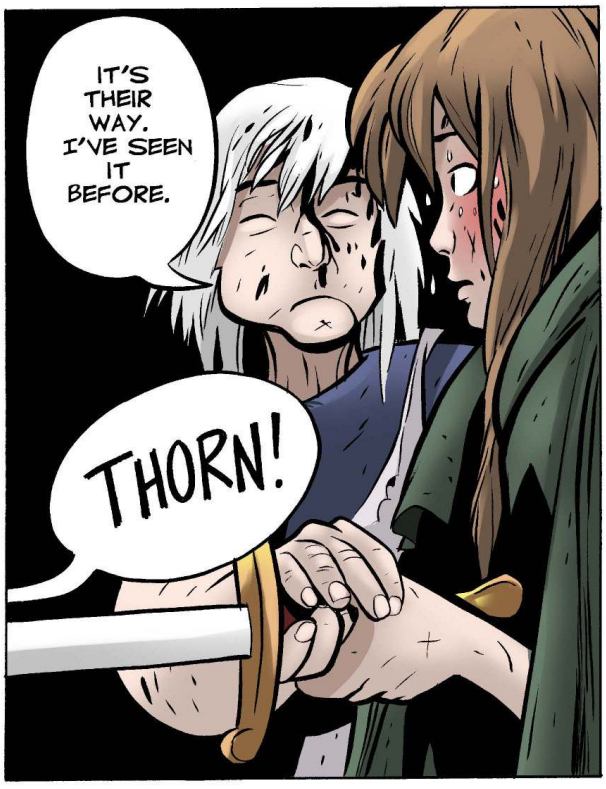


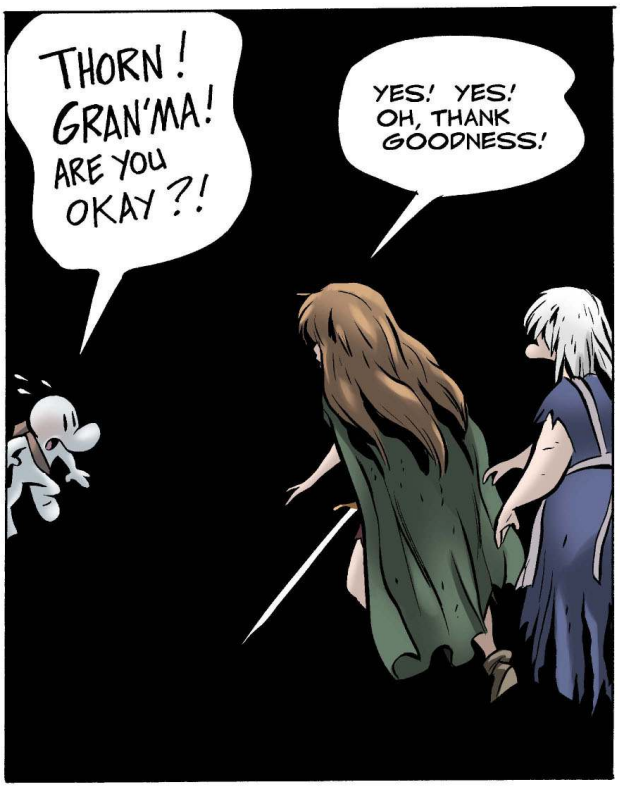


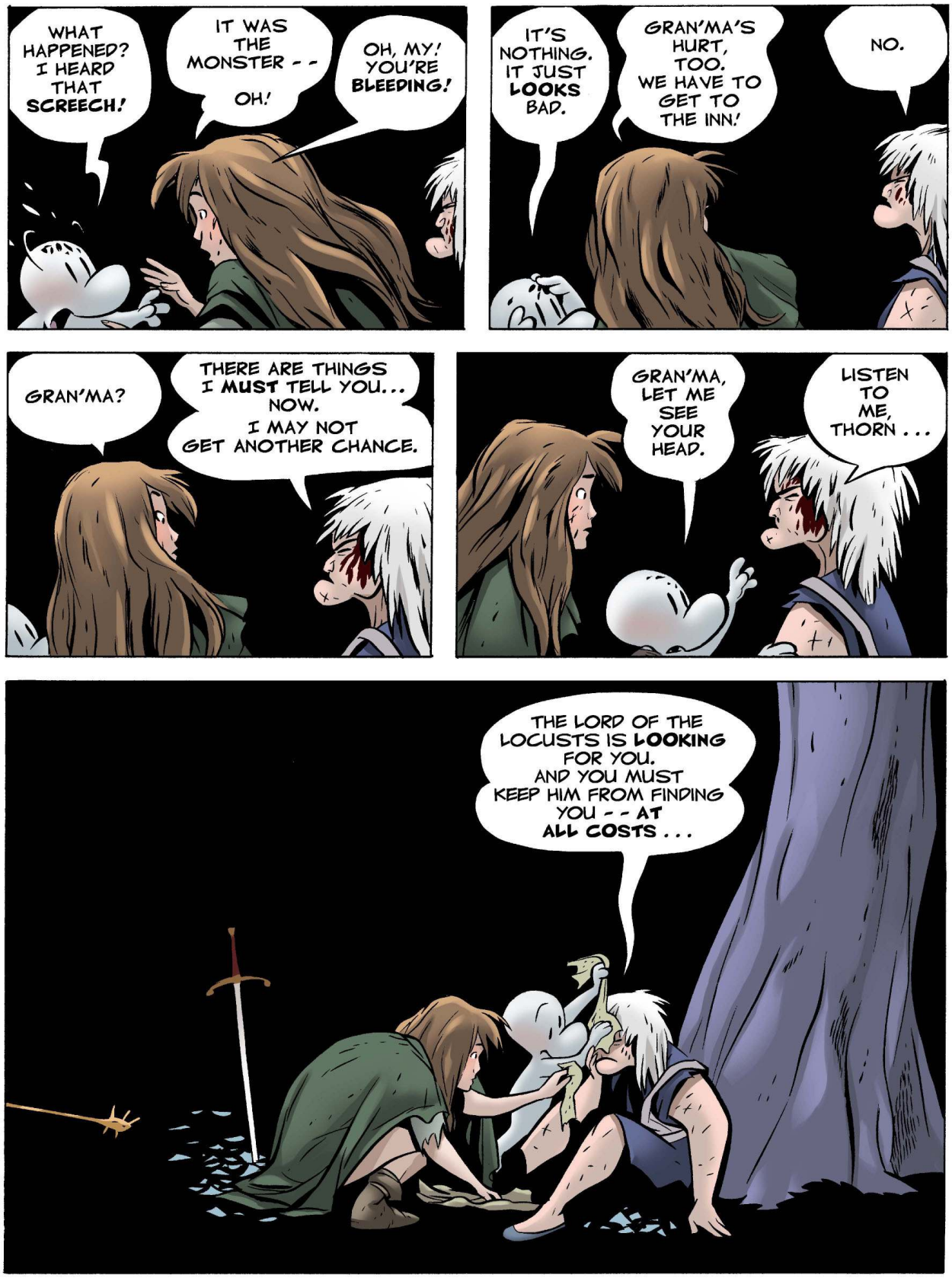



HUH
HUH
HUH


IT'S OVER, DEAR. WE WON'T SEE ANY MORE RAT CREATURES FOR A LONG WHILE.
HOW - -
HOW DO YOU KNOW?

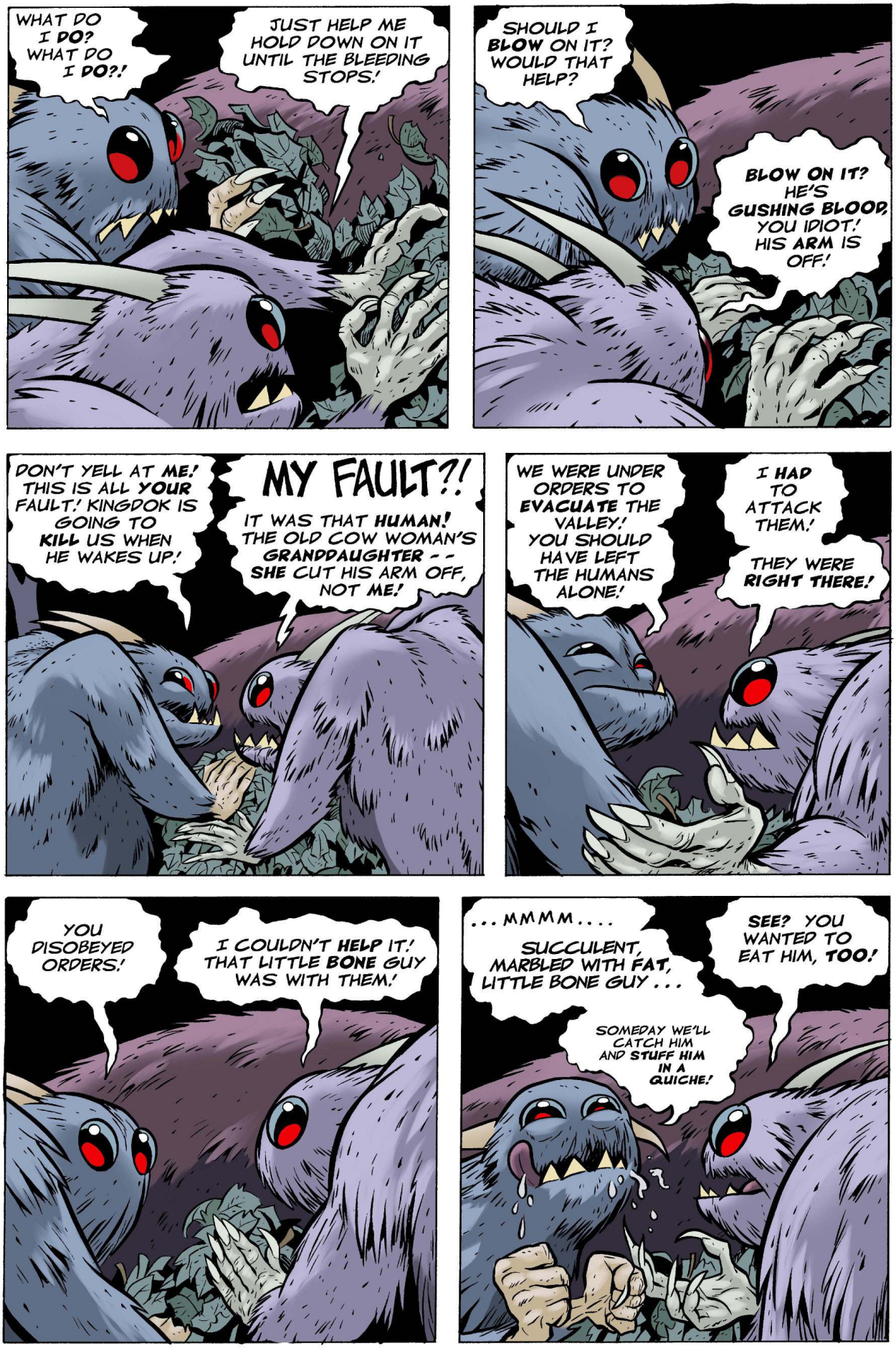

IT'S THEIR WAY. I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE.
THORN!

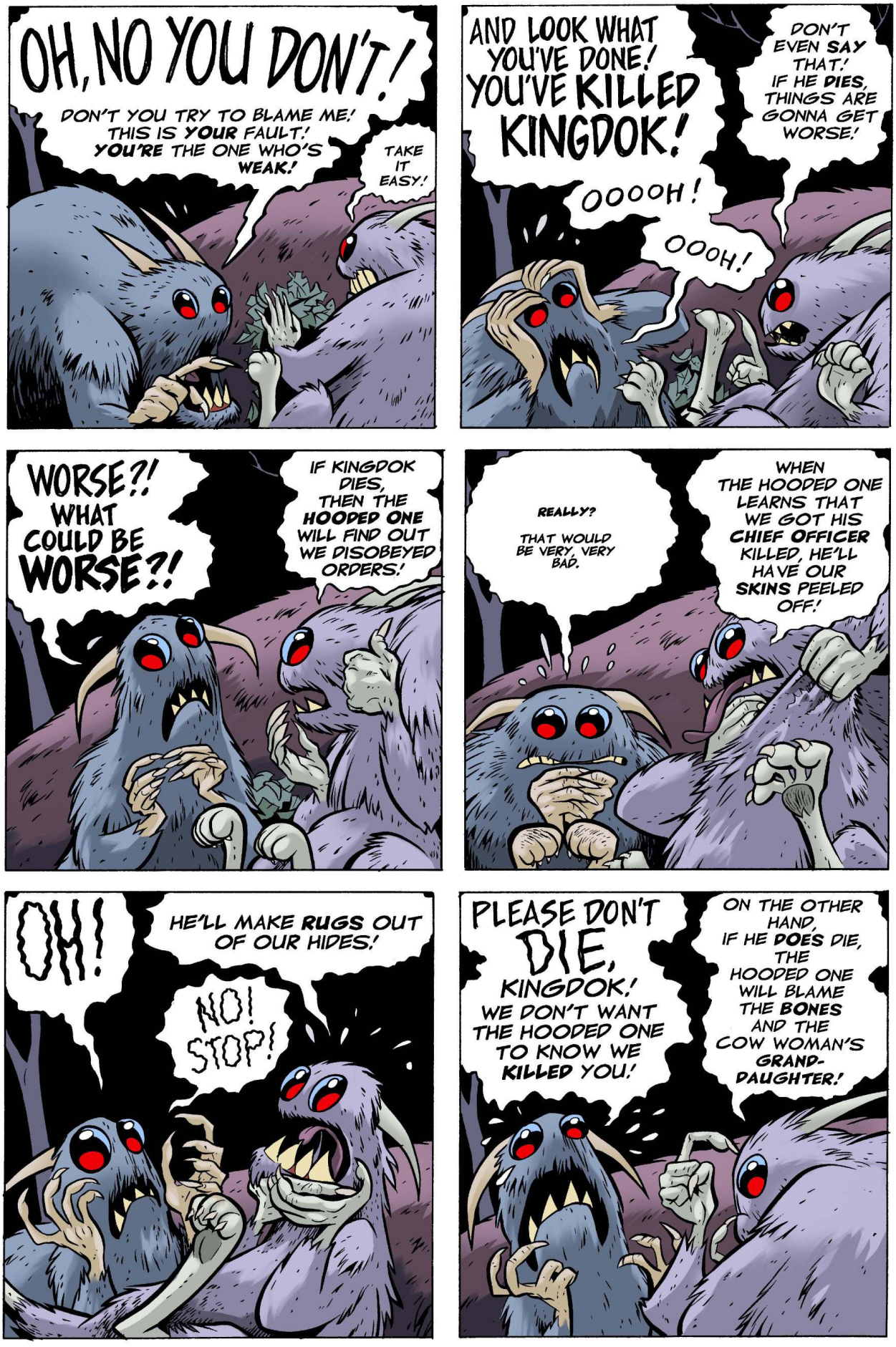

THORN! GRAN'MA! ARE YOU OKAY?!
YES! YES! OH, THANK GOODNESS!


WHAT HAPPENED? I HEARD THAT SCREECH!
IT WAS THE MONSTER - -
OH!
OH, MY! YOU'RE BLEEDING!
IT'S NOTHING. IT JUST LOOKS BAD.
GRAN'MA'S HURT, TOO. WE HAVE TO GET TO THE INN!
NO.
GRAN'MA?
THERE ARE THINGS I MUST TELL YOU... NOW.
I MAY NOT GET ANOTHER CHANCE.
GRAN'MA, LET ME SEE YOUR HEAD.
LISTEN TO ME, THORN . . .
THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS IS LOOKING FOR YOU.
AND YOU MUST KEEP HIM FROM FINDING YOU - - AT ALL COSTS . . .


CB
CARTOON BOOKS
22
OCT
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
HE'S DEAD!! KINGDOK'S DEAD!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?!
HE'S NOT DEAD! HE JUST FAINTED! HE'S LOSING TOO MUCH BLOOD!
OOOOH! Oh! THIS IS TERRIBLE! AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
SHUT UP, AND GRAB SOME LEAVES! WE HAVE TO STOP THE BLEEDING!
Oh! Oh! Oh!
HURRY! PUT PRESSURE ON THE WOUND!


WHAT DO I DO? WHAT DO I DO?!
JUST HELP ME HOLD DOWN ON IT UNTIL THE BLEEDING STOPS!
SHOULD I BLOW ON IT? WOULD THAT HELP?
BLOW ON IT? HE'S GUSHING BLOOD, YOU IDIOT! HIS ARM IS OFF!
DON'T YELL AT ME! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT! KINGDOK IS GOING TO KILL US WHEN HE WAKES UP!
MY FAULT?!
IT WAS THAT HUMAN! THE OLD COW WOMAN'S GRANDDAUGHTER -- SHE CUT HIS ARM OFF, NOT ME!
WE WERE UNDER ORDERS TO EVACUATE THE VALLEY! YOU SHOULD HAVE LEFT THE HUMANS ALONE!
I HAD TO ATTACK THEM!
THEY WERE RIGHT THERE!
YOU DISOBEYED ORDERS!
I COULDN'T HELP IT! THAT LITTLE BONE GUY WAS WITH THEM!
...MMMM....
SUCCULENT, MARBLED WITH FAT, LITTLE BONE GUY...
SEE? YOU WANTED TO EAT HIM, TOO!
SOMEDAY WE'LL CATCH HIM AND STUFF HIM IN A QUICHE!

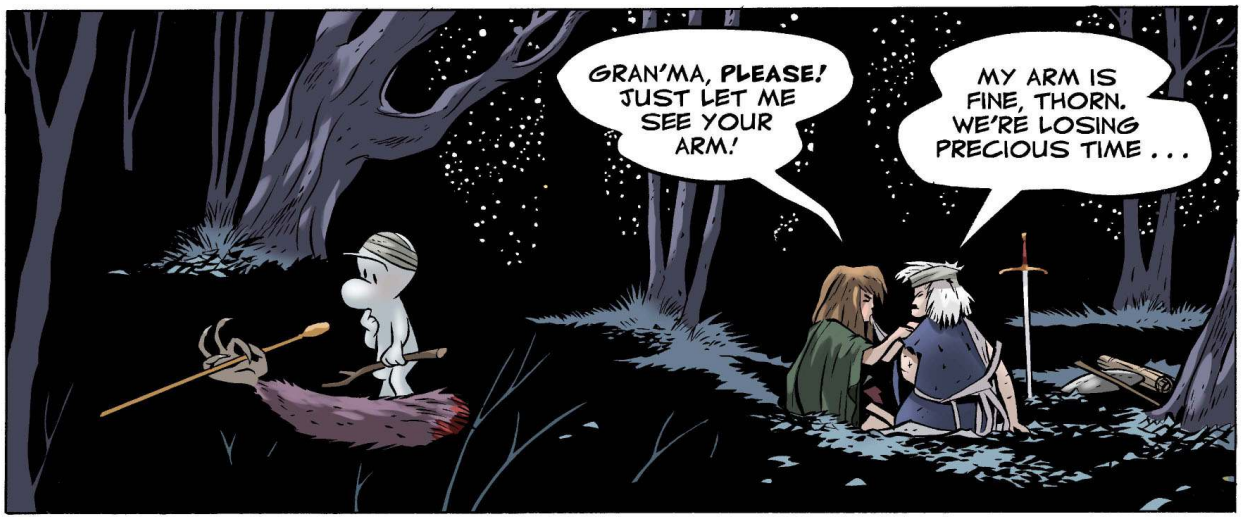

OH, NO YOU DON'T!
DON'T YOU TRY TO BLAME ME! THIS IS YOUR FAULT! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S WEAK!
TAKE IT EASY!
AND LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE! YOU'VE KILLED KINGDOK!
OOOOH!
OOOH!
DON'T EVEN SAY THAT! IF HE DIES, THINGS ARE GONNA GET WORSE!
WORSE?! WHAT COULD BE WORSE?!
IF KINGDOK DIES, THEN THE HOODED ONE WILL FIND OUT WE DISOBEYED ORDERS!
REALLY?
THAT WOULD BE VERY, VERY BAD.
WHEN THE HOODED ONE LEARNS THAT WE GOT HIS CHIEF OFFICER KILLED, HE'LL HAVE OUR SKINS PEELED OFF!
OH!
HE'LL MAKE RUGS OUT OF OUR HIDES!
NO! STOP!
PLEASE DON'T DIE, KINGDOK! WE DON'T WANT THE HOODED ONE TO KNOW WE KILLED YOU!
ON THE OTHER HAND, IF HE DOES DIE, THE HOODED ONE WILL BLAME THE BONES AND THE COW WOMAN'S GRAND-DAUGHTER!

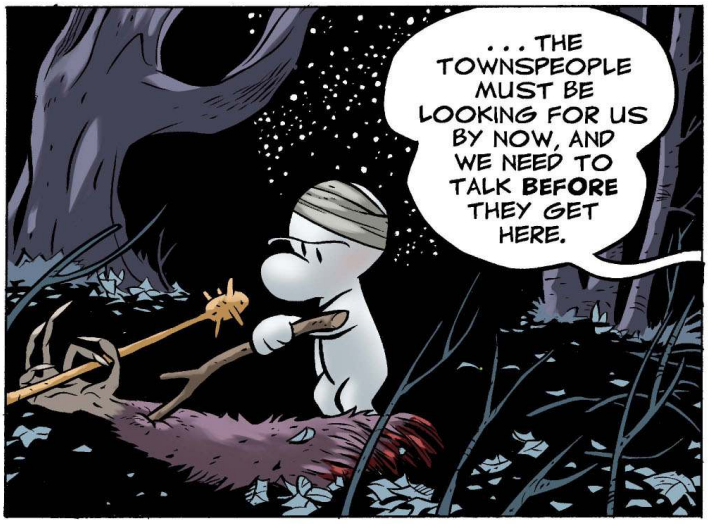

WELL, THAT'S TRUE . . .
KINGDOK IS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WE DISOBEYED ORDERS!
HOW'S THE OLD FELLOW DOING, ANYWAY?
WELL . . .
IT LOOKS LIKE WE STOPPED THE BLEEDING, AND HE SEEMS TO BE BREATHING OKAY.
LET'S RUN AWAY AND HIDE FOREVER!
YES, LET'S!

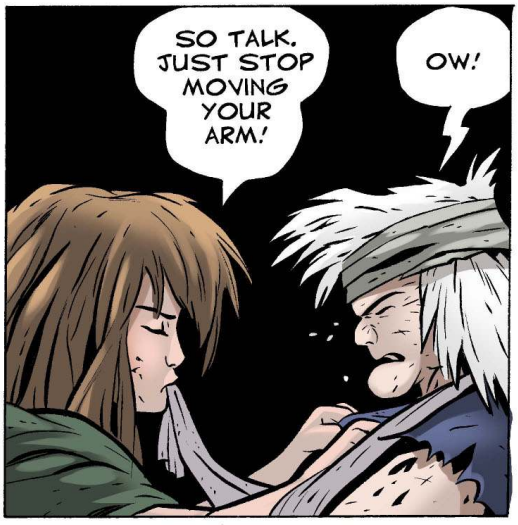


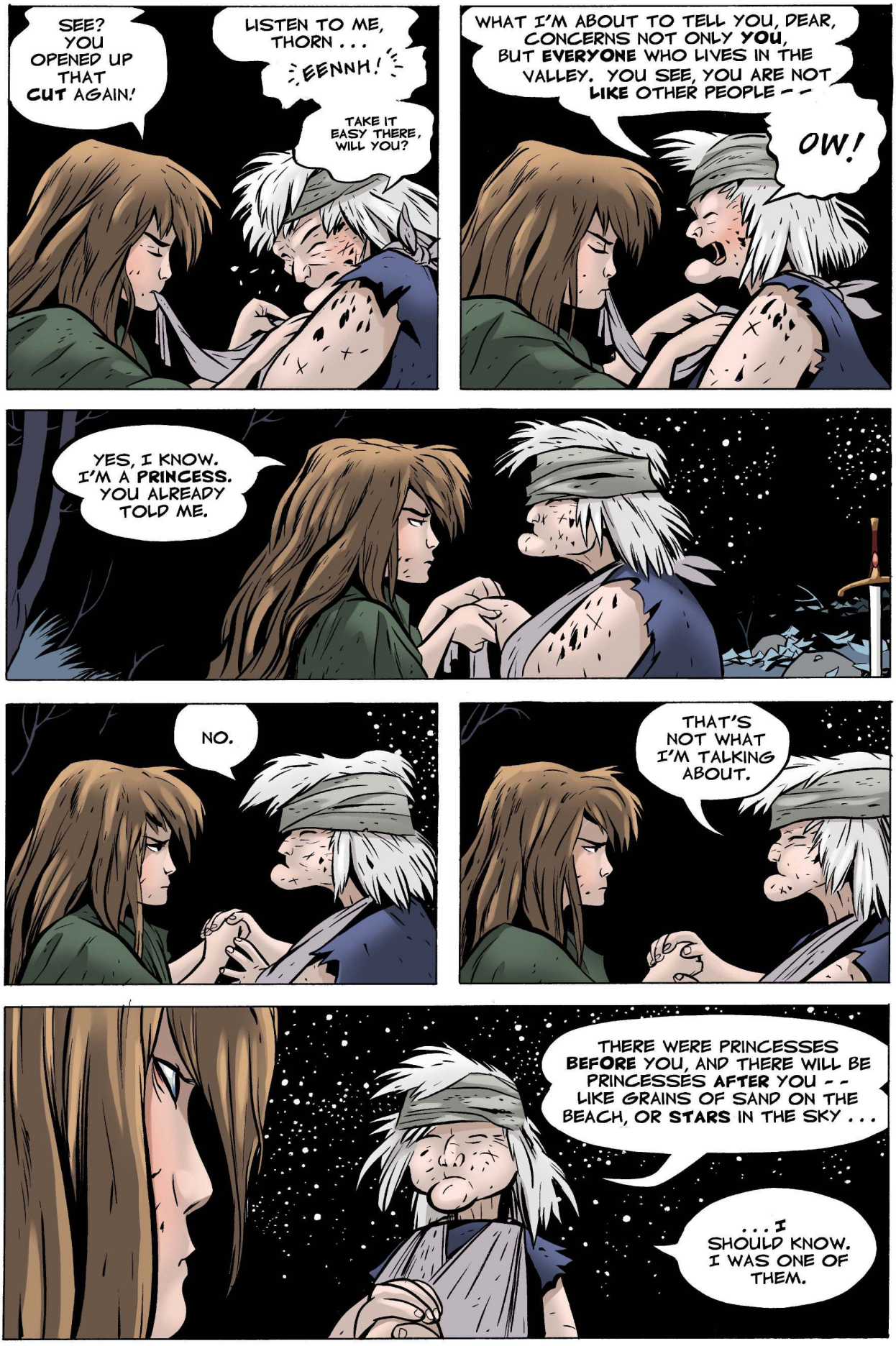


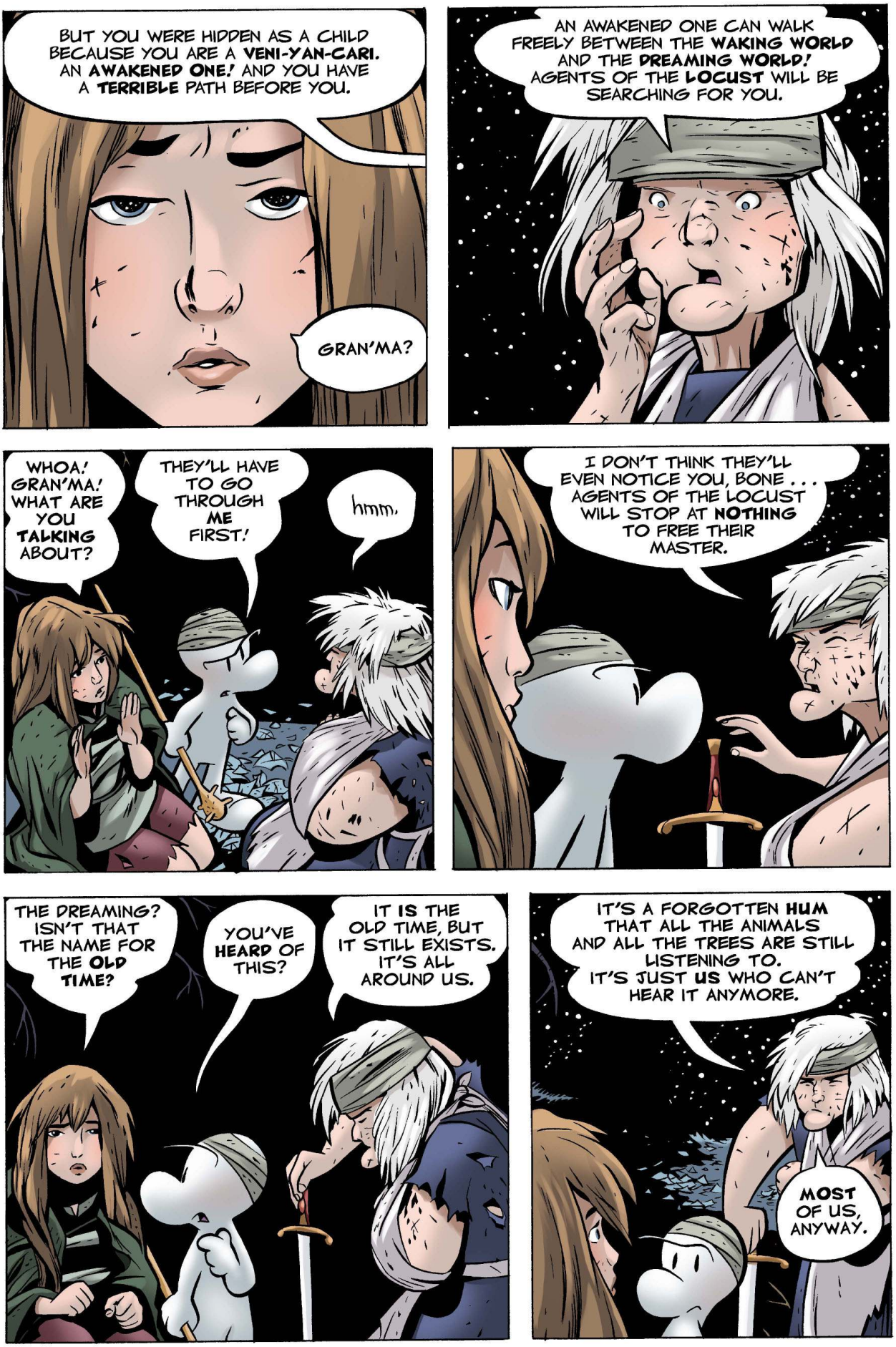

HOLD STILL!
I AM HOLDING STILL.

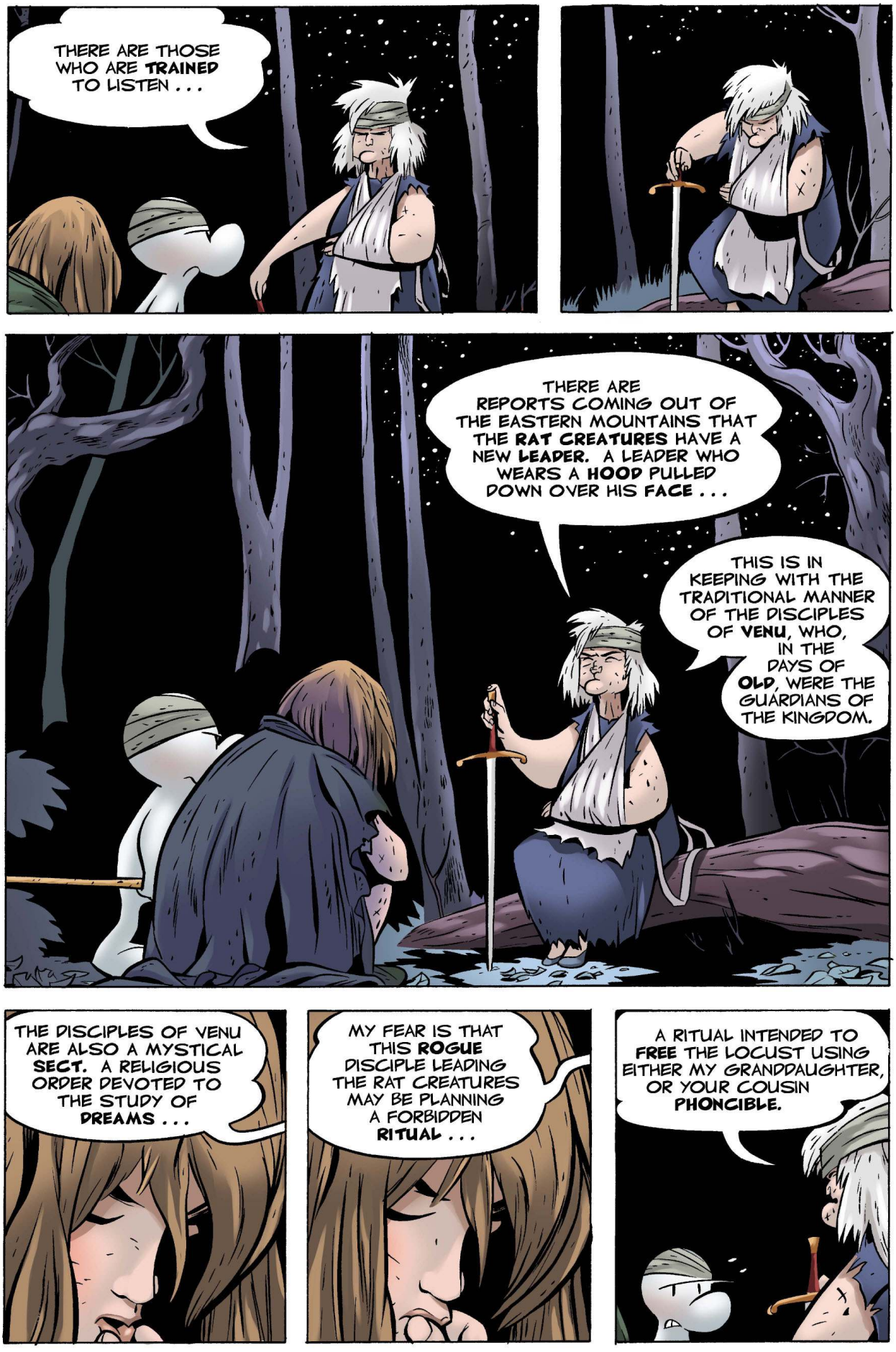

GRAN'MA, PLEASE! JUST LET ME SEE YOUR ARM!
MY ARM IS FINE, THORN. WE'RE LOSING PRECIOUS TIME . . .

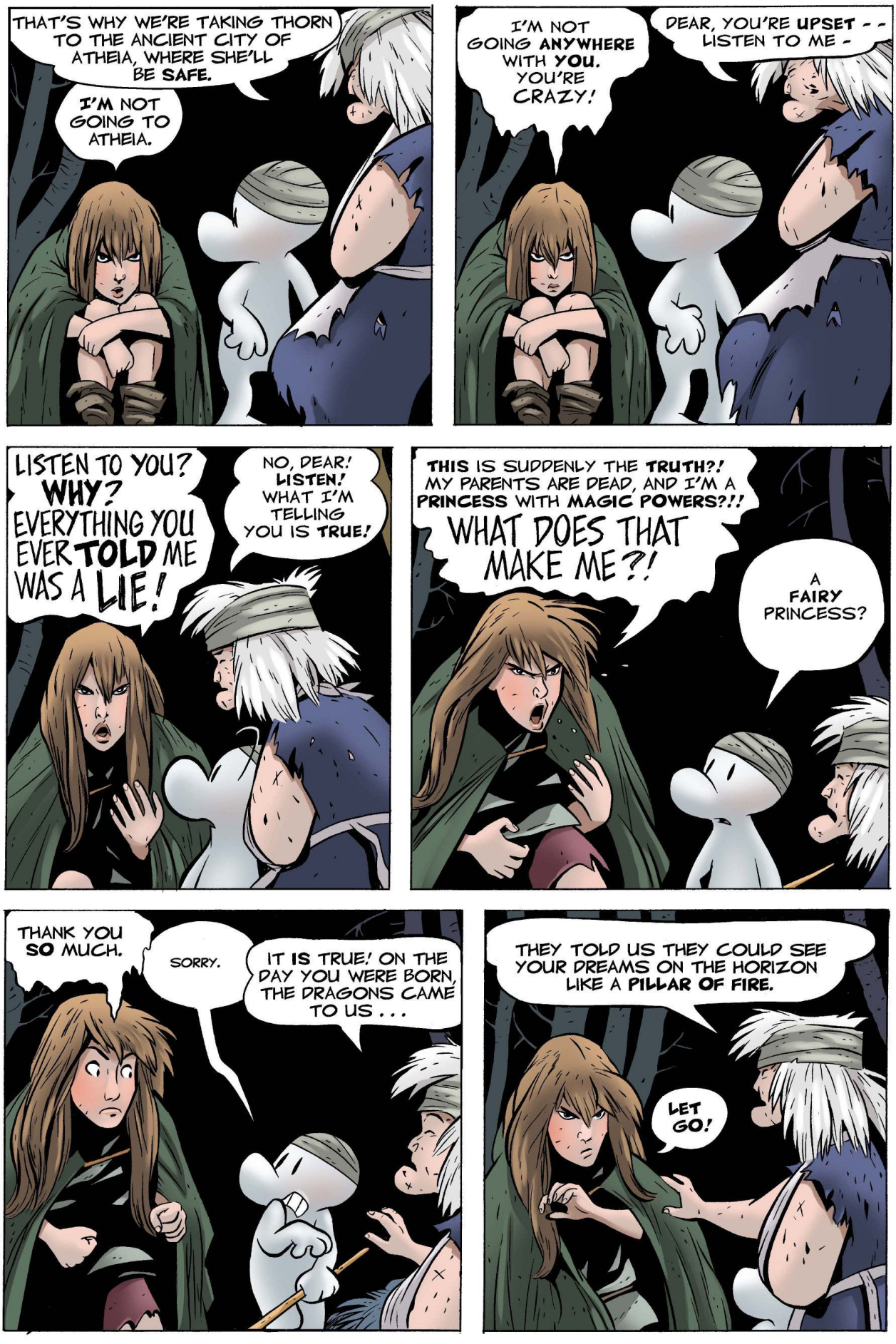

. . . THE TOWNSPEOPLE MUST BE LOOKING FOR US BY NOW, AND WE NEED TO TALK BEFORE THEY GET HERE.


SO TALK. JUST STOP MOVING YOUR ARM!
OW!


SEE? YOU OPENED UP THAT CUT AGAIN!
LISTEN TO ME, THORN . . .
EENNH!
TAKE IT EASY THERE, WILL YOU?
WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU, DEAR, CONCERNS NOT ONLY YOU, BUT EVERYONE WHO LIVES IN THE VALLEY. YOU SEE, YOU ARE NOT LIKE OTHER PEOPLE - -
OW!
YES, I KNOW. I'M A PRINCESS. YOU ALREADY TOLD ME.
NO.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
THERE WERE PRINCESSES BEFORE YOU, AND THERE WILL BE PRINCESSES AFTER YOU - - LIKE GRAINS OF SAND ON THE BEACH, OR STARS IN THE SKY . . .
. . . I SHOULD KNOW. I WAS ONE OF THEM.

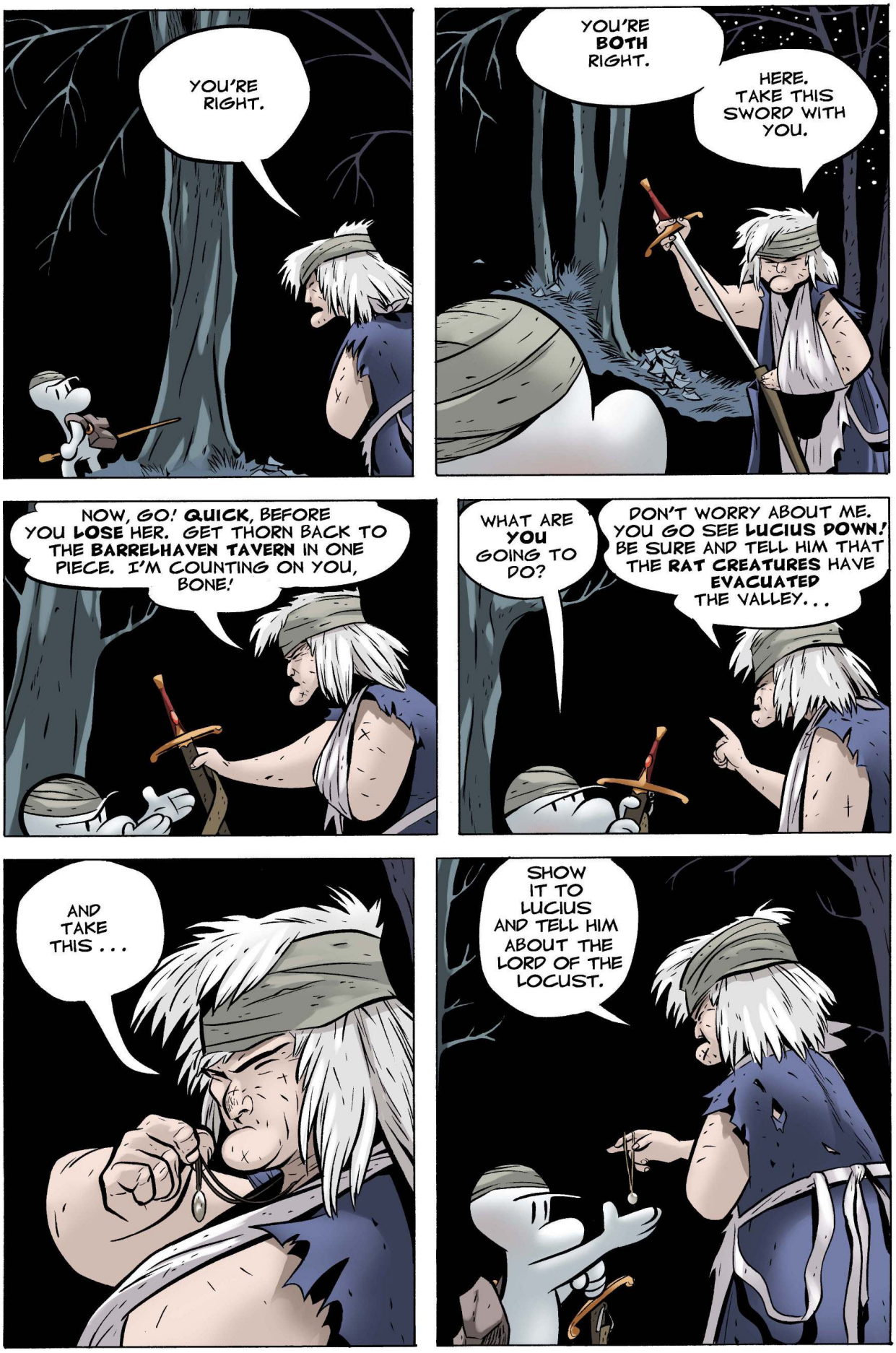

BUT YOU WERE HIDDEN AS A CHILD BECAUSE YOU ARE A VENI-YAN-CARI. AN AWAKENED ONE! AND YOU HAVE A TERRIBLE PATH BEFORE YOU.
GRAN'MA?
AN AWAKENED ONE CAN WALK FREELY BETWEEN THE WAKING WORLD AND THE DREAMING WORLD! AGENTS OF THE LOCUST WILL BE SEARCHING FOR YOU.
WHOA! GRAN'MA! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THEY'LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME FIRST!
hmm.
I DON'T THINK THEY'LL EVEN NOTICE YOU, BONE . . . AGENTS OF THE LOCUST WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO FREE THEIR MASTER.
THE DREAMING? ISN'T THAT THE NAME FOR THE OLD TIME?
YOU'VE HEARD OF THIS?
IT IS THE OLD TIME, BUT IT STILL EXISTS. IT'S ALL AROUND US.
IT'S A FORGOTTEN HUM THAT ALL THE ANIMALS AND ALL THE TREES ARE STILL LISTENING TO. IT'S JUST US WHO CAN'T HEAR IT ANYMORE.
MOST OF US, ANYWAY.


THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE TRAINED TO LISTEN . . .
THERE ARE REPORTS COMING OUT OF THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS THAT THE RAT CREATURES HAVE A NEW LEADER. A LEADER WHO WEARS A HOOD PULLED DOWN OVER HIS FACE . . .
THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH THE TRADITIONAL MANNER OF THE DISCIPLES OF VENU, WHO, IN THE DAYS OF OLD, WERE THE GUARDIANS OF THE KINGDOM.
THE DISCIPLES OF VENU ARE ALSO A MYSTICAL SECT. A RELIGIOUS ORDER DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF DREAMS . . .
MY FEAR IS THAT THIS ROGUE DISCIPLE LEADING THE RAT CREATURES MAY BE PLANNING A FORBIDDEN RITUAL . . .
A RITUAL INTENDED TO FREE THE LOCUST USING EITHER MY GRANDDAUGHTER, OR YOUR COUSIN PHONCIBLE.


THAT'S WHY WE'RE TAKING THORN TO THE ANCIENT CITY OF ATHEIA, WHERE SHE'LL BE SAFE.
I'M NOT GOING TO ATHEIA.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE WITH YOU. YOU'RE CRAZY!
DEAR, YOU'RE UPSET - - LISTEN TO ME -
LISTEN TO YOU? WHY? EVERYTHING YOU EVER TOLD ME WAS A LIE!
NO, DEAR! LISTEN! WHAT I'M TELLING YOU IS TRUE!
THIS IS SUDDENLY THE TRUTH?! MY PARENTS ARE DEAD, AND I'M A PRINCESS WITH MAGIC POWERS?!! WHAT DOES THAT MAKE ME?!
A FAIRY PRINCESS?
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
SORRY.
IT IS TRUE! ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, THE DRAGONS CAME TO US . . .
THEY TOLD US THEY COULD SEE YOUR DREAMS ON THE HORIZON LIKE A PILLAR OF FIRE.
LET GO!

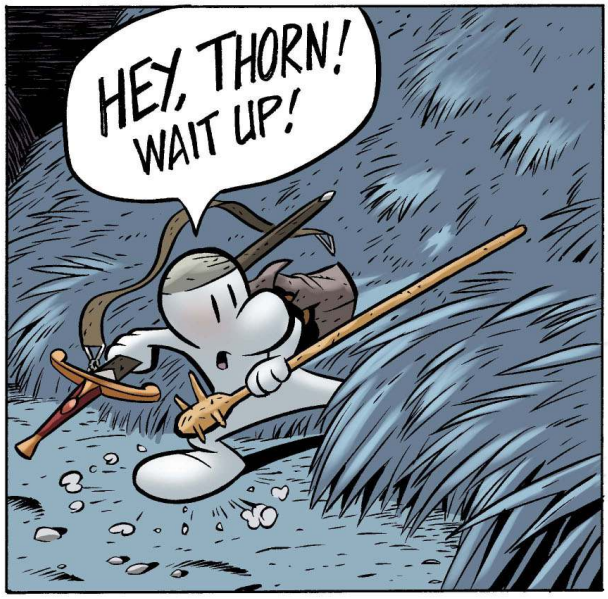


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

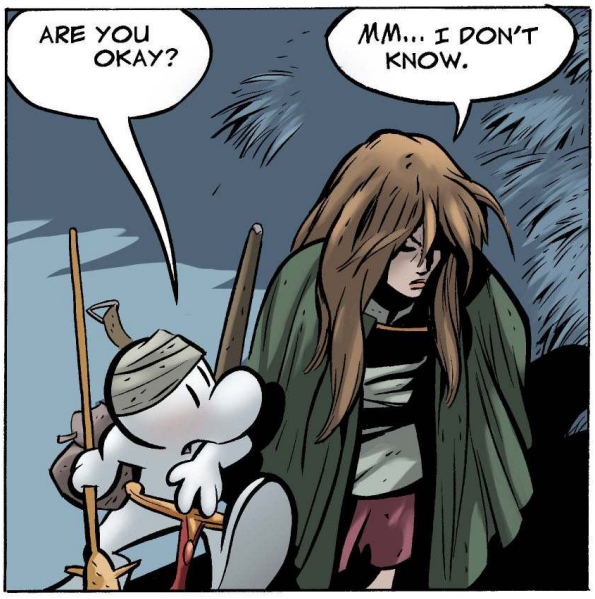

YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU'RE BOTH RIGHT.
HERE. TAKE THIS SWORD WITH YOU.
NOW, GO! QUICK, BEFORE YOU LOSE HER. GET THORN BACK TO THE BARRELHAVEN TAVERN IN ONE PIECE. I'M COUNTING ON YOU, BONE!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. YOU GO SEE LUCIUS DOWN! BE SURE AND TELL HIM THAT THE RAT CREATURES HAVE EVACUATED THE VALLEY...
AND TAKE THIS...
SHOW IT TO LUCIUS AND TELL HIM ABOUT THE LORD OF THE LOCUST.

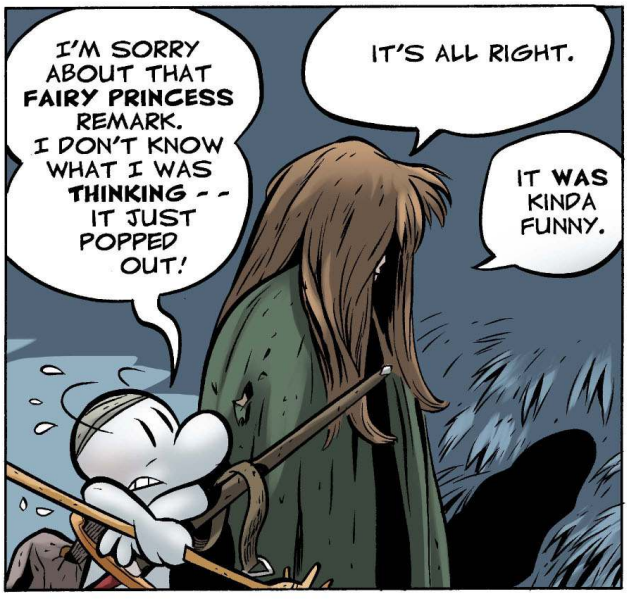




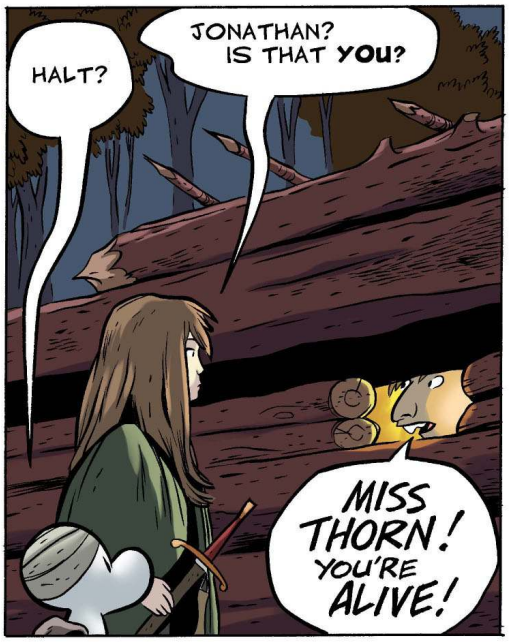

HEY, THORN! WAIT UP!

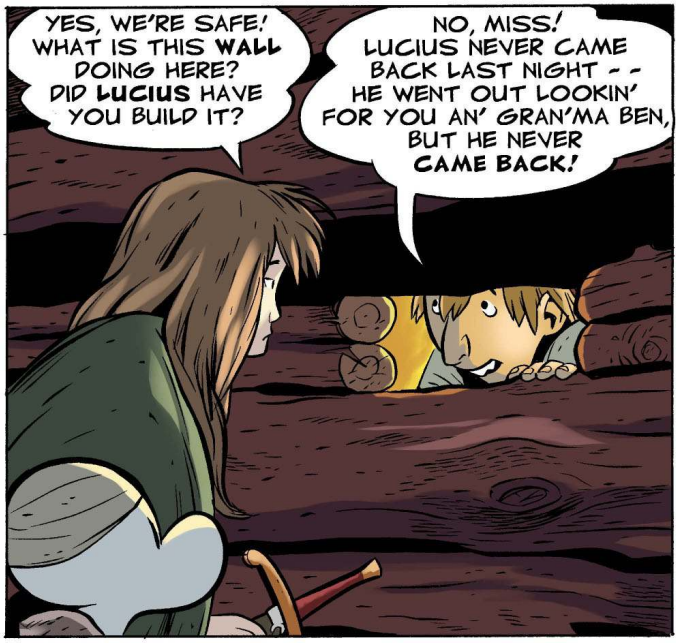


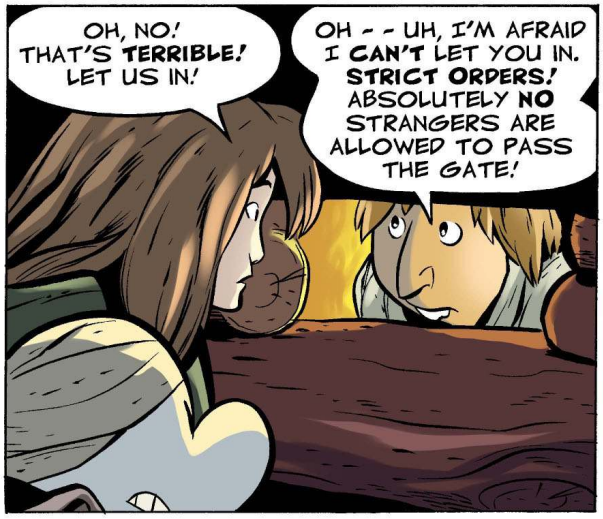

ARE YOU OKAY?
MM... I DON'T KNOW.

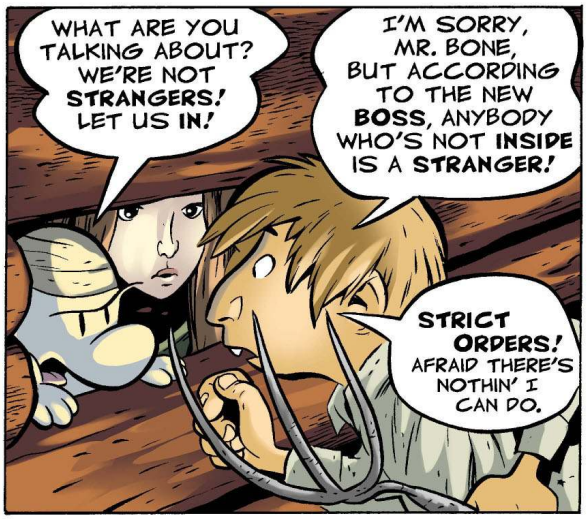

I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT **FAIRY PRINCESS** REMARK. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS **THINKING** - - IT JUST POPPED OUT!
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IT WAS KINDA FUNNY.



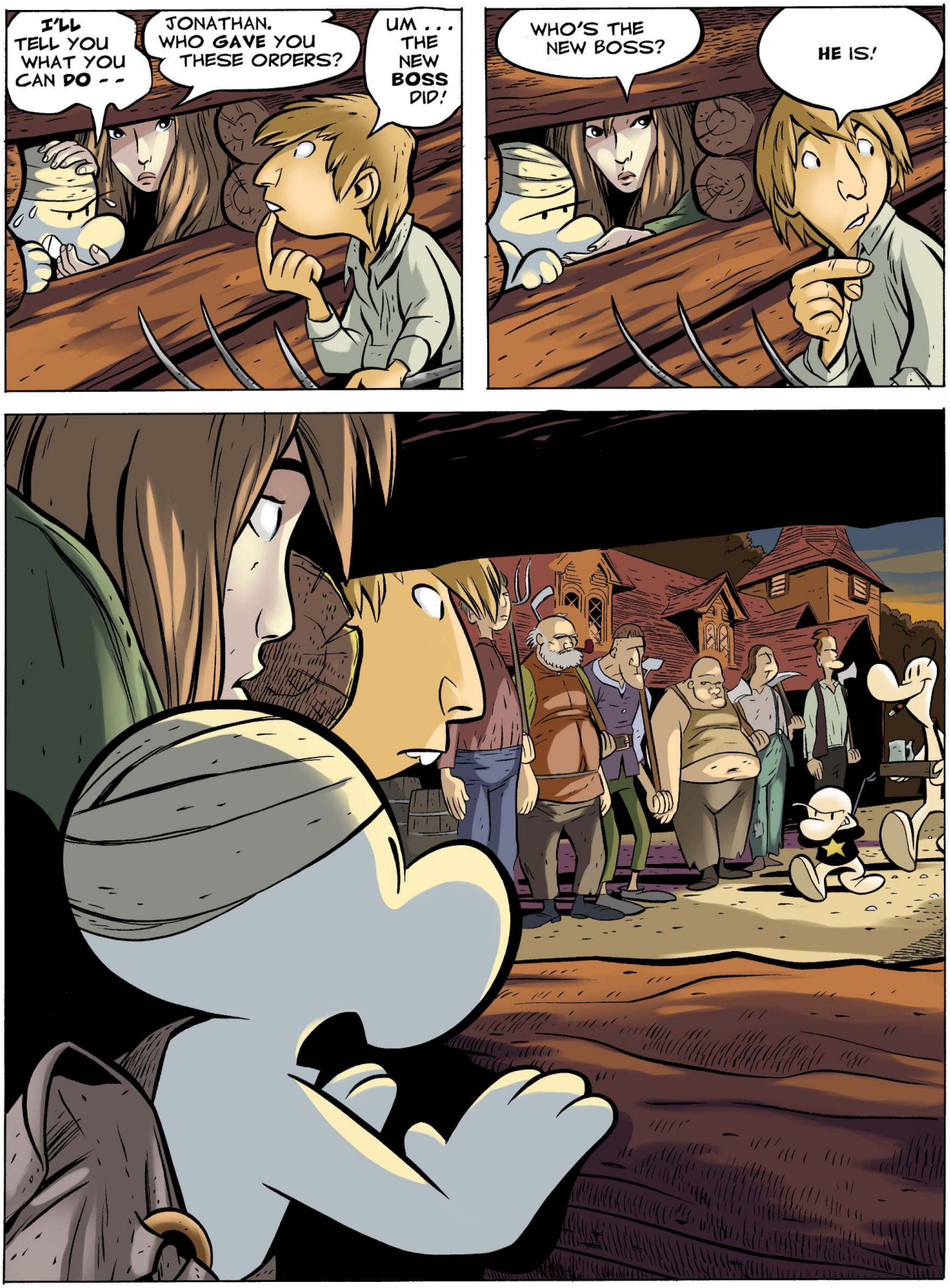


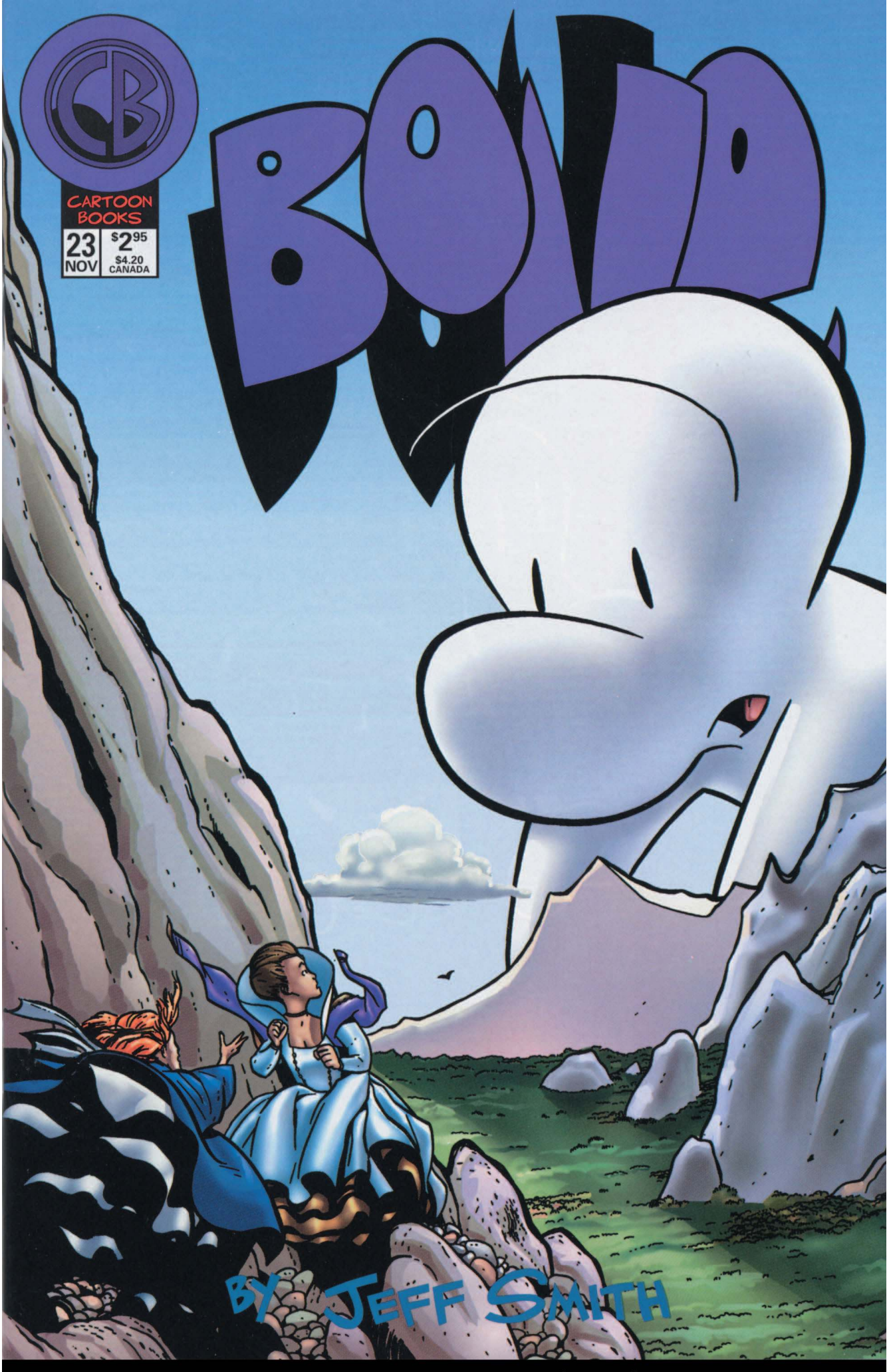






Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

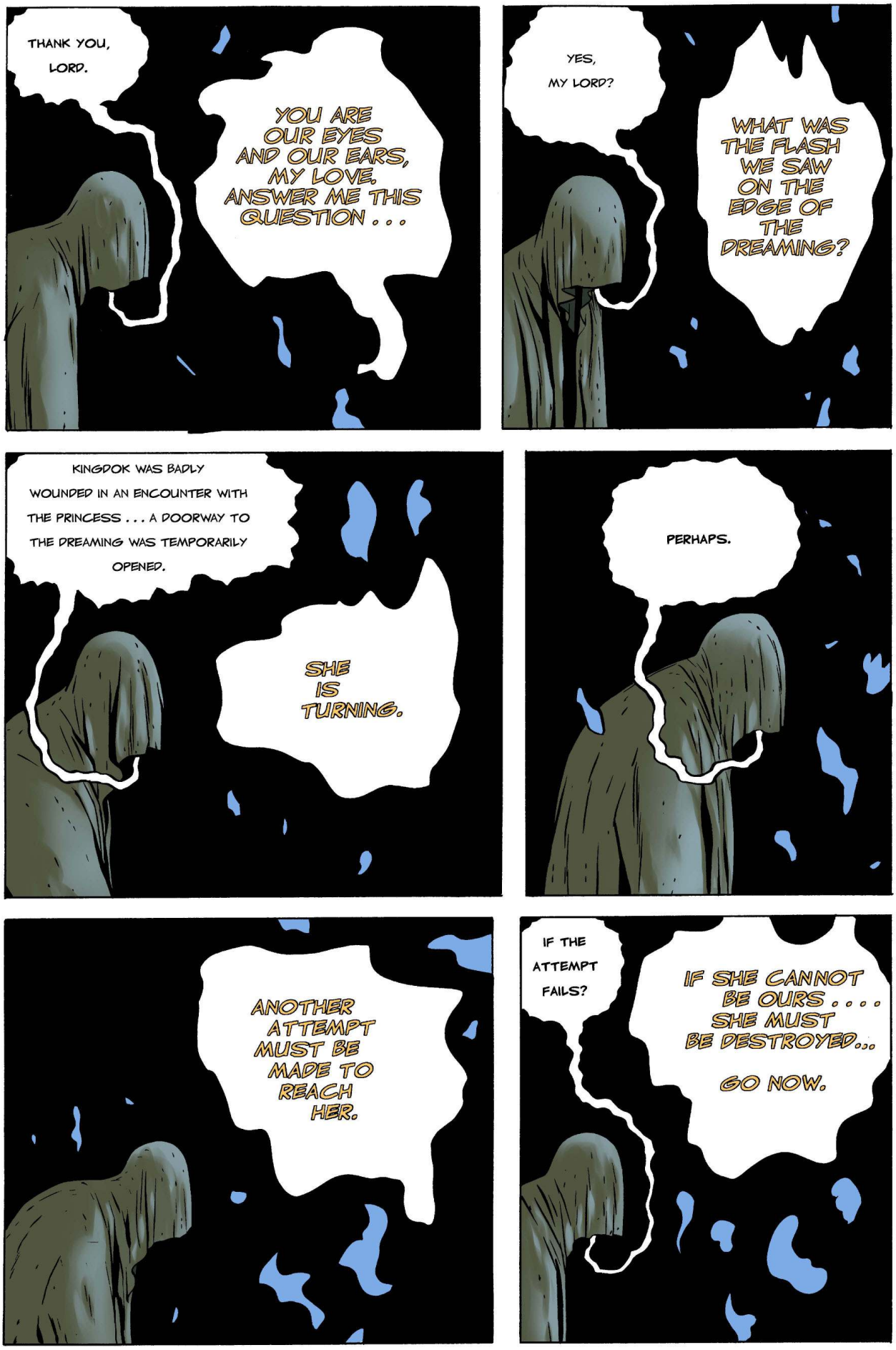

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU CAN DO - -
JONATHAN. WHO GAVE YOU THESE ORDERS?
UM . . . THE NEW BOSS DID!
WHO'S THE NEW BOSS?
HE IS!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


BONE
COME.
YOU WISH TO APPEAR BEFORE US?
I BRING YOU NEWS OF THE SOUTHERN FRONT ....
PROCEED.
YES, MASTER.
WHAT NEWS DO YOU BRING US?

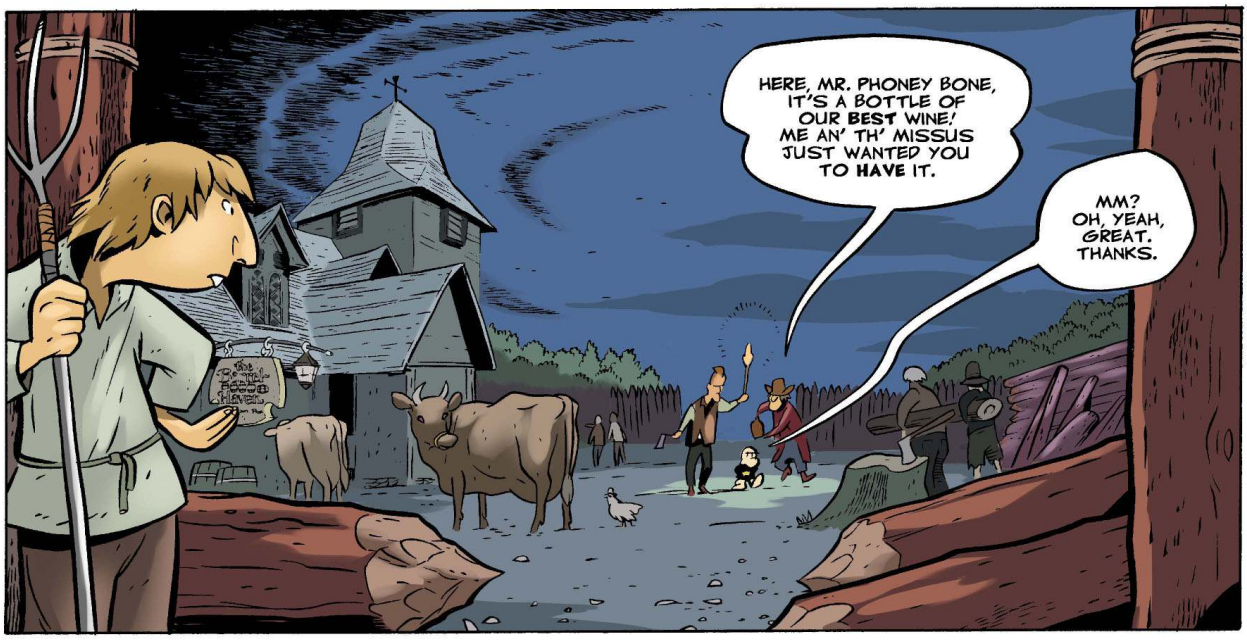

THE MEN OF PAWA HAVE **TURNED** AND JOINED YOUR ARMY . . . THE ANCIENT CITY OF THE EAST IS ONCE AGAIN **YOURS**, MY LORD . . . .
WHAT OF THE KINGDOM OF ATHEIA?
A CONTINGENCY OF TROOPS IS MASSING ALONG THE BORDER THAT RUNS BETWEEN **PAWA** AND **ATHEIA** . . .
THEY AWAIT YOUR INSTRUCTIONS . . .
THERE WILL BE A GREAT BATTLE THE LIKES OF WHICH ATHEIA HAS **NEVER** SEEN . . . .
ENOUGH.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO FREE US?
THE ONE WHO BEARS A STAR REMAINS IN THE SMALL NORTHERN VILLAGE OF **BARRELHAVEN** . . .
THE GIRL.
WHERE IS THE GIRL?
SHE IS ALSO IN THE VILLAGE . . .
ALL OUR ENEMIES ARE THERE . . . .
THE **QUEEN MOTHER**, THE **PRINCESS**, THE **BONES** . . .
. . . AND THE **GREAT RED DRAGON** . . .
ONCE THE FINAL CAMPAIGN **BEGINS** . . . WE WILL **CRUSH** THIS VILLAGE . . . AND DESTROY YOUR ENEMIES IN **ONE SWIFT BLOW!**
YES. WE DID WELL WHEN WE CHOSE YOU.

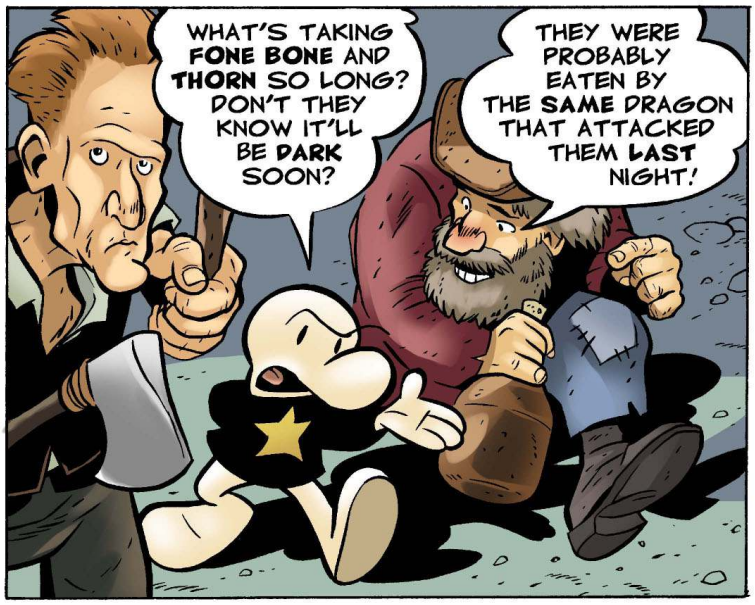

THANK YOU, LORD.
YOU ARE OUR EYES AND OUR EARS, MY LOVE. ANSWER ME THIS QUESTION . . .
YES, MY LORD?
WHAT WAS THE FLASH WE SAW ON THE EDGE OF THE DREAMING?
KINGDOK WAS BADLY WOUNDED IN AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE PRINCESS . . . A DOORWAY TO THE DREAMING WAS TEMPORARILY OPENED.
SHE IS TURNING.
PERHAPS.
ANOTHER ATTEMPT MUST BE MADE TO REACH HER.
IF THE ATTEMPT FAILS?
IF SHE CANNOT BE OURS . . . . SHE MUST BE DESTROYED...
GO NOW.


DO NOT FAIL.
YOU HESITATE . . .
WHAT DO YOU NEED . . . . THE GIRL FOR?
SHE IS STRONG.
. . . BUT HER POWER MAY BE USED AGAINST US . . . . WOULD IT NOT BE SAFER TO JUST DESTROY HER - -
BRING HER TO US.
BUT YOU HAVE ME . . . . . I . . . . . AM YOUR EYES . . .
I . . . . . AM YOUR EARS . . .
HAVE NO FEAR . . .
WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN . . . YOUR SERVICE TO US . . .

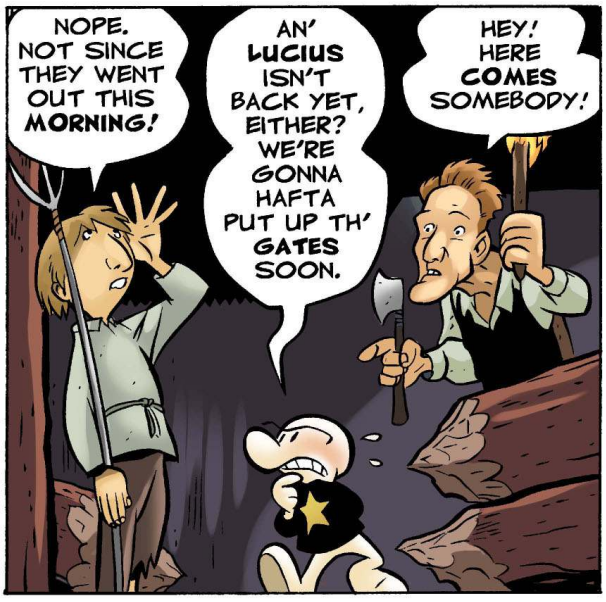


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

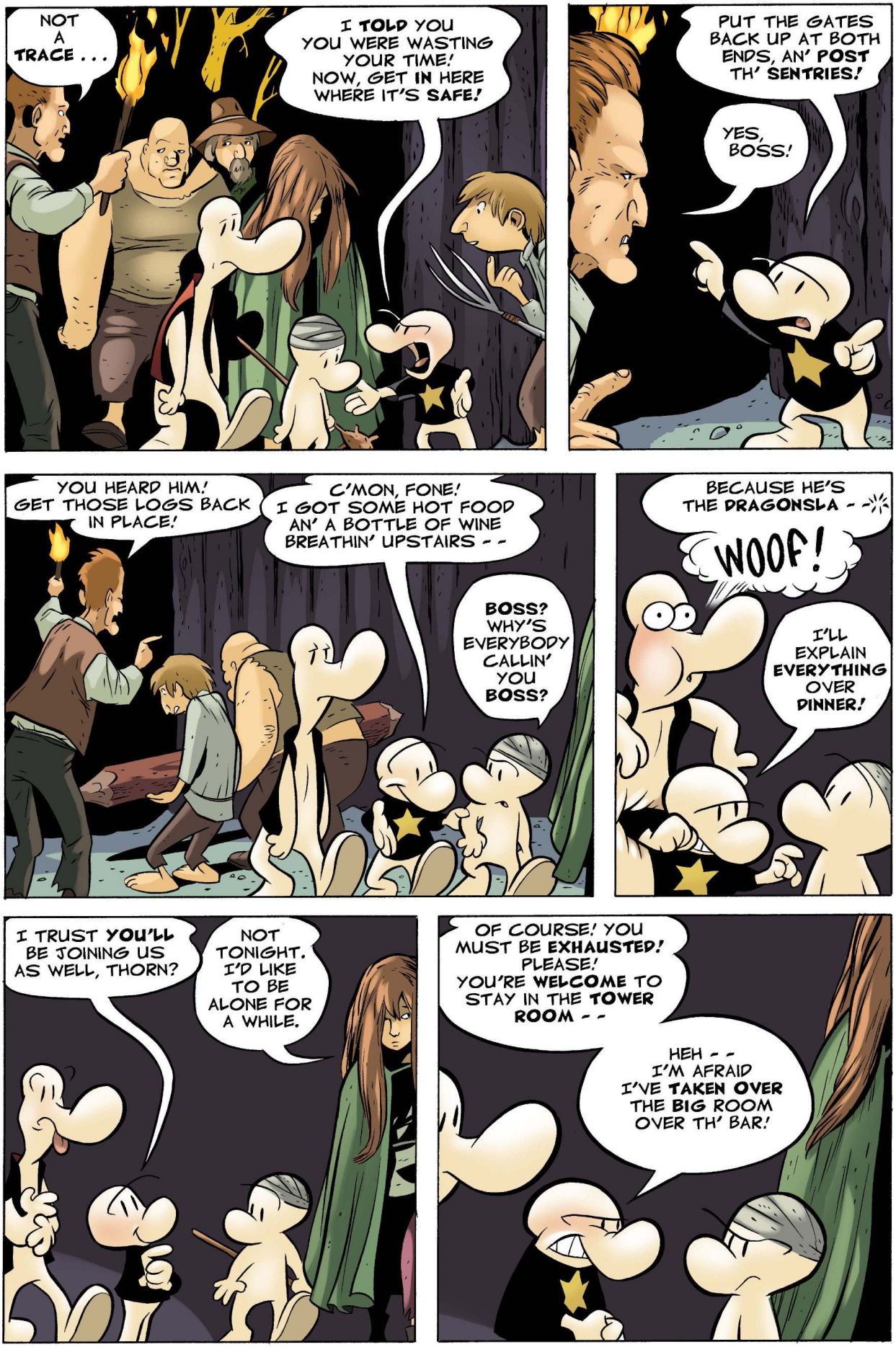

HERE, MR. PHONEY BONE, IT'S A BOTTLE OF OUR **BEST** WINE! ME AN' TH' MISSUS JUST WANTED YOU TO **HAVE** IT.
MM? OH, YEAH, GREAT. THANKS.

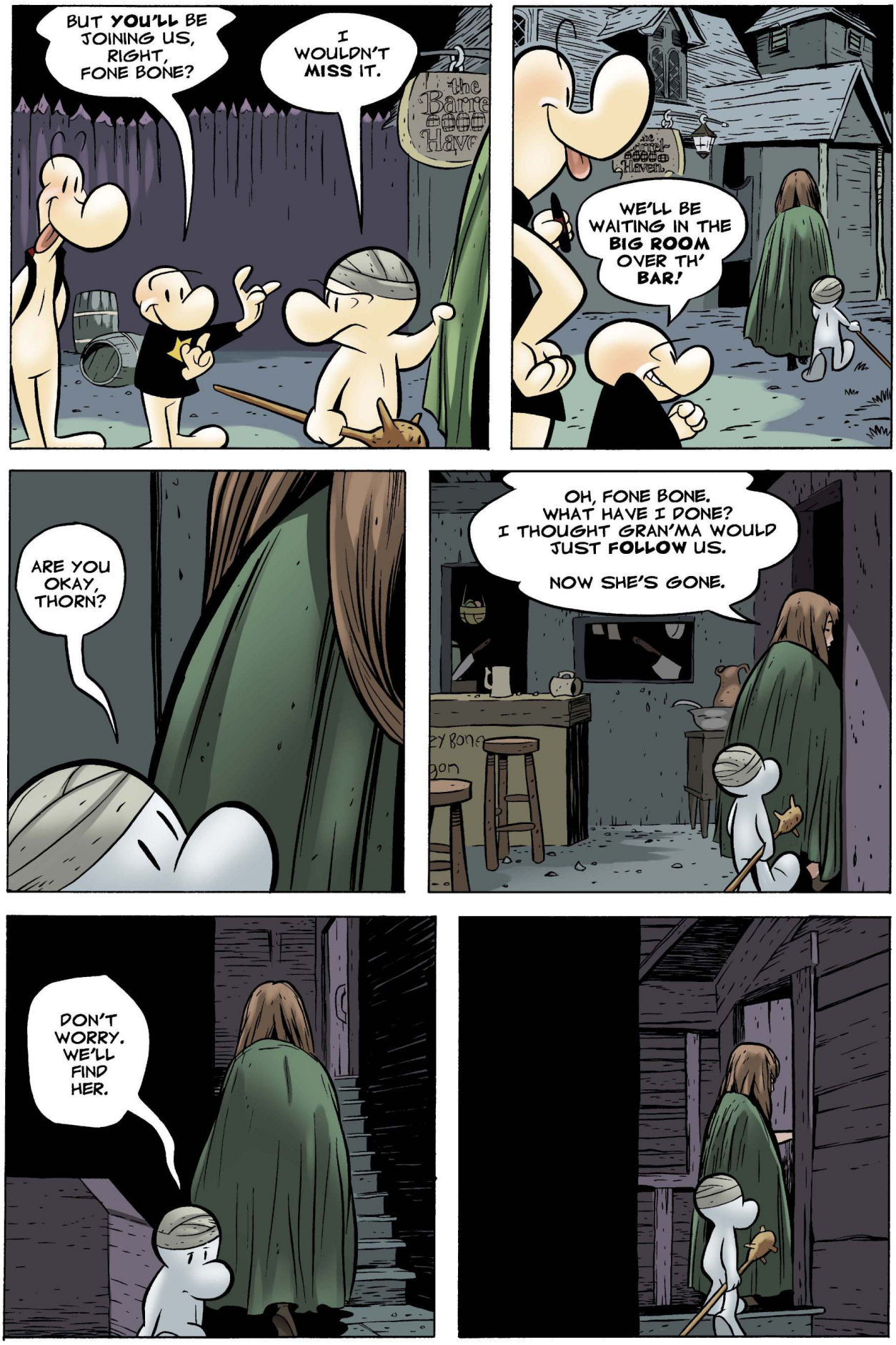

WHAT'S TAKING **FONE BONE** AND **THORN** SO LONG? DON'T THEY KNOW IT'LL BE **DARK** SOON?
THEY WERE PROBABLY EATEN BY THE **SAME** DRAGON THAT ATTACKED THEM **LAST** NIGHT!

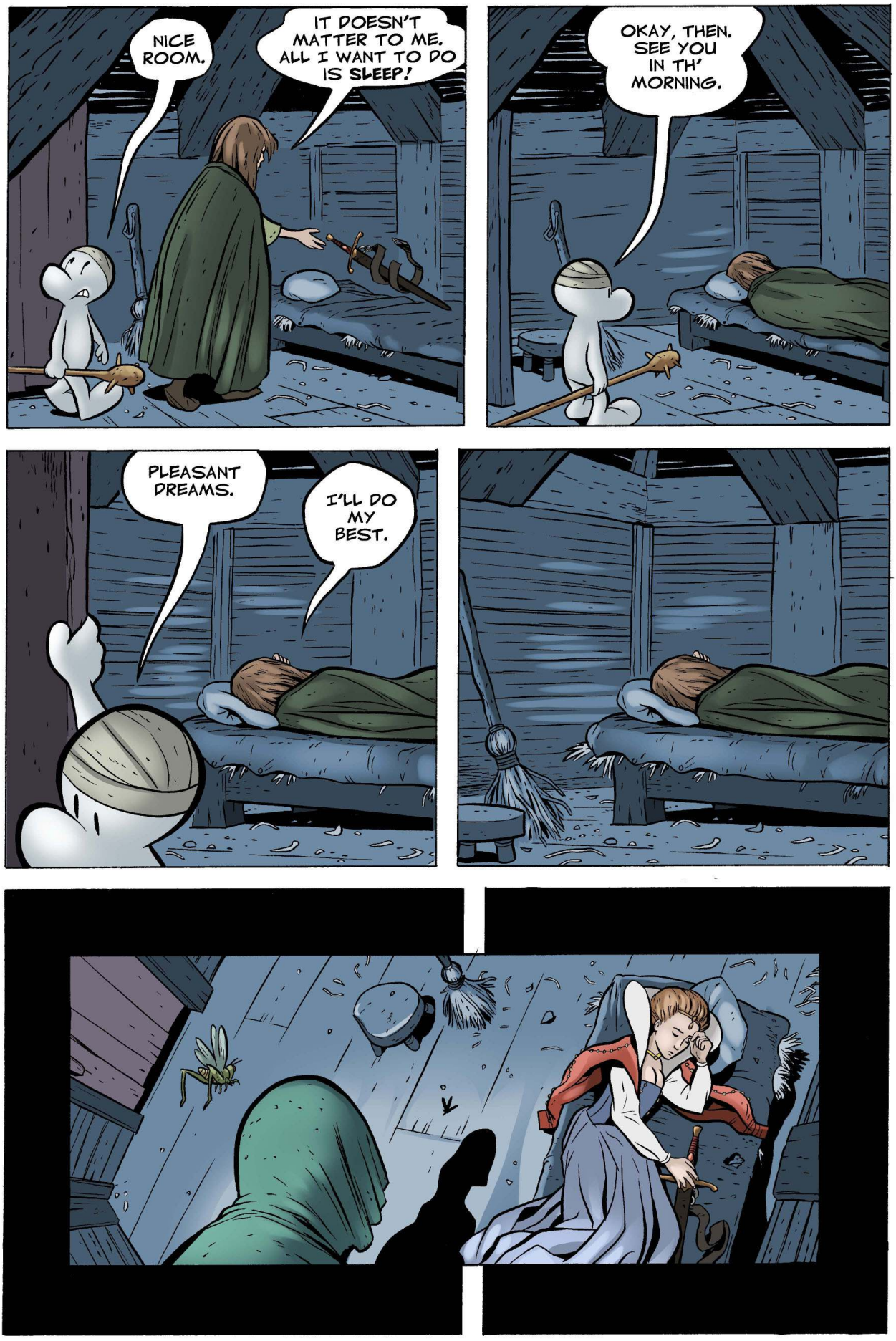

WE **TRIED** TO KEEP THEM FROM GOING BACK OUT. SHOULD WE START POSTING THE **NIGHT SENTRIES?**
HOLD ON. **HEY, JONATHAN!** ANY SIGN OF TH' SEARCH PARTY?


NOPE. NOT SINCE THEY WENT OUT THIS **MORNING!**
AN' **LUCIUS** ISN'T BACK YET, EITHER? WE'RE GONNA HAFTA PUT UP TH' **GATES** SOON.
HEY! HERE **COMES** SOMEBODY!

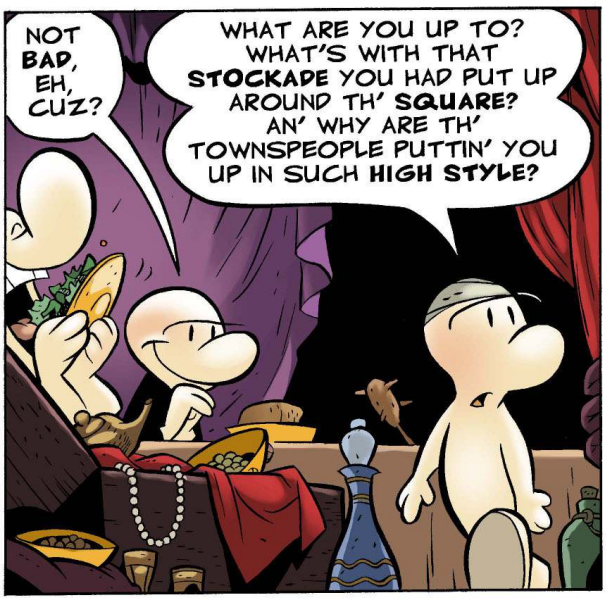

IT'S THEM!
DID YOU FIND GRAN'MA BEN?
NOTHING. NOT A **TRACE** OF GRAN'MA BEN **OR** LUCIUS!

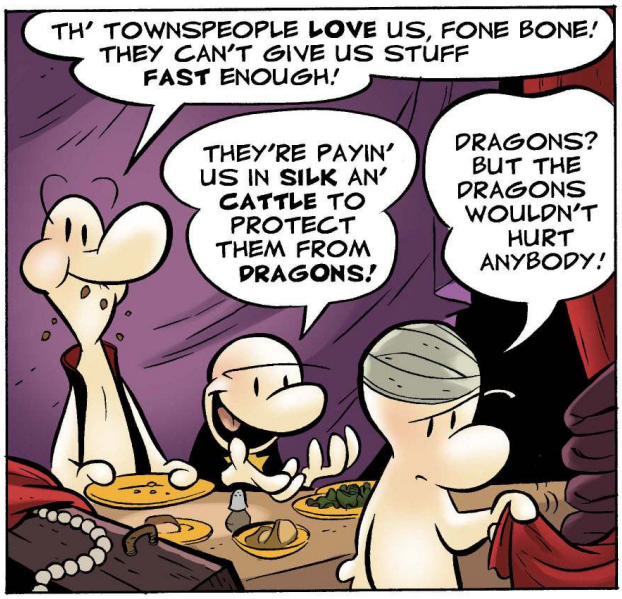

NOT A TRACE . . .
I TOLD YOU YOU WERE WASTING YOUR TIME! NOW, GET IN HERE WHERE IT'S SAFE!
PUT THE GATES BACK UP AT BOTH ENDS, AN' POST TH' SENTRIES!
YES, BOSS!
YOU HEARD HIM! GET THOSE LOGS BACK IN PLACE!
C'MON, FONE! I GOT SOME HOT FOOD AN' A BOTTLE OF WINE BREATHIN' UPSTAIRS - -
BOSS? WHY'S EVERYBODY CALLIN' YOU BOSS?
BECAUSE HE'S THE DRAGONSLA - -
WOOF!
I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING OVER DINNER!
I TRUST YOU'LL BE JOINING US AS WELL, THORN?
NOT TONIGHT. I'D LIKE TO BE ALONE FOR A WHILE.
OF COURSE! YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED! PLEASE! YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY IN THE TOWER ROOM - -
HEH - - I'M AFRAID I'VE TAKEN OVER THE BIG ROOM OVER TH' BAR!


BUT YOU'LL BE JOINING US, RIGHT, FONE BONE?
I WOULDN'T MISS IT.
WE'LL BE WAITING IN THE BIG ROOM OVER TH' BAR!
ARE YOU OKAY, THORN?
OH, FONE BONE. WHAT HAVE I DONE? I THOUGHT GRAN'MA WOULD JUST FOLLOW US.
NOW SHE'S GONE.
DON'T WORRY. WE'LL FIND HER.

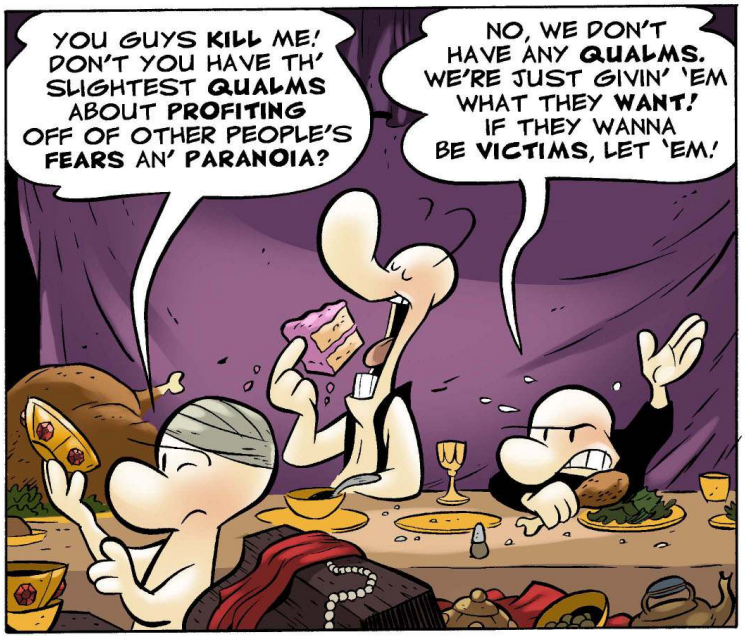

NICE ROOM.
IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME. ALL I WANT TO DO IS SLEEP!
OKAY, THEN. SEE YOU IN TH' MORNING.
PLEASANT DREAMS.
I'LL DO MY BEST.

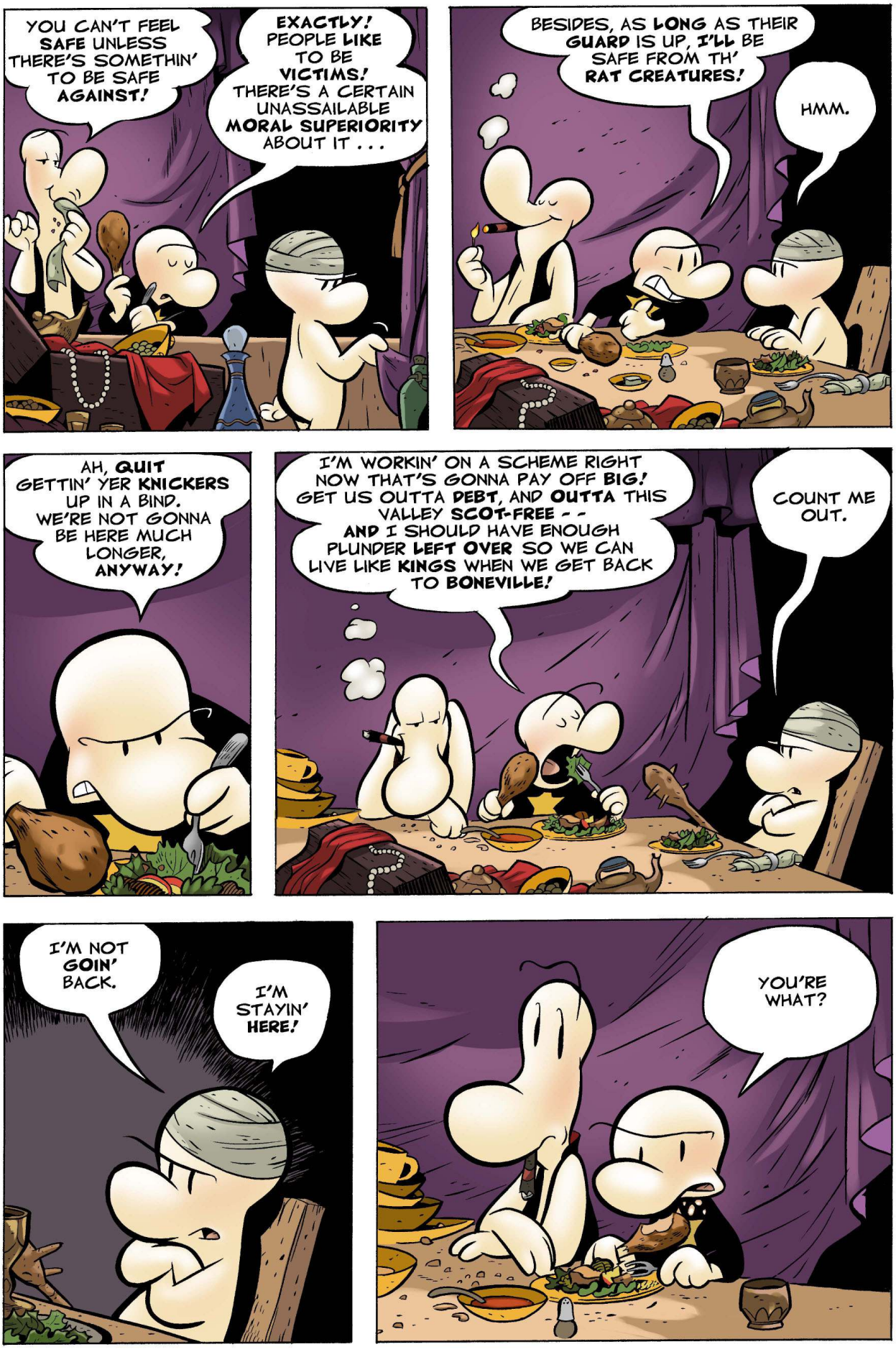

COME IN! COME IN!
WHOA.
WHO DIED AN' MADE YOU KING?

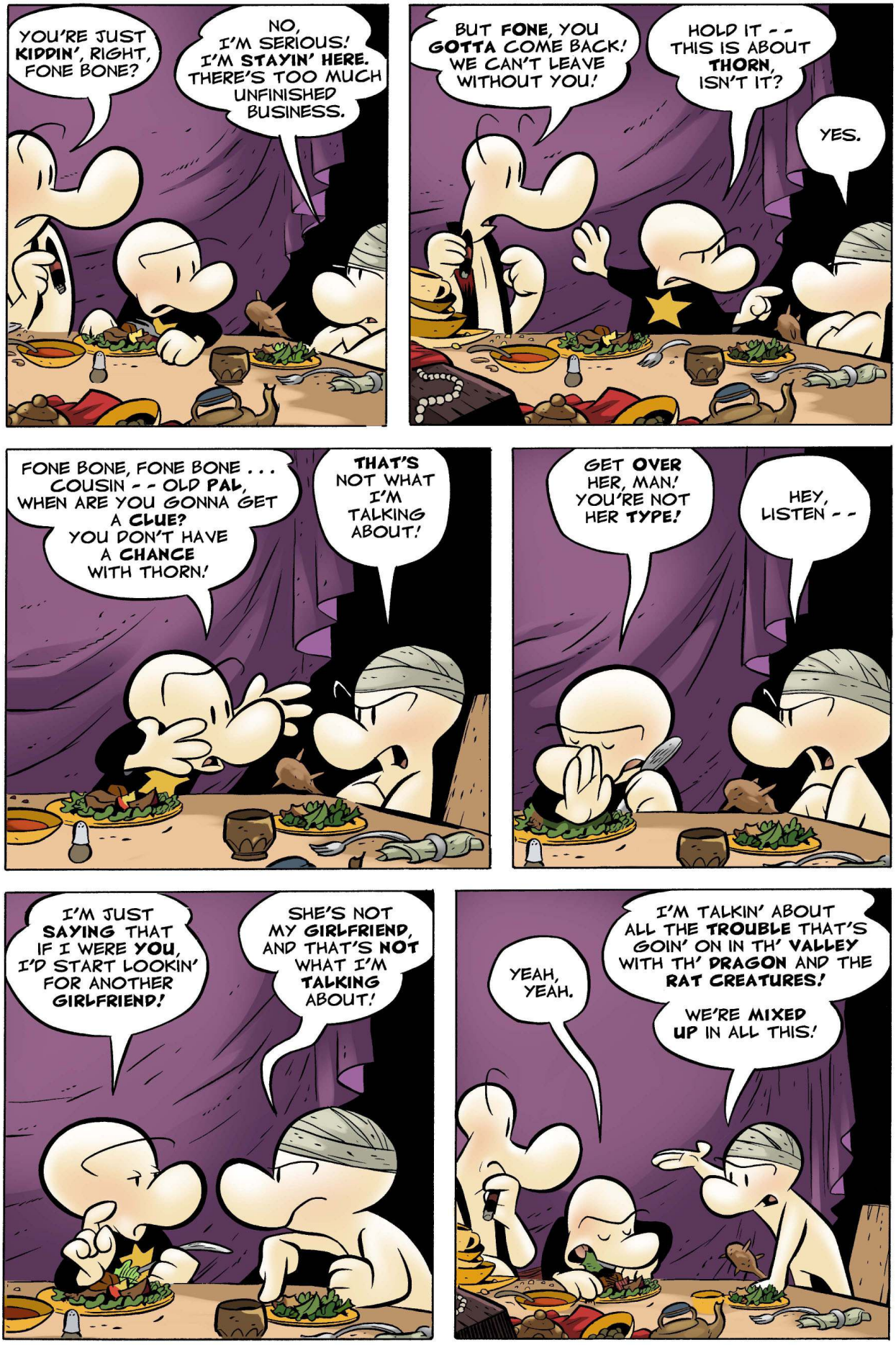

NOT BAD, EH, CUZ?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO? WHAT'S WITH THAT STOCKADE YOU HAD PUT UP AROUND TH' SQUARE? AN' WHY ARE TH' TOWNSPEOPLE PUTTIN' YOU UP IN SUCH HIGH STYLE?

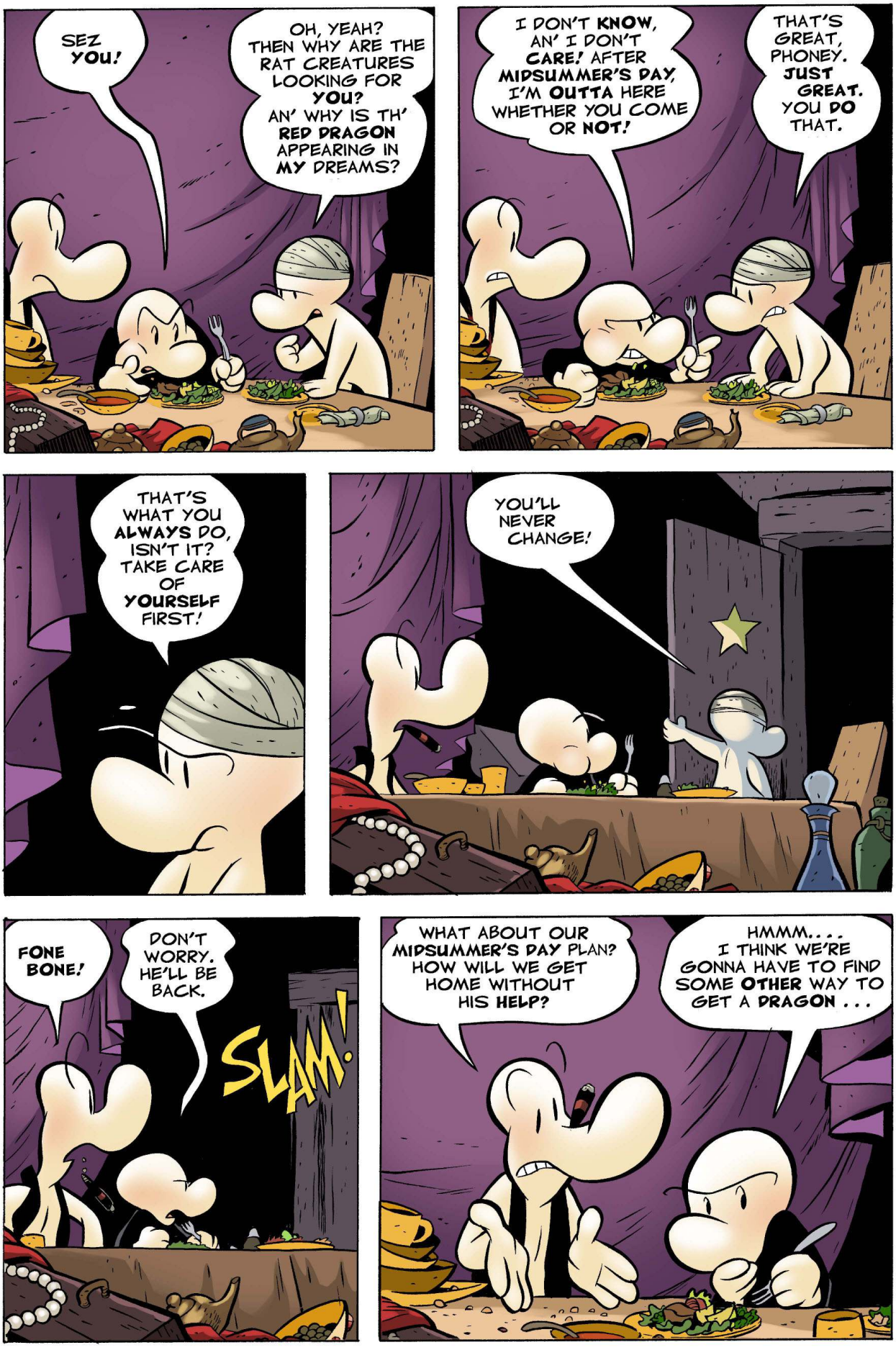

TH' TOWNSPEOPLE LOVE US, FONE BONE! THEY CAN'T GIVE US STUFF FAST ENOUGH!
THEY'RE PAYIN' US IN SILK AN' CATTLE TO PROTECT THEM FROM DRAGONS!
DRAGONS? BUT THE DRAGONS WOULDN'T HURT ANYBODY!


THAT'S THE BEST PART!
YA GOTTA ADMIT - - IT SURE MAKES OUR JOB EASY!

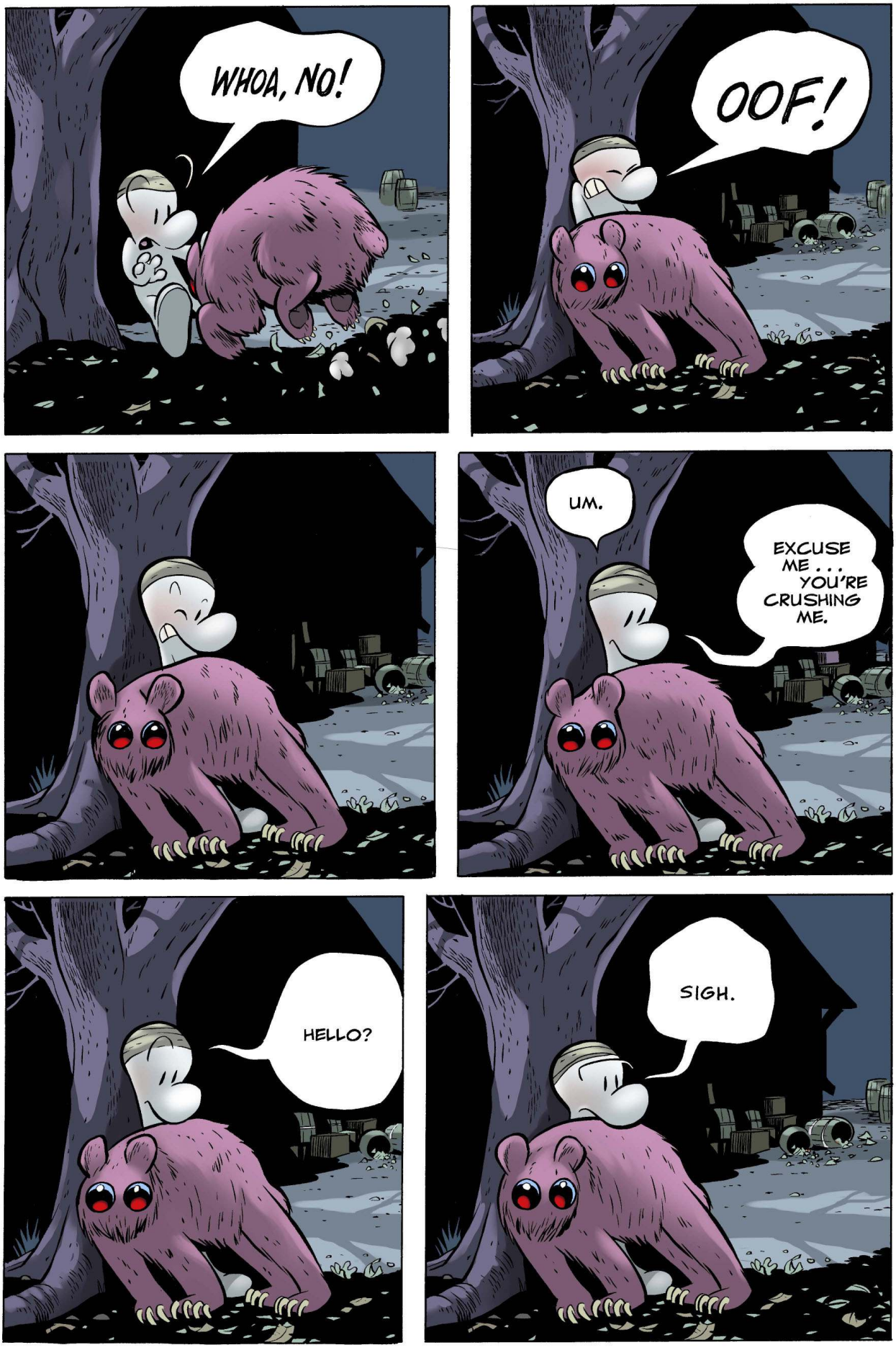

YOU GUYS KILL ME! DON'T YOU HAVE TH' SLIGHTEST QUALMS ABOUT PROFITING OFF OF OTHER PEOPLE'S FEARS AN' PARANOIA?
NO, WE DON'T HAVE ANY QUALMS. WE'RE JUST GIVIN' 'EM WHAT THEY WANT! IF THEY WANNA BE VICTIMS, LET 'EM!


YOU CAN'T FEEL SAFE UNLESS THERE'S SOMETHIN' TO BE SAFE AGAINST!
EXACTLY! PEOPLE LIKE TO BE VICTIMS! THERE'S A CERTAIN UNASSAILABLE MORAL SUPERIORITY ABOUT IT . . .
BESIDES, AS LONG AS THEIR GUARD IS UP, I'LL BE SAFE FROM TH' RAT CREATURES!
HMM.
AH, QUIT GETTIN' YER KNICKERS UP IN A BIND. WE'RE NOT GONNA BE HERE MUCH LONGER, ANYWAY!
I'M WORKIN' ON A SCHEME RIGHT NOW THAT'S GONNA PAY OFF BIG! GET US OUTTA DEBT, AND OUTTA THIS VALLEY SCOT-FREE - - AND I SHOULD HAVE ENOUGH PLUNDER LEFT OVER SO WE CAN LIVE LIKE KINGS WHEN WE GET BACK TO BONEVILLE!
COUNT ME OUT.
I'M NOT GOIN' BACK.
I'M STAYIN' HERE!
YOU'RE WHAT?

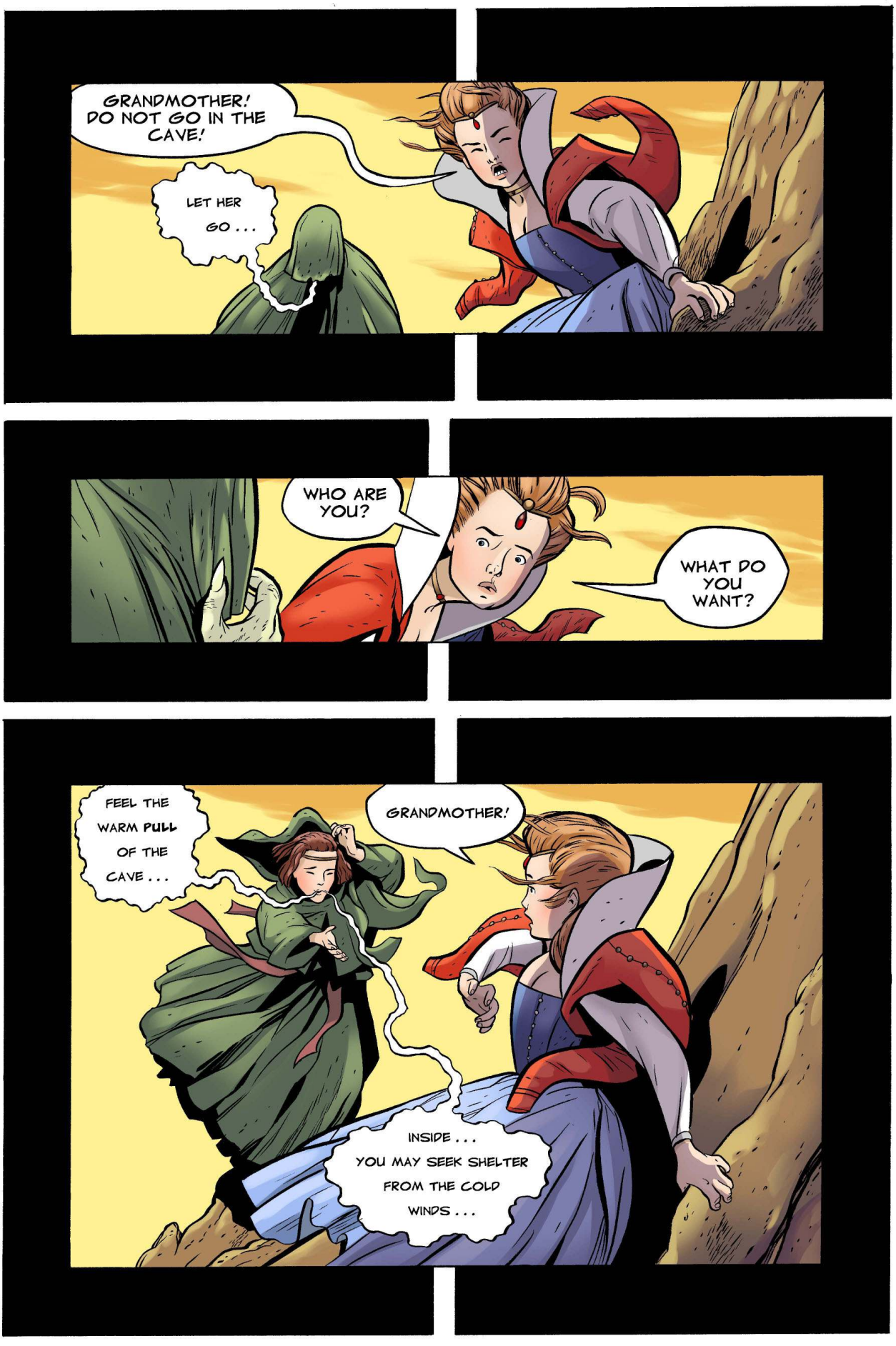

YOU'RE JUST KIDDIN', RIGHT, FONE BONE?
NO, I'M SERIOUS! I'M STAYIN' HERE. THERE'S TOO MUCH UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
BUT FONE, YOU GOTTA COME BACK! WE CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT YOU!
HOLD IT - - THIS IS ABOUT THORN, ISN'T IT?
YES.
FONE BONE, FONE BONE . . . COUSIN - - OLD PAL, WHEN ARE YOU GONNA GET A CLUE? YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE WITH THORN!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
GET OVER HER, MAN! YOU'RE NOT HER TYPE!
HEY, LISTEN - -
I'M JUST SAYING THAT IF I WERE YOU, I'D START LOOKIN' FOR ANOTHER GIRLFRIEND!
SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND, AND THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
YEAH, YEAH.
I'M TALKIN' ABOUT ALL THE TROUBLE THAT'S GOIN' ON IN TH' VALLEY WITH TH' DRAGON AND THE RAT CREATURES!
WE'RE MIXED UP IN ALL THIS!

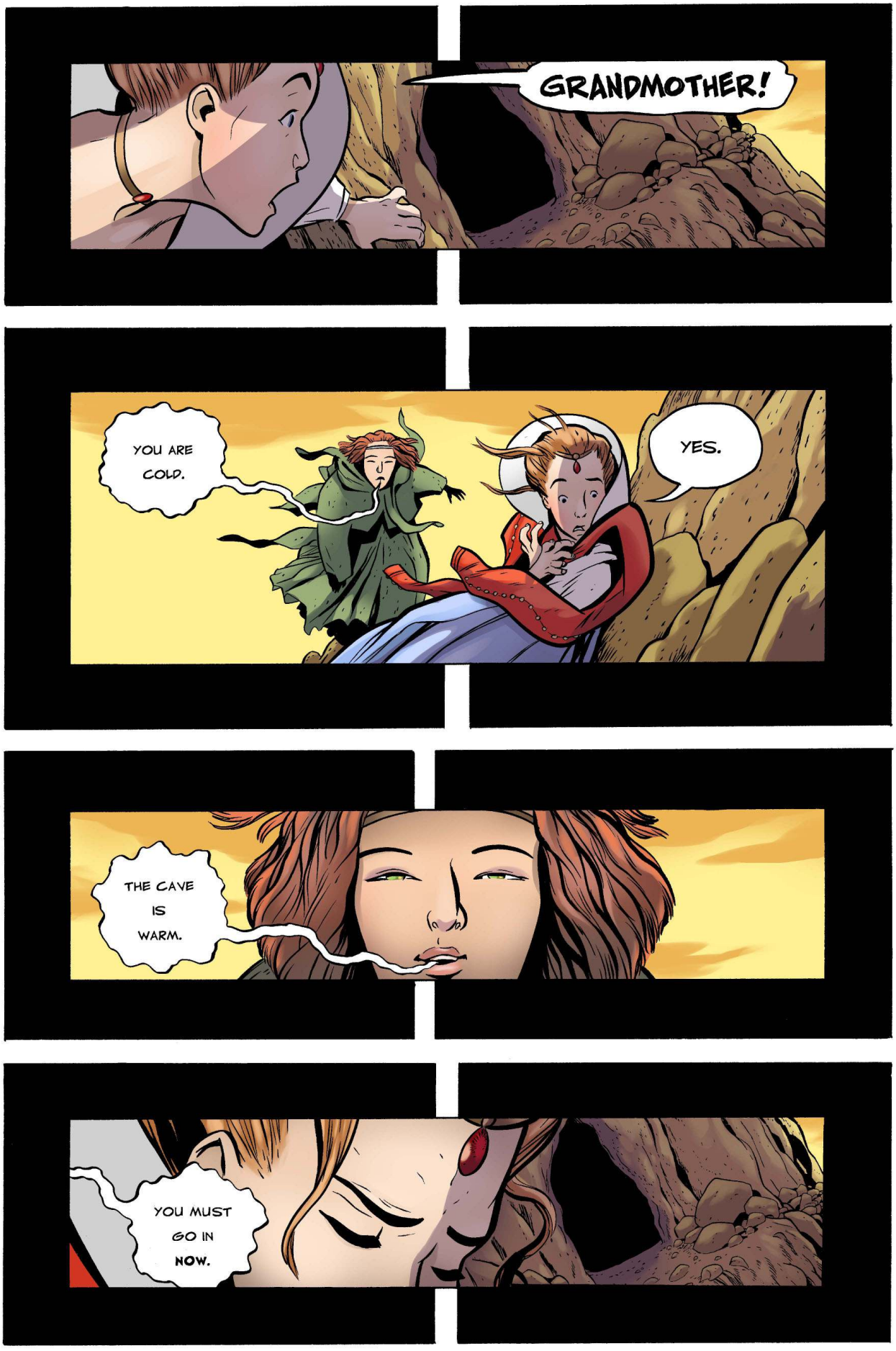

SEZ YOU!
OH, YEAH? THEN WHY ARE THE RAT CREATURES LOOKING FOR YOU? AN' WHY IS TH' RED DRAGON APPEARING IN MY DREAMS?
I DON'T KNOW, AN' I DON'T CARE! AFTER MIDSUMMER'S DAY, I'M OUTTA HERE WHETHER YOU COME OR NOT!
THAT'S GREAT, PHONEY. JUST GREAT. YOU DO THAT.
THAT'S WHAT YOU ALWAYS DO, ISN'T IT? TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF FIRST!
YOU'LL NEVER CHANGE!
FONE BONE!
DON'T WORRY. HE'LL BE BACK.
SLAM!
WHAT ABOUT OUR MIDSUMMER'S DAY PLAN? HOW WILL WE GET HOME WITHOUT HIS HELP?
HMMM... I THINK WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO FIND SOME OTHER WAY TO GET A DRAGON ...


BOSS.
HMMF!
PHONEY'S UP TO SOMETHING - - AN' WHEN IT BACKFIRES, HE'S GONNA EXPECT ME TO GET HIM OFF TH' HOOK - - AGAIN!
CRASH BUMP
RUSTLE! RUSTLE!
WHOOP.
THERE'S SOMETHING MOVIN' AROUND IN TH' TRASH PILE!
RUSTLE BUMP! CRUNCH
JEEZ. I WONDER WHAT THAT WAS? PROBABLY JUST SOME LITTLE ANIMAL LOOKING FOR FOOD.
CRASH!
WH-WHO'S THERE?
SSSSS!
AAAAH!

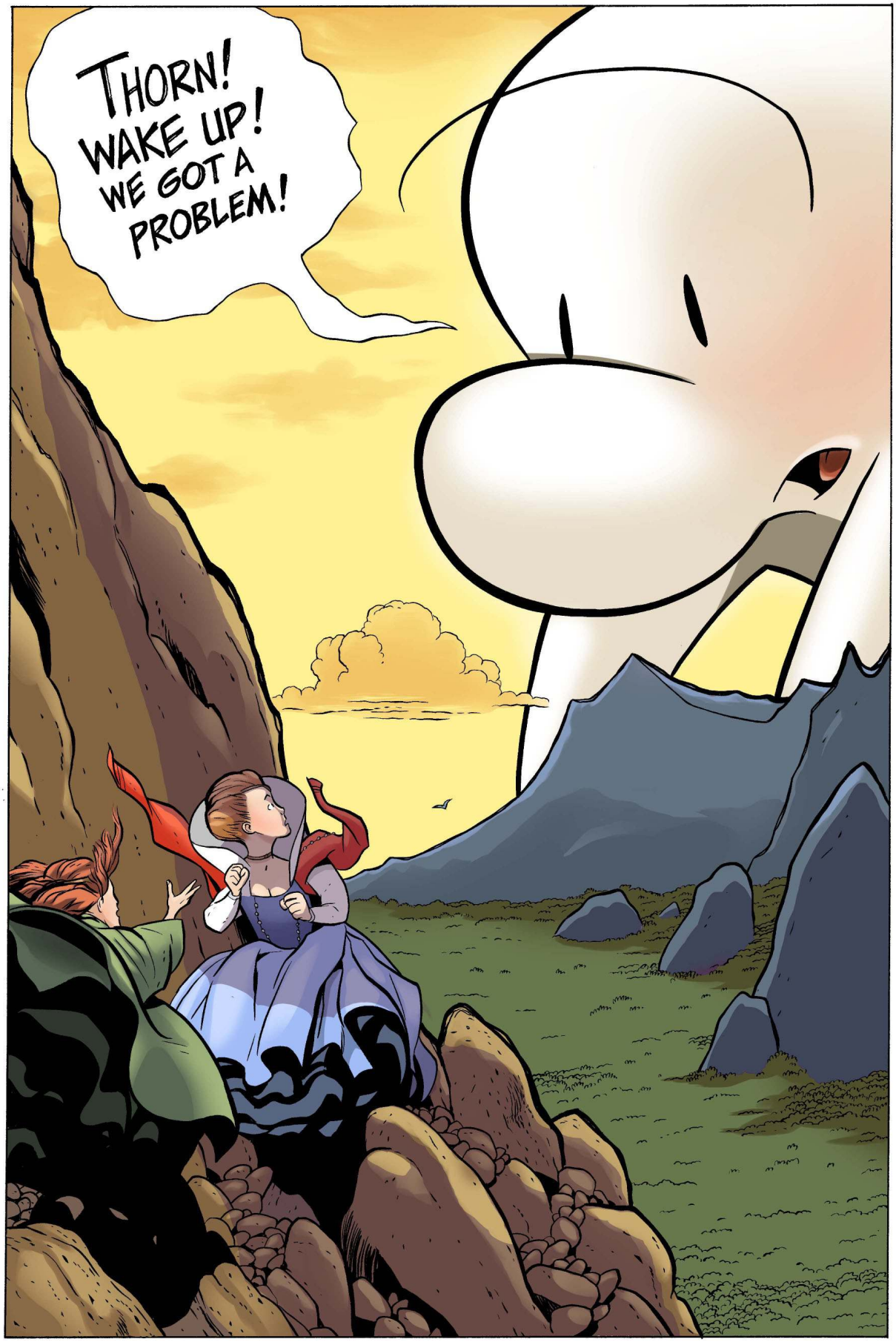

WHOA, NO!
OOF!
UM.
EXCUSE ME . . . YOU'RE CRUSHING ME.
HELLO?
SIGH.


GRANDMOTHER?

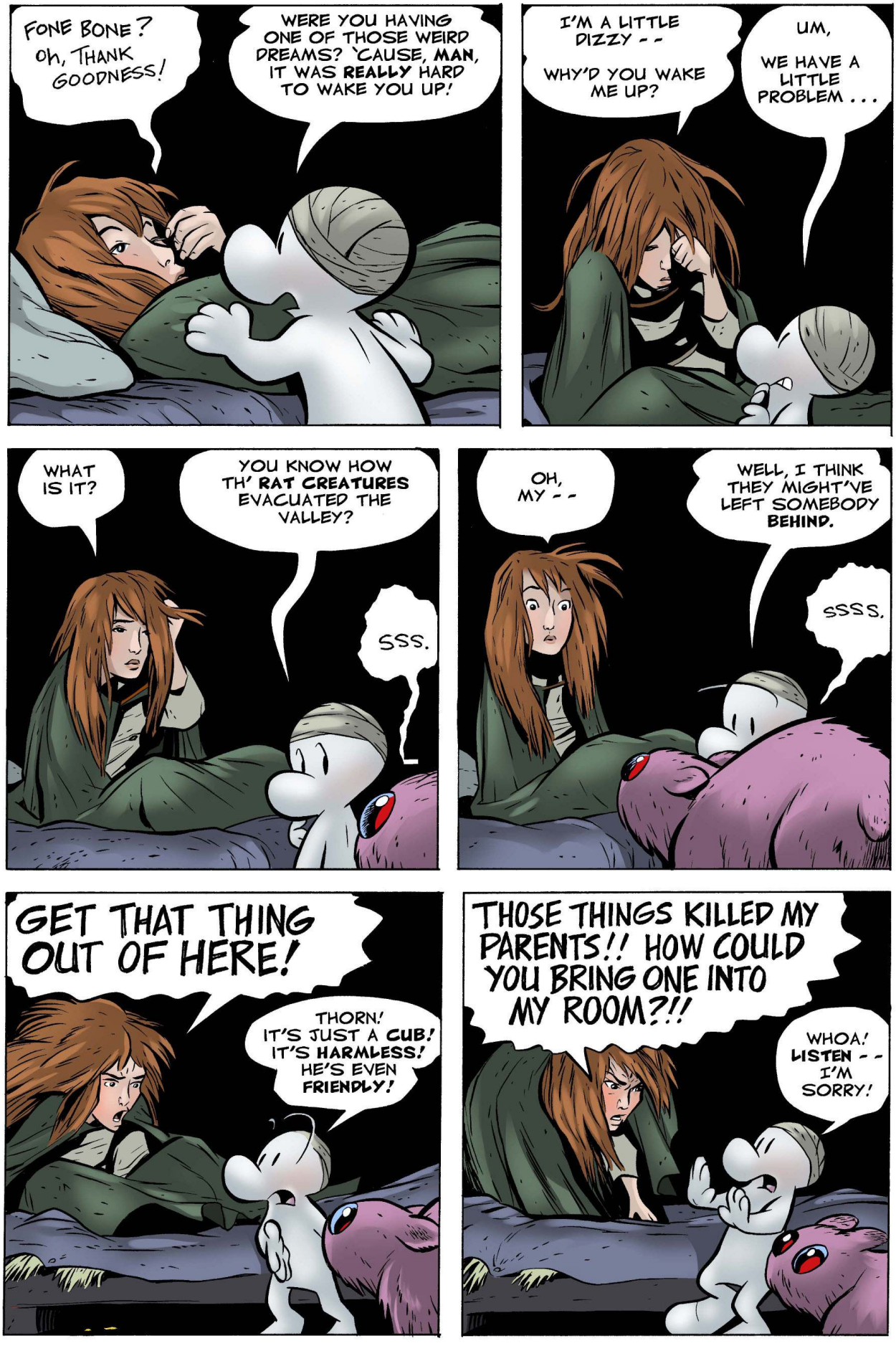

GRANDMOTHER! DO NOT GO IN THE CAVE!
LET HER GO . . .
WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
FEEL THE WARM PULL OF THE CAVE . . .
GRANDMOTHER!
INSIDE . . . YOU MAY SEEK SHELTER FROM THE COLD WINDS . . .


GRANDMOTHER!
YOU ARE COLD.
YES.
THE CAVE IS WARM.
YOU MUST GO IN NOW.

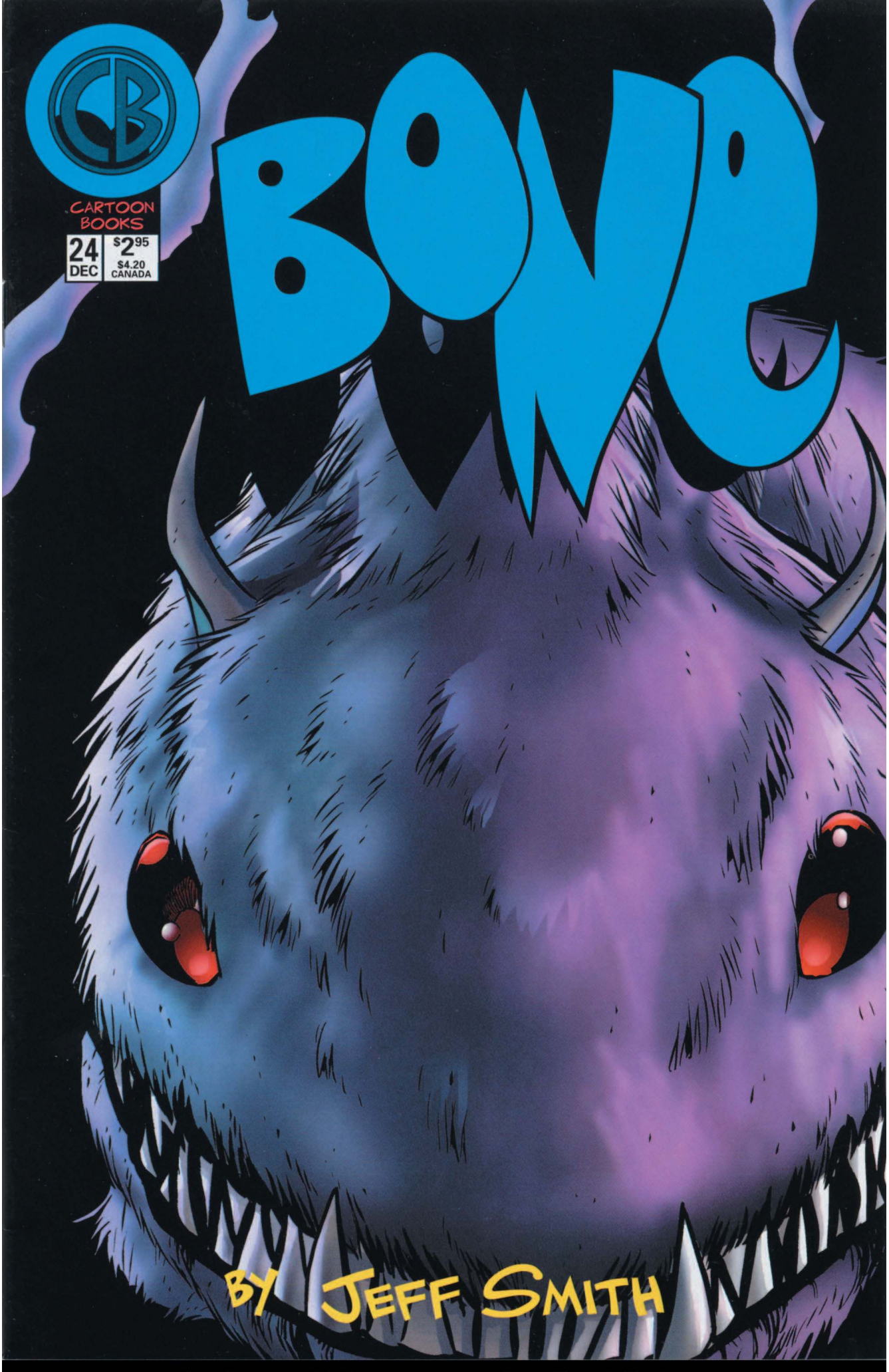

I WILL HELP YOU. GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
WE WILL GO TOGETHER. WE WILL BE SAFE.
THAT IS GOOD. YOU ARE A GOOD - -
NO!
WAKE UP!
NO!



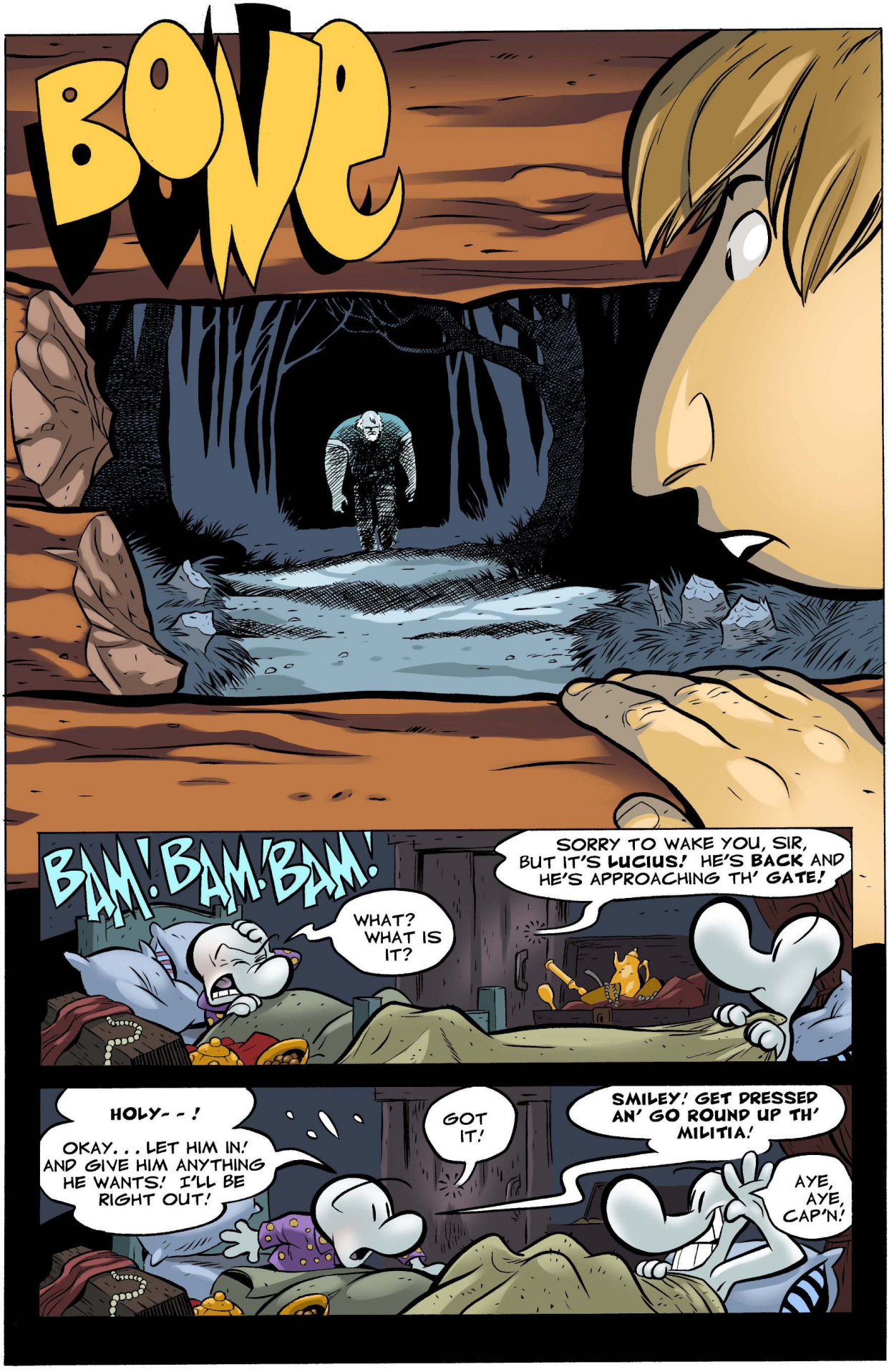
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


FONE BONE? OH, THANK GOODNESS!
WERE YOU HAVING ONE OF THOSE WEIRD DREAMS? 'CAUSE, MAN, IT WAS REALLY HARD TO WAKE YOU UP!
I'M A LITTLE DIZZY - -
WHY'D YOU WAKE ME UP?
UM,
WE HAVE A LITTLE PROBLEM . . .
WHAT IS IT?
YOU KNOW HOW TH' RAT CREATURES EVACUATED THE VALLEY?
SSS.
OH, MY - -
WELL, I THINK THEY MIGHT'VE LEFT SOMEBODY BEHIND.
SSSS.
GET THAT THING OUT OF HERE!
THORN! IT'S JUST A CUB! IT'S HARMLESS! HE'S EVEN FRIENDLY!
THOSE THINGS KILLED MY PARENTS!! HOW COULD YOU BRING ONE INTO MY ROOM?!!
WHOA! LISTEN - - I'M SORRY!


SSHING!
GET IT OUT OF HERE NOW.. OR I'LL KILL IT!
HISSS

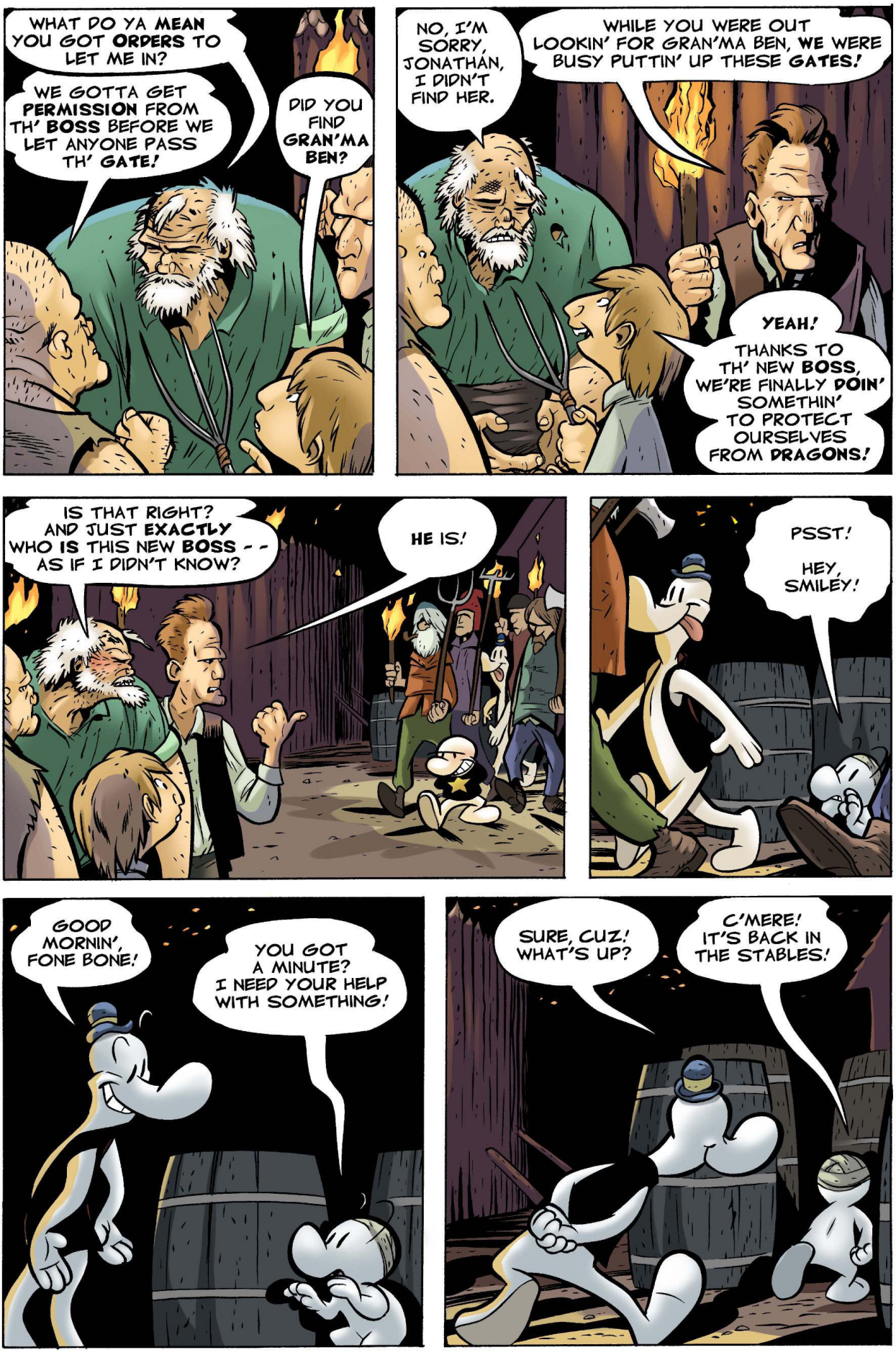


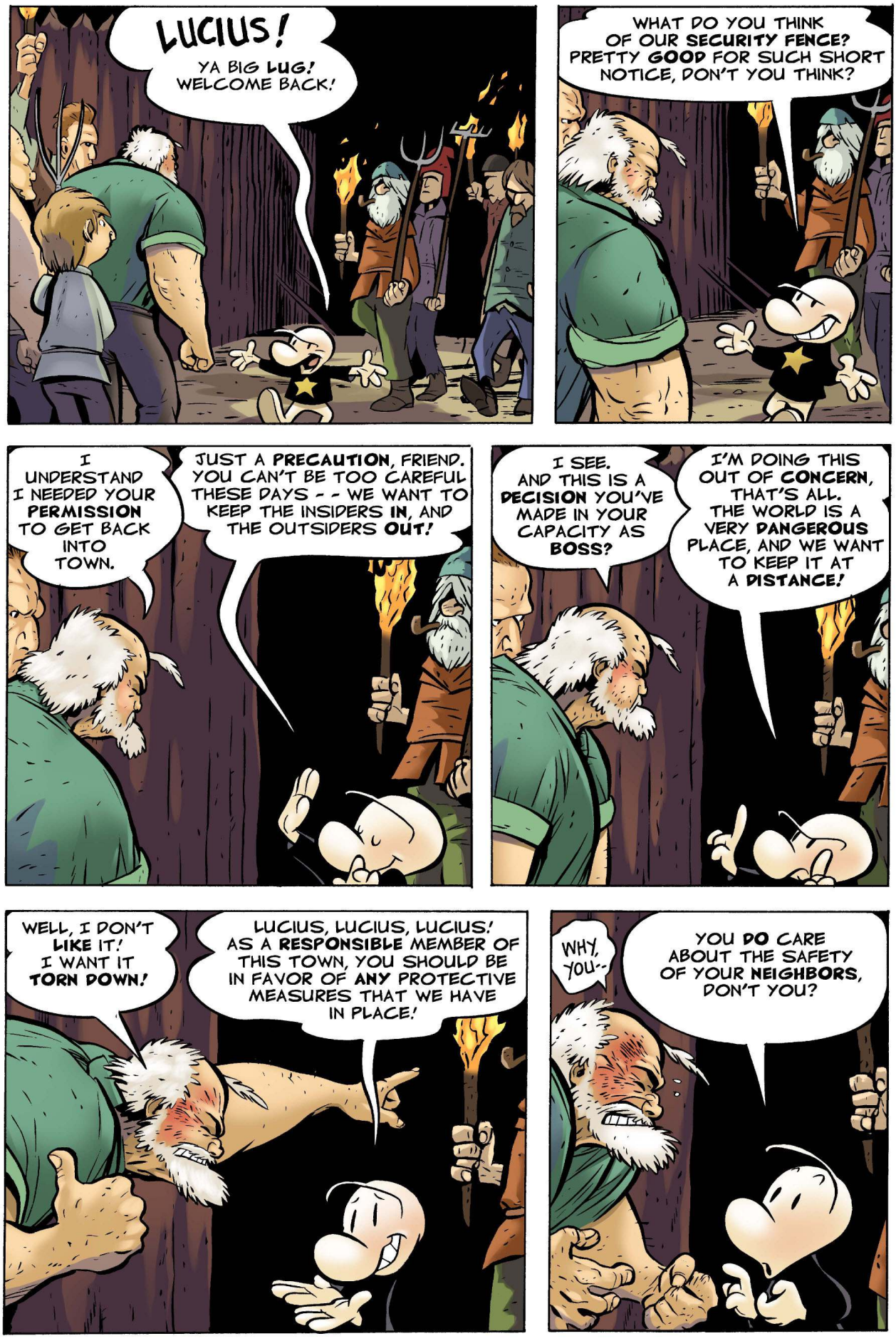
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

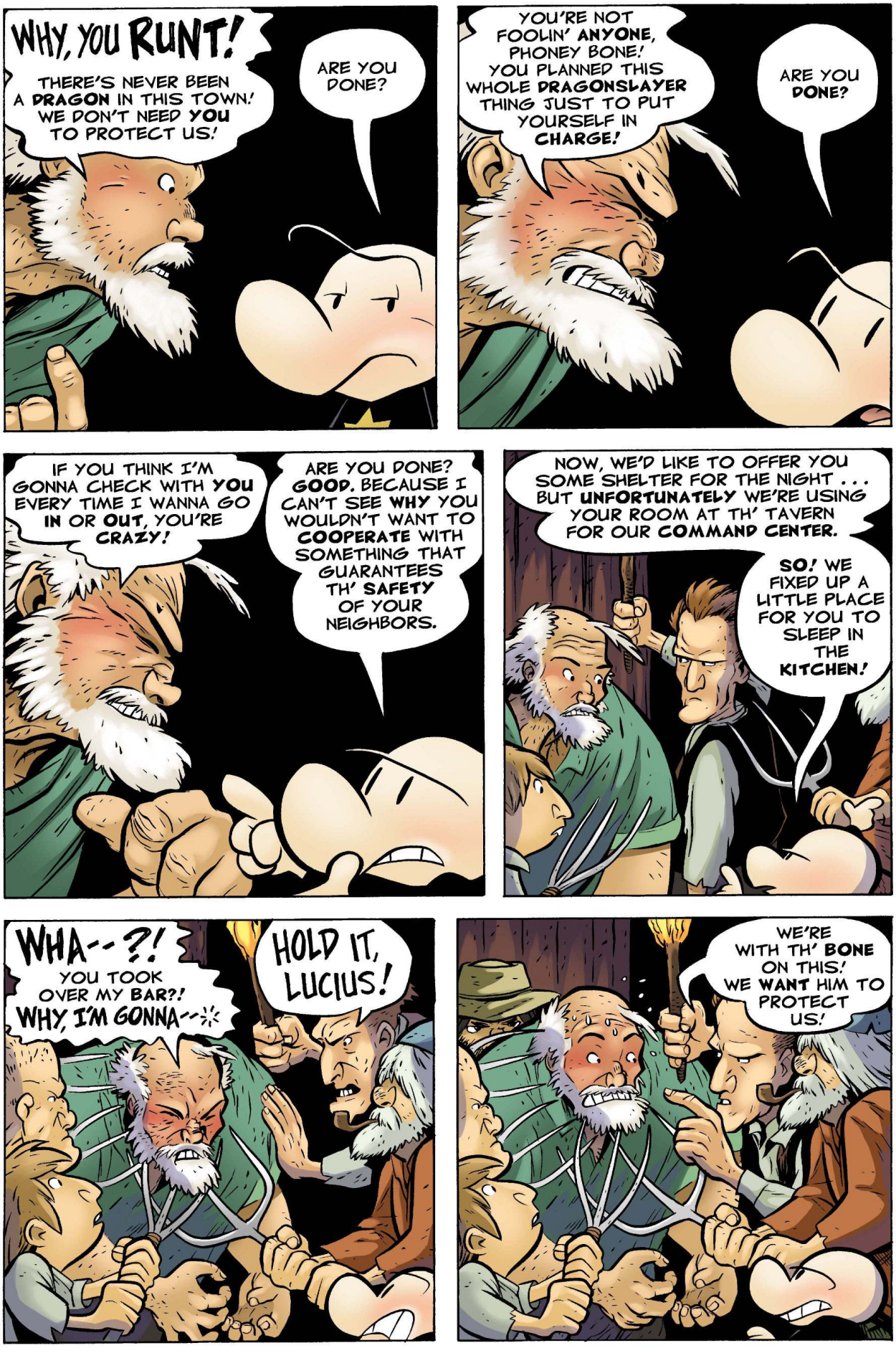

BONE
BAM! BAM! BAM!
WHAT? WHAT IS IT?
SORRY TO WAKE YOU, SIR, BUT IT'S LUCIUS! HE'S BACK AND HE'S APPROACHING TH' GATE!
HOLY- - !
OKAY. . . LET HIM IN! AND GIVE HIM ANYTHING HE WANTS! I'LL BE RIGHT OUT!
GOT IT!
SMILEY! GET DRESSED AN' GO ROUND UP TH' MILITIA!
AYE, AYE, CAP'N!



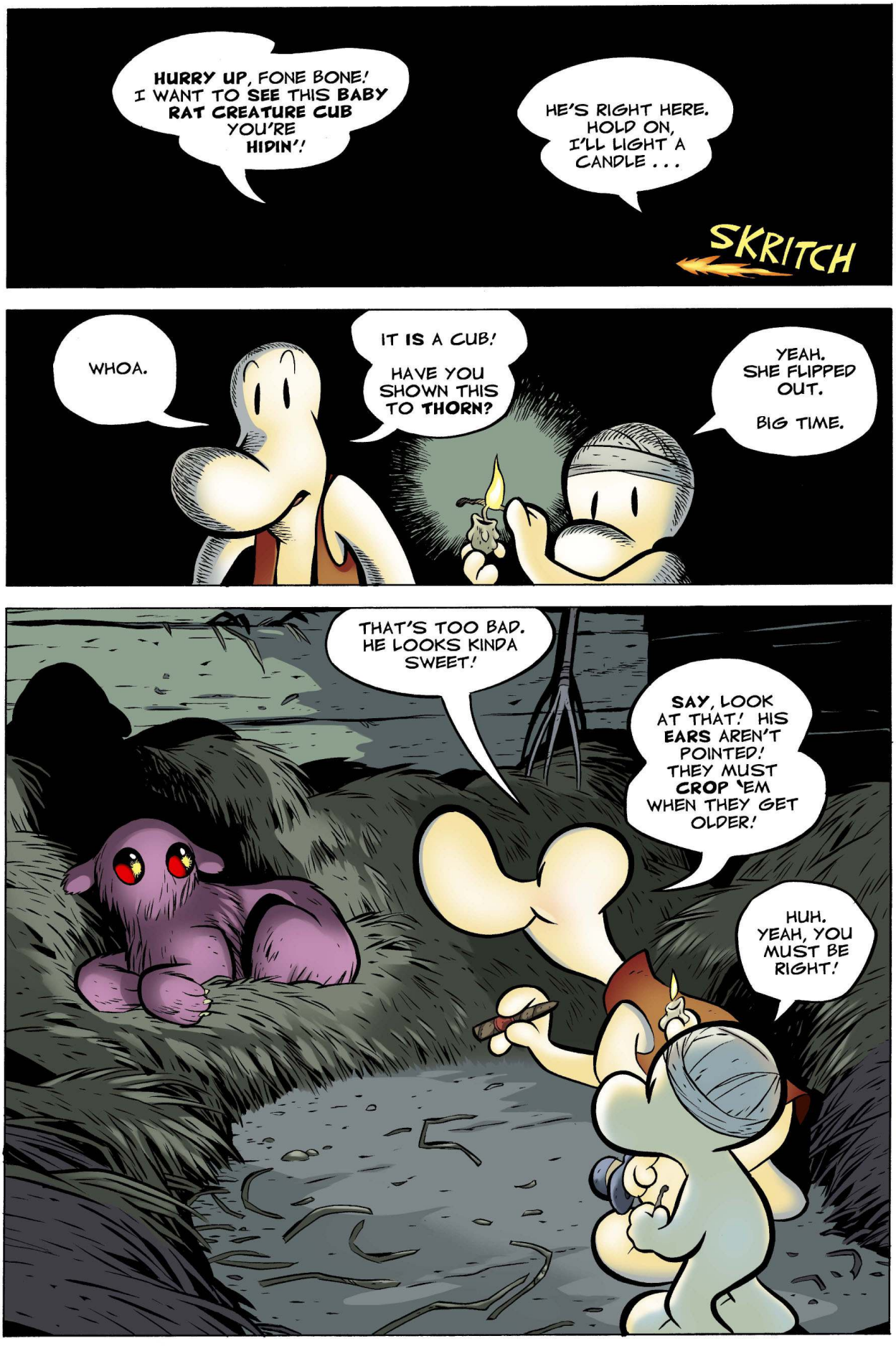
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

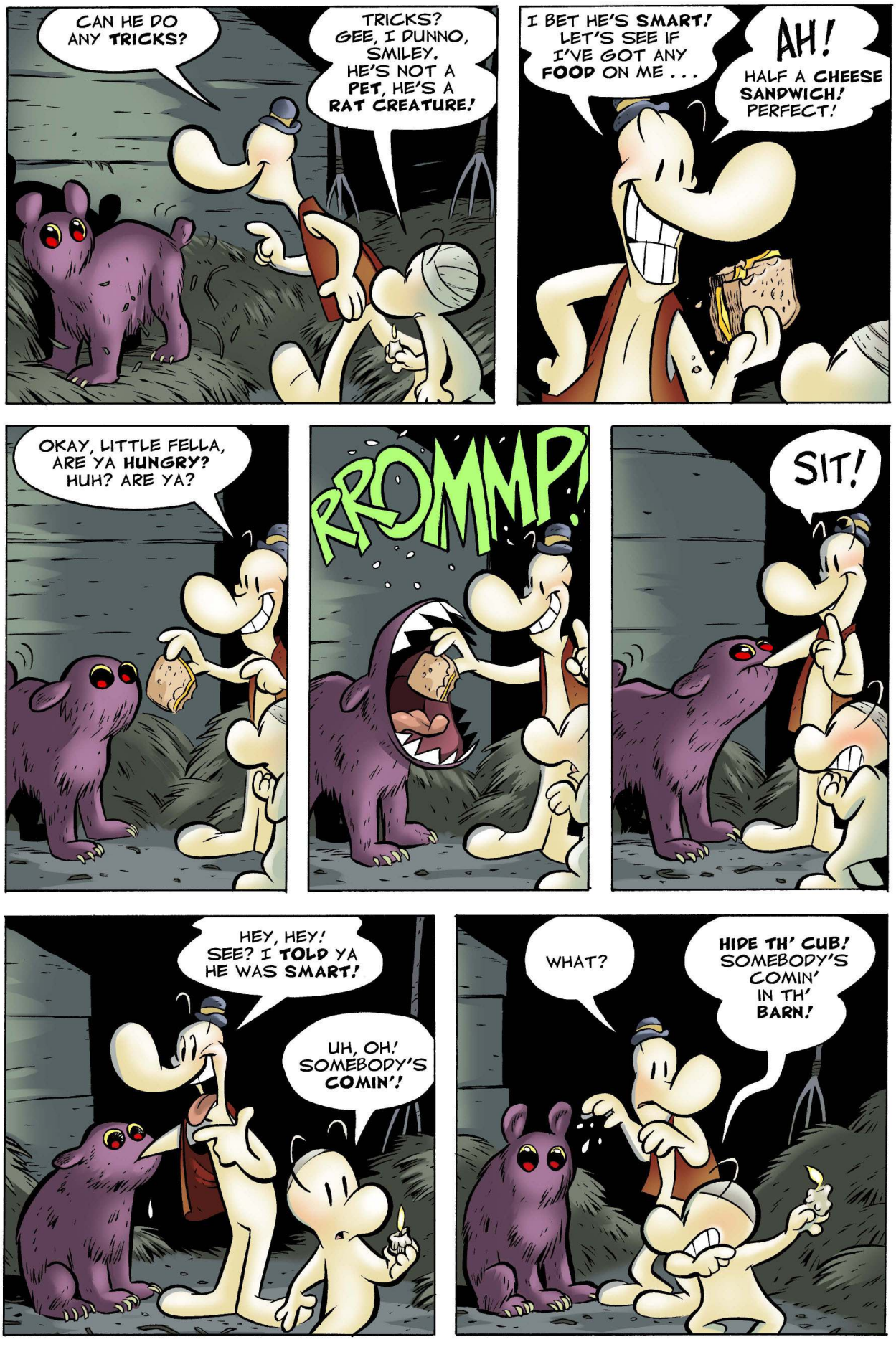

WHAT DO YA MEAN YOU GOT ORDERS TO LET ME IN?
WE GOTTA GET PERMISSION FROM TH' BOSS BEFORE WE LET ANYONE PASS TH' GATE!
DID YOU FIND GRAN'MA BEN?
NO, I'M SORRY, JONATHAN, I DIDN'T FIND HER.
WHILE YOU WERE OUT LOOKIN' FOR GRAN'MA BEN, WE WERE BUSY PUTTIN' UP THESE GATES!
YEAH! THANKS TO TH' NEW BOSS, WE'RE FINALLY DOIN' SOMETHIN' TO PROTECT OURSELVES FROM DRAGONS!
IS THAT RIGHT? AND JUST EXACTLY WHO IS THIS NEW BOSS - - AS IF I DIDN'T KNOW?
HE IS!
PSST! HEY, SMILEY!
GOOD MORNIN', FONE BONE!
YOU GOT A MINUTE? I NEED YOUR HELP WITH SOMETHING!
SURE, CUZ! WHAT'S UP?
C'MERE! IT'S BACK IN THE STABLES!


LUCIUS!
YA BIG LUG! WELCOME BACK!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR SECURITY FENCE? PRETTY GOOD FOR SUCH SHORT NOTICE, DON'T YOU THINK?
I UNDERSTAND I NEEDED YOUR PERMISSION TO GET BACK INTO TOWN.
JUST A PRECAUTION, FRIEND. YOU CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL THESE DAYS - - WE WANT TO KEEP THE INSIDERS IN, AND THE OUTSIDERS OUT!
I SEE. AND THIS IS A DECISION YOU'VE MADE IN YOUR CAPACITY AS BOSS?
I'M DOING THIS OUT OF CONCERN, THAT'S ALL. THE WORLD IS A VERY DANGEROUS PLACE, AND WE WANT TO KEEP IT AT A DISTANCE!
WELL, I DON'T LIKE IT! I WANT IT TORN DOWN!
LUCIUS, LUCIUS, LUCIUS! AS A RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF THIS TOWN, YOU SHOULD BE IN FAVOR OF ANY PROTECTIVE MEASURES THAT WE HAVE IN PLACE!
WHY, YOU--
YOU DO CARE ABOUT THE SAFETY OF YOUR NEIGHBORS, DON'T YOU?


WHY, YOU RUNT!
THERE'S NEVER BEEN A DRAGON IN THIS TOWN! WE DON'T NEED YOU TO PROTECT US!
ARE YOU DONE?
YOU'RE NOT FOOLIN' ANYONE, PHONEY BONE! YOU PLANNED THIS WHOLE DRAGONSLAYER THING JUST TO PUT YOURSELF IN CHARGE!
ARE YOU DONE?
IF YOU THINK I'M GONNA CHECK WITH YOU EVERY TIME I WANNA GO IN OR OUT, YOU'RE CRAZY!
ARE YOU DONE? GOOD. BECAUSE I CAN'T SEE WHY YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO COOPERATE WITH SOMETHING THAT GUARANTEES TH' SAFETY OF YOUR NEIGHBORS.
NOW, WE'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU SOME SHELTER FOR THE NIGHT . . . BUT UNFORTUNATELY WE'RE USING YOUR ROOM AT TH' TAVERN FOR OUR COMMAND CENTER.
SO! WE FIXED UP A LITTLE PLACE FOR YOU TO SLEEP IN THE KITCHEN!
WHA--?! YOU TOOK OVER MY BAR?! WHY, I'M GONNA--
HOLD IT, LUCIUS!
WE'RE WITH TH' BONE ON THIS! WE WANT HIM TO PROTECT US!

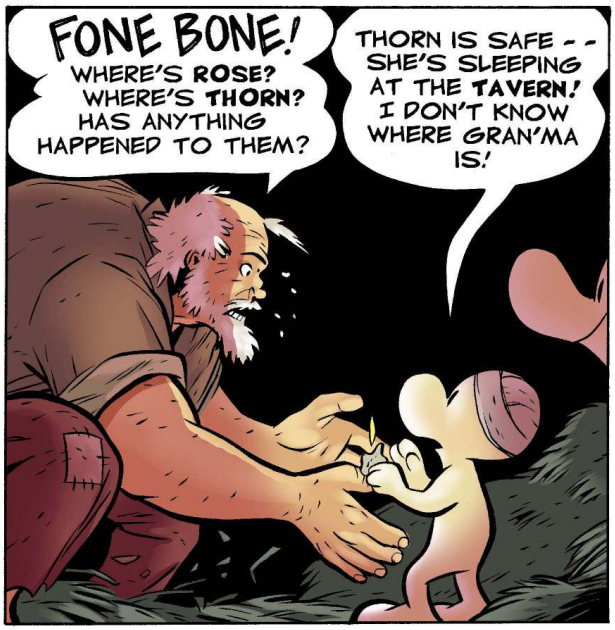

SINCE WHEN DO YOU GUYS LISTEN TO ANYTHING PHONEY SAYS?
SINCE HE STARTED TELLIN' US TH' TRUTH ABOUT DRAGONS!
WENDELL . . .
I'M SORRY, LUCIUS, BUT WE GOT FAMILIES TO THINK ABOUT. YOU FALL IN LINE, OR YOU GET OUT.
IS THAT TH' WAY ALL YOU BOYS FEEL?
EUCLID?
RORY?
JONATHAN?
WELL, WELL, WELL.
NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED, I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE ACCOMMODATIONS IN TH' KITCHEN TO BE SUITABLY SPARTAN . . .
FORGET IT!
I'LL SLEEP IN TH' BARN!


HURRY UP, FONE BONE! I WANT TO SEE THIS BABY RAT CREATURE CUB YOU'RE HIDIN'!
HE'S RIGHT HERE. HOLD ON, I'LL LIGHT A CANDLE . . .
SKRITCH
WHOA.
IT IS A CUB! HAVE YOU SHOWN THIS TO THORN?
YEAH. SHE FLIPPED OUT. BIG TIME.
THAT'S TOO BAD. HE LOOKS KINDA SWEET!
SAY, LOOK AT THAT! HIS EARS AREN'T POINTED! THEY MUST CROP 'EM WHEN THEY GET OLDER!
HUH. YEAH, YOU MUST BE RIGHT!

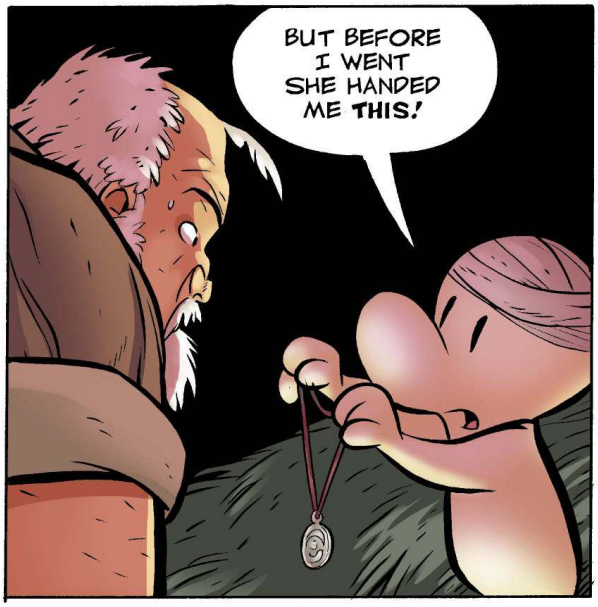

CAN HE DO ANY **TRICKS?**
TRICKS? GEE, I DUNNO, SMILEY. HE'S NOT A **PET**, HE'S A **RAT CREATURE!**
I BET HE'S **SMART!** LET'S SEE IF I'VE GOT ANY **FOOD** ON ME . . .
AH!
HALF A **CHEESE SANDWICH!** PERFECT!
OKAY, LITTLE FELLA, ARE YA **HUNGRY?** HUH? ARE YA?
RROMMP!
SIT!
HEY, HEY! SEE? I **TOLD** YA HE WAS **SMART!**
UH, OH! SOMEBODY'S **COMIN'!**
WHAT?
HIDE TH' CUB! SOMEBODY'S COMIN' IN TH' **BARN!**

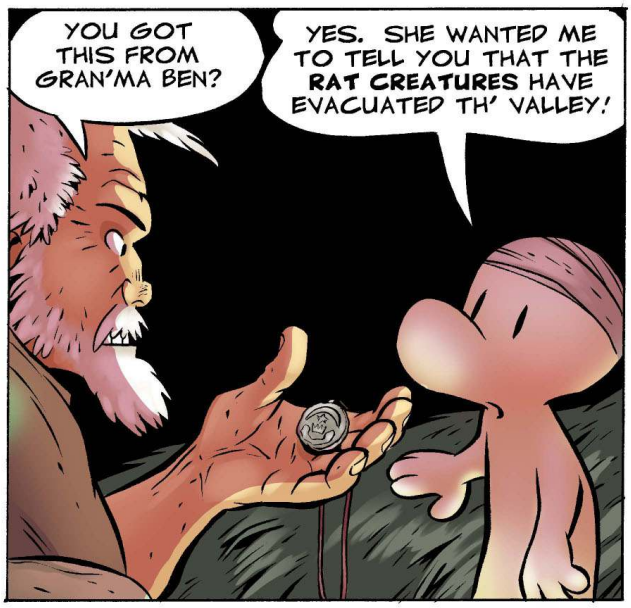

CREEEEK
WHO'S IN THERE?

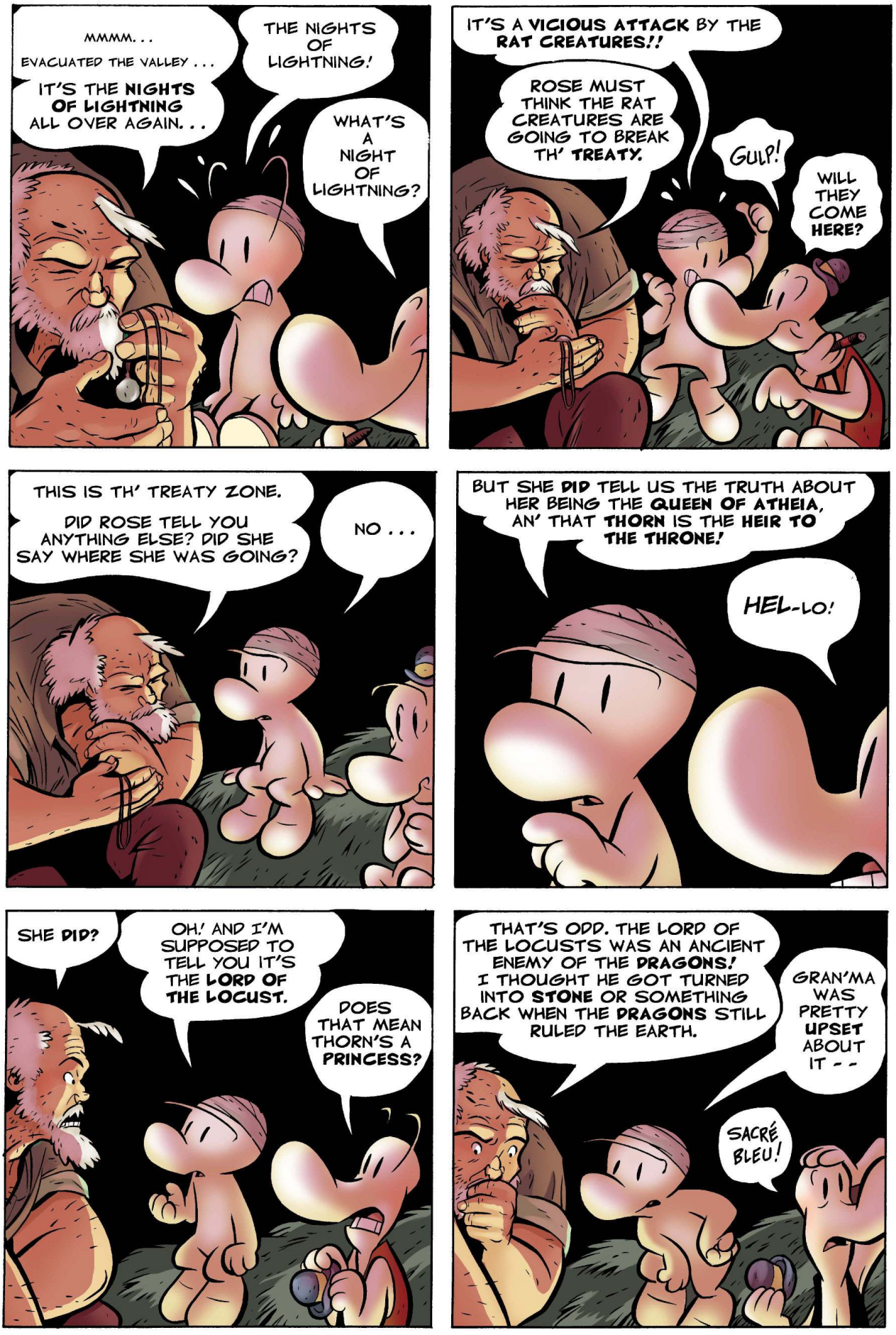

SPEAK UP! WHO'S THERE?
IT'S US, MR. DOWN! FONE BONE AND SMILEY BONE!

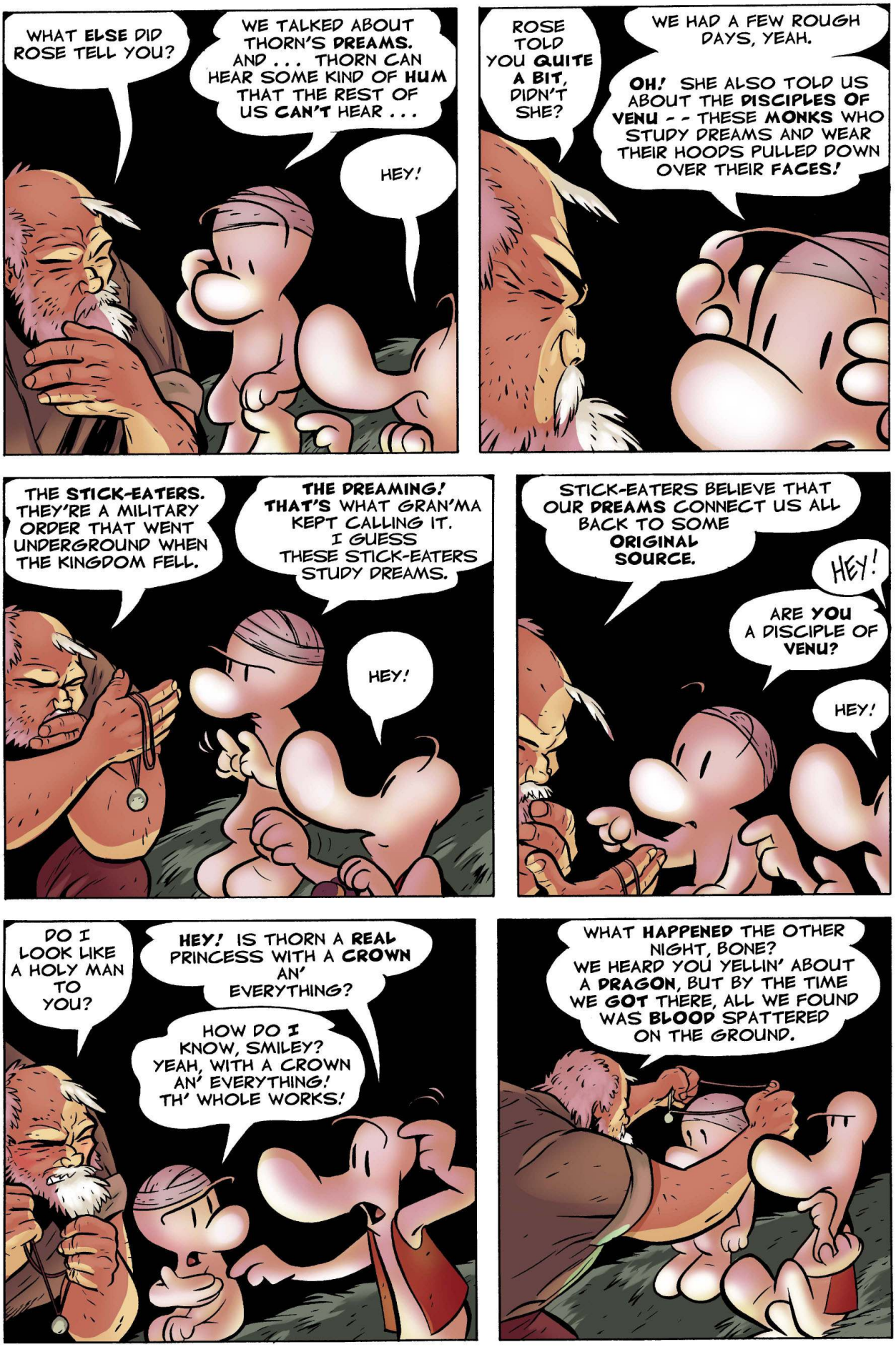

FONE BONE! WHERE'S ROSE? WHERE'S THORN? HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED TO THEM?
THORN IS SAFE - - SHE'S SLEEPING AT THE TAVERN! I DON'T KNOW WHERE GRAN'MA IS!

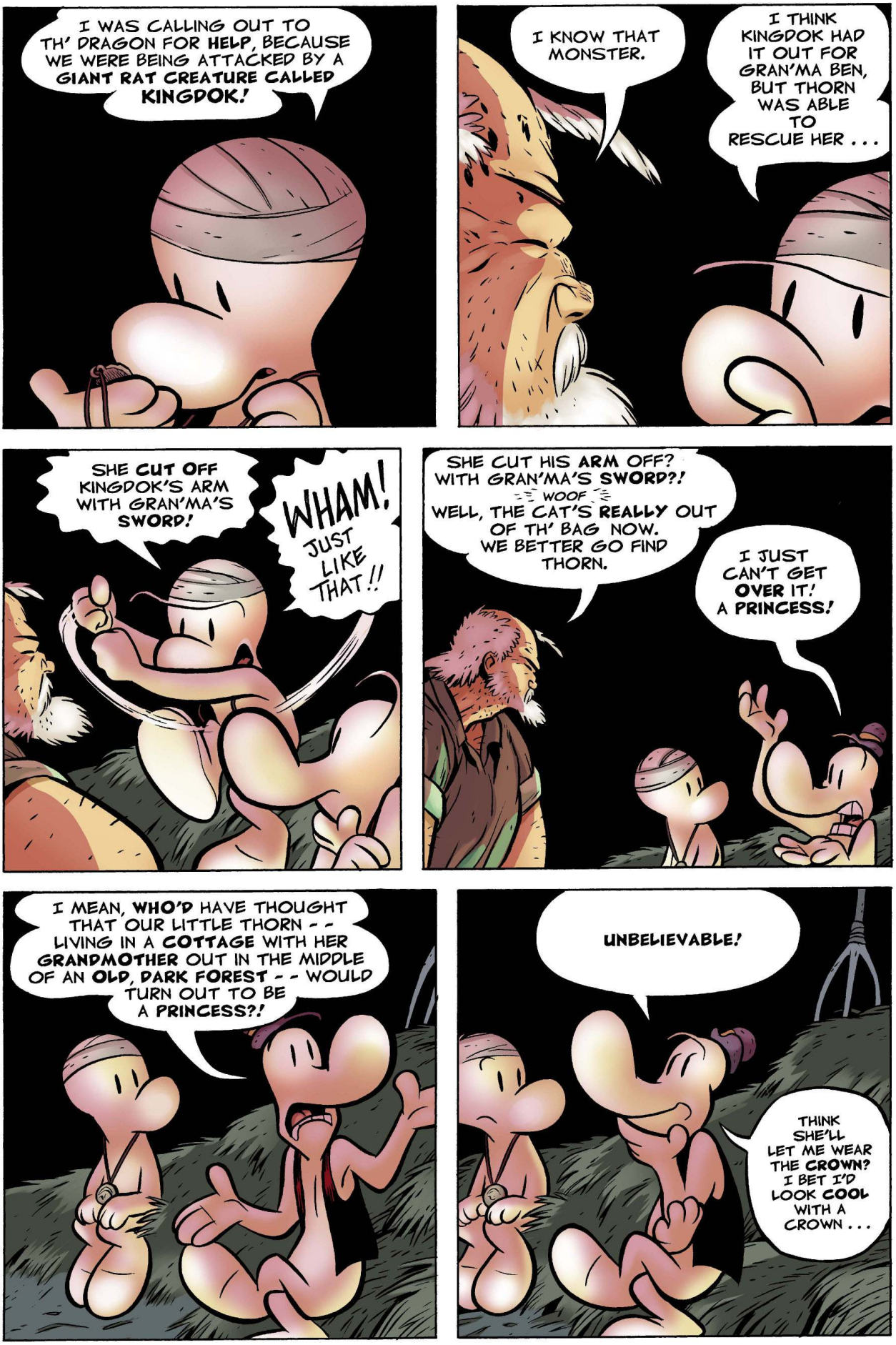

WHEN DID YOU SEE HER LAST? WAS SHE ALL RIGHT?
YES! YES! SHE AND THORN HAD A FIGHT! THORN RAN OFF, AN' GRAN'MA WANTED ME TO FOLLOW HER! WHEN I LEFT GRAN'MA BEN, SHE WAS STANDING OUT IN THE WOODS!


BUT BEFORE I WENT SHE HANDED ME THIS!


YOU GOT THIS FROM GRAN'MA BEN?
YES. SHE WANTED ME TO TELL YOU THAT THE RAT CREATURES HAVE EVACUATED TH' VALLEY!


MMMM...
EVACUATED THE VALLEY...
IT'S THE NIGHTS OF LIGHTNING ALL OVER AGAIN...
THE NIGHTS OF LIGHTNING!
WHAT'S A NIGHT OF LIGHTNING?
IT'S A VICIOUS ATTACK BY THE RAT CREATURES!!
ROSE MUST THINK THE RAT CREATURES ARE GOING TO BREAK TH' TREATY.
GULP!
WILL THEY COME HERE?
THIS IS TH' TREATY ZONE.
DID ROSE TELL YOU ANYTHING ELSE? DID SHE SAY WHERE SHE WAS GOING?
NO...
BUT SHE DID TELL US THE TRUTH ABOUT HER BEING THE QUEEN OF ATHEIA, AN' THAT THORN IS THE HEIR TO THE THRONE!
HEL-LO!
SHE DID?
OH! AND I'M SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU IT'S THE LORD OF THE LOCUST.
DOES THAT MEAN THORN'S A PRINCESS?
THAT'S ODD. THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS WAS AN ANCIENT ENEMY OF THE DRAGONS! I THOUGHT HE GOT TURNED INTO STONE OR SOMETHING BACK WHEN THE DRAGONS STILL RULED THE EARTH.
GRAN'MA WAS PRETTY UPSET ABOUT IT--
SACRÉ BLEU!

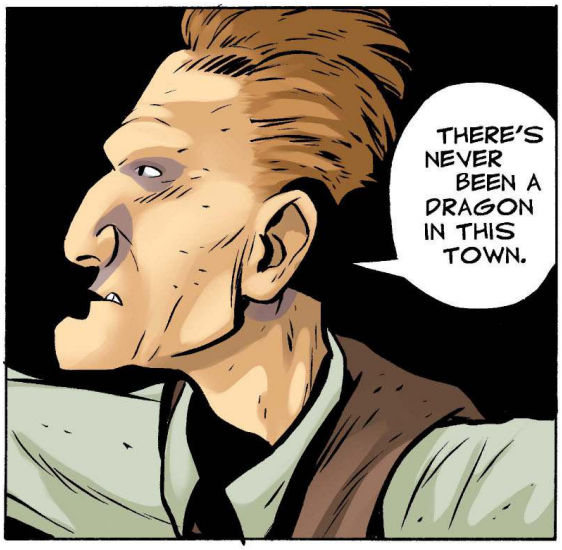

WHAT ELSE DID ROSE TELL YOU?
WE TALKED ABOUT THORN'S DREAMS. AND . . . THORN CAN HEAR SOME KIND OF HUM THAT THE REST OF US CAN'T HEAR . . .
HEY!
ROSE TOLD YOU QUITE A BIT, DIDN'T SHE?
WE HAD A FEW ROUGH DAYS, YEAH.
OH! SHE ALSO TOLD US ABOUT THE DISCIPLES OF VENU - - THESE MONKS WHO STUDY DREAMS AND WEAR THEIR HOODS PULLED DOWN OVER THEIR FACES!
THE STICK-EATERS. THEY'RE A MILITARY ORDER THAT WENT UNDERGROUND WHEN THE KINGDOM FELL.
THE DREAMING! THAT'S WHAT GRAN'MA KEPT CALLING IT. I GUESS THESE STICK-EATERS STUDY DREAMS.
HEY!
STICK-EATERS BELIEVE THAT OUR DREAMS CONNECT US ALL BACK TO SOME ORIGINAL SOURCE.
HEY!
ARE YOU A DISCIPLE OF VENU?
HEY!
DO I LOOK LIKE A HOLY MAN TO YOU?
HEY! IS THORN A REAL PRINCESS WITH A CROWN AN' EVERYTHING?
HOW DO I KNOW, SMILEY? YEAH, WITH A CROWN AN' EVERYTHING! TH' WHOLE WORKS!
WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER NIGHT, BONE? WE HEARD YOU YELLIN' ABOUT A DRAGON, BUT BY THE TIME WE GOT THERE, ALL WE FOUND WAS BLOOD SPATTERED ON THE GROUND.


I WAS CALLING OUT TO TH' DRAGON FOR HELP, BECAUSE WE WERE BEING ATTACKED BY A GIANT RAT CREATURE CALLED KINGDOK!
I KNOW THAT MONSTER.
I THINK KINGDOK HAD IT OUT FOR GRAN'MA BEN, BUT THORN WAS ABLE TO RESCUE HER . . .
SHE CUT OFF KINGDOK'S ARM WITH GRAN'MA'S SWORD!
WHAM! JUST LIKE THAT!!
SHE CUT HIS ARM OFF? WITH GRAN'MA'S SWORD?!
WOOF
WELL, THE CAT'S REALLY OUT OF TH' BAG NOW. WE BETTER GO FIND THORN.
I JUST CAN'T GET OVER IT! A PRINCESS!
I MEAN, WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT THAT OUR LITTLE THORN - - LIVING IN A COTTAGE WITH HER GRANDMOTHER OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF AN OLD, DARK FOREST - - WOULD TURN OUT TO BE A PRINCESS?!
UNBELIEVABLE!
THINK SHE'LL LET ME WEAR THE CROWN? I BET I'D LOOK COOL WITH A CROWN . . .



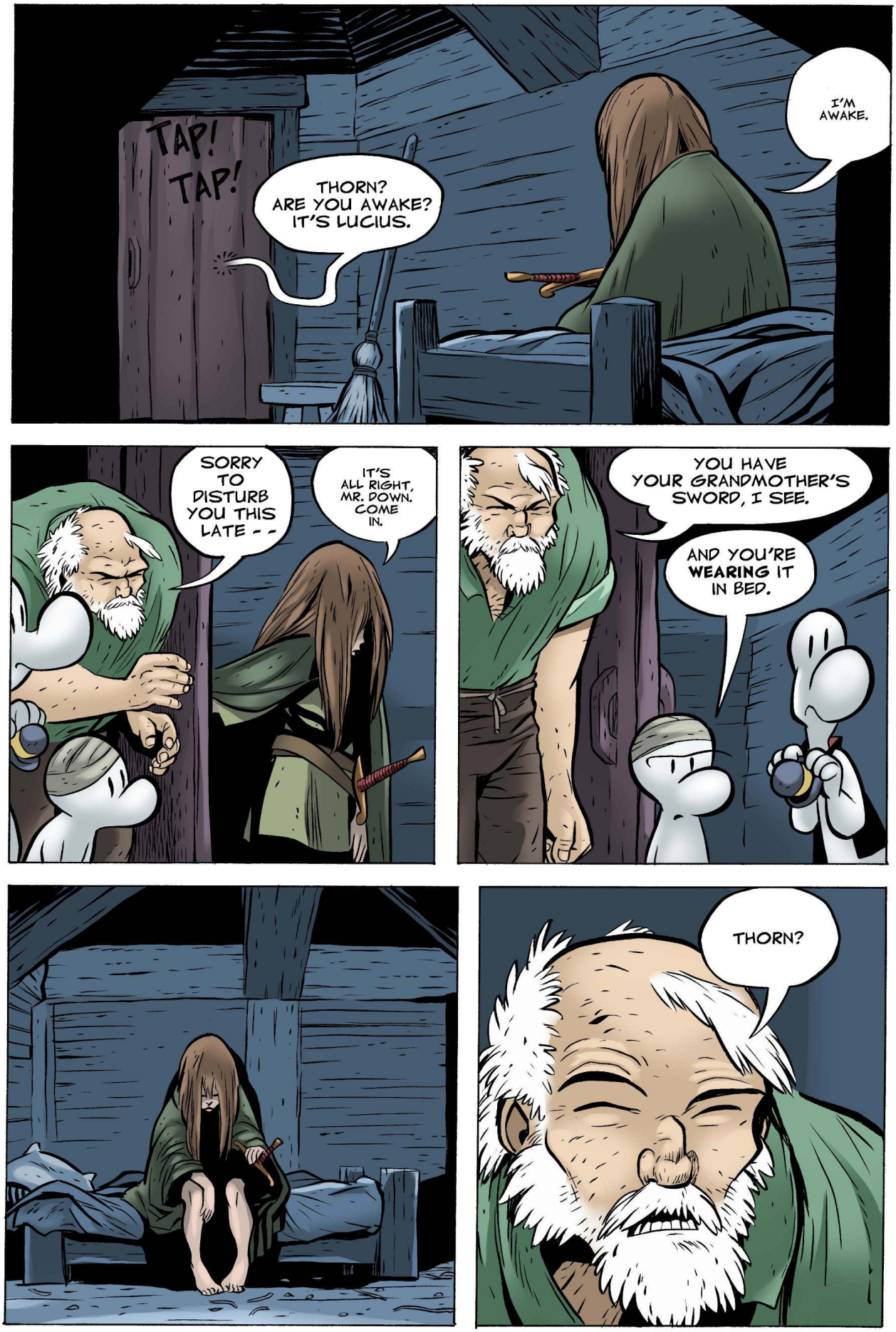

Y'KNOW . . .
LUCIUS WAS RIGHT ABOUT **ONE** THING . . .

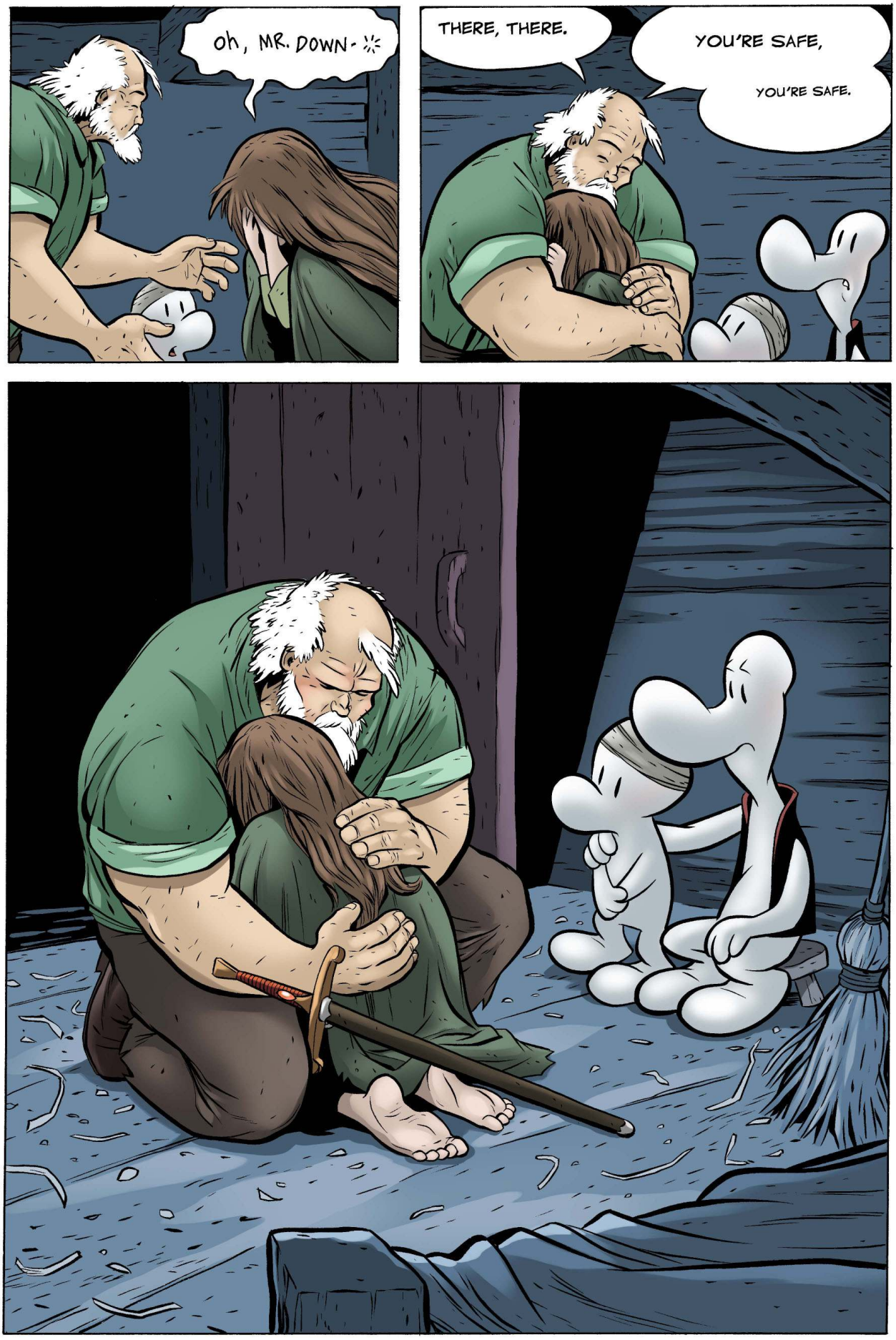

YEAH?
WHAT'S THAT?


THERE'S NEVER BEEN A DRAGON IN THIS TOWN.


SO?
JUST GOT ME **THINKIN'**, THAT'S ALL.


SO WHAT IF THERE'S NEVER BEEN A DRAGON IN THIS TOWN? I LIKE THE FENCE 'CAUSE IT MAKES SURE THERE AIN'T NEVER GONNA BE NO DRAGONS IN THIS TOWN!
I LIKE THE FENCE, TOO, BUT DOES IT SEEM RIGHT TO YOU THAT WHILE WE'RE HIDIN' IN HERE, THOSE DRAGONS ARE OUT THERE WALKIN' AROUND FREE AS BIRDS?
WHAT'RE YOU GETTIN' AT, WENDELL?
WHY SHOULD WE BE AFRAID TO GO OUT AT NIGHT? ARE WE GONNA LET THOSE DRAGONS RULE OUR LIVES?
THE MID-SUMMER'S DAY PICNIC IS COMIN' UP, AN' WE'RE TRAPPED IN HERE!
BLOODY DRAGONS! BUT AS LONG AS THEY'RE OUT THERE, WHAT CAN WE DO?
WELL, WE HIRED A DRAGONSLAYER, DIDN'T WE?
LET'S MAKE HIM GO OUT THERE AND GET RID OF THOSE DRAGONS!
SAAY . . . . YOU'RE RIGHT!
YEAH!
YEAH!
WHY SHOULD WE SUFFER?
THEN WE'RE AGREED.
FOR OUR FAMILIES . . .
. . . FOR OUR WIVES AND KIDS . . .
IT'S TIME FOR THE DRAGONSLAYER TO START EARNING HIS KEEP.


TAP!
TAP!
THORN? ARE YOU AWAKE? IT'S LUCIUS.
I'M AWAKE.
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU THIS LATE - -
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MR. DOWN. COME IN.
YOU HAVE YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S SWORD, I SEE.
AND YOU'RE **WEARING** IT IN BED.
THORN?

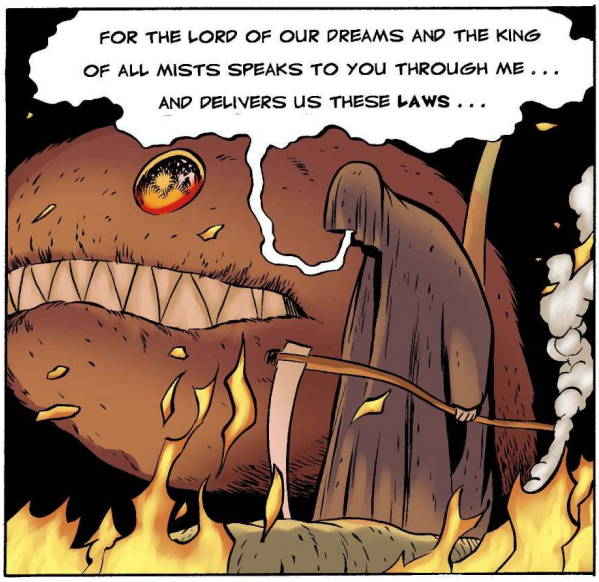

oh, MR. DOWN-
THERE, THERE.
YOU'RE SAFE,
YOU'RE SAFE.


AAAAAAAAAA
YAAAA
AAAAAAAAAA
YAAAAAAA
. . . TONIGHT . . .
. . . . WE BEGIN ANEW . . . .
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

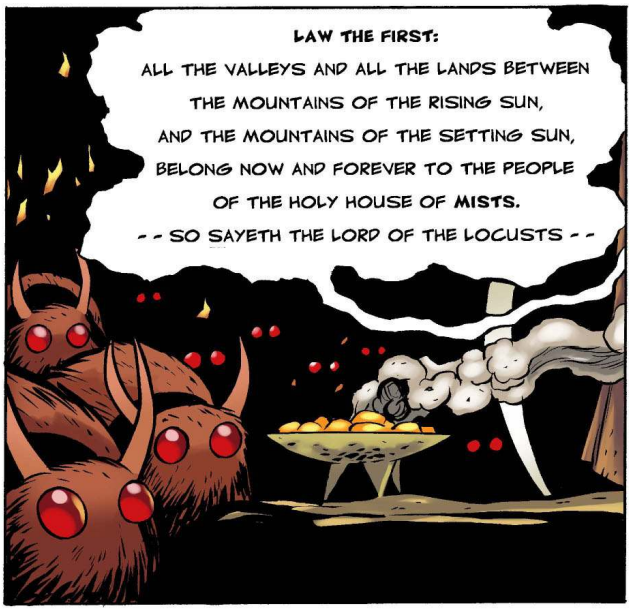








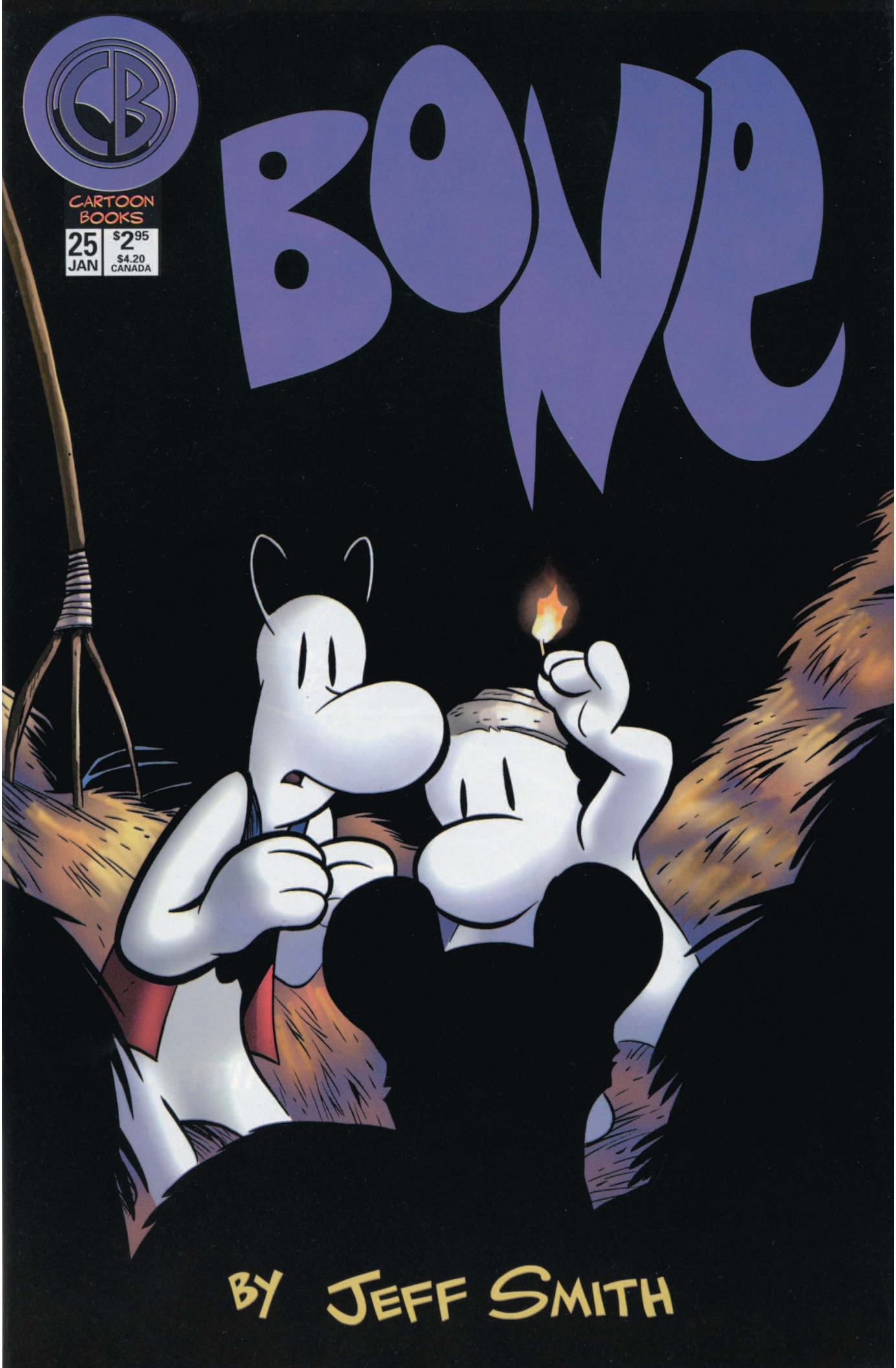


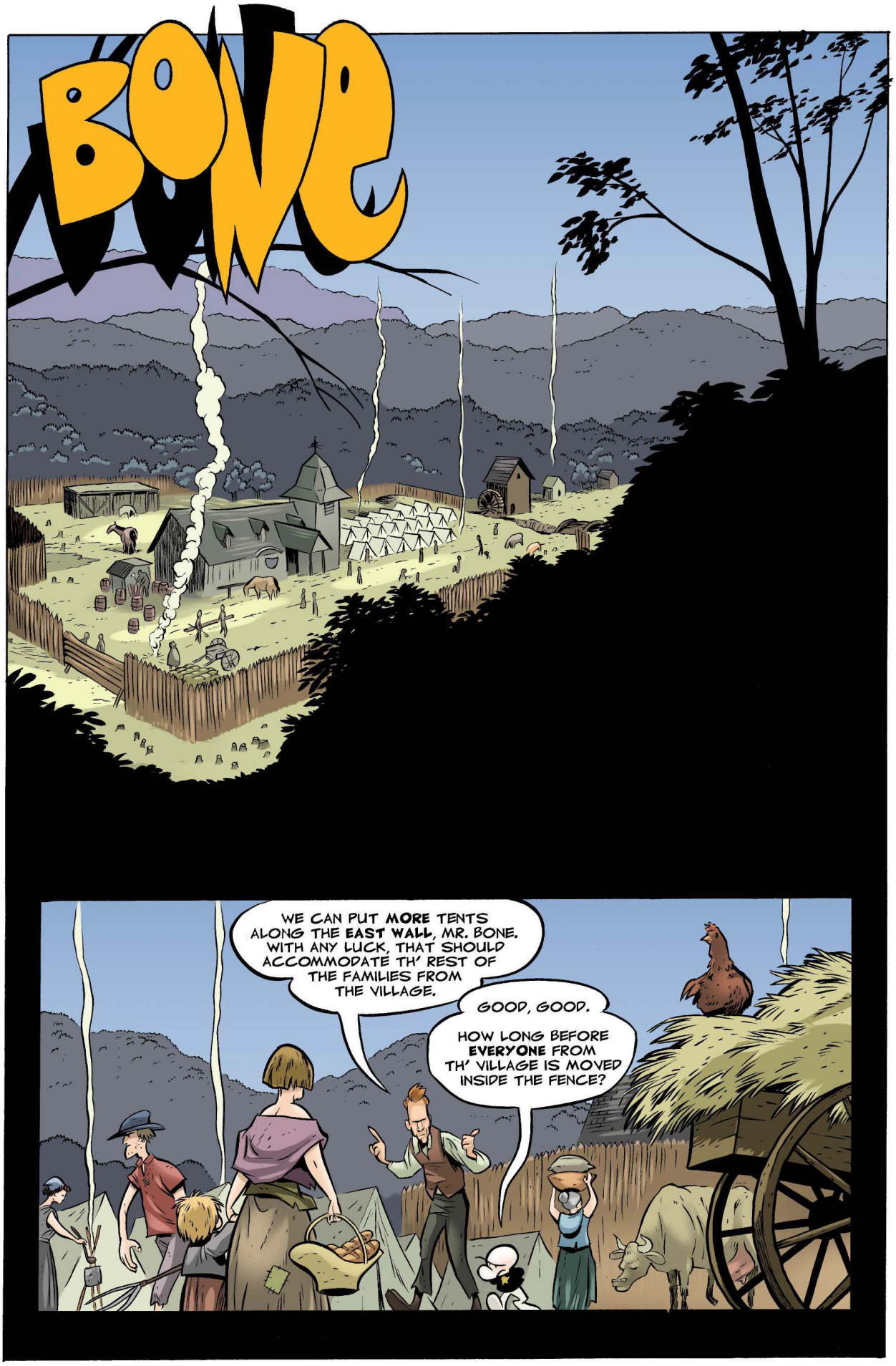


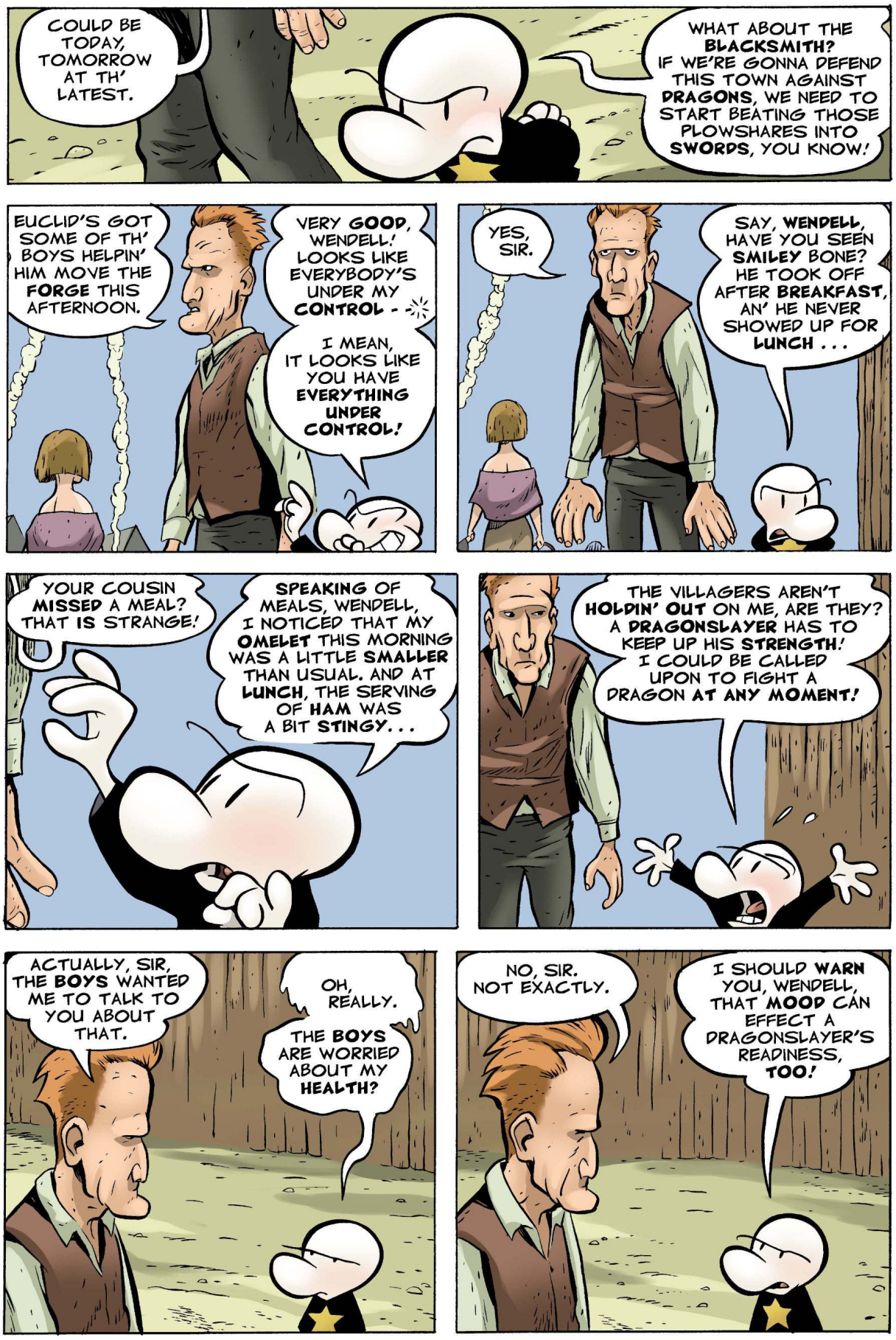
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


SO SAYETH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS!
LAW THE SECOND:
ALL THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE VALLEY WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE HOLY HOUSE OF MISTS, DO SO NOT WITH THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THE PEOPLE, BUT AS TRESPASSERS AND BURDENS ON THE HOUSE OF MISTS.
- - SO SAYETH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS - -
FOR THE LORD OF OUR DREAMS AND THE KING OF ALL MISTS SPEAKS THROUGH ME UNTO YOU . . . AND DELIVERS US THESE LAWS . . .
SO SAYETH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS!
SO SAYETH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS!
SO SAYETH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS!
SO SAYETH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS!
FOR FAR TOO LONG THE FLAT-LANDERS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO RETAIN THEIR CORRUPT CONTROL ON ALL THAT BELONGS TO US BY DIVINE RIGHT!
FROM THIS DAY FORTH - -

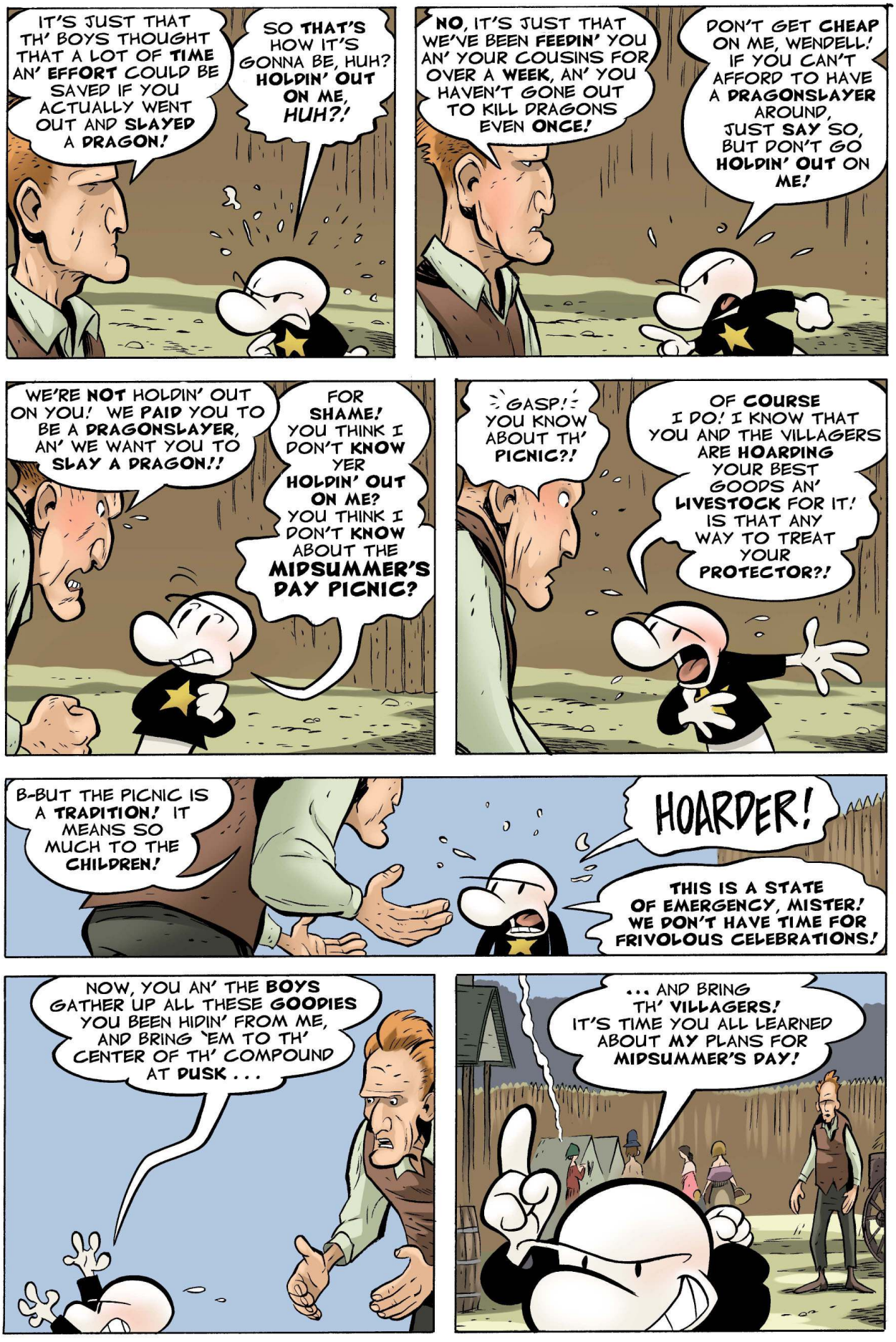

- - WE SHALL
TAKE
WHAT IS OURS!

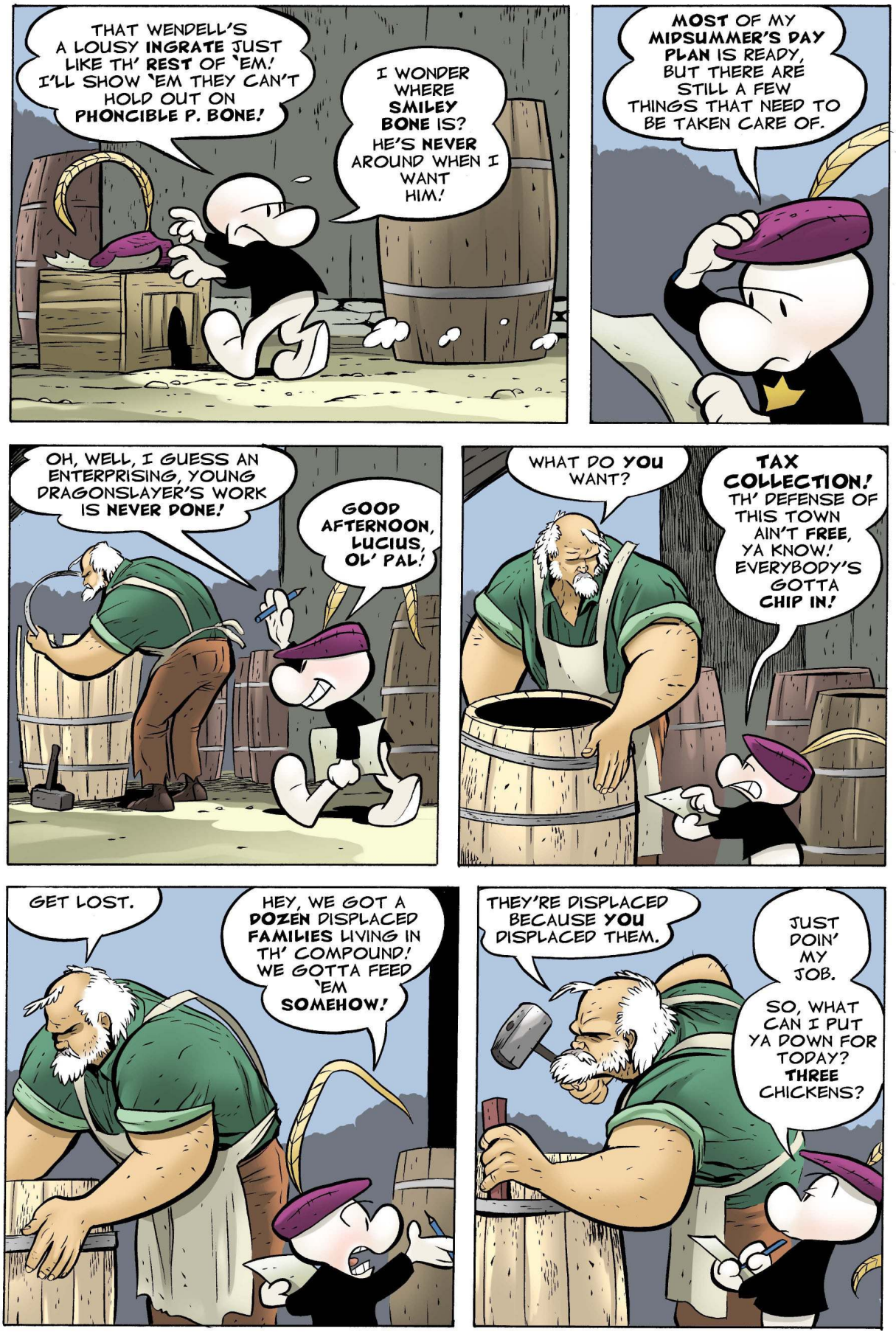

CARTOON BOOKS
25
JAN
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
WE CAN PUT MORE TENTS ALONG THE EAST WALL, MR. BONE. WITH ANY LUCK, THAT SHOULD ACCOMMODATE TH' REST OF THE FAMILIES FROM THE VILLAGE.
GOOD, GOOD.
HOW LONG BEFORE EVERYONE FROM TH' VILLAGE IS MOVED INSIDE THE FENCE?



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

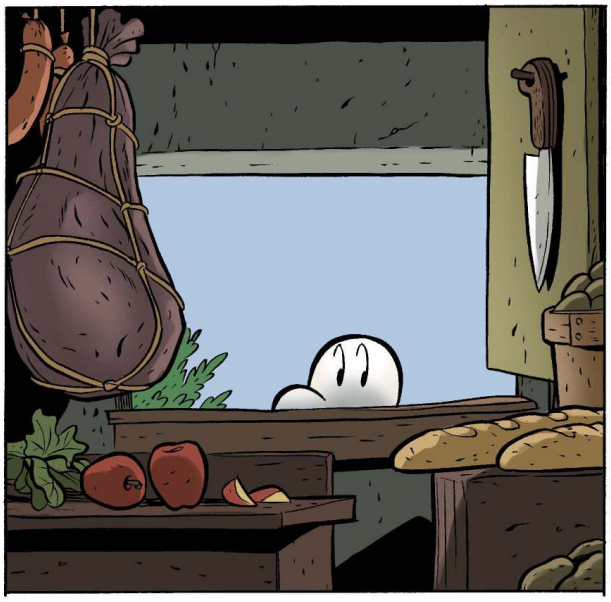

IT'S JUST THAT TH' BOYS THOUGHT THAT A LOT OF TIME AN' EFFORT COULD BE SAVED IF YOU ACTUALLY WENT OUT AND SLAYED A DRAGON!
SO THAT'S HOW IT'S GONNA BE, HUH? HOLDIN' OUT ON ME, HUH?!
NO, IT'S JUST THAT WE'VE BEEN FEEDIN' YOU AN' YOUR COUSINS FOR OVER A WEEK, AN' YOU HAVEN'T GONE OUT TO KILL DRAGONS EVEN ONCE!
DON'T GET CHEAP ON ME, WENDELL! IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE A DRAGONSLAYER AROUND, JUST SAY SO, BUT DON'T GO HOLDIN' OUT ON ME!
WE'RE NOT HOLDIN' OUT ON YOU! WE PAID YOU TO BE A DRAGONSLAYER, AN' WE WANT YOU TO SLAY A DRAGON!!
FOR SHAME! YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW YER HOLDIN' OUT ON ME? YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE MIDSUMMER'S DAY PICNIC?
GASP! YOU KNOW ABOUT TH' PICNIC?!
OF COURSE I DO! I KNOW THAT YOU AND THE VILLAGERS ARE HOARDING YOUR BEST GOODS AN' LIVESTOCK FOR IT! IS THAT ANY WAY TO TREAT YOUR PROTECTOR?!
B-BUT THE PICNIC IS A TRADITION! IT MEANS SO MUCH TO THE CHILDREN!
HOARDER!
THIS IS A STATE OF EMERGENCY, MISTER! WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR FRIVOLOUS CELEBRATIONS!
NOW, YOU AN' THE BOYS GATHER UP ALL THESE GOODIES YOU BEEN HIDIN' FROM ME, AND BRING 'EM TO TH' CENTER OF TH' COMPOUND AT DUSK . . .
. . . AND BRING TH' VILLAGERS! IT'S TIME YOU ALL LEARNED ABOUT MY PLANS FOR MIDSUMMER'S DAY!

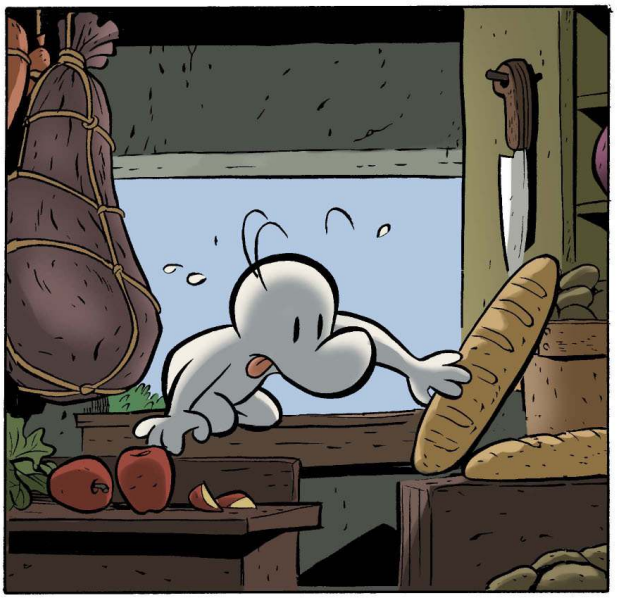


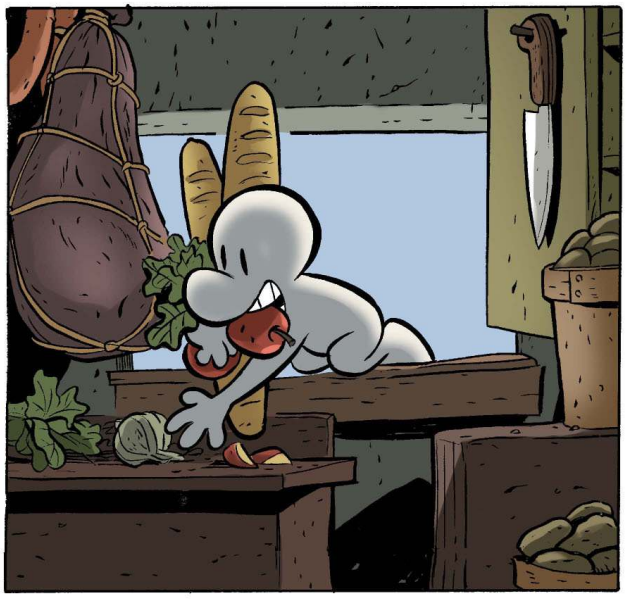
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

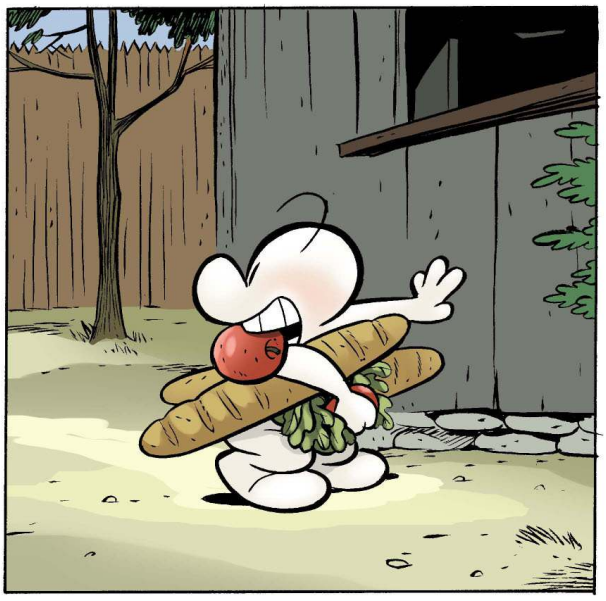

I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE CHICKENS. YOU AN' YOUR SHADY FRIENDS ALREADY TOOK 'EM ALL.
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CHICKENS LEFT? ARE YOU SURE?
WOK!
IF YOU'RE DESPERATE, I GOT A BARREL OF TAR OUT BACK - - WE COULD ROUND UP SOME FEATHERS . . .
. . . MAYBE WE COULD FIX SOMETHING UP - - ?
CUTE.
I'LL JUST PUT YOU DOWN FOR SIX CHICKENS TOMORROW.
WOK!
RRRRR!
WHAT A STUPID HAT.

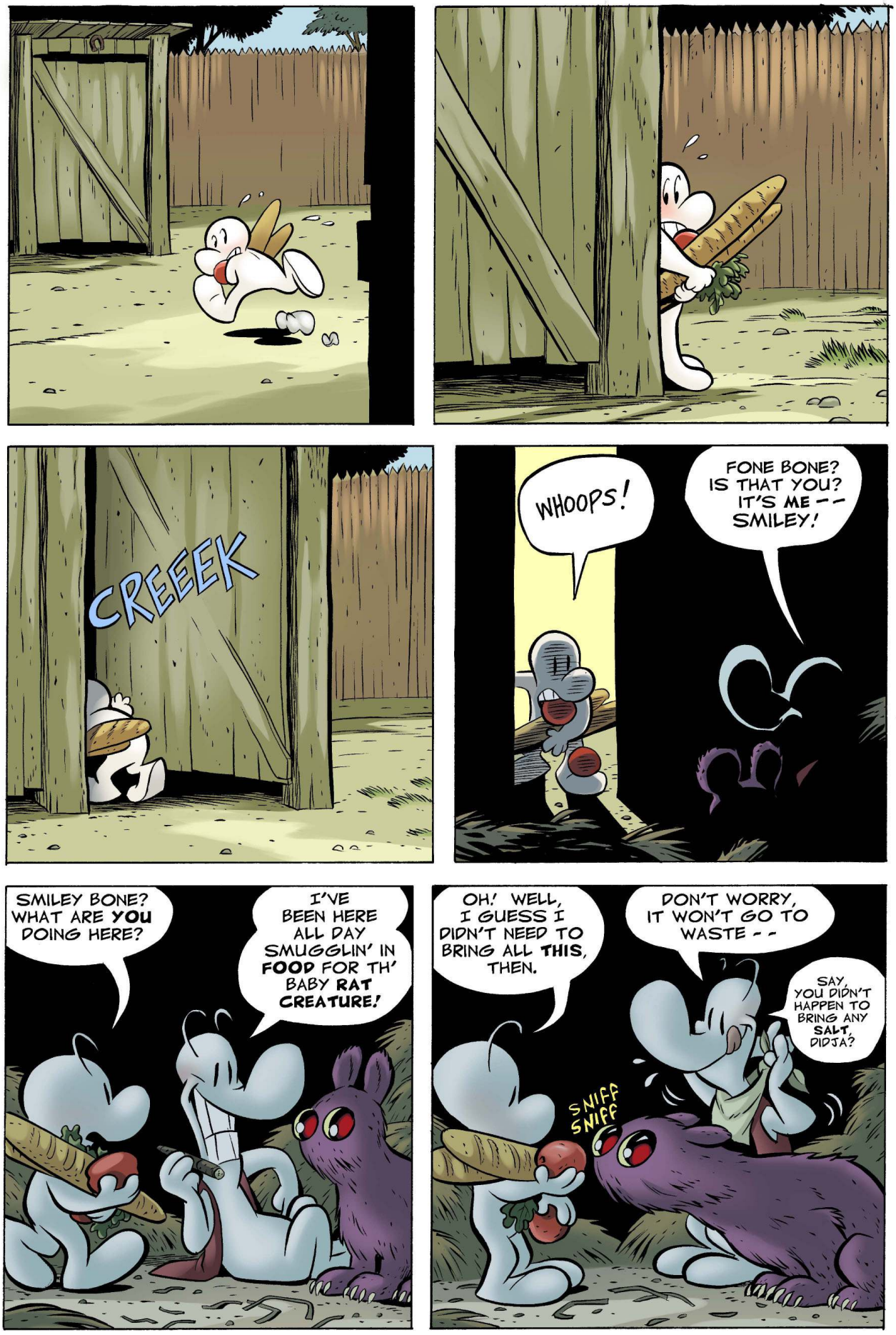


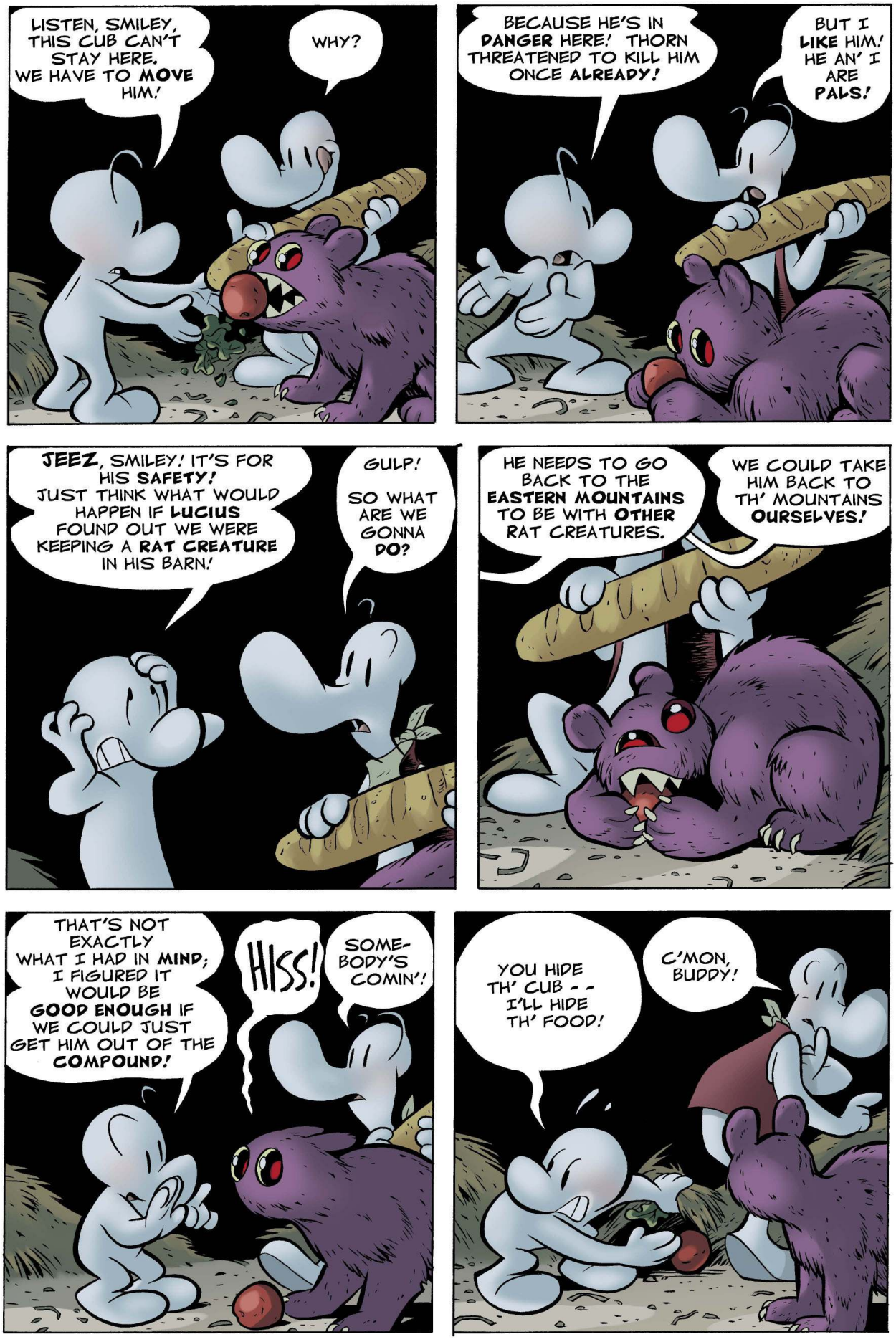


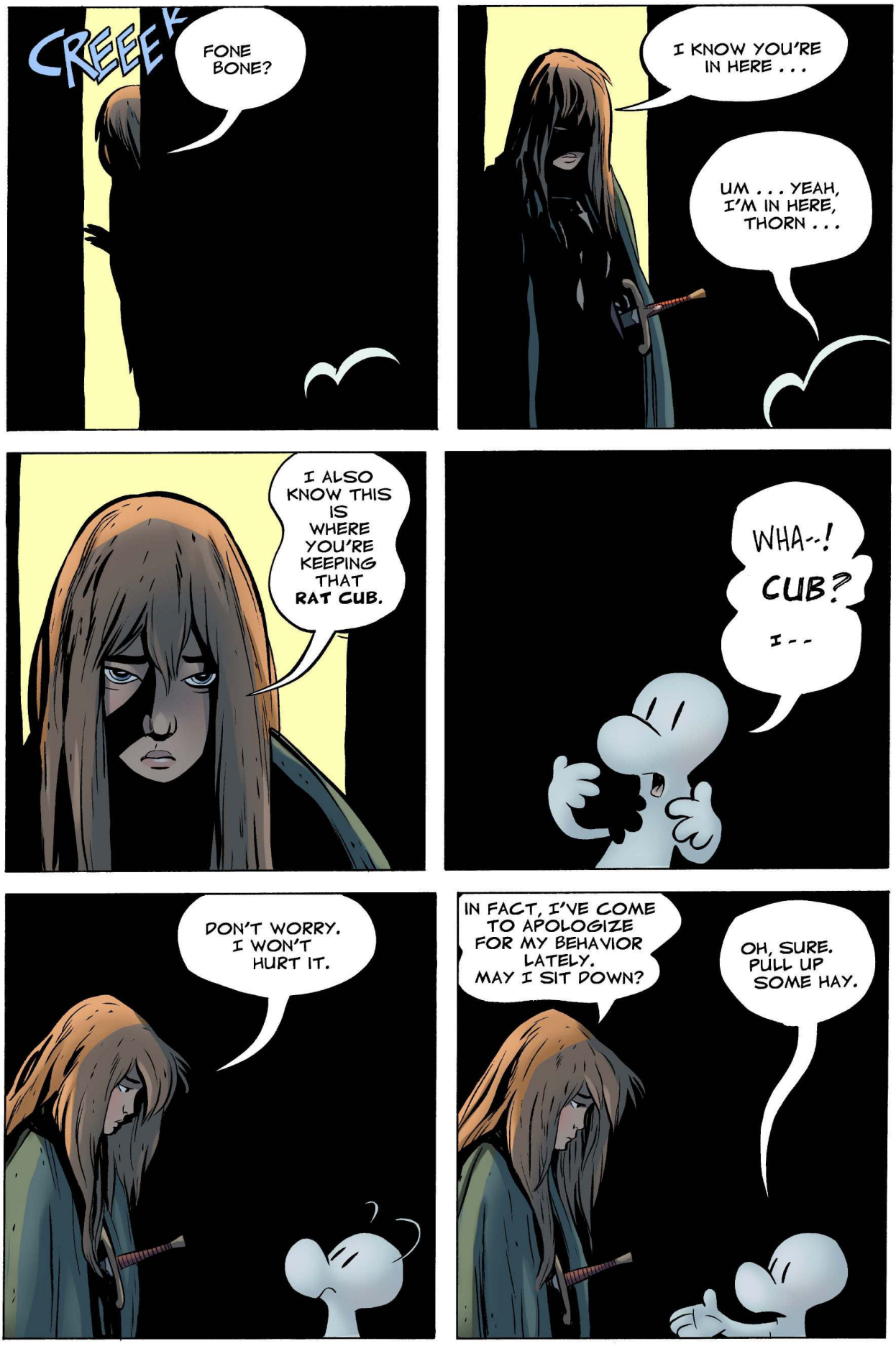


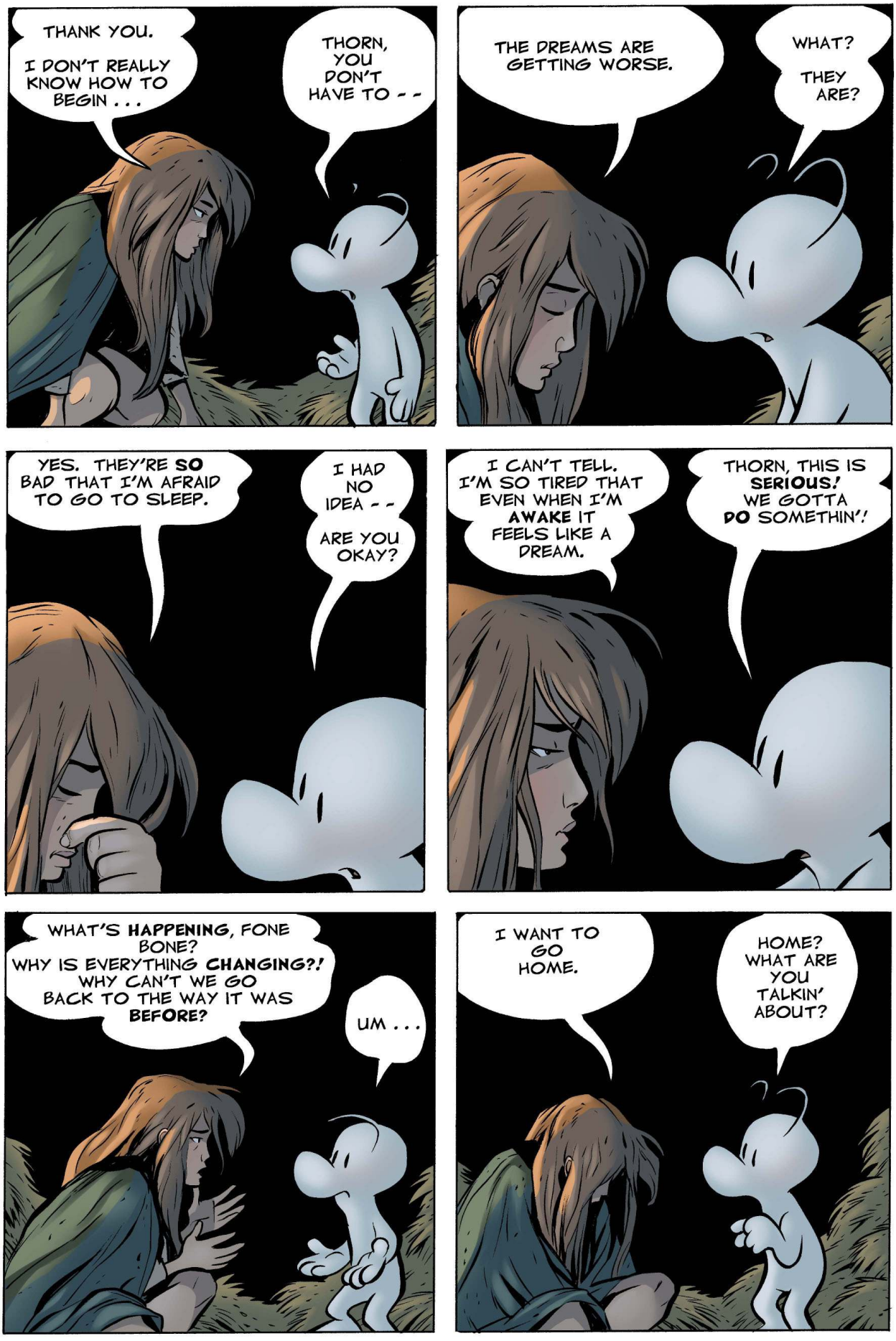


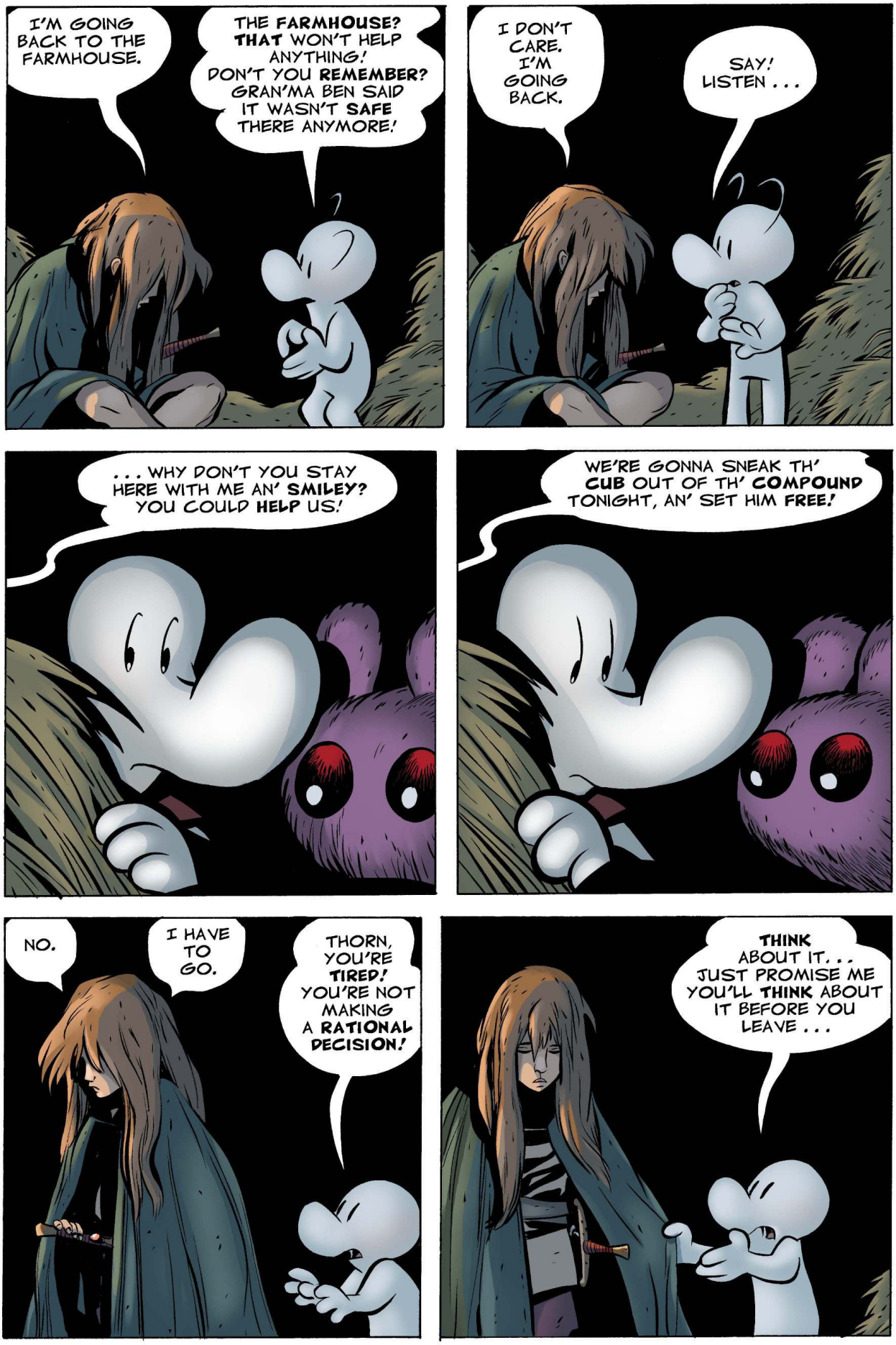


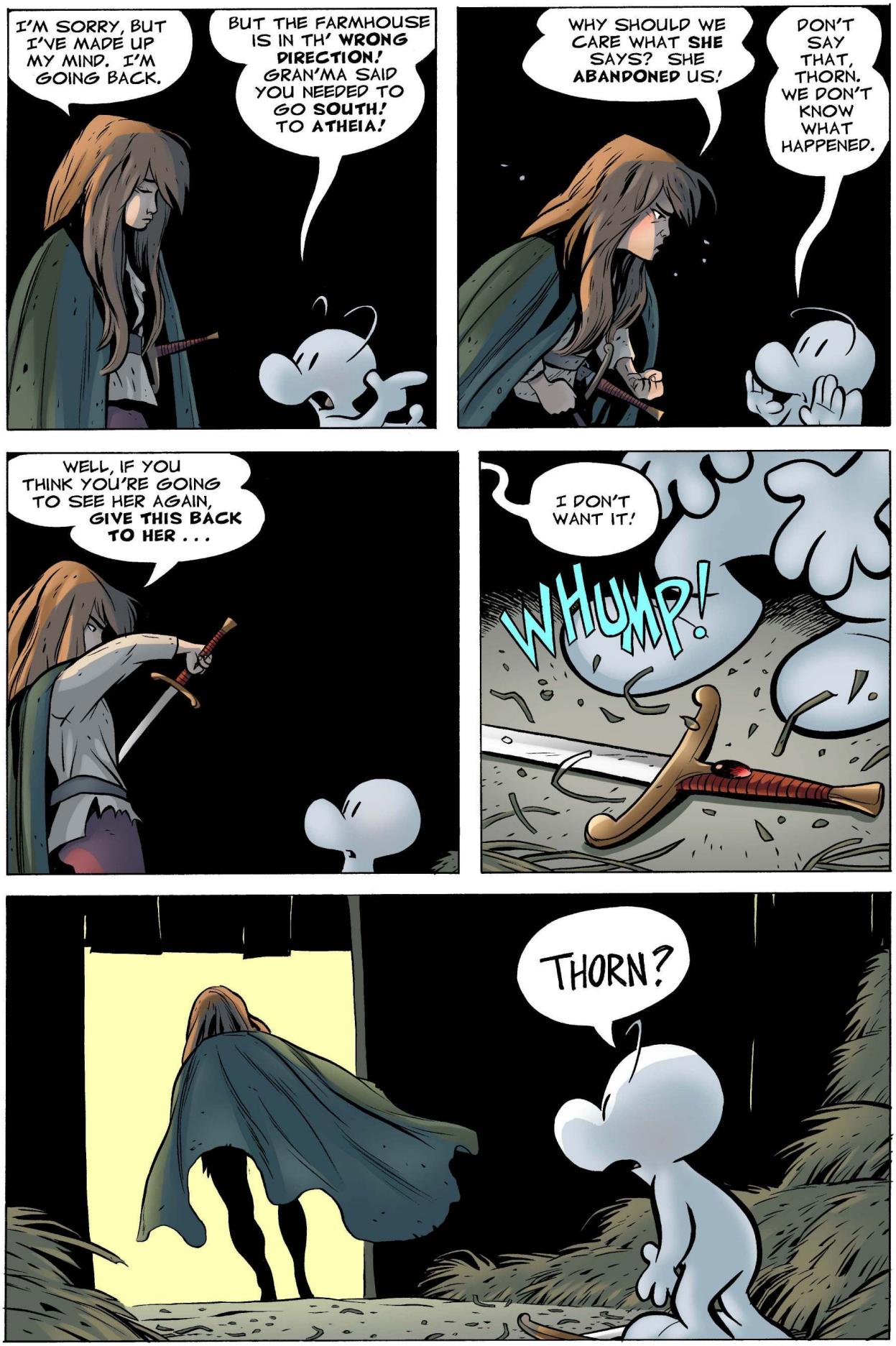

CREEEK
WHOOPS!
FONE BONE? IS THAT YOU? IT'S ME -- SMILEY!
SMILEY BONE? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'VE BEEN HERE ALL DAY SMUGGLIN' IN FOOD FOR TH' BABY RAT CREATURE!
OH! WELL, I GUESS I DIDN'T NEED TO BRING ALL THIS, THEN.
DON'T WORRY, IT WON'T GO TO WASTE - -
SAY, YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO BRING ANY SALT, DIDJA?
SNIFF SNIFF

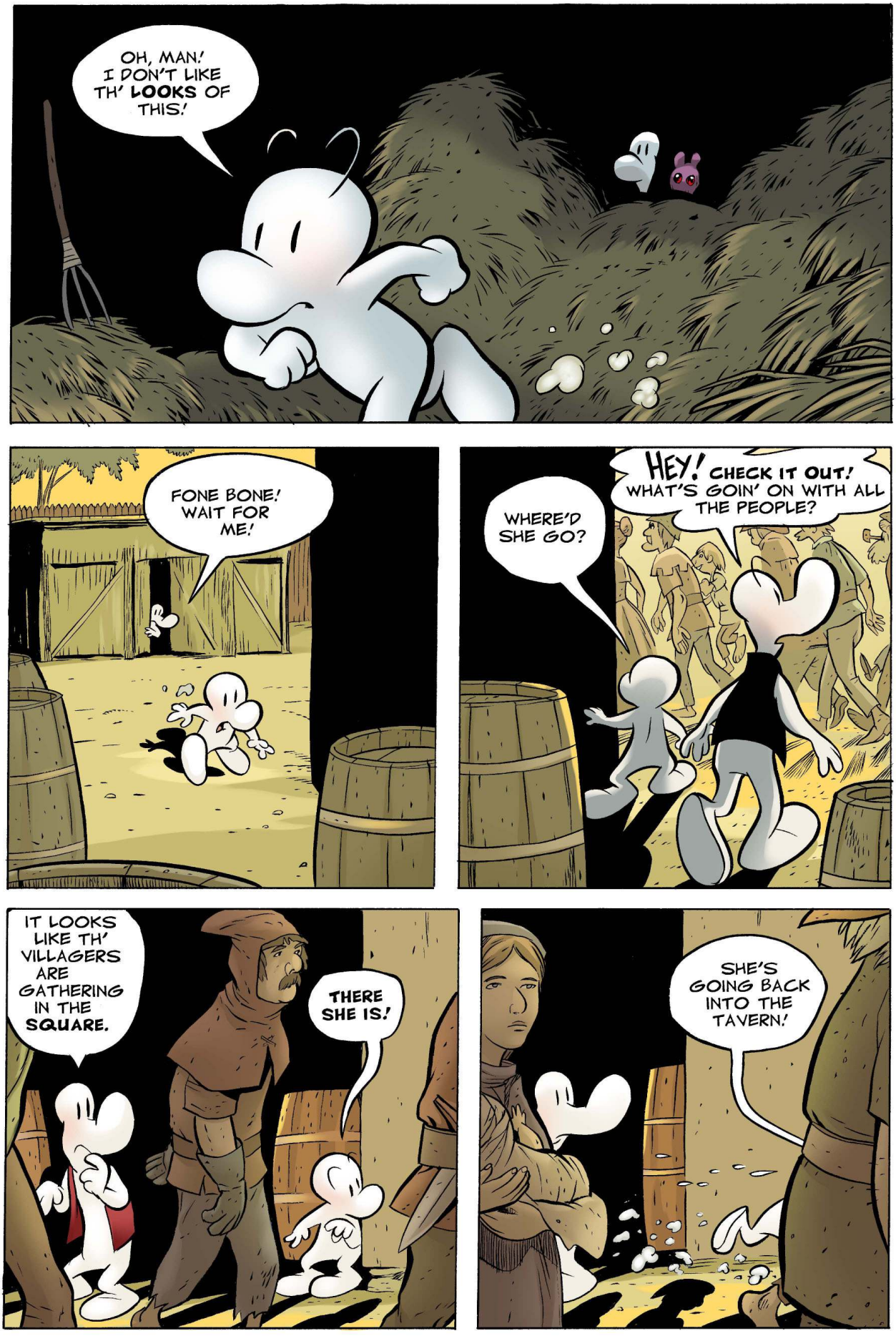

LISTEN, SMILEY, THIS CUB CAN'T STAY HERE. WE HAVE TO MOVE HIM!
WHY?
BECAUSE HE'S IN DANGER HERE! THORN THREATENED TO KILL HIM ONCE ALREADY!
BUT I LIKE HIM! HE AN' I ARE PALS!
JEEZ, SMILEY! IT'S FOR HIS SAFETY! JUST THINK WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF LUCIUS FOUND OUT WE WERE KEEPING A RAT CREATURE IN HIS BARN!
GULP! SO WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
HE NEEDS TO GO BACK TO THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS TO BE WITH OTHER RAT CREATURES.
WE COULD TAKE HIM BACK TO TH' MOUNTAINS OURSELVES!
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND; I FIGURED IT WOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH IF WE COULD JUST GET HIM OUT OF THE COMPOUND!
HISS!
SOME-BODY'S COMIN'!
YOU HIDE TH' CUB -- I'LL HIDE TH' FOOD!
C'MON, BUDDY!


CREEEK
FONE BONE?
I KNOW YOU'RE IN HERE . . .
UM . . . YEAH, I'M IN HERE, THORN . . .
I ALSO KNOW THIS IS WHERE YOU'RE KEEPING THAT RAT CUB.
WHA--!
CUB?
I--
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T HURT IT.
IN FACT, I'VE COME TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY BEHAVIOR LATELY. MAY I SIT DOWN?
OH, SURE. PULL UP SOME HAY.

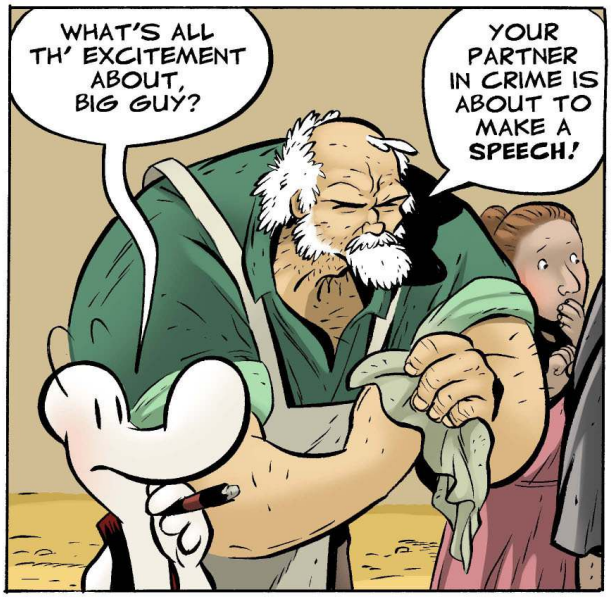

THANK YOU.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO BEGIN . . .
THORN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO - -
THE DREAMS ARE GETTING WORSE.
WHAT?
THEY ARE?
YES. THEY'RE SO BAD THAT I'M AFRAID TO GO TO SLEEP.
I HAD NO IDEA - -
ARE YOU OKAY?
I CAN'T TELL. I'M SO TIRED THAT EVEN WHEN I'M AWAKE IT FEELS LIKE A DREAM.
THORN, THIS IS SERIOUS! WE GOTTA DO SOMETHIN'!
WHAT'S HAPPENING, FONE BONE? WHY IS EVERYTHING CHANGING?! WHY CAN'T WE GO BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE?
UM . . .
I WANT TO GO HOME.
HOME? WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?


I'M GOING BACK TO THE FARMHOUSE.
THE FARMHOUSE? THAT WON'T HELP ANYTHING! DON'T YOU REMEMBER? GRAN'MA BEN SAID IT WASN'T SAFE THERE ANYMORE!
I DON'T CARE. I'M GOING BACK.
SAY! LISTEN . . .
. . . WHY DON'T YOU STAY HERE WITH ME AN' SMILEY? YOU COULD HELP US!
WE'RE GONNA SNEAK TH' CUB OUT OF TH' COMPOUND TONIGHT, AN' SET HIM FREE!
NO.
I HAVE TO GO.
THORN, YOU'RE TIRED! YOU'RE NOT MAKING A RATIONAL DECISION!
THINK ABOUT IT. . . JUST PROMISE ME YOU'LL THINK ABOUT IT BEFORE YOU LEAVE . . .

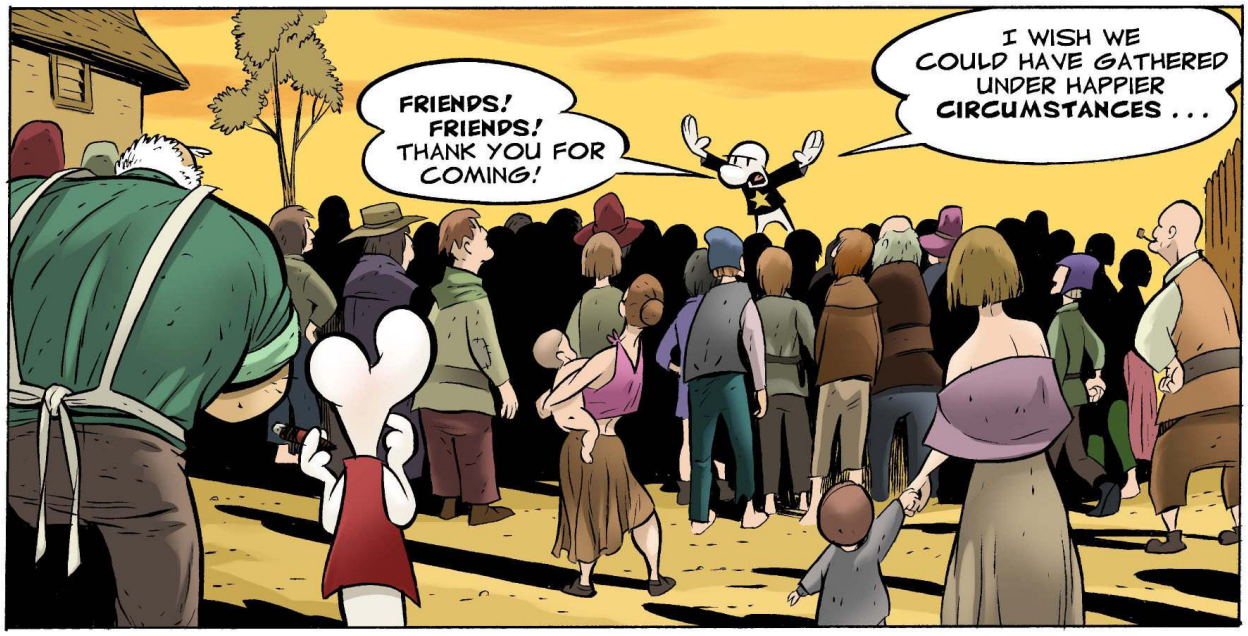

I'M SORRY, BUT I'VE MADE UP MY MIND. I'M GOING BACK.
BUT THE FARMHOUSE IS IN TH' WRONG DIRECTION! GRAN'MA SAID YOU NEEDED TO GO SOUTH! TO ATHEIA!
WHY SHOULD WE CARE WHAT SHE SAYS? SHE ABANDONED US!
DON'T SAY THAT, THORN. WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.
WELL, IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO SEE HER AGAIN, GIVE THIS BACK TO HER . . .
I DON'T WANT IT!
WHUMP!
THORN?

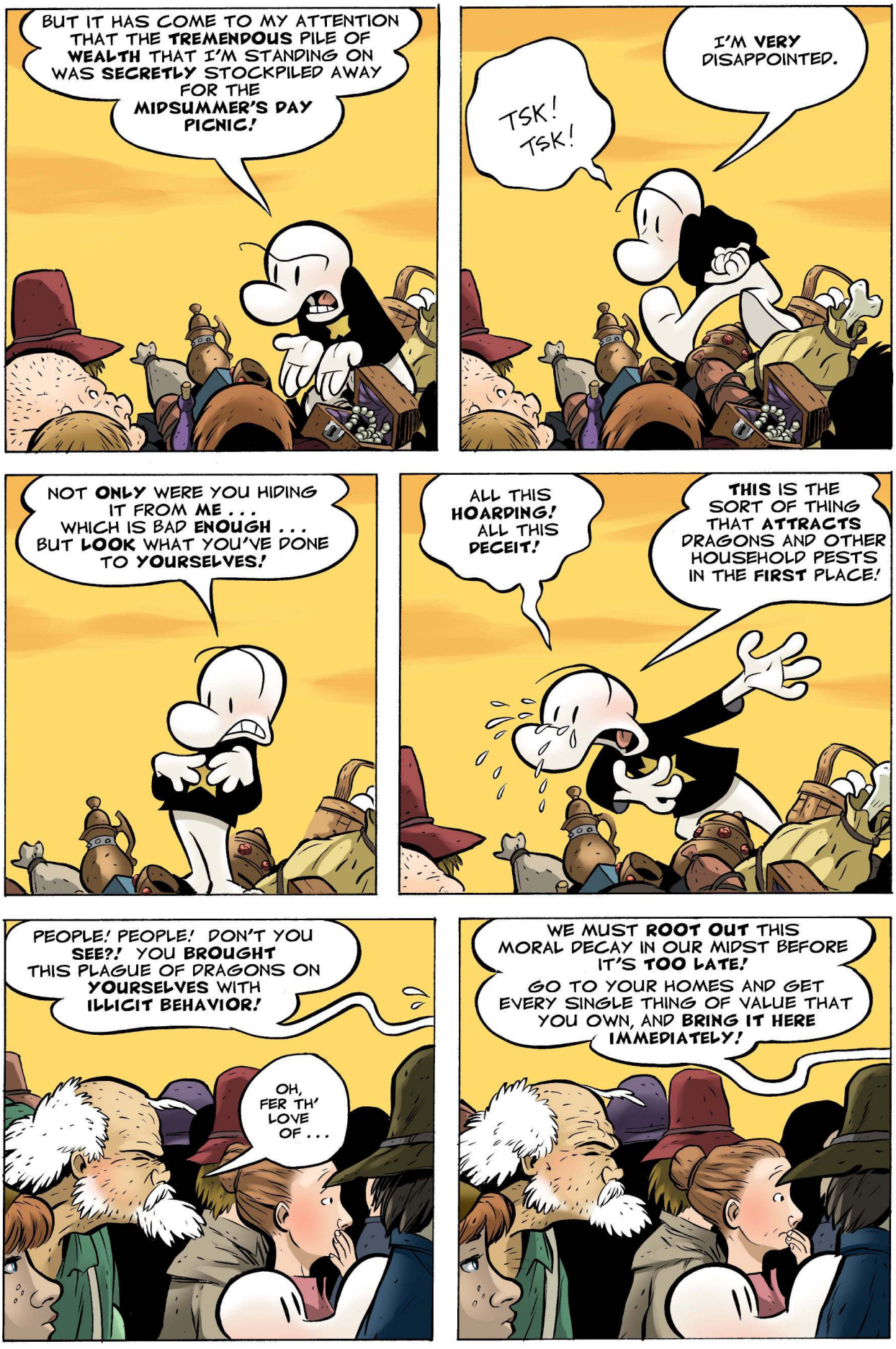

OH, MAN! I DON'T LIKE TH' LOOKS OF THIS!
FONE BONE! WAIT FOR ME!
WHERE'D SHE GO?
HEY! CHECK IT OUT! WHAT'S GOIN' ON WITH ALL THE PEOPLE?
IT LOOKS LIKE TH' VILLAGERS ARE GATHERING IN THE SQUARE.
THERE SHE IS!
SHE'S GOING BACK INTO THE TAVERN!

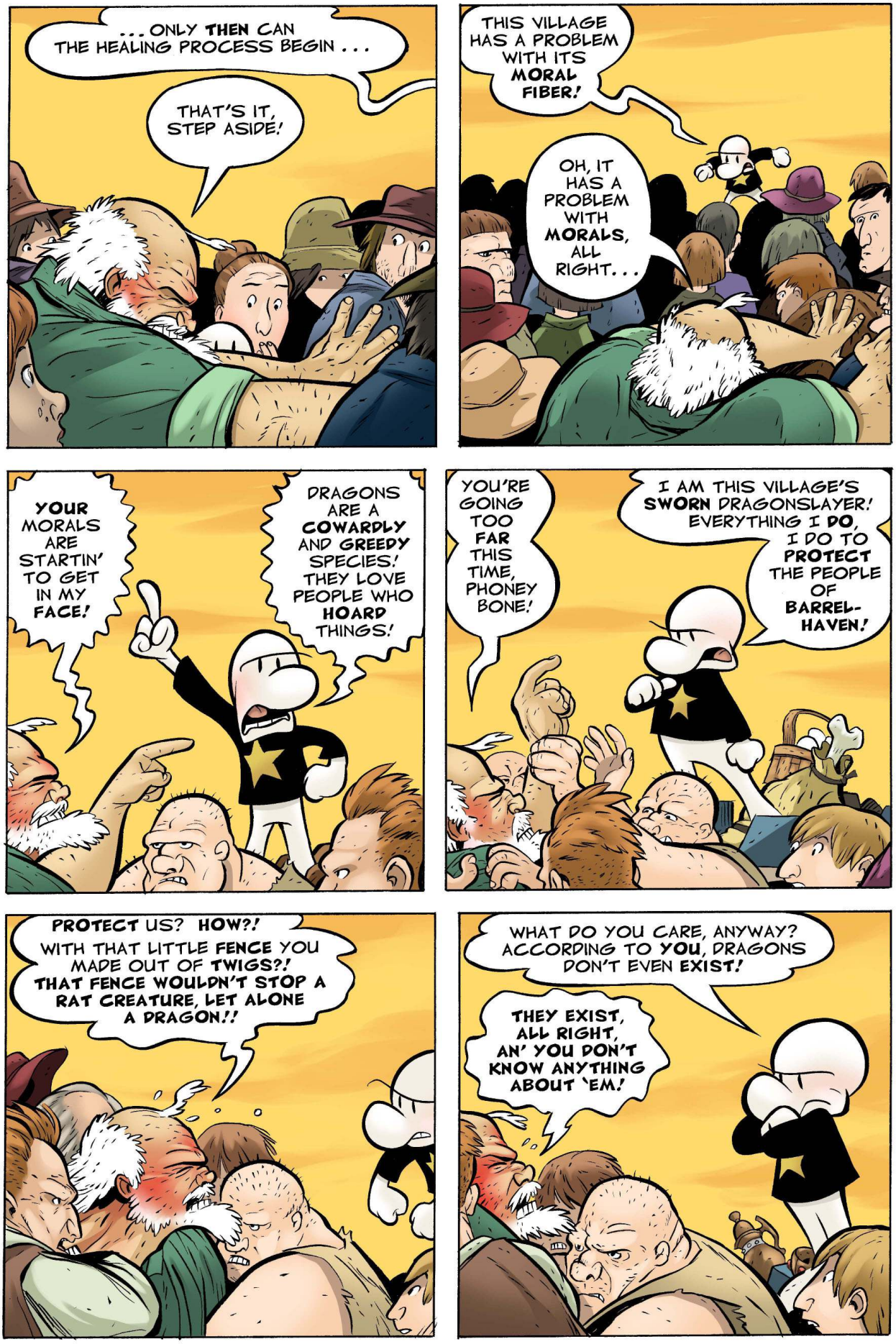

Barrel-

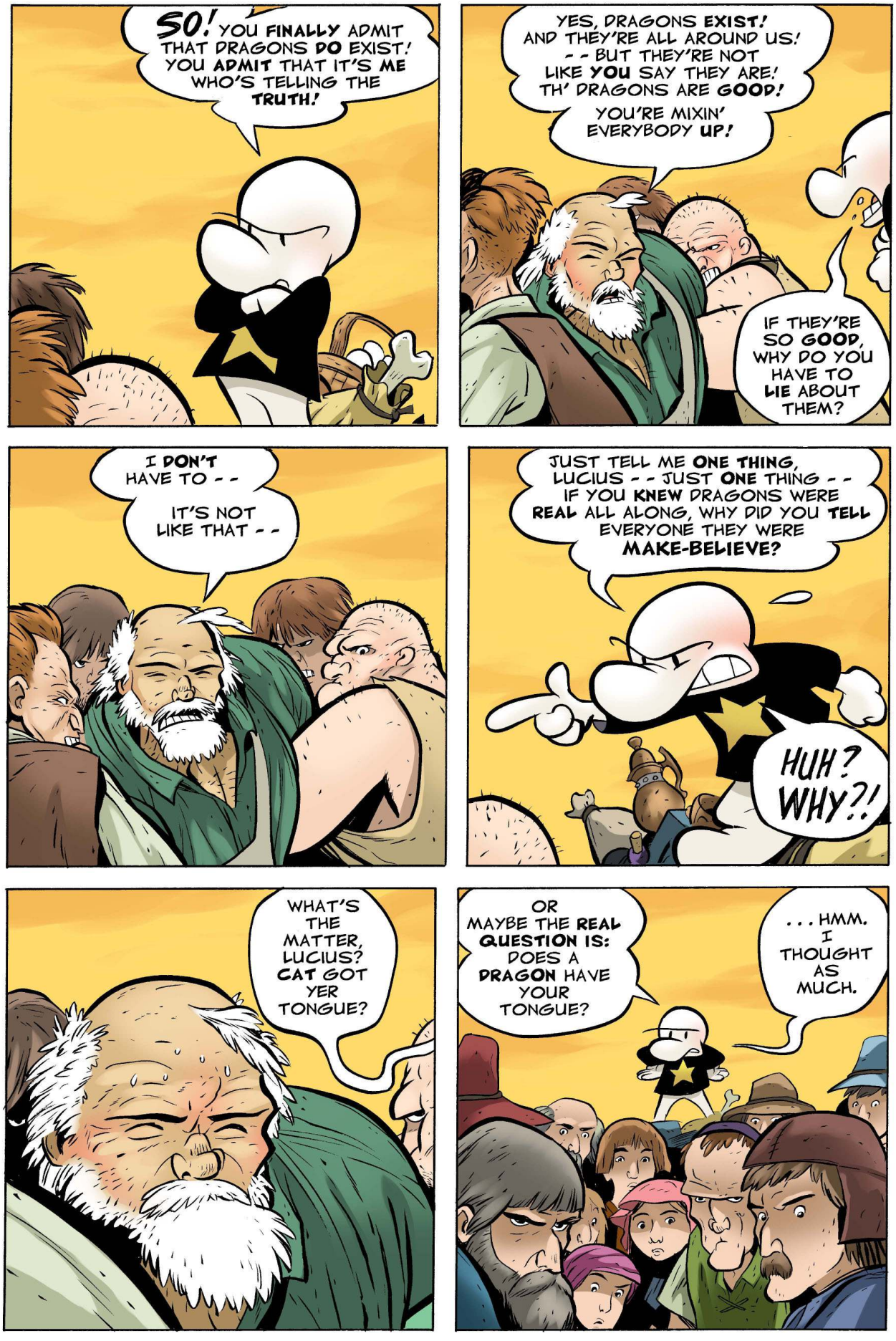

WHAT'S ALL TH' EXCITEMENT ABOUT, BIG GUY?
YOUR PARTNER IN CRIME IS ABOUT TO MAKE A SPEECH!


PHONEY BONE? WHAT'S HE UP TO?

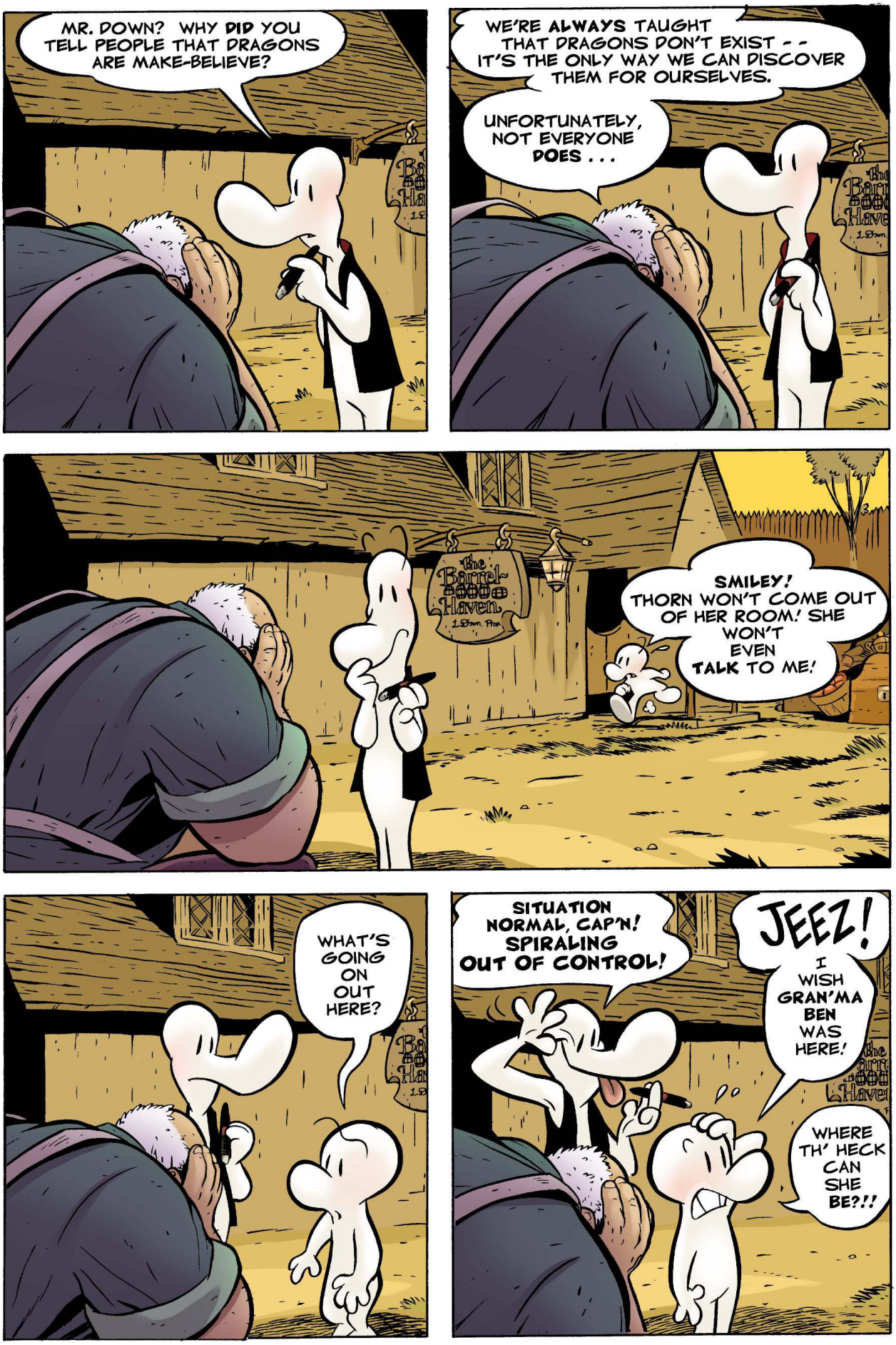

FRIENDS! FRIENDS! THANK YOU FOR COMING!
I WISH WE COULD HAVE GATHERED UNDER HAPPIER CIRCUMSTANCES . . .

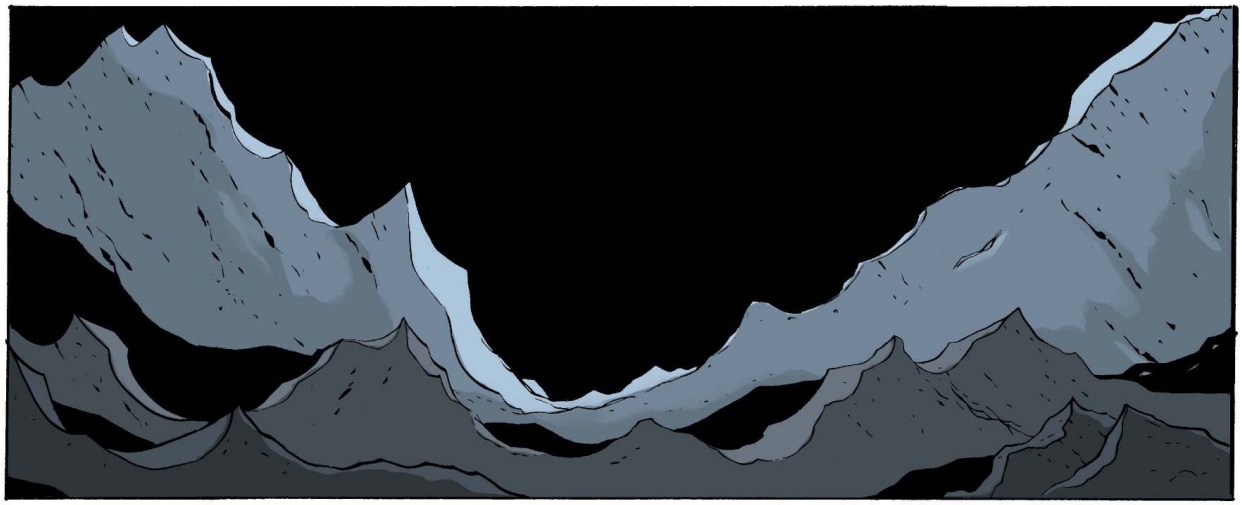

BUT IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT THE TREMENDOUS PILE OF WEALTH THAT I'M STANDING ON WAS SECRETLY STOCKPILED AWAY FOR THE MIDSUMMER'S DAY PICNIC!
TSK! TSK!
I'M VERY DISAPPOINTED.
NOT ONLY WERE YOU HIDING IT FROM ME . . . WHICH IS BAD ENOUGH . . . BUT LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO YOURSELVES!
ALL THIS HOARDING! ALL THIS DECEIT!
THIS IS THE SORT OF THING THAT ATTRACTS DRAGONS AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD PESTS IN THE FIRST PLACE!
PEOPLE! PEOPLE! DON'T YOU SEE?! YOU BROUGHT THIS PLAGUE OF DRAGONS ON YOURSELVES WITH ILLICIT BEHAVIOR!
OH, FER TH' LOVE OF . . .
WE MUST ROOT OUT THIS MORAL DECAY IN OUR MIDST BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
GO TO YOUR HOMES AND GET EVERY SINGLE THING OF VALUE THAT YOU OWN, AND BRING IT HERE IMMEDIATELY!


...ONLY THEN CAN THE HEALING PROCESS BEGIN...
THAT'S IT, STEP ASIDE!
THIS VILLAGE HAS A PROBLEM WITH ITS MORAL FIBER!
OH, IT HAS A PROBLEM WITH MORALS, ALL RIGHT...
YOUR MORALS ARE STARTIN' TO GET IN MY FACE!
DRAGONS ARE A COWARDLY AND GREEDY SPECIES! THEY LOVE PEOPLE WHO HOARD THINGS!
YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR THIS TIME, PHONEY BONE!
I AM THIS VILLAGE'S SWORN DRAGONSLAYER! EVERYTHING I DO, I DO TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF BARREL-HAVEN!
PROTECT US? HOW?! WITH THAT LITTLE FENCE YOU MADE OUT OF TWIGS?! THAT FENCE WOULDN'T STOP A RAT CREATURE, LET ALONE A DRAGON!!
WHAT DO YOU CARE, ANYWAY? ACCORDING TO YOU, DRAGONS DON'T EVEN EXIST!
THEY EXIST, ALL RIGHT, AN' YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT 'EM!


SO! YOU FINALLY ADMIT THAT DRAGONS DO EXIST! YOU ADMIT THAT IT'S ME WHO'S TELLING THE TRUTH!
YES, DRAGONS EXIST! AND THEY'RE ALL AROUND US! - - BUT THEY'RE NOT LIKE YOU SAY THEY ARE! TH' DRAGONS ARE GOOD! YOU'RE MIXIN' EVERYBODY UP!
IF THEY'RE SO GOOD, WHY DO YOU HAVE TO LIE ABOUT THEM?
I DON'T HAVE TO - -
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT - -
JUST TELL ME ONE THING, LUCIUS - - JUST ONE THING - - IF YOU KNEW DRAGONS WERE REAL ALL ALONG, WHY DID YOU TELL EVERYONE THEY WERE MAKE-BELIEVE?
HUH? WHY?!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LUCIUS? CAT GOT YER TONGUE?
OR MAYBE THE REAL QUESTION IS: DOES A DRAGON HAVE YOUR TONGUE?
. . . HMM. I THOUGHT AS MUCH.


AS I WAS SAYING, DRAGONS ARE A COWARDLY SPECIES . . .
. . . IF WE CAN MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF ONE DRAGON, WE CAN SCARE OFF THE REST!
MY PLAN IS SIMPLE! LURE ONE INTO A TRAP!
TOMORROW IS MIDSUMMER'S EVE! I WANT ALL THIS BOOTY - - ALONG WITH ALL TH' LOOT UP IN MY ROOMS - - LOADED ONTO WAGONS!
I WILL LEAD THIS WAGON TRAIN OUT OF THE VALLEY AND OVER THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PASS CALLED THE DRAGON'S STAIR!
THERE, WE'LL BUILD AN ALTER, AND USE THIS TREASURE AS BAIT!
AND WOE TO THE HAPLESS DRAGON WHO STUMBLES INTO MY TRAP, BECAUSE DRAGON-KABOBS BEGIN AT SUNRISE!
THIS EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE DRAGONSLAYER HIGH COUNCIL . . .
. . . IS ADJOURNED.
The Barrel-Bottle Haven


MR. DOWN? WHY DID YOU TELL PEOPLE THAT DRAGONS ARE MAKE-BELIEVE?
WE'RE ALWAYS TAUGHT THAT DRAGONS DON'T EXIST -- IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE CAN DISCOVER THEM FOR OURSELVES.
UNFORTUNATELY, NOT EVERYONE DOES . . .
the Barrel-Haven
SMILEY! THORN WON'T COME OUT OF HER ROOM! SHE WON'T EVEN TALK TO ME!
WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE?
SITUATION NORMAL, CAP'N! SPIRALING OUT OF CONTROL!
JEEZ! I WISH GRAN'MA BEN WAS HERE!
WHERE TH' HECK CAN SHE BE?!!




GO!
GO! GO!
DESTROY YOUR ENEMIES!


KINGDOK, I HAVE A SPECIAL MISSION FOR YOU . . .
TAKE A PARTY OF YOUR BEST WARRIORS . . . FIND THE PRINCESS AND THE THREE BONES! BRING THEM TO ME . . . . .


. . . MASTER?. . WOULD NOT THE WAR BE BETTER SERVED IF I WERE TO ADVANCE IMMEDIATELY TO CONFRONT THE GREAT RED DRAGON?
YOU WILL DO AS YOU ARE TOLD . . .



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


. . . MUCH,
MUCH,
MORE . . .

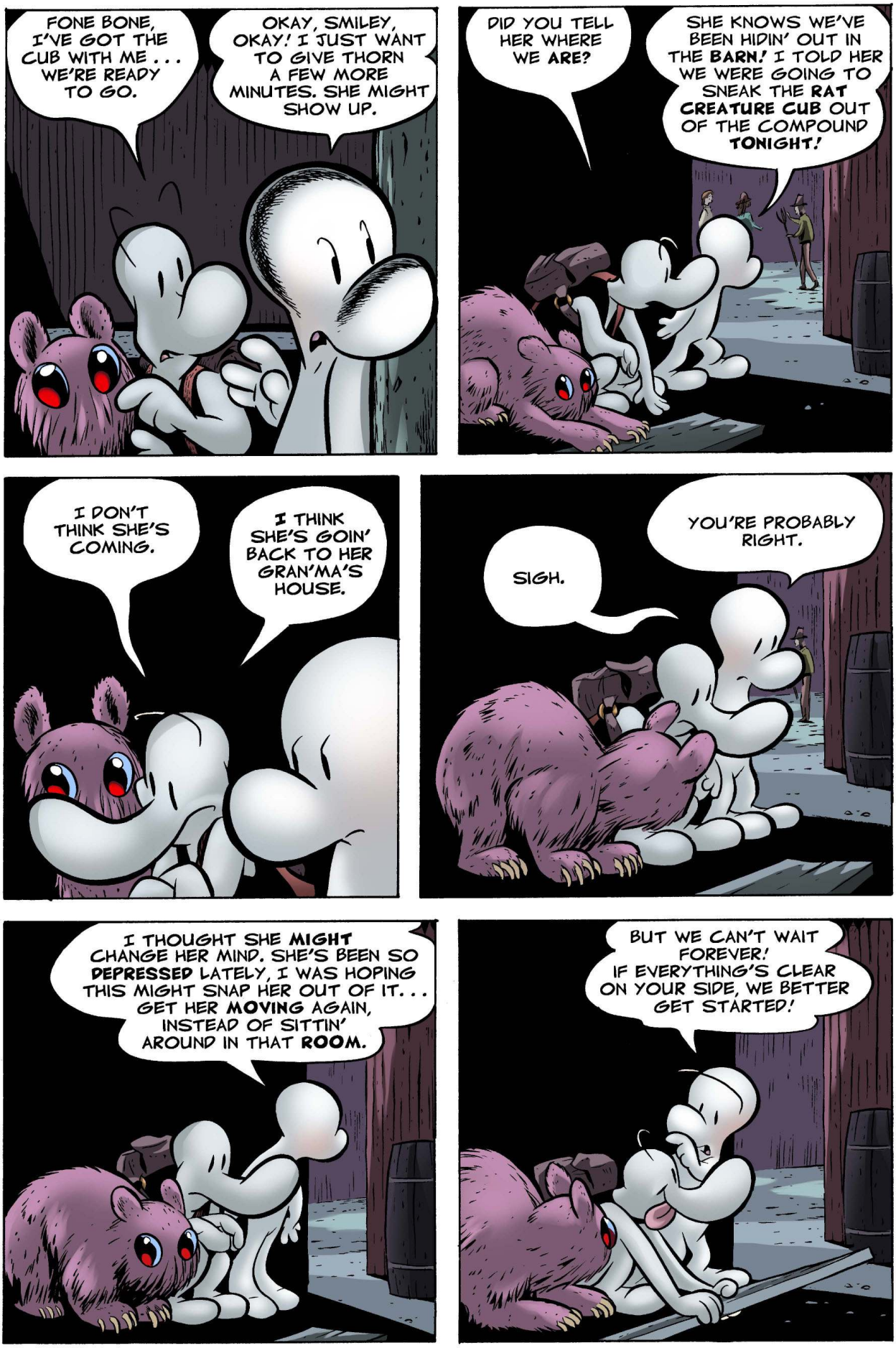
CARTOON BOOKS
26 FEB
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA

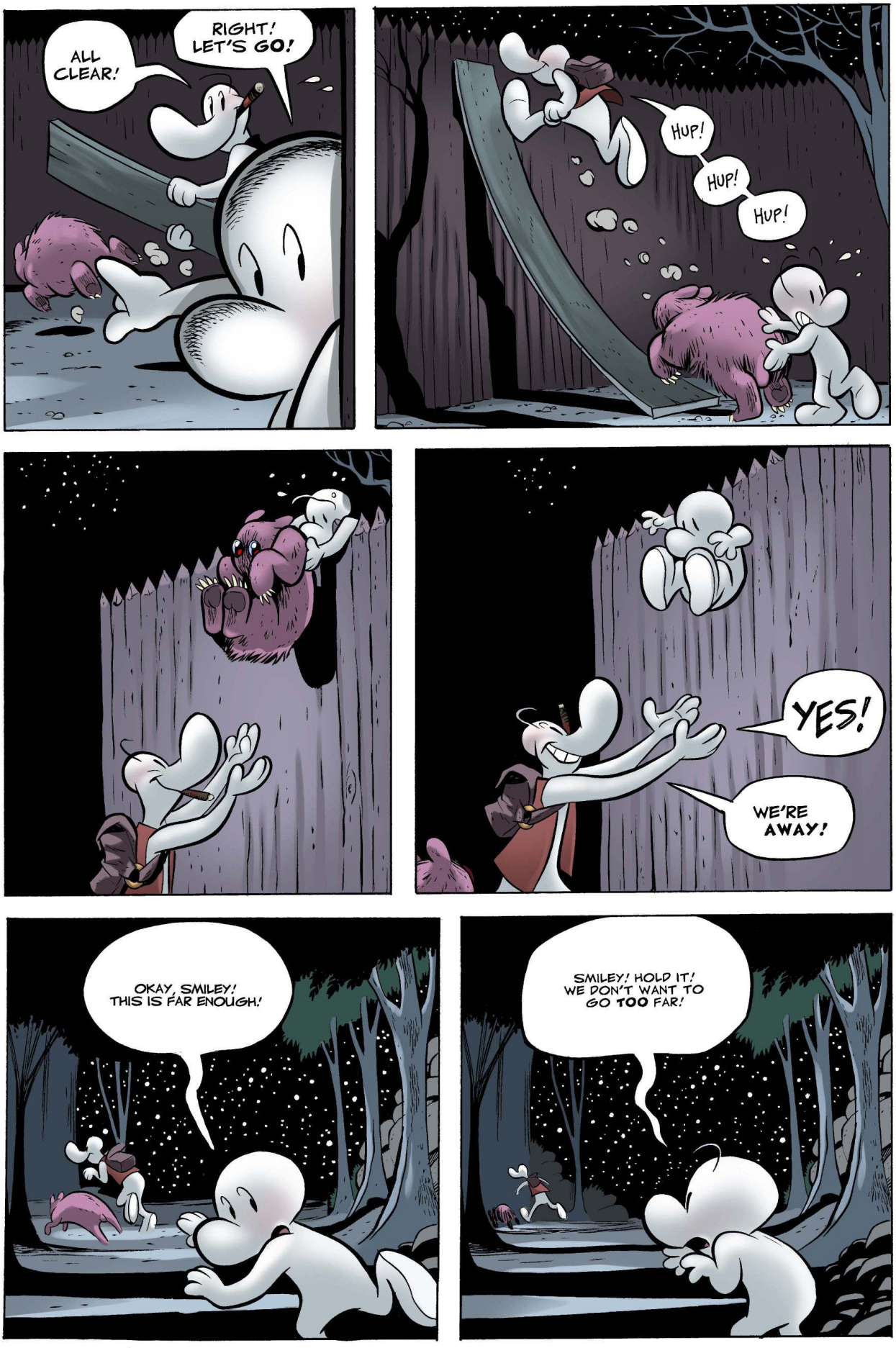
BONE



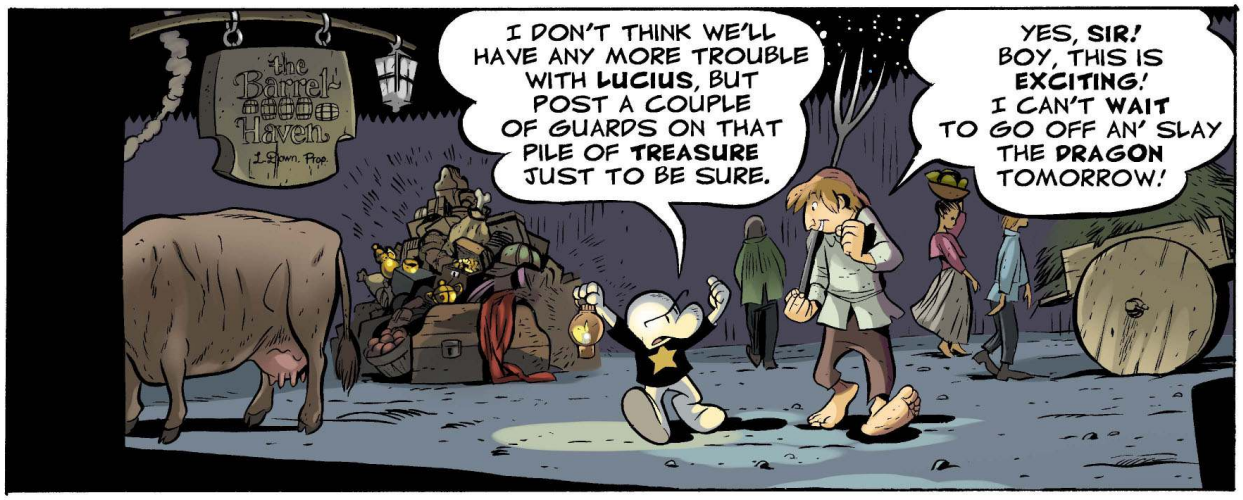
BY JEFF SMITH

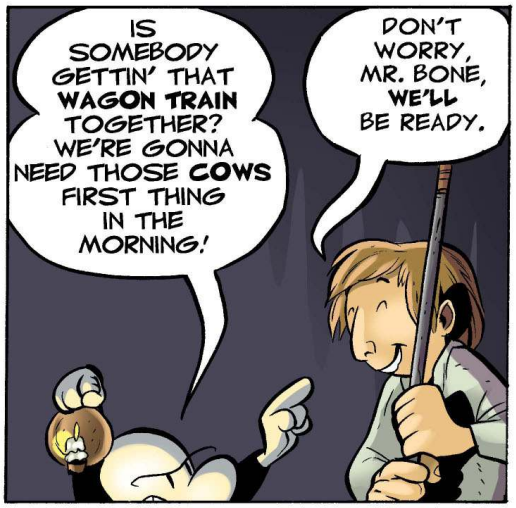

BONE
Fone Bone
WHERE IS SHE?

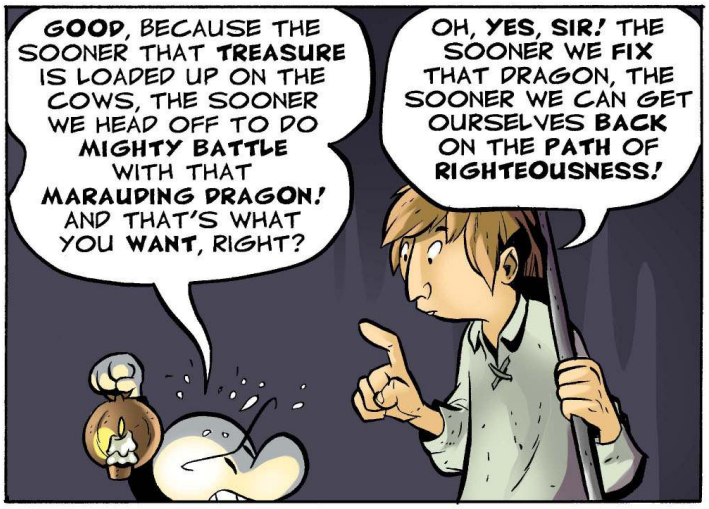

FONE BONE, I'VE GOT THE CUB WITH ME . . . WE'RE READY TO GO.
OKAY, SMILEY, OKAY! I JUST WANT TO GIVE THORN A FEW MORE MINUTES. SHE MIGHT SHOW UP.
DID YOU TELL HER WHERE WE ARE?
SHE KNOWS WE'VE BEEN HIDIN' OUT IN THE BARN! I TOLD HER WE WERE GOING TO SNEAK THE RAT CREATURE CUB OUT OF THE COMPOUND TONIGHT!
I DON'T THINK SHE'S COMING.
I THINK SHE'S GOIN' BACK TO HER GRAN'MA'S HOUSE.
SIGH.
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.
I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT CHANGE HER MIND. SHE'S BEEN SO DEPRESSED LATELY, I WAS HOPING THIS MIGHT SNAP HER OUT OF IT. . . GET HER MOVING AGAIN, INSTEAD OF SITTIN' AROUND IN THAT ROOM.
BUT WE CAN'T WAIT FOREVER! IF EVERYTHING'S CLEAR ON YOUR SIDE, WE BETTER GET STARTED!

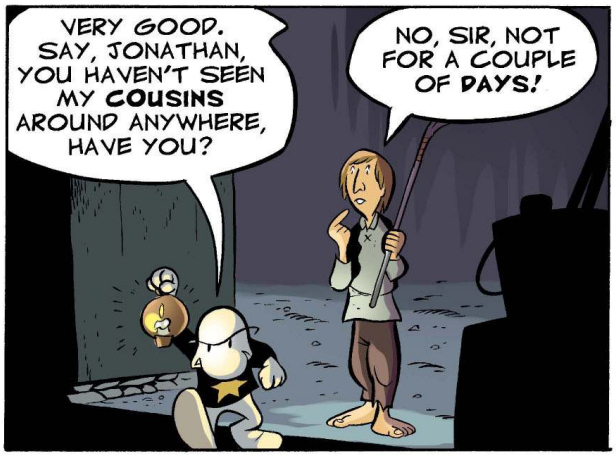

ALL CLEAR!
RIGHT! LET'S GO!
HUP!
HUP!
HUP!
YES!
WE'RE AWAY!
OKAY, SMILEY! THIS IS FAR ENOUGH!
SMILEY! HOLD IT! WE DON'T WANT TO GO TOO FAR!

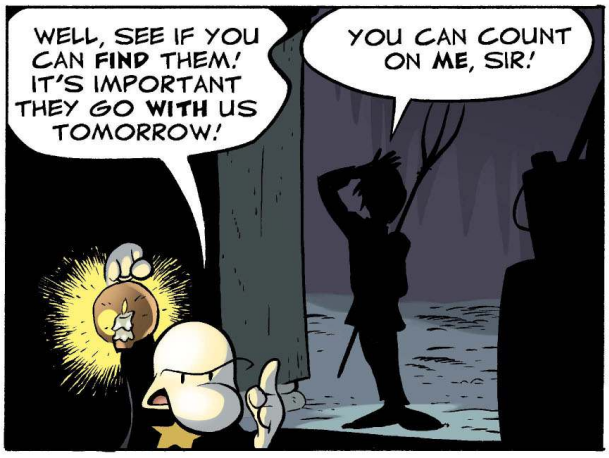

HEY! STOP!
LET THE CUB GO ON HIS OWN!
HE'LL BE SAFE NOW - -
SMILEY! WE ARE NOT GOING TO TAKE THAT CUB ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE MOUNTAINS! I MEAN IT! COME BACK HERE!
OOOH!
SMACK!

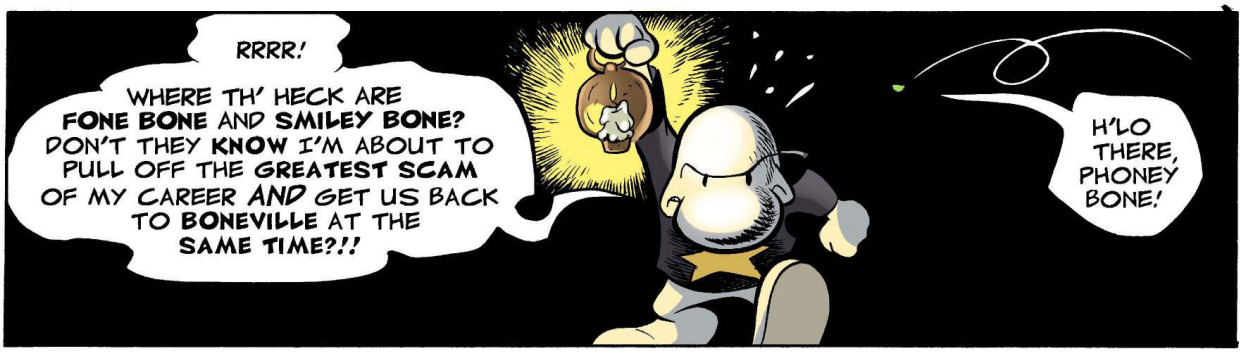

the Barrel Haven
I DON'T THINK WE'LL HAVE ANY MORE TROUBLE WITH LUCIUS, BUT POST A COUPLE OF GUARDS ON THAT PILE OF TREASURE JUST TO BE SURE.
YES, SIR! BOY, THIS IS EXCITING! I CAN'T WAIT TO GO OFF AN' SLAY THE DRAGON TOMORROW!

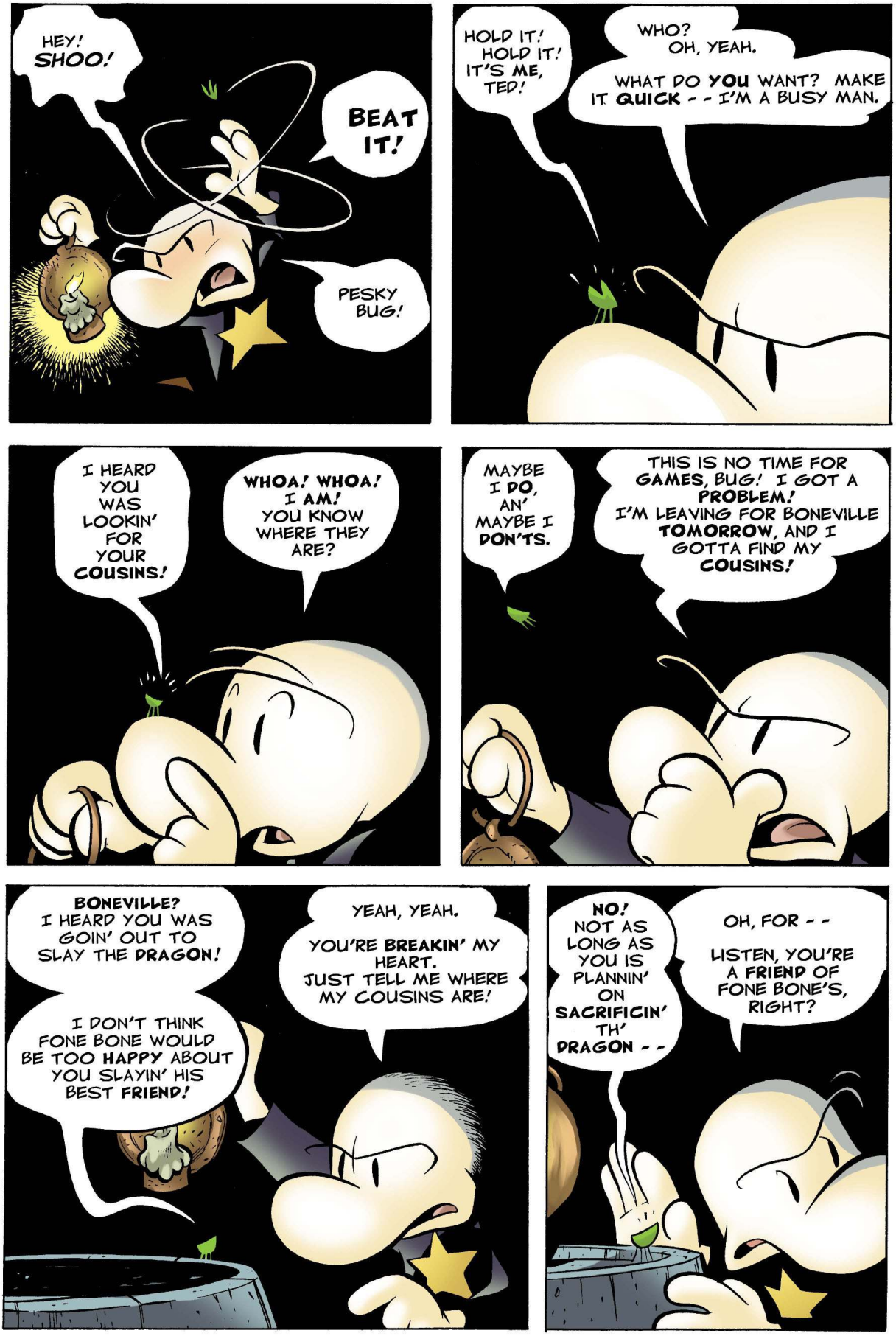

IS SOMEBODY GETTIN' THAT WAGON TRAIN TOGETHER? WE'RE GONNA NEED THOSE COWS FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!
DON'T WORRY, MR. BONE, WE'LL BE READY.


GOOD, BECAUSE THE SOONER THAT TREASURE IS LOADED UP ON THE COWS, THE SOONER WE HEAD OFF TO DO MIGHTY BATTLE WITH THAT MARAUDING DRAGON! AND THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, RIGHT?
OH, YES, SIR! THE SOONER WE FIX THAT DRAGON, THE SOONER WE CAN GET OURSELVES BACK ON THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS!

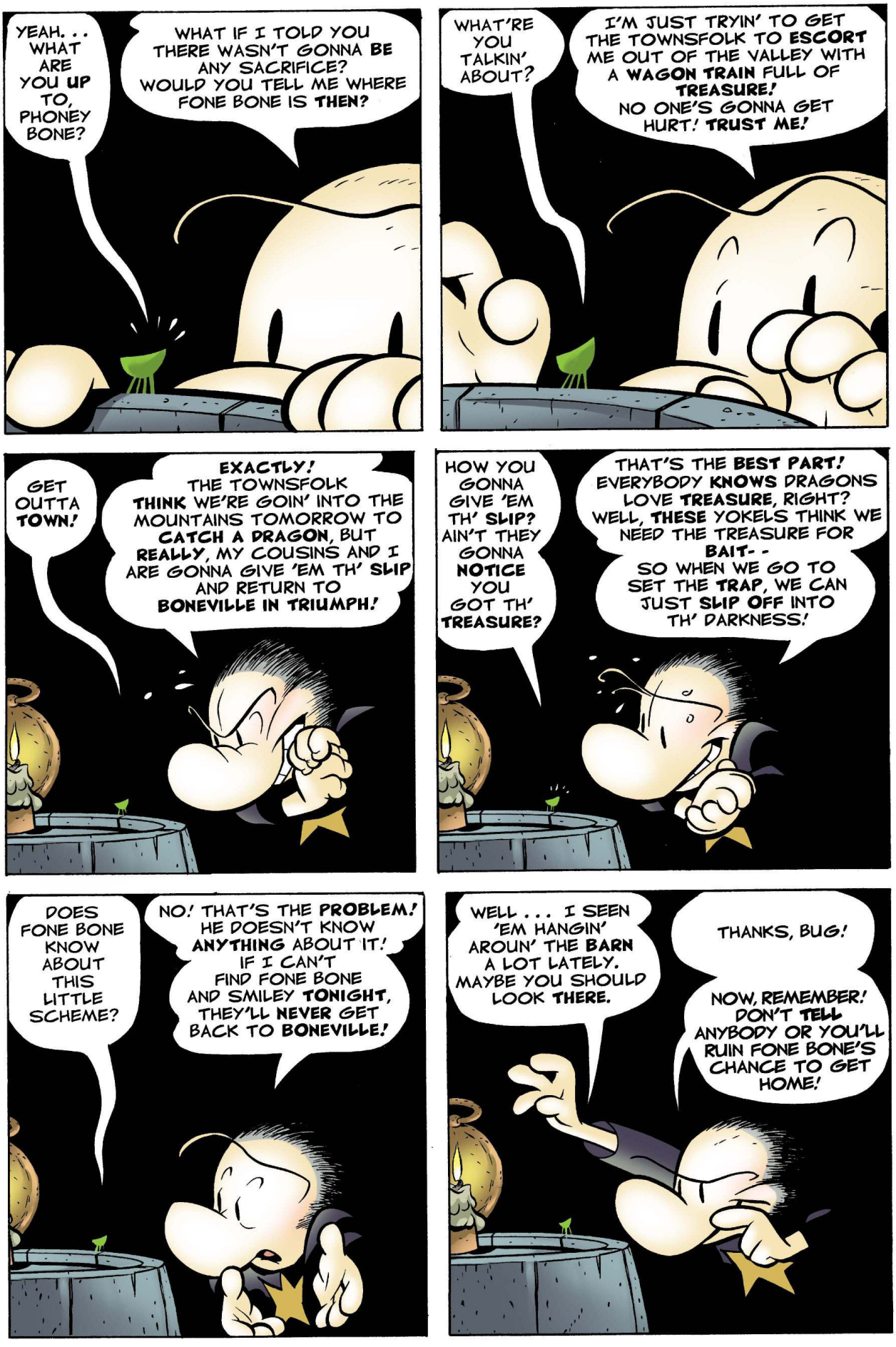

VERY GOOD. SAY, JONATHAN, YOU HAVEN'T SEEN MY COUSINS AROUND ANYWHERE, HAVE YOU?
NO, SIR, NOT FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS!


WELL, SEE IF YOU CAN FIND THEM! IT'S IMPORTANT THEY GO WITH US TOMORROW!
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, SIR!


RRRR!
WHERE TH' HECK ARE FONE BONE AND SMILEY BONE? DON'T THEY KNOW I'M ABOUT TO PULL OFF THE GREATEST SCAM OF MY CAREER AND GET US BACK TO BONEVILLE AT THE SAME TIME?!!
H'LO THERE, PHONEY BONE!



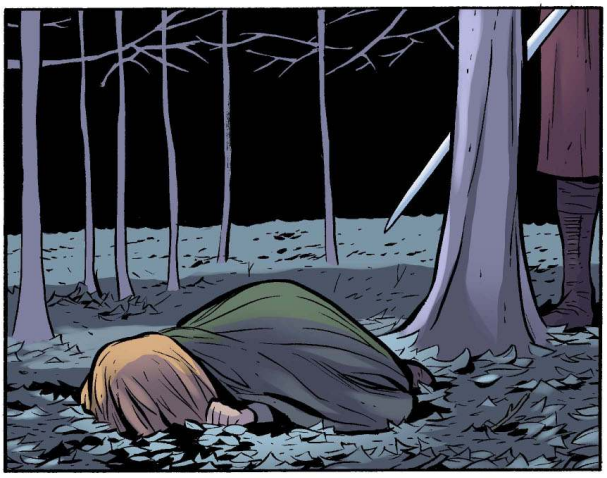
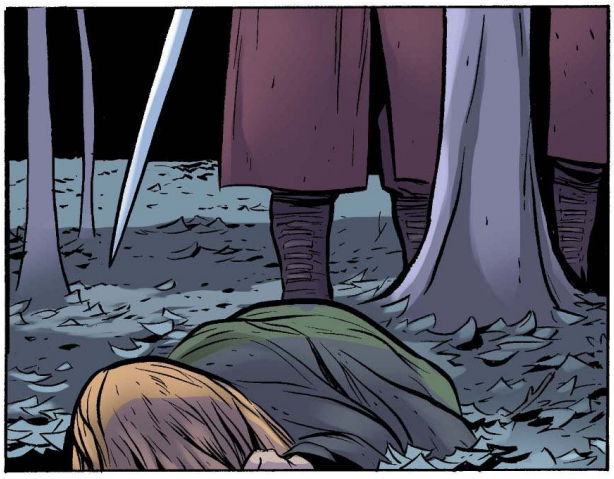
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


YEAH. . . WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, PHONEY BONE?
WHAT IF I TOLD YOU THERE WASN'T GONNA BE ANY SACRIFICE? WOULD YOU TELL ME WHERE FONE BONE IS THEN?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
I'M JUST TRYIN' TO GET THE TOWNSFOLK TO ESCORT ME OUT OF THE VALLEY WITH A WAGON TRAIN FULL OF TREASURE! NO ONE'S GONNA GET HURT! TRUST ME!
GET OUTTA TOWN!
EXACTLY! THE TOWNSFOLK THINK WE'RE GOIN' INTO THE MOUNTAINS TOMORROW TO CATCH A DRAGON, BUT REALLY, MY COUSINS AND I ARE GONNA GIVE 'EM TH' SLIP AND RETURN TO BONEVILLE IN TRIUMPH!
HOW YOU GONNA GIVE 'EM TH' SLIP? AIN'T THEY GONNA NOTICE YOU GOT TH' TREASURE?
THAT'S THE BEST PART! EVERYBODY KNOWS DRAGONS LOVE TREASURE, RIGHT? WELL, THESE YOKELS THINK WE NEED THE TREASURE FOR BAIT- - SO WHEN WE GO TO SET THE TRAP, WE CAN JUST SLIP OFF INTO TH' DARKNESS!
DOES FONE BONE KNOW ABOUT THIS LITTLE SCHEME?
NO! THAT'S THE PROBLEM! HE DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT! IF I CAN'T FIND FONE BONE AND SMILEY TONIGHT, THEY'LL NEVER GET BACK TO BONEVILLE!
WELL . . . I SEEN 'EM HANGIN' AROUN' THE BARN A LOT LATELY. MAYBE YOU SHOULD LOOK THERE.
THANKS, BUG!
NOW, REMEMBER! DON'T TELL ANYBODY OR YOU'LL RUIN FONE BONE'S CHANCE TO GET HOME!


YOU'S A THIEF AN' A CROOK, PHONCIBLE P. BONE, AN' ONE DAY IT'S GONNA CATCH UP TO YA!
YEAH, YEAH!
FONE BONE? YOU IN HERE?
SMILEY - - ?
HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
CREAK!
FONE BONE? IS THAT YOU?

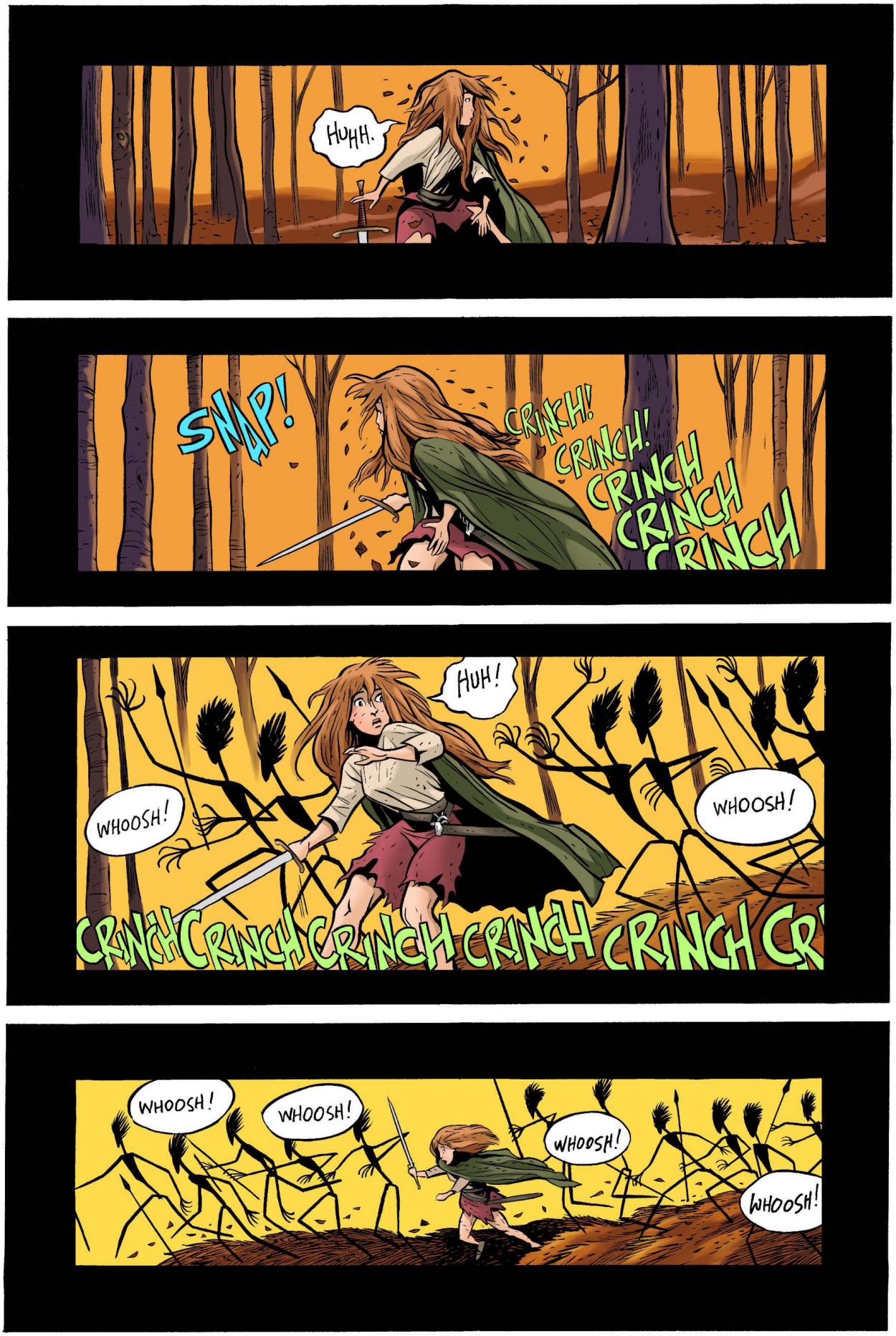

HEY!
WHO'S THERE?
C'MON, QUIT FOOLIN' AROUND!
AH! THERE'S NOBODY IN HERE! THAT STUPID BUG IS OUTTA HIS MIND!



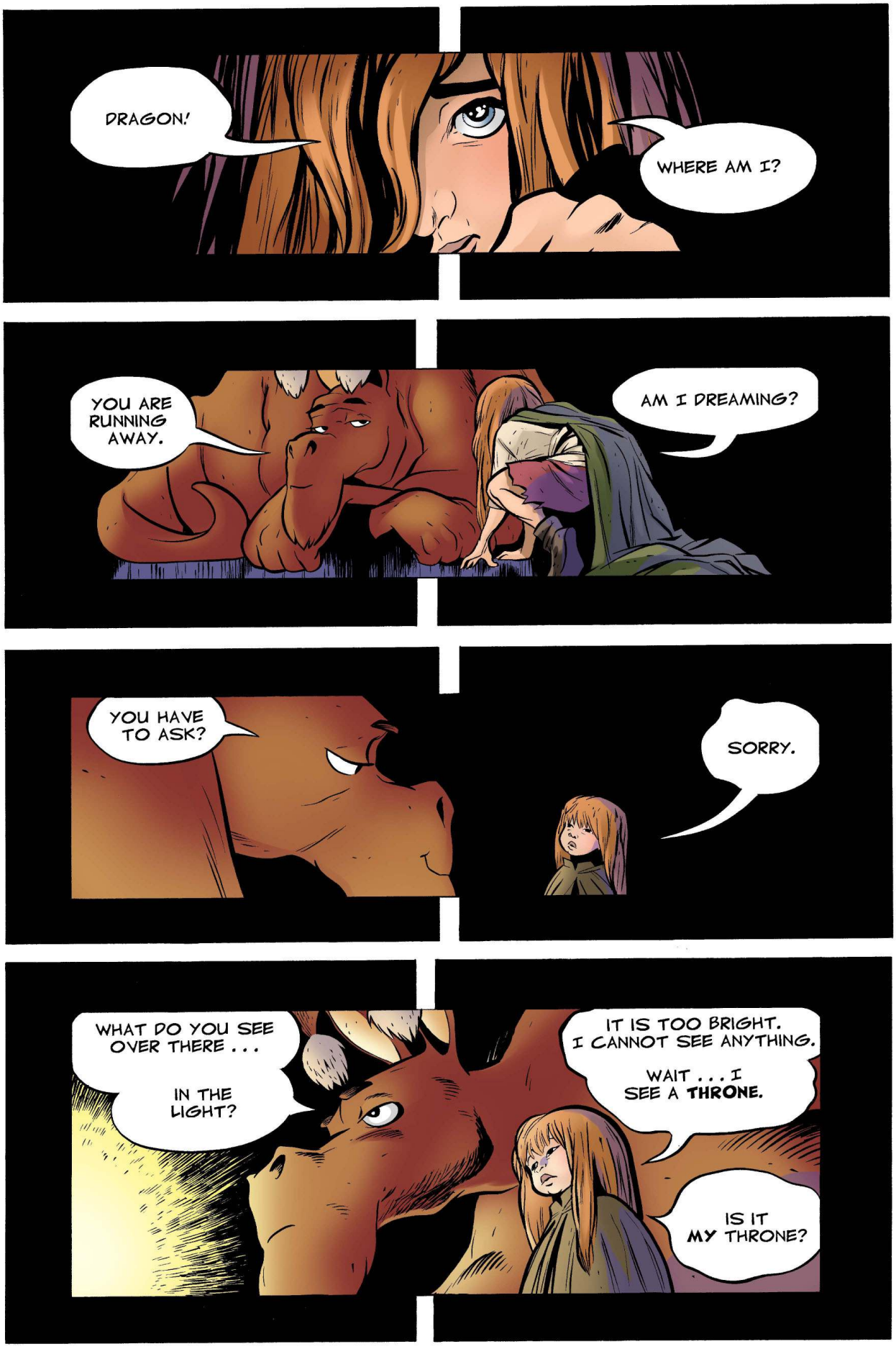




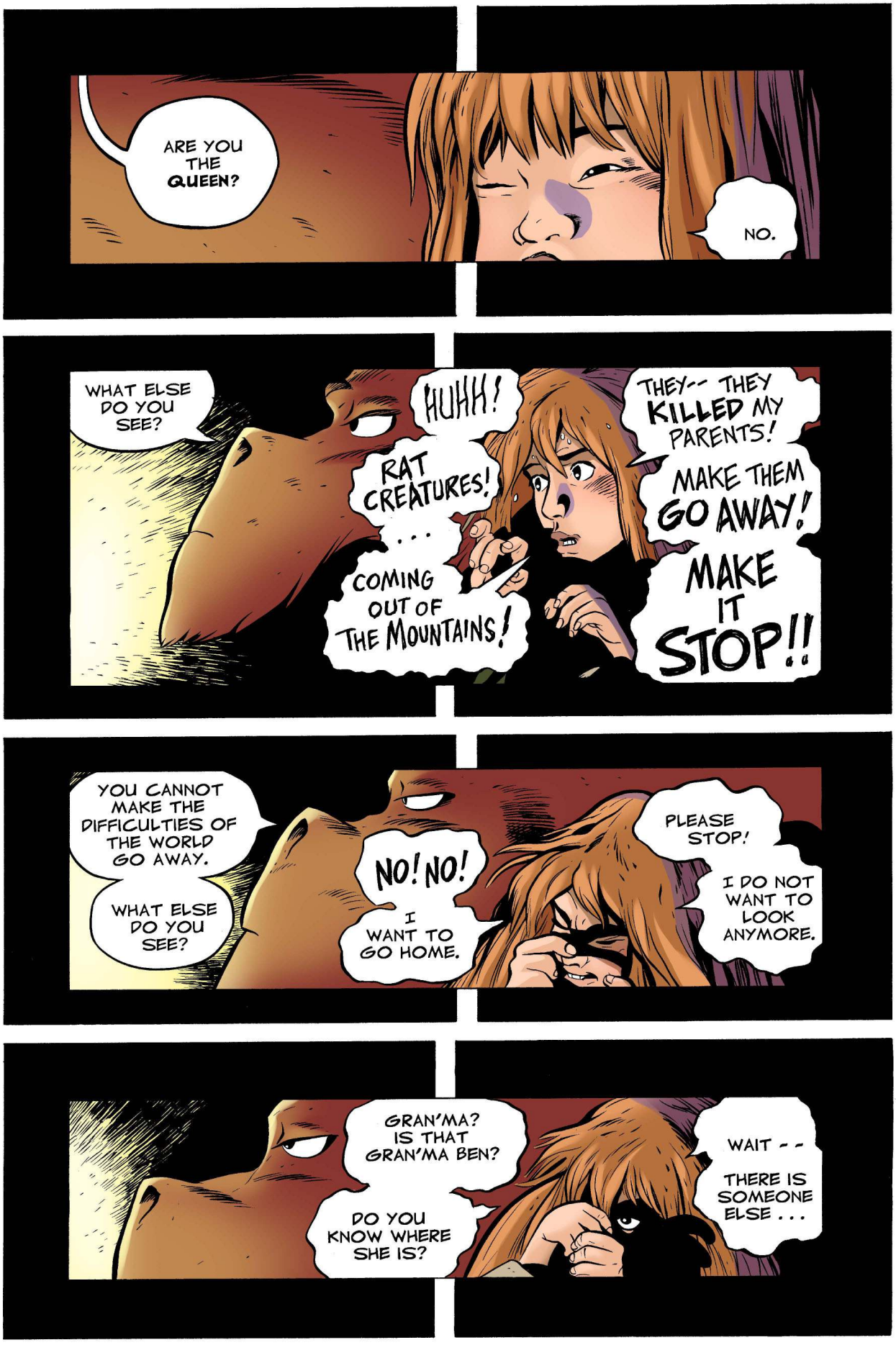


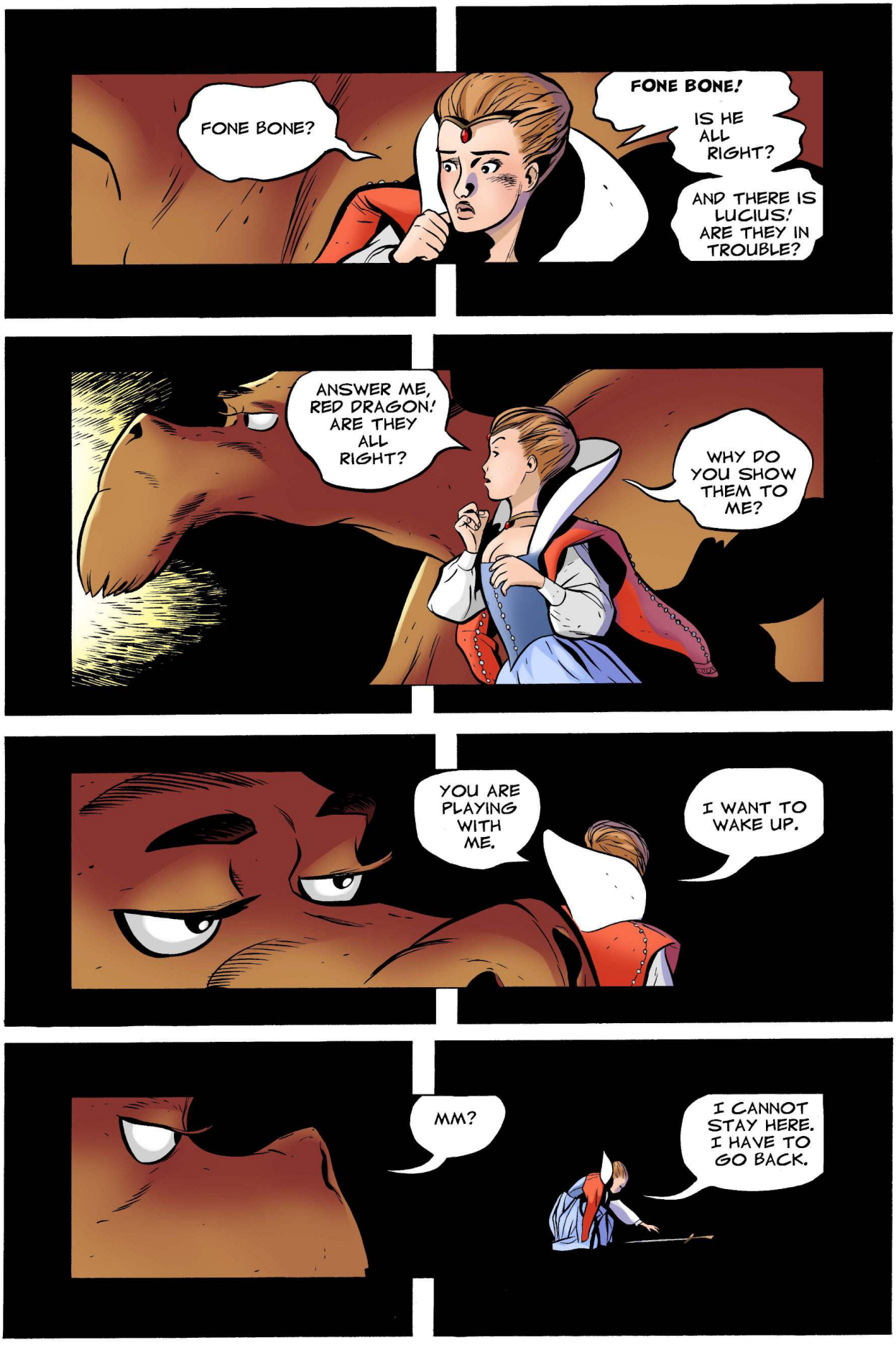

WHOOSH! WHOOSH!
WHOOSH! WHOOSH!
WHOOSH! WHOOSH!
UHHH.


HUHH.
SNAP!
CRINCH!
CRINCH!
CRINCH
CRINCH
CRINCH
HUH!
WHOOSH!
WHOOSH!
CRINCH CRINCH CRINCH CRINCH CRINCH CR
WHOOSH!
WHOOSH!
WHOOSH!
WHOOSH!


Ooof!
HELLO, LITTLE ONE.

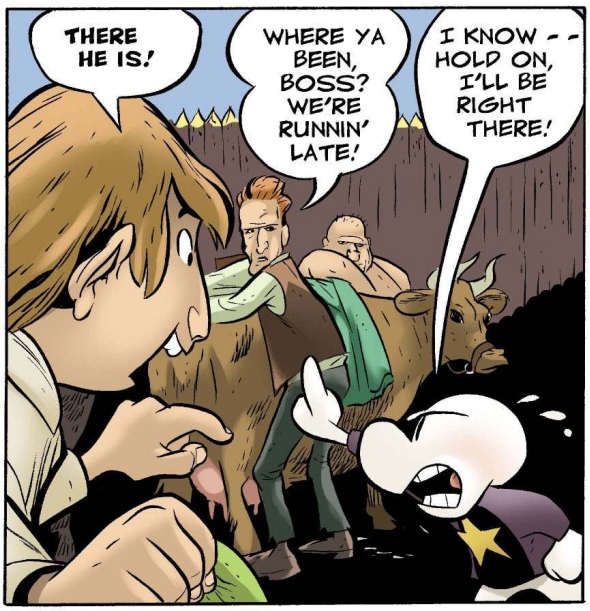

DRAGON!
WHERE AM I?
YOU ARE RUNNING AWAY.
AM I DREAMING?
YOU HAVE TO ASK?
SORRY.
WHAT DO YOU SEE OVER THERE . . .
IN THE LIGHT?
IT IS TOO BRIGHT. I CANNOT SEE ANYTHING.
WAIT . . . I SEE A **THRONE**.
IS IT **MY** THRONE?

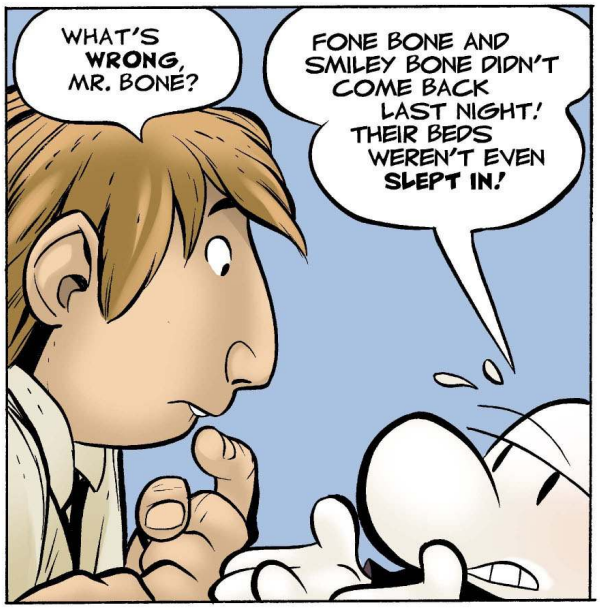

ARE YOU THE QUEEN?
NO.
WHAT ELSE DO YOU SEE?
HUHH!
RAT CREATURES!
. . .
COMING OUT OF THE MOUNTAINS!
THEY-- THEY KILLED MY PARENTS!
MAKE THEM GO AWAY!
MAKE IT STOP!!
YOU CANNOT MAKE THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE WORLD GO AWAY.
WHAT ELSE DO YOU SEE?
NO! NO!
I WANT TO GO HOME.
PLEASE STOP!
I DO NOT WANT TO LOOK ANYMORE.
GRAN'MA? IS THAT GRAN'MA BEN?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS?
WAIT - -
THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE . . .


FONE BONE?
FONE BONE!
IS HE ALL RIGHT?
AND THERE IS LUCIUS! ARE THEY IN TROUBLE?
ANSWER ME, RED DRAGON! ARE THEY ALL RIGHT?
WHY DO YOU SHOW THEM TO ME?
YOU ARE PLAYING WITH ME.
I WANT TO WAKE UP.
MM?
I CANNOT STAY HERE. I HAVE TO GO BACK.

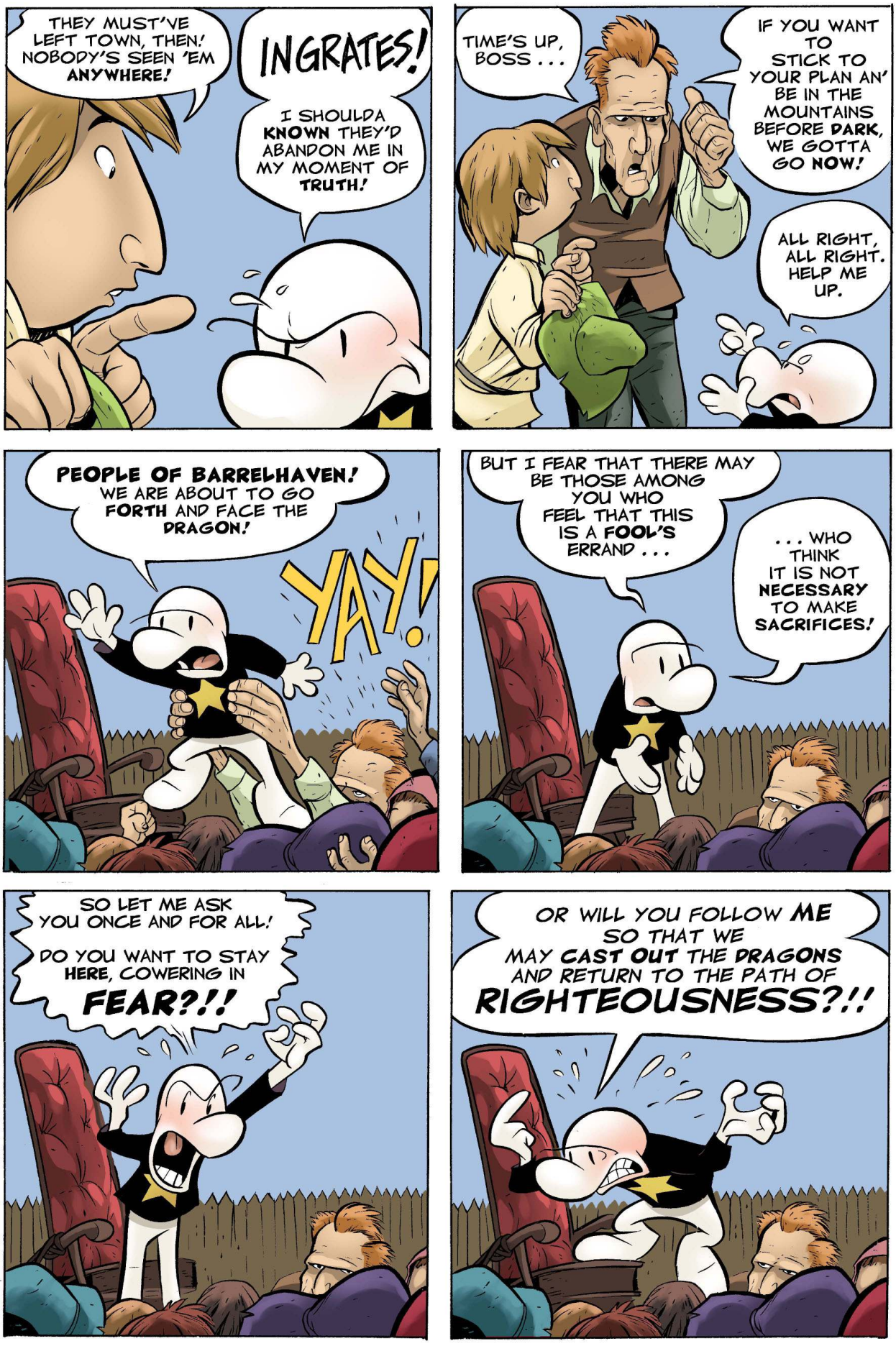

VERY WELL. IF IT IS YOUR DESIRE, I WILL TAKE YOU HOME TO THE FARMHOUSE.
NO. I WILL GO BACK TO MY FRIENDS.
I NO LONGER WISH TO GIVE UP.
WELL, WELL . . .
IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU ARE ALREADY AWAKE!







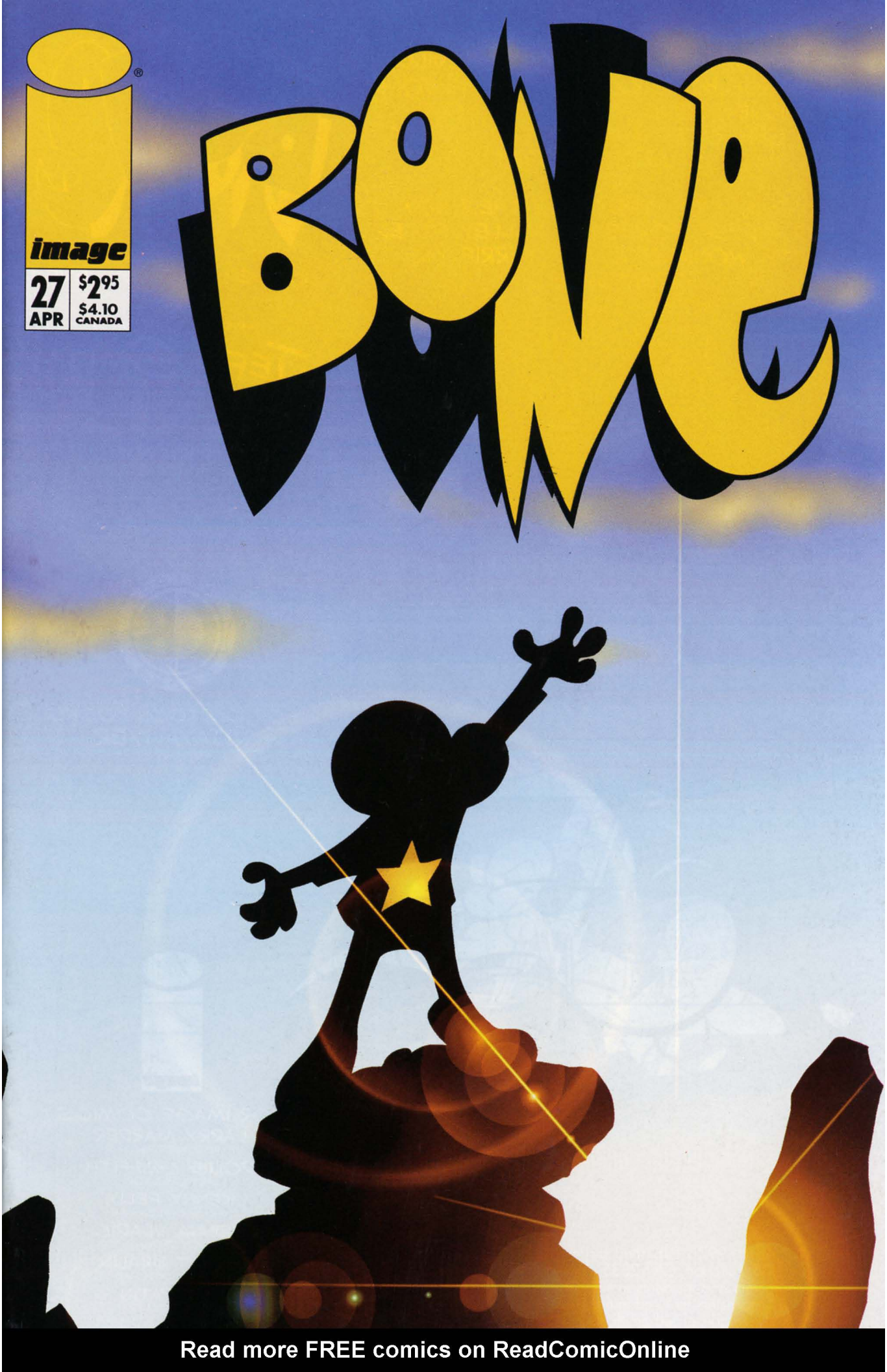
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THEY MUST'VE LEFT TOWN, THEN! NOBODY'S SEEN 'EM ANYWHERE!
INGRATES!
I SHOULDA KNOWN THEY'D ABANDON ME IN MY MOMENT OF TRUTH!
TIME'S UP, BOSS . . .
IF YOU WANT TO STICK TO YOUR PLAN AN' BE IN THE MOUNTAINS BEFORE DARK, WE GOTTA GO NOW!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. HELP ME UP.
PEOPLE OF BARRELHAVEN! WE ARE ABOUT TO GO FORTH AND FACE THE DRAGON!
YAY!
BUT I FEAR THAT THERE MAY BE THOSE AMONG YOU WHO FEEL THAT THIS IS A FOOL'S ERRAND . . .
. . . WHO THINK IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE SACRIFICES!
SO LET ME ASK YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL! DO YOU WANT TO STAY HERE, COWERING IN FEAR?!!
OR WILL YOU FOLLOW ME SO THAT WE MAY CAST OUT THE DRAGONS AND RETURN TO THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS?!!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

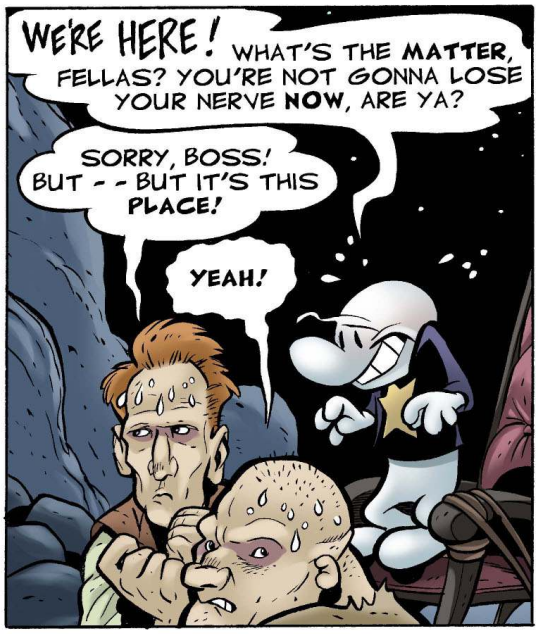

HIP! HIP!
HIP! HIP!
HIP! HIP!
HOORAY!
HOORAY!
HOORAY!

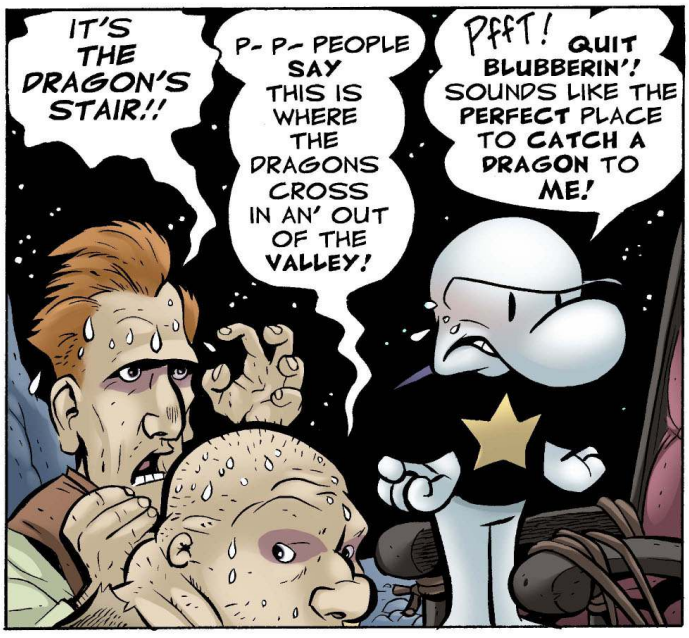


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

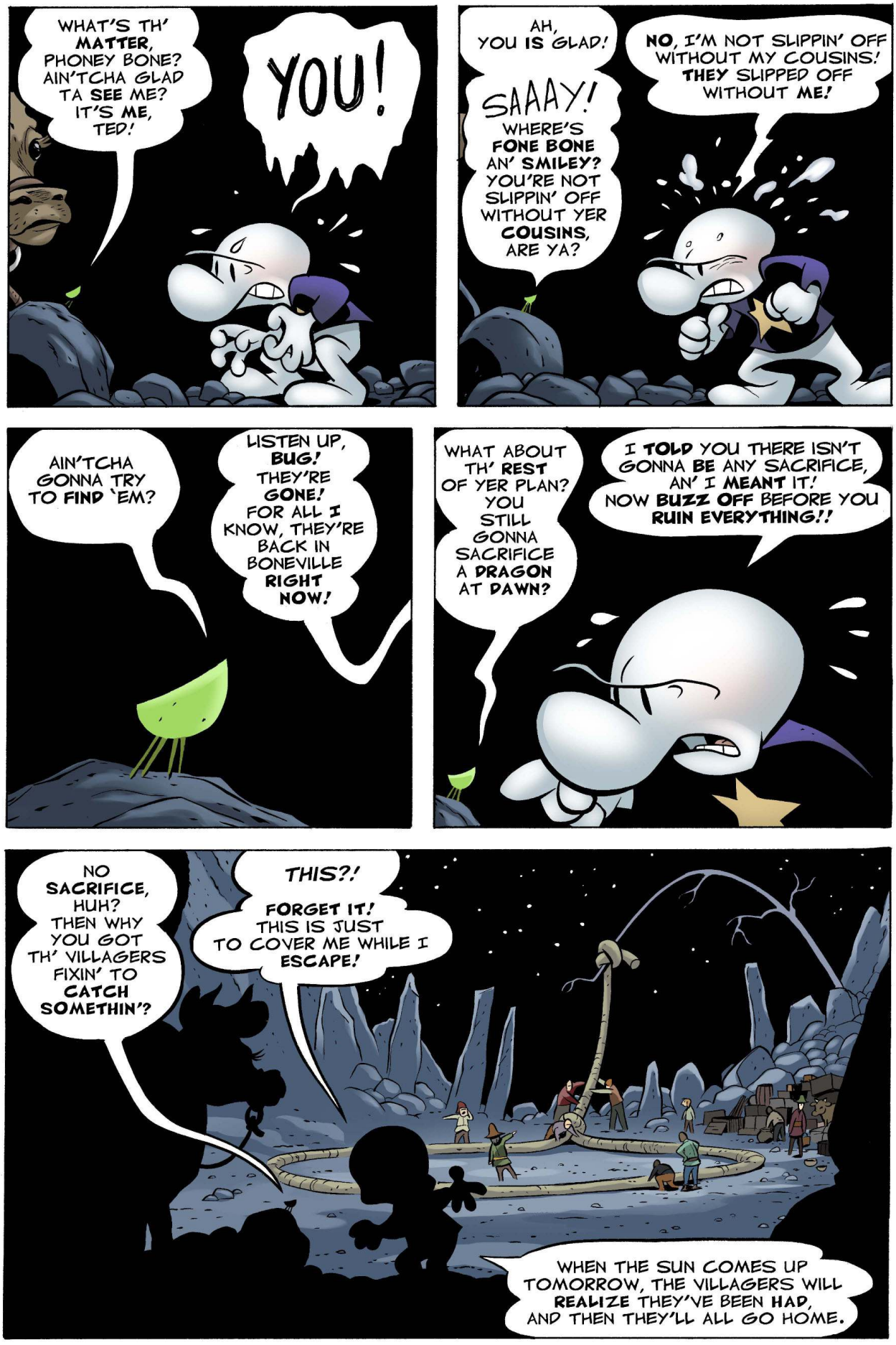

BONE
SIR? DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD STOP? IT'S GETTING AWFUL DARK . . .
KEEP 'EM MOVIN', BOYS! WE'RE MAKIN' GOOD TIME AN' WE WANT TO GET AS FAR INTO TH' MOUNTAINS AS POSSIBLE!
YES, SIR, UM - - IT'S JUST THAT . . . MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE SET UP A LITTLE FARTHER DOWN TH' MOUNTAIN . . .
FARTHER DOWN? THAT'S CRAZY! WHAT'S TH' MATTER WITH YOU, WENDELL?
UH, WELL . . . IT SEEMS WE'VE REACHED TH' MOUNTAIN PASS.
WE HAVE?
STOP TH' COWS!

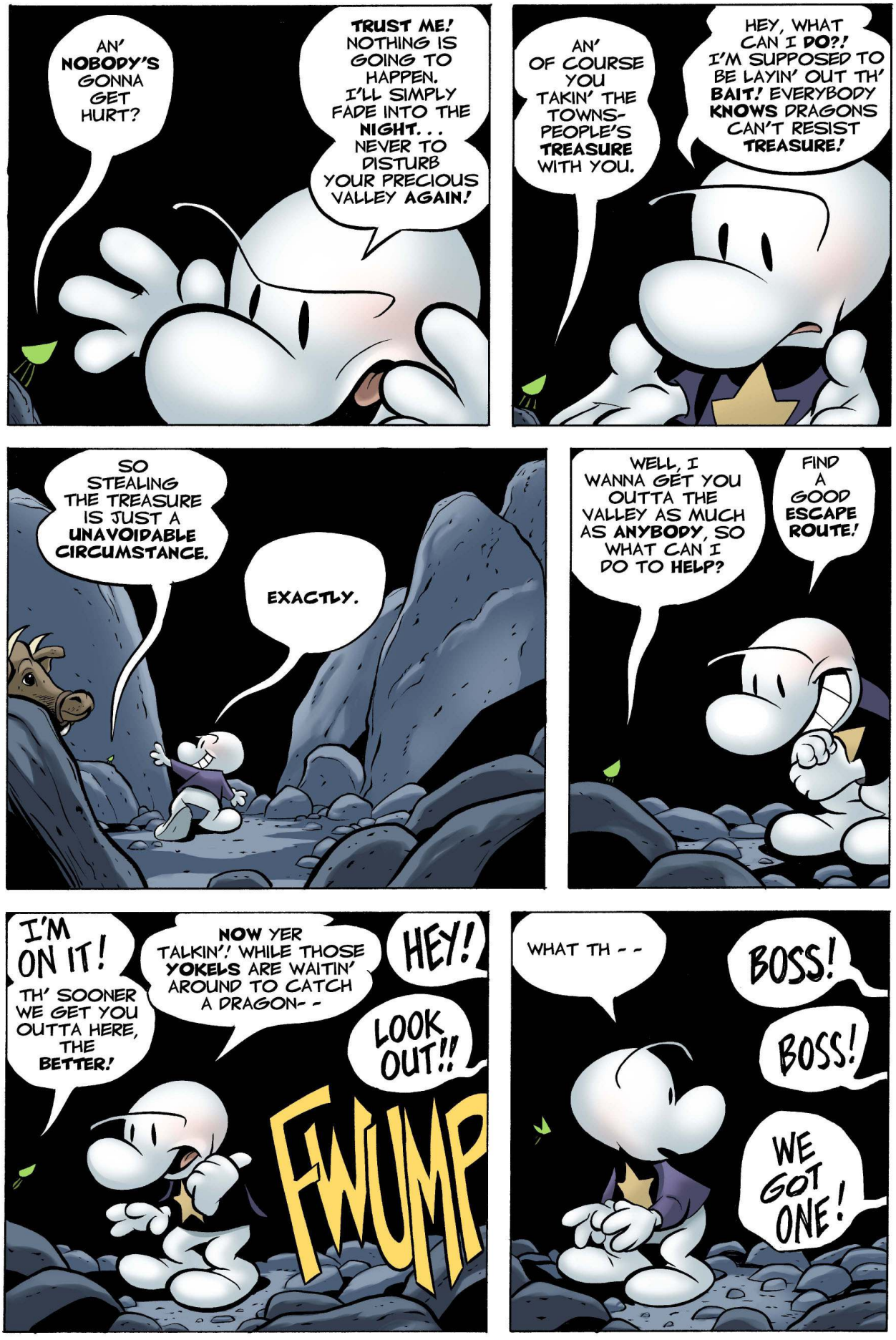

oh, YES!
THIS IS IT!


WE'RE HERE! WHAT'S THE MATTER, FELLAS? YOU'RE NOT GONNA LOSE YOUR NERVE NOW, ARE YA?
SORRY, BOSS! BUT - - BUT IT'S THIS PLACE!
YEAH!

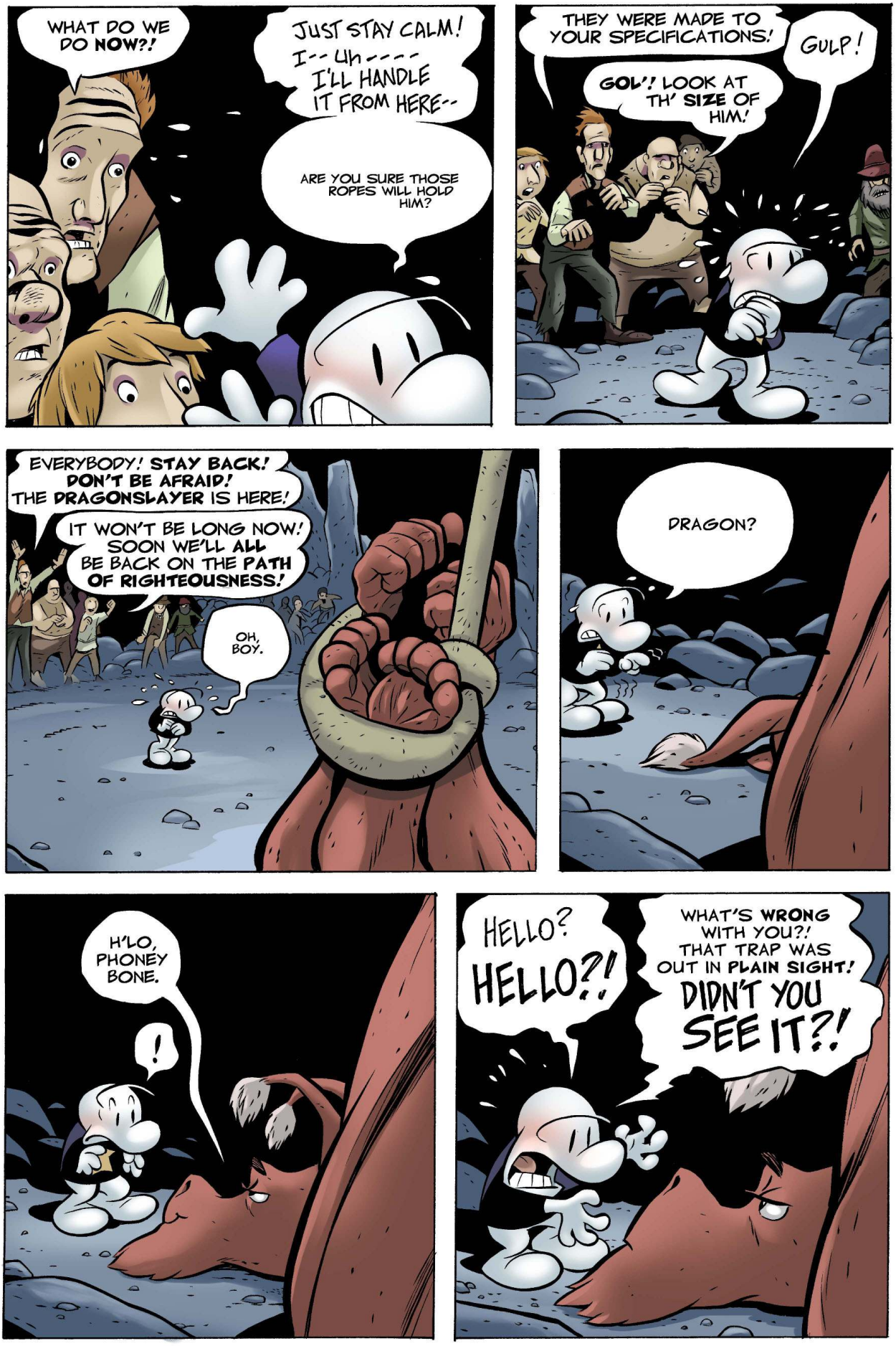

IT'S THE DRAGON'S STAIR!!
P- P- PEOPLE SAY THIS IS WHERE THE DRAGONS CROSS IN AN' OUT OF THE VALLEY!
PfFT! QUIT BLUBBERIN'! SOUNDS LIKE THE PERFECT PLACE TO CATCH A DRAGON TO ME!

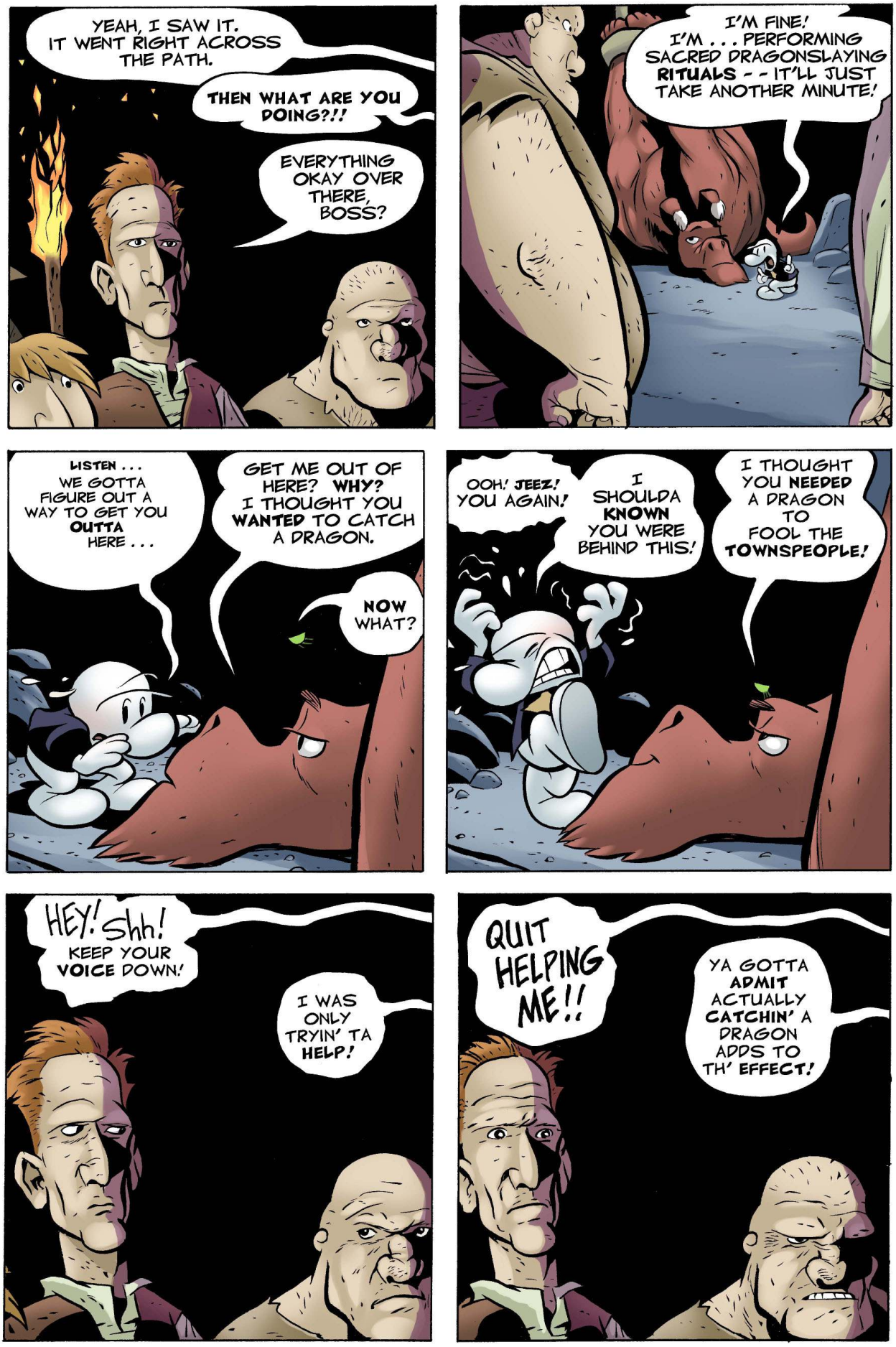

BUT WHAT IF A DRAGON COMES THROUGH HERE?
THAT'S WHAT WE WANT, YOU IDIOTS! NOW, HURRY UP AN' BUILD THE TRAP!
WE NEED TO SET UP THE TRIP WIRES AND GET THE ROPES IN PLACE!
WENDELL, GET ALL THE EQUIPMENT OFF TH' COWS - BUT LEAVE THE TREASURE!
RIGHT! EVERYBODY UNLOAD!
REMEMBER! THIS IS A SUNRISE CEREMONY, SO WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO GET READY!
DON'T WORRY, BOSS! EVERYTHING'LL BE SET BY TH' TIME YOU GET BACK!
GOOD! GOOD!
I'LL TAKE THE TREASURE AND START USING IT FOR BAIT! I'LL CIRCLE AROUND AN' LEAVE A TRAIL THAT'LL LEAD TH' DRAGON STRAIGHT BACK HERE!
WE'LL BE WAITING, BOSS!
GOOD LUCK, BOSS!
heh, heh! SUCKERS!
BY THE TIME THE SUN COMES UP, I'LL HAVE THIS TREASURE HALFWAY TO BONEVILLE!
HEY THERE, PHONEY BONE!
AAA!

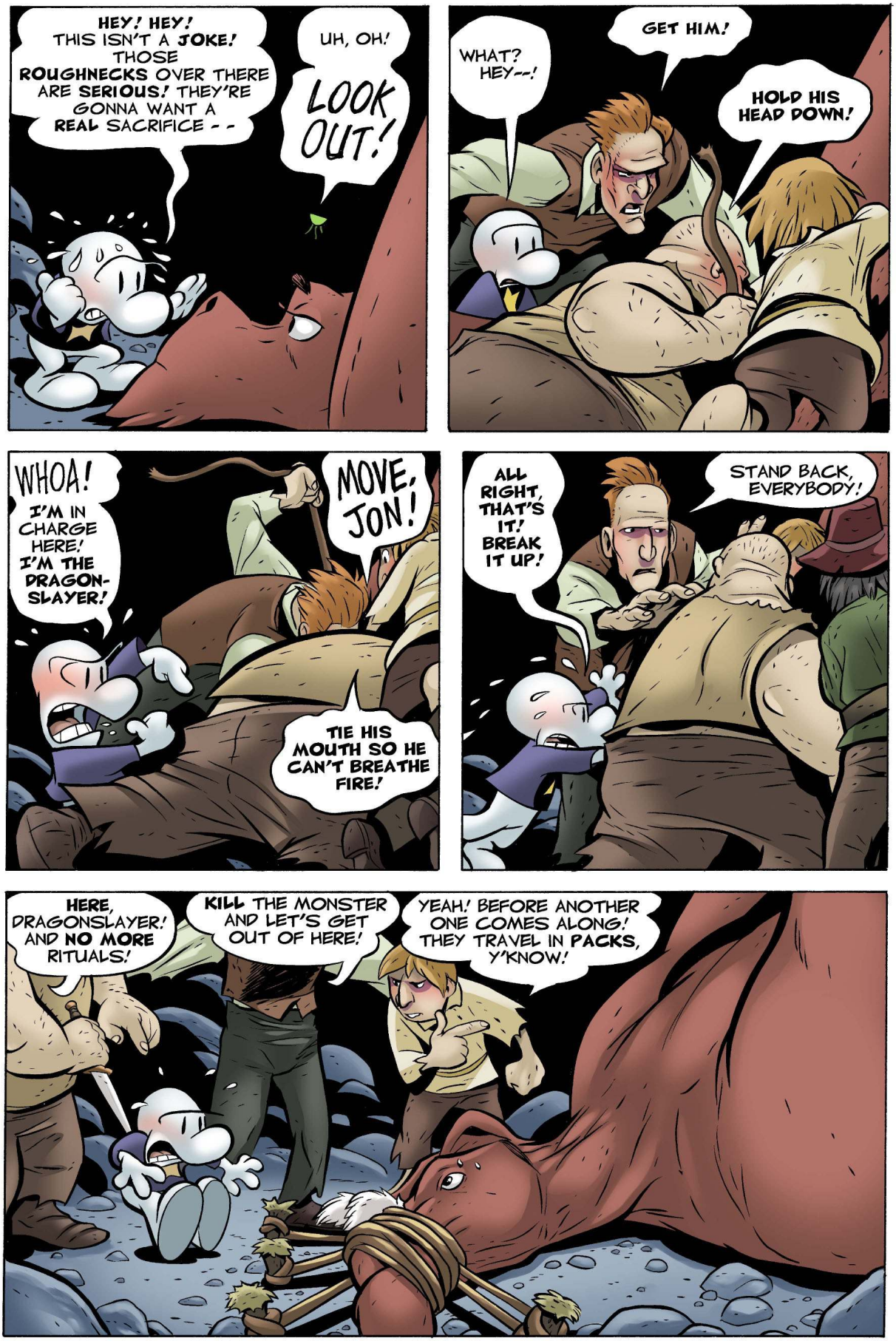

WHAT'S TH' MATTER, PHONEY BONE? AIN'TCHA GLAD TA SEE ME? IT'S ME, TED!
YOU!
AH, YOU IS GLAD!
SAAAY! WHERE'S FONE BONE AN' SMILEY? YOU'RE NOT SLIPPIN' OFF WITHOUT YER COUSINS, ARE YA?
NO, I'M NOT SLIPPIN' OFF WITHOUT MY COUSINS! THEY SLIPPED OFF WITHOUT ME!
AIN'TCHA GONNA TRY TO FIND 'EM?
LISTEN UP, BUG! THEY'RE GONE! FOR ALL I KNOW, THEY'RE BACK IN BONEVILLE RIGHT NOW!
WHAT ABOUT TH' REST OF YER PLAN? YOU STILL GONNA SACRIFICE A DRAGON AT DAWN?
I TOLD YOU THERE ISN'T GONNA BE ANY SACRIFICE, AN' I MEANT IT! NOW BUZZ OFF BEFORE YOU RUIN EVERYTHING!!
NO SACRIFICE, HUH? THEN WHY YOU GOT TH' VILLAGERS FIXIN' TO CATCH SOMETHIN'?
THIS?!
FORGET IT! THIS IS JUST TO COVER ME WHILE I ESCAPE!
WHEN THE SUN COMES UP TOMORROW, THE VILLAGERS WILL REALIZE THEY'VE BEEN HAD, AND THEN THEY'LL ALL GO HOME.


AN' NOBODY'S GONNA GET HURT?
TRUST ME! NOTHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN. I'LL SIMPLY FADE INTO THE NIGHT... NEVER TO DISTURB YOUR PRECIOUS VALLEY AGAIN!
AN' OF COURSE YOU TAKIN' THE TOWNS-PEOPLE'S TREASURE WITH YOU.
HEY, WHAT CAN I DO?! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE LAYIN' OUT TH' BAIT! EVERYBODY KNOWS DRAGONS CAN'T RESIST TREASURE!
SO STEALING THE TREASURE IS JUST A UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCE.
EXACTLY.
WELL, I WANNA GET YOU OUTTA THE VALLEY AS MUCH AS ANYBODY, SO WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?
FIND A GOOD ESCAPE ROUTE!
I'M ON IT! TH' SOONER WE GET YOU OUTTA HERE, THE BETTER!
NOW YER TALKIN'! WHILE THOSE YOKELS ARE WAITIN' AROUND TO CATCH A DRAGON- -
HEY!
LOOK OUT!!
FWUMP
WHAT TH - -
BOSS!
BOSS!
WE GOT ONE!


WHAT?!
WE GOT ONE, BOSS!
GOT ONE?
ONE WHAT?!
A DRAGON! WE GOT A DRAGON!!
IT WORKED JUST LIKE YOU SAID IT WOULD!
YEEK!


WHAT DO WE DO NOW?!
JUST STAY CALM! I-- Uh---- I'LL HANDLE IT FROM HERE--
ARE YOU SURE THOSE ROPES WILL HOLD HIM?
THEY WERE MADE TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS!
GULP!
GOL'! LOOK AT TH' SIZE OF HIM!
EVERYBODY! STAY BACK! DON'T BE AFRAID! THE DRAGONSLAYER IS HERE!
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW! SOON WE'LL ALL BE BACK ON THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS!
OH, BOY.
DRAGON?
H'LO, PHONEY BONE.
!
HELLO?
HELLO?!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?! THAT TRAP WAS OUT IN PLAIN SIGHT! DIDN'T YOU SEE IT?!


YEAH, I SAW IT. IT WENT RIGHT ACROSS THE PATH.
THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!!
EVERYTHING OKAY OVER THERE, BOSS?
I'M FINE! I'M . . . PERFORMING SACRED DRAGONSLAYING RITUALS - - IT'LL JUST TAKE ANOTHER MINUTE!
LISTEN . . . WE GOTTA FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET YOU OUTTA HERE . . .
GET ME OUT OF HERE? WHY? I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO CATCH A DRAGON.
NOW WHAT?
OOH! JEEZ! YOU AGAIN!
I SHOULDA KNOWN YOU WERE BEHIND THIS!
I THOUGHT YOU NEEDED A DRAGON TO FOOL THE TOWNSPEOPLE!
HEY! Shh! KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!
I WAS ONLY TRYIN' TA HELP!
QUIT HELPING ME!!
YA GOTTA ADMIT ACTUALLY CATCHIN' A DRAGON ADDS TO TH' EFFECT!

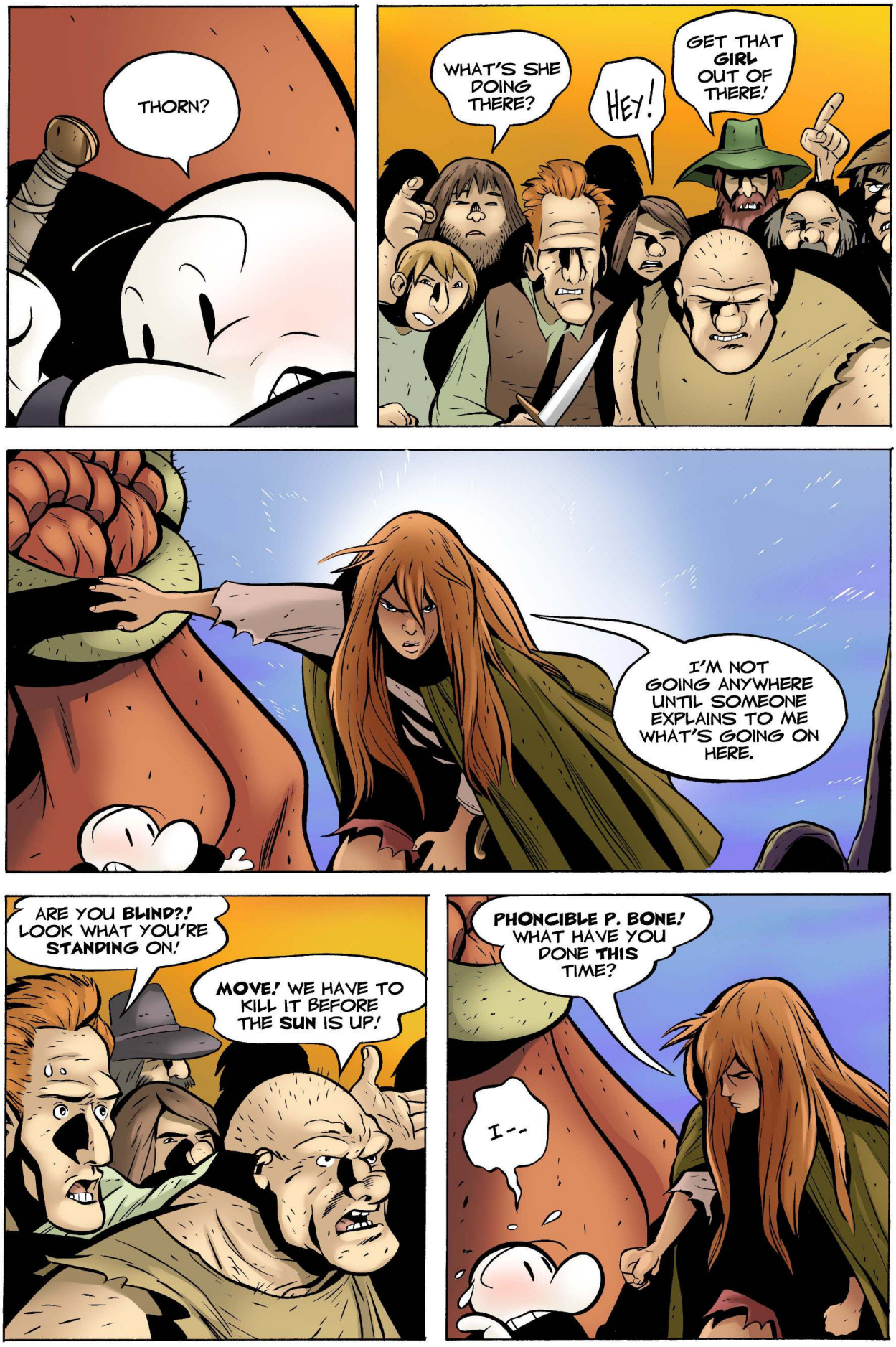


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

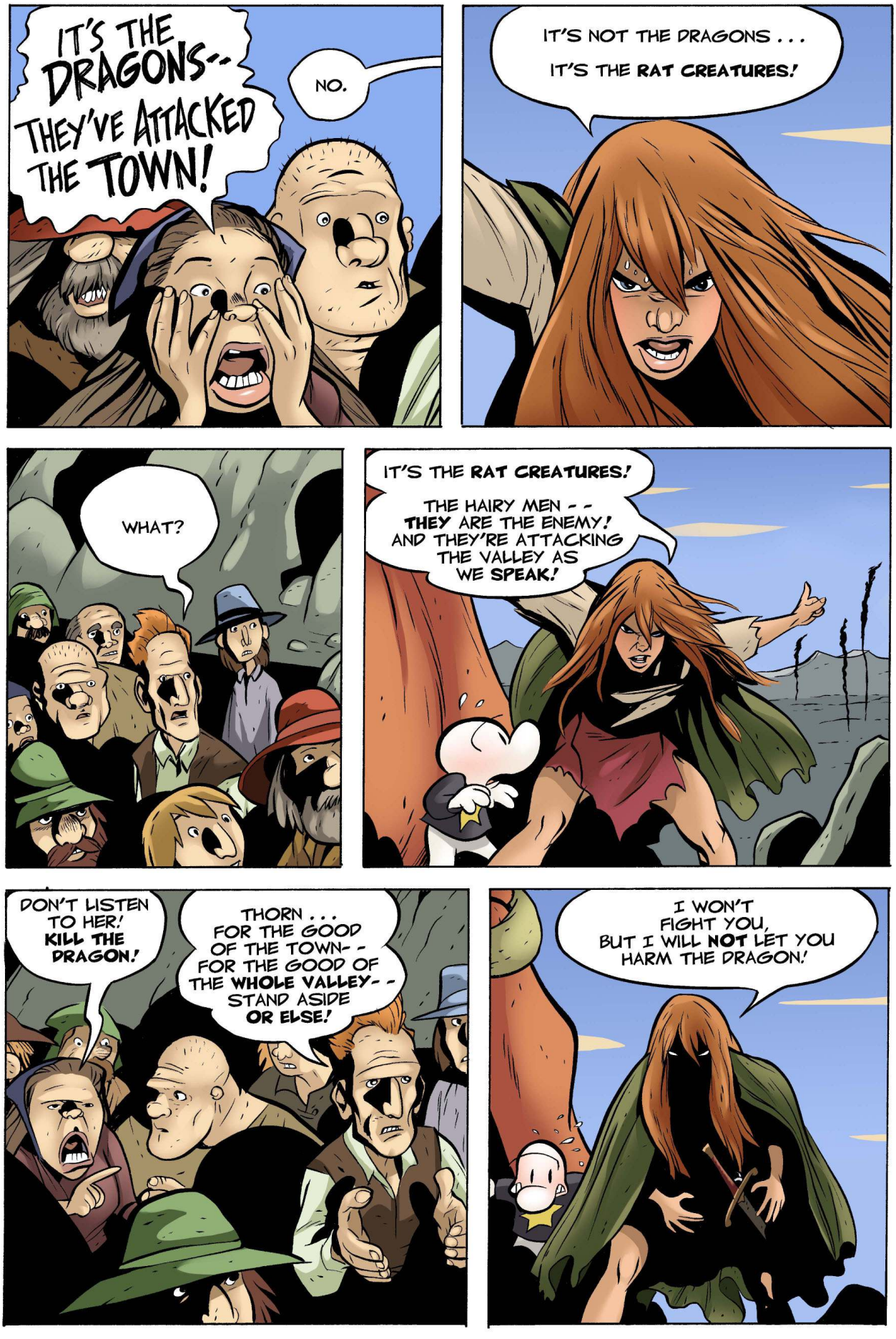

HOLD IT! HOLD IT!
THIS IS A SUNRISE CEREMONY, AN' NOBODY'S KILLIN' ANYBODY UNTIL I SAY SO! YOU GOT THAT?
WE HEARD YOU TALKIN' TO THE DRAGON! WHAT DO YOU THINK WE ARE? FOOLS?
QUIT STALLIN'!
KEEP YER PANTS ON!
YOU THINK THIS IS LIKE SKINNIN' A RABBIT?! WE'RE ATTEMPTING TO RESTORE THE VERY BALANCE OF NATURE!
EVERYTHING MUST BE ALIGNED!
THE HEAVENS THEMSELVES WILL DETERMINE - -
OOPS.
HERE COMES THE SUN, BONE.
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE!
KILL THE DRAGON!
WHAT'RE YOU WAITING FOR?

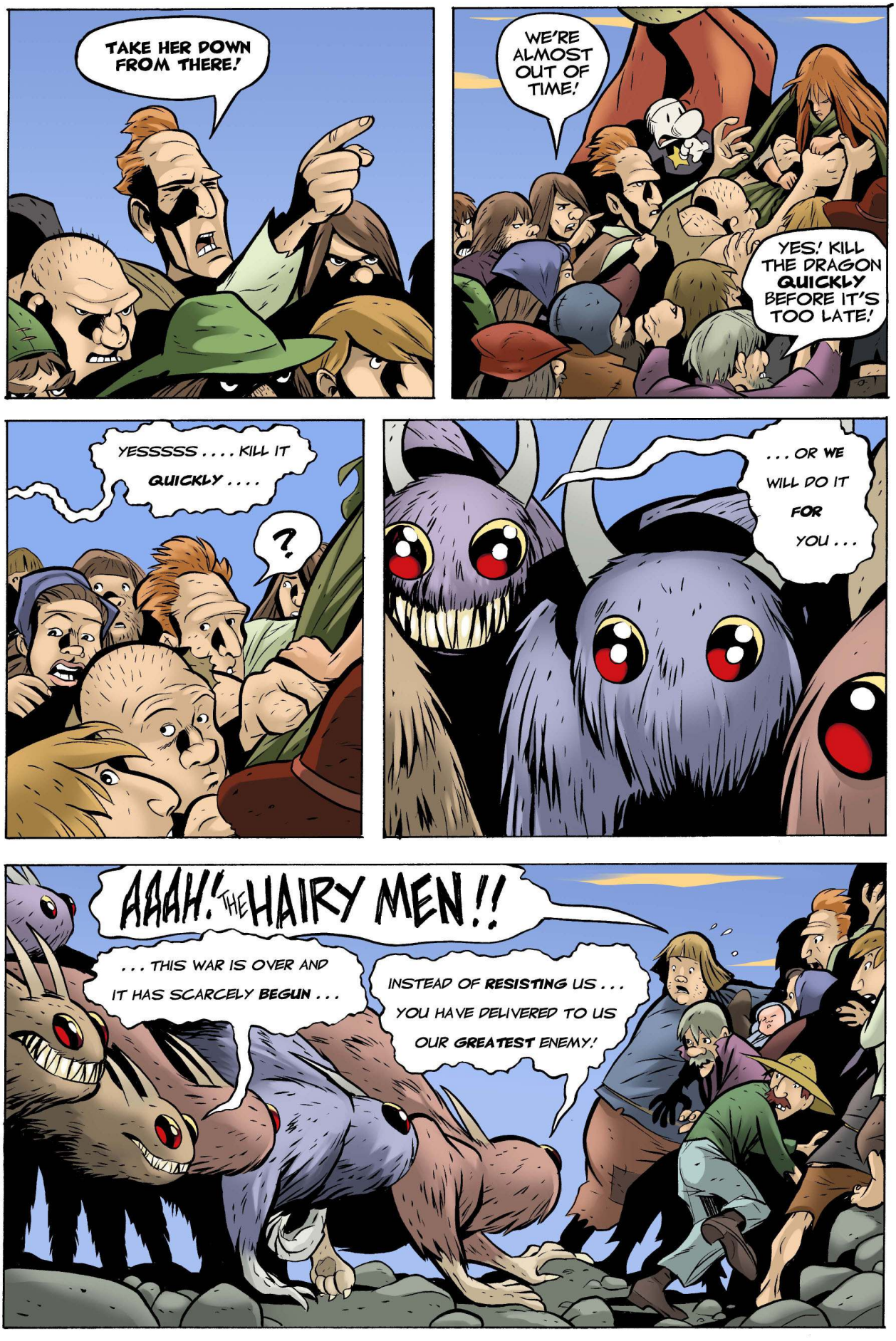

TIME'S UP, BONE. EITHER SLAY THE DRAGON RIGHT NOW, OR THIS SACRIFICE IS GONNA BE A DOUBLEHEADER!
GULP!
I CAN'T LOOK!
STOP!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!!


THORN?
WHAT'S SHE DOING THERE?
HEY!
GET THAT GIRL OUT OF THERE!
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE UNTIL SOMEONE EXPLAINS TO ME WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.
ARE YOU BLIND?! LOOK WHAT YOU'RE STANDING ON!
MOVE! WE HAVE TO KILL IT BEFORE THE SUN IS UP!
PHONCIBLE P. BONE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE THIS TIME?
I--


HE WAS MAKING A DEAL TO SELL US OUT TO THE ENEMY!
HE'S A TRAITOR!
IS THAT TRUE?
I-- I--
WHAT AM I SAYING? OF COURSE IT'S TRUE!
WENDELL! PREPARE YOUR MEN! AFTER WE FREE THE DRAGON, WE CAN GO INTO THE VALLEY AND FACE THE ENEMY!
FREE THE DRAGON?!
THE DRAGON IS THE ENEMY!
EEEEEE
FIRE!
FIRE IN THE VALLEY!
IT'S COMING FROM OUR TOWN!


IT'S THE DRAGONS-- THEY'VE ATTACKED THE TOWN!
NO.
IT'S NOT THE DRAGONS . . .
IT'S THE RAT CREATURES!
WHAT?
IT'S THE RAT CREATURES!
THE HAIRY MEN - - THEY ARE THE ENEMY! AND THEY'RE ATTACKING THE VALLEY AS WE SPEAK!
DON'T LISTEN TO HER! KILL THE DRAGON!
THORN . . . FOR THE GOOD OF THE TOWN- - FOR THE GOOD OF THE WHOLE VALLEY- - STAND ASIDE OR ELSE!
I WON'T FIGHT YOU, BUT I WILL NOT LET YOU HARM THE DRAGON!


TAKE HER DOWN FROM THERE!
WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF TIME!
YES! KILL THE DRAGON QUICKLY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
YESSSSS . . . . KILL IT QUICKLY . . . .
?
. . . OR WE WILL DO IT FOR YOU . . .
AAAH! THE HAIRY MEN!!
. . . THIS WAR IS OVER AND IT HAS SCARCELY BEGUN . . .
INSTEAD OF RESISTING US . . . YOU HAVE DELIVERED TO US OUR GREATEST ENEMY!


. . . BOUND AND HELPLESS LIKE A LAMB FOR THE SLAUGHTER!
DON'T YOU TOUCH HIM!
SSHNG!
SHNG! SHNG!
SHNG! SHINNG!
?
GASP!
!
WH-WHO ARE THEY?
WE'RE TRAPPED!
WHAT--?




SSSKRAAA


ROARKRK


AAIIEEE
THE DRAGON IS FREE!
RUN!

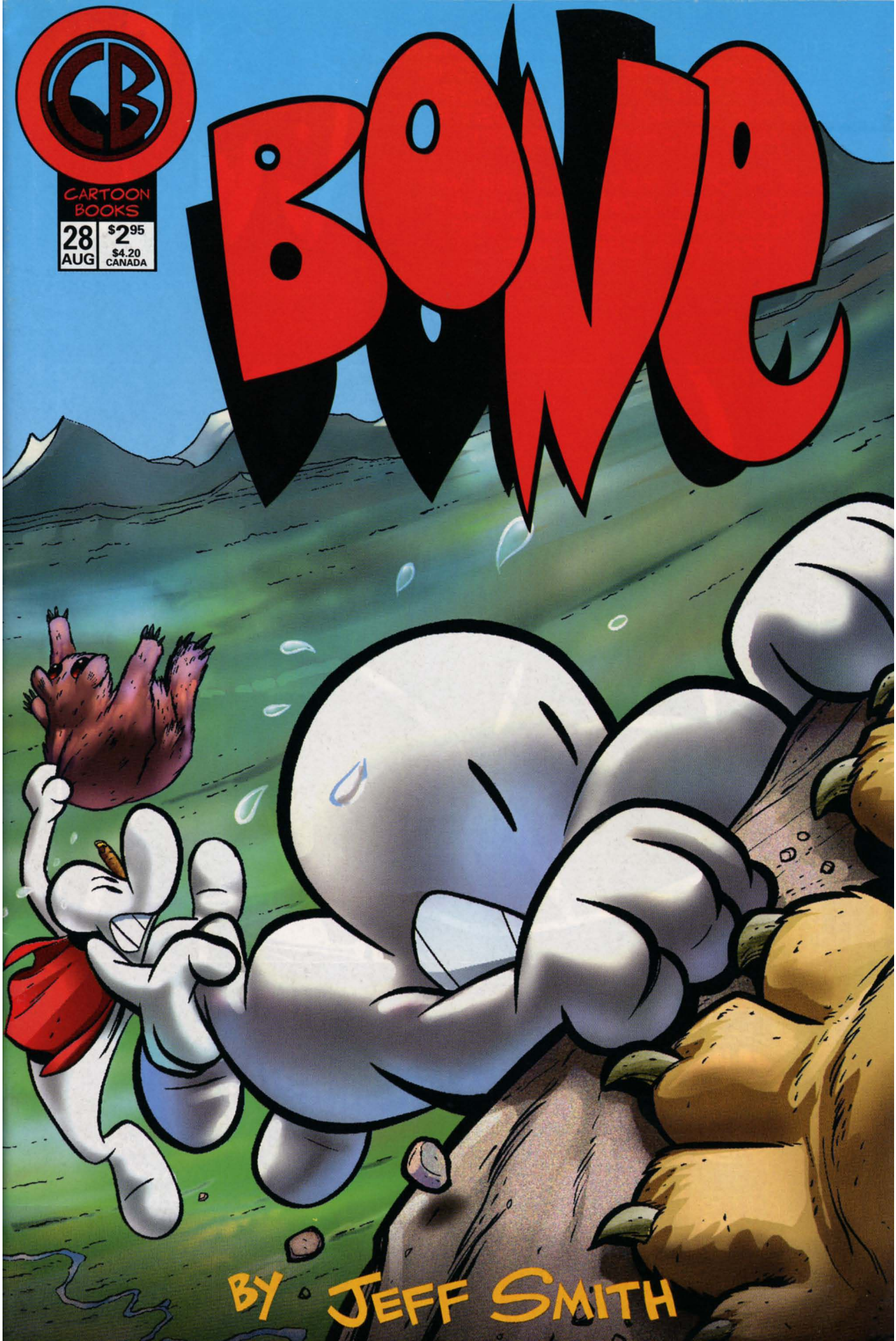

RUN!!
SQUEEE

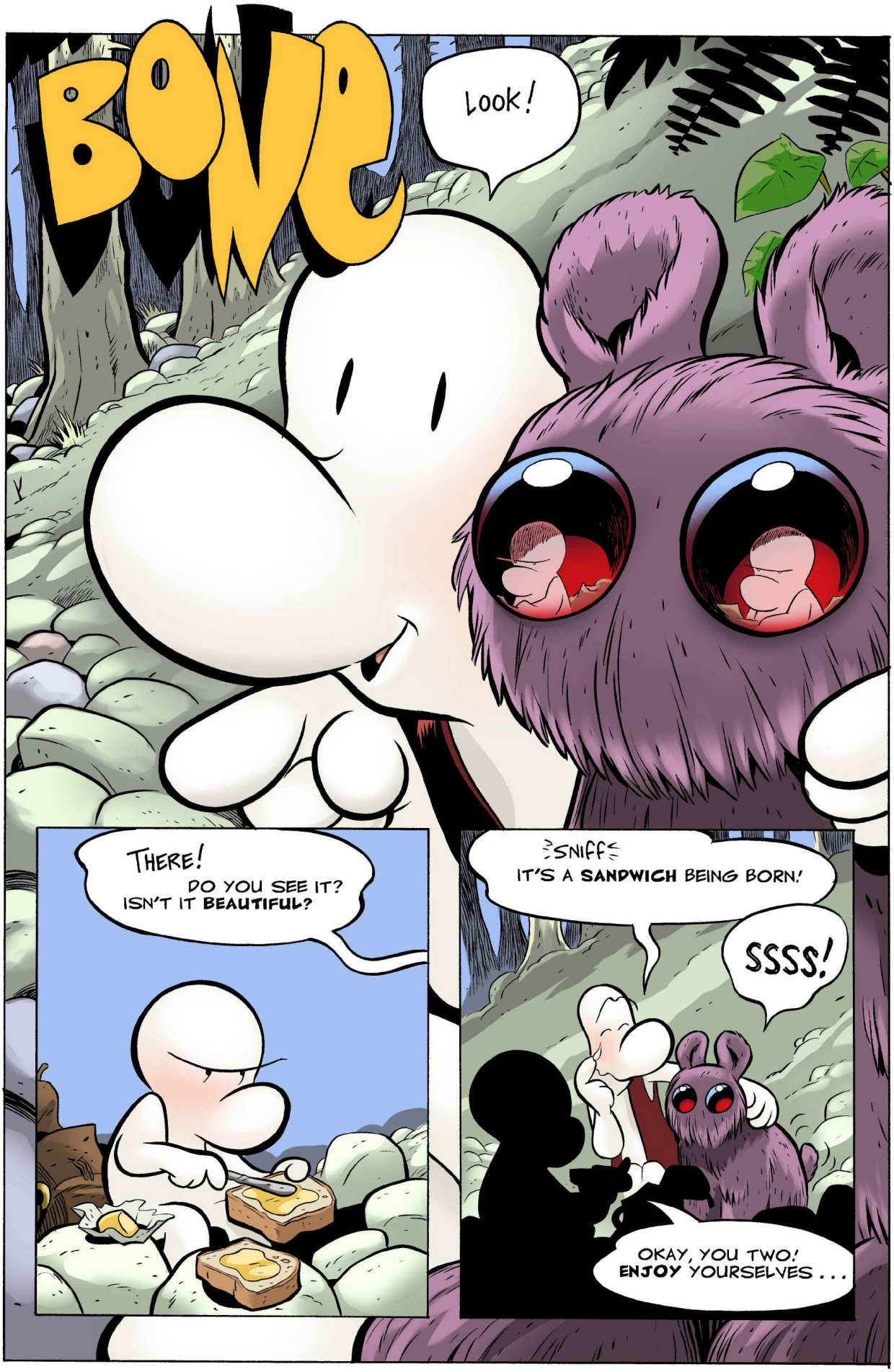


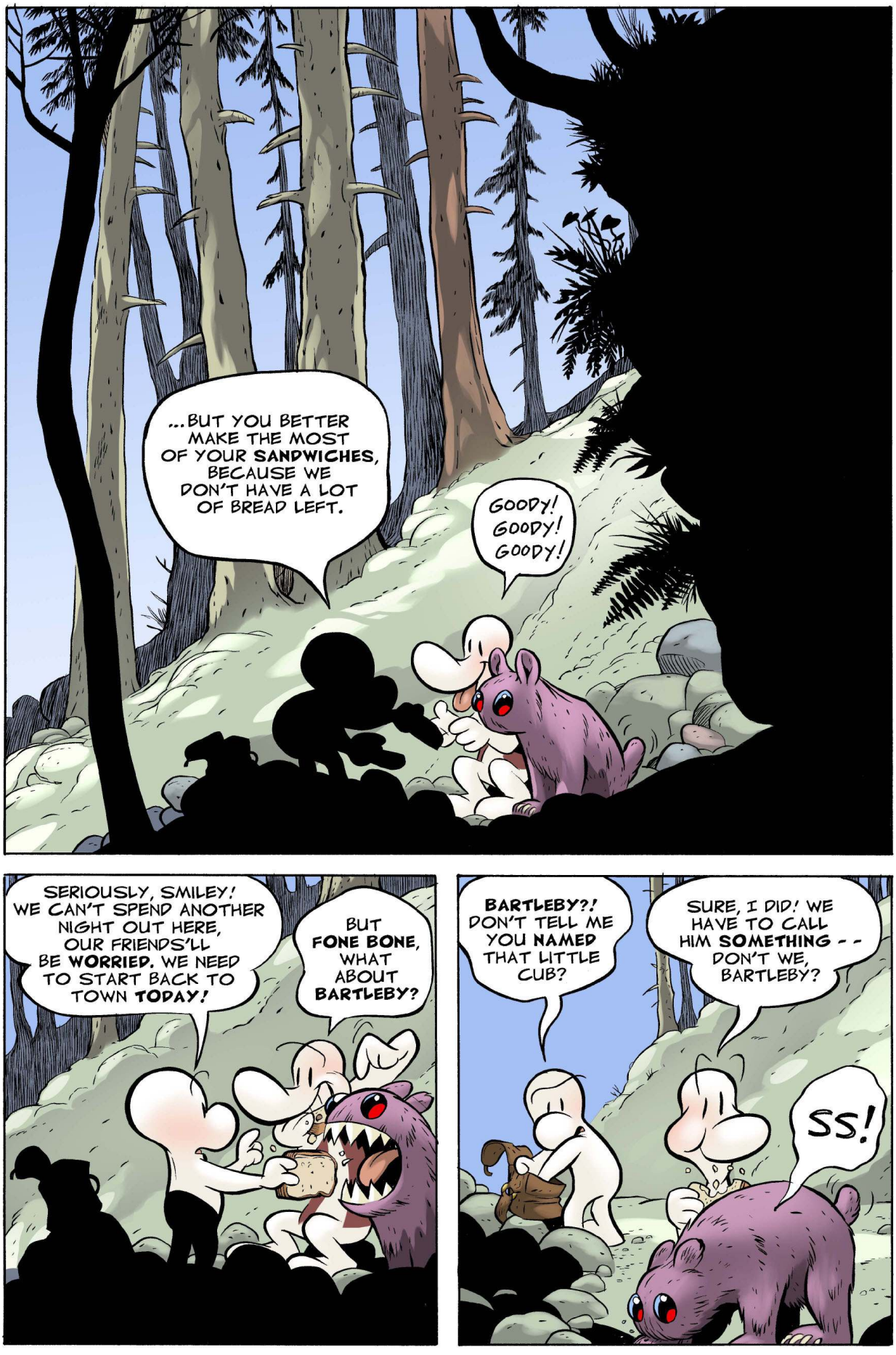
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

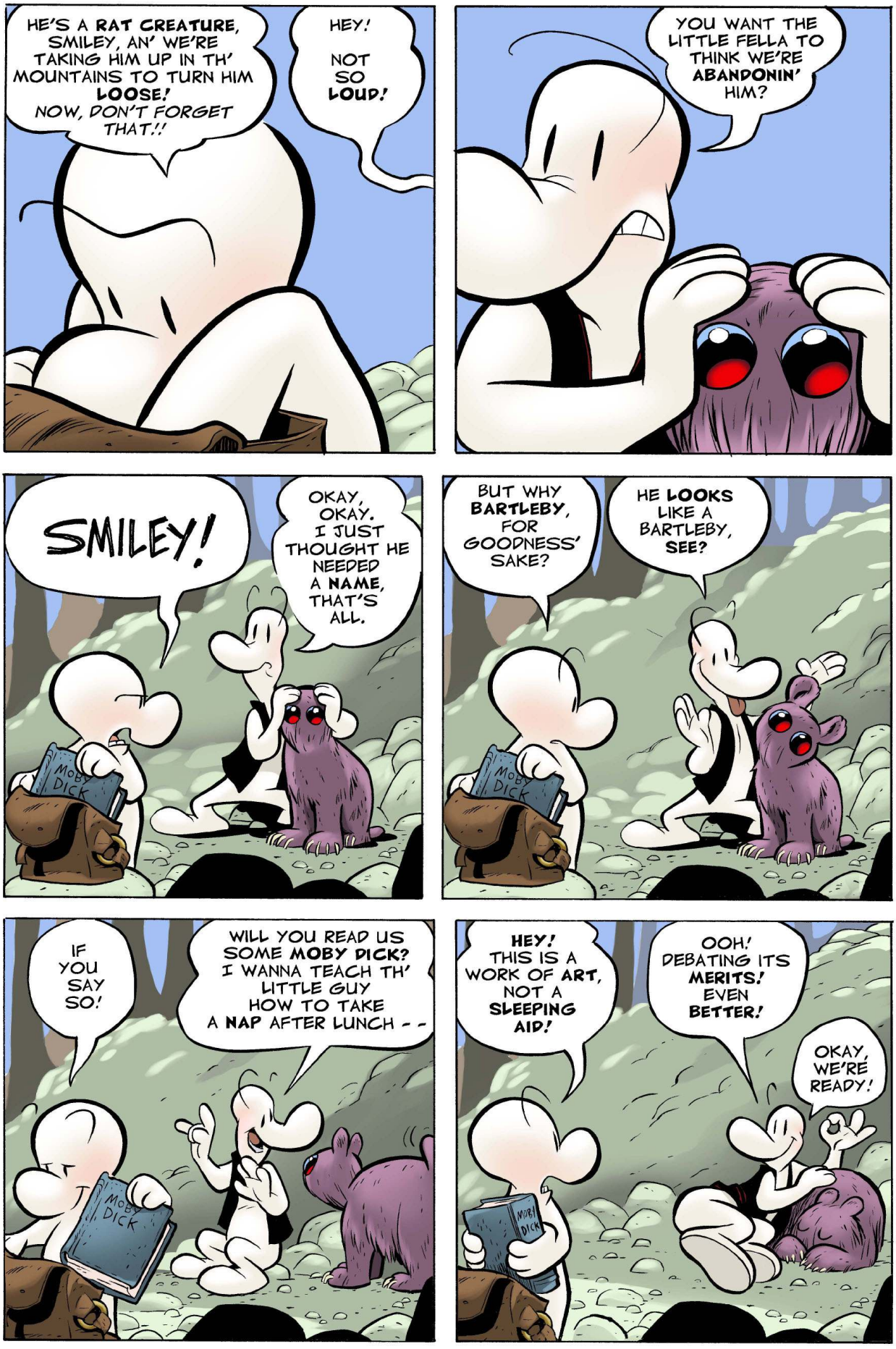

WENDELL!
WENDELL! WHERE IS LUCIUS?
WE LEFT HIM IN THE VILLAGE.
OHMYGOSH.
HURRY! GET YOUR SUPPLIES! KNIVES! PITCHFORKS! ANYTHING!
HURRY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING. IT DOESN'T SEEM REAL.
WAR.
WE'RE AT WAR.
WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

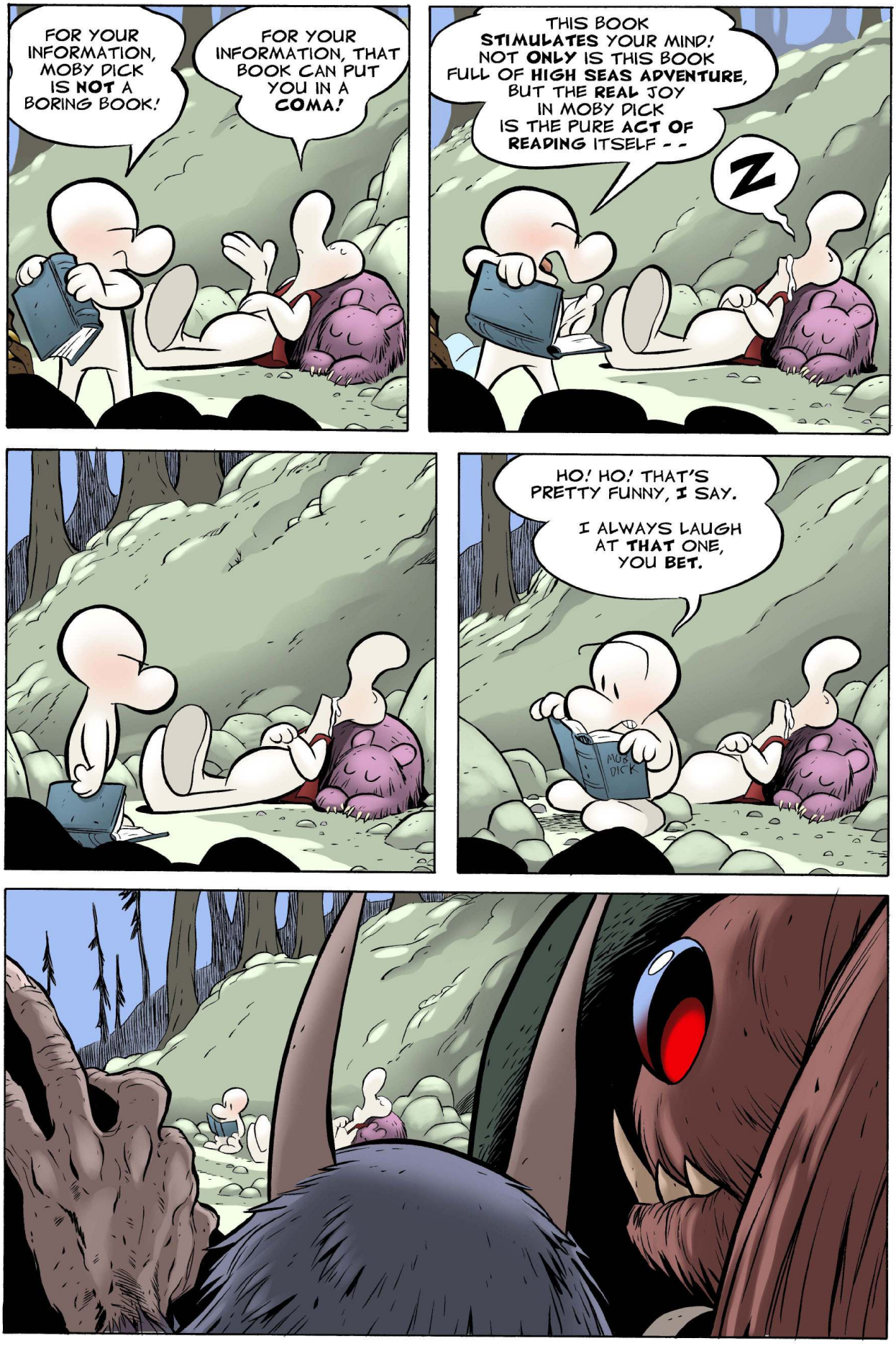



CARTOON BOOKS
28 AUG
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

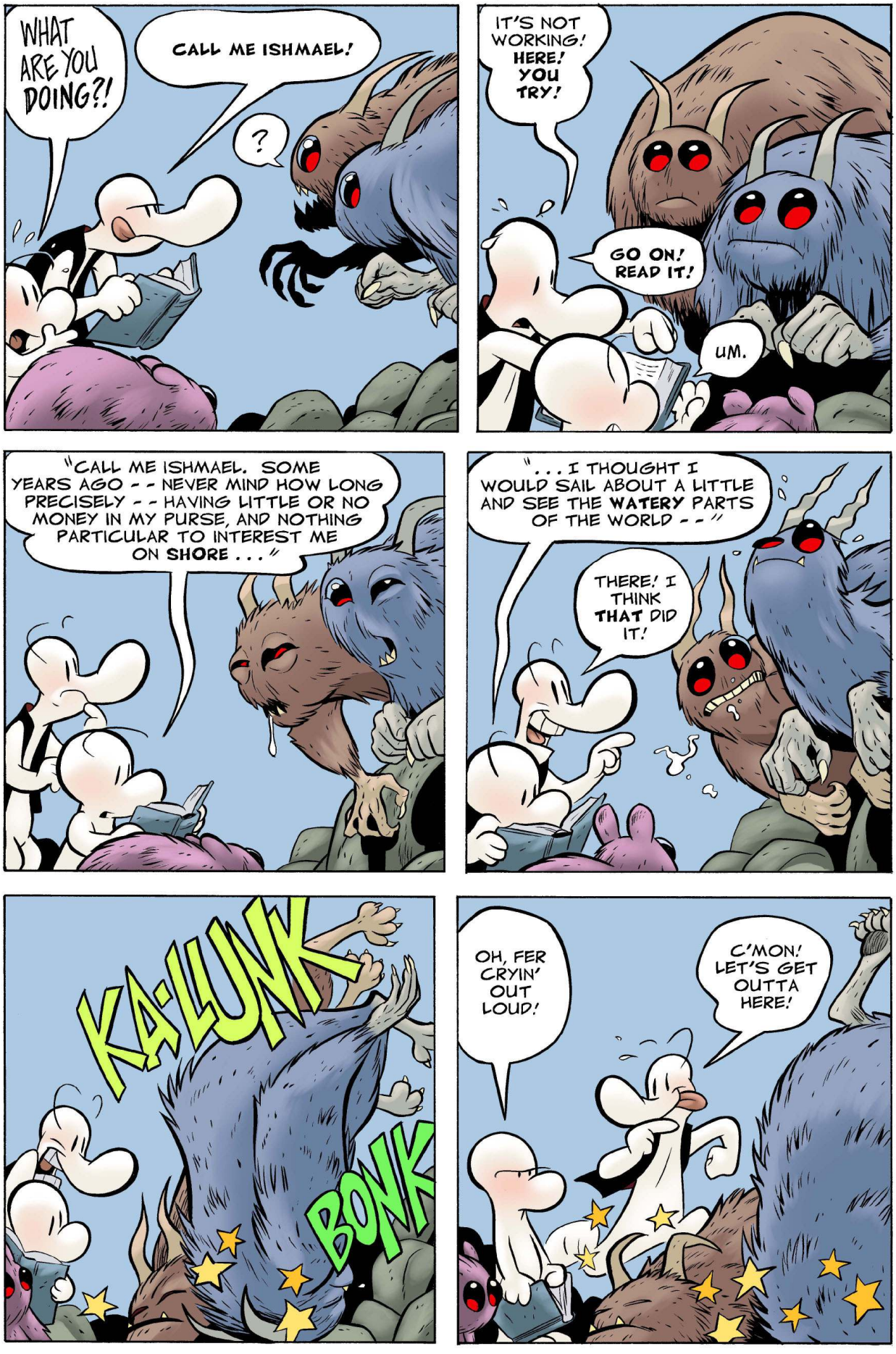

BONE
Look!
THERE! DO YOU SEE IT? ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?
SNIFF IT'S A SANDWICH BEING BORN!
SSSS!
OKAY, YOU TWO! ENJOY YOURSELVES . . .

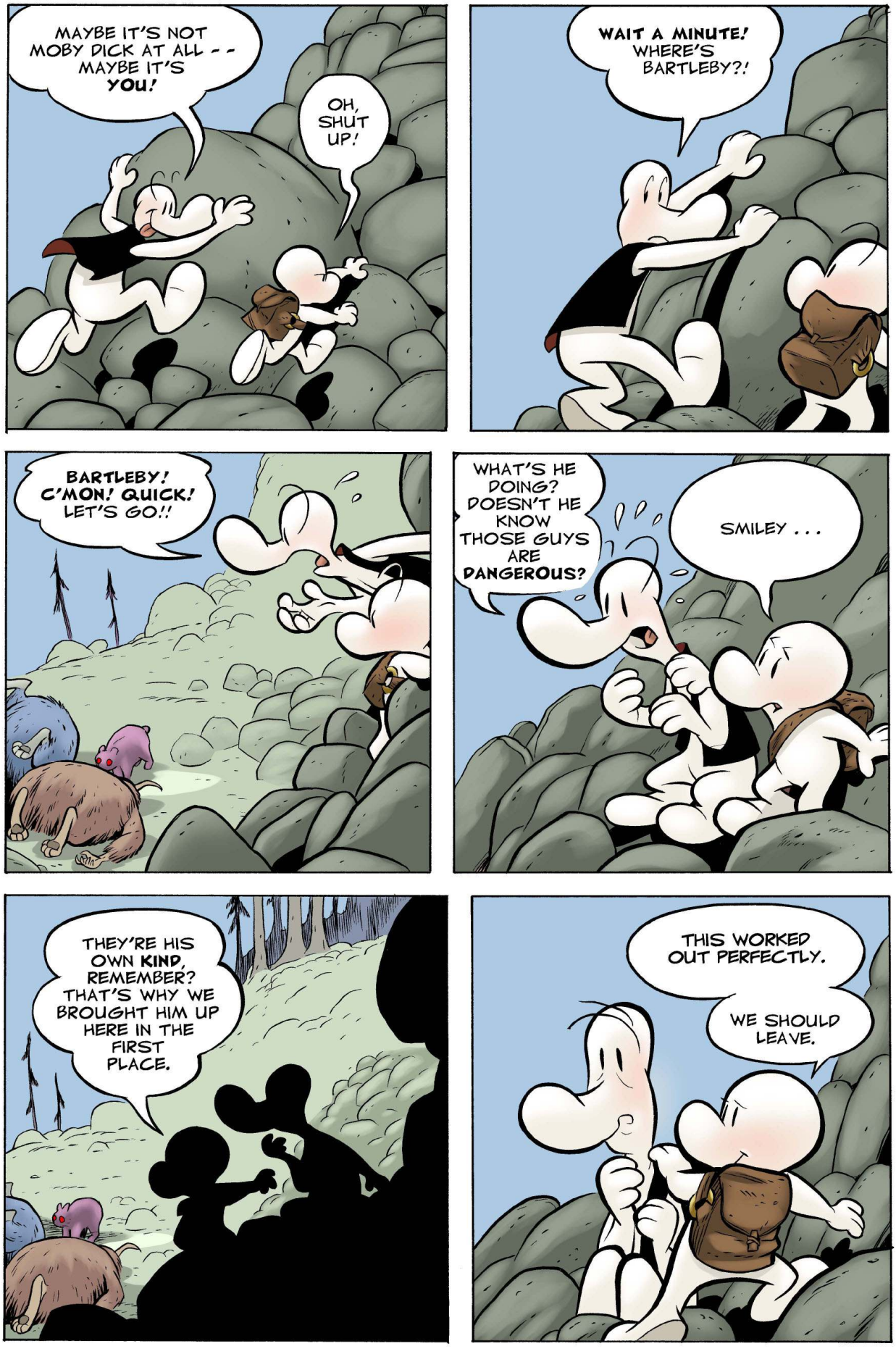

...BUT YOU BETTER MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SANDWICHES, BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF BREAD LEFT.
GOODY! GOODY! GOODY!
SERIOUSLY, SMILEY! WE CAN'T SPEND ANOTHER NIGHT OUT HERE, OUR FRIENDS'LL BE WORRIED. WE NEED TO START BACK TO TOWN TODAY!
BUT FONE BONE, WHAT ABOUT BARTLEBY?
BARTLEBY?! DON'T TELL ME YOU NAMED THAT LITTLE CUB?
SURE, I DID! WE HAVE TO CALL HIM SOMETHING - - DON'T WE, BARTLEBY?
SS!

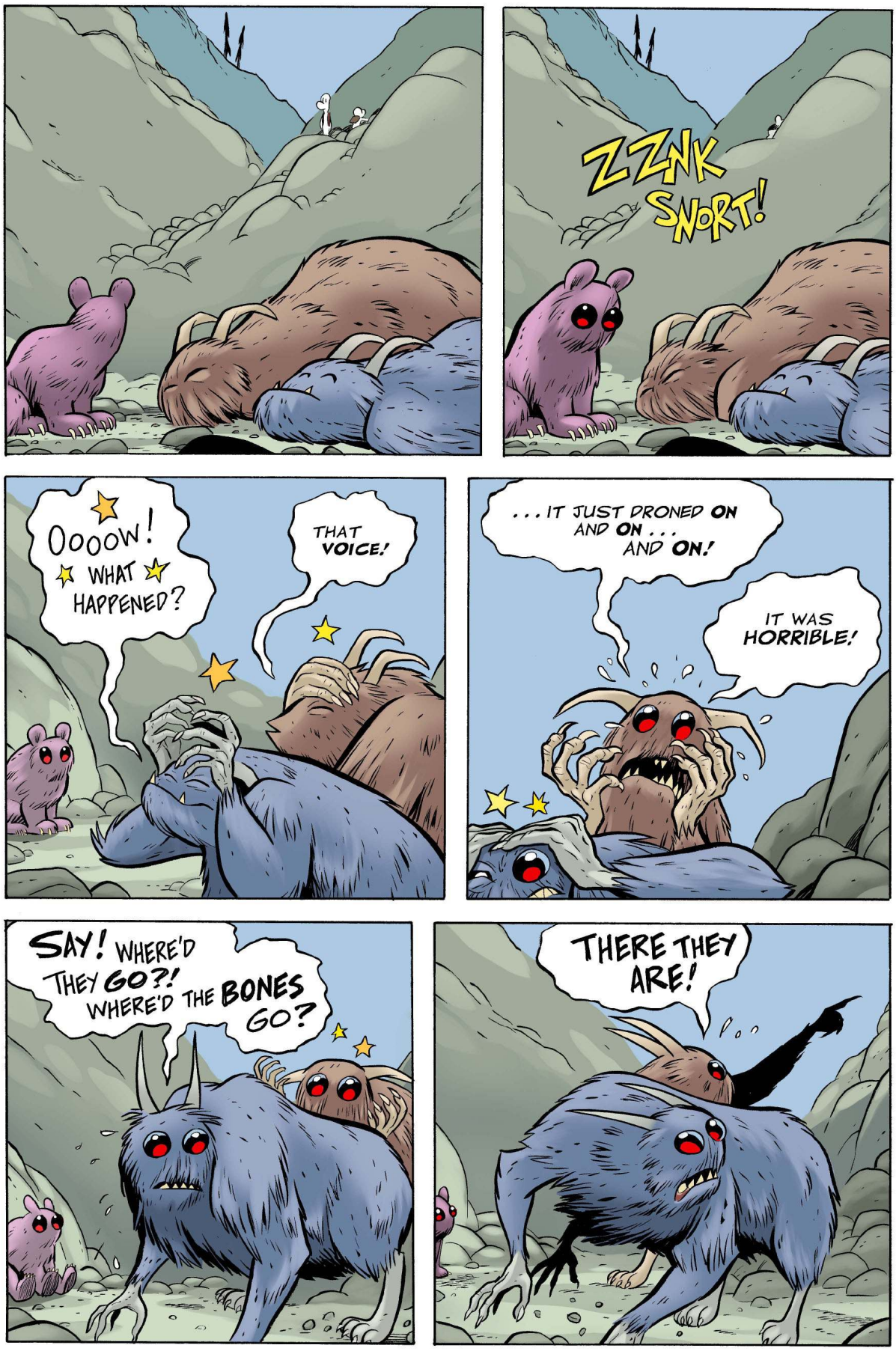

HE'S A RAT CREATURE, SMILEY, AN' WE'RE TAKING HIM UP IN TH' MOUNTAINS TO TURN HIM LOOSE! NOW, DON'T FORGET THAT!!
HEY! NOT SO LOUD!
YOU WANT THE LITTLE FELLA TO THINK WE'RE ABANDONIN' HIM?
SMILEY!
OKAY, OKAY. I JUST THOUGHT HE NEEDED A NAME, THAT'S ALL.
BUT WHY BARTLEBY, FOR GOODNESS' SAKE?
HE LOOKS LIKE A BARTLEBY, SEE?
IF YOU SAY SO!
WILL YOU READ US SOME MOBY DICK? I WANNA TEACH TH' LITTLE GUY HOW TO TAKE A NAP AFTER LUNCH - -
HEY! THIS IS A WORK OF ART, NOT A SLEEPING AID!
OOH! DEBATING ITS MERITS! EVEN BETTER!
OKAY, WE'RE READY!
MOBY DICK


FOR YOUR INFORMATION, MOBY DICK IS NOT A BORING BOOK!
FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THAT BOOK CAN PUT YOU IN A COMA!
THIS BOOK STIMULATES YOUR MIND! NOT ONLY IS THIS BOOK FULL OF HIGH SEAS ADVENTURE, BUT THE REAL JOY IN MOBY DICK IS THE PURE ACT OF READING ITSELF - -
Z
HO! HO! THAT'S PRETTY FUNNY, I SAY.
I ALWAYS LAUGH AT THAT ONE, YOU BET.
MOBY DICK

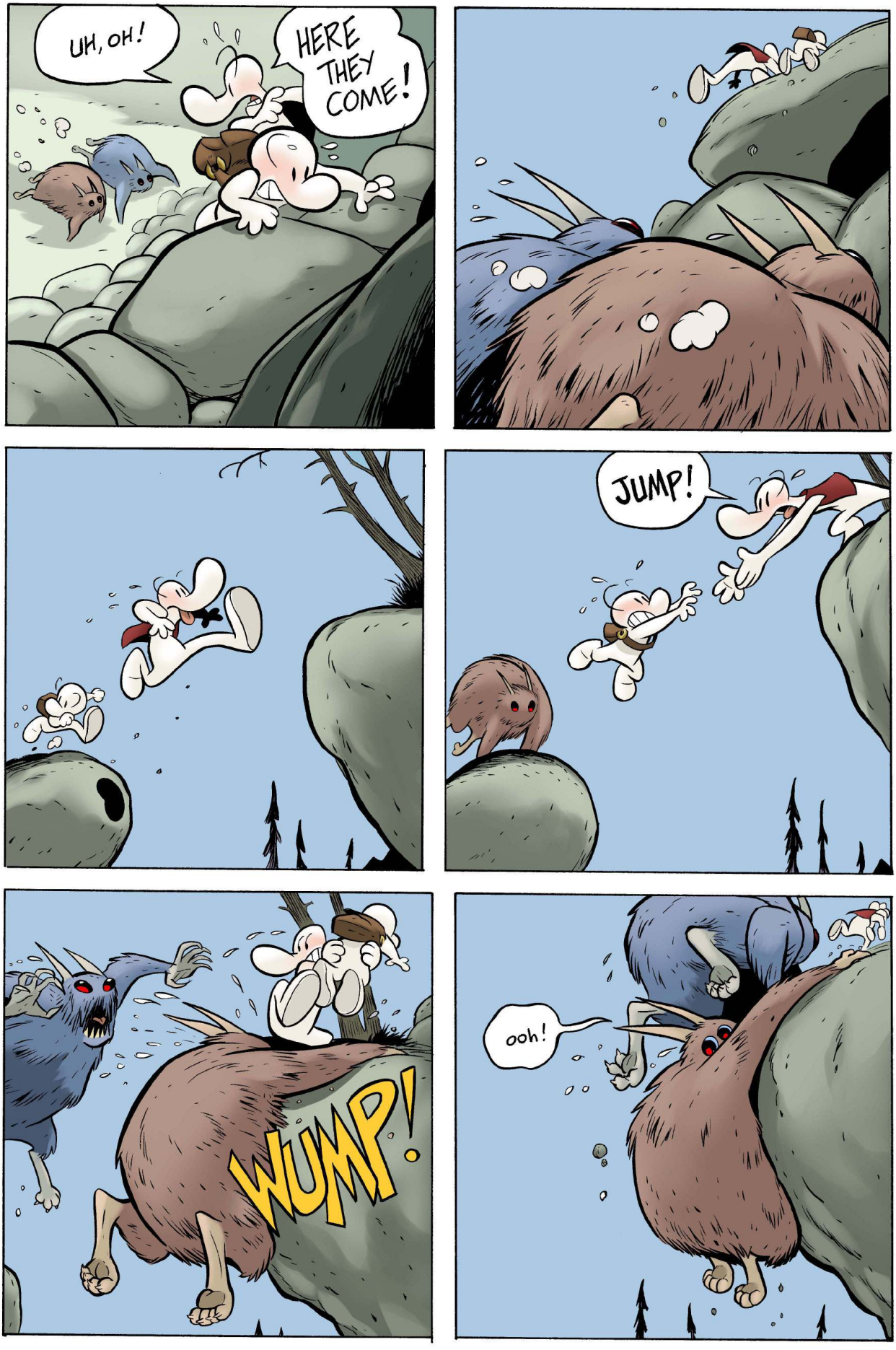

COMRADE! LOOK! ALL IS NOT LOST! IT IS HIM! THE SUCCULENT LITTLE BONE MAMMAL!
AND HIS COUSIN! AT LAST WE WILL HAVE ENOUGH FOOD TO GORGE OURSELVES!
LET'S SNEAK AROUND BEHIND THEM . . .
?
HISS!
WHAT?
WOW! RAT CREATURES!
SSS!
SURRENDER, SMALL MAMMALS!!
QUICK! READ 'EM SOME OF THIS!!
WHAT?
SS!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
CALL ME ISHMAEL!
?
IT'S NOT WORKING! HERE! YOU TRY!
GO ON! READ IT!
UM.
"CALL ME ISHMAEL. SOME YEARS AGO - - NEVER MIND HOW LONG PRECISELY - - HAVING LITTLE OR NO MONEY IN MY PURSE, AND NOTHING PARTICULAR TO INTEREST ME ON SHORE . . . "
". . . I THOUGHT I WOULD SAIL ABOUT A LITTLE AND SEE THE WATERY PARTS OF THE WORLD - - "
THERE! I THINK THAT DID IT!
KA-LUNK
BONK
OH, FER CRYIN' OUT LOUD!
C'MON! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!


MAYBE IT'S NOT MOBY DICK AT ALL - - MAYBE IT'S YOU!
OH, SHUT UP!
WAIT A MINUTE! WHERE'S BARTLEBY?!
BARTLEBY! C'MON! QUICK! LET'S GO!!
WHAT'S HE DOING? DOESN'T HE KNOW THOSE GUYS ARE DANGEROUS?
SMILEY . . .
THEY'RE HIS OWN KIND, REMEMBER? THAT'S WHY WE BROUGHT HIM UP HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THIS WORKED OUT PERFECTLY.
WE SHOULD LEAVE.

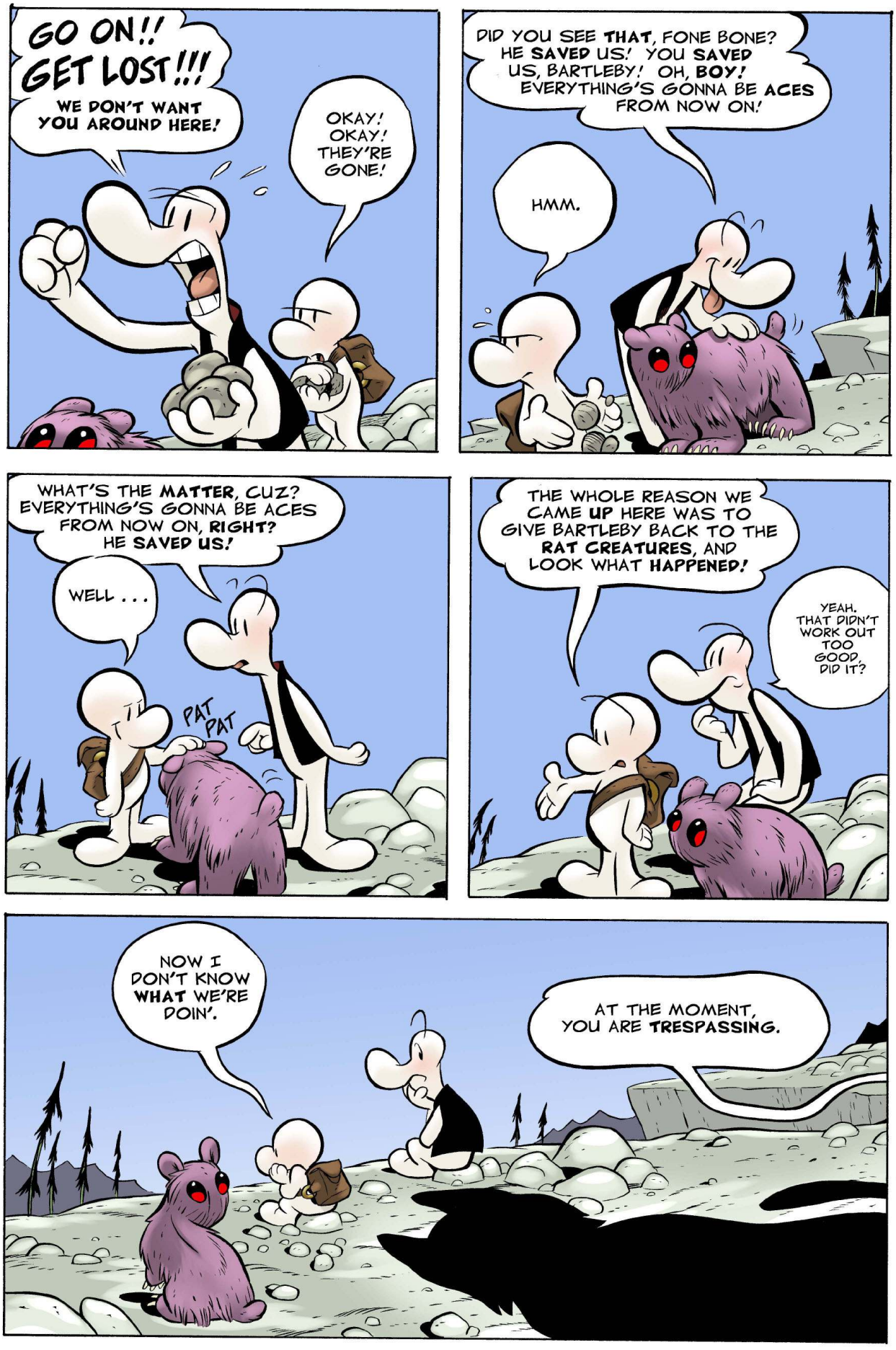


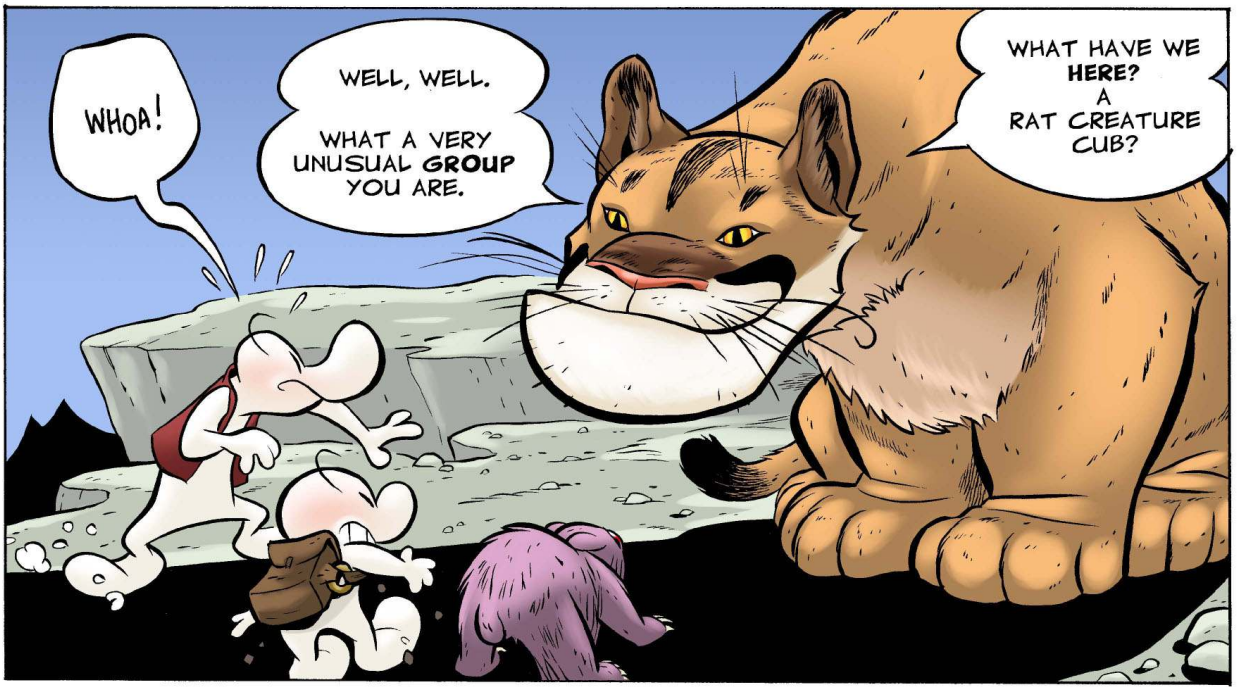
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

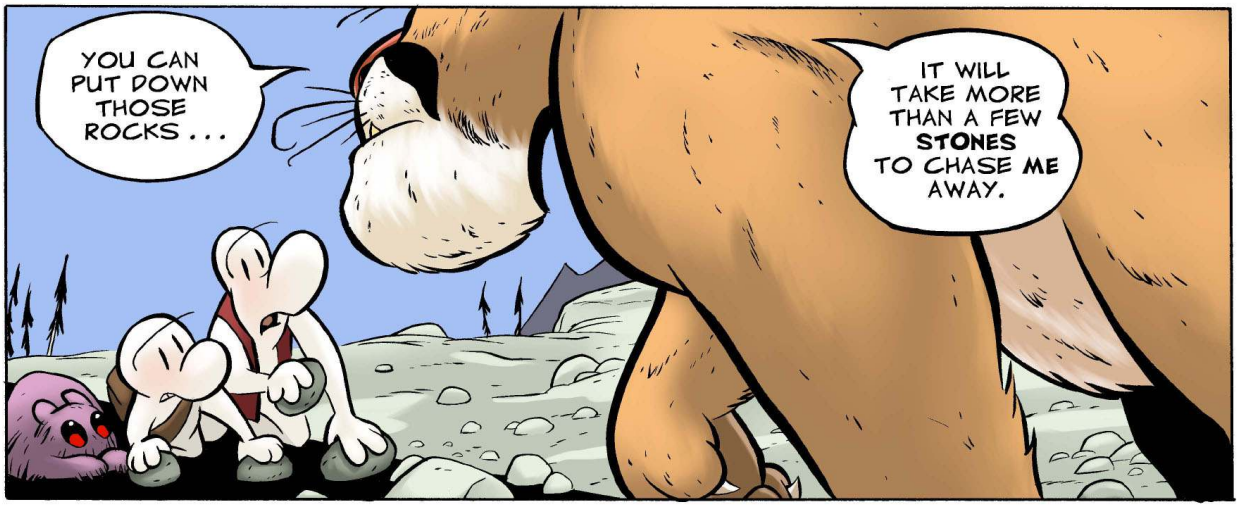

UH, OH!
HERE THEY COME!
JUMP!
WUMP!
ooh!

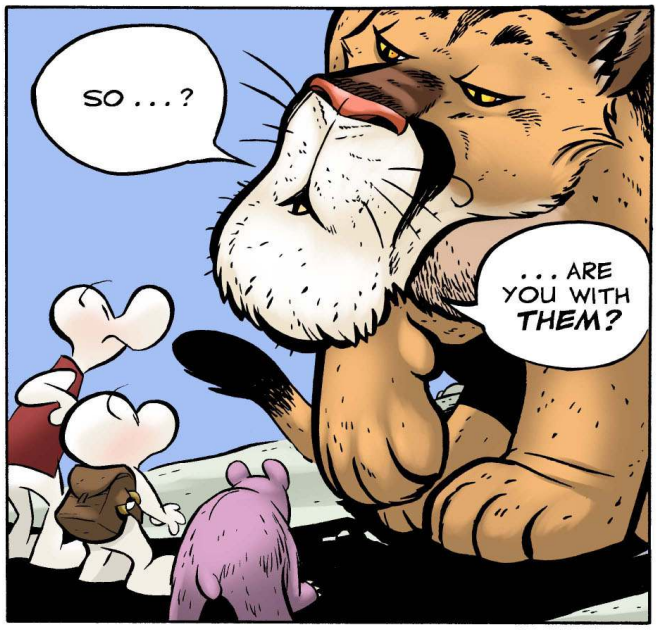

UP YA GO!
GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
C'MON!
OH, NO! IT'S A DEAD END!
OOPS.
GOTCHA!
POW!
YEAH!
GO, BARTLEBY!


CHUNK
GET OFF OF ME, YOU BRAT!
KNOCK THE LITTLE TRAITOR'S HEAD IN!
HEY!
HISS!
AAARR!
AAAAA!
CLUNK!
WA-HOO! WHAT HIT ME?!
GO! GO!
RUN!
GET 'EM!
GET OUTTA HERE, YOU RATS!
SSS!

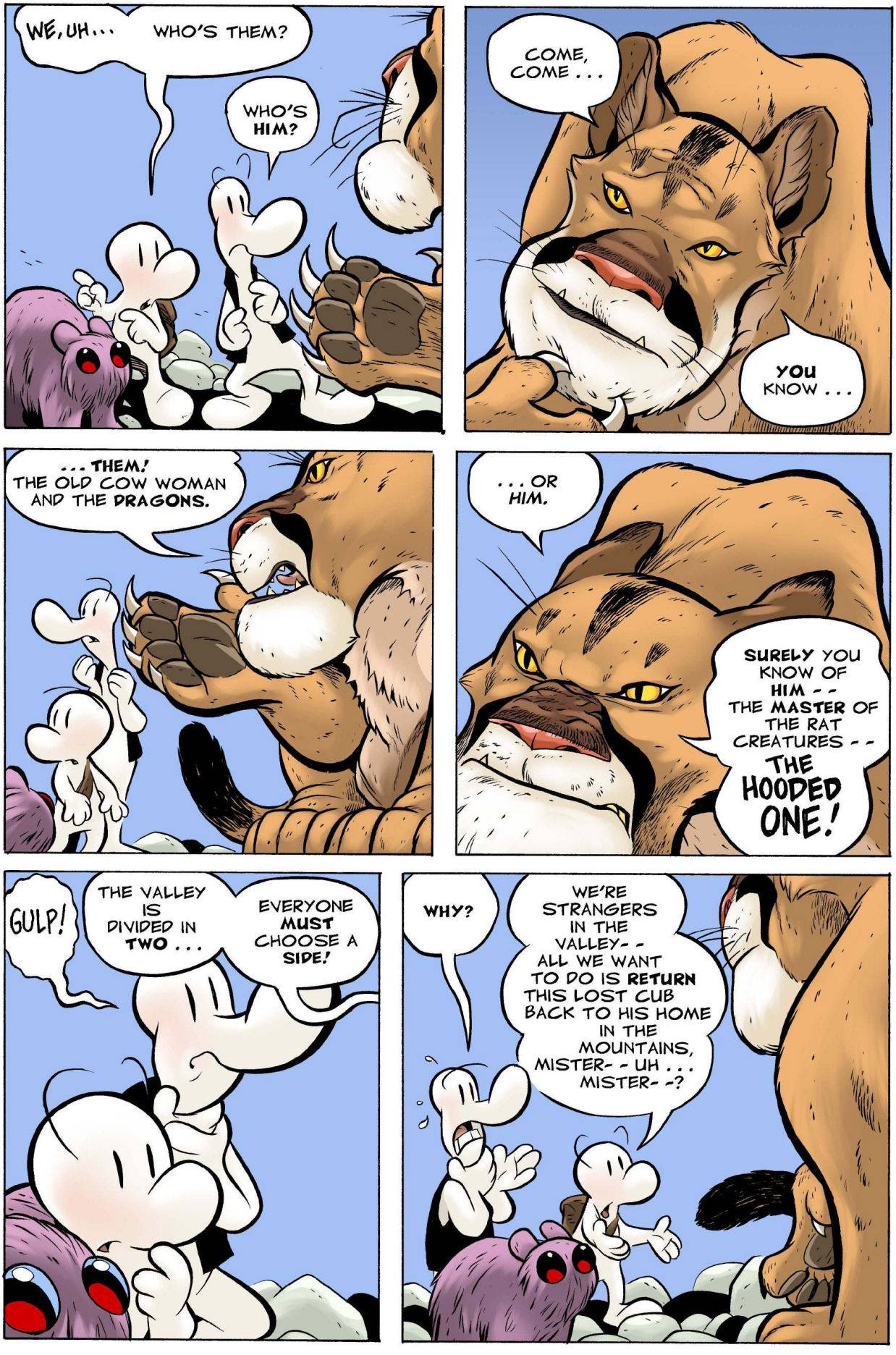

GO ON!! GET LOST!!!
WE DON'T WANT YOU AROUND HERE!
OKAY! OKAY! THEY'RE GONE!
DID YOU SEE THAT, FONE BONE? HE SAVED US! YOU SAVED US, BARTLEBY! OH, BOY! EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ACES FROM NOW ON!
HMM.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, CUZ? EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE ACES FROM NOW ON, RIGHT? HE SAVED US!
WELL . . .
PAT PAT
THE WHOLE REASON WE CAME UP HERE WAS TO GIVE BARTLEBY BACK TO THE RAT CREATURES, AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED!
YEAH. THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT TOO GOOD, DID IT?
NOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOIN'.
AT THE MOMENT, YOU ARE TRESPASSING.

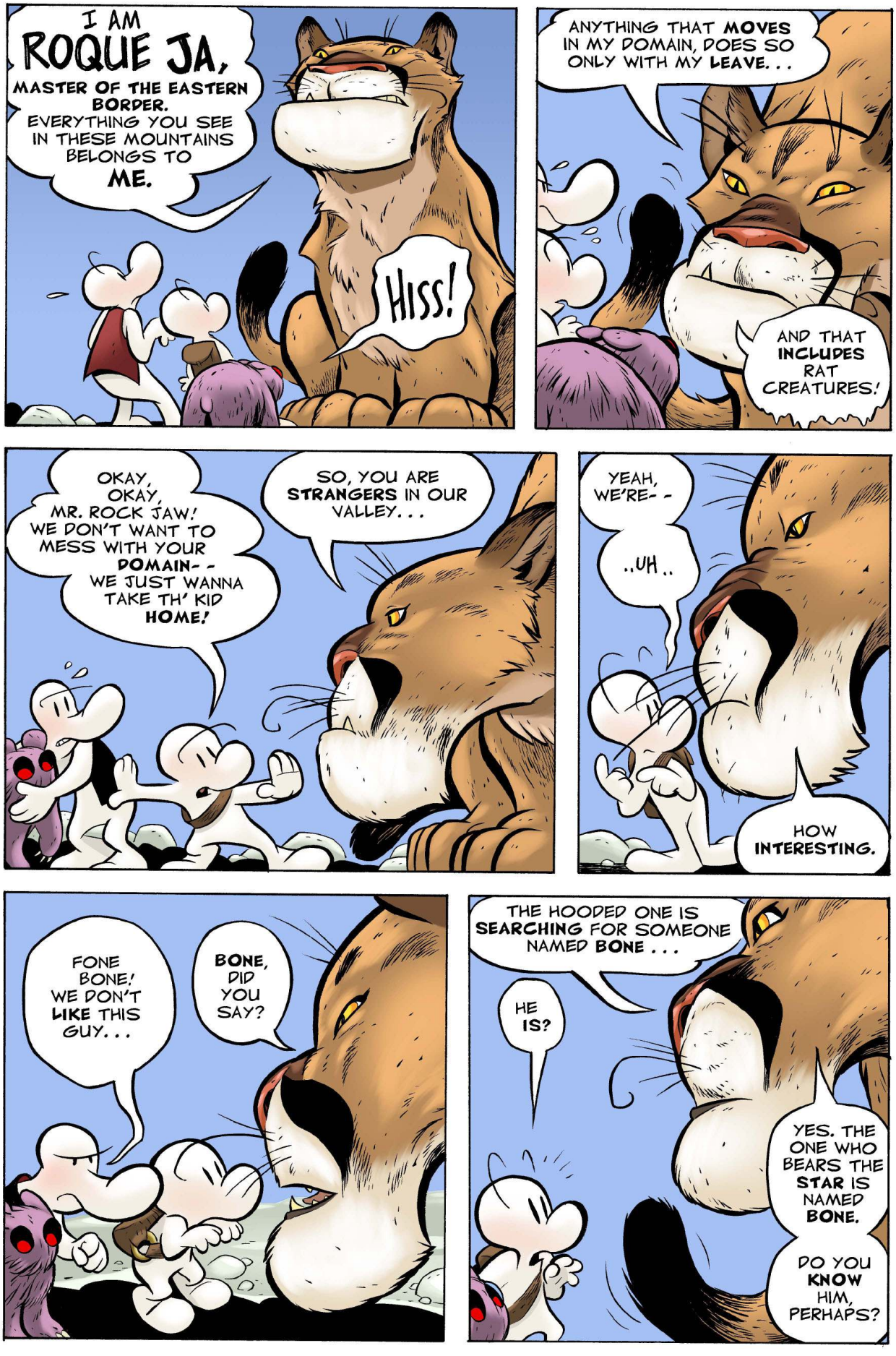

WHOA!
WELL, WELL.
WHAT A VERY UNUSUAL GROUP YOU ARE.
WHAT HAVE WE HERE? A RAT CREATURE CUB?

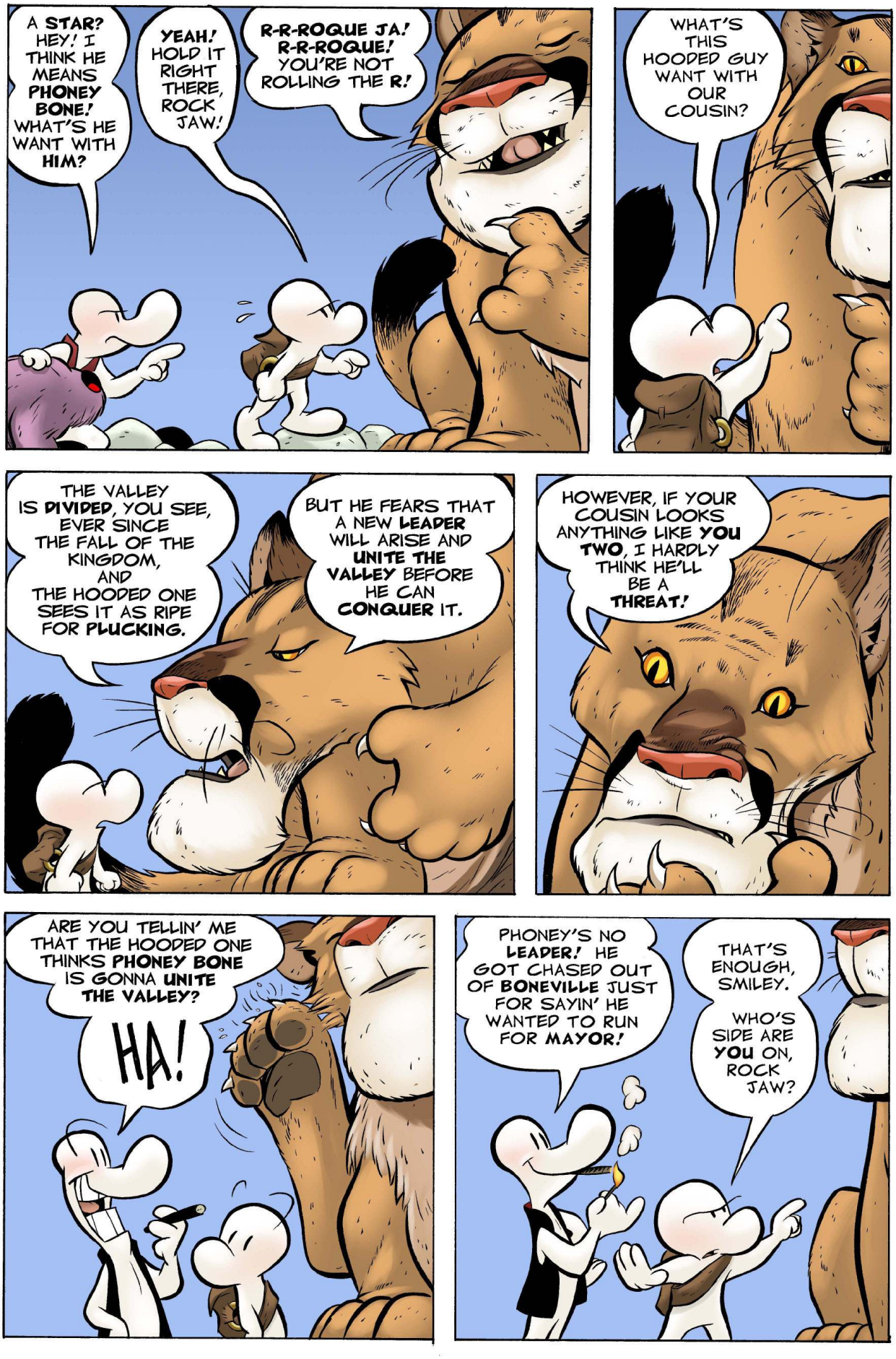

YOU CAN PUT DOWN THOSE ROCKS . . .
IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A FEW STONES TO CHASE ME AWAY.


SO . . . ?
. . . ARE YOU WITH THEM?


OR HIM?


WE, UH...
WHO'S THEM?
WHO'S HIM?
COME, COME...
YOU KNOW...
...THEM! THE OLD COW WOMAN AND THE DRAGONS.
...OR HIM.
SURELY YOU KNOW OF HIM -- THE MASTER OF THE RAT CREATURES -- THE HOODED ONE!
GULP!
THE VALLEY IS DIVIDED IN TWO...
EVERYONE MUST CHOOSE A SIDE!
WHY?
WE'RE STRANGERS IN THE VALLEY-- ALL WE WANT TO DO IS RETURN THIS LOST CUB BACK TO HIS HOME IN THE MOUNTAINS, MISTER-- UH... MISTER--?


I AM ROQUE JA, MASTER OF THE EASTERN BORDER. EVERYTHING YOU SEE IN THESE MOUNTAINS BELONGS TO ME.
HISS!
ANYTHING THAT MOVES IN MY DOMAIN, DOES SO ONLY WITH MY LEAVE. . .
AND THAT INCLUDES RAT CREATURES!
OKAY, OKAY, MR. ROCK JAW! WE DON'T WANT TO MESS WITH YOUR DOMAIN- - WE JUST WANNA TAKE TH' KID HOME!
SO, YOU ARE STRANGERS IN OUR VALLEY. . .
YEAH, WE'RE- -
..UH ..
HOW INTERESTING.
FONE BONE! WE DON'T LIKE THIS GUY. . .
BONE, DID YOU SAY?
THE HOODED ONE IS SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE NAMED BONE . . .
HE IS?
YES. THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR IS NAMED BONE.
DO YOU KNOW HIM, PERHAPS?


A STAR? HEY! I THINK HE MEANS PHONEY BONE! WHAT'S HE WANT WITH HIM?
YEAH! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, ROCK JAW!
R-R-ROQUE JA! R-R-ROQUE! YOU'RE NOT ROLLING THE R!
WHAT'S THIS HOODED GUY WANT WITH OUR COUSIN?
THE VALLEY IS DIVIDED, YOU SEE, EVER SINCE THE FALL OF THE KINGDOM, AND THE HOODED ONE SEES IT AS RIPE FOR PLUCKING.
BUT HE FEARS THAT A NEW LEADER WILL ARISE AND UNITE THE VALLEY BEFORE HE CAN CONQUER IT.
HOWEVER, IF YOUR COUSIN LOOKS ANYTHING LIKE YOU TWO, I HARDLY THINK HE'LL BE A THREAT!
ARE YOU TELLIN' ME THAT THE HOODED ONE THINKS PHONEY BONE IS GONNA UNITE THE VALLEY?
HA!
PHONEY'S NO LEADER! HE GOT CHASED OUT OF BONEVILLE JUST FOR SAYIN' HE WANTED TO RUN FOR MAYOR!
THAT'S ENOUGH, SMILEY.
WHO'S SIDE ARE YOU ON, ROCK JAW?

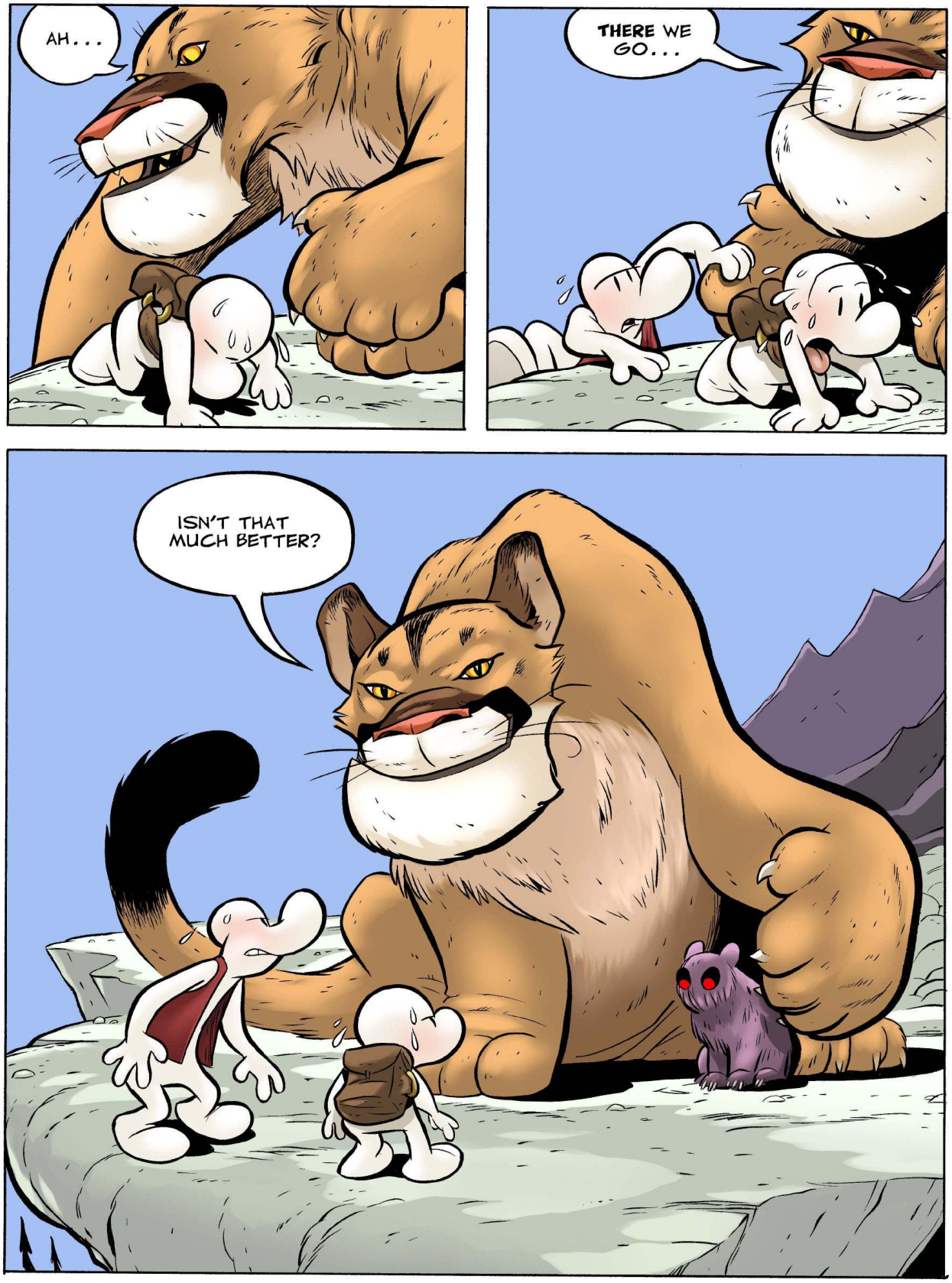


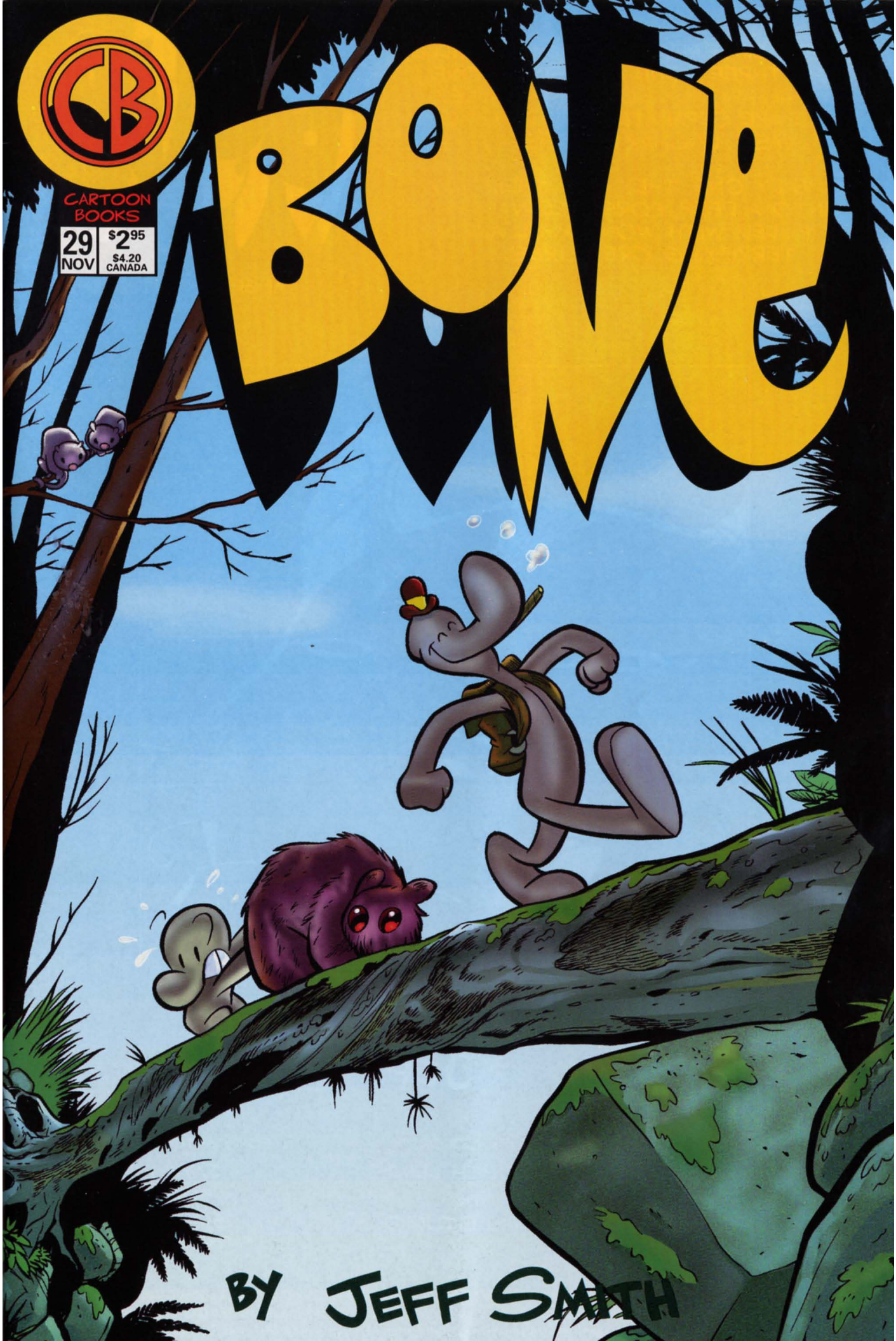
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


I AM WAITING.
SMILEY---
URK
WHA--
BARTLEBY! WHAT ARE YOU--?
SIGH.
I'M GLAD SOMEONE IS BEING REASONABLE.
COME ALONG.

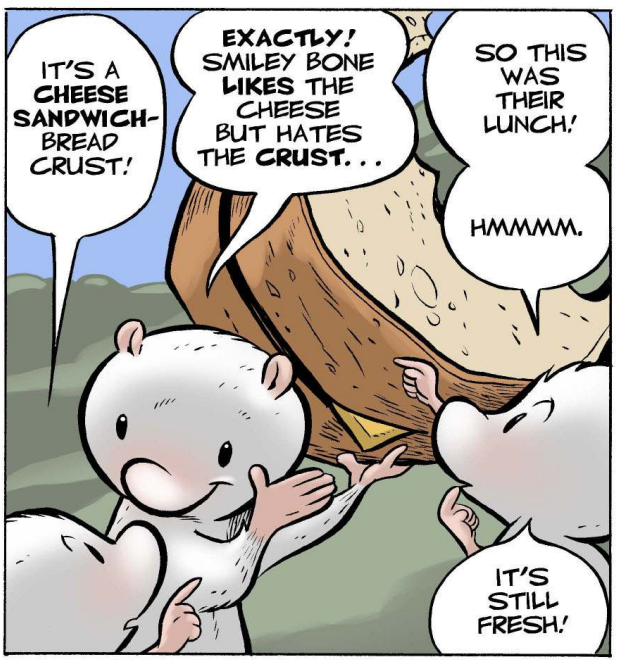

AH...
THERE WE GO...
ISN'T THAT MUCH BETTER?

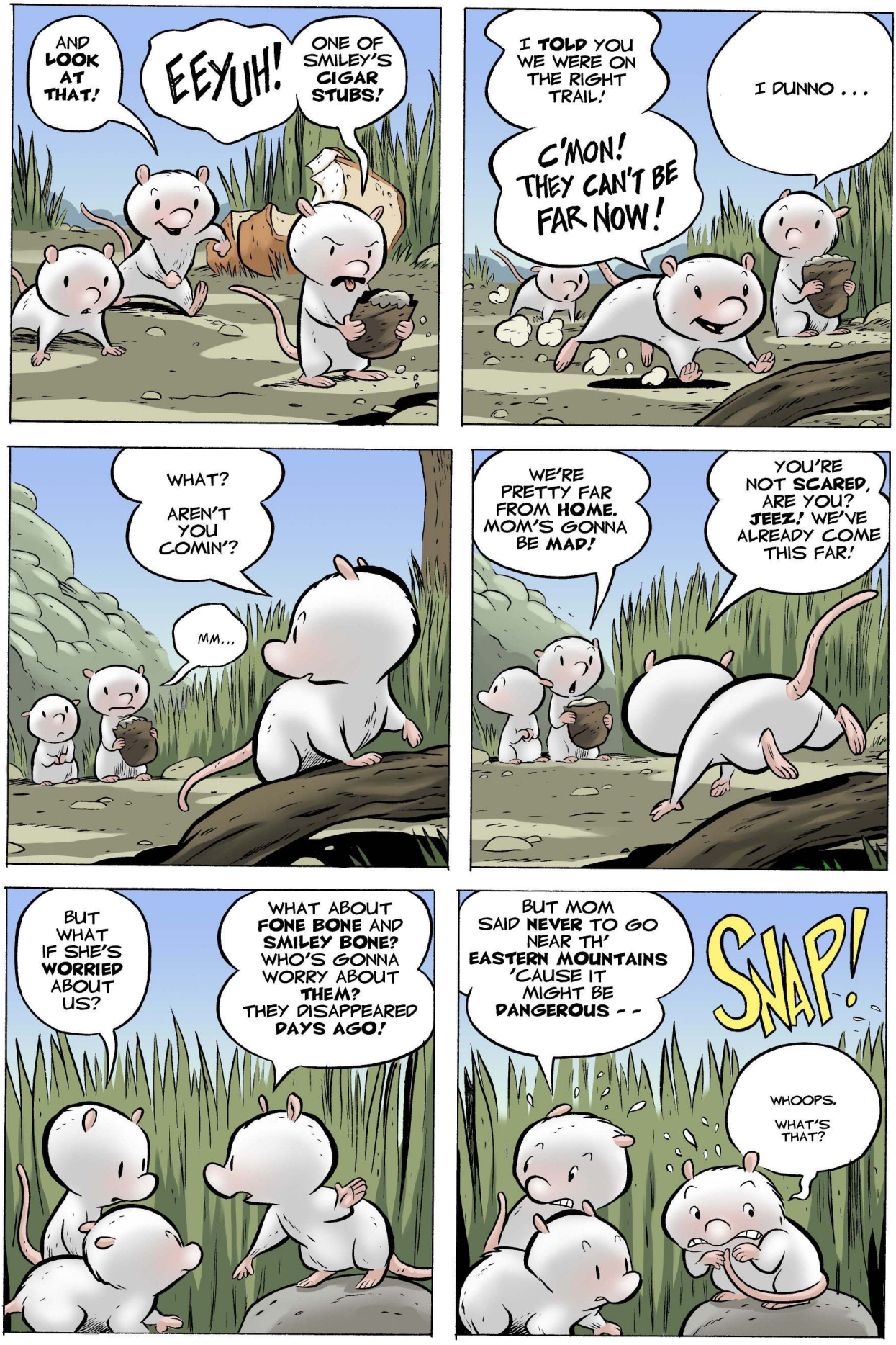

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
29
NOV
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

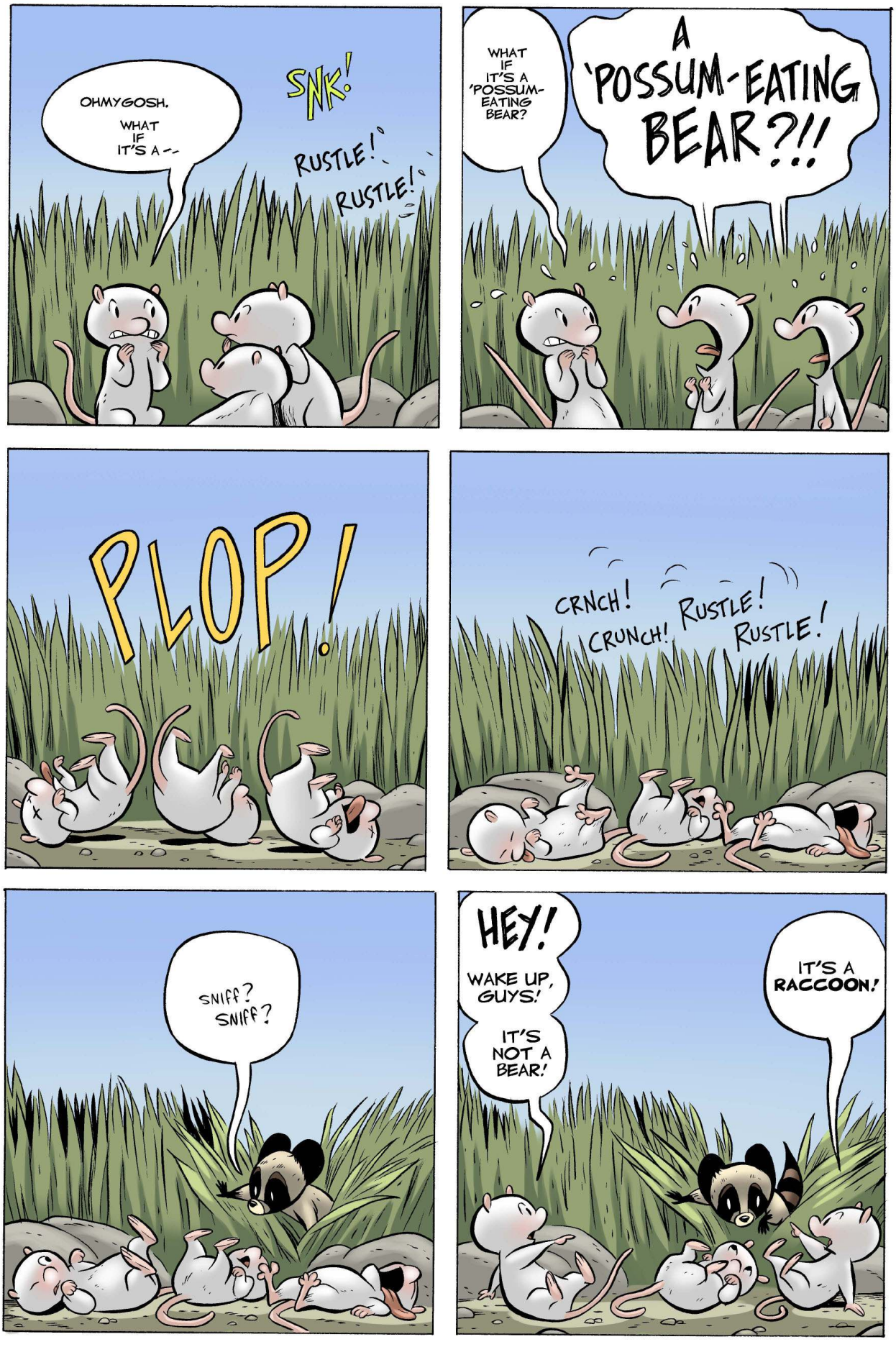

BONE
NOW WHICH WAY?
UM . . .
ARE WE LOST AGAIN?
LOOK AROUND . . . THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING - -
WHERE?
THERE!

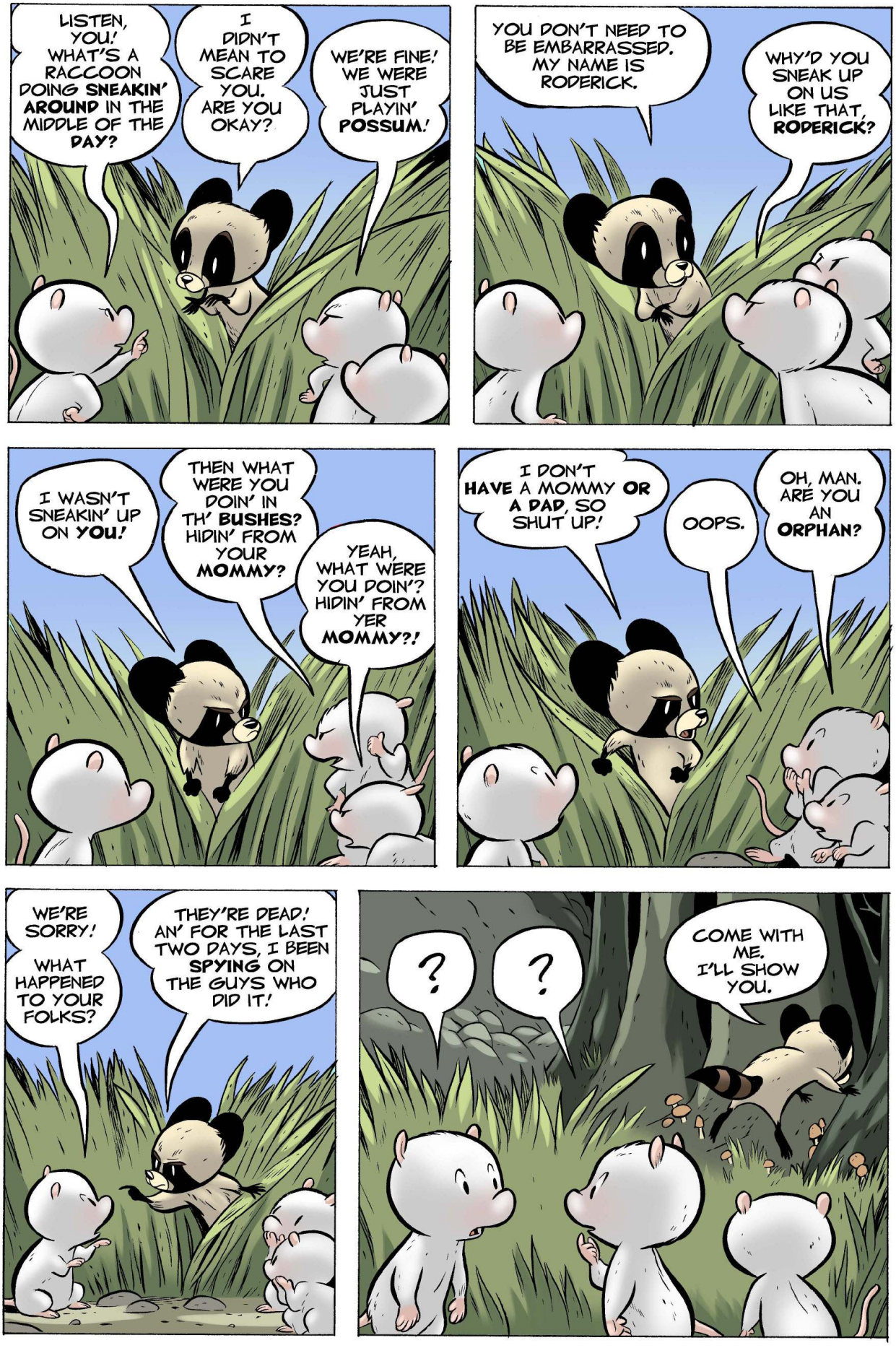

WHAT?
THAT THING?
WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S THEIR TRAIL! WE'VE DISCOVERED THEIR TRAIL AGAIN!


SEE?! IT'S BREAD CRUST!
BREAD CRUST?! THAT DOESN'T PROVE ANYTHING.


IT'S A CHEESE SANDWICH- BREAD CRUST!
EXACTLY! SMILEY BONE LIKES THE CHEESE BUT HATES THE CRUST...
SO THIS WAS THEIR LUNCH!
HMMMM.
IT'S STILL FRESH!

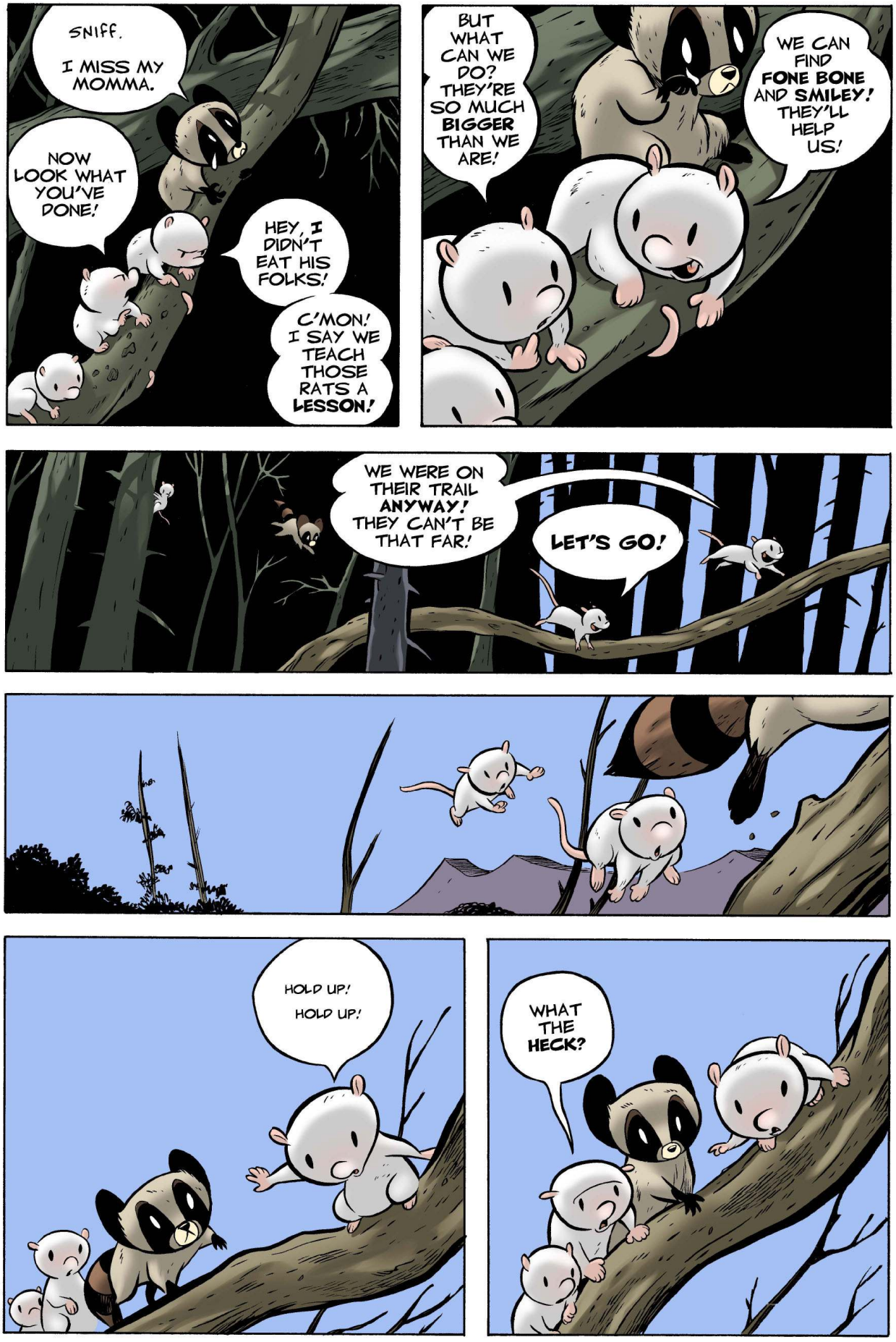

AND LOOK AT THAT!
EEYUH!
ONE OF SMILEY'S CIGAR STUBS!
I TOLD YOU WE WERE ON THE RIGHT TRAIL!
C'MON! THEY CAN'T BE FAR NOW!
I DUNNO . . .
WHAT? AREN'T YOU COMIN'?
MM...
WE'RE PRETTY FAR FROM HOME. MOM'S GONNA BE MAD!
YOU'RE NOT SCARED, ARE YOU? JEEZ! WE'VE ALREADY COME THIS FAR!
BUT WHAT IF SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT US?
WHAT ABOUT FONE BONE AND SMILEY BONE? WHO'S GONNA WORRY ABOUT THEM? THEY DISAPPEARED DAYS AGO!
BUT MOM SAID NEVER TO GO NEAR TH' EASTERN MOUNTAINS 'CAUSE IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS - -
SNAP!
WHOOPS. WHAT'S THAT?


OHMYGOSH.
WHAT IF IT'S A--
SNK!
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
WHAT IF IT'S A 'POSSUM-EATING BEAR?
A 'POSSUM-EATING BEAR?!!
PLOP!
CRNCH!
CRUNCH!
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
SNIFF?
SNIFF?
HEY!
WAKE UP, GUYS!
IT'S NOT A BEAR!
IT'S A RACCOON!

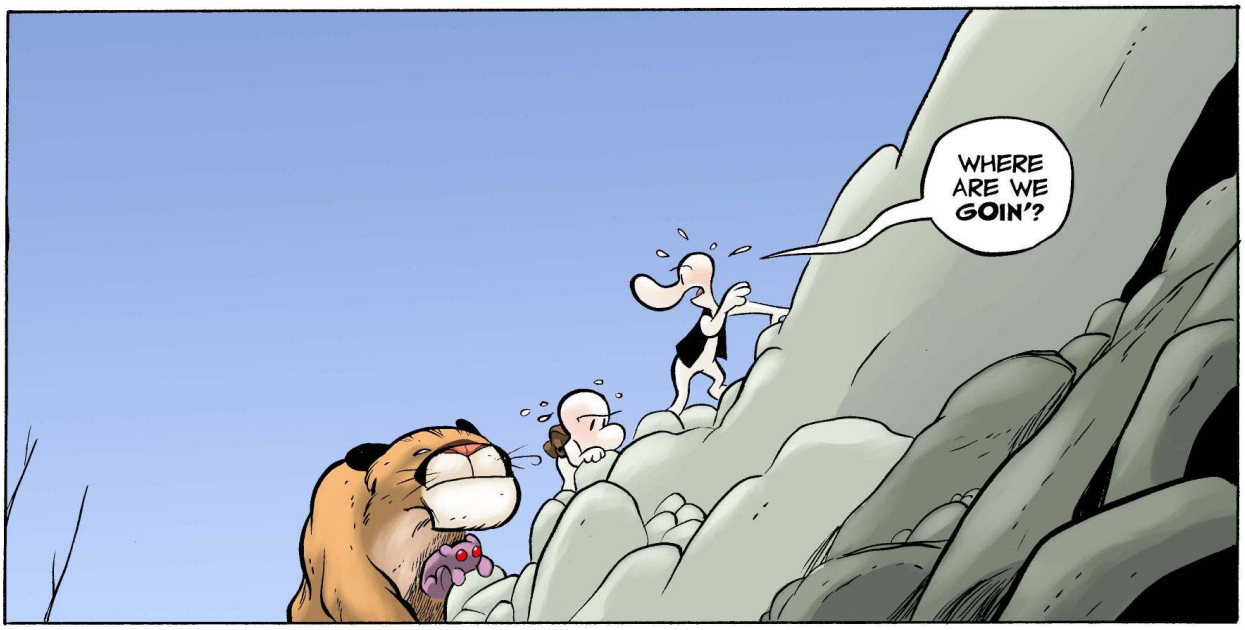

LISTEN, YOU! WHAT'S A RACCOON DOING **SNEAKIN' AROUND** IN THE MIDDLE OF THE **DAY?**
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SCARE YOU. ARE YOU OKAY?
WE'RE FINE! WE WERE JUST PLAYIN' **POSSUM!**
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE EMBARRASSED. MY NAME IS RODERICK.
WHY'D YOU SNEAK UP ON US LIKE THAT, **RODERICK?**
I WASN'T SNEAKIN' UP ON **YOU!**
THEN WHAT WERE YOU DOIN' IN TH' **BUSHES?** HIDIN' FROM YOUR **MOMMY?**
YEAH, WHAT WERE YOU DOIN'? HIDIN' FROM YER **MOMMY?!**
I DON'T **HAVE** A MOMMY **OR A DAD**, SO SHUT UP!
OOPS.
OH, MAN. ARE YOU AN **ORPHAN?**
WE'RE SORRY! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FOLKS?
THEY'RE DEAD! AN' FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS, I BEEN **SPYING** ON THE GUYS WHO DID IT!
?
?
COME WITH ME. I'LL SHOW YOU.

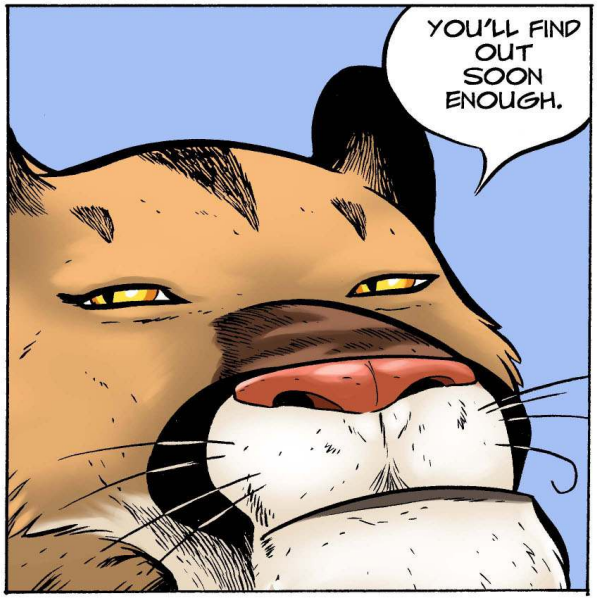


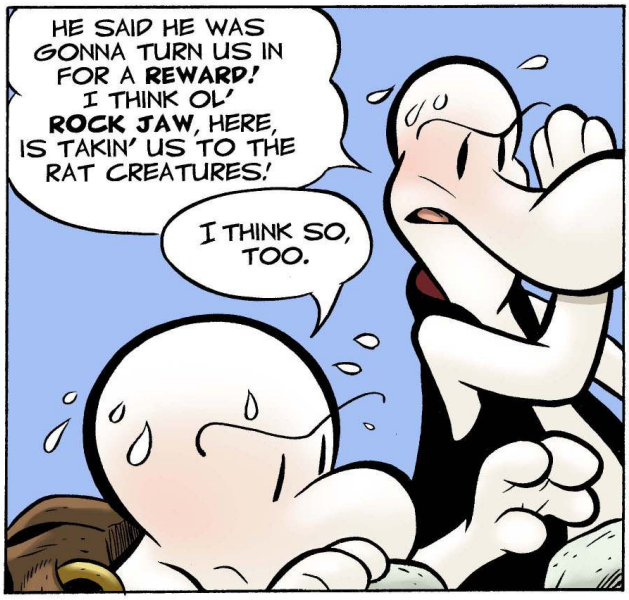
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

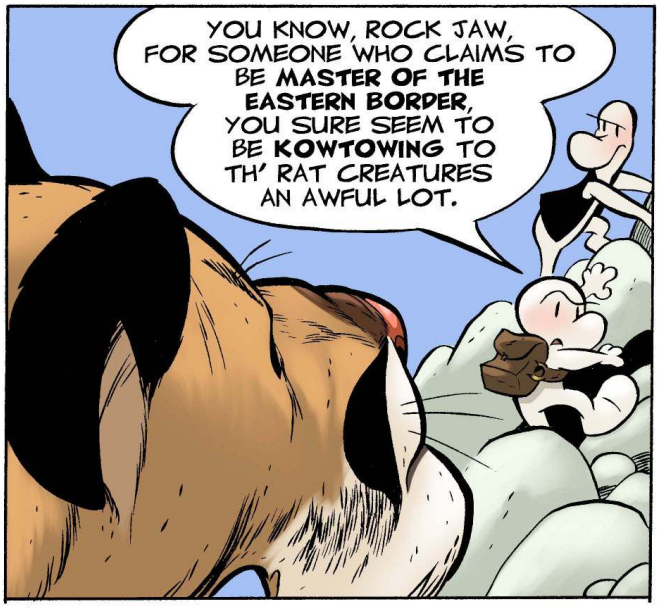

SNIFF.
I MISS MY MOMMA.
NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE!
HEY, I DIDN'T EAT HIS FOLKS!
C'MON! I SAY WE TEACH THOSE RATS A LESSON!
BUT WHAT CAN WE DO? THEY'RE SO MUCH BIGGER THAN WE ARE!
WE CAN FIND FONE BONE AND SMILEY! THEY'LL HELP US!
WE WERE ON THEIR TRAIL ANYWAY! THEY CAN'T BE THAT FAR!
LET'S GO!
HOLD UP! HOLD UP!
WHAT THE HECK?

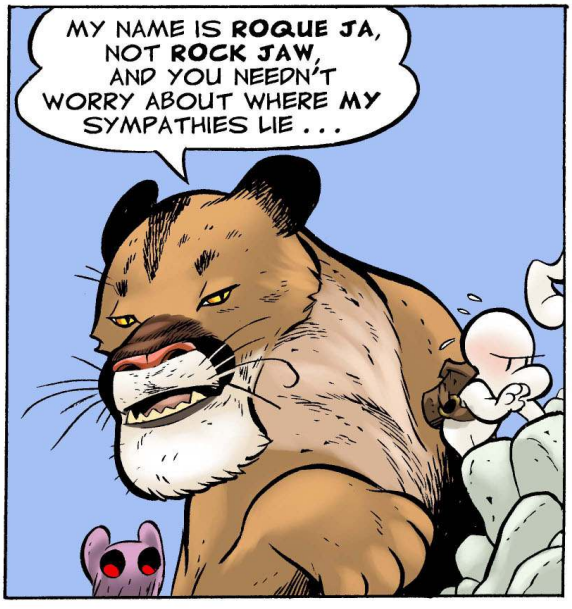

IT'S THEM!
SLAP!
Shh!

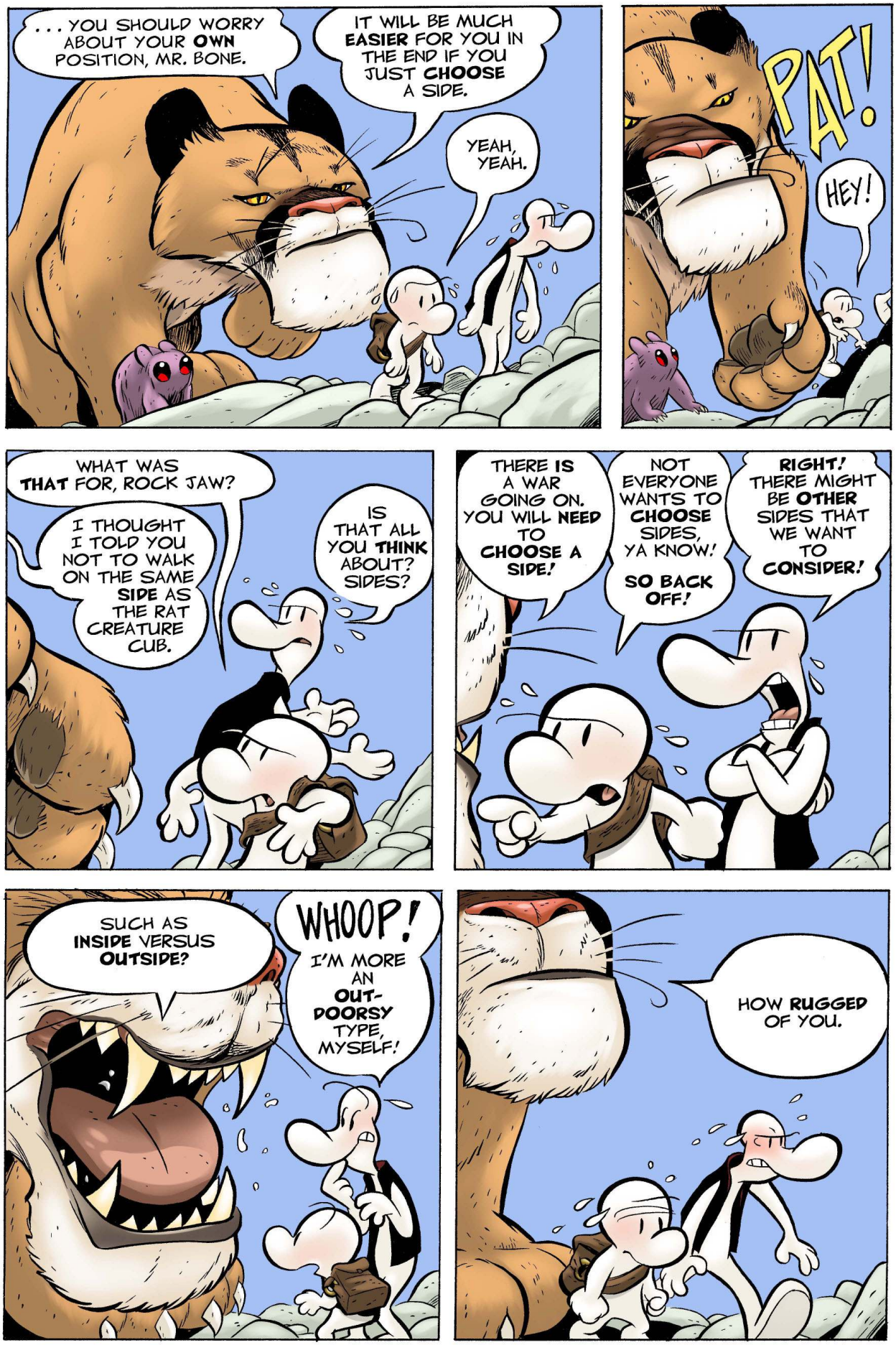

WHERE ARE WE GOIN'?

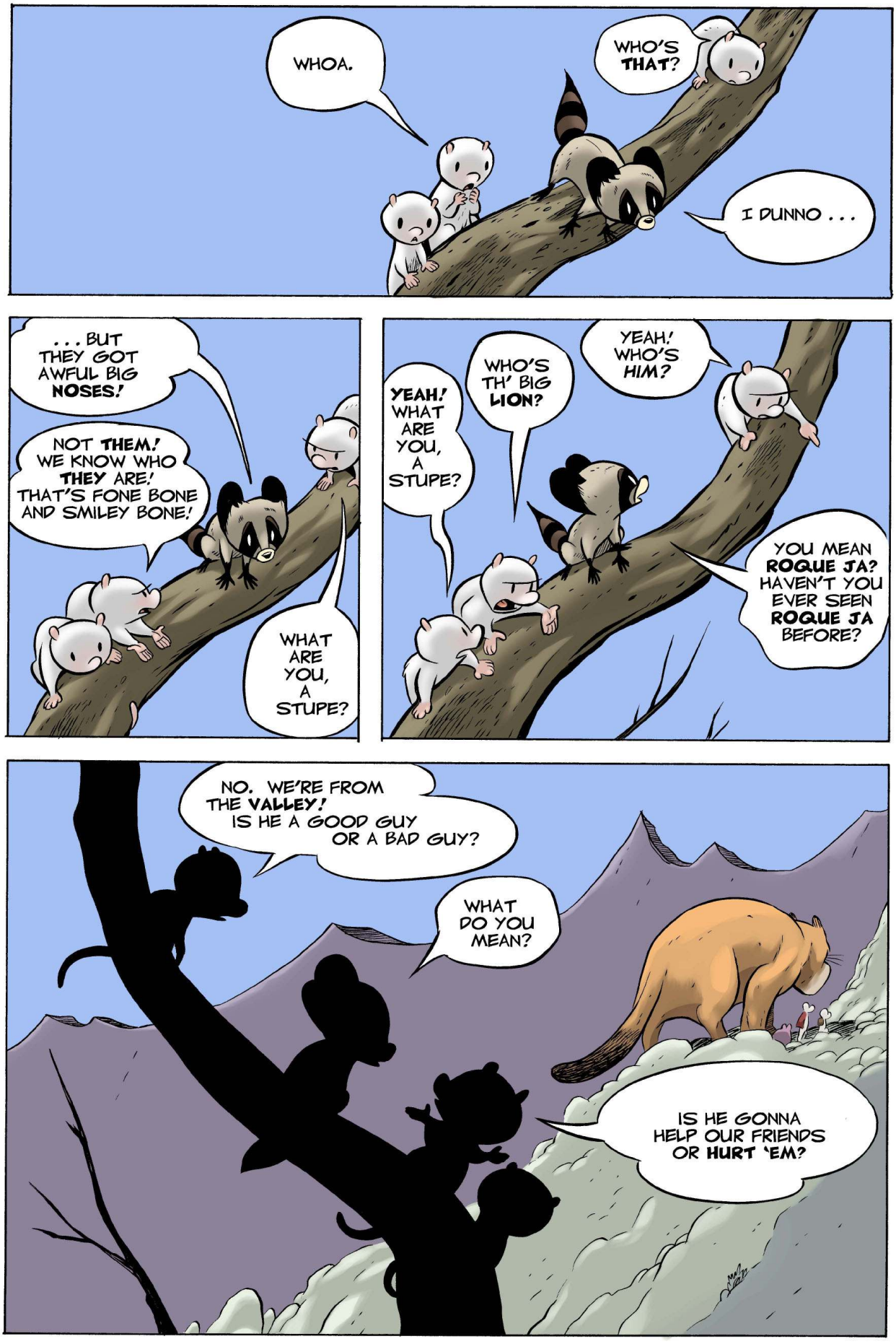

YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH.

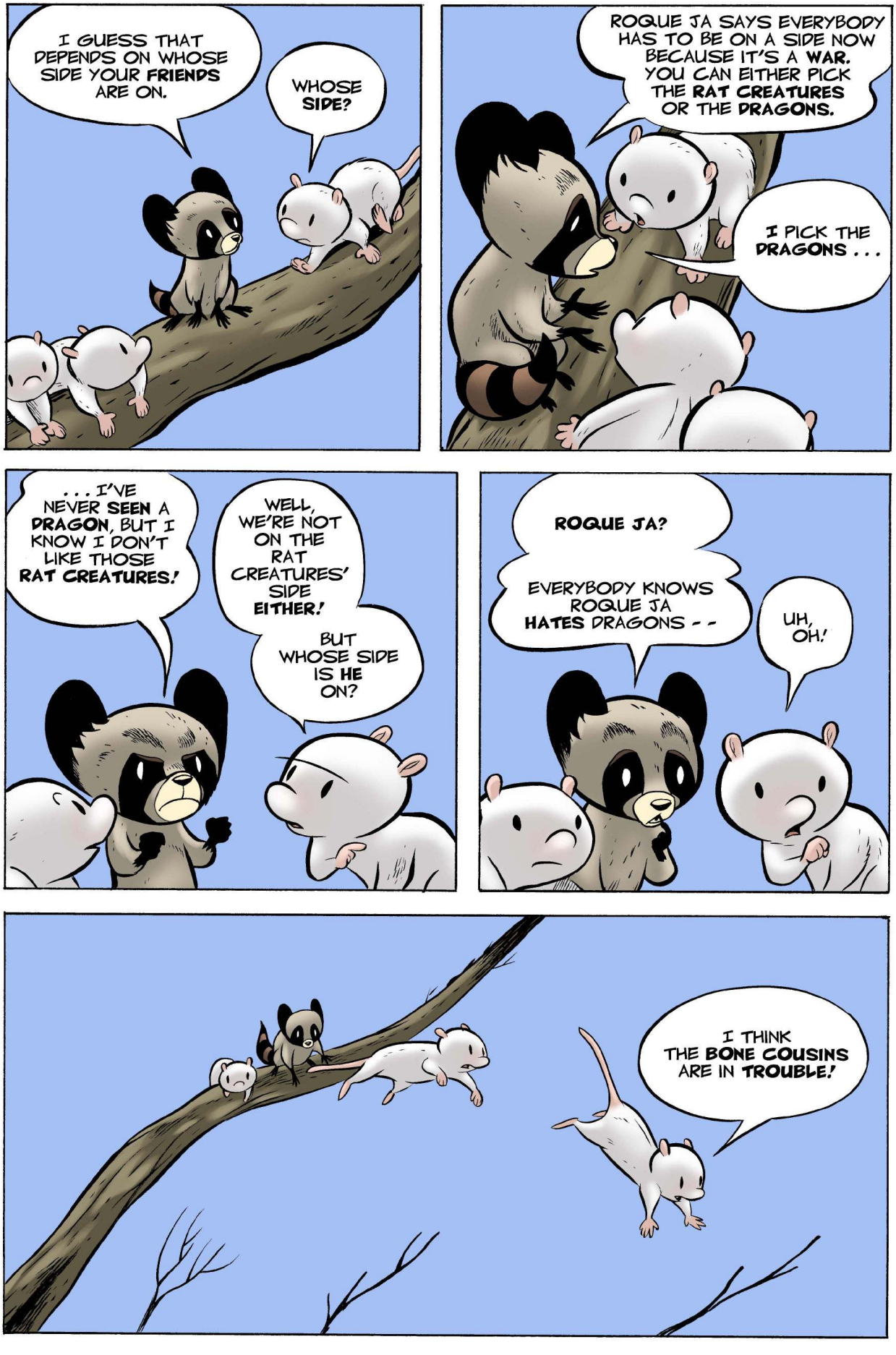

HE SAID HE WAS GONNA TURN US IN FOR A REWARD! I THINK OL' ROCK JAW, HERE, IS TAKIN' US TO THE RAT CREATURES!
I THINK SO, TOO.


YOU KNOW, ROCK JAW, FOR SOMEONE WHO CLAIMS TO BE MASTER OF THE EASTERN BORDER, YOU SURE SEEM TO BE KOWTOWING TO TH' RAT CREATURES AN AWFUL LOT.


MY NAME IS ROQUE JA, NOT ROCK JAW, AND YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT WHERE MY SYMPATHIES LIE . . .


. . . YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT YOUR **OWN** POSITION, MR. BONE.
IT WILL BE MUCH **EASIER** FOR YOU IN THE END IF YOU JUST **CHOOSE** A SIDE.
YEAH, YEAH.
PAT!
HEY!
WHAT WAS **THAT** FOR, ROCK JAW?
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU NOT TO WALK ON THE SAME **SIDE** AS THE RAT CREATURE CUB.
IS THAT ALL YOU **THINK** ABOUT? SIDES?
THERE **IS** A WAR GOING ON. YOU WILL **NEED** TO **CHOOSE A SIDE!**
NOT EVERYONE WANTS TO **CHOOSE** SIDES, YA KNOW! **SO BACK OFF!**
RIGHT! THERE MIGHT BE **OTHER** SIDES THAT WE WANT TO **CONSIDER!**
SUCH AS **INSIDE** VERSUS **OUTSIDE?**
WHOOP!
I'M MORE AN **OUT-DOORSY** TYPE, MYSELF!
HOW **RUGGED** OF YOU.

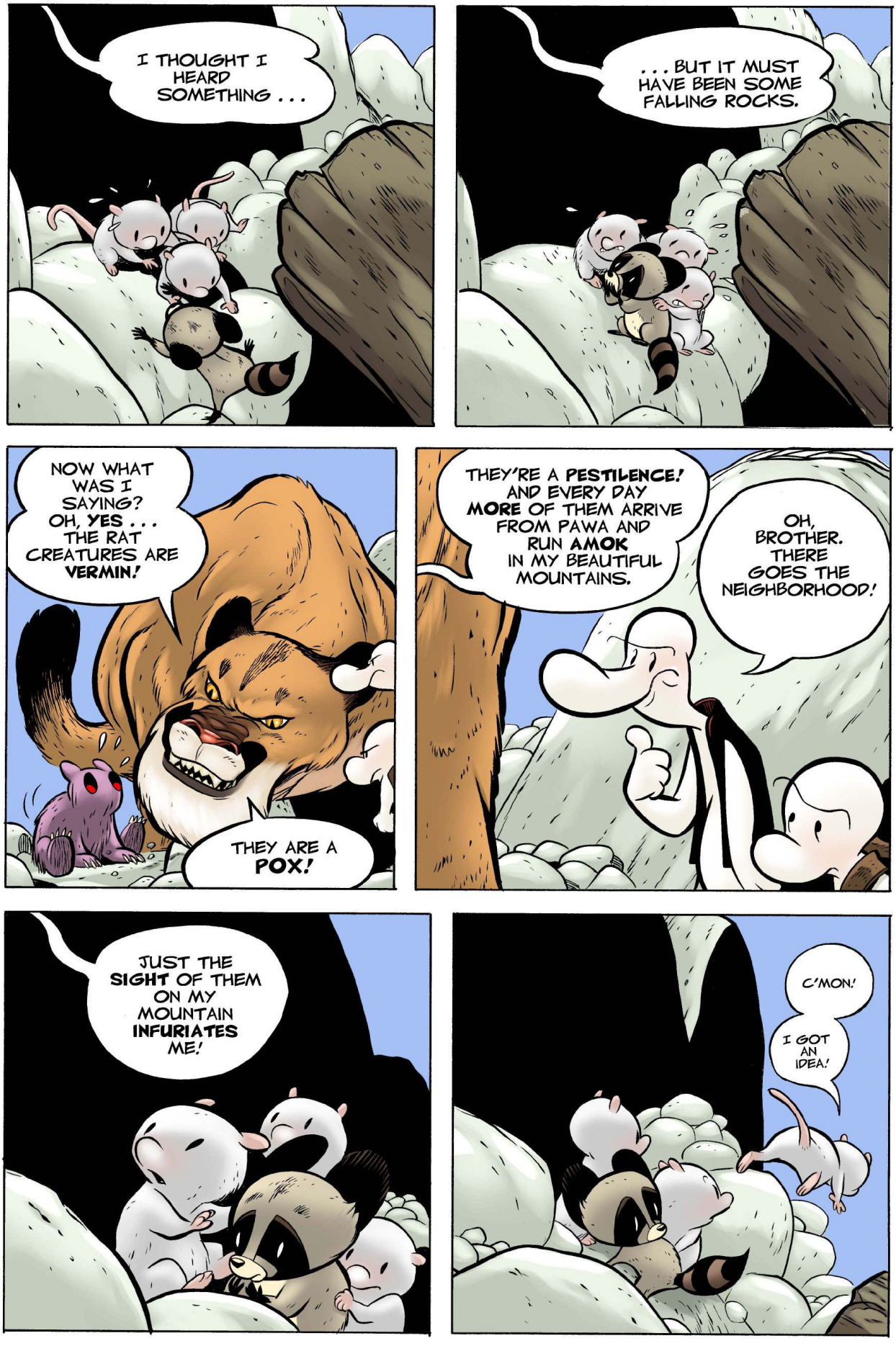

WHOA.
WHO'S THAT?
I DUNNO . . .
. . . BUT THEY GOT AWFUL BIG NOSES!
NOT THEM! WE KNOW WHO THEY ARE! THAT'S FONE BONE AND SMILEY BONE!
WHAT ARE YOU, A STUPE?
YEAH! WHO'S HIM?
WHO'S TH' BIG LION?
YEAH! WHAT ARE YOU, A STUPE?
YOU MEAN ROQUE JA? HAVEN'T YOU EVER SEEN ROQUE JA BEFORE?
NO. WE'RE FROM THE VALLEY! IS HE A GOOD GUY OR A BAD GUY?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IS HE GONNA HELP OUR FRIENDS OR HURT 'EM?


I GUESS THAT DEPENDS ON WHOSE SIDE YOUR FRIENDS ARE ON.
WHOSE SIDE?
ROQUE JA SAYS EVERYBODY HAS TO BE ON A SIDE NOW BECAUSE IT'S A WAR. YOU CAN EITHER PICK THE RAT CREATURES OR THE DRAGONS.
I PICK THE DRAGONS . . .
. . . I'VE NEVER SEEN A DRAGON, BUT I KNOW I DON'T LIKE THOSE RAT CREATURES!
WELL, WE'RE NOT ON THE RAT CREATURES' SIDE EITHER!
BUT WHOSE SIDE IS HE ON?
ROQUE JA?
EVERYBODY KNOWS ROQUE JA HATES DRAGONS - -
UH, OH!
I THINK THE BONE COUSINS ARE IN TROUBLE!

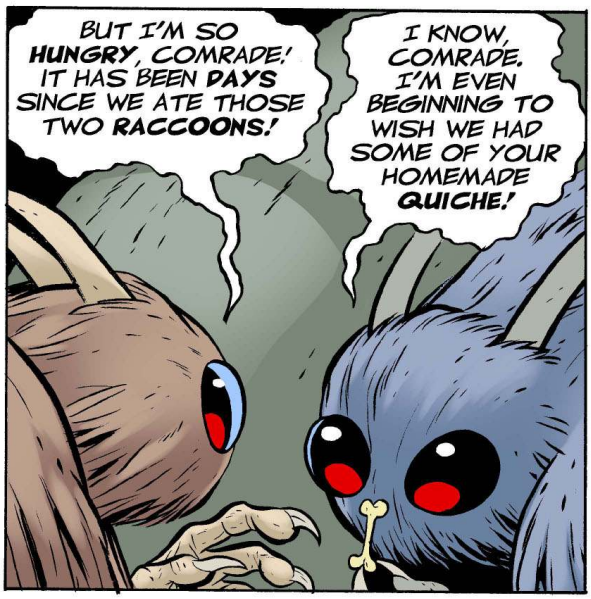


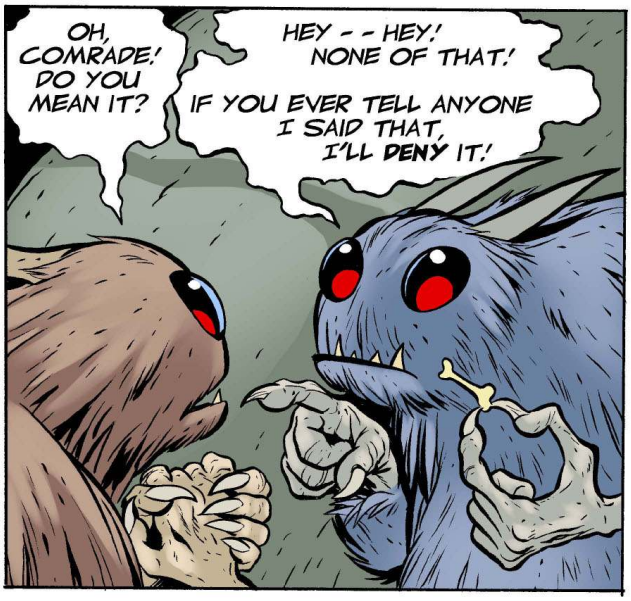
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

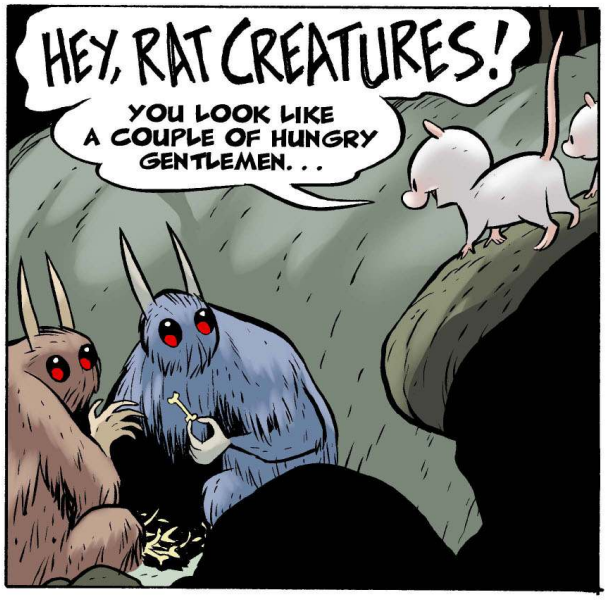

EH?
SHH! SHH!
BE CAREFUL! THE LOG IS SLIPPING!
WHAT DO I DO? WHAT DO I DO?
QUIETLY - -
QUIETLY - -
TAKE IT EASY.
JUST JUMP OVER TO THAT LITTLE BRANCH!
HMM.

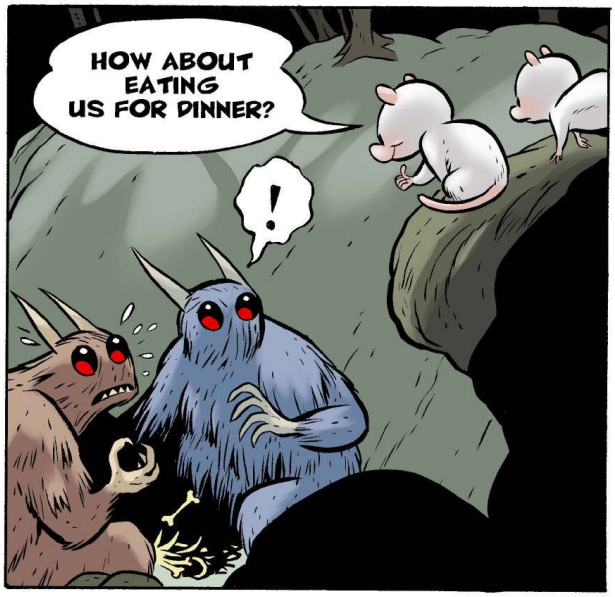

I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING . . .
. . . BUT IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME FALLING ROCKS.
NOW WHAT WAS I SAYING? OH, YES . . . THE RAT CREATURES ARE VERMIN!
THEY ARE A POX!
THEY'RE A PESTILENCE! AND EVERY DAY MORE OF THEM ARRIVE FROM PAWA AND RUN AMOK IN MY BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAINS.
OH, BROTHER. THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD!
JUST THE SIGHT OF THEM ON MY MOUNTAIN INFURIATES ME!
C'MON!
I GOT AN IDEA!

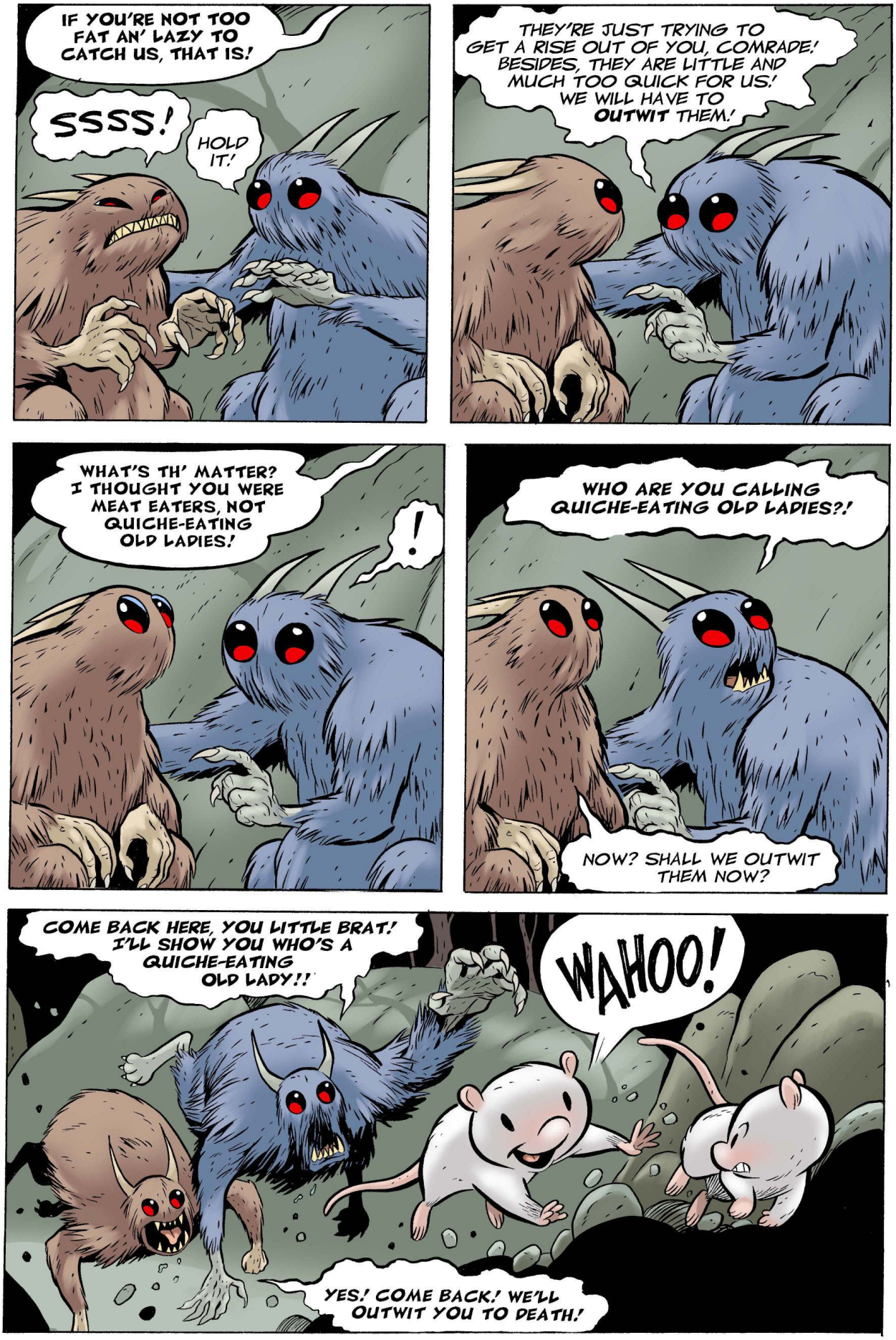

YOU FIND ANYTHING OVER THERE, COMRADE?
NOTHING, COMRADE. THESE TINY BONES HAVE BEEN PICKED CLEAN!

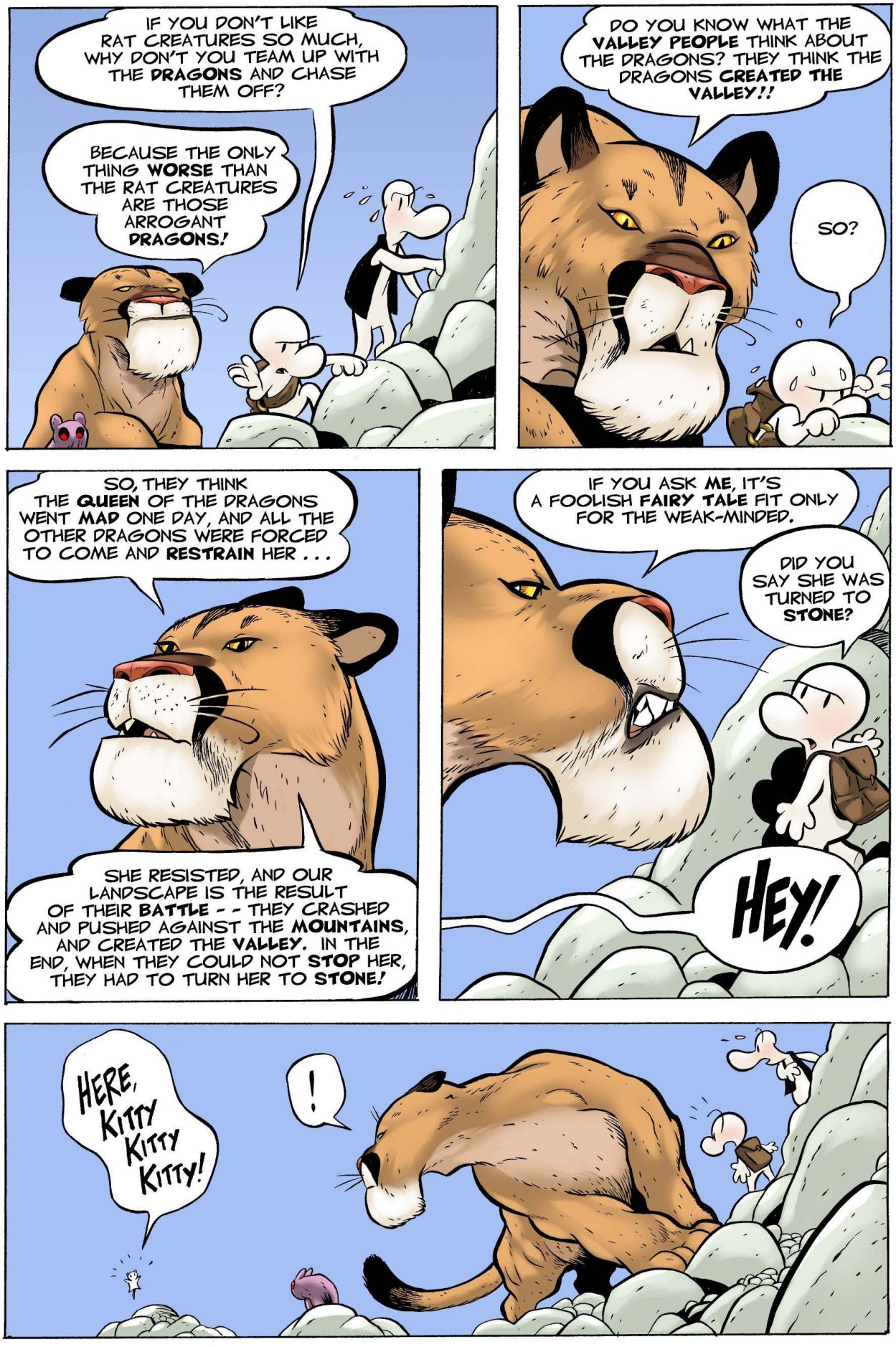

BUT I'M SO **HUNGRY**, COMRADE! IT HAS BEEN **DAYS** SINCE WE ATE THOSE TWO **RACCOONS!**
I KNOW, COMRADE. I'M EVEN BEGINNING TO WISH WE HAD SOME OF YOUR HOMEMADE **QUICHE!**


OH, COMRADE! DO YOU MEAN IT?
HEY - - HEY! NONE OF THAT!
IF YOU EVER TELL ANYONE I SAID THAT, I'LL **DENY** IT!


HEY, RAT CREATURES!
YOU LOOK LIKE A COUPLE OF HUNGRY GENTLEMEN. . .

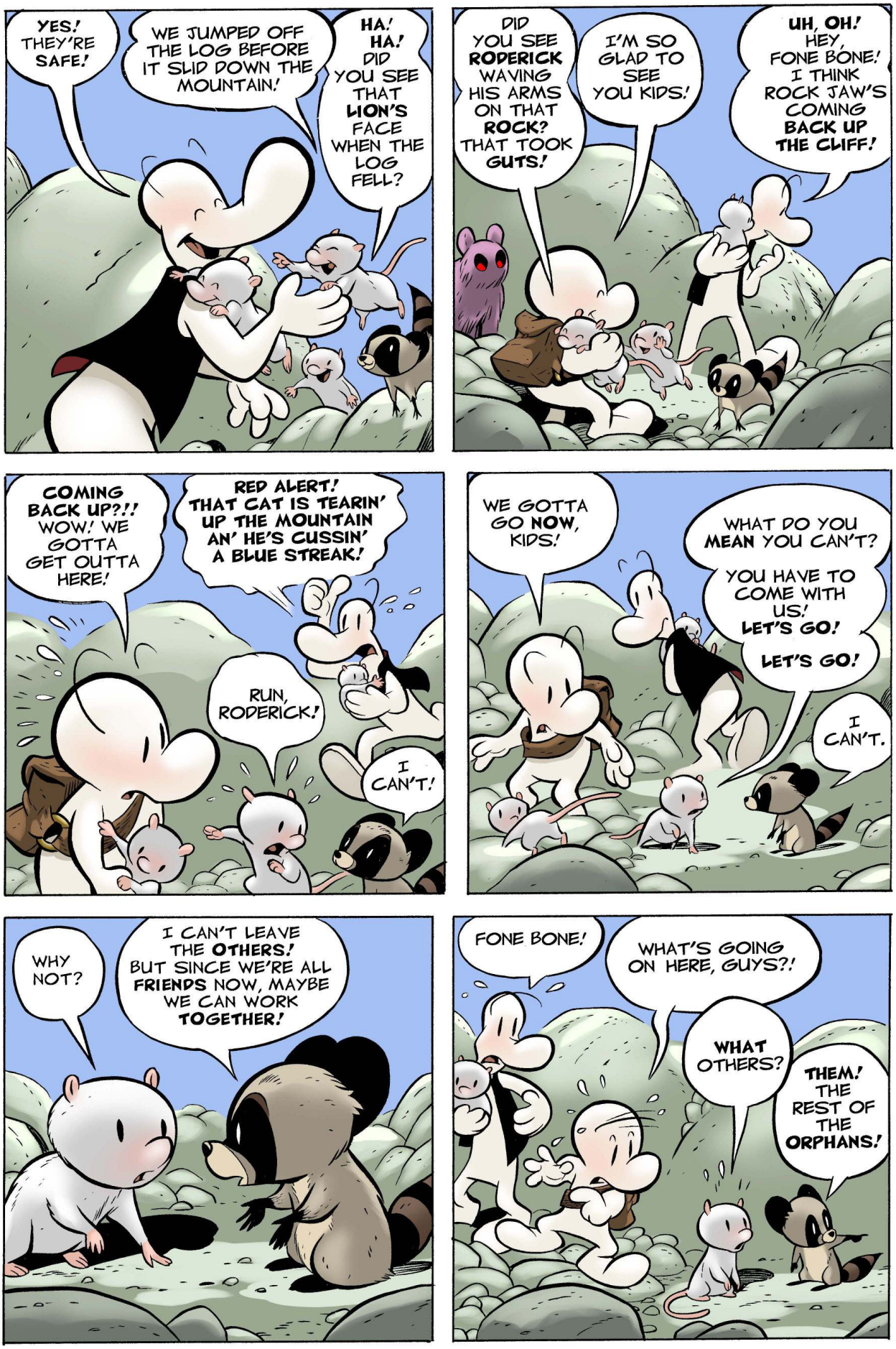

HOW ABOUT EATING US FOR DINNER?
!


IF YOU'RE NOT TOO FAT AN' LAZY TO CATCH US, THAT IS!
SSSS!
HOLD IT!
THEY'RE JUST TRYING TO GET A RISE OUT OF YOU, COMRADE! BESIDES, THEY ARE LITTLE AND MUCH TOO QUICK FOR US! WE WILL HAVE TO OUTWIT THEM!
WHAT'S TH' MATTER? I THOUGHT YOU WERE MEAT EATERS, NOT QUICHE-EATING OLD LADIES!
!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING QUICHE-EATING OLD LADIES?!
NOW? SHALL WE OUTWIT THEM NOW?
COME BACK HERE, YOU LITTLE BRAT! I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S A QUICHE-EATING OLD LADY!!
WAHOO!
YES! COME BACK! WE'LL OUTWIT YOU TO DEATH!


IF YOU DON'T LIKE RAT CREATURES SO MUCH, WHY DON'T YOU TEAM UP WITH THE DRAGONS AND CHASE THEM OFF?
BECAUSE THE ONLY THING WORSE THAN THE RAT CREATURES ARE THOSE ARROGANT DRAGONS!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE VALLEY PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THE DRAGONS? THEY THINK THE DRAGONS CREATED THE VALLEY!!
SO?
SO, THEY THINK THE QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS WENT MAD ONE DAY, AND ALL THE OTHER DRAGONS WERE FORCED TO COME AND RESTRAIN HER . . .
SHE RESISTED, AND OUR LANDSCAPE IS THE RESULT OF THEIR BATTLE - - THEY CRASHED AND PUSHED AGAINST THE MOUNTAINS, AND CREATED THE VALLEY. IN THE END, WHEN THEY COULD NOT STOP HER, THEY HAD TO TURN HER TO STONE!
IF YOU ASK ME, IT'S A FOOLISH FAIRY TALE FIT ONLY FOR THE WEAK-MINDED.
DID YOU SAY SHE WAS TURNED TO STONE?
HEY!
HERE, KITTY KITTY KITTY!
!

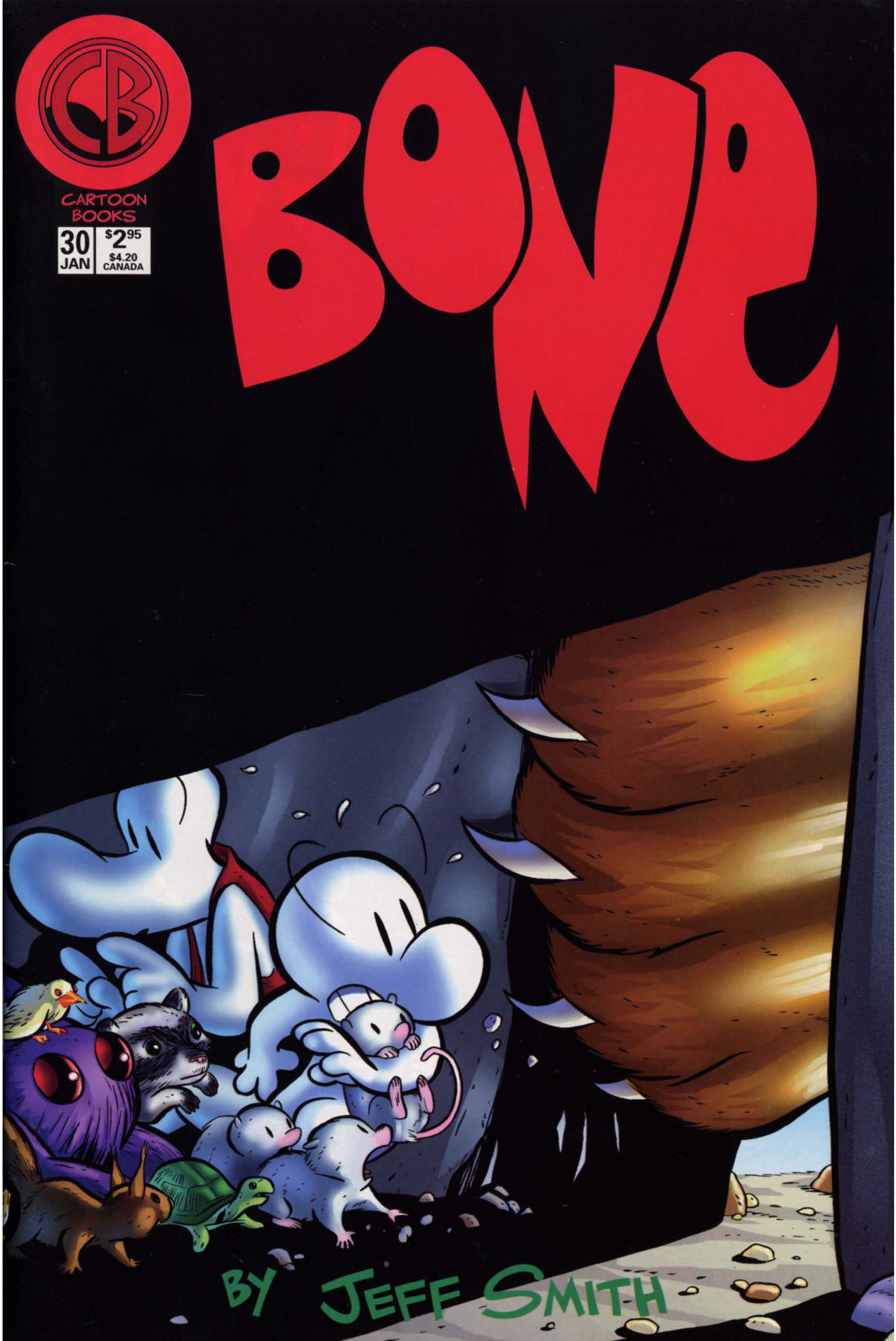

HERE, KITTY KIT--GRK!
AHA!
GOTCHA! NOW WHO'S A QUICHE EATING OLD--
UH, OH.
A RAT CREATURE! ON MY MOUNTAIN!
AAIIEEE!!
HELP!
EEK!
QUICK! OVER HERE!
SNAP!
C'MON!
IT'S SAFE BEHIND THIS ROCK!

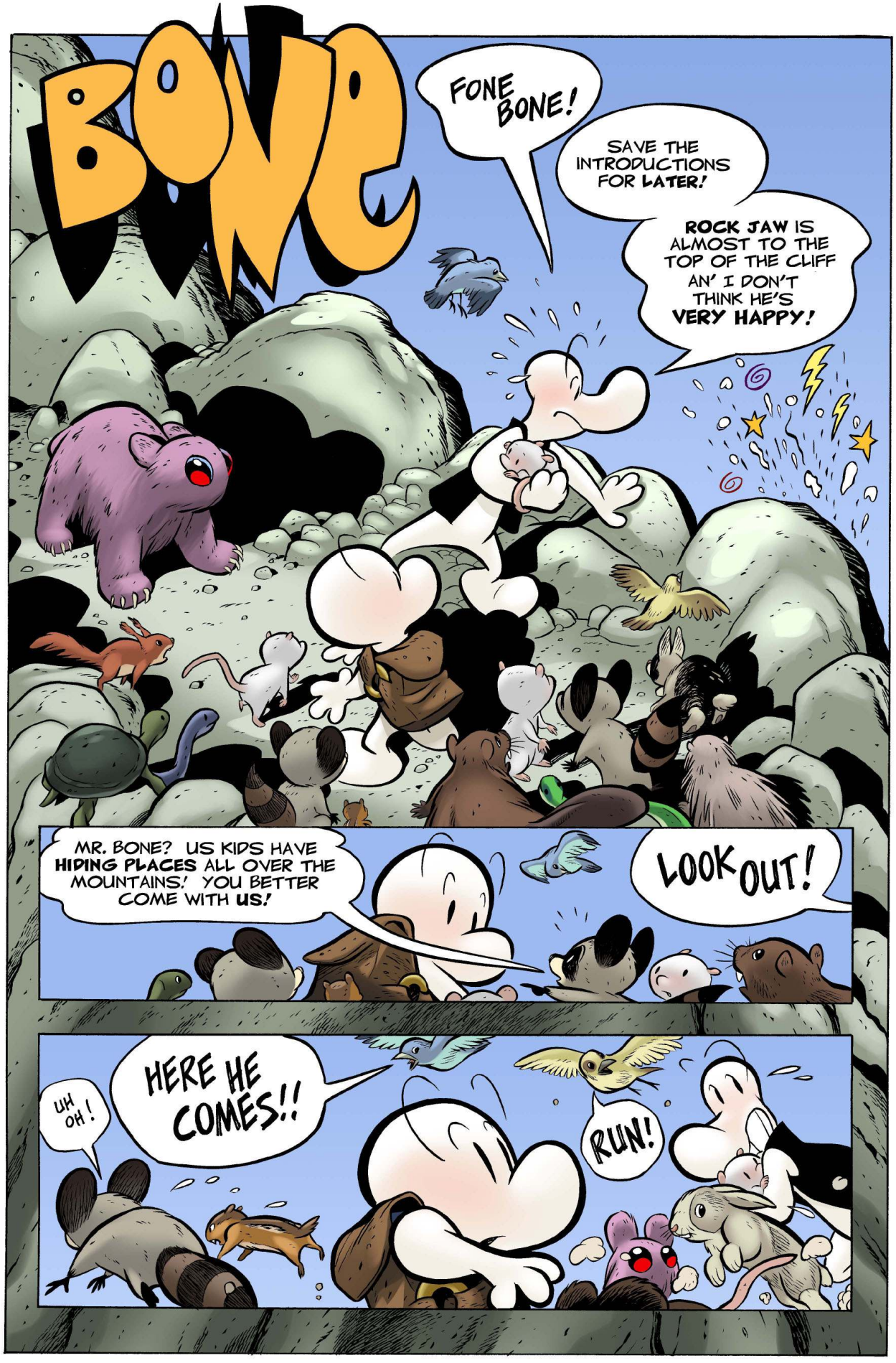

ROAR!
I THOUGHT YOU SAID THIS WAS SAFE!
IT'S SAFE FOR US!
?
STOP MOVING, YOU IDIOT! DO YOU WANT THIS TREE TO COME LOOSE?!
CREEEK!
WUMP!
DON'T WORRY, COMRADE! I AM HERE TO SAVE YOU!
CREEEK!
STUPID, STUPID RAT CREATURES.
Uh, oh...
AAAAAAAAAAA
SMILEY! THE 'POSSUM KIDS ARE BACK THERE! ARE THEY OKAY?!

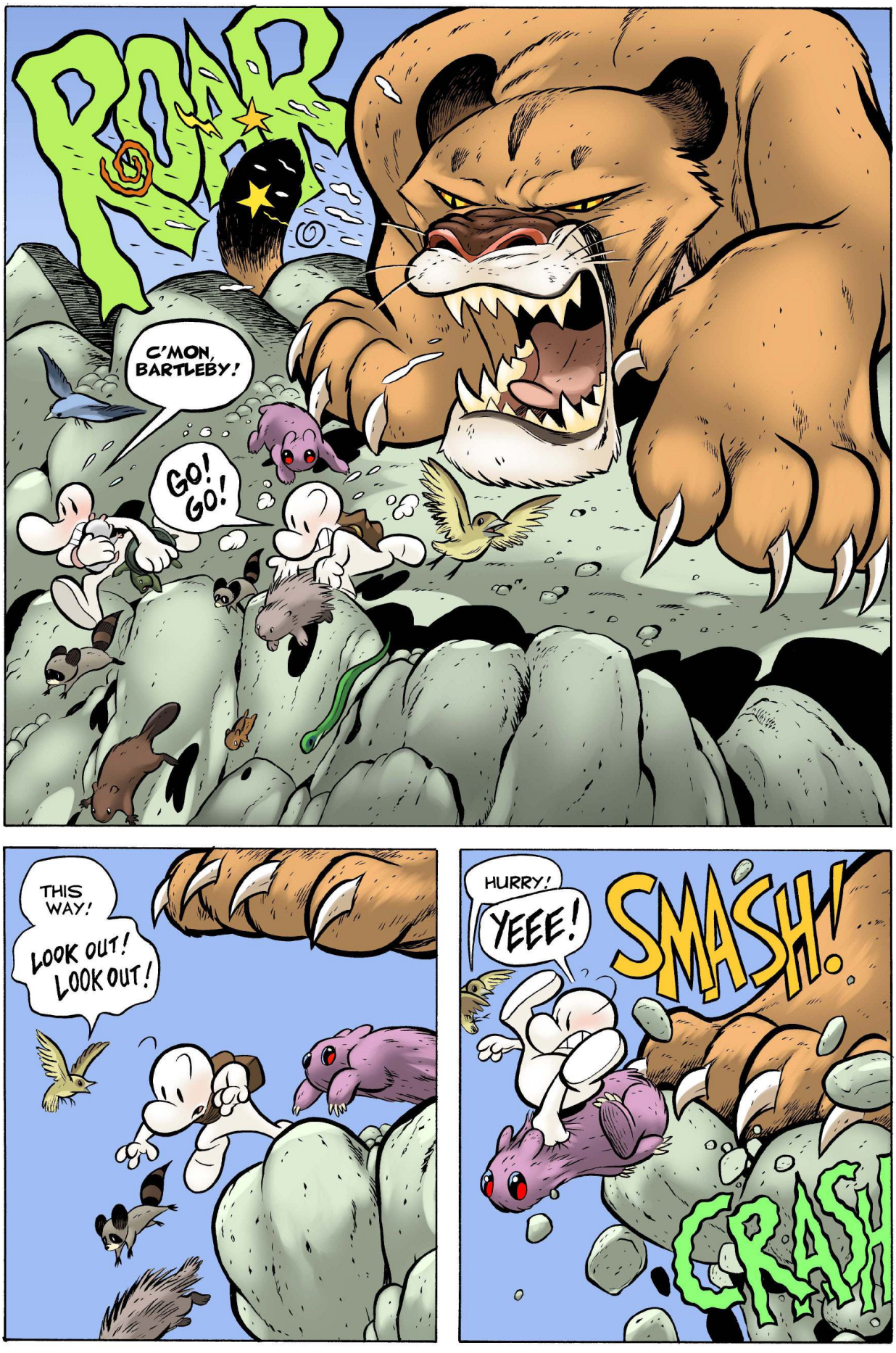

YES! THEY'RE SAFE!
WE JUMPED OFF THE LOG BEFORE IT SLID DOWN THE MOUNTAIN!
HA! HA! DID YOU SEE THAT LION'S FACE WHEN THE LOG FELL?
DID YOU SEE RODERICK WAVING HIS ARMS ON THAT ROCK? THAT TOOK GUTS!
I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU KIDS!
UH, OH! HEY, FONE BONE! I THINK ROCK JAW'S COMING BACK UP THE CLIFF!
COMING BACK UP?!! WOW! WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!
RED ALERT! THAT CAT IS TEARIN' UP THE MOUNTAIN AN' HE'S CUSSIN' A BLUE STREAK!
RUN, RODERICK!
I CAN'T!
WE GOTTA GO NOW, KIDS!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T?
YOU HAVE TO COME WITH US! LET'S GO!
LET'S GO!
I CAN'T.
WHY NOT?
I CAN'T LEAVE THE OTHERS! BUT SINCE WE'RE ALL FRIENDS NOW, MAYBE WE CAN WORK TOGETHER!
FONE BONE!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, GUYS?!
WHAT OTHERS?
THEM! THE REST OF THE ORPHANS!

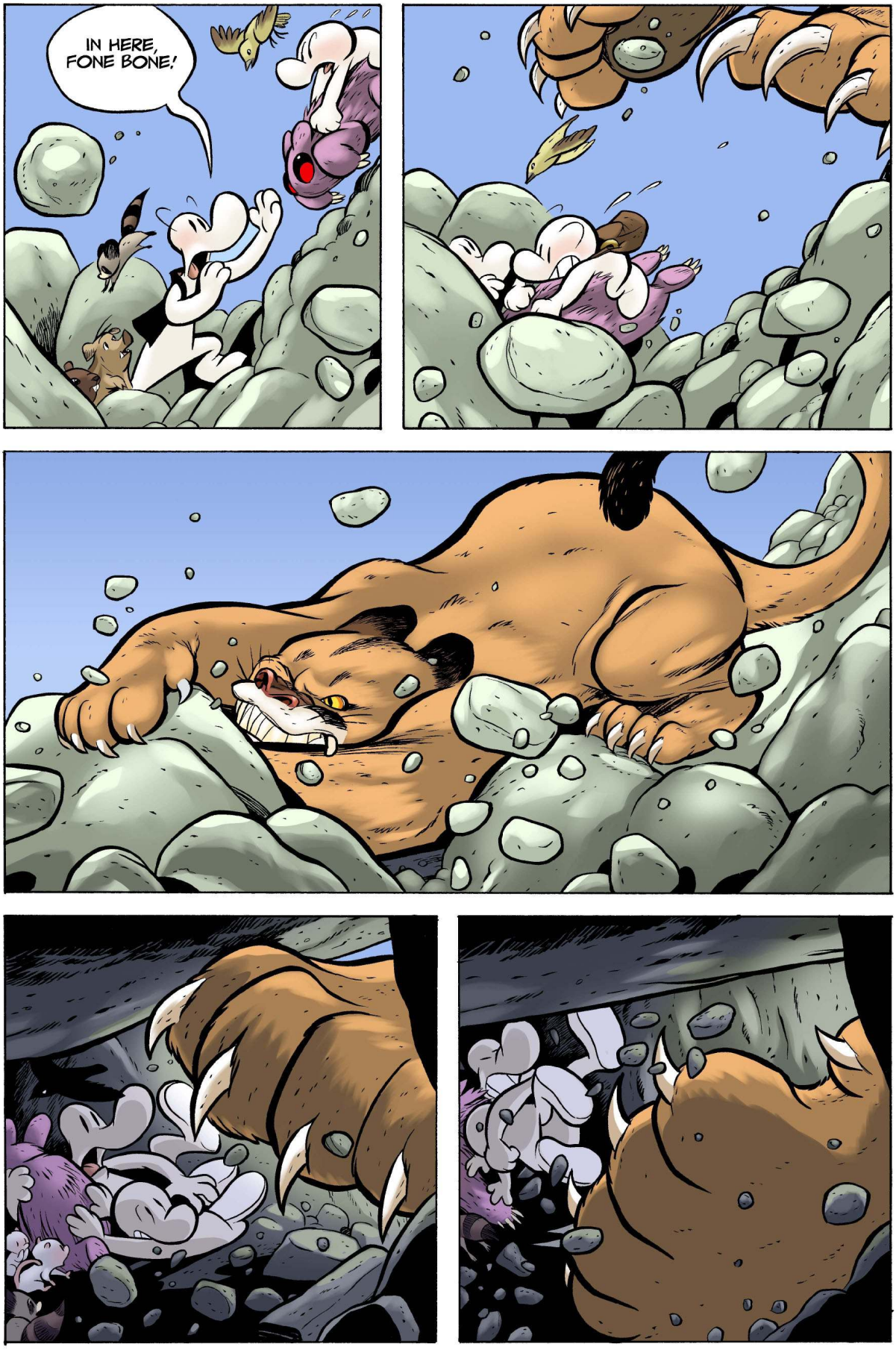


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

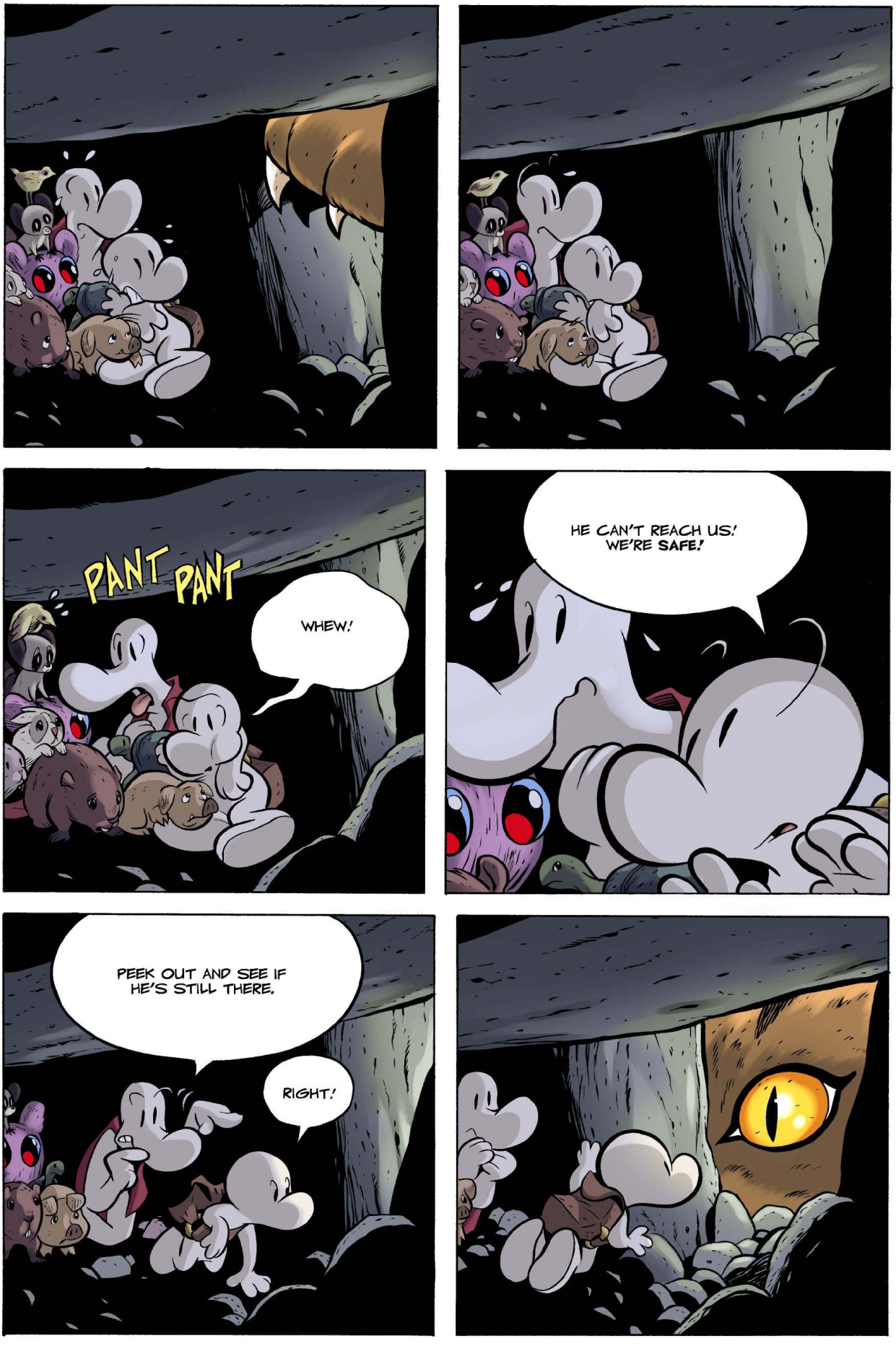

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
30 JAN
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

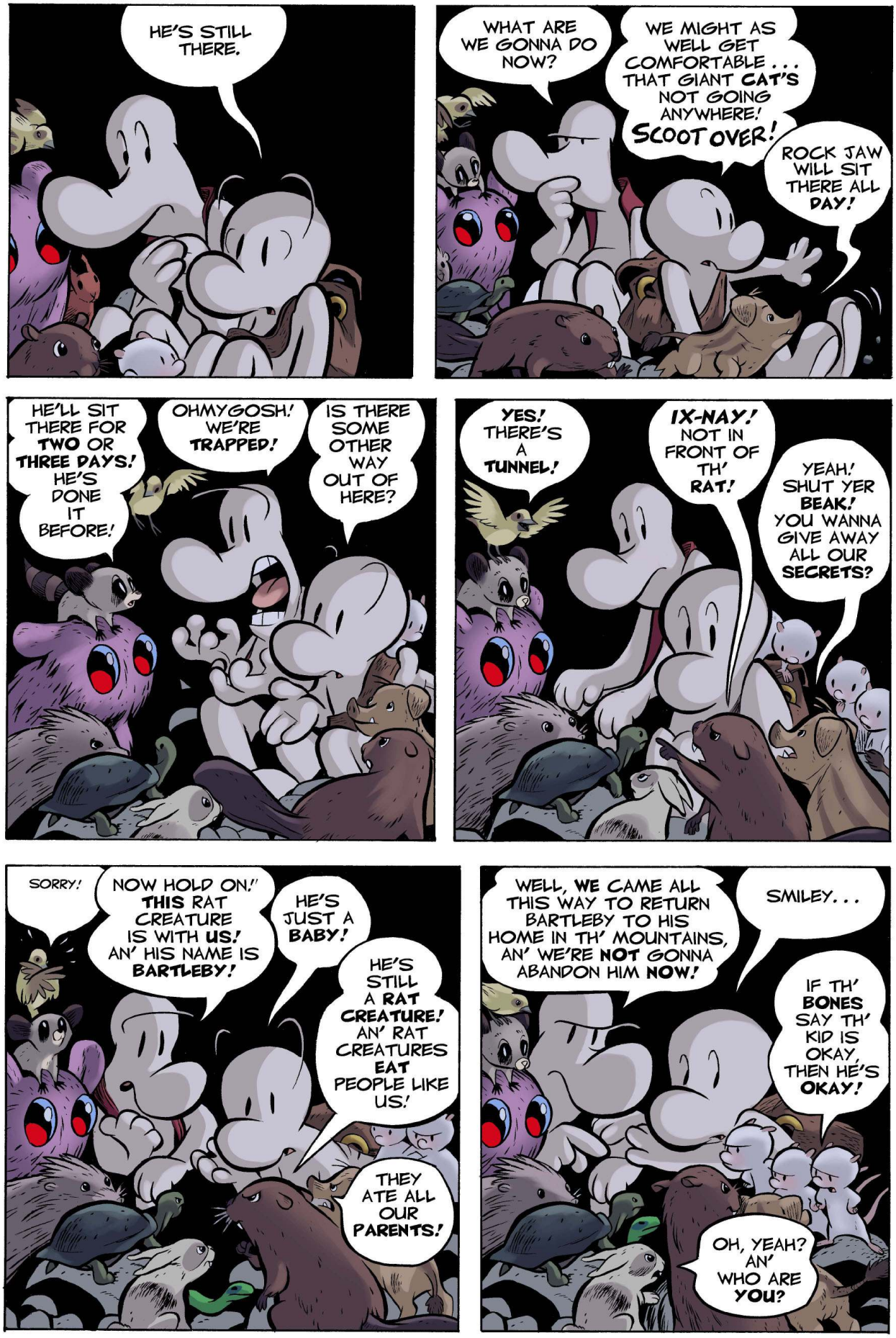

BONE
FONE BONE!
SAVE THE INTRODUCTIONS FOR LATER!
ROCK JAW IS ALMOST TO THE TOP OF THE CLIFF AN' I DON'T THINK HE'S VERY HAPPY!
MR. BONE? US KIDS HAVE HIDING PLACES ALL OVER THE MOUNTAINS! YOU BETTER COME WITH US!
LOOK OUT!
UH OH!
HERE HE COMES!!
RUN!


ROAR
C'MON, BARTLEBY!
GO! GO!
THIS WAY!
LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT!
HURRY!
YEEE!
SMASH!
CRASH



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


PANT PANT
WHEW!
HE CAN'T REACH US! WE'RE SAFE!
PEEK OUT AND SEE IF HE'S STILL THERE.
RIGHT!


HE'S STILL THERE.
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO NOW?
WE MIGHT AS WELL GET COMFORTABLE . . . THAT GIANT CAT'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE! SCOOT OVER!
ROCK JAW WILL SIT THERE ALL DAY!
HE'LL SIT THERE FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS! HE'S DONE IT BEFORE!
OHMYGOSH! WE'RE TRAPPED!
IS THERE SOME OTHER WAY OUT OF HERE?
YES! THERE'S A TUNNEL!
IX-NAY! NOT IN FRONT OF TH' RAT!
YEAH! SHUT YER BEAK! YOU WANNA GIVE AWAY ALL OUR SECRETS?
SORRY!
NOW HOLD ON!" THIS RAT CREATURE IS WITH US! AN' HIS NAME IS BARTLEBY!
HE'S JUST A BABY!
HE'S STILL A RAT CREATURE! AN' RAT CREATURES EAT PEOPLE LIKE US!
THEY ATE ALL OUR PARENTS!
WELL, WE CAME ALL THIS WAY TO RETURN BARTLEBY TO HIS HOME IN TH' MOUNTAINS, AN' WE'RE NOT GONNA ABANDON HIM NOW!
SMILEY. . .
IF TH' BONES SAY TH' KID IS OKAY, THEN HE'S OKAY!
OH, YEAH? AN' WHO ARE YOU?

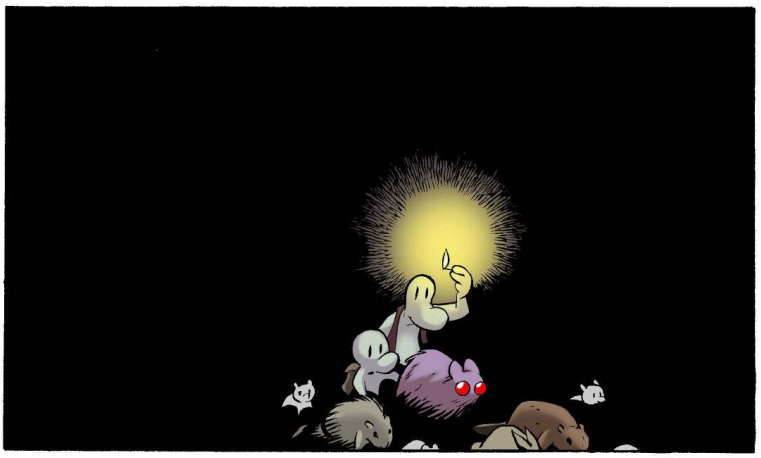

THEY'RE MY FRIENDS! I TRUST 'EM!
HOLD IT! EVERYBODY JUST CALM DOWN! IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU TRUST US OR NOT...
WE CAN'T STAY TRAPPED IN THIS CAVE FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS!
TRUE! WE HAVE TO USE THE SECRET PASSAGE OR WE'LL STARVE TO DEATH IN HERE!
NOT IF HE EATS US FIRST!
THAT'S ENOUGH! SHOW US THE SECRET PASSAGE!
HERE IT IS!
IT LOOKS KINDA SMALL.
BE CAREFUL. IT GOES STRAIGHT DOWN.
LOOK OUT BELOW!
I'M GOIN' AFTER HIM! I DON'T WANT THOSE BIG TEETH BEHIND ME!
FINE! GET IN LINE!
SKRITCH!

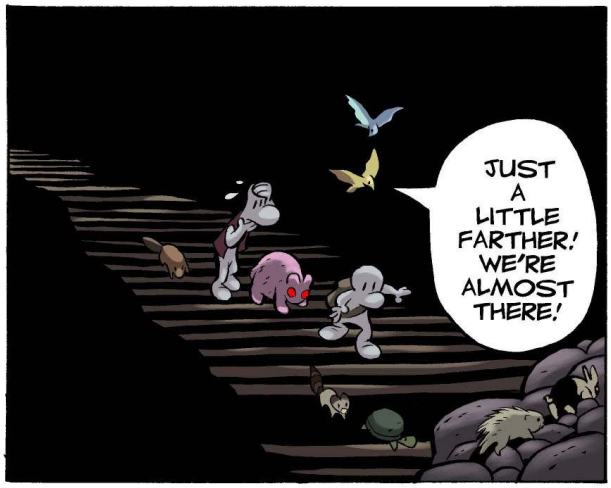


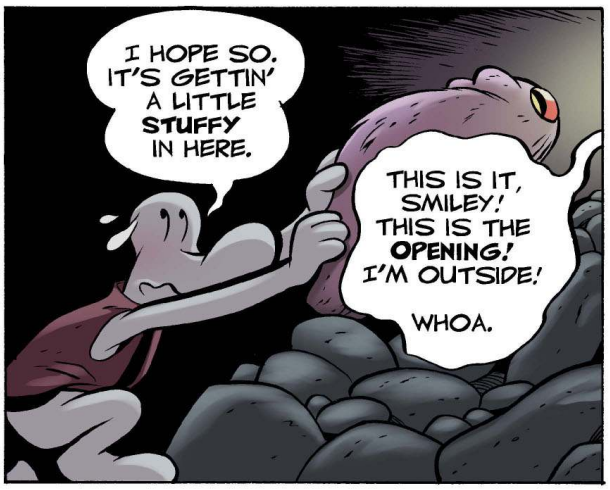
SKRITCH!



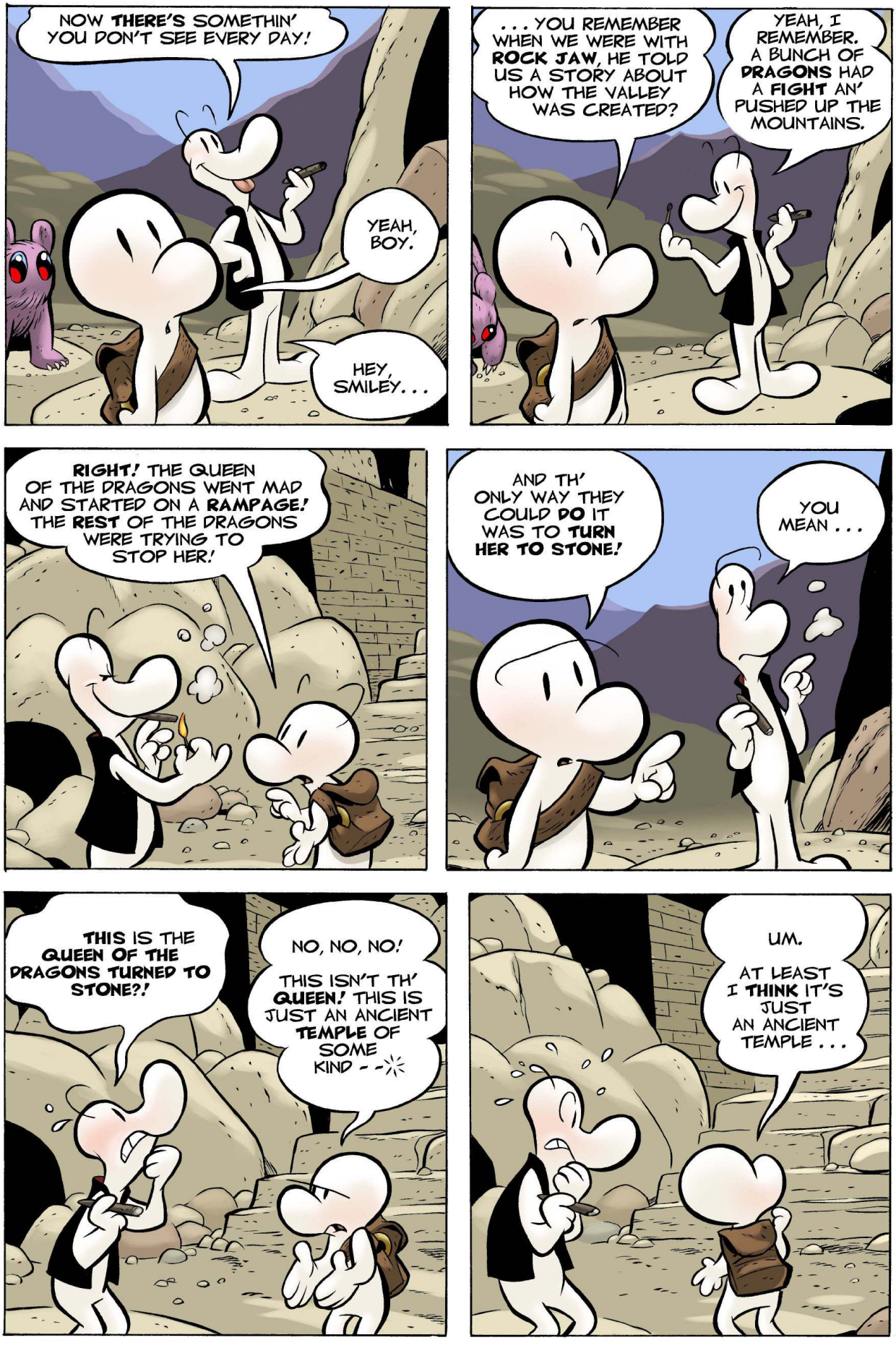

WATCH IT. WE'RE IN SOME HUGE OPEN SPACE NOW.
SKRITCH

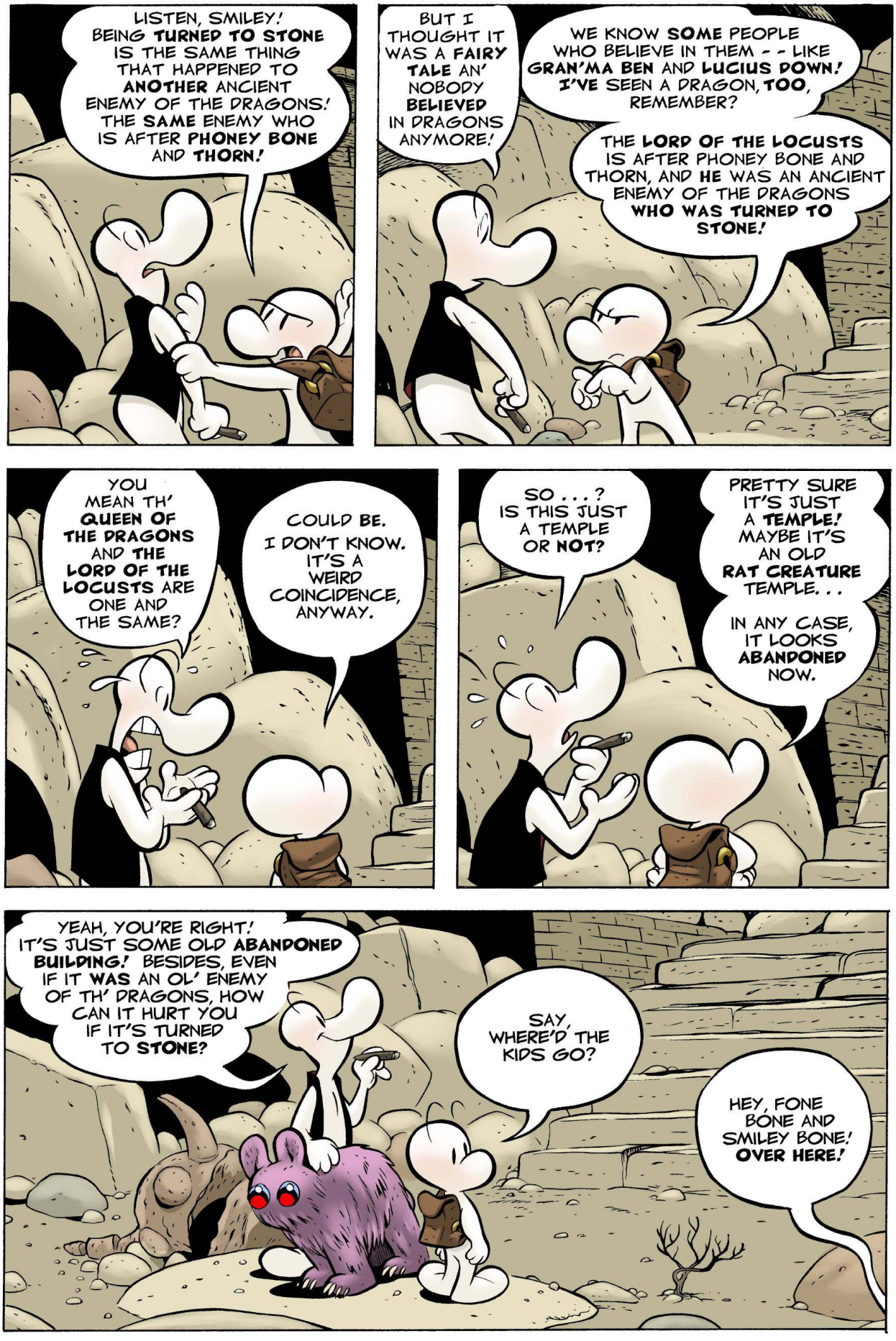


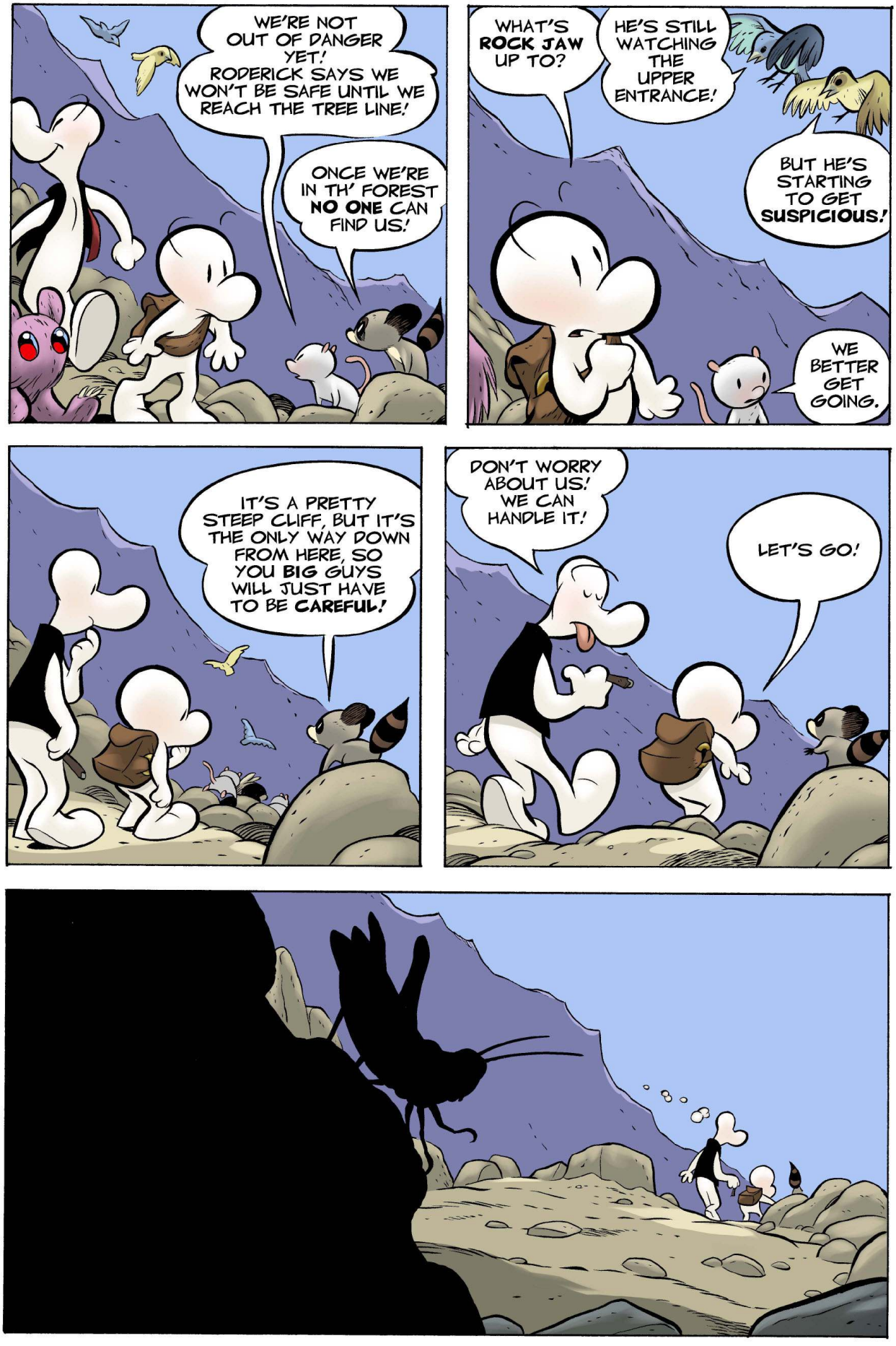

JUST A LITTLE FARTHER! WE'RE ALMOST THERE!


I HOPE SO. IT'S GETTIN' A LITTLE **STUFFY** IN HERE.
THIS IS IT, SMILEY! THIS IS THE **OPENING!** I'M OUTSIDE!
WHOA.



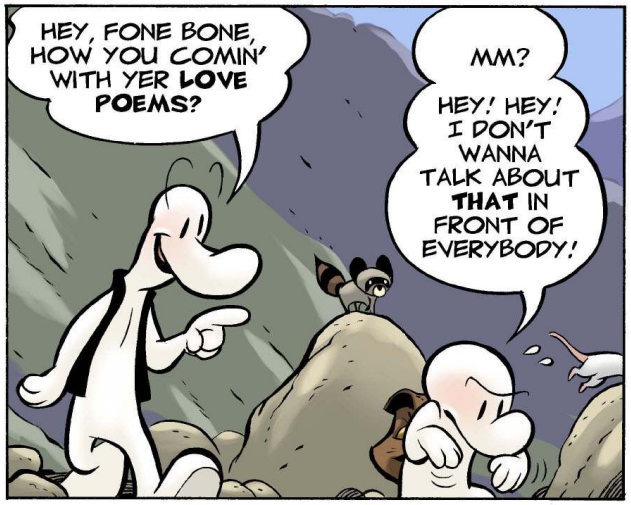

NOW THERE'S SOMETHIN' YOU DON'T SEE EVERY DAY!
YEAH, BOY.
HEY, SMILEY...
...YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE WITH ROCK JAW, HE TOLD US A STORY ABOUT HOW THE VALLEY WAS CREATED?
YEAH, I REMEMBER. A BUNCH OF DRAGONS HAD A FIGHT AN' PUSHED UP THE MOUNTAINS.
RIGHT! THE QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS WENT MAD AND STARTED ON A RAMPAGE! THE REST OF THE DRAGONS WERE TRYING TO STOP HER!
AND TH' ONLY WAY THEY COULD DO IT WAS TO TURN HER TO STONE!
YOU MEAN...
THIS IS THE QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS TURNED TO STONE?!
NO, NO, NO! THIS ISN'T TH' QUEEN! THIS IS JUST AN ANCIENT TEMPLE OF SOME KIND - -
UM. AT LEAST I THINK IT'S JUST AN ANCIENT TEMPLE...

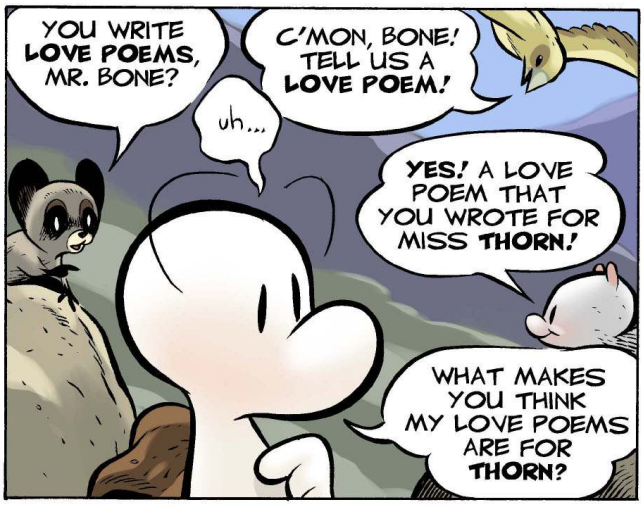

LISTEN, SMILEY! BEING TURNED TO STONE IS THE SAME THING THAT HAPPENED TO ANOTHER ANCIENT ENEMY OF THE DRAGONS! THE SAME ENEMY WHO IS AFTER PHONEY BONE AND THORN!
BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS A FAIRY TALE AN' NOBODY BELIEVED IN DRAGONS ANYMORE!
WE KNOW SOME PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN THEM - - LIKE GRAN'MA BEN AND LUCIUS DOWN! I'VE SEEN A DRAGON, TOO, REMEMBER?
THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS IS AFTER PHONEY BONE AND THORN, AND HE WAS AN ANCIENT ENEMY OF THE DRAGONS WHO WAS TURNED TO STONE!
YOU MEAN TH' QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS AND THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS ARE ONE AND THE SAME?
COULD BE. I DON'T KNOW. IT'S A WEIRD COINCIDENCE, ANYWAY.
SO . . . ? IS THIS JUST A TEMPLE OR NOT?
PRETTY SURE IT'S JUST A TEMPLE! MAYBE IT'S AN OLD RAT CREATURE TEMPLE. . .
IN ANY CASE, IT LOOKS ABANDONED NOW.
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S JUST SOME OLD ABANDONED BUILDING! BESIDES, EVEN IF IT WAS AN OL' ENEMY OF TH' DRAGONS, HOW CAN IT HURT YOU IF IT'S TURNED TO STONE?
SAY, WHERE'D THE KIDS GO?
HEY, FONE BONE AND SMILEY BONE! OVER HERE!

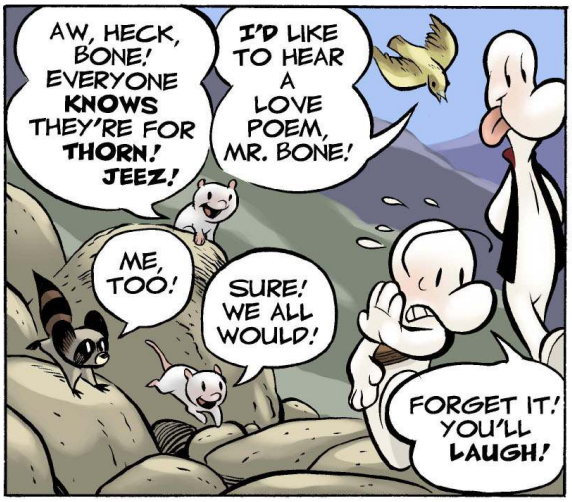

WE'RE NOT OUT OF DANGER YET! RODERICK SAYS WE WON'T BE SAFE UNTIL WE REACH THE TREE LINE!
ONCE WE'RE IN TH' FOREST NO ONE CAN FIND US!
WHAT'S ROCK JAW UP TO?
HE'S STILL WATCHING THE UPPER ENTRANCE!
BUT HE'S STARTING TO GET SUSPICIOUS!
WE BETTER GET GOING.
IT'S A PRETTY STEEP CLIFF, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY DOWN FROM HERE, SO YOU BIG GUYS WILL JUST HAVE TO BE CAREFUL!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT US! WE CAN HANDLE IT!
LET'S GO!

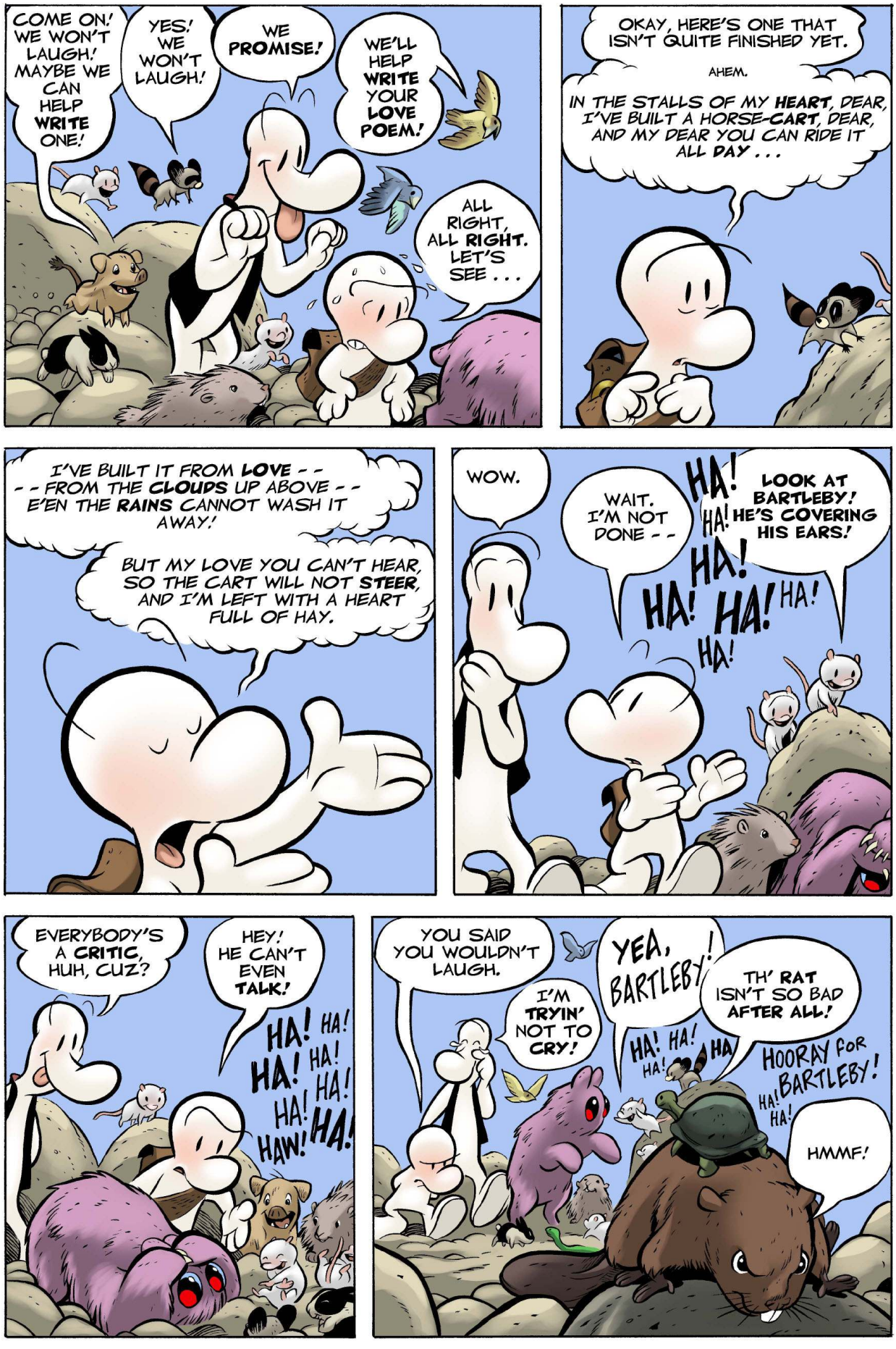


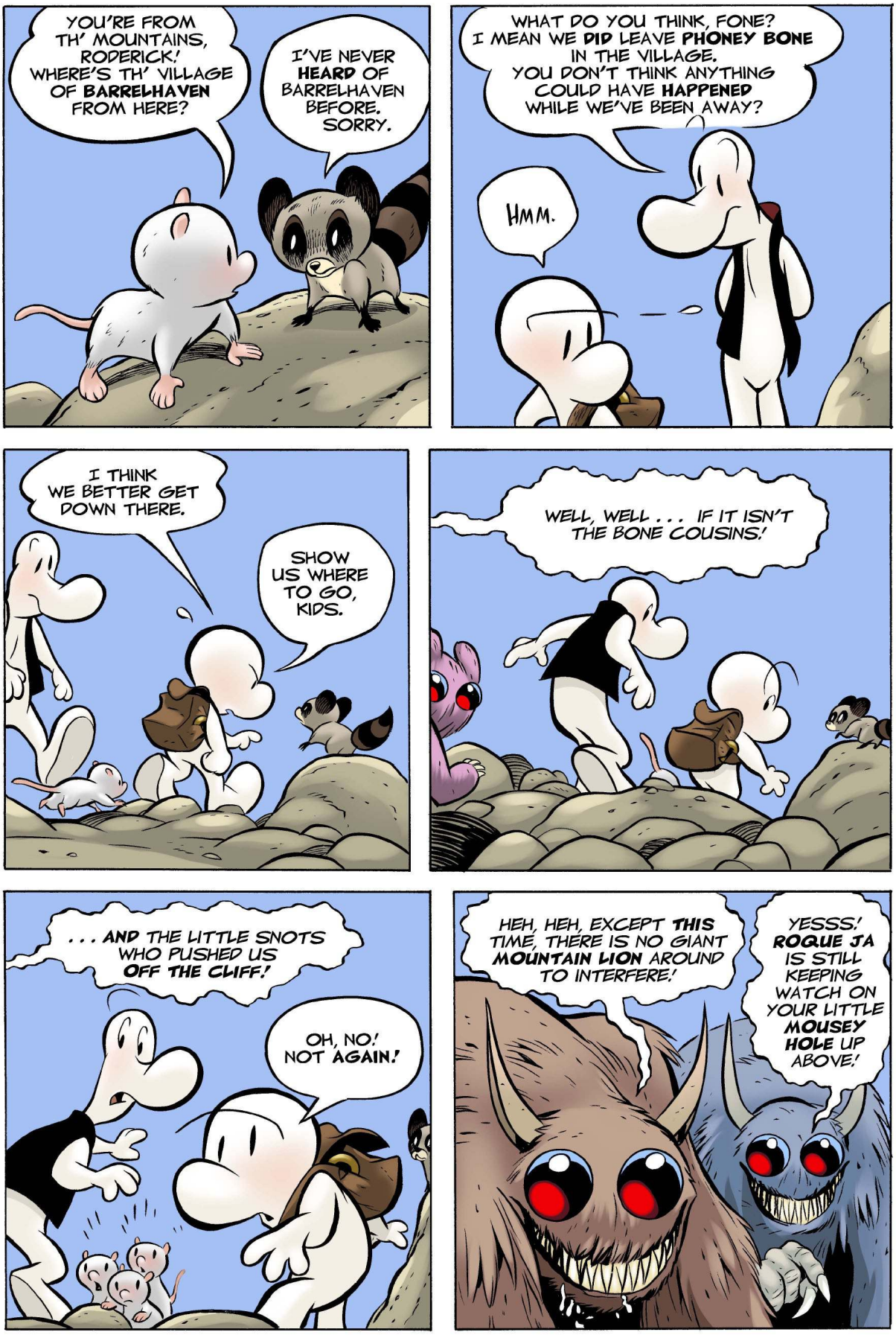

THIS ISN'T SO STEEP!
WE'RE NOT TO THE STEEP PART, YET!


HEY, FONE BONE, HOW YOU COMIN' WITH YER LOVE POEMS?
MM?
HEY! HEY! I DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT THAT IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY!


YOU WRITE LOVE POEMS, MR. BONE?
C'MON, BONE! TELL US A LOVE POEM!
uh...
YES! A LOVE POEM THAT YOU WROTE FOR MISS THORN!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK MY LOVE POEMS ARE FOR THORN?


AW, HECK, BONE! EVERYONE KNOWS THEY'RE FOR THORN! JEEZ!
I'D LIKE TO HEAR A LOVE POEM, MR. BONE!
ME, TOO!
SURE! WE ALL WOULD!
FORGET IT! YOU'LL LAUGH!


COME ON! WE WON'T LAUGH! MAYBE WE CAN HELP WRITE ONE!
YES! WE WON'T LAUGH!
WE PROMISE!
WE'LL HELP WRITE YOUR LOVE POEM!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. LET'S SEE . . .
OKAY, HERE'S ONE THAT ISN'T QUITE FINISHED YET.
AHEM.
IN THE STALLS OF MY HEART, DEAR, I'VE BUILT A HORSE-CART, DEAR, AND MY DEAR YOU CAN RIDE IT ALL DAY . . .
I'VE BUILT IT FROM LOVE - - - - FROM THE CLOUDS UP ABOVE - - E'EN THE RAINS CANNOT WASH IT AWAY!
BUT MY LOVE YOU CAN'T HEAR, SO THE CART WILL NOT STEER, AND I'M LEFT WITH A HEART FULL OF HAY.
WOW.
WAIT. I'M NOT DONE - -
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
LOOK AT BARTLEBY! HE'S COVERING HIS EARS!
EVERYBODY'S A CRITIC, HUH, CUZ?
HEY! HE CAN'T EVEN TALK!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HAW! HA!
YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T LAUGH.
I'M TRYIN' NOT TO CRY!
YEA, BARTLEBY!
TH' RAT ISN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
HOORAY FOR BARTLEBY!
HA! HA!
HMMF!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



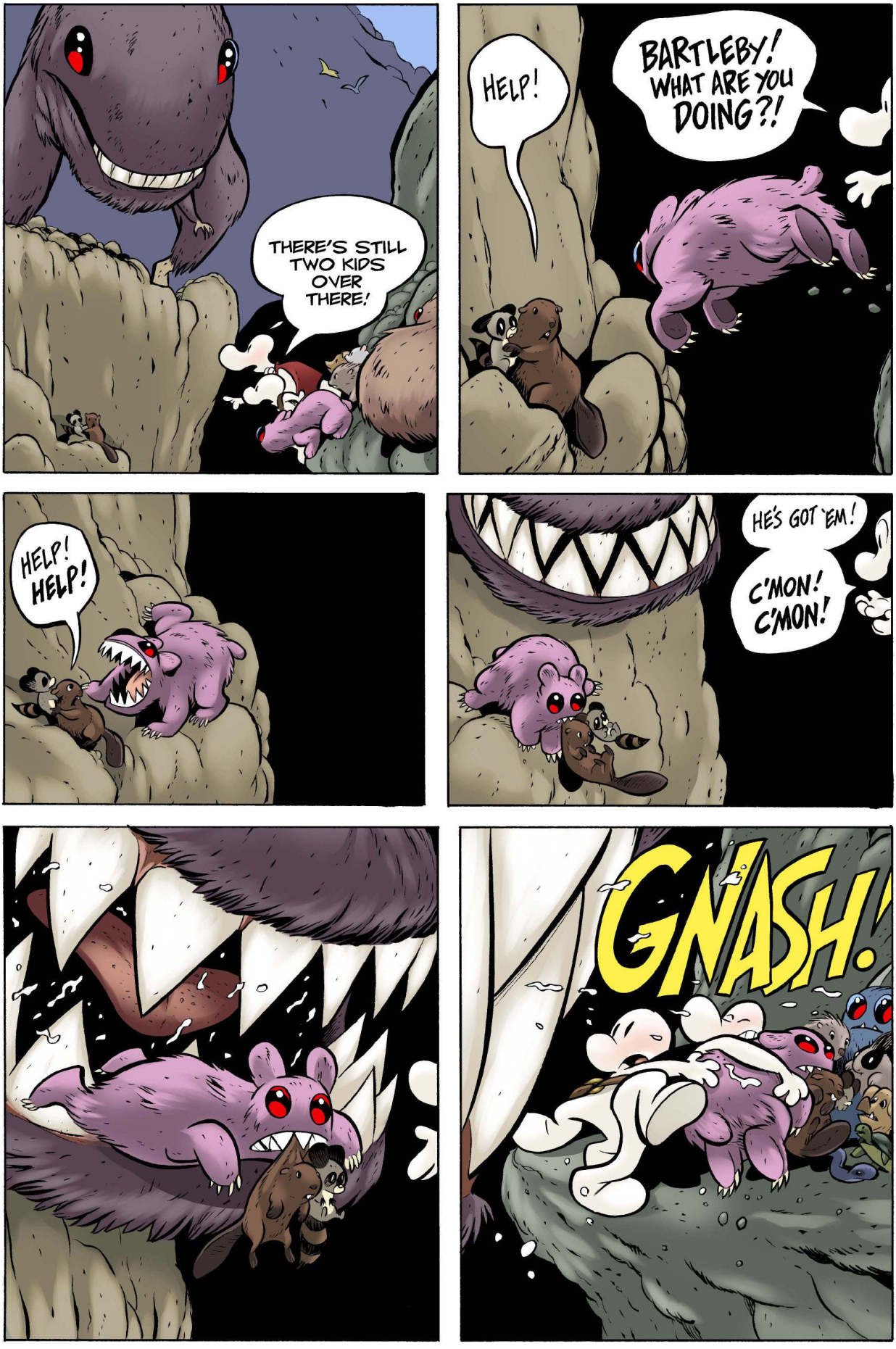
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

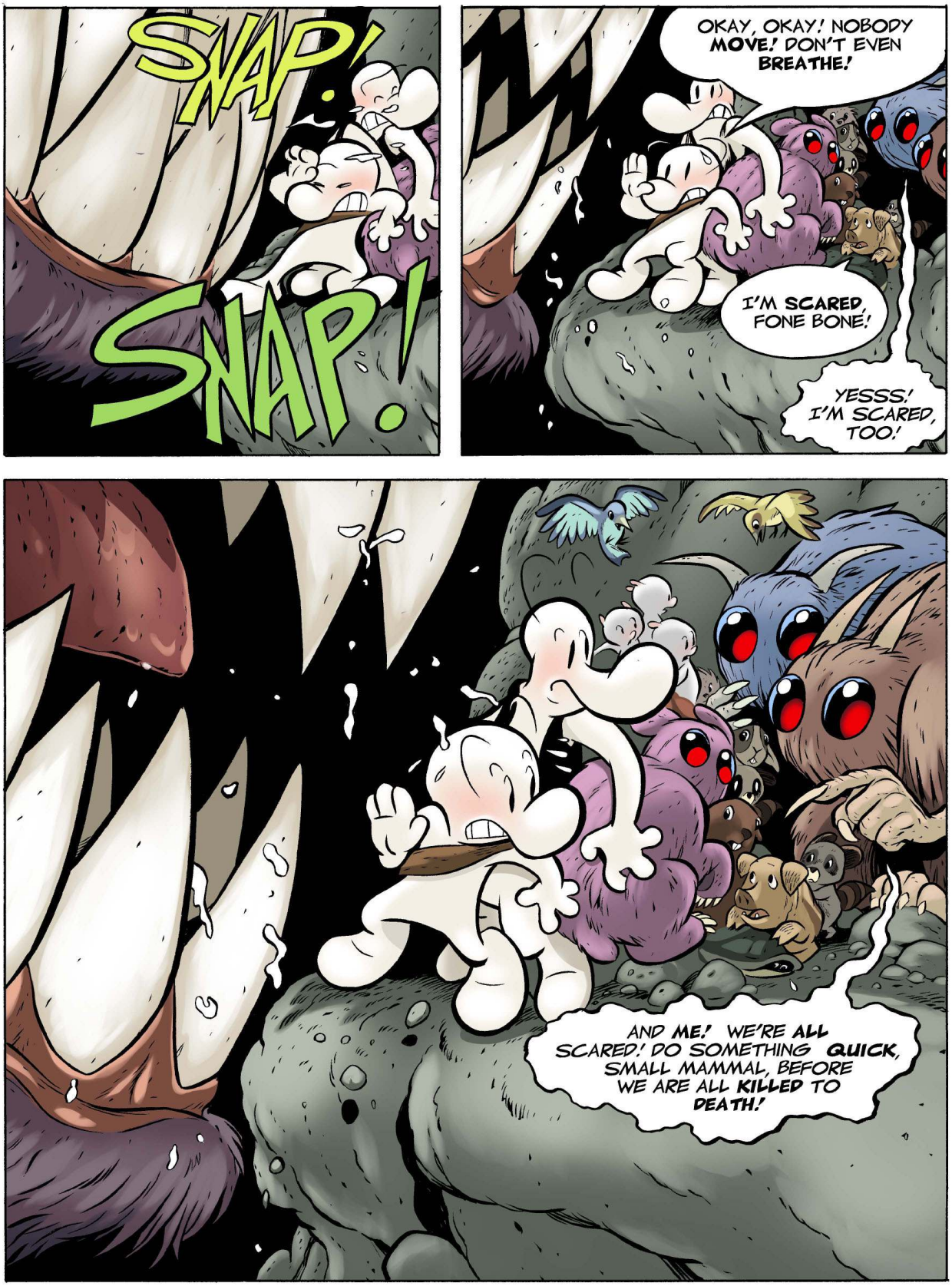

SO THERE YOU ARE!
EEEK! KINGDOK! YOUR MAJESTY!
YOU'RE ALIVE!
RRR.
Y-Y-YOU'RE LOOKING MUCH BETTER, YOUR HIGHNESS!
YESSS! YOUR ARM HOLE HAS HEALED QUITE NICELY!
YOU ARE DESERTERS!
DIE, TRAITORS!
EEEE!
AIEEE!

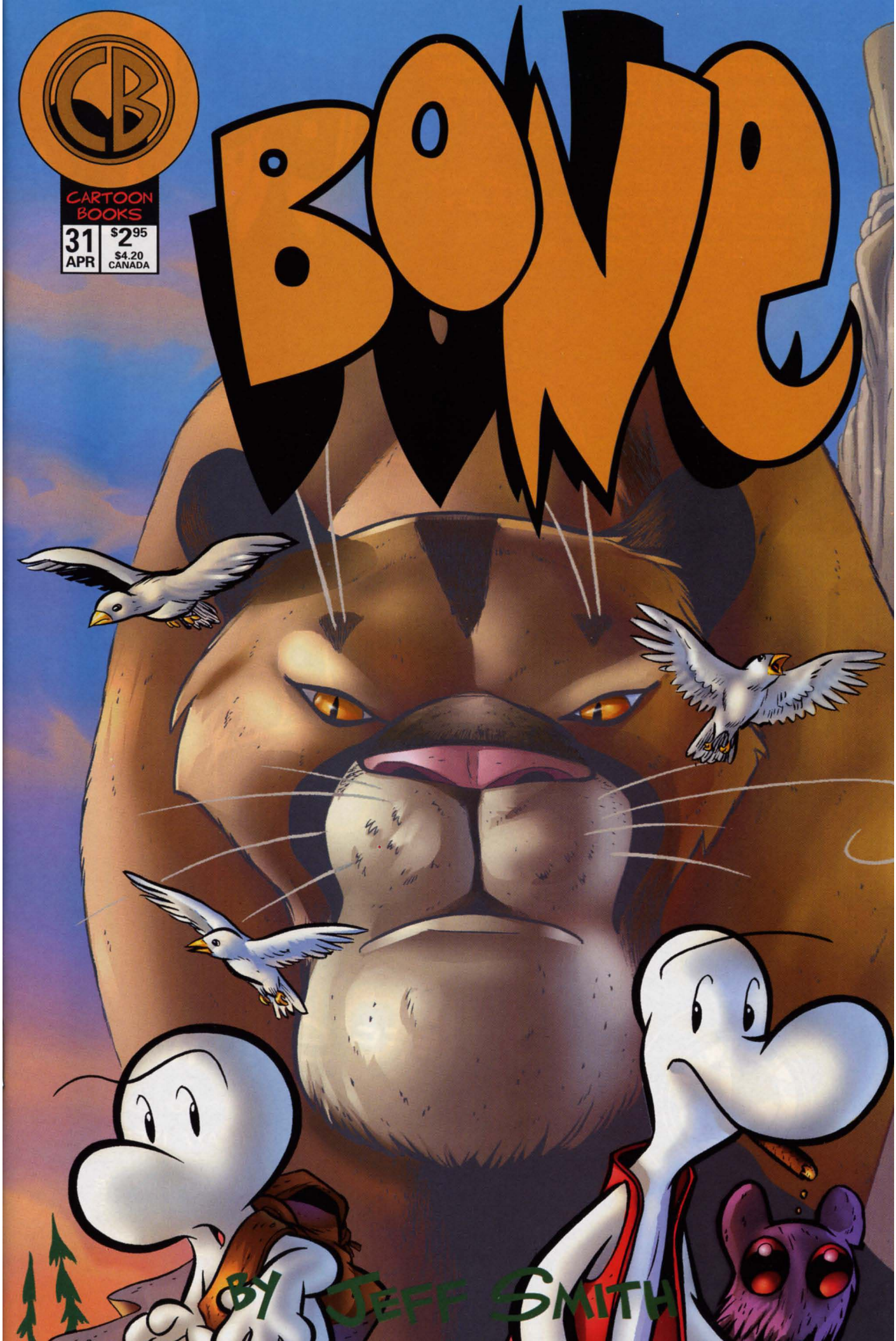



THUD!
FWAP!

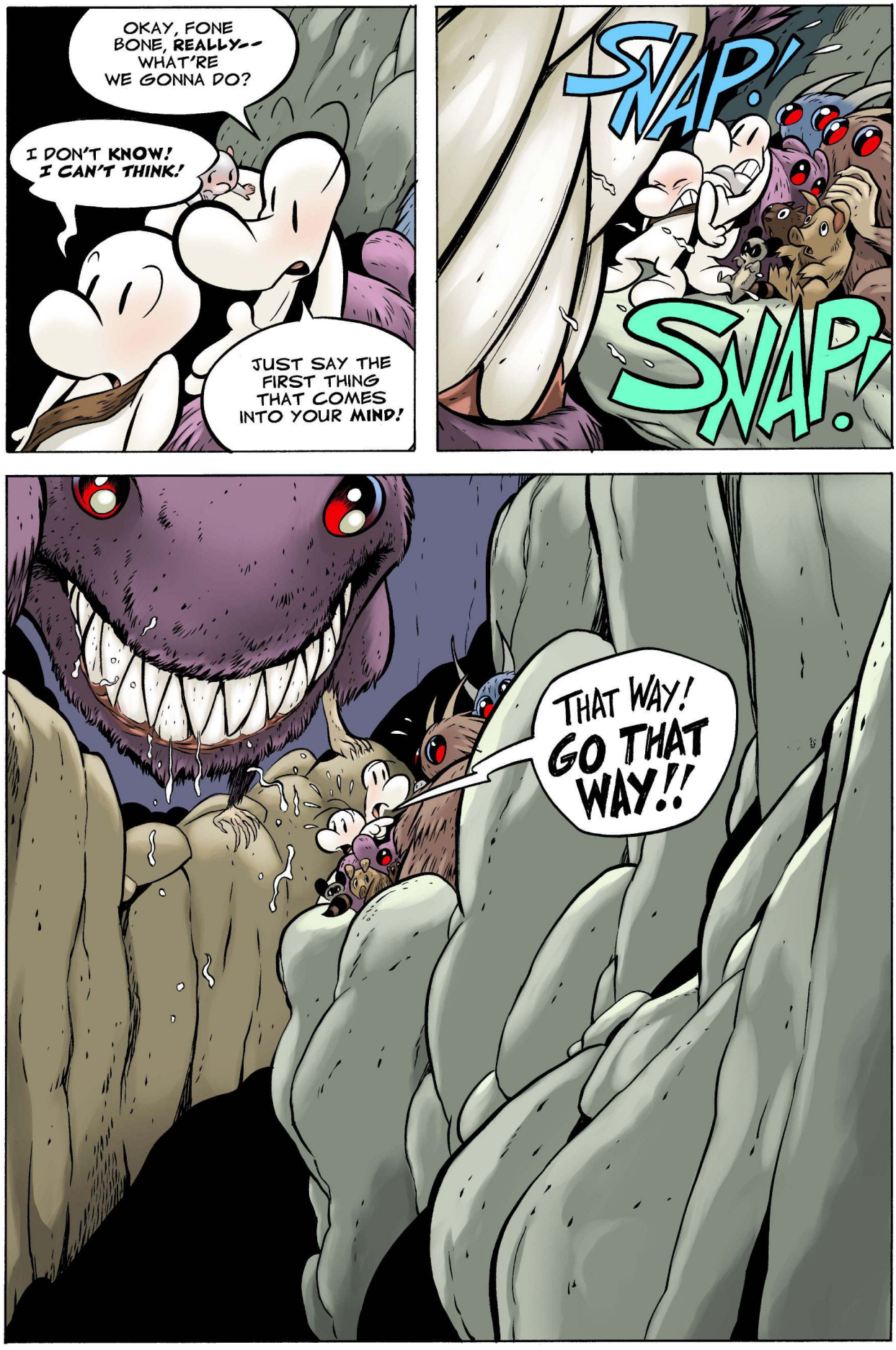

SNAP!
WHERE IS EVERYBODY? IS EVERYBODY ON THE LEDGE?
CRACK
HELP!


THERE'S STILL TWO KIDS OVER THERE!
HELP!
BARTLEBY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HELP! HELP!
HE'S GOT 'EM!
C'MON! C'MON!
GNASH!


SNAP!
SNAP!
OKAY, OKAY! NOBODY MOVE! DON'T EVEN BREATHE!
I'M SCARED, FONE BONE!
YESSS! I'M SCARED, TOO!
AND ME! WE'RE ALL SCARED! DO SOMETHING QUICK, SMALL MAMMAL, BEFORE WE ARE ALL KILLED TO DEATH!


CB
CARTOON BOOKS
31
APR
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

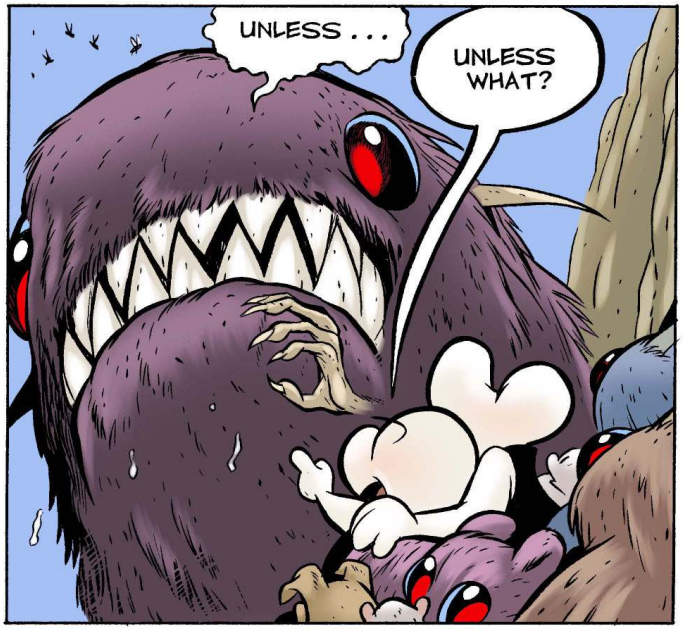

BONE
RRRRR.
PUSH BACK, SMILEY!
I'M PUSHIN'! I'M PUSHIN'!
WE'RE TRAPPED BETWEEN A ROCK AND A SHARP PLACE!
THINK OF SOMETHING, SMALL MAMMAL! KINGDOK IS GETTING CLOSER WITH EVERY BITE!
YESSS! HURRY! I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
YOU THINK OF SOMETHING! HE'S YOUR KING, ISN'T HE?!!
WELL, NOT TECHNICALLY.
WE'RE DESERTERS.
SIR? MY FOOT'S ASLEEP!
DON'T MOVE IT!
THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT COULD PUT US INTO THE REACH OF THOSE TEETH!

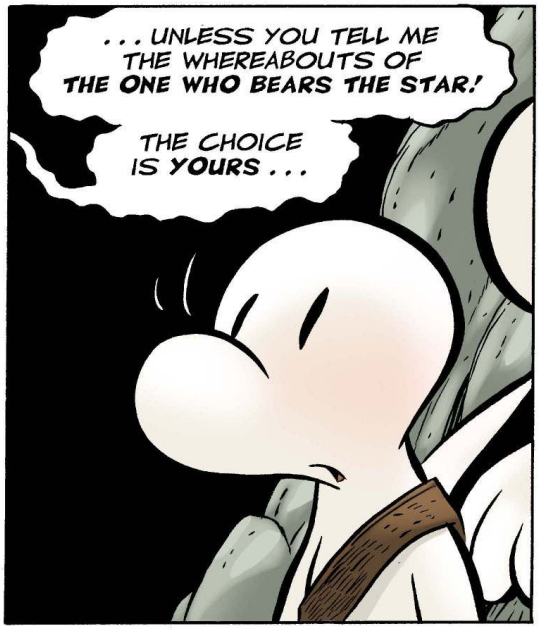

OKAY, FONE BONE, REALLY-- WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?
I DON'T KNOW! I CAN'T THINK!
JUST SAY THE FIRST THING THAT COMES INTO YOUR MIND!
SNAP!
SNAP!
THAT WAY! GO THAT WAY!!

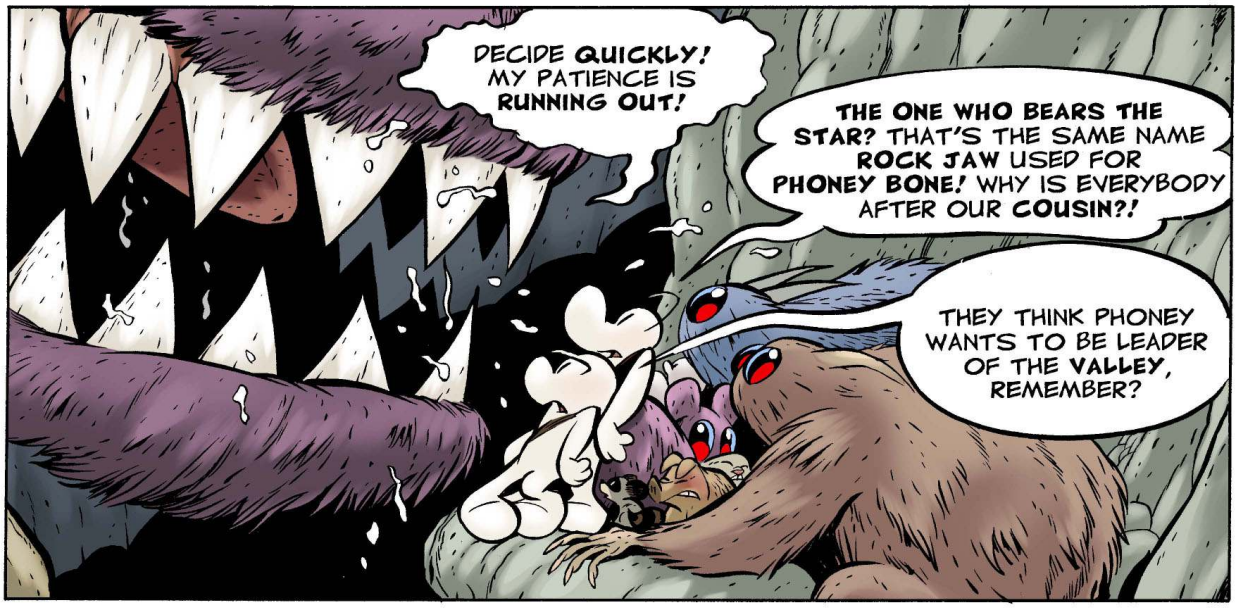


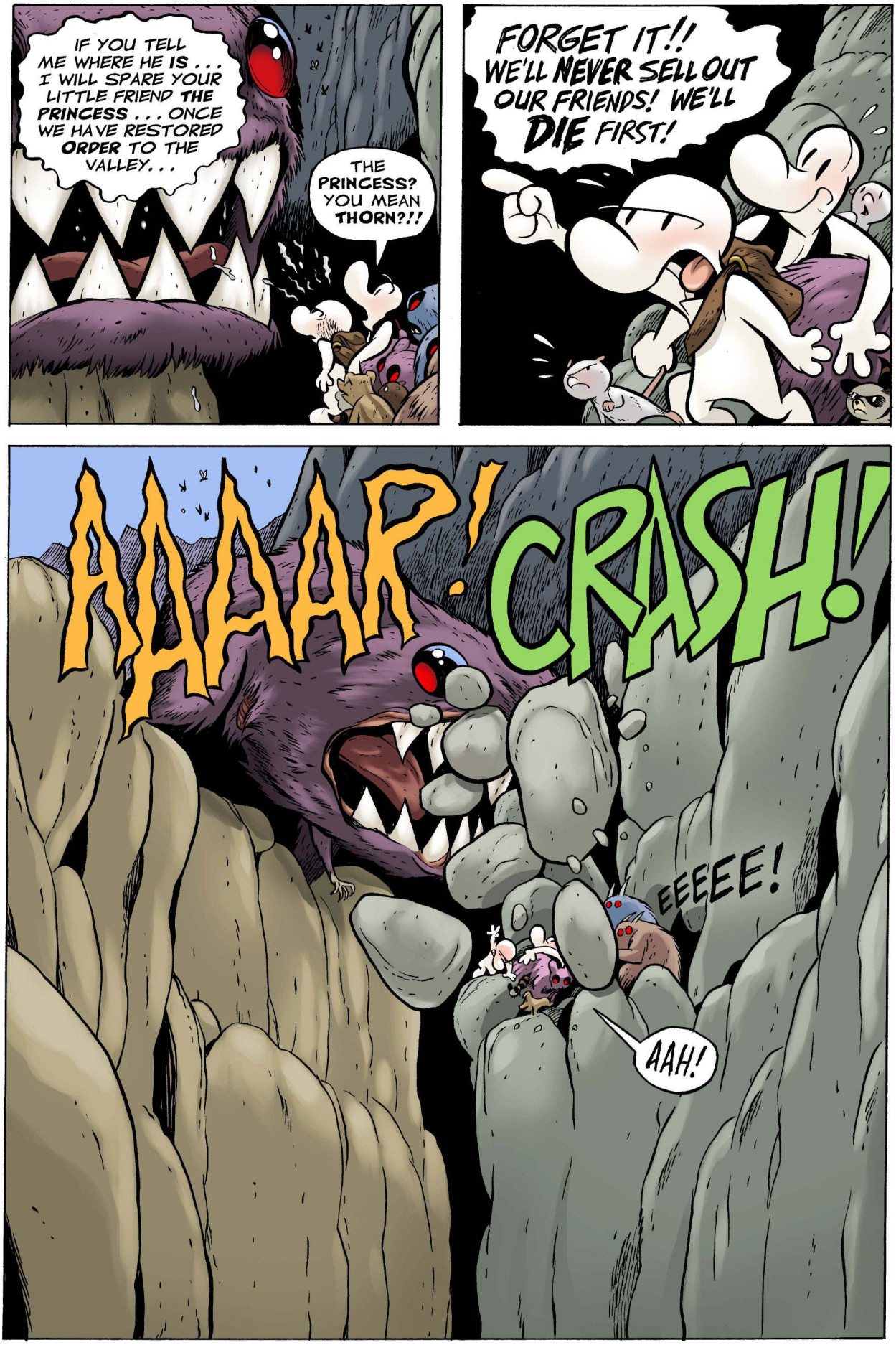
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

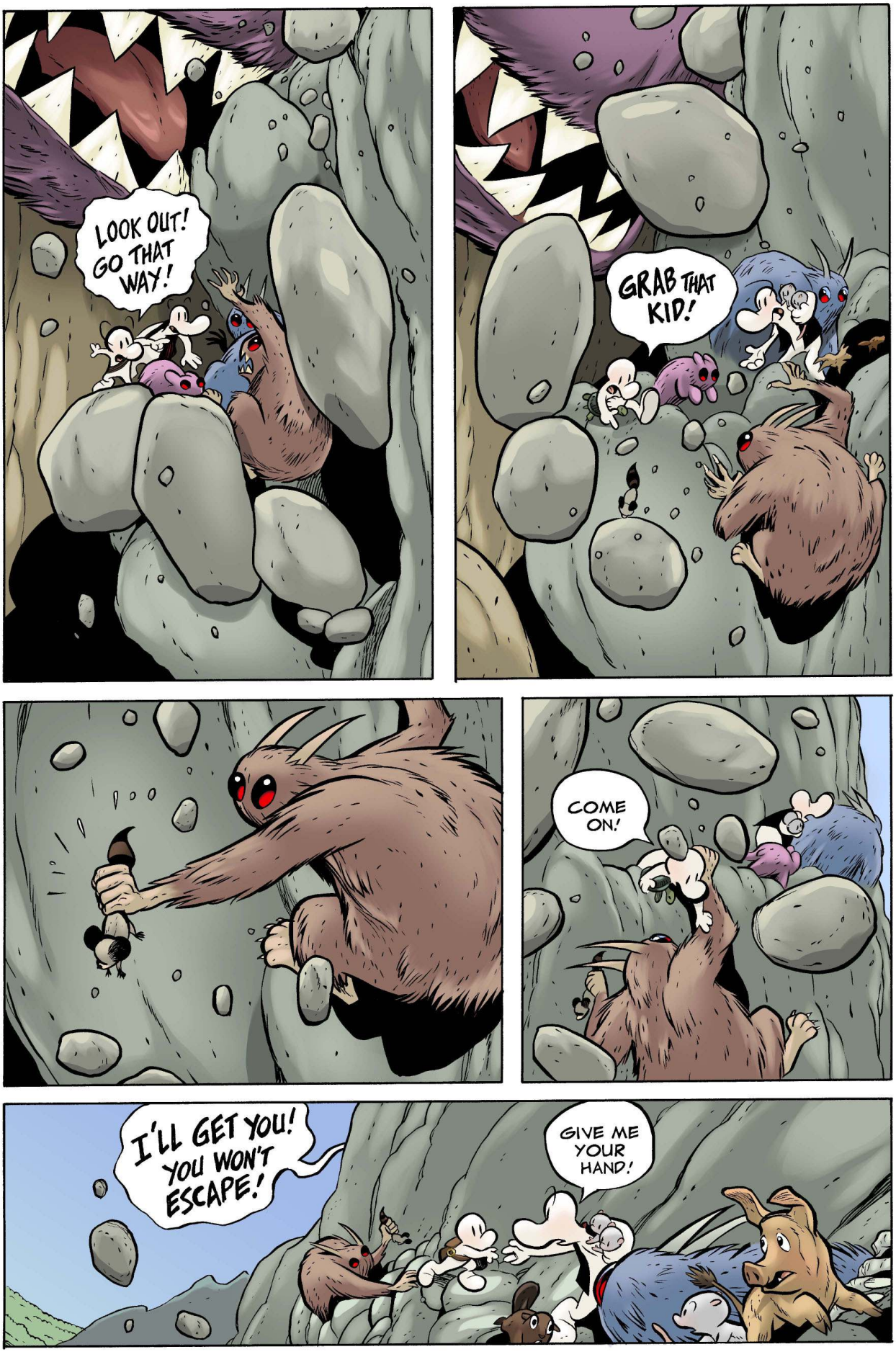

I AM NOT INTERESTED IN BARGAINING FOR THEIR MEANINGLESS LIVES!
YOU ALL WILL DIE---


UNLESS . . .
UNLESS WHAT?


. . . UNLESS YOU TELL ME THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR!
THE CHOICE IS YOURS . . .

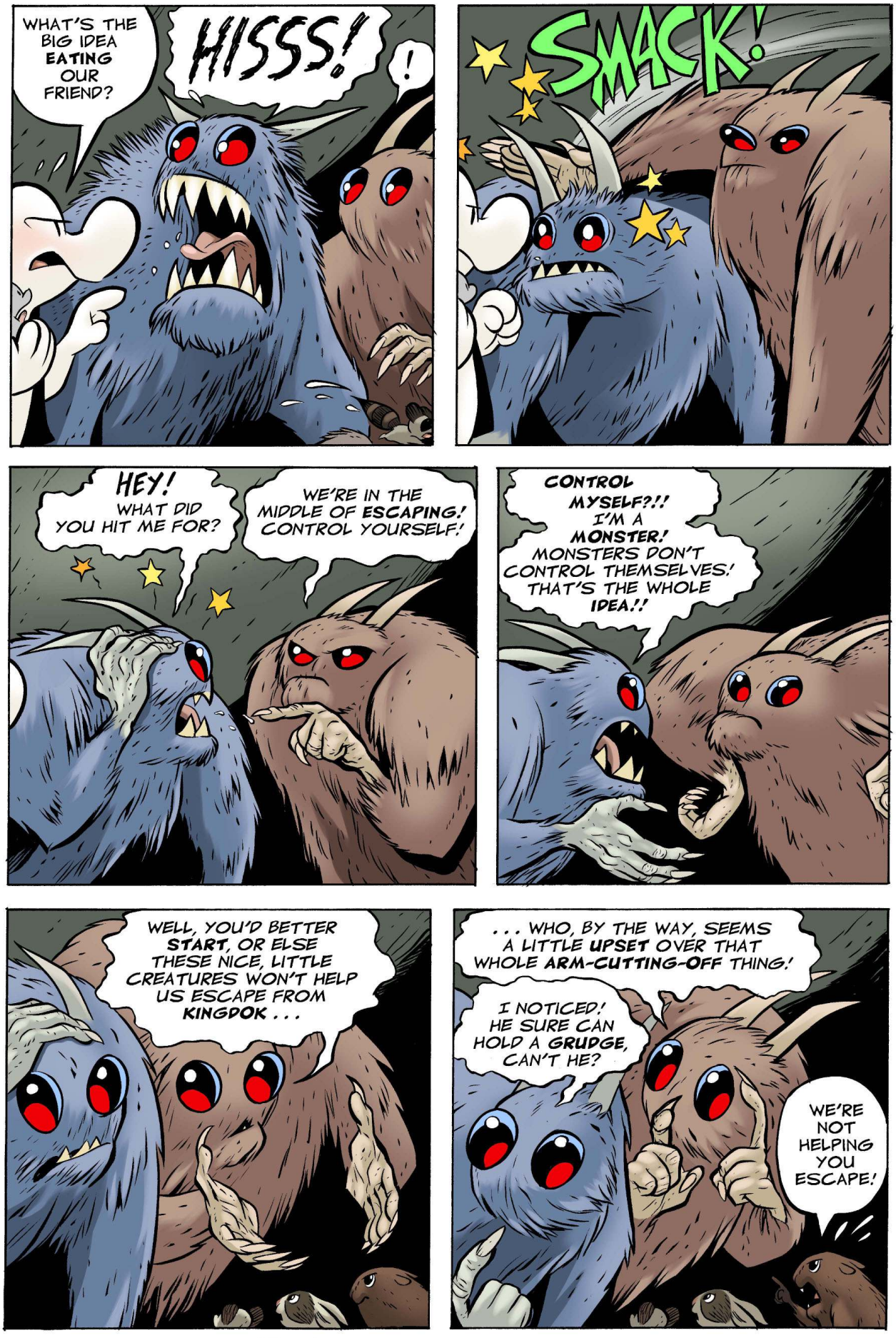

DECIDE QUICKLY! MY PATIENCE IS RUNNING OUT!
THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR? THAT'S THE SAME NAME ROCK JAW USED FOR PHONEY BONE! WHY IS EVERYBODY AFTER OUR COUSIN?!
THEY THINK PHONEY WANTS TO BE LEADER OF THE VALLEY, REMEMBER?

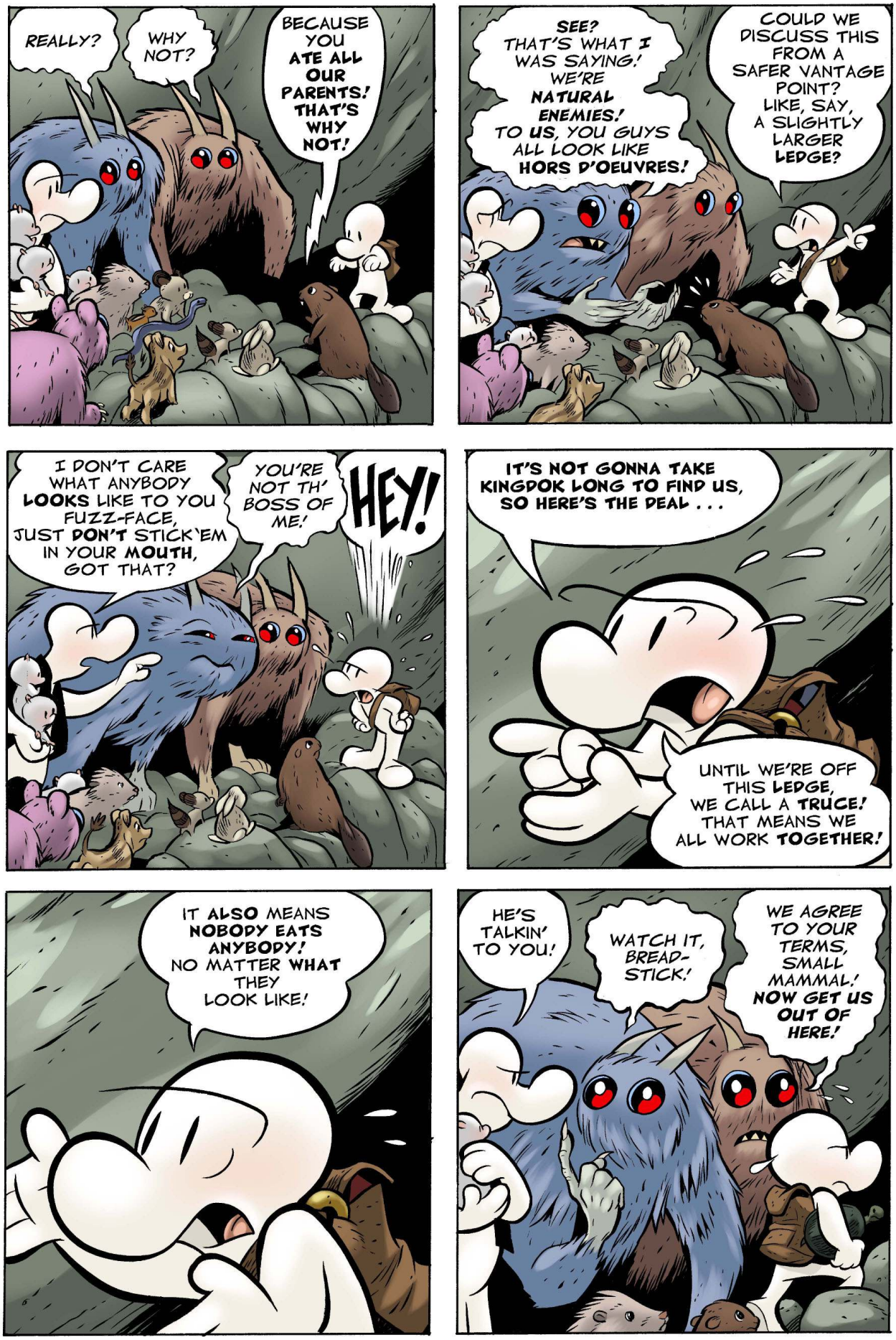

IF YOU TELL ME WHERE HE IS . . . I WILL SPARE YOUR LITTLE FRIEND THE PRINCESS . . . ONCE WE HAVE RESTORED ORDER TO THE VALLEY. . .
THE PRINCESS? YOU MEAN THORN?!!
FORGET IT!! WE'LL NEVER SELL OUT OUR FRIENDS! WE'LL DIE FIRST!
AHHHR!
CRASH!
EEEEE!
AAH!

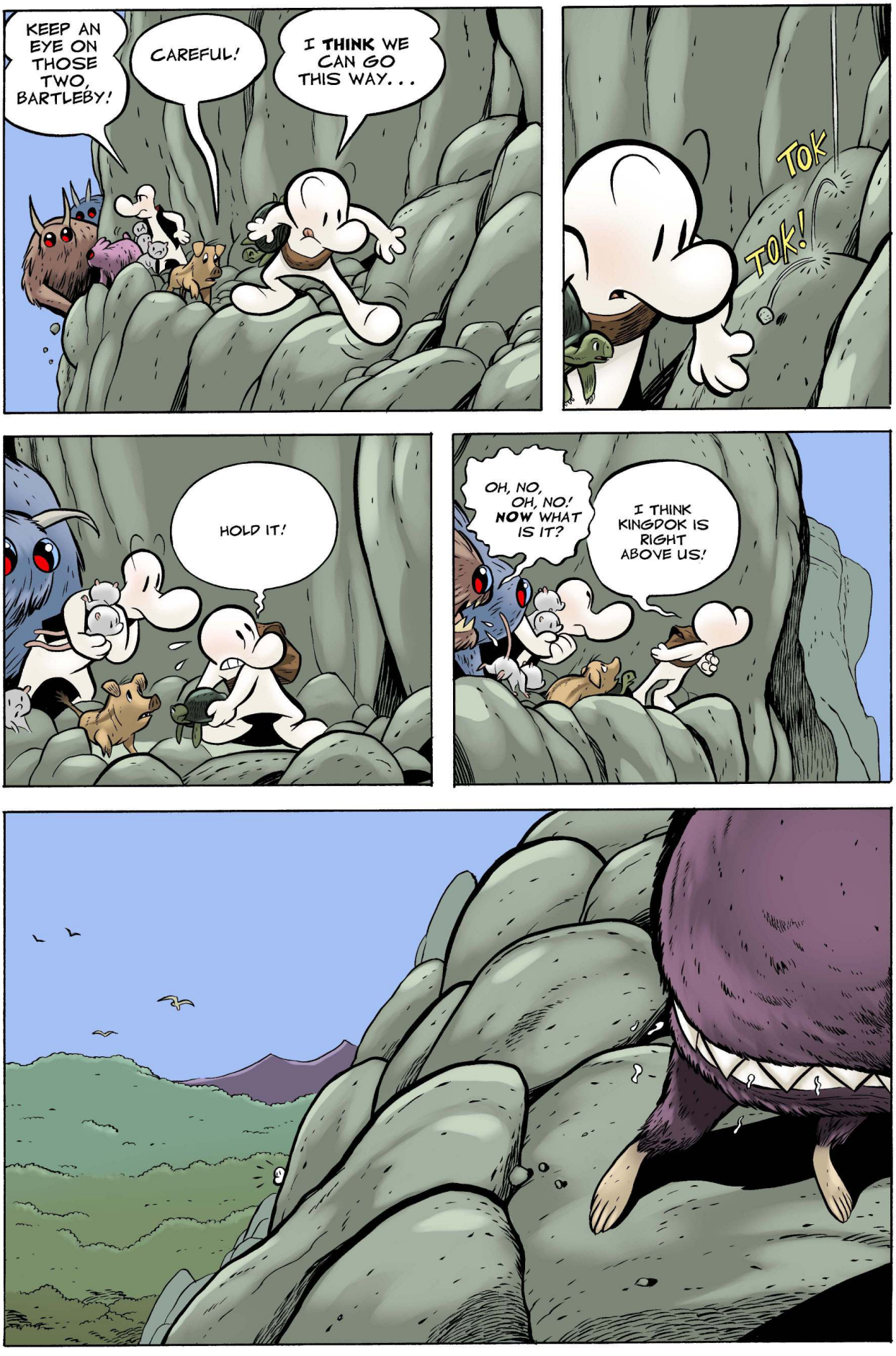

LOOK OUT! GO THAT WAY!
GRAB THAT KID!
COME ON!
I'LL GET YOU! YOU WON'T ESCAPE!
GIVE ME YOUR HAND!

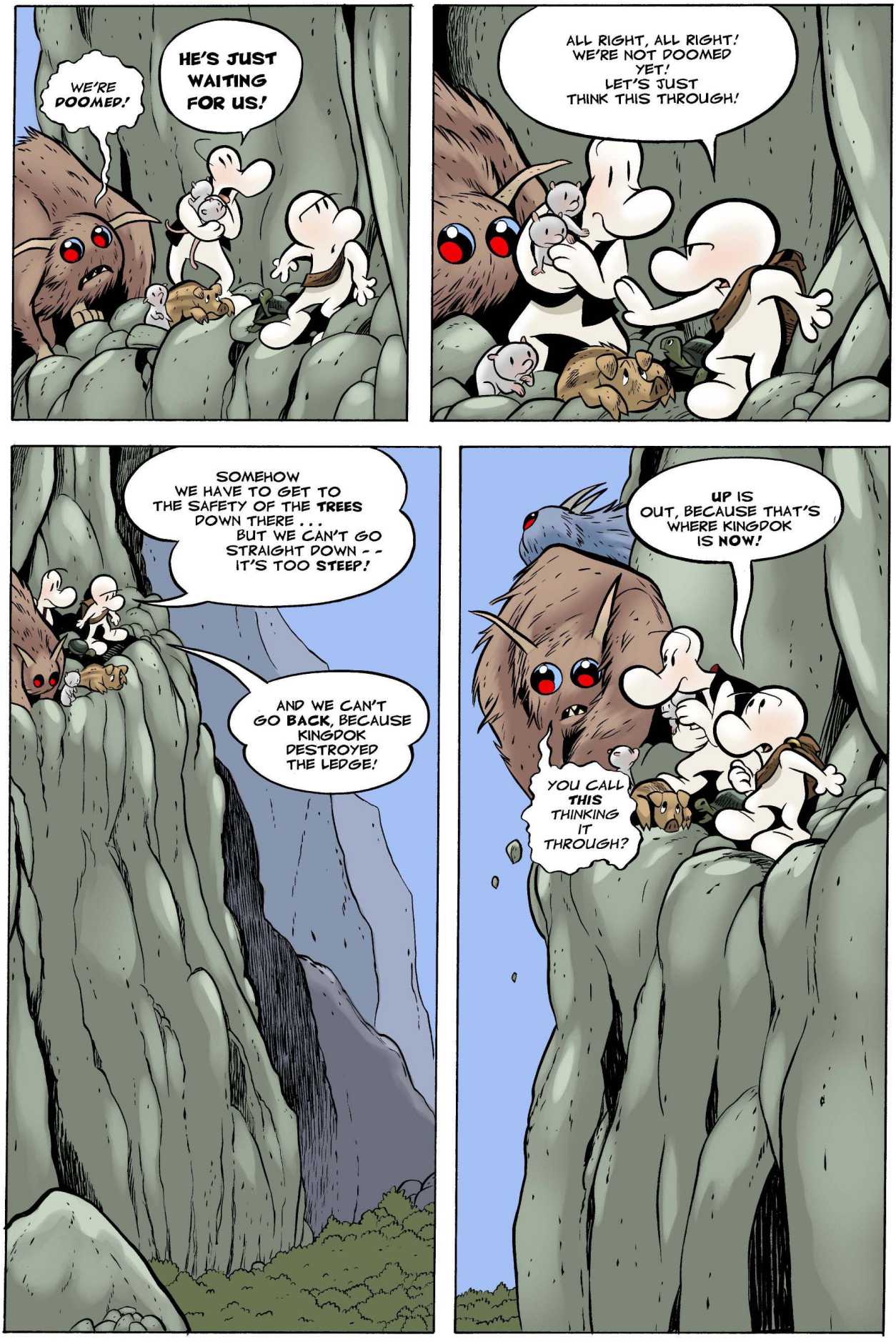


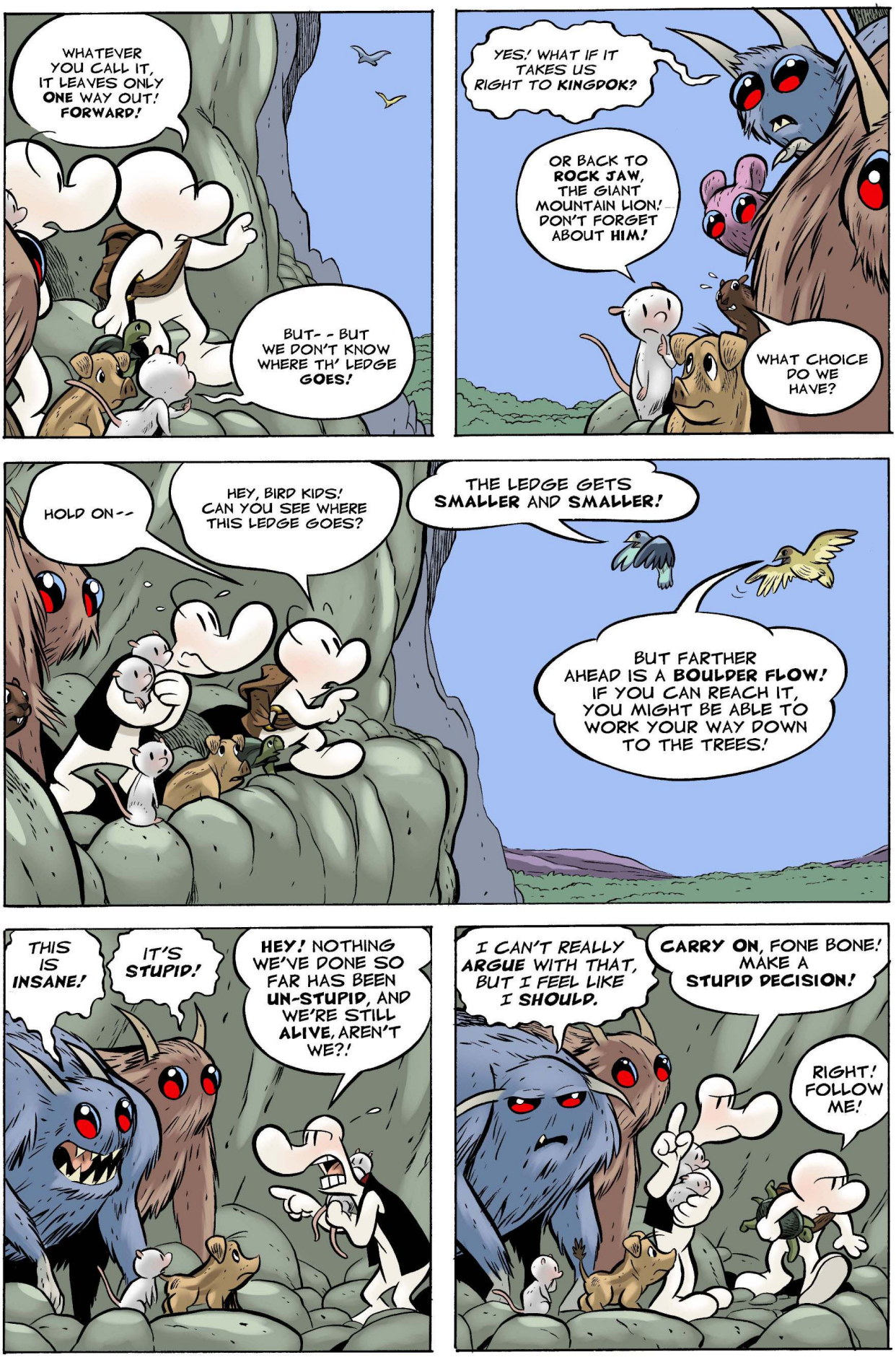
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

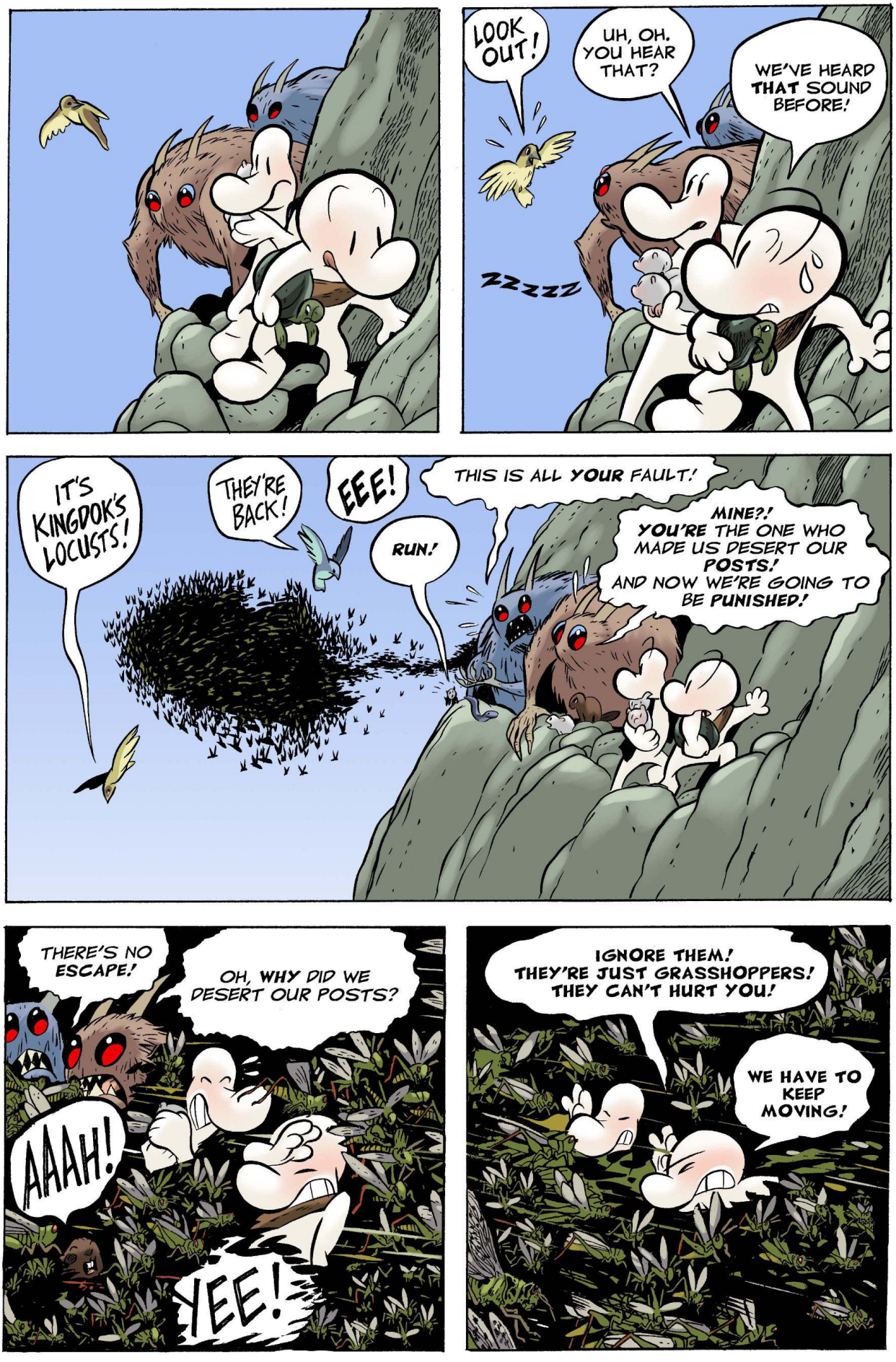

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA **EATING** OUR FRIEND?
HISSS!
!
SMACK!
HEY! WHAT DID YOU HIT ME FOR?
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF **ESCAPING**! CONTROL YOURSELF!
CONTROL MYSELF?!! I'M A **MONSTER!** MONSTERS DON'T CONTROL THEMSELVES! THAT'S THE WHOLE **IDEA!!**
WELL, YOU'D BETTER **START**, OR ELSE THESE NICE, LITTLE CREATURES WON'T HELP US ESCAPE FROM **KINGDOK** . . .
. . . WHO, BY THE WAY, SEEMS A LITTLE **UPSET** OVER THAT WHOLE **ARM-CUTTING-OFF** THING!
I NOTICED! HE SURE CAN HOLD A **GRUDGE**, CAN'T HE?
WE'RE NOT HELPING YOU ESCAPE!

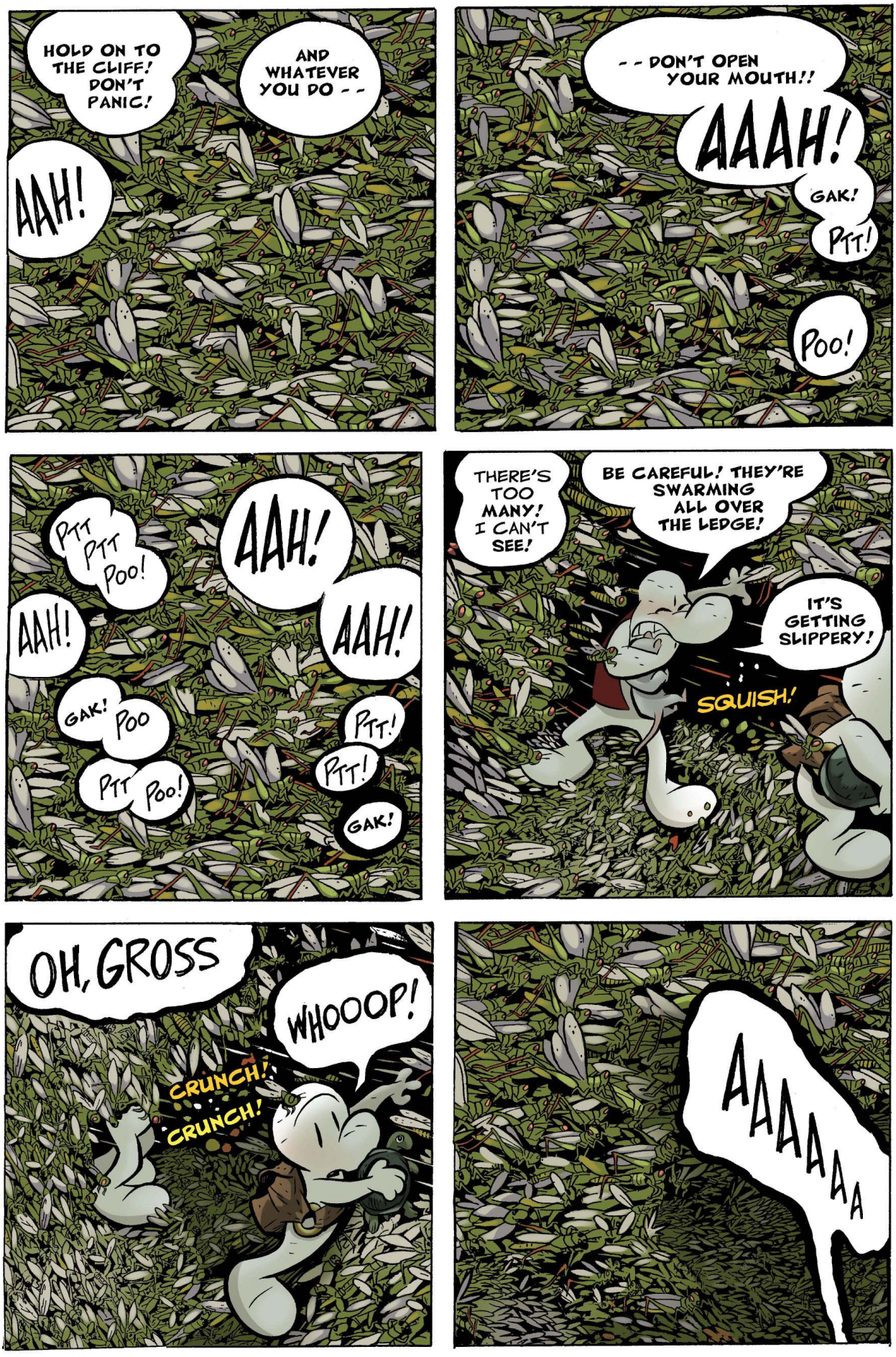

REALLY?
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE YOU ATE ALL OUR PARENTS! THAT'S WHY NOT!
SEE? THAT'S WHAT I WAS SAYING! WE'RE NATURAL ENEMIES! TO US, YOU GUYS ALL LOOK LIKE HORS D'OEUVRES!
COULD WE DISCUSS THIS FROM A SAFER VANTAGE POINT? LIKE, SAY, A SLIGHTLY LARGER LEDGE?
I DON'T CARE WHAT ANYBODY LOOKS LIKE TO YOU FUZZ-FACE, JUST DON'T STICK 'EM IN YOUR MOUTH, GOT THAT?
YOU'RE NOT TH' BOSS OF ME!
HEY!
IT'S NOT GONNA TAKE KINGDOK LONG TO FIND US, SO HERE'S THE DEAL . . .
UNTIL WE'RE OFF THIS LEDGE, WE CALL A TRUCE! THAT MEANS WE ALL WORK TOGETHER!
IT ALSO MEANS NOBODY EATS ANYBODY! NO MATTER WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE!
HE'S TALKIN' TO YOU!
WATCH IT, BREAD-STICK!
WE AGREE TO YOUR TERMS, SMALL MAMMAL! NOW GET US OUT OF HERE!

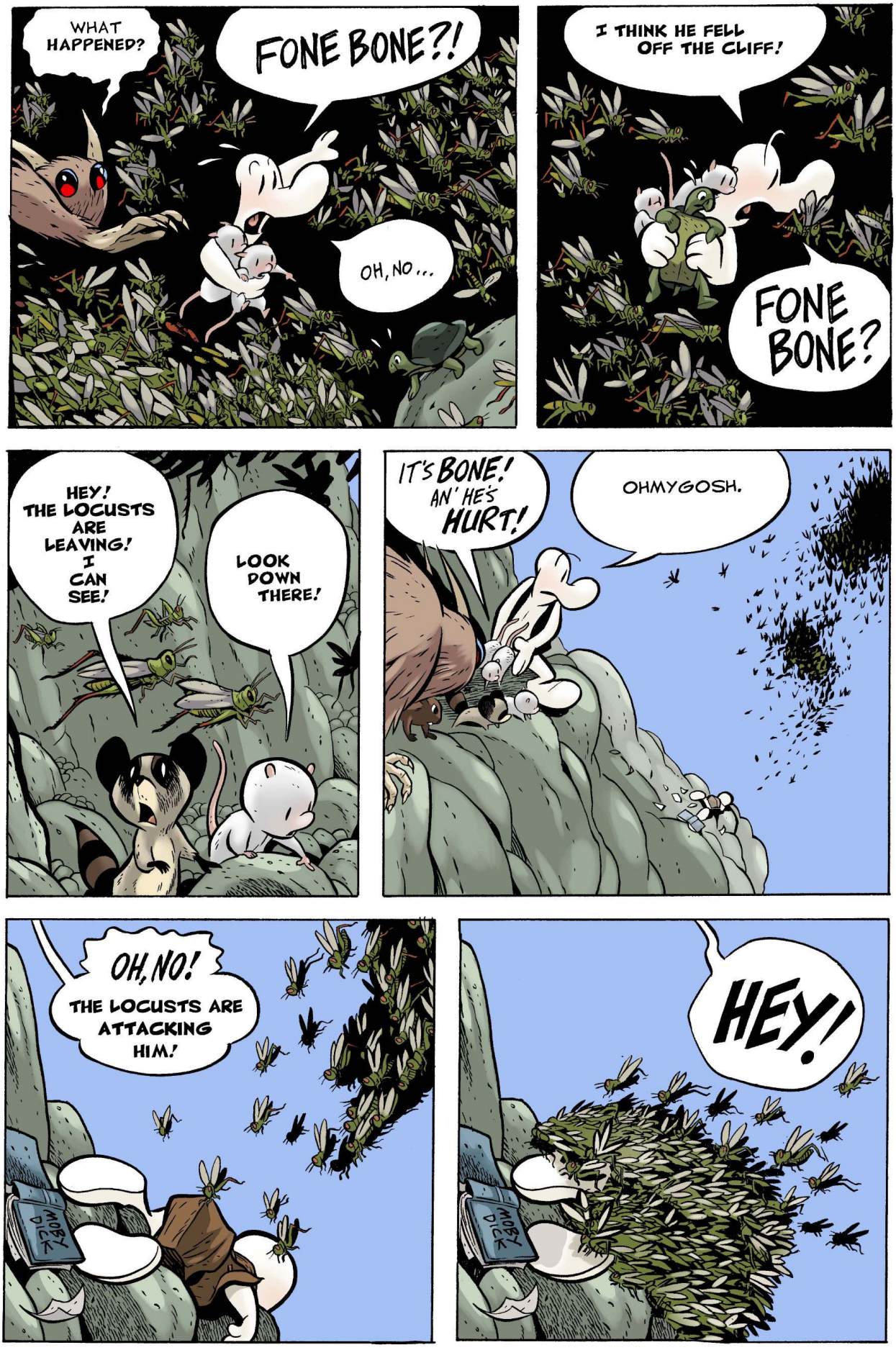

KEEP AN EYE ON THOSE TWO, BARTLEBY!
CAREFUL!
I THINK WE CAN GO THIS WAY...
TOK
TOK!
HOLD IT!
OH, NO, OH, NO! NOW WHAT IS IT?
I THINK KINGDOK IS RIGHT ABOVE US!

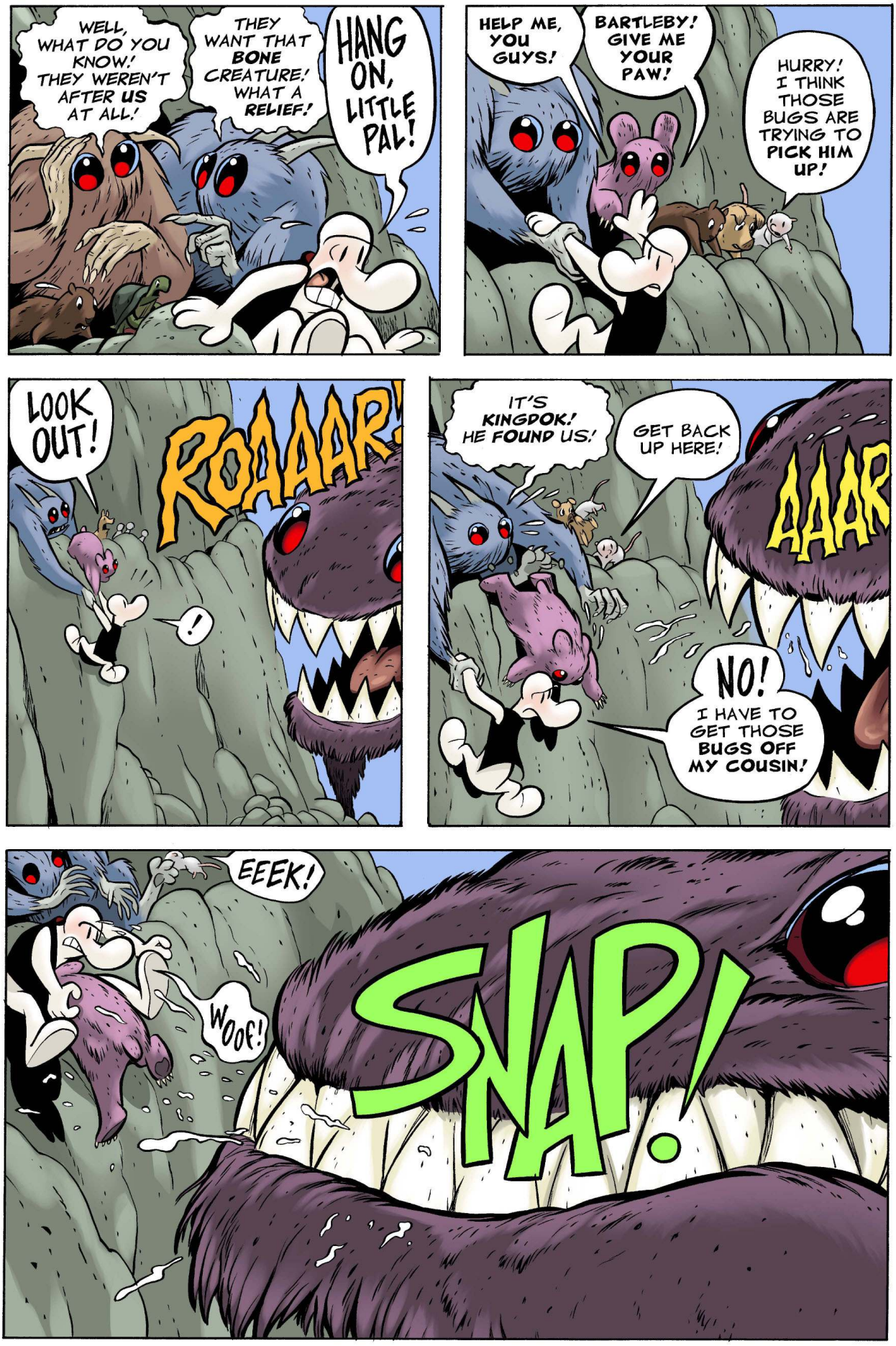

WE'RE DOOMED!
HE'S JUST WAITING FOR US!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! WE'RE NOT DOOMED YET! LET'S JUST THINK THIS THROUGH!
SOMEHOW WE HAVE TO GET TO THE SAFETY OF THE TREES DOWN THERE . . . BUT WE CAN'T GO STRAIGHT DOWN - - IT'S TOO STEEP!
AND WE CAN'T GO BACK, BECAUSE KINGDOK DESTROYED THE LEDGE!
UP IS OUT, BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE KINGDOK IS NOW!
YOU CALL THIS THINKING IT THROUGH?


WHATEVER YOU CALL IT, IT LEAVES ONLY ONE WAY OUT! FORWARD!
BUT- - BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHERE TH' LEDGE GOES!
YES! WHAT IF IT TAKES US RIGHT TO KINGDOK?
OR BACK TO ROCK JAW, THE GIANT MOUNTAIN LION! DON'T FORGET ABOUT HIM!
WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE?
HOLD ON--
HEY, BIRD KIDS! CAN YOU SEE WHERE THIS LEDGE GOES?
THE LEDGE GETS SMALLER AND SMALLER!
BUT FARTHER AHEAD IS A BOULDER FLOW! IF YOU CAN REACH IT, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO WORK YOUR WAY DOWN TO THE TREES!
THIS IS INSANE!
IT'S STUPID!
HEY! NOTHING WE'VE DONE SO FAR HAS BEEN UN-STUPID, AND WE'RE STILL ALIVE, AREN'T WE?!
I CAN'T REALLY ARGUE WITH THAT, BUT I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD.
CARRY ON, FONE BONE! MAKE A STUPID DECISION!
RIGHT! FOLLOW ME!

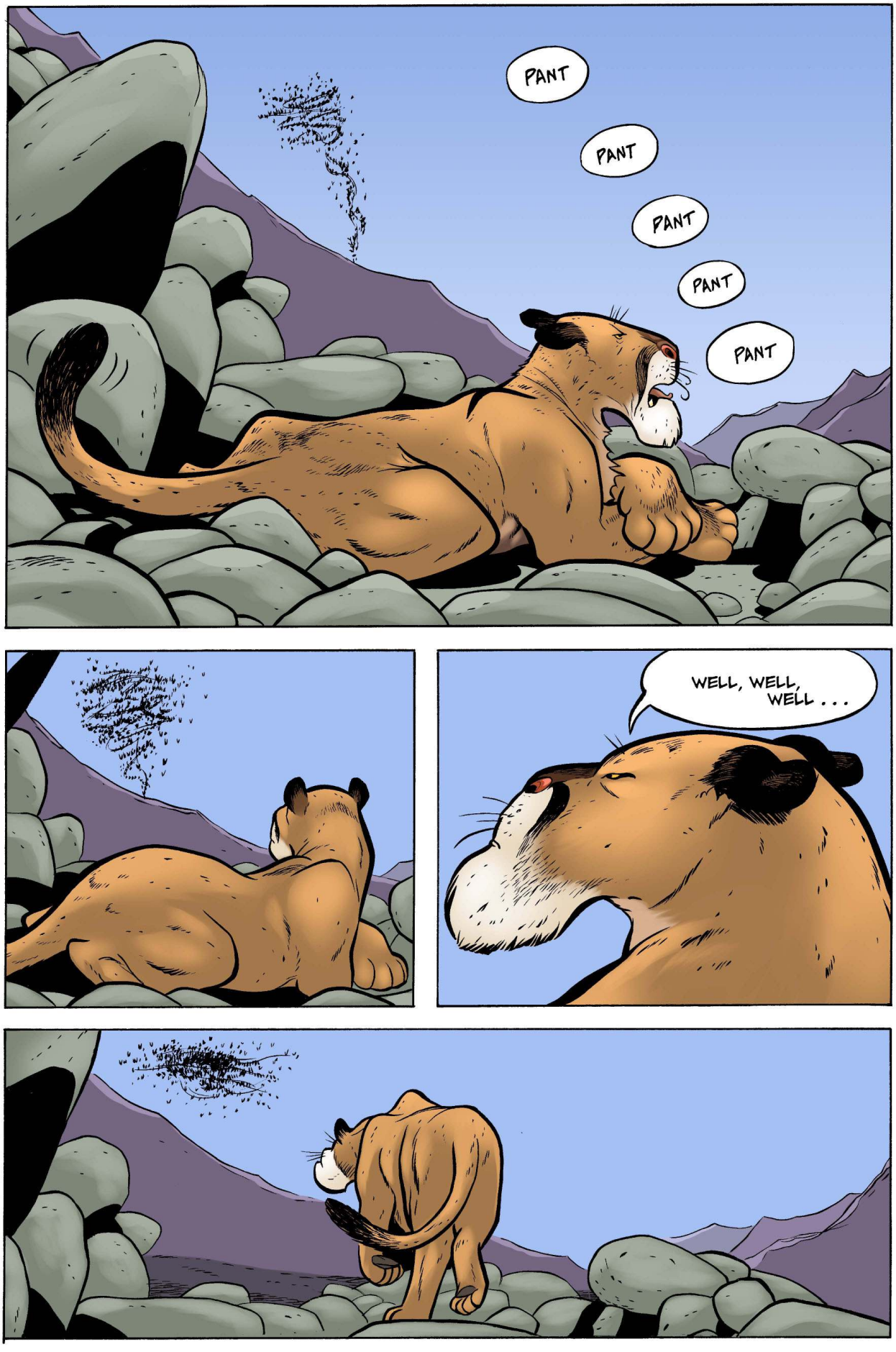

LOOK OUT!
UH, OH. YOU HEAR THAT?
WE'VE HEARD THAT SOUND BEFORE!
ZZZZZ
IT'S KINGDOK'S LOCUSTS!
THEY'RE BACK!
EEE!
RUN!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!
MINE?! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MADE US DESERT OUR POSTS! AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO BE PUNISHED!
THERE'S NO ESCAPE!
OH, WHY DID WE DESERT OUR POSTS?
AAAH!
YEE!
IGNORE THEM! THEY'RE JUST GRASSHOPPERS! THEY CAN'T HURT YOU!
WE HAVE TO KEEP MOVING!

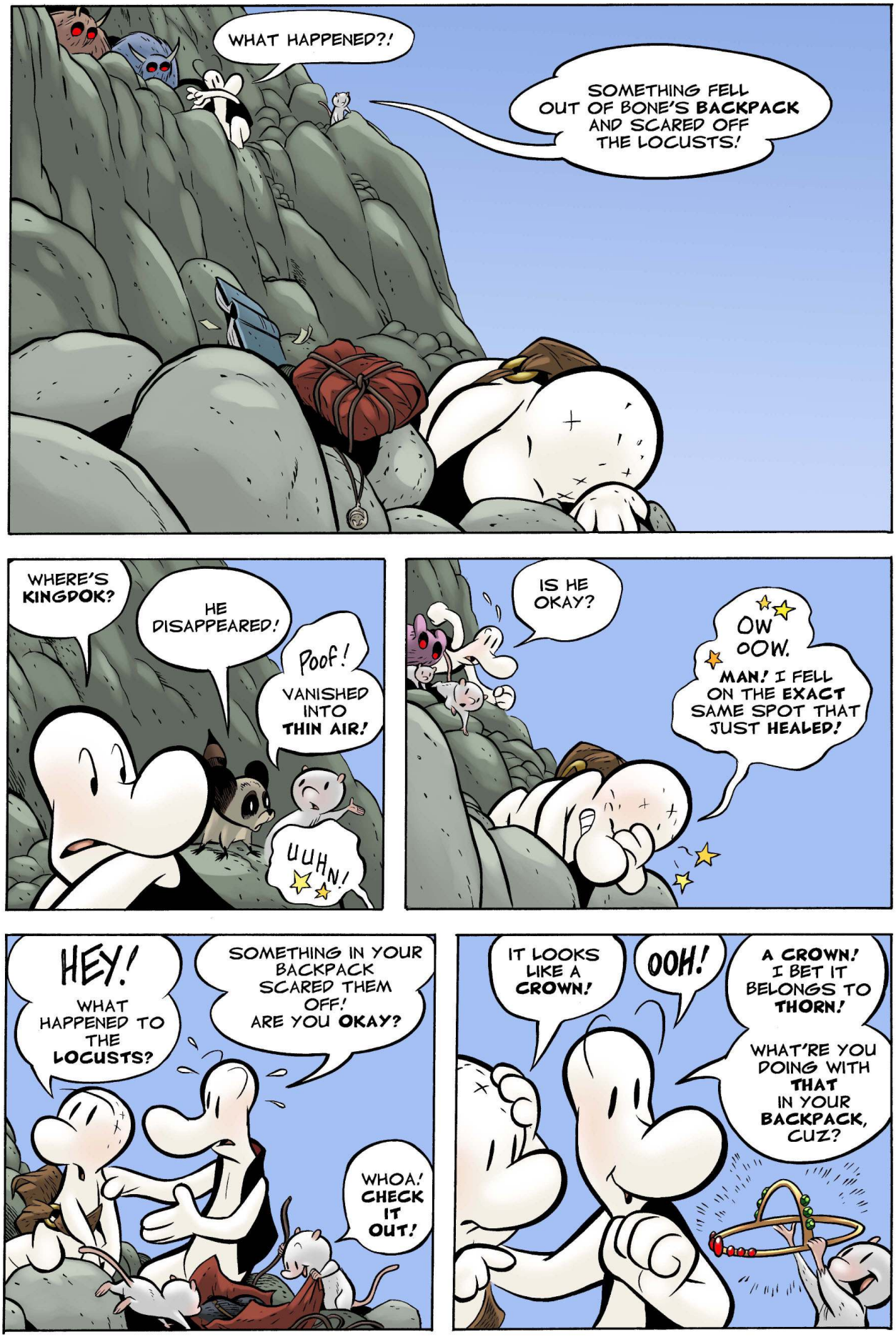

HOLD ON TO THE CLIFF! DON'T PANIC!
AND WHATEVER YOU DO - -
AAH!
- - DON'T OPEN YOUR MOUTH!!
AAAH!
GAK!
PTT!
POO!
PTT PTT POO!
AAH!
AAH!
AAH!
GAK!
POO
PTT!
PTT!
PTT
POO!
GAK!
THERE'S TOO MANY! I CAN'T SEE!
BE CAREFUL! THEY'RE SWARMING ALL OVER THE LEDGE!
IT'S GETTING SLIPPERY!
SQUISH!
OH, GROSS
WHOOOP!
CRUNCH!
CRUNCH!
AAAAAA

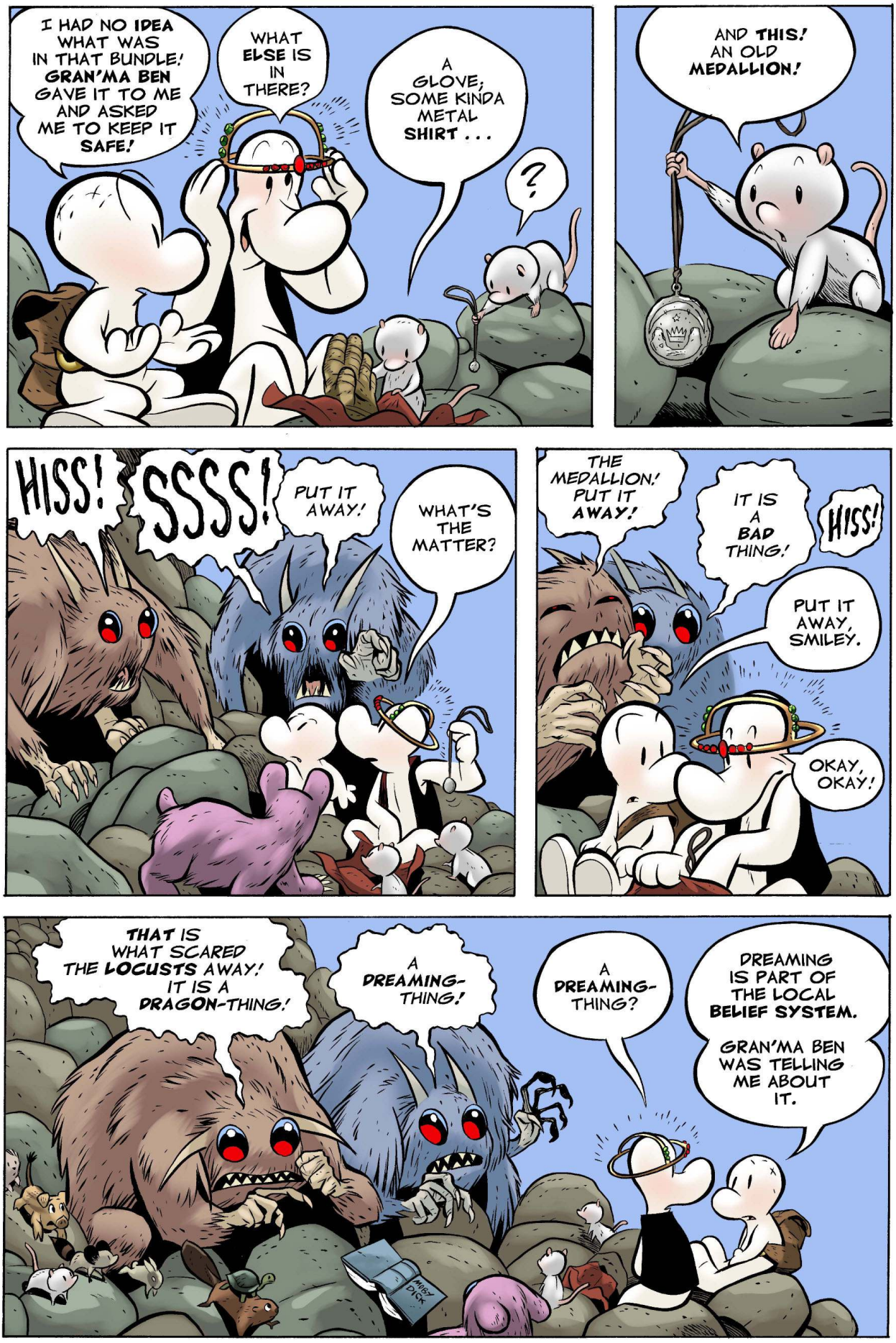

WHAT HAPPENED?
FONE BONE?!
OH, NO...
I THINK HE FELL OFF THE CLIFF!
FONE BONE?
HEY! THE LOCUSTS ARE LEAVING! I CAN SEE!
LOOK DOWN THERE!
IT'S BONE! AN' HE'S HURT!
OHMYGOSH.
OH, NO!
THE LOCUSTS ARE ATTACKING HIM!
HEY!
MOBY DICK
MOBY DICK

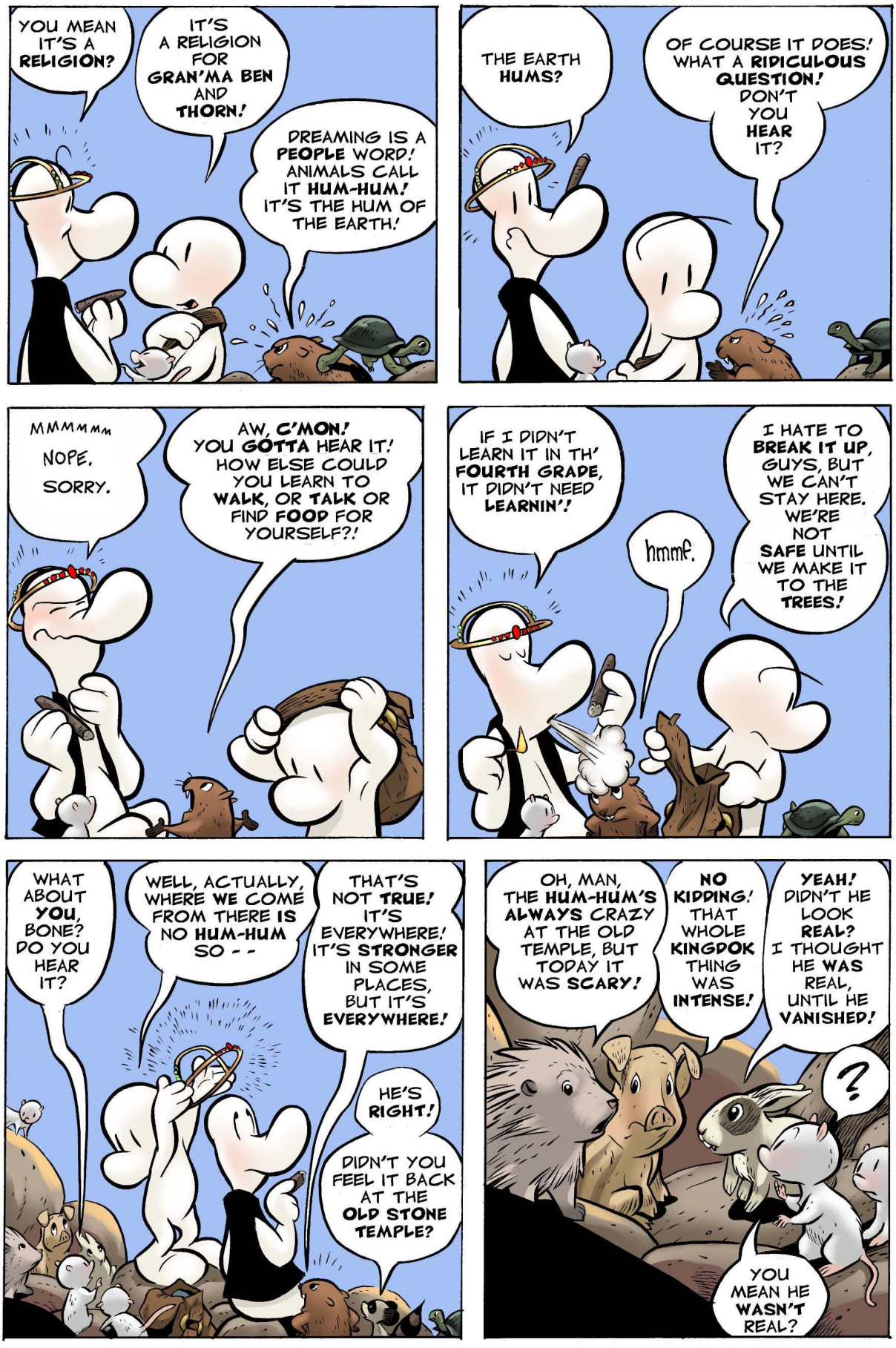

WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW! THEY WEREN'T AFTER US AT ALL!
THEY WANT THAT BONE CREATURE! WHAT A RELIEF!
HANG ON, LITTLE PAL!
HELP ME, YOU GUYS!
BARTLEBY! GIVE ME YOUR PAW!
HURRY! I THINK THOSE BUGS ARE TRYING TO PICK HIM UP!
LOOK OUT!
RODAAAR!
!
IT'S KINGDOK! HE FOUND US!
GET BACK UP HERE!
AAAR
NO! I HAVE TO GET THOSE BUGS OFF MY COUSIN!
EEEK!
WOOF!
SNAP!


BARTLEBY! LET ME GO!!
THEY GOT HIM!
THEY'RE PICKING HIM UP!
OH, NO! WAKE UP, MAN!
HEY!
ZZZ
MOBY DICK
POW

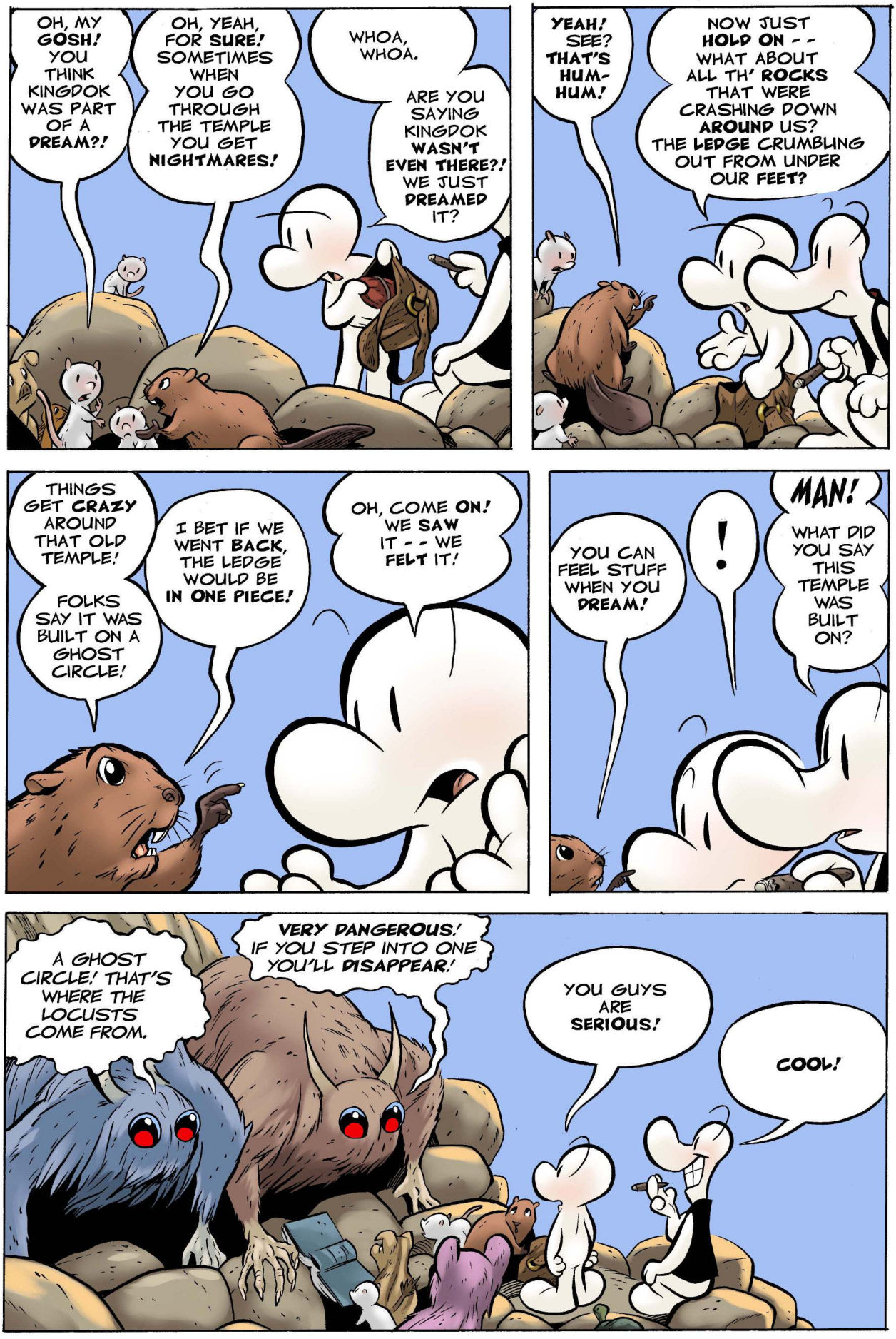

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
WELL, WELL, WELL . . .

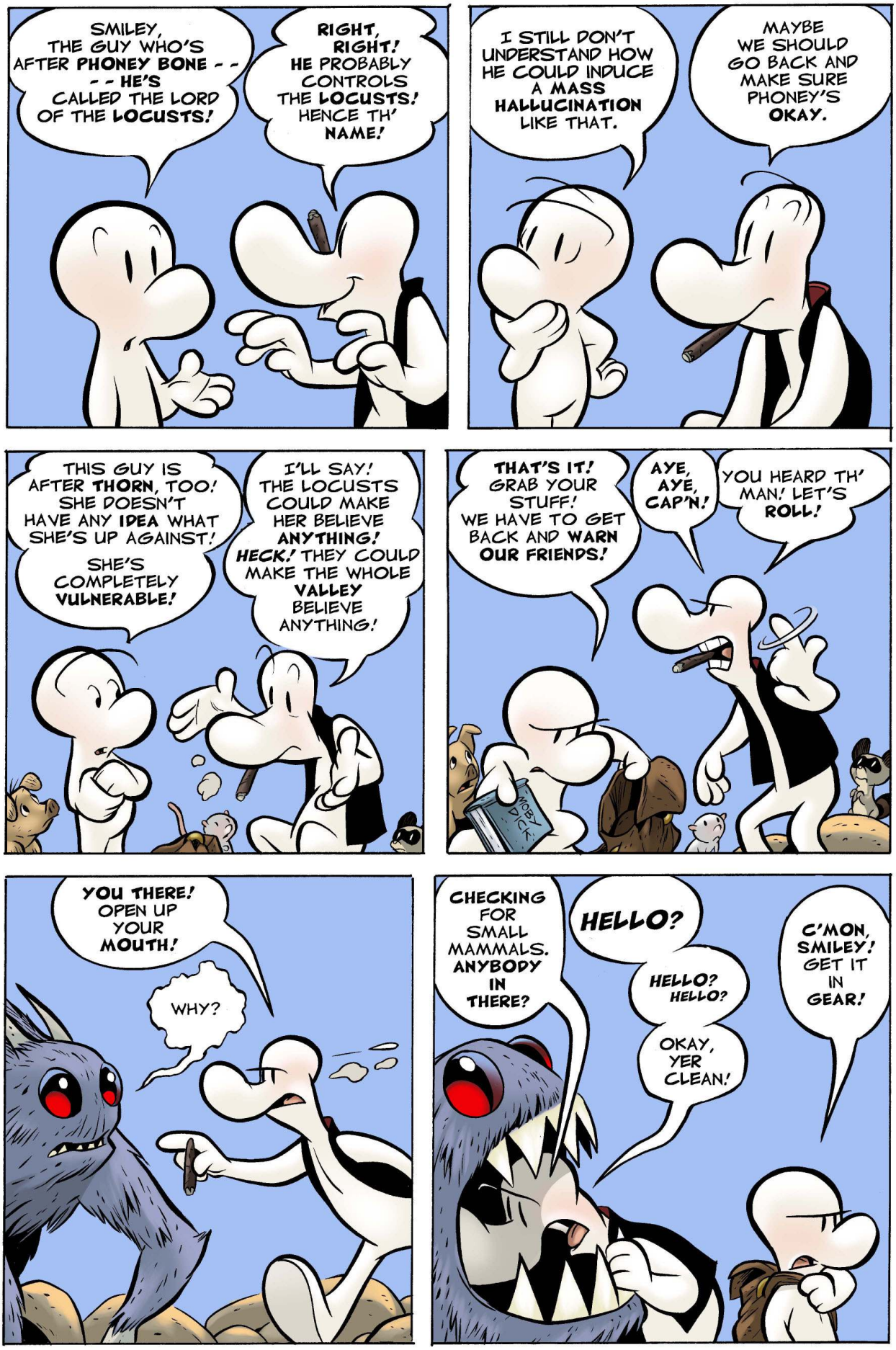

WHAT HAPPENED?!
SOMETHING FELL OUT OF BONE'S BACKPACK AND SCARED OFF THE LOCUSTS!
WHERE'S KINGDOK?
HE DISAPPEARED!
Poof!
VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!
UUHN!
IS HE OKAY?
OW OOW.
MAN! I FELL ON THE EXACT SAME SPOT THAT JUST HEALED!
HEY!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LOCUSTS?
SOMETHING IN YOUR BACKPACK SCARED THEM OFF! ARE YOU OKAY?
WHOA! CHECK IT OUT!
IT LOOKS LIKE A CROWN!
OOH!
A CROWN! I BET IT BELONGS TO THORN!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH THAT IN YOUR BACKPACK, CUZ?

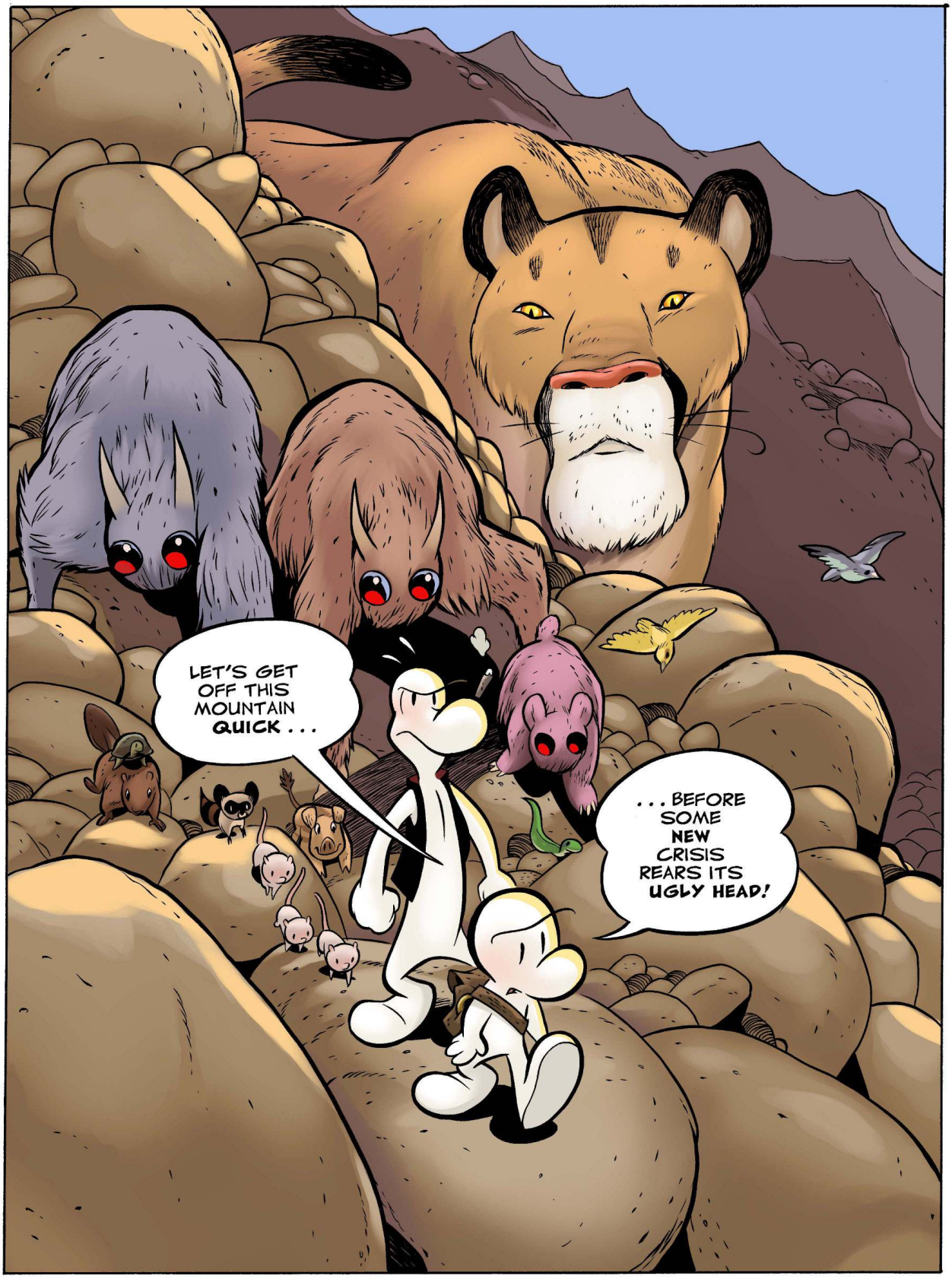

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT WAS IN THAT BUNDLE! GRAN'MA BEN GAVE IT TO ME AND ASKED ME TO KEEP IT SAFE!
WHAT ELSE IS IN THERE?
A GLOVE, SOME KINDA METAL SHIRT . . .
?
AND THIS! AN OLD MEDALLION!
HISS!
SSSS!
PUT IT AWAY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THE MEDALLION! PUT IT AWAY!
IT IS A BAD THING!
HISS!
PUT IT AWAY, SMILEY.
OKAY, OKAY!
THAT IS WHAT SCARED THE LOCUSTS AWAY! IT IS A DRAGON-THING!
A DREAMING-THING!
A DREAMING-THING?
DREAMING IS PART OF THE LOCAL BELIEF SYSTEM.
GRAN'MA BEN WAS TELLING ME ABOUT IT.
MOBY DICK

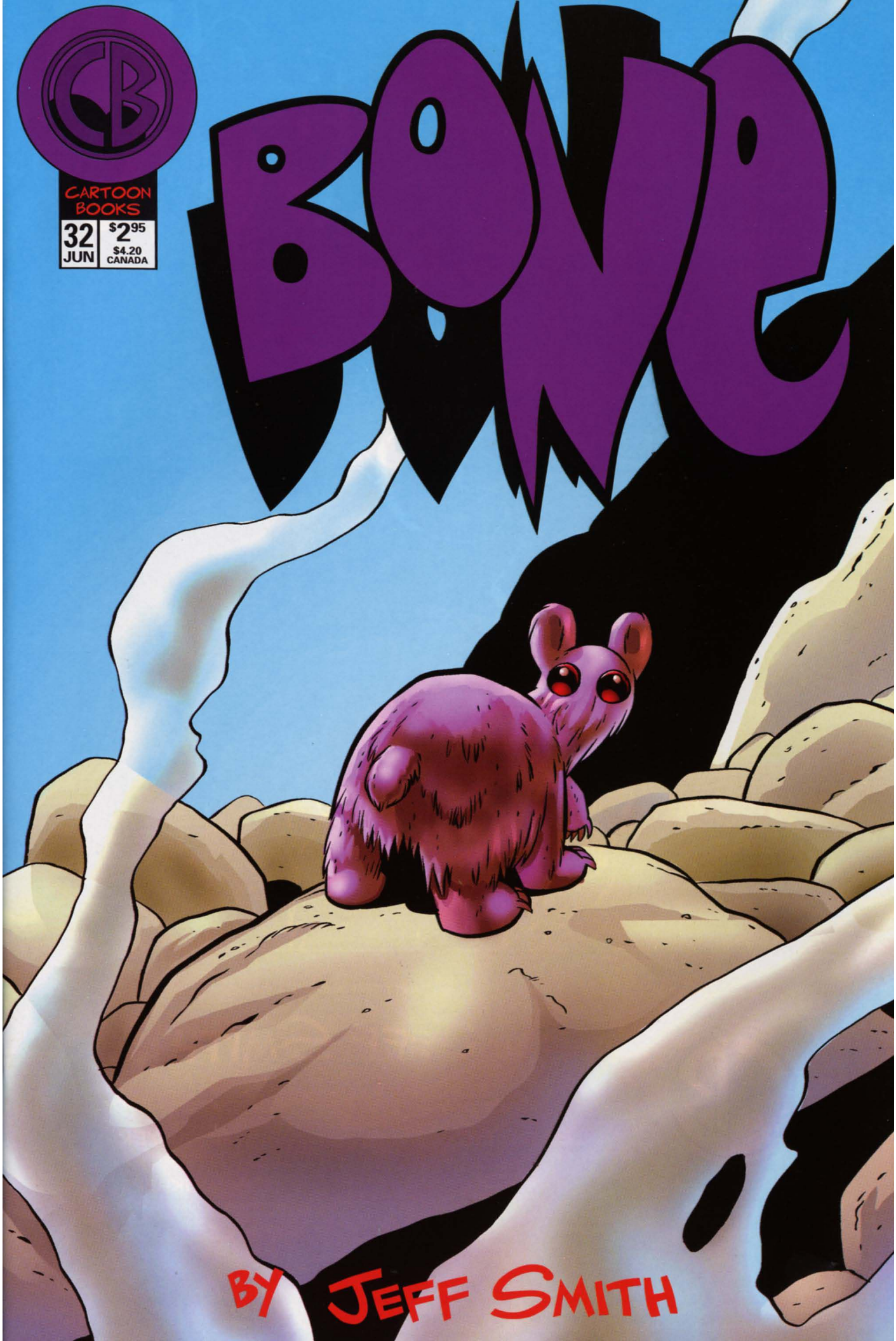


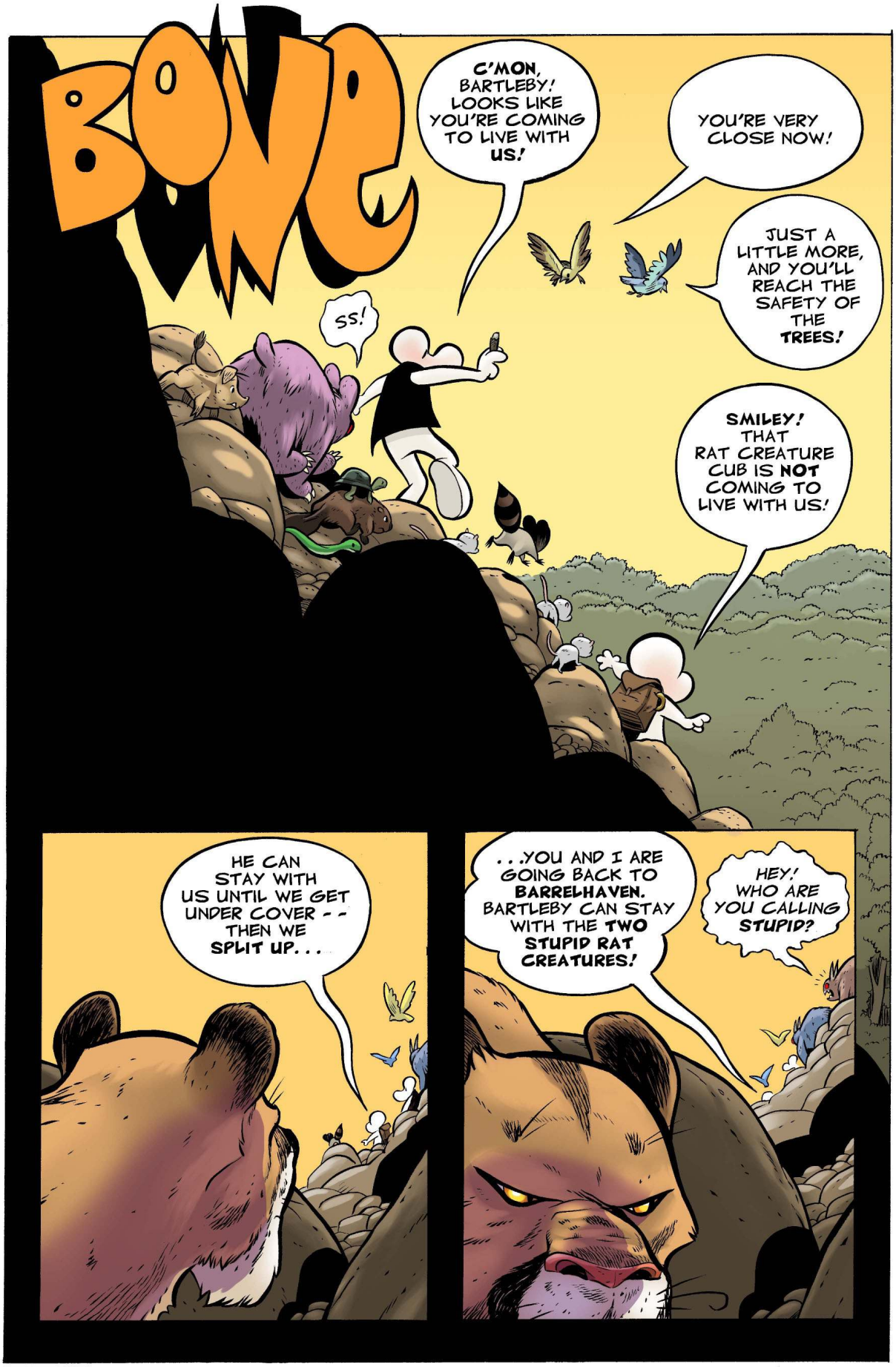
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


OH, MY GOSH! YOU THINK KINGDOK WAS PART OF A DREAM?!
OH, YEAH, FOR SURE! SOMETIMES WHEN YOU GO THROUGH THE TEMPLE YOU GET NIGHTMARES!
WHOA, WHOA.
ARE YOU SAYING KINGDOK WASN'T EVEN THERE?! WE JUST DREAMED IT?
YEAH! SEE? THAT'S HUM-HUM!
NOW JUST HOLD ON -- WHAT ABOUT ALL TH' ROCKS THAT WERE CRASHING DOWN AROUND US? THE LEDGE CRUMBLING OUT FROM UNDER OUR FEET?
THINGS GET CRAZY AROUND THAT OLD TEMPLE!
FOLKS SAY IT WAS BUILT ON A GHOST CIRCLE!
I BET IF WE WENT BACK, THE LEDGE WOULD BE IN ONE PIECE!
OH, COME ON! WE SAW IT -- WE FELT IT!
YOU CAN FEEL STUFF WHEN YOU DREAM!
!
MAN!
WHAT DID YOU SAY THIS TEMPLE WAS BUILT ON?
A GHOST CIRCLE! THAT'S WHERE THE LOCUSTS COME FROM.
VERY DANGEROUS! IF YOU STEP INTO ONE YOU'LL DISAPPEAR!
YOU GUYS ARE SERIOUS!
COOL!

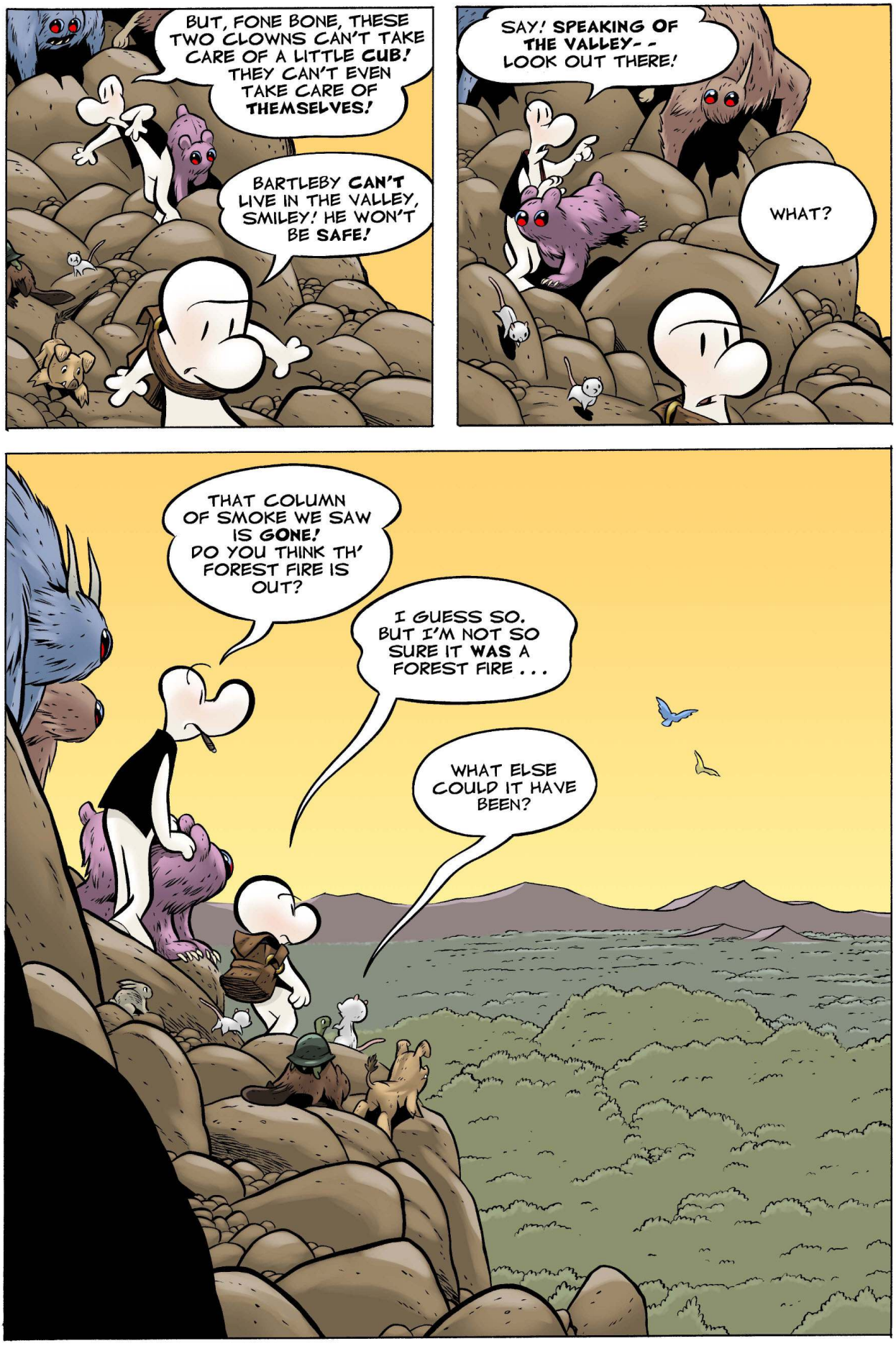

SMILEY, THE GUY WHO'S AFTER PHONEY BONE - - - - HE'S CALLED THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS!
RIGHT, RIGHT! HE PROBABLY CONTROLS THE LOCUSTS! HENCE TH' NAME!
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW HE COULD INDUCE A MASS HALLUCINATION LIKE THAT.
MAYBE WE SHOULD GO BACK AND MAKE SURE PHONEY'S OKAY.
THIS GUY IS AFTER THORN, TOO! SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT SHE'S UP AGAINST!
SHE'S COMPLETELY VULNERABLE!
I'LL SAY! THE LOCUSTS COULD MAKE HER BELIEVE ANYTHING! HECK! THEY COULD MAKE THE WHOLE VALLEY BELIEVE ANYTHING!
THAT'S IT! GRAB YOUR STUFF! WE HAVE TO GET BACK AND WARN OUR FRIENDS!
AYE, AYE, CAP'N!
YOU HEARD TH' MAN! LET'S ROLL!
MOBY DICK
YOU THERE! OPEN UP YOUR MOUTH!
WHY?
CHECKING FOR SMALL MAMMALS. ANYBODY IN THERE?
HELLO?
HELLO? HELLO?
OKAY, YER CLEAN!
C'MON, SMILEY! GET IT IN GEAR!

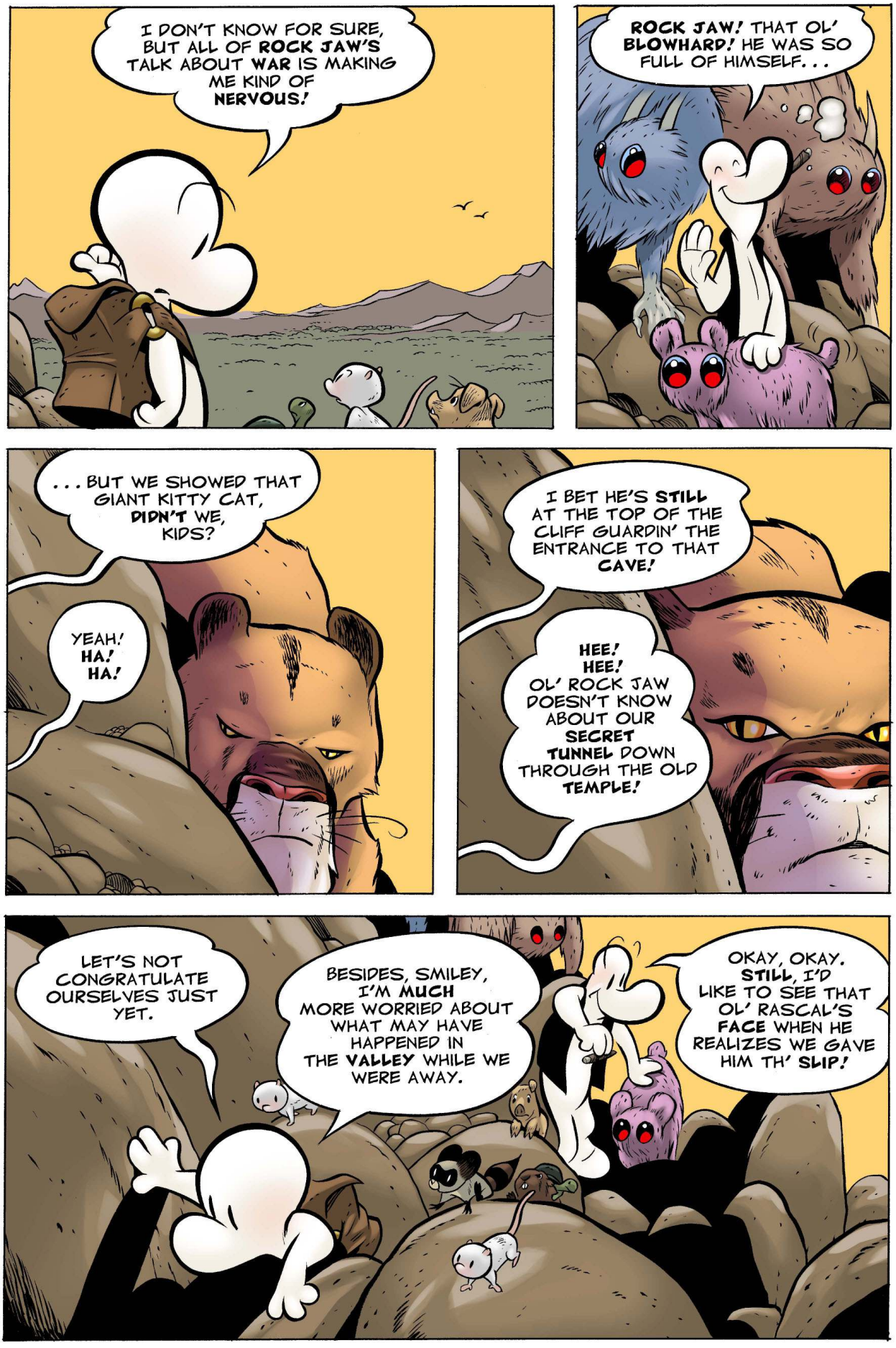

LET'S GET OFF THIS MOUNTAIN QUICK . . .
. . . BEFORE SOME NEW CRISIS REARS ITS UGLY HEAD!

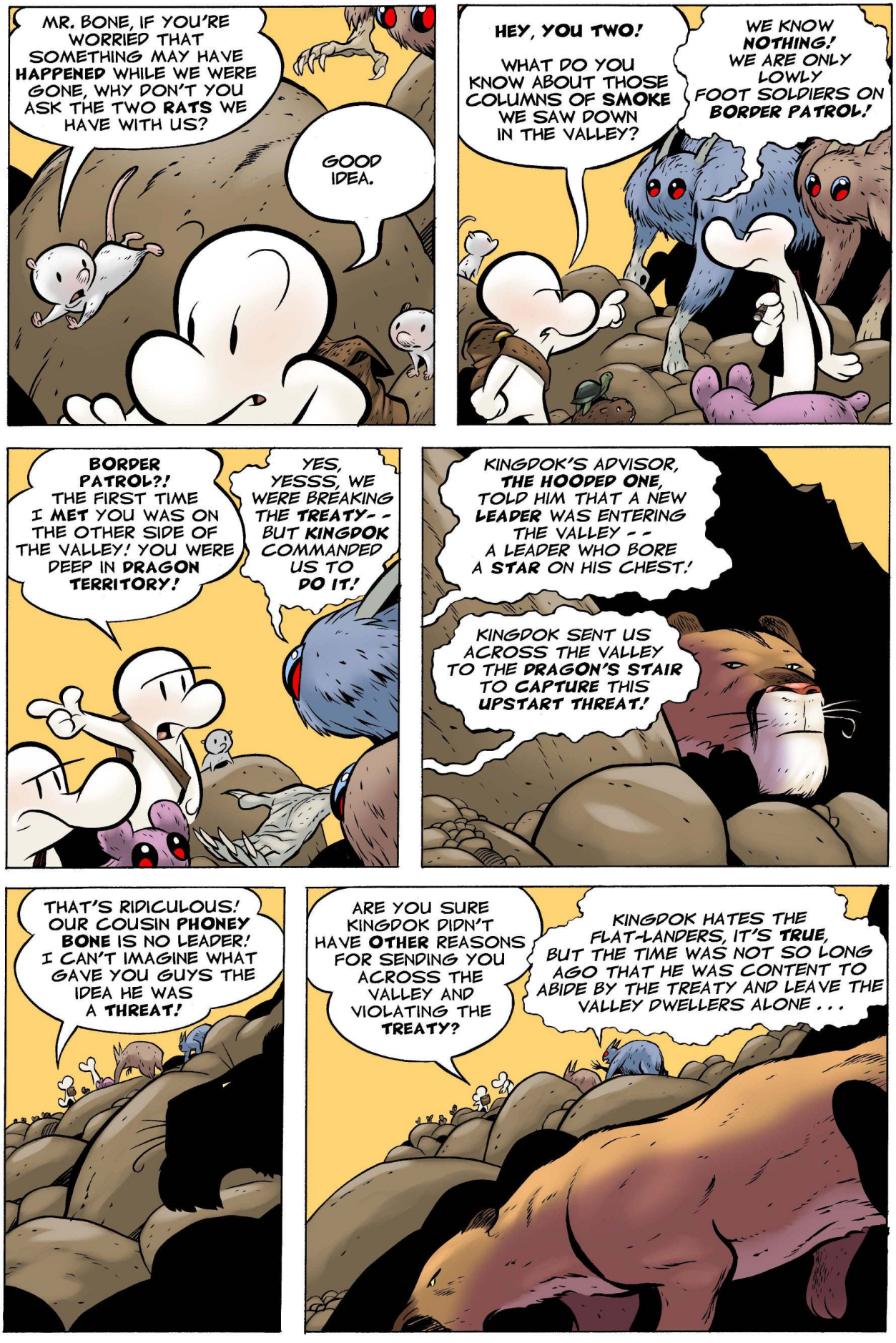

CARTOON BOOKS
32
JUN
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

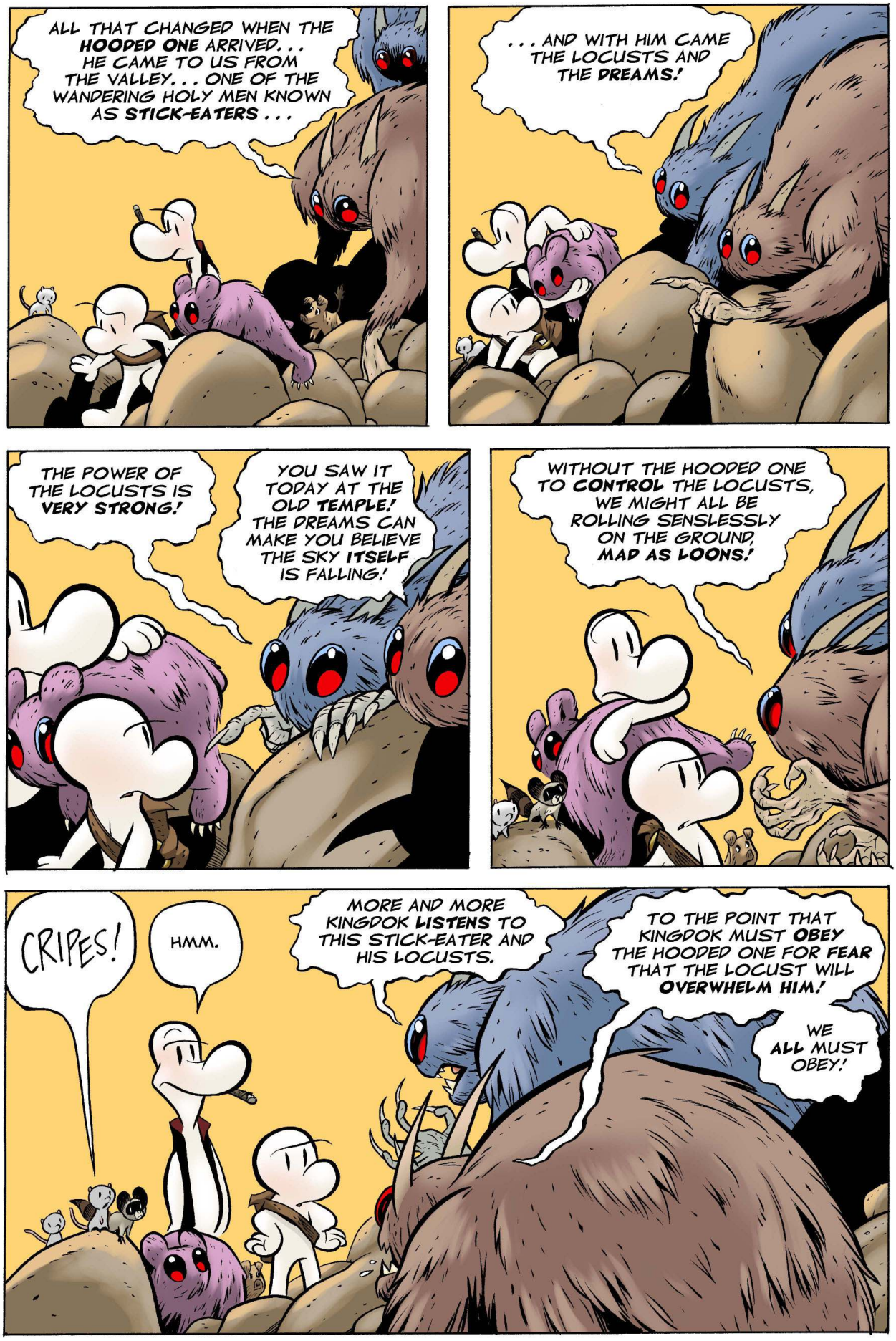


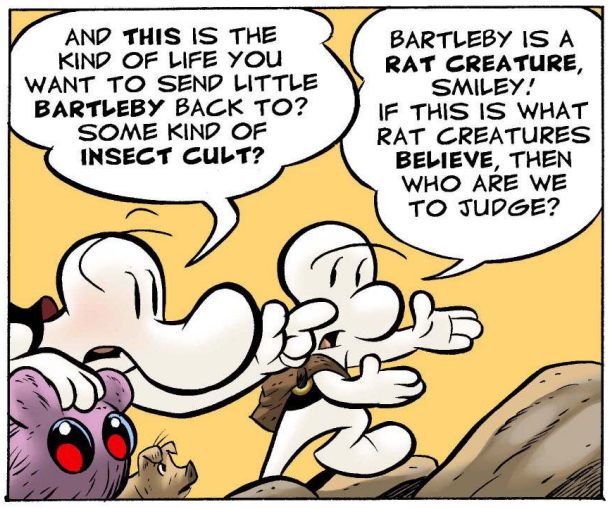
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

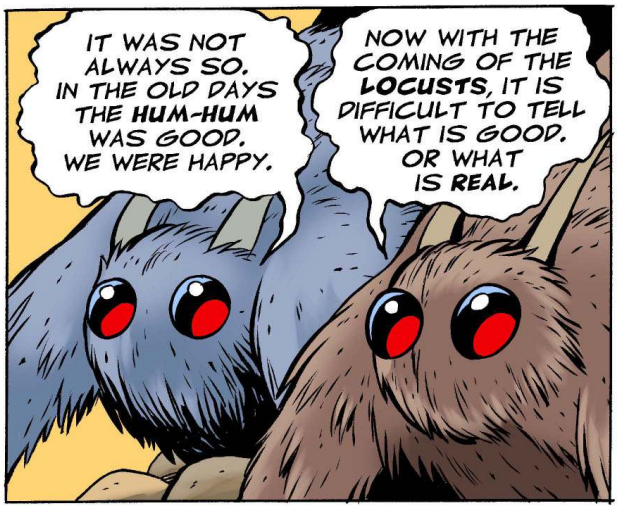

BUT, FONE BONE, THESE TWO CLOWNS CAN'T TAKE CARE OF A LITTLE CUB! THEY CAN'T EVEN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES!
BARTLEBY CAN'T LIVE IN THE VALLEY, SMILEY! HE WON'T BE SAFE!
SAY! SPEAKING OF THE VALLEY-- LOOK OUT THERE!
WHAT?
THAT COLUMN OF SMOKE WE SAW IS GONE! DO YOU THINK TH' FOREST FIRE IS OUT?
I GUESS SO. BUT I'M NOT SO SURE IT WAS A FOREST FIRE . . .
WHAT ELSE COULD IT HAVE BEEN?

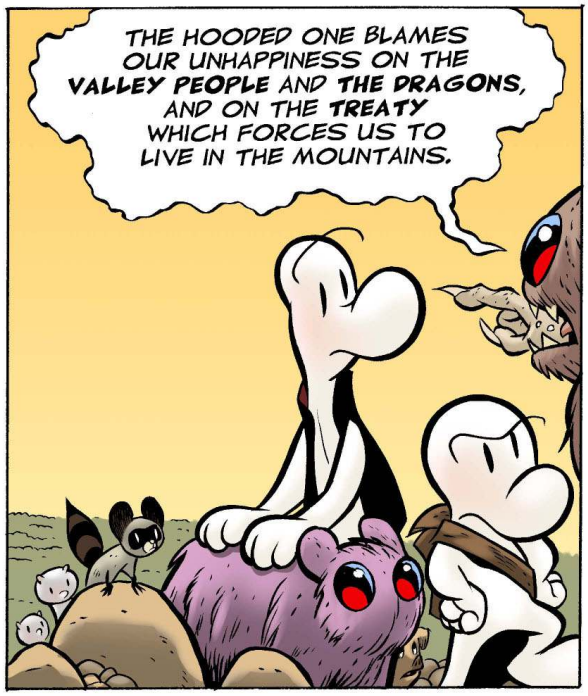

I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE, BUT ALL OF ROCK JAW'S TALK ABOUT WAR IS MAKING ME KIND OF NERVOUS!
ROCK JAW! THAT OL' BLOWHARD! HE WAS SO FULL OF HIMSELF. . .
. . . BUT WE SHOWED THAT GIANT KITTY CAT, DIDN'T WE, KIDS?
YEAH! HA! HA!
I BET HE'S STILL AT THE TOP OF THE CLIFF GUARDIN' THE ENTRANCE TO THAT CAVE!
HEE! HEE! OL' ROCK JAW DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT OUR SECRET TUNNEL DOWN THROUGH THE OLD TEMPLE!
LET'S NOT CONGRATULATE OURSELVES JUST YET.
BESIDES, SMILEY, I'M MUCH MORE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT MAY HAVE HAPPENED IN THE VALLEY WHILE WE WERE AWAY.
OKAY, OKAY. STILL, I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT OL' RASCAL'S FACE WHEN HE REALIZES WE GAVE HIM TH' SLIP!

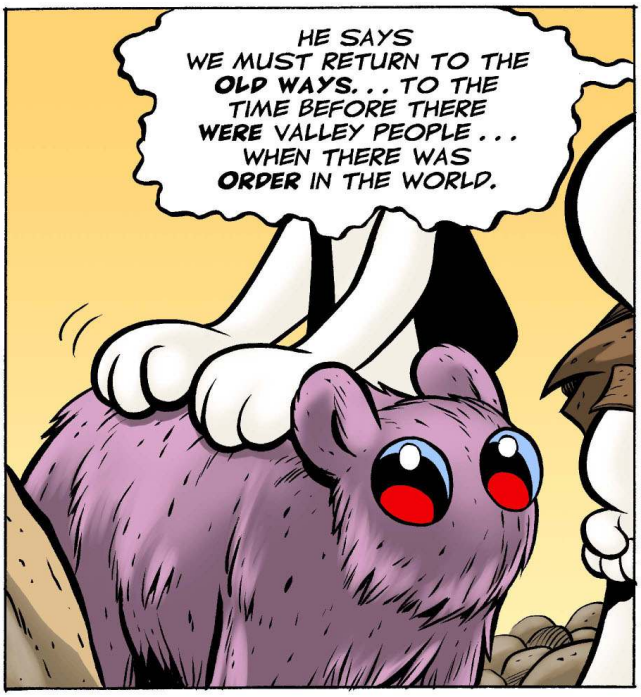

MR. BONE, IF YOU'RE WORRIED THAT SOMETHING MAY HAVE HAPPENED WHILE WE WERE GONE, WHY DON'T YOU ASK THE TWO RATS WE HAVE WITH US?
GOOD IDEA.
HEY, YOU TWO!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THOSE COLUMNS OF SMOKE WE SAW DOWN IN THE VALLEY?
WE KNOW NOTHING! WE ARE ONLY LOWLY FOOT SOLDIERS ON BORDER PATROL!
BORDER PATROL?! THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU WAS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VALLEY! YOU WERE DEEP IN DRAGON TERRITORY!
YES, YESSS, WE WERE BREAKING THE TREATY- - BUT KINGDOK COMMANDED US TO DO IT!
KINGDOK'S ADVISOR, THE HOODED ONE, TOLD HIM THAT A NEW LEADER WAS ENTERING THE VALLEY - - A LEADER WHO BORE A STAR ON HIS CHEST!
KINGDOK SENT US ACROSS THE VALLEY TO THE DRAGON'S STAIR TO CAPTURE THIS UPSTART THREAT!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! OUR COUSIN PHONEY BONE IS NO LEADER! I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT GAVE YOU GUYS THE IDEA HE WAS A THREAT!
ARE YOU SURE KINGDOK DIDN'T HAVE OTHER REASONS FOR SENDING YOU ACROSS THE VALLEY AND VIOLATING THE TREATY?
KINGDOK HATES THE FLAT-LANDERS, IT'S TRUE, BUT THE TIME WAS NOT SO LONG AGO THAT HE WAS CONTENT TO ABIDE BY THE TREATY AND LEAVE THE VALLEY DWELLERS ALONE . . .

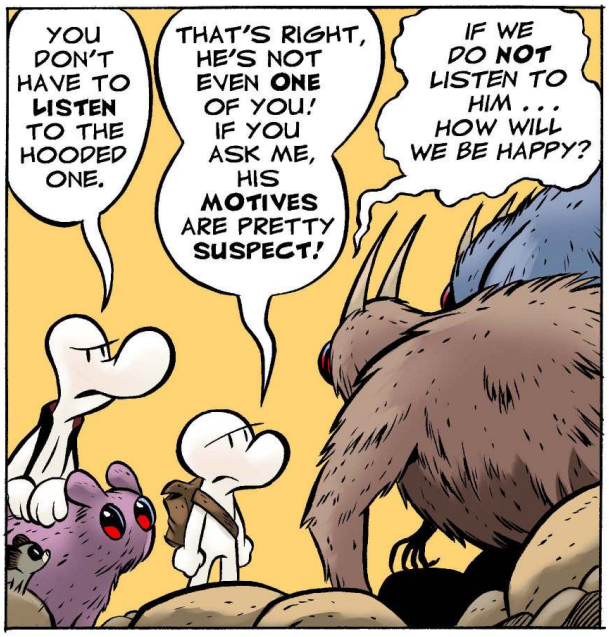

ALL THAT CHANGED WHEN THE HOODED ONE ARRIVED... HE CAME TO US FROM THE VALLEY... ONE OF THE WANDERING HOLY MEN KNOWN AS STICK-EATERS...
...AND WITH HIM CAME THE LOCUSTS AND THE DREAMS!
THE POWER OF THE LOCUSTS IS VERY STRONG!
YOU SAW IT TODAY AT THE OLD TEMPLE! THE DREAMS CAN MAKE YOU BELIEVE THE SKY ITSELF IS FALLING!
WITHOUT THE HOODED ONE TO CONTROL THE LOCUSTS, WE MIGHT ALL BE ROLLING SENSLESSLY ON THE GROUND, MAD AS LOONS!
CRIPES!
HMM.
MORE AND MORE KINGDOK LISTENS TO THIS STICK-EATER AND HIS LOCUSTS.
TO THE POINT THAT KINGDOK MUST OBEY THE HOODED ONE FOR FEAR THAT THE LOCUST WILL OVERWHELM HIM!
WE ALL MUST OBEY!

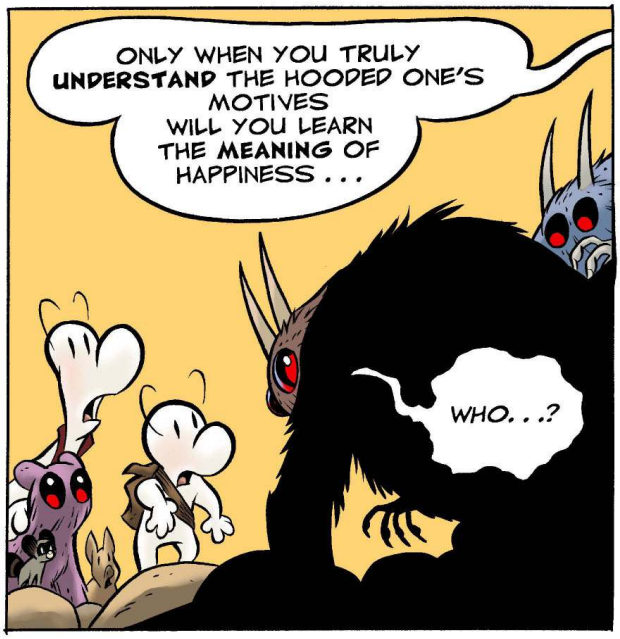

AND THIS IS THE KIND OF LIFE YOU WANT TO SEND LITTLE BARTLEBY BACK TO? SOME KIND OF INSECT CULT?
BARTLEBY IS A RAT CREATURE, SMILEY! IF THIS IS WHAT RAT CREATURES BELIEVE, THEN WHO ARE WE TO JUDGE?

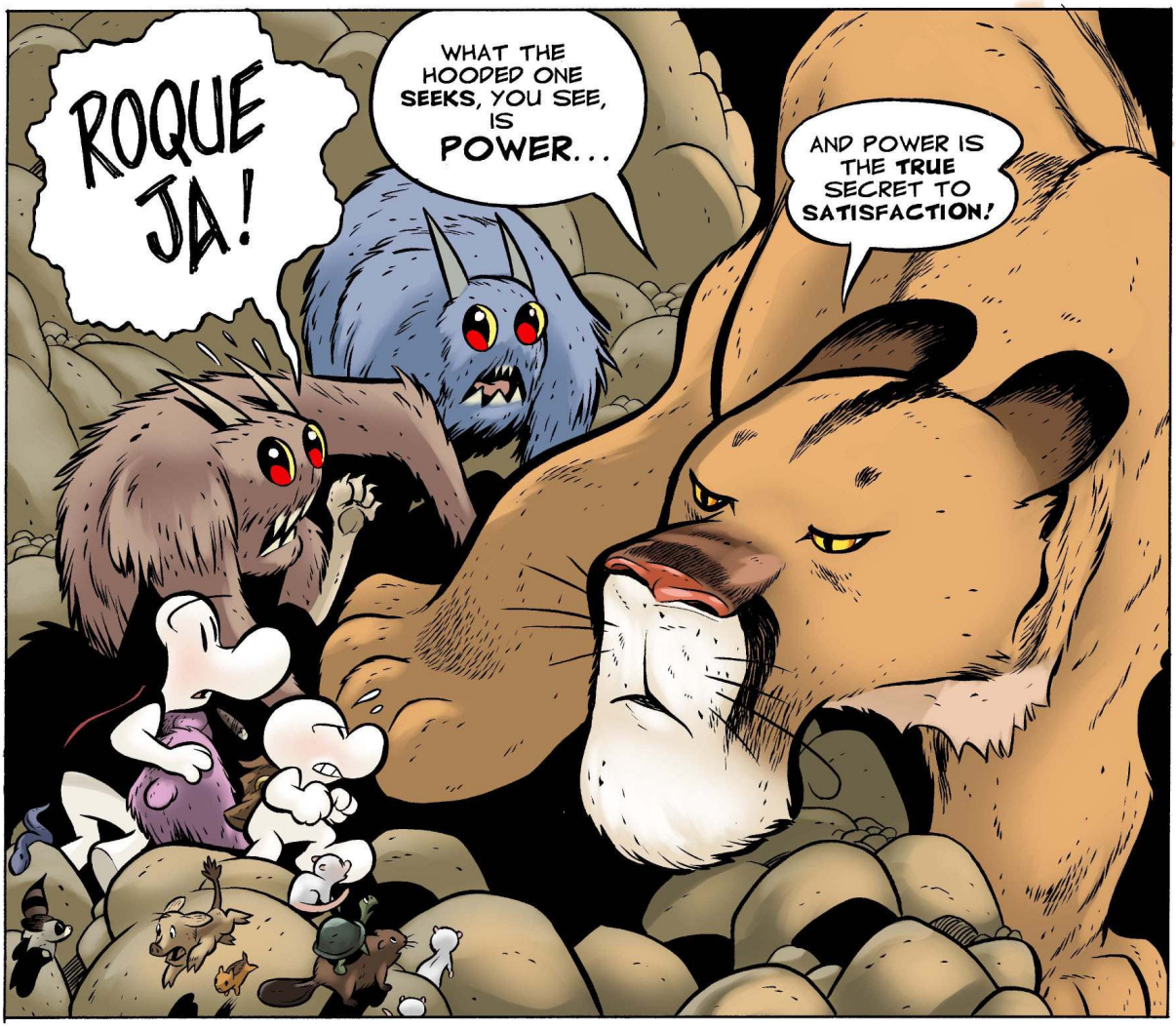

IT WAS NOT ALWAYS SO. IN THE OLD DAYS THE HUM-HUM WAS GOOD. WE WERE HAPPY.
NOW WITH THE COMING OF THE LOCUSTS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO TELL WHAT IS GOOD. OR WHAT IS REAL.


THE HOODED ONE BLAMES OUR UNHAPPINESS ON THE VALLEY PEOPLE AND THE DRAGONS, AND ON THE TREATY WHICH FORCES US TO LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS.

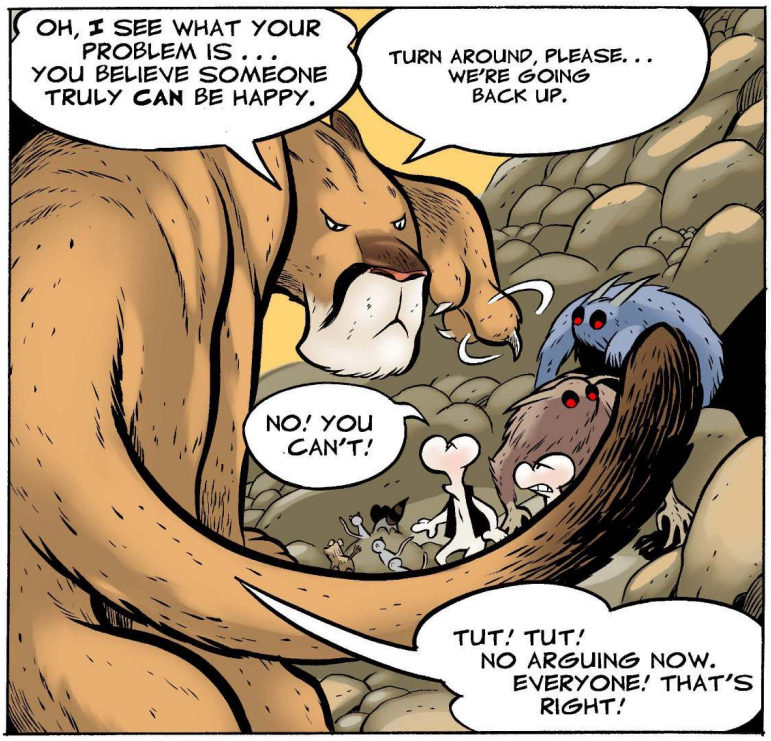

HE SAYS WE MUST RETURN TO THE OLD WAYS... TO THE TIME BEFORE THERE WERE VALLEY PEOPLE... WHEN THERE WAS ORDER IN THE WORLD.


YOU DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO THE HOODED ONE.
THAT'S RIGHT, HE'S NOT EVEN ONE OF YOU! IF YOU ASK ME, HIS MOTIVES ARE PRETTY SUSPECT!
IF WE DO NOT LISTEN TO HIM... HOW WILL WE BE HAPPY?

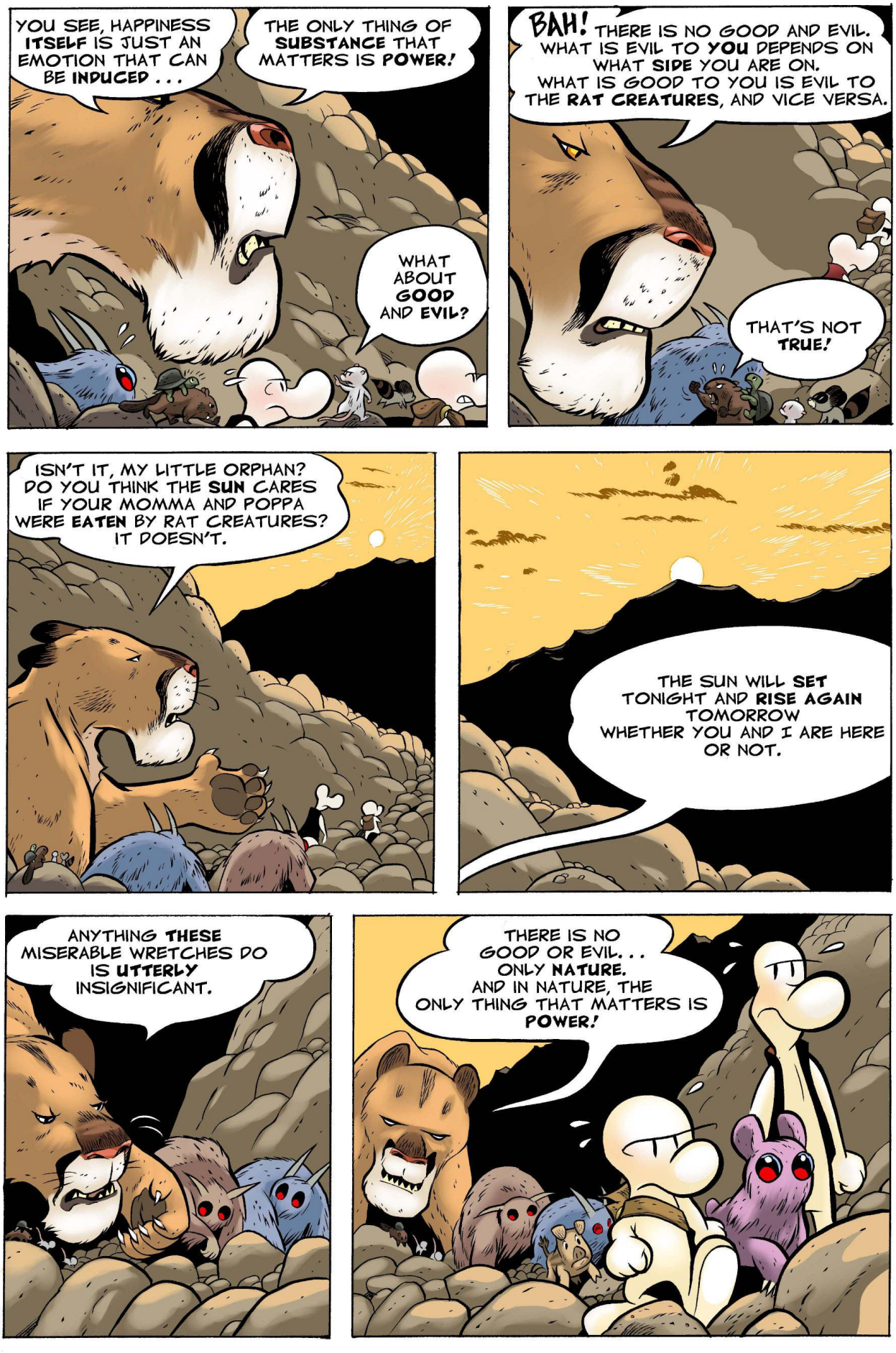

ONLY WHEN YOU TRULY UNDERSTAND THE HOODED ONE'S MOTIVES WILL YOU LEARN THE MEANING OF HAPPINESS...
WHO...?

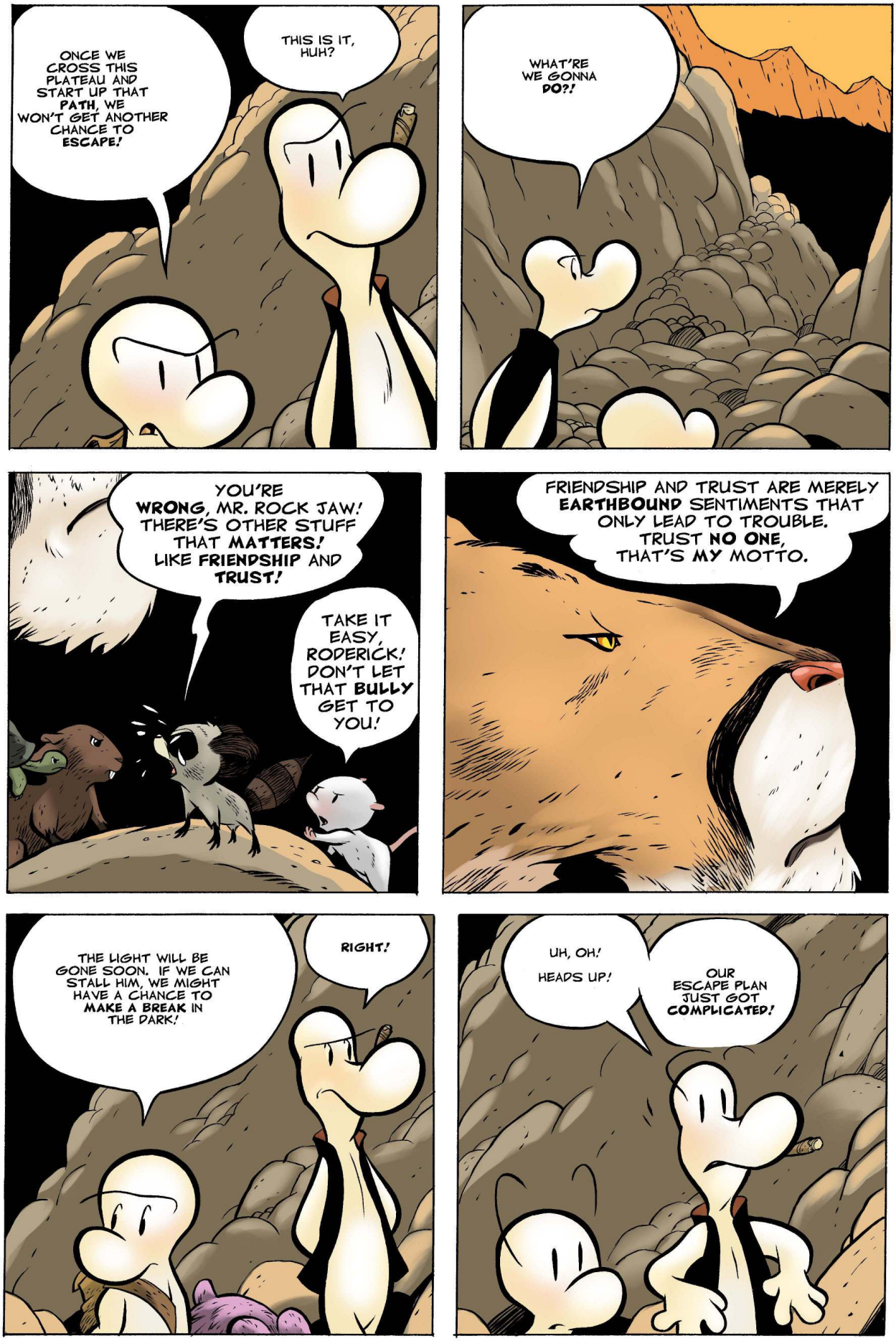


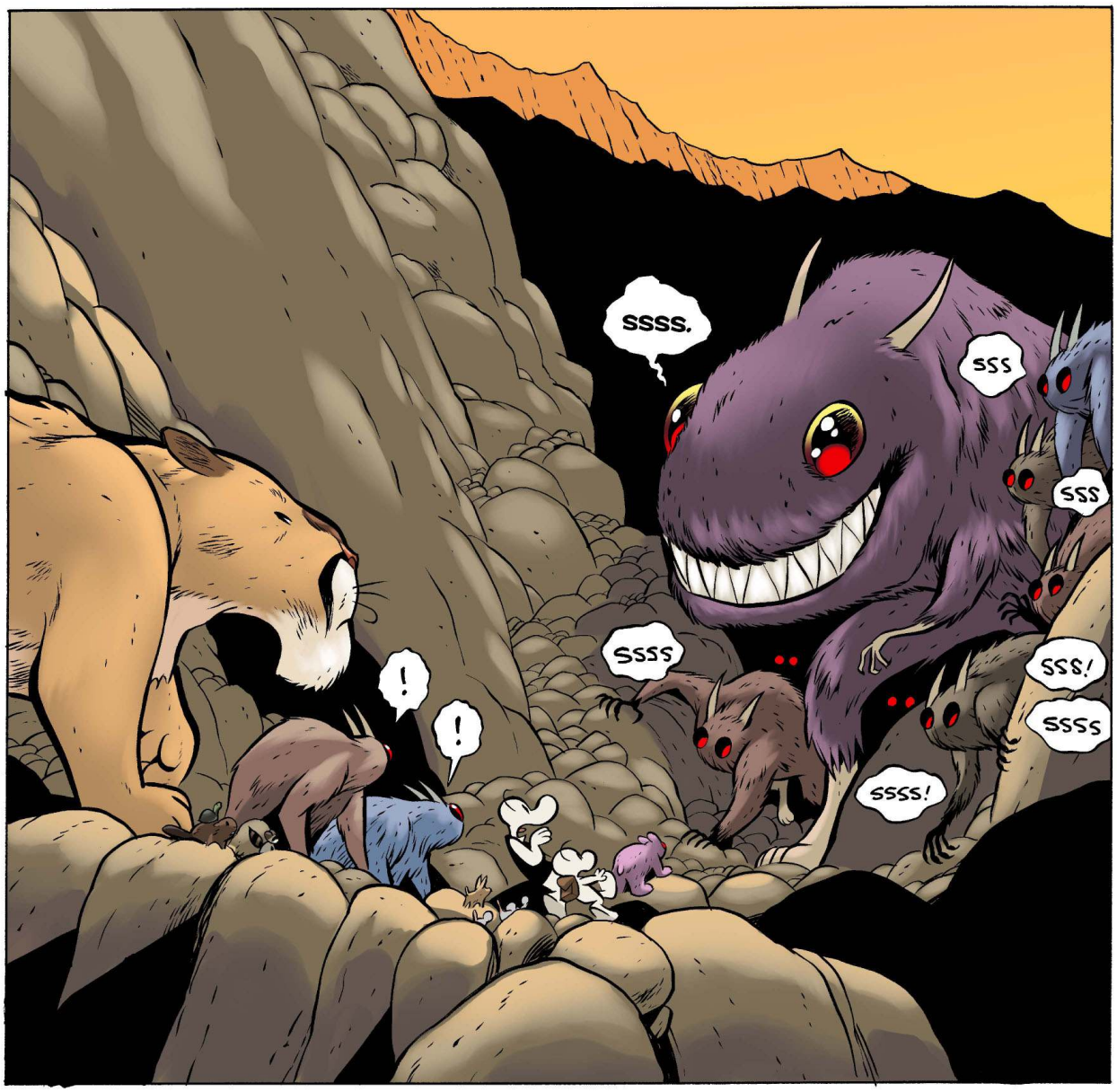




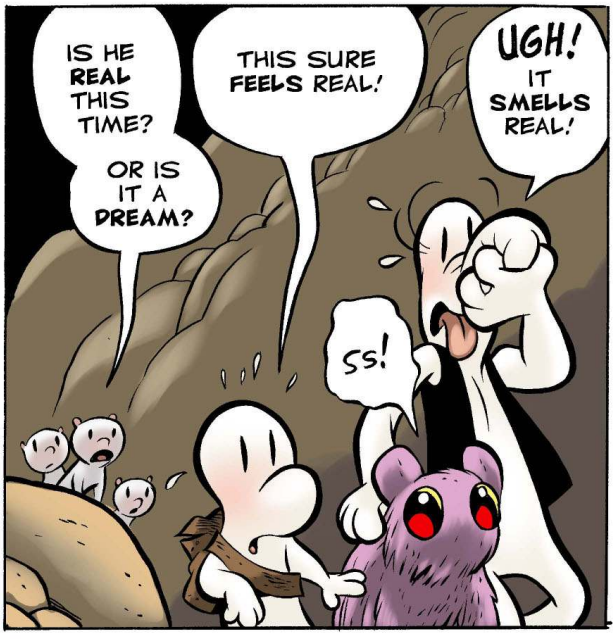
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


YOU SEE, HAPPINESS ITSELF IS JUST AN EMOTION THAT CAN BE INDUCED . . .
THE ONLY THING OF SUBSTANCE THAT MATTERS IS POWER!
WHAT ABOUT GOOD AND EVIL?
BAH! THERE IS NO GOOD AND EVIL. WHAT IS EVIL TO YOU DEPENDS ON WHAT SIDE YOU ARE ON. WHAT IS GOOD TO YOU IS EVIL TO THE RAT CREATURES, AND VICE VERSA.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
ISN'T IT, MY LITTLE ORPHAN? DO YOU THINK THE SUN CARES IF YOUR MOMMA AND POPPA WERE EATEN BY RAT CREATURES? IT DOESN'T.
THE SUN WILL SET TONIGHT AND RISE AGAIN TOMORROW WHETHER YOU AND I ARE HERE OR NOT.
ANYTHING THESE MISERABLE WRETCHES DO IS UTTERLY INSIGNIFICANT.
THERE IS NO GOOD OR EVIL. . . ONLY NATURE. AND IN NATURE, THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IS POWER!

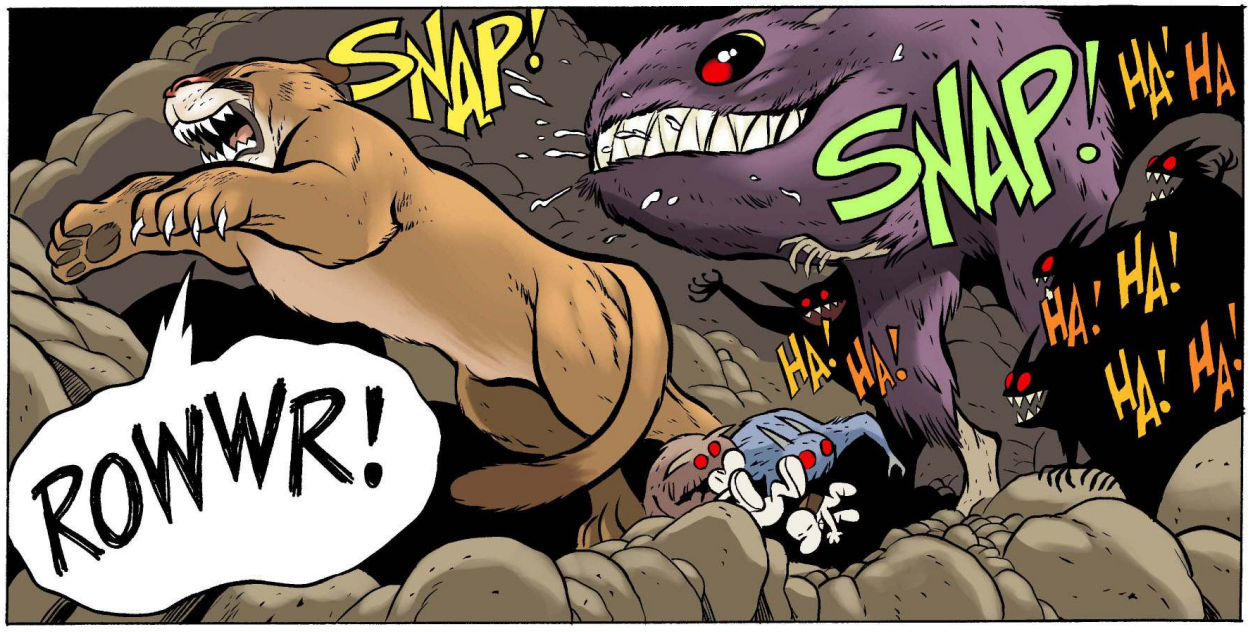

ONCE WE CROSS THIS PLATEAU AND START UP THAT PATH, WE WON'T GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
THIS IS IT, HUH?
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!
YOU'RE WRONG, MR. ROCK JAW! THERE'S OTHER STUFF THAT MATTERS! LIKE FRIENDSHIP AND TRUST!
TAKE IT EASY, RODERICK! DON'T LET THAT BULLY GET TO YOU!
FRIENDSHIP AND TRUST ARE MERELY EARTHBOUND SENTIMENTS THAT ONLY LEAD TO TROUBLE. TRUST NO ONE, THAT'S MY MOTTO.
THE LIGHT WILL BE GONE SOON. IF WE CAN STALL HIM, WE MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE TO MAKE A BREAK IN THE DARK!
RIGHT!
UH, OH! HEADS UP!
OUR ESCAPE PLAN JUST GOT COMPLICATED!

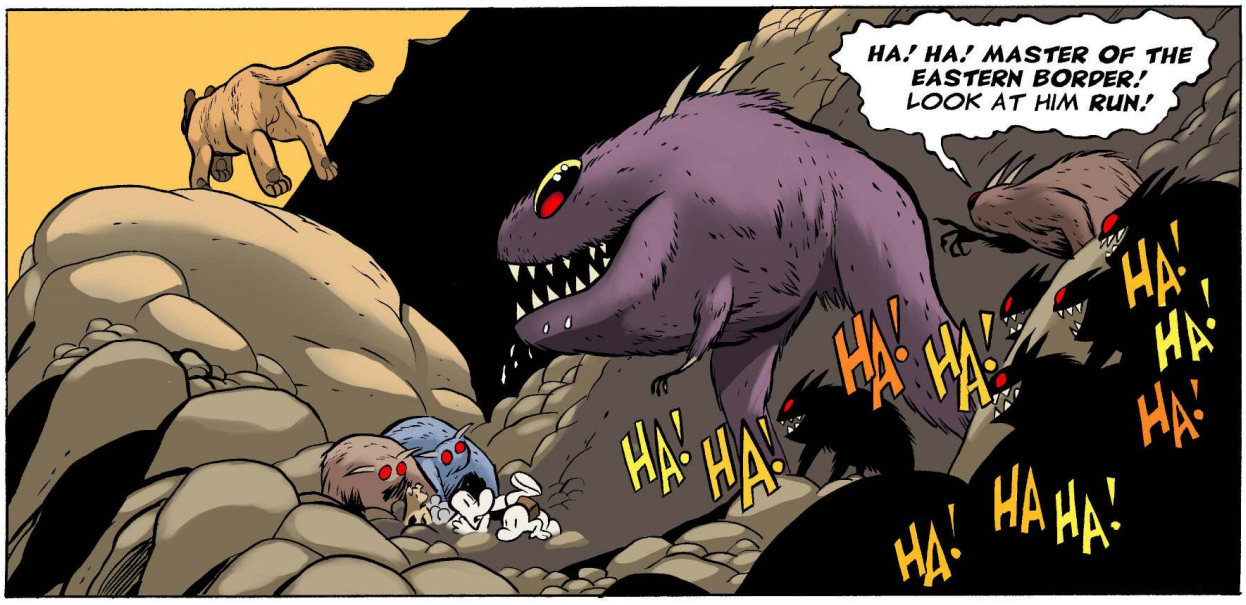

SSSS.
SSS
SSS
SSSS
SSS!
SSSS
SSSS!
!
!

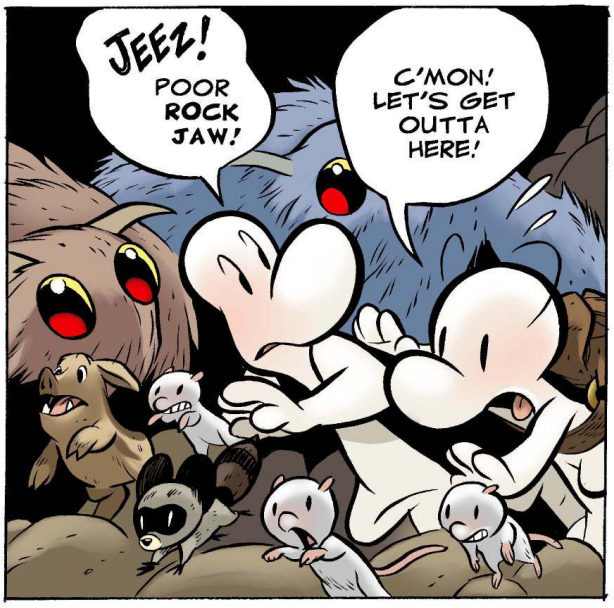

IT'S KINGDOK!
OH, WE ARE IN BIG, BIG TROUBLE.


IS HE REAL THIS TIME?
OR IS IT A DREAM?
THIS SURE FEELS REAL!
UGH! IT SMELLS REAL!
SS!

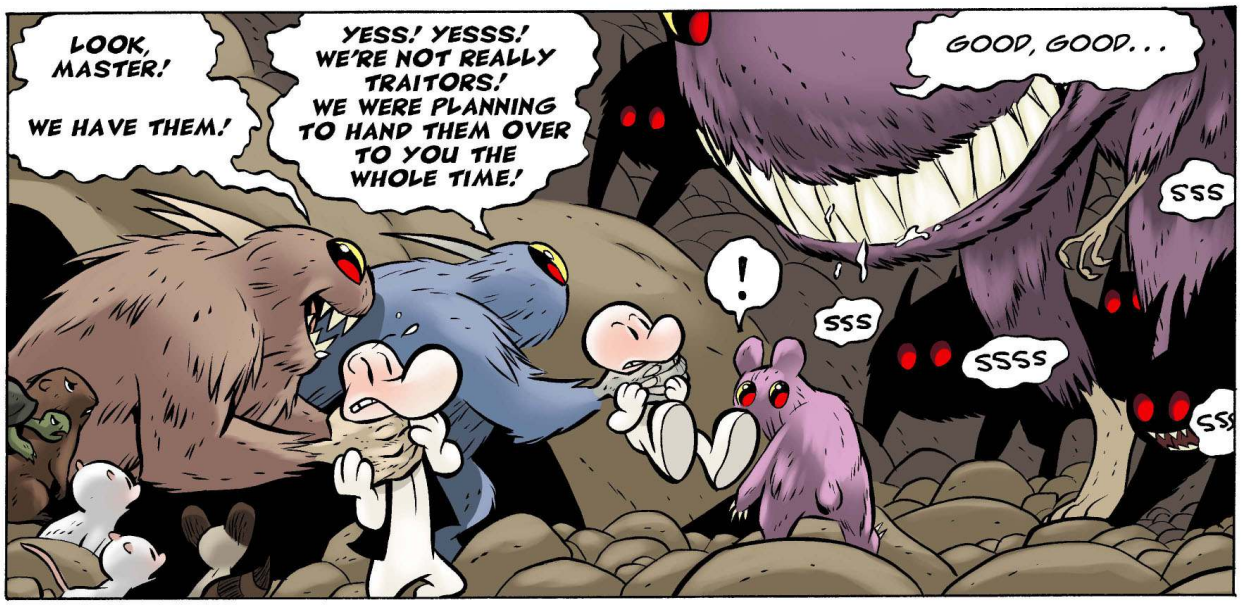

HAIL, KINGDOK.
RRRRR.
SSSSSS...
SSS!
TURN YOUR PRISONERS OVER TO US IMMEDIATELY!
TAKE THEM.
I WAS BRINGING THEM TO YOU ANYWAY!
WERE YOU.
PERHAPS YOU WERE EXPECTING A REWARD...?
WELL...
HERE IS YOUR REWARD!
SNAP! SNAP!
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!


SNAP!
SNAP!
HA! HA
ROWWR!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!


HA! HA! MASTER OF THE EASTERN BORDER! LOOK AT HIM RUN!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!
HA! HA HA!


JEEZ! POOR ROCK JAW!
C'MON! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!


HOLD IT!
OOK!
GRK!

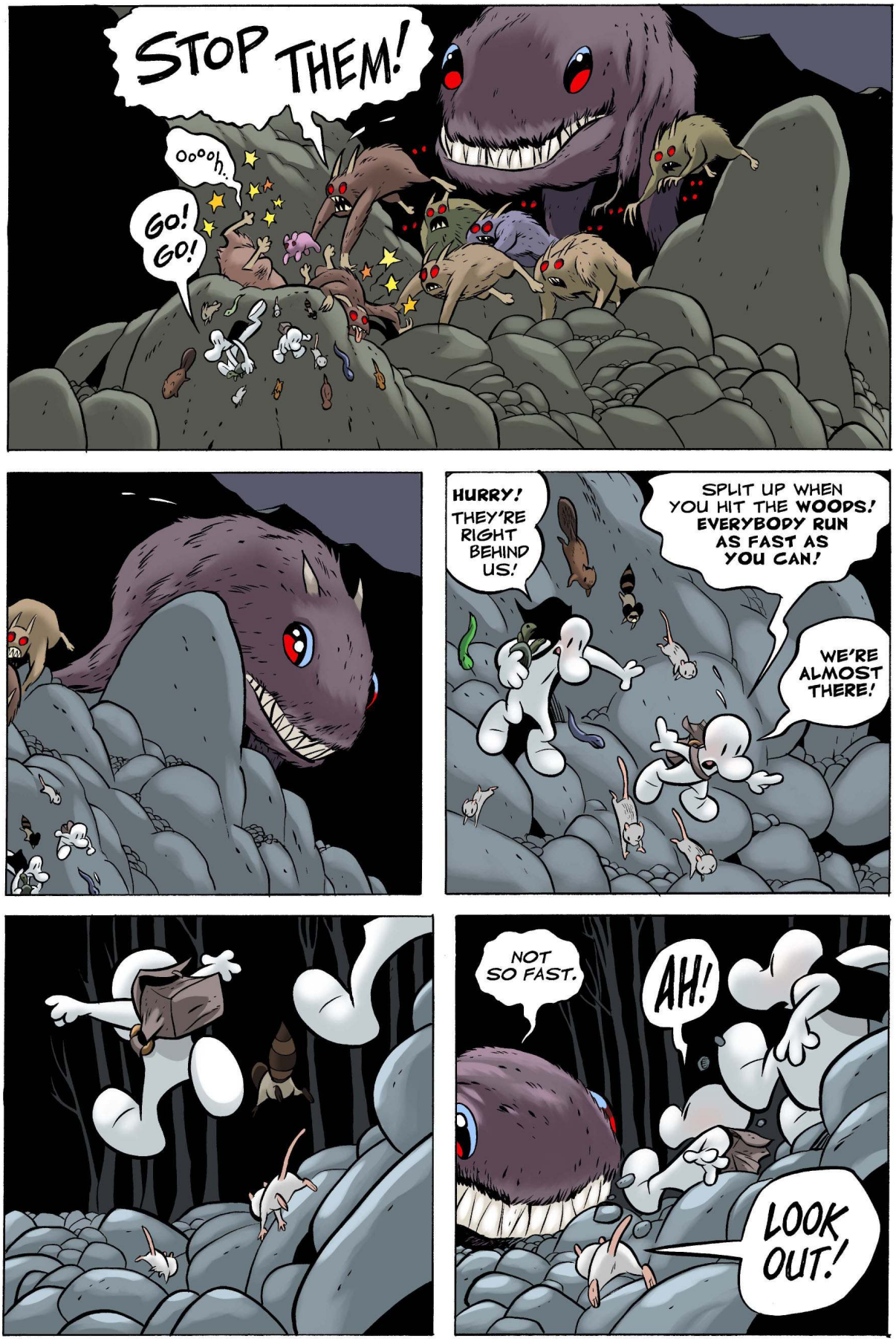

LOOK, MASTER!
WE HAVE THEM!
YESS! YESSS! WE'RE NOT REALLY TRAITORS! WE WERE PLANNING TO HAND THEM OVER TO YOU THE WHOLE TIME!
GOOD, GOOD...
!
SSS
SSSS
SSS


QUICKLY! WE MUST BRING THEM BEFORE THE HOODED ONE!
THOSE DIRTY RATS!
GRR!
LET'S GO! THAT'S ALL I CAN TAKE!

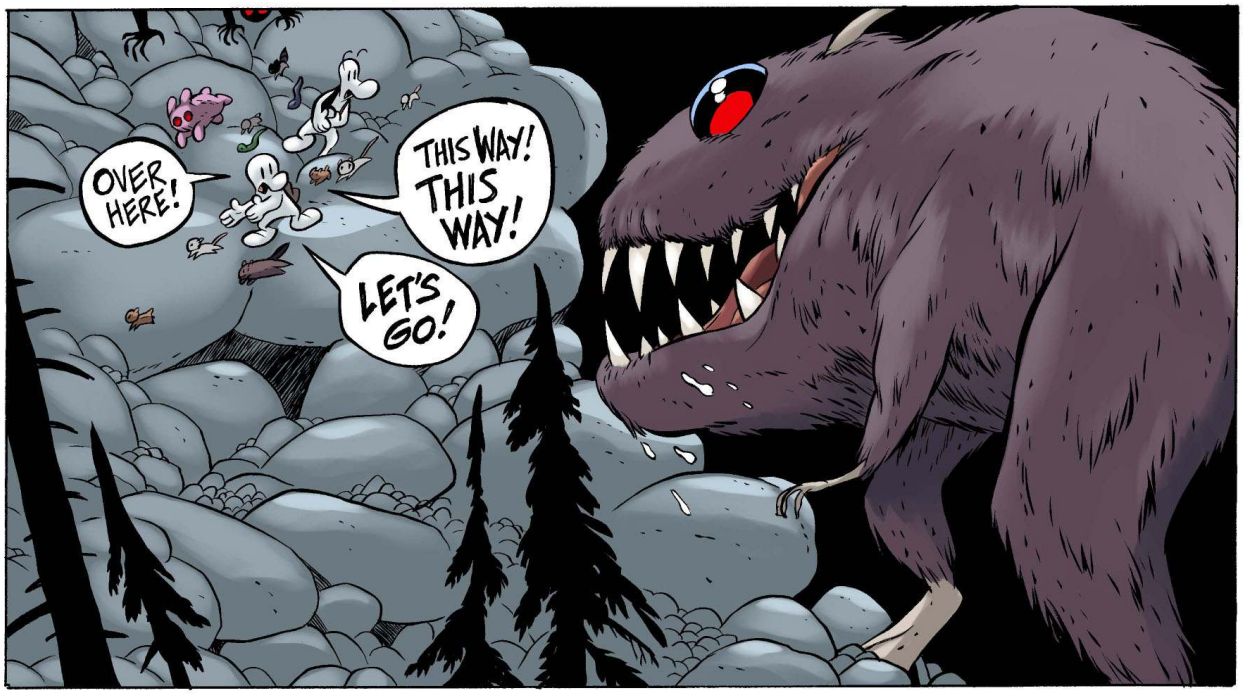

CRUNCH!
AAIEE!
CHOMP!

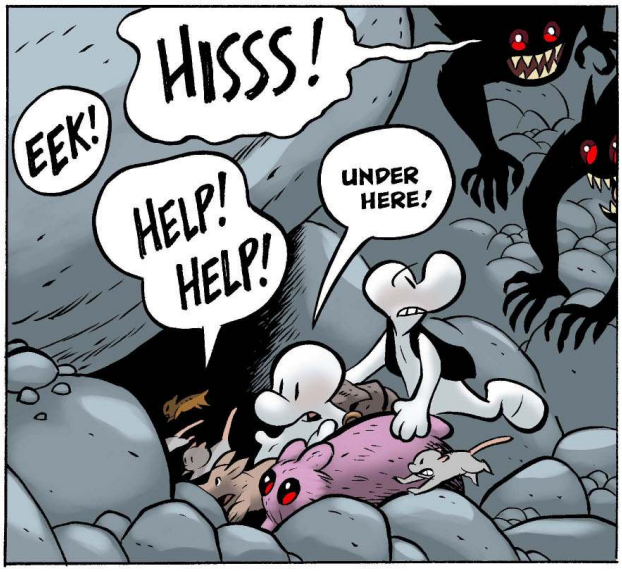

AIII!
EEK!
BITE!
CRUNCH!
CHOMP!

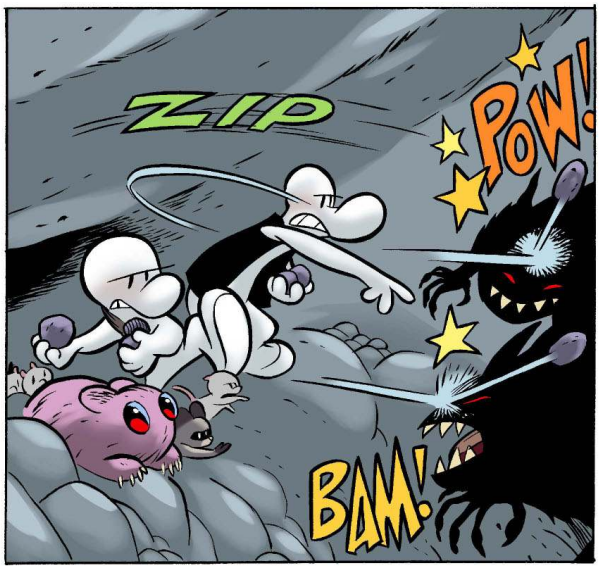

RUN, YOU GUYS!
IT'S NOW OR NEVER!

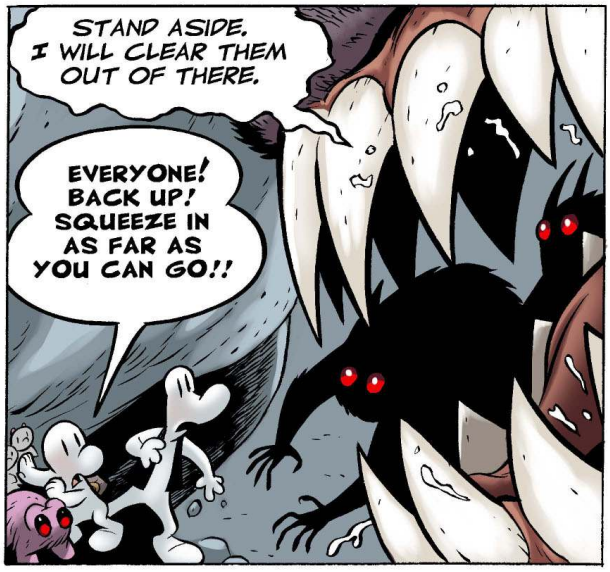


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

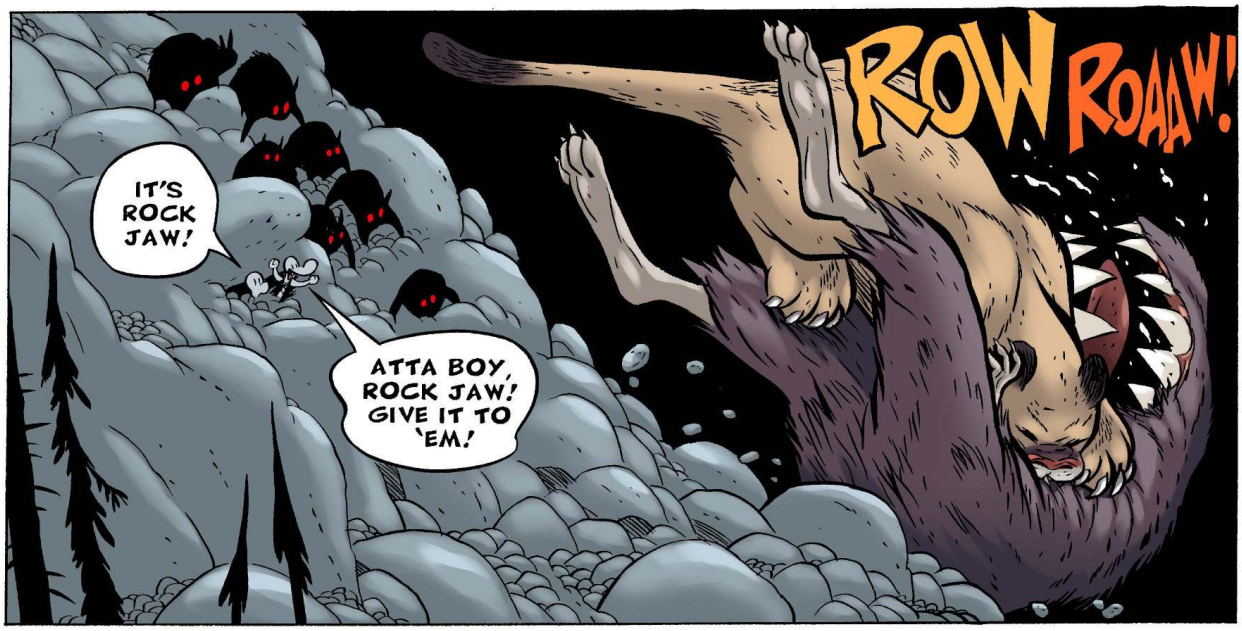

OVER HERE!
THIS WAY! THIS WAY!
LET'S GO!


EEK!
HISSS!
HELP! HELP!
UNDER HERE!

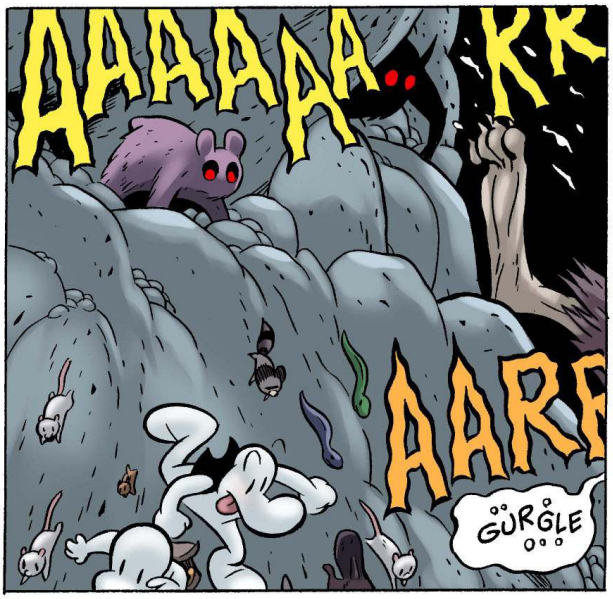

ZIP
POW!
BAM!

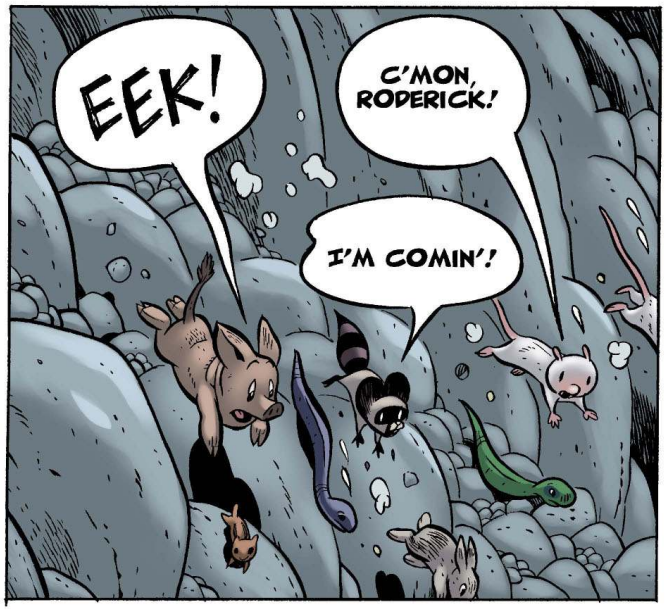

STAND ASIDE. I WILL CLEAR THEM OUT OF THERE.
EVERYONE! BACK UP! SQUEEZE IN AS FAR AS YOU CAN GO!!


RROWWWR
WUMP
ERR-
!
?!

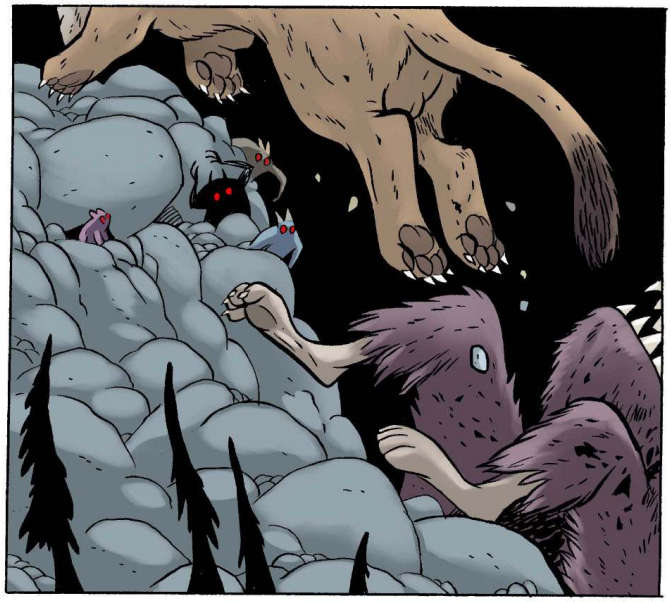

ROW ROAAW!
IT'S ROCK JAW!
ATTA BOY, ROCK JAW! GIVE IT TO 'EM!


AAAARR
RUN FOR TH' TREES!
MOVE IT! THIS TIME WE'RE GOIN' HOME FOR REAL!


AAAAAA..
KK
AARR
GURGLE


EEK!
C'MON, RODERICK!
I'M COMIN'!


WE MADE IT!
SPREAD OUT!
RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN!



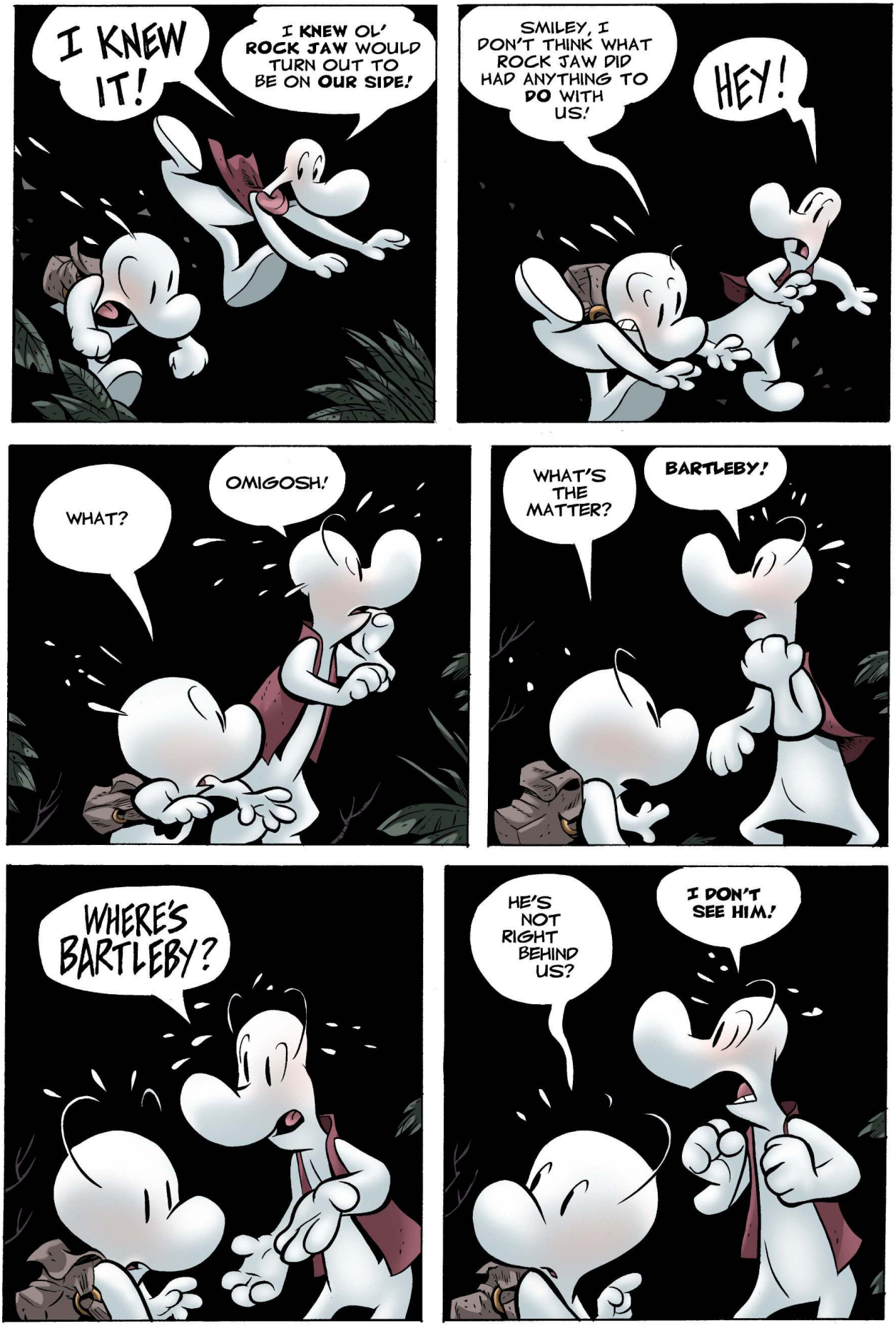


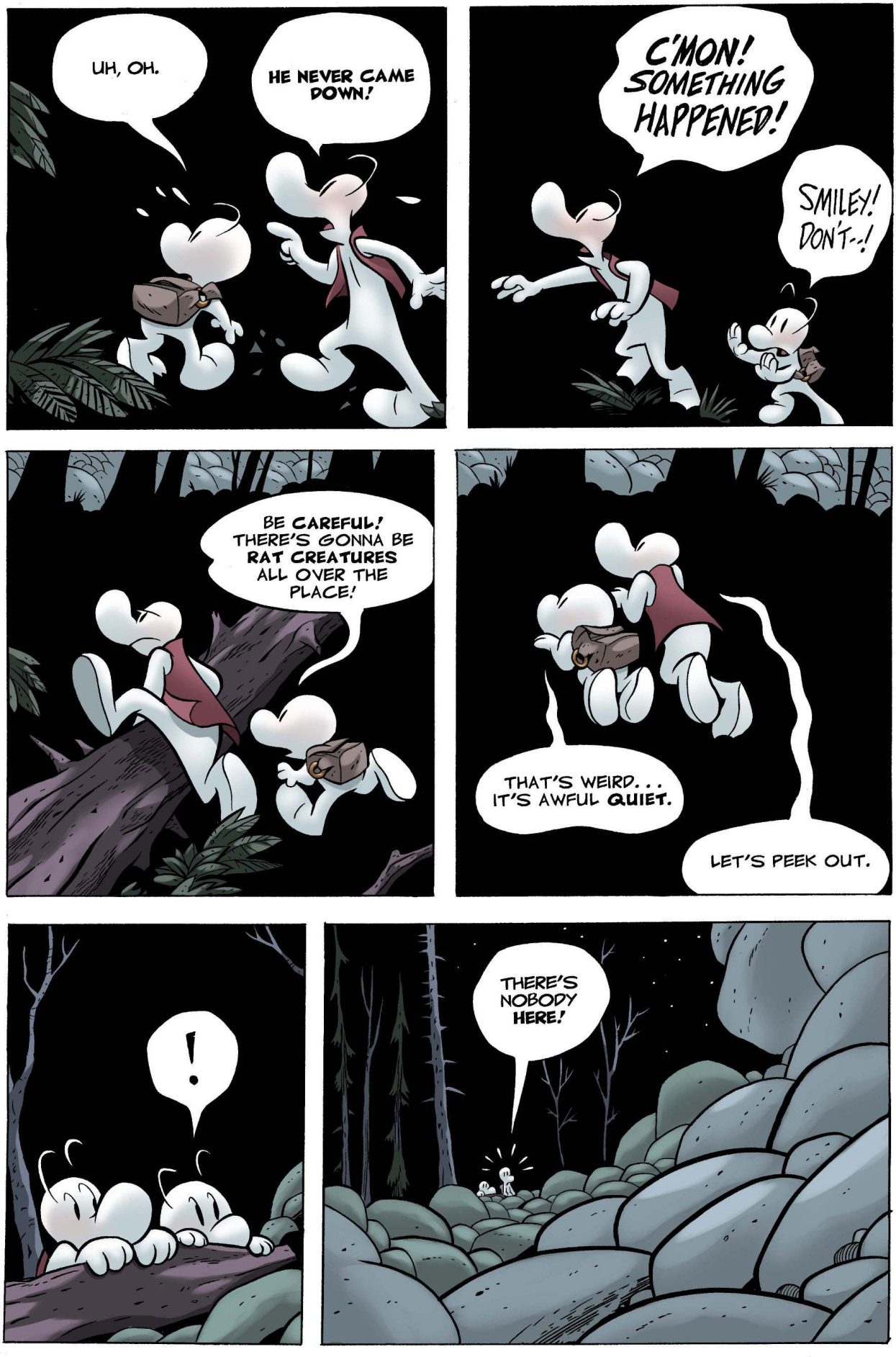

GOOD-BYE, 'POSSUMS! I'LL MISS YOU!
AREN'T YOU COMING WITH US?

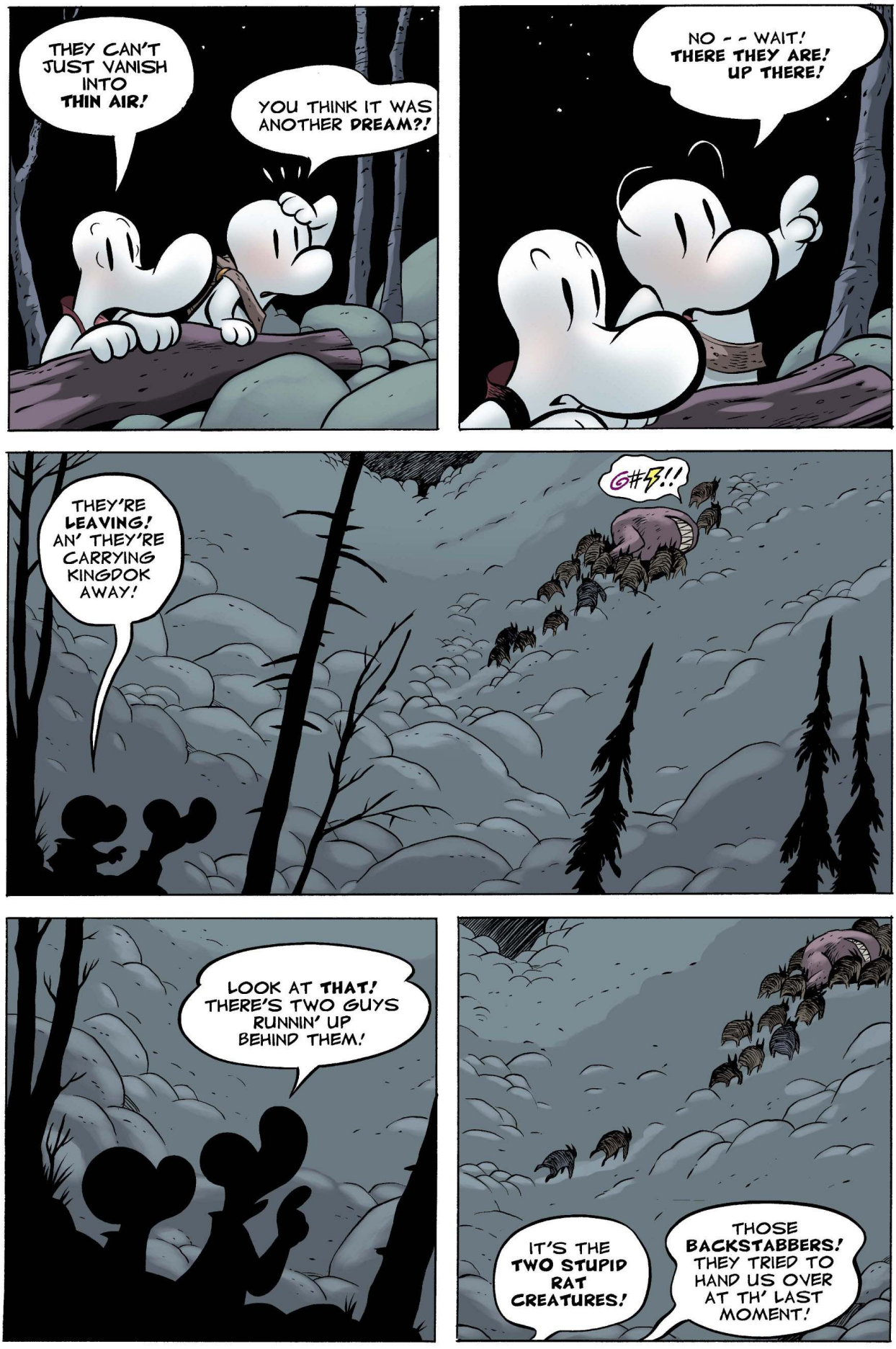

NO, I LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS. I'M STAYING HERE
THEN GOOD LUCK, RODERICK! THANKS FOR THE ADVENTURE!
YEAH, WE HAD A GREAT TIME!

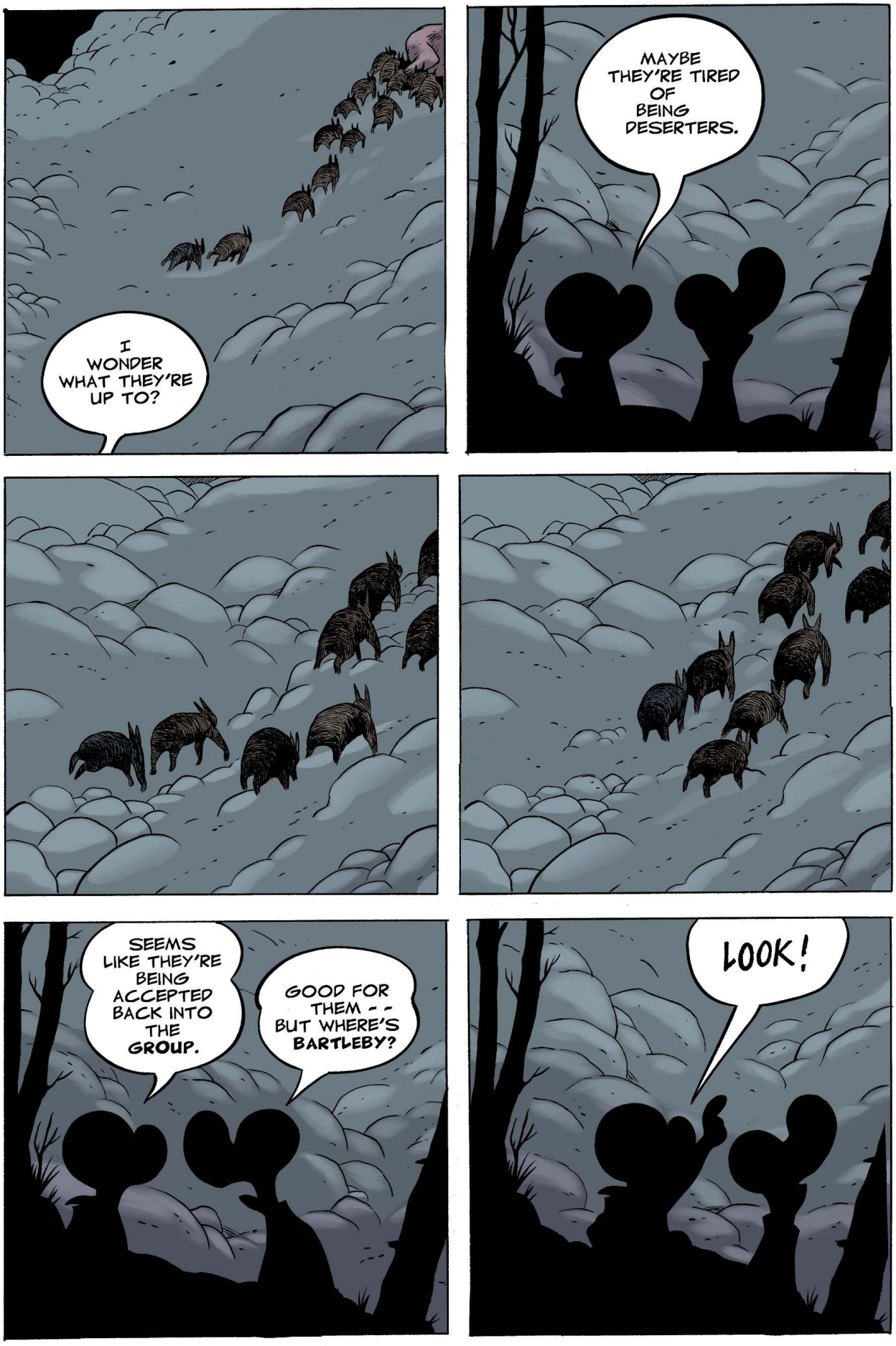

HEY, YOU DORKS! YOU BETTER BREAK IT UP AN' GO HOME, OR YOU'RE GONNA BE SOMEBODY'S SUPPER!

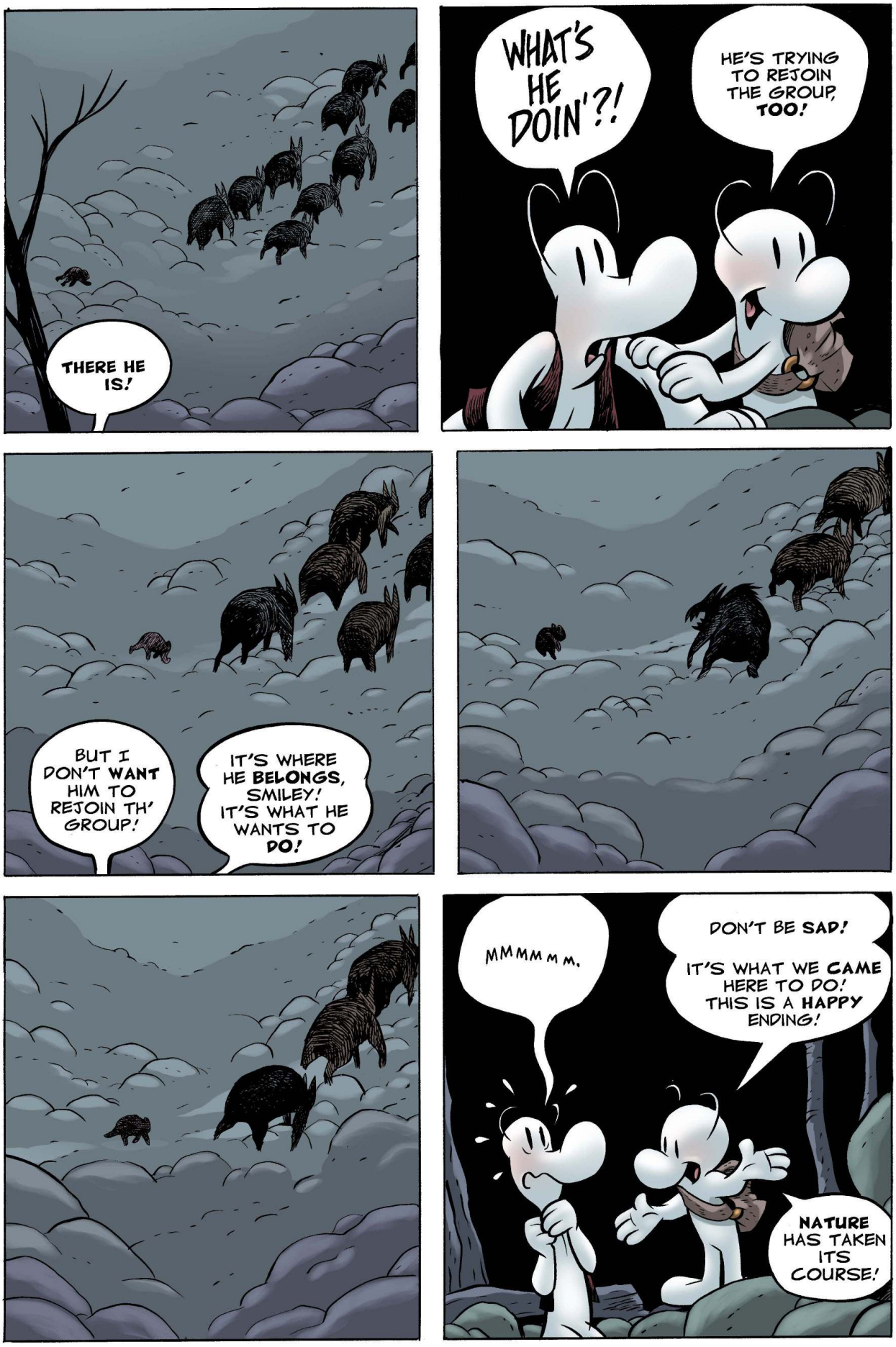

GOODBYE FOR NOW! COME BACK TO TH' MOUNTAINS AN' VISIT ME!
WE WILL, RODERICK! GOODBYE!
GOODBYE!
GOODBYE!


I KNEW IT!
I KNEW OL' ROCK JAW WOULD TURN OUT TO BE ON OUR SIDE!
SMILEY, I DON'T THINK WHAT ROCK JAW DID HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH US!
HEY!
WHAT?
OMIGOSH!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
BARTLEBY!
WHERE'S BARTLEBY?
HE'S NOT RIGHT BEHIND US?
I DON'T SEE HIM!

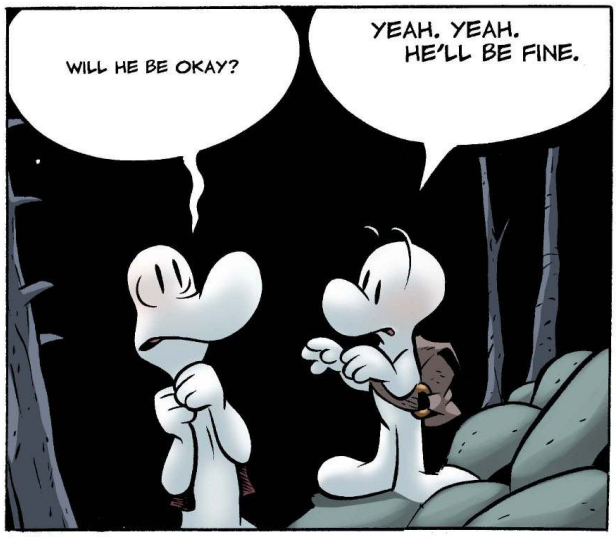

UH, OH.
HE NEVER CAME DOWN!
C'MON! SOMETHING HAPPENED!
SMILEY! DON'T-!
BE CAREFUL! THERE'S GONNA BE RAT CREATURES ALL OVER THE PLACE!
THAT'S WEIRD... IT'S AWFUL QUIET.
LET'S PEEK OUT.
!
THERE'S NOBODY HERE!

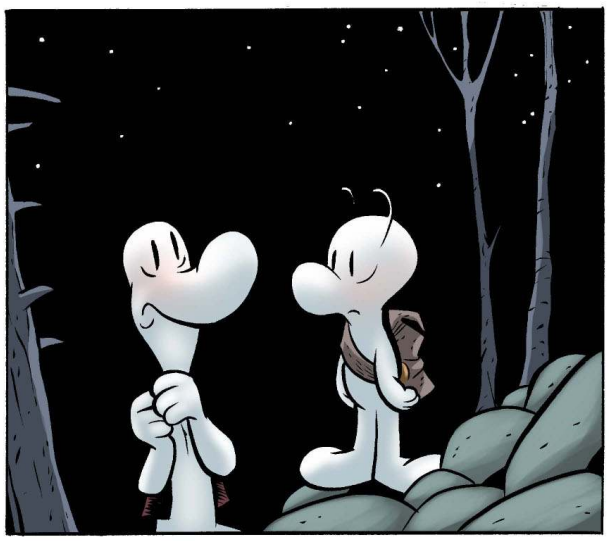

THEY CAN'T JUST VANISH INTO THIN AIR!
YOU THINK IT WAS ANOTHER DREAM?!
NO - - WAIT! THERE THEY ARE! UP THERE!
THEY'RE LEAVING! AN' THEY'RE CARRYING KINGDOK AWAY!
G#$!!
LOOK AT THAT! THERE'S TWO GUYS RUNNIN' UP BEHIND THEM!
IT'S THE TWO STUPID RAT CREATURES!
THOSE BACKSTABBERS! THEY TRIED TO HAND US OVER AT TH' LAST MOMENT!

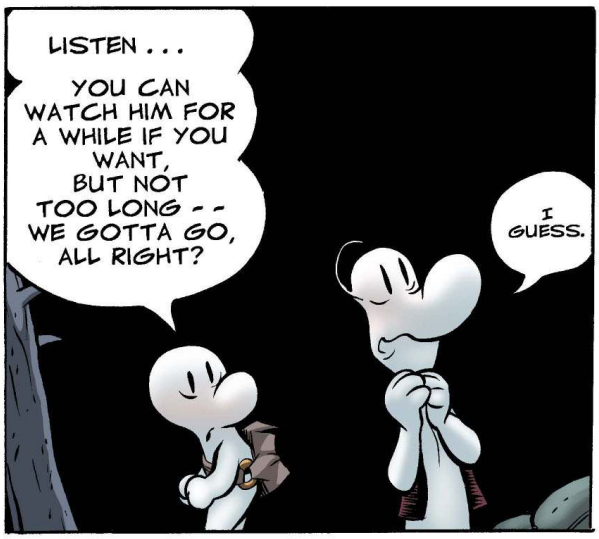

I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE UP TO?
MAYBE THEY'RE TIRED OF BEING DESERTERS.
SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE BEING ACCEPTED BACK INTO THE GROUP.
GOOD FOR THEM -- BUT WHERE'S BARTLEBY?
LOOK!

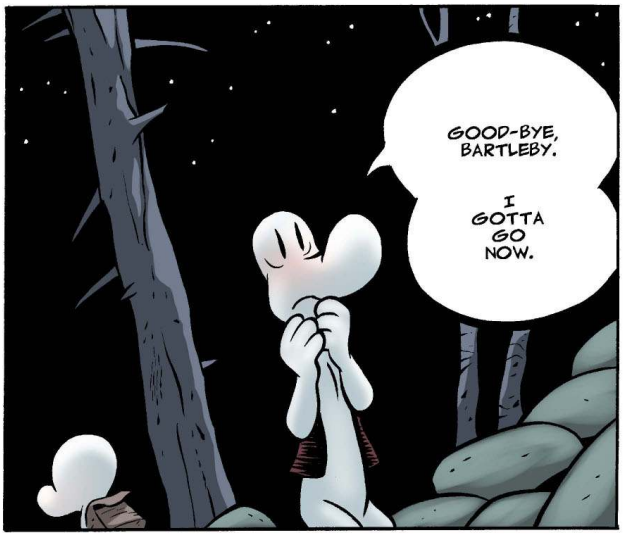

THERE HE IS!
WHAT'S HE DOIN'?!
HE'S TRYING TO REJOIN THE GROUP, TOO!
BUT I DON'T WANT HIM TO REJOIN TH' GROUP!
IT'S WHERE HE BELONGS, SMILEY! IT'S WHAT HE WANTS TO DO!
MMMMMM.
DON'T BE SAD!
IT'S WHAT WE CAME HERE TO DO! THIS IS A HAPPY ENDING!
NATURE HAS TAKEN ITS COURSE!

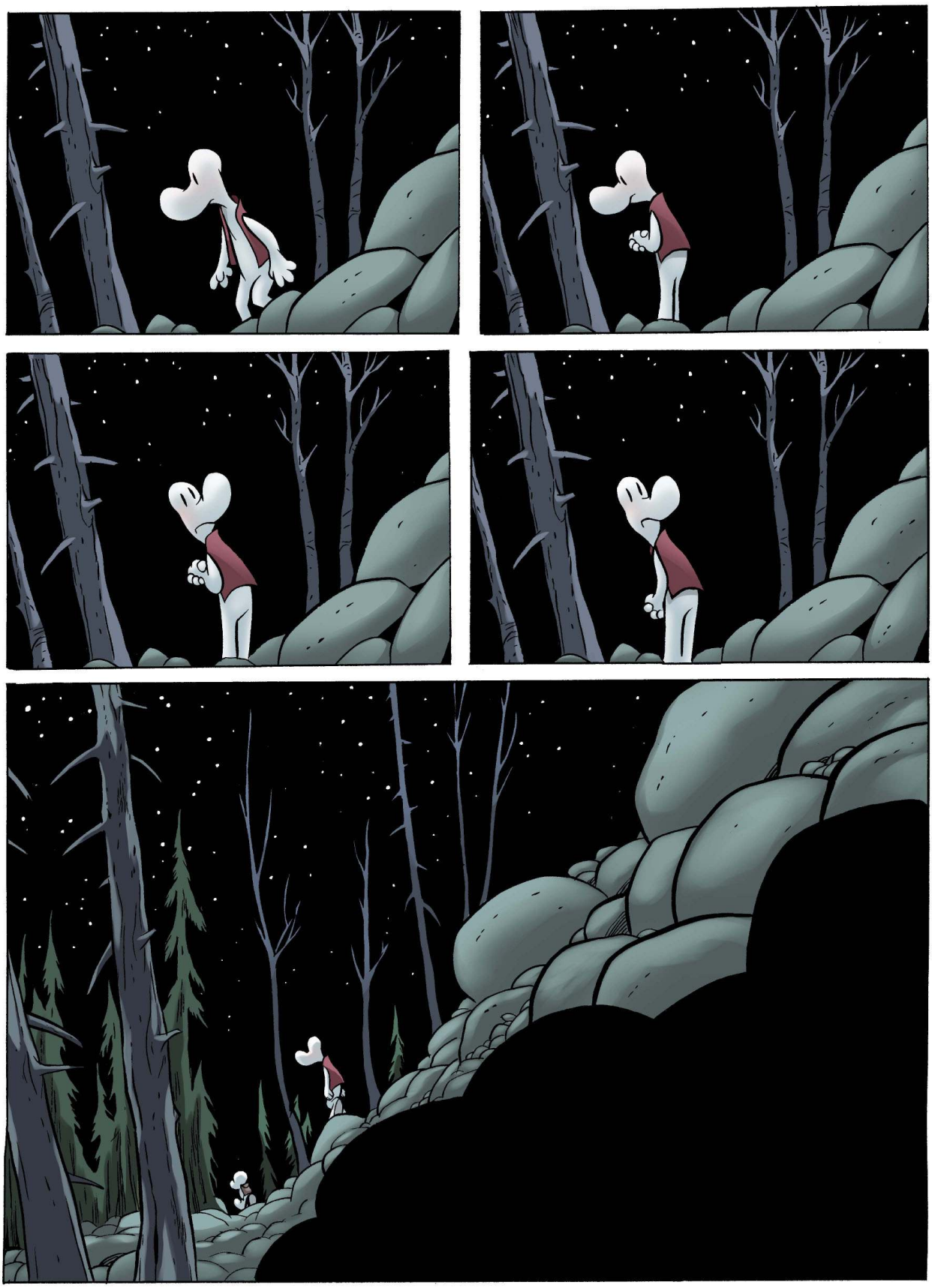


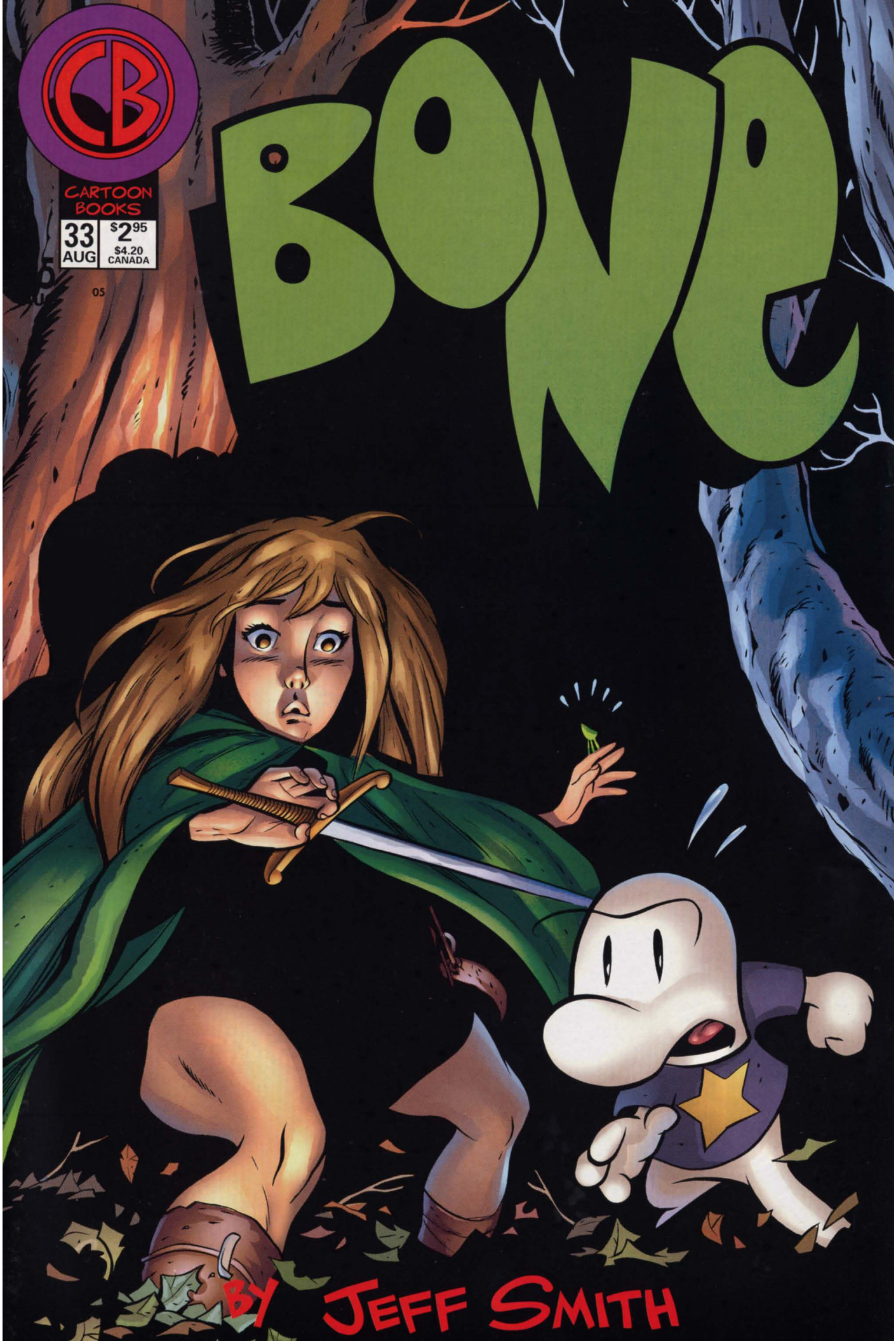

WILL HE BE OKAY?
YEAH. YEAH. HE'LL BE FINE.

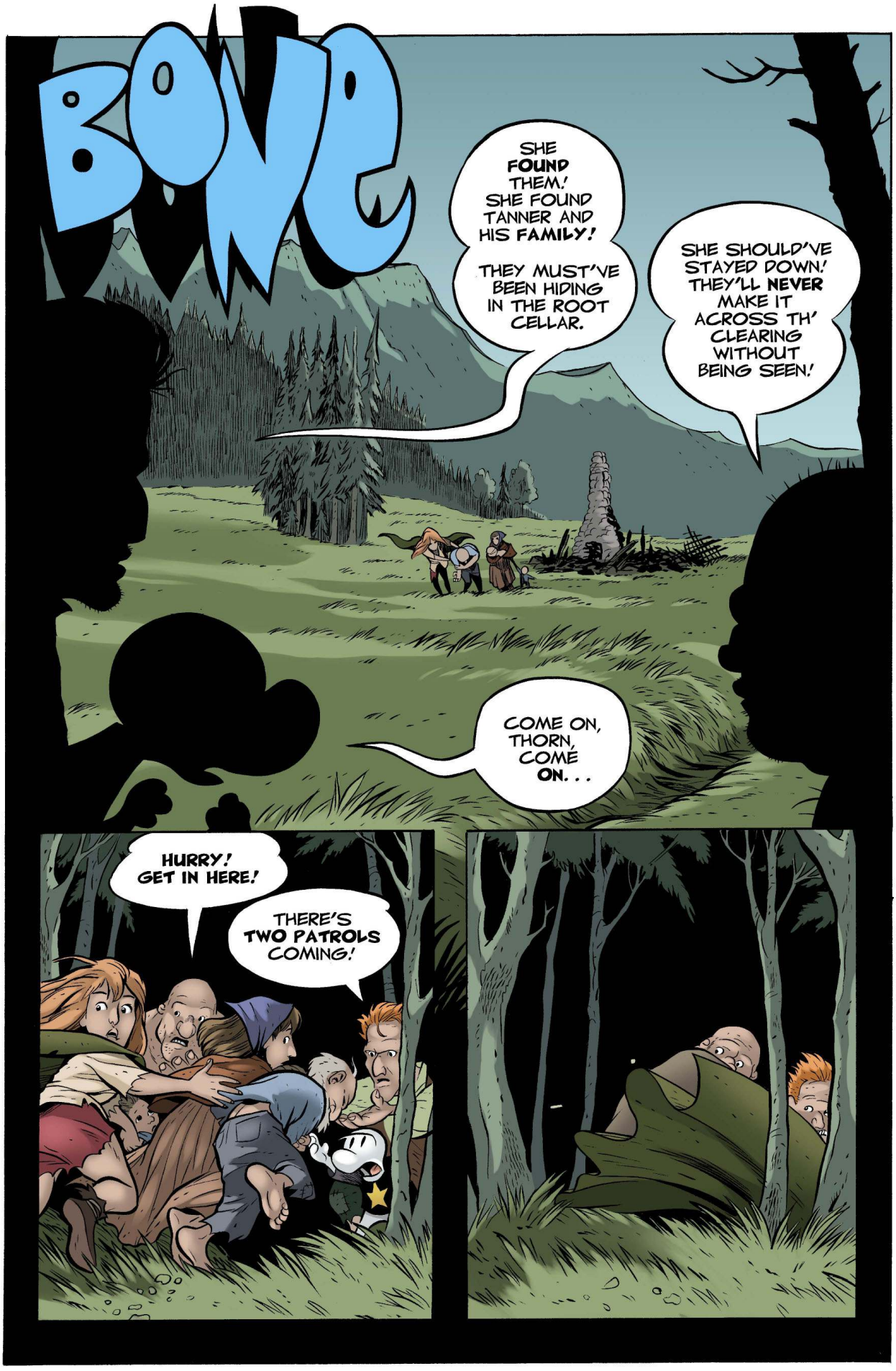


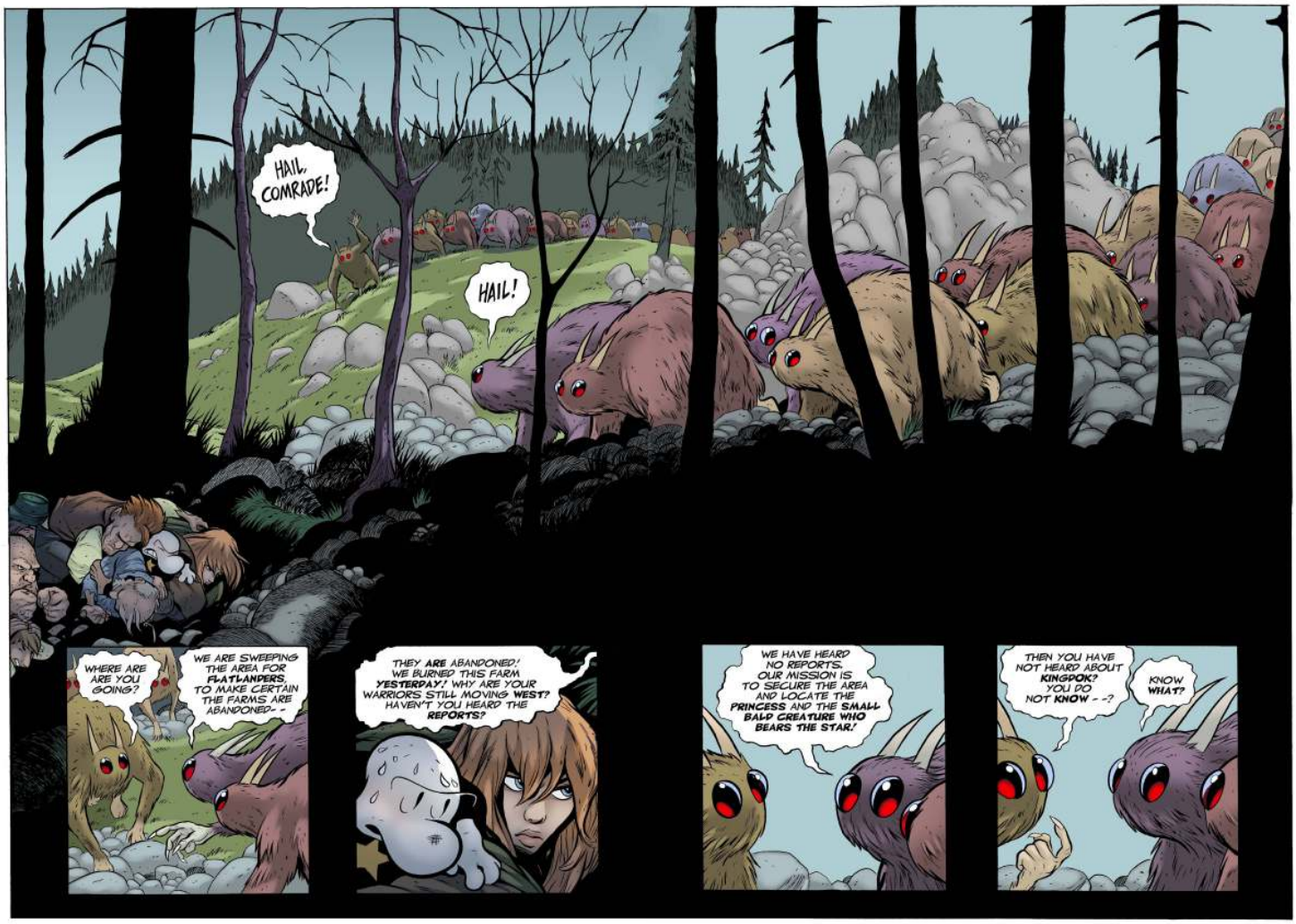

LISTEN . . .
YOU CAN WATCH HIM FOR A WHILE IF YOU WANT, BUT NOT TOO LONG -- WE GOTTA GO, ALL RIGHT?
I GUESS.

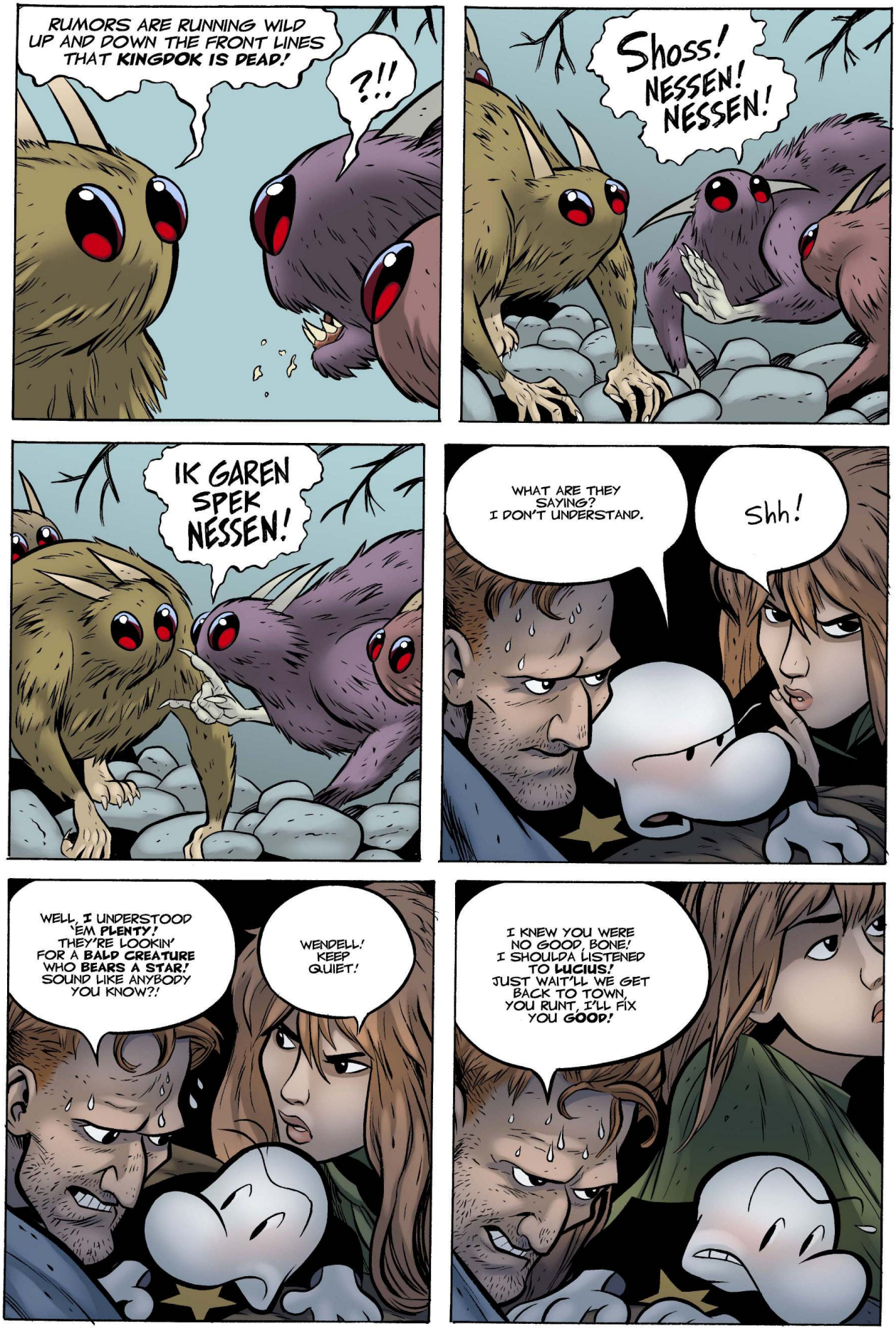

GOOD-BYE, BARTLEBY.
I GOTTA GO NOW.




CB
CARTOON BOOKS
33
AUG
$2.95
$4.20 CANADA
05
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

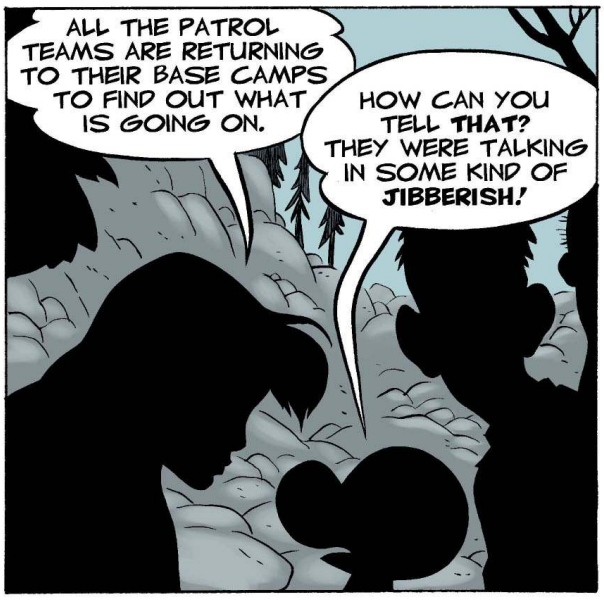

BONE
SHE FOUND THEM! SHE FOUND TANNER AND HIS FAMILY!
THEY MUST'VE BEEN HIDING IN THE ROOT CELLAR.
SHE SHOULD'VE STAYED DOWN! THEY'LL NEVER MAKE IT ACROSS TH' CLEARING WITHOUT BEING SEEN!
COME ON, THORN, COME ON...
HURRY! GET IN HERE!
THERE'S TWO PATROLS COMING!


HAIL, COMRADE!
HAIL!
WHERE ARE ARE YOU GOING?
WE ARE SWEEPING THE AREA FOR **FLATLANDERS**, TO MAKE CERTAIN THE FARMS ARE ABANDONED- -
THEY **ARE** ABANDONED! WE BURNED THIS FARM **YESTERDAY**! WHY ARE YOUR WARRIORS STILL MOVING **WEST**? HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE **REPORTS**?
WE HAVE HEARD NO REPORTS. OUR MISSION IS TO SECURE THE AREA AND LOCATE THE **PRINCESS** AND THE **SMALL BALD CREATURE WHO BEARS THE STAR**!
THEN YOU HAVE NOT HEARD ABOUT **KINGDOK**? YOU DO NOT **KNOW** - -?
KNOW **WHAT**?


RUMORS ARE RUNNING WILD UP AND DOWN THE FRONT LINES THAT KINGDOK IS DEAD!
?!!
Shoss! NESSEN! NESSEN!
IK GAREN SPEK NESSEN!
WHAT ARE THEY SAYING? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
Shh!
WELL, I UNDERSTOOD 'EM PLENTY! THEY'RE LOOKIN' FOR A BALD CREATURE WHO BEARS A STAR! SOUND LIKE ANYBODY YOU KNOW?!
WENDELL! KEEP QUIET!
I KNEW YOU WERE NO GOOD, BONE! I SHOULDA LISTENED TO LUCIUS! JUST WAIT'LL WE GET BACK TO TOWN, YOU RUNT, I'LL FIX YOU GOOD!

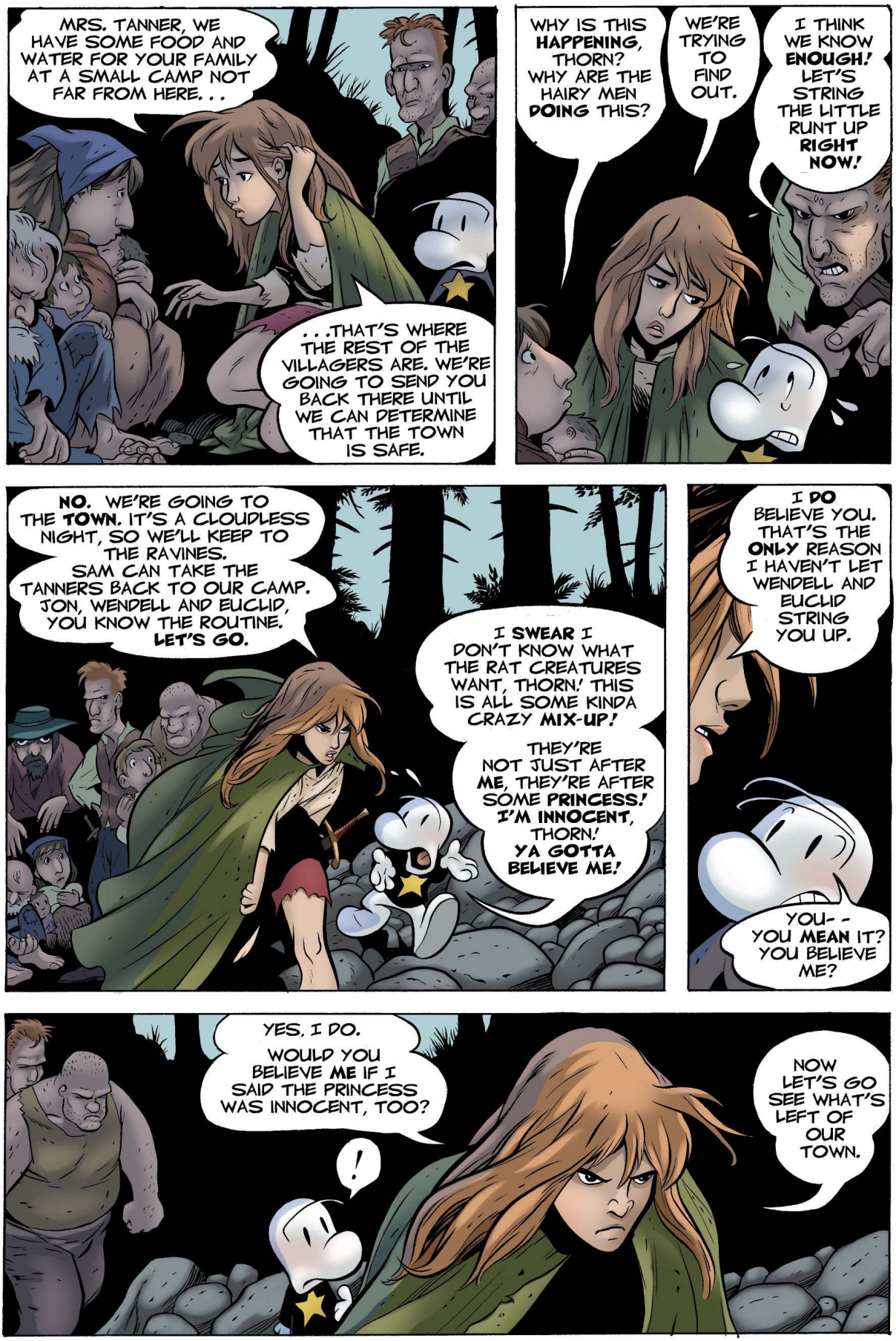

THEY ARE TURNING AROUND. HEADING BACK **EAST!**


WHAT TH' HECK WAS **THAT** ALL ABOUT? THEY SEEMED PRETTY **UPSET** ABOUT SOMETHING!
THEY'RE IN A STATE OF **CONFUSION**- -
THERE ARE RUMORS THEIR CHIEFTAIN HAS BEEN **KILLED.**

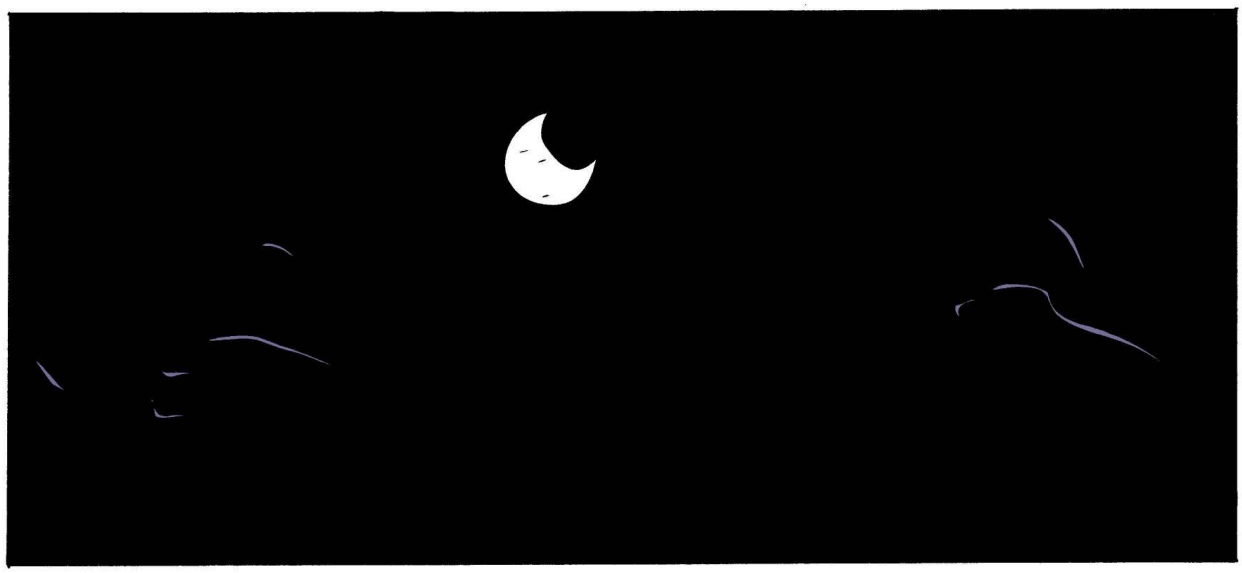

ALL THE PATROL TEAMS ARE RETURNING TO THEIR BASE CAMPS TO FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON.
HOW CAN YOU TELL **THAT?** THEY WERE TALKING IN SOME KIND OF **JIBBERISH!**


THEY WERE SPEAKING **NESSEN** . . . AN ANCIENT RAT CREATURE LANGUAGE RESERVED FOR TIMES OF WAR AND MILITARY EMERGENCY.
OH, REALLY? AND WHEN DID YOU LEARN TO SPEAK AN ANCIENT RAT CREATURE **MILITARY LANGUAGE?!**

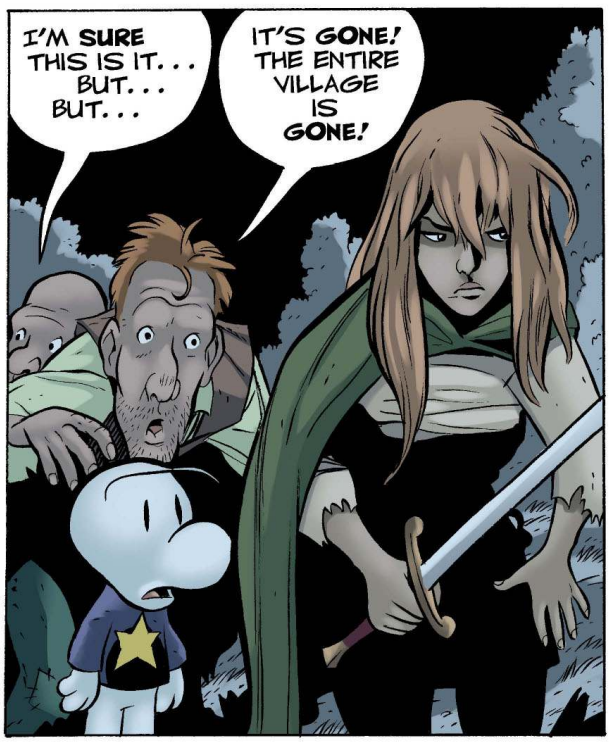

I **DIDN'T.** BUT FOR SOME REASON I UNDERSTOOD EVERY SINGLE WORD THEY SAID.



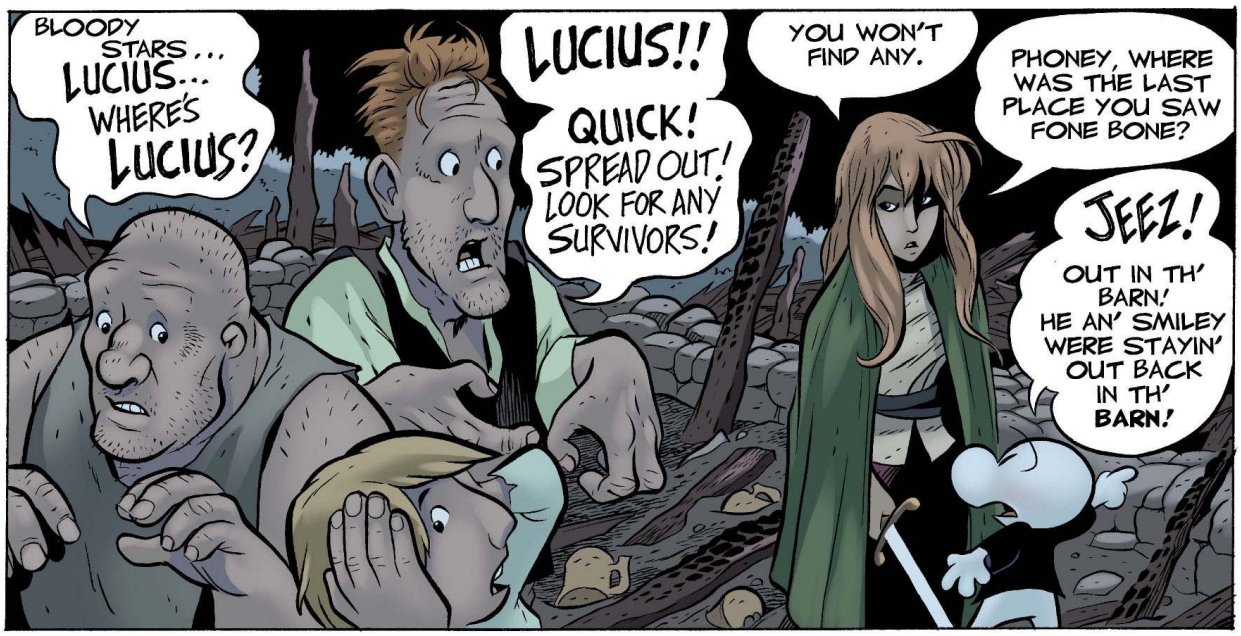
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

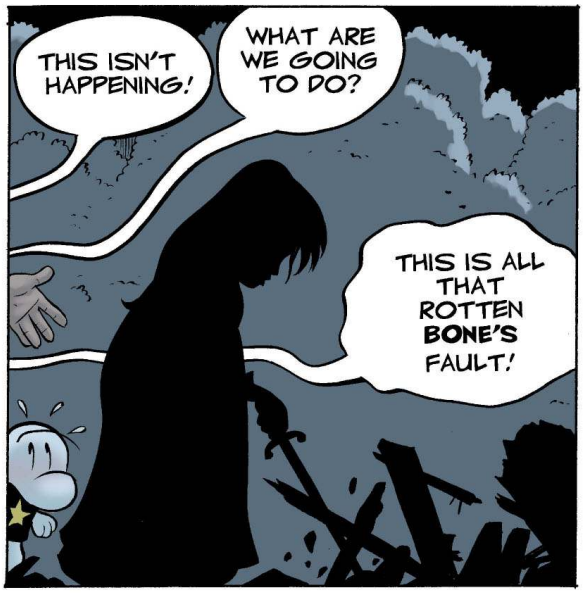



OH, NO...
NO...
THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT. WE MUST'VE TAKEN A WRONG TURN.

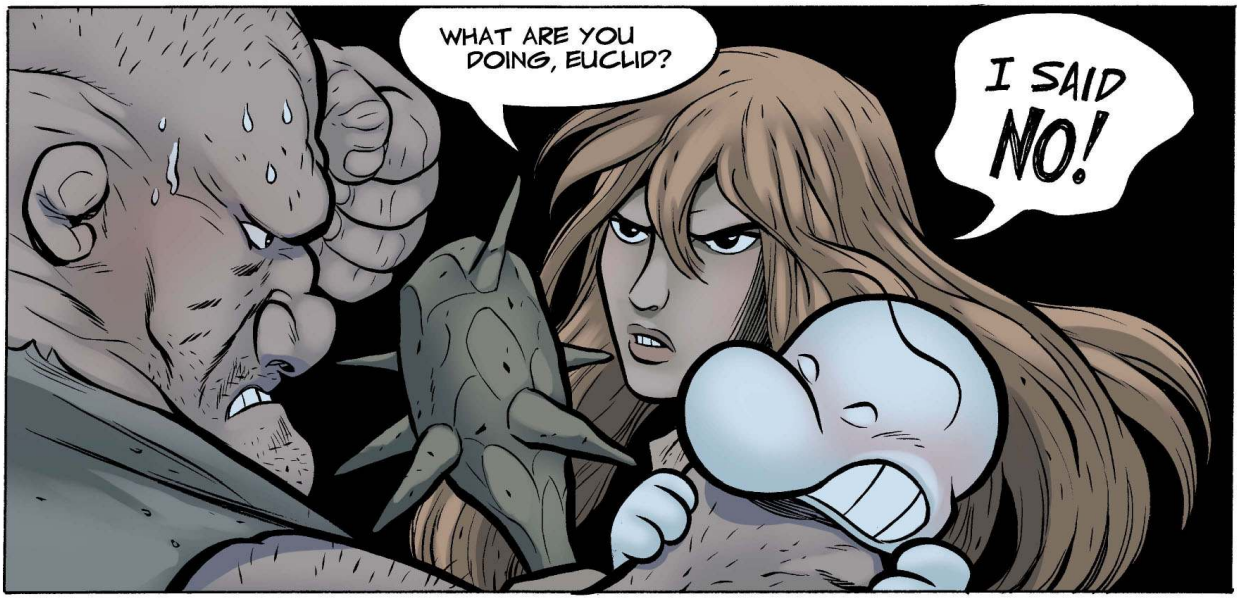

I'M SURE THIS IS IT... BUT... BUT...
IT'S GONE! THE ENTIRE VILLAGE IS GONE!

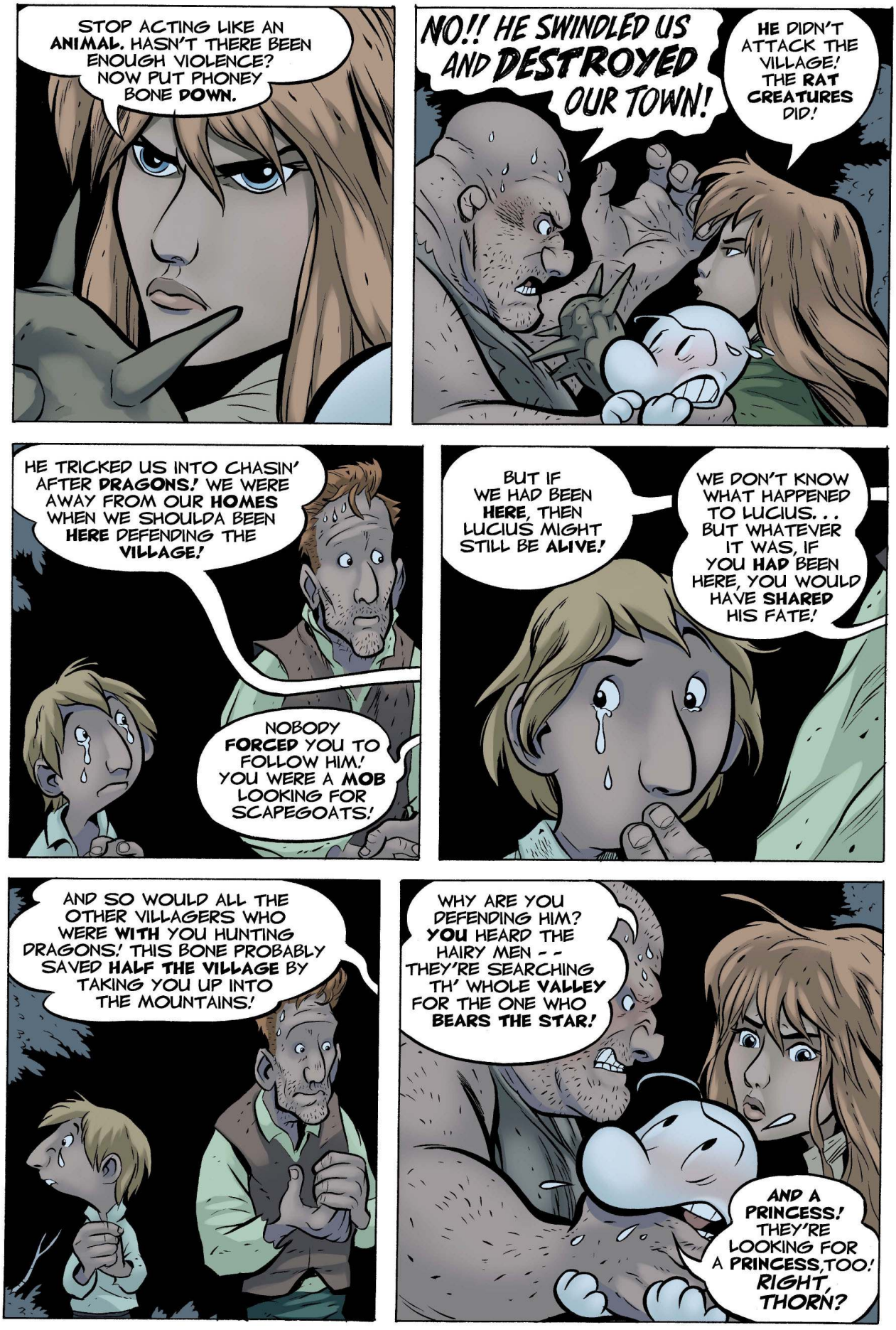

IT CAN'T BE... THERE'S NOTHING LEFT...
THEY COULDN'T HAVE DESTROYED OUR WHOLE TOWN - -
WHERE'S THE BARRELHAVEN TAVERN?
WE'RE STANDING IN IT.

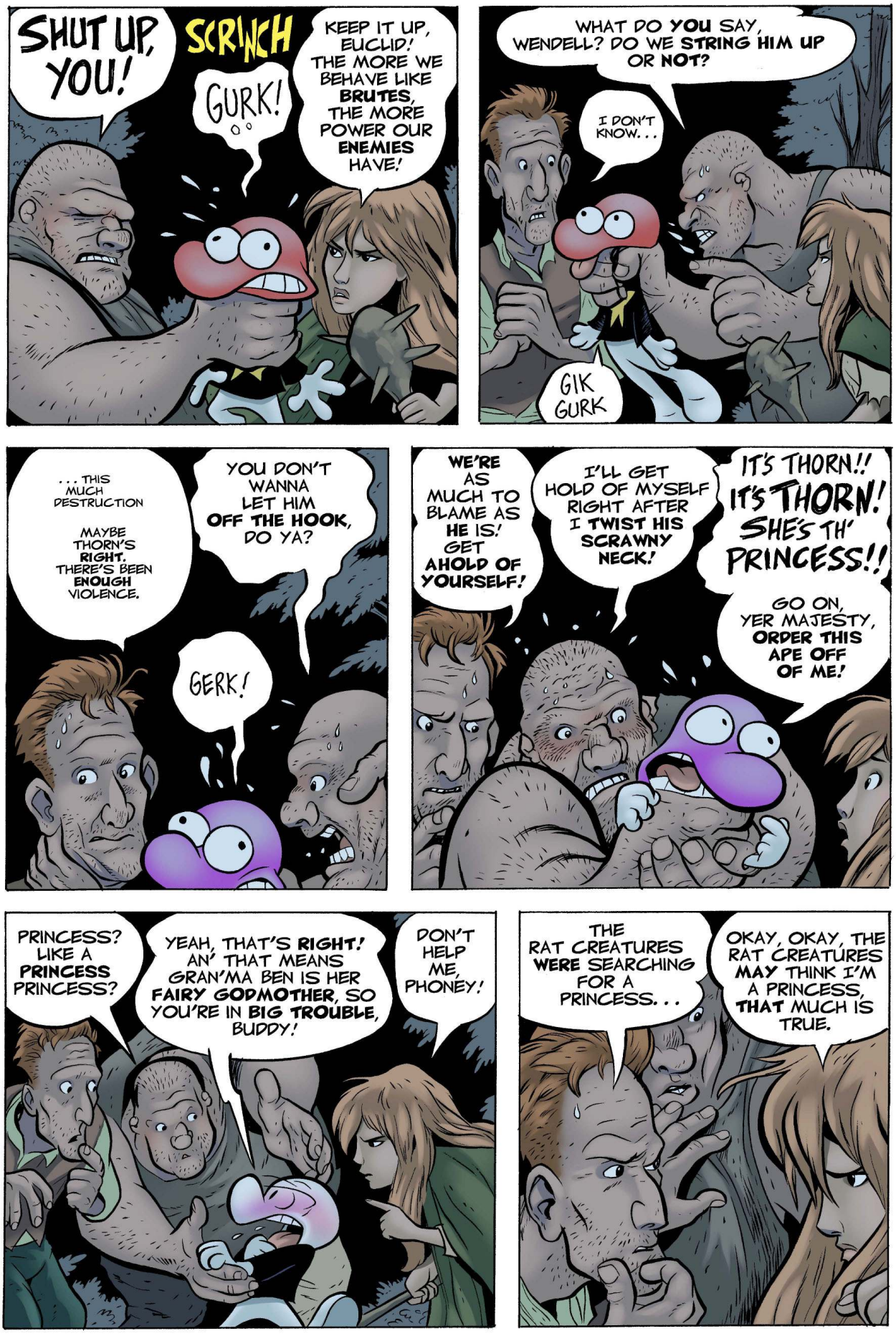

BLOODY STARS... LUCIUS... WHERE'S LUCIUS?
LUCIUS!!
QUICK! SPREAD OUT! LOOK FOR ANY SURVIVORS!
YOU WON'T FIND ANY.
PHONEY, WHERE WAS THE LAST PLACE YOU SAW FONE BONE?
JEEZ!
OUT IN TH' BARN! HE AN' SMILEY WERE STAYIN' OUT BACK IN TH' BARN!

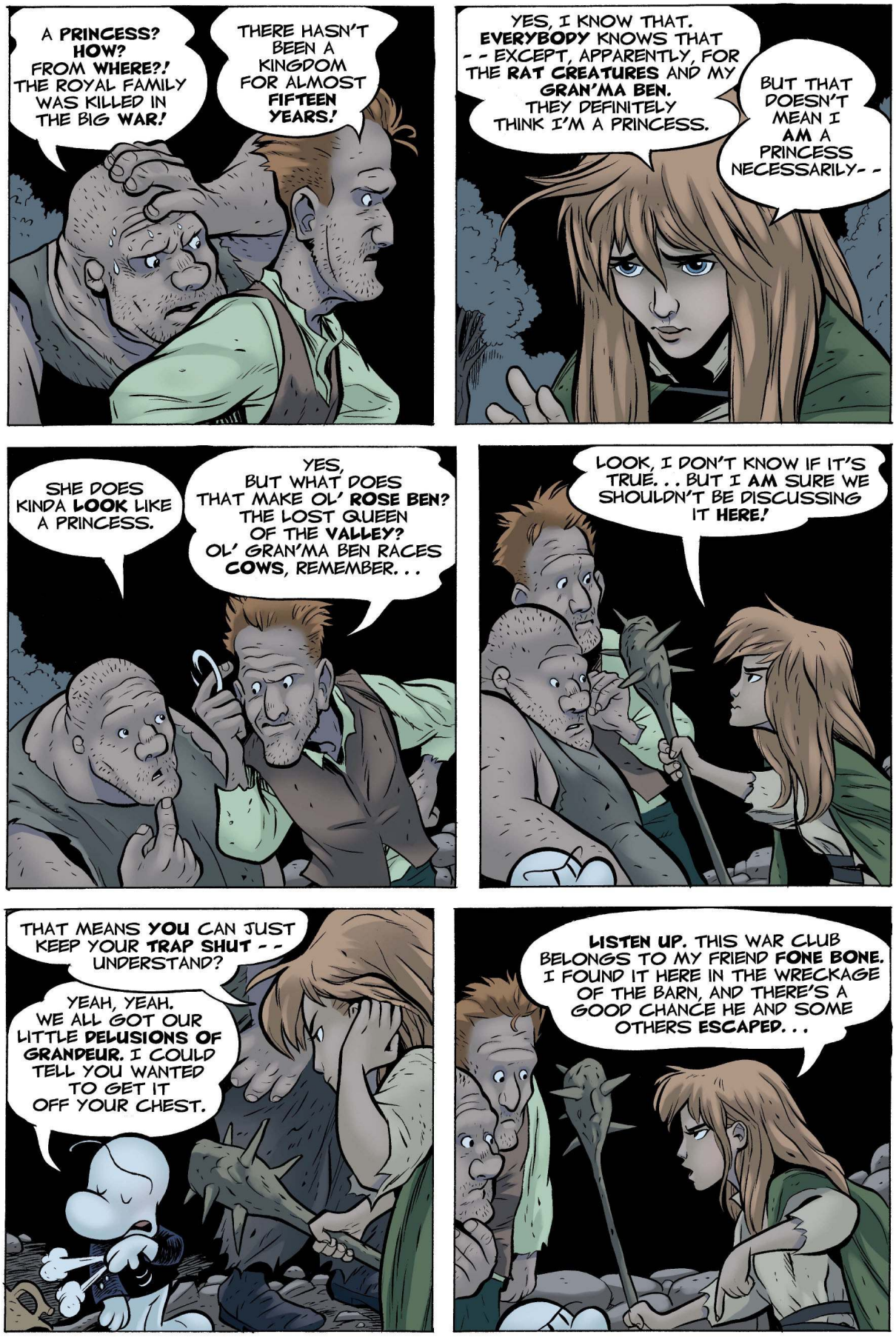

THIS ISN'T HAPPENING!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
THIS IS ALL THAT ROTTEN BONE'S FAULT!


HIM AN' HIS DRAGONSLAYIN' SCHEMES! I SAY WE KILL HIM RIGHT NOW!
URG..
THORN!

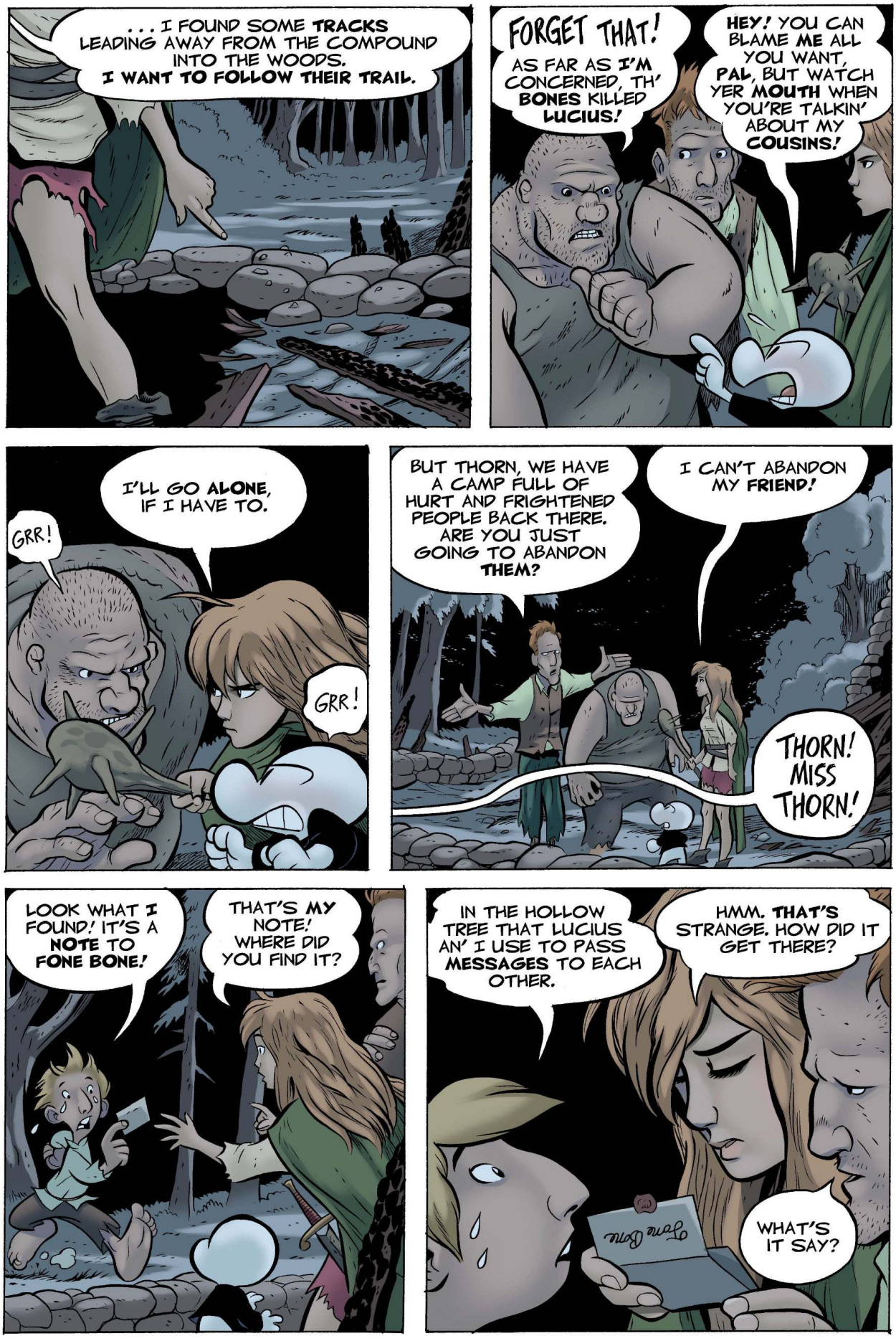

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, EUCLID?
I SAID NO!

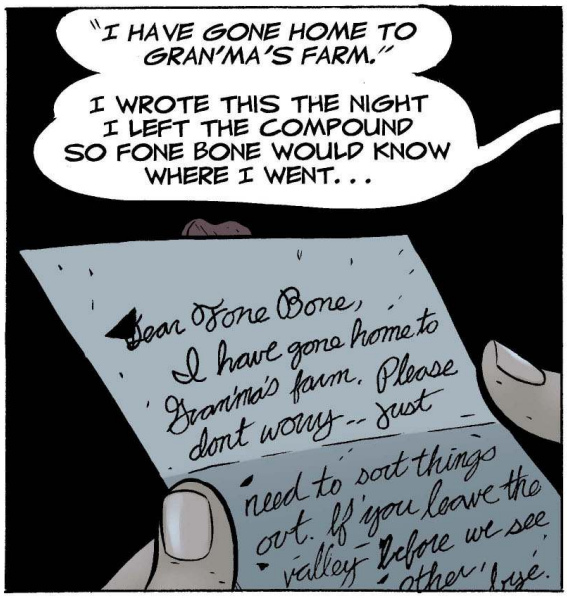

STOP ACTING LIKE AN ANIMAL. HASN'T THERE BEEN ENOUGH VIOLENCE? NOW PUT PHONEY BONE DOWN.
NO!! HE SWINDLED US AND DESTROYED OUR TOWN!
HE DIDN'T ATTACK THE VILLAGE! THE RAT CREATURES DID!
HE TRICKED US INTO CHASIN' AFTER DRAGONS! WE WERE AWAY FROM OUR HOMES WHEN WE SHOULDA BEEN HERE DEFENDING THE VILLAGE!
NOBODY FORCED YOU TO FOLLOW HIM! YOU WERE A MOB LOOKING FOR SCAPEGOATS!
BUT IF WE HAD BEEN HERE, THEN LUCIUS MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE!
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO LUCIUS... BUT WHATEVER IT WAS, IF YOU HAD BEEN HERE, YOU WOULD HAVE SHARED HIS FATE!
AND SO WOULD ALL THE OTHER VILLAGERS WHO WERE WITH YOU HUNTING DRAGONS! THIS BONE PROBABLY SAVED HALF THE VILLAGE BY TAKING YOU UP INTO THE MOUNTAINS!
WHY ARE YOU DEFENDING HIM? YOU HEARD THE HAIRY MEN -- THEY'RE SEARCHING TH' WHOLE VALLEY FOR THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR!
AND A PRINCESS! THEY'RE LOOKING FOR A PRINCESS,TOO! RIGHT, THORN?

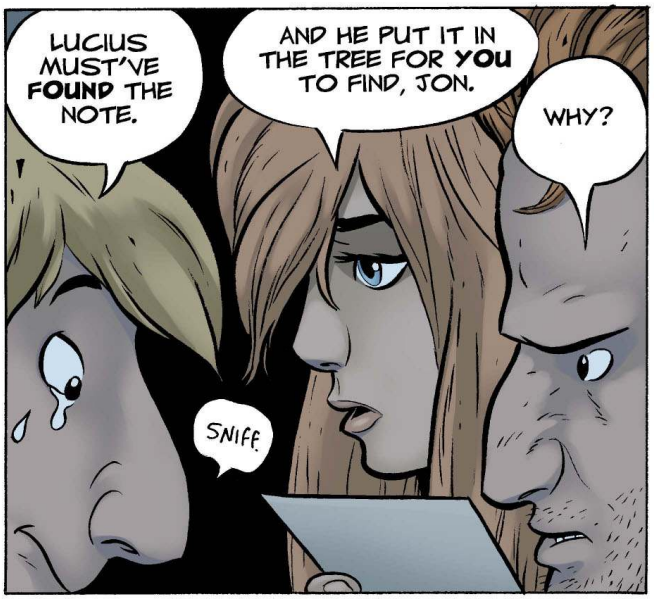

SHUT UP, YOU!
SCRUNCH
GURK!
KEEP IT UP, EUCLID! THE MORE WE BEHAVE LIKE BRUTES, THE MORE POWER OUR ENEMIES HAVE!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, WENDELL? DO WE STRING HIM UP OR NOT?
I DON'T KNOW...
GIK GURK
... THIS MUCH DESTRUCTION
MAYBE THORN'S RIGHT. THERE'S BEEN ENOUGH VIOLENCE.
YOU DON'T WANNA LET HIM OFF THE HOOK, DO YA?
GERK!
WE'RE AS MUCH TO BLAME AS HE IS! GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF!
I'LL GET HOLD OF MYSELF RIGHT AFTER I TWIST HIS SCRAWNY NECK!
IT'S THORN!! IT'S THORN! SHE'S TH' PRINCESS!!
GO ON, YER MAJESTY, ORDER THIS APE OFF OF ME!
PRINCESS? LIKE A PRINCESS PRINCESS?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! AN' THAT MEANS GRAN'MA BEN IS HER FAIRY GODMOTHER, SO YOU'RE IN BIG TROUBLE, BUDDY!
DON'T HELP ME, PHONEY!
THE RAT CREATURES WERE SEARCHING FOR A PRINCESS...
OKAY, OKAY, THE RAT CREATURES MAY THINK I'M A PRINCESS, THAT MUCH IS TRUE.

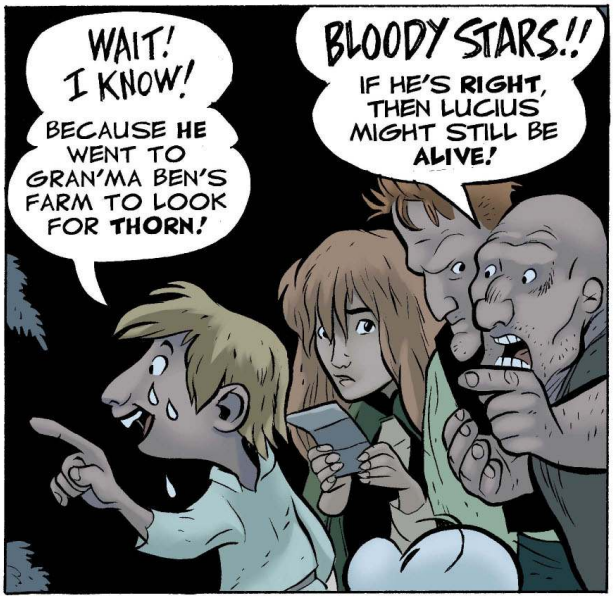


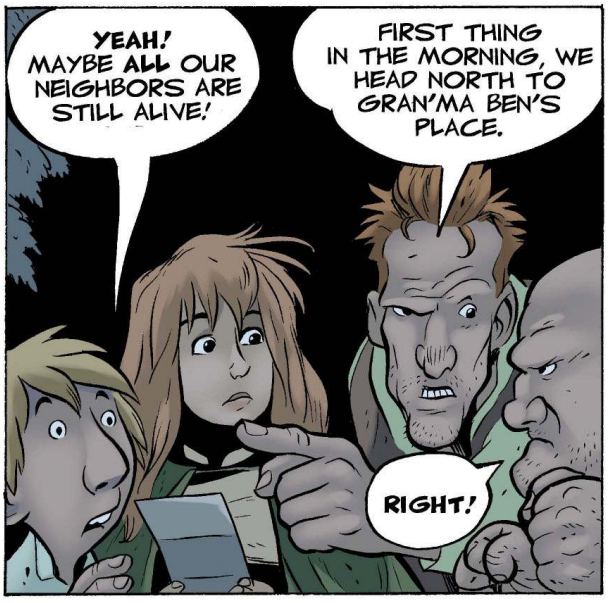
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


. . . I FOUND SOME TRACKS LEADING AWAY FROM THE COMPOUND INTO THE WOODS. I WANT TO FOLLOW THEIR TRAIL.
FORGET THAT! AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, TH' BONES KILLED LUCIUS!
HEY! YOU CAN BLAME ME ALL YOU WANT, PAL, BUT WATCH YER MOUTH WHEN YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT MY COUSINS!
I'LL GO ALONE, IF I HAVE TO.
GRR!
GRR!
BUT THORN, WE HAVE A CAMP FULL OF HURT AND FRIGHTENED PEOPLE BACK THERE. ARE YOU JUST GOING TO ABANDON THEM?
I CAN'T ABANDON MY FRIEND!
THORN! MISS THORN!
LOOK WHAT I FOUND! IT'S A NOTE TO FONE BONE!
THAT'S MY NOTE! WHERE DID YOU FIND IT?
IN THE HOLLOW TREE THAT LUCIUS AN' I USE TO PASS MESSAGES TO EACH OTHER.
HMM. THAT'S STRANGE. HOW DID IT GET THERE?
WHAT'S IT SAY?

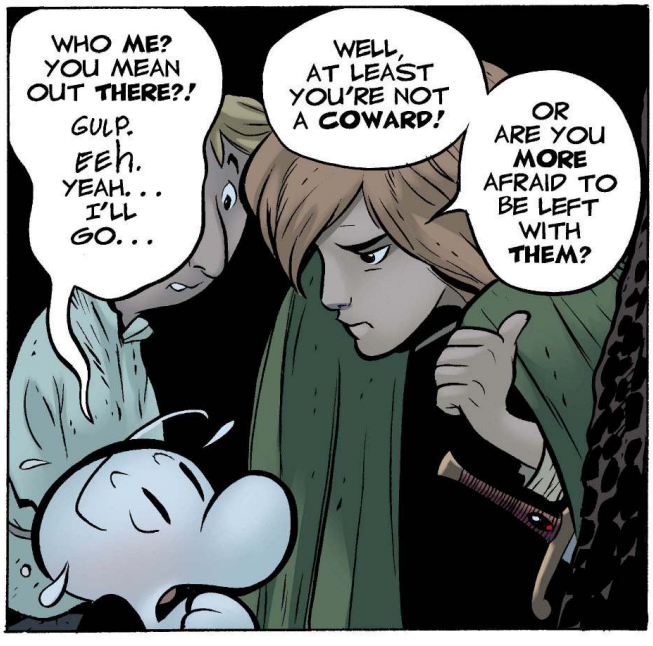

"I HAVE GONE HOME TO GRAN'MA'S FARM."
I WROTE THIS THE NIGHT I LEFT THE COMPOUND SO FONE BONE WOULD KNOW WHERE I WENT...
Dear Fone Bone, I have gone home to Gran'ma's farm. Please dont worry -- just need to sort things out. If you leave the valley before we see other, bye.

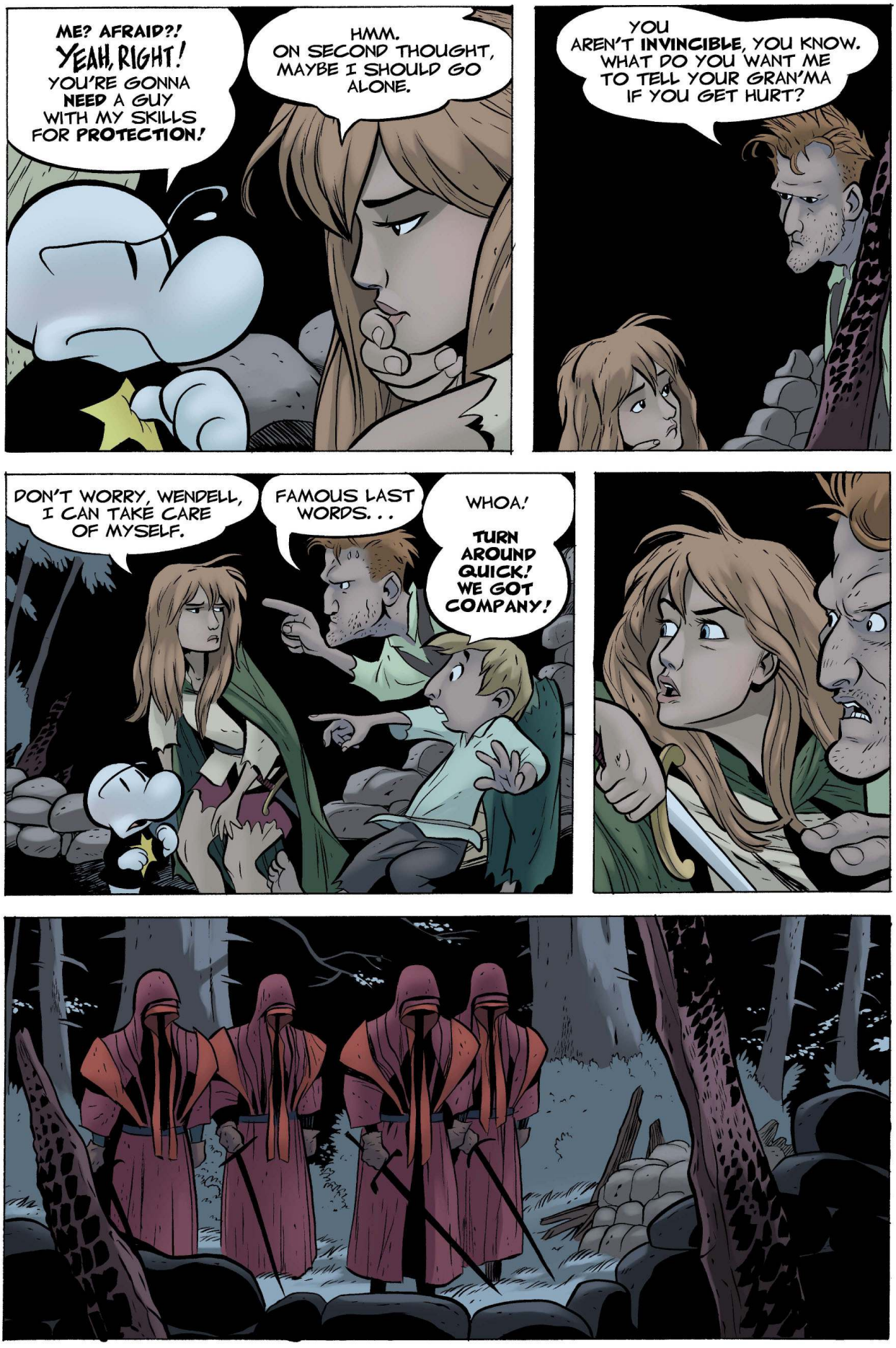

LUCIUS MUST'VE FOUND THE NOTE.
AND HE PUT IT IN THE TREE FOR YOU TO FIND, JON.
WHY?
SNIFF.


WAIT! I KNOW!
BECAUSE HE WENT TO GRAN'MA BEN'S FARM TO LOOK FOR THORN!
BLOODY STARS!!
IF HE'S RIGHT, THEN LUCIUS MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE!

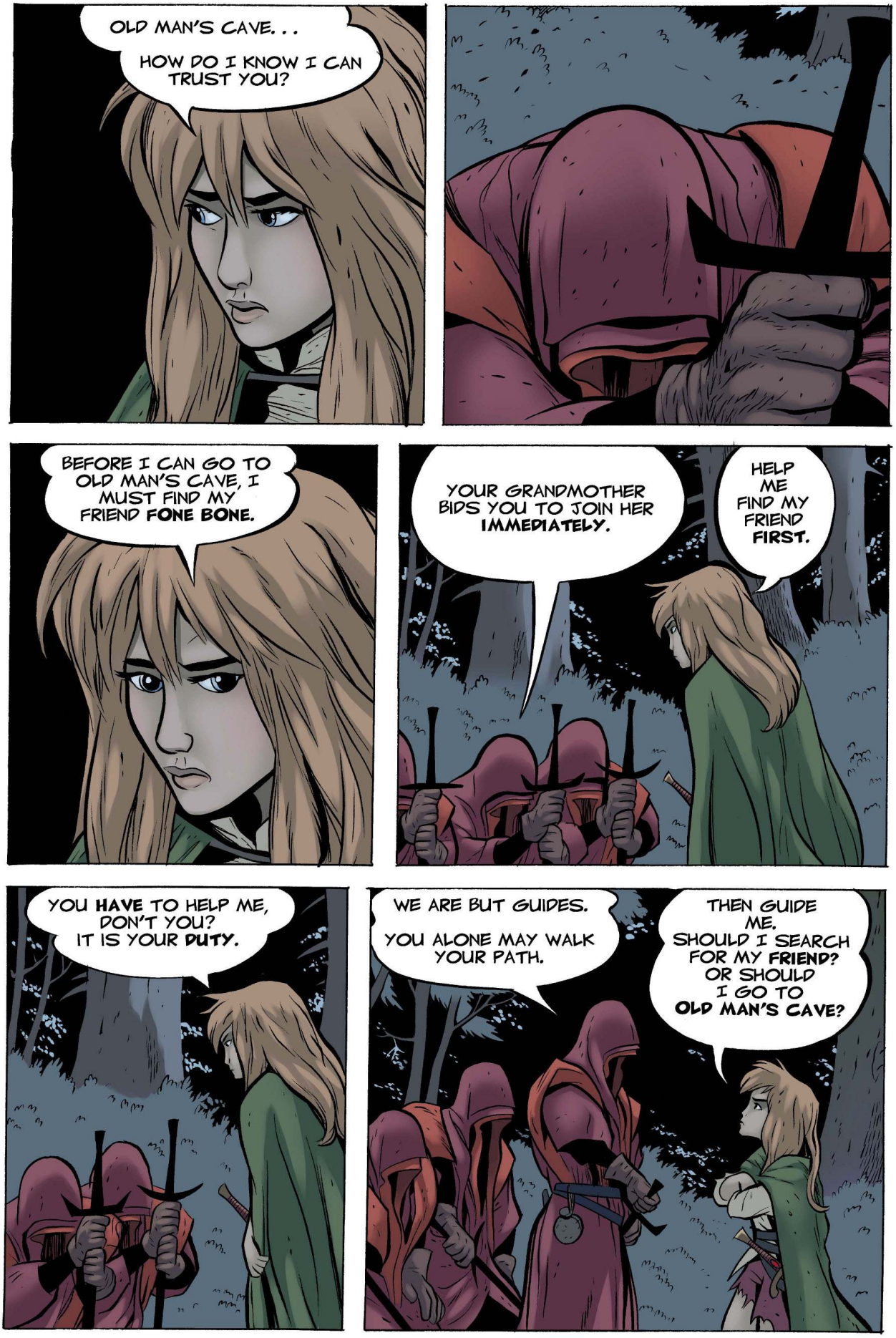

YEAH! MAYBE ALL OUR NEIGHBORS ARE STILL ALIVE!
FIRST THING IN THE MORNING, WE HEAD NORTH TO GRAN'MA BEN'S PLACE.
RIGHT!

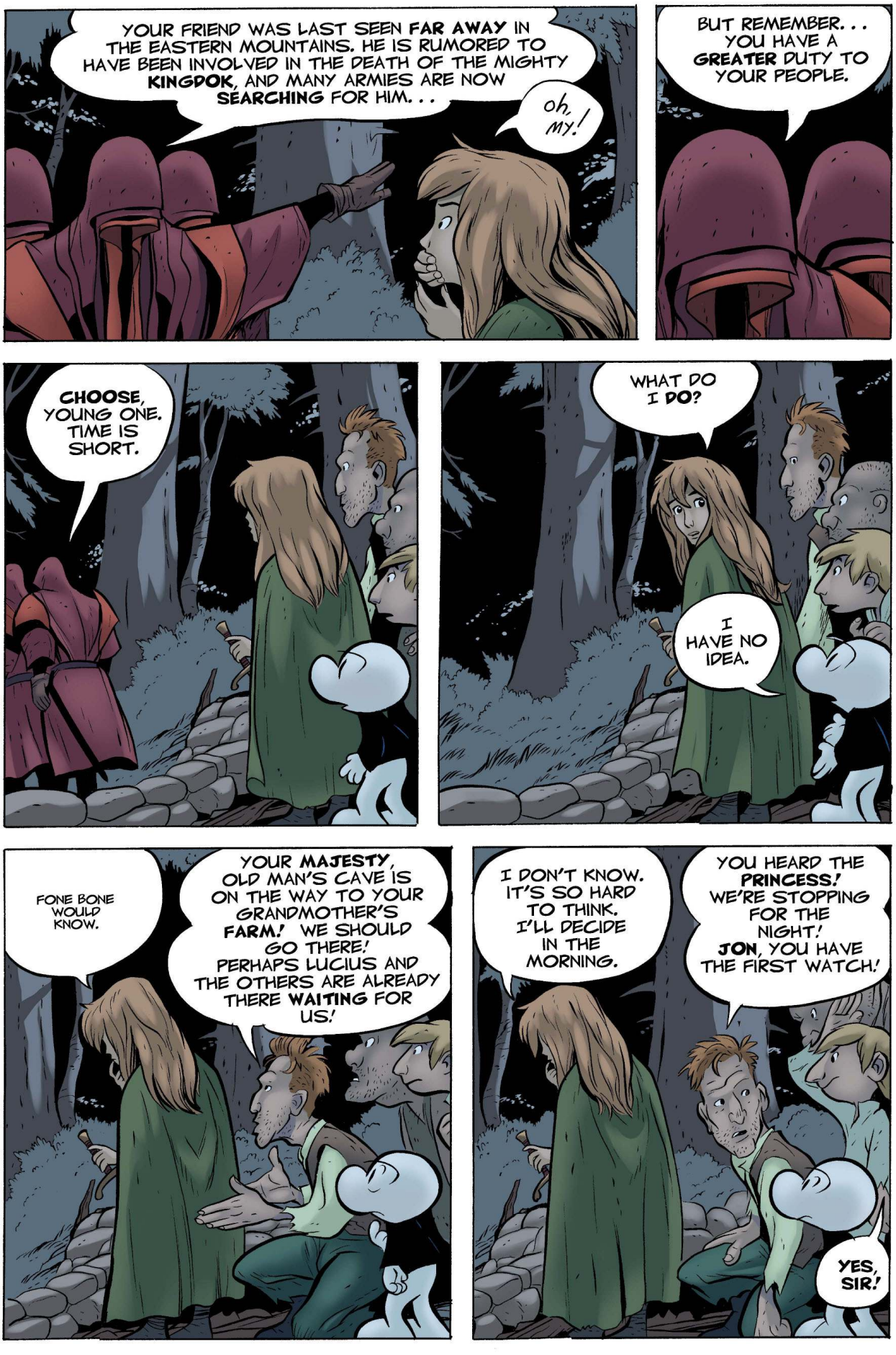

YOU GO.
I HAVE TO LOOK FOR FONE BONE. WILL YOU BE COMING WITH ME, PHONCIBLE?

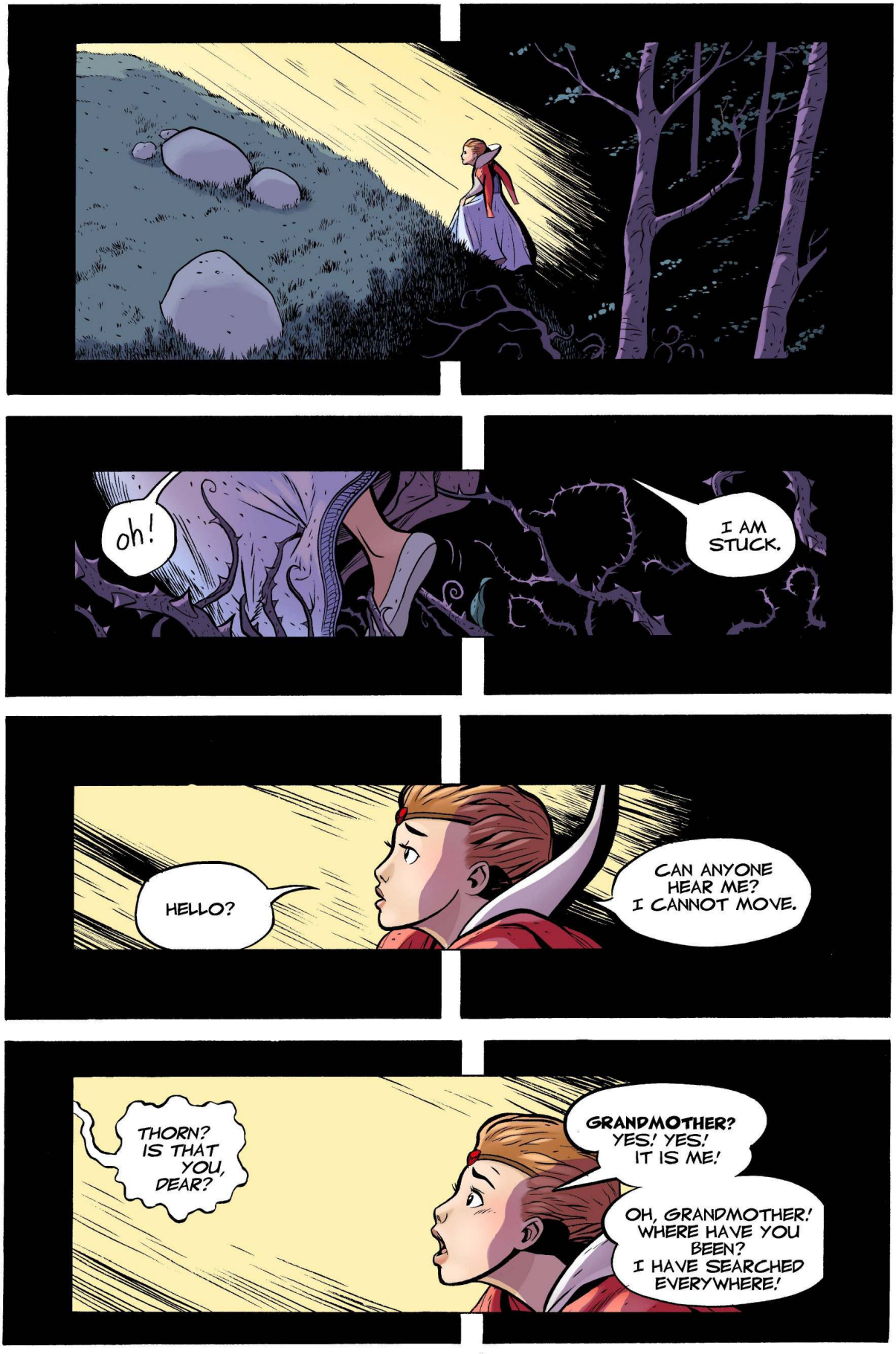

WHO ME? YOU MEAN OUT THERE?!
GULP.
EEH.
YEAH... I'LL GO...
WELL, AT LEAST YOU'RE NOT A COWARD!
OR ARE YOU MORE AFRAID TO BE LEFT WITH THEM?


ME? AFRAID?! YEAH, RIGHT! YOU'RE GONNA NEED A GUY WITH MY SKILLS FOR PROTECTION!
HMM. ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAYBE I SHOULD GO ALONE.
YOU AREN'T INVINCIBLE, YOU KNOW. WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOUR GRAN'MA IF YOU GET HURT?
DON'T WORRY, WENDELL, I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.
FAMOUS LAST WORDS. . .
WHOA! TURN AROUND QUICK! WE GOT COMPANY!

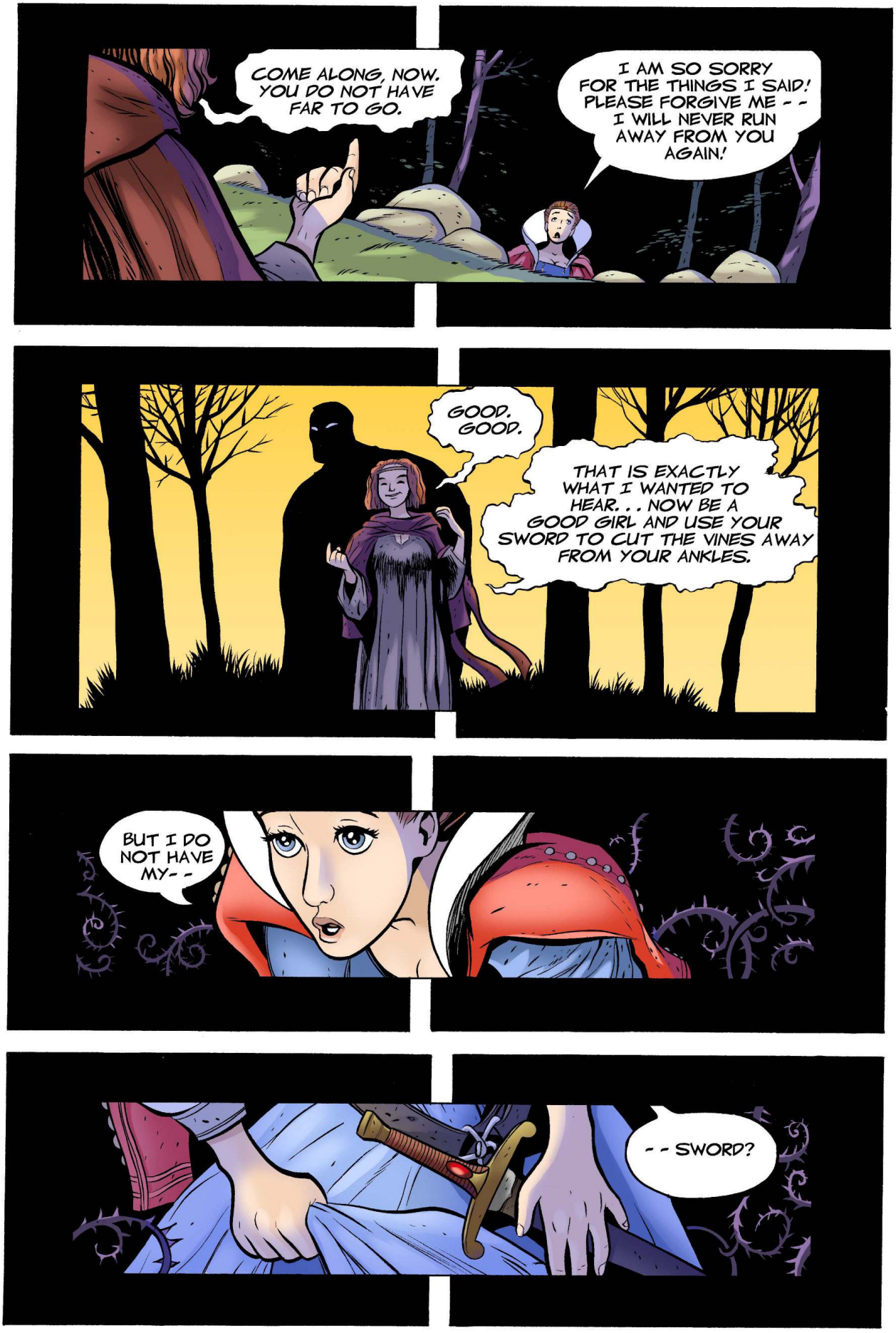

STICKEATERS!
UM . . .
I THINK THIS MIGHT BE FOR ME.
HELLO?
CAN I HELP YOU?
WE BRING A MESSAGE TO YOU FROM YOUR GRANDMOTHER.
SHE IS WAITING FOR YOU AT OLD MAN'S CAVE.
SHE BIDS YOU TO JOIN HER IMMEDIATELY.


OLD MAN'S CAVE...
HOW DO I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU?
BEFORE I CAN GO TO OLD MAN'S CAVE, I MUST FIND MY FRIEND FONE BONE.
YOUR GRANDMOTHER BIDS YOU TO JOIN HER IMMEDIATELY.
HELP ME FIND MY FRIEND FIRST.
YOU HAVE TO HELP ME, DON'T YOU? IT IS YOUR DUTY.
WE ARE BUT GUIDES.
YOU ALONE MAY WALK YOUR PATH.
THEN GUIDE ME. SHOULD I SEARCH FOR MY FRIEND? OR SHOULD I GO TO OLD MAN'S CAVE?


YOUR FRIEND WAS LAST SEEN FAR AWAY IN THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS. HE IS RUMORED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE DEATH OF THE MIGHTY KINGDOK, AND MANY ARMIES ARE NOW SEARCHING FOR HIM. . .
oh, my!
BUT REMEMBER. . . YOU HAVE A GREATER DUTY TO YOUR PEOPLE.
CHOOSE, YOUNG ONE. TIME IS SHORT.
WHAT DO I DO?
I HAVE NO IDEA.
FONE BONE WOULD KNOW.
YOUR MAJESTY, OLD MAN'S CAVE IS ON THE WAY TO YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S FARM! WE SHOULD GO THERE! PERHAPS LUCIUS AND THE OTHERS ARE ALREADY THERE WAITING FOR US!
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S SO HARD TO THINK. I'LL DECIDE IN THE MORNING.
YOU HEARD THE PRINCESS! WE'RE STOPPING FOR THE NIGHT! JON, YOU HAVE THE FIRST WATCH!
YES, SIR!



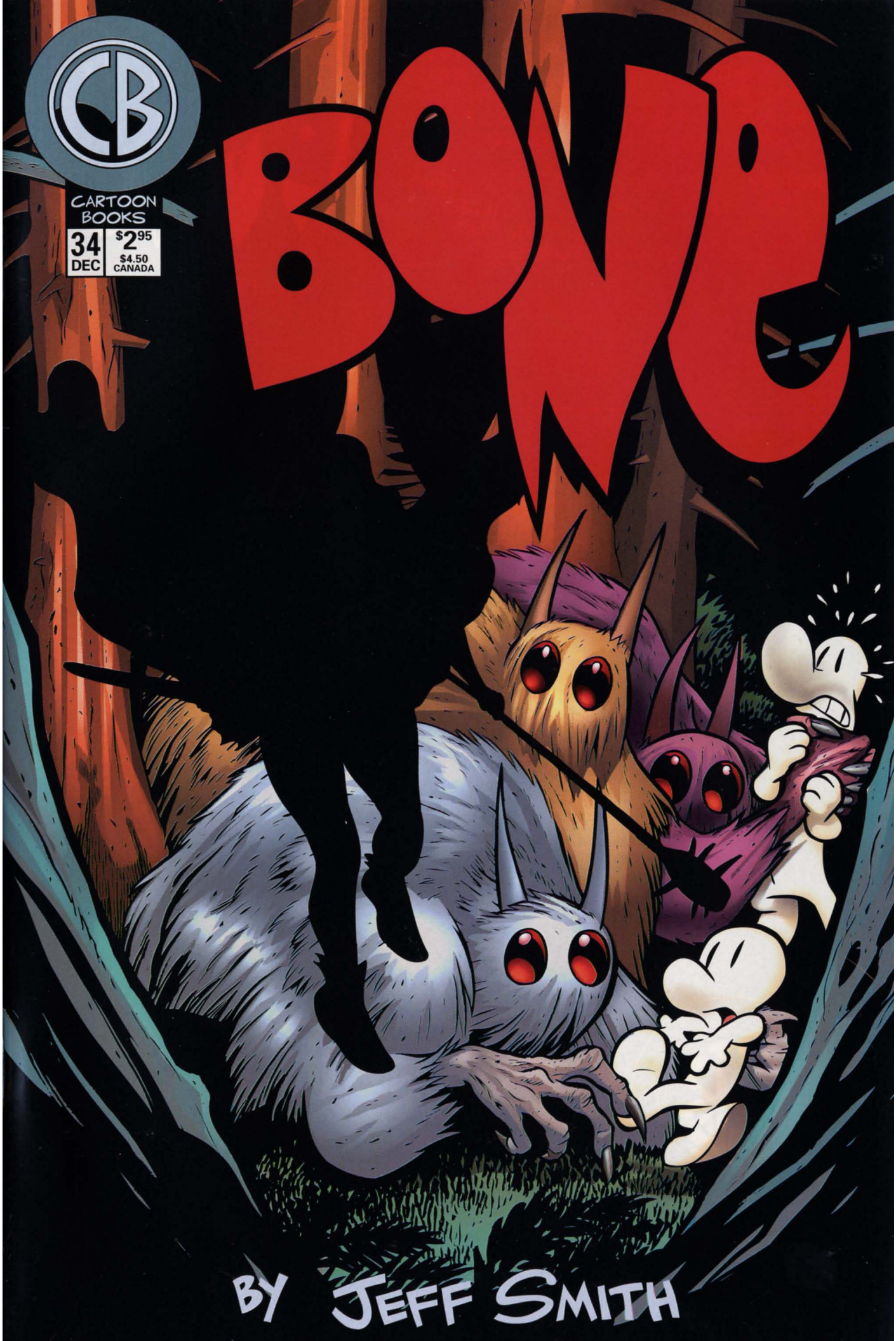
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


COME ALONG, NOW. YOU DO NOT HAVE FAR TO GO.
I AM SO SORRY FOR THE THINGS I SAID! PLEASE FORGIVE ME - - I WILL NEVER RUN AWAY FROM YOU AGAIN!
GOOD. GOOD.
THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR. . . NOW BE A GOOD GIRL AND USE YOUR SWORD TO CUT THE VINES AWAY FROM YOUR ANKLES.
BUT I DO NOT HAVE MY- -
- - SWORD?

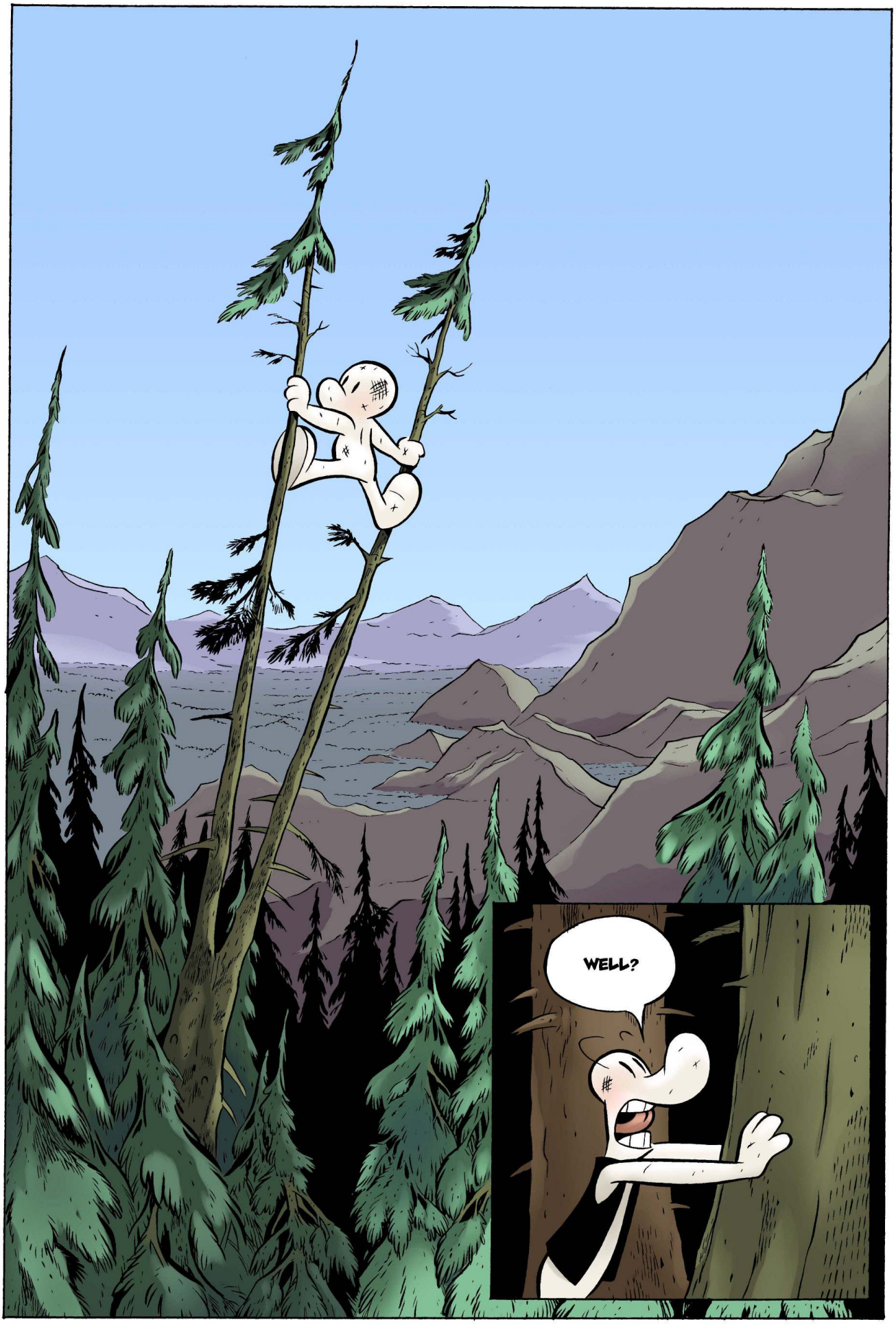

YESSSSS . . .
DRAW YOUR WEAPON AND COME TO ME . . .
NO, THORN! DO NOT LISTEN TO HER!
KEEP QUIET, LUCIUS!
SHE IS EVIL! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!
SILENCE!!!
LUCIUS?
SHE FOOLED ME ONCE AS WELL.
THORN!
GRANDMOTHER?!
WHAT IS GOING ON?
THORN! WHERE ARE YOU? I CANNOT SEE YOU!

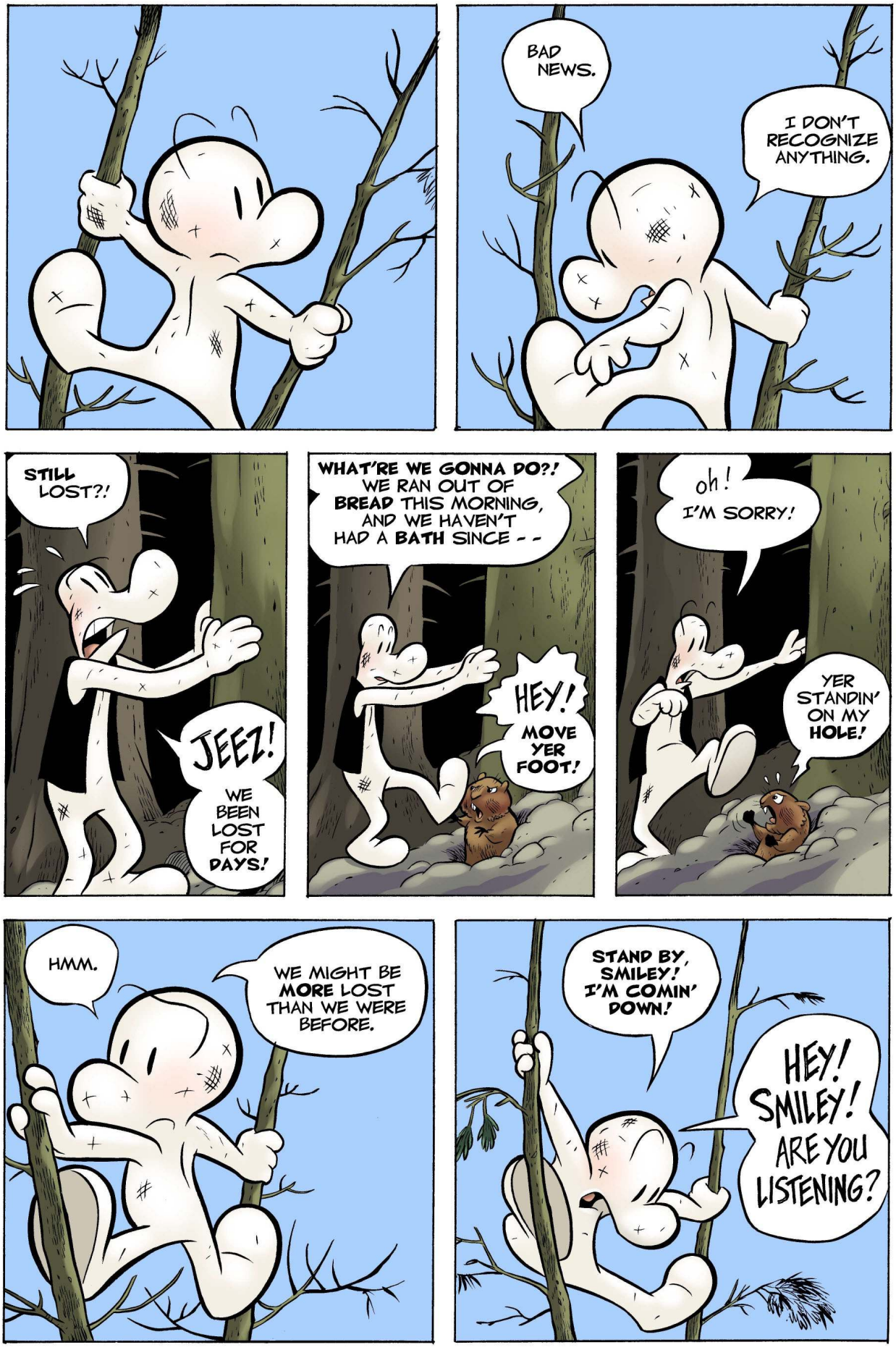

GIVE ME THE SWORD!
HOLD TIGHT! DO NOT LET GO!!
AAAAAAAA
UUH--
AAUH.
HUH.
HUH.


HUH.
HUH.
HUH.
UH.


CB
CARTOON BOOKS
34 DEC
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

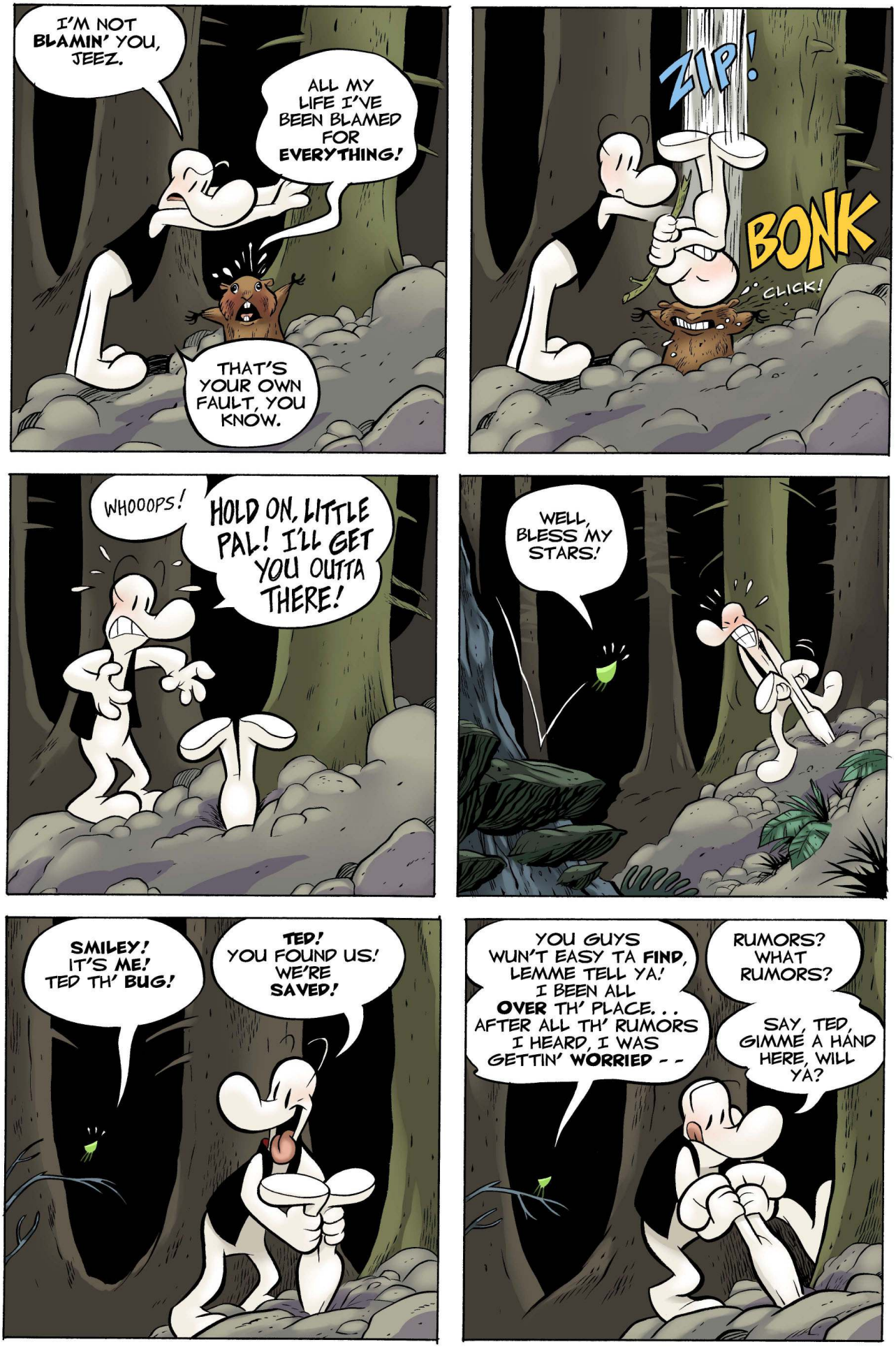

BONE
URNF!
CAN YA SEE ANYTHING, FONE BONE?
NOT YET- -
URF!
ALMOST- -


WELL?

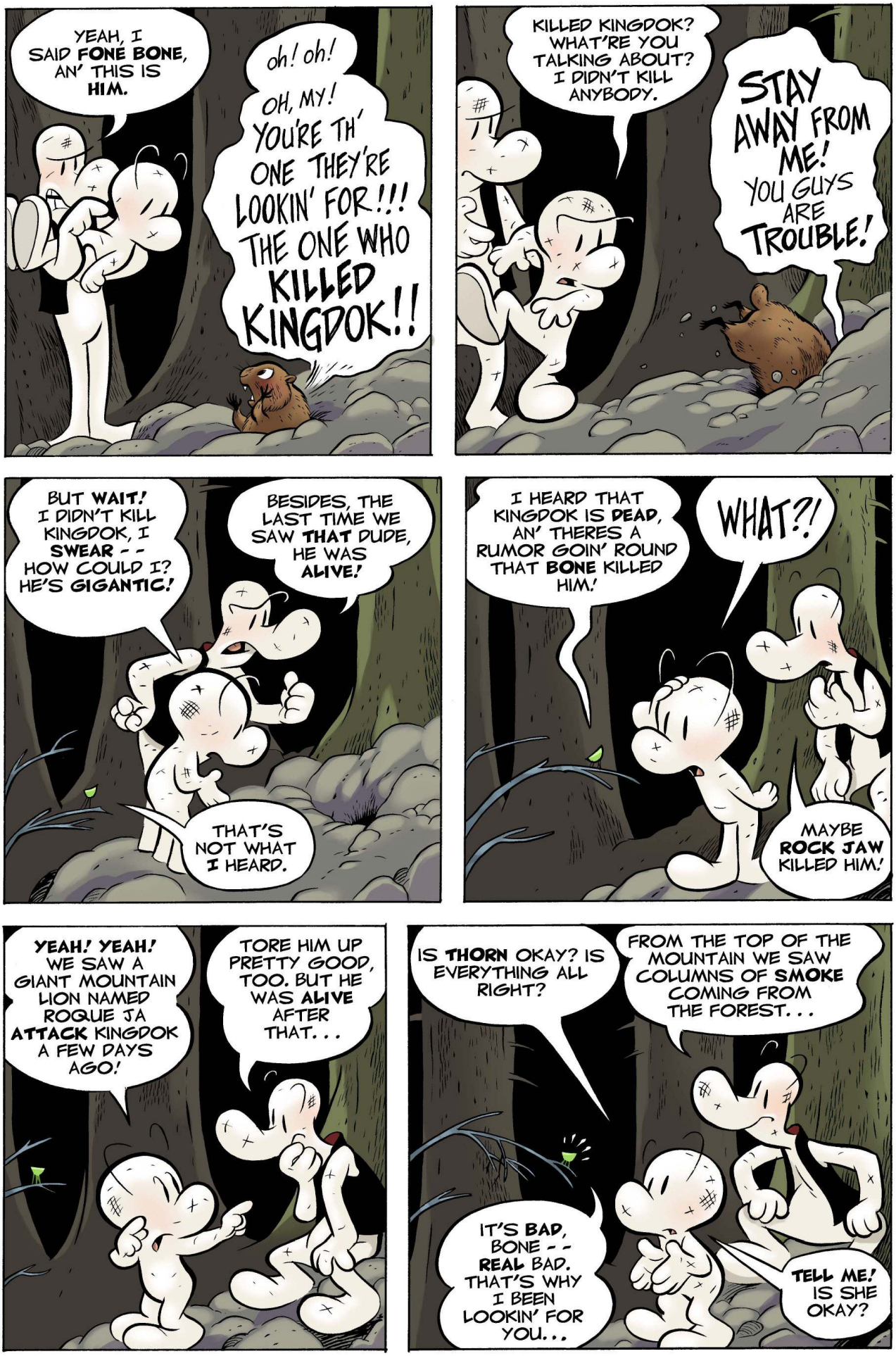


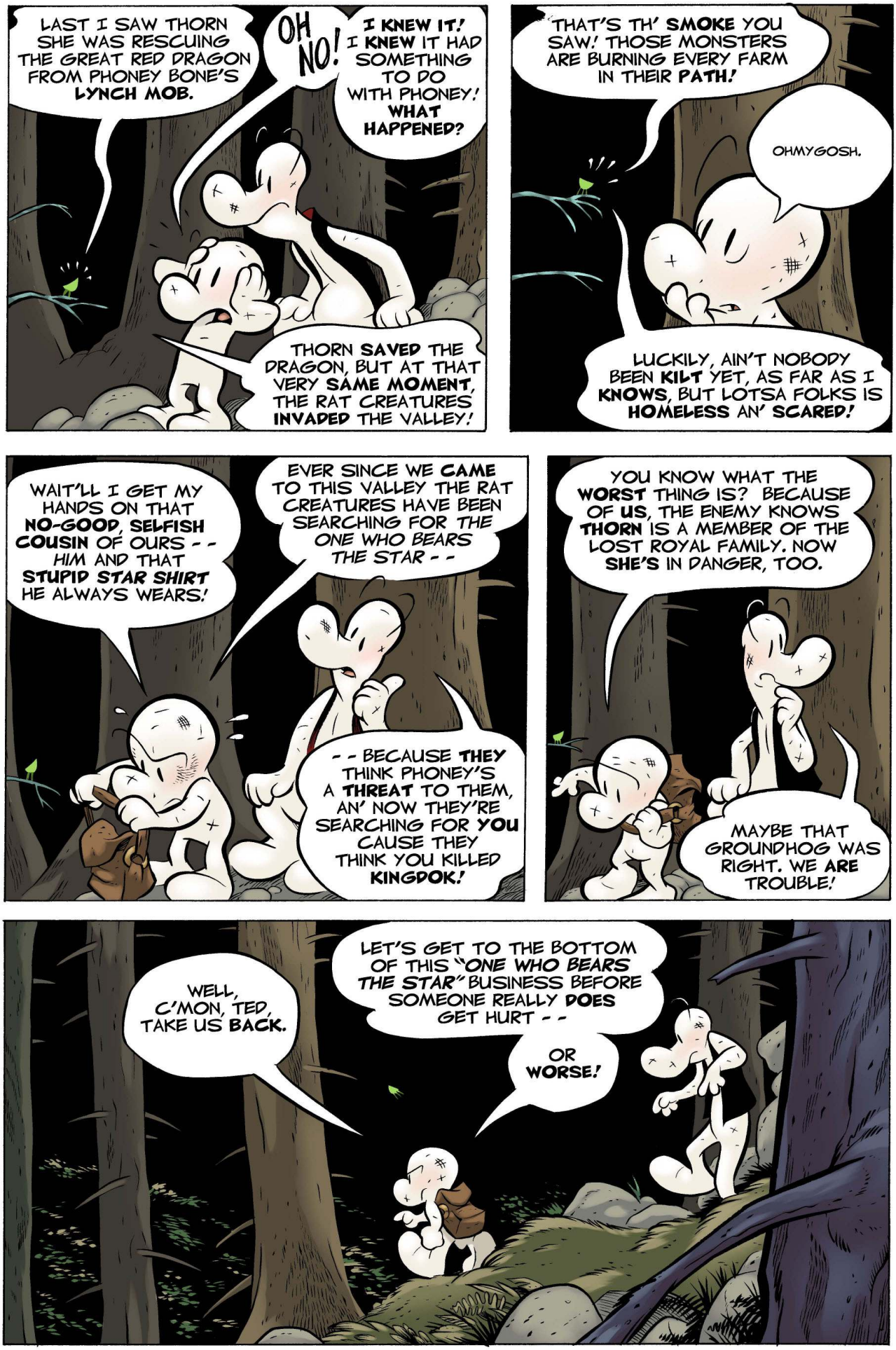
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

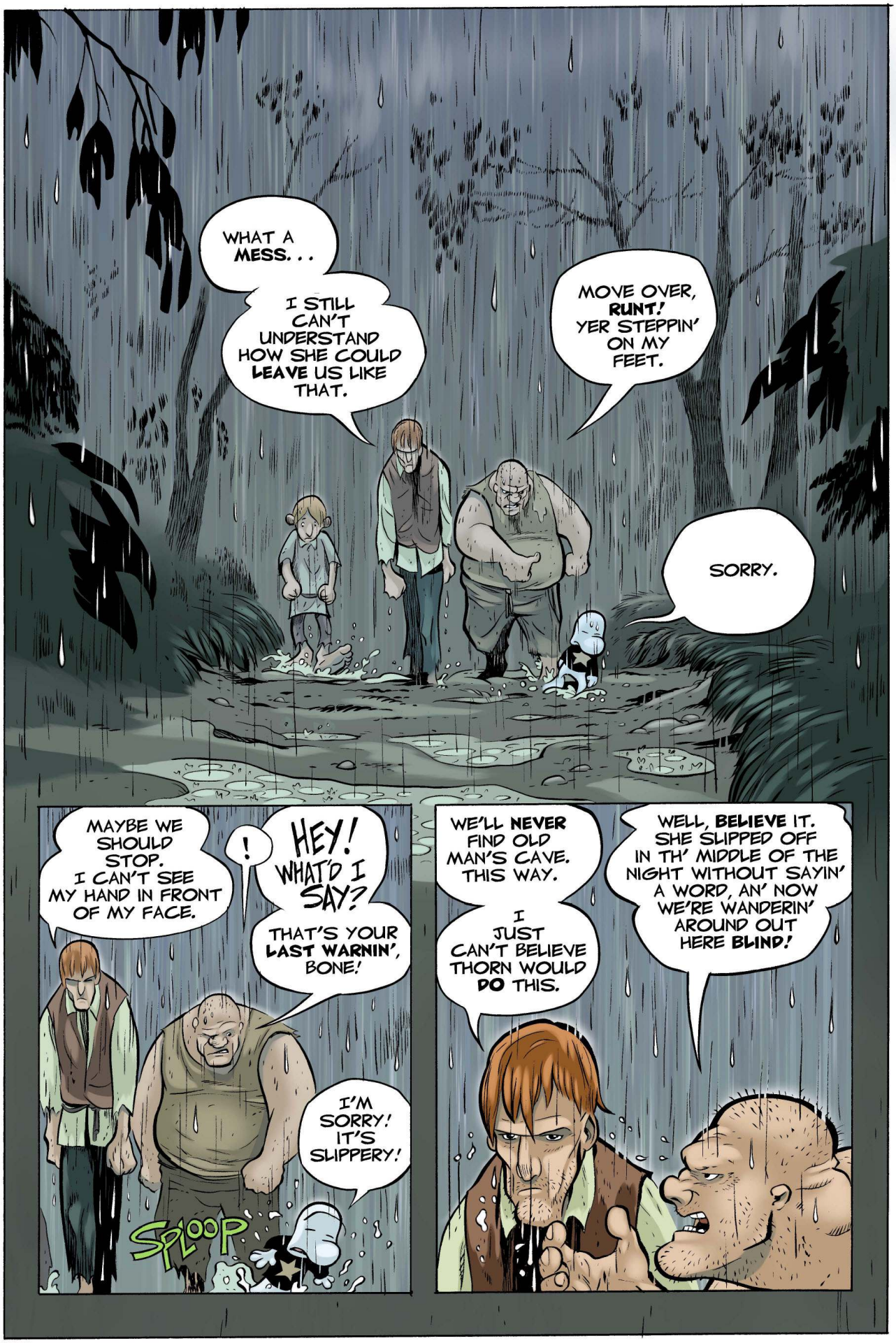

WHAT?
OH, YEAH! C'MON! I'M WATCHIN' YA!
DON'T STEP ON MY HOLE AGAIN!
I WON'T!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID DON'T STEP ON MY HOLE!!
OKAY. WHATEVER.
COMIN' DOWN IS A LOT HARDER THAN GOIN' UP!
JUST TRUST YOUR HANDS. I GOTCHA.
BACK UP! BACK UP!
BUT I HAVE TO STAND HERE! WHAT IF MY COUSIN FALLS?
DON'T I GOT RIGHTS?! HOW IS IT MY FAULT IF HE FALLS?! DON'T BLAME ME, MISTER!
SNAP!
uh, oh!

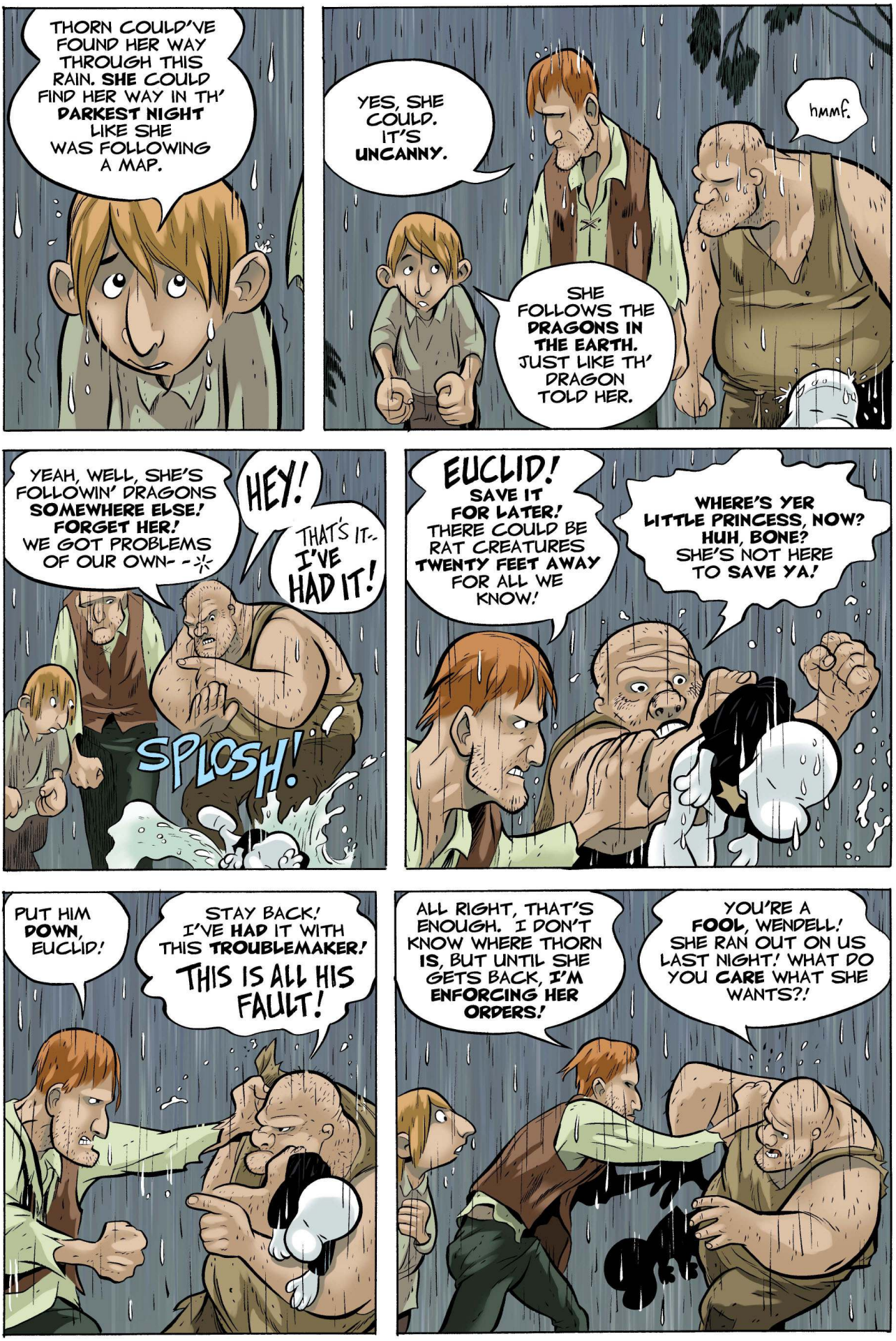

I'M NOT BLAMIN' YOU, JEEZ.
ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING!
THAT'S YOUR OWN FAULT, YOU KNOW.
ZIP!
BONK
CLICK!
WHOOOPS!
HOLD ON, LITTLE PAL! I'LL GET YOU OUTTA THERE!
WELL, BLESS MY STARS!
SMILEY! IT'S ME! TED TH' BUG!
TED! YOU FOUND US! WE'RE SAVED!
YOU GUYS WUN'T EASY TA FIND, LEMME TELL YA! I BEEN ALL OVER TH' PLACE... AFTER ALL TH' RUMORS I HEARD, I WAS GETTIN' WORRIED - -
RUMORS? WHAT RUMORS?
SAY, TED, GIMME A HAND HERE, WILL YA?


SURE! GLAD TO HELP!
RRRR! GRNT GRNT!
UNNH! ERRR!
uuh OOF! RRR! GRR! AARR!
ARRR! GRUNT UR! UR! UR!
UGH! RRRR! PANT! OOF! WHEEZ! GROWL! GRRR! OH! GRUNT!
POW!
YAY! FONE BONE!
HEY, FONE BONE! LOOK WHO'S HERE! WE'RE SAVED!
TED!
FONE BONE? DID HE SAY FONE BONE?!


YEAH, I SAID FONE BONE, AN' THIS IS HIM.
oh! oh!
OH, MY! YOU'RE TH' ONE THEY'RE LOOKIN' FOR!!! THE ONE WHO KILLED KINGDOK!!
KILLED KINGDOK? WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DIDN'T KILL ANYBODY.
STAY AWAY FROM ME! YOU GUYS ARE TROUBLE!
BUT WAIT! I DIDN'T KILL KINGDOK, I SWEAR - - HOW COULD I? HE'S GIGANTIC!
BESIDES, THE LAST TIME WE SAW THAT DUDE, HE WAS ALIVE!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I HEARD.
I HEARD THAT KINGDOK IS DEAD, AN' THERES A RUMOR GOIN' ROUND THAT BONE KILLED HIM!
WHAT?!
MAYBE ROCK JAW KILLED HIM!
YEAH! YEAH! WE SAW A GIANT MOUNTAIN LION NAMED ROQUE JA ATTACK KINGDOK A FEW DAYS AGO!
TORE HIM UP PRETTY GOOD, TOO. BUT HE WAS ALIVE AFTER THAT...
IS THORN OKAY? IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
FROM THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN WE SAW COLUMNS OF SMOKE COMING FROM THE FOREST...
IT'S BAD, BONE - - REAL BAD. THAT'S WHY I BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU...
TELL ME! IS SHE OKAY?


LAST I SAW THORN SHE WAS RESCUING THE GREAT RED DRAGON FROM PHONEY BONE'S **LYNCH MOB.**
OH NO!
I KNEW IT! I **KNEW** IT HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH PHONEY! **WHAT HAPPENED?**
THORN **SAVED** THE DRAGON, BUT AT THAT VERY **SAME MOMENT**, THE RAT CREATURES **INVADED** THE VALLEY!
'THAT'S TH' **SMOKE** YOU SAW! THOSE MONSTERS ARE BURNING EVERY FARM IN THEIR **PATH!**
OHMYGOSH.
LUCKILY, AIN'T NOBODY BEEN **KILT** YET, AS FAR AS I **KNOWS**, BUT LOTSA FOLKS IS **HOMELESS** AN' **SCARED!**
WAIT'LL I GET MY HANDS ON THAT **NO-GOOD, SELFISH COUSIN** OF OURS - - *HIM* AND THAT **STUPID *STAR* SHIRT** HE ALWAYS WEARS!
EVER SINCE WE **CAME** TO THIS VALLEY THE RAT CREATURES HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR *THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR* - -
- - BECAUSE **THEY** THINK PHONEY'S A **THREAT** TO THEM, AN' NOW THEY'RE SEARCHING FOR **YOU** CAUSE THEY THINK YOU KILLED **KINGDOK!**
YOU KNOW WHAT THE **WORST** THING IS? BECAUSE OF **US**, THE ENEMY KNOWS **THORN** IS A MEMBER OF THE LOST ROYAL FAMILY. NOW **SHE'S** IN DANGER, TOO.
MAYBE THAT GROUNDHOG WAS RIGHT. WE **ARE** TROUBLE!
WELL, C'MON, TED, TAKE US **BACK.**
LET'S GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS "***ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR***" BUSINESS BEFORE SOMEONE REALLY **DOES** GET HURT - -
OR **WORSE!**

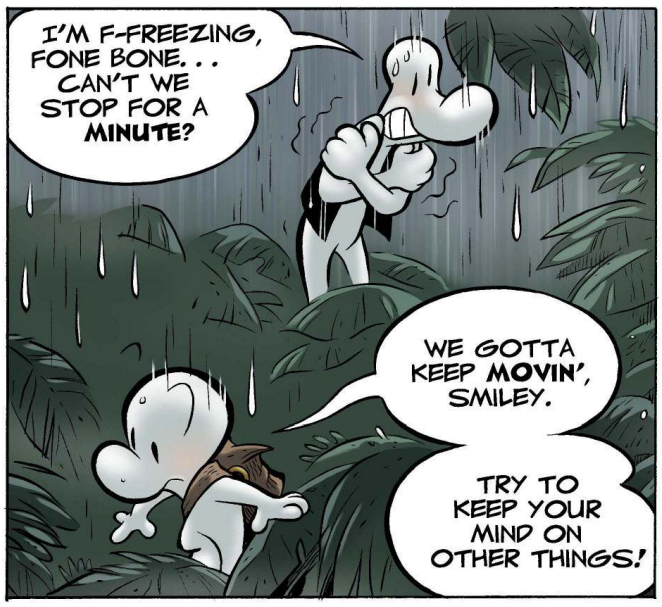

WHAT A MESS...
I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW SHE COULD LEAVE US LIKE THAT.
MOVE OVER, RUNT! YER STEPPIN' ON MY FEET.
SORRY.
MAYBE WE SHOULD STOP. I CAN'T SEE MY HAND IN FRONT OF MY FACE.
!
HEY! WHAT'D I SAY?
THAT'S YOUR LAST WARNIN', BONE!
I'M SORRY! IT'S SLIPPERY!
SPLOOP
WE'LL NEVER FIND OLD MAN'S CAVE. THIS WAY.
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THORN WOULD DO THIS.
WELL, BELIEVE IT. SHE SLIPPED OFF IN TH' MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT WITHOUT SAYIN' A WORD, AN' NOW WE'RE WANDERIN' AROUND OUT HERE BLIND!


THORN COULD'VE FOUND HER WAY THROUGH THIS RAIN. SHE COULD FIND HER WAY IN TH' DARKEST NIGHT LIKE SHE WAS FOLLOWING A MAP.
YES, SHE COULD. IT'S UNCANNY.
hmmf.
SHE FOLLOWS THE DRAGONS IN THE EARTH. JUST LIKE TH' DRAGON TOLD HER.
YEAH, WELL, SHE'S FOLLOWIN' DRAGONS SOMEWHERE ELSE! FORGET HER! WE GOT PROBLEMS OF OUR OWN- -
HEY!
THAT'S IT- I'VE HAD IT!
SPLOSH!
EUCLID! SAVE IT FOR LATER! THERE COULD BE RAT CREATURES TWENTY FEET AWAY FOR ALL WE KNOW!
WHERE'S YER LITTLE PRINCESS, NOW? HUH, BONE? SHE'S NOT HERE TO SAVE YA!
PUT HIM DOWN, EUCLID!
STAY BACK! I'VE HAD IT WITH THIS TROUBLEMAKER!
THIS IS ALL HIS FAULT!
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH. I DON'T KNOW WHERE THORN IS, BUT UNTIL SHE GETS BACK, I'M ENFORCING HER ORDERS!
YOU'RE A FOOL, WENDELL! SHE RAN OUT ON US LAST NIGHT! WHAT DO YOU CARE WHAT SHE WANTS?!

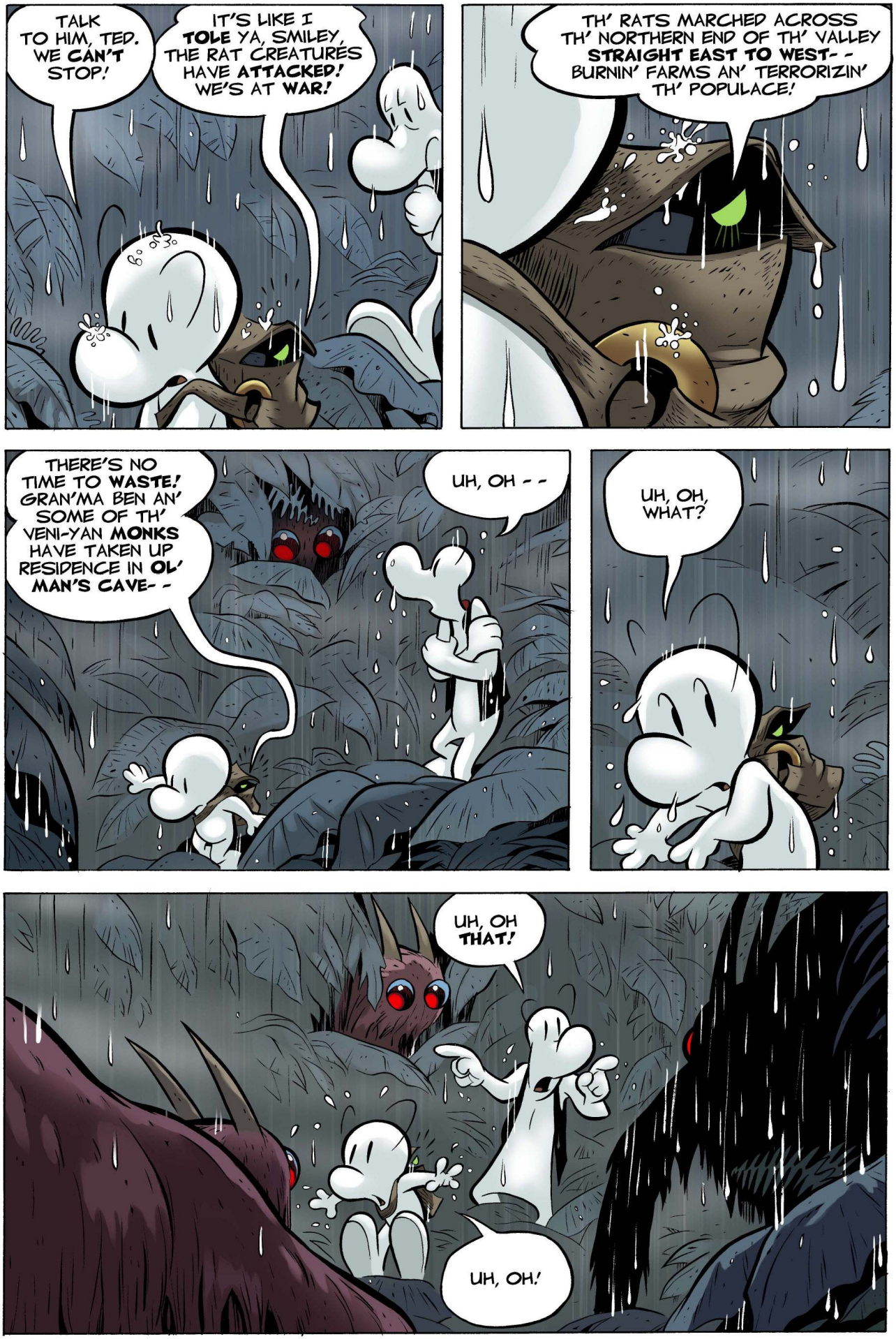

I CARE BECAUSE SHE'S A HARVESTAR!
THE HARVESTARS WERE WIPED OUT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO WHEN ATHEIA WAS SACKED! THERE'S NOBODY ALIVE WITH THAT NAME!
THERE'VE BEEN RUMORS FOR YEARS THAT THE LITTLE GIRL SURVIVED THE MASSACRE--
YEAH, I KNOW, AN' OL' GRAN'MA BEN IS TH' LOST QUEEN OF TH' VALLEY!
HALT!
WHO'S THERE?
THERE'S A WAR ON, GENTLEMEN. CONTROL YOURSELVES . . .
. . . OR I'LL PICK YOU BOTH UP, AN' KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO YOU.
GRAN'MA BEN - - !
WHERE'S MY GRANDDAUGHTER? WHERE'S THORN?

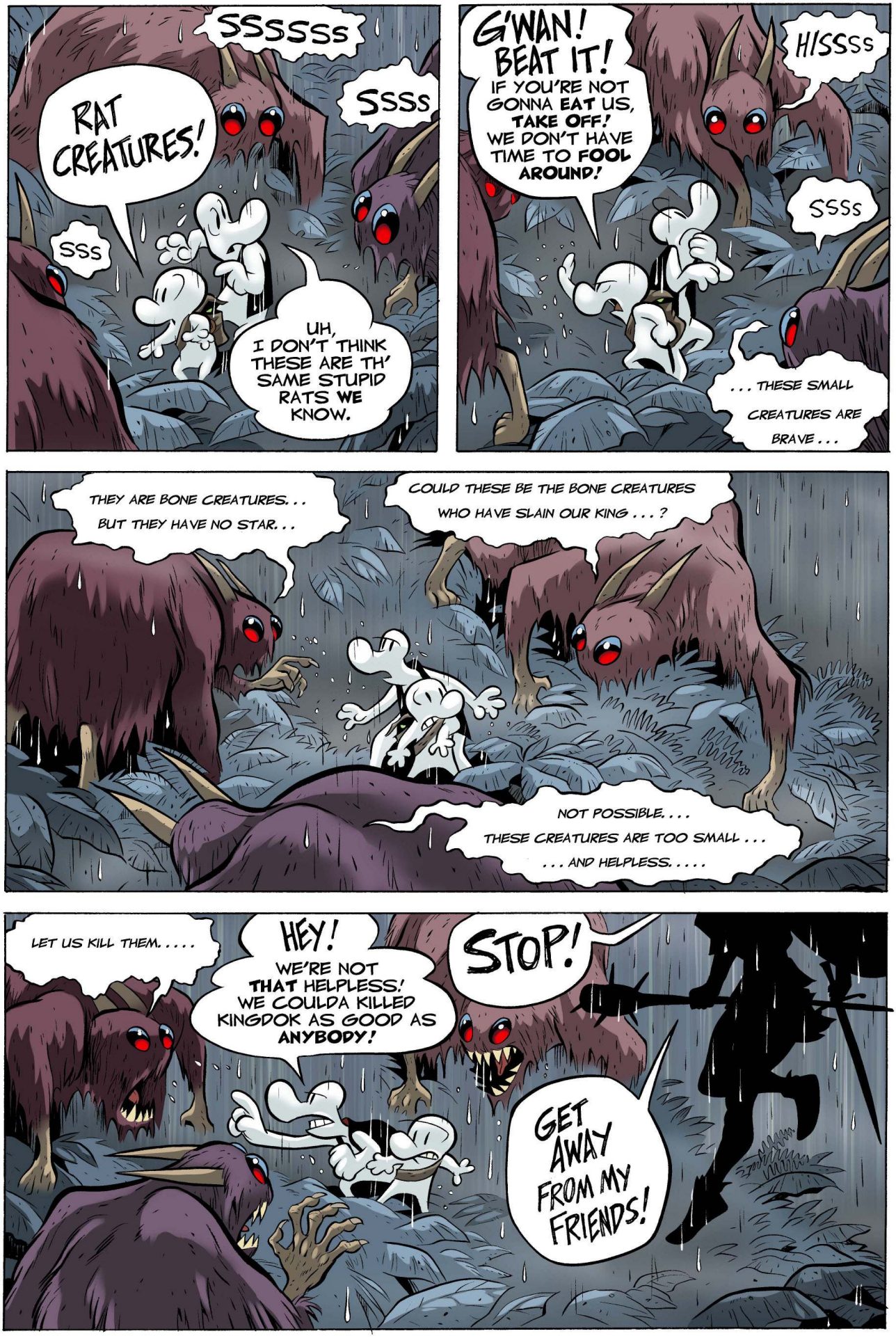

SHE WAS WITH US LAST NIGHT, BUT WE GOT UP THIS MORNING, AND SHE WAS GONE.
I'LL FIND HER.
LUCIUS! YOU'RE ALIVE!
COME WITH ME. WE'RE NEAR THE CAVE NOW, AND YOU CAN DRY OFF - -
TH - THAT'S AMAZING.
LUCIUS TOOK OFF AFTER THORN WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT ABOUT HIS OWN SAFETY.
THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S A VERY REMARKABLE MAN.
I'M SURPRISED YOU NOTICED, PHONCIBLE.
COME. IT'S NOT SAFE OUT HERE, YOU'LL CATCH YOUR DEATH.

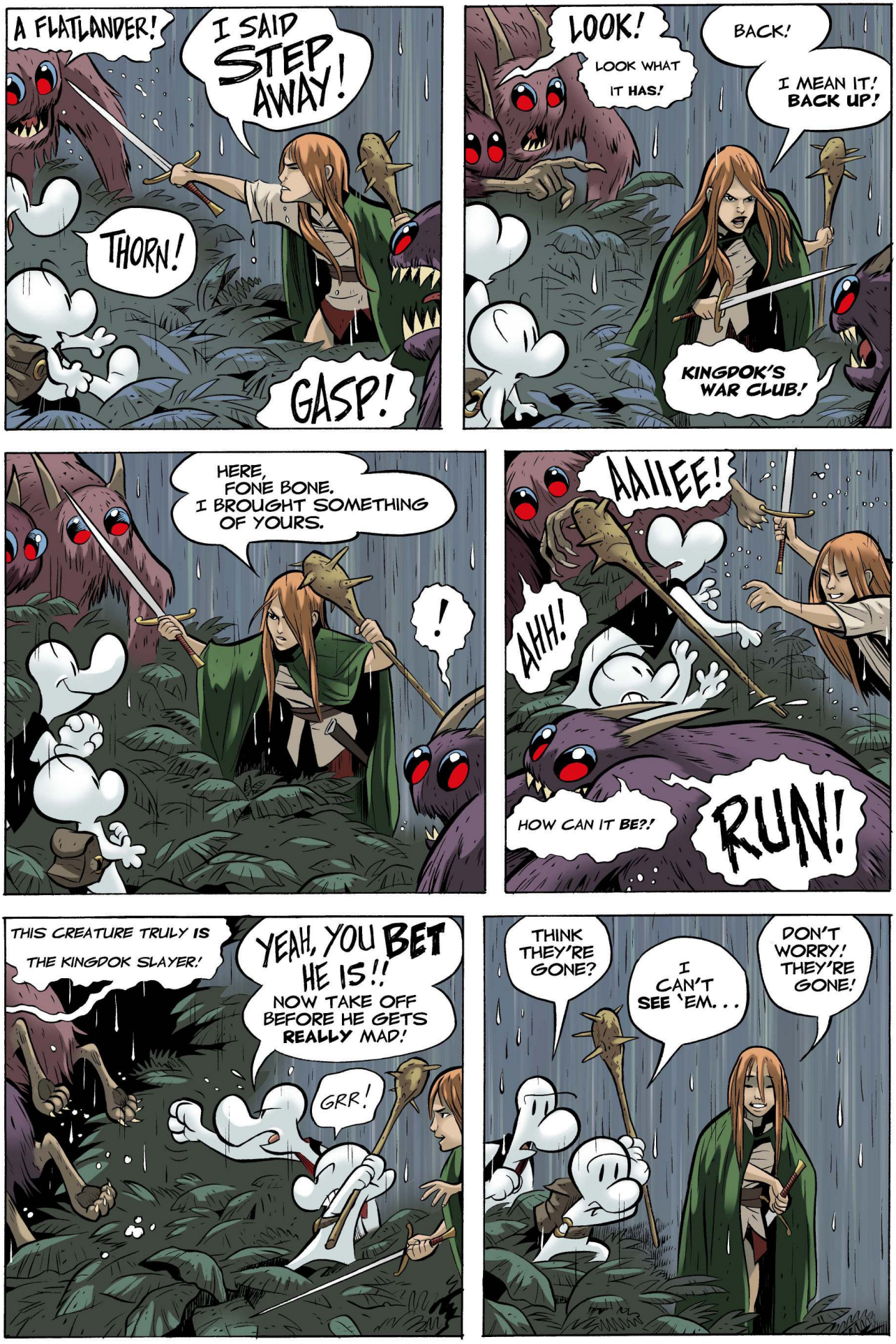


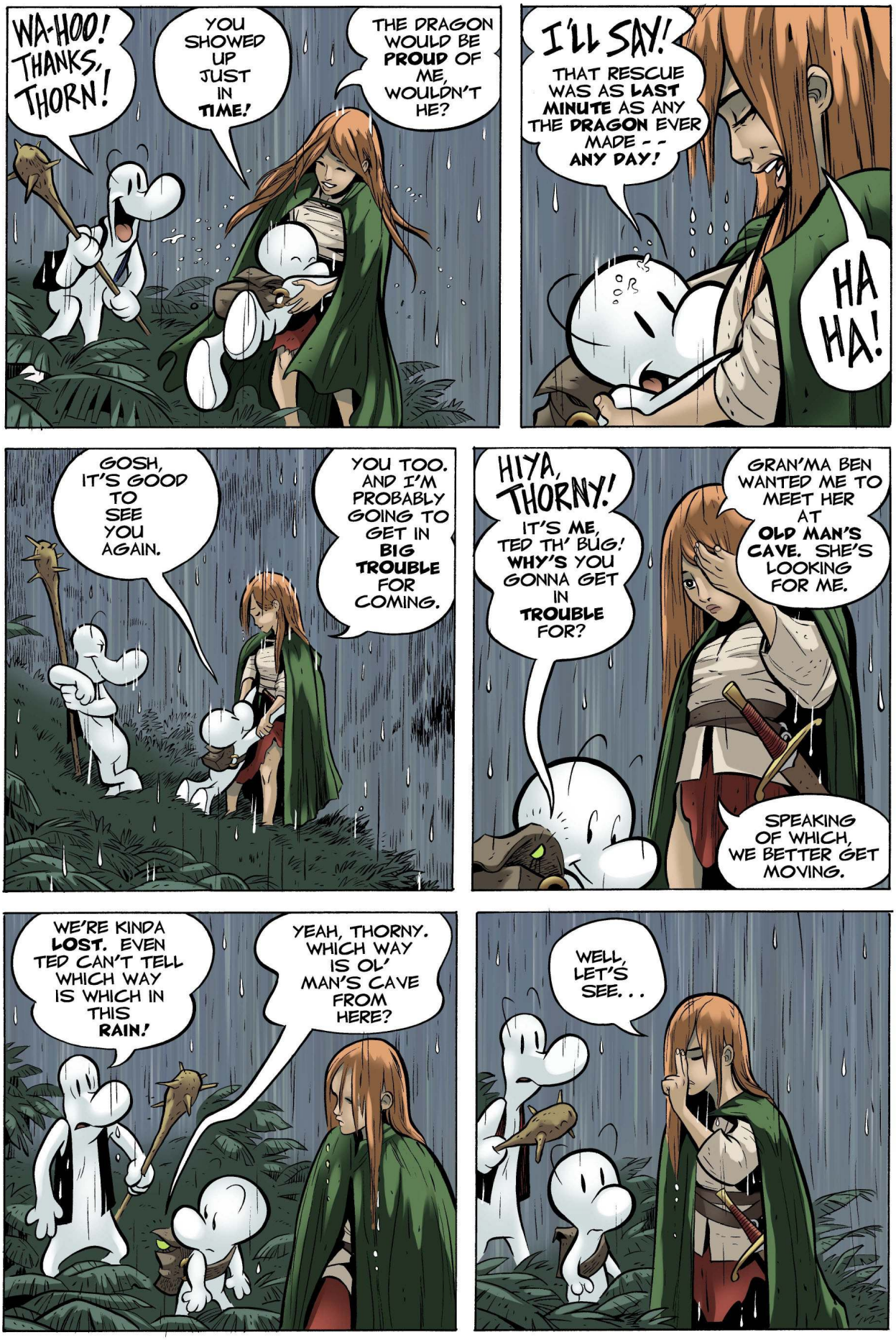

I'M F-FREEZING, FONE BONE... CAN'T WE STOP FOR A MINUTE?
WE GOTTA KEEP MOVIN', SMILEY.
TRY TO KEEP YOUR MIND ON OTHER THINGS!


BUT I'M GETTIN' SO SLEEPY...
PINCH YOURSELF - -
WE HAVE TO GET BACK! I'M WORRIED THAT SOMETHING BAD HAS HAPPENED!

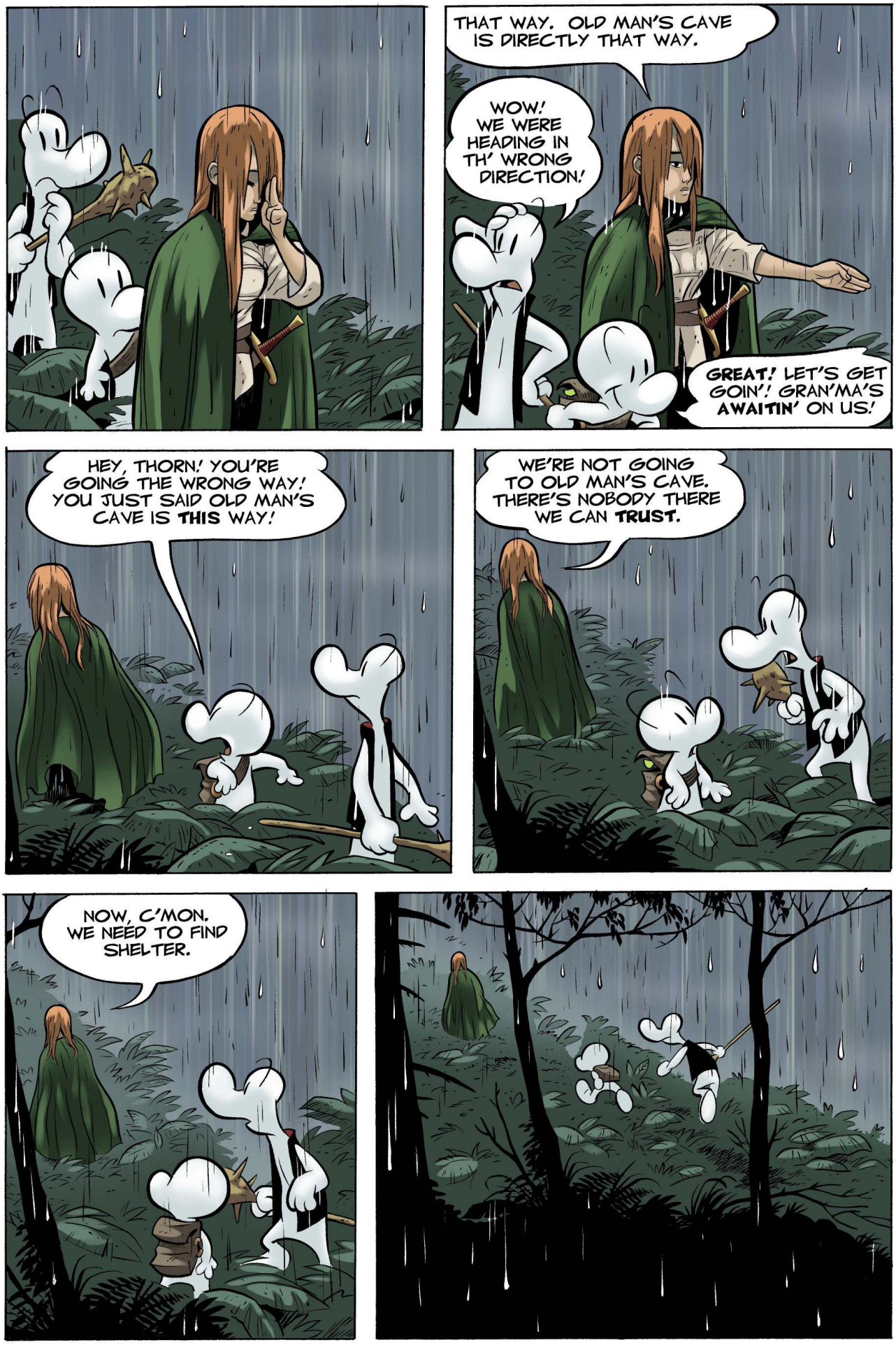

TALK TO HIM, TED. WE CAN'T STOP!
IT'S LIKE I TOLE YA, SMILEY, THE RAT CREATURES HAVE ATTACKED! WE'S AT WAR!
TH' RATS MARCHED ACROSS TH' NORTHERN END OF TH' VALLEY STRAIGHT EAST TO WEST- - BURNIN' FARMS AN' TERRORIZIN' TH' POPULACE!
THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE! GRAN'MA BEN AN' SOME OF TH' VENI-YAN MONKS HAVE TAKEN UP RESIDENCE IN OL' MAN'S CAVE- -
UH, OH - -
UH, OH, WHAT?
UH, OH THAT!
UH, OH!

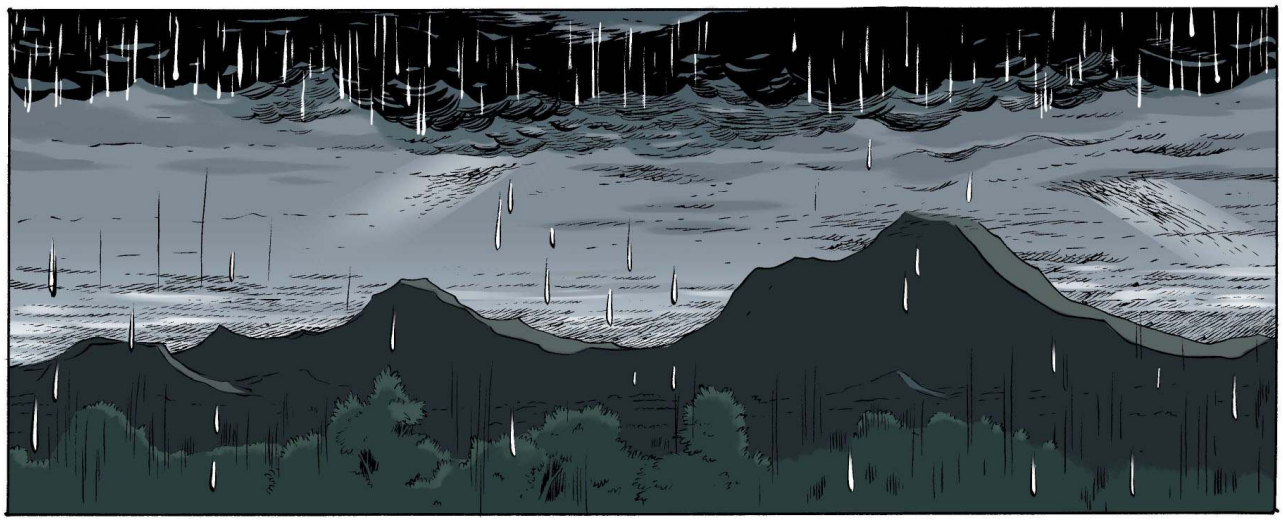

SSSSSs
RAT CREATURES!
SSS
SSSs
UH, I DON'T THINK THESE ARE TH' SAME STUPID RATS WE KNOW.
G'WAN! BEAT IT!
IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA EAT US, TAKE OFF! WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO FOOL AROUND!
HISSSs
SSSs
. . . THESE SMALL CREATURES ARE BRAVE . . .
THEY ARE BONE CREATURES. . . BUT THEY HAVE NO STAR. . .
COULD THESE BE THE BONE CREATURES WHO HAVE SLAIN OUR KING . . . ?
NOT POSSIBLE. . . . THESE CREATURES ARE TOO SMALL . . . . . AND HELPLESS. . . . .
LET US KILL THEM. . . . .
HEY! WE'RE NOT THAT HELPLESS! WE COULDA KILLED KINGDOK AS GOOD AS ANYBODY!
STOP!
GET AWAY FROM MY FRIENDS!


A FLATLANDER!
I SAID STEP AWAY!
THORN!
GASP!
LOOK!
LOOK WHAT IT HAS!
BACK!
I MEAN IT! BACK UP!
KINGDOK'S WAR CLUB!
HERE, FONE BONE. I BROUGHT SOMETHING OF YOURS.
!
AAIIEE!
AHH!
HOW CAN IT BE?!
RUN!
THIS CREATURE TRULY IS THE KINGDOK SLAYER!
YEAH, YOU BET HE IS!! NOW TAKE OFF BEFORE HE GETS REALLY MAD!
GRR!
THINK THEY'RE GONE?
I CAN'T SEE 'EM. . .
DON'T WORRY! THEY'RE GONE!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THAT WAY. OLD MAN'S CAVE IS DIRECTLY THAT WAY.
WOW! WE WERE HEADING IN TH' WRONG DIRECTION!
GREAT! LET'S GET GOIN'! GRAN'MA'S AWAITIN' ON US!
HEY, THORN! YOU'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY! YOU JUST SAID OLD MAN'S CAVE IS THIS WAY!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO OLD MAN'S CAVE. THERE'S NOBODY THERE WE CAN TRUST.
NOW, C'MON. WE NEED TO FIND SHELTER.



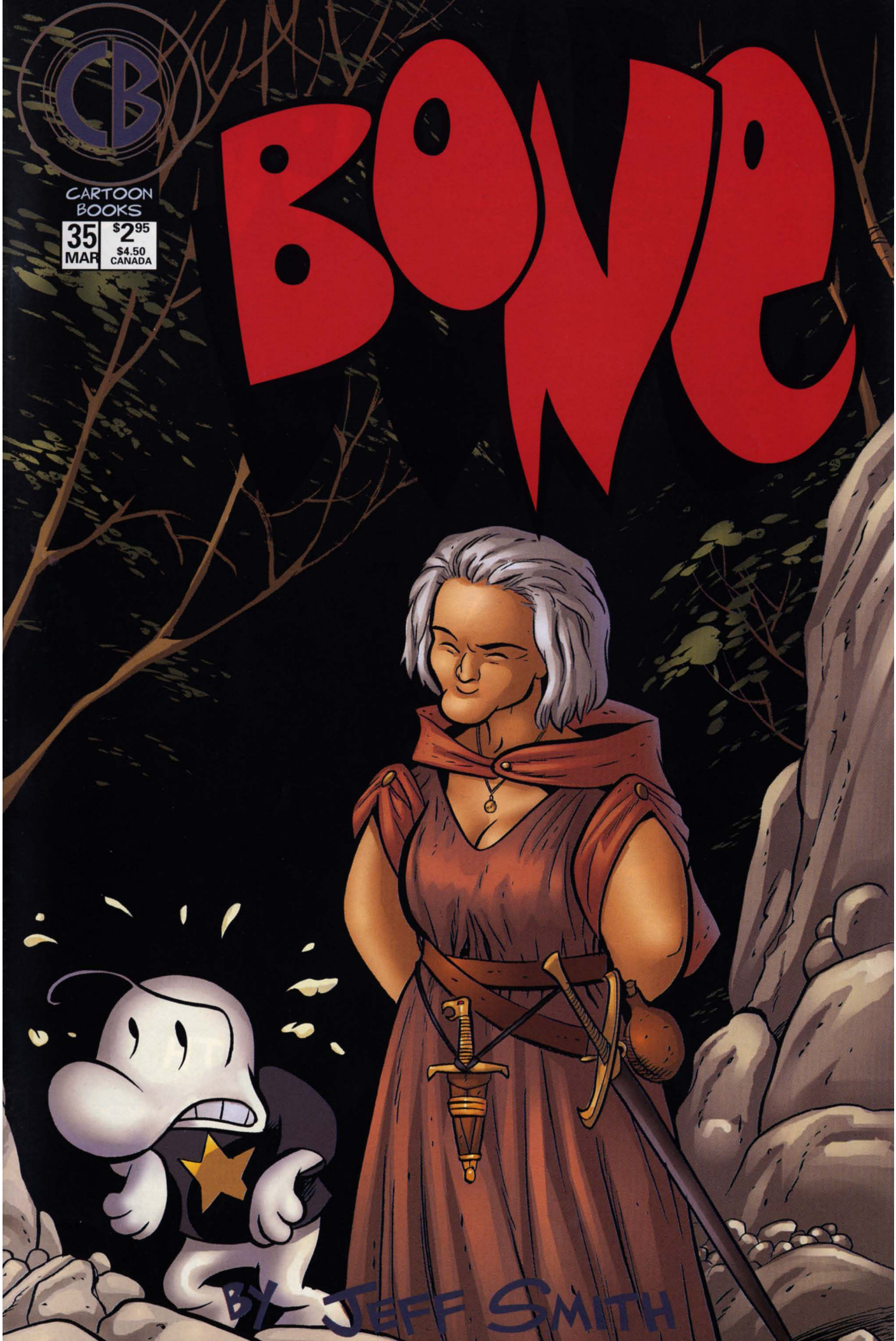

. . . BUT MY LORD, I OFFER THESE RUMORS OF KINGDOK'S DEATH AS PROOF THAT THE BONES ARE POWERFUL MAGICIANS . . .
HOW ELSE CAN WE EXPLAIN IT? KINGDOK WAS ATTACKED, YES . . . BUT HE LIVES!
. . . YOUR OBSESSION WITH THESE OUTSIDERS . . ESPECIALLY THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR . . . BEGINS TO CONCERN US . . .



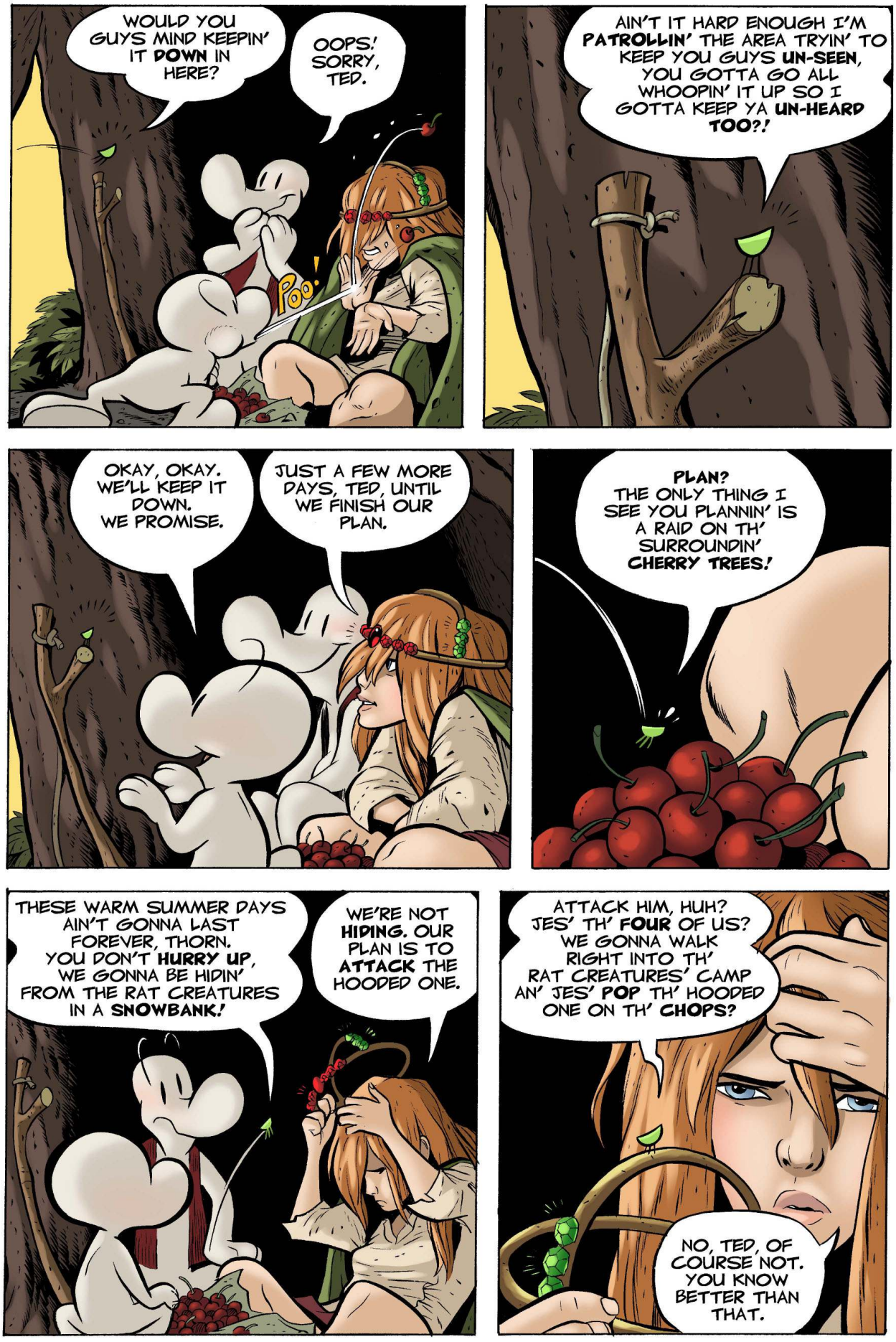
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

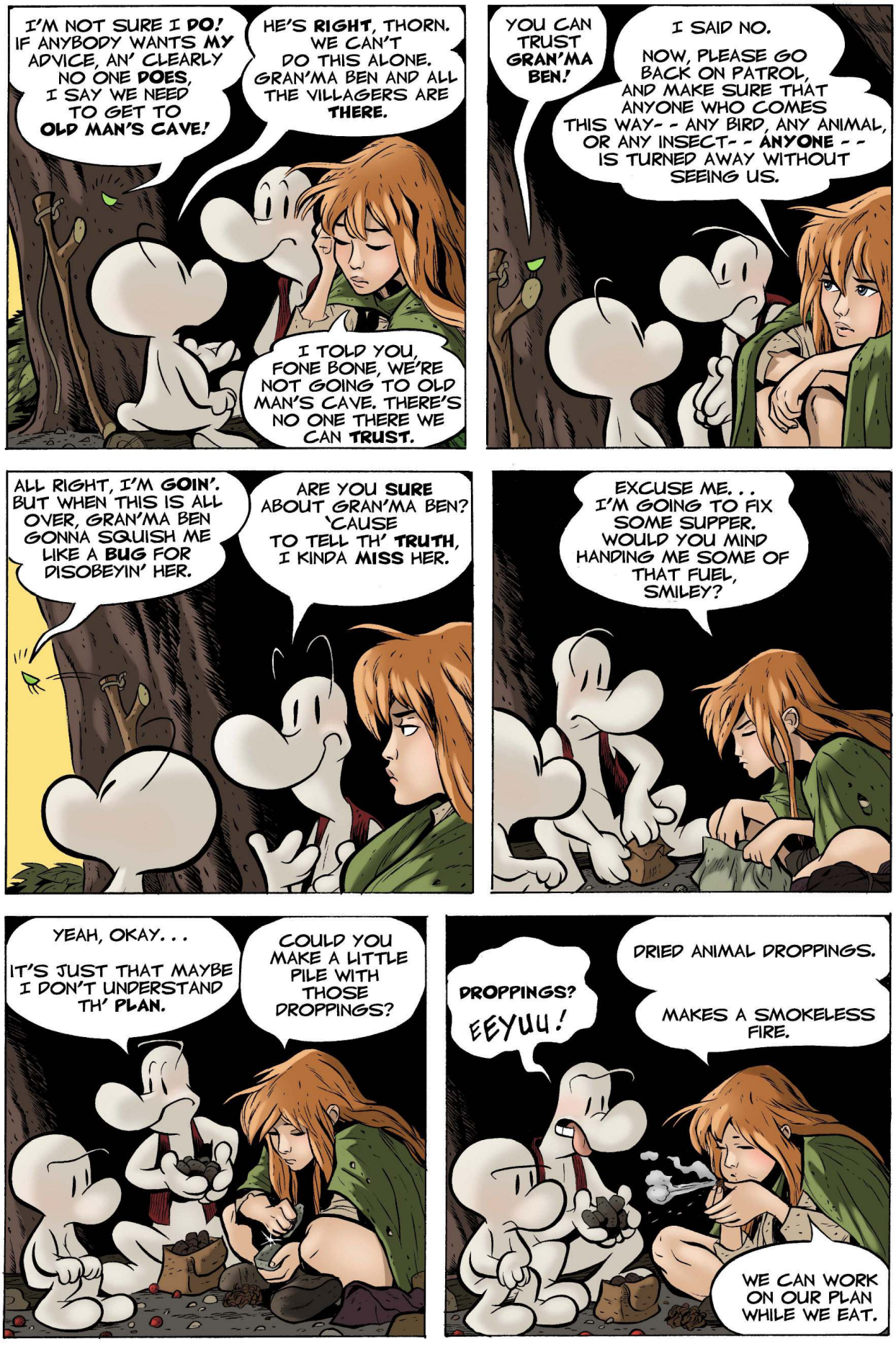

MASTER . . .
PLEASE DO NOT BE ANGRY . . .
OUR PLAN IS **WORKING!**
OUR MILITARY OBJECTIVE . . . TO CAUSE WIDESPREAD FEAR AND PANIC HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED . . . WE HAVE SWEPT ACROSS THE VALLEY AND BACK . . . DESTROYING EVERY FARM IN OUR PATH . . .
THE FLATLANDERS ARE BECOMING DISCONNECTED . . . THE STAR BEARER HAS **HELPED** BY SOWING SEEDS OF DISTRUST AGAINST THE DRAGONS!
REACH OUT!
DO YOU NOT **FEEL** IT?
THE BALANCE IS **SHIFTING!**
SOON YOU WILL BE **FREE** . . .
YES . . . IT IS TRUE . . . WE ARE COMING CLOSER TO THE SURFACE . . .
THEN HEAR ME, O LORD . . .
THE PRINCESS SURELY HAS THE POWER TO **FREE** YOU . . .
BUT SHE ALSO HAS THE STRENGTH TO **DESTROY YOU** - -
. . . PERHAPS YOU ARE JEALOUS OF THE PRINCESS AND THAT IS WHY YOU PREFER THE STAR BEARER . . .
MASTER. . . I AM BUT YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT. . .
I MERELY PROPOSE THAT THE VENI-YAN-CARI IS MORE POWERFUL AND POSES A GREATER **RISK** SHOULD IT BECOME NECESSARY TO PERFORM A **SACRIFICE** . . .
AND SHE WOULD TAKE YOUR PLACE AS OUR EYES AND HANDS . . .
PLEASE . . . MY LORD,
IF YOU COULD SEE THE **OMEN** . . .
YOU WOULD KNOW THAT THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR **IS** A VENI-YAN-CARI . . .
THE TWO OF US **WILL** BE ABLE TO SHIFT THE DREAMING . . . AND WITH LESS RISK TO YOURSELF.
YES . . . YOU ARE RIGHT. . .
YES . . .
FOR NOW AT LEAST. . . YOU ARE OUR EYES . . .

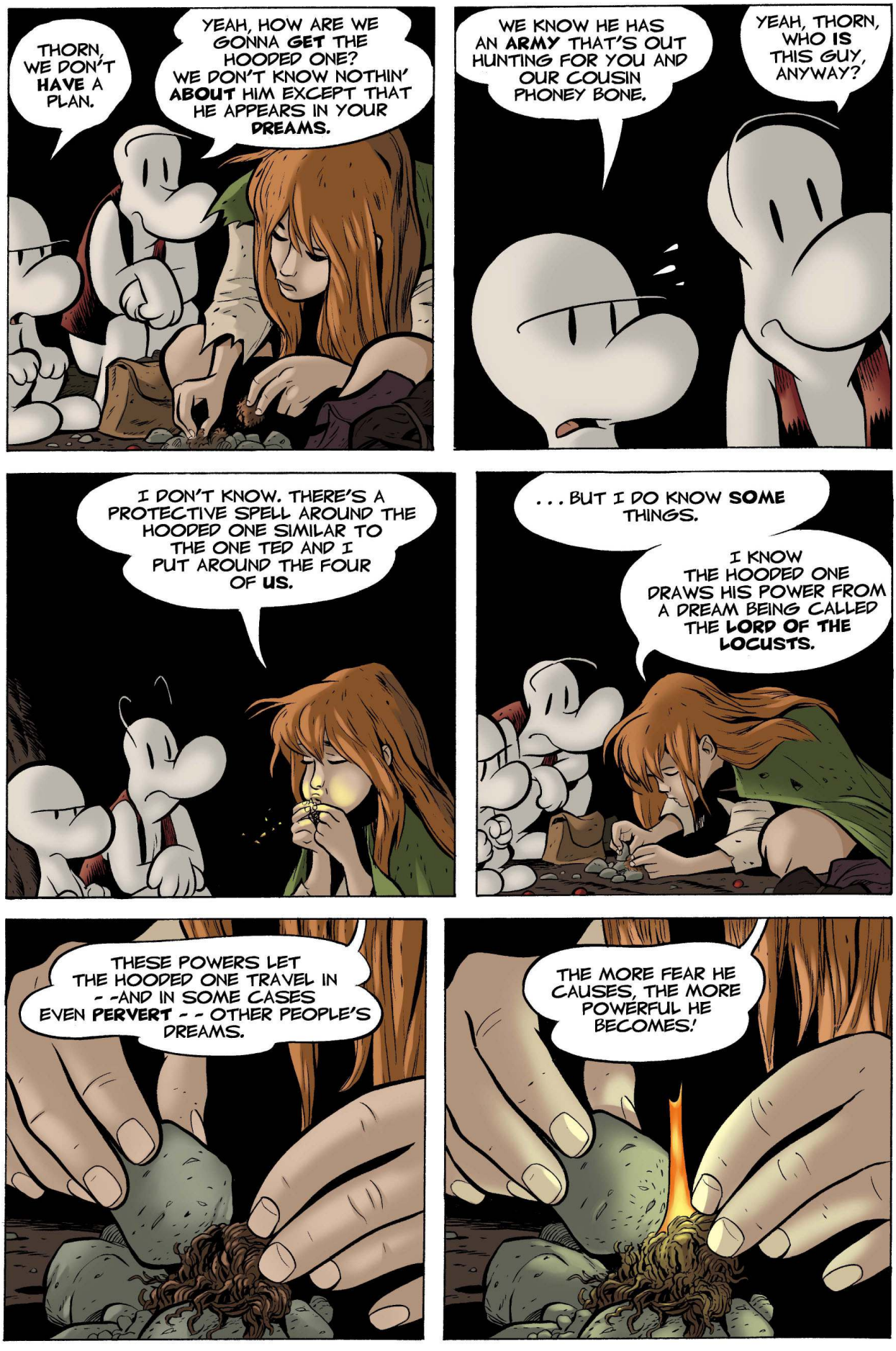

IF THIS OMEN THAT ANNOUNCED THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR IS AS POWERFUL AS YOU SAY... THEN YOU MAY CONTINUE YOUR SEARCH FOR THIS CREATURE ...
...BUT IF YOU ARE WRONG...
...THEN BE PREPARED FOR YOUR END TO BE VERY... ...VERY ... PAINFUL ...

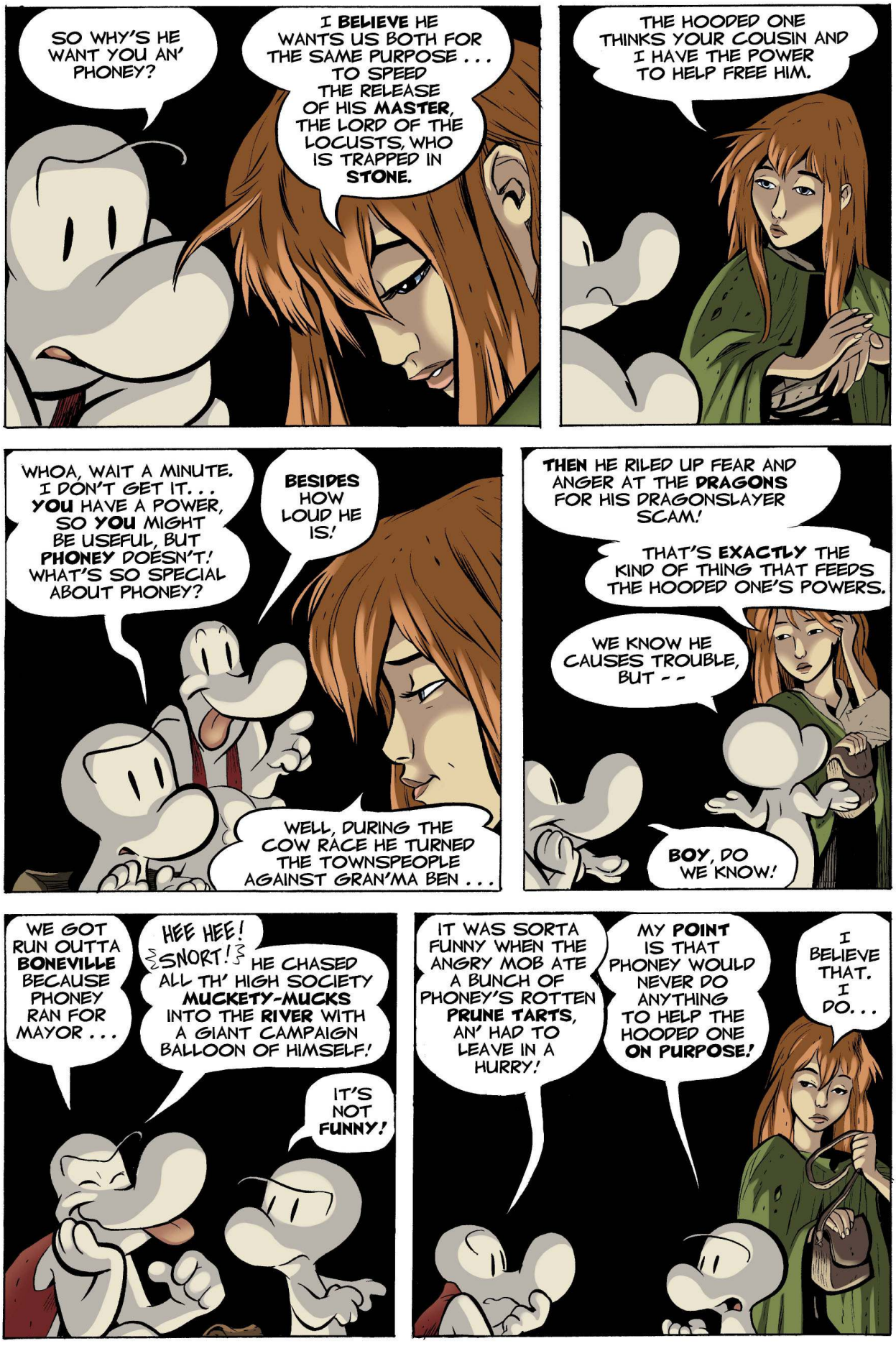

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
35
MAR
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

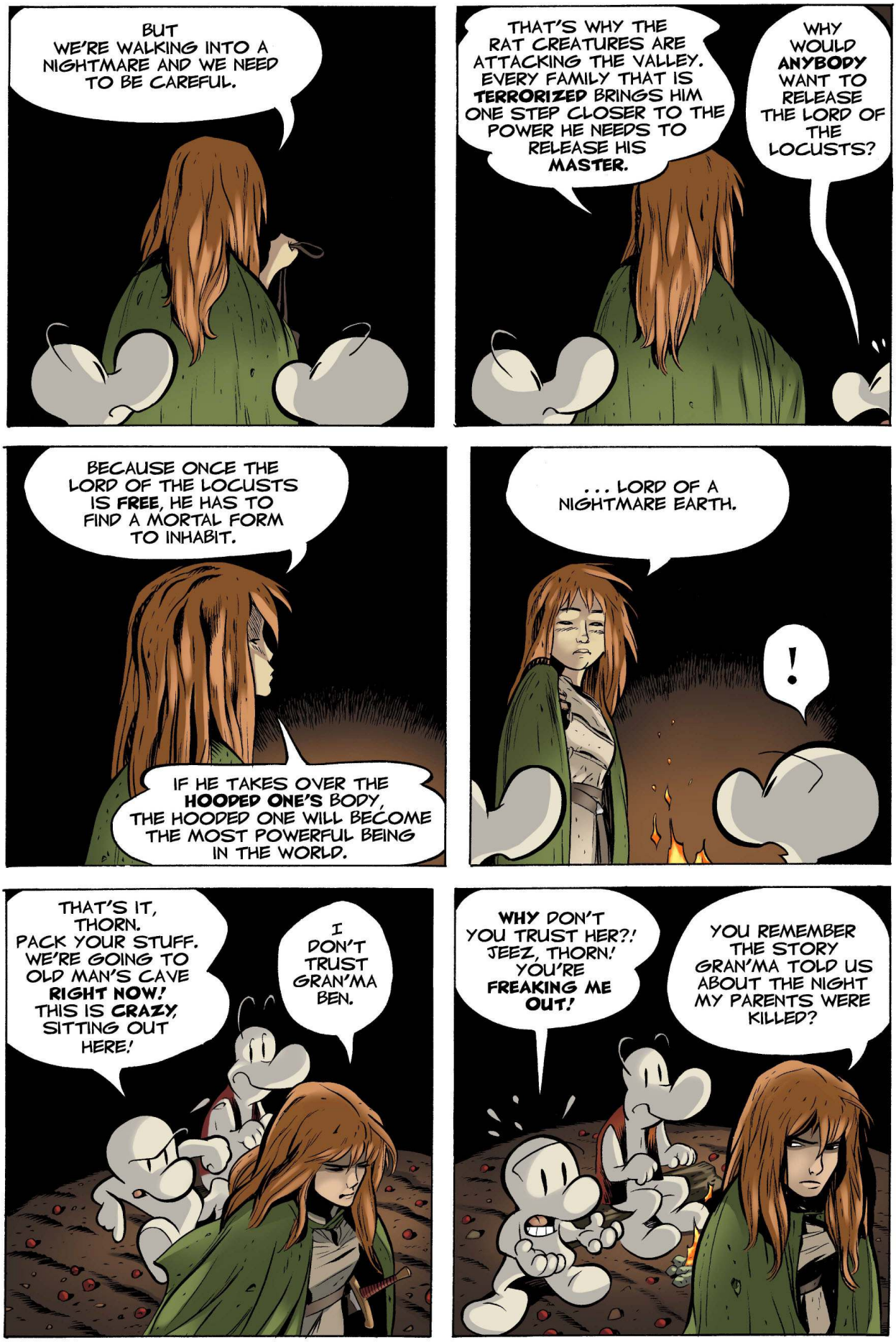

BONE
HA! HA HA HA!
HA HA!
GIMME THOSE CHERRIES! OW! NO FAIR!
HA! SHE GOT YOU BACK!
BIP!
POO!
HEY! WHOA!
HA HA HA!


WOULD YOU GUYS MIND KEEPIN' IT **DOWN** IN HERE?
OOPS! SORRY, TED.
Poo!
AIN'T IT HARD ENOUGH I'M **PATROLLIN'** THE AREA TRYIN' TO KEEP YOU GUYS **UN-SEEN**, YOU GOTTA GO ALL WHOOPIN' IT UP SO I GOTTA KEEP YA **UN-HEARD TOO?!**
OKAY, OKAY. WE'LL KEEP IT DOWN. WE PROMISE.
JUST A FEW MORE DAYS, TED, UNTIL WE FINISH OUR PLAN.
PLAN? THE ONLY THING I SEE YOU PLANNIN' IS A RAID ON TH' SURROUNDIN' **CHERRY TREES!**
THESE WARM SUMMER DAYS AIN'T GONNA LAST FOREVER, THORN. YOU DON'T **HURRY UP**, WE GONNA BE HIDIN' FROM THE RAT CREATURES IN A **SNOWBANK!**
WE'RE NOT **HIDING.** OUR PLAN IS TO **ATTACK** THE HOODED ONE.
ATTACK HIM, HUH? JES' TH' **FOUR** OF US? WE GONNA WALK RIGHT INTO TH' RAT CREATURES' CAMP AN' JES' **POP** TH' HOODED ONE ON TH' **CHOPS?**
NO, TED, OF COURSE NOT. YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT.


I'M NOT SURE I DO! IF ANYBODY WANTS MY ADVICE, AN' CLEARLY NO ONE DOES, I SAY WE NEED TO GET TO OLD MAN'S CAVE!
HE'S RIGHT, THORN. WE CAN'T DO THIS ALONE. GRAN'MA BEN AND ALL THE VILLAGERS ARE THERE.
I TOLD YOU, FONE BONE, WE'RE NOT GOING TO OLD MAN'S CAVE. THERE'S NO ONE THERE WE CAN TRUST.
YOU CAN TRUST GRAN'MA BEN!
I SAID NO.
NOW, PLEASE GO BACK ON PATROL, AND MAKE SURE THAT ANYONE WHO COMES THIS WAY- - ANY BIRD, ANY ANIMAL, OR ANY INSECT- - ÁNYONE - - IS TURNED AWAY WITHOUT SEEING US.
ALL RIGHT, I'M GOIN'. BUT WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER, GRAN'MA BEN GONNA SQUISH ME LIKE A BUG FOR DISOBEYIN' HER.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT GRAN'MA BEN? 'CAUSE TO TELL TH' TRUTH, I KINDA MISS HER.
EXCUSE ME. . . I'M GOING TO FIX SOME SUPPER. WOULD YOU MIND HANDING ME SOME OF THAT FUEL, SMILEY?
YEAH, OKAY. . . IT'S JUST THAT MAYBE I DON'T UNDERSTAND TH' PLAN.
COULD YOU MAKE A LITTLE PILE WITH THOSE DROPPINGS?
DROPPINGS? EEYUU!
DRIED ANIMAL DROPPINGS. MAKES A SMOKELESS FIRE.
WE CAN WORK ON OUR PLAN WHILE WE EAT.

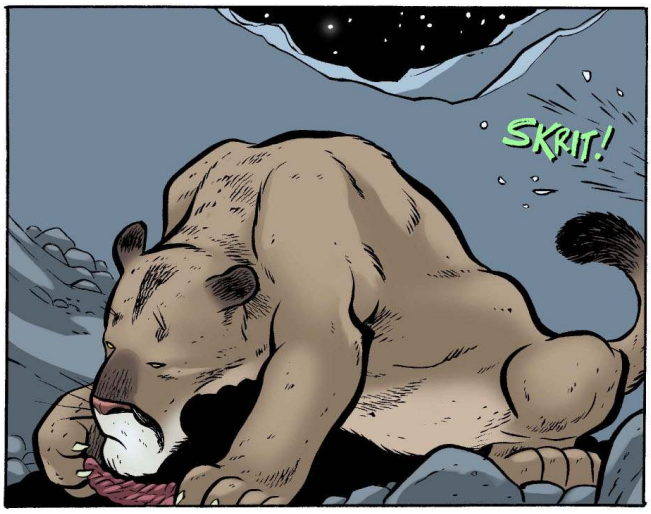

THORN, WE DON'T HAVE A PLAN.
YEAH, HOW ARE WE GONNA GET THE HOODED ONE? WE DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' ABOUT HIM EXCEPT THAT HE APPEARS IN YOUR DREAMS.
WE KNOW HE HAS AN ARMY THAT'S OUT HUNTING FOR YOU AND OUR COUSIN PHONEY BONE.
YEAH, THORN, WHO IS THIS GUY, ANYWAY?
I DON'T KNOW. THERE'S A PROTECTIVE SPELL AROUND THE HOODED ONE SIMILAR TO THE ONE TED AND I PUT AROUND THE FOUR OF US.
. . . BUT I DO KNOW SOME THINGS.
I KNOW THE HOODED ONE DRAWS HIS POWER FROM A DREAM BEING CALLED THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.
THESE POWERS LET THE HOODED ONE TRAVEL IN - -AND IN SOME CASES EVEN PERVERT - - OTHER PEOPLE'S DREAMS.
THE MORE FEAR HE CAUSES, THE MORE POWERFUL HE BECOMES!


SO WHY'S HE WANT YOU AN' PHONEY?
I BELIEVE HE WANTS US BOTH FOR THE SAME PURPOSE . . . TO SPEED THE RELEASE OF HIS MASTER, THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS, WHO IS TRAPPED IN STONE.
THE HOODED ONE THINKS YOUR COUSIN AND I HAVE THE POWER TO HELP FREE HIM.
WHOA, WAIT A MINUTE. I DON'T GET IT. . . YOU HAVE A POWER, SO YOU MIGHT BE USEFUL, BUT PHONEY DOESN'T! WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT PHONEY?
BESIDES HOW LOUD HE IS!
WELL, DURING THE COW RACE HE TURNED THE TOWNSPEOPLE AGAINST GRAN'MA BEN . . .
THEN HE RILED UP FEAR AND ANGER AT THE DRAGONS FOR HIS DRAGONSLAYER SCAM!
THAT'S EXACTLY THE KIND OF THING THAT FEEDS THE HOODED ONE'S POWERS.
WE KNOW HE CAUSES TROUBLE, BUT - -
BOY, DO WE KNOW!
WE GOT RUN OUTTA BONEVILLE BECAUSE PHONEY RAN FOR MAYOR . . .
HEE HEE! SNORT! HE CHASED ALL TH' HIGH SOCIETY MUCKETY-MUCKS INTO THE RIVER WITH A GIANT CAMPAIGN BALLOON OF HIMSELF!
IT'S NOT FUNNY!
IT WAS SORTA FUNNY WHEN THE ANGRY MOB ATE A BUNCH OF PHONEY'S ROTTEN PRUNE TARTS, AN' HAD TO LEAVE IN A HURRY!
MY POINT IS THAT PHONEY WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING TO HELP THE HOODED ONE ON PURPOSE!
I BELIEVE THAT. I DO. . .

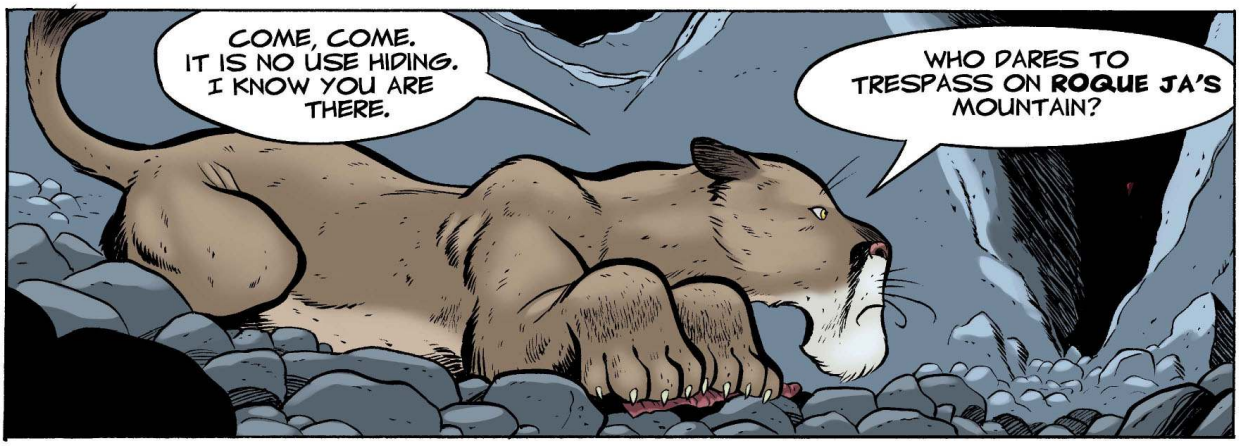

BUT WE'RE WALKING INTO A NIGHTMARE AND WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL.
THAT'S WHY THE RAT CREATURES ARE ATTACKING THE VALLEY. EVERY FAMILY THAT IS **TERRORIZED** BRINGS HIM ONE STEP CLOSER TO THE POWER HE NEEDS TO RELEASE HIS **MASTER.**
WHY WOULD **ANYBODY** WANT TO RELEASE THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS?
BECAUSE ONCE THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS IS **FREE**, HE HAS TO FIND A MORTAL FORM TO INHABIT.
IF HE TAKES OVER THE **HOODED ONE'S** BODY, THE HOODED ONE WILL BECOME THE MOST POWERFUL BEING IN THE WORLD.
. . . LORD OF A NIGHTMARE EARTH.
!
THAT'S IT, THORN. PACK YOUR STUFF. WE'RE GOING TO OLD MAN'S CAVE **RIGHT NOW!** THIS IS **CRAZY**, SITTING OUT HERE!
I DON'T TRUST GRAN'MA BEN.
WHY DON'T YOU TRUST HER?! JEEZ, THORN! YOU'RE **FREAKING ME OUT!**
YOU REMEMBER THE STORY GRAN'MA TOLD US ABOUT THE NIGHT MY PARENTS WERE KILLED?

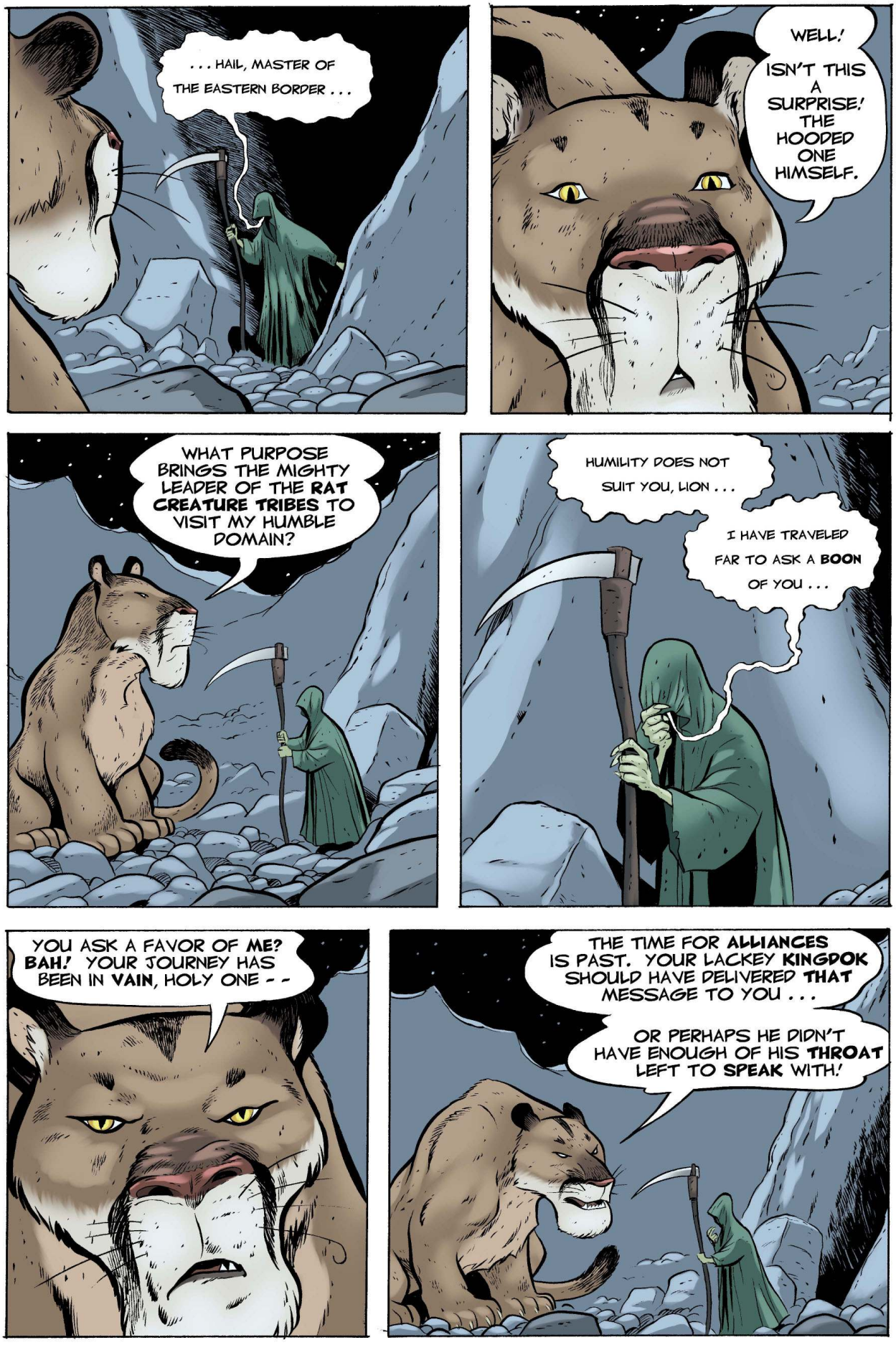

OF COURSE I DO! YOU AND YOUR PARENTS WERE ATTACKED BY **RAT CREATURES.** THE NURSEMAID BETRAYED YOU TO **KINGDOK.**
YES. WE WERE BETRAYED.
I KNOW MANY OF MY CHILDHOOD MEMORIES WERE HIDDEN FROM ME BY GRAN'MA BEN AND THE DRAGONS, BUT A LOT HAVE **RETURNED**. . .
AND THERE IS ONE THING I'M **SURE** OF- -
WE HAD NO NURSEMAID.

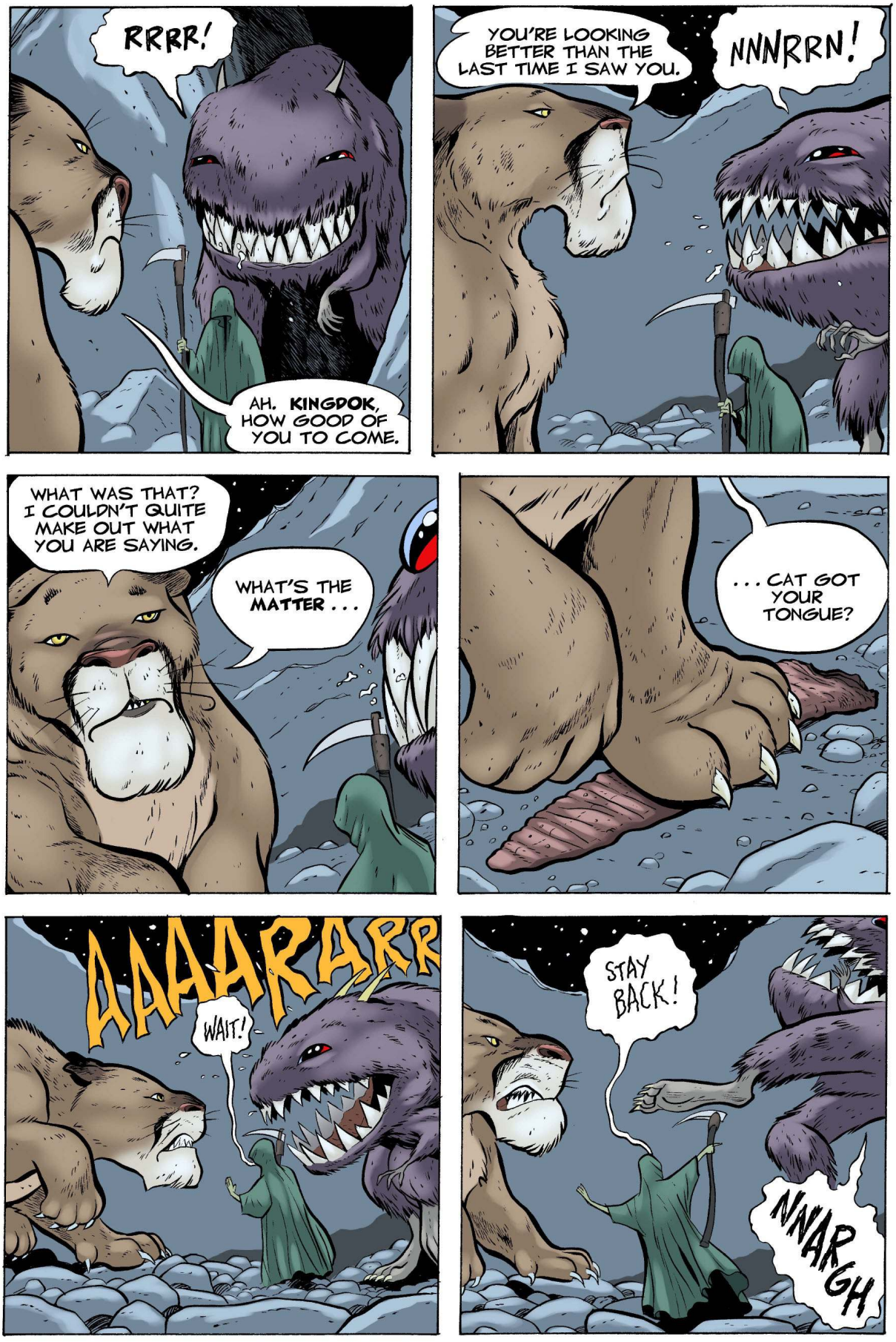



SKRIT!


WHO IS THERE?


COME, COME. IT IS NO USE HIDING. I KNOW YOU ARE THERE.
WHO DARES TO TRESPASS ON ROQUE JA'S MOUNTAIN?

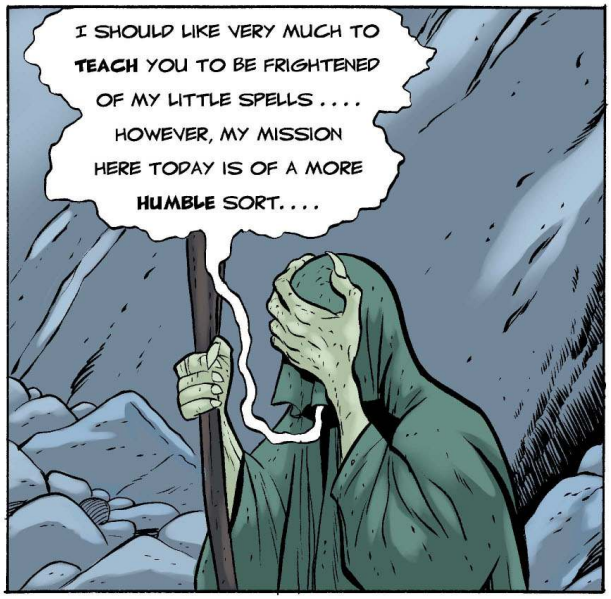

. . . HAIL, MASTER OF THE EASTERN BORDER . . .
WELL! ISN'T THIS A SURPRISE! THE HOODED ONE HIMSELF.
WHAT PURPOSE BRINGS THE MIGHTY LEADER OF THE RAT CREATURE TRIBES TO VISIT MY HUMBLE DOMAIN?
HUMILITY DOES NOT SUIT YOU, LION . . .
I HAVE TRAVELED FAR TO ASK A BOON OF YOU . . .
YOU ASK A FAVOR OF ME? BAH! YOUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN IN VAIN, HOLY ONE - -
THE TIME FOR ALLIANCES IS PAST. YOUR LACKEY KINGDOK SHOULD HAVE DELIVERED THAT MESSAGE TO YOU . . .
OR PERHAPS HE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH OF HIS THROAT LEFT TO SPEAK WITH!

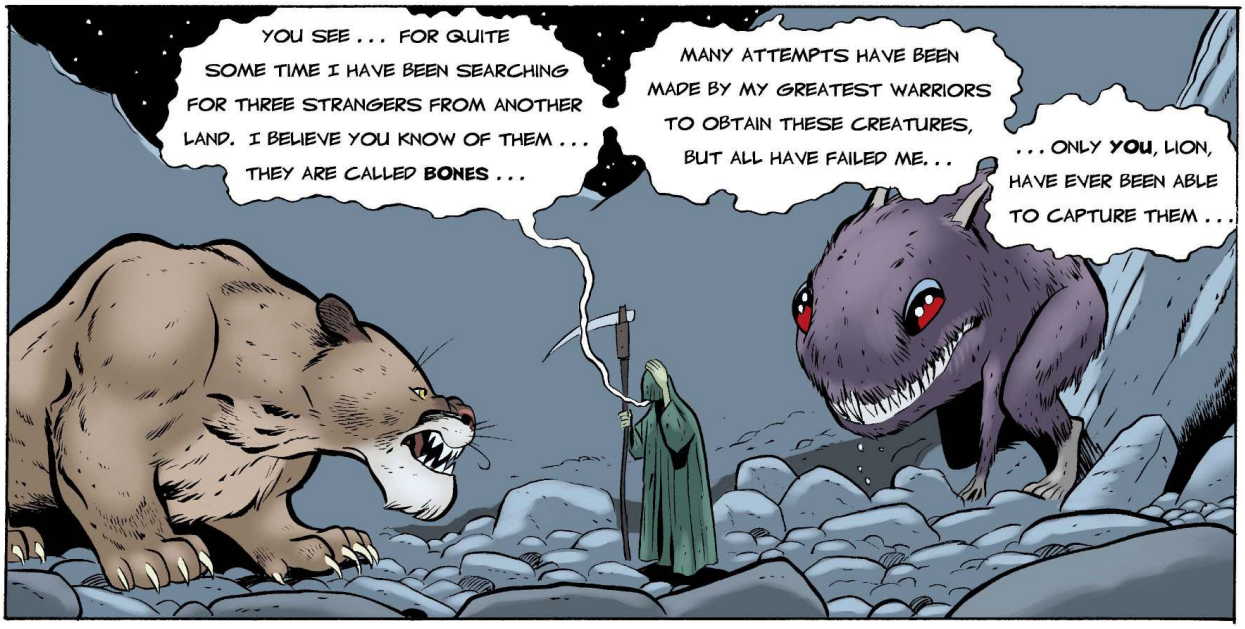


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


CONTROL YOURSELF, LION . . . . YOU TRY MY PATIENCE . . .


YOUR LITTLE SPELLS DON'T FRIGHTEN ME, STICKEATER. STATE YOUR BUSINESS OR BE OFF.


I SHOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO TEACH YOU TO BE FRIGHTENED OF MY LITTLE SPELLS . . . . HOWEVER, MY MISSION HERE TODAY IS OF A MORE HUMBLE SORT. . . .


YOU SEE . . . FOR QUITE SOME TIME I HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THREE STRANGERS FROM ANOTHER LAND. I BELIEVE YOU KNOW OF THEM . . . THEY ARE CALLED BONES . . .
MANY ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY MY GREATEST WARRIORS TO OBTAIN THESE CREATURES, BUT ALL HAVE FAILED ME. . .
. . . ONLY YOU, LION, HAVE EVER BEEN ABLE TO CAPTURE THEM . . .


YES, I'VE CAPTURED THEM... TWICE, IN FACT. WHAT DO YOU WANT THEM FOR?

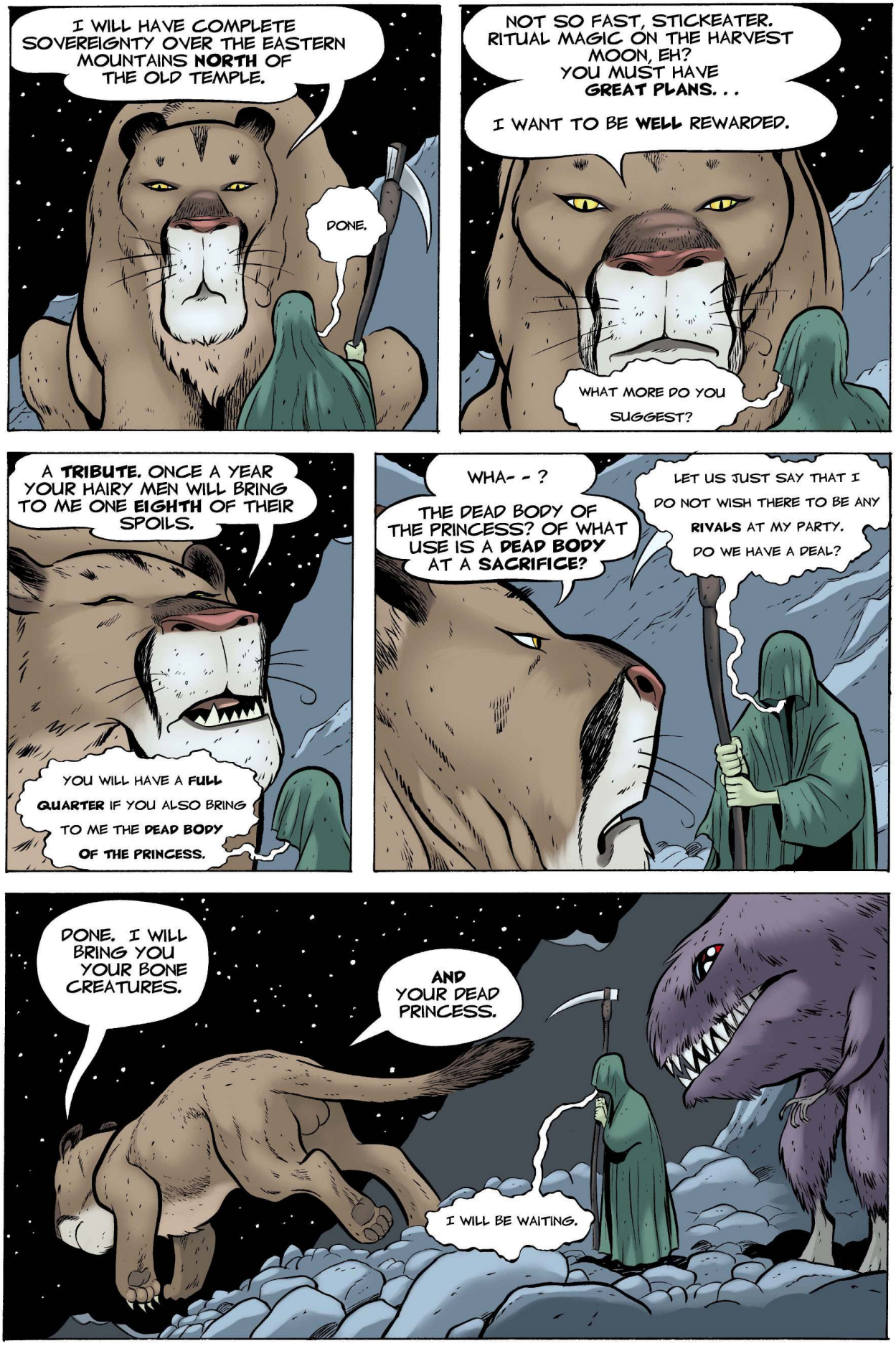

THAT IS MY CONCERN... BUT TIME IS RUNNING SHORT... ...I MUST HAVE THEM BEFORE THE HARVEST MOON...
CAN YOU DELIVER THEM?


THE HARVEST MOON? BLOOD MOON, YOU MEAN. WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, STICKEATER?
ARE YOU PLANNING A RITUAL? A SACRIFICE, PERHAPS?


ALL MAGIC IS STRONGER WHEN ONE USES THE NATURAL WAXING AND WANING OF THE DREAMING RHYTHMS...
ANSWER ME, ROQUE JA... WILL YOU DO THIS THING FOR ME?

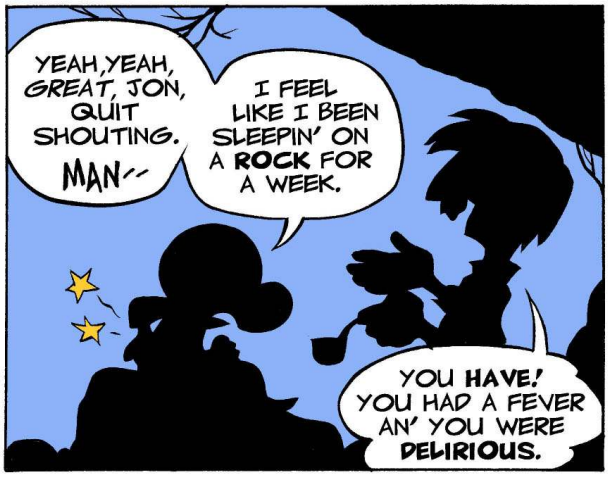

I TRIED TO GIVE THEM TO YOU ONCE ALREADY. BUT KINGDOK INSISTED I LEAVE THEM WITHOUT PROPER COMPENSATION.

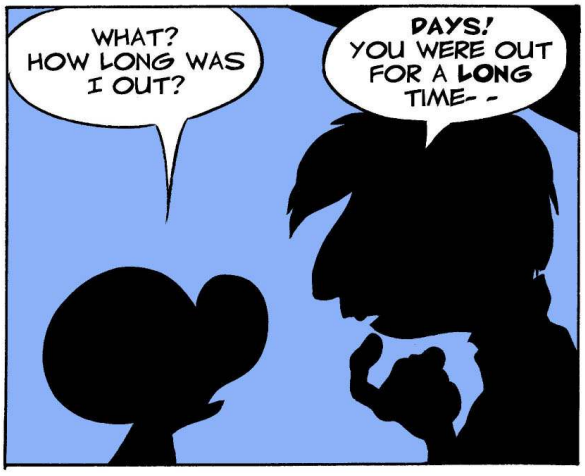

I DID END UP WITH HIS TONGUE, OF COURSE, BUT I WILL WANT MORE NEXT TIME.
YOU WILL BE REWARDED... NAME YOUR PRICE.

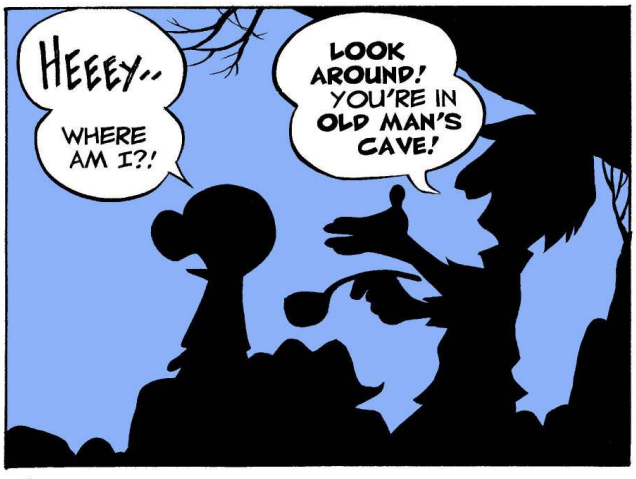

I WILL HAVE COMPLETE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS **NORTH** OF THE OLD TEMPLE.
DONE.
NOT SO FAST, STICKEATER. RITUAL MAGIC ON THE HARVEST MOON, EH? YOU MUST HAVE **GREAT PLANS**. . .
I WANT TO BE **WELL** REWARDED.
WHAT MORE DO YOU SUGGEST?
A **TRIBUTE.** ONCE A YEAR YOUR HAIRY MEN WILL BRING TO ME ONE **EIGHTH** OF THEIR SPOILS.
YOU WILL HAVE A **FULL QUARTER** IF YOU ALSO BRING TO ME THE **DEAD BODY OF THE PRINCESS.**
WHA- - ?
THE DEAD BODY OF THE PRINCESS? OF WHAT USE IS A **DEAD BODY** AT A **SACRIFICE?**
LET US JUST SAY THAT I DO NOT WISH THERE TO BE ANY **RIVALS** AT MY PARTY. DO WE HAVE A DEAL?
DONE. I WILL BRING YOU YOUR BONE CREATURES.
AND YOUR DEAD PRINCESS.
I WILL BE WAITING.

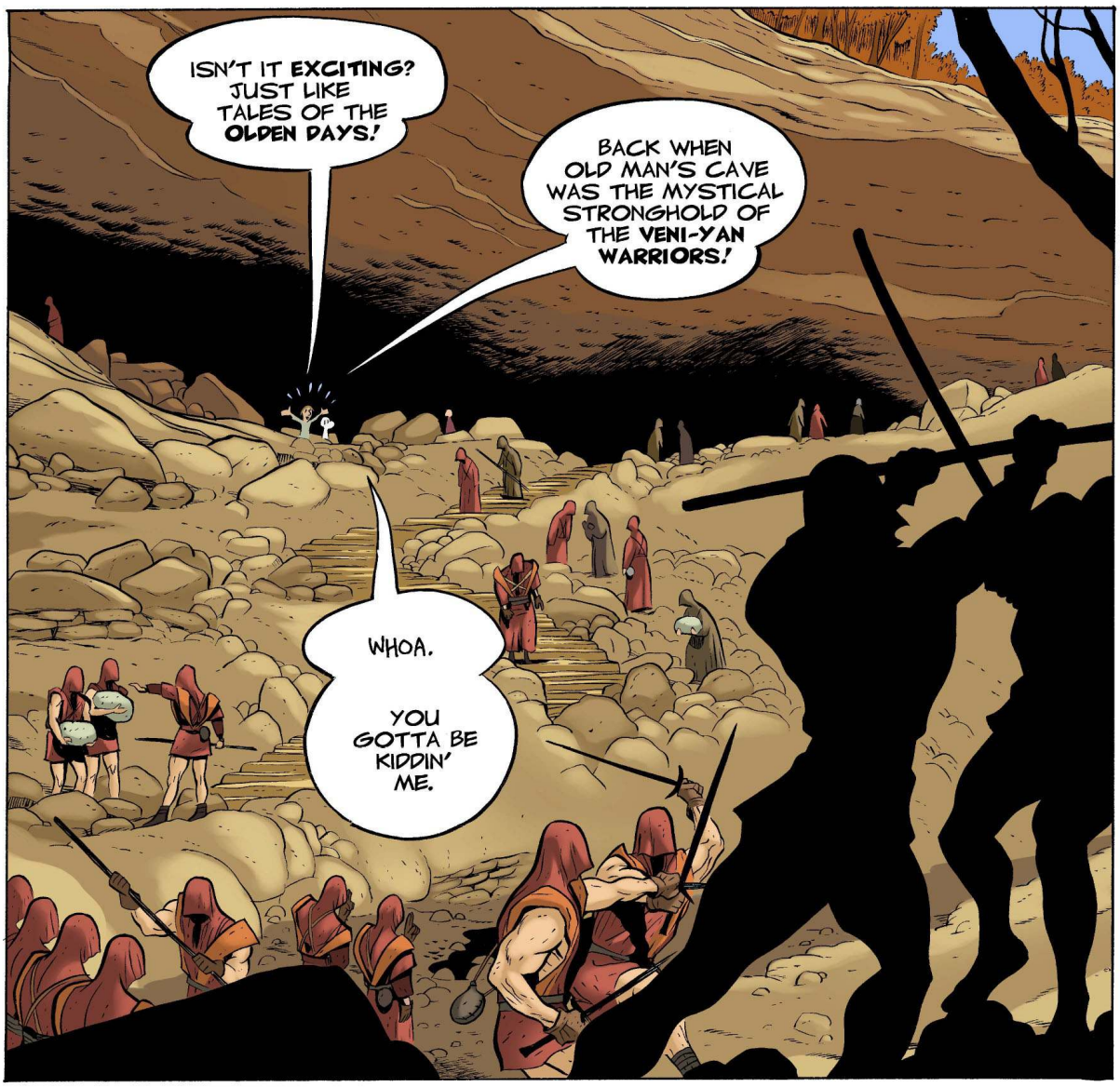

PHONEY BONE?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?

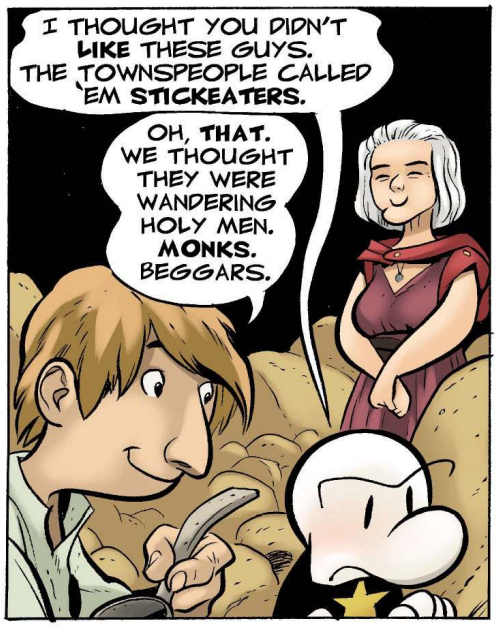

uuHH..
WHERE AM I?
PHONEY! YOU'RE OKAY! YOU CAN HEAR ME!

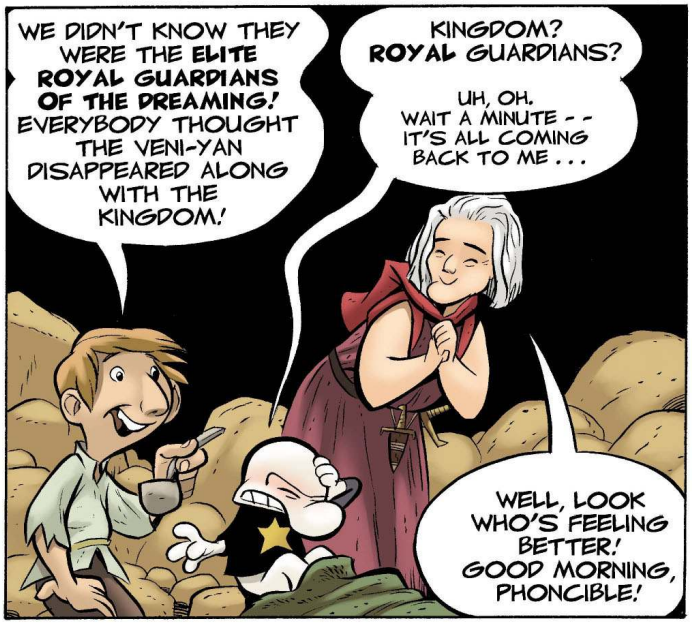

YEAH, YEAH, GREAT, JON, QUIT SHOUTING. MAN--
I FEEL LIKE I BEEN SLEEPIN' ON A ROCK FOR A WEEK.
YOU HAVE! YOU HAD A FEVER AN' YOU WERE DELIRIOUS.


WHAT? HOW LONG WAS I OUT?
DAYS! YOU WERE OUT FOR A LONG TIME- -

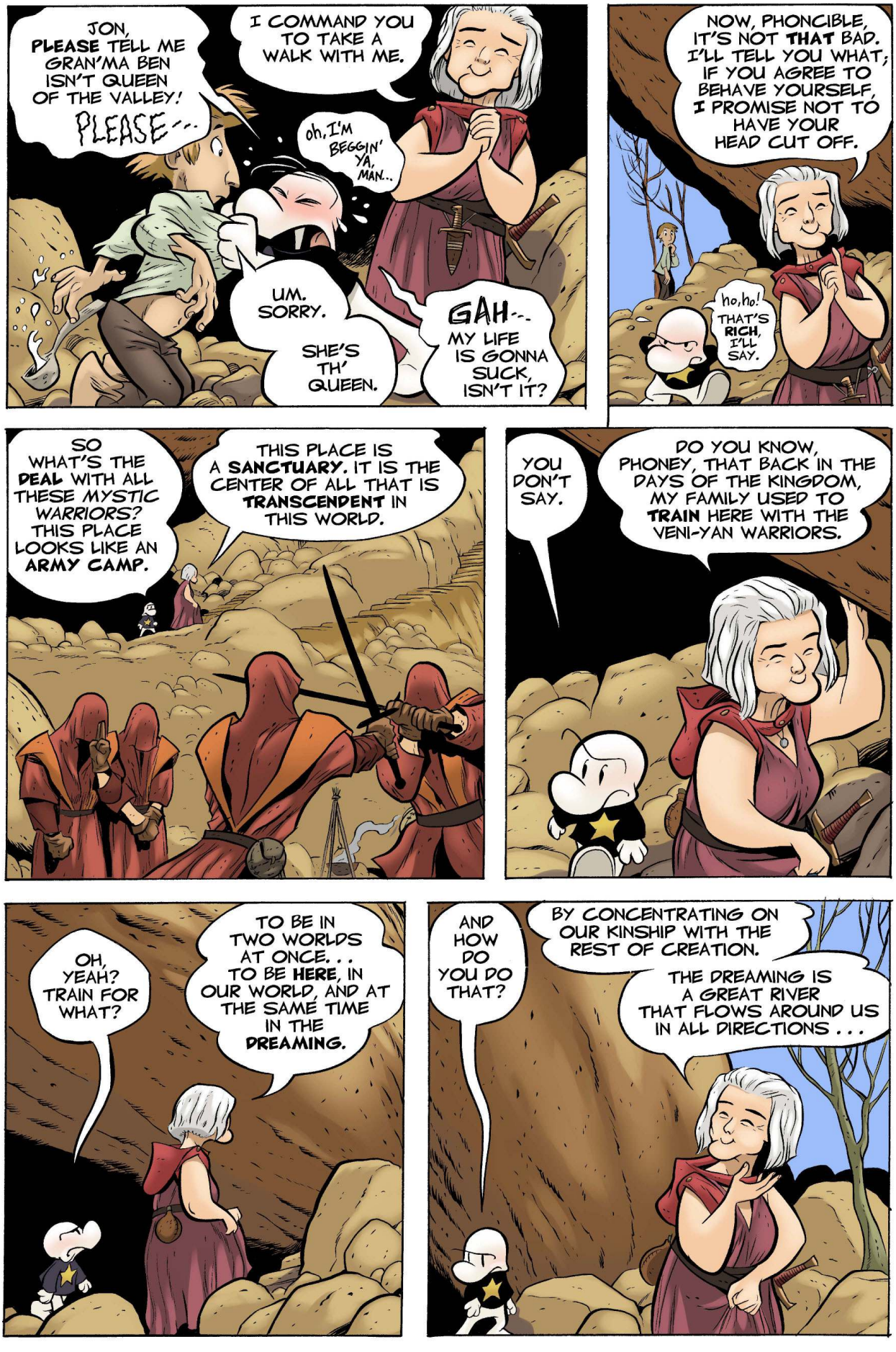

HEEEY..
WHERE AM I?!
LOOK AROUND! YOU'RE IN OLD MAN'S CAVE!

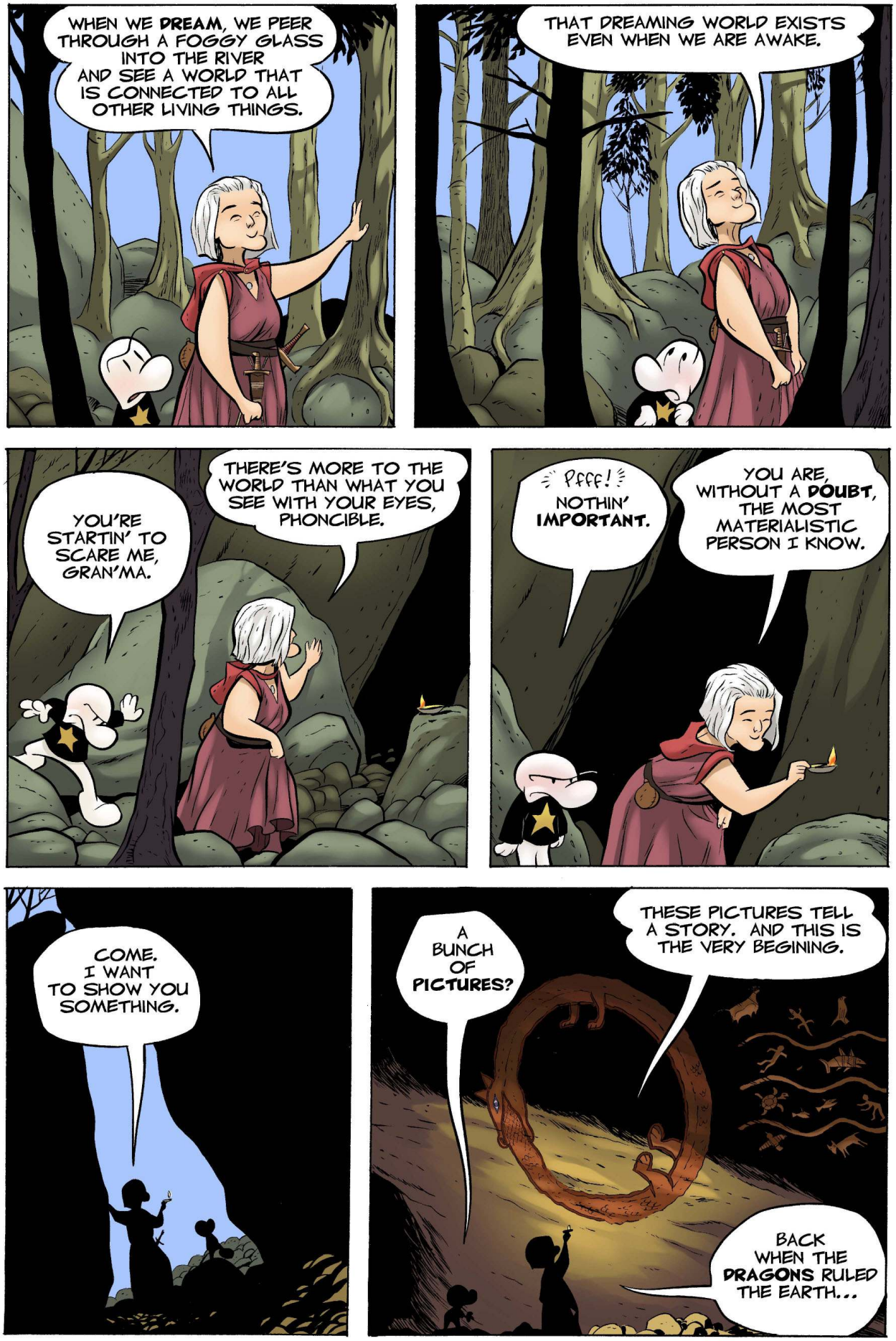


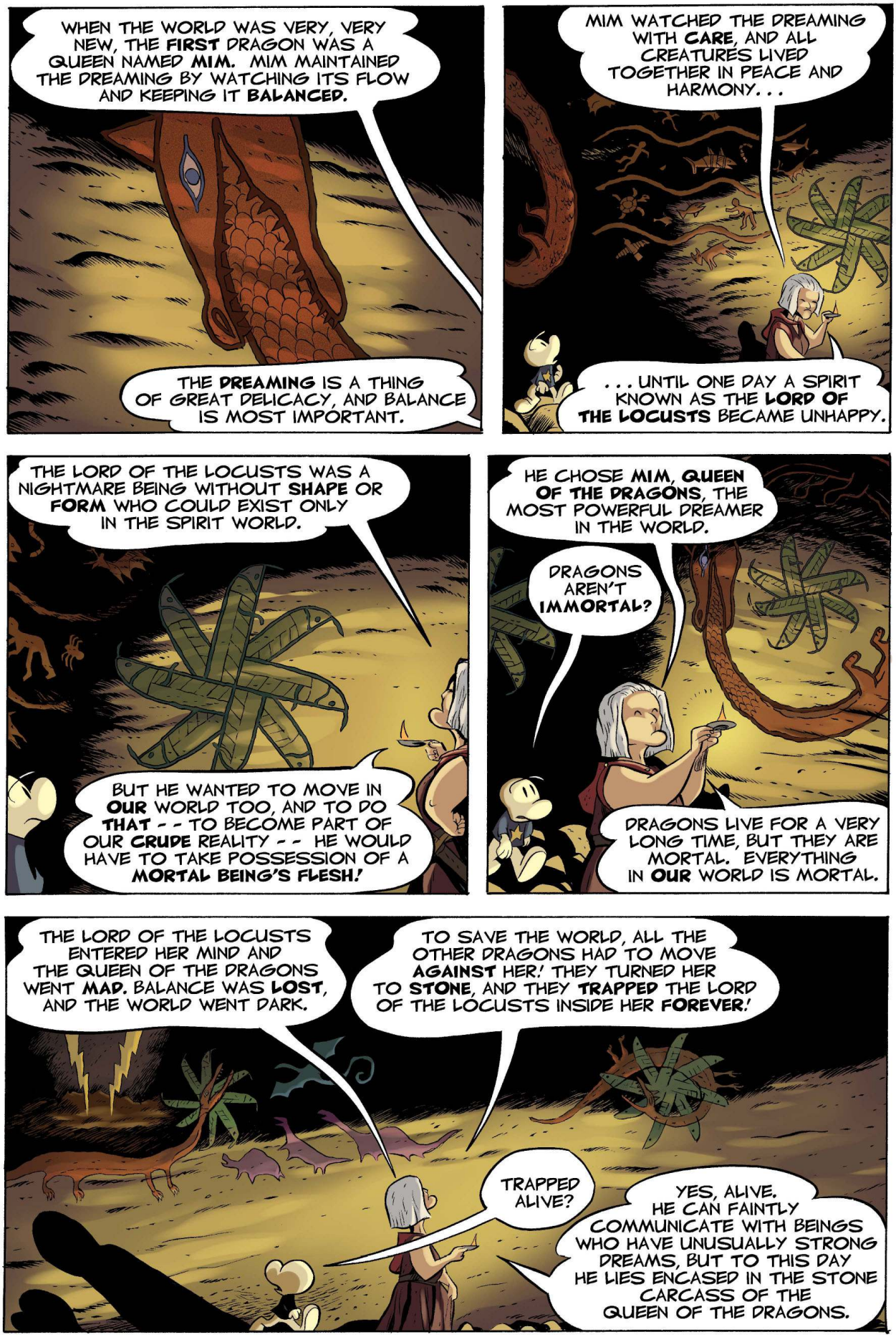


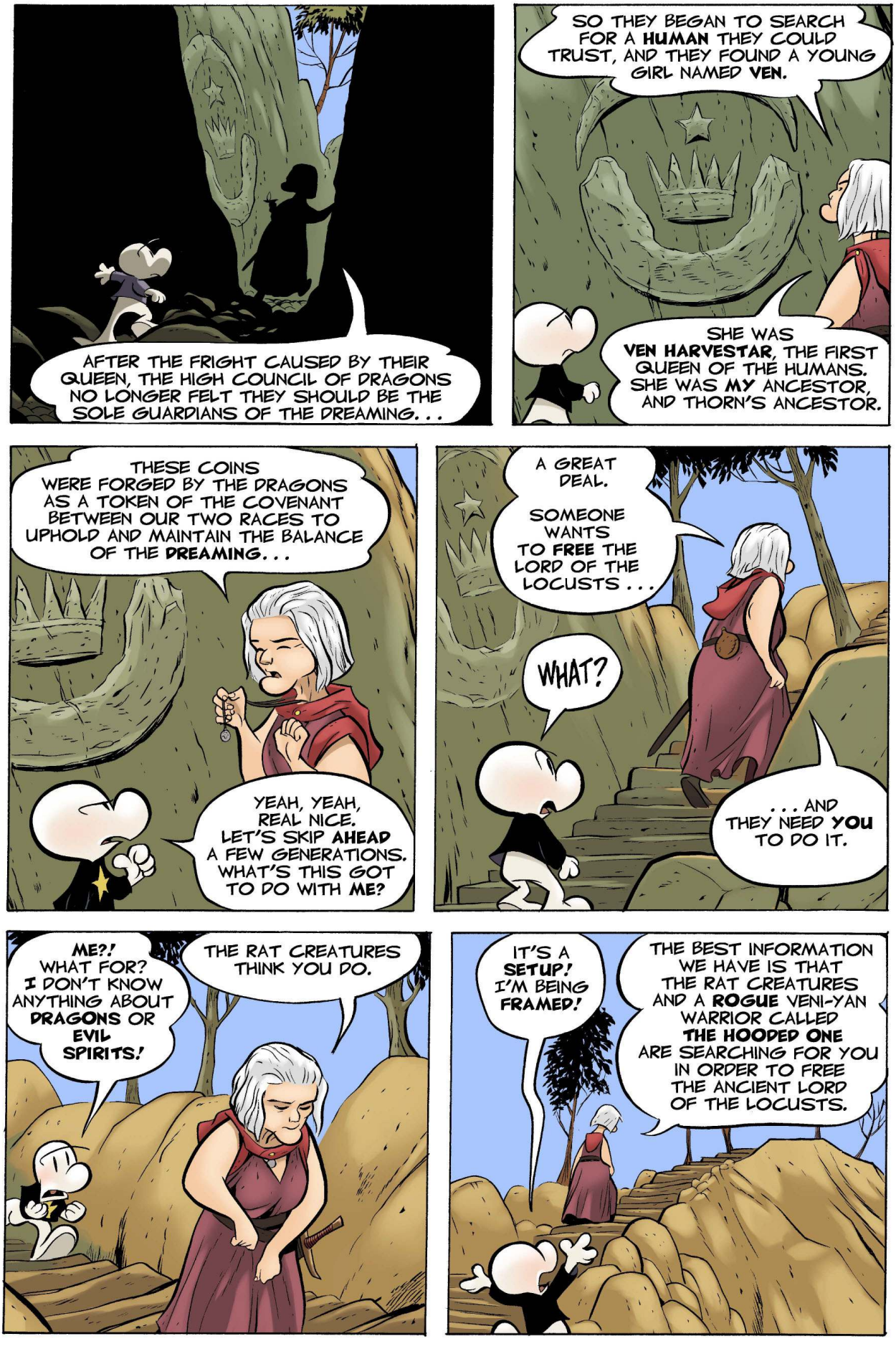


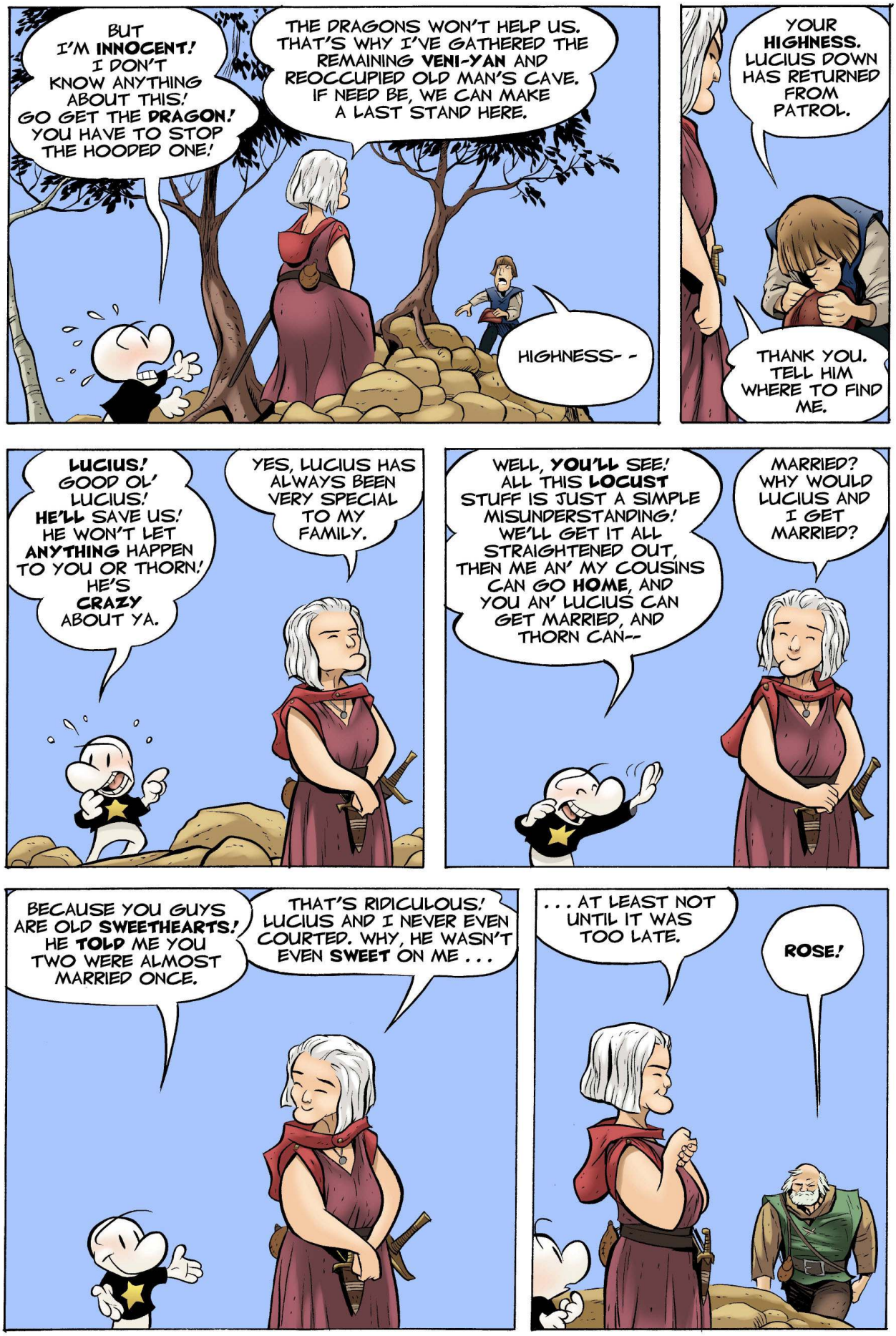
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

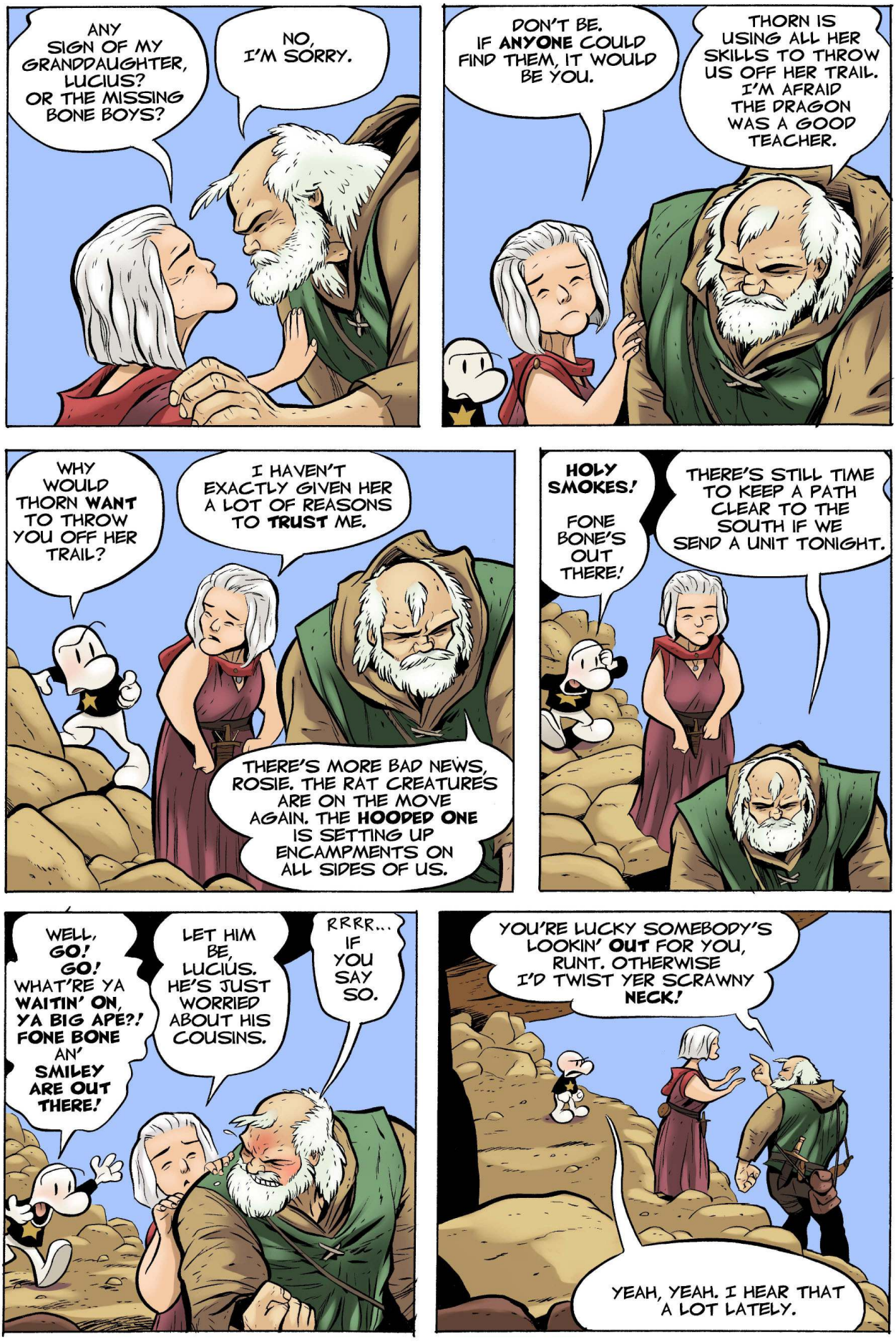

JON, PLEASE TELL ME GRAN'MA BEN ISN'T QUEEN OF THE VALLEY! PLEASE--.
I COMMAND YOU TO TAKE A WALK WITH ME.
oh, I'M BEGGIN' YA, MAN...
UM. SORRY.
SHE'S TH' QUEEN.
GAH--. MY LIFE IS GONNA SUCK, ISN'T IT?
NOW, PHONCIBLE, IT'S NOT THAT BAD. I'LL TELL YOU WHAT; IF YOU AGREE TO BEHAVE YOURSELF, I PROMISE NOT TO HAVE YOUR HEAD CUT OFF.
ho, ho! THAT'S RICH, I'LL SAY.
SO WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH ALL THESE MYSTIC WARRIORS? THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE AN ARMY CAMP.
THIS PLACE IS A SANCTUARY. IT IS THE CENTER OF ALL THAT IS TRANSCENDENT IN THIS WORLD.
YOU DON'T SAY.
DO YOU KNOW, PHONEY, THAT BACK IN THE DAYS OF THE KINGDOM, MY FAMILY USED TO TRAIN HERE WITH THE VENI-YAN WARRIORS.
OH, YEAH? TRAIN FOR WHAT?
TO BE IN TWO WORLDS AT ONCE... TO BE HERE, IN OUR WORLD, AND AT THE SAME TIME IN THE DREAMING.
AND HOW DO YOU DO THAT?
BY CONCENTRATING ON OUR KINSHIP WITH THE REST OF CREATION.
THE DREAMING IS A GREAT RIVER THAT FLOWS AROUND US IN ALL DIRECTIONS...

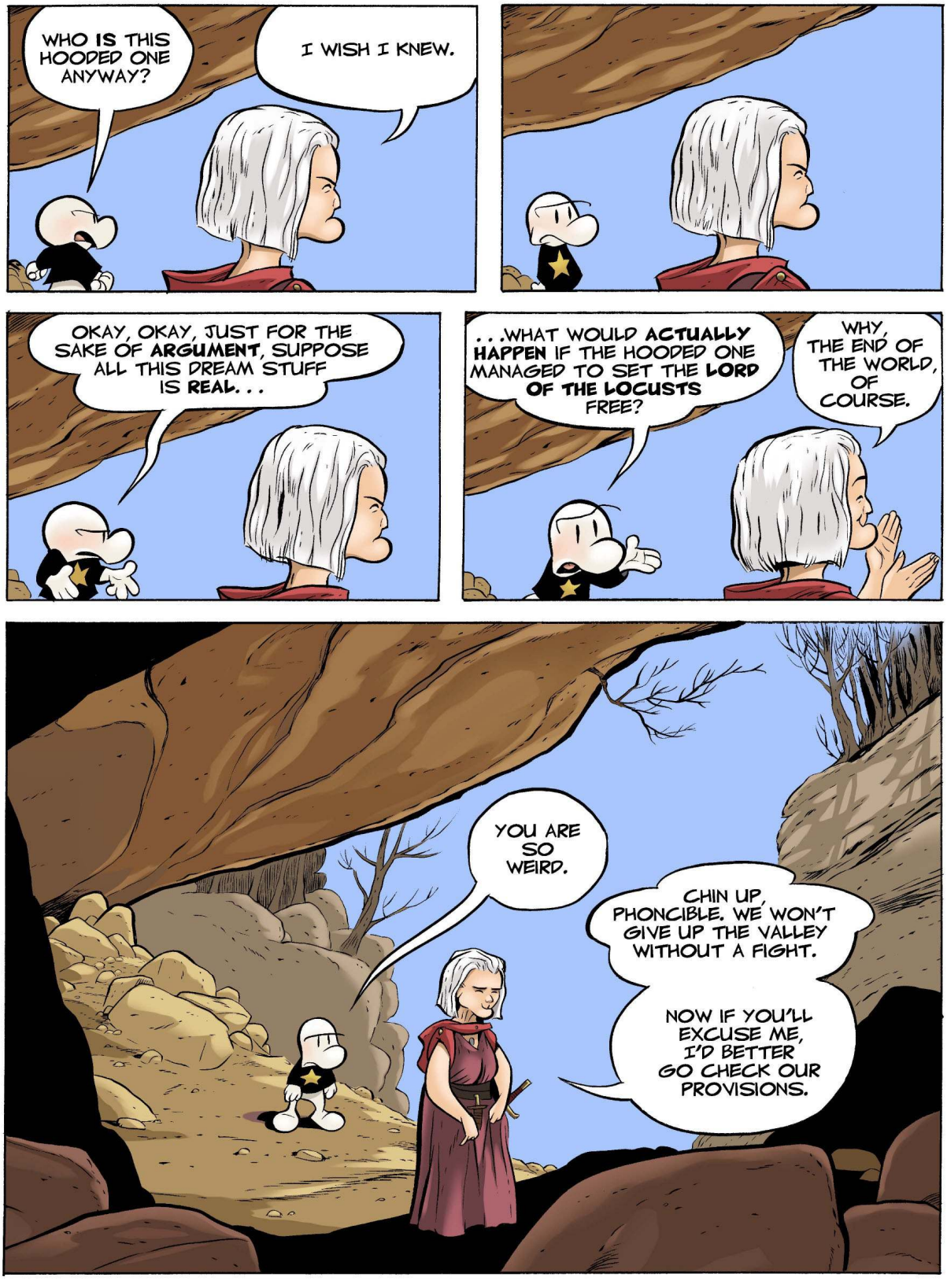

WHEN WE DREAM, WE PEER THROUGH A FOGGY GLASS INTO THE RIVER AND SEE A WORLD THAT IS CONNECTED TO ALL OTHER LIVING THINGS.
THAT DREAMING WORLD EXISTS EVEN WHEN WE ARE AWAKE.
YOU'RE STARTIN' TO SCARE ME, GRAN'MA.
THERE'S MORE TO THE WORLD THAN WHAT YOU SEE WITH YOUR EYES, PHONCIBLE.
Pfff! NOTHIN' IMPORTANT.
YOU ARE, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE MOST MATERIALISTIC PERSON I KNOW.
COME. I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.
A BUNCH OF PICTURES?
THESE PICTURES TELL A STORY. AND THIS IS THE VERY BEGINING.
BACK WHEN THE DRAGONS RULED THE EARTH...


WHEN THE WORLD WAS VERY, VERY NEW, THE **FIRST** DRAGON WAS A QUEEN NAMED **MIM.** MIM MAINTAINED THE DREAMING BY WATCHING ITS FLOW AND KEEPING IT **BALANCED.**
THE **DREAMING** IS A THING OF GREAT DELICACY, AND BALANCE IS MOST IMPORTANT.
MIM WATCHED THE DREAMING WITH **CARE**, AND ALL CREATURES LIVED TOGETHER IN PEACE AND HARMONY. . .
. . . UNTIL ONE DAY A SPIRIT KNOWN AS THE **LORD OF THE LOCUSTS** BECAME UNHAPPY.
THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS WAS A NIGHTMARE BEING WITHOUT **SHAPE** OR **FORM** WHO COULD EXIST ONLY IN THE SPIRIT WORLD.
BUT HE WANTED TO MOVE IN **OUR** WORLD TOO, AND TO DO **THAT** - - TO BECOME PART OF OUR **CRUDE** REALITY - - HE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE POSSESSION OF A **MORTAL BEING'S FLESH!**
HE CHOSE **MIM, QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS**, THE MOST POWERFUL DREAMER IN THE WORLD.
DRAGONS AREN'T **IMMORTAL?**
DRAGONS LIVE FOR A VERY LONG TIME, BUT THEY ARE MORTAL. EVERYTHING IN **OUR** WORLD IS MORTAL.
THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS ENTERED HER MIND AND THE QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS WENT **MAD.** BALANCE WAS **LOST**, AND THE WORLD WENT DARK.
TO SAVE THE WORLD, ALL THE OTHER DRAGONS HAD TO MOVE **AGAINST** HER! THEY TURNED HER TO **STONE**, AND THEY **TRAPPED** THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS INSIDE HER **FOREVER!**
TRAPPED ALIVE?
YES, ALIVE. HE CAN FAINTLY COMMUNICATE WITH BEINGS WHO HAVE UNUSUALLY STRONG DREAMS, BUT TO THIS DAY HE LIES ENCASED IN THE STONE CARCASS OF THE QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS.

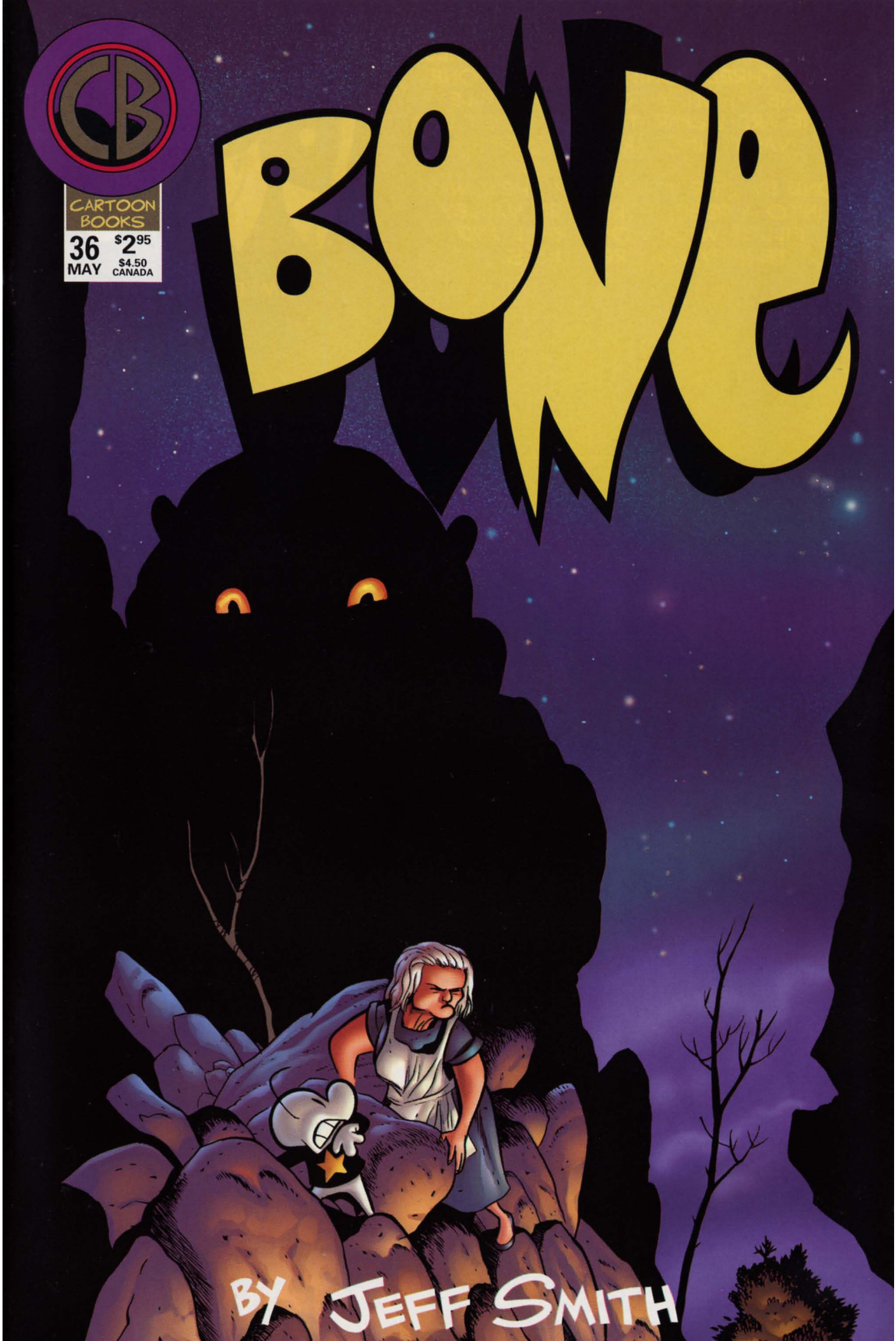

AFTER THE FRIGHT CAUSED BY THEIR QUEEN, THE HIGH COUNCIL OF DRAGONS NO LONGER FELT THEY SHOULD BE THE SOLE GUARDIANS OF THE DREAMING. . .
SO THEY BEGAN TO SEARCH FOR A HUMAN THEY COULD TRUST, AND THEY FOUND A YOUNG GIRL NAMED VEN.
SHE WAS VEN HARVESTAR, THE FIRST QUEEN OF THE HUMANS. SHE WAS MY ANCESTOR, AND THORN'S ANCESTOR.
THESE COINS WERE FORGED BY THE DRAGONS AS A TOKEN OF THE COVENANT BETWEEN OUR TWO RACES TO UPHOLD AND MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF THE DREAMING. . .
YEAH, YEAH, REAL NICE. LET'S SKIP AHEAD A FEW GENERATIONS. WHAT'S THIS GOT TO DO WITH ME?
A GREAT DEAL.
SOMEONE WANTS TO FREE THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS . . .
WHAT?
. . . AND THEY NEED YOU TO DO IT.
ME?! WHAT FOR? I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT DRAGONS OR EVIL SPIRITS!
THE RAT CREATURES THINK YOU DO.
IT'S A SETUP! I'M BEING FRAMED!
THE BEST INFORMATION WE HAVE IS THAT THE RAT CREATURES AND A ROGUE VENI-YAN WARRIOR CALLED THE HOODED ONE ARE SEARCHING FOR YOU IN ORDER TO FREE THE ANCIENT LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.


BUT I'M INNOCENT! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS! GO GET THE DRAGON! YOU HAVE TO STOP THE HOODED ONE!
THE DRAGONS WON'T HELP US. THAT'S WHY I'VE GATHERED THE REMAINING VENI-YAN AND REOCCUPIED OLD MAN'S CAVE. IF NEED BE, WE CAN MAKE A LAST STAND HERE.
HIGHNESS- -
YOUR HIGHNESS. LUCIUS DOWN HAS RETURNED FROM PATROL.
THANK YOU. TELL HIM WHERE TO FIND ME.
LUCIUS! GOOD OL' LUCIUS! HE'LL SAVE US! HE WON'T LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU OR THORN! HE'S CRAZY ABOUT YA.
YES, LUCIUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY SPECIAL TO MY FAMILY.
WELL, YOU'LL SEE! ALL THIS LOCUST STUFF IS JUST A SIMPLE MISUNDERSTANDING! WE'LL GET IT ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT, THEN ME AN' MY COUSINS CAN GO HOME, AND YOU AN' LUCIUS CAN GET MARRIED, AND THORN CAN--
MARRIED? WHY WOULD LUCIUS AND I GET MARRIED?
BECAUSE YOU GUYS ARE OLD SWEETHEARTS! HE TOLD ME YOU TWO WERE ALMOST MARRIED ONCE.
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! LUCIUS AND I NEVER EVEN COURTED. WHY, HE WASN'T EVEN SWEET ON ME . . .
. . . AT LEAST NOT UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.
ROSE!

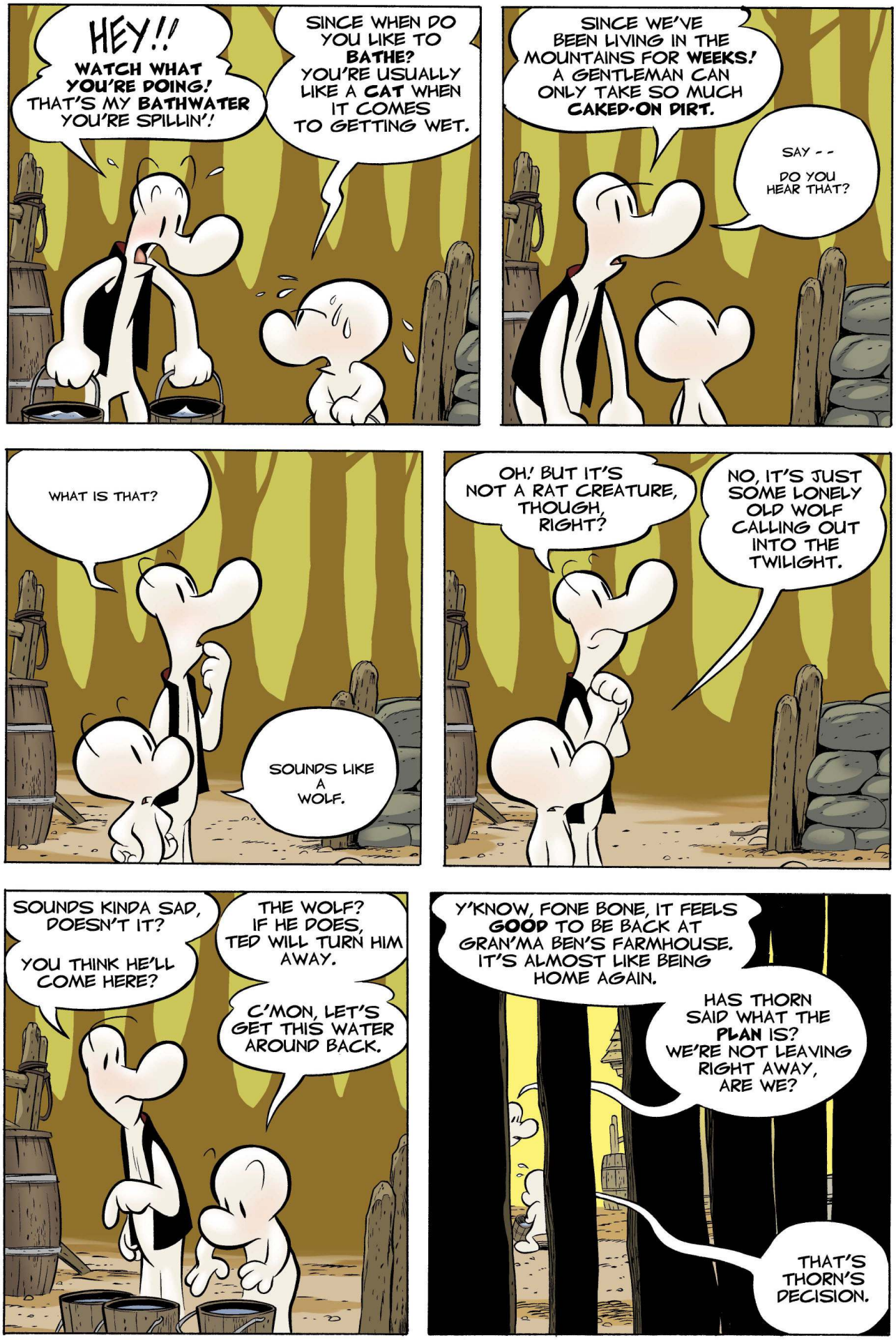

ANY SIGN OF MY GRANDDAUGHTER, LUCIUS? OR THE MISSING BONE BOYS?
NO, I'M SORRY.
DON'T BE. IF **ANYONE** COULD FIND THEM, IT WOULD BE YOU.
THORN IS USING ALL HER SKILLS TO THROW US OFF HER TRAIL. I'M AFRAID THE DRAGON WAS A GOOD TEACHER.
WHY WOULD THORN **WANT** TO THROW YOU OFF HER TRAIL?
I HAVEN'T EXACTLY GIVEN HER A LOT OF REASONS TO **TRUST** ME.
THERE'S MORE BAD NEWS, ROSIE. THE RAT CREATURES ARE ON THE MOVE AGAIN. THE **HOODED ONE** IS SETTING UP ENCAMPMENTS ON ALL SIDES OF US.
HOLY SMOKES! FONE BONE'S OUT THERE!
THERE'S STILL TIME TO KEEP A PATH CLEAR TO THE SOUTH IF WE SEND A UNIT TONIGHT.
WELL, **GO! GO!** WHAT'RE YA **WAITIN' ON, YA BIG APE?! FONE BONE** AN' **SMILEY ARE OUT THERE!**
LET HIM BE, LUCIUS. HE'S JUST WORRIED ABOUT HIS COUSINS.
RRRR... IF YOU SAY SO.
YOU'RE LUCKY SOMEBODY'S LOOKIN' **OUT** FOR YOU, RUNT. OTHERWISE I'D TWIST YER SCRAWNY **NECK!**
YEAH, YEAH. I HEAR THAT A LOT LATELY.

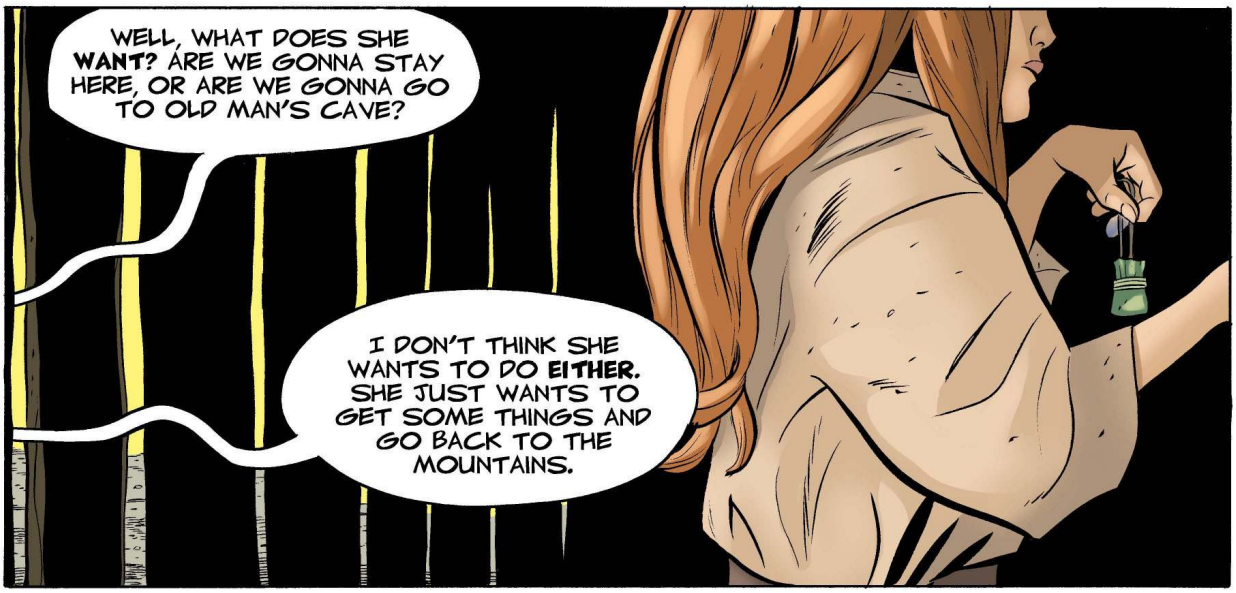


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

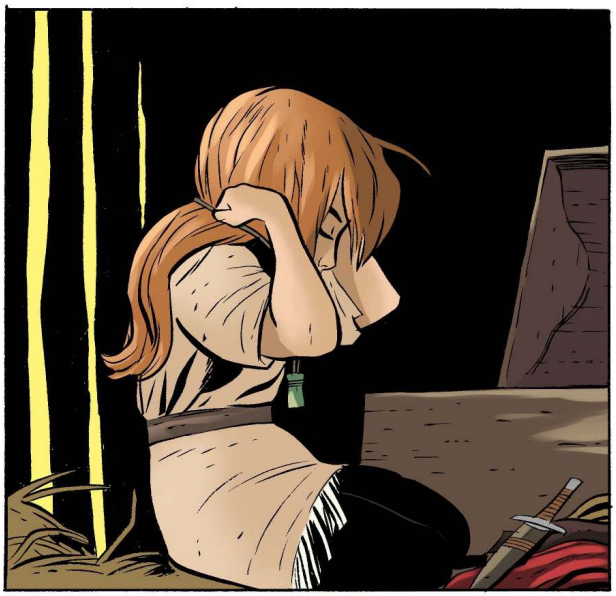

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
36
MAY
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

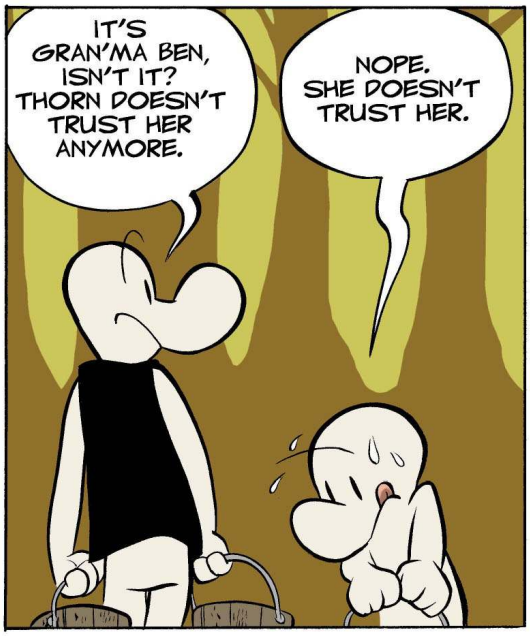

BONE
C'MON, FONE BONE! LET'S GO!
I AM!
PUFF! PUFF! KEEP YOUR PANTS ON!
I DON'T WEAR PANTS! AN' IF I DID, I WOULDN'T NEED 'EM FOR A BATH!
DON'T BE SO LOUD, SMILEY. REMEMBER WHAT TED TOLD US ABOUT BEING LOUD?
I'M NOT BEIN' LOUD.
HEY! WHERE'S THORN?
SHE'S IN THE BARN LOOKING THROUGH HER GRANDMOTHER'S STUFF.

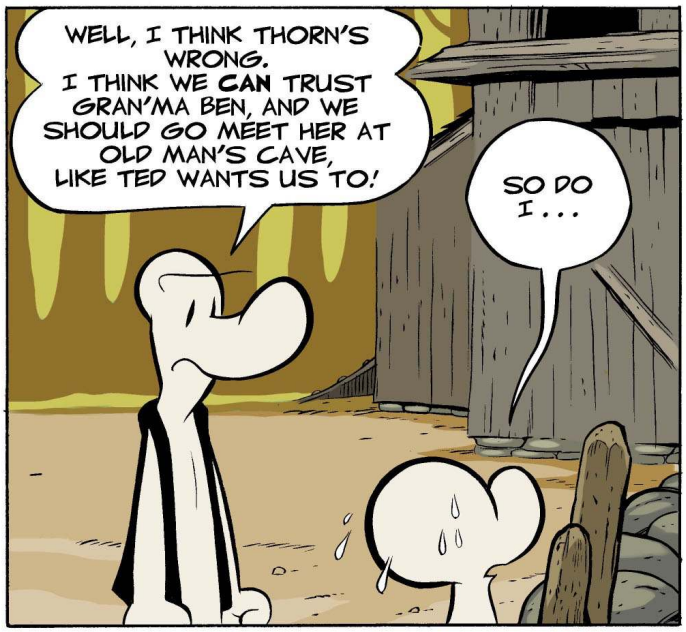

HEY!!
WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING! THAT'S MY BATHWATER YOU'RE SPILLIN'!
SINCE WHEN DO YOU LIKE TO BATHE? YOU'RE USUALLY LIKE A CAT WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING WET.
SINCE WE'VE BEEN LIVING IN THE MOUNTAINS FOR WEEKS! A GENTLEMAN CAN ONLY TAKE SO MUCH CAKED-ON DIRT.
SAY - - DO YOU HEAR THAT?
WHAT IS THAT?
SOUNDS LIKE A WOLF.
OH! BUT IT'S NOT A RAT CREATURE, THOUGH, RIGHT?
NO, IT'S JUST SOME LONELY OLD WOLF CALLING OUT INTO THE TWILIGHT.
SOUNDS KINDA SAD, DOESN'T IT?
YOU THINK HE'LL COME HERE?
THE WOLF? IF HE DOES, TED WILL TURN HIM AWAY.
C'MON, LET'S GET THIS WATER AROUND BACK.
Y'KNOW, FONE BONE, IT FEELS GOOD TO BE BACK AT GRAN'MA BEN'S FARMHOUSE. IT'S ALMOST LIKE BEING HOME AGAIN.
HAS THORN SAID WHAT THE PLAN IS? WE'RE NOT LEAVING RIGHT AWAY, ARE WE?
THAT'S THORN'S DECISION.



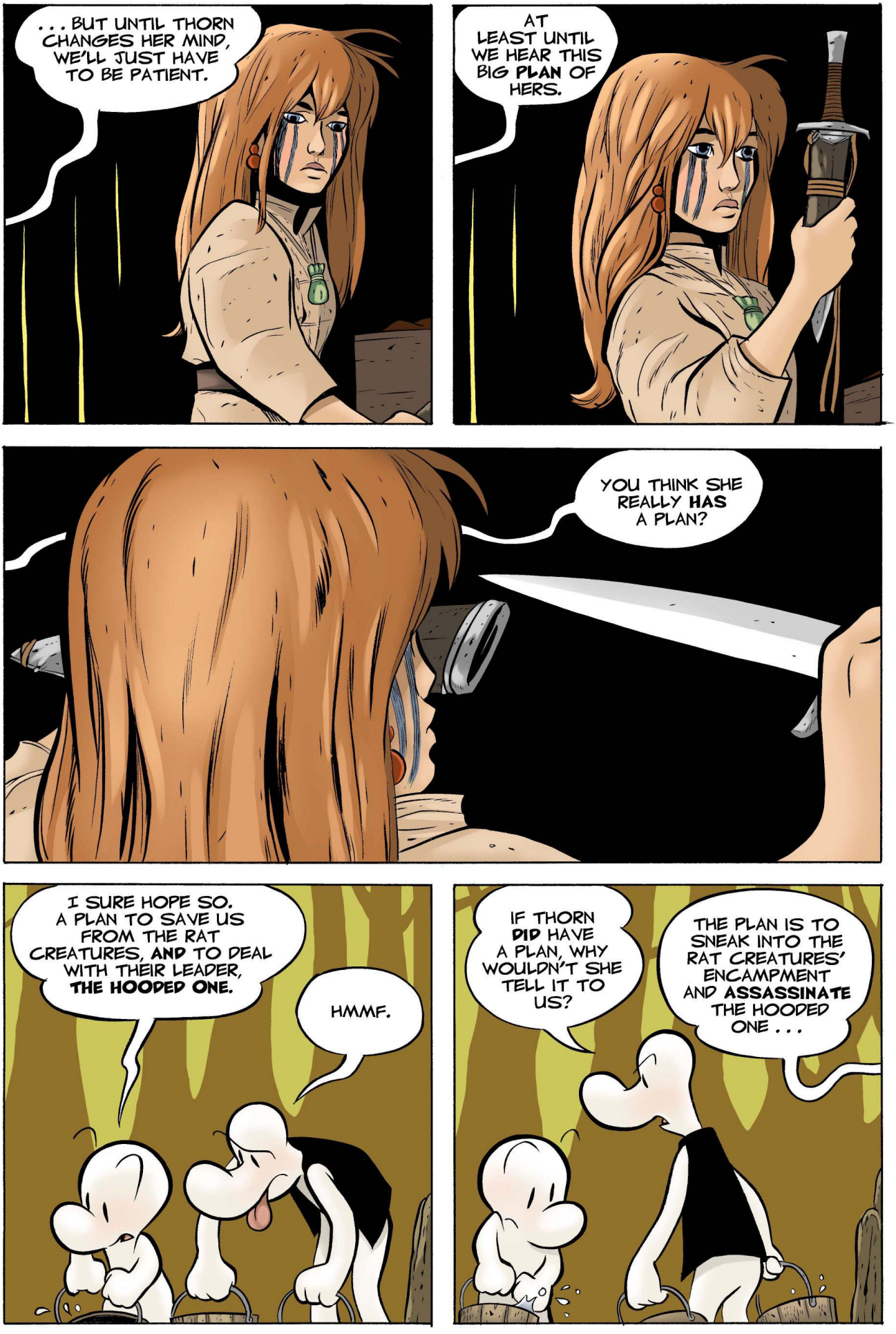


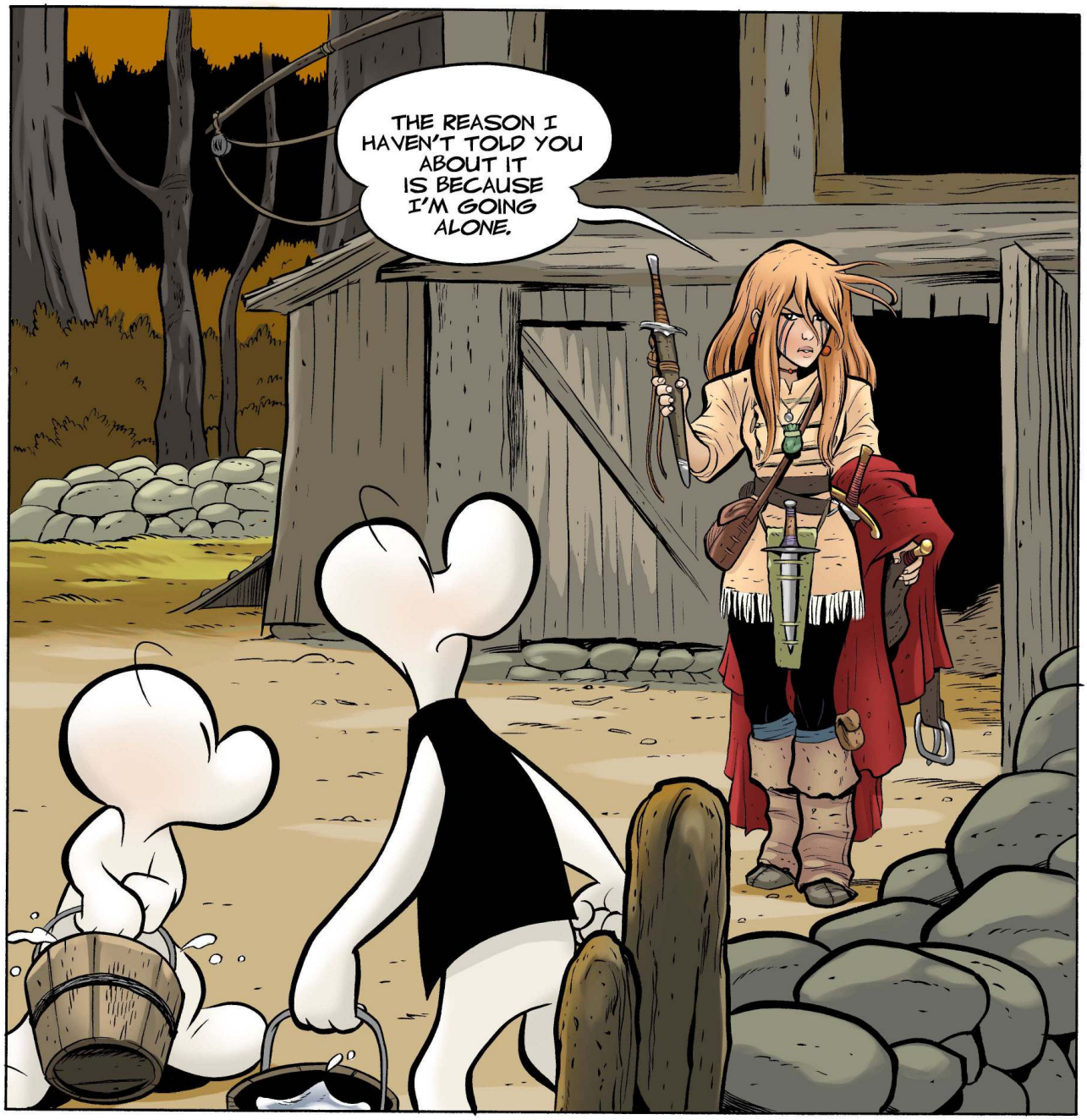


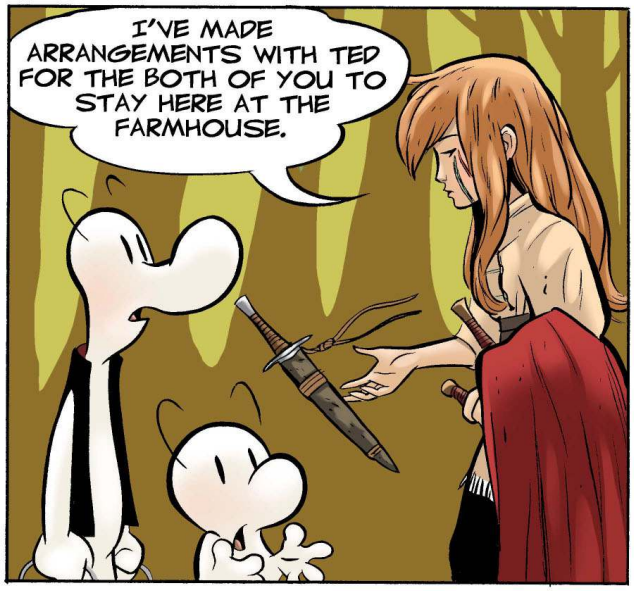


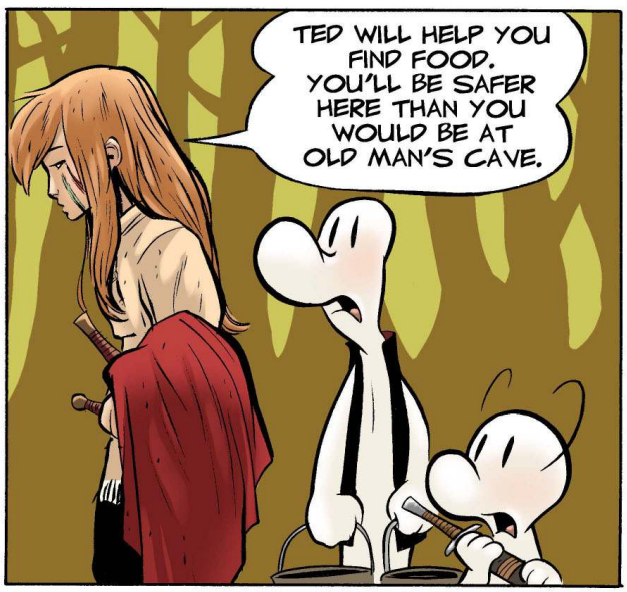


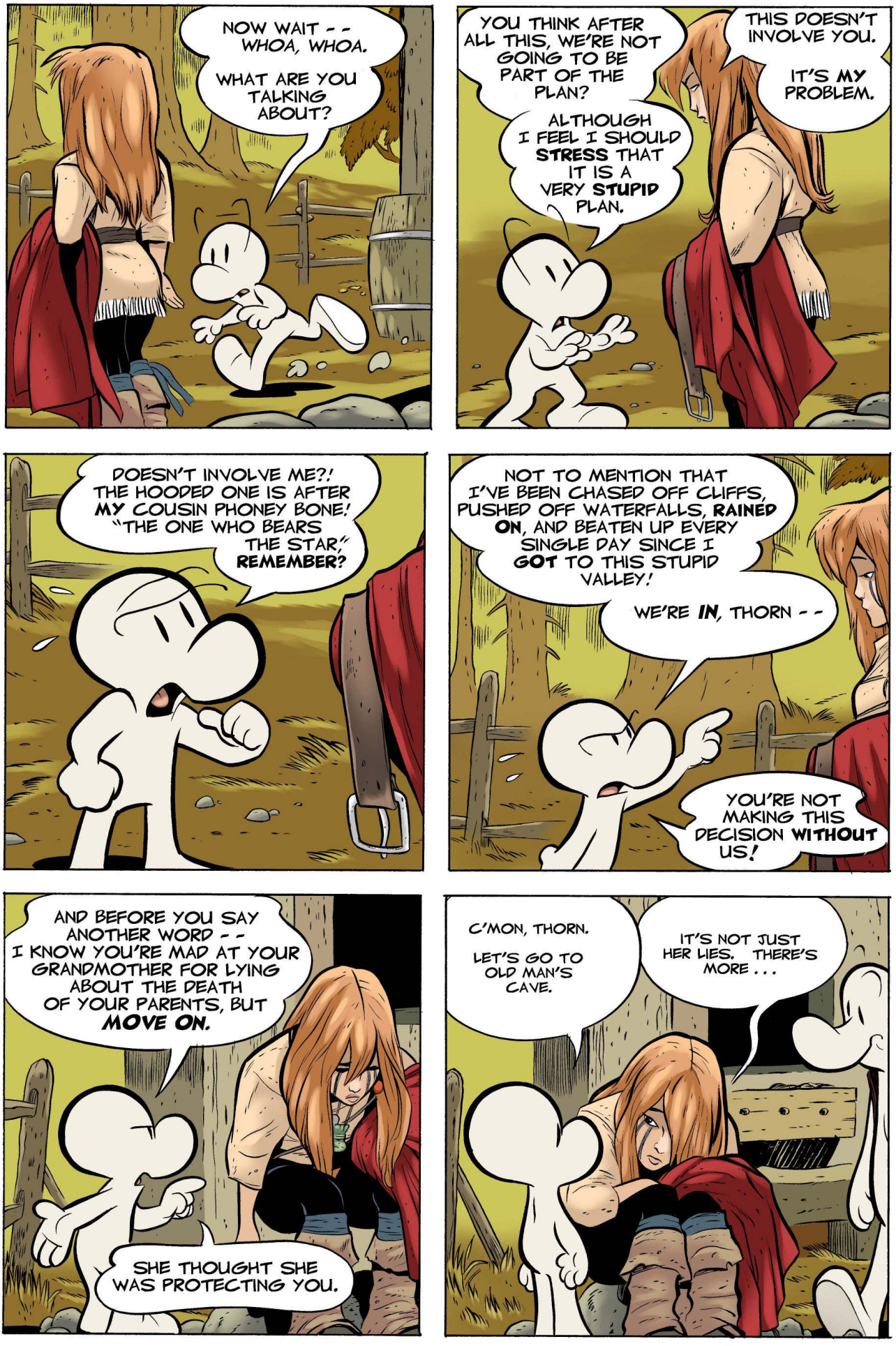
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

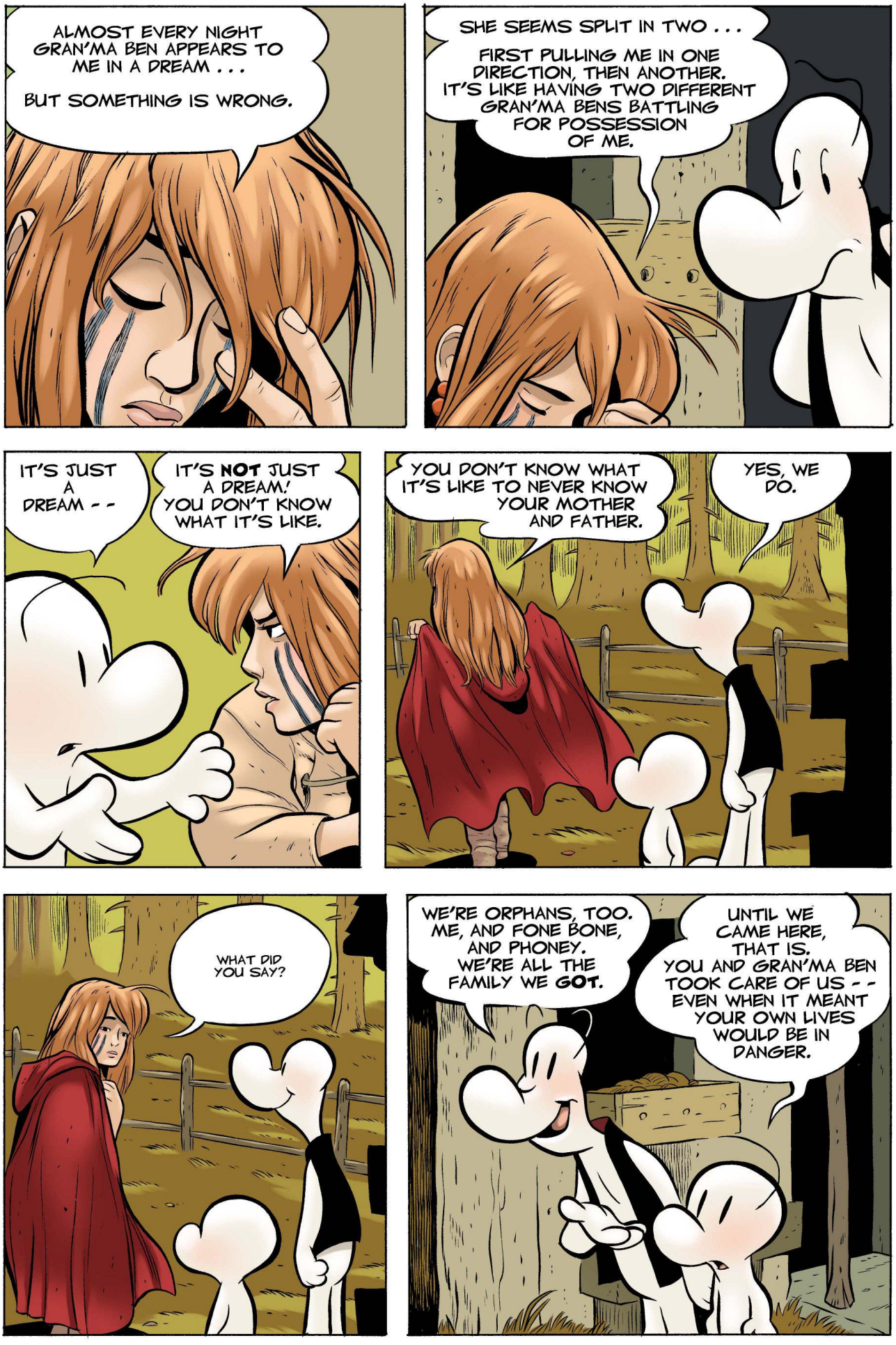

. . . BUT UNTIL THORN CHANGES HER MIND, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO BE PATIENT.
AT LEAST UNTIL WE HEAR THIS BIG **PLAN** OF HERS.
YOU THINK SHE REALLY **HAS** A PLAN?
I SURE HOPE SO. A PLAN TO SAVE US FROM THE RAT CREATURES, **AND** TO DEAL WITH THEIR LEADER, **THE HOODED ONE.**
HMMF.
IF THORN **DID** HAVE A PLAN, WHY WOULDN'T SHE TELL IT TO US?
THE PLAN IS TO SNEAK INTO THE RAT CREATURES' ENCAMPMENT AND **ASSASSINATE** THE HOODED ONE . . .

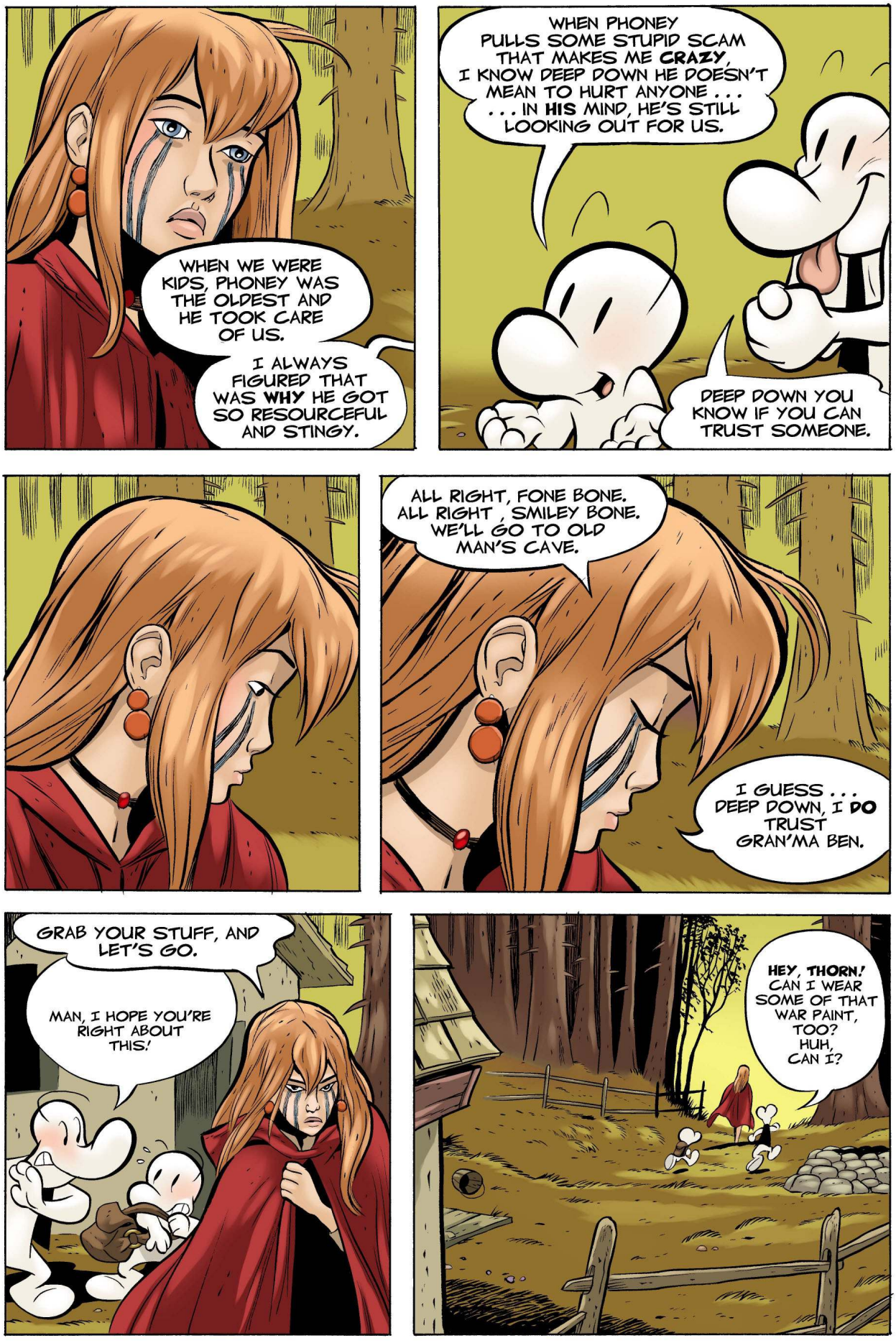

THE REASON I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ABOUT IT IS BECAUSE I'M GOING ALONE.


I'VE MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH TED FOR THE BOTH OF YOU TO STAY HERE AT THE FARMHOUSE.


TED WILL HELP YOU FIND FOOD. YOU'LL BE SAFER HERE THAN YOU WOULD BE AT OLD MAN'S CAVE.

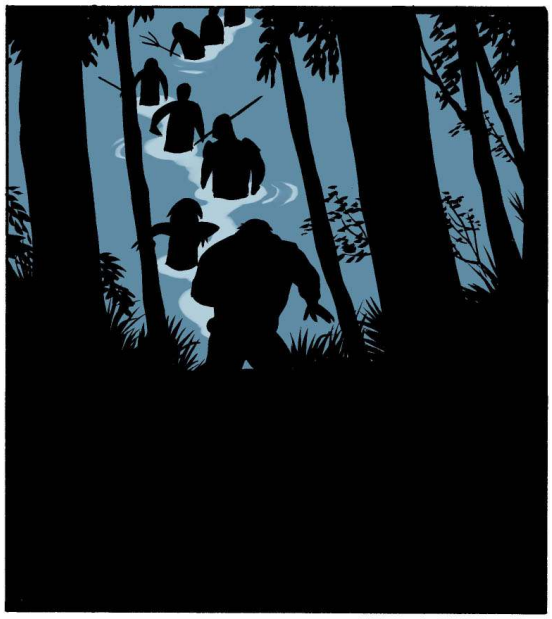

NOW WAIT - - WHOA, WHOA.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU THINK AFTER ALL THIS, WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE PART OF THE PLAN?
ALTHOUGH I FEEL I SHOULD **STRESS** THAT IT IS A VERY **STUPID** PLAN.
THIS DOESN'T INVOLVE YOU.
IT'S **MY** PROBLEM.
DOESN'T INVOLVE ME?! THE HOODED ONE IS AFTER **MY** COUSIN PHONEY BONE! "THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR," **REMEMBER?**
NOT TO MENTION THAT I'VE BEEN CHASED OFF CLIFFS, PUSHED OFF WATERFALLS, **RAINED ON**, AND BEATEN UP EVERY SINGLE DAY SINCE I **GOT** TO THIS STUPID VALLEY!
WE'RE ***IN***, THORN - -
YOU'RE NOT MAKING THIS DECISION **WITHOUT** US!
AND BEFORE YOU SAY ANOTHER WORD - - I KNOW YOU'RE MAD AT YOUR GRANDMOTHER FOR LYING ABOUT THE DEATH OF YOUR PARENTS, BUT ***MOVE ON.***
SHE THOUGHT SHE WAS PROTECTING YOU.
C'MON, THORN. LET'S GO TO OLD MAN'S CAVE.
IT'S NOT JUST HER LIES. THERE'S MORE . . .


ALMOST EVERY NIGHT GRAN'MA BEN APPEARS TO ME IN A DREAM . . .
BUT SOMETHING IS WRONG.
SHE SEEMS SPLIT IN TWO . . .
FIRST PULLING ME IN ONE DIRECTION, THEN ANOTHER. IT'S LIKE HAVING TWO DIFFERENT GRAN'MA BENS BATTLING FOR POSSESSION OF ME.
IT'S JUST A DREAM - -
IT'S **NOT** JUST A DREAM! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO NEVER KNOW YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER.
YES, WE DO.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WE'RE ORPHANS, TOO. ME, AND FONE BONE, AND PHONEY. WE'RE ALL THE FAMILY WE **GOT**.
UNTIL WE CAME HERE, THAT IS. YOU AND GRAN'MA BEN TOOK CARE OF US - - EVEN WHEN IT MEANT YOUR OWN LIVES WOULD BE IN DANGER.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline






HOLD UP.
THIS IS GOOD - - WE SPLIT UP HERE.


WENDELL, HAVE YOUR MEN DIG IN. REMEMBER, YOU ARE OUR LAST LINE OF DEFENSE - -
WE MUST NOT LET THE RAT CREATURES CROSS THIS RIVER. IF WE DO, OLD MAN'S CAVE WILL BE SURROUNDED.


CAPTAIN KNOTT, MOVE YOUR MEN FORWARD IN A LINE AND HOLD. WAIT FOR THE SIGNAL.
YES, SIR.
SCOUTS, FOLLOW ME.

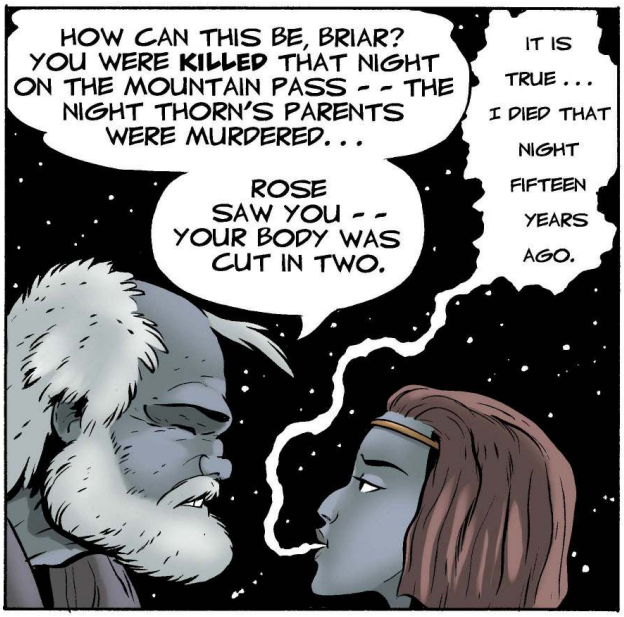


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


WHAT TH - - ?
DO YOU NOT RECOGNIZE ME? HAS IT BEEN SO LONG?
B - - BRIAR?
IS IT REALLY YOU - - ?
YES, LUCIUS . . . IT IS REALLY ME. COME CLOSER. . .
YOU CANNOT KNOW HOW PAINFUL IT HAS BEEN TO BE APART FROM YOU . . . I HAVE ACHED TO BE WITH YOU . . .
TELL ME . . . HOW IS MY BABY SISTER . . . ? HOW IS ROSE? HAVE YOU TAKEN GOOD CARE OF HER?


HOW SWEET IT IS TO SEE YOU . . .




HOW CAN THIS BE, BRIAR? YOU WERE KILLED THAT NIGHT ON THE MOUNTAIN PASS - - THE NIGHT THORN'S PARENTS WERE MURDERED. . .
ROSE SAW YOU - - YOUR BODY WAS CUT IN TWO.
IT IS TRUE . . . I DIED THAT NIGHT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO.


AND YET. . . HERE YOU ARE . . . AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOU EVER WERE IN LIFE . . .
THAT IS BECAUSE I FOUND SOMETHING BETTER THAN LIFE!


SNAP!

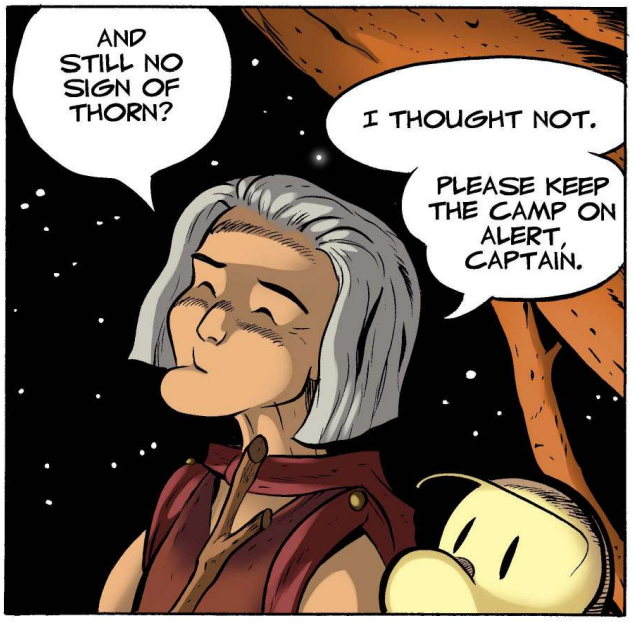


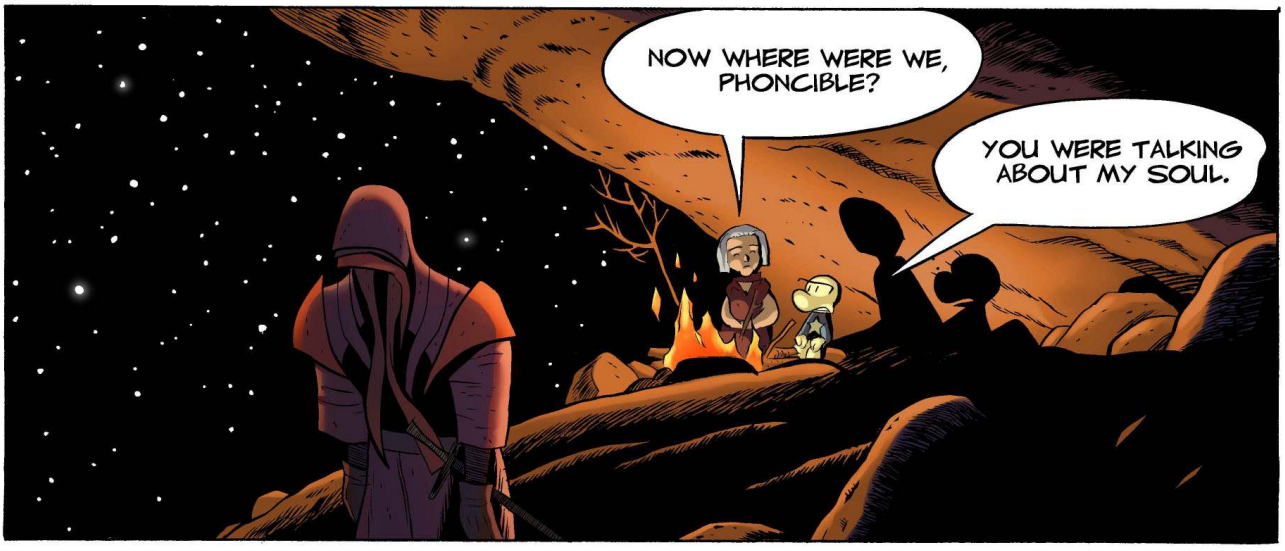

LUCIUS!
JON - - ?
NO . . .
DO NOT LOOK . . .
LUCIUS!! THE RAT CREATURES ARE GETTING PAST US!
HELP! THE RATS ARE COMING! LOOK OUT!!

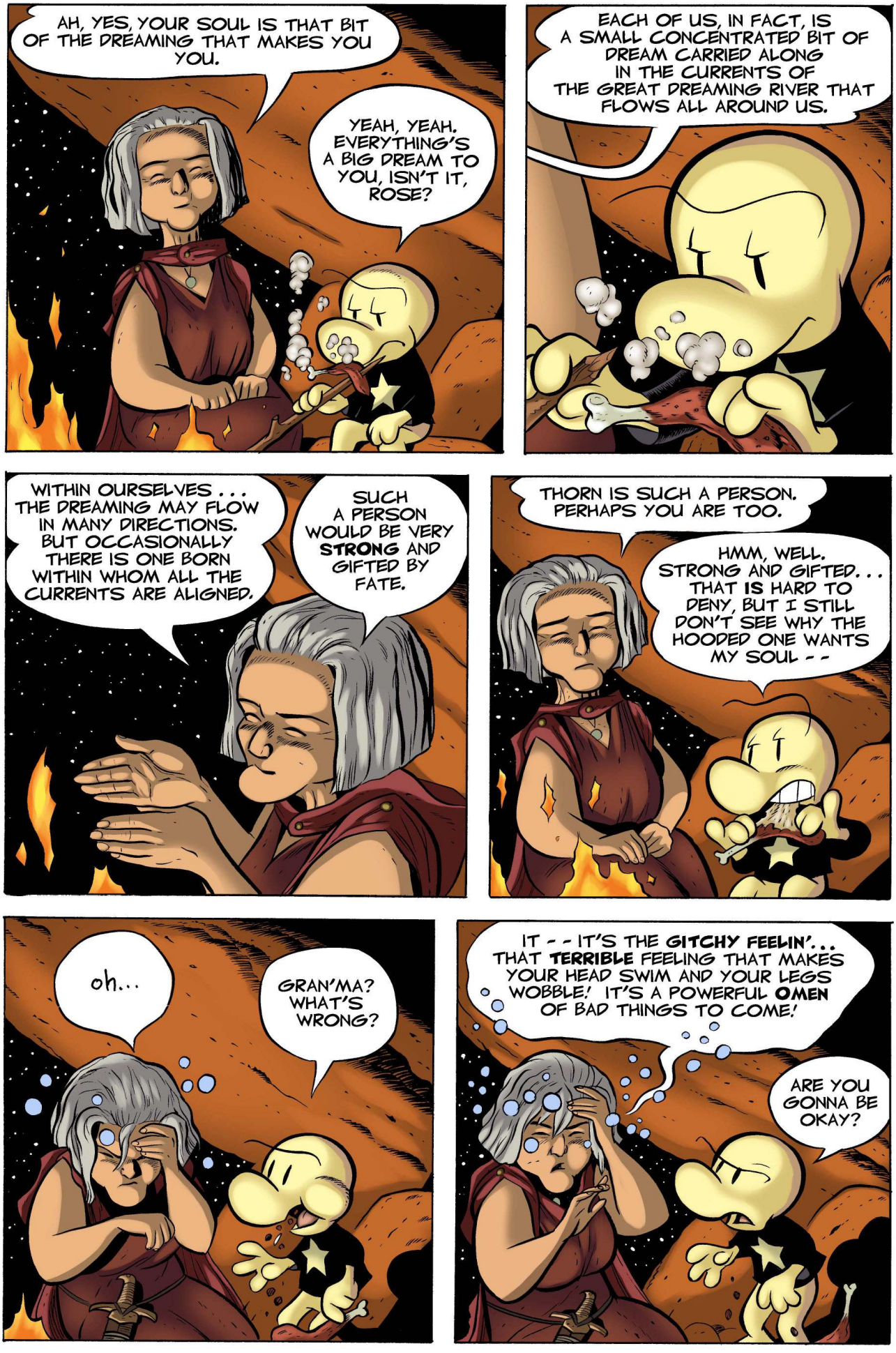

WHAT HAVE I DONE?


YOUR MAJESTY . . .
STILL NO WORD FROM LUCIUS DOWN.


WE'VE SENT OUT A TEAM OF WARRIORS TO RE-ESTABLISH CONTACT.
MOST OF THE VILLAGERS ARE SAFELY IN THE CAVE.

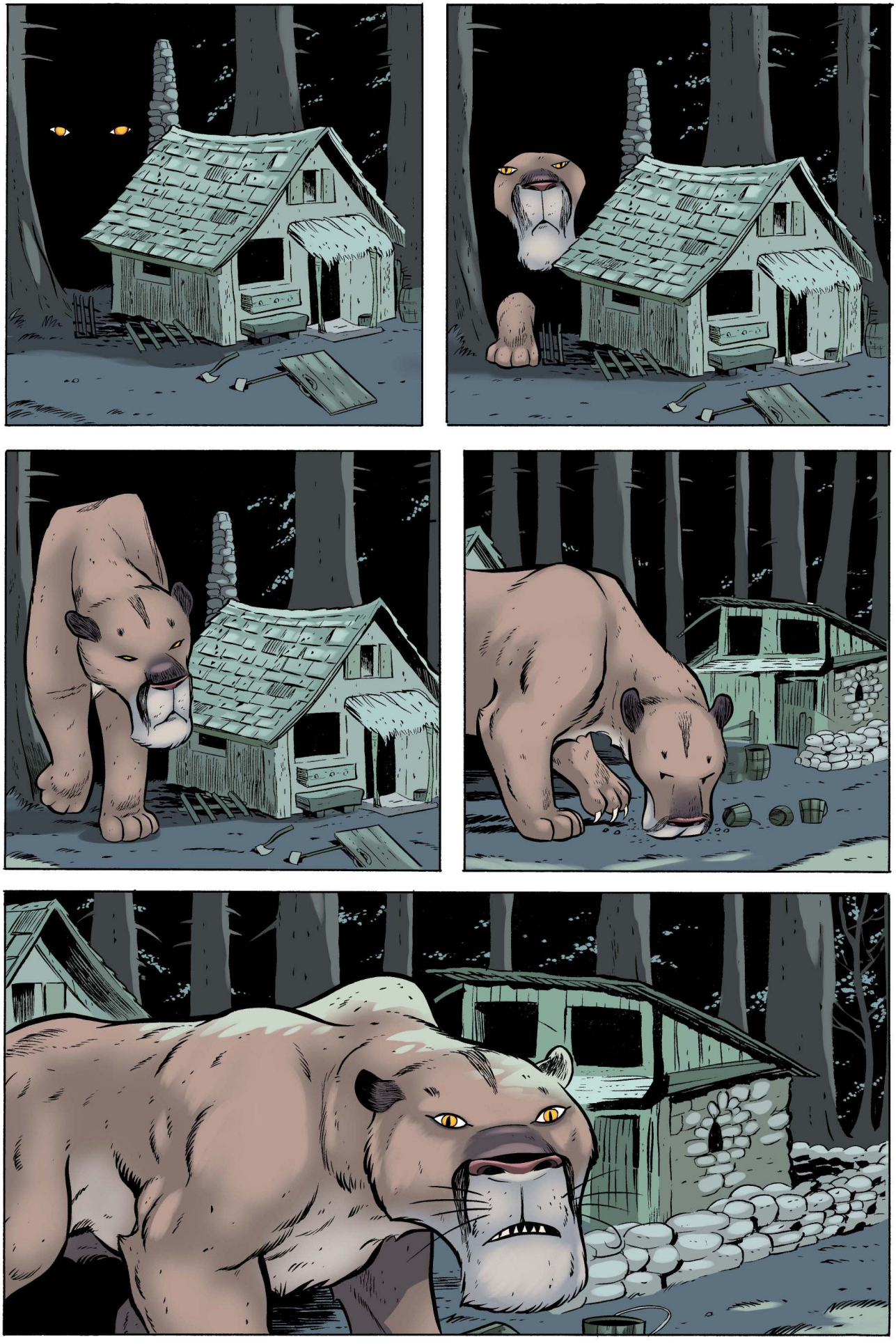

AND STILL NO SIGN OF THORN?
I THOUGHT NOT.
PLEASE KEEP THE CAMP ON ALERT, CAPTAIN.


NOW WHERE WERE WE, PHONCIBLE?
YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT MY SOUL.

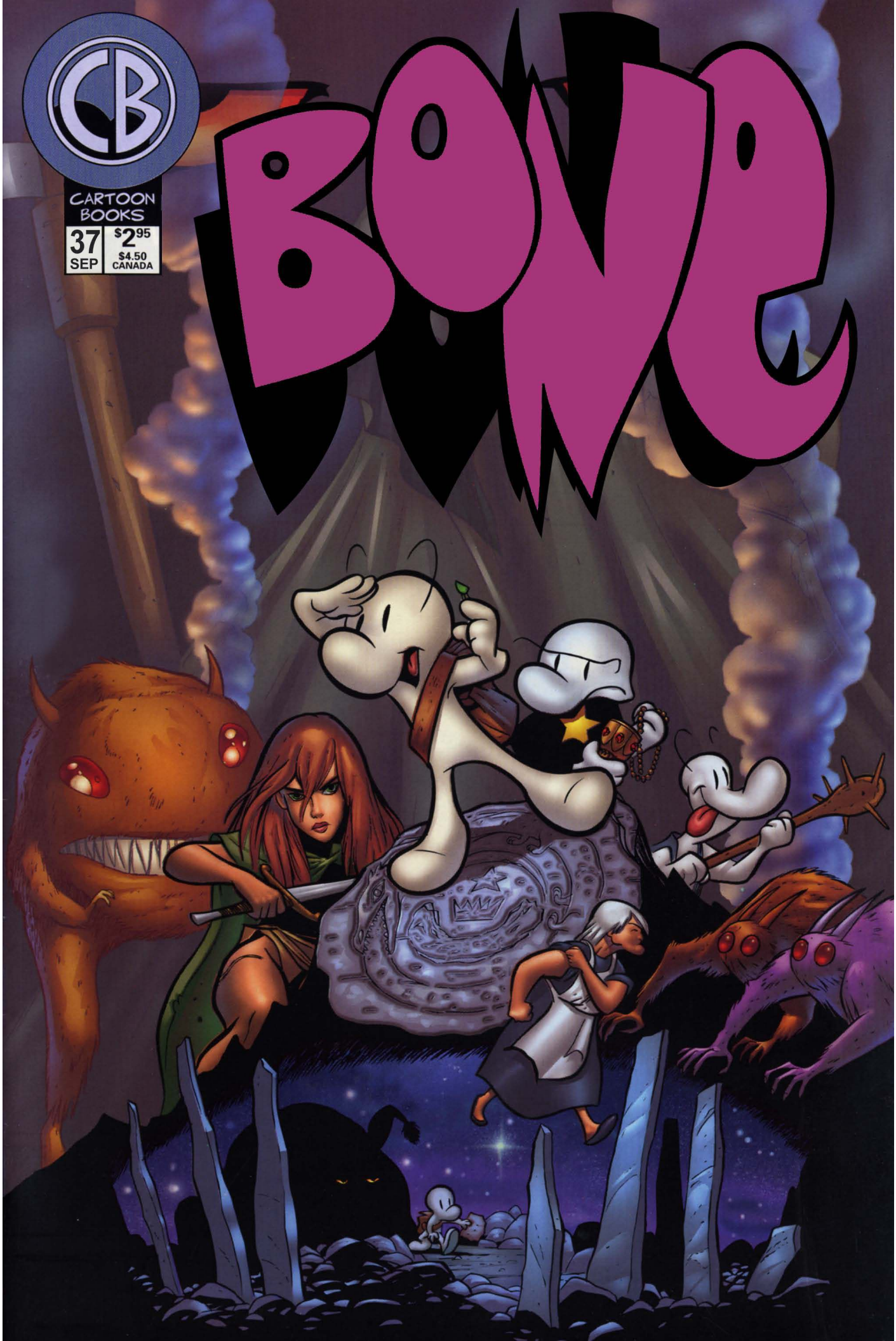

AH, YES, YOUR SOUL IS THAT BIT OF THE DREAMING THAT MAKES YOU YOU.
YEAH, YEAH. EVERYTHING'S A BIG DREAM TO YOU, ISN'T IT, ROSE?
EACH OF US, IN FACT, IS A SMALL CONCENTRATED BIT OF DREAM CARRIED ALONG IN THE CURRENTS OF THE GREAT DREAMING RIVER THAT FLOWS ALL AROUND US.
WITHIN OURSELVES . . . THE DREAMING MAY FLOW IN MANY DIRECTIONS. BUT OCCASIONALLY THERE IS ONE BORN WITHIN WHOM ALL THE CURRENTS ARE ALIGNED.
SUCH A PERSON WOULD BE VERY **STRONG** AND GIFTED BY FATE.
THORN IS SUCH A PERSON. PERHAPS YOU ARE TOO.
HMM, WELL. STRONG AND GIFTED. . . THAT **IS** HARD TO DENY, BUT I STILL DON'T SEE WHY THE HOODED ONE WANTS MY SOUL - -
oh...
GRAN'MA? WHAT'S WRONG?
IT - - IT'S THE **GITCHY FEELIN'**... THAT **TERRIBLE** FEELING THAT MAKES YOUR HEAD SWIM AND YOUR LEGS WOBBLE! IT'S A POWERFUL **OMEN** OF BAD THINGS TO COME!
ARE YOU GONNA BE OKAY?


YES, I . . . I JUST HOPE THAT MY GRANDDAUGHTER IS SAFE . . . .
?
HEY-- YOU FEEL THAT?
RRRRUMBL
CRACK!
RUMMBLE
SMASH!
IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE! GET OUTSIDE!
IS IT OVER?
WHAT HAPPENED?
YOUR MAJESTY! LOOK! LOOK AT THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS!
WHAT IS THAT?
THAT'S THE MOUNTAIN RANGE WHERE THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS LIES ENTOMBED IN STONE.


HOLY SMOKE. DID HE GET LOOSE?!
NO. BUT HE'S STIRRING.
HMM. BLOOD MOON. THAT'S A BAD SIGN.
YOUR HIGHNESS! LUCIUS IS OUTSIDE THE CAMP! HE AND HIS MEN ARE BEING PURSUED BY RAT CREATURES!
GET THEM INSIDE AND SECURE THE GATES.
LUCIUS! WHAT HAPPENED?
THE RATS CAUGHT US BY THE RIVER AND SLAUGHTERED US. IF REINFORCEMENTS HADN'T ARRIVED, WE WOULD'VE BEEN FINISHED.
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN WITH YOU.
I WISH YOU HAD BEEN . . .
HERE. TAKE HIM. I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S STILL ALIVE OR NOT.
IT'S ALL MY FAULT, ROSE.
THE RAT CREATURES HAVE US COMPLETELY SURROUNDED.
CALM. BE CALM. WE MUST PREPARE FOR OUR FINAL STAND.
I JUST PRAY THAT THORN IS SAFE . . . WHEREVER SHE IS.

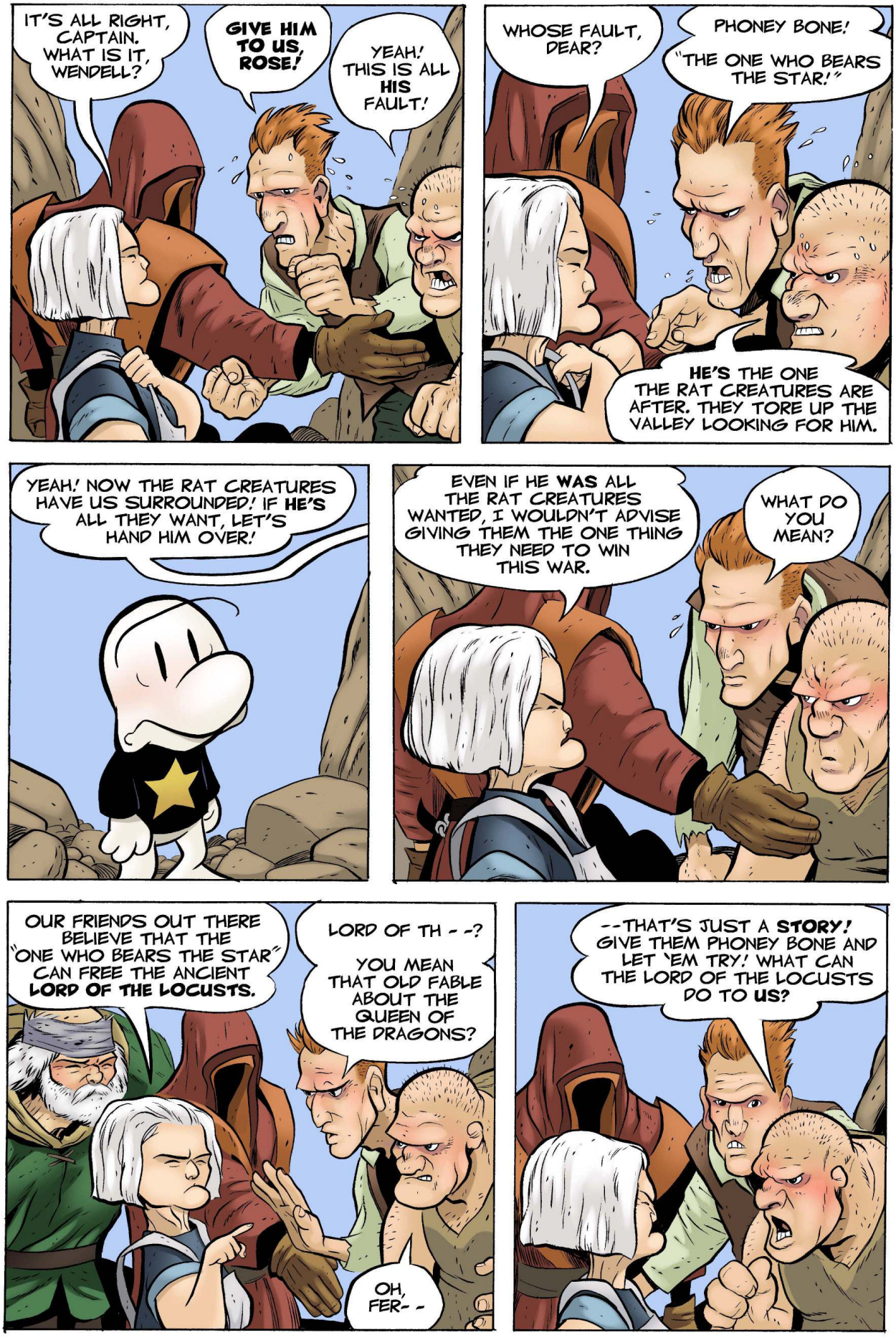


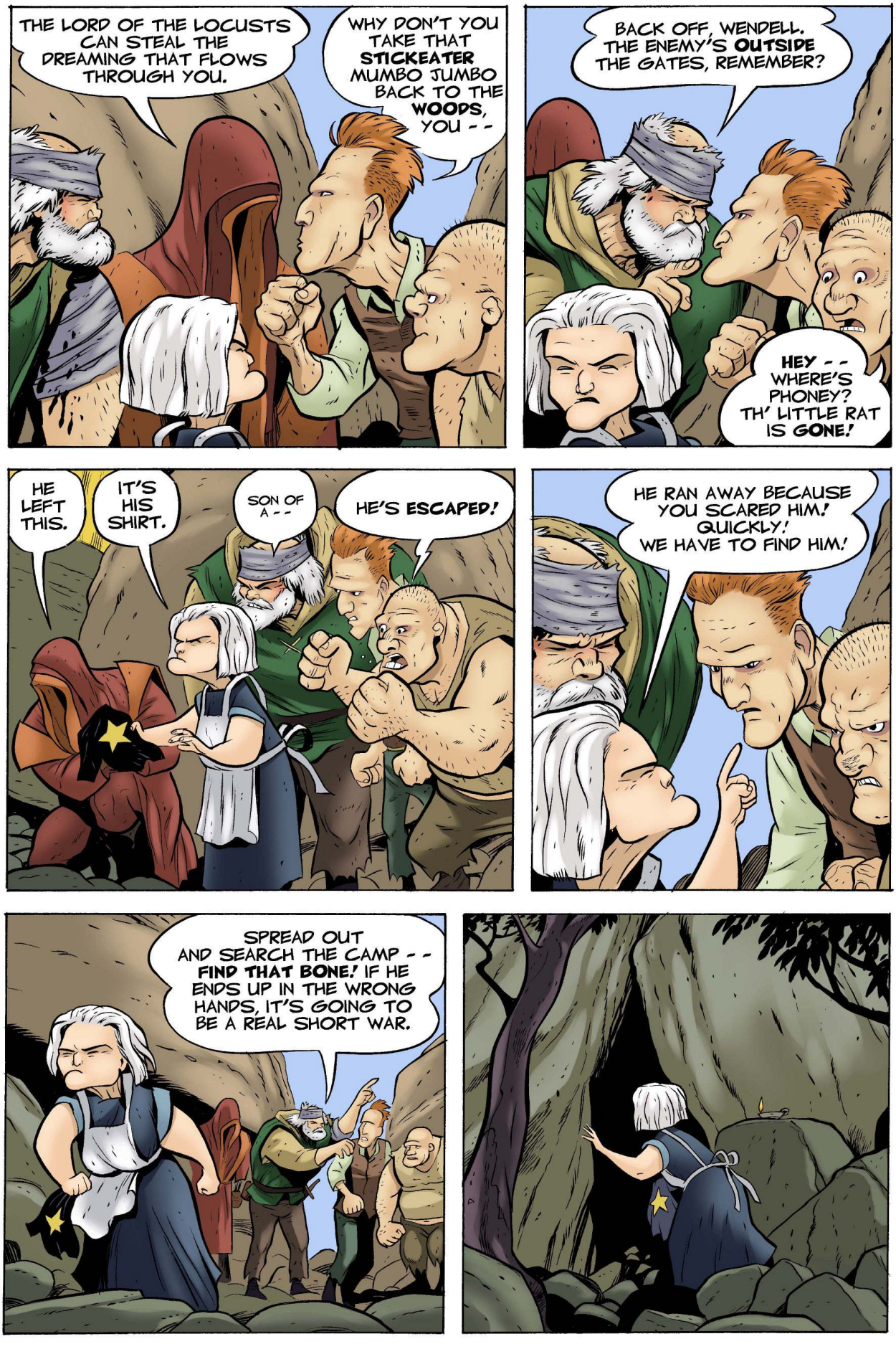



CB
CARTOON BOOKS
37
SEP
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
BONE

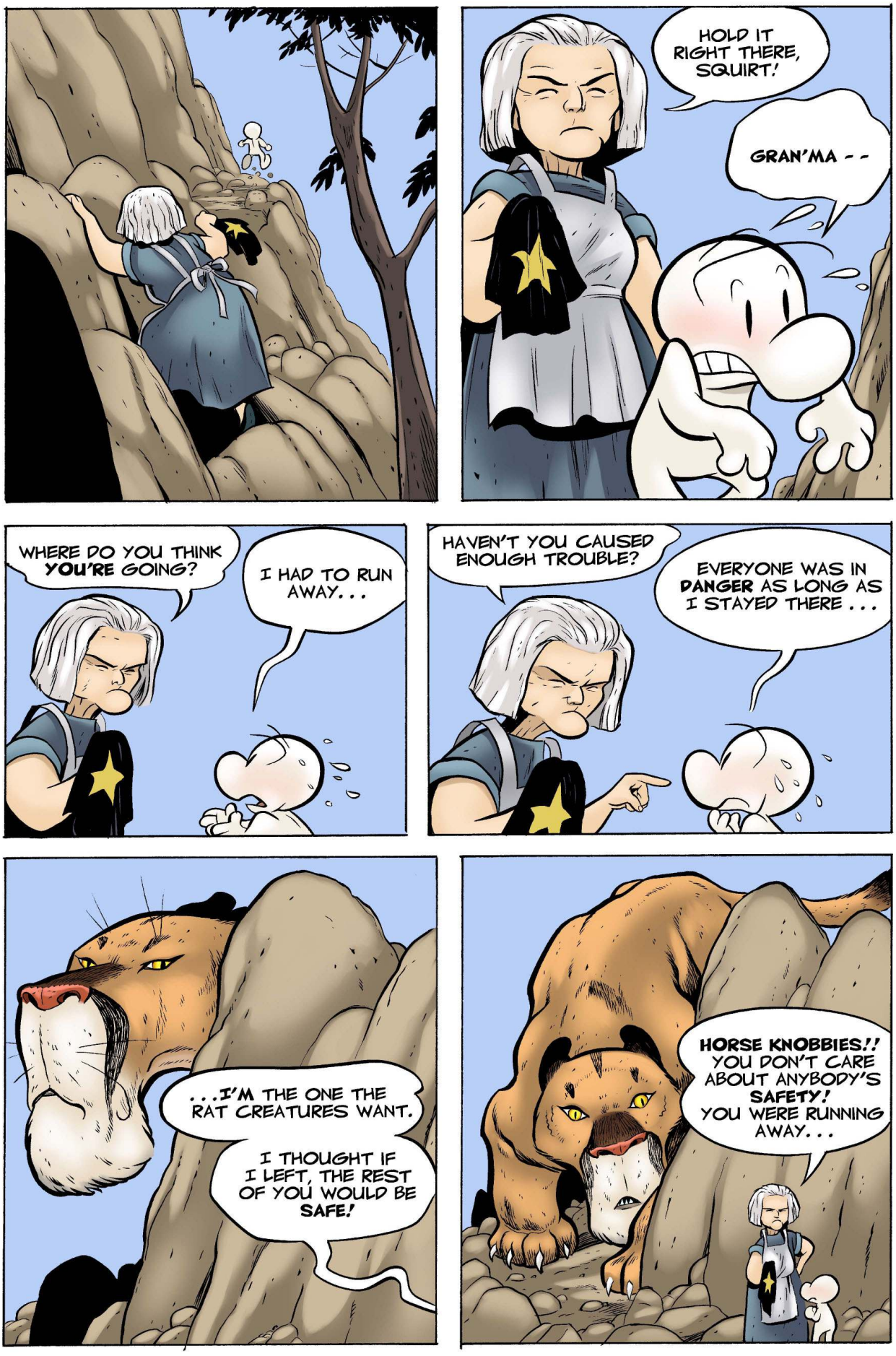

BONE
. . . ARE YOU SURE?
IT WAS BRIAR, I'M SURE OF IT.
BUT HOW? BRIAR IS DEAD- - I SAW HER BODY CUT IN TWO.
I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT IT IS TRUE.
YOUR SISTER IS THE HOODED ONE.
OH . . . BRIAR. . .
POOR, DEAR BRIAR. . .


I'M SORRY, ROSE.
IT MUST BE THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS. HE'S KEPT HER ALIVE ALL THESE YEARS . . .
. . . AND NOW SHE IS GOING TO REPAY THAT DEBT BY SETTING HIM FREE.
WE CAN'T WIN THIS ALONE.
IF EVER WE NEEDED THE GREAT RED DRAGON, WE NEED HIM NOW.
I KNOW. . . BUT THE COUNCIL'S DECISION WAS FINAL.
ROSE!
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO TO CHANGE THEIR MINDS?
I PLEADED WITH THE HIGH COUNCIL IN DEREN GARD FOR THREE DAYS . . . EVEN WITH THE RED DRAGON BY MY SIDE I WAS UNABLE TO SWAY THEM.
. . .THE DRAGONS ARE GOING UNDERGROUND FOR GOOD.
WE FACE THE END ALONE.
ROSE!

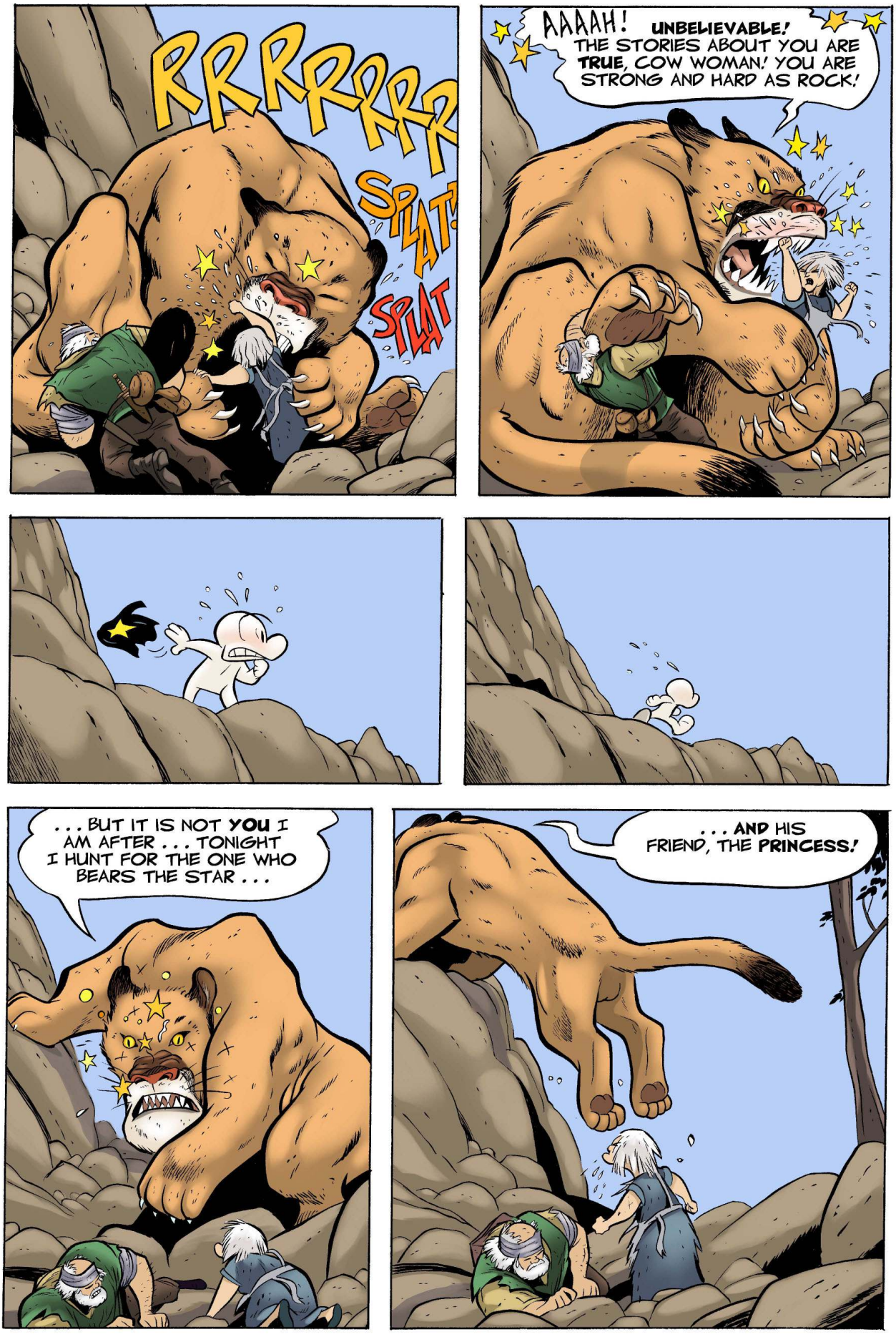

IT'S ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN. WHAT IS IT, WENDELL?
GIVE HIM TO US, ROSE!
YEAH! THIS IS ALL HIS FAULT!
WHOSE FAULT, DEAR?
PHONEY BONE!
"THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR!"
HE'S THE ONE THE RAT CREATURES ARE AFTER. THEY TORE UP THE VALLEY LOOKING FOR HIM.
YEAH! NOW THE RAT CREATURES HAVE US SURROUNDED! IF HE'S ALL THEY WANT, LET'S HAND HIM OVER!
EVEN IF HE WAS ALL THE RAT CREATURES WANTED, I WOULDN'T ADVISE GIVING THEM THE ONE THING THEY NEED TO WIN THIS WAR.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
OUR FRIENDS OUT THERE BELIEVE THAT THE "ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR" CAN FREE THE ANCIENT LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.
LORD OF TH - -?
YOU MEAN THAT OLD FABLE ABOUT THE QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS?
OH, FER- -
--THAT'S JUST A STORY! GIVE THEM PHONEY BONE AND LET 'EM TRY! WHAT CAN THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS DO TO US?

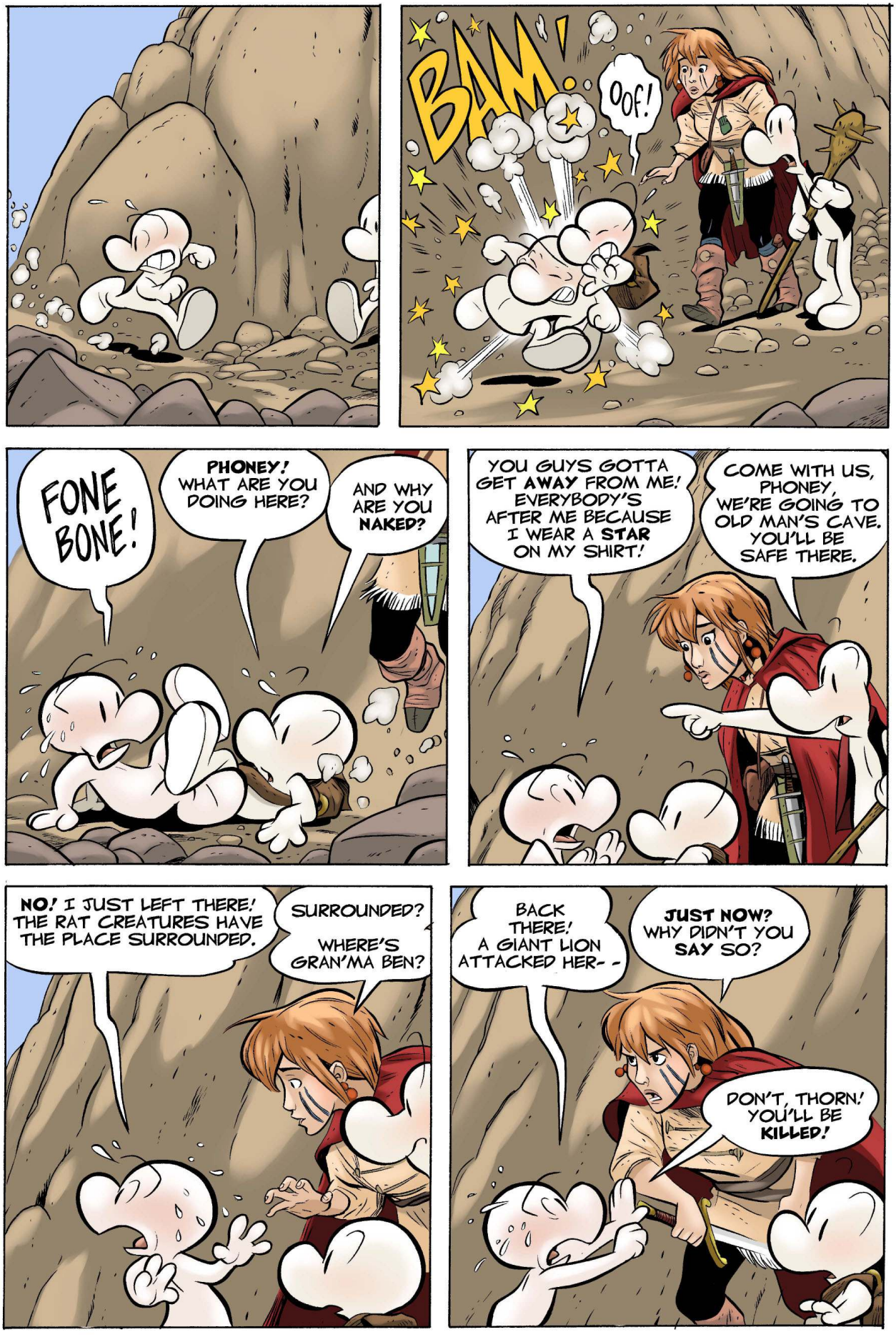

THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS CAN STEAL THE DREAMING THAT FLOWS THROUGH YOU.
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THAT **STICKEATER** MUMBO JUMBO BACK TO THE **WOODS**, YOU - -
BACK OFF, WENDELL. THE ENEMY'S **OUTSIDE** THE GATES, REMEMBER?
HEY - - WHERE'S PHONEY? TH' LITTLE RAT IS **GONE!**
HE LEFT THIS.
IT'S HIS SHIRT.
SON OF A - -
HE'S **ESCAPED!**
HE RAN AWAY BECAUSE YOU SCARED HIM! QUICKLY! WE HAVE TO FIND HIM!
SPREAD OUT AND SEARCH THE CAMP - - **FIND THAT BONE!** IF HE ENDS UP IN THE WRONG HANDS, IT'S GOING TO BE A REAL SHORT WAR.

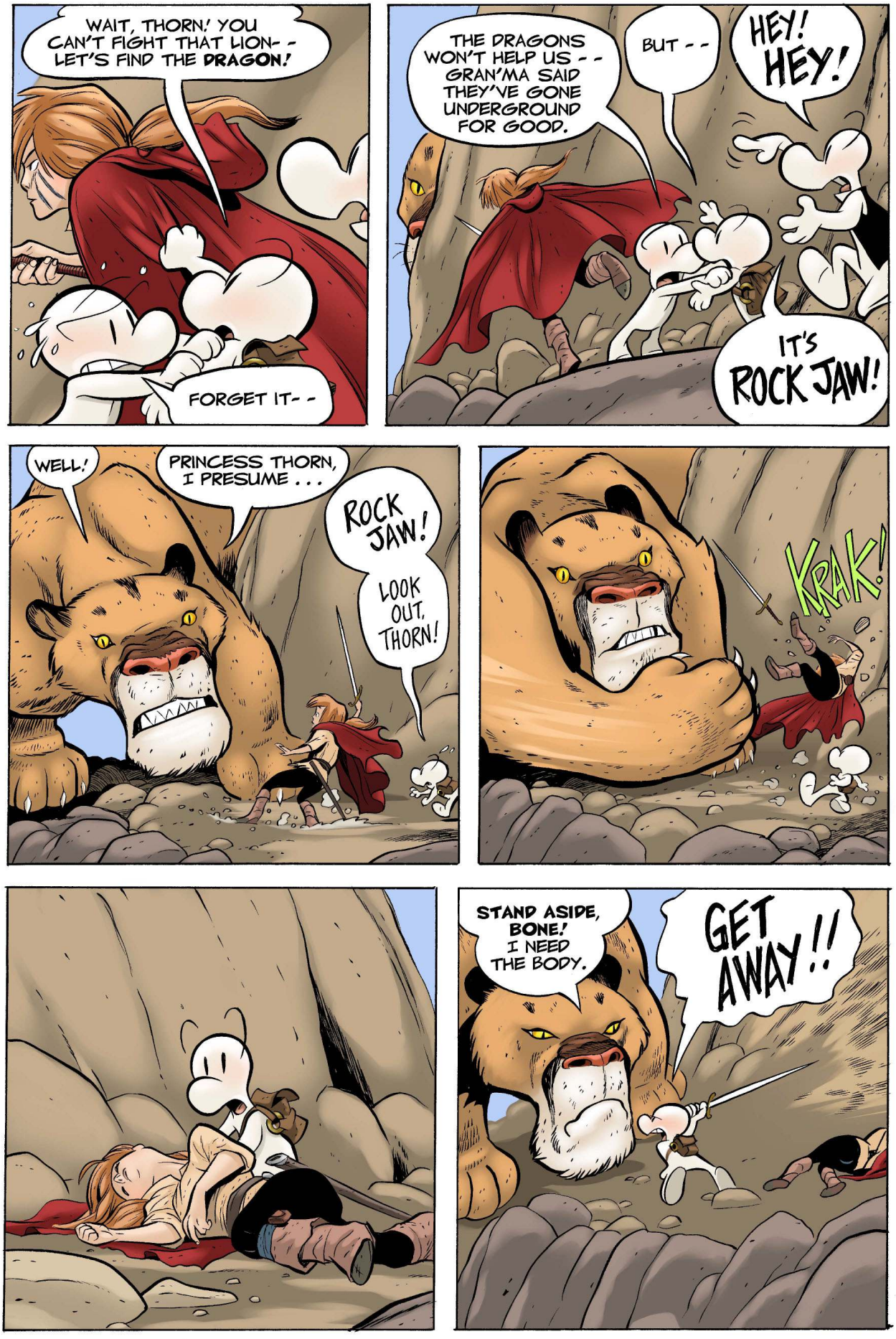



HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, SQUIRT!
GRAN'MA - -
WHERE DO YOU THINK **YOU'RE** GOING?
I HAD TO RUN AWAY...
HAVEN'T YOU CAUSED ENOUGH TROUBLE?
EVERYONE WAS IN **DANGER** AS LONG AS I STAYED THERE...
...**I'M** THE ONE THE RAT CREATURES WANT.
I THOUGHT IF I LEFT, THE REST OF YOU WOULD BE **SAFE!**
HORSE KNOBBIES!! YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYBODY'S **SAFETY!** YOU WERE RUNNING AWAY...


. . . AND NOW YOU'RE PUTTING THE REST OF US IN **WORSE** DANGER!
GRAN'MA, I **SWEAR** I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'RE AFTER ME - -
ROSE! LOOK OUT!
GET DOWN!
ROWRR
CRASH

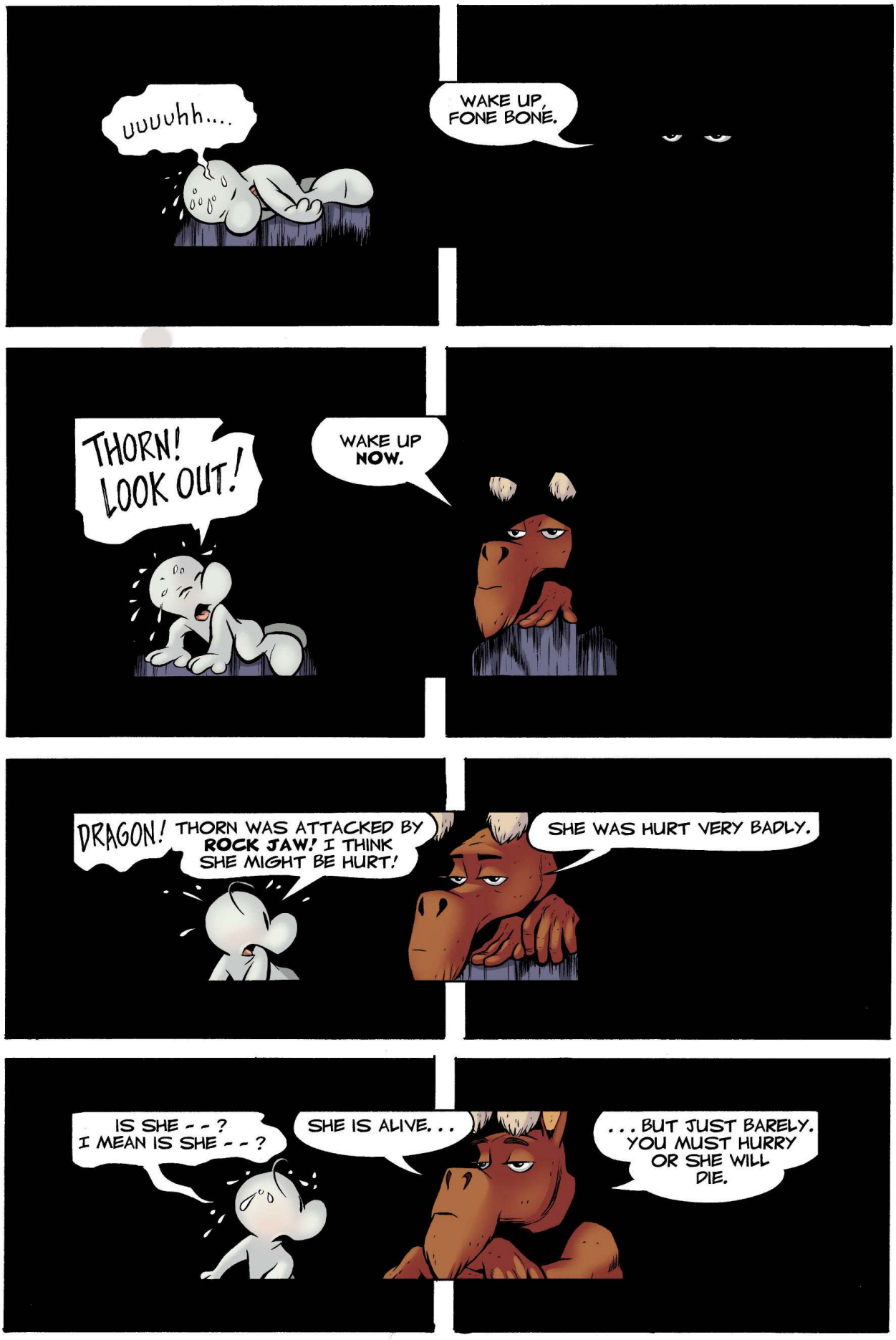

RRRRRRR
SPLAT!
SPLAT
AAAAH! UNBELIEVABLE! THE STORIES ABOUT YOU ARE TRUE, COW WOMAN! YOU ARE STRONG AND HARD AS ROCK!
. . . BUT IT IS NOT YOU I AM AFTER . . . TONIGHT I HUNT FOR THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR . . .
. . . AND HIS FRIEND, THE PRINCESS!

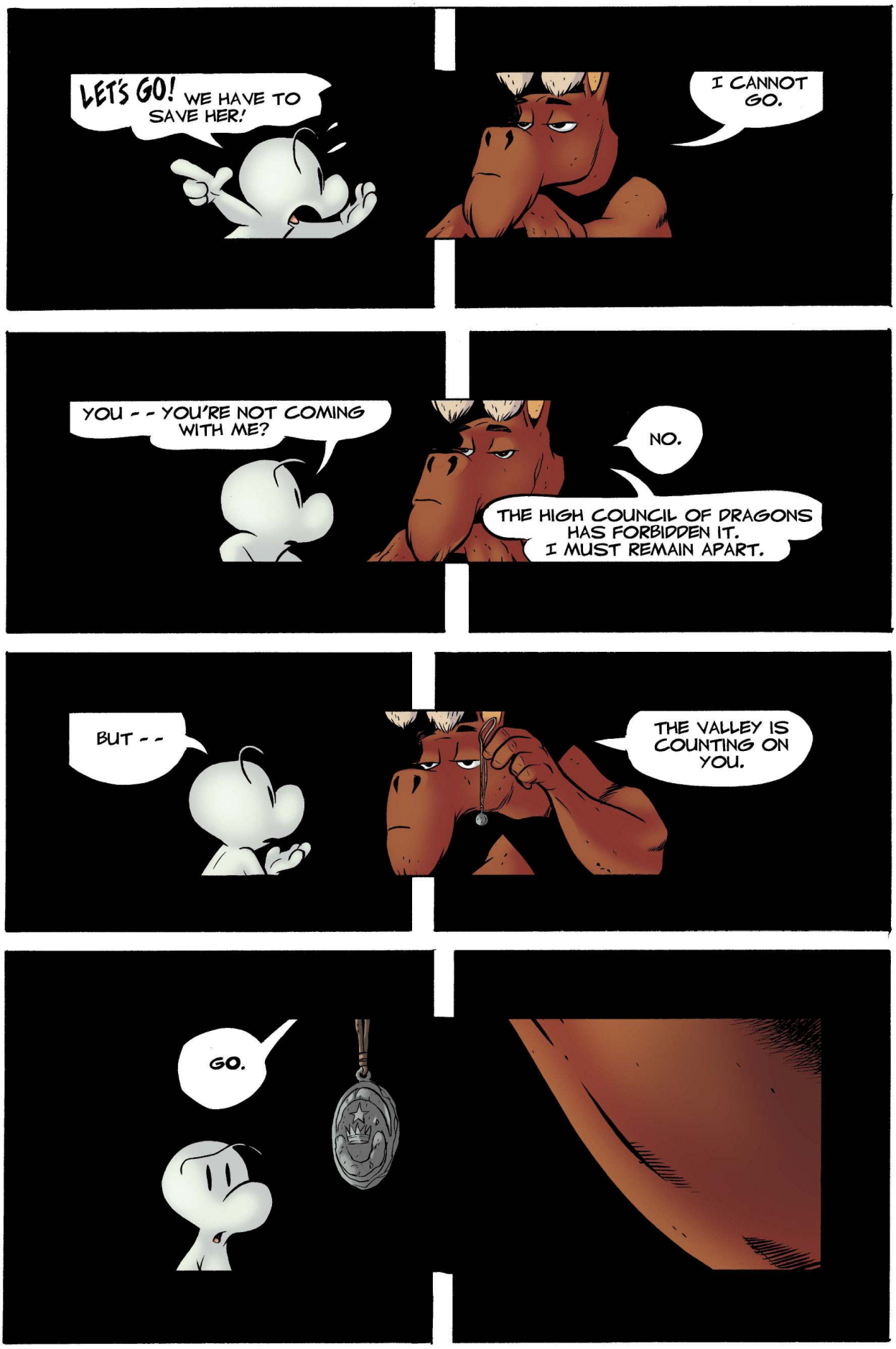

BAM!
OOF!
FONE BONE!
PHONEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AND WHY ARE YOU NAKED?
YOU GUYS GOTTA GET AWAY FROM ME! EVERYBODY'S AFTER ME BECAUSE I WEAR A STAR ON MY SHIRT!
COME WITH US, PHONEY, WE'RE GOING TO OLD MAN'S CAVE. YOU'LL BE SAFE THERE.
NO! I JUST LEFT THERE! THE RAT CREATURES HAVE THE PLACE SURROUNDED.
SURROUNDED? WHERE'S GRAN'MA BEN?
BACK THERE! A GIANT LION ATTACKED HER- -
JUST NOW? WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?
DON'T, THORN! YOU'LL BE KILLED!

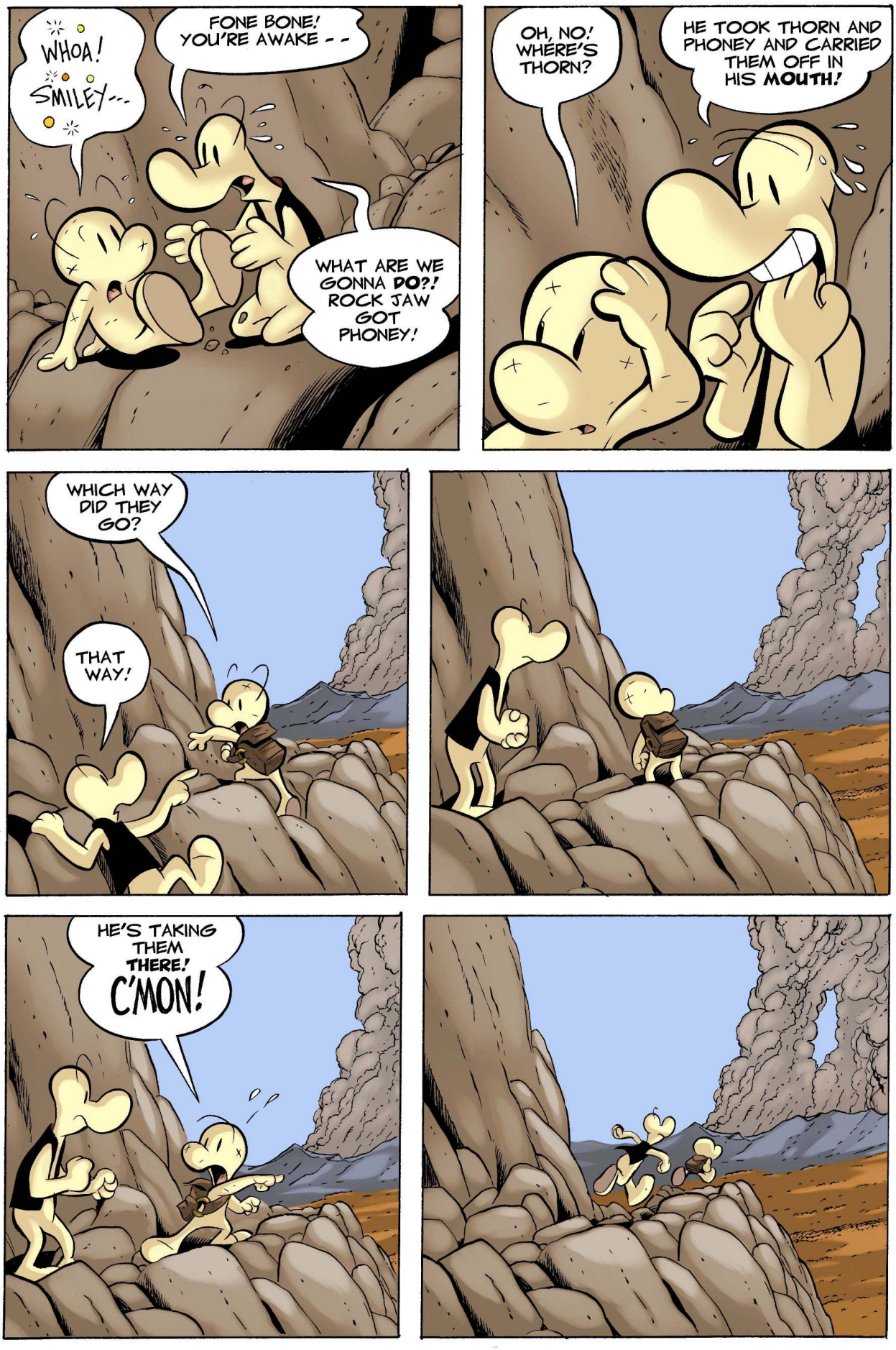

WAIT, THORN! YOU CAN'T FIGHT THAT LION- - LET'S FIND THE DRAGON!
FORGET IT- -
THE DRAGONS WON'T HELP US - - GRAN'MA SAID THEY'VE GONE UNDERGROUND FOR GOOD.
BUT - -
HEY! HEY!
IT'S ROCK JAW!
WELL!
PRINCESS THORN, I PRESUME . . .
ROCK JAW!
LOOK OUT, THORN!
KRAK!
STAND ASIDE, BONE! I NEED THE BODY.
GET AWAY!!

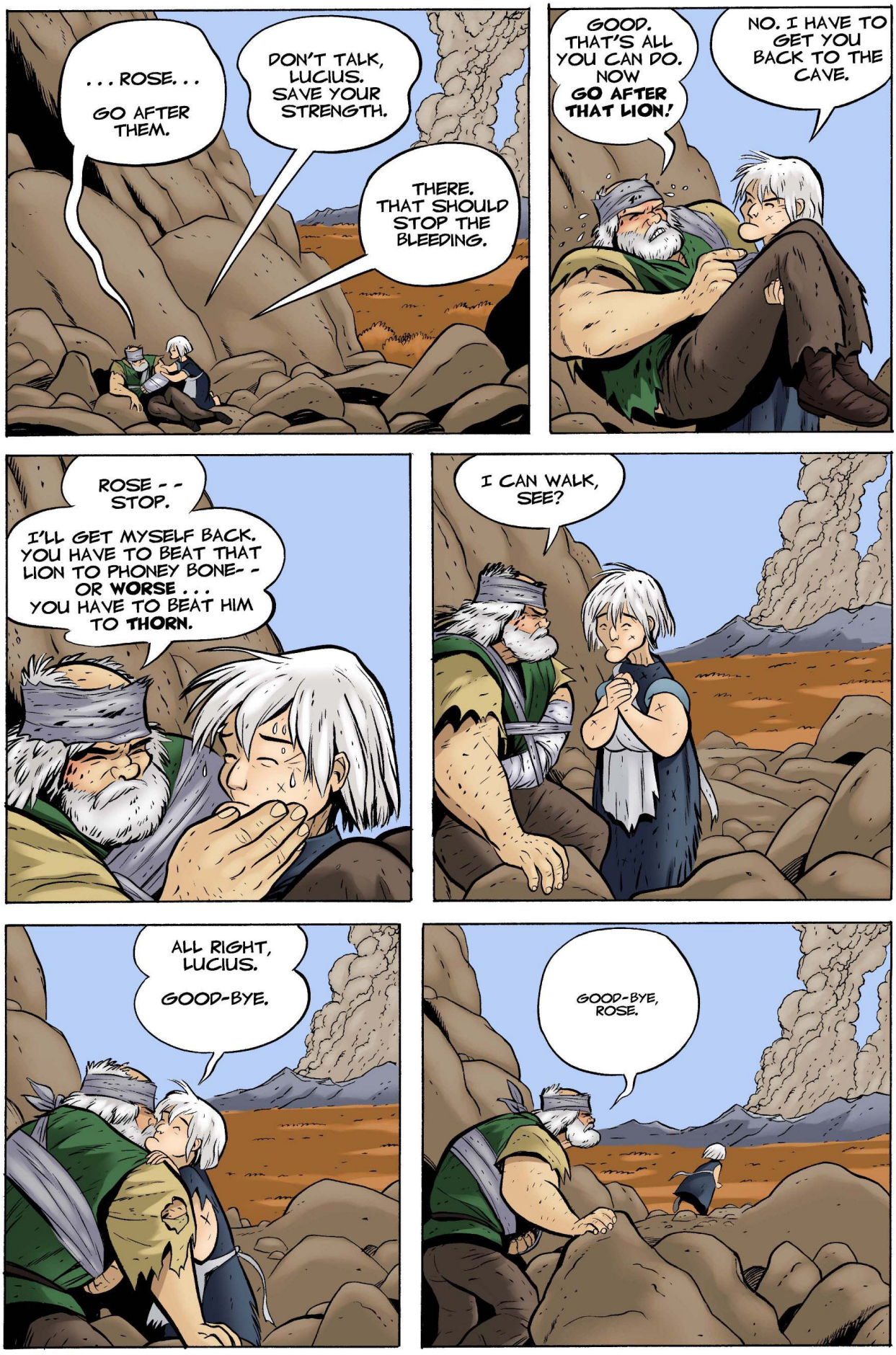


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

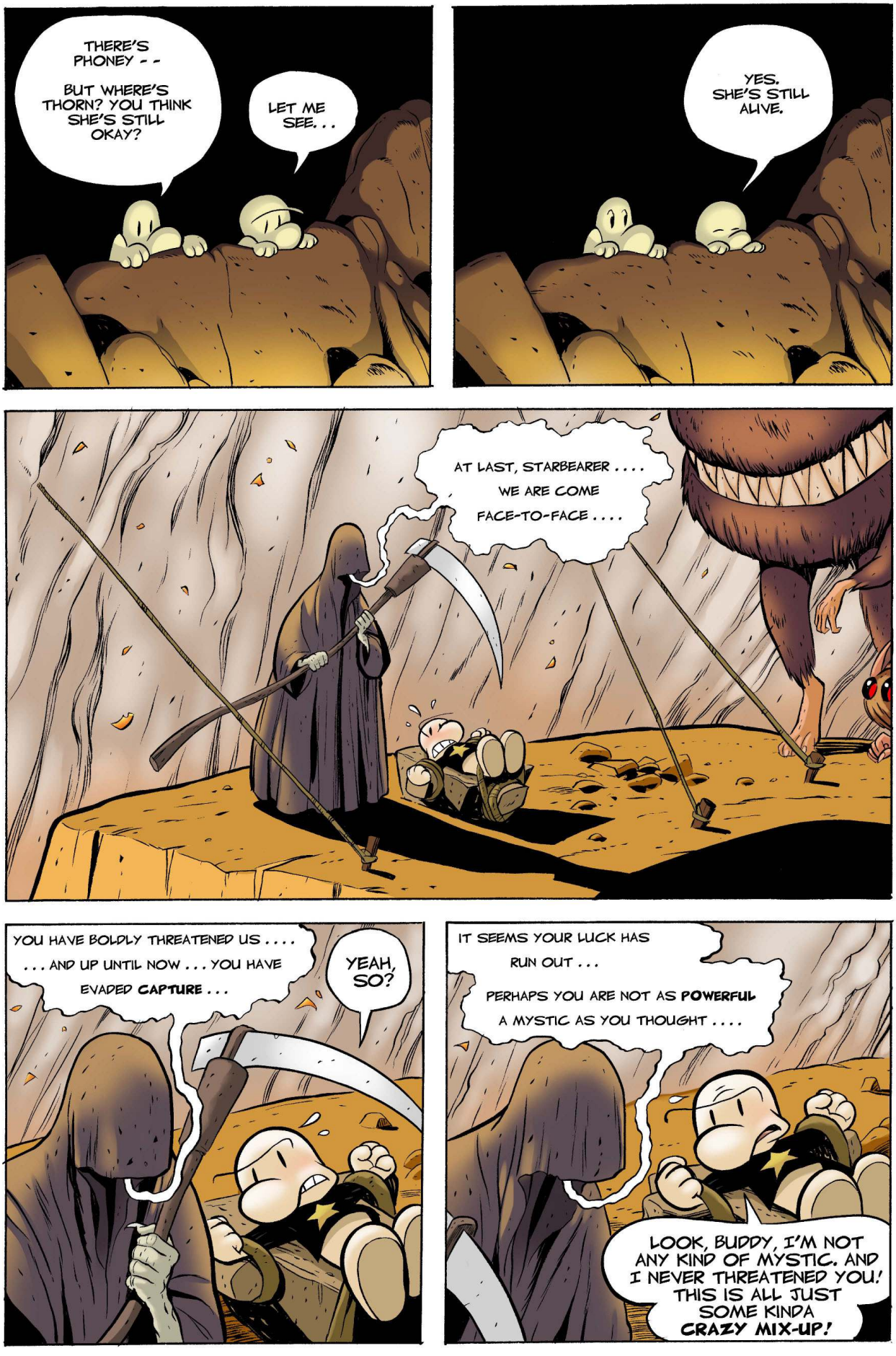

uuuuhh....
WAKE UP, FONE BONE.
THORN! LOOK OUT!
WAKE UP NOW.
DRAGON! THORN WAS ATTACKED BY ROCK JAW! I THINK SHE MIGHT BE HURT!
SHE WAS HURT VERY BADLY.
IS SHE - - ? I MEAN IS SHE - - ?
SHE IS ALIVE. . .
. . . BUT JUST BARELY. YOU MUST HURRY OR SHE WILL DIE.


LET'S GO! WE HAVE TO SAVE HER!
I CANNOT GO.
YOU - - YOU'RE NOT COMING WITH ME?
NO.
THE HIGH COUNCIL OF DRAGONS HAS FORBIDDEN IT. I MUST REMAIN APART.
BUT - -
THE VALLEY IS COUNTING ON YOU.
GO.


WHOA!
SMILEY---
FONE BONE! YOU'RE AWAKE - -
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?! ROCK JAW GOT PHONEY!
OH, NO! WHERE'S THORN?
HE TOOK THORN AND PHONEY AND CARRIED THEM OFF IN HIS MOUTH!
WHICH WAY DID THEY GO?
THAT WAY!
HE'S TAKING THEM THERE! C'MON!


. . . ROSE. . .
GO AFTER THEM.
DON'T TALK, LUCIUS. SAVE YOUR STRENGTH.
THERE. THAT SHOULD STOP THE BLEEDING.
GOOD. THAT'S ALL YOU CAN DO. NOW GO AFTER THAT LION!
NO. I HAVE TO GET YOU BACK TO THE CAVE.
ROSE - - STOP.
I'LL GET MYSELF BACK. YOU HAVE TO BEAT THAT LION TO PHONEY BONE- - OR WORSE . . . YOU HAVE TO BEAT HIM TO THORN.
I CAN WALK, SEE?
ALL RIGHT, LUCIUS.
GOOD-BYE.
GOOD-BYE, ROSE.




THERE'S PHONEY - -
BUT WHERE'S THORN? YOU THINK SHE'S STILL OKAY?
LET ME SEE. . .
YES. SHE'S STILL ALIVE.
AT LAST, STARBEARER . . . . WE ARE COME FACE-TO-FACE . . . .
YOU HAVE BOLDLY THREATENED US . . . . . . AND UP UNTIL NOW . . . YOU HAVE EVADED CAPTURE . . .
YEAH, SO?
IT SEEMS YOUR LUCK HAS RUN OUT . . .
PERHAPS YOU ARE NOT AS POWERFUL A MYSTIC AS YOU THOUGHT . . . .
LOOK, BUDDY, I'M NOT ANY KIND OF MYSTIC. AND I NEVER THREATENED YOU! THIS IS ALL JUST SOME KINDA CRAZY MIX-UP!

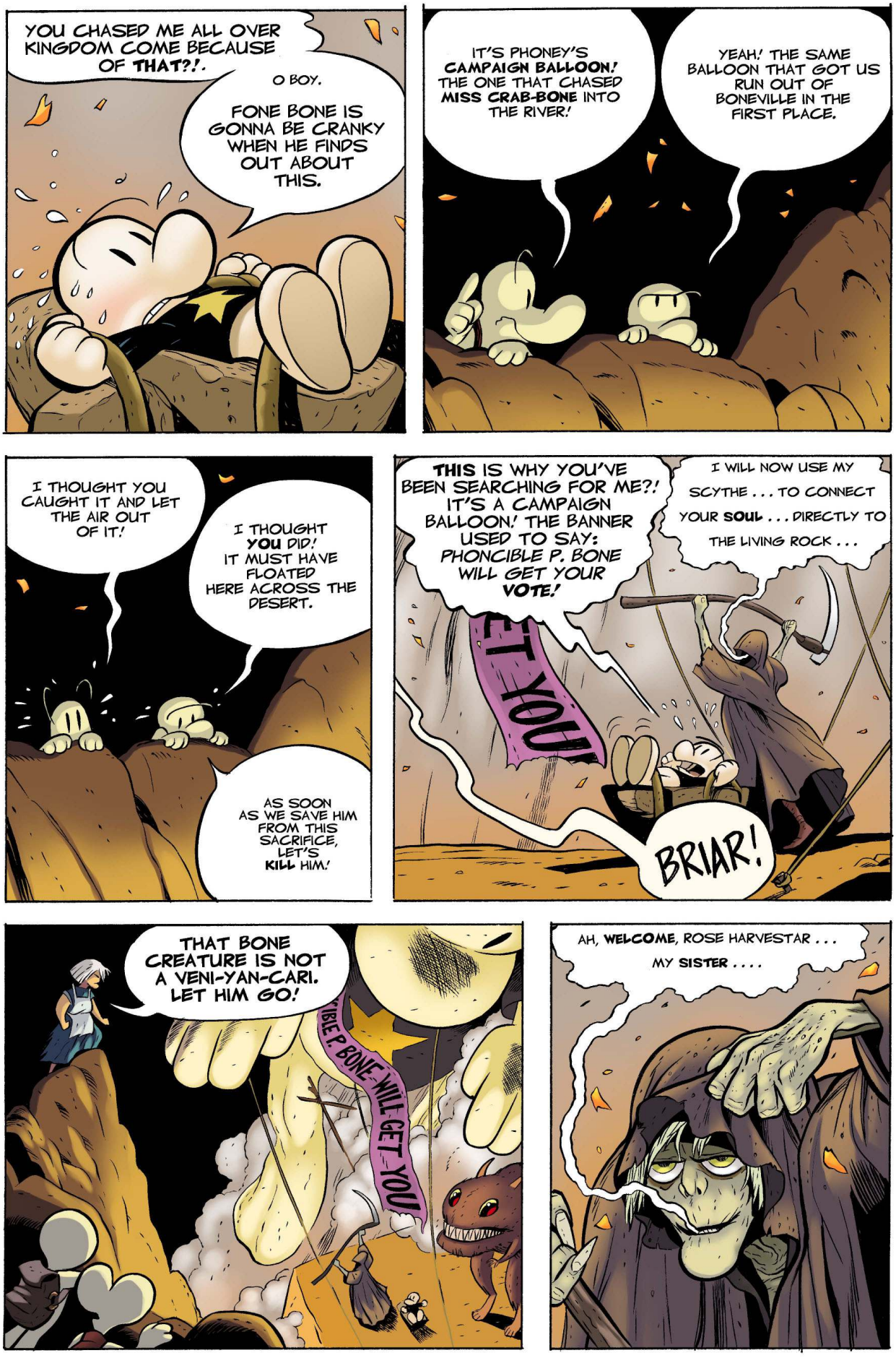


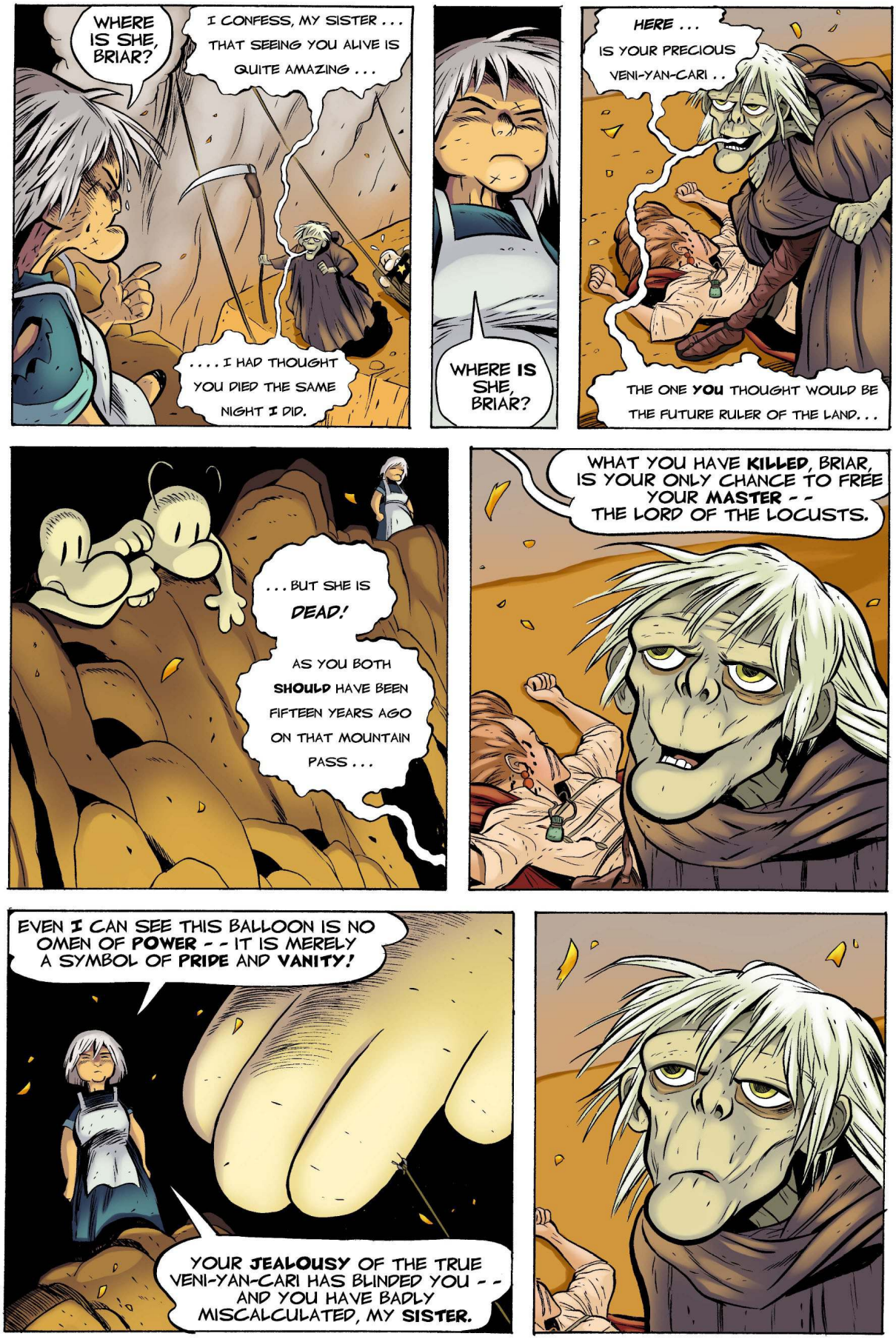
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


PHONCIBLE P. BONE WILL GET YOU
BEHOLD!
THE OMEN THAT
FORETOLD YOUR COMING!

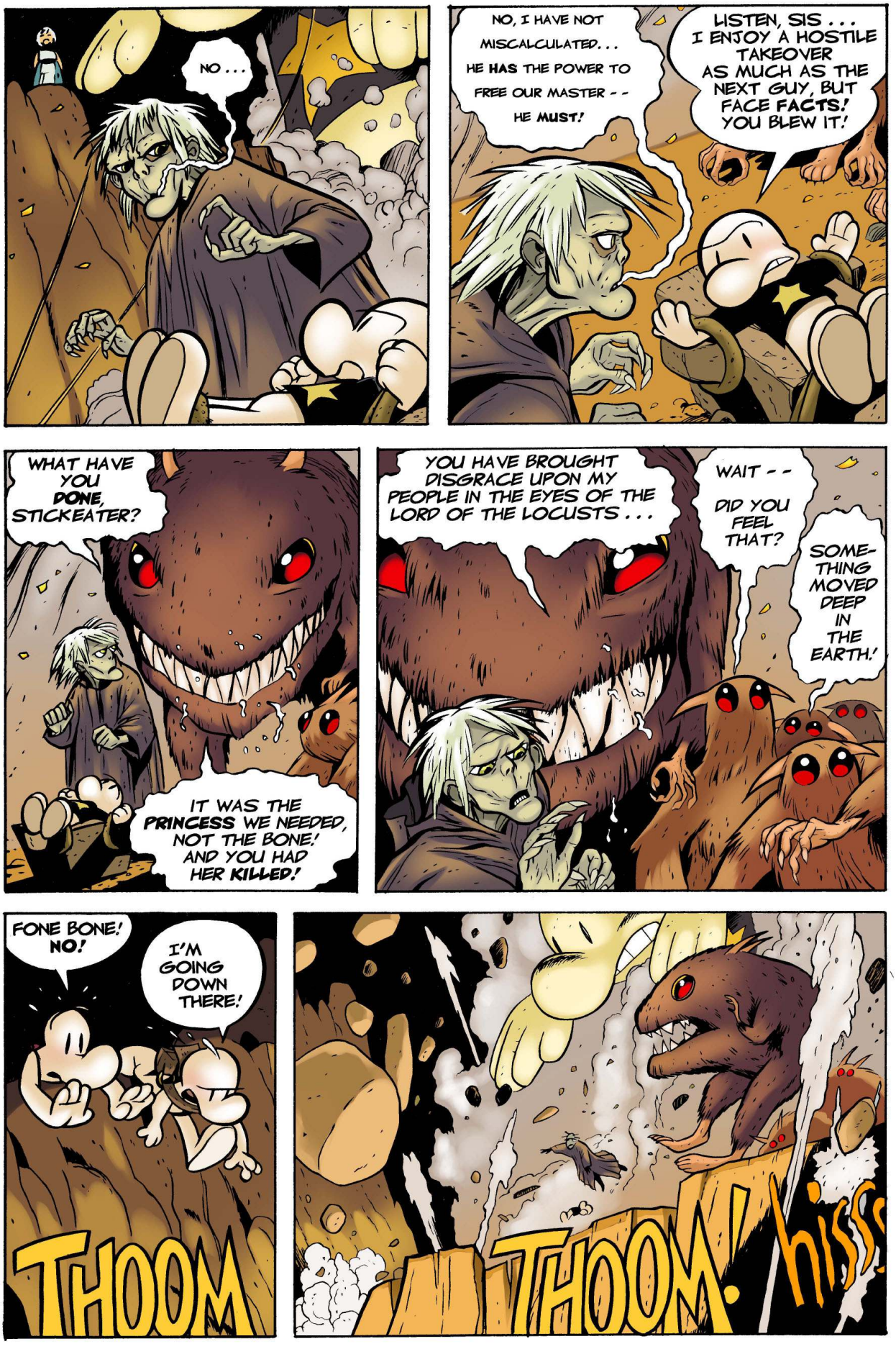




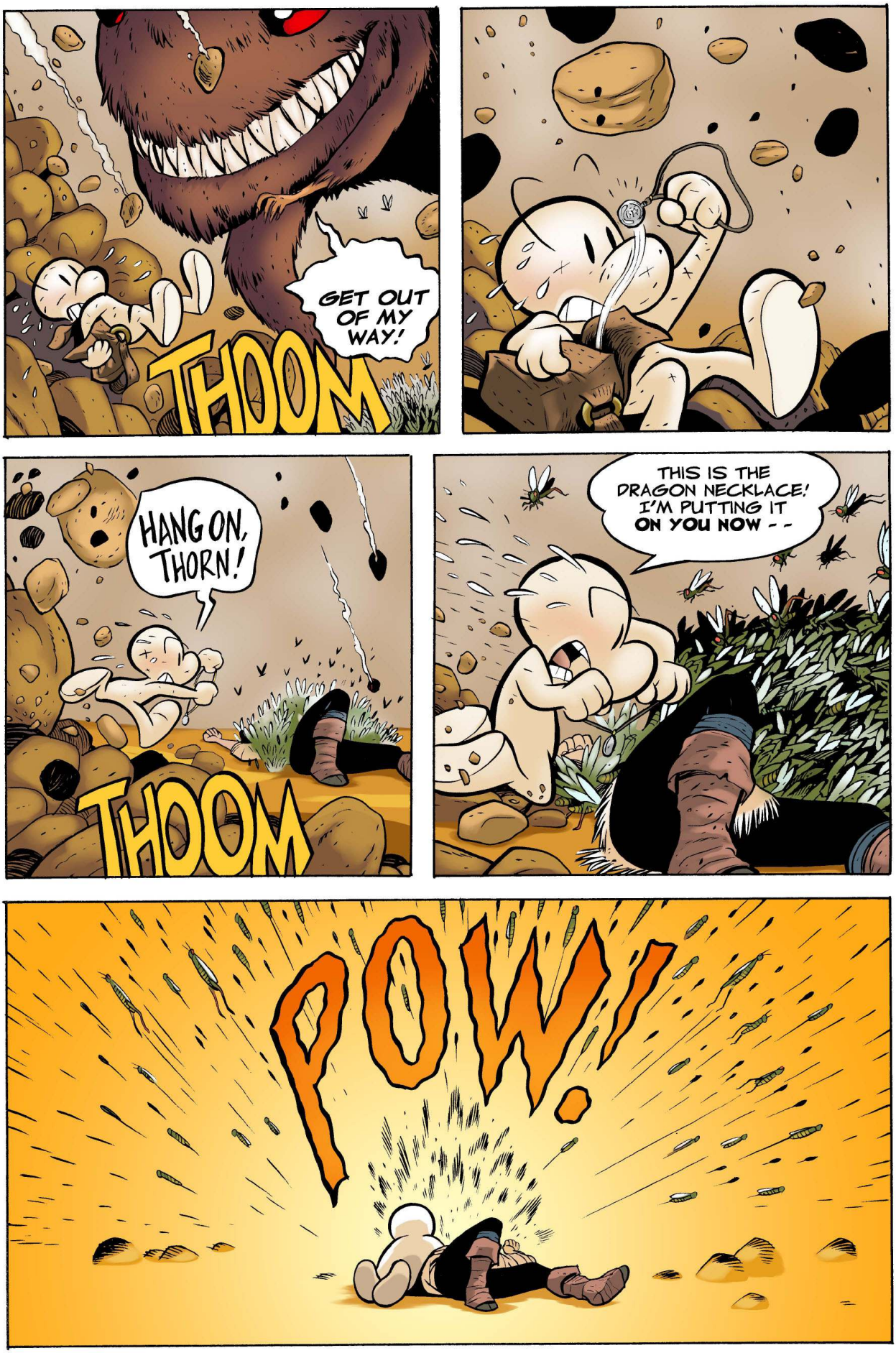

YOU CHASED ME ALL OVER KINGDOM COME BECAUSE OF **THAT**?!.
O BOY.
FONE BONE IS GONNA BE CRANKY WHEN HE FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS.
IT'S PHONEY'S **CAMPAIGN BALLOON!** THE ONE THAT CHASED **MISS CRAB-BONE** INTO THE RIVER!
YEAH! THE SAME BALLOON THAT GOT US RUN OUT OF BONEVILLE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I THOUGHT YOU CAUGHT IT AND LET THE AIR OUT OF IT!
I THOUGHT **YOU** DID! IT MUST HAVE FLOATED HERE ACROSS THE DESERT.
AS SOON AS WE SAVE HIM FROM THIS SACRIFICE, LET'S **KILL** HIM!
THIS IS WHY YOU'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR ME?! IT'S A CAMPAIGN BALLOON! THE BANNER USED TO SAY: *PHONCIBLE P. BONE WILL GET YOUR* **VOTE!**
I WILL NOW USE MY SCYTHE . . . TO CONNECT YOUR **SOUL** . . . DIRECTLY TO THE LIVING ROCK . . .
GET YOU!
BRIAR!
THAT BONE CREATURE IS NOT A VENI-YAN-CARI. LET HIM GO!
PHONCIBLE P. BONE WILL GET YOU
AH, **WELCOME**, ROSE HARVESTAR . . .
MY **SISTER** . . . .

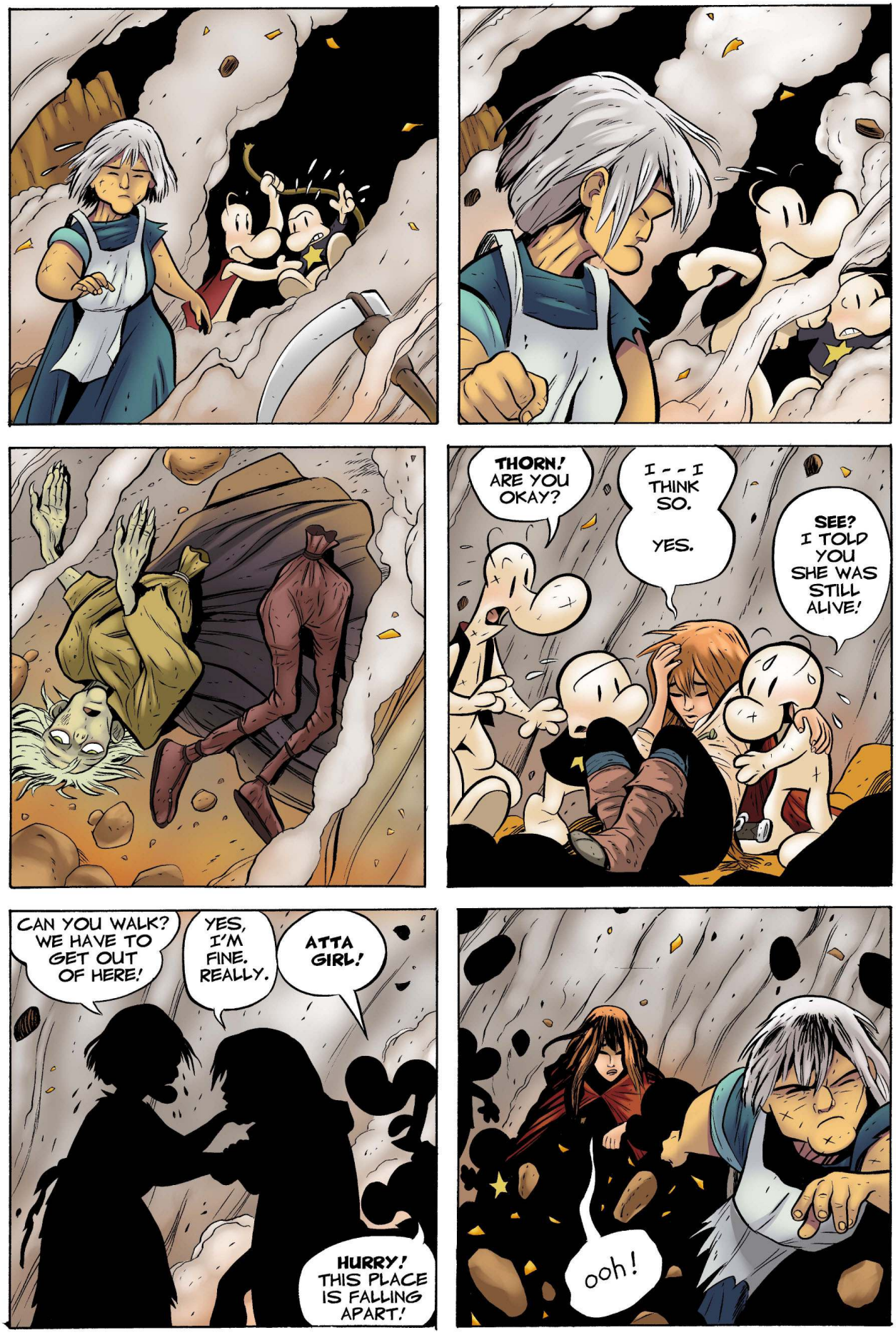


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


NO . . .
NO, I HAVE NOT MISCALCULATED. . . HE HAS THE POWER TO FREE OUR MASTER - - HE MUST!
LISTEN, SIS . . . I ENJOY A HOSTILE TAKEOVER AS MUCH AS THE NEXT GUY, BUT FACE FACTS! YOU BLEW IT!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, STICKEATER?
IT WAS THE PRINCESS WE NEEDED, NOT THE BONE! AND YOU HAD HER KILLED!
YOU HAVE BROUGHT DISGRACE UPON MY PEOPLE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS . . .
WAIT - - DID YOU FEEL THAT?
SOMETHING MOVED DEEP IN THE EARTH!
FONE BONE! NO!
I'M GOING DOWN THERE!
THOOM
THOOM! hiss


AIEEE!
RUN!
THE END IS AT HAND!
. . . BUT THE OMEN, LORD . . .
FORGIVE MEEEE . . .
KRAK
NO-- NO--
THOOM
THOOM
!
THOOM
THOOM


GET OUT OF MY WAY!
THOOM
HANG ON, THORN!
THOOM
THIS IS THE DRAGON NECKLACE! I'M PUTTING IT ON YOU NOW - -
POW!

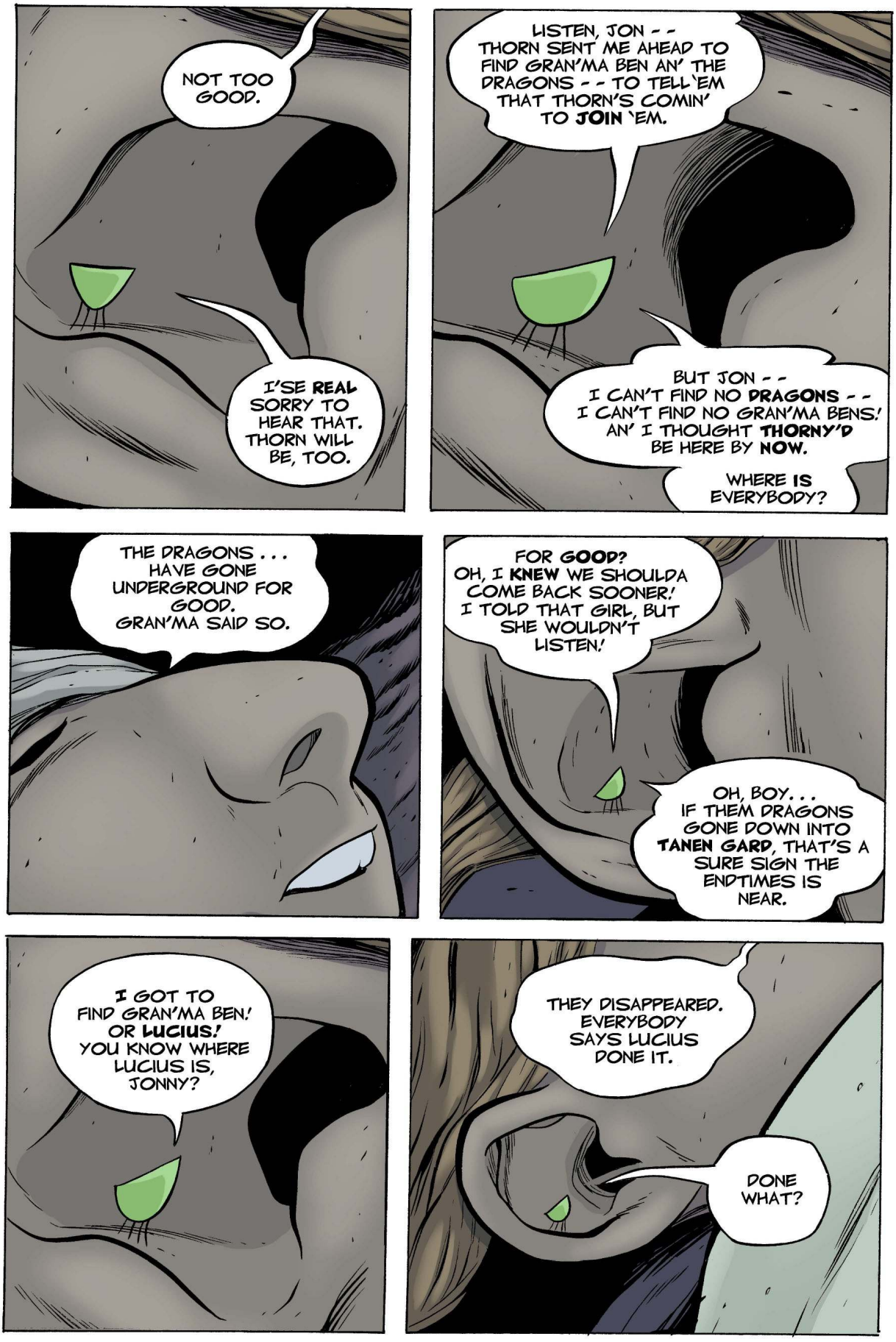

THORN! ARE YOU OKAY?
I - - I THINK SO.
YES.
SEE? I TOLD YOU SHE WAS STILL ALIVE!
CAN YOU WALK? WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
YES, I'M FINE. REALLY.
ATTA GIRL!
HURRY! THIS PLACE IS FALLING APART!
ooh!



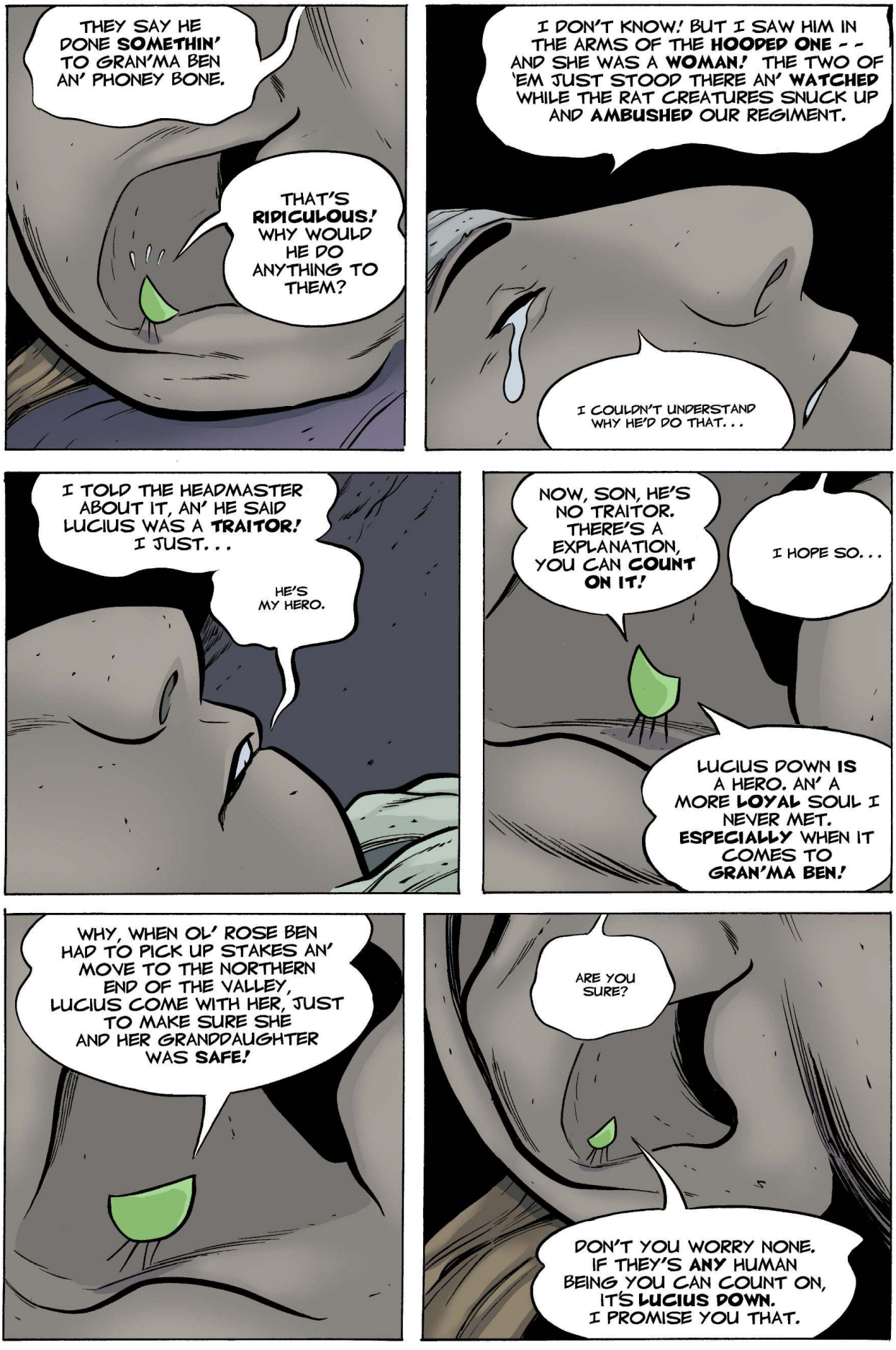
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

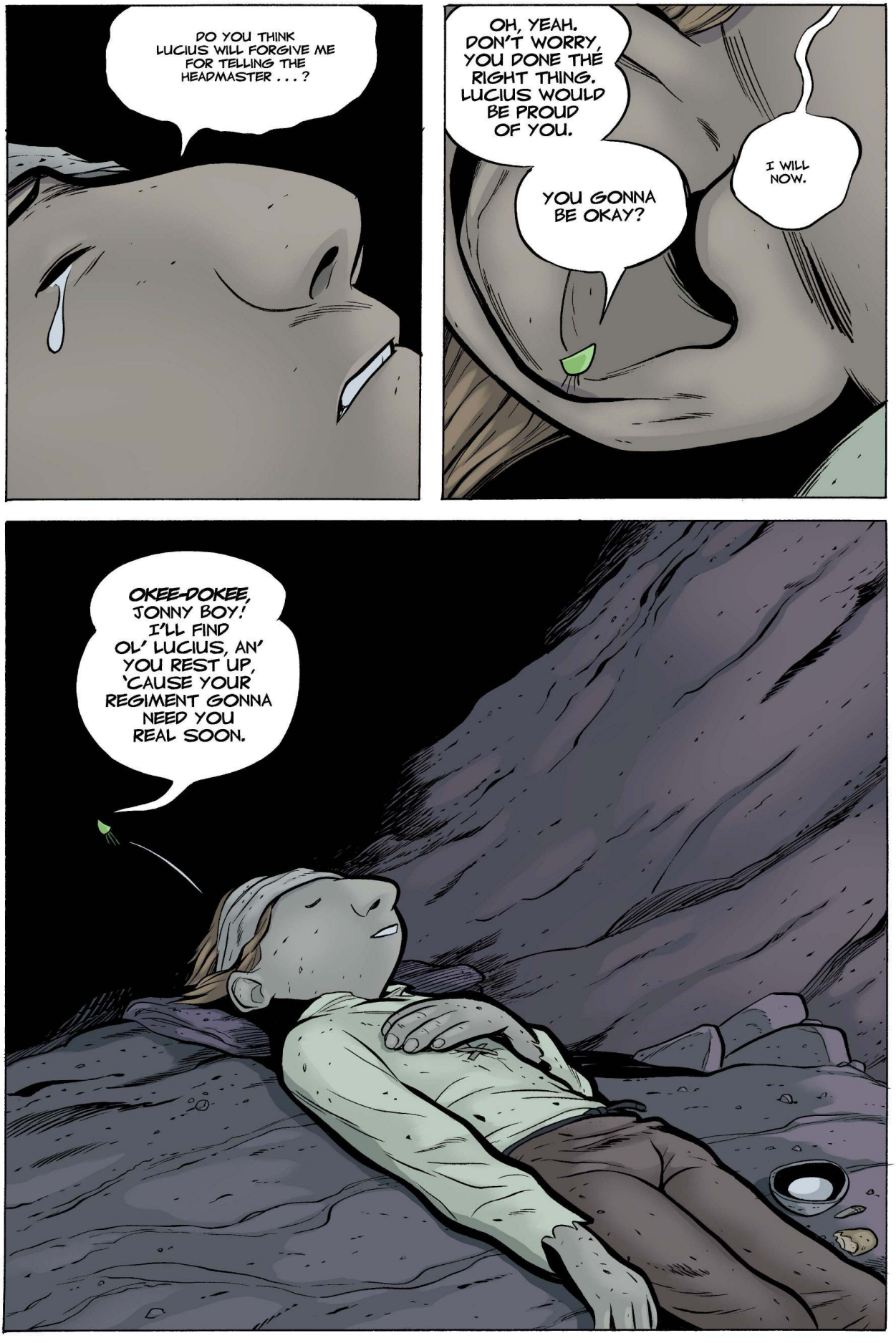

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
38
AUG
$4.95
$6.95 CANADA
BONE


BONE
HEY, JONATHAN!
WHO'S THERE?
YOU DON'T KNOW ME, BUT I'SE A GOOD FREN' OF FONE BONE AND THORN'S.
HOW'S YOU DOIN'?



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THEY SAY HE DONE **SOMETHIN'** TO GRAN'MA BEN AN' PHONEY BONE.
THAT'S **RIDICULOUS!** WHY WOULD HE DO ANYTHING TO THEM?
I DON'T KNOW! BUT I SAW HIM IN THE ARMS OF THE **HOODED ONE** - - AND SHE WAS A **WOMAN!** THE TWO OF 'EM JUST STOOD THERE AN' **WATCHED** WHILE THE RAT CREATURES SNUCK UP AND **AMBUSHED** OUR REGIMENT.
I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE'D DO THAT...
I TOLD THE HEADMASTER ABOUT IT, AN' HE SAID LUCIUS WAS A **TRAITOR!** I JUST...
HE'S MY HERO.
NOW, SON, HE'S NO TRAITOR. THERE'S A EXPLANATION, YOU CAN **COUNT ON IT!**
I HOPE SO...
LUCIUS DOWN **IS** A HERO. AN' A MORE **LOYAL** SOUL I NEVER MET. **ESPECIALLY** WHEN IT COMES TO **GRAN'MA BEN!**
WHY, WHEN OL' ROSE BEN HAD TO PICK UP STAKES AN' MOVE TO THE NORTHERN END OF THE VALLEY, LUCIUS COME WITH HER, JUST TO MAKE SURE SHE AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER WAS **SAFE!**
ARE YOU SURE?
DON'T YOU WORRY NONE. IF THEY'S **ANY** HUMAN BEING YOU CAN COUNT ON, IT'S **LUCIUS DOWN.** I PROMISE YOU THAT.

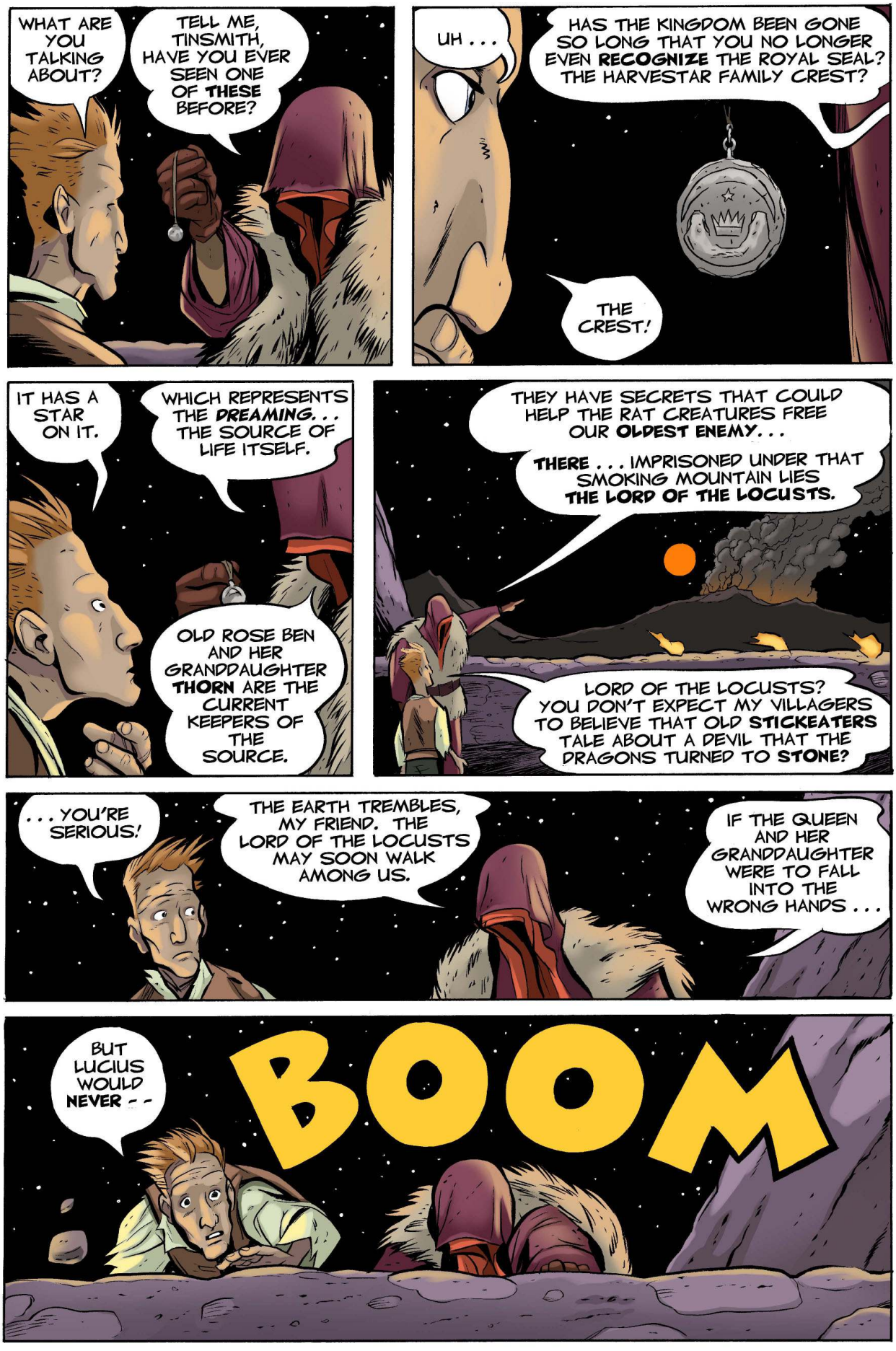

DO YOU THINK LUCIUS WILL FORGIVE ME FOR TELLING THE HEADMASTER . . . ?
OH, YEAH. DON'T WORRY, YOU DONE THE RIGHT THING. LUCIUS WOULD BE PROUD OF YOU.
YOU GONNA BE OKAY?
I WILL NOW.
OKEE-DOKEE, JONNY BOY! I'LL FIND OL' LUCIUS, AN' YOU REST UP, 'CAUSE YOUR REGIMENT GONNA NEED YOU REAL SOON.

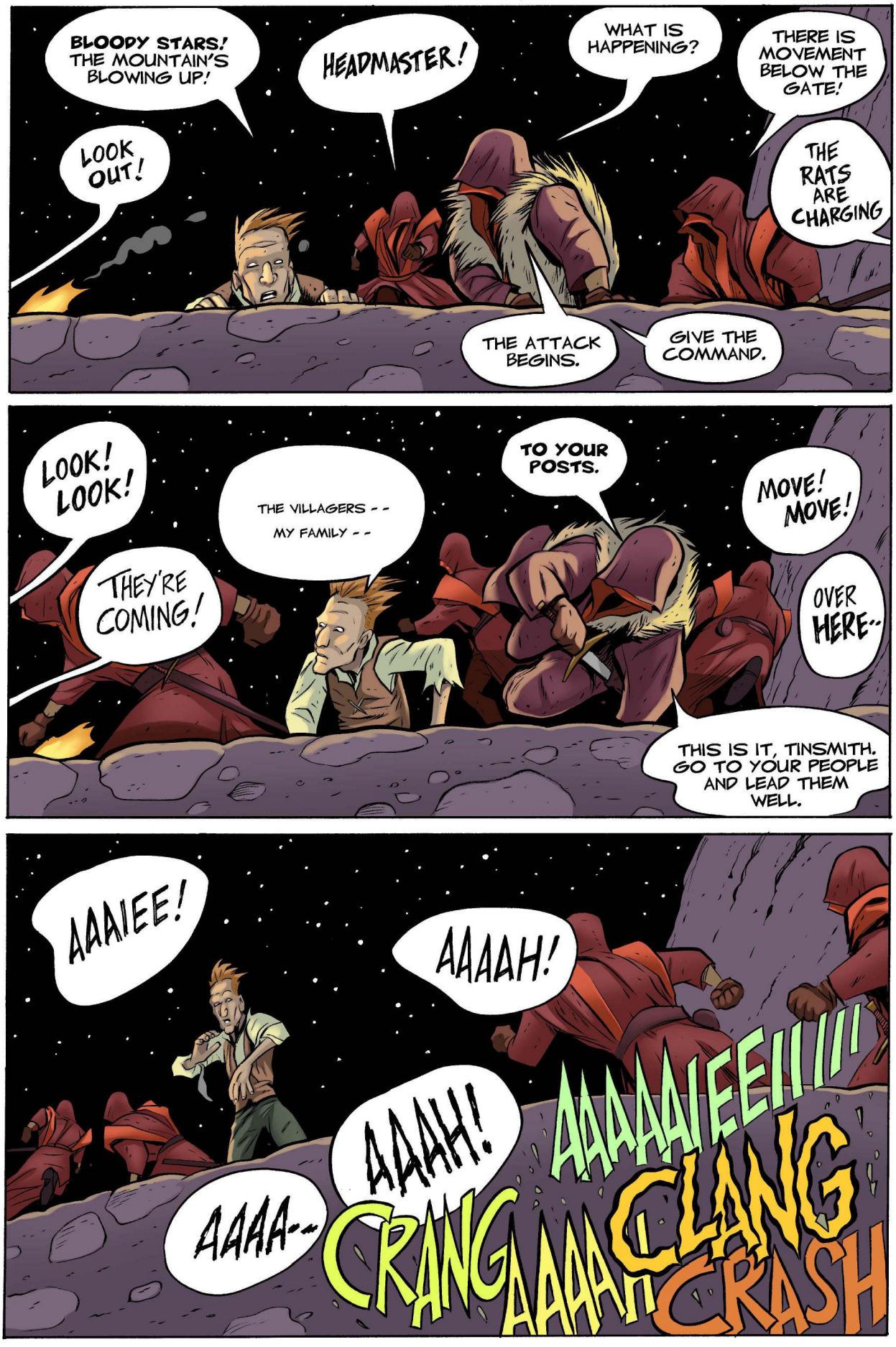

BONE
WENDELL!
SIR.
SIR!
THE HEADMASTER REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE ON THE MAIN GATE.
MM?
OH, YES, OF COURSE. HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED?
I BELIEVE THE SITUATION HAS BECOME WORSE.
PLEASE HURRY.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

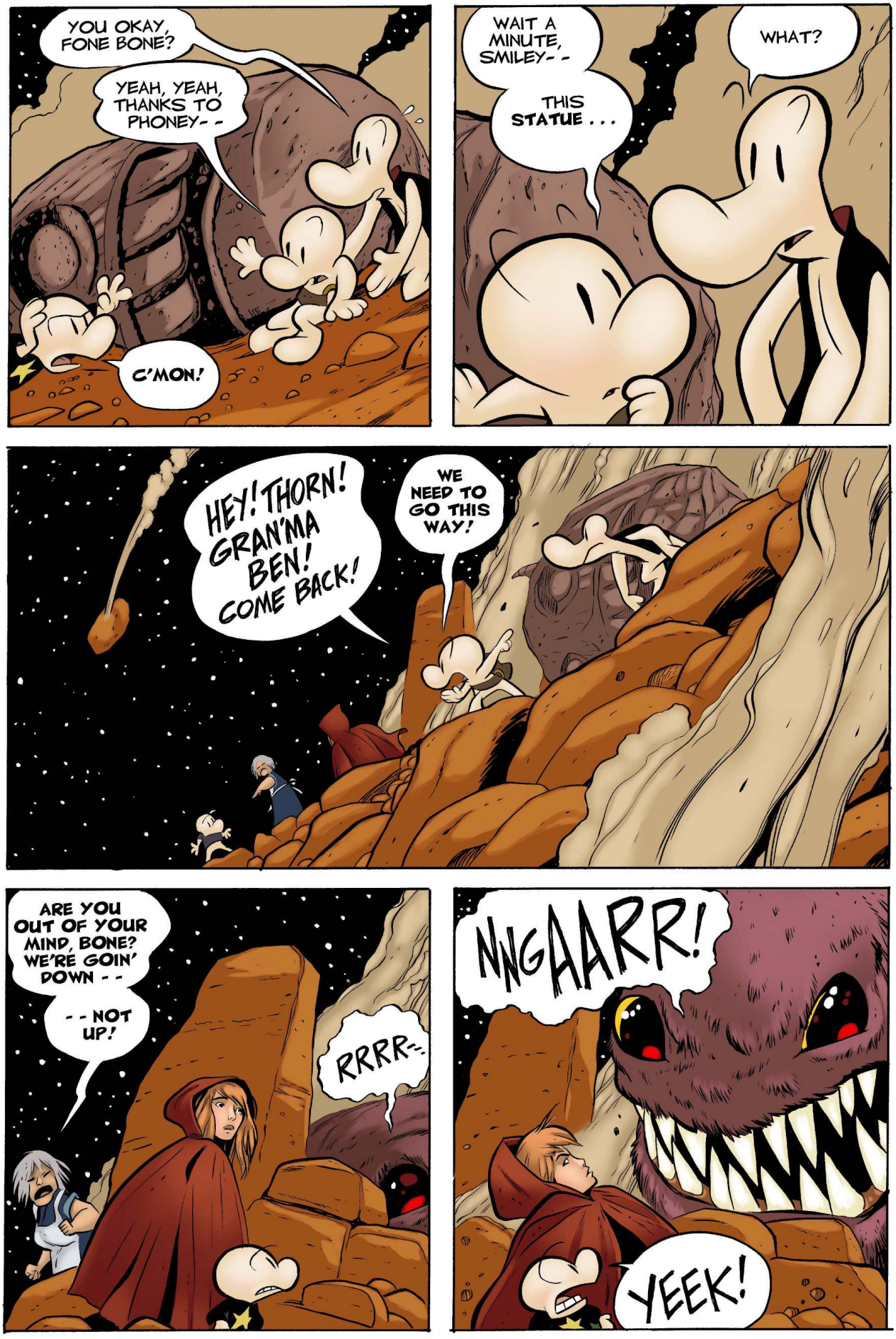

I BELIEVE YOU WERE GOING TO SAY **STICK-EATERS.**
WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT OUR ORDER, TINSMITH.
BUT YOU ARE WRONG ABOUT LUCIUS DOWN. HE WAS NEVER ONE OF US.
HE FELT THAT OUR ORDER'S OATH OF LOYALTY CONFLICTED WITH HIS **DUTIES**. . .
. . .WHICH, AS **CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD**, WAS TO PROTECT THE ROYAL FAMILY.
AND AS YOU KNOW, EVEN IN THE OLD DAYS, LUCIUS WAS **PASSIONATELY** LOYAL TO THE TWO PRINCESSES *BRIAR* AND *ROSE*.
HE ALWAYS WAS SWEET ON OLD ROSE BEN, I KNOW THAT.
YES, WELL . . . AT **BEST**, HIS ALLEGIANCES ARE FOGGY.
I UNDERSTAND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF COMMANDER DOWN AND QUEEN ROSE MAY BE LINKED TO ONE OF THE **BONE** CREATURES. . . THE ONE WITH THE STAR ON HIS SHIRT.
PHONEY BONE! YES, SIR! THE RAT CREATURES WANT HIM! THAT'S WHY THEY'VE SURROUNDED US! THAT'S WHY WE'RE AT **WAR!**
THIS WHOLE **THING** IS PHONEY BONE'S FAULT!
DO YOU KNOW **WHY** THE MONSTERS WANT HIM?
SOMETHING ABOUT THE STAR ON HIS SHIRT.
"THE ONE WHO BEARS THE STAR."
LOOK OUT THERE, TINSMITH. DO YOU SEE THE LEGIONS OF OUR ENEMIES CAMPED AT OUR DOORSTEP? DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THEY'VE COME HERE FOR ONE OF THE RIDICULOUS **BONES**?

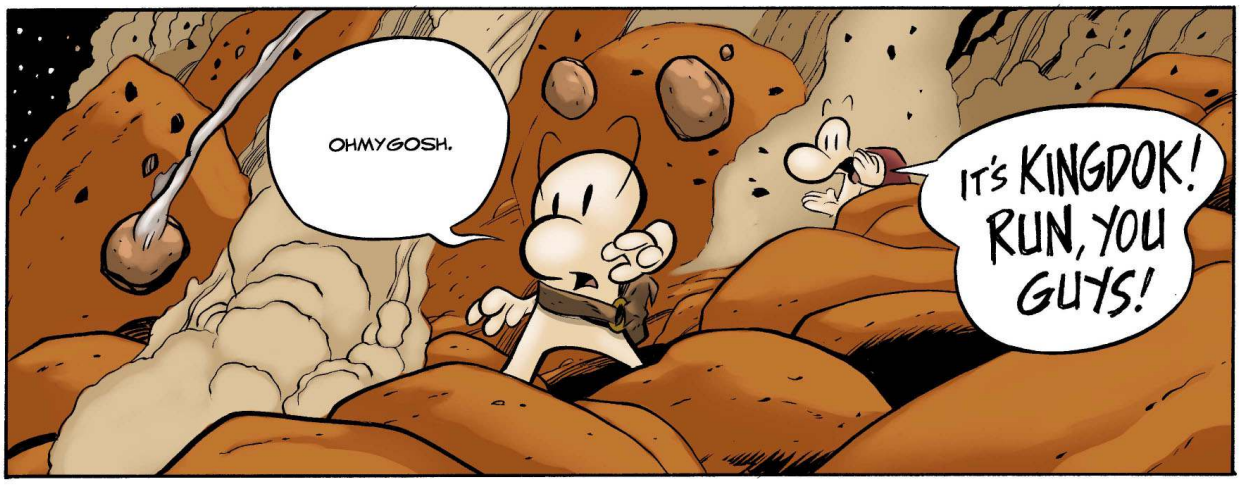

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
TELL ME, TINSMITH, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ONE OF THESE BEFORE?
UH . . .
HAS THE KINGDOM BEEN GONE SO LONG THAT YOU NO LONGER EVEN RECOGNIZE THE ROYAL SEAL? THE HARVESTAR FAMILY CREST?
THE CREST!
IT HAS A STAR ON IT.
WHICH REPRESENTS THE DREAMING. . . THE SOURCE OF LIFE ITSELF.
OLD ROSE BEN AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER THORN ARE THE CURRENT KEEPERS OF THE SOURCE.
THEY HAVE SECRETS THAT COULD HELP THE RAT CREATURES FREE OUR OLDEST ENEMY. . .
THERE . . . IMPRISONED UNDER THAT SMOKING MOUNTAIN LIES THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.
LORD OF THE LOCUSTS? YOU DON'T EXPECT MY VILLAGERS TO BELIEVE THAT OLD STICKEATERS TALE ABOUT A DEVIL THAT THE DRAGONS TURNED TO STONE?
. . . YOU'RE SERIOUS!
THE EARTH TREMBLES, MY FRIEND. THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS MAY SOON WALK AMONG US.
IF THE QUEEN AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER WERE TO FALL INTO THE WRONG HANDS . . .
BUT LUCIUS WOULD NEVER - -
BOOM


BLOODY STARS! THE MOUNTAIN'S BLOWING UP!
LOOK OUT!
HEADMASTER!
WHAT IS HAPPENING?
THERE IS MOVEMENT BELOW THE GATE!
THE RATS ARE CHARGING
THE ATTACK BEGINS.
GIVE THE COMMAND.
LOOK! LOOK!
THEY'RE COMING!
THE VILLAGERS - - MY FAMILY - -
TO YOUR POSTS.
MOVE! MOVE!
OVER HERE--
THIS IS IT, TINSMITH. GO TO YOUR PEOPLE AND LEAD THEM WELL.
AAAIEE!
AAAAH!
AAAH!
AAAA--
AAAAAIEEIIIII
CRANG
AAAA
CLANG
CRASH


BOOM
BUH BOOM
RRRRRRRUMMMBLE
KTOOM
SHAASH!
KRAK!
FOOM!


COME ON! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
BOOM
THIS IS CRAZY! WE'LL NEVER GET OFF THIS MOUNTAIN BEFORE IT EXPLODES!
KEEP MOVING!
KRAAK
POW
FONE BONE! LOOK OUT!
CHUNK!


YOU OKAY, FONE BONE?
YEAH, YEAH, THANKS TO PHONEY- -
C'MON!
WAIT A MINUTE, SMILEY- -
THIS STATUE . . .
WHAT?
HEY! THORN! GRAN'MA BEN! COME BACK!
WE NEED TO GO THIS WAY!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND, BONE? WE'RE GOIN' DOWN - -
- - NOT UP!
RRRR-
NNGAARR!
YEEK!


OHMYGOSH.
IT'S KINGDOK! RUN, YOU GUYS!


RRRRRR...

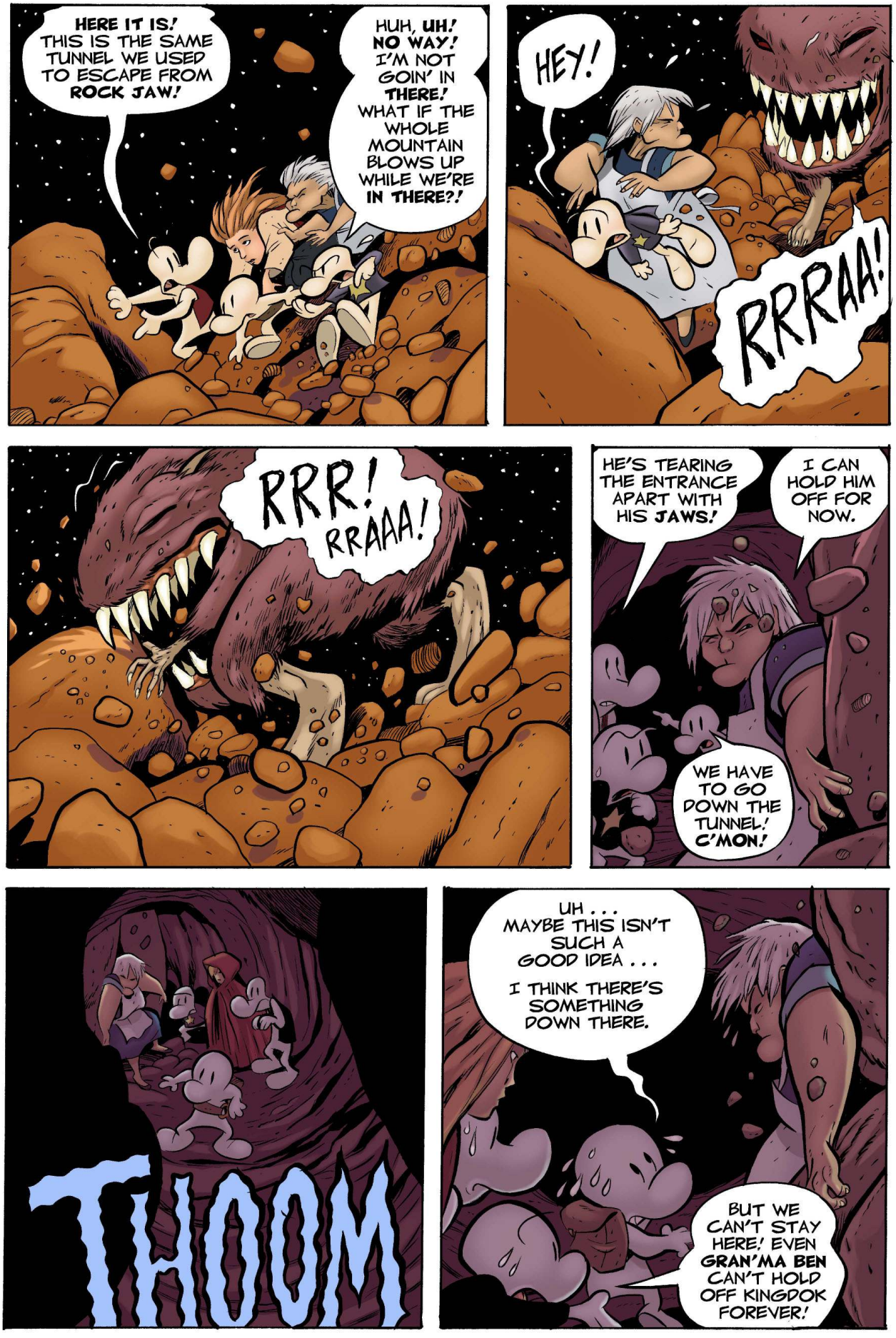

THORN! RUN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

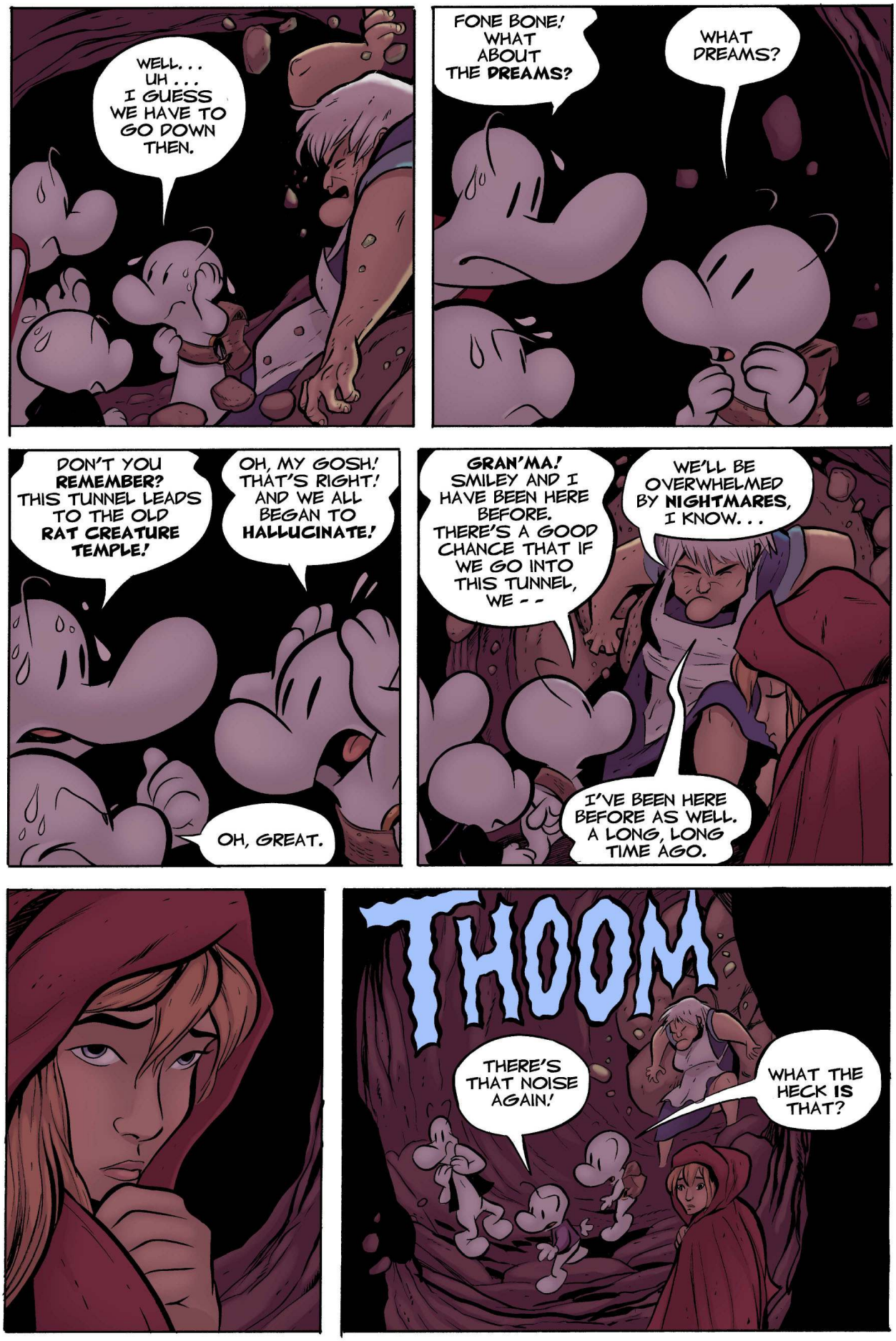

RRRRR...

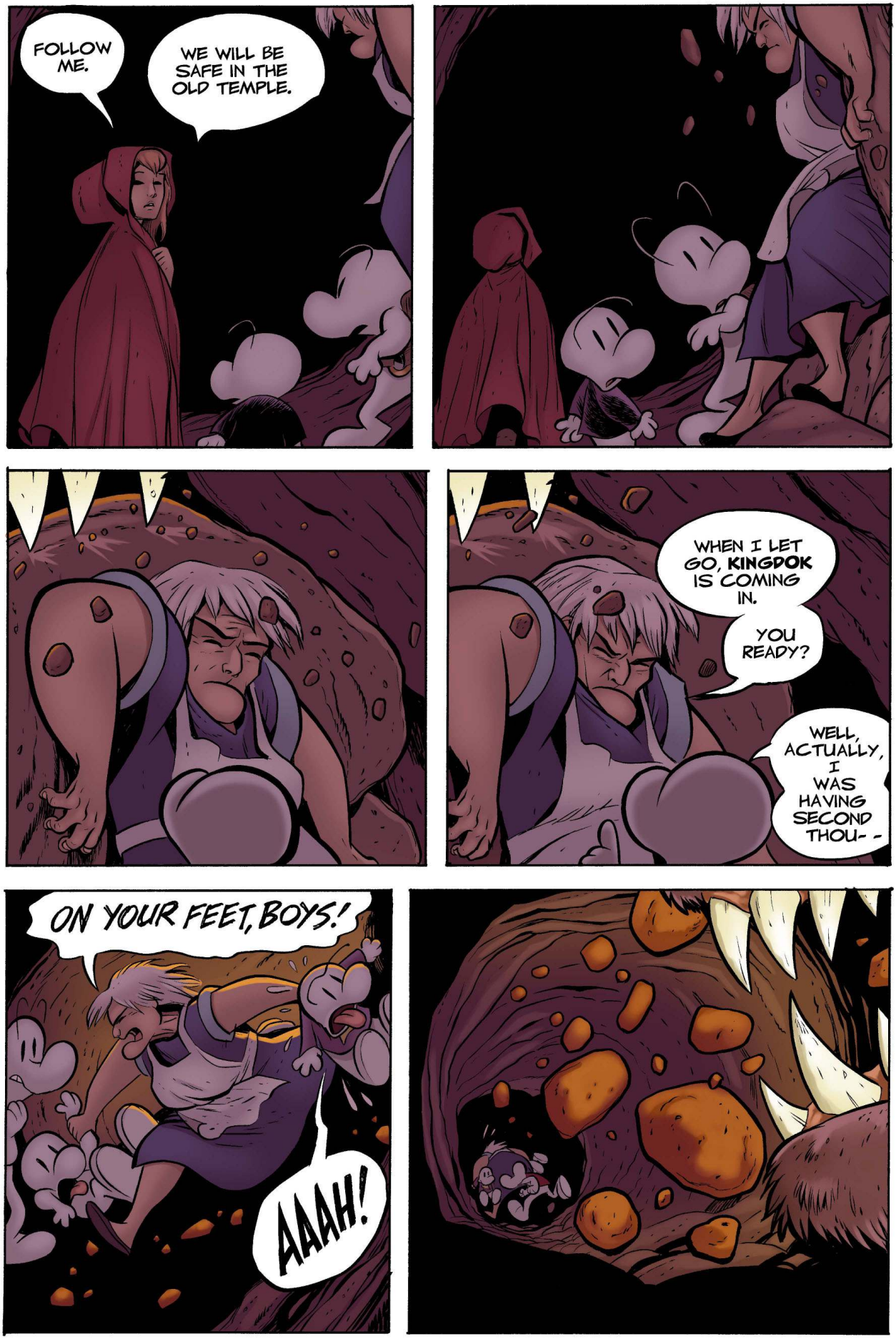

NGAHH!
CRUNCH!


RRRAAGH! KILL YOO!
GO! GO!
TAKE THEM, BONE! QUICK!
HERE HE COMES!!
KUH-- KILL YOOU!
EERF!
OW! OW!
GET UP THERE!
SMASH!


I KNOW A SHORTCUT DOWN THE MOUNTAIN - - IT'LL SHELTER US FROM FALLING ROCKS AND FROM KINGDOK!
RRRR!
THIS WAY!
BOOM
NOW WHAT?
OKAY- - SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE IS THE ENTRANCE TO A SECRET TUNNEL.
WHAT?! YOU'RE KIDDING!
A SECRET TUNNEL?!
KUNCH
THAT WAS CLOSE!
IT'S A TUNNEL THAT LEADS DOWN THE MOUNTAIN - -
LOOK AROUND! IT'S GOTTA BE RIGHT IN FRONT OF US!
YOU'RE NUTS!
THERE IT IS! FONE BONE, I SEE IT!
RRAAR!
LET'S GO!


HERE IT IS! THIS IS THE SAME TUNNEL WE USED TO ESCAPE FROM ROCK JAW!
HUH, UH! NO WAY! I'M NOT GOIN' IN THERE! WHAT IF THE WHOLE MOUNTAIN BLOWS UP WHILE WE'RE IN THERE?!
HEY!
RRRAA!
RRR! RRAAA!
HE'S TEARING THE ENTRANCE APART WITH HIS JAWS!
I CAN HOLD HIM OFF FOR NOW.
WE HAVE TO GO DOWN THE TUNNEL! C'MON!
THOOM
UH . . . MAYBE THIS ISN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA . . .
I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING DOWN THERE.
BUT WE CAN'T STAY HERE! EVEN GRAN'MA BEN CAN'T HOLD OFF KINGDOK FOREVER!


WELL... UH... I GUESS WE HAVE TO GO DOWN THEN.
FONE BONE! WHAT ABOUT THE DREAMS?
WHAT DREAMS?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? THIS TUNNEL LEADS TO THE OLD RAT CREATURE TEMPLE!
OH, MY GOSH! THAT'S RIGHT! AND WE ALL BEGAN TO HALLUCINATE!
OH, GREAT.
GRAN'MA! SMILEY AND I HAVE BEEN HERE BEFORE. THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT IF WE GO INTO THIS TUNNEL, WE - -
WE'LL BE OVERWHELMED BY NIGHTMARES, I KNOW...
I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE AS WELL. A LONG, LONG TIME AGO.
THOOM
THERE'S THAT NOISE AGAIN!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?


FOLLOW ME.
WE WILL BE SAFE IN THE OLD TEMPLE.
WHEN I LET GO, KINGDOK IS COMING IN.
YOU READY?
WELL, ACTUALLY, I WAS HAVING SECOND THOU- -
ON YOUR FEET, BOYS!
AAAH!

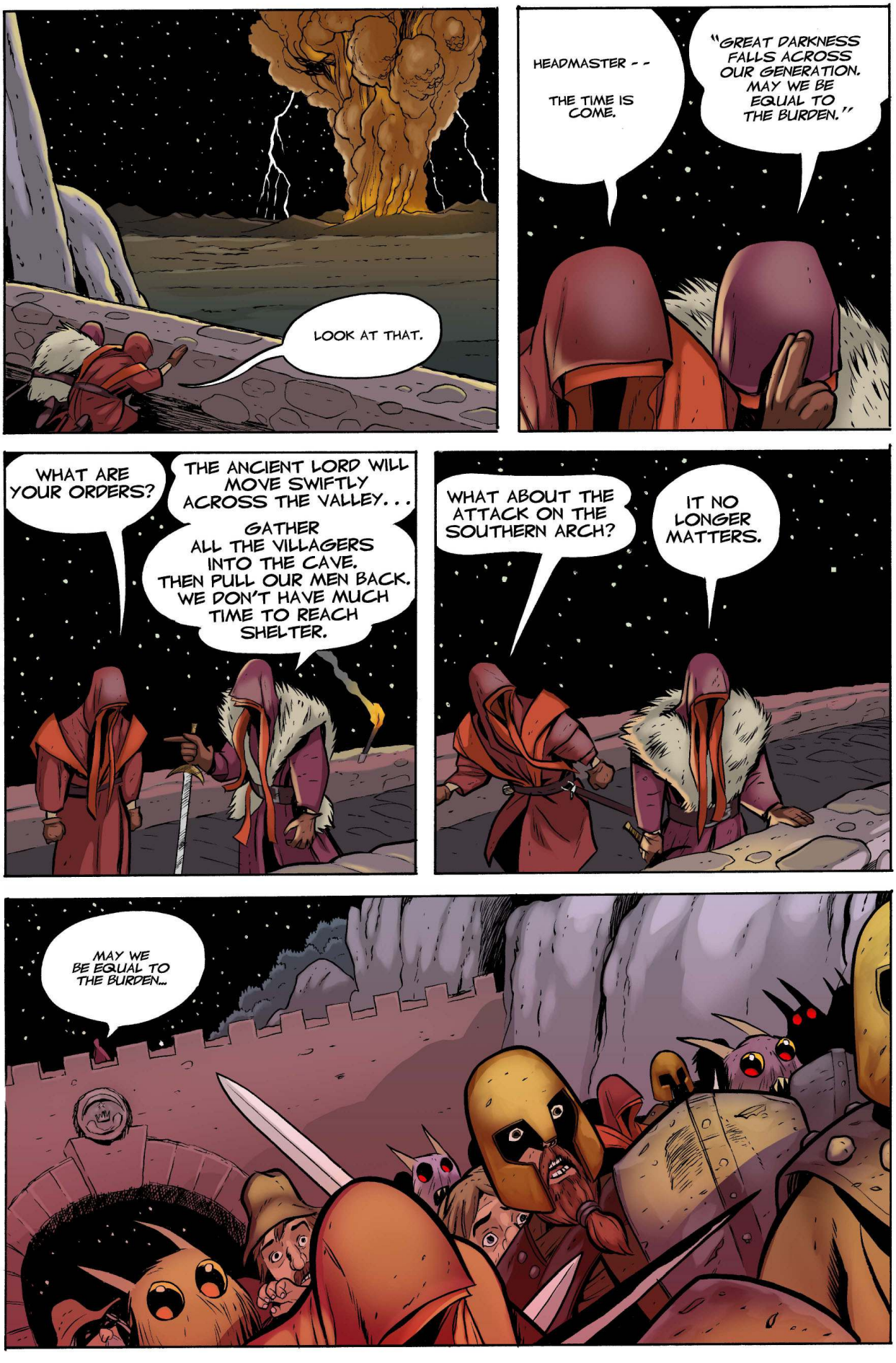

RRUMMBL
POP!
POW!
RRRUMMMMBLE
RUMMBLE
KRA



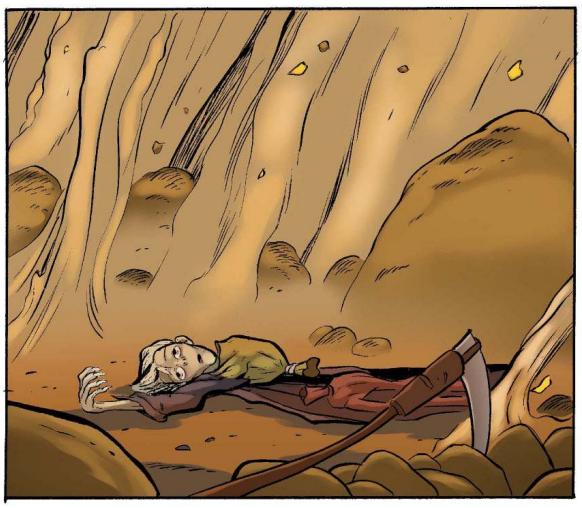


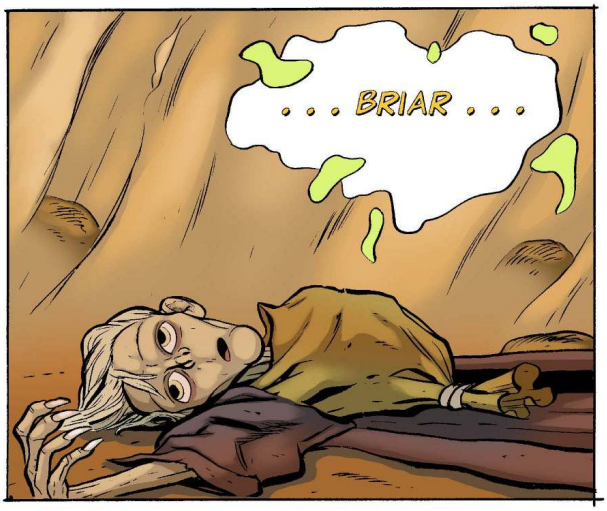

HEADMASTER! AN ARMY FROM PAWA IS GATHERING AT THE SOUTHERN ARCH.
GO THERE. TAKE AS MANY OF THE VILLAGERS AS ARE WILLING TO FOLLOW - -


BUH-DOOM
THE MOUNTAIN!


LOOK AT THAT.
HEADMASTER - -
THE TIME IS COME.
"GREAT DARKNESS FALLS ACROSS OUR GENERATION. MAY WE BE EQUAL TO THE BURDEN."
WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?
THE ANCIENT LORD WILL MOVE SWIFTLY ACROSS THE VALLEY. . .
GATHER ALL THE VILLAGERS INTO THE CAVE. THEN PULL OUR MEN BACK. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO REACH SHELTER.
WHAT ABOUT THE ATTACK ON THE SOUTHERN ARCH?
IT NO LONGER MATTERS.
MAY WE BE EQUAL TO THE BURDEN...





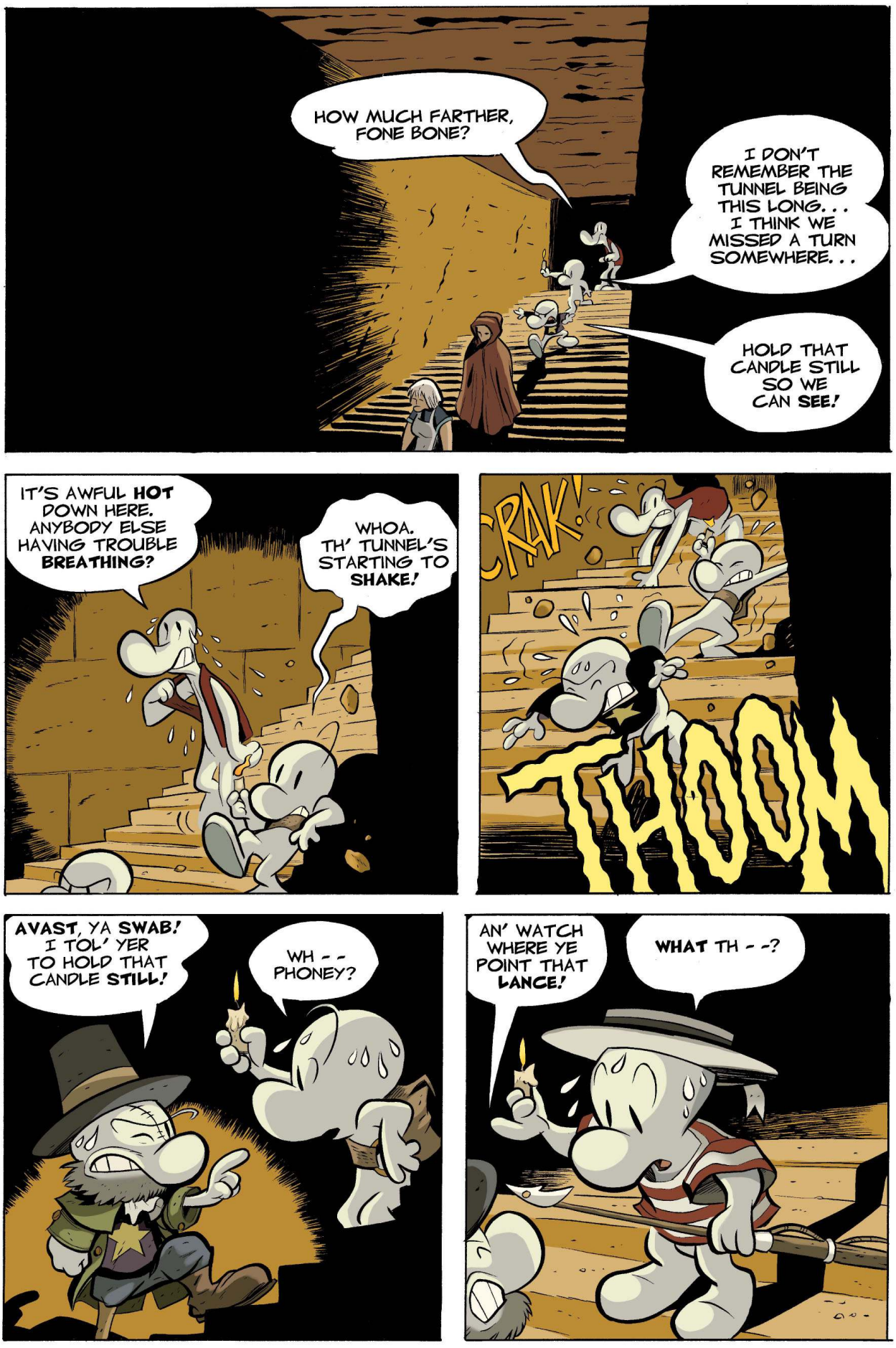


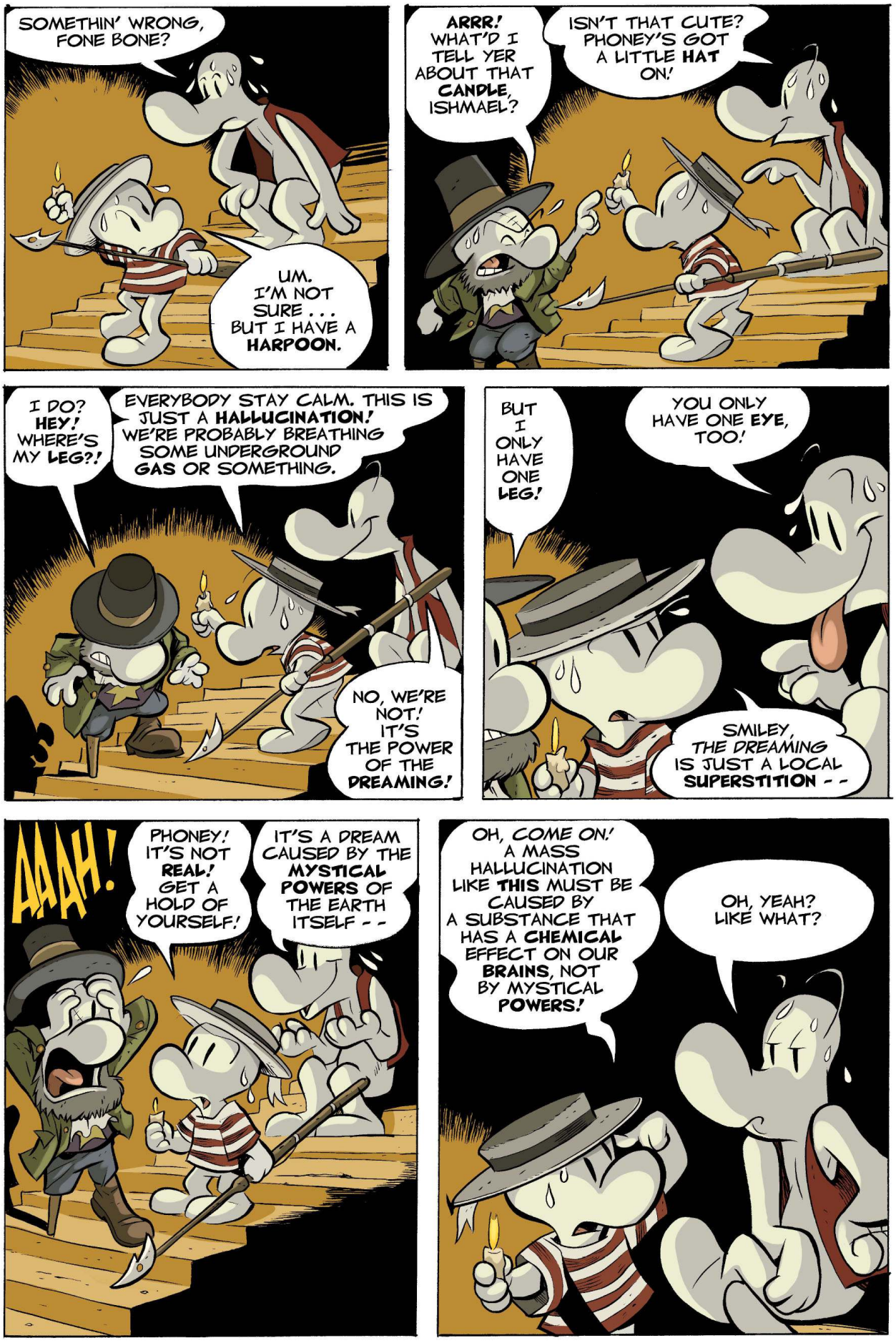
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

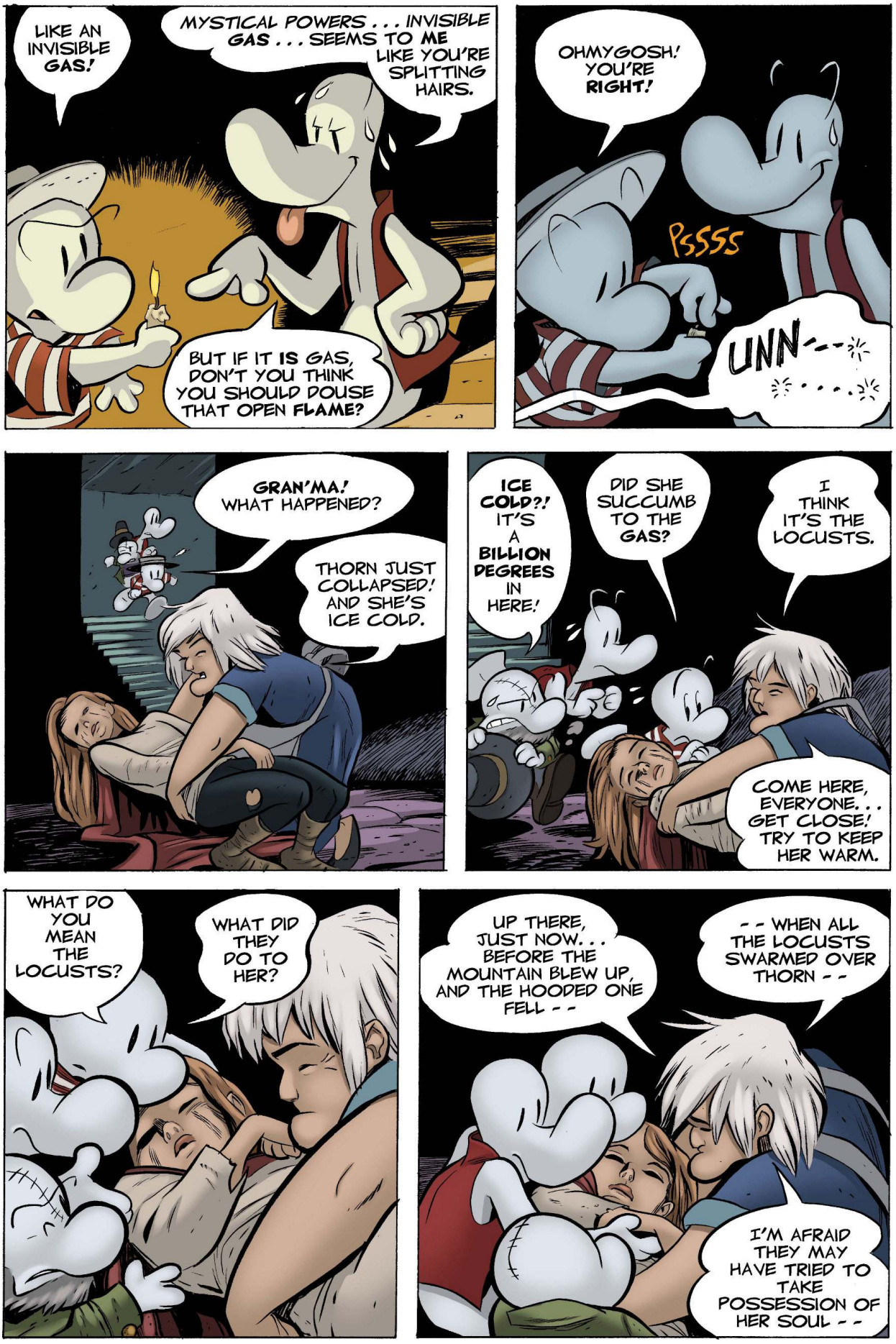

. . . ARISE, BRIAR . . .
GURK--GKK--
GGGRRRKKK---
MASTER . . . ? ARE YOU . . . ?
FREE . . . ?
DOES THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS
ROAM THE EARTH AT LAST?
NO.

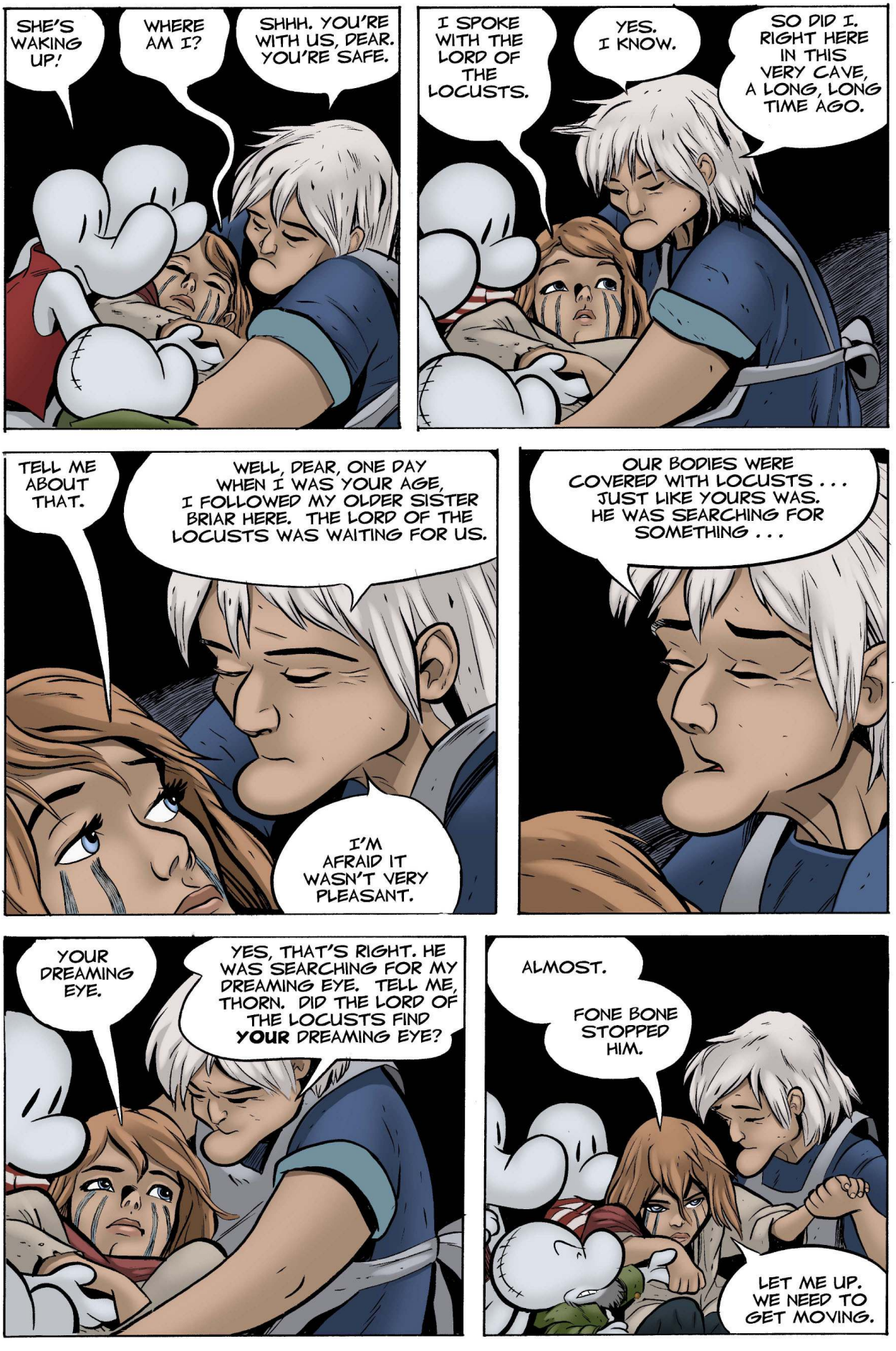

NO...? BUT I GATHERED TOGETHER ALL THE FORCES NECESSARY TO FREE YOU - - ?
YOU GATHERED THEM IN THE WRONG CONFIGURATION.
BECAUSE OF YOUR TREASON, ONLY PART OF OUR POWERS ESCAPED...
MY LORD ... I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS .... I - - WAS BLINDED BY MY JEALOUSY OF THE YOUNG PRINCESS - -
YOU MUST SEEK OUT OUR MISSING POWERS AND RETURN THEM TO US ...
I WILL FIND THEM AT ONCE, MY LORD.
QUICKLY, MY PETS ... COME TO ME ...
YESSS ... YESS ... GOOD ...

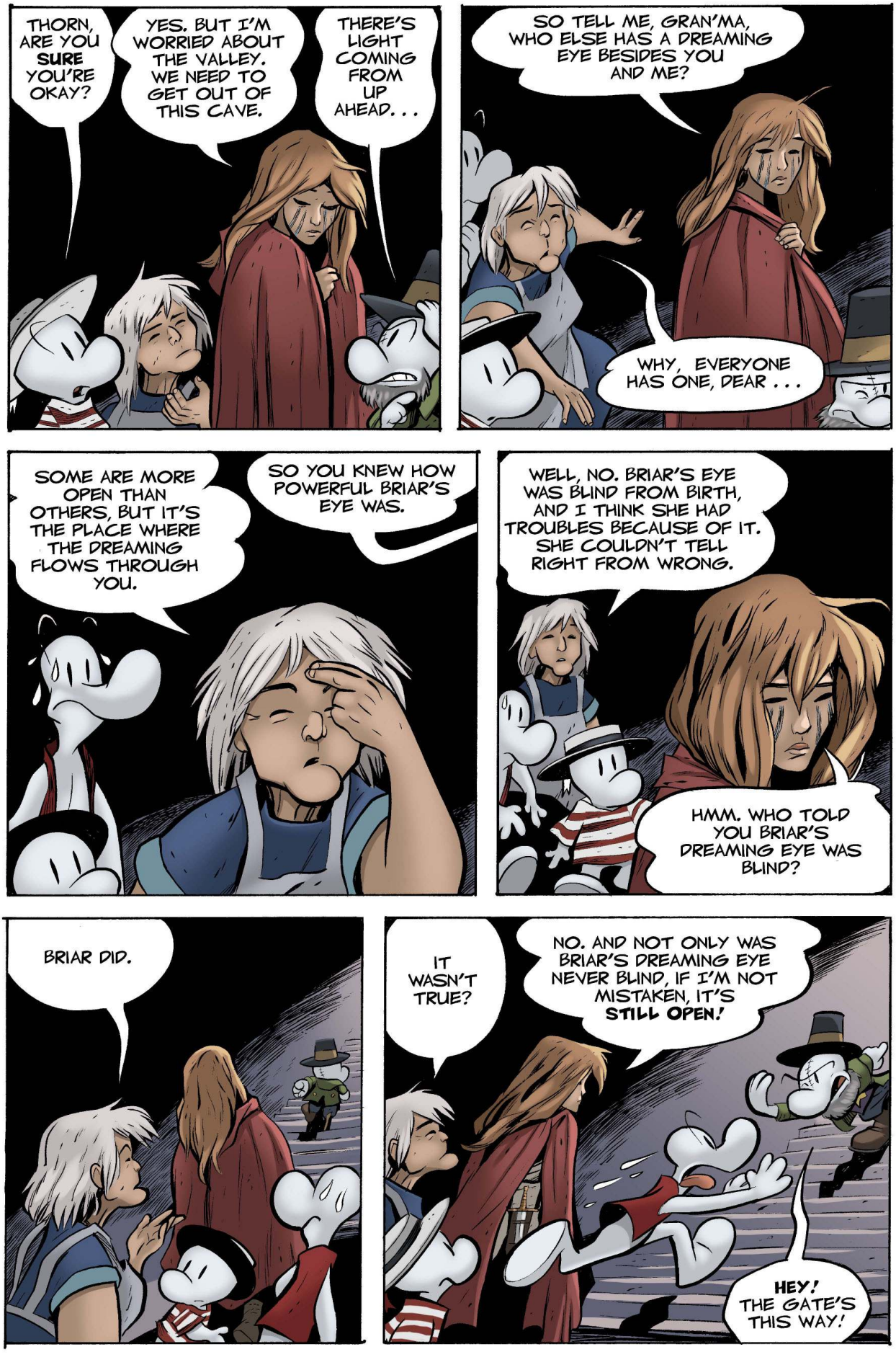

COME, COME . . .
LET US GET UP. . .
MMMM . . .
HEEE HEE
WELL, MY PETS . . .
IT LOOKS AS IF WE ARE NEEDED AFTER ALL.

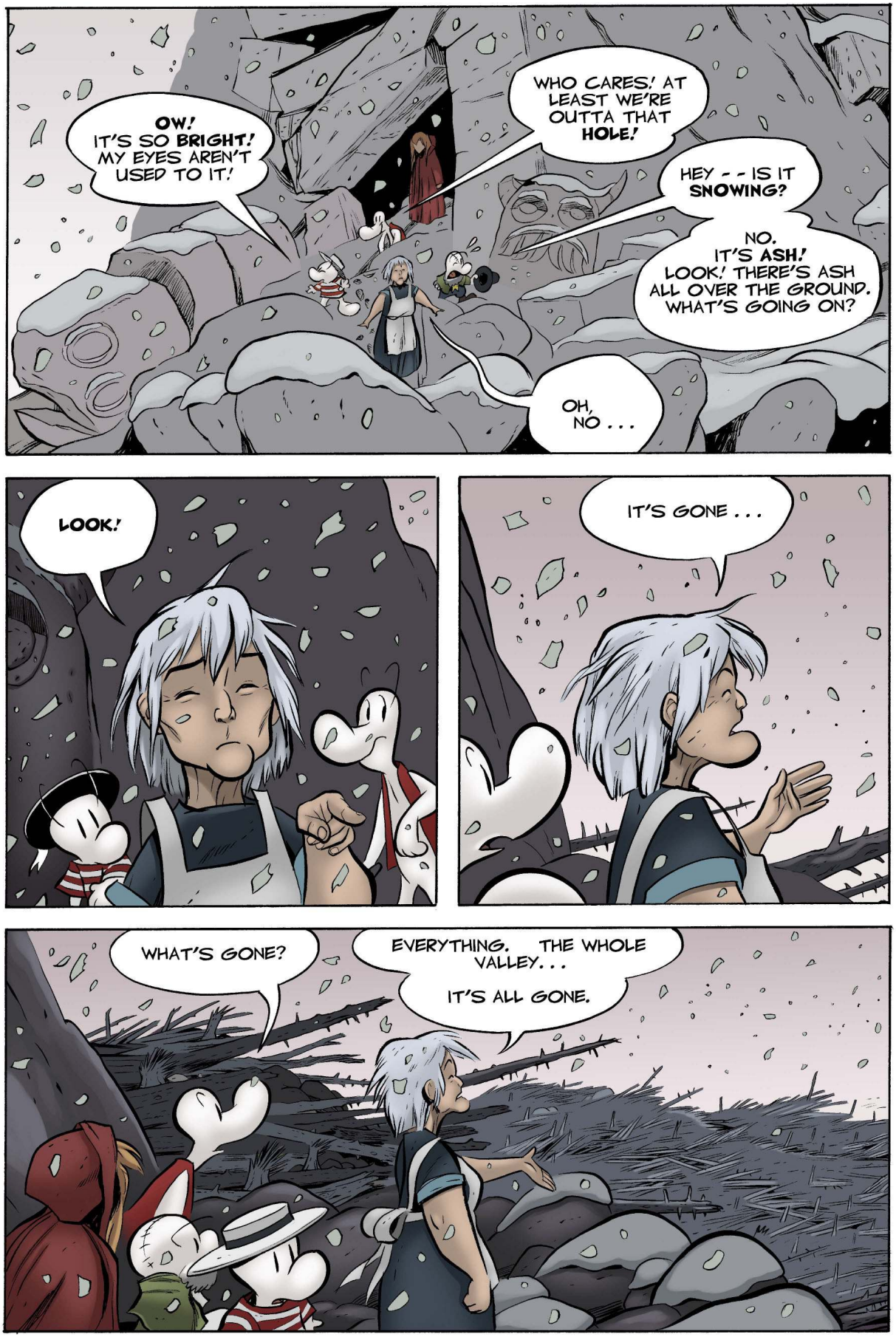

HOW MUCH FARTHER, FONE BONE?
I DON'T REMEMBER THE TUNNEL BEING THIS LONG... I THINK WE MISSED A TURN SOMEWHERE...
HOLD THAT CANDLE STILL SO WE CAN SEE!
IT'S AWFUL HOT DOWN HERE. ANYBODY ELSE HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING?
WHOA. TH' TUNNEL'S STARTING TO SHAKE!
CRAK!
THOOM
AVAST, YA SWAB! I TOL' YER TO HOLD THAT CANDLE STILL!
WH - - PHONEY?
AN' WATCH WHERE YE POINT THAT LANCE!
WHAT TH - -?


SOMETHIN' WRONG, FONE BONE?
UM. I'M NOT SURE . . . BUT I HAVE A HARPOON.
ARRR! WHAT'D I TELL YER ABOUT THAT CANDLE, ISHMAEL?
ISN'T THAT CUTE? PHONEY'S GOT A LITTLE HAT ON!
I DO? HEY! WHERE'S MY LEG?!
EVERYBODY STAY CALM. THIS IS JUST A HALLUCINATION! WE'RE PROBABLY BREATHING SOME UNDERGROUND GAS OR SOMETHING.
NO, WE'RE NOT! IT'S THE POWER OF THE DREAMING!
BUT I ONLY HAVE ONE LEG!
YOU ONLY HAVE ONE EYE, TOO!
SMILEY, THE DREAMING IS JUST A LOCAL SUPERSTITION - -
AAAH!
PHONEY! IT'S NOT REAL! GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!
IT'S A DREAM CAUSED BY THE MYSTICAL POWERS OF THE EARTH ITSELF - -
OH, COME ON! A MASS HALLUCINATION LIKE THIS MUST BE CAUSED BY A SUBSTANCE THAT HAS A CHEMICAL EFFECT ON OUR BRAINS, NOT BY MYSTICAL POWERS!
OH, YEAH? LIKE WHAT?

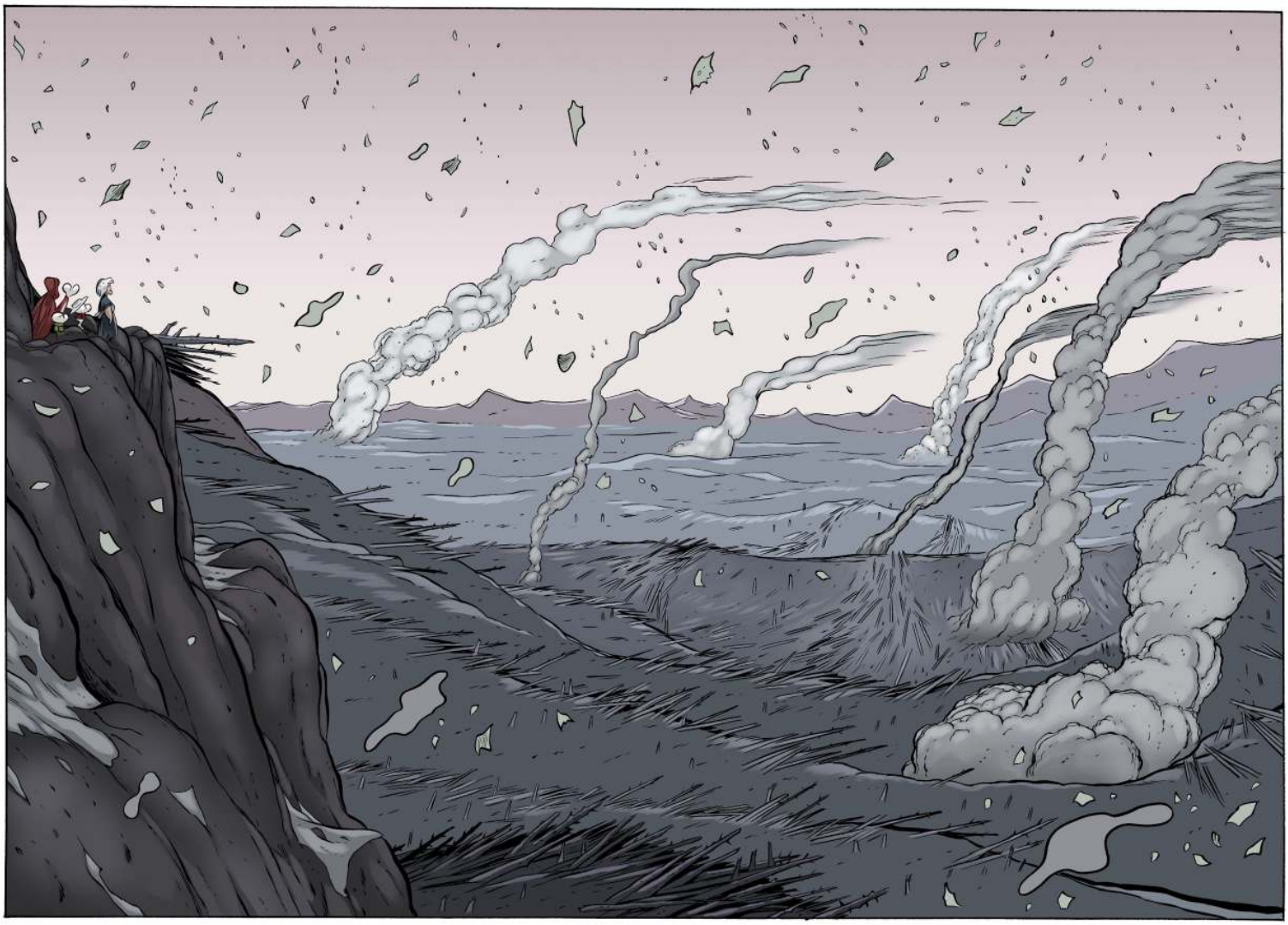

LIKE AN INVISIBLE GAS!
MYSTICAL POWERS . . . INVISIBLE GAS . . . SEEMS TO ME LIKE YOU'RE SPLITTING HAIRS.
BUT IF IT IS GAS, DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD DOUSE THAT OPEN FLAME?
OHMYGOSH! YOU'RE RIGHT!
PSSSS
UNN- - -
GRAN'MA! WHAT HAPPENED?
THORN JUST COLLAPSED! AND SHE'S ICE COLD.
ICE COLD?! IT'S A BILLION DEGREES IN HERE!
DID SHE SUCCUMB TO THE GAS?
I THINK IT'S THE LOCUSTS.
COME HERE, EVERYONE. . . GET CLOSE! TRY TO KEEP HER WARM.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN THE LOCUSTS?
WHAT DID THEY DO TO HER?
UP THERE, JUST NOW. . . BEFORE THE MOUNTAIN BLEW UP, AND THE HOODED ONE FELL - -
- - WHEN ALL THE LOCUSTS SWARMED OVER THORN - -
I'M AFRAID THEY MAY HAVE TRIED TO TAKE POSSESSION OF HER SOUL - -

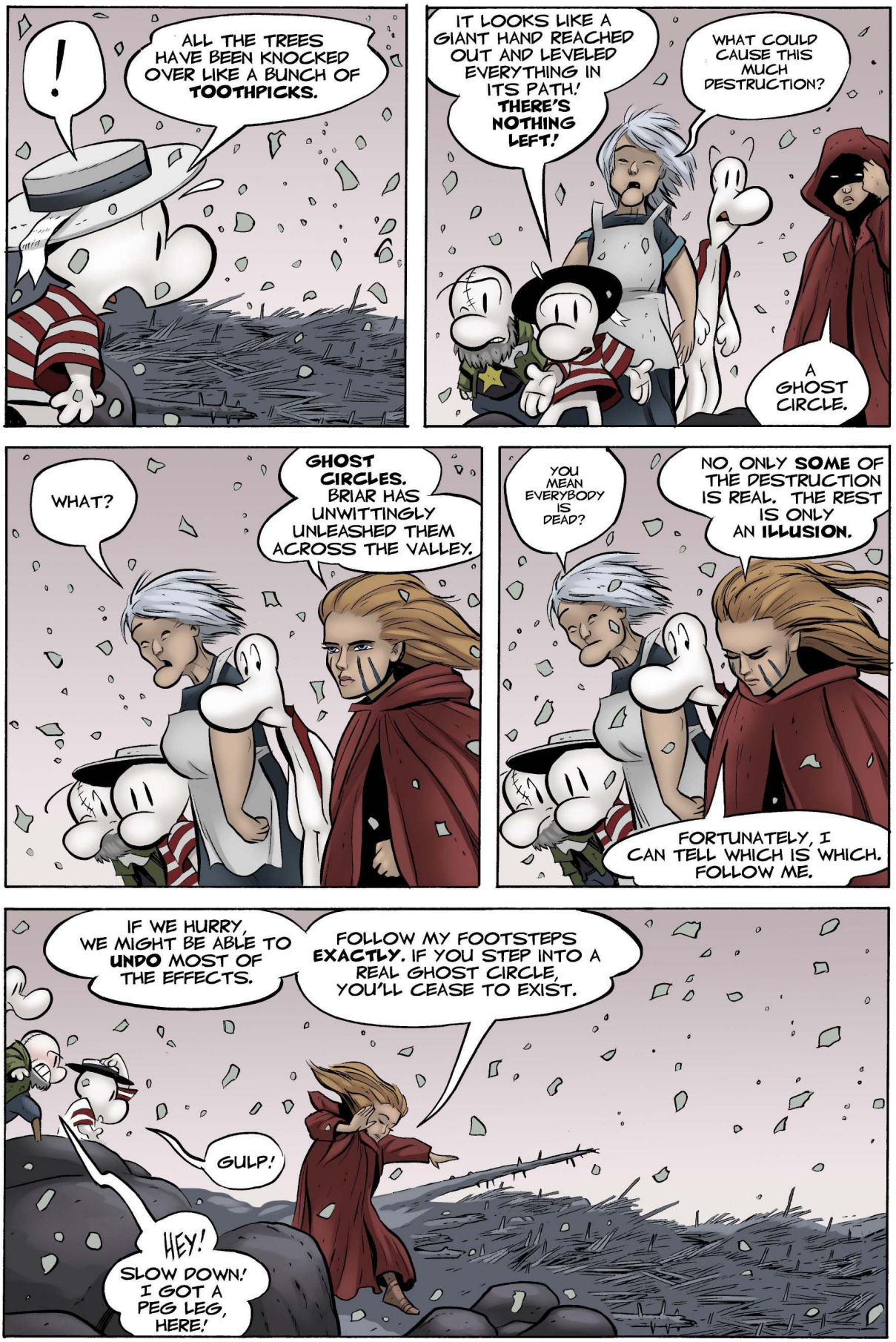

SHE'S WAKING UP!
WHERE AM I?
SHHH. YOU'RE WITH US, DEAR. YOU'RE SAFE.
I SPOKE WITH THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.
YES. I KNOW.
SO DID I. RIGHT HERE IN THIS VERY CAVE, A LONG, LONG TIME AGO.
TELL ME ABOUT THAT.
WELL, DEAR, ONE DAY WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I FOLLOWED MY OLDER SISTER BRIAR HERE. THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS WAS WAITING FOR US.
I'M AFRAID IT WASN'T VERY PLEASANT.
OUR BODIES WERE COVERED WITH LOCUSTS . . . JUST LIKE YOURS WAS. HE WAS SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING . . .
YOUR DREAMING EYE.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT. HE WAS SEARCHING FOR MY DREAMING EYE. TELL ME, THORN. DID THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS FIND **YOUR** DREAMING EYE?
ALMOST.
FONE BONE STOPPED HIM.
LET ME UP. WE NEED TO GET MOVING.


THORN, ARE YOU **SURE** YOU'RE OKAY?
YES. BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE VALLEY. WE NEED TO GET OUT OF THIS CAVE.
THERE'S LIGHT COMING FROM UP AHEAD. . .
SO TELL ME, GRAN'MA, WHO ELSE HAS A DREAMING EYE BESIDES YOU AND ME?
WHY, EVERYONE HAS ONE, DEAR . . .
SOME ARE MORE OPEN THAN OTHERS, BUT IT'S THE PLACE WHERE THE DREAMING FLOWS THROUGH YOU.
SO YOU KNEW HOW POWERFUL BRIAR'S EYE WAS.
WELL, NO. BRIAR'S EYE WAS BLIND FROM BIRTH, AND I THINK SHE HAD TROUBLES BECAUSE OF IT. SHE COULDN'T TELL RIGHT FROM WRONG.
HMM. WHO TOLD YOU BRIAR'S DREAMING EYE WAS BLIND?
BRIAR DID.
IT WASN'T TRUE?
NO. AND NOT ONLY WAS BRIAR'S DREAMING EYE NEVER BLIND, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, IT'S **STILL OPEN!**
HEY! THE GATE'S THIS WAY!

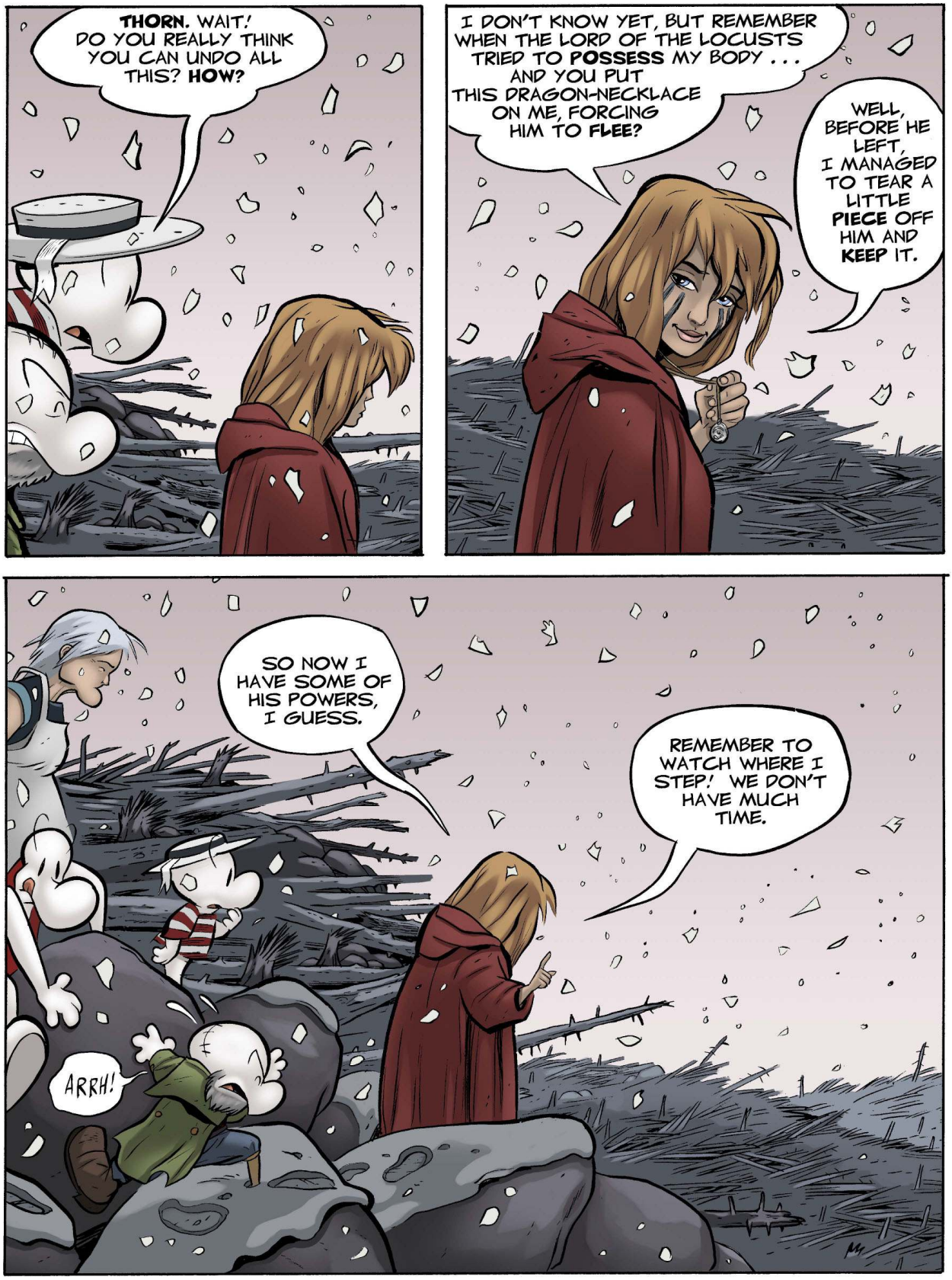


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline





Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

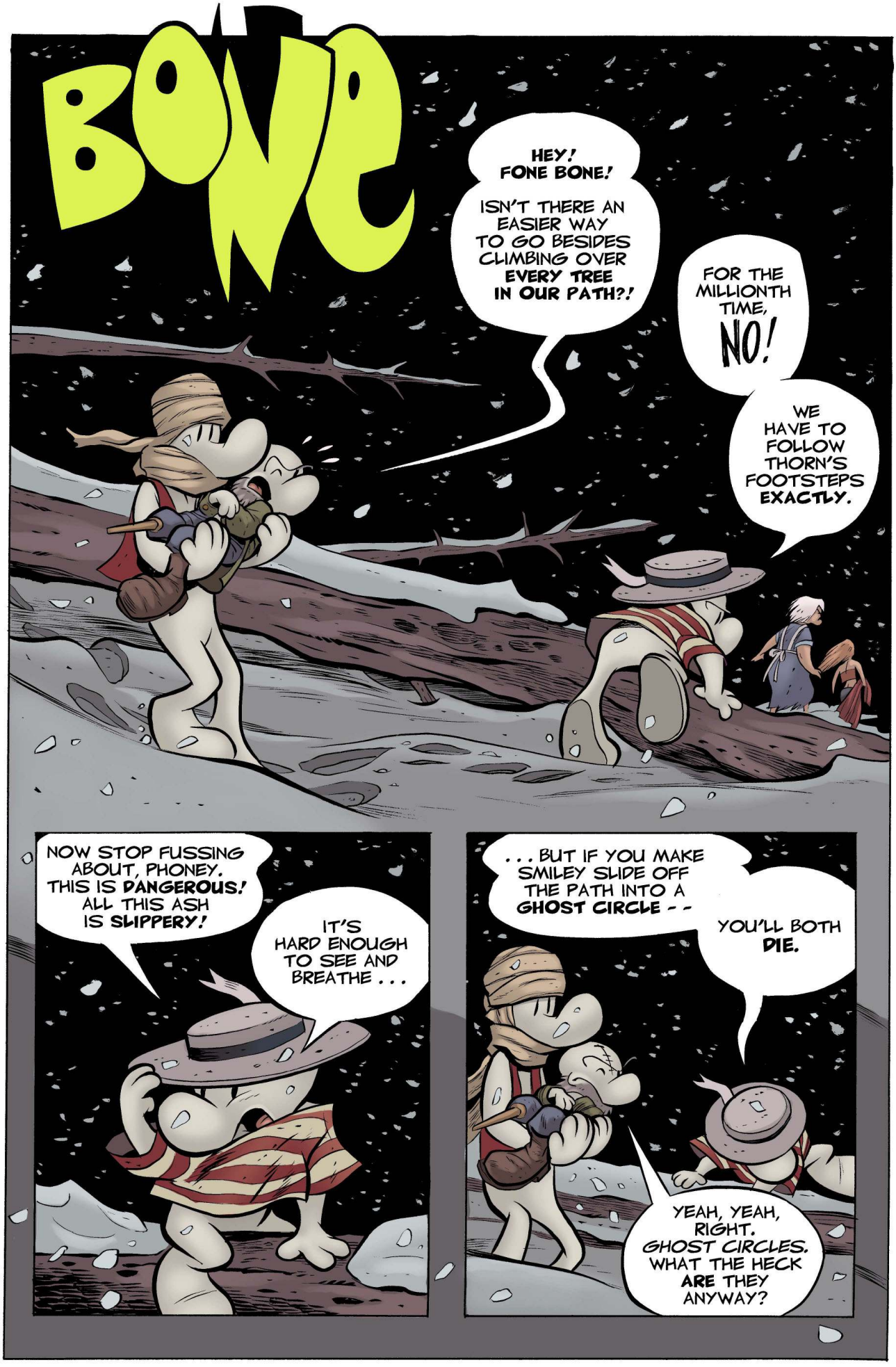

THORN. WAIT! DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN UNDO ALL THIS? HOW?
I DON'T KNOW YET, BUT REMEMBER WHEN THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS TRIED TO POSSESS MY BODY . . . AND YOU PUT THIS DRAGON-NECKLACE ON ME, FORCING HIM TO FLEE?
WELL, BEFORE HE LEFT, I MANAGED TO TEAR A LITTLE PIECE OFF HIM AND KEEP IT.
SO NOW I HAVE SOME OF HIS POWERS, I GUESS.
REMEMBER TO WATCH WHERE I STEP! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
ARRH!

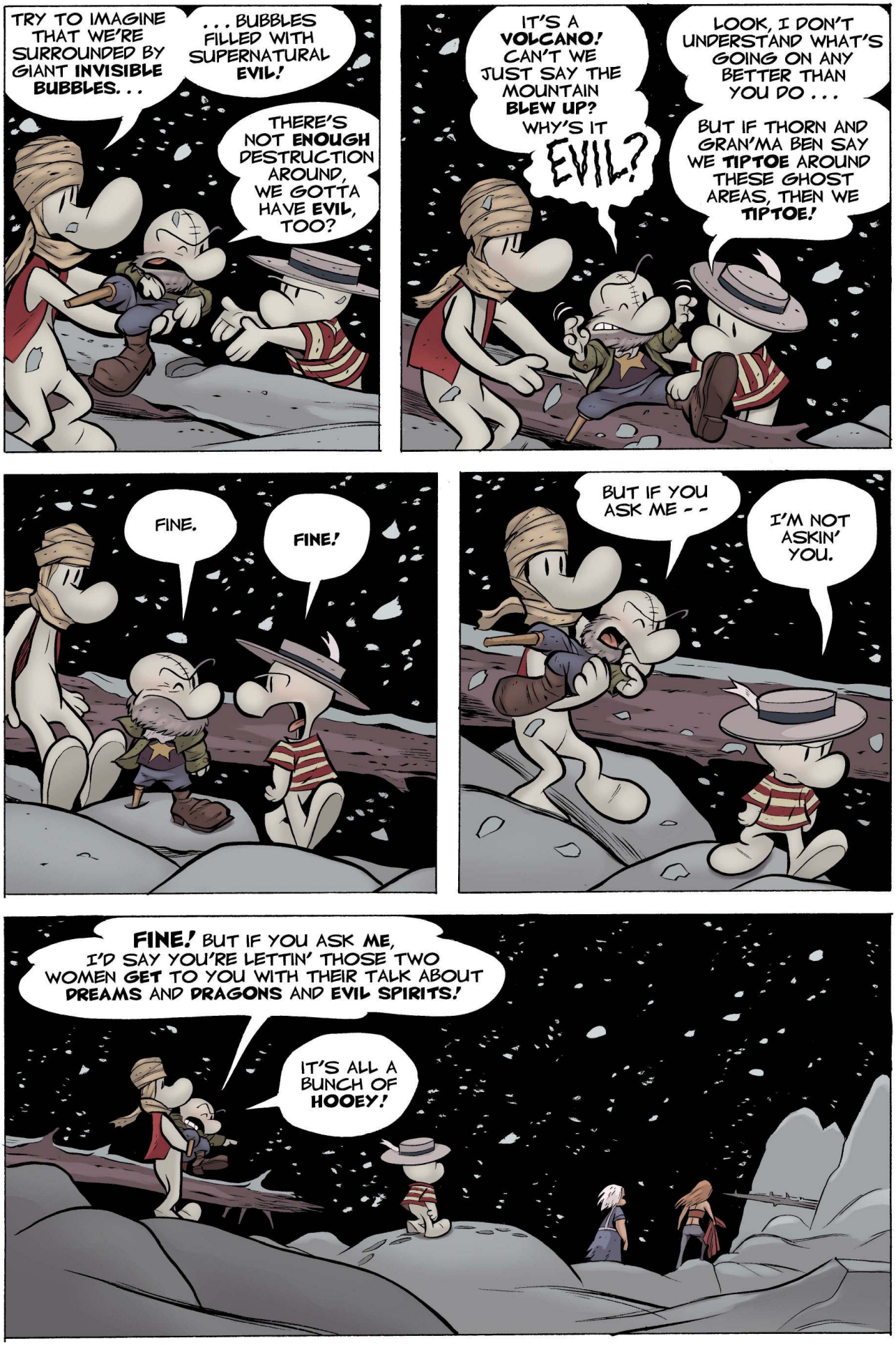
CARTOON BOOKS
39 OCT
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA

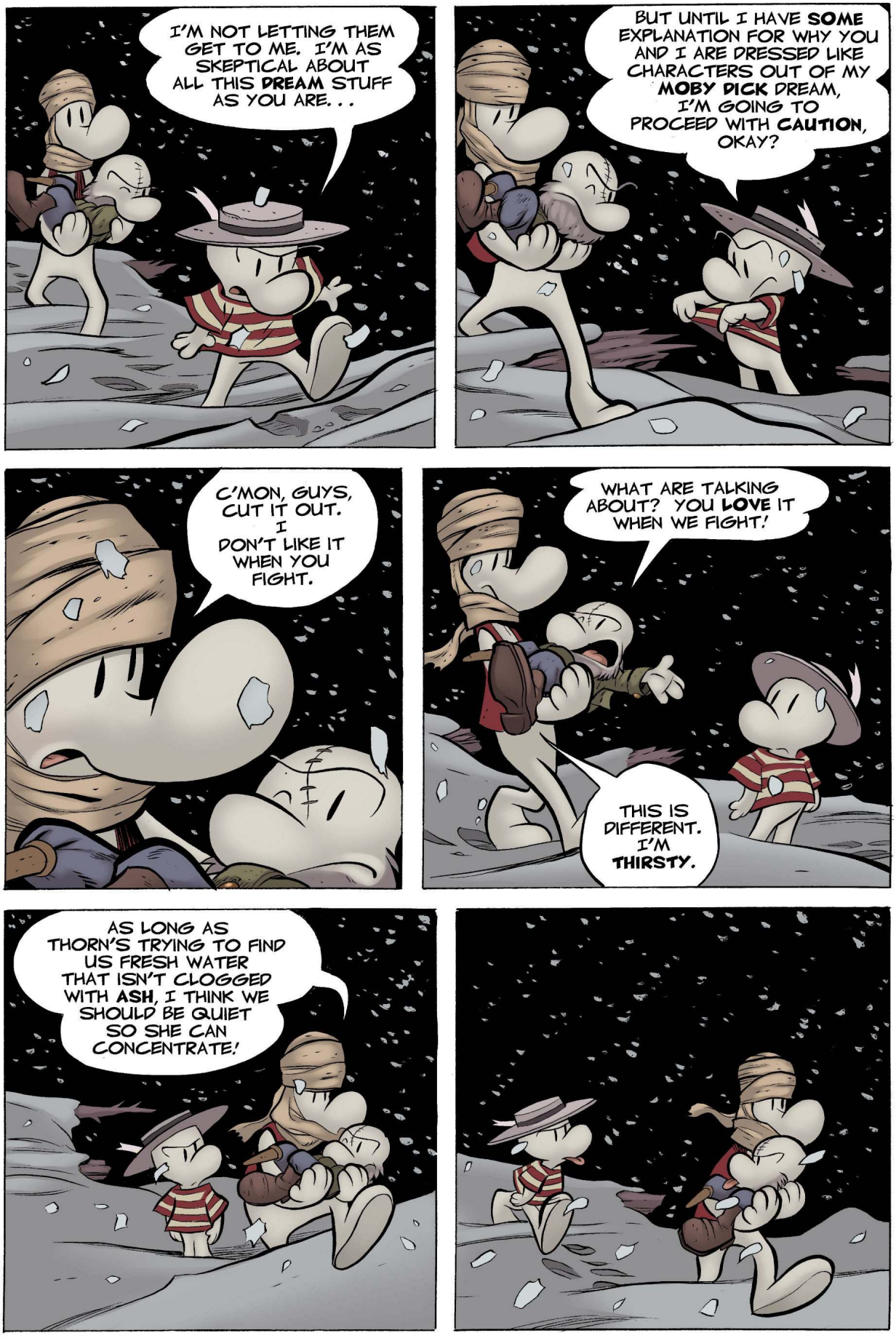
BONE



BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
HEY! FONE BONE! ISN'T THERE AN EASIER WAY TO GO BESIDES CLIMBING OVER EVERY TREE IN OUR PATH?!
FOR THE MILLIONTH TIME, NO!
WE HAVE TO FOLLOW THORN'S FOOTSTEPS EXACTLY.
NOW STOP FUSSING ABOUT, PHONEY. THIS IS DANGEROUS! ALL THIS ASH IS SLIPPERY!
IT'S HARD ENOUGH TO SEE AND BREATHE . . .
. . . BUT IF YOU MAKE SMILEY SLIDE OFF THE PATH INTO A GHOST CIRCLE - -
YOU'LL BOTH DIE.
YEAH, YEAH, RIGHT. GHOST CIRCLES. WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY ANYWAY?

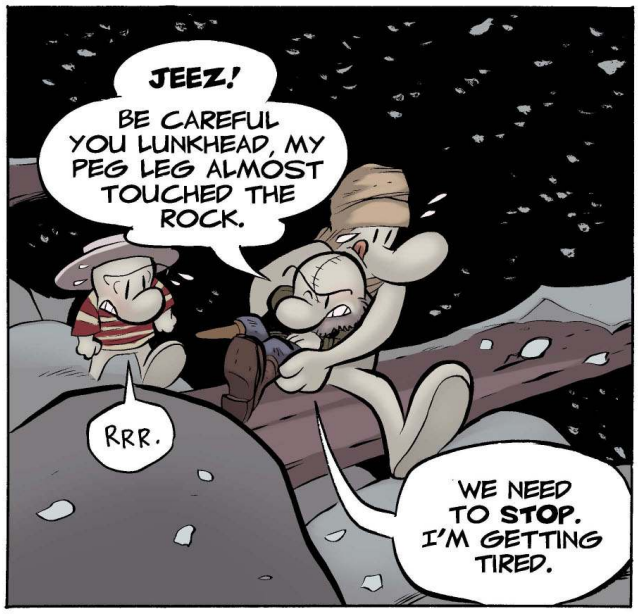

TRY TO IMAGINE THAT WE'RE SURROUNDED BY GIANT INVISIBLE BUBBLES. . .
. . . BUBBLES FILLED WITH SUPERNATURAL EVIL!
THERE'S NOT ENOUGH DESTRUCTION AROUND, WE GOTTA HAVE EVIL, TOO?
IT'S A VOLCANO! CAN'T WE JUST SAY THE MOUNTAIN BLEW UP? WHY'S IT EVIL?
LOOK, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON ANY BETTER THAN YOU DO . . .
BUT IF THORN AND GRAN'MA BEN SAY WE TIPTOE AROUND THESE GHOST AREAS, THEN WE TIPTOE!
FINE.
FINE!
BUT IF YOU ASK ME - -
I'M NOT ASKIN' YOU.
FINE! BUT IF YOU ASK ME, I'D SAY YOU'RE LETTIN' THOSE TWO WOMEN GET TO YOU WITH THEIR TALK ABOUT DREAMS AND DRAGONS AND EVIL SPIRITS!
IT'S ALL A BUNCH OF HOOEY!



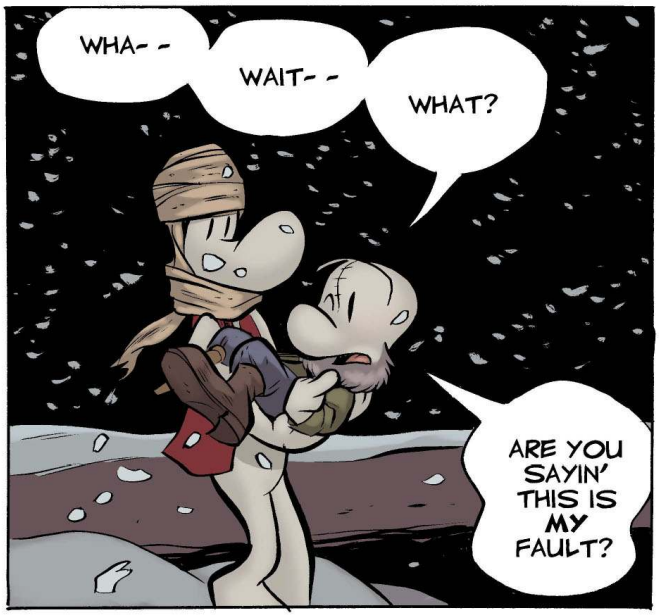
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

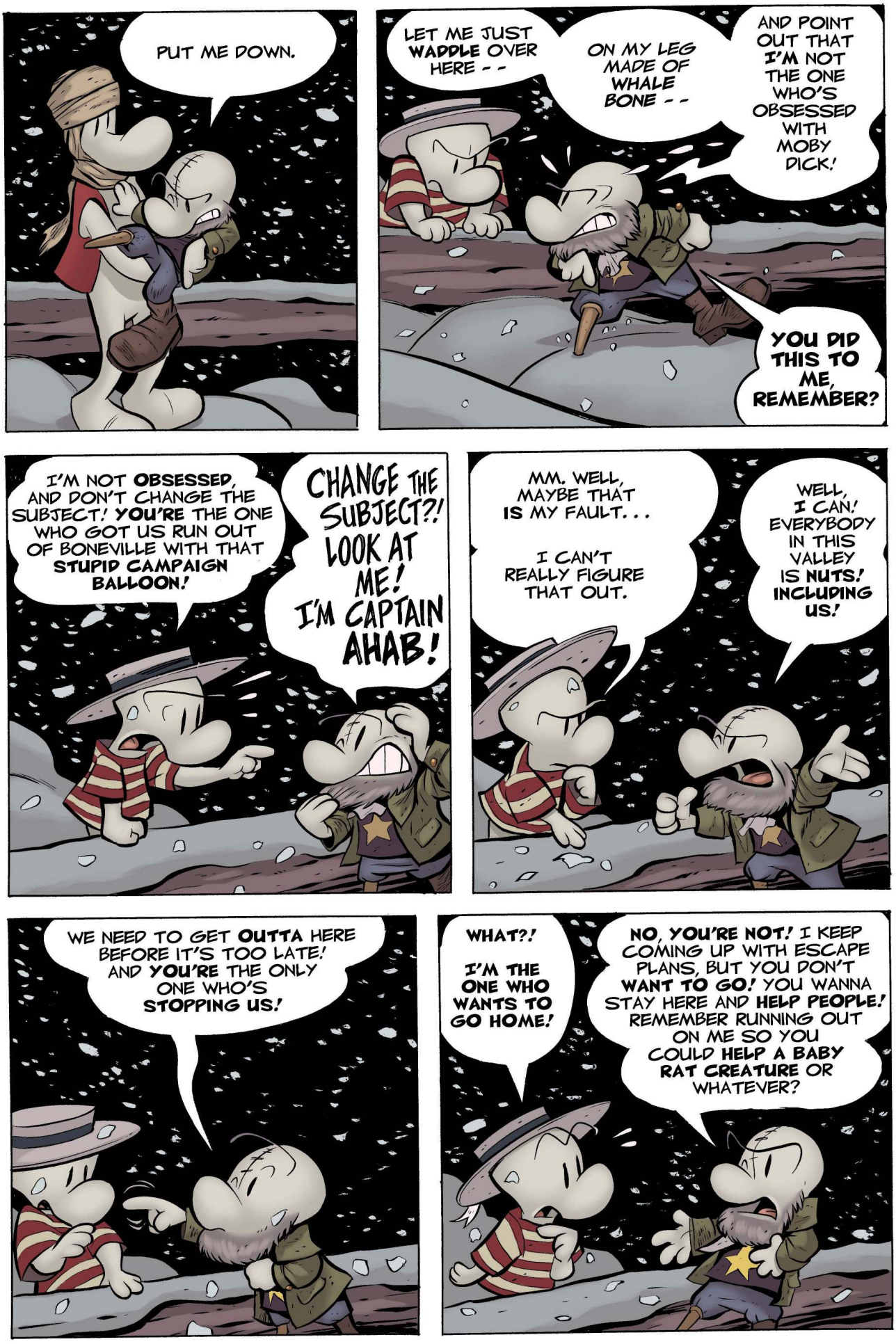

WAIT. . .

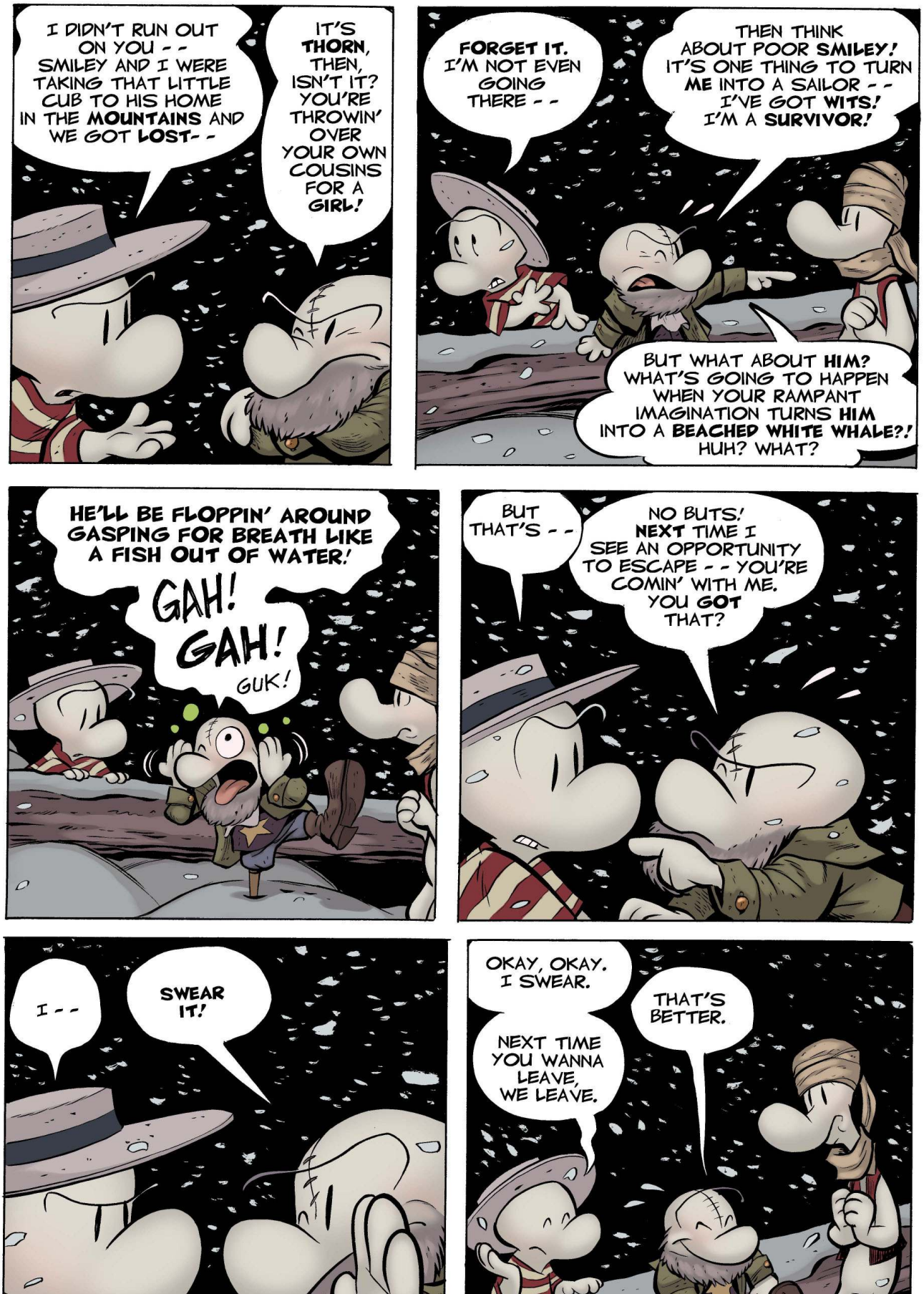

THE WAY AHEAD IS NARROW- - WATCH MY FOOTSTEPS CAREFULLY- -
AND THAT ROCK IS OFF LIMITS.

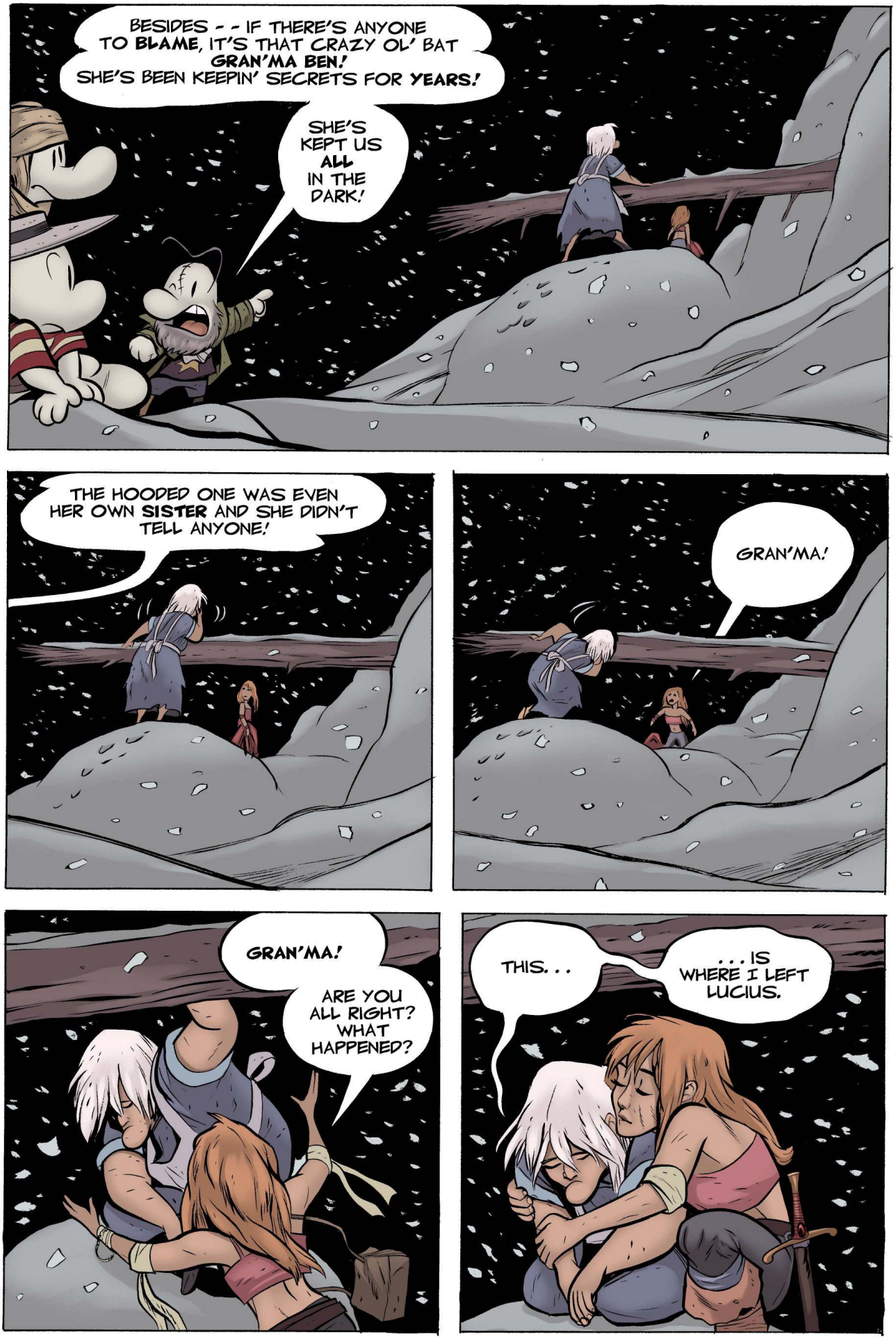

JEEZ!
BE CAREFUL YOU LUNKHEAD, MY PEG LEG ALMOST TOUCHED THE ROCK.
RRR.
WE NEED TO **STOP**. I'M GETTING TIRED.

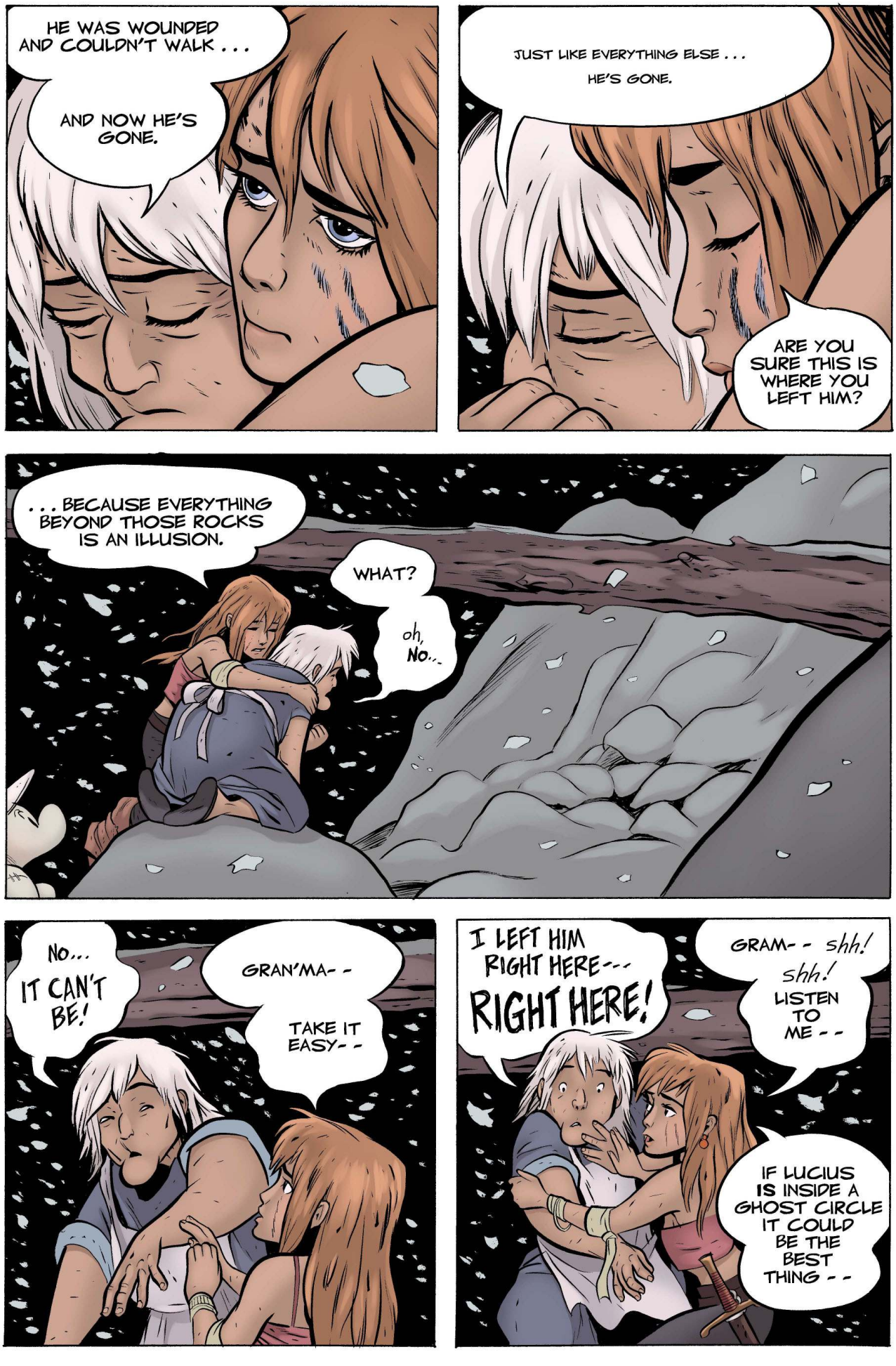

HOW CAN YOU BE TIRED?!! YOU'RE BEING CARRIED!
DO YOU EVER THINK ABOUT ANYTHING OTHER THAN YOURSELF?!
WHAT ABOUT THE **REST** OF US WHO ARE JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE THE **MESS** YOU MADE?!

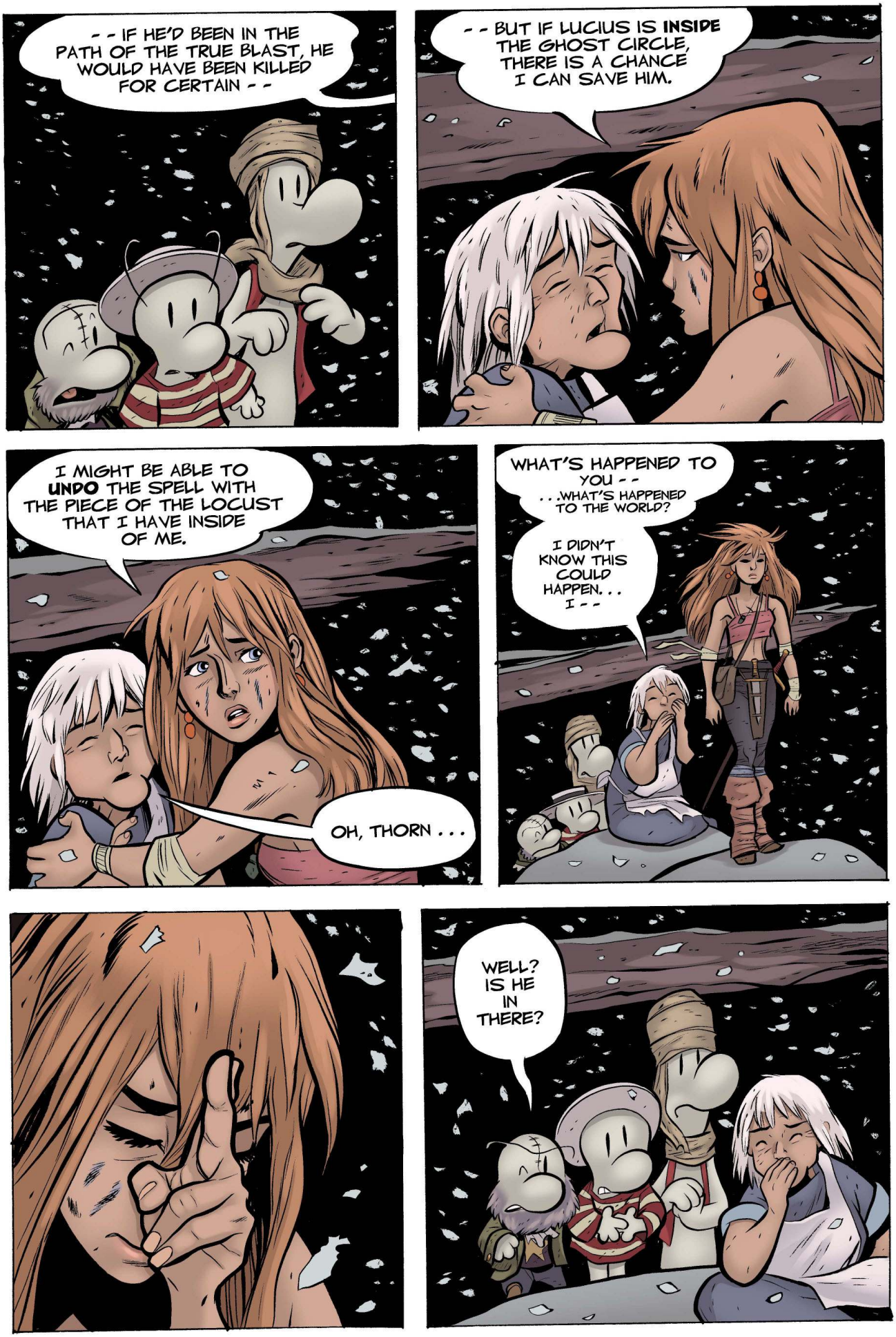

WHA- -
WAIT- -
WHAT?
ARE YOU SAYIN' THIS IS **MY** FAULT?

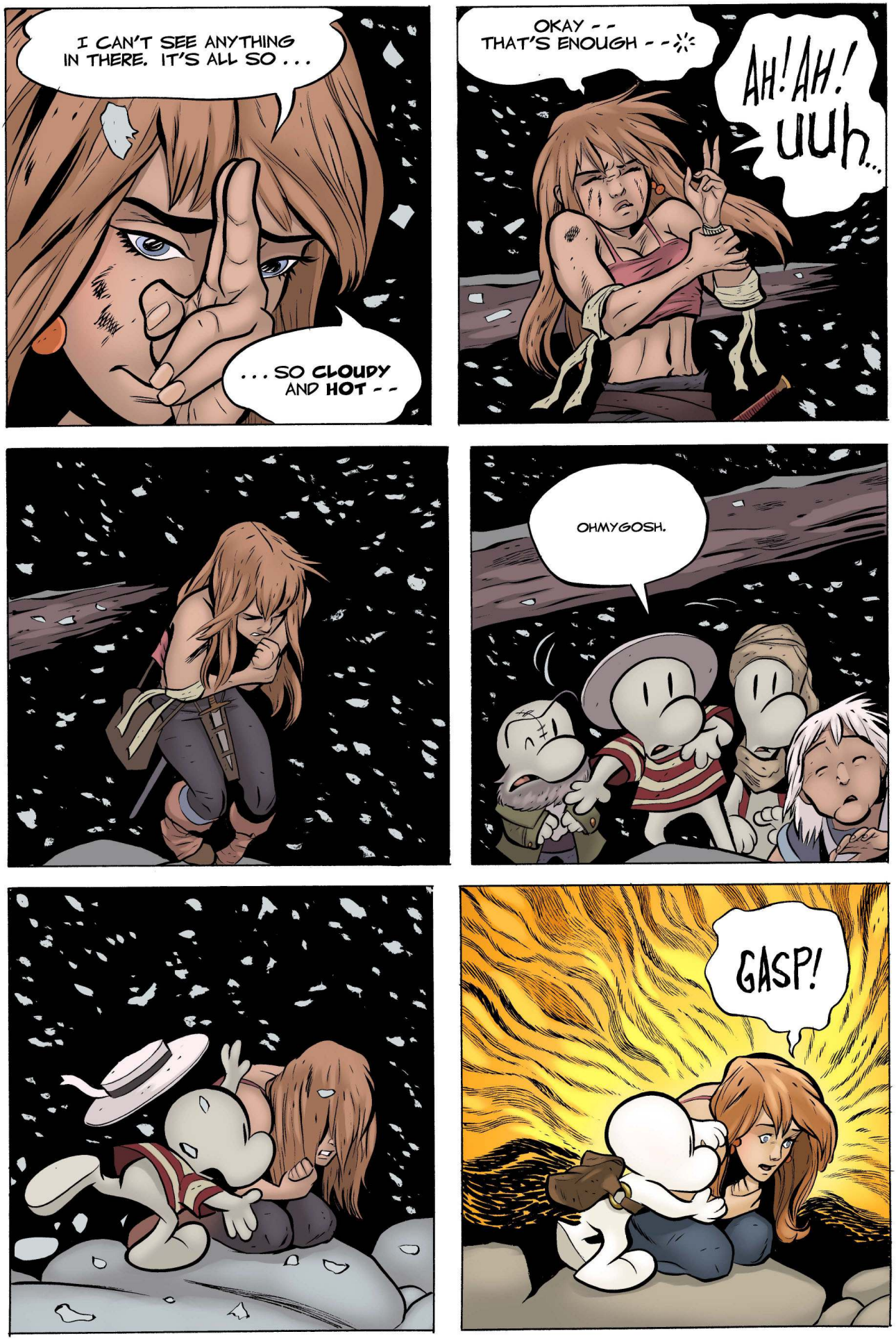

PUT ME DOWN.
LET ME JUST WADDLE OVER HERE - -
ON MY LEG MADE OF WHALE BONE - -
AND POINT OUT THAT I'M NOT THE ONE WHO'S OBSESSED WITH MOBY DICK!
YOU DID THIS TO ME, REMEMBER?
I'M NOT OBSESSED, AND DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT US RUN OUT OF BONEVILLE WITH THAT STUPID CAMPAIGN BALLOON!
CHANGE THE SUBJECT?! LOOK AT ME! I'M CAPTAIN AHAB!
MM. WELL, MAYBE THAT IS MY FAULT. . .
I CAN'T REALLY FIGURE THAT OUT.
WELL, I CAN! EVERYBODY IN THIS VALLEY IS NUTS! INCLUDING US!
WE NEED TO GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! AND YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S STOPPING US!
WHAT?! I'M THE ONE WHO WANTS TO GO HOME!
NO, YOU'RE NOT! I KEEP COMING UP WITH ESCAPE PLANS, BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO GO! YOU WANNA STAY HERE AND HELP PEOPLE! REMEMBER RUNNING OUT ON ME SO YOU COULD HELP A BABY RAT CREATURE OR WHATEVER?


I DIDN'T RUN OUT ON YOU - - SMILEY AND I WERE TAKING THAT LITTLE CUB TO HIS HOME IN THE MOUNTAINS AND WE GOT LOST- -
IT'S THORN, THEN, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE THROWIN' OVER YOUR OWN COUSINS FOR A GIRL!
FORGET IT. I'M NOT EVEN GOING THERE - -
THEN THINK ABOUT POOR SMILEY! IT'S ONE THING TO TURN ME INTO A SAILOR - - I'VE GOT WITS! I'M A SURVIVOR!
BUT WHAT ABOUT HIM? WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN YOUR RAMPANT IMAGINATION TURNS HIM INTO A BEACHED WHITE WHALE?! HUH? WHAT?
HE'LL BE FLOPPIN' AROUND GASPING FOR BREATH LIKE A FISH OUT OF WATER!
GAH! GAH!
GUK!
BUT THAT'S - -
NO BUTS! NEXT TIME I SEE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESCAPE - - YOU'RE COMIN' WITH ME. YOU GOT THAT?
I - -
SWEAR IT!
OKAY, OKAY. I SWEAR.
THAT'S BETTER.
NEXT TIME YOU WANNA LEAVE, WE LEAVE.

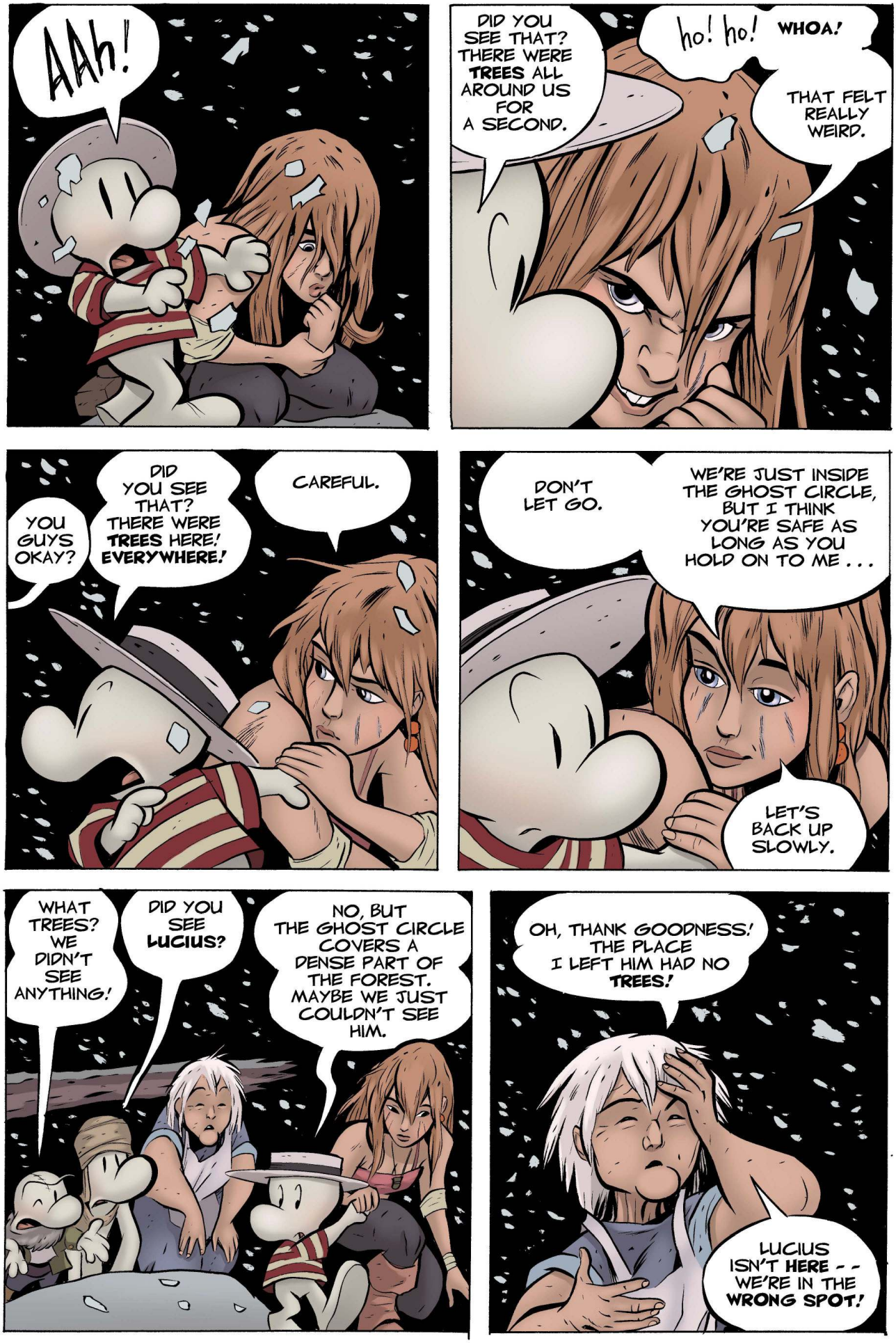

BESIDES - - IF THERE'S ANYONE TO **BLAME**, IT'S THAT CRAZY OL' BAT **GRAN'MA BEN!** SHE'S BEEN KEEPIN' SECRETS FOR **YEARS!**
SHE'S KEPT US **ALL** IN THE DARK!
THE HOODED ONE WAS EVEN HER OWN **SISTER** AND SHE DIDN'T TELL ANYONE!
GRAN'MA!
GRAN'MA!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHAT HAPPENED?
THIS. . .
. . . IS WHERE I LEFT LUCIUS.

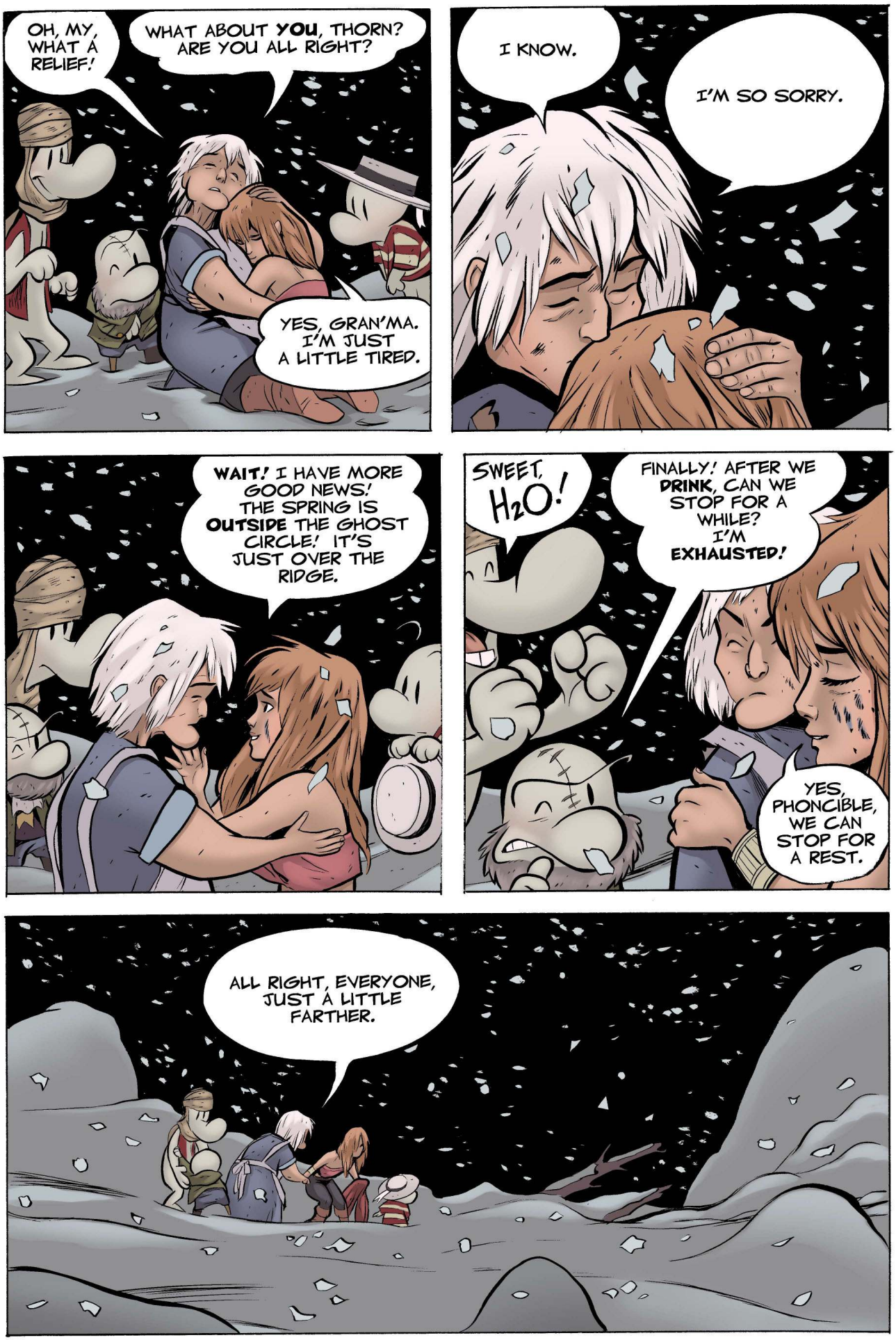

HE WAS WOUNDED AND COULDN'T WALK . . .
AND NOW HE'S GONE.
JUST LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE . . .
HE'S GONE.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS WHERE YOU LEFT HIM?
. . . BECAUSE EVERYTHING BEYOND THOSE ROCKS IS AN ILLUSION.
WHAT?
oh, No...
NO... IT CAN'T BE!
GRAN'MA- -
TAKE IT EASY- -
I LEFT HIM RIGHT HERE--- RIGHT HERE!
GRAM- - shh! shh! LISTEN TO ME - -
IF LUCIUS IS INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE IT COULD BE THE BEST THING - -


- - IF HE'D BEEN IN THE PATH OF THE TRUE BLAST, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED FOR CERTAIN - -
- - BUT IF LUCIUS IS **INSIDE** THE GHOST CIRCLE, THERE IS A CHANCE I CAN SAVE HIM.
I MIGHT BE ABLE TO **UNDO** THE SPELL WITH THE PIECE OF THE LOCUST THAT I HAVE INSIDE OF ME.
OH, THORN . . .
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU - - . . .WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE WORLD?
I DIDN'T KNOW THIS COULD HAPPEN. . . I - -
WELL? IS HE IN THERE?

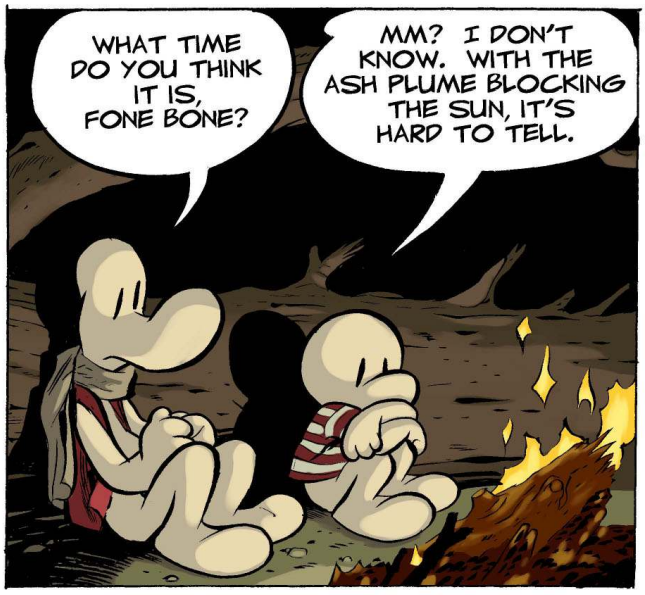

I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING IN THERE. IT'S ALL SO . . .
. . . SO CLOUDY AND HOT - -
OKAY - - THAT'S ENOUGH - -
AH! AH! uuh...
OHMYGOSH.
GASP!

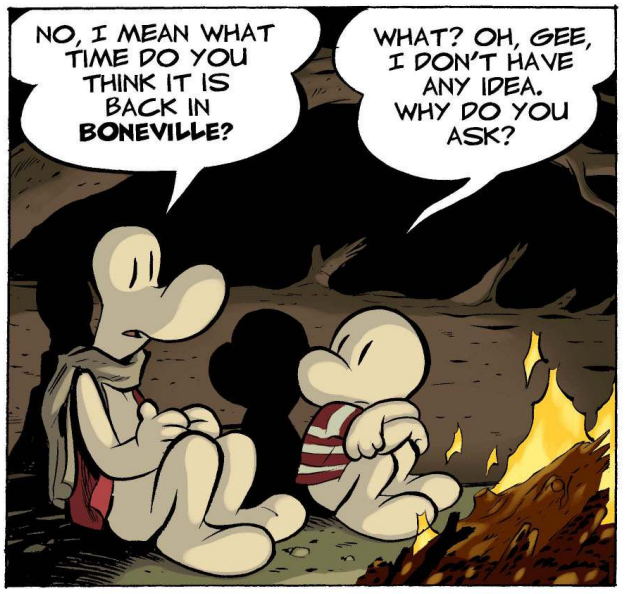


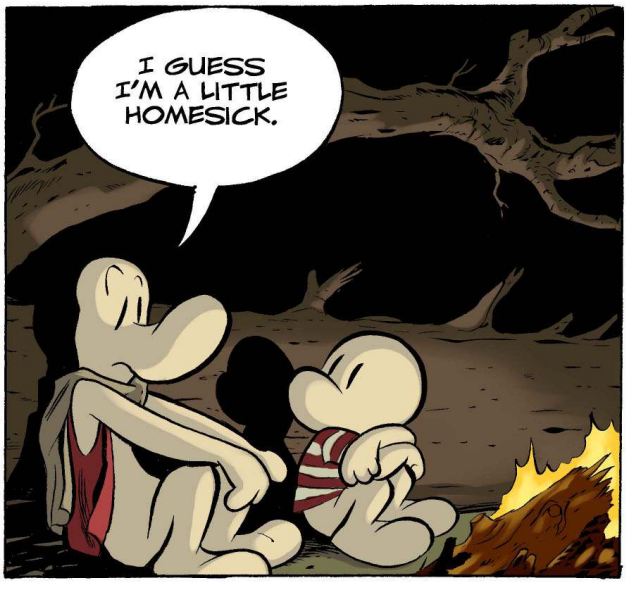

AAh!
DID YOU SEE THAT? THERE WERE TREES ALL AROUND US FOR A SECOND.
ho! ho!
WHOA!
THAT FELT REALLY WEIRD.
YOU GUYS OKAY?
DID YOU SEE THAT? THERE WERE TREES HERE! EVERYWHERE!
CAREFUL.
DON'T LET GO.
WE'RE JUST INSIDE THE GHOST CIRCLE, BUT I THINK YOU'RE SAFE AS LONG AS YOU HOLD ON TO ME . . .
LET'S BACK UP SLOWLY.
WHAT TREES? WE DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING!
DID YOU SEE LUCIUS?
NO, BUT THE GHOST CIRCLE COVERS A DENSE PART OF THE FOREST. MAYBE WE JUST COULDN'T SEE HIM.
OH, THANK GOODNESS! THE PLACE I LEFT HIM HAD NO TREES!
LUCIUS ISN'T HERE - - WE'RE IN THE WRONG SPOT!

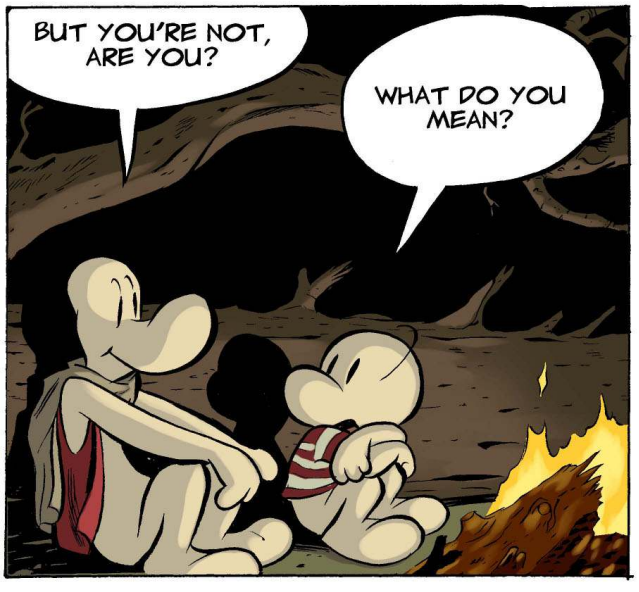

OH, MY, WHAT A RELIEF!
WHAT ABOUT **YOU**, THORN? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES, GRAN'MA. I'M JUST A LITTLE TIRED.
I KNOW.
I'M SO SORRY.
WAIT! I HAVE MORE GOOD NEWS! THE SPRING IS **OUTSIDE** THE GHOST CIRCLE! IT'S JUST OVER THE RIDGE.
SWEET, H_2O!
FINALLY! AFTER WE **DRINK**, CAN WE STOP FOR A WHILE? I'M **EXHAUSTED!**
YES, PHONCIBLE, WE CAN STOP FOR A REST.
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE, JUST A LITTLE FARTHER.

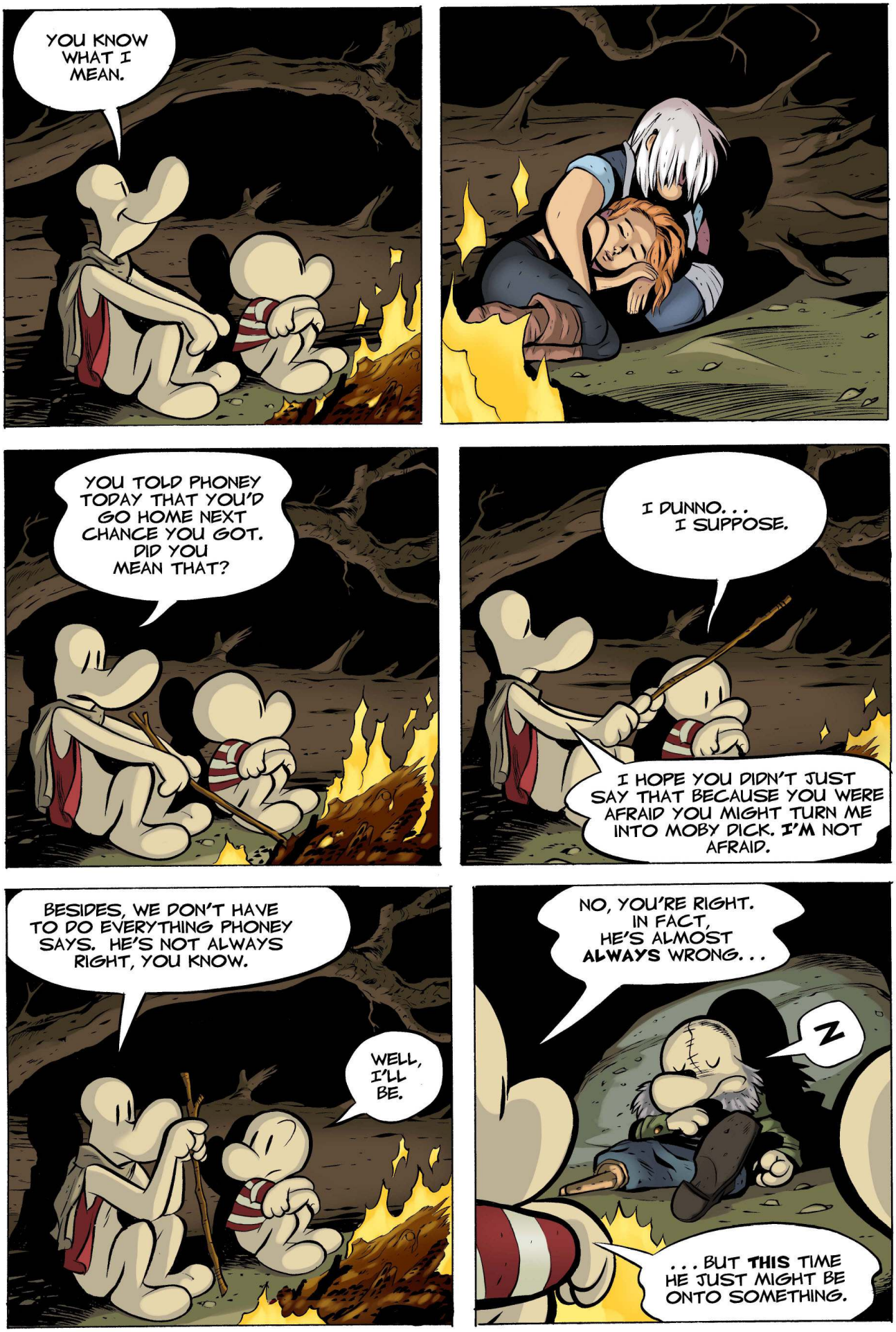


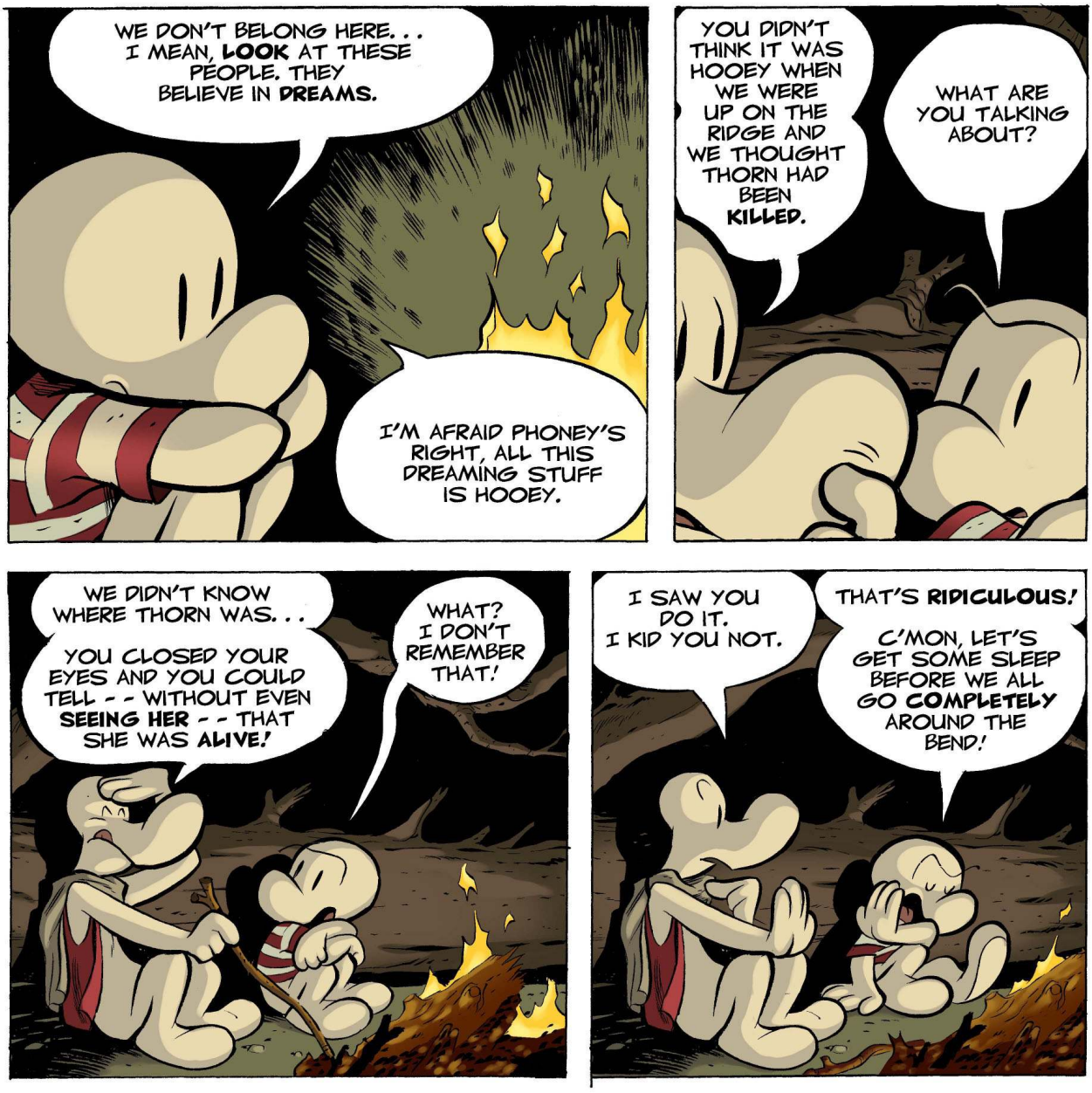

WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS, FONE BONE?
MM? I DON'T KNOW. WITH THE ASH PLUME BLOCKING THE SUN, IT'S HARD TO TELL.


NO, I MEAN WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS BACK IN **BONEVILLE**?
WHAT? OH, GEE, I DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA. WHY DO YOU ASK?

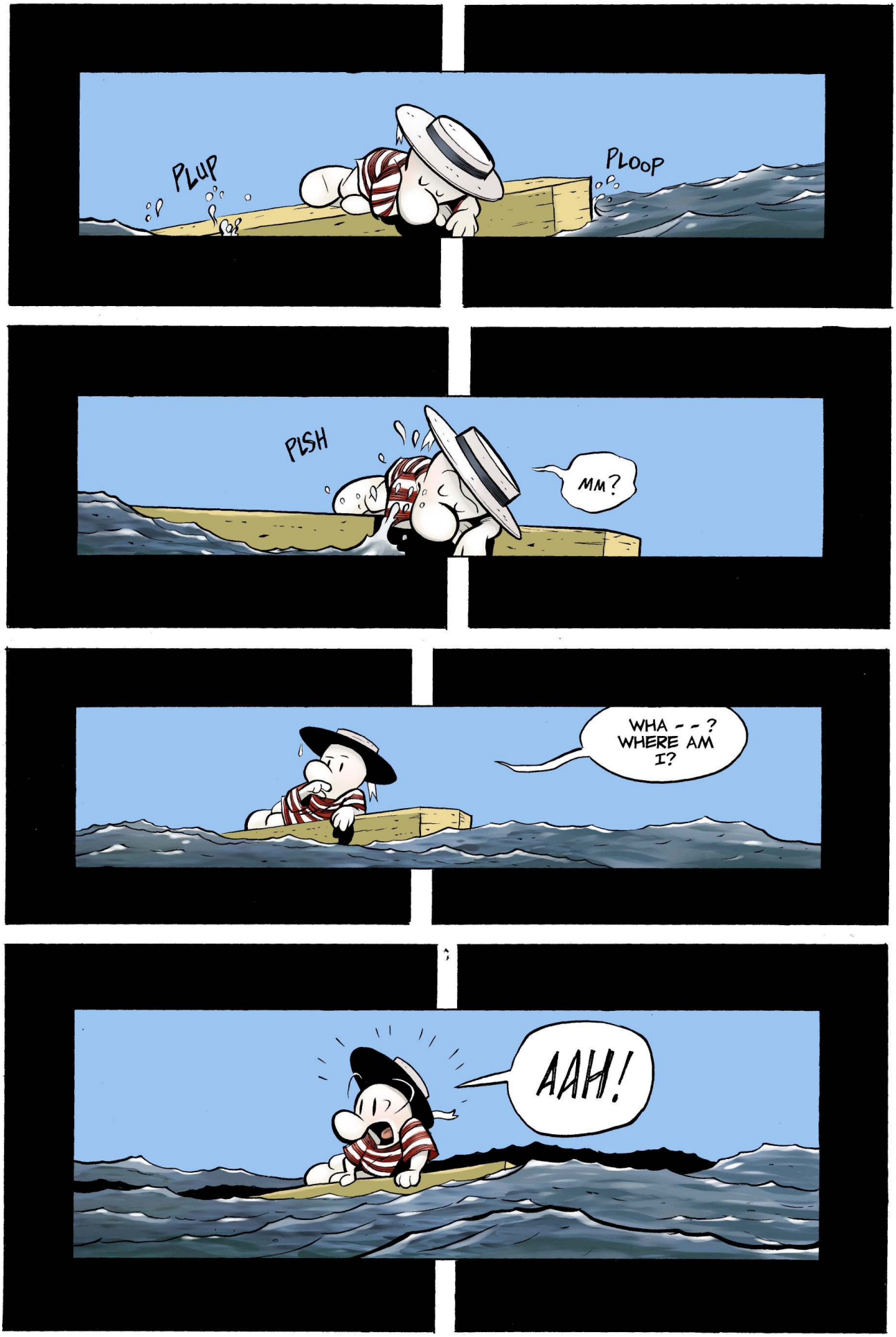

I GUESS I'M A LITTLE HOMESICK.

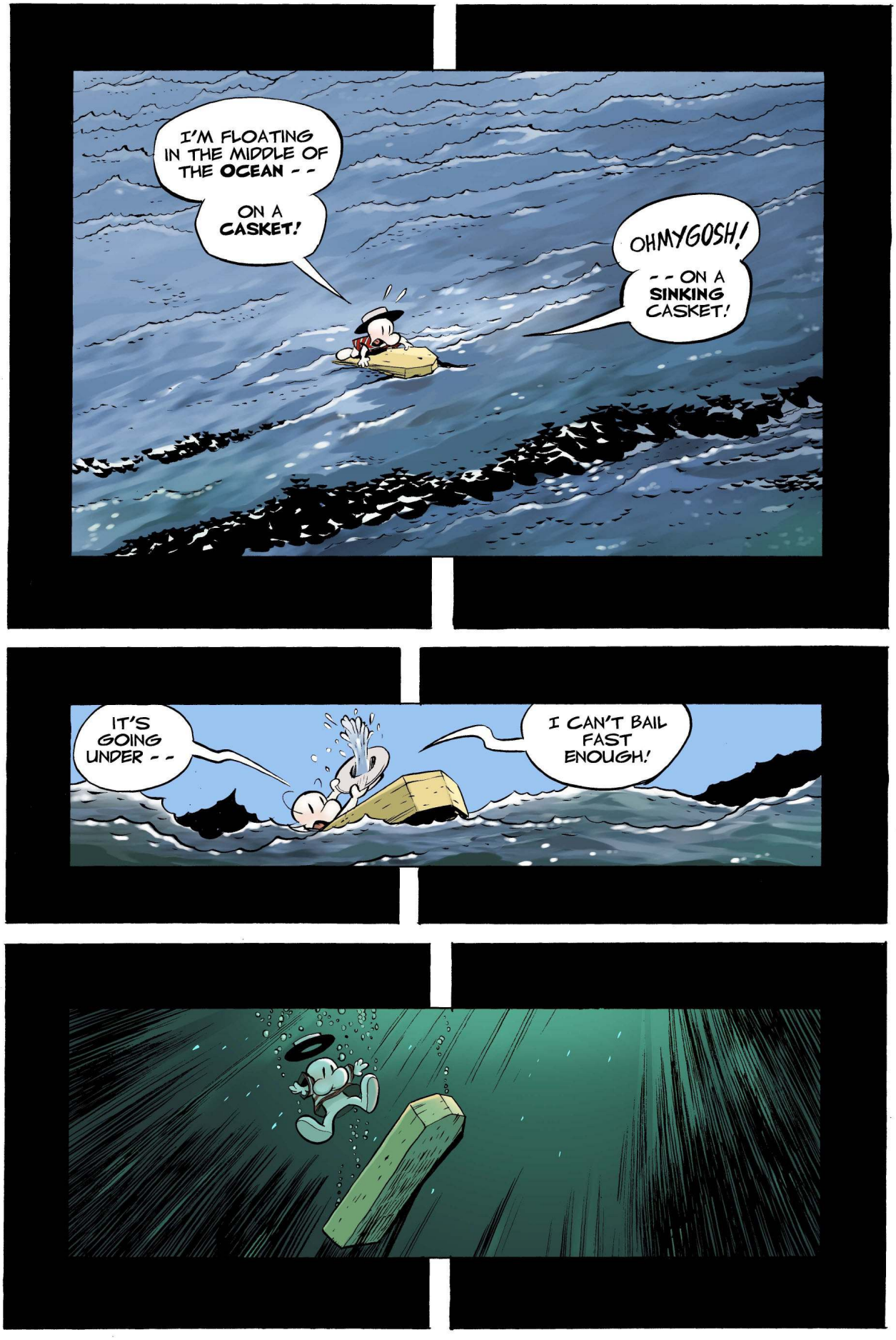

BUT YOU'RE NOT, ARE YOU?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
YOU TOLD PHONEY TODAY THAT YOU'D GO HOME NEXT CHANCE YOU GOT. DID YOU MEAN THAT?
I DUNNO... I SUPPOSE.
I HOPE YOU DIDN'T JUST SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID YOU MIGHT TURN ME INTO MOBY DICK. I'M NOT AFRAID.
BESIDES, WE DON'T HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING PHONEY SAYS. HE'S NOT ALWAYS RIGHT, YOU KNOW.
WELL, I'LL BE.
NO, YOU'RE RIGHT. IN FACT, HE'S ALMOST ALWAYS WRONG...
Z
...BUT THIS TIME HE JUST MIGHT BE ONTO SOMETHING.



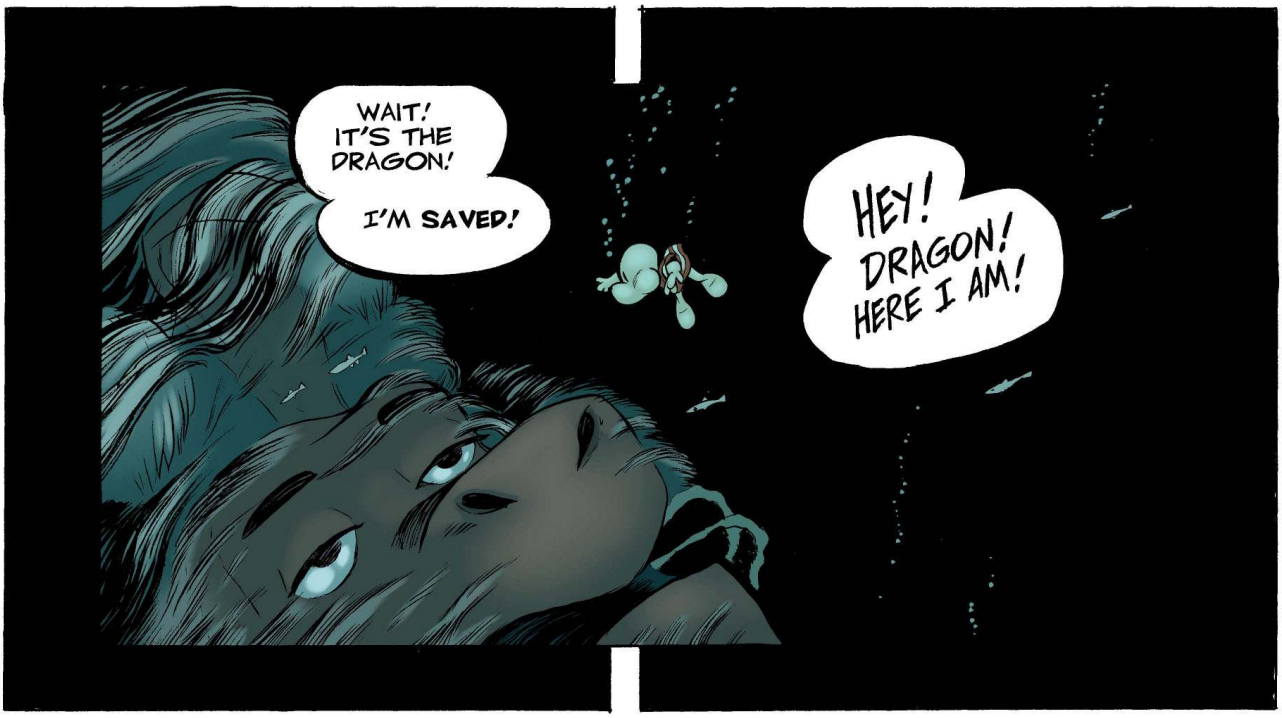
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


PLUP
PLOOP
PISH
MM?
WHA - - ?
WHERE AM I?
AAH!

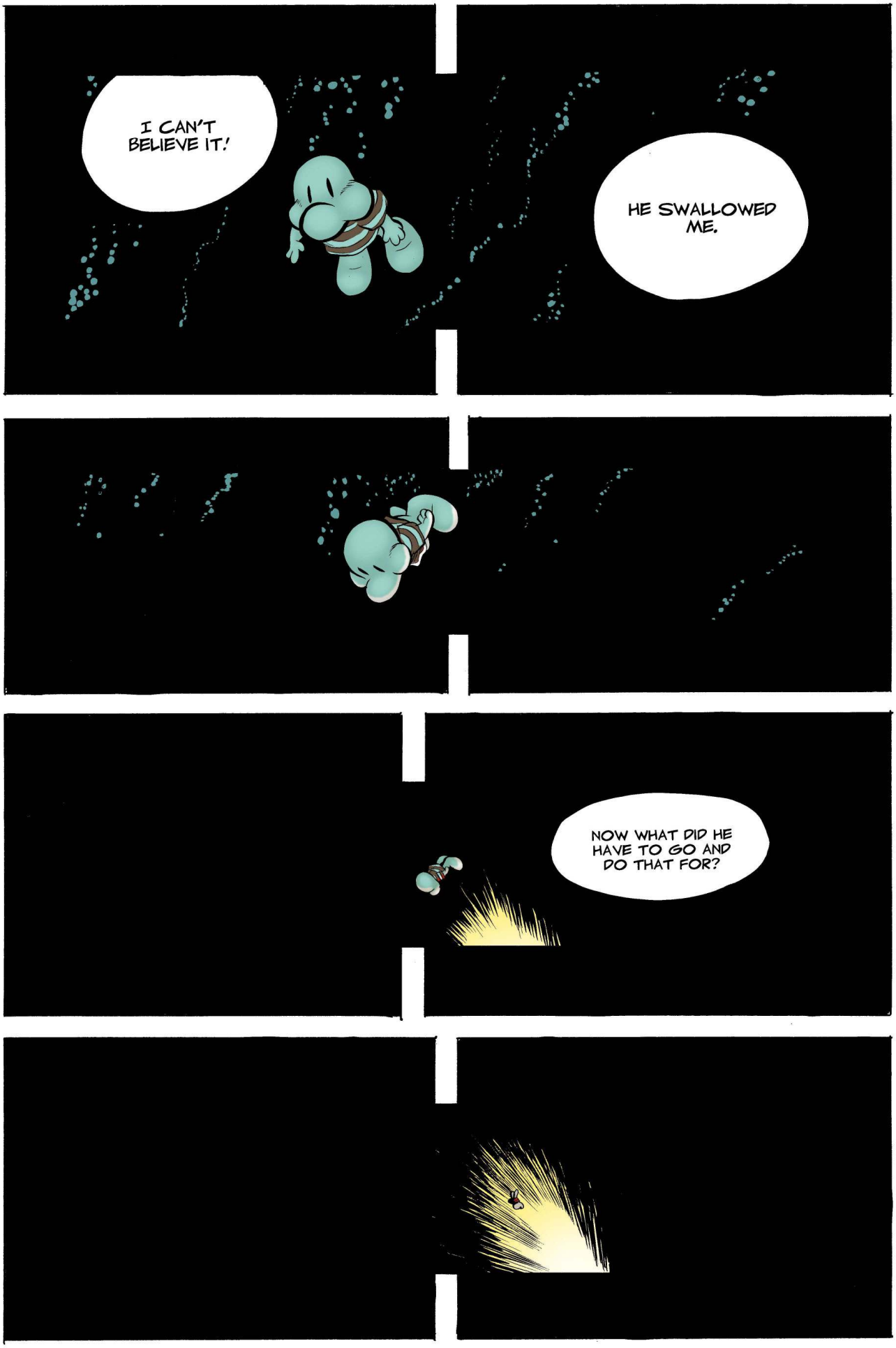


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

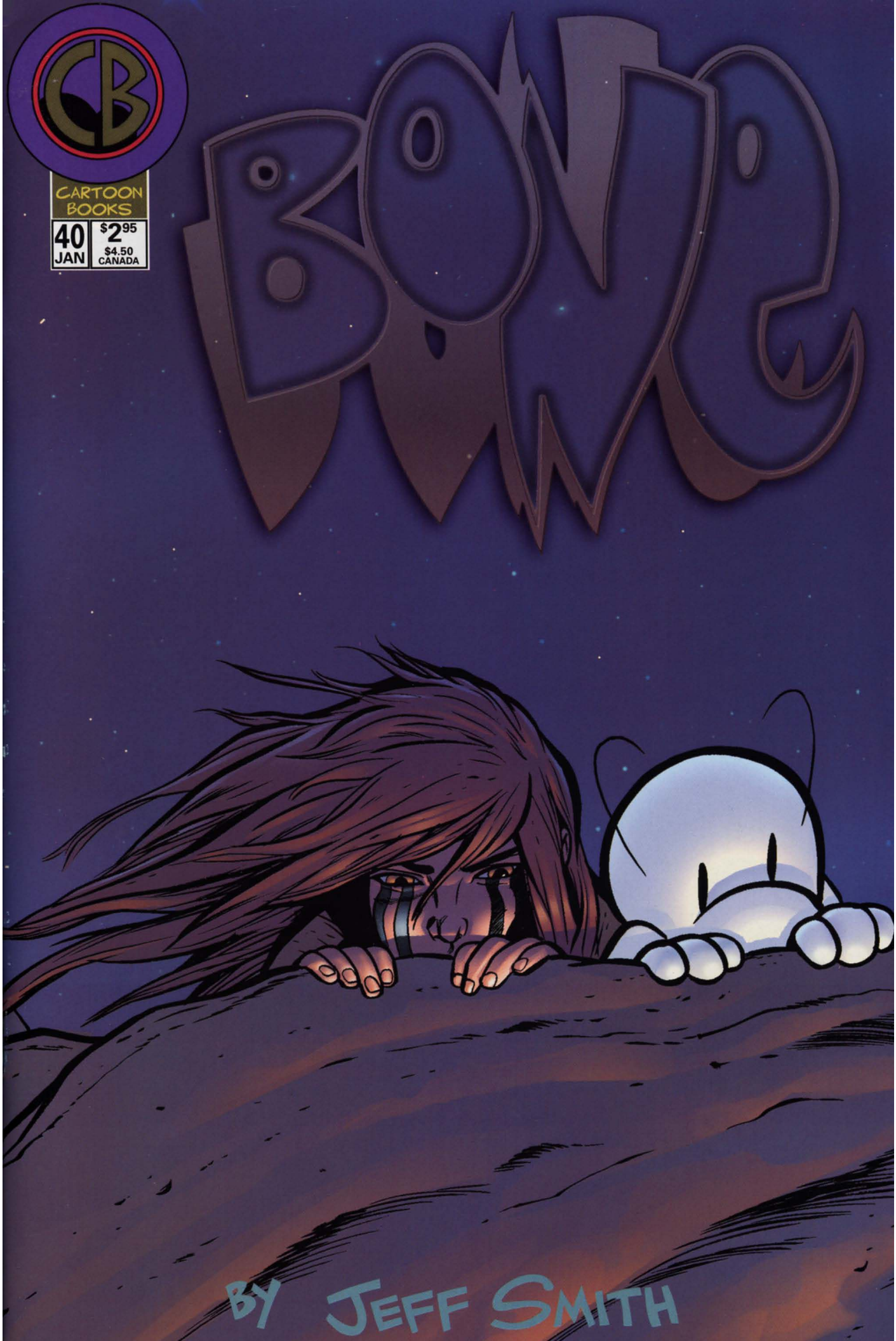

HUH.
IT'S SO QUIET DOWN HERE.
PEACEFUL.
SAY...
WHAT IS THAT?
uh, oh.
IT'S GETTING BIGGER!

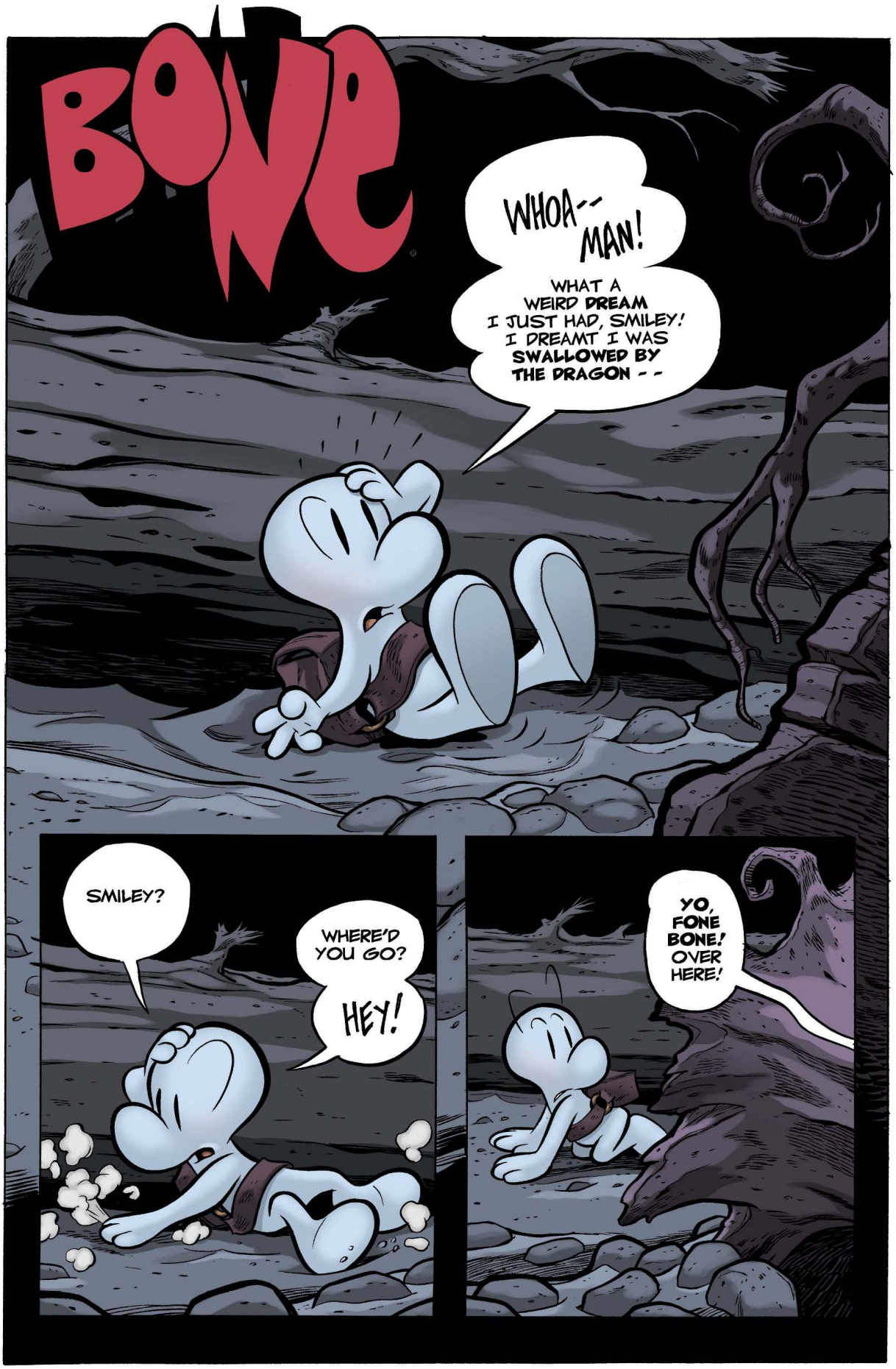

WAIT! IT'S THE DRAGON!
I'M SAVED!
HEY! DRAGON! HERE I AM!


HE DOESN'T SEE ME.
I'M GOING INTO HIS MOUTH!

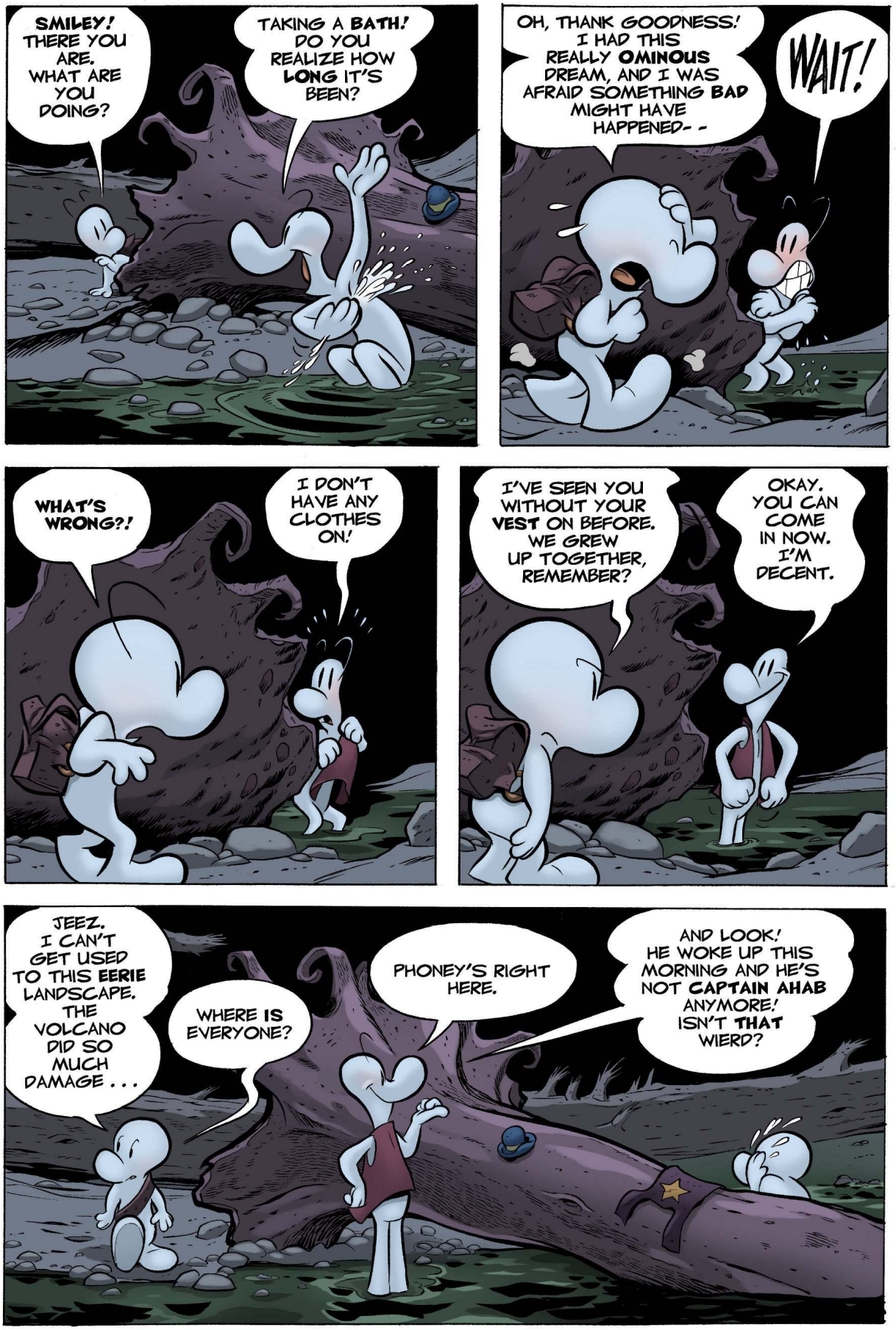

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
HE SWALLOWED ME.
NOW WHAT DID HE HAVE TO GO AND DO THAT FOR?



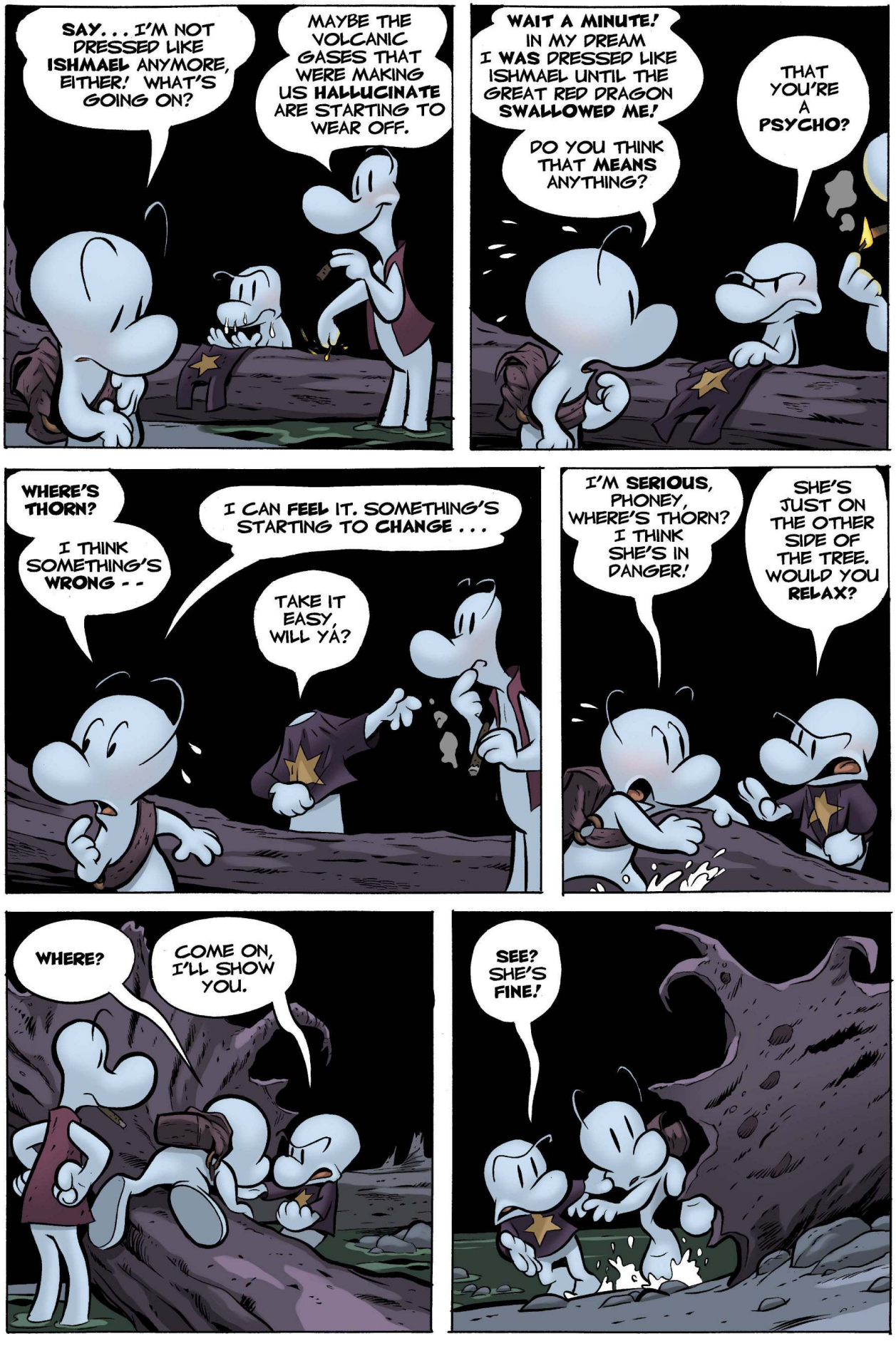

CARTOON BOOKS
40
JAN
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

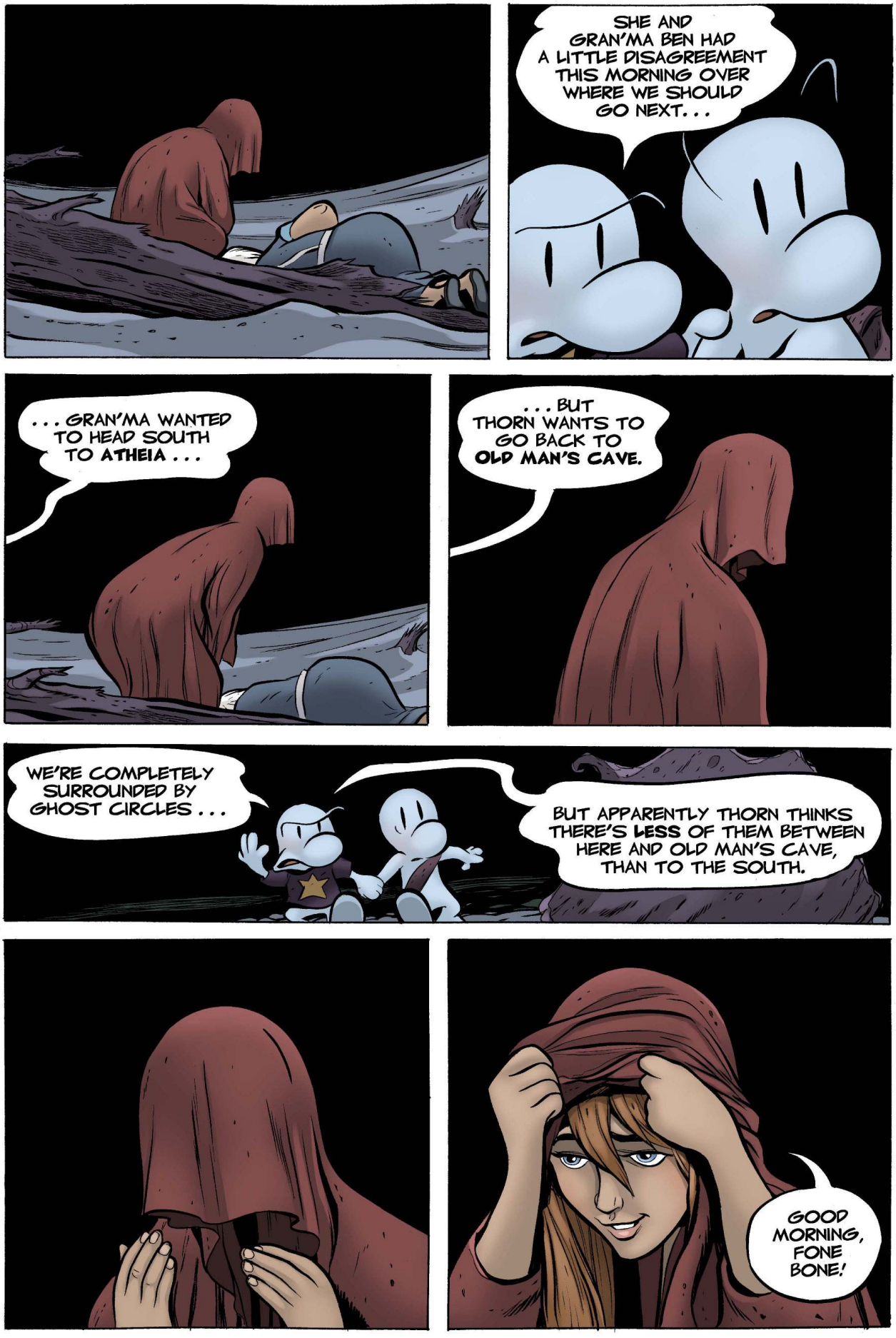


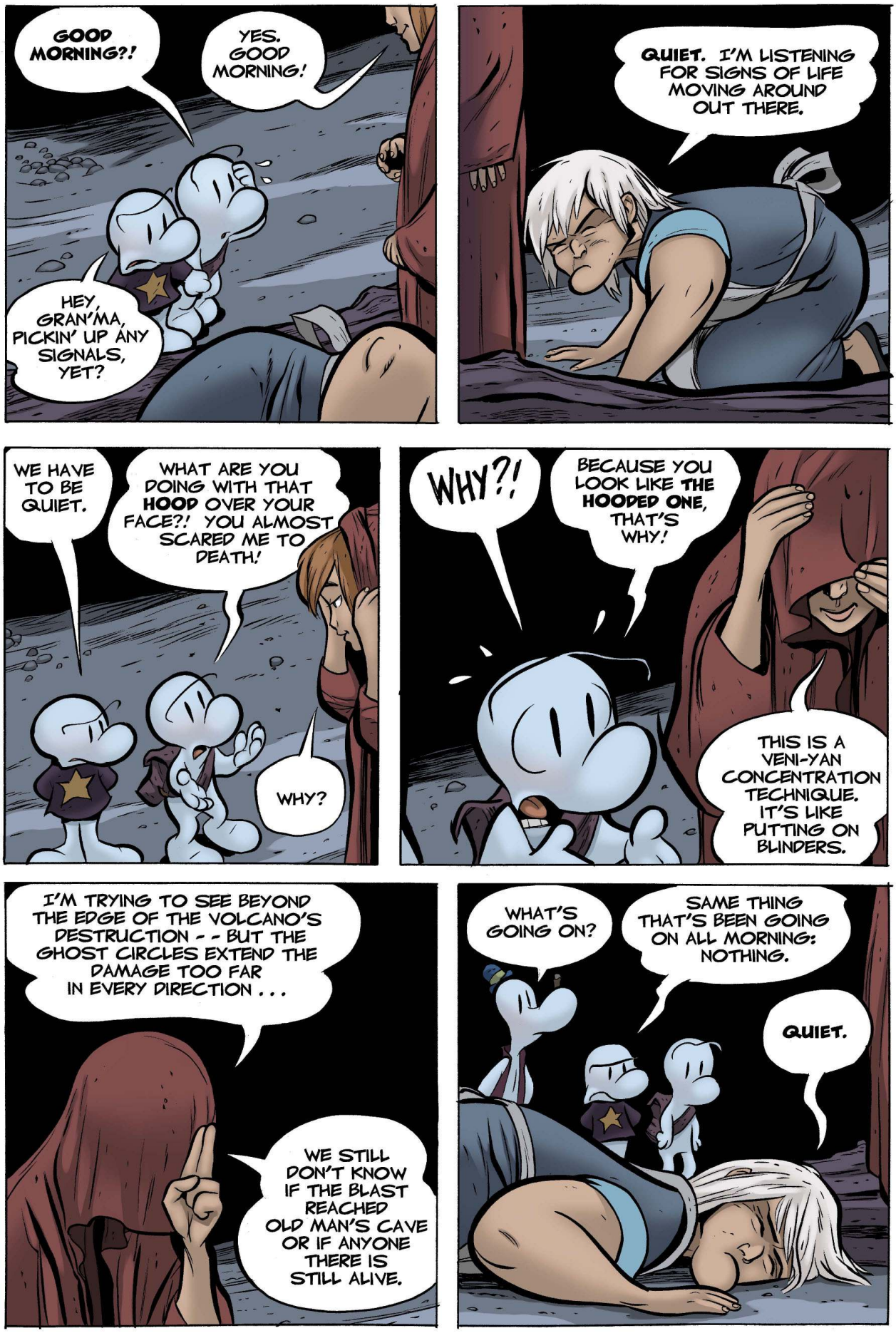
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

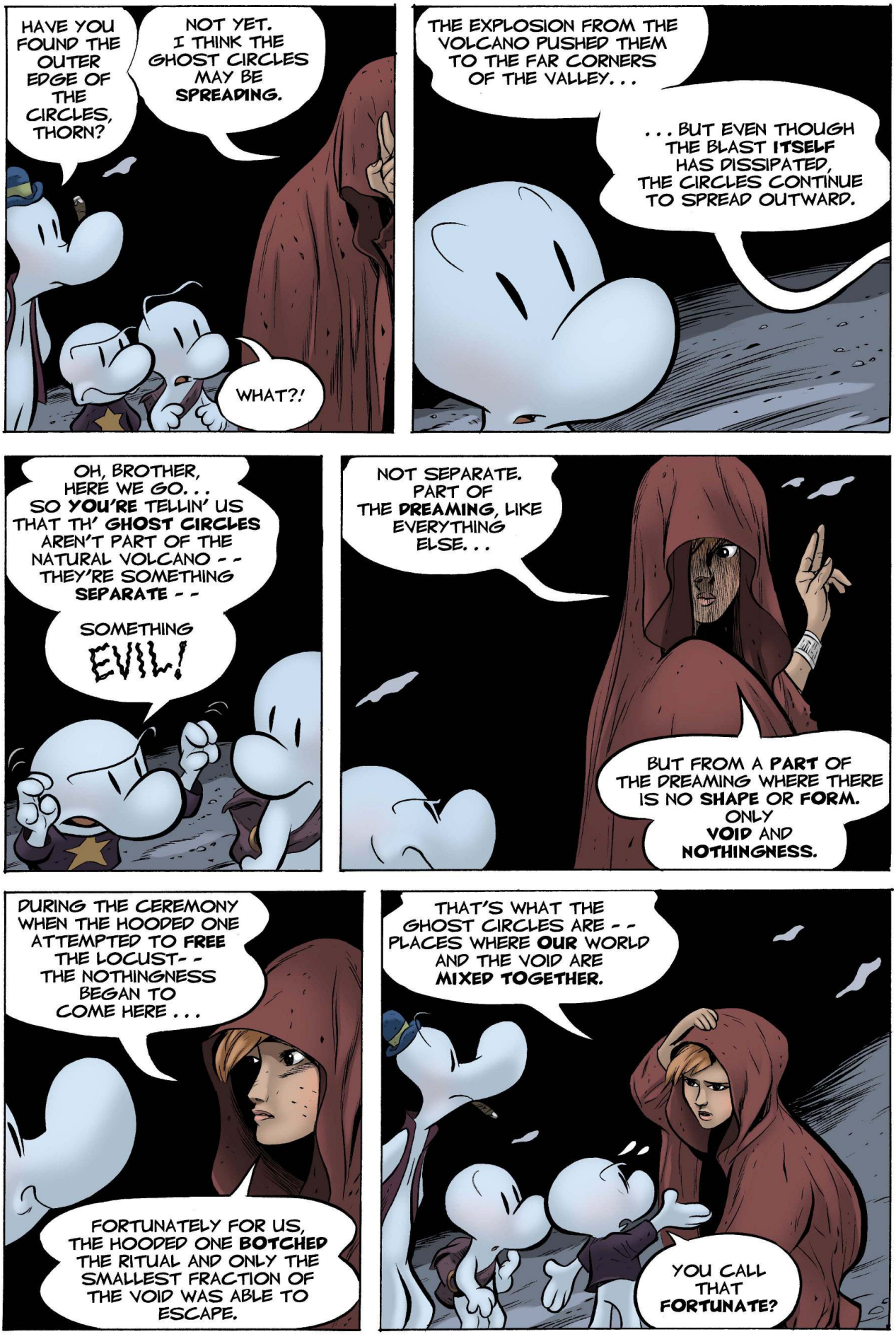


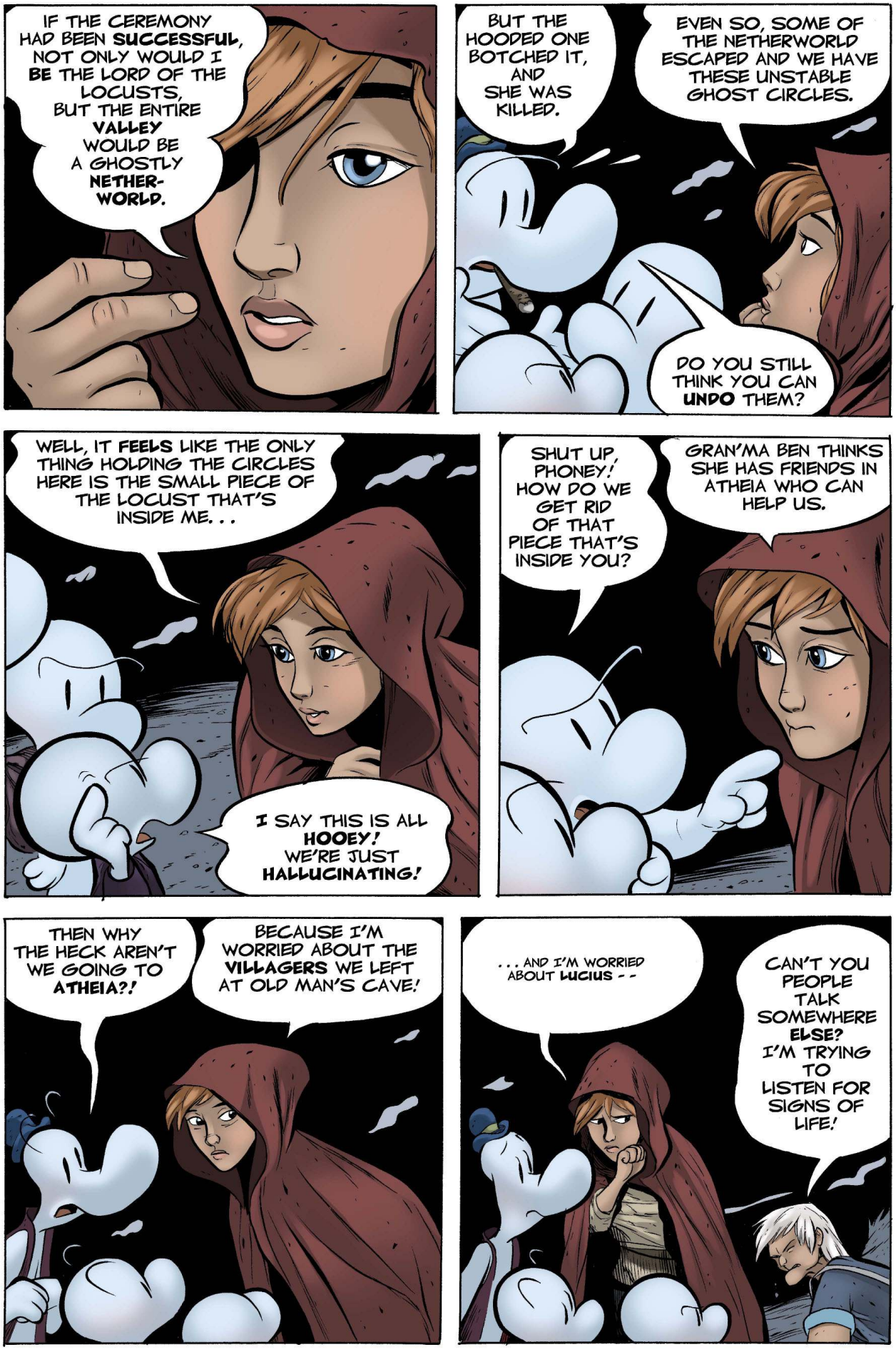
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

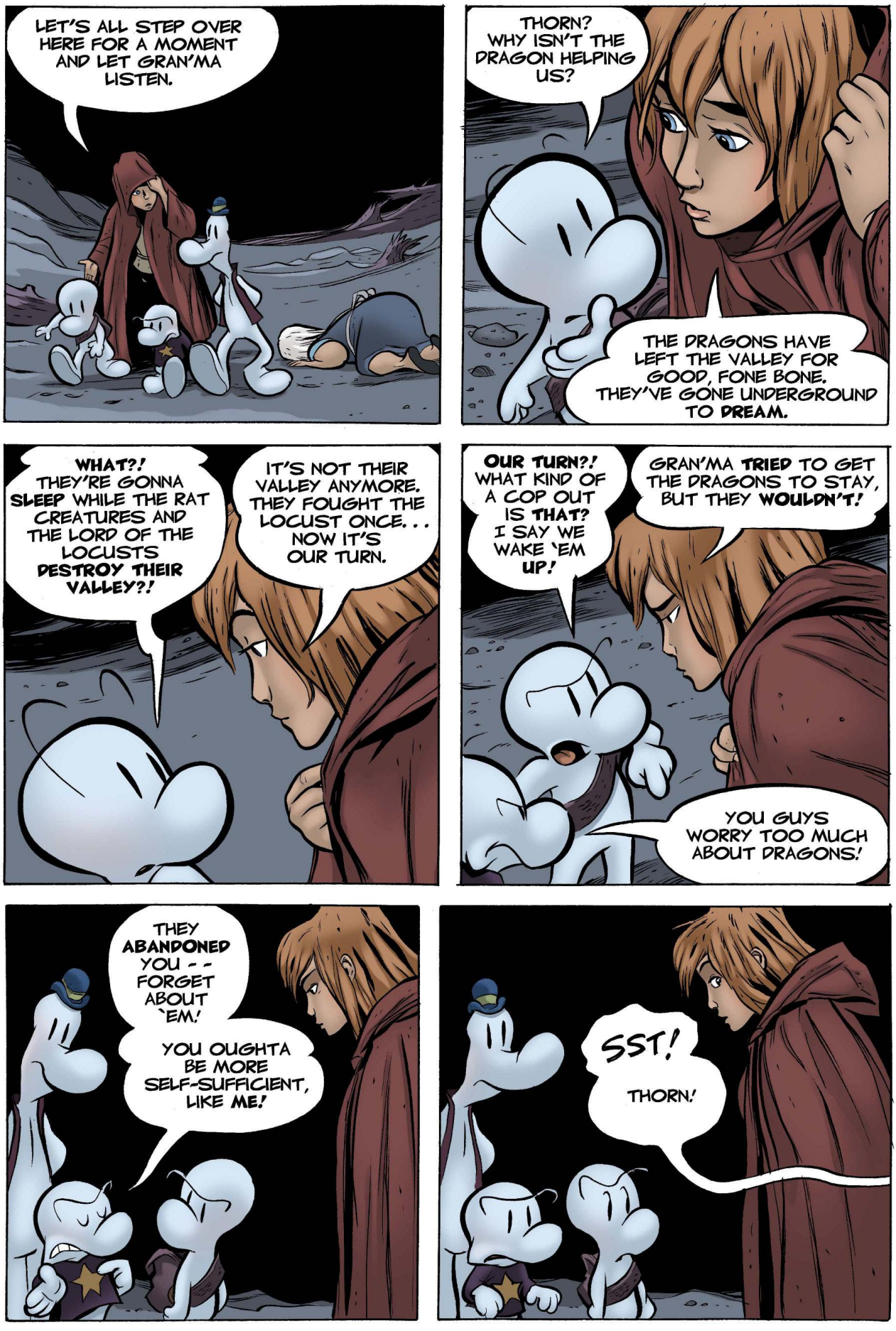

SAY... I'M NOT DRESSED LIKE ISHMAEL ANYMORE, EITHER! WHAT'S GOING ON?
MAYBE THE VOLCANIC GASES THAT WERE MAKING US HALLUCINATE ARE STARTING TO WEAR OFF.
WAIT A MINUTE! IN MY DREAM I WAS DRESSED LIKE ISHMAEL UNTIL THE GREAT RED DRAGON SWALLOWED ME!
DO YOU THINK THAT MEANS ANYTHING?
THAT YOU'RE A PSYCHO?
WHERE'S THORN?
I THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG - -
I CAN FEEL IT. SOMETHING'S STARTING TO CHANGE . . .
TAKE IT EASY, WILL YA?
I'M SERIOUS, PHONEY, WHERE'S THORN? I THINK SHE'S IN DANGER!
SHE'S JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TREE. WOULD YOU RELAX?
WHERE?
COME ON, I'LL SHOW YOU.
SEE? SHE'S FINE!

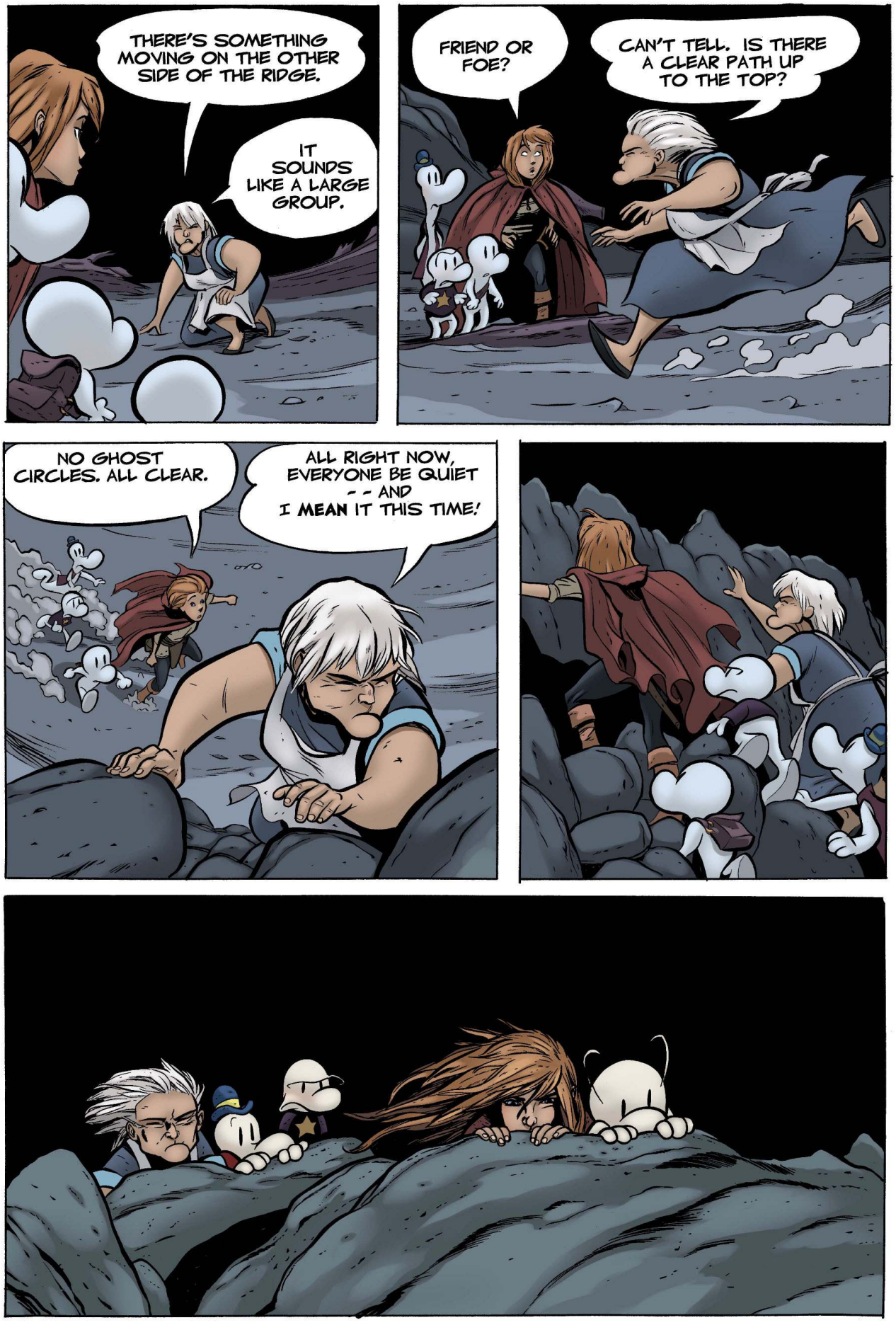

SHE AND GRAN'MA BEN HAD A LITTLE DISAGREEMENT THIS MORNING OVER WHERE WE SHOULD GO NEXT...
...GRAN'MA WANTED TO HEAD SOUTH TO ATHEIA...
...BUT THORN WANTS TO GO BACK TO OLD MAN'S CAVE.
WE'RE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY GHOST CIRCLES...
BUT APPARENTLY THORN THINKS THERE'S LESS OF THEM BETWEEN HERE AND OLD MAN'S CAVE, THAN TO THE SOUTH.
GOOD MORNING, FONE BONE!


GOOD MORNING?!
YES. GOOD MORNING!
HEY, GRAN'MA, PICKIN' UP ANY SIGNALS, YET?
QUIET. I'M LISTENING FOR SIGNS OF LIFE MOVING AROUND OUT THERE.
WE HAVE TO BE QUIET.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT HOOD OVER YOUR FACE?! YOU ALMOST SCARED ME TO DEATH!
WHY?
WHY?!
BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE THE HOODED ONE, THAT'S WHY!
THIS IS A VENI-YAN CONCENTRATION TECHNIQUE. IT'S LIKE PUTTING ON BLINDERS.
I'M TRYING TO SEE BEYOND THE EDGE OF THE VOLCANO'S DESTRUCTION - - BUT THE GHOST CIRCLES EXTEND THE DAMAGE TOO FAR IN EVERY DIRECTION . . .
WE STILL DON'T KNOW IF THE BLAST REACHED OLD MAN'S CAVE OR IF ANYONE THERE IS STILL ALIVE.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SAME THING THAT'S BEEN GOING ON ALL MORNING: NOTHING.
QUIET.

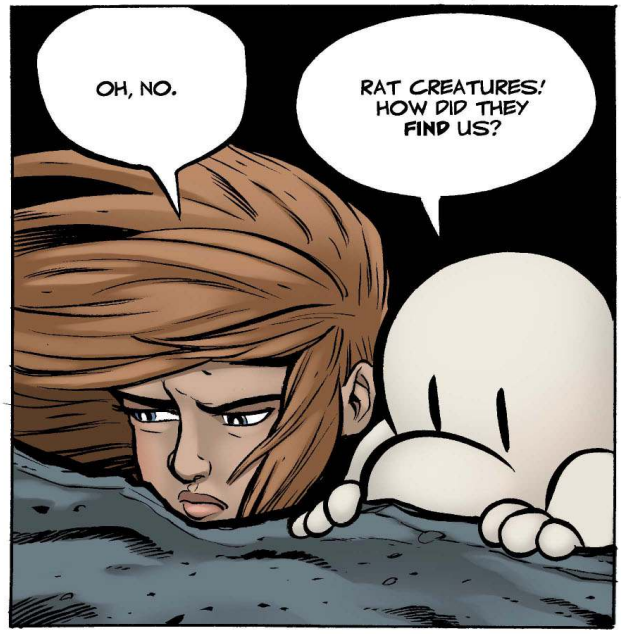

HAVE YOU FOUND THE OUTER EDGE OF THE CIRCLES, THORN?
NOT YET. I THINK THE GHOST CIRCLES MAY BE SPREADING.
WHAT?!
THE EXPLOSION FROM THE VOLCANO PUSHED THEM TO THE FAR CORNERS OF THE VALLEY. . .
. . . BUT EVEN THOUGH THE BLAST ITSELF HAS DISSIPATED, THE CIRCLES CONTINUE TO SPREAD OUTWARD.
OH, BROTHER, HERE WE GO. . . SO YOU'RE TELLIN' US THAT TH' GHOST CIRCLES AREN'T PART OF THE NATURAL VOLCANO - - THEY'RE SOMETHING SEPARATE - -
SOMETHING EVIL!
NOT SEPARATE. PART OF THE DREAMING, LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE. . .
BUT FROM A PART OF THE DREAMING WHERE THERE IS NO SHAPE OR FORM. ONLY VOID AND NOTHINGNESS.
DURING THE CEREMONY WHEN THE HOODED ONE ATTEMPTED TO FREE THE LOCUST - - THE NOTHINGNESS BEGAN TO COME HERE . . .
FORTUNATELY FOR US, THE HOODED ONE BOTCHED THE RITUAL AND ONLY THE SMALLEST FRACTION OF THE VOID WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE.
THAT'S WHAT THE GHOST CIRCLES ARE - - PLACES WHERE OUR WORLD AND THE VOID ARE MIXED TOGETHER.
YOU CALL THAT FORTUNATE?


IF THE CEREMONY HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL, NOT ONLY WOULD I BE THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS, BUT THE ENTIRE VALLEY WOULD BE A GHOSTLY NETHER-WORLD.
BUT THE HOODED ONE BOTCHED IT, AND SHE WAS KILLED.
EVEN SO, SOME OF THE NETHERWORLD ESCAPED AND WE HAVE THESE UNSTABLE GHOST CIRCLES.
DO YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN UNDO THEM?
WELL, IT FEELS LIKE THE ONLY THING HOLDING THE CIRCLES HERE IS THE SMALL PIECE OF THE LOCUST THAT'S INSIDE ME. . .
I SAY THIS IS ALL HOOEY! WE'RE JUST HALLUCINATING!
SHUT UP, PHONEY! HOW DO WE GET RID OF THAT PIECE THAT'S INSIDE YOU?
GRAN'MA BEN THINKS SHE HAS FRIENDS IN ATHEIA WHO CAN HELP US.
THEN WHY THE HECK AREN'T WE GOING TO ATHEIA?!
BECAUSE I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE VILLAGERS WE LEFT AT OLD MAN'S CAVE!
. . . AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT LUCIUS - -
CAN'T YOU PEOPLE TALK SOMEWHERE ELSE? I'M TRYING TO LISTEN FOR SIGNS OF LIFE!

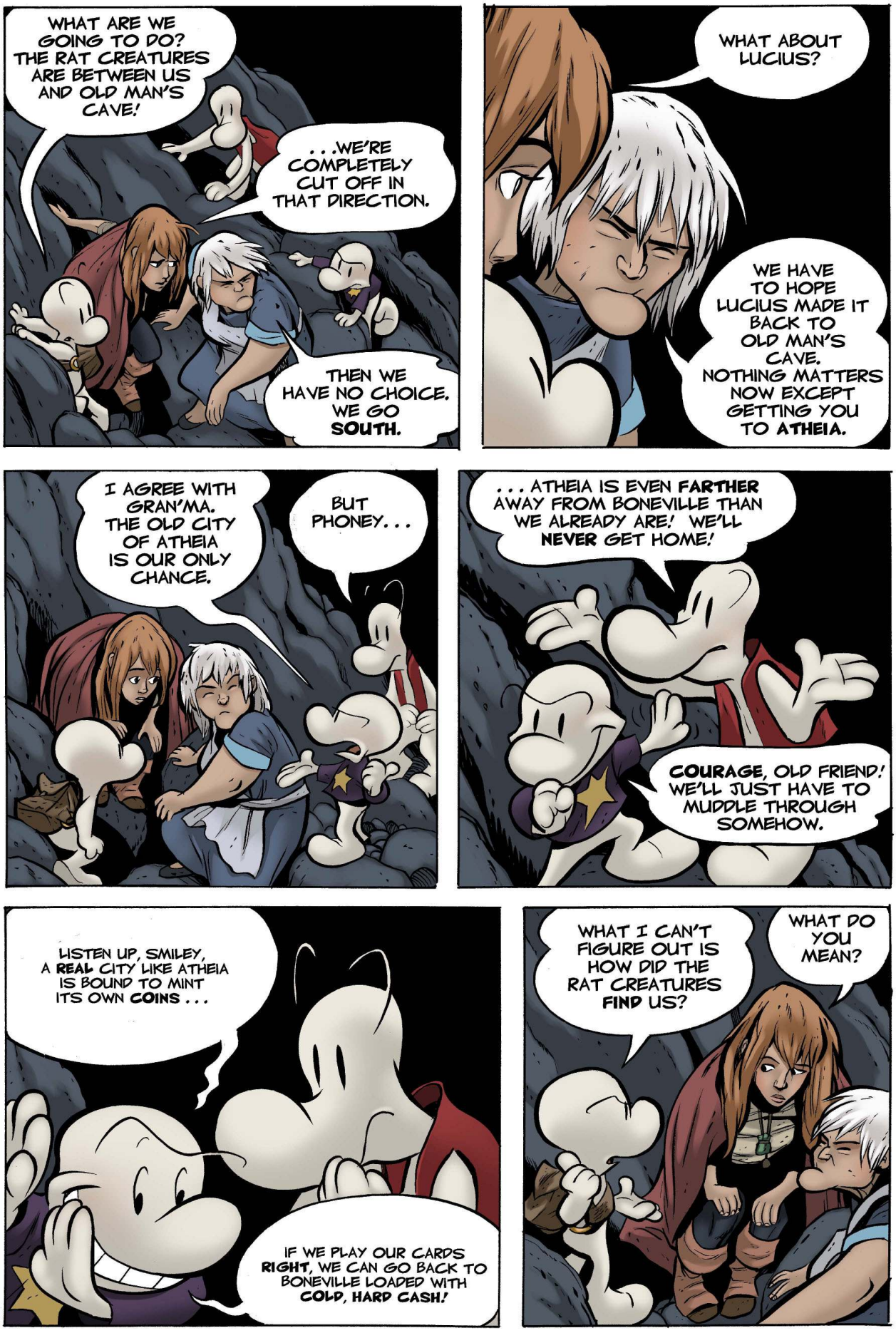

LET'S ALL STEP OVER HERE FOR A MOMENT AND LET GRAN'MA LISTEN.
THORN? WHY ISN'T THE DRAGON HELPING US?
THE DRAGONS HAVE LEFT THE VALLEY FOR GOOD, FONE BONE. THEY'VE GONE UNDERGROUND TO DREAM.
WHAT?! THEY'RE GONNA SLEEP WHILE THE RAT CREATURES AND THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS DESTROY THEIR VALLEY?!
IT'S NOT THEIR VALLEY ANYMORE. THEY FOUGHT THE LOCUST ONCE... NOW IT'S OUR TURN.
OUR TURN?! WHAT KIND OF A COP OUT IS THAT? I SAY WE WAKE 'EM UP!
GRAN'MA TRIED TO GET THE DRAGONS TO STAY, BUT THEY WOULDN'T!
YOU GUYS WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT DRAGONS!
THEY ABANDONED YOU -- FORGET ABOUT 'EM!
YOU OUGHTA BE MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT, LIKE ME!
SST!
THORN!

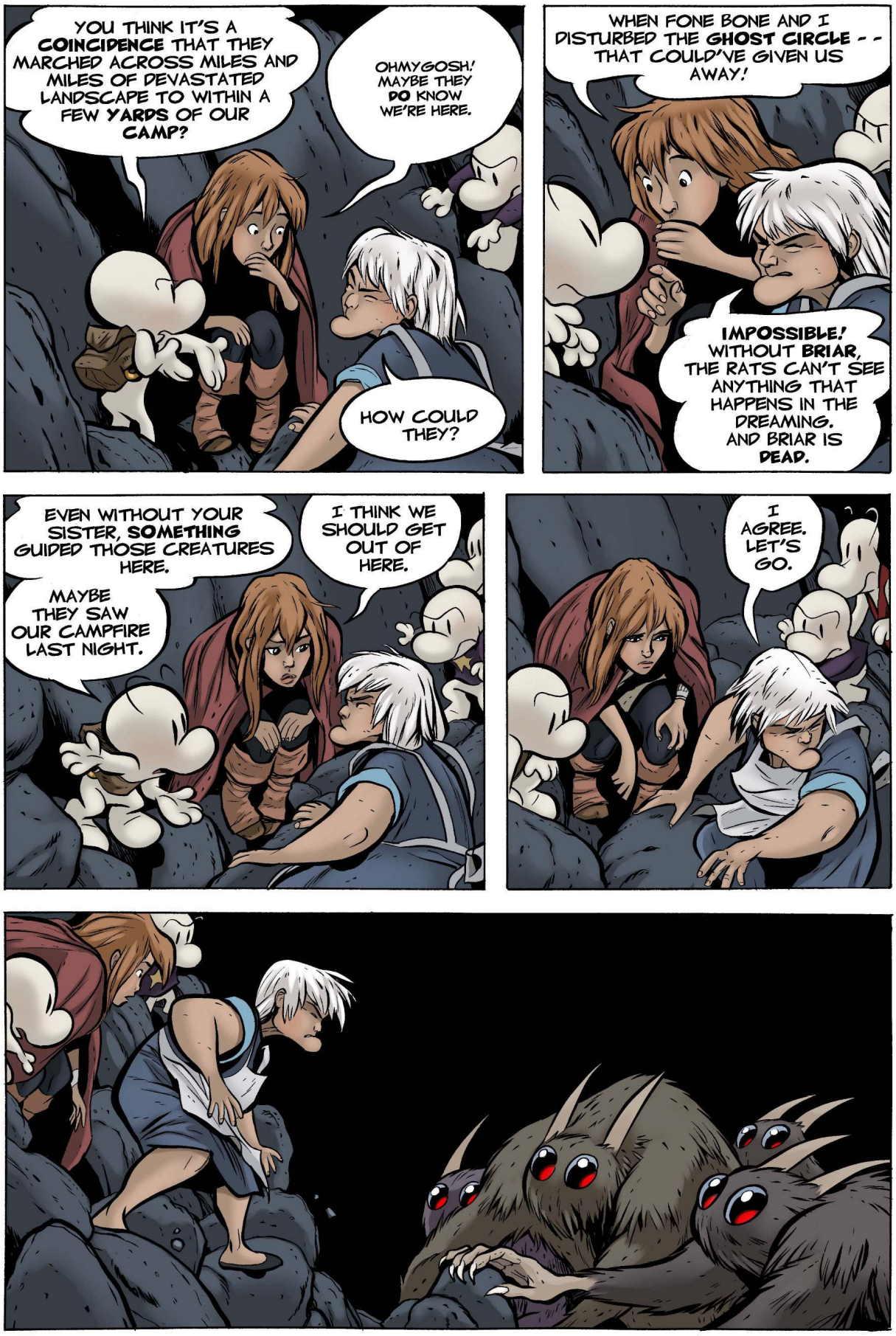

THERE'S SOMETHING MOVING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIDGE.
IT SOUNDS LIKE A LARGE GROUP.
FRIEND OR FOE?
CAN'T TELL. IS THERE A CLEAR PATH UP TO THE TOP?
NO GHOST CIRCLES. ALL CLEAR.
ALL RIGHT NOW, EVERYONE BE QUIET -- AND I MEAN IT THIS TIME!




OH, NO.
RAT CREATURES! HOW DID THEY FIND US?


THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE HERE.
COME ON, LET'S GET BACK BEFORE THEY SEE US.

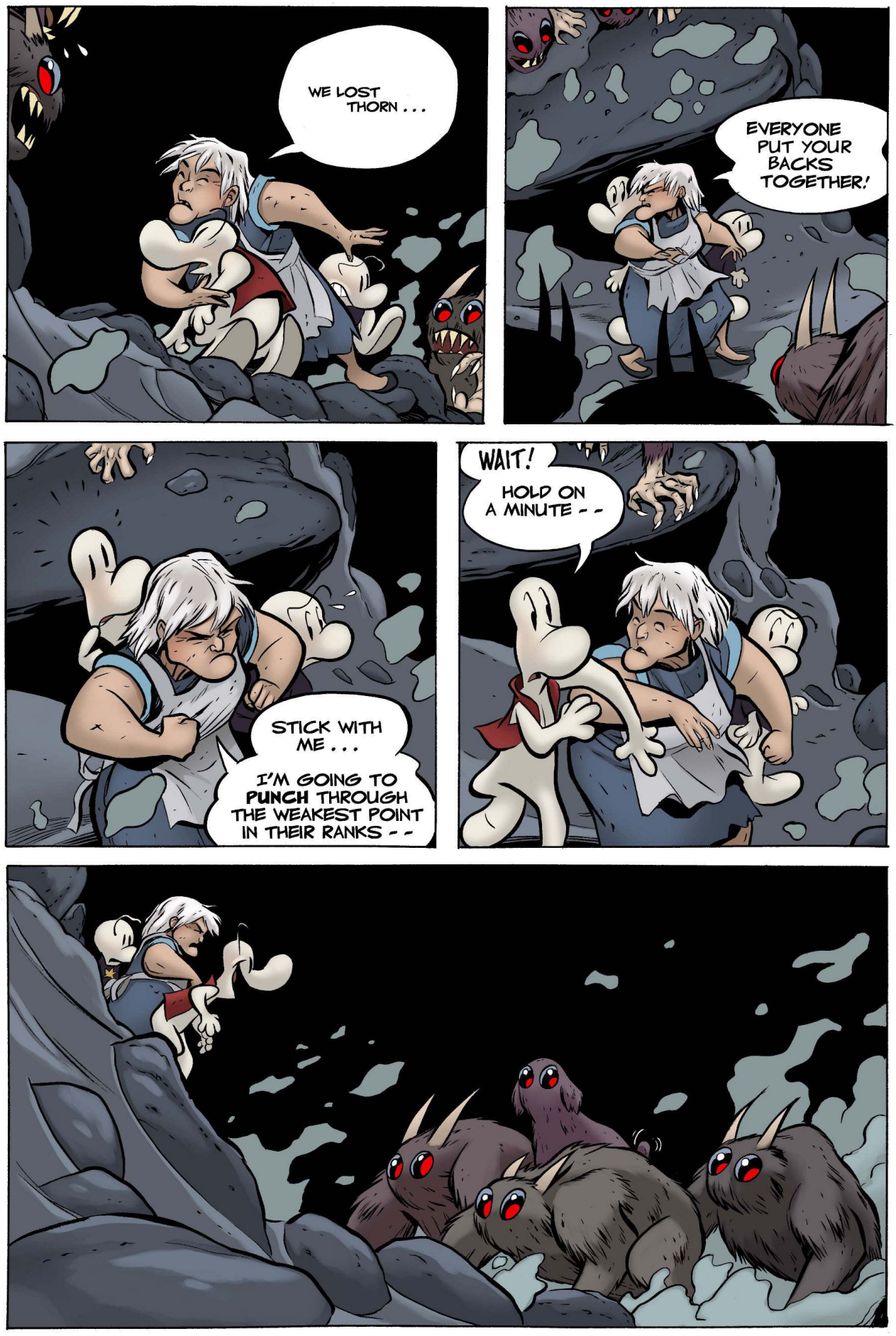

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? THE RAT CREATURES ARE BETWEEN US AND OLD MAN'S CAVE!
. . .WE'RE COMPLETELY CUT OFF IN THAT DIRECTION.
THEN WE HAVE NO CHOICE. WE GO SOUTH.
WHAT ABOUT LUCIUS?
WE HAVE TO HOPE LUCIUS MADE IT BACK TO OLD MAN'S CAVE. NOTHING MATTERS NOW EXCEPT GETTING YOU TO ATHEIA.
I AGREE WITH GRAN'MA. THE OLD CITY OF ATHEIA IS OUR ONLY CHANCE.
BUT PHONEY. . .
. . . ATHEIA IS EVEN FARTHER AWAY FROM BONEVILLE THAN WE ALREADY ARE! WE'LL NEVER GET HOME!
COURAGE, OLD FRIEND! WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MUDDLE THROUGH SOMEHOW.
LISTEN UP, SMILEY, A REAL CITY LIKE ATHEIA IS BOUND TO MINT ITS OWN COINS . . .
IF WE PLAY OUR CARDS RIGHT, WE CAN GO BACK TO BONEVILLE LOADED WITH COLD, HARD CASH!
WHAT I CAN'T FIGURE OUT IS HOW DID THE RAT CREATURES FIND US?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



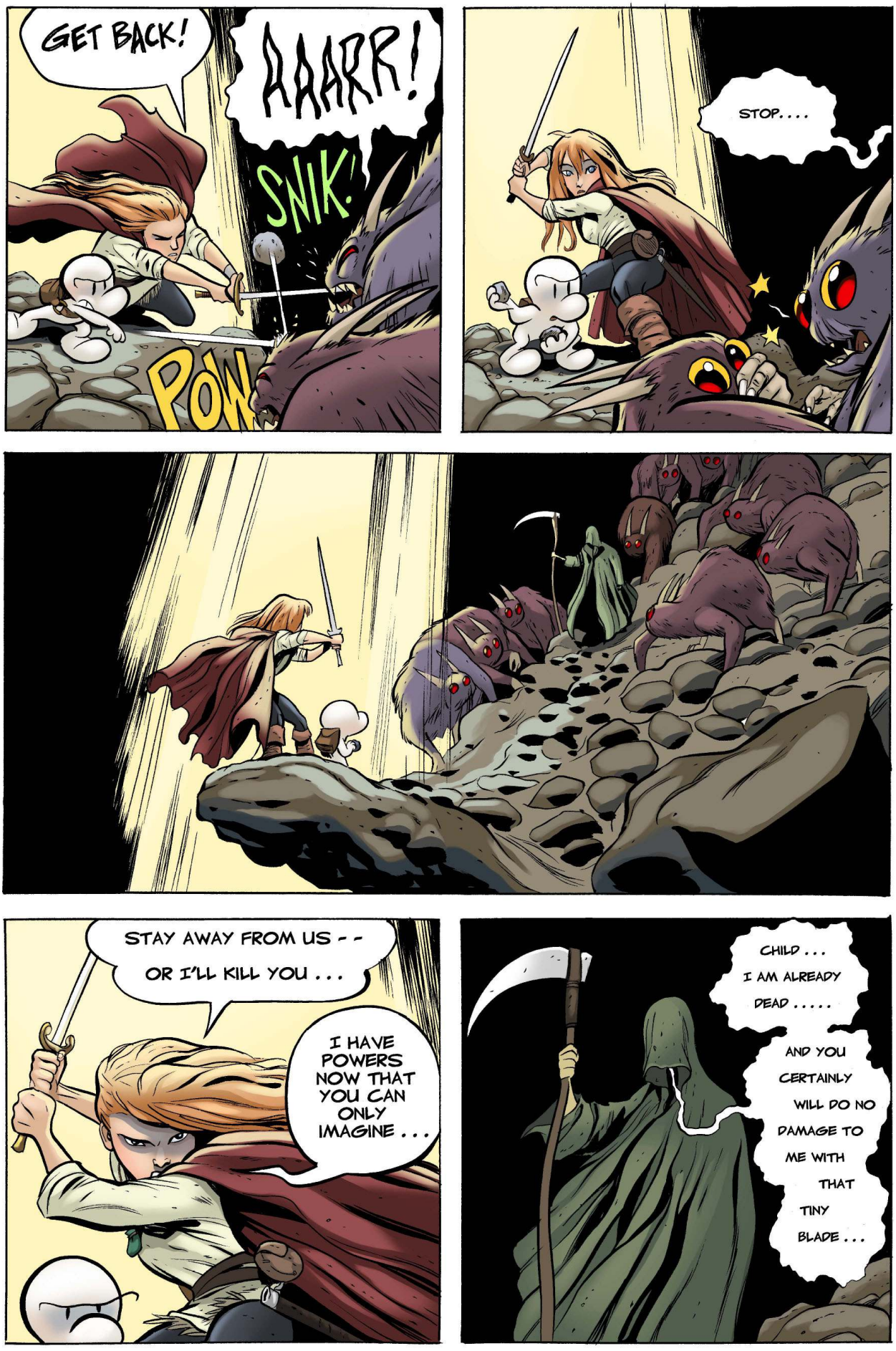
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


RUN, THORN!
THIS WAY!

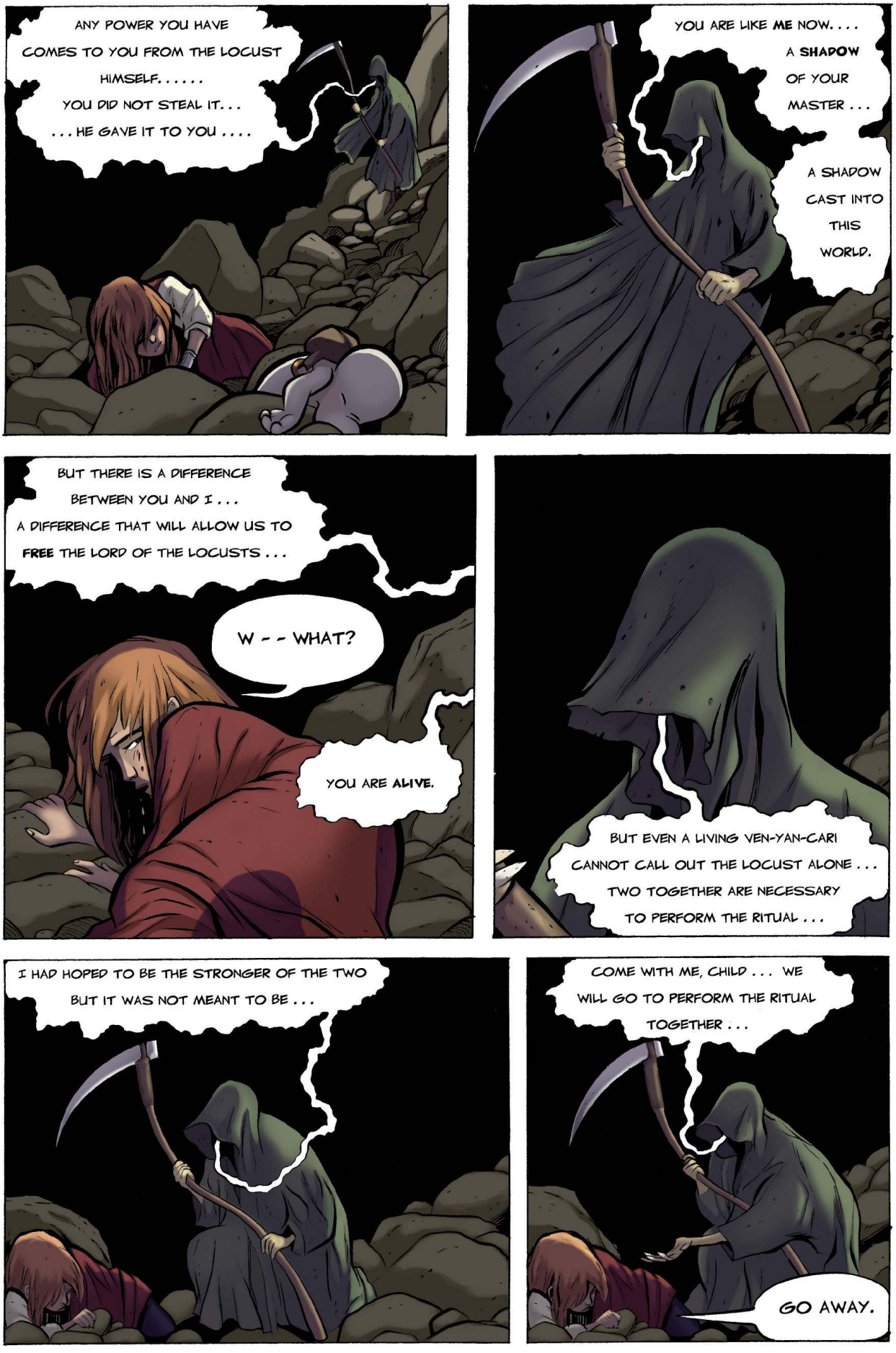



WE LOST THORN . . .
EVERYONE PUT YOUR BACKS TOGETHER!
STICK WITH ME . . .
I'M GOING TO PUNCH THROUGH THE WEAKEST POINT IN THEIR RANKS - -
WAIT!
HOLD ON A MINUTE - -


Huff! Huff!
HOW MUCH FARTHER CAN WE GO?
NOWHERE - -
IT'S STRAIGHT DOWN!


GET BACK!
AAARR!
SNIK!
POW
STOP....
STAY AWAY FROM US - -
OR I'LL KILL YOU . . .
I HAVE POWERS NOW THAT YOU CAN ONLY IMAGINE . . .
CHILD . . . I AM ALREADY DEAD . . . . .
AND YOU CERTAINLY WILL DO NO DAMAGE TO ME WITH THAT TINY BLADE . . .


NOW THIS . . .
THIS IS A BLADE.


ANY POWER YOU HAVE COMES TO YOU FROM THE LOCUST HIMSELF. . . . . .
YOU DID NOT STEAL IT. . .
. . . HE GAVE IT TO YOU . . . .
YOU ARE LIKE **ME** NOW. . . .
A **SHADOW** OF YOUR MASTER . . .
A SHADOW CAST INTO THIS WORLD.
BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND I . . .
A DIFFERENCE THAT WILL ALLOW US TO **FREE** THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS . . .
W - - WHAT?
YOU ARE **ALIVE.**
BUT EVEN A LIVING VEN-YAN-CARI CANNOT CALL OUT THE LOCUST ALONE . . .
TWO TOGETHER ARE NECESSARY TO PERFORM THE RITUAL . . .
I HAD HOPED TO BE THE STRONGER OF THE TWO BUT IT WAS NOT MEANT TO BE . . .
COME WITH ME, CHILD . . . WE WILL GO TO PERFORM THE RITUAL TOGETHER . . .
GO AWAY.

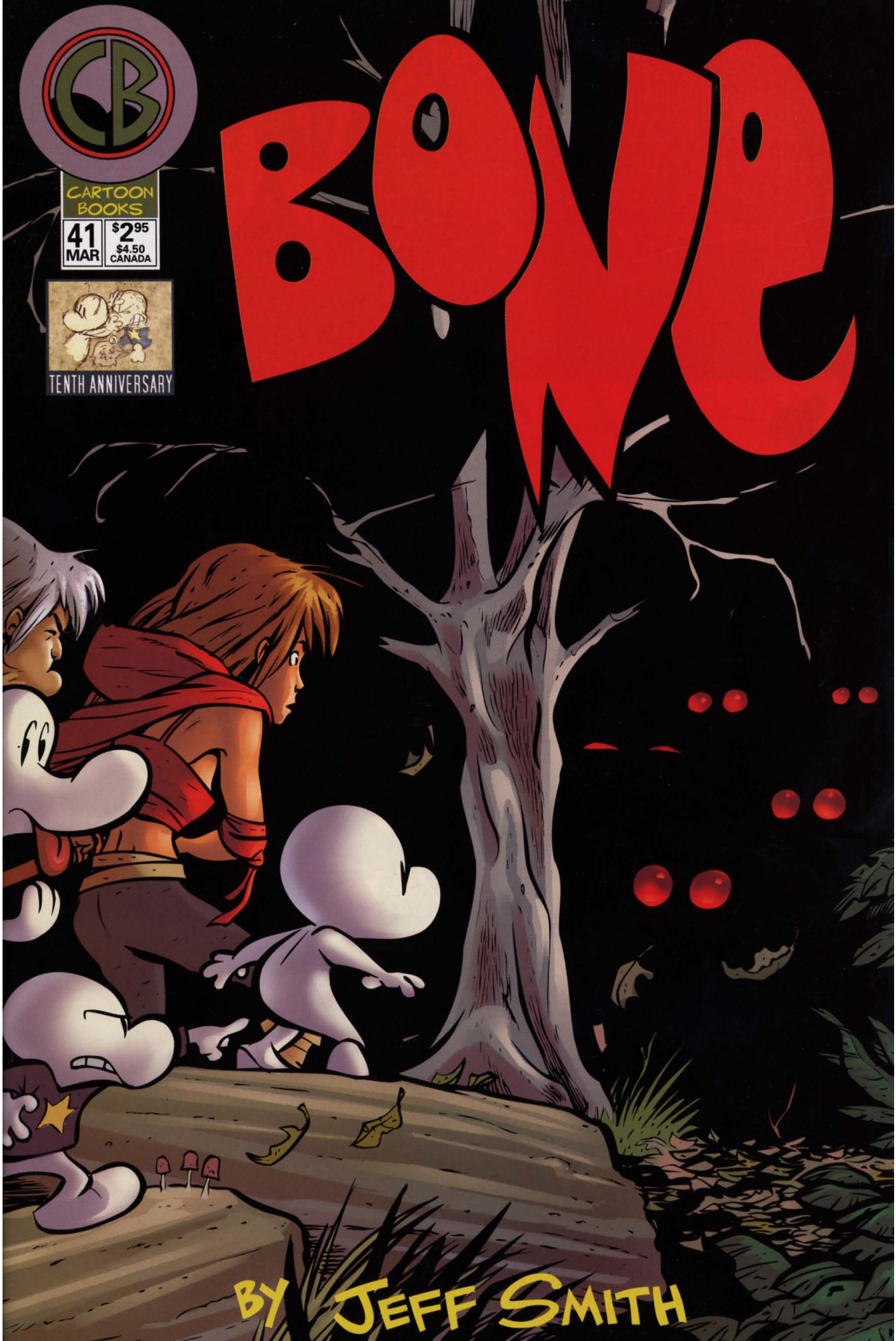

DO NOT DECIDE TOO QUICKLY . . .
WITH THE POWER OF THE LOCUST YOU WILL BE ABLE TO **UNDO** THE GHOST CIRCLES . . .
YOU CAN RESTORE THE VALLEY . . .
IS THAT NOT WHAT YOU WANT?
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BRIAR.
I KNOW IT WAS YOU WHO TOLD THE RAT CREATURES WHERE TO FIND MY MOTHER AND FATHER SO YOU COULD **KILL** THEM!
IT WAS NOT I WHO KILLED YOUR PARENTS . . .
BUT **THEY** WHO KILLED **ME** . . . .
LIAR!
BUT IF I HAD, COULD YOU BLAME ME? YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY TREATED ME LIKE AN OLD NURSEMAID.
NO ONE KNEW I WAS A **VENI-YAN-CARI** LIKE YOU . . .
YES, I LED THEM TO THE RATS.
BUT WHEN YOUR MOTHER REALIZED I WAS KIDNAPPING YOU FOR THE **RITUAL** . . .
. . . YOUR FATHER CUT ME IN HALF WITH AN OLD ABANDONED FARM TOOL.
ONLY LATER DID I LEARN THAT YOUR PARENTS WERE **EATEN ALIVE**. . .
uhh...
THE WORLD IS FILLED WITH DARK TRUTHS, YOUNG ONE . . . AND ONE TRUTH I HAVE LEARNED IS DESTINY ALWAYS PREVAILS . . .
NOW **RISE** . . . TAKE MY HAND.
ON THE NEXT FULL MOON WE WILL PERFORM THE RITUAL . . .

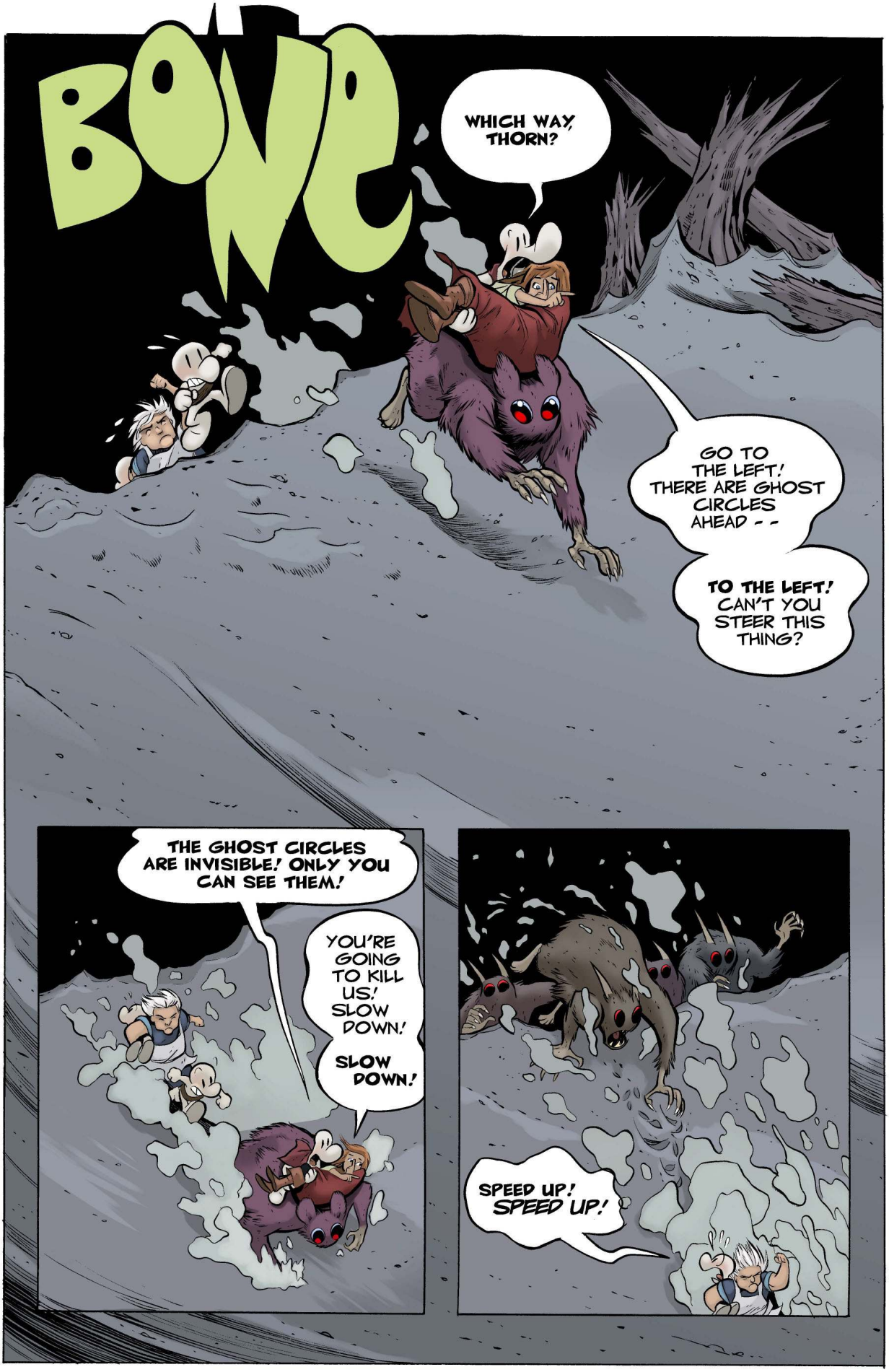

YOU HAVE THE LOCUST INSIDE YOU NOW . . . IT CONTROLS YOU . . . IT WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO RESIST . . .
SPLAT!
YOU KNOW WHAT? I HAVE JUST ABOUT HAD IT WITH YOU.
FIRST YOU MESSED WITH MY COUSIN, NOW YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH MY GIRL!
LET'S GO - -
RIGHT NOW!
THERE IS A PIECE OF THE LOCUST INSIDE OF YOU AS WELL . . .
WHAT?


. . . HEH . . .
HEH . . . HEH . .
FROM THE VERY BEGINING
THE DREAMS SHOWED ME THAT A BONE CREATURE
WOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS AFFAIR . . .
. . . I JUST HAD THE WRONG ONE . . .
HEH HEH..
HOWEVER, SINCE **THIS** BONE WOULD CLEARLY BE A WEAKER PARTNER . . .
. . . THAT MEANS I NO LONGER NEED **YOU**, PRINCESS - -
LOOK OUT!


YAH! YAH!
GOOD ONE, BARTLEBY! QUICK-- GO BACK!
SCREECH!
HIYA, FONE BONE!
REMEMBER BARTLEBY? HE HELPED PHONEY, GRAN'MA BEN AN' ME GET AWAY!
GO! GO! GET THORN ON THAT RAT CREATURE AND RIDE!
WHAT ABOUT THE GHOST CIRCLES?
I CAN GUIDE YOU.


CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, FONE BONE? OUR LITTLE BARTLEBY'S BACK!
AN' LOOK HOW HE'S GROWN!
MESSIN' WITH YOUR GIRL, HUH?
oh, JEEZ. . .

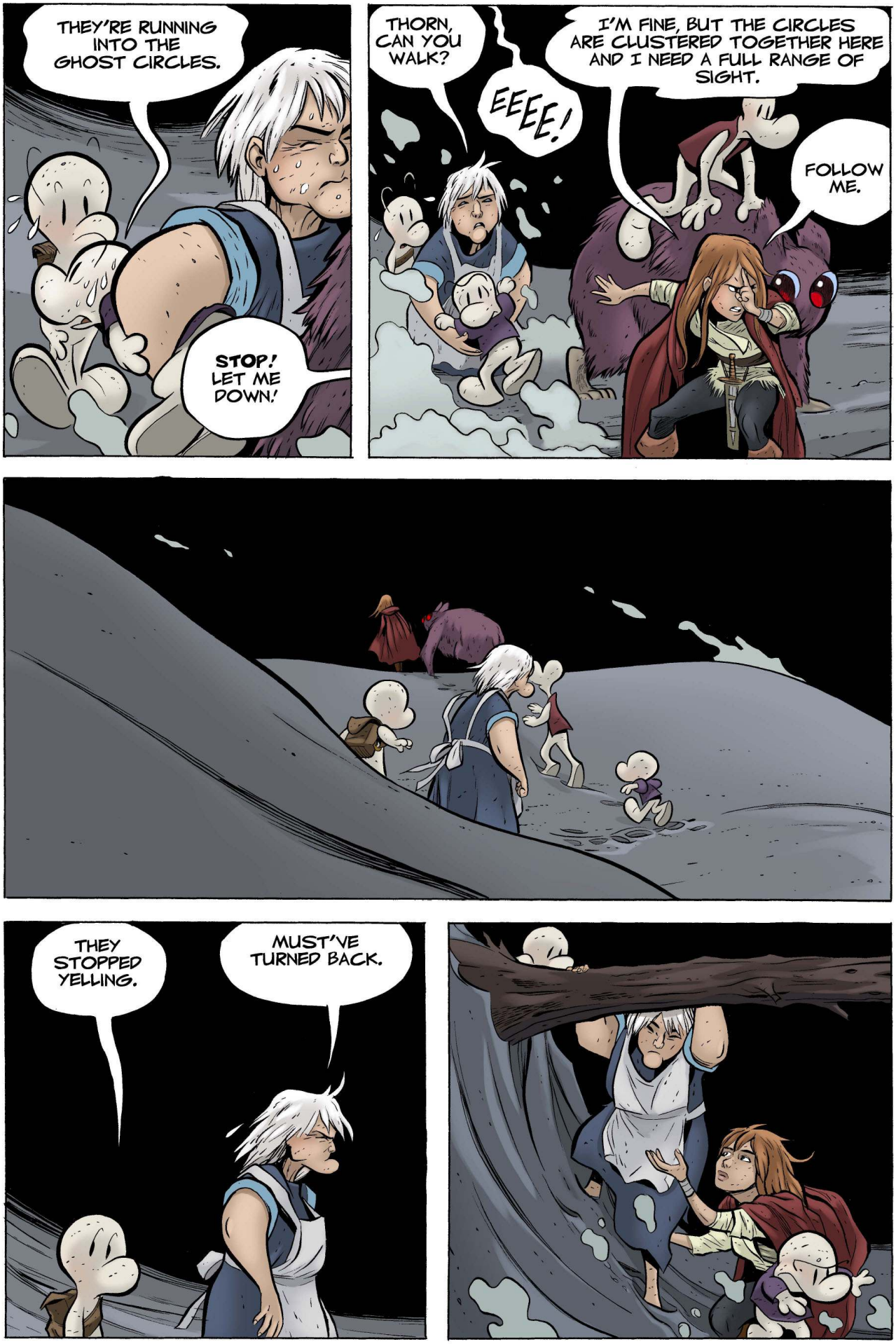

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
41 MAR
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
TENTH ANNIVERSARY
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

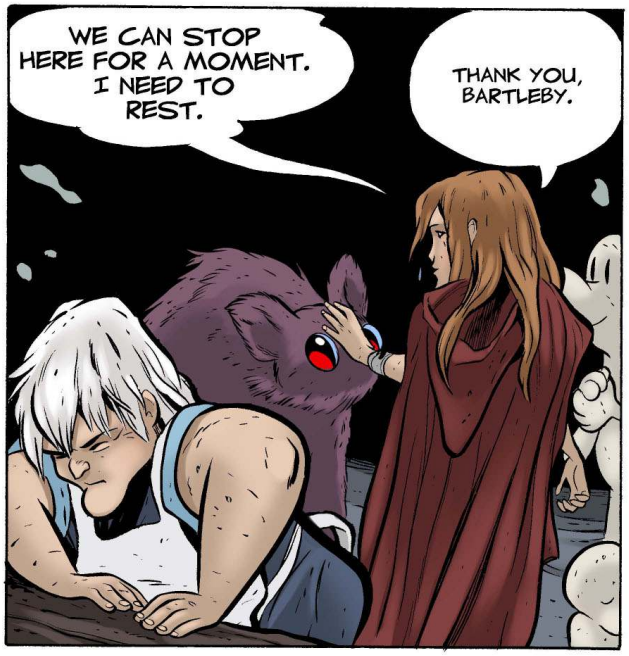


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


FONE BONE! GRAN'MA! LISTEN TO ME!
THIS IS ABOUT TO GET REAL DANGEROUS!
!
WE'RE ENTERING A MASSIVE FIELD OF GHOST CIRCLES!

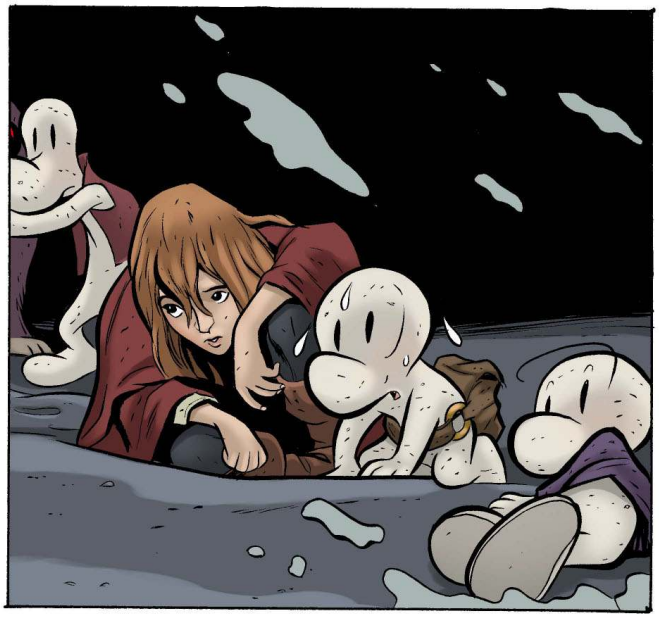

AAIEE--
ZFFT!
AAAH!
YIII!
AAA
THE RAT CREATURES ARE DISAPPEARING!
DON'T LOOK!
AAAIEE!
AAH!
SINGLE FILE! GO SLOW!
PFFT!
AAEE
PPF
FFF
SHRRAK!

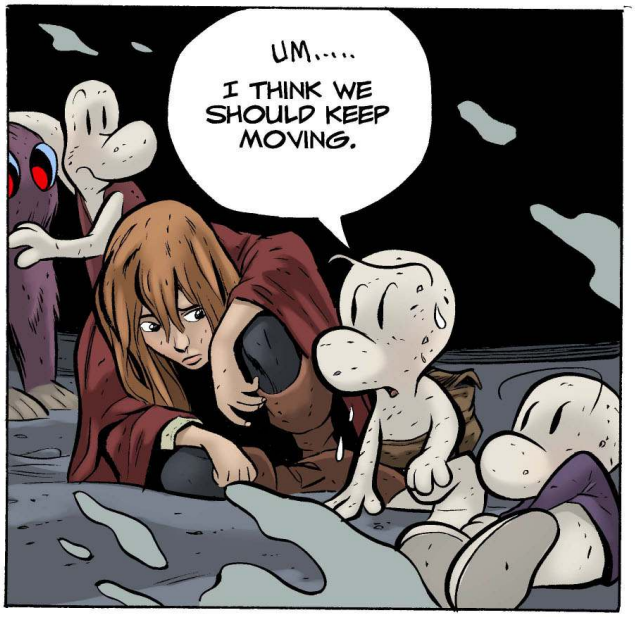

THEY'RE RUNNING INTO THE GHOST CIRCLES.
STOP! LET ME DOWN!
THORN, CAN YOU WALK?
EEEE!
I'M FINE, BUT THE CIRCLES ARE CLUSTERED TOGETHER HERE AND I NEED A FULL RANGE OF SIGHT.
FOLLOW ME.
THEY STOPPED YELLING.
MUST'VE TURNED BACK.


WE CAN STOP HERE FOR A MOMENT. I NEED TO REST.
THANK YOU, BARTLEBY.



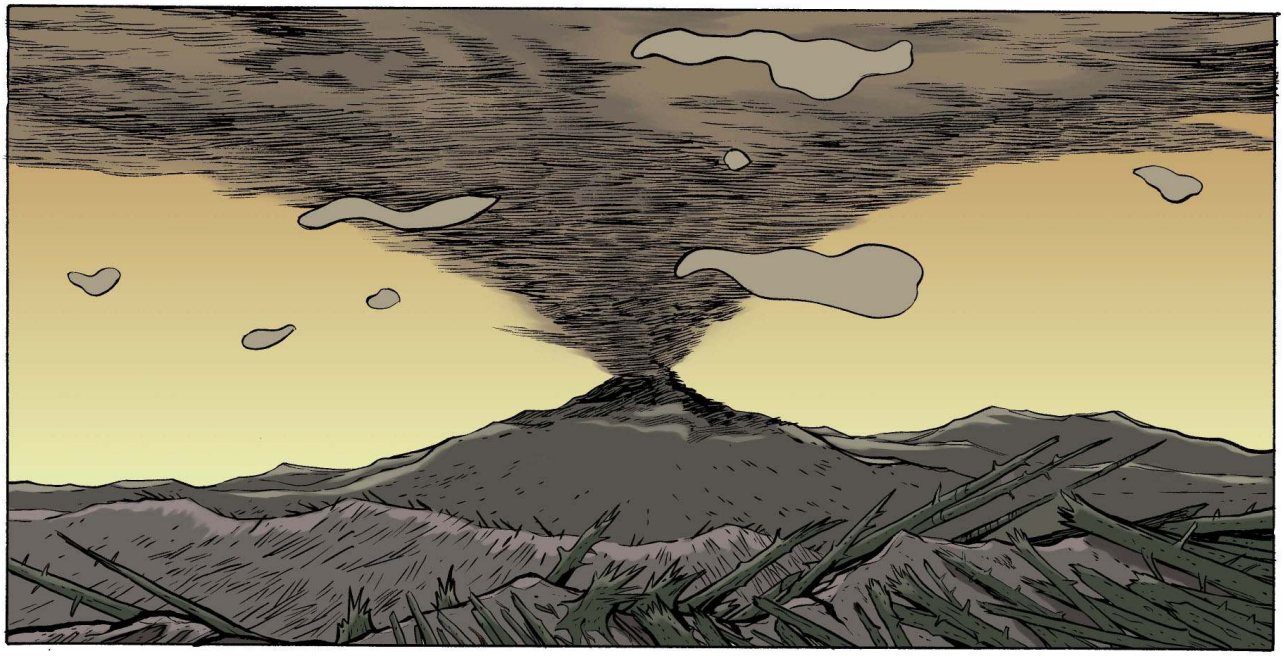

WHAT A WORLD.
BRIAR IS STILL ALIVE . . .
. . . AND EVERYONE ELSE EXCEPT US IS DEAD.




UM.....
I THINK WE SHOULD KEEP MOVING.


WE'RE NOT SAFE YET, SO LET'S KEEP HEADING SOUTH.


GO ON, THORN, SHOW US THE WAY.



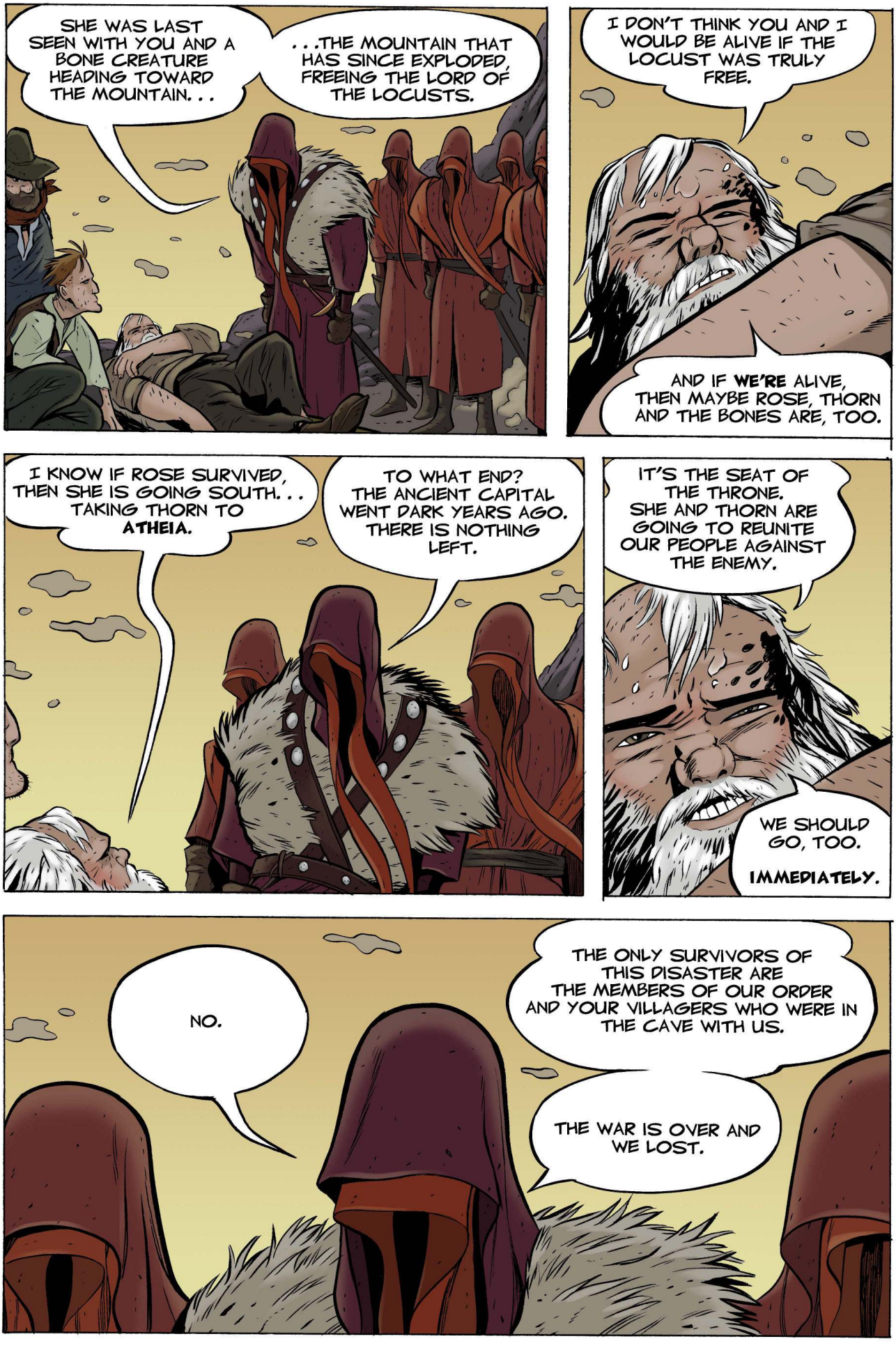




Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

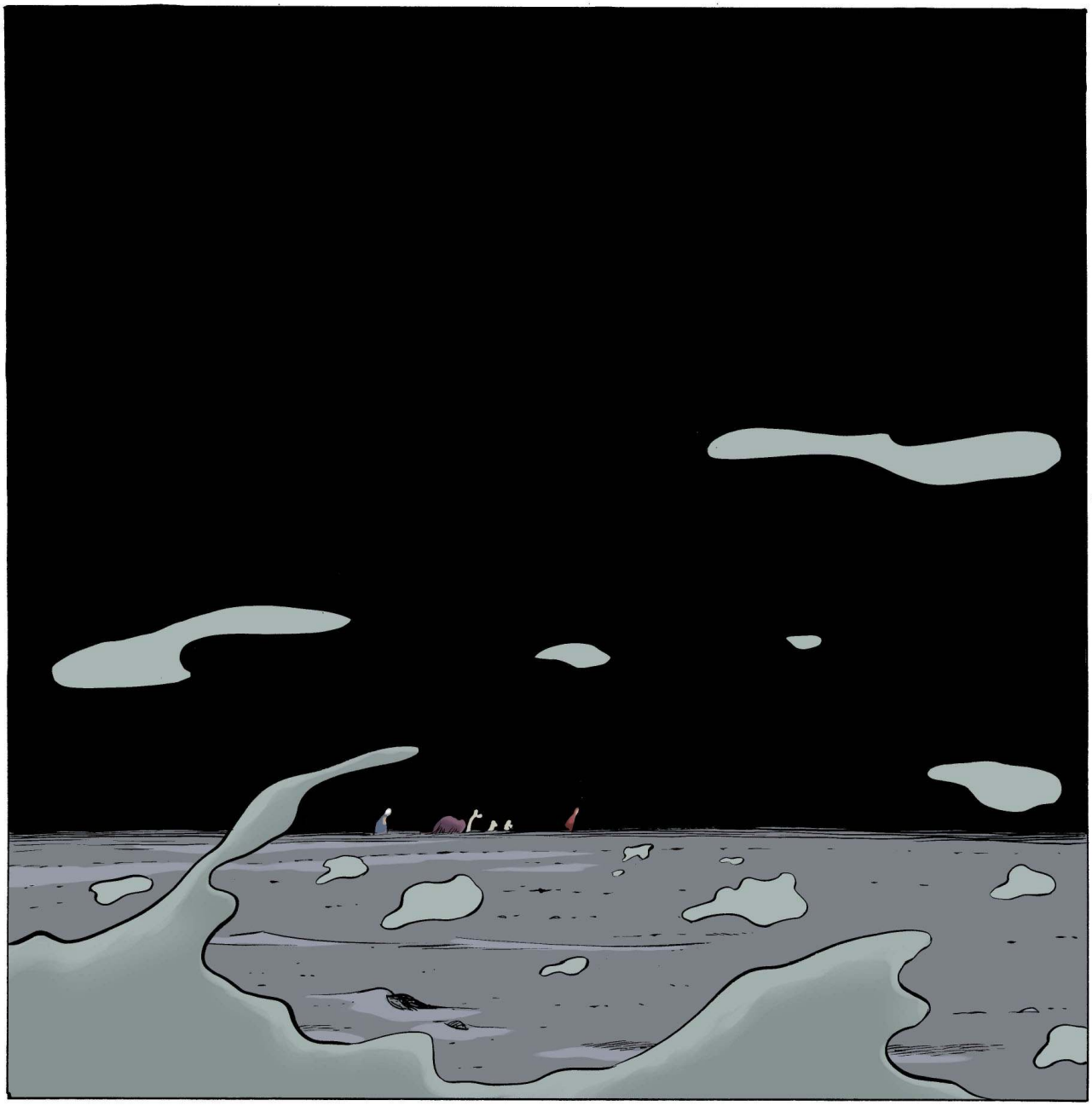

LUCIUS? CAN YOU HEAR ME?
WENDELL - - ?
YOU'RE SAFE, BUDDY. YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
DON'T REMEMBER MUCH AFTER TH' BLAST. . .
IS JONATHAN HERE?
YEAH . . .
YEAH, HE'S GOOD - - HE'S HERE. DON'T THINK ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW.
WHY AREN'T YOU LOOKIN' ME IN THE EYE, WENDELL? WHAT HAPPENED?
NO.
NOT JONATHAN.
oh... hhhf--
DON'T MOVE. WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU CLEANED UP. . .
IT'S ALL MY FAULT, WENDELL!
IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

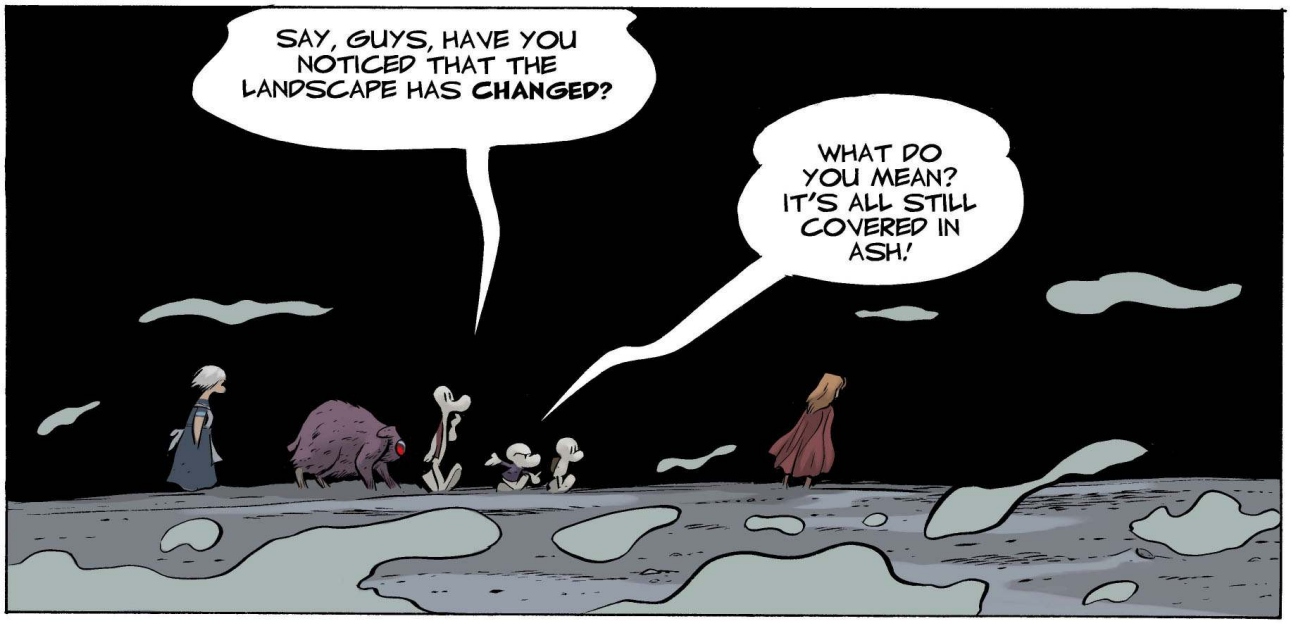

I WOULDN'T SHOUT THAT IF I WERE YOU, FRIEND.
THERE'S PLENTY AROUND HERE LOOKIN' TO PIN BLAME - -
SST.
HEADS UP.
HERE COMES THE HEADMASTER.
STAND ASIDE, FARMER.
DON'T GET UP, LUCIUS.
WHERE ARE THEY?
YOU MEAN ROSE?
YES, THE QUEEN MOTHER AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER.
WHERE ARE THEY?
IF THEY'RE NOT HERE, THEN I DON'T KNOW.

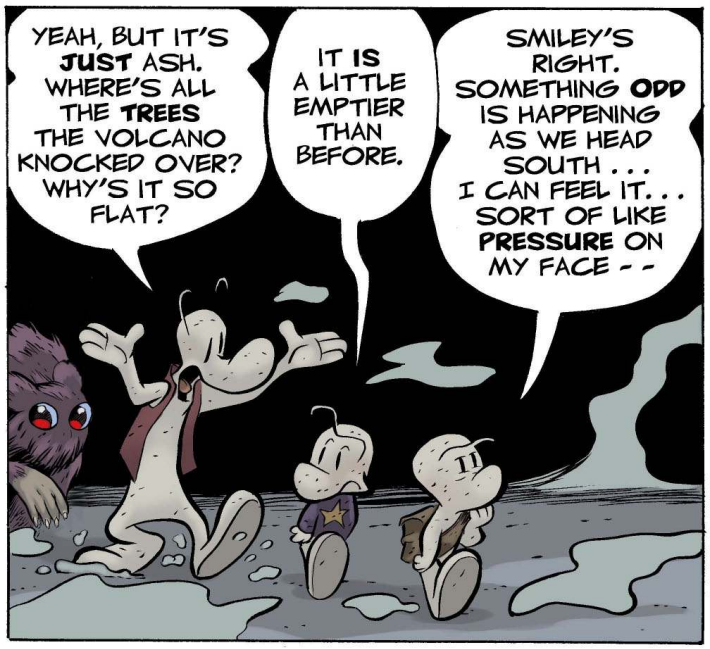

SHE WAS LAST SEEN WITH YOU AND A BONE CREATURE HEADING TOWARD THE MOUNTAIN. . .
. . .THE MOUNTAIN THAT HAS SINCE EXPLODED, FREEING THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.
I DON'T THINK YOU AND I WOULD BE ALIVE IF THE LOCUST WAS TRULY FREE.
AND IF **WE'RE** ALIVE, THEN MAYBE ROSE, THORN AND THE BONES ARE, TOO.
I KNOW IF ROSE SURVIVED, THEN SHE IS GOING SOUTH. . . TAKING THORN TO **ATHEIA.**
TO WHAT END? THE ANCIENT CAPITAL WENT DARK YEARS AGO. THERE IS NOTHING LEFT.
IT'S THE SEAT OF THE THRONE. SHE AND THORN ARE GOING TO REUNITE OUR PEOPLE AGAINST THE ENEMY.
WE SHOULD GO, TOO. **IMMEDIATELY.**
NO.
THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF THIS DISASTER ARE THE MEMBERS OF OUR ORDER AND YOUR VILLAGERS WHO WERE IN THE CAVE WITH US.
THE WAR IS OVER AND WE LOST.


YOU DON'T KNOW THAT. THERE COULD BE OTHER SURVIVORS - -
WE DO NOT SHARE YOUR OPTIMISTIC VIEW.
THE LOCUST IS FREE, AND THE END TIMES ARE UPON US.
WE WILL DO WHATEVER WE MUST TO PRESERVE OUR WAY OF LIFE
SHING
TAKE LUCIUS TO THE INFIRMARY AND PLACE A GUARD AROUND HIM.
HE IS A **TRAITOR** TO THE QUEEN.
SHING! SHING!
SHING!



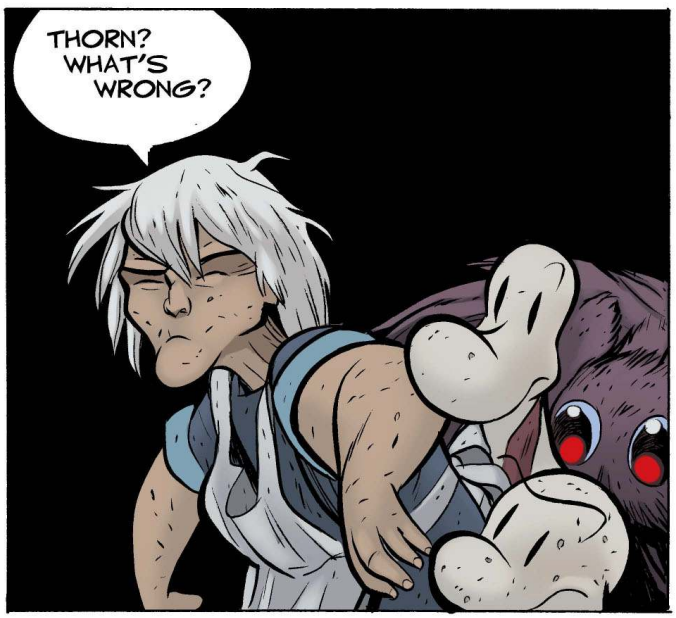


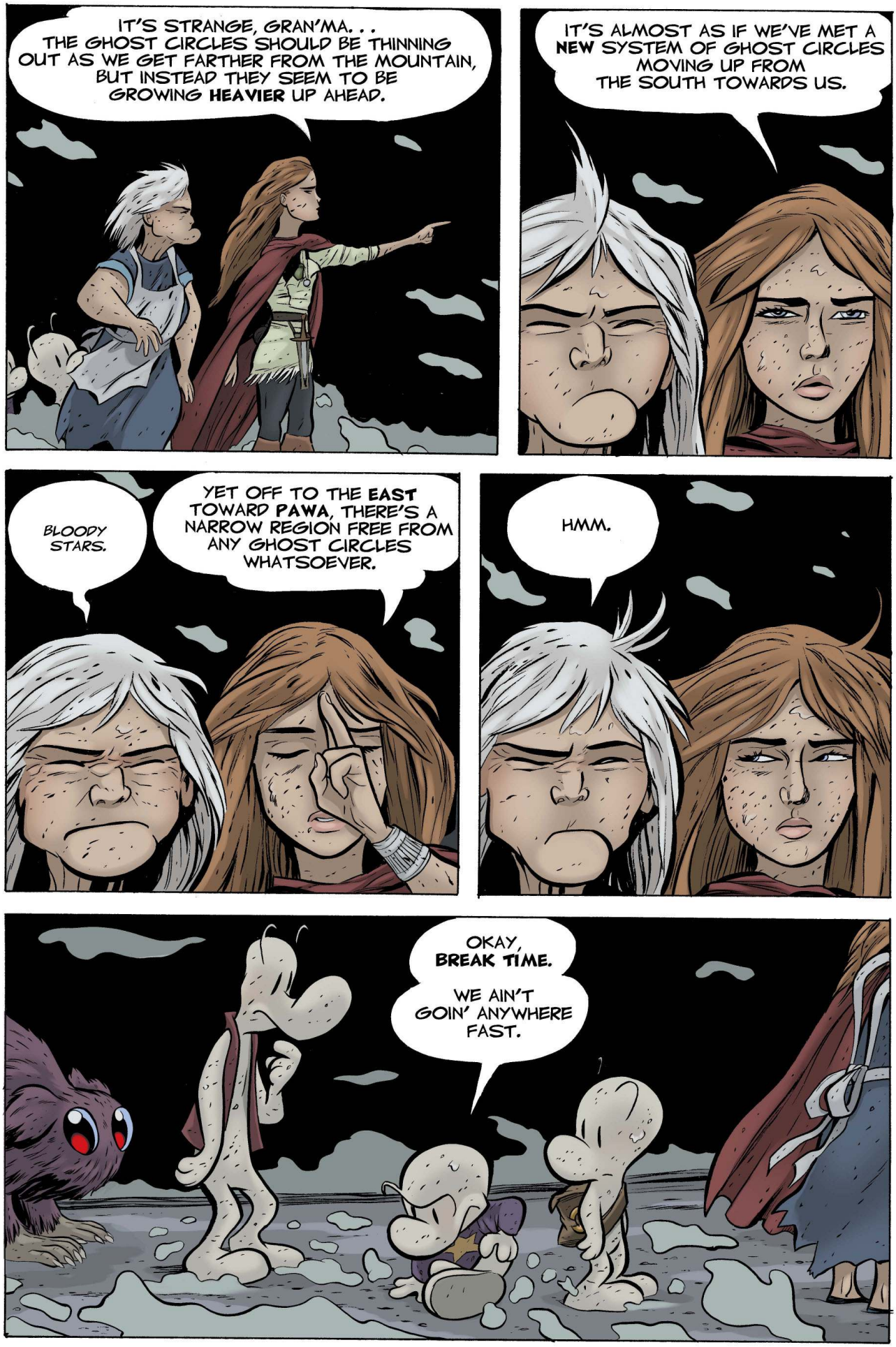

SAY, GUYS, HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT THE LANDSCAPE HAS **CHANGED?**
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IT'S ALL STILL COVERED IN ASH!

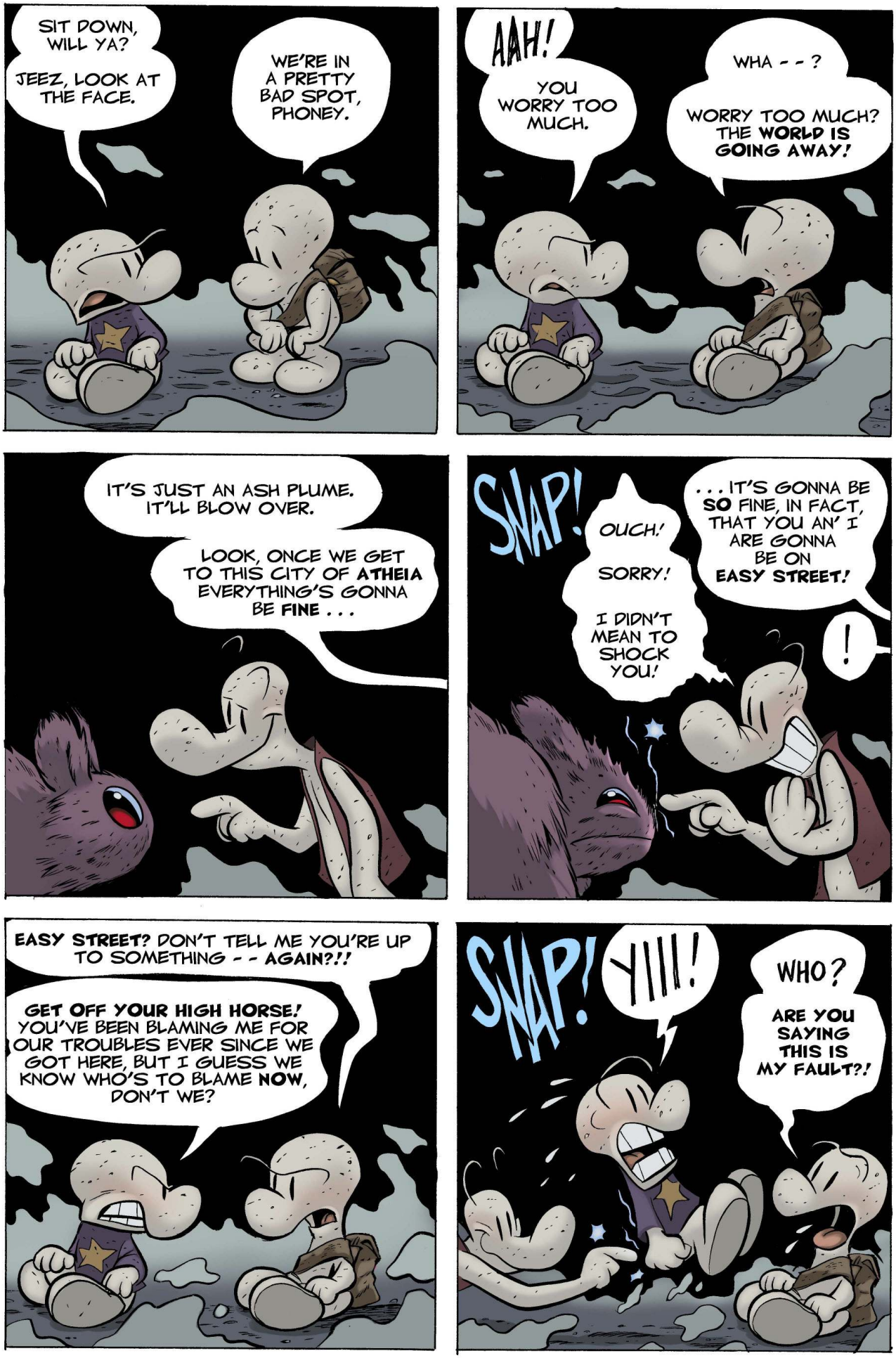

YEAH, BUT IT'S **JUST** ASH. WHERE'S ALL THE **TREES** THE VOLCANO KNOCKED OVER? WHY'S IT SO FLAT?
IT **IS** A LITTLE EMPTIER THAN BEFORE.
SMILEY'S RIGHT. SOMETHING **ODD** IS HAPPENING AS WE HEAD SOUTH . . . I CAN FEEL IT. . . SORT OF LIKE **PRESSURE** ON MY FACE - -

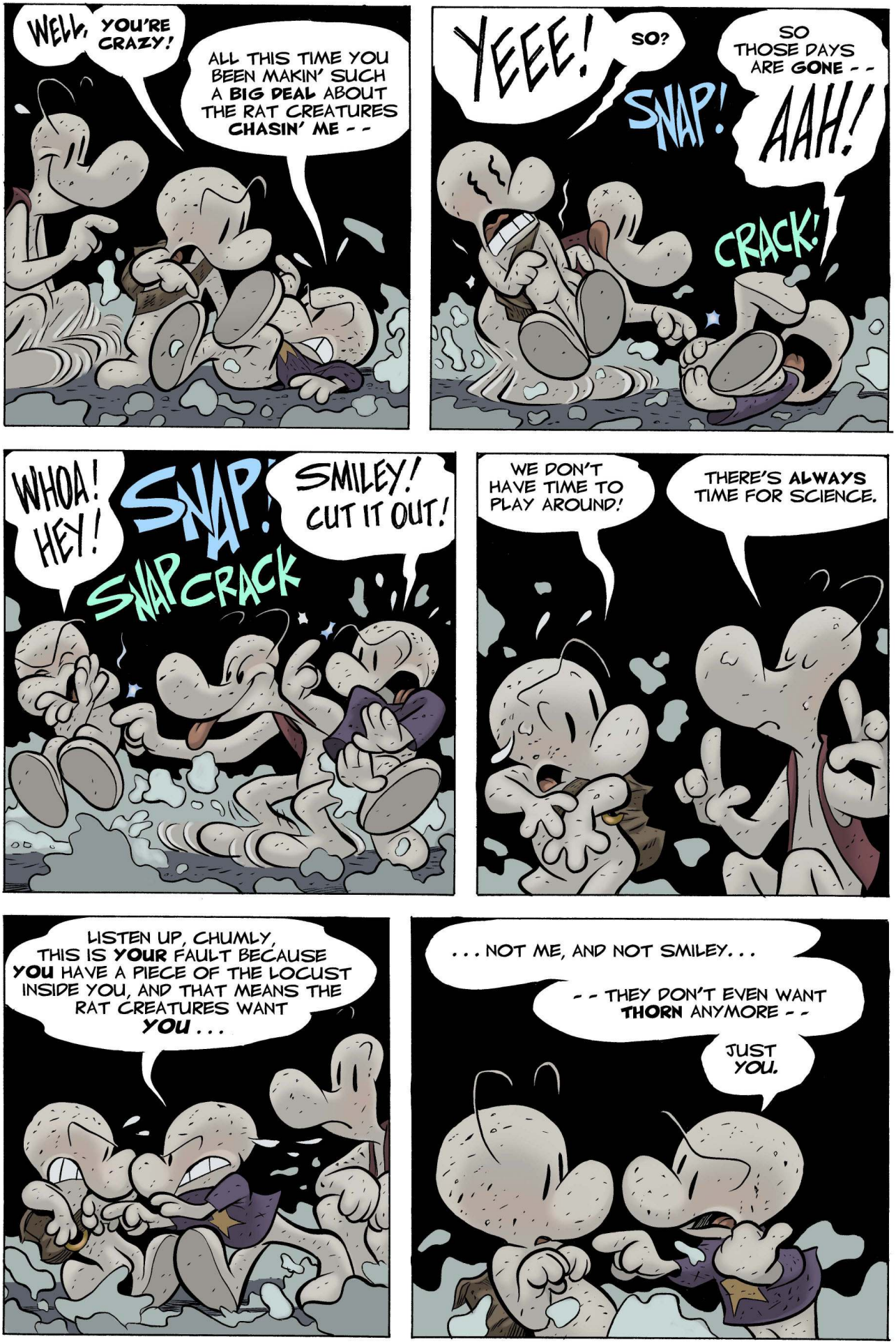

STOP.

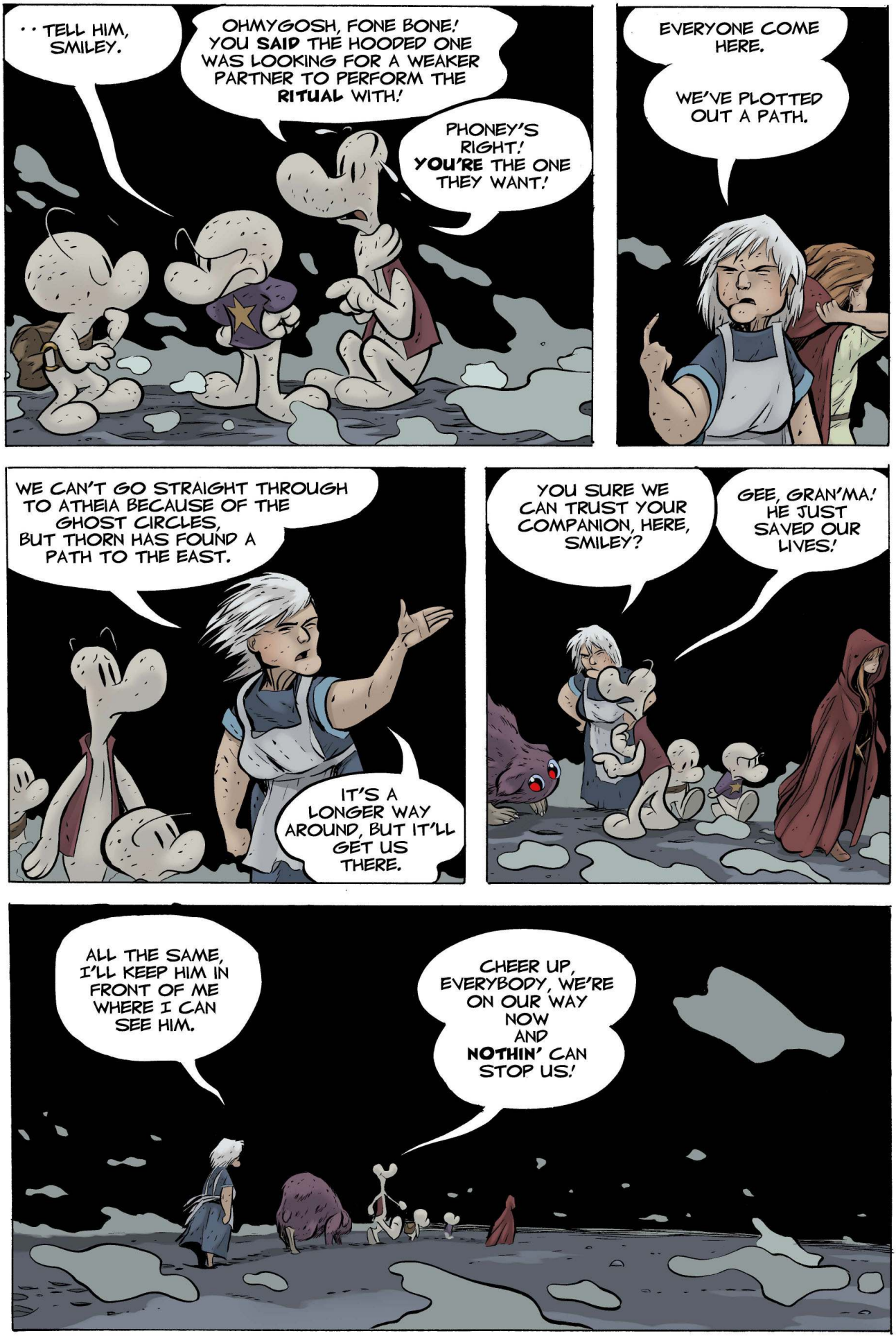


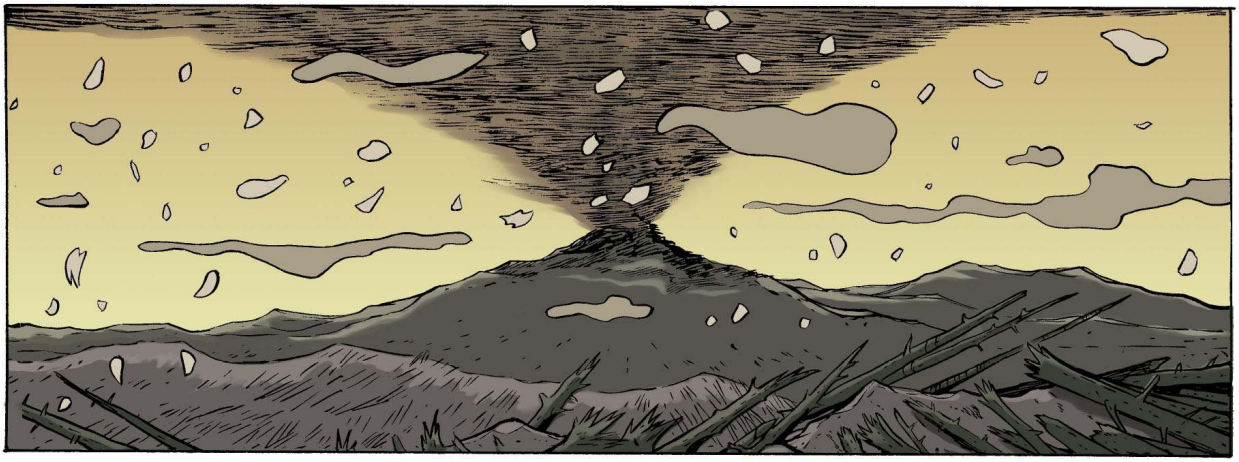

THORN? WHAT'S WRONG?


IT'S STRANGE, GRAN'MA. . .
THE GHOST CIRCLES SHOULD BE THINNING OUT AS WE GET FARTHER FROM THE MOUNTAIN, BUT INSTEAD THEY SEEM TO BE GROWING **HEAVIER** UP AHEAD.
IT'S ALMOST AS IF WE'VE MET A **NEW** SYSTEM OF GHOST CIRCLES MOVING UP FROM THE SOUTH TOWARDS US.
BLOODY STARS.
YET OFF TO THE **EAST** TOWARD **PAWA**, THERE'S A NARROW REGION FREE FROM ANY GHOST CIRCLES WHATSOEVER.
HMM.
OKAY, **BREAK TIME.**
WE AIN'T GOIN' ANYWHERE FAST.


SIT DOWN, WILL YA?
JEEZ, LOOK AT THE FACE.
WE'RE IN A PRETTY BAD SPOT, PHONEY.
AAH!
YOU WORRY TOO MUCH.
WHA - - ?
WORRY TOO MUCH? THE WORLD IS GOING AWAY!
IT'S JUST AN ASH PLUME. IT'LL BLOW OVER.
LOOK, ONCE WE GET TO THIS CITY OF ATHEIA EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE FINE . . .
SNAP!
OUCH!
SORRY!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SHOCK YOU!
. . . IT'S GONNA BE SO FINE, IN FACT, THAT YOU AN' I ARE GONNA BE ON EASY STREET!
!
EASY STREET? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE UP TO SOMETHING - - AGAIN?!!
GET OFF YOUR HIGH HORSE! YOU'VE BEEN BLAMING ME FOR OUR TROUBLES EVER SINCE WE GOT HERE, BUT I GUESS WE KNOW WHO'S TO BLAME NOW, DON'T WE?
SNAP!
YIII!
WHO?
ARE YOU SAYING THIS IS MY FAULT?!


WELL, YOU'RE CRAZY!
ALL THIS TIME YOU BEEN MAKIN' SUCH A BIG DEAL ABOUT THE RAT CREATURES CHASIN' ME - -
YEEE!
SO?
SNAP!
SO THOSE DAYS ARE GONE - -
AAH!
CRACK!
WHOA! HEY!
SNAP!
SNAP CRACK
SMILEY! CUT IT OUT!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY AROUND!
THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR SCIENCE.
LISTEN UP, CHUMLY, THIS IS YOUR FAULT BECAUSE YOU HAVE A PIECE OF THE LOCUST INSIDE YOU, AND THAT MEANS THE RAT CREATURES WANT YOU . . .
. . . NOT ME, AND NOT SMILEY. . .
- - THEY DON'T EVEN WANT THORN ANYMORE - -
JUST YOU.


. . TELL HIM, SMILEY.
OHMYGOSH, FONE BONE! YOU SAID THE HOODED ONE WAS LOOKING FOR A WEAKER PARTNER TO PERFORM THE RITUAL WITH!
PHONEY'S RIGHT! YOU'RE THE ONE THEY WANT!
EVERYONE COME HERE.
WE'VE PLOTTED OUT A PATH.
WE CAN'T GO STRAIGHT THROUGH TO ATHEIA BECAUSE OF THE GHOST CIRCLES, BUT THORN HAS FOUND A PATH TO THE EAST.
IT'S A LONGER WAY AROUND, BUT IT'LL GET US THERE.
YOU SURE WE CAN TRUST YOUR COMPANION, HERE, SMILEY?
GEE, GRAN'MA! HE JUST SAVED OUR LIVES!
ALL THE SAME, I'LL KEEP HIM IN FRONT OF ME WHERE I CAN SEE HIM.
CHEER UP, EVERYBODY, WE'RE ON OUR WAY NOW AND NOTHIN' CAN STOP US!





Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

CARTOON BOOKS

42 MAY

$2.95 $4.50 CANADA

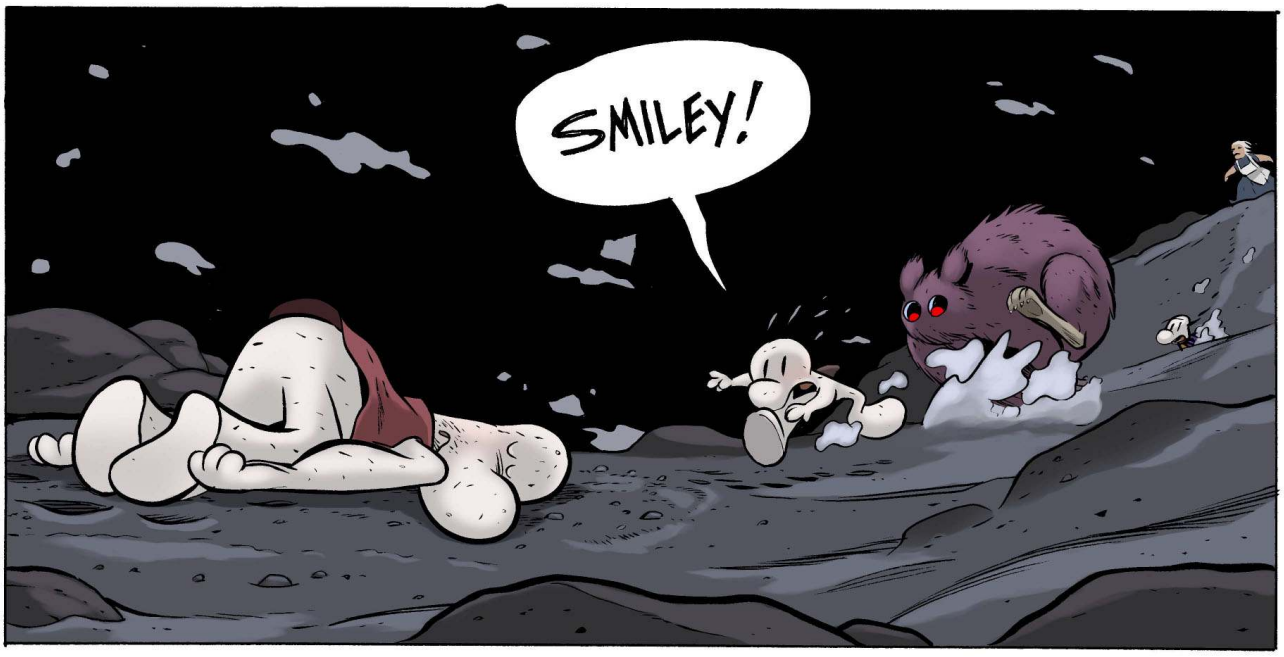


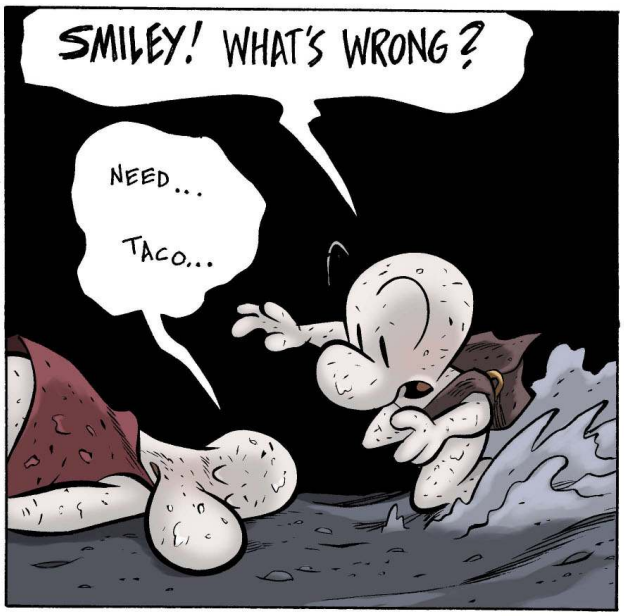
TENTH ANNIVERSARY

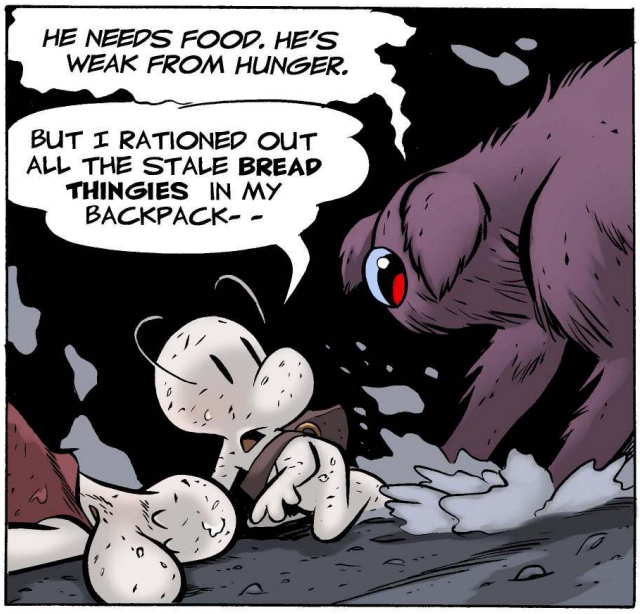
BONE

BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
BONE!
BONE!
WHAT'S WRONG, BARTLEBY?
IT'S SMILEY! HE FELL!
OHMYGOSH.
BE CAREFUL! DON'T STEP INTO ANY GHOST CIRCLES!

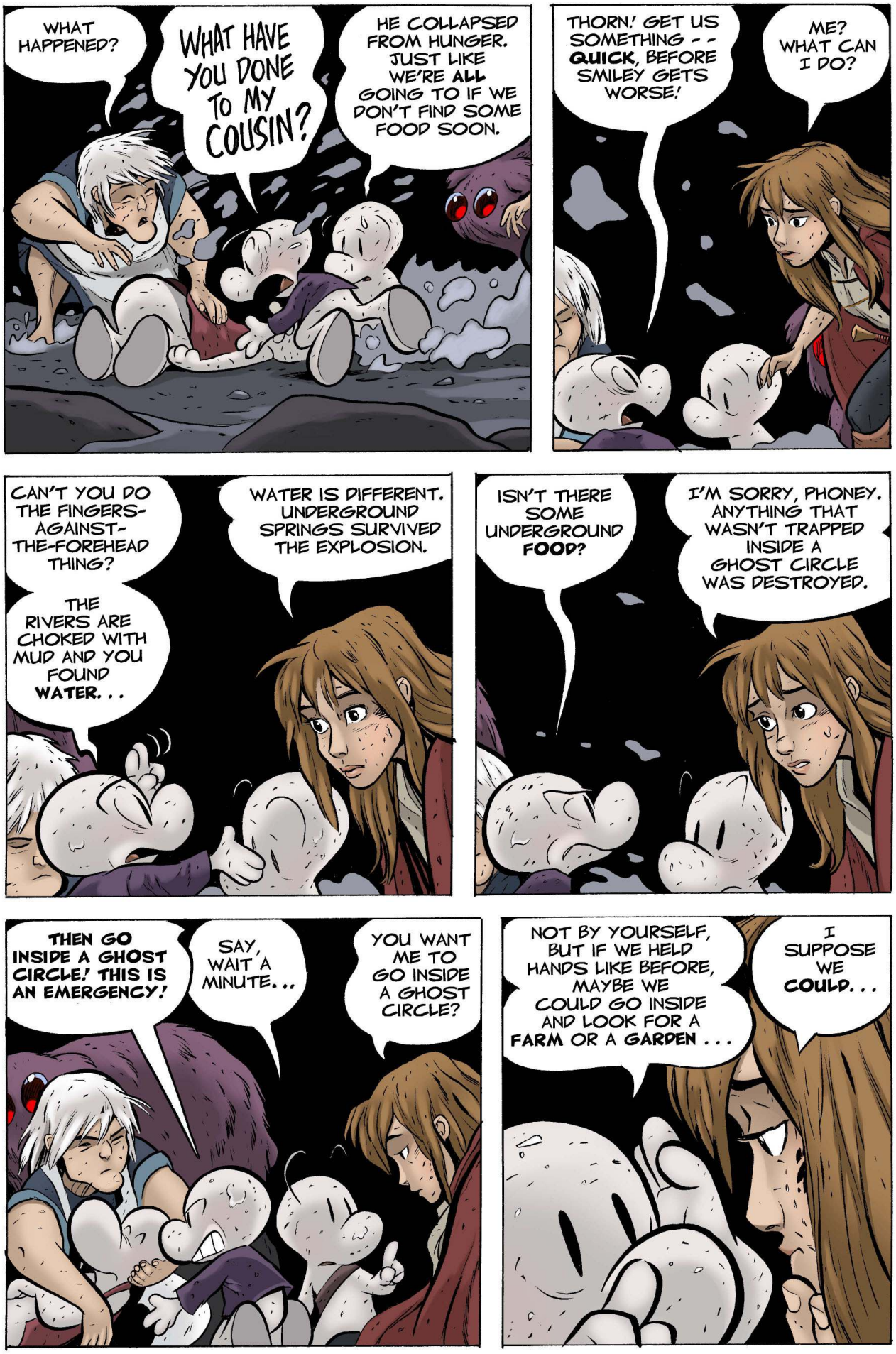

SMILEY!

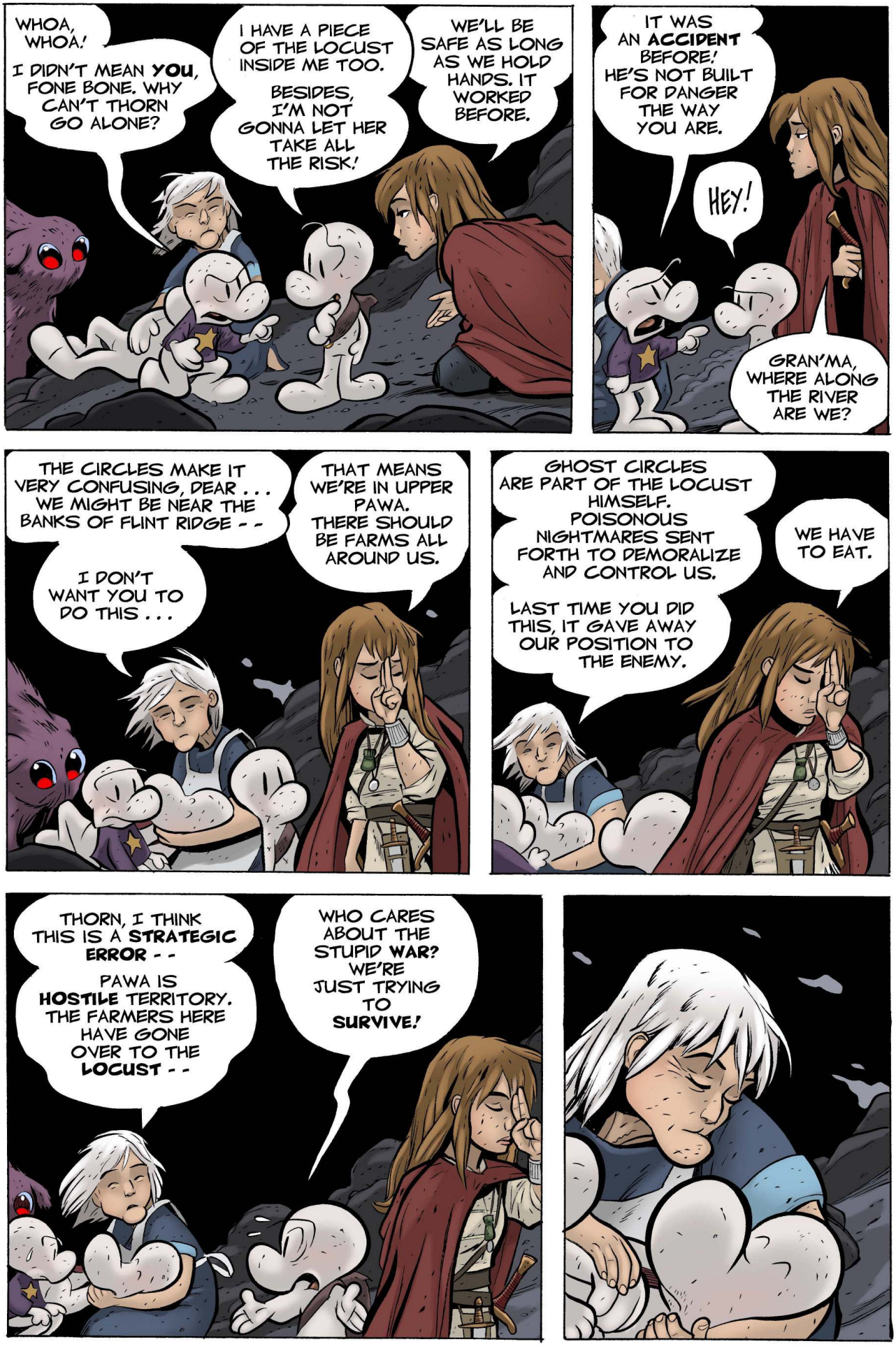

SMILEY! WHAT'S WRONG?
NEED...
TACO...

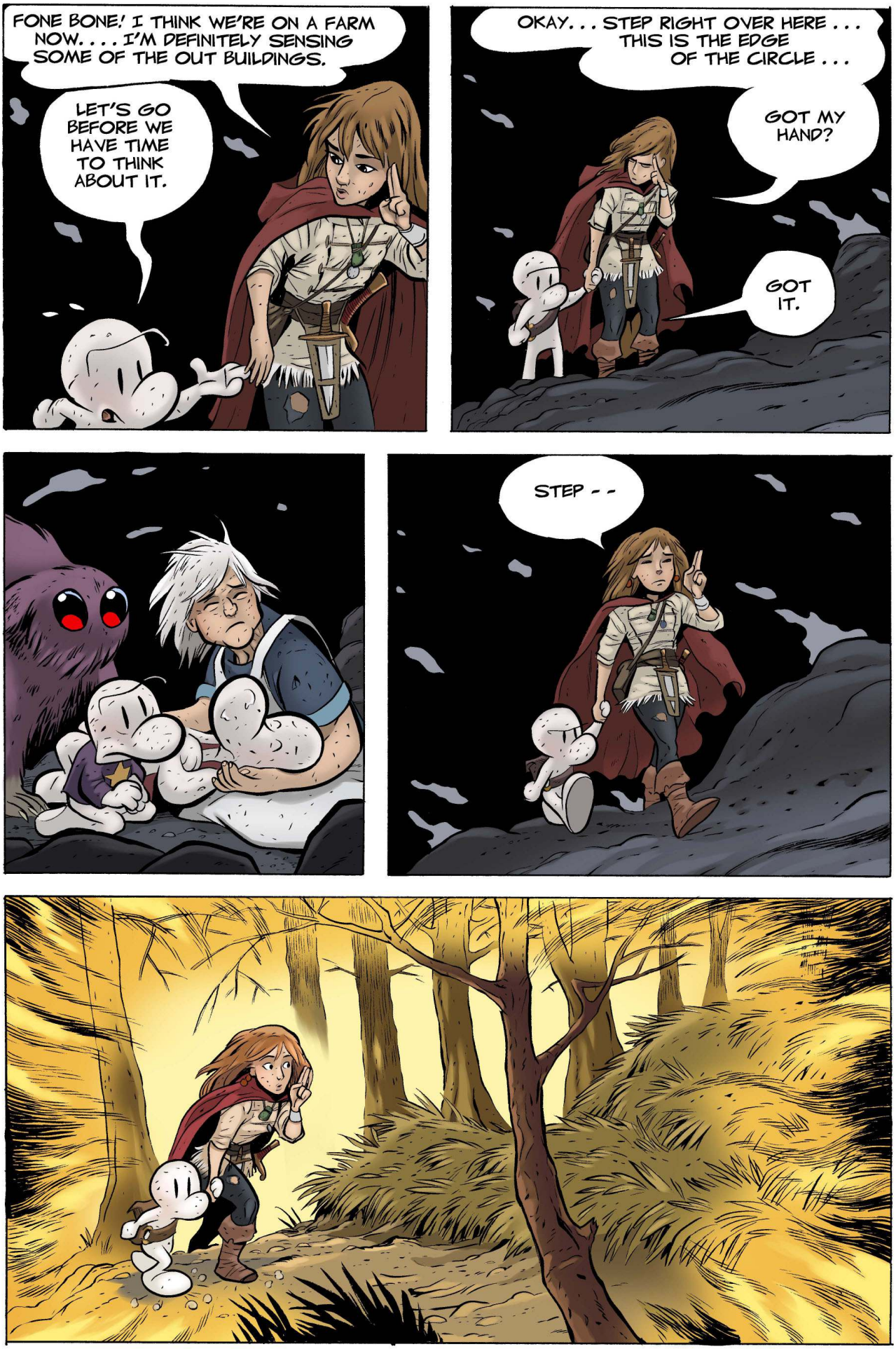

HE NEEDS FOOD. HE'S WEAK FROM HUNGER.
BUT I RATIONED OUT ALL THE STALE **BREAD THINGIES** IN MY BACKPACK- -

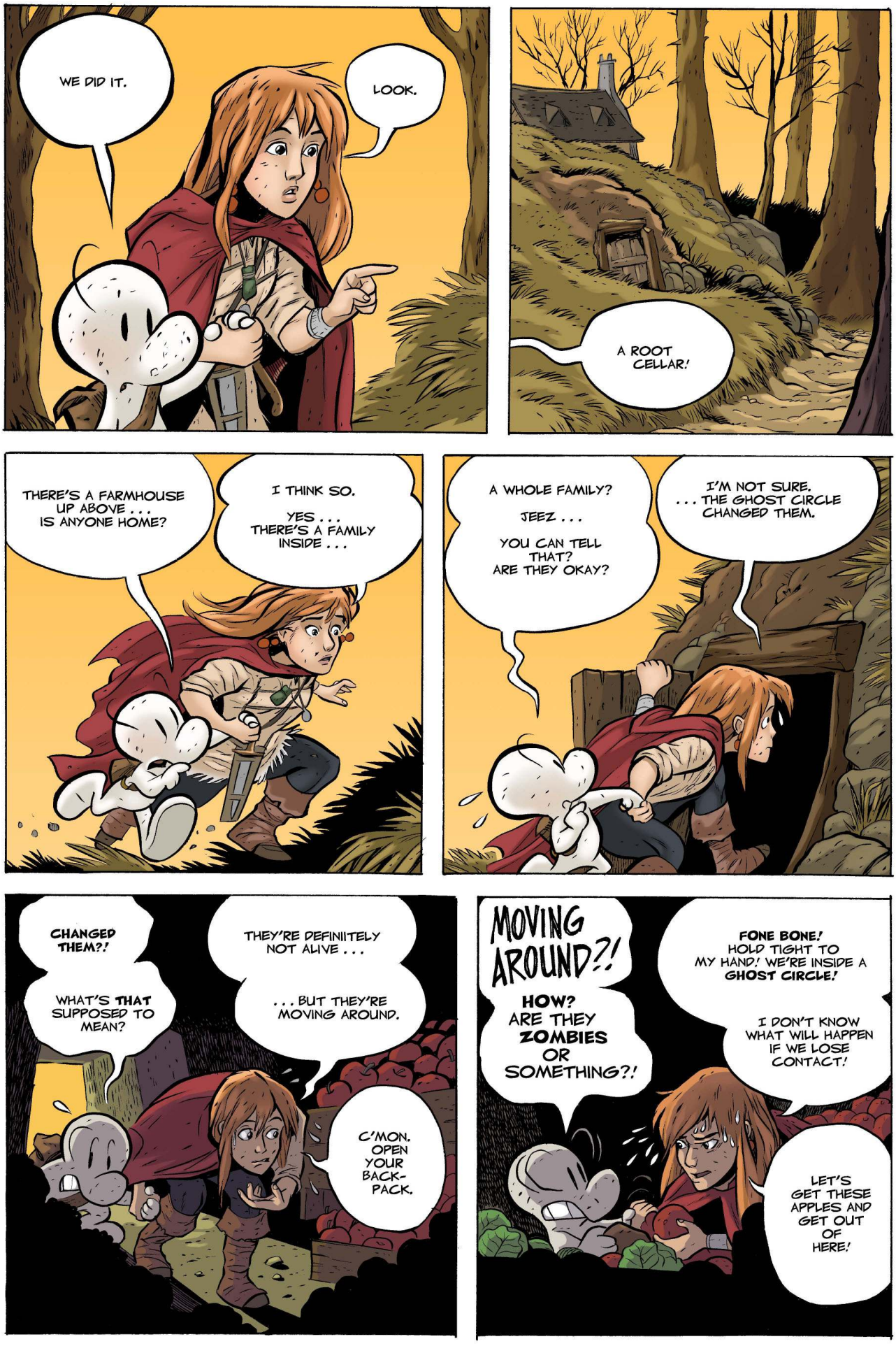

HE WOULDN'T EAT HIS RATIONS. HE INSISTED I EAT HIS SHARE.
oh, SMILEY...

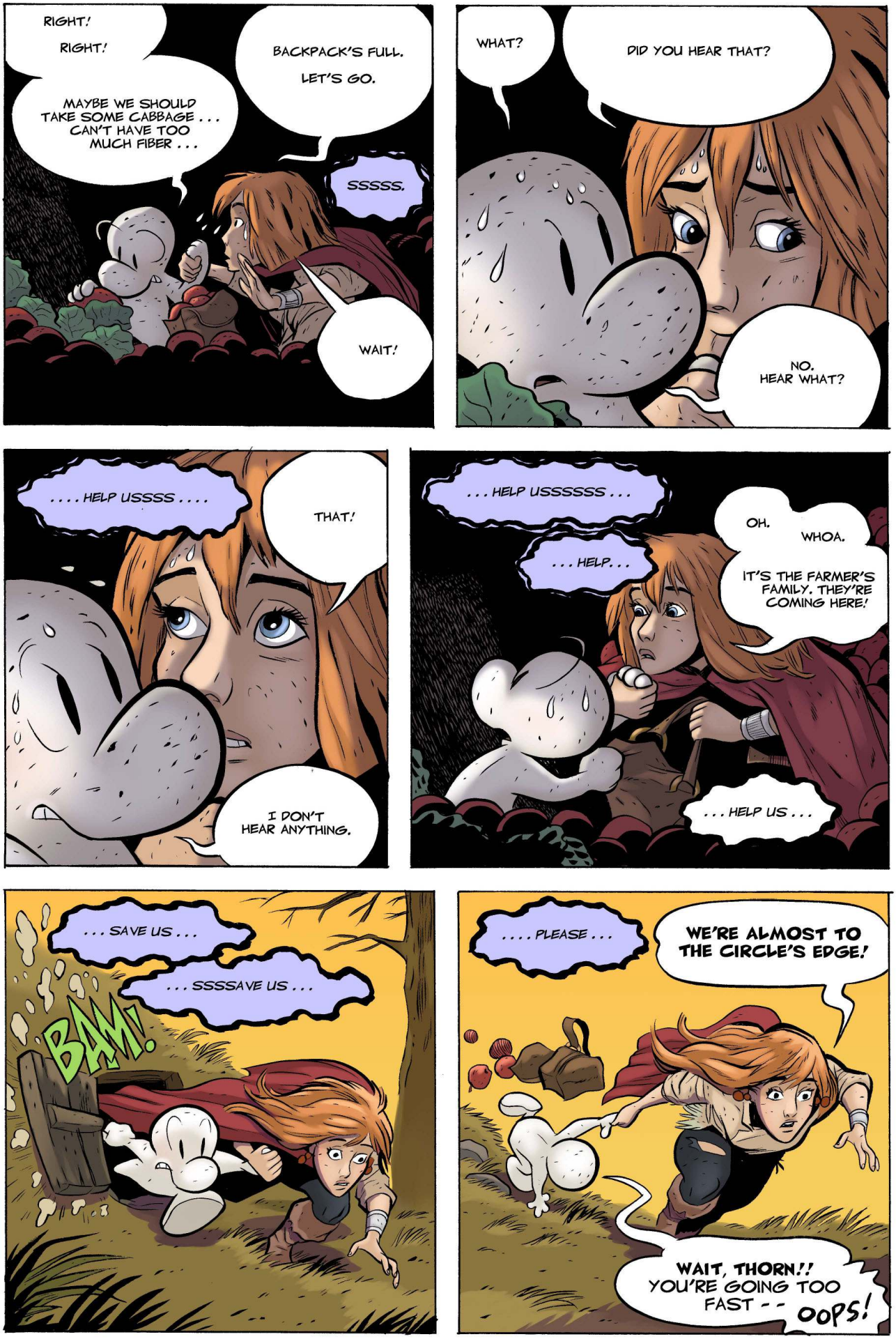

I DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANY MORE...
HEY!

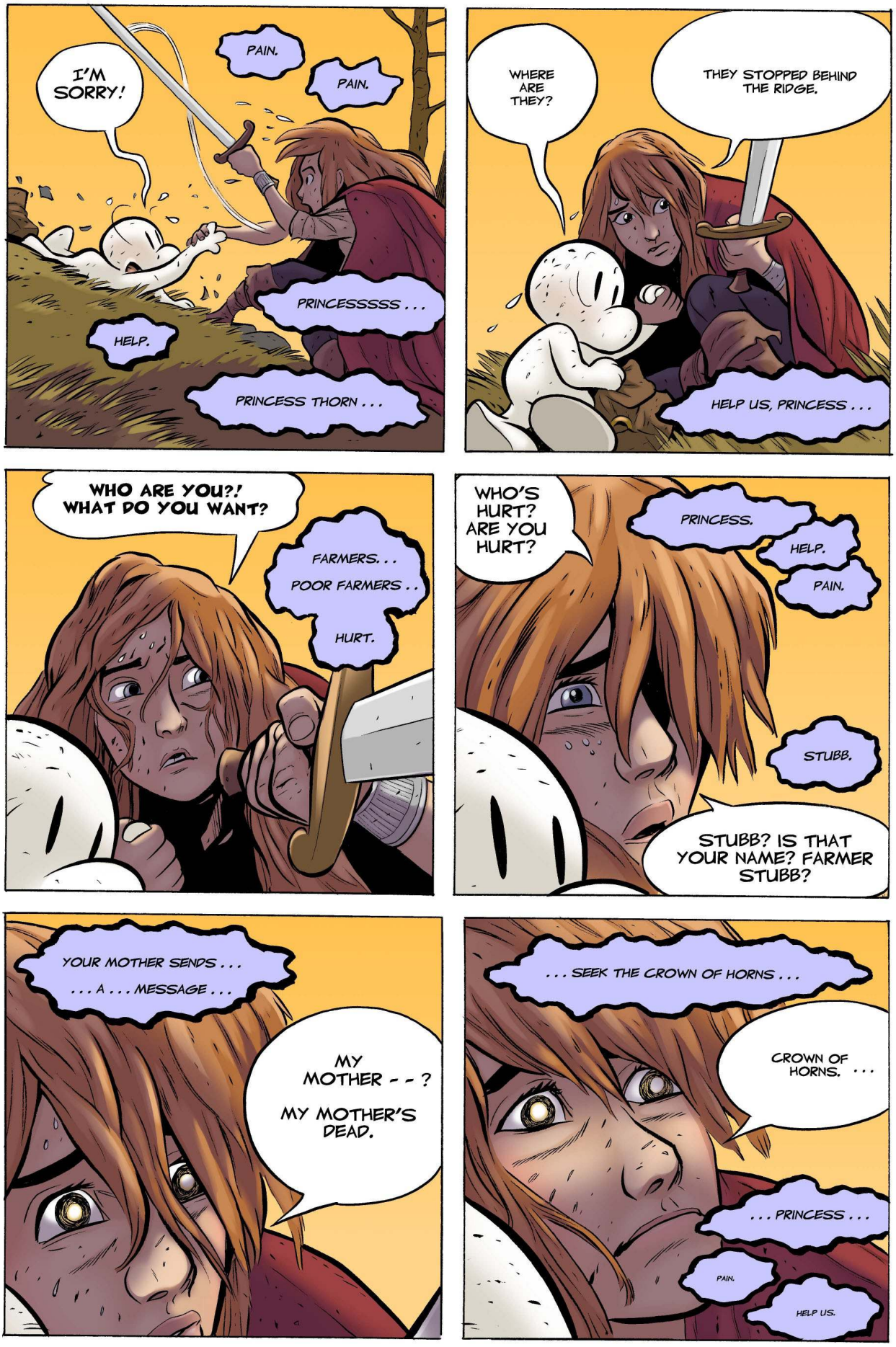

WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY COUSIN?
HE COLLAPSED FROM HUNGER. JUST LIKE WE'RE ALL GOING TO IF WE DON'T FIND SOME FOOD SOON.
THORN! GET US SOMETHING -- QUICK, BEFORE SMILEY GETS WORSE!
ME? WHAT CAN I DO?
CAN'T YOU DO THE FINGERS-AGAINST-THE-FOREHEAD THING?
WATER IS DIFFERENT. UNDERGROUND SPRINGS SURVIVED THE EXPLOSION.
THE RIVERS ARE CHOKED WITH MUD AND YOU FOUND WATER...
ISN'T THERE SOME UNDERGROUND FOOD?
I'M SORRY, PHONEY. ANYTHING THAT WASN'T TRAPPED INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE WAS DESTROYED.
THEN GO INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE! THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!
SAY, WAIT A MINUTE...
YOU WANT ME TO GO INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE?
NOT BY YOURSELF, BUT IF WE HELD HANDS LIKE BEFORE, MAYBE WE COULD GO INSIDE AND LOOK FOR A FARM OR A GARDEN...
I SUPPOSE WE COULD...


WHOA, WHOA!
I DIDN'T MEAN YOU, FONE BONE. WHY CAN'T THORN GO ALONE?
I HAVE A PIECE OF THE LOCUST INSIDE ME TOO.
BESIDES, I'M NOT GONNA LET HER TAKE ALL THE RISK!
WE'LL BE SAFE AS LONG AS WE HOLD HANDS. IT WORKED BEFORE.
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT BEFORE! HE'S NOT BUILT FOR DANGER THE WAY YOU ARE.
HEY!
GRAN'MA, WHERE ALONG THE RIVER ARE WE?
THE CIRCLES MAKE IT VERY CONFUSING, DEAR . . . WE MIGHT BE NEAR THE BANKS OF FLINT RIDGE - -
I DON'T WANT YOU TO DO THIS . . .
THAT MEANS WE'RE IN UPPER PAWA. THERE SHOULD BE FARMS ALL AROUND US.
GHOST CIRCLES ARE PART OF THE LOCUST HIMSELF. POISONOUS NIGHTMARES SENT FORTH TO DEMORALIZE AND CONTROL US.
LAST TIME YOU DID THIS, IT GAVE AWAY OUR POSITION TO THE ENEMY.
WE HAVE TO EAT.
THORN, I THINK THIS IS A STRATEGIC ERROR - -
PAWA IS HOSTILE TERRITORY. THE FARMERS HERE HAVE GONE OVER TO THE LOCUST - -
WHO CARES ABOUT THE STUPID WAR? WE'RE JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE!

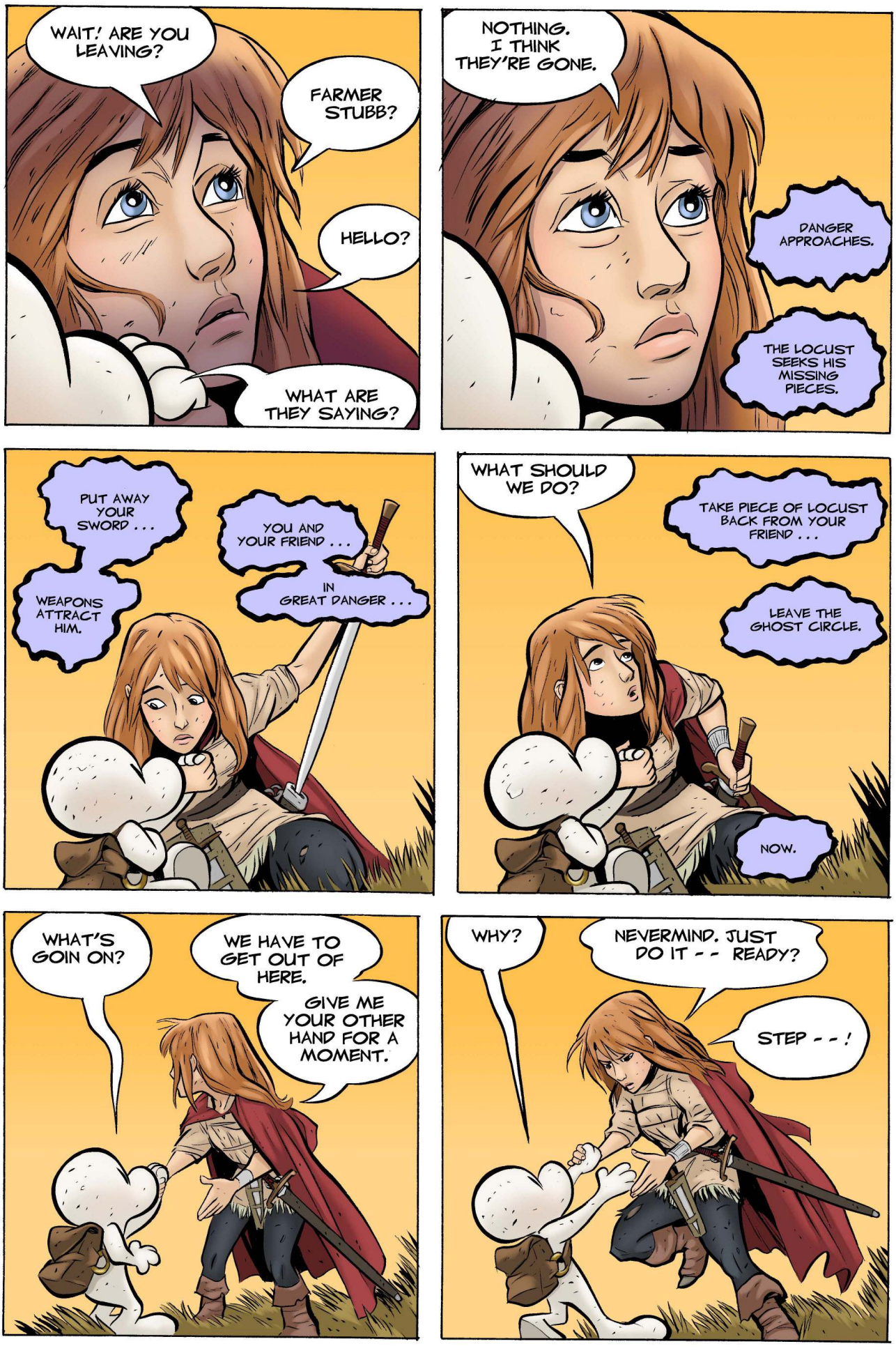

FONE BONE! I THINK WE'RE ON A FARM NOW. . . . I'M DEFINITELY SENSING SOME OF THE OUT BUILDINGS.
LET'S GO BEFORE WE HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT.
OKAY. . . STEP RIGHT OVER HERE . . . THIS IS THE EDGE OF THE CIRCLE . . .
GOT MY HAND?
GOT IT.
STEP - -


WE DID IT.
LOOK.
A ROOT CELLAR!
THERE'S A FARMHOUSE UP ABOVE . . . IS ANYONE HOME?
I THINK SO.
YES . . . THERE'S A FAMILY INSIDE . . .
A WHOLE FAMILY?
JEEZ . . .
YOU CAN TELL THAT? ARE THEY OKAY?
I'M NOT SURE. . . . THE GHOST CIRCLE CHANGED THEM.
CHANGED THEM?!
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
THEY'RE DEFINITELY NOT ALIVE . . .
. . . BUT THEY'RE MOVING AROUND.
C'MON. OPEN YOUR BACK-PACK.
MOVING AROUND?!
HOW? ARE THEY ZOMBIES OR SOMETHING?!
FONE BONE! HOLD TIGHT TO MY HAND! WE'RE INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE LOSE CONTACT!
LET'S GET THESE APPLES AND GET OUT OF HERE!


RIGHT!
RIGHT!
MAYBE WE SHOULD TAKE SOME CABBAGE . . . CAN'T HAVE TOO MUCH FIBER . . .
BACKPACK'S FULL. LET'S GO.
SSSSS.
WAIT!
WHAT?
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
NO. HEAR WHAT?
. . . . HELP USSSS . . . .
THAT!
I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.
. . . HELP USSSSSS . . .
. . . HELP. . .
OH. WHOA.
IT'S THE FARMER'S FAMILY. THEY'RE COMING HERE!
. . . HELP US . . .
. . . SAVE US . . .
. . . SSSSAVE US . . .
BAM!
. . . . PLEASE . . .
WE'RE ALMOST TO THE CIRCLE'S EDGE!
WAIT, THORN!! YOU'RE GOING TOO FAST -- OOPS!



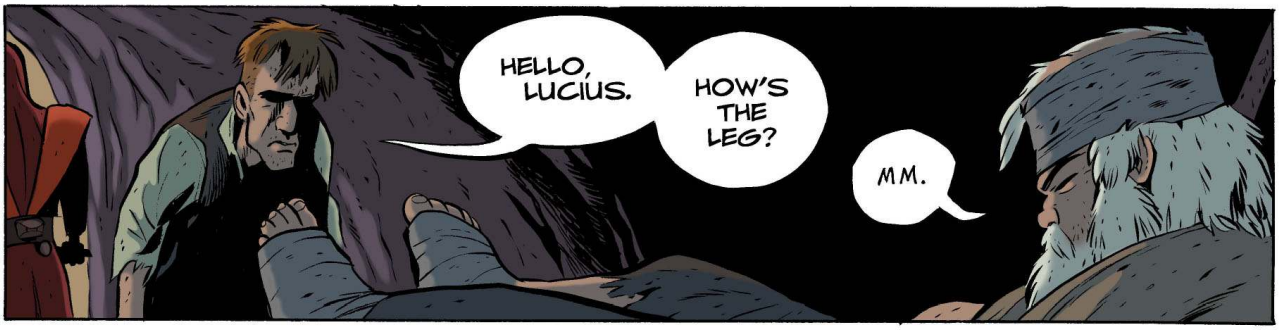
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


WAIT! ARE YOU LEAVING?
FARMER STUBB?
HELLO?
WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?
NOTHING. I THINK THEY'RE GONE.
DANGER APPROACHES.
THE LOCUST SEEKS HIS MISSING PIECES.
PUT AWAY YOUR SWORD . . .
WEAPONS ATTRACT HIM.
YOU AND YOUR FRIEND . . .
IN GREAT DANGER . . .
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
TAKE PIECE OF LOCUST BACK FROM YOUR FRIEND . . .
LEAVE THE GHOST CIRCLE.
NOW.
WHAT'S GOIN ON?
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.
GIVE ME YOUR OTHER HAND FOR A MOMENT.
WHY?
NEVERMIND. JUST DO IT - - READY?
STEP - - !

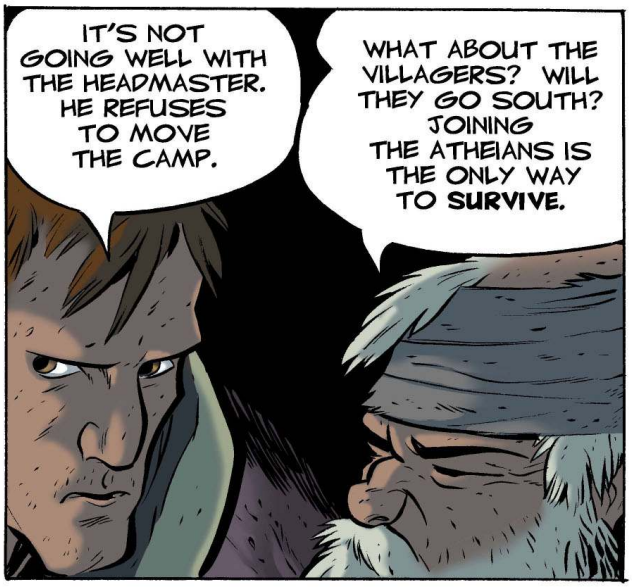

WE'RE OUT!
uuuh...
THORN? ARE YOU OKAY?
OH . . . YEAH.
I'M GOOD.

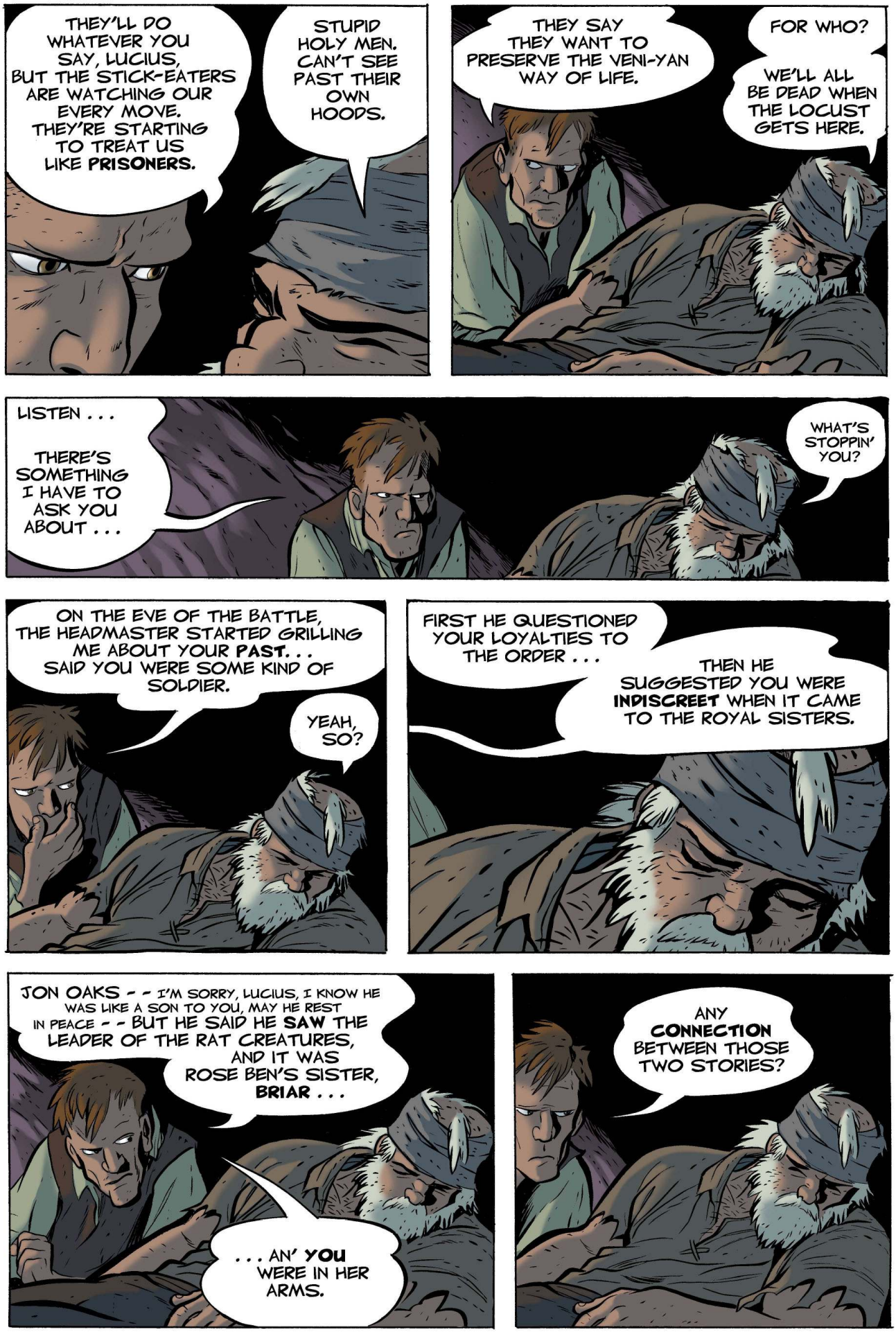



YOU CAN GO IN, TINSMITH, BUT THE REST OF THE FARMERS WILL HAVE TO WAIT OUT HERE.


HELLO, LUCIUS.
HOW'S THE LEG?
MM.


CAN'T PUT ANY WEIGHT ON IT...
...BUT I CAN MANAGE WITH A CRUTCH.

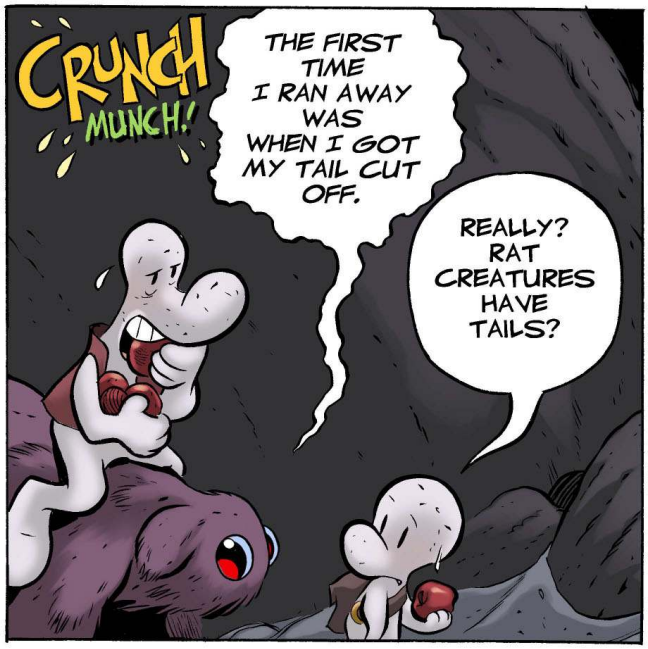

IT'S NOT GOING WELL WITH THE HEADMASTER. HE REFUSES TO MOVE THE CAMP.
WHAT ABOUT THE VILLAGERS? WILL THEY GO SOUTH? JOINING THE ATHEIANS IS THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE.


THEY'LL DO WHATEVER YOU SAY, LUCIUS, BUT THE STICK-EATERS ARE WATCHING OUR EVERY MOVE. THEY'RE STARTING TO TREAT US LIKE **PRISONERS.**
STUPID HOLY MEN. CAN'T SEE PAST THEIR OWN HOODS.
THEY SAY THEY WANT TO PRESERVE THE VENI-YAN WAY OF LIFE.
FOR WHO?
WE'LL ALL BE DEAD WHEN THE LOCUST GETS HERE.
LISTEN . . .
THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO ASK YOU ABOUT . . .
WHAT'S STOPPIN' YOU?
ON THE EVE OF THE BATTLE, THE HEADMASTER STARTED GRILLING ME ABOUT YOUR **PAST**. . . SAID YOU WERE SOME KIND OF SOLDIER.
YEAH, SO?
FIRST HE QUESTIONED YOUR LOYALTIES TO THE ORDER . . .
THEN HE SUGGESTED YOU WERE **INDISCREET** WHEN IT CAME TO THE ROYAL SISTERS.
JON OAKS - - I'M SORRY, LUCIUS, I KNOW HE WAS LIKE A SON TO YOU, MAY HE REST IN PEACE - - BUT HE SAID HE **SAW** THE LEADER OF THE RAT CREATURES, AND IT WAS ROSE BEN'S SISTER, **BRIAR** . . .
. . . AN' **YOU** WERE IN HER ARMS.
ANY **CONNECTION** BETWEEN THOSE TWO STORIES?

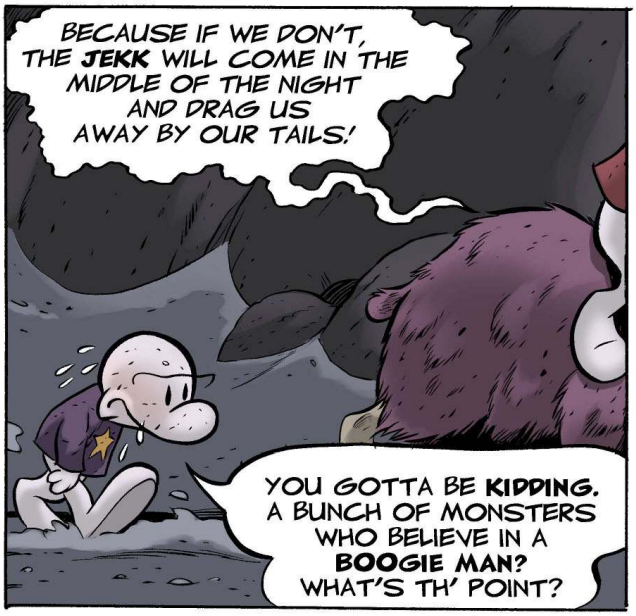

YEAH, THERE'S A CONNECTION.
THE HOODED ONE IS ROSE'S SISTER. BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THAT BEFORE THE BATTLE.
AND YES, I WAS A PALACE GUARD, SPENDING MY DAYS WITH TWO OF THE MOST BEWITCHING WOMEN I EVER MET.
I KNEW I SHOULDN'T GET INVOLVED WITH THEM . . .
BUT BLOODY STARS! YOU'D HAVE TO BE A PRIEST TO BE DISCREET AT THAT AGE.
ROSE WAS BEAUTIFUL AND KIND. . . I WAS IN LOVE WITH HER.
BUT BRIAR SEEMED MORE GROWN UP - -
IN WOMEN'S WAYS, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
AS USUAL . . .
SKRITCH
I PICKED THE WRONG ONE.
hmmp.
THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.

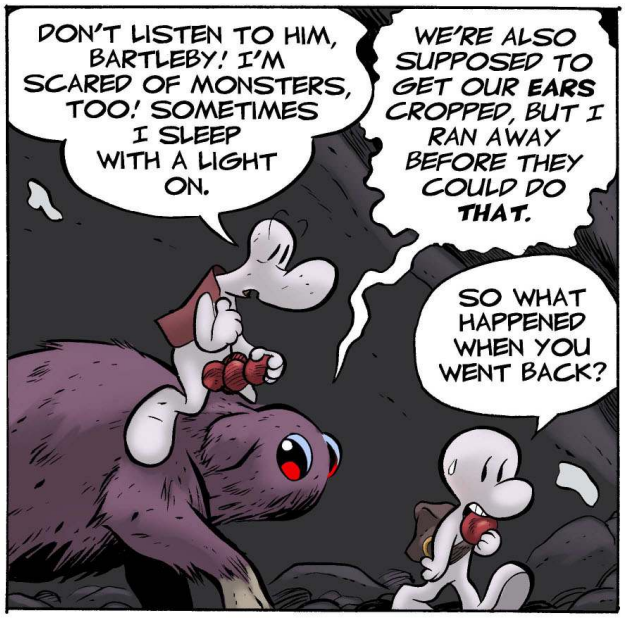

WENDELL?
I - - -
I HATE THIS WAR.
YOU KNOW MY BEST FRIEND EUCLID . . . WELL, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND HIM SINCE THE VOLCANO ERUPTED.
I'M SORRY, LUCIUS . . .
I . . .
GET THE VILLAGERS TOGETHER.
WE'RE LEAVING.

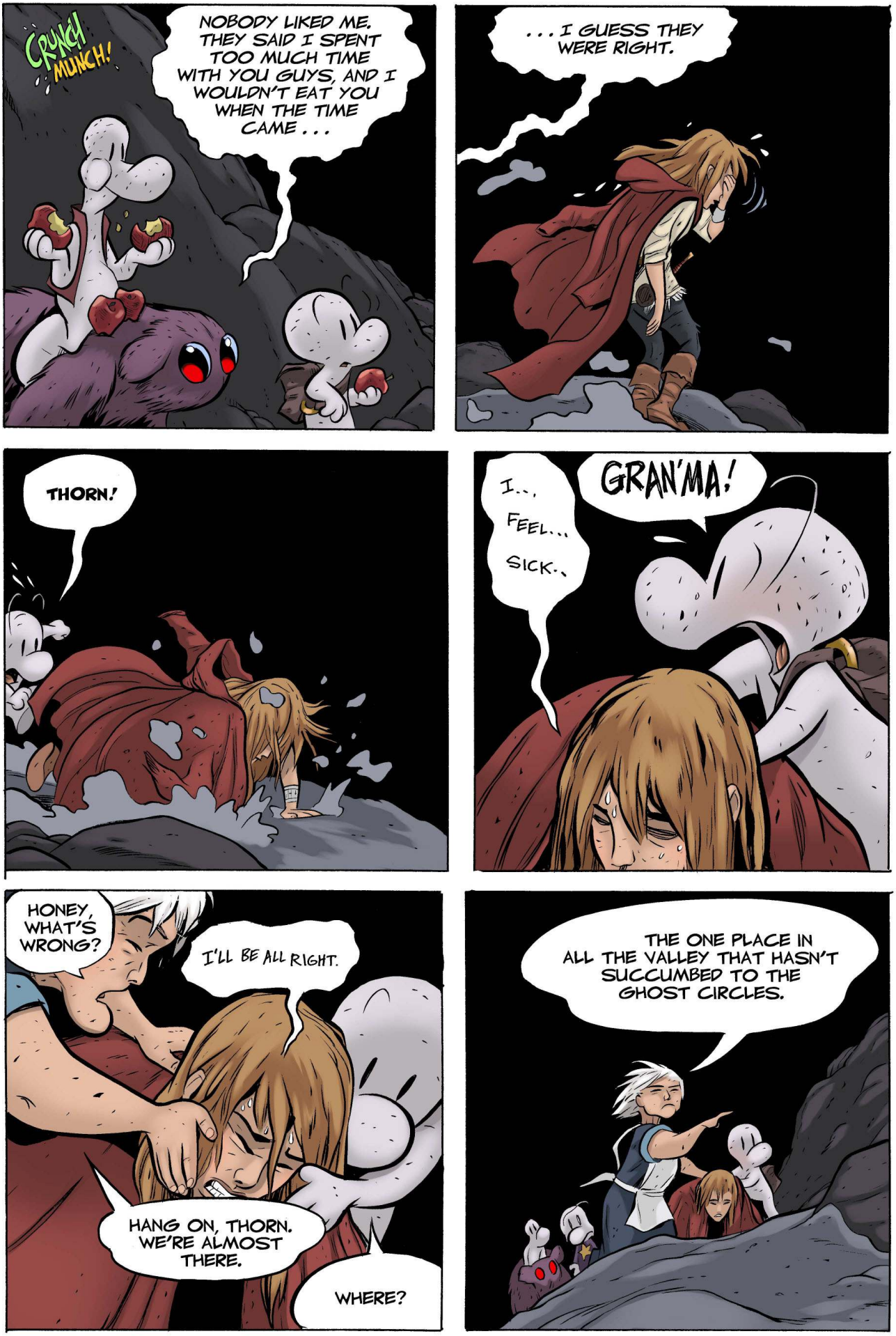


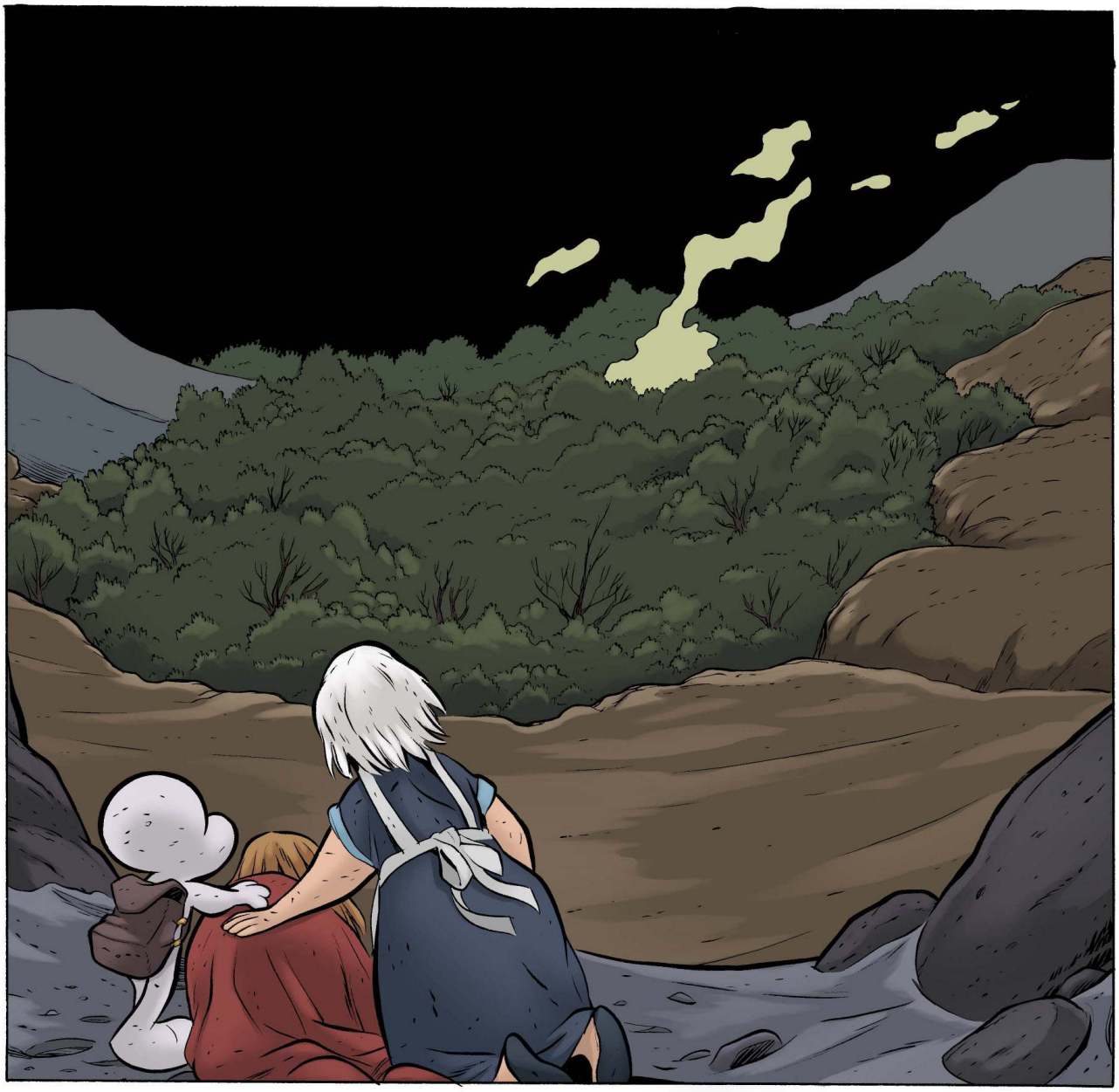

CRUNCH
MUNCH!
THE FIRST TIME I RAN AWAY WAS WHEN I GOT MY TAIL CUT OFF.
REALLY? RAT CREATURES HAVE TAILS?


YES! WE'RE BORN WITH LONG, **BEAUTIFUL** HAIRLESS TAILS! BUT ONCE A YEAR, ON TAIL-CUTTING-OFF DAY, ALL THE ONE YEAR OLDS GET THEIR TAILS CHOPPED OFF.
WHAT IN THE WORLD FOR?

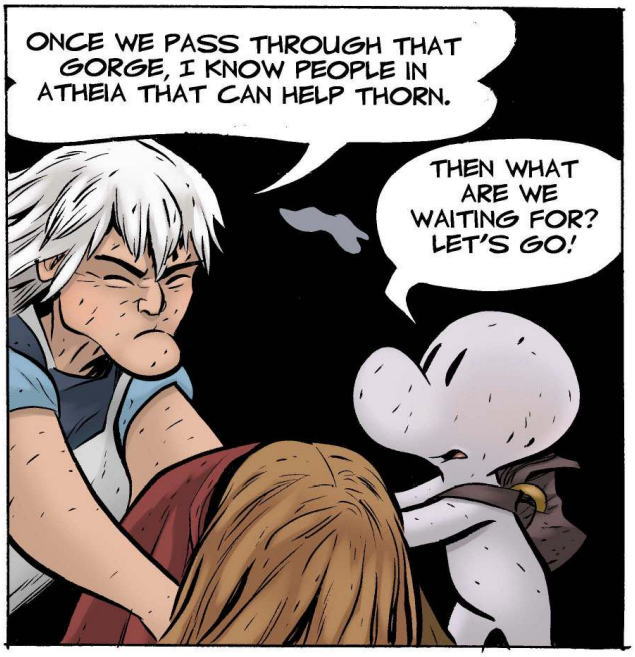

BECAUSE IF WE DON'T, THE **JEKK** WILL COME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND DRAG US AWAY BY OUR TAILS!
YOU GOTTA BE **KIDDING.** A BUNCH OF MONSTERS WHO BELIEVE IN A **BOOGIE MAN?** WHAT'S TH' POINT?

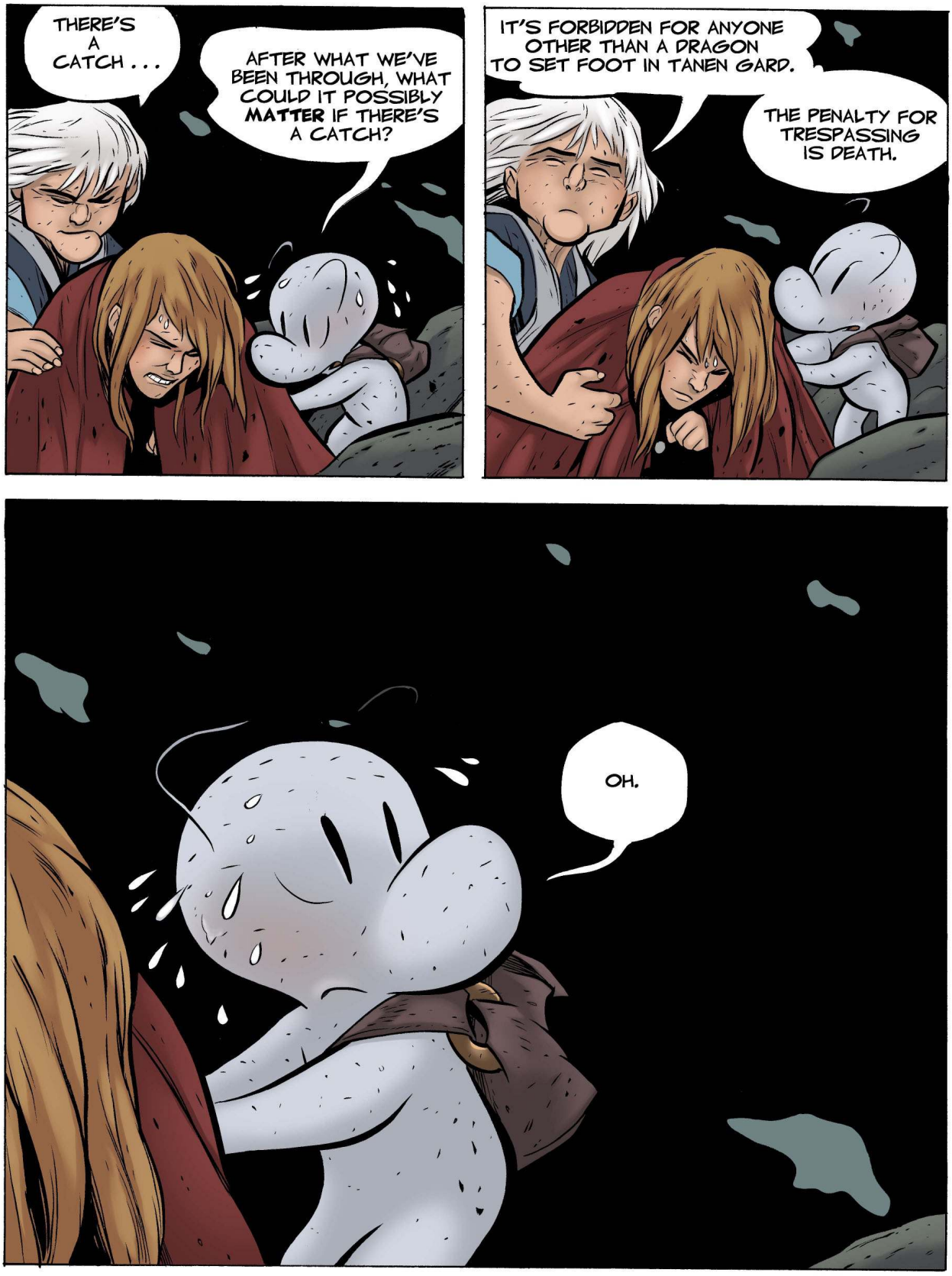

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, BARTLEBY! I'M SCARED OF MONSTERS, TOO! SOMETIMES I SLEEP WITH A LIGHT ON.
WE'RE ALSO SUPPOSED TO GET OUR **EARS** CROPPED, BUT I RAN AWAY BEFORE THEY COULD DO **THAT.**
SO WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU WENT BACK?


CRUNCH!
MUNCH!
NOBODY LIKED ME. THEY SAID I SPENT TOO MUCH TIME WITH YOU GUYS, AND I WOULDN'T EAT YOU WHEN THE TIME CAME . . .
. . . I GUESS THEY WERE RIGHT.
THORN!
GRAN'MA!
I..
FEEL..
SICK..
HONEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
HANG ON, THORN. WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
WHERE?
THE ONE PLACE IN ALL THE VALLEY THAT HASN'T SUCCUMBED TO THE GHOST CIRCLES.

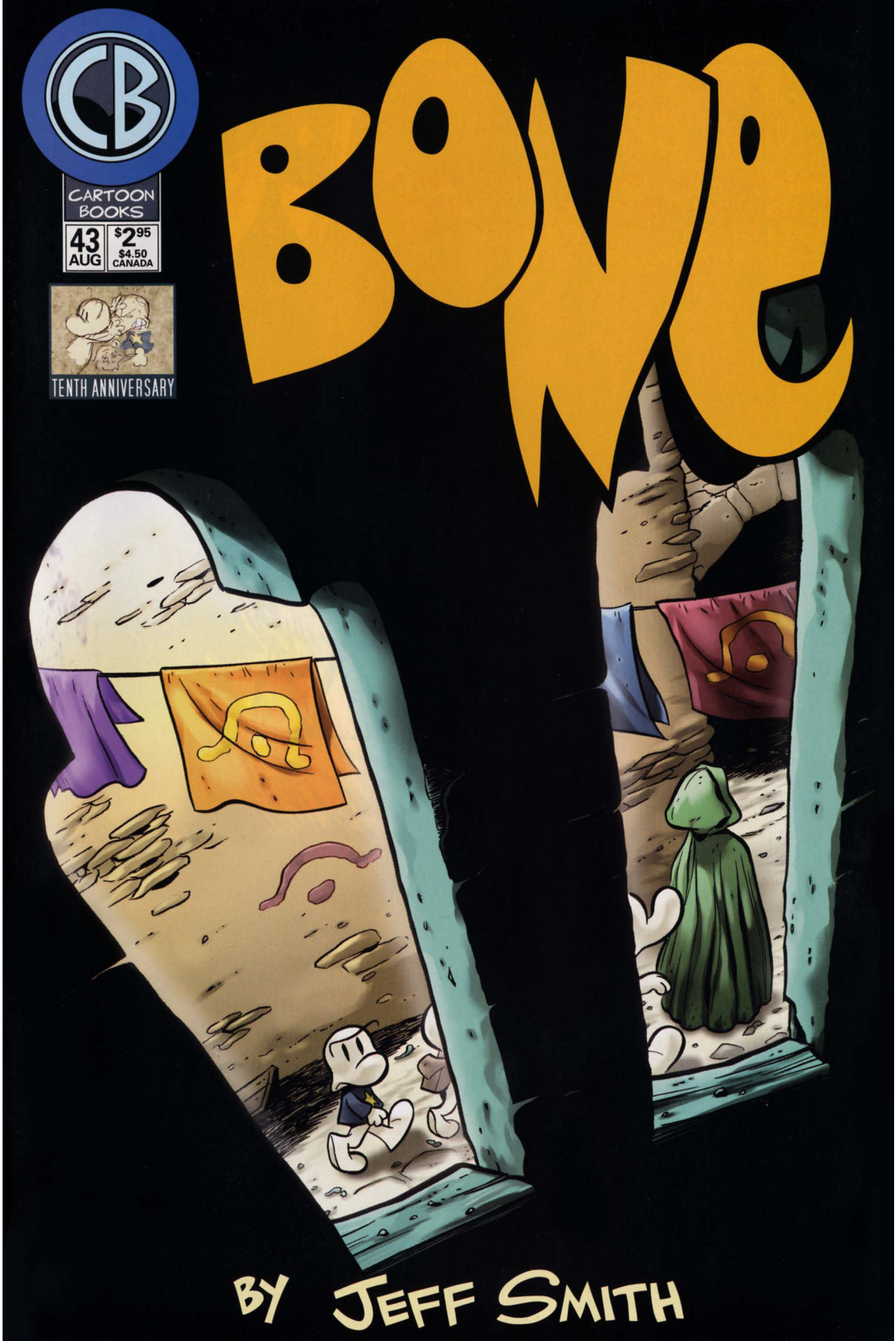



TANEN GARD... SACRED BURIAL GROUND OF THE DRAGONS.
NO WAY.


ONCE WE PASS THROUGH THAT GORGE, I KNOW PEOPLE IN ATHEIA THAT CAN HELP THORN.
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GO!

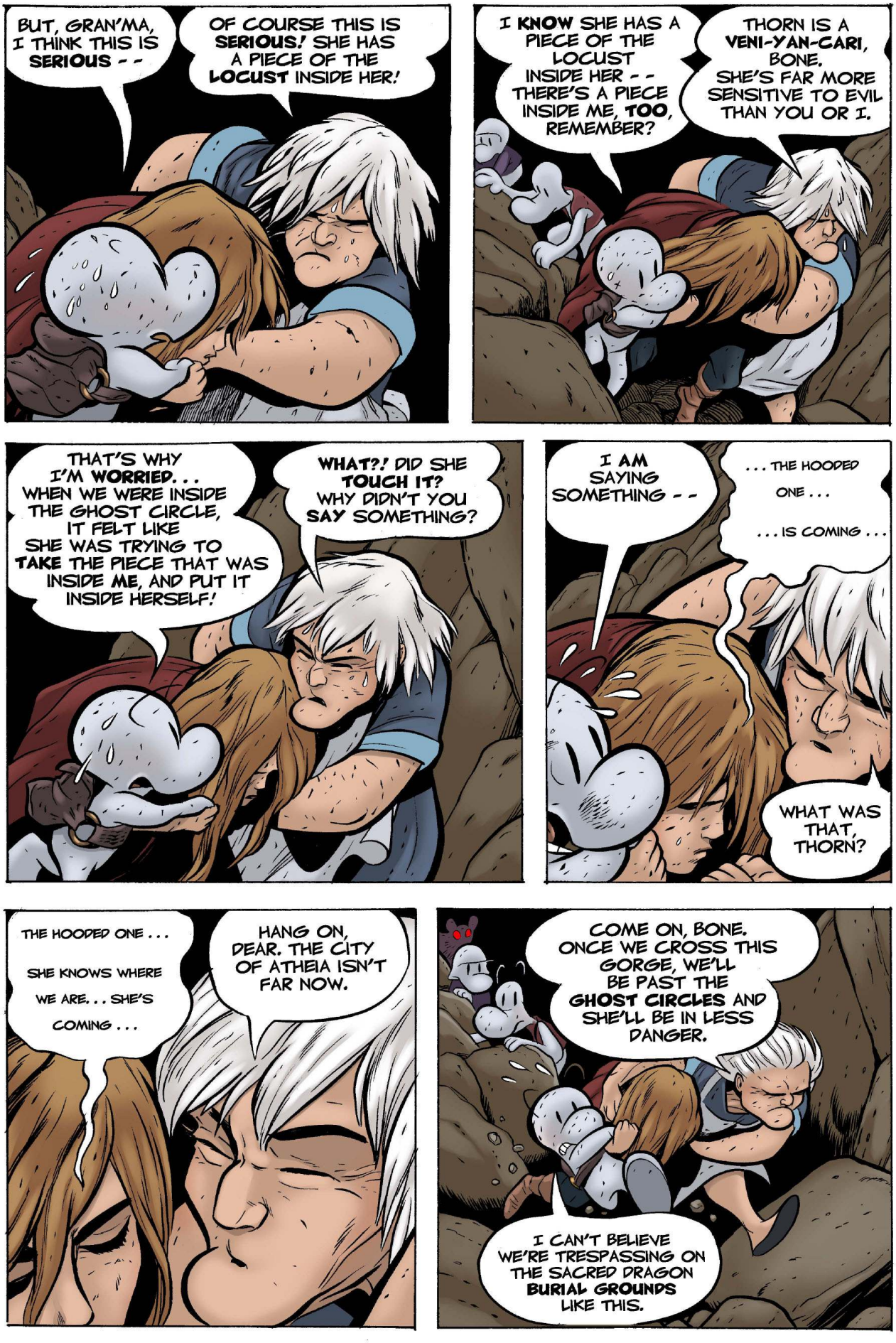


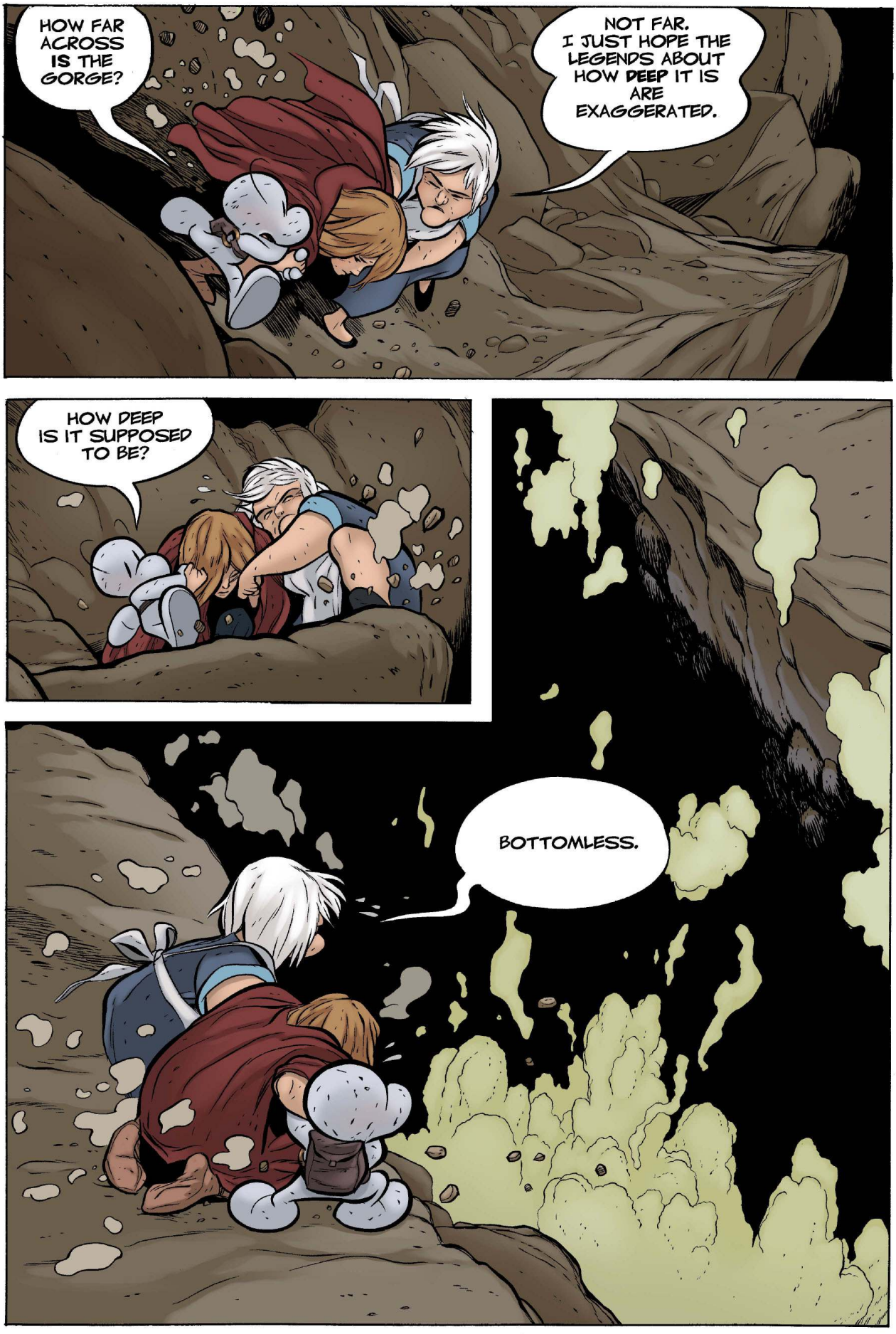
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


CB
CARTOON BOOKS
43 AUG
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
TENTH ANNIVERSARY
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

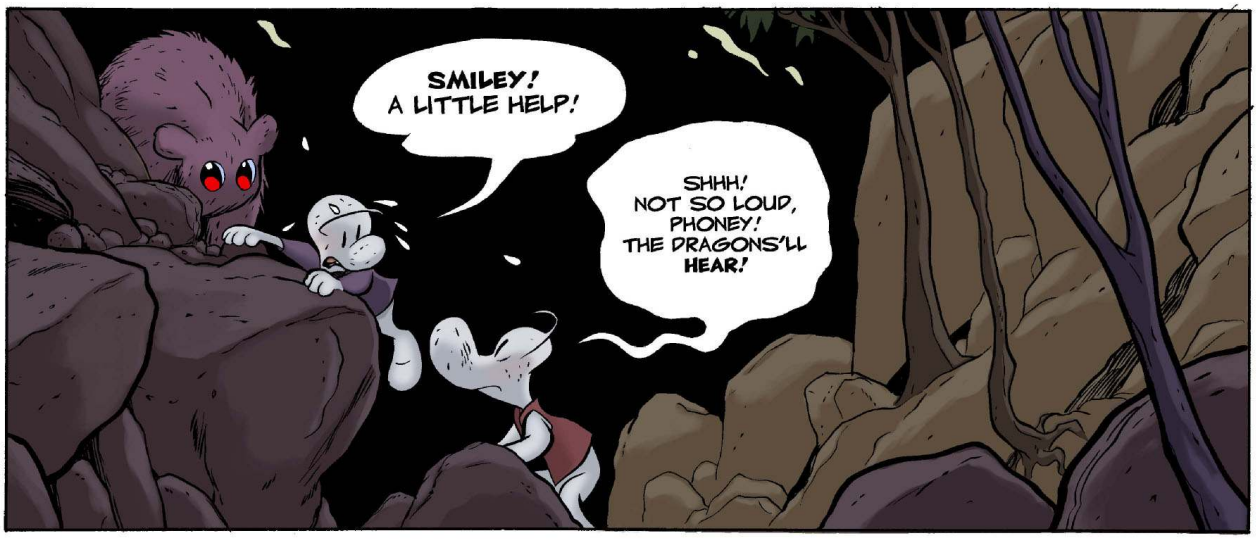


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

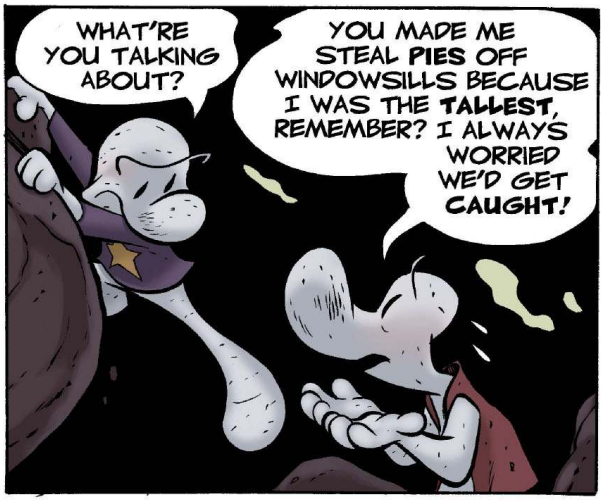

BUT, GRAN'MA, I THINK THIS IS SERIOUS - -
OF COURSE THIS IS SERIOUS! SHE HAS A PIECE OF THE LOCUST INSIDE HER!
I KNOW SHE HAS A PIECE OF THE LOCUST INSIDE HER - - THERE'S A PIECE INSIDE ME, TOO, REMEMBER?
THORN IS A VENI-YAN-GARI, BONE. SHE'S FAR MORE SENSITIVE TO EVIL THAN YOU OR I.
THAT'S WHY I'M WORRIED... WHEN WE WERE INSIDE THE GHOST CIRCLE, IT FELT LIKE SHE WAS TRYING TO TAKE THE PIECE THAT WAS INSIDE ME, AND PUT IT INSIDE HERSELF!
WHAT?! DID SHE TOUCH IT? WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHING?
I AM SAYING SOMETHING - -
... THE HOODED ONE ...
... IS COMING ...
WHAT WAS THAT, THORN?
THE HOODED ONE ... SHE KNOWS WHERE WE ARE... SHE'S COMING ...
HANG ON, DEAR. THE CITY OF ATHEIA ISN'T FAR NOW.
COME ON, BONE. ONCE WE CROSS THIS GORGE, WE'LL BE PAST THE GHOST CIRCLES AND SHE'LL BE IN LESS DANGER.
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE TRESPASSING ON THE SACRED DRAGON BURIAL GROUNDS LIKE THIS.

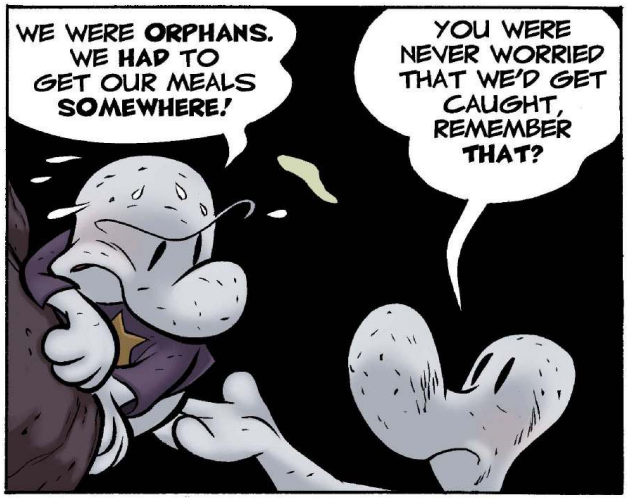

HOW FAR ACROSS IS THE GORGE?
NOT FAR. I JUST HOPE THE LEGENDS ABOUT HOW DEEP IT IS ARE EXAGGERATED.
HOW DEEP IS IT SUPPOSED TO BE?
BOTTOMLESS.

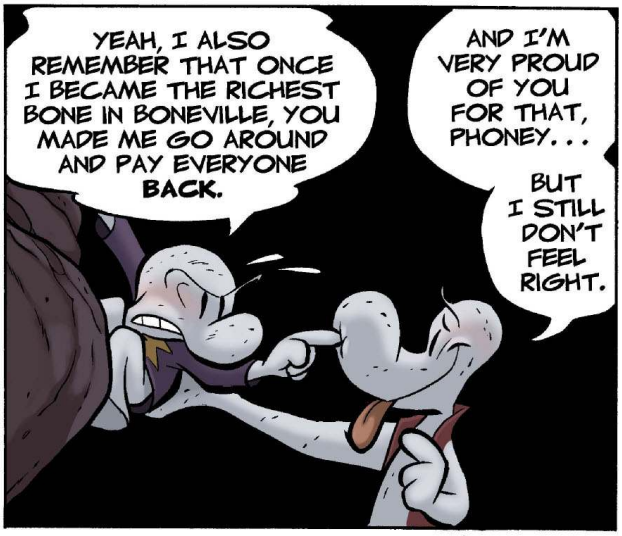

BOTTOMLESS.
DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD REALLY DO THAT.
ARE YOU SURE WE NEED TO CROSS?
ATHEIA IS ON THE OTHER SIDE.
UNLESS WE CAN FIND A WAY OVER, WE'RE TRAPPED.
PHONEY! SMILEY! COME ON!
YEAH, YEAH.
ERNF!
WE'RE COMIN'!

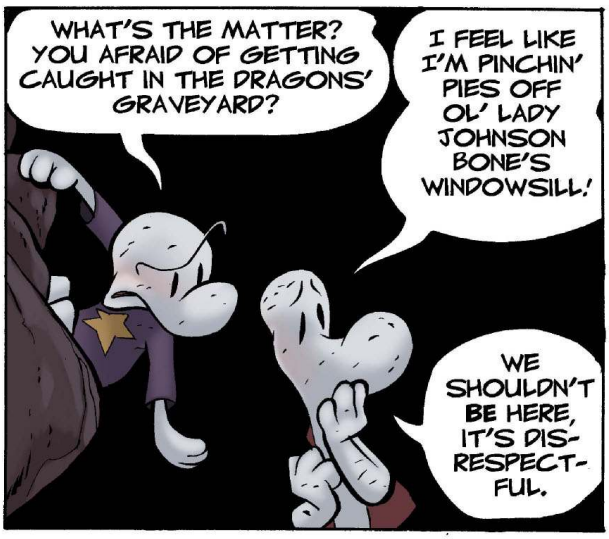

SMILEY! A LITTLE HELP!
SHHH! NOT SO LOUD, PHONEY! THE DRAGONS'LL HEAR!

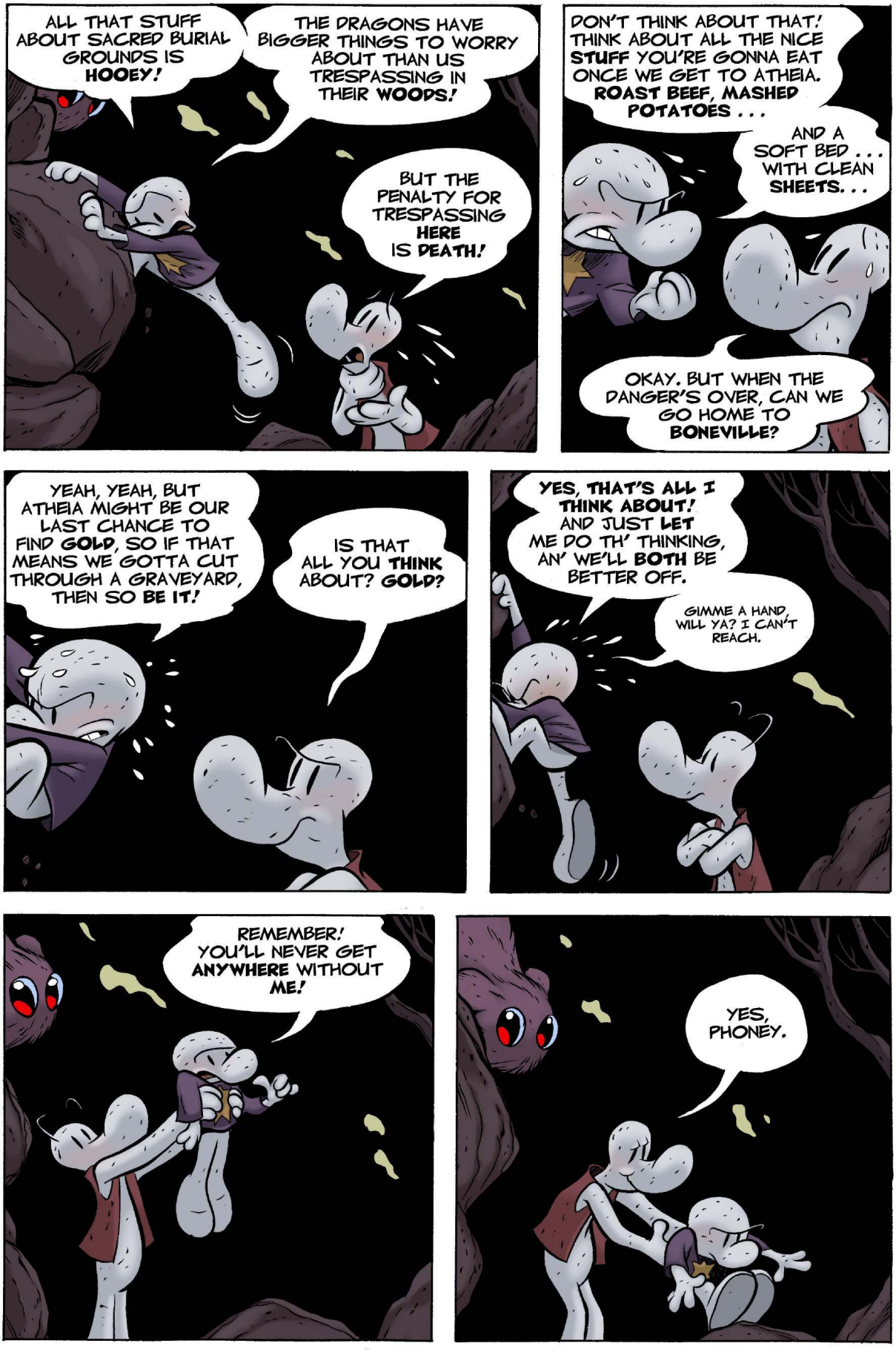

I CAN'T REACH . . .
YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE KIDS, AN' YOU USED TO MAKE ME STEAL FOOD FOR OUR MEALS?


WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU MADE ME STEAL PIES OFF WINDOWSILLS BECAUSE I WAS THE TALLEST, REMEMBER? I ALWAYS WORRIED WE'D GET CAUGHT!

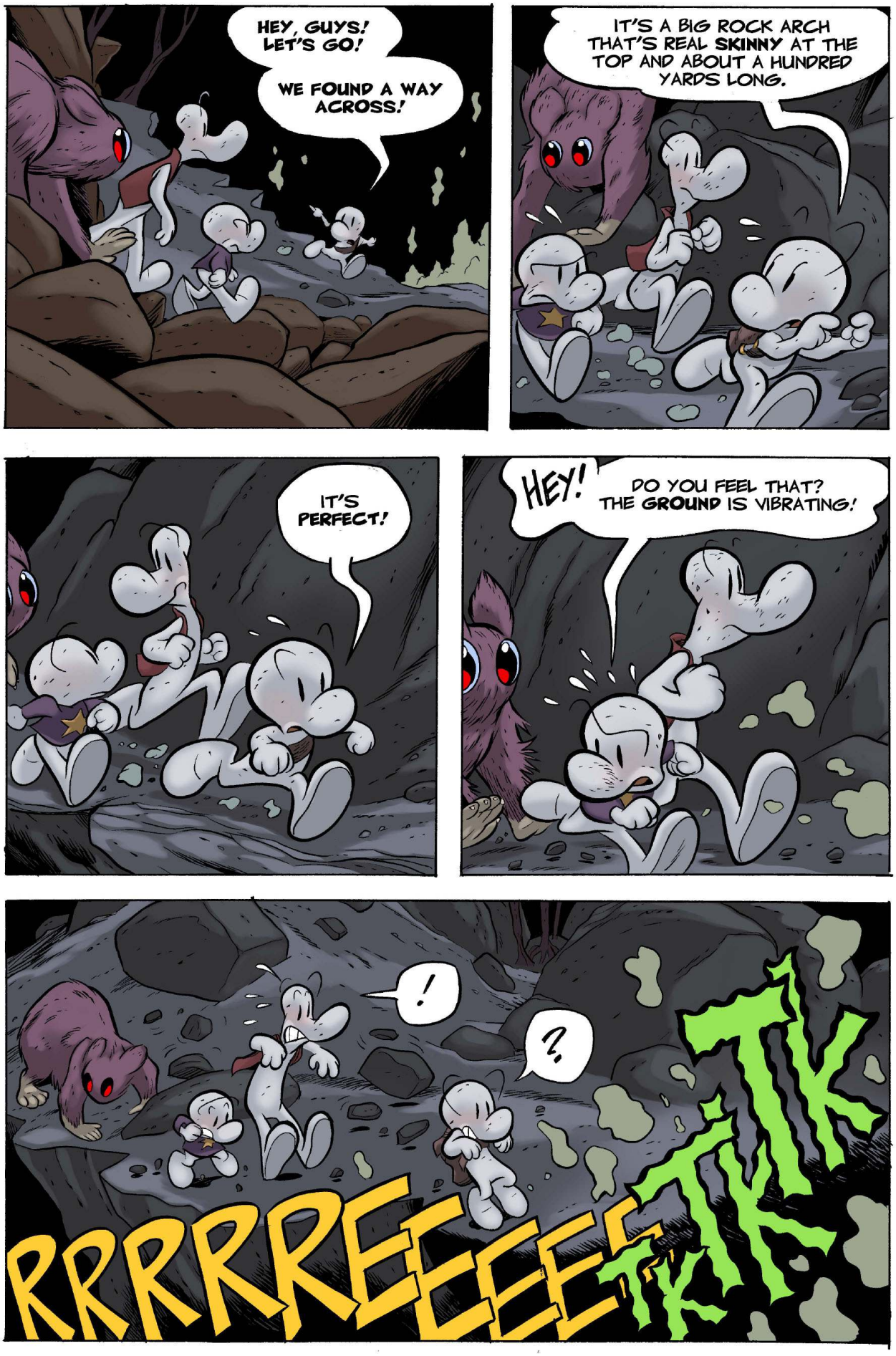

WE WERE ORPHANS. WE HAD TO GET OUR MEALS SOMEWHERE!
YOU WERE NEVER WORRIED THAT WE'D GET CAUGHT, REMEMBER THAT?

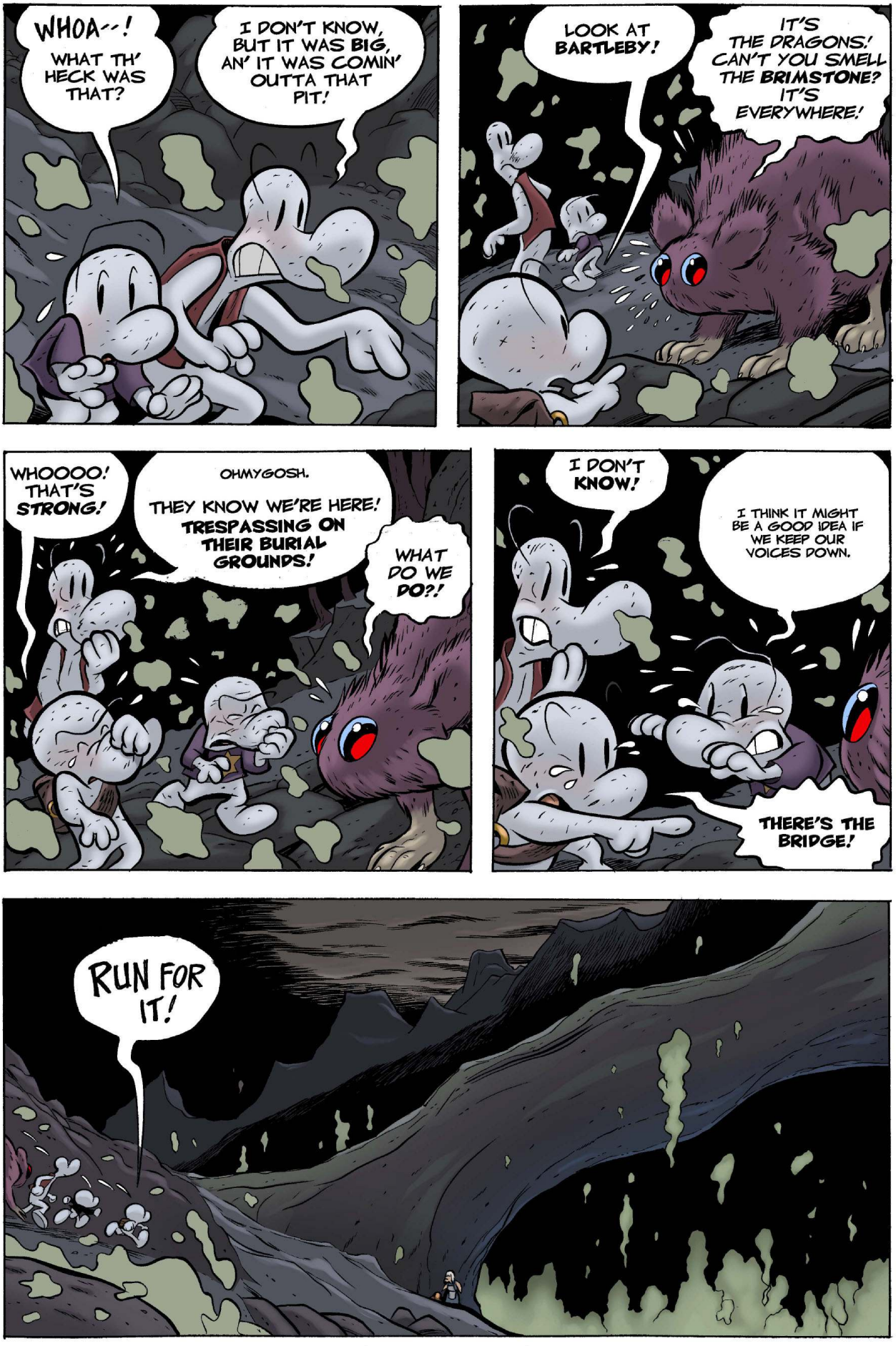

YEAH, I ALSO REMEMBER THAT ONCE I BECAME THE RICHEST BONE IN BONEVILLE, YOU MADE ME GO AROUND AND PAY EVERYONE BACK.
AND I'M VERY PROUD OF YOU FOR THAT, PHONEY. . .
BUT I STILL DON'T FEEL RIGHT.

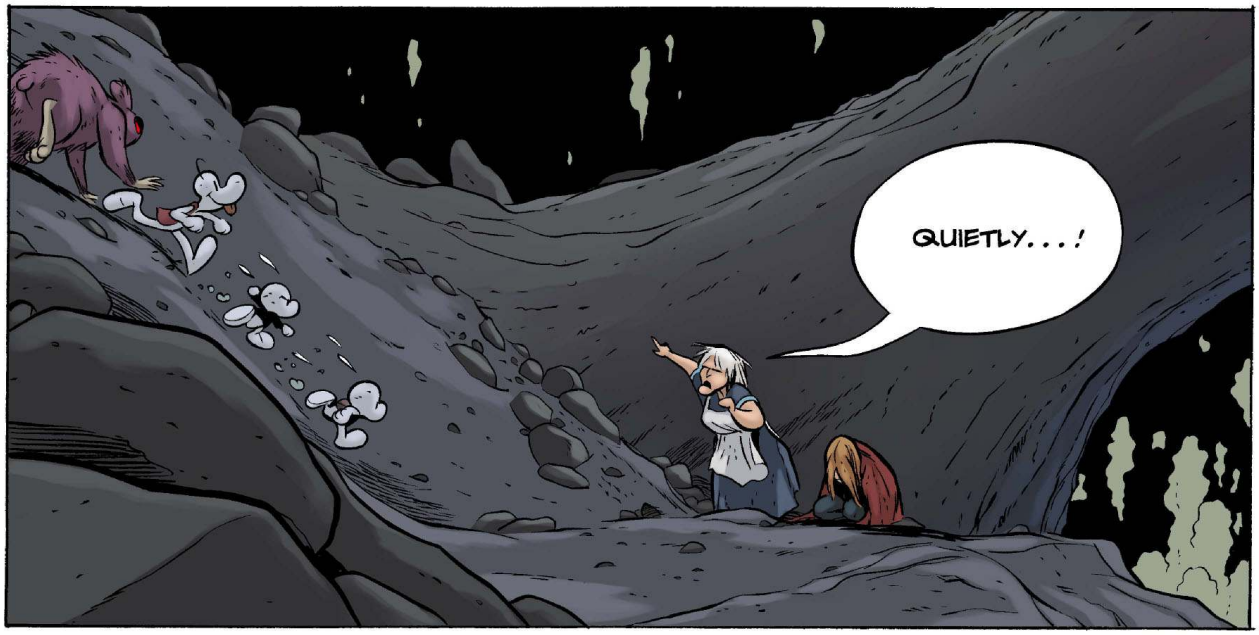

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU AFRAID OF GETTING CAUGHT IN THE DRAGONS' GRAVEYARD?
I FEEL LIKE I'M PINCHIN' PIES OFF OL' LADY JOHNSON BONE'S WINDOWSILL!
WE SHOULDN'T BE HERE, IT'S DIS-RESPECT-FUL.

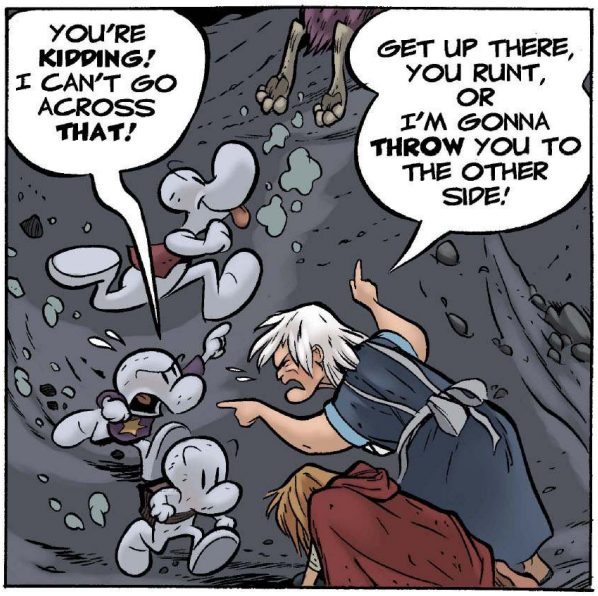


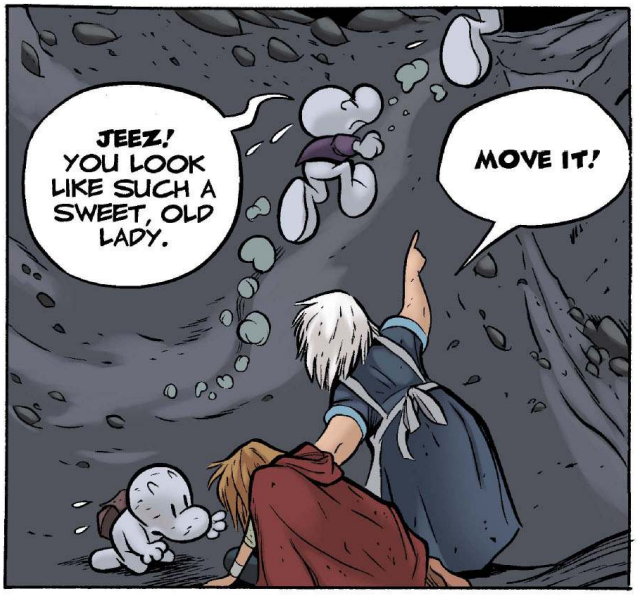
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

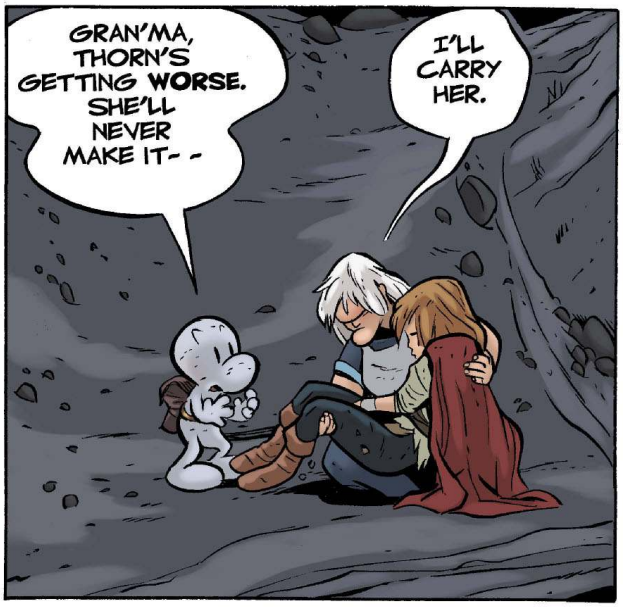

HEY, GUYS! LET'S GO!
WE FOUND A WAY ACROSS!
IT'S A BIG ROCK ARCH THAT'S REAL SKINNY AT THE TOP AND ABOUT A HUNDRED YARDS LONG.
IT'S PERFECT!
HEY!
DO YOU FEEL THAT? THE GROUND IS VIBRATING!
!
?
RRRRREEEEE
TK
TK
TK


WHOA--!
WHAT TH' HECK WAS THAT?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT WAS BIG, AN' IT WAS COMIN' OUTTA THAT PIT!
LOOK AT BARTLEBY!
IT'S THE DRAGONS! CAN'T YOU SMELL THE BRIMSTONE? IT'S EVERYWHERE!
WHOOOO! THAT'S STRONG!
OHMYGOSH.
THEY KNOW WE'RE HERE! TRESPASSING ON THEIR BURIAL GROUNDS!
WHAT DO WE DO?!
I DON'T KNOW!
I THINK IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA IF WE KEEP OUR VOICES DOWN.
THERE'S THE BRIDGE!
RUN FOR IT!


QUIETLY. . . !

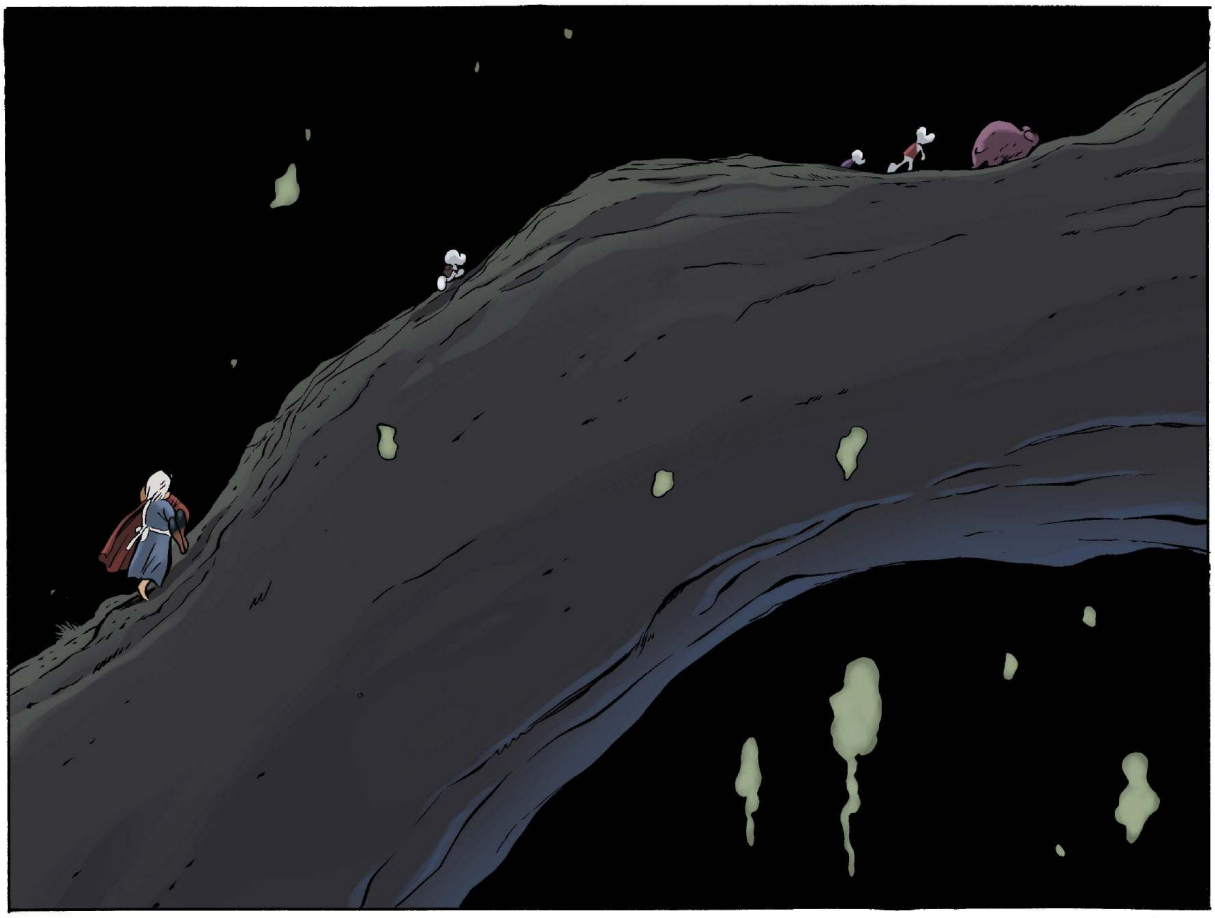

YOU'RE KIDDING! I CAN'T GO ACROSS THAT!
GET UP THERE, YOU RUNT, OR I'M GONNA THROW YOU TO THE OTHER SIDE!


JEEZ! YOU LOOK LIKE SUCH A SWEET, OLD LADY.
MOVE IT!

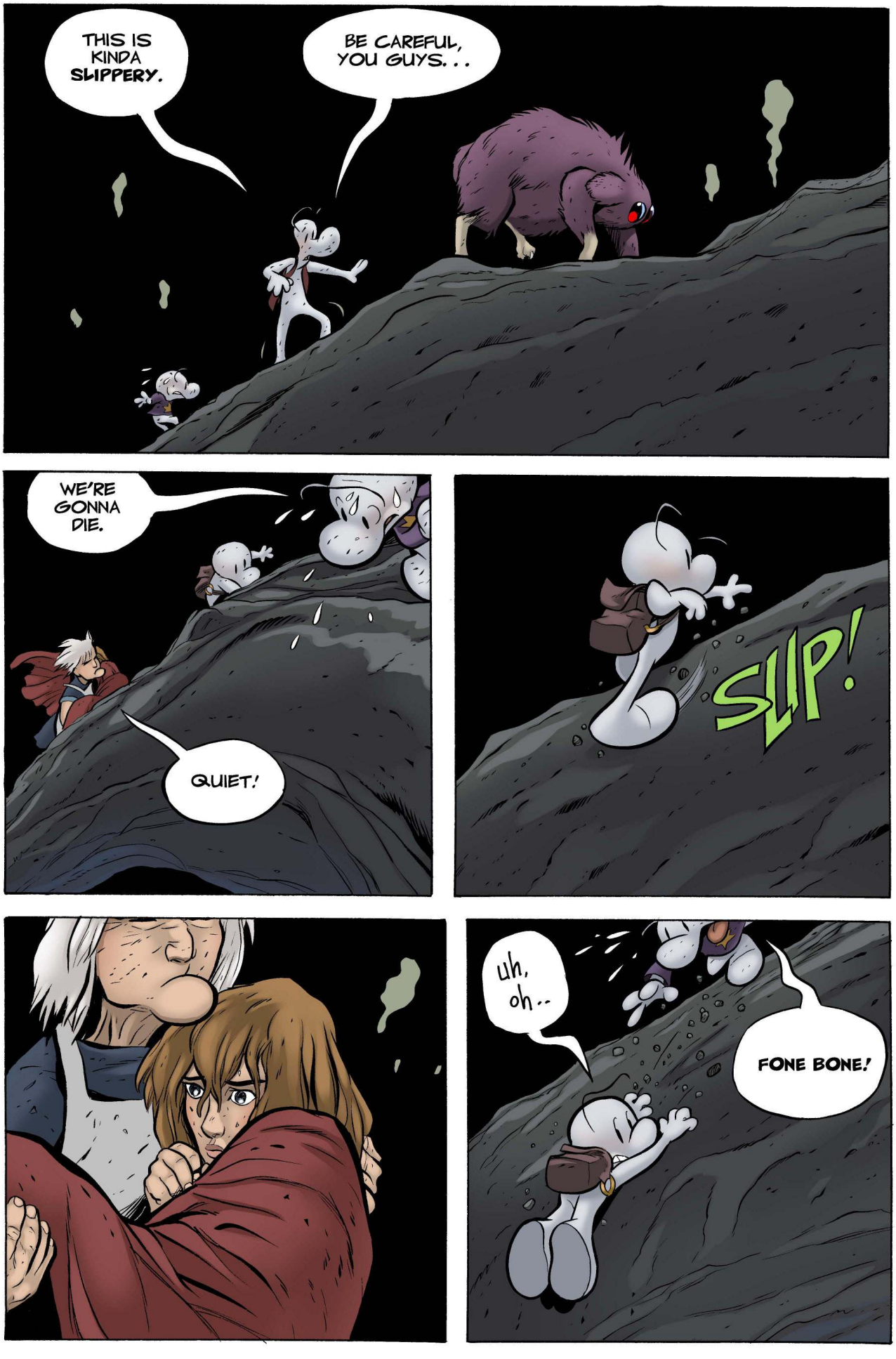

GRAN'MA, THORN'S GETTING WORSE. SHE'LL NEVER MAKE IT- -
I'LL CARRY HER.


HURRY!

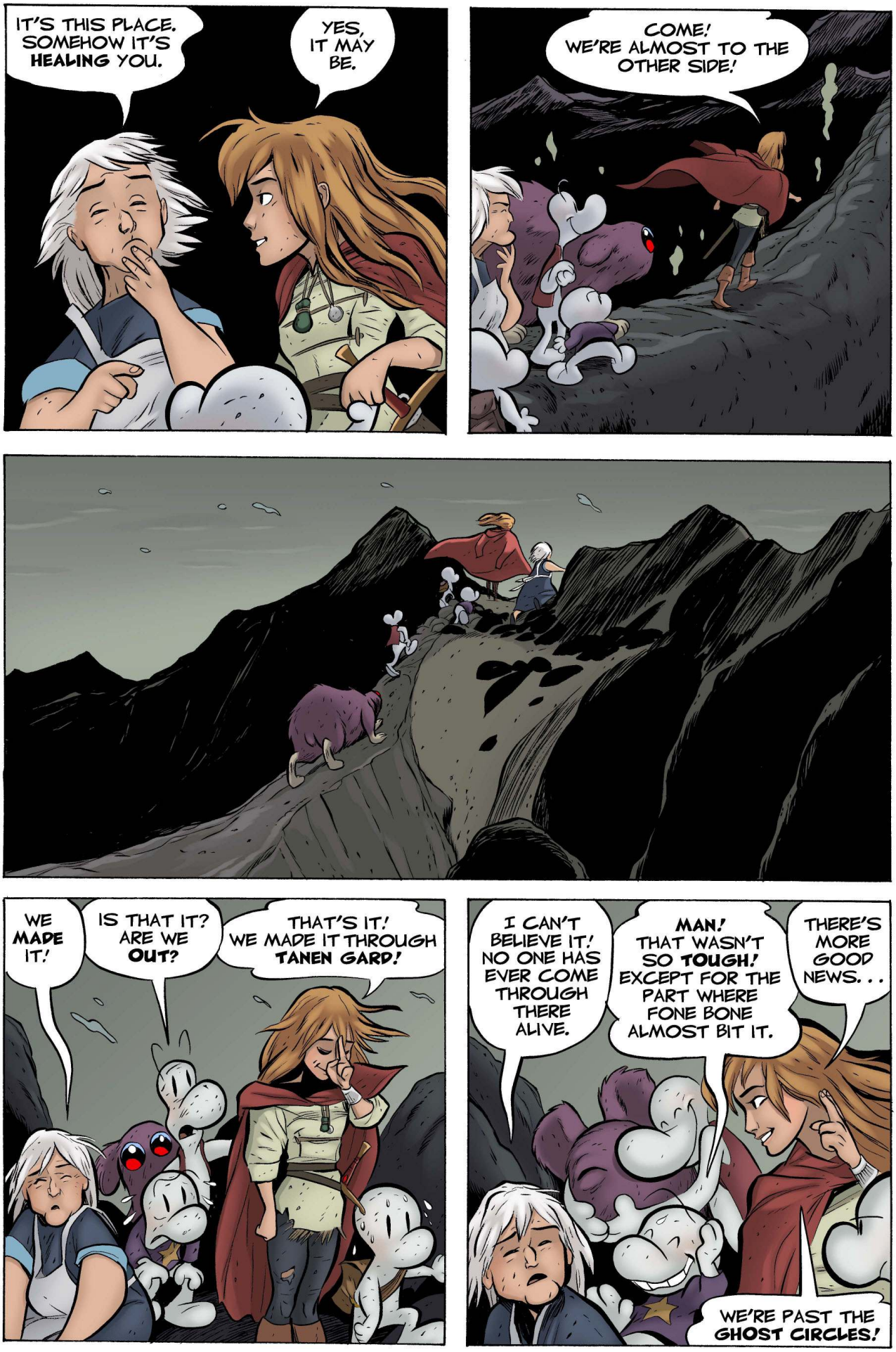


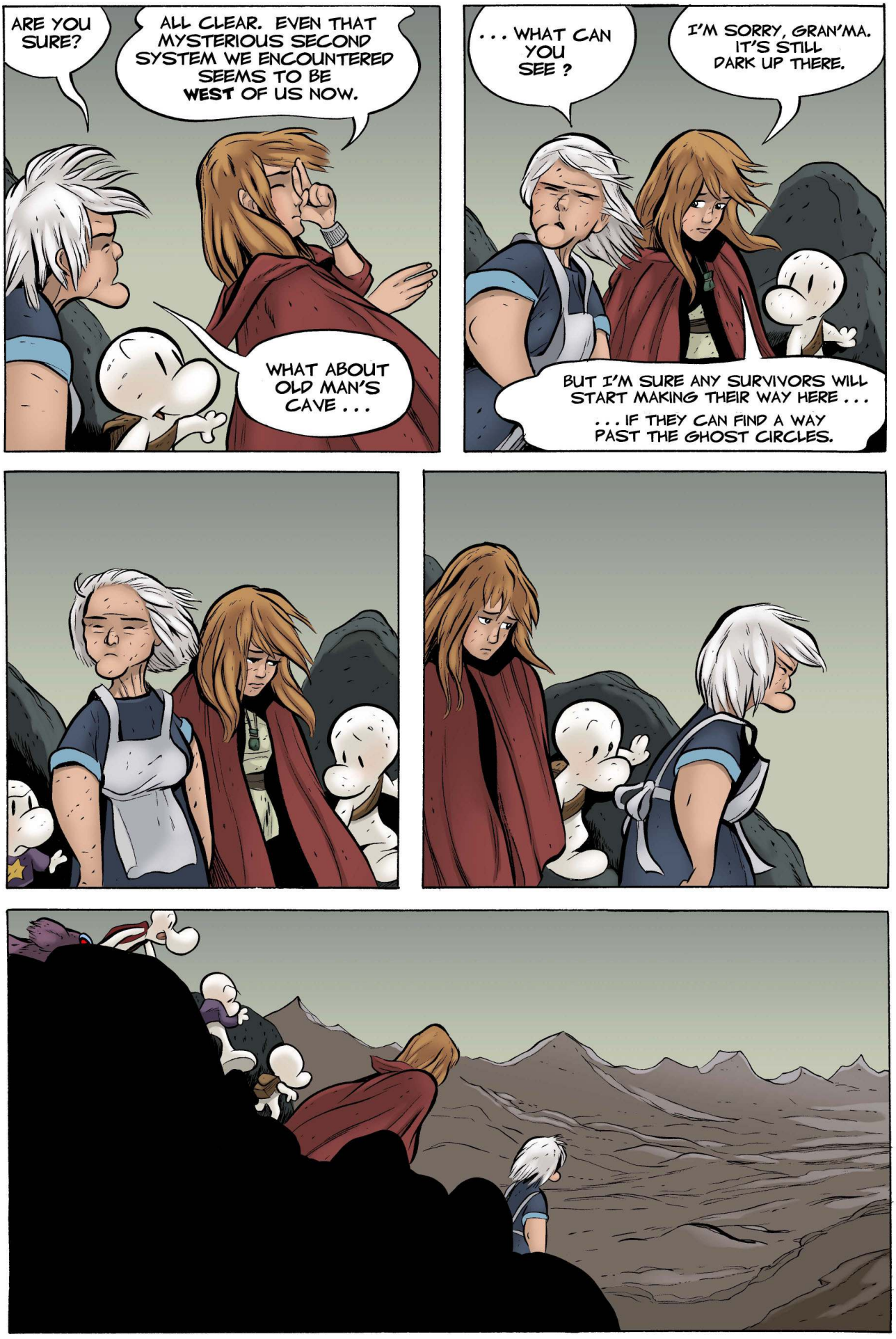


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THIS IS KINDA SLIPPERY.
BE CAREFUL, YOU GUYS...
WE'RE GONNA DIE.
QUIET!
SLIP!
uh, oh..
FONE BONE!


THORN! YOU'RE OKAY!
YES, I THINK I AM.
IN FACT, I FEEL REALLY GREAT!
HOW? WHAT HAPPENED?


IT'S THIS PLACE. SOMEHOW IT'S HEALING YOU.
YES, IT MAY BE.
COME! WE'RE ALMOST TO THE OTHER SIDE!
WE MADE IT!
IS THAT IT? ARE WE OUT?
THAT'S IT! WE MADE IT THROUGH TANEN GARD!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! NO ONE HAS EVER COME THROUGH THERE ALIVE.
MAN! THAT WASN'T SO TOUGH! EXCEPT FOR THE PART WHERE FONE BONE ALMOST BIT IT.
THERE'S MORE GOOD NEWS. . .
WE'RE PAST THE GHOST CIRCLES!


ARE YOU SURE?
ALL CLEAR. EVEN THAT MYSTERIOUS SECOND SYSTEM WE ENCOUNTERED SEEMS TO BE WEST OF US NOW.
WHAT ABOUT OLD MAN'S CAVE . . .
. . . WHAT CAN YOU SEE ?
I'M SORRY, GRAN'MA. IT'S STILL DARK UP THERE.
BUT I'M SURE ANY SURVIVORS WILL START MAKING THEIR WAY HERE . . .
. . . IF THEY CAN FIND A WAY PAST THE GHOST CIRCLES.










HALT!
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
YOU'RE THROUGH GIVIN' ORDERS AROUND HERE, STICK-EATER!
YEAH! WE WANT LUCIUS OUT OF THAT CELL NOW!!
I'LL CALL THE HEADMASTER - -
UURRK--
I'D STAND ASIDE IF I WERE YOU, SONNY BOY.
TAKE HIS SWORD.
YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE, LUCIUS. IT'S DANGEROUS OUT THERE!
SAVE IT FOR THE BROTHERHOOD.
EVERYBODY GOOD TO GO, WENDELL?
WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE WAITING AT THE CREEK.
YOU GONNA BE OKAY ON THAT LEG?
GONNA HAVE TO BE.


ALL RIGHT, BOYS, LOOK ALIVE. WE'RE GOIN' OUT THE FRONT DOOR.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, LUCIUS? I GAVE ORDERS FOR YOU TO STAY IN YOUR CELL.
WE'RE LEAVING. WE'RE NOT ASKING YOU TO GO WITH US, BUT WE'RE LEAVING.
WHERE WOULD YOU GO? THE VALLEY HAS BEEN DESTROYED. OUT THERE IS **DEATH** . . .
HERE - - ONLY **HERE** HAS ANYTHING SURVIVED. WE HAVE **FOOD** AND **SUPPLIES.**
GATHER UP YOUR SUPPLIES AND COME **WITH** US! WE'LL GO SOUTH TO THE OLD KINGDOM. THERE MUST BE **OTHER** SURVIVORS!
NO.
THIS IS THE END OF THE WORLD AND WE ARE **DISCIPLES OF VENU.** IT IS OUR DUTY TO PROTECT THE VENI-YAN WAY OF LIFE!


ARE YOU BLIND? WE'RE GONNA DIE HERE!
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE OFF YOUR HOODS AND SEE?!
WHO CARES ABOUT PROTECTING YOUR SECRET BROTHERHOOD? WE'VE GOT WIVES AND CHILDREN!


IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, HEADMASTER? PROTECT A SECRET BROTHERHOOD? AT THIS POINT, I HAVE TO ASK - -
WHO ARE YOU PROTECTING IT FOR?






WELL? WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO? WE'RE IN A BIT OF A HURRY.
THE WORLD IS ENDING, REMEMBER?



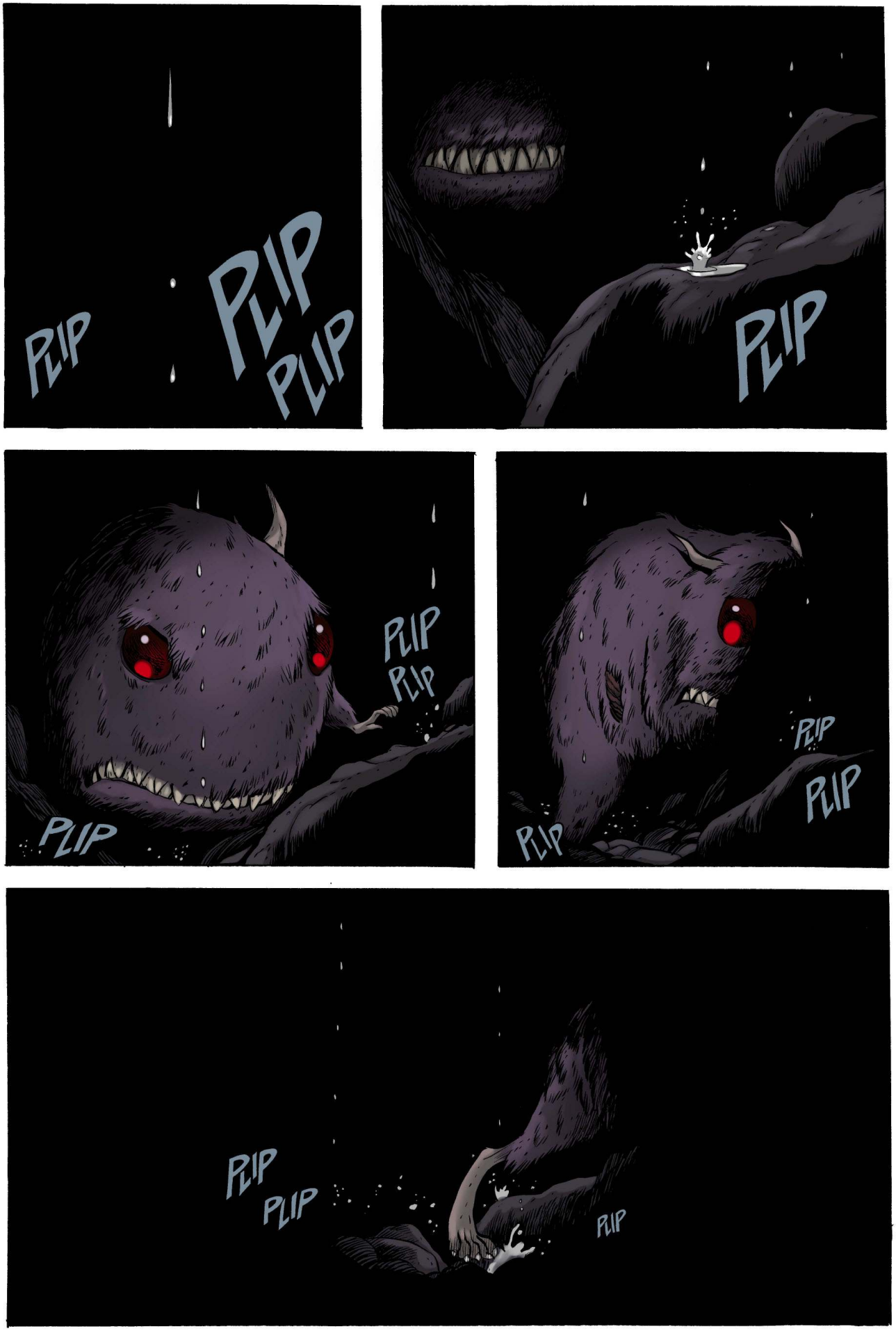


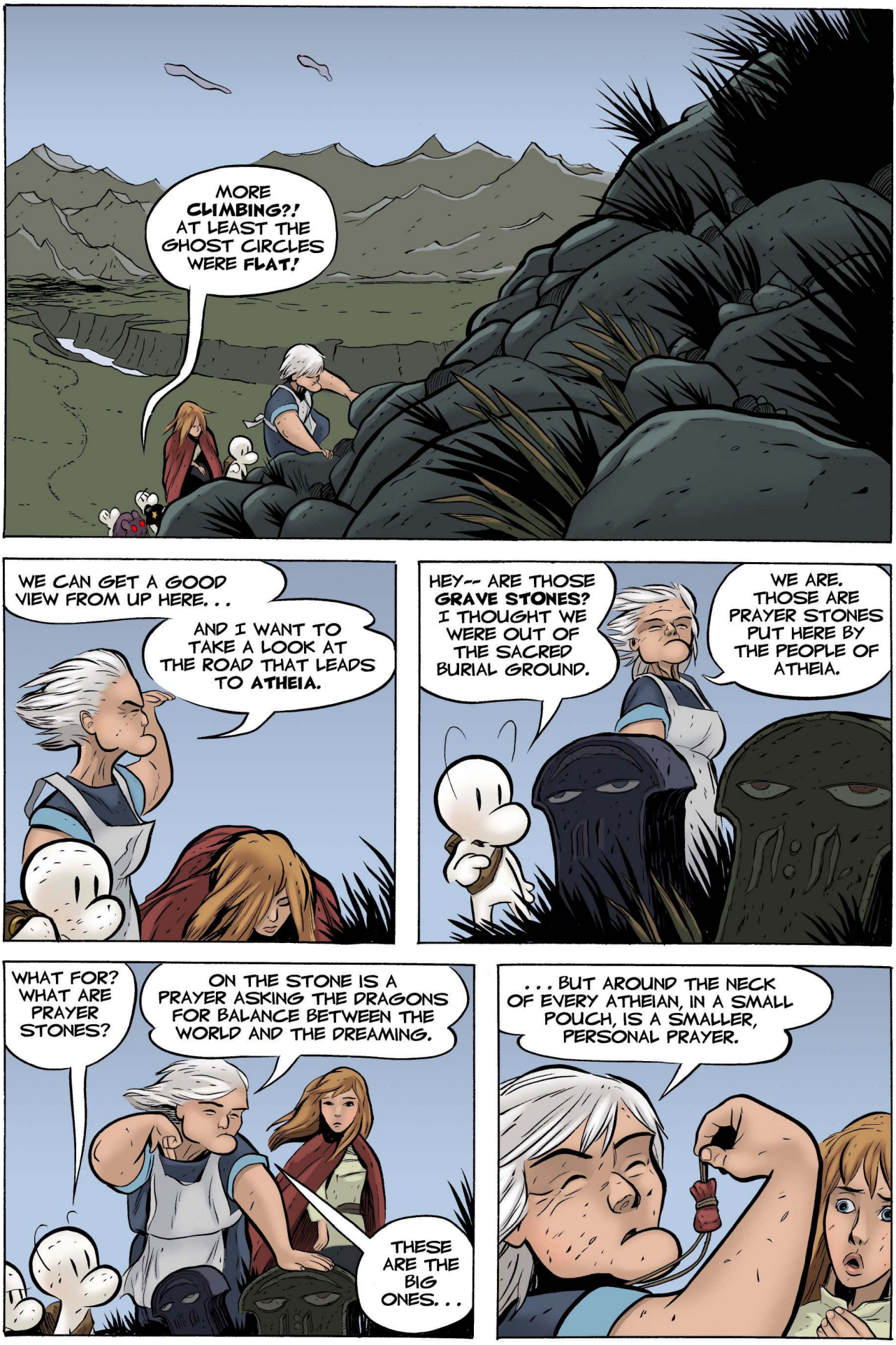


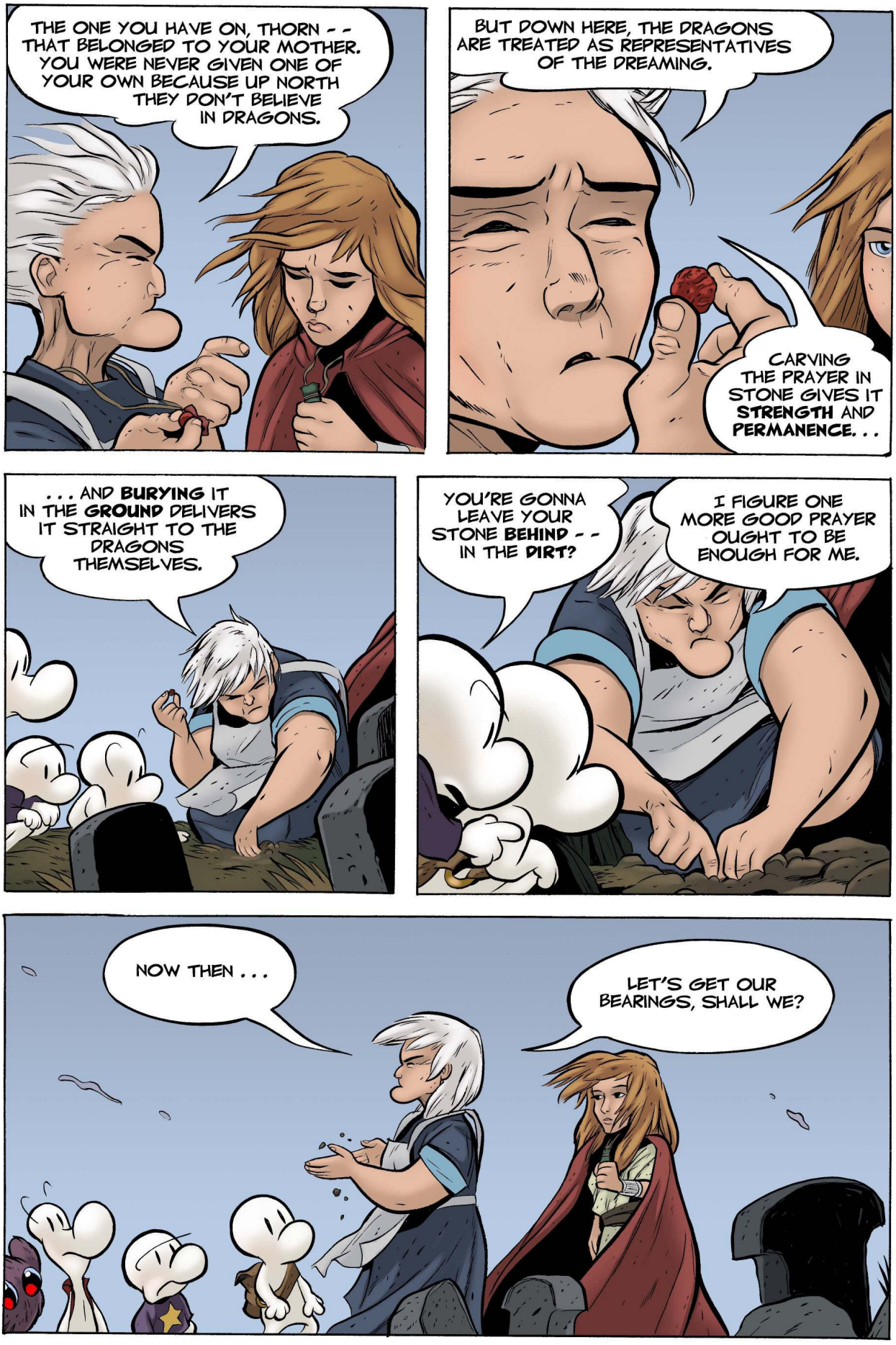

GATHER THE SUPPLIES. WE WILL GO TO THE OLD KINGDOM TOGETHER.




PLIP
PLIP

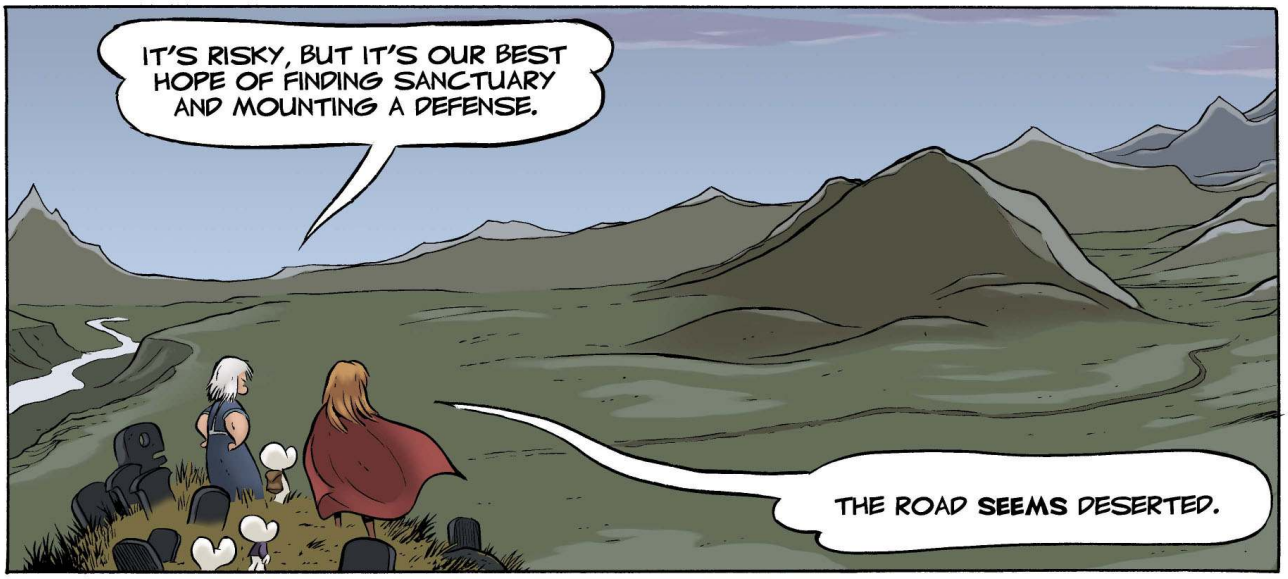

PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP

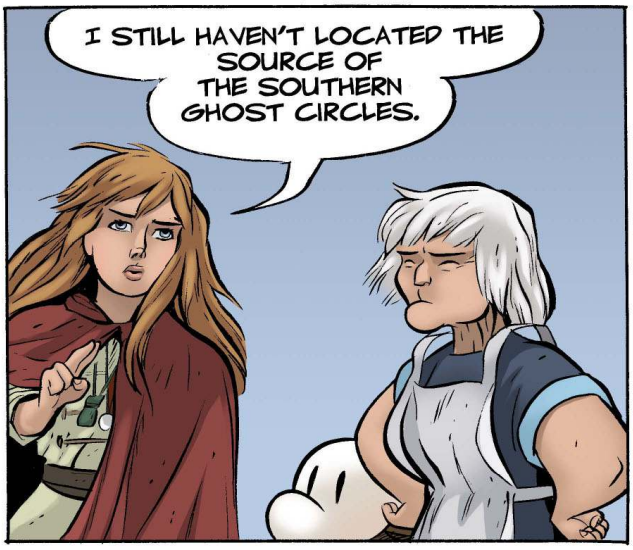

MORE CLIMBING?! AT LEAST THE GHOST CIRCLES WERE FLAT!
WE CAN GET A GOOD VIEW FROM UP HERE...
AND I WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO ATHEIA.
HEY-- ARE THOSE GRAVE STONES? I THOUGHT WE WERE OUT OF THE SACRED BURIAL GROUND.
WE ARE. THOSE ARE PRAYER STONES PUT HERE BY THE PEOPLE OF ATHEIA.
WHAT FOR? WHAT ARE PRAYER STONES?
ON THE STONE IS A PRAYER ASKING THE DRAGONS FOR BALANCE BETWEEN THE WORLD AND THE DREAMING.
THESE ARE THE BIG ONES...
...BUT AROUND THE NECK OF EVERY ATHEIAN, IN A SMALL POUCH, IS A SMALLER, PERSONAL PRAYER.

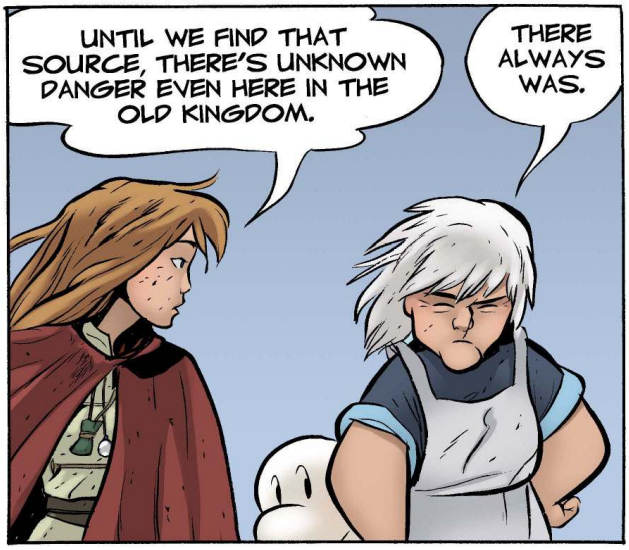


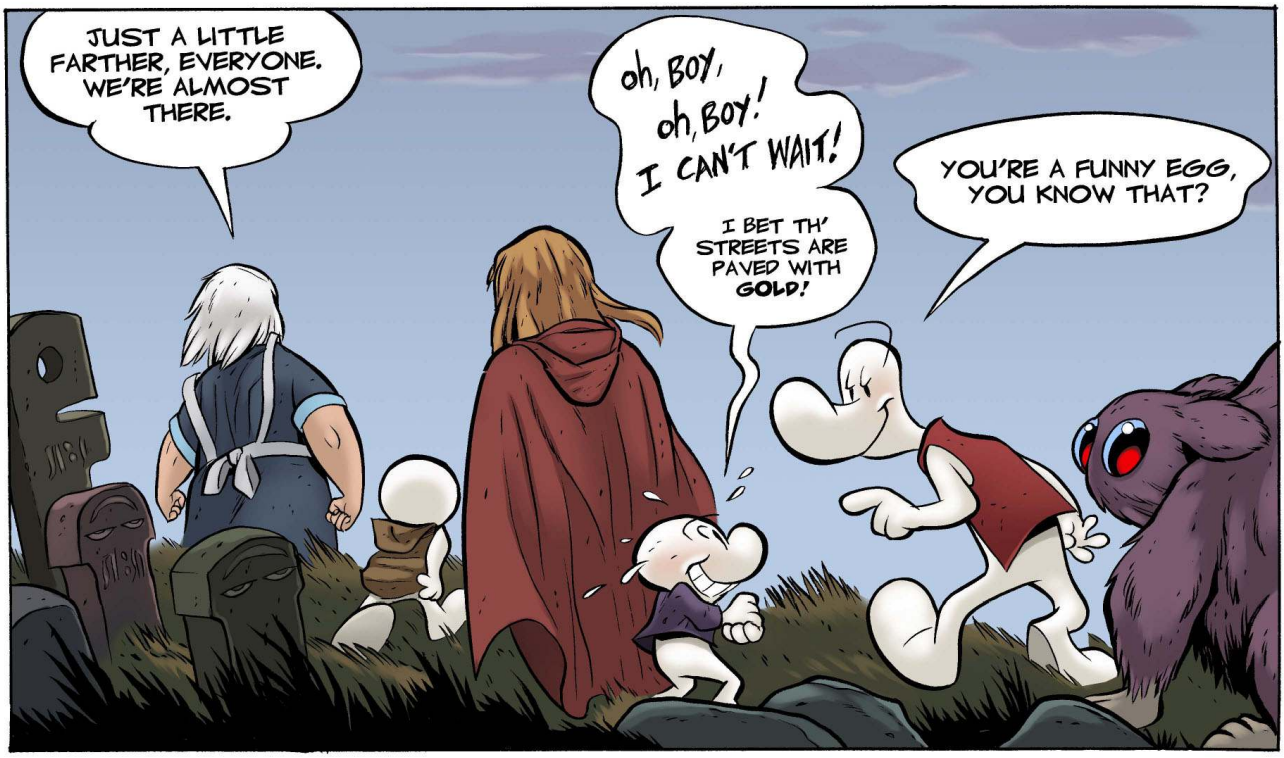
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THAT'S THE PATH WE JUST CAME DOWN FROM THE BURIAL GROUND.
TANEN GARD IS PART OF THE SAME RIVER AND GORGE SYSTEM AS OLD MAN'S CAVE. THE RIVER RUNS ALL THE WAY UP THROUGH THE VALLEY BACK TO BARRELHAVEN.
TO THE SOUTH OF US LIES THE OLD PAWA-ATHEIA ROAD. THE **CITY** OF PAWA IS IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE EASTERN MOUTAINS.
THE BRIDGE IS OUT. THE ROAD IS ABANDONED.
THE PAWANIANS HAVE GONE OVER TO THE LOCUST. TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO ANCIENT CITIES HAS CEASED.
THIS IS THE DIRECTION WE NEED TO GO.
WEST.
TWO DAYS WALK WILL BRING US TO WITHIN SIGHT OF ATHEIA'S GATES.
HMMM. THE GHOST CIRCLES WILL SLOW THE RAT CREATURES DOWN, BUT THAT'S STILL TWO DAYS OUT IN THE OPEN.

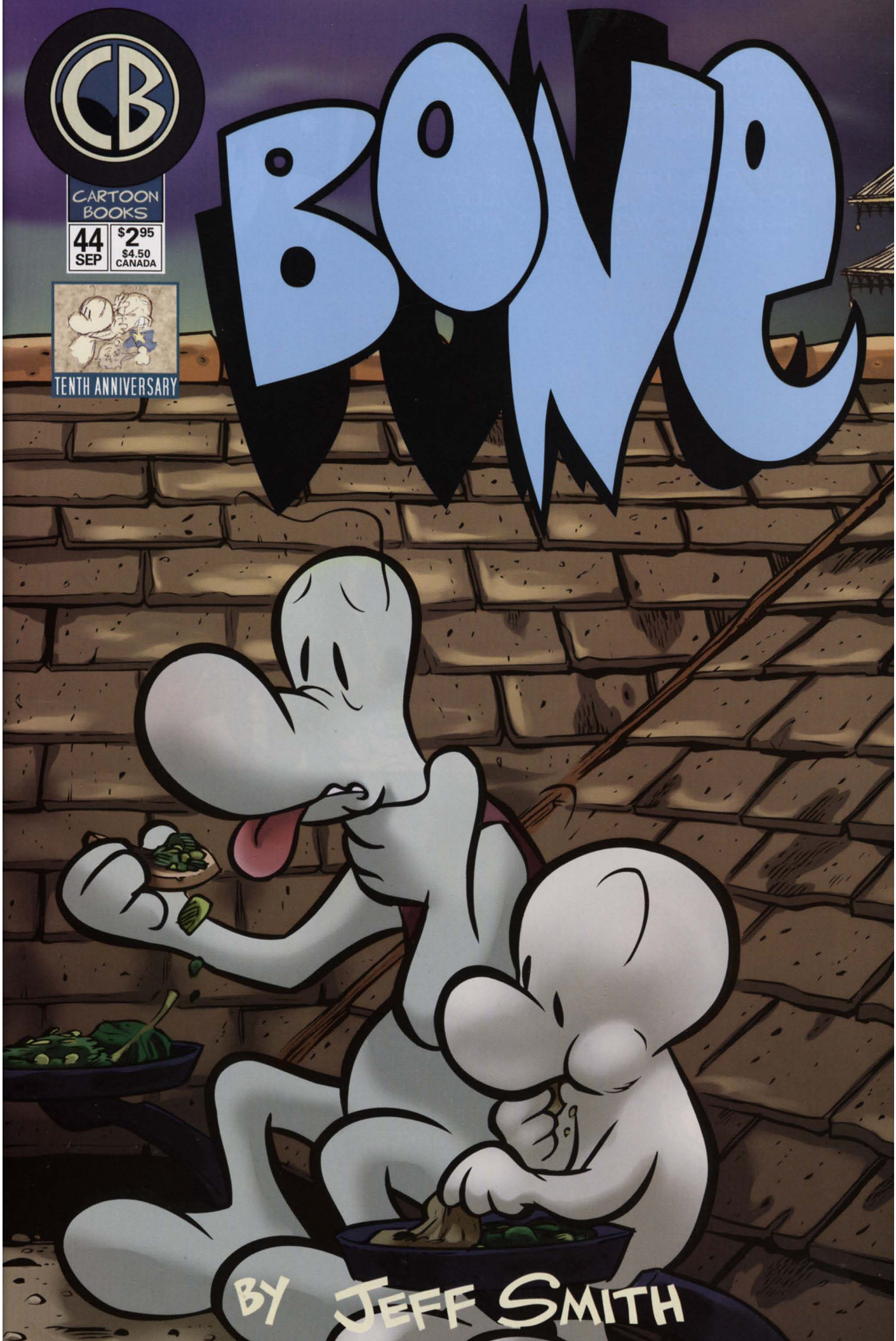

IT'S RISKY, BUT IT'S OUR BEST HOPE OF FINDING SANCTUARY AND MOUNTING A DEFENSE.
THE ROAD SEEMS DESERTED.


I STILL HAVEN'T LOCATED THE SOURCE OF THE SOUTHERN GHOST CIRCLES.

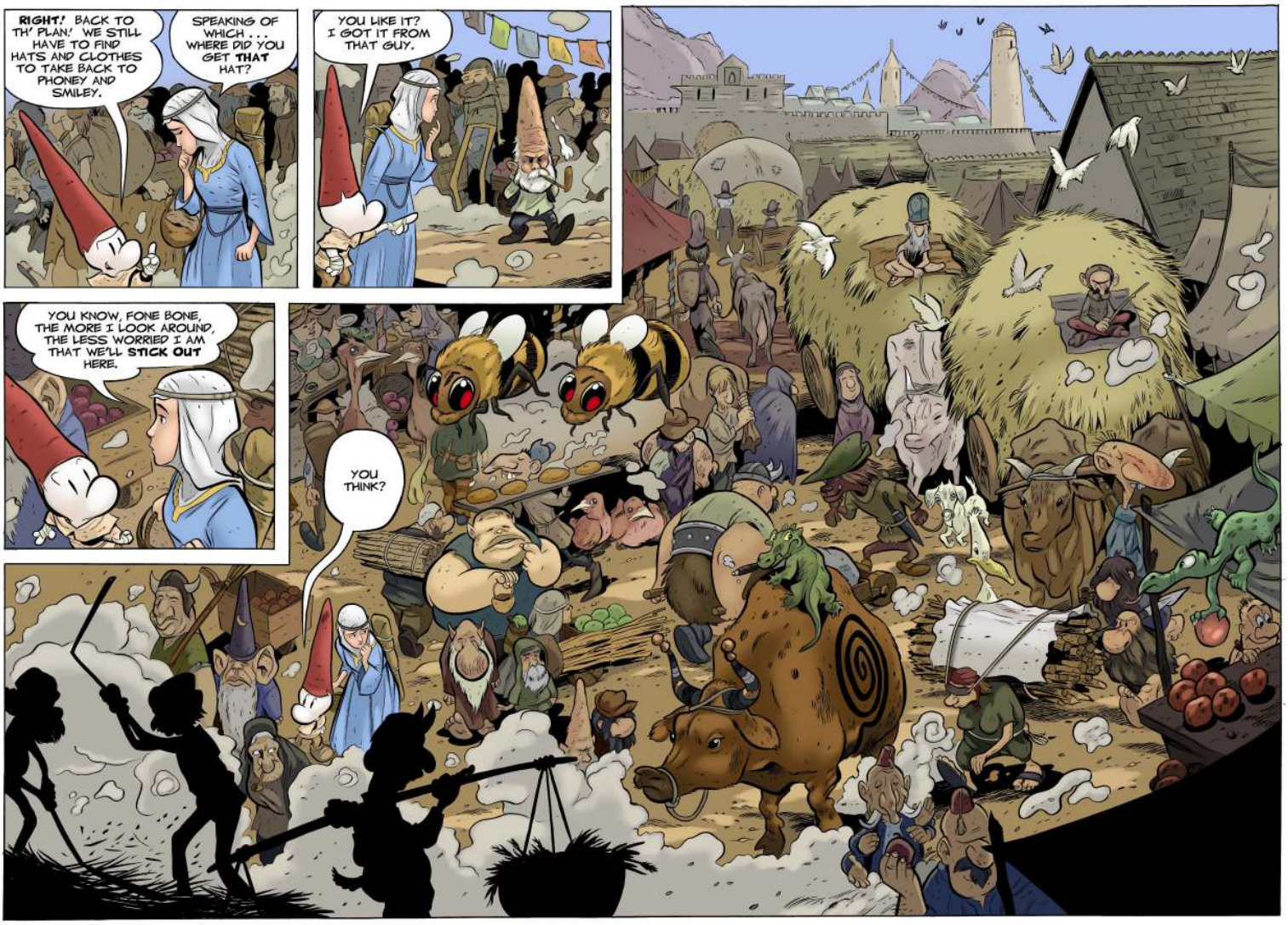

UNTIL WE FIND THAT SOURCE, THERE'S UNKNOWN DANGER EVEN HERE IN THE OLD KINGDOM.
THERE ALWAYS WAS.

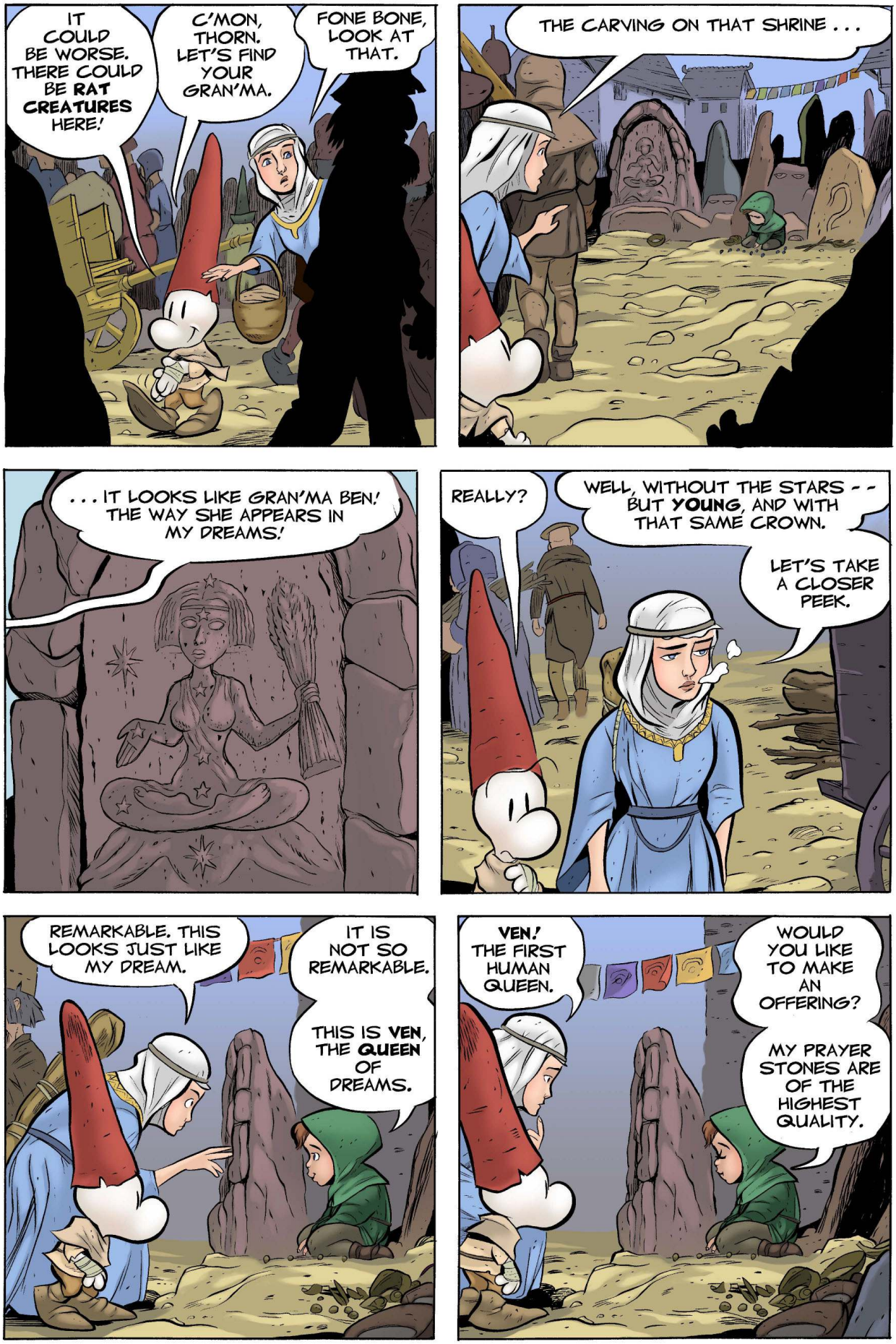

JUST A LITTLE FARTHER, EVERYONE. WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
oh, BOY, oh, BOY! I CAN'T WAIT!
I BET TH' STREETS ARE PAVED WITH GOLD!
YOU'RE A FUNNY EGG, YOU KNOW THAT?

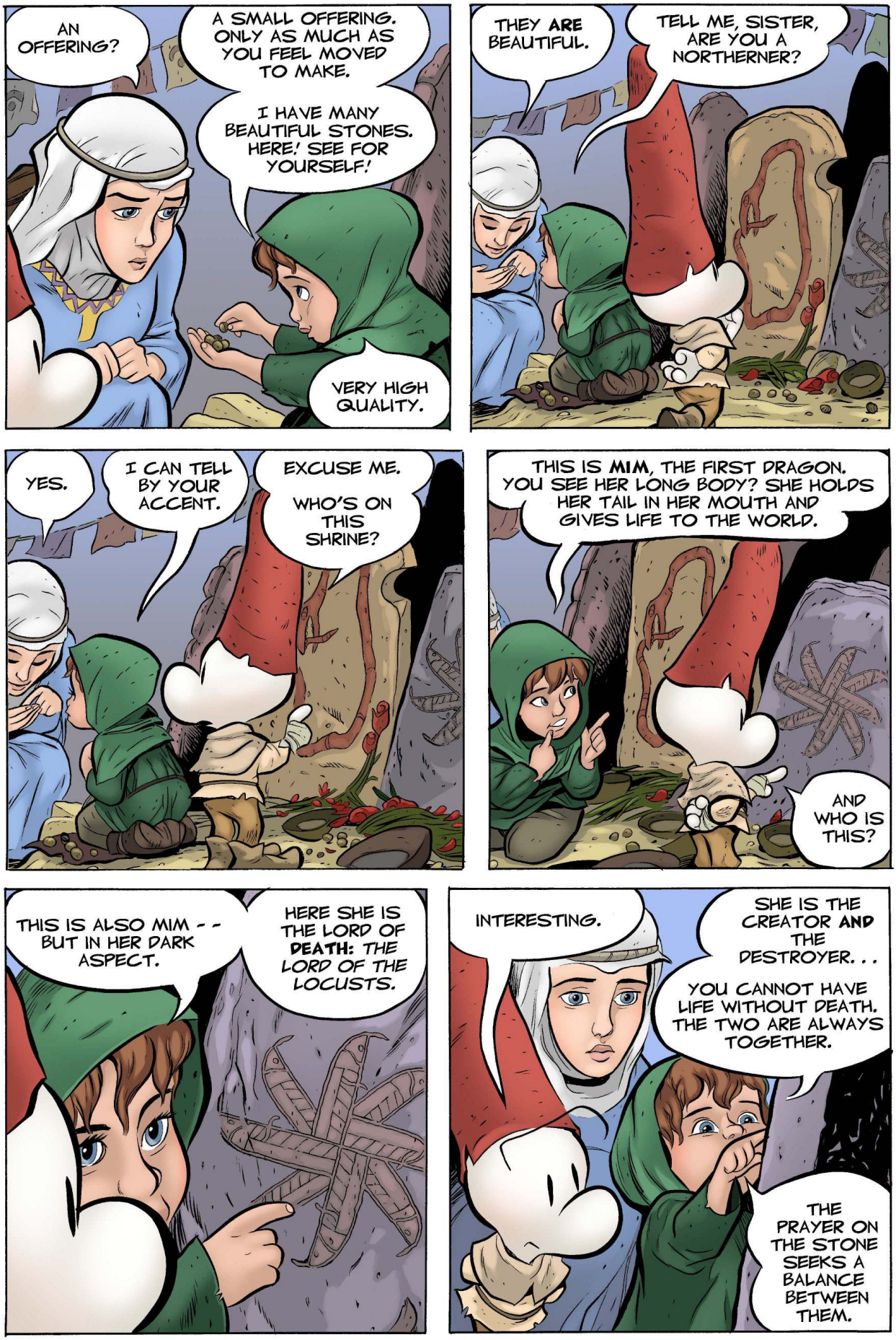

I'M A FUNNY EGG? **YOU'RE** A FUNNY EGG!
NO, I'M NOT! **WHAT AM I,** BARTLEBY?
YOU'RE **ACES,** SMILEY!

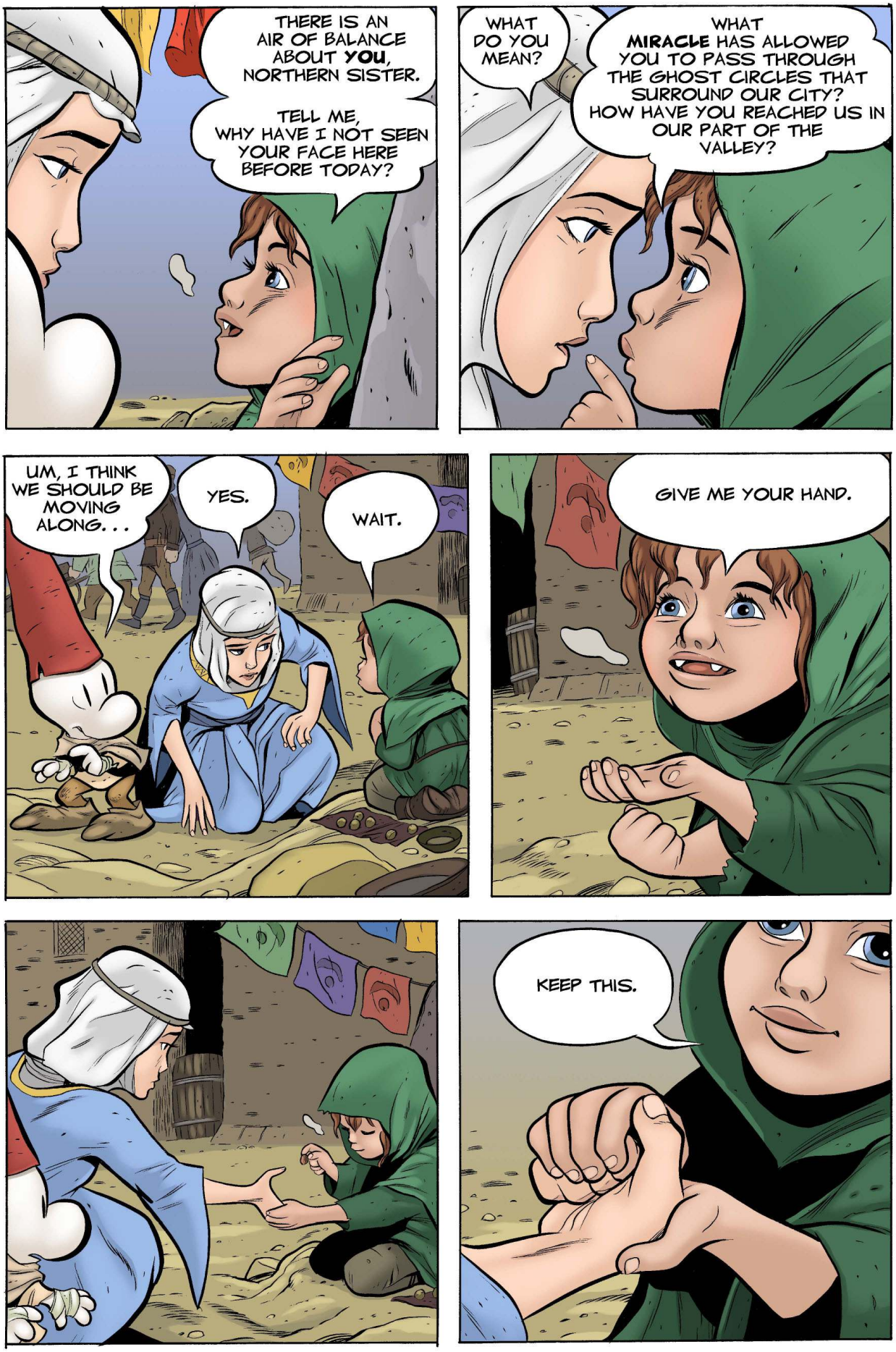

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
44
SEP
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
TENTH ANNIVERSARY
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

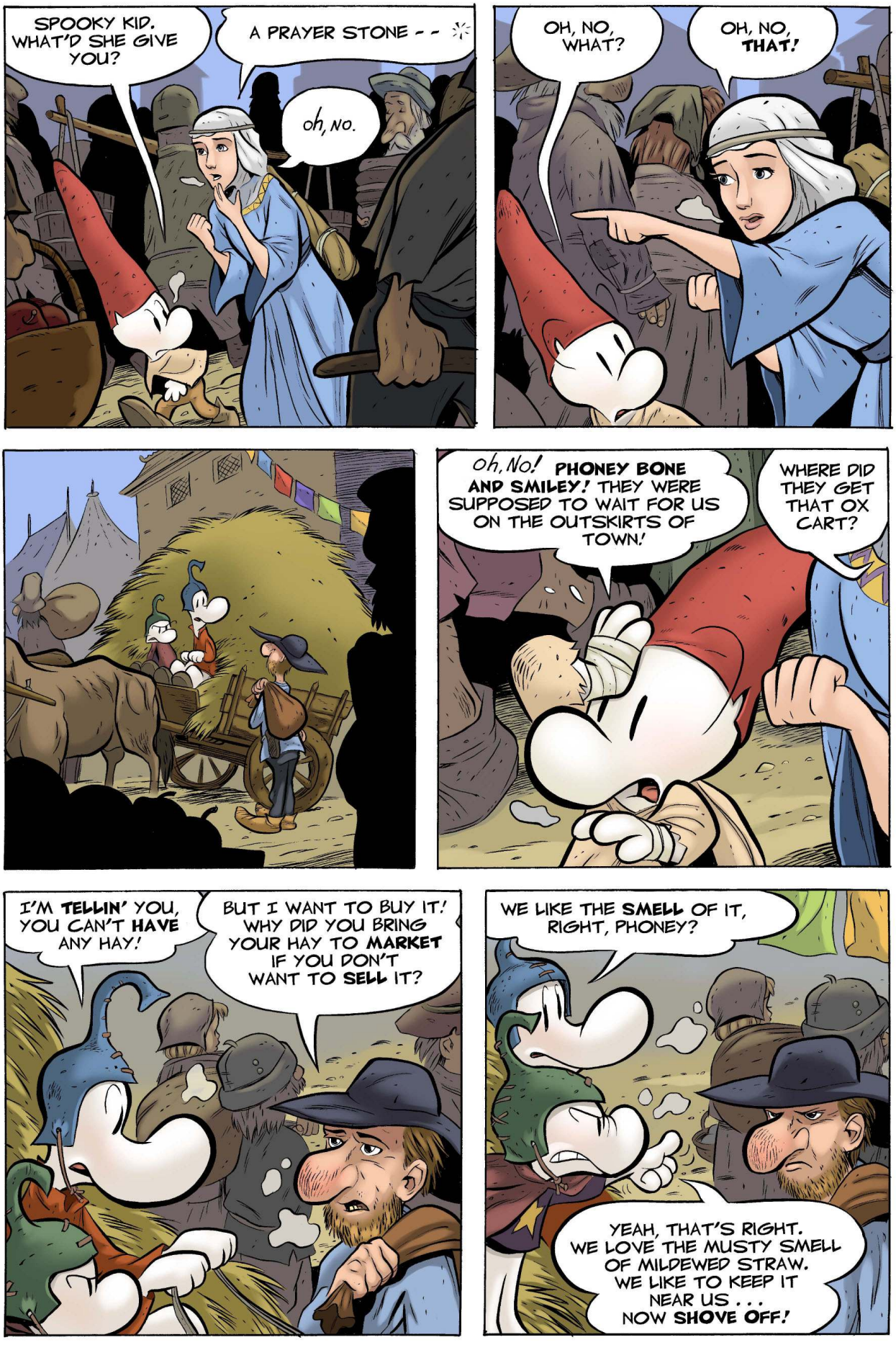

BONE
LOOK AT ALL THE PEOPLE!
THE GHOST CIRCLES HAVE FORCED EVERY LIVING CREATURE OF THE VALLEY INTO THIS ONE TINY PLACE!
IT'S LIKE A REFUGEE CAMP-- AND IF ALL THESE FOLKS WANT TO GET INSIDE THE CITY, IT'S NOT GOING TO MAKE IT ANY EASIER FOR US!
WE'LL GET IN. GRAN'MA BEN IS TRYING TO FIND SOMEONE TO SMUGGLE US IN.
EVEN THOUGH ONE WORD FROM EITHER OF YOU WOULD RAISE THE GATE SO FAST THEIR HEADS WOULD SPIN!
NO ONE KNOWS WHO WE ARE, AND UNTIL WE SEE THE SITUATION INSIDE THE CITY, IT'S BEST TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.
WE ALL AGREED, REMEMBER?

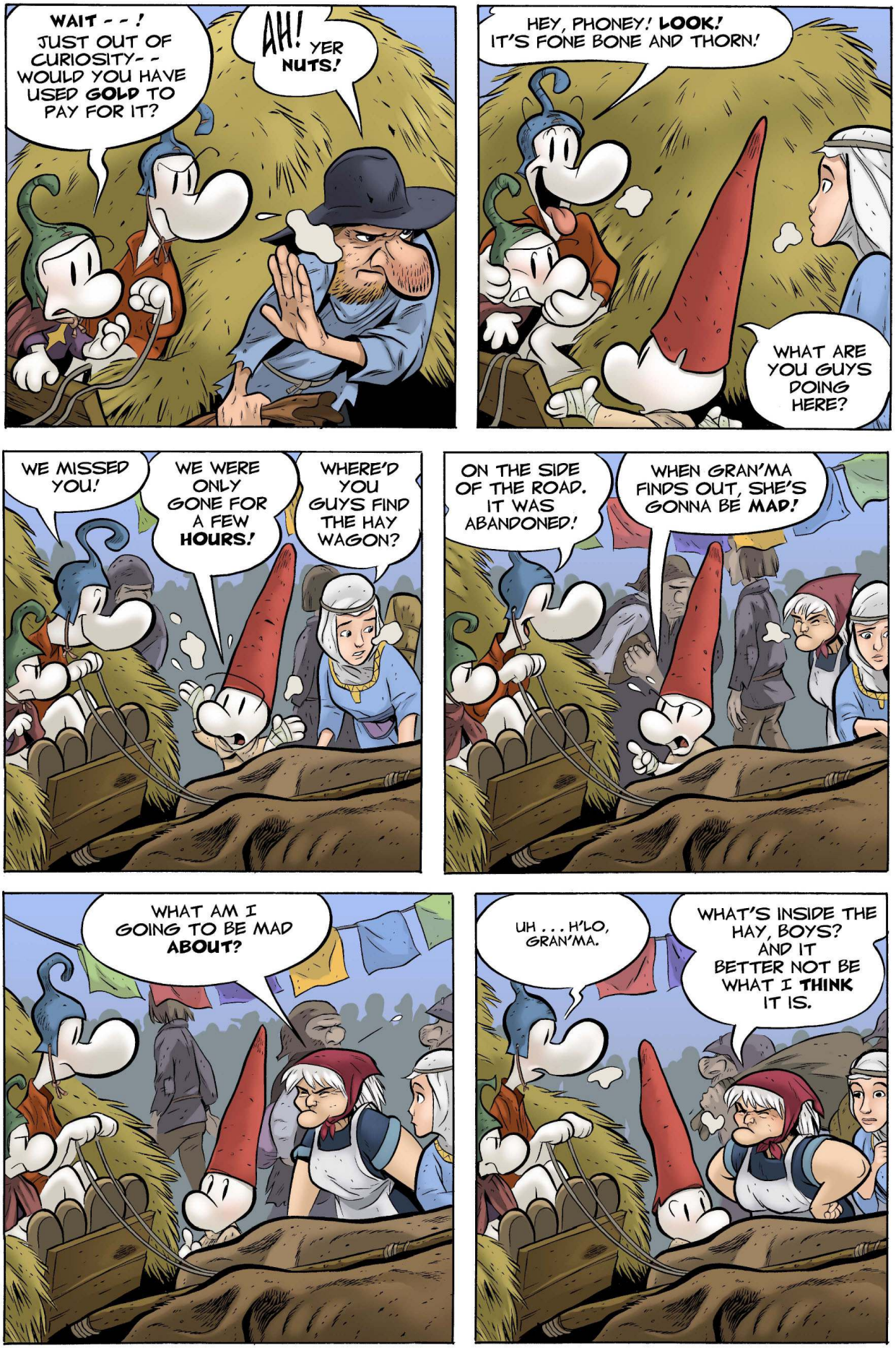

RIGHT! BACK TO TH' PLAN! WE STILL HAVE TO FIND HATS AND CLOTHES TO TAKE BACK TO PHONEY AND SMILEY.
SPEAKING OF WHICH . . . WHERE DID YOU GET THAT HAT?
YOU LIKE IT? I GOT IT FROM THAT GUY.
YOU KNOW, FONE BONE, THE MORE I LOOK AROUND, THE LESS WORRIED I AM THAT WE'LL STICK OUT HERE.
YOU THINK?

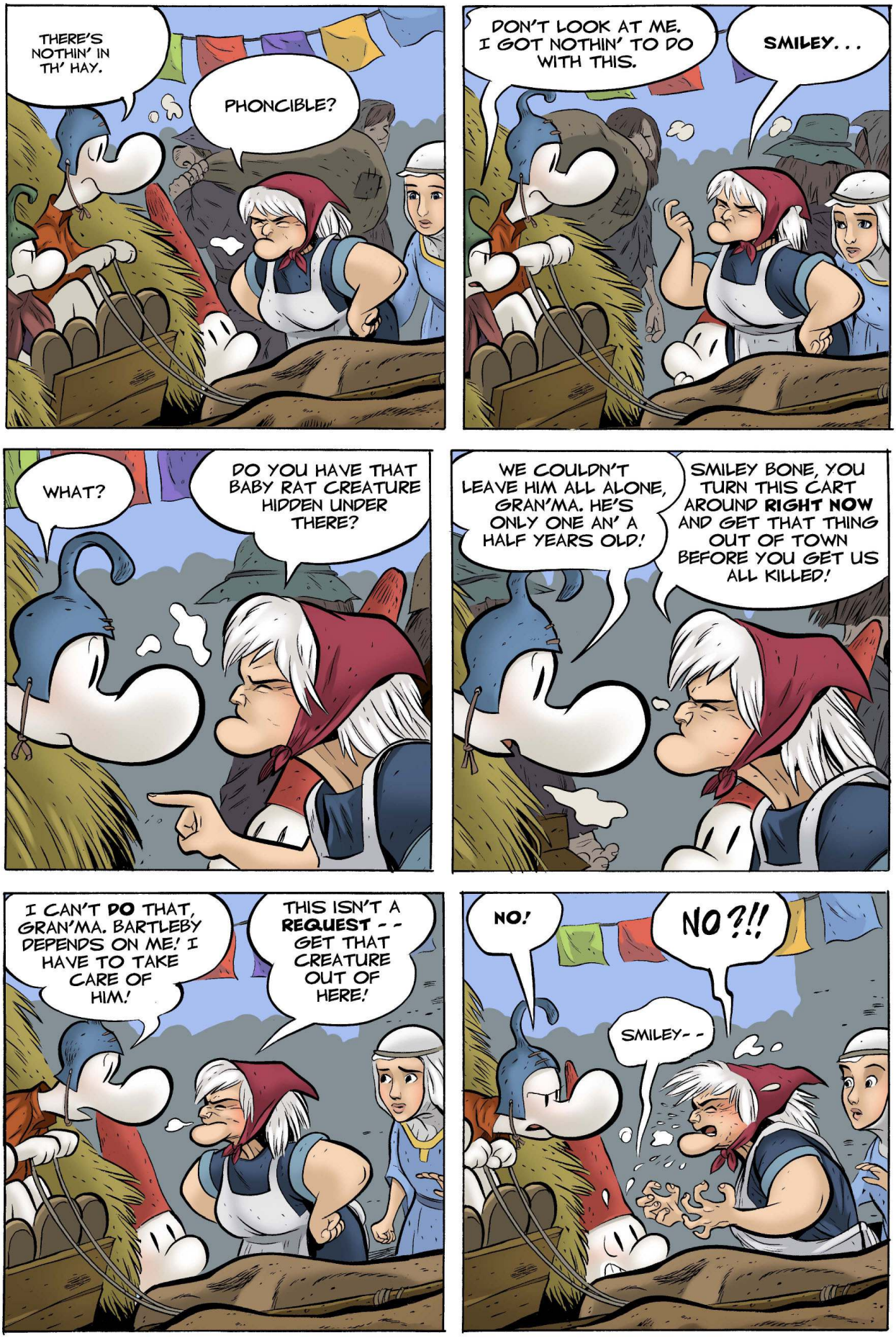

IT COULD BE WORSE. THERE COULD BE **RAT CREATURES** HERE!
C'MON, THORN. LET'S FIND YOUR GRAN'MA.
FONE BONE, LOOK AT THAT.
THE CARVING ON THAT SHRINE . . .
. . . IT LOOKS LIKE GRAN'MA BEN! THE WAY SHE APPEARS IN MY DREAMS!
REALLY?
WELL, WITHOUT THE STARS - - BUT **YOUNG**, AND WITH THAT SAME CROWN.
LET'S TAKE A CLOSER PEEK.
REMARKABLE. THIS LOOKS JUST LIKE MY DREAM.
IT IS NOT SO REMARKABLE.
THIS IS **VEN**, THE **QUEEN** OF DREAMS.
VEN! THE FIRST HUMAN QUEEN.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE AN OFFERING?
MY PRAYER STONES ARE OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY.

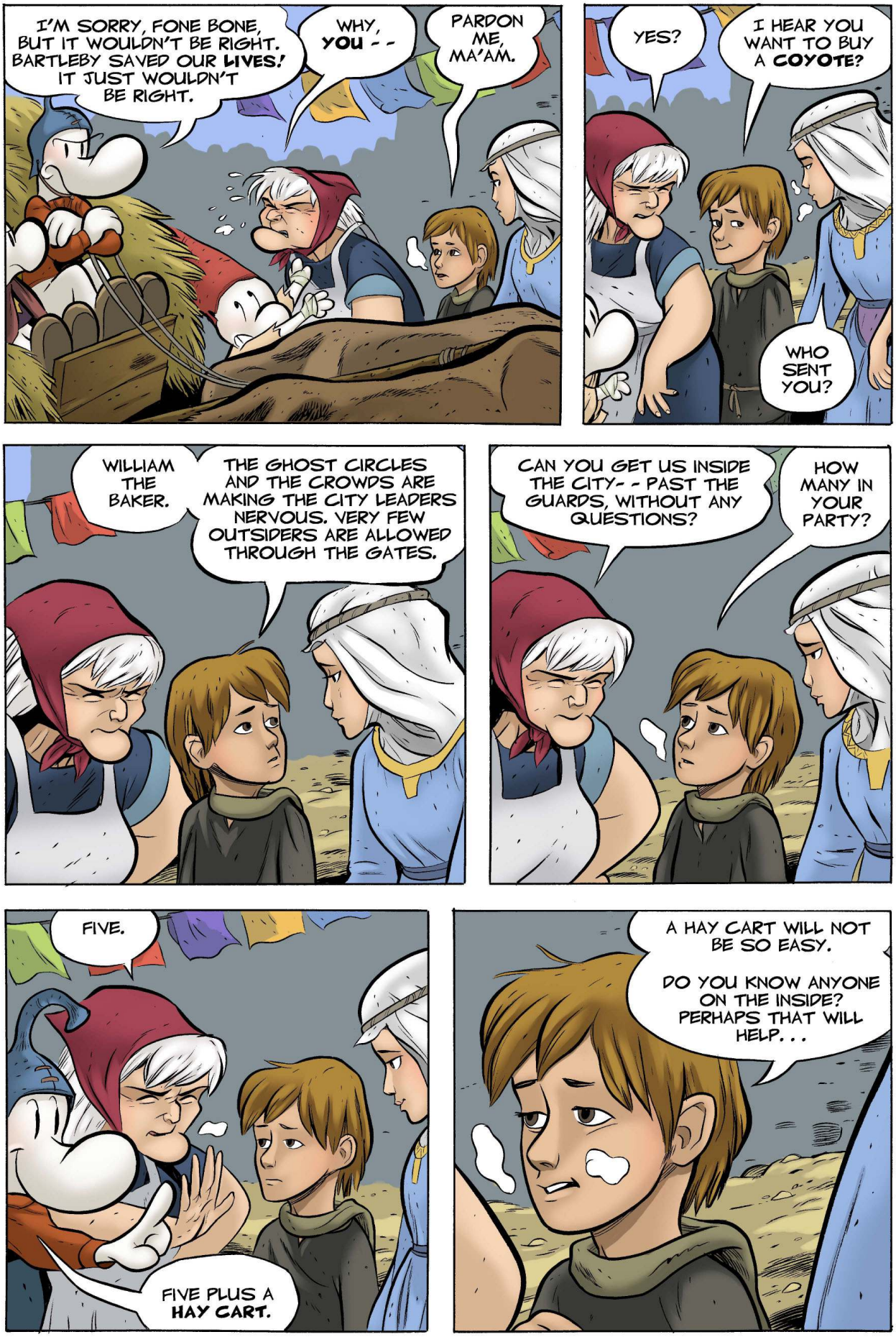

AN OFFERING?
A SMALL OFFERING. ONLY AS MUCH AS YOU FEEL MOVED TO MAKE.
I HAVE MANY BEAUTIFUL STONES. HERE! SEE FOR YOURSELF!
VERY HIGH QUALITY.
THEY ARE BEAUTIFUL.
TELL ME, SISTER, ARE YOU A NORTHERNER?
YES.
I CAN TELL BY YOUR ACCENT.
EXCUSE ME. WHO'S ON THIS SHRINE?
THIS IS MIM, THE FIRST DRAGON. YOU SEE HER LONG BODY? SHE HOLDS HER TAIL IN HER MOUTH AND GIVES LIFE TO THE WORLD.
AND WHO IS THIS?
THIS IS ALSO MIM - - BUT IN HER DARK ASPECT.
HERE SHE IS THE LORD OF DEATH: THE LORD OF THE LOCUSTS.
INTERESTING.
SHE IS THE CREATOR AND THE DESTROYER. . .
YOU CANNOT HAVE LIFE WITHOUT DEATH. THE TWO ARE ALWAYS TOGETHER.
THE PRAYER ON THE STONE SEEKS A BALANCE BETWEEN THEM.

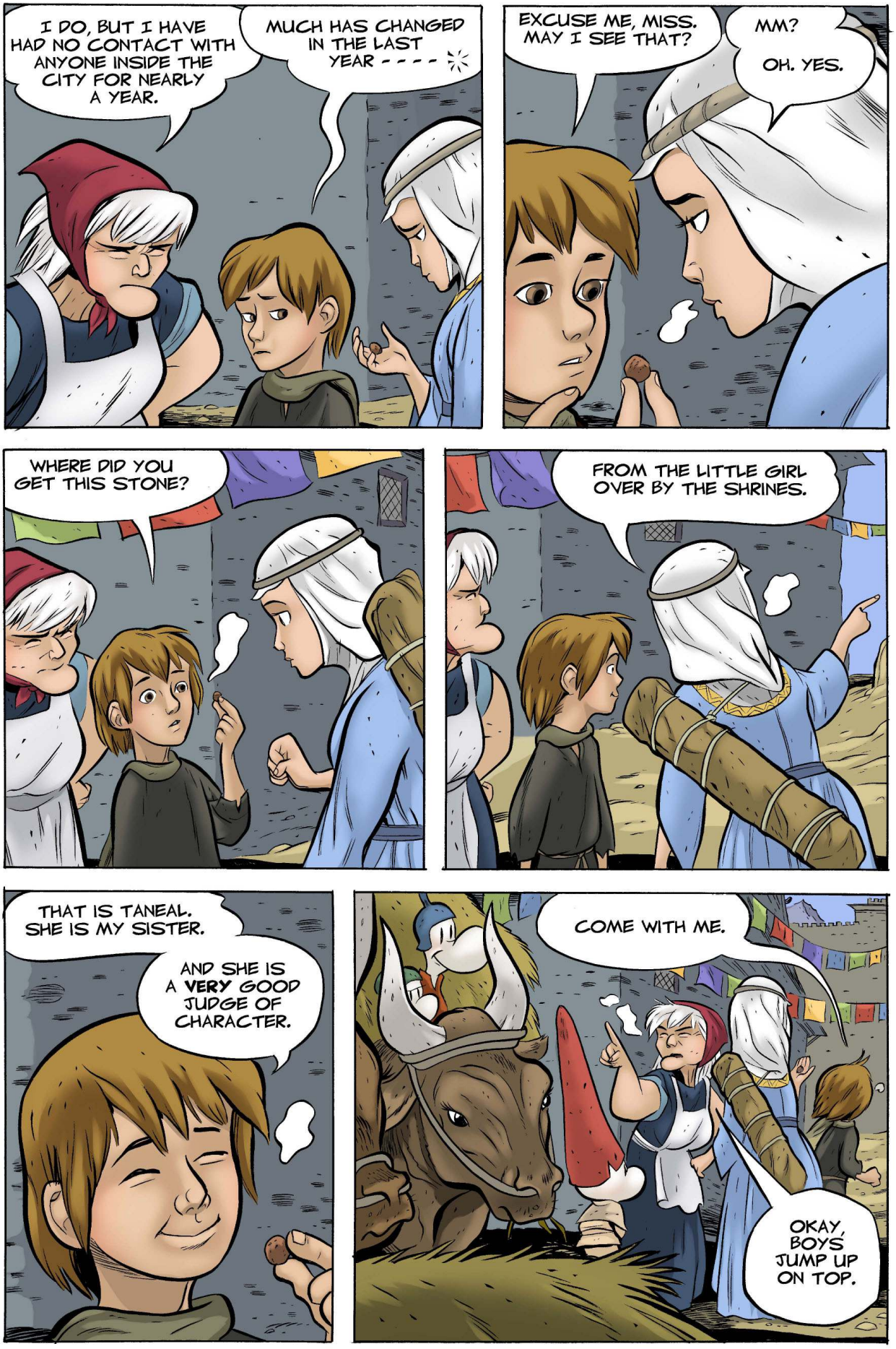

THERE IS AN AIR OF BALANCE ABOUT **YOU**, NORTHERN SISTER.
TELL ME, WHY HAVE I NOT SEEN YOUR FACE HERE BEFORE TODAY?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT **MIRACLE** HAS ALLOWED YOU TO PASS THROUGH THE GHOST CIRCLES THAT SURROUND OUR CITY? HOW HAVE YOU REACHED US IN OUR PART OF THE VALLEY?
UM, I THINK WE SHOULD BE MOVING ALONG. . .
YES.
WAIT.
GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
KEEP THIS.

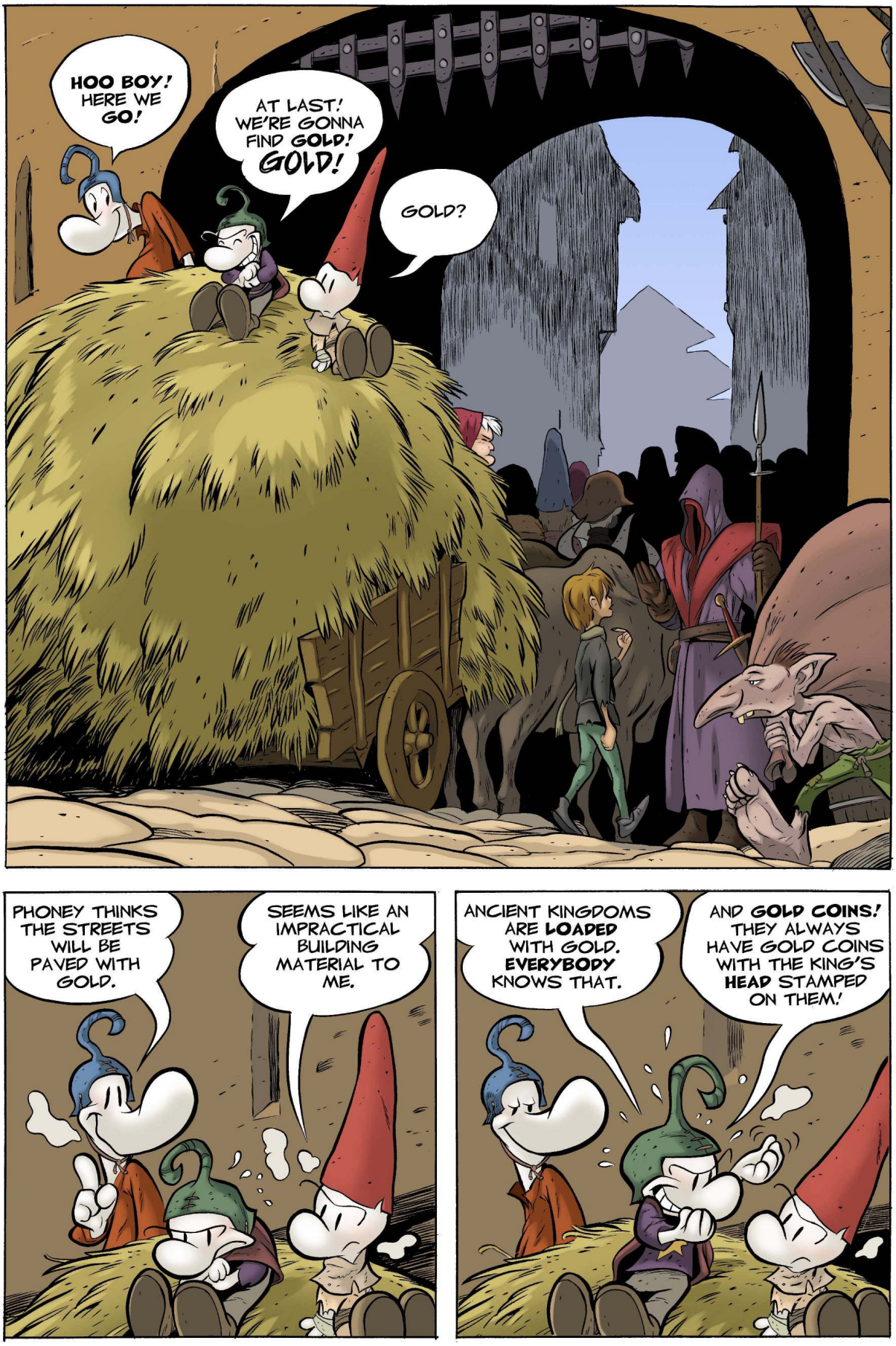

SPOOKY KID. WHAT'D SHE GIVE YOU?
A PRAYER STONE - -
oh, no.
OH, NO, WHAT?
OH, NO, THAT!
oh, no! PHONEY BONE AND SMILEY! THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO WAIT FOR US ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN!
WHERE DID THEY GET THAT OX CART?
I'M TELLIN' YOU, YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY HAY!
BUT I WANT TO BUY IT! WHY DID YOU BRING YOUR HAY TO MARKET IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SELL IT?
WE LIKE THE SMELL OF IT, RIGHT, PHONEY?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. WE LOVE THE MUSTY SMELL OF MILDEWED STRAW. WE LIKE TO KEEP IT NEAR US . . . NOW SHOVE OFF!


WAIT - - !
JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY- - WOULD YOU HAVE USED GOLD TO PAY FOR IT?
AH! YER NUTS!
HEY, PHONEY! LOOK! IT'S FONE BONE AND THORN!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING HERE?
WE MISSED YOU!
WE WERE ONLY GONE FOR A FEW HOURS!
WHERE'D YOU GUYS FIND THE HAY WAGON?
ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. IT WAS ABANDONED!
WHEN GRAN'MA FINDS OUT, SHE'S GONNA BE MAD!
WHAT AM I GOING TO BE MAD ABOUT?
UH . . . H'LO, GRAN'MA.
WHAT'S INSIDE THE HAY, BOYS? AND IT BETTER NOT BE WHAT I THINK IT IS.


THERE'S NOTHIN' IN TH' HAY.
PHONCIBLE?
DON'T LOOK AT ME. I GOT NOTHIN' TO DO WITH THIS.
SMILEY...
WHAT?
DO YOU HAVE THAT BABY RAT CREATURE HIDDEN UNDER THERE?
WE COULDN'T LEAVE HIM ALL ALONE, GRAN'MA. HE'S ONLY ONE AN' A HALF YEARS OLD!
SMILEY BONE, YOU TURN THIS CART AROUND **RIGHT NOW** AND GET THAT THING OUT OF TOWN BEFORE YOU GET US ALL KILLED!
I CAN'T **DO** THAT, GRAN'MA. BARTLEBY DEPENDS ON ME! I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM!
THIS ISN'T A **REQUEST**-- GET THAT CREATURE OUT OF HERE!
NO!
NO?!!
SMILEY--

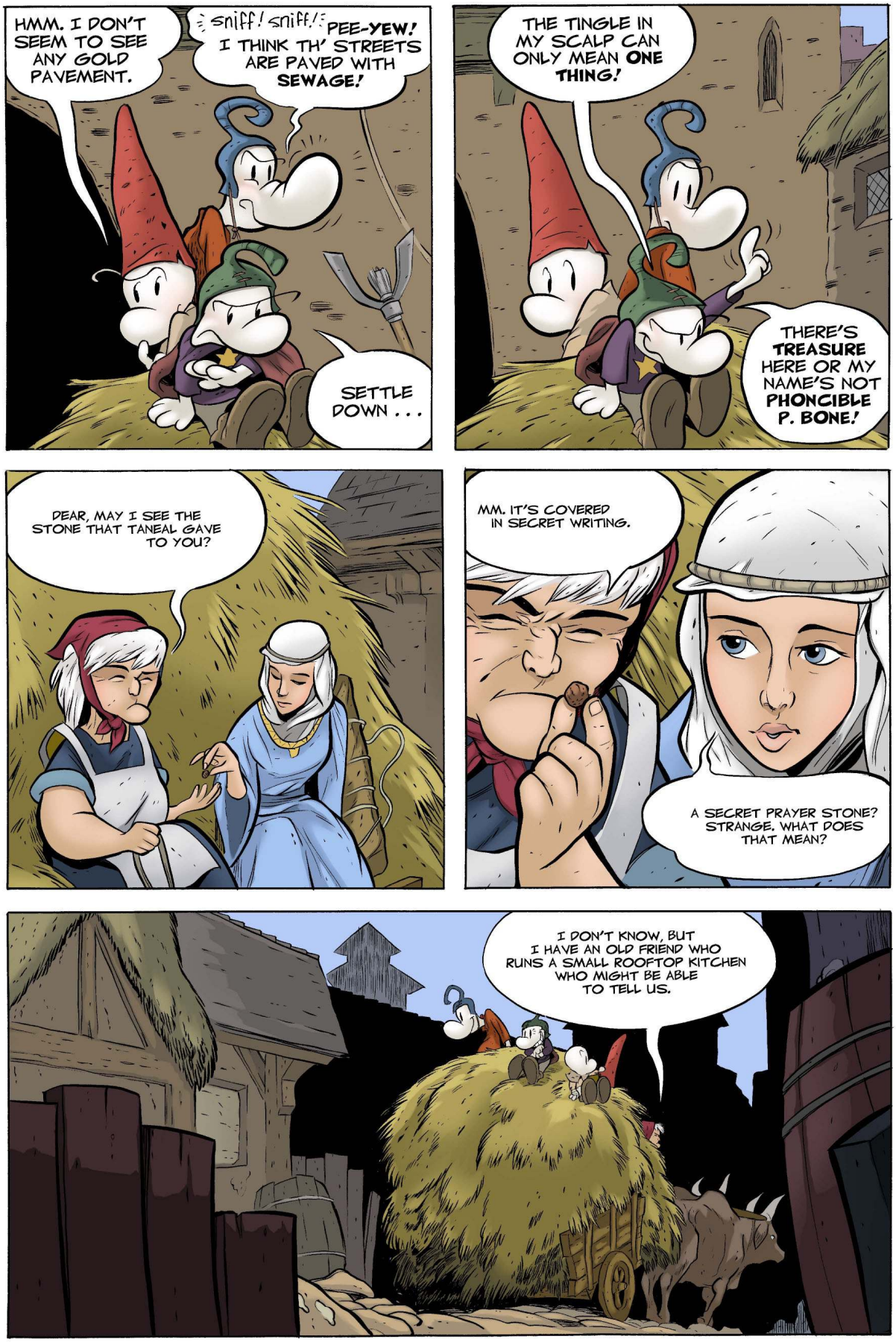

I'M SORRY, FONE BONE, BUT IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT. BARTLEBY SAVED OUR **LIVES!** IT JUST WOULDN'T BE RIGHT.
WHY, **YOU** - -
PARDON ME, MA'AM.
YES?
I HEAR YOU WANT TO BUY A **COYOTE?**
WHO SENT YOU?
WILLIAM THE BAKER.
THE GHOST CIRCLES AND THE CROWDS ARE MAKING THE CITY LEADERS NERVOUS. VERY FEW OUTSIDERS ARE ALLOWED THROUGH THE GATES.
CAN YOU GET US INSIDE THE CITY- - PAST THE GUARDS, WITHOUT ANY QUESTIONS?
HOW MANY IN YOUR PARTY?
FIVE.
FIVE PLUS A **HAY CART.**
A HAY CART WILL NOT BE SO EASY.
DO YOU KNOW ANYONE ON THE INSIDE? PERHAPS THAT WILL HELP. . .


I DO, BUT I HAVE HAD NO CONTACT WITH ANYONE INSIDE THE CITY FOR NEARLY A YEAR.
MUCH HAS CHANGED IN THE LAST YEAR - - - -
EXCUSE ME, MISS. MAY I SEE THAT?
MM?
OH. YES.
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS STONE?
FROM THE LITTLE GIRL OVER BY THE SHRINES.
THAT IS TANEAL. SHE IS MY SISTER.
AND SHE IS A **VERY** GOOD JUDGE OF CHARACTER.
COME WITH ME.
OKAY, BOYS JUMP UP ON TOP.

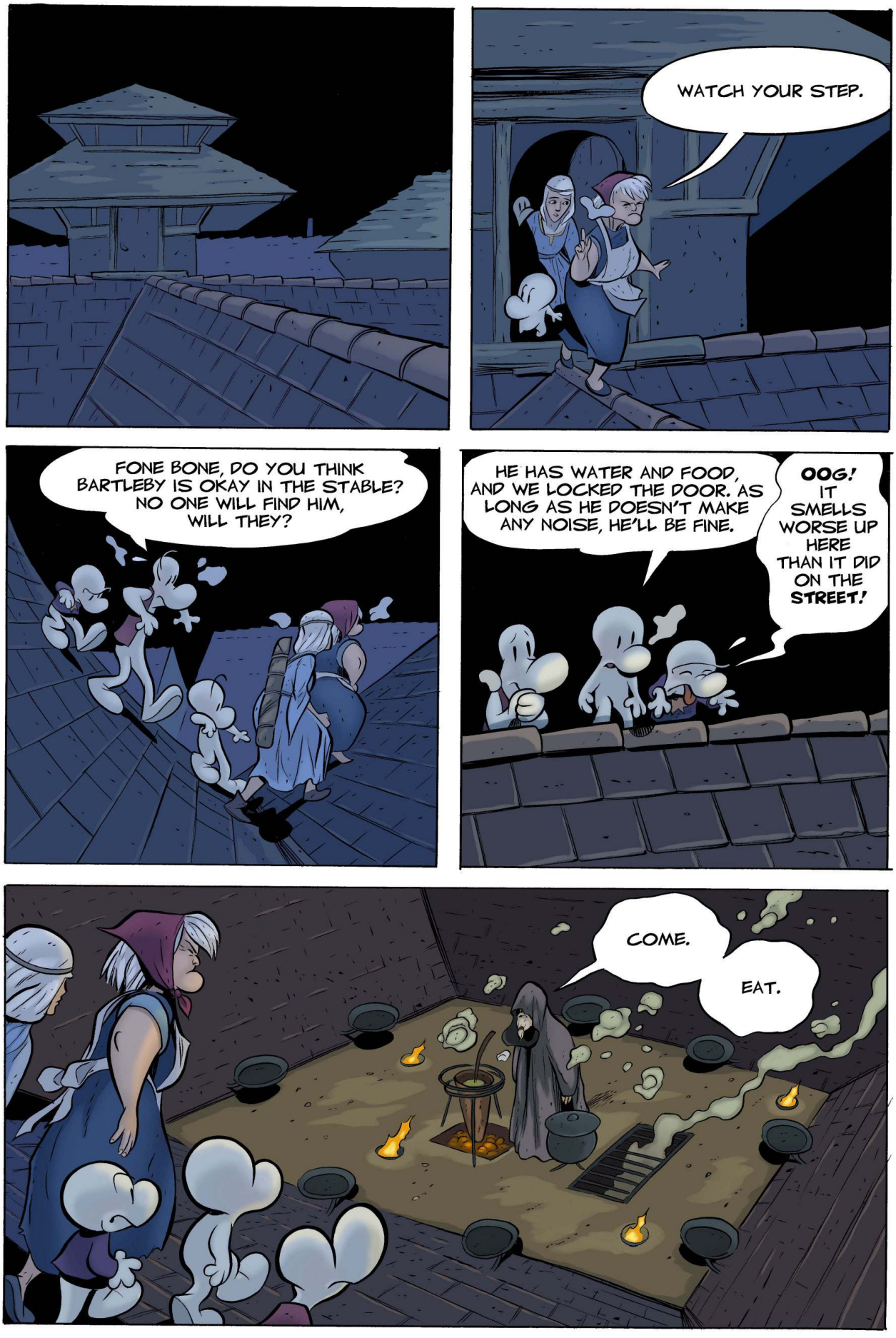


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

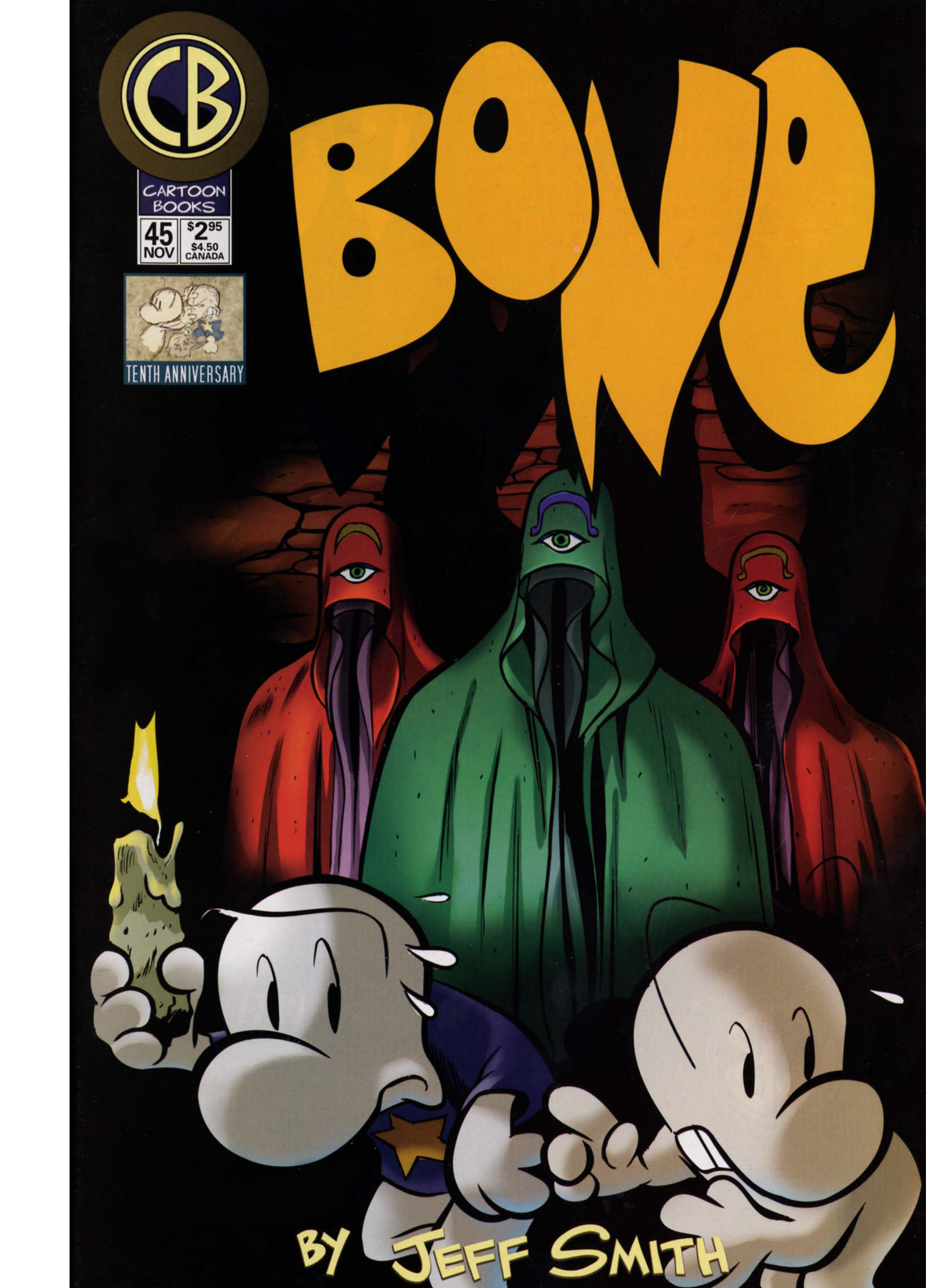

BUT THEY DON'T HAVE A KING - - OR A QUEEN, REMEMBER? THORN AN' GRAN'MA ARE WITH US!
SHUT UP, YOU LUNKHEAD! YOU WANT TO GIVE US AWAY?!
QUIET.
WE'RE MOVING.
THE GUARD IS WAVING US THROUGH - -
OKAY, GUYS, THIS IS IT! FAT CITY, HERE WE COME!
ANY TROUBLE?
I HAVE TAKEN CARE OF IT. WHEN WE REACH THE STABLES WE CAN DISCUSS MY FEE.
THE VENI-YAN WARRIORS HERE ARE VERY CORRUPT. AND VERY EXPENSIVE.
DULY NOTED.



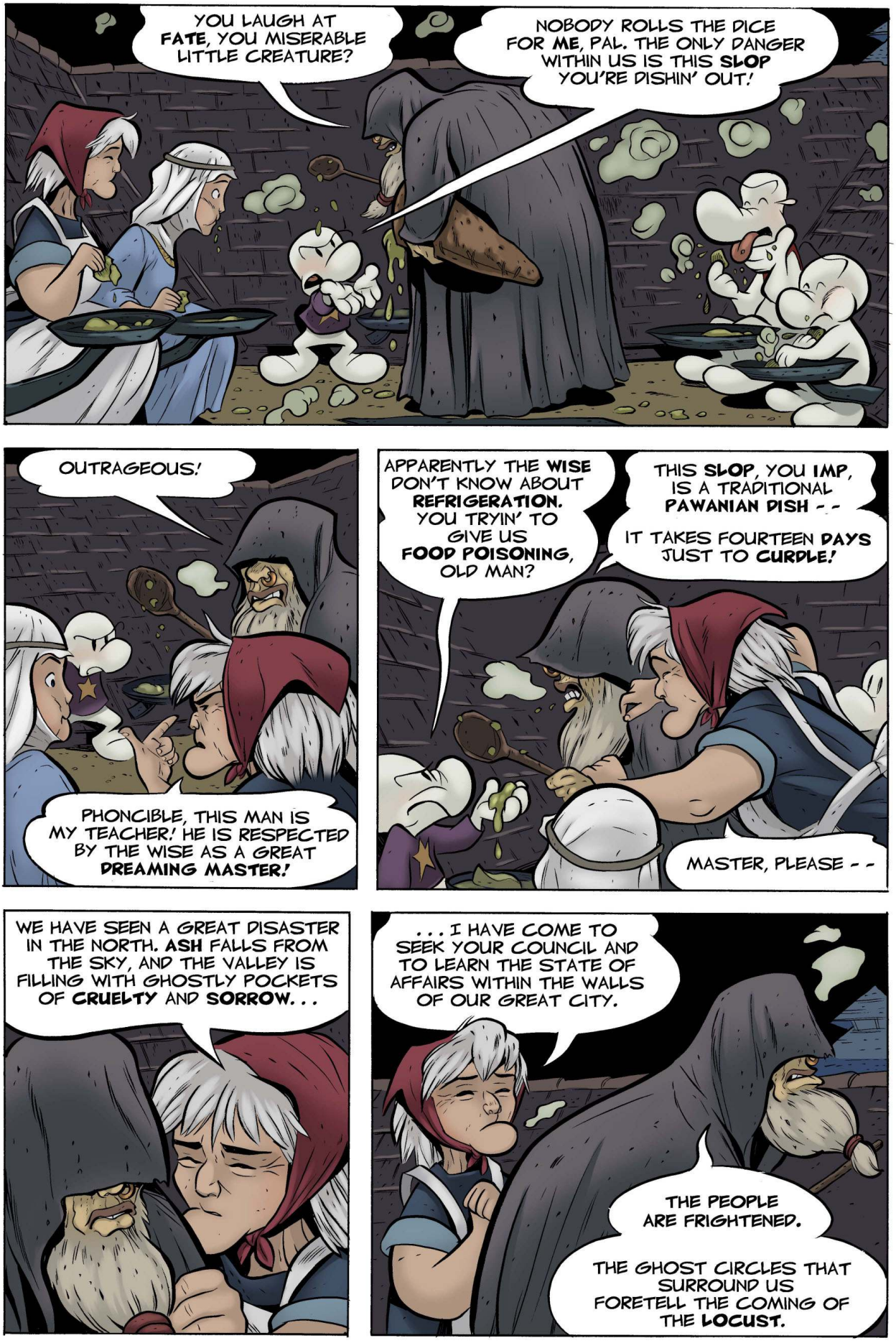
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

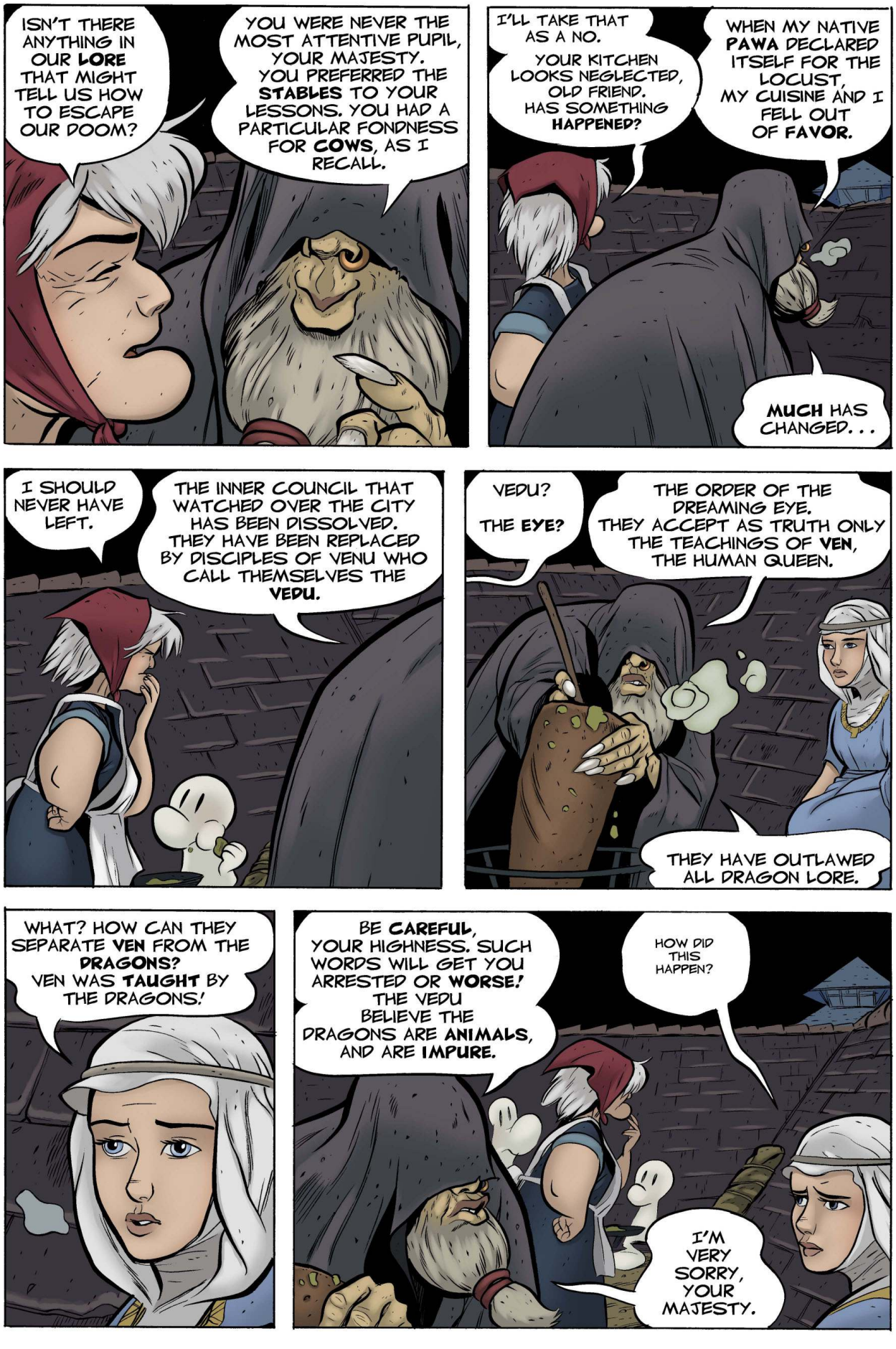

WATCH YOUR STEP.
FONE BONE, DO YOU THINK BARTLEBY IS OKAY IN THE STABLE? NO ONE WILL FIND HIM, WILL THEY?
HE HAS WATER AND FOOD, AND WE LOCKED THE DOOR. AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T MAKE ANY NOISE, HE'LL BE FINE.
OOG! IT SMELLS WORSE UP HERE THAN IT DID ON THE STREET!
COME.
EAT.

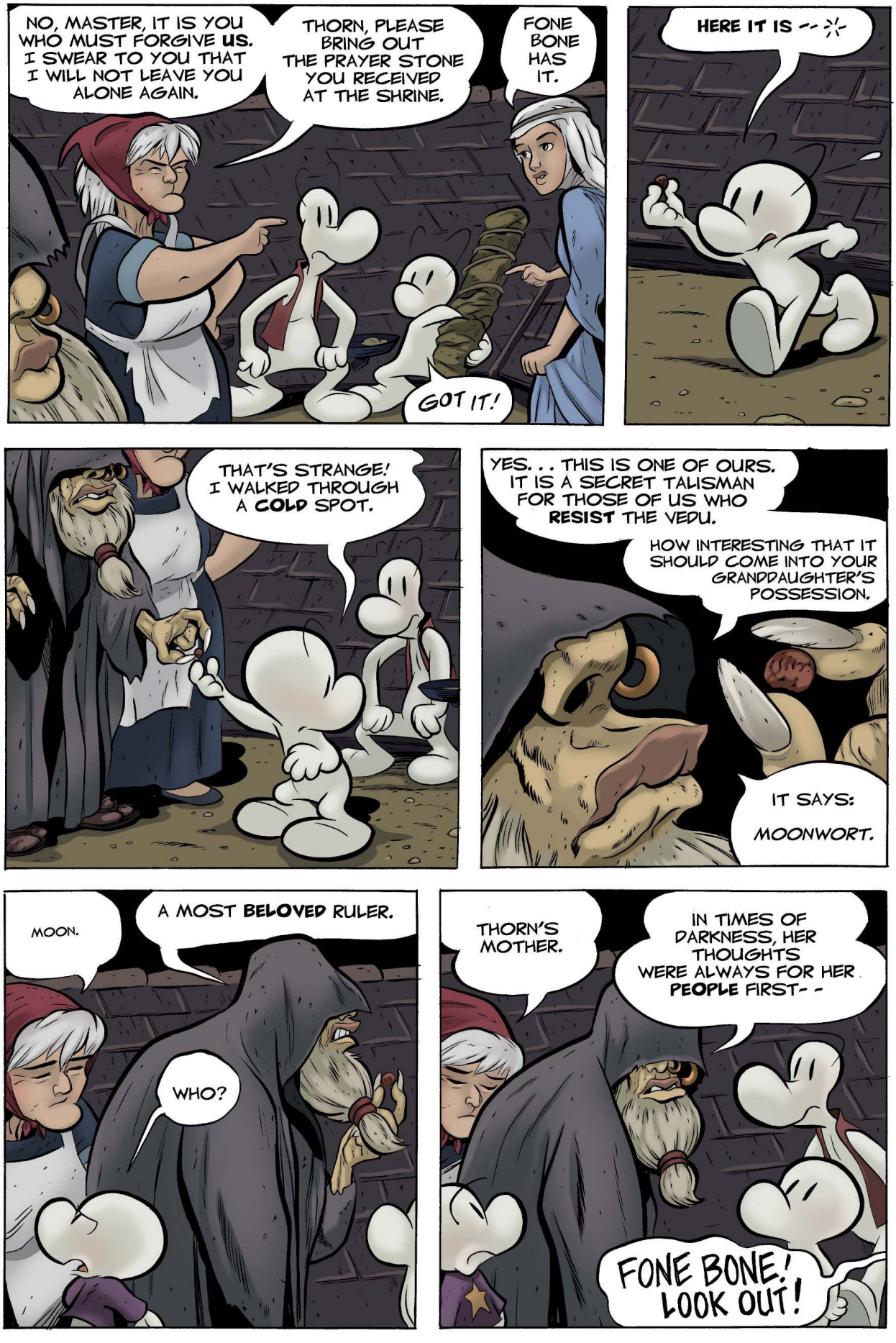

OH, GREAT.
FOOD IS WHAT YOU NEED AFTER A LONG JOURNEY.
EAT NOW.
WHAT IS IT?
SPLOP
IT IS GOOD!
NOW EAT IT ALL - - EVERY DROP. . .
IF YOU DON'T EAT EVERY DROP, HOW CAN I FORETELL YOUR DOOM?
MAKE ALL GONE, LIKE GOOD LITTLE CHILDREN!
YES, YES!
YESSSSSS

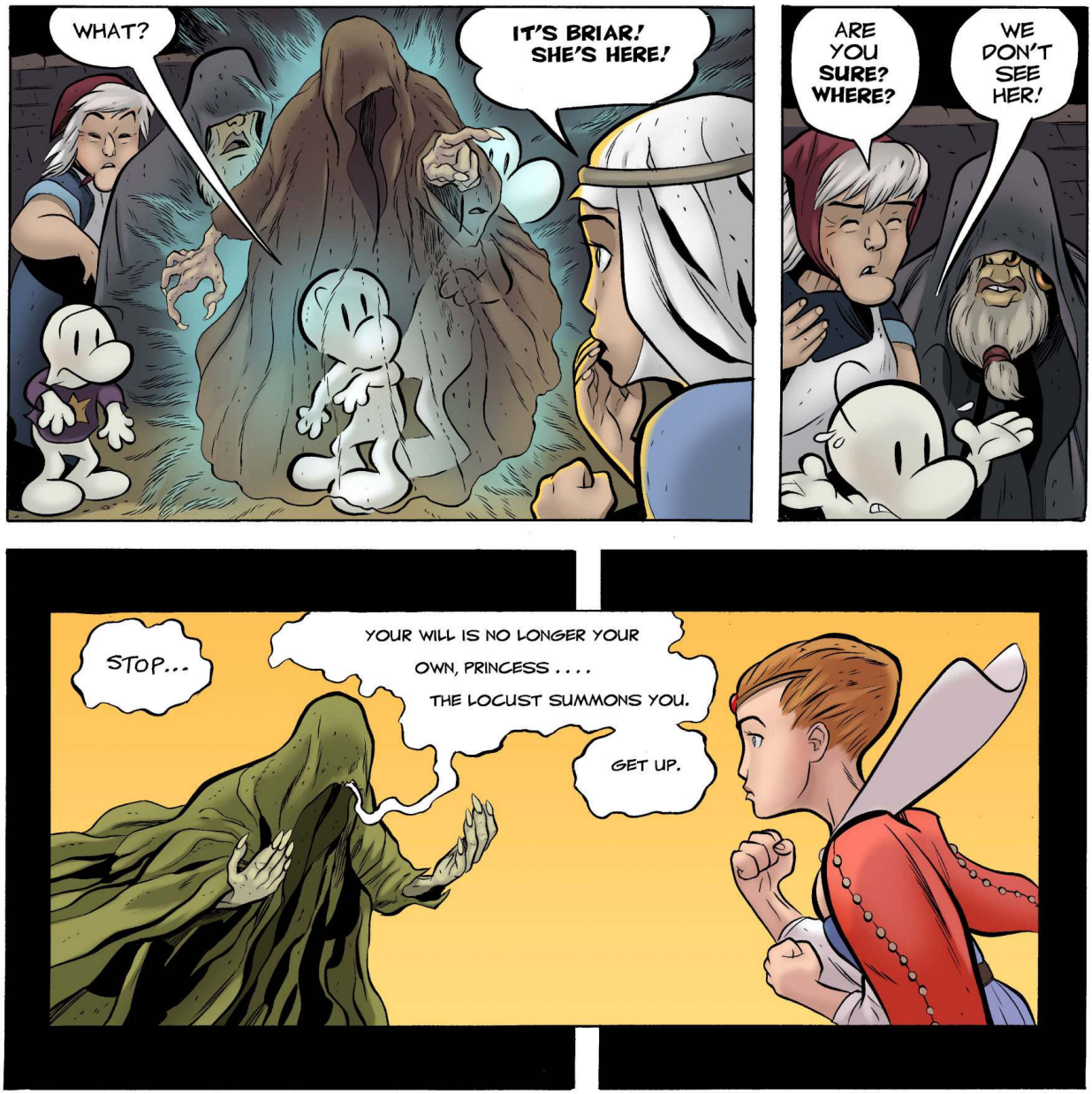

CB
CARTOON BOOKS
45
NOV
$2.95
$4.50 CANADA
TENTH ANNIVERSARY
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH

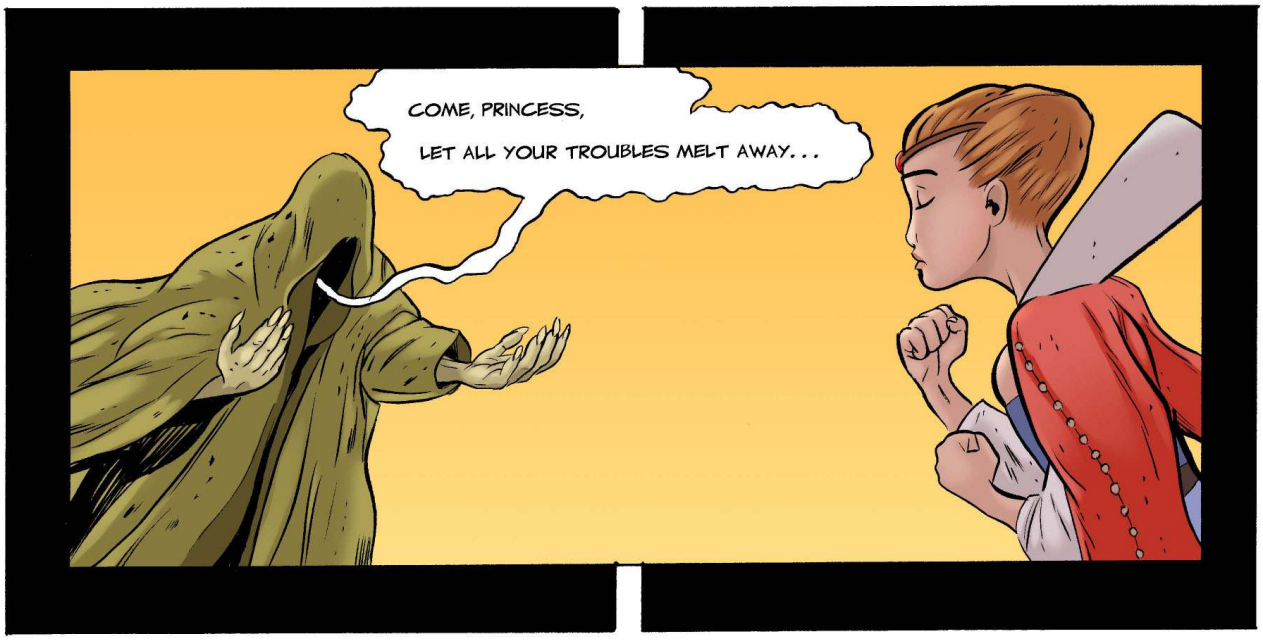

BONE
A DARKNESS HAS FALLEN THAT CANNOT BE LIFTED.
DANGER BESETS US FROM WITHOUT AND WITHIN.
FATE HAS DECREED THAT THIS IS YOUR DOOM . . .
. . . FATE HAS DECREED THAT THESE ARE THE END TIMES AND YOU MUST SUFFER.
FATE, SCHMATE.
EH? WHAT'S THAT?

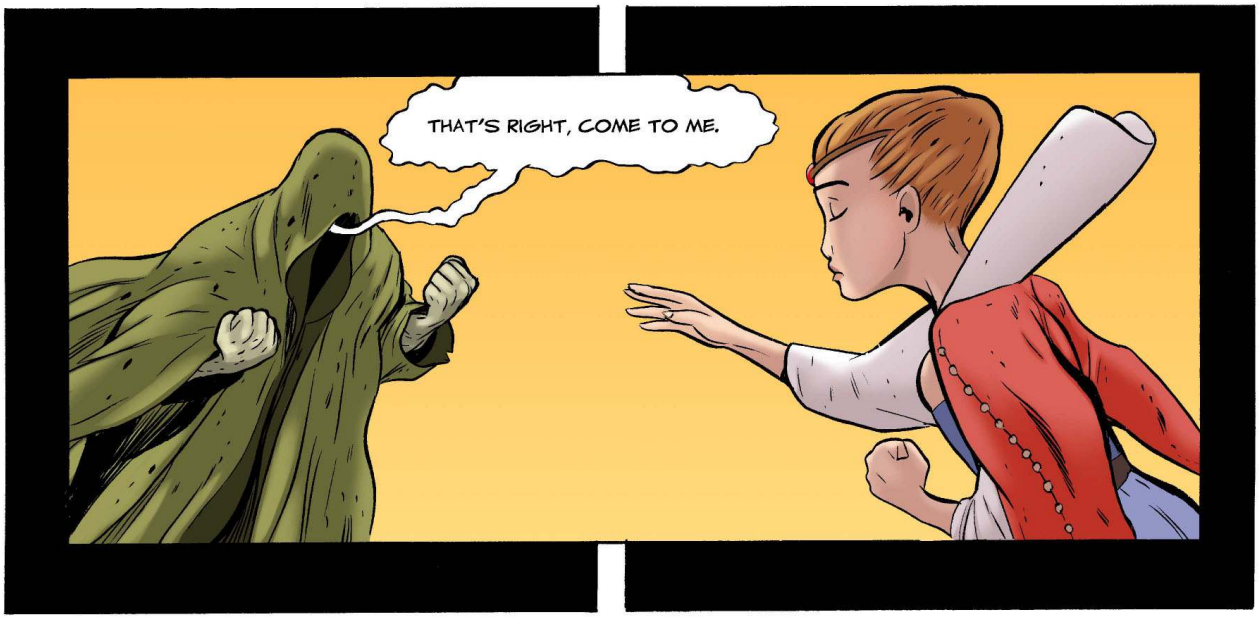

YOU LAUGH AT FATE, YOU MISERABLE LITTLE CREATURE?
NOBODY ROLLS THE DICE FOR ME, PAL. THE ONLY DANGER WITHIN US IS THIS SLOP YOU'RE DISHIN' OUT!
OUTRAGEOUS!
PHONCIBLE, THIS MAN IS MY TEACHER! HE IS RESPECTED BY THE WISE AS A GREAT DREAMING MASTER!
APPARENTLY THE WISE DON'T KNOW ABOUT REFRIGERATION. YOU TRYIN' TO GIVE US FOOD POISONING, OLD MAN?
THIS SLOP, YOU IMP, IS A TRADITIONAL PAWANIAN DISH - -
IT TAKES FOURTEEN DAYS JUST TO CURDLE!
MASTER, PLEASE - -
WE HAVE SEEN A GREAT DISASTER IN THE NORTH. ASH FALLS FROM THE SKY, AND THE VALLEY IS FILLING WITH GHOSTLY POCKETS OF CRUELTY AND SORROW. . .
. . . I HAVE COME TO SEEK YOUR COUNCIL AND TO LEARN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS WITHIN THE WALLS OF OUR GREAT CITY.
THE PEOPLE ARE FRIGHTENED.
THE GHOST CIRCLES THAT SURROUND US FORETELL THE COMING OF THE LOCUST.

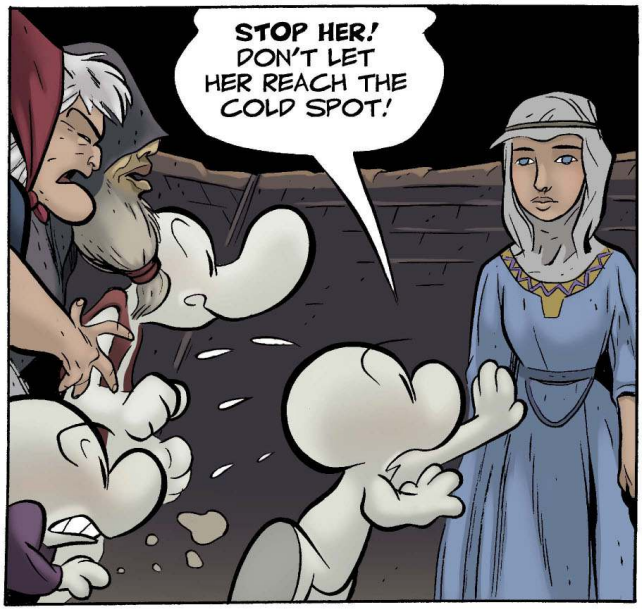

ISN'T THERE ANYTHING IN OUR LORE THAT MIGHT TELL US HOW TO ESCAPE OUR DOOM?
YOU WERE NEVER THE MOST ATTENTIVE PUPIL, YOUR MAJESTY. YOU PREFERRED THE STABLES TO YOUR LESSONS. YOU HAD A PARTICULAR FONDNESS FOR COWS, AS I RECALL.
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A NO.
YOUR KITCHEN LOOKS NEGLECTED, OLD FRIEND. HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED?
WHEN MY NATIVE PAWA DECLARED ITSELF FOR THE LOCUST, MY CUISINE AND I FELL OUT OF FAVOR.
MUCH HAS CHANGED...
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT.
THE INNER COUNCIL THAT WATCHED OVER THE CITY HAS BEEN DISSOLVED. THEY HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY DISCIPLES OF VENU WHO CALL THEMSELVES THE VEDU.
VEDU?
THE EYE?
THE ORDER OF THE DREAMING EYE. THEY ACCEPT AS TRUTH ONLY THE TEACHINGS OF VEN, THE HUMAN QUEEN.
THEY HAVE OUTLAWED ALL DRAGON LORE.
WHAT? HOW CAN THEY SEPARATE VEN FROM THE DRAGONS? VEN WAS TAUGHT BY THE DRAGONS!
BE CAREFUL, YOUR HIGHNESS. SUCH WORDS WILL GET YOU ARRESTED OR WORSE! THE VEDU BELIEVE THE DRAGONS ARE ANIMALS, AND ARE IMPURE.
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
I'M VERY SORRY, YOUR MAJESTY.

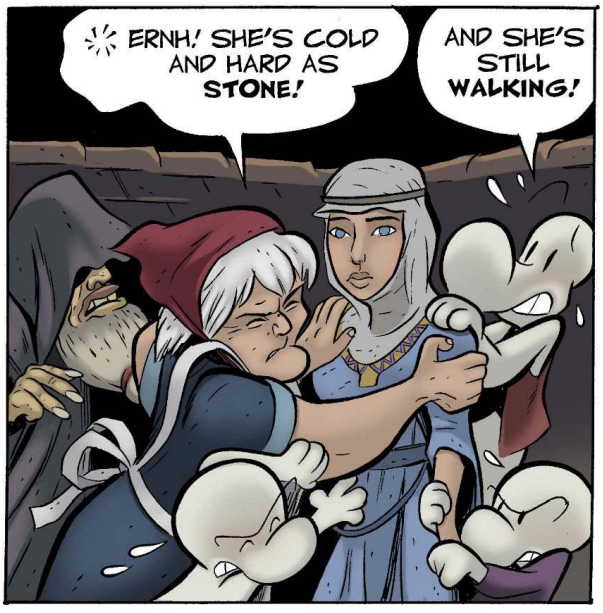

NO, MASTER, IT IS YOU WHO MUST FORGIVE US. I SWEAR TO YOU THAT I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ALONE AGAIN.
THORN, PLEASE BRING OUT THE PRAYER STONE YOU RECEIVED AT THE SHRINE.
FONE BONE HAS IT.
GOT IT!
HERE IT IS --
THAT'S STRANGE! I WALKED THROUGH A COLD SPOT.
YES. . . THIS IS ONE OF OURS. IT IS A SECRET TALISMAN FOR THOSE OF US WHO RESIST THE VEDU.
HOW INTERESTING THAT IT SHOULD COME INTO YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER'S POSSESSION.
IT SAYS:
MOONWORT.
MOON.
A MOST BELOVED RULER.
WHO?
THORN'S MOTHER.
IN TIMES OF DARKNESS, HER THOUGHTS WERE ALWAYS FOR HER PEOPLE FIRST- -
FONE BONE! LOOK OUT!

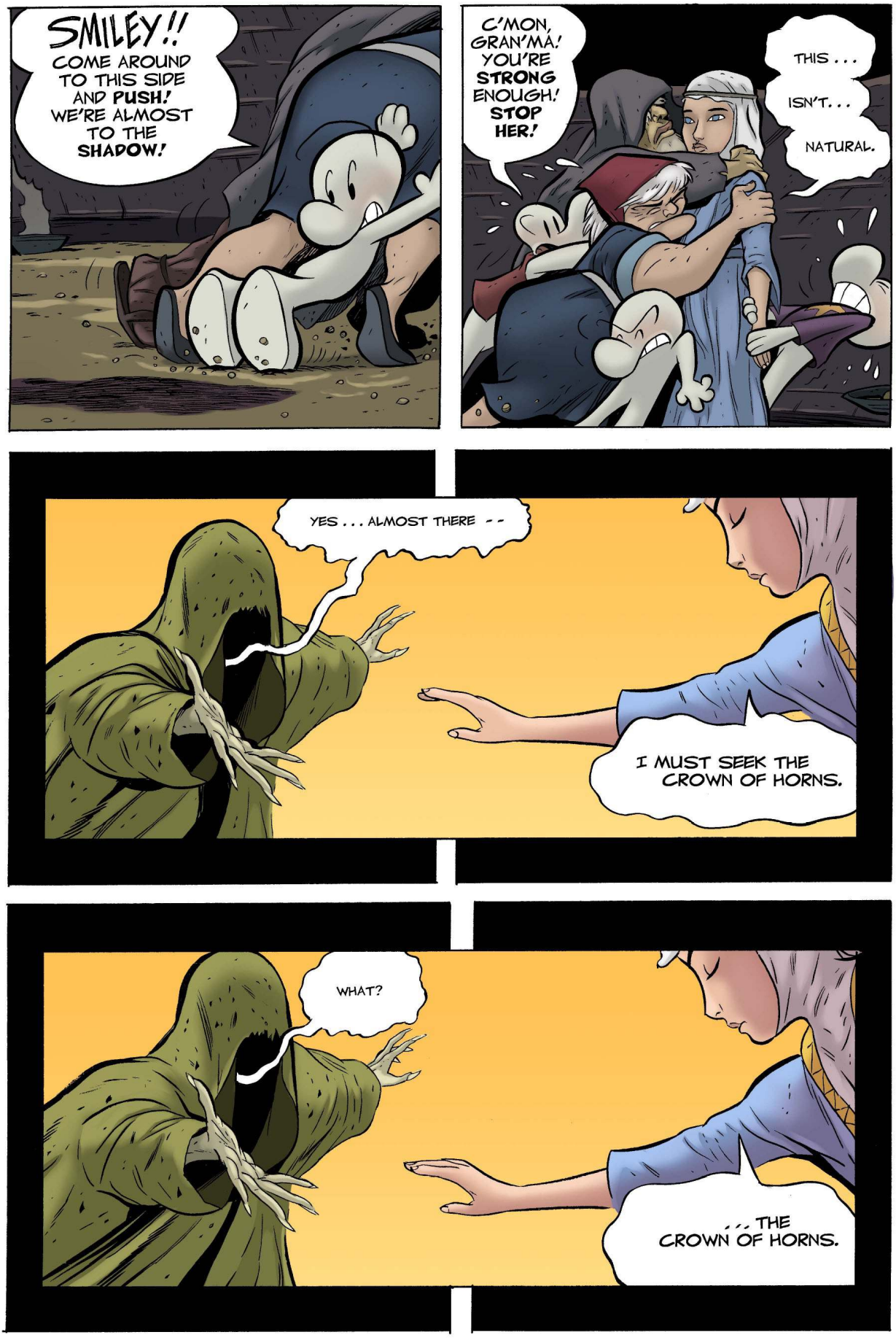

WHAT?
IT'S BRIAR! SHE'S HERE!
ARE YOU SURE? WHERE?
WE DON'T SEE HER!
STOP...
YOUR WILL IS NO LONGER YOUR OWN, PRINCESS . . . . THE LOCUST SUMMONS YOU.
GET UP.
A SHADOW! RIGHT WHERE THE COLD SPOT IS! DO YOU SEE IT?
LOOK AT THORN!
SHE'S WALKING TOWARD US - - IN A TRANCE!
oh, Boy~


COME, PRINCESS,
LET ALL YOUR TROUBLES MELT AWAY...

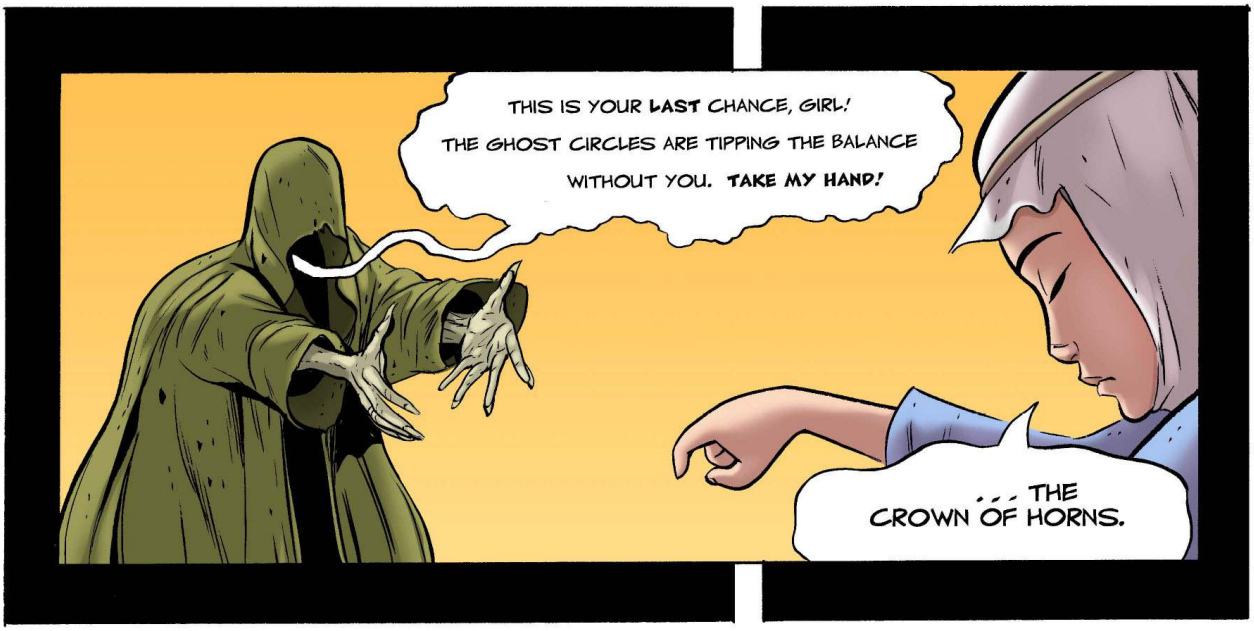

THAT'S RIGHT, COME TO ME.


STOP HER! DON'T LET HER REACH THE COLD SPOT!


ERNH! SHE'S COLD AND HARD AS STONE!
AND SHE'S STILL WALKING!



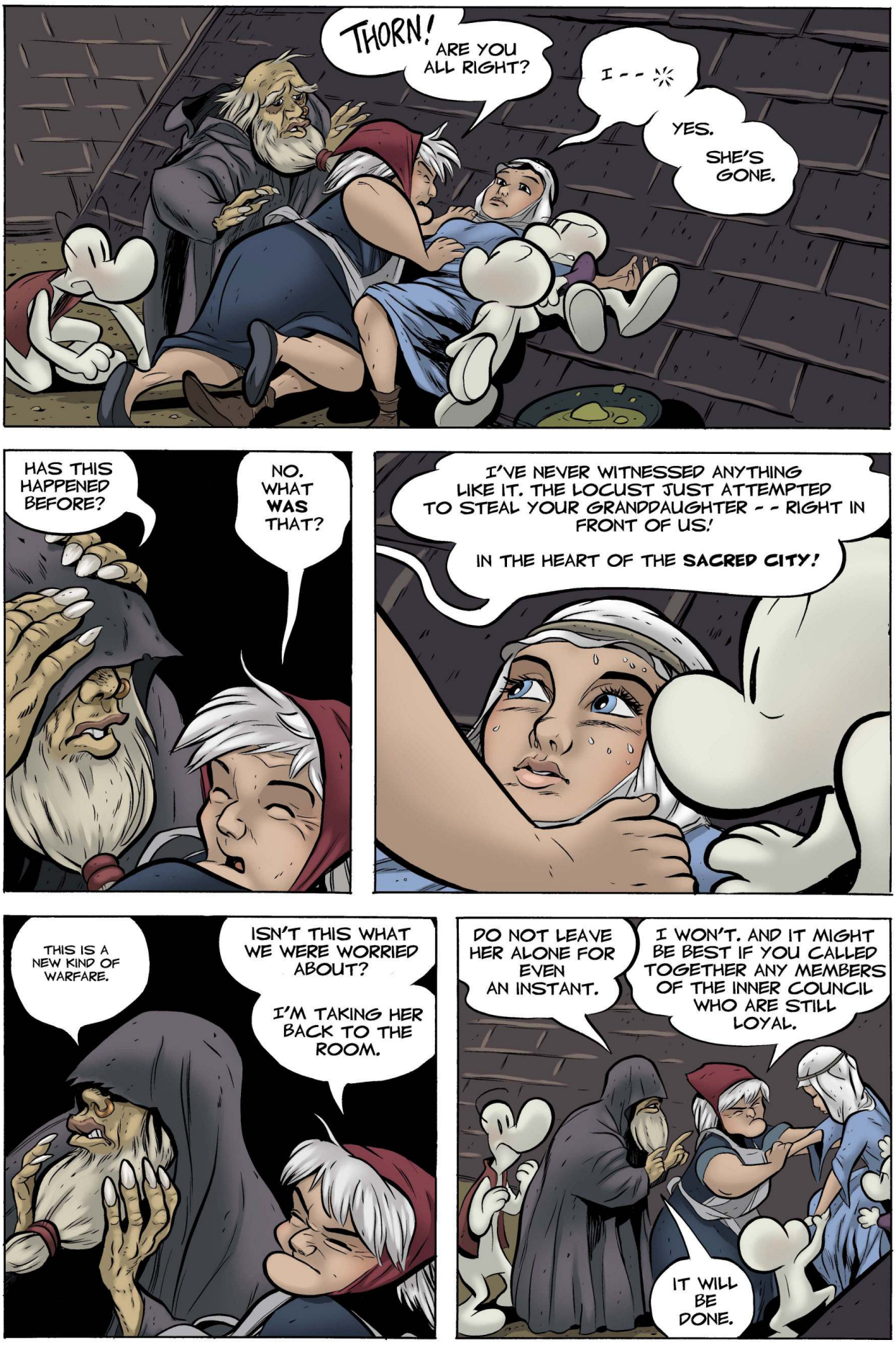
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

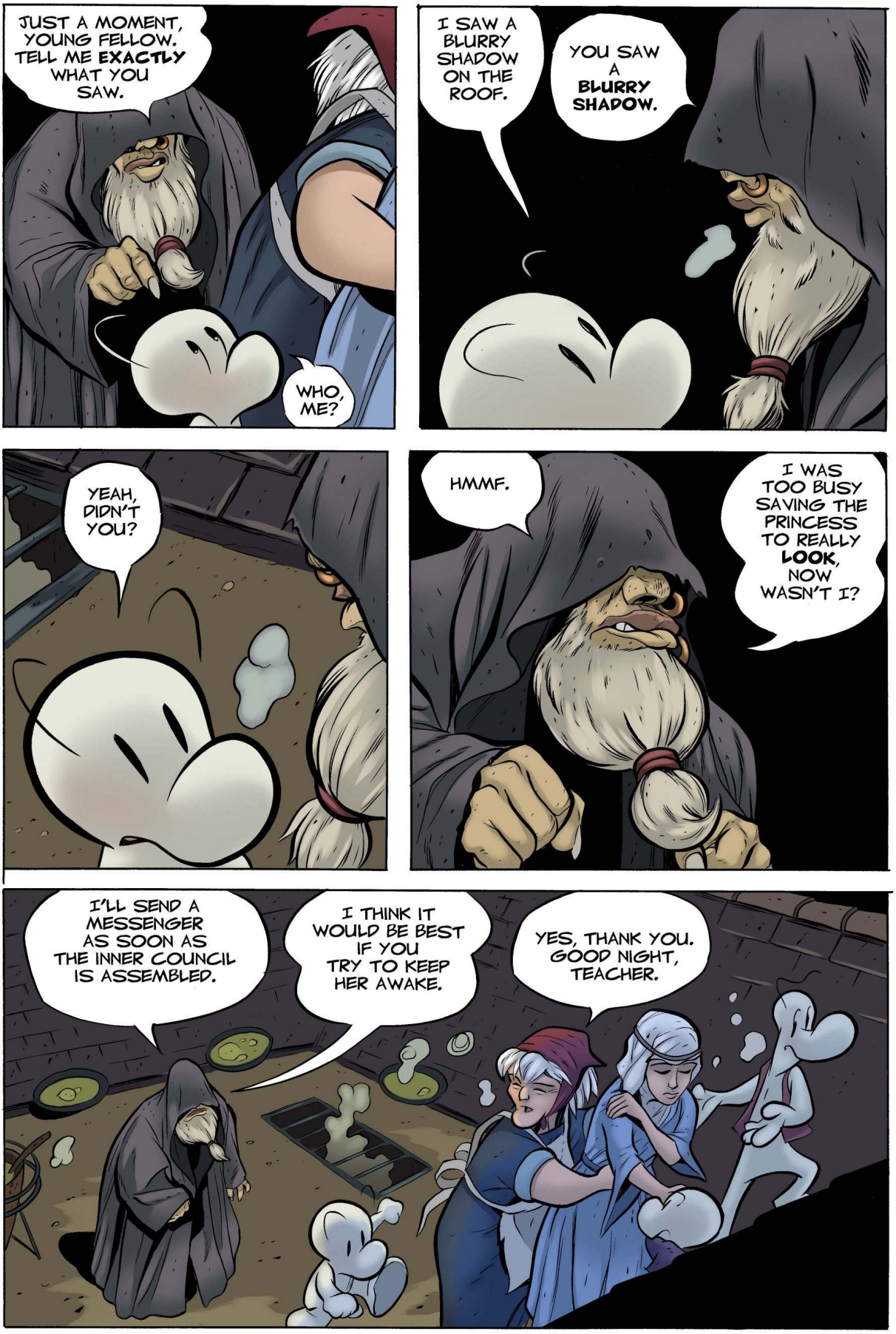

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE, GIRL! THE GHOST CIRCLES ARE TIPPING THE BALANCE WITHOUT YOU. TAKE MY HAND!
... THE CROWN OF HORNS.


YOU WILL REGRET THIS! YOU WILL BRING DESTRUCTION ON EVERYTHING YOU HOLD DEAR!


RRRRRRR


WUMP!

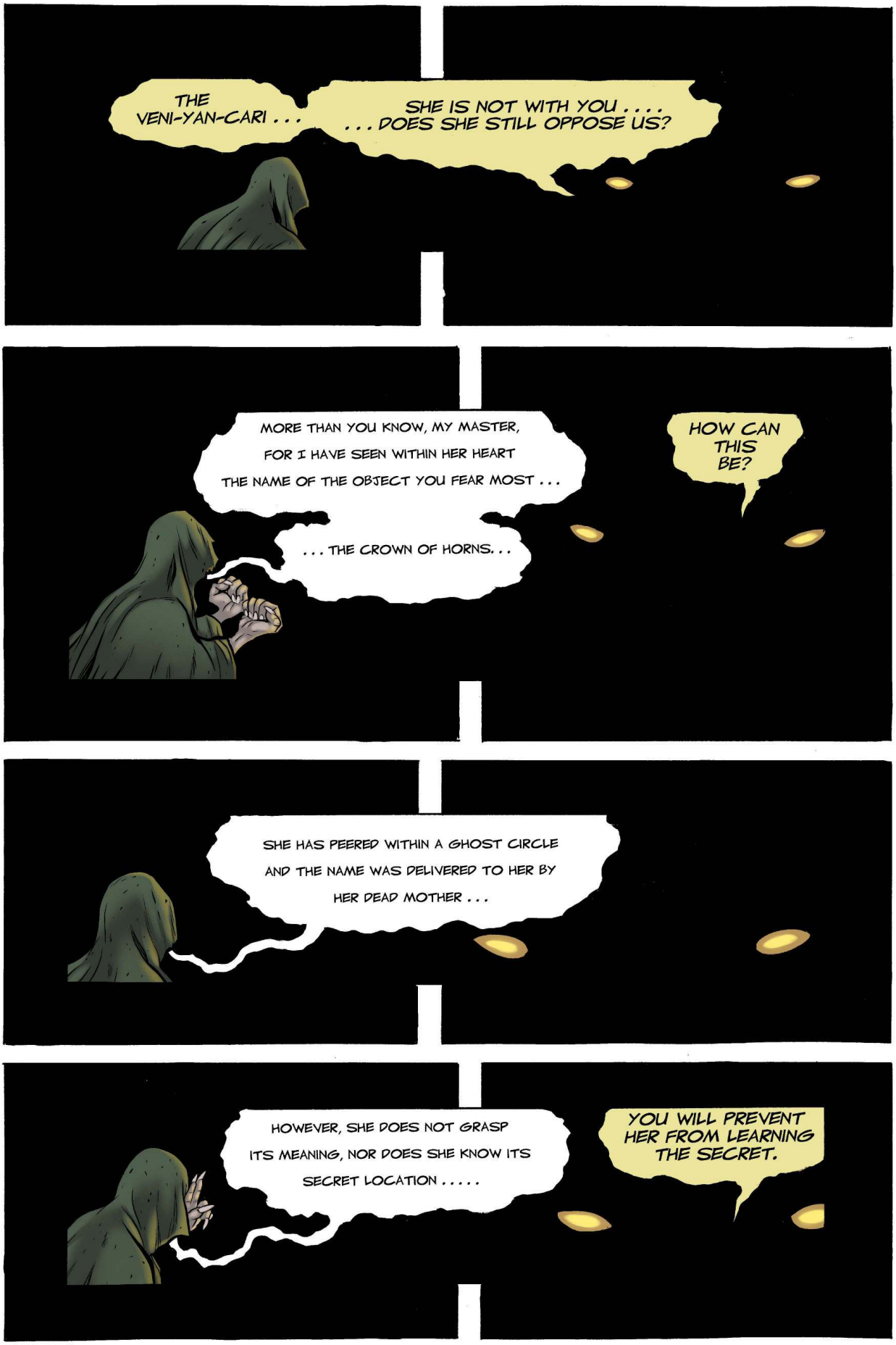

THORN!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I - - *
YES.
SHE'S GONE.
HAS THIS HAPPENED BEFORE?
NO. WHAT **WAS** THAT?
I'VE NEVER WITNESSED ANYTHING LIKE IT. THE LOCUST JUST ATTEMPTED TO STEAL YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER - - RIGHT IN FRONT OF US!
IN THE HEART OF THE **SACRED CITY!**
THIS IS A NEW KIND OF WARFARE.
ISN'T THIS WHAT WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT?
I'M TAKING HER BACK TO THE ROOM.
DO NOT LEAVE HER ALONE FOR EVEN AN INSTANT.
I WON'T. AND IT MIGHT BE BEST IF YOU CALLED TOGETHER ANY MEMBERS OF THE INNER COUNCIL WHO ARE STILL LOYAL.
IT WILL BE DONE.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


MASTER . . . ?


DO YOU HEAR ME, MASTER . . . . . ?
BRIAR . . .
O, GREAT LOCUST. . .
WE ARE GROWING STRONGER . . .
YES, LORD, YOUR PLANS ARE BEARING FRUIT. . .
. . . THE GHOST CIRCLES ARE CAUSING TERROR THROUGHOUT THE LAND . . . SOON YOU WILL BE STRONG ENOUGH TO FREE YOURSELF WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE LIVING PRINCESS . . .


THE VENI-YAN-CARI . . .
SHE IS NOT WITH YOU . . . .
. . . DOES SHE STILL OPPOSE US?
MORE THAN YOU KNOW, MY MASTER,
FOR I HAVE SEEN WITHIN HER HEART
THE NAME OF THE OBJECT YOU FEAR MOST . . .
. . . THE CROWN OF HORNS. . .
HOW CAN THIS BE?
SHE HAS PEERED WITHIN A GHOST CIRCLE
AND THE NAME WAS DELIVERED TO HER BY
HER DEAD MOTHER . . .
HOWEVER, SHE DOES NOT GRASP
ITS MEANING, NOR DOES SHE KNOW ITS
SECRET LOCATION . . . . .
YOU WILL PREVENT HER FROM LEARNING THE SECRET.


OF COURSE. . . MY RAT CREATURES ARE NEARING TANEN GARD WHERE THEY WILL JOIN FORCES WITH THE ARMY OF PAWA. TOGETHER OUR ARMIES WILL LAUNCH A DEVASTATING ATTACK ON THE OLD KINGDOM.
WE WILL CRUSH THE CITY, KILL THE PRINCESS, AND CREATE SUCH TERROR AS TO FREE YOU OF THE STONE FOREVER.
GO FORTH, BELOVED . . .
THIS PLAN PLEASES US.

CARTOON BOOKS

46 JAN

$2.95 $4.70 CANADA

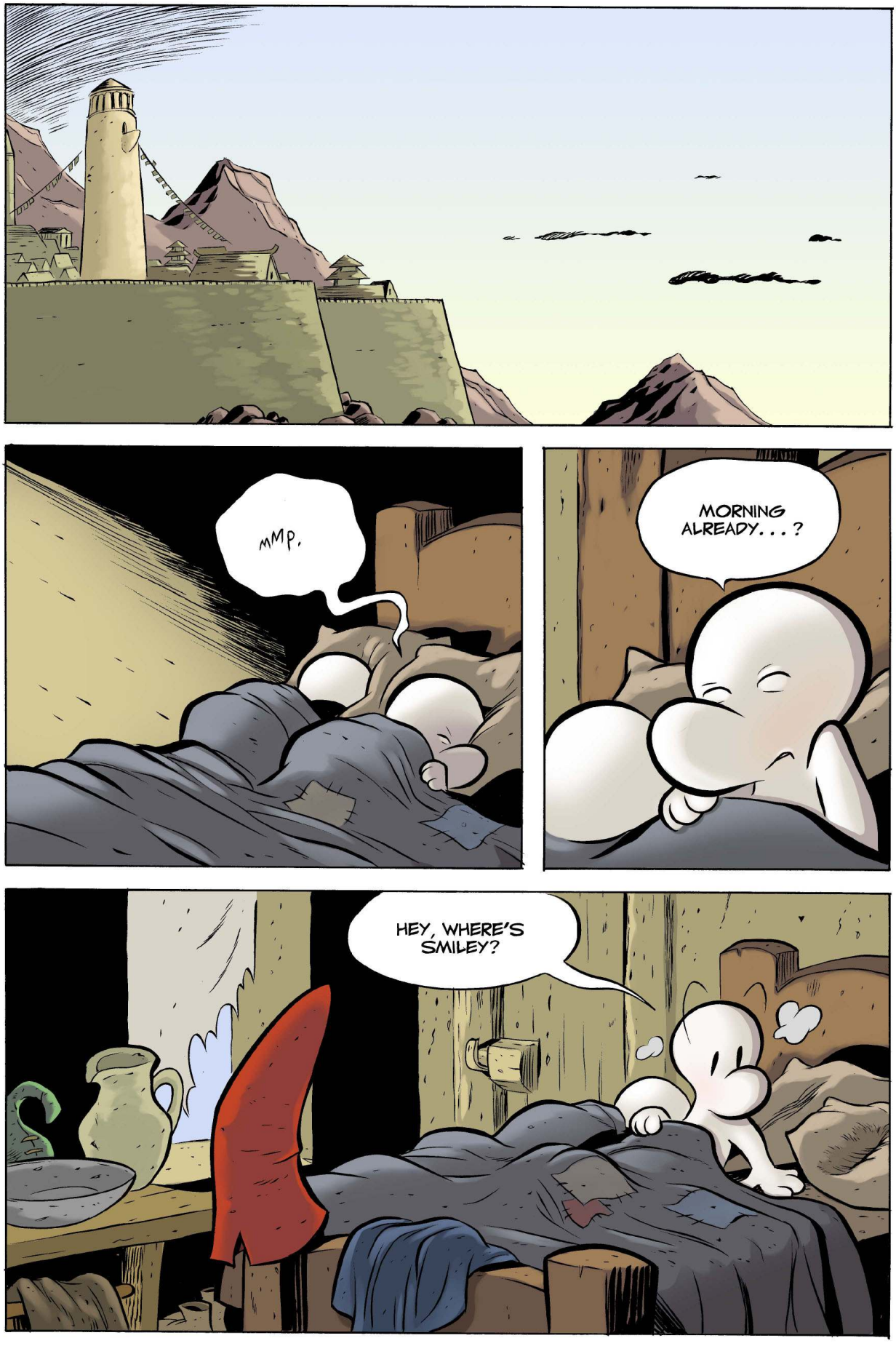


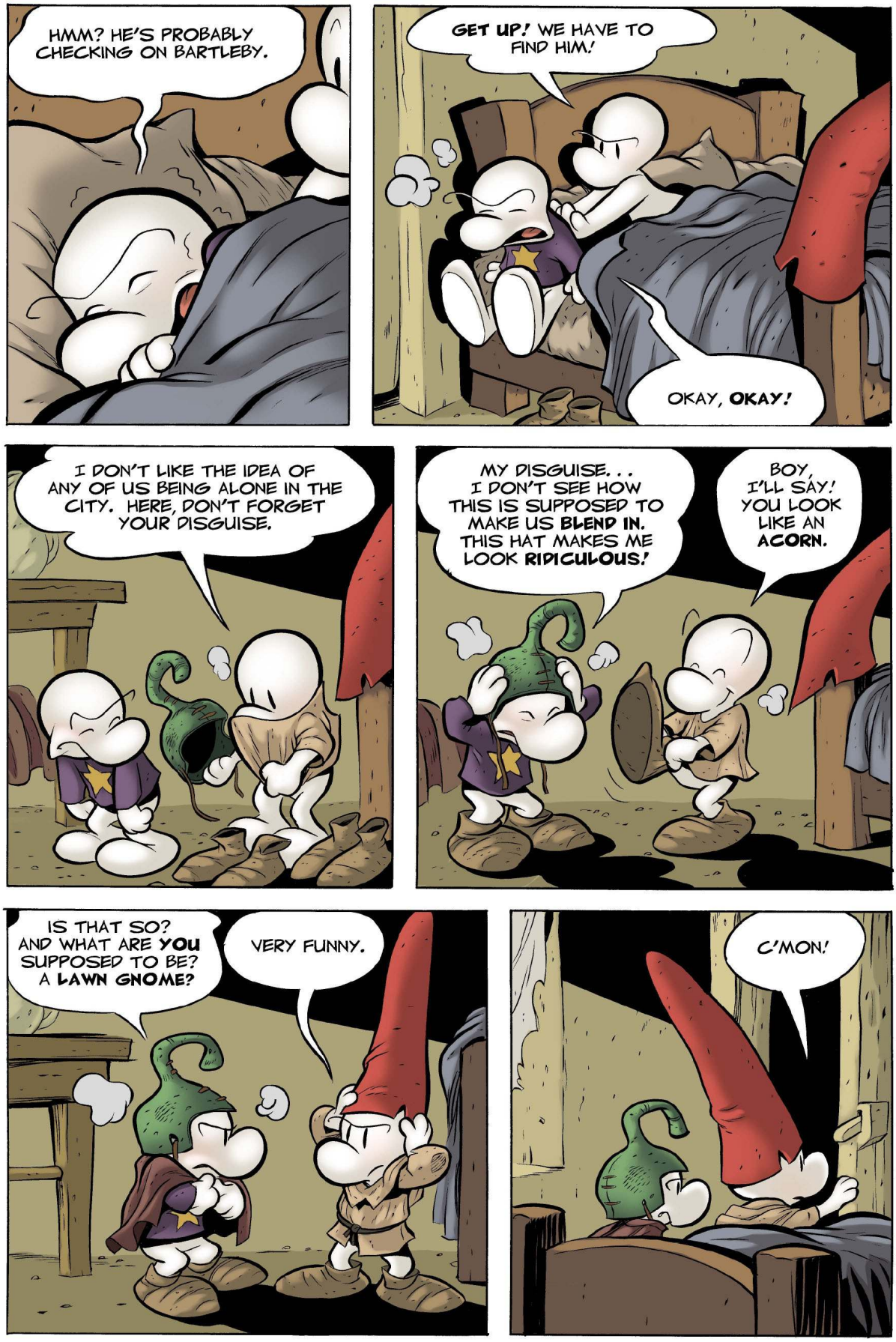
TENTH ANNIVERSARY

BONE

BY JEFF SMITH

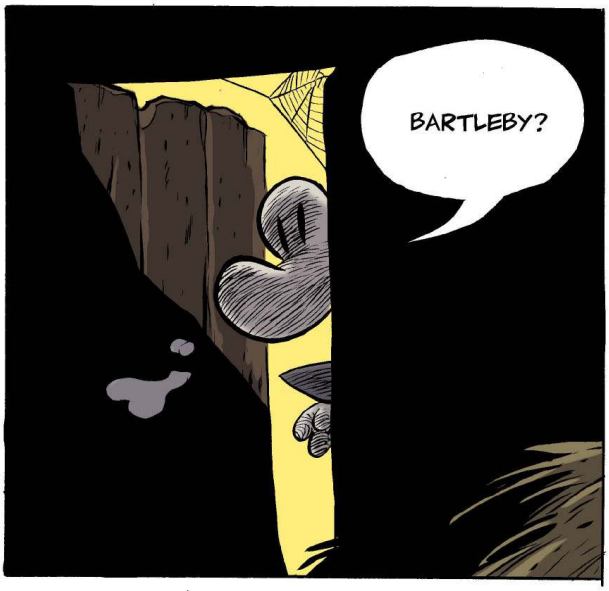
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


MMP.
MORNING ALREADY...?
HEY, WHERE'S SMILEY?

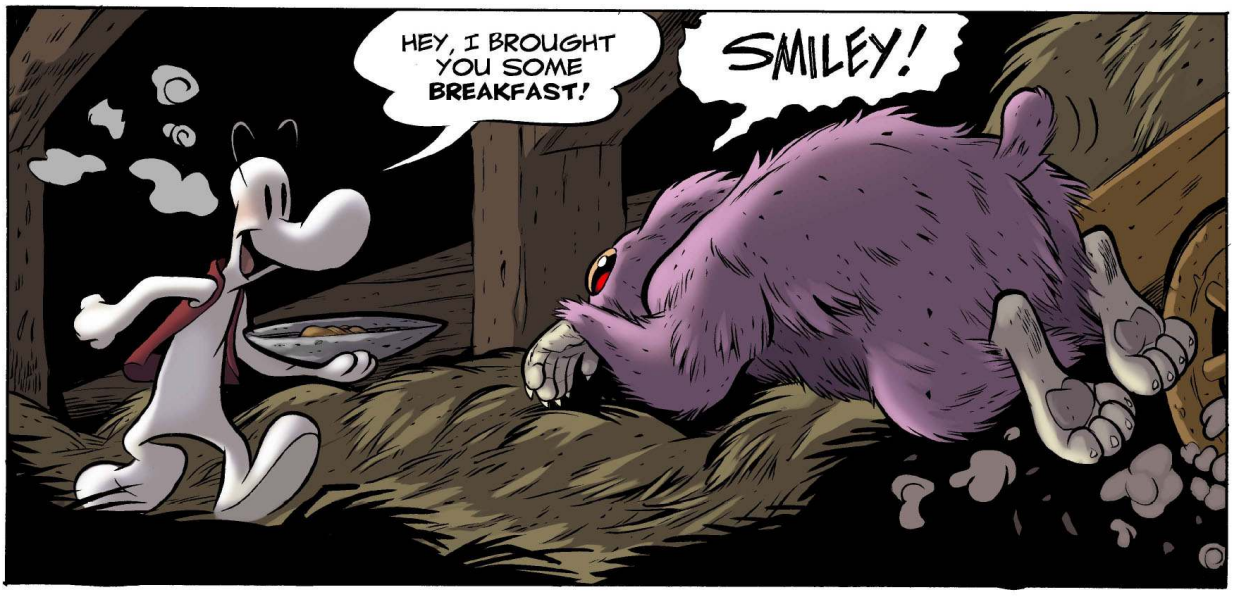


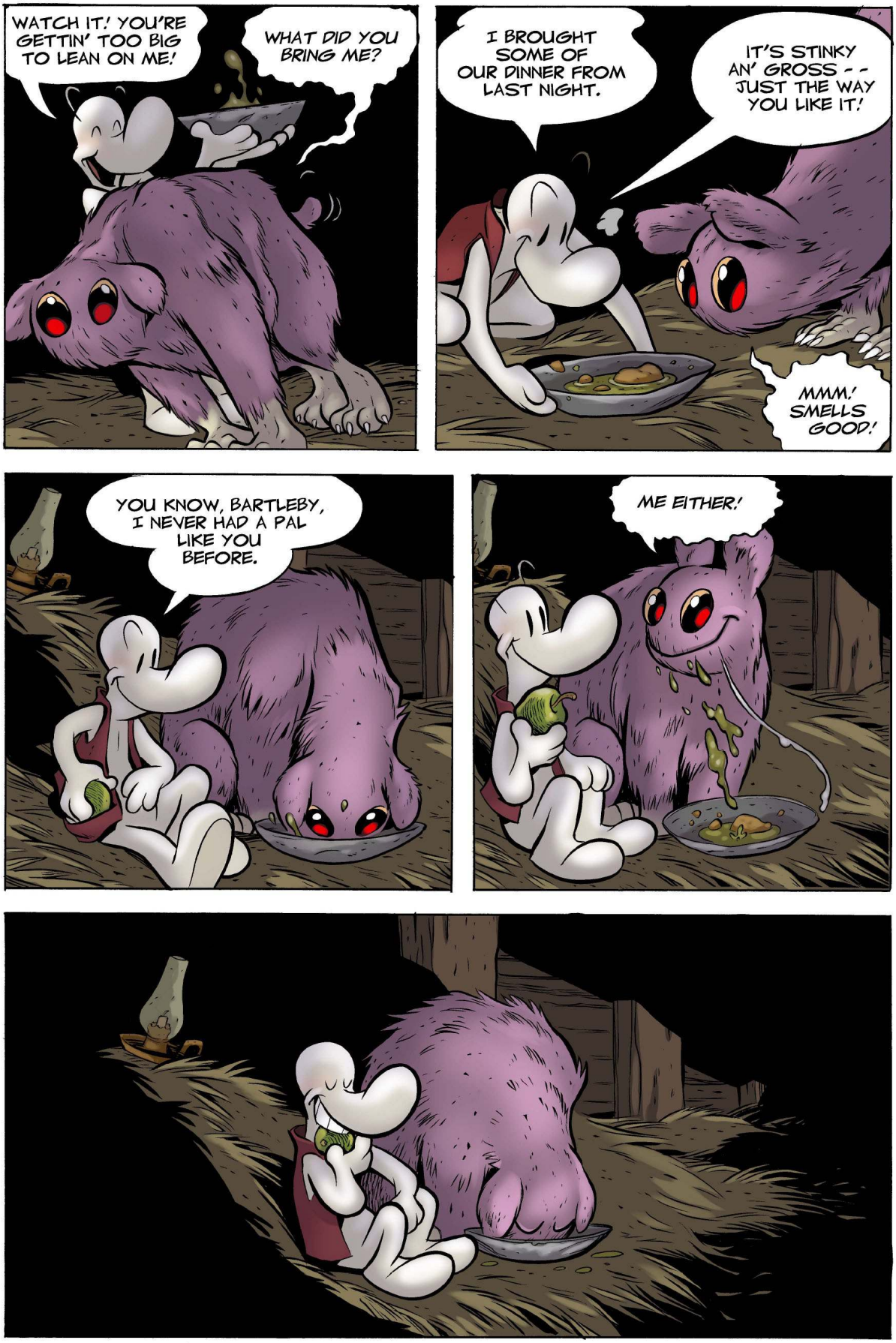
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


CREAK!


BARTLEBY?




HEY, I BROUGHT YOU SOME BREAKFAST!
SMILEY!

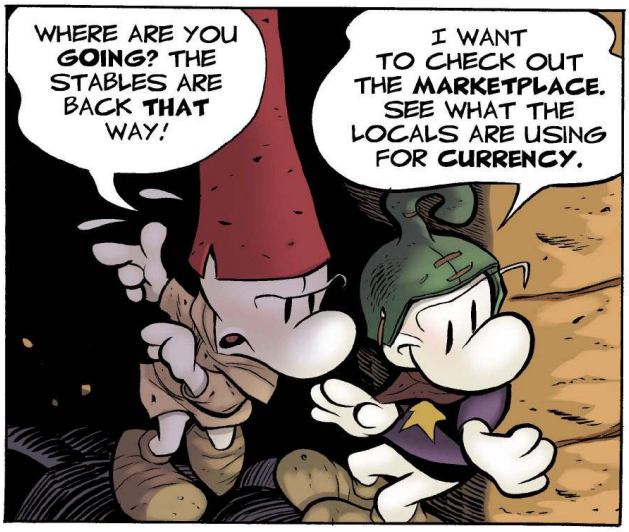


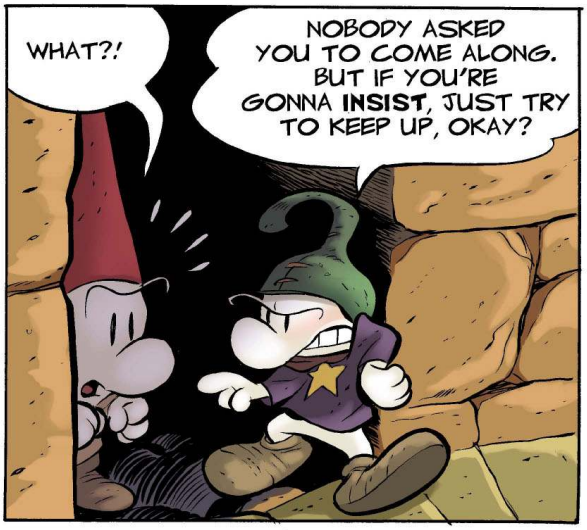
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


OPEN THIS GATE! LET ME IN!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I'VE BEEN ROBBED!
THIS FARMER CLAIMS HIS HAY CART WAS STOLEN AND HE WANTS TO ENTER THE CITY TO SEARCH FOR IT.


I WAS TAKIN' A NAP BY THE ROAD WHEN TWO LITTLE FELLOWS WITH **HUGE NOSES** STOLE OFF WITH IT!
A HAY CART **WAS** ALLOWED TO PASS THE GATES LAST EVENING, SIR, BUT AN OLD WOMAN AND HER GRAND-DAUGHTER WERE DRIVING.
GO AWAY, FARMER. WE HAVE MORE SERIOUS MATTERS AT HAND THAN WORRYING ABOUT YOUR **HAY.**
BUT IT'S MY **WAGON!** HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO MAKE MY **LIVING?**
GET ALONG NOW, OR I'LL PUT YOUR LEGS IN IRON FOR YOU.


HEY.
HEY!


WHERE ARE YOU GOING? THE STABLES ARE BACK THAT WAY!
I WANT TO CHECK OUT THE MARKETPLACE. SEE WHAT THE LOCALS ARE USING FOR CURRENCY.

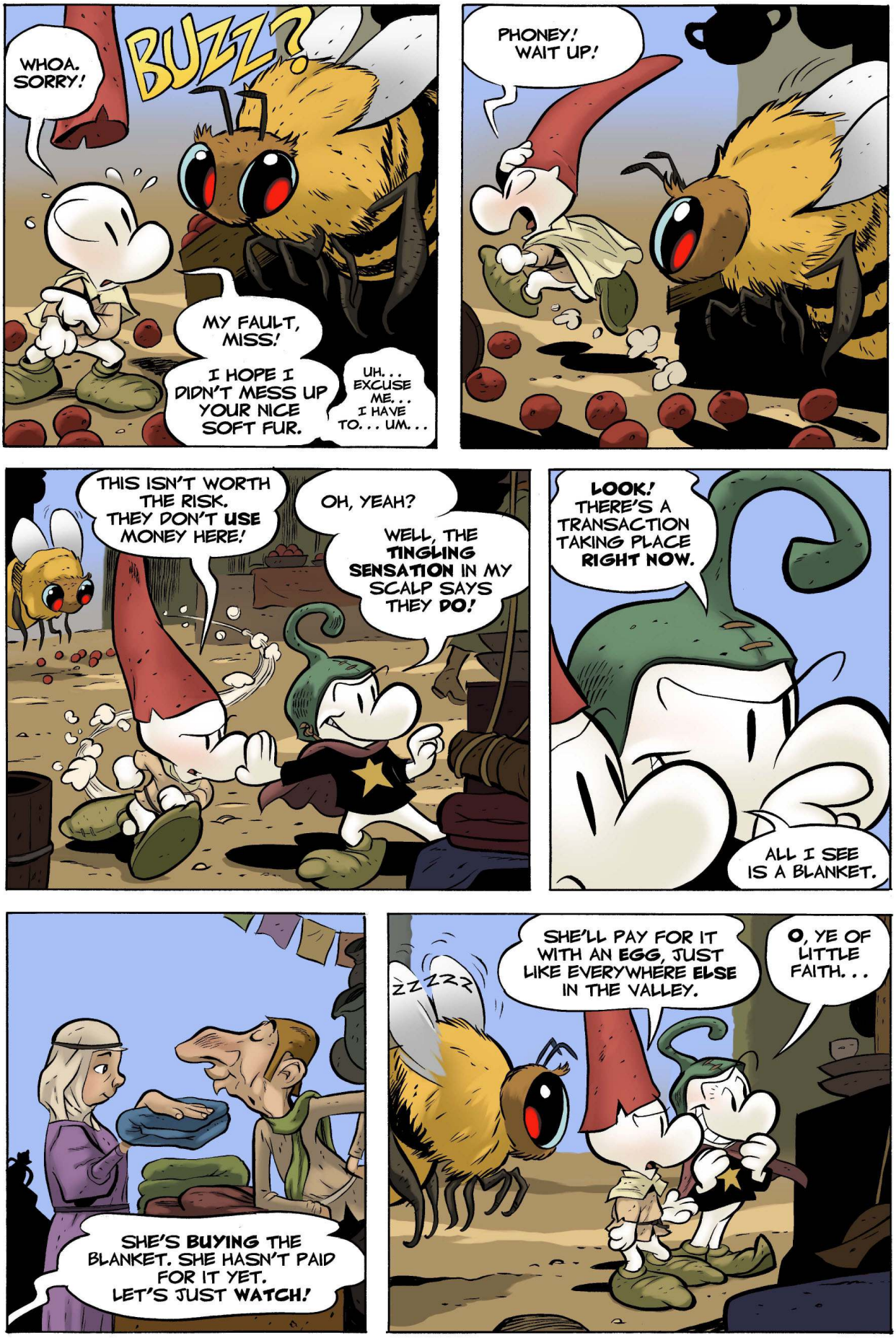

WHAT?!
NOBODY ASKED YOU TO COME ALONG. BUT IF YOU'RE GONNA INSIST, JUST TRY TO KEEP UP, OKAY?

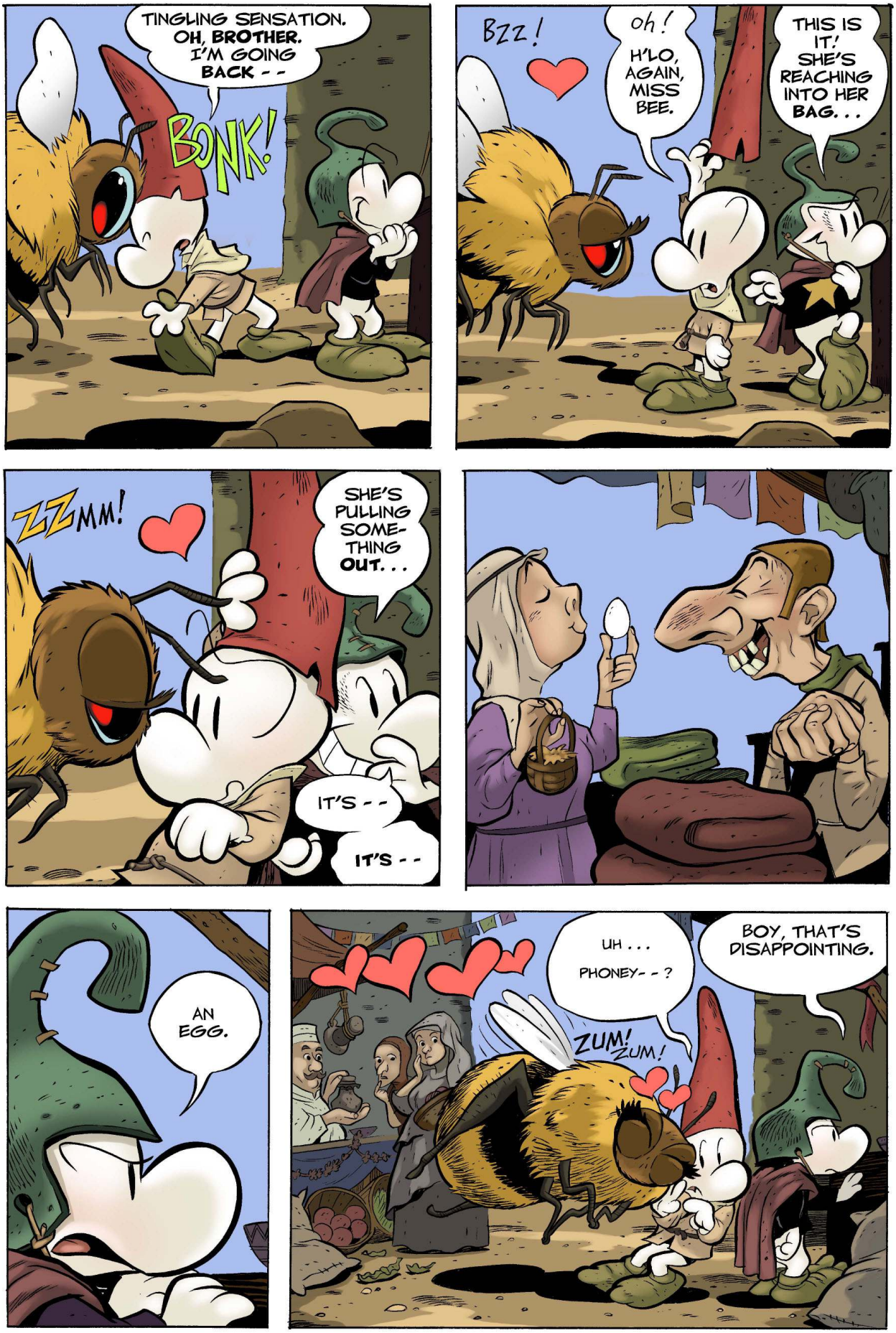

LET'S GO - -
BUMP!

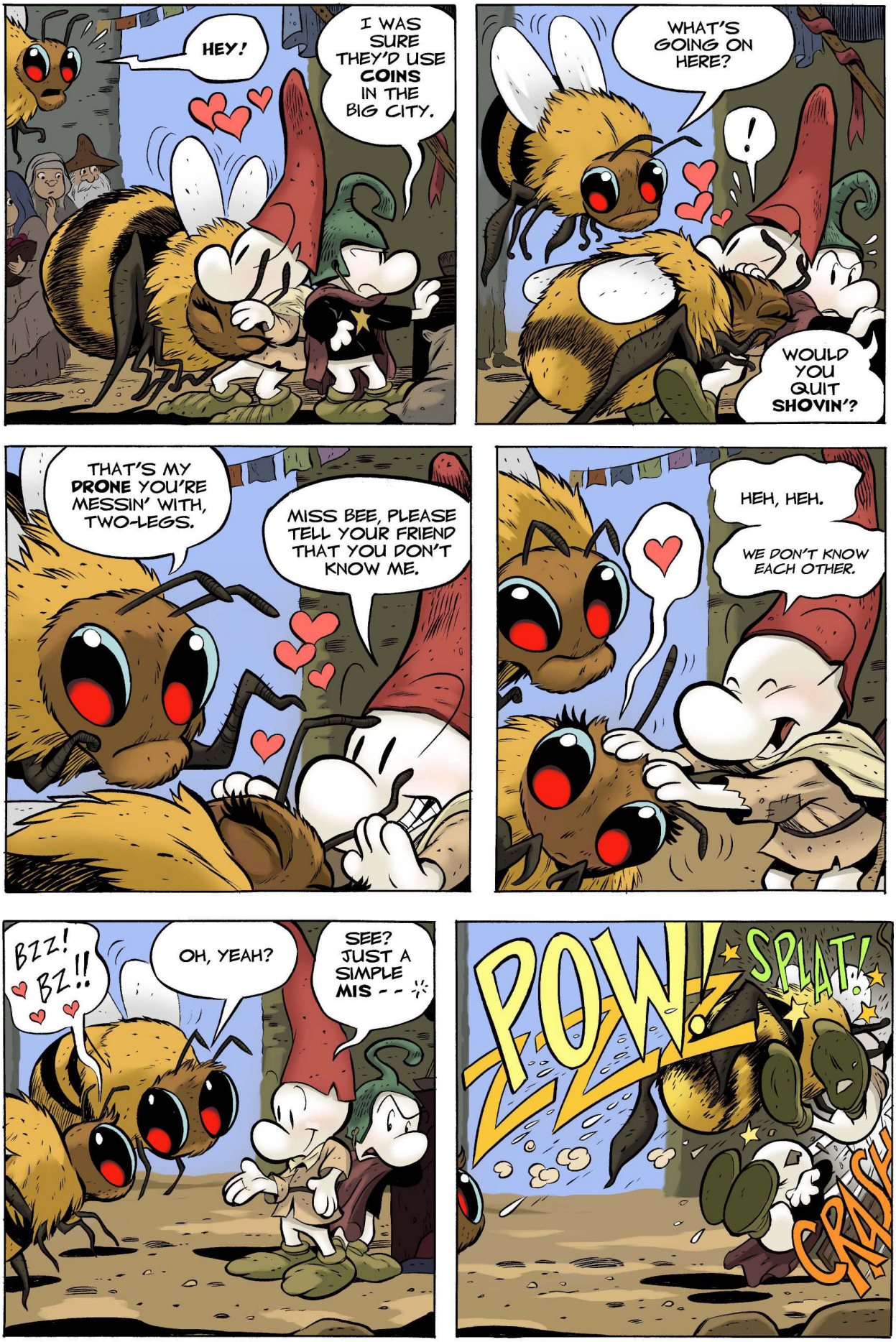

SORRY, MISTER!



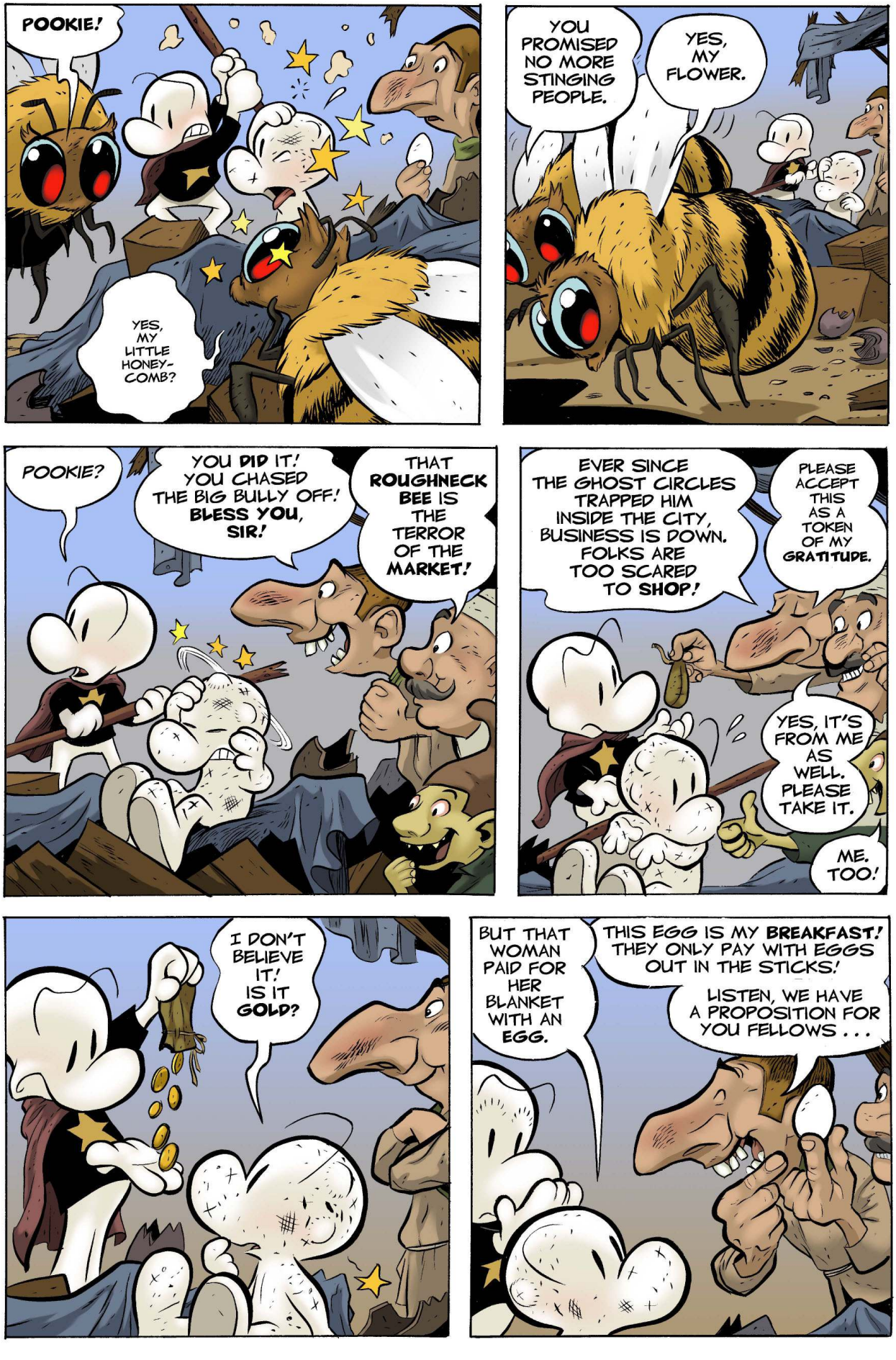

BONE
THIS IS IT! THE QUEEN'S SQUARE... CENTRAL MARKETPLACE OF ATHEIA!
NO, NO, NO, NO! IT'S PACKED WITH PEOPLE.
WE'RE TRYING TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE, REMEMBER?
THEN DON'T ATTRACT ATTENTION.
I JUST WANT TO SEE WHAT THEY USE FOR CURRENCY- -
WHY?!
SEE, THAT'S THE THING WITH YOU! YOU'RE ALWAYS UP TO SOMETHING!
BZ BZ
LET GO OF ME!
YOU'RE NOT GONNA FIND ANY GOLD - -
BUMP!
BZZZZ

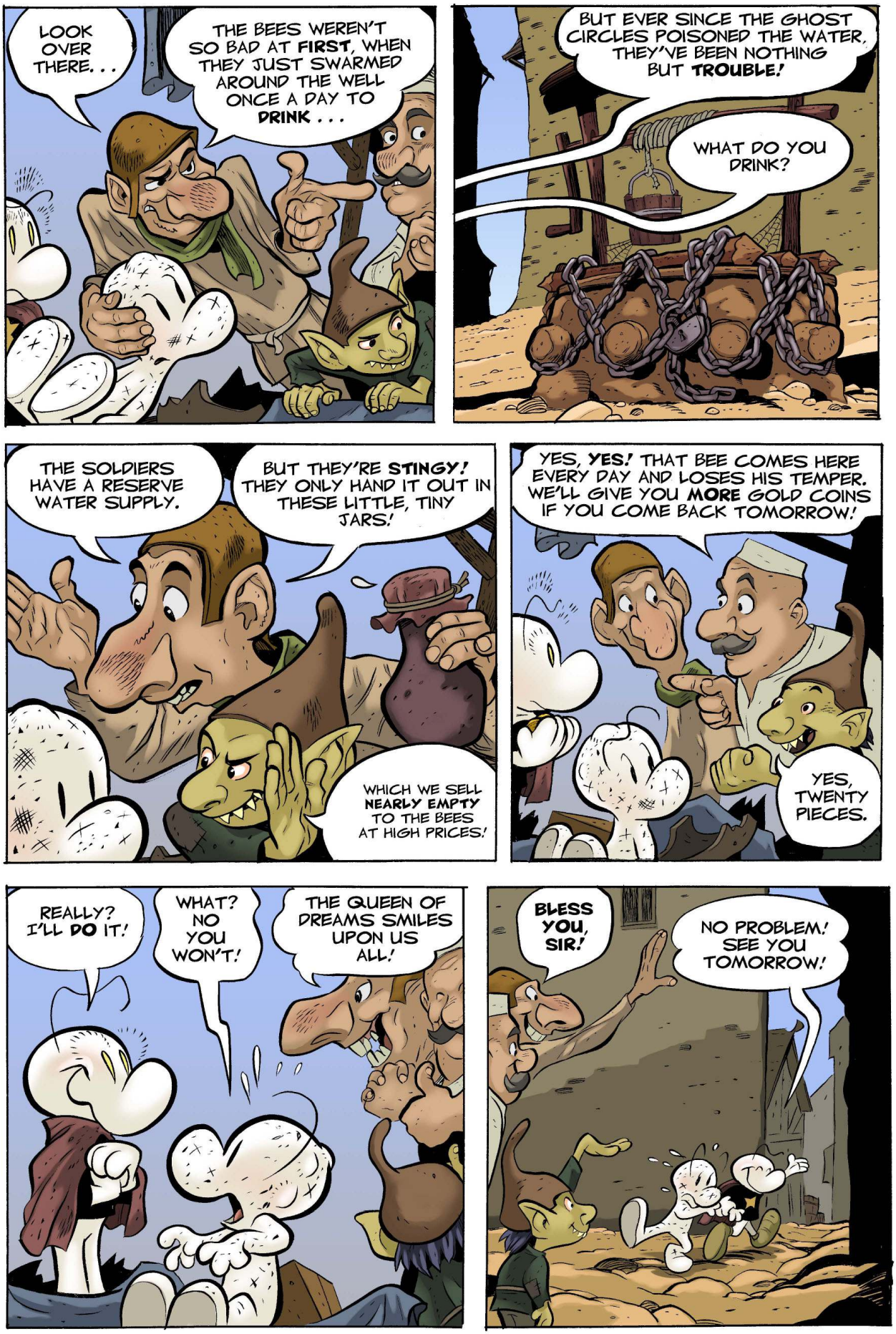

WHOA. SORRY!
BUZZ?
MY FAULT, MISS!
I HOPE I DIDN'T MESS UP YOUR NICE SOFT FUR.
UH... EXCUSE ME... I HAVE TO... UM...
PHONEY! WAIT UP!
THIS ISN'T WORTH THE RISK. THEY DON'T **USE** MONEY HERE!
OH, YEAH?
WELL, THE **TINGLING SENSATION** IN MY SCALP SAYS THEY **DO!**
LOOK! THERE'S A TRANSACTION TAKING PLACE **RIGHT NOW.**
ALL I SEE IS A BLANKET.
SHE'S **BUYING** THE BLANKET. SHE HASN'T PAID FOR IT YET. LET'S JUST **WATCH!**
ZZZZZ
SHE'LL PAY FOR IT WITH AN **EGG**, JUST LIKE EVERYWHERE **ELSE** IN THE VALLEY.
O, YE OF LITTLE FAITH...

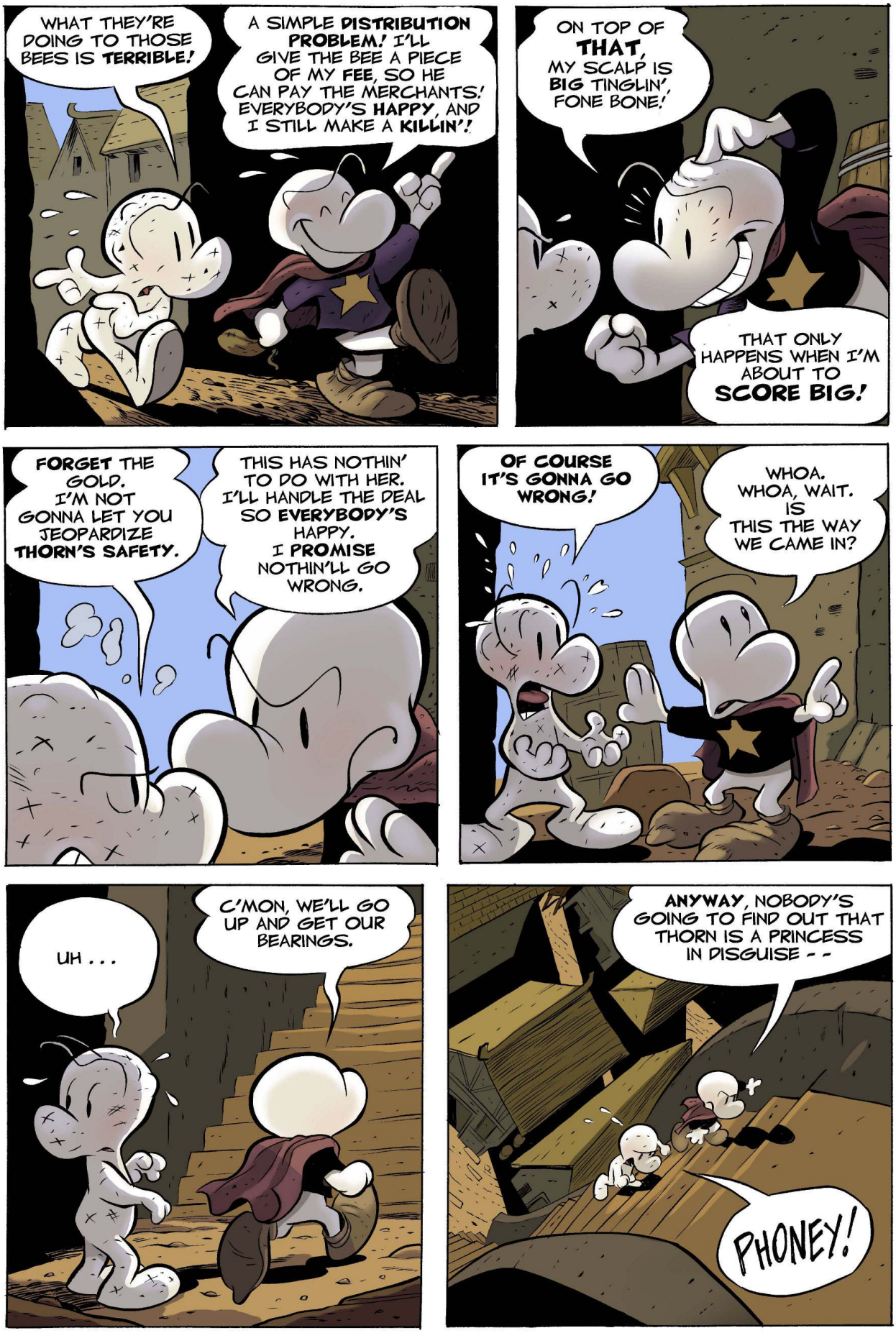

TINGLING SENSATION. OH, BROTHER. I'M GOING BACK - -
BONK!
BZZ!
oh!
H'LO, AGAIN, MISS BEE.
THIS IS IT! SHE'S REACHING INTO HER BAG. . .
ZZMM!
SHE'S PULLING SOME-THING OUT. . .
IT'S - -
IT'S - -
AN EGG.
UH . . .
PHONEY- - ?
ZUM! ZUM!
BOY, THAT'S DISAPPOINTING.

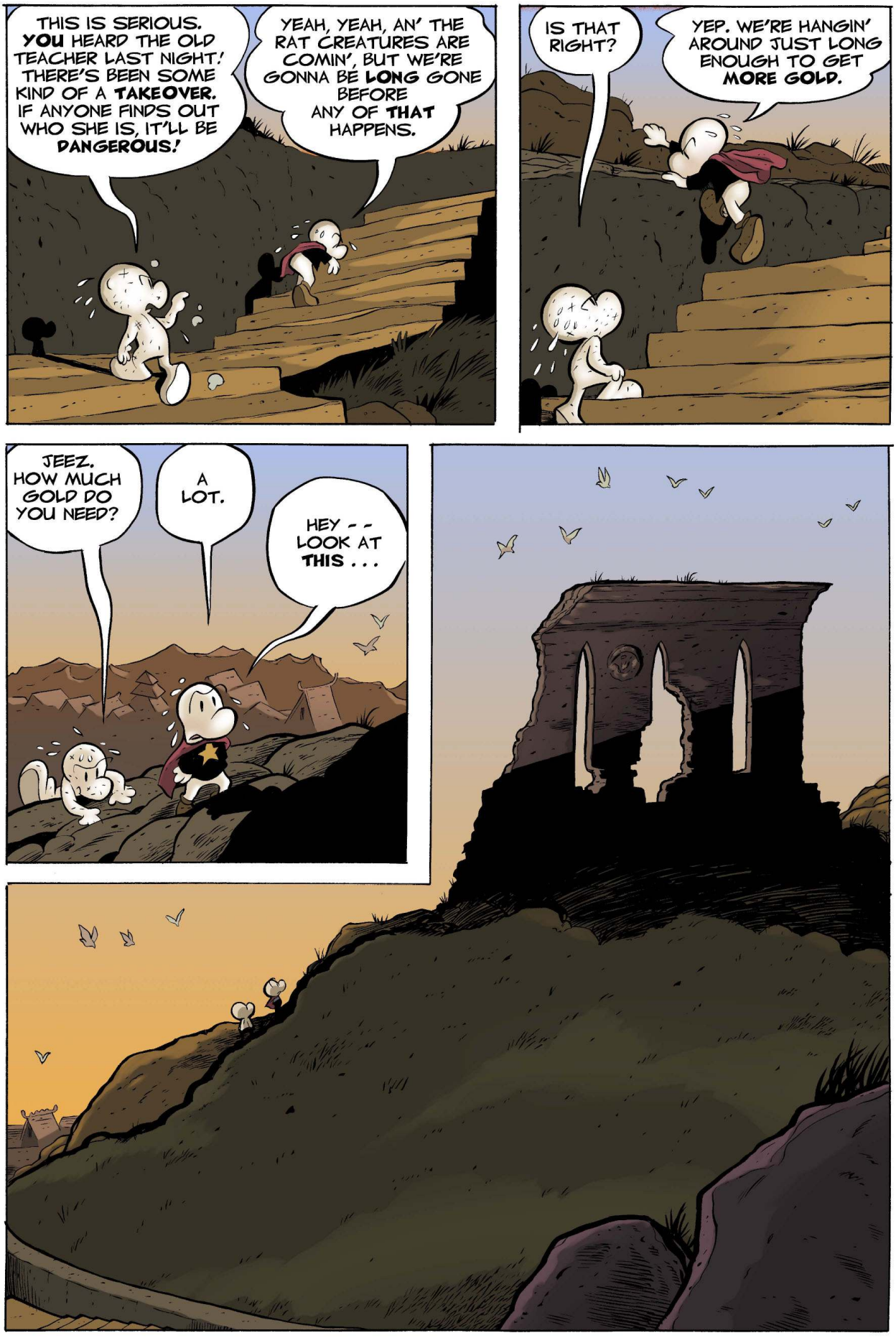

HEY!
I WAS SURE THEY'D USE COINS IN THE BIG CITY.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
!
WOULD YOU QUIT SHOVIN'?
THAT'S MY DRONE YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH, TWO-LEGS.
MISS BEE, PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIEND THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ME.
HEH, HEH.
WE DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER.
BZZ! BZ!!
OH, YEAH?
SEE? JUST A SIMPLE MIS - - -
POW!
SPLAT!
CRASH

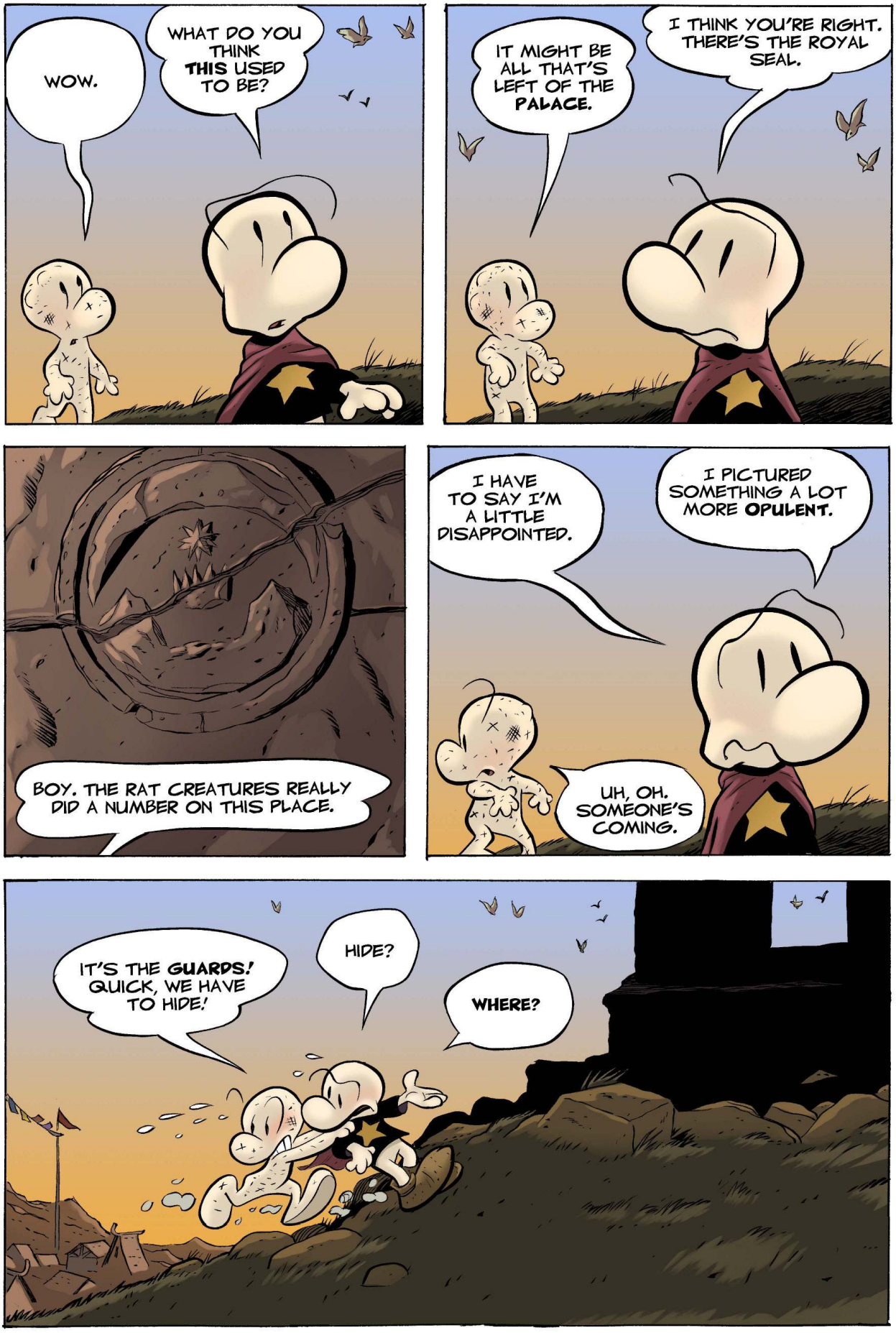

SMAK!
BAP!
BAP!
HEY!
HEY
NO FAIR! YOU HAVE A STINGER!
RRRR!
ZZZ
ZZZWA-HOO!
WOW
ZZZ
ZZZ
GET OFF HIM, YOU DUMB BEE!
OW!
WAP!
WAP!
WAP!
WAP!
WAP!
SMAK!
OOF!
CRACK
I MEAN IT!
WAPPITY!
THUD
STOP!
POW!
THUMP!
WAK!
SMAK!
STOP HELPING!

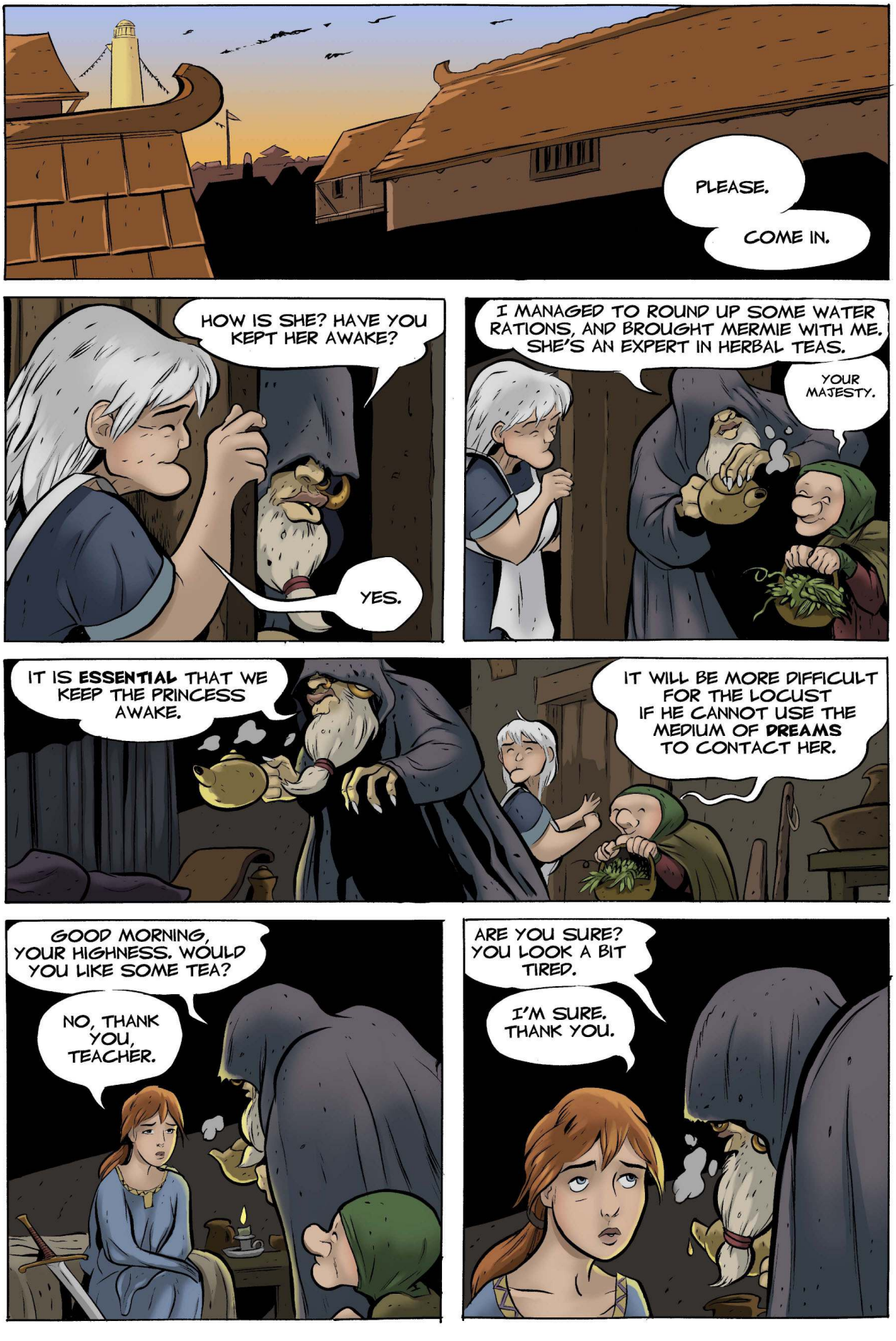

POOKIE!
YES, MY LITTLE HONEY-COMB?
YOU PROMISED NO MORE STINGING PEOPLE.
YES, MY FLOWER.
POOKIE?
YOU DID IT! YOU CHASED THE BIG BULLY OFF! BLESS YOU, SIR!
THAT ROUGHNECK BEE IS THE TERROR OF THE MARKET!
EVER SINCE THE GHOST CIRCLES TRAPPED HIM INSIDE THE CITY, BUSINESS IS DOWN. FOLKS ARE TOO SCARED TO SHOP!
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS AS A TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE.
YES, IT'S FROM ME AS WELL. PLEASE TAKE IT.
ME. TOO!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! IS IT GOLD?
BUT THAT WOMAN PAID FOR HER BLANKET WITH AN EGG.
THIS EGG IS MY BREAKFAST! THEY ONLY PAY WITH EGGS OUT IN THE STICKS!
LISTEN, WE HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU FELLOWS . . .

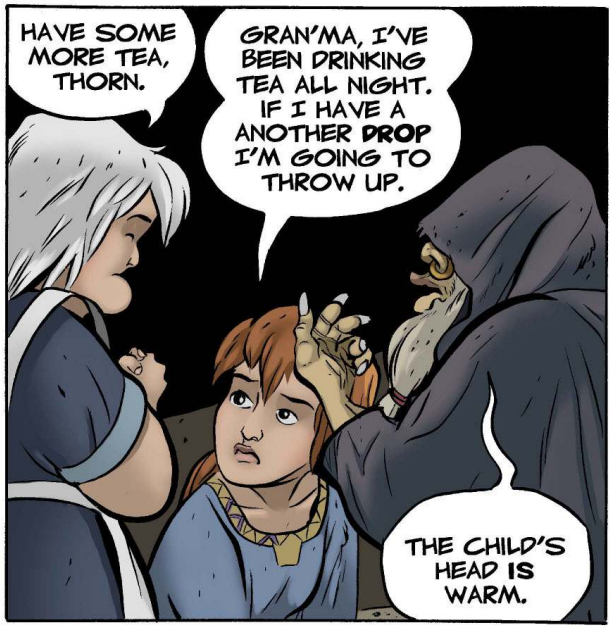

LOOK OVER THERE. . .
THE BEES WEREN'T SO BAD AT FIRST, WHEN THEY JUST SWARMED AROUND THE WELL ONCE A DAY TO DRINK . . .
BUT EVER SINCE THE GHOST CIRCLES POISONED THE WATER, THEY'VE BEEN NOTHING BUT TROUBLE!
WHAT DO YOU DRINK?
THE SOLDIERS HAVE A RESERVE WATER SUPPLY.
BUT THEY'RE STINGY! THEY ONLY HAND IT OUT IN THESE LITTLE, TINY JARS!
WHICH WE SELL NEARLY EMPTY TO THE BEES AT HIGH PRICES!
YES, YES! THAT BEE COMES HERE EVERY DAY AND LOSES HIS TEMPER. WE'LL GIVE YOU MORE GOLD COINS IF YOU COME BACK TOMORROW!
YES, TWENTY PIECES.
REALLY? I'LL DO IT!
WHAT? NO YOU WON'T!
THE QUEEN OF DREAMS SMILES UPON US ALL!
BLESS YOU, SIR!
NO PROBLEM! SEE YOU TOMORROW!

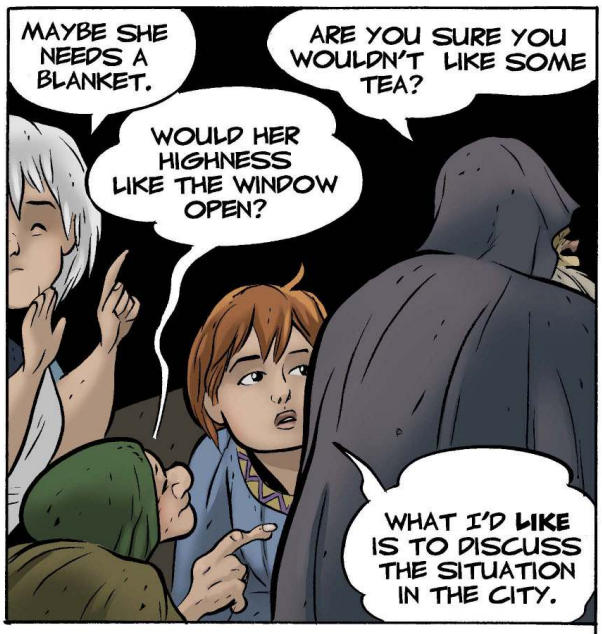

WHAT THEY'RE DOING TO THOSE BEES IS **TERRIBLE!**
A SIMPLE **DISTRIBUTION PROBLEM!** I'LL GIVE THE BEE A PIECE OF MY **FEE**, SO HE CAN PAY THE MERCHANTS! EVERYBODY'S **HAPPY**, AND I STILL MAKE A **KILLIN'!**
ON TOP OF **THAT,** MY SCALP IS **BIG** TINGLIN', FONE BONE!
THAT ONLY HAPPENS WHEN I'M ABOUT TO **SCORE BIG!**
FORGET THE GOLD. I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU JEOPARDIZE **THORN'S SAFETY.**
THIS HAS NOTHIN' TO DO WITH HER. I'LL HANDLE THE DEAL SO **EVERYBODY'S** HAPPY. I **PROMISE** NOTHIN'LL GO WRONG.
OF COURSE IT'S GONNA GO WRONG!
WHOA. WHOA, WAIT. IS THIS THE WAY WE CAME IN?
UH . . .
C'MON, WE'LL GO UP AND GET OUR BEARINGS.
ANYWAY, NOBODY'S GOING TO FIND OUT THAT THORN IS A PRINCESS IN DISGUISE - -
PHONEY!

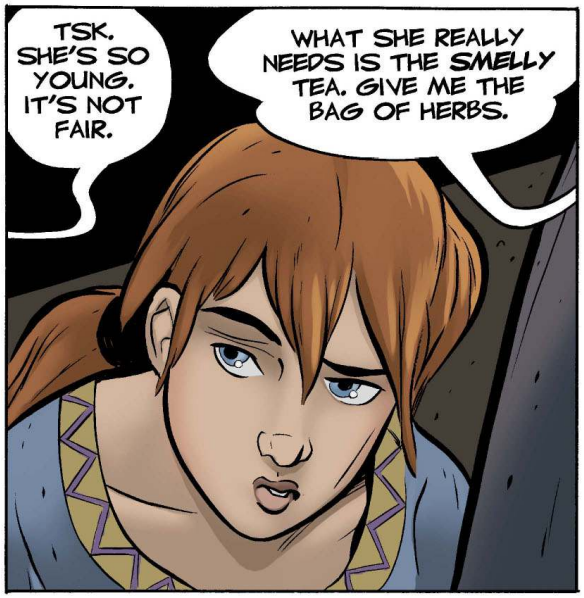

THIS IS SERIOUS. YOU HEARD THE OLD TEACHER LAST NIGHT! THERE'S BEEN SOME KIND OF A TAKEOVER. IF ANYONE FINDS OUT WHO SHE IS, IT'LL BE DANGEROUS!
YEAH, YEAH, AN' THE RAT CREATURES ARE COMIN', BUT WE'RE GONNA BE LONG GONE BEFORE ANY OF THAT HAPPENS.
IS THAT RIGHT?
YEP. WE'RE HANGIN' AROUND JUST LONG ENOUGH TO GET MORE GOLD.
JEEZ. HOW MUCH GOLD DO YOU NEED?
A LOT.
HEY - - LOOK AT THIS . . .

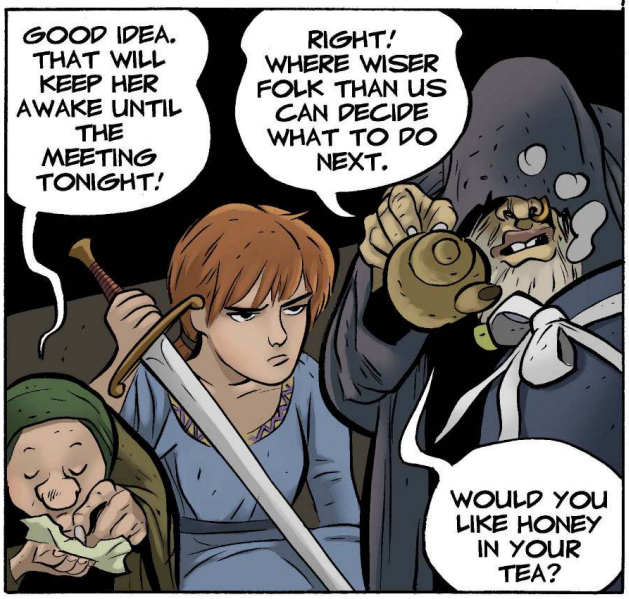

WOW.
WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS USED TO BE?
IT MIGHT BE ALL THAT'S LEFT OF THE PALACE.
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT. THERE'S THE ROYAL SEAL.
BOY. THE RAT CREATURES REALLY DID A NUMBER ON THIS PLACE.
I HAVE TO SAY I'M A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED.
I PICTURED SOMETHING A LOT MORE OPULENT.
UH, OH. SOMEONE'S COMING.
IT'S THE GUARDS! QUICK, WE HAVE TO HIDE!
HIDE?
WHERE?


PLEASE.
COME IN.
HOW IS SHE? HAVE YOU KEPT HER AWAKE?
YES.
I MANAGED TO ROUND UP SOME WATER RATIONS, AND BROUGHT MERMIE WITH ME. SHE'S AN EXPERT IN HERBAL TEAS.
YOUR MAJESTY.
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE KEEP THE PRINCESS AWAKE.
IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE LOCUST IF HE CANNOT USE THE MEDIUM OF DREAMS TO CONTACT HER.
GOOD MORNING, YOUR HIGHNESS. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA?
NO, THANK YOU, TEACHER.
ARE YOU SURE? YOU LOOK A BIT TIRED.
I'M SURE. THANK YOU.


HAVE SOME MORE TEA, THORN.
GRAN'MA, I'VE BEEN DRINKING TEA ALL NIGHT. IF I HAVE A ANOTHER **DROP** I'M GOING TO THROW UP.
THE CHILD'S HEAD **IS** WARM.

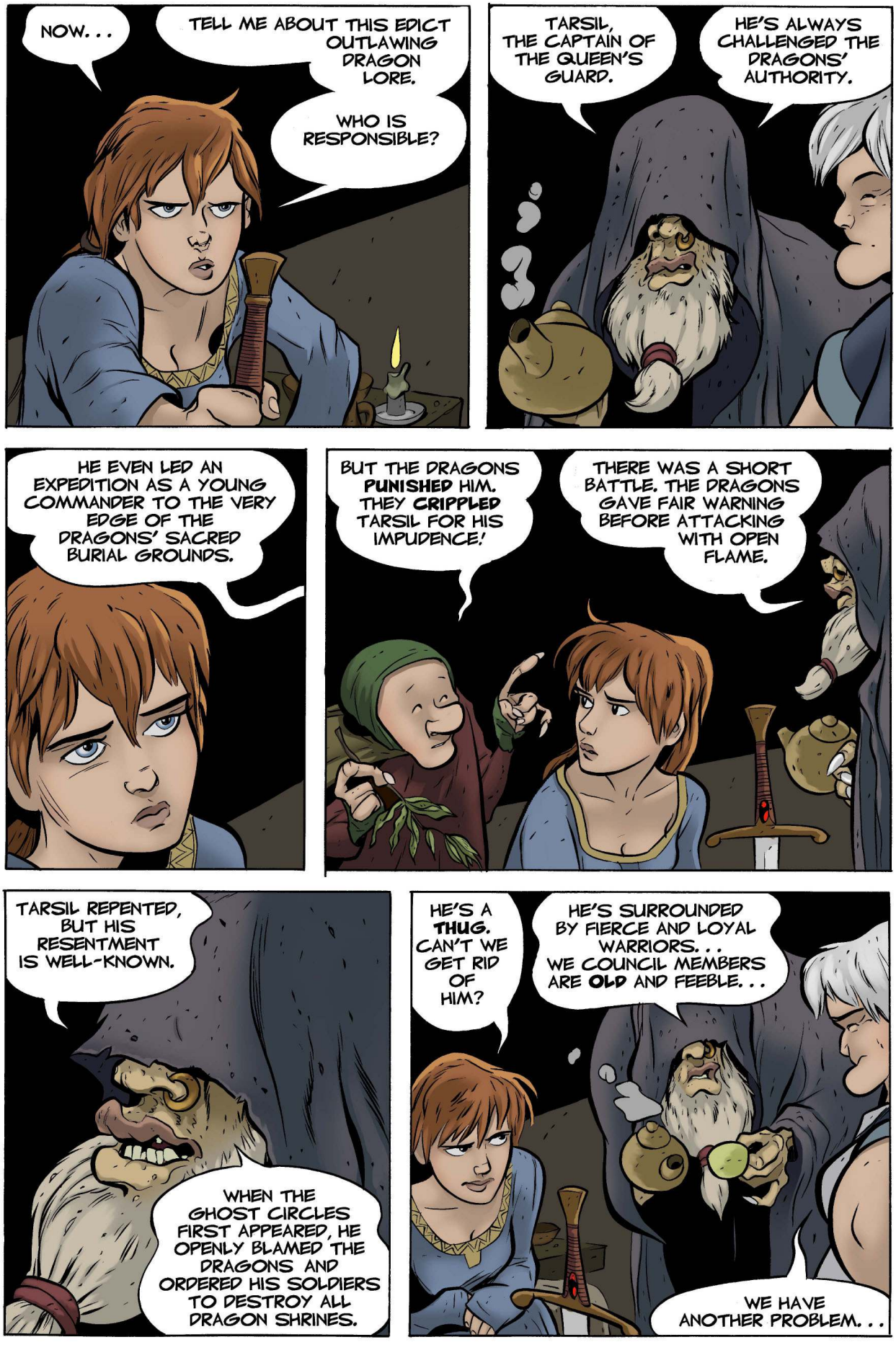

MAYBE SHE NEEDS A BLANKET.
ARE YOU SURE YOU WOULDN'T LIKE SOME TEA?
WOULD HER HIGHNESS LIKE THE WINDOW OPEN?
WHAT I'D **LIKE** IS TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN THE CITY.

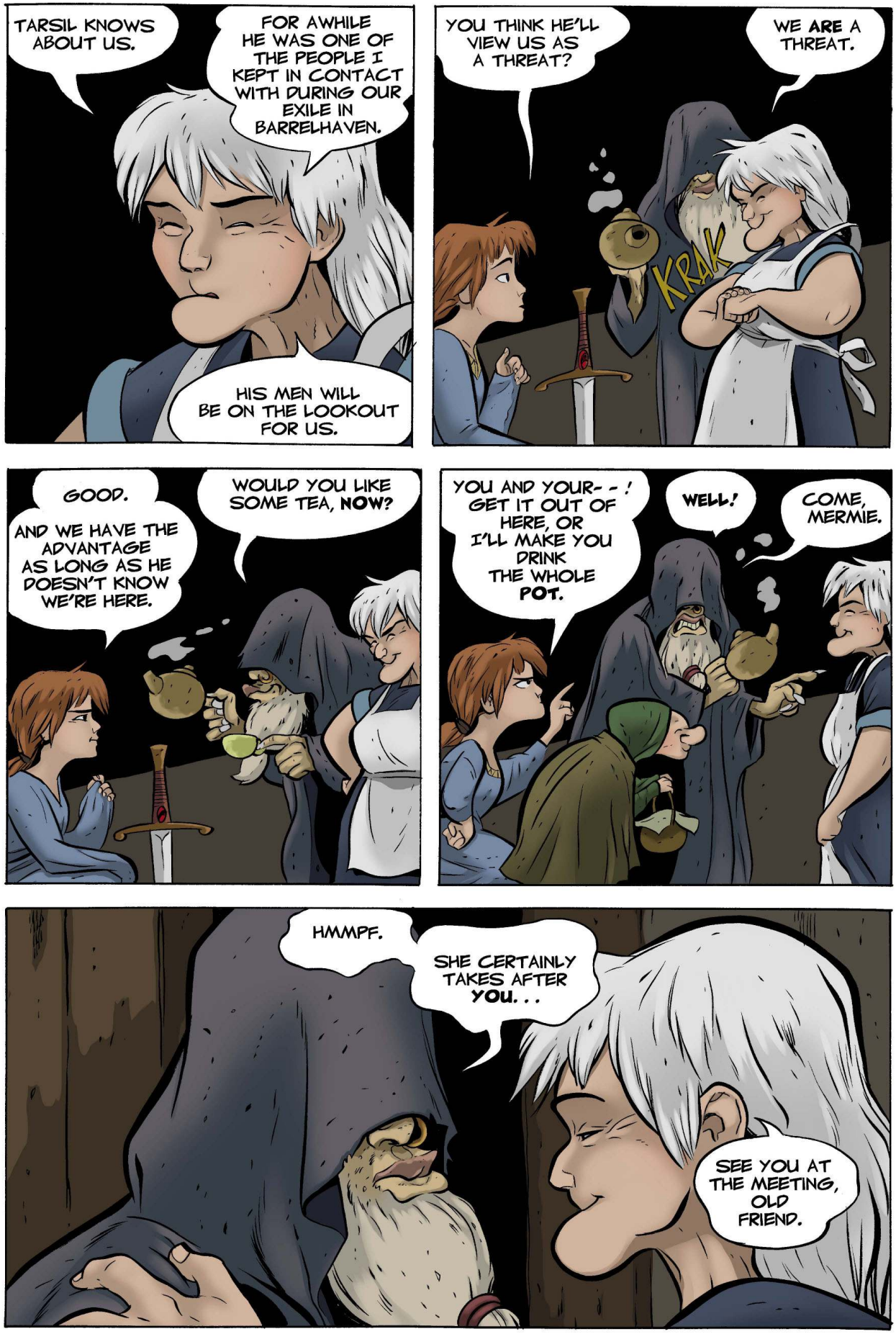

TSK. SHE'S SO YOUNG. IT'S NOT FAIR.
WHAT SHE REALLY NEEDS IS THE **SMELLY** TEA. GIVE ME THE BAG OF HERBS.


GOOD IDEA. THAT WILL KEEP HER AWAKE UNTIL THE MEETING TONIGHT!
RIGHT! WHERE WISER FOLK THAN US CAN DECIDE WHAT TO DO NEXT.
WOULD YOU LIKE HONEY IN YOUR TEA?

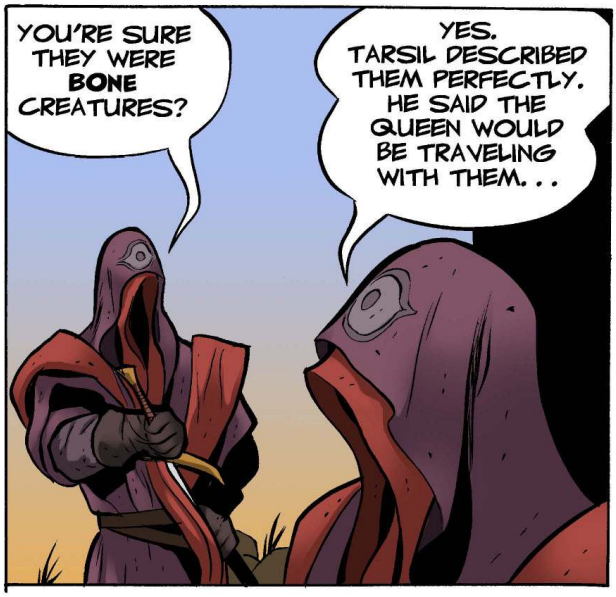

THUNK!

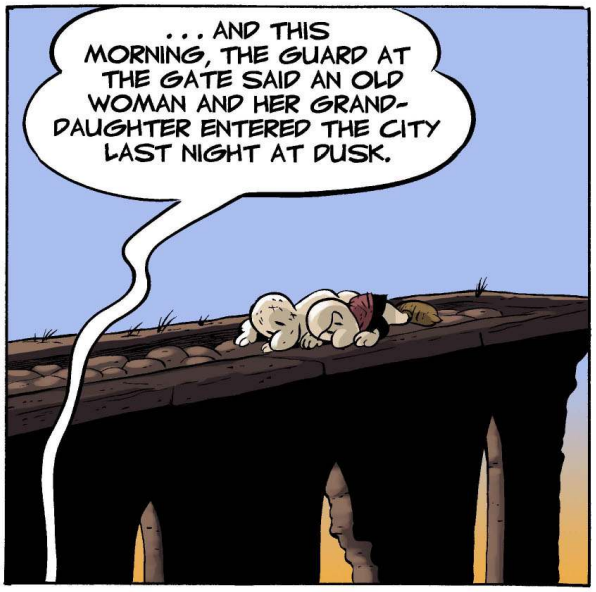

ENOUGH TEA.


NOW. . .
TELL ME ABOUT THIS EDICT OUTLAWING DRAGON LORE.
WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?
TARSIL, THE CAPTAIN OF THE QUEEN'S GUARD.
HE'S ALWAYS CHALLENGED THE DRAGONS' AUTHORITY.
HE EVEN LED AN EXPEDITION AS A YOUNG COMMANDER TO THE VERY EDGE OF THE DRAGONS' SACRED BURIAL GROUNDS.
BUT THE DRAGONS PUNISHED HIM. THEY CRIPPLED TARSIL FOR HIS IMPUDENCE!
THERE WAS A SHORT BATTLE. THE DRAGONS GAVE FAIR WARNING BEFORE ATTACKING WITH OPEN FLAME.
TARSIL REPENTED, BUT HIS RESENTMENT IS WELL-KNOWN.
WHEN THE GHOST CIRCLES FIRST APPEARED, HE OPENLY BLAMED THE DRAGONS AND ORDERED HIS SOLDIERS TO DESTROY ALL DRAGON SHRINES.
HE'S A THUG. CAN'T WE GET RID OF HIM?
HE'S SURROUNDED BY FIERCE AND LOYAL WARRIORS. . . WE COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE OLD AND FEEBLE. . .
WE HAVE ANOTHER PROBLEM. . .


TARSIL KNOWS ABOUT US.
FOR AWHILE HE WAS ONE OF THE PEOPLE I KEPT IN CONTACT WITH DURING OUR EXILE IN BARRELHAVEN.
HIS MEN WILL BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR US.
YOU THINK HE'LL VIEW US AS A THREAT?
WE ARE A THREAT.
KRAK
GOOD.
AND WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE HERE.
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA, NOW?
YOU AND YOUR- - ! GET IT OUT OF HERE, OR I'LL MAKE YOU DRINK THE WHOLE POT.
WELL!
COME, MERMIE.
HMMPF.
SHE CERTAINLY TAKES AFTER YOU. . .
SEE YOU AT THE MEETING, OLD FRIEND.

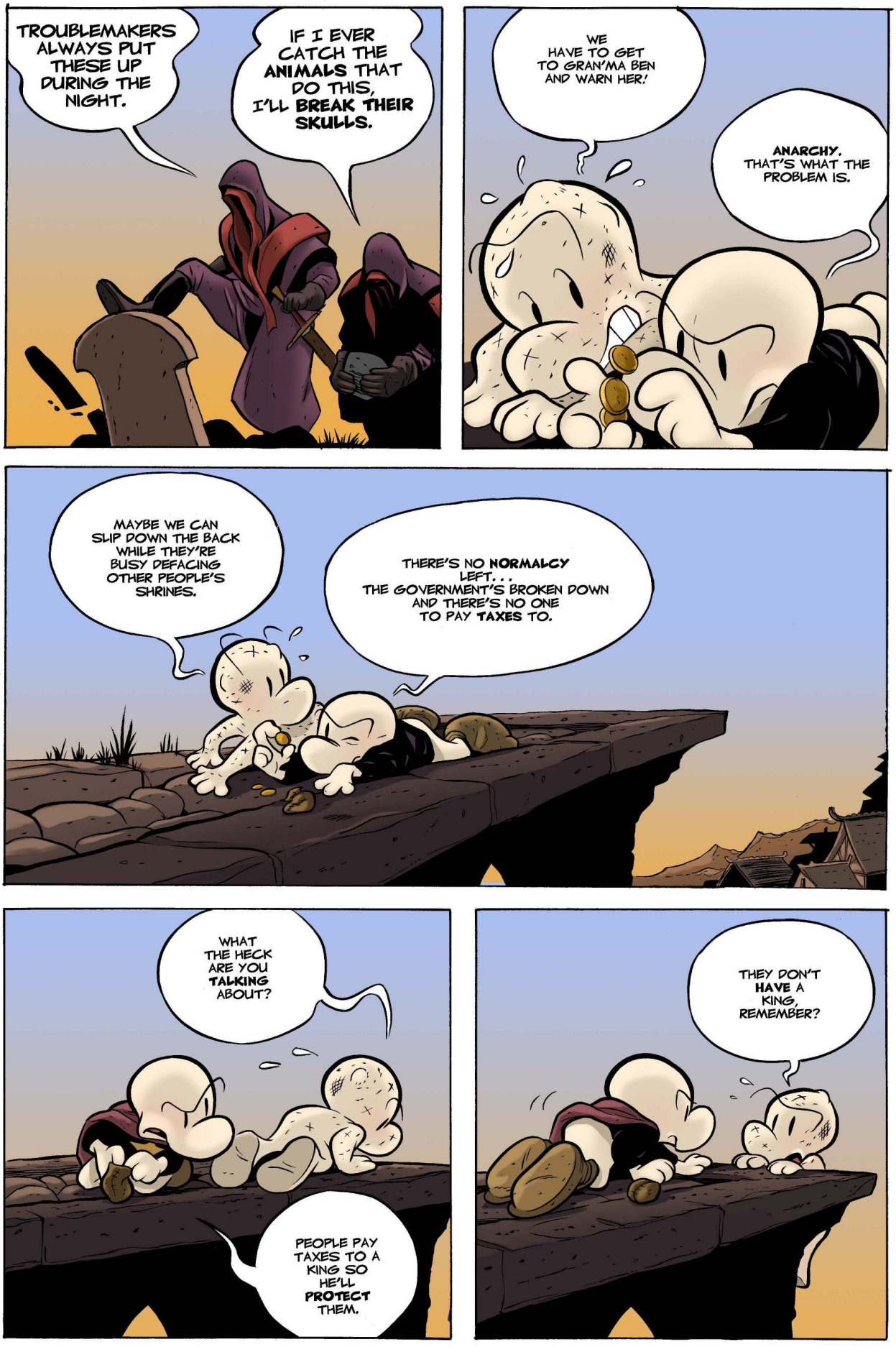

FIND ANYTHING?
NO, BUT I'M TELLING YOU I SAW THEM COME UP HERE.


YOU'RE SURE THEY WERE BONE CREATURES?
YES. TARSIL DESCRIBED THEM PERFECTLY. HE SAID THE QUEEN WOULD BE TRAVELING WITH THEM. . .

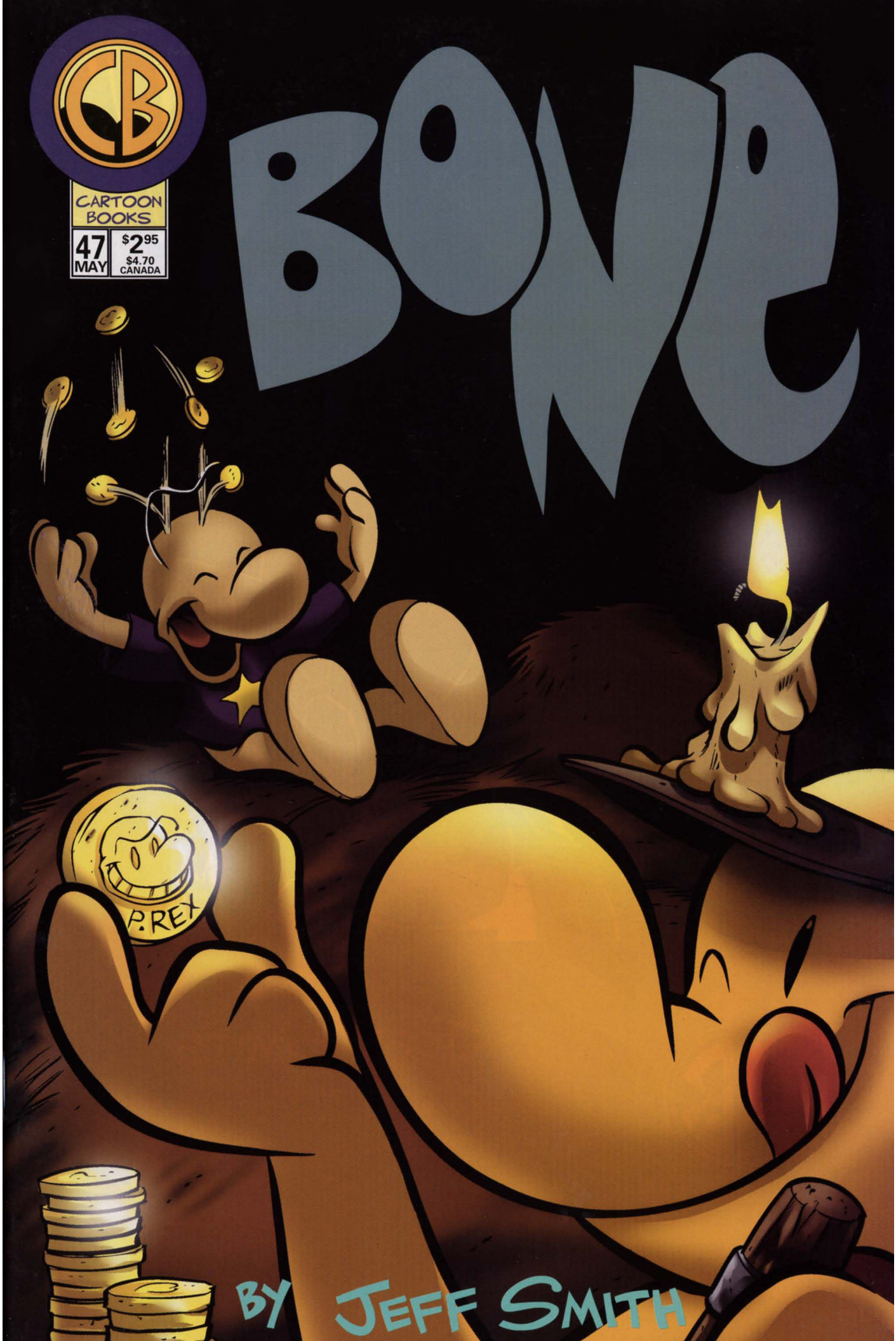

. . . AND THIS MORNING, THE GUARD AT THE GATE SAID AN OLD WOMAN AND HER GRAND-DAUGHTER ENTERED THE CITY LAST NIGHT AT DUSK.


THE QUEEN HERE!
WE'LL FIND THEM - - -
LOOK!


A DRAGON SHRINE!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE PEOPLE?

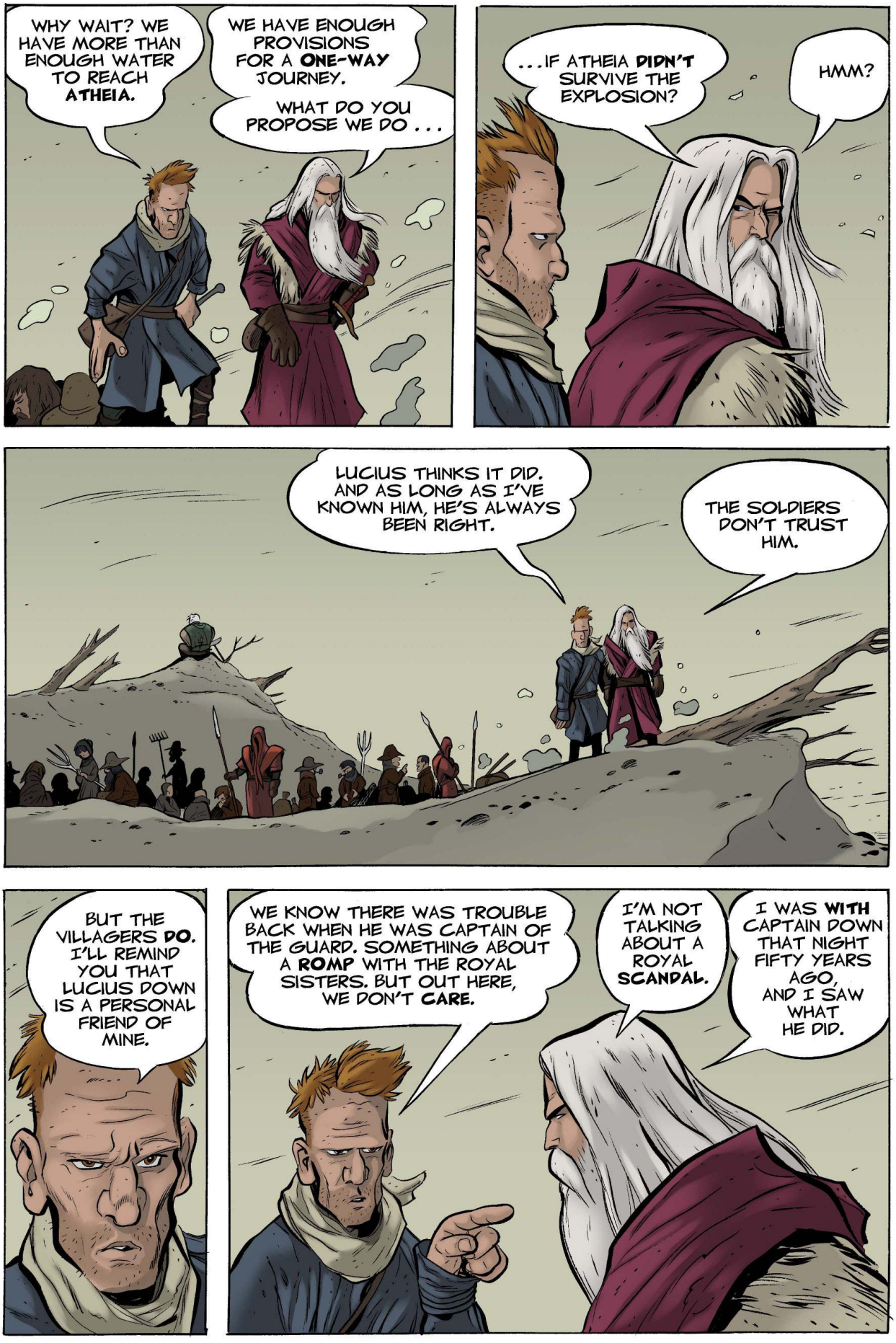

TROUBLEMAKERS ALWAYS PUT THESE UP DURING THE NIGHT.
IF I EVER CATCH THE ANIMALS THAT DO THIS, I'LL BREAK THEIR SKULLS.
WE HAVE TO GET TO GRAN'MA BEN AND WARN HER!
ANARCHY. THAT'S WHAT THE PROBLEM IS.
MAYBE WE CAN SLIP DOWN THE BACK WHILE THEY'RE BUSY DEFACING OTHER PEOPLE'S SHRINES.
THERE'S NO NORMALCY LEFT... THE GOVERNMENT'S BROKEN DOWN AND THERE'S NO ONE TO PAY TAXES TO.
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
PEOPLE PAY TAXES TO A KING SO HE'LL PROTECT THEM.
THEY DON'T HAVE A KING, REMEMBER?


EXACTLY.

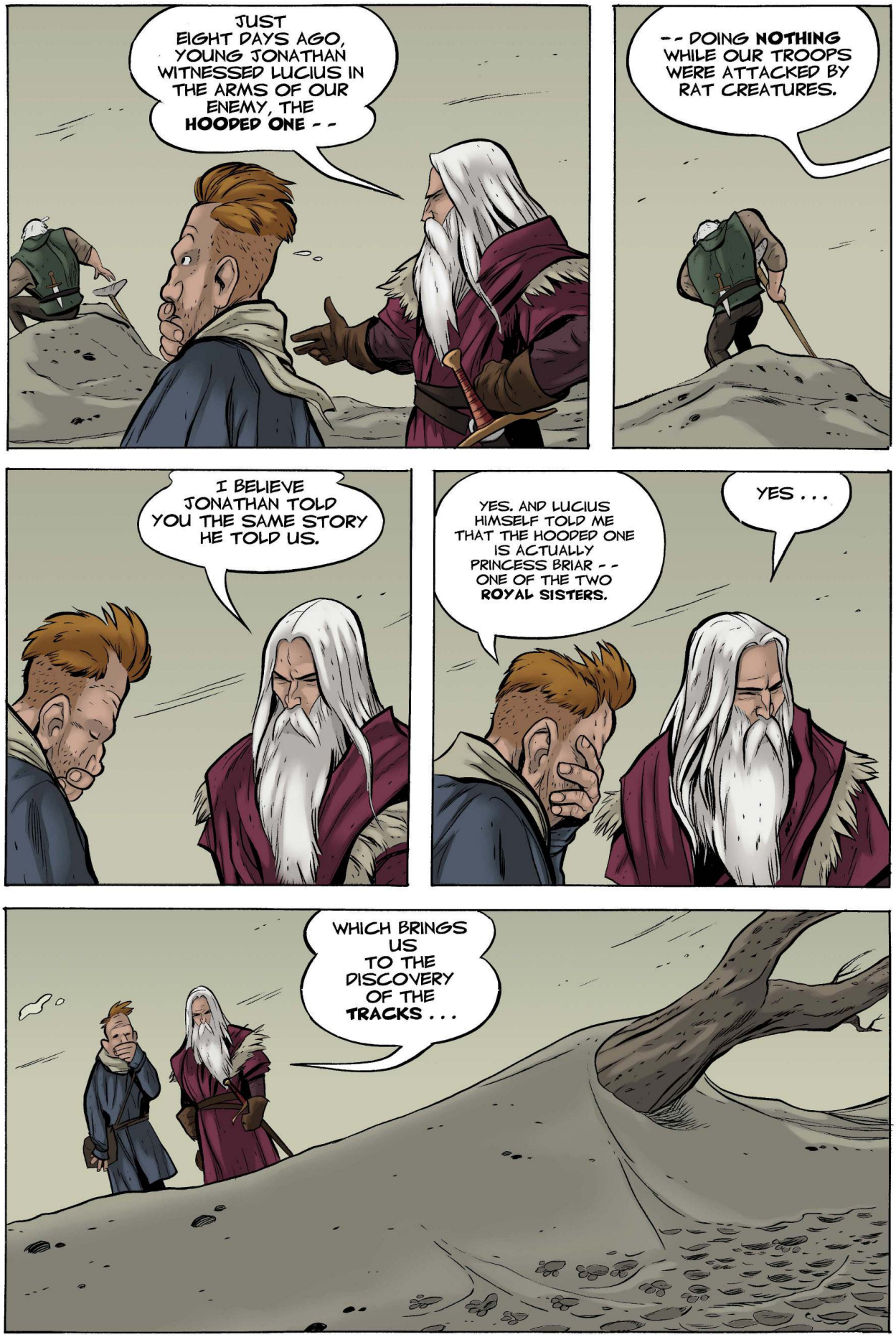

CARTOON BOOKS
47
MAY
$2.95
$4.70 CANADA
BONE
P.REX
BY JEFF SMITH



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


WHY WAIT? WE HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH WATER TO REACH ATHEIA.
WE HAVE ENOUGH PROVISIONS FOR A ONE-WAY JOURNEY.
WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE WE DO . . .
. . . IF ATHEIA DIDN'T SURVIVE THE EXPLOSION?
HMM?
LUCIUS THINKS IT DID. AND AS LONG AS I'VE KNOWN HIM, HE'S ALWAYS BEEN RIGHT.
THE SOLDIERS DON'T TRUST HIM.
BUT THE VILLAGERS DO. I'LL REMIND YOU THAT LUCIUS DOWN IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF MINE.
WE KNOW THERE WAS TROUBLE BACK WHEN HE WAS CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD. SOMETHING ABOUT A ROMP WITH THE ROYAL SISTERS. BUT OUT HERE, WE DON'T CARE.
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT A ROYAL SCANDAL.
I WAS WITH CAPTAIN DOWN THAT NIGHT FIFTY YEARS AGO, AND I SAW WHAT HE DID.


HE MARCHED OUR ARMY STRAIGHT INTO A **RAT CREATURE TRAP**. THE BLOODBATH THAT FOLLOWED WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE **GREAT WAR** ITSELF.
YOU WERE AMBUSHED. SO WHAT?
THE RAT CREATURES COULD NOT HAVE AMBUSHED US WITHOUT INSIDE KNOWLEDGE OF OUR ROUTE.
WHY WOULD HE DO IT? LUCIUS DOESN'T LIKE RAT CREATURES. HE **FIGHTS** THEM!
HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW OUR ROUTE THAT NIGHT.
ONLY HE COULD HAVE ALERTED THE ENEMY.
FIFTY YEARS LATER, WHERE'S YOUR **PROOF**?!
A YOUNG FARMER NAMED **JONATHAN OAKS** HAS GIVEN US OUR PROOF.
JON - - ?
OH, BLOODY STARS.

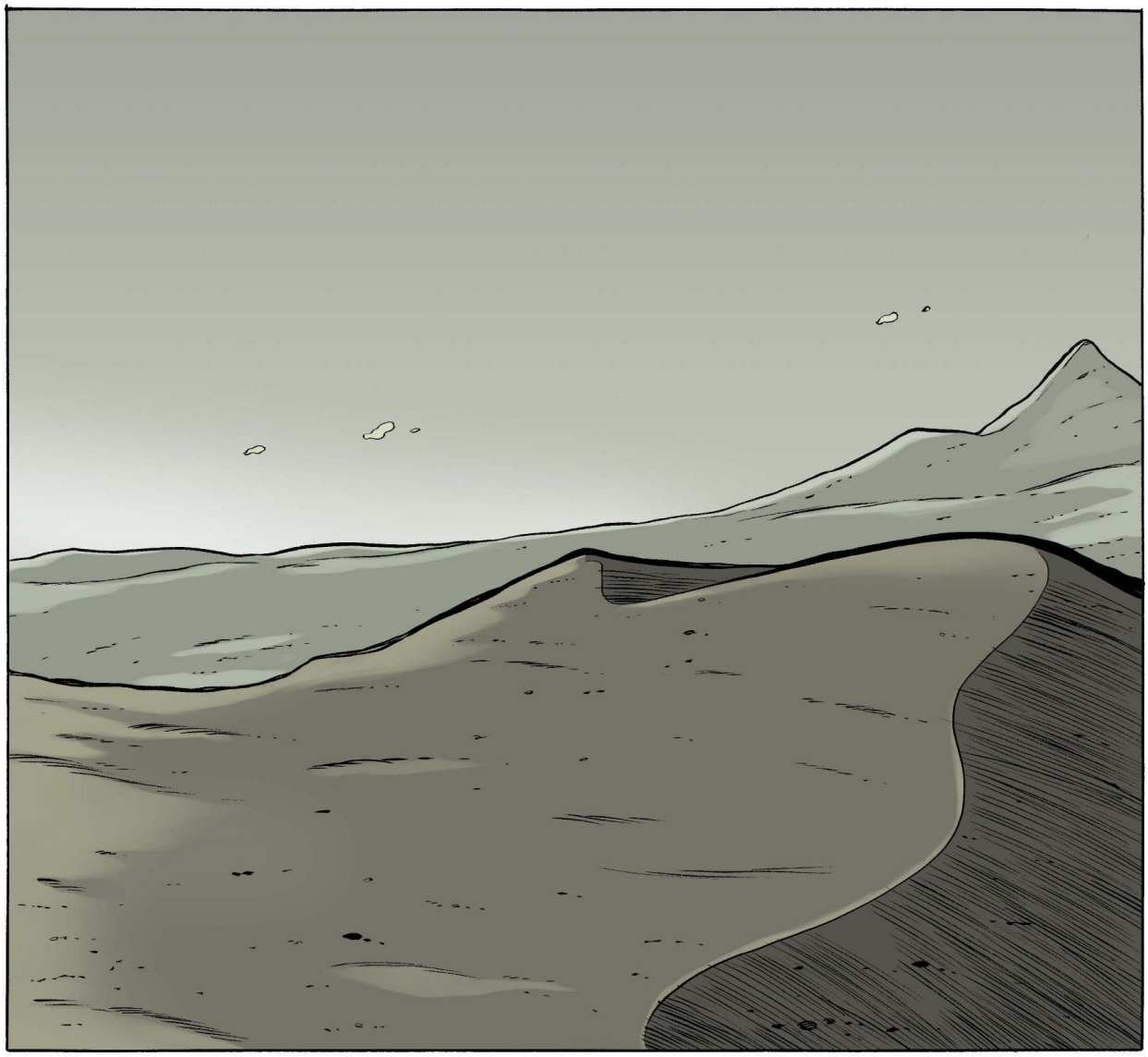

JUST EIGHT DAYS AGO, YOUNG JONATHAN WITNESSED LUCIUS IN THE ARMS OF OUR ENEMY, THE **HOODED ONE** - -
- - DOING **NOTHING** WHILE OUR TROOPS WERE ATTACKED BY RAT CREATURES.
I BELIEVE JONATHAN TOLD YOU THE SAME STORY HE TOLD US.
YES. AND LUCIUS HIMSELF TOLD ME THAT THE HOODED ONE IS ACTUALLY PRINCESS BRIAR - - ONE OF THE TWO **ROYAL SISTERS.**
YES . . .
WHICH BRINGS US TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE **TRACKS** . . .


RAT CREATURE TRACKS.
IT APPEARS THAT CAPTAIN DOWN AND HIS BUG HAVE BROUGHT US RIGHT TO OUR ENEMY.
FINDING THESE TRACKS WAS A STROKE OF LUCK.
LUCIUS.
GATHER YOUR PEOPLE, BOTH OF YOU. WE NEED TO HURRY BEFORE THE WIND COVERS UP THESE FOOTPRINTS.
YOU EXPECT US TO FOLLOW THESE TRACKS? YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS.
DEAD SERIOUS. GHOST CIRCLES KILL RAT CREATURES, TOO - -
WHEREVER THEY CAN WALK, WE CAN WALK.


CAPTAIN DOWN!
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO PUT THESE PEOPLE AT RISK.
WE'LL CUT OUR TRAVEL TIME TO ATHEIA IN **HALF**.
YOU GO TOO FAR. I WON'T ALLOW IT.
YOU'LL HAVE TO. I SENT THE BUG ON AHEAD.
WITHOUT THE BUG, THERE ARE ONLY TWO CHOICES . . .
FOLLOW THESE TRACKS - - OR STUMBLE THROUGH THE GHOST CIRCLES **ON YOUR OWN.**
TAKE YOUR PICK.










MASTER . . .
THE PAWAN GENERALS HAVE ARRIVED.

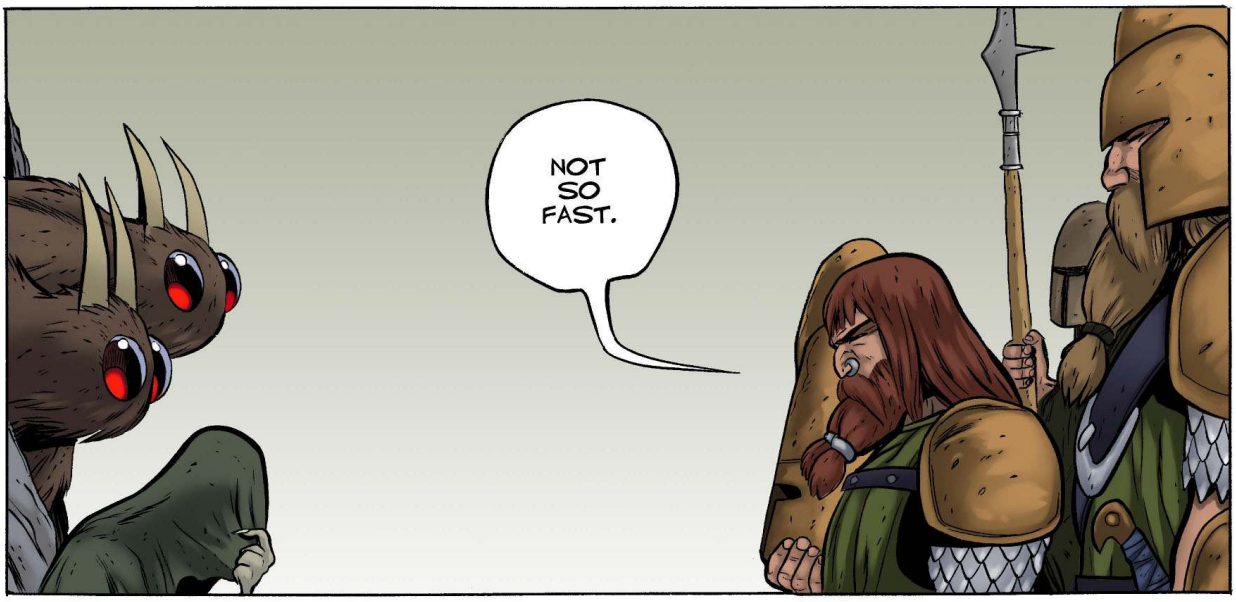

AT LAST WE MEET, GENERAL.
OUR TWO ARMIES HAVE ENDURED MUCH HARDSHIP SO THAT WE MIGHT COME TOGETHER HERE IN THE FOOTHILLS OF TANEN GARD . . . .
. . . PLEASE . . .
. . . COME IN.





Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


I AM CONDUCTING THIS WAR, GENERAL. . . .
YOU SHOULD PREPARE YOUR SOLDIERS. WE WILL LEAVE A BATTALION **HERE** AT TANEN GARD. . . . OUR MAIN FORCE LEAVES **IMMEDIATELY** FOR ATHEIA.
YOU ARE **DISMISSED.**


NOT SO FAST.


WE SENT MANY OF OUR BRAVEST WARRIORS TO AID YOU IN YOUR ASSAULT ON **OLD MAN'S CAVE.**


AND YET, WE DO NOT SEE THEM HERE WITH YOU.
DID YOU **ABANDON** THEM IN THE GHOST CIRCLES?


WHERE ARE OUR BROTHERS, STICK-EATER?
YOUR SOLDIERS FOUGHT BRAVELY, GENERAL . . .
. . . BUT I WAS FINISHED WITH THEM.
SHIING!
SHING!
SSSSSSS
SPAK
PING




REMEMBER OUR AGREEMENT, GENTLEMEN . . .
THE PAWA ARMY IS **MINE** TO COMMAND UNTIL WE SACK THE CITY.
IN RETURN . . . YOUR WARRIORS CAN PLUNDER ATHEIA FOR ALL HER **TREASURE.**


WE DIDN'T KNOW YOU WOULD **DESTROY** THE VALLEY.

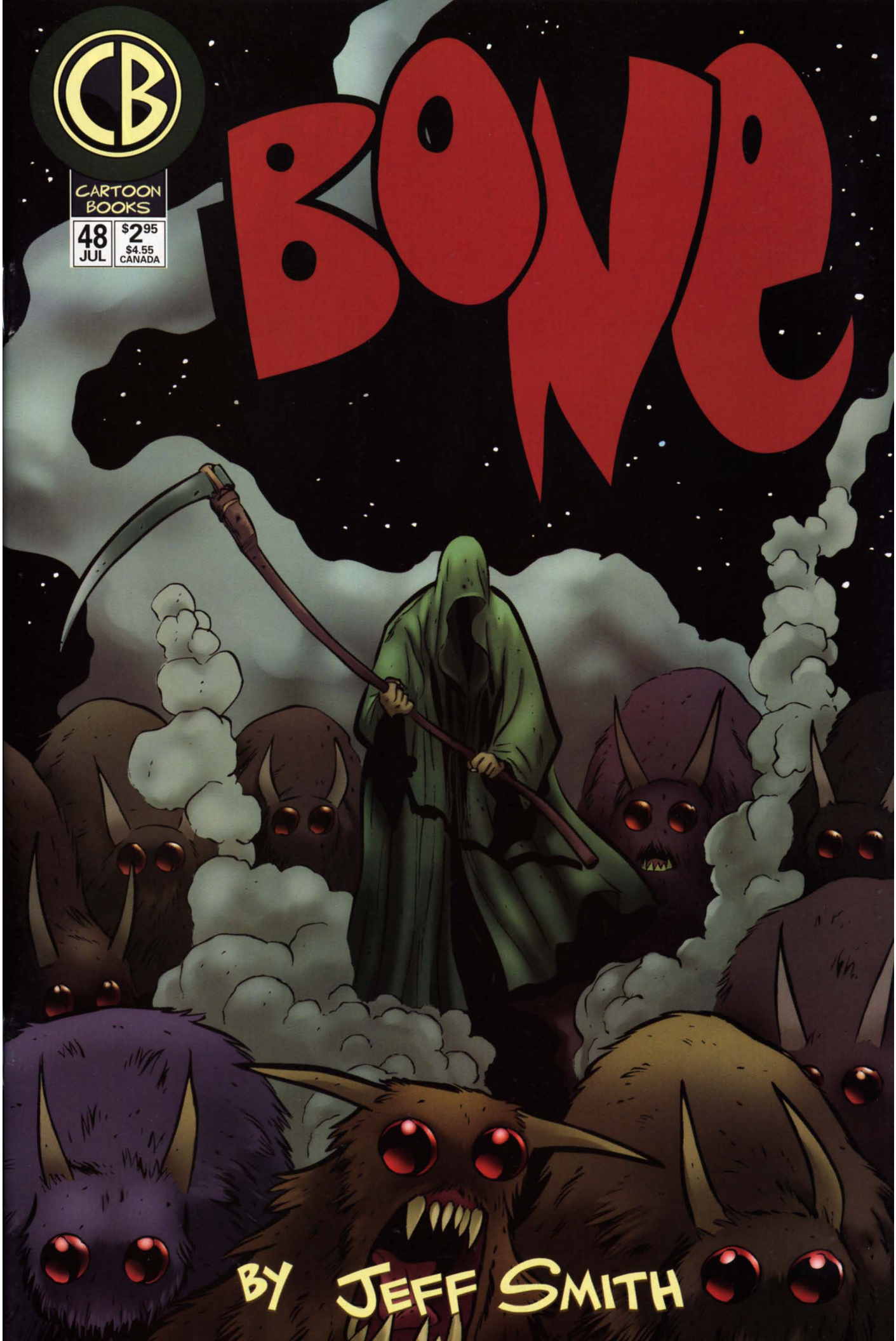

oh, YOU DIDN'T?
AND NOW YOU THINK THE TREASURE WON'T BE ENOUGH TO COMPENSATE YOU?

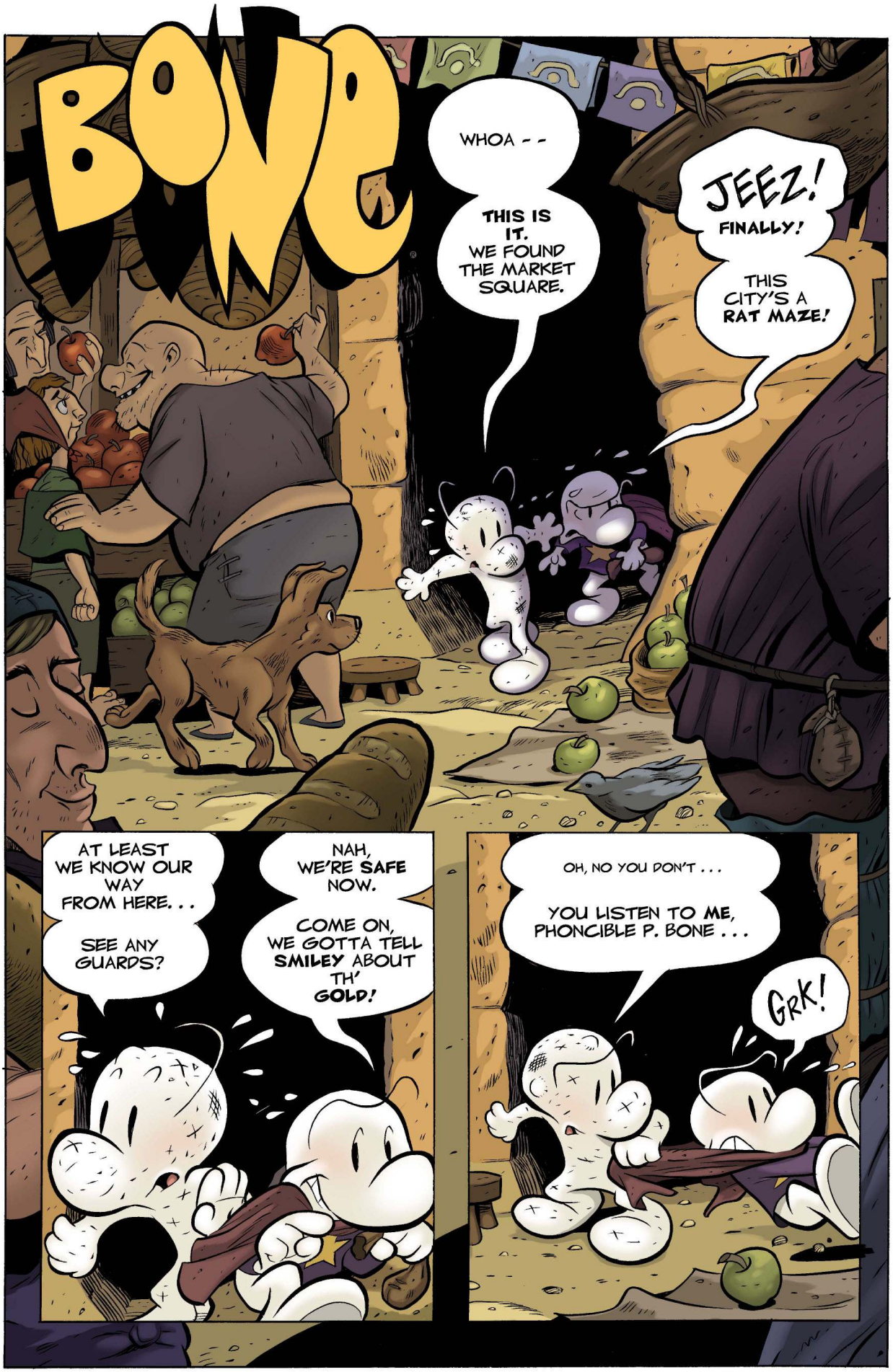

PERHAPS IT WILL BE ENOUGH . . .
. . . . FOR YOUR SUCCESSOR!
UUUNNh..

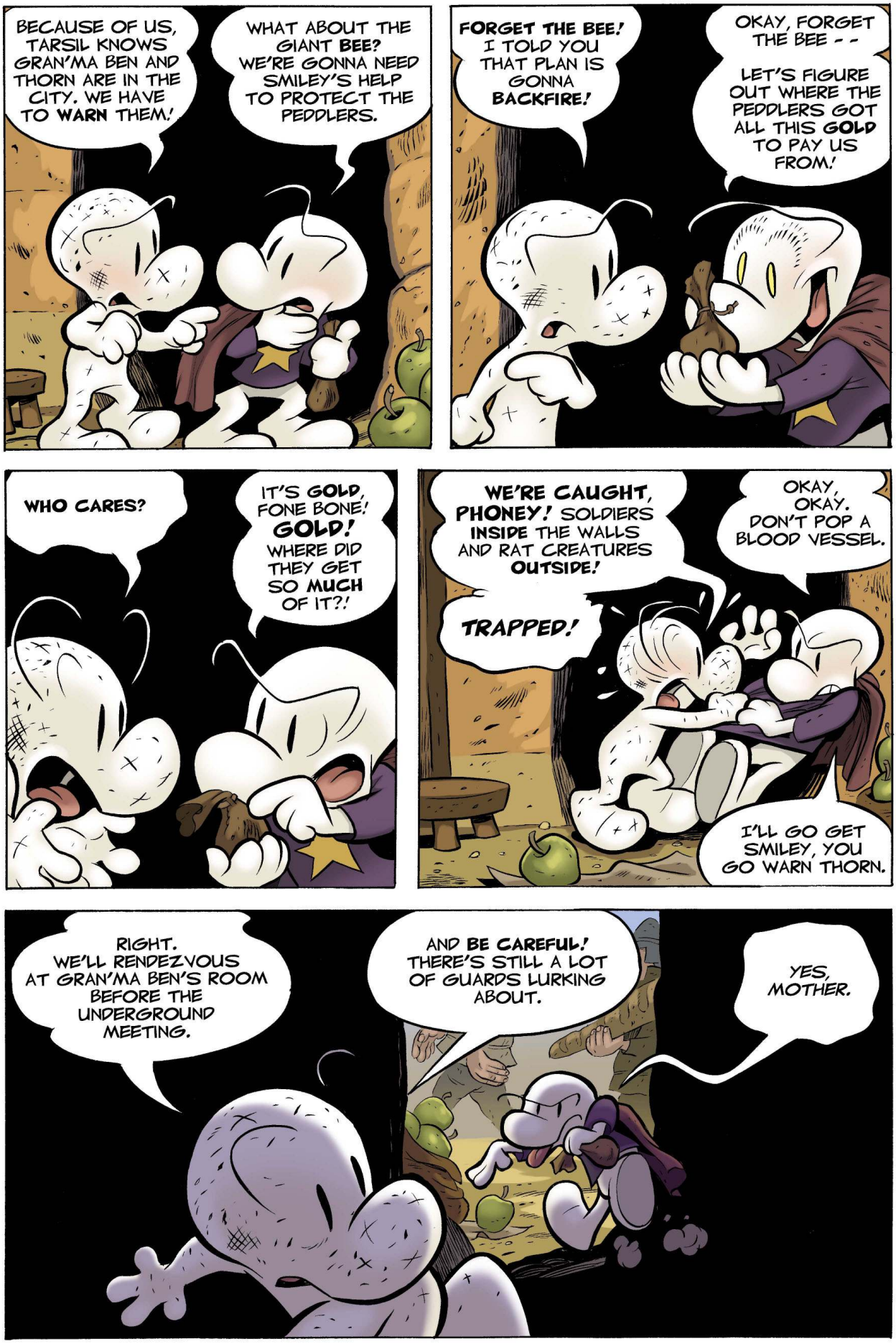

KNEEL.
I HAVE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR MY REVENGE. . . . I WILL NOT BE STOPPED BY YOUR LACK OF CONVICTION . . . .
DO YOUR PEOPLE WANT THE ATHEIANS **DESTROYED** OR NOT?
WE HAVE NO LOVE OF THE ATHEIANS. THEY ARE **RICH**, **ARROGANT** OVERLORDS.


I SEE... AND YOU THINK YOU WOULD MAKE **BETTER** RICH, ARROGANT OVERLORDS.
RISE, GENERAL. I AM GOING TO GIVE YOU A SECOND CHANCE.
YES, MASTER.
YOU WILL REMAIN HERE TO COMMAND THE BATTALION WE LEAVE AT TANEN GARD.
MASTER, THE SOLDIERS OF PAWA ARE THE BRAVEST IN THE WORLD... BUT EVEN WE CAN'T FIGHT DRAGONS.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO IF THE GREAT RED DRAGON APPEARS?
NOT TO WORRY, GENERAL.... I HAVE A BACK UP PLAN.


SCRAPE-SPLISH
SCRAPE-SPLISH
SCRAPE
SPLISH


CB
CARTOON BOOKS
48
JUL
$2.95
$4.55 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
WHOA - -
THIS IS IT. WE FOUND THE MARKET SQUARE.
JEEZ! FINALLY!
THIS CITY'S A RAT MAZE!
AT LEAST WE KNOW OUR WAY FROM HERE. . .
SEE ANY GUARDS?
NAH, WE'RE SAFE NOW.
COME ON, WE GOTTA TELL SMILEY ABOUT TH' GOLD!
OH, NO YOU DON'T . . .
YOU LISTEN TO ME, PHONCIBLE P. BONE . . .
GRK!


BECAUSE OF US, TARSIL KNOWS GRAN'MA BEN AND THORN ARE IN THE CITY. WE HAVE TO WARN THEM!
WHAT ABOUT THE GIANT BEE? WE'RE GONNA NEED SMILEY'S HELP TO PROTECT THE PEDDLERS.
FORGET THE BEE! I TOLD YOU THAT PLAN IS GONNA BACKFIRE!
OKAY, FORGET THE BEE - - LET'S FIGURE OUT WHERE THE PEDDLERS GOT ALL THIS GOLD TO PAY US FROM!
WHO CARES?
IT'S GOLD, FONE BONE! GOLD! WHERE DID THEY GET SO MUCH OF IT?!
WE'RE CAUGHT, PHONEY! SOLDIERS INSIDE THE WALLS AND RAT CREATURES OUTSIDE!
TRAPPED!
OKAY, OKAY. DON'T POP A BLOOD VESSEL.
I'LL GO GET SMILEY, YOU GO WARN THORN.
RIGHT. WE'LL RENDEZVOUS AT GRAN'MA BEN'S ROOM BEFORE THE UNDERGROUND MEETING.
AND BE CAREFUL! THERE'S STILL A LOT OF GUARDS LURKING ABOUT.
YES, MOTHER.

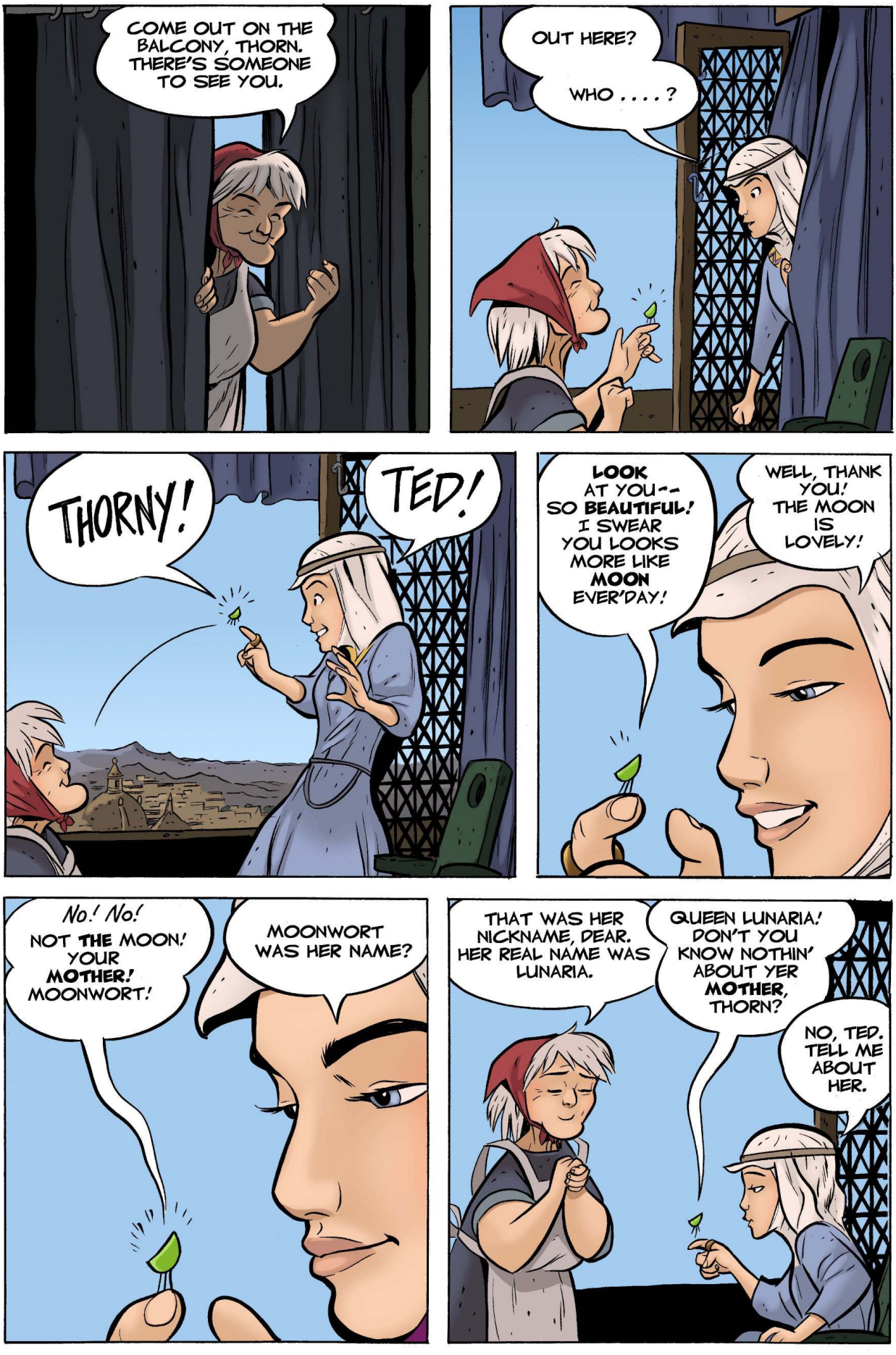

SMART ALEC.
IF HE GETS HIMSELF SURROUNDED BY SOLDIERS, HE'LL WISH HE LISTENED TO ME.
WHOOPS.

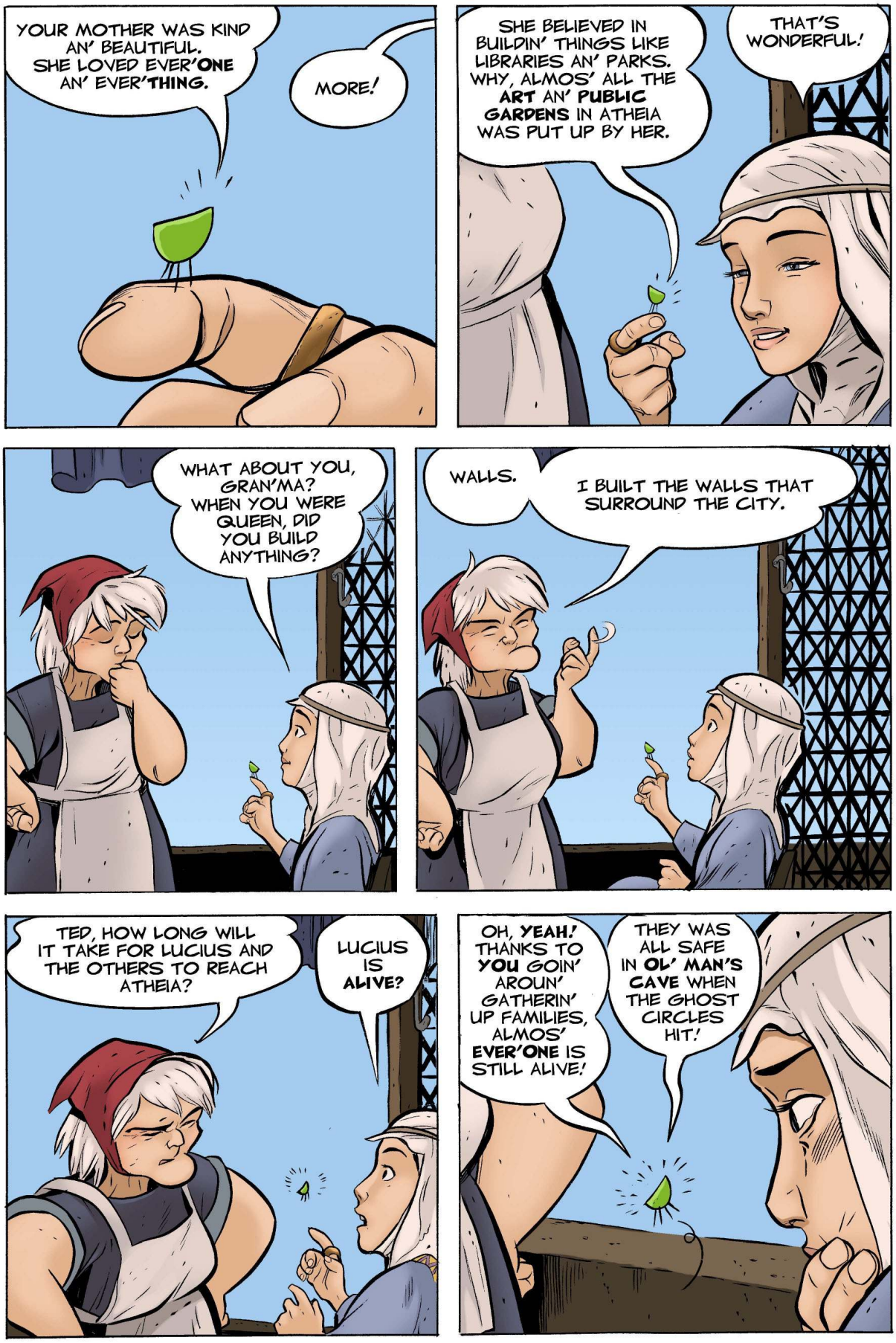




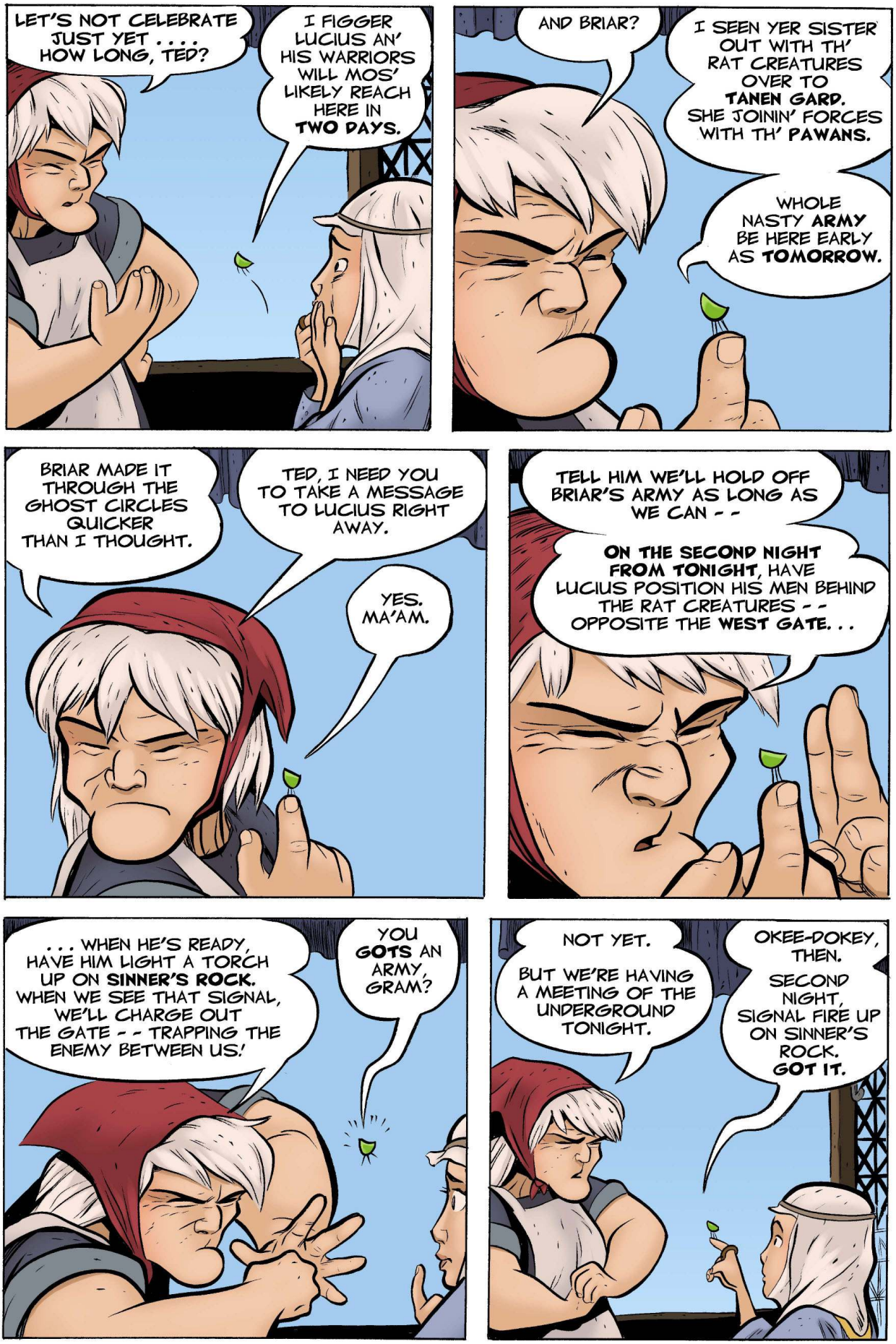

THORN? ARE YOU AWAKE IN THERE?
YES, GRAN'MA.

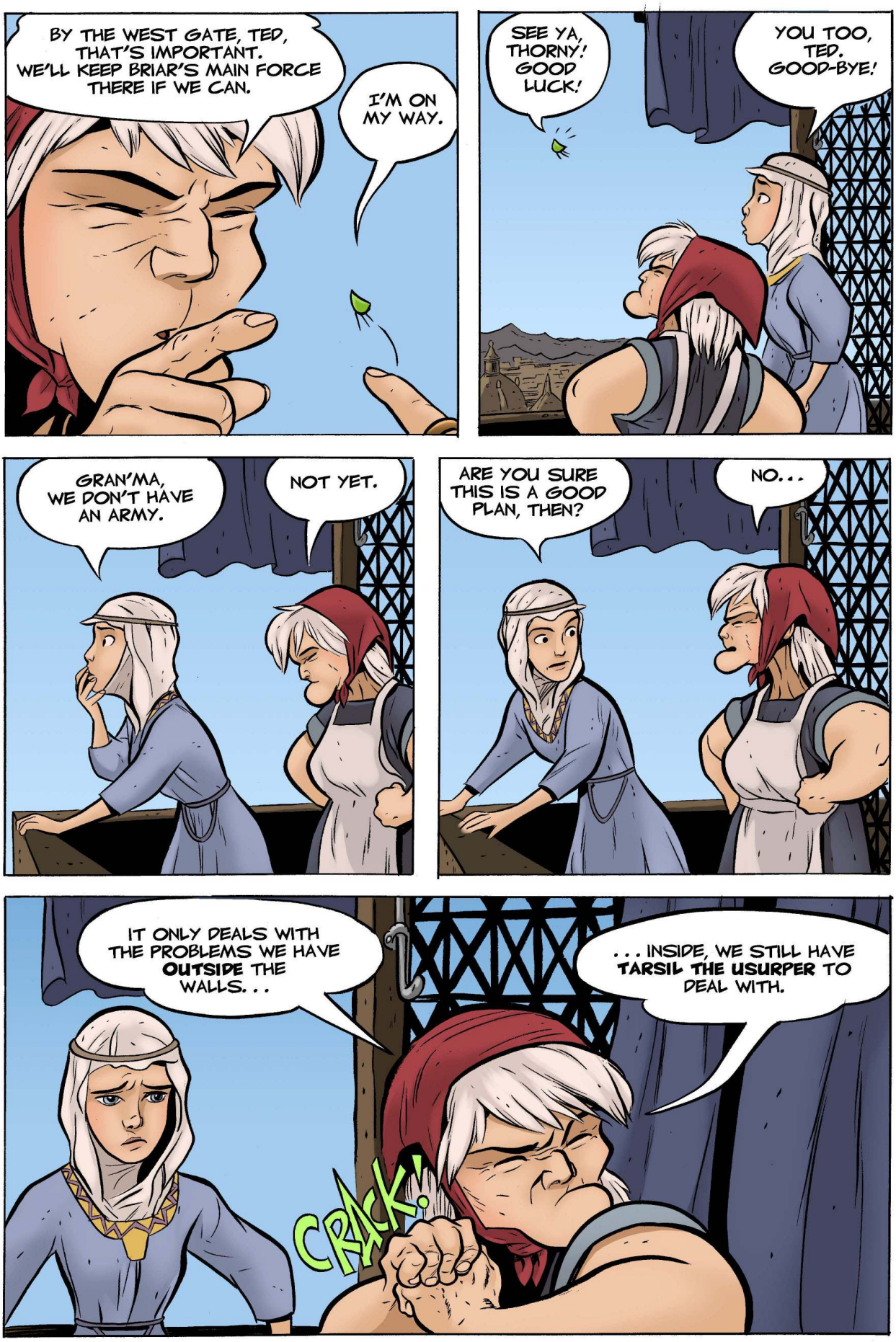



COME OUT ON THE BALCONY, THORN. THERE'S SOMEONE TO SEE YOU.
OUT HERE?
WHO . . . . ?
THORNY!
TED!
LOOK AT YOU-- SO BEAUTIFUL! I SWEAR YOU LOOKS MORE LIKE MOON EVER'DAY!
WELL, THANK YOU! THE MOON IS LOVELY!
No! No! NOT THE MOON! YOUR MOTHER! MOONWORT!
MOONWORT WAS HER NAME?
THAT WAS HER NICKNAME, DEAR. HER REAL NAME WAS LUNARIA.
QUEEN LUNARIA! DON'T YOU KNOW NOTHIN' ABOUT YER MOTHER, THORN?
NO, TED. TELL ME ABOUT HER.

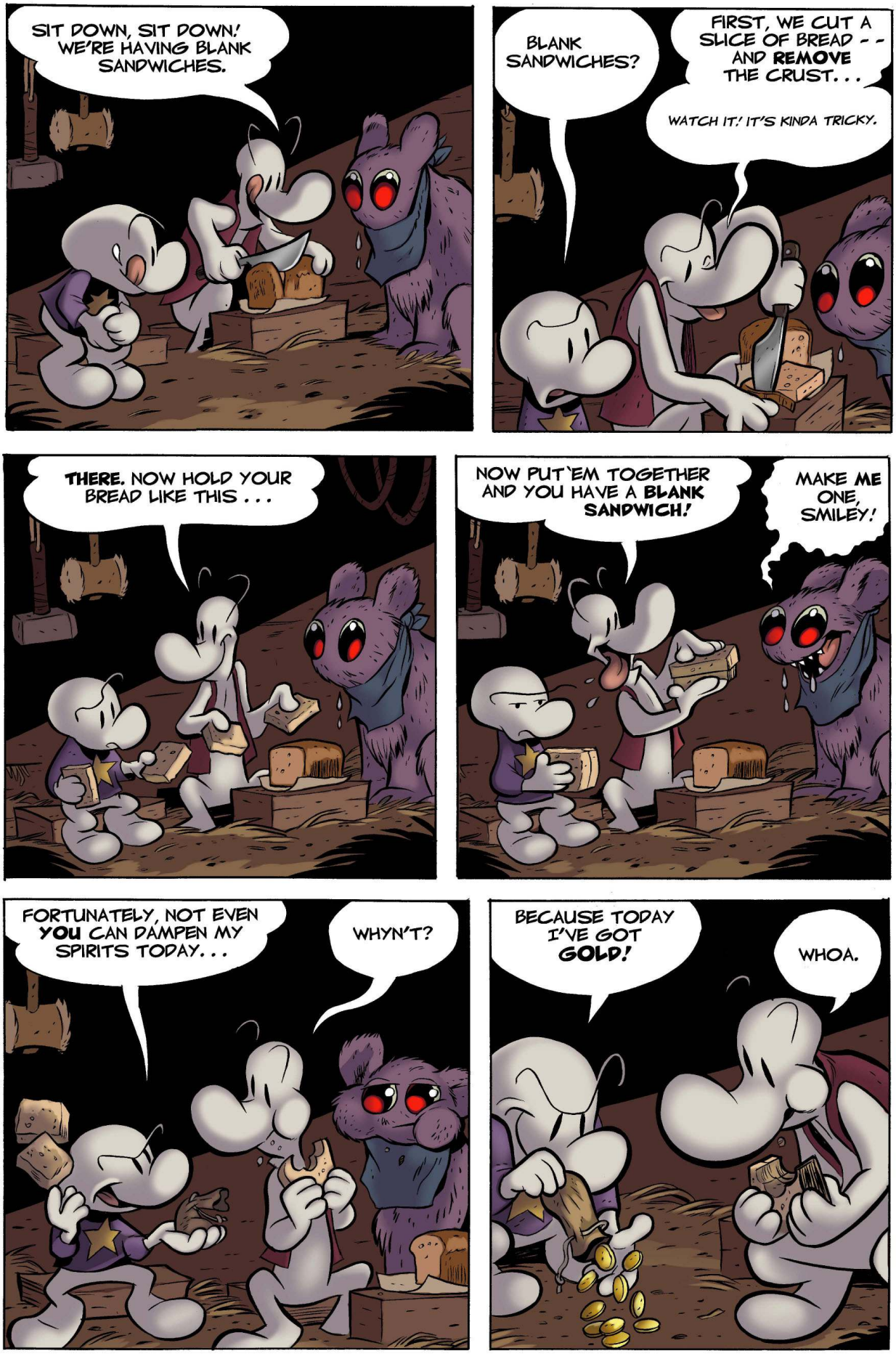


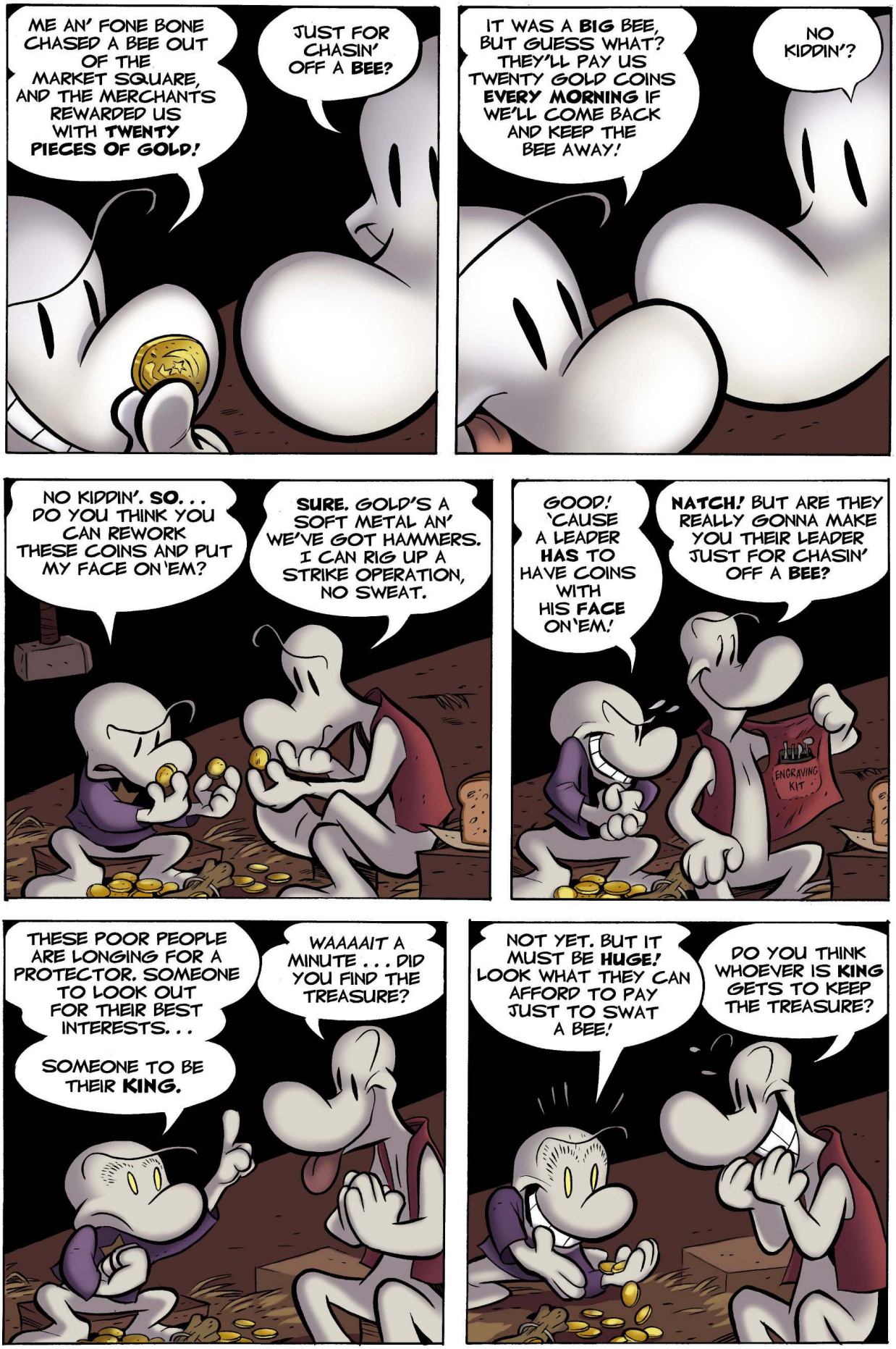
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

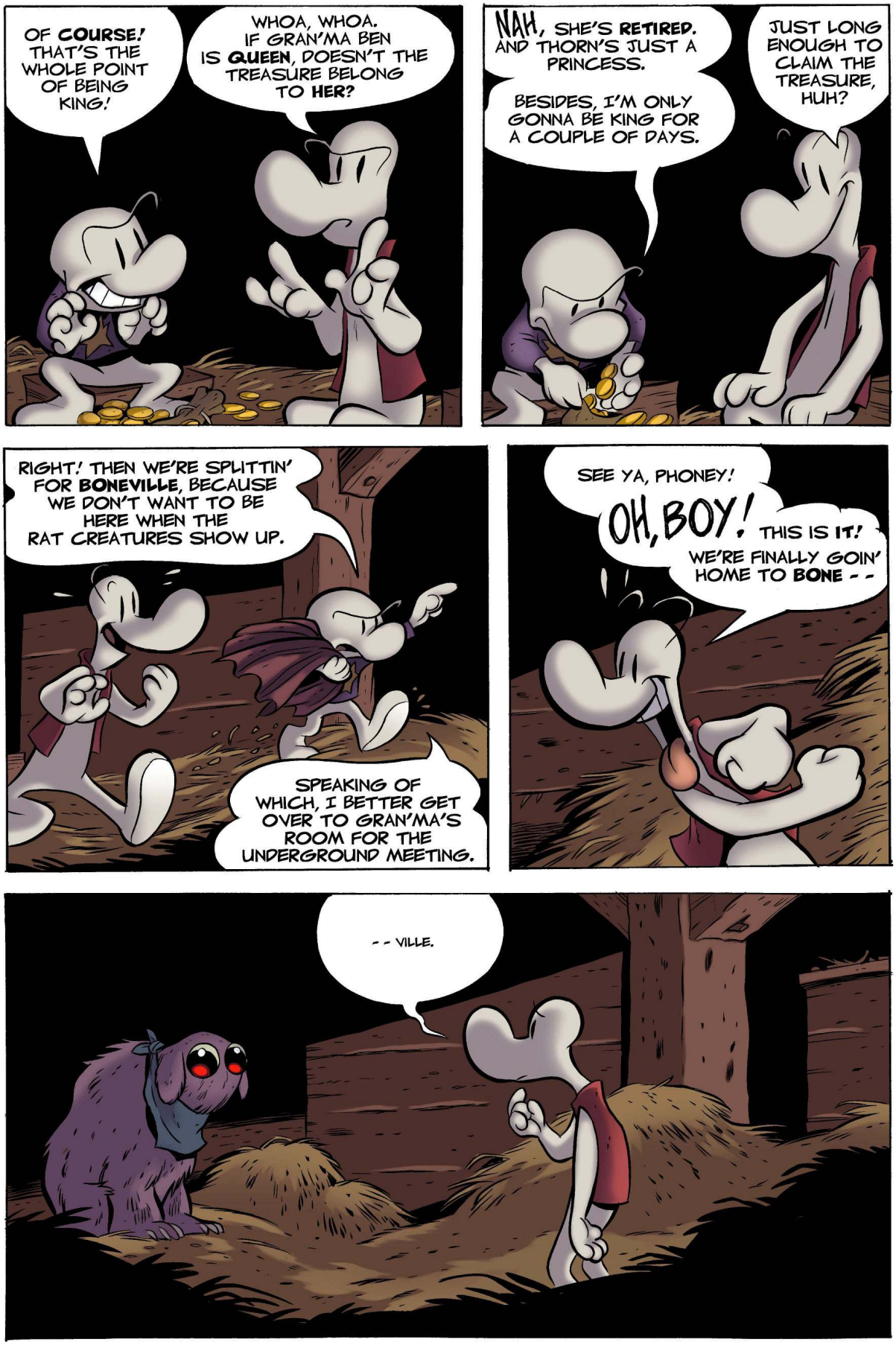

LET'S NOT CELEBRATE JUST YET . . . . HOW LONG, TED?
I FIGGER LUCIUS AN' HIS WARRIORS WILL MOS' LIKELY REACH HERE IN **TWO DAYS.**
AND BRIAR?
I SEEN YER SISTER OUT WITH TH' RAT CREATURES OVER TO **TANEN GARD.** SHE JOININ' FORCES WITH TH' **PAWANS.**
WHOLE NASTY **ARMY** BE HERE EARLY AS **TOMORROW.**
BRIAR MADE IT THROUGH THE GHOST CIRCLES QUICKER THAN I THOUGHT.
TED, I NEED YOU TO TAKE A MESSAGE TO LUCIUS RIGHT AWAY.
YES. MA'AM.
TELL HIM WE'LL HOLD OFF BRIAR'S ARMY AS LONG AS WE CAN - -
ON THE SECOND NIGHT FROM TONIGHT, HAVE LUCIUS POSITION HIS MEN BEHIND THE RAT CREATURES - - OPPOSITE THE **WEST GATE. . .**
. . . WHEN HE'S READY, HAVE HIM LIGHT A TORCH UP ON **SINNER'S ROCK.** WHEN WE SEE THAT SIGNAL, WE'LL CHARGE OUT THE GATE - - TRAPPING THE ENEMY BETWEEN US!
YOU **GOTS** AN ARMY, GRAM?
NOT YET.
BUT WE'RE HAVING A MEETING OF THE UNDERGROUND TONIGHT.
OKEE-DOKEY, THEN.
SECOND NIGHT, SIGNAL FIRE UP ON SINNER'S ROCK. **GOT IT.**


BY THE WEST GATE, TED, THAT'S IMPORTANT. WE'LL KEEP BRIAR'S MAIN FORCE THERE IF WE CAN.
I'M ON MY WAY.
SEE YA, THORNY! GOOD LUCK!
YOU TOO, TED. GOOD-BYE!
GRAN'MA, WE DON'T HAVE AN ARMY.
NOT YET.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD PLAN, THEN?
NO...
IT ONLY DEALS WITH THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE **OUTSIDE** THE WALLS...
...INSIDE, WE STILL HAVE **TARSIL THE USURPER** TO DEAL WITH.
CRACK!

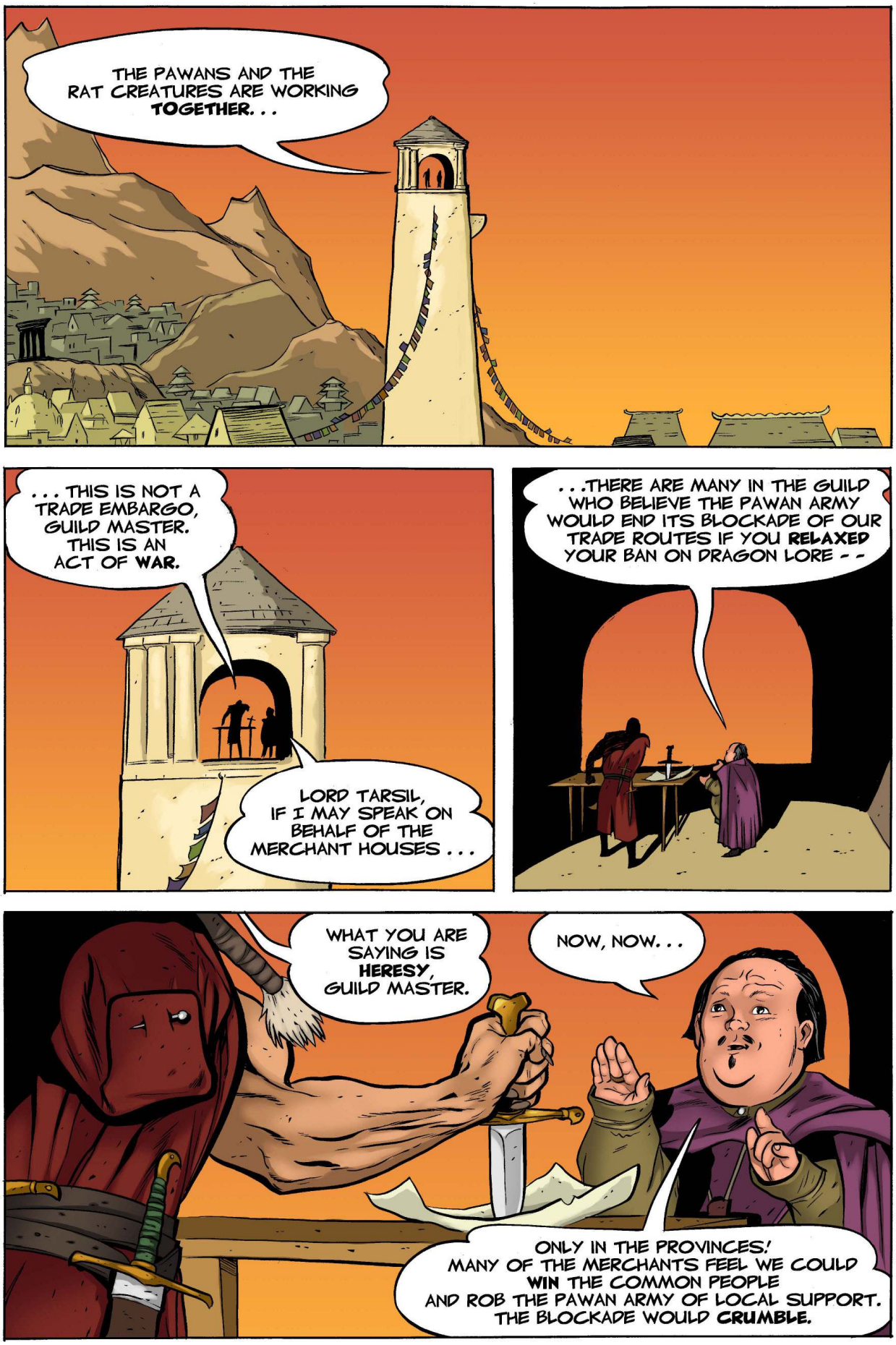

TAP TAP TE-TAP-TAP...
TAP! TAP!
CREEEK!
HEY, SMILEY! YOU IN HERE?
COUSIN PHONEY! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME TO JOIN BARTLEBY AN' ME FOR SUPPER!
GREAT! I'M STARVING!
WHAT'RE WE HAVIN'?


SIT DOWN, SIT DOWN! WE'RE HAVING BLANK SANDWICHES.
BLANK SANDWICHES?
FIRST, WE CUT A SLICE OF BREAD - - AND REMOVE THE CRUST. . .
WATCH IT! IT'S KINDA TRICKY.
THERE. NOW HOLD YOUR BREAD LIKE THIS . . .
NOW PUT 'EM TOGETHER AND YOU HAVE A BLANK SANDWICH!
MAKE ME ONE, SMILEY!
FORTUNATELY, NOT EVEN YOU CAN DAMPEN MY SPIRITS TODAY. . .
WHYN'T?
BECAUSE TODAY I'VE GOT GOLD!
WHOA.


ME AN' FONE BONE CHASED A BEE OUT OF THE MARKET SQUARE, AND THE MERCHANTS REWARDED US WITH **TWENTY PIECES OF GOLD!**
JUST FOR CHASIN' OFF A **BEE?**
IT WAS A **BIG** BEE, BUT GUESS WHAT? THEY'LL PAY US TWENTY GOLD COINS **EVERY MORNING** IF WE'LL COME BACK AND KEEP THE BEE AWAY!
NO KIDDIN'?
NO KIDDIN'. **SO...** DO YOU THINK YOU CAN REWORK THESE COINS AND PUT MY FACE ON 'EM?
SURE. GOLD'S A SOFT METAL AN' WE'VE GOT HAMMERS. I CAN RIG UP A STRIKE OPERATION, NO SWEAT.
GOOD! 'CAUSE A LEADER **HAS TO** HAVE COINS WITH HIS **FACE** ON 'EM!
NATCH! BUT ARE THEY REALLY GONNA MAKE YOU THEIR LEADER JUST FOR CHASIN' OFF A **BEE?**
ENGRAVING KIT
THESE POOR PEOPLE ARE LONGING FOR A PROTECTOR. SOMEONE TO LOOK OUT FOR THEIR BEST INTERESTS...
SOMEONE TO BE THEIR **KING.**
WAAAAIT A MINUTE... DID YOU FIND THE TREASURE?
NOT YET. BUT IT MUST BE **HUGE!** LOOK WHAT THEY CAN AFFORD TO PAY JUST TO SWAT A BEE!
DO YOU THINK WHOEVER IS **KING** GETS TO KEEP THE TREASURE?

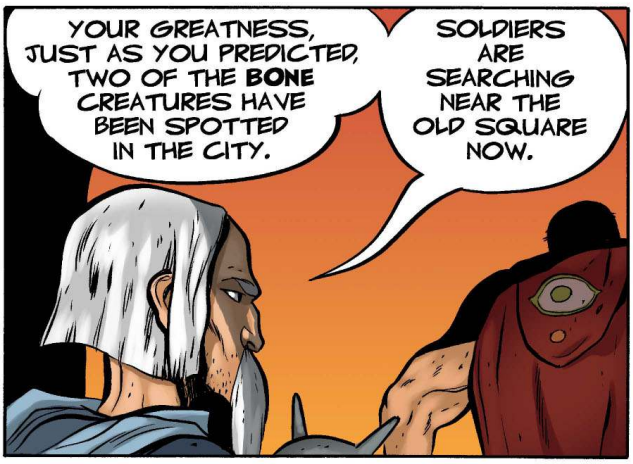


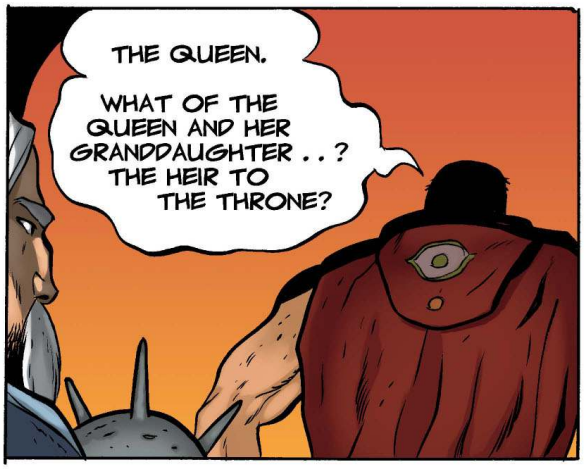
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

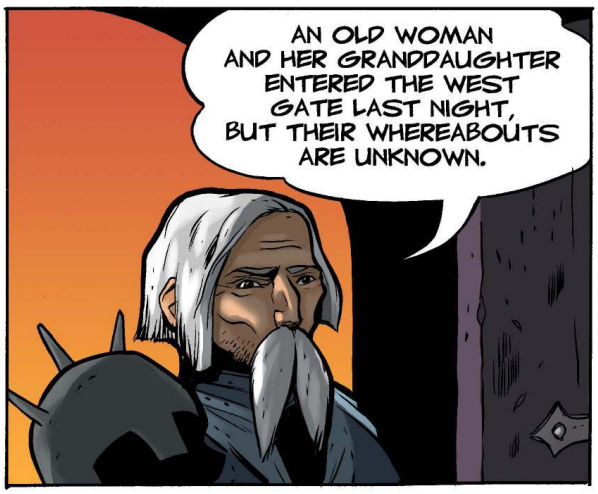

THE PAWANS AND THE RAT CREATURES ARE WORKING **TOGETHER**. . .
. . . THIS IS NOT A TRADE EMBARGO, GUILD MASTER. THIS IS AN ACT OF **WAR**.
LORD TARSIL, IF I MAY SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE MERCHANT HOUSES . . .
. . .THERE ARE MANY IN THE GUILD WHO BELIEVE THE PAWAN ARMY WOULD END ITS BLOCKADE OF OUR TRADE ROUTES IF YOU **RELAXED** YOUR BAN ON DRAGON LORE - -
WHAT YOU ARE SAYING IS **HERESY**, GUILD MASTER.
NOW, NOW. . .
ONLY IN THE PROVINCES! MANY OF THE MERCHANTS FEEL WE COULD **WIN** THE COMMON PEOPLE AND ROB THE PAWAN ARMY OF LOCAL SUPPORT. THE BLOCKADE WOULD **CRUMBLE**.


NORMALLY, WE WOULDN'T **DREAM** OF ASKING SUCH A THING, YOUR WORSHIP- - EVERYONE ON THE COUNCIL **KNOWS** OF YOUR GREAT SACRIFICE - -
B - - BUT EVERY DAY THE BLOCKADE CONTINUES THE MERCHANTS ARE LOSING ***MONEY.***
WHAT THE DRAGONS HAVE DONE TO ME, THEY **MEAN** TO DO TO OUR WHOLE WAY OF LIFE.
THEY ARE **CORRUPT BEINGS.** THEY LIVE IN THE EARTH LIKE **WORMS . . .**
THEY ARE NOT OF THE LIGHT. . .
LIKE YOU . . .
. . . OR ME.
THEY EAT OUR LIGHT.
LORD TARSIL!


YES?


YOUR GREATNESS, JUST AS YOU PREDICTED, TWO OF THE **BONE** CREATURES HAVE BEEN SPOTTED IN THE CITY.
SOLDIERS ARE SEARCHING NEAR THE OLD SQUARE NOW.


THE QUEEN.
WHAT OF THE QUEEN AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER . . ? THE HEIR TO THE THRONE?


AN OLD WOMAN AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER ENTERED THE WEST GATE LAST NIGHT, BUT THEIR WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN.


PUT MORE SOLDIERS ON THE STREET. . .


FIND THOSE BONE CREATURES. . .
ONCE THEY LEAD YOU TO THE PRINCESS, ARREST HER AND BRING HER TO ME.
THE CHARGES, MY LORD?
HERESY, SARGEANT-AT-ARMS. . .
IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO WORSHIP DRAGONS AND SHE SHALL BE BURNED AT THE STAKE UNTIL DEAD.

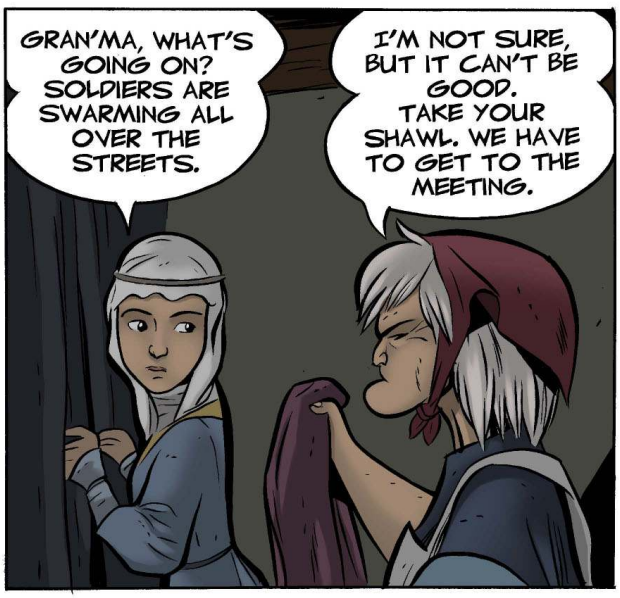


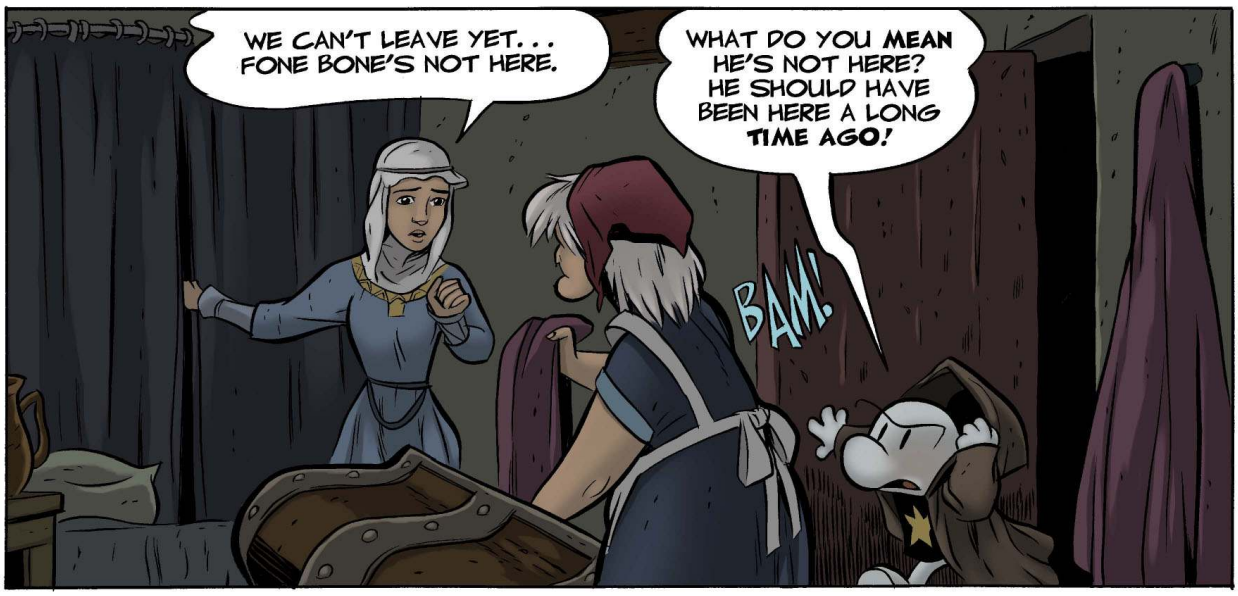


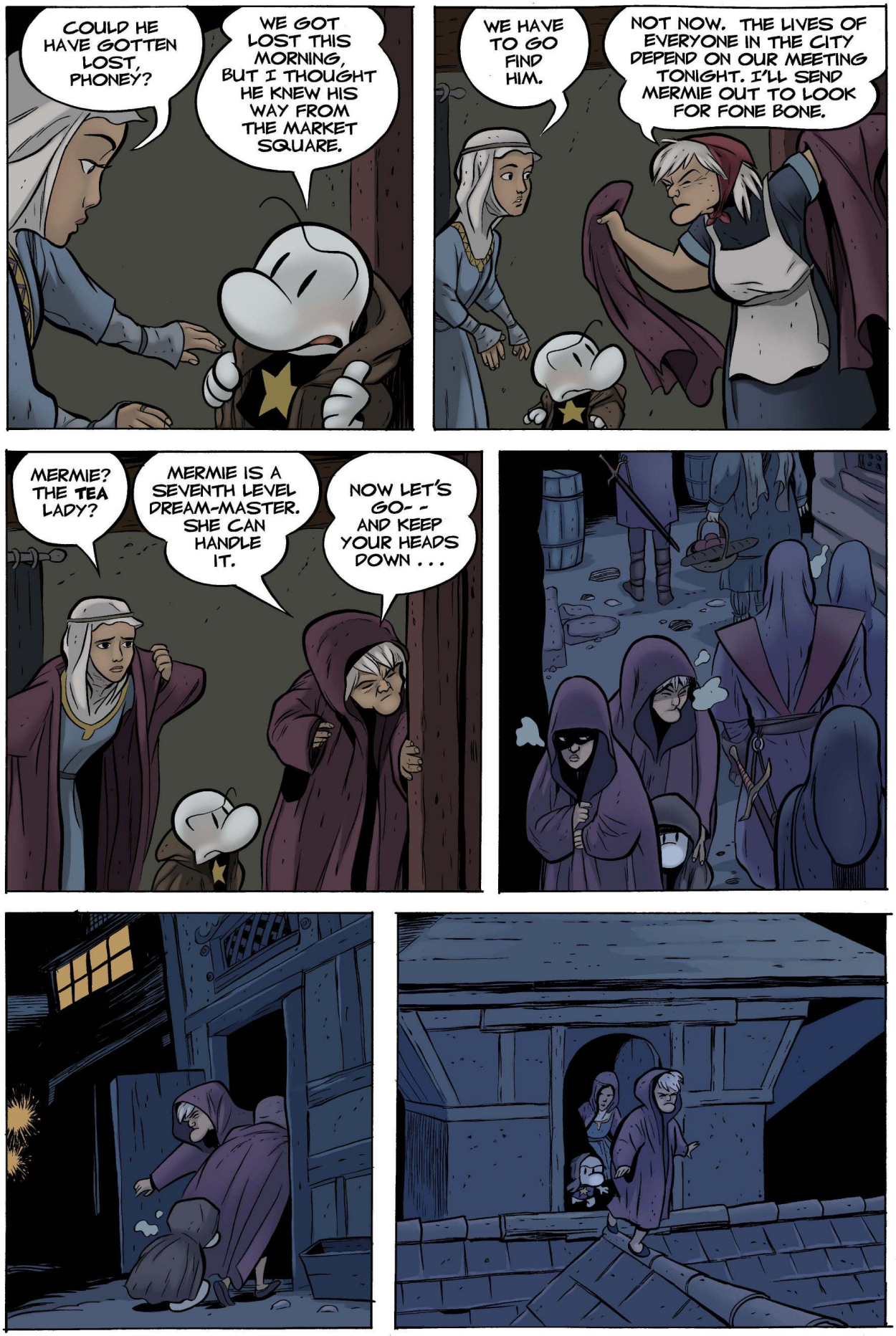
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



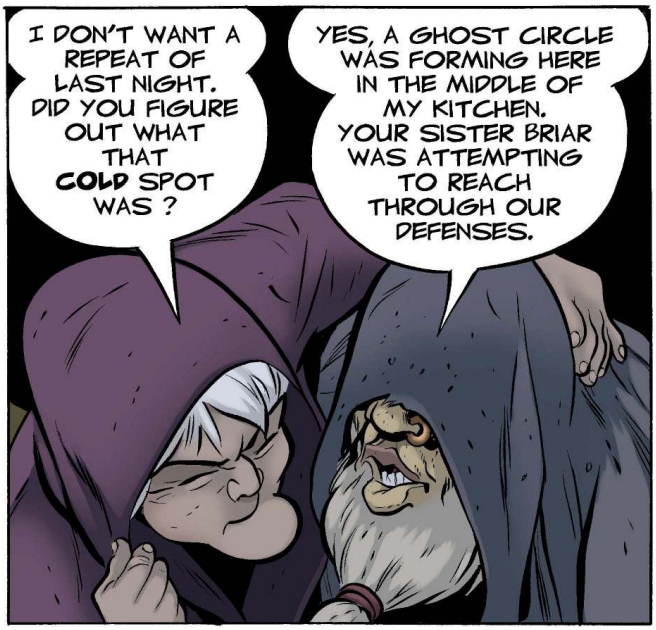

THORN! GET AWAY FROM THAT WINDOW.


GRAN'MA, WHAT'S GOING ON? SOLDIERS ARE SWARMING ALL OVER THE STREETS.
I'M NOT SURE, BUT IT CAN'T BE GOOD. TAKE YOUR SHAWL. WE HAVE TO GET TO THE MEETING.


WE CAN'T LEAVE YET... FONE BONE'S NOT HERE.
WHAT DO YOU **MEAN** HE'S NOT HERE? HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE A LONG **TIME AGO!**
BAM!


COULD HE HAVE GOTTEN LOST, PHONEY?
WE GOT LOST THIS MORNING, BUT I THOUGHT HE KNEW HIS WAY FROM THE MARKET SQUARE.
WE HAVE TO GO FIND HIM.
NOT NOW. THE LIVES OF EVERYONE IN THE CITY DEPEND ON OUR MEETING TONIGHT. I'LL SEND MERMIE OUT TO LOOK FOR FONE BONE.
MERMIE? THE TEA LADY?
MERMIE IS A SEVENTH LEVEL DREAM-MASTER. SHE CAN HANDLE IT.
NOW LET'S GO- - AND KEEP YOUR HEADS DOWN . . .

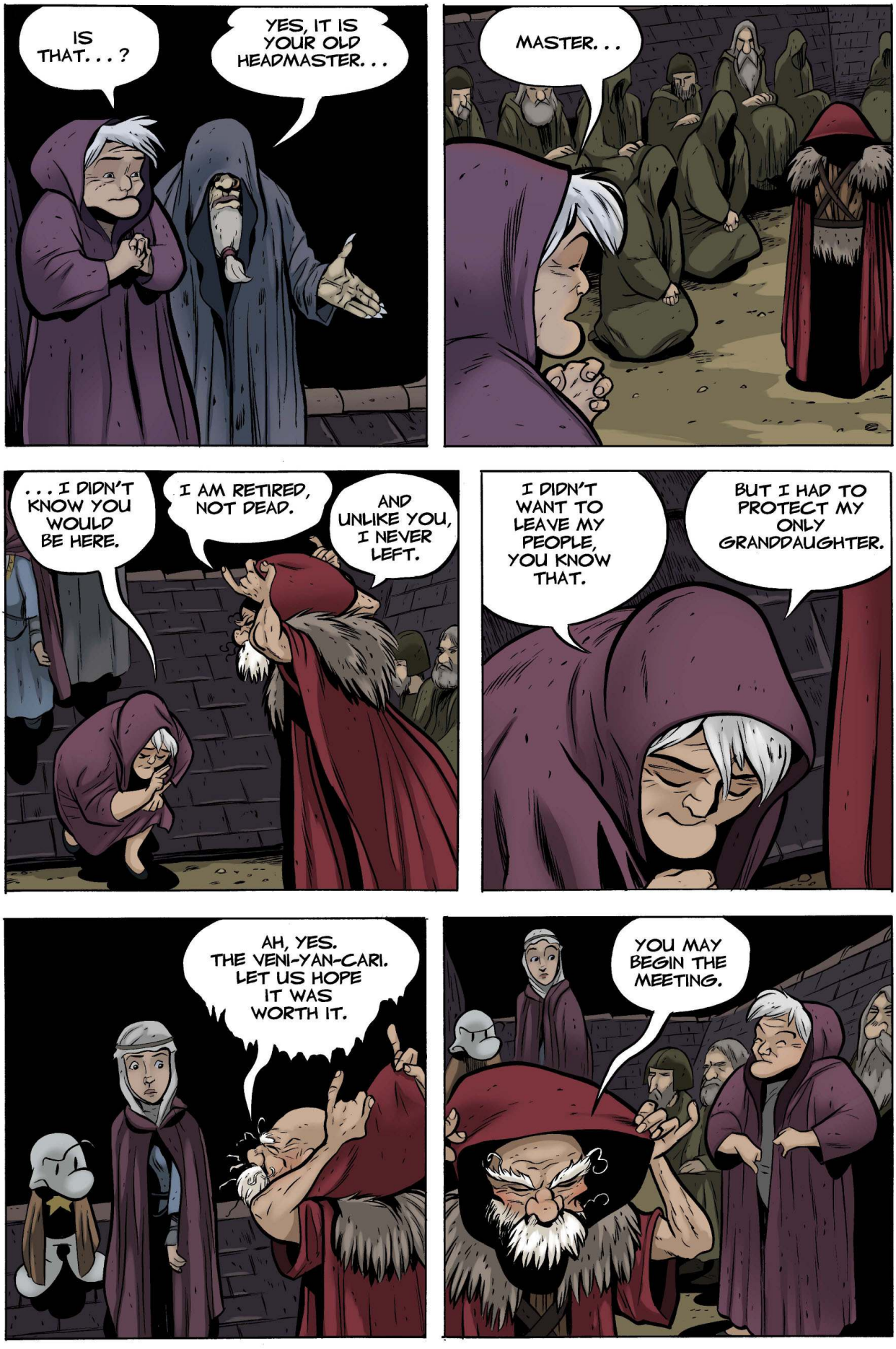

YOUR HIGHNESS, EVERYONE IS WAITING.
MERMIE, FONE BONE IS MISSING - - LOST OR WORSE. SEE IF YOU CAN FIND HIM, PLEASE.
RIGHT AWAY.
TEACHER . . .

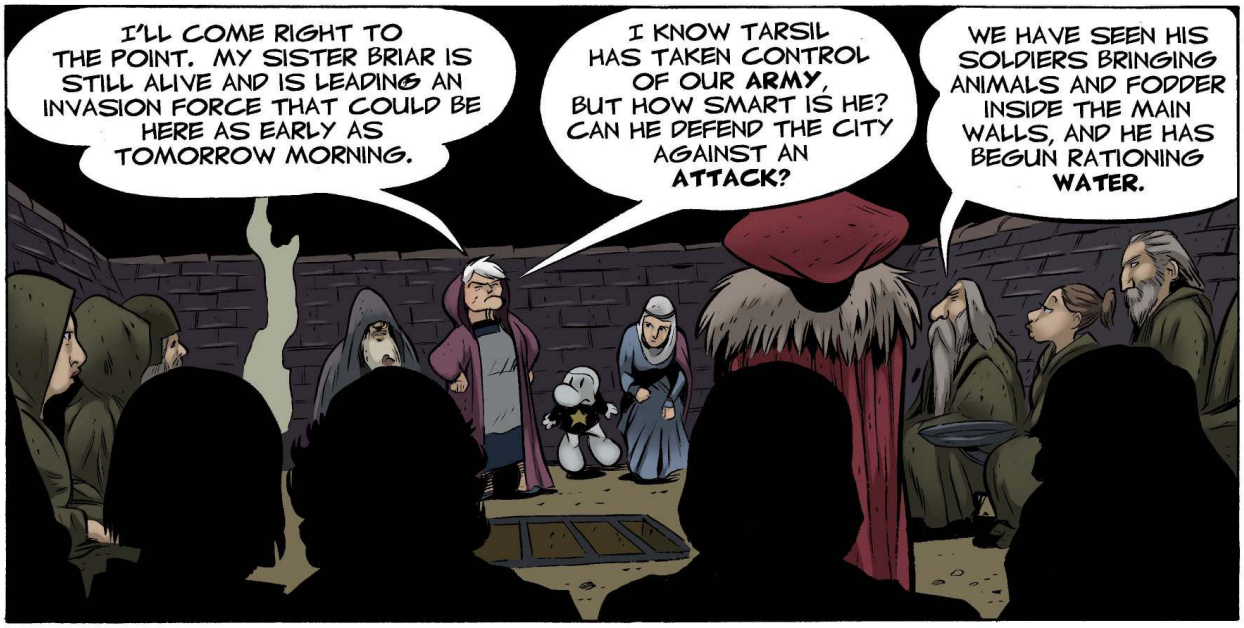

I DON'T WANT A REPEAT OF LAST NIGHT. DID YOU FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT **COLD** SPOT WAS ?
YES, A GHOST CIRCLE WAS FORMING HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF MY KITCHEN. YOUR SISTER BRIAR WAS ATTEMPTING TO REACH THROUGH OUR DEFENSES.

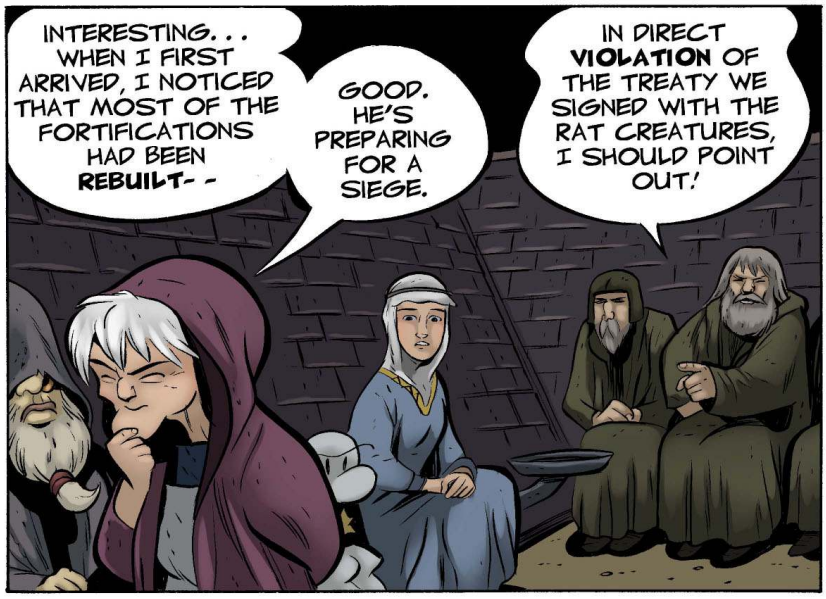

SHE CAN **DO** THAT? BRIAR CAN CONTROL GHOST CIRCLES, NOW?
WE CAN TOO, TO AN EXTENT. WHEN THE GHOST CIRCLES FIRST APPEARED FROM THE NORTH, WE USED **PRAYER STONES** TO TURN THEM BACK.
YOU MUST HAVE USED A LOT OF PRAYER STONES.


I THINK WE **SAW** THAT LINE OF GHOST CIRCLES YOU TURNED BACK. IS THAT POSSIBLE?
IT'S POSSIBLE. . . WE SENT THE WHOLE FRONT LINE BOUNCING BACK TOWARD YOU.
FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING, WE'VE SURROUNDED THE ENTIRE KITCHEN WITH PRAYER STONES.


I'M VERY IMPRESSED, OLD FRIEND. I FEEL SAFER ALREADY.
DON'T THANK ME YET. WAIT UNTIL YOU FIND OUT WHOSE LORE WAS ACTUALLY RESPONSIBLE.
QUEEN ROSE. . .


IS THAT. . . ?
YES, IT IS YOUR OLD HEADMASTER. . .
MASTER. . .
. . . I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WOULD BE HERE.
I AM RETIRED, NOT DEAD.
AND UNLIKE YOU, I NEVER LEFT.
I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE MY PEOPLE, YOU KNOW THAT.
BUT I HAD TO PROTECT MY ONLY GRANDDAUGHTER.
AH, YES. THE VENI-YAN-CARI. LET US HOPE IT WAS WORTH IT.
YOU MAY BEGIN THE MEETING.


I'LL COME RIGHT TO THE POINT. MY SISTER BRIAR IS STILL ALIVE AND IS LEADING AN INVASION FORCE THAT COULD BE HERE AS EARLY AS TOMORROW MORNING.
I KNOW TARSIL HAS TAKEN CONTROL OF OUR **ARMY**, BUT HOW SMART IS HE? CAN HE DEFEND THE CITY AGAINST AN **ATTACK?**
WE HAVE SEEN HIS SOLDIERS BRINGING ANIMALS AND FODDER INSIDE THE MAIN WALLS, AND HE HAS BEGUN RATIONING **WATER.**


INTERESTING... WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED, I NOTICED THAT MOST OF THE FORTIFICATIONS HAD BEEN **REBUILT**- -
GOOD. HE'S PREPARING FOR A SIEGE.
IN DIRECT **VIOLATION** OF THE TREATY WE SIGNED WITH THE RAT CREATURES, I SHOULD POINT OUT!

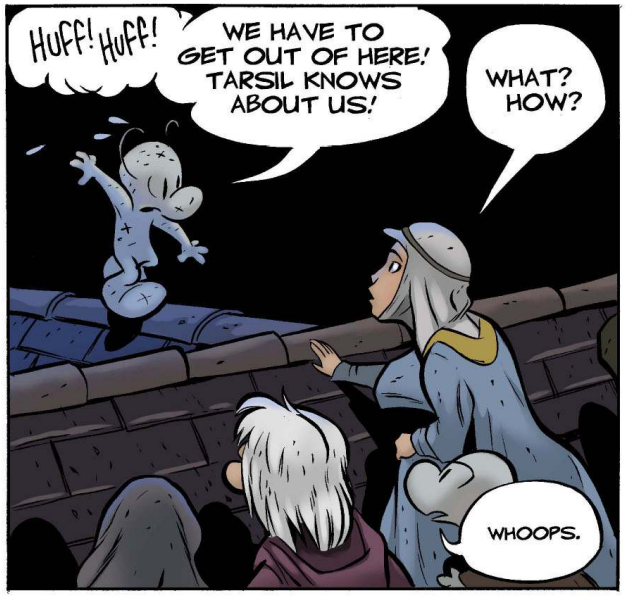

WELL, AT LEAST **SOME** OF THE TRAINING I GAVE HIM WASN'T WASTED.

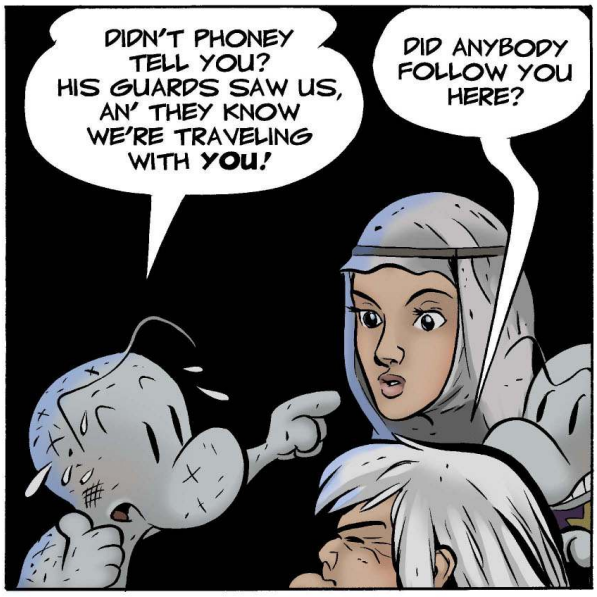

WHAT ABOUT THE SOLDIERS THEMSELVES?
POORLY TRAINED AND **BADLY** DISCIPLINED. A SMALL GROUP OF FANATICS KNOWN AS **THE VEDU** ENFORCE TARSIL'S RULE.

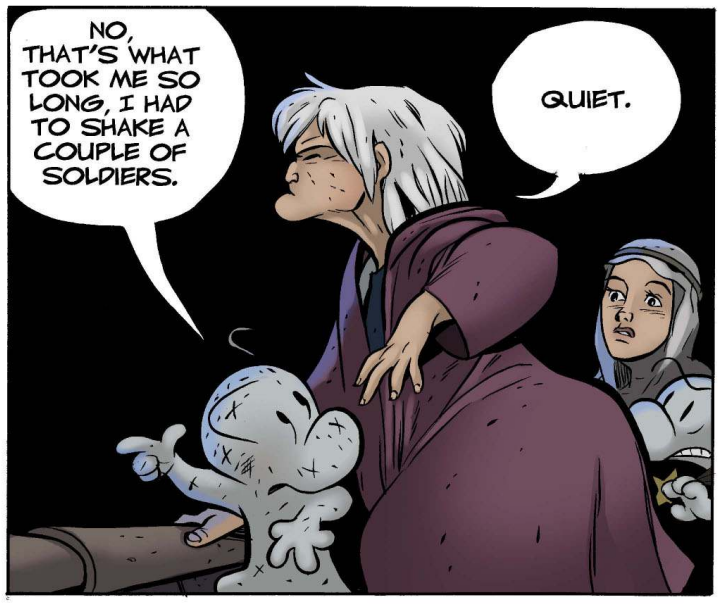

THE REST ARE EITHER MERCENARIES OR LOYAL TO THE OLD KINGDOM.
I BELIEVE THEY ARE **ALL** LOYAL. IF WE TOLD THEM THAT YOU HAD **RETURNED**, THEY WOULD TURN ON THE USURPER AND **KILL** HIM.


HAS ANYONE BOTHERED TO **TALK** WITH THIS TARSIL? WE HAVE A COMMON ENEMY, PERHAPS WE COULD **COOPERATE** - -
Tch.
JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER.
WHAT ABOUT THE **TREASURY**? IF WE HAD **THAT**, TARSIL WOULD LOSE HIS HOLD ON THE MERCENARIES. HE COULDN'T **PAY** THEM.
TRUE . . .
. . . BUT TARSIL KNOWS THIS. HE'S **HIDDEN** THE TREASURE WHERE NO ONE CAN FIND IT.
THEN WE'D BETTER PLAY THE **LOYALTY CARD**. HEADMASTER, SPREAD THE WORD THROUGH THE RANKS **THIS VERY NIGHT THE QUEEN HAS RETURNED** - -
WAIT! DID YOU HEAR THAT?
SOMEONE IS COMING!
IT'S FONE BONE!



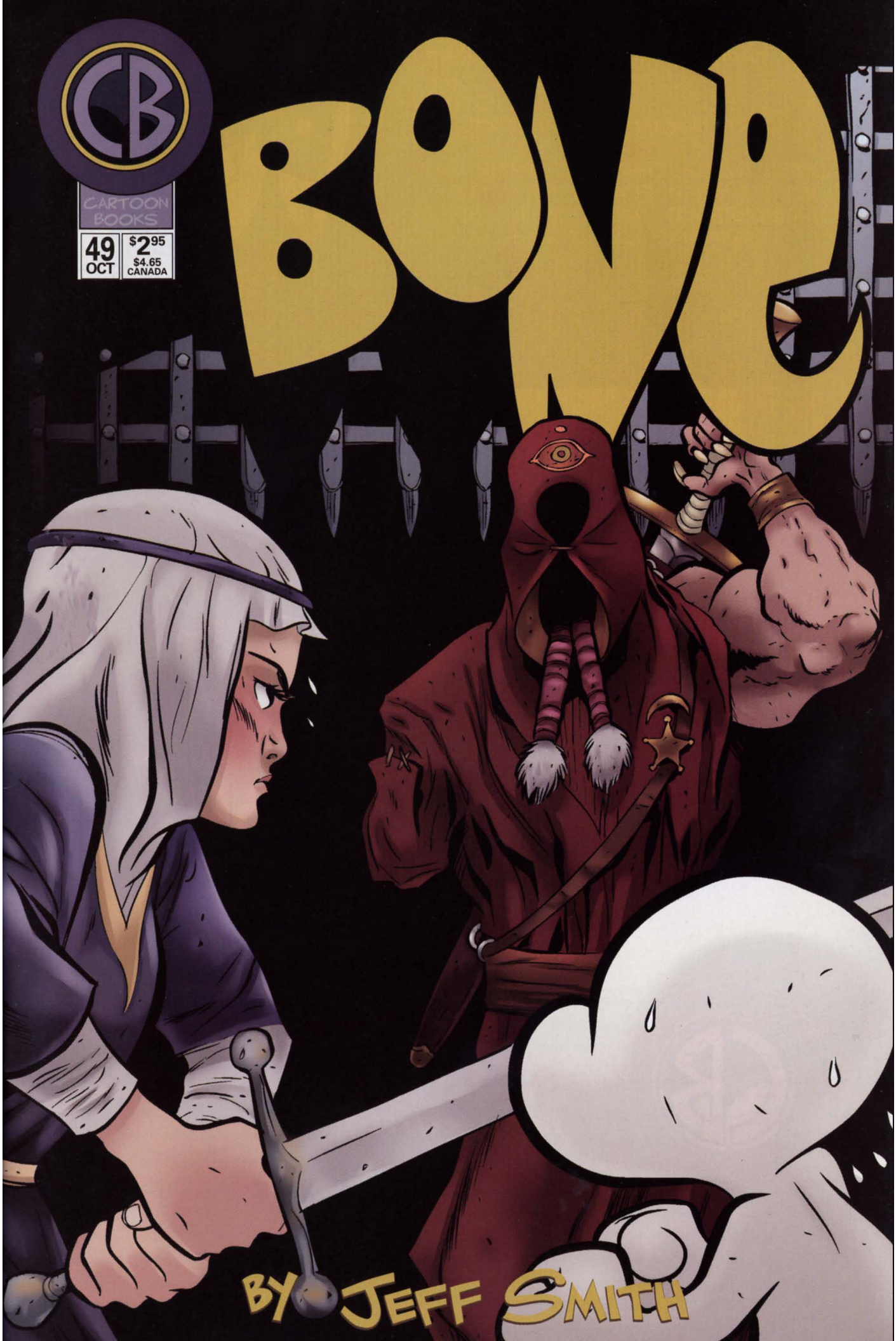

HUFF! HUFF!
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE! TARSIL KNOWS ABOUT US!
WHAT? HOW?
WHOOPS.


DIDN'T PHONEY TELL YOU? HIS GUARDS SAW US, AN' THEY KNOW WE'RE TRAVELING WITH **YOU!**
DID ANYBODY FOLLOW YOU HERE?


NO, THAT'S WHAT TOOK ME SO LONG, I HAD TO SHAKE A COUPLE OF SOLDIERS.
QUIET.

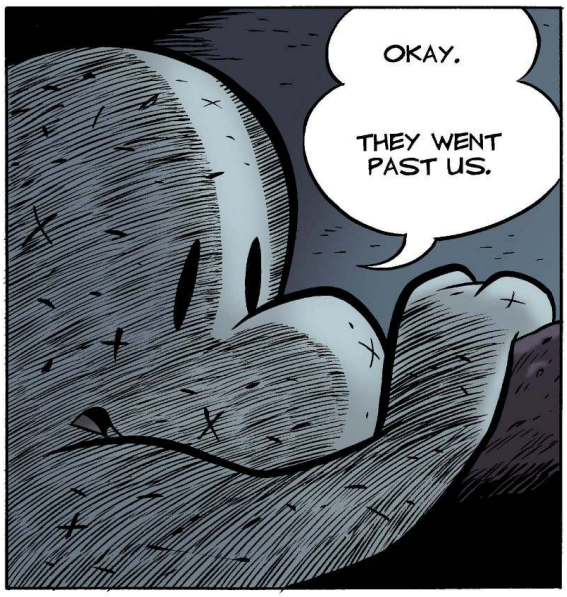


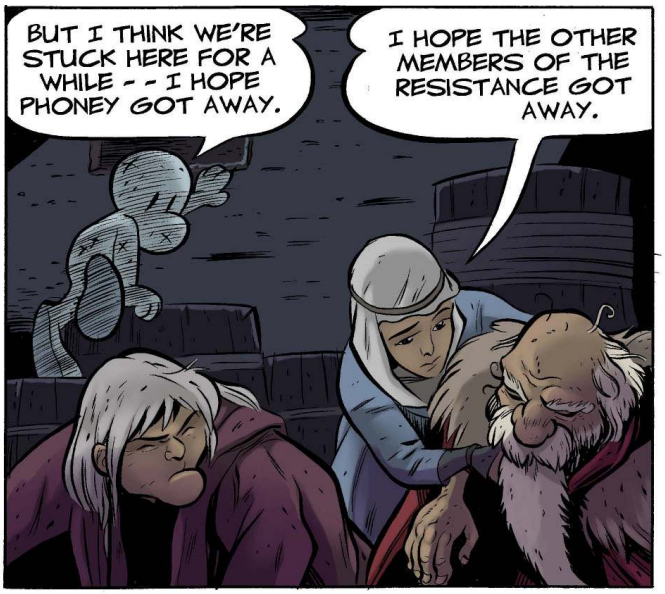

WE'RE NOT SAFE HERE.
SCATTER.


CB
CARTOON BOOKS
49
OCT
$2.95
$4.65 CANADA
BONE
BY JEFF SMITH


BONE
THEY WENT THIS WAY!
WHERE'S PHONEY BONE? DIDN'T THE RUNT SEE US TURN BACK THERE?
HURRY, FONE BONE, PRY THAT SHUTTER OPEN! THE SOLDIERS ARE COMING - -
GOT IT! LET'S GO!

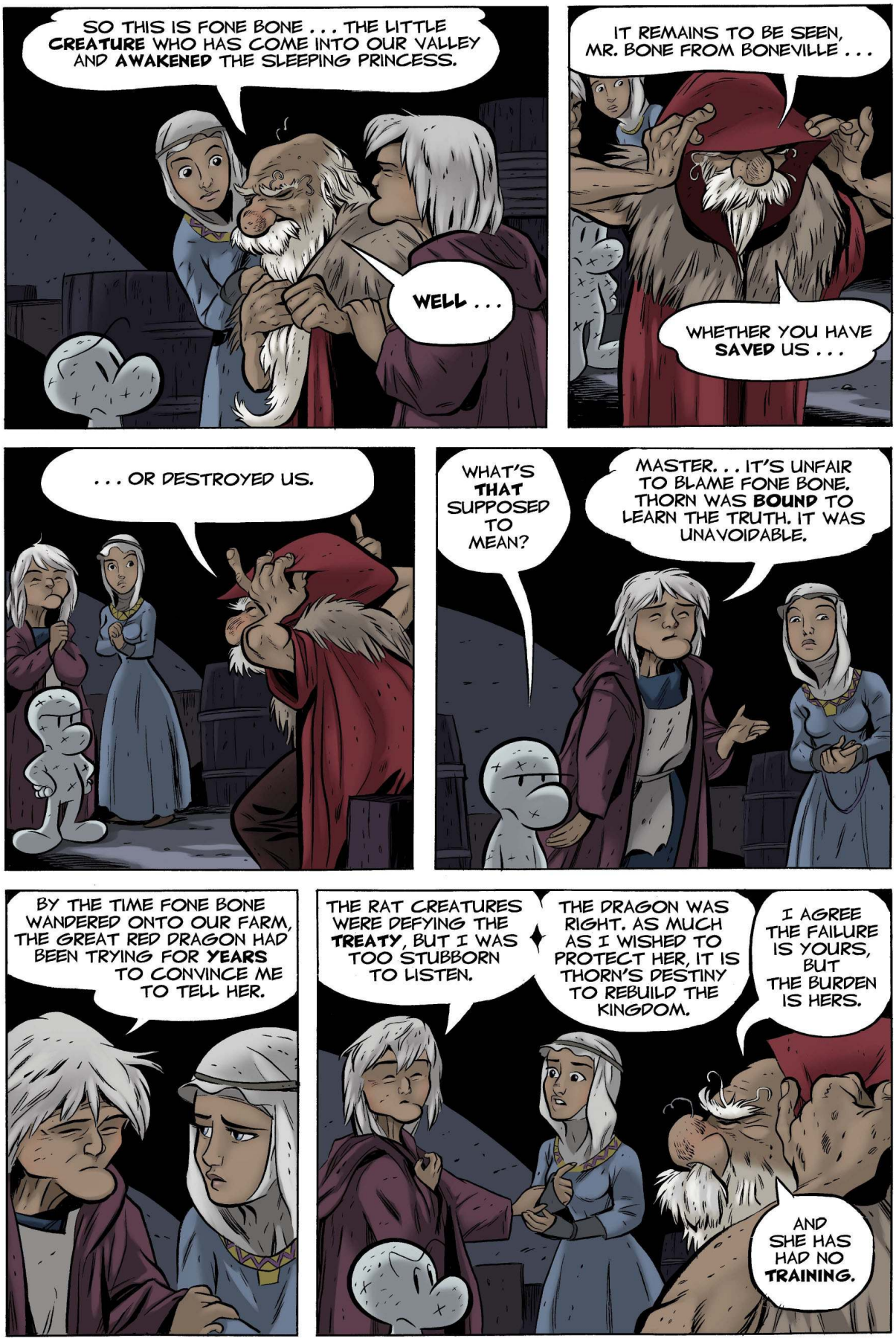



OKAY.
THEY WENT PAST US.


BUT I THINK WE'RE STUCK HERE FOR A WHILE - - I HOPE PHONEY GOT AWAY.
I HOPE THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE RESISTANCE GOT AWAY.


FONE BONE, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO **ROUGH** PULLING THE HEADMASTER THROUGH THE WINDOW!
SORRY. I THOUGHT GETTING **CAUGHT** AND THROWN IN A DUNGEON WOULD'VE BEEN WORSE.


THIS MAN IS THE GREATEST LIVING DREAM-MASTER. **SHOW SOME RESPECT!**
HE SAID HE WAS SORRY, GRAN'MA.
I'M FINE.

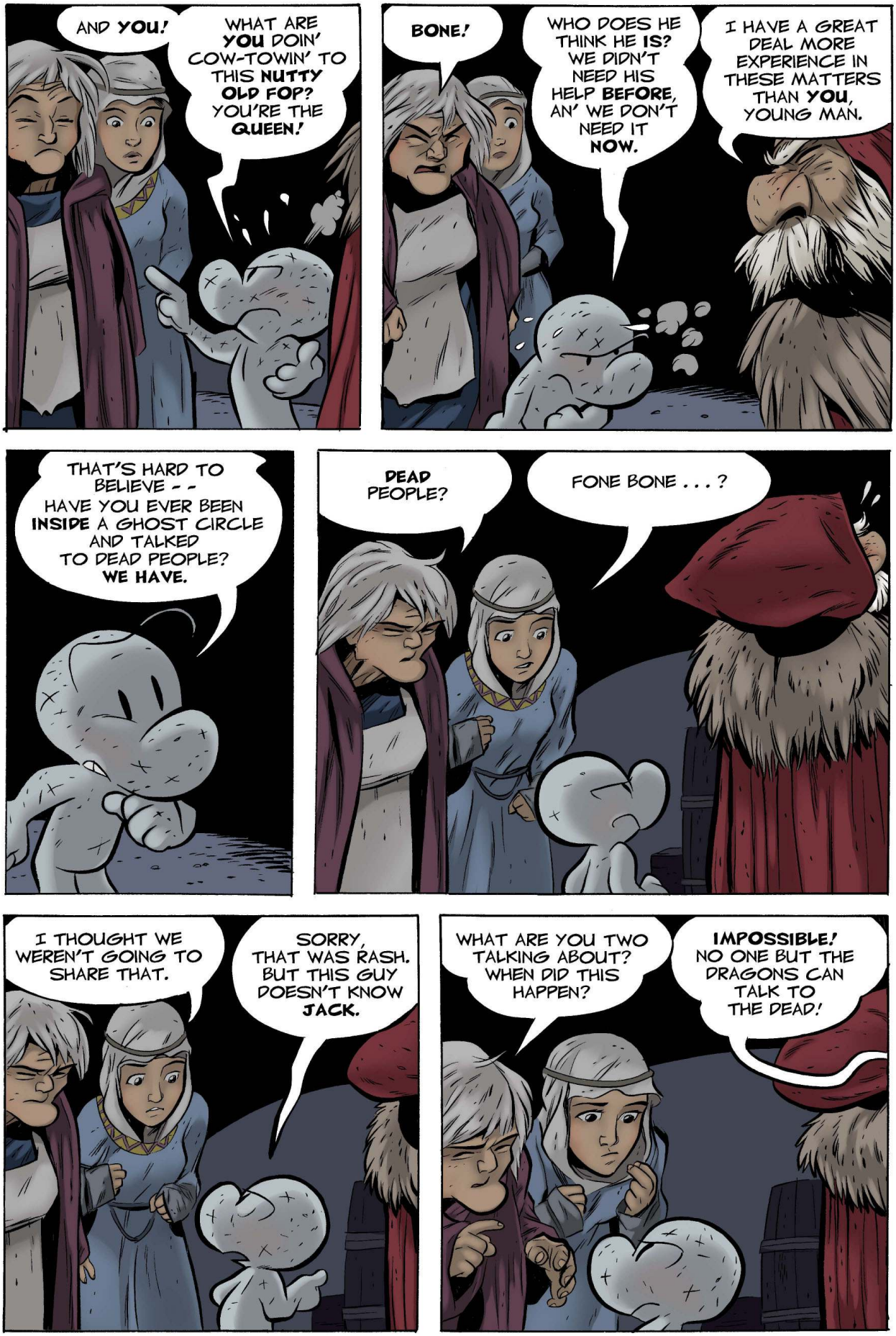


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


IF **SHE** FAILS - -
IT WILL BE **CATASTROPHIC.**
WAIT- - WHAT IF I DIDN'T **TAKE** THIS TEST? WOULD THAT STOP THE DISASTER FROM HAPPENING? COULD WE STOP THE WAR?
IN LIFE, TESTS COME UPON ONE UNANNOUNCED AND WITHOUT WARNING.
BUT YOU KNOW THAT... YOU ARE THE AWAKENED ONE.
THAT'S WHAT **VENI-YAN-CARI** MEANS, THE AWAKENED ONE.
WISDOM.
BAH! TAKE HER BACK TO THE FARM. HER PRESENCE HERE MAKES THE SITUATION FAR TOO DANGEROUS - -
BRING HER BACK **AFTER** WE REBUILD THE KINGDOM.
WHO TH' HECK **IS** THIS GUY?


AND YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' COW-TOWIN' TO THIS NUTTY OLD FOP? YOU'RE THE QUEEN!
BONE!
WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS? WE DIDN'T NEED HIS HELP BEFORE, AN' WE DON'T NEED IT NOW.
I HAVE A GREAT DEAL MORE EXPERIENCE IN THESE MATTERS THAN YOU, YOUNG MAN.
THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE - - HAVE YOU EVER BEEN INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE AND TALKED TO DEAD PEOPLE? WE HAVE.
DEAD PEOPLE?
FONE BONE . . . ?
I THOUGHT WE WEREN'T GOING TO SHARE THAT.
SORRY, THAT WAS RASH. BUT THIS GUY DOESN'T KNOW JACK.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT? WHEN DID THIS HAPPEN?
IMPOSSIBLE! NO ONE BUT THE DRAGONS CAN TALK TO THE DEAD!


DOES THIS MEAN YOU **BELIEVE** ME, EVEN THOUGH YOU COULDN'T HEAR THEIR VOICES YOURSELF?
OF **COURSE** I BELIEVE YOU.
WELL, I **DO NOT!** VOICES IN A GHOST CIRCLE?
BAH!
ONLY DRAGONS SPEAK TO THE DEAD. NO **HUMAN** CAN TRAVEL TO **THAT** DEPTH OF THE DREAMING AND RETURN.
EVER.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT **DEPTH** THE CIRCLE TOOK US TO, BUT MY DEAD MOTHER SENT THIS MESSAGE . . .
SEEK THE CROWN OF HORNS.


WHAT'S GOING ON?
WE BROKE UP A MEETING OF DRAGON-WORSHIPPERS EARLIER- -
SOME OF THEM MIGHT'VE RUN THIS WAY TRYING TO ESCAPE.
SEEN ANYONE?
JUST THIS CRAZY OLD FARMER WHO CLAIMS HIS **HAY CART** WAS STOLEN. HE WANTS IN TO FIND IT.
WELL, RUN HIM OFF.
LISTEN - -
THERE'S WORD GOING AROUND THAT THE **QUEEN** HERSELF WAS AT THE MEETING.
THEY MAY BE PLANNING AN INSURRECTION.
SO STAY ALERT.
BLOODY STARS. HALF THE MEN ARE IN THE TOWERS **NOW** WATCHING FOR AN ATTACK FROM **PAWA- -** NOW **THIS?**
I HOPE YOU CATCH THOSE DRAGON-LOVERS AND RIP THEIR **GUTS** OUT.
DON'T WORRY. THEY WON'T GET AWAY.



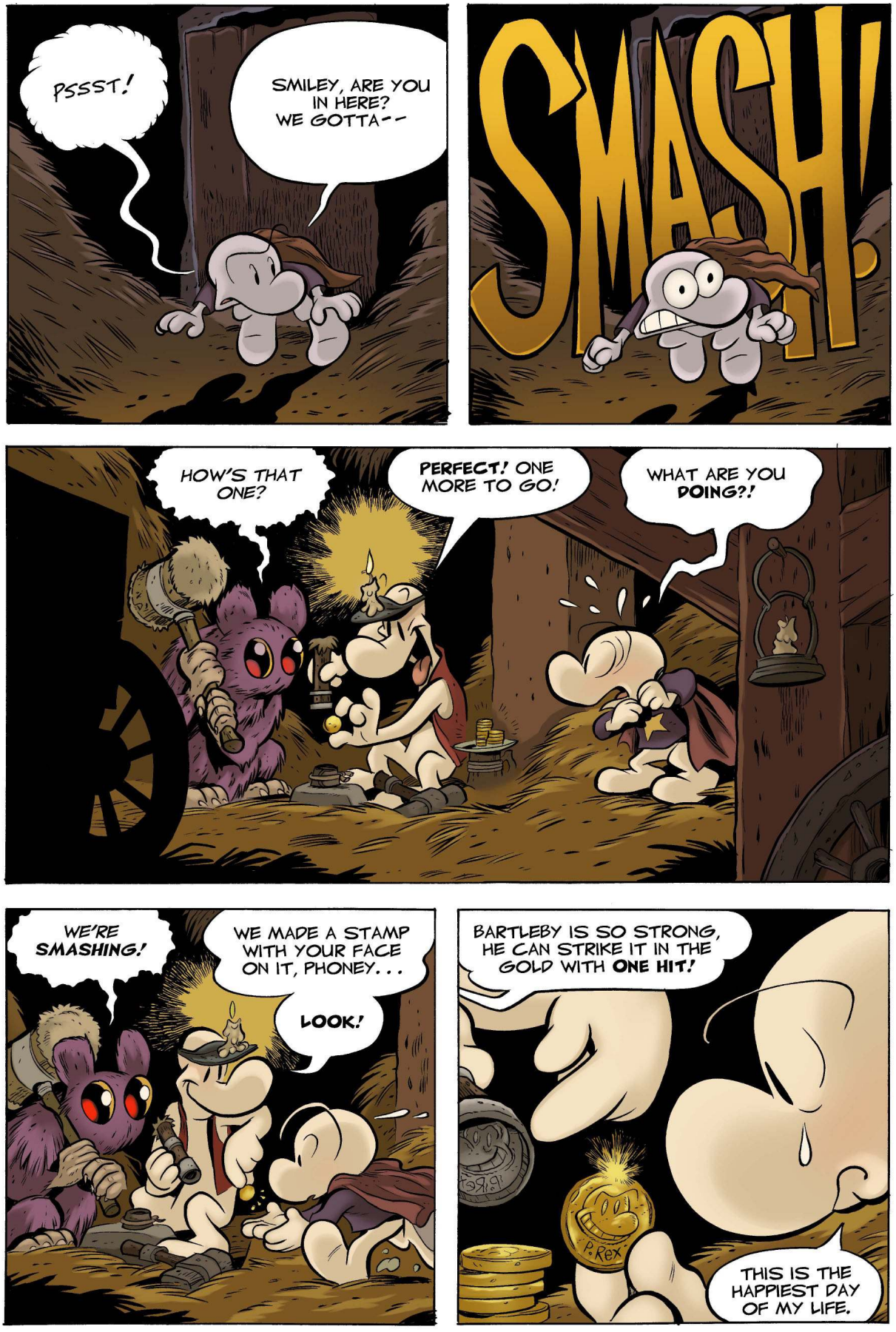




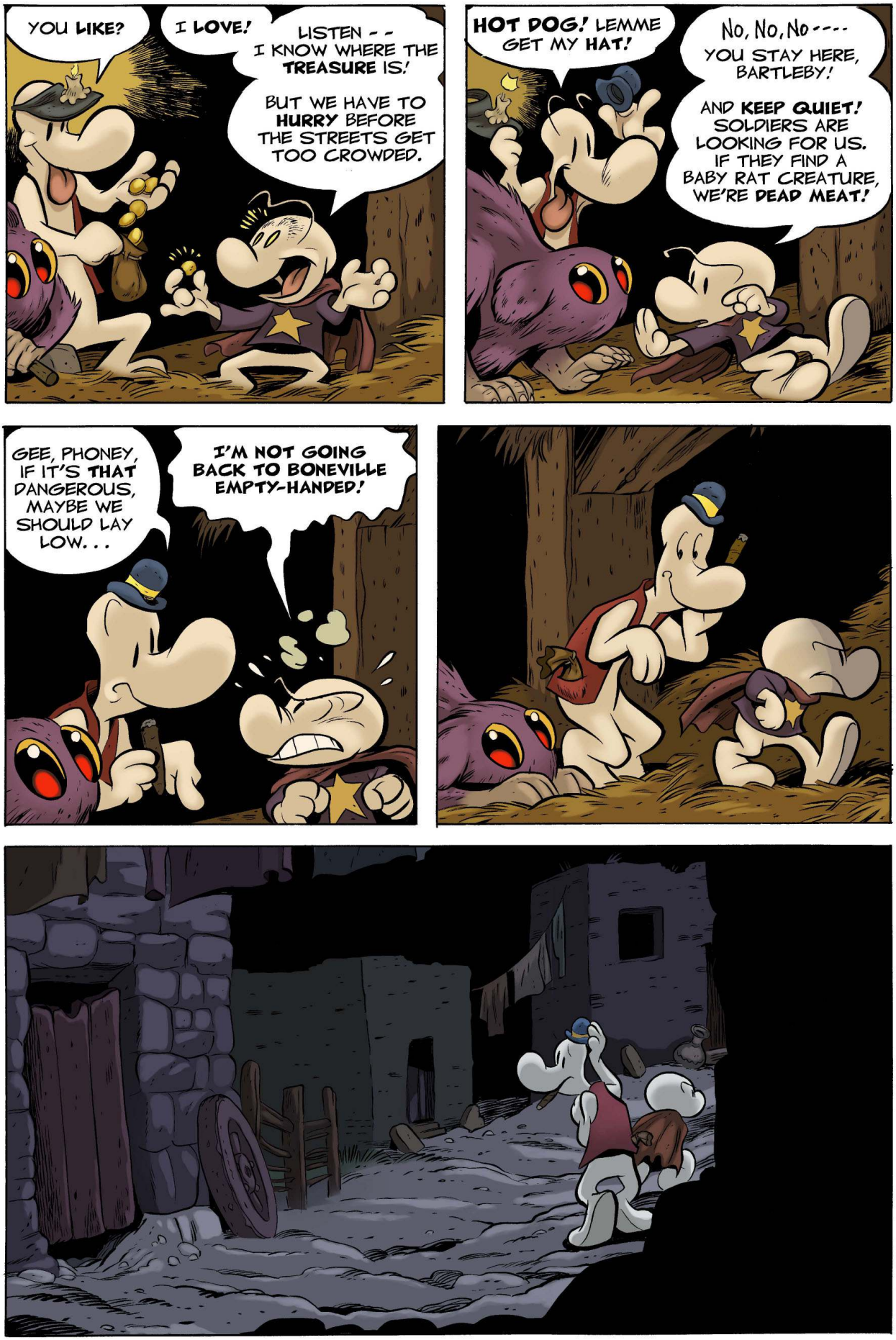




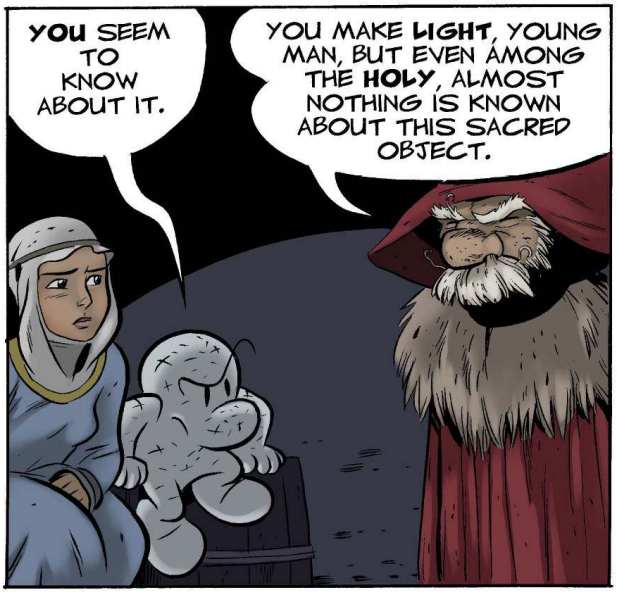
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



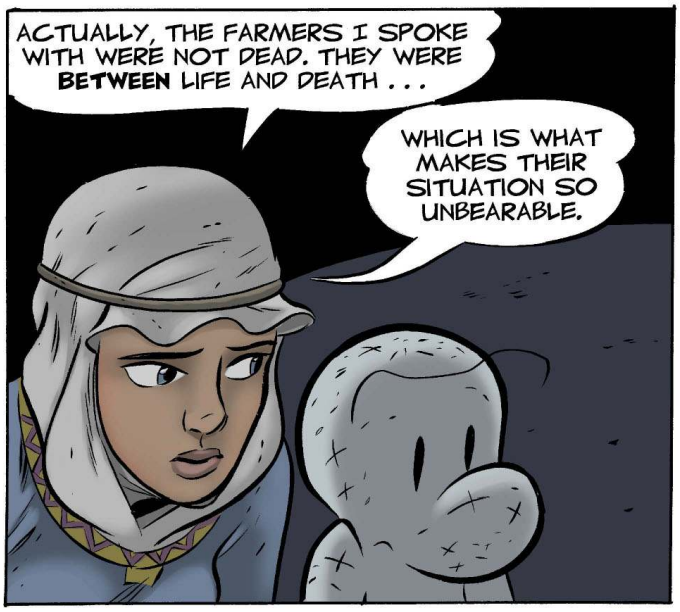
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


YOU LIKE?
I LOVE!
LISTEN - - I KNOW WHERE THE TREASURE IS!
BUT WE HAVE TO HURRY BEFORE THE STREETS GET TOO CROWDED.
HOT DOG! LEMME GET MY HAT!
No, No, No - - - - YOU STAY HERE, BARTLEBY!
AND KEEP QUIET! SOLDIERS ARE LOOKING FOR US. IF THEY FIND A BABY RAT CREATURE, WE'RE DEAD MEAT!
GEE, PHONEY, IF IT'S THAT DANGEROUS, MAYBE WE SHOULD LAY LOW. . .
I'M NOT GOING BACK TO BONEVILLE EMPTY-HANDED!


IMPOSSIBLE!
NO ONE, NOT EVEN THE ROYAL FAMILY KNOWS ABOUT THE CROWN OF HORNS.
IT IS THE DRAGONS' GREATEST SECRET.


YOU SEEM TO KNOW ABOUT IT.
YOU MAKE LIGHT, YOUNG MAN, BUT EVEN AMONG THE HOLY, ALMOST NOTHING IS KNOWN ABOUT THIS SACRED OBJECT.


YOUR HIGHNESS, IF IT PLEASES YOU, I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR STORY ABOUT TALKING TO THE DEAD.

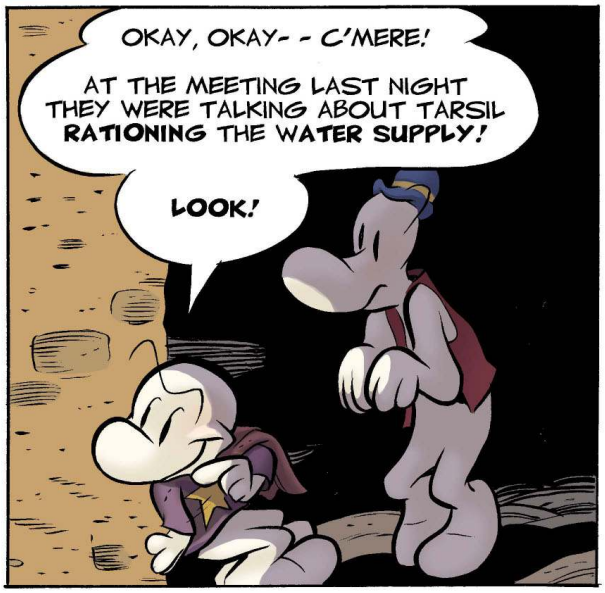

ACTUALLY, THE FARMERS I SPOKE WITH WERE NOT DEAD. THEY WERE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH . . .
WHICH IS WHAT MAKES THEIR SITUATION SO UNBEARABLE.

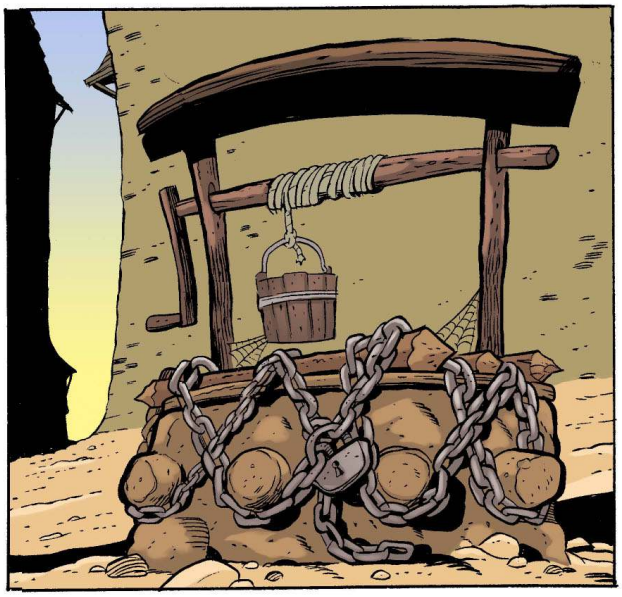

BUT I'M CONVINCED THE GHOST CIRCLES AREN'T FULLY FORMED AND WE STILL HAVE TIME TO RESCUE THESE POOR PEOPLE.
MY MOTHER MUST HAVE THOUGHT THE CROWN OF HORNS WOULD HELP US.

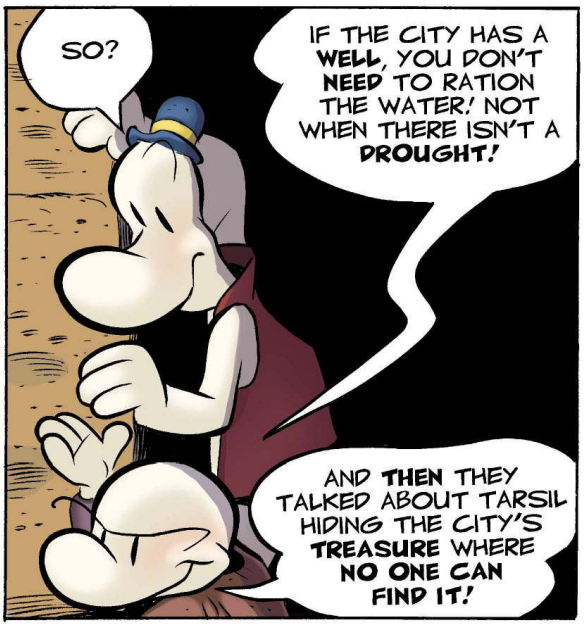

I HOPE I CAN HELP YOU PRINCESS. ALMOST NOTHING IS KNOWN ABOUT THIS OBJECT. NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN IT.
BUT... I WILL TELL YOU WHAT LITTLE I DO KNOW - -
THE CROWN OF HORNS SITS DIRECTLY UPON THE VEIL, HALF IN OUR WORLD, AND HALF IN THE DREAMING WORLD.
IT IS THE TIPPING POINT - - THE POINT OF BALANCE.
SOME SAY IT IS THE VERY HEART OF OUR WORLD.
HMM. THE GHOST CIRCLES MIGHT VANISH IF WE COULD RESTORE BALANCE.
YEAH, BUT HOW?
ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FIND THE CROWN OF HORNS AND TIP IT BACK INTO PLACE.
WISDOM.
NO, NO, NO, NO. DON'T YOU SEE?
THIS IS EXACTLY THE LACK OF TRAINING I WAS TALKING ABOUT! DO YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF SHE EVEN TOUCHED THIS SACRED OBJECT?

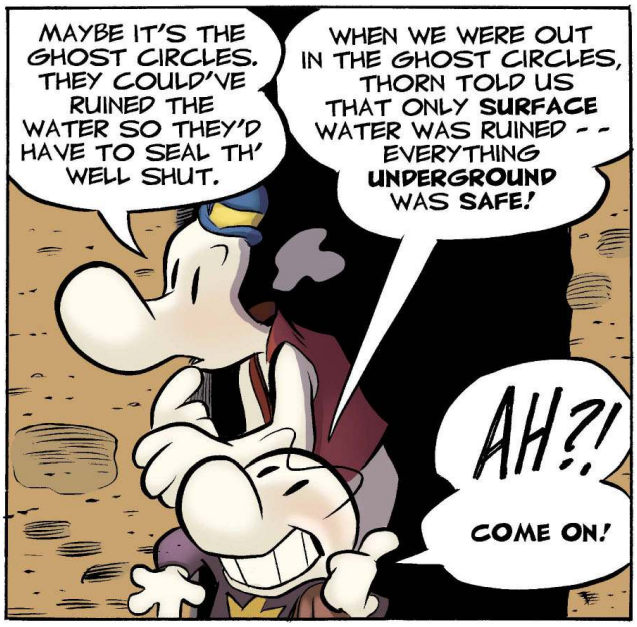

HOW WOULD I KNOW?
SHE'S A VENI-YAN-CARI WHO CARRIES A PIECE OF THE LOCUST'S SPIRIT WITHIN HER BREAST. TWO OPPOSING FORCES OF ENERGY TOGETHER - -
THE SLIGHTEST CONTACT WITH THE CROWN OF HORNS WOULD CAUSE A TREMENDOUS DISRUPTION!
ALL OF EXISTENCE WOULD FLICKER LIKE A CANDLE - - PERHAPS EVEN GO OUT!
HMM. NOT QUITE SO MUCH WISDOM AS YOU THOUGHT.
NEW PLAN.
RIGHT. IF WE'RE GONNA DO THIS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY, WE BETTER GET STARTED. THE SUN'S ALREADY UP.
MASTER, YOU SPREAD THE WORD AMONG THE LOYAL TO GATHER AT THE FRONT GATE. HAVE THEM BRING ANY WEAPON THEY CAN.
THORN, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO PAY AN EARLY MORNING VISIT TO OUR TYRANT FRIEND, TARSIL.
FONE BONE, YOU MAKE SURE YOUR COUSIN PHONEY BONE STAYS OUT OF TROUBLE.
WHY DO I ALWAYS GET THE HARDEST JOB?

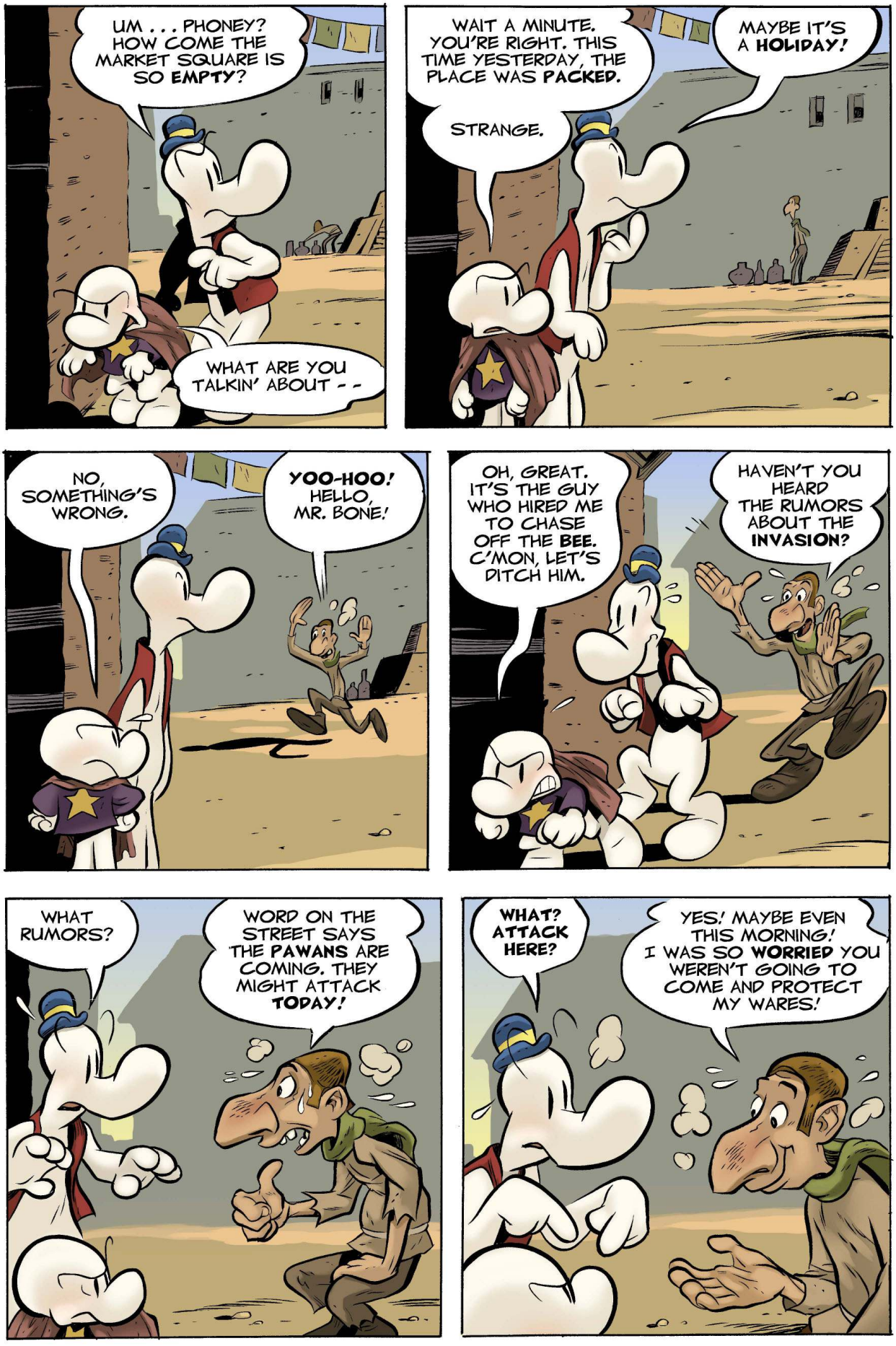


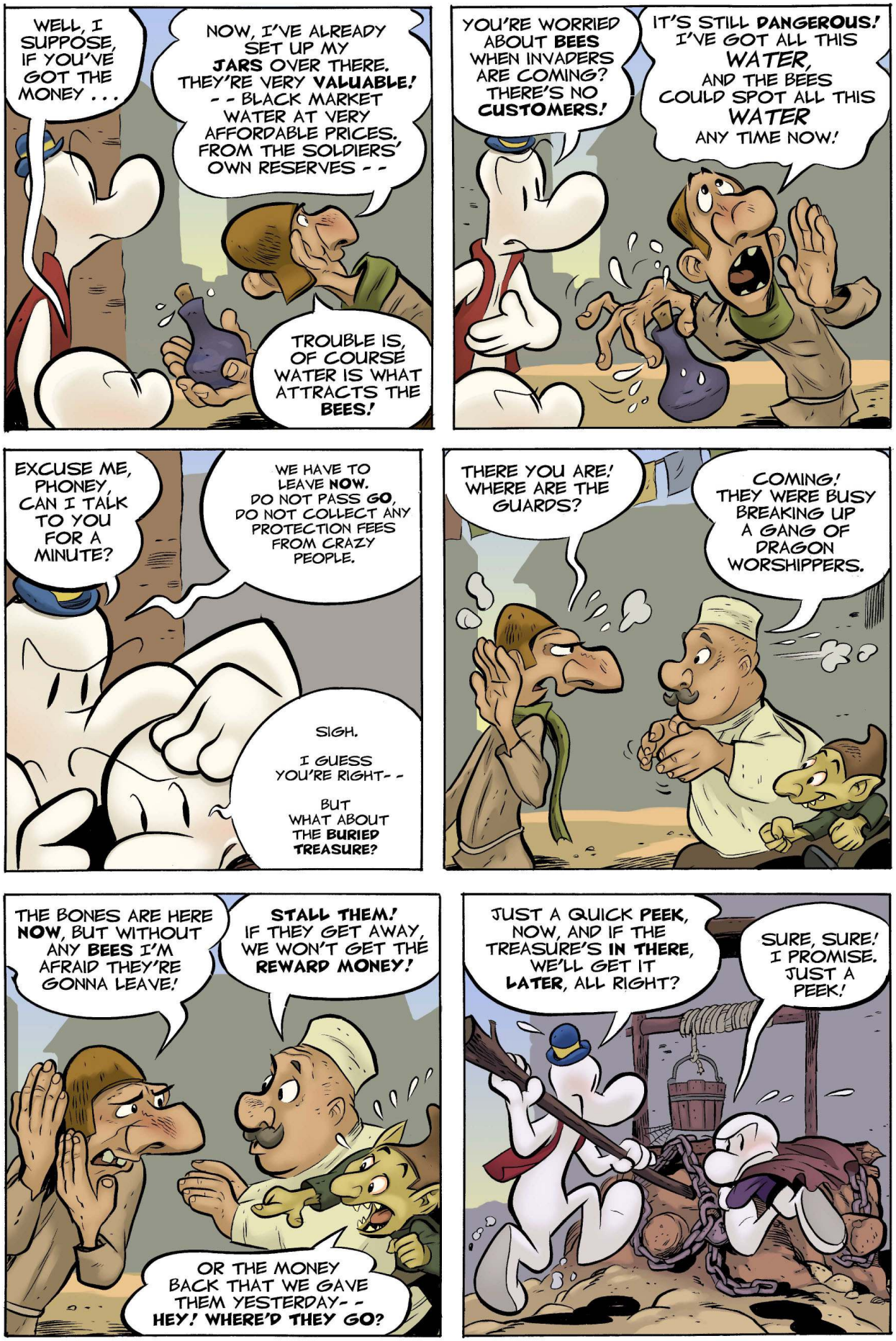

OKAY, OKAY- - C'MERE!
AT THE MEETING LAST NIGHT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT TARSIL **RATIONING** THE **WATER SUPPLY!**
LOOK!

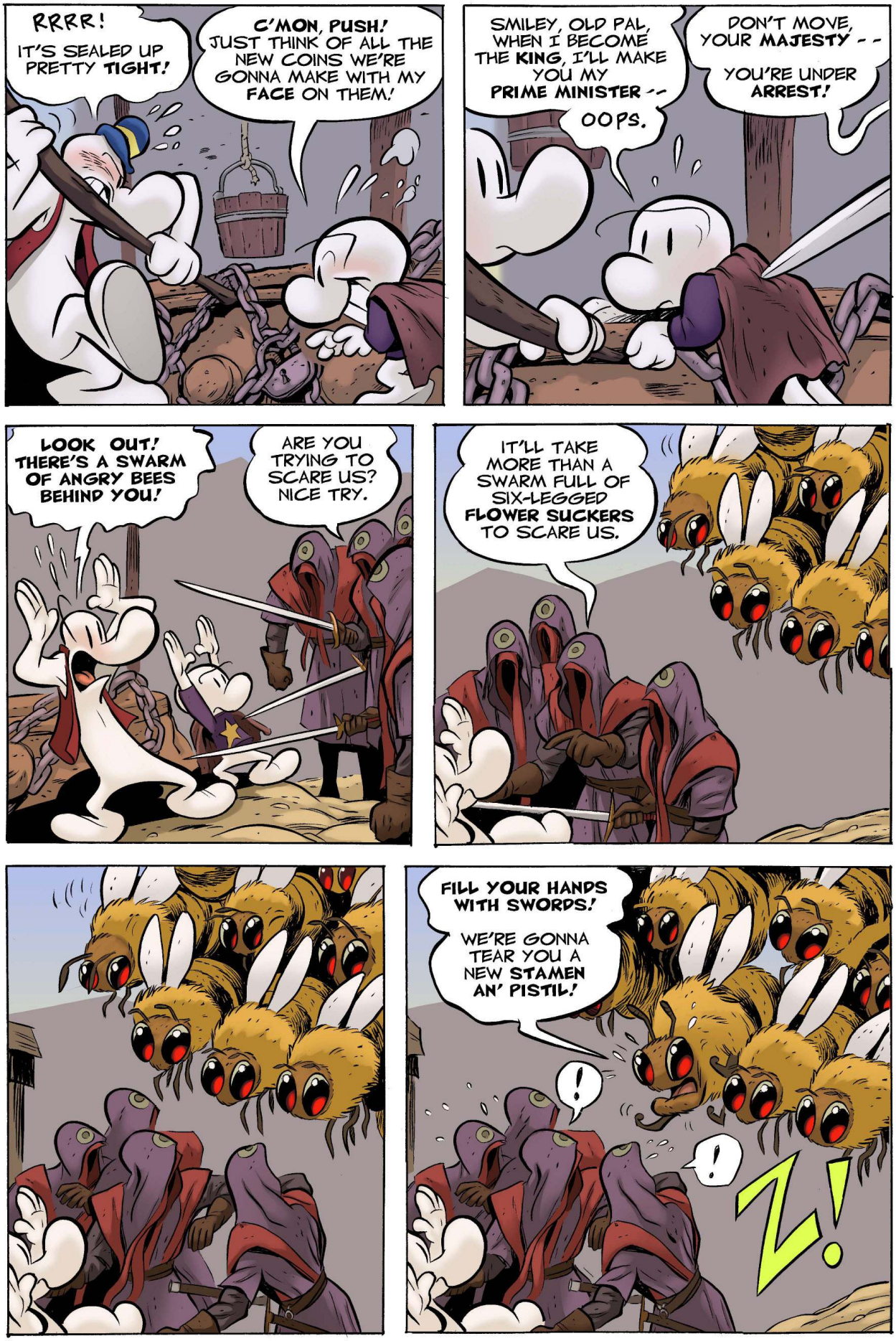


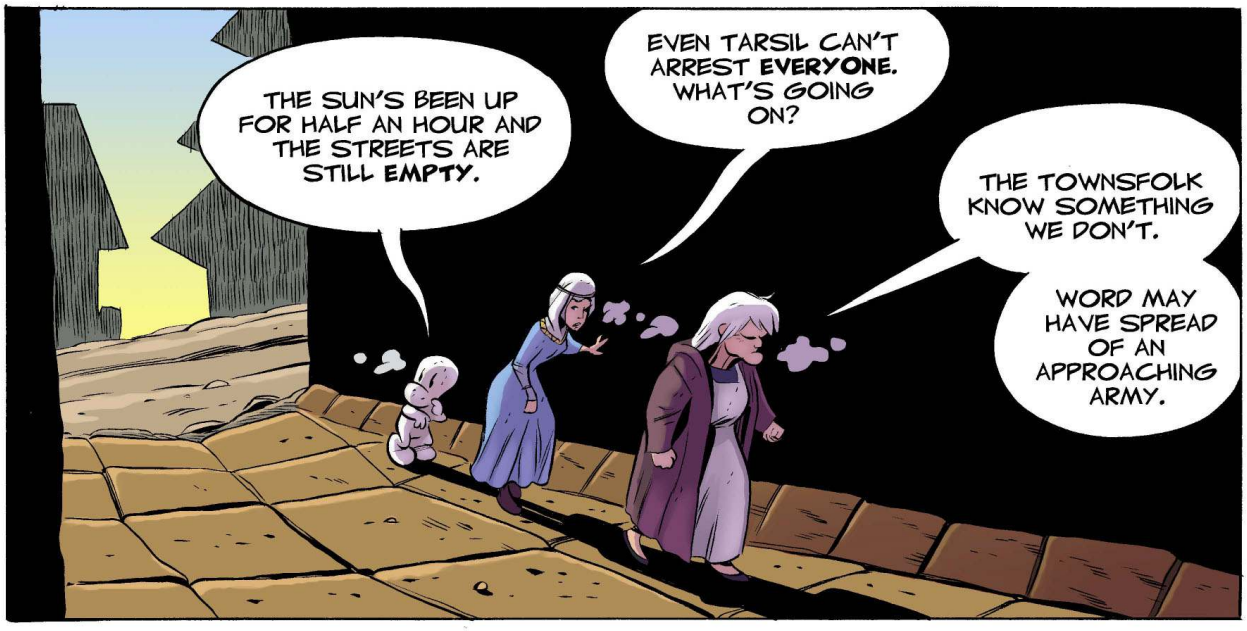

SO?
IF THE CITY HAS A **WELL**, YOU DON'T **NEED** TO RATION THE WATER! NOT WHEN THERE ISN'T A **DROUGHT!**
AND **THEN** THEY TALKED ABOUT TARSIL HIDING THE CITY'S **TREASURE** WHERE **NO ONE CAN FIND IT!**


MAYBE IT'S THE GHOST CIRCLES. THEY COULD'VE RUINED THE WATER SO THEY'D HAVE TO SEAL TH' WELL SHUT.
WHEN WE WERE OUT IN THE GHOST CIRCLES, THORN TOLD US THAT ONLY **SURFACE** WATER WAS RUINED - - EVERYTHING **UNDERGROUND** WAS **SAFE!**
AH?!
COME ON!

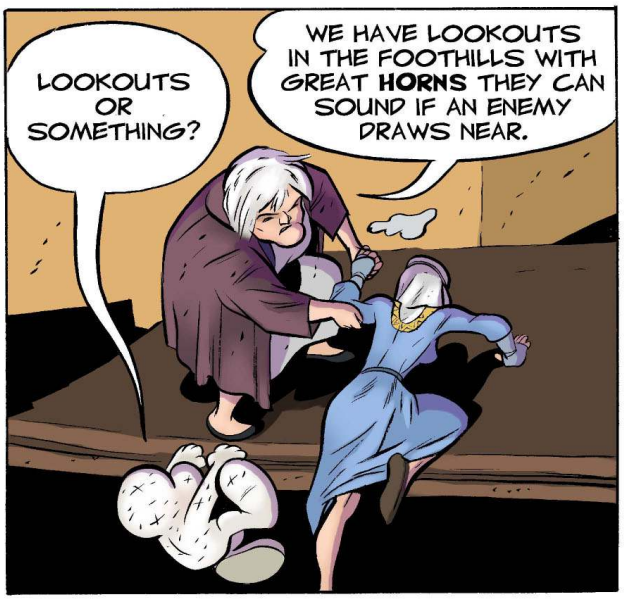

UM . . . PHONEY? HOW COME THE MARKET SQUARE IS SO EMPTY?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT - -
WAIT A MINUTE. YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS TIME YESTERDAY, THE PLACE WAS PACKED.
MAYBE IT'S A HOLIDAY!
STRANGE.
NO, SOMETHING'S WRONG.
YOO-HOO! HELLO, MR. BONE!
OH, GREAT. IT'S THE GUY WHO HIRED ME TO CHASE OFF THE BEE. C'MON, LET'S DITCH HIM.
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT THE INVASION?
WHAT RUMORS?
WORD ON THE STREET SAYS THE PAWANS ARE COMING. THEY MIGHT ATTACK TODAY!
WHAT? ATTACK HERE?
YES! MAYBE EVEN THIS MORNING! I WAS SO WORRIED YOU WEREN'T GOING TO COME AND PROTECT MY WARES!


WELL, I SUPPOSE, IF YOU'VE GOT THE MONEY . . .
NOW, I'VE ALREADY SET UP MY JARS OVER THERE. THEY'RE VERY VALUABLE! - - BLACK MARKET WATER AT VERY AFFORDABLE PRICES. FROM THE SOLDIERS' OWN RESERVES - -
TROUBLE IS, OF COURSE WATER IS WHAT ATTRACTS THE BEES!
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT BEES WHEN INVADERS ARE COMING? THERE'S NO CUSTOMERS!
IT'S STILL DANGEROUS! I'VE GOT ALL THIS WATER, AND THE BEES COULD SPOT ALL THIS WATER ANY TIME NOW!
EXCUSE ME, PHONEY, CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE?
WE HAVE TO LEAVE NOW. DO NOT PASS GO, DO NOT COLLECT ANY PROTECTION FEES FROM CRAZY PEOPLE.
SIGH. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT- - BUT WHAT ABOUT THE BURIED TREASURE?
THERE YOU ARE! WHERE ARE THE GUARDS?
COMING! THEY WERE BUSY BREAKING UP A GANG OF DRAGON WORSHIPPERS.
THE BONES ARE HERE NOW, BUT WITHOUT ANY BEES I'M AFRAID THEY'RE GONNA LEAVE!
STALL THEM! IF THEY GET AWAY, WE WON'T GET THE REWARD MONEY!
OR THE MONEY BACK THAT WE GAVE THEM YESTERDAY- - HEY! WHERE'D THEY GO?
JUST A QUICK PEEK, NOW, AND IF THE TREASURE'S IN THERE, WE'LL GET IT LATER, ALL RIGHT?
SURE, SURE! I PROMISE. JUST A PEEK!

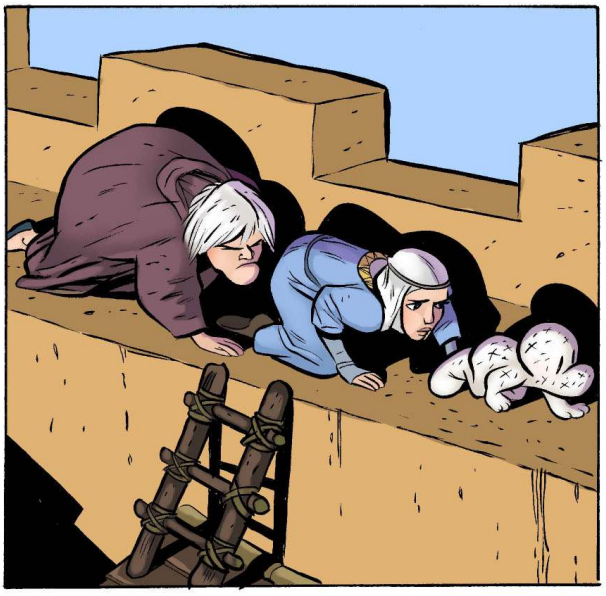

RRRR!
IT'S SEALED UP PRETTY TIGHT!
C'MON, PUSH! JUST THINK OF ALL THE NEW COINS WE'RE GONNA MAKE WITH MY FACE ON THEM!
SMILEY, OLD PAL, WHEN I BECOME THE KING, I'LL MAKE YOU MY PRIME MINISTER --
OOPS.
DON'T MOVE, YOUR MAJESTY - -
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
LOOK OUT! THERE'S A SWARM OF ANGRY BEES BEHIND YOU!
ARE YOU TRYING TO SCARE US? NICE TRY.
IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN A SWARM FULL OF SIX-LEGGED FLOWER SUCKERS TO SCARE US.
FILL YOUR HANDS WITH SWORDS!
WE'RE GONNA TEAR YOU A NEW STAMEN AN' PISTIL!
!
!
Z!

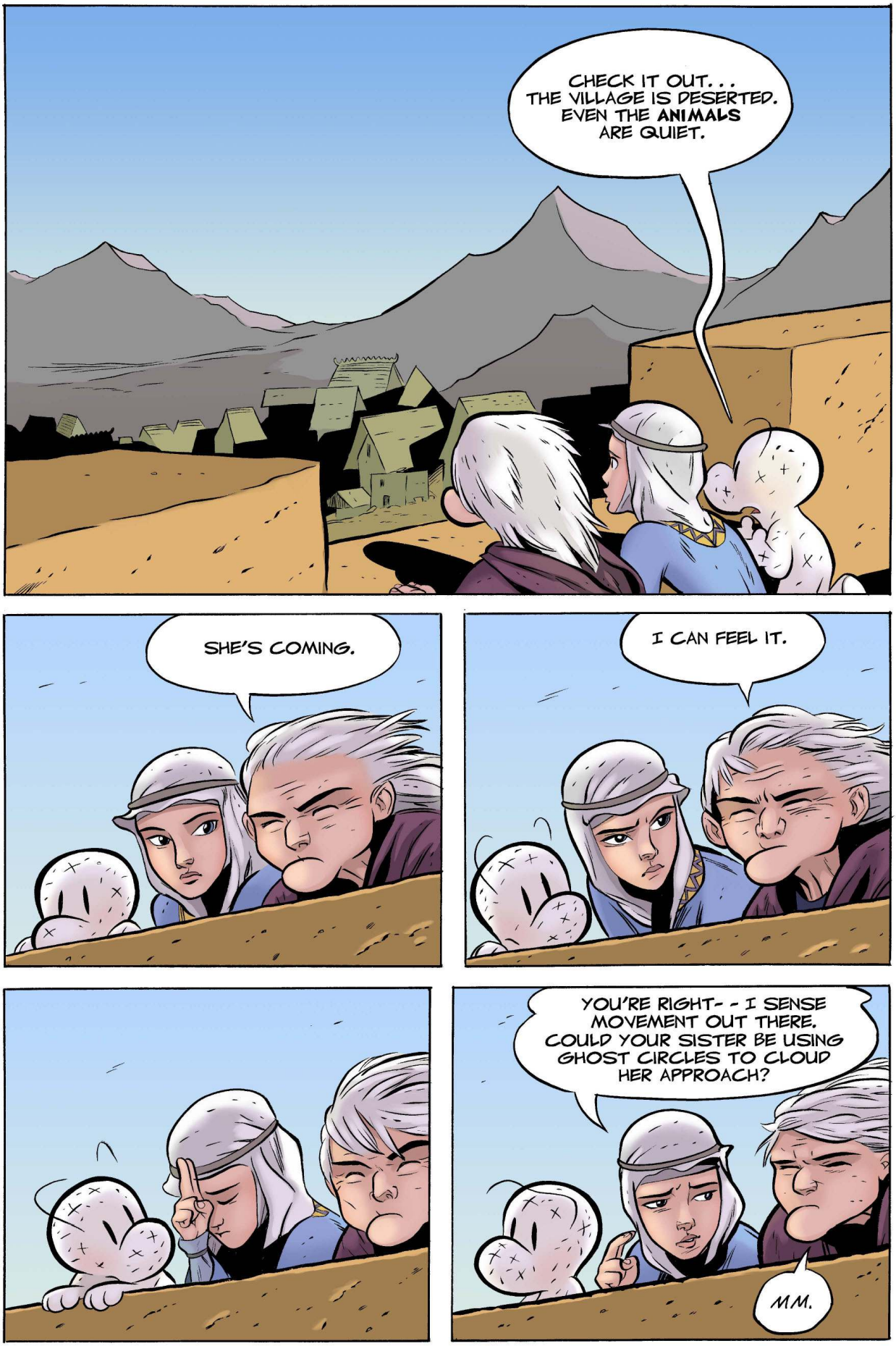

THE SUN'S BEEN UP FOR HALF AN HOUR AND THE STREETS ARE STILL **EMPTY**.
EVEN TARSIL CAN'T ARREST **EVERYONE**. WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE TOWNSFOLK KNOW SOMETHING WE DON'T.
WORD MAY HAVE SPREAD OF AN APPROACHING ARMY.

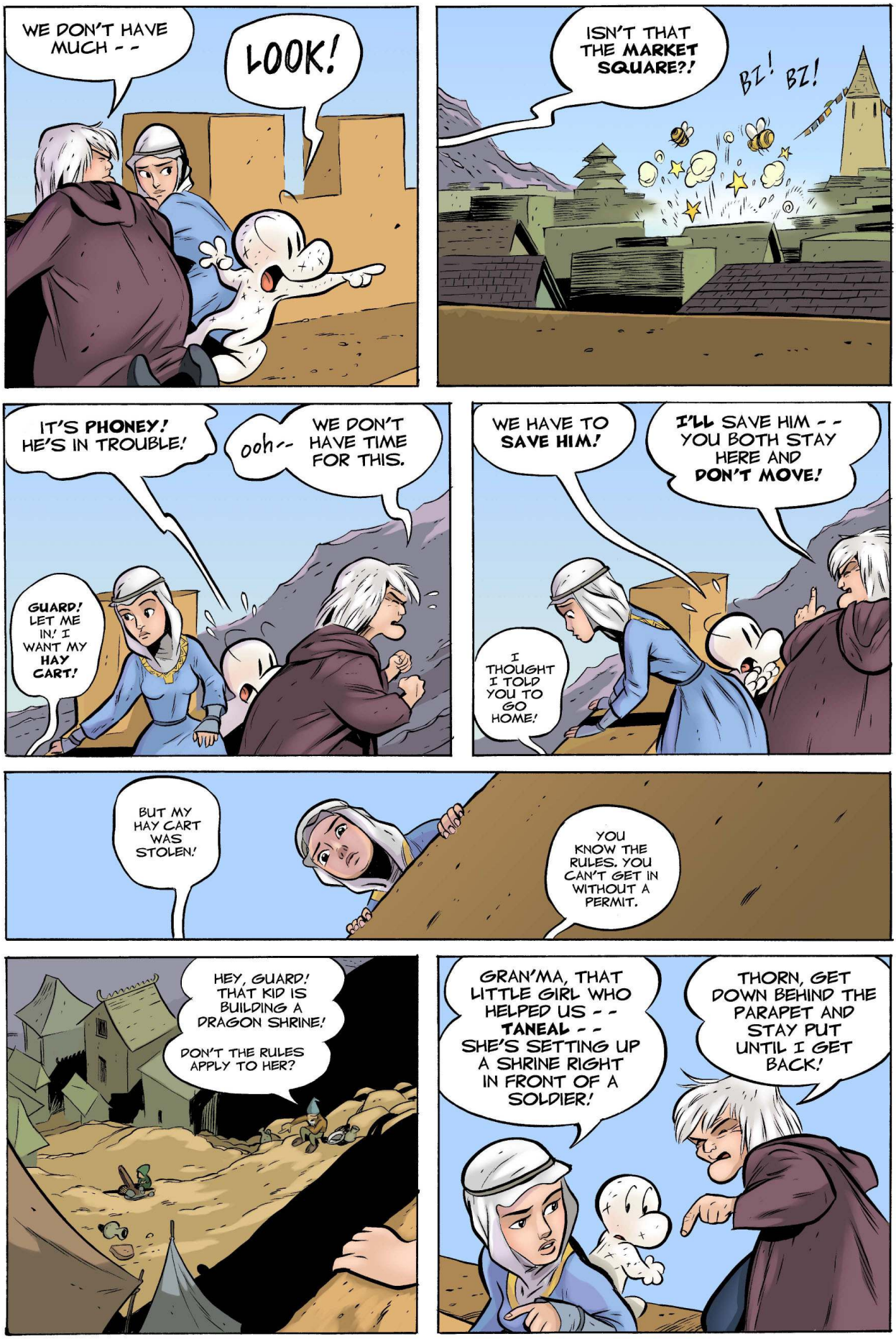

WE'RE GOING UP TO THE RAMPART AND LOOK OVER THE GATE.
DON'T YOU HAVE A **WARNING SYSTEM** IN PLACE?

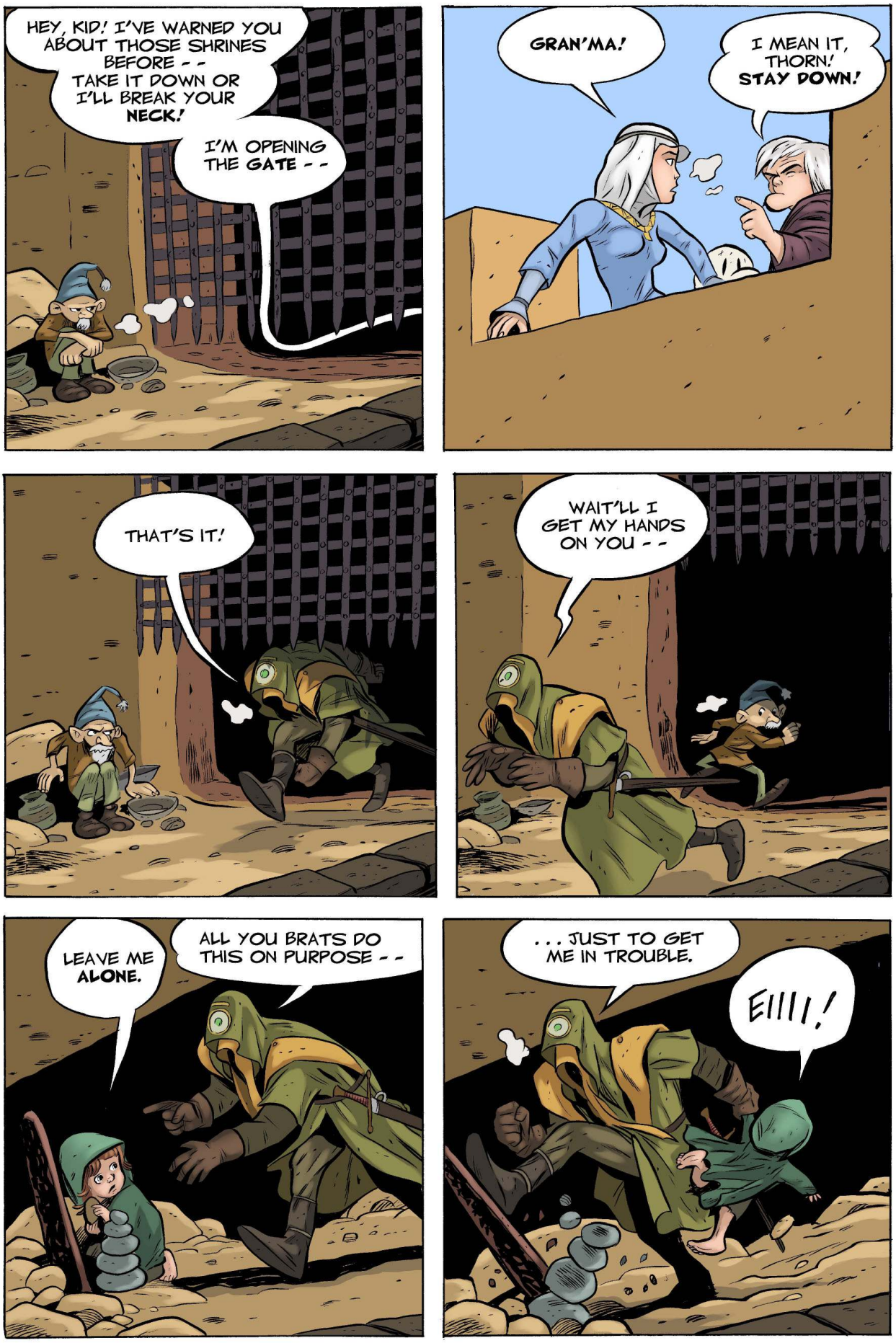

LOOKOUTS OR SOMETHING?
WE HAVE LOOKOUTS IN THE FOOTHILLS WITH GREAT **HORNS** THEY CAN SOUND IF AN ENEMY DRAWS NEAR.


BUT THINGS GO WRONG. . .




CHECK IT OUT. . .
THE VILLAGE IS DESERTED.
EVEN THE ANIMALS
ARE QUIET.
SHE'S COMING.
I CAN FEEL IT.
YOU'RE RIGHT- - I SENSE
MOVEMENT OUT THERE.
COULD YOUR SISTER BE USING
GHOST CIRCLES TO CLOUD
HER APPROACH?
MM.


WE DON'T HAVE MUCH - -
LOOK!
ISN'T THAT THE **MARKET SQUARE**?!
BZ! BZ!
IT'S **PHONEY**! HE'S IN TROUBLE!
ooh--
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
GUARD! LET ME IN! I WANT MY **HAY CART**!
WE HAVE TO **SAVE HIM**!
I'LL SAVE HIM - - YOU BOTH STAY HERE AND **DON'T MOVE**!
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO GO HOME!
BUT MY HAY CART WAS STOLEN!
YOU KNOW THE RULES. YOU CAN'T GET IN WITHOUT A PERMIT.
HEY, GUARD! THAT KID IS BUILDING A DRAGON SHRINE!
DON'T THE RULES APPLY TO HER?
GRAN'MA, THAT LITTLE GIRL WHO HELPED US - - **TANEAL** - - SHE'S SETTING UP A SHRINE RIGHT IN FRONT OF A SOLDIER!
THORN, GET DOWN BEHIND THE PARAPET AND STAY PUT UNTIL I GET BACK!


HEY, KID! I'VE WARNED YOU ABOUT THOSE SHRINES BEFORE - - TAKE IT DOWN OR I'LL BREAK YOUR NECK!
I'M OPENING THE GATE - -
GRAN'MA!
I MEAN IT, THORN! STAY DOWN!
THAT'S IT!
WAIT'LL I GET MY HANDS ON YOU - -
LEAVE ME ALONE.
ALL YOU BRATS DO THIS ON PURPOSE - -
. . . JUST TO GET ME IN TROUBLE.
EIIII!

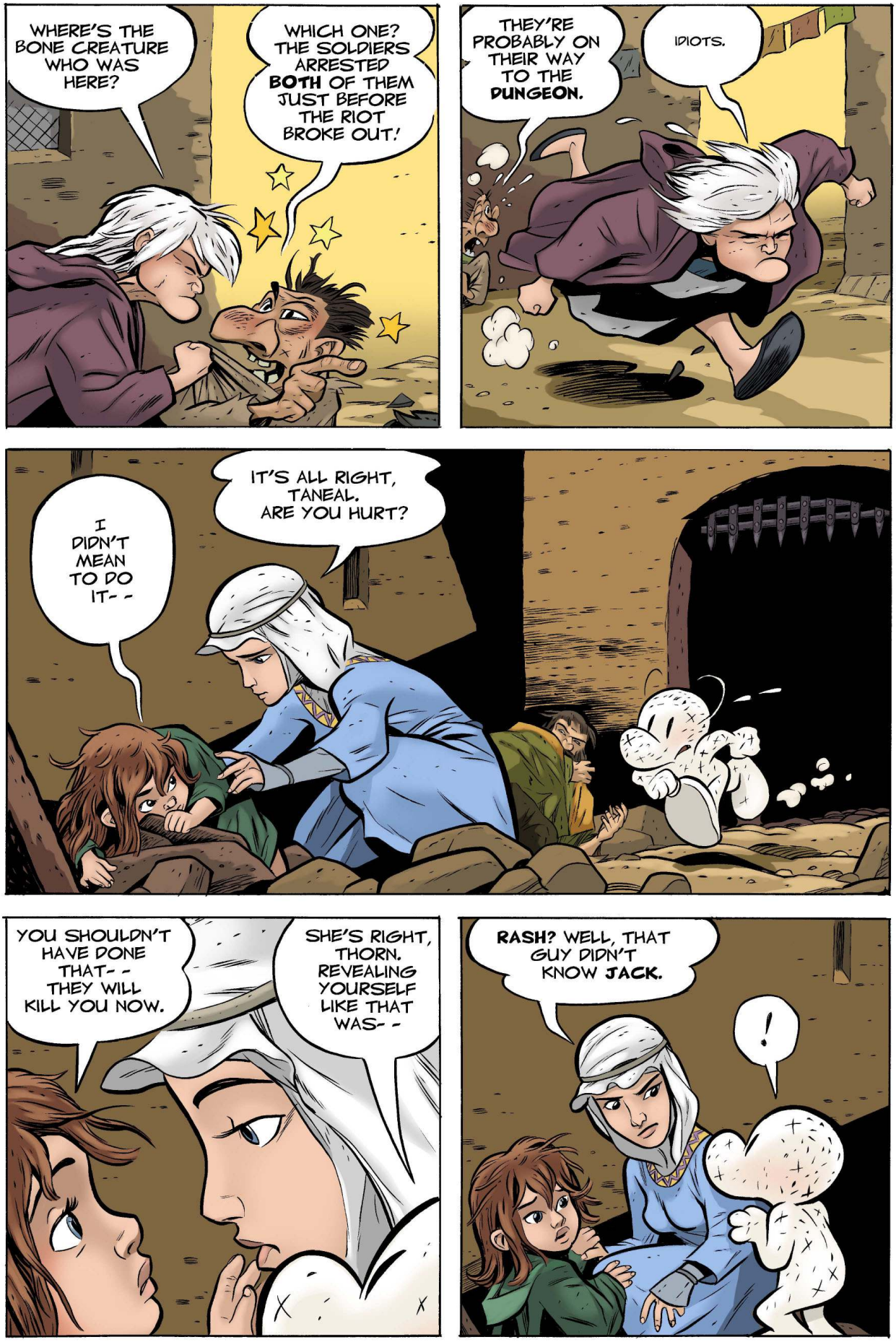

EIIII!

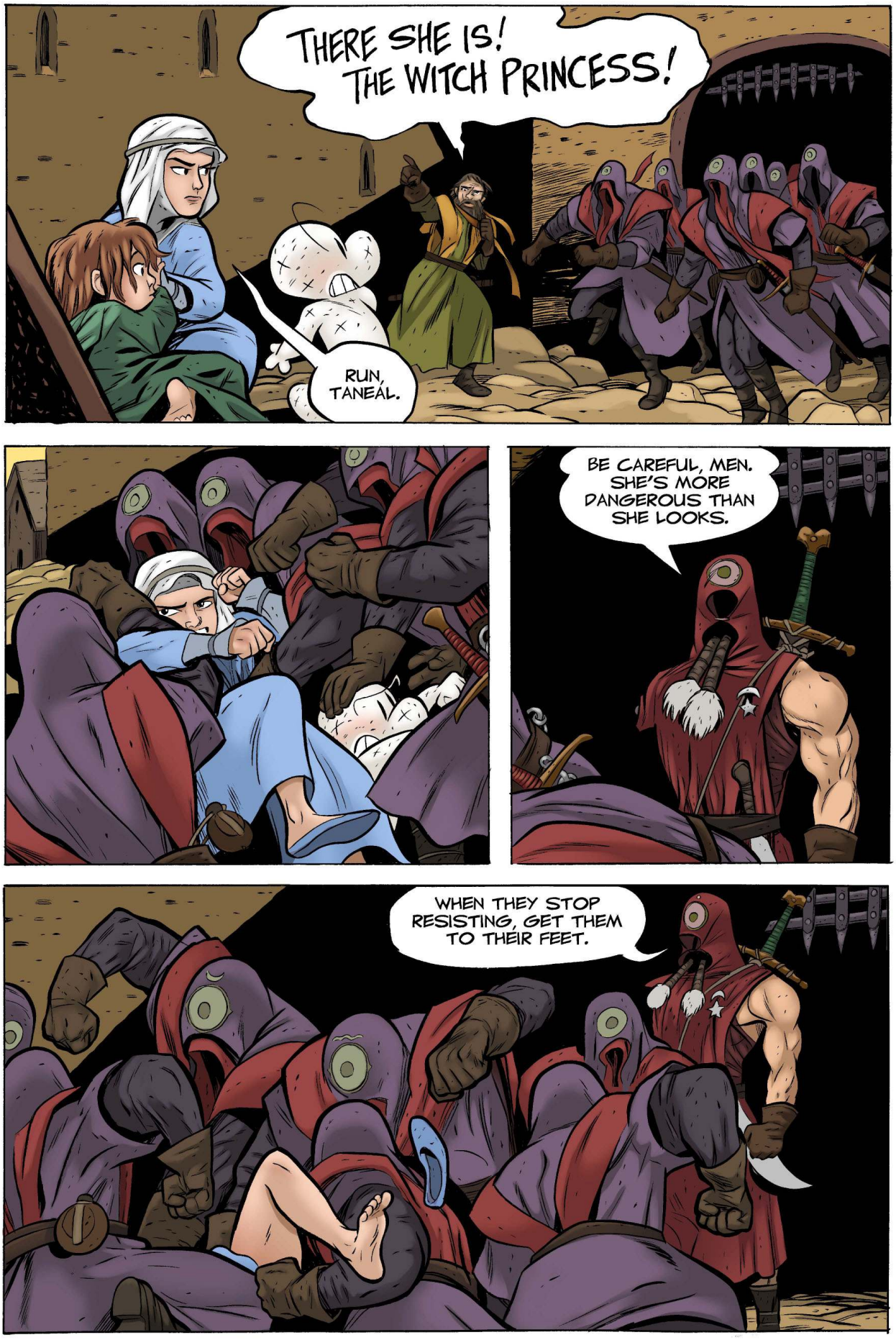

GET AWAY, RAT!
I WARNED YOU---
HEY!


AAAAAA----
THAT WAS TOO ROUGH FOR A CHILD.
YOU-- YOU'RE HER! THE DRAGON PRINCESS----
WHEN TARSIL FINDS YOU-- YOU'RE DEAD, GIRL!
YOU DON'T SCARE ME.
CRUNCH

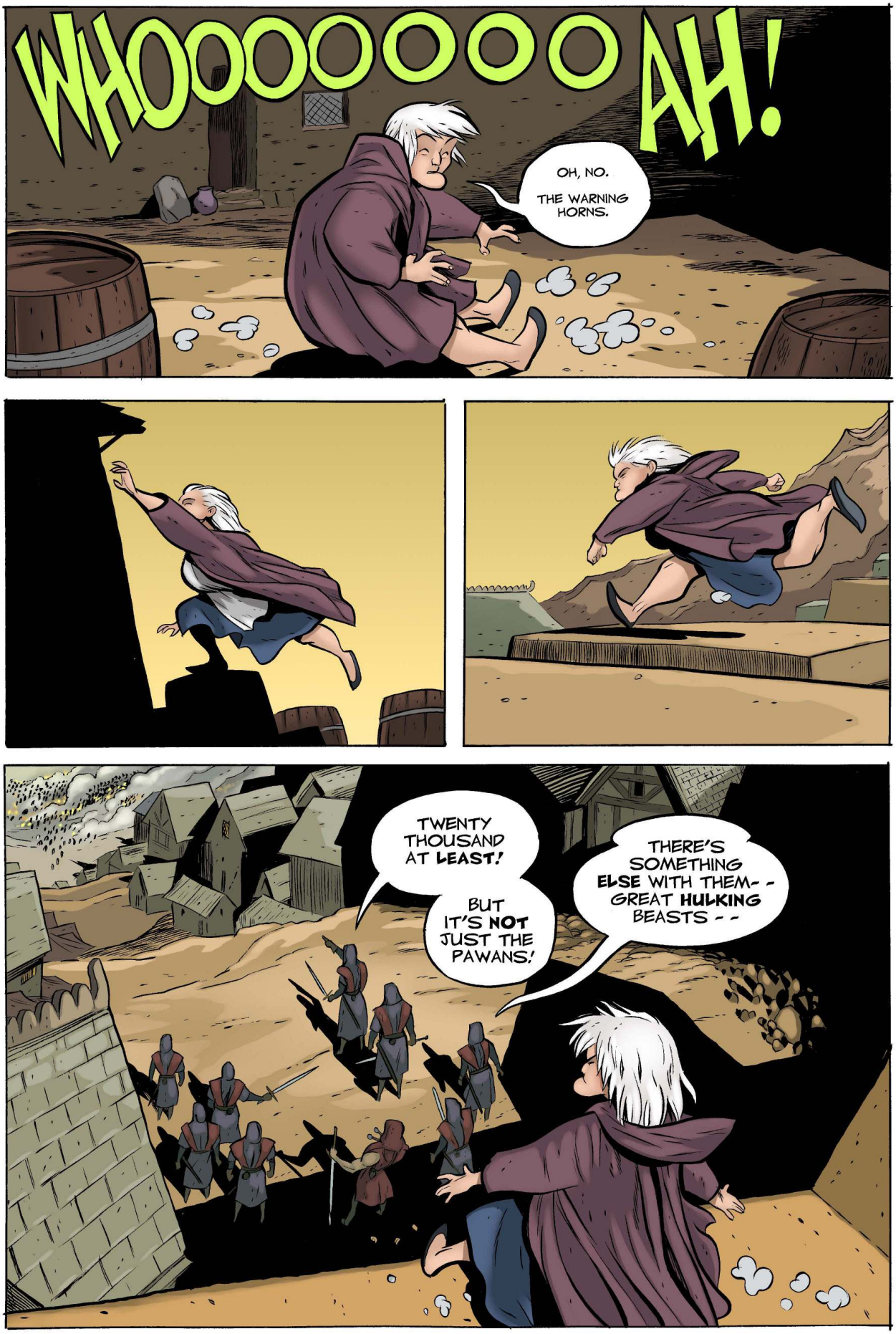

BZ BZ


WE'VE GOT THE WATER!
HIVE -- MOVE OUT!!
BUZZZZ
ZZZZZZZZ
PHONEY BONE?
WHERE ARE YOU?!!
GROAN


WHERE'S THE BONE CREATURE WHO WAS HERE?
WHICH ONE? THE SOLDIERS ARRESTED **BOTH** OF THEM JUST BEFORE THE RIOT BROKE OUT!
THEY'RE PROBABLY ON THEIR WAY TO THE **DUNGEON.**
IDIOTS.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO IT- -
IT'S ALL RIGHT, TANEAL. ARE YOU HURT?
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT- - THEY WILL KILL YOU NOW.
SHE'S RIGHT, THORN. REVEALING YOURSELF LIKE THAT WAS- -
RASH? WELL, THAT GUY DIDN'T KNOW **JACK.**
!


THERE SHE IS! THE WITCH PRINCESS!
RUN, TANEAL.
BE CAREFUL, MEN. SHE'S MORE DANGEROUS THAN SHE LOOKS.
WHEN THEY STOP RESISTING, GET THEM TO THEIR FEET.


YOU ARE UNDER ARREST, WITCH, FOR THE CRIME OF DRAGON WORSHIP.
THE PUNISHMENT IS BEING BURNED ALIVE!
BRING THEM INSIDE - -
WHOOOOOO
OOOOOO


WHOOOOOOOAH!
OH, NO.
THE WARNING HORNS.
TWENTY THOUSAND AT **LEAST!**
BUT IT'S **NOT** JUST THE PAWANS!
THERE'S SOMETHING **ELSE** WITH THEM- - GREAT **HULKING** BEASTS - -

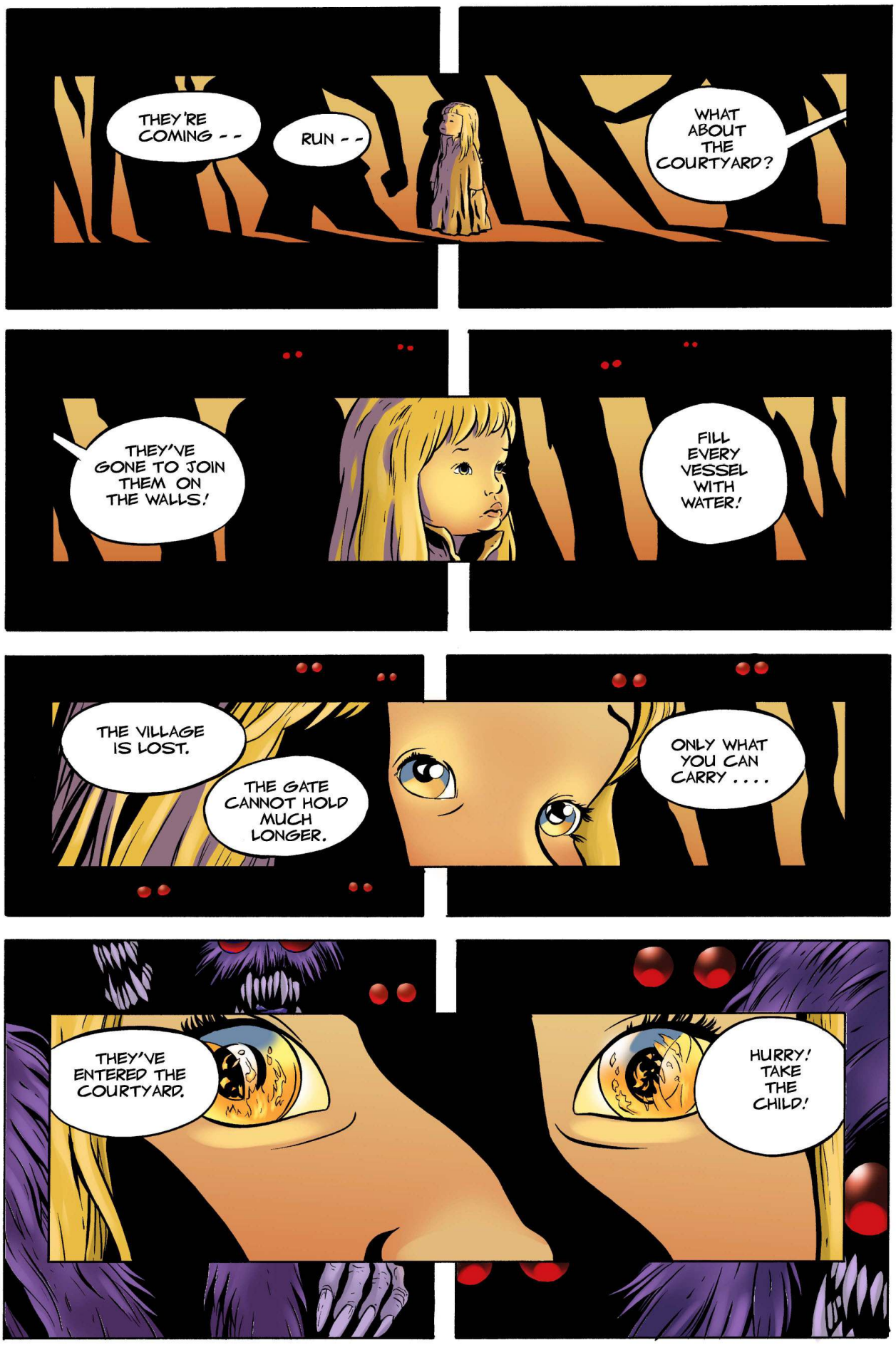

AWWOOOOOOOOOOAH!
BLOODY STARS!
RAT CREATURES!
PULL BACK - - BRING DOWN THE GATE!
WE'RE NOT READY. . .

BONE

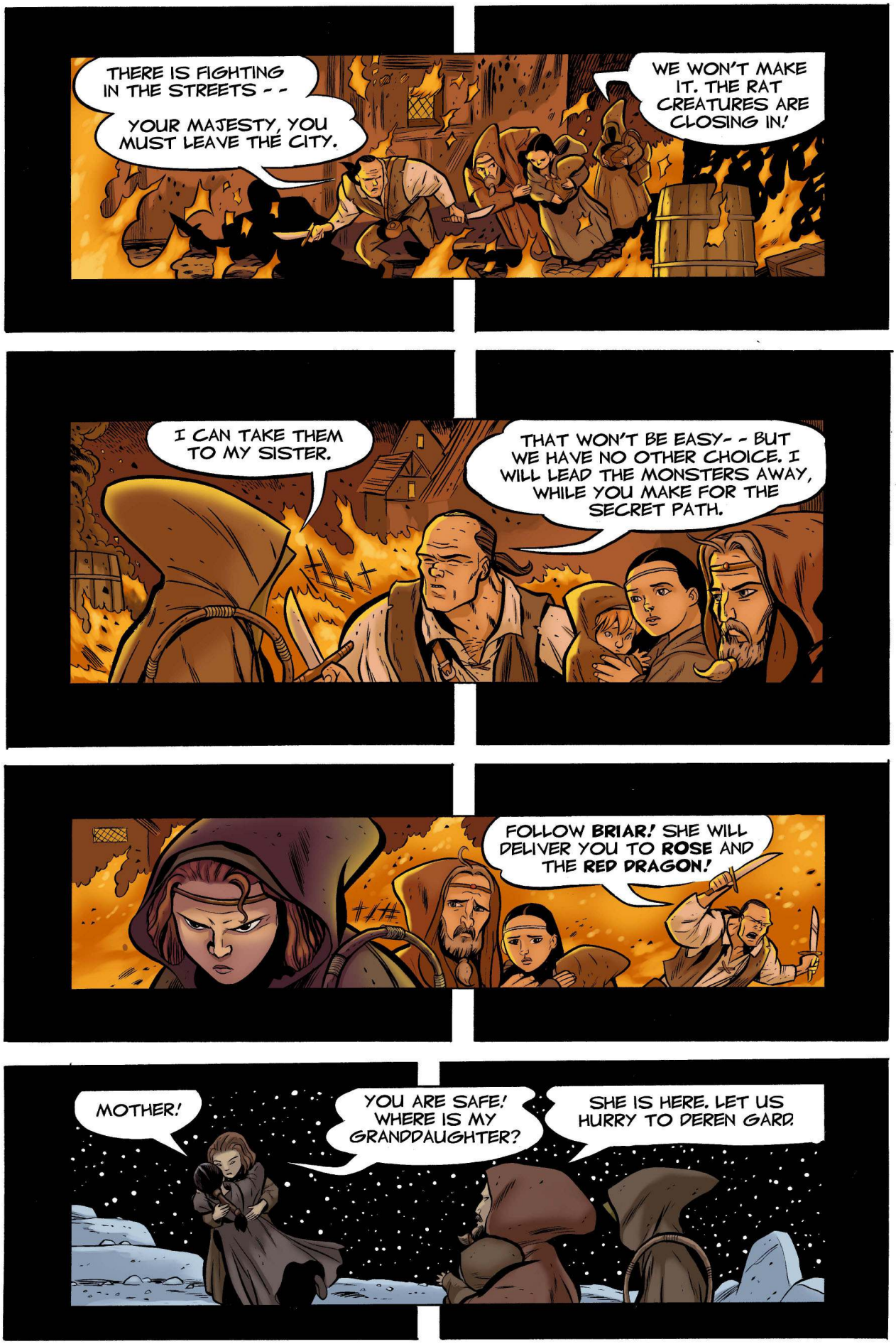



BONE
THORN?
ARE YOU OKAY? WAKE UP!
SNICK!
SKITTER! SKITTER!
SKRIT KRITCH KRICTCH

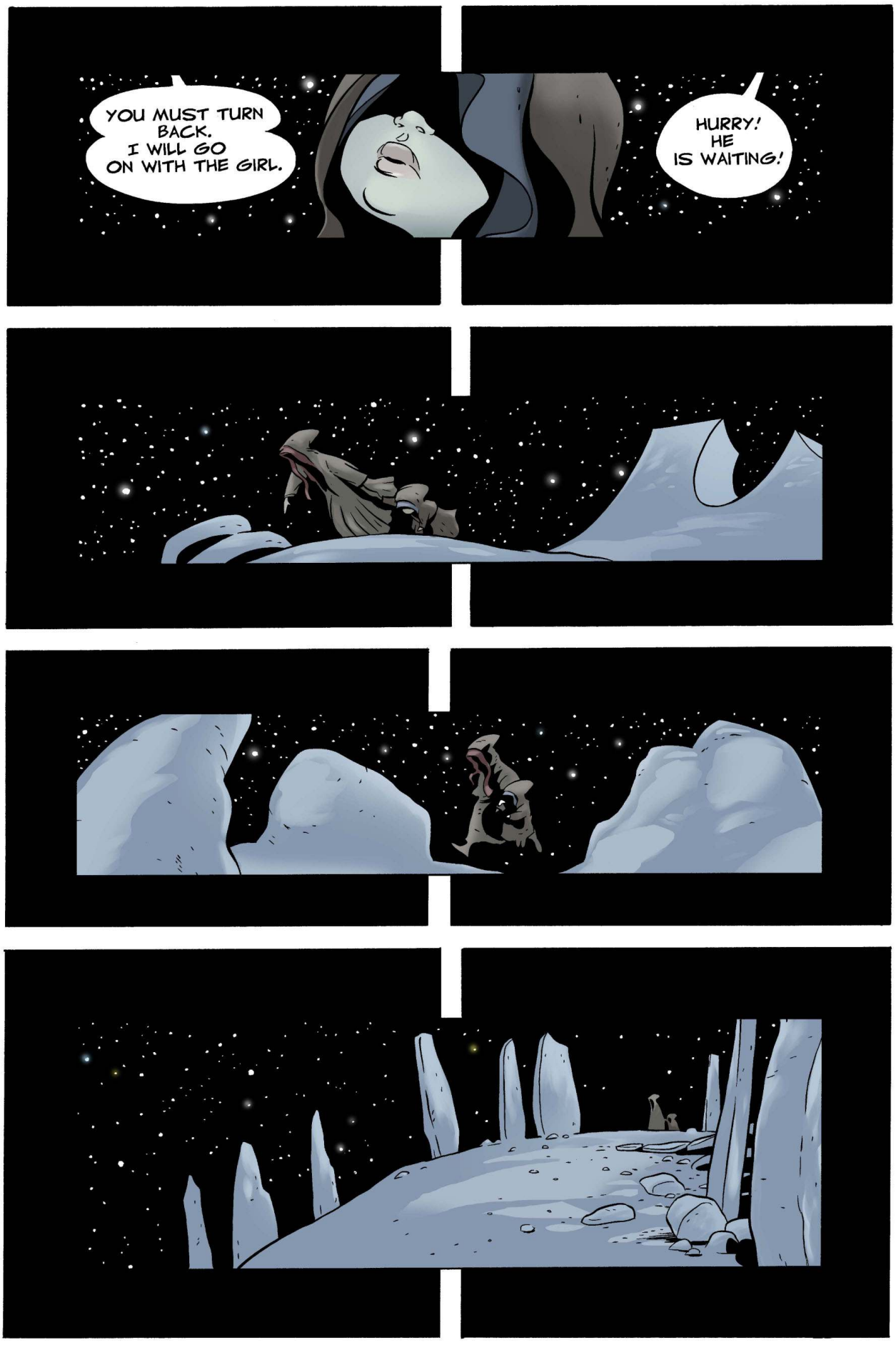

SNICK SKRITCH
SKITTER
SKITTER

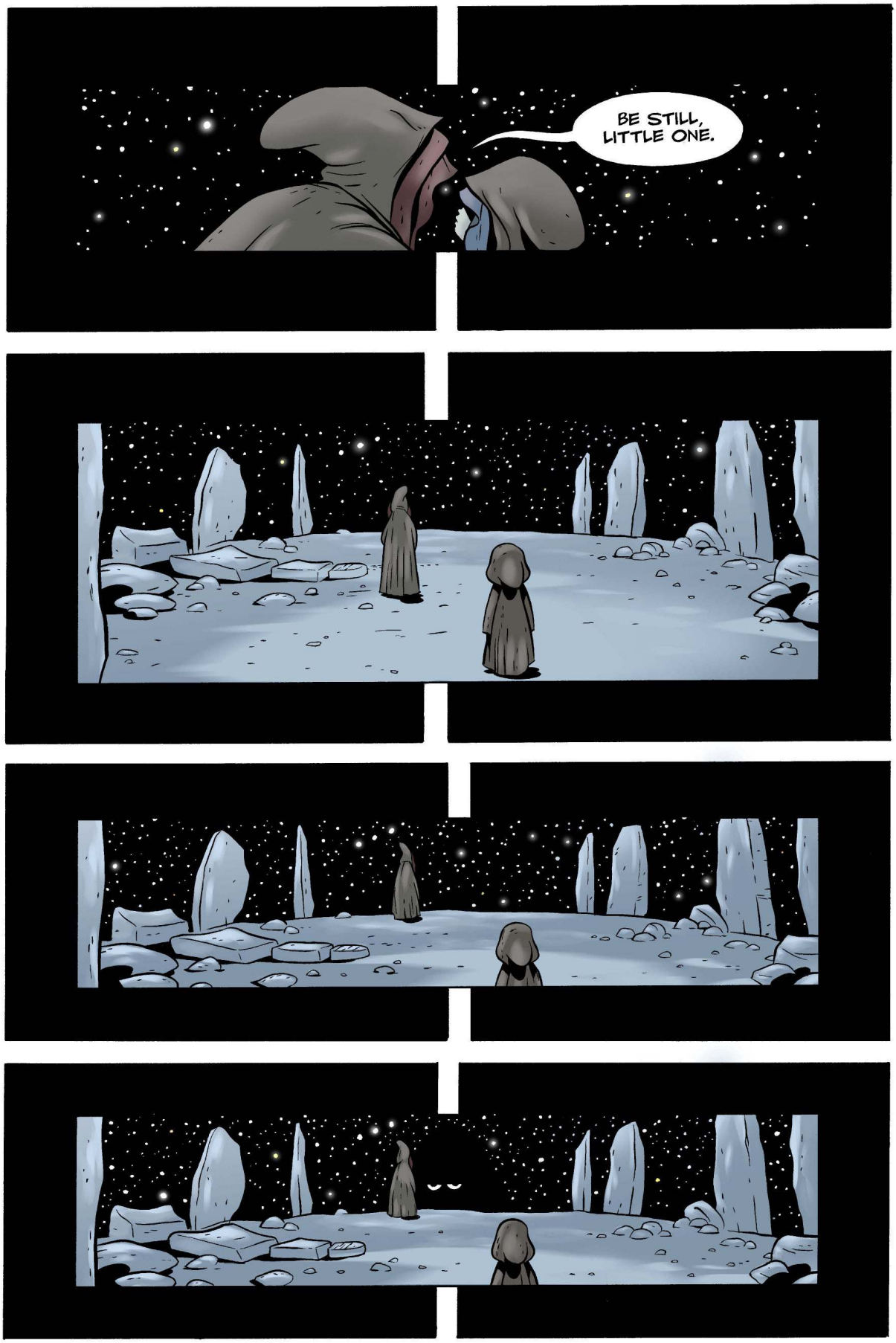

THEY'RE COMING - -
RUN - -
WHAT ABOUT THE COURTYARD?
THEY'VE GONE TO JOIN THEM ON THE WALLS!
FILL EVERY VESSEL WITH WATER!
THE VILLAGE IS LOST.
THE GATE CANNOT HOLD MUCH LONGER.
ONLY WHAT YOU CAN CARRY . . . .
THEY'VE ENTERED THE COURTYARD.
HURRY! TAKE THE CHILD!


THORN, WAKE UP!
YOU'RE DREAMING!
..MOTHER.....
..WHERE ARE WE GOING?

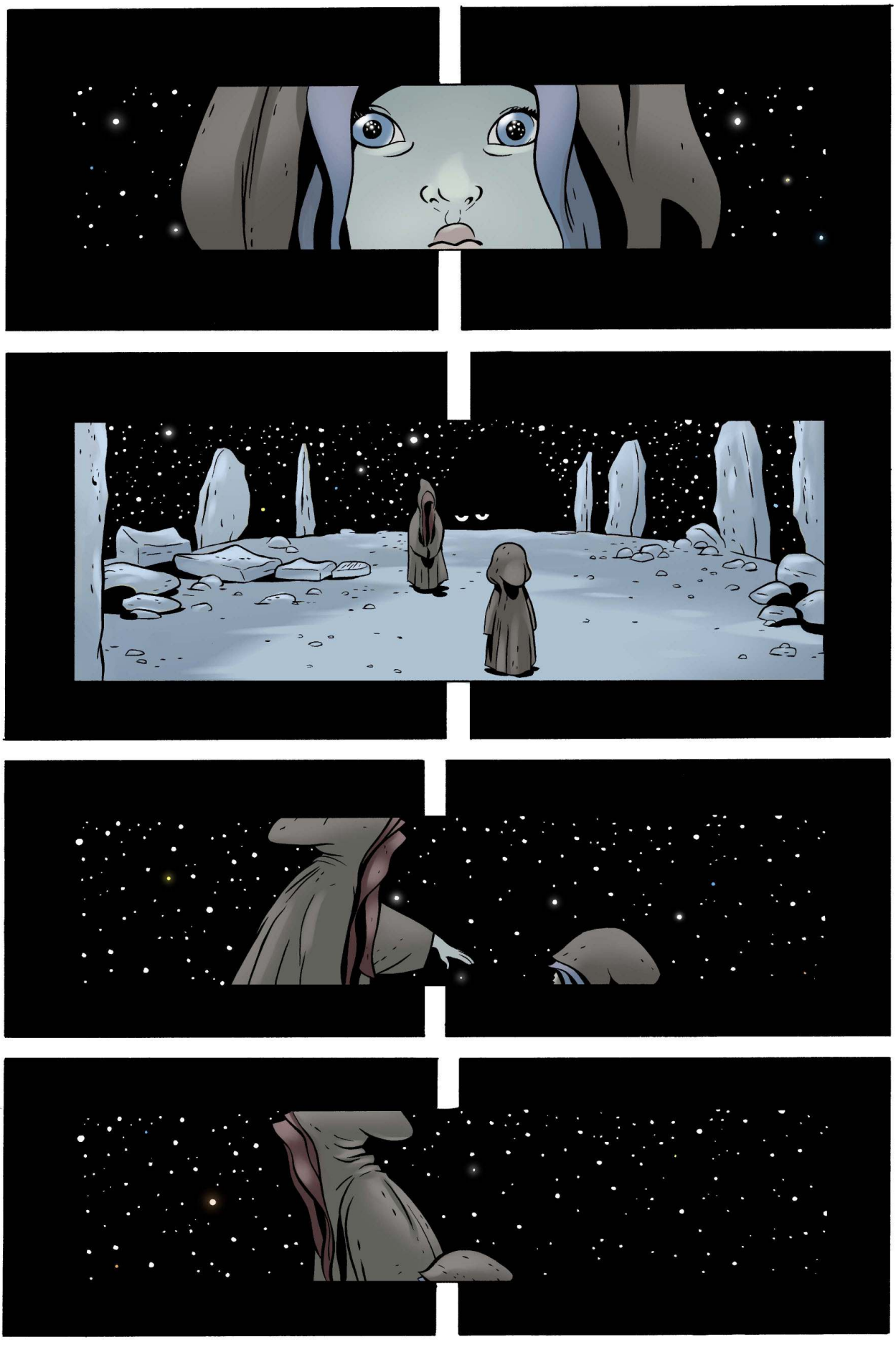

THERE IS FIGHTING IN THE STREETS - -
YOUR MAJESTY, YOU MUST LEAVE THE CITY.
WE WON'T MAKE IT. THE RAT CREATURES ARE CLOSING IN!
I CAN TAKE THEM TO MY SISTER.
THAT WON'T BE EASY- - BUT WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE. I WILL LEAD THE MONSTERS AWAY, WHILE YOU MAKE FOR THE SECRET PATH.
FOLLOW **BRIAR!** SHE WILL DELIVER YOU TO **ROSE** AND THE **RED DRAGON!**
MOTHER!
YOU ARE SAFE! WHERE IS MY GRANDDAUGHTER?
SHE IS HERE. LET US HURRY TO DEREN GARD.

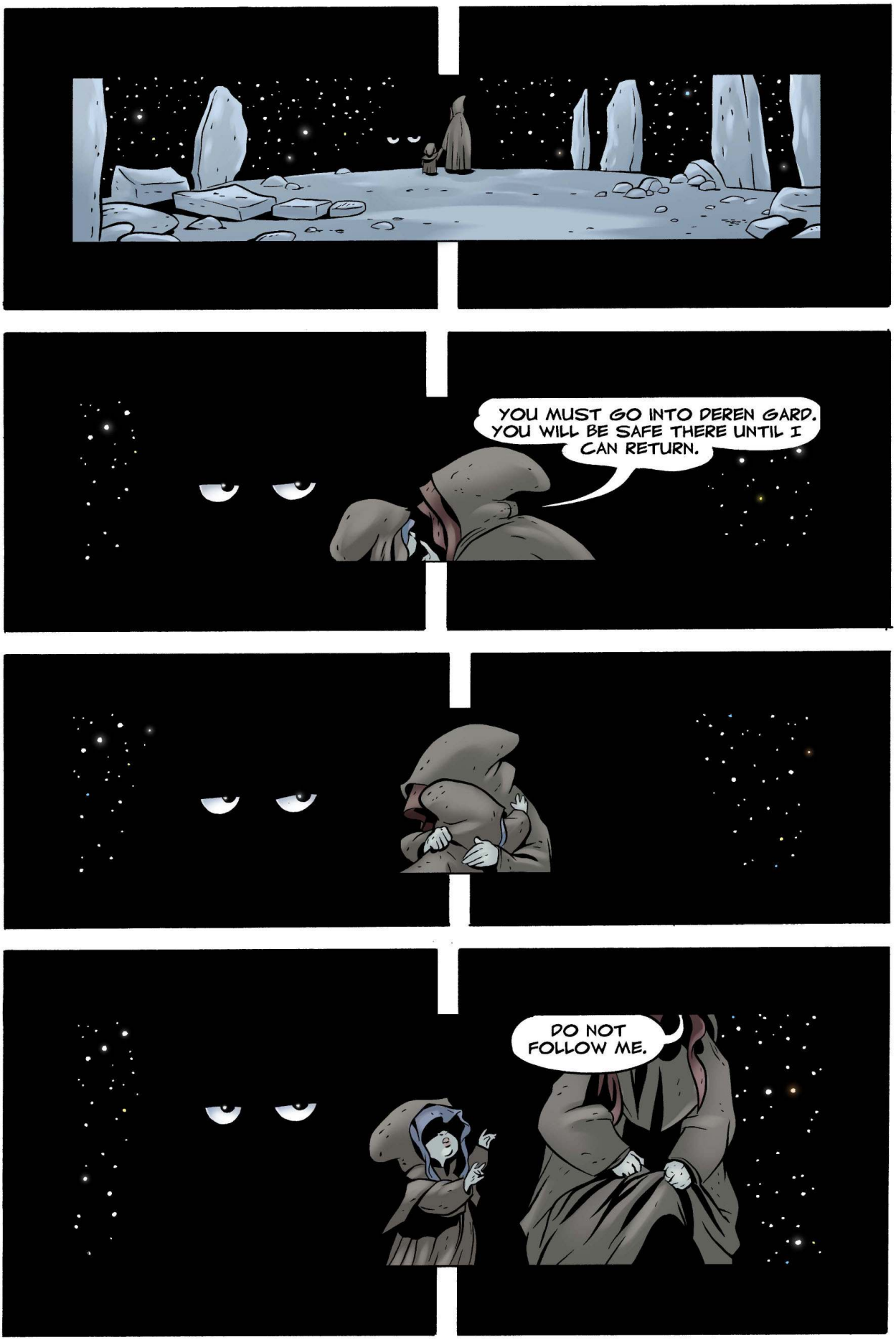

QUICKLY! BRING THE CHILD! WE ARE ALMOST THERE!
THERE ARE SOUNDS IN THE PASS BEHIND US!
WE ARE BETRAYED!
IT CANNOT BE!
GO! GO!

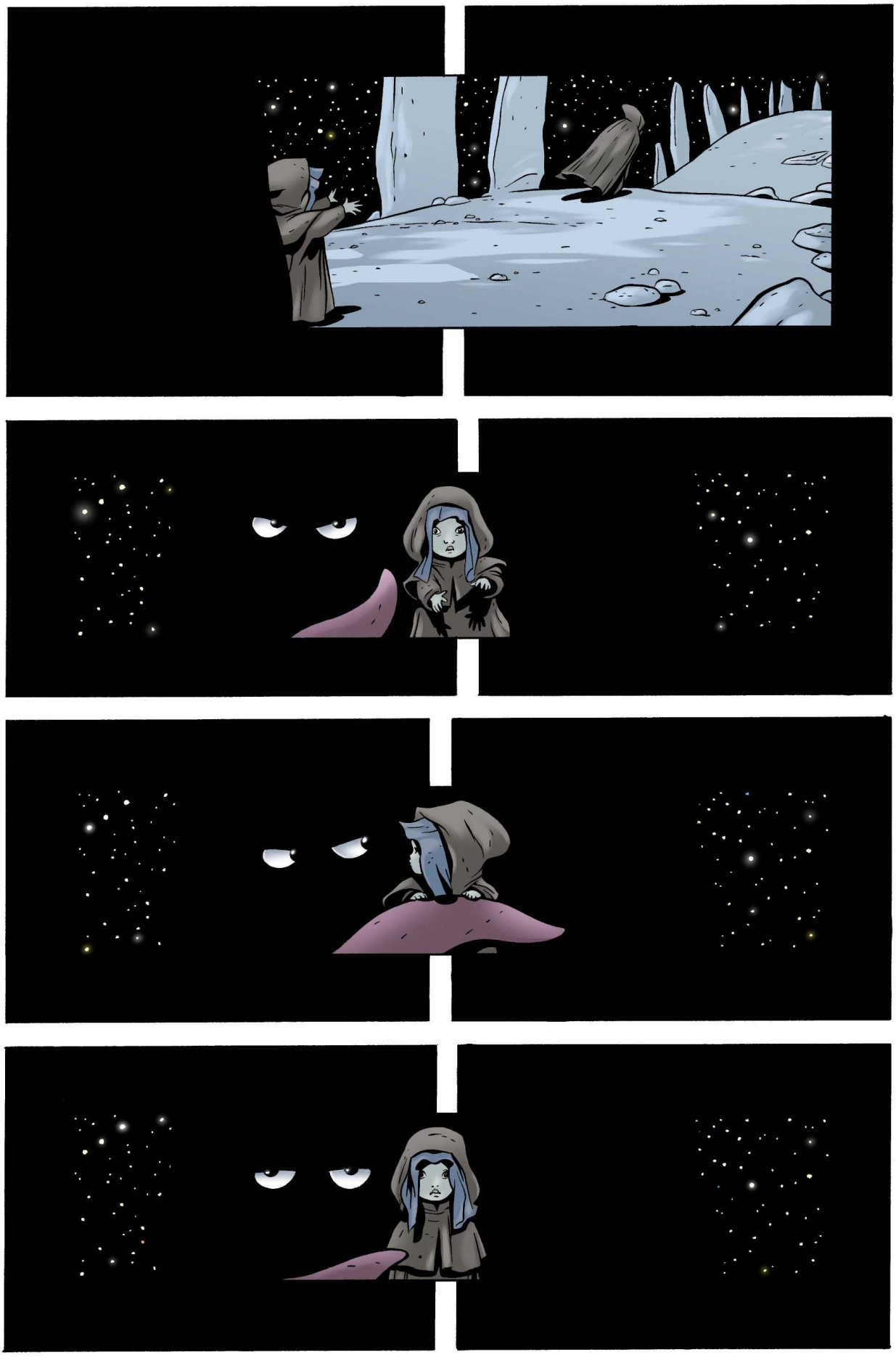

YOU MUST TURN BACK. I WILL GO ON WITH THE GIRL.
HURRY! HE IS WAITING!



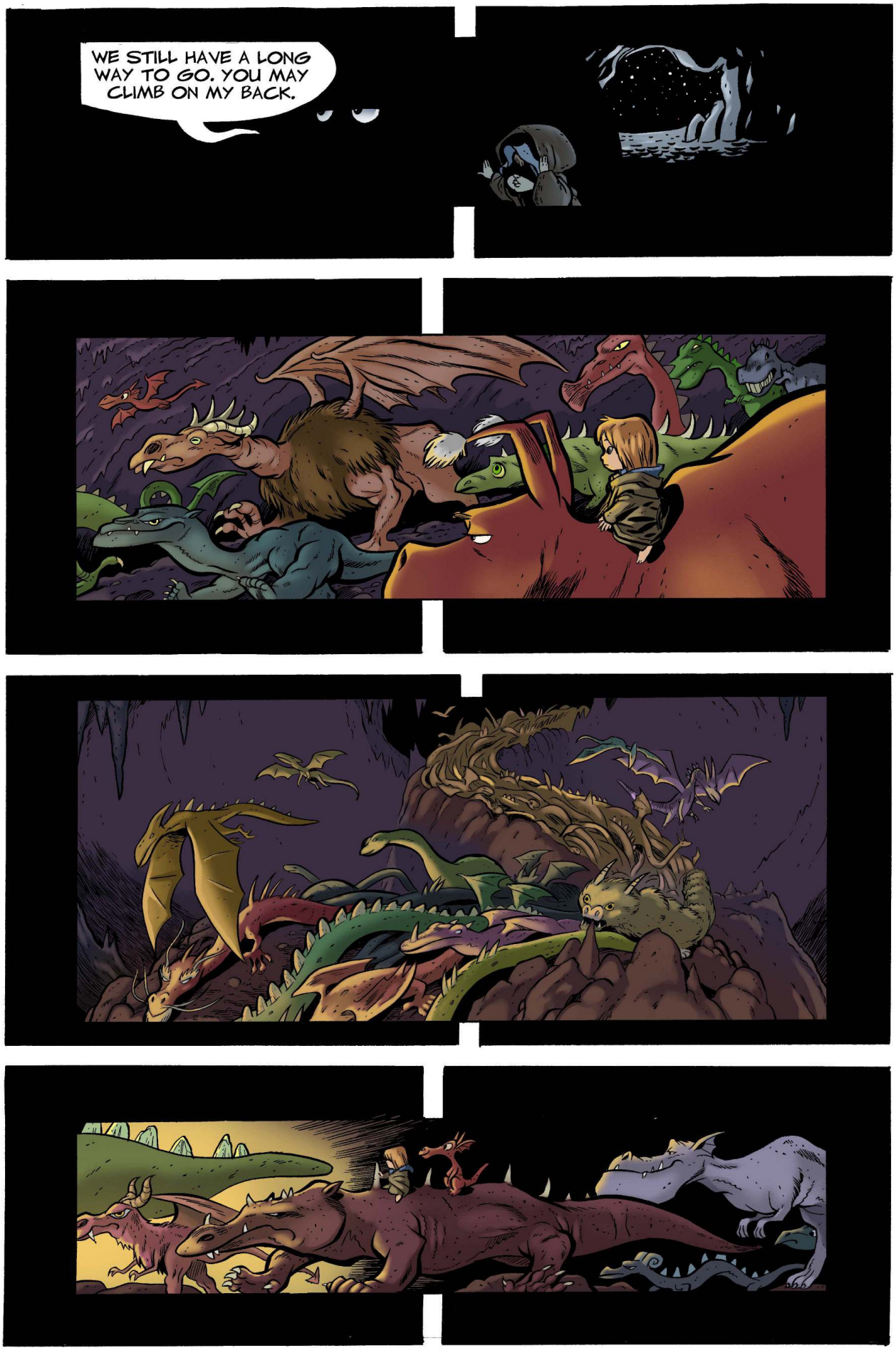
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline




YOU MUST GO INTO DEREN GARD. YOU WILL BE SAFE THERE UNTIL I CAN RETURN.
DO NOT FOLLOW ME.

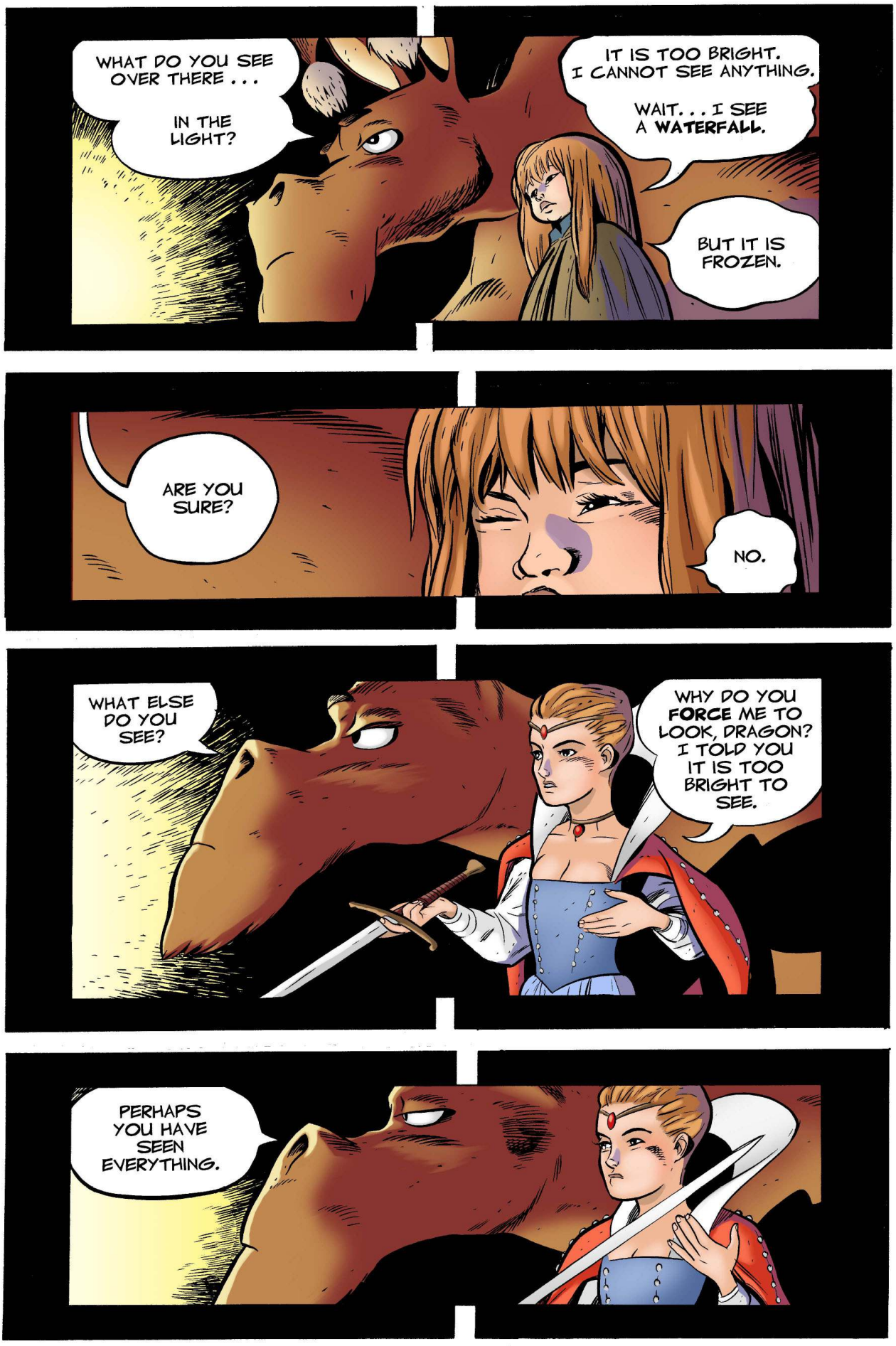



SKREEAH
GET IN THE CAVE.
NOW.

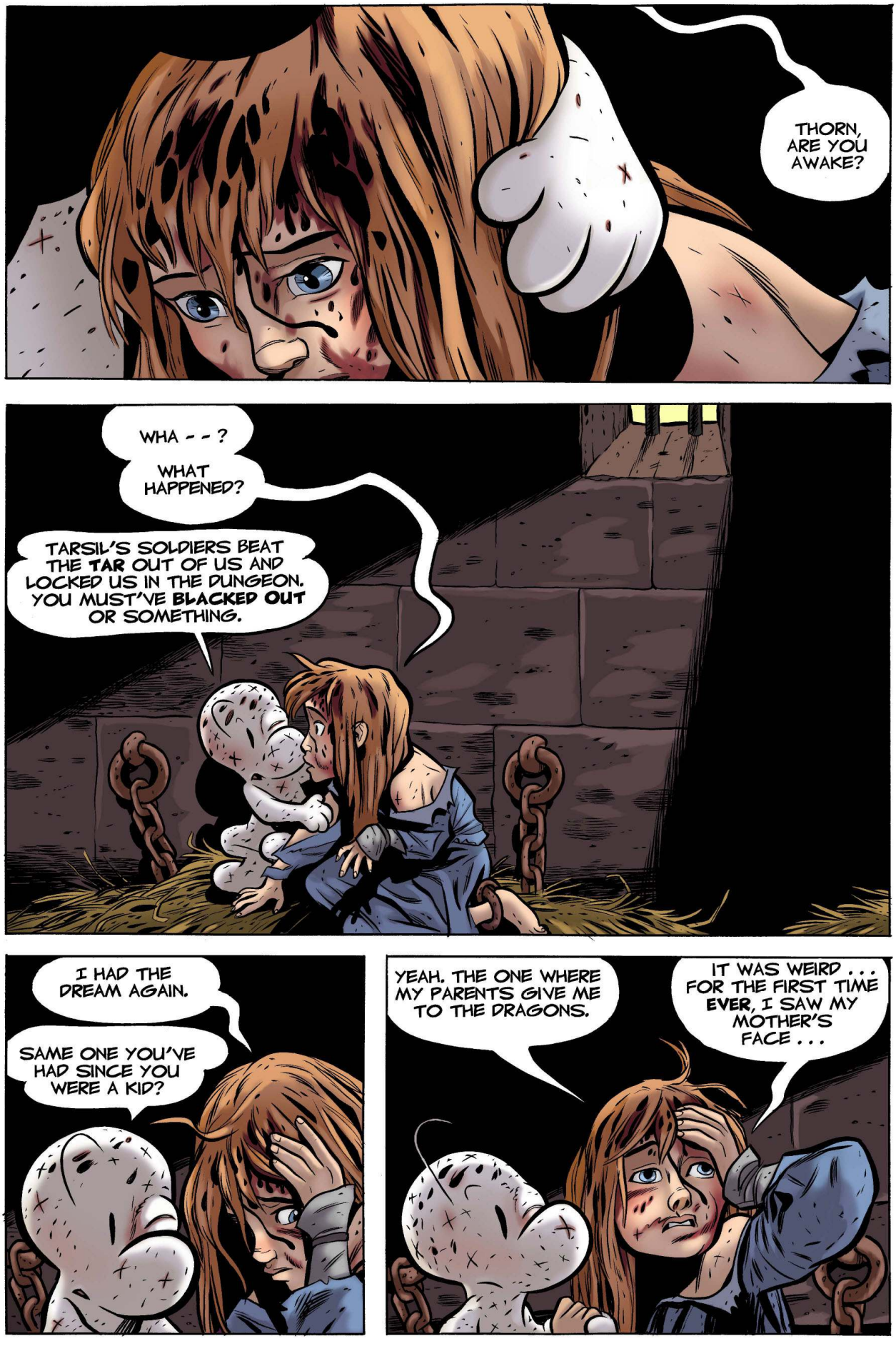

WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. YOU MAY CLIMB ON MY BACK.

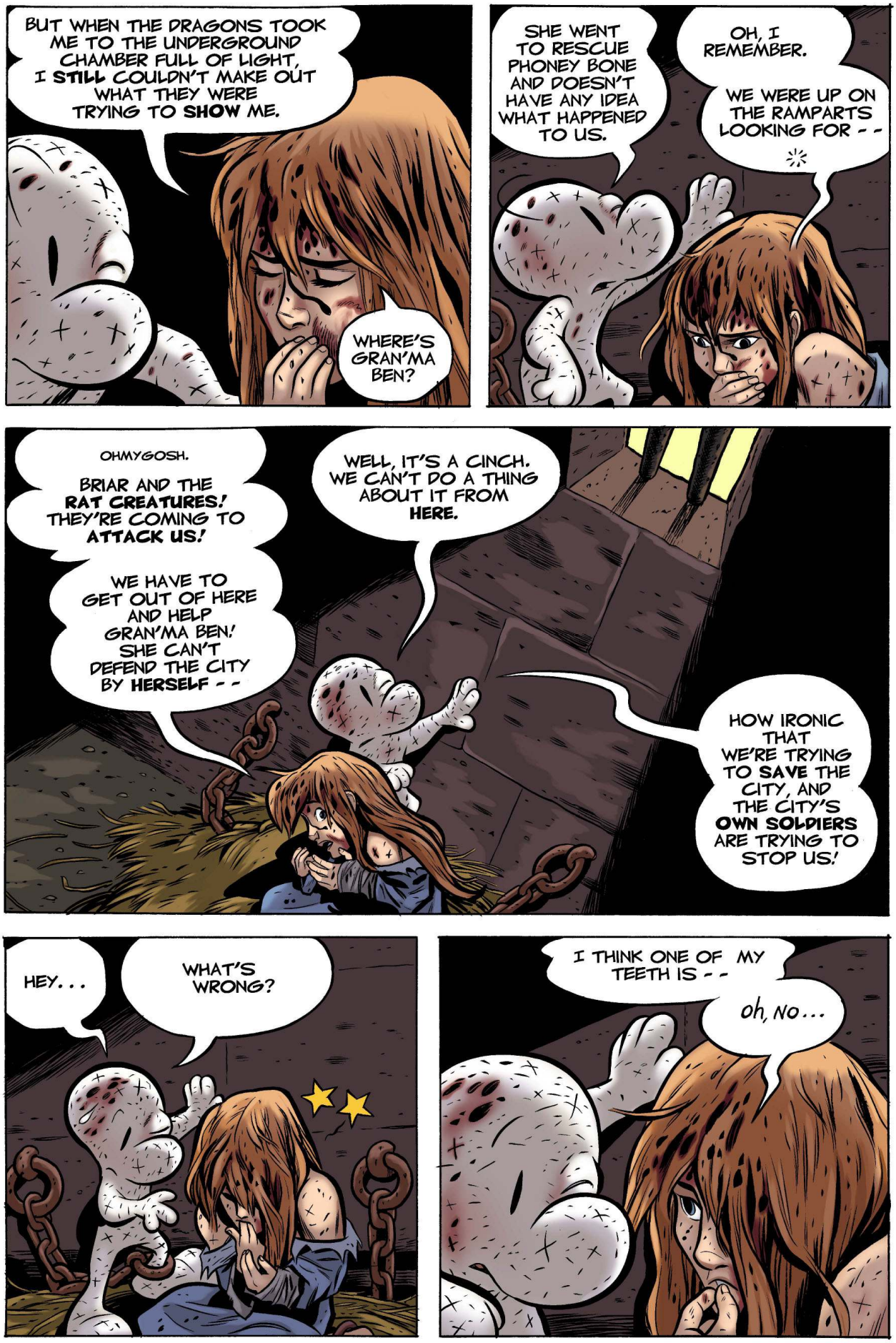

COME HERE, THORN.

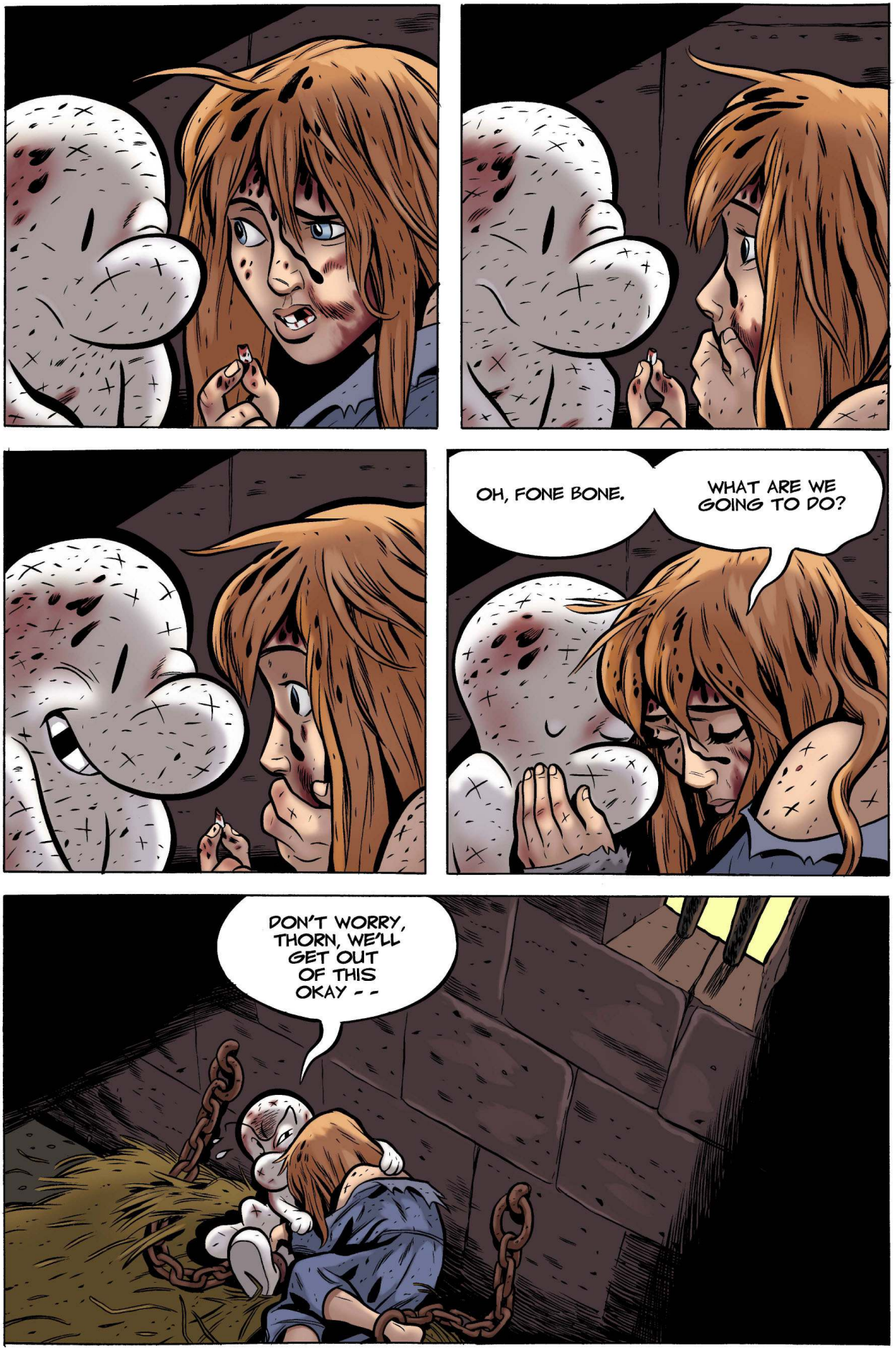



WHAT DO YOU SEE OVER THERE . . .
IN THE LIGHT?
IT IS TOO BRIGHT. I CANNOT SEE ANYTHING.
WAIT. . . I SEE A WATERFALL.
BUT IT IS FROZEN.
ARE YOU SURE?
NO.
WHAT ELSE DO YOU SEE?
WHY DO YOU FORCE ME TO LOOK, DRAGON? I TOLD YOU IT IS TOO BRIGHT TO SEE.
PERHAPS YOU HAVE SEEN EVERYTHING.

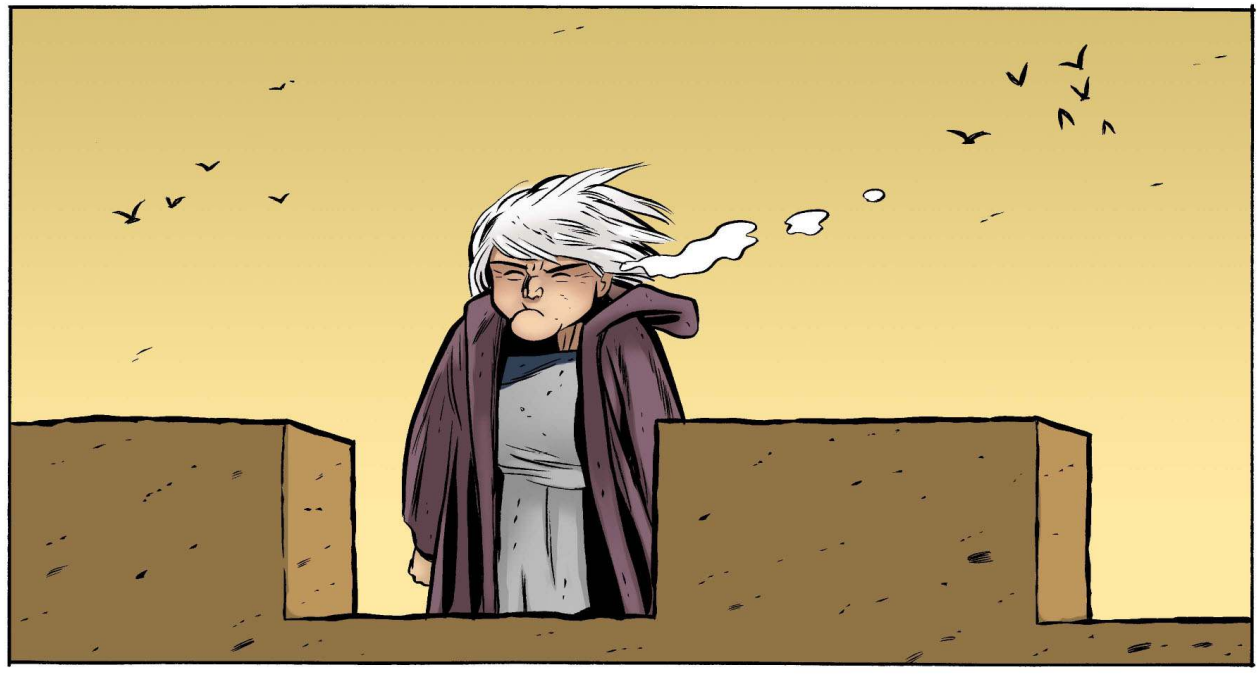

THORN.
WAKE UP, PLEASE.
MOTHER?
YOU MUST HURRY.
SEEK THE CROWN OF HORNS.

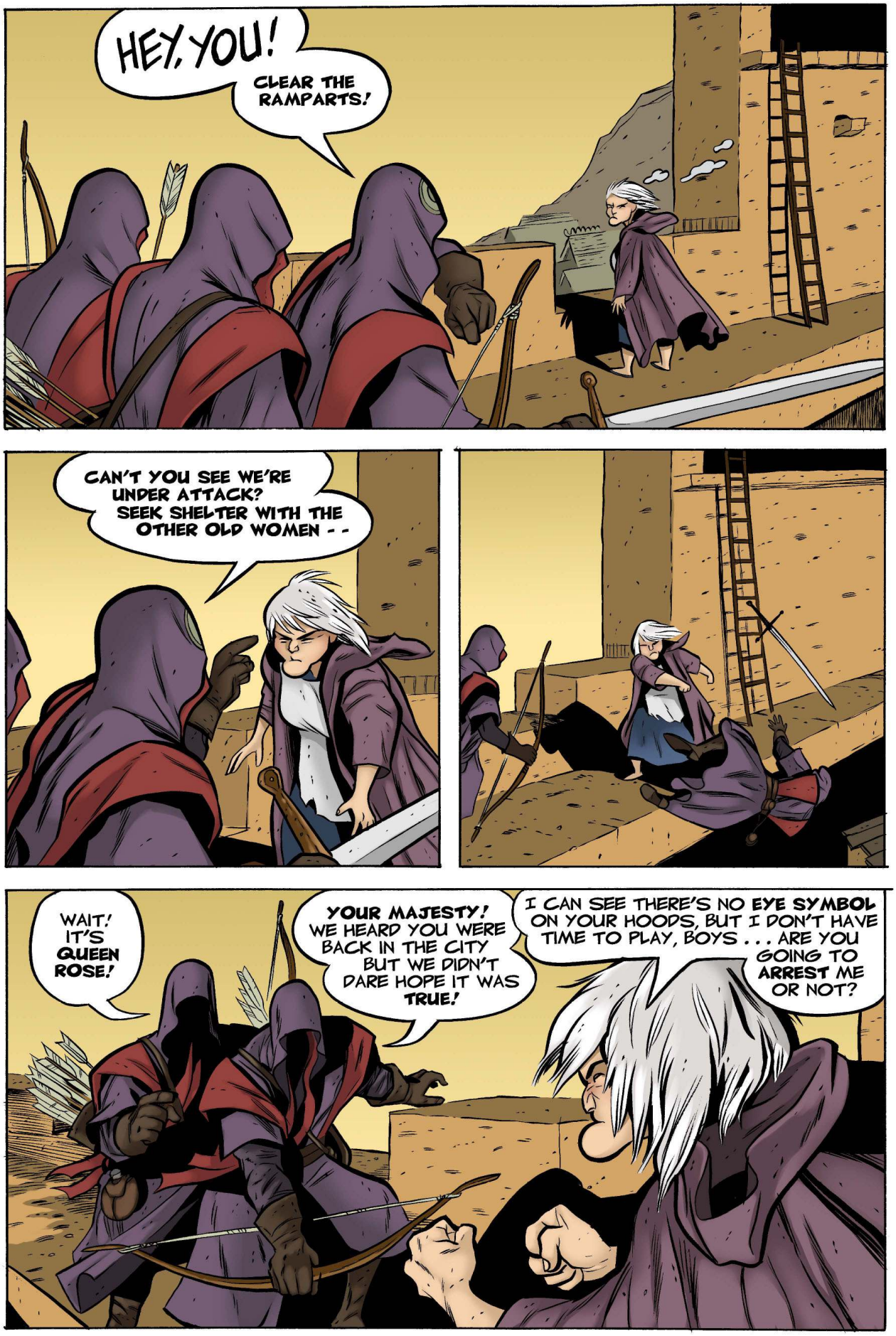

THORN, ARE YOU AWAKE?
WHA - - ?
WHAT HAPPENED?
TARSIL'S SOLDIERS BEAT THE TAR OUT OF US AND LOCKED US IN THE DUNGEON. YOU MUST'VE BLACKED OUT OR SOMETHING.
I HAD THE DREAM AGAIN.
SAME ONE YOU'VE HAD SINCE YOU WERE A KID?
YEAH. THE ONE WHERE MY PARENTS GIVE ME TO THE DRAGONS.
IT WAS WEIRD . . . FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, I SAW MY MOTHER'S FACE . . .


BUT WHEN THE DRAGONS TOOK ME TO THE UNDERGROUND CHAMBER FULL OF LIGHT, I **STILL** COULDN'T MAKE OUT WHAT THEY WERE TRYING TO **SHOW** ME.
WHERE'S GRAN'MA BEN?
SHE WENT TO RESCUE PHONEY BONE AND DOESN'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO US.
OH, I REMEMBER.
WE WERE UP ON THE RAMPARTS LOOKING FOR - -
OHMYGOSH.
BRIAR AND THE **RAT CREATURES!** THEY'RE COMING TO **ATTACK US!**
WELL, IT'S A CINCH. WE CAN'T DO A THING ABOUT IT FROM **HERE.**
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE AND HELP GRAN'MA BEN! SHE CAN'T DEFEND THE CITY BY **HERSELF** - -
HOW IRONIC THAT WE'RE TRYING TO **SAVE** THE CITY, AND THE CITY'S **OWN SOLDIERS** ARE TRYING TO STOP US!
HEY...
WHAT'S WRONG?
I THINK ONE OF MY TEETH IS - -
oh, no...


OH, FONE BONE.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
DON'T WORRY, THORN, WE'LL GET OUT OF THIS OKAY - -


LOOK, LORD TARSIL! THEY ARE SENDING A DELEGATION!
HOLD YOUR GROUND...




HEY, YOU!
CLEAR THE RAMPARTS!
CAN'T YOU SEE WE'RE UNDER ATTACK? SEEK SHELTER WITH THE OTHER OLD WOMEN - -
WAIT! IT'S QUEEN ROSE!
YOUR MAJESTY! WE HEARD YOU WERE BACK IN THE CITY BUT WE DIDN'T DARE HOPE IT WAS TRUE!
I CAN SEE THERE'S NO EYE SYMBOL ON YOUR HOODS, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY, BOYS . . . ARE YOU GOING TO ARREST ME OR NOT?



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


I WARN YOU FOR THE LAST TIME . . . LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS AND SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY.
THIS ARMY IS PROTECTED BY THE LORD OF THE LOCUST AND CANNOT BE DEFEATED . . .
YOUR FAMILY NO LONGER RULES HERE. TAKE YOUR BLACK ARMY AND LEAVE!
YOU DO NOT FRIGHTEN US WITH YOUR LITTLE SPELLS!
YES . . . I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SAY THAT . . . . I SEE THERE IS STILL MUCH TO TEACH YOU ABOUT FEAR . . . .
YOU CAN'T TEACH ME ANY-THING!
I HAVE FOUGHT WITH DRAGONS!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


НАНАНАНАНА
HEH
HEH
HEH...


HEH HEH HEH HAHAHA!
ATTACK!
FOR THE GLORY OF THE LOCUST WHO SHIELDS YOU FROM HARM!
ATTACK!
ATTACK!

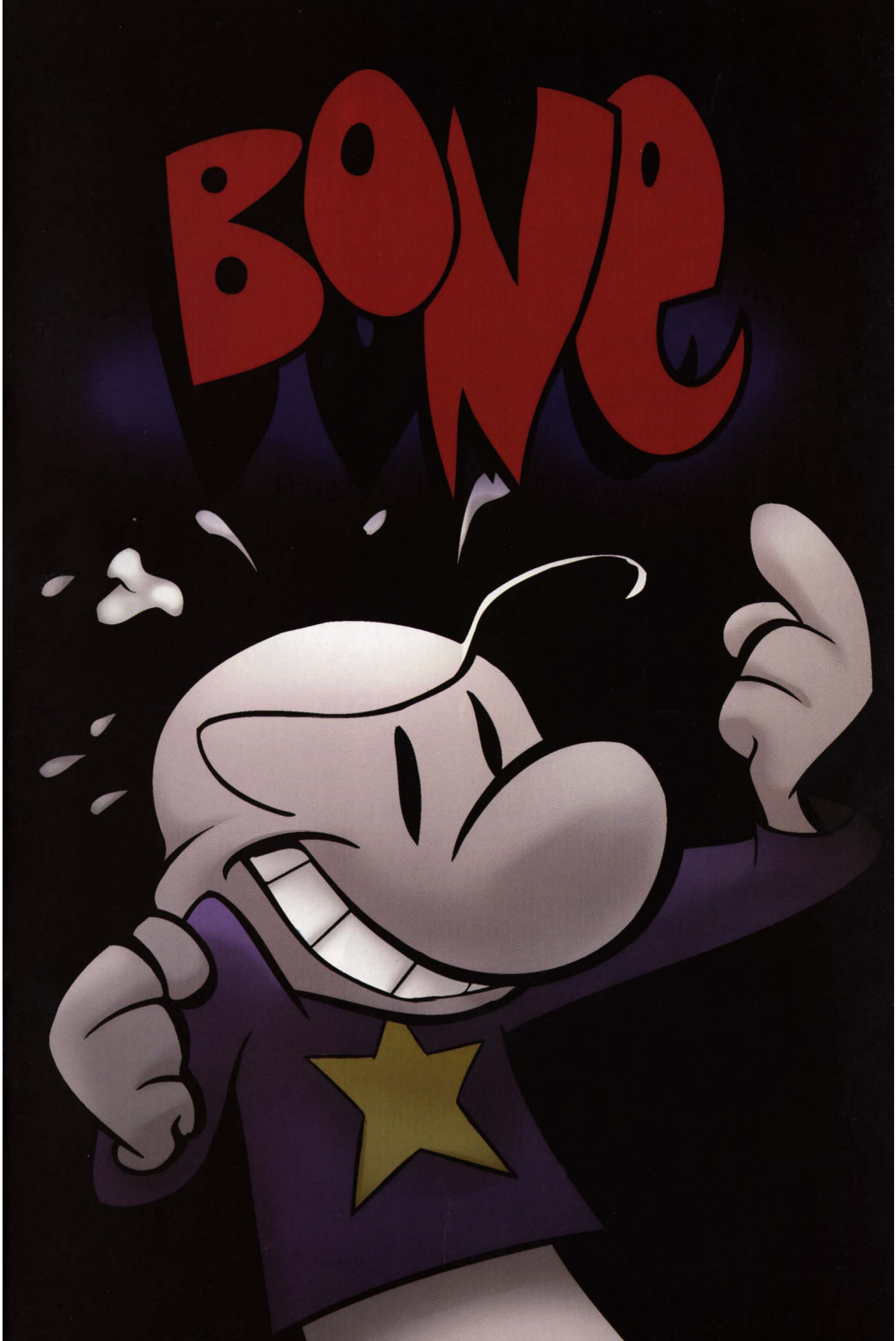

AAAAAAAAAHHH


BAR THE GATE!

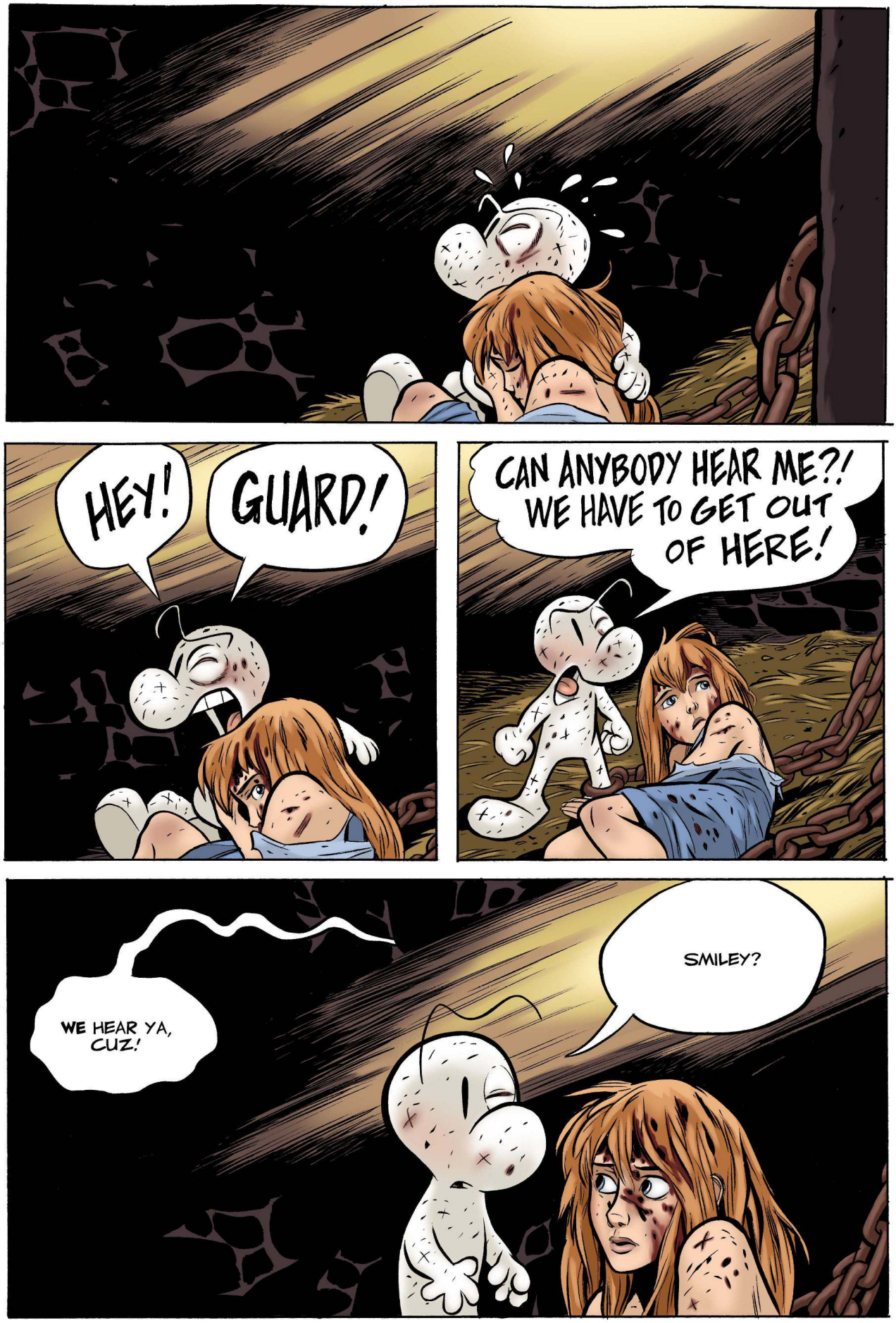

SET FIRE TO THOSE BUILDINGS NEAR THE WALL!

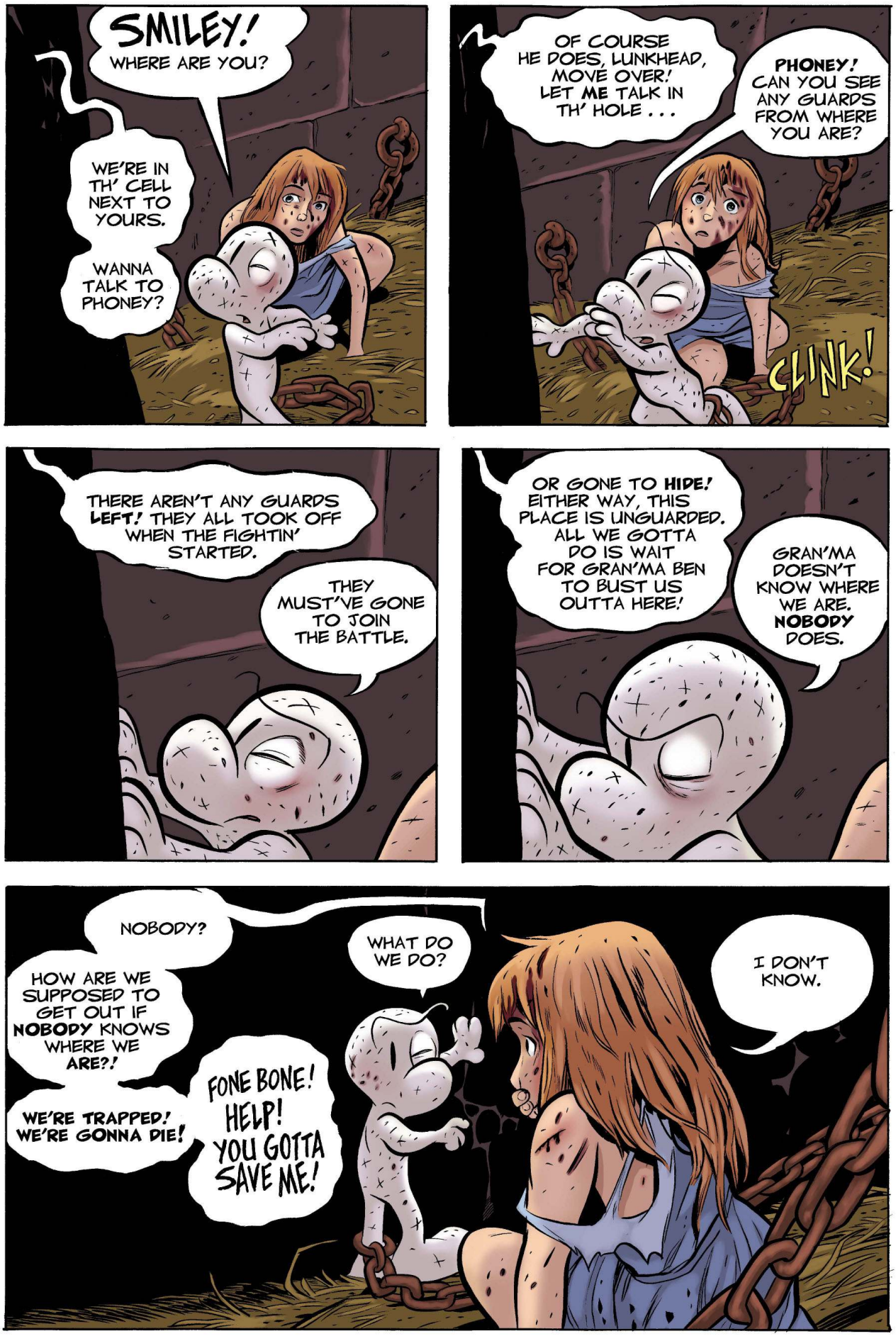

ARCHERS FORWARD! USE YOUR PIKES TO PUSH BACK THEIR LADDERS!

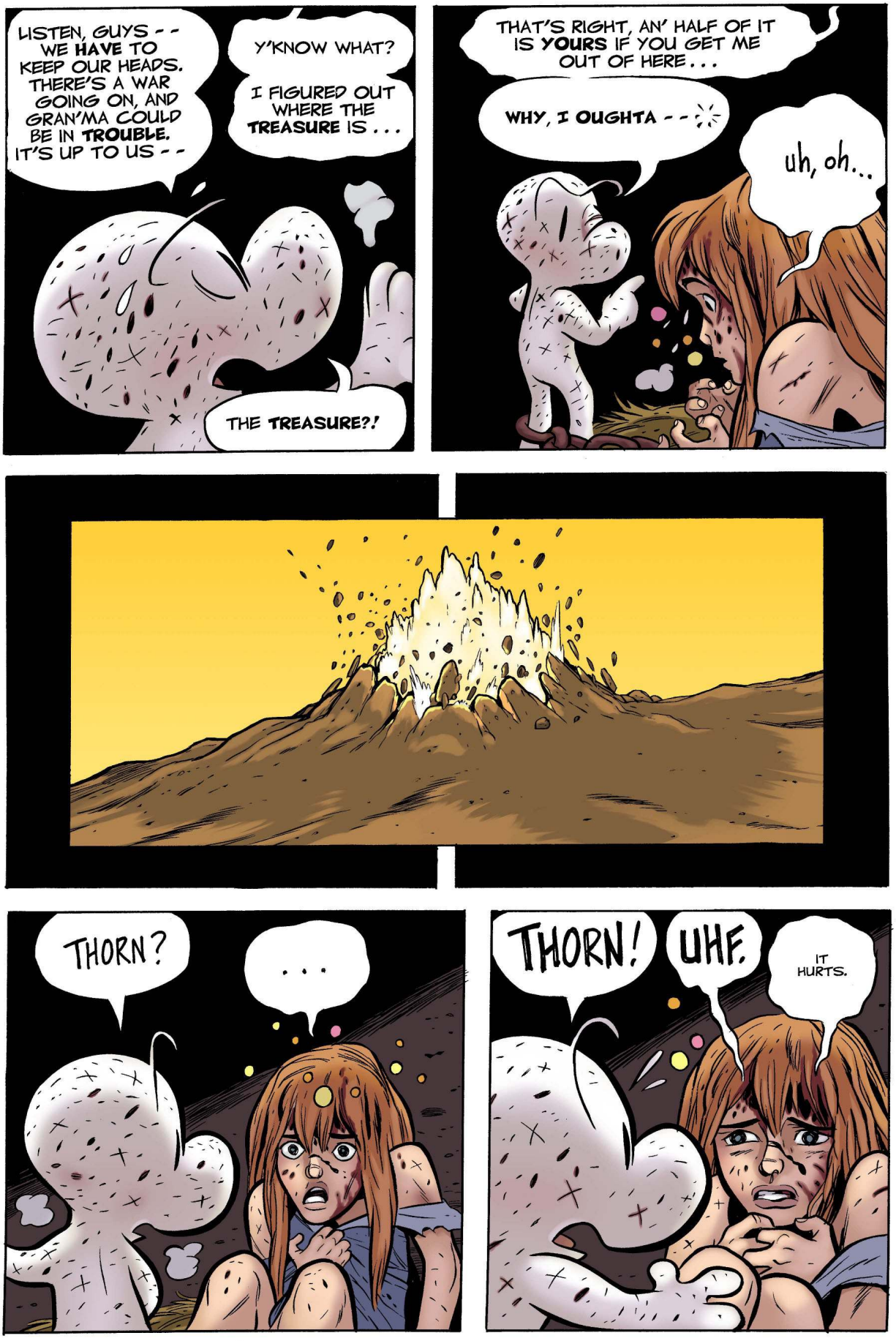

THUNK
THUNK
THUNK


BONE

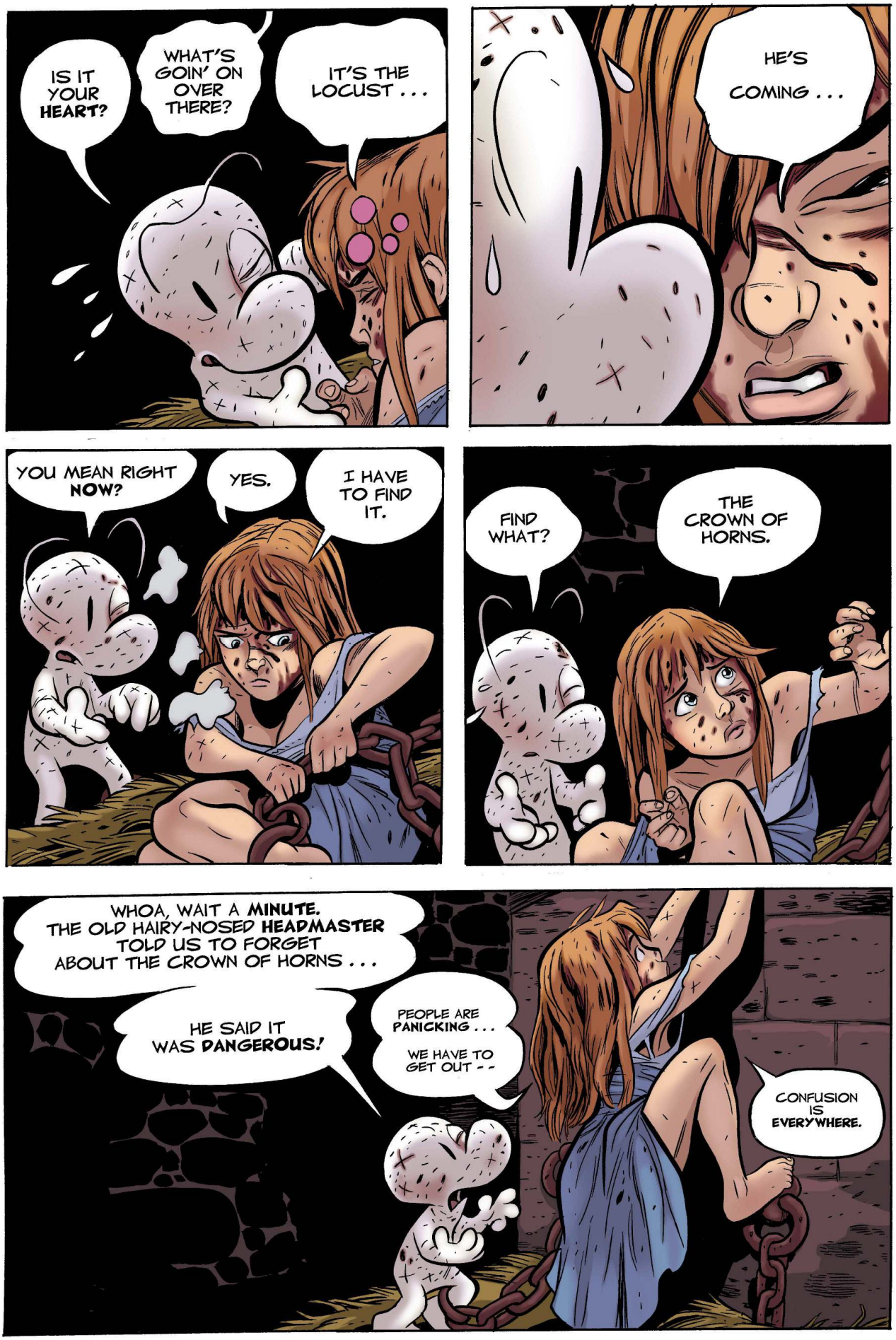

DO YOU HEAR THAT?
I THINK THE WAR HAS STARTED...


HEY!
GUARD!
CAN ANYBODY HEAR ME?! WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
SMILEY?
WE HEAR YA, CUZ!


SMILEY! WHERE ARE YOU?
WE'RE IN TH' CELL NEXT TO YOURS.
WANNA TALK TO PHONEY?
OF COURSE HE DOES, LUNKHEAD, MOVE OVER! LET ME TALK IN TH' HOLE . . .
PHONEY! CAN YOU SEE ANY GUARDS FROM WHERE YOU ARE?
CLINK!
THERE AREN'T ANY GUARDS LEFT! THEY ALL TOOK OFF WHEN THE FIGHTIN' STARTED.
THEY MUST'VE GONE TO JOIN THE BATTLE.
OR GONE TO HIDE! EITHER WAY, THIS PLACE IS UNGUARDED. ALL WE GOTTA DO IS WAIT FOR GRAN'MA BEN TO BUST US OUTTA HERE!
GRAN'MA DOESN'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE. NOBODY DOES.
NOBODY?
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET OUT IF NOBODY KNOWS WHERE WE ARE?!
WE'RE TRAPPED! WE'RE GONNA DIE!
FONE BONE! HELP! YOU GOTTA SAVE ME!
WHAT DO WE DO?
I DON'T KNOW.

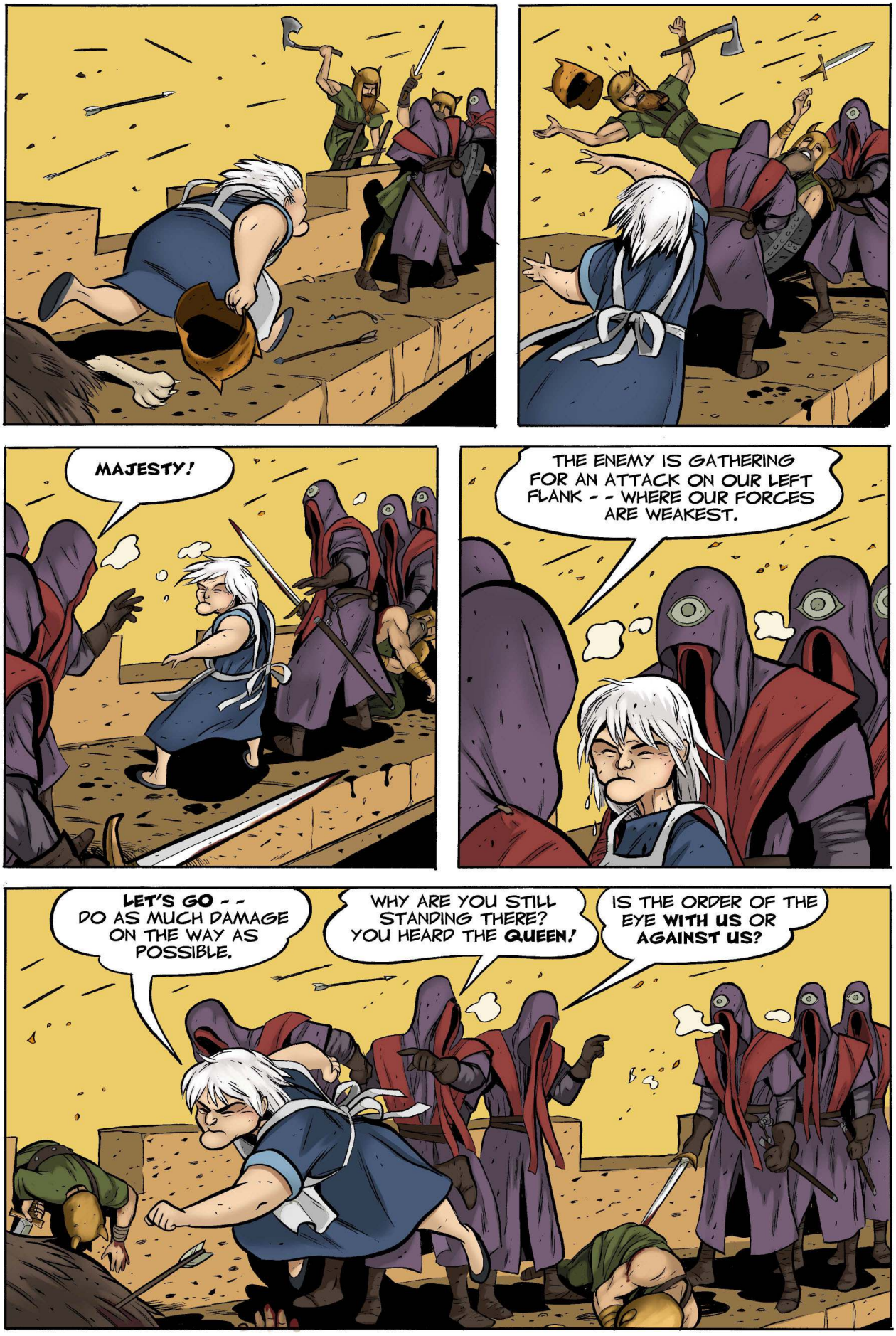


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


IS IT YOUR HEART?
WHAT'S GOIN' ON OVER THERE?
IT'S THE LOCUST . . .
HE'S COMING . . .
YOU MEAN RIGHT NOW?
YES.
I HAVE TO FIND IT.
FIND WHAT?
THE CROWN OF HORNS.
WHOA, WAIT A MINUTE. THE OLD HAIRY-NOSED HEADMASTER TOLD US TO FORGET ABOUT THE CROWN OF HORNS . . .
HE SAID IT WAS DANGEROUS!
PEOPLE ARE PANICKING . . . WE HAVE TO GET OUT - -
CONFUSION IS EVERYWHERE.


AAAA!
YOUR MAJESTY!
HERE COMES ANOTHER ONE!
LOOK OUT!

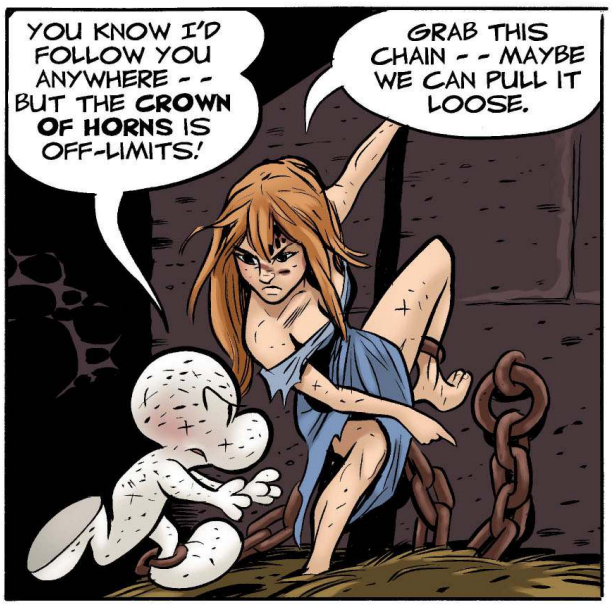

WHAK!

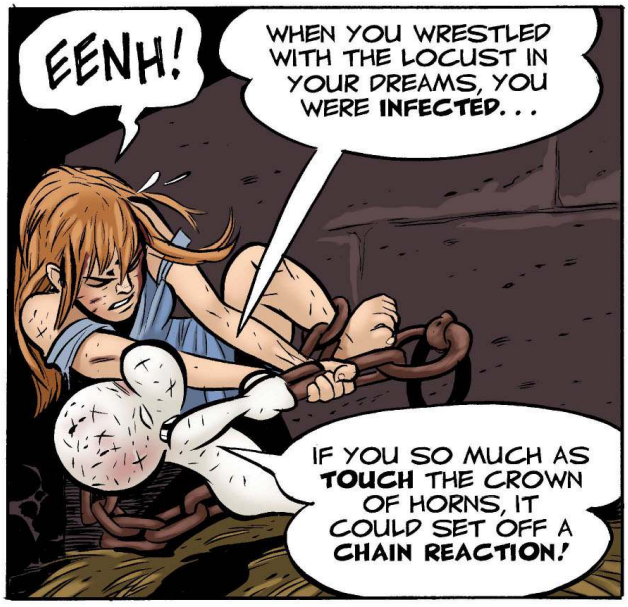

MAJESTY!
THE ENEMY IS GATHERING FOR AN ATTACK ON OUR LEFT FLANK - - WHERE OUR FORCES ARE WEAKEST.
LET'S GO - - DO AS MUCH DAMAGE ON THE WAY AS POSSIBLE.
WHY ARE YOU STILL STANDING THERE? YOU HEARD THE QUEEN!
IS THE ORDER OF THE EYE WITH US OR AGAINST US?

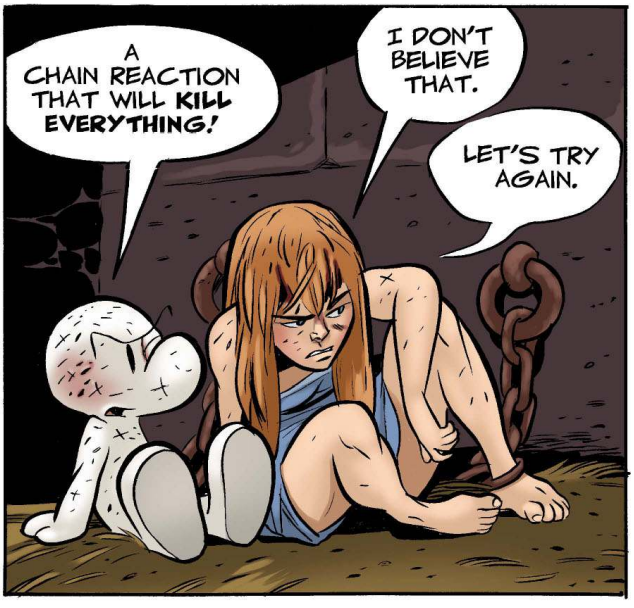

DO NOT EXPECT US TO BOW DOWN TO YOUR EXILED QUEEN, BROTHER.
- - UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES - - WE ARE WITH YOU.
BUT EVEN WITH ALL THE DISCIPLES OF VENU FIGHTING AS ONE . . .
. . . I AM AFRAID THE ENEMY'S NUMBERS WILL OVERWHELM US.
HERE THEY COME!
STAY TOGETHER! DON'T LET THEM SEPARATE YOU!
AAAAH!
AAIEE--
CHING
KASH!

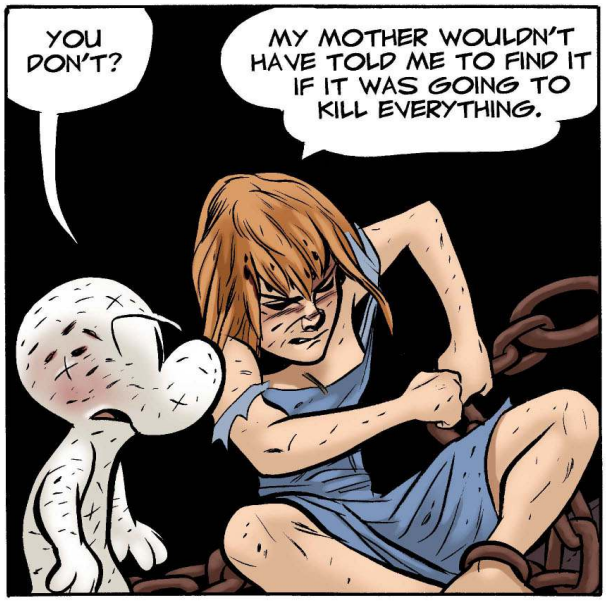

CLANG!
AAAAAH
THERE'S TOO MANY!
AAAH!
IT'S THE QUEEN!
HA!
THAT'S IT - -
HOLD HER . . .

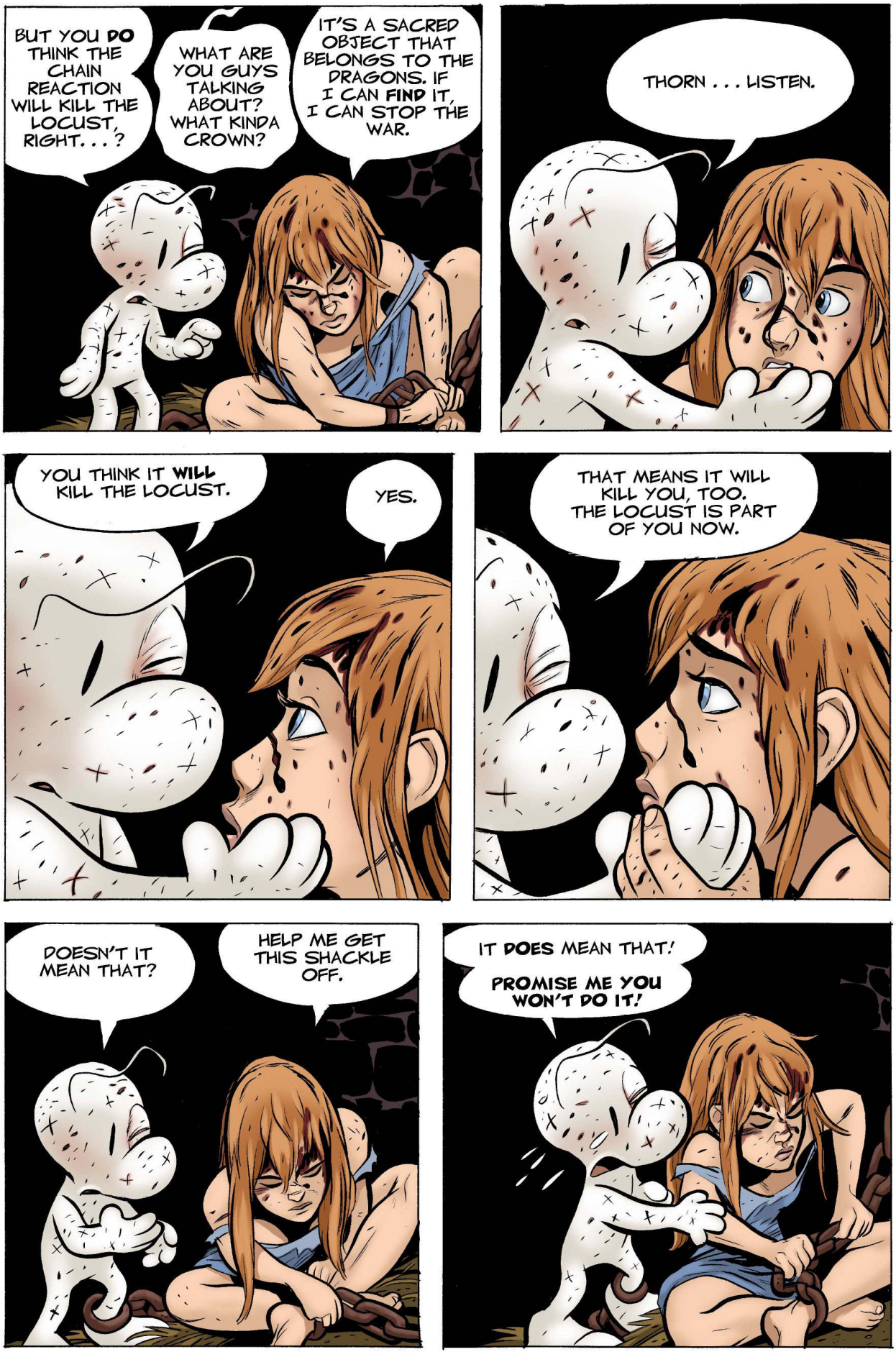

AH!
THORN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
TRYING TO GET OUT.
RRR.

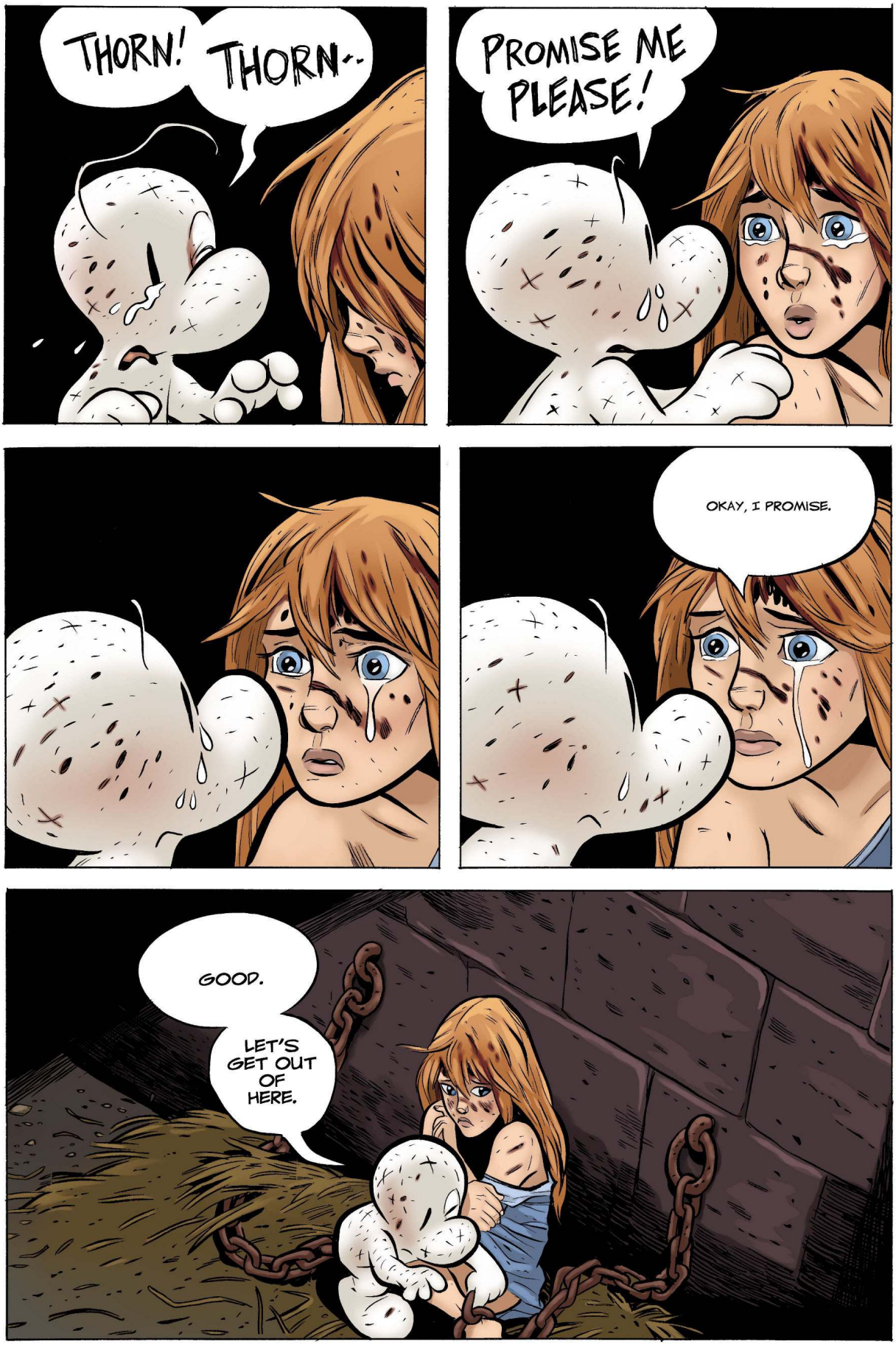

YOU KNOW I'D FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE - - BUT THE CROWN OF HORNS IS OFF-LIMITS!
GRAB THIS CHAIN - - MAYBE WE CAN PULL IT LOOSE.


EENH!
WHEN YOU WRESTLED WITH THE LOCUST IN YOUR DREAMS, YOU WERE INFECTED. . .
IF YOU SO MUCH AS TOUCH THE CROWN OF HORNS, IT COULD SET OFF A CHAIN REACTION!


A CHAIN REACTION THAT WILL KILL EVERYTHING!
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT.
LET'S TRY AGAIN.

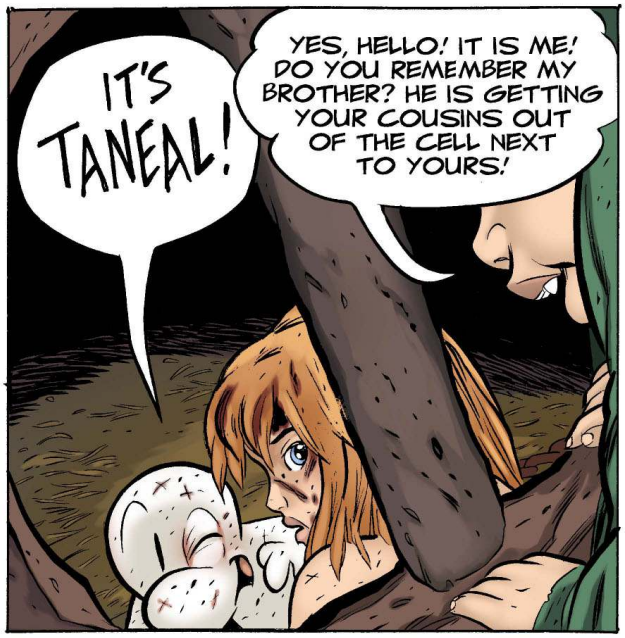

YOU DON'T?
MY MOTHER WOULDN'T HAVE TOLD ME TO FIND IT IF IT WAS GOING TO KILL EVERYTHING.

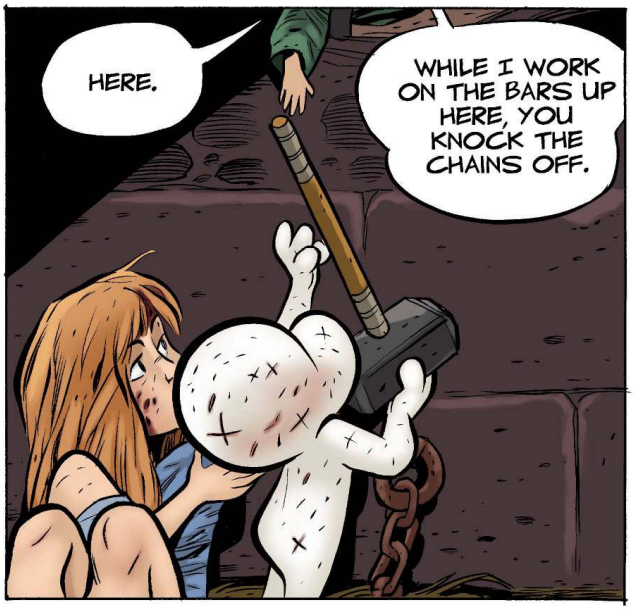

BUT YOU DO THINK THE CHAIN REACTION WILL KILL THE LOCUST, RIGHT...?
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT? WHAT KINDA CROWN?
IT'S A SACRED OBJECT THAT BELONGS TO THE DRAGONS. IF I CAN FIND IT, I CAN STOP THE WAR.
THORN . . . LISTEN.
YOU THINK IT WILL KILL THE LOCUST.
YES.
THAT MEANS IT WILL KILL YOU, TOO. THE LOCUST IS PART OF YOU NOW.
DOESN'T IT MEAN THAT?
HELP ME GET THIS SHACKLE OFF.
IT DOES MEAN THAT!
PROMISE ME YOU WON'T DO IT!

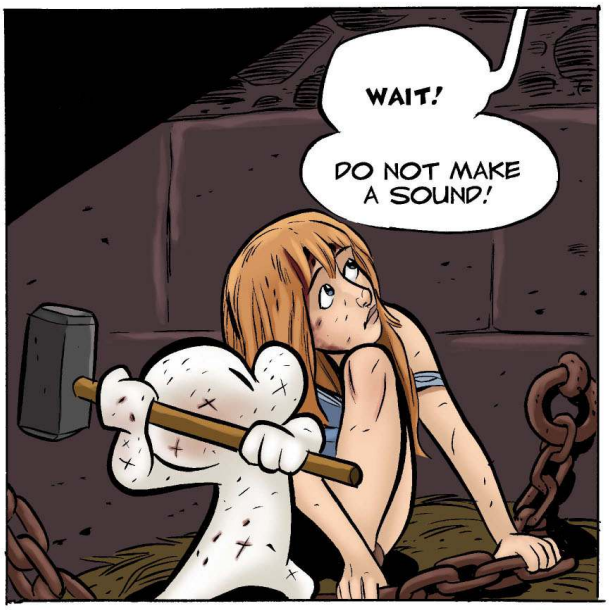


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

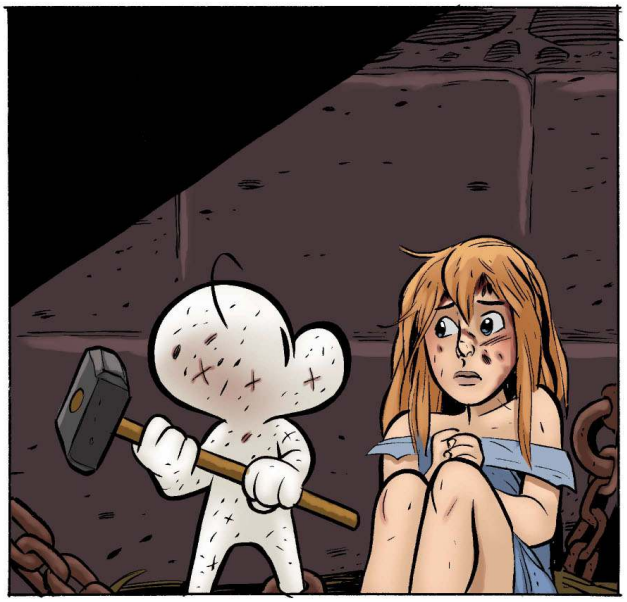

HELLO!
MR. BONE! SISTER THORN!

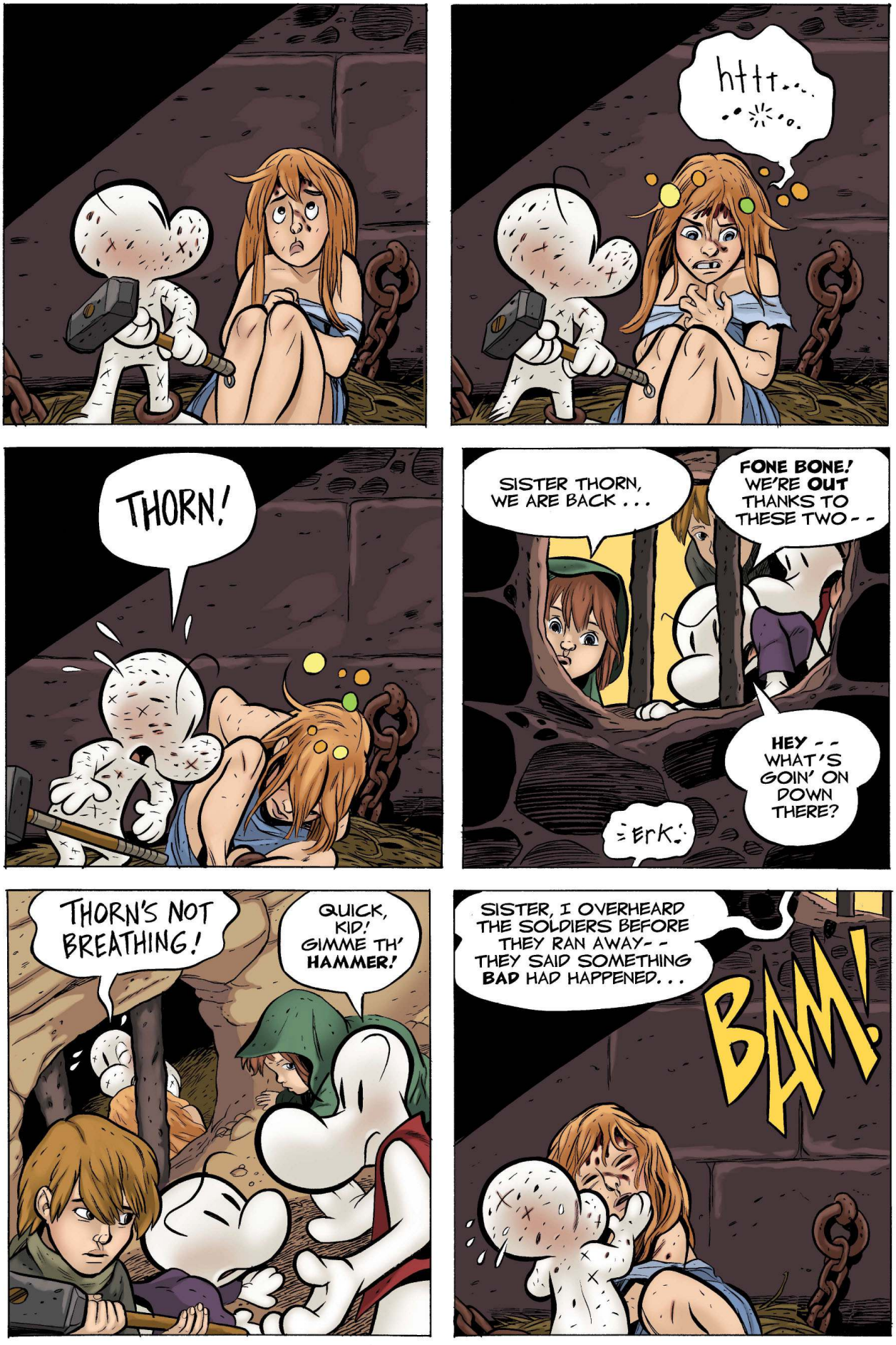

IT'S TANEAL!
YES, HELLO! IT IS ME! DO YOU REMEMBER MY BROTHER? HE IS GETTING YOUR COUSINS OUT OF THE CELL NEXT TO YOURS!

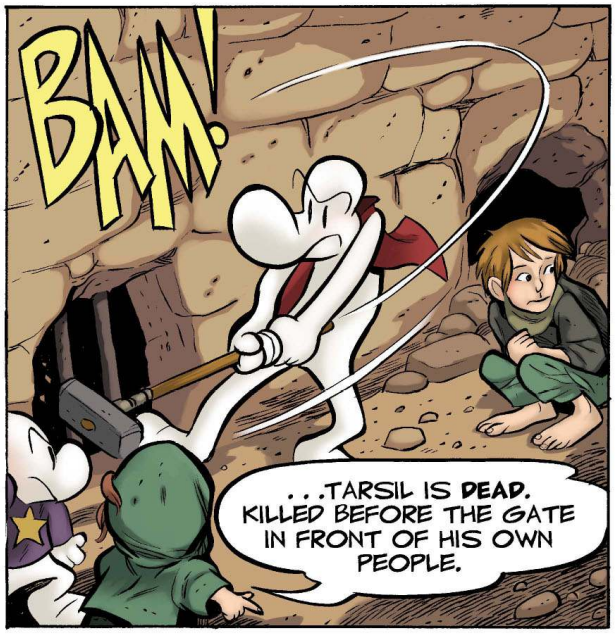

HERE.
WHILE I WORK ON THE BARS UP HERE, YOU KNOCK THE CHAINS OFF.

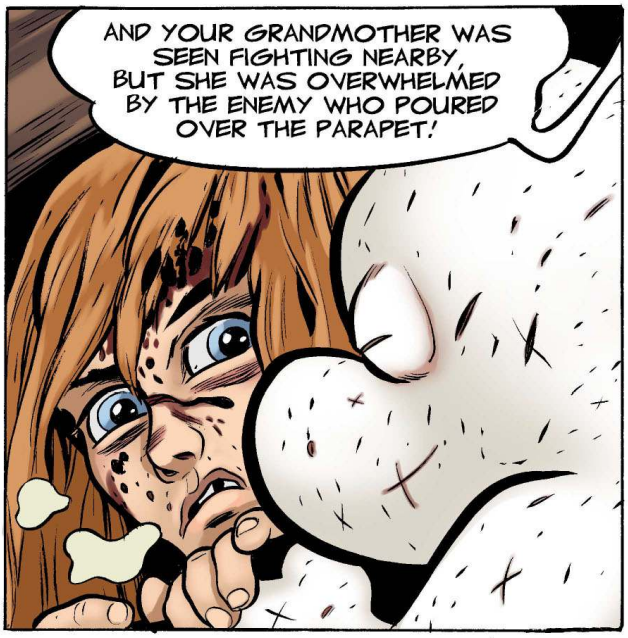

WAIT!
DO NOT MAKE A SOUND!


SOMETHING IS HAPPENING ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE COURTYARD - - MANY SOLDIERS ARE GATHERING.
I MUST HIDE.
PLEASE . . . STAY QUIET UNTIL I COME BACK.

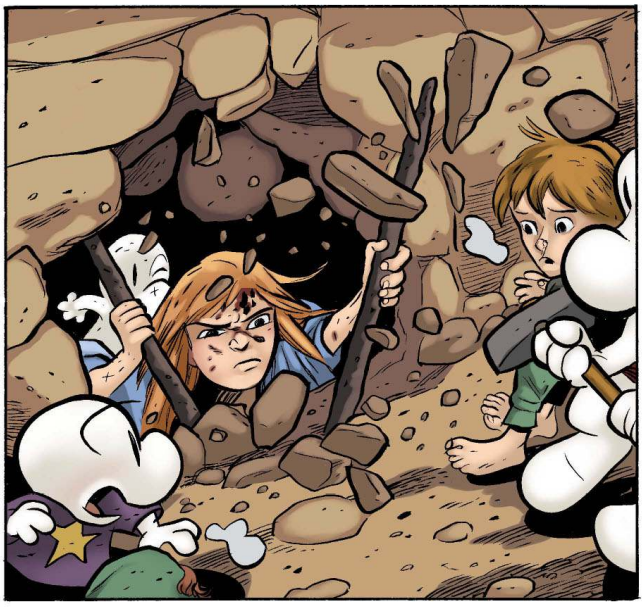


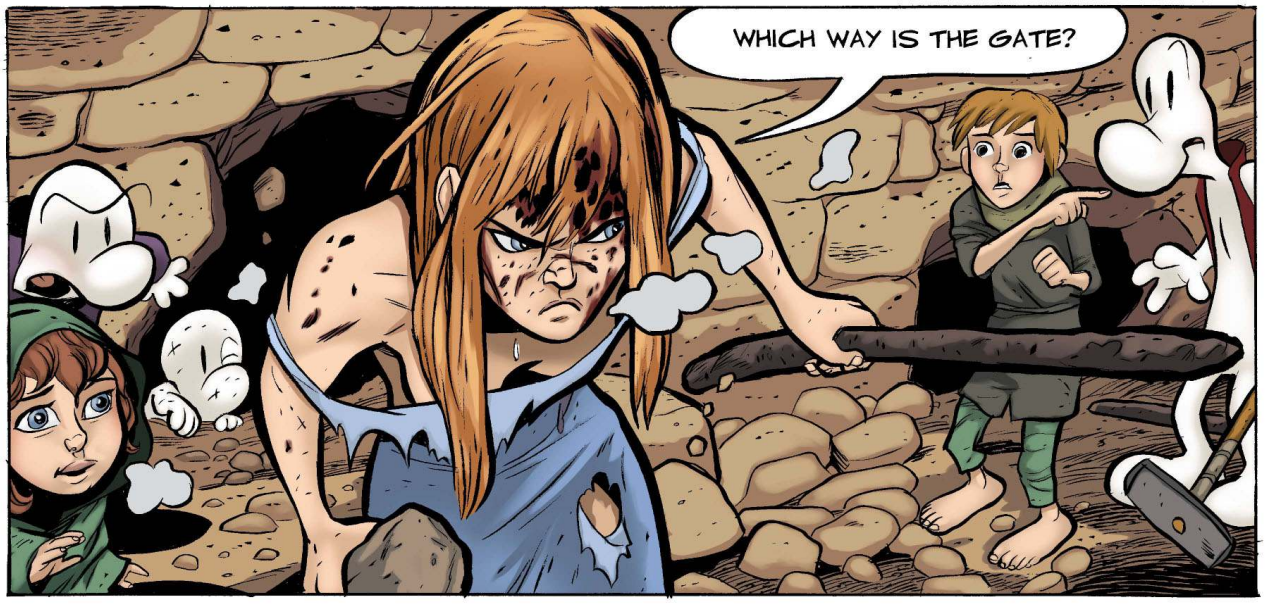

htttt...
THORN!
SISTER THORN, WE ARE BACK . . .
FONE BONE! WE'RE OUT THANKS TO THESE TWO - -
HEY - - WHAT'S GOIN' ON DOWN THERE?
=Erk=
THORN'S NOT BREATHING!
QUICK, KID! GIMME TH' HAMMER!
SISTER, I OVERHEARD THE SOLDIERS BEFORE THEY RAN AWAY - - THEY SAID SOMETHING BAD HAD HAPPENED. . .
BAM!


BAM!
...TARSIL IS DEAD. KILLED BEFORE THE GATE IN FRONT OF HIS OWN PEOPLE.


AND YOUR GRANDMOTHER WAS SEEN FIGHTING NEARBY, BUT SHE WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE ENEMY WHO POURED OVER THE PARAPET!


AAAAAA!




WHICH WAY IS THE GATE?



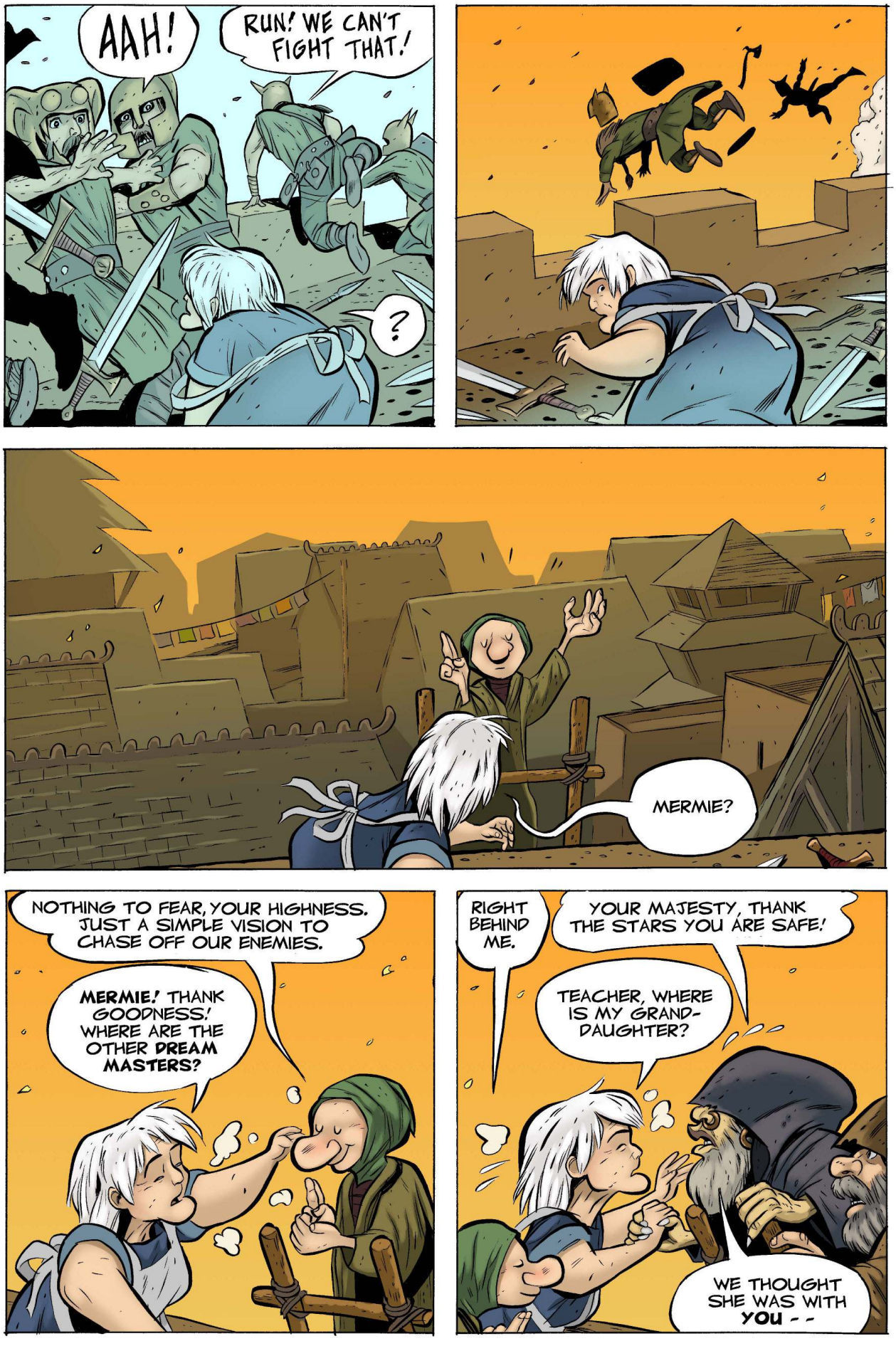

CAN'T YOU HOLD HER?!

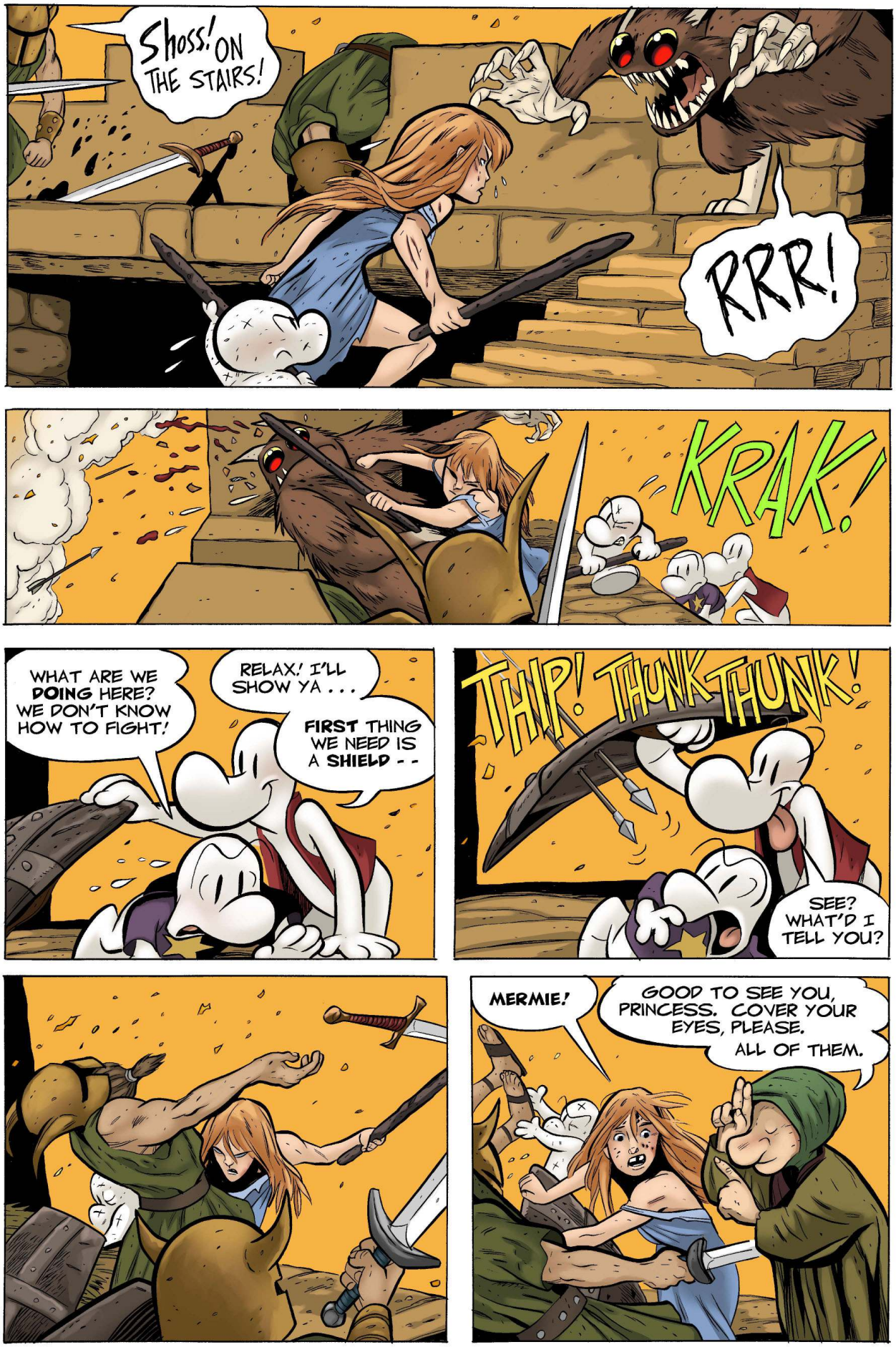

GET OUT OF THE WAY- -


I'LL CUT HER HEAD OFF!


LOOK OUT!
BLOODY STARS!

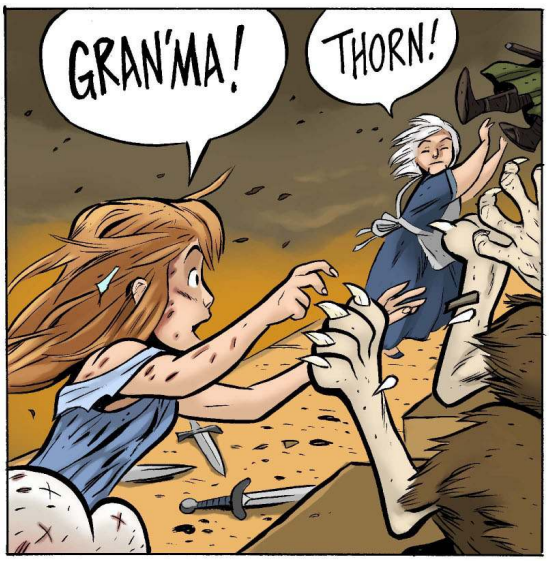


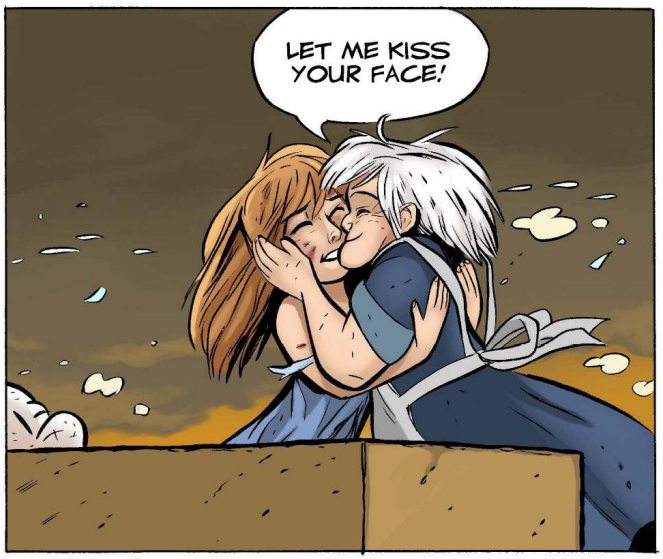

AAH!
RUN! WE CAN'T FIGHT THAT!
?
MERMIE?
NOTHING TO FEAR, YOUR HIGHNESS. JUST A SIMPLE VISION TO CHASE OFF OUR ENEMIES.
MERMIE! THANK GOODNESS! WHERE ARE THE OTHER DREAM MASTERS?
RIGHT BEHIND ME.
YOUR MAJESTY, THANK THE STARS YOU ARE SAFE!
TEACHER, WHERE IS MY GRAND-DAUGHTER?
WE THOUGHT SHE WAS WITH YOU - -

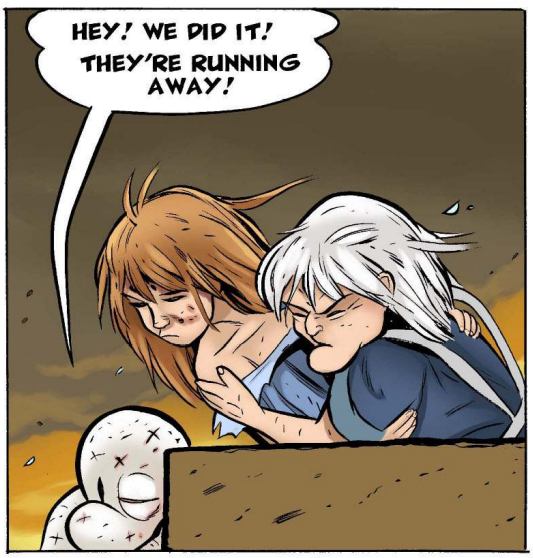

Shoss! ON THE STAIRS!
RRR!
KRAK!
WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE? WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO FIGHT!
RELAX! I'LL SHOW YA . . .
FIRST THING WE NEED IS A SHIELD - -
THIP! THUNK THUNK!
SEE? WHAT'D I TELL YOU?
MERMIE!
GOOD TO SEE YOU, PRINCESS. COVER YOUR EYES, PLEASE.
ALL OF THEM.



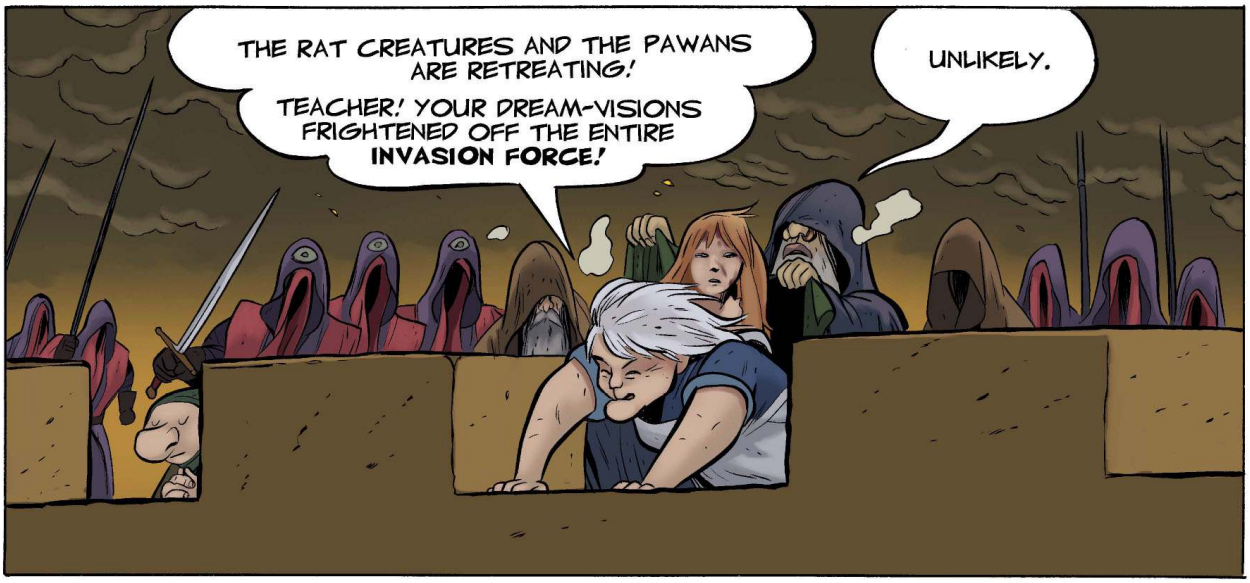








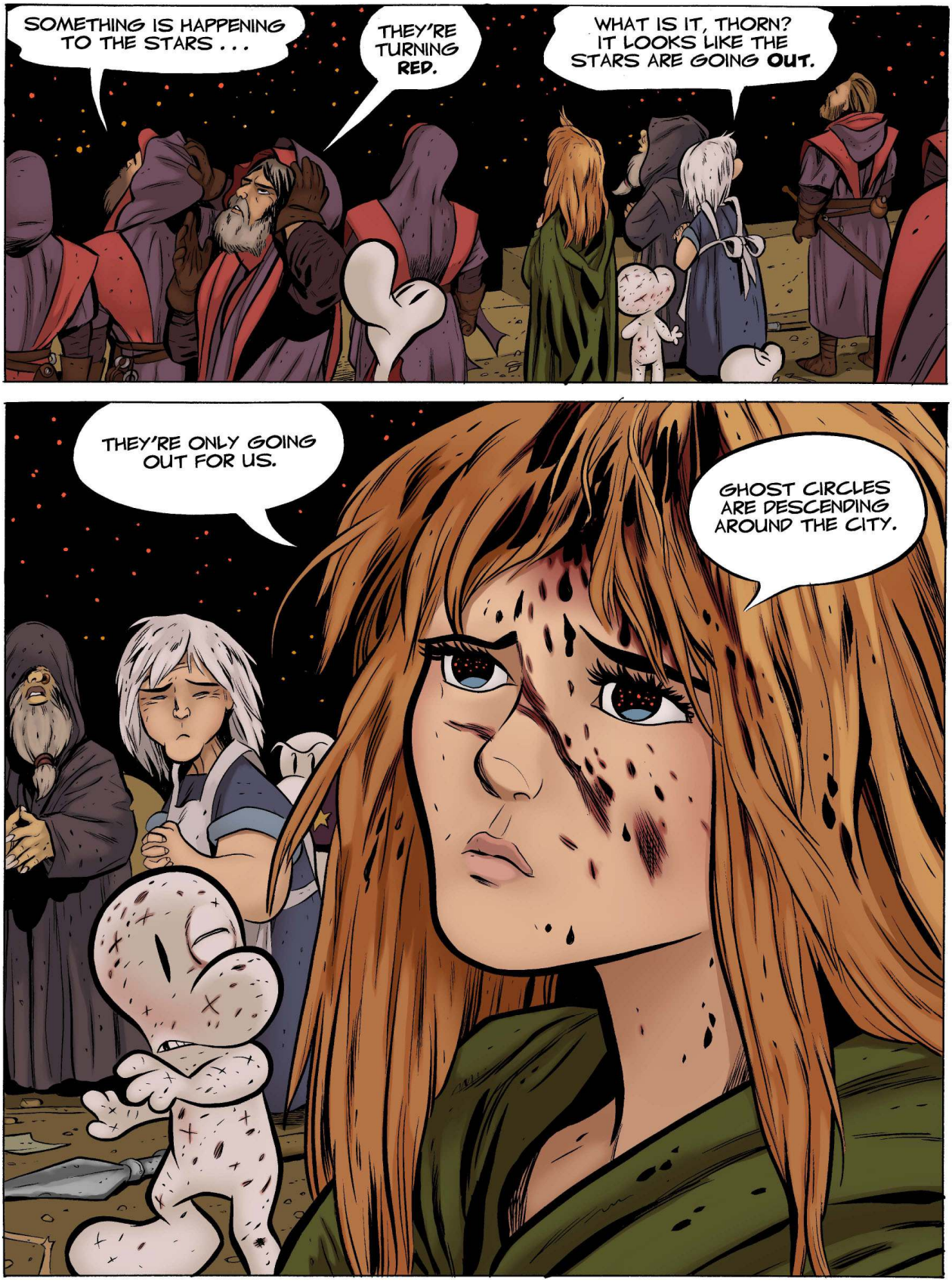
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

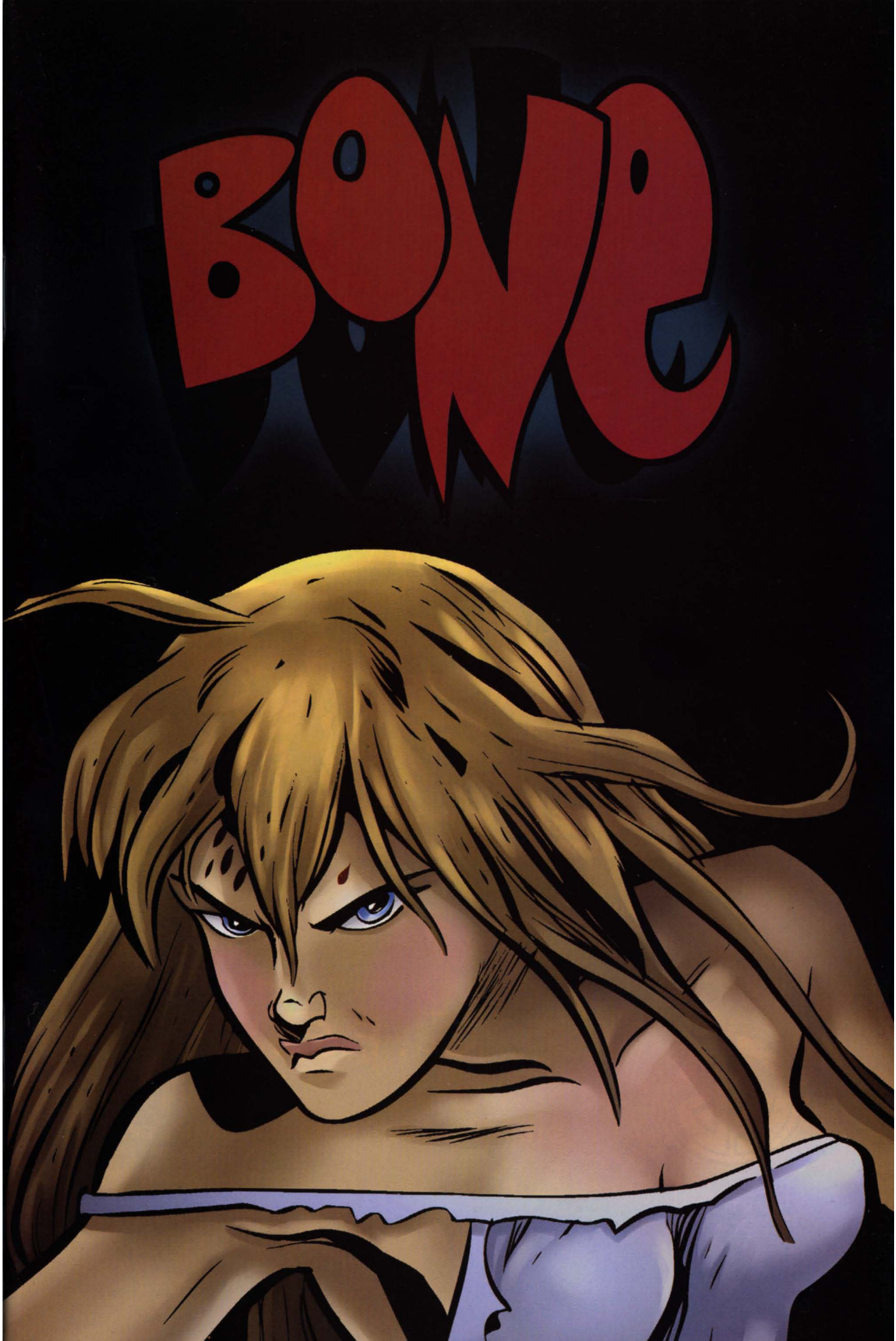

THE RAT CREATURES AND THE PAWANS ARE RETREATING!
TEACHER! YOUR DREAM-VISIONS FRIGHTENED OFF THE ENTIRE **INVASION FORCE!**
UNLIKELY.


EVEN POWERFUL VISIONS LIKE MERMIE'S CAN ONLY BE SEEN BY SMALL GROUPS AT A TIME.
THEN - -?

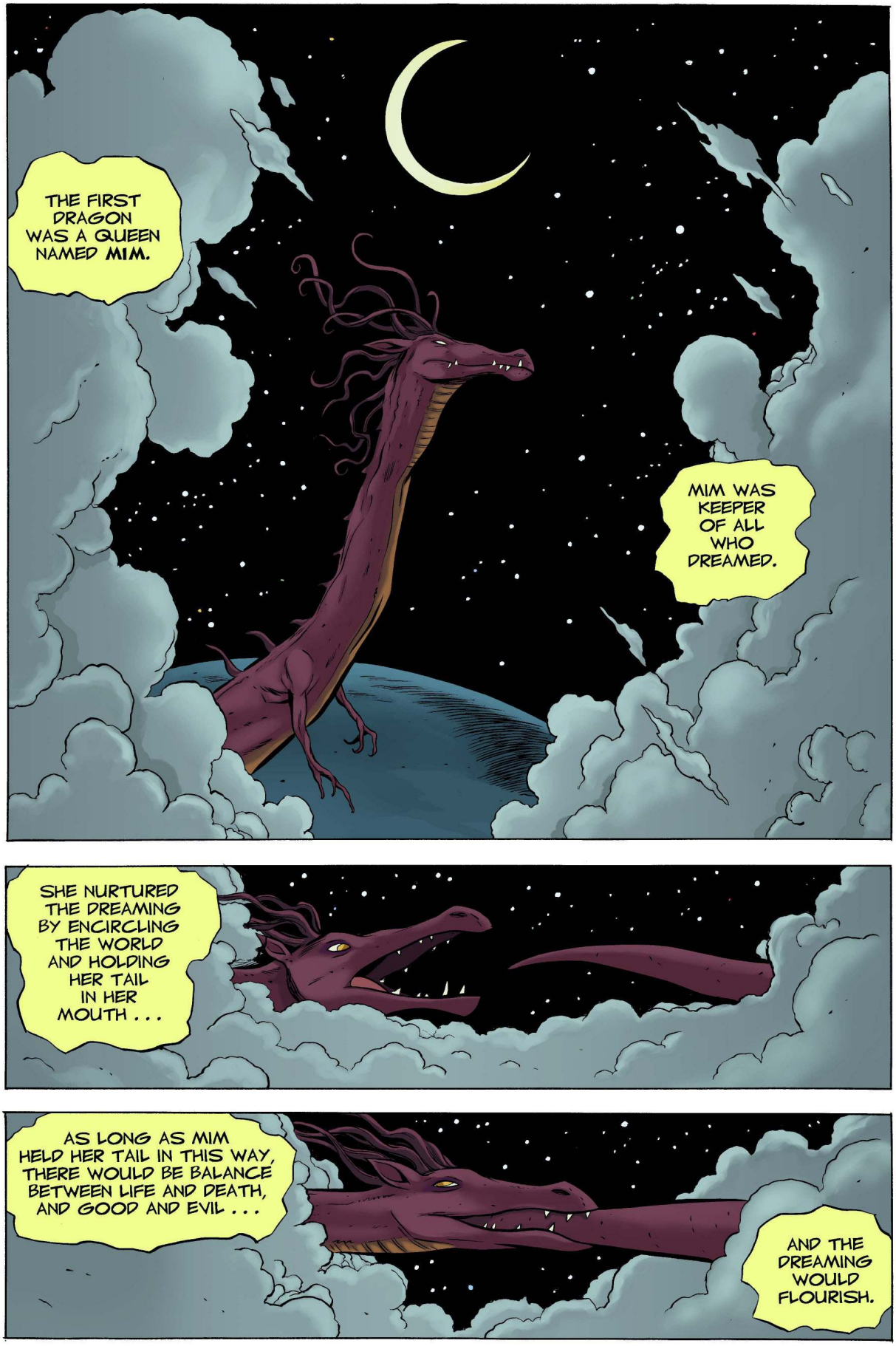

I DO NOT KNOW, BUT CLEARLY YOUR SISTER CALLED THEM BACK FOR A REASON.


WHY?
LOOK!

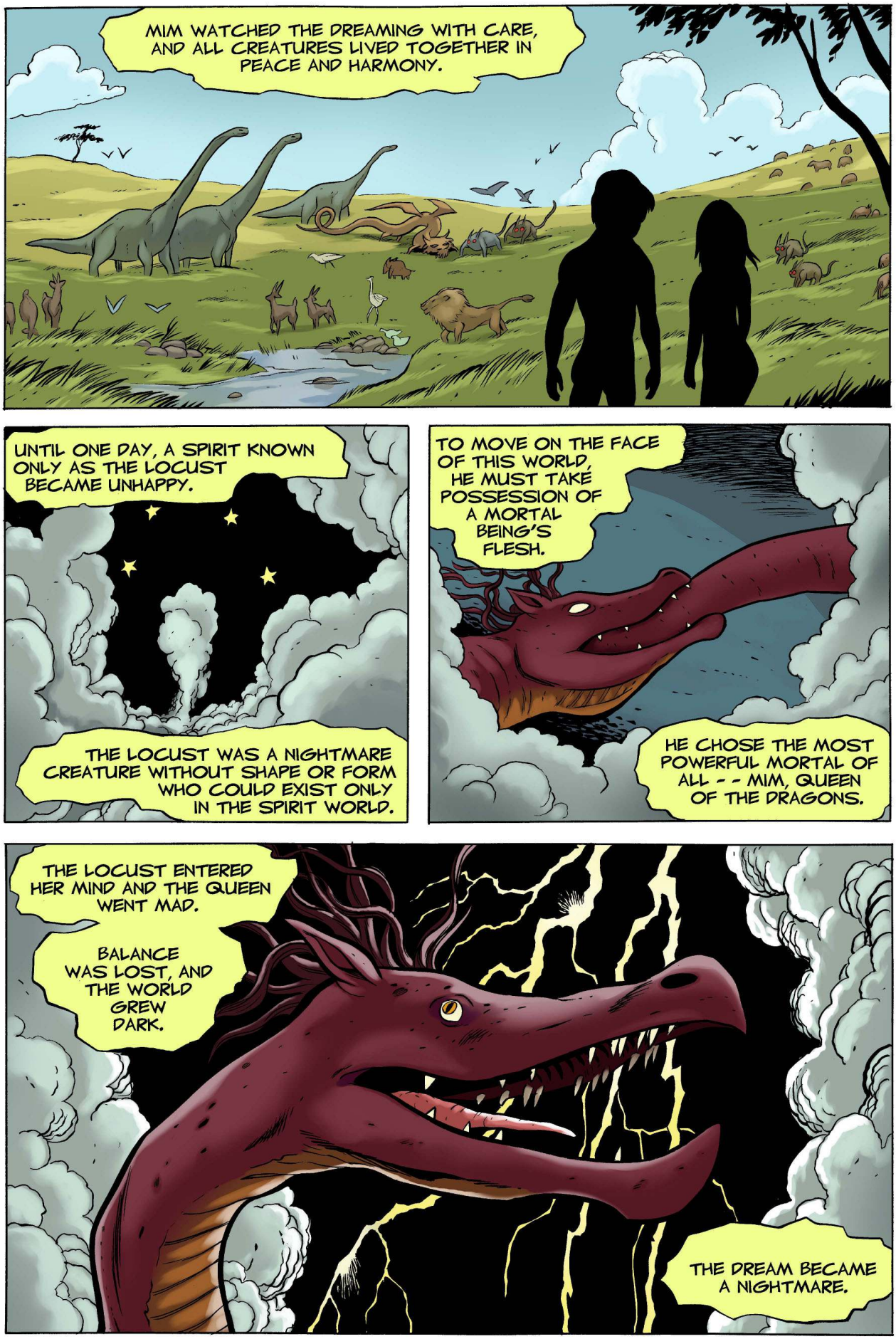

SOMETHING IS HAPPENING TO THE STARS . . .
THEY'RE TURNING **RED.**
WHAT IS IT, THORN? IT LOOKS LIKE THE STARS ARE GOING **OUT.**
THEY'RE ONLY GOING OUT FOR US.
GHOST CIRCLES ARE DESCENDING AROUND THE CITY.


BONE


BONE
LOOK AGAIN INTO THE LIGHT.
WHAT DO YOU SEE?
I --
IT IS TOO BRIGHT.
I'M SORRY...
WHEN THE WORLD WAS NEW, AND DREAMS HAD NOT YET RECEDED FROM THE WAKING DAY...
... DRAGONS RULED THE EARTH.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


MIM WATCHED THE DREAMING WITH CARE, AND ALL CREATURES LIVED TOGETHER IN PEACE AND HARMONY.
UNTIL ONE DAY, A SPIRIT KNOWN ONLY AS THE LOCUST BECAME UNHAPPY.
THE LOCUST WAS A NIGHTMARE CREATURE WITHOUT SHAPE OR FORM WHO COULD EXIST ONLY IN THE SPIRIT WORLD.
TO MOVE ON THE FACE OF THIS WORLD, HE MUST TAKE POSSESSION OF A MORTAL BEING'S FLESH.
HE CHOSE THE MOST POWERFUL MORTAL OF ALL - - MIM, QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS.
THE LOCUST ENTERED HER MIND AND THE QUEEN WENT MAD.
BALANCE WAS LOST, AND THE WORLD GREW DARK.
THE DREAM BECAME A NIGHTMARE.

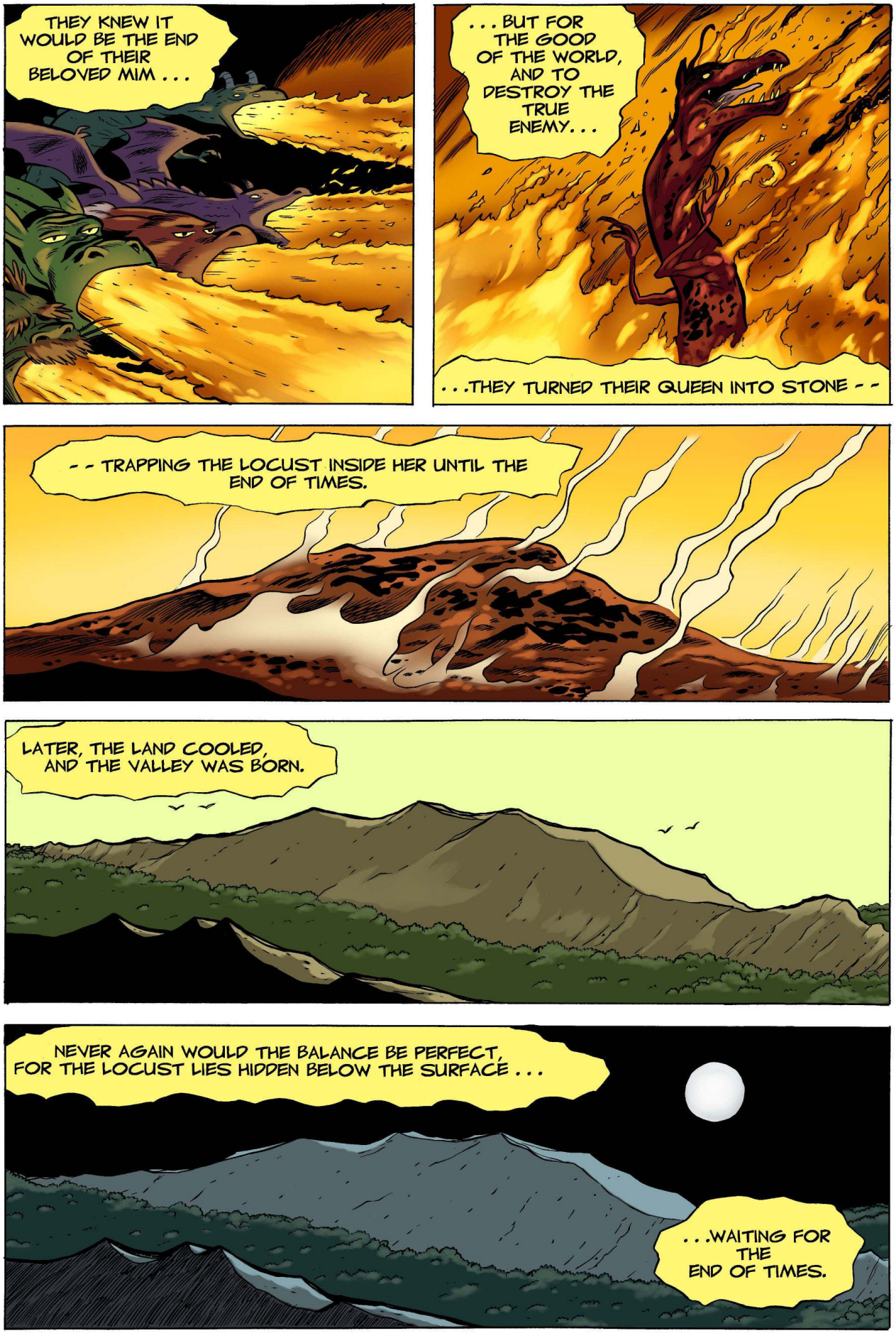

TO SAVE THE WORLD, THE OTHER DRAGONS WERE FORCED TO MOVE AGAINST HER.
A TERRIBLE BATTLE ENSUED.

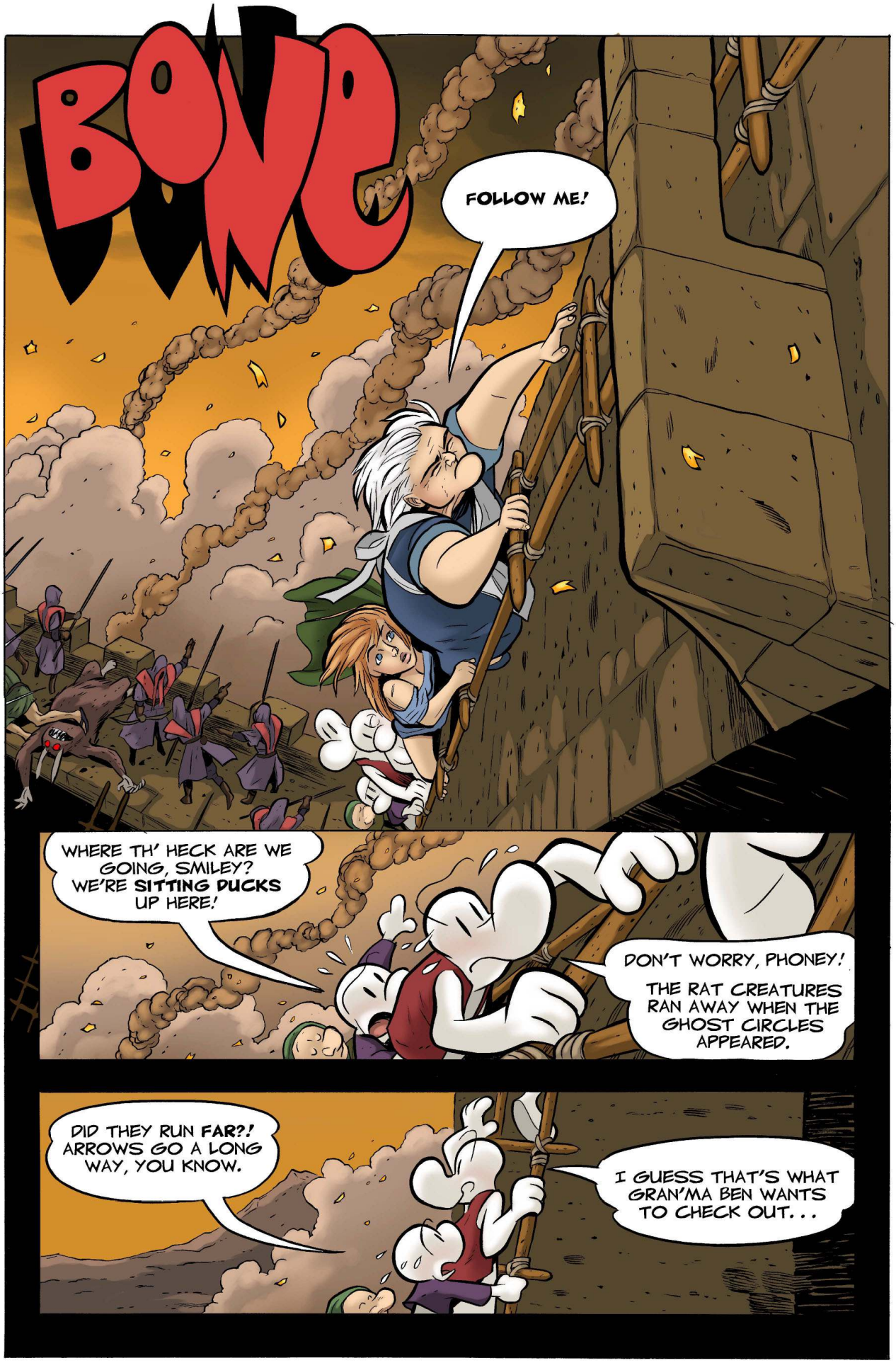



AS THE DRAGONS FOUGHT, THEY CRASHED BACK AND FORTH PUSHING UP ROCKS AND MOUNTAINS.


ON AND ON THEY STRUGGLED, WITH MANY VALIANT DRAGONS LOSING THEIR LIVES . . .

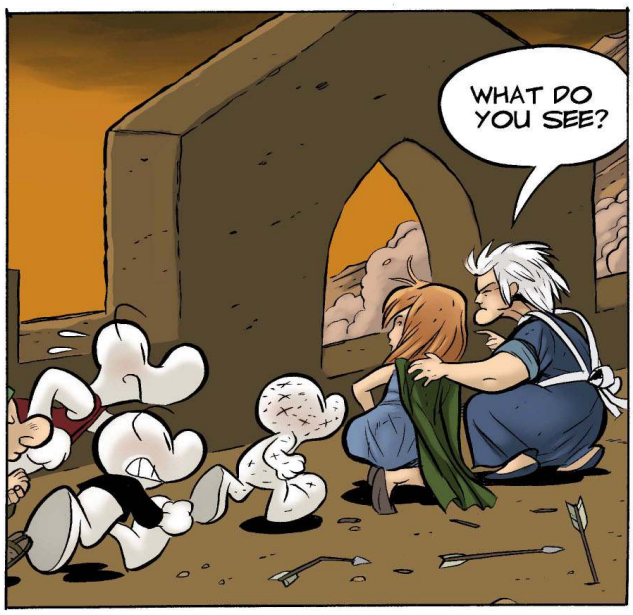

UNTIL AT LAST THE DRAGONS DESPAIRED OF SAVING THEIR QUEEN, AND WERE FORCED TO TAKE DESPERATE MEASURES.

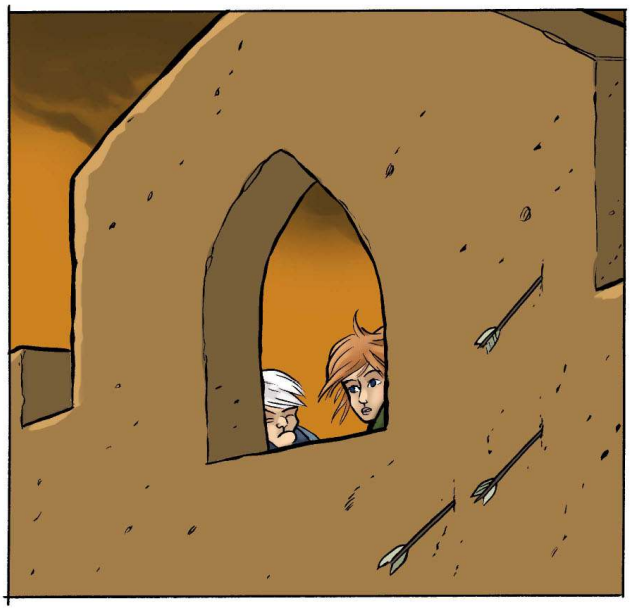

THEY KNEW IT WOULD BE THE END OF THEIR BELOVED MIM . . .
. . . BUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE WORLD, AND TO DESTROY THE TRUE ENEMY. . .
. . .THEY TURNED THEIR QUEEN INTO STONE - -
- - TRAPPING THE LOCUST INSIDE HER UNTIL THE END OF TIMES.
LATER, THE LAND COOLED, AND THE VALLEY WAS BORN.
NEVER AGAIN WOULD THE BALANCE BE PERFECT, FOR THE LOCUST LIES HIDDEN BELOW THE SURFACE . . .
. . .WAITING FOR THE END OF TIMES.

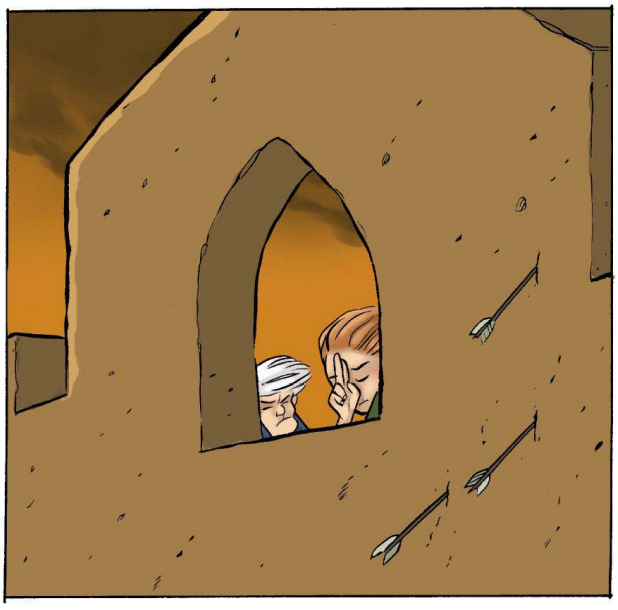

BONE
FOLLOW ME!
WHERE TH' HECK ARE WE GOING, SMILEY? WE'RE SITTING DUCKS UP HERE!
DON'T WORRY, PHONEY! THE RAT CREATURES RAN AWAY WHEN THE GHOST CIRCLES APPEARED.
DID THEY RUN FAR?! ARROWS GO A LONG WAY, YOU KNOW.
I GUESS THAT'S WHAT GRAN'MA BEN WANTS TO CHECK OUT...



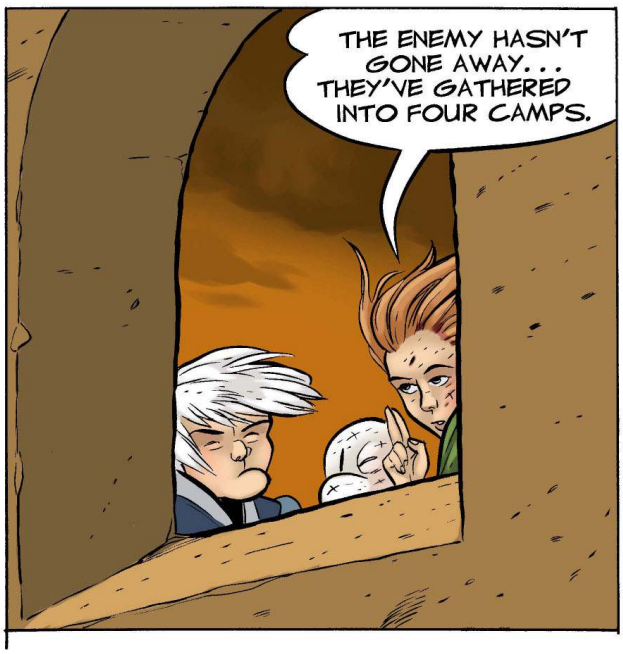


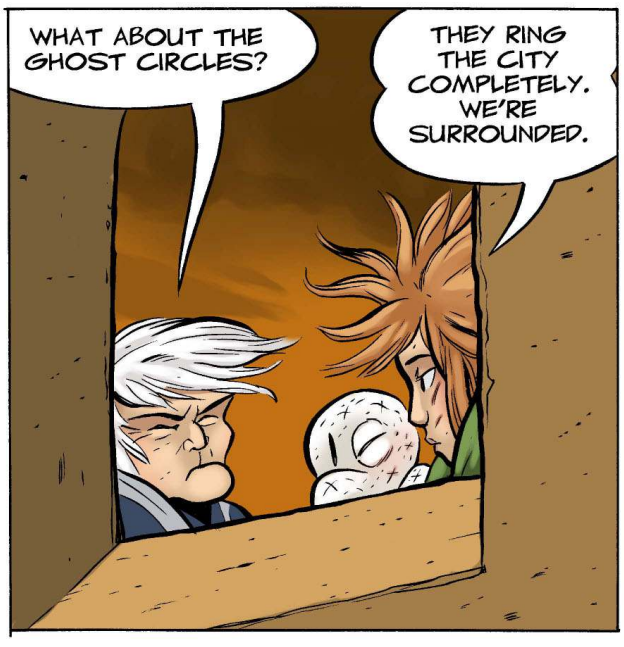

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

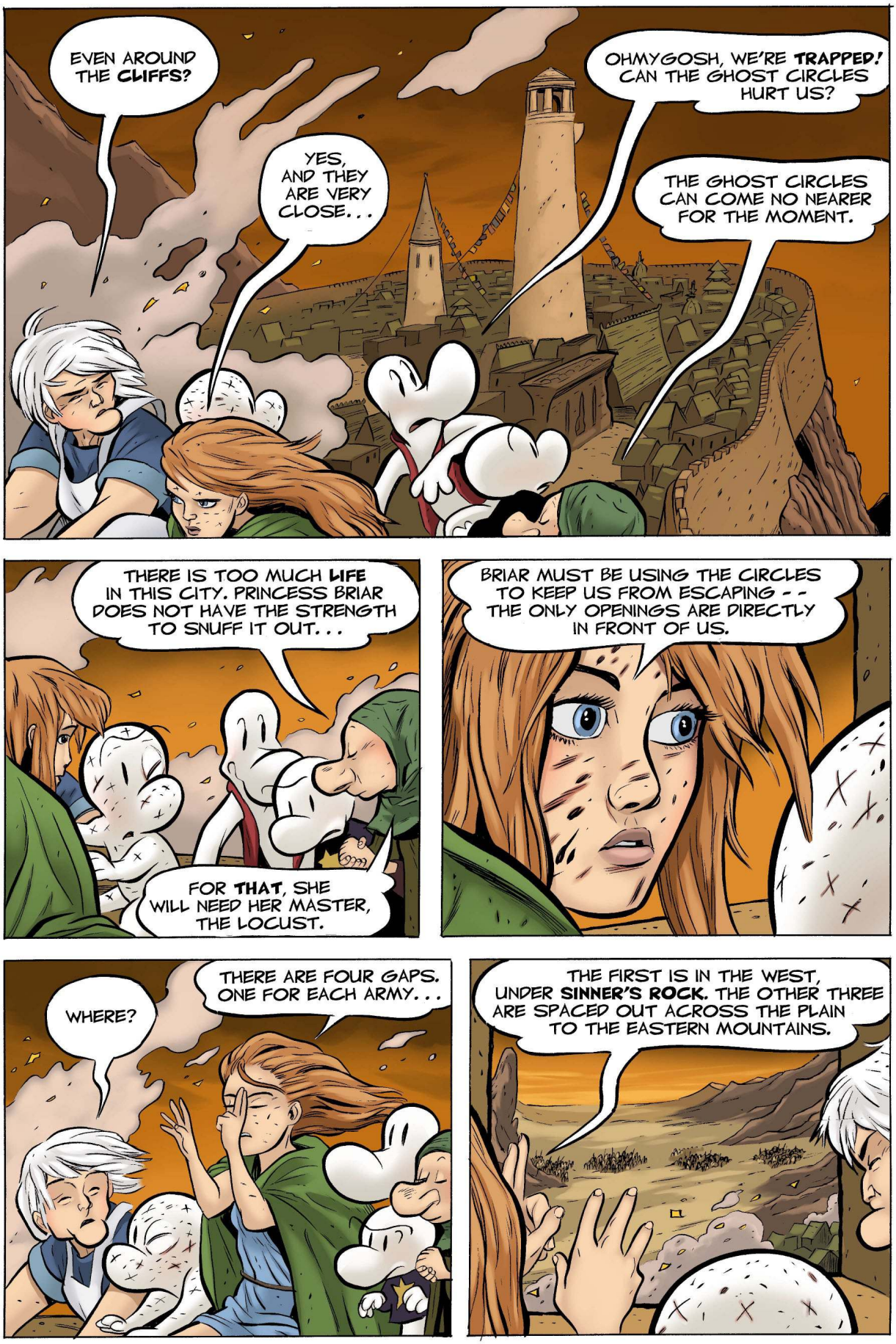




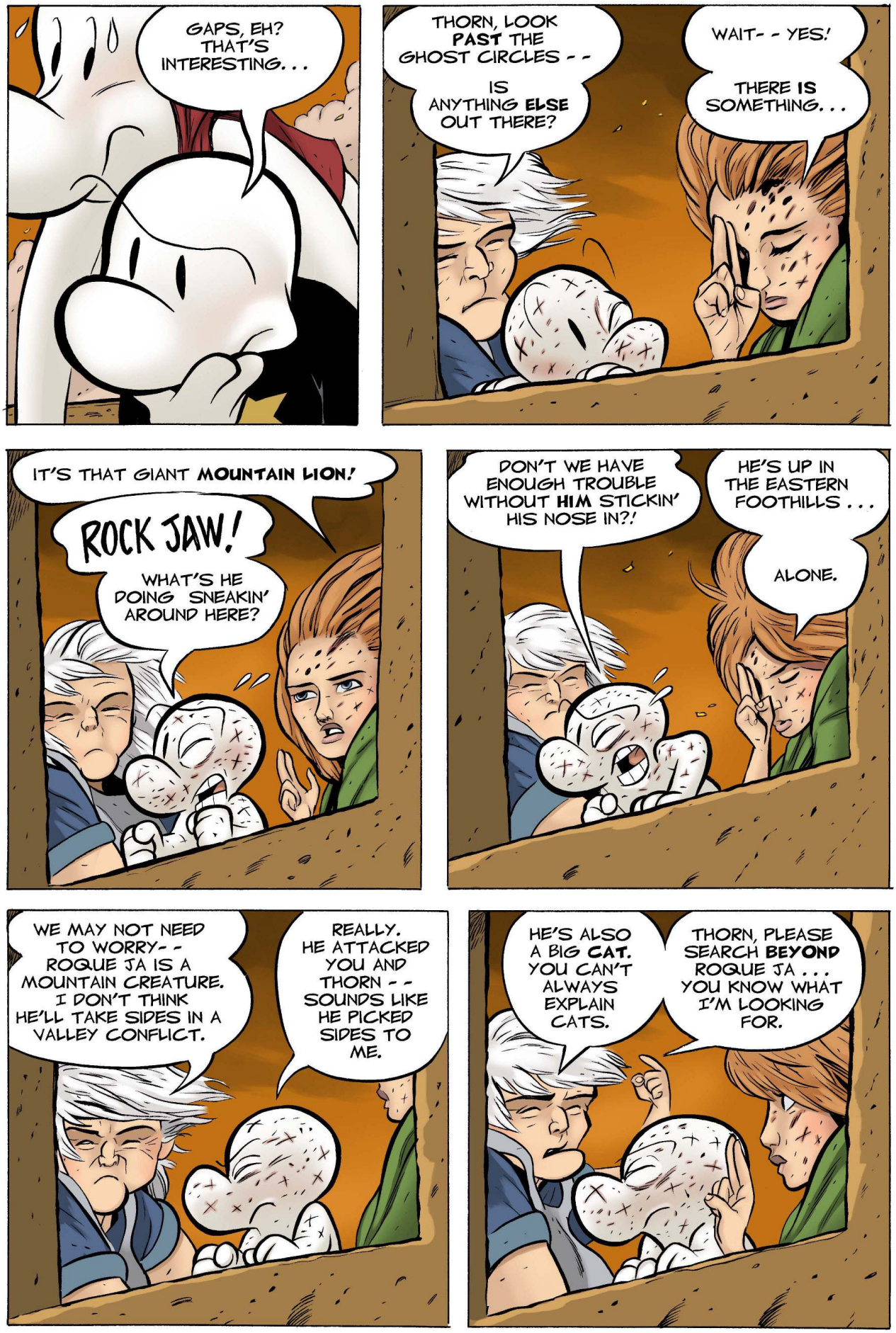


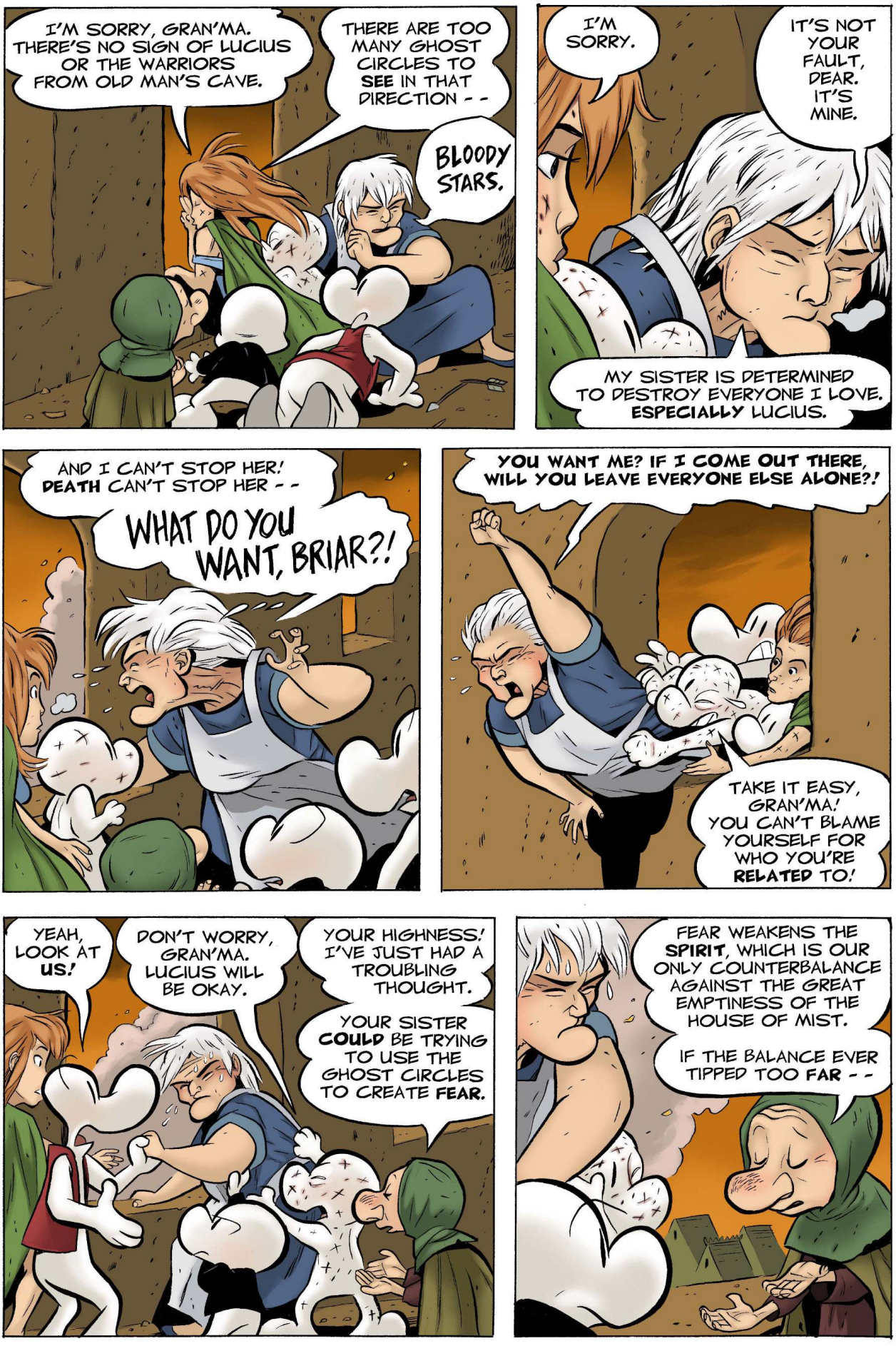

THE ENEMY HASN'T GONE AWAY... THEY'VE GATHERED INTO FOUR CAMPS.


WHAT ABOUT THE GHOST CIRCLES?
THEY RING THE CITY COMPLETELY. WE'RE SURROUNDED.

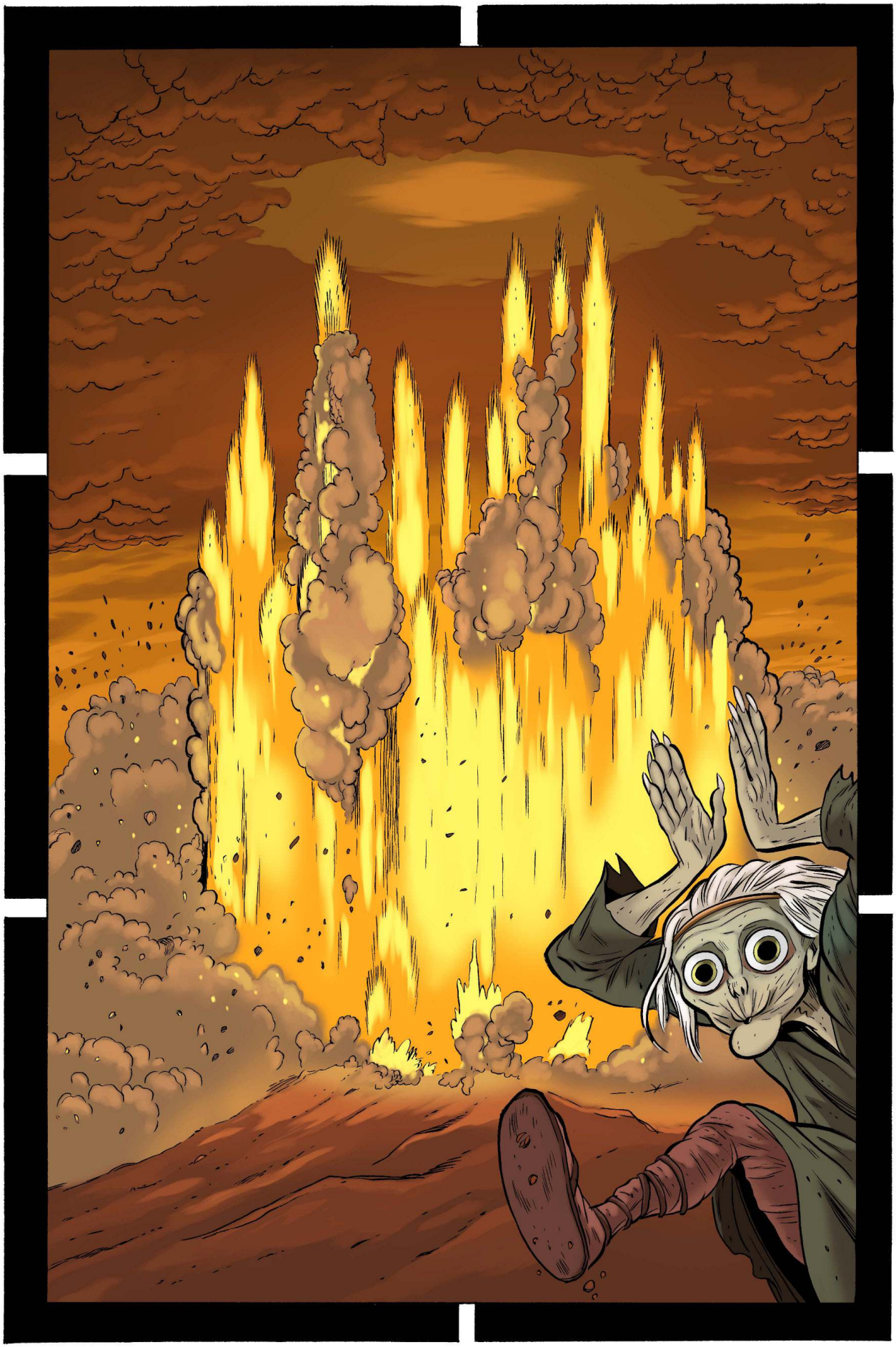


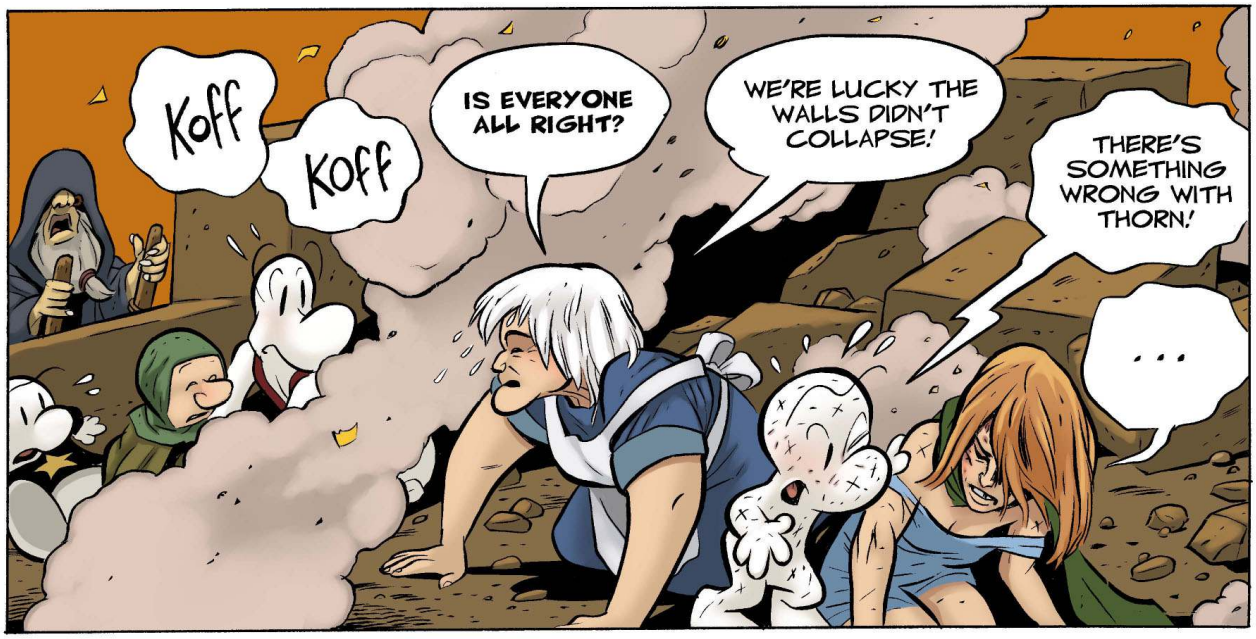
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

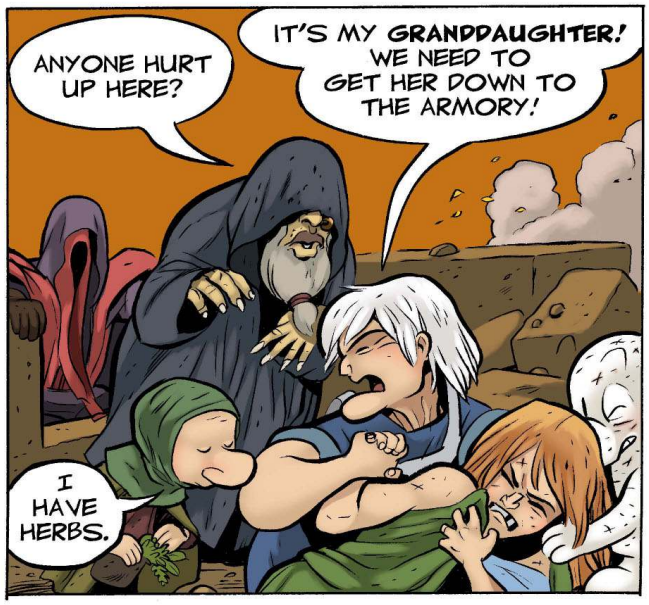

GAPS, EH? THAT'S INTERESTING. . .
THORN, LOOK PAST THE GHOST CIRCLES - - IS ANYTHING ELSE OUT THERE?
WAIT- - YES! THERE IS SOMETHING. . .
IT'S THAT GIANT MOUNTAIN LION!
ROCK JAW!
WHAT'S HE DOING SNEAKIN' AROUND HERE?
DON'T WE HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE WITHOUT HIM STICKIN' HIS NOSE IN?!
HE'S UP IN THE EASTERN FOOTHILLS . . .
ALONE.
WE MAY NOT NEED TO WORRY- - ROQUE JA IS A MOUNTAIN CREATURE. I DON'T THINK HE'LL TAKE SIDES IN A VALLEY CONFLICT.
REALLY. HE ATTACKED YOU AND THORN - - SOUNDS LIKE HE PICKED SIDES TO ME.
HE'S ALSO A BIG CAT. YOU CAN'T ALWAYS EXPLAIN CATS.
THORN, PLEASE SEARCH BEYOND ROQUE JA . . . YOU KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR.

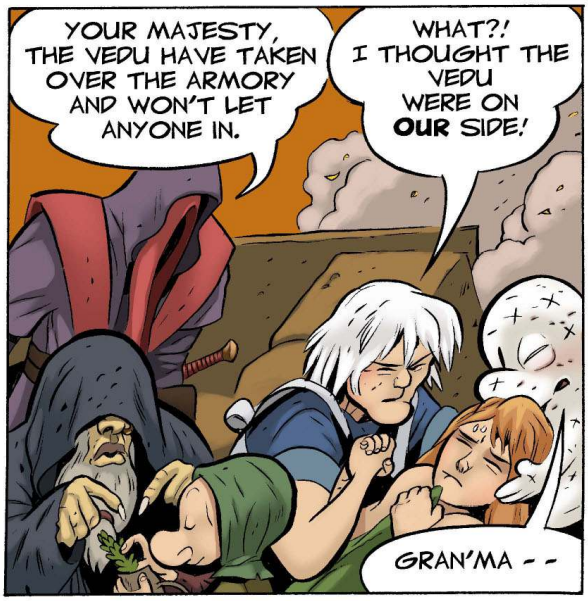

I'M SORRY, GRAN'MA. THERE'S NO SIGN OF LUCIUS OR THE WARRIORS FROM OLD MAN'S CAVE.
THERE ARE TOO MANY GHOST CIRCLES TO SEE IN THAT DIRECTION - -
BLOODY STARS.
I'M SORRY.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, DEAR. IT'S MINE.
MY SISTER IS DETERMINED TO DESTROY EVERYONE I LOVE. ESPECIALLY LUCIUS.
AND I CAN'T STOP HER! DEATH CAN'T STOP HER - -
WHAT DO YOU WANT, BRIAR?!
YOU WANT ME? IF I COME OUT THERE, WILL YOU LEAVE EVERYONE ELSE ALONE?!
TAKE IT EASY, GRAN'MA! YOU CAN'T BLAME YOURSELF FOR WHO YOU'RE RELATED TO!
YEAH, LOOK AT US!
DON'T WORRY, GRAN'MA. LUCIUS WILL BE OKAY.
YOUR HIGHNESS! I'VE JUST HAD A TROUBLING THOUGHT.
YOUR SISTER COULD BE TRYING TO USE THE GHOST CIRCLES TO CREATE FEAR.
FEAR WEAKENS THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS OUR ONLY COUNTERBALANCE AGAINST THE GREAT EMPTINESS OF THE HOUSE OF MIST.
IF THE BALANCE EVER TIPPED TOO FAR - -

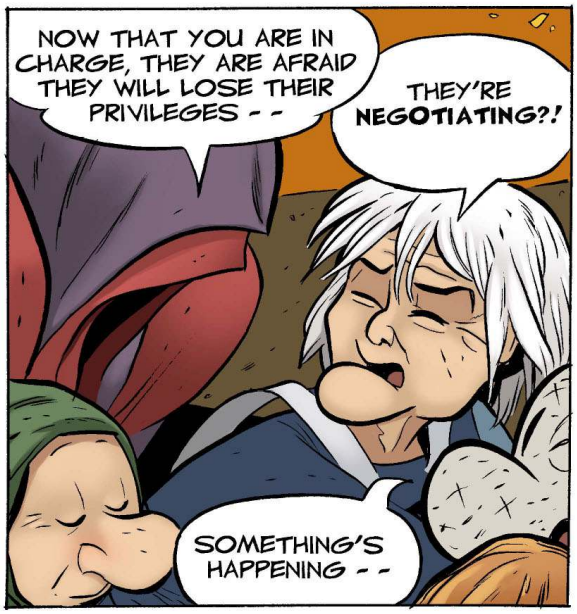

CHUNK
RRRRUMMMBLLE...
LOOK OUT!
HHG!
THORN?!
NO-- I'M OKAY--
THORN, CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

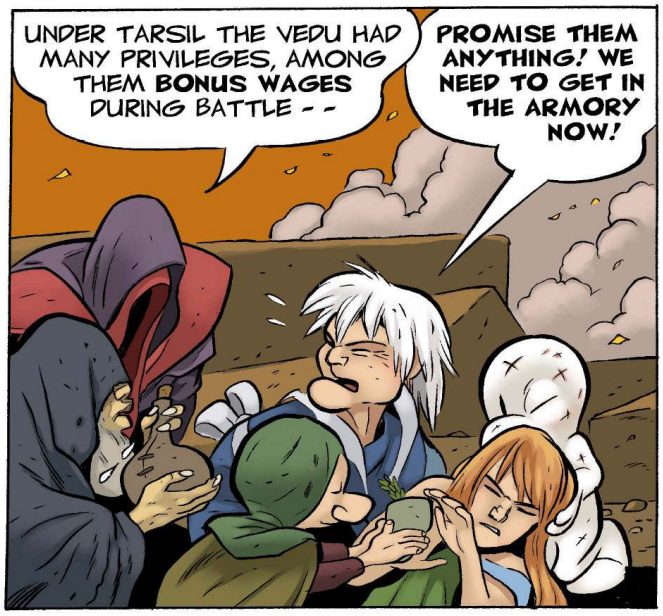


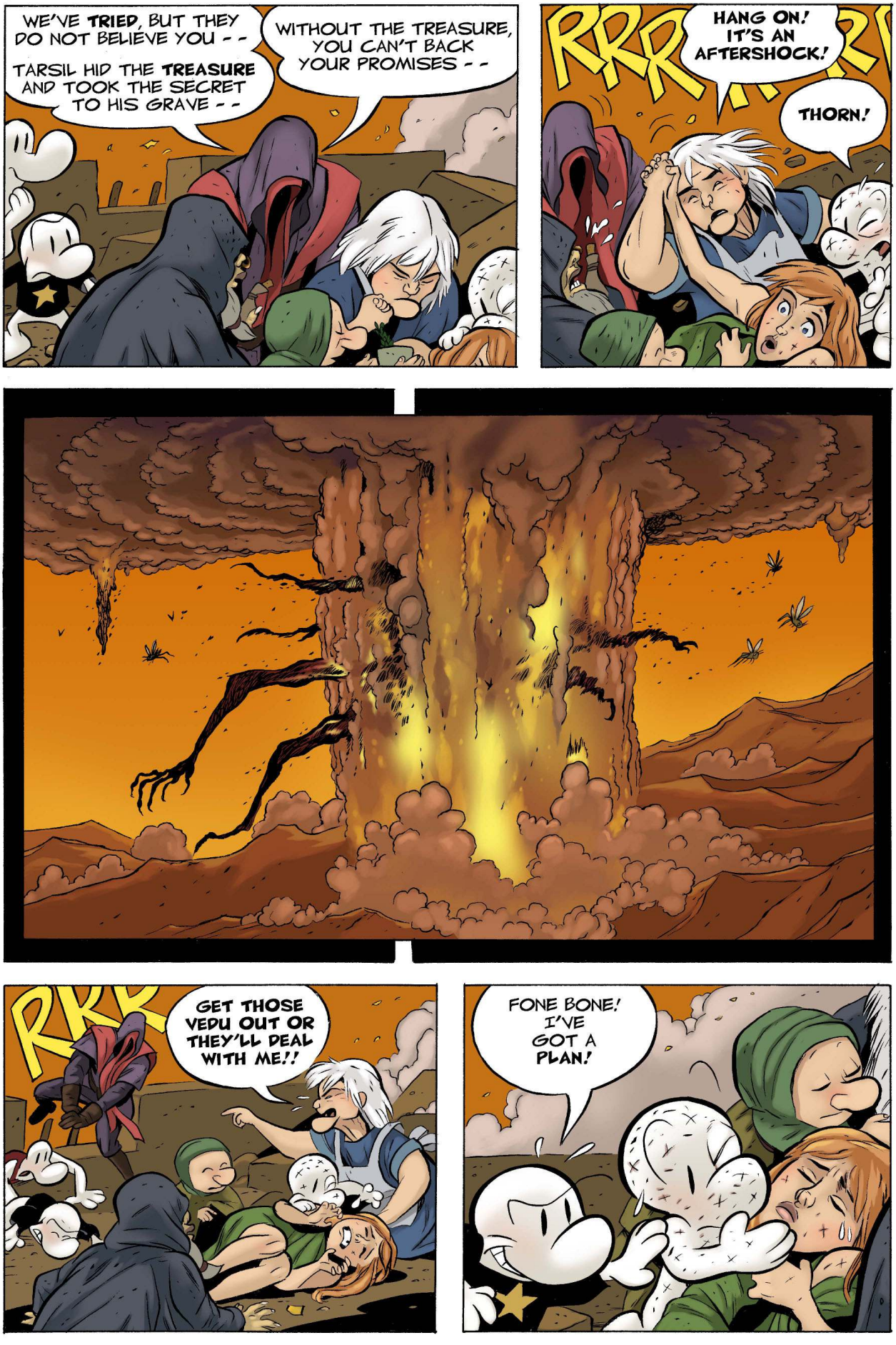

Koff
Koff
IS EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?
WE'RE LUCKY THE WALLS DIDN'T COLLAPSE!
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THORN!
...


ANYONE HURT UP HERE?
IT'S MY **GRANDDAUGHTER!** WE NEED TO GET HER DOWN TO THE ARMORY!
I HAVE HERBS.

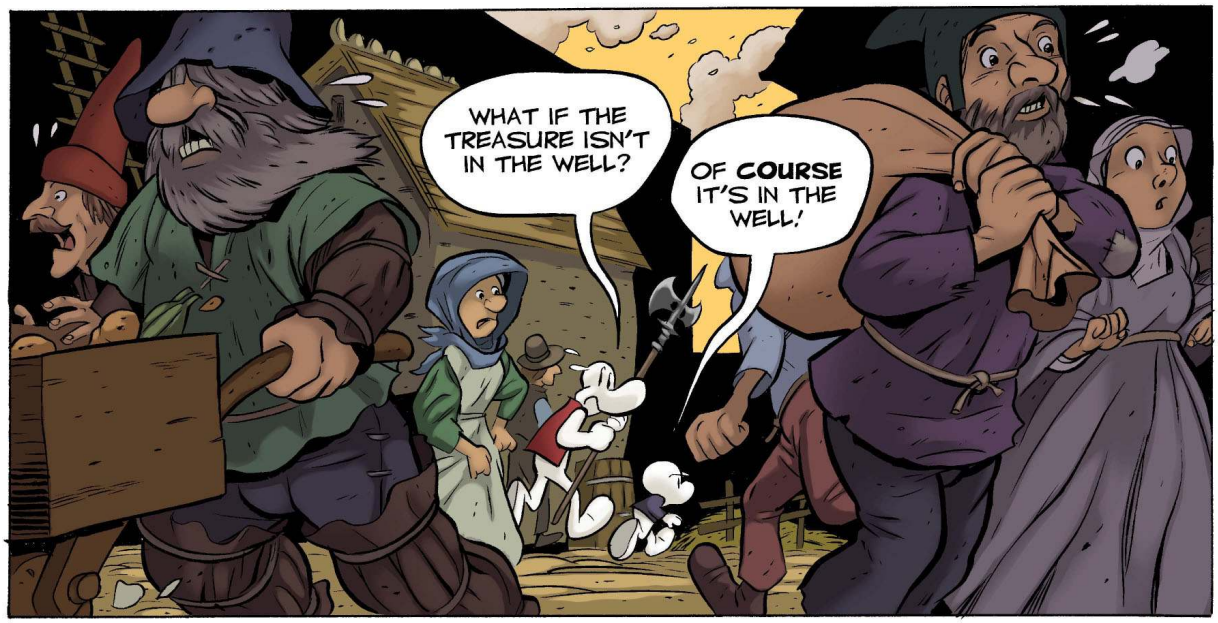

YOUR MAJESTY, THE VEDU HAVE TAKEN OVER THE ARMORY AND WON'T LET ANYONE IN.
WHAT?! I THOUGHT THE VEDU WERE ON **OUR** SIDE!
GRAN'MA - -

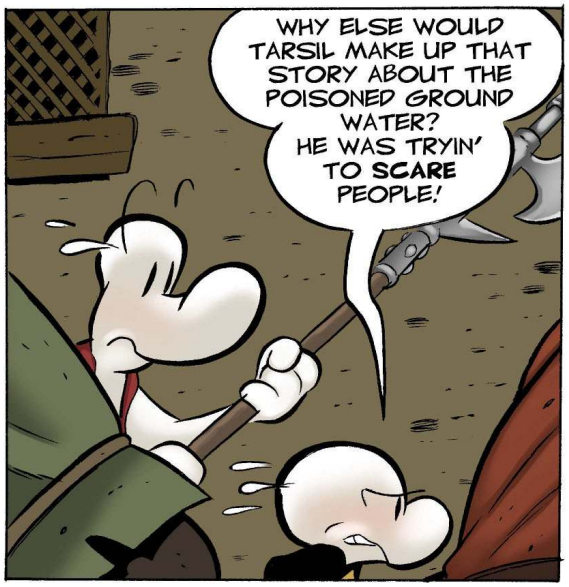

NOW THAT YOU ARE IN CHARGE, THEY ARE AFRAID THEY WILL LOSE THEIR PRIVILEGES - -
THEY'RE **NEGOTIATING?!**
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING - -

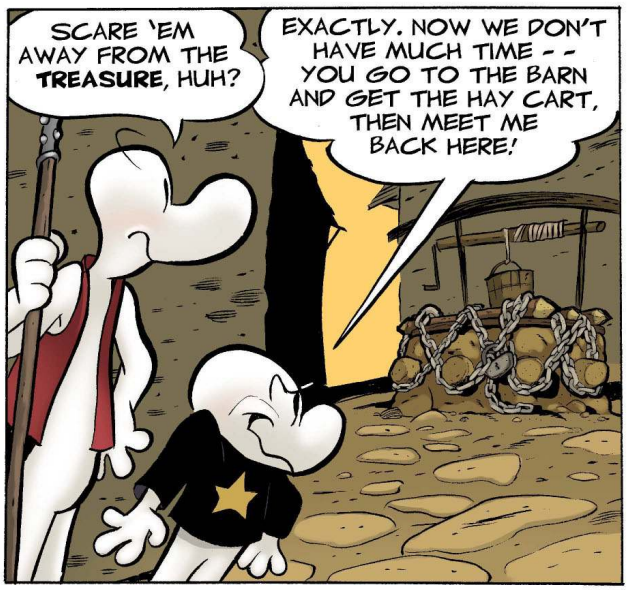

UNDER TARSIL THE VEDU HAD MANY PRIVILEGES, AMONG THEM **BONUS WAGES** DURING BATTLE - -
PROMISE THEM ANYTHING! WE NEED TO GET IN THE ARMORY NOW!

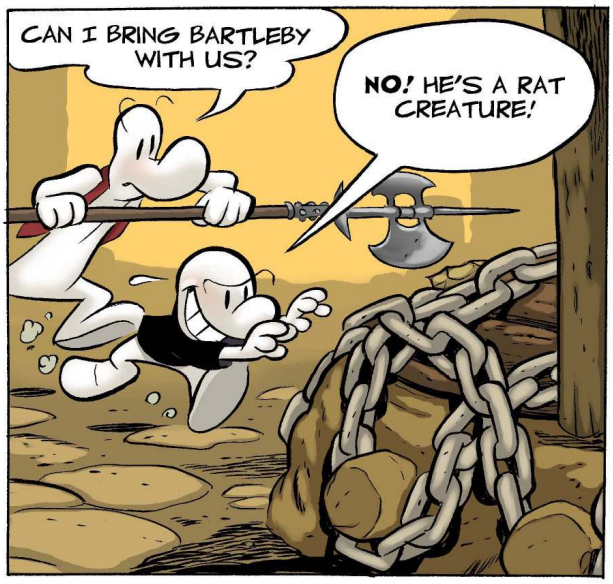

WE'VE TRIED, BUT THEY DO NOT BELIEVE YOU - -
TARSIL HID THE TREASURE AND TOOK THE SECRET TO HIS GRAVE - -
WITHOUT THE TREASURE, YOU CAN'T BACK YOUR PROMISES - -
RRR
HANG ON! IT'S AN AFTERSHOCK!
THORN!
RRR
GET THOSE VEDU OUT OR THEY'LL DEAL WITH ME!!
FONE BONE! I'VE GOT A PLAN!

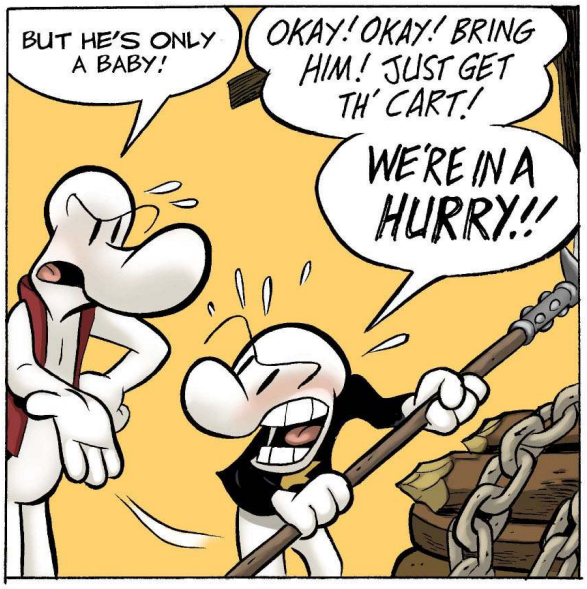

SMILEY AN' I KNOW WHERE THE TREASURE IS . . . ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS LOAD IT ON A CART AND SNEAK IT OUT THROUGH ONE OF THE GAPS IN THE GHOST CIRCLES!
WHAT? ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?
YEAH, CUZ! THIS IS IT! WE'RE GOIN' HOME!
WHAT PLANET ARE YOU ON, PHONEY? WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
OH, RIGHT! GOTCHA!
OKAY, WE'LL GET THE TREASURE . . . YOU MEET US AT THE MAIN GATE IN THIRTY MINUTES!
GET OUT OF HERE!
C'MON, SMILEY! HE'S GONNA MEET US AT THE GATE!
HIGHNESS?
MERMIE IS QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF FEAR THAT IS BEING RAISED AMONG OUR PEOPLE.
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM THEM? THE CITY'S IN FLAMES - -
TERROR WEAKENS OUR SPIRIT, TIPPING THE BALANCE IN THE ENEMY'S FAVOR.
YOUR SISTER IS USING THE GHOST CIRCLES TO FORCE A BREACH IN THE DREAMING - -
THE LOCUST COULD ESCAPE.
IF WE DO NOT RESTORE ORDER IMMEDIATELY, THE LOCUST WILL GET OUT AND SEEK THE MORTAL FLESH OF A NEW HOST!
IT'S TOO LATE.



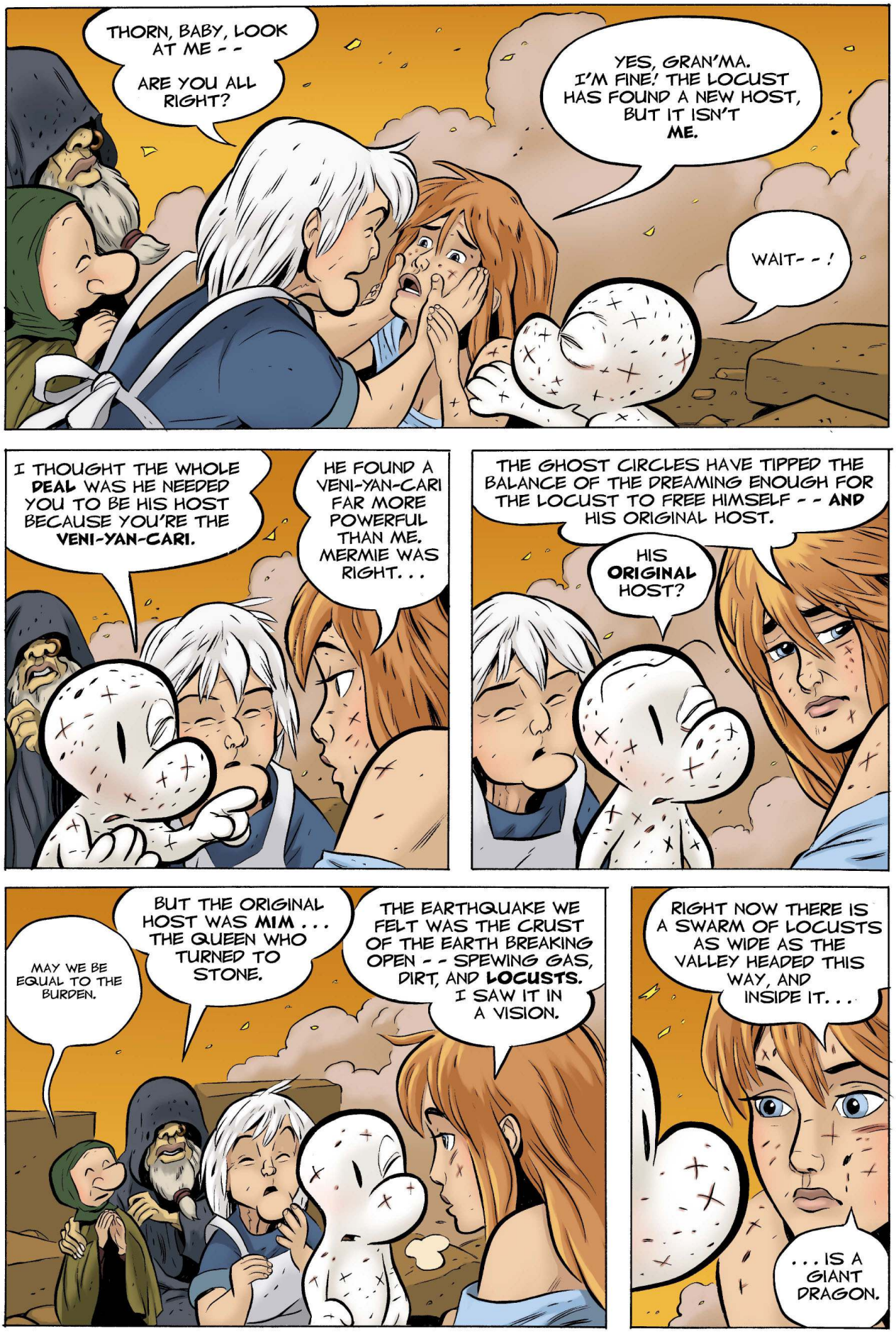




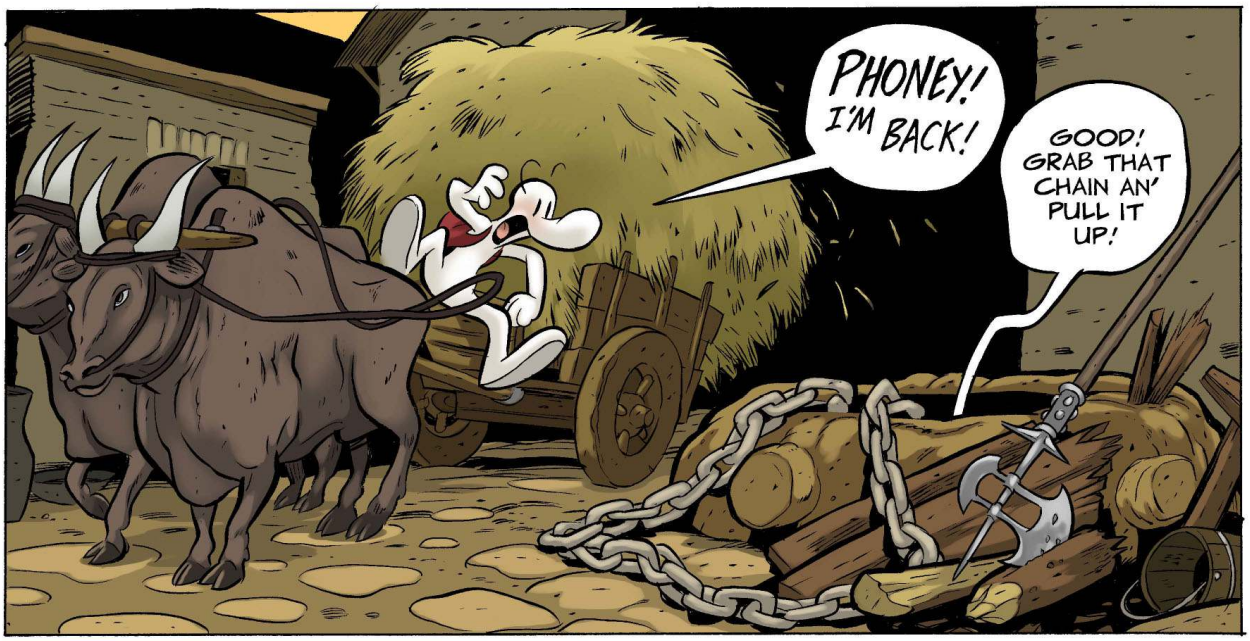


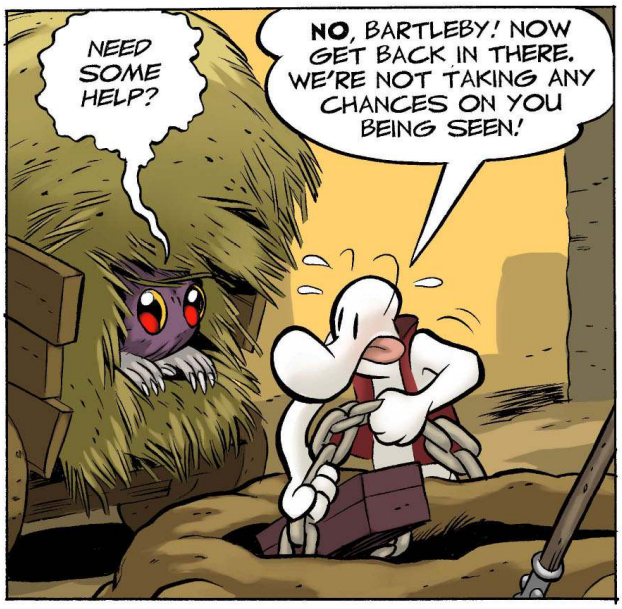


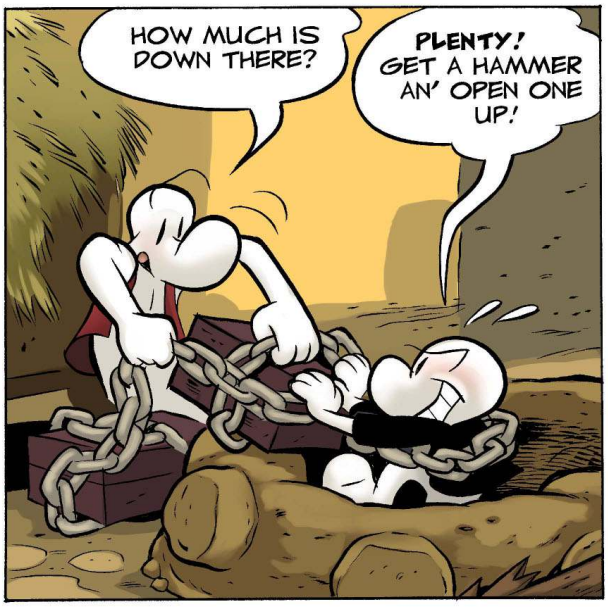
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

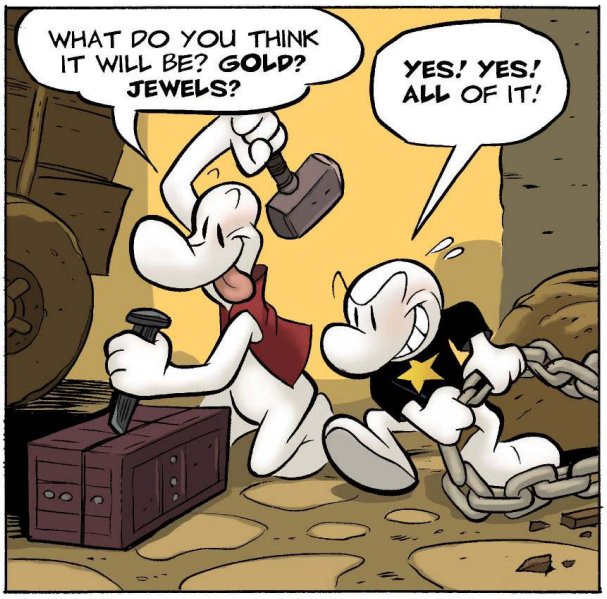

THORN, BABY, LOOK AT ME - -
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES, GRAN'MA. I'M FINE! THE LOCUST HAS FOUND A NEW HOST, BUT IT ISN'T **ME.**
WAIT- - !
I THOUGHT THE WHOLE **DEAL** WAS HE NEEDED YOU TO BE HIS HOST BECAUSE YOU'RE THE **VENI-YAN-CARI.**
HE FOUND A VENI-YAN-CARI FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN ME. MERMIE WAS RIGHT. . .
THE GHOST CIRCLES HAVE TIPPED THE BALANCE OF THE DREAMING ENOUGH FOR THE LOCUST TO FREE HIMSELF - - **AND** HIS ORIGINAL HOST.
HIS **ORIGINAL** HOST?
MAY WE BE EQUAL TO THE BURDEN.
BUT THE ORIGINAL HOST WAS **MIM** . . . THE QUEEN WHO TURNED TO STONE.
THE EARTHQUAKE WE FELT WAS THE CRUST OF THE EARTH BREAKING OPEN - - SPEWING GAS, DIRT, AND **LOCUSTS.** I SAW IT IN A VISION.
RIGHT NOW THERE IS A SWARM OF LOCUSTS AS WIDE AS THE VALLEY HEADED THIS WAY, AND INSIDE IT. . .
. . . IS A GIANT DRAGON.

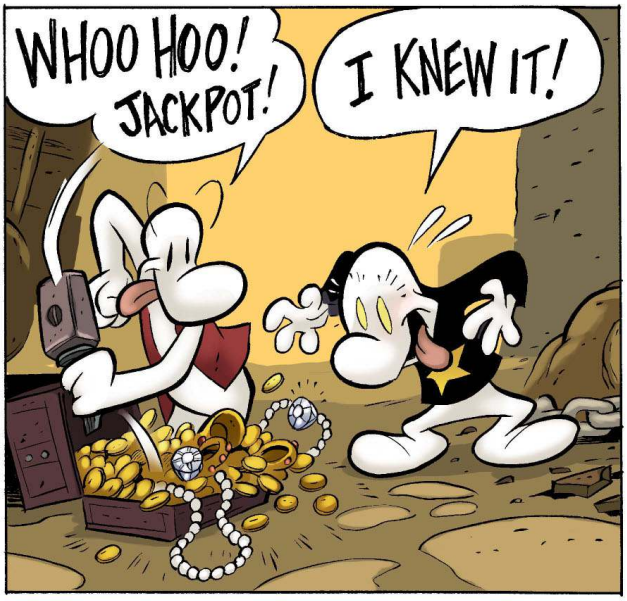

IT IS MIM.
SHE'S STILL ALIVE. THAT'S WHY THE DRAGONS LEFT US - - THEY DON'T WANT TO FACE THEIR QUEEN.
YOUR MAJESTY- - IF IT IS MIM, AND SHE IS UNDER THE LOCUST'S SPELL, EVERYTHING IN HER PATH WILL BE DESTROYED!
LUCIUS.
US!

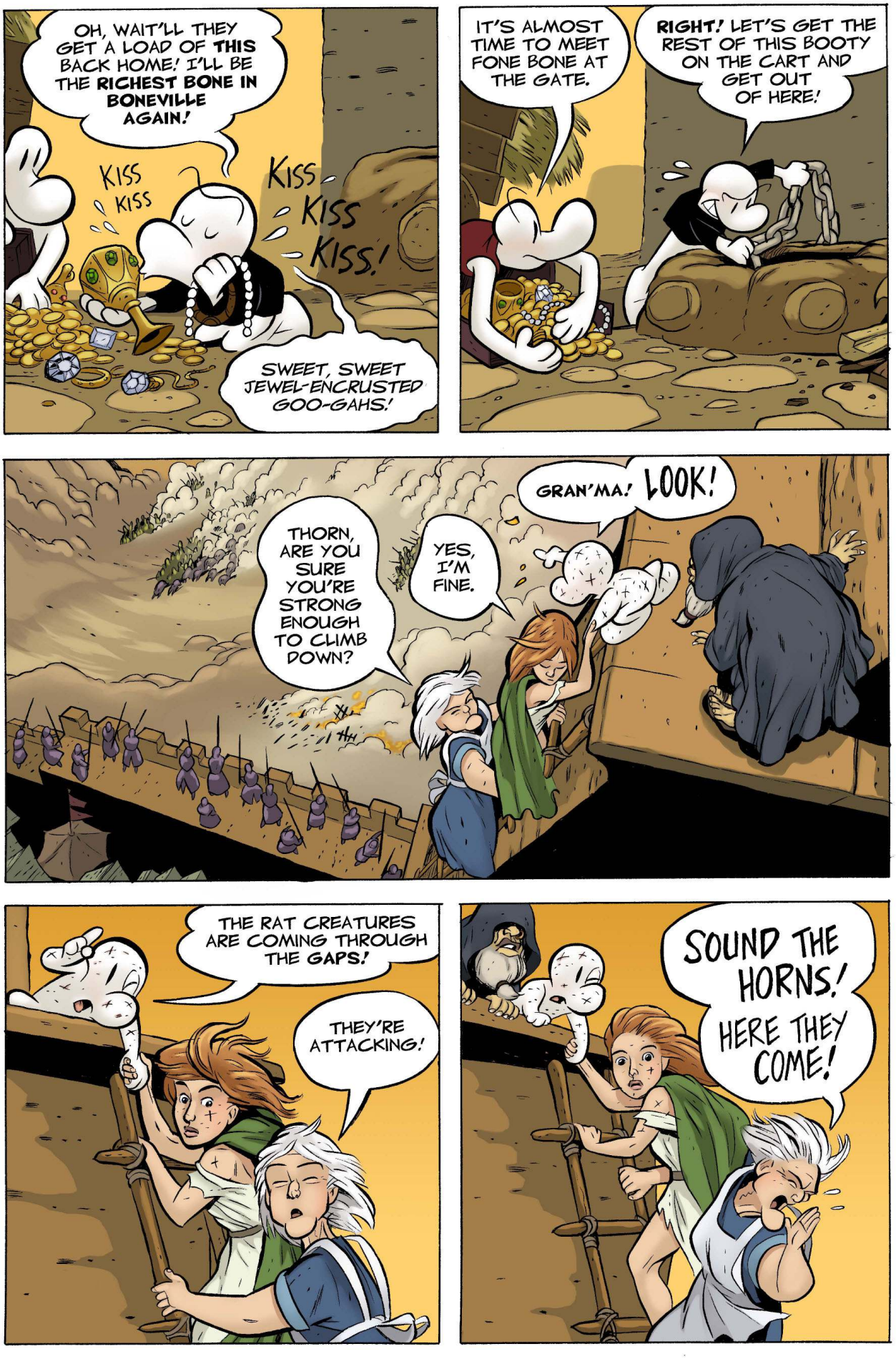

PHONEY! I'M BACK!
GOOD! GRAB THAT CHAIN AN' PULL IT UP!

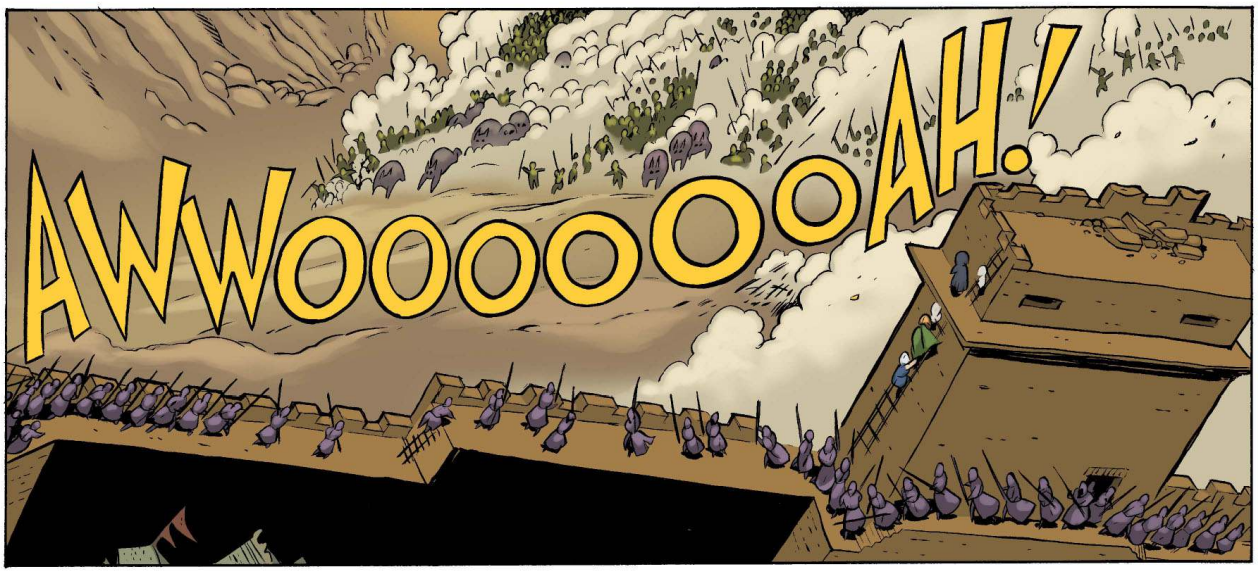

NEED SOME HELP?
NO, BARTLEBY! NOW GET BACK IN THERE. WE'RE NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES ON YOU BEING SEEN!


HOW MUCH IS DOWN THERE?
PLENTY! GET A HAMMER AN' OPEN ONE UP!


WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE? GOLD? JEWELS?
YES! YES! ALL OF IT!

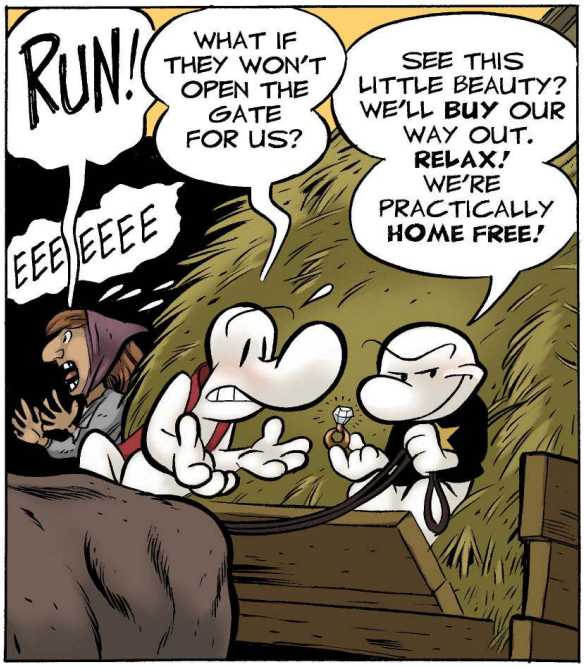

WHOO HOO! JACKPOT!
I KNEW IT!

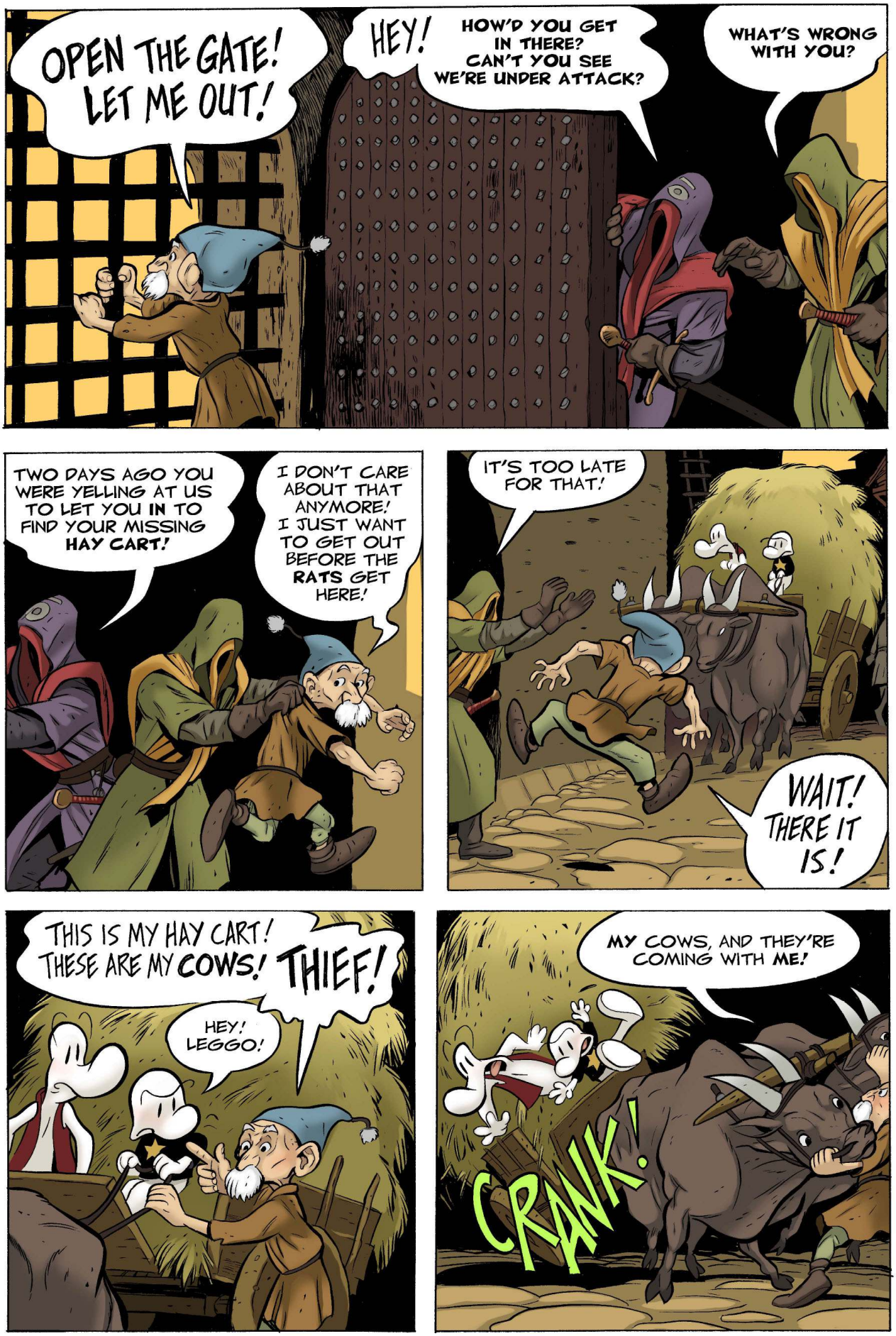

OH, WAIT'LL THEY GET A LOAD OF THIS BACK HOME! I'LL BE THE RICHEST BONE IN BONEVILLE AGAIN!
KISS KISS
KISS KISS KISS!
SWEET, SWEET JEWEL-ENCRUSTED GOO-GAHS!
IT'S ALMOST TIME TO MEET FONE BONE AT THE GATE.
RIGHT! LET'S GET THE REST OF THIS BOOTY ON THE CART AND GET OUT OF HERE!
GRAN'MA! LOOK!
THORN, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO CLIMB DOWN?
YES, I'M FINE.
THE RAT CREATURES ARE COMING THROUGH THE GAPS!
THEY'RE ATTACKING!
SOUND THE HORNS! HERE THEY COME!

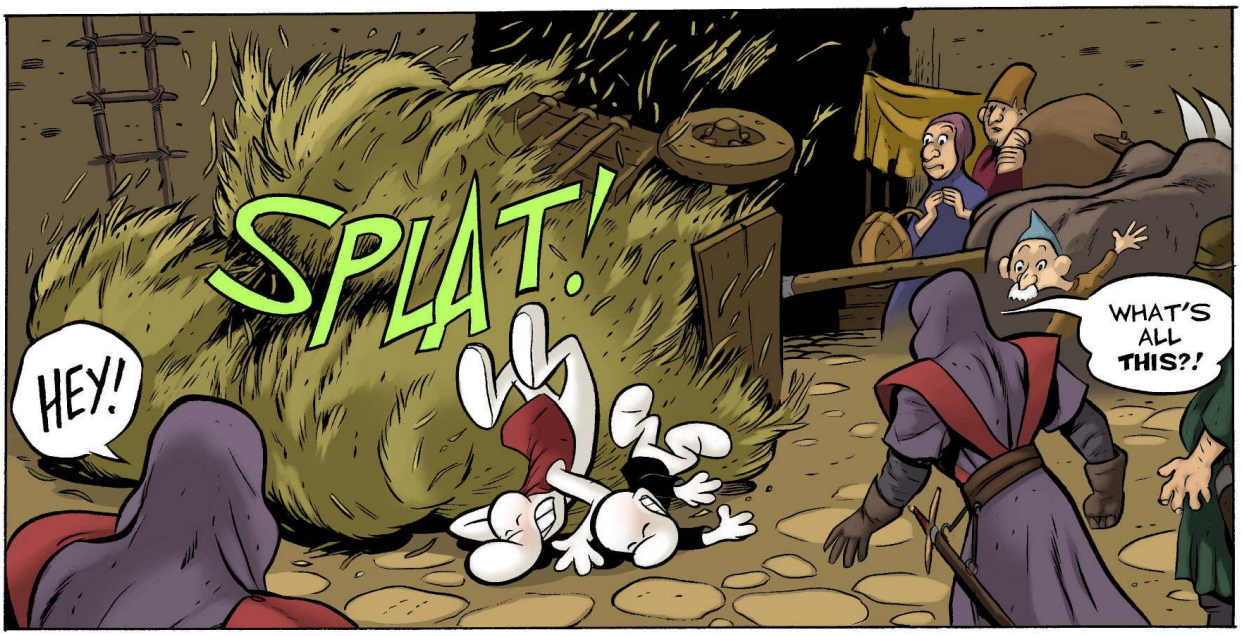

AWWOOOOOOAH!

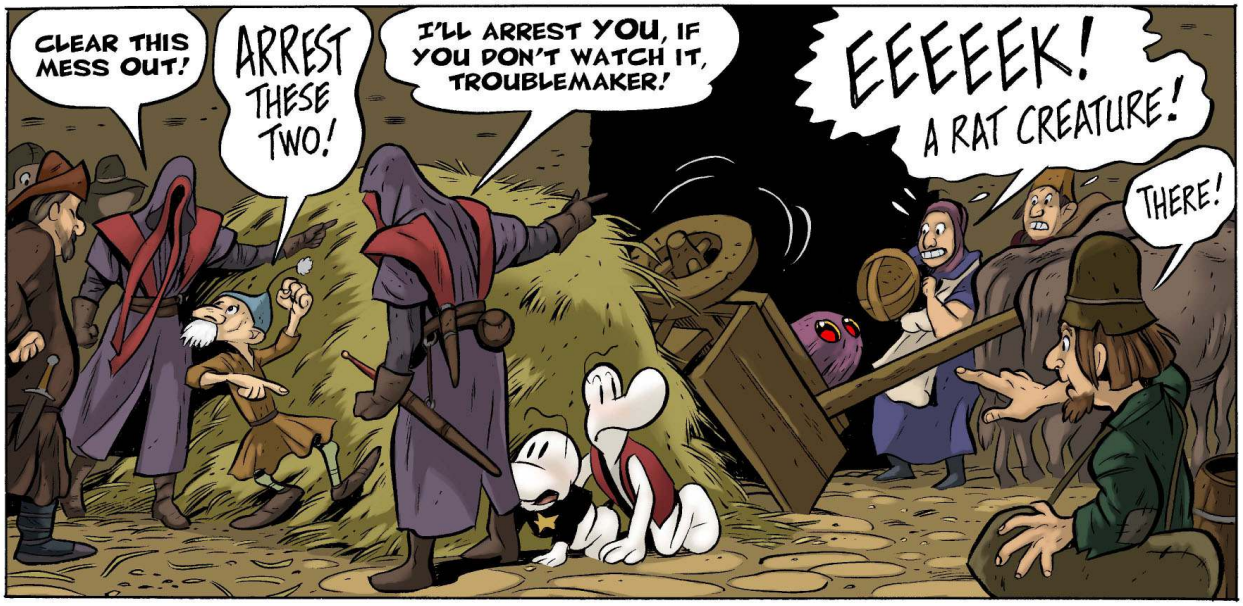

AAWOOOOOAH!
EEEE!

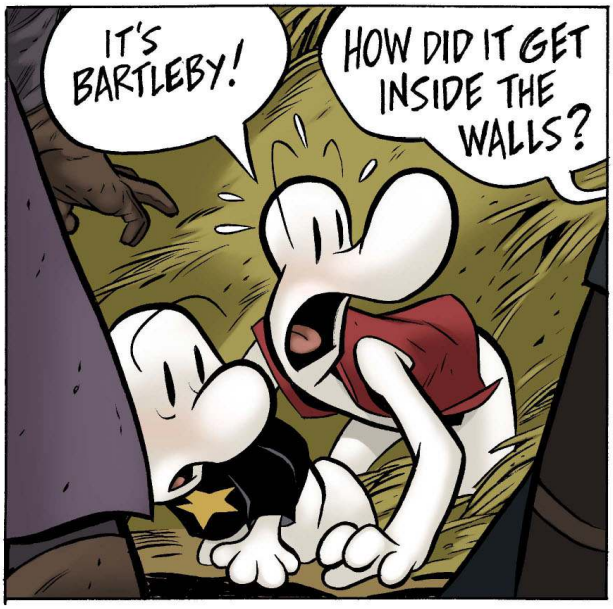

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS GONNA WORK? WHAT IF FONE BONE DOESN'T MEET US AT THE GATE?
HE **HAS** TO. WHEN WE WERE IN THE GHOST CIRCLES HE SWORE A **SOLEMN OATH** TO ME HE'D LEAVE WHENEVER I SAID.
AAH! THE RAT CREATURES ARE COMING!


RUN!
EEE EEEE
WHAT IF THEY WON'T OPEN THE GATE FOR US?
SEE THIS LITTLE BEAUTY? WE'LL **BUY** OUR WAY OUT. **RELAX!** WE'RE PRACTICALLY **HOME FREE!**


OPEN THE GATE! LET ME OUT!
HEY!
HOW'D YOU GET IN THERE? CAN'T YOU SEE WE'RE UNDER ATTACK?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
TWO DAYS AGO YOU WERE YELLING AT US TO LET YOU IN TO FIND YOUR MISSING HAY CART!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT ANYMORE! I JUST WANT TO GET OUT BEFORE THE RATS GET HERE!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT!
WAIT! THERE IT IS!
THIS IS MY HAY CART! THESE ARE MY COWS!
THIEF!
HEY! LEGGO!
MY COWS, AND THEY'RE COMING WITH ME!
CRANK!

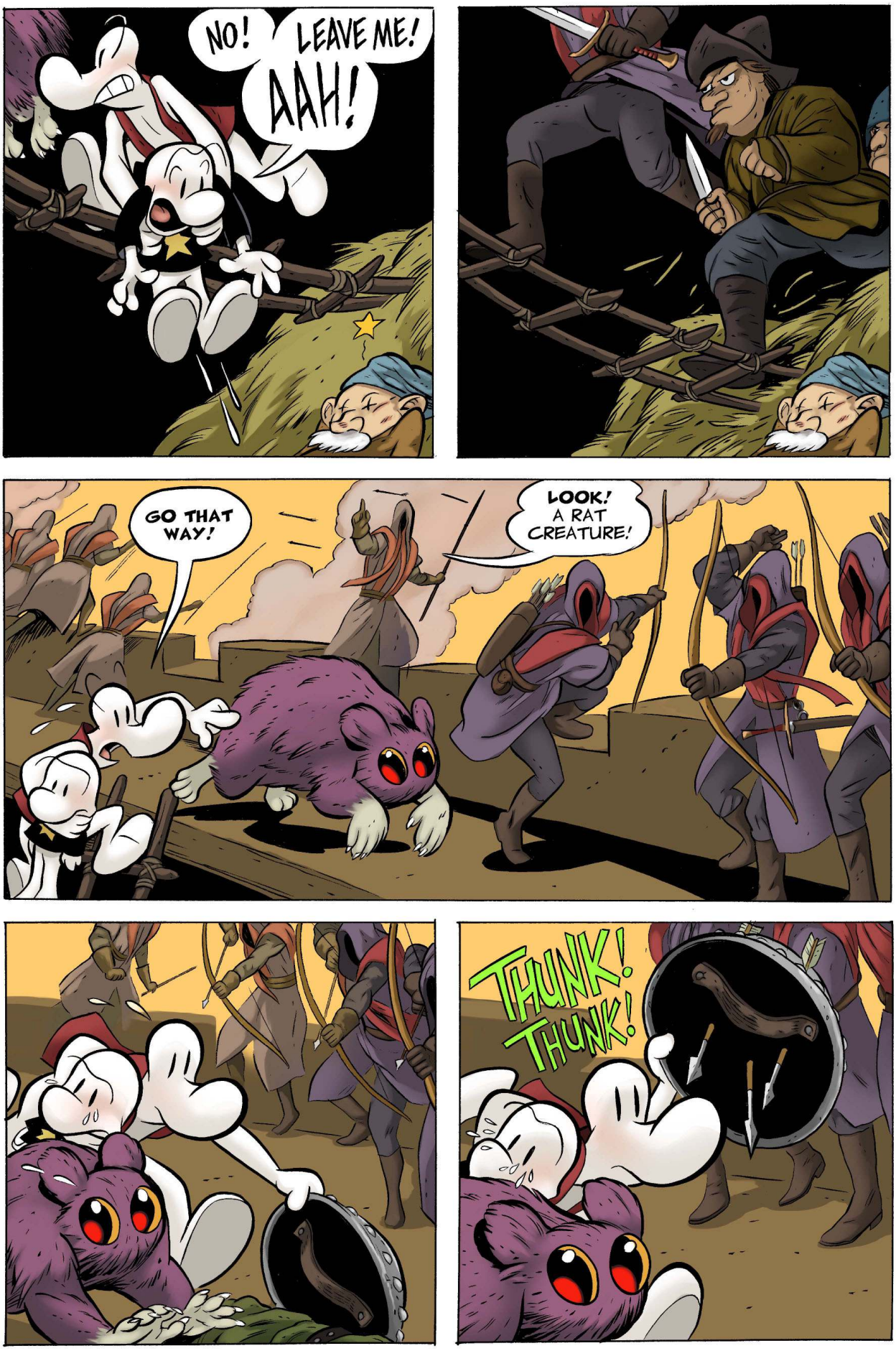

SPLAT!
HEY!
WHAT'S ALL THIS?!

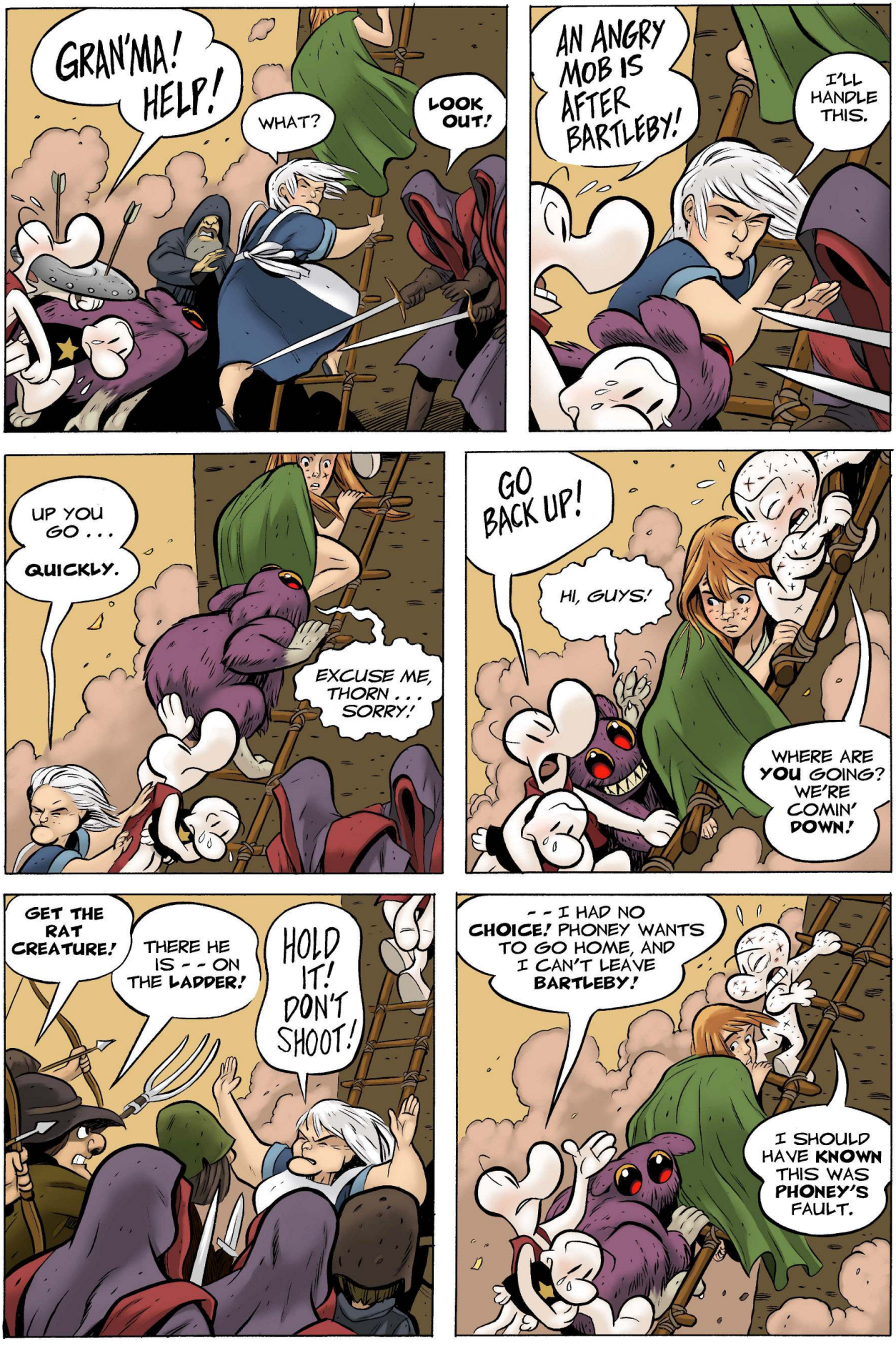

CLEAR THIS MESS OUT!
ARREST THESE TWO!
I'LL ARREST YOU, IF YOU DON'T WATCH IT, TROUBLEMAKER!
EEEEEK! A RAT CREATURE!
THERE!

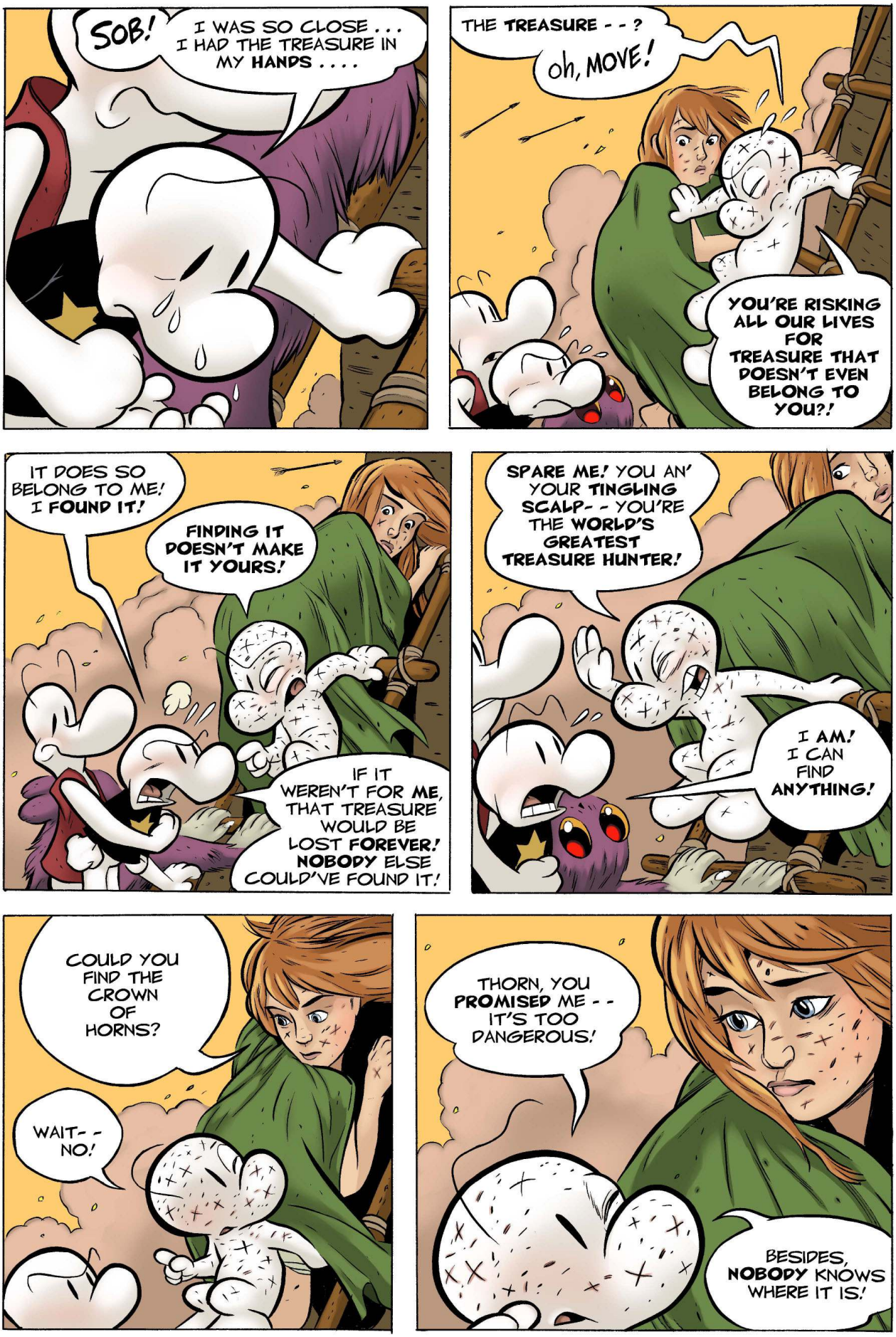

IT'S BARTLEBY!
HOW DID IT GET INSIDE THE WALLS?

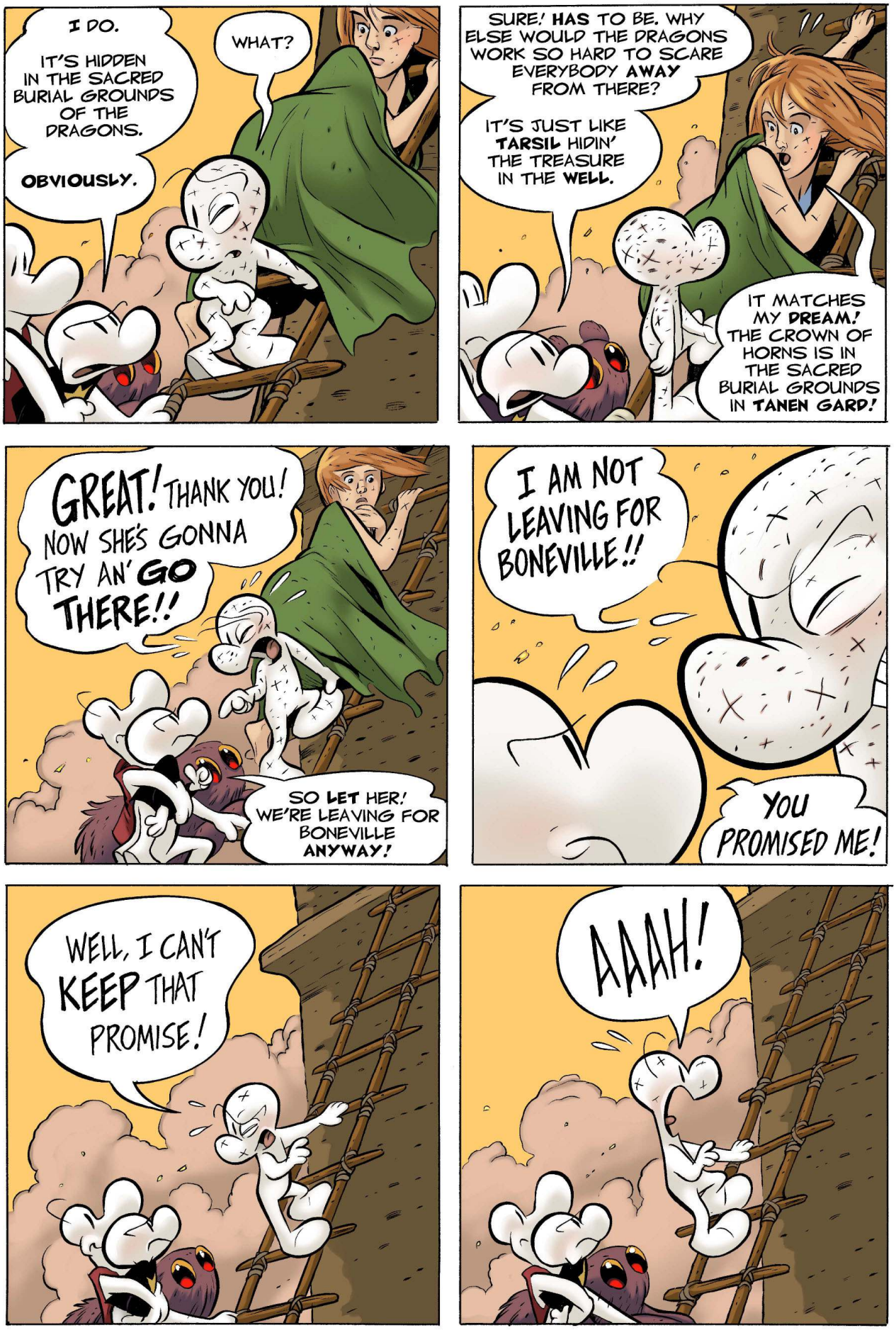

WHERE IS IT?
DON'T LET IT GET AWAY!
BARTLEBY!
LOOK OUT!

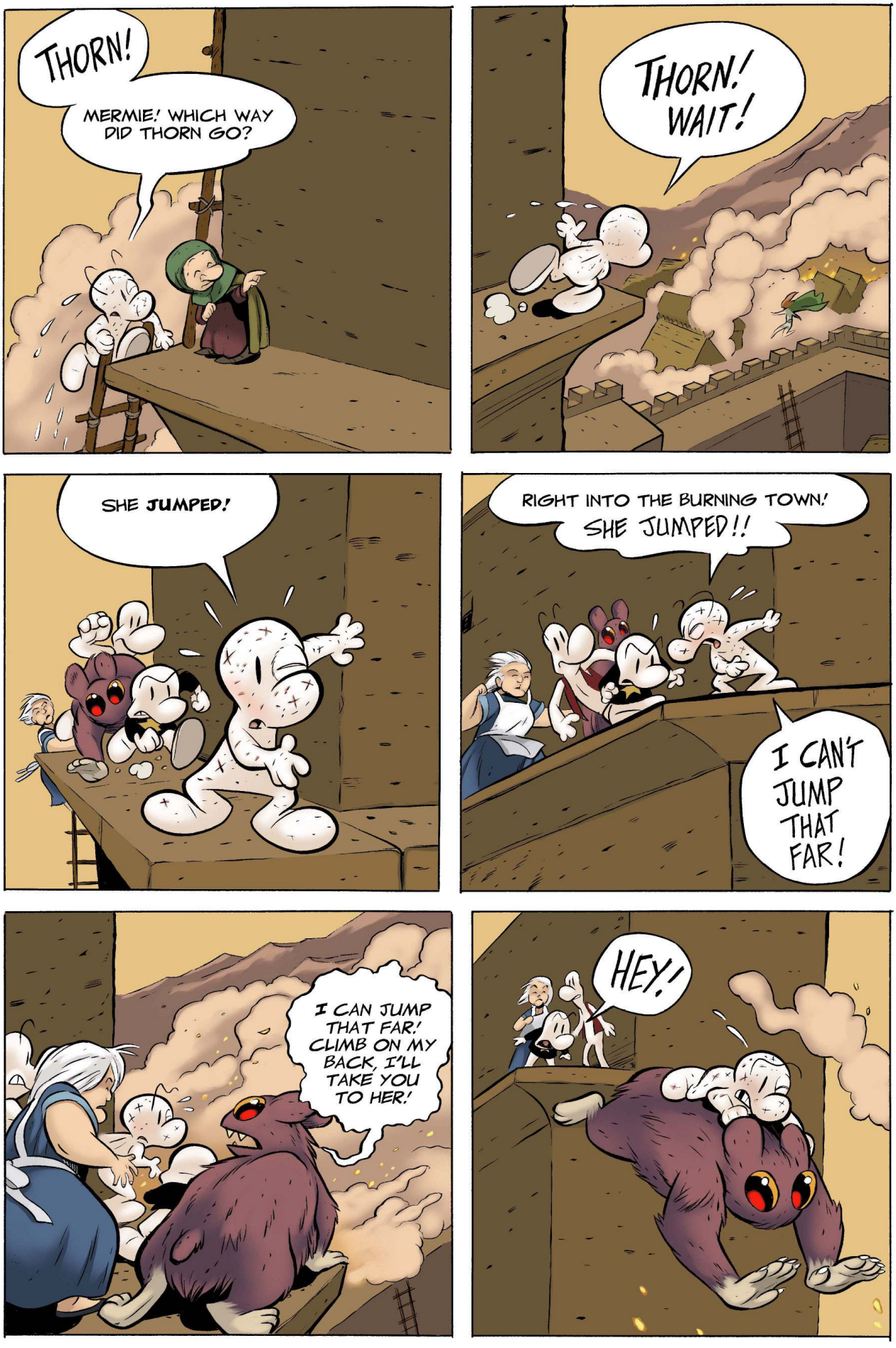

HE'S CORNERED!
WATCH THAT SIDE - -
I'LL KILL IT!
RUN, BARTLEBY!
MY TREASURE - -
MY TREASURE . . .
PHONEY! HELP!
HELP US!
HERE!
OH, NO YOU DON'T! YOU'RE NOT HELPING THEM ESCAPE!
BAM!

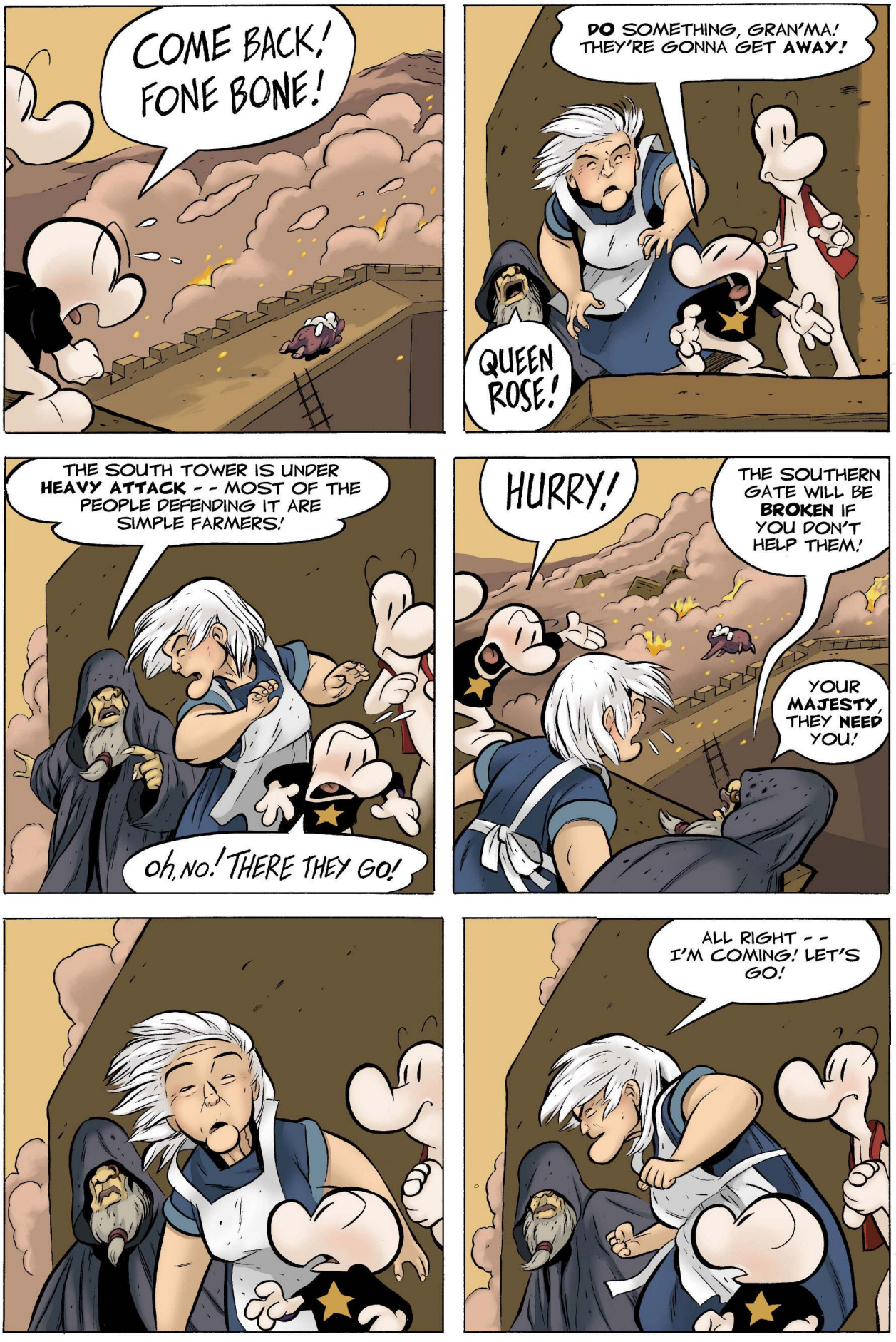

NO!
LEAVE ME!
AAH!
GO THAT WAY!
LOOK! A RAT CREATURE!
THUNK!
THUNK!

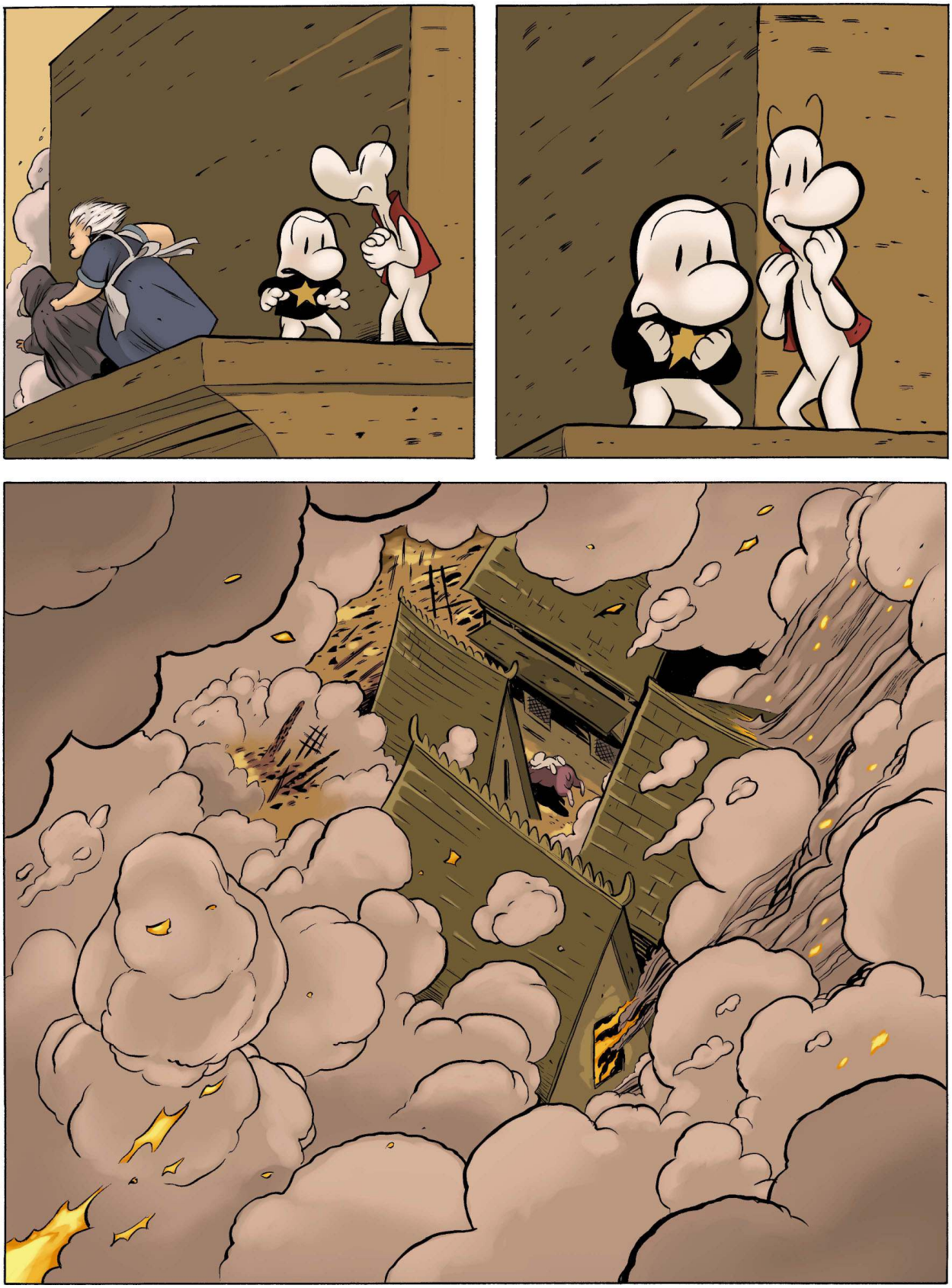

GRAN'MA! HELP!
WHAT?
LOOK OUT!
AN ANGRY MOB IS AFTER BARTLEBY!
I'LL HANDLE THIS.
UP YOU GO . . . QUICKLY.
EXCUSE ME, THORN . . . SORRY!
GO BACK UP!
HI, GUYS!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WE'RE COMIN' DOWN!
GET THE RAT CREATURE!
THERE HE IS - - ON THE LADDER!
HOLD IT! DON'T SHOOT!
- - I HAD NO CHOICE! PHONEY WANTS TO GO HOME, AND I CAN'T LEAVE BARTLEBY!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THIS WAS PHONEY'S FAULT.

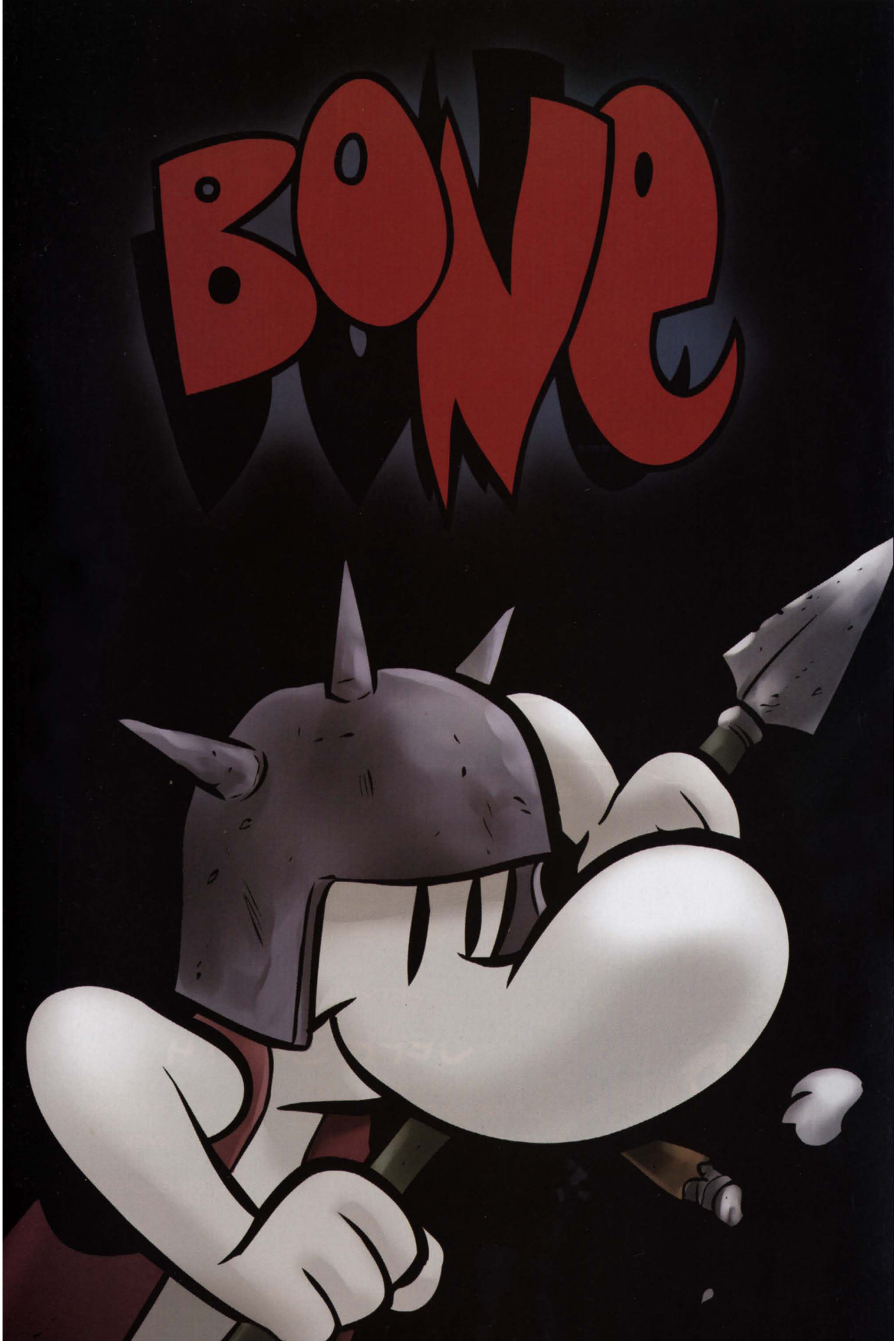

SOB!
I WAS SO CLOSE . . . I HAD THE TREASURE IN MY HANDS . . . .
THE TREASURE - - ?
oh, MOVE!
YOU'RE RISKING ALL OUR LIVES FOR TREASURE THAT DOESN'T EVEN BELONG TO YOU?!
IT DOES SO BELONG TO ME! I FOUND IT!
FINDING IT DOESN'T MAKE IT YOURS!
IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME, THAT TREASURE WOULD BE LOST FOREVER! NOBODY ELSE COULD'VE FOUND IT!
SPARE ME! YOU AN' YOUR TINGLING SCALP- - YOU'RE THE WORLD'S GREATEST TREASURE HUNTER!
I AM! I CAN FIND ANYTHING!
COULD YOU FIND THE CROWN OF HORNS?
WAIT- - NO!
THORN, YOU PROMISED ME - - IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
BESIDES, NOBODY KNOWS WHERE IT IS!

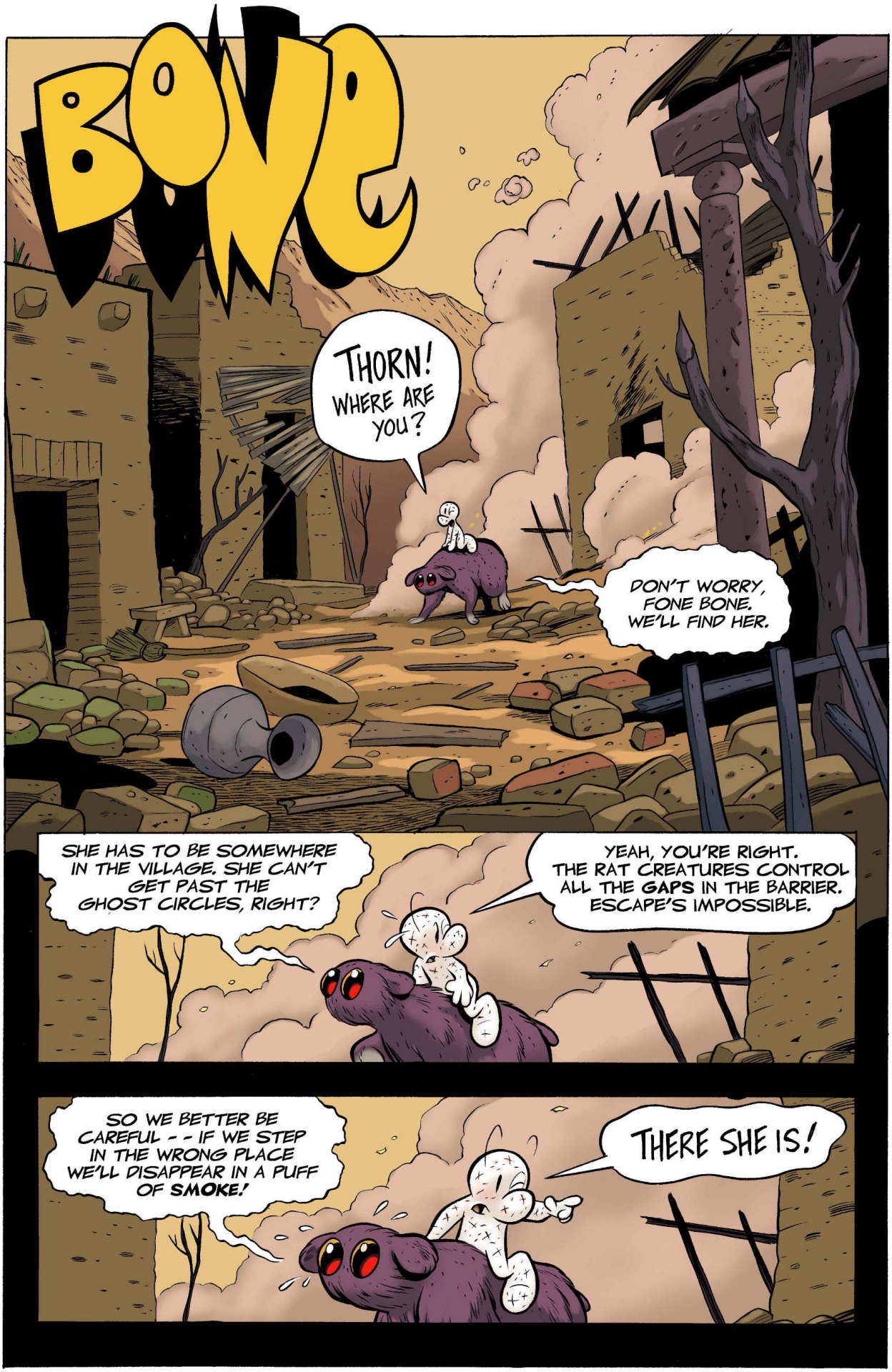

I DO.
IT'S HIDDEN IN THE SACRED BURIAL GROUNDS OF THE DRAGONS.
OBVIOUSLY.
WHAT?
SURE! HAS TO BE. WHY ELSE WOULD THE DRAGONS WORK SO HARD TO SCARE EVERYBODY AWAY FROM THERE?
IT'S JUST LIKE TARSIL HIDIN' THE TREASURE IN THE WELL.
IT MATCHES MY DREAM! THE CROWN OF HORNS IS IN THE SACRED BURIAL GROUNDS IN TANEN GARD!
GREAT! THANK YOU! NOW SHE'S GONNA TRY AN' GO THERE!!
SO LET HER! WE'RE LEAVING FOR BONEVILLE ANYWAY!
I AM NOT LEAVING FOR BONEVILLE!!
YOU PROMISED ME!
WELL, I CAN'T KEEP THAT PROMISE!
AAAH!

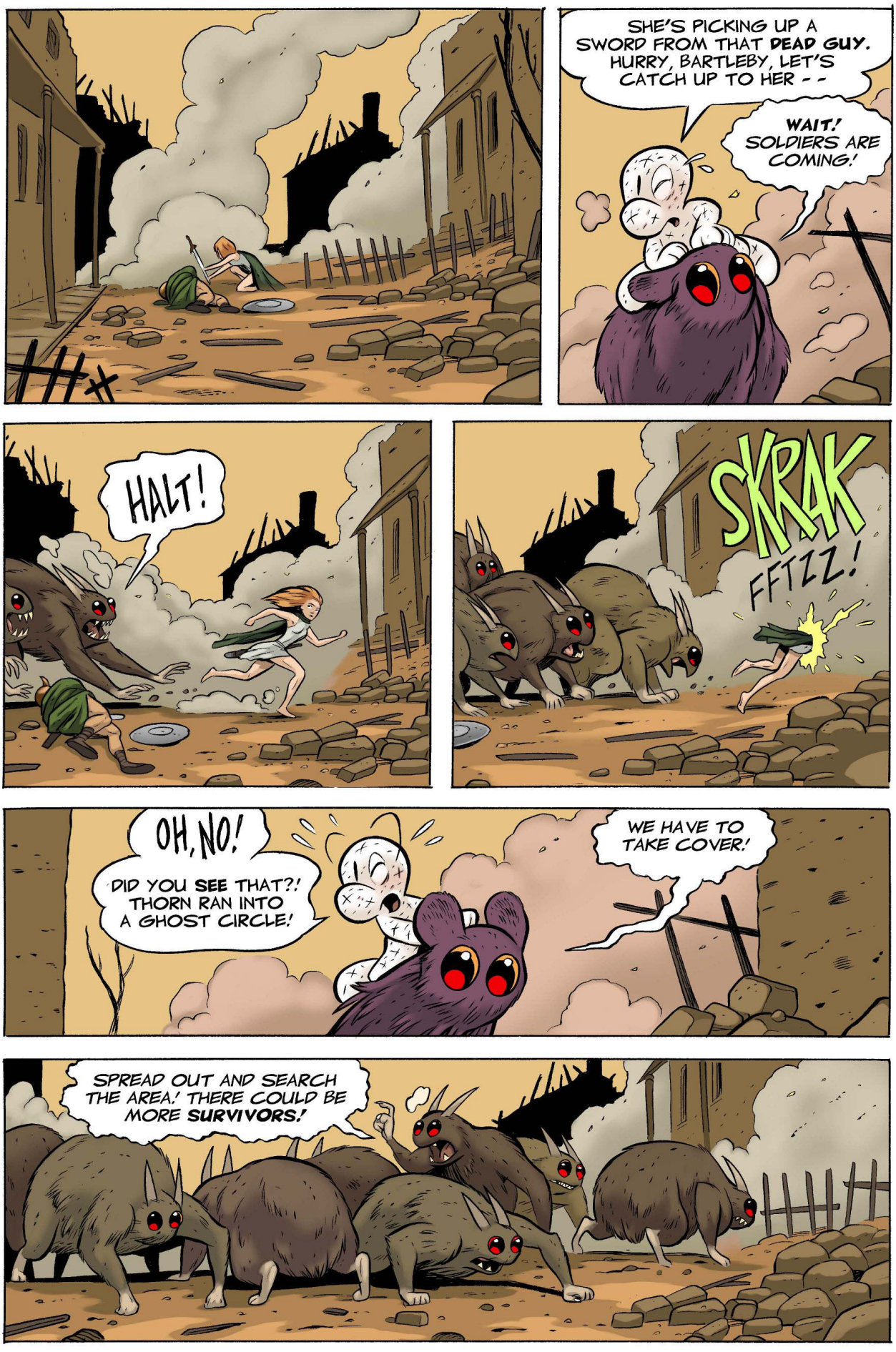

THORN!
MERMIE! WHICH WAY DID THORN GO?
THORN! WAIT!
SHE JUMPED!
RIGHT INTO THE BURNING TOWN! SHE JUMPED!!
I CAN'T JUMP THAT FAR!
I CAN JUMP THAT FAR! CLIMB ON MY BACK, I'LL TAKE YOU TO HER!
HEY!

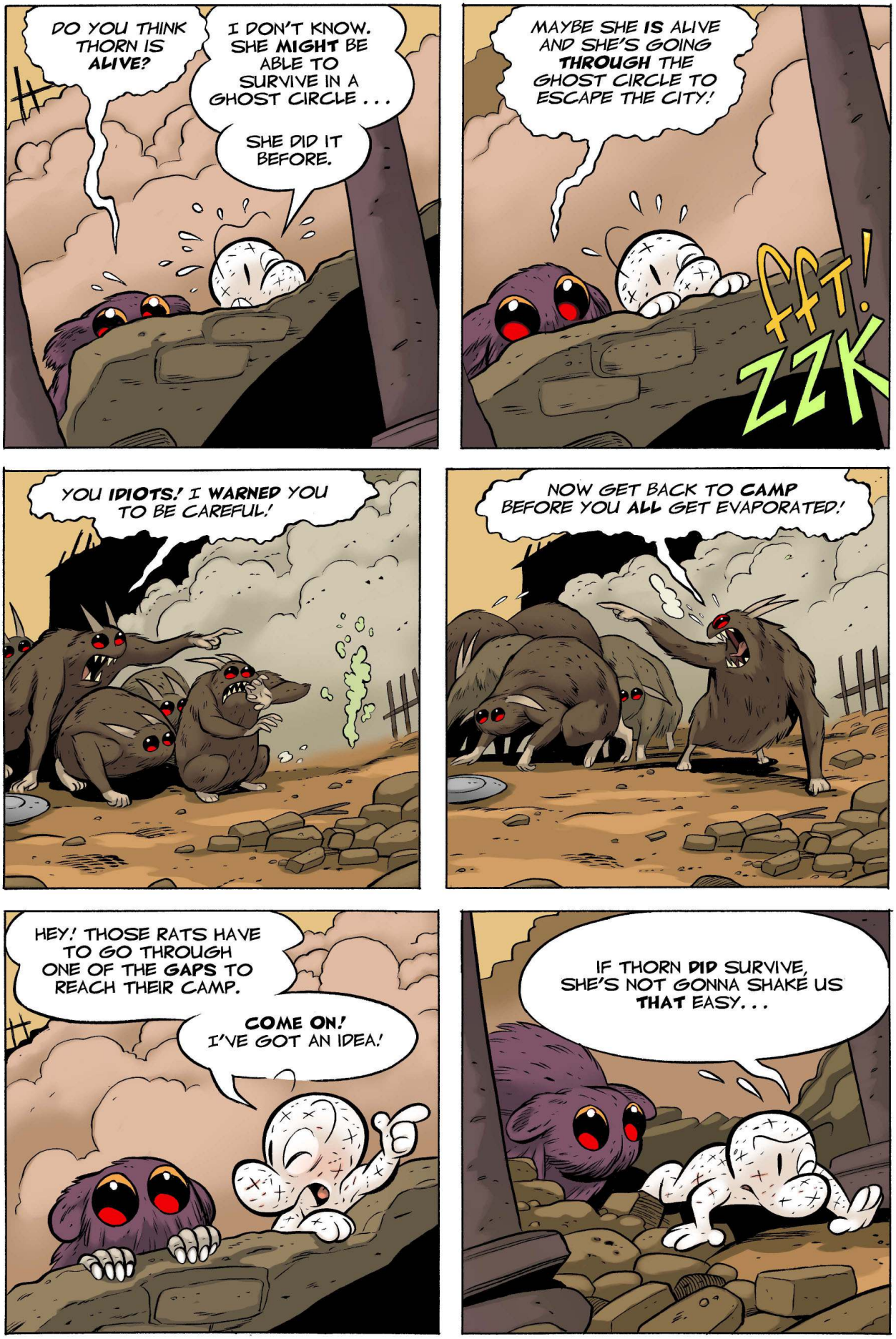

COME BACK! FONE BONE!
DO SOMETHING, GRAN'MA! THEY'RE GONNA GET AWAY!
QUEEN ROSE!
THE SOUTH TOWER IS UNDER HEAVY ATTACK - - MOST OF THE PEOPLE DEFENDING IT ARE SIMPLE FARMERS!
OH, NO! THERE THEY GO!
HURRY!
THE SOUTHERN GATE WILL BE BROKEN IF YOU DON'T HELP THEM!
YOUR MAJESTY, THEY NEED YOU!
ALL RIGHT - - I'M COMING! LET'S GO!

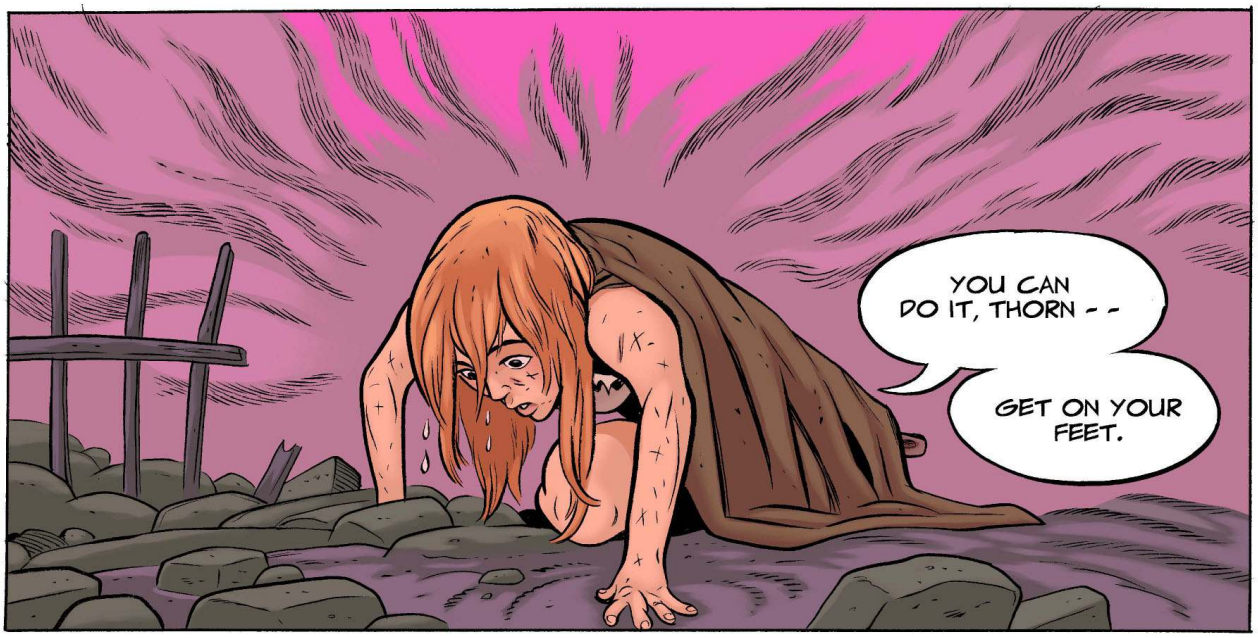


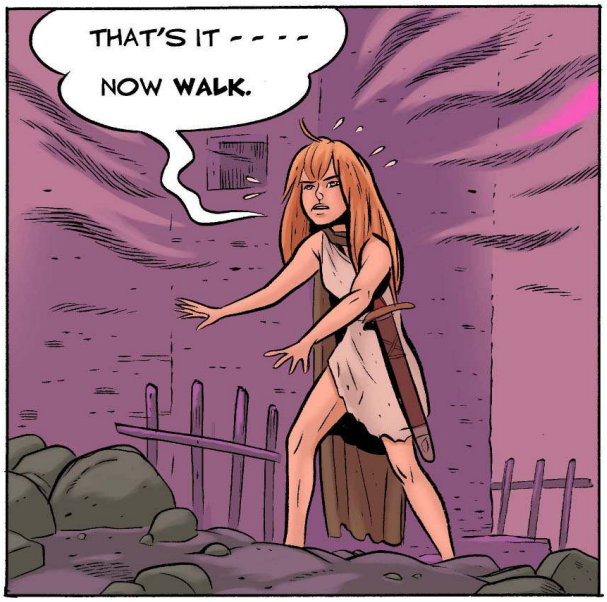

BONE

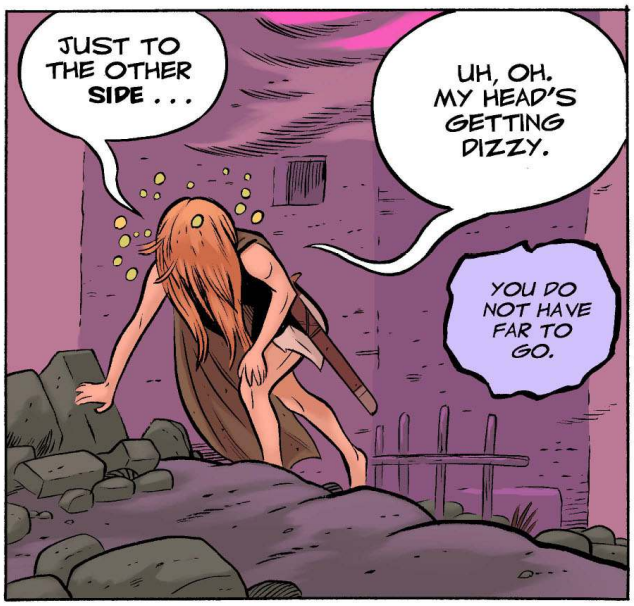

BONE
THORN! WHERE ARE YOU?
DON'T WORRY, FONE BONE. WE'LL FIND HER.
SHE HAS TO BE SOMEWHERE IN THE VILLAGE. SHE CAN'T GET PAST THE GHOST CIRCLES, RIGHT?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. THE RAT CREATURES CONTROL ALL THE GAPS IN THE BARRIER. ESCAPE'S IMPOSSIBLE.
SO WE BETTER BE CAREFUL - - IF WE STEP IN THE WRONG PLACE WE'LL DISAPPEAR IN A PUFF OF SMOKE!
THERE SHE IS!

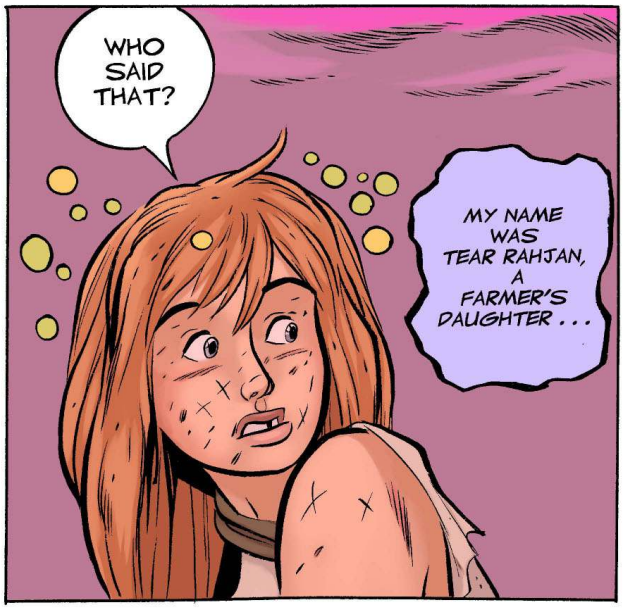

SHE'S PICKING UP A SWORD FROM THAT DEAD GUY. HURRY, BARTLEBY, LET'S CATCH UP TO HER - -
WAIT! SOLDIERS ARE COMING!
HALT!
SKRAK
FFTZZ!
OH, NO!
DID YOU SEE THAT?! THORN RAN INTO A GHOST CIRCLE!
WE HAVE TO TAKE COVER!
SPREAD OUT AND SEARCH THE AREA! THERE COULD BE MORE SURVIVORS!

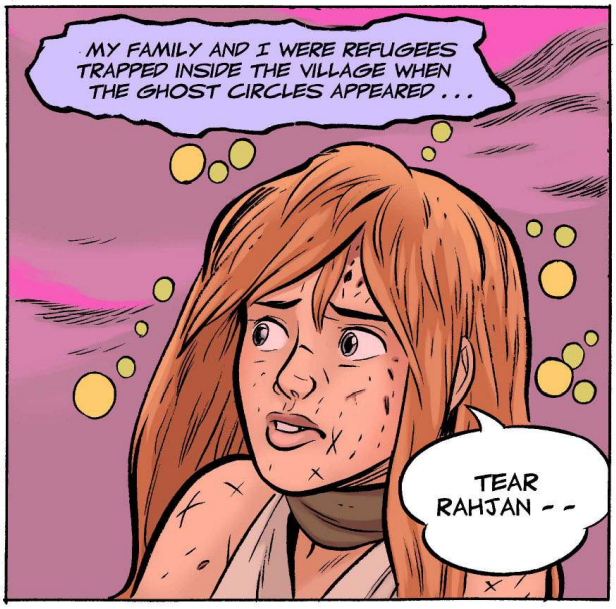

DO YOU THINK THORN IS ALIVE?
I DON'T KNOW. SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SURVIVE IN A GHOST CIRCLE . . .
SHE DID IT BEFORE.
MAYBE SHE IS ALIVE AND SHE'S GOING THROUGH THE GHOST CIRCLE TO ESCAPE THE CITY!
fft!
ZZK
YOU IDIOTS! I WARNED YOU TO BE CAREFUL!
NOW GET BACK TO CAMP BEFORE YOU ALL GET EVAPORATED!
HEY! THOSE RATS HAVE TO GO THROUGH ONE OF THE GAPS TO REACH THEIR CAMP.
COME ON! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
IF THORN DID SURVIVE, SHE'S NOT GONNA SHAKE US THAT EASY. . .

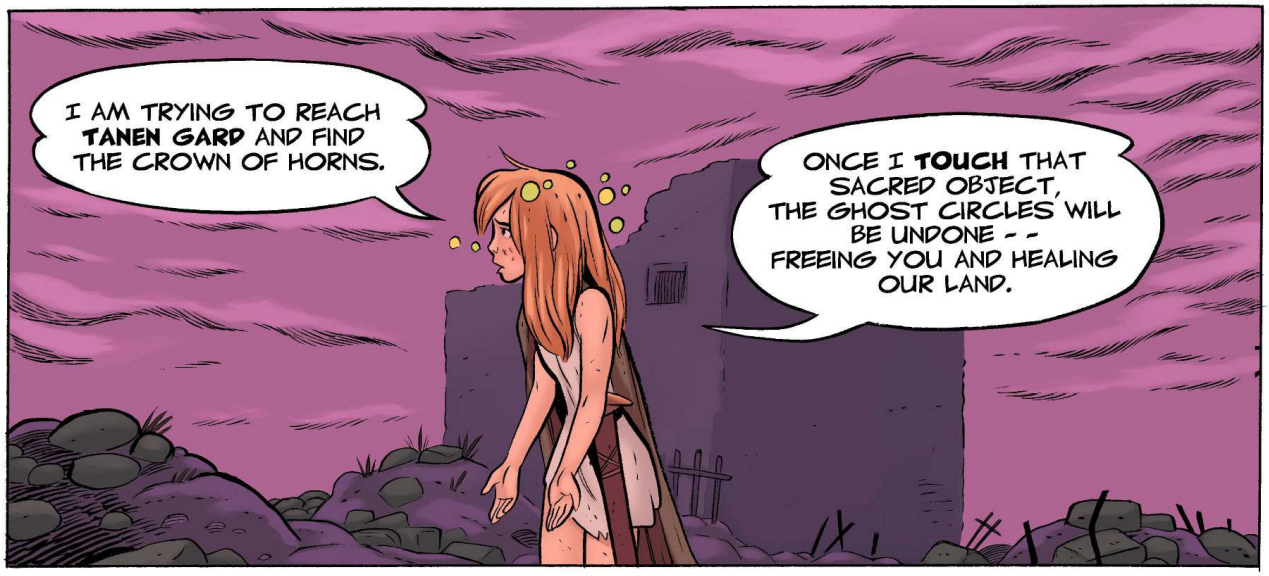

YOU CAN DO IT, THORN - -
GET ON YOUR FEET.

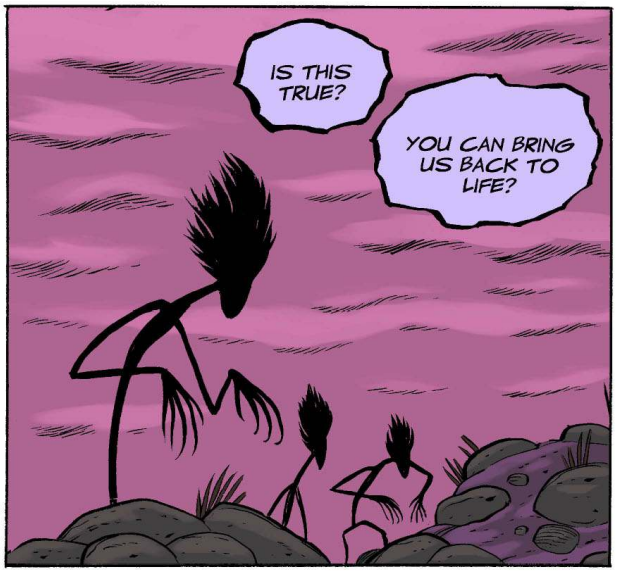

THAT'S IT - - - -
NOW **WALK.**

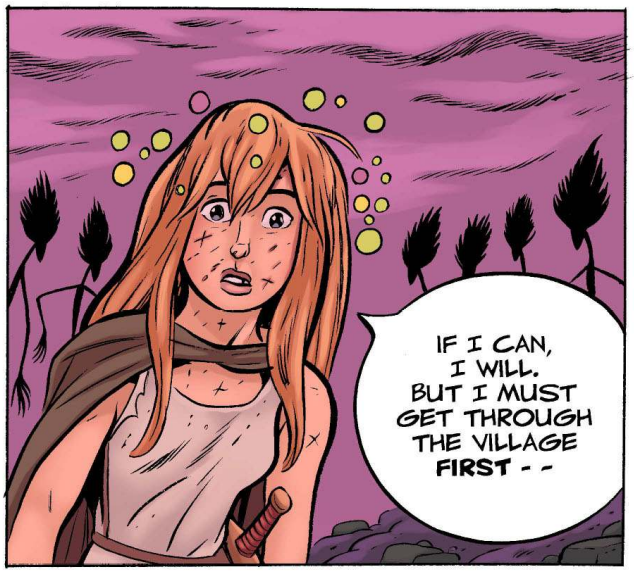

JUST TO THE OTHER **SIDE** . . .
UH, OH. MY HEAD'S GETTING DIZZY.
YOU DO NOT HAVE FAR TO GO.


WHO SAID THAT?
MY NAME WAS TEAR RAHJAN, A FARMER'S DAUGHTER . . .


MY FAMILY AND I WERE REFUGEES TRAPPED INSIDE THE VILLAGE WHEN THE GHOST CIRCLES APPEARED . . .
TEAR RAHJAN - -


I AM TRYING TO REACH TANEN GARD AND FIND THE CROWN OF HORNS.
ONCE I TOUCH THAT SACRED OBJECT, THE GHOST CIRCLES WILL BE UNDONE - - FREEING YOU AND HEALING OUR LAND.


IS THIS TRUE?
YOU CAN BRING US BACK TO LIFE?

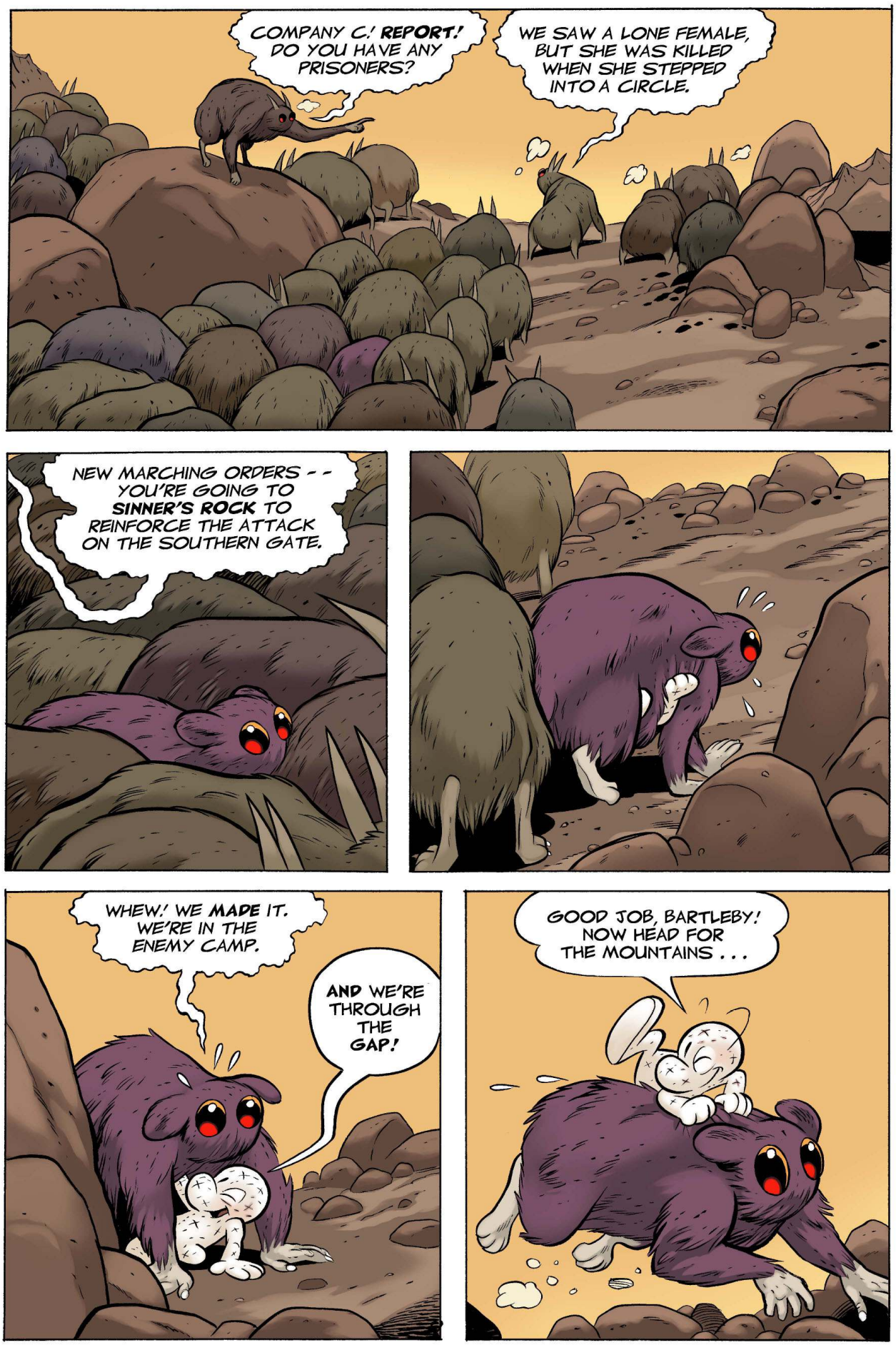

IF I CAN, I WILL. BUT I MUST GET THROUGH THE VILLAGE FIRST - -


SSZZKRAK!
WHAT'S THAT?


IT IS THE LOCUST! HE KNOWS YOU ARE HERE!
HELP US.
PAIN.
YOU MUST FLEE!



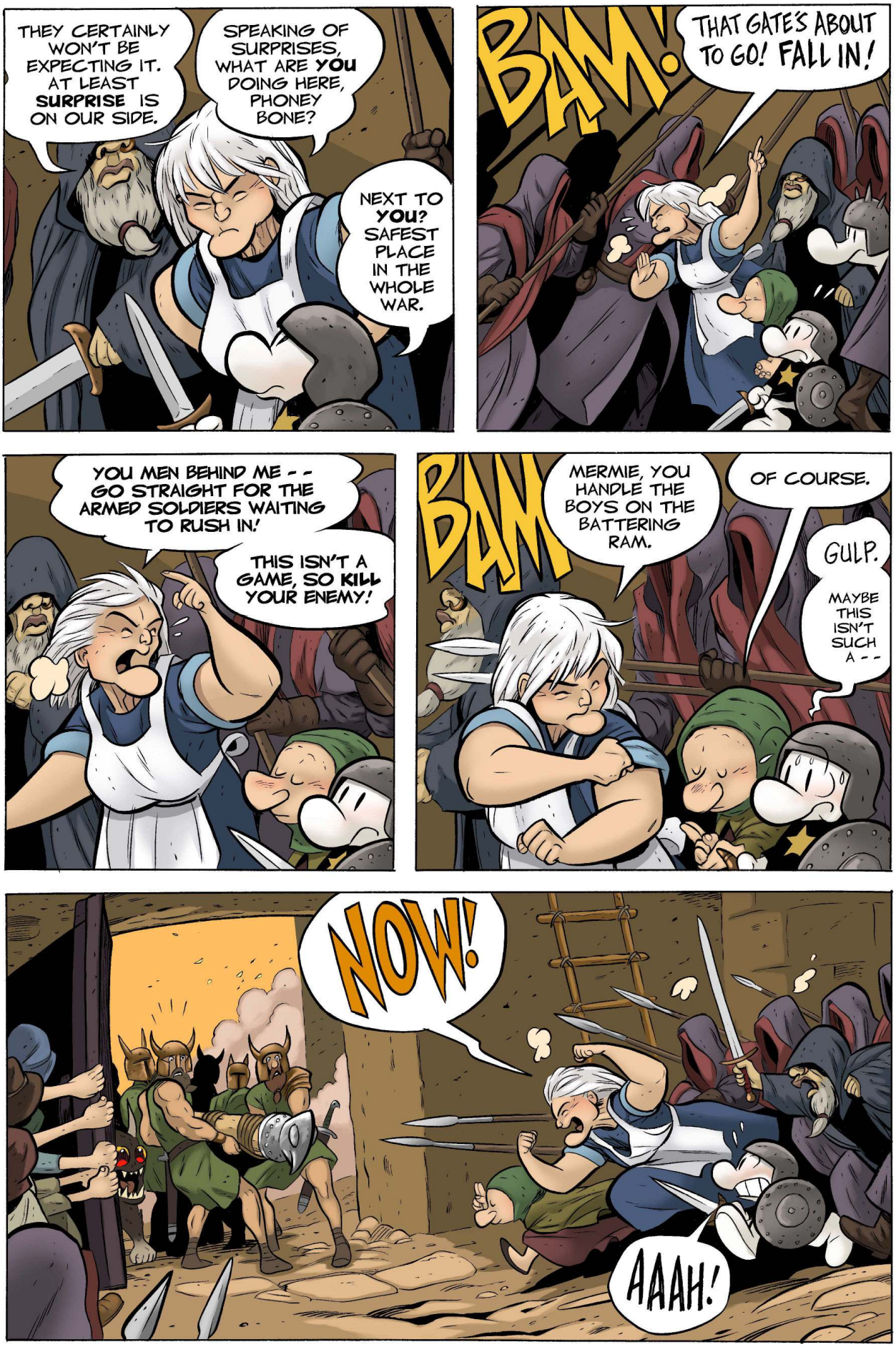
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


COMPANY C.! REPORT! DO YOU HAVE ANY PRISONERS?
WE SAW A LONE FEMALE, BUT SHE WAS KILLED WHEN SHE STEPPED INTO A CIRCLE.
NEW MARCHING ORDERS - - YOU'RE GOING TO SINNER'S ROCK TO REINFORCE THE ATTACK ON THE SOUTHERN GATE.
WHEW! WE MADE IT. WE'RE IN THE ENEMY CAMP.
AND WE'RE THROUGH THE GAP!
GOOD JOB, BARTLEBY! NOW HEAD FOR THE MOUNTAINS . . .


HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING -- THERE'RE GHOST CIRCLES AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW WHERE THEY ARE? THEY'RE INVISIBLE!
ffz
ZZTKK!
POW!
FONE BONE! HOW DID YOU AND BARTLEBY GET OUT OF THE CITY?
IT'S A LONG STORY - -
SAVE IT. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.


DO YOU SEE THAT STORM? INSIDE IS THE LOCUST IN THE FORM OF MIM, THE GREAT QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS, AND SHE'S COMING THIS WAY!
WE HAVE TO REACH TANEN GARD AND FIND THE CROWN OF HORNS BEFORE THAT STORM GETS HERE!
BUT IT TOOK US TWO DAYS TO WALK HERE FROM TANEN GARD--
WE'LL TAKE A SHORT-CUT.

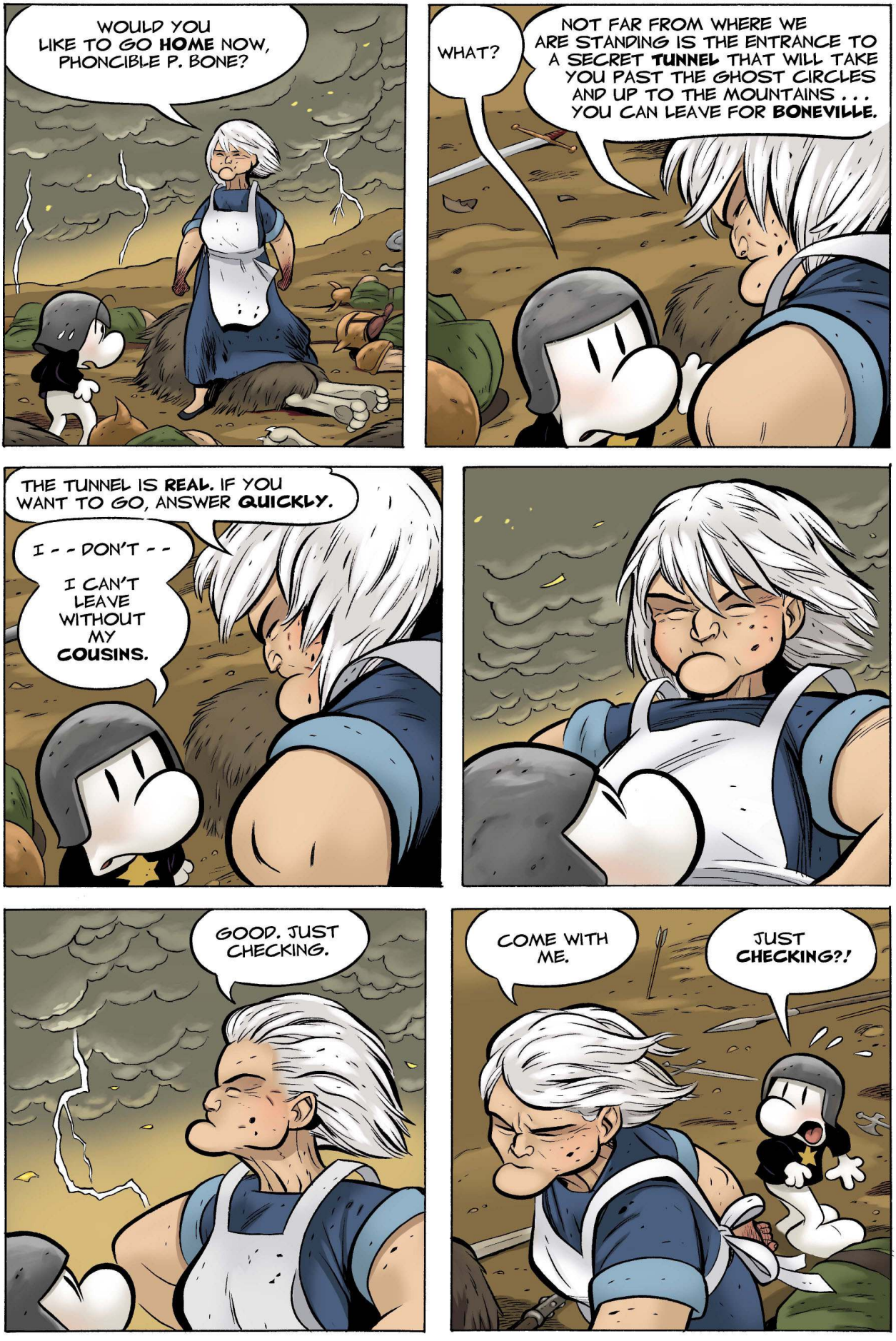

BAM!
QUEEN ROSE! THANK THE STARS YOU'VE COME!
THE ENEMY IS USING A BATTERING RAM, AND THE GATE WON'T HOLD MUCH LONGER!
GET EVERYONE BEHIND ME AND GET READY TO OPEN THE GATE ON MY COMMAND!
YOUR MAJESTY - -? ARE YOU SURE WE CAN FIGHT THEM WITH THIS GROUP OF FARMERS?
ARE YOU KIDDING? SHE CAN FIGHT 'EM SINGLE-HANDED IF SHE WANTS!


THEY CERTAINLY WON'T BE EXPECTING IT. AT LEAST SURPRISE IS ON OUR SIDE.
SPEAKING OF SURPRISES, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, PHONEY BONE?
NEXT TO YOU? SAFEST PLACE IN THE WHOLE WAR.
BAM!
THAT GATE'S ABOUT TO GO! FALL IN!
YOU MEN BEHIND ME - - GO STRAIGHT FOR THE ARMED SOLDIERS WAITING TO RUSH IN!
THIS ISN'T A GAME, SO KILL YOUR ENEMY!
BAM
MERMIE, YOU HANDLE THE BOYS ON THE BATTERING RAM.
OF COURSE.
GULP.
MAYBE THIS ISN'T SUCH A - -
NOW!
AAAH!


LOOK OUT! TWO GOT THROUGH!
AR! SNAR!
STOP THEM! DON'T LET THEM IN THE CITY!
RRAAH! SSS!
RARRAR!
PLEASE DON'T HURT US! IT'S NOT OUR FAULT WE'RE MONSTERS! WE WERE BORN THIS WAY!
HEY! I KNOW THESE GUYS!

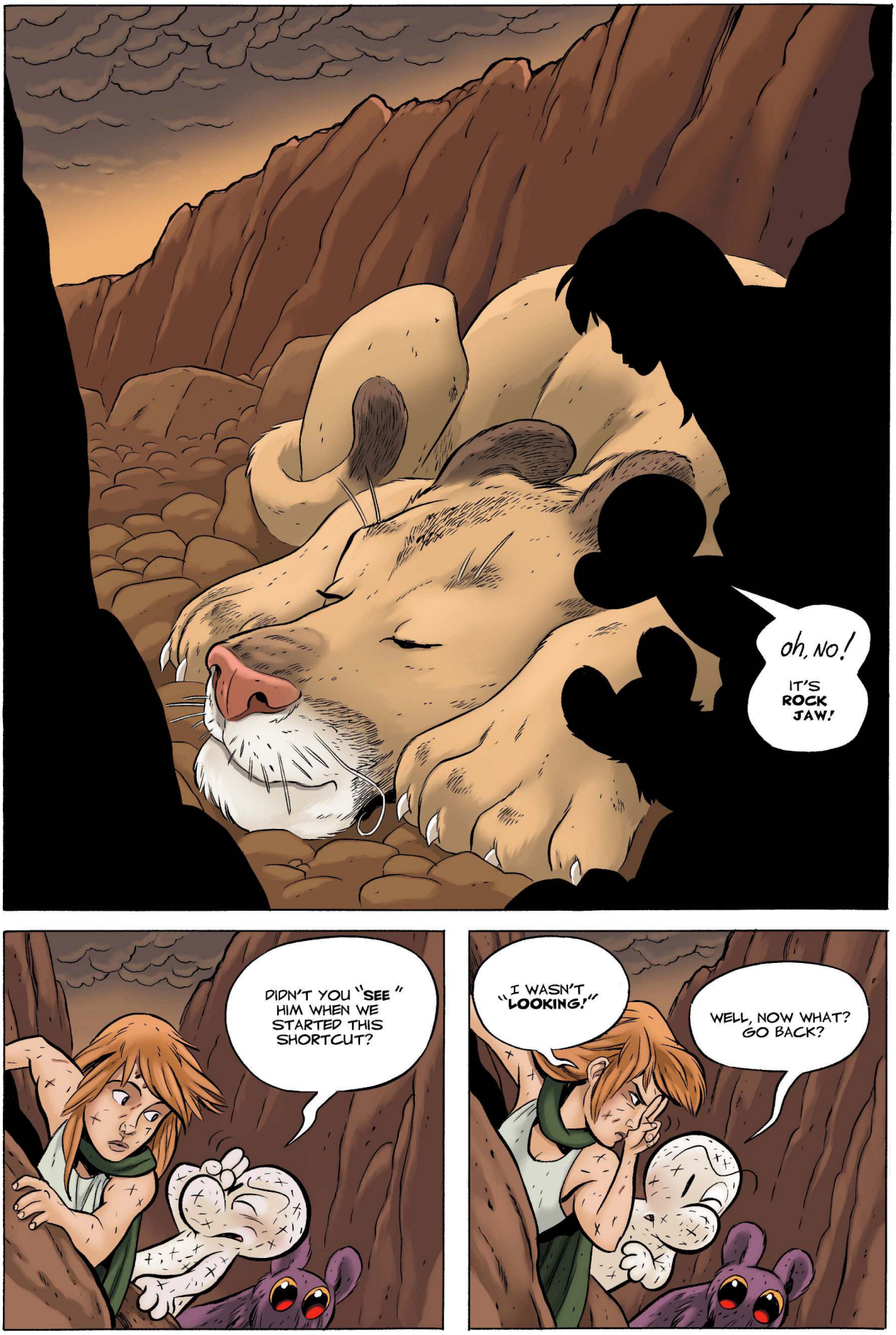

AAAIECANG!
SHING!
YEAH! YEAH!
WE'RE ROUTIN' 'EM!
MERMIE! LADDERS!
LOOK AT 'EM RUN!
RUN BACK TO YOUR MISTRESS! TELL HER TO COME HERSELF NEXT TIME!


Huff! Puff!
BREAK THOSE LADDERS INTO PIECES AND GET THIS GATE RE-BARRED. . .
Puff! Puff.
Huff...
EYUH!


WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO **HOME** NOW, PHONCIBLE P. BONE?
WHAT?
NOT FAR FROM WHERE WE ARE STANDING IS THE ENTRANCE TO A SECRET **TUNNEL** THAT WILL TAKE YOU PAST THE GHOST CIRCLES AND UP TO THE MOUNTAINS . . . YOU CAN LEAVE FOR **BONEVILLE.**
THE TUNNEL IS **REAL.** IF YOU WANT TO GO, ANSWER **QUICKLY.**
I - - DON'T - -
I CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT MY **COUSINS.**
GOOD. JUST CHECKING.
COME WITH ME.
JUST **CHECKING?!**


YOU WERE TESTING ME?
YES.
THERE.
THIS ESCAPE TUNNEL ONCE BELONGED TO THE ROYAL FAMILY. THE ORIGINAL ENTRANCE WAS DESTROYED LONG AGO.
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO SEE MY SISTER.

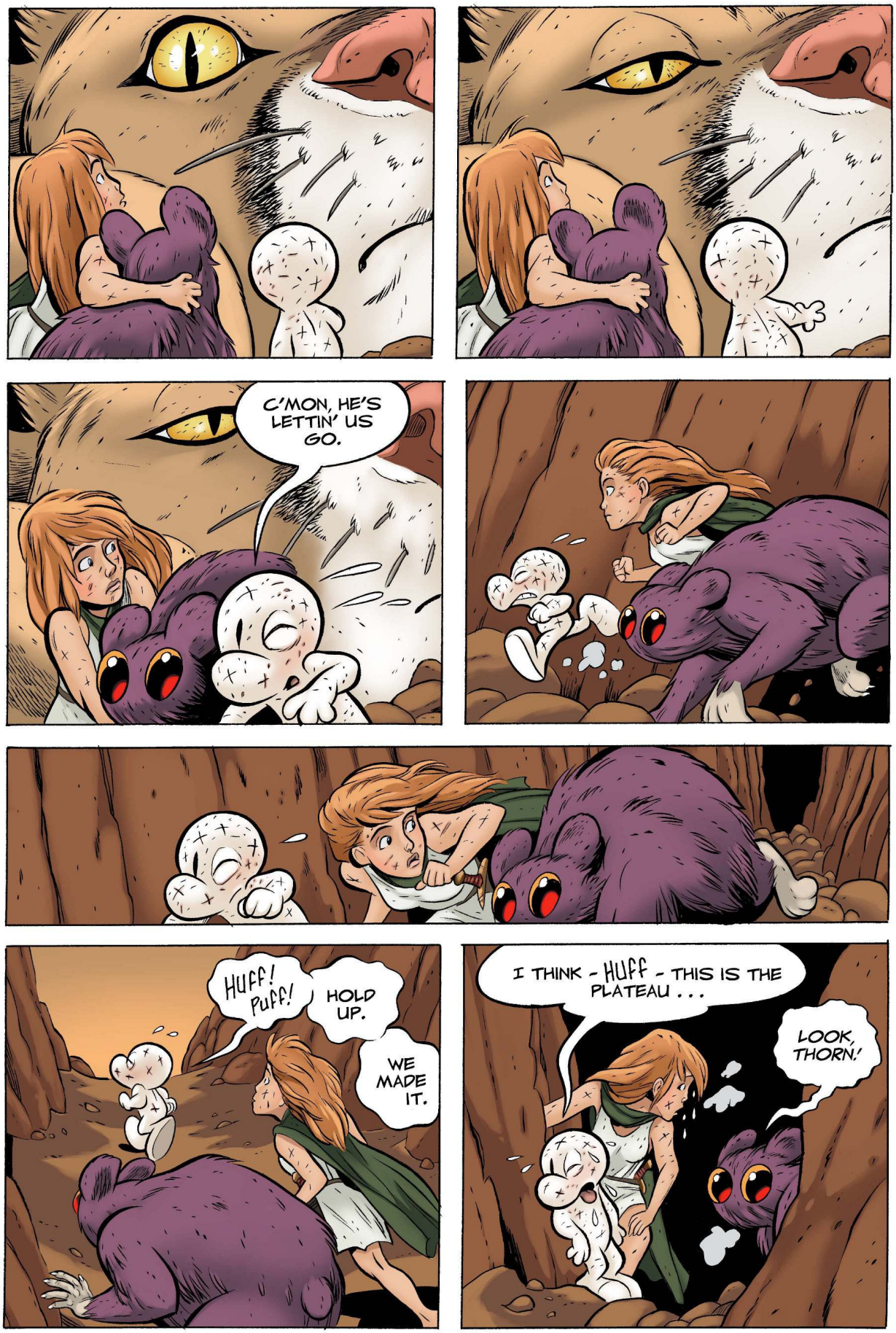

I HATE SHORT CUTS.
STOP WORRYING. THIS TRENCH **HAS** TO FEED INTO THE BURIAL GROUND GORGE **SOMEWHERE.**
hmmf.
WAIT - - !
YOUR **FRIEND** IS CURLED UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PATH.
WHO?
TAKE A LOOK.


oh, no!
IT'S ROCK JAW!
DIDN'T YOU "SEE" HIM WHEN WE STARTED THIS SHORTCUT?
I WASN'T "LOOKING!"
WELL, NOW WHAT? GO BACK?

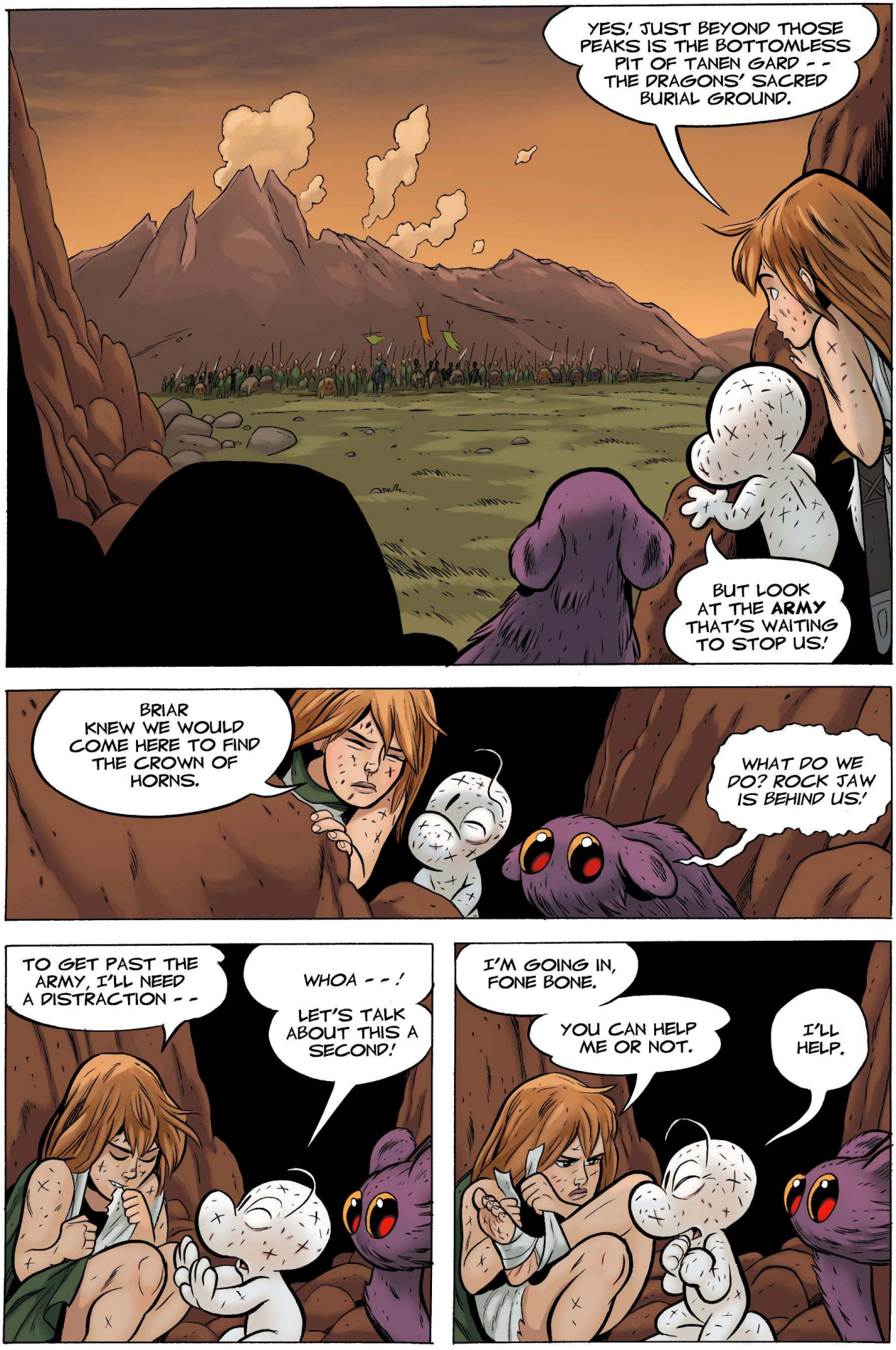


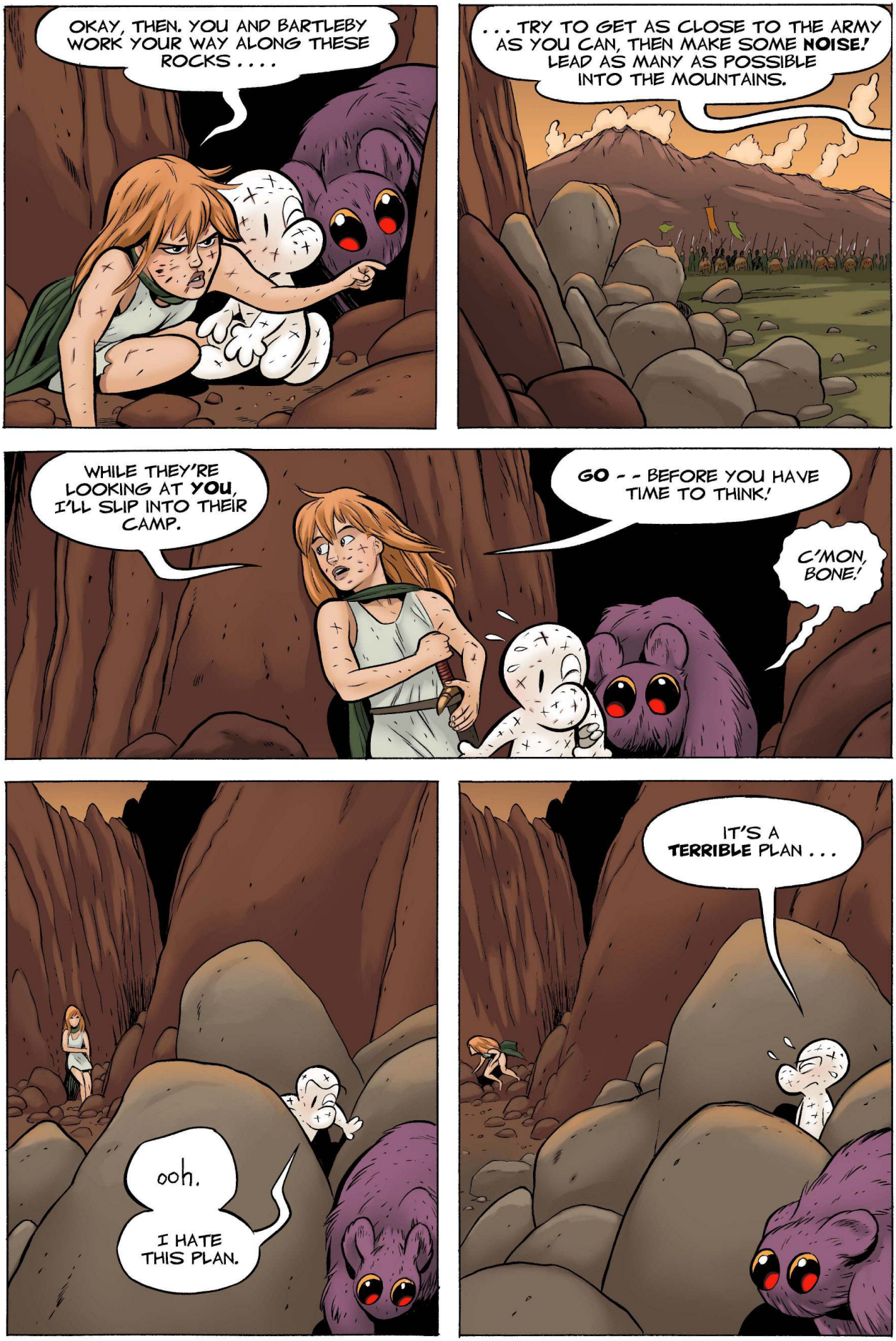
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


RUN, FONE BONE!
WAIT!
PUT YOUR SWORD AWAY.
BARTLEBY... COME OVER TO US...
SLOWLY...

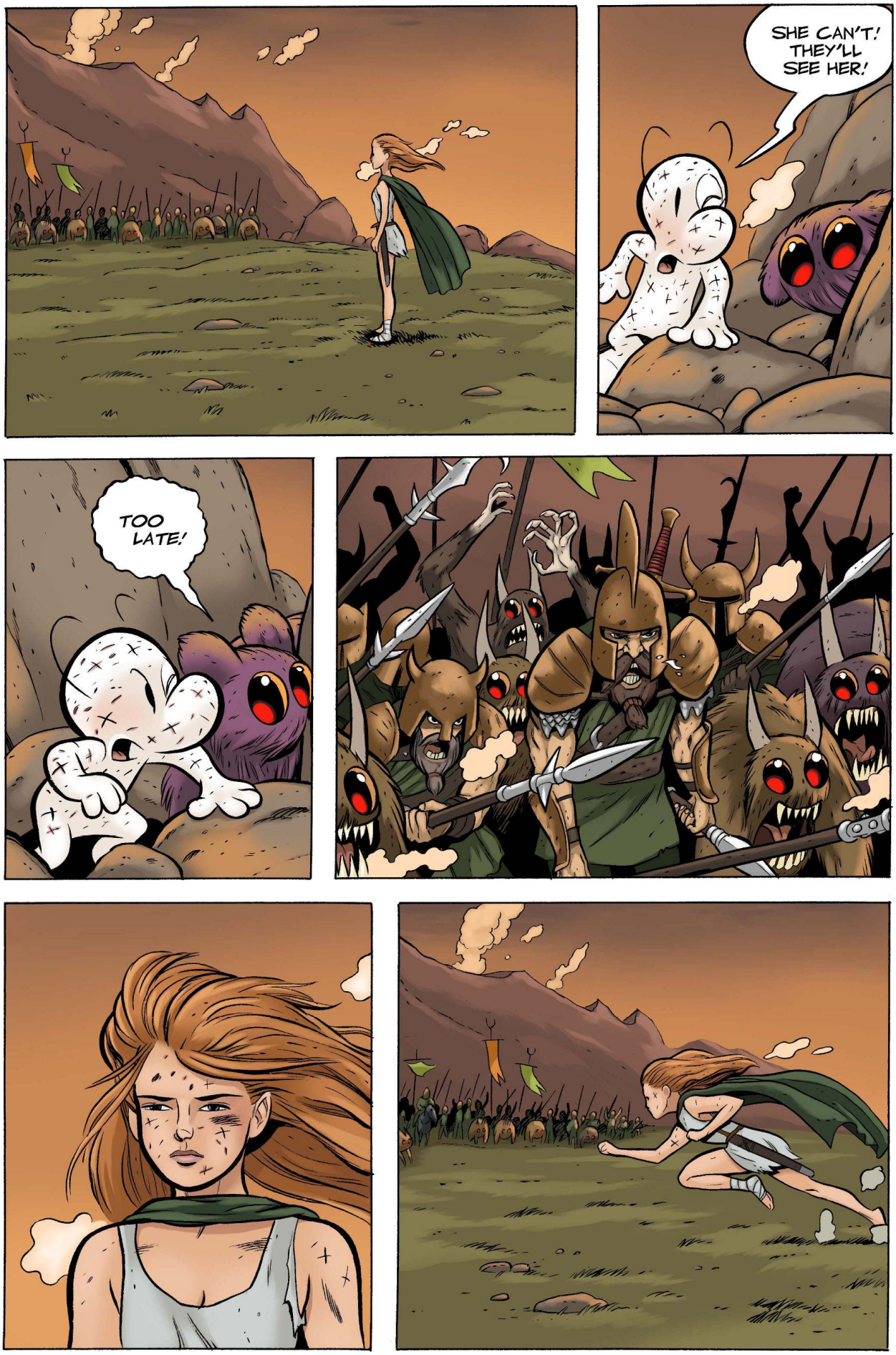


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


YES! JUST BEYOND THOSE PEAKS IS THE BOTTOMLESS PIT OF TANEN GARD - - THE DRAGONS' SACRED BURIAL GROUND.
BUT LOOK AT THE ARMY THAT'S WAITING TO STOP US!
BRIAR KNEW WE WOULD COME HERE TO FIND THE CROWN OF HORNS.
WHAT DO WE DO? ROCK JAW IS BEHIND US!
TO GET PAST THE ARMY, I'LL NEED A DISTRACTION - -
WHOA - - !
LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS A SECOND!
I'M GOING IN, FONE BONE.
YOU CAN HELP ME OR NOT.
I'LL HELP.

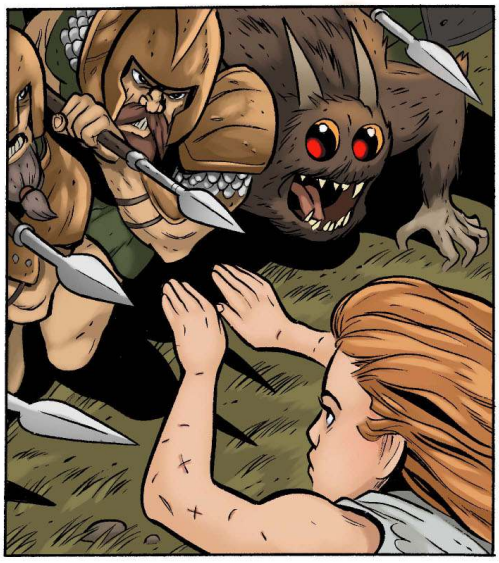

OKAY, THEN. YOU AND BARTLEBY WORK YOUR WAY ALONG THESE ROCKS . . . .
. . . TRY TO GET AS CLOSE TO THE ARMY AS YOU CAN, THEN MAKE SOME **NOISE!** LEAD AS MANY AS POSSIBLE INTO THE MOUNTAINS.
WHILE THEY'RE LOOKING AT **YOU**, I'LL SLIP INTO THEIR CAMP.
GO - - BEFORE YOU HAVE TIME TO THINK!
C'MON, BONE!
ooh.
I HATE THIS PLAN.
IT'S A **TERRIBLE** PLAN . . .


. . . SHE'S GOING INTO THE DRAGON'S GRAVEYARD ALONE!
AND WE'LL BE STUCK RUNNING AROUND THE MOUNTAINS WITH AN ARMY ON OUR BUTTS!
STAY BEHIND THE ROCKS!
WHAT AM I DOING?! I CAN'T LET HER GO ALONE - -
YOU KNOW WHAT? I'M GOIN' BACK. THIS IS A TERRIBLE PLAN - -
FONE BONE! LOOK!
THORN'S WALKING OUT TO MEET THEM HEAD-ON!
WHAT?

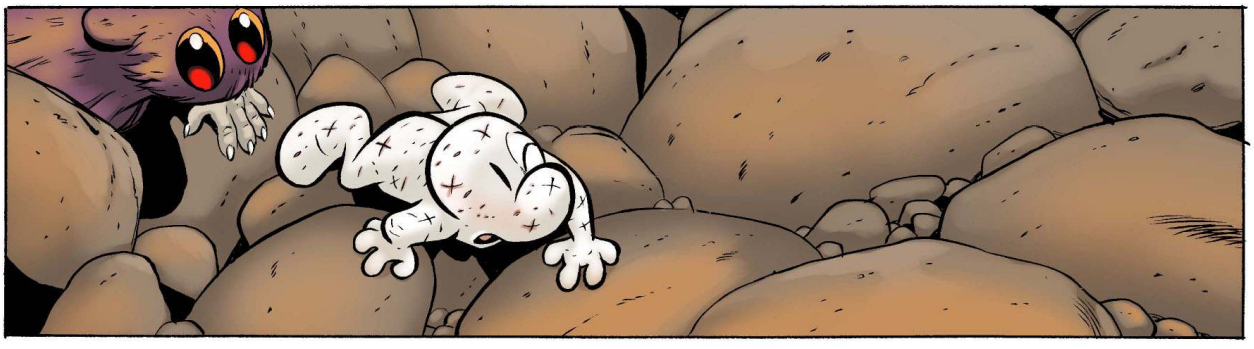

SHE CAN'T! THEY'LL SEE HER!
TOO LATE!


STOP!





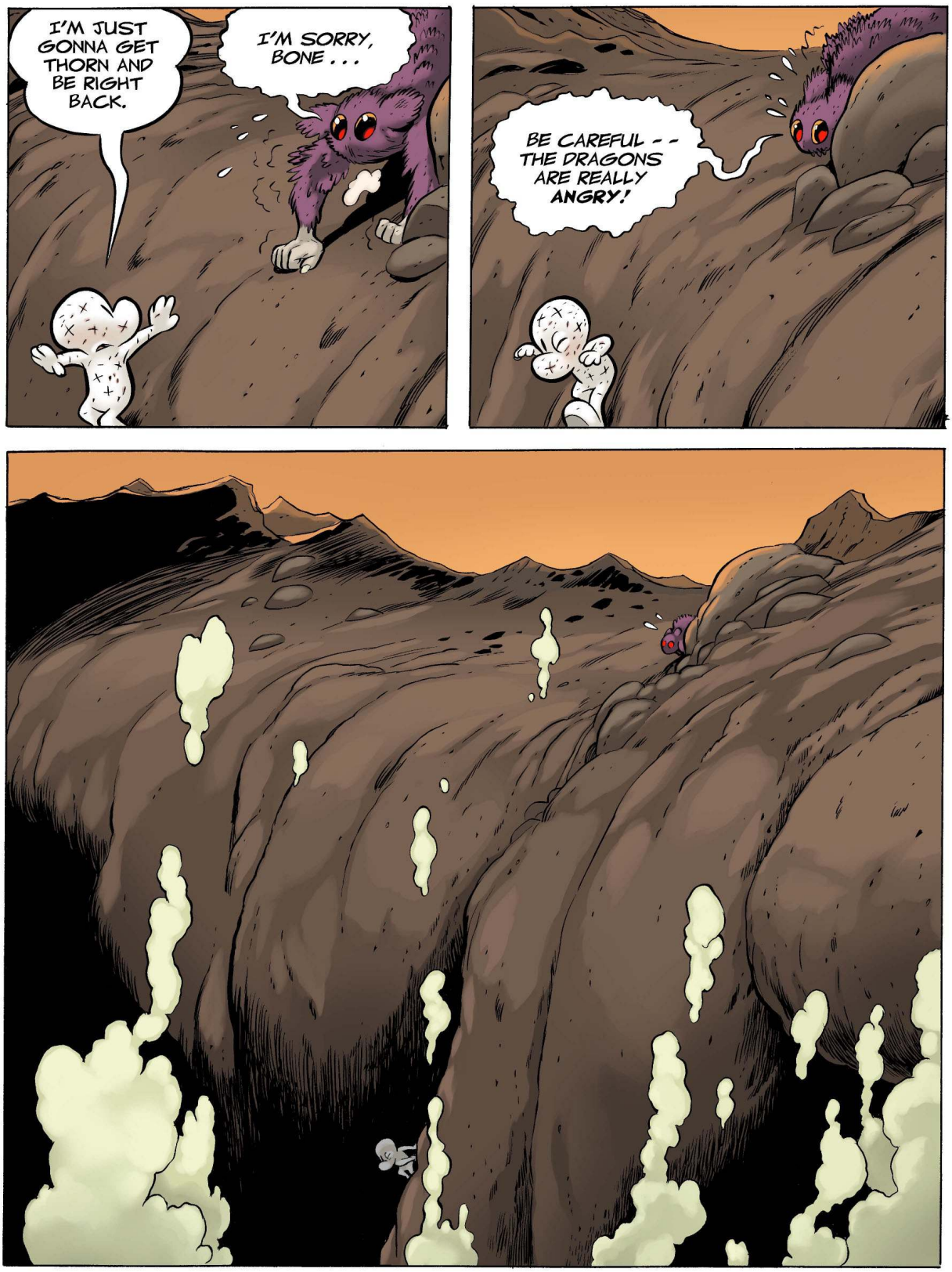




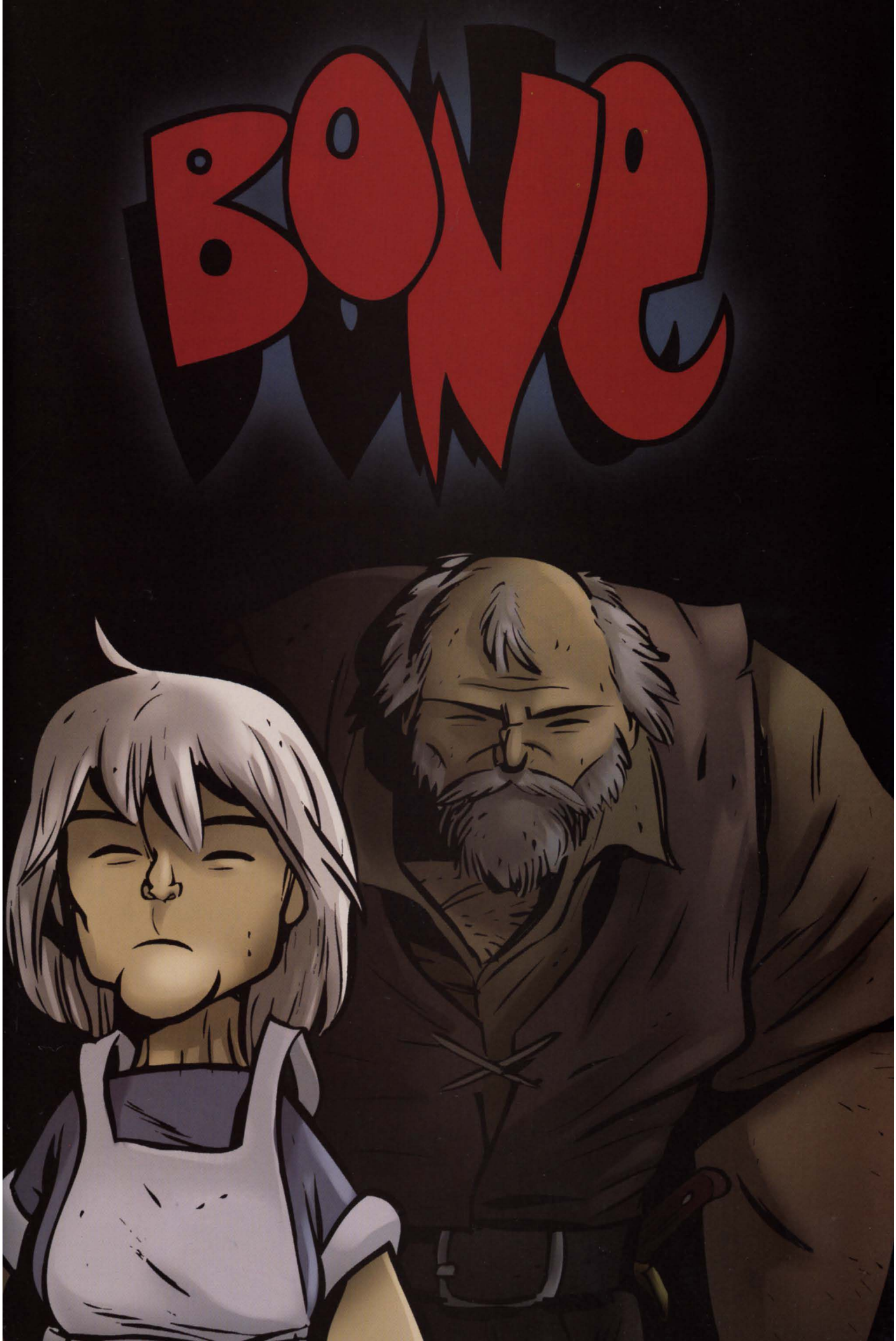

IT'S JUST LIKE A DREAM . . .
LOOK! A BONE CREATURE!

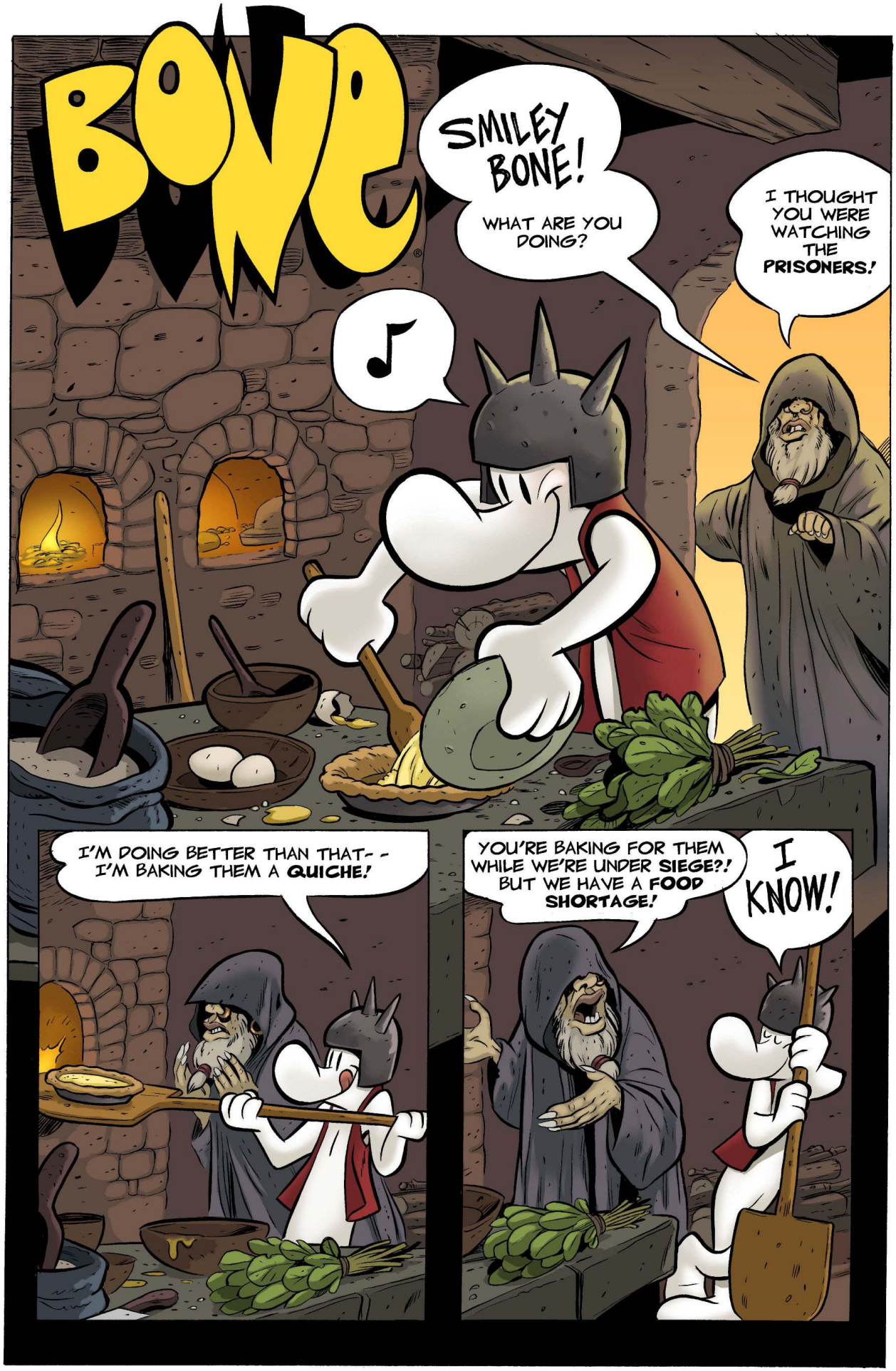

DID YOU SEE THAT?!
BONE! THEY'RE COMING!
SHE FLEW INTO THE DRAGONS' GRAVEYARD WITHOUT ME!!
PLEASE! WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
SHE CAN'T DO THAT TO ME!! COME ON! WE'RE GOING IN AFTER HER!!
OKAY! JUST HURRY!
AAAA!
A PIECE OF GOLD TO THE ONE WHO KILLS THE BONE CREATURE!

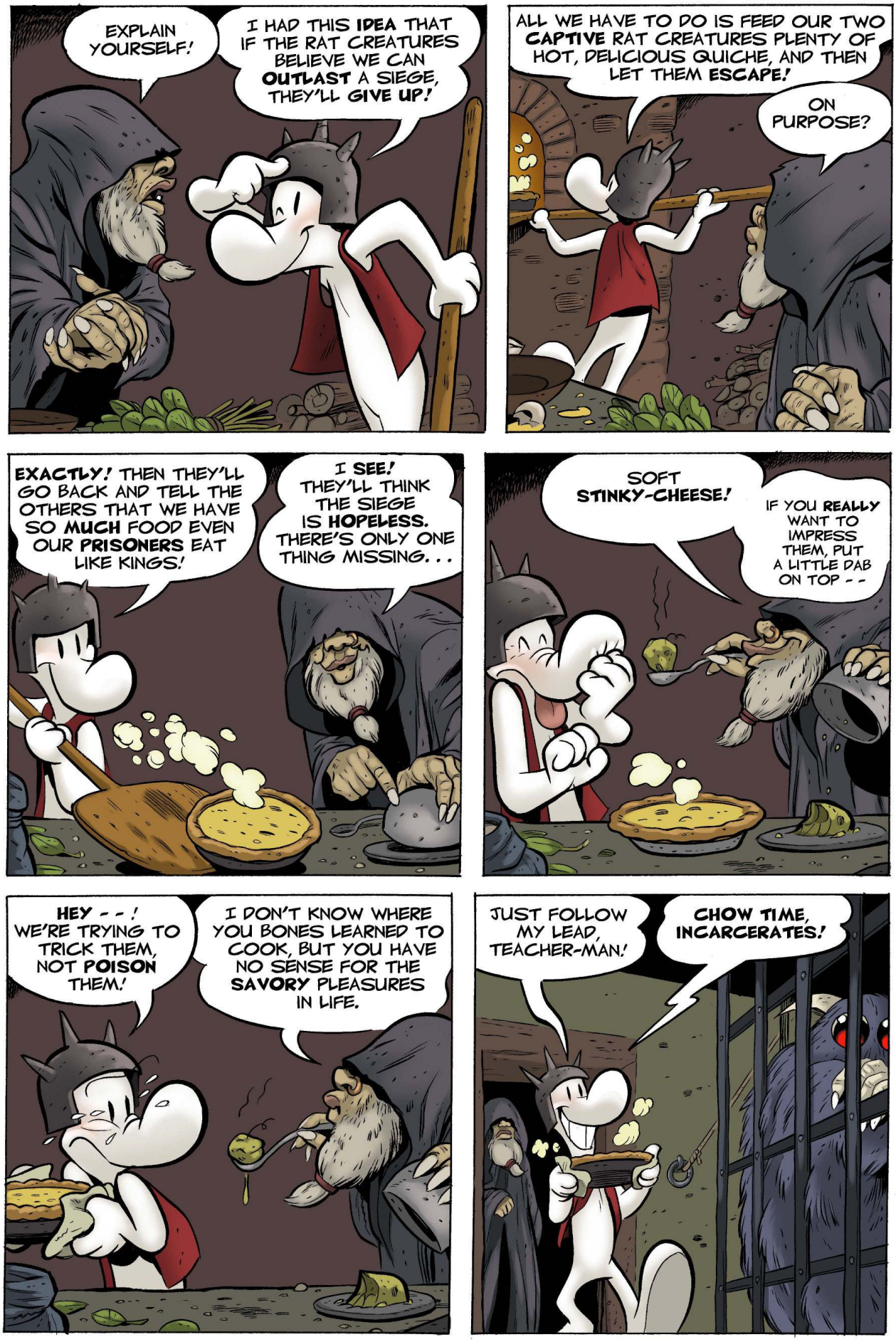

WE MADE IT!
THORN!
DO YOU SMELL THAT? IT'S **BRIMSTONE.**
THORN!
THERE ARE DRAGONS **EVERYWHERE!**
WE HAVE TO GO IN - -
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS! THE DRAGONS WILL **KILL US!**
YOU STAY HERE. I'LL GO.
NO, NO. I'M COMING.
IT'S OKAY. WAIT HERE FOR ME . . .

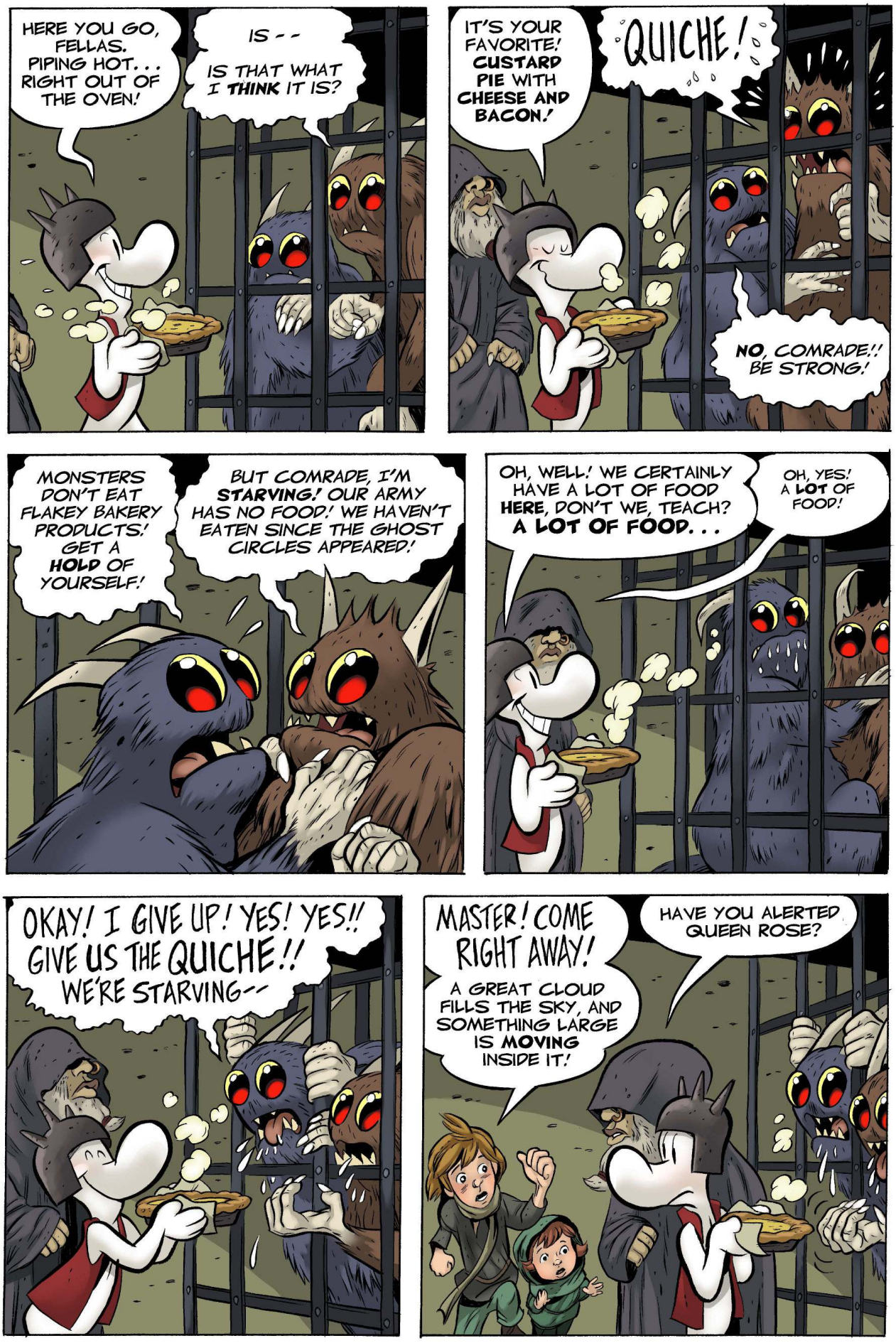


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

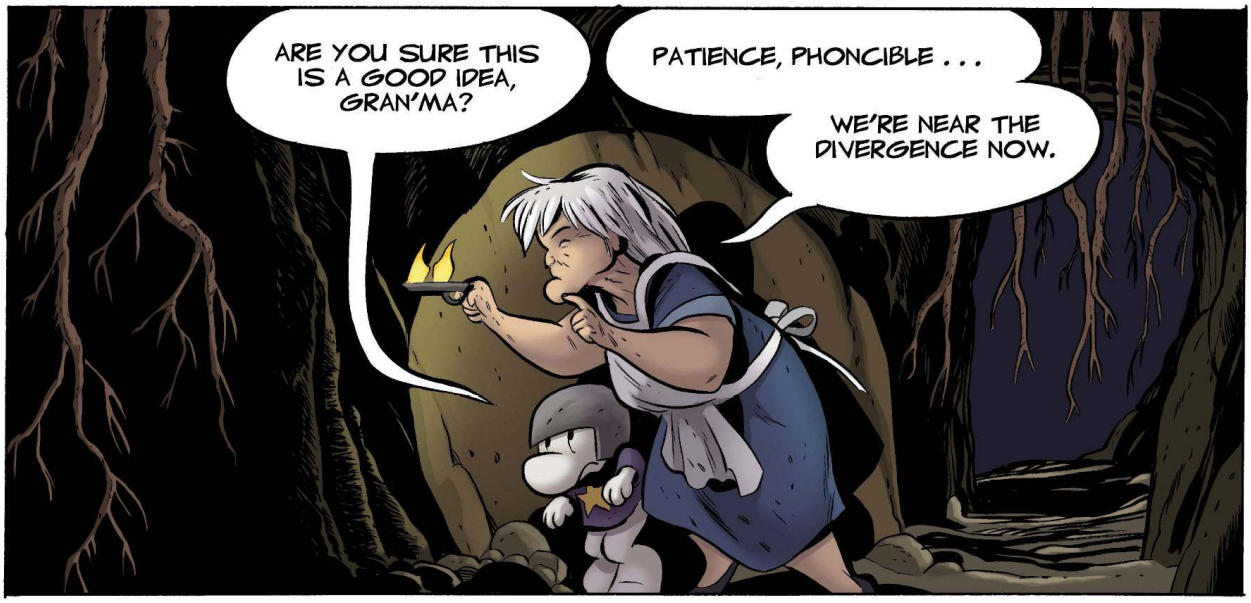

BONE


BONE
SMILEY BONE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE WATCHING THE PRISONERS!
I'M DOING BETTER THAN THAT-- I'M BAKING THEM A QUICHE!
YOU'RE BAKING FOR THEM WHILE WE'RE UNDER SIEGE?! BUT WE HAVE A FOOD SHORTAGE!
I KNOW!

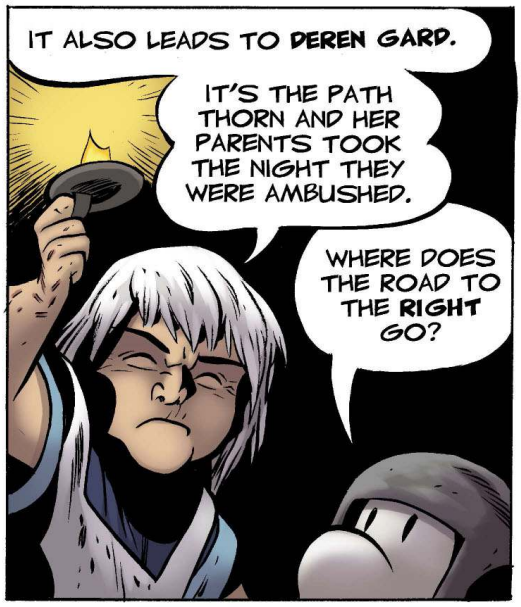

EXPLAIN YOURSELF!
I HAD THIS IDEA THAT IF THE RAT CREATURES BELIEVE WE CAN OUTLAST A SIEGE, THEY'LL GIVE UP!
ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FEED OUR TWO CAPTIVE RAT CREATURES PLENTY OF HOT, DELICIOUS QUICHE, AND THEN LET THEM ESCAPE!
ON PURPOSE?
EXACTLY! THEN THEY'LL GO BACK AND TELL THE OTHERS THAT WE HAVE SO MUCH FOOD EVEN OUR PRISONERS EAT LIKE KINGS!
I SEE! THEY'LL THINK THE SIEGE IS HOPELESS. THERE'S ONLY ONE THING MISSING. . .
SOFT STINKY-CHEESE!
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO IMPRESS THEM, PUT A LITTLE DAB ON TOP - -
HEY - - ! WE'RE TRYING TO TRICK THEM, NOT POISON THEM!
I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU BONES LEARNED TO COOK, BUT YOU HAVE NO SENSE FOR THE SAVORY PLEASURES IN LIFE.
JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD, TEACHER-MAN!
CHOW TIME, INCARCERATES!


HERE YOU GO, FELLAS. PIPING HOT... RIGHT OUT OF THE OVEN!
IS--
IS THAT WHAT I **THINK** IT IS?
IT'S YOUR FAVORITE! **CUSTARD PIE** WITH **CHEESE AND BACON!**
QUICHE!
NO, COMRADE!! BE STRONG!
MONSTERS DON'T EAT FLAKEY BAKERY PRODUCTS! GET A **HOLD** OF YOURSELF!
BUT COMRADE, I'M **STARVING!** OUR ARMY HAS NO FOOD! WE HAVEN'T EATEN SINCE THE GHOST CIRCLES APPEARED!
OH, WELL! WE CERTAINLY HAVE A LOT OF FOOD **HERE**, DON'T WE, TEACH? **A LOT OF FOOD...**
OH, YES! A **LOT** OF FOOD!
OKAY! I GIVE UP! YES! YES!! GIVE US THE QUICHE!! WE'RE STARVING--
MASTER! COME RIGHT AWAY!
A GREAT CLOUD FILLS THE SKY, AND SOMETHING LARGE IS **MOVING** INSIDE IT!
HAVE YOU ALERTED QUEEN ROSE?

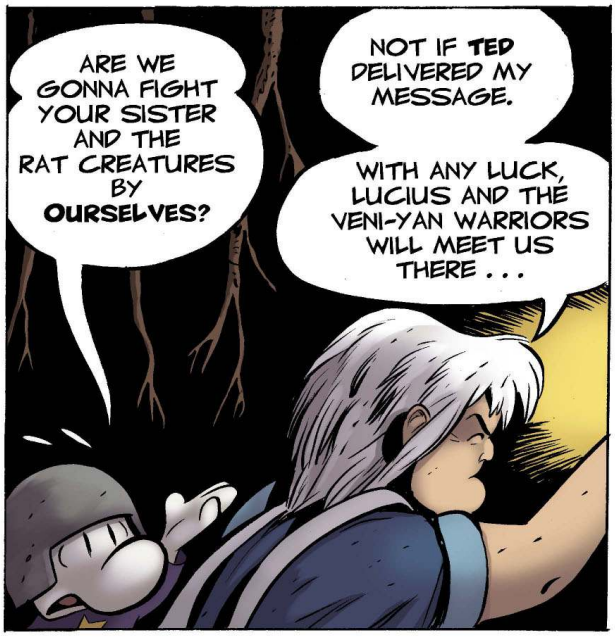

NO ONE KNOWS WHERE SHE IS.
WHAT? BUT SHE JUST LED A CHARGE OUT OF THE SOUTH GATE -- SHE WAS WITH MERMIE!
AND MY COUSIN PHONEY BONE!
SIR, I JUST SPOKE WITH MERMIE. SHE HAS NOT SEEN THE QUEEN.
NO ONE SAW THE QUEEN RE-ENTER THE GATE?
OH, NO!
CAPTAIN, HAVE YOUR MEN SWEEP THE CITY. WE WILL GO TO THE GATE.
COME. SMILEY!
I HOPE PHONEY AND GRAN'MA BEN ARE OKAY.
RATS.

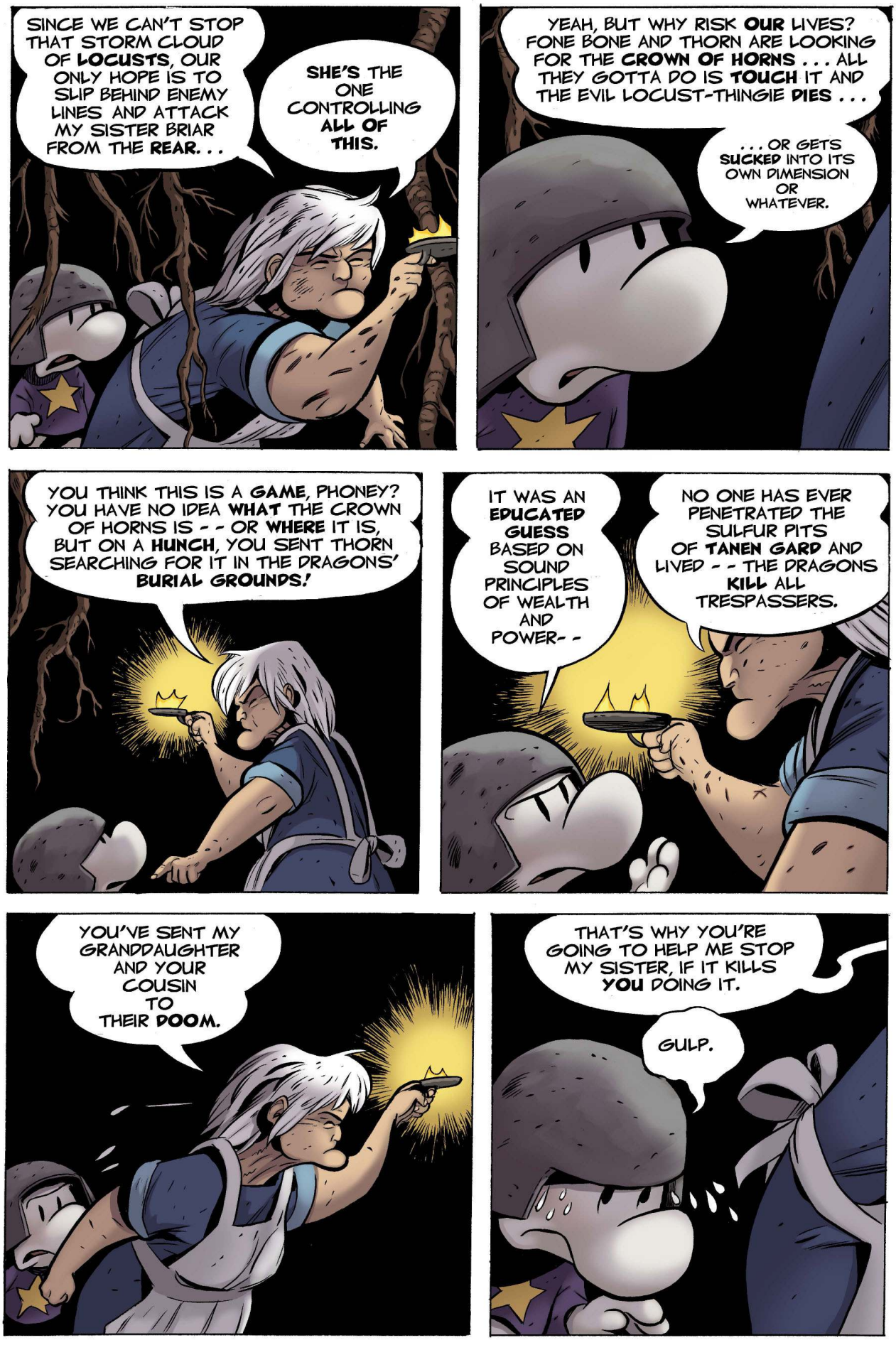

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA, GRAN'MA?
PATIENCE, PHONCIBLE . . .
WE'RE NEAR THE DIVERGENCE NOW.

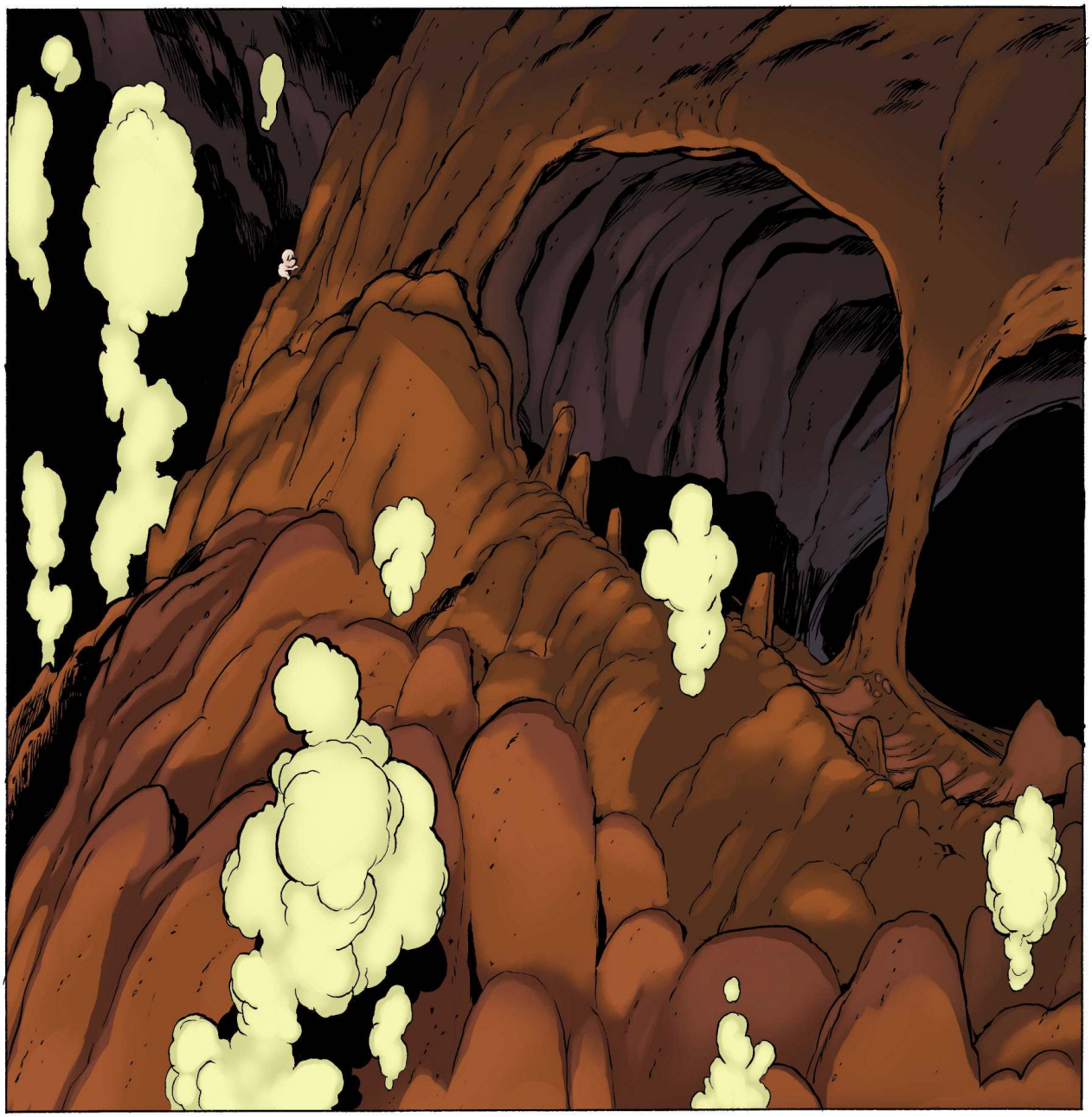

THERE IT IS! THE TWO TUNNELS . . .
THE ROAD TO THE **LEFT** GOES TO THE MOUNTAINS, AND EVENTUALLY BACK TO THE PASS THAT BROUGHT YOU HERE FROM **BONEVILLE.**

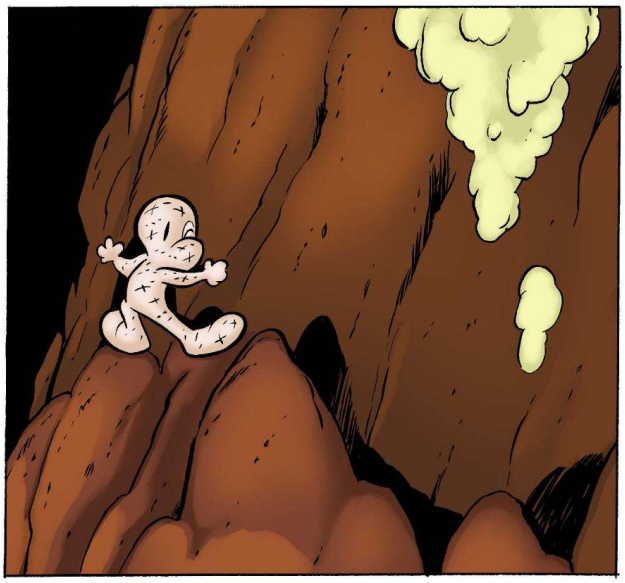

IT ALSO LEADS TO **DEREN GARD.**
IT'S THE PATH THORN AND HER PARENTS TOOK THE NIGHT THEY WERE AMBUSHED.
WHERE DOES THE ROAD TO THE **RIGHT** GO?


TO SINNER'S ROCK . . .
AND MY SISTER.
LET'S GO.


ARE WE GONNA FIGHT YOUR SISTER AND THE RAT CREATURES BY **OURSELVES?**
NOT IF **TED** DELIVERED MY MESSAGE.
WITH ANY LUCK, LUCIUS AND THE VENI-YAN WARRIORS WILL MEET US THERE . . .


SINCE WE CAN'T STOP THAT STORM CLOUD OF LOCUSTS, OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO SLIP BEHIND ENEMY LINES AND ATTACK MY SISTER BRIAR FROM THE REAR. . .
SHE'S THE ONE CONTROLLING ALL OF THIS.
YEAH, BUT WHY RISK OUR LIVES? FONE BONE AND THORN ARE LOOKING FOR THE CROWN OF HORNS . . . ALL THEY GOTTA DO IS TOUCH IT AND THE EVIL LOCUST-THINGIE DIES . . .
. . . OR GETS SUCKED INTO ITS OWN DIMENSION OR WHATEVER.
YOU THINK THIS IS A GAME, PHONEY? YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE CROWN OF HORNS IS - - OR WHERE IT IS, BUT ON A HUNCH, YOU SENT THORN SEARCHING FOR IT IN THE DRAGONS' BURIAL GROUNDS!
IT WAS AN EDUCATED GUESS BASED ON SOUND PRINCIPLES OF WEALTH AND POWER- -
NO ONE HAS EVER PENETRATED THE SULFUR PITS OF TANEN GARD AND LIVED - - THE DRAGONS KILL ALL TRESPASSERS.
YOU'VE SENT MY GRANDDAUGHTER AND YOUR COUSIN TO THEIR DOOM.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE GOING TO HELP ME STOP MY SISTER, IF IT KILLS YOU DOING IT.
GULP.



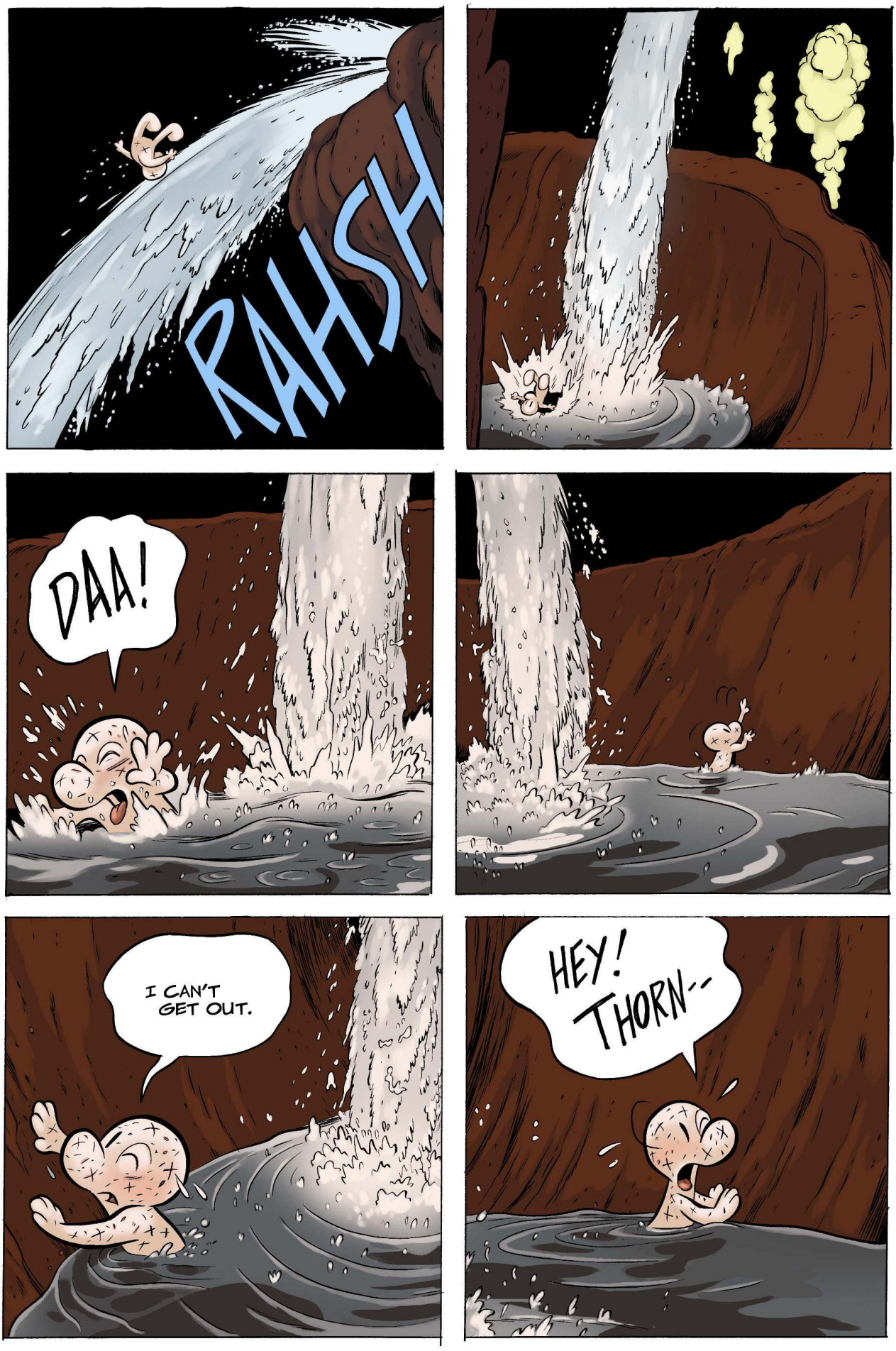





THORN?
SHUH SHUH
SHUHSH
GURGLE


THORN?
GURRRRGULL
SLURP
SHASH!
GURGLE
GURGLE!
OKAY.


!
THERE SHE IS!
HEY, THORN--
SHUH
GURGLE!
SPLASH!
ROAR!


RAHSH
DAA!
I CAN'T GET OUT.
HEY! THORN--



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


ALL RIGHT, THIS IS THE EXIT TO SINNER'S ROCK, SO BE CAREFUL.
WE'RE BEHIND ENEMY LINES NOW - -
OOPS.
AH, ROSE . . . . . MY SISTER . . .
YOU MUST WONDER HOW I DO IT. . . HOW I OUTSMART YOU AGAIN AND AGAIN . . . .
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MY SECRET?

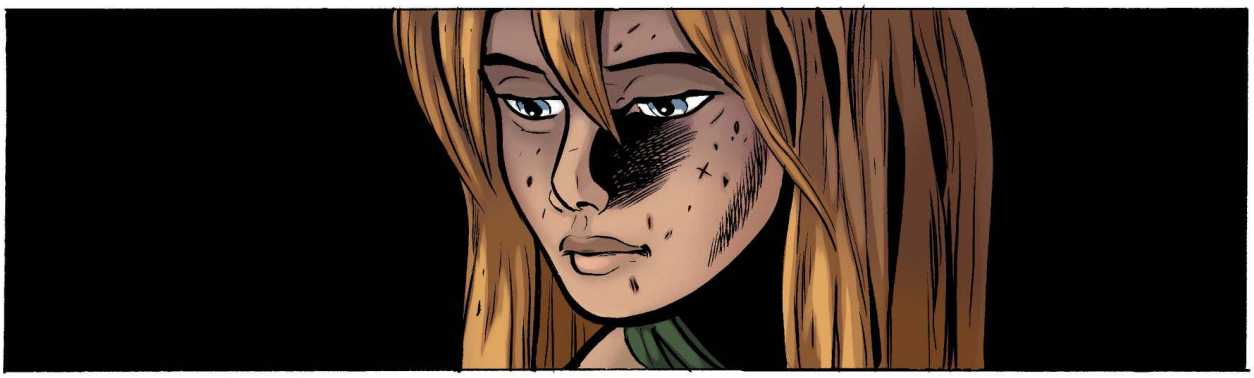

EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE GIRL
I COULD HEAR THE LOCUST WHISPERING TO ME
INSIDE MY HEAD . . . .
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S LIKE . . . ?
IT'S LIKE BEING THE SMARTEST
PERSON IN ALL THE WORLD . . . . . .
MMMMMM.
AND **YES**, I KNOW WHAT YOUR PRECIOUS
GRANDDAUGHTER IS UP TO . . . .
BUT SHE WILL NEVER REACH THE CROWN OF HORNS
ALIVE . . . .
AS I ANTICIPATED **YOUR**
EVERY MOVE . . .
SO HAVE
I
ANTICIPATED
HERS . . .
MMMM.


SSSHHHHH

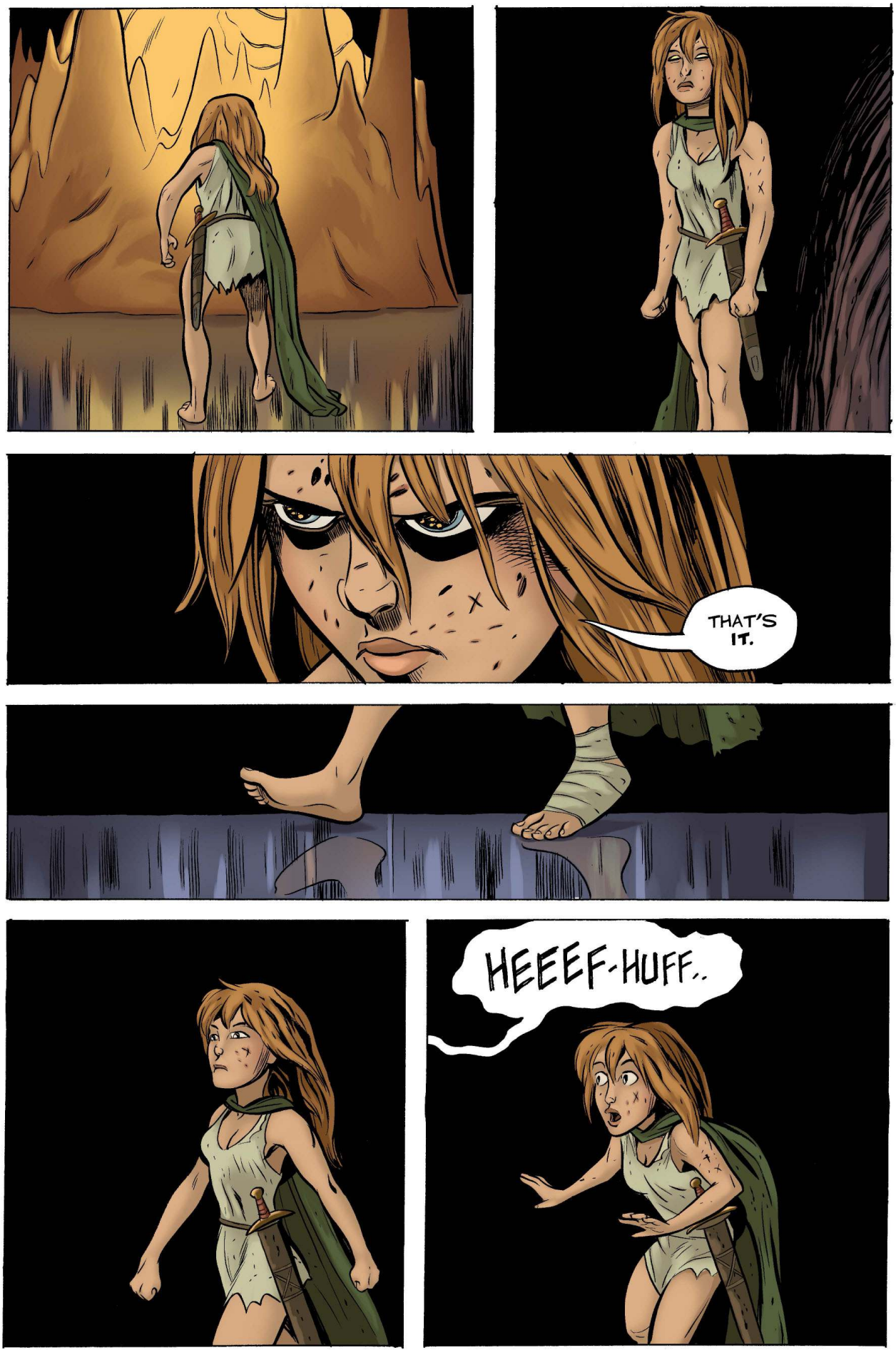

SHHHHH


SHUH SHUH


SQUEECH

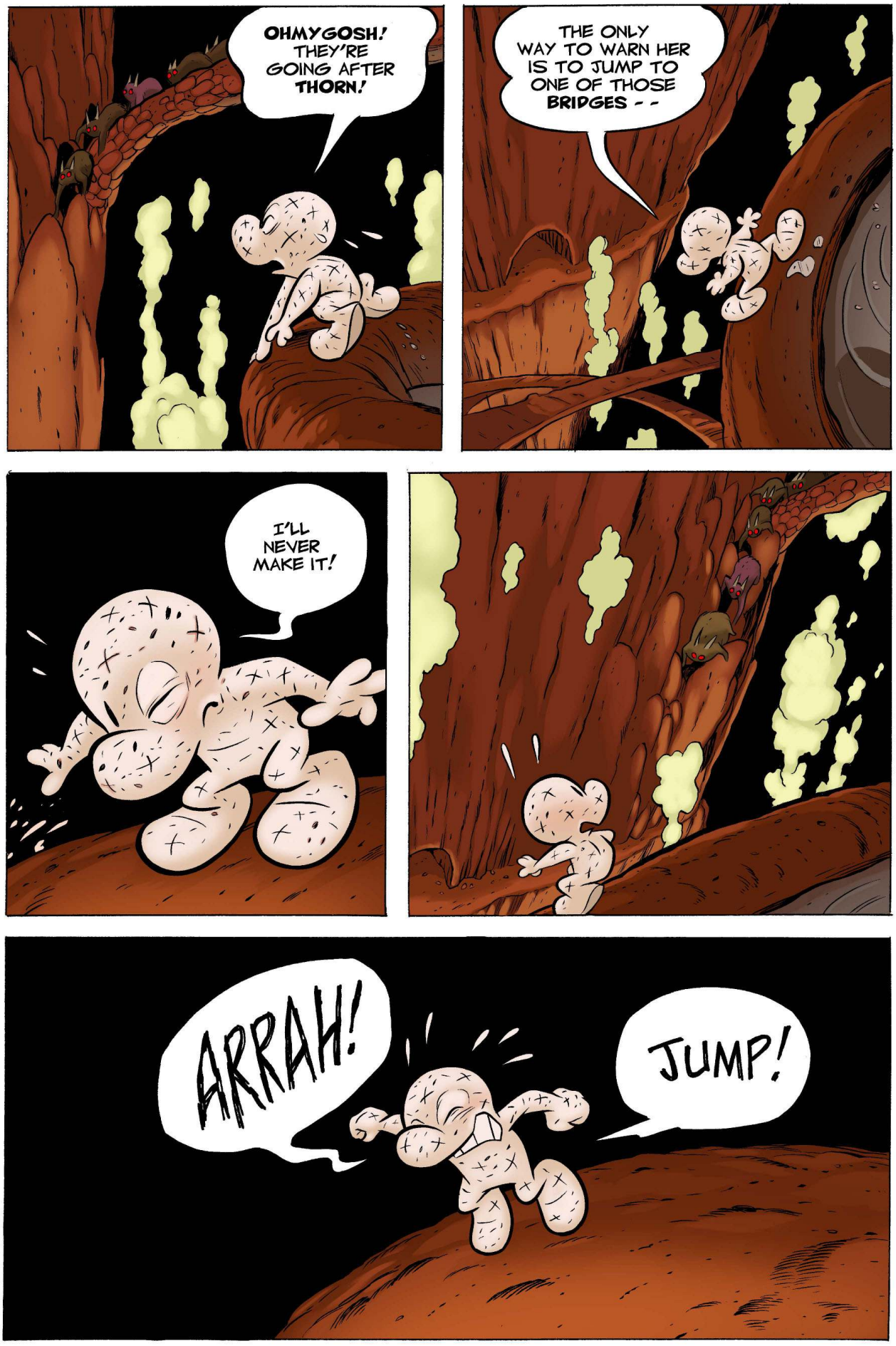





THAT'S IT.
HEEEF-HUFF..

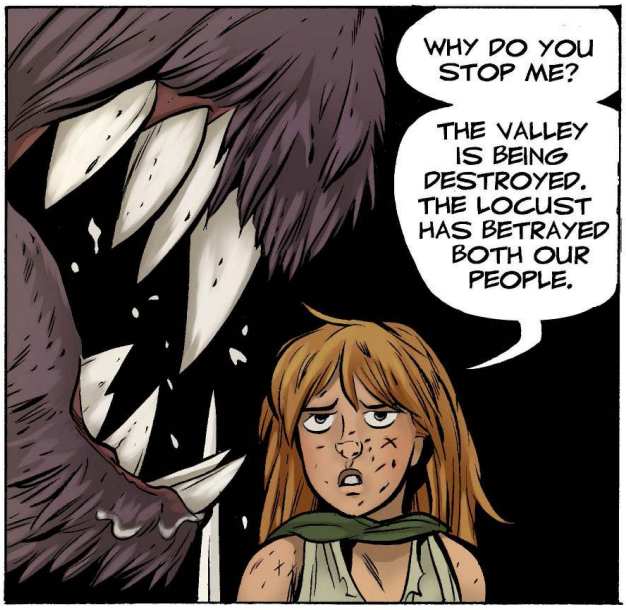

SSSSSSS
RRRRRRRRRR
HFFF...
wheez
HUFF..
wheez
HUFF..
WHEEEZ..
TO TOUCH THE CROWN OF HORNS... YOU WILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME.


SPLAT!
SLOSH
ALMOST.
I HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE WATER LEVEL TO RISE - -
HEY! WHERE ARE THE RAT CREATURES GOING?
THEY'RE CROSSING TO THE OTHER SIDE!
SPLAT!
EENH!
GOT IT!


OHMYGOSH! THEY'RE GOING AFTER THORN!
THE ONLY WAY TO WARN HER IS TO JUMP TO ONE OF THOSE BRIDGES - -
I'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
ARRAH!
JUMP!


HEEEF
HUFF
LET ME PASS, KINGDOK.

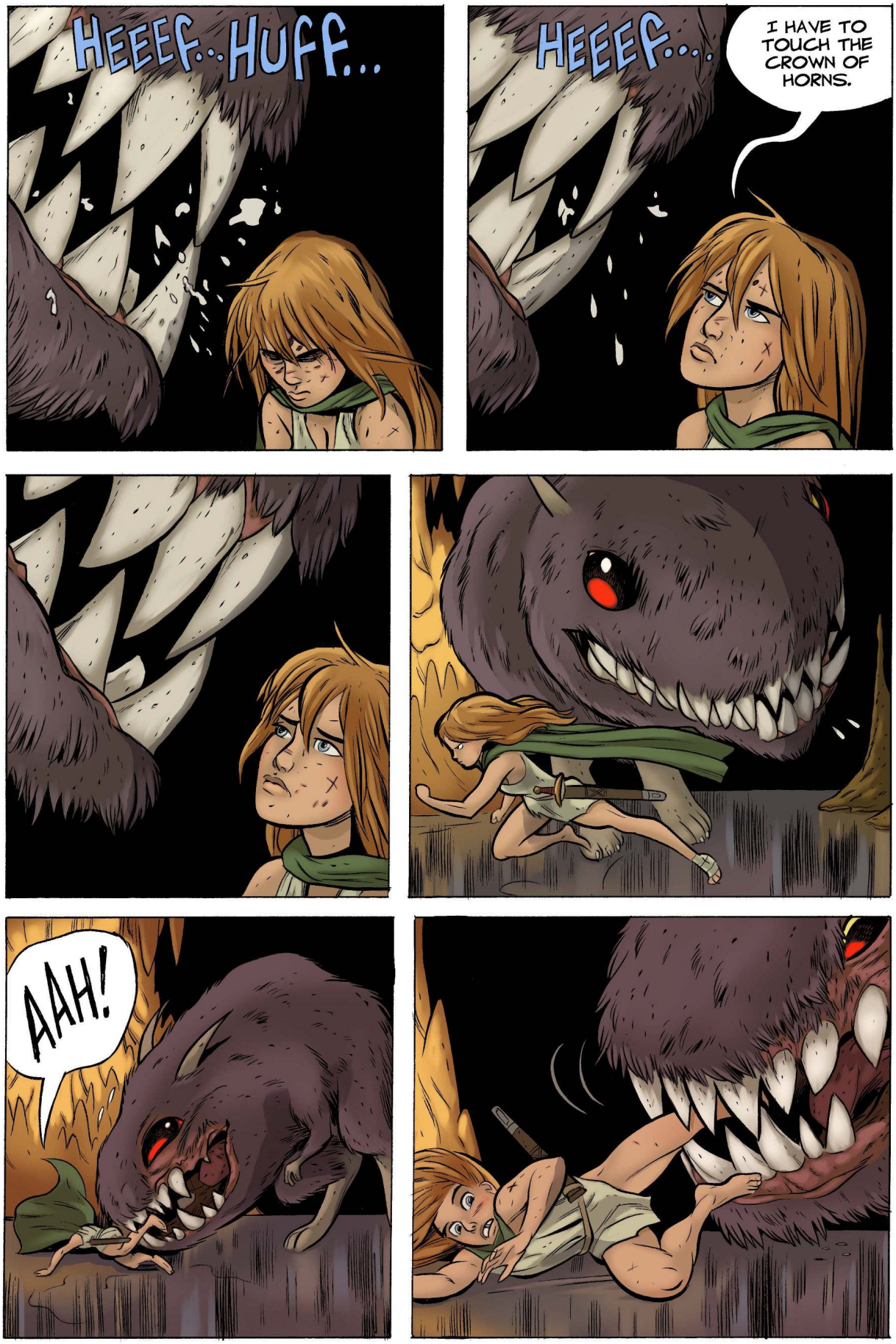

YOU MUST KILL ME IN ORDER TO REACH THE CROWN.
IT IS THE ONLY WAY.


WHY DO YOU STOP ME?
THE VALLEY IS BEING DESTROYED. THE LOCUST HAS BETRAYED BOTH OUR PEOPLE.


LOOK AT ME... I WAS ONCE A MIGHTY KING -- NOW I AM A SLAVE -- A PUPPET WITH NO WILL OF MY OWN...


EITHER YOU KILL ME OR I KILL YOU!


SHUNK!
I WILL NOT KILL YOU.
NOW FOR THE GOOD OF OUR PEOPLE, STAND ASIDE.
KILL ME!
NO.
I WAS THE ONE WHO ATE YOUR PARENTS. I FED ON YOUR MOTHER WHILE SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

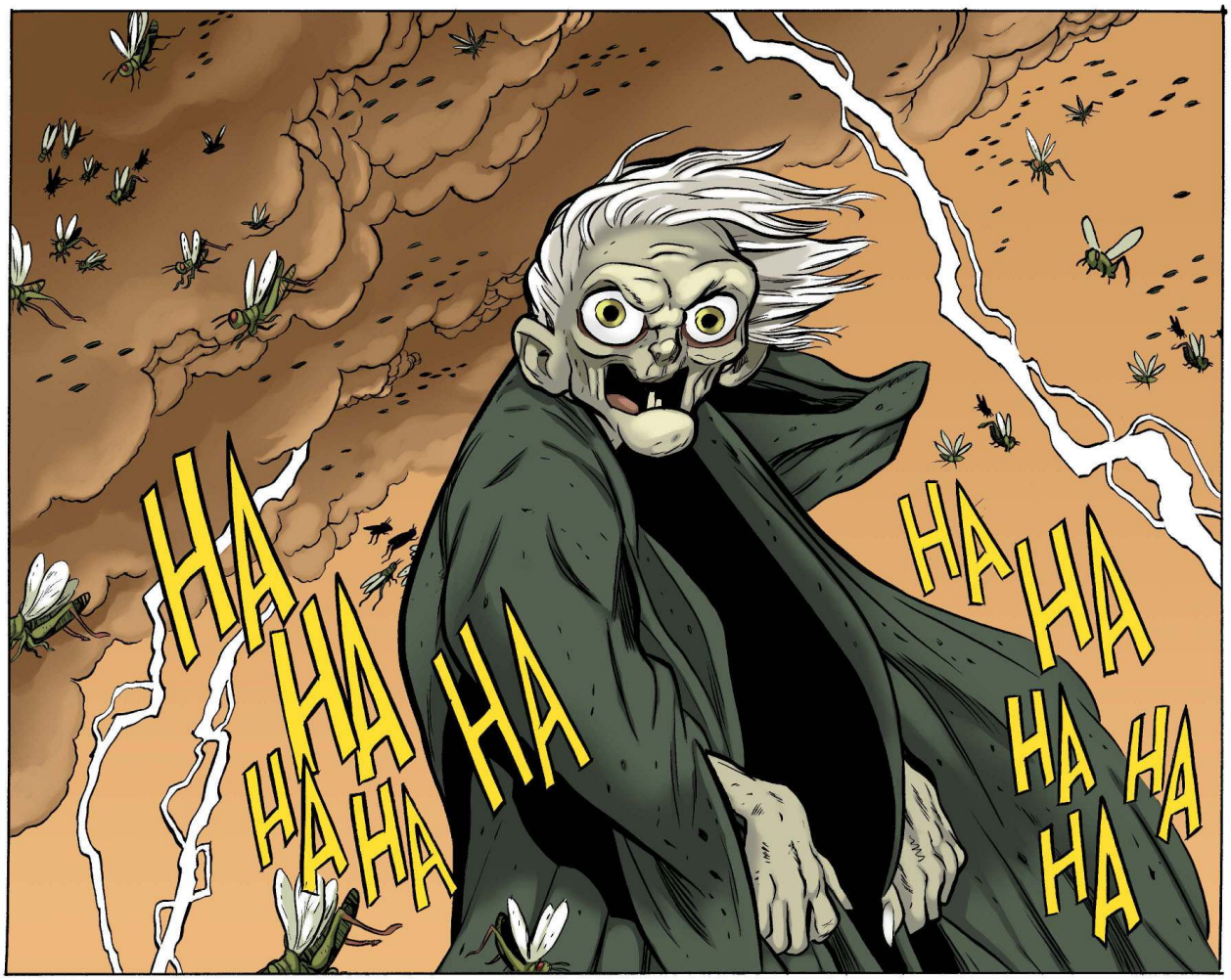


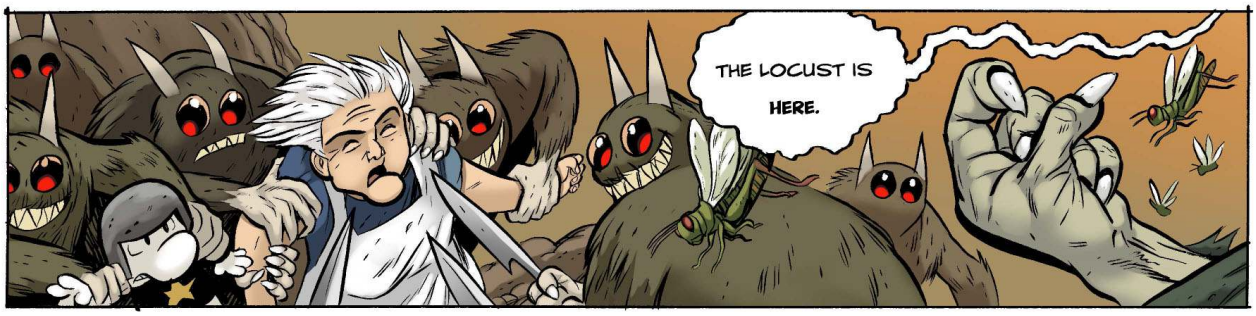
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


AAA
SHIIING!


CRRASH!

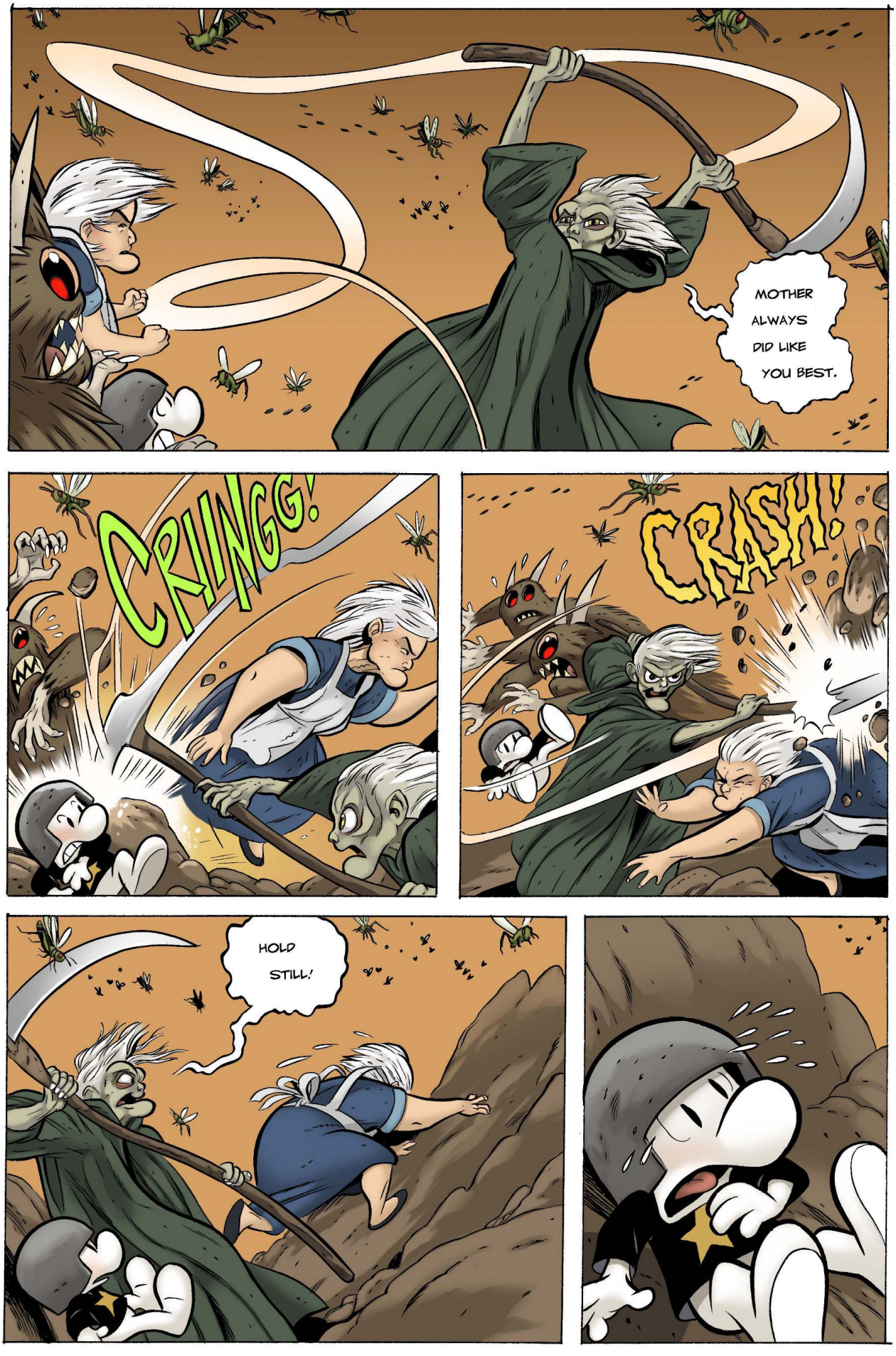

ERR--
EEUN--


HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

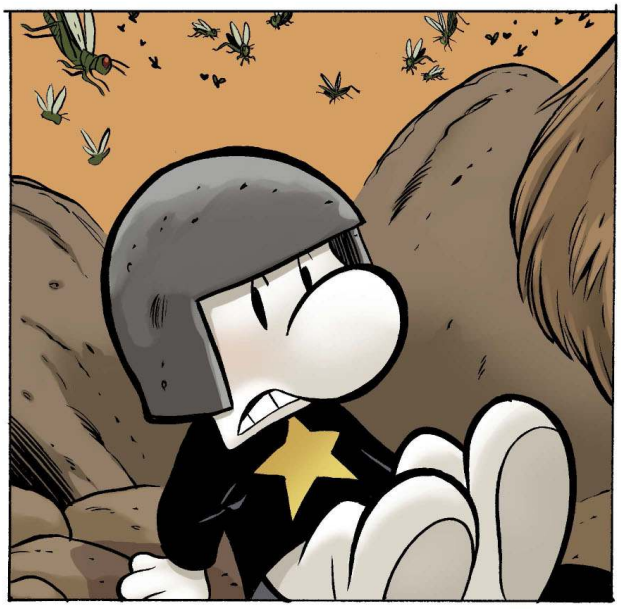

THE LOCUST IS HERE.

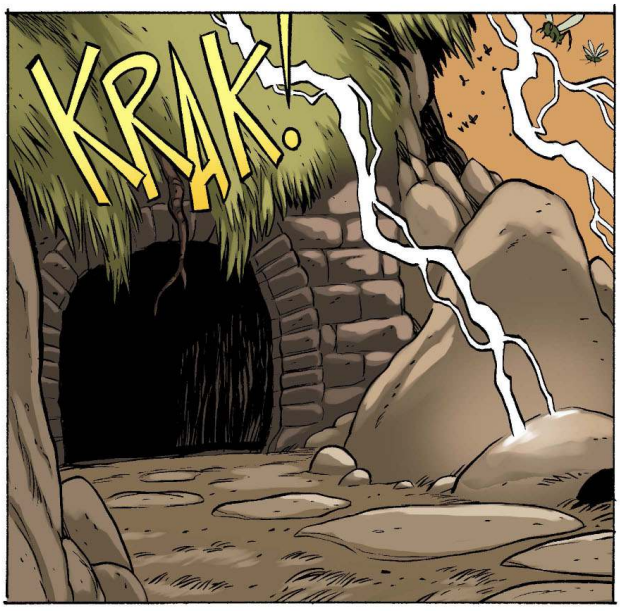

GOOD-BYE, ROSE.

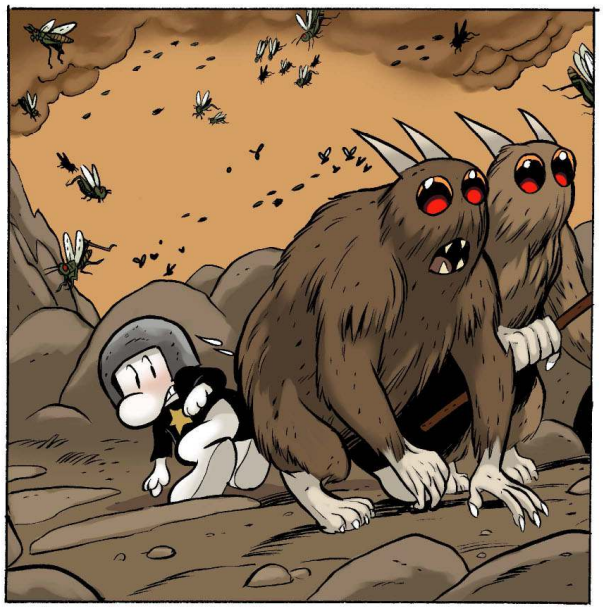



MOTHER ALWAYS DID LIKE YOU BEST.
CRINGG!
CRASH!
HOLD STILL!



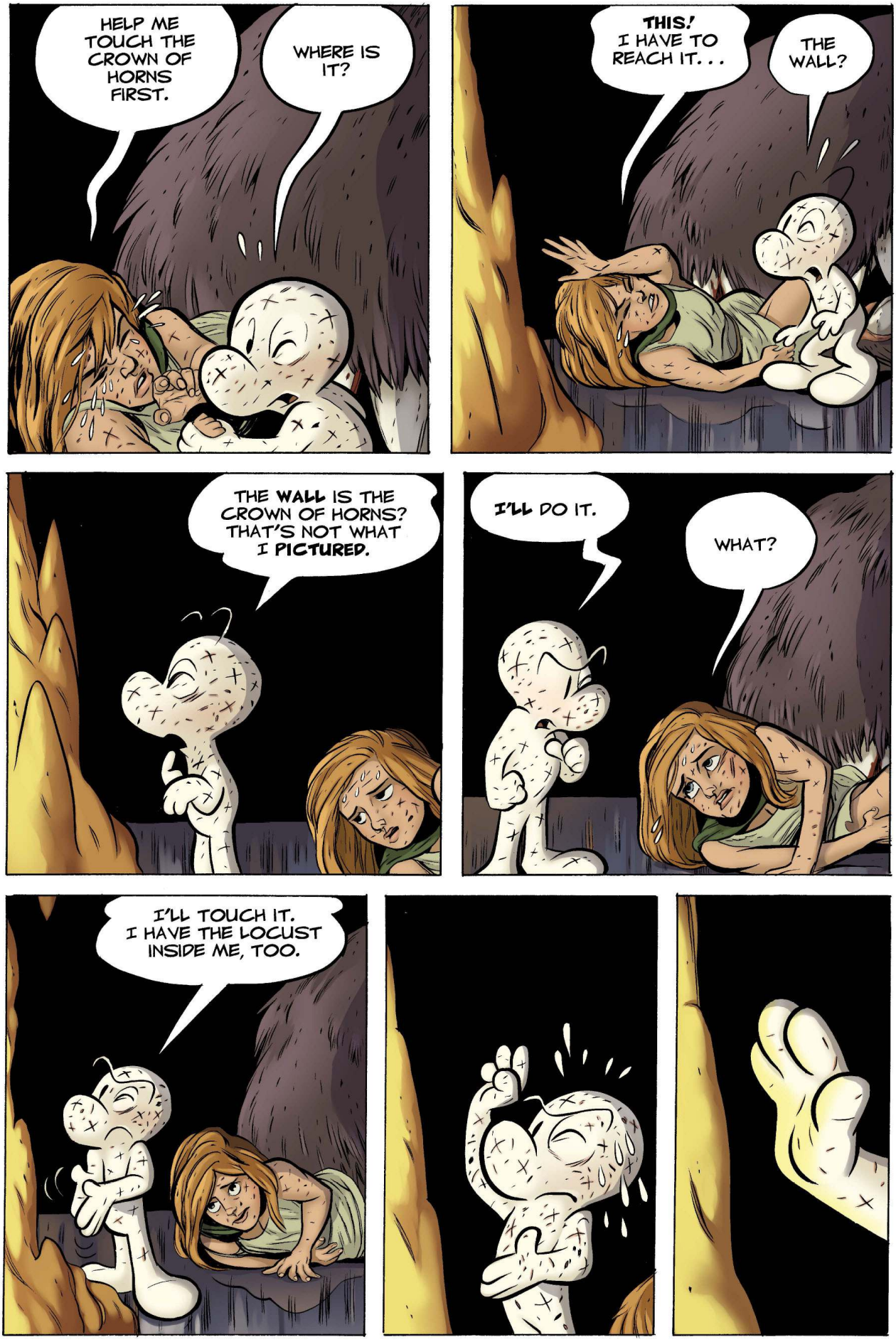


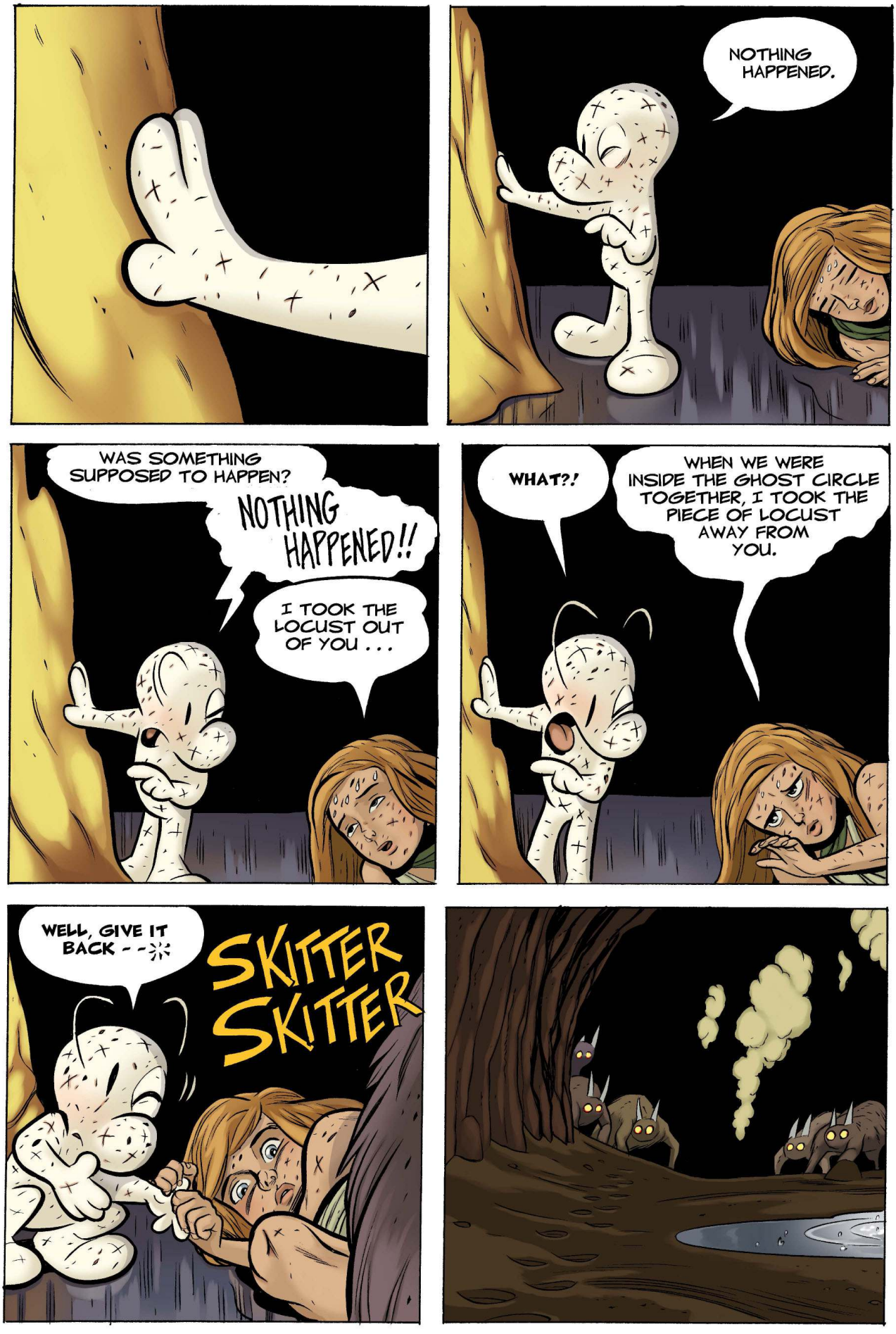

KRAK!




BAH BOOM!

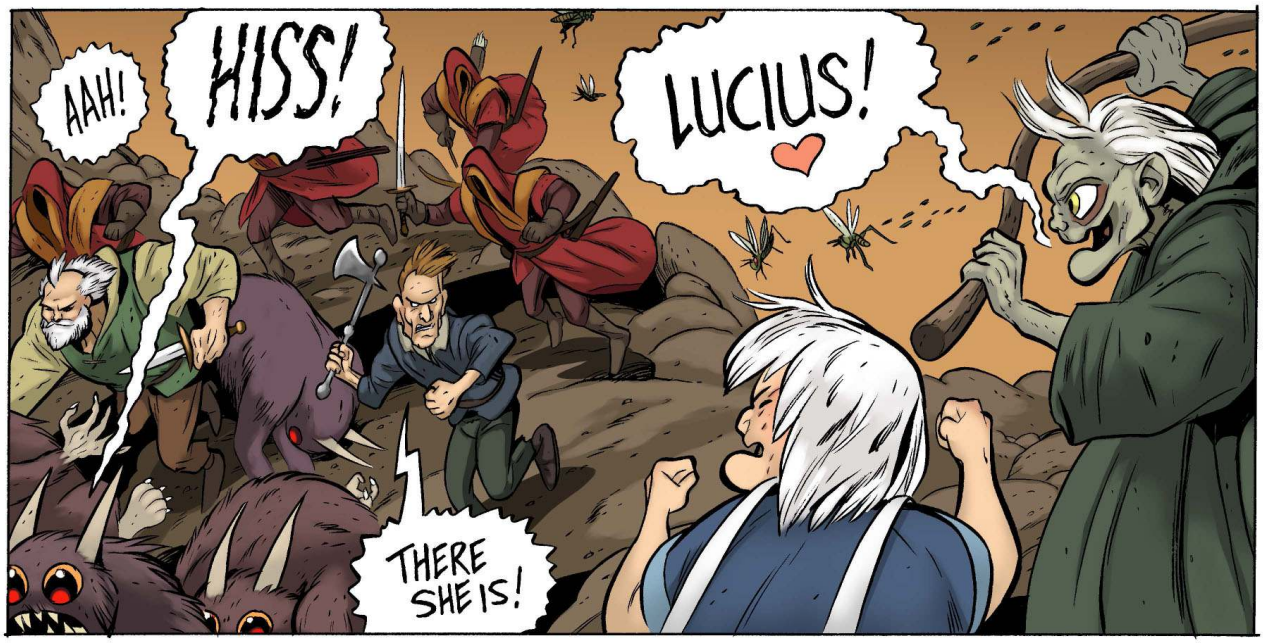

SSSSSSSSSSHHH
THORN?
WHERE ARE YOU?
HERE I AM!
WHAT HAPPENED?
KINGDOK IS DEAD. GET HIM OFF ME!
HIS JAWS WON'T BUDGE - -
AAH.
WE HAVE TO GET YOU OUT - - RAT CREATURES ARE COMING RIGHT BEHIND ME!


HELP ME TOUCH THE CROWN OF HORNS FIRST.
WHERE IS IT?
THIS! I HAVE TO REACH IT...
THE WALL?
THE WALL IS THE CROWN OF HORNS? THAT'S NOT WHAT I PICTURED.
I'LL DO IT.
WHAT?
I'LL TOUCH IT. I HAVE THE LOCUST INSIDE ME, TOO.


NOTHING HAPPENED.
WAS SOMETHING SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN?
NOTHING HAPPENED!!
I TOOK THE LOCUST OUT OF YOU . . .
WHAT?!
WHEN WE WERE INSIDE THE GHOST CIRCLE TOGETHER, I TOOK THE PIECE OF LOCUST AWAY FROM YOU.
WELL, GIVE IT BACK - -
SKITTER SKITTER

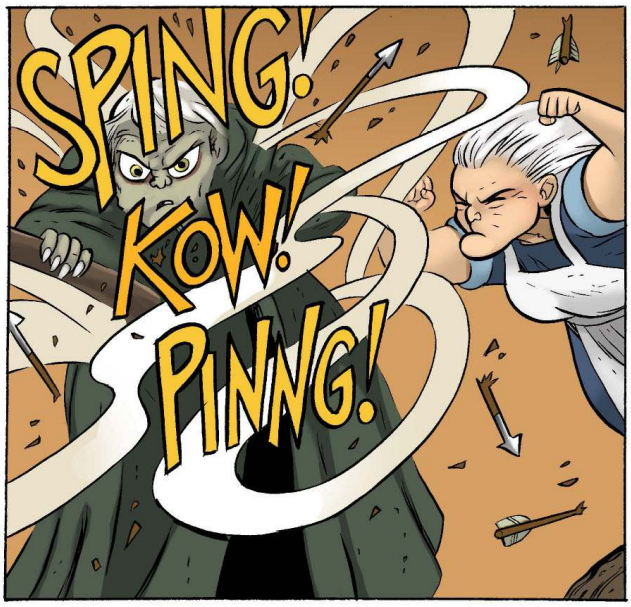


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


AAH!
HISS!
LUCIUS!
THERE SHE IS!

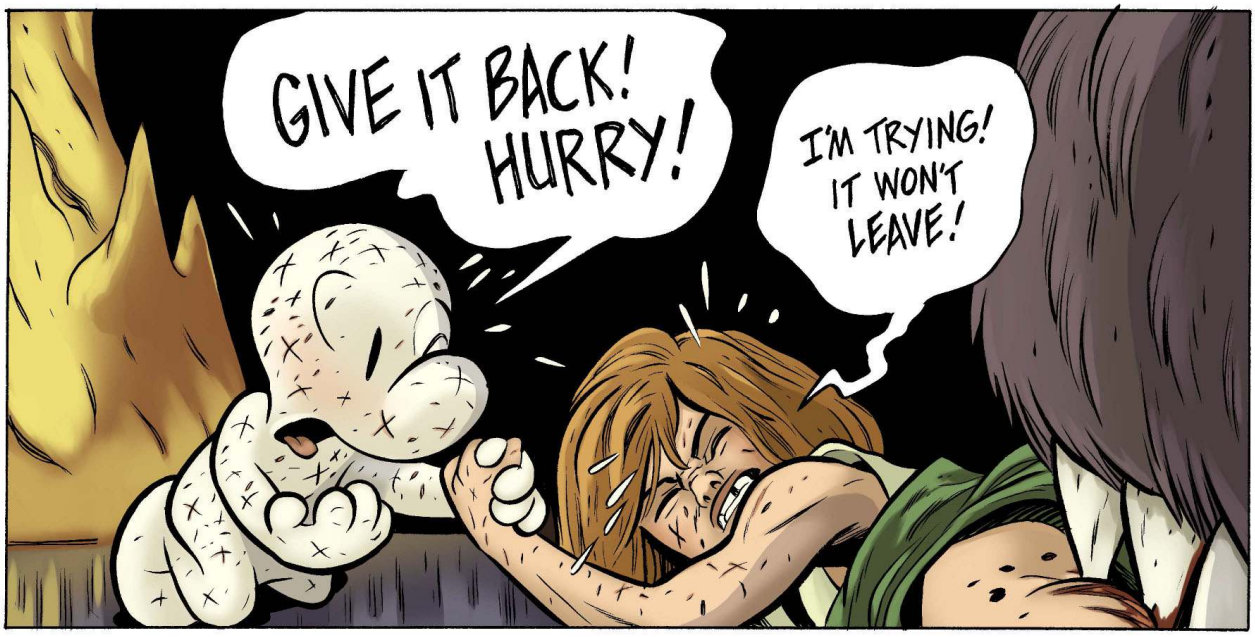

SHOOT THE WITCH!
THP!
THWANG!


TWEEEEEE


SPING!
KOW!
PINNG!

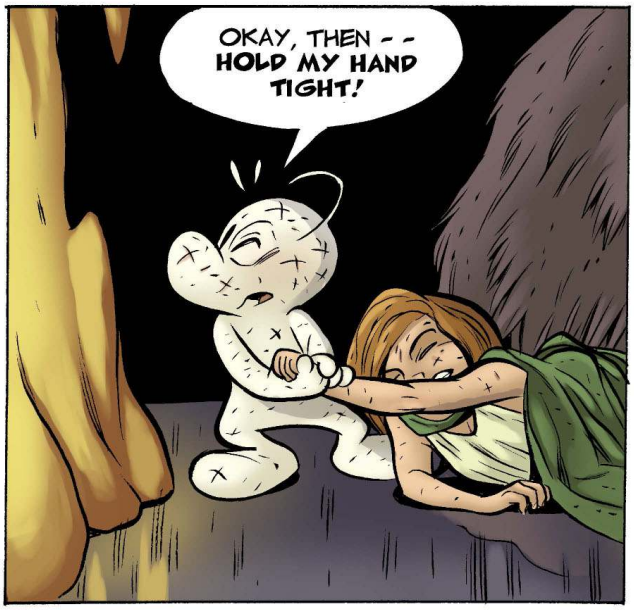

AAAH!

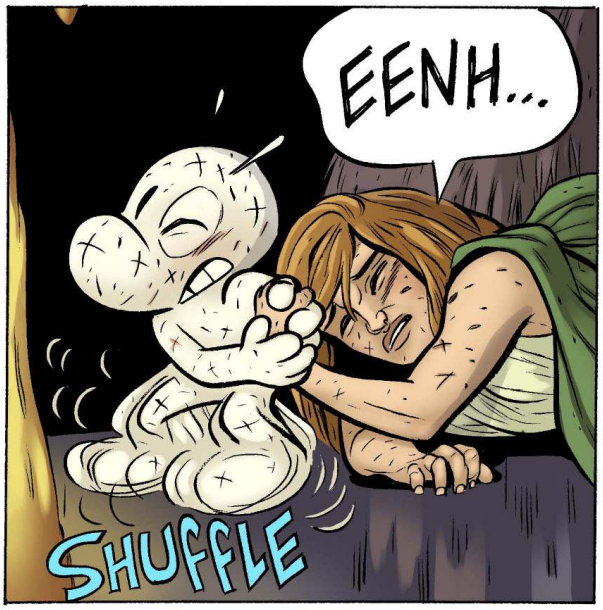

ROSE!
HA! HA!
UHH..
HA HA
HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA
HAAA
HA HA
HA HA


GIVE IT BACK! HURRY!
I'M TRYING! IT WON'T LEAVE!


STOP THEM!


GIVE IT NOW!!
I CAN'T! WE HAVE TO KILL IT WHILE IT'S STILL INSIDE ME!


OKAY, THEN -- HOLD MY HAND TIGHT!


EENH...
SHUFFLE


SHUFF SHUFF
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
BUILDING UP A STATIC CHARGE FOR LUCK.
SNAP!

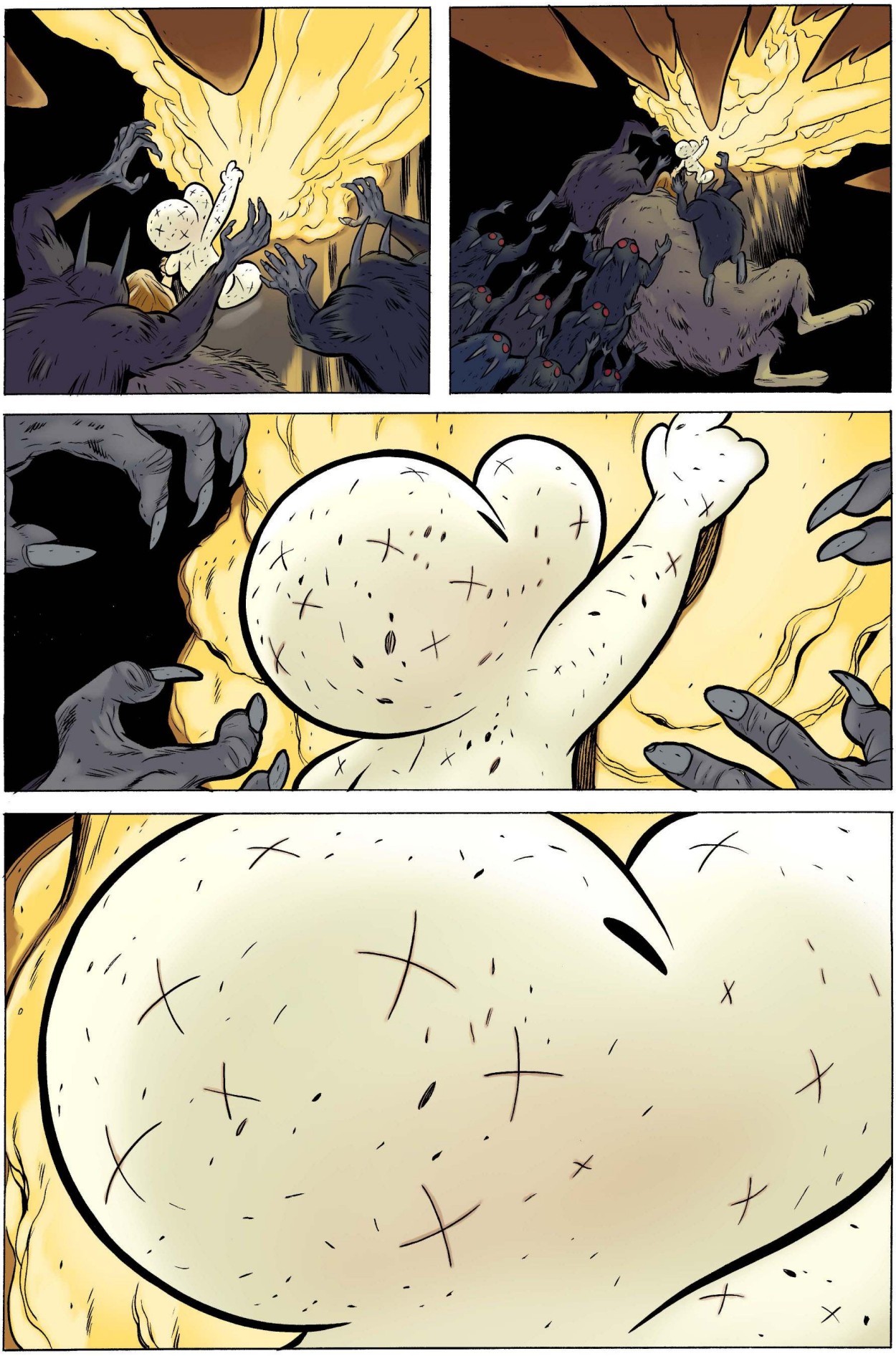






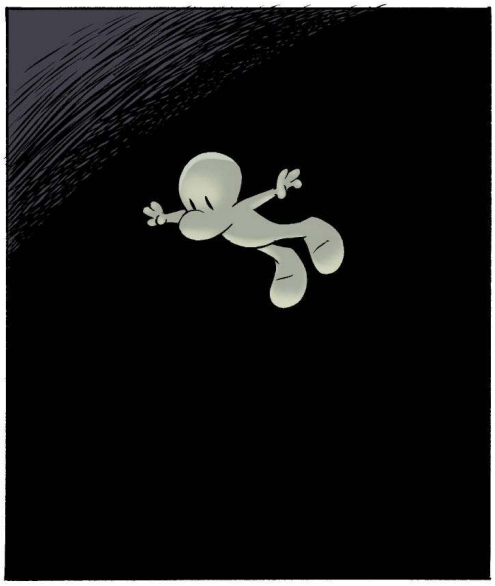


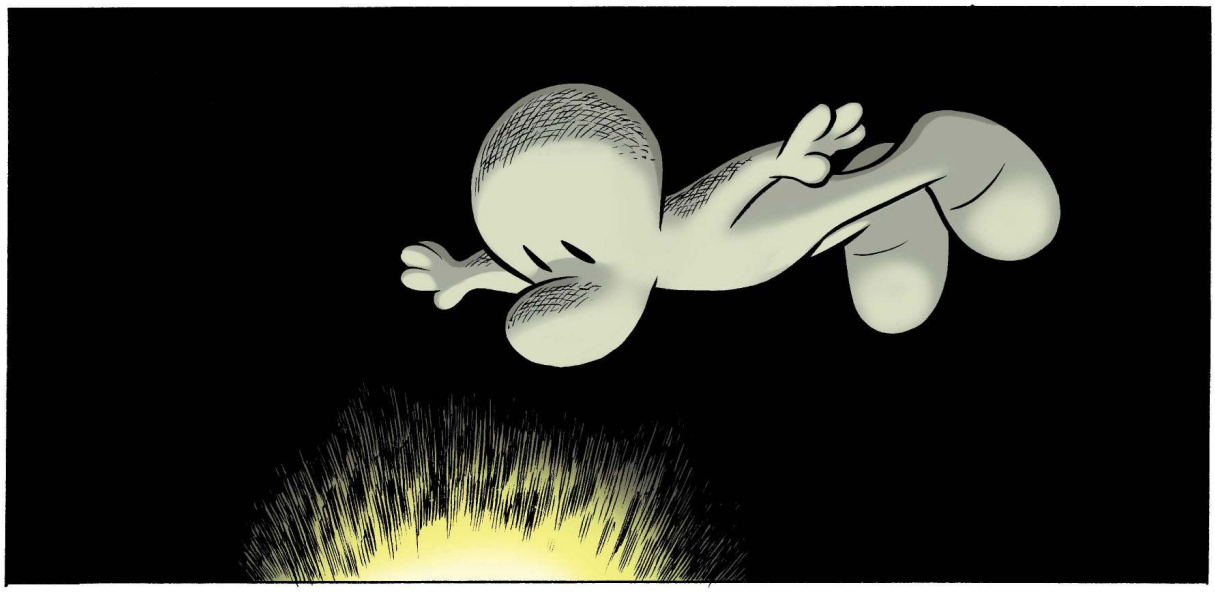




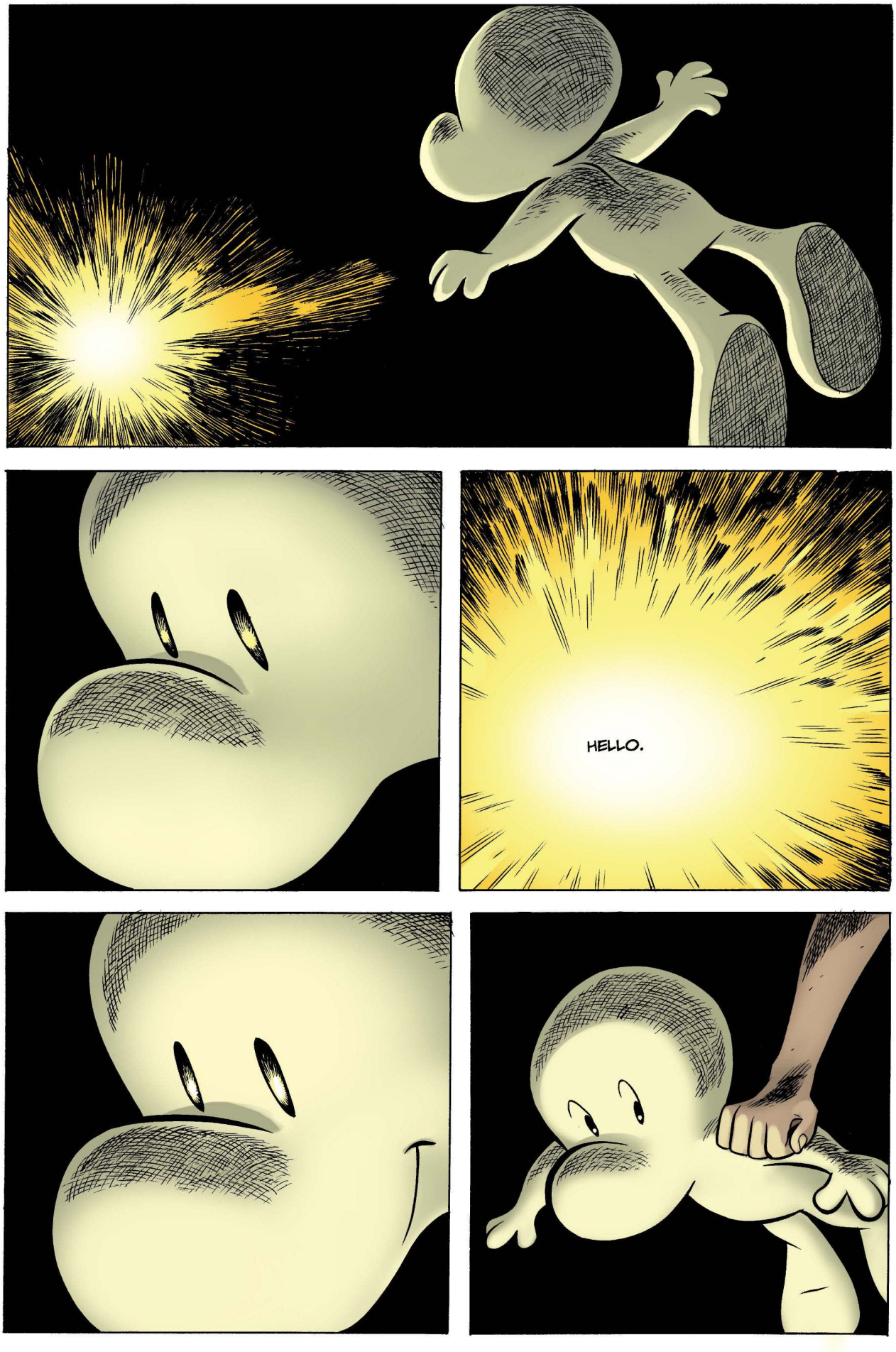








Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


HELLO.

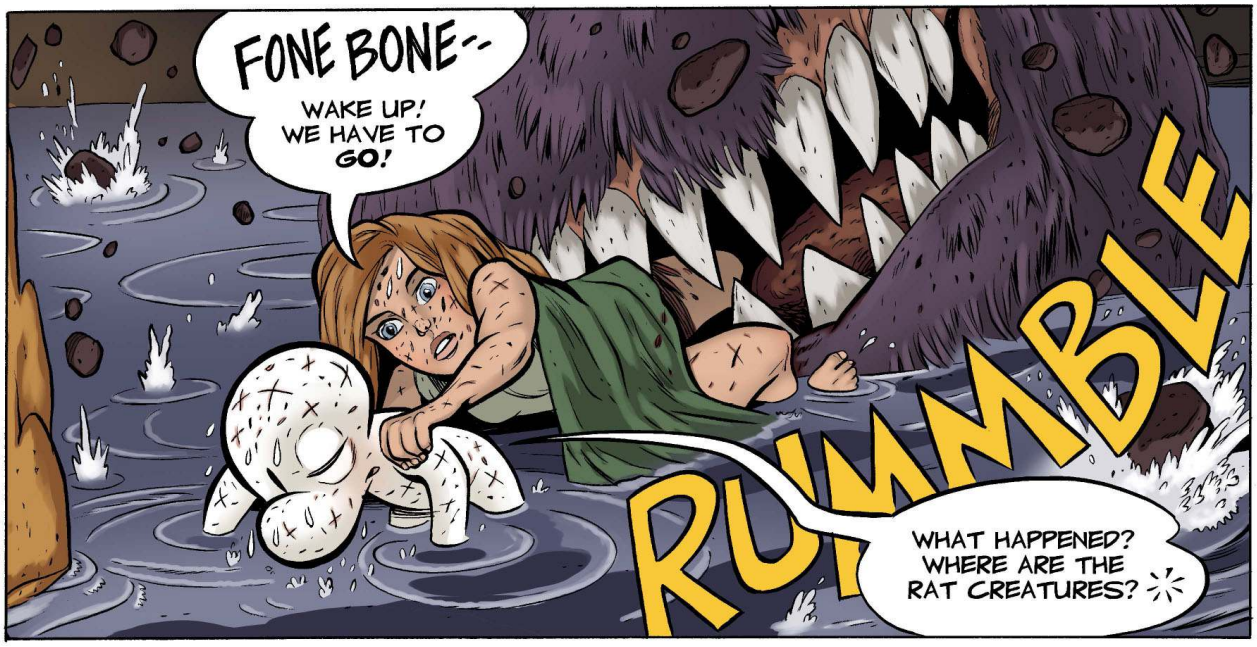

WE CAN'T GO THAT WAY.
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE IF WE DO, WE CAN'T COME BACK.

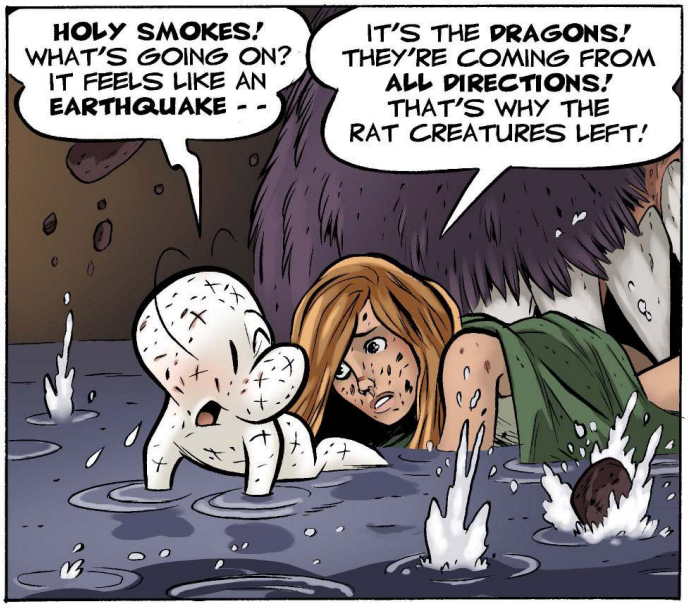


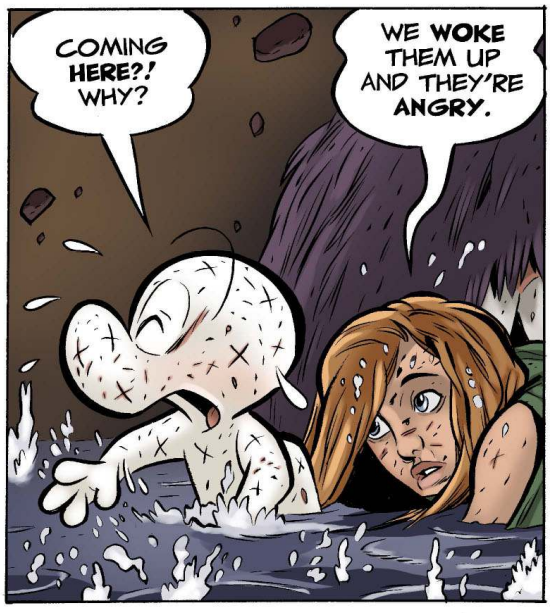
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

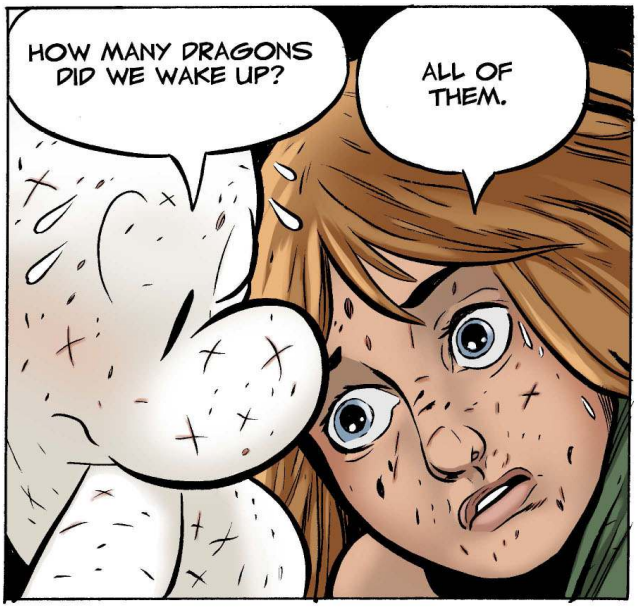


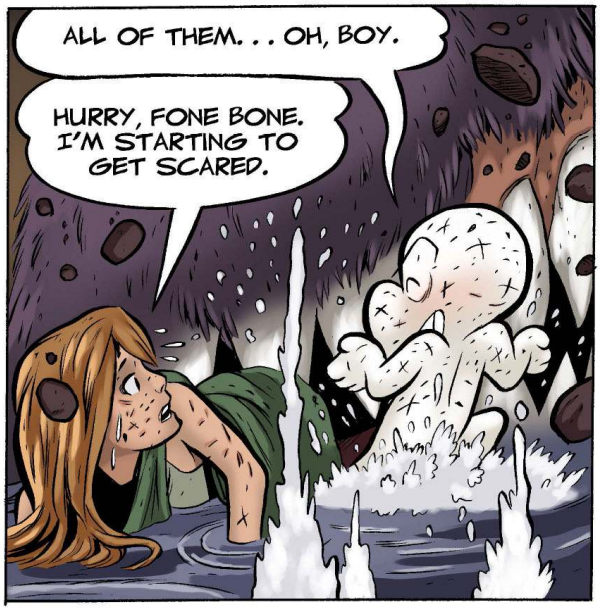
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


FONE BONE--
WAKE UP! WE HAVE TO GO!
RUMBLE
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE ARE THE RAT CREATURES?


HOLY SMOKES! WHAT'S GOING ON? IT FEELS LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE - -
IT'S THE DRAGONS! THEY'RE COMING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS! THAT'S WHY THE RAT CREATURES LEFT!

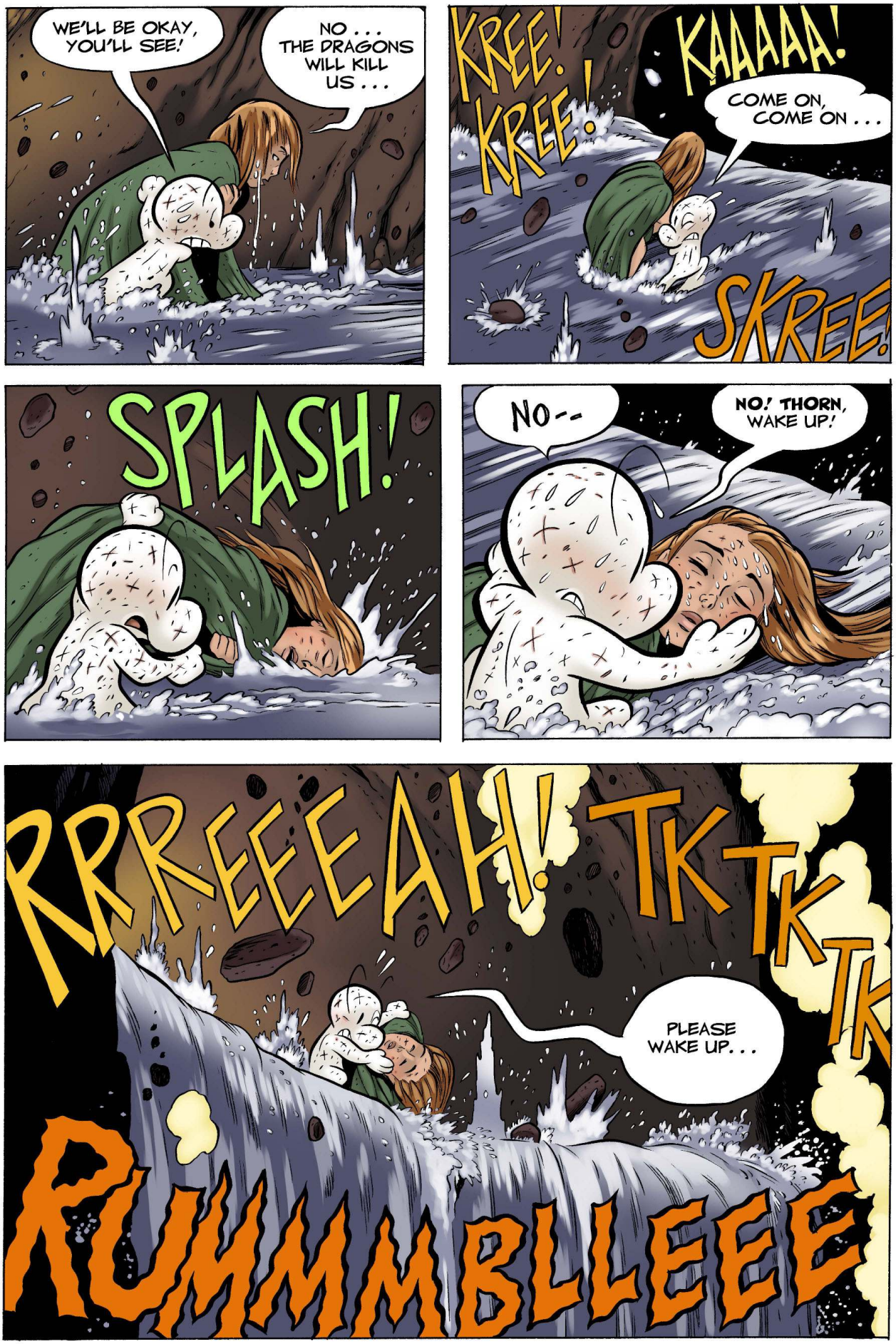

COMING HERE?! WHY?
WE WOKE THEM UP AND THEY'RE ANGRY.


HOW MANY DRAGONS DID WE WAKE UP?
ALL OF THEM.

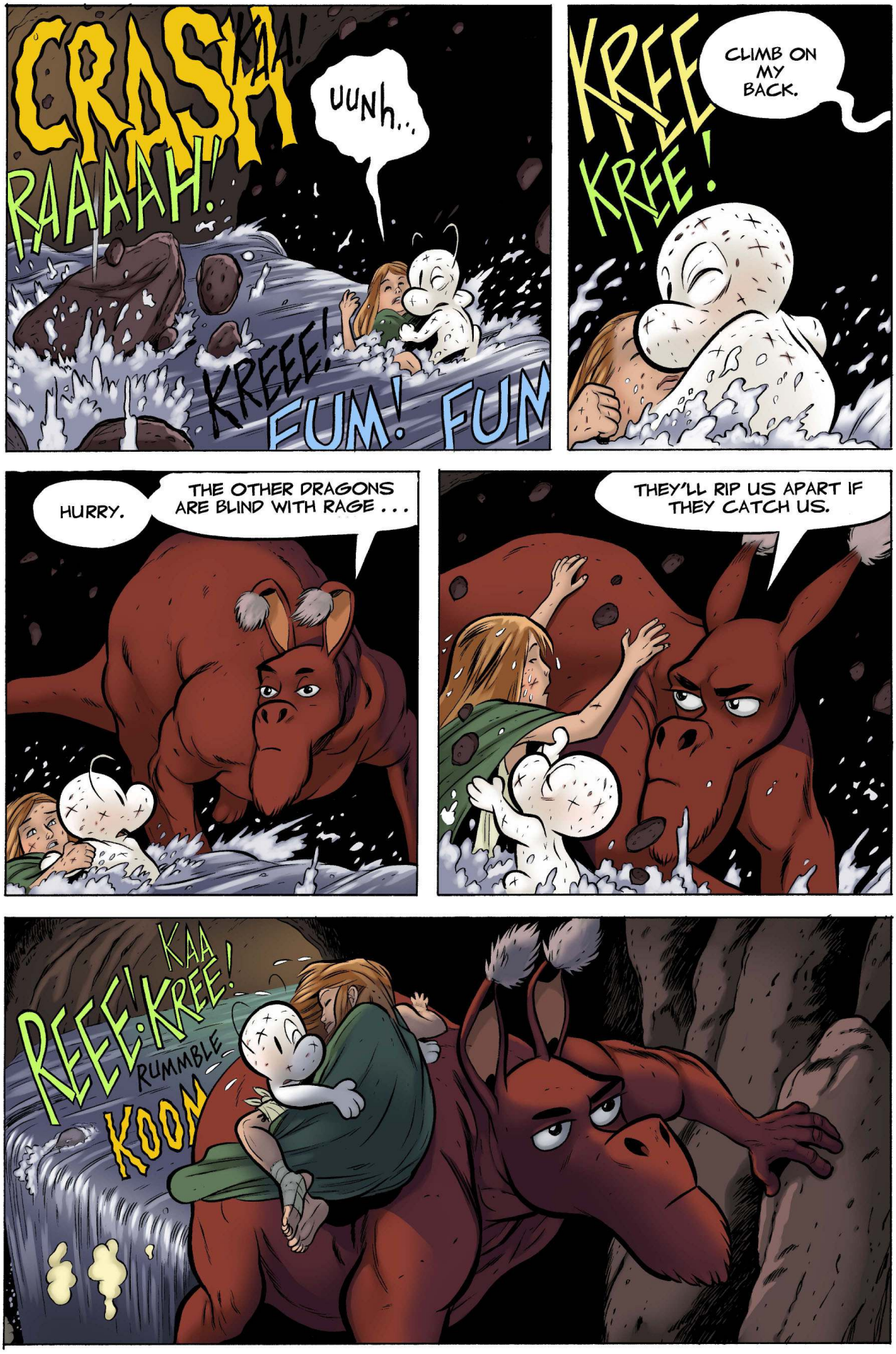

ALL OF THEM. . . OH, BOY.
HURRY, FONE BONE. I'M STARTING TO GET SCARED.



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


WE'LL BE OKAY, YOU'LL SEE!
NO . . . THE DRAGONS WILL KILL US . . .
KREE! KREE!
KAAAAA!
COME ON, COME ON . . .
SKREE!
SPLASH!
NO--
NO! THORN, WAKE UP!
RRREEEAH!
TK TK TK
PLEASE WAKE UP. . .
RUMMBLEEE


BONE


CRASH
KAA!
RAAAAH!
UUNh..
KREEE!
FUM! FUN
KREE KREE!
CLIMB ON MY BACK.
HURRY.
THE OTHER DRAGONS ARE BLIND WITH RAGE . . .
THEY'LL RIP US APART IF THEY CATCH US.
KAA
REE! KREE!
RUMMBLE
KOOM


KREE! RAAAAAAH
HOLD TIGHT.
CRASH! FLAP! FLAP! KREE! FLAP!
HERE THEY COME!


GO FASTER!
FASTER THAN THAT- -
BONE!
BARTLEBY! GET AWAY! WE WOKE THE DRAGONS!
RUMMBLE
BOOM!
YIKES! HOW MANY DRAGONS DID YOU WAKE UP?

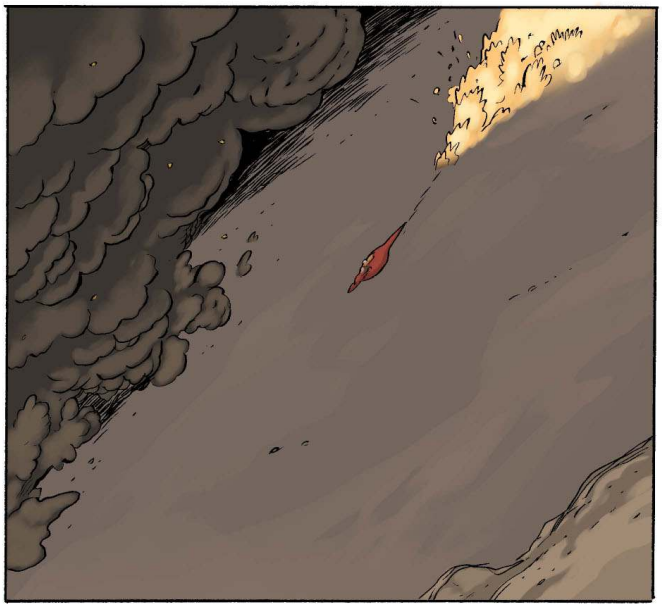

ALL OF THEM!
WAIT - - WHY AREN'T THEY BEHIND US? THE DRAGONS CHANGED DIRECTIONS - -
OH, NO! THEY'RE UNDERNEATH US!
RUN, BARTLEBY!
BOOM
KEERAAKK!
ROAR


BONE
YOUR MAJESTY, PLEASE LET ME PUT A BANDAGE ON YOUR ARM AND CHEST...
QUEEN ROSE!
THE RAT CREATURES ARE REGROUPING AND THE FUNNEL CLOUD IS BEGINNING TO BUILD STRENGTH!
WHAT?
LOOK! THE CLOUD IS STILL CHURNING!
BUT THE LOCUSTS ARE DEAD. WHAT'S MOVING IT?
THERE IS SOMETHING INSIDE THE STORM...
SOMETHING VERY BIG.


SOMETHING BIG . . . ? THORN WARNED ME THAT THE LOCUST WAS SENDING MIM AGAINST US.
MIM? THE MAD QUEEN OF THE DRAGONS?!
EEAAOoooo
IT'S HER! HEADMASTER, WARN YOUR PEOPLE THAT WE ARE STILL UNDER ATTACK!
YOUR MAJESTY!!
RAT CREATURES ARE ASCENDING THE NORTH SLOPE!
WHERE ARE THE PAWANS?
COMING UP THE SOUTHERN SLOPE.
WE'RE SURROUNDED!
THEY MUST KNOW YOU'RE HERE.
EVERYONE MOVE TOWARD THE TUNNEL! WE'RE LEAVING!
HELP ME GET LUCIUS TO HIS FEET - -
ROSE . . . LUCIUS IS DEAD.


LOOK OUT!
HERE THEY COME!


YOUR HIGHNESS!
COMING ACROSS THE PLAIN-- IT'S THE GREAT RED DRAGON!

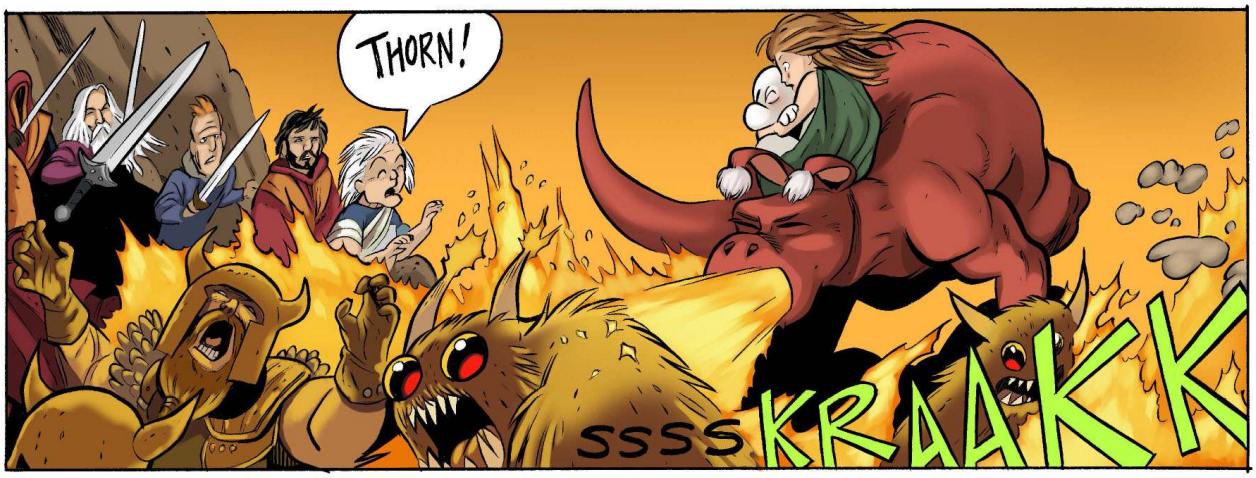


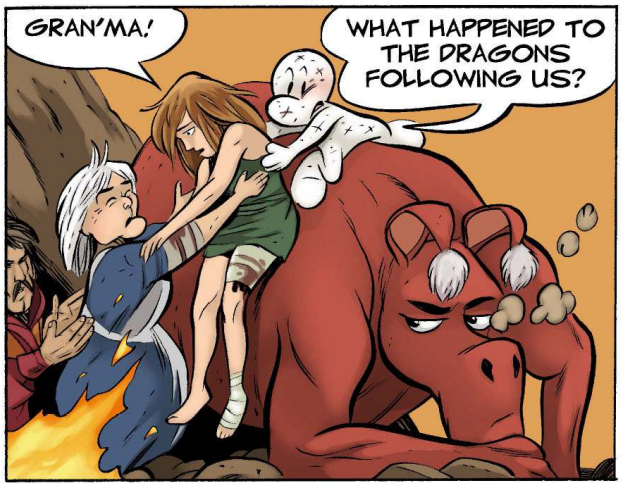

HE'S CARRYING THORN AND BONE--
BUT WHAT'S THAT BEHIND THEM?

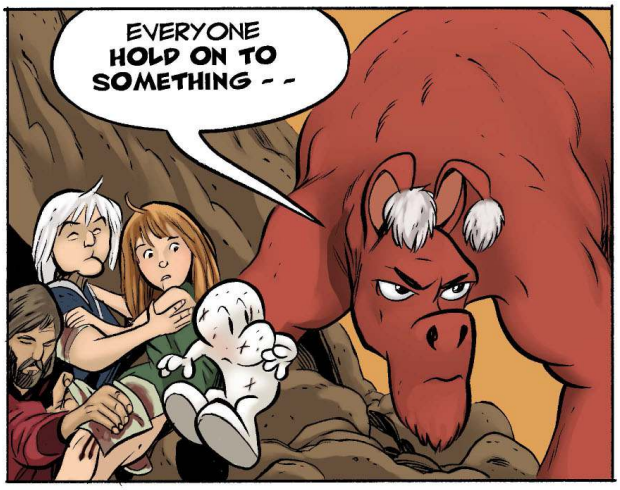




Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


THORN!
SSSS KRAAKK


GRAN'MA!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DRAGONS FOLLOWING US?

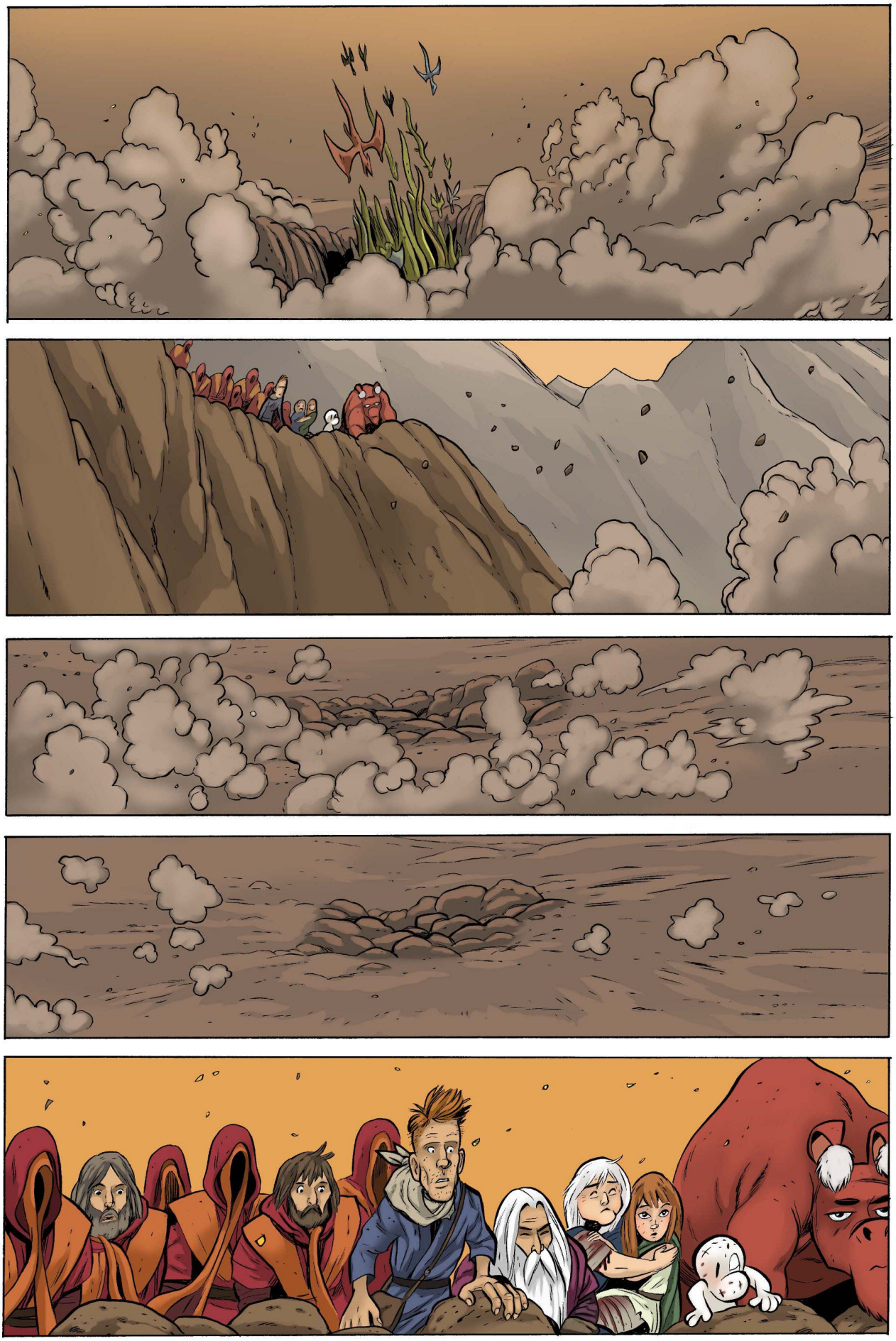

EVERYONE HOLD ON TO SOMETHING - -

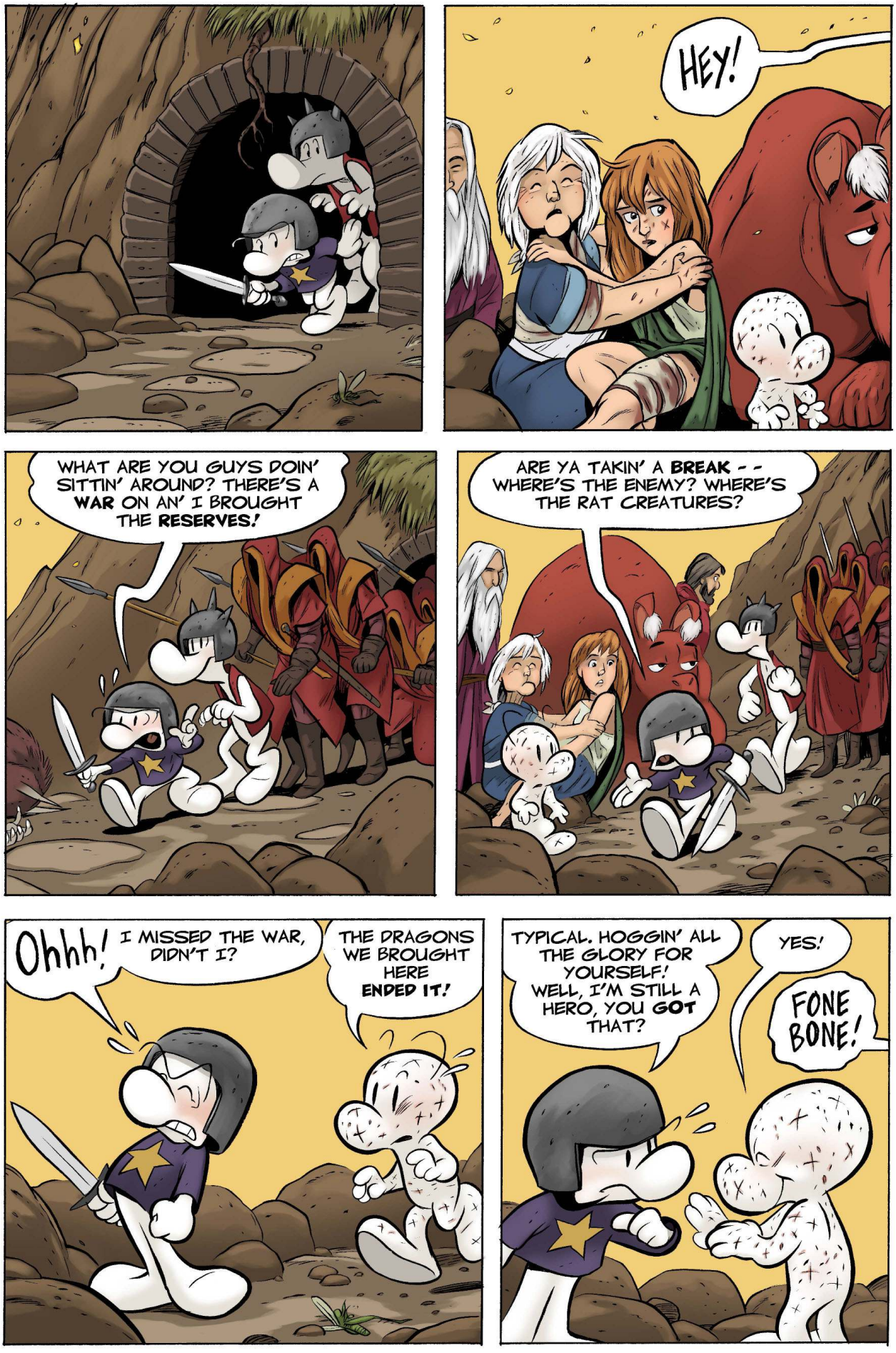

BOOM










HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOIN' SITTIN' AROUND? THERE'S A WAR ON AN' I BROUGHT THE RESERVES!
ARE YA TAKIN' A BREAK -- WHERE'S THE ENEMY? WHERE'S THE RAT CREATURES?
Ohhh!
I MISSED THE WAR, DIDN'T I?
THE DRAGONS WE BROUGHT HERE ENDED IT!
TYPICAL. HOGGIN' ALL THE GLORY FOR YOURSELF! WELL, I'M STILL A HERO, YOU GOT THAT?
YES!
FONE BONE!

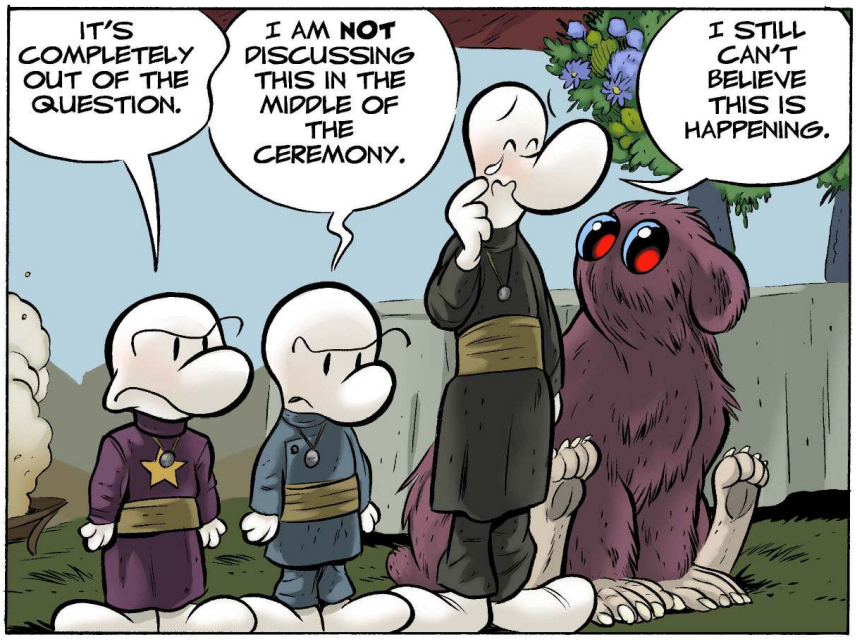


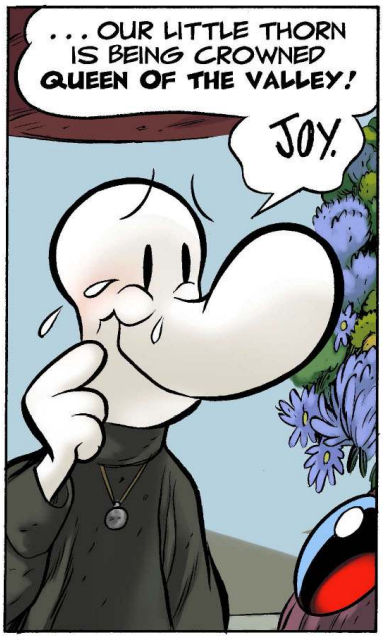
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline





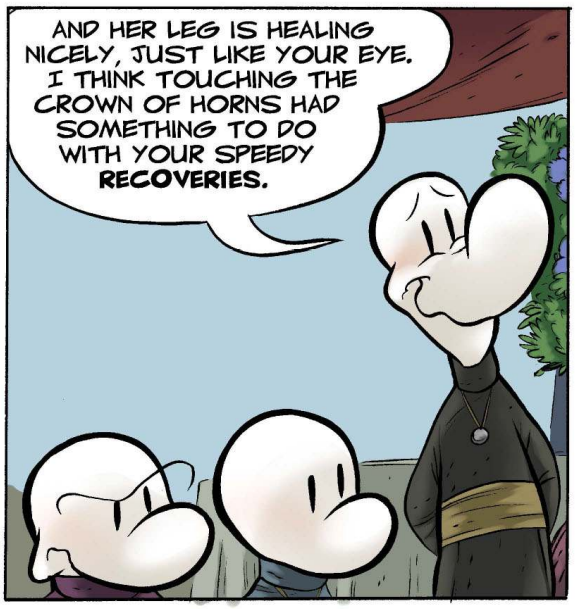

NO! I FORBID IT.
shh!

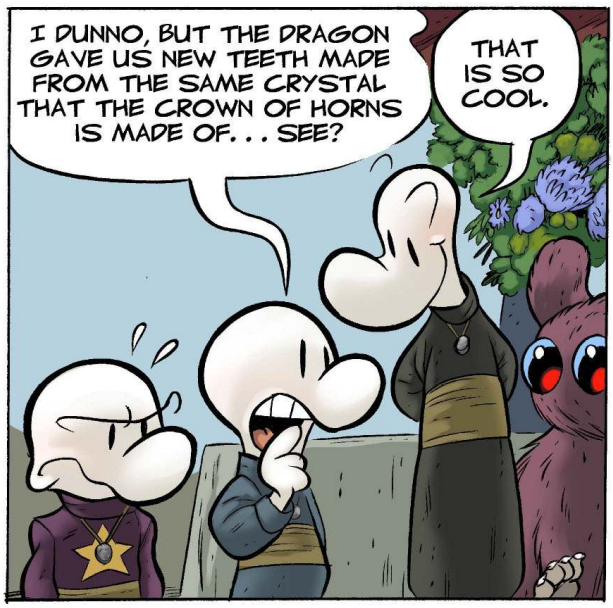

IT'S COMPLETELY OUT OF THE QUESTION.
I AM NOT DISCUSSING THIS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CEREMONY.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING.

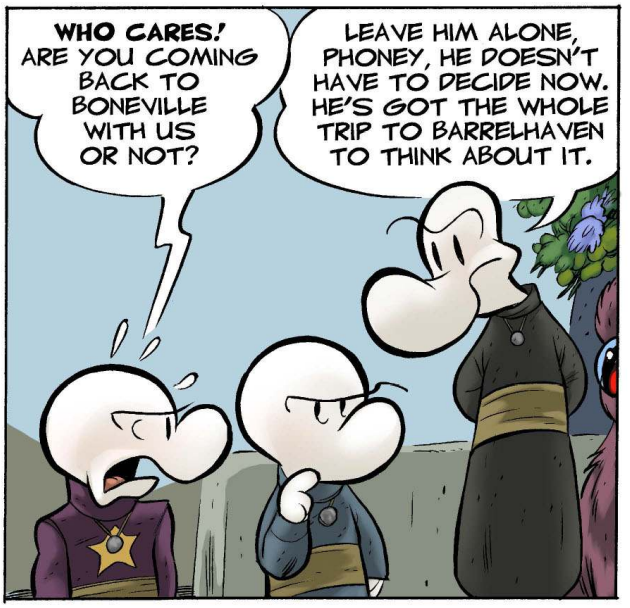

. . . OUR LITTLE THORN IS BEING CROWNED QUEEN OF THE VALLEY!
JOY.



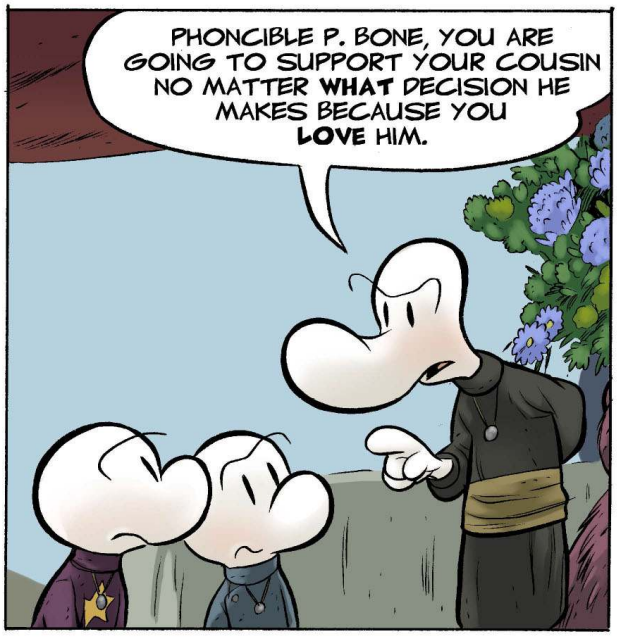


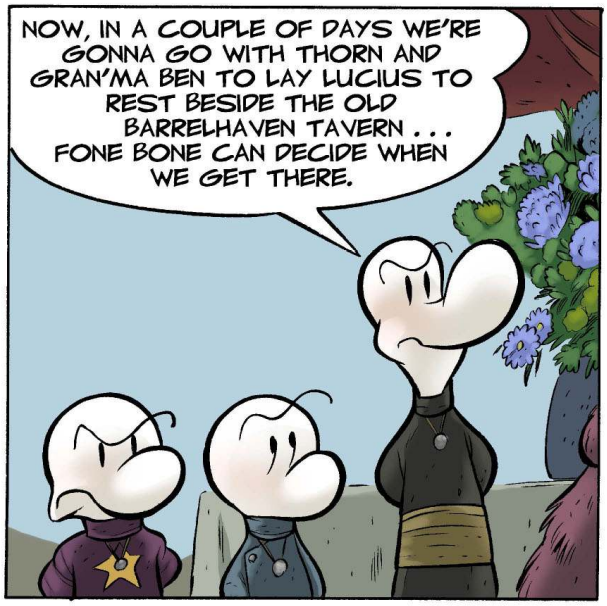

AND HER LEG IS HEALING NICELY, JUST LIKE YOUR EYE. I THINK TOUCHING THE CROWN OF HORNS HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR SPEEDY **RECOVERIES.**

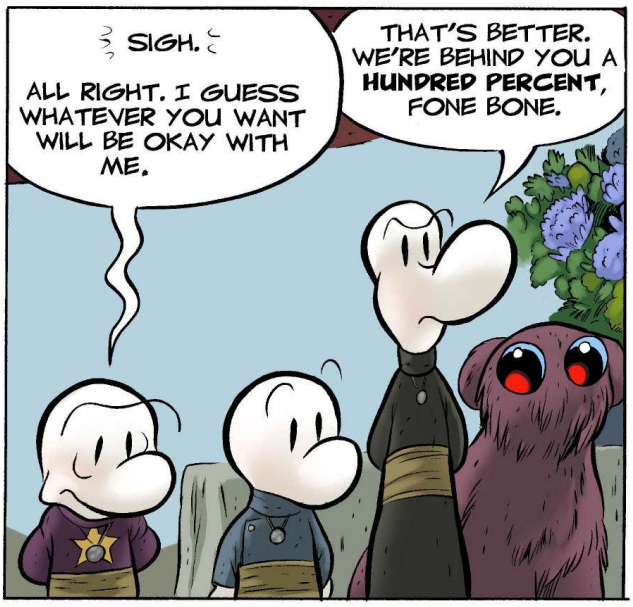

I DUNNO, BUT THE DRAGON GAVE US NEW TEETH MADE FROM THE SAME CRYSTAL THAT THE CROWN OF HORNS IS MADE OF... SEE?
THAT IS SO COOL.


WHO CARES! ARE YOU COMING BACK TO BONEVILLE WITH US OR NOT?
LEAVE HIM ALONE, PHONEY, HE DOESN'T HAVE TO DECIDE NOW. HE'S GOT THE WHOLE TRIP TO BARRELHAVEN TO THINK ABOUT IT.

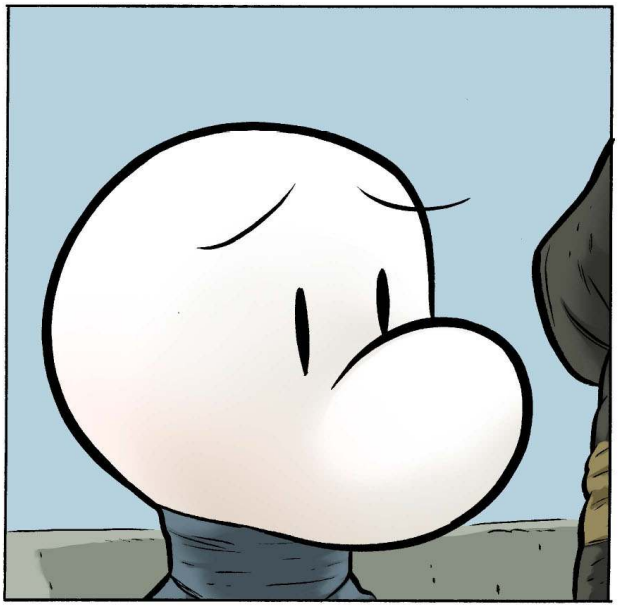

I DON'T WANNA WAIT 'TIL WE GET TO BARRELHAVEN, SMILEY. THORN ASKED HIM TO STAY AND I WANNA KNOW **NOW!** ARE YOU GONNA HELP RULE THE KINGDOM OR ARE YOU COMIN' WITH **US?**


PHONCIBLE P. BONE, YOU ARE GOING TO SUPPORT YOUR COUSIN NO MATTER **WHAT** DECISION HE MAKES BECAUSE YOU **LOVE** HIM.

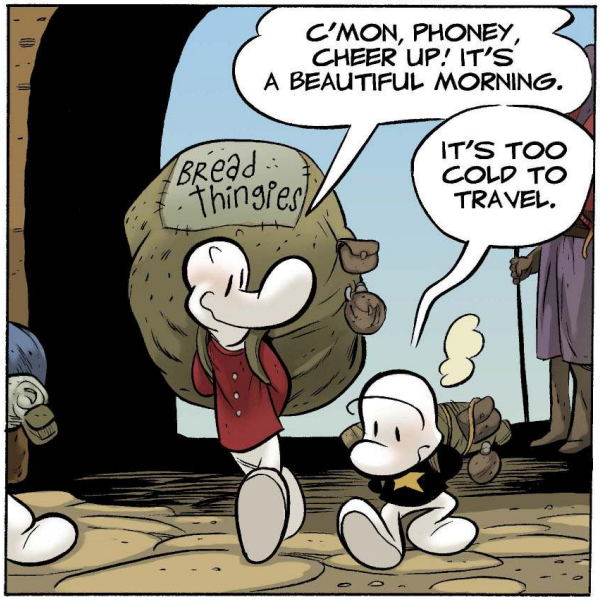

NOW, IN A COUPLE OF DAYS WE'RE GONNA GO WITH THORN AND GRAN'MA BEN TO LAY LUCIUS TO REST BESIDE THE OLD BARRELHAVEN TAVERN . . . FONE BONE CAN DECIDE WHEN WE GET THERE.


SIGH.
ALL RIGHT. I GUESS WHATEVER YOU WANT WILL BE OKAY WITH ME.
THAT'S BETTER. WE'RE BEHIND YOU A **HUNDRED PERCENT**, FONE BONE.



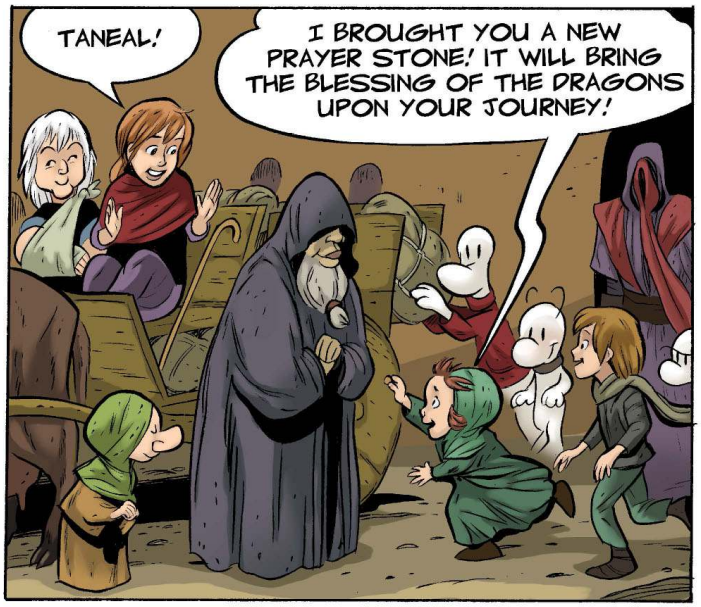


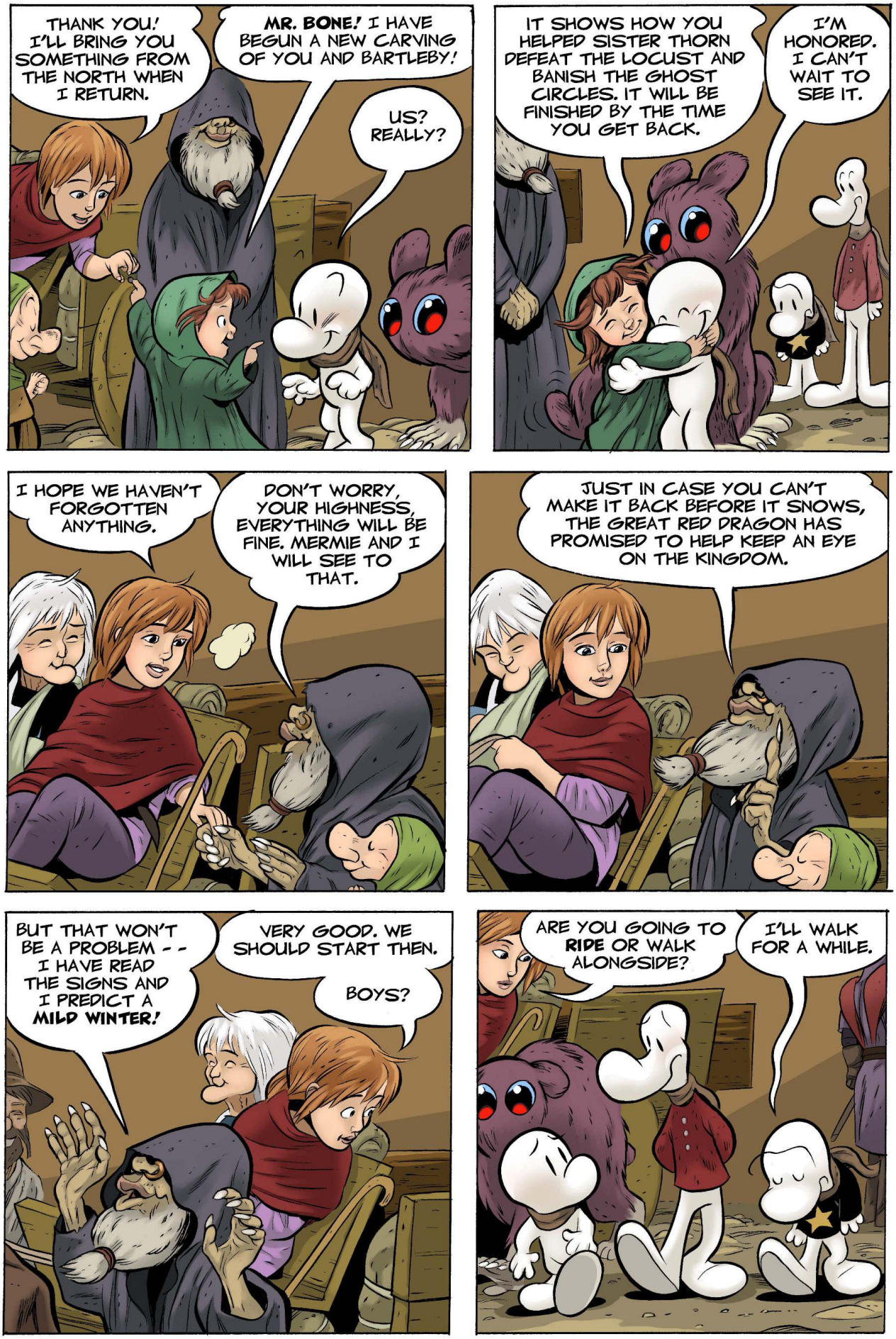


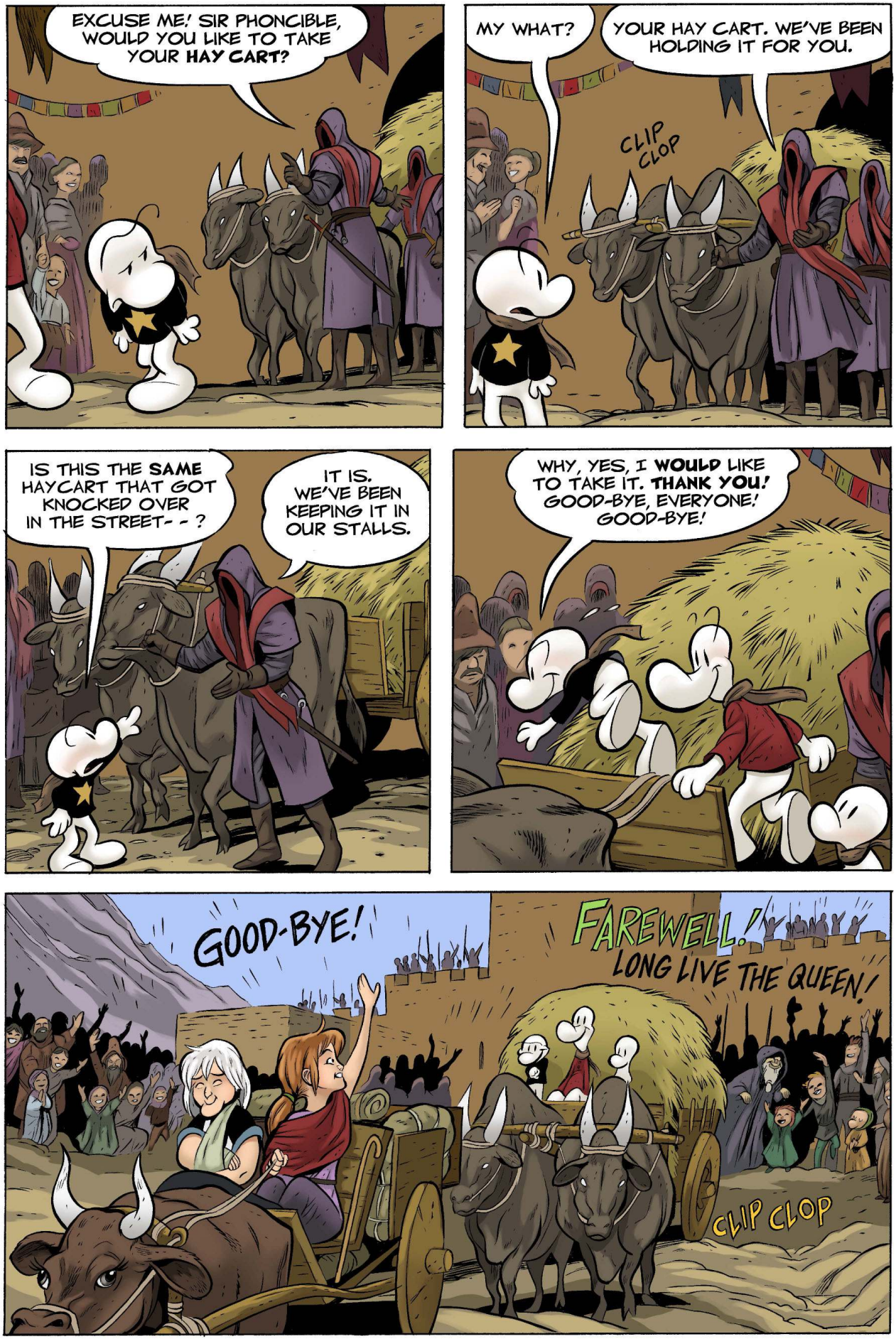

C'MON, PHONEY, CHEER UP! IT'S A BEAUTIFUL MORNING.
IT'S TOO COLD TO TRAVEL.
Bread thingies

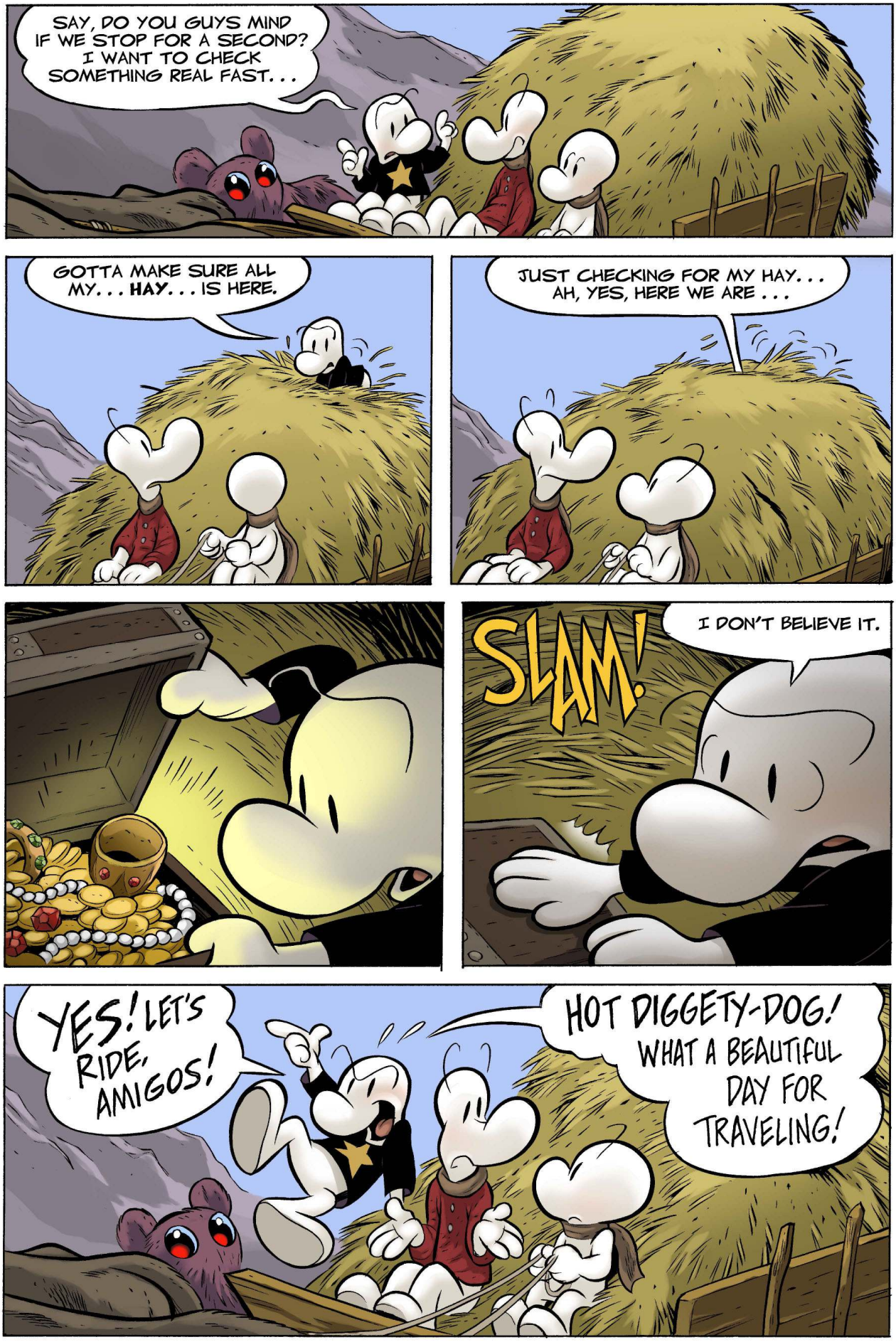

LUCIUS LOVED THE LATE FALL. I THINK HE'D BE HAPPY TRAVELING TO THE NORTH WOODS THIS TIME OF YEAR.


THANK YOU FOR DOING THIS, DEAR.
WAIT!

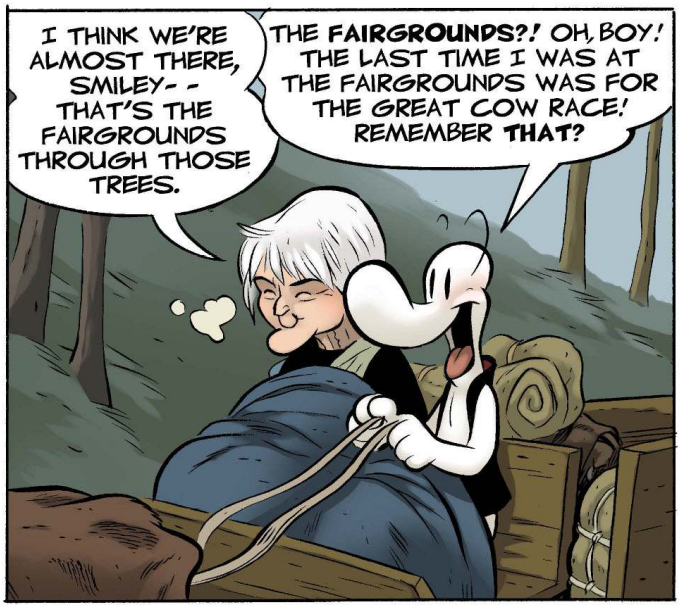

TANEAL!
I BROUGHT YOU A NEW PRAYER STONE! IT WILL BRING THE BLESSING OF THE DRAGONS UPON YOUR JOURNEY!

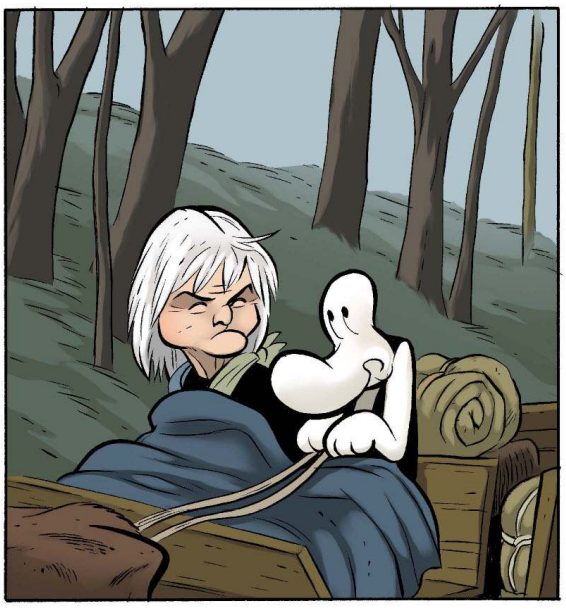

THANK YOU! I'LL BRING YOU SOMETHING FROM THE NORTH WHEN I RETURN.
MR. BONE! I HAVE BEGUN A NEW CARVING OF YOU AND BARTLEBY!
US? REALLY?
IT SHOWS HOW YOU HELPED SISTER THORN DEFEAT THE LOCUST AND BANISH THE GHOST CIRCLES. IT WILL BE FINISHED BY THE TIME YOU GET BACK.
I'M HONORED. I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT.
I HOPE WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ANYTHING.
DON'T WORRY, YOUR HIGHNESS, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE. MERMIE AND I WILL SEE TO THAT.
JUST IN CASE YOU CAN'T MAKE IT BACK BEFORE IT SNOWS, THE GREAT RED DRAGON HAS PROMISED TO HELP KEEP AN EYE ON THE KINGDOM.
BUT THAT WON'T BE A PROBLEM - - I HAVE READ THE SIGNS AND I PREDICT A MILD WINTER!
VERY GOOD. WE SHOULD START THEN.
BOYS?
ARE YOU GOING TO RIDE OR WALK ALONGSIDE?
I'LL WALK FOR A WHILE.

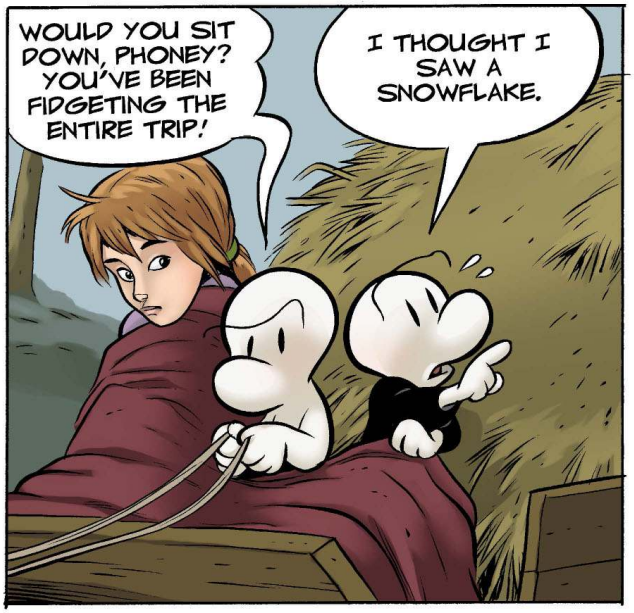

EXCUSE ME! SIR PHONCIBLE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE YOUR **HAY CART?**
MY WHAT?
YOUR HAY CART. WE'VE BEEN HOLDING IT FOR YOU.
CLIP CLOP
IS THIS THE **SAME** HAYCART THAT GOT KNOCKED OVER IN THE STREET- - ?
IT IS. WE'VE BEEN KEEPING IT IN OUR STALLS.
WHY, YES, I **WOULD** LIKE TO TAKE IT. **THANK YOU!** GOOD-BYE, EVERYONE! GOOD-BYE!
GOOD-BYE!
FAREWELL!
LONG LIVE THE QUEEN!
CLIP CLOP

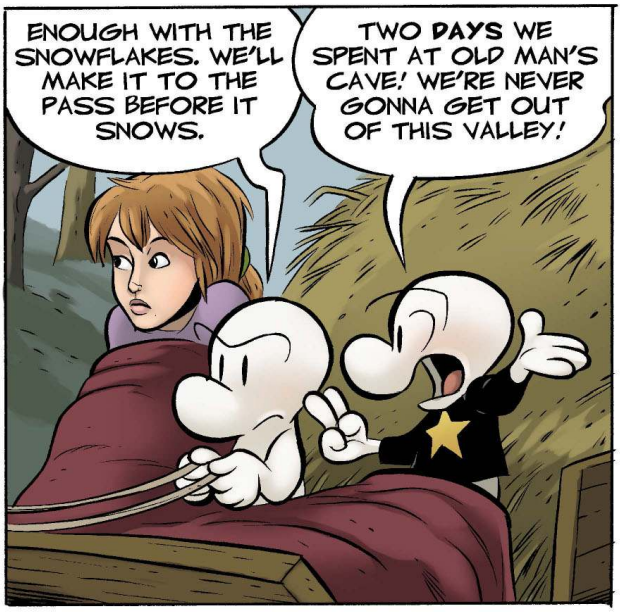

SAY, DO YOU GUYS MIND IF WE STOP FOR A SECOND? I WANT TO CHECK SOMETHING REAL FAST...
GOTTA MAKE SURE ALL MY... HAY... IS HERE.
JUST CHECKING FOR MY HAY... AH, YES, HERE WE ARE ...
SLAM!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
YES! LET'S RIDE, AMIGOS!
HOT DIGGETY-DOG! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR TRAVELING!

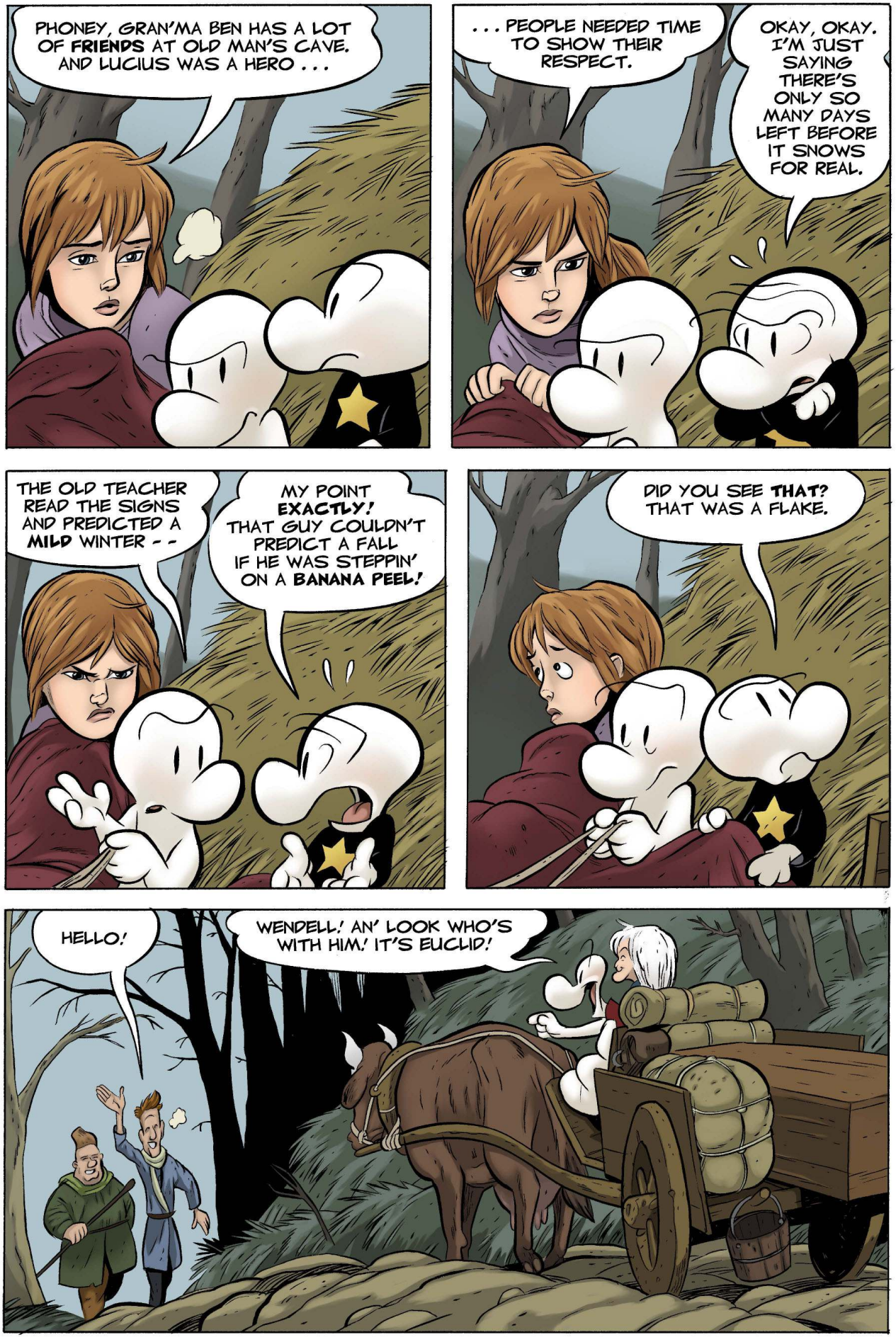


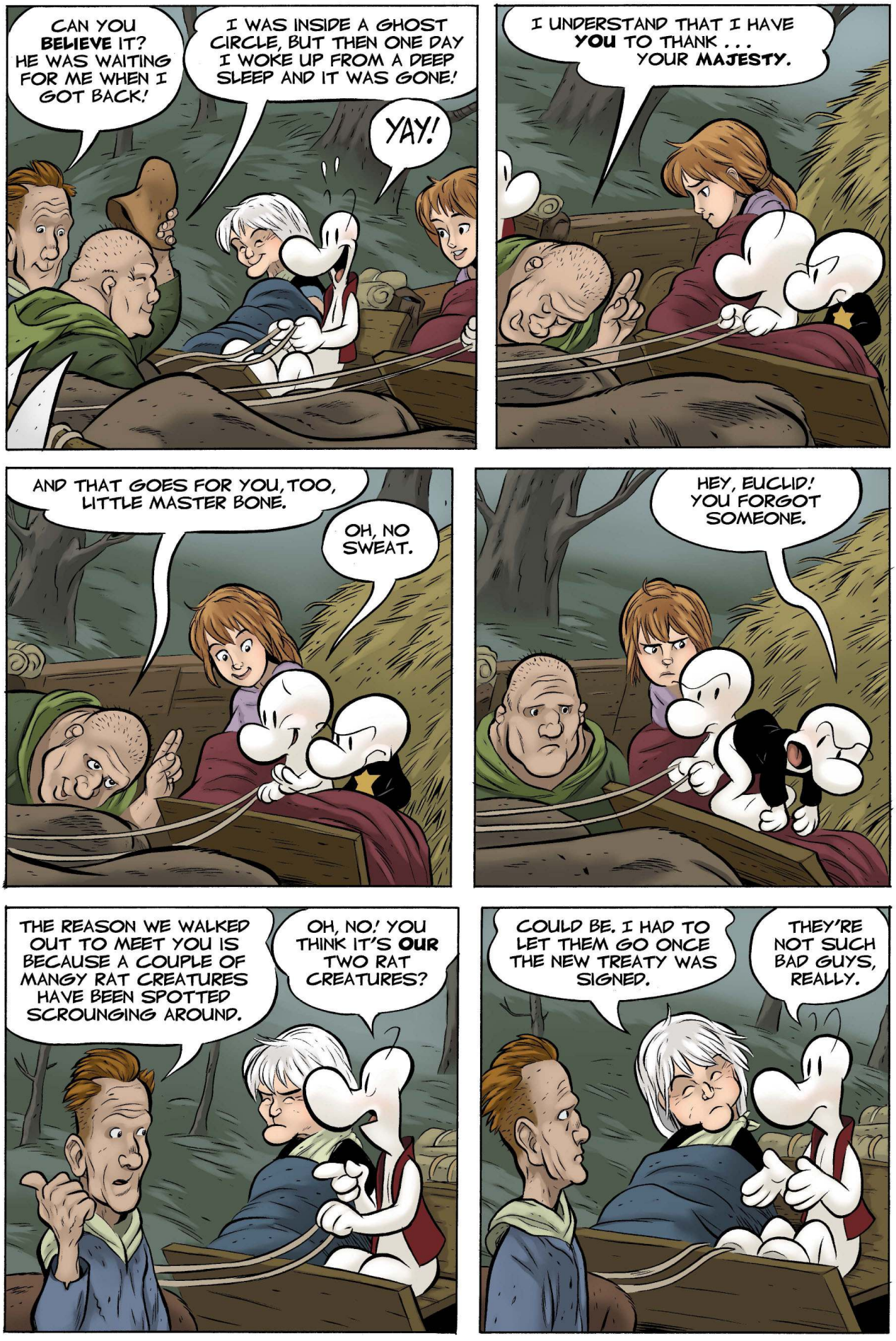

I THINK WE'RE ALMOST THERE, SMILEY- - THAT'S THE FAIRGROUNDS THROUGH THOSE TREES.
THE **FAIRGROUNDS**?! OH, BOY! THE LAST TIME I WAS AT THE FAIRGROUNDS WAS FOR THE GREAT COW RACE! REMEMBER **THAT**?




WOULD YOU SIT DOWN, PHONEY? YOU'VE BEEN FIDGETING THE ENTIRE TRIP!
I THOUGHT I SAW A SNOWFLAKE.


ENOUGH WITH THE SNOWFLAKES. WE'LL MAKE IT TO THE PASS BEFORE IT SNOWS.
TWO **DAYS** WE SPENT AT OLD MAN'S CAVE! WE'RE NEVER GONNA GET OUT OF THIS VALLEY!


PHONEY, GRAN'MA BEN HAS A LOT OF FRIENDS AT OLD MAN'S CAVE. AND LUCIUS WAS A HERO . . .
. . . PEOPLE NEEDED TIME TO SHOW THEIR RESPECT.
OKAY, OKAY. I'M JUST SAYING THERE'S ONLY SO MANY DAYS LEFT BEFORE IT SNOWS FOR REAL.
THE OLD TEACHER READ THE SIGNS AND PREDICTED A MILD WINTER - -
MY POINT EXACTLY! THAT GUY COULDN'T PREDICT A FALL IF HE WAS STEPPIN' ON A BANANA PEEL!
DID YOU SEE THAT? THAT WAS A FLAKE.
HELLO!
WENDELL! AN' LOOK WHO'S WITH HIM! IT'S EUCLID!

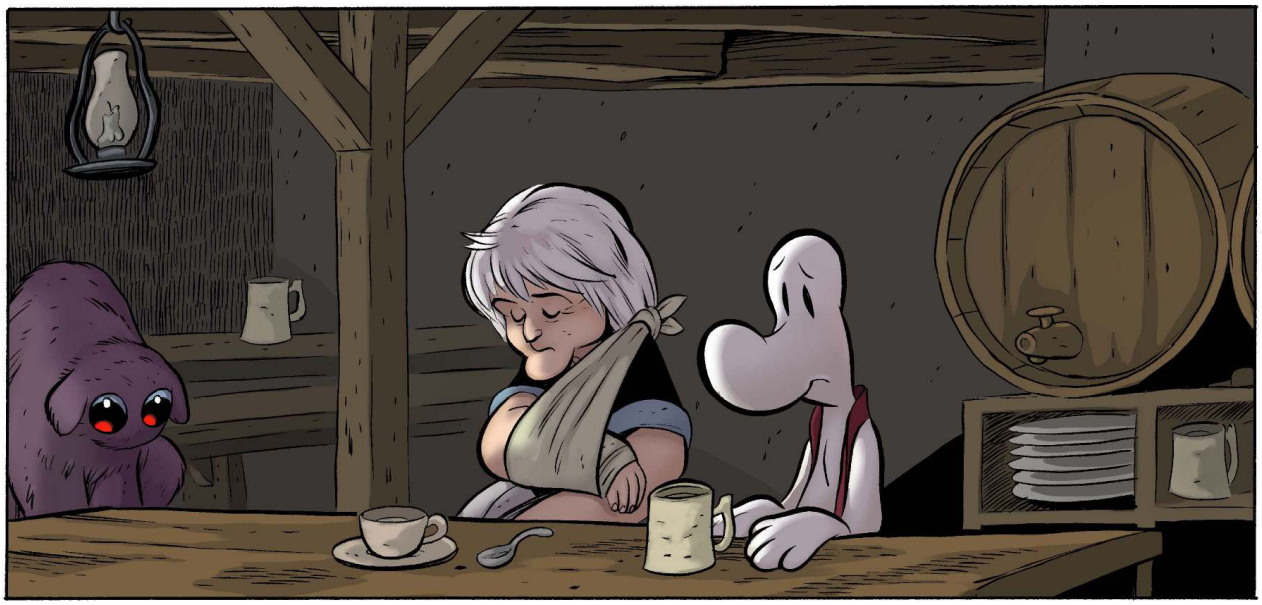

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? HE WAS WAITING FOR ME WHEN I GOT BACK!
I WAS INSIDE A GHOST CIRCLE, BUT THEN ONE DAY I WOKE UP FROM A DEEP SLEEP AND IT WAS GONE!
YAY!
I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE YOU TO THANK . . . YOUR MAJESTY.
AND THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO, LITTLE MASTER BONE.
OH, NO SWEAT.
HEY, EUCLID! YOU FORGOT SOMEONE.
THE REASON WE WALKED OUT TO MEET YOU IS BECAUSE A COUPLE OF MANGY RAT CREATURES HAVE BEEN SPOTTED SCROUNGING AROUND.
OH, NO! YOU THINK IT'S OUR TWO RAT CREATURES?
COULD BE. I HAD TO LET THEM GO ONCE THE NEW TREATY WAS SIGNED.
THEY'RE NOT SUCH BAD GUYS, REALLY.

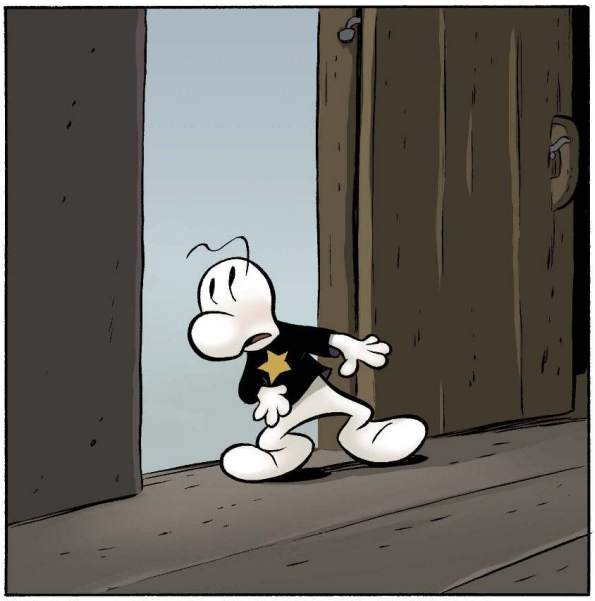


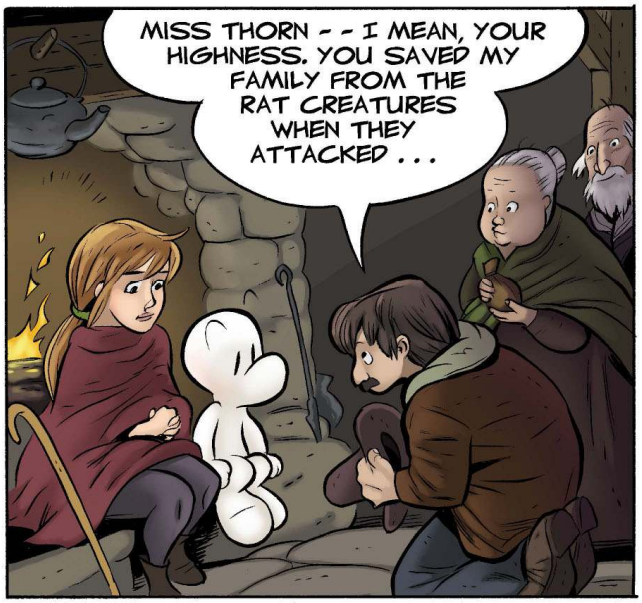
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline





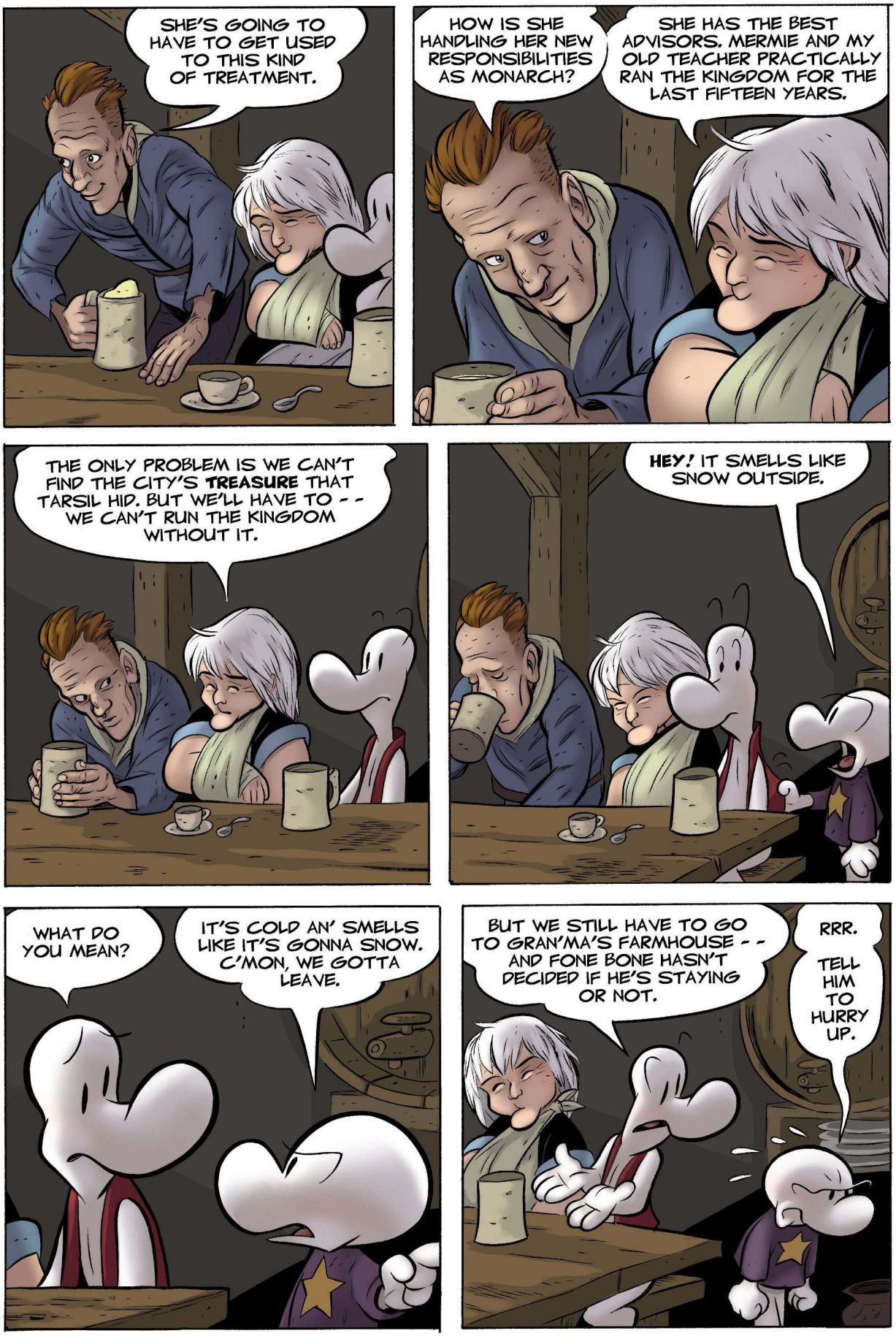




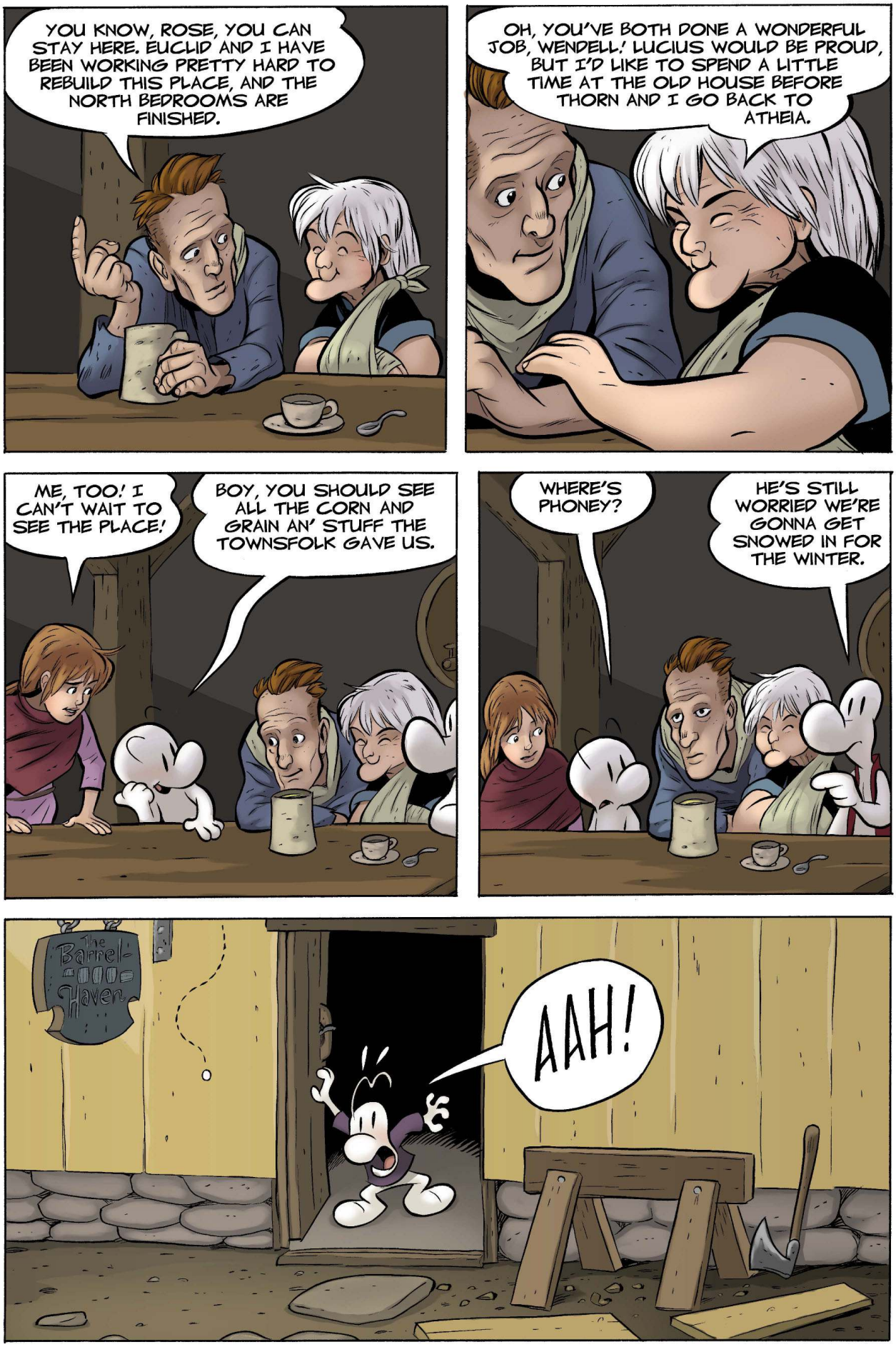

MISS THORN - - I MEAN, YOUR HIGHNESS. YOU SAVED MY FAMILY FROM THE RAT CREATURES WHEN THEY ATTACKED . . .


WE'D LIKE YOU TO HAVE THIS. IT'S A SPECIAL GRAIN, HARDY AND STRONG.
THANK YOU.


I WOKE UP IN A GHOST CIRCLE. THANKS TO YOU, I'M AROUND TO HARVEST MY CORN. IT WOULD PLEASE ME IF YOU'D TAKE A BUSHEL.

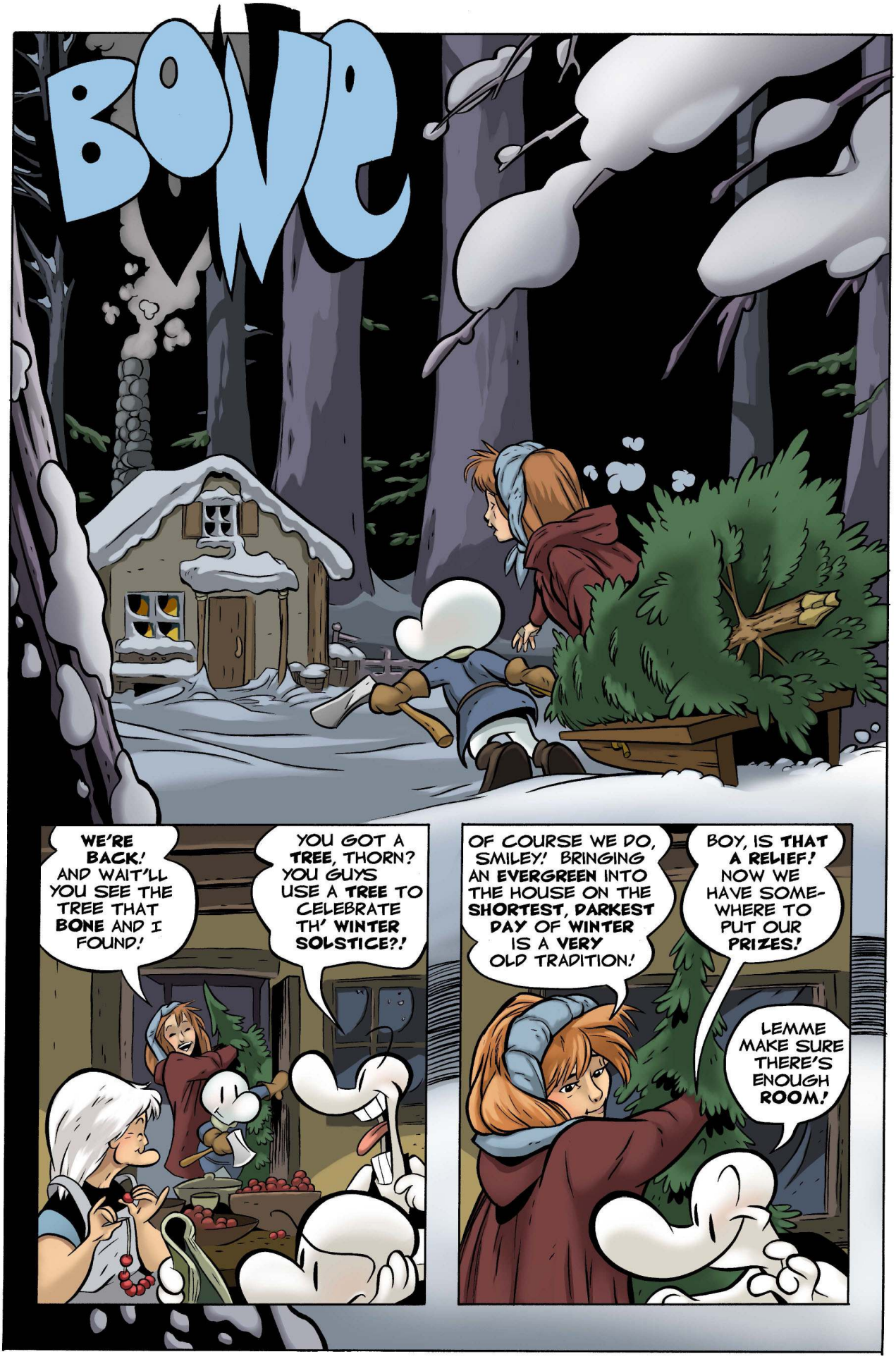


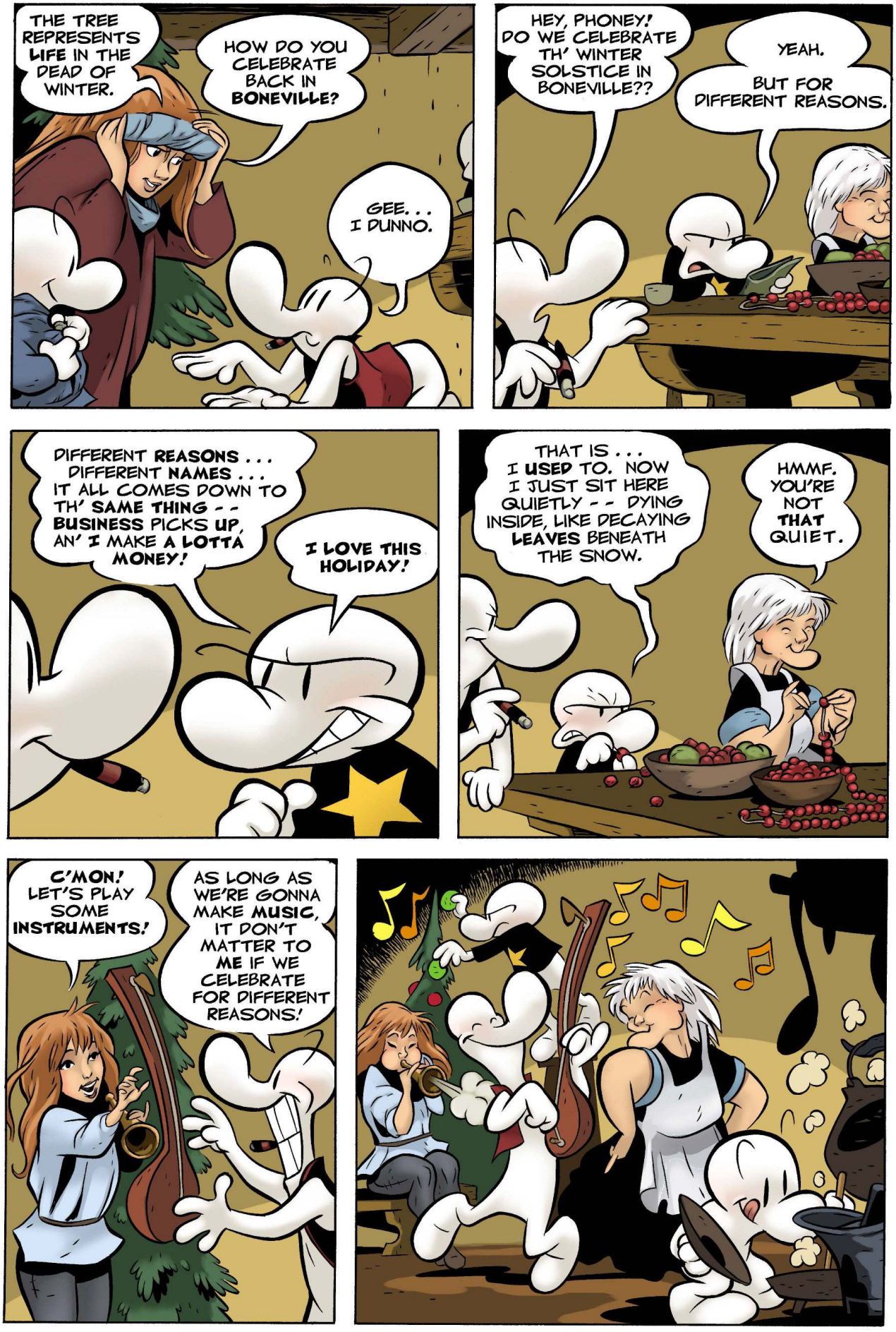
Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

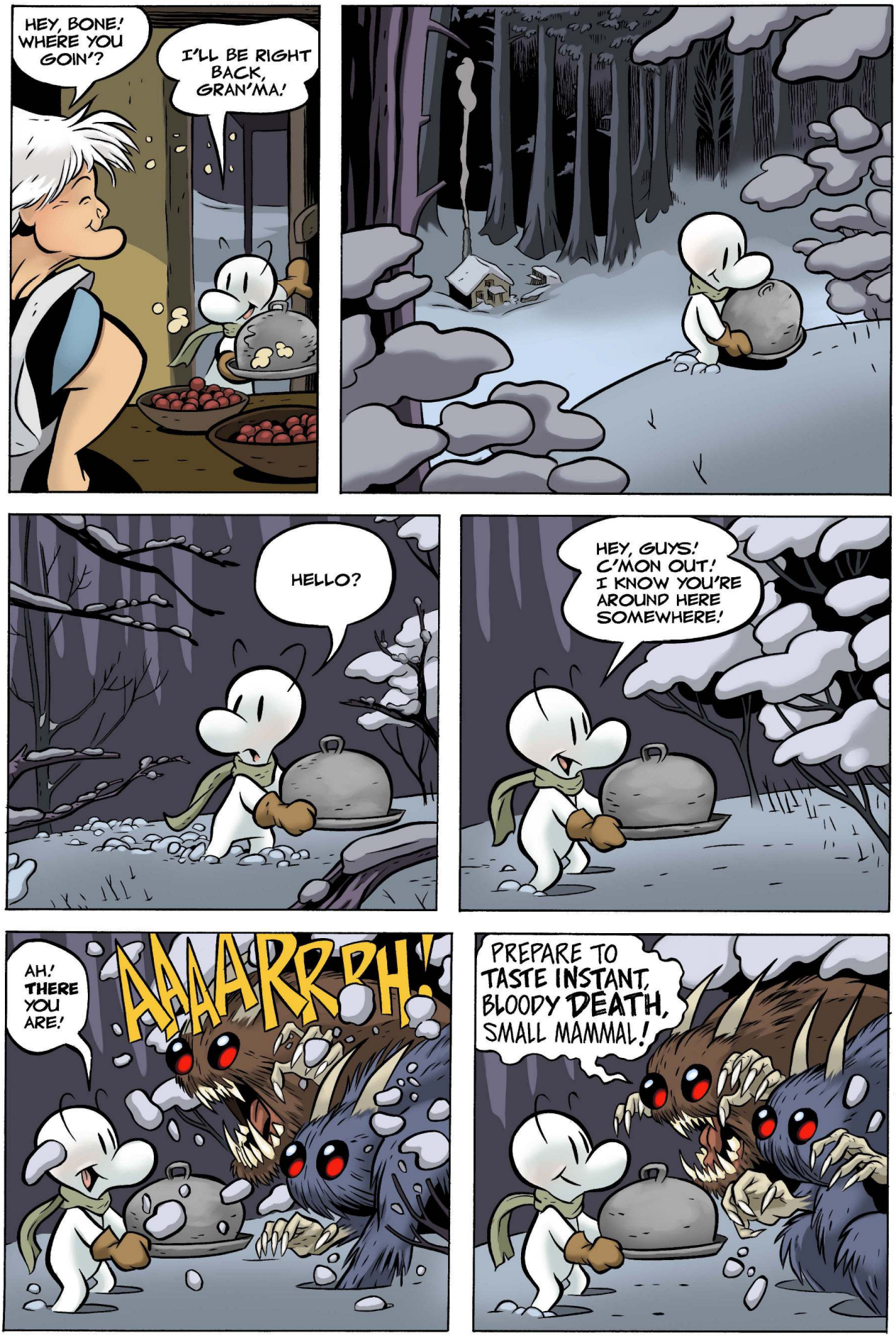

YOU KNOW, ROSE, YOU CAN STAY HERE. EUCLID AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING PRETTY HARD TO REBUILD THIS PLACE, AND THE NORTH BEDROOMS ARE FINISHED.
OH, YOU'VE BOTH DONE A WONDERFUL JOB, WENDELL.' LUCIUS WOULD BE PROUD, BUT I'D LIKE TO SPEND A LITTLE TIME AT THE OLD HOUSE BEFORE THORN AND I GO BACK TO ATHEIA.
ME, TOO.' I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE PLACE.'
BOY, YOU SHOULD SEE ALL THE CORN AND GRAIN AN' STUFF THE TOWNSFOLK GAVE US.
WHERE'S PHONEY?
HE'S STILL WORRIED WE'RE GONNA GET SNOWED IN FOR THE WINTER.
The Barrel-Haven
AAH!



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

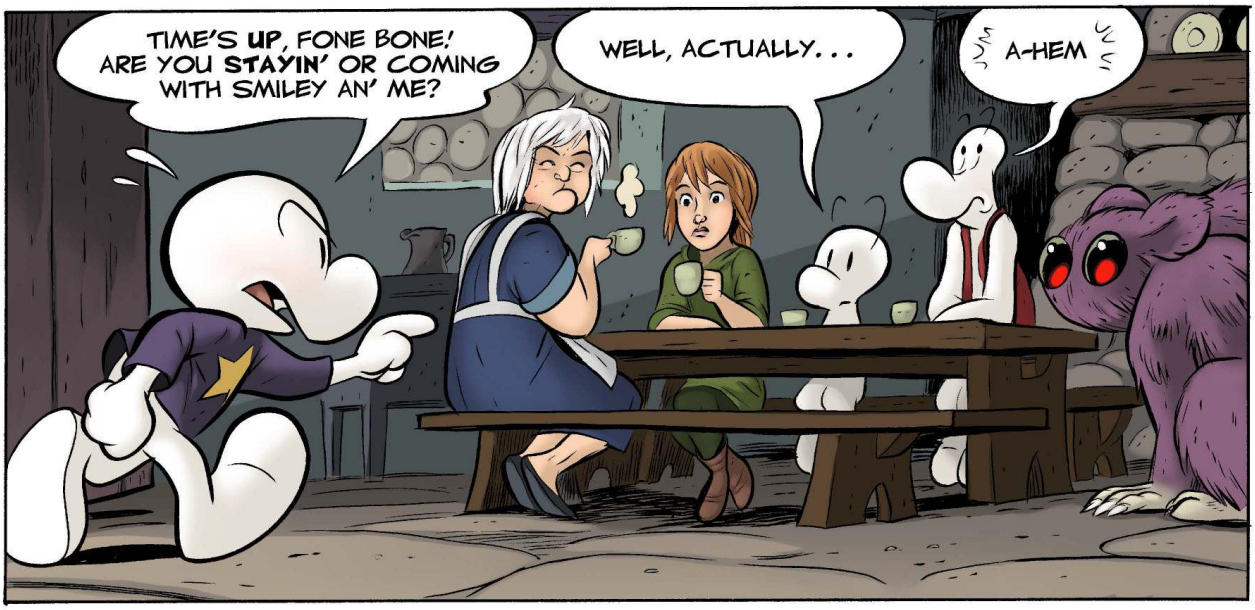

BONE
WE'RE BACK! AND WAIT'LL YOU SEE THE TREE THAT BONE AND I FOUND!
YOU GOT A TREE, THORN? YOU GUYS USE A TREE TO CELEBRATE TH' WINTER SOLSTICE?!
OF COURSE WE DO, SMILEY! BRINGING AN EVERGREEN INTO THE HOUSE ON THE SHORTEST, DARKEST DAY OF WINTER IS A VERY OLD TRADITION!
BOY, IS THAT A RELIEF! NOW WE HAVE SOMEWHERE TO PUT OUR PRIZES!
LEMME MAKE SURE THERE'S ENOUGH ROOM!

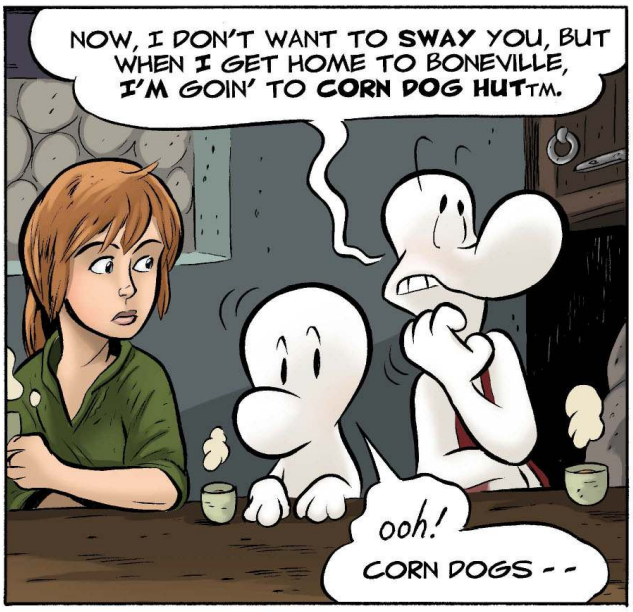

THE TREE REPRESENTS LIFE IN THE DEAD OF WINTER.
HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE BACK IN BONEVILLE?
GEE... I DUNNO.
HEY, PHONEY! DO WE CELEBRATE TH' WINTER SOLSTICE IN BONEVILLE??
YEAH. BUT FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.
DIFFERENT REASONS... DIFFERENT NAMES... IT ALL COMES DOWN TO TH' SAME THING -- BUSINESS PICKS UP, AN' I MAKE A LOTTA MONEY!
I LOVE THIS HOLIDAY!
THAT IS... I USED TO. NOW I JUST SIT HERE QUIETLY -- DYING INSIDE, LIKE DECAYING LEAVES BENEATH THE SNOW.
HMMF. YOU'RE NOT THAT QUIET.
C'MON! LET'S PLAY SOME INSTRUMENTS!
AS LONG AS WE'RE GONNA MAKE MUSIC, IT DON'T MATTER TO ME IF WE CELEBRATE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS!

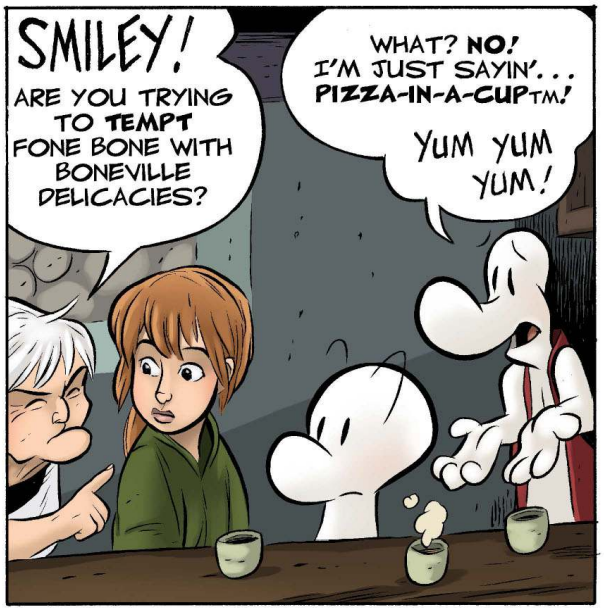

HEY, BONE! WHERE YOU GOIN'?
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, GRAN'MA!
HELLO?
HEY, GUYS! C'MON OUT! I KNOW YOU'RE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
AH! THERE YOU ARE!
AAAARRRH!
PREPARE TO TASTE INSTANT, BLOODY DEATH, SMALL MAMMAL!

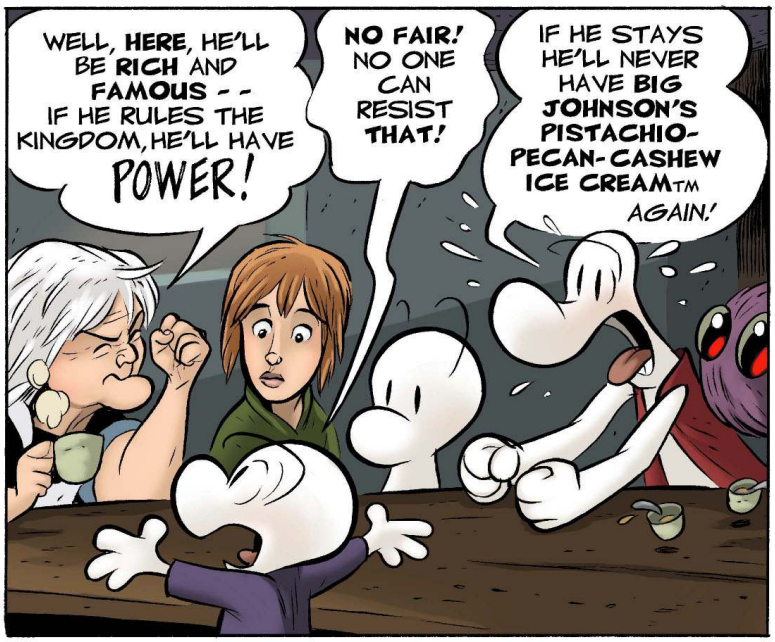

NOT THIS TIME, GUYS! TODAY IS DIFFERENT!
CHING!
PIPING HOT QUICHE!
FOR YOU!
PEACE ON EARTH, FELLAS!
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT WAS ALL ABOUT?
WHY QUESTION IT? IT'S JUST SOME RITUAL TH' HUMANS GO THROUGH EVERY YEAR.
EAT YOUR QUICHE.


BONE
FINALLY!
YES!
IT'S SPRING!
LET'S GO, PEOPLE! WE GOT SOME LEAVIN' TO DO...

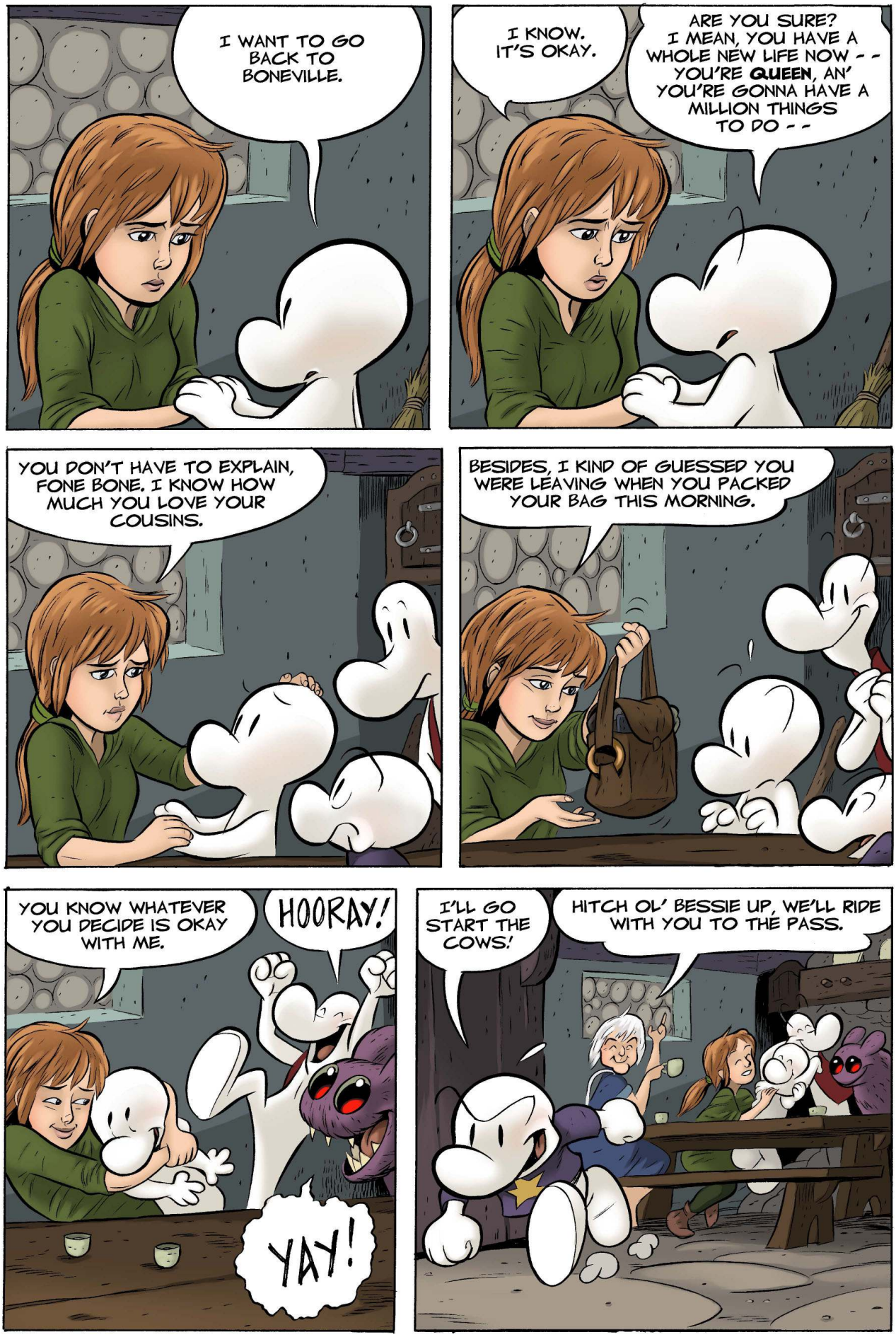

TIME'S **UP**, FONE BONE! ARE YOU **STAYIN'** OR COMING WITH SMILEY AN' ME?
WELL, ACTUALLY...
A-HEM


NOW, I DON'T WANT TO **SWAY** YOU, BUT WHEN **I** GET HOME TO BONEVILLE, **I'M** GOIN' TO **CORN DOG HUT**TM.
ooh! CORN DOGS - -

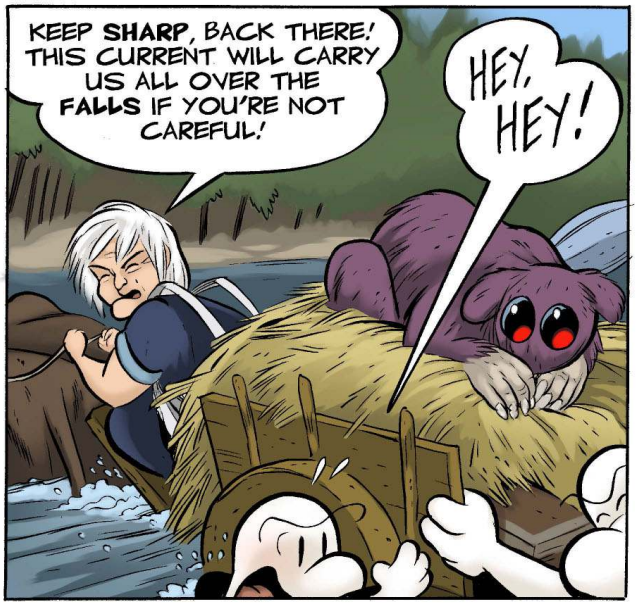

SMILEY! ARE YOU TRYING TO **TEMPT** FONE BONE WITH BONEVILLE DELICACIES?
WHAT? **NO!** I'M JUST SAYIN'... **PIZZA-IN-A-CUP**TM!
Yum yum yum!


WELL, **HERE**, HE'LL BE **RICH** AND **FAMOUS** - - IF HE RULES THE KINGDOM, HE'LL HAVE *POWER!*
NO FAIR! NO ONE CAN RESIST **THAT!**
IF HE STAYS HE'LL NEVER HAVE **BIG JOHNSON'S PISTACHIO-PECAN-CASHEW ICE CREAM**TM *AGAIN!*


HEY, GUYS. I APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S HELP, BUT I'VE ALREADY MADE UP MY MIND...


I WANT TO GO BACK TO BONEVILLE.
I KNOW. IT'S OKAY.
ARE YOU SURE? I MEAN, YOU HAVE A WHOLE NEW LIFE NOW - - YOU'RE **QUEEN**, AN' YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A MILLION THINGS TO DO - -
YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN, FONE BONE. I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LOVE YOUR COUSINS.
BESIDES, I KIND OF GUESSED YOU WERE LEAVING WHEN YOU PACKED YOUR BAG THIS MORNING.
YOU KNOW WHATEVER YOU DECIDE IS OKAY WITH ME.
HOORAY!
YAY!
I'LL GO START THE COWS!
HITCH OL' BESSIE UP, WE'LL RIDE WITH YOU TO THE PASS.

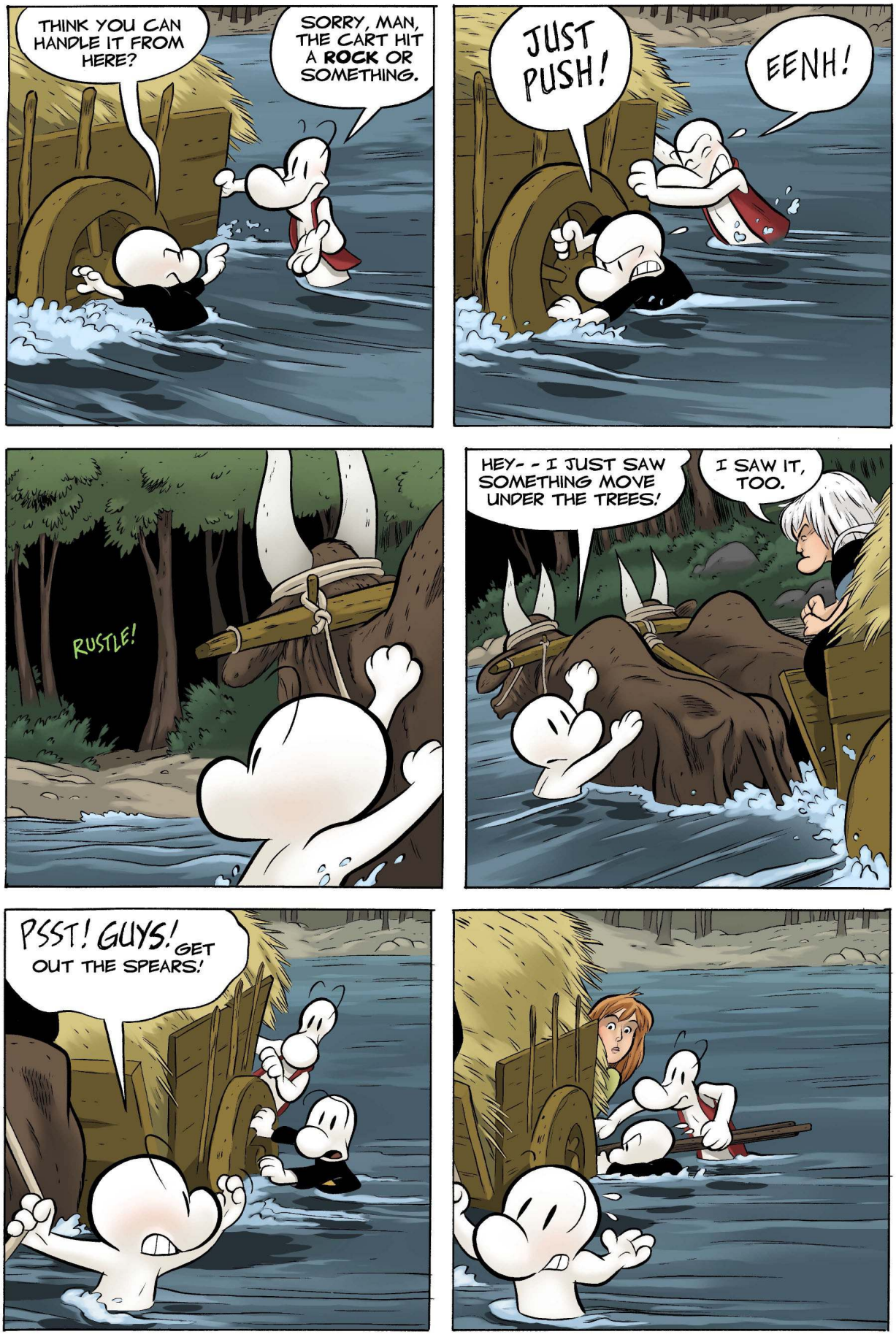

ROAR!


KEEP SHARP, BACK THERE! THIS CURRENT WILL CARRY US ALL OVER THE FALLS IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL!
HEY, HEY!


SMILEY! YOU'RE LETTIN' OUR STUFF GET AWAY!
SORRY, PHONEY.

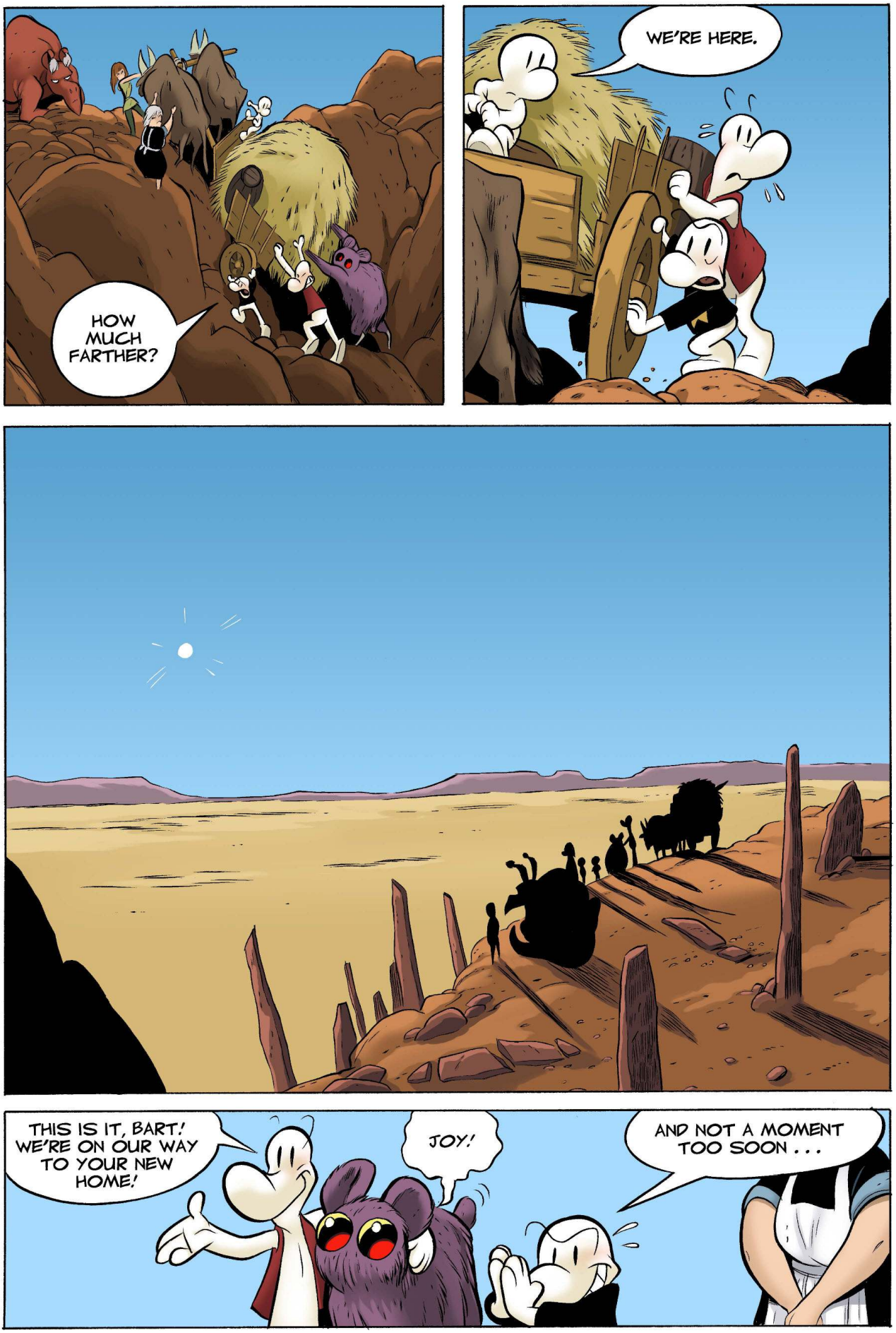

WATCH IT, WILL YA? OUR SPECIAL "SUPPLIES" ARE IN THESE CHESTS!
OH, RIGHT!

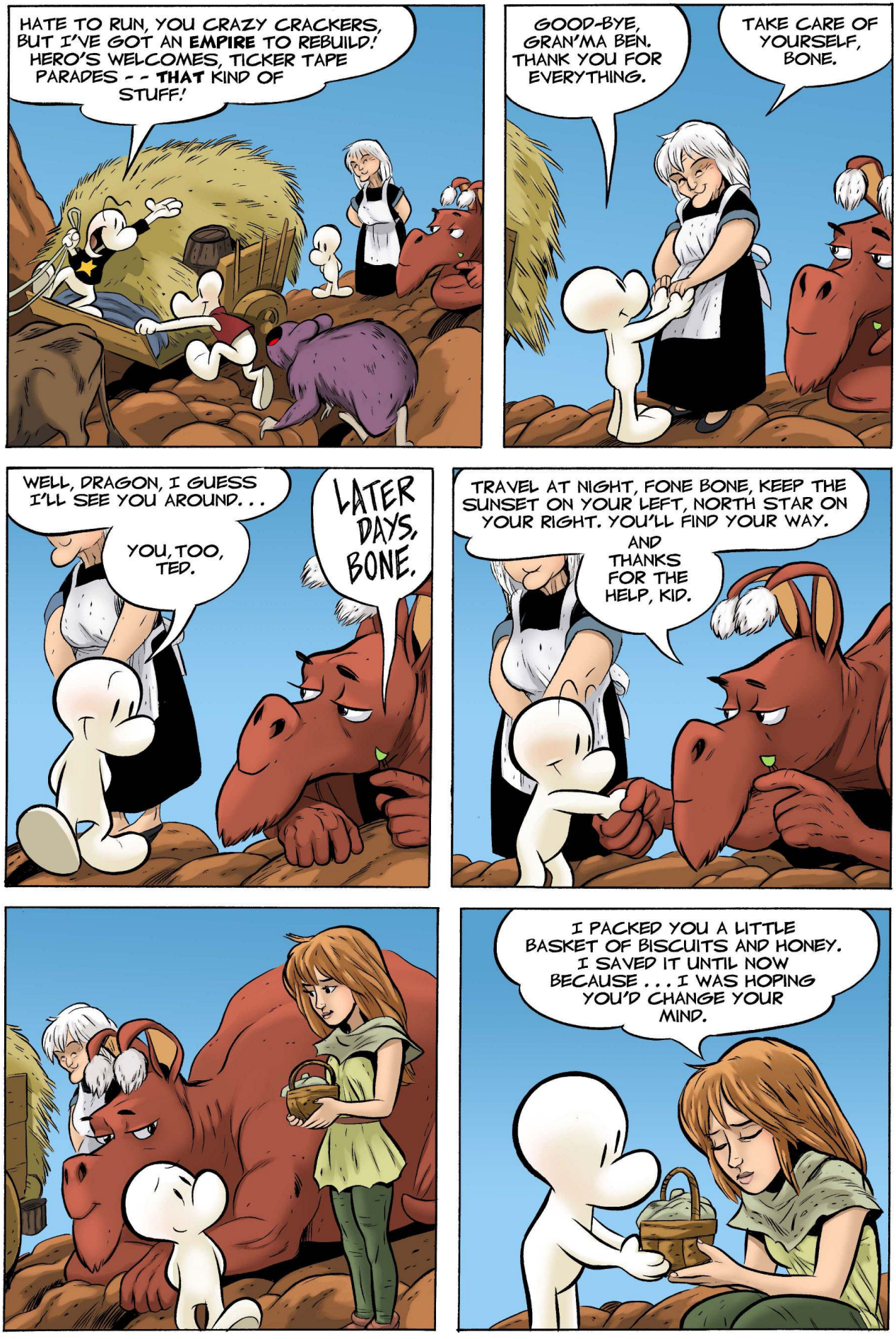

NEED ANY HELP BACK THERE?
NO! STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

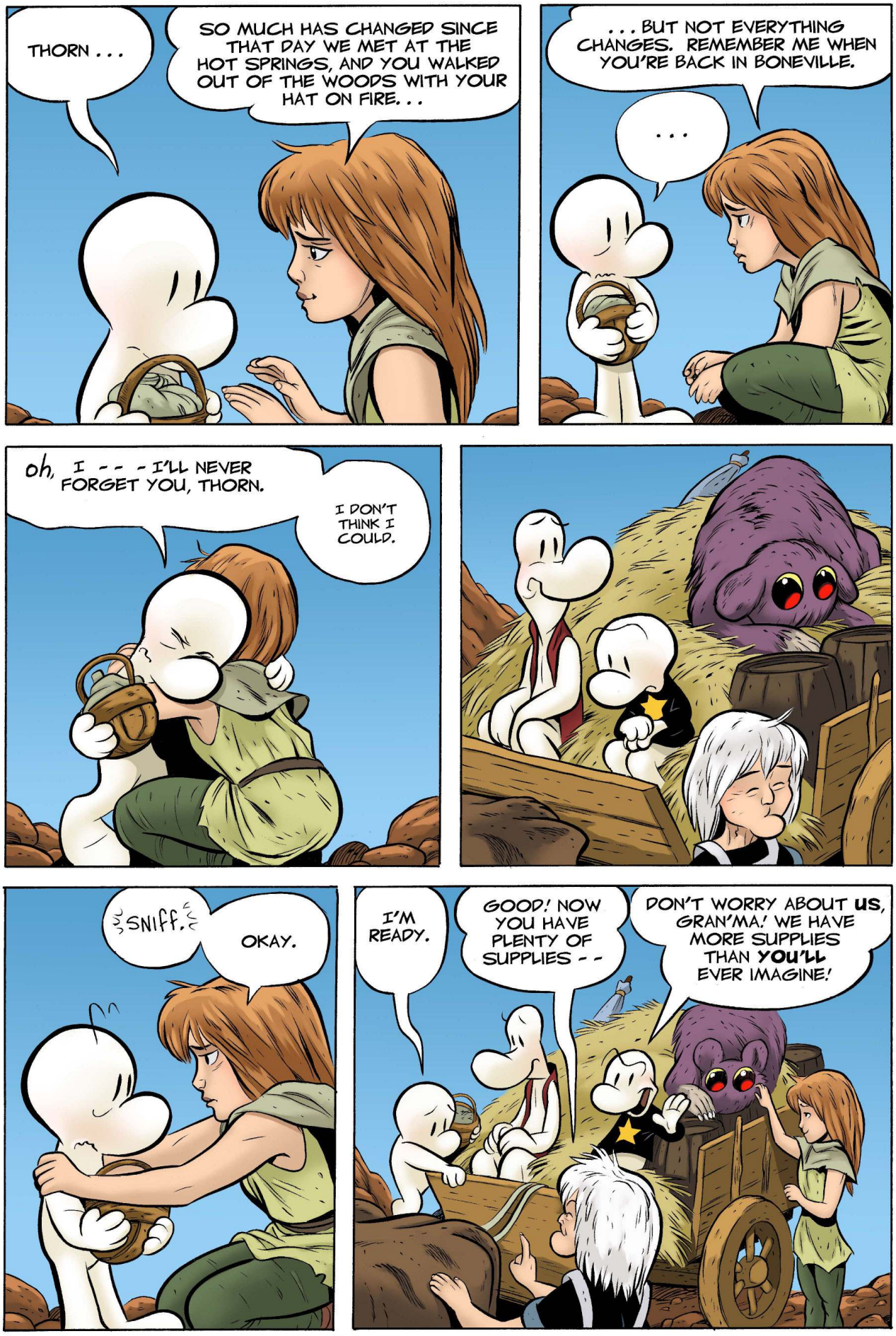


Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

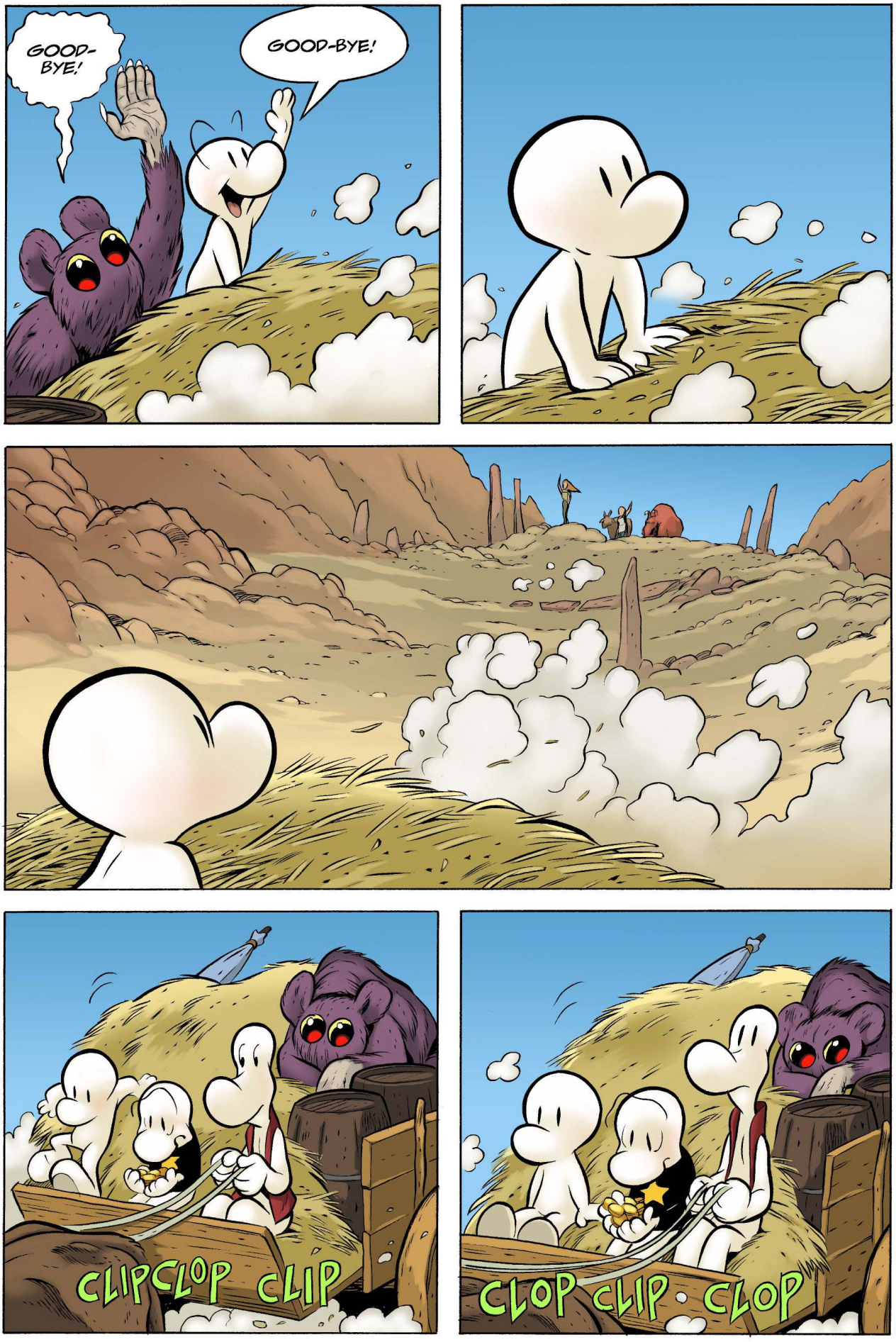

RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
HEY, GUYS! IT'S ME AN' DRAGON!
HEY.
WHEW.
FOLLOW US.

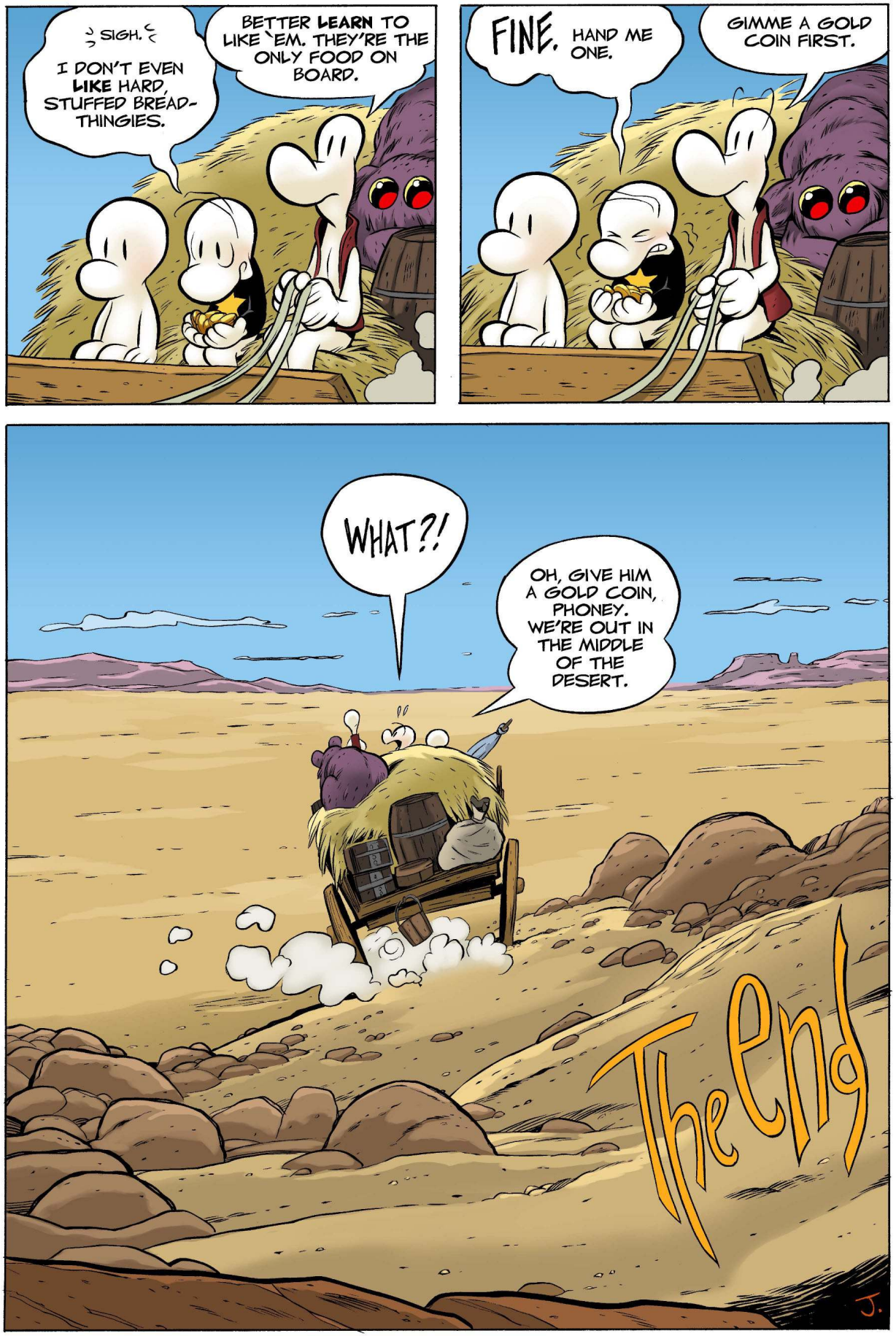

HOW MUCH FARTHER?
WE'RE HERE.
THIS IS IT, BART! WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO YOUR NEW HOME!
JOY!
AND NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON . . .


HATE TO RUN, YOU CRAZY CRACKERS, BUT I'VE GOT AN **EMPIRE** TO REBUILD! HERO'S WELCOMES, TICKER TAPE PARADES - - **THAT** KIND OF STUFF!
GOOD-BYE, GRAN'MA BEN. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, BONE.
WELL, DRAGON, I GUESS I'LL SEE YOU AROUND...
YOU, TOO, TED.
LATER DAYS, BONE.
TRAVEL AT NIGHT, FONE BONE, KEEP THE SUNSET ON YOUR LEFT, NORTH STAR ON YOUR RIGHT. YOU'LL FIND YOUR WAY.
AND THANKS FOR THE HELP, KID.
I PACKED YOU A LITTLE BASKET OF BISCUITS AND HONEY. I SAVED IT UNTIL NOW BECAUSE . . . I WAS HOPING YOU'D CHANGE YOUR MIND.


THORN . . .
SO MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE THAT DAY WE MET AT THE HOT SPRINGS, AND YOU WALKED OUT OF THE WOODS WITH YOUR HAT ON FIRE. . .
. . . BUT NOT EVERYTHING CHANGES. REMEMBER ME WHEN YOU'RE BACK IN BONEVILLE.
. . .
oh, I - - - I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU, THORN.
I DON'T THINK I COULD.
SNIFF.
OKAY.
I'M READY.
GOOD! NOW YOU HAVE PLENTY OF SUPPLIES - -
DON'T WORRY ABOUT us, GRAN'MA! WE HAVE MORE SUPPLIES THAN YOU'LL EVER IMAGINE!

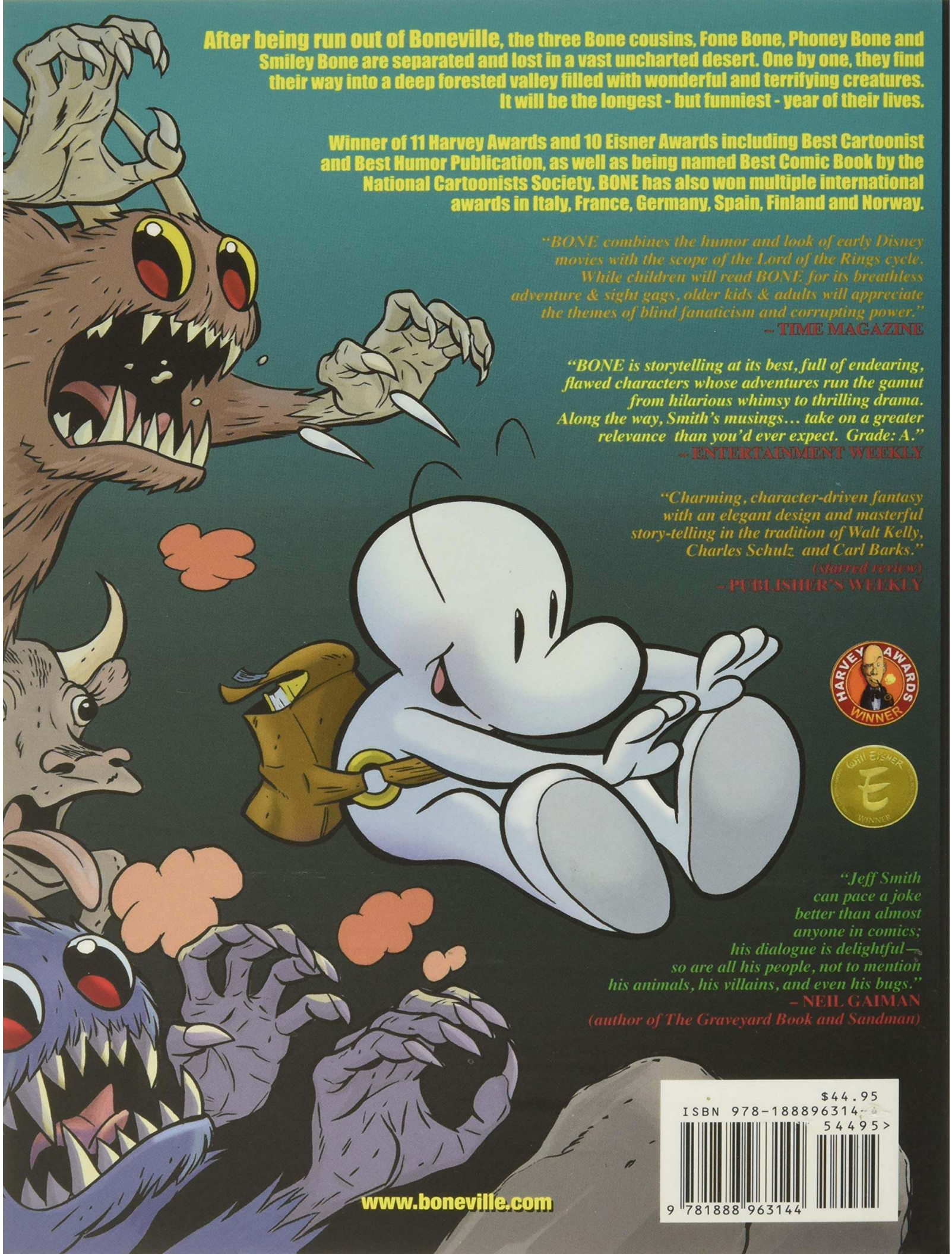

YOU DO?
OH, YEAH, WE'RE LOADED. WE'VE GOT FOUR TREASURE CHESTS FULL OF THOSE HARD, STALE BREAD-THINGIES!
WAIT. WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF THOSE HARD, STUFFED BREAD-THINGIES! THERE ALMOST WASN'T ROOM IN THE CART, BUT GRAN'MA HELPED EMPTY OUT THE TREASURE CHESTS - -
YOU EMPTIED OUT THE TREASURE?!
- - AND REFILLED THEM WITH ENOUGH BREAD-THINGIES TO LAST ALL THE WAY ACROSS THE DESERT!
AAH!
DON'T FEEL BAD, PHONCIBLE. HERE, HAVE SOME GOLD COINS - - THEY'RE THE ONES WITH YOUR FACE STAMPED ON THEM. NO ONE AROUND HERE WANTS `EM ANYWAY!
A FEW COINS?
I'M RUINED.
AND ON THAT NOTE . . .
GIDDIYUP, DOGGIES!
GOOD-BYE, BONES! HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY!


GOOD-BYE!
GOOD-BYE!
CLIPCLOP CLIP
CLOP CLIP · CLOP



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline





After being run out of Boneville, the three Bone cousins, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone and Smiley Bone are separated and lost in a vast uncharted desert. One by one, they find their way into a deep forested valley filled with wonderful and terrifying creatures. It will be the longest - but funniest - year of their lives.

Winner of 11 Harvey Awards and 10 Eisner Awards including Best Cartoonist and Best Humor Publication, as well as being named Best Comic Book by the National Cartoonists Society. BONE has also won multiple international awards in Italy, France, Germany, Spain, Finland and Norway.

"BONE combines the humor and look of early Disney movies with the scope of the Lord of the Rings cycle. While children will read BONE for its breathless adventure & sight gags, older kids & adults will appreciate the themes of blind fanaticism and corrupting power."
– TIME MAGAZINE

"BONE is storytelling at its best, full of endearing, flawed characters whose adventures run the gamut from hilarious whimsy to thrilling drama. Along the way, Smith's musings… take on a greater relevance than you'd ever expect. Grade: A."
– ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"Charming, character-driven fantasy with an elegant design and masterful story-telling in the tradition of Walt Kelly, Charles Schulz and Carl Barks."
(starred review)
– PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY

HARVEY AWARDS WINNER

WILL EISNER E WINNER

"Jeff Smith can pace a joke better than almost anyone in comics; his dialogue is delightful— so are all his people, not to mention his animals, his villains, and even his bugs."
– NEIL GAIMAN
(author of The Graveyard Book and Sandman)

www.boneville.com

$44.95
ISBN 978-1888963144
54495>
9 781888 963144