

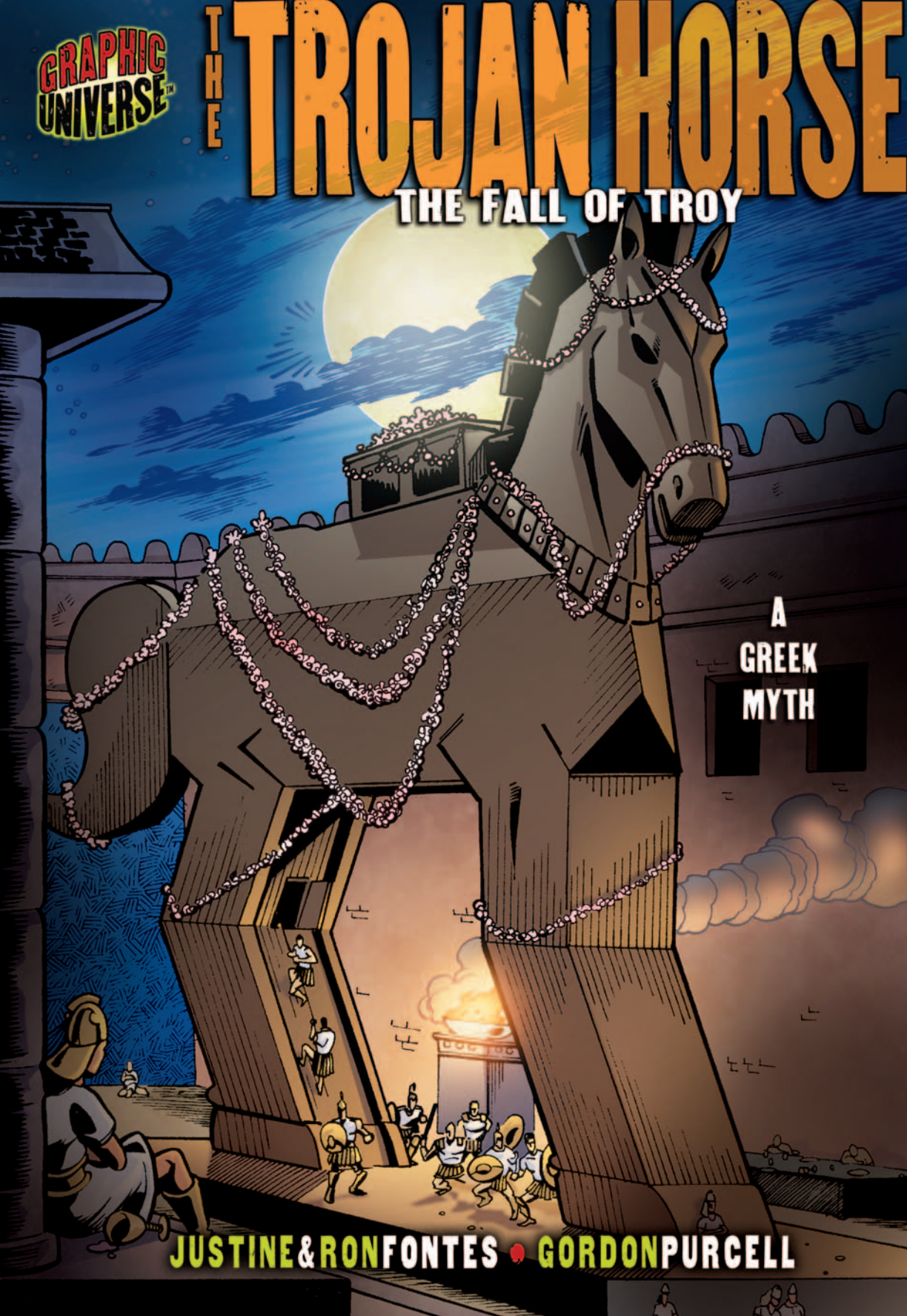
**GRAPHIC
UNIVERSE™**

THE TROJAN HORSE

THE FALL OF TROY

A
GREEK
MYTH

JUSTINE & RON FONTES • GORDON PURCELL



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THE TROJAN HORSE

THE FALL OF TROY

A
GREEK
LEGEND



**GRAPHIC
UNIVERSE™**

**STORY BY
JUSTINE & RON FONTES**

**PENCILS BY
GORDON PURCELL**

**INKS BY
BARBARA SCHULZ**

**ADAPTED FROM VIRGIL'S AENEID
AND THE WAR AT TROY
BY QUINTUS OF SMYRNA**

ITHACA

MOUNT
OLYMPUS

GREECE

AEGEAN

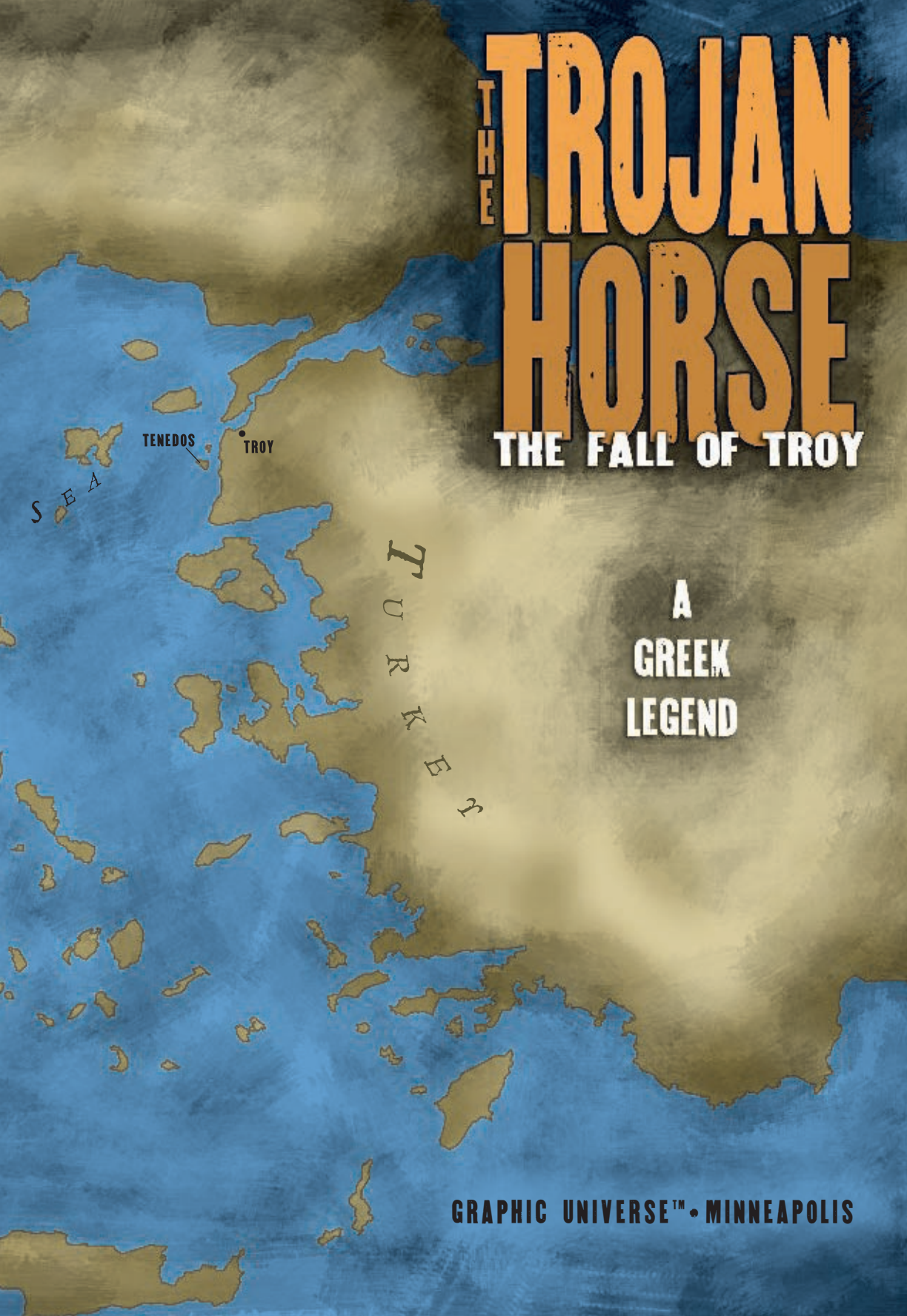
THEBES

MYCENAE

ATHENS

SPARTA





THE TROJAN HORSE

THE FALL OF TROY

A
GREEK
LEGEND

GRAPHIC UNIVERSE™ • MINNEAPOLIS

ANCIENT LEGENDS OF A WAR BETWEEN THE GREEK CITY STATES AND TROY THAT MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE AROUND 1200 B.C. WERE GATHERED INTO GREAT EPIC POEMS BY WRITERS OF LATER TIMES. THE GREEK POET HOMER WROTE *THE ILIAD* ABOUT 700–800 B.C. IT TELLS OF THE GREEK HEROES, PARTICULARLY ACHILLES, AS THEY FOUGHT AGAINST TROY TO RECLAIM HELEN, WIFE OF MENELAUS, KING OF SPARTA. THE STORY OF THE FALL OF TROY AND OF THE HORSE LEFT BEHIND BY THE GREEKS APPEARS IN *THE AENEID*, WRITTEN BY THE ROMAN POET VIRGIL BETWEEN 42 AND 35 B.C. RON & JUSTINE FONTES HAVE BASED THEIR RETELLING ON THESE SOURCES AND ON *THE WAR AT TROY*, WRITTEN BY GREEK POET QUINTUS OF SMYRNA AROUND A.D. 375.

STORY BY JUSTINE & RON FONTES

PENCILS BY GORDON PURCELL

INKS BY BARBARA SCHULZ

COLORING BY HI-FI DESIGN

LETTERING BY BILL HAUSER

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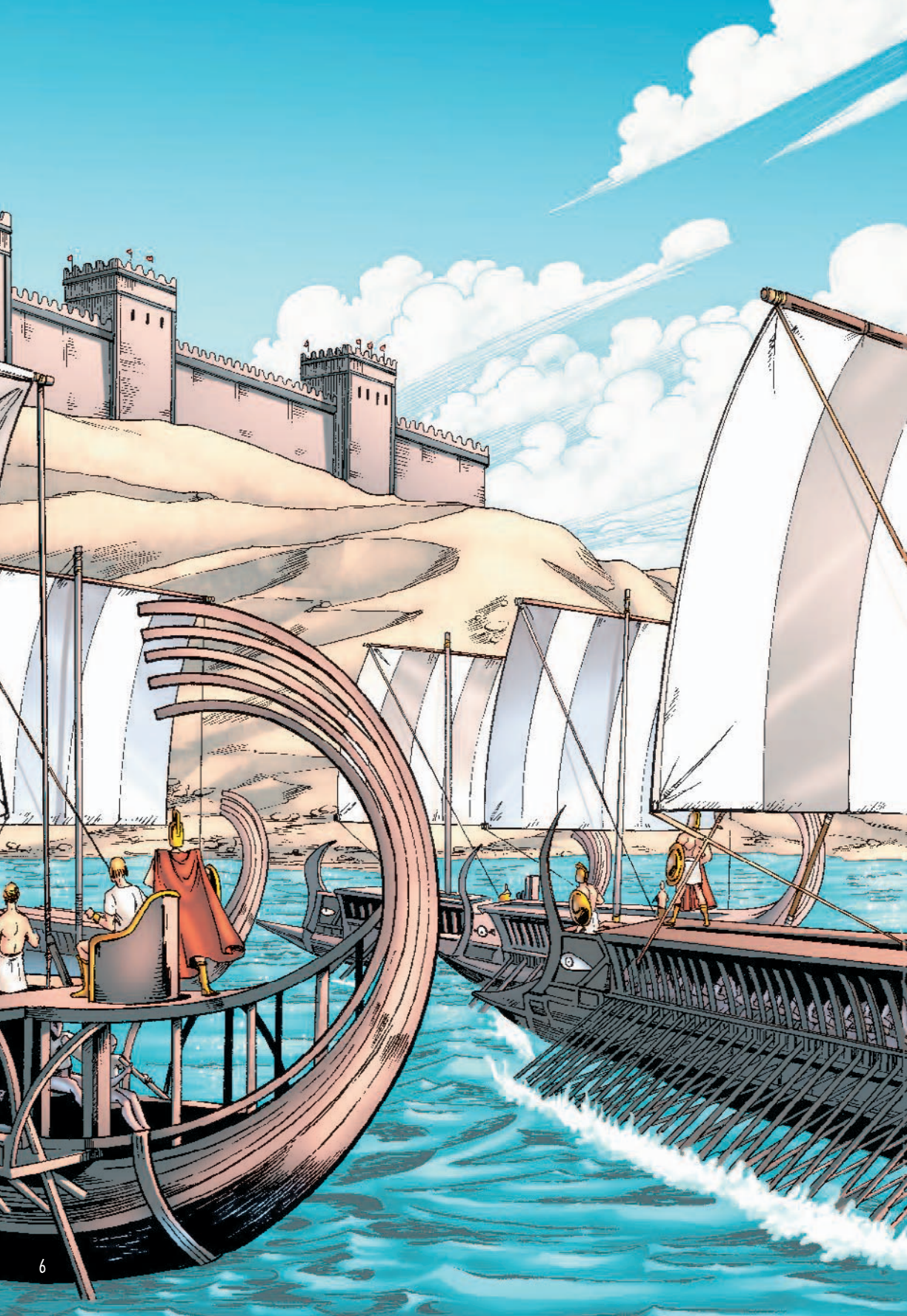
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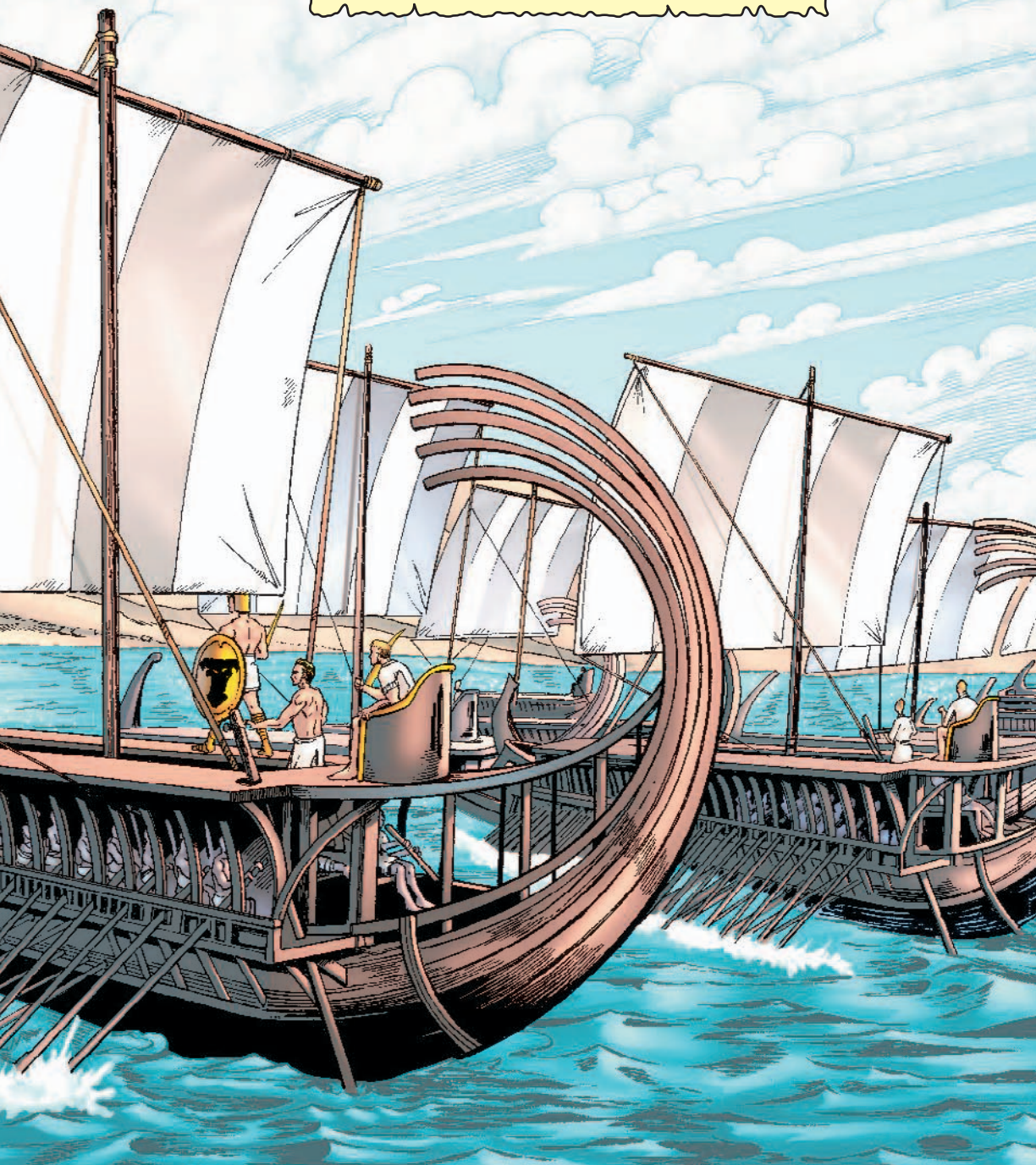
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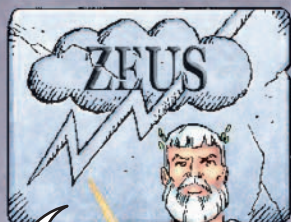


A ROTTEN APPLE

HISTORY IS FULL OF WARS. BUT ONE WAR WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. OVER THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO, THE GREEKS GATHERED THE **GREATEST** ARMY THE WORLD HAD EVER SEEN. ONE THOUSAND SHIPS SAILED TO TAKE THE MIGHTY CITY OF TROY. FOR TEN YEARS, THE BEST WARRIORS WAGED FIERCE BATTLE. BUT TROY'S TALL WALLS STILL STOOD. WHY WERE THEY FIGHTING? THE **TROUBLE STARTED WITH A WEDDING!**



LONG AGO, THE GREEKS BELIEVED IN MANY GODS AND GODDESSES WHO RULED EVERYTHING FROM LOVE TO WAR. PEOPLE PRAYED TO DIFFERENT GODS ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS. A FISHERMAN WOULD PRAY TO POSEIDON FOR A GOOD CATCH - AND TO APHRODITE FOR A PRETTY WIFE.

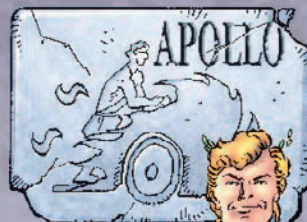
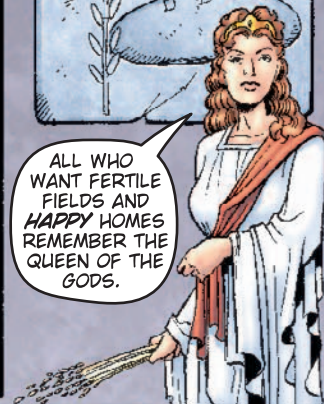


WISE MORTALS WORSHIP THE KING OF THE GODS

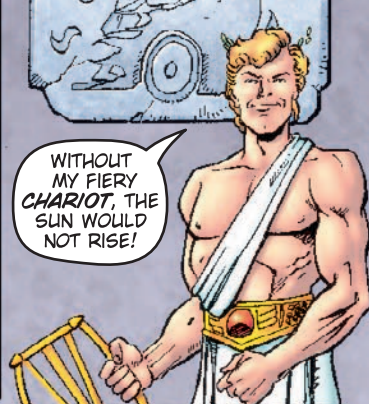
OR FEEL THE FIRE OF MY LIGHTNING BOLTS!



ALL WHO WANT FERTILE FIELDS AND HAPPY HOMES REMEMBER THE QUEEN OF THE GODS.



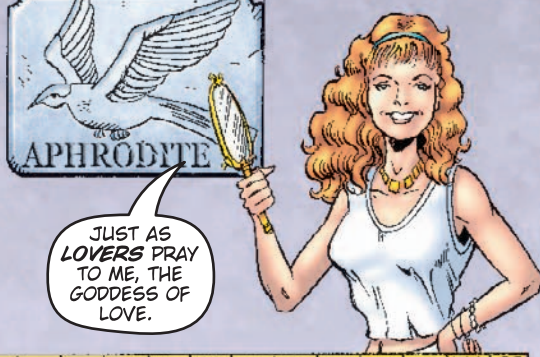
WITHOUT MY FIERY CHARIOT, THE SUN WOULD NOT RISE!



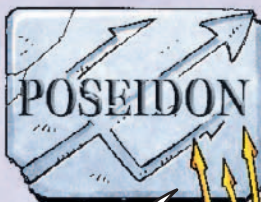
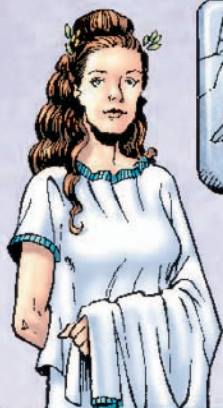
WARRIORS PRAY TO THE GOD OF WAR FOR VICTORY



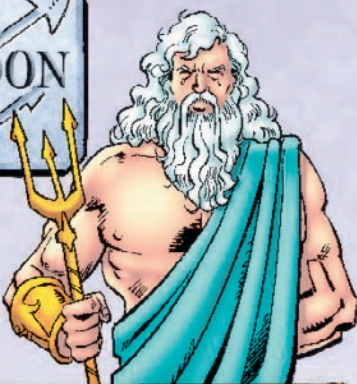
JUST AS LOVERS PRAY TO ME, THE GODDESS OF LOVE.



THE GREEK CAPITAL OF ATHENS WAS NAMED FOR ME, THE GODDESS OF WISDOM.



SAILORS PRAY TO ME, THE POWERFUL GOD OF THE SEA.

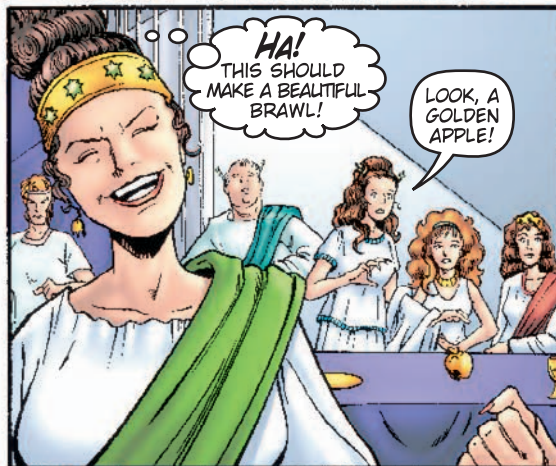




ONE GREEK KING MADE A **BIG** MISTAKE. HE INVITED ALL THE GODS AND GODDESSES TO HIS WEDDING, **EXCEPT** ERIS, THE GODDESS OF QUARRELS AND STRIFE. SUDDENLY, AT THE HEIGHT OF THE FEASTING AND FUN, **ERIS APPEARED!**

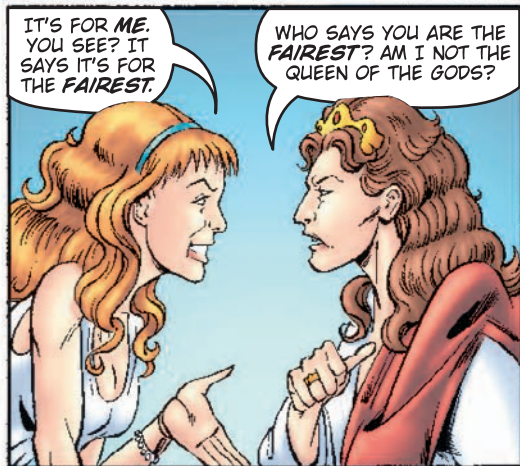


HERE IS A WEDDING PRESENT FOR YOU!



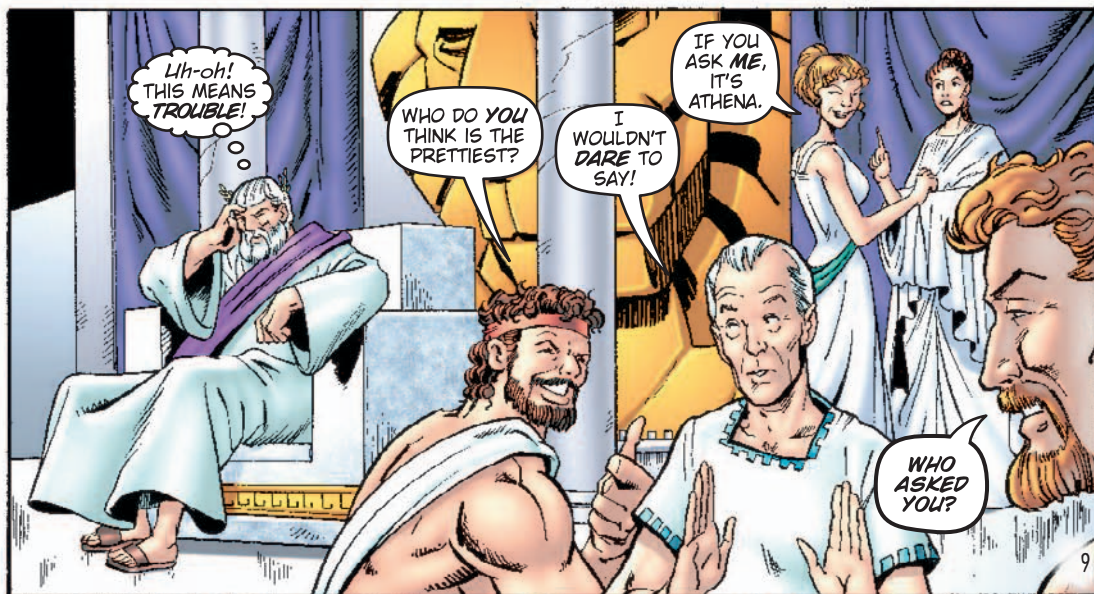
HA!
THIS SHOULD MAKE A BEAUTIFUL BRAWL!

LOOK, A GOLDEN APPLE!



IT'S FOR **ME**. YOU SEE? IT SAYS IT'S FOR THE **FAIREST**.

WHO SAYS YOU ARE THE **FAIREST**? AM I NOT THE QUEEN OF THE GODS?



Uh-oh! THIS MEANS TROUBLE!

WHO DO YOU THINK IS THE PRETTIEST?

I WOULDN'T DARE TO SAY!

IF YOU ASK **ME**, IT'S ATHENA.

WHO ASKED YOU?

SOON THE APPLE ARGUMENT CAME DOWN TO THE THREE MOST POWERFUL GODDESSES. HERA, ATHENA, AND APHRODITE ASKED **ZEUS** TO DECIDE.

SURELY,
HUSBAND, I
AM THE
FAIREST!

FATHER, DO
I NOT **EXCEL** IN
BOTH BEAUTY
AND WISDOM?

BUT, DADDY,
YOU **KNOW** I'M
THE PRETTIEST!

SILENCE!

WOULD YOU TURN THE KING
OF THE GODS INTO A BEAUTY
CONTEST JUDGE?

TAKE YOUR
DISPUTE TO PARIS,
IN THE COUNTRYSIDE
NEAR TROY.

THOUGH A **MERE**
MORTAL, THIS
HANDSOME SHEPHERD
IS AN **EXCELLENT**
JUDGE OF BEAUTY.

A
SHEPHERD?

I'LL HAVE THE
SIMPLE **FOOL**
EATING OUT OF
MY HAND.

A **HANDSOME**
SHEPHERD.

I'LL SOON
HAVE PARIS WRAPPED
AROUND MY LITTLE
FINGER.

THANK YOU, FATHER.
YOUR **WISDOM** IS
EVEN GREATER THAN
YOUR POWER.

WAY TO AVOID
TROUBLE, OLD
MAN. HERE'S
HOPING THAT
SHEPHERD IS AS
WISE AS YOU!

PARIS WAS NOT *JUST* A SHEPHERD. HE WAS ALSO A *PRINCE*, THE SON OF KING PRIAM AND QUEEN HECLUBA OF TROY.

BUT WHEN PARIS WAS BORN, A WISE MAN *WARNED* THE ROYAL COUPLE ABOUT THE BOY'S FUTURE.

PRINCE PARIS WILL CAUSE YOUR KINGDOM'S DOWNFALL!

MY ADVICE IS TO KILL HIM NOW.

OH NO!

WHAT IF THE SAGE IS *WRONG*? OUR BEAUTIFUL BABY!

WHAT IF HE IS *RIGHT*? WE'D BETTER DO SOMETHING.

WE'LL SEND PARIS FAR FROM THE CITY. WHAT *HARM* CAN HE DO IN A MEADOW, TENDING SHEEP?

SO THAT IS WHERE THE THREE GODDESSES FOUND PARIS.

YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN TO DECIDE WHICH OF US IS THE FAIREST.

IF YOU ARE WISE, YOU'LL GIVE THE GOLDEN APPLE TO ME.

WHAT A HANDSOME YOUNG MAN! I KNOW YOU'LL PICK ME.

THREE BEAUTIFUL GODDESSES IN MY PASTURE.

THIS SURE BEATS THE USUAL DUMB SHEEP!



SWAYED BY THE POWER OF LOVE, PARIS GAVE THE APPLE TO APHRODITE.

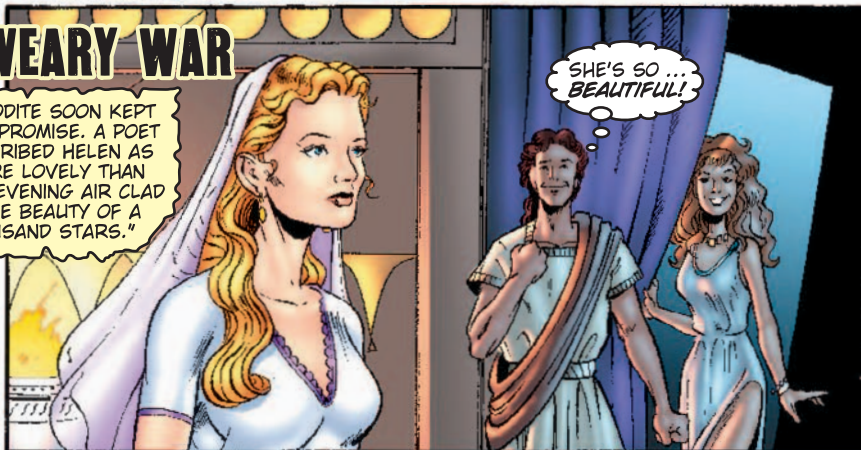
SHE BRIBED HIM!

YOU'RE JUST ANGRY BECAUSE PARIS DIDN'T ACCEPT YOUR BRIBE.

OR MINE, THE FOOL!

THE WEARY WAR

APHRODITE SOON KEPT HER PROMISE. A POET DESCRIBED HELEN AS "MORE LOVELY THAN THE EVENING AIR CLAD IN THE BEAUTY OF A THOUSAND STARS."



SHE'S SO ... BEAUTIFUL!

UNFORTUNATELY, APHRODITE HAD **NOT MENTIONED** THAT HELEN WAS ALREADY MARRIED.

AND THIS IS MY WIFE, QUEEN HELEN.

WIFE?



APHRODITE USED HER POWERS TO PERSUADE HELEN TO SNEAK AWAY WITH PARIS.

I **KNOW** I SHOULDN'T BE DOING THIS, AND I FEAR MY ACTIONS WILL CAUSE TROUBLE.

BUT PARIS IS SO HANDSOME AND EXCITING.

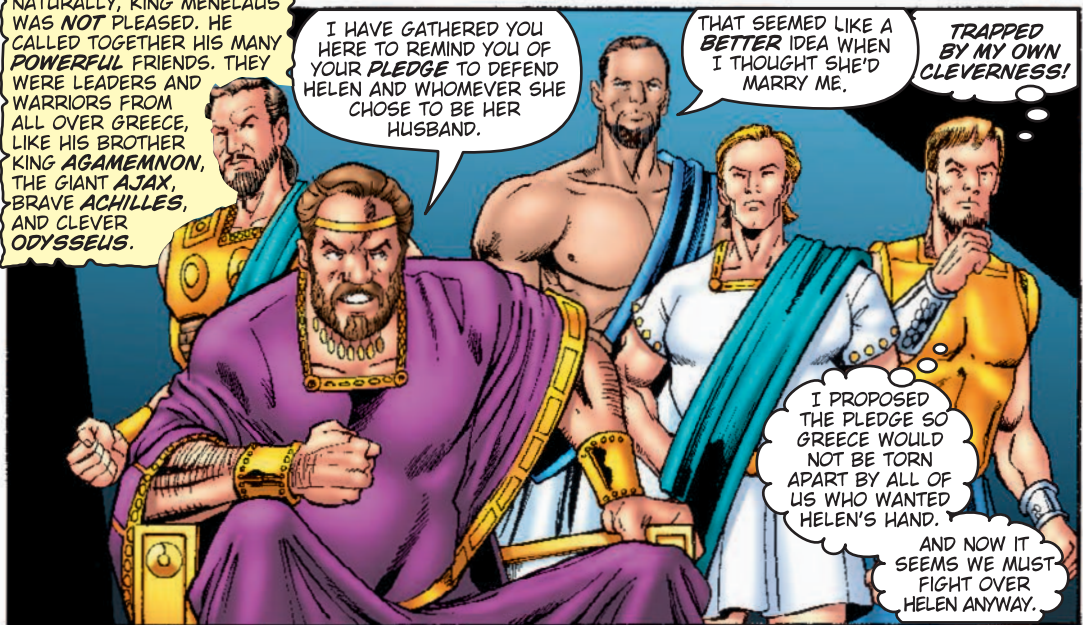


NATURALLY, KING MENELAUS WAS **NOT PLEASED**. HE CALLED TOGETHER HIS MANY **POWERFUL** FRIENDS. THEY WERE LEADERS AND WARRIORS FROM ALL OVER GREECE, LIKE HIS BROTHER KING AGAMEMNON, THE GIANT AJAX, BRAVE **ACHILLES**, AND CLEVER **ODYSSEUS**.

I HAVE GATHERED YOU HERE TO REMIND YOU OF YOUR **PLEDGE** TO DEFEND HELEN AND WHOMEVER SHE CHOSE TO BE HER HUSBAND.

THAT SEEMED LIKE A **BETTER** IDEA WHEN I THOUGHT SHE'D MARRY ME.

TRAPPED BY MY OWN CLEVERNESS!



I PROPOSED THE **PLEDGE** SO GREECE WOULD NOT BE TORN APART BY ALL OF US WHO WANTED HELEN'S HAND.

AND NOW IT SEEMS WE MUST FIGHT OVER HELEN ANYWAY.

THE GREEK HEROES HONORED THEIR PROMISE. THEY ASSEMBLED A HUGE FLEET TO FOLLOW HELEN AND PARIS ACROSS THE WINE-DARK SEA. THE SHIPS WERE FILLED WITH WEAPONS AND WARRIORS.

I'D RATHER BE **HOME** IN ITHACA WITH PENELOPE AND OUR SON. BUT EVEN I COULD NOT FIND A WAY OUT OF OUR PLEDGE.

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A **GOOD WAR** FOR BUILDING UP MUSCLES!

YOUR **MUSCLES** ARE LARGE ENOUGH, MY FRIEND.

WAR IS MORE THAN EXERCISE, AJAX.

IT IS A CHANCE TO GROW IN **POWER, RICHES, AND GLORY!**

MEANWHILE IN TROY, THE ROYAL FAMILY GREETED PARIS AND HELEN. EVERYONE WAS CHARMED BY HELEN'S BEAUTY—EXCEPT PARIS'S SISTER, CASSANDRA.

WELCOME, MY SON! THESE OLD EYES ARE GLAD TO SEE YOU.

AND **DAZZLED** BY YOUR COMPANION'S BEAUTY!

WELCOME, PARIS! TO SEE YOU AGAIN BRINGS ME GREAT JOY.

PARIS BRINGS TROY'S DOOM!

IF YOU WILL NOT HEED MY WARNING, AT LEAST RECALL THE PROPHECY MADE AT HIS BIRTH.

DO NOT BE **LULLED** BY HER BEAUTY. THIS WOMAN WILL BE **THE DEATH OF TROY!**

PLEASE FORGIVE YOUR SISTER, PARIS. CASSANDRA IS EVER ONE TO SPEAK HER MIND.

TOO BAD SHE'S **COMPLETELY MAD!** I REALLY **MUST** MARRY HER OFF TO SOME DISTANT KING.

CASSANDRA! IS THAT ANY WAY TO SPEAK TO YOUR BROTHER AND HIS BELOVED?

THE SUN GOD APOLLO HIMSELF HAD GRANTED CASSANDRA THE GIFT OF PROPHECY. IN EXCHANGE, SHE PROMISED HIM HER LOVE. THEN WHEN THE GIRL REFUSED THE GOD, APOLLO TURNED HER GIFT INTO A **CURSE**.

O, CRUEL FATE! TO SEE **THE TRUTH**,

TO SPEAK **THE TRUTH**, AND NEVER BE BELIEVED!

SO NO ONE HEEDED CASSANDRA'S WARNING. HELEN REMAINED IN TROY. AND IN TIME, HER HUSBAND'S HUGE ARMY ARRIVED.



THE ENORMOUS GREEK ARMY CAMPED ON THE PLAINS OUTSIDE THE WALLED CITY. FOR **TEN BLOODY YEARS**, THE GREEKS BATTLED THE TROJANS.

MANY MEN DIED **ON BOTH SIDES**, INCLUDING AJAX, ACHILLES, AND PARIS. KING PRIAM, QUEEN HECUBA, HELEN, AND THE REST OF TROY MOURNED THEIR LOSS.

OH, SWEET PARIS, HOW MANY MORE **WILL DIE** FOR OUR LOVE?

OH, PARIS, MY UNLUCKY SON!

I SHOULD HAVE KILLED HIM AS A BABE, BUT I HAD NOT THE HEART.

WILL THIS WAR NEVER END?

WE MUST FIND A WAY TO **AVENGE MY FATHER'S DEATH!** HIS SHADE **CRIES OUT FOR BLOOD!**

ACHILLES WAS NOT THE ONLY ONE TO DIE, NEOPTOLEMUS. MANY **BRAVE MEN** HAVE GONE TO HADES'S KINGDOM BENEATH THE EARTH. ODYSSEUS, THERE MUST BE **SOME WAY** TO WIN THIS ENDLESS WAR.

EVEN I AM TIRED OF FIGHTING.

I HAVE A PLAN THAT CAN END TEN YEARS OF WAR IN JUST THREE DAYS.

AS LONG AS WE AVENGE ACHILLES, MY SWORD IS READY.

WE WILL KILL THEM ALL!

GOOD! I'M SICK OF ARMY FOOD.

YOU GOT THAT RIGHT!

YOU TELL 'EM, AGAMEMNON!



SIR, THE
GREEKS APPEAR
TO BE... **GONE!**

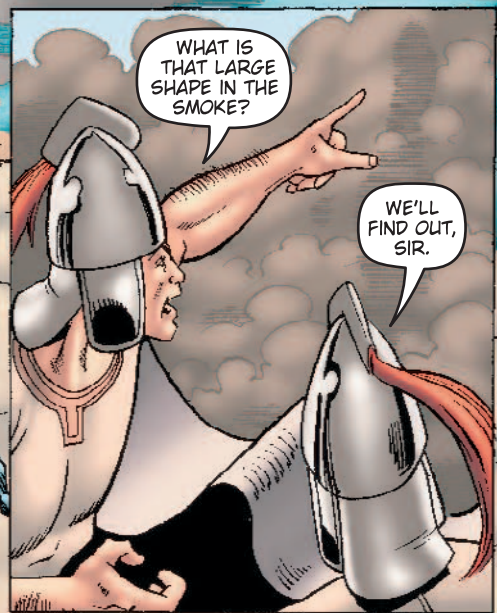
THERE ARE FIRES
EVERYWHERE, BUT NO
TENTS, NO BARRACKS,
NO SHIPS, AND
NO GREEKS!

**WAKE THE
TROOPS! FORM
A DETAIL TO
INVESTIGATE.
ALERT THE
KING!**

**YES,
SIR!**

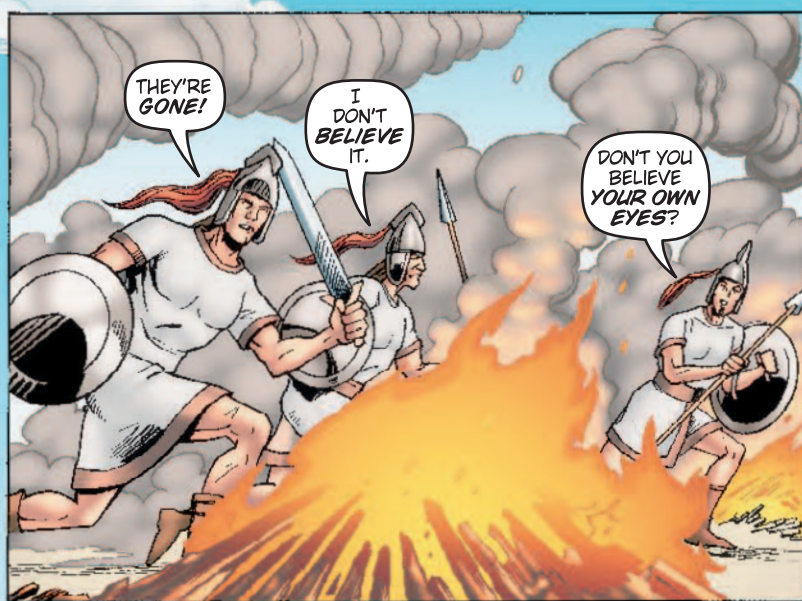


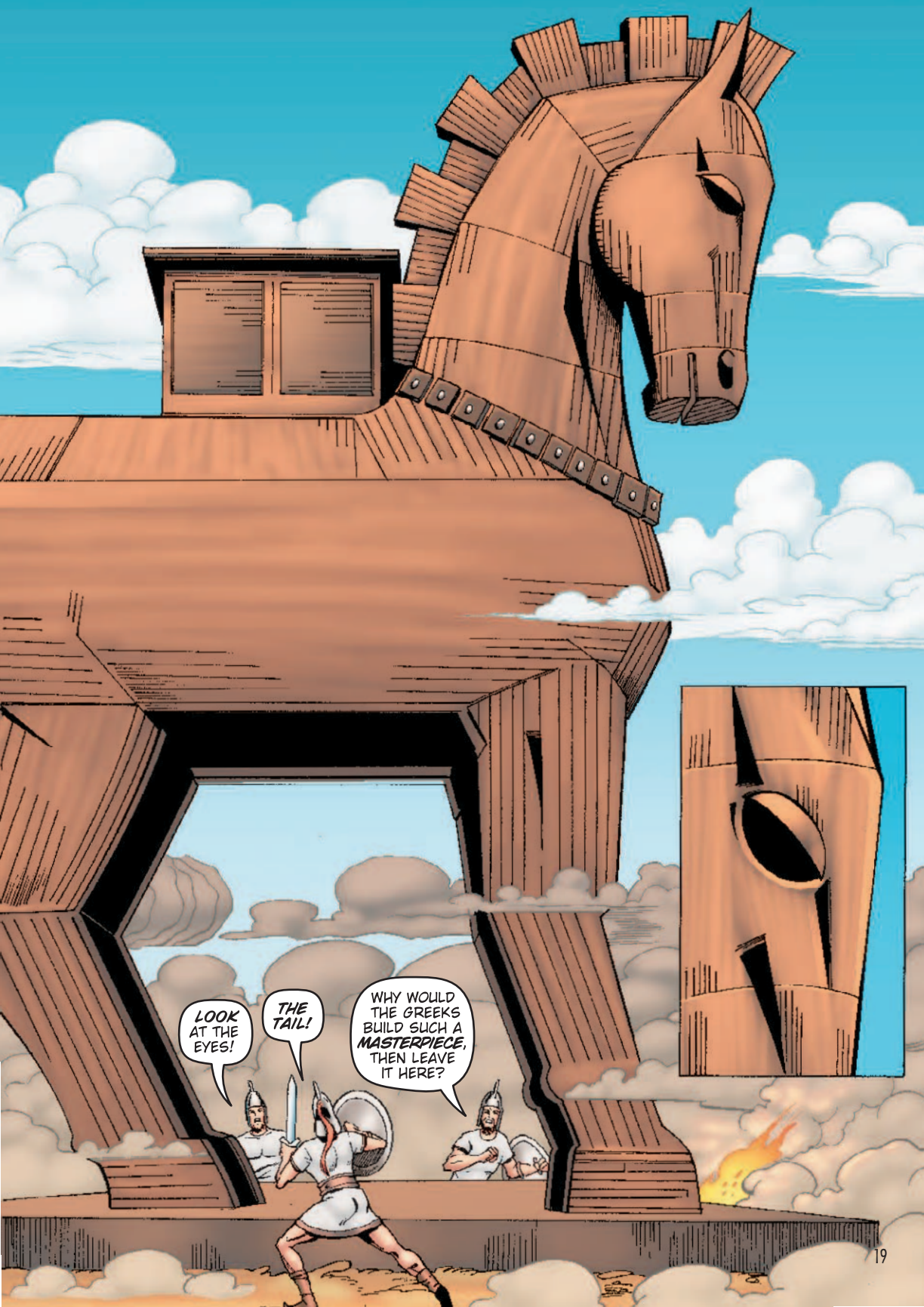
CAN IT BE?
CAN OUR OLD
ENEMIES REALLY
BE **GONE** AFTER
ALL THESE
YEARS?



WHAT IS
THAT LARGE
SHAPE IN THE
SMOKE?

WE'LL
FIND OUT,
SIR.





LOOK
AT THE
EYES!

THE
TAIL!

WHY WOULD
THE GREEKS
BUILD SUCH A
MASTERPIECE,
THEN LEAVE
IT HERE?

SINCE IT SEEMED SAFE ENOUGH, THE TROJANS CAUTIOUSLY CREPT BEYOND THE WALLS THAT HAD HELD THEM PRISONERS FOR SO LONG.

I THOUGHT I'D NEVER WALK THIS BEACH AGAIN.

THE HORSE IS EVEN **BIGGER** THAN THE TEMPLE STATUES!

I TELL YOU, IT'S SOME KIND OF TRICK. HOW SHOULD I KNOW?

MAYBE, BUT WHAT KIND?

WE SHOULD SMASH IT!

BURN IT!

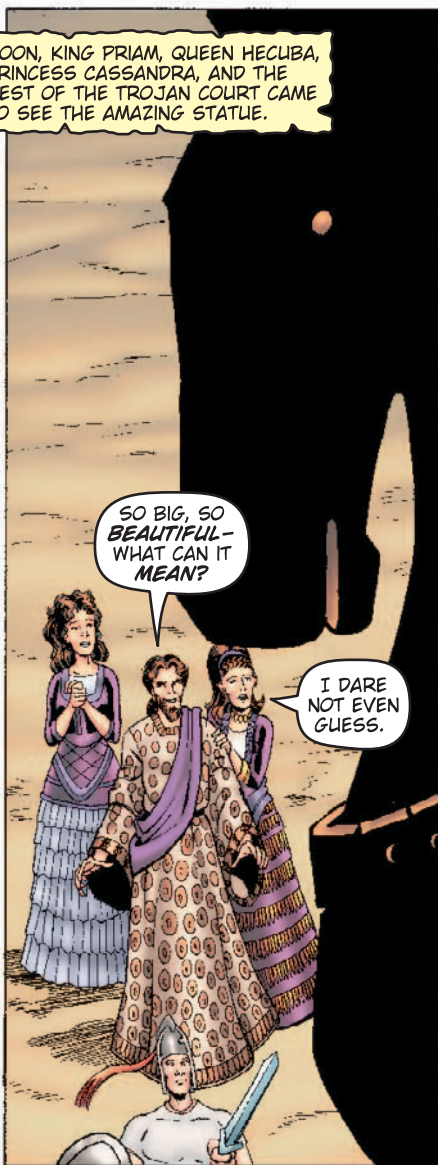
PUSH IT INTO THE SEA!



SOON, KING PRIAM, QUEEN HECHBA, PRINCESS CASSANDRA, AND THE REST OF THE TROJAN COURT CAME TO SEE THE AMAZING STATUE.

SO BIG, SO BEAUTIFUL—WHAT CAN IT MEAN?

I DARE NOT EVEN GUESS.



FATHER, WE MUST **DESTROY THIS HORSE!**

CASSANDRA, WHY IS EVERYTHING GLOOM AND DOOM WITH YOU?

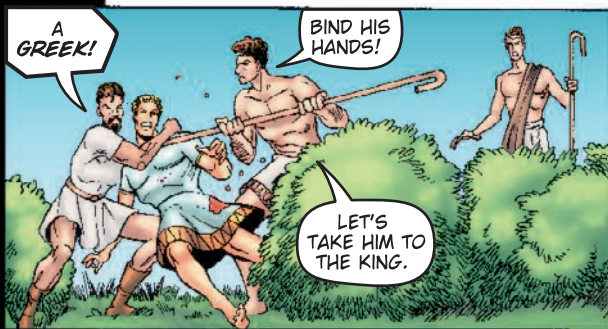
I SENSE IT PLAYS A PART IN OUR CITY'S DESTRUCTION.



A GREEK!

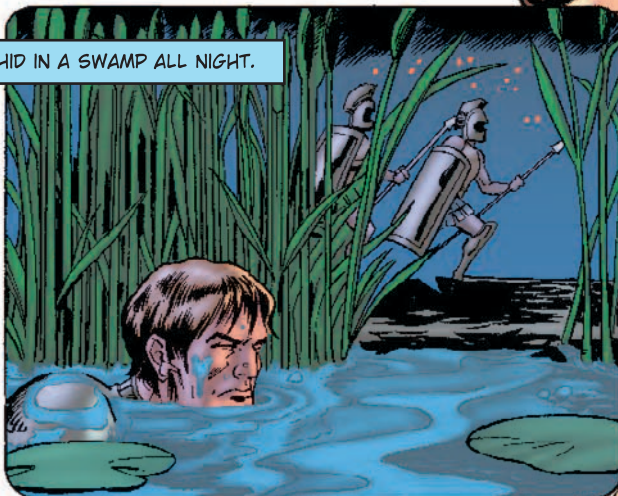
BIND HIS HANDS!

LET'S TAKE HIM TO THE KING.



PRIAM WILL KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THE DOG.







A WOEFUL WARNING

JUST THEN, **LAOCOÖN**, PRIEST OF POSEIDON THE SEA GOD, RAN THROUGH THE CITY GATES. HIS WIFE AND SONS FOLLOWED. LAOCOÖN COULD NOT BELIEVE THE OTHER TROJANS TRUSTED THIS STRANGE GREEK GIFT.



LAOCOÖN THREW HIS SPEAR AS HARD AS HE COULD.

DESTROY THE EVIL THING, AND SAVE OUR CITY!

HACK IT TO PIECES!

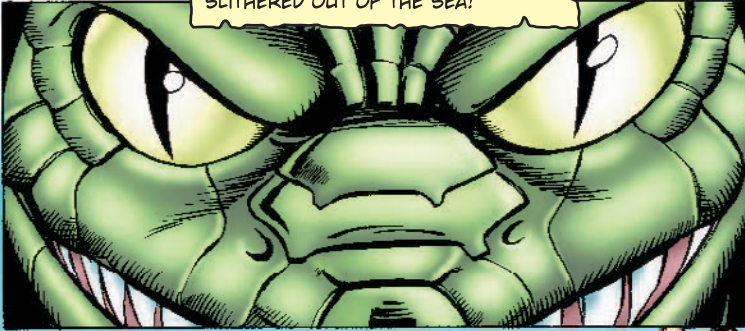


HE'S RIGHT! THIS HORSE WILL BE **TROY'S DOOM!** PLEASE, YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME AND IF NOT TO ME, TO THE PRIEST OF POSEIDON.





SUDDENLY, TWO HORRIBLE SERPENTS
SLITHERED OUT OF THE SEA!



WHAT
ARE
THOSE?

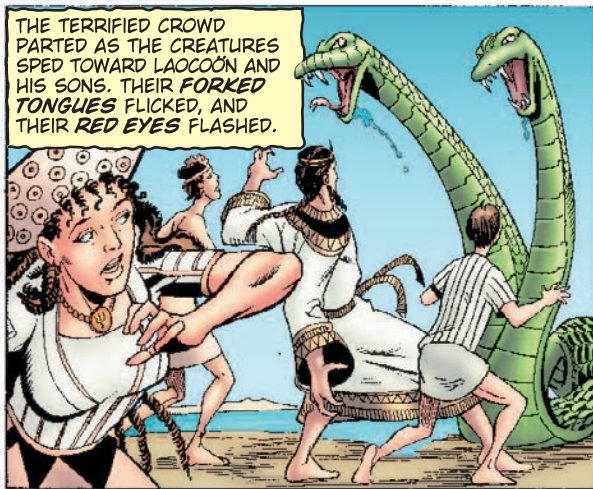
DRAGONS?
SERPENTS?
SOMETHING
EVIL!

SEE THOSE
HORRIBLE
EYES! THOSE
TONGUES!

THEY'RE
HEADING STRAIGHT
FOR LAOCOÖN.

BETTER
HIM THAN
ME!





THE TERRIFIED CROWD PARTED AS THE CREATURES SPED TOWARD LAOCOÖN AND HIS SONS. THEIR FORKED TONGUES FLICKED, AND THEIR RED EYES FLASHED.



WITH A HORRIBLE HISSING, THE SERPENTS SANK THEIR FANGS INTO THE BOYS AND CAPTURED THEM IN THEIR CRUSHING COILS.

HELP! DADDY!

HELP!



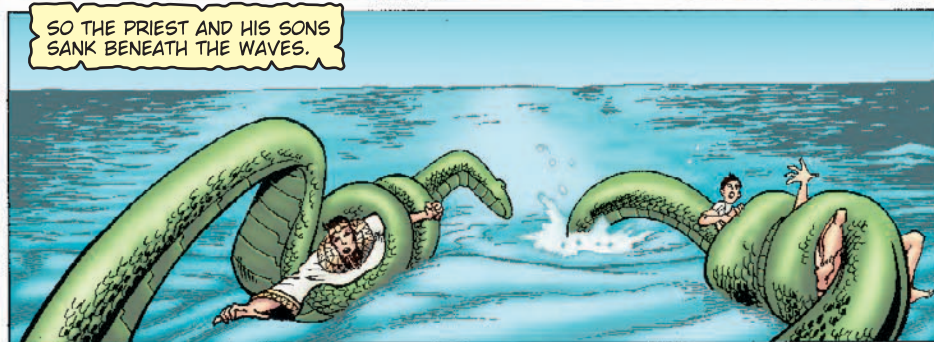
LAOCOÖN TRIED TO HELP BUT WAS SOON OVERPOWERED BY THE HIDEOUS CREATURES.

LET THEM GO, YOU FIENDS!

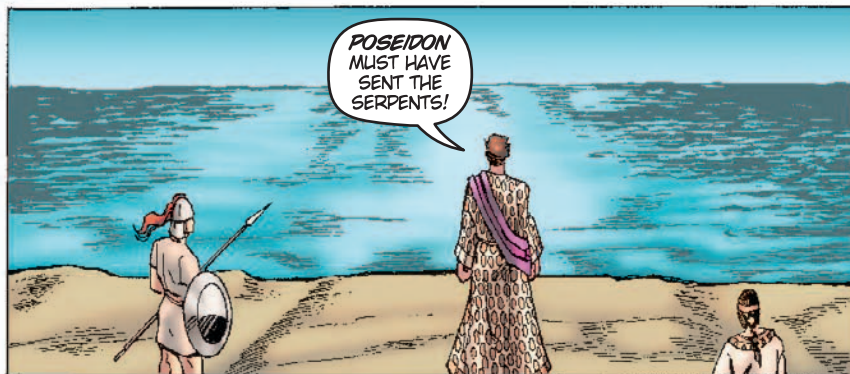
MY FAMILY! WON'T SOMEONE SAVE MY FAMILY?

HERA, HAVE MERCY!

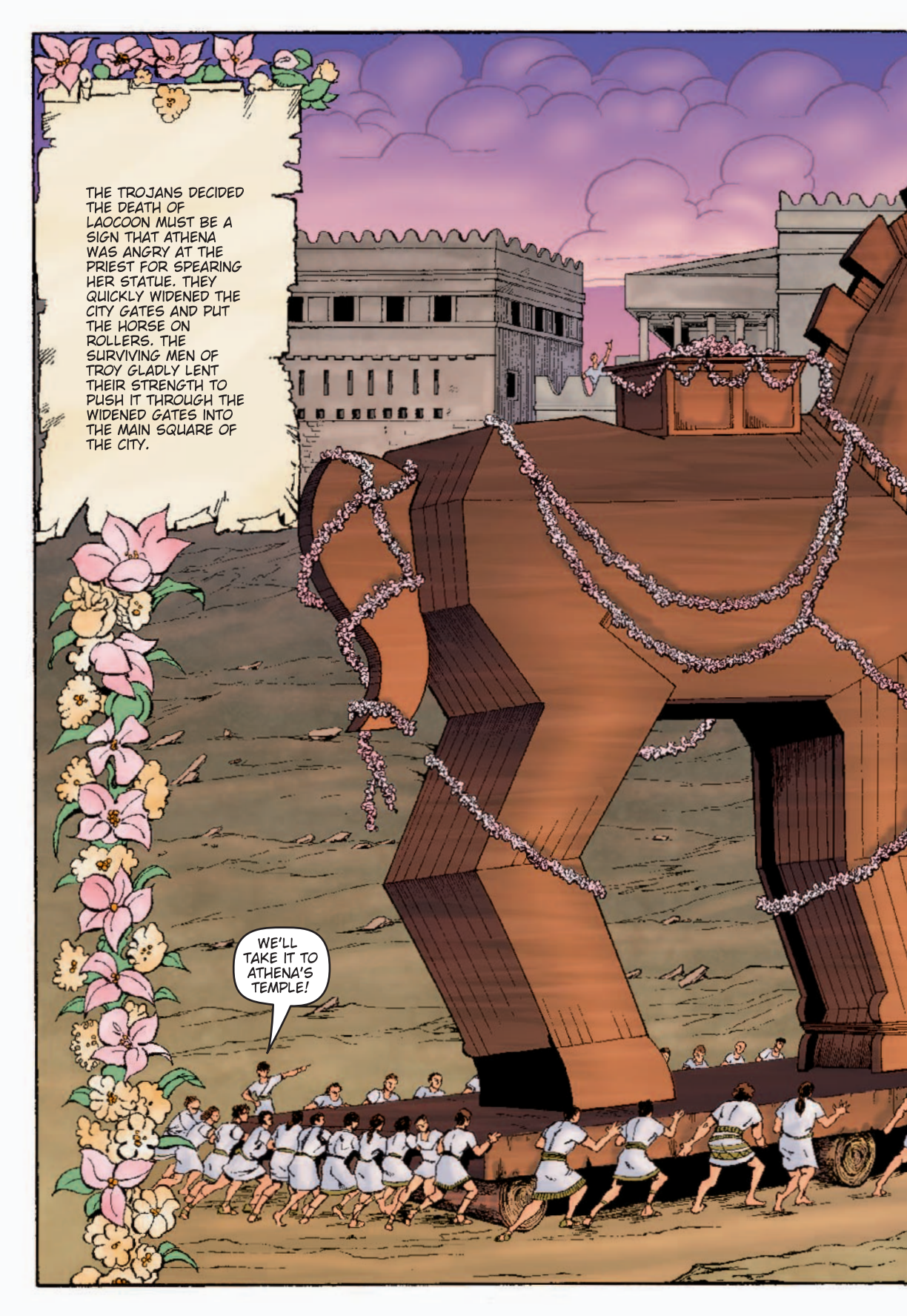
IT'S THE WILL OF THE GODS FOR DEFLILING THIS OFFERING!



SO THE PRIEST AND HIS SONS SANK BENEATH THE WAVES.

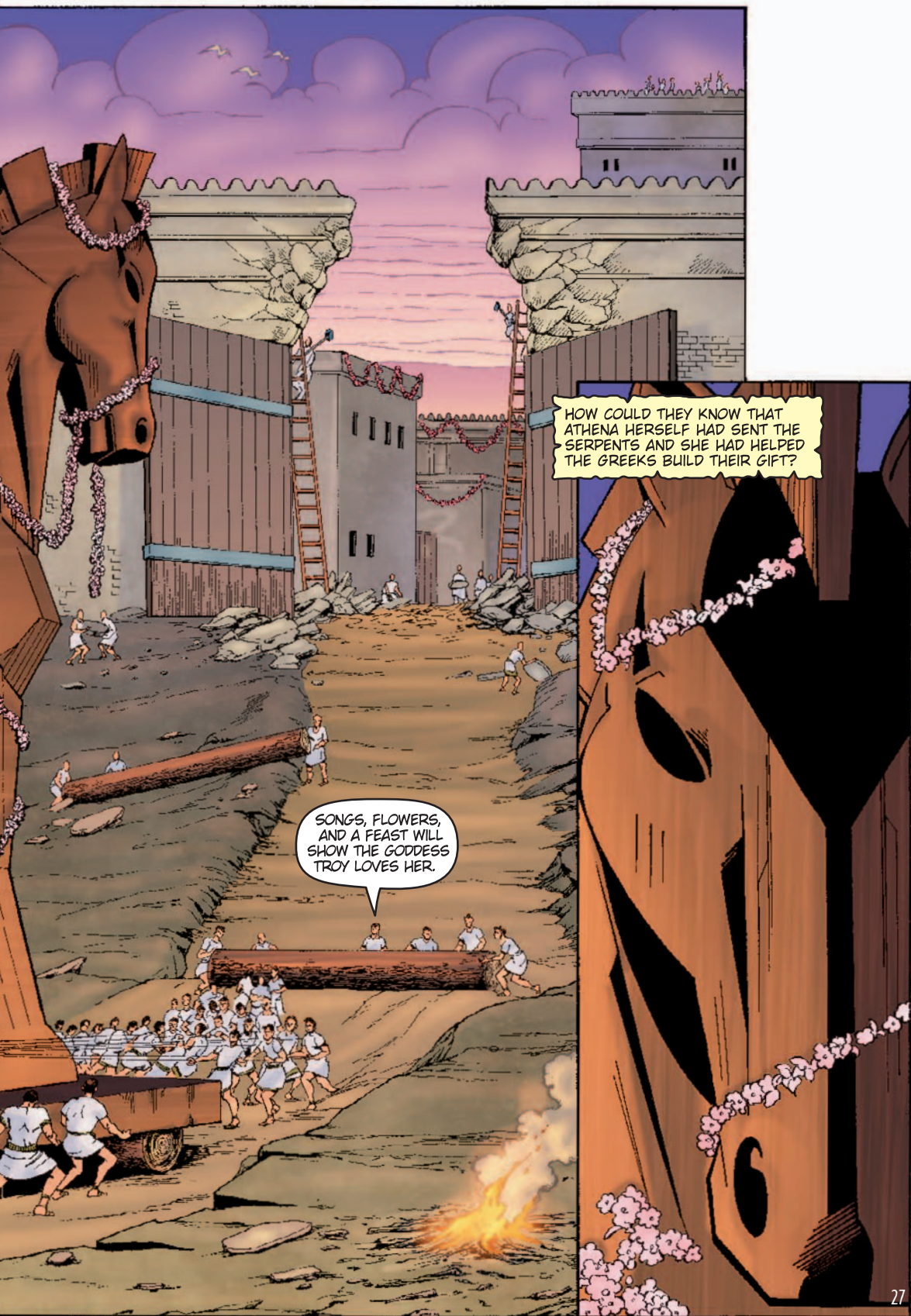


POSEIDON MUST HAVE SENT THE SERPENTS!



THE TROJANS DECIDED THE DEATH OF LAOCOON MUST BE A SIGN THAT ATHENA WAS ANGRY AT THE PRIEST FOR SPEARING HER STATUE. THEY QUICKLY WIDENED THE CITY GATES AND PUT THE HORSE ON ROLLERS. THE SURVIVING MEN OF TROY GLADLY LENT THEIR STRENGTH TO PUSH IT THROUGH THE WIDENED GATES INTO THE MAIN SQUARE OF THE CITY.

WE'LL
TAKE IT TO
ATHENA'S
TEMPLE!



THE SLEEPING CITY

THE TROJANS SANG AND DANCED AND DRANK TO CELEBRATE THE END OF THE LONG, BLOODY WAR. THERE WAS **GREAT JOY** THAT PEACE HAD COME AT LAST.



LET US
THANK THE GODS
FOR OUR GOOD
FORTUNE!



IT'S BEEN *SO LONG*.
I'M SURPRISED I
HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN
HOW TO DANCE.

YOU HAVE.
YOU JUST
STEPPED ON
MY FOOT!



THE GREEKS
ARE COWARDS,
I SAY!

GONE HOME
TO THEIR
MOMMIES!

JUST THEN, CASSANDRA BURST
OUT OF THE PALACE CARRYING
A TORCH AND AN AX.



O MISERABLE
TROJANS. WHY DO
YOU DANCE AT YOUR
OWN DOOM?

CAN'T YOU
SEE THE GODS
HAVE FIXED
OUR FATE?



PLEASE, CASSANDRA, TRY TO CONDUCT YOURSELF WITH A BIT MORE THOUGHT TO YOUR ROYAL STATION.

DO THEY NOT DESERVE A BIT OF MERRIMENT?

THE PEOPLE HAVE SUFFERED FOR TEN TERRIBLE YEARS.

THE PRINCESS SURE KNOWS HOW TO BE THE LIFE OF THE PARTY.

I HEAR PRIAM'S PRACTICALLY GIVEN UP ON TRYING TO FIND HER A HUSBAND.



CASSANDRA TRIED TO BURN THE HORSE, BUT ONE OF THE REVELERS HELD HER BACK.

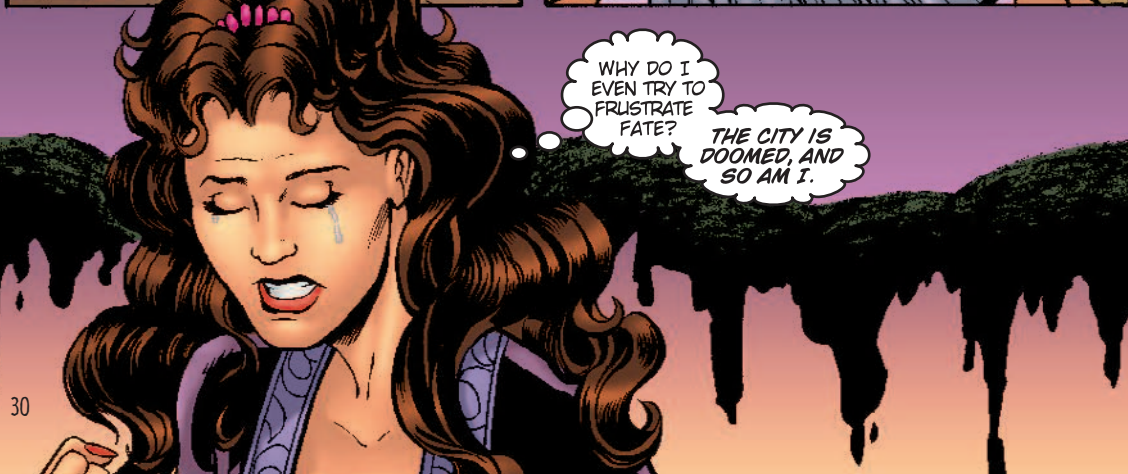
DESTROY THIS GIFT TO THE GODS AND YOU'LL WIND UP LIKE LAOCOON!



CASSANDRA WRESTLED FREE AND FLUNG HERSELF AT THE HORSE WITH HER AX! ONCE AGAIN, SHE WAS RESTRAINED.

DAUGHTER OF PRIAM, WHY CAN'T YOU BE A MORE MODEST MAIDEN?

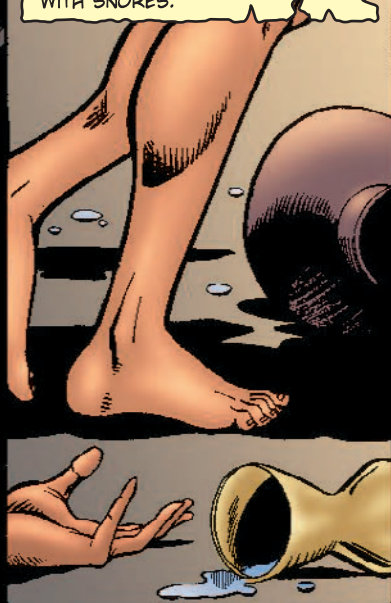
WHY DIDN'T YOU MAKE YOUR EVIL PREDICTIONS TO THE GREEKS?



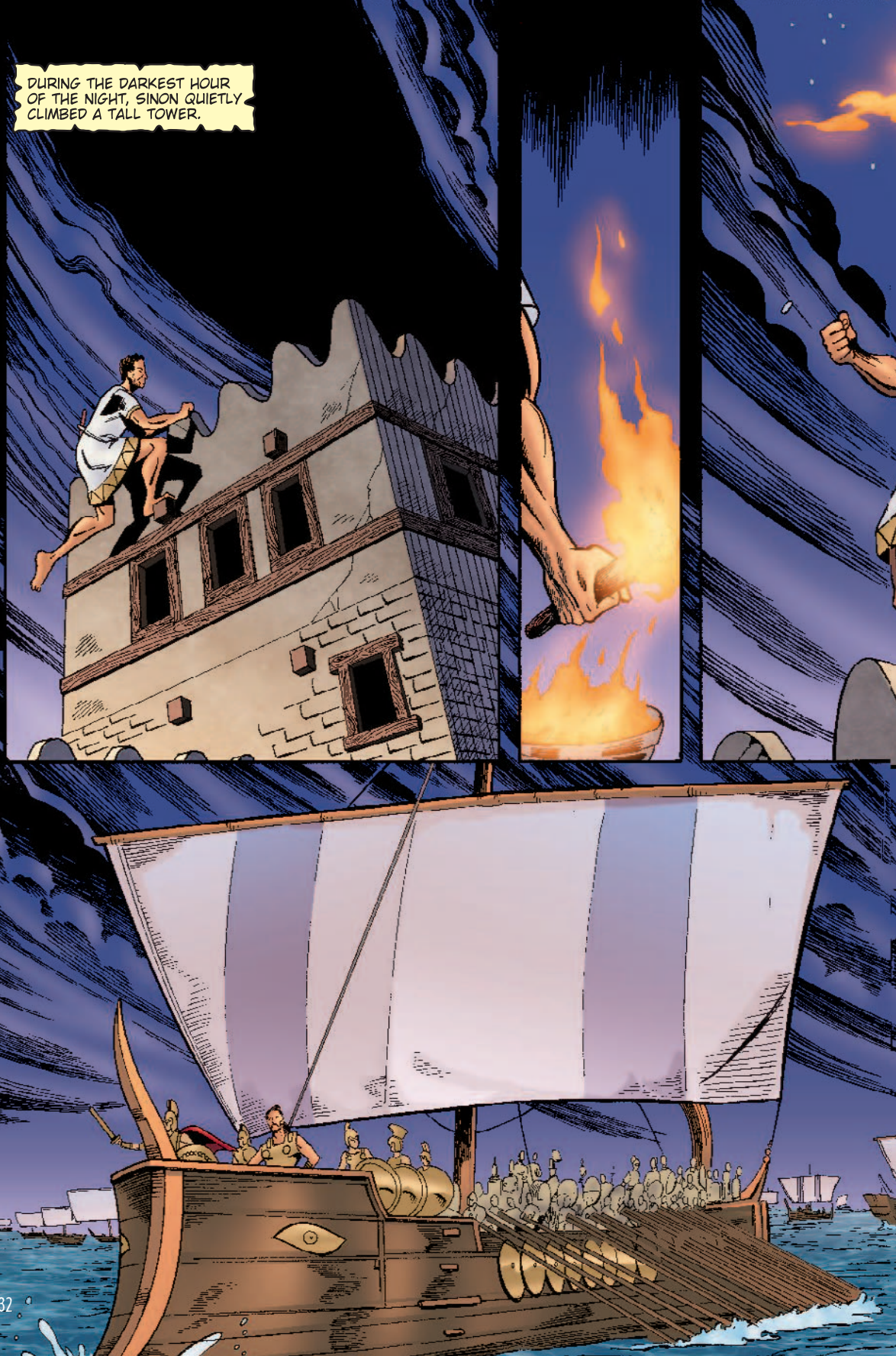
WHY DO I EVEN TRY TO FRUSTRATE FATE?

THE CITY IS DOOMED, AND SO AM I.

EXHAUSTED WITH JOY, FOOD, AND WINE, THE TROJANS SOON SLEPT SOUNDLY. INSTEAD OF SHARPLY STEPPING SENTRIES AND THE QUIET CLINK OF SHOULDERED SWORDS, THE NIGHT WAS FILLED WITH SNORES.



DURING THE DARKEST HOUR
OF THE NIGHT, SINON QUIETLY
CLIMBED A TALL TOWER.





THIS SIGNAL
CAN BE SEEN
FOR MILES
AT SEA.

ON THE NEARBY ISLAND OF
TENEDOS, A GREEK SENTRY SAW
THE SIGNAL'S FIERY FLASH
AGAINST THE BLACK SKY.



PRAISE
ATHENA! KING
AGAMEMNON,
THE SIGNAL!

STRONG ARMS LIFTED
ANCHORS, UNFURLED SAILS,
AND SLAPPED OARS INTO THE
WATER. IN *MINUTES*, THE
MIGHTY GREEK FLEET WAS
ON ITS WAY BACK TO TROY.



FASTER,
MEN! TO
TROY-AND
VICTORY!



MEANWHILE, SINON SNEAKED PAST SLEEPING TROJANS TO THE WOODEN HORSE.



HE OPENED A HATCH HIDDEN IN THE BEAST'S LEG. THE SMELL OF MANY MEN CONFINED IN CLOSE QUARTERS GREETED HIM.



IT'S
TIME!



INSIDE THE HOLLOW HORSE WAS EVEN BLACKER THAN THE MOONLIT NIGHT. SINON COULD JUST MAKE OUT THE SWORDS AND ARMOR OF MANY GREEK SOLDIERS. THEIR HORRIBLE ORDEAL OF WAITING AND WORRYING WAS OVER. EXCITEMENT RIPPLED THROUGH THE DARKNESS.



ODYSSEUS AND THE OTHER BRAVE VOLUNTEERS CLIMBED CAREFULLY OUT OF THE HORSE.



Shh!!



EACH SOUND SEEMED MAGNIFIED BY THE SILENT DARKNESS SURROUNDING THEM.

IF THE TROJANS WOKE TOO SOON, ALL WOULD BE LOST!



AS THE REMAINING GREEKS CLIMBED OUT, ODYSSEUS, MENELAUS, NEOPTOLEMUS, AND THE OTHER SOLDIERS ALREADY FREE OF THE HORSE SPREAD THROUGH THE STREETS.

THEY SET FIRE TO MANY BUILDINGS AND SLIT MANY SLEEPING THROATS.



THIS
PLAN BETTER
WORK!

I MUST
FIND
HELEN!

THE TOWERS TUMBLE

THE FLAMES WERE ALREADY SPREADING BY THE TIME THE TROJANS WOKE. THEY SCRAMBLED FOR THEIR WEAPONS AND ARMOR.



MEANWHILE, IN THE PALACE, THE KING PREPARED TO DEFEND TROY.



THE TROJANS WERE NOT THE ONLY ONES TO DIE. MANY GREEKS WERE KILLED AS THEIR ENEMIES **DESPERATELY** DEFENDED THEIR CITY. SOME GRABBED GREEK ARMOR AND WEAPONS.

BETWEEN THIS ARMOR AND THE SMOKE, WE'LL **SLAY** MANY BEFORE THEY KNOW WHAT HIT THEM.

ALTHOUGH GROGGY AND CONFUSED, THE TROJANS FOUGHT DESPERATELY TO SAVE THEIR CITY. BUT THEY FOUGHT IN VAIN.

FOR TROY!

O MIGHTY ZEUS! BRING US VICTORY IN OUR HOUR OF NEED!

ZEUS HEARS YOU NOT, MY NOBLE FATHER. **ALL IS LOST.**

I GUESS THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR I-TOLD-YOU-SO'S, BUT I DID!

PREPARE TO **DIE**, OLD FOOL!

THROUGH IT ALL, CLEVER ODYSSEUS
NEVER FORGOT HIS PLAN.

TO THE
GATES! HEAVE,
MEN, HEAVE!



BY ARES,
THE ARMY
IS HERE!



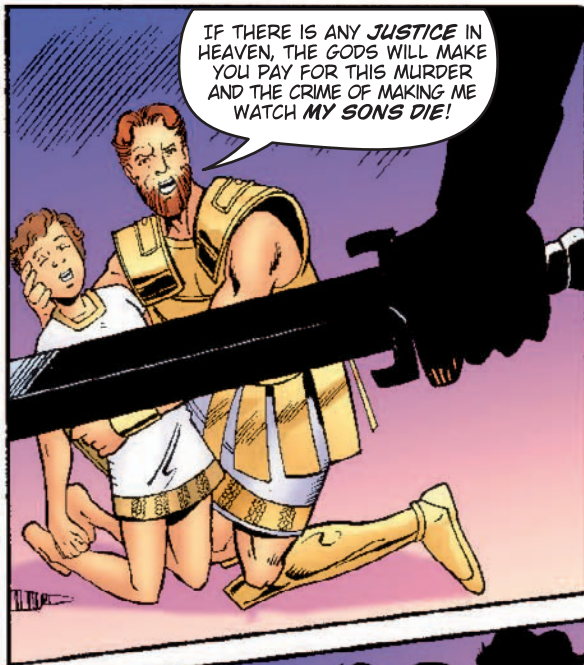
THANK
ATHENA, THEY
SAW THE
SIGNAL!



WE ARE
LOST!



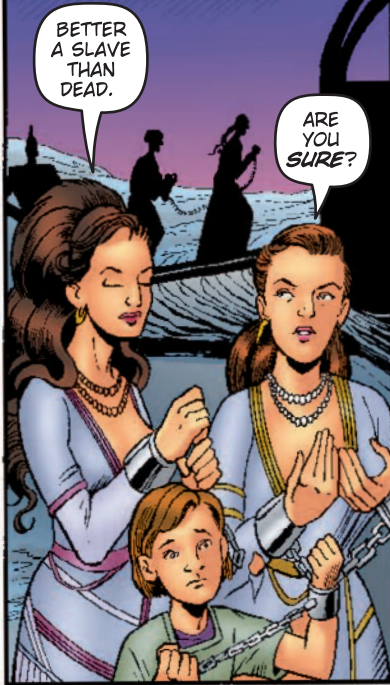




THE MAIN BODY OF THE GREEK ARMY MARCHED THROUGH THE OPEN GATES. THE **GREAT CITY** OF TROY WAS SOON NOTHING MORE THAN BLOODY CORPSES AND CHARRED RUINS.



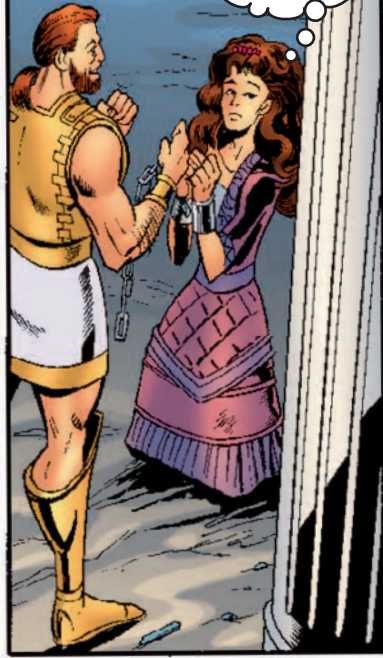
TROY'S WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE TAKEN AWAY IN CHAINS.



THIS PRETTY PRINCESS IS QUITE A PRIZE!

BUT I MAY AS WELL **DIE** IN MYCENAE AS HERE.

KNOWING THE FUTURE IS **NO GIFT** WHEN THE FUTURE IS SO DARK.



WHAT TREASURE!

WE'LL ALL BE RICH!

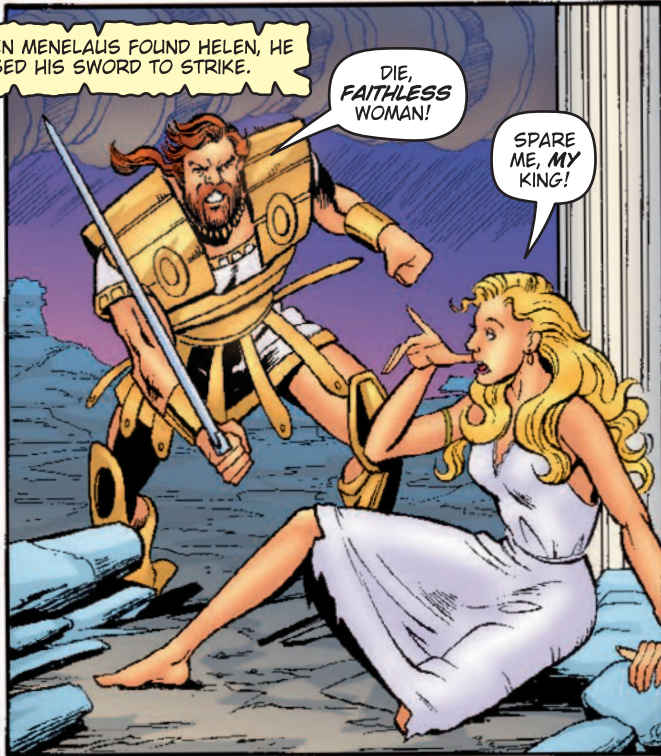
IF WE GET OUR FAIR SHARE.

WHEN MENELAUS FOUND HELEN, HE RAISED HIS SWORD TO STRIKE.



DIE, FAITHLESS WOMAN!

SPARE ME, MY KING!



BUT HIS BROTHER STOPPED HIM.

THE GODS AND PARIS LED HER **ASTRAY**. WHO OF US CAN **RESIST** THE GODS?

THAT IS TRUE, MY BROTHER. SHE IS ONLY A **WOMAN**, AFTER ALL.

I NEVER MEANT TO **BETRAY** YOU.

AFTER ALL THIS, I **LOVE HER STILL!**

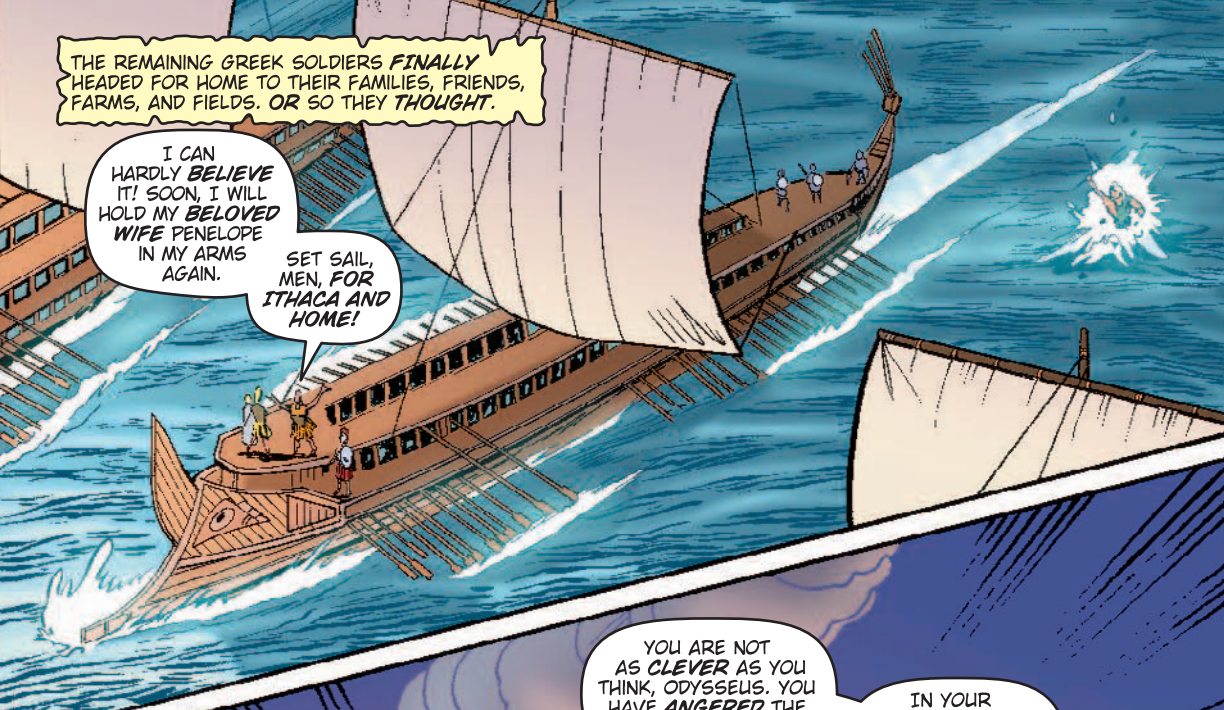
SO KING MENELAUS AND HIS QUEEN WERE REUNITED AT LAST. THEY SET SAIL OVER THE WINE-DARK SEA.

I **FORGIVE** YOU, HELEN.

IF IT IS POSSIBLE, YOU ARE EVEN MORE **BEAUTIFUL** THAN BEFORE.

THESE PAST TEN YEARS HAVE BEEN A **NIGHTMARE**. LET US HOPE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER WILL BE A **SWEET DREAM**.

I PRAY TO THE GODS THAT IT BE SO.



THE REMAINING GREEK SOLDIERS **FINALLY** HEADED FOR HOME TO THEIR FAMILIES, FRIENDS, FARMS, AND FIELDS. **OR SO THEY THOUGHT.**

I CAN HARDLY **BELIEVE** IT! SOON, I WILL HOLD MY **BELOVED WIFE** PENELOPE IN MY ARMS AGAIN.

SET SAIL, MEN, FOR **ITHACA AND HOME!**



YOU ARE NOT AS **CLEVER** AS YOU THINK, ODYSSEUS. YOU HAVE **ANGERED** THE GREAT POSEIDON.

IN YOUR SELFISH PURSUIT OF **GLORY**, YOU CAUSED THE DEATH OF MY GRANDSON, **PALAMEDES.**

SOON MY MIGHTY WAVES WILL TEACH YOU THAT **NO MORTAL DARE DEFY THE GODS!**

BUT BECAUSE OF POSEIDON'S CURSE, IT WOULD BE MANY LONG YEARS AND MANY MORE ADVENTURES BEFORE ODYSSEUS RETURNED TO ITHACA.

GLOSSARY AND PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

ACHILLES (uh-*kil*-eez): son of Peleus and Thetis; prince of Phthia and Greek hero

AGAMEMNON (a-ga-*mem*-non): king of Mycenae; high king of the Achaeans

AJAX (ay-jax): Greek hero

APHRODITE (a-fro-*dye*-tee): goddess of love

APOLLO (uh-*pol*-oh): god of prophesy, music, and healing

ARES (air-eez): the god of war

ATHENA (uh-*thee*-nuh): goddess of wisdom

CASSANDRA (kuh-*san*-druh): daughter of King Priam and Queen Hecuba

ERIS (ee-ris): the goddess of discord

HADES (bay-deez): god of the dead

HECUBA (hek-yoo-buh): wife of King Priam

HELEN (bell-en): wife of King Menelaus

HERA (hebr-ruh): queen of the gods; goddess of the hearth

LAOCOÖN (lay-*ub*-koh-uhn): priest of Poseidon. He was killed by serpents after warning Troy to destroy the Trojan horse.

MENELAUS (meh-neh-*lay*-uhs): king; brother of Agamemnon

NEOPTOLEMUS (nee-op-*to*-leh-muhs): son of Achilles

ODYSSEUS (o-*dis*-see-uhs): king of Ithaca

PALAMEDES (pa-luh-*mee*-deez): prince of Nauplia; cousin of Agamemnon

PARIS (pa-ris): son of King Priam and Queen Hecuba

PENELOPE (pe-*nel*-oh-pee): wife of Odysseus

POSEIDON (po-*seye*-duhn): god of the ocean and earthquakes

PRIAM (preye-am): king of Troy

SINON (si-non): Greek spy who deceived Troy into bringing the Trojan horse into the city

ZEUS (zyoos): king of the gods; god of thunder and the sky

ink from pages 6-7



FURTHER READING AND WEBSITES

d'Aulaire, Ingri, and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire. *Book of Greek Myths*. New York: Dell Publishing, 1992.

Evslin, Bernard. *The Trojan War*. New York: Scholastic Book Services, 1971.

Fleischman, Paul. *Dateline, Troy*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1996.

Greek Myths—History for Kids

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/greeks/religion/greekrelig.htm>

This site provides information about Greek gods, heroes, and myths, as well as information about the Trojan War. It also includes links to related characters, websites, and books located in other websites.

Green, Roger Lancelyn. *The Tale of Troy: Retold from the Ancient Authors*. Baltimore: Puffin Books, 1958.

Hovey, Kate. *Voices of the Trojan War*. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2004.

McLaren, Clemence. *Inside the Walls of Troy: A Novel of the Women Who Lived the Trojan War*. New York: Atheneum, 1996.

Mythweb

<http://www.mythweb.com/gods/index.html>

This is an informative site about gods, heroes, and others. It also includes a link to the website's *Encyclopedia of Greek Mythology*.

Sutcliffe, Rosemary. *Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of the Iliad*. New York: Delacorte Press, 1993.

CREATING THE TROJAN HORSE

Ancient legends of a war between the Greek city states and Troy that may have taken place around 1200 B.C. were gathered into great epic poems by writers of later times. The Greek poet Homer wrote *The Iliad* about 700–800 B.C. It tells of the Greek heroes, particularly Achilles, as they fought against Troy to reclaim Helen, wife of Menelaus, king of Sparta. The story of the fall of Troy and of the horse left behind by the Greeks appears in the *Aeneid*, written by the Roman poet Virgil between 42 and 35 B.C. Ron & Justine Fontes have based their retelling on these sources and on *The War at Troy*, written by the Greek poet Quintus of Smyrna around A.D. 375.

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RON & JUSTINE FONTES met at a publishing house in New York City. Ron worked for the comic book department, and Justine was an editorial assistant in children's books. Together they have written nearly 500 children's books, in every format from board books to historical novels.

From their home in Maine, the Fonteses publish *critter news*, a strictly-for-fun newsletter. They also launched Sonic Comics with their first graphic novel, *Tales of a Terminal Diner*, a unique anthology with continuing characters. Other published projects include *The Trojan Horse: The Fall of Troy* and *The Wooden Sword*. Life-long library lovers, the Fonteses long to write 1,000 books before retiring.

GORDON PURCELL has had an extensive comic career, with credits including five different crews of StarTrek, The X-Files, Silver Sable, Superman, JLA, Robin, Aquaman, Flash, Wonder Man, Avengers, Lost in Space, Soulesearchers, and Xena. He's currently drawing issues of Flare for Heroic, Justice League Unlimited for DC, as well as biography comics. He lives in the frozen tundra of Minnesota with wife, Debra, and son, Jack.