



PRESENTS: ADKIAN KOKNIK.Z

DREAM A PART TWO



THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE UUST DREAMS"





# MY BIRDMAN FROM IO SCREENPLAYS WWW.SCFI-BIRDMANFROMIO.COM

HAS BEEN RECREATED IN "GRAPHIC NOVEL FORMAT"

OFFERING A FRESH NEW VISUAL PERSPECTIVE AND

EXPERIENCE FOCUSING IN ON ADRIAN'S DREAMS.

#### PREMISE REMAINS THE SAME:

CHALLENGING OUR INSIGNIFICANCE WITHIN OUR SEEMINGLY VAST INCOMPREHENSIBLE UNIVERSE THROUGH ALTERNATIVE ANIMATED VIRTUAL ALIEN DREAMSCAPES COUNTERED BY CURRENT ON-GOING SCIENTIFIC/QUANTUM THEOREM THAT JUST MAY LEAD US TO WHO OR WHAT IS BEHIND OUR REASON FOR BEING, LEADING US TO THE UNIVERSAL TRUTH.

CREATED, WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY
BRUCE EDWIN JAMES SINSKI
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
COPYRIGHT 2023



#### INTRODUCING THE MAIN CHARACTERS:



ADRIAN RORVIK 35, A DISCERNING ARTIST IS HAUNTED BY A LIFETIME OF VIRTUAL IO MOON ALIEN DREAMSCAPES, WHILE FLYING PERILOUSLY ON THE BACK OF A GIANT MERLIN FALCON "HORUS".



ADRIAN'S ANCIENT GREAT NORSE
GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF, GUIDES
ADRIAN THROUGH HIS DREAMS,
PREPARING HIM FOR HIS EVENTUAL
BATTLE AGAINST ANU, EARTH'S ARCH
DREAM ENEMY WHO ENJOYS
CREATING GAMING ILLUSIONS DEEP
WITHIN ADRIAN'S DREAMS.



### CHAPTER 1: A TALE OF TWO CITIES

IT HAS BEEN YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL DAY AS ART DIRECTOR AT HIS TDFY AGENCY.

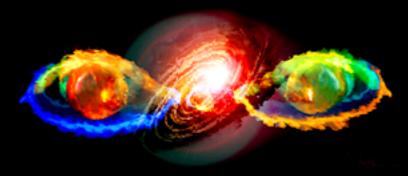
HE KNOWS HE HAS A BUSY DAY AHEAD OF HIM AT HIS AD AGENCY IN THE MORNING AND IS HOPING HE CAN FINALLY GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP WITHOUT ANY ALIEN INTERVENTION,

NOTE: HIS DAY TIME LIFE ADVENTURES WILL BE ILLUSTRATED IN UPCOMING BFI NOVELS.

HE CHECKS HIS EMAILS - NONE AND SHUTS DOWN HIS COMPUTER, READY TO CALL IT AN EARLY NIGHT.

HE PULLS OUT HIS BLACK LEATHER HIDE-AWAY-BED. EXHAUSTED, HE PLUNKS HIMSELF ON HIS BED.

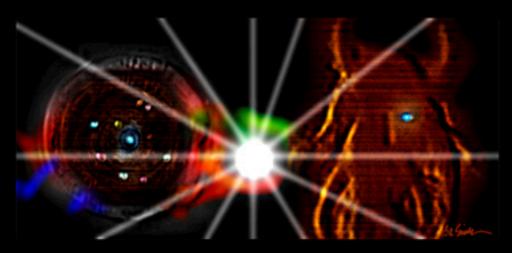
IT IS NOT LONG BEFORE HIS EYES FLUTTER IN SLEEP.



ADRIAN'S VIRTUAL ALIEN DREAMSCAPE IS BEGINNING LIKE NO OTHER. . . THERE IS A FAMILIAR IMAGE FROM WITHIN HIS ANCIENT ANCESTRY NORSE BOOK COVER ENTERING HIS DREAMSCAPE.



THE IMAGERY FROM HIS ANCESTRY NORSE BOOK IS BEGINNING TO UNFOLD ITS INTERIOR PAGES.



WHEN: ADRIAN'S ANCESTRAL VIKING JOURNAL COMES ALIVE! PAGES FROM ITS INTERIOR BEGIN STREAMING FROM ITS FLIGHT OF VIKING COLONIZATION LEATHER BOUND COVER!



FROM WITHIN THE LAST OF THESE PAGES "HORUS" COMES INTO VIEW AS WE MOVE IN CLOSER ON A FAMILIAR LOOKING BATTLE SCENE.

WE NOW NOTICE HORUS HAS FLOWN INTO THE ANCIENT PAPER-TEXTURED VIKING BATTLING PAGE, COMING TO LIFE. HE TURNS TOWARDS ADRIAN SQUAWKING - TELLING HIM TO "HOP ON - LET'S GO!"



ADRIAN TOSSES AND TURNS IN HIS SLEEP TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW HE WILL BE ABLE TO RIDE ON HORUS. HE SQUEEZES HIS EYELIDS SHUT AND TAKES A LONG DETERMINED DEEP BREATH.

HERE I GO HEADING INTO UH, THE NEXT ANU GAMING LEVEL MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER. I MUST STAY STRONG AND CONFIDENT IN MY INNER ABILITY TO DEFEAT ANU.





HE NOW FINDS HIMSELF RIDING ON THE NECK OF HORUS! AN ENERGY FORCE ENGLIFS THEM BOTH AND TOSSES THEM THROUGH ONE OF HIS MERLIN PAINTINGS HANGING ON A STUDIO WALL.



## ...THEY BEGIN WARPING INTO AN ALTERNATIVE UNIVERSE.



#### HORUS GIVES A RESOUNDING TWO SQUAWKS FOR YES.



ADRIAN SENSES SOMETHING BEHIND HIM, HE LOOKS BACK OVER HIS SHOULDER AND SEES ANOTHER PORTAL HOLE CHASING THEM DOWN!

HORUS WE NEED TO PUT YOUR WINGS INTO OVERDRIVE. THERE IS AN APPROACHING WARP HOLE BEHIND US AND IT IS CLOSING IN FAST, AND IT DOESN'T LOOK VERY FRIENDLY... WE NEED TO GET TO THAT PLANET AT THE UH, OTHER END OF THE PORTAL - AND FAST!

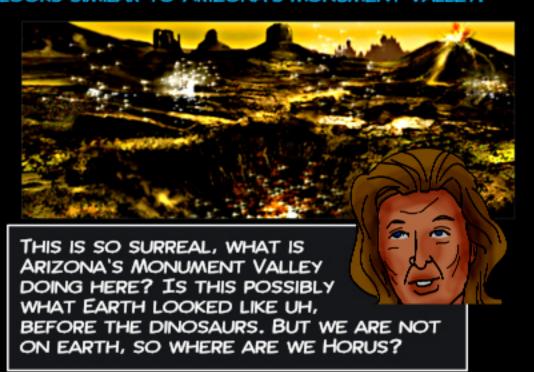


HORUS REALIZES THE DANGER AND SOARS AS FAST AS HE CAN AWAY FROM THE JAWS OF THE PORTAL.



HORUS NAVIGATES HIS WINGS TOWARDS THE ALIEN PLANET... THE PLANET IS LOOKING A LOT LIKE IO? COULD THIS BE IO IN ANOTHER DIMENSION IN TIME?

THEY SWOOP DOWN OVER THE CLOUDLESS AND BARREN CRATER FILLED TERRAIN. . . A LANDSCAPE THAT LOOKS SIMILAR TO ARIZONA'S MONUMENT VALLEY.





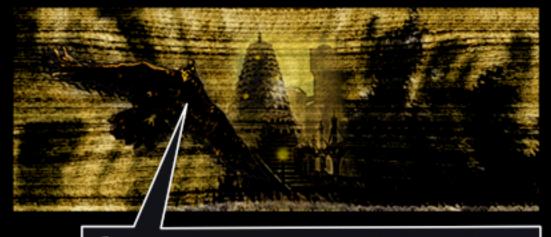
HORUS REMAINS SILENT AS THEY APPROACH THE CITY FROM ABOVE... AS THEY GET CLOSER IT APPEARS TO BE A "CITY HAVING TWO DISTINCT TIME PERIODS." I COULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED A CITY WITH SO MUCH CONTRASTING ARCHITECTURE. THE UH, OLDER PART OF THE CITY LOOKS LIKE IT HAS BEEN DELIBERATELY LEFT IN RUINS, I WONDER WHY. NOT MUCH HERE... WHADDAYA SAY WE FLY OVER TO THE OTHER NEWER LOOKING CITY, MAYBE WE MIGHT FIND SOMEBODY OR CLUES TO JUST WHAT IS GOING ON BETWEEN THESE TWO CITIES... I'M STILL DREAMING RIGHT.



HORUS NAVIGATES THEM OVER TO THE FUTURISTIC TOWERS SEPARATED BY A LIGHT TOWER THAT LOOKS LIKE IT WAS ONCE SOME KIND OF AN ANCIENT SACRED OBELISK FROM AN OLD SUMERIAN OR ANCIENT EGYPTIAN-LIKE EARTH CITY.



WHEN: OUR SCREEN ONCE AGAIN BEGINS BREAKING UP. THIS INTERFERENCE INTO ADRIAN'S DREAMSCAPES IS NO COINCIDENCE - RATHER DELIBERATE. . . BUT WHO IS GENERATING THE INTERFERENCE?



IT APPEARS THIS PART OF THE CITY UH, DOESN'T WANT AN VISITORS. . . . IT FEELS LIKE WE ARE BREAKING UP, THE UH, INTERFERENCE SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM THAT OBELISK TOWER. . . ANY THOUGHTS WHY THIS MIGHT BE HORUS.

WHEN: YET AGAIN ADRIAN AND HORUS ARE GRADUALLY BEING FURTHER BLINDED BY MORE INCOMING INTERFERENCE.

WITHIN THIS NEW STATIC AN IMAGE OF HIS ANCIENT GREAT NORSE GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF BREAKS THROUGH.



ADRIAN IS PERPLEXED - WHY IS AUTGRAF SUDDENLY APPEARING IN THIS CITY OF TWO TALES?



HORUS HAS LEAD YOU TO ANU'S ALIEN DOMAIN, HIS TWIN CITIES IN ANOTHER LEVEL IN TIME... ANU WANTS YOU TO BELIEVE YOU ARE STILL DREAMING FROM EARTH... HE IS MUCH TOO STRONG FOR YOU AT THIS TIME ON THIS LEVEL.

YOU MUST FIND YOURSELF A DREAM PORTAL THAT WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR TIME, TO YOUR STUDIO BED. YOU MUST NOW TAKE CONTROL OF THIS DREAM IN ORDER FOR YOUR PREVIOUS VICTORY OVER HIM TO REMAIN YOURS!



AND JUST WHERE AM I GOING TO FIND THIS DREAM PORTAL. CAN'T UH, HORUS LEAD ME TO THIS PORTAL?

...AUTGRAF UH, YOU'RE BREAKING UP, CAN YOU HEAR ME. DAMMIT, WHY MUST THESE DREAMS BE SO CHALLENGING. JUST FOR ONCE I WISH THERE WAS AN EASY WAY OUT OF THESE DAMN DREAMS!

## ADRIAN TAKES A DEEP BREATH... AND LOOKS DEEP WITHIN HIMSELF FOR A WAY OUT OF THIS DREAM.



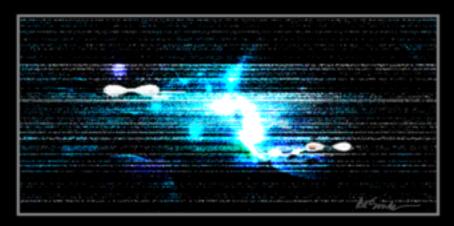
ADRIAN IS SLOWLY COMING OUT OF HIS DREAM. HE SITS UP IN BED GASPING FOR AIR, SWEAT POURING DOWN HIS FACE.

HE CLUTCHES HIS BED SHEET AND PULLS IT UP TO HIS FACE. HE LOOKS AROUND AND REALIZES HE IS BACK IN HIS OWN BED.



MY DREAMS ARE GETTING TOO REAL. IT'S LIKE I AM NO LONGER IN CONTROL OF MY DREAMS UH, MAYBE EVEN MY LIFE. WHY AM I BEING UH, POSSESSED BY THOSE WITHIN MY DREAMS?

ADRIAN NOW HEARS STATIC BEING EMITTED FROM HIS WIDESCREEN TELEVISION. HE CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS WHY HIS TV HAS SUDDENLY TURNED ON.



HE ALSO CAN'T QUITE FATHOM WHY ANU HAS ENTERED HIS DREAMS AND NOW REQUIRES THE AID OF HIS ANCIENT NORSE GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF AND A MERLIN FALCON HORUS - WHO HE REALIZES IS ACTING LIKE HIS DREAM GUARDIAN ANGEL.

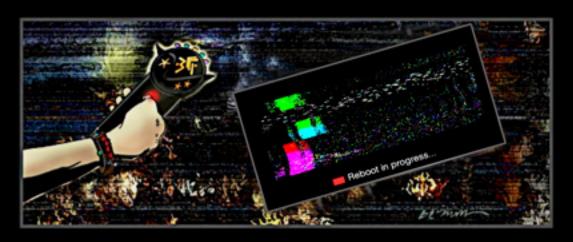
ADRIAN GETS OUT OF BED AND GRABS HIS TV REMOTE. BUT HE CAN'T SEEM TO TURN HIS WIDESCREEN ON OR OFF! FRUSTRATED HE TOSSES HIS TELEVISION REMOTE ONTO THE SEAT OF HIS RED BARBERSHOP CHAIR.

WHEN: A MULTITUDE OF STATICKY IMAGES FILL HIS TV SCREEN. . . THEY SEEM TO BE FOREWARNING WHAT IS YET TO COME.



#### WITHOUT WARNING:

HIS WIDESCREEN IS NOW BEING REBOOTED BY AN ALIEN HAND HOLDING AN UNFAMILIAR REMOTE CONTROL FROM WITHIN HIS TELEVISION SCREEN!



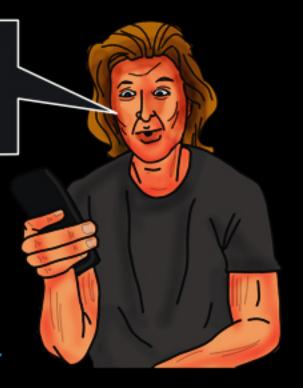


AM I STILL DREAMING? OR AM I GOING MAD!

HOW CAN MY LIFE AND MY DREAMS BOTH UH, BE REAL?

FRUSTRATED AND VERY MUCH CONFUSED, HE TOSSES HIS REMOTE IN THE DIRECTION OF HIS BARBERSHOP CHAIR - BULLS-EYE.

HE STRIPS DOWN, AND HEADS FOR THE SHOWER.



AFTER SHOWERING ADRIAN HEADS BACK TO HIS MAIN LIVING AREA - JUST AS HIS TELEVISION HAS FINISHED ITS UPDATES.



UPDATES COMPLETE: DATA LINKS RESOLVED

PROGRAMMING CAN RESUME

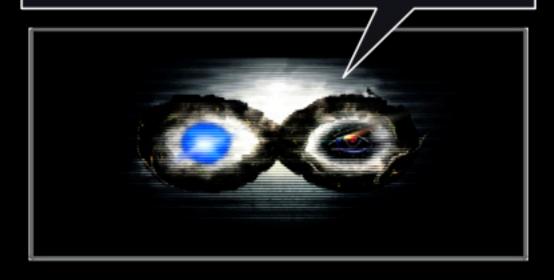
►OPEN GAMMING LEVEL 111111001102

SHOW TITLE: ADRIAN'S ALIEN DREAMS

#### THEN: HIS TELEVISION ABRUPTLY SHUTS DOWN!



EITHER MY INTERNET CONNECTION IS OFF- LINE, OR UH, THIS INCOMING INTERFERENCE IS COMING FROM YET ANOTHER ALIEN ADVERSARY.



#### CHAPTER 2: THE PILLARS OF CREATION

ADRIAN HAS BEEN UP LATE INTO THE NIGHT STUDYING HIS NORSE ANCESTRY JOURNAL - ENDING UP WITH MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS. REALIZING IT IS WELL AFTER MIDNIGHT, HE PULLS OUT HIS BLACK LEATHER HIDE-A-BED AND READIES HIMSELF FOR BED.

WE NOTICE STRAIGHT AWAY HIS DREAM IS "FRAMED" -LIKE COLOURED STORYBOARDS.



ADRIAN IMMEDIATELY FINDS HIMSELF RIDING ON THE BACK OF HIS DREAM COMPANION HORUS AS A NEW WORMHOLE BEGINS MOVING IN FROM BEHIND. THE WORMHOLE'S ENERGY IS ABSORBING THEIR ENERGY MAKING THEM SOMEWHAT TRANSPARENT.

CAN'T HELP BUT THINK GOOD BUDDY THAT ANU IS BEHIND THIS WELCOMING PORTAL.



ADRIAN AND HORUS COME THROUGH THE OTHER END OF THE PORTAL - FINDING THEMSELVES ONCE AGAIN FLYING HIGH ABOVE THE CITY OF TWO TALES.



HERE WE GO AGAIN HIGH ABOVE THESE TWO CITIES DIVIDED BY AN OBELISK. IT UH, MUST HAVE HAD A LOT OF SIGNIFICANCE TO THE CITIZENS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE OBELISK. . . LET'S FLY IN A LITTLE CLOSER AND UH, SEE IF THERE IS ANYONE HOME.

WHEN: ADRIAN HEARS ANU'S SPHERE-WINGED COMBATANT SPACECRAFT APPROACHING THEM FROM THE REAR.

I GUESS FINDING OUT WHAT THIS OBELISK IS ALL ABOUT WILL HAVE TO WAIT.

ADRIAN AND HORUS BOTH TAKE A DEEP TRANSCENDING BREATH, MORPHING THEMSELVES INTO MIGHTY VIKING WARRIORS - READYING FOR BATTLE.

WHEN: WE NOTICE AN INCOMING IMAGE OF THE SAME UNKNOWN YOUNG BOY'S HAND FROM BEFORE!... HE BEGINS TO RE-PROGRAM ADRIAN'S DREAM TO LEVEL 4!





# BUT IT IS ONLY JUST BEGINNING. . . A HOLOGRAPH IMAGE OF ANU NOW FADES INTO HIS DREAM!

WELCOME ADRIAN TO LEVEL 4...

I AM MORE THAN PREPARED FOR YOUR
ANCIENT NORSE MINDFULNESS AND MOST
INNER THOUGHTS... THAT IS IF YOU DARE
CONTINUE MOVING FORWARD IN THIS DREAM.



AUTGRAF WHERE ARE YOU?... I COULD SURE USE YOUR GUIDANCE ABOUT RIGHT NOW...
AUTGRAF WHY ARE YOU NOT UH, IN MY DREAM?



FORGET ABOUT AUTGRAF, HE WON'T BE AT ALL ABLE TO HELP OR SAVE YOU AT THIS LEVEL HA. HA, HA...
HE WAS A FOOL MAKING YOU BELIEVE YOUR DREAM POWERS COULD EVER DEFEAT ME...
YOU CANNOT DEFEAT THAT WHAT YOU HAVE NEVER PERCEIVED.

#### ANU MOVES IN CLOSER SENSING ADRIAN'S FEARS.

I HAVE ALREADY DEFEATED AUTGRAF IN BATTLE AS SO NICELY RECORDED IN HIS, YOUR UH, ANCIENT VIKING ANCESTRY JOURNAL. HA, HA, HA.



#### WHEN: ADRIAN IS COMPLETELY TAKEN BY SURPRISE.

BUT I ON THE OTHER HAND GO AS FAR BACK IN TIME AS YOU. YOUR DEFEAT OF AUTGRAF HAD MORE TO DO WITH YOUR MANIPULATIVE FACADES, CONVINCING MY BRETHREN VIKING WARRIORS THEY WERE LOSING AND THUS BEGAN RETREATING WHEN IN FACT THEY UH, WERE WINNING!... THIS TIME I AM EVER MORE THAN PREPARED FOR YOUR HYPERBOLIC VENEERS!



REALLY, DID I NOT DURING OUR LAST ENCOUNTER TURN YOUR UH, ASSURED POWERS AGAINST YOURSELF - TURNING YOU INTO WHAT YOU HAVE NOW BECOME, AN OLD FAT PARROT.

> DAMN YOUR COUNTER-TRANSFERENCE SENSES!

AND THERE LIES YOUR FAUX PAS IN BELIEVING YOU TURNED ME INTO A DAMN PARROT. I WAS ABLE TO COUNTER YOUR BIRD MUTATION OF ME. I STILL HAD ENOUGH WILL POWER LEFT IN ME TO TURN MYSELF INTO A MERLIN FALCON - NOW HAVING THE COGNIZANCE OF ANCIENT PHARAOHS AND VIKING GODS.

SO YOU BOTH UH, POSSESS THE SAME INNATE POWERS THAT ARE GREATER THAN MY UH, ANCIENT NORSE GREAT GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF?



YES, UNFORTUNATELY ANU AND I SHARE MOST OF THE SAME COGNITIVE POWERS. YET WE ALSO HAVE OUR OWN INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS WHEN WE WILL OUR REALITIES AND DREAMS...

THOUGH THEY CAN VARY FROM ONE GAMING LEVEL TO THE NEXT DIMENSIONAL GAMING LEVEL.

SO AUTGRAF AND I ARE SIMPLY UH, UNWILLING PLAYERS BEING MANIPULATED WITHIN YOUR UH, INTERDIMENSIONAL GAMING WORLDS THROUGH OUR DREAMS.



HOW PERCEPTIVE, BUT EVENTUALLY YOU AND ALL MANKIND'S REALITY WILL BE PLAYED OUT IN MY GAME. THOUGH MY NEMESES HORUS WILL DO EVERYTHING HE CAN TO PREVENT ME FROM REACHING MY ULTIMATE GAMING VICTORY BY FINDING DREAM VISIONARIES LIKE YOURSELF AND AS DID HORUS HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO BY UH, RECRUITING AUTGRAF'S FAILING NORSEMEN.





YES, I MUST SPEED UP MY DREAM GAME FOR I DO NOT NEED ANY OTHER ALIENS INVADING YOUR DREAMS BESIDES HORUS AND YOUR YOUR BATTERED GREAT GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF.



ALIENS THAT WOULD UH, PREVENT ME FROM BEING THE ABSOLUTE RULER OVER EVERY KNOWN UH, CONSCIOUSNESS, ON ANY PLANE OR PERCEIVED LEVEL OF EXISTENCE.

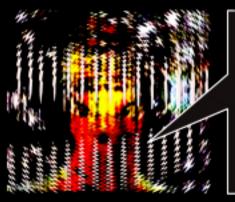


I HAVE HEARD ENOUGH OF YOUR DAMN GAMING RHETORIC. ADRIAN MY GREATEST GRANDSON, YOUR DREAM POWERS POSSESS "THE PILLARS OF CREATION." PILLARS THAT ARE UNBEKNOWNST TO ME AND TO UH, INSATIABLE ANU. . . I BELIEVE THESE PILLARS OF CREATION ARE WITHIN YOUR GRASP, KEEP LOOKING INWARD.

NEITHER I, HORUS NOR ANU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FIND THESE PILLARS OF CREATION. FORTIFY YOUR VIKING ARMOUR. . . YOU MUST NOW RIDE ON HORUS' SHOULDERS AND STAND YOUR GROUND! THE TIME IS NOW FOR YOU TO SAVE US ALL FROM THE CLUTCHES OF ANU'S GAMING.

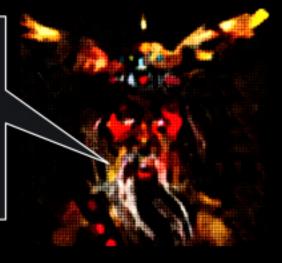




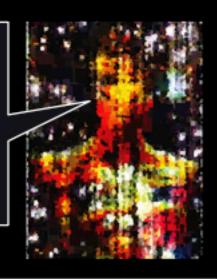


I FOR ONE BELIEVE IF I BECOME THE ULTIMATE WINNER ON ALL GAMING KNOWN LEVELS - I WILL BE STANDING AS A GOD NEXT TO OUR CREATOR UNDER THE PILLARS OF CREATION.

WHAT WE DO KNOW FROM ANCIENT KNOWN DIMENSIONS AND UH, TIMES, IS THE KEY TO FINDING THE PILLARS OF CREATION LIES DEEP INSIDE THIS HOLY OBELISK'S LABYRINTH WOMB.



ANU IS DUMBFOUNDED AT JUST HOW MUCH AUTGRAF KNOWS ABOUT THE SACRED OBELISK AND WEIGHS FURTHER INTO THE OBELISK ENIGMA. RIGHT YOU ARE AUTGRAF UH, FOR A CHANGE. THE OBELISK CONTAINS AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF ELUSIVE LEVELS, REVERED AS THE "GORDIAN BINARY MAZE." UH, PERHAPS I SHOULD LET YOU BOYS LEAD THE WAY TO OUR CREATOR'S WOMB.





THIS OBELISK WAS
DELIBERATELY BUILT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF
THE ANCIENT AND THE
CITY OF THE FUTURE.
DEEP WITHIN ITS UH,
CONFOUNDING MAZE
LIES THE SECRET UH,
THE BLUEPRINT FOR
ALL OF CREATION.

ANU PUTS HIS RIGHT HAND OVER THE GLOBE HE HAS BEEN HOLDING - WHEN: IT BEGINS TO ILLUMINATE. A GRIN COMES OVER ANU'S FACE.



ADRIAN, HORUS AND AUTGRAF STAND BACK, NOT KNOWING THE PURPOSE OR CONSEQUENCES OF ANU'S ILLUMINATED GLOBE.

IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG BEFORE. . .

WHEN: WE SEE BEFORE US A SIMILAR LANDSCAPE WE WITNESSED IN LEVEL 3 - COMPLETE WITH ALIEN SPACECRAFT MOVING IN ON THE CITY OF TWO TALES. THE TERRAIN THIS TIME IS MORE VIOLENT, SEEMINGLY "BREAKING UP" AS ANU'S COMBATANT SPHEREWINGED ALIEN CRAFT MOVES IN FOR THE KILL.



I MUST STAY BEHIND AND PROTECT THE OBELISK FROM ANY ANU ATTACK. HE IS MORE DEVIANT AND CUNNING THEN YOU HAVE SO FAR EXPERIENCED. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO PUT ONE MORE DEFEAT IN HIS COLUMN. DON'T LET THESE FAMILIAR LANDSCAPES DECEIVE YOU. . . CLOSE YOUR EYES, LOOK DEEP INSIDE YOUR MIND'S EYE AS IT WILL SURELY GUIDE YOU AND HORUS TO WHERE YOU NEED TO BE AT THIS TIME IN YOUR DREAM.

ADRIAN TAKES A DEEP BREATH AND BEGINS CHANNELLING DEEP WITHIN HIMSELF.



HE OPENS HIS EYES AND REALIZES HE AND HORUS ARE BACK AT THE ENTRANCE OUTSIDE THE HALLOWED MULTI-MONOLITHIC STATUE TEMPLE CARVED FROM VOLCANIC ASH ON ON HIS DREAM MOON IO. THE SACRED TEMPLE IS ABLAZE BARELY STANDING.



NOT AGAIN, BUT THEN WHY SHOULD I HAVE EXPECTED ANYTHING LESS.



ANU'S ALIEN COMBATANT SPACECRAFT SLOWLY MOVE IN FROM THE HORIZON, FORMING A BARRIER AROUND THE TEMPLE'S ENTRANCE. THEY'RE TRAPPED! IT APPEARS THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM THE BURNING TEMPLE THIS TIME!



ADRIAN TAKES A DEEP BREATH AND PUTS HIMSELF INTO A DEEP TRANCE RIDING ON THE BACK OF HORUS, LOOKING FOR ANSWERS, SEEKING THE REASON FOR HIS EXISTENCE. . . EVEN IF HIS DREAM IS BEYOND HIS KNOWN REALITIES.

WHAT I AM PERCEIVING AT THIS MOMENT ANU IS MUCH DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU THINK WILL BE THE OUTCOME. VICTORY WILL BE MINE NOT YOURS WITHIN LEVEL 4.

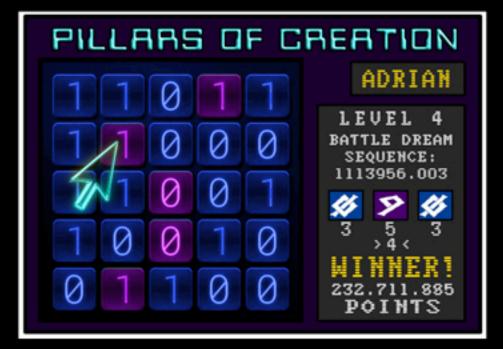


ADRIAN POINTS HIS "CHARGED" ANCIENT LIGHTSABER SWORD IN THE DIRECTION OF THE FIRST INCOMING ALIEN COMBATANT SPHERE-WINGED SPACECRAFTS.



ZAP! - THE ALIEN-WINGED SPHERE SHIP EXPLODES IN FRONT OF HIM - DISINTEGRATING BEFORE US. HE THEN SWINGS HIS ANCIENT LIGHTSABER SWORD IN A CONTINUOUS CIRCULAR MOTION - CREATING AN INCREDIBLE ELECTRIC FORCE FIELD SENDING SHOCK WAVES TO THE REMAINING ALIEN WARRING CRAFT - ZAP! BANG! ZAP! ZAP! SIZZLE! ZAP! BOO-FF! UNTIL ALL THAT REMAINS IS BUT ONE IN RETREAT.

WHEN: AN UNEXPECTED GAMING SCOREBOARD APPEARS IN HIS DREAM!



BOTH ADRIAN AND HORUS ARE UNAWARE OF THE GAMING SCOREBOARD BEHIND THEM.



VICTORY IS OURS -BRAVO! YOU ONCE AGAIN HAVE BEATEN ANU AT HIS OWN GAME BY REACHING DEEP WITHIN AND DRAWING ON THE MANY WARRIORS YOU ONCE WERE AND AGAIN HAVE BECOME!

WHEN: WE HEAR ANU'S VOICE STRIKING BACK.

YOU ARE PROVING TO BE A FORCE I MUST NEVER TAKE LIGHTLY. YOU UH, ARE BECOMING A THREAT TO MY VERY EXISTENCE. IT APPEARS YOUR MANY PERCEIVED PAST LIVES HAS GIVEN YOU POWERS ALIEN EVEN TO ME. NEXT TIME I PROMISE THINGS WILL BE MUCH, MUCH DIFFERENT.

SEE FOR YOURSELF HA, HA, HA.

ANU CLOSES HIS EYES AND LOOKS DEEP WITHIN HIS THIRD EYE. . . HE THEN PLACES ONE HAND ON TOP OF THE GLOBE AND HIS OTHER HAND UNDER HIS GLOBE.



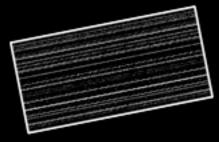
THE GLOBE COMES ALIVE, GLOWING IN A PRISM OF COLOURS... HE LOOKS DEEP INSIDE THE GLOBE WHERE WE SEE A VIRTUAL DREAMSCAPE FORMING...

FEATURING ADRIAN AND HORUS ABOUT TO DO BATTLE AGAINST A "GIANT ALIEN VIKING" IN A FORGOTTEN UNDERGROUND WORLD!



IS THIS A PRELUDE INTO WHAT THEY CAN EXPECT ON LEVEL 5?

HIS DREAM TURNS TO STATIC.



#### BUT NOT FOR LONG!



ADRIAN'S DREAM BEGINS TO MORPH INTO A TIME-WARPING TUNNEL - REACHING FAR INTO OUTER SPACE AND INTO A SEEMINGLY INTERGALACTIC TIME-SPACE WORMHOLE. TAKING US TO WTF - A PLANET LOOKING A LOT LIKE EARTH!



IT SEEMS ADRIAN HAS BEEN TRANSPORTED AND LEFT SUSPENDED IN A DREAM-LIKE HOLOGRAPH AND IS WITNESSING TWO YOUNG ALIEN TWINS WITH APE-LIKE FEATURES, COVERED IN FEATHERS.

THEY ARE ENTERING THEIR FINAL GAME'S PROGRAM DATA INTO A LARGE MAINFRAME COMPUTER.



HEY JASK QI-LI DO YOU REALLY THINK UH, OUR BFI VIRTUAL REALITY SOFTWARE WILL BE ABLE TO COMPUTE ADRIAN INTO UH, THE HIGHER LEVELS OF CREATION? DO WE WANT TO RISK CRASHING UH, OUR >BFI.010.00/< VR GAME BY GIVING IT UH, "UNLIMITED QUANTUM OPTIMUM."



I THINK JORK QI-LI UH, WE SHOULD HOLD OFF UH, FOR NOW UNTIL WE SECURE ITS ENCODING. I WANT TO ENTER NEW OPTIONS AND UH, CLUES INTO THE NEXT LEVEL THAT WILL ULTIMATELY UH, EFFECT ADRIAN'S GAMING ABILITIES.

YOU'RE RIGHT BRO, I TO HAVE UH, A NUMBER OF CHANGES I THINK WILL IMPROVE THE UH, FINAL OUTCOME FOR OUR GAME. . . CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW OUR MOM OUR PROGRESS.



ADRIAN CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT HE IS SEEING AND HEARING - HOW CAN THIS POSSIBLY BE?



I JUST HOPE YOUR GIVING THESE FREAKISH LOOKING HUMANS AND ALIENS LIKE ANU A FREE WILL DOES NOT COME BACK TO UH, HAUNT US. . . I'M ALREADY UH, DETECTING FROM OUR LATEST GAMING DATA UH, THAT OUR COMPUTER'S BINARY DRIVE IS UH, GAINING ITS OWN UH, INTELLIGENCE WHICH IS UH, CONTRARY TO OURS!

BRO, I CERTAINLY UH, DID NOT CODEX UH, THESE CHARACTERS WITH ANY FREE WILL . . . I THOUGHT IT UH, WAS YOU ALL THIS TIME.



THEN UH, WHO?

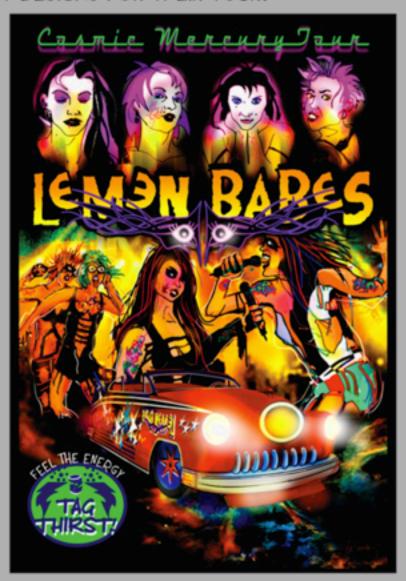


ADRIAN'S HOLOGRAM DREAM SHUTS DOWN FOR GOOD!

### CHAPTER 3: DREAMING WITHIN A DREAM

ADRIAN'S COMPUTER WORKSTATION CLOCK READS 12:09 AM. HE IS ADDING THE FINAL TOUCHES TO A TRANSGENDER "THE LEMEN BABES" BAND POSTER.

THOUGH THE LEMEN BABES ARE NOT YOUR TYPICAL ROCK BAND. TDFY'S LONG TIME CLIENT TAG FIRST FEEL THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT THEIR LINE OF SOFT DRINKS NEED IN ORDER TO GROW THEIR MILLENNIUM CONSUMER BASE. TDFY WILL BE SPONSORING THEIR UPCOMING 'COSMIC MERCURY TOUR' WITH ADRIAN'S ART DEPARTMENT SUPPLYING ALL THE GRAPHICS AND T-SHIRT DESIGNS FOR THEIR TOUR.



SATISFIED HE SAVES HIS POSTER DESIGN AND HEADS OVER TO HIS KITCHEN TABLE AND REVIEWS HIS ENTRIES IN HIS NEW ALIEN DREAMSCAPES JOURNAL.



HE REMAINS AS PUZZLED AS EVER IN TRYING TO UNDERSTAND HIS ALIEN DREAMS.

HE MOVES OVER AND STANDS IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS LOFT AND TURNS ON HIS WIDESCREEN TV.

WHEN: A FEELING OF LIGHT-HEADINESS OVERCOMES HIS SELF-AWARENESS AND FINDS HIMSELF STANDING "NAKED" AND DIZZY IN FRONT OF HIS TELEVISION.



STATIC FILLS HIS WIDESCREEN TELEVISION.

WHEN: A NEW IMAGE APPEARS GIVING THE FEELING THAT SOMEONE ELSE IS CONTROLLING AND NOW REPROGRAMMING HIS TELEVISION!



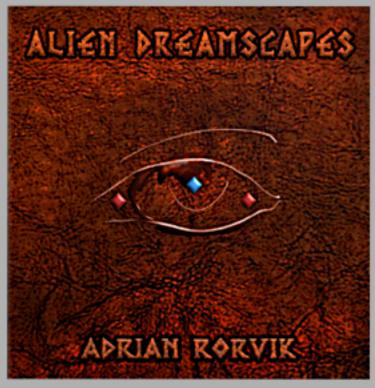
WHEN: HIS ANCIENT NORSE JOURNAL FLIES OUT FROM HIS BOOKCASE AND LANDS NEXT TO HIS DREAMSCAPE JOURNAL ON THE KITCHEN TABLE. IT OPENS TO A PAGE DEPICTING A GIANT WARRIOR FIGHTING AUTGRAF AND HIS NORSE ARMY WITH HORUS HOVERING ABOVE.

IS THIS THE SAME GIANT ADRIAN WITNESS IN HIS LAST DREAM WHERE ANU'S CRYSTAL BALL DEPICTED HIM AND HORUS CONFRONTED BY A GIANT WARRIOR?





### AND AS IF ON QUEUE HIS ALIEN DREAMSCAPES JOURNAL SLAMS SHUT - BUT BY WHOM?



ADRIAN HEARS HIS JOURNAL SLAMMING SHUT. HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF THIS.

HE STAGGERS OVER TO HIS BLACK LEATHER COUCH, BUT IS UNABLE TO PULL OUT ITS HIDE-A-BED AND CRASHES ON THE COUCH LYING IN A DEEP SLEEP.

IT IS NOT LONG BEFORE HE ENTERS AN ALIEN DREAM. HIS VISION IS PIXELATED. HE NOTICES THERE IS BINARY CODE STREAMING SLOWLY ACROSS THE BOTTOM OF HIS DREAM FRAME.





HIS DREAM HAS TAKEN HIM TO A UNIVERSE HE HAS NEVER SEEN BEFORE... AND THERE IS NO SIGN OF HORUS OR AUTGRAF. HE FINDS HIMSELF STANDING ON A CLIFF'S EDGE LOOKING DOWN AT YET ANOTHER ANCIENT TEMPLE IN RUINS.



HE REALIZES HE IS WEARING ANCIENT NORSE GARMENTS AND HOLDING HIS LIGHTSABER SWORD.

AND REALIZES HE HAS BECOME PART OF A COLOURED CONTE DRAWING ON THIS ALIEN PLANET.

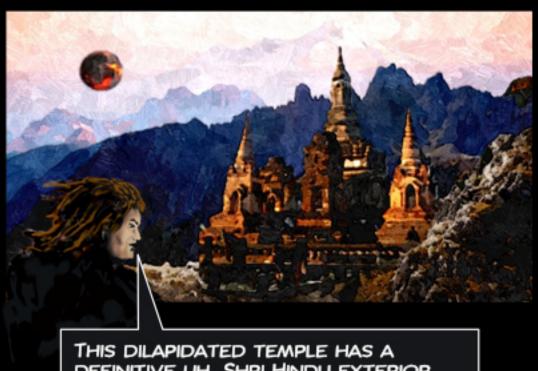




I GUESS IT WOULDN'T HURT TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THIS ANCIENT TEMPLE... WONDER IF UH, THERE IS ANYBODY STILL LIVING HERE.

HE STEPS AWAY FROM THE CLIFF'S EDGE AND BEGINS HIS CLIMB DOWN THE MOUNTAIN SIDE TOWARDS THE ANCIENT TEMPLE. WHILE STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY HORUS AND OR AUTGRAF ARE NOT IN HIS DREAM.

ADRIAN CLIMBS UP THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIDGE AND COMES FACE TO FACE WITH A HINDU TEMPLE.

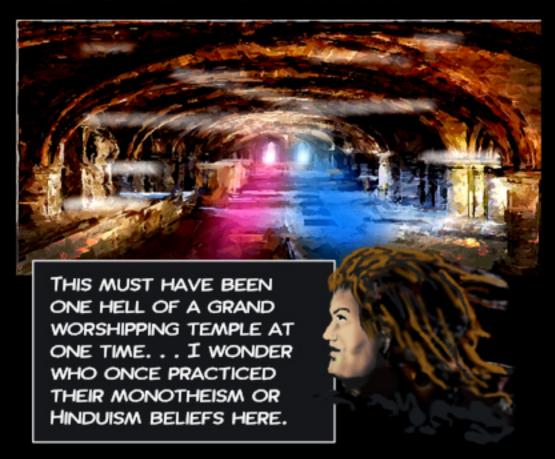


THIS DILAPIDATED TEMPLE HAS A DEFINITIVE UH, SHRI HINDU EXTERIOR. WONDER IF THERE IS ANYONE LIVING WITHIN ITS WALLS. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.

WHEN: HE SENSES HE IS BEING WATCHED. . . BUT BY WHOM?



ADRIAN MOVES PAST THE STEPPED ENTRANCE INTO A VERY LONG STONE CATHEDRAL-LIKE CAVE WITH OVERHEAD STONE BUTTRESSES. HE SLOWLY WALKS DOWN THE STONE CATHEDRAL NAVE TOWARDS THE TWO LARGE ARCHED OPENINGS AT THE FAR END. ONE ARCHWAY ENTRANCE IS RADIATING PINK LIGHT, WHILE THE OTHER IS RADIATING BLUE LIGHT.



WE BEGIN TO NOTICE THAT ADRIAN'S FACIAL FEATURES HAVE CHANGED.

ADRIAN MOVES CLOSER TO THE TWO LIGHT SOURCES WHEN: THEY SUDDENLY CHANGE COLOUR - TURNING TO WARMER VALUES.



I WONDER WHERE THESE CAVE TUNNELS LEAD. . . AND WHICH ONE SHOULD I CHANCE.



WHEN: HE HEARS A SHADOWY FIGURE COMING TOWARDS HIM FROM THE GREEN CAVE ENTRANCE.



I'VE JUST WALKED DOWN THE GREEN LIGHT TUNNEL AND IT COMES TO A DEAD END. I SAY WE TAKE THE ORANGE TUNNEL BEFORE IT CHANGES COLOUR. ADRIAN IS STARTLED, CAUGHT OFF GUARD, AND IN NO TIME RECOGNIZES THE SCREECHY VOICE OF HORUS WHO IS SEEMINGLY BEING DIGITIZED - MORPHING BACK INTO A MAN-LIKE FALCON.

MUCH LIKE ADRIAN TURNING BACK INTO HIS OLD SELF.

YOU'RE TURNING BACK INTO A MAN UH, YOUR OLD WARRING NORSEMAN SELF!



YES, I AM FINALLY ABLE TO PEAL-BACK ANU'S SPELL OVER ME. I WILL NEED MORE TIME TO COMPLETELY BE THE ANCIENT NORSE WARRIOR I ONCE WAS.

MY "WILL TO BE" IS LESSENING ANU'S GRIP ON ME. AND IT IS NICE TO HAVE YOU OFF MY BACK -YOU'RE NO FEATHER WEIGHT - KAWK, KAWK KAWK.



AND YOU NEED TO SLOW DOWN WHEN WE ARE DODGING VOLCANIC ASH OVER IO. THANKFULLY I DO NOT HAVE UH, TACHOPHOBIA, THE FEAR OF HIGH SPEEDS, UH, ESPECIALLY IN DREAMS.



TOUCHE... NOW LET'S GET DOWN TO HOW WE CAN ONCE AND FOR ALL DEFEAT ANU FROM EVER DOING US OR ANYONE ELSE HARM WITHIN HIS NEFARIOUS AND INSIDIOUS GAME OF DREAMS.



WE ARE NOT IN AN SACRED HINDU CHAMBER...
ANU HAS CLOAKED YOUR VISION TO WHAT HE WANTS YOU TO SEE... WE ARE ACTUALLY DEEP INSIDE AN ANCIENT NORSE HIGH PRIEST'S LABYRINTH... ANU IS TRYING TO TAKE OVER UH, YOUR DREAM PERCEPTIONS - MAKING YOUR DREAM'S INNER POWER WEAKER!

WHEN ONCE AGAIN: INTERFERENCE CUTS IN OVER ADRIAN'S DREAM - RUNNING INTERFERENCE WITH HORUS' PERCEPTION THEORY.



IT SURE WOULD HAVE BEEN NICE IF AUTGRAF WAS HERE, UH INSIDE MY, OUR DREAM... SINCE THE GREEN CAVE IS A DEAD END, I GUESS UH, OUR DREAM FATE LIES SOMEWHERE DOWN THIS CURRENTLY UH, ORANGE INFUSED CAVERN.

NEVER UNDER ESTIMATE UH, AUTGRAF'S ABILITY TO SHOW UP AT THE MOST OPPORTUNE TIME.

INTERFERENCE CONTINUES TO OVERRIDE ADRIAN'S DREAM AS JASK QI-LI IS CODING A NEW IMAGE.



WITHIN SECONDS THE IMAGE CUTS OUT!

DAMNI

IT'S NOT LONG AFTER ADRIAN AND HORUS ENTER THE ORANGE TUNNEL THEY REALIZE IT COMES TO A SUDDEN TWO MILE DEEP GORGE DROP-OFF. AND THE ONLY WAY IT SEEMS TO CROSS THIS DEEP GORGE IS BY STRADDLING ACROSS A VERY RICKETY, TOTTERING ANCIENT WOODEN BRIDGE.



THIS IS NOTHING, BACK IN MY ANCIENT NORSE DAYS, THIS WOULD BE CONSIDERED A TYPICAL WALK ABOVE YOUR "ABYSS OF FEARS" OR UH, YOUR "BALANCE IN BEING."



BRAVERY IN YOUR DAY SEEMS TO HAVE HAD A PROVEN UH, UNDERSTANDING OF PERCEPTION.



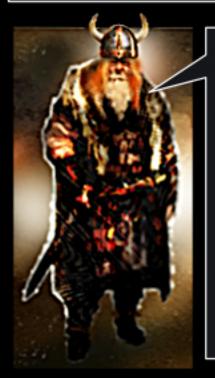
WHEN:

LOOK! IT'S AUTGRAF, I KNEW YOU WOULD COME... UH, AS YOU CAN SEE HORUS IS TURNING BACK INTO HIS OLD NORSE WARRING SELF!



AND UH, SO IT ALSO APPEARS WITH YOU. . . WHAT THE HELL UH, TOOK YOU SO LONG TO GET INTO MY, OUR DREAM?





YOU CANNOT EVER RUSH PERCEPTION, PATIENCE HAS ALLOWED ME TO TURN UH, MYSELF BACK INTO MY OLD NORSE WARRING SELF. THOUGH NOT FULLY IN FOCUS YET. . .

ANU'S GRIP ON ME IS UH, DIMINISHING. MY WILL TO BE IS HAVING AN ADVERSE AFFECT ON HIS ABILITY TO FOG MY MIND WHILE HE PERSISTS IN WARPING MY PERCEPTIONS.

AUTGRAF, GLAD TO SEE YOU ARE ALMOST BACK TO YOUR OLD SELF. I NEVER HAVE VENTURED DEEP INSIDE ONE OF YOUR FOREFATHERS ANCIENT CHAMBERS, UH CRYPTS.





NOR I.

WELL THAT'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR... LOOK, STRAIGHT AHEAD I CAN SEE LIGHT, THOUGH I AM NOT SURE IF I WANT TO UH, SEE WHERE OUR DREAM IS ABOUT TO TAKE US... FATE UH, HERE WE COME.



ADRIAN TAKES A DEEP BREATH AND HEADS FURTHER INTO THE ORANGE-LIT CAVE. . . UNSURE IF HIS ADVENTUROUS APPETITE WILL HOLD OUT.

THEY APPROACH THE END OF THE CAVE WHERE THEY SEE BEFORE THEM A SURREAL WORLD LIKE NO OTHER BEFORE.

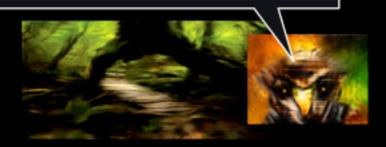


WHEN: THE END OF THE CAVES SURREAL LIGHT PIXELS INTO A SURREAL LANDSCAPE-LIKE PAINTING.

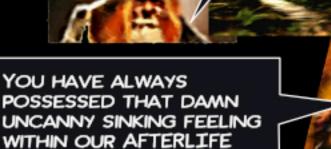


WHAT THE... IT'S LIKE UH, WE'RE ABOUT TO ENTER INSIDE UH, A SURREAL PAINTING... JUST CAN'T PUT A FINGER ON WHICH SURREAL ARTIST IT COULD BE.

AT LEAST I DON'T SEE ANY UH, OF MY FALCON IMAGERY FLYING OVER HEAD.



THAT MIGHT BE BECAUSE WE ARE ALL ABOUT TO BECOME PART OF THIS UH, SURREAL LANDSCAPE.



BATTLES AGAINST ANU.

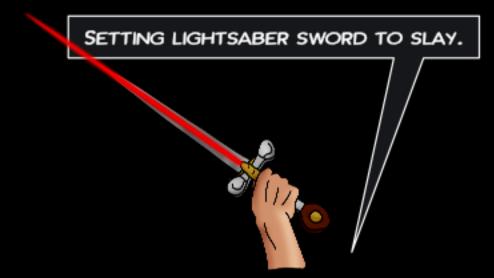
#### WHEN: ADRIAN'S DREAM BEGINS RESETTING!



THEY HEAD ACROSS THE FORESTED BOARDWALK, FOLLOWING AN ABANDONED TRAIL.

THEY EVENTUALLY COME TO A CLEARING. BEFORE THEM LIES AN OMINOUS DARK CAVE WHERE THEY HEAR DEAFENING GROWLS APPROACHING THEM FROM WITHIN THE CAVE'S SHADOWS.





ADRIAN'S DREAM BEGINS FADING IN AND OUT ENDING ON A GAMING SCOREBOARD!





ADRIAN'S DREAM GRADUALLY RETURNS TO THEIR DIRE SITUATION - CONFRONTED BY A FIERCE 10 FOOT TALL NORSE WARRIOR.

WHEN: ANU MAKES HIS ENTRANCE INTO THE DREAM, ALTHOUGH HIDING BEHIND HIS GIANT WARRIOR.

ANU, QUIT HIDING UH, BEHIND YOUR MAN EATING WARRING GIANT. IT'S YOU I WANT TO SLAY NOT THIS FAUX PAS GIANT.



ADRIAN STEPS FORWARD MAKING SURE HIS LIGHT SABRE IS SET TO SLAY.

ANU RUBS HIS GLOBE - TURNING HIS NORSE GIANT INTO AN EVEN MORE THREATENING NORSE WARRIOR.

ADRIAN INSTINCTIVELY THROWS HIS LIGHTSABRE LIKE A JAVELIN DEEP INTO THE GIANT'S CHEST BEFORE HE HAS ANY CHANCE IN GUILLOTINING HIS EXISTENCE.



THE DIGITAL CONSTRUCTED NORSE GIANT BEGINS DISINTEGRATING IN FRONT OF THEIR EYES AS ANU VANISHES INTO THIN AIR.



THAT WAS TOO EASY... It's not like uh, anu to give up so easily.







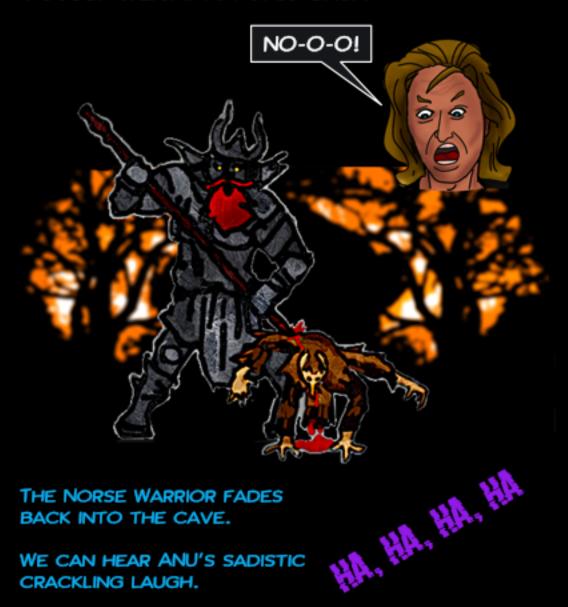
NOTHING MORE HERE TO BATTLE. LET'S START UH, HEADING BACK TO THE CAVE'S ENTRANCE, FAR, AWAY FROM THIS UH, CAVERNOUS HELL HOLE.

THEY TURN THEIR BACKS ON THE DISAPPEARING ANU AND HIS DISINTEGRATING GIANT NORSE WARRIOR.

THEY CONTINUE BACK DOWN THE PATH FROM WHENCE THEY CAME - GLAD THEY HAVE ALL BEEN ABLE TO WALK AWAY ALIVE.

#### WHEN:

CHARGING THEM FROM WITHIN THE CAVE: IS ANOTHER ONE OF ANU'S NORSE GIANT WARRIOR'S BEING PIXELATED INTO ADRIAN'S DREAM - PLUNGING HIS BRONZE TIPPED WOODEN SPEAR INTO HORUS' BACK!



THE NORSE WARRIOR FADES BACK INTO THE CAVE.

WE CAN HEAR ANU'S SADISTIC CRACKLING LAUGH.

ADRIAN AND AUTGRAF ARE LEFT IN DISBELIEF, UNABLE TO COMPREHEND WHAT HAS JUST HAPPENED TO THEIR CHERISHED COMRADE.

OUR SCREEN RE-CALIBRATES AND BRINGS UP A NOW FAMILIAR GAMING SCREEN WITH BINARY ENCODING STREAMING ACROSS THE BOTTOM.



ADRIAN AND AUTGRAF STAND OVER HORUS'S LIFELESS BODY. THEY DO WHAT THEY CAN TO STOP THE BLEEDING, WRAPPING NEARBY FOLIAGE AND VINES AROUND HIS WOUNDS. . . TEARS FILL ADRIAN'S EYES.



NOT MUCH IS BEING SAID, LEFT IN ANGUISH OVER THE LOSS OF THEIR FRIEND, AN ESTEEMED COMRADE IN DREAM BATTLE AS THEY BURY HORUS UNDER A CAIRN.



I AM A MAN OF FEW WORDS OF COMFORT HAVING TO BATTLE MY WAY THROUGH LIFE, ONE LIVING ON IO AND THE OTHER NOW THROUGH YOUR DREAMS.

I UH, ONCE WAS MARRIED TO A BEAUTIFUL NORSE CHIEFTAIN. WHAT SHE SAW IN ME I WILL NEVER KNOW. OUR LOVE NEVER WAVERED, AND WHEN SHE DIED THAT DAY IN BATTLE I FELT THAT UH, I HAD BEEN ROBBED. FOR MIRIAM-HELENA NEVER LEFT MY SIDE, SHE WAS FOREVER SHIELDING MY UH, WEAKNESSES. AND HERE I AM TODAY LIVING SO MANY YEARS AND DREAMS WITHOUT HER...



AND NOW IT IS TIME FOR ME TO BE THERE FOR YOU SHIELDING UH, YOUR DREAMS. . . IF YOU SO LET ME.







I HAD NO IDEA YOU EVEN EXISTED OUTSIDE OF UH, OUR NORSE ANCESTRY JOURNAL. AND HERE YOU ARE, EVEN IF IT IS ONLY IN MY DREAMS.

I AM UH, HONOURED THAT YOU ARE WILLING TO PROTECT ME. I IN TURN WILL DO MY BEST TO BE THERE FOR YOU WITHIN MY DREAMS.

OUR BLOODLINES RUN DEEP AND FAR BETWEEN MANY DIMENSIONS. TIME PERHAPS FOR YOU UH, NOT TO DREAM BUT WAKE TO A LIFE THAT IS VITAL TO YOUR REALTY AND UH, ALSO TO YOUR DREAMS.



ADRIAN WAKES... HE LOOKS AT HIS SMART PHONE CLOCK AND REALIZES IT IS 4:45 AM. HE HEADS TO HIS RED BARBERSHOP CHAIR AND TAKES OUT HIS ALIEN DREAMSCAPE JOURNAL AND HEADS TO HIS KITCHEN TABLE CLUTTERED WITH MEDIA PENCILS AND BEGINS SKETCHING HIS NIGHT'S CRUSHING DREAM.



ANU DIDN'T HAVE TO TAKE IT OUT HORUS, ENDING HIS LIFE BY MORPHING A NORSE GIANT TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK. . . I HOPE THERE WILL BE OTHER UH, REINCARNATIONS IN HIS FUTURE.





MORPHING SEEMS TO BE A WAY OF LIFE WITHIN MY DREAMS, WHETHER IT BE FOR GOOD OR FOR EVIL. ADRIAN TAKES A STEP BACK FROM HIS KITCHEN TABLE, CRITIQUES HIS ILLUSTRATIONS - GIVING A THUMBS UP.



OUR IMAGES OF ADRIAN'S ARTWORK BEGIN TO SCRAMBLE!... IT FEELS LIKE SOMEONE IS TRYING TO RECREATE HIS DRAWINGS - BUT THEY ARE NO EQUAL, MORE LIKE ABSTRACT SKETCHES.



THE IMAGE SHUTS DOWN! AS FAST AS IT APPEARED.

#### CHAPTER 4: HORUS TO THE RESCUE?

ADRIAN IS SITTING IN HIS RED BARBERSHOP CHAIR EXHAUSTED FROM WORK AND TRYING TO FIGURE WHAT IS GOING ON IN HIS DREAMS AND HOW HE CAN ONCE AND FOR ALL DEFEAT ANU.

HE SLOWLY TAKES IN A COUPLE DEEP BREATHS, SHUTS HIS EYES AND BEGINS MEDITATING.



IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG BEFORE HIS MEDITATION TAKES HIM INTO A DREAM STATE. . . HE CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TALES OUT OF THE FAST MOVING IMAGE.



IT'S TRYING TO FOCUS, BUT IS UNABLE. IT SORT OF REMINDS ADRIAN IN HOW HIS PREVIOUS ALIEN DREAMS BEGIN - FLYING ON THE BACK OF HORUS. . . BUT HORUS IS NO MORE WITHIN HIS DREAMWORLD HAVING BEEN KILLED BY A MORPHING GIANT NORSE WARRIOR.

WHEN: HIS DREAM IMAGERY SHUTS DOWN AND TURNS TO STATIC.



THEN HIS DREAM COMES BACK TO LIFE WITH YET ANOTHER BLURRY IMAGE WITH THE SOUNDS OF HORUS' VOICE FAINTLY ECHOING. . . BUT HE IS UNABLE TO MAKE OUT WHAT HE IS SAYING OR WHERE HIS VOICE IS COMING FROM.



THE IMAGE OF HORUS IS STRUGGLING TO STAY ALIVE. BUT IT SEEMS HOPELESS.



HORUS FIGHTS AS HARD AS HE CAN TO STAY IN ADRIAN'S DREAM BUT HIS IMAGE IS BEING REPLACED.



HORUS IS THIS THE UH, LOCATION FOR MY LEVEL 6 ENCOUNTER WITH ANU. . . AND WHAT GIVES WITH THE DISTORTED LABYRINTH?



## WHEN: STATIC CUTS IN WITH AN IMAGE OF HIS GREAT NORSE GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF.



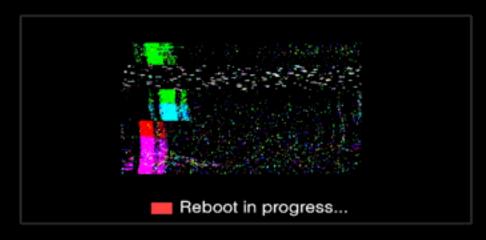
IT IS I AUTGRAF...
HORUS CAME TO ME
WITHIN YOUR DREAM
UNABLE TO COMPLETE
HIS IMAGERY WHERE I
WAS ABLE TO... YOU
NEED TO DECIPHER ITS
LABYRINTH MEANING.

ONLY THEN WILL YOU BE ABLE TO DEFEAT ANU ONCE AND FOR ALL.

IF AS YOU SAY THIS UH, LABYRINTH IS FROM MY GOOD BUDDY HORUS, I AM SURE HE HAS LEFT ME CLUES WITHIN WHICH UH, WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO DECIPHER. . . I HOPE.



WITHOUT WARNING: ADRIAN'S DREAM CUTS OUT...
REPLACED WITH A NOW FAMILIAR REBOOTING SCREEN.



### CHAPTER 5: NORSE RUNIC IS THE KEY

ADRIAN DOWNS HIS DELI SANDWICH - WASTING NO TIME IN GETTING BACK TO HIS COMPUTER WORKSTATION. THE VISION OF HORUS' LABYRINTH HAS BEEN LODGED IN HIS HEAD ALL DAY. HE BEGINS SEARCHING FOR A NORSE RUNIC ALPHABET.

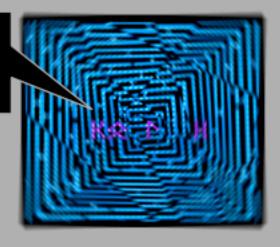
Norse Runic Alphabet
ABCDEFGHIJKLM
N R Y F H 4 Y J K Y 才 B
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Y 八 F Y T L F & 4 今 以 均 从

GOTCHA! TIME TO LEARN A LITTLE NORSE RUNIC BEFORE I FORGET WHAT HORUS INSERTED INTO HIS LABYRINTH.

HE CLOSES HIS EYES AND CONCENTRATES AS HARD AS HE CAN - CREATING THE LABYRINTH IN HIS MIND.

BEAT:

WHAT WAS THAT WRITING WITHIN ITS LABYRINTH WALLS... BRAIN, DON'T LET ME DOWN.



BEAT:

A VISION SLOWLY COMES INTO HIS MIND'S VIEW. HE BEGINS SKETCHING WHAT HE SEES FROM HIS DREAM.

HE HEADS BACK TO HIS COMPUTER WITH HIS ALIEN DREAMSCAPE JOURNAL SKETCHES. HE BRINGS UP THE ANCIENT NORSE RUNIC ALPHABET AND BEGINS DECIPHERING THE RUNIC LETTERS.

J, U,  $\_$  T UH,  $\_$  E. WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, TELL ME HORUS?



IT'S GETTING NEAR SUNSET, HE IS BAFFLED - WHAT IS HORUS TRYING TO SAY. . .

HE CLOSES HIS EYES AND REMEMBERS SEEING THE SACRED OBELISK IN THE IO TWIN CITIES FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION WHILE FLYING ON HORUS' BACK.

### BEAT:

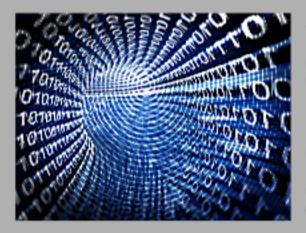
HE SKETCHES THE SACRED OBELISK ON A NEW PAGE IN HIS ALIEN DREAMSCAPE JOURNAL. HE CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL, SENSE THE NEXT LEVEL AGAINST ANU TAKES PLACE INSIDE THE TALE OF TWO CITIES OBELISK.





HE RUBS HIS TIRED EYES, LOOKS AT HIS WRIST WATCH AND REALIZES IT'S 1:23 AM.

TONIGHT'S GAMING DREAM BETWEEN MYSELF AND ANU SHOULD BE ONE FOR THE AGES... TIME TO CALL IT A NIGHT. STANDBY ANU HERE I COME - ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!



A FORTUITOUS CODED BINARY TUNNEL IS PREVENTING ADRIAN FROM DREAMING. . .

IT'S AS IF SOMEONE IS WANTING ADRIAN TO REST, BUILD UP HIS DREAMS' ENERGY FOR HIS NEXT ENCOUNTER AGAINST ANU.

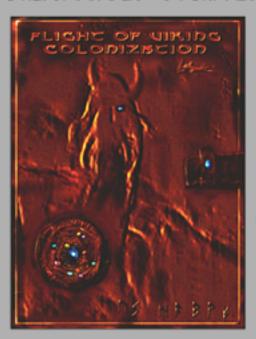
### **CHAPTER 6: DREAM RESTITUTION**

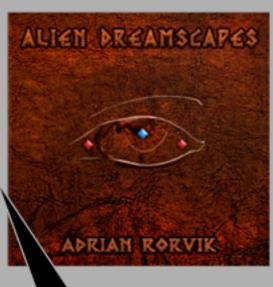
ADRIAN AN AVID HARLEY DAVIDSON OWNER - HOOKS HIS FEATHER VEST OVER THE HANDLE BAR'S OF HIS HARLEY DAVIDSON SPECIAL.



HE WALKS OVER TO HIS KITCHEN TABLE WHERE HE LAST LAID HIS ALIEN DREAMSCAPES JOURNAL. BEFORE HE OPENS IT HE TURNS AND WALKS OVER TO HIS BOOKCASE BY HIS WORKSTATION AND RETRIEVES HIS ANCIENT GREAT GRANDFATHERS' JOURNAL.

BACK AT HIS KITCHEN TABLE HE PLACES HIS ANCIENT GREAT GRANDFATHER'S ANCIENT "FLIGHT OF VIKING COLONIZATION" JOURNAL NEXT TO HIS HIS "ALIEN DREAMSCAPES" JOURNAL.





WELL OH GREAT ANCIENT GRANDFATHER AUTGRAF, HERE I AM LEANING OVER MY PAST AND PRESENT. WONDERING UH, WHERE TONIGHT'S DREAM WILL TAKE ME, THAT IS IF ANU DOESN'T CHICKEN OUT AGAIN. THE SUN IS SETTING, HE DECIDES TO MOVE OVER AND SIT IN HIS RED BARBERSHOP CHAIR HOLDING A JOURNAL IN EACH HAND.

IN EACH HAND.

HE LOOKS UP INTO HIS SKYLIGHT'S NIGHT SKY AS THE STARS BEGIN TO SPARKLE. . .

HIS EYES BEGIN LOSING FOCUS.
HE DOES HIS BEST FIGHTING
OFF HIS MIND'S FATIGUE. . .
BOTH JOURNALS
HIT THE FLOOR.



WHEN SUDDENLY: HIS BARBERSHOP CHAIR SUDDENLY BEGINS TO OSCILLATE, HIS BODY BEGINS QUIVERING... AN ALIEN DREAM IS UPON HIM.

HE GRIPS AS HARD AS HE CAN ONTO HIS BARBERSHOP'S ARMS - BUT IT ISN'T EASY AS THE DREAM FORCES ARE GETTING STRONGER AND STRONGER!



WHEN: THE OSCILLATING SUDDENLY STOPS!...
HIS BARBERSHOP CHAIR HAS MORPHED INTO A HORNED VIKING CHAIR INSIDE AN ALIEN SPACECRAFT.

HE SEES HE IS WEARING HIS VIKING ARMOUR SUIT AND WEARING HIS VIKING HORNED HELMET. ADRIAN IS ONCE AGAIN SITTING IN FRONT OF YET ANOTHER GRID-LIKE ALIEN SCREEN.



ADRIAN SITS HIMSELF NICE AND COMFORTABLE IN THE VIKING CHAIR, THEN TURNS ON THE ARMCHAIR'S FAMILIAR NAVIGATION CONTROL SYSTEM AND REACHES FOR THE STEERING DEVICE KEPT IN A SIDE POCKET.



WELL HERE GOES NOTHING. . . I KNOW HOW TO OPERATE THIS ALIEN SPACE CRAFT, BUT UH, HAVE NO IDEA WHERE IT WILL END UP TAKING ME. . . IF ONLY I HAD AUTGRAF'S TERRAIN SKILLS AND HORUS' AERONAUTIC INSIGHT. . . NOW LETS SEE WHERE ANU WHAT'S TO PLAY LEVEL 7.

ADRIAN LEANS BACK IN HIS VIKING PILOT CHAIR AND BEGINS STEERING HIS ALIEN CRAFT THROUGH A TIME-SPACE WARP.

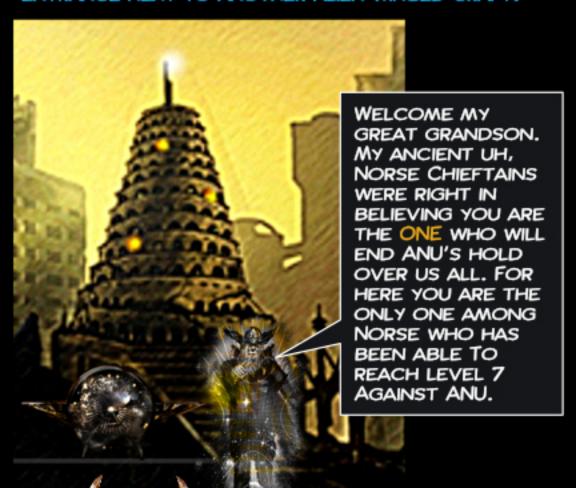


IN NO TIME HE FINDS HIMSELF AT THE OTHER END OF THE TIME-SPACE WORMHOLE, HE SEES HE IS ABOUT TO FLY OVER THE FAMILIAR TALE OF TWO CITIES AND IS HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE OBELISK.

SO THIS MUST BE GROUND ZERO FOR UH, LEVEL 7. MAYBE THIS TIME THERE WILL BE SOMEBODY AT HOME.



# AS ADRIAN'S ALIEN WINGED-CRAFT APPROACHES THE SACRED OBELISK HE SEES AUTGRAF STANDING AT ITS ENTRANCE NEXT TO ANOTHER ALIEN WINGED CRAFT.



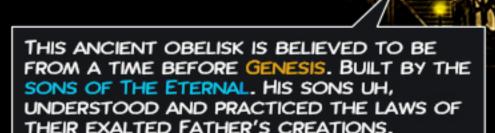
THEN ANU MUST BE UH, HIDING IN THERE. AND UH, THAT MUST BE HIS UH, ALIEN WINGED SPACE CRAFT... BUT HOW DID HE GET INSIDE? THERE UH, DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE ANY ENTRANCE THROUGH THESE OBELISK ARCHWAYS THAT UH, I CAN SEE.

THE ONLY WAY IN IS THROUGH YOUR DREAM'S MIND. YOU MUST REACH DEEP WITHIN AND CANCEL ALL YOUR UH, INHIBITIONS AND FEARS. MUCH LIKE YOU DID WHEN YOU DEFEATED ANU'S ALIEN SPACECRAFTS OVER THESE TWO CONFLICTING CITIES. . .



THE ONE CITY HAVING BEEN POISONEL BY ITS INANE NO EVIL HYPOCRISY...
THE MODERN CITY BEING BUILT UH, IN A DIFFERENT TIME AND DIMENSION.
TOOLING THEIR FOUNDATIONS IN VENEER VEILS.

HOW ABOUT THE SACRED OBELISK WAS IT BUILT BY EITHER CITY?



ARE WE NOT THEN STANDING ON SACRED GROUND. BUILT BY OUR MAKER'S SON'S. IS THIS WHY ANU HAS COME HERE... TO GAIN FAVOUR WITH THE ETERNAL BY GAMING HIS SUPREMACY OVER OUR DREAMS.

YES, AND NOW IT IS YOUR
TURN TO PROVE OUR LIVES
PAST AND PRESENT OVER
MANY CONSCIOUSNESSES
HELD IN SPACE AND TIME
ARE WORTHY OF UH, THE ETERNAL THROUGH
HIS GAMING SONS.

THUS PROVING THAT OUR BEING WAS MEANT TO BE AS WERE OUR HOPES AND DREAMS.

YOU HAVE BECOME THE CHOSEN ONE THROUGH YOUR DREAM VICTORIES OVER ANU. YOU ARE OUR NORSE HRALL, KARL, AND JARL.

YOU MUST NOW CONFRONT ANU ALONE AND DEFEAT HIM USING YOUR DREAM'S DEEPEST EMPOWERING ABILITIES.



YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THE ONLY WAY INTO THE SCARED OBELISK IS UH, THROUGH ME AND ALL THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE WITHIN ME. . . SOBEIT, ANU HERE I COME.





FOCUS ON HORUS' ENCRYPTION UH, WITHIN HIS OBELISK LABYRINTH TO YOU, "JUST BE". NOW GO.



ADRIAN BEGINS TO SENSE THE SACRED CELESTIAL OBELISK BENEATH HIS FEET RISING FASTER AND FASTER!

ADRIAN'S MIND FILLS WITH STREAMING IMAGES OF HIS NORWEGIAN ANCESTORS LIVING ON THE MOON IO AND ON EARTH.



THE ELEVATOR BREAKS HARD STOPPING AT LEVEL 7 KNOCKING ADRIAN DOWN TO THE FLOOR. HE CATCHES HIS BREATH, LOOKS AROUND AND FINDS HIMSELF IN TOTAL DARKNESS. . . HE MAKES OUT A BACK-LIT NEON FLICKERING LEVEL 7 SIGN.



THAT WAS QUITE THE G-RIDE... ALL I CAN DO IS WAIT FOR ANU OR SOMEONE TO LET ME OUT OF HERE.

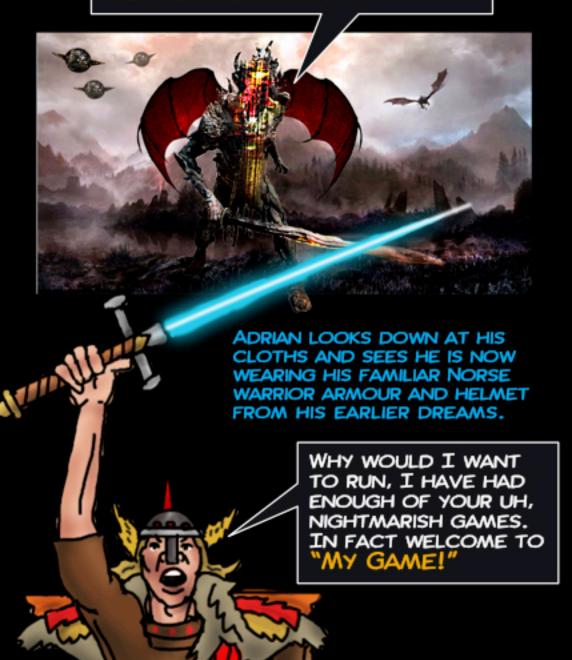
HE DOESN'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT.
WHEN: A BEAM OF LIGHT KNIFE'S
THROUGH THE DARKNESS AND
BEGINS TO CARVE A WAY OUT!





ADRIAN SLOWLY WALKS OVER TO THE OPENING AND SEES ANU COMING STRAIGHT AT HIM LOOKING MUCH LARGER AND MORE OMINOUS THAN EVER!

TIME TO END "MY GAME" WITH YOU, THERE IS NOWHERE FOR YOU TO RUN. PREPARE TO A-A-AUG DIE!



BEFORE ANU HAS TIME TO REACT TO ADRIAN'S UNEXPECTED RESPONSE. ADRIAN TURNS ON HIS LIGHTSABER AND ZAPS ANU BETWEEN THE EYES.

ANU'S IMAGE BEGINS BREAKING UP AS HE STRUGGLES TO BE RELEVANT. BUT ADRIAN'S BELIEF IN DEFEATING ANU IS TOO OVERWHELMING, BEYOND ANU'S MOST INNER WILLPOWER TO EXIST.

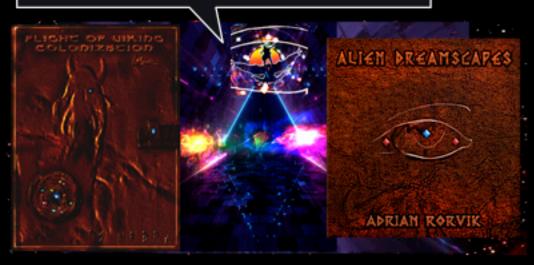


ANU DISINTEGRATES AT ADRIAN'S FEET.

## OUR SCREEN JUMPS TO:



GAME, SET, MATCH. . . I MAY HAVE BEATEN ANU AT HIS GAME BUT UH, I CAN'T HELP TO BELIEVE THERE IS MORE TO THIS GAME, UH MORE THAN 7 LEVELS AND EVEN MORE PLAYERS



WHEN: OUR SCREEN SLOWLY DISSOLVES TO A NEW PAGE BEING ADDED INTO AUTGRAF'S ANCIENT BOOK.





ADRIAN WALKS BACK INTO THE OBELISK AND LOOKS UP AT ITS LOW LIT DOME.

WHO EVER YOU ARE UH, CREATOR, THE GAME DOES NOT END HERE, DOES IT. NOW TAKE ME TO THE PLANET OF THE FEATHERED APES WHERE I MUST UH, HACK THE KEY CODE THAT GIVES THEM THE ABILITY TO MANIPULATE AND UH, CONTROL MY DREAMS, AND MY ANCIENT NORSE FOREFATHERS - WHADDA SAY?



THE FLOOR BENEATH HIS FEET BEGINS TO VIBRATE AND IS SENSING HIS BODY BEING LIFTED AND SENT THROUGH A WARPING WORMHOLE - PERHAPS TO THE APES' PLANET.



TIME AND SPACE HAVE BECOME ONE.
HE REACHES THE OTHER END OF THE WORMHOLE.



HE IS NOT SURE IF HE SHOULD OPEN HIS EYES TO SEE WHERE THE POWERS OF THE OBELISK HAVE TAKEN HIM.

ADRIAN SLOWLY OPENS HIS EYES AND SENSES HE IS METAMORPHOSING INTO A HOLOGRAM AND IS SUSPENDED BEHIND AND BETWEEN THE TWO FEATHERED APES' GAMES ROOM ONCE AGAIN.

HE SEES HIS FEATHERED APES FRANTICALLY TRYING TO RESET AND GET BACK CONTROL OF THEIR BFI GAME.



JASK HOW IS THIS UH, EVEN POSSIBLE I HAVE UH, TRIED REBOOTING, AND NOW IT DOESN'T EVEN LET ME IN WITH THE PASSWORD I UH, ESPECIALLY CREATED FOR UH, BFI.

MY HOLOGRAM SYSTEM HAS CRASHED TOO.
JORK UH, SOMEONE
UH, IS HACKING INTO
OUR BFI VR PROGRAM,
AND UH, ERASING ALL
OUR BFI UH, SYSTEM
DRIVES!



ADRIAN SUSPENDED DIRECTLY BEHIND THEM, LEANS FORWARD AND WHISPERS.

YOUR VR GAMING DAYS ARE OVER BOYS. THE ONLY THING YOU WILL SEE THROUGH YOUR "UH, UH" VR HEADSETS IS ME.



ADRIAN SENSES THERE HAS BEEN SOMETHING PLACED IN HIS RIGHT HAND. HE GLANCES AT HIS PALM AND SEES HE IS HOLDING A COMMUNICATOR.

THE COMMUNICATOR'S GREEN AND RED BUTTONS BEGIN FLASHING.



INSTINCTIVELY ADRIAN USES HIS INDEX AND MIDDLE FINGERS AND PUSHES DOWN ON THE GREEN AND BUTTONS.



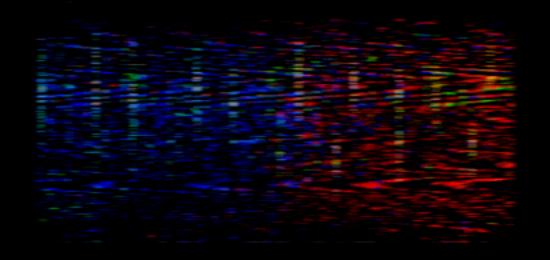
ADRIAN SENSES HIS DREAM IS ABOUT TO BE REBOOTED BY A HIGHER FORCE ENERGY.



MY GAMING SON, YOU ONLY ARE BECAUSE OF ME AND YOU MUST WORK HARDER ON YOUR BINARY SKILLS IN ALL DIMENSIONS AND LEVELS IN TIME AND IN DREAM. . . NOW GIVE ME YOUR CREATION DEVICE. I WILL GIVE IT BACK WHEN I FEEL YOUR PERSPICACITY CAN ATTUNE AND ALIGN WITH ALL MY INTELLIGENT LIFE FORMS. THE USE OF ANY GAMING INTERFERENCE FROM YOU OR FROM ONE OF YOUR BROTHERS OR SISTERS IN THIS WORLD OR IN ANY OF MY INTER-DIMENSIONAL AFTER WORLDS OR PARALLEL WORLDS WOVEN WITHIN MY PSYCHE WILL NO LONGER BE TOLERATED. "I AM THE ONLY UNIVERSAL TRUTH" - UNDERSTOOD.



THERE IS A LONG PAUSE HELD IN DARKNESS FOLLOWED BY FINAL DREAM ENCODING.



## CHAPTER 7: THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE

WE HAVE BEEN HERE BEFORE... AS WE LOOK FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CITY PARK POND WHERE WE SEE ADRIAN SITTING IN HIS FAMILIAR PARK BENCH SKETCHING THE SWANS.



MOM LOOK, IT'S THAT JUPITER-MAN I TOLD YOU ABOUT, SEE HE'S REAL... LOOK HE'S WEARING A FEATHERED VEST!





OUR EYE-LINE MOVES FROM THE OTHER SIDE, PAST THE SWANS AND BECOMES THE POV OF THE MOTHER AND BOY STANDING IN FRONT OF ADRIAN.

WE NOW FOCUS IN ON ADRIAN DRAWING ON THE CITY PARK BENCH. . .

REVEALING IT IS IN FACT HORUS FULLY TRANSFORMED INTO A HUMAN BEING!



THE MOTHER AND HER SON ARE NOT AWARE THAT THIS IS NOT ADRIAN AS SEEN IN VOLUME 1.



JUPITER-MAN, NOT LIKELY, JUPITER'S ATMOSPHERE IS TOO INTENSE, WINDS HOWL AT OVER 400 MILES AN HOUR WITH A MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 150 BELOW ZERO ON A SUMMER'S DAY. THERE IS NO OXYGEN TO BREATH ONLY STORMY HYDROGEN. NO ONE COULD EVER SURVIVE ON JUPITER - IT'S UNLIVEABLE BUT JUPITER'S MOON IO LIKE IT'S SISTER EUROPA MAY HAVE TEAMED WITH LIFE A LONG, LONG TIME AGO MAYBE 1,000 CENTURIES AGO. HOW'S THAT FOR TOO MUCH INTERPLANETARY OVERLOAD. AND WHILE I AM AT IT KID, IT WAS GREEK PHILOSOPHER HERACLITUS WHO PROFESSED "NOTHING ENDURES BUT CHANGE". AND THAT IS WHY I WEAR THIS FEATHERED VEST.



SO WAS ADRIAN THEN: JUST A DREAM WITHIN HORUS' DREAM? . . .

OR DOES THE CITY PARK BENCH HOLD THE ANSWERS TO ADRIAN AND HORUS' REALITIES?

AN UNASSUMING CITY PARK BENCH OVERLOOKING A MAN-MADE POND, WHERE WHITE SWANS SYMBOLIZE THE BELIEF IN DREAM WORLDS.

IS IT A PORTAL?

IS IT A GATEWAY TO OTHER DIMENSIONS AND UNIVERSES?

OR IS IT A GAMING VORTEX HIJACKING AND CHANGING OUR DREAM PERCEPTIONS.



AND SO ENDS ADRIAN RORVIK'S DREAM VENTURES.



## CREATED, WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY BRUCE EDWIN JAMES SINSKI ALL RIGHTS RESERVED COPYRIGHT 2023

WWW.SCFI-BIRDMANFROMIO.COM

EMAIL: BIRDMANFROMIO@GMAIL.COM

