

TRUST



CHIEF
NYAMWEYA

ANNE
CONNELLY

ALSO PUBLISHED BY CHIEF NYAMWEYA

Art of Unlearning (2019)

ALSO PUBLISHED BY ANNE CONNELLY

*Bitcoin and the Future of Fundraising: A Beginner's Guide to
Cryptocurrency Donations*

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www.trustgraphicnovel.com

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ISBN 9789914742589

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First published in 2022, Nairobi.

*To all those working tirelessly for a more
decentralized future.*



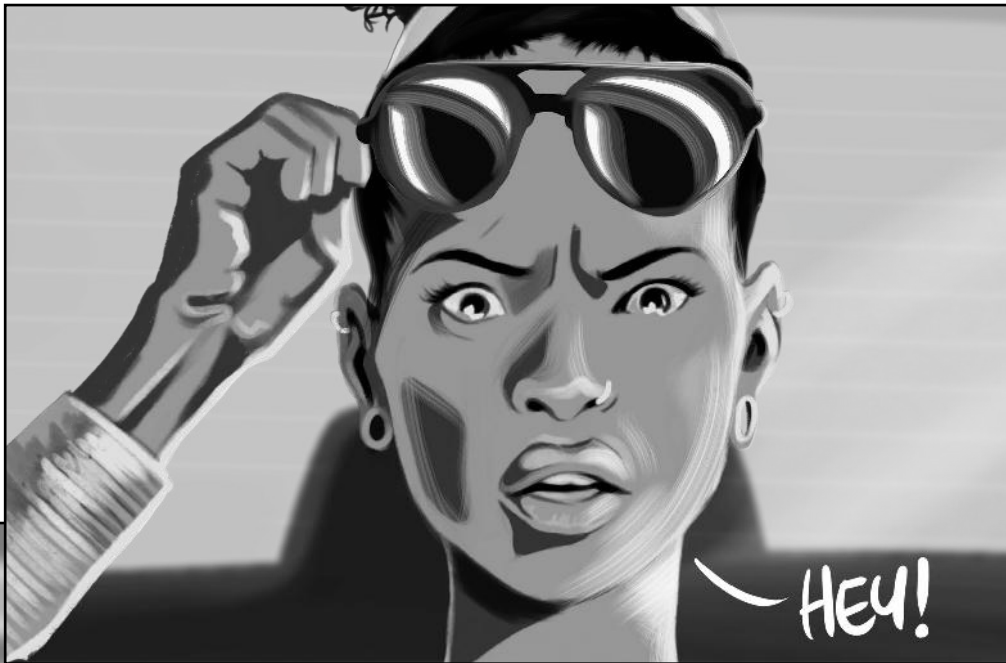
FORGET IT MAX!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN
YOUR MONEYS. FULLSTOP!



DON'T YOU ACTIVISTS
USE MONEYS LIKE
EVERYBODYS ELSE?









CENTRAL CITY IS NOW UNDER THE PRIVATE ADMINISTRATION OF MAX INDUSTRIES FOLLOWING THE METROPOLITAN TENDER ACT.

THESE CRIMINALS VIOLATED METROPOLITAN ORDER 13: CREATING PUBLIC DISTURBANCE.



NONSENSE!
THEY'RE KIDS!

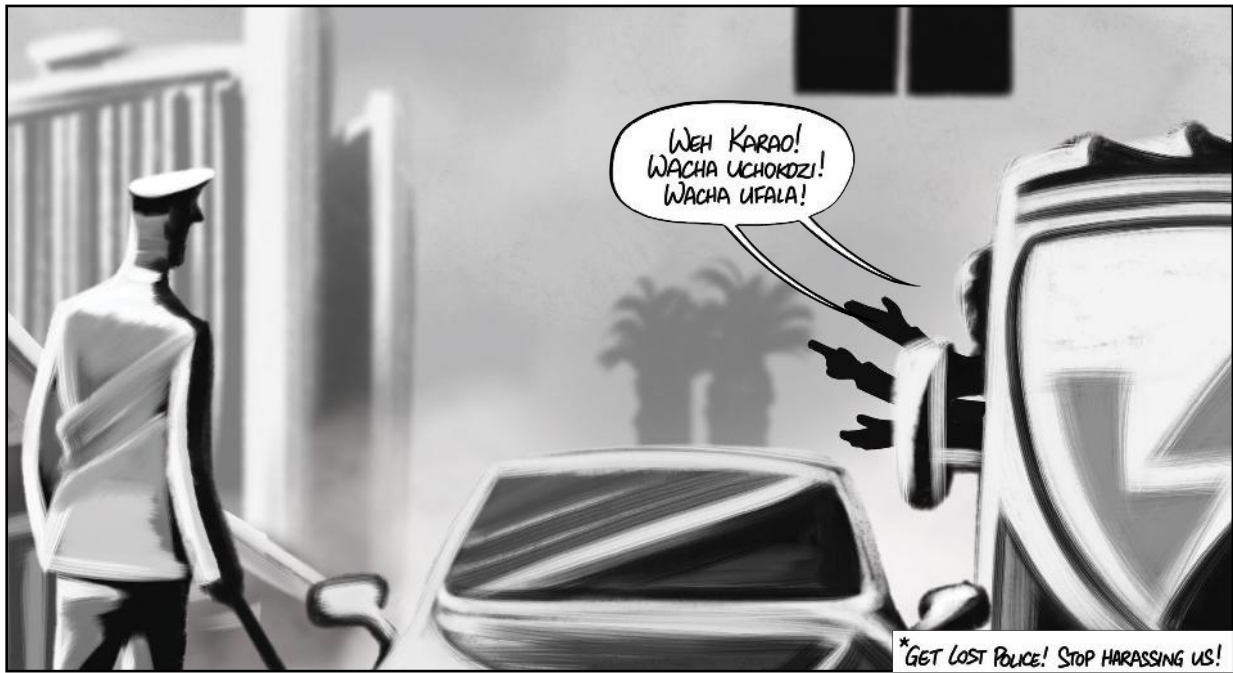


TALK SOFTLY MADAM. I AM AN OFFICER!

TAP! TAP!



FOCUS ON THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS OR I'LL BOOK YOU FOR OBSTRUCTION!





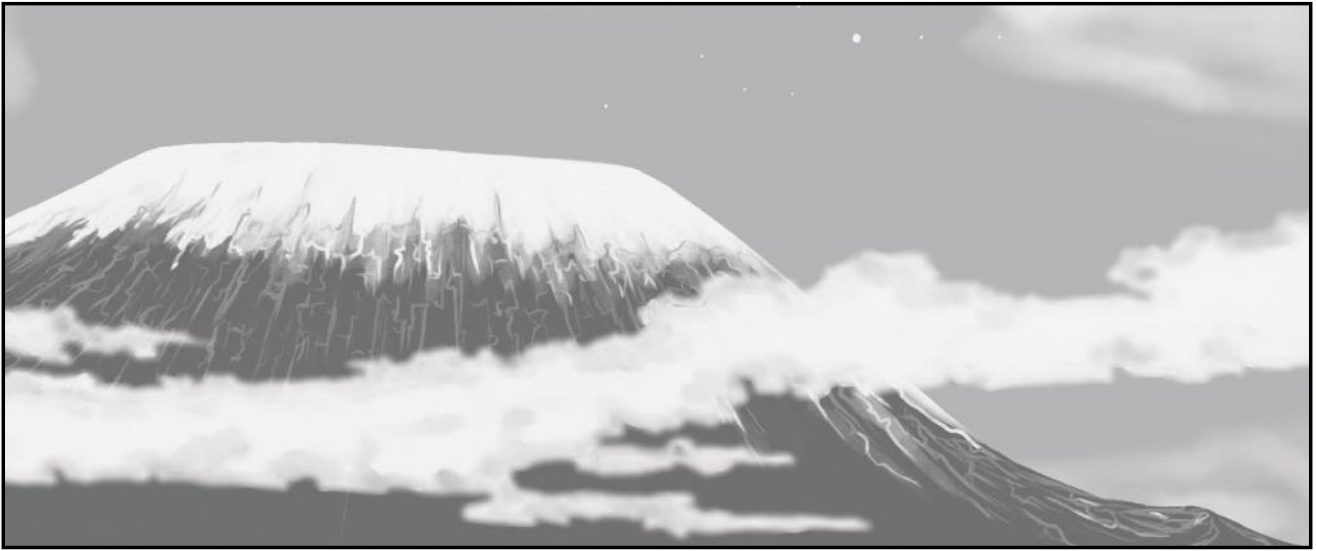
TODAY I UNCOVERED A SECRET PLOT BY ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL MEN IN THE COUNTRY TO ILLEGALLY ACQUIRE THE OIL-RICH ODORUR VALLEYS IN WAHENGALAND.



WITH THIS INFORMATION, IT IS NO LONGER SAFE TO REMAIN IN CENTRAL CITY. I MUST GO TO THE ONE PLACE THAT REMAINS BEYOND MAX'S REACH, AND THAT OF HIS AGENTS IN GOVERNMENT.



THE ONLY REGION OF THE COUNTRY STILL GOVERNED BY A SOCIAL CODE DEVOTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF ITS LAND AND FREEDOM FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ITS PEOPLE - BOTH THOSE LIVING, AND THOSE UNBORN...



I LEAVE MY CAR IN THE FOREST
NEAR THE OLORUR VALLEY AND WALK
THE REST OF THE WAY TO MAKE
SURE I'VE NOT BEEN FOLLOWED.



THERE'S NOTHING IN THESE WOODS MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE CITY I LEFT BEHIND. BUT IF MAX HAS HIS WAY, THIS ENTIRE VALLEY WILL BE REDUCED TO A SMOULDERING OIL WELL IN A FEW SHORT MONTHS.

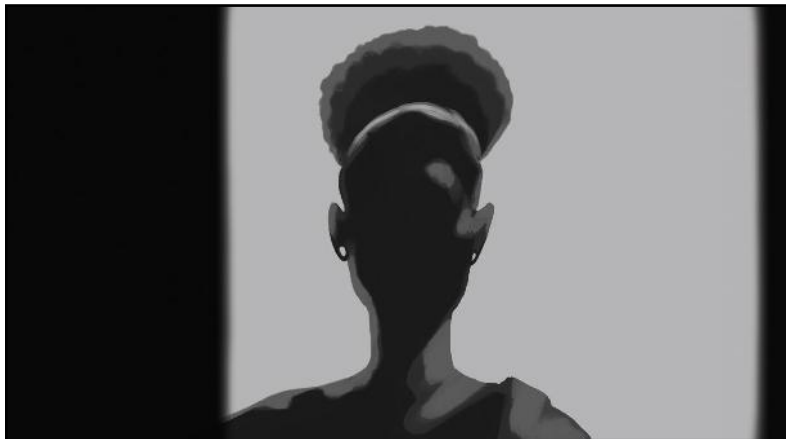


THIS IS WHY I'M HERE. TO SEEK THE HELP OF LOIBON MAGOKORO—RESPECTED LEADER, AND GUARDIAN OF THE WAHENGA CONSENSUS.



KNOCK!
KNOCK!











I TRIED TO STOP IT... TRIED TO APPEAL TO THEIR COMPASSION... IF NOT FOR THEM, FOR THE YOUNG FAMILIES THEY WOULD LEAVE BEHIND. BUT MY PLEAS FELL ON DEAF EARS. THE GAKUNIAS' CRIMES WERE TOO GRAVE.



A LOT OF PEOPLE SUFFERED DURING THE EMERGENCY. THAT'S NO EXCUSE FOR HIM TO DO WHAT HE'S DOING NOW.



OF COURSE YOU'RE RIGHT. BUT THIS IS ABOUT MORE THAN MAX. IT'S ABOUT THE BREAKDOWN OF TRUST - THE FABRIC THAT BOUND OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER. WITHOUT IT, OUR COMMUNITIES BEGAN UNRAVELLING...



I'M OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER WHEN LAND TITLES WERE AN ABSURD CONCEPT. HOW COULD ONE PERSON OWN A RIVER?



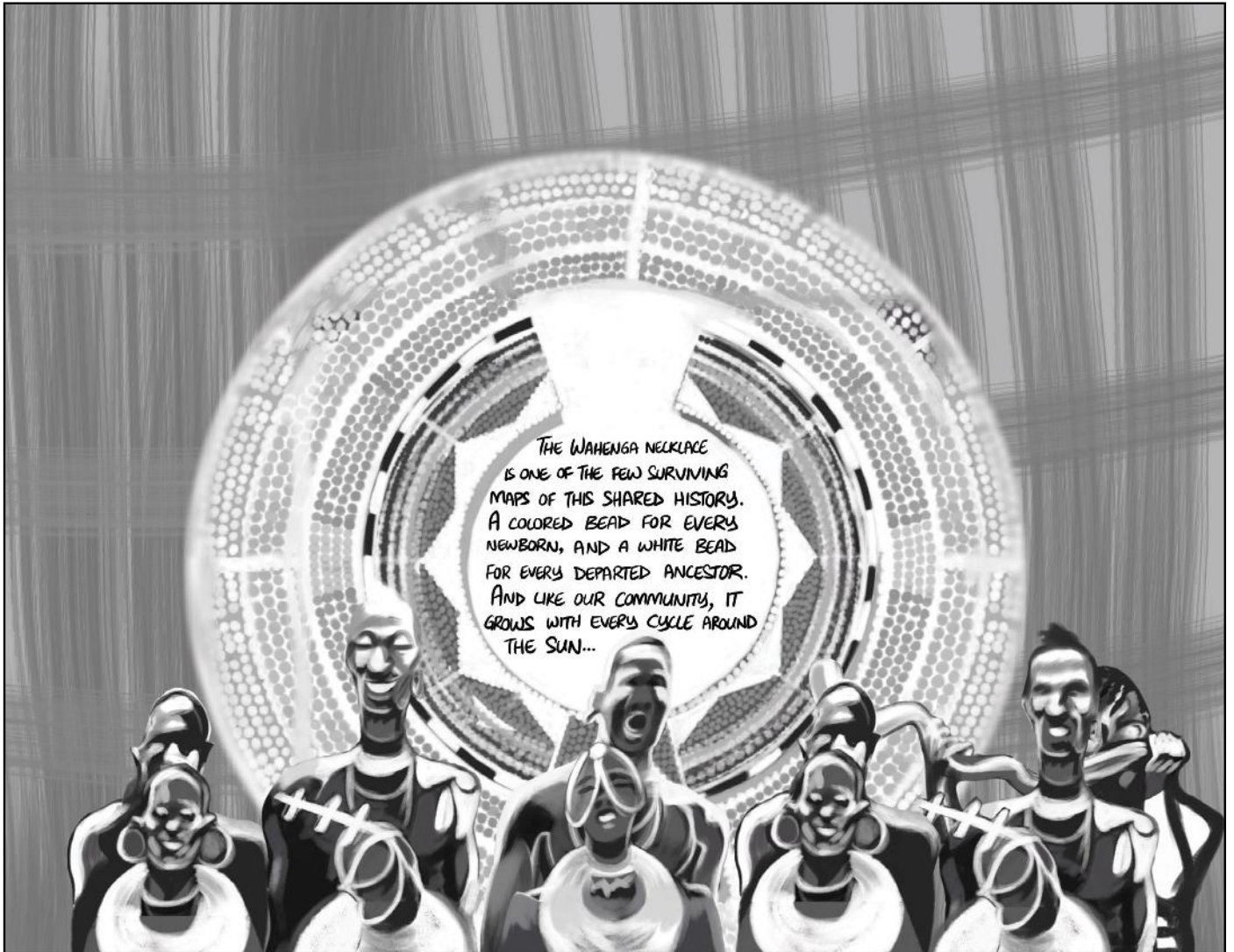
BACK THEN, WE WOULD CIRCLE AROUND WAHENGALAND ALL YEAR ROUND WITH OUR CATTLE IN SEARCH OF PASTURE USING ONLY THE GREAT OGORUR TREES PLANTED BY OUR ANCESTORS AS BEACONS OF OUR COMMUNITY'S SHARED TERRITORY.



IN THOSE DAYS, WE ALL KNEW EACH OTHER. WE WERE ALL RELATED EITHER BY BLOOD OR BY MARRIAGE, THEREFORE FINDING CONSENSUS ABOUT HOW TO BUILD OUR HOMES, FEED OUR FAMILIES AND GOVERN OURSELVES WAS EASY...



BUT WITH THE BIRTH OF THE CENTRAL STATE, THIS ALL CHANGED. OUR LOIBONS WERE FORCED TO SIGN TREATIES SURRENDERING TERRITORY AND MANY OF OUR PEOPLE WERE DISPERSED TO FAR AWAY TOWNS UNTIL GRADUALLY, WE BECAME STRANGERS INCAPABLE OF FINDING CONSENSUS WITHOUT THE DICTATION OF NEW RULERS WHO PRIORITIZED THEIR PERSONAL GREED ABOVE THE NEEDS OF THEIR PEOPLE.

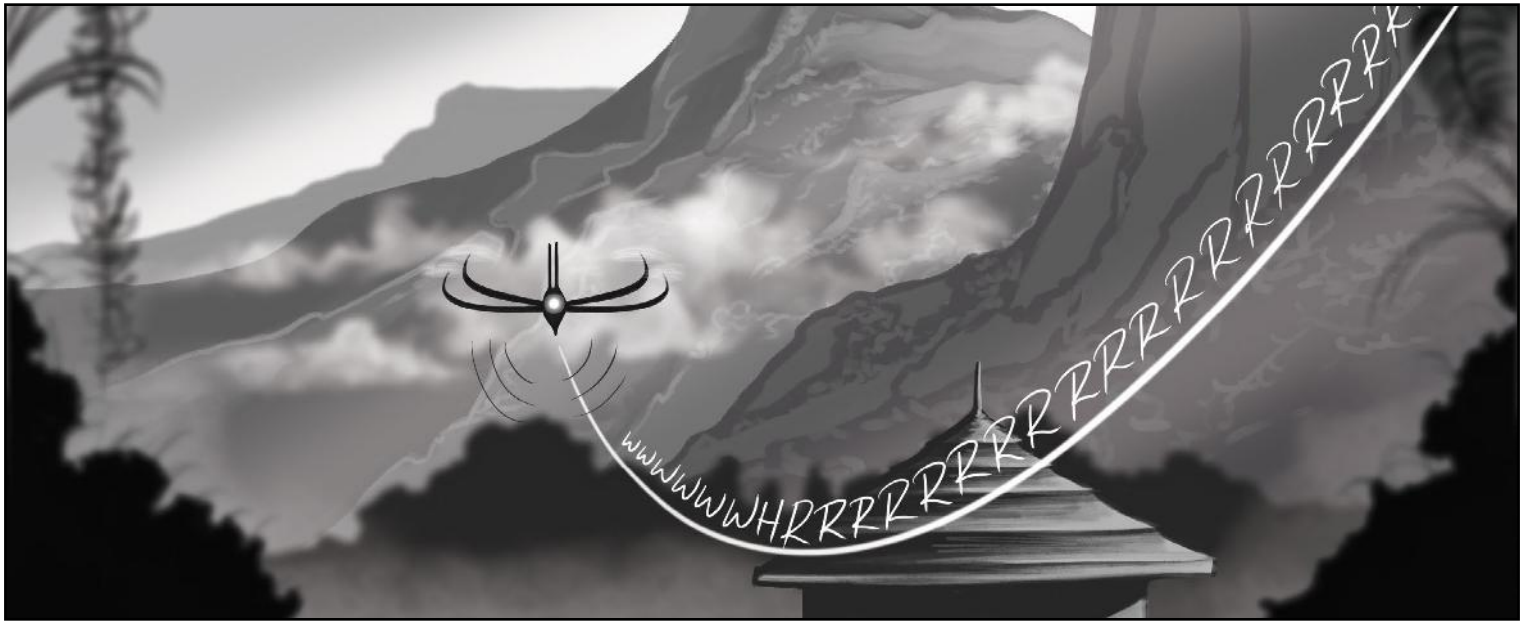


... BUT IF WAHENGALAND IS TO SURVIVE MAX'S EVIL SCHEMES, WE ARE GOING TO REQUIRE A SYSTEM OF RECORD THAT CANNOT BE REFUTED BY THE STATE. ONE THAT ALLOWS OUR DISPERSED PEOPLE IN EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE TO FIND CONSENSUS.



I MAY NOT LIVE TO SEE THIS HAPPEN, BUT HAPPEN IT MUST. REST WELL TONIGHT MY BRAVE CHILD. TOMORROW MORNING, THERE'S SOMEONE I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET...













RIGHT AWAY SIR.

YOU CAN SHOW THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN ON YOUR WAY OUT.



WE'RE PLEASED TO HEAR YOU LOCATED THE GIRL. IF THERE ARE ANY... EXTRA-JUDICIAL REMEDIES IN PLACE, THE PRESIDENT WOULD PREFER NOT TO KNOW ABOUT IT.

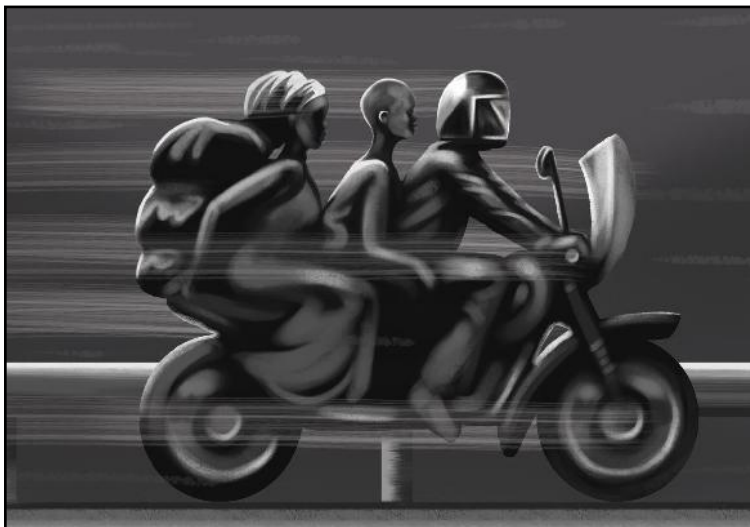
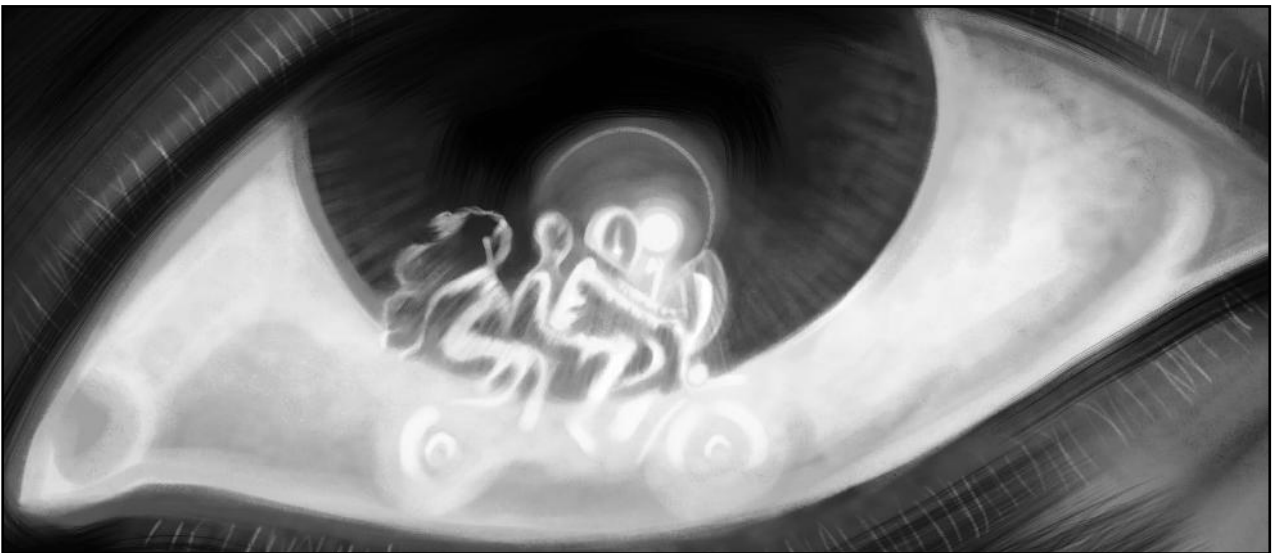
EVERYTHING IN ITS GOOD TIME. FOR NOW I NEED TO BE SURE THAT MY LAND TITLE TO THE OLORUR VALLEY IS UNASSAILABLE IN THE EVENT THAT SHE LEAKS.



THERE IS ONE POSSIBLE CHALLENGE I CAN THINK OF. IF THEY PETITION THE COURTS TO RECOGNIZE THEIR OLORUR TREE AS A BEACON, WE MIGHT HAVE A PROBLEM...

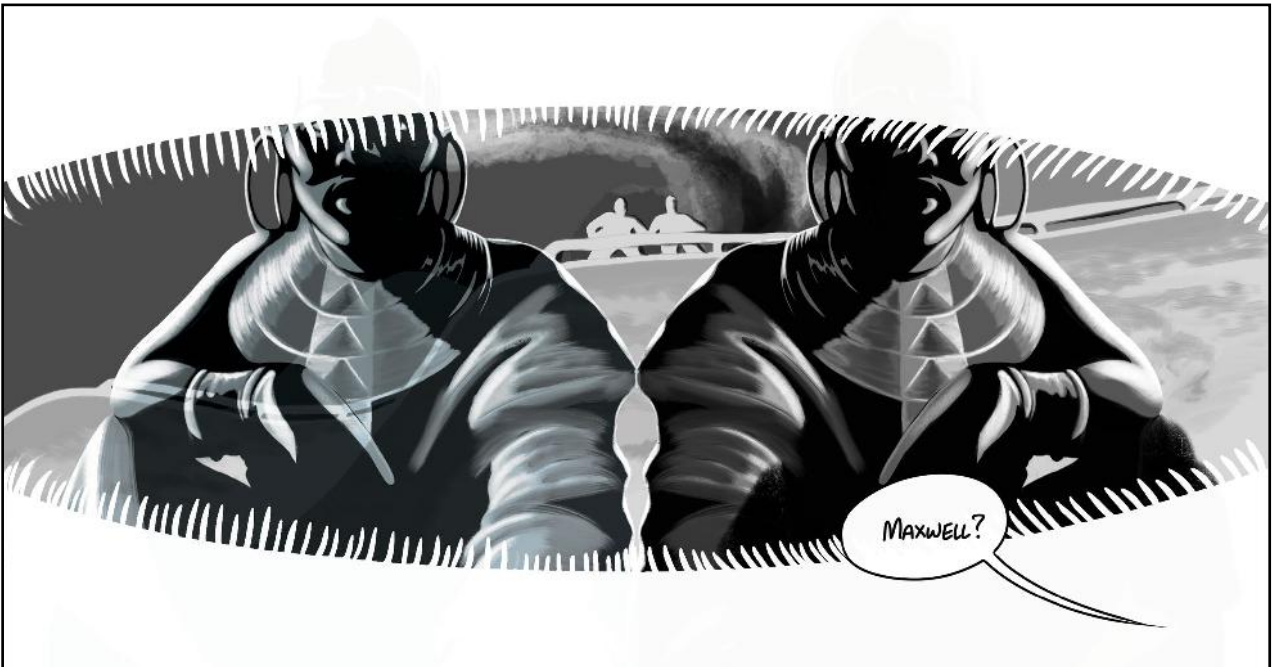
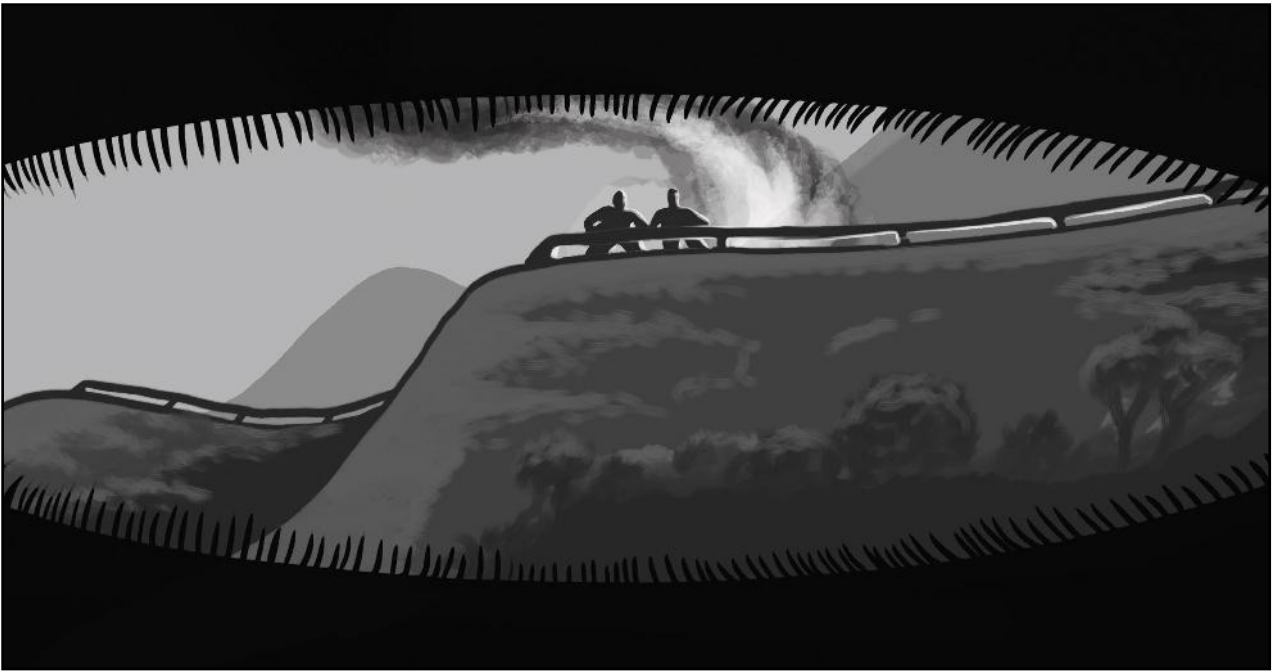
...UNLESS OF COURSE THE TREE DISAPPEARS.

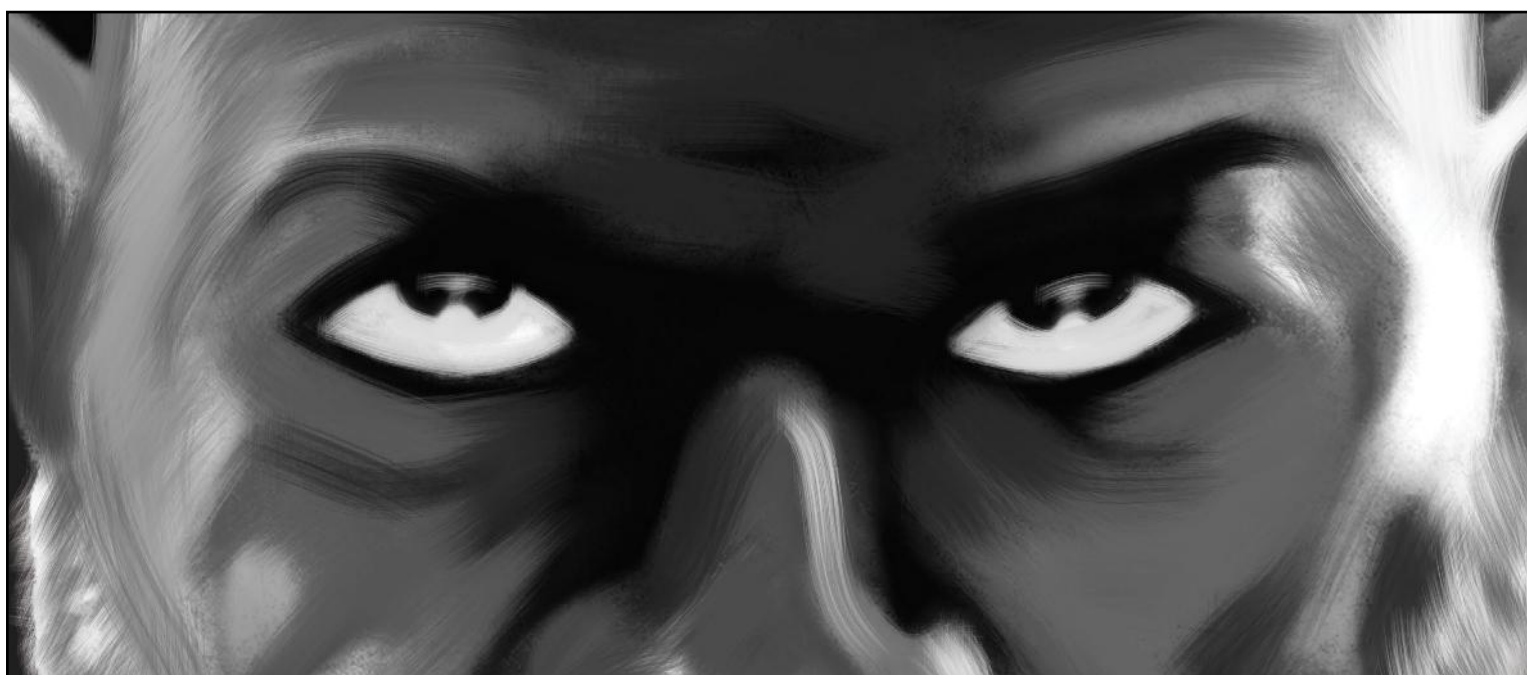
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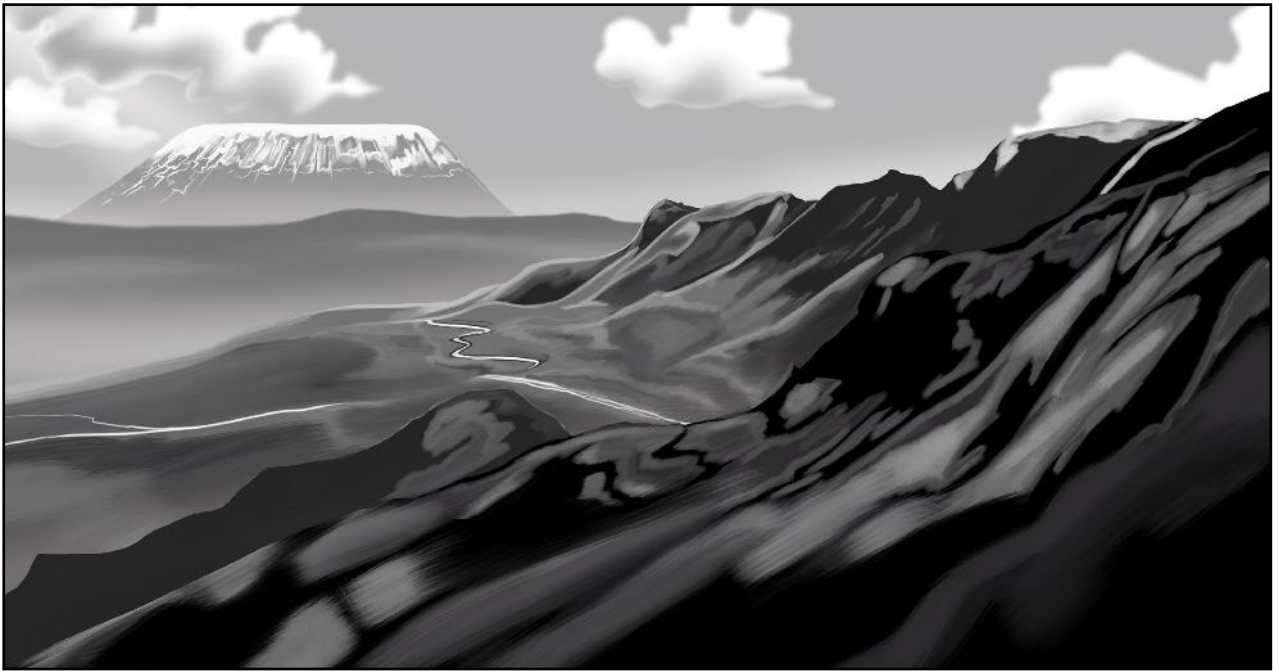


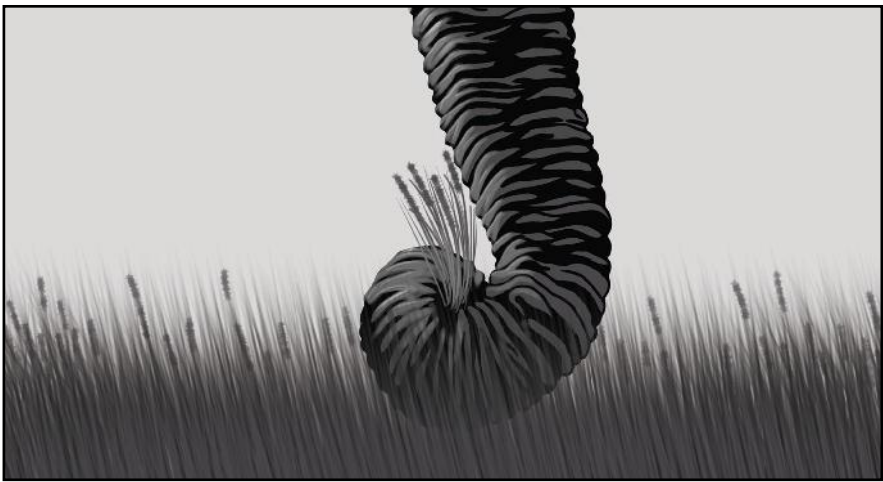
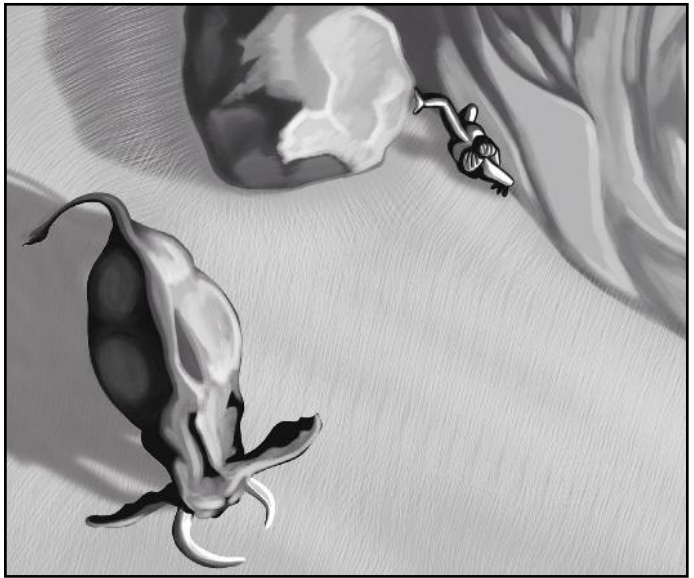




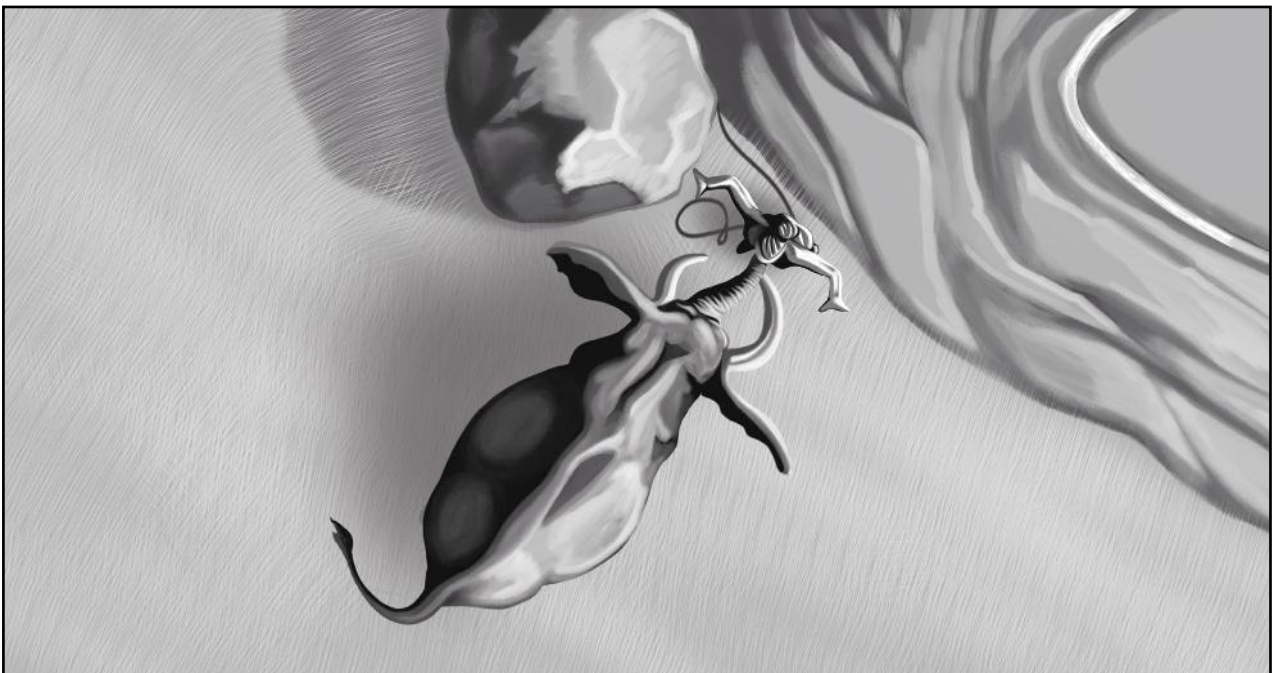


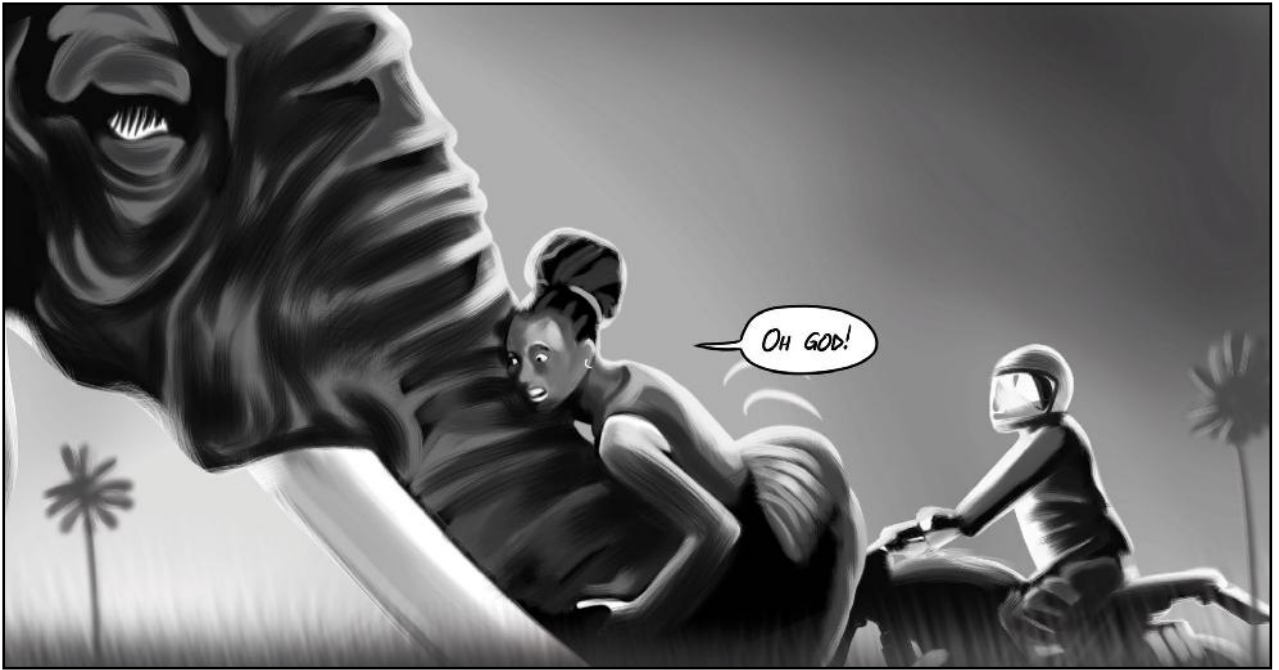




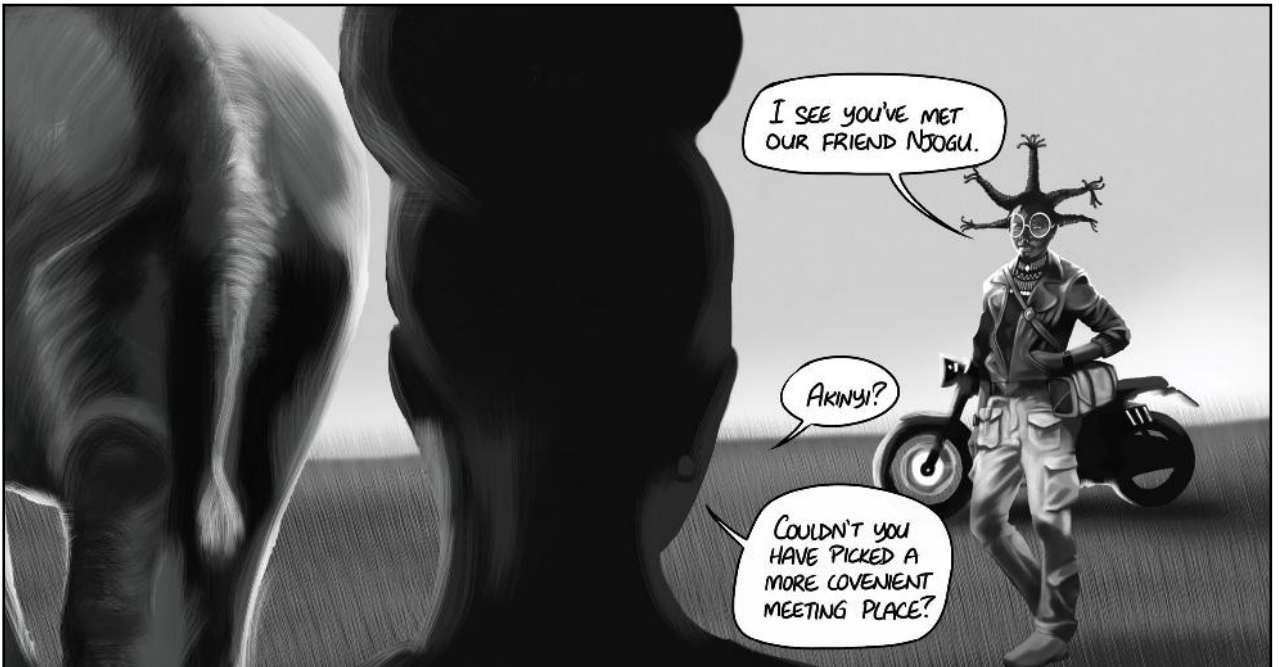








OH GOD!



I SEE YOU'VE MET OUR FRIEND NJOGU.

AKINYI?

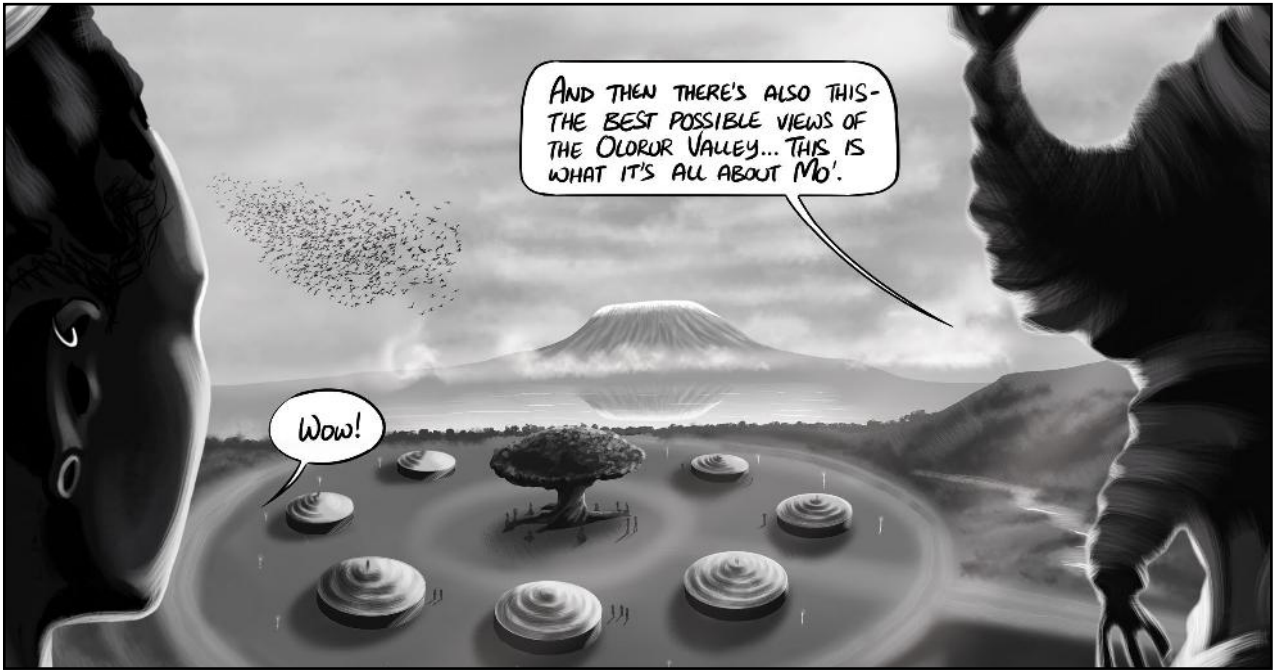
COULDN'T YOU HAVE PICKED A MORE CONVENIENT MEETING PLACE?



I HAD TO MAKE SURE YOU WEREN'T FOLLOWED.

I'VE BEEN CAREFUL.

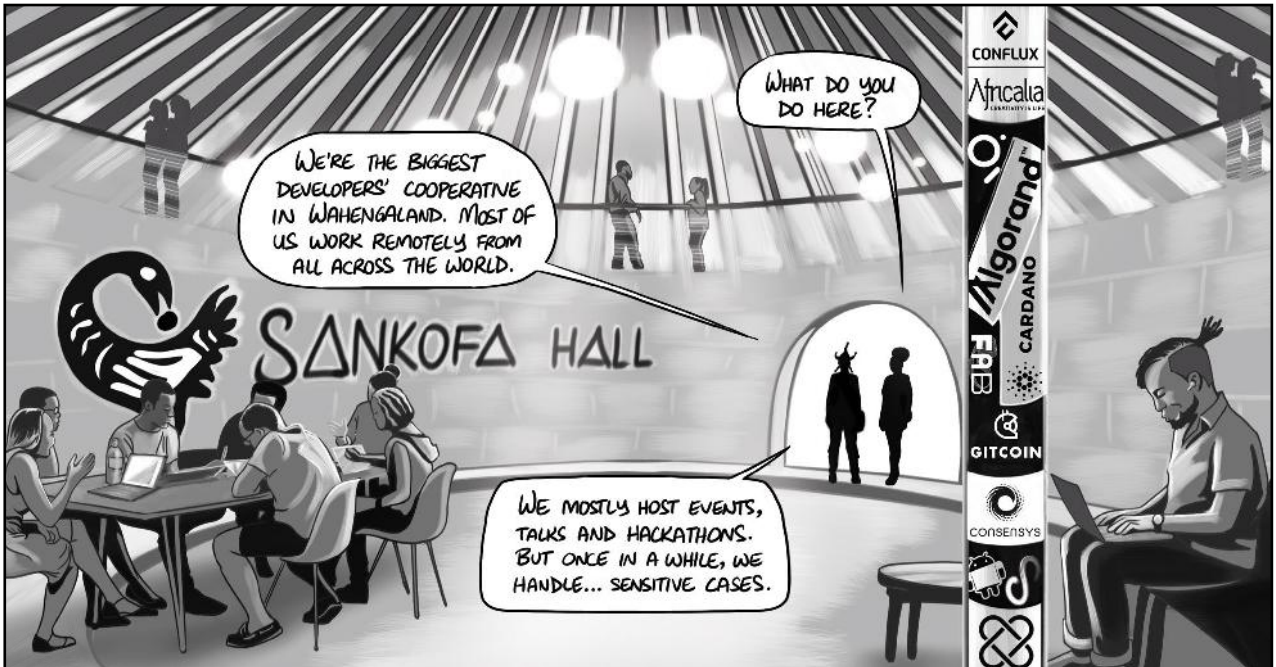
YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL.







WELCOME TO SANKOFA HALL!
HOME OF THE SANKOFA
COLLECTIVE.



WE'RE THE BIGGEST
DEVELOPERS' COOPERATIVE
IN WAHENGALAND. MOST OF
US WORK REMOTELY FROM
ALL ACROSS THE WORLD.

WHAT DO YOU
DO HERE?

WE MOSTLY HOST EVENTS,
TALKS AND HACKATHONS.
BUT ONCE IN A WHILE, WE
HANDLE... SENSITIVE CASES.

CONFLUX
Africalla
p2pand
CARDANO
EREB
GITCOIN
CONSENSYS



THIS IS DELICIOUS
AKINSI. THANK YOU.

I CAN'T REMEMBER THE
LAST TIME I ATE LIKE
THIS IN CENTRAL CITY.

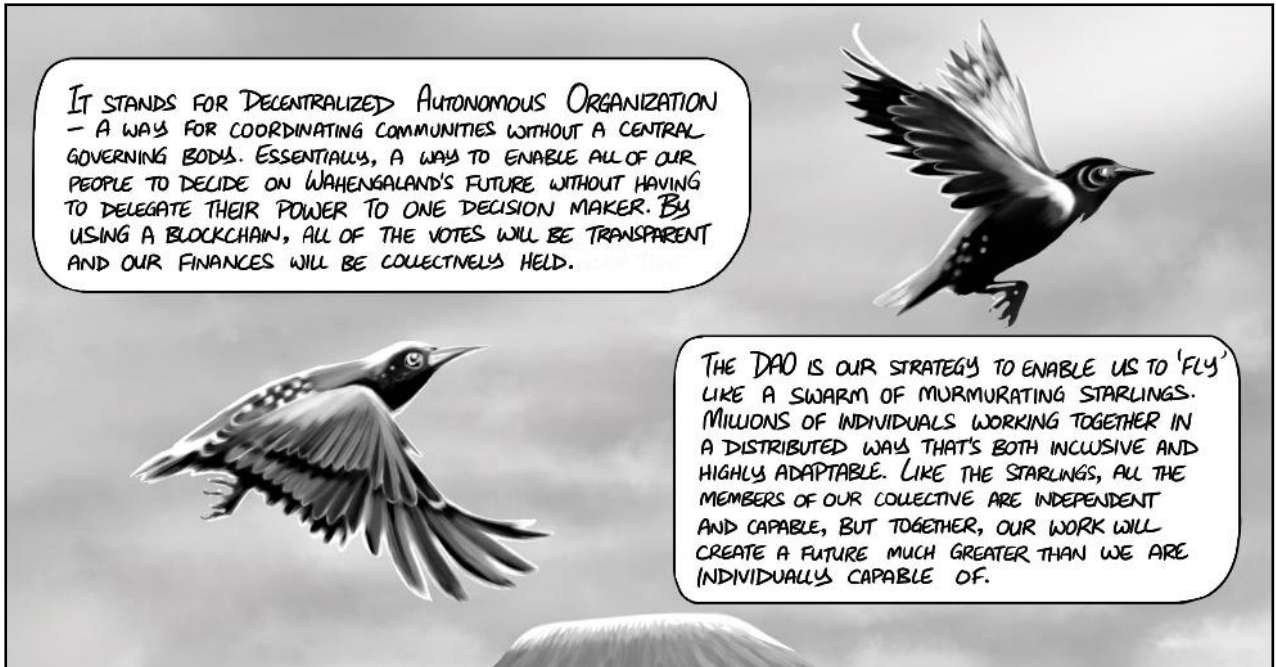
IT'S MY PLEASURE. I LOOK FORWARD
TO PROPERLY INTRODUCING YOU
TO THE GANG. IT'S NOT EVERYDAY WE
GET TO MEET A REAL LIFE WHISTLEBLOWER
SACRIFICING THEIR SECURITY FOR US.



I TOO USED TO LIVE IN CENTRAL. I EVEN WORKED AS A CONTRACTOR FOR MAX INDUSTRIES BEFORE I SAW THE LIGHT AND GOT OUT!

SERVING THE SANKOFAS HAS BEEN MUCH MORE REWARDING. I'M NOW BUILDING THINGS THAT ACTUALLY HELP PEOPLE - LIKE OUR WAHENGA DAO.

WHAT'S A DAO?

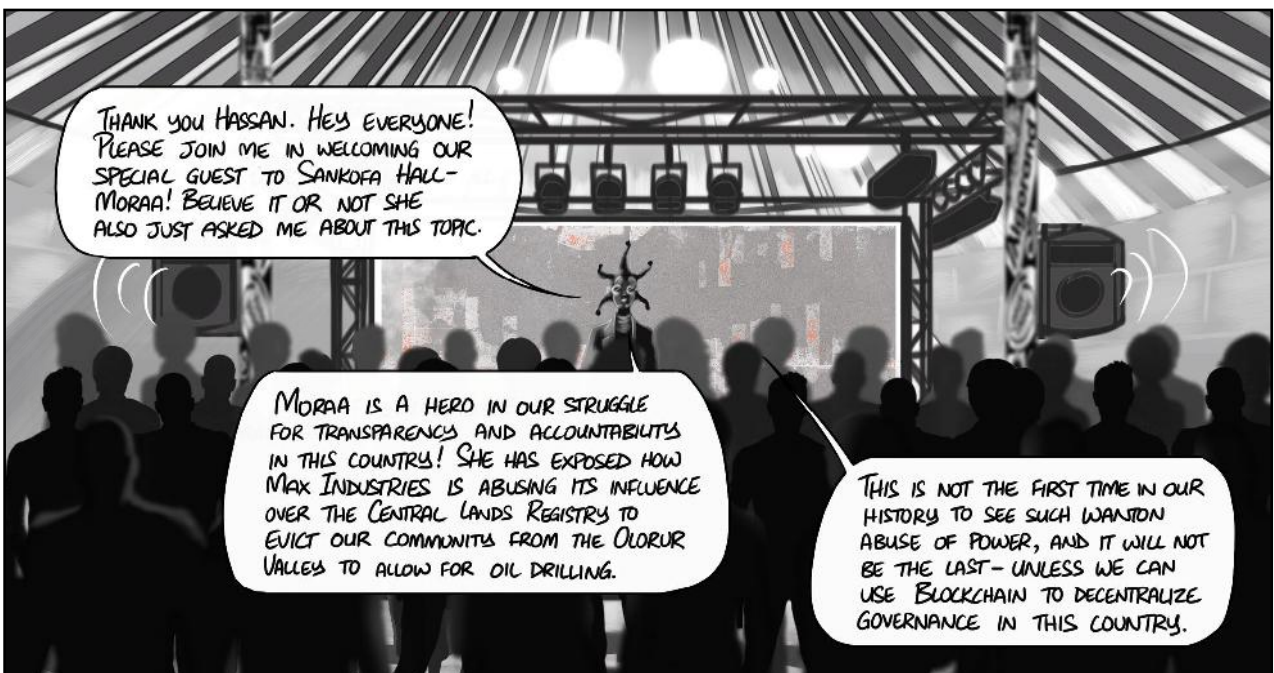


IT STANDS FOR DECENTRALIZED AUTONOMOUS ORGANIZATION - A WAY FOR COORDINATING COMMUNITIES WITHOUT A CENTRAL GOVERNING BODY. ESSENTIALLY, A WAY TO ENABLE ALL OF OUR PEOPLE TO DECIDE ON WAHENGALAND'S FUTURE WITHOUT HAVING TO DELEGATE THEIR POWER TO ONE DECISION MAKER. BY USING A BLOCKCHAIN, ALL OF THE VOTES WILL BE TRANSPARENT AND OUR FINANCES WILL BE COLLECTIVELY HELD.

THE DAO IS OUR STRATEGY TO ENABLE US TO 'FLY' LIKE A SWARM OF MURMURATING STARLINGS. MILLIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WORKING TOGETHER IN A DISTRIBUTED WAY THAT'S BOTH INCLUSIVE AND HIGHLY ADAPTABLE. LIKE THE STARLINGS, ALL THE MEMBERS OF OUR COLLECTIVE ARE INDEPENDENT AND CAPABLE, BUT TOGETHER, OUR WORK WILL CREATE A FUTURE MUCH GREATER THAN WE ARE INDIVIDUALLY CAPABLE OF.

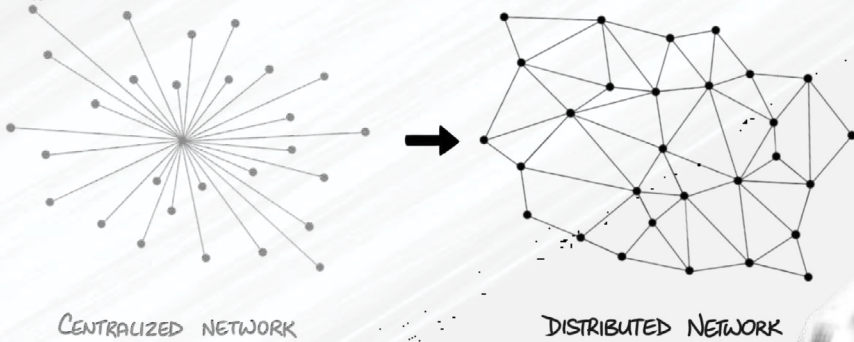
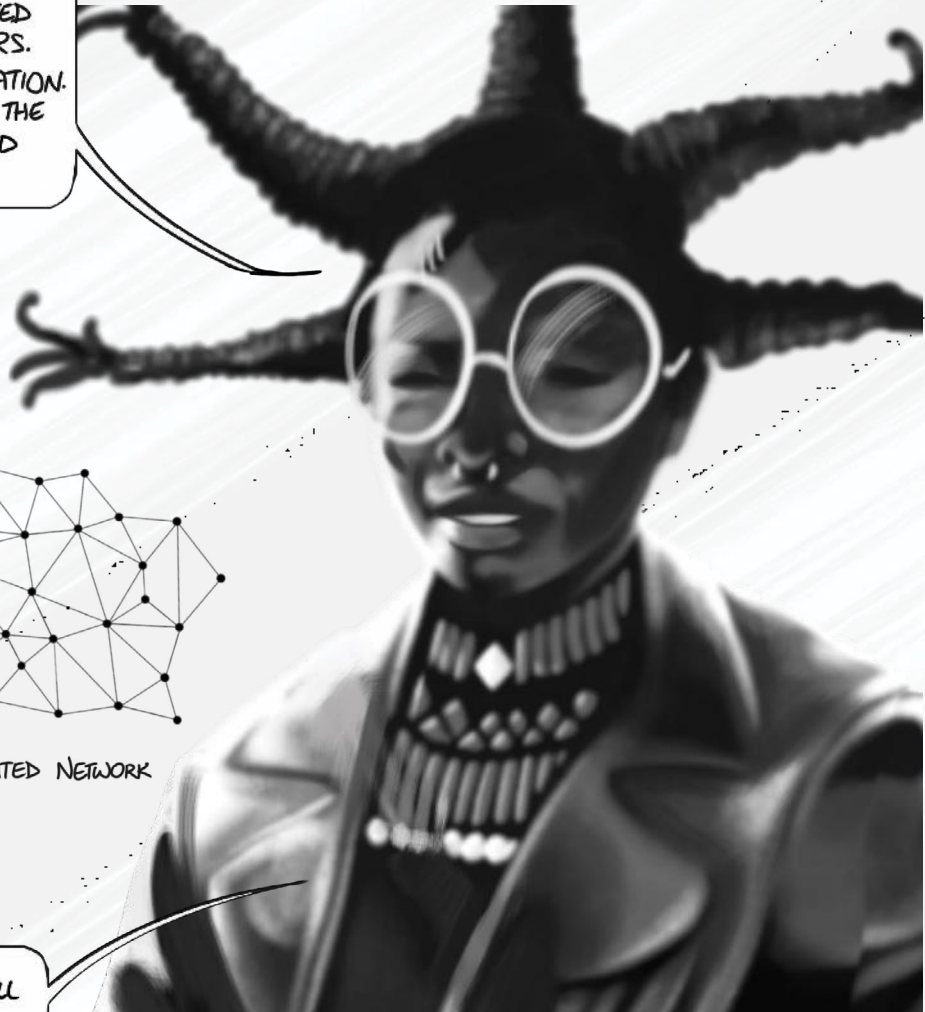


PLEASE PARDON MY SKEPTICISM AKINSI, BUT WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS 'BLOCKCHAIN' ON WHICH YOUR ENTIRE PLAN HINGES? MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOW DOES IT HELP US STOP MAX?





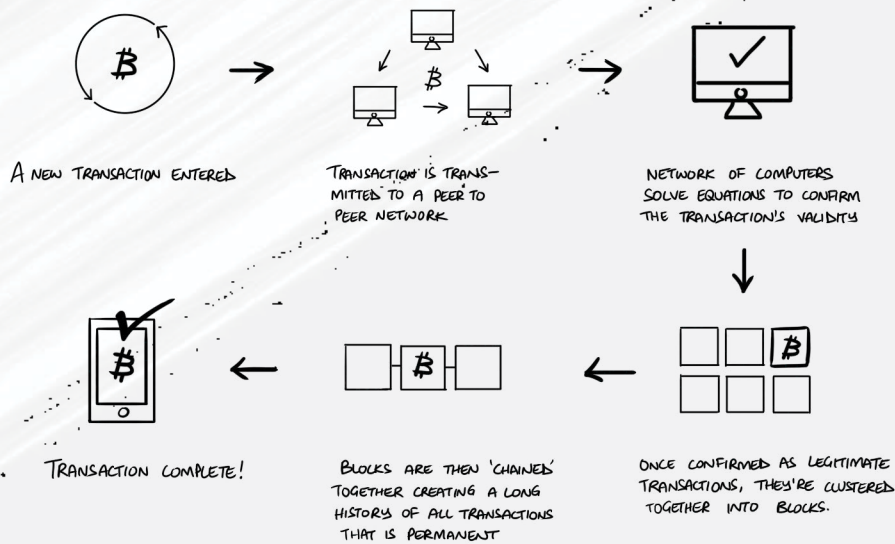
A BLOCKCHAIN IS JUST A LEDGER, OR RECORD OF TRANSACTIONS THAT'S STORED IN BLOCKS OF DATA LINKED IN A CHAIN. THE TRANSACTIONS RECORDED IN A BLOCKCHAIN CAN'T BE EDITED OR DELETED SO THEY ARE PROTECTED FROM BAD ACTORS. WHAT MAKES IT SPECIAL IS ITS DECENTRALIZATION. TO MAKE IT EVEN MORE SECURE, COPIES OF THE BLOCKCHAIN ARE STORED IN COMPUTERS CALLED 'NODES' ALL OVER THE WORLD.



CENTRALIZED NETWORK

DISTRIBUTED NETWORK

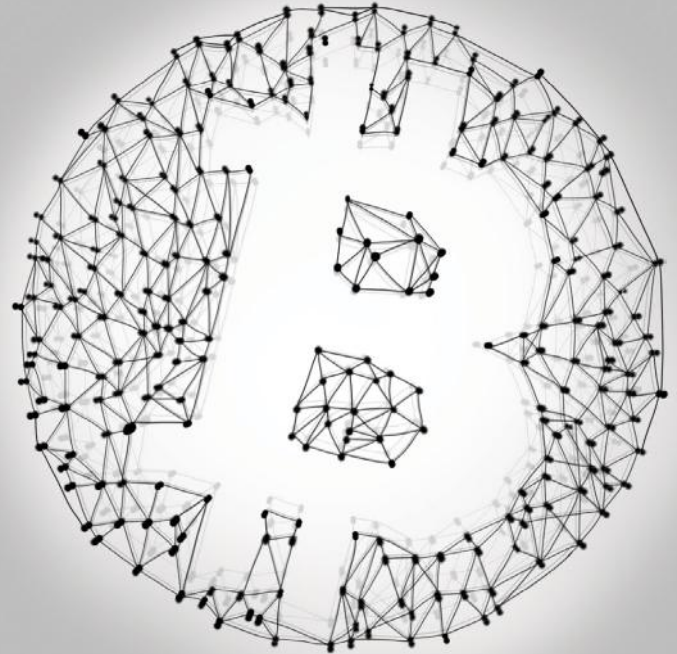
EVEN IF YOU COULD HACK ONE TRANSACTION, ALL THOSE NODES WOULD DETECT THE MISMATCH AND REJECT THE FALSE INFORMATION! IN THE SAME WAY THAT THE INTERNET WAS A REVOLUTION IN COMMUNICATION, BLOCKCHAIN IS A REVOLUTION IN COORDINATION!



THE DIGITAL CURRENCY BITCOIN IS THE MOST FAMOUS APPLICATION OF BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY.

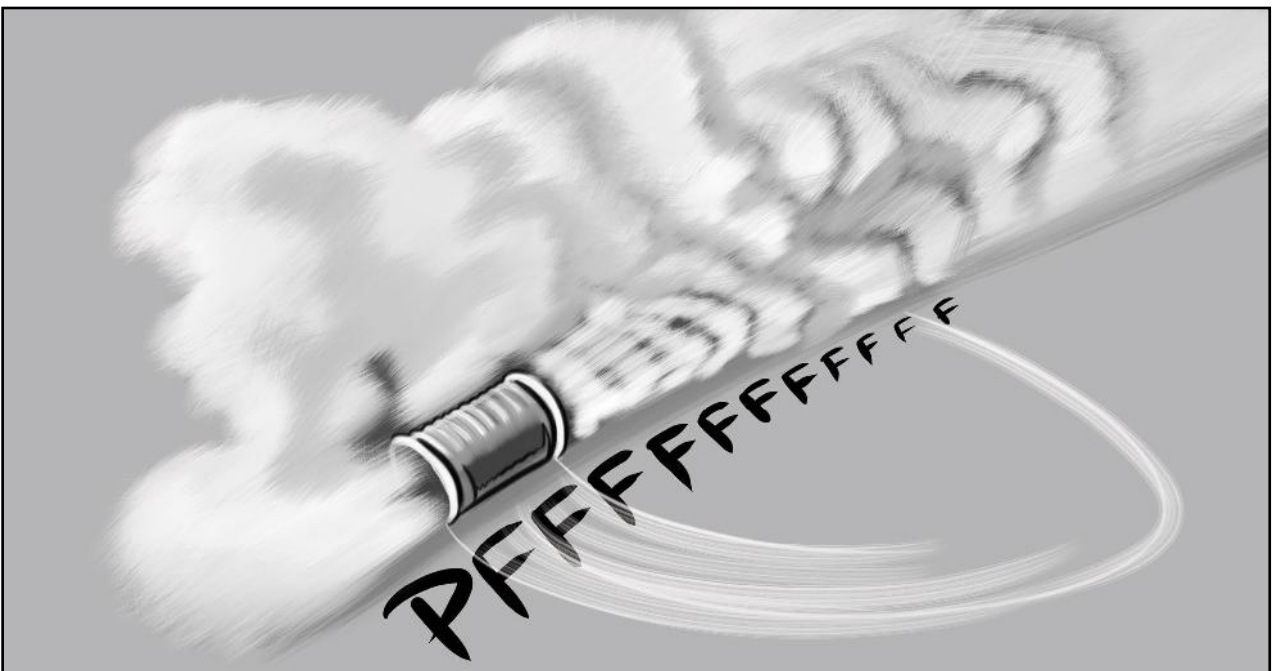
BITCOIN ALLOWS ITS USERS TO SEND AND RECEIVE MONEY FROM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD - PEER TO PEER - BECAUSE IT IS DECENTRALIZED. THAT MEANS, OUTSIDE THE CONTROL OF ANY CENTRAL AUTHORITY OR BUREAUCRACY.

IT'S MANAGED BY PEOPLE JUST LIKE US WHO BELIEVE THAT NO GOVERNMENTS, NO BANKS SHOULD BE ABLE TO BLOCK US FROM USING OUR OWN MONEY.



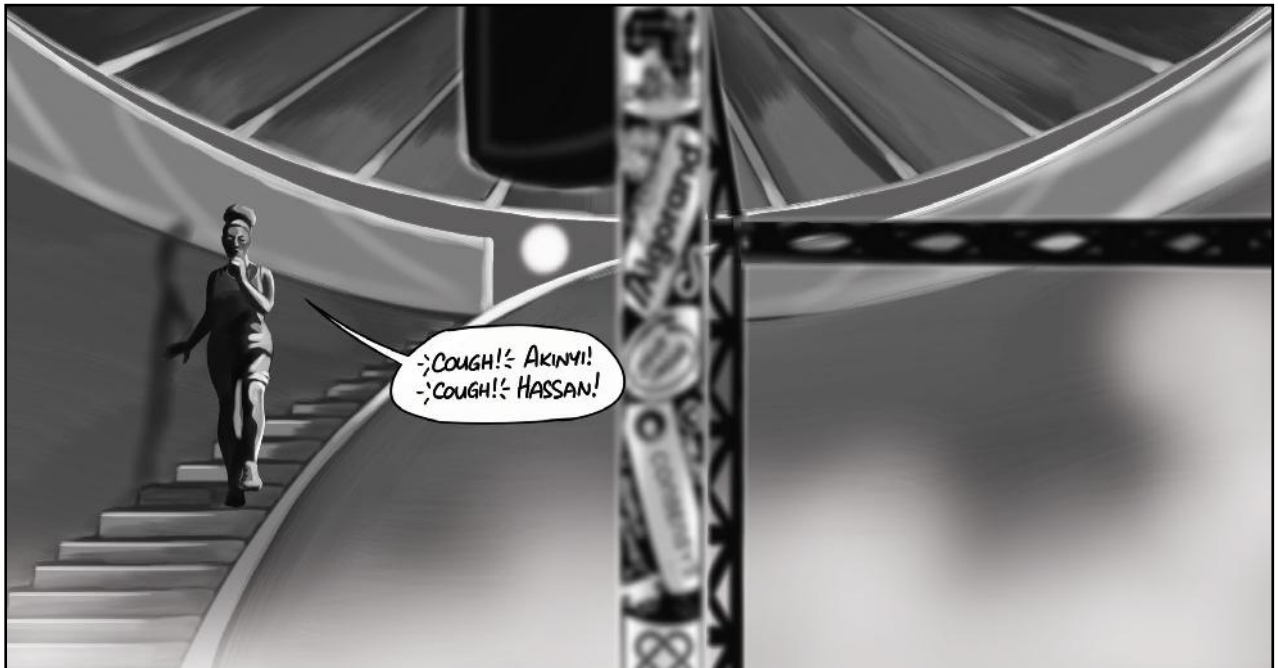
BUT THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. IMAGINE A FUTURE WHERE WE CAN TRUST THE OUTCOME OF OUR ELECTIONS. WHERE ANYONE CAN GENERATE POWER FROM SOLAR PANELS AND TRADE IT WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS USING AUTOMATED SMART CONTRACTS.

WHERE WE NO LONGER HAVE TO FEAR THAT OUR HOME WILL BE GRABBED BY CROOKS LIKE MAX WITH POWER AND PRIVILEGED ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT REGISTRIES--









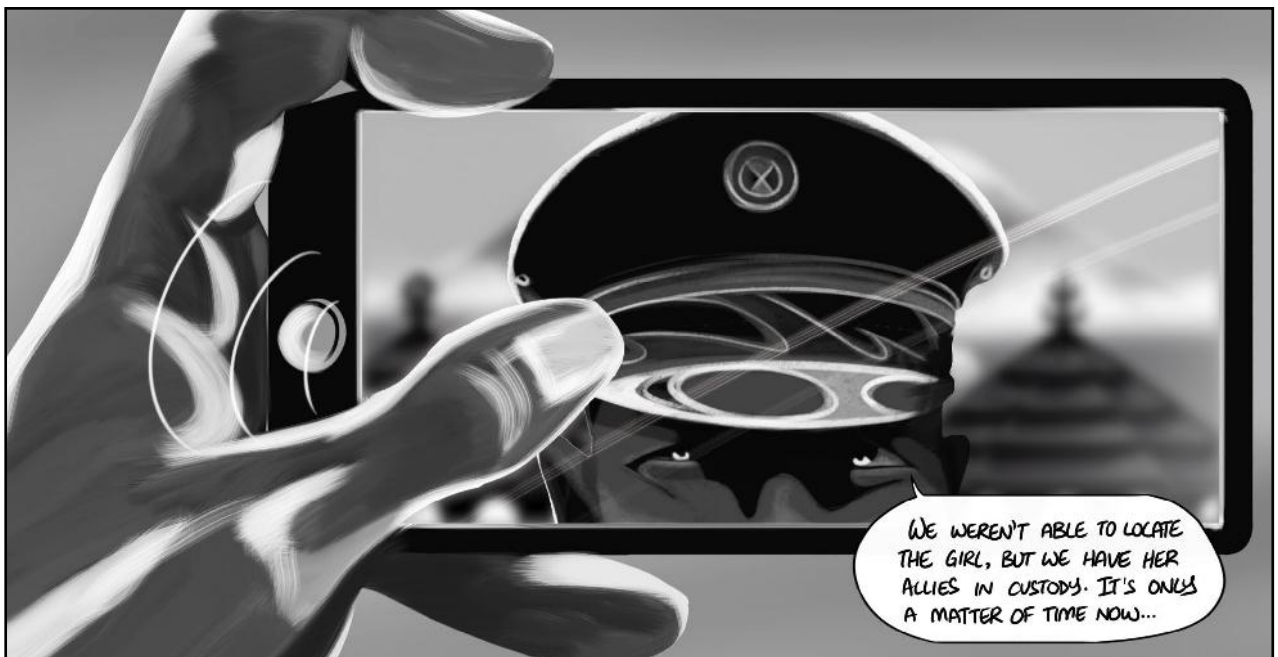




KEKAKEKE KEKAKEKAKEKE



RING!!!



WE WEREN'T ABLE TO LOCATE THE GIRL, BUT WE HAVE HER ALLIES IN CUSTODY. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME NOW...

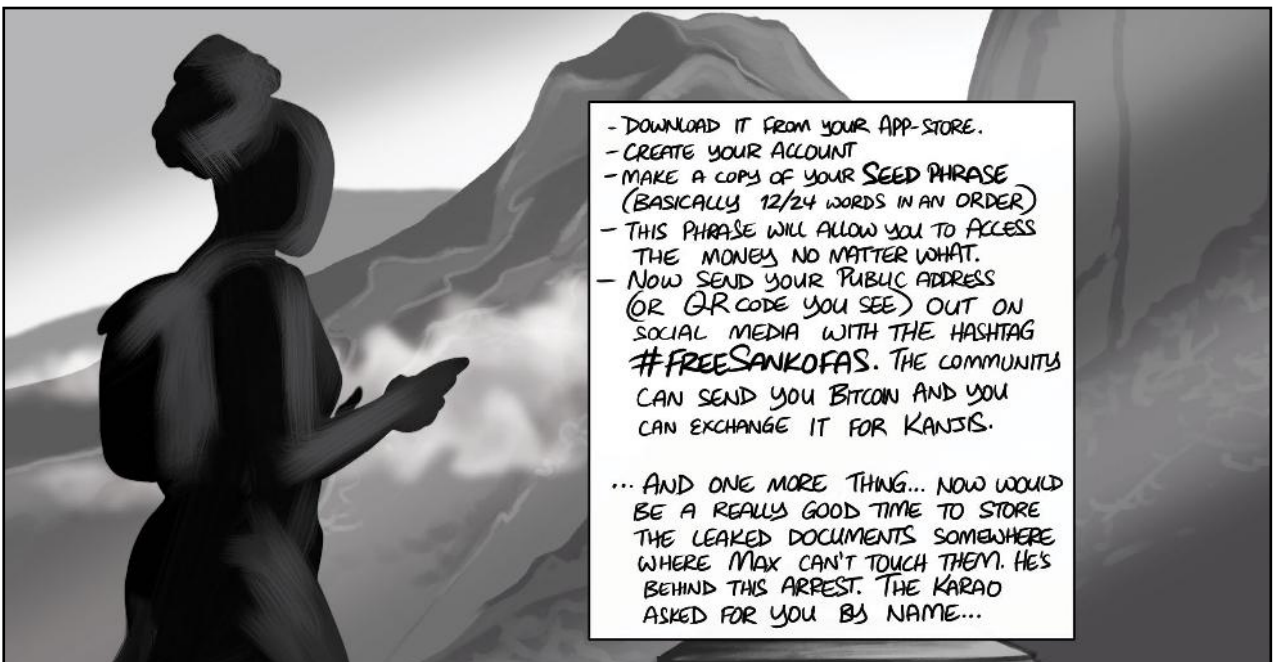


STAY VIGILANT AND SECURE THE VALLEY UNTIL THE TREE IS FELLED. AFTER THAT, HER INFORMATION IS IRRELEVANT.

YES BOSS



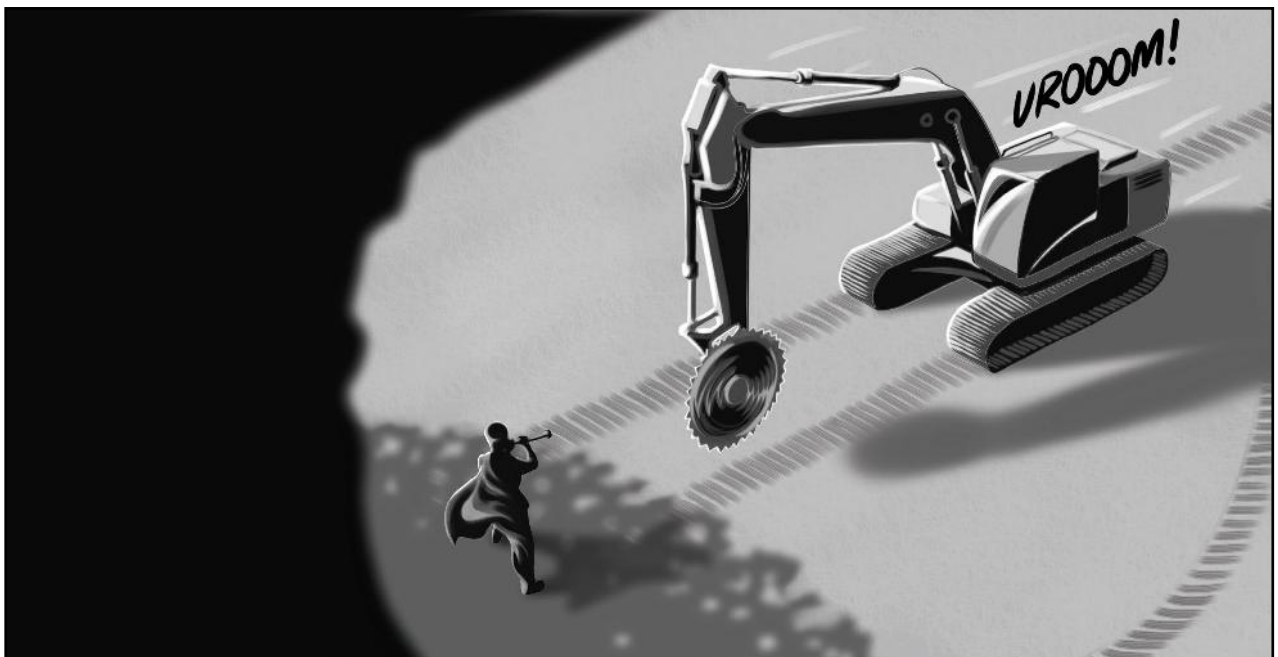


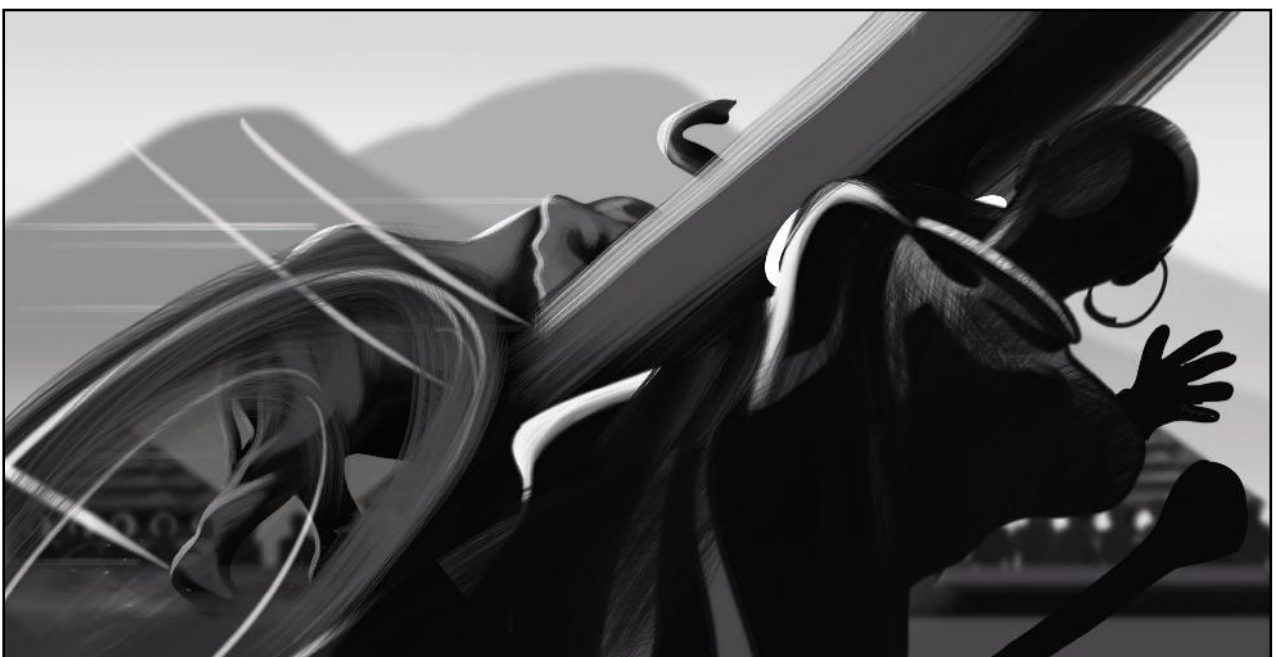














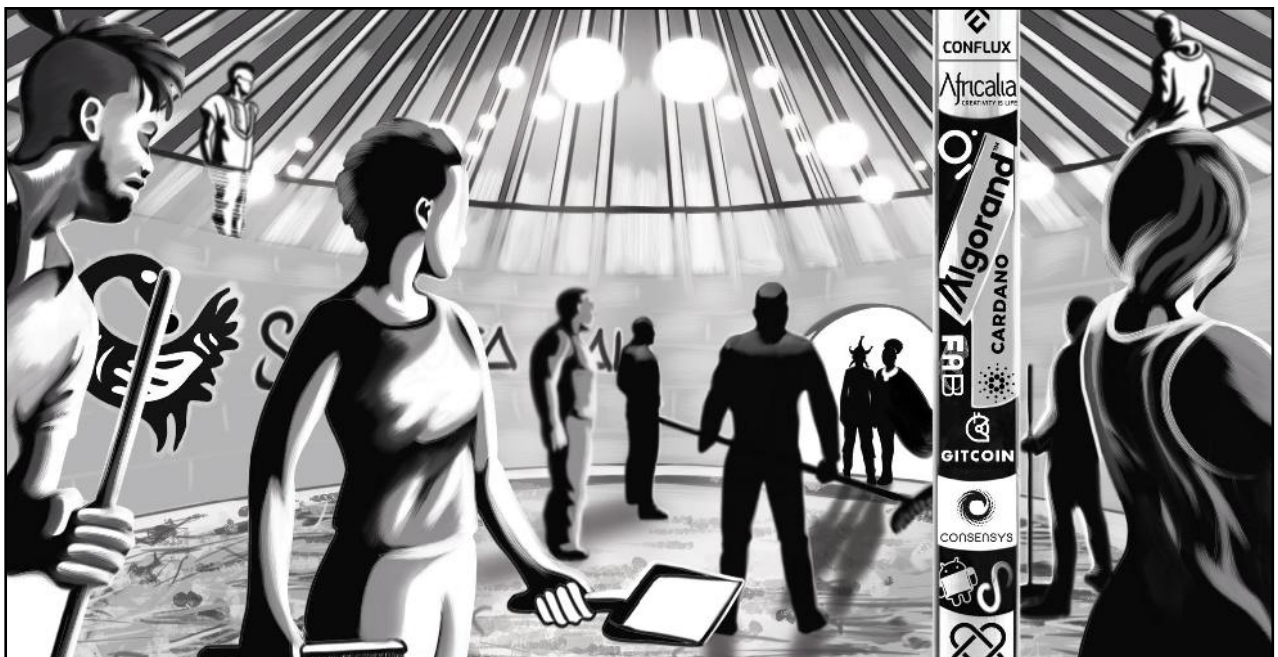














THIS WILL NOT BE THE LAST WE SEE OF MAX AND HIS ALLIES. WE NEED TO AGREE ON WHAT TO DO NEXT, AND WE MUST DO IT TOGETHER WITH ALL THE CLANS OF WAHENGALAND...
MAGOKORO ONCE SAID TO ME THAT CULTURE IS THE LIVING WILL OF THE PEOPLE, NOT A STERILE MUSEUM ARTEFACT. IF THE WAHENGA DAO GIVES LIFE TO THAT WILL AND ALLOWS US TO DECIDE THE FUTURE TOGETHER, THEN WE MUST BUILD IT...

THIS WOULD BE A MOST FITTING TRIBUTE TO MAGOKORO'S LEGACY.



I'LL START REACHING OUT AND ONBOARDING CLAN MEMBERS.

I CAN CREATE A PROPOSAL SUBMISSION SYSTEM.

I CAN HANDLE SMART CONTRACTS

I'LL DESIGN THE VOTING SYSTEM.

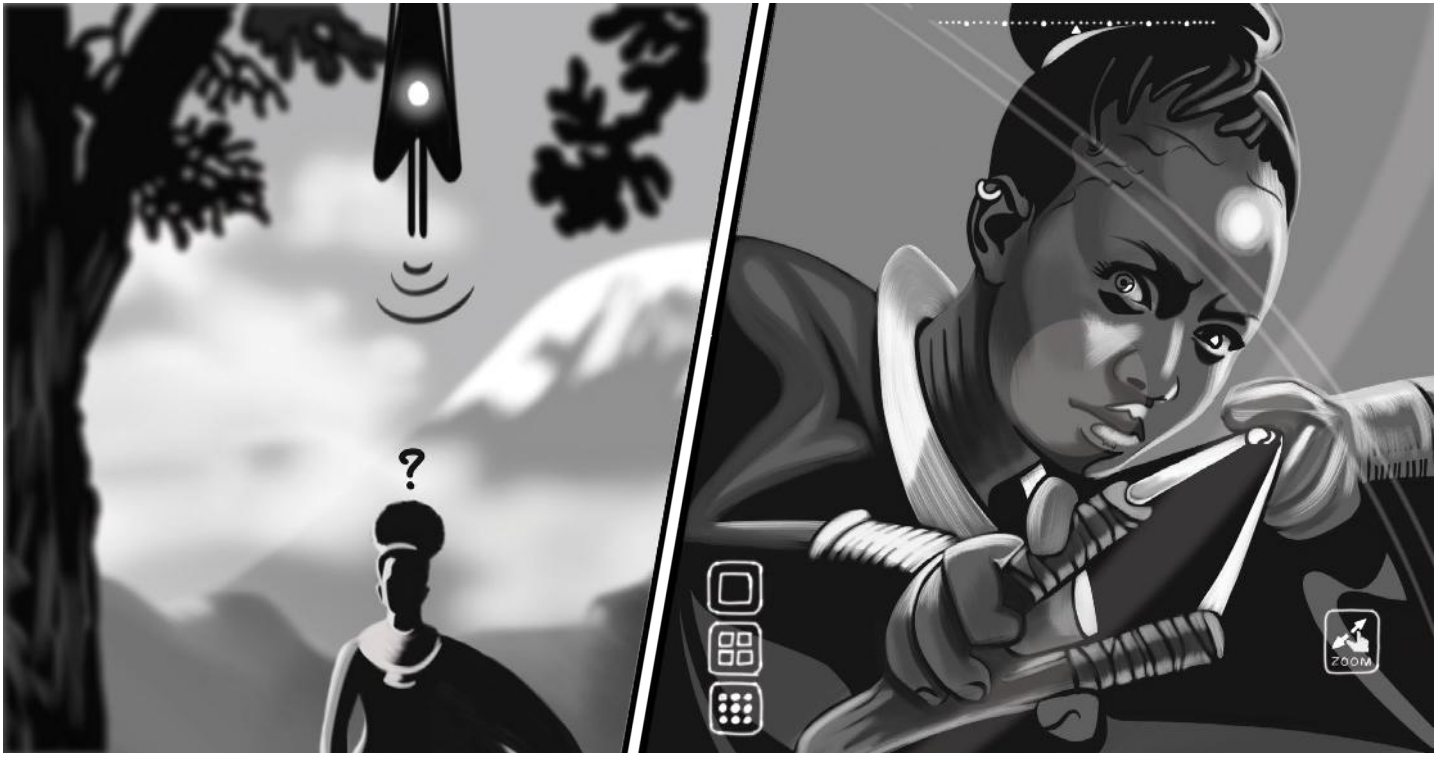


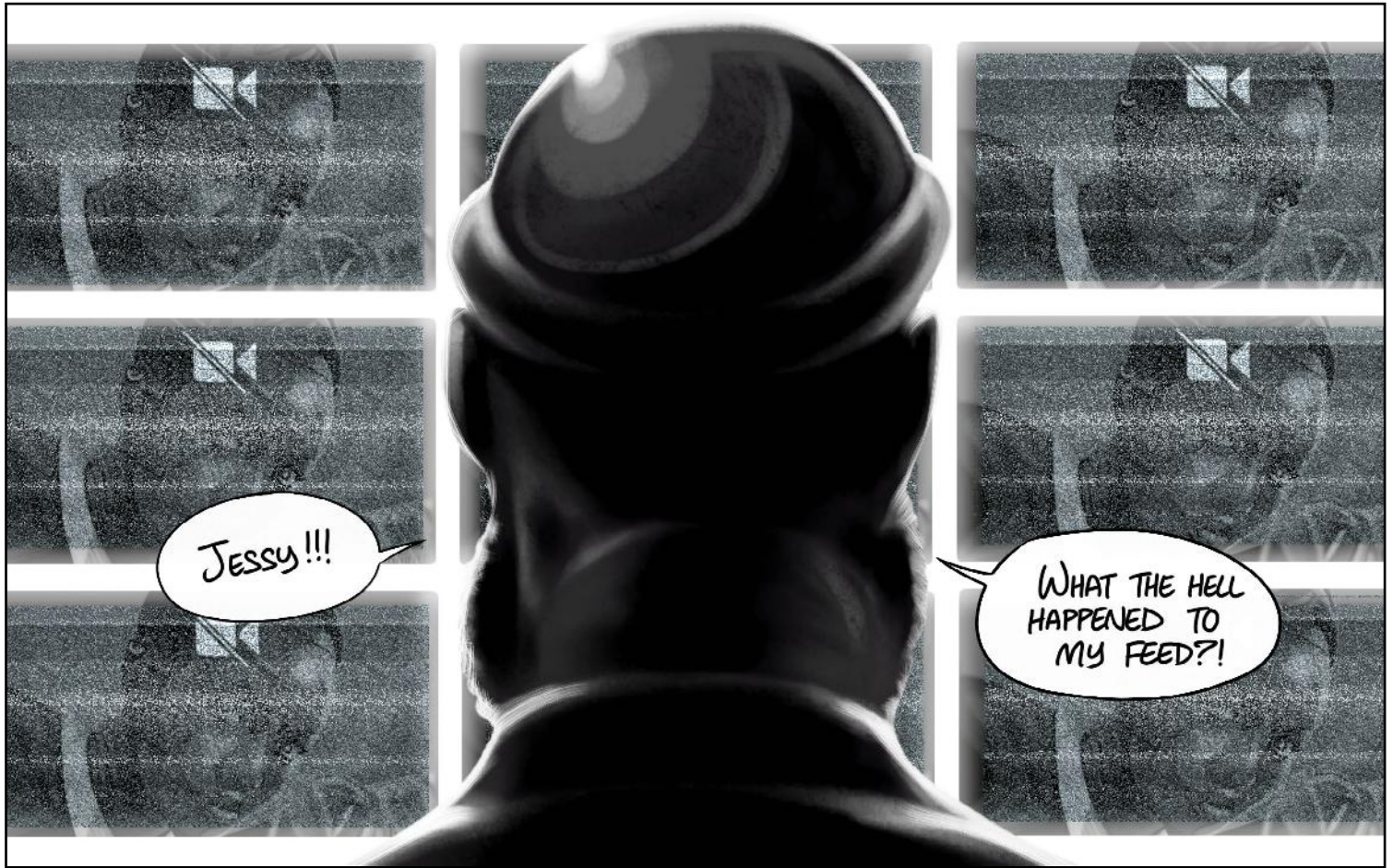
FINALLY! WE HAVE A HACKATHON ON OUR HANDS! IF YOU GUYS ARE SERIOUS ABOUT DOING THIS, WE NEED TO MOVE. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME...











JESSY!!!

WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO MY FEED?!

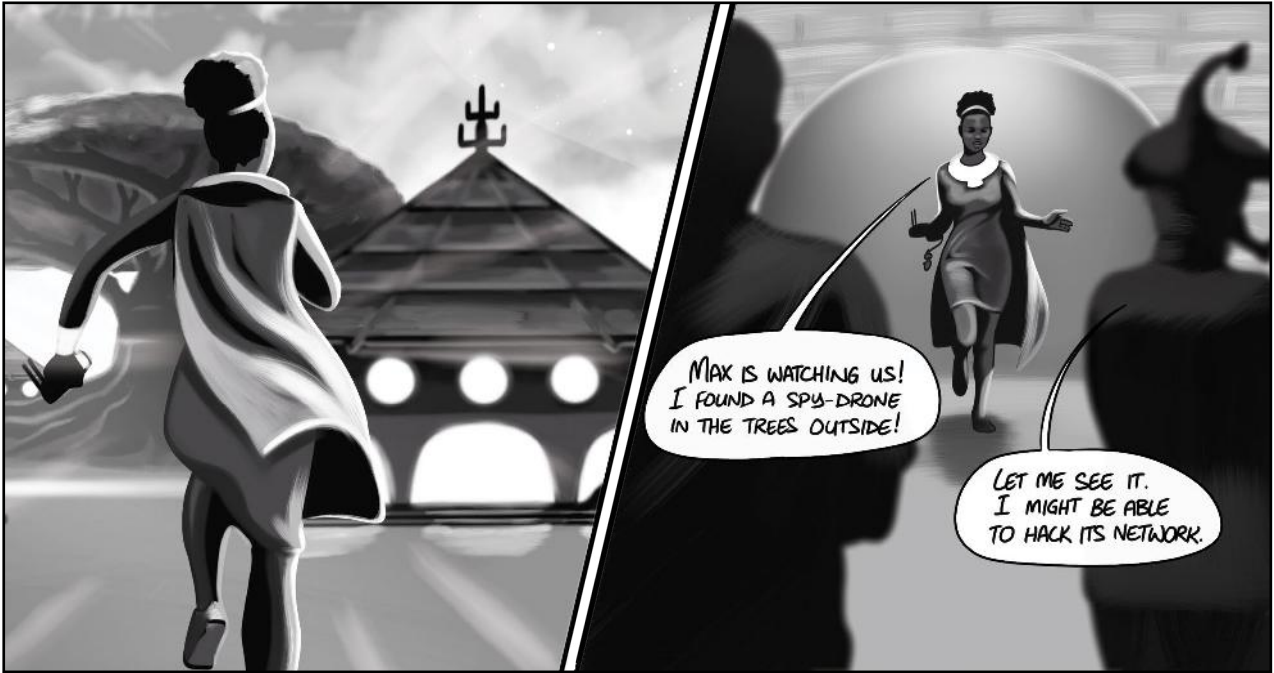


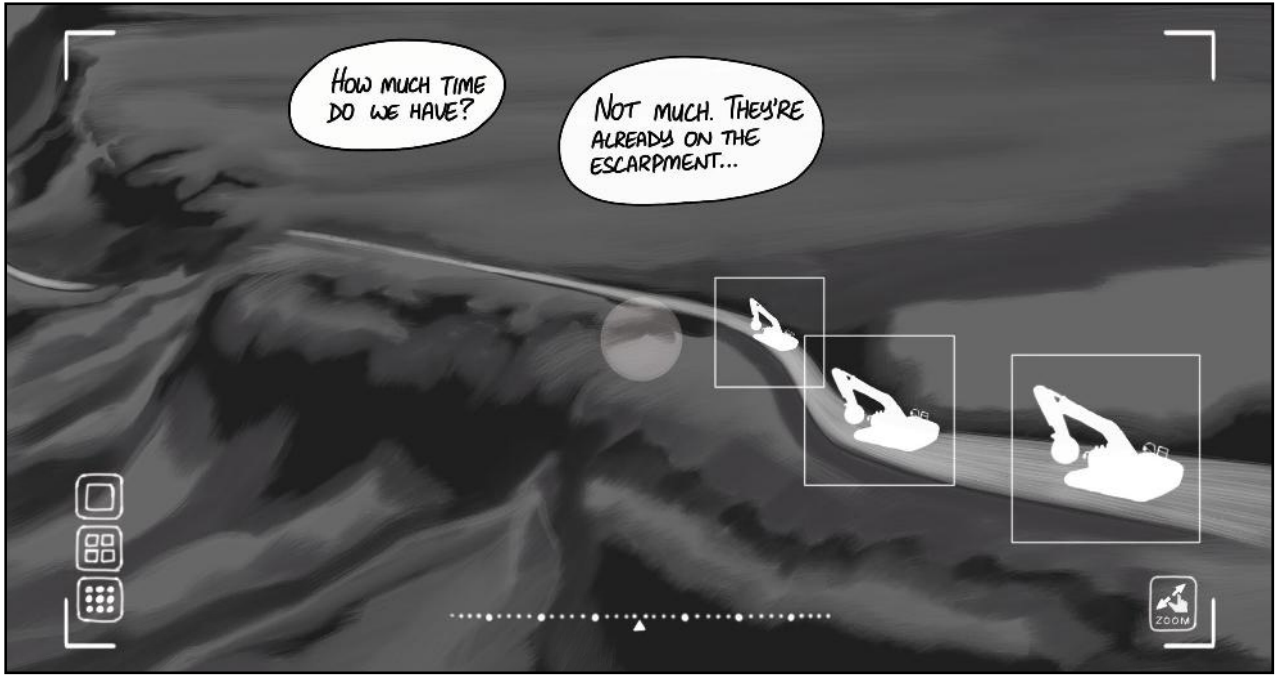
SHE MUST HAVE FOUND OUR DRONE AND DISABLED IT--

ENOUGH OF THESE GAMES! I'M GOING IN MYSELF!

BUT SIR--

I DIDN'T BECOME A BOSS BY BACKING DOWN FROM A FIGHT!















YOU AND YOUR FELLOW-INGRATES DARE TO FIGHT ME? AFTER EVERYTHING I'VE DONE TO DEVELOP WAHENGALAND?



THIS LAND IS MINE BY RIGHT! PAID FOR BY THE BLOOD OF MY PARENTS THAT SOAKED THIS SOIL. IT IS MINE, YOU HEAR?!



YOU ARE WRONG MAXWELL. WE, THE WAHENGA PEOPLE ARE EQUAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND...

AND WITH TODAY'S VOTE ON THE DAO, WE HAVE ARRIVED AT AN IMMUTABLE CONSENSUS TO HOLD THE Olorur VALLEYS AS AN INDIVISIBLE WHOLE FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN.

YOUR SELFISH ACTIONS ALSO CAUSED THE DEATH OF LOIBON MAGOKORO, AND FOR THIS, YOU AND YOUR COMPANY ARE EXPELLED FROM WAHENGALAND.









ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The creation of **TRUST** would not be possible without our creative collaborators, education partners and the generous contribution of our sponsors:

The Algorand logo features a stylized, bold 'A' with a diagonal slash through it, followed by the word 'Algorand' in a clean, sans-serif font.The Gitcoin logo consists of a circular icon with a stylized 'G' and a coin-like shape, positioned above the word 'GITCOIN' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font.The Interchain logo features a colorful, interlocking knot-like icon to the left of the word 'INTERCHAIN' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font. Below 'INTERCHAIN' is the tagline 'THE INTERNET OF BLOCKCHAINS' in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font.The Consensus logo features a circular icon composed of dots forming a spiral, positioned above the word 'CONSENSYS' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font.The Graph logo features a stylized 'G' icon made of dots, followed by the words 'the graph' in a lowercase, sans-serif font.The Conflux logo features a stylized 'E' icon made of dots, positioned above the word 'CONFLUX' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font.The Africalia logo features the word 'Africalia' in a stylized, green, sans-serif font, with the tagline 'CREATIVITY IS LIFE' in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font below it.The Cardano logo features a circular icon composed of dots forming a grid, positioned above the word 'CARDANO' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font.The FAB logo features the letters 'FAB' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font, with a stylized globe icon behind the letter 'A'.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Chief Nyamweya is an author, visual artist and co-founder of Freehand Movement: *an African digital arts and social impact studio* based in Nairobi, Kenya. His work fuses storytelling, illustration and animation to create visions of an alternative African future. In 2016, Chief attended Singularity University in California where he met Anne.

Anne Connelly is passionate about harnessing blockchain technology to transform the lives of people in developing countries. Anne is Faculty at Boston University and Singularity University, teaching global leaders how exponential technologies can solve problems that impact over a billion people. She has been an active part of the global blockchain community since 2012 as an entrepreneur, investor and educator. She previously ran Amply, a blockchain for social impact company in South Africa.

TRUST

www.trustgraphicnovel.com

TRUST is the story of a young whistleblower, Moraa, who with the help of her community and blockchain technology, goes on a perilous journey to protect Wahengaland - the last autonomous region in her country - from cultural and ecological destruction at the hands of the ruthless oligarch Max.

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Anne Connelly is Faculty at Boston University's Questrom School of Business, where she teaches blockchain-based business models for social impact. She has been an active part of the global blockchain community since 2012 as an entrepreneur, investor, and educator.

ISBN 978-9914-742-58-9

