

WILL WONDER & HIS ROBOT EARS



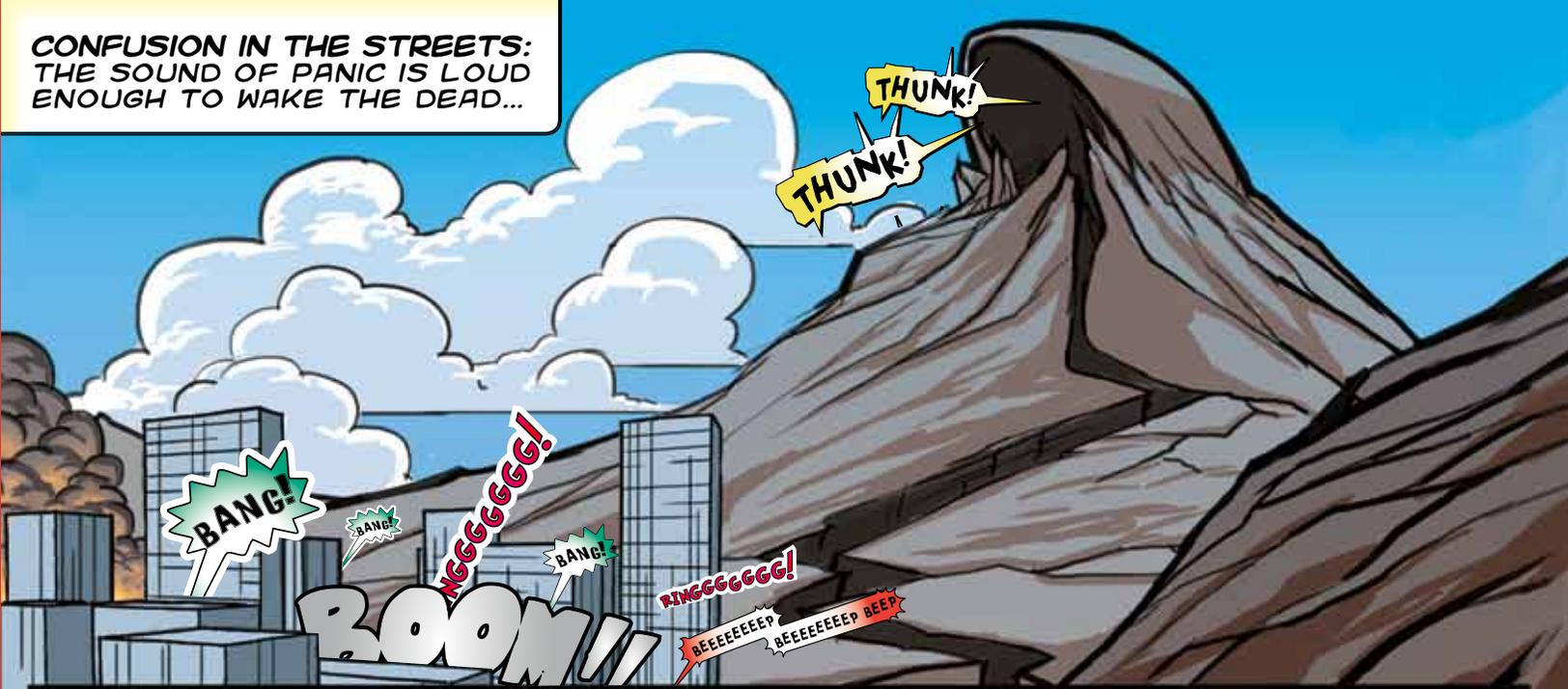
SAVE THE
KINGDOM
OF ECHOES!



INTRODUCING...
WILL WONDER
THE GALAXY'S FIRST
SUPERHERO WITH A CI

ART BY LAWRENCE "JONE" LEUNG
STORY BY RICK BATEMAN

CONFUSION IN THE STREETS:
THE SOUND OF PANIC IS LOUD
ENOUGH TO WAKE THE DEAD...



...BUT THE CITIZENS OF TEMPORIA ARE TRAPPED IN SILENCE!



I AM THE
ONLY
ONE
WHO CAN
HEAR!



UNABLE
TO HEAR
THEIR OWN
CRIES OF
DESPAIR...

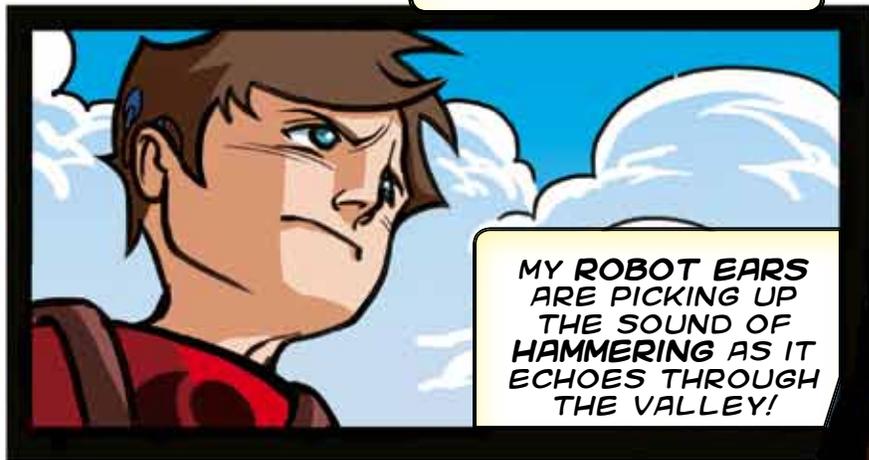


...THE CITIZENS
LOOK TO FORGOTTEN
HEROES IN VAIN.





FROM THE MOUNTAIN
A MIGHTY BANGING
NOISE CAN BE HEARD.



MY ROBOT EARS
ARE PICKING UP
THE SOUND OF
HAMMERING AS IT
ECHOES THROUGH
THE VALLEY!

THUNK!



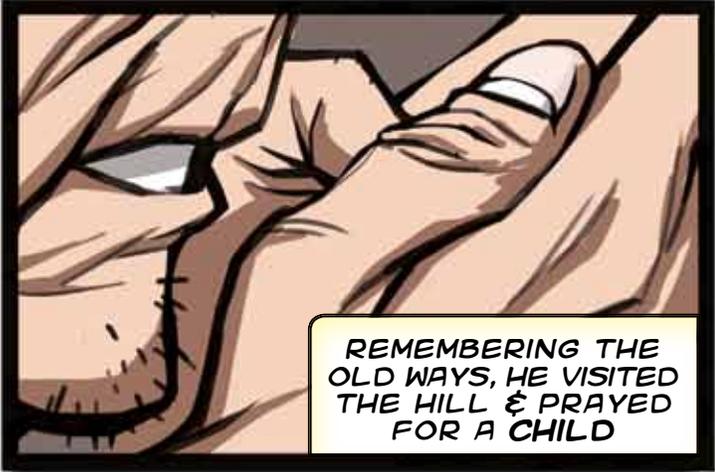
BUT THIS
ISN'T THE
BEGINNING
OF THIS
STORY...



...THIS STORY
BEGAN
LONG AGO...



ONCE THERE WAS A DYING KING, WITH NO LIVING HEIR TO TAKE THE THRONE UPON HIS DEATH...



REMEMBERING THE OLD WAYS, HE VISITED THE HILL & PRAYED FOR A CHILD

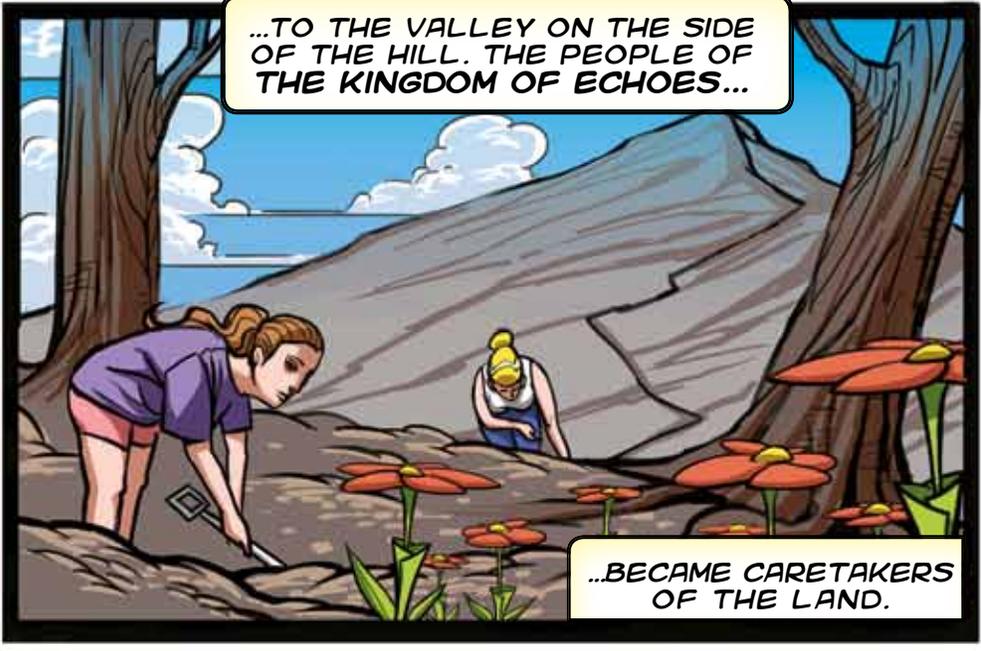


THE SLEEPING GIANT SHOWED MERCY.

...BUT ON ONE CONDITION



THE CORRUPT OLD KING KEPT HIS WORD, ORDERING THE PEOPLE TO MOVE THE ENTIRE CITY...



...TO THE VALLEY ON THE SIDE OF THE HILL. THE PEOPLE OF THE KINGDOM OF ECHOES...

...BECAME CARETAKERS OF THE LAND.



TWO TOWNS GREW ON EITHER SIDE OF THE HILL

MANY YEARS LATER THE KING DIED...



EVENTUALLY MALLEUS CAME TO RULE THE TOWN OF TONUS. HE WAS CRUEL AND HUNGRY FOR POWER.



LEAVING BEHIND TWO HANDSOME SONS: THE TWIN PRINCES OF ECHOES, INCUS & MALLEUS.

BELOVED AND FAIR MINDED, HIS BROTHER INCUS GOVERNED THE NEIGHBORING TEMPORIA.



UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP, THE TOWN GREW STRONG...



...MALLEUS BECAME JEALOUS.

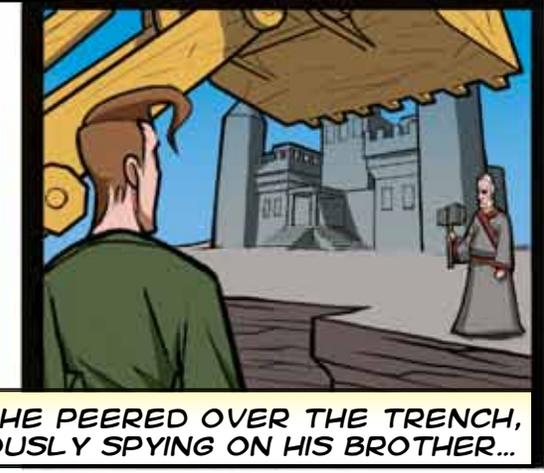
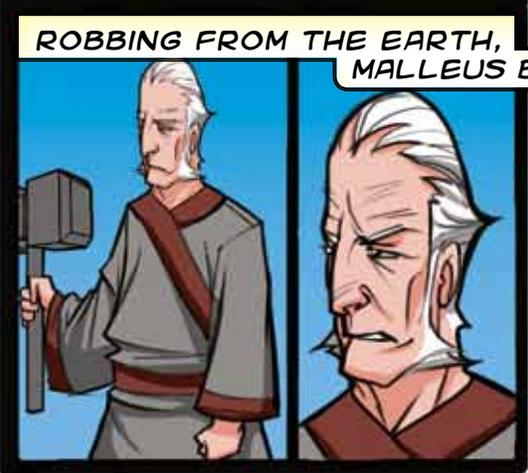
A DEEP TRENCH WAS DUG TO SEPARATE TEMPORIA AND TONUS FOREVER.



A GREAT OPEN WOUND, THE TRENCH WAS DEEP AND IMPOSSIBLY LONG...

...SPLITTING THE HILL OF THE SLEEPING GIANT IN TWO.

ROBBING FROM THE EARTH, MALLEUS BUILT A CASTLE OF STONE.



HE PEERED OVER THE TRENCH, JEALOUSLY SPYING ON HIS BROTHER...

MEANWHILE...

IT SOUNDS LIKE HAMMERING!

THUNK!

THUNK!

THE SOUND IS COMING FROM DEEP INSIDE!

THE OLD MEN SAY THAT THE GREAT HORN WAS FORMED MANY YEARS AGO.

THE PEOPLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VALLEY WERE CAST INTO DARKNESS.

THAT HAMMERING IS OUR ONLY CLUE.

COME ON AUDIO, I GUESS IT'S UP TO US FIND OUT WHO STOLE THE SOUND FROM TEMPORIA.

**BARK!
BARK!**





THUD!



SNIFF
-SNIFF

IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S A DEAD END.



WHAT IS THIS STUFF, IT FEELS LIKE WAX!?



THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS WAX!



WHO IS THAT?
WHO IS SPEAKING?



I AM A GIANT THAT SLEEPS. YOU ARE A GUEST IN MY EAR!

YOU HAVE POWER WHICH YOU DO NOT YET KNOW.



WILLIAM, YOU ARE MORE SENSITIVE TO VIBRATIONS THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE KINGDOM OF ECHOES.

TOUCH THE WALL & YOU WILL HEAR MY VOICE VIBRATING THROUGH YOUR BONES...



TAP
TAP

EAR? BUT HOW? MY ROBOT EARS AREN'T PICKING UP ANY SOUNDS!



YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY GUEST IN MY EAR...

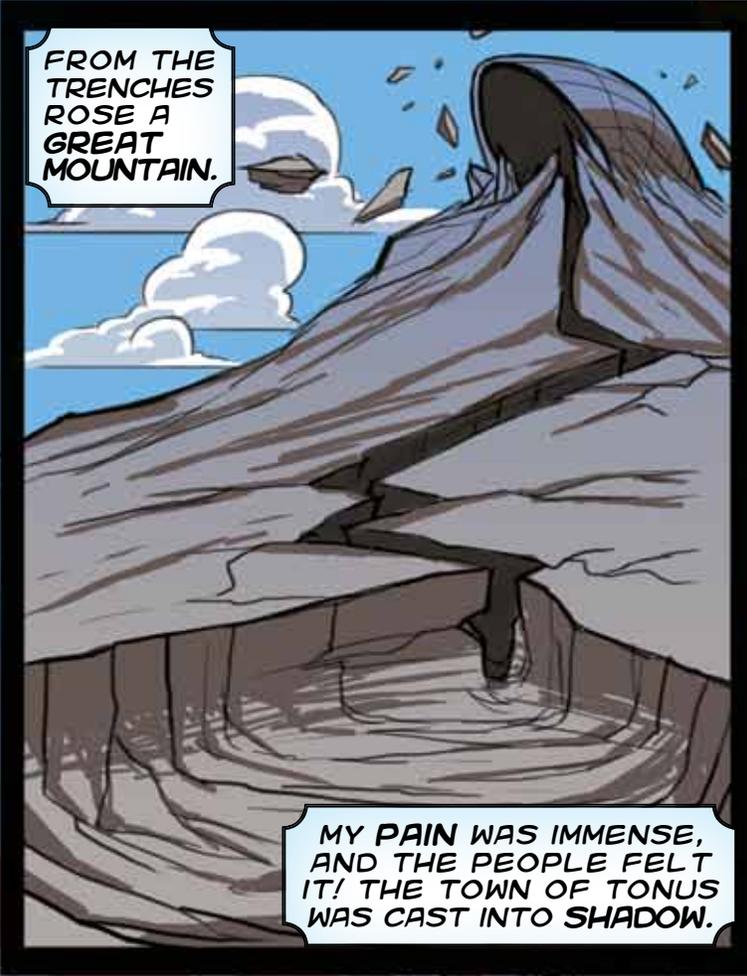


MALLEUS WAS BITTER. THE PEOPLE LOVED HIS BROTHER...

...I AM BEING WEAKENED BY AN EVIL PRINCE. HE WISHES TO DESTROY ME...



IN JEALOUSY, HE DUG A GREAT TRENCH TO SEPARATE THE TOWNS.



FROM THE TRENCHES ROSE A GREAT MOUNTAIN.

MY PAIN WAS IMMENSE, AND THE PEOPLE FELT IT! THE TOWN OF TONUS WAS CAST INTO SHADOW.



THE MOUNTAIN IS MY HEARING NOW. THE BELL IS MY EAR.

BUT WHY DESTROY YOU?

BUT WHO AM I TO STOP HIM?

IF THE MOUNTAIN FALLS, THE SUN WILL RETURN. I WILL LOSE MY HEARING & SO WILL THE PEOPLE OF TEMPORIA!

LIKE THE GOOD PRINCE, YOU WERE BORN WITHOUT HEARING. IT WAS HIS SECRET & HIS STRENGTH. INCUS WAS SENSITIVE TO VIBRATIONS OF THE LAND.

LEARN TO CONTROL THESE VIBRATIONS WILL. MALLEUS MUST BE STOPPED OR...

THUNK!

THUNK!

AAARRRRRRRRRRRRGGGGHHHHH!!

GIANT? GIANT!? MY ROBOT EARS! THE SOUND IS SO LOUD!

GIANT, I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

THERE ARE SO MANY VIBRATIONS!!

BARK!



HE'S GONE.

THE GIANT SAID I CAN CONTROL VIBRATIONS.



I CAN FEEL THE ENERGY...



I CAN USE THE ENERGY!



CLAP!



BOON!!!



WHOA! THAT WAS SERIOUSLY COOL!!!



RUFF!
RUFF!

IT'S GETTING LOUDER! WE CAN'T BE FAR!



THUNK!
THUNK!



GRRRR!



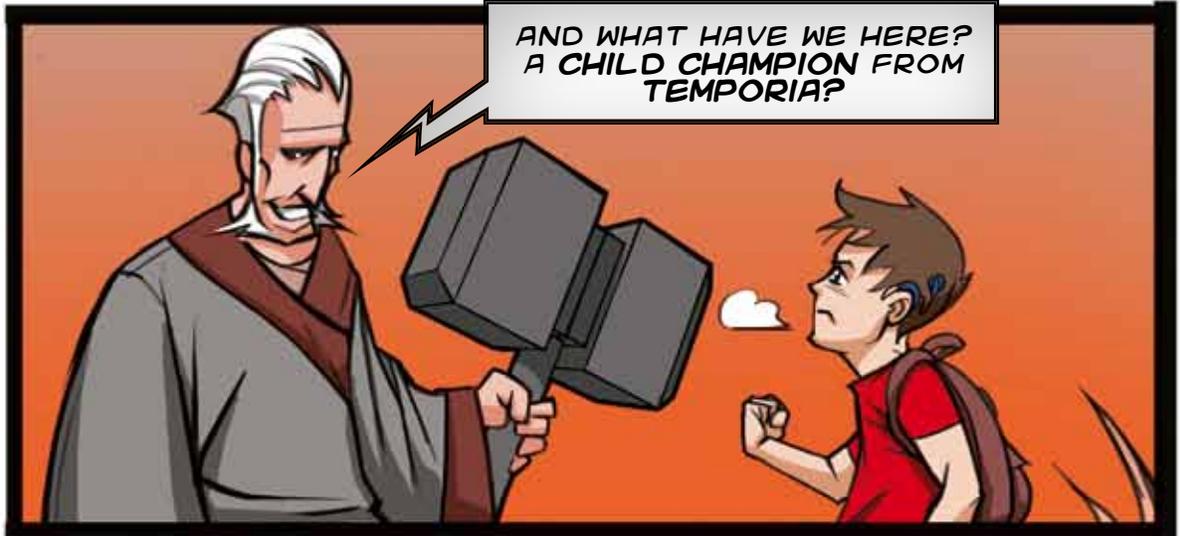
HE'S GOT A PRISONER!



STOPPPP!!



THUNK!



AND WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
A CHILD CHAMPION FROM
TEMPORIA?



SAVE YOUR QUESTIONS!

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN HEAR ME...

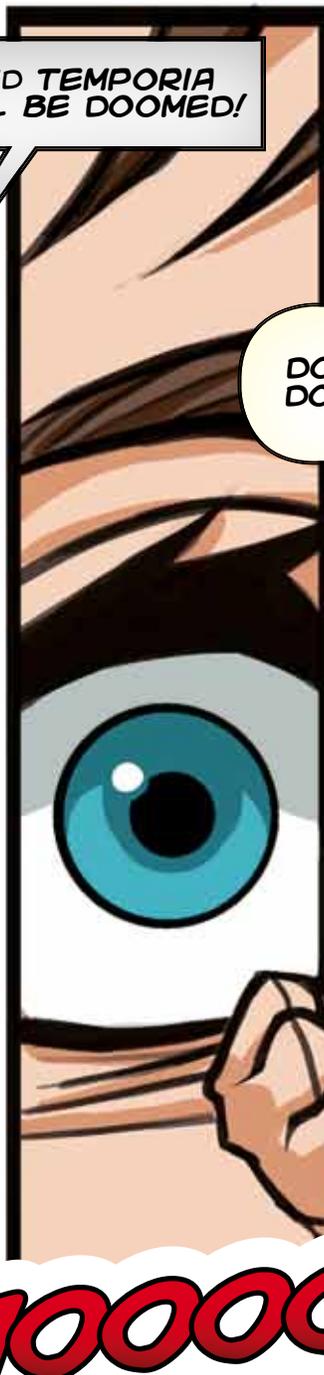
WHO IS THE GIRL & WHY HAVE YOU TIED HER UP!?



...BUT NO MATTER...

...SOON I SHALL DESTROY THE GIANT...

AND TEMPORIA WILL BE DOOMED!



DON'T DO IT!



NOOOOOO!!!



THE EARDRUM!
IF I CAN ONLY JUST...



TAKE THAT
SMELLIUS!!



DON'T
EVEN
TRY IT!



INSOLENT CHILD!
YOU THINK YOU'VE
STOPPED ME?



HA! THE
OLD GIANT IS
VULNERABLE
EVERYWHERE!



I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD BE SO HAPPY TO HEAR A DOG BARK!

THAT'S AUDIO. ERR UM... I'M WILL..

I'M TARA. TARA TYMPANI. NOW COULD YOU PLEASE UNTIE ME?

BARK!
BARK!

OH, UM, RIGHT OF COURSE!



MALLEUS KIDNAPPED MY FATHER. HE TRICKED ME INTO GUIDING HIM HERE, SAYING MY FATHER WAS IN DANGER. WE HAVE TO STOP HIM!



I JUST DID WHAT THE GIANT TOLD ME.



YOU SPOKE TO THE GIANT?

THE LAST PERSON TO SPEAK TO THE GIANT WAS PRINCE INCUS!



NO BIG DEAL

NO BIG DEAL!?!?

ONCE MALLEUS HAS WEAKENED THE GIANT, THERE WILL BE A WAR!!



IT FEELS LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE!

TAKE A WILD GUESS WHO IS TO BLAME!



IF YOU'RE SUCH AN EXPERT, WHY DON'T YOU LEAD THE WAY!



THESE THINGS ON YOUR EARS. I'VE SEEN THEM SOMEWHERE BEFORE.



YOU MEAN MY ROBOT EARS? I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE ELSE WHO HAS THEM.

MY MOM SAYS THE DOCTOR GAVE THEM TO ME WHEN I WAS BORN.

I THINK I HAVE SEEN A DRAWING... I JUST CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE...



TRY NOT TO MAKE SO MUCH NOISE!

SORRY... IT SOUNDS LIKE WHEN MY NEIGHBOR LEARNED PIANO!

RUMBLE



MY FATHER TOLD ME ABOUT THIS! WE MUST BE IN THE GIANT'S COCHLEA. IT IS LITERALLY LAID OUT LIKE A BIG KEYBOARD!

WHOA! ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE!



SO WHY DID MALLEUS KIDNAP YOUR DAD ANYWAY?

HE'S A SCIENTIST...

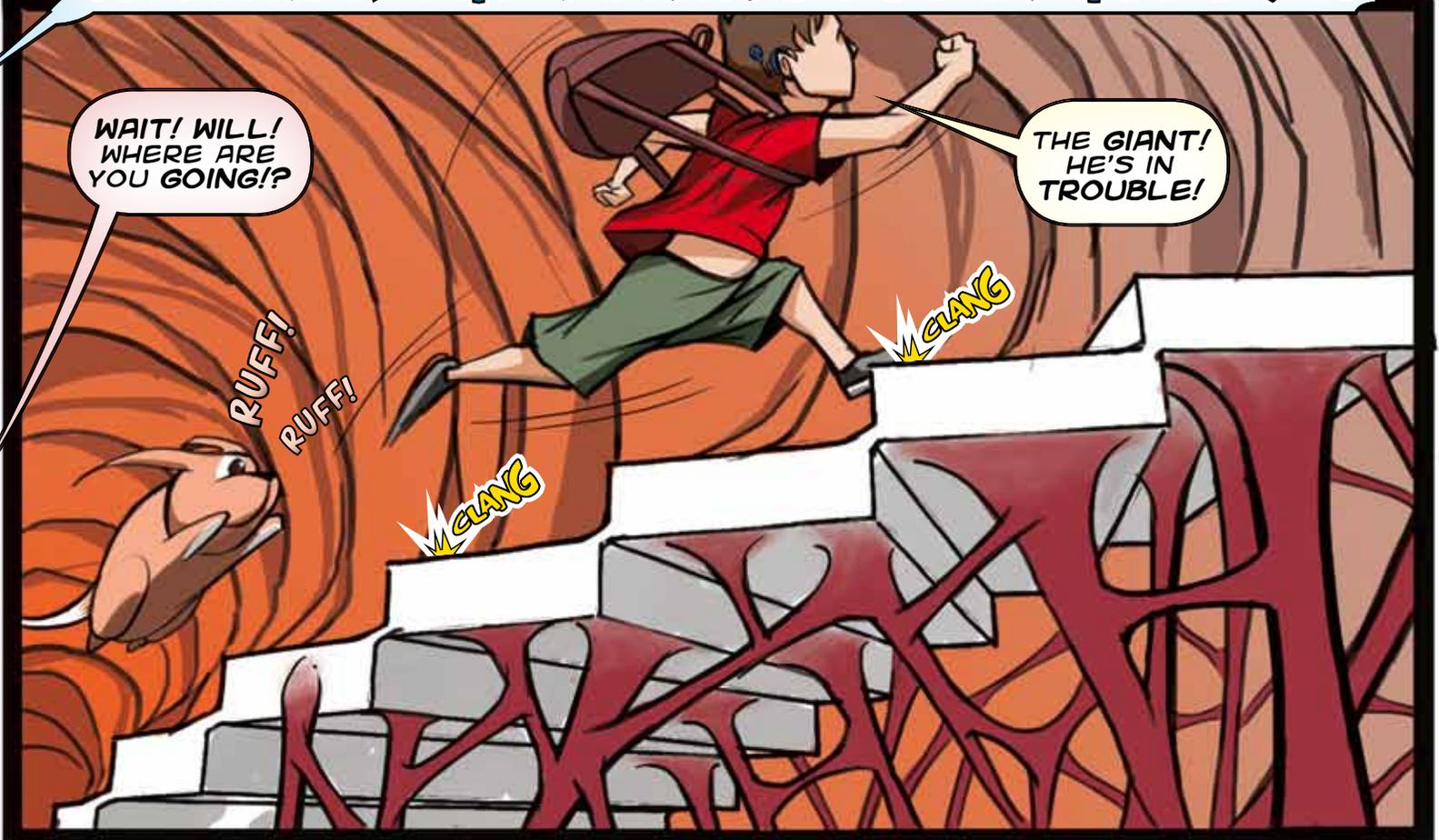


WE'LL FIND HIM.

...MALLEUS MAKES HIM WORK AGAINST HIS WILL.



WILLIAM, THE TUNING FORK. HURRY!!



WAIT! WILL! WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?

THE GIANT! HE'S IN TROUBLE!

RUFF!
RUFF!

CLANG

CLANG



YOU'RE NOT TARA



CLANG!



FOOLISH CHILD!

HUMPPFF!!



GRRRR!

ATTA BOY AUDIO!



GIVE ME THAT TUNING FORK!

...OR ELSE!



DON'T DO IT WILL! HE'LL DESTROY IT!

DESTROY THE FORK? I AM ONLY TRYING TO SAVE US ALL FROM THE EVIL GIANT.



NOW GIVE ME THE FORK AND I WILL LET HER GO.



HE'S LYING WILL!



IF I CAN ONLY JUST...

PUT THE FORK DOWN ON THE FLOOR!



EXCELLENT ...NOW STEP AWAY.







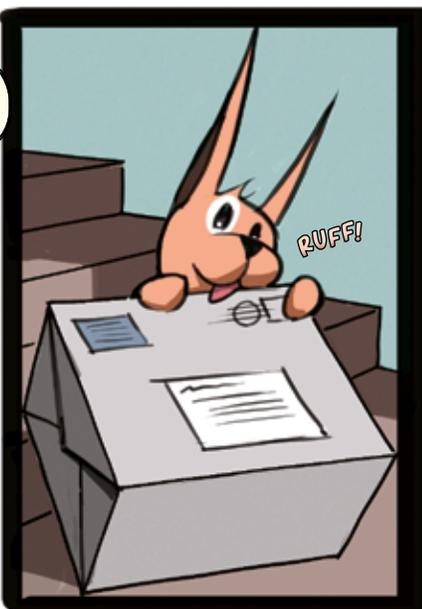
WILLIAMMMM!

THE POSTMAN'S BROUGHT YOU A PACKAGE!



BYE MOM.

SEE YOU LATER HONEY, I'M OFF TO MY PILATES CLASS.



RUFF!



Dear Will,

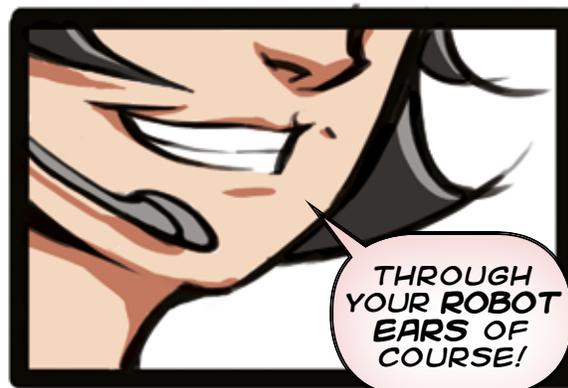
The robot ears that you wear were first designed for Prince Incus. By the time they were finished, the Prince had already passed. When you were very young, my father gave them to you. Inside you will find a new pair. They will help you to hear even better than before. Plus there are some extra features...

You were very brave to confront Malleus. He will come again. When that time comes, we must be ready. I will contact you.

Tara



CONTACT ME... HOW?



THROUGH YOUR ROBOT EARS OF COURSE!

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