

WAY BACK HOME



6: A FORK IN THE ROAD

MATTHIAS COLSON!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?!



IT'S REGRETTABLE. BUT I CAN'T HARDLY HAVE THE TRUTH ABOUT
YOUR DEAD MATE GETTING OUT...



SORRY FRIEND, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE STUCK YOUR NOSE
IN IT. TOO LATE NOW THOUGH.



ZAOU? KILL 'EM.



WAIT, DON'- !!



GOOD BOY, ZAOU.

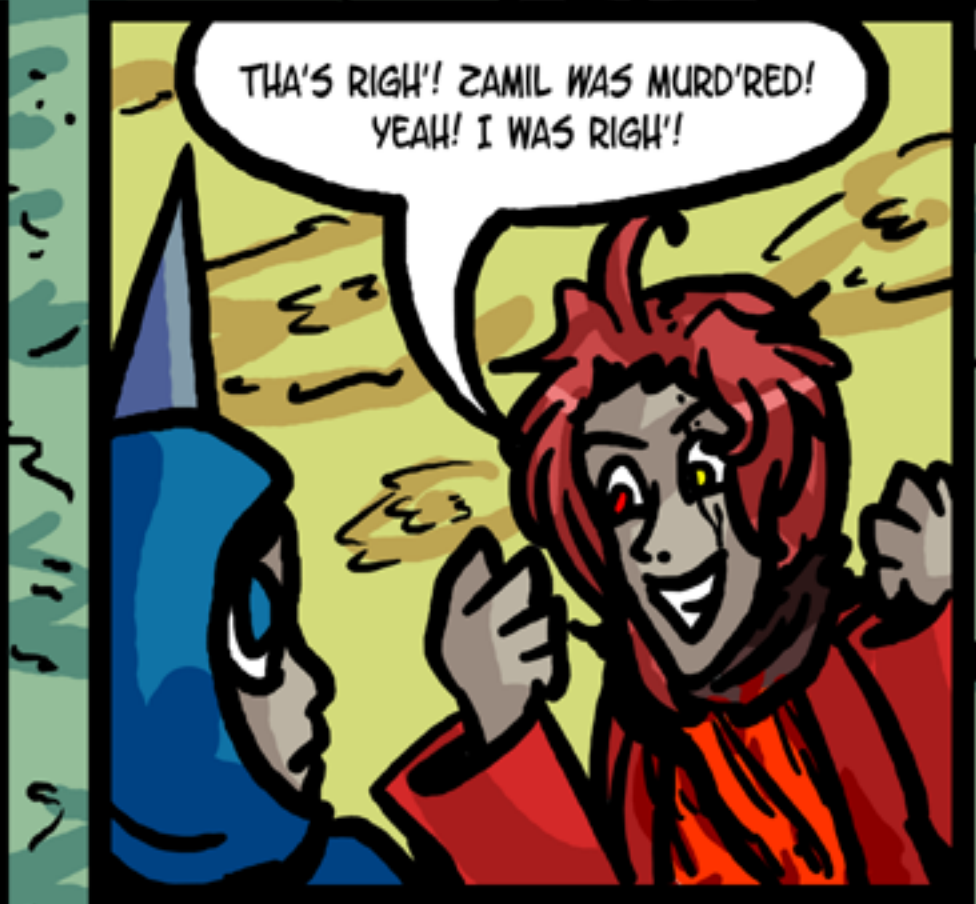
...GOD HATE TO KILL A KID, BUT YASIR WOULD HAVE MY HEAD IF THIS JUNK GOT OUT... *~SIGH~*

LET'S CLEAN UP AND GO BACK TO-

WAIT WHAT...

UM.....!!

WHY IS THERE ONLY ONE BODY?!



SO WHY IS-

OI TELLA! ZAMIL!

OH HEY! ...UH, WHAT HAPPENED?
MANA DIDN'T KILL YOU, RIGHT?

WHA'?

FELS! WHERE THE HELL DID THAT LITTLE
KID GO? THERE'S NO SIGN OF HER!

I CAN'T HAVE ANY
LOOSE ENDS, BUT..
FEH!

CAN'T HANG AROUND HERE ANY LONGER. I GOTTA GO.

THAT'S SOME HANDY
MAGIC, PRIESTESS.

IT'S JUST LIGHT MAGIC, ALL
GODS PROVIDE IT...

SELDOM SEE IT WIELDED SO
EFFECTIVELY THOUGH.

I AM A
PRIESTESS.



WE'RE LUCKY THIS MATTHIAS
FELLOW'S A HUMAN. HE'LL BE MUCH
EASIER TO TRACK THAN ANOTHER
WINGED PERSON.

FOR SURE.



WHAT DO YOU THINK
WE'LL FIND...?

I'M TRYING NOT TO THINK
ABOUT THAT.



WISE MOVE. WHATEVER WE FIND, WE'LL
GO FROM... THERE!



WHAT THE-?



IF YOU'RE HERE TO ROLL ME YOU'RE WASTING
YOUR TIME, I AIN'T GOT SCRATCH.



MATTHIAS COLSON?



HUH- I...
YEAH...?

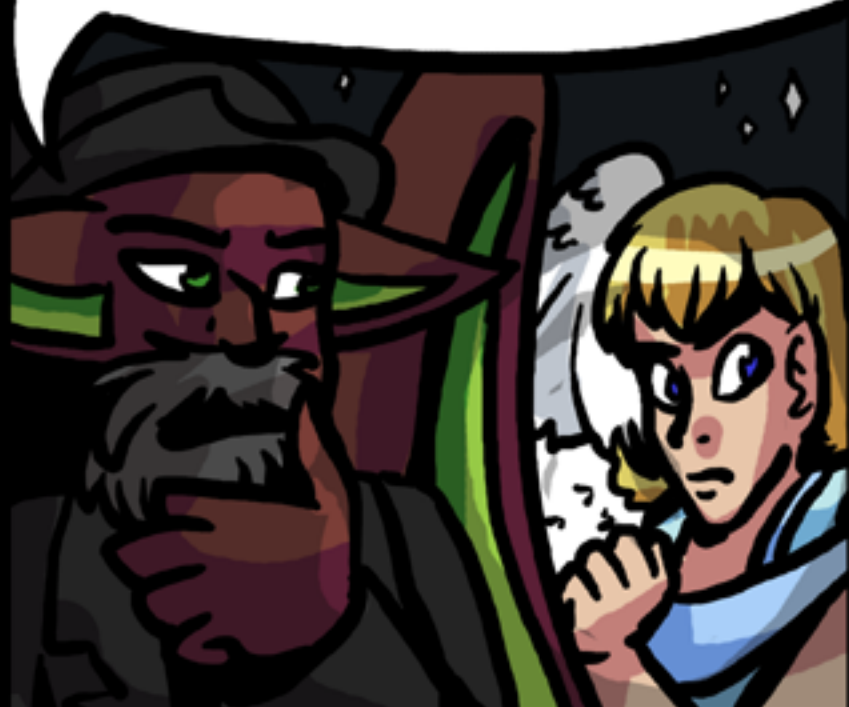


OH HH. YOU'RE THAT GUY WHAT DOES THE HERO PATROLS, RIGHT?
UP AWFUL LATE THOUGH AIN'TCHA?

AS ARE YOU,
ADVENTURER.



YOU SEEM TO BE ALONE. THAT'S NO GOOD.
I HEARD YOU LEFT TOWN WITH TWO PEOPLE
NOT LONG AGO. WHERE ARE THEY?



OH, HEY. WHAT? THOSE GUYS? THEY DITCHED
ME LIKE, RIGHT OUT OF THE GATE.

WHY?

WHAT'S THE
PROBLEM?



WAIT, WAIT. DON'T TELL ME... I KNOW THAT BLOKE WAS SKETCHY, WAS HE A CRIM? YOU KNOW, I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT-



YOU'RE A MONSTER SUMMONER, AREN'T YOU?



YEAH, SO?



IF I WAS TO GO A BIT FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD, TELL ME... WOULD I FIND ANYTHING OF INTEREST?

A PERSON WAS KILLED IN A MONSTER ATTACK 'ROUND HERE RECENTLY.



WHY ARE SO MANY PEOPLE LOOKING IN TO WHAT'S S'POSED TO BE JUST A BLOODY-



FORGET IT.



ZAOU!



ARC!

GET THE HUMAN!

I'LL TAKE THE MONSTER!

LIGHTNING!

OH HELL.

OOOF

WE'VE GOT A LOTTTTTT OF QUESTIONS FOR YOU BACK AT THE HERO GUILD, BOY.

SO SINCE Y' WERE KILLED BY A SUMMON'R,
THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE YER SON'S OK.

WAY AHEAD OF YOU.



WE HIT THE VIEWING POOL WHILE YOU WERE
GONE. ZAMIL'S BROTHER'S GOT THE KID. NOW WE
JUST NEED YOU TO REVIVE SO WE CAN GET HIM!



ZAMIL, WOULD YOUR BROTHER
HAVE HIRED THE MONSTER
SUMMONER? WHY WOULD HE
HAVE YOUR SON...?



WELL, HE...HE WOULD HAVE.
HE... I...



I USED TO BE A
TRICKSTER.

HMM.



I CAST MY LAST ILLUSION IN HIGH SCHOOL! I HAVEN'T HAD
ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT SINCE. MY FAMILY WERE ALL TRICKSTERS.
THEY SPLIT AFTER THAT. HELL, I MARRIED A CERAPH PRIESTESS!



SO YER LIKE SOME SORT
OF... REVERSE HERETIC.

...YES?



PFT, TRICKST'RS. I THOUGH' ELEMENT'LISTS WERE BAD 'TIL I MET TRICKST'RS.

YEAH, ZEALOTS OF ANY SHADE ARE BAD. I SHOULD KNOW, I KILLED IN THE NAME OF THE SUN. LIKE AN IDIOT.

GODS, DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED.

OHhhh HEY, YEAH. MANA! HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU DIED, ANYWAY?

...WHAT?

...I SUPPOSE I WAS AROUND EIGHT. WHY DO YOU ASK?

OH. SORRY. JUST WONDERING WHAT YOU DID TO GET SUCH A HARSH PUNISHMENT AT JUDGMENT.

FRANKLY, IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, TELLA.

BUT-

NO.



THIS IS WHERE I DIED...

YEAH, THA' JERK SUMMON'R MENTION'D THA'.



SHEESH TAL, YOU
LOOK GROSS.

UGH, I FEEL
GROSS.



BUT I AIN' GOT A CHANGE'A CLOTHES...

MAYBE YOU SHOULD LIKE...
TAKE SOME WITH YOU. YOU
TRAVEL WAY TOO LIGHT.



ZAMIL, ANY IDEA OF WHERE YOUR
BROTHER WOULD BE?



I THINK I
KNOW.



BET HE'LL BE IN THE OLD HOME-
STEAD ON THE OTHER SIDE OF
FELTON. COME ON.







HEY! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE JUST BECAUSE I TRIED TO ATTACK AN OLD MAN AND A PRIESTESS! I DIDN'T KILL NOBODY!

YOU WANNA CHARGE ME WITH SOMETHING HAND ME OVER TO THE DAMN COPS OR-



HELLOOOOO!

MATTHIAS, WAS IT? I BOUGHT YOU SOME COFFEE AND BREAKFAST. SURE IT'S BEEN A LONG NIGHT FOR YOU, DEAR.



YOU AIN'T WITH THE HERO'S GUILD...

NO I AM NOT. BUT I DO HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU.



TO BEGIN WITH...



SUGAR AND MILK?

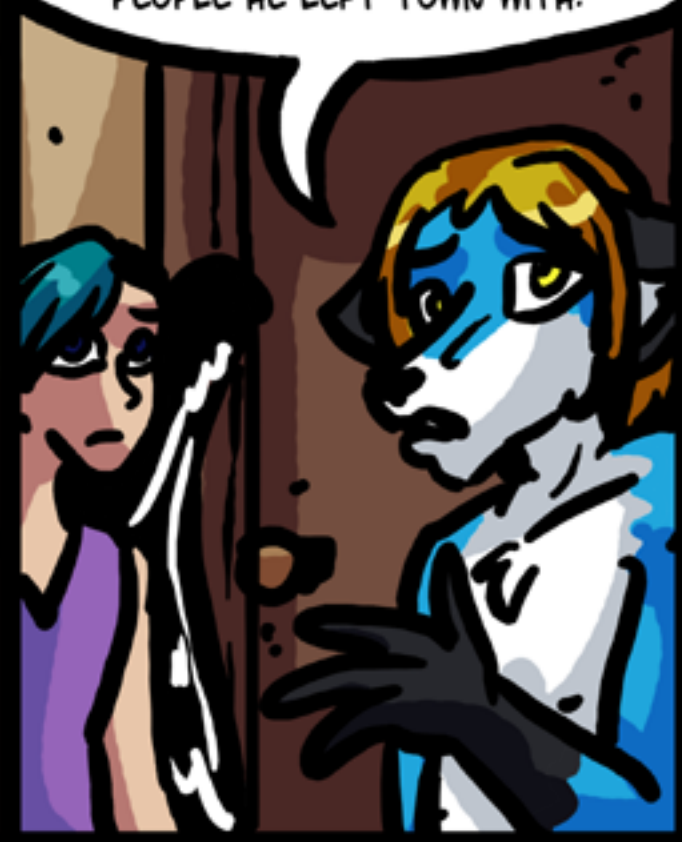




RIGHT. LET'S MOVE. WE'LL DROP MATTHIAS OFF AT THE
COP SHOP ON THE WAY THROUGH.



WHAT DID HE DO WITH THE TWO
PEOPLE HE LEFT TOWN WITH?



ON THAT HE PROTESTS INNOCENCE, SAYS THEY WENT ON WITHOUT HIM. I'M NOT SO SURE.



RECOVERING MANA TAKES
PRIORITY. COME ON.



WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT
HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS
LATER.



MYRA... WAS HE THE ONE
WHO KILLED ZAMIL?



...YES.



YOU KNOW, IF ANYBODY SEES US THEY'RE GONNA FREAK OUT.


AND BY 'US' I MEAN 'YOU TWO'.

THA'S FAIR.

WELL WE ARE TAKING THE BACK ROADS, AND IT'S STILL EARLY. I DON'T THINK WE'LL BE SEEN. UNTIL WE GET THERE...

WE GONNA GET THERE SOON?

SHOULD DO. THAT'S IT UP AHEAD.



NOBODY KNOWS WHERE WE ARE, RIGHT...?

WE'RE PERFECTLY SAFE HERE, DON'T YOU WORRY.

MM. YOUR COOKING'S NOT AS GOOD AS MUM'S...

YEAH, SORRY ABOUT THAT.

I WONDER... I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING. WHAT DID YOUR MOTHER TELL YOU ABOUT TRICKSTERS?

...HUH?

HERETICS? SHE TOLD ME TO WATCH OUT. THEY'RE EVIL, LIKE DANGEROUS MONSTERS...

OH, I SEE.

MY DAD TOLD ME NOT TO TELL ANYBODY, BUT HE SAID...

MY DAD SAID TRICKSTERS DON'T HAVE TO BE EVIL,
THEY'RE JUST PEOPLE TOO.

OH?

HE SAID THEY CAN BE MORE DANGEROUS
THOUGH. WITH MONSTERS YOU KNOW
WHAT YOU'VE GOT. PEOPLE CAN HIDE IT,
AND THEY CAN BE WORSE, EVEN IF
THEY'RE ELEMENTALISTS.

YOUR DAD WAS PRETTY
SMART... ABOUT SOME
THINGS.

DID YOU WANT A HAND
CLEANING UP...?

DON'T WORRY, I'VE GOT IT!

WAS THAT...?

THE DOOR!

Knock
Knock

THAT CAN ONLY BE MATTI,
HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO
KNOWS I'M HERE. BUT...
WHY WOULD HE COME-

WHAT- MANA!! DON'T OPEN THAT DOOR!

WH-

DAD?!

ZAMIL?

