

A WHISPER IN THE TWILIGHT

AN ADVENTURE BEYOND THE EARTH

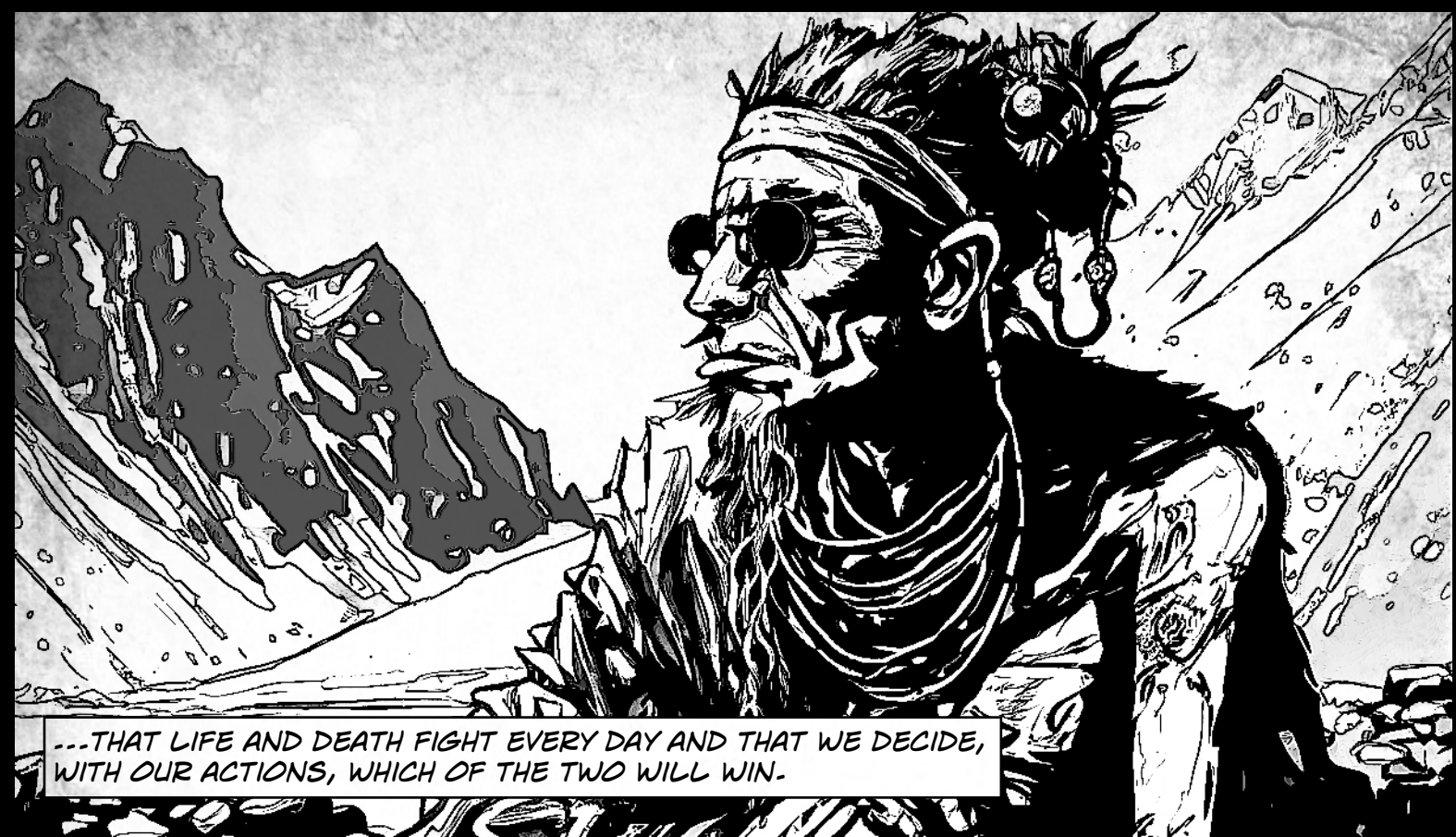
- Prologue to the game -



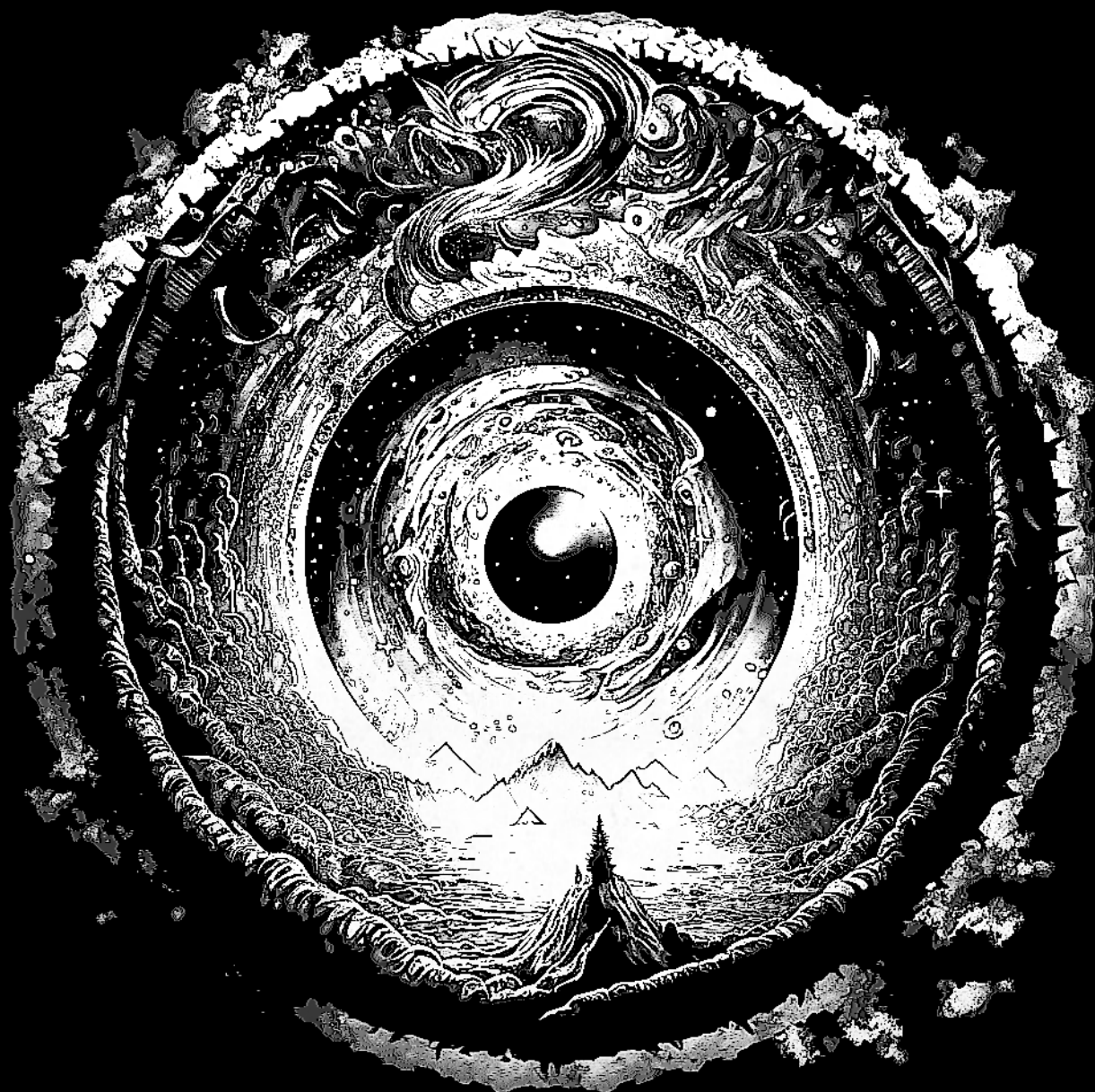
THE SHAMAN FROM THE VILLAGE ALWAYS SAID
THAT THE ENTIRETY OF EXISTENCE IS A CIRCLE...



SCRIPT AND STORY BY
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ART BY
ALLAN EYE



...THAT LIFE AND DEATH FIGHT EVERY DAY AND THAT WE DECIDE,
WITH OUR ACTIONS, WHICH OF THE TWO WILL WIN.




EVEN ON THE OLD EARTH IT WAS LIKE THIS.





I HAVE LIVED MANY LIVES, AND I HAVE
SEEN THE FUTURE. AND I CAN TELL
YOU THAT HE WAS RIGHT.

MY NAME IS ZORY.
I'M A SKYWATCHER, AND THIS IS MY STORY.



THE DARK SEA... THAT'S WHAT THEY CALLED IT. A LIQUID ABYSS OF DEATH THAT CAME OUT OF THE EARTH UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE MOUNTAINS.



IN A FEW DAYS, IT COVERED THE ENTIRE SURFACE OF HIPPALECTRYON, DRAINING THE SAP FROM THE TREES AND THROWING MEN INTO A SPIRAL OF DESPAIR.

ONLY THE STRONGEST SURVIVED.



PEOPLE ROAMED THE VAST LANDS
LIKE SILENT HOODED SPIRITS.

THE GIGANTIC PTERUS-CLAWS FLEW
THROUGH THE SKIES AS IF IN A
VICTORIOUS DANCE OF DEATH. THEIR
MONSTROUS JAWS GLEAMED
MENACINGLY IN LEIA'S LIGHT.

OUR FLESH AND BONES
WERE THEIR EASY
PLUNDER.

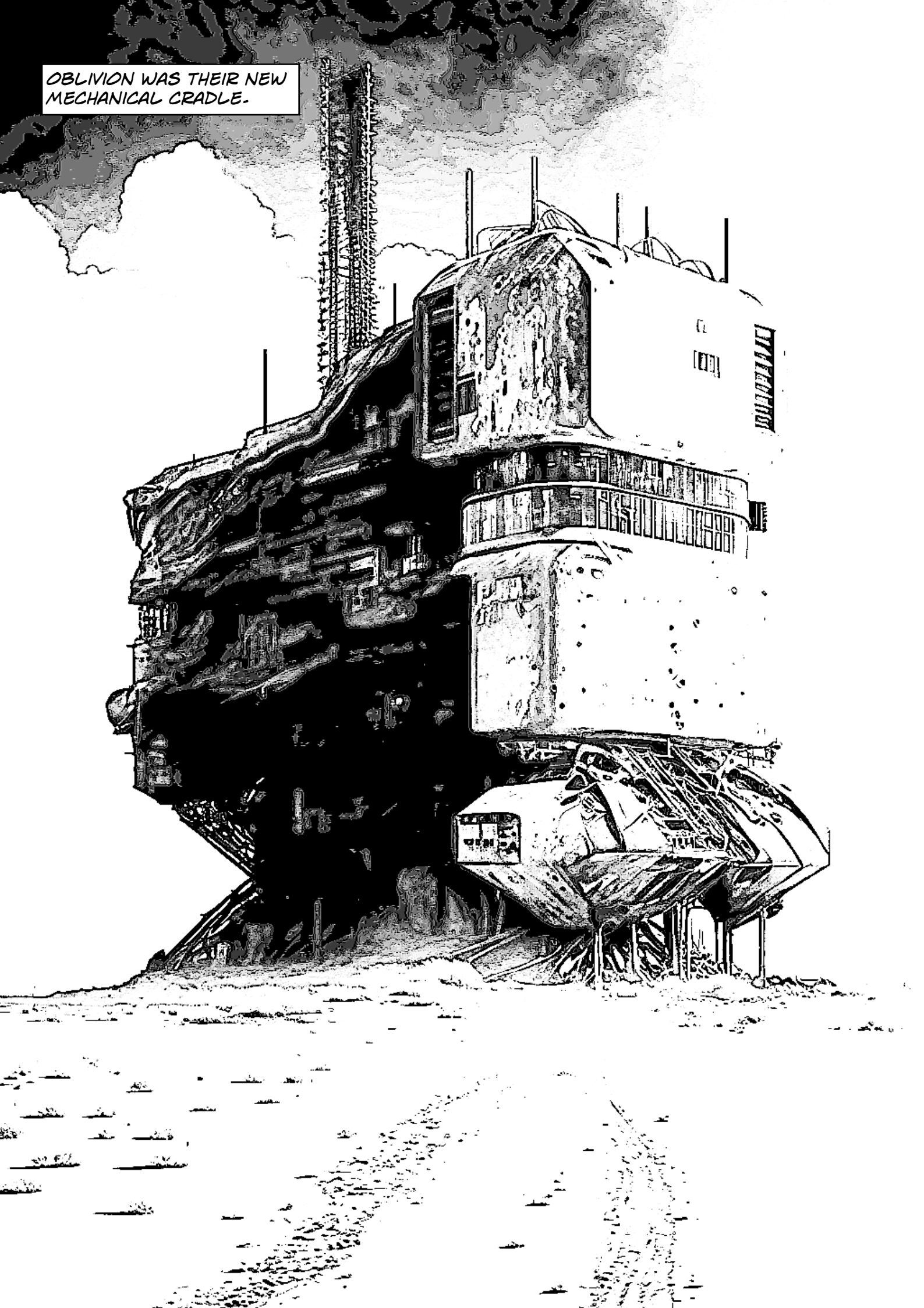




THE OLD OUTPOSTS WERE LIKE
MUTE SKELETONS OF IRON READY
TO COLLAPSE AT ANY MOMENT.

THEIR RUSTY SOULS MOANED AT THE
MERCY OF THE WINDS, METALLIC
GHOSTS ABANDONED FOREVER.

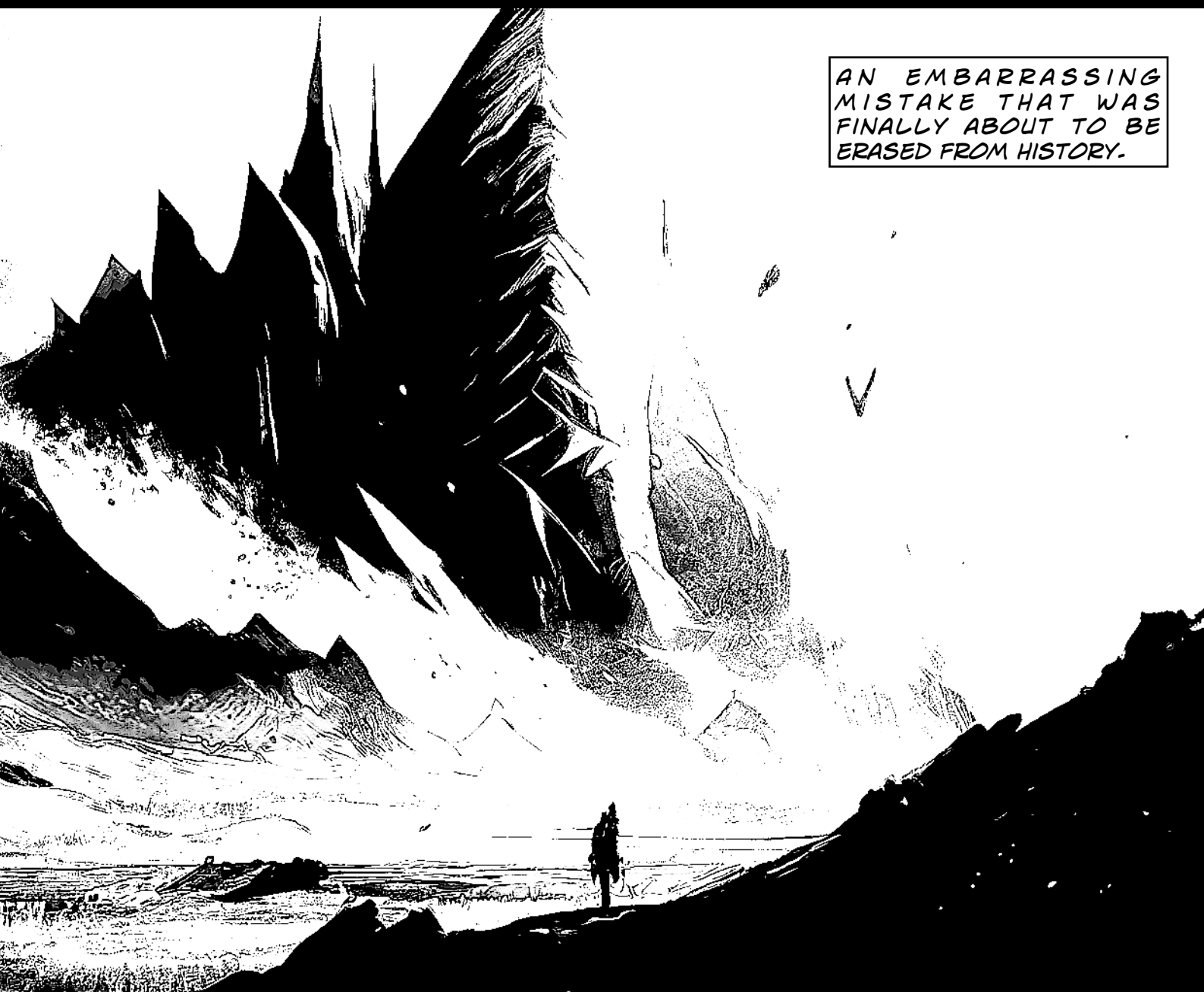
OBLIVION WAS THEIR NEW
MECHANICAL CRADLE.



HUMANITY WAS LIKE A DRY
BRANCH OF EVOLUTION.




AN EMBARRASSING
MISTAKE THAT WAS
FINALLY ABOUT TO BE
ERASED FROM HISTORY.





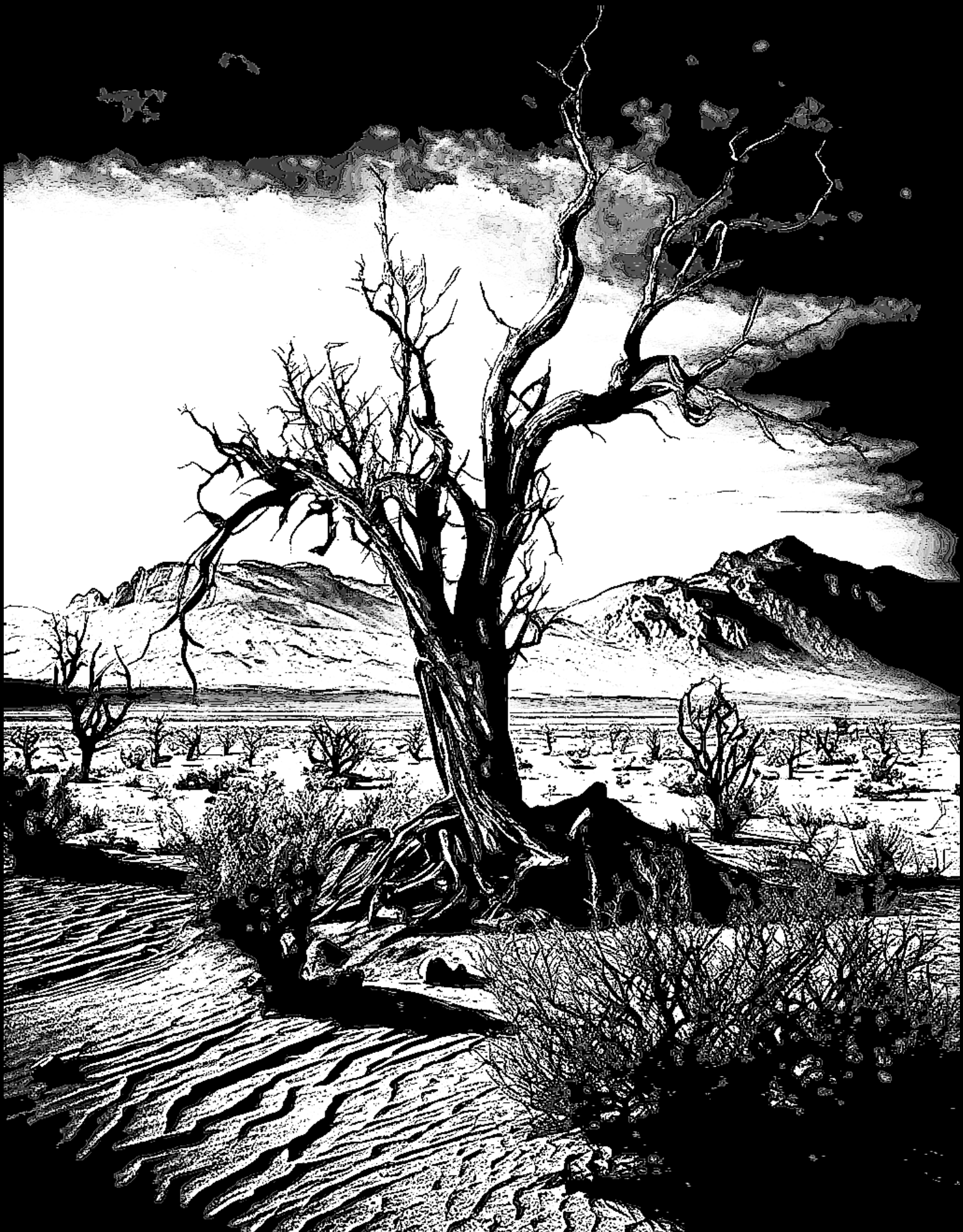
I WAS BORN IN THOSE
DAYS WITHOUT HOPE...



...AND THIS IS THE ONLY
WAY OF LIFE I KNOW.




YET IT WASN'T ALWAYS LIKE THIS.



HIPPALECTRYON...A SMALL MOON
WITHIN THE VERMILION EYE SYSTEM
SURROUNDING A GAS GIANT IN THE
CONSTELLATION OF MANTIS.



THIS IS MY HOME.

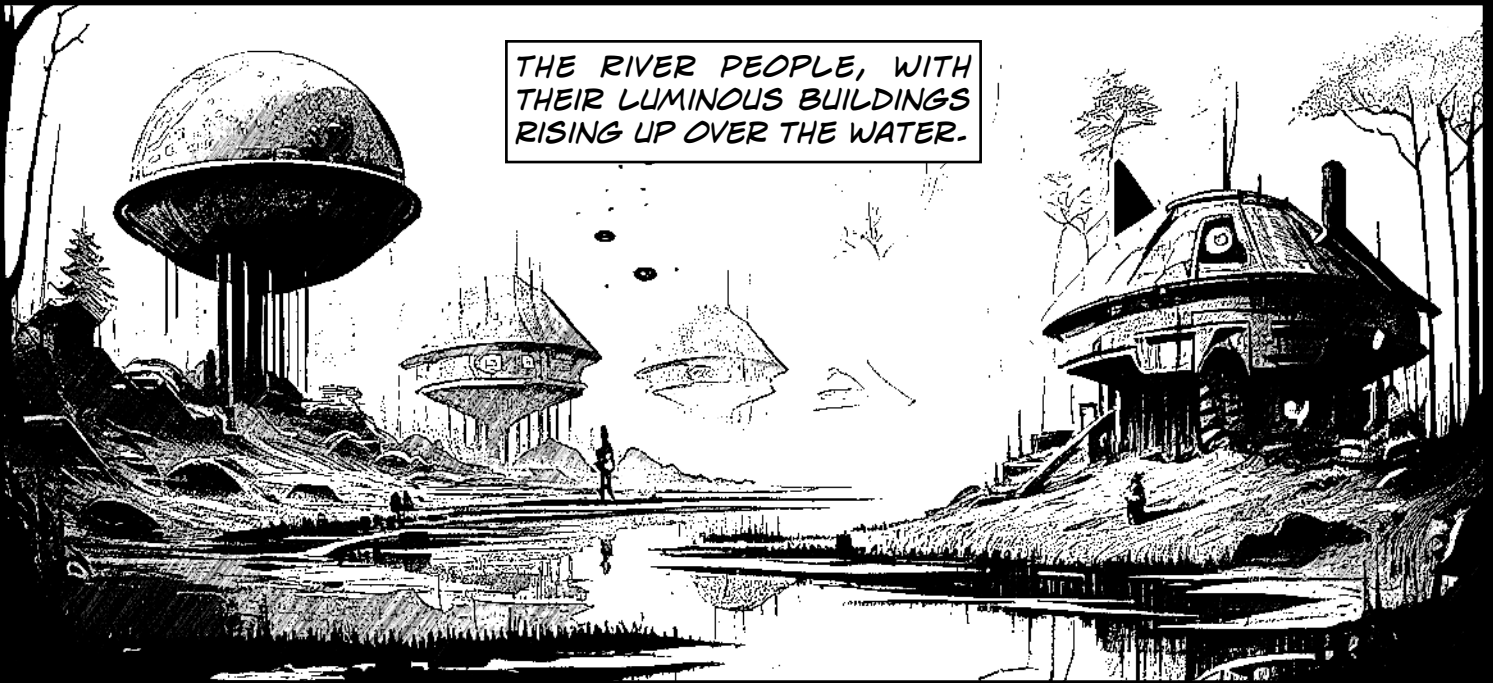


THE FIRST SETTLERS
LIVED IN PEACE WITH EACH
OTHER, DOMINATING THE
NATURAL ELEMENTS IN
HARMONY.

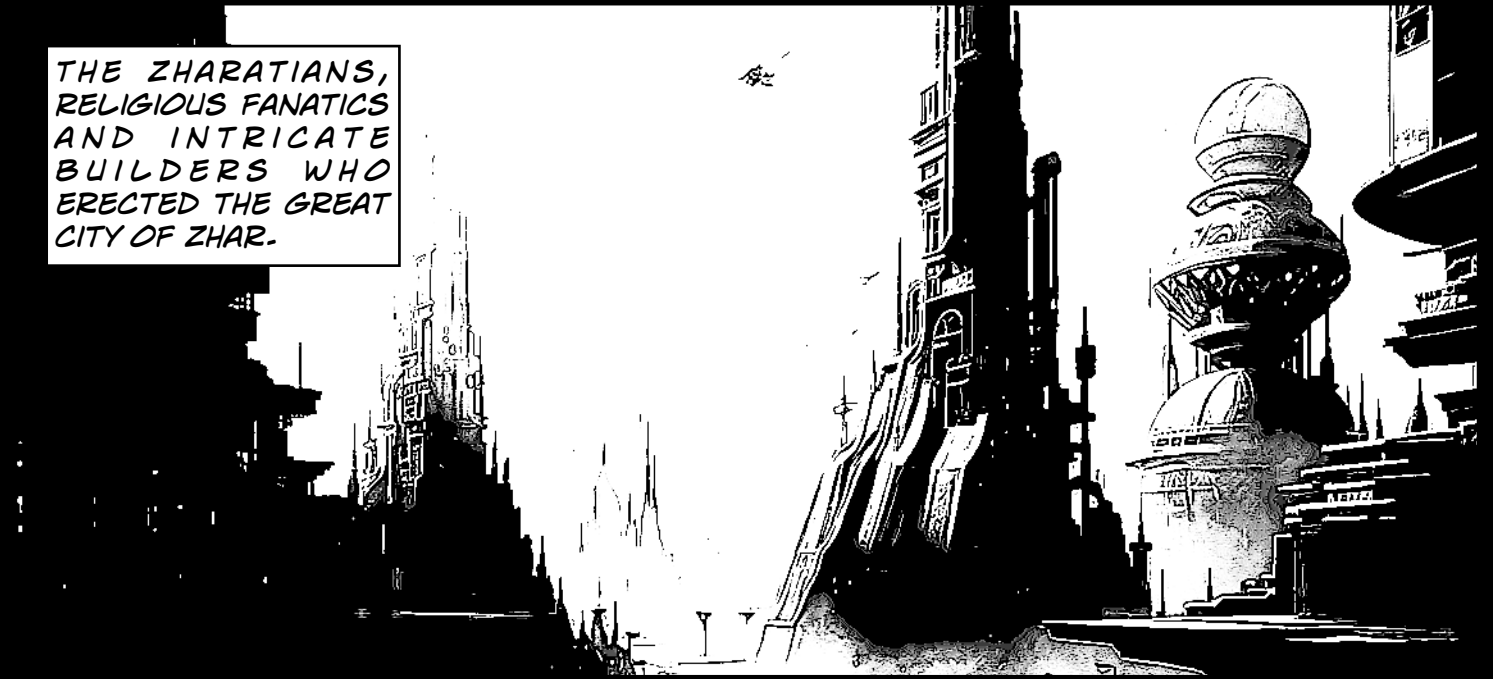
THEY PROSPERED THANKS
TO THE MECHANICAL
ARCANA, MYSTERIOUS
ALIEN DEVICES LEFT ON
HIPPALECTRYON IN
ANCIENT TIMES.

HOWEVER, AS THE YEARS PASSED, THE
DESCENDANTS OF THOSE SETTLERS
SPLIT INTO THREE MAIN TRIBES.

THE RIVER PEOPLE, WITH
THEIR LUMINOUS BUILDINGS
RISING UP OVER THE WATER.



THE ZHARATIANS,
RELIGIOUS FANATICS
AND INTRICATE
BUILDERS WHO
ERECTED THE GREAT
CITY OF ZHAR.



AND THE SKYWATCHERS,
DWELLERS OF THE MOUNTAINS
AND GUARDIANS OF THE
MECHANICAL ARCANA.

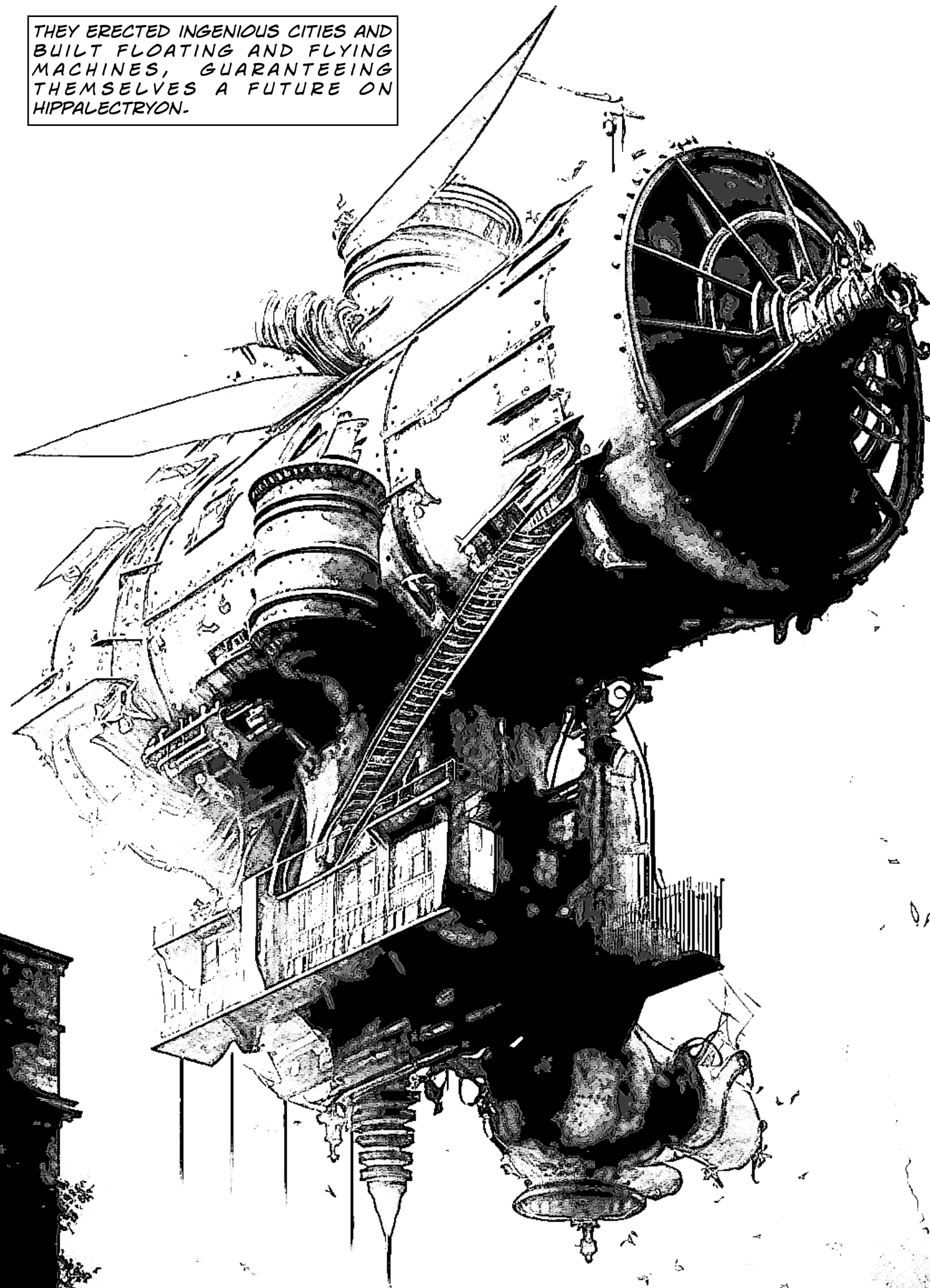


THEN THE DARK AGE CAME AND THE RIVER PEOPLE WERE THE FIRST
TO SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES.

DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES, THEY WERE SKILLED ARCHITECTS, WHO
MANAGED TO COEXIST WITH THE DARK SEA.



THEY ERECTED INGENUOUS CITIES AND
BUILT FLOATING AND FLYING
MACHINES, GUARANTEEING
THEMSELVES A FUTURE ON
HIPPALECTRYON.



BUT IT WASN'T LIKE THAT FOR ALL.



IN THE MIDDLE LANDS, PEOPLE WHO DID NOT BELONG TO ANY OF THE THREE TRIBES WERE CONDEMNED TO WANDER THE VAST PLAINS OF HIPPALECTRYON WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER...



...AND THEIR CROPS AND HOMES ROTTED... AND THEIR LANDS WERE SWALLOWED BY FOG.



ZHAR, RIDING THE INCREASING TIDE OF VIOLENCE,
LED HIS CULT TO POWER AND CLOSED THE
BORDERS BY MANNING THE MOUNTAINS.



LATER, THE ZHARATIAN GENERAL ROURKE DISPATCHED
HIS SOLDIERS IN THE TERRITORIES OF THE OTHER
TRIBES, WHERE THEY KIDNAPPED WOMEN AND
CHILDREN AND IMPRISONED THEM IN THE CUBES.





MY PEOPLE WERE FORCED TO LIVE IN TITANIUM
CAGES. THEY WERE LIKE LITTLE MICE IN THE GIANT
HAND OF A TYRANT.



THE LACK OF DRINKING WATER WAS THE PERFECT EXCUSE
TO FOMENT THE ZHARATIAN PEOPLE'S ANGER AND TO
INTERRUPT ALL TRADE RELATIONS WITH OTHER TRIBES.



IT WAS THEN THAT WHAT IS
NOW KNOWN AS THE WAR OF
THE CULTS BEGAN.



THE ZHARATIANS, MASTERS OF TECHNOLOGY,
UNLEASHED AUTOMATED DEVICES ACROSS THE
ENTIRE MOON TO CAPTURE ALL THOSE WHO
HADN'T BEEN CONVERTED TO THE CULT OF ZHAR.

THUS, A NEW ERA OF
TERROR BEGAN.

WE SKYWATCHERS DISPERSED ON THE DARK
EYE PLATEAU, TRYING TO MAINTAIN OUR
SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH HIPPALECTRYON
AND WITH THE MECHANICAL ARCANA.



A dramatic landscape at sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and yellow light from a low sun. In the upper left, a large, dark planet with a lighter, cratered surface looms. A smaller, reddish planet is visible in the upper right. The foreground shows dark, jagged mountains and a valley with a winding path. The overall mood is mysterious and atmospheric.

IT'S ON THESE MOUNTAINS THAT I
LEARNED TO WHISPER IN THE TWILIGHT.