THE STRENGTH OF CHI

MUSCLEFAN

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Layout & Lettering:
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THE STRENGTH OF CHI

Martial arts expert Xia finds herself living in the shadow of her fellow student and rival Lumin when the latter is given an ancient, powerful, and secret technique.

Can Xia also learn the technique, or will she always be second best?



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EVERYONE GET AWAY, IT'S OUT OF CONTROL!

CRASH!!!

OK, STAY CALM AND REMEMBER YOUR TRAINING.

JUST LET MY CHI FLOW THROUGH ME.

SWELL!!!

LET IT EMPOWER EVERY FIBRE OF MY BEING.

SWELL!!!

OK, BIG GUY. LET'S SEE HOW YOU DEAL WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME!

COME HERE, YOU!

CRASH!!!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SIR?

I'M FINE, THANKS TO YOU.

THAT WAS AMAZING. YOU TOOK DOWN THAT OX LIKE IT WAS NOTHING.

I ONLY DID WHAT I HAD TO DO. NOTHING MORE THAN THAT.

DON'T BE SO HUMBLE, YOU'RE A DAMN HEROINE.

THAT'S RIGHT, LET US AT LEAST SHOW YOU SOME APPRECIATION.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. YOUR THANKS ARE MORE THAN ENOUGH.

LOOK AT THEM, PRAISING THAT IDIOT LIKE SHE'S A GOD OR SOMETHING.

THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME, BUT NO. YOU HAD TO STEAL IT, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU KNEW THAT I WAS ALWAYS BETTER THAN YOU.

SO, WHEN IT CAME TO PICKING THE NEXT WOMAN TO BECOME THE GUARDIAN...

YOU HAD TO USE AN UNDERHANDED TECHNIQUE TO DEFEAT ME.

THAT'S THE ONLY WAY YOU COULD HAVE POSSIBLY DEFEATED ME!

CEASE THIS BATTLE AT ONCE. I DECLARE LUMIN AS THE WINNER AND THUS, THE ONE WHO WILL INHERIT THE POWER!

IT WAS TO *YOU* THE GUARDIAN GAVE THE SECRET OF THE POWER, NOT ME.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT THE POWER ITSELF HAD REJECTED YOU.

BUT YOU FOUND A WAY TO ACTUALLY GRASP IT AND TAKE IT FOR YOUR OWN.

BUT NOT FOR LONG. SOON I WILL BE JUST LIKE YOU. NO, I'LL BE BETTER.

I WILL TAKE WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY MINE!

WHEN I GET THE POWER, TASKS LIKE THIS SHOULD BE SIMPLE... I HOPE.

WHACK!

IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, MASTER WILL LEAVE HIS SCROLLS IN A PLACE ONLY THOSE WHO WERE WORTHY COULD FIND THEM.

LUCKY FOR ME, I SAW WHERE HE STORED THEM.

AND HOW HE WAS ABLE TO OPEN IT.

NOW, ALL I NEED TO DO IS STUDY THIS AND I WILL TRULY SHOW LUMIN WHO THE SUPERIOR OF US IS.

FOR WEEKS I STUDIED THE SCROLL, READING OVER IT AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN. YET, I SAW NO RESULTS WHATSOEVER

BUT I REALISED, THAT IT REQUIRED A SOUND MIND AS WELL. ONLY THEN DID IT FINALLY COME TO ME.

THE GIFT THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN MINE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I COULD FEEL THE CHI COURSING THROUGH MY BODY. NEVER DID I THINK SUCH A SENSATION WAS EVEN POSSIBLE.

NOR DID I EXPECT ANOTHER FEELING OVER ME. I-IS THIS WHAT SHE FEELS EVERY TIME SHE TRANSFORMS?

EVEN WHEN I WAS DONE, I WAS SURPRISED WITH HOW MUCH I HAD GROWN.

FOR A MOMENT, I EVEN THOUGHT THAT I WAS BIGGER THAN HER.

GUESS THAT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND THAT OUT FOR SURE.

BUT NO WARRIOR GOES INTO BATTLE WITHOUT TESTING THEIR SKILLS.

CRUMBLE!!!

YES, THIS WILL DO NICELY.

TO BE CONTINUED.

MUSCLEFAN

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MUSCLE FAN
Productions Present:

THE STRENGTH OF CHI 2

Xia has gained the power that has eluded her for so long!

Will she finally be able to outmuscle her rival, or will she still fail to measure up to Lumin's strength?

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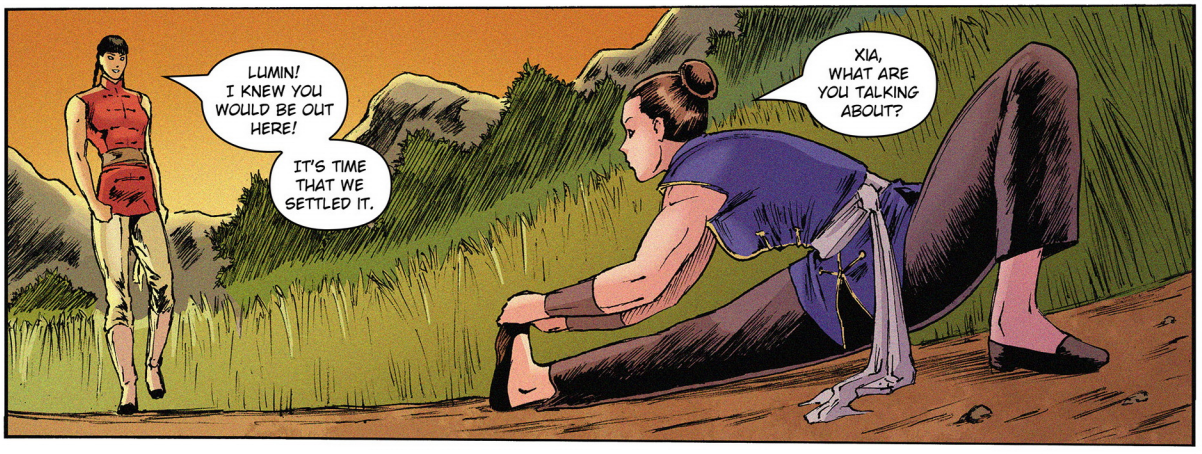
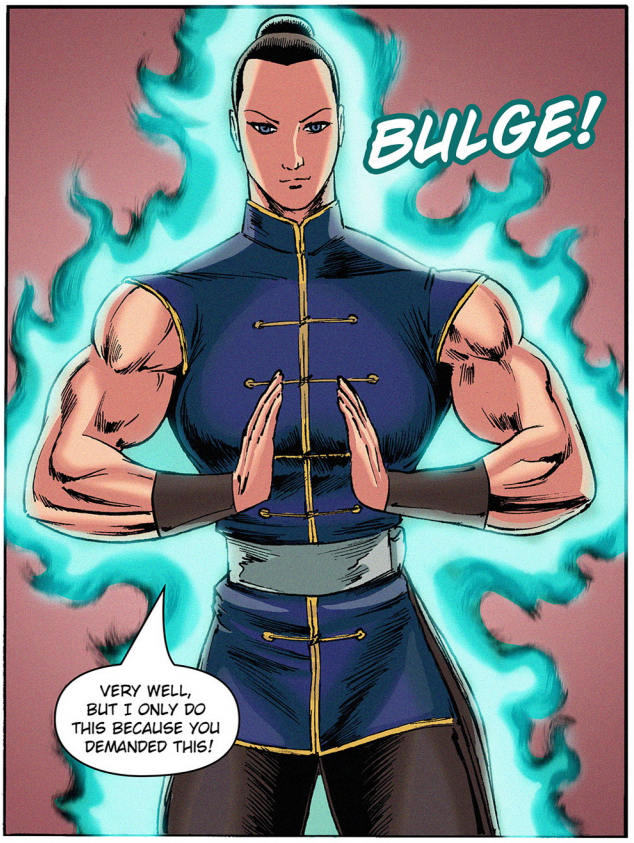
HAVING THIS POWER IS BOTH AN HONOUR AND YET ALSO A HINDRANCE.
IF I DON'T KEEP MY BODY IN TOP SHAPE, IT COULD BE DISASTROUS.

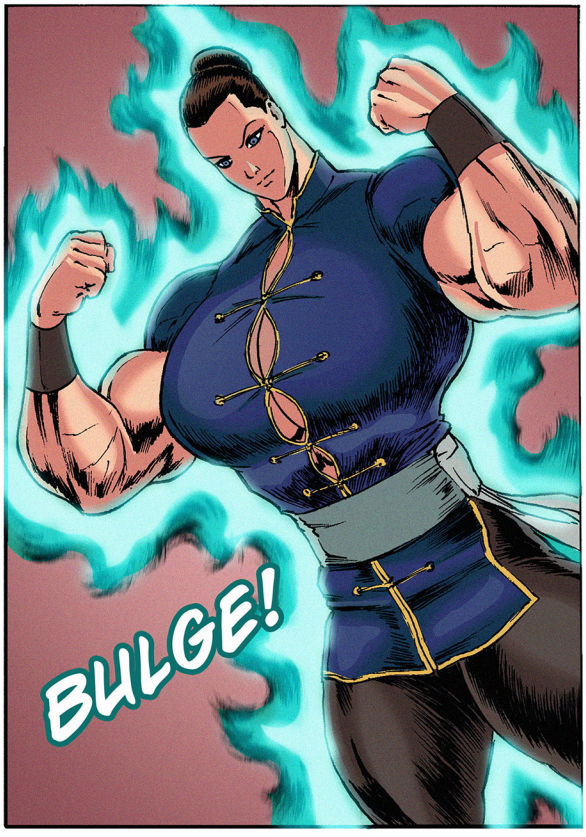

LUMIN! I KNEW YOU WOULD BE OUT HERE!
IT'S TIME THAT WE SETTLED IT.
XIA, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. THE POWER YOU POSSESS SHOULD BE MINE! I'M HERE TO PROVE THAT I AM THE SUPERIOR COMBATANT!
YOU'RE STILL BITTER OVER THAT?


OF COURSE, I AM. YOU USED UNDERHANDED TECHNIQUES TO DEFEAT ME!
I PLAN TO RECTIFY THIS MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.
I AM SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY, BUT IF IT'S A FIGHT THAT YOU WANT, THEN THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU'LL GET.


WAIT, I DON'T WANT TO BEAT YOU WHILE YOU'RE LIKE THIS.
I KNOW YOU'LL BE HOLDING BACK, SO TRANSFORM SO I CAN BEAT YOU AT YOUR BEST!
Y-YOU ACTUALLY WANT ME TO TRANSFORM?
DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF!


BULGE!
VERY WELL, BUT I ONLY DO THIS BECAUSE YOU DEMANDED THIS!


BULGE!



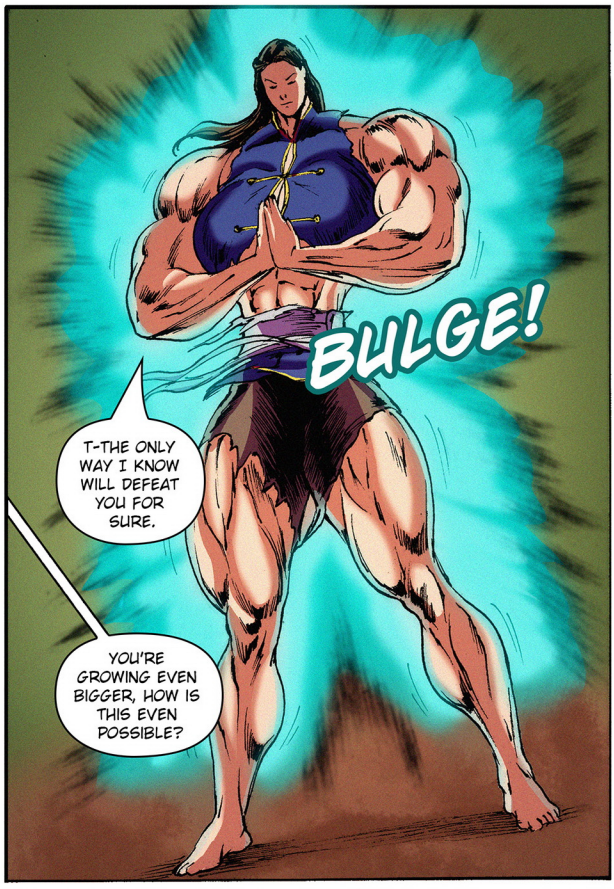

OK, I'VE TRANSFORMED LIKE YOU WANTED. NOW DO YOU SEE HOW OUTMATCHED YOU ARE?
NO. I JUST WANTED YOU TO BE AT YOUR STRONGEST WHEN I DEFEAT YOU.
BULGE!
TO PROVE ONCE AND FOR ALL, THAT I'M YOUR SUPERIOR IN EVERY WAY.
WAIT, YOU'RE GROWING!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE, I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD.
YES, YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE.
BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, TIMES CHANGE!
SMACK!

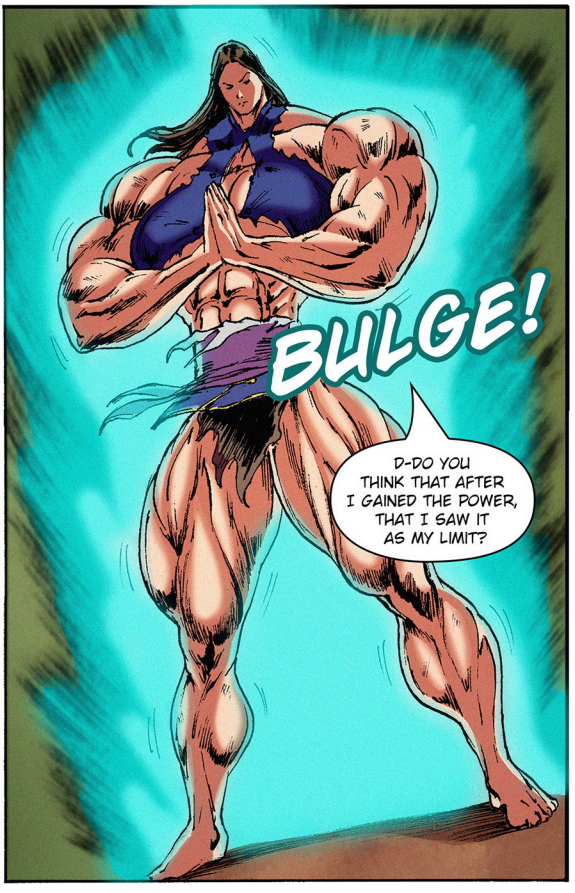

WHOOSH!!!
SEVERAL MILES AWAY...
BOOM!
W-WHAT JUST HAPPENED?


DID XIA ACTUALLY OBTAIN THE SAME POWER I HAVE? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
THE MASTER GAVE ME THE RESPONSIBILITY TO WIELD THAT POWER. HOW DID SHE OBTAIN IT AS WELL?
BOOM!
COME ON, LUMIN, DON'T TELL ME THAT'S ALL YOU GOT!
I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU. I EXPECTED MORE.
THIS ISN'T A GAME, XIA! YOU'RE PUTTING THE LIVES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE AT RISK!


I HAVE TO END THIS QUICKLY. IF THIS FIGHT LASTS FOR TOO LONG, INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL BE HURT OR WORSE.
I VOWED TO PROTECT THESE PEOPLE. I CAN'T LET ANY OF THEM DOWN.
BUT HOW CAN I DEFEAT HER? I'M PRACTICALLY WALKING ON EGGSHELLS WHILE SHE HAS NO RESTRICTIONS.
I MIGHT HAVE TO GO A LEVEL BEYOND.


THIS IS ALL YOU HAVE? I EXPECTED A LOT MORE FROM YOU, THEN AGAIN, YOU WERE ALWAYS INFERIOR TO ME.
I-I'M NOT DONE YET, AS LONG AS I STILL BREATHE. I CAN FIGHT.
BIG WORDS FOR SOMEONE WHO IS ON THE VERGE OF BEING KILLED.
BULGE!
WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

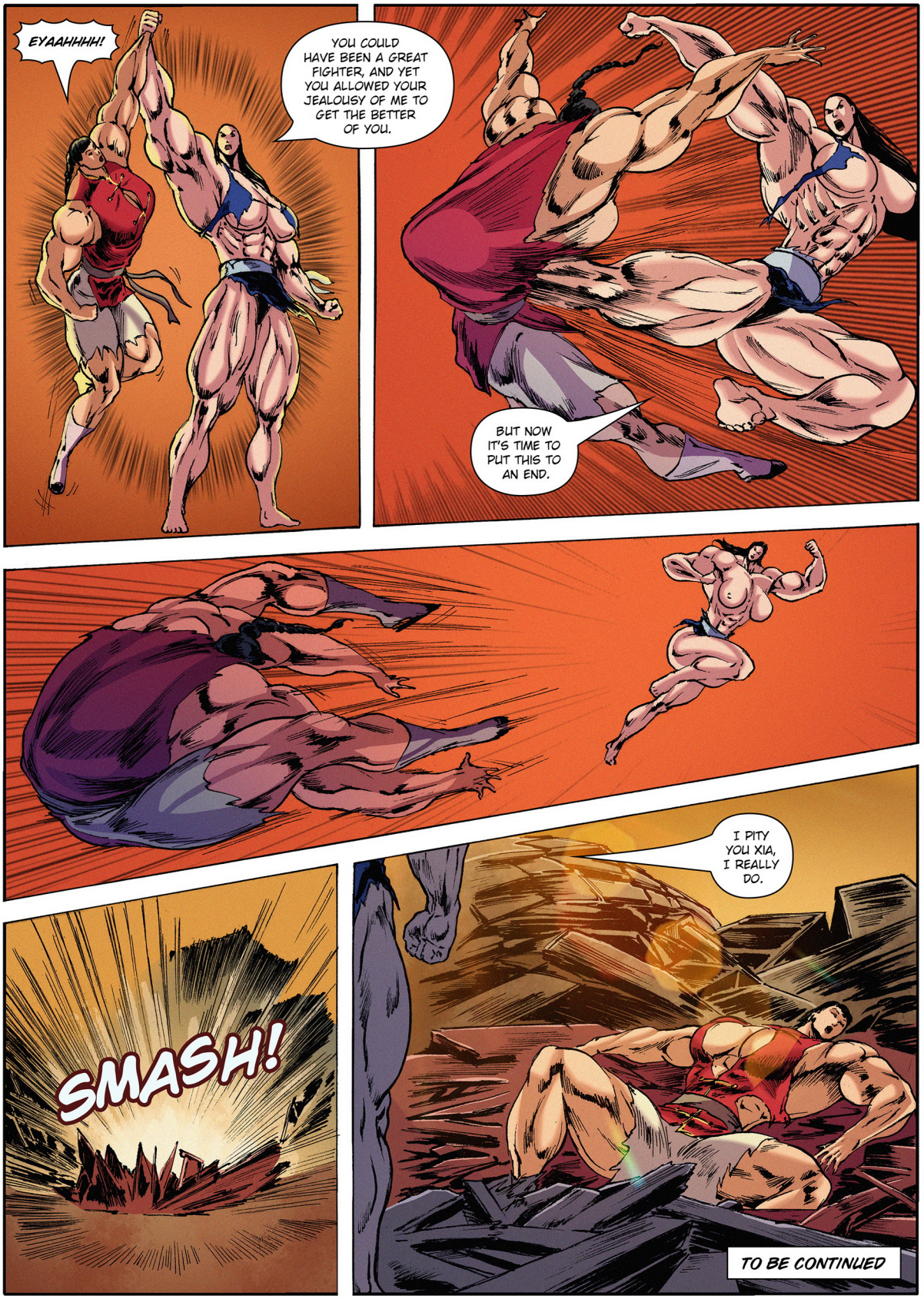

BULGE!
T-THE ONLY WAY I KNOW WILL DEFEAT YOU FOR SURE.
YOU'RE GROWING EVEN BIGGER, HOW IS THIS EVEN POSSIBLE?


BULGE!
D-DO YOU THINK THAT AFTER I GAINED THE POWER, THAT I SAW IT AS MY LIMIT?


NO, I TRAINED EVERY DAY TO BREAK THROUGH THAT CEILING.
BY THE GODS!


AND DISCOVERED A FORM BEYOND WHAT I HAD BEFORE.


NO, NO! I AM STILL SUPERIOR TO YOU!
PLEASE STOP, XIA. IT'S OVER. YOU CAN'T DEFEAT ME LIKE THIS.
I'VE COME TOO FAR TO FAIL NOW. I WILL STILL BEAT YOU!
I'M SORRY THAT THINGS HAVE COME TO THIS. AT ONE POINT, I SAW US BEING FRIENDS, BUT YOUR EGO AND PETTINESS PUT AN END TO THAT.
IF OUR MASTER WERE STILL ALIVE, HE WOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOUR ACTIONS.
HEY, LET GO OF ME!


EYAAHHHH!
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT FIGHTER, AND YET YOU ALLOWED YOUR JEALOUSY OF ME TO GET THE BETTER OF YOU.
BUT NOW IT'S TIME TO PUT THIS TO AN END.
SMASH!
I PITY YOU XIA, I REALLY DO.
TO BE CONTINUED

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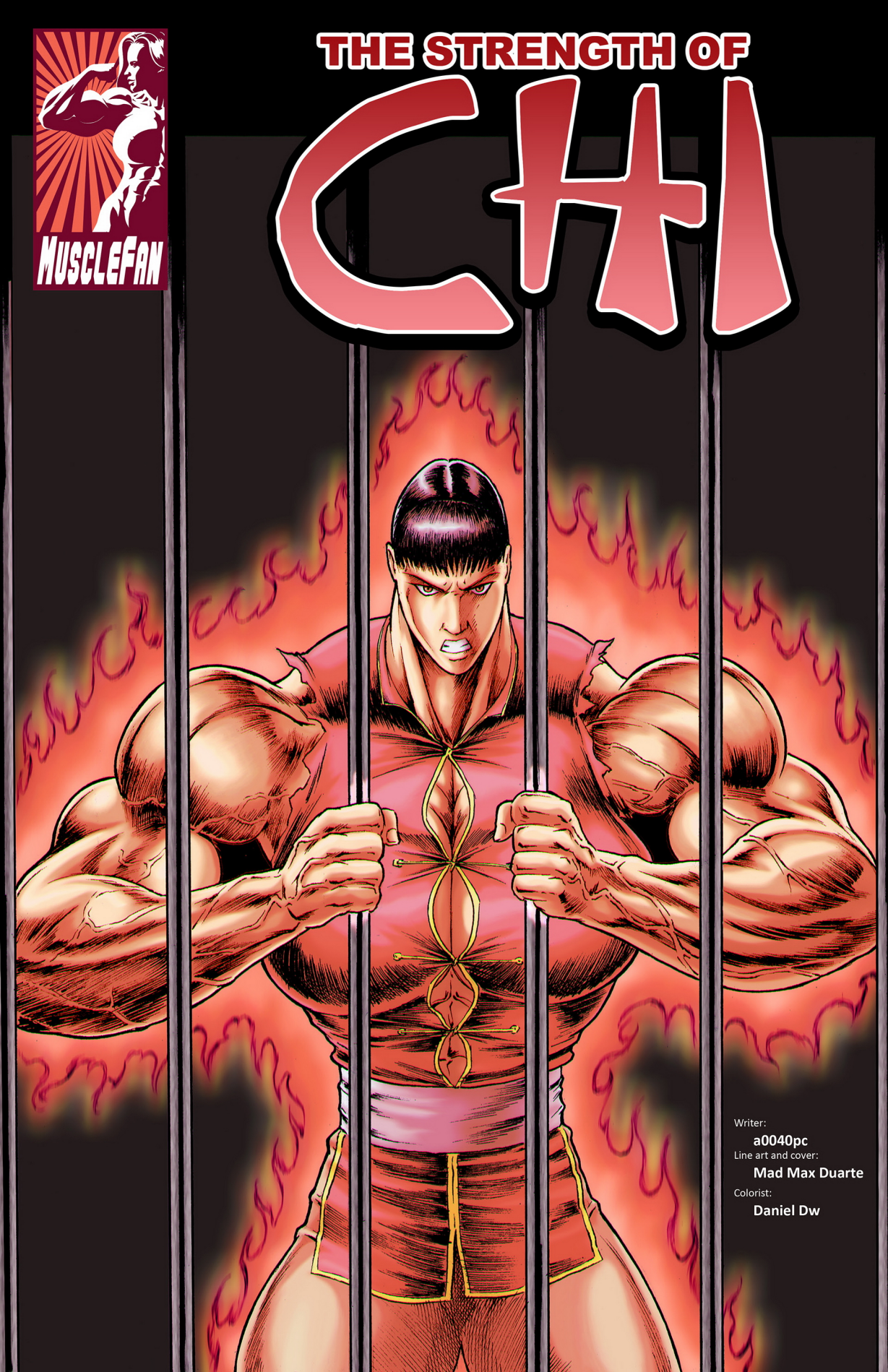
THE STRENGTH OF CHI



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MUSCLE FAN
Productions Present:

THE STRENGTH OF CHI 3

Following her defeat last issue, Xia plots her next move.

Meanwhile, Lumin finds herself unable to control the flow of her chi as her body begins to rapidly swell with power...

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GROAN
OH, MY HEAD HURTS. THE LAST THING I REMEMBER IS...
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT BITCH LUMIN DEFEATED ME BY USING AN UNDERHANDED TRICK. I'M GOING TO MAKE HER PAY FOR THAT!


WAIT, WHERE AM I?


IT DOESN'T MATTER, AS LONG AS I CAN STILL TRANSFORM...


... AND BREAK MYSELF OUT!

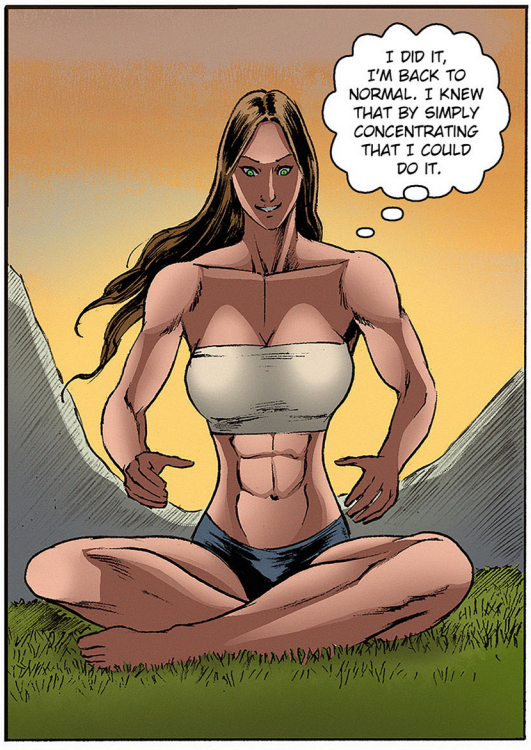

THEN, I CAN TRAIN EVEN HARDER...


...SO, I CAN DESTROY LUMIN ONCE AND FOR ALL!

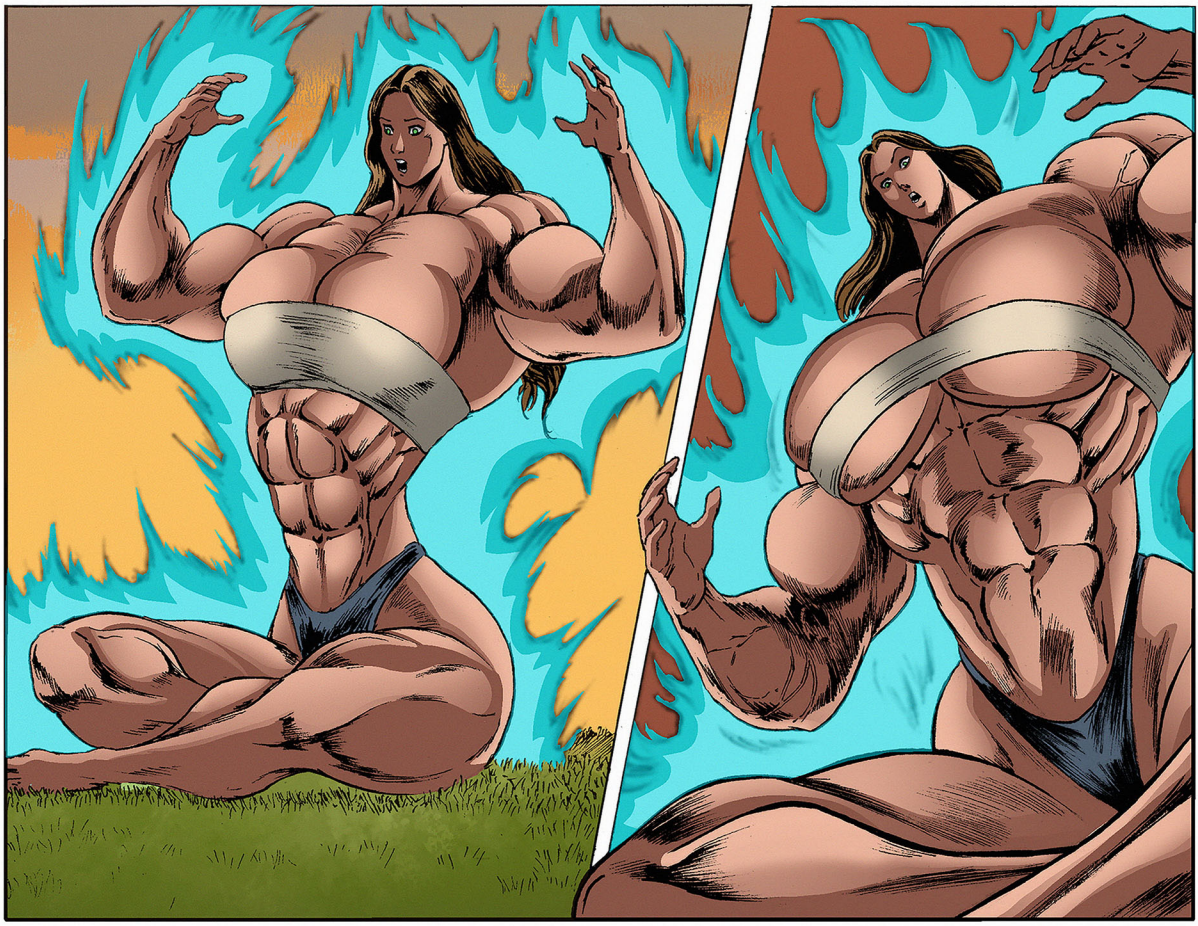

HUH?
W-WHAT JUST HAPPENED? I HIT IT WITH ENOUGH STRENGTH TO TURN IT TO DUST.
AH, SO YOU HAD TO LEARN THE HARD WAY...
THUD!!!
THAT YOU'RE NOT GETTING OUT OF HERE ANY TIME SOON.


THIS CELL WAS DESIGNED TO CONTAIN LUMIN IF SHE EVER WENT ROGUE...
NEVER THOUGHT THAT WE WOULD ACTUALLY NEED THIS CELL. BUT THEN AGAIN, I DIDN'T THINK THERE WOULD BE ANYONE ELSE LIKE HER.
DON'T COMPARE ME TO HER. I'LL BE OUT OF HERE AND THEN I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!
GOOD LUCK WITH THAT. THIS CELL IS IMBUED WITH MAGIC THAT PREVENTS ANYONE GETTING OUT BY FORCE.
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I WILL GET OUT OF THIS CELL, AND THEN I WILL KILL YOU AND LUMIN!


OMMMM...


I DID IT, I'M BACK TO NORMAL. I KNEW THAT BY SIMPLY CONCENTRATING THAT I COULD DO IT.

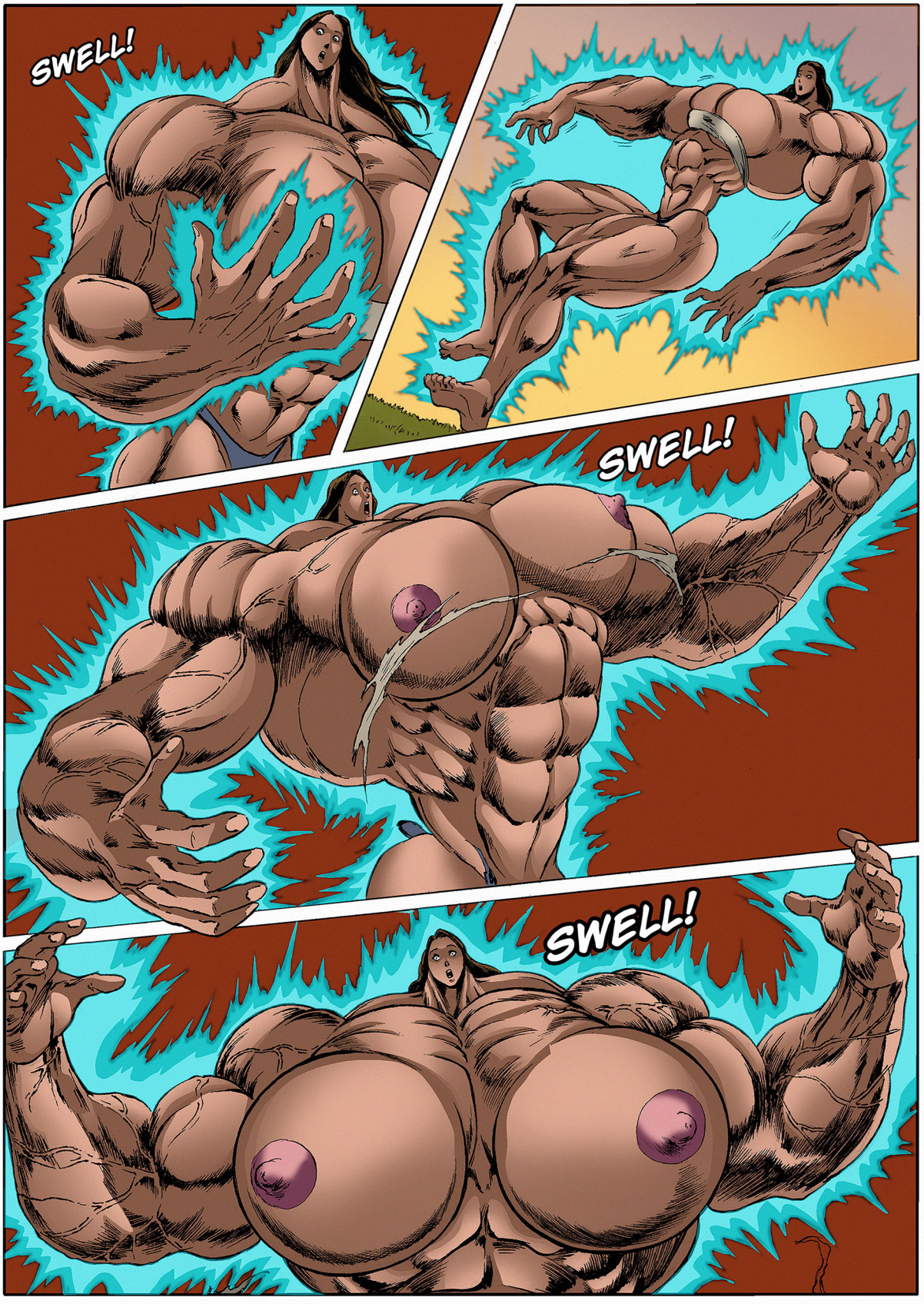

OH, NO, I SPOKE TOO SOON! I'M ABOUT TO...




IT'S NO GOOD. I CAN'T TRANSFORM BACK TO NORMAL. THERE'S SIMPLY TOO MUCH CHI IN MY BODY.


IF I DON'T FIND A WAY TO DISSIPATE IT, THINGS MIGHT BEGIN TO GET...


HUH?
THIS ISN'T GOOD.


SWELL!
SWELL!
SWELL!


BY THE GODS, I'M ABSOLUTELY ENORMOUS!


I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE, BUT HOW? AS MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT IT, I CAN'T SIMPLY USE MY STRENGTH TO BREAK OUT.
MAYBE I CAN...
WAIT, WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? I-I GOT SMALLER SOMEHOW! IS THIS SOME KIND OF SIDE EFFECT TO MY POWERS?
OH, THAT'S JUST GREAT! NOW NOT ONLY AM I WEAKER, BUT I SHRANK AS WELL. THINGS CAN'T GET....
WAIT A MINUTE...
TO BE CONTINUED.

THE STRENGTH OF CHI

MUSCLEFAN

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Daniel Dw





J. Yubari with
MUSCLE FAN
Productions present:

THE STRENGTH OF CHI 4

With her muscles continuing to grow, Lumin must figure out a way to bring her chi back under her control.

Meanwhile, Xia regains her powers and attempts a jailbreak!

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HUH?


WAIT, WHERE'S THE PRISONER?


SHE COULDN'T HAVE ESCAPED!
I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE HE FIGURES OUT WHAT HAPPENED.


THERE YOU ARE!
CRAP, I'VE BEEN SPOTTED.


COME BACK HERE BEFORE I HAVE TO HURT YOU!
THIS WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN!


DAMN IT, I RAN INTO A DEAD END.


I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID IT, BUT YOU'VE GOT NOWHERE TO RUN NOW!
IT SEEMS THAT I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO BIG.

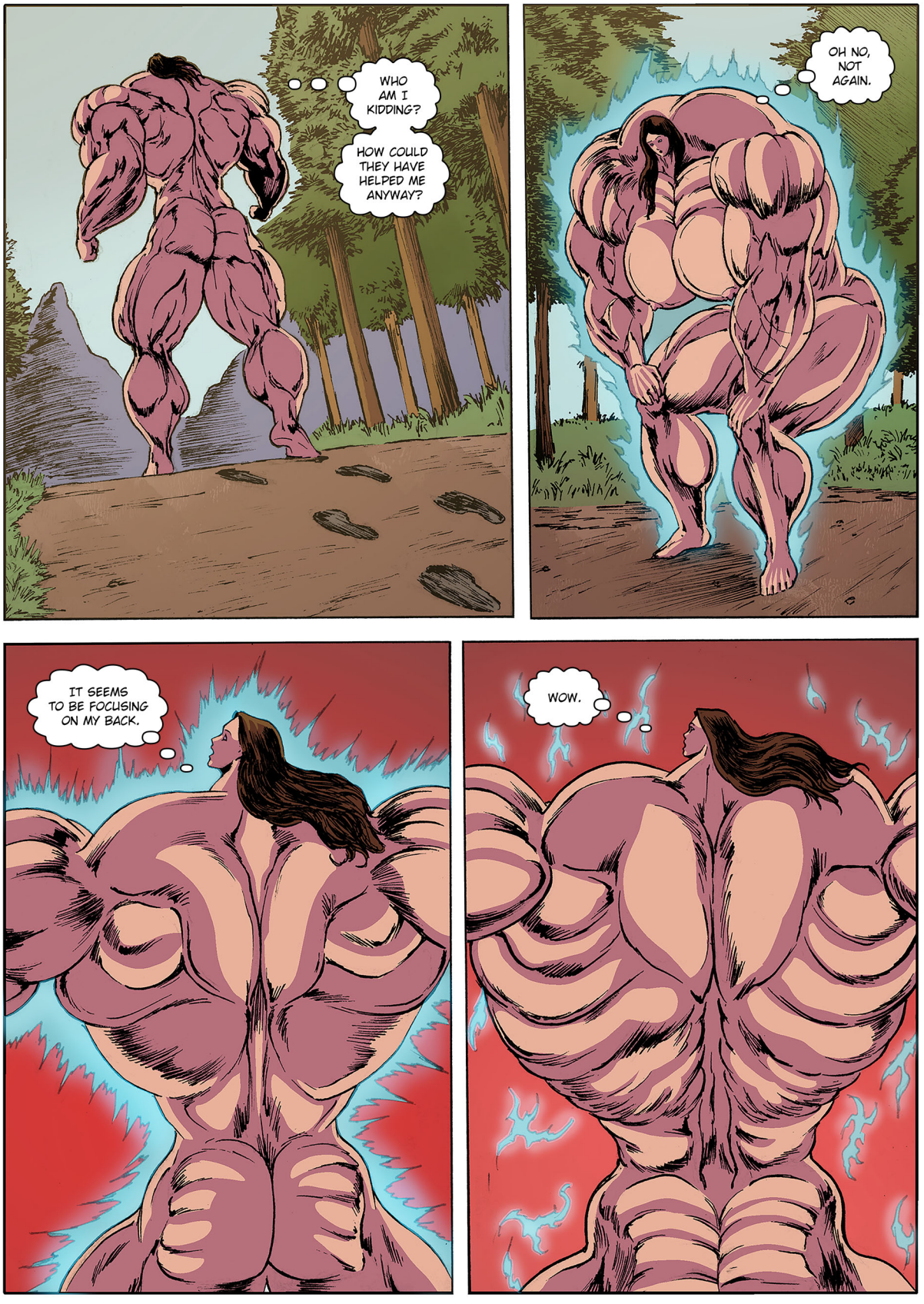

YOU REALLY THOUGHT THAT YOU HAD ME CORNERED?
NOBODY CORNERS ME!

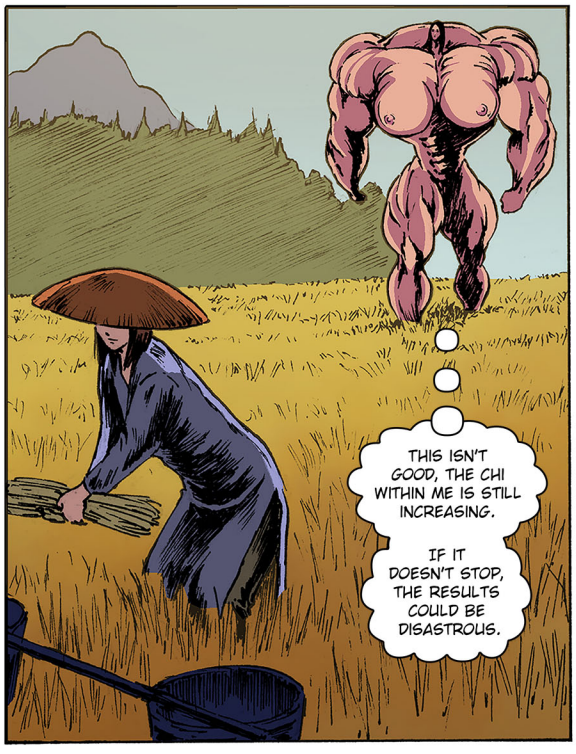

TELL ME, HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO FLY? NO?
YOU WILL NOW!
SLAM!!!
YOU THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD KEEP ME LOCKED UP.
LOOK WHERE THAT GOT YOU.


CRASH!!!
AH IT'S NICE TO FEEL FRESH AIR AGAIN, AND HAVE THE SUN ON MY BODY.
MARK MY WORDS, LUMIN, ONE DAY I WILL BECOME EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU.
THEN YOU'LL REALIZE THAT I AM YOUR SUPERIOR.

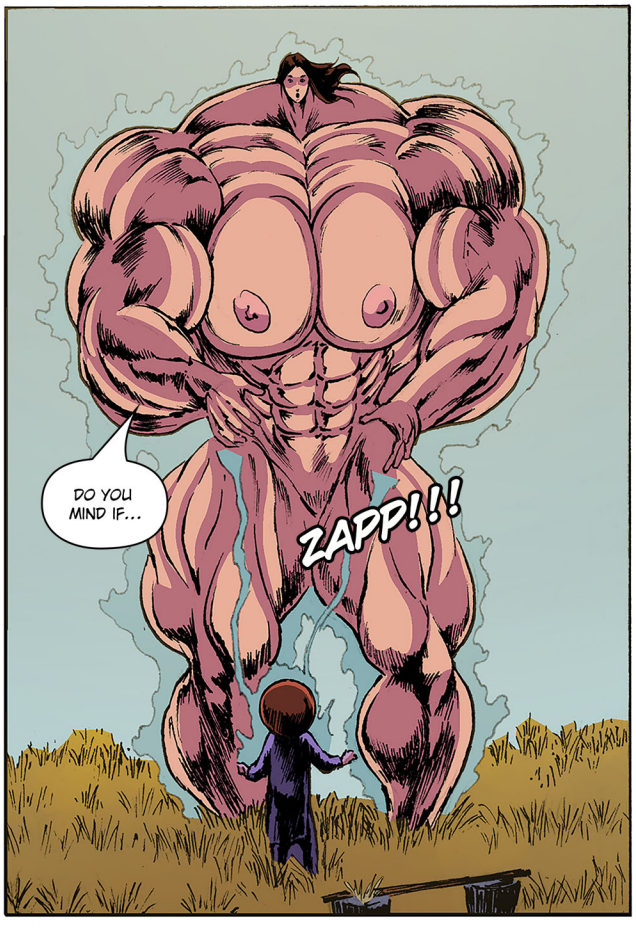

HOPEFULLY WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GRAB SOME GAME TODAY.
NOT LIKE THE OTHER DAY.
WE ALMOST HAD ONE, IF YOUR TRAP HADN'T BROKEN ON US.
CRASH!!!
WAIT WHAT'S THAT? SOME KIND OF BEAR?
HELLO THERE...
...YOU WOULDN'T MIND HELPING ME OUT, WOULD YOU?


I SEEM TO BE HAVING A FEW PROBLEMS RIGHT NOW AND...
SNAP!!!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE SHE CRUSHES US!
I'M SO SORRY ABOUT THAT, IT WAS AN ACCIDENT.
SMASH!!!
SIGH


WHO AM I KIDDING?
HOW COULD THEY HAVE HELPED ME ANYWAY?
OH NO, NOT AGAIN.
IT SEEMS TO BE FOCUSING ON MY BACK.
WOW.


THIS ISN'T GOOD, THE CHI WITHIN ME IS STILL INCREASING.
IF IT DOESN'T STOP, THE RESULTS COULD BE DISASTROUS.


WHAT ON EARTH?
MY APOLOGIES FOR STARTLING YOU, BUT I'M CURRENTLY HAVING A FEW ISSUES HERE.


DO YOU MIND IF...
ZAPP!!!


ARRGGHH!
I'M SO SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO THAT.


WAIT A MINUTE, WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HER?
SHRED!!!
OH NO, SHE'S GROWING.
W-WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
WHY AM I SO HUGE?
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
MY BODY IS GENERATING SO MUCH CHI, IT'S MAKING OTHERS GROW AS WELL!
TO BE CONTINUED.

TO BE CONTINUED...



UPCOMING COMICS


BSSSSSSH
AAAH!
RRRRRRRRRRRR-
--RAAAAGH!
KER-SMASH!



Monumentale Vs Magnif-Saphiique


RAAGH!
THOOM!
AAAH! LET GO!
ALISHA!
GAAAH!
KER-THOOM!
THOOM!
COME ON, EMILY..



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