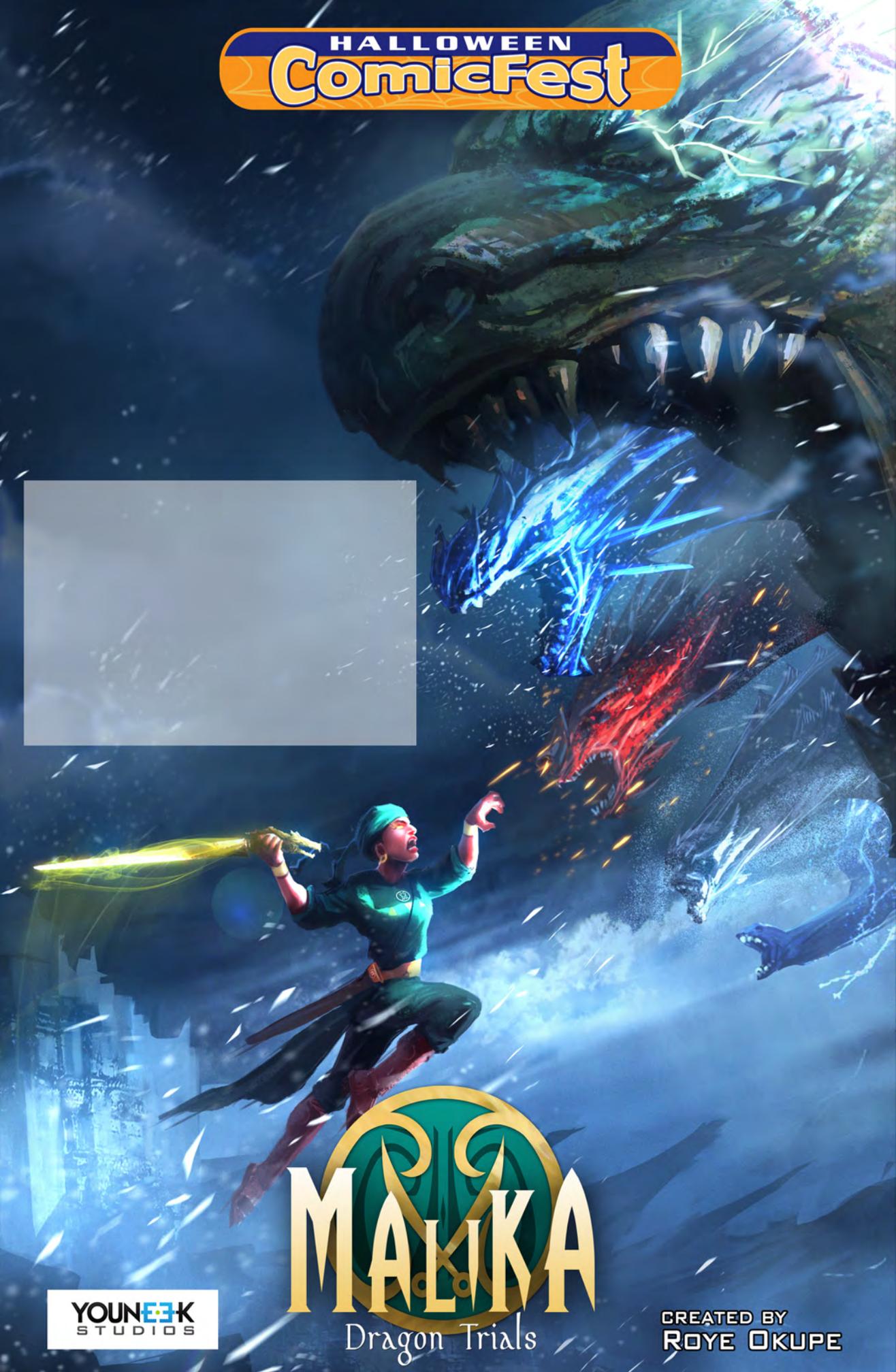


HALLOWEEN
ComicFest



MALIKA
Dragon Trials

YOUNEEK
STUDIOS

CREATED BY
ROYE OKUPE

WHAT...
WHAT IS
THIS...

WHERE
AM I?

CALM YOUR
MIND, MALIKA.
YOU ARE SAFE.
JUST--

WHO ARE YOU?
AND WHY DO
I FEEL...

MY MIND...
IT FEELS...

ALL WILL BE
EXPLAINED.

FOR NOW YOU
MUST CALM YOUR
MIND OTHERWISE
THIS PLACE WILL
CRUMBLE.

AZZAZ... MY
HOME, MY
PEOPLE... THEY
ARE IN DANGER.
I MUST...

ARGH!!!

**GRRGRRGRRG
GRRGRRGRRR**

MALIKA, YOU HAVE
EXPERIENCED A VERY
TRAUMATIC EVENT.

IF YOU CANNOT
FIND TRANQUILITY
IN THIS PLACE,
ALL WILL BE LOST.



YES. JUST LIKE
THAT. FIND YOUR
CENTER. FIND
YOUR PEACE.



WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

THE KINGDOM OF ATALA? HOW DID WE GET SO FAR AWAY FROM AZZAZ?



WE ARE NOT IN ATALA, OR EVEN ANYWHERE CLOSE TO YOUR EMPIRE.



WE ARE IN YOUR MIND, MALIKA.

WHAT?! HOW IS THAT EVEN POSSI---



ARGH!!!

YOUR MIND IS STILL TRYING TO COME TO TERMS WITH THE TRAUMA YOU EXPERIENCED IN THE **PHYSICAL** WORLD.

FOR THE SAKE OF WHAT IS TO COME, I HAD TO **FRAGMENT** YOUR THOUGHTS.

THAT IS WHY YOU ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING GAPS IN YOUR MEMORIES.



END THIS! I WANT NO PART OF THIS MINDLESS GAME. MY PEOPLE NEED ME.

I WILL NOT FORCE MY WILL UPON YOU. THOUGH I COULD. BUT I URGE YOU TO LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY BEFORE YOU DECIDE.



I STILL DO NOT KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHO I AM.

ORIS? WHAT IS AN ATALIAN DEITY DOING IN MY MIND?

THE KING OF YOUR ATALIAN ALLIES TO THE SOUTH, THE ONE THEY CALL THE *WINDMAKER*, BROUGHT MY SWORD TO YOU.

DRAGON'S DESTINY.

WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS MYTH HAS BECOME YOUR REALITY. THE SWORD CARRIES MY SPIRIT.

THE MOMENT YOU WIELDED IT IN YOUR WORLD, IT CHOSE YOU.

I DO NOT REMEMBER ANYTHING CHANGING THEN.

TRUE CHANGE DOES NOT REQUIRE THEATRICALITY TO PROVE ITS MERITS.

SHMPFE CRYPTIC PROVERBS. NOW I TRULY BELIEVE YOU INDEED ARE A DEITY.

IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU ARE FINALLY FINDING YOURSELF IN THIS PLACE. YOU WILL NEED YOUR WIT IF YOU ARE TO FACE WHAT IS COMING.

YOU HAVE MY ATTENTION.