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SEA OF DARKNESS



FARSHTEY | SAYGER



THE GENTLEMAN'S NAME IS HYDRAXON, SKILLED TRACKER, MASTER OF MANY WEAPONS...



TODAY HIS TARGET IS THE FABLED MASK OF LIFE, AN ARTIFACT HE THINKS IS TOO POWERFUL FOR ANYONE TO POSSESS.



BUT A SUDDEN RIPTIDE SENDS HIS FIRST SHOT OFF COURSE...



...AND HE WON'T GET A SECOND ONE.

STOP!
DON'T HARM
THAT MASK!

Enter the
Wacky
World
of

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FOOL!
I'VE BROKEN
TOUGHER
RUNNERS
THAN YOU.

BACK OFF!
OR I WILL
PERSONALLY
TEACH YOU THE
MEANING OF
DEAD IN THE
WATER!

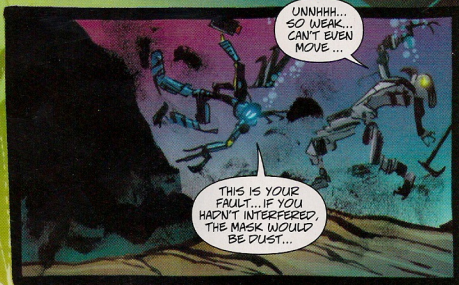


W-BLAM

OHhhh!

THE MASK OF LIFE
LANDS IN THE CLAWS
OF EVIL MANTAX!

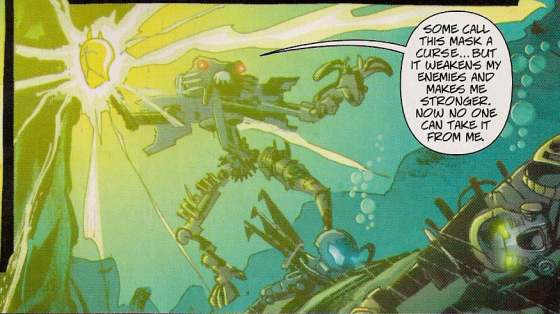
MINE! AND
IT WILL STAY
MINE!




UNNNHH...
SO WEAK...
CAN'T EVEN
MOVE...

THIS IS YOUR
FAULT... IF YOU
HADN'T INTERFERED,
THE MASK WOULD
BE DUST...

SOME CALL
THIS MASK A
CURSE... BUT
IT WEAKENS MY
ENEMIES AND
MAKES ME
STRONGER.
NOW NO ONE
CAN TAKE IT
FROM ME.





BY THE TIME THE OTHER TOA MAHRI REACHED MAHLI, BOTH HYPRAXON AND MANTAX WERE LONG GONE, BUT THERE WAS A BIGGER PROBLEM TO DEAL WITH.

MATORO WARNED THAT THE CORD LINKING MAHRI NUI AND VOYA NUI HAD TO BE DESTROYED FOR THE GREAT SPIRIT'S LIFE TO BE SAVED, BUT DOING IT WOULD ENDANGER THE MATORAN OF BOTH ISLANDS.

SO THE TOA MAHRI GATHERED THE MATORAN OF MAHRI NUI AND LED THEM UP THE CORD. THERE THEY FOUND AXONN, GUARDIAN OF VOYA NUI, LEADING THAT ISLAND'S PEOPLE DOWN TOWARD SAFETY.

TOGETHER, THEY MADE SURE THE MATORAN FOUND SHELTER IN UNDERGROUND CHAMBERS ON VOYA NUI, SO THEY COULD RIDE OUT THE STORM TO COME.

THEN A LIVING "VEHICLE" PROVIDED BY AXONN TOOK THE TOA BACK DOWN THE CORD AND INTO BATTLE.

BARRAKI AHEAD!

AND THE REST OF US WILL KEEP BUSY-- IN FACT, I THINK I SEE SOMETHING BIG ENOUGH FOR ME TO HIT.

WE SPLIT UP! MATORO AND I WILL GO AFTER THE MASK!

WOW, YOU MAKE KONGU LOOK HANDSOME.

YOU'RE ALMOST AS FRIENDLY AS HE IS, TOO.

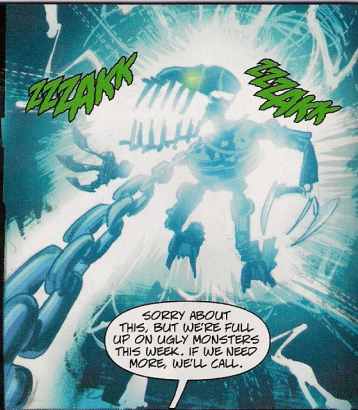
SNAPP

CHEW ON THIS!

KRUNCHH!



YOU SHOULD REALLY DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT OVERBITE.



ZZZAKK **ZZZAKK**

SORRY ABOUT THIS, BUT WE'RE FULL UP ON UGLY MONSTERS THIS WEEK. IF WE NEED MORE, WE'LL CALL.

ELSEWHERE...



CNNNGHH!



NO, TOA, IT'S MINE-YOU WON'T TAKE IT FROM ME SO EASILY.

SUMMONING ALL HIS WILLPOWER, JALLER USES HIS CONTROL OF HEAT AND FLAME TO TURN THE OCEAN AROUND MANTAX BOILING HOT.


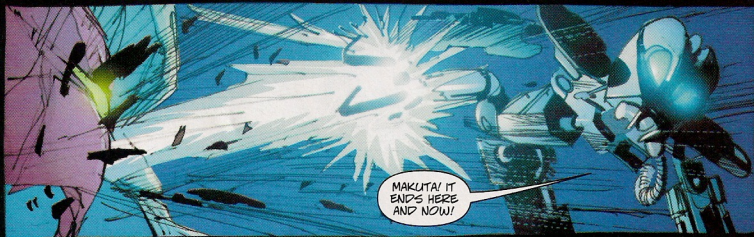
GIVE IT UP, OR ELSE SOME LUCKY RAH IS GOING TO HAVE BOILED BARRAKI FOR DINNER.





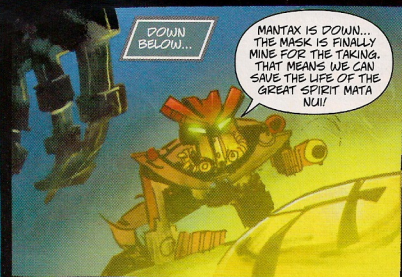
FROM UP ABOVE, TOA MAHRI MATORO SPOTS A NEW DANGER...

THE MAXILOS ROBOT--
HEADED FOR JALLERI AND ONLY
I KNOW THAT ROBOTIC SHELL
CONTAINS THE MIND OF EVIL
MAKUTA.



ONE THOUSAND
YEARS OF FEAR,
AND DANGER, AND
DARKNESS EVEN IN
THE DAY... IT ALL
ENDS NOW. IF I HAVE
TO FREEZE YOU
FOR ALL TIME TO
DO IT.

DOWN
BELOW...



MANTAX IS DOWN...
THE MASK IS FINALLY
MINE FOR THE TAKING.
THAT MEANS WE CAN
SAVE THE LIFE OF THE
GREAT SPIRIT MATA
NUU!



WHAT--?

I DON'T
THINK
SO.

TITANS OF THE DEEP!

MAXILOS & SPINAX

The robot Maxilos was originally a guard in the Pit. But its mechanical body has been taken over by the evil Makuta, who claims he is there to help the Toa Mahri. But what is his real plot? And will the Toa discover it in time, or is it already too late? Along with the weapons of Maxilos, Makuta still has access to almost all of his original powers, although he cannot shapeshift in this new body.

Spinax, Maxilos' pet, can track an escaped prisoner across a planet by following his unique energy trail. Spinax never grows tired and will stay on the hunt until his quarry is captured.

MAXILOS

Weapons: Twin-bladed black fire sword; shoulder-mounted Cordak blaster

Trivia: Only Toa Mahri Matoro knows that Maxilos is really Makuta!

AGILITY: 10

STRENGTH: 15

TOUGHNESS: 13

MIND: 16

SPINAX

Natural Tools: Claws; teeth; enhanced tracking sense (MIND +10)

Trivia: The ultimate energy hound – can track anyone, anywhere, and never tires of the chase!

AGILITY: 10

STRENGTH: 9

TOUGHNESS: 9

MIND: 7

GADUNKA

Once, Gadunka was a anything except small. Mask of Life caused him and strong enough to jaws, he is a serious th

Weapons: Cordak bla
Natural Tools: Claws

Trivia: Gadunka has no remembers using it for s



HYDRAXON

The original Hydraxon, jailer of the Pit, died in an earthquake over 1000 years ago. But the power of the Mask of Life transformed the Matoran Dekar into a new Hydraxon. A relentless tracker and skilled weapons-master, Hydraxon believes everyone in the Pit – including the Toa Mahri – is an escaped prisoner who must be recaptured!

Weapons: Explosive boomerangs, wrist knives, Cordak blaster

Trivia: The new Hydraxon has all the memories and skills of the old one, but doesn't remember he was ever Dekar.

AGILITY: 12

STRENGTH: 13

TOUGHNESS: 14

MIND: 11



GADUNKA

Once, Gadunka was a tiny marine creature, no real threat to anything except small fish. Then exposure to the energies of the Mask of Life caused him to grow to enormous size. Wild, vicious, and strong enough to bite boulders in half with his powerful jaws, he is a serious threat to the success of the Toa's mission!

Weapons: Cordak blaster

Natural Tools: Claws, teeth

Trivia: Gadunka has no idea what the Mask of Life really is – he just remembers using it for shelter, and so believes it belongs to him.

AGILITY: 9

STRENGTH: 15

TOUGHNESS: 15

MIND: 5



I THINK THAT MASK BELONGS TO ME.



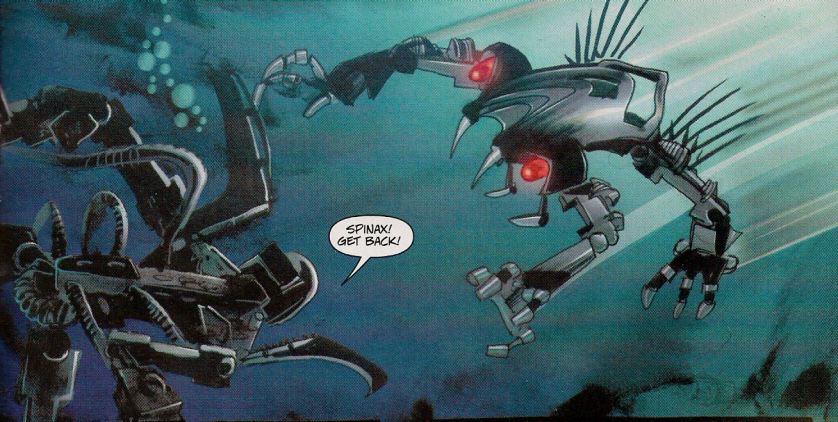
THIS TIME, NO ONE KEEPS ME FROM CRUSHING THAT CURSED MASK.



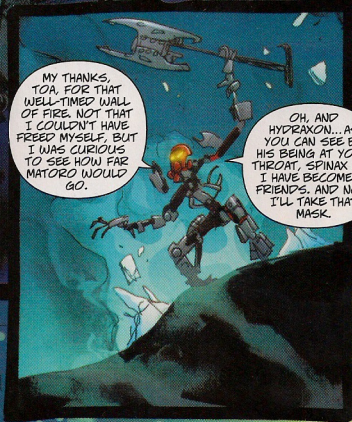
NO!

STUPID...I'LL JUST GO OVER OR AROUND IT.

NO...I REALLY DON'T THINK YOU WILL.



SPINAX!
GET BACK!



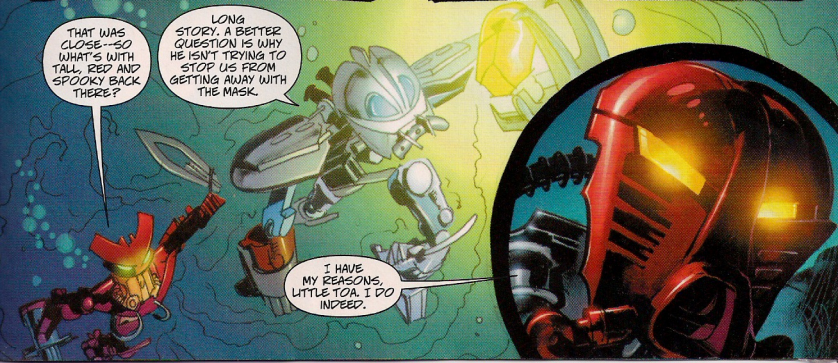
MY THANKS,
TOA, FOR THAT
WELL-TIMED WALL
OF FIRE. NOT THAT
I COULDN'T HAVE
FREED MYSELF, BUT
I WAS CURIOUS
TO SEE HOW FAR
MATORO WOULD
GO.

OH, AND
HYDRAXON... AS
YOU CAN SEE BY
HIS BEING AT YOUR
THROAT, SPINAX AND
I HAVE BECOME...
FRIENDS. AND NOW
I'LL TAKE THAT
MASK.



GOT IT!

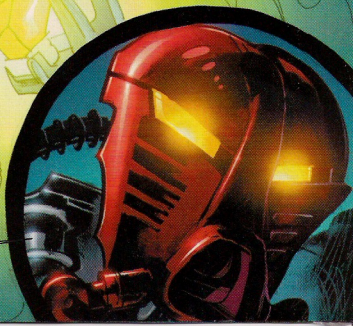
MATORO!
GRAB IT!



THAT WAS
CLOSE--SO
WHAT'S WITH
TALL, RED AND
SPOOKY BACK
THERE?

LONG
STORY. A BETTER
QUESTION IS WHY
HE ISN'T TRYING TO
STOP US FROM
GETTING AWAY WITH
THE MASK.

I HAVE
MY REASONS,
LITTLE TOA. I DO
INDEED.



ARE YOU SURE WE NEED TO DO THIS?

YES. THE CORD HAS TO BE SHATTERED SO THAT THE ISLAND ABOVE US--VOYA NUI--CAN RETURN TO WHERE IT BELONGS. AND WHEREVER IT GOES, THIS MASK HAS TO GO, TOO.


AND THAT HELPS MATA NUI FEEL EVER-BETTER?

THAT'S THE RUMOR. WELL, WE'VE GOT THE BLASTERS, AND WE CAN'T MISS THAT TARGET.

LET'S DO IT!

**KRAKKA
BOOM**



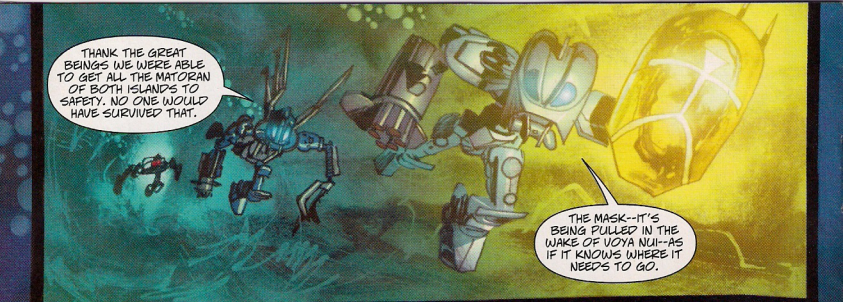


WHAT FOLLOWS IS A SIGHT NO TOA MAHEI WILL EVER FORGET. THE ISLAND OF VOYA NUI, FREED FROM ITS "ANCHOR" FOR THE FIRST TIME IN CENTURIES, PLUNGES BENEATH THE WATER...



TWISTING, SPIRALING, VOYA NUI FALLS THROUGH THE OCEAN AS IF BEING PULLED BY AN IRRESISTIBLE FORCE.

ITS PATH PUTS IT ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH MAHEI NUI, AND IT SMASHES THAT LOST CITY INTO RUBBLE BEFORE SPEEDING BACK TOWARD ITS HOME.



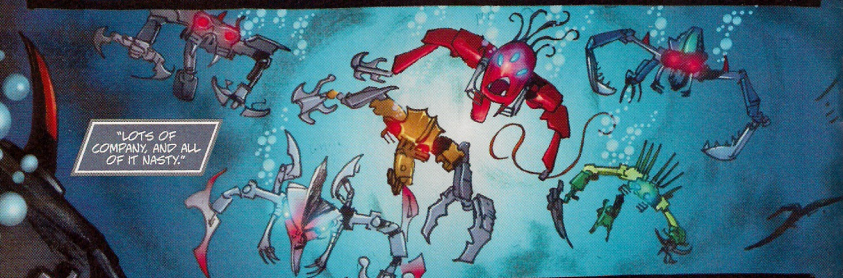
THANK THE GREAT BEINGS WE WERE ABLE TO GET ALL THE MATORAN OF BOTH ISLANDS TO SAFETY. NO ONE WOULD HAVE SURVIVED THAT.

THE MASK--IT'S BEING PULLED IN THE WAKE OF VOYA NUI--AS IF IT KNOWS WHERE IT NEEDS TO GO.

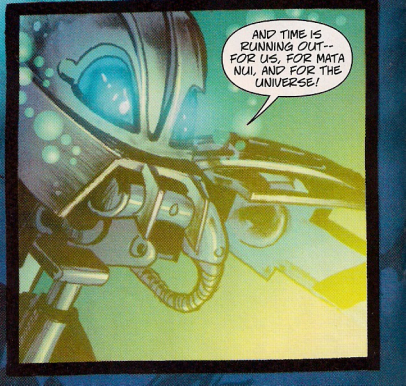


THEN WE FOLLOW IT.

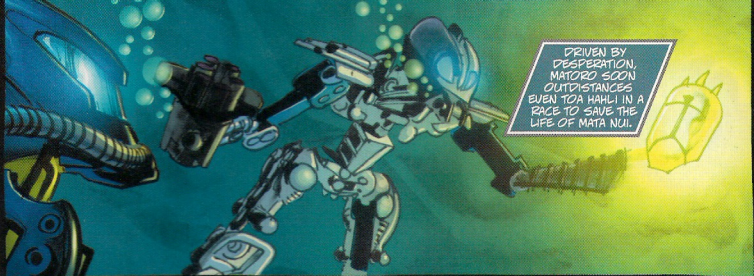
AND FAST--WE HAVE COMPANY, IN CASE YOU DIDN'T NOTICE.



"LOTS OF COMPANY, AND ALL OF IT NASTY."



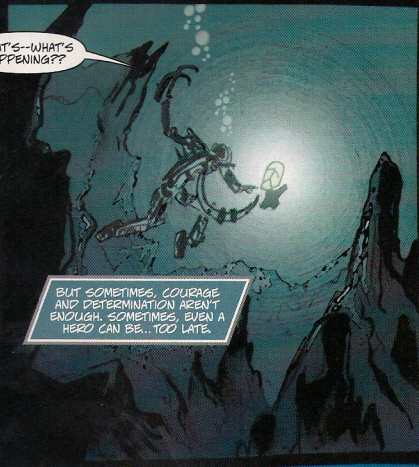
AND TIME IS RUNNING OUT-- FOR US, FOR MATA NUI, AND FOR THE UNIVERSE!



DRIVEN BY
DESPERATION,
MATORO SOON
OUTDISTANCES
EVEN TOA HAAHI IN A
RACE TO SAVE THE
LIFE OF MATA NUI.



WHEREVER
VOYA NUI IS HEADED,
THAT'S WHERE THE MASK
OF LIFE NEEDS TO BE
USED. I'M SURE OF IT!
IF THE GREAT SPIRIT CAN
ONLY HANG ON FOR
A FEW MOMENTS
MORE...



WHAT'S--WHAT'S
HAPPENING??

BUT SOMETIMES, COURAGE
AND DETERMINATION AREN'T
ENOUGH; SOMETIMES, EVEN A
HERO CAN BE... TOO LATE.



I NEVER FELT
ANYTHING LIKE THAT...
IT FELT LIKE... NO... THE
MASK OF LIFE... IT'S GONE
DARK. IT'S OVER, ALL OF
IT, I KNOW... IT'S
OVER.



THE GREAT
SPIRIT MATA NUI
IS DEAD!

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**TO BE
CONTINUED...**

KARZAHNI

The ruler of a nightmare realm is out to conquer the Pit – and he has the power to do it! Can two brave Matoran help bring him down, or is Mahri Nui doomed?

Follow the action in the new serial, "Dreams of Destruction," on www.BIONICLESTORY.com!

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