

Between the years when the oceans drank Atlantis and the gleaming cities, and the years of the rise of the sons of Aryas, there was an age undreamed of, an age of barbarism and fierce warriors, an age of magic and treasure, known as the Hyborian Age. This is the...

# AGE OF CONAN™

MARVEL COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS THE MAIDEN VOYAGE OF THE QUEEN OF THE BLACK COAST—

# Bêlît

## CHAPTER 1: THE LOST VERSES

TINI HOWARD ◊ WRITER  
KATE NIEMCZYK ◊ ARTIST  
JASON KEITH ◊ COLORIST  
VC'S TRAVIS LANHAM ◊ LETTERER  
SANA TAKEDA ◊ COVER ARTIST  
AFU CHAN; SARA PICHELLI & MATTIA IACONO;  
OLIVIER VATINE ◊ VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

JAY BOWEN ◊ LOGO & NOVELLA DESIGN  
ANTHONY GAMBINO ◊ PRODUCTION DESIGN  
MARK BASSO ◊ EDITOR  
RALPH MACCHIO ◊ CONSULTING EDITOR  
C.B. CEBULSKI ◊ EDITOR IN CHIEF  
JOE QUESADA ◊ CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER  
DAN BUCKLEY ◊ PRESIDENT  
SPECIAL THANKS TO BRIAN OVERTON

#### FOR CONAN PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL

FRED MALMBERG  
TREASURER OF TRANICOS  
JAY ZETTERBERG  
ROYAL LIBRARIAN OF AQUILONIA  
STEVE BOOTH  
COMMANDER OF THE BLACK DRAGONS  
LAURIE BLUM GUEST  
PUBLISHER, PERILOUS WORLDS  
HOWARD ANDREW JONES  
EDITOR, PERILOUS WORLDS





From the "Song of Bêlit," a lost verse:

BELIEVE LATE AUTUMN BRINGS HEAVIEST STORM,  
WITH GRAVID AIR'S PROMISE OF TEMPESTUOUS SEAS--  
BELIEVE CHILD BORN AT FIRST RED LIGHT  
WOULD STRETCH 'CROSS OCEAN LIKE BLACK DISEASE.

FROM **ASGULIN**, WHERE SAILORS DARE  
TO LAY DOWN BOWS, SPEARS AND BLADES;

BUILD HOUSES FROM PLANKS  
THAT ONCE GRACED GALLEONS;  
RAISE BABES WITH FAVORED  
SCULLERY MAIDS.

YES, THE "KINGS OF ASGULIN" ARE PIRATES,  
MEN WHO FIRST STUCK FLAGS IN SAND...

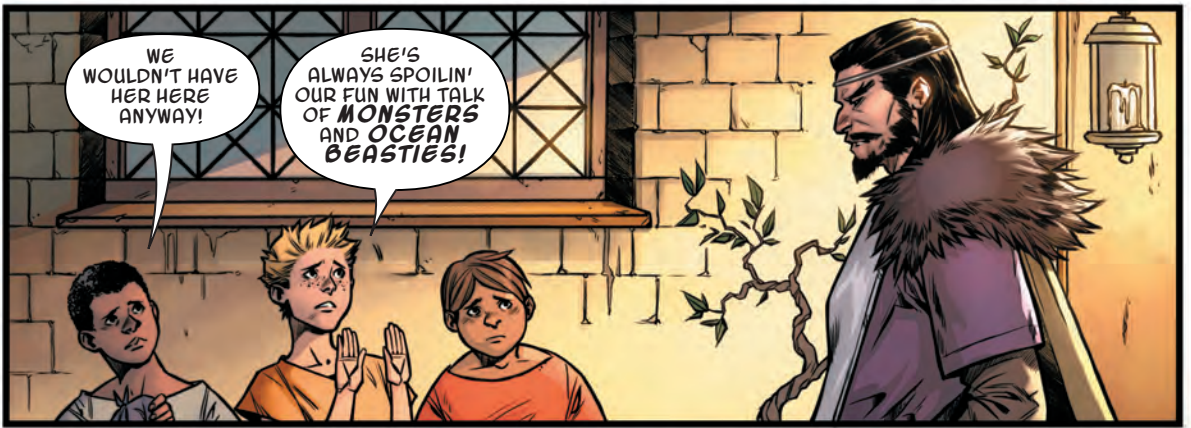
...BUT THE CITY'S TRUE RULER  
LAY IN THEIR GET--

--IN A WOMAN WHO HAD NO NEED OF LAND.

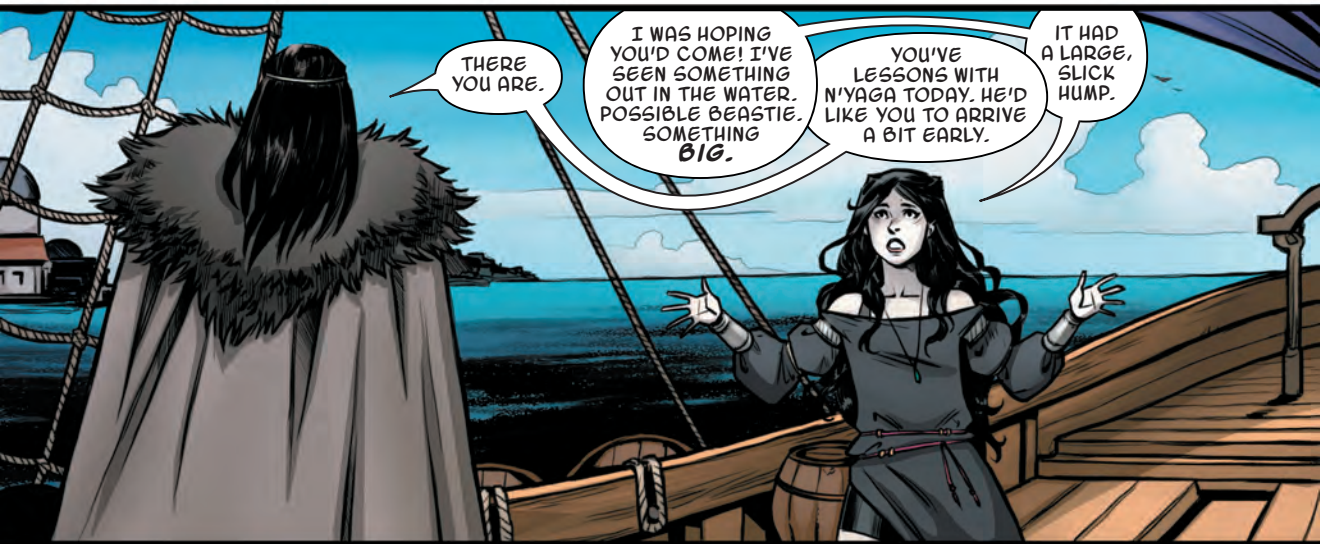
BÊLLIIIT!

HAVE ANY OF  
YOU SEEN MY  
DAUGHTER?









THERE YOU ARE.

I WAS HOPING YOU'D COME! I'VE SEEN SOMETHING OUT IN THE WATER. POSSIBLE BEASTIE. SOMETHING **BIG**.

YOU'VE LESSONS WITH N'YAGA TODAY. HE'D LIKE YOU TO ARRIVE A BIT EARLY.

IT HAD A LARGE, SLICK HUMP.



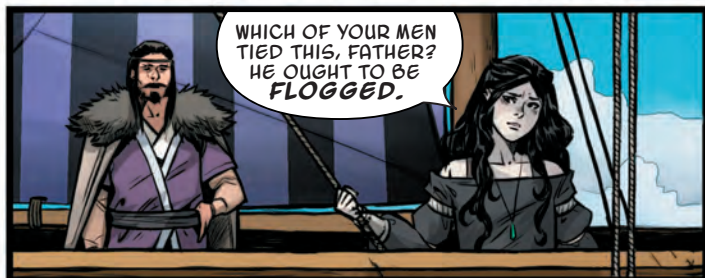
AND A **FIN**, WITH BONES IN IT. LIKE A SWORDFISH'S FIN!

BÊLIT, REGARDING THESE VISIONS OF **BEASTIES**...

...IT SEEMS THE YOUNGER STUDENTS AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN GETTING ALONG.

HOW MANY **FRIENDS** DOES ONE NEED TO BE A **DREAD ADMIRAL**, FATHER?

YOU'D BE SURPRISED, MY GIRL, AT HOW MANY **FRIENDS** IT TAKES TO **REMAIN** ONE!



WHICH OF YOUR MEN TIED THIS, FATHER? HE OUGHT TO BE **FLOGGED**.



AND DO YOU THINK **DREAD ADMIRALS** FLOG THEIR MEN OVER A MISTIED KNOT?

I KNOW MORE ABOUT SEAFARING THAN HALF THE MEN WHO WORK ON YOUR SHIPS AT THE DOCKS, AND YOU KNOW IT!

SEND **THEM** TO N'YAGA FOR LESSONS.



MY SULLEN LITTLE SIREN. YOU THINK YOU'LL BE A PIRATE LIKE YOUR OLD MAN?

PIRACY ISN'T ALL WINE, WOMEN, AND SONG, YOU KNOW.

I SHOULD **HOP** NOT.

I KEEP SEEING THESE **MONSTERS**. I **KNOW** YOU MUST HAVE SEEN THEM IN YOUR SEAFARING DAYS--



EVERY SAILOR **THINKS** HE HAS.

I KNOW A FEW MEN WHO'VE CLAIMED TO HUNT THEM.





BUT THEY WERE OLD MEN, BELIT. OLD BACK WHEN I WAS YOUNG.

THEY'RE LONG DEAD, MUCH LIKE MOST ANYTHING THAT I WOULD CALL A **SEA MONSTER**.

YOU TOLD ME YOU'D SLAIN ONE ONCE!

I LIED!



I THINK YOU'RE LYING NOW.

IS THAT SO?



KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ME, THEN.



FIND ONE AND HUNT IT DOWN, AND I'LL NAME YOU QUEEN OF THE PIRATES MYSELF!



NOW, THE **TIGRESS** IS MY SHIP, AND IF A PIRATE STOLE THAT FROM ME I'D HAVE TO HUNT THEM DOWN. BUT THERE IS THIS DINGHY...



...AND TAKING **THAT**... WOULD MAKE YOU A PIRATE.