

ISSUE
15


VEEFRIENDS



Introducing:
**DRIVEN
DRAGON!**

**GARY
VAYNERCHUK**

**KATELYN
WINDELS**



THERE'S THAT OLD SAYING ABOUT HEROES.
HOW THEY'RE NOT BORN, THEY'RE MADE.

I RELATE TO THAT.

NOT BECAUSE I'M A HERO...
BUT BECAUSE I WAS MADE.

WE ALL ARE, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT.



WOOSH!

WOOSH

WOOSH

NO ONE IS BORN WITH SKILLS.
NATURAL TALENT IS A MYTH.

TALENT IS EARNED. SKILLS ARE GAINED
THROUGH GRUELING REPETITION.



TIRELESS, CONSTANT EFFORT.




SHE'S DONE IT AGAIN, FOLKS!

I'M NOT SPECIAL.
I JUST HAVE DRIVE.



NOW THAT'S ONE
DRIVEN DRAGON!

AND IT MADE ME THE BEST
DRAGON RACER THAT EVER LIVED.



BUT I DIDN'T GET HERE
ALONE, OF COURSE...

SEVERAL YEARS AGO...

RACER TRAINING GROUNDS.







THEY'RE RIGHT, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I PRACTICE I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

NOT FAST ENOUGH.

NOT AGILE ENOUGH.

NOT...GOOD ENOUGH.



NO.



I WON'T LET THEM GET TO ME!



AND I WON'T QUIT!

DEEP IN THE FOREST...

WHOOSH!

COME ON,
COME ON!

SWOOSH!

HEY!
HEY YOU!

OOO...
THAT'S GOTTA
HURT.

WAAAA!



YOU ALRIGHT THERE, MISSY?

ARE YOU A... FLYING MOUSE? OR DID I JUST HIT MY HEAD THAT HARD?



THE ONE AND ONLY! NAME'S *WINDY*.

LIKE 'WE'RE IN FOR *WINDY* WEATHER.' OR 'THE *WINDS* OF CHANGE ARE UPON YOU!'



UH HUH...



WELL IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, *WINDY* THE FLYING MOUSE--



I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU, *WREN*.

IT IS *WREN*, RIGHT?



HOW DID YOU--

NICE HOMEMADE TRAINING COURSE YOU HAVE FOR YOURSELF.

YOU WANNA RACE, HUH? BUT... WELL, YOU'RE TERRIBLE. YOU'RE A NYMPH DRAGON, SMALL, LIKE ME!

YOU'RE TRAINING LIKE THEM, BUT YOU'RE NOT A WAYVERN, OR A WHIPTAIL OR EVEN A--



GET TO THE POINT, *MOUSE*.



I CAN HELP YOU. I KNOW AERODYNAMICS. HOW THE WIND WORKS. HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF BEING SMALL.

YOU WANNA RACE, I WANNA RIDE. WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER.



IF YOU'RE SO GOOD, WHY HAVEN'T YOU FOUND A DRAGON THAT'S ALREADY IN THE RACES THEN?

NO ONE WANTS A MOUSE RIDER. TOO SMALL. TOO WEAK. BAD GRIP.



WE BOTH WANNA RACE...

WADDAYA SAY?



READY?

SHE WAS RIGHT, OF COURSE, ABOUT ME TRAINING WRONG. I'LL NEVER TELL HER THAT THOUGH.

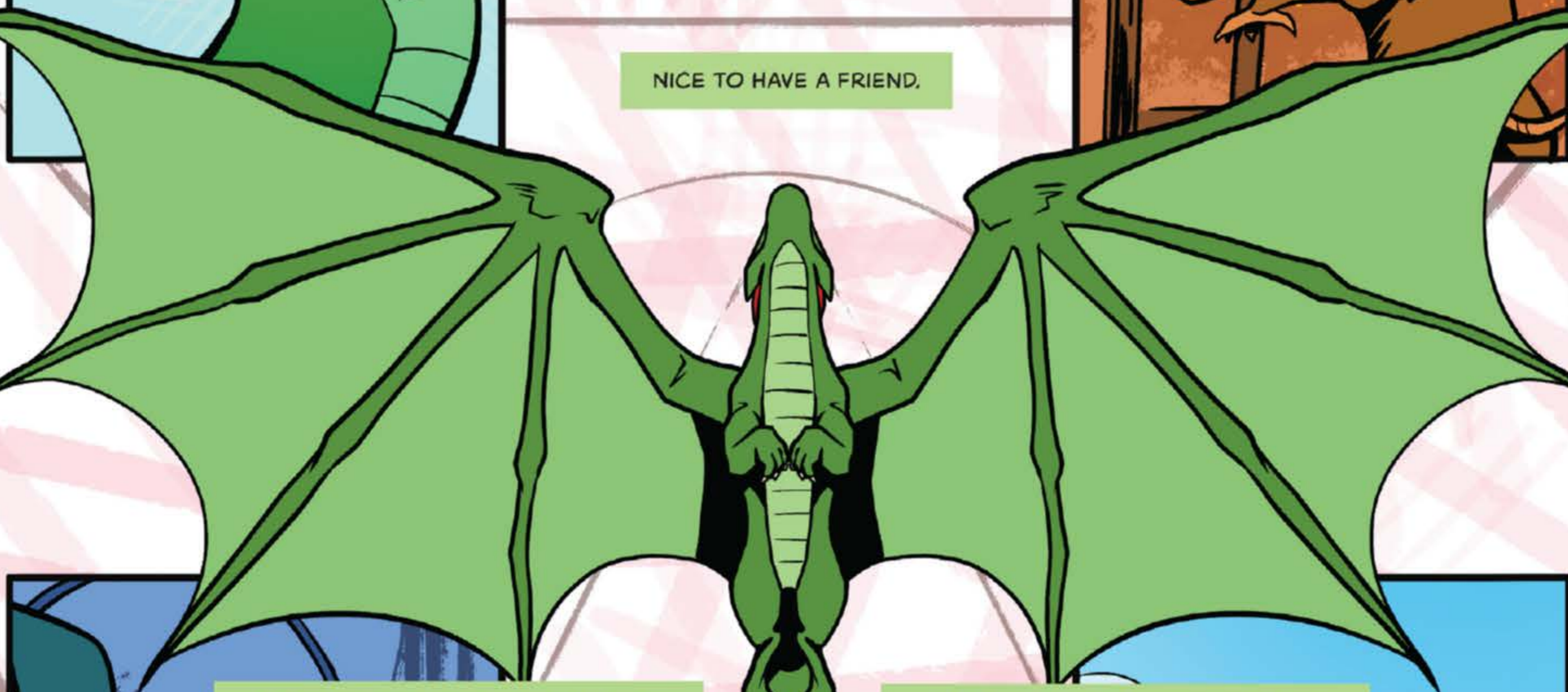
THAT LITTLE MOUSE WORKED ME TO THE BONE. HECK, I WORKED MYSELF TO THE BONE.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I FINALLY HAD HOPE. MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I FINALLY HAD SOMEONE THAT BELIEVED IN ME. EITHER WAY IT WAS... NICE.



TUCK IN THAT TAIL, MISSY!

NICE TO HAVE A FRIEND.



I SAW OTHERS GIVE UP WHEN THEY WERE SO CLOSE TO THE TOP.

SECOND OR THIRD WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR THEM, SO THEY QUIT.



COME ON!
GLIIIIIDE...

I WATCHED, AND I LEARNED... UNTIL I WAS READY.



SEVERAL MONTHS LATER...

WHOO HOO!
THAT WAS YOUR
BEST TIME YET,
WREN!



CAN WE...
CAN WE FINALLY
DO IT?

I THINK
WE CAN!



IT'S FINALLY TIME TO TALK TO
THE LADIES THAT RUN THE RACES!
DON'T WORRY, THEY KNOW ME.

WE'RE A SHOE IN!

ABSOLUTLY NOT!

WINDY, YOU CAN'T
JUST WALK IN HERE WITH
THE SMALLEST DRAGON YOU
COULD FIND AND DEMAND TO
BE IN THE RACE TOMORROW.



YOU'VE PULLED
SOME DUMB STUNTS,
BUT THIS--



SHE'S FASTER
THAN THE LOT OF THEM!
AREN'T YOU TIRED OF THE
SAME RACERS OVER AND--



THIS ISN'T
ABOUT--



FINE!

THEN I'LL
PROVE IT!





BY THE GODS...

SHE DID IT IN LESS THAN 10!

SKID STOP



WELL, LADIES... WE'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW.



TOMORROW...

STARTING LINE



NERVOUS.

NO... ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, NYMPH?!

WE EARNED OUR WAY IN!

FAIR AND SQUARE!

THERE'S NO WAY THE BUGS LET YOU IN!



ALL RACERS ARE HERE AND ACCOUNTED FOR!

PLEASE TAKE YOUR POSITIONS.

AHEM!



YOU WANT TO EMBARRASS YOURSELF IN FRONT OF EVERYONE? ...FINE!

BE MY GUEST!



DON'T LISTEN TO THEM, WREN.

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL TURN OUT FOR A RACE DAY, FOLKS!

LOOKS LIKE IT SHOULD BE AN EXCITING ONE!

YOU ALL KNOW THE RULES!



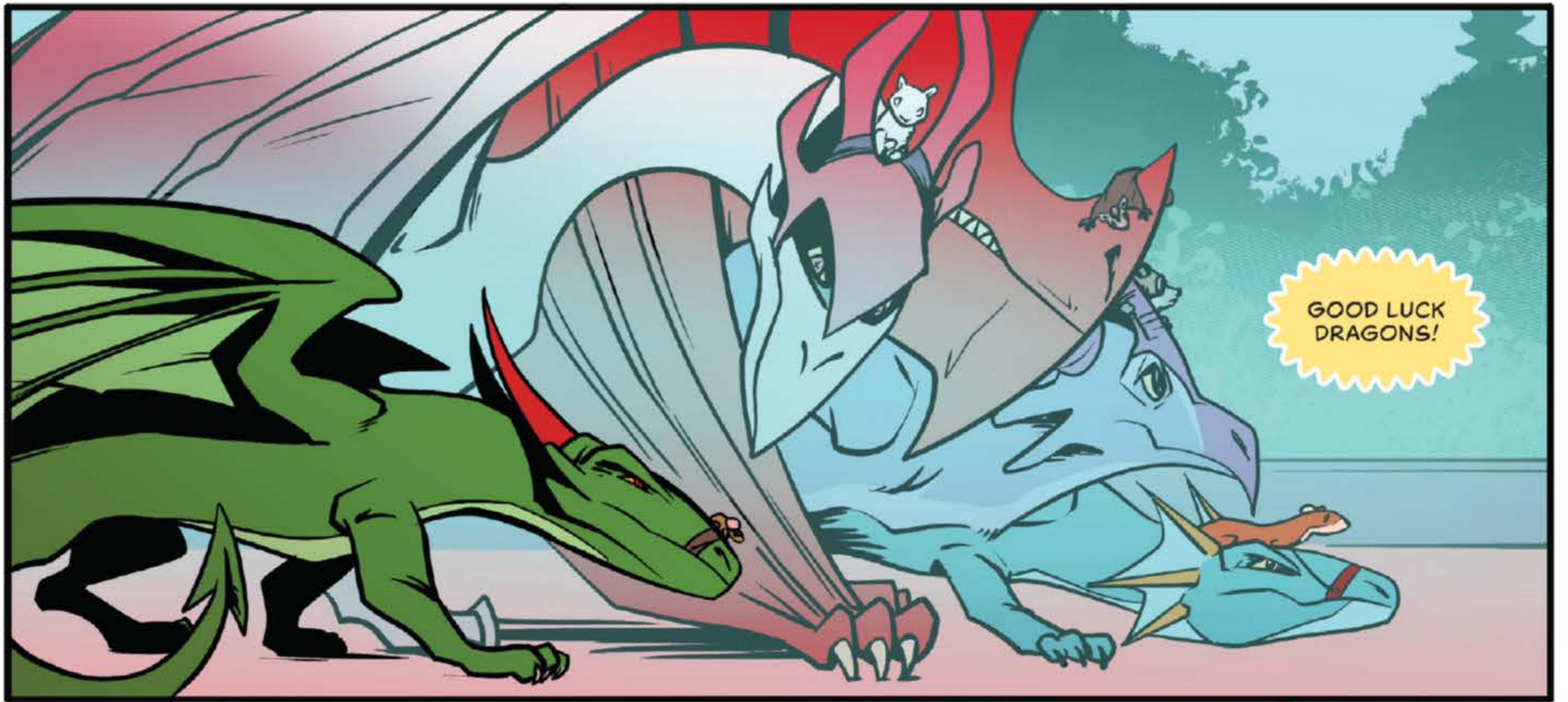
EACH DRAGON HAS TO COLLECT THEIR RING FROM EACH TRACK CHECKPOINT!



ONE PART OF THE COURSE MUST BE COMPLETED **WITHOUT** FLYING!



AND EACH RACER **MUST** FINISH WITH THEIR RIDER!



GOOD LUCK DRAGONS!



READY...

...SET...



GO!



REQUIRED
OBSTACLES ON
THE TRACK AHEAD,
RACERS!

**TRACK 1:
FOREST**

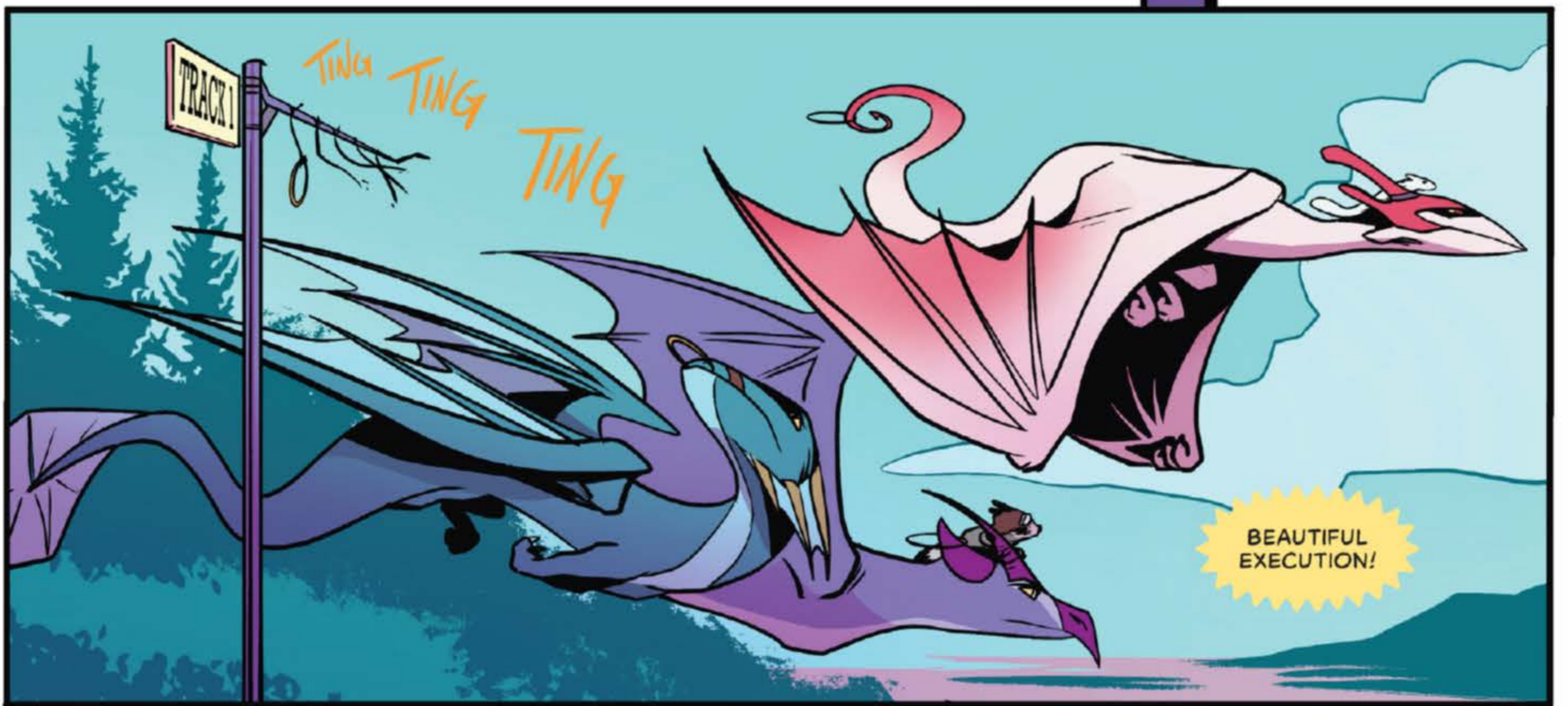
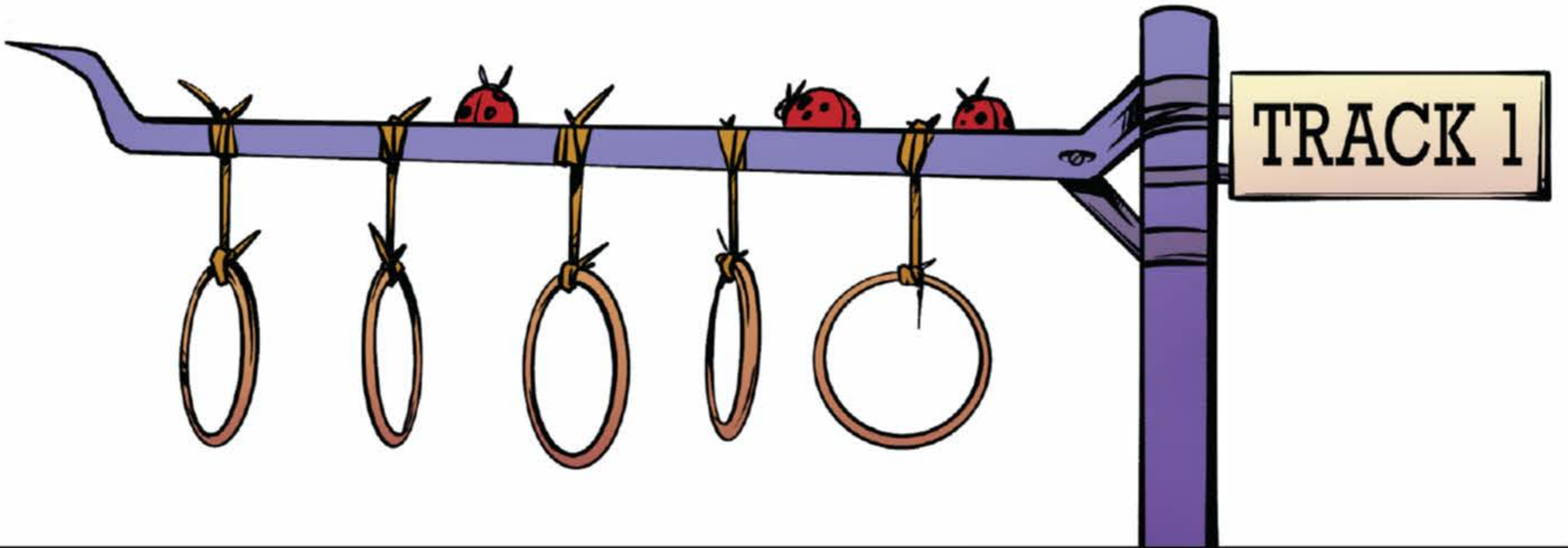


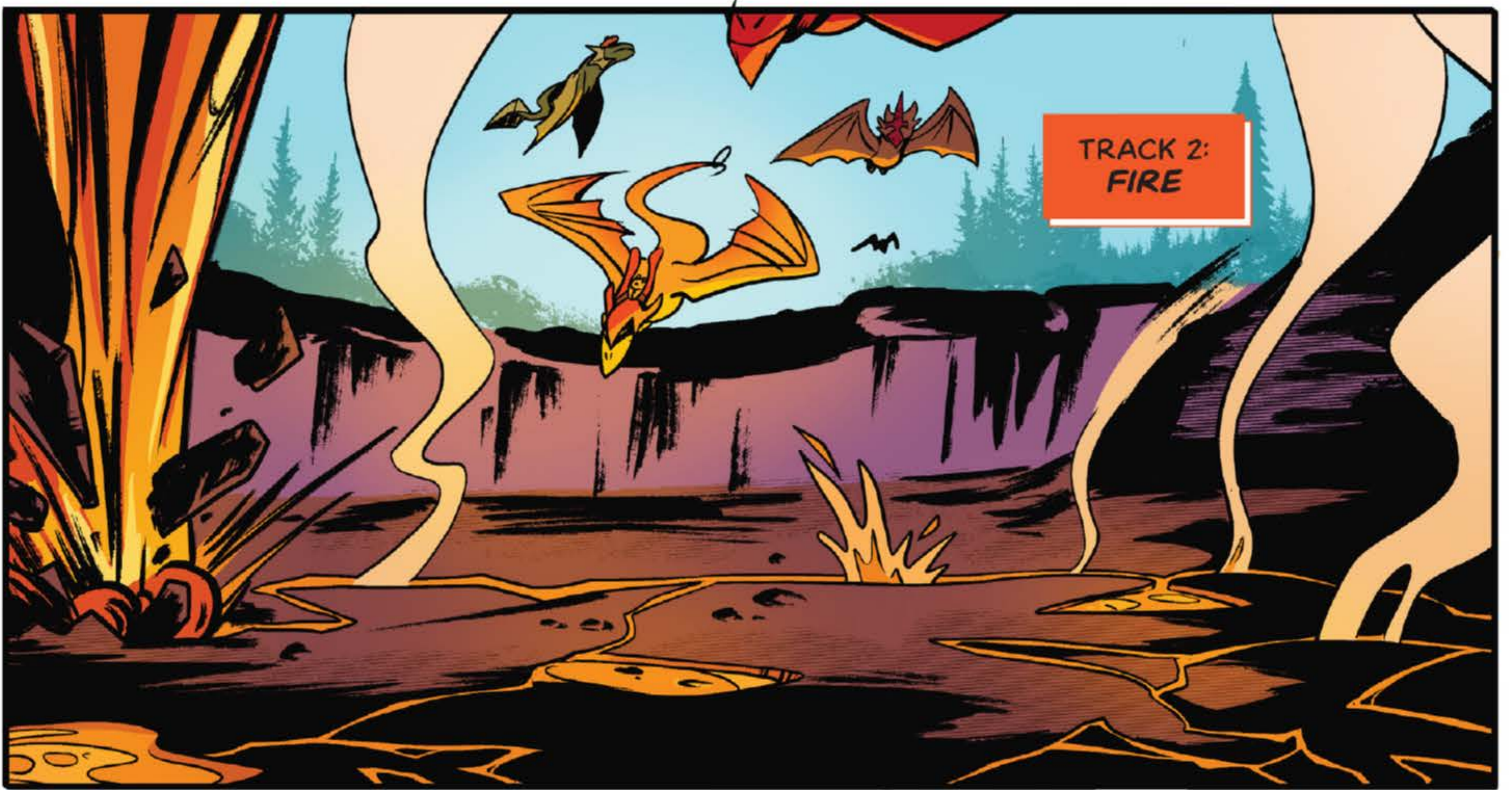
UH, ROSIE?

SHE'S
KEEPING UP.

LOOK AT
THAT LITTLE
DRAGON GO!

SHUT UP
AND FLY!





TRACK 2:
FIRE



HOLY MOLY...



TWO DOWN,
TWO TO GO...



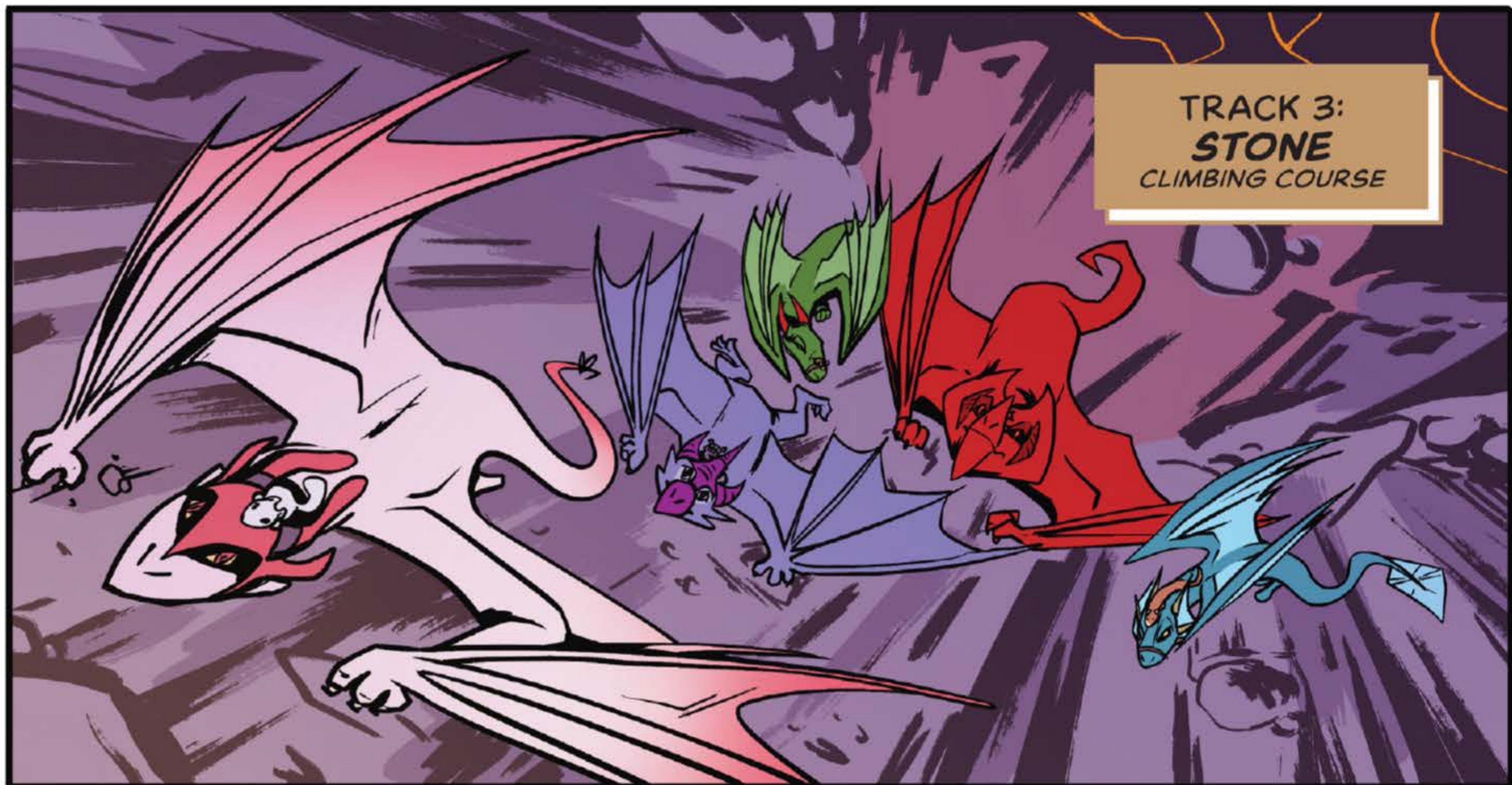
BANK LEFT!

NOW!



LOOK AT
THAT TEAMWORK,
FOLKS!

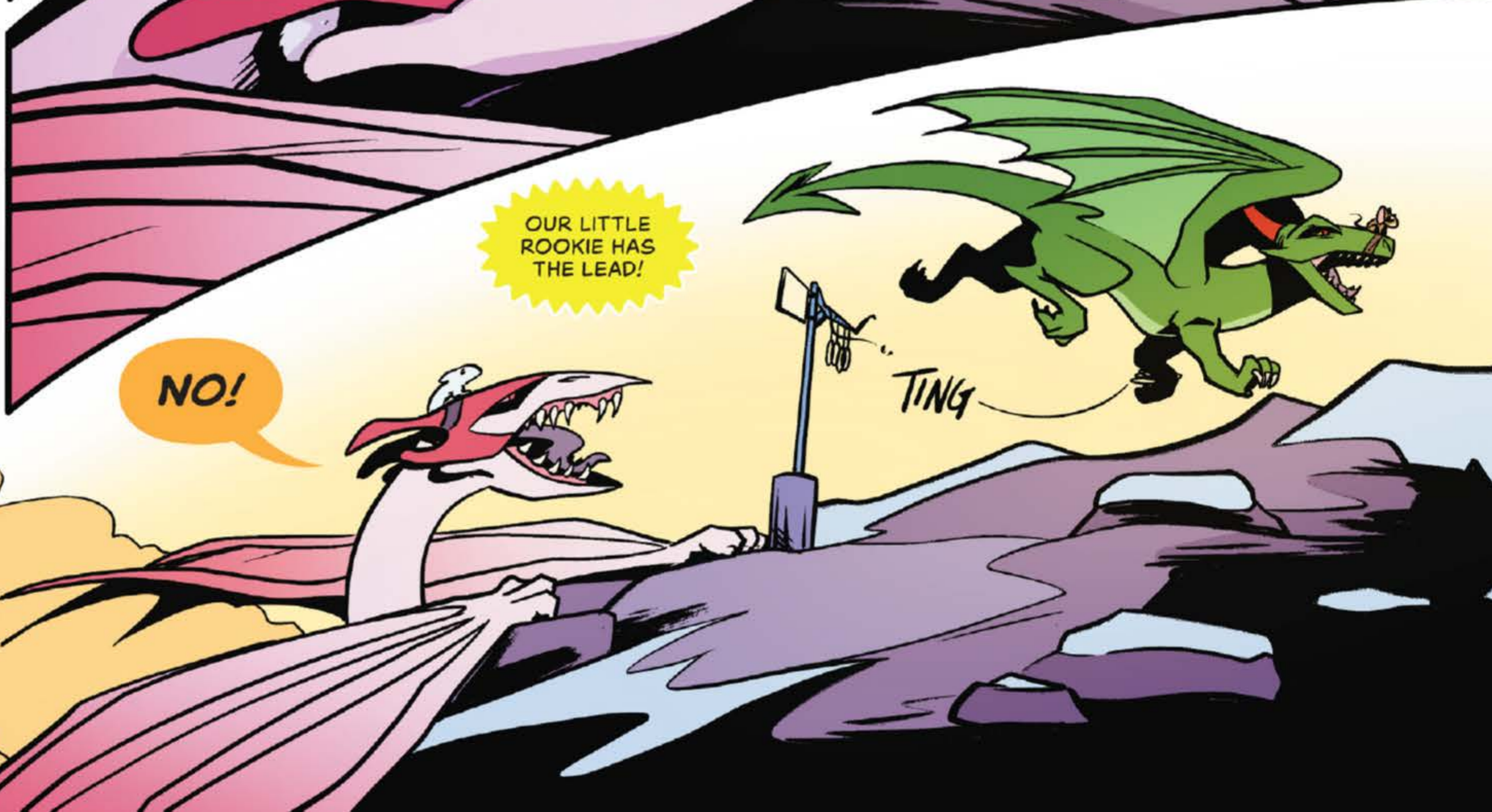
TRACK 3:
STONE
CLIMBING COURSE



OUR LITTLE
ROOKIE HAS
THE LEAD!

NO!

TING





WE'RE IN THE LEAD!

FINAL TRACK:
SNOW

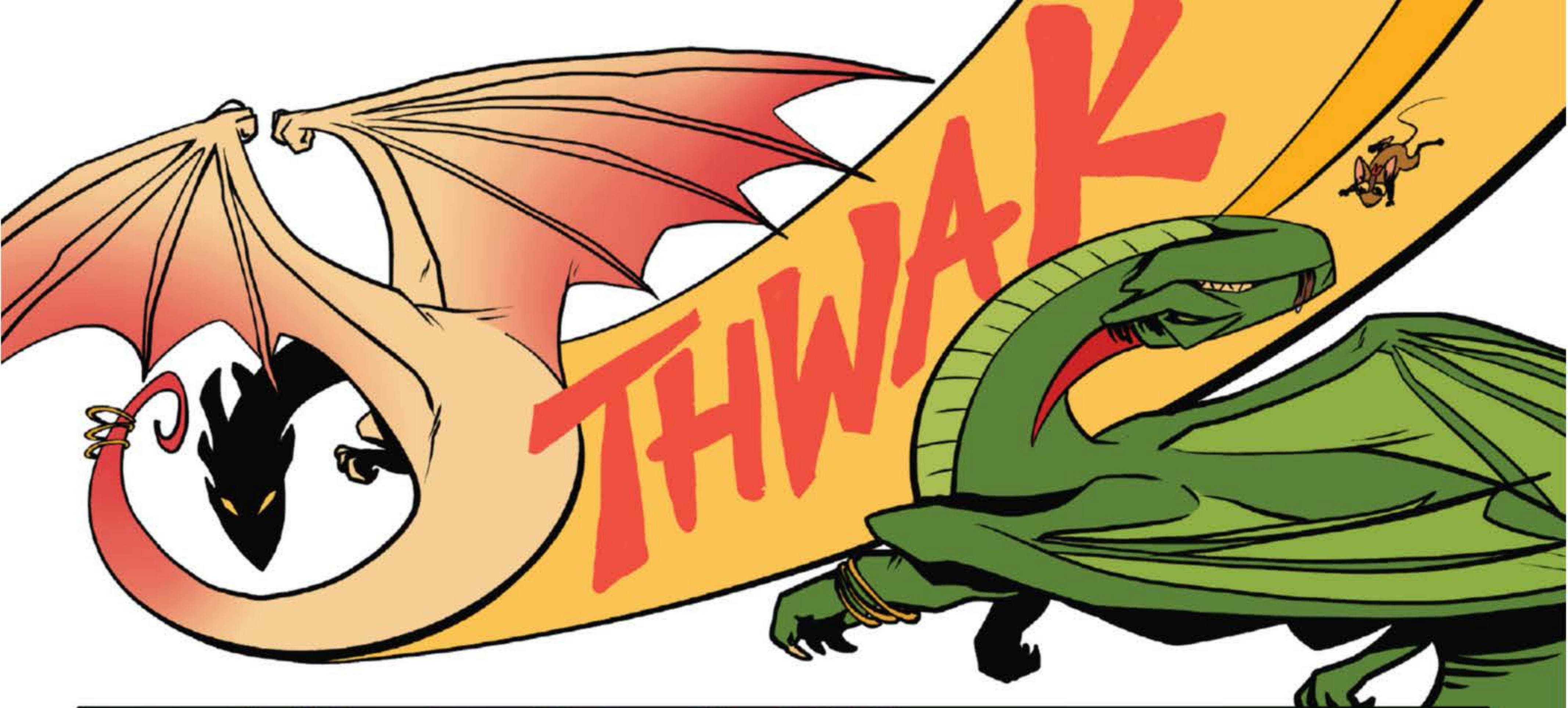


IT'S A STRAIGHT SHOT!

I CAN SEE THE FINISH LINE!

I'LL BE DEAD BEFORE I LOSE TO A NYMPH DRAGON AND A MOUSE!

ASOON!





HEY!
OPEN UP!

THANKS FOR THE
SAVE, BUT THAT WAS
REALLY GROSS.



HOW'D
WE DO?

DIDN'T
EVEN FINISH.

FIGURED.



NOT A
PHOTO FINISH, BUT
A GOOD SHOW.

YOU
SURPRISED US,
WREN.



THAT MOVE
ROSIE PULLED HAD
TO BE ILLEGAL.

IT WASN'T.

SO WE
LOST FAIR AND
SQUARE?

AFRIAD SO...



ANYWAY, NEXT WEEK WE'LL BE STARTING IN THE FROWNING FOREST.

PEOPLE ARE EXCITED FOR THIS NEW COURSE.



WAIT... WE CAN STILL RACE?!



AFRAID SO...



WE'RE STILL IN THE RACE...

I HAD NO DOUBTS ABOUT IT.

WE ALL START SOMEWHERE, EVEN THE BEST OF US. THAT'S THE POINT.

YOU DON'T START AT THE TOP, BUT WITH ENOUGH DRIVE...

MAYBE YOU'LL GET THERE.

BUILDING CHARACTERS

Driven Dragon has become one of the most popular VeeFriends characters to collect, showing up everywhere from pins, cards, Super Stickers and even a rare “555” limited T-shirt. Until now, fans knew the drive, but not the story behind it. This book finally explores where that determination came from, before the wins, before the legend.

The Driven Dragon story was born during the August 2025 VeeFriends Comics Offsite, where early ideas pushed in a few directions. Jim Rugg first suggested a racing angle inspired by real-world daredevils, with the dragon acting like a living race car mascot. Gary loved the racing energy but wanted to lean fully into fantasy, which led Kate to pitch the idea of dragon racing.

From there, the team explored riders, and Gary decided they should be small forest creatures rather than other VeeFriends, allowing the story to stand on its own. That choice opened the door to new characters, unexpected details like the Lady Bug race officials, and a world that feels familiar but fresh. (And no, VeeFriends OGs, this is NOT the *Lunch Lady Bug*... at least not yet ;))

The goal was to create a story that could resonate with fantasy and dragon fans, D&D players, young adult readers, collectors, and longtime VeeFriends fans, while still feeling different from any other dragon story out there. This isn't about destiny, it's about effort, repetition, and staying in the race.

Fun fact: Driven Dragon was first mentioned by name at the very end of VeeFriends Issue #4, available to read for free at veefriends.com/comics. We'd love to hear your review of this story! Please send your questions, comments or reviews to comics@veefriends.com

Stay Driven!



Driven Dragon Daily Comic Strip
June 3, 2024



Driven Dragon 555
T-Shirt Design



VeeFriends x Kim Shui
Driven Dragon Hoodie



Gold Driven Dragon Pin
Road to VeeCon 2024



Core Dragon Card
VeeFriends TCG



Driven-Dragon
Manga Super Sticker
2025



Driven Dragon Series 1 NFT

COVER ANATOMY

Meet our Cover B Artist

MIKE MAYHEW!

Mike Mayhew is one of the most sought-after cover artists in comics today, known for his striking photo-realism and cinematic intensity. His work has defined covers for major titles at Marvel and DC, including Avengers, Justice League, X-Men, Star Wars, Guardians of the Galaxy, Elektra, and She-Hulk.

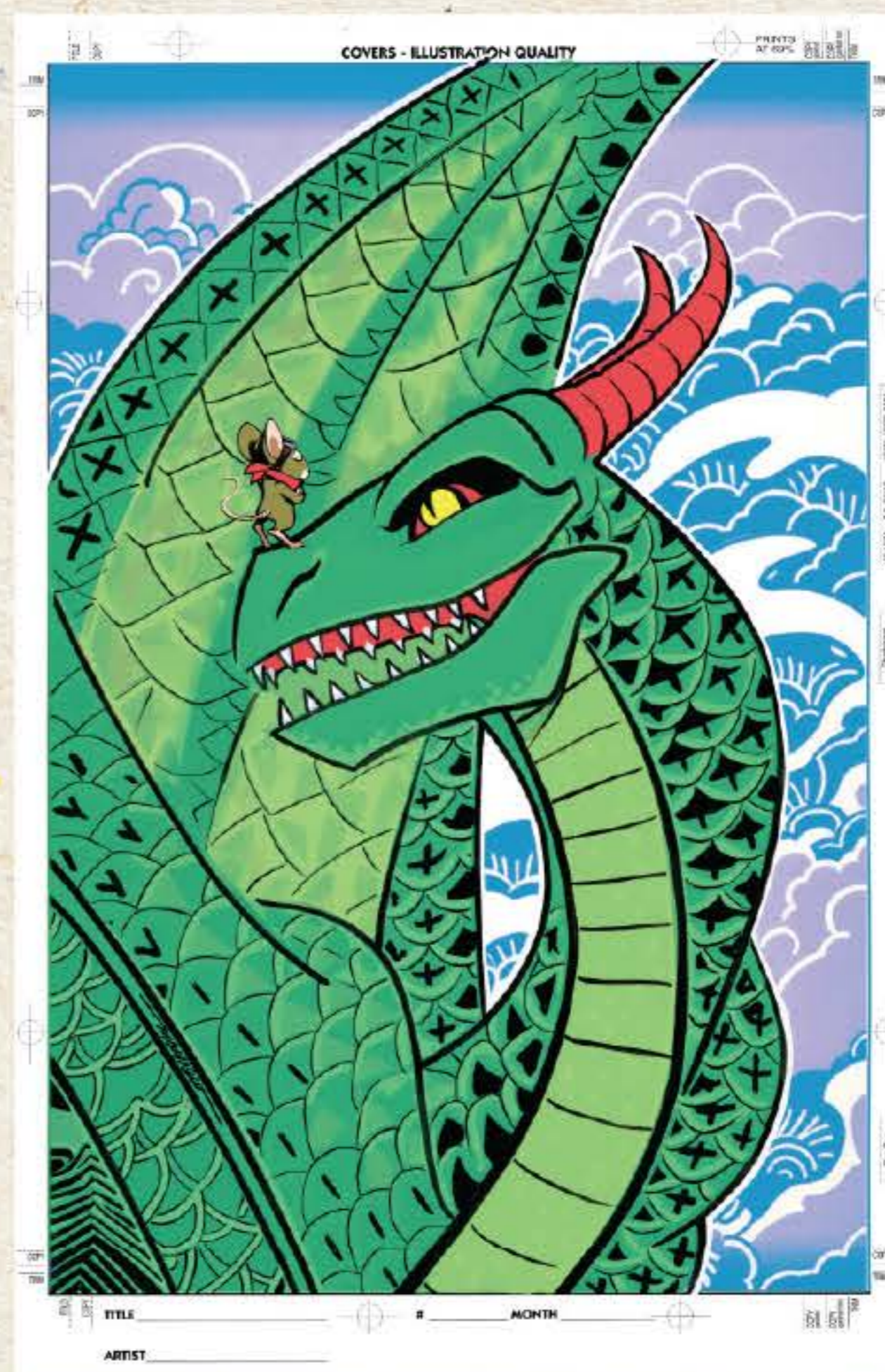
Mike's art doesn't just catch your eye, it becomes collectible. His adaptation of George Lucas' original 1974 draft of The Star Wars became a #1 New York Times Bestseller, and his variant covers continue to be among the most prized in modern comics. We're proud to feature his work on this issue.

Find out more about Mike at mikemayhewstudio.com

Or catch him live on a Whatnot username [mikemayhew](#)



In progress Cover B



Completed Cover B

This issue features a Cover B limited to 2000 copies by Mike Mayhew.