



NINJAGO™

Masters of Spinjitzu



DARK ISLAND

TRILOGY—PART 3



The background of the image is a dramatic landscape. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds in shades of blue and purple, with a bright light source breaking through near the top center. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains and a large, craggy rock formation on the right side. The overall mood is mysterious and intense.

DARK ISLAND



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DARK ISLAND

TRILOGY—PART 3

STORY BY GREG FARSHTEY + ART BY CARAVAN STUDIO



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MASTER WU

THIS WISE, OLD MAN IS THE MENTOR OF THE CHOSEN NINJA, AND THE FIRST SPINJITZU MASTER'S SECOND-BORN SON. HE IS GARMADON'S YOUNGER BROTHER, MISAKO'S BROTHER-IN-LAW, AND LLOYD'S PATERNAL UNCLE.

KAI

KAI IS SOMETHING OF A HOTHEAD, WHICH IS FITTING, SINCE HE COMMANDS THE ELEMENT OF FIRE. HE IS THE SON OF A BLACKSMITH AND IS NYA'S BROTHER.





COLE

COLE IS A VERY CALM AND INTELLIGENT MEMBER OF THE NINJA. HE COMMANDS THE ELEMENT OF EARTH, GIVING HIM GREAT PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND DURABILITY—EVEN IF HE HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A LIVING GHOST.



JAY

ALWAYS TELLING JOKES, JAY IS THE MOST LIGHTEARTED OF THE NINJA. HE CAN HARNESS THE ELEMENT OF LIGHTNING TO CREATE A SPINJITZU TORNADO OF PURE ELECTRICITY. ONLY HE AND NYA REMEMBER THE BATTLE AGAINST THE EVIL DJINN NADAKHAN.





LLOYD

LLOYD LOVES HIS FATHER, GARMADON. ONCE, THIS ALMOST DROVE HIM TO EVIL, BUT HIS INHERENTLY GOOD NATURE INSTEAD LED HIM TO JOIN THE NINJA AND COMMAND THE ELEMENT OF ENERGY. NOW HE IS TRYING TO BUILD A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS MOTHER, MISAKO.

NYA

AFTER DISCOVERING THAT SHE COMMANDS THE ELEMENT OF WATER, KAI'S YOUNGER SISTER HAS BECOME THE NEWEST ADDITION TO THE NINJA. NYA IS VALUED FOR HER FIGHTING SKILLS AND INDEPENDENCE, BUT NOW SHE'S LEARNING HOW TO BE PART OF A TEAM AS WELL.





ZANE

ZANE IS THE MOST RESERVED AND SERIOUS OF THE NINJA, BUT HE IS ALSO THE MOST RESPECTFUL. HIS AFFINITY FOR ICE ALLOWS HIM TO FREEZE OBJECTS AND PERFORM A CHILLY SPINJITZU ATTACK.



MISAKO

LLOYD'S MOTHER WORKS CLOSELY WITH WU TO HELP TRAIN THE NINJA. MISAKO OFTEN ENCOURAGES NYA TO PLOT HER OWN COURSE RATHER THAN LET OTHERS DETERMINE WHO SHE IS.



RONIN

THE ONLY MASTER RONIN SERVES IS MONEY. YET THIS RETIRED THIEF IS TRYING TO MAKE A SECOND CHANCE FOR HIMSELF—AS PART OWNER OF MASTER WU'S TEA FARM.



CHAPTER FIVE

ROAD RAGE



KAI CAN'T REMEMBER HOW LONG HE HAS BEEN WANDERING THROUGH THE *BILLY BADLANDS* DESERT. DAYS? WEEKS? IT FEELS LIKE FOREVER.

HE'S TOO WEAK TO EVEN USE AIRJITZU AND SEE IF HE'S ANYWHERE CLOSE TO SALVATION...



TIRED... THIRSTY... IF I DON'T GET HELP SOON, I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT OUT OF THIS PLACE. BUT I HAVE TO GET OUT... I HAVE TO SAVE MY FRIENDS...

THAT CLOUD OF SAND... SOMETHING'S COMING THIS WAY. UNLESS IT'S JUST A MIRAGE...

THE GOOD NEWS IS IT'S *NOT* A MIRAGE. THAT'S THE *BAD NEWS* TOO.

LATER, AFTER THE PIRATES TIE THE WEAKENED
KAI TO THE FRONT OF THEIR VEHICLE...



I SHOULD PROBABLY TELL YOU GUYS, I
FAILED "HOOD ORNAMENT" IN SCHOOL.

HAR-HAR! IN A
LITTLE WHILE,
LAD, IT WON'T
MATTER WHAT
YOU CAN DO AND
WHAT YOU CAN'T.

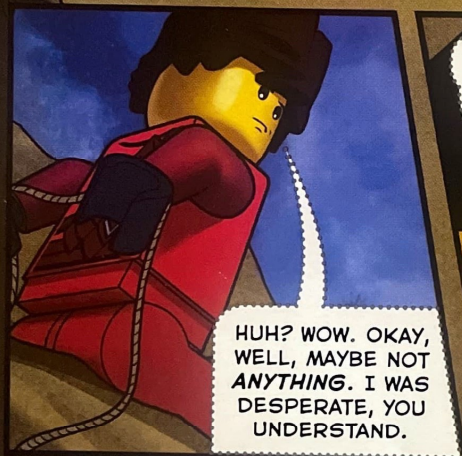


I'M GLAD THE GUYS AREN'T
HERE TO SEE ME LIKE THIS.

IT'S GONNA TAKE ME
WEEKS TO BRUSH THE
BUGS OUT OF MY TEETH.

LATER
THAT
NIGHT.

COME ON, ROPES. I'LL
DO ANYTHING IF YOU JUST
UNTIE YOURSELVES.



HUH? WOW. OKAY,
WELL, MAYBE NOT
ANYTHING. I WAS
DESPERATE, YOU
UNDERSTAND.



COLE?!

HEY, HOTHEAD. IT
LOOKED LIKE YOU
NEEDED A HAND,
EVEN IF IT IS A
GHOSTLY ONE.



SO...**GLUG, GLUG...** THIRSTY...

MAKE IT A QUICK
DRINK. WE HAVE
PLACES TO BE.
BUT FIRST WE
NEED A RIDE.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THAT NINJA? PUT HIM IN THE MINES WITH THOSE FISH-CATCHING SWABS WE NABBED FROM THE SEA?

NAH, NO NEED. AS SURE AS THE MOON DRAWS THE TIDE, THE *LAST CONVOY* IS CARRYING THE *FINAL SHIPMENT* ACROSS THE DESERT RIGHT NOW.

IN TWO SHAKES OF A MERMAID'S TAIL, WE'LL HAVE SO MUCH *DARK MATTER* PILED UP AROUND THE *TEMPLE OF LIGHT* THAT THIS WHOLE WORLD WILL BE BLACKER THAN MY HEART! HAR!

WHAT IN THE DEEP, BLUE SEA—?

BOO!

**YAAAH!
GHOST!**



DON'T TELL ME
YOU ROUGH,
TOUGH PIRATES
ARE SCARED
OF GHOSTS...



...ESPECIALLY WHEN
YOU OUGHT TO BE
SCARED OF ME.



DON'T RUN AWAY,
BOYS. IT'S MY
TURN TO TAKE
YOU FOR A RIDE.



A GOOD CUT OF PIRATE STEEL
WILL...GO...RIGHT THROUGH YOU?!

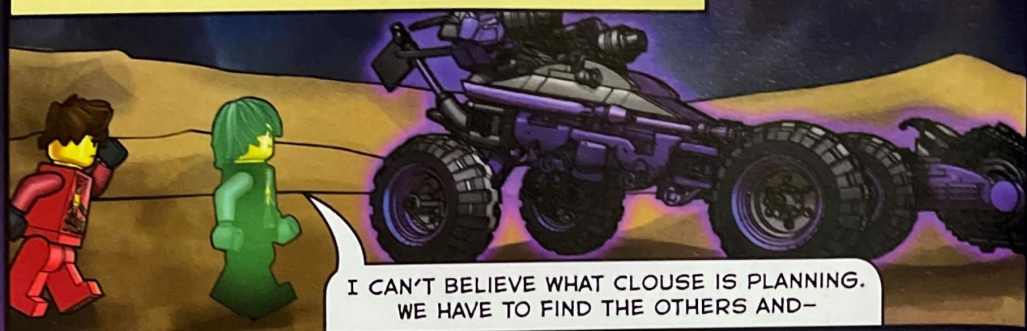
CREEPY,
ISN'T IT?



YOU BETTER
DROP THAT
BEFORE
YOU HURT
SOMEBODY.



IT ONLY TAKES A FEW MINUTES FOR THE PIRATES TO CONFESS.



I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT CLOUSE IS PLANNING.
WE HAVE TO FIND THE OTHERS AND—

KAI, ARE
YOU OKAY?



I FEEL...
WEIRD...ANGRY...
HOPELESS...

KAI, LISTEN TO ME. THE
DARK-MATTER YOU CAN'T LET
IT AFFECT YOU. WE NEED
YOU...NYA NEEDS YOU.



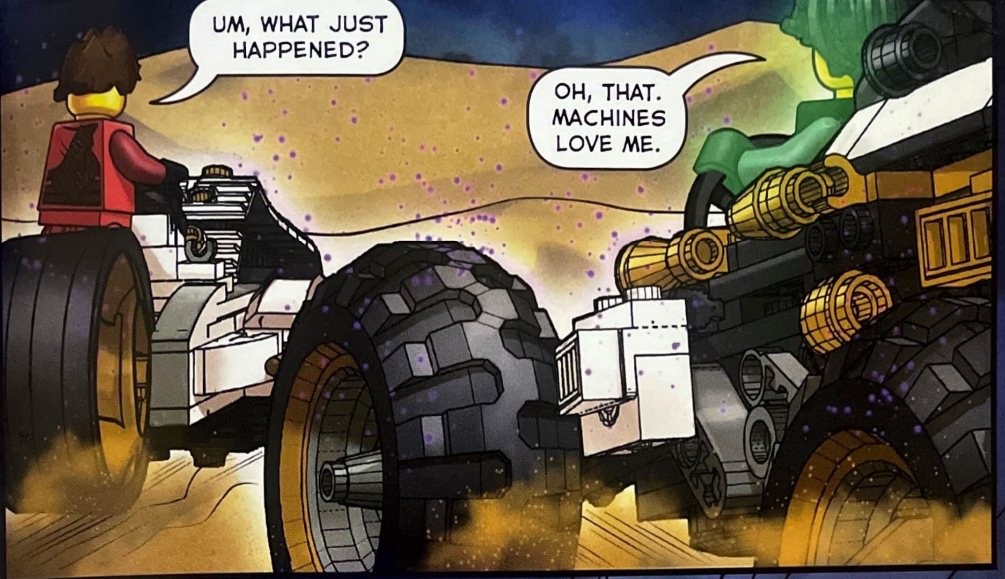
NYA, RIGHT...GOTTA
CONCENTRATE ON MY
SISTER, MY FRIENDS...



SORRY
ABOUT
THAT. I'M
BETTER
NOW.

GOOD. WE MAY NOT HAVE MUCH TIME. IF
YOU'RE FEELING THE EFFECTS OF THE
DARK MATTER, THAT MEANS THE CONVOY
IS GETTING CLOSE. WE HAVE TO STOP IT.





UM, WHAT JUST
HAPPENED?

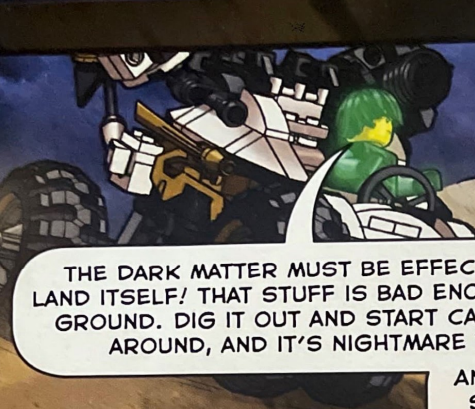
OH, THAT.
MACHINES
LOVE ME.



NOW, LET'S GO
CATCH SOME
PIRATES!

VROOOM

VROOOM



HEY, COLE, IS IT JUST ME OR DOES THIS PLACE LOOK REALLY WEIRD?

THE DARK MATTER MUST BE EFFECTING THE LAND ITSELF! THAT STUFF IS BAD ENOUGH IN THE GROUND. DIG IT OUT AND START CARRYING IT AROUND, AND IT'S NIGHTMARE TIME.

AND THE PIRATES HAVE A WHOLE CONVOY OF THE STUFF. KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR ANYTHING.



LIKE THAT?

ME AND MY BIG MOUTH.



RELAX. IT'S ONLY SAND—JUST DRIVE THROUGH IT! I'LL ADD A LITTLE HEAT TO HELP.



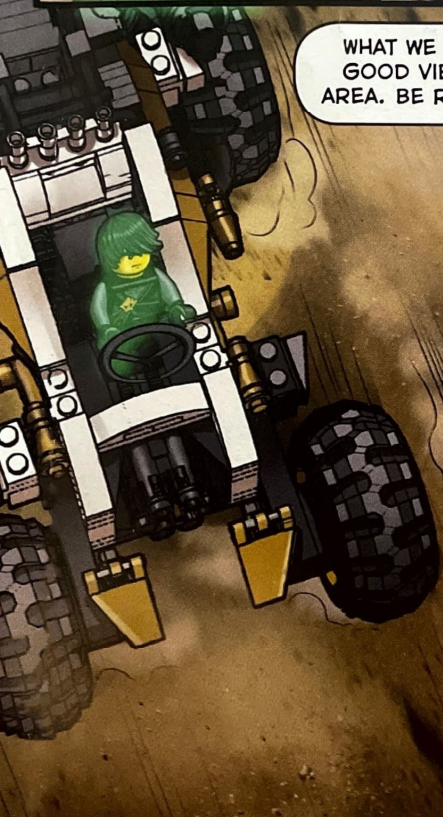
TEAMWORK RULES.

CRASH



THINGS ARE GETTING WORSE. LOOK AROUND—
THE ENTIRE LANDSCAPE IS SHIFTING.

WE NEED TO FIND
THE PIRATES AND
STOP THEM—FAST.



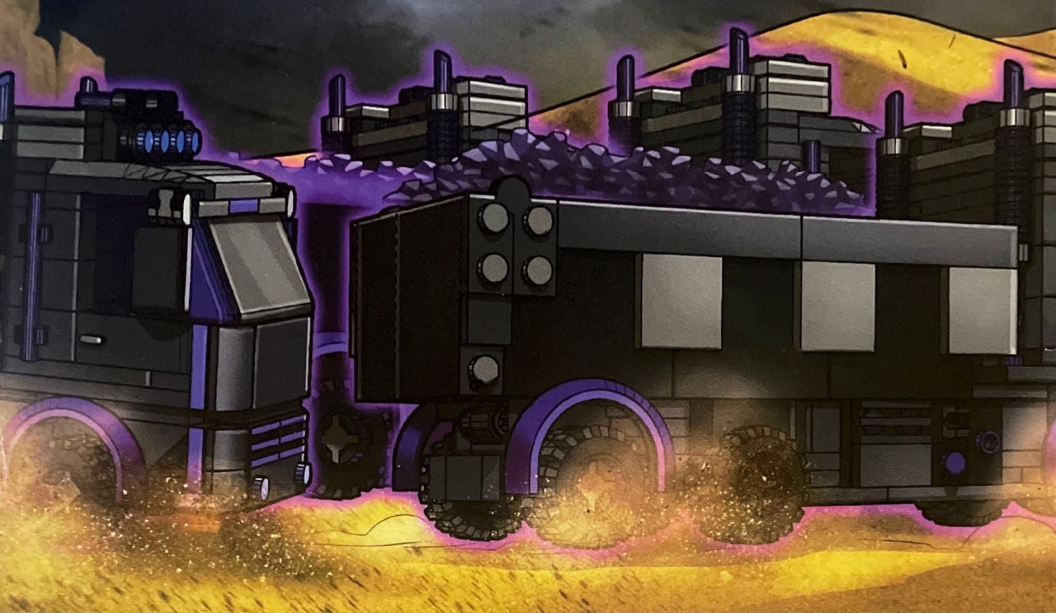
WHAT WE NEED IS A
GOOD VIEW OF THE
AREA. BE RIGHT BACK.



TIME FOR ME
TO—AIRJITZU!



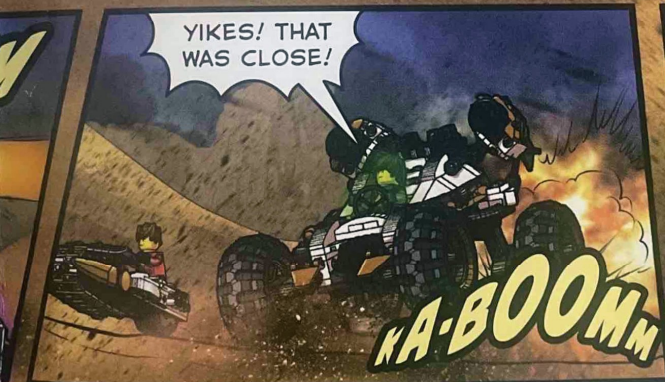
UH-OH. THAT
DOESN'T LOOK
GOOD. LIKE AT ALL.





IS IT A GULL?
IS IT A DODO?

WHO CARES
WHAT IT IS?
FIRE!



YIKES! THAT
WAS CLOSE!

KA-BOOMM



KRA-KAMMM

MY
TURN!



CRASH

WE'VE GOT THEM ON THE
ROPES! WE MIGHT ACTUALLY-

UH-OH! THAT BIG SHADOW'S NOT
GOOD. IS IT TOO MUCH TO HOPE THAT
IT BELONGS TO A GIANT TEDDY BEAR?





NOT EVEN CLOSE!
I AM **DESTRUCTION**
PERSONIFIED, FOR
YOU NINJA AND ALL
YOUR KIND!

CLOUSE?! BUT
HOW? YOU WERE
BANISHED TO THE
CURSED REALM!



ASK WU...**IF** YOU SEE HIM AGAIN. MY VICTORY IS
CERTAIN, BUT YOU NINJA CAN BE SO IRRITATINGLY
PERSISTENT. SO BEFORE I TAKE OVER THE WORLD
WILL TAKE THE TIME TO GRIND YOU BENEATH MY **HEEL**



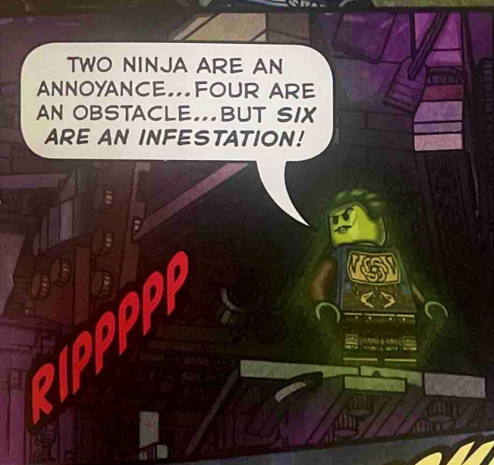
SORRY,
CLOUSE,
OLD BUDDY,
CAN'T LET
YOU DO THAT.
I DOUBT
YOU WASHED
YOUR FEET
LATELY.

HEY THERE, COLE.
LONG TIME, NO SEE.

REINFORCEMENTS
TO THE RESCUE!

SHALL WE,
ZANE?

WE SHALL
INDEED.



TWO NINJA ARE AN
ANNOYANCE... FOUR ARE
AN OBSTACLE... BUT *SIX*
ARE AN INFESTATION!

RIPPPPP



MISERABLE,
SEA-GOING FOOLS!
WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING FOR? AIM
LOW AND FIRE!



AYE, AYE,
CAPTAIN!

BOOM!

BOOM!

BOOM!

ALWAYS RAINS CANNONBALLS
WHEN YOU WANT TO HAVE A
PICNIC, EVER NOTICE THAT?

KA-WHOOM!

LISTEN UP, NINJA! KAI,
YOU STOP CLOUSE.
EVERYONE ELSE,
MAKE SURE TO STOP
THAT CONVOY!

LONG TIME, CLOUSE. I
THOUGHT THAT GARMADON
GOT RID OF YOU IN THE
CORRIDOR OF ELDERS.

I AM NOT
SO EASILY
DISPOSED
OF, NINJA.

YEAH, KIND OF
LIKE REALLY SLIMY
GARBAGE THAT
STICKS TO—

HEY!

CAN'T YOU
TAKE A JOKE?

YOU PICK THE STRANGEST TIMES TO PRACTICE YOUR HUMOR.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, PRACTICE? I'M ALREADY GOOD AT IT.

THEY'RE NOT MY FRIENDS. WE JUST FIGHT TOGETHER.

YOU HAVE ROTTEN TASTE IN FRIENDS, LADY.

THEN WHY NOT SIDE WITH US AND HAVE SOME REAL FRIENDS? PEOPLE WHO WOULD ACCEPT YOU AS YOU ARE?

REALLY? YOU MEAN YOU NINJA WOULD TRUST ME? THEN SHAKE ON IT.

I WISH I COULD...

CRASH

...BUT IT'S HARD TO BE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE WHO IS HIDING A SWORD BEHIND THEIR BACK.

WE'VE ALMOST GOT THEM, NINJA. PRESS FORWARD!



I AM DONE
WASTING
TIME. TIME TO
FINISH THESE
NINJA ONCE
AND FOR ALL.

HOPE YOU
DON'T MIND
SAND IN YOUR
SHOES...AND
EVERYWHERE
ELSE!

UH-OH!
THAT'S NOT
GOOD.



A GIANT SANDSTORM! WE'RE
LOSING THE PIRATES.

IF WE ARE NOT
CAREFUL, WE TOO
WILL BE LOST.



COLE?

I AM MASTER
OF EARTH...I CAN SAVE
US...I WILL DO THIS!



HANG ON, BUDDY. YOU'RE
NOT ALONE. WE'LL PROTECT
YOU FROM THE STORM
WHILE YOU TAKE CONTROL.

KER-BOOM!



WE SURVIVED.

ONLY
BARELY!

AT LEAST
WE'RE SAFE.

FOR NOW. BUT THAT SANDSTORM SLOWED US DOWN,
JUST AS CLOUSE INTENDED. HE AND HIS PIRATES-
AND THE DARK MATTER-HAVE GOTTEN AWAY.



AND IF CLOUSE REACHES THE
TEMPLE OF LIGHT FIRST, WE CAN
KISS THE WORLD GOOD-BYE.



IS THAT WHAT WU
TAUGHT YOU? NO!
NINJA NEVER QUIT!



MISAKO'S RIGHT.
MASTER WU SAID HE HAD
A PLAN, AND HE'S NEVER
LET US DOWN BEFORE.



SO LET'S DIG UP
OUR VEHICLES AND
GO BACK HIM UP.

WIN OR LOSE, WE'LL BE
THERE AS A TEAM. BUT
FOR NOW, SAVING NINJAGO
IS ALL UP TO WU...



JOURNAL

DAY 25 (night)

Of my ninja, only Kai remains unaccounted for. While I am sure Cole will find him, it is not the first time Kai has been the final team member to make himself known.

I knew from the start, of course, that I would recruit Kai to join the team. His father, the Elemental Master of Fire, was an old companion of mine. Kai turned out to be the last member I added to the team, as well as the last to discover his true potential. I waited some time to approach him, hoping he would grow in the meantime and become less a prisoner of his emotions.

As enormously skilled as he is, Kai has always been quick to anger. While he is able to plan and weigh the risk in an undertaking, he has rarely shown the patience to do so. That said, his heroism is second to none.

There is nothing he will not risk for his sister, Nya, or for the team. The fire he wields in battle is matched only by the fire inside him—the internal fire that inspires Kai to fight for justice and peace.



Has he changed over the time he has been adventuring with Cole and the others? Yes. Where once he was extremely overprotective of Nya, he has grown to value and respect her as a teammate and an equal. Where once he quarreled with the other ninja over everything, he has shown an ability to step into a leadership role when necessary.

Just as fire can both warm and burn, Kai is a mix of good qualities and bad. He can be stubborn and willful, it's true. But he is also possessed of a great capacity for loyalty and devotion. He might not be the easiest person with whom to go into battle, but one could not ask for a ninja more dedicated to the team and the mission.

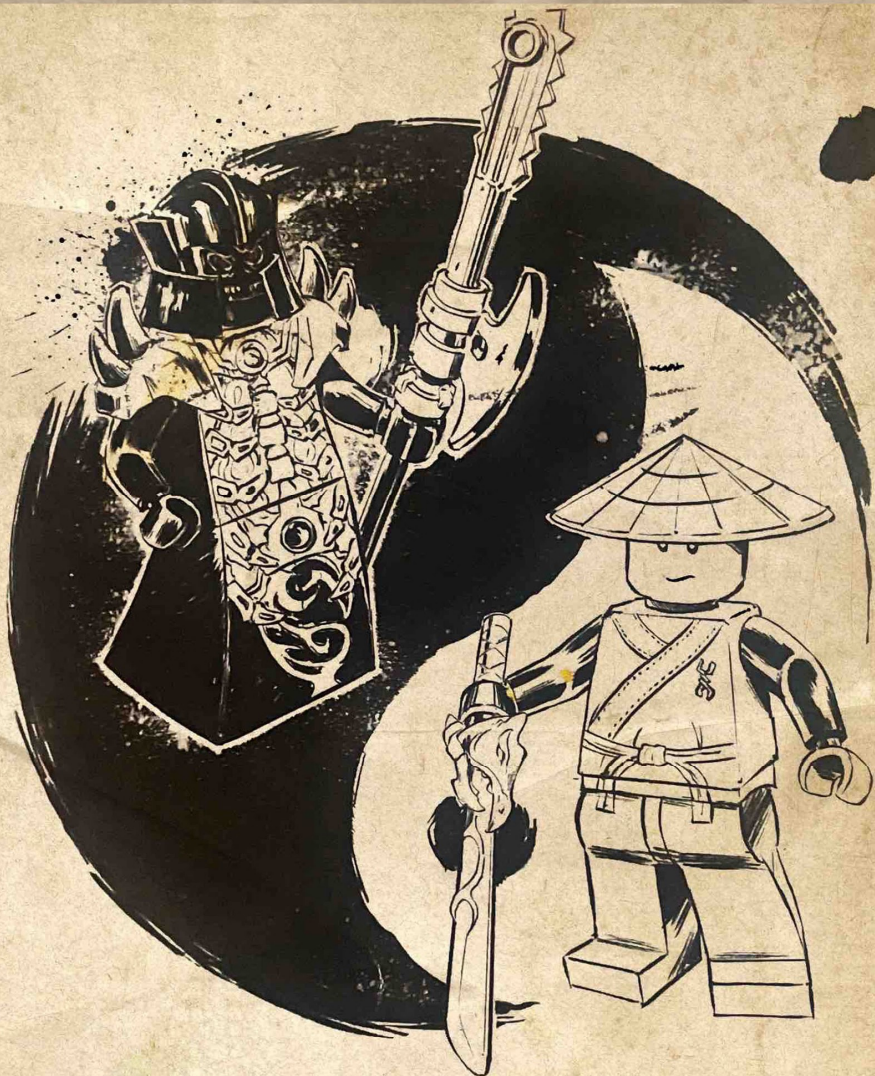
DAY 26

It has been said that all of us walk in the paths of our fathers. As I advance in years, I have come to see the truth in those words. For when I stand upon Dark Island, I will be following a path traveled by my father so very long ago. Like him, I will face my ultimate battle here, for the sake of all who live in this world.

My father was the First Spinjitzu Master. He created the Ninjago world and all things upon it. He intended it to be a place of peace and plenty for all. But as seems to be the way of things, Darkness intruded upon the world in the form of the dreaded Overlord.

The Overlord challenged my father for dominion over the world. They battled for a time span longer than the human imagination can conceive, with neither one ever finding victory or meeting true defeat. Finally, the Overlord created an unstoppable army of Stone Warriors to serve him. It seemed my father faced certain destruction.





This desperate situation called for equally desperate action. My father split the land in two, creating the Ninjago Island upon which so many live, and this...the other half: Dark Island. In doing so, he seemingly destroyed the Overlord (though that turned out not to be the case).

More important, he created a balance between light and Dark, which has remained to this day.

Everything I see and hear on this island screams that this balance is in danger of being destroyed. If that happens, all my father achieved will have been in vain. His creation—meaning the entire world—will be plunged into Darkness and everyone who lives on this planet will face a terrible fate. It falls upon me, his remaining son, to stop this from happening.

I can only hope I have my father's wisdom, his courage, and his strength when the time comes. The First Spinjitzu Master kindled a light that has burned for thousands of years.

I refuse to allow that light to be extinguished.

DAY 27

Clouse. Who would have imagined the sinister force behind the scenes on this island would have been Master Chen's former right-hand man? I suppose there is something to be said for the power of the man's ambition...

The story of Clouse begins long ago...

Along with my brother, Garmadon, Clouse trained under Master Chen. Chen pitted the two students against each other, having them fight to be granted **Lordship**—a title that I suspect was far more important to Clouse. But only one could receive that "honor." Chen and Garmadon fought, and my brother won—by cheating, of course. Garmadon earned the prize, as well as Clouse's lifelong hatred.



But Clouse did not leave Chen. He bided his time, and when Garmadon switched to the side of good during the Serpentine Wars, Clouse stepped into his place. His reward was being exiled to a distant island. From there, he and Chen built their criminal empire.

During this reign, Clouse cloaked the island with magic, and visits were by invitation only. Clouse was always behind Chen—even through the Tournament of Elements.

After those trials, Clouse was exiled once again—this time, to the Cursed Realm. He somehow managed to escape, proof that justice is not always present in the world.

What makes Clouse so formidable a foe? His magical prowess is part of it, of course, for he is a master of the **Dark Arts**. But of even greater concern is his temperament.

Clouse is a planner and is well-versed in keeping his emotions in check. It is difficult to provoke him into a rage, and he rarely makes mistakes. Instead of exploding in anger, he nurses his fury like a man in darkness would nurse a candle flame until it grew into a bonfire. He can be cold and calculating, waiting months or even years to get his revenge on an enemy.

And he did not come here to Dark Island on a whim. He came with a purpose: Clouse has been building up anger inside for decades—all because he never got the title of Lord. By now, he believes it is due to him, that it is his time—the time for him to become the new dark lord of a new dark world.

And he will do whatever he must to achieve this.

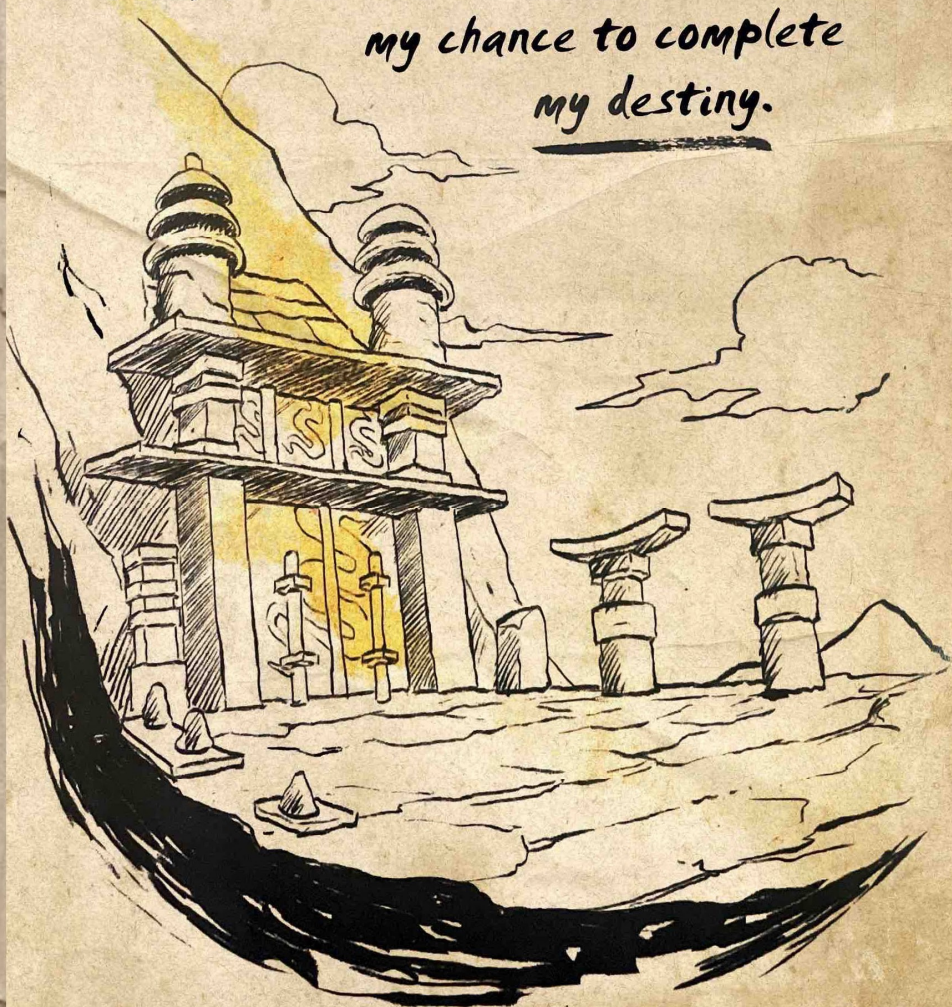
Perhaps those are the most important words I have written in this journal: whatever he must. We all must be prepared to risk everything, take any chance, even cross lines we ourselves have drawn in order to stop him.

Nothing less than a complete effort will bring Clouse to defeat. He is making his stand here, seizing his last chance at power over this world, and only total defeat will end his threat.

It may be that my brother had it right, so long ago. One must do whatever it takes to stop Clouse...

DAY 28

The River of Darkness grows shallow,
and the Jankikai Jungle begins to thin.
The desert known as the Billy Badlands
are to my east. To the south, I can see the
mountains that house the Temple of Light.
Soon, I will reach the river's end—and
my chance to complete
my destiny.

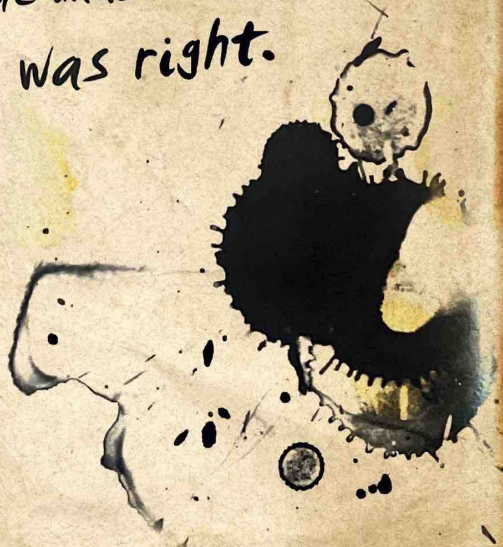


The time is near. If they haven't already, my ninja will soon reach the Temple of Light. When that happens, they will battle furiously to save it. Then, it will be **my** turn to play my destined role in this war.

It has been a very long road that has brought my team and me to this place. In the beginning, I knew that challenges were coming that I could not face alone, and so I recruited the ninja to aid me. Together, we have defeated Samukai and the Skeleton Legions. We prevented Pythor and the Serpentine tribes from letting the **Great Devourer** consume the world. We overcame the Stone Army and defeated the Overlord—twice—although Ninjago City suffered much in the process.

But our trials continued. Master Chen attempted to ensnare the ninja in his web of deceit, all part of a plot to launch a new Serpentine War. The spirit form of my former student, Morro, returned from the Cursed Realm, leading ghost warriors, but they too were banished in the end. So many battles, so many victories, but...my brother once said, "We can win a thousand times, yet all it takes is one defeat for everything to come undone."

He was right.



I can feel the world trembling
beneath my feet. It rebels against the
Darkness that is being forced upon it.
Nature is not some uncomprehending
collection of plants and rocks and
dirt—it can sense and react to
attacks. Even if we stop Clouse, here
and now, I fear there may be a price to
pay in the future for what he has tried
to do. This assault on the Light will leave
scars that may not easily heal.

But the time for talking is over.
My ninja need me. I do this in your
name, Father, and for the sake of the
present and future of this world.
If the fates are willing and I succeed,
I will write in this journal again. If not...
then nothing will matter anymore.

DARK ISLAND



NO
MAN'S
BLUFF

ENDLESS
SEA

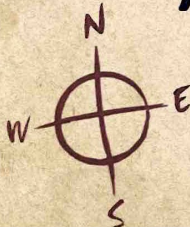
SHADOW
BAY

BILLY
BADLANDS

RIVER
OF DARKNESS

TEMPLE
OF LIGHT

JANKIKAI
JUNGLE



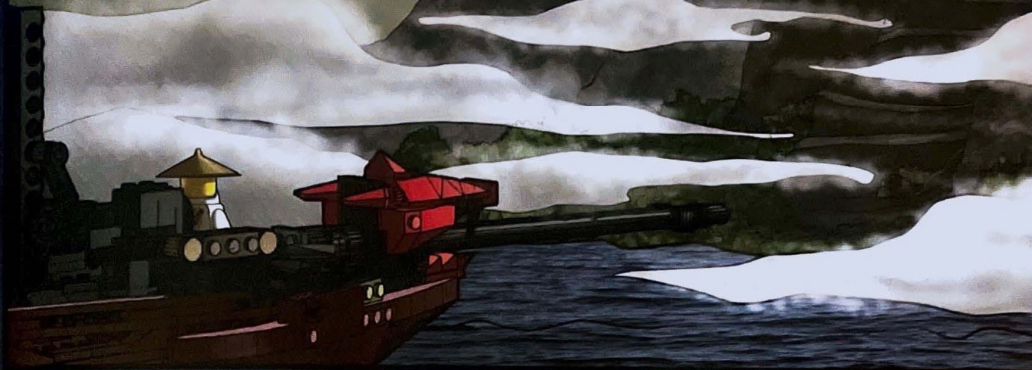
It comes down to this. A final
battle at the Temple of Light.
I pray I can fight back the
Darkness and fulfill my destiny.

CHAPTER SIX

THE FINAL BATTLE



MASTER WU HAS BEEN FIGHTING EVIL FOR CENTURIES.
SOMETIMES, HE CAN FEEL EVERY DAY OF IT.



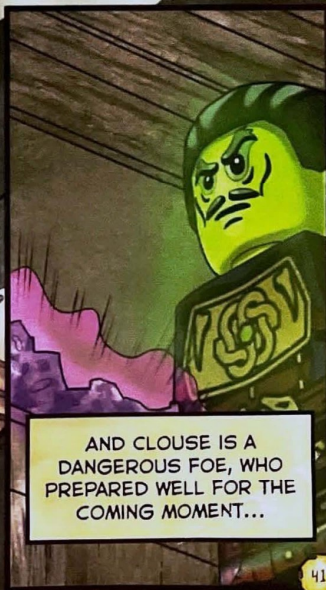
WU KNOWS HIS NINJA ARE RISKING THEIR LIVES HERE, ON
THE MOST DANGEROUS ISLAND IN THE WORLD, TO HELP HIM.

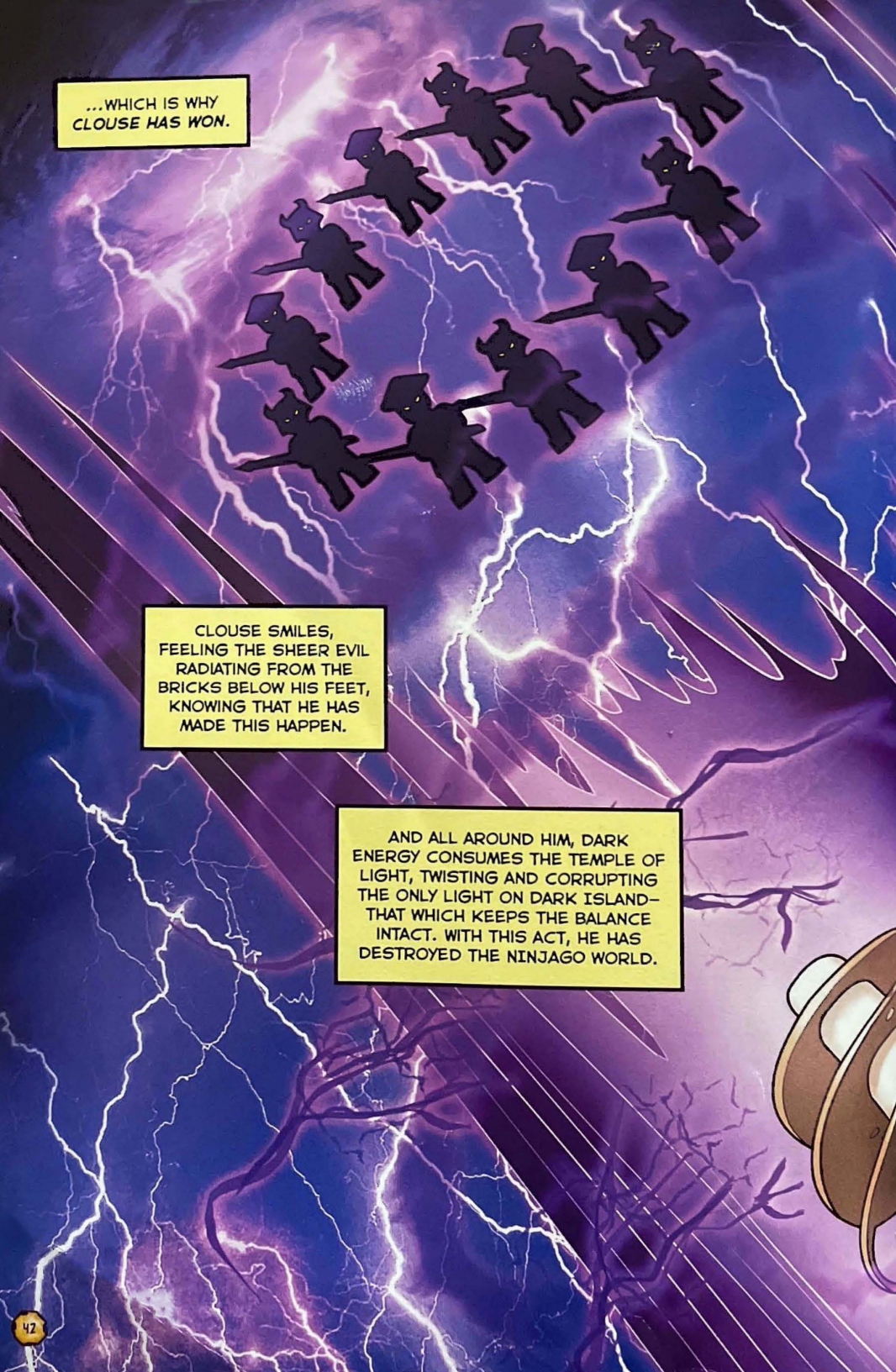


BUT THE NINJA ARE
ALREADY TOO LATE.
THE PIRATE CONVOY
REACHED THE MOUNTAIN
WITH THE LAST OF THE
DARK MATTER.



AND CLOUSE IS A
DANGEROUS FOE, WHO
PREPARED WELL FOR THE
COMING MOMENT...



A comic book page with a dark purple background filled with bright white lightning bolts. In the upper center, a circle of thirteen black, stylized figures, resembling the ninja characters from the Ninjago series, are holding hands. Each figure has a yellow eye and a small horn. The figures are arranged in a circle, with some pointing their arms towards the center. The overall atmosphere is dark and ominous.

...WHICH IS WHY
CLOUSE HAS WON.

CLOUSE SMILES,
FEELING THE SHEER EVIL
RADIATING FROM THE
BRICKS BELOW HIS FEET,
KNOWING THAT HE HAS
MADE THIS HAPPEN.

AND ALL AROUND HIM, DARK
ENERGY CONSUMES THE TEMPLE OF
LIGHT, TWISTING AND CORRUPTING
THE ONLY LIGHT ON DARK ISLAND—
THAT WHICH KEEPS THE BALANCE
INTACT. WITH THIS ACT, HE HAS
DESTROYED THE NINJAGO WORLD.



IN ONLY A FEW MINUTES,
THE WORLD AS WE KNOW
IT WILL CEASE TO EXIST.

THE ONLY THING THAT COULD STOP
HIM IS MASTER WU AND HIS NINJA. BUT
CLOUSE HAS A PLAN FOR THEM TOO...
HE CONJURES AN ARMY OF SHADOWS
TO PROTECT HIM FROM ANY INTERFERENCE.



STORMS RAGE AROUND THE WORLD AS NINJAGO ISLAND AND DARK ISLAND BEGIN TO MERGE, AND DARKNESS SPREADS ALL OVER THE WORLD.



TIDAL WAVES ROCK THE COAST AS TWO ENORMOUS LANDMASSSES BEGIN TO CRASH TOGETHER.



EARTHQUAKES GRIP THE LANDS. PEOPLE IN NINJAGO CITY DON'T REALIZE THERE IS NOWHERE TO RUN.



HURRICANES SPRING UP AT SEA...

...WHILE TORNADOES
APPEAR INLAND.



SUNLIGHT IS
SWALLOWED BY
DARKNESS...



...AND THE NINJA ARE
HELPLESS TO STOP THE
NIGHTMARE COME TO LIFE.





WE HAVE TO HURRY!



WE'RE...WE'RE TOO LATE!



COLE, CAN'T YOU STOP THE EARTHQUAKES?



I TRIED, BUT I CAN'T! IT'S AS IF ALL OF THE ELEMENTS HAVE GONE CRAZY!



I FEEL IT TOO. THE WORLD'S IN CHAOS.



WHERE IS WU?



MAYBE WE SHOULD ALL TURN BACK. IF THE WORLD'S GOING TO END, I'D RATHER BE ON A BEACH SOMEWHERE.



I'D RATHER SPEND MY LAST BREATH FIGHTING EVIL!



EVERYONE, HOLD ON!

RUMMMBALLEEE



TO WHAT?!



EVERYONE WHO
CAN AIRJITZU,
GRAB SOMEONE
WHO CAN'T!

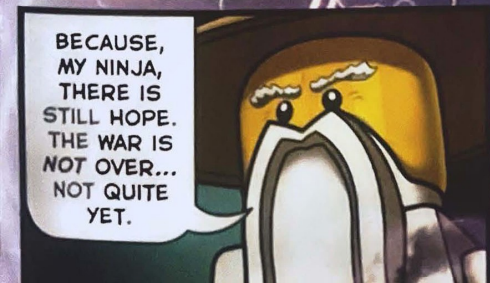


WU! I'M AFRAID
YOU'RE TOO LATE.
IT'S...OVER.

THERE IS ALWAYS TIME
FOR TEA. HELP ME
UNLOAD THIS CRATE.



WHAT FOR? SO WE CAN HAVE
A HOT DRINK WHILE WE
WATCH THE WORLD END?



BECAUSE,
MY NINJA,
THERE IS
STILL HOPE.
THE WAR IS
NOT OVER...
NOT QUITE
YET.



I NEED YOU TO BUY ME A
FEW MOMENTS. CAN YOU
BREAK THROUGH THE
SHADOW ARMY, MY NINJA?



SURE, WHY NOT?! MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT WITH A BANG!

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO ASK!



THOSE SHADOWS CAN'T STAND UP TO MY POWER, BUT THERE'S SO MANY OF THEM.



OUTNUMBERED, MAYBE, BUT NEVER OUTFOUGHT. NINJA DON'T QUIT, GOT THAT?

YOU'RE OUTNUMBERED! SURRENDER AND WE'LL MAKE IT QUICK!

REPEL THE BOARDERS, YOU SWABS! DRIVE 'EM INTO THE SEA!

EXCUSE ME, YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR CHIN.

ENOUGH! CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'VE ALREADY LOST? WHY DO YOU KEEP FIGHTING?

IF YOU DON'T- UNNNFF!-KNOW, YOU'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND.

KRA-KAMMM

MY FIST!

49

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MY FIST!

MY FIST!

KRA-KAMMM



I
BETTER
GET
PAID FOR
THIS! IN
FACT,
THERE
BETTER
BE A BIG
BONUS
IN IT
AFTER!



WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN
HERE? WHAT COULD
POSSIBLY-OH!



DON'T YOU
JUST LOVE
SURPRISES?



THE GOLDEN
MECH!



BUT I THOUGHT
THAT WAS
DESTROYED...?

MY FATHER BUILT
THINGS TO LAST.
NOW IT'S TIME TO
END THIS!



YOU FORGOT TO
INCLUDE A DOOR IN
YOUR WALL, CLOUSE, SO
I AM MAKING MY OWN.

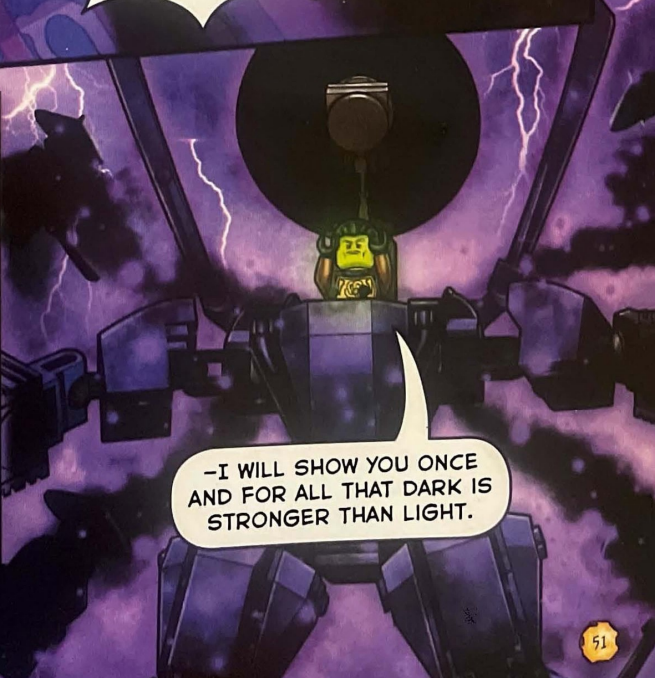
KRA-KA-BOOM



NO! I WILL
DESTROY
YOU, WU, IN A
HUNDRED WAYS!
BUT FIRST—



HEY, THE
SHADOWS ARE
RETURNING TO
CLOUSE!



—I WILL SHOW YOU ONCE
AND FOR ALL THAT DARK IS
STRONGER THAN LIGHT.



YOU ARE TIRED
AND WEAK, OLD MAN,
LIKE THE LIGHT YOU
CHAMPION. THIS
WILL BE YOUR
FINAL BATTLE!

KLANG

I WILL FALL IN
TIME, CLOUSE, AS
EVERY WARRIOR
MUST. BUT IT WILL
NOT BE AT YOUR
HANDS.



WE HAVE
TO DO
SOMETHING
TO HELP
HIM.



NO, COLE. THIS IS WU'S FIGHT. THIS IS
WHAT HE WAS SPEAKING ABOUT ON THE
BOAT—ABOUT FACING HIS DESTINY, JUST
LIKE HIS FATHER BEFORE HIM.



DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND? THIS
WORLD IS MINE! IT
WILL BE MADE IN
MY IMAGE!

THERE IS STILL
TIME TO STOP
THIS MADNESS,
CLOUSE.



THEN, I MUST SHOW
YOU THE ERROR OF
YOUR WAYS...



...AND OF
COURSE, BEAT
YOU IN BATTLE.

I WOULDN'T
DREAM OF IT.



NOOO!!!

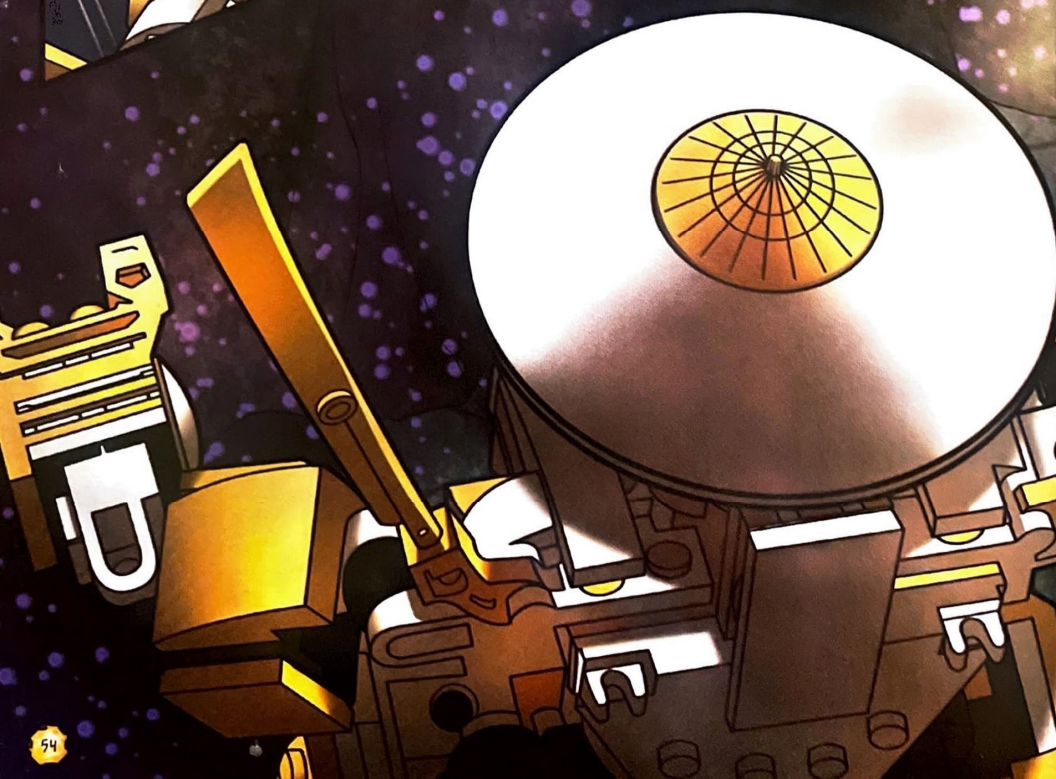
CRACK

CRASH!

NOW TAKE
TO THE
SKIES AND
WATCH...

...AS I
REMEDY
YOUR
MISTAKES.

THIS HAS
GONE ON
TOO LONG.
IT IS TIME
TO END IT.





THE LIGHT OF A SMALL SUN POURS FROM MASTER WU'S SWORD, AND THE DARKNESS CANNOT STAND BEFORE IT. THE SHADOWS, THE FEAR, THE CORRUPTION VANISH LIKE A NIGHTMARE IN THE DAWN.



NO... NO... NO...
YOU'VE RUINED
EVERYTHING!



WAIT... WHAT'S
THAT VORTEX?



TAKE MY HAND,
CLOUSE!

YOU DO **NOT**
HAVE TO BE
CONDEMNED.
EVERYONE
DESERVES
A SECOND
CHANCE.



NO. I'D RATHER
VANISH FOREVER
THAN BE SAVED
BY YOU.



THEN GO
IN PEACE,
CLOUSE.

IT IS DONE.
MY DESTINY
FULFILLED.

THE TEMPLE OF LIGHT
IS RESTORED...

...AND ACROSS THE WORLD
THE LIGHT RETURNS...

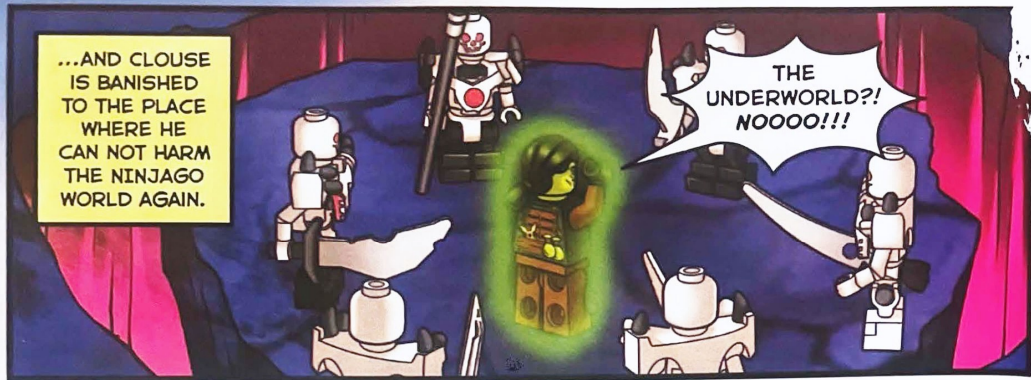
...AND THE TWO ISLANDS DRIFT APART
ONCE MORE. BALANCE HAS BEEN RESTORED.



SLOWLY BUT SURELY, EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD RIGHTS ITSELF. THE PIRATES ARE CAPTURED...

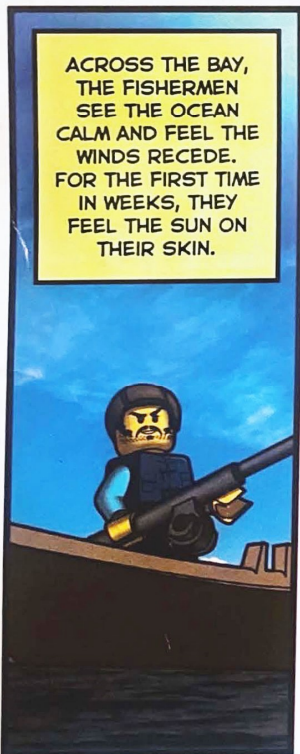
WE'VE LOST, CLANCEE. I THINK
WE HAD BEST BE SAILING AWAY.

HOW ABOUT A
CRUISE TO JAIL?

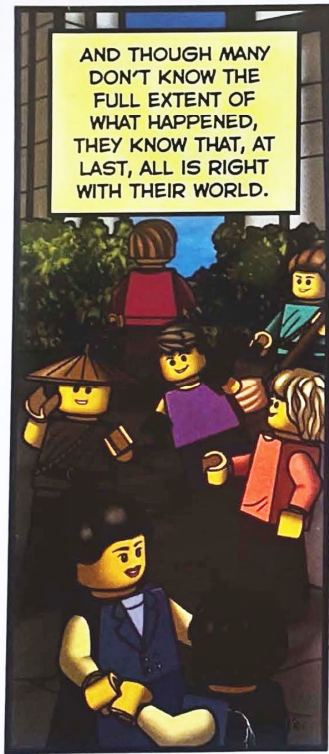


...AND CLOUSE IS BANISHED TO THE PLACE WHERE HE CAN NOT HARM THE NINJAGO WORLD AGAIN.

THE UNDERWORLD?!
NOOOO!!!



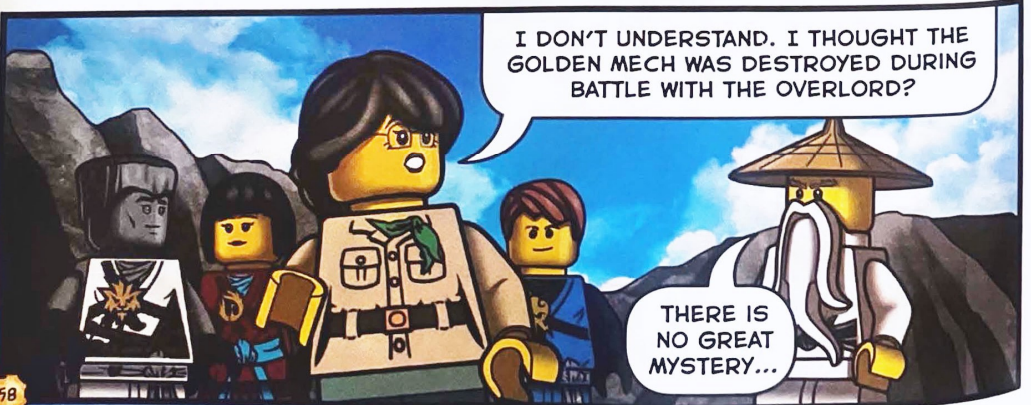
ACROSS THE BAY, THE FISHERMEN SEE THE OCEAN CALM AND FEEL THE WINDS RECEDE. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WEEKS, THEY FEEL THE SUN ON THEIR SKIN.



AND THOUGH MANY DON'T KNOW THE FULL EXTENT OF WHAT HAPPENED, THEY KNOW THAT, AT LAST, ALL IS RIGHT WITH THEIR WORLD.



FOR THE LIGHT HAS DONE MORE THAN RETURN. THE LIGHT HAS BEEN RENEWED.



I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I THOUGHT THE GOLDEN MECH WAS DESTROYED DURING BATTLE WITH THE OVERLORD?

THERE IS NO GREAT MYSTERY...

"...AFTER WE DEFEATED THE OVERLORD, THE MECH WAS IN FRAGMENTS. BUT I GATHERED THEM SECRETLY AND BROUGHT THEM TO CYRUS BORG, WHO REPAIRED IT."

THE GOLDEN MECH WAS BUILT BY MY FATHER TO BATTLE THE OVERLORD. I KNEW THAT IF THE BALANCE SOMEDAY WOULD SHIFT AGAIN, THIS WEAPON WOULD BE OUR ONLY HOPE.

AND YOU WERE RIGHT. YOUR MEDITATIONS LEAD YOU TO SUSPECT THE BALANCE BETWEEN LIGHT AND DARK WAS ABOUT TO SHIFT, DIDN'T THEY?

YES. SUDDENLY, I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO TO SAVE YOU—AND THE WORLD.

NOW, WE HAVE MUCH TO DO. WE CAN SALVAGE PARTS FROM CLOUSE'S SHIP TO MAKE THE *DESTINY'S* BOUNTY FLY AGAIN, AND—

NO.

NO? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



I MEAN THAT WE JUST SAVED MY MOM AND THE WORLD. AND WE'RE GOING TO TAKE FIVE WHOLE MINUTES TO CELEBRATE IT.

MAYBE EVEN SIX!

LET'S GET CRAZY. SEVEN.



I WAS NOT AWARE TIME LIMITS WERE NORMALLY IMPOSED ON THE EXPRESSION OF HAPPY EMOTIONS.

CAN WE JUST GO TO JAIL, PLEASE? THIS IS MAKING AN OLD SEA DOG SICK.



WELL, YOU CHOSE THEM, WU.

THAT I DID, MISAKO, THAT I DID...



...AND IT WAS THE BEST CHOICE I EVER MADE.

THE END.



JOURNAL

DAY 32

It is rare to find myself at a loss for words. But the events of the last few hours have been so momentous, I hardly know how to relate them. I will begin by saying victory is ours, for if it were not, I would not be here to write in this journal. Clouse has been defeated, his shadow army destroyed, and his efforts to convert the Temple of Light to Darkness foiled.

Right now, Misako, Ronin, and the ninja are celebrating. We have won a great battle, saved the world, and so they deserve some time to revel in the accomplishment. But I wonder if they know just what we have managed to achieve. Or why it is so important.

We are all a mixture of light
and Dark. That is the nature
of humanity—indeed, the
nature of the universe itself.
My father attempted to
create a world of pure light,
but it was not possible.

Life requires balance.
In the end, my father
fought to preserve that
balance rather than allow
Darkness to take over the
world. That is the same
thing my ninja and I did
this day on Dark Island.

~~_____~~

No matter how we try, we
will never eliminate Darkness
completely...and perhaps we
should not. Fighting for what
is right keeps us strong, and
challenges force us to look
at ourselves and see ways we
can improve. If there were no
Darkness in this world, we would
grow soft and lose our grasp
on what matters most to us...
for can one truly value
something they need never
strive to keep?

I know it sounds strange coming from one who has fought evil for as long as I have. The idea that there is a place in the universe for the Dark must seem to go against common sense. But it is a lesson that my father both learned and passed on to me. There must be a balance between light and Dark, and it must be preserved, at any cost.

Misako is at my side now, telling me I must join the celebration. As always, she is right. I shall write more later—perhaps after I've had a few days' rest to recover.





DAY 39

I am home again. With the danger passed, the ninja and I have returned to Ninjago Island and our former lives. It feels good to be back on the tea farm with Misako, performing the numerous chores that fill our days. Our lives are so often packed with danger, action, and intrigue that the mundane tasks that go into running the farm and the shop can feel like a vacation. Even as I sweep, I look up at the bright sky and smile.

The ninja saw and experienced terrible things on Dark Island, no less than I. Yet here they are: training, laughing, embracing their lives and their friendships once more. The young have an inner strength and an ability to move beyond their memories that many older people do not. I have seen my ninja fight incredible battles against monstrous foes and confront creatures

that would leave most people cowering under their beds. And when the struggle is over, they take what lessons they can from it and leave the rest behind. That is part of what makes them heroes.

Lloyd, Jay, Cole, Kai, Zane, and Nya have faced the worst this world—and other realms—could throw at them. When the odds were against them and the prospects of victory dim, they have found a way to win. And they have done it, not for their own glory, but for the sake of the realm. I could not be prouder of them all.

I wish I could say that the struggle on Dark Island is the end, and they will never have to face danger again. But I could not do so and still call myself wise. Already, I can sense something brewing, just at the edges of my consciousness...but I know not what.

Only time will tell.

DARK ISLAND



NO
MAN'S
BLUFF

ENDLESS
SEA

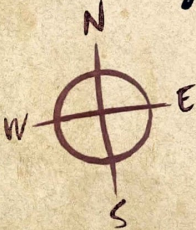
SHADOW
BAY

BILLY
BADLANDS

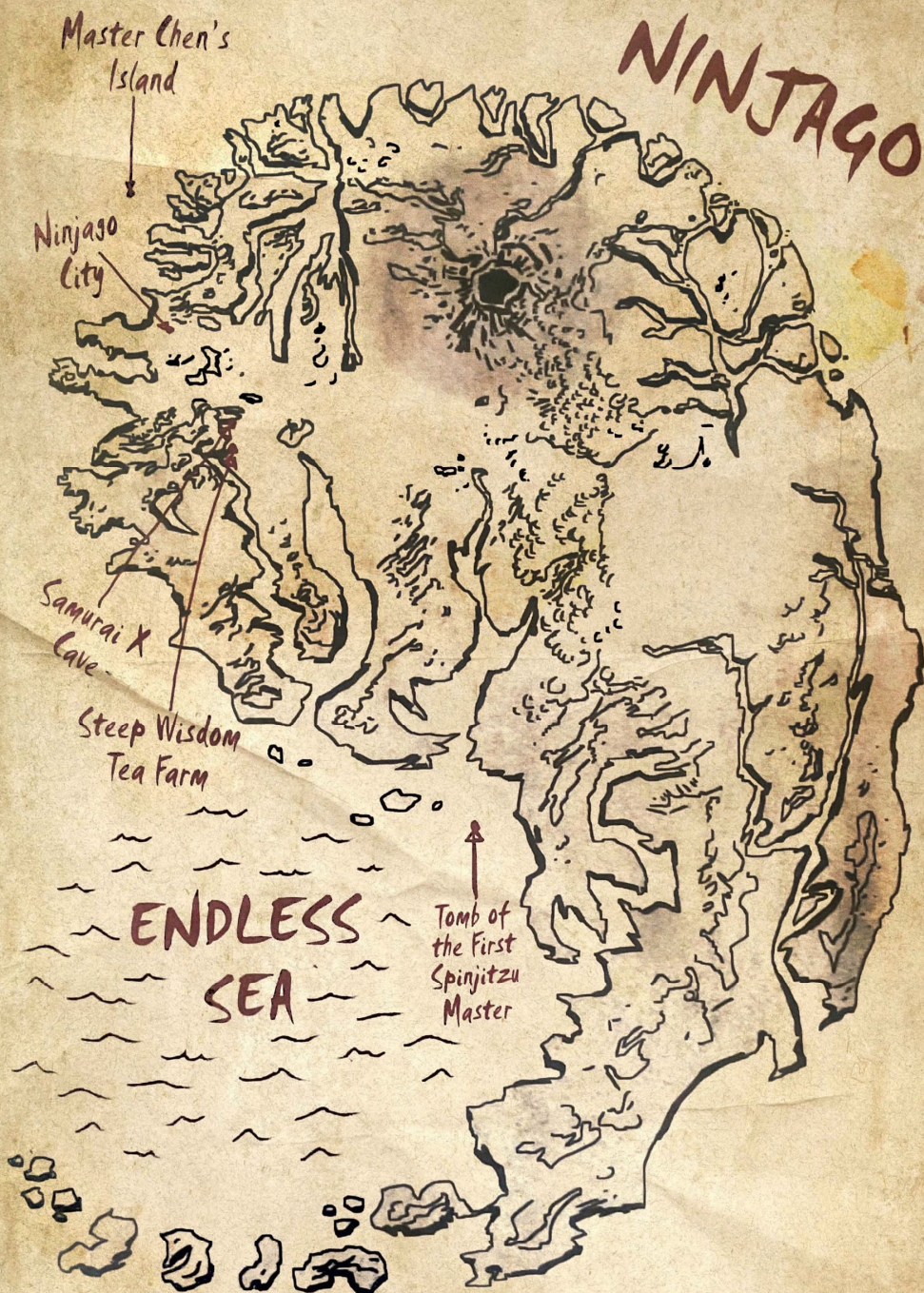
RIVER
OF DARKNESS

TEMPLE
OF LIGHT

JANKIKAI
JUNGLE



NINJAGO



Balance is restored and my realm is safe.
It is good to be home.

DAY 40 (night)

I have woken in the middle of night, covered in sweat and trembling with fear. I have had a dream—no, a nightmare! But I fear it was more than that; I fear it was a vision of things yet to come, of the future itself....

I saw Dr. Sander Saunders, the curator of the Ninjago Museum of History, alone at night, walking among a Hall of Villains—mannequins of the ninja's greatest foes. But there was something more to them. It was as if there was life in their eyes...and Master Yang was there in the shadows....



I saw Kai and Nya's parents,
each an Elemental Master—
of fire and water—who fought
alongside Garmadon and me during the
Serpentine Wars. Only the vision
was not of them then, but of them now
in a terrible pit of flame and smoke,
forging something terrible...

And I saw the twins—the twins
I thought lost to time...





A dream of
things to come...

I suspect one
battle has ended,
only to make way
for another...
I must prepare.