

MULP

#1
OF 5

SCEPTRE OF THE SUN



MATT GIBBS & SARA DUNKERTON

MULP

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Creators:

Matt Gibbs & Sara Dunkerton

Letters: Jim Campbell

Editor: Luke Foster

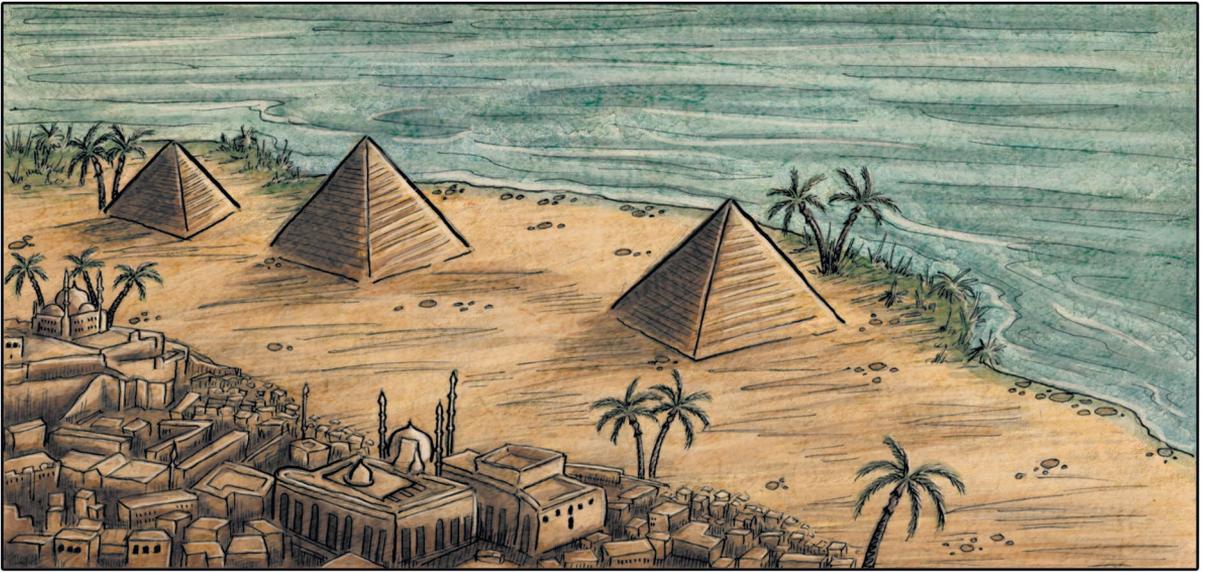
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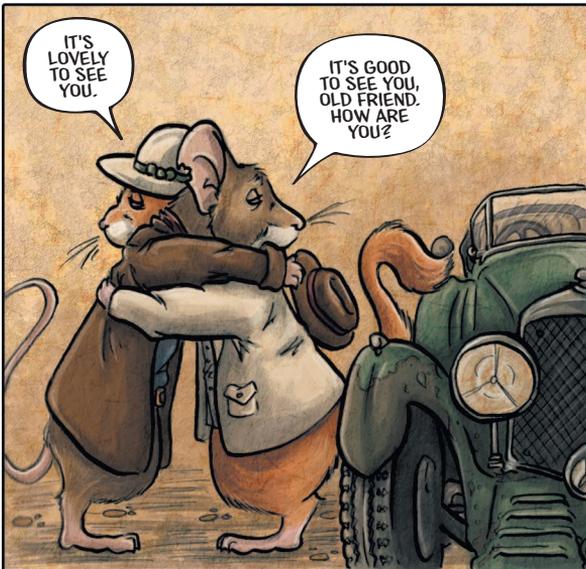
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JACK! JACK, OVER HERE!



IT'S LOVELY TO SEE YOU.

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, OLD FRIEND. HOW ARE YOU?

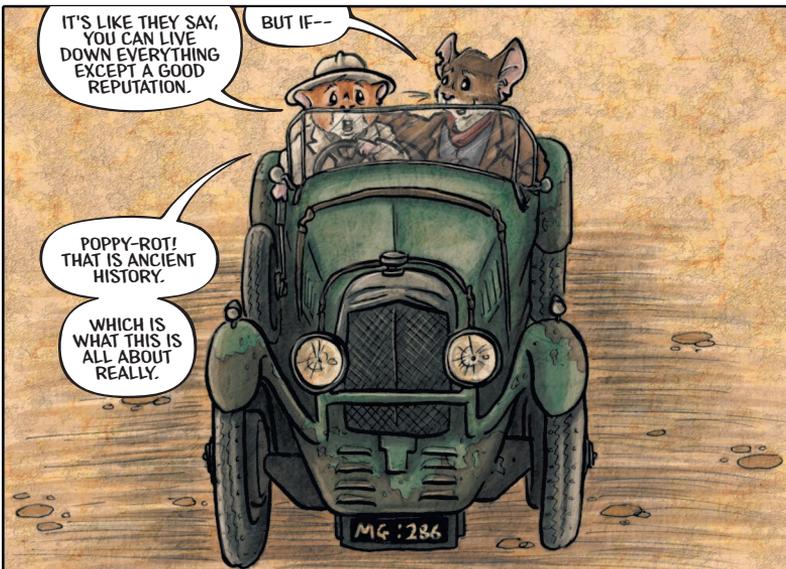


THINGS HAVE BEEN... THAT IS TO SAY...

I'M GLAD YOU'VE COME.

HOW COULD I NOT? YOUR TELEGRAM SOUNDED SERIOUS AND, AFTER BELGIUM, HOW--

YOU'RE NOT STILL GOING ON ABOUT THAT ARE YOU?

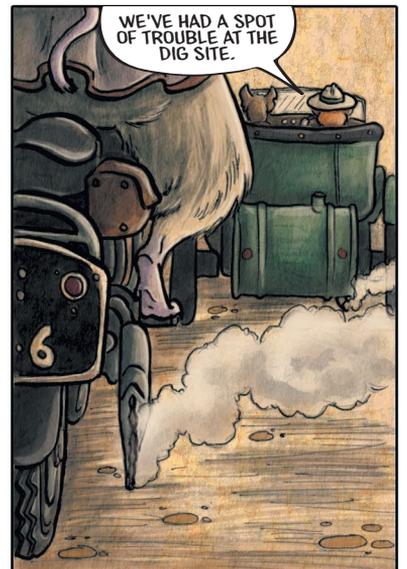


IT'S LIKE THEY SAY, YOU CAN LIVE DOWN EVERYTHING EXCEPT A GOOD REPUTATION.

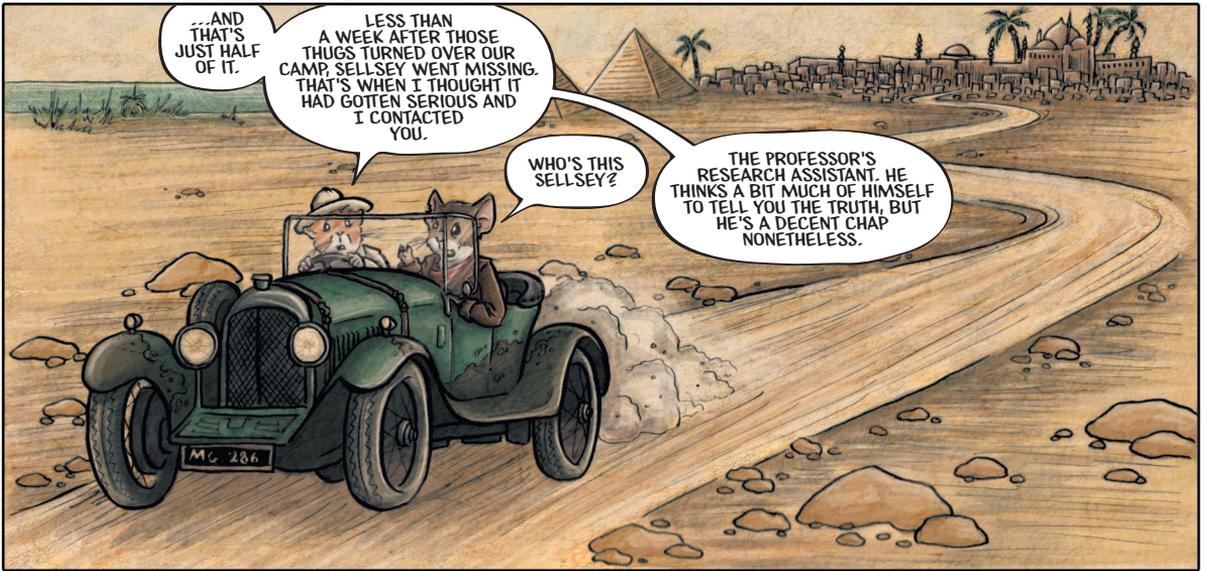
BUT IF--

POPPY-ROT! THAT IS ANCIENT HISTORY.

WHICH IS WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT REALLY.



WE'VE HAD A SPOT OF TROUBLE AT THE DIG SITE.

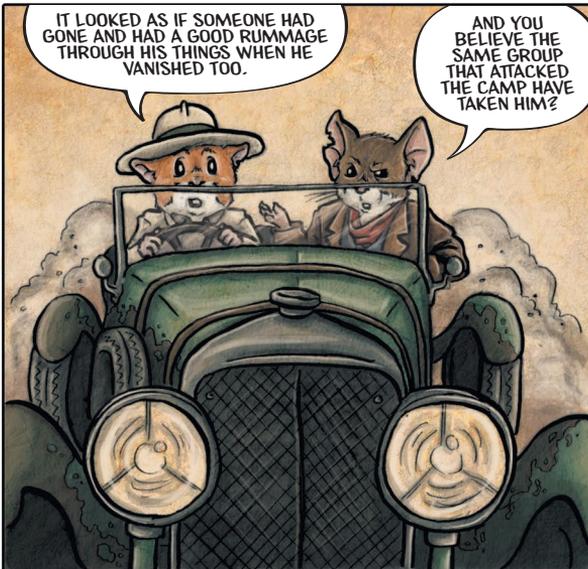


...AND THAT'S JUST HALF OF IT.

LESS THAN A WEEK AFTER THOSE THUGS TURNED OVER OUR CAMP, SELLEY WENT MISSING. THAT'S WHEN I THOUGHT IT HAD GOTTEN SERIOUS AND I CONTACTED YOU.

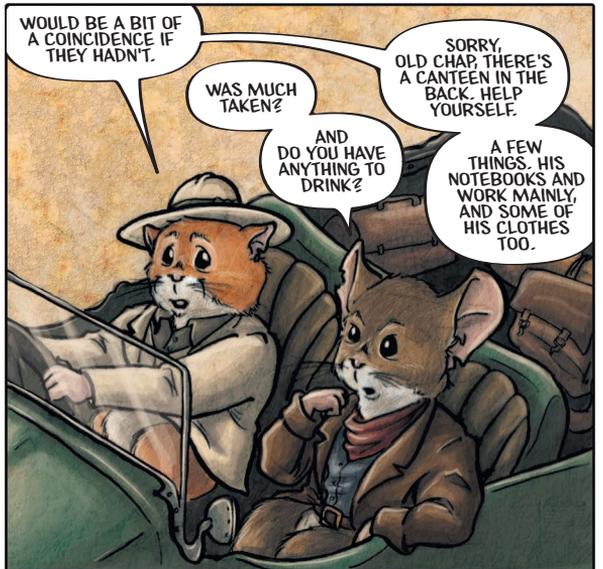
WHO'S THIS SELLEY?

THE PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH ASSISTANT. HE THINKS A BIT MUCH OF HIMSELF TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, BUT HE'S A DECENT CHAP NONETHELESS.



IT LOOKED AS IF SOMEONE HAD GONE AND HAD A GOOD RUMMAGE THROUGH HIS THINGS WHEN HE VANISHED TOO.

AND YOU BELIEVE THE SAME GROUP THAT ATTACKED THE CAMP HAVE TAKEN HIM?



WOULD BE A BIT OF A COINCIDENCE IF THEY HADN'T.

WAS MUCH TAKEN?

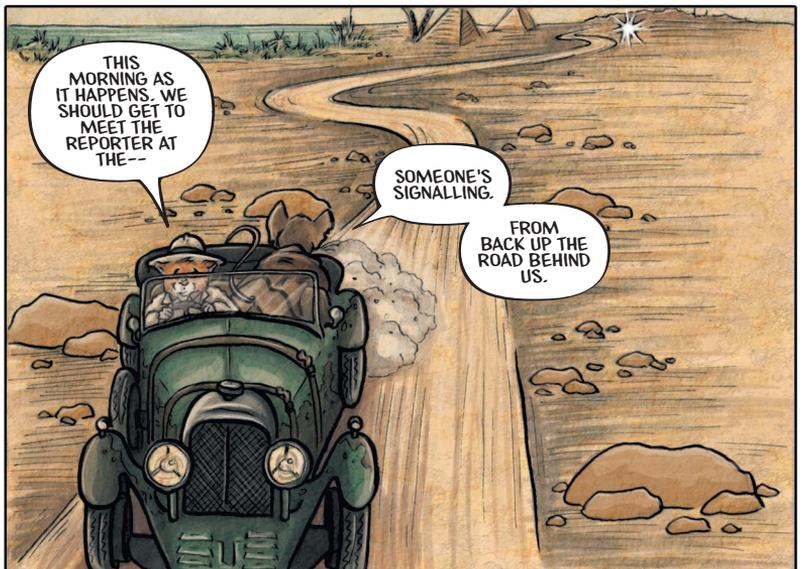
SORRY, OLD CHAP, THERE'S A CANTEN IN THE BACK. HELP YOURSELF.

AND DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO DRINK?

A FEW THINGS, HIS NOTEBOOKS AND WORK MAINLY, AND SOME OF HIS CLOTHES TOO.



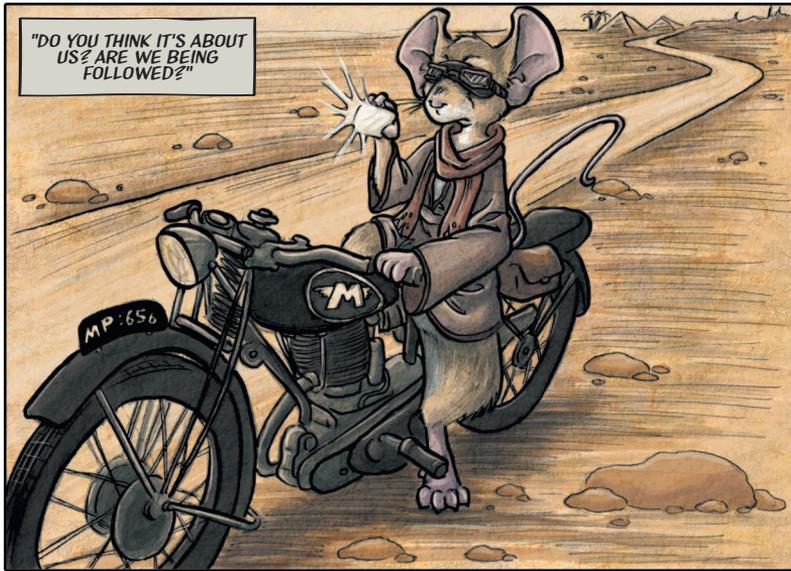
AND IT'S BECAUSE OF ALL THIS THAT PROFESSOR HARVEST-SCOTT HAS DECIDED TO MAKE HIS FINDINGS PUBLIC, THROUGH THE PRESS?

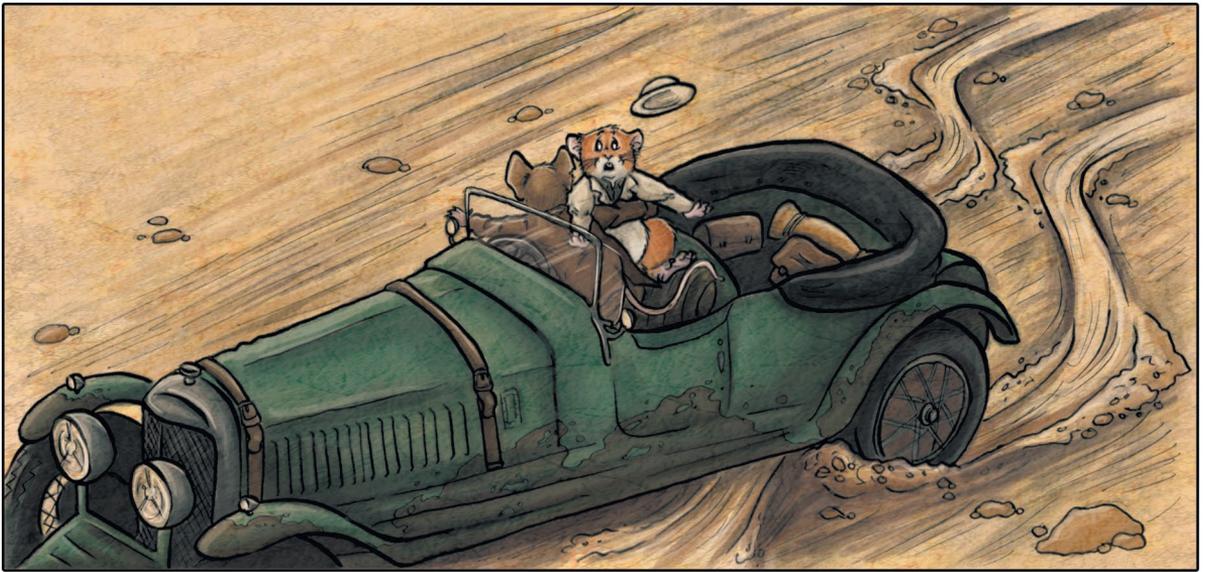


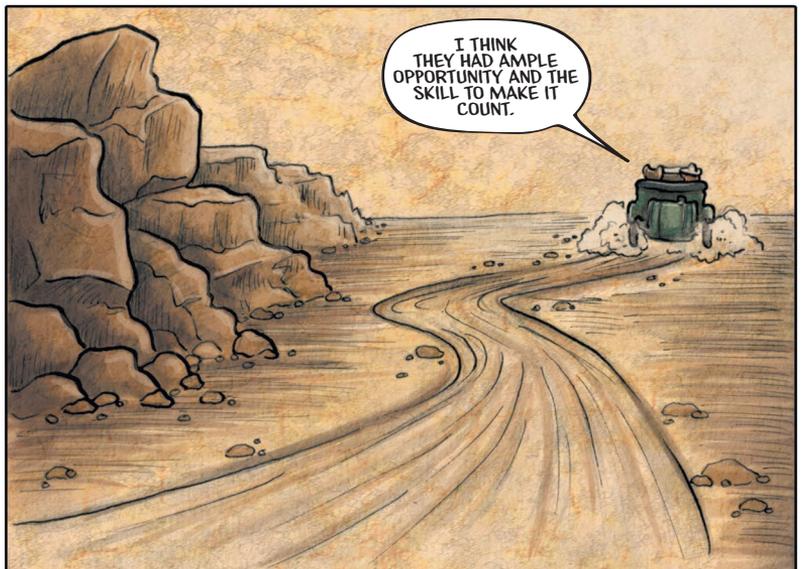
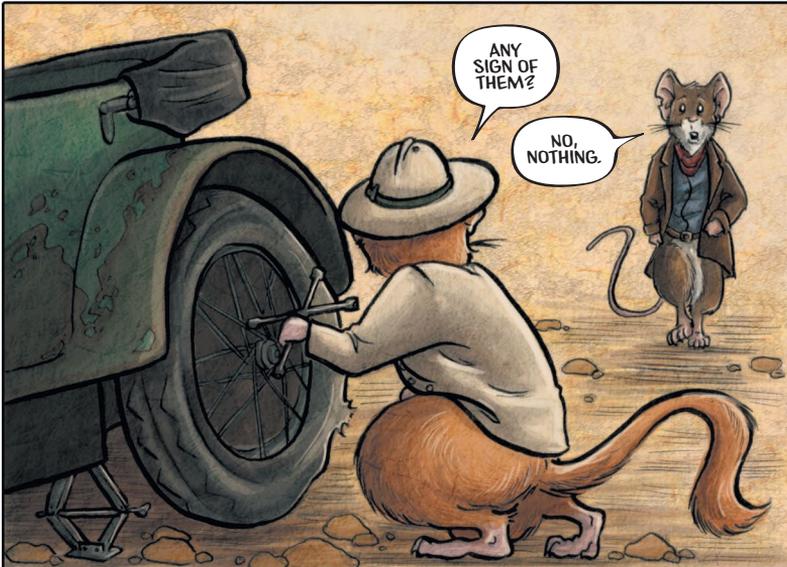
THIS MORNING AS IT HAPPENS. WE SHOULD GET TO MEET THE REPORTER AT THE--

SOMEONE'S SIGNALLING.

FROM BACK UP THE ROAD BEHIND US.









HELLO, THERE...

I SAY, CAN I HELP YOU?



VICTORIA JONES, REPORTER FOR THE LONDON GUARDIAN. I'M HERE TO SPEAK WITH PROFESSOR HARVEST-SCOTT.

AND YOU GENTLEMICE ARE? I TAKE IT ONE OF YOU IS...

OH, NO, NO, NEITHER OF US ARE, BUT IT'S A PLEASURE TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE NONETHELESS. I'M CORNELIUS FIELD, I'M...

WELL, I'M ASSISTING THE PROFESSOR I SUPPOSE, AND THIS IS MY GOOD FRIEND, JACK REDPATH.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

WE WERE WONDERING IF WE'D MISSED YOU. WE HAD A SPOT OF BOTHER WITH THE CAR.



BUT FIRST, LET'S GET OUT OF THIS HEAT AND GET UNDER--

NO. THAT IS... THERE IS NOBODY HERE. I JUST LOOKED.

I WAS SOMEWHAT DELAYED TOO.



MY PHOTOGRAPHER FELL ILL, AND WE MUST BE GETTING ON IF I'M TO GET BACK TO CAIRO BEFORE DARK, NO?

THE PROFESSOR MUST BE DOWN AT THE FIND.



IT'S JUST DOWN THIS WAY.

AND WE QUITE UNDERSTAND. DON'T WE, JACK?



AH, THEY'RE JUST IN HERE.

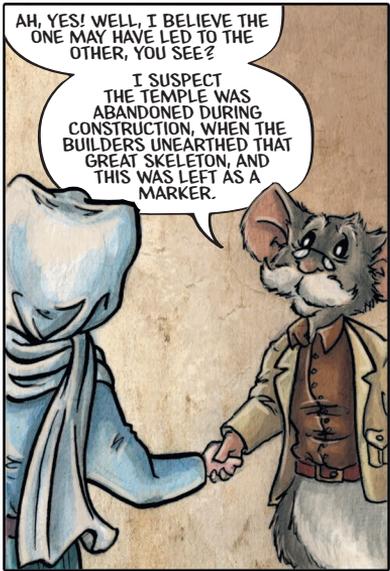
PROFESSOR, MAY I INTRODUCE...



...AND THIS IS PROFESSOR HARVEST-SCOTT AND HIS DAUGHTER, ELISABETH.

A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

SO THIS IS IT, THE AMAZING FIND? I THOUGHT THE GIANT YOU'D UNEARTHED IMPRESSIVE ENOUGH, BUT THIS...



AH, YES! WELL, I BELIEVE THE ONE MAY HAVE LED TO THE OTHER, YOU SEE?

I SUSPECT THE TEMPLE WAS ABANDONED DURING CONSTRUCTION, WHEN THE BUILDERS UNEARTHED THAT GREAT SKELETON, AND THIS WAS LEFT AS A MARKER.



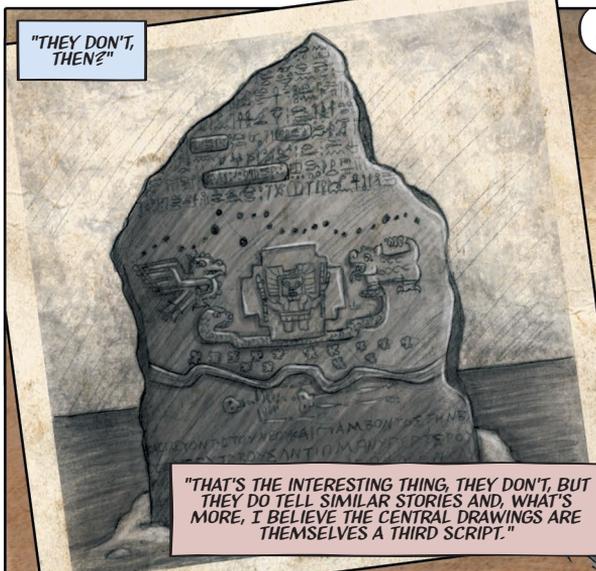
DO YOU MIND IF I TAKE SOME PHOTOGRAPHS?

IS THAT TWO DIFFERENT LANGUAGES WRITTEN ON IT? INCREDIBLE.



"INDEED, YOU GRASP THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS FIND, EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHS AND ANCIENT GREEK TOGETHER.

"IF IT WAS LIKE THE ROSETTA STONE ONE WOULD ALLOW THE TRANSLATION OF THE OTHER."



"THEY DON'T, THEN?"

"THAT'S THE INTERESTING THING, THEY DON'T, BUT THEY DO TELL SIMILAR STORIES AND, WHAT'S MORE, I BELIEVE THE CENTRAL DRAWINGS ARE THEMSELVES A THIRD SCRIPT."



A THIRD?

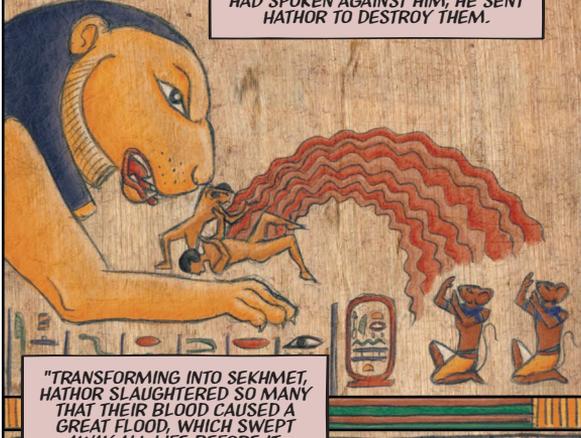
WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS?

WELL, THE EGYPTIAN AND GREEK BEGIN THE SAME, "WE SHARE OUR BEGINNINGS WITH THE DESCENDANTS OF THE GUARDIANS WHO DWELL..." BUT THEN THEY DIVERGE.

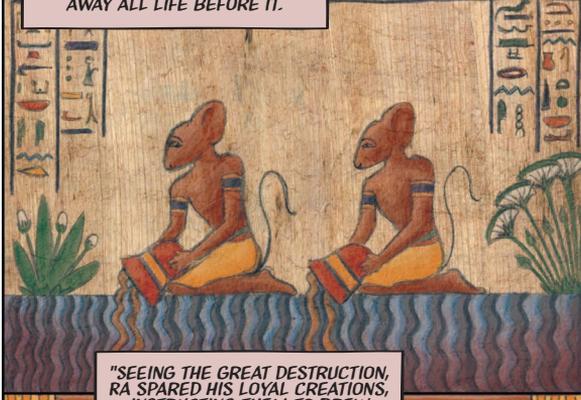


"...IN THE EAST.

"WHEN RA, THE SELF-BEGOTTEN, BECAME AWARE THAT HIS CREATIONS HAD SPOKEN AGAINST HIM, HE SENT HATHOR TO DESTROY THEM.



"TRANSFORMING INTO SEKHMET, HATHOR SLAUGHTERED SO MANY THAT THEIR BLOOD CAUSED A GREAT FLOOD, WHICH SWEEPED AWAY ALL LIFE BEFORE IT.



"SEEING THE GREAT DESTRUCTION, RA SPARED HIS LOYAL CREATIONS, INSTRUCTING THEM TO BREW BEER AND POUR IT INTO THE BLOODY WATERS.

"DRUNK ON THIS HEADY MIX SEKHMET FORGOT HER TASK AND TRANSFORMED BACK INTO HATHOR.



"AS THE WATERS DRAINED AWAY, RA GAVE HIS LOYAL CREATIONS A TREASURE, THE SYMBOL OF HIS POWER.



"...IN THE WEST.

"WHEN ZEUS LEARNED HIS CREATIONS WERE BEING TURNED AGAINST HIM, HE COMMANDED THEM TO LIVE WITHOUT FIRE, HEAT, OR LIGHT IN PUNISHMENT.



"BUT PROMETHEUS STOLE THE SECRET OF FIRE, FURTHER ENRAGING ZEUS, WHO SENTENCED HIM TO ETERNAL TORMENT AND SENT PANDORA TO PUNISH THE DISLOYAL.



"WHEN PANDORA'S BOX WAS OPENED, A TERRIBLE EVIL AND SICKNESS WERE UNLEASHED ON THE LAND, AND IN THE AFTERMATH ZEUS SENT A MIGHTY FLOOD TO WASH IT CLEAN.

"AS THE WATERS RAGED, DEUCALION AND PYRRHA PRAYED TO ZEUS FOR HELP.



"HEARING THEM, HE RECREATED THEIR RACE AND GAVE THEM THE TREASURE PROMETHEUS HAD STOLEN AS REWARD FOR THEIR LOYALTY."

"WHAT ABOUT THE CENTRAL SECTION? WHAT DOES THAT SUGGEST TO YOU?"

"NOT A CLUE I'M AFRAID."

"IT CLEARLY REPLICATES A MESOAMERICAN OR PRE-COLUMBIAN INFLUENCE, MAYAN OR SOME SUCH, BUT AS TO THE MEANING..."

IT IS NOT REALLY MY FIELD, BUT FASCINATING ISN'T IT? A WHOLE NEW AREA OF CONTACT AND TRADE TO EXPLORE.

WHO MIGHT KNOW? AMONG YOUR COLLEAGUES, PROFESSOR?

WE'RE HOPING PROFESSOR WRENFEW MIGHT. I'VE ALREADY SENT HIS DEPARTMENT AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM A RUBBING.

YOU MUST STAY FOR A BITE TO EAT.

YES, IT'S REALLY NO BOTHER AT ALL.

NO, NO, THANK YOU. I MUST BE GOING. I HAVE A DEADLINE.

NONSENSE, AT LEAST TAKE SOME REFRESHMENT BEFORE--

WHAT--

WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?



MULP is an anthropomorphic comic book, a Pulp adventure set in a world of mice, by Matt Gibbs and Sara Dunkerton.

Website: mulpcomic.com

Matt Gibbs is a freelance writer and editor. Represented by the Sidelines Agency for games writing and narrative design, he has worked on titles such as Creative Assembly's Total War: ROME II, Sega's Binary Domain, and Ubisoft Reflections' Driver San Francisco. Alongside games, he is the managing editor of Improper Books and collaborates with a number of talented artists on creator-owned comic and graphic novel projects. Originally an archaeologist, he spent several years grubbing about in holes before turning to writing as a career.

Website: mattgibbs.net

Twitter: [@matthewgibbs](https://twitter.com/matthewgibbs)

Sara Dunkerton is an Illustration graduate living and working in Bristol. Her debut as a comics artist was collaborating with Matt Gibbs on a short story for the Bayou Arcana: Songs of Loss and Redemption anthology. Since then she has illustrated comics for Dark Harvest: Resistance, Sugar Glider Stories 2, and Into the Woods: A Fairy Tale Anthology, as well as working on various projects and commissions. She lives with her two pet rats, River and Kaylee, who have become a source of inspiration for MULP.

Website: saradunkerton.blogspot.co.uk

Twitter: [@SaraDunkerton](https://twitter.com/SaraDunkerton)

Jim Campbell is an Eagle Award-nominated letterer whose work can be seen in titles from BOOM Studios, Black Mask, Classical Comics, Dark Horse, Image, Renegade Arts, and Zenescope. He lives and works in darkest Nottinghamshire and maintains a blog on matters relating to comics, lettering and other random musings.

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MULP is an anthropomorphic comic book,
a Pulp adventure set in a world of mice,
by Matt Gibbs and Sara Dunkerton.

Sceptre of the Sun follows the exploits of Jack Redpath and Vicky Jones as they attempt to unravel a mystery surrounding an ancient stone tablet unearthed during an archaeological excavation in Egypt. This tablet is the first marker on an adventure that sees them racing around the world in search of a legendary treasure. Joined by their friends Cornelius Field, Prof. Walter Harvest-Scott, and Elisabeth Harvest-Scott, together they must prevent a powerful artefact falling into unscrupulous paws.

Suitable for all ages, **MULP: Sceptre of the Sun**
is being published in five parts.

MULP

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