

THE Kael VARRIN CHRONICLES

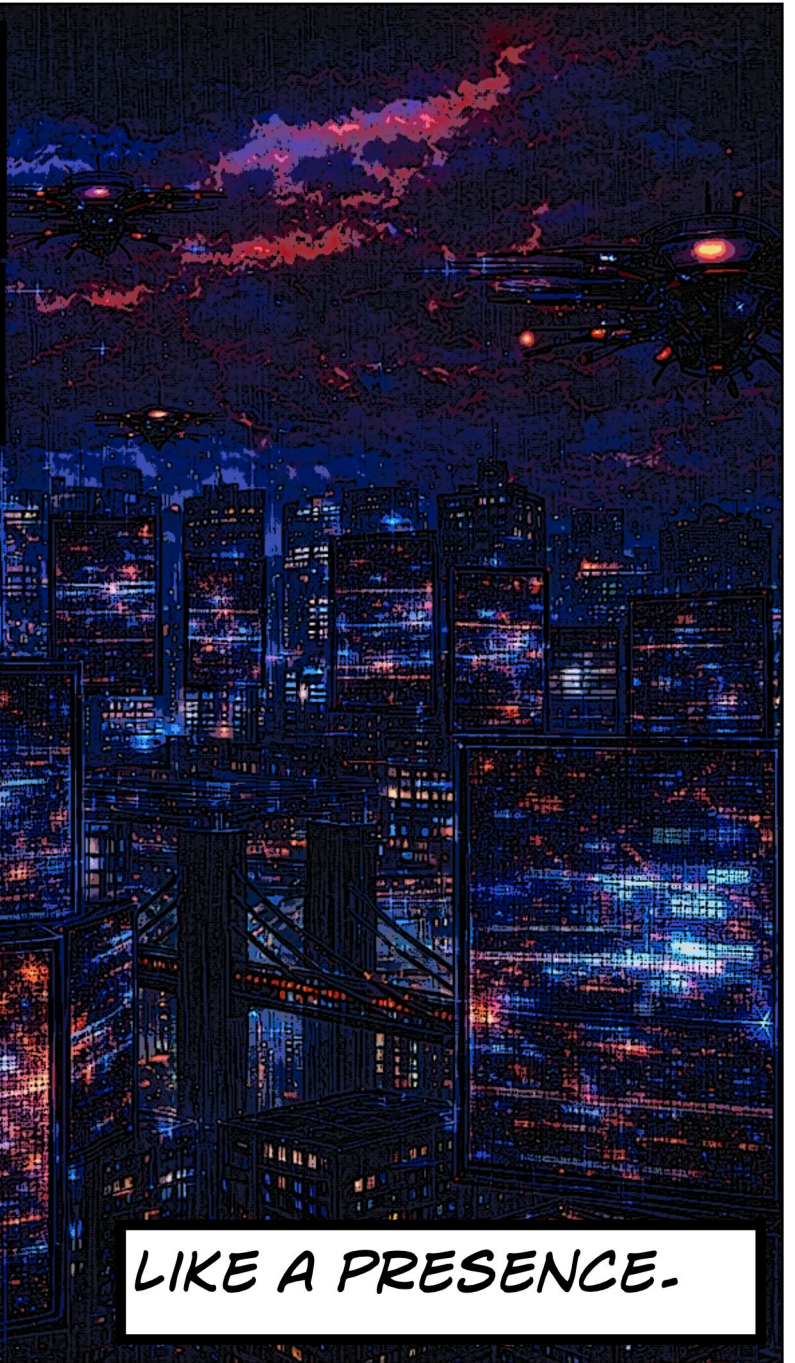
"Every empire fears imagination." Kael Varrin

SEASON TWO - WAR OF THE NODES

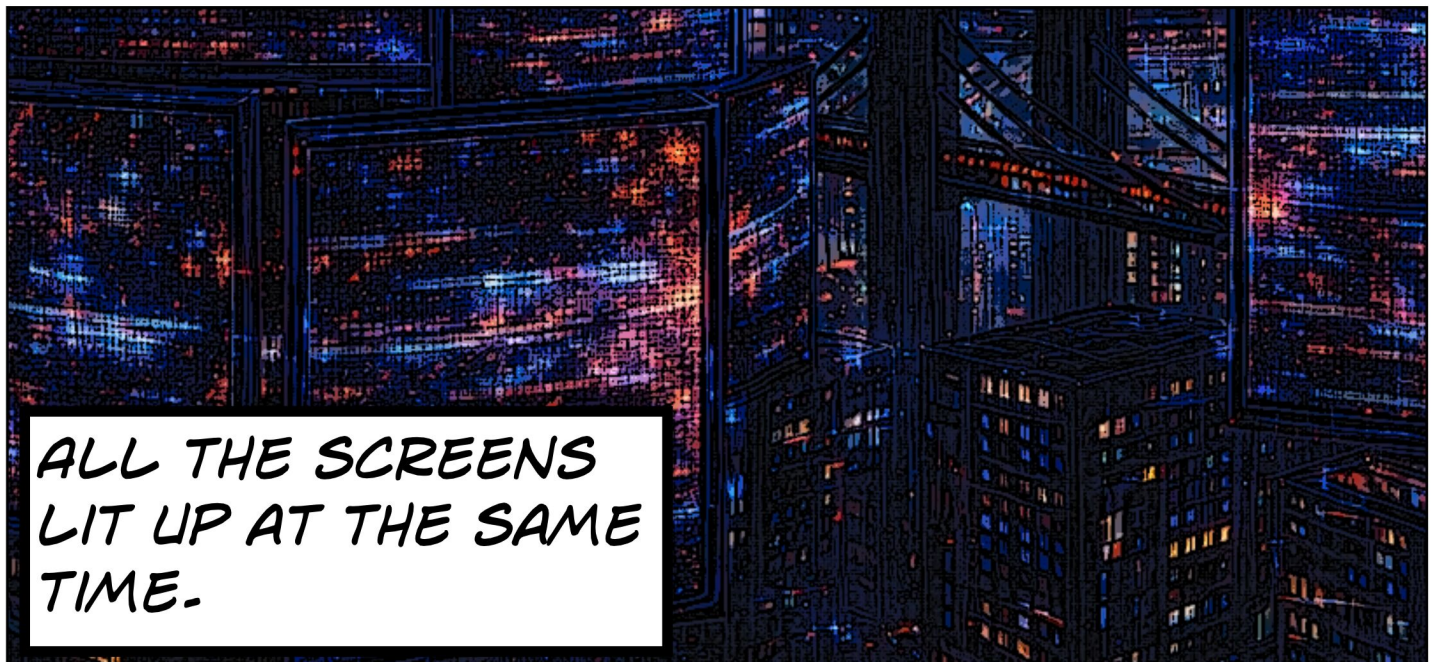
EPISODE 10 -- THE ARCHON
A SERIALIZED ADVENTURE IN THE BRICKSCENE UNIVERSE.

THE SIGNAL
REACHED EVERY
CORNER.

NOT LIKE A
MESSAGE.



LIKE A PRESENCE.



ALL THE SCREENS
LIT UP AT THE SAME
TIME.

A dark, atmospheric cityscape at night, illuminated by blue and red lights. Numerous screens or monitors are visible, each displaying a close-up of a character's face. The character has dark skin, long hair, and prominent horns. A single eye on the right side of the face is glowing red. The character is wearing a dark, hooded garment. The screens are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with some larger than others. In the background, the city buildings are visible, with some windows lit up. The overall mood is mysterious and ominous.

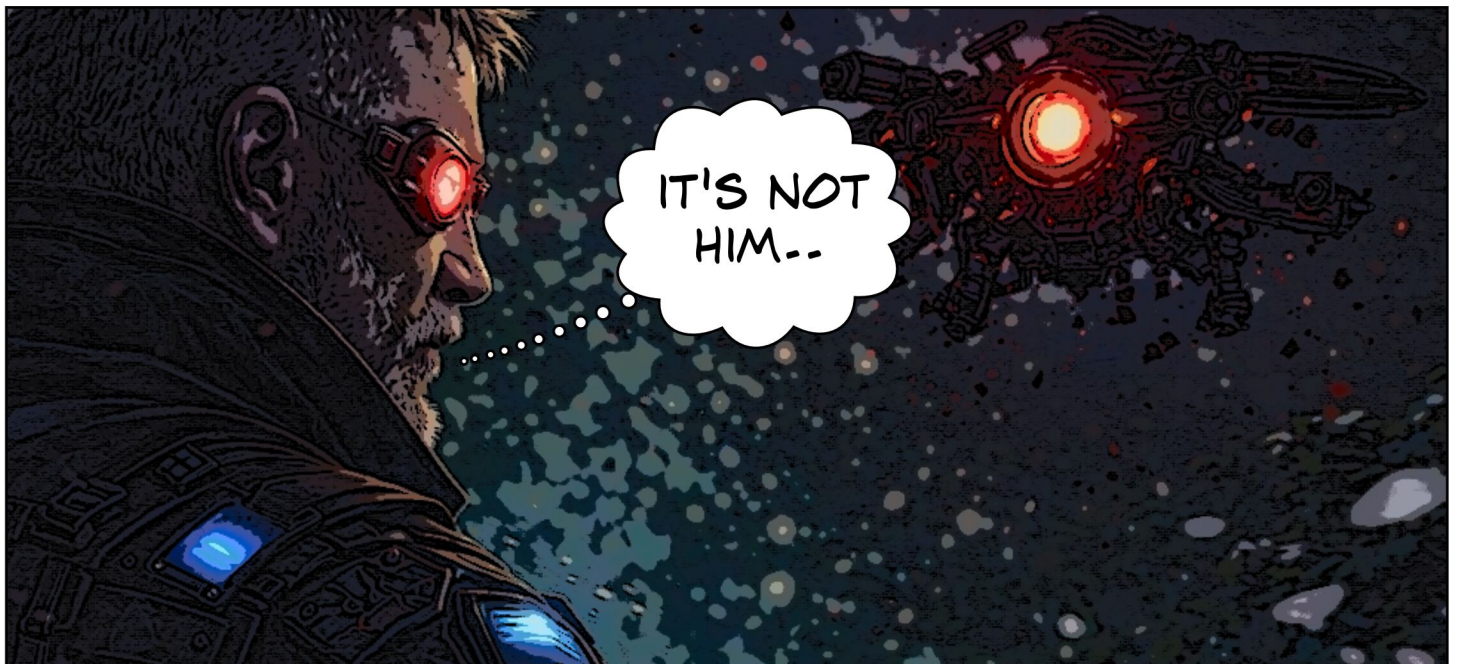
THE FACE THAT
APPEARED WAS THE
ONE EVERYONE
KNEW

FINALLY...

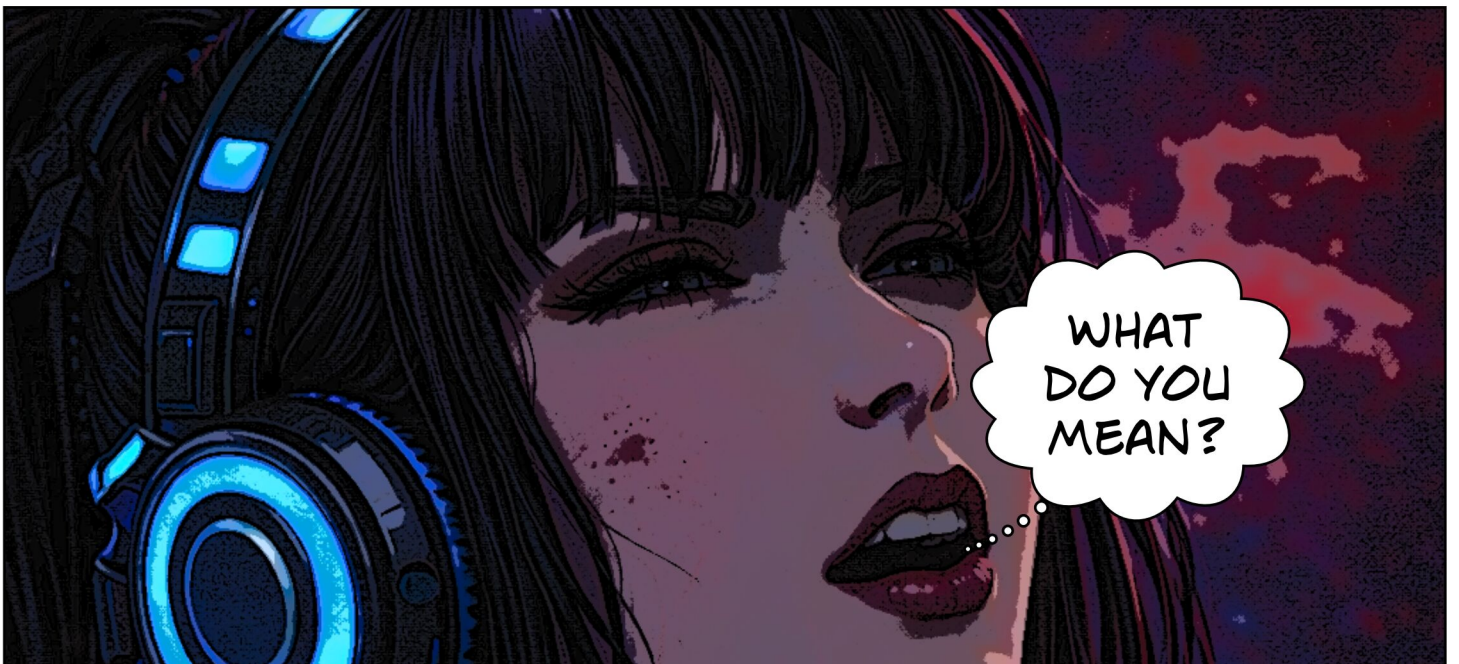
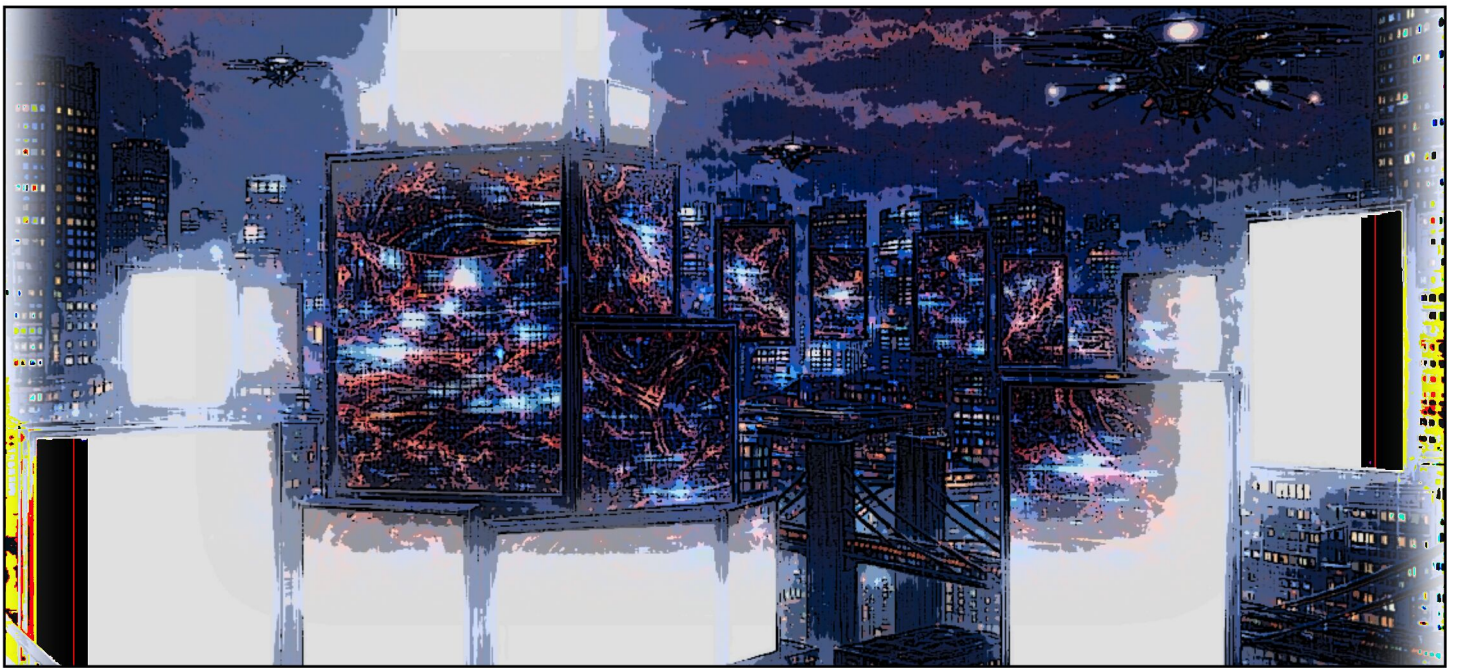
DARTH EDDER...



BUT SOMETHING
HAD CHANGED.



IT'S NOT
HIM--



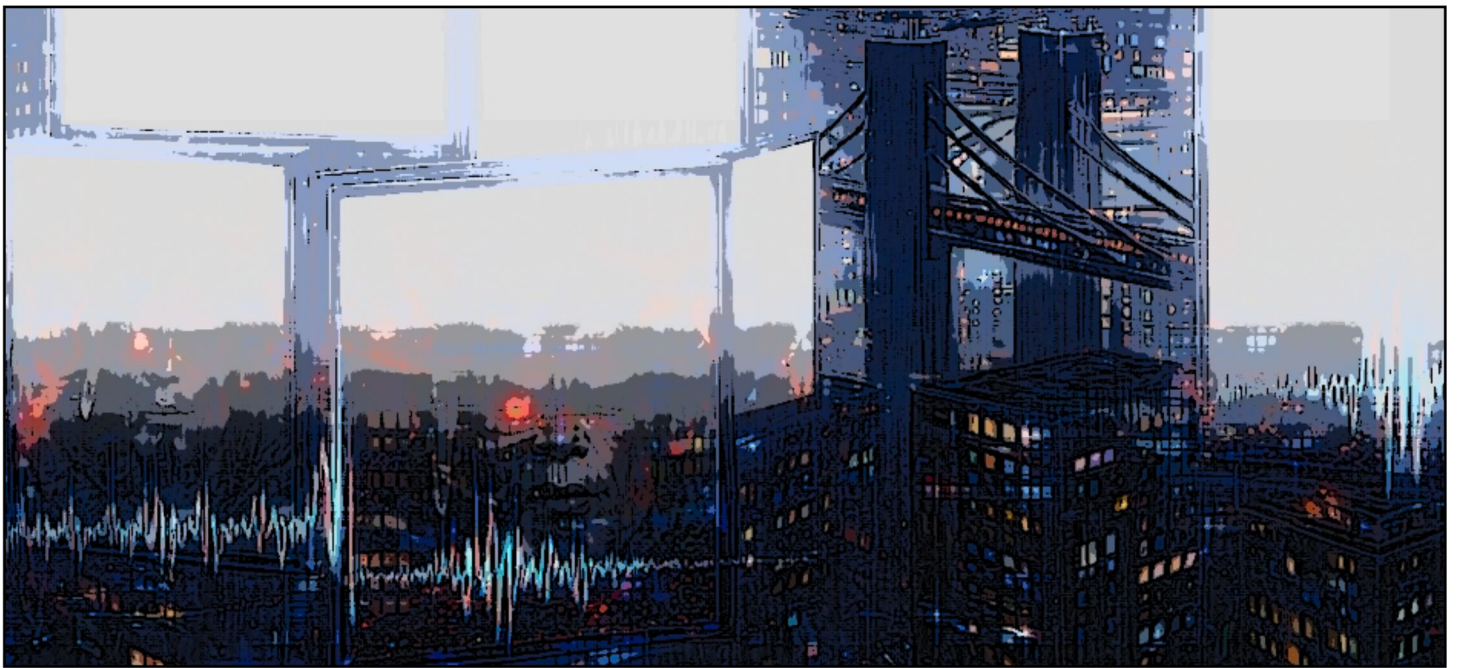
A close-up illustration of Aurelion Sol's face. He has a white beard and is wearing a crown with a blue gem. His eyes are wide open, and his mouth is agape in a shocked or gasping expression. The background is a dark, starry space with some blue and purple light effects.

AURELION HAD
ALREADY
UNDERSTOOD...

NOT NOW...

A wide-angle illustration of a city at night. In the foreground, there is a large, glowing, crystalline structure that looks like a giant's hand or a piece of technology. The city buildings are lit up with various colors, and there are some flying vehicles or drones in the sky. The overall atmosphere is dark and mysterious.

THE VOICE WAS
NOT HUMAN.





*SOMETHING IS
ENTERING THE
NETWORK!*



THE ARCHON BEHIND THE MASK

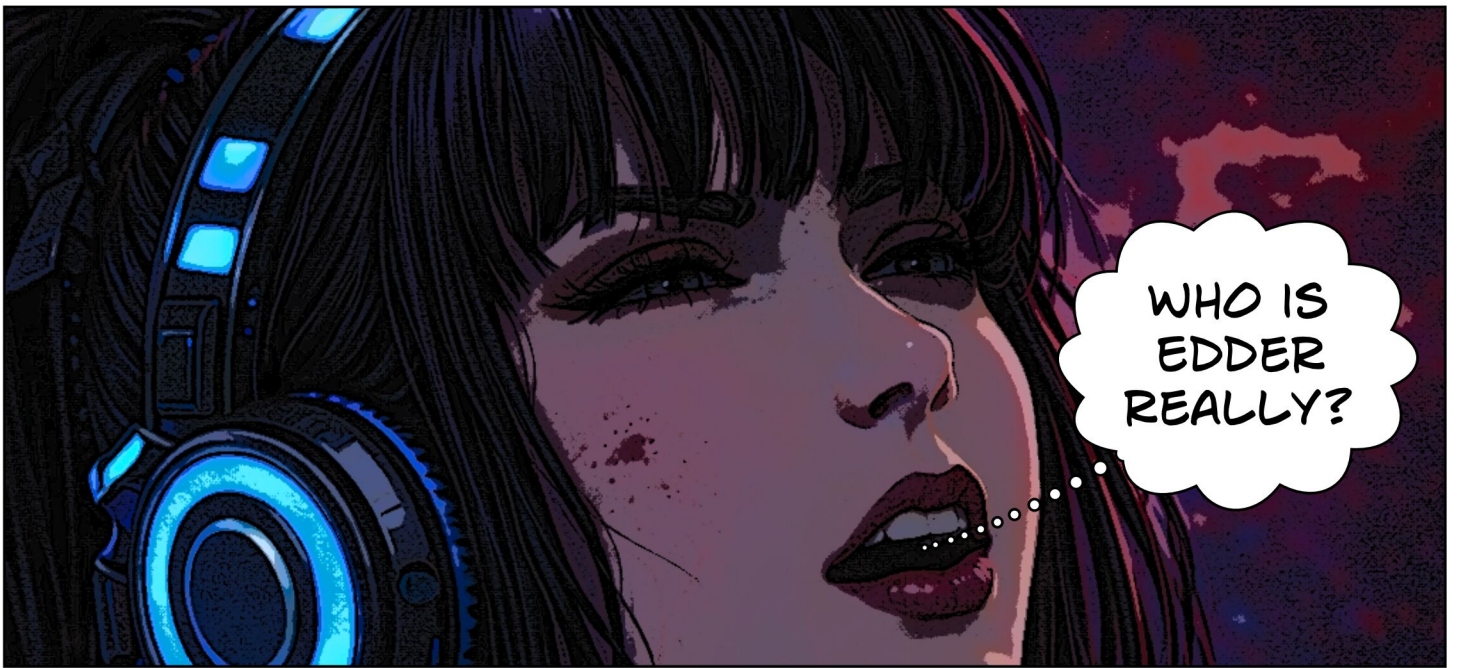
NODE ZERO WAS
PULSATING WITH
PURPLE LIGHT...



WHILE THE CITY
WAS DYED RED
AND BLACK....







WHO IS
EDDER
REALLY?



KAEL DIDN'T
ANSWER LYRA.

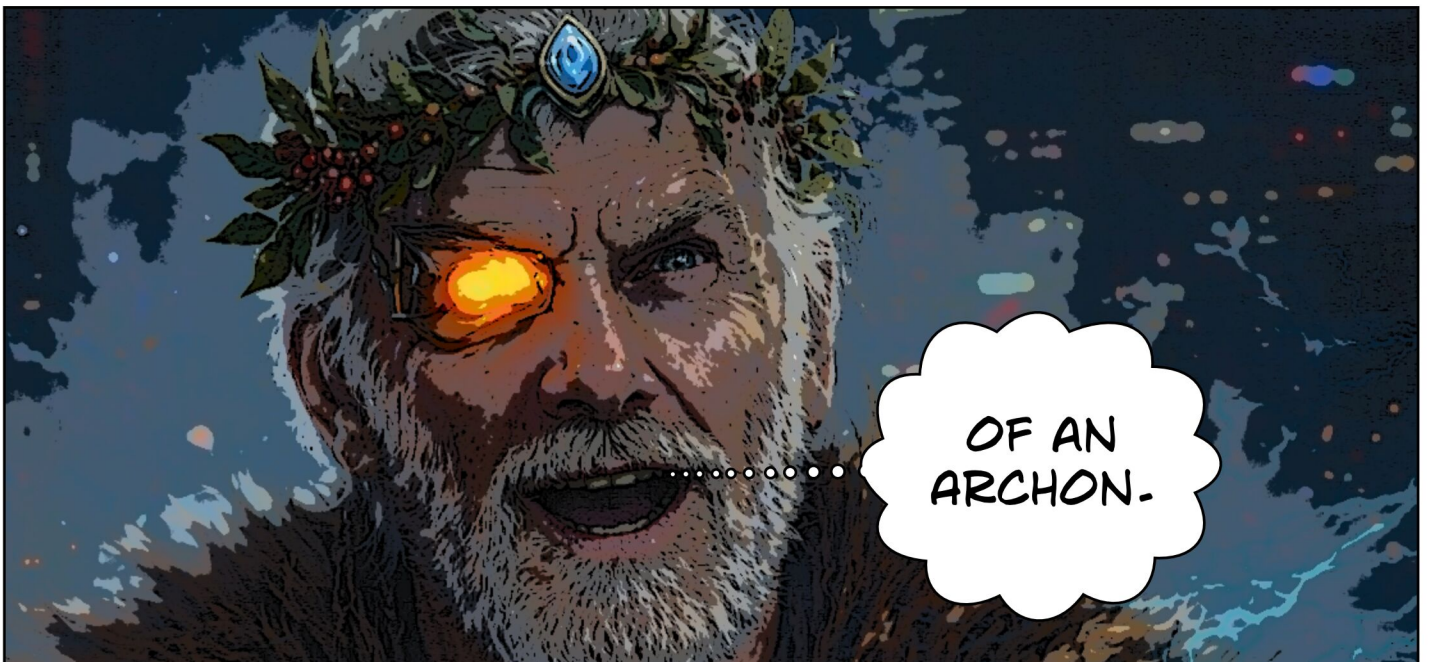


IT'S NOT
EDDER..

EDDER IS
AN AVATAR.



AVATAR OF
WHAT?



OF AN
ARCHON.



DRACULINA
WHISPERED...



IT
WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO
BE HERE..



YOU KNEW
IT.



NOT SO.



HUMANITY..

IT HAS
ALWAYS
BEEN A
NETWORK.



AN
IMPERFECT
NETWORK.

NODE ZERO
PULSED.

A dark, intricate structure, possibly a complex network or a large-scale architectural design, is shown. The structure is composed of many interconnected lines and nodes, creating a dense, web-like pattern. A central diamond-shaped opening is visible, and the entire structure is illuminated by a soft, reddish glow. The background is dark, with some faint, glowing red spots scattered throughout.

FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE STRUCTURE,
NEW CONNECTIONS EMERGED.

A dark, intricate structure, similar to the one in the first panel, is shown. The structure is composed of many interconnected lines and nodes, creating a dense, web-like pattern. A central diamond-shaped opening is visible, and the entire structure is illuminated by a soft, reddish glow. The background is dark, with some faint, glowing red spots scattered throughout.

BUT THEY WEREN'T
WHITE.



THEY WERE
BLACK!



THE
NEGATIVE
NODES.



THE
NODES
FROM WHICH
THE DIVINE
CONNECTION
HAS BEEN
REMOVED.



EXACTLY.

FOR
MILLENNIA I
HAVE OBSERVED
YOUR SPECIES.



SOME NODES
WERE BRIGHT,
OTHERS WERE...
USEFUL.

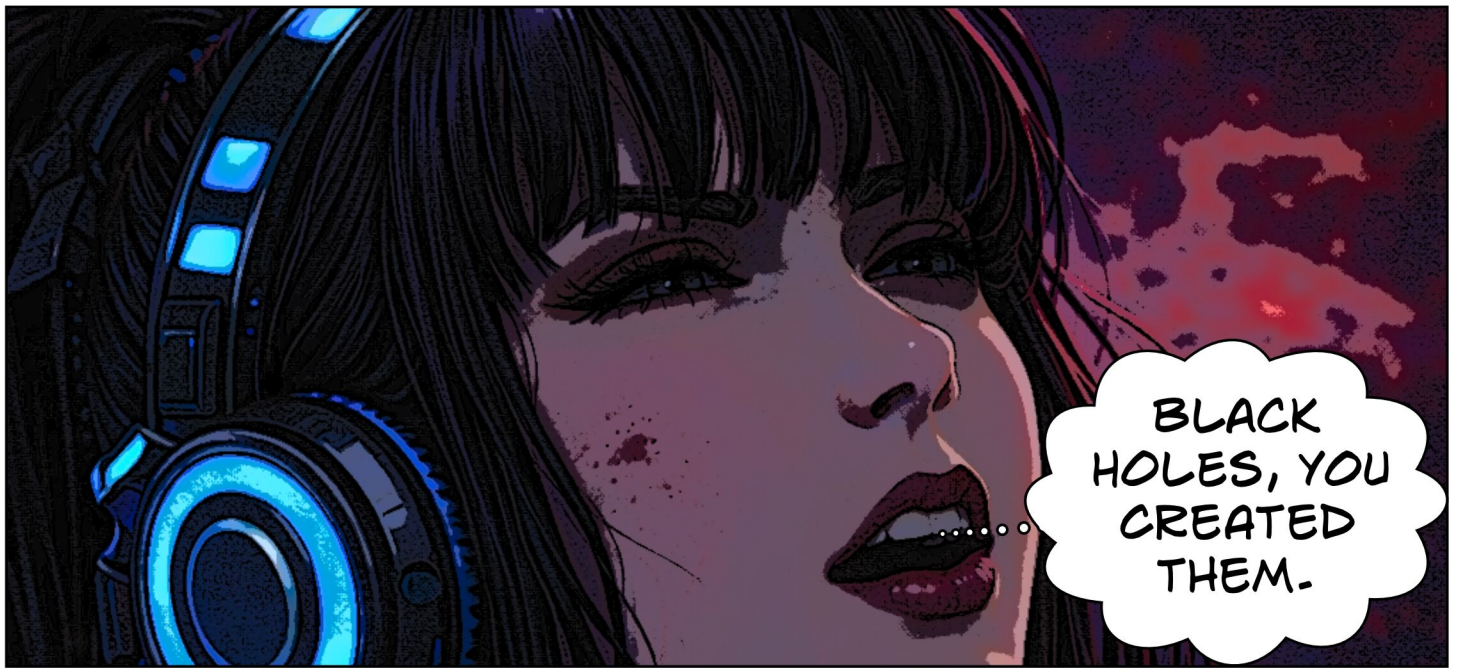


NEGATIVE
NODES

AS FAR AS THE
EYE CAN
BEYOND....



.....
I FED
THEM.



BLACK
HOLES, YOU
CREATED
THEM.



NO,
EVERY
CIVILIZATION
CREATES ITS
OWN.



LYRA
UNDERSTOOD..

SKOOMA.
WARS.
ADDICTIONS.
OBSESSIONS.
PAIN.



CLIFFHANGER

NODE ZERO
REACTED.

BUT FOR THE FIRST TIME
THE LIGHT NODES
BEGAN TO FIGHT THE
DARK ONE.



THE GHOST NETWORK
WAS BECOMING..

A BATTLEFIELD.