

The Saga  
of  
**Toulan**

VOL.02



RISE OF  
**SINMAR**

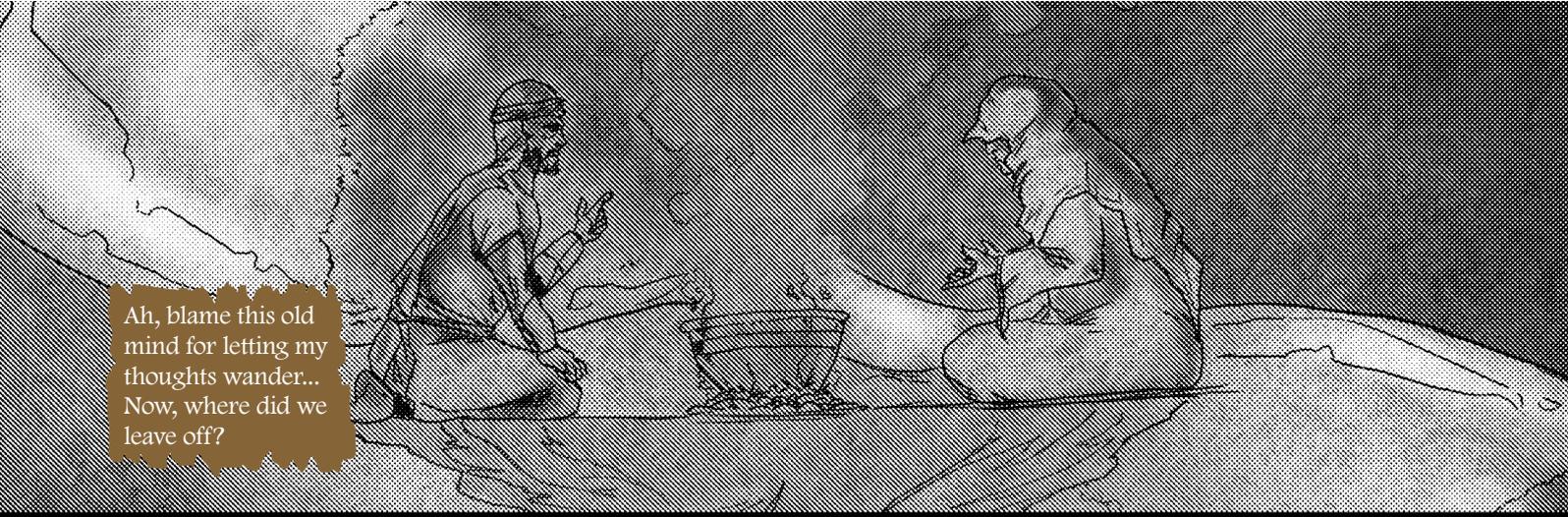
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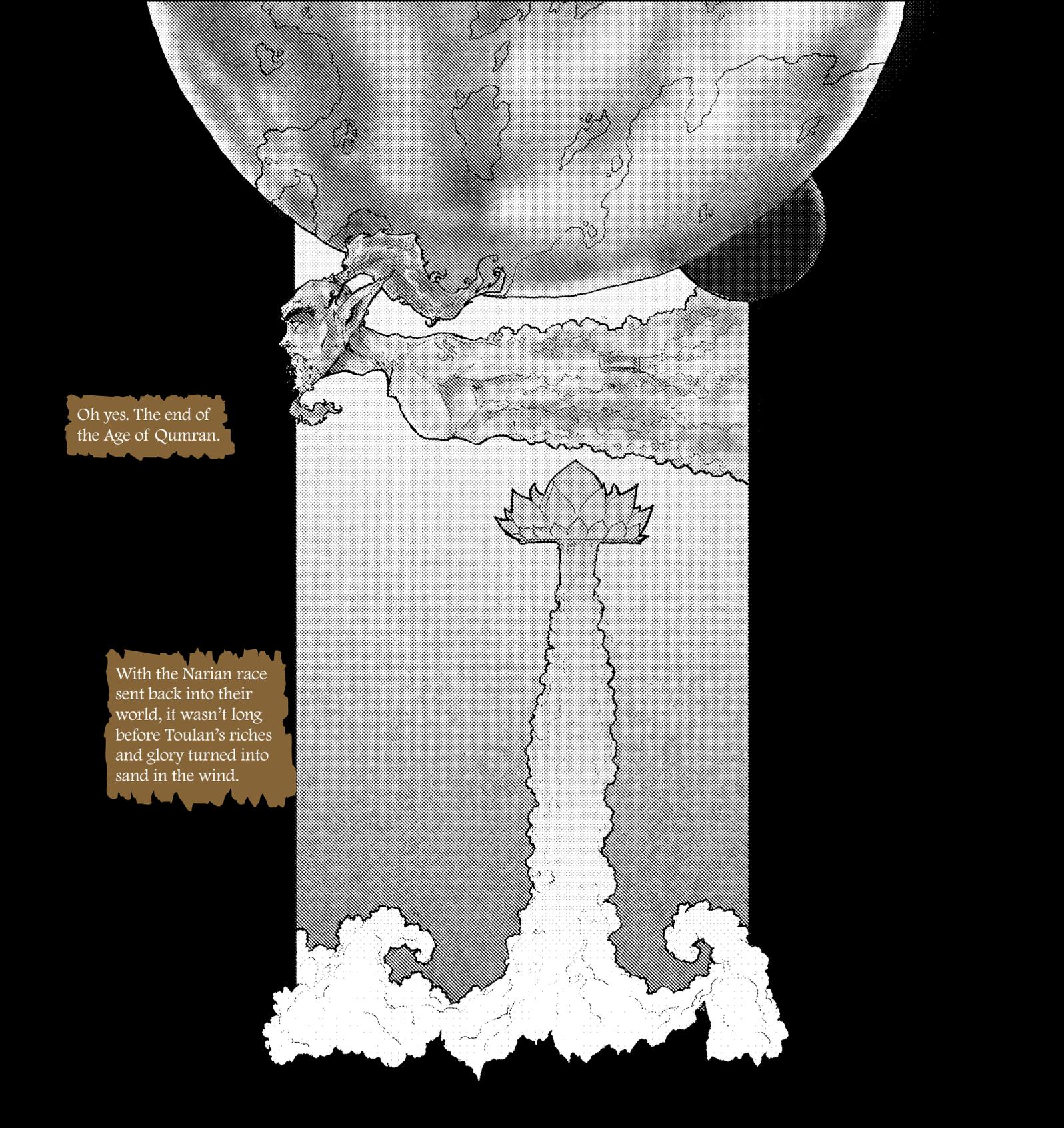
### Previously in The Saga of Toulan

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In the first volume of the series, Sultan Qumran Badi al-Zaman created a wealthy, powerful Toulan with the help of the Three Mages and the Nawa-charged Narian race. But those who were once on his side turned treacherous, and their betrayal brought an end to the sultanate's glory. All that remains now is the Book of Laws, awaiting its new master...



Ah, blame this old  
mind for letting my  
thoughts wander...  
Now, where did we  
leave off?



Oh yes. The end of  
the Age of Qumran.

With the Narian race  
sent back into their  
world, it wasn't long  
before Toulan's riches  
and glory turned into  
sand in the wind.

Many generations have passed since the Book of Laws was written\*.



\* See Saga of Toulan vol. 1

The sacred text has been all but forgotten, except by one man: Sinmar of al-Zaman.



The descendant of the great Qumran Badi al-Zaman knew the power of the Laws, the secrets it held of the manipulation of Nawa.

It was his dream – his destiny – to be keeper of the book and hold those secrets...





Sinmar's every breath revolved around the task of bringing back to Toulan the glory of Qumran's age.

And when I could see with my oracle eyes that the time had come, I passed the Laws onto Sinmar.

The warrior prince became bound to the sacred text and to his people, and – most importantly – to the balance of Nawa.

With his avatar the great eagle, the first thing the new leader of the deserts did was set out with a small group of men to find the Three Mages...

And bring back the Narians under the control of the Insians.



The hunt for the ancient men of magic, of course, was unavoidable.

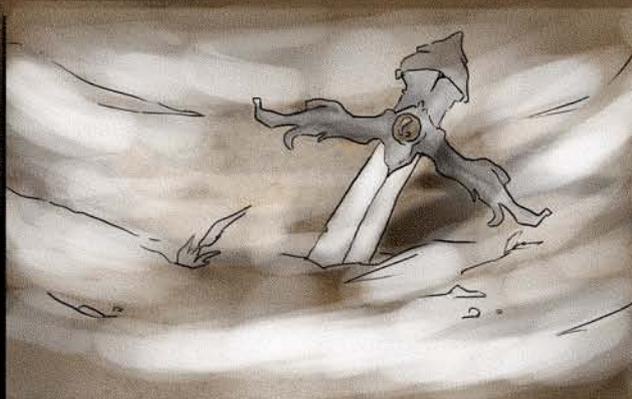
Only these powerful men knew how to restore the Astrolabe and bring back the spirit race to Toulan.



For it was with the Narians' control over Nawa that Sinmar would be able to restore the planet's ancient grandeur.

The leader moved swiftly, spreading word of his coming rule and scouring the black markets for information.

Having travelled for many moons, the small band of men found itself in the north-east of Toulan, in the harsh snow mountains of al-Nahar.



After a myriad of battles and many more losses, they decided to head over to the al-Nahar tribe, where the people were gifted Nawa-healers.

Sinmar led his slowly dwindling number of fighters up the mountain, where they would find the Great Palace of the snow people.



Once there,  
the group was  
welcomed by the  
tribe of healers.

As their wounds  
were treated, they  
began to slowly gain  
back their energies.

Sinmar himself was cured  
by princess Dia al-Nahar, the  
tribe's most gifted healer –  
and the woman he would fall  
in love with and marry.



A dramatic illustration in a comic book style. In the center, a man with a beard and intense expression, wearing a white tunic with a red leaf-like emblem, holds a large sword. To his right, a woman with long dark hair and a white headscarf holds a glowing blue staff with a circular symbol. Behind them, a crowd of hooded figures in white robes follows. The background is a fiery orange and red sky with a bright blue light source. A dark, tree-like silhouette is visible in the upper left corner.

And when it came time  
for Sinmar to continue  
the search for the Mages,  
Dia was at his side.



The travels were treacherous.

The terrifying monsters  
practically unstoppable.

And the battles not  
without a heavy price  
on life and limb.

But the Mages were, finally,  
found. And even after hundreds  
of years, their thirst for control  
over Nawa was stronger than ever.



Once Sinmar had promised them the position of his viziers, they quickly restored the Astrolabe to its former glory.

The three men then used its powers to call upon the seven Narian leaders and bargain for the spirit race's return.



While the Narians were restless to come back, this time they wanted an unbreakable hold that would bind them forever to Toulan.

After much talk, the Narians found a way to keep the balance of Nawa in their favour. The head elder spoke this condition:

Sinmar would have to take a Narian wife, the warrior princess Badr al-Duja.



The agreement was made.

With his control over Nawa, the Mages as his viziers and the Narians at his side, Sinmar marched across the sultanate with no resistance to his force.

The great leader was crowned Sinmar Bani al-Zaman.

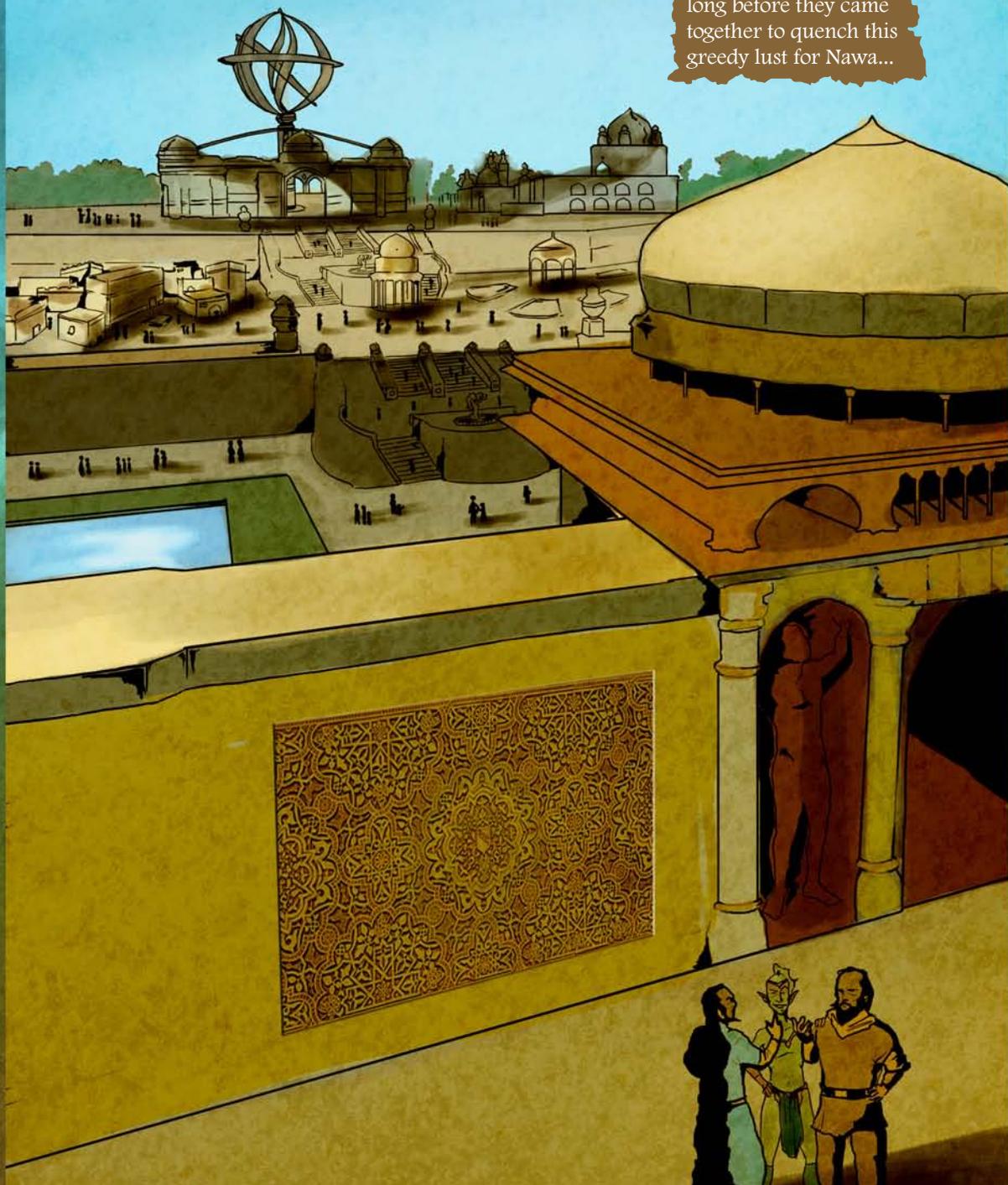
He set up a home in Sabad City, and worked with his new viziers and Narian lords to create the perfect union between land and Nawa.

And Sinmar soon found himself the father of two daughters: The Insiar Nairouz and the Safian Nara.

A world of serene splendour, built with the awesome power of the Astrolabe.

Power that both the Mages and the Narians hungered after.

And it wouldn't be very long before they came together to quench this greedy lust for Nawa...





Sinmar's hunt for the Mages took him from Sabad City, Toulan's capital in the north-west, to the eastern snow mountains of al-Nahar, where the gifted tribe of healers and philosophers took in his wounded men. From there, his group headed south to the vast, treacherous deserts of Qifar, where the three men of magic hid from the world.

Sinmar then travelled through the forest-swamps of Ahwaz back to Sabad, where the Mages restored the Astrolabe. With the return of the machine's awe-inspiring control of Nawa – and with the help of the Mages and the Narians – Sinmar set up his palace and ruled the new sultanate.



NAHAR

QIFAR



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