

"FEARLESS"



[22 Pages One-Shot]

Written

by

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PAGE 1 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

Establishing shot. JI XI's monastery (from his origin story) stands atop a snowy mountain. JI XI is scaling the side of the mountain towards the monastery.

JI XI CAPTION

My name is Ji Xi. I am the bearer of a dangerous Artifact that can DESTROY the entire world.

(cont)

I am responsible for its safekeeping, making sure its evil is never unleashed onto the world.

(cont)

But none of this matters today...

PANEL 2

Close on JI XI as he scales the side of the mountain. He is beaming with joy.

JI XI CAPTION

...because today, I'm coming HOME.

PANEL 3

JI XI keeps climbing as snow starts to fall. On a nearby branch, there is a bird. It is a male Himalayan Monal. JI XI is delighted by it.

BIRD SFX (SMALL)

Tweet tweet tweet

JI XI

Hey, little guy.

(MORE)

PANEL 4

Closer on the bird, it looks very menacing. Some destructive smoke similar to the one produced by the Thirteenth Artifact surrounds it.

BIRD (MENACING)
You shouldn't have come back, Ji.

PANEL 5

Extreme close up on the bird. In the bird's eye, we can see the skull-like symbol similar to the one engraved on the Thirteenth Artifact.

BIRD (MENACING)
They are all going to DIE...

PANEL 6

On JI XI. He is taken aback by the menacing apparition.

BIRD (MENACING)(OFF)
...and it's all because of YOU.

PANEL 4

Close on JI XI as he wakes up from this ever reoccurring nightmare. He gasps. He has frostbites on his face. He looks worn out.

JI XI is inside an igloo that he built (badly) somewhere in the Canadian Arctic in the Nunavut region. It is winter.

JI XI

-Gasp-

PAGE 3 (8 PANELS)

PANEL 1

Still inside, JI XI is doing his morning meditation, legs crossed, hands together, and eyes closed. Behind him, we can see his sleeping bag and a small bag for his necessities.

JI XI CAPTION

The memory of my dead brothers HAUNTS me.
The Artifact SLAUGHTERED them. I was too
late. I FAILED them.

(cont)

I can't let it happen again. There will be
no more blood on my hands. I just have to
stay away from people.

PANEL 2

Large panel. Pull back for a very long shot of JI XI as he walks away from his igloo. He built it in the middle of the frozen ocean. As far as we can tell, he is in the middle of nowhere, the white emptiness of snow and ice.

His igloo looks unfinished and crooked. That's important for later.

JI XI CAPTION

FAR away.

PANEL 3

With the Artifact's power activated, JI XI hits the ice with his fist and makes a hole through it. Chunks of ice and water come flying upwards.

JI XI CAPTION

Time to get some breakfast.

SFX

CRASH

(MORE)

PANEL 4

From under the ice, we see JI XI's index finger in the water. The black destructive smoke from the Artifact coils around his arm and to the tip of his index finger. Like a snake, it swims towards a nearby fish. The fish is an arctic char.

JI XI CAPTION

I have been training myself to contain and channel the power of the Artifact.

PANEL 5

On JI XI in Artifact form with the smoke coming out of his mouth and nose, his arm is in the water through the hole in the ice. Despite the cold, he is sweating. This is clearly taking a lot out of him as he concentrates to harness the power of the Artifact.

JI XI CAPTION

Imagine there is a massive explosion INSIDE of you but you can only let some of the pressure out one bit at a time, through a hole the size of a pinhead...

(cont)

...and if you fail, you EXPLODE.

PANEL 6

Underwater and under the ice, the black smoke "snake" impales the fish like a spear.

JI XI CAPTION

This is what it feels like.

PANEL 7

JI XI is walking away from the hole with the fish in his hands. He is no longer in his Artifact form.

JI XI CAPTION

But if you let out just enough, with enough precision and with enough RESTRAINT, you might get rewarded.

(MORE)

PANEL 8

Close on JI XI. He is very surprised by what he sees coming his way
(reveal on next page).

AGLOOLIK (LARGE) (OFF)
AAAAAAAAAHHHH!

BEAR SFX (LARGE) (OFF)
ROOOOAR!

JI XI
What the-

PAGE 4 (3 PANELS)

PANEL 1

SPLASH panel!

AGLOOLIK is running towards us. She is being pursued by a Polar Bear.

AGLOOLIK is a 9 years old Inuit girl from a nearby village. She is holding a [harpoon](#) used for hunting seals. She is wearing a thick parka and gloves. Though she is being pursued by a Polar Bear, she does not seem scared but rather annoyed.

For references about AGLOOLIK and her village, you may want to watch the documentary [PEOPLE OF A FEATHER](#) (it's on Netflix). It contains many references concerning modern Inuit life that might be useful to you.

AGLOOLIK
LEAVE. ME. ALONE!

BEAR SFX (LARGE)
ROAAAAAAAAAAR!

PANEL 2

AGLOOLIK runs passed JI XI, shoving him out of the way. JI XI is a bit startled.

AGLOOLIK
Get out of the way!

JI XI
Wait...

PANEL 3

The bear stops dead in its track with its eyes wide opened. It is spooked.

NO DIALOGUE

PAGE 5 (5 PANELS)

PANEL 1

On JI XI as he extends his arm forward, signaling the bear to stop. He is in full Artifact Form and completely calm. It's a scary sight for the bear.

JI XI

Stop.

PANEL 2

The bear is running away and moaning. JI XI scared it off.

BEAR SFX

muuuuh....muuuuh

PANEL 3

On AGLOOLIK, she unknowingly ran towards the hole JI XI made in the ice earlier. The ice around the hole is breaking under her feet and she is falling through.

AGLOOLIK

Noo-

PANEL 4

Underwater, JI XI is swimming towards AGLOOLIK. She seems unconscious and is drifting away. It is dark under the ice except for the light coming through the hole above and the purple glow of JI XI's tattoos.

JI XI CAPTION

This is my fault.

(cont)

I should have stopped her.

PANEL 5

Closer on AGLOOLIK. She is unconscious, drifting away. JI XI reaches for her, his hand almost touches her.

JI XI CAPTION

Please...

(cont)

...don't die.

PAGE 6 (5 PANELS)

PANEL 1

Establishing shot of AGLOOLIK's small village. It looks like a smaller version of [Sanikiluaq](#). It's on the coast, near the frozen ocean. That's important for later.

JI XI CAPTION

As it turns out, I made camp a few miles away from a small village. So much for trying to stay away from the world.

(cont)

No matter how hard I try, I always get pulled back in. But this is only a quick visit, for the kid's sake.

PANEL 2

JI XI bursts through the doors of a small clinic. He is holding AGLOOLIK in his arms.

The young doctor, PUTYUK, is interrupted from stitching a wound on a patient. PUTYUK is a smart and attractive Inuit woman in her 20's.

JI XI

I need help!

PANEL 3

PUTYUK points him towards an empty bed.

PUTYUK

Over there.

(MORE)

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PANEL 4

AGLOOLIK is lying on the bed, still unconscious. PUTYUK is removing AGLOOLIK's parka.

JI XI (OFF)
Is she gonna be okay?

PUTYUK
Tell me what happened.

PANEL 5

On JI XI. He feels guilty.

JI XI
She fell through the ice. She was running
and...there was a bear...
(cont)
She's still breathing. I checked.

PAGE 7 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

PUTYUK is by AGLOOLIK's bedside and using an electronic thermometer to take her body temperature. AGLOOLIK is all wrapped up in an electric blanket. JI XI is keeping his distance on the other side of the bed. PUTYUK looks surprised.

PUTYUK

She has some mild hypothermia but she's gonna be fine. Believe it or not, it's actually not her first time. Her name is Agloolik. She is quite the hunter.

(cont)

How did you get her out?

JI XI

I jumped in.

PUTYUK

You...what? Are you serious?

PANEL 2

PUTYUK puts her hand on JI XI's forehead to feel his body temperature. JI XI is startled.

PUTYUK

How long were you in the water for?

JI XI

Please don't.

JI XI CAPTION

Her hand. It's so soft... and WARM.

(MORE)

PANEL 3

JI XI grabs PUTYUK's wrist to stop her from touching him.

JI XI CAPTION

But like a frightened animal, the Artifact ignites in the back of my throat. I have to CONTAIN the explosion...

JI XI

Don't touch me!

PANEL 4

PUTYUK backs up. She reassures him. She is not scared but intrigued. She is massaging her wrist. He has a strong grip.

JI XI CAPTION

...so that she doesn't get BURNED.

PUTYUK

Okay. Alright. It's alright.

(cont)

You saved her life, you know? Who are you?

PANEL 5

JI XI is walking away from the bed and towards the exit. PUTYUK stands by AGLOOLIK's side in the back.

JI XI

I'm nobody. She almost died because of me. I'm no hero. Please, just... stay away from me.

PUTYUK

But, where-

JI XI

Sorry about your wrist.

JI XI CAPTION

I need to get out of here before someone else gets hurt.

(MORE)

PANEL 6

Close on PUTYUK. She looks towards the door as JI XI walks out. She is both intrigued and worried about that strange man.

NO DIALOGUE

PAGE 8 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

The next day, JI XI is sitting in his igloo, eating fish in front of a small fire.

JI XI CAPTION

I'm gonna have to leave. I'm too close to people here.

PANEL 2

From JI XI's POV and through the igloo's opening, AGLOOLIK waves at him. She is all smiles.

AGLOOLIK

Hello in there.

PANEL 3

JI XI steps outside. AGLOOLIK brought blocks of ice on a small sled. She is fixing up his igloo.

JI XI

What are you doing?

AGLOOLIK

I am fixing your igloo.

(cont)

It's not that it's bad. It's just not very good, you know?

(cont)

You know we don't build igloos anymore, right? Maybe on a hunting trip but that's it. We have houses now.

JI XI

Yes, I know, I just...

(cont)

Thank you but I don't need your help. You should go back home.

(MORE)

PANEL 4

On AGLOOLIK.

AGLOOLIK

No mister. Thank you. You saved my life.
So I thank you and I fix your igloo so that
you're all warm and cozy.

PANEL 5

On JI XI, apologizing.

JI XI

It was MY fault. I had been fishing,
punching holes in the ice...I wasn't
thinking.

PANEL 6

On JI XI and AGLOOLIK.

AGLOOLIK

But you got me out and you scared the bear
away. So thank you.

JI XI

What was that about?

AGLOOLIK

I was hunting. My brother and sister,
they're hungry. We don't have much money.

PAGE 9 (5 PANELS)

PANEL 1

On AGLOOLIK. She looks a bit wistful.

AGLOOLIK

The bear must have been hungry too. He probably couldn't find any food. That's probably why he attacked me.

(cont)

It's all because of the BIG BOAT.

PANEL 2

JI XI is intrigued.

JI XI

The big boat?

PANEL 3

AGLOOLIK starts running, gesturing to JI XI to follow her.

AGLOOLIK

I'll show you. This way!

JI XI

Wait. I don't-

PANEL 4

Long shot of AGLOOLIK and JI XI walking across the windy Arctic tundra. AGLOOLIK is leading the way.

JI XI CAPTION

We walked for a good hour in the freezing cold. That kid is tough.

(MORE)

PANEL 5

AGLOOLIK and JI XI are crouching behind a snowbank so that they cannot be seen by the people on the other side (to be revealed next page). AGLOOLIK is gesturing to JI XI to stay down and hidden behind the snowbank.

AGLOOLIK

Stay down. You don't want THEM to see you.

JI XI

Who is "them"?

PAGE 10 (3 PANELS)

SPLASH PAGE! WITH PANELS 2 AND 3 IN INSERT.

PANEL 1

SPLASH!

The BIG BOAT!

It is an environmentalist's worst nightmare.

The BIG BOAT is a moving factory with workers on board who process dead animals in order to sell their fur and meat to the black market.

The boat is an ice breaker. It is surrounded by the ice. Many hunters on snowmobiles and on foot are making their way towards the boat after a fruitful day of hunting. Most are bringing dead seals (mostly Ring Seals but all types are available in the region) and Polar bears. They drag them on the ice or attached to a sled behind their snowmobiles. There is a ramp for them to get back on the boat.

There are dead belugas and narwhals hanging off the side of the boat. Their blood is smeared all over the side of it.

You get the idea, this is a DEATH factory.

The hunters should have a distinctive look. They are hunters for hire so they can come from all walks of life. They are a colorful bunch much like the bad guys biker-gang in Mad Max.

The CAPTAIN is on the bridge, watching the hunters bring back the goods with his binocular. He is wearing a Polar bear skin for a coat.

AGLOOLIK (OFF)

The HUNTERS.

(MORE)

PANEL 2

Closer on a couple snowmobile riders who are hanging out near the BIG BOAT. They are drinking and smoking. We see the dead seals they killed that day, including pups. They are piled up on a sled attached to the back of a snowmobile.

AGLOOLIK (OFF)

Every day, they go hunting. They kill seals, especially the pups, and even bears. At the end of the day, they bring it all back to the big boat.

PANEL 3

Close on the Captain of the Big Boat. He is surveying the hunters as they bring back the goods, watching the action with his binoculars and wearing a Polar bear skin for a coat.

AGLOOLIK (OFF)

This is their leader, the Captain. He runs the factory inside the boat where they skin the animals. At least, that's what the rumor says.

PAGE 11 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

Behind the snowbank, AGLOOLIK pleads with JI XI for help.

AGLOOLIK

Can you please stop them? Maybe you can use your magic to scare them off like you did to the bear?

JI XI

I cannot get involved.

AGLOOLIK

Why?

PANEL 2

JI XI is conflicted as he makes his case to AGLOOLIK.

JI XI

I promised myself no one else would ever get hurt because of me. I carry a very dangerous weapon. It could kill a lot of people. I have to be very careful.

AGLOOLIK

If it is so dangerous, why don't you just get rid of it? Just throw it in the ocean!

JI XI

I cannot do that. Someone else could find it and use it to hurt people. I have to keep it.

(MORE)

PANEL 3

JI XI is standing up, about to leave, AGLOOLIK is grabbing his hand, begging him for help.

AGLOOLIK
Then help me, please.
(cont)
Pleeeeeeeeeaaaaase!

JI XI
I can't.
(cont)
I'm sorry.

PANEL 4

As JI XI walks away, AGLOOLIK sits back down by the snowbank.

AGLOOLIK
I don't understand.

JI XI
I hope you never have to.

PANEL 5

Pull back to show that JI XI is already far from AGLOOLIK. She stayed behind, by the snowbank.

NO DIALOGUE

PANEL 6

On AGLOOLIK. She closely watches a small pile of seals on a sled attached to a snowmobile. It is pretty close to where she is. We get the feeling she might want to go and steal them (which, by the way, she totally will).

NO DIALOGUE

PAGE 12 (7 PANELS)

PANEL 1

Back in his igloo, JI XI is packing. It's almost night-time and he has started a small campfire.

JI XI CAPTION

I have to leave at first light and find a new location, somewhere even more remote.

(cont)

I feel sorry for that kid but I cannot risk killing more people. I just can't handle it.

PANEL 2

PUTYUK appears at the door. The fur around the hood of her parka perfectly frames her delicate face.

PUTYUK

I was hoping to find you here. Agloolik told me you built an igloo... Are you going native or something?

PANEL 3

JI XI thinks she is funny and he is also a bit embarrassed. PUTYUK produces a thermos.

JI XI

I know. It's not very good.

PUTYUK

I brought you some hot soup. Would you like some?

JI XI

Hmm, yeah...sure.

(MORE)

PANEL 4

A bit later, PUTYUK is sitting across from JI XI. The camp fire is burning between them. She has taken off her parka. They are both drinking hot soup.

PUTYUK

I need to ask you a favor. It's about Agloolik.

JI XI

Okay.

PUTYUK

Could you please talk to her? Let her down easy? She's had enough disappointment as it is.

PANEL 5

On JI XI, confused.

JI XI

I don't... understand.

PANEL 6

Closer on PUTYUK.

PUTYUK

Agloolik...well... you made quite an impression on her.

(cont)

After her mother's death, her father left the village. She is alone with her brother and sister. She goes hunting. She believes in the old ways.

(cont)

She thinks you are...MAGIC.

(cont)

That you're gonna make everything better.

PANEL 7

Close on JI XI. His tattoo on his face faintly glows but not in a menacing way. Instead, it's warm.

JI XI

Well, what if I told you...

PAGE 13 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

On JI XI. Using the power of the Artifact, he manipulates the black smoke to the end of his index finger. The black smoke coils around his arm and to the tip of his index finger where it blooms into a beautiful black butterfly. He smiles timidly, slightly afraid of PUTYUK's reaction.

JI XI
...that I am magic?

PANEL 2

PUTYUK is both puzzled and hypnotized by the beauty of the butterfly.

PUTYUK
Wha...
(cont)
Who are you?

PANEL 3

Back on JI XI, a much more sinister shot. Not scary but somber. The butterfly is now a skull resembling the symbol on the Artifact itself. JI XI cries a single tear down his cheek as he tells his tragic tale.

JI XI
My name is Ji Xi. There is a great evil
inside of me. If I ever let it out, it could
destroy the entire world. I am its guardian
and its slave.
(cont)
This is why I must stay alone, away from
the world, and away from people.

(MORE)

PANEL 4

PUTYUK draws closer to JI XI.

PUTYUK

I understand. I really do. And I know that you cannot run away your whole life.

(cont)

Look at what you can do. You can turn something evil into something beautiful.

(cont)

And you saved Agloolik's life! You don't have to keep it all bottled up inside. What you do with it is up to you.

PANEL 5

Close on PUTYUK's hand as she grabs JI XI's.

JI XI

I'm just so scared of hurting people.

PUTYUK

I know... I'm scared too. I fear nature and death. I fear for my people's ability to survive. But I also fight to keep them healthy and alive.

(cont)

We have to let go of fear in order to live.

PANEL 6

Pull back for a shot of PUTYUK and JI XI in silhouette against the fire. Their foreheads are touching as they slightly bow towards each other, head to head. It's a tender moment.

JI XI CAPTION

I never thought anyone could ever understand.

(cont)

But SHE does.

PAGE 14 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

The next morning, AGLOOLIK comes to the igloo's entrance. She has been running and is in a panic.

AGLOOLIK (LARGE)
Mister...MISTER!

PANEL 2

From AGLOOLIK's POV, JI XI and PUTYUK are cuddled together in his sleeping bag. They are startled. PUTYUK rises.

AGLOOLIK (OFF)
I'm sorry but it's a big emergency!

PUTYUK
It's okay. What is it?

PANEL 3

PUTYUK comforts AGLOOLIK. She is holding her parka up against her naked body. AGLOOLIK is in tears.

AGLOOLIK
When we went to see the big boat
yesterday... they had so many seals and
I...I... I took some. They must have
followed me because they are attacking the
village and it's my fault!

(MORE)

PANEL 4

Already dressed, JI XI is about to step out of the igloo. PUTYUK is in the back putting her parka on. AGLOOLIK is wiping off tears.

PUTYUK

What are you going to do?

JI XI

What I should have done to begin with.
You're right, what I do with the Artifact
is up to me.

(cont)

And I might as well use it for good.

PANEL 5

PUTYUK and AGLOOLIK catch up to JI XI outside the igloo.

PUTYUK

Wait.

(cont)

We're coming with you.

PANEL 6

Large panel.

The village is under attack by the Hunters. JI XI observes the scene from a big rock that overlooks the village. PUTYUK and AGLOOLIK stand behind him.

The BIG BOAT is at the shore, surrounded by broken ice, and the hunters are coming out of it. They are driving through the village with their snowmobiles, spreading chaos. One hunter is harpooning a villager. Another one, on foot, is trying to force himself on a woman. Villagers and children are trying to run away. You get the idea; it's chaos.

JI XI CAPTION

Is this what happens when I refuse to help?

PAGE 15 (5 PANELS)

PANEL 1

With the Artifact activated, JI XI stands in the middle of the village. He uses the black destructive smoke to catapult a snowmobile and its rider out of the way (HUNTER 1). He also uses the smoke to cut the harpoon in half in a hunter's hands (HUNTER 2). He is doing his best not to physically hurt people. Instead, he incapacitates them in some way.

PUTYUK and AGLOOLIK are in cover behind a house or a small wall, watching him in action.

HUNTER 1

What the-

HUNTER 2 SFX

Gasp

PANEL 2

Close on PUTYUK. She is trying to warn JI XI of the approaching hunters.

PUTYUK

Ji! Watch out!

PANEL 3

From behind, two or three hunters stab JI XI in the back with their respective harpoons. More hunters are approaching, harpoons at the ready.

JI XI screams in pain. They are bringing him down like an animal.

JI XI

AAARGH!

(MORE)

PANEL 4

On the many hunters as they stab their harpoons in JI XI (who is down and off panel). We witness their savagery. Blood spatters. In the back, HUNTER 3 incites them. He is sitting on his snowmobile. He has a large knife on his belt (sort of like [this](#)).

HUNTER 3

That's right. Get him good.

PANEL 5

On HUNTER 3 who is still sitting on his snowmobile. The other hunters are tying their ropes to the back of his snowmobile. Each rope is connected to the darts that are now stuck in JI XI's back. JI XI is still off panel.

HUNTER 3

Hook him up. We're going for a ride.

PAGE 16 (5 PANELS)

PANEL 1

Large panel. JI XI is being dragged on the ice by the hunters.

JI XI is being dragged behind HUNTER 3's snowmobile. The ropes attached to the darts that are lodged deep in his back are tied to the back of the snowmobile. JI XI is leaving a trail of blood on the ice. He is pretty beat up and is losing lots of blood.

HUNTER 3 is riding away from the village and towards the edge of the frozen ocean (Floe Edge) in the distance. He is standing up as he rides his snowmobile, putting on a show. More hunters on snowmobiles are riding along with him.

HUNTER 3

Woo-hoo!

HUNTERS SFX

Yeaaaaaah!

(cont)

HAHA!

JI XI

Arrgh...

PANEL 2

From JI XI' POV as he tilts his head backwards and looks back towards HUNTER 3 (an upside-down shot might be cool here). JI XI extends his arm towards the many ropes and the destructive black smoke starts cutting them.

JI XI CAPTION

If I'm gonna make it, I've got to cut free.

(MORE)

PANEL 3

Long shot. HUNTER 3 is taking a swift turn by the floe edge, propelling JI XI towards the freezing water as he turns away from it. JI XI is still attached to the snowmobile by a few ropes that are left. HUNTER 3 wants to drop JI XI in the water. The other hunters follow suit.

NO DIALOGUE

PANEL 4

Close on HUNTER 3's hand as he cuts the ropes with his knife.

HUNTER 3
Time to go for a swim.

PANEL 5

JI XI slides on the ice and towards the water because of the momentum. He still bleeds profusely from his back with many darts stuck in it. He is sliding on his belly and is about to go over the edge. He is grabbing for dear life onto the slippery ice.

JI XI
No-no-no...

PAGE 17 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

JI XI sinks towards the bottom of the ocean. He is still bleeding profusely with the many darts (with ropes) still stuck in his back.

JI XI CAPTION

It could be so easy.

(cont)

To let go.

(cont)

To let the Artifact be lost at the bottom of the ocean. No more burden, no more responsibility.

(cont)

No more FEAR.

PANEL 2

Close up on JI XI. Air bubbles come out of his mouth as he starts to fight back.

JI XI CAPTION

If only it were that easy.

PANEL 3

Close up on the harpoon darts that are stuck in his back. The destructive black smoke is taking the shape of small tendrils that are pulling the darts out.

JI XI CAPTION

But I cannot leave the Artifact unguarded.
I have to protect it.

(cont)

And what about Putyuk and Agloolik?
They're counting on me.

(MORE)

PANEL 4

Sitting cross-legged at the bottom of the ocean in his Artifact form, JI XI puts his hands together, meditating, just like he did back on page 3. His tattoos are glowing.

JI XI CAPTION

I need to focus.

PANEL 5

JI XI has his mouth wide opened. Thick destructive smoke comes out of it and spreads all around him. Black smoke tendrils run across the ocean floor around him. It is spreading far and wide like never before.

JI XI CAPTION

I need to harness the power of the Artifact. I need to face my fear.

PANEL 6

Followed by a gigantic cloud of dark smoke that bubbles and glows with electric purple energy throughout like a thunder storm, JI XI ascends towards the surface. His eyes glow an aggressive purple. He is using the full potential of the Artifact.

If you know Dragon Ball Z, we can say that he is going Super Saiyan here :)

JI XI CAPTION

Agloolik said I should scare the hunters away, just like I did to the bear...

PAGE 18 (1 PANEL)

SPLASH PAGE

Now out of the water, JI XI walks towards us onto the ice. His power is fully active. He is surrounded by the destructive smoke, hidden in a large dark cloud so that we only see his glowing tattoos through the smoke.

The smoke around him is taking the shapes of scary looking animals. There are Narwhals, Belugas, Seals, and Bears. He is manifesting the smoke in the shapes of the animals the hunters have been killing in order to scare the bejesus out of them. He is conjuring a nightmarish animal army.

They are all black of course, just like the smoke, but with shiny purple eyes the same color as JI XI's glowing tattoos. They are all part of the same large death cloud, all connected.

JI XI CAPTION

...and that's exactly what I'm going to do.

PAGE 19 (4 PANELS)

PANEL 1

JI XI is walking on the ice and towards the village. He is totally Zen. The black smoke is flowing around him like a river of nightmares and incapacitating the hunters on snowmobiles, including HUNTER 3.

A black smoke narwhal is impaling HUNTER 3's snowmobile, destroying it and scaring him. Belugas are ramming into snowmobiles, pushing them on their side as the hunters freak out. Seals are jumping out of the "black river" and biting a hunter's face. Other hunters are simply running away in a panic, scared to death.

JI XI CAPTION

I am no longer afraid. For the first time...

HUNTER 3

What the hell???

HUNTERS SFX (USE AS NEEDED)

AAargh!

(cont)

Help!

(cont)

Raagh!

JI XI CAPTION

...I am in TOTAL control.

PANEL 2

Watching from a distance and behind cover, AGLOOLIK and PUTYUK rejoice that JI XI is back.

AGLOOLIK

He's doing it, Putyuk. He's scaring them away!

JI XI CAPTION

And it feels great.

(MORE)

PANEL 3

On the deck of the BIG BOAT, the captain is watching the action with his binoculars, still wearing the polar bear fur as a coat. JI XI is hiding behind with AGLOOLIK. They are cloaked inside the smoke cloud, about to play a trick on the Captain.

CAPTAIN
What the heck is this?

PANEL 4

Closer on the CAPTAIN as he drops his binoculars, mouth wide opened, he cannot believe what he is seeing right in front of him. There is a large shadow on his face and body.

CAPTAIN
Oh god...no...no

PAGE 20 (5 PANELS)

PANEL 1

From the CAPTAIN's POV, a big black smoke polar bear is looking right at him with purple eyes. It is standing on its hind feet. JI XI voices the bear and tries to sound scary.

JI XI (OFF)
I came for you, Captain.

PANEL 2

On JI XI and AGLOOLIK. We are with them, hiding inside the black cloud that dissimulates them. AGLOOLIK is putting her hand on her mouth so as not to laugh. JI XI is putting his hands around his mouth trying to sound scary as he voices the bear.

JI XI
It's time for my revenge.

PANEL 3

The CAPTAIN kneels in front of the bear, begging. He is offering his polar bear coat to the bear.

CAPTAIN
I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. NEVER! Never again. Here, take it. Take it back!

PANEL 4

Closer on the bear as it stares at the CAPTAIN. The bear is about to strike with his paw.

JI XI (OFF)
It's too late.

(MORE)

PANEL 5

The CAPTAIN gets smacked by the bear and is knocked down. In the background, AGLOOLIK is laughing in the shadows.

SFX

SMACK!

AGLOOLIK

Bwahaha!

PAGE 21 (1 PANEL)

SPLASH PAGE!

JI XI is walking away from the BIG BOAT which is sinking in the background.

The BIG BOAT is being crushed by a black smoke Humpback whale. The whale is breaching and landing with its back first onto the BIG BOAT, crushing it. Hunters, including the CAPTAIN, are running and swimming away from the boat.

It is just like the action movie cliché image of the hero calmly walking away and there is a big explosion behind him. You know the one. Except here, it's with a whale! Because we are environmentally conscious like that.

JI XI CAPTION

The explosion inside of me, the one I
always have to contain?

(cont)

It feels good to let it all out...

PAGE 22 (6 PANELS)

PANEL 1

On JI XI. He is meditating in the middle of the village, his hands together as if praying. He is concentrating much like he did underwater. The smoke is coming back towards him, encircling him. His tattoos are still glowing.

JI XI CAPTION

...even though it was just for a little while.

PANEL 2

Close on JI XI's mouth as he inhales the black smoke back inside of him.

JI XI CAPTION

I must rein it back in before it spreads too far.

PANEL 3

PUTYUK jumps on JI XI and hugs him. His power is turned off. She is grateful and relieved that he is safe.

PUTYUK

That was incredible. You did it. You scared them off...and then some.

(MORE)

PANEL 4

AGLOOLIK pulls on JI XI's arm with excitement while PUTYUK examines his wounds on his back.

AGLOOLIK

I told you he was magic!

(cont)

We got plenty of food that the hunters left behind. You gotta stay for diner. I'm cooking.

PUTYUK

First, we have so stop by the clinic and bandage your wounds.

PANEL 5

Surrounded by PUTYUK and AGLOOLIK, JI XI actually cracks a smile.

AGLOOLIK

So what do you say?

JI XI

Alright, I'm staying. But only for diner.

(MORE)

PANEL 6

JI XI is walking through the village with PUTYUK and AGLOOLIK. PUTYUK is helping him walk by holding him up by the arm and AGLOOLIK is holding his hand on the other side.

The villagers are cleaning up and repairing the damage from the hunters.

AGLOOLIK

Oh yeah, that's right, you have your ugly igloo to go back to, right?

PUTYUK

We can both help you fix it tomorrow if you'd like?

JI XI

I think I'd like that.

JI XI CAPTION

Thanks to Putyuk and Agloolik, I learned how to accept my destiny and harness the power of the Artifact.

(cont)

I am no longer scared.

(THE END)