

A PREVIEW FROM THE "EARTH DEFENDERS" GRAPHIC NOVELLA

PATROLLERS of the PREY LANG



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PATROLLERS of the PREY LANG

KAMPONG THOM,
CAMBODIA

THE PREY LANG FOREST. A LAST BASTION OF BIODIVERSITY AND HOME OF THE INDIGENOUS KUY PEOPLE.

ILLEGAL LOGGING THREATENS THE FOREST AND THE KUY.

HEY! LET'S GO
...BEFORE WE'RE
CAUGHT!

NOT UNTIL
OUR COWTRUCK
IS FULL.

THE'LL PAY US
FOR EVERY TREE
WE HAUL IN.

BUT I'VE HEARD
THE *NEAK TA SPIRITS
ARE ANGRY WITH TREE
CUTTERS AND WON'T
PROTECT US.

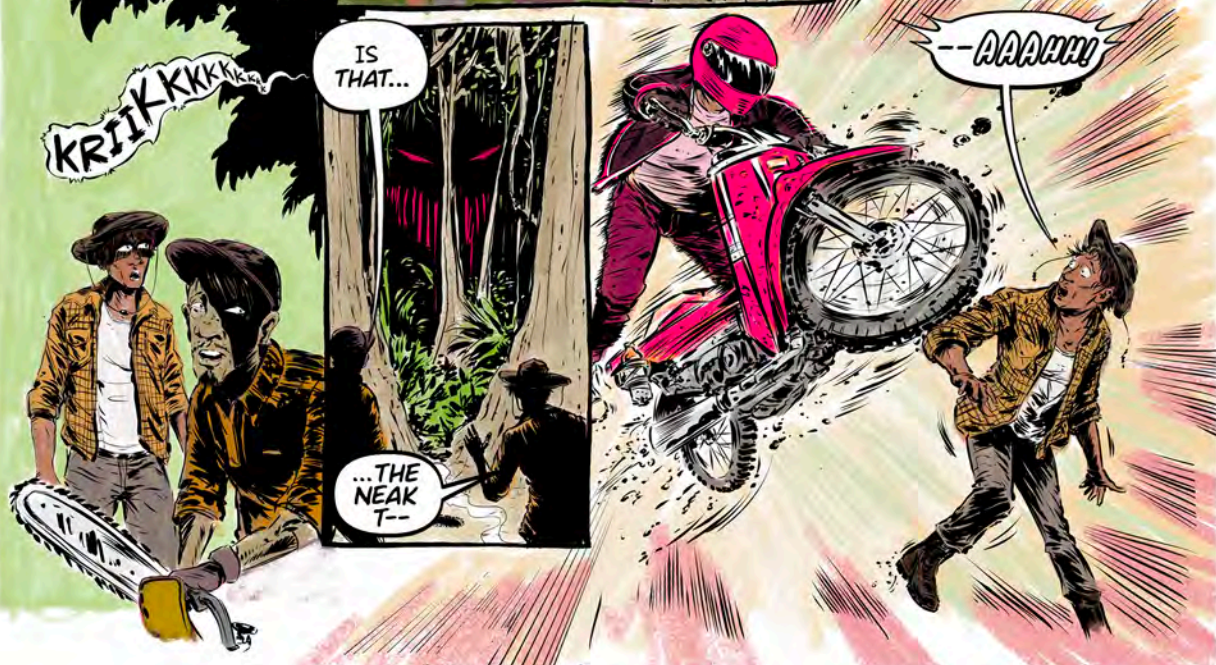
A FOREST SPIRIT BELIEVED TO WATCH OVER PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS, AS LONG AS THEY ARE PAID PROPER RESPECT.

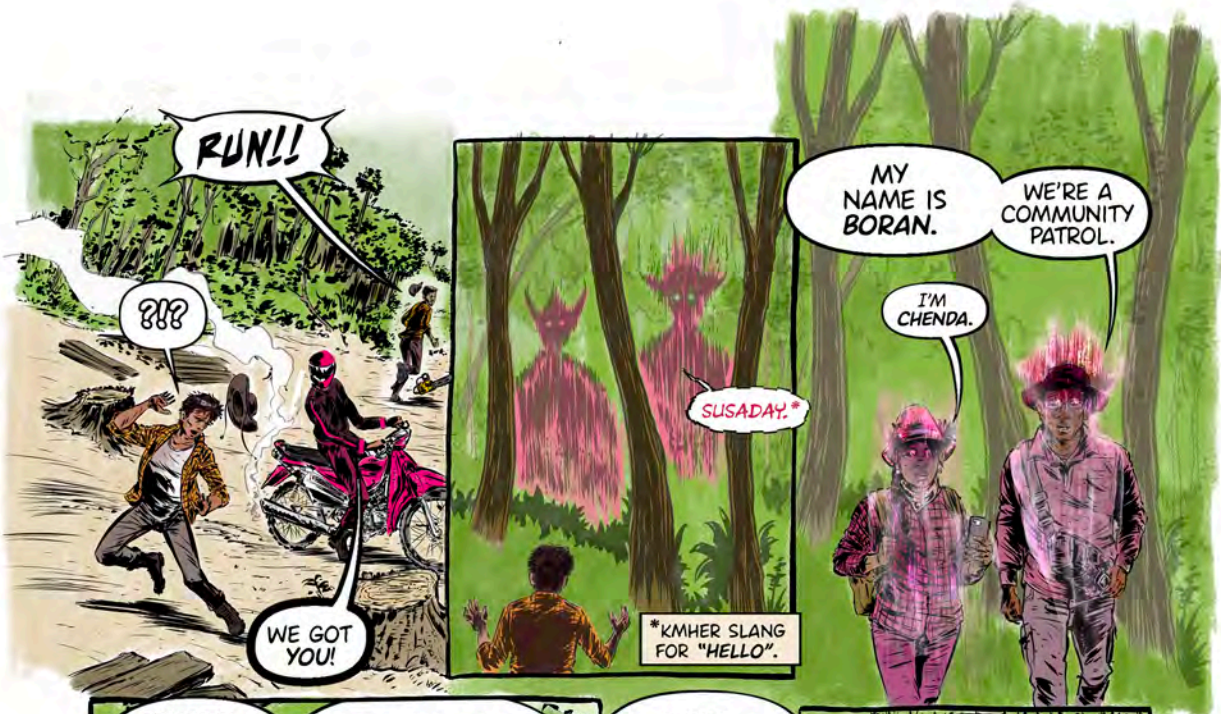
KRIK KKKK

IS THAT...

...THE
NEAK
T--

AAAH





RUN!!

???

WE GOT YOU!



SUSADAY.*

*KMHER SLANG FOR "HELLO".

MY NAME IS **BORAN.**

WE'RE A **COMMUNITY PATROL.**

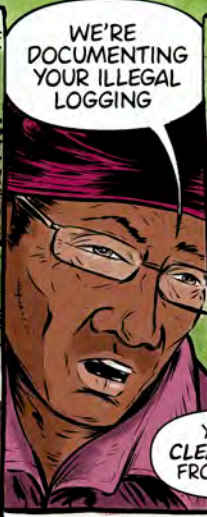
I'M **CHENDA.**



I'M **RITH,** WE'VE BEEN TRACKING YOU FOR WEEKS.

THE ONLY PEOPLE PROTECTING THE **PREY LANG,** ARE US. ITS RESIDENTS.

CLICK!



WE'RE DOCUMENTING YOUR **ILLEGAL LOGGING**



WHO ARE YOU WORKING FOR? **ANKOR PLYWOOD?**

GREEN TECH?

YOU'RE CLEARLY NOT FROM HERE.



WE'RE TAGGING AND RECORDING THIS **STOLEN LUMBER.**

IT WILL BE **BURNED.**

NO!!

THOSE LOGS ARE MINE!



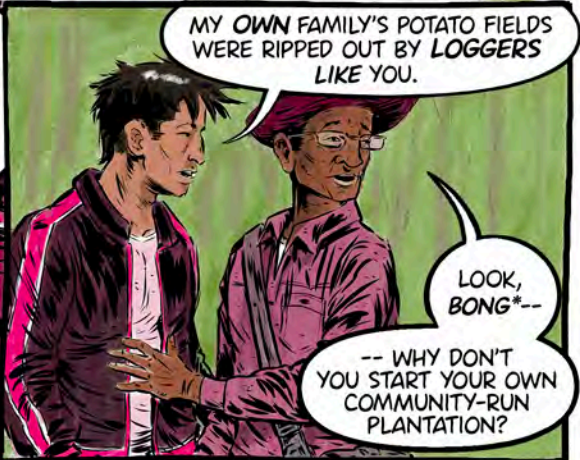
YOURS?!

CHENDA'S FAMILY WERE RESIN HARVESTERS FOR CENTURIES.

UNTIL YOU **LOGGERS** CUT DOWN OUR LIFEblood. NOW, WE'VE NOTHING.



TELL THAT
TO THE FOREST
AND ALL THOSE
WHOSE LIVES
HAVE BEEN
RUINED BY
ILLEGAL
LOGGING!

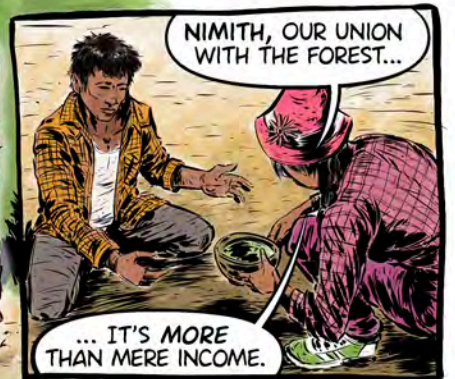
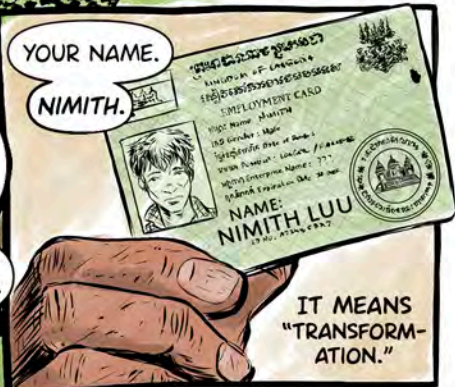


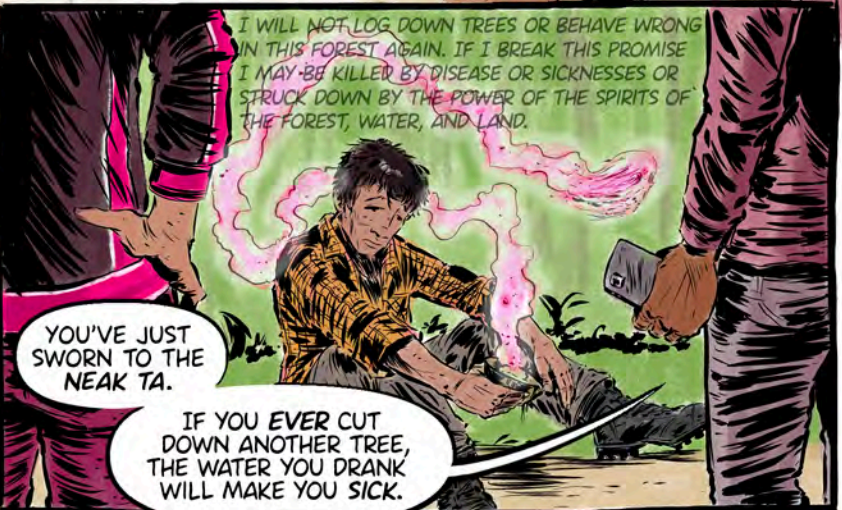
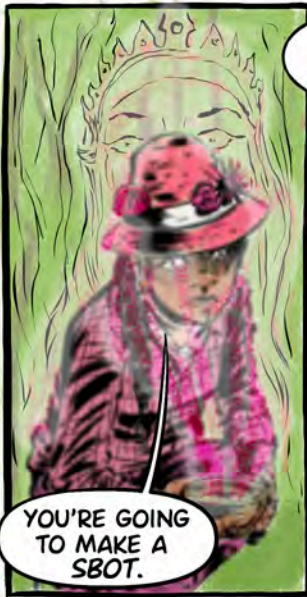
*COMMON SLANG TERM MEANING "BROTHER"



DON'T
YOU SEE?
WHEN OUR
FOREST IS CUT
DOWN, IT'S GONE! THE
COMPANY WILL MOVE
ON TO THE NEXT
FOREST.

LEAVING
YOU BEHIND.







OR WHAT?!

YOU'LL HURT ME?

YOU LOGGERS ARE THE ONES USING VIOLENCE...

...KILLING OUR LEADERS!

ATTACKING OUR PEOPLE WITH MACHETES WHILE SLEEPING!

DTOUW NGOAB DTUW!*

NIMITH...

...WE'VE SENT THESE COORDINATES TO OUR TEAM.

THEY'LL BE CONFISCATING EVERYTHING.

*KHMER PUTDOWN: "GO TO DIE!"

MAYBE EVEN YOUR SHOES!



WE WILL DO WHAT IT TAKES TO DEFEND THE PREY LANG FOREST.

OR...

WE CAN LEAVE YOU HERE TO YOUR FATE WITH THE NEAK TA...

...SIGN IT AND WE'LL ESCORT YOU BACK TO SAFETY.

-THIS IS-

-OUR FOREST TOO.



COMMUNITY FOREST PATROLS PROTECT THE PREY LANG FROM ILLEGAL LOGGING. THESE FOREST DEFENDERS SUFFER VIOLENCE FROM ILLEGAL LOGGERS AND THEIR ALLIES.

BETWEEN 2001 AND 2020, CAMBODIA LOST 2.5 MILLION HECTARES OF PROTECTED FOREST TO ILLEGAL LOGGING.

IN 2020, CAMBODIA BANNED THE PREY LANG FOREST PATROLS AND SINCE THEN, DESTRUCTION & DEFORESTATION RATES HAVE SKYROCKETED.

WITHOUT THE FOREST PROTECTORS, THE PREY LANG WILL BE GONE.

EARTH DEFENDERS

THE UNTOLD STORIES OF ACTIVISTS
AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

SIX ORIGINAL STORIES THAT SHINE A
SPOTLIGHT ON ENVIRONMENTAL
DEFENDERS, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND THE
URGENT NEED TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS
IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT.

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