

MATHRAFAL,  
KINGDOM OF POWYS,  
1066 A.P.



KING BLEDDYN AP CNYFYN! WILLIAM THE BASTARD  
HAS INVAD~~E~~D THE KINGDOM OF ENGLAND



YOUR ALLY, HAROLD  
GODWINSON, IS DEAR

"THE NORMANS HAVE CONTINUED NORTH,  
CONSOLIDATING POWER AS THEY GO.



"MOST RECENTLY, THEY HAVE  
SEIZED THE LANDS OF MYSELF  
AND THE OTHER MERCIAN LORDS."



I WISH TO PROPOSE AN ALLIANCE.

I HAVE RAISED MY LEVIES,  
AND WILL JOIN FORCES WITH  
YOU TO PUSH BACK THESE INVADERS!



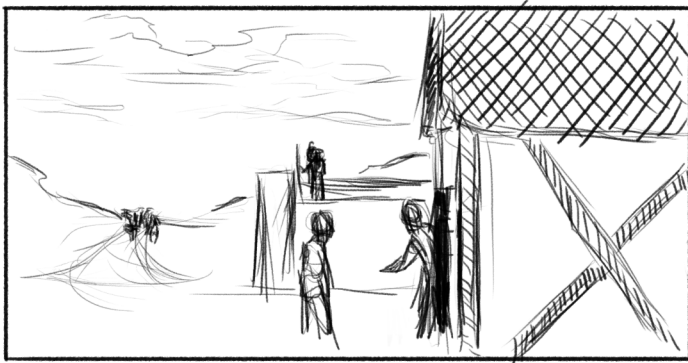
YOUR ALLIANCE IS WELCOME.  
WE WERE MOST CONCERNED  
TO HEAR OF THE INVASION.

MY BROTHER, THE KING OF  
GWENEUDD, IS ON HIS WAY HERE  
ALREADY WITH HIS OWN FORCES.

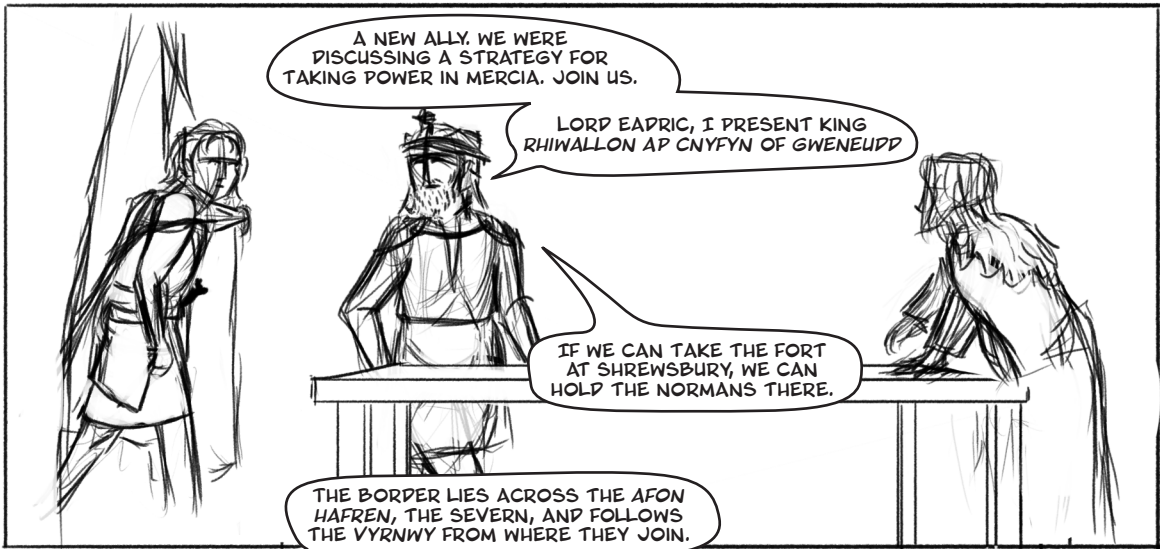
SWEAR LOYALTY TO THE  
HOUSE OF MATHRAFAL AND WE  
WILL SEE YOUR POWER RESTORED.

I, EADRIC OF MERCIA, WILL  
FIGHT UNDER YOUR BANNER.





GREETINGS BROTHER, WHOSE ENCAMPMENT IS THAT?

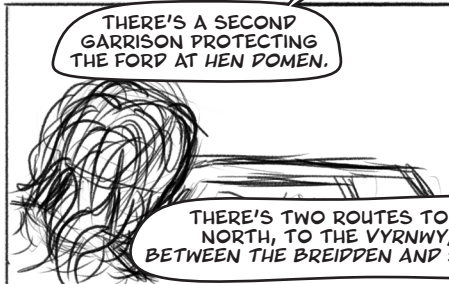


A NEW ALLY. WE WERE DISCUSSING A STRATEGY FOR TAKING POWER IN MERCA. JOIN US.

LORD EADRIC, I PRESENT KING RHIWALLON AP CNYFYN OF GWENEUDD

IF WE CAN TAKE THE FORT AT SHREWSBURY, WE CAN HOLD THE NORMANS THERE.

THE BORDER LIES ACROSS THE AFON HAFREN, THE SEVERN, AND FOLLOWS THE VYRNWY FROM WHERE THEY JOIN.



THERE'S A SECOND GARRISON PROTECTING THE FORD AT HEN POMEN.

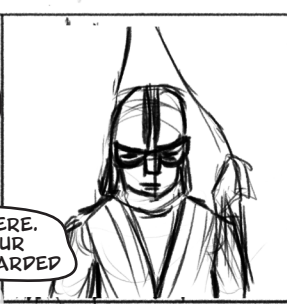


THERE'S TWO ROUTES TO SHREWSBURY: NORTH, TO THE VYRNWY; AND SOUTH, BETWEEN THE BREIPPEN AND SIPERSTONE HILLS.

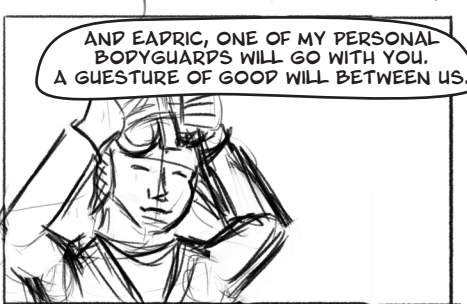
EADRIC, TAKE THE NORTH ROUTE AND ATTACK SHREWSBURY DIRECTLY.



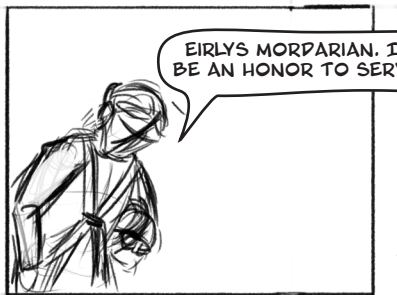
I WILL BESIEGE HEN POMEN. WE CAN KEEP THE GARRISONS FROM RENFORCING EACH OTHER, AND HOLD BOTH PASSES INTO MERCA.



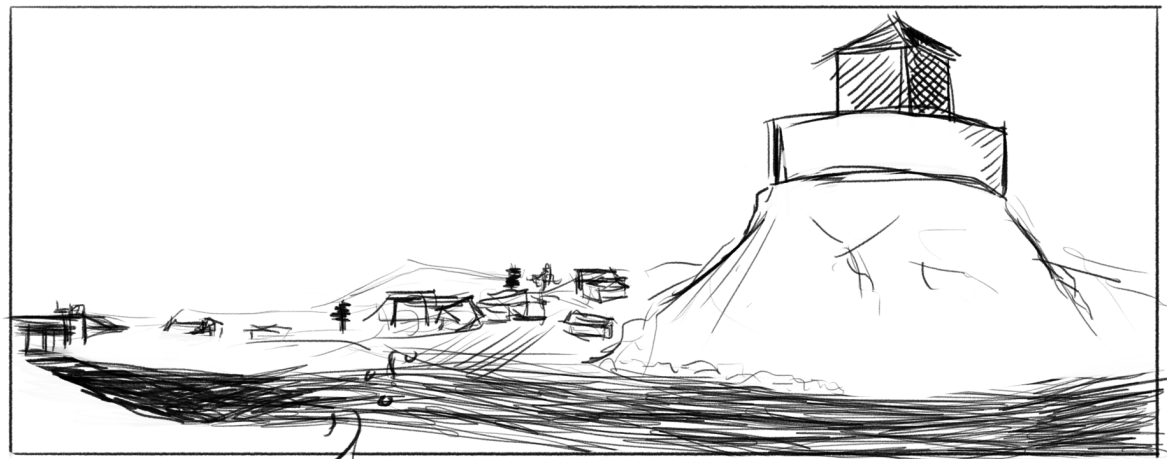
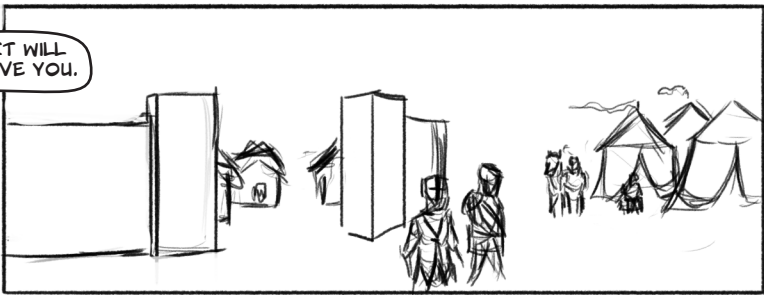
RHIWALLON, STAY HERE. WE CAN'T LEAVE OUR OWN KINGDOMS UNGUARDED



AND EADRIC, ONE OF MY PERSONAL BODYGUARDS WILL GO WITH YOU. A GUESTURE OF GOOD WILL BETWEEN US.



EIRLYS MORPARIAN. IT WILL BE AN HONOR TO SERVE YOU.

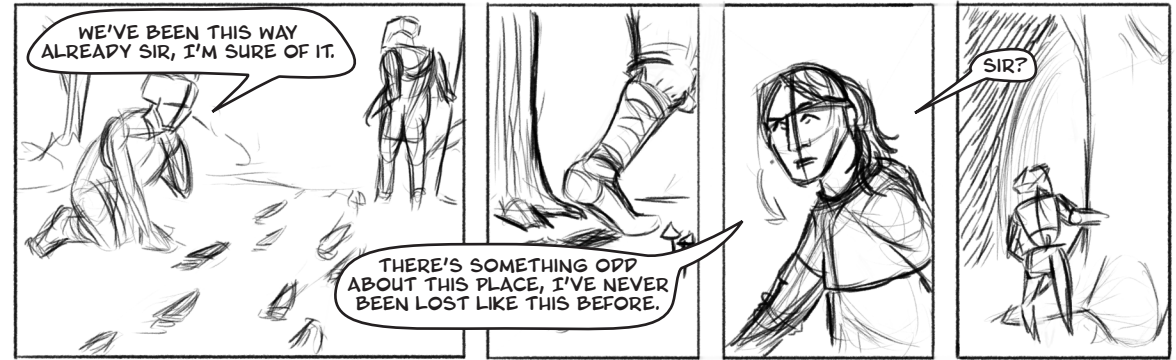
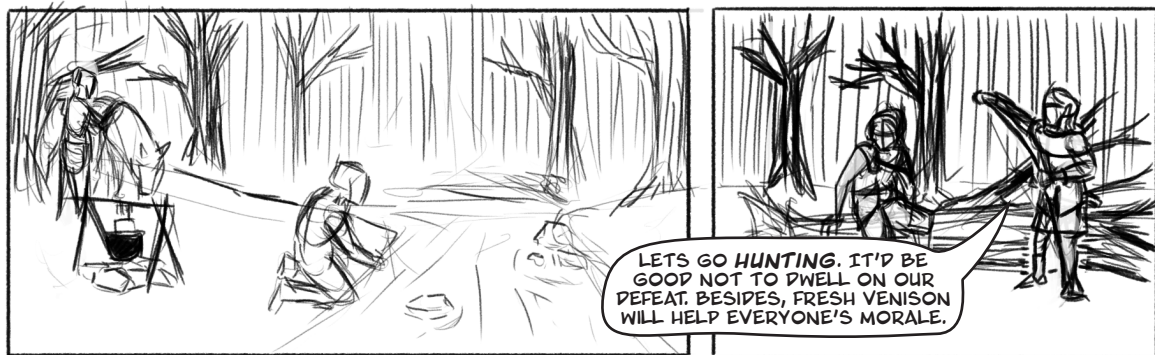


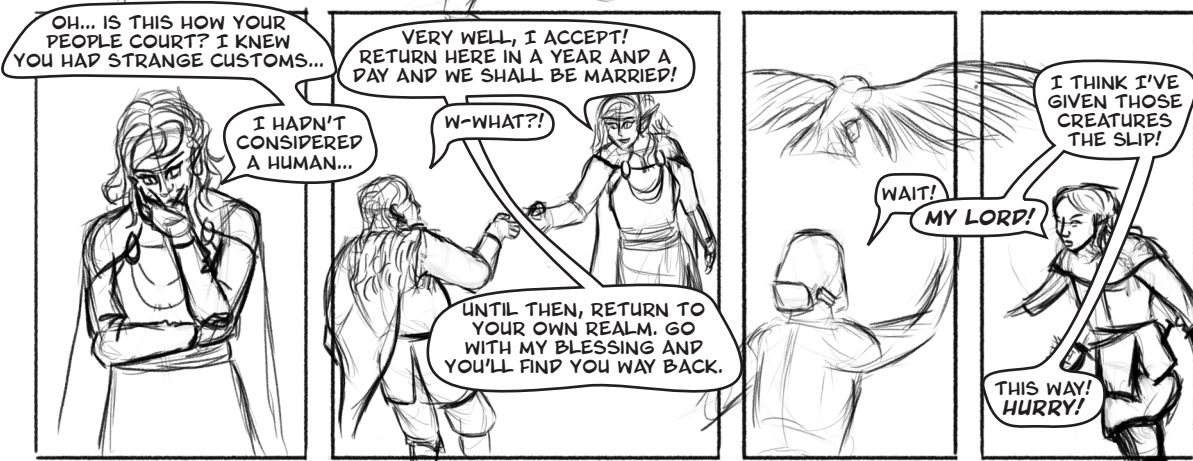
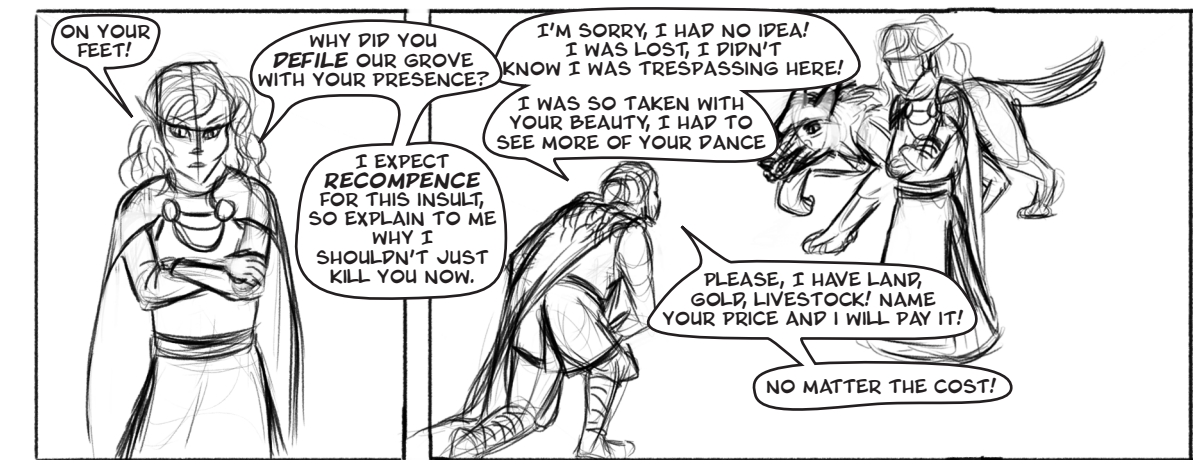
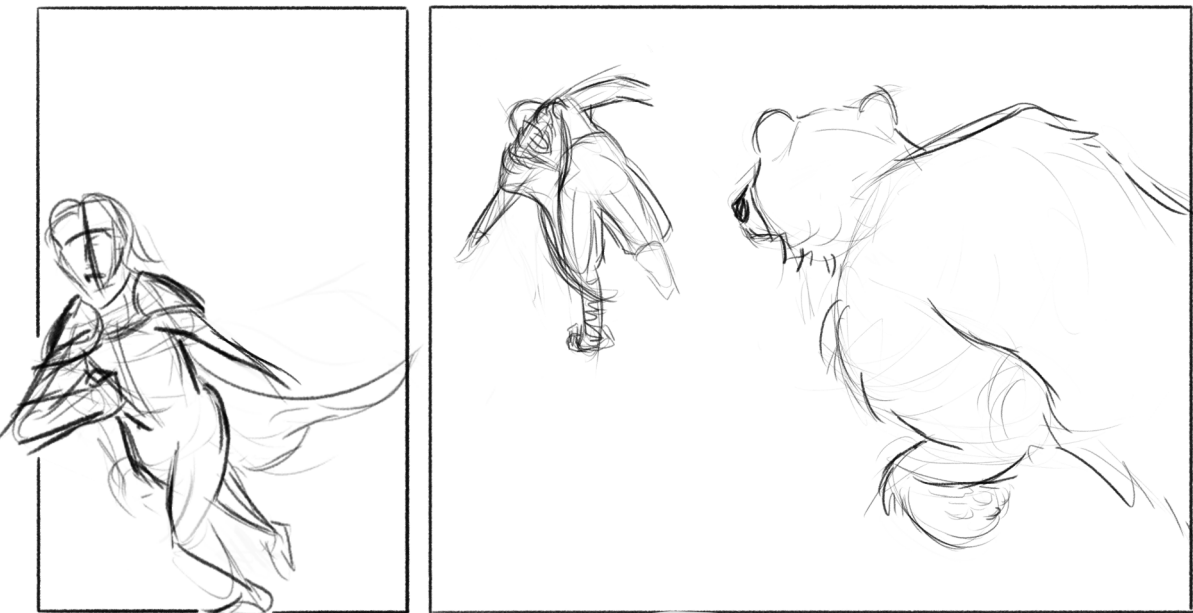
THE CASTLE ISN'T GOING TO FALL! WE HAVE TO RETREAT!



WE'LL GO SOUTH! WE CAN STILL RENFORCE BLEDDYN'S SEIGE AT HEN POMEN!







ON YOUR FEET!

WHY DID YOU **DEFILE** OUR GROVE WITH YOUR PRESENCE?

I'M SORRY, I HAD NO IDEA! I WAS LOST, I DIDN'T KNOW I WAS TRESPASSING HERE!

I WAS SO TAKEN WITH YOUR BEAUTY, I HAD TO SEE MORE OF YOUR DANCE

I EXPECT **RECOMPENCE** FOR THIS INSULT, SO EXPLAIN TO ME WHY I SHOULDN'T JUST KILL YOU NOW.

PLEASE, I HAVE LAND, GOLD, LIVESTOCK! NAME YOUR PRICE AND I WILL PAY IT!

NO MATTER THE COST!

OH... IS THIS HOW YOUR PEOPLE COURT? I KNEW YOU HAD STRANGE CUSTOMS...

VERY WELL, I ACCEPT! RETURN HERE IN A YEAR AND A DAY AND WE SHALL BE MARRIED!

I HADN'T CONSIDERED A HUMAN...

W-WHAT?!

UNTIL THEN, RETURN TO YOUR OWN REALM. GO WITH MY BLESSING AND YOU'LL FIND YOUR WAY BACK.

I THINK I'VE GIVEN THOSE CREATURES THE SLIP!

WAIT! MY LORD!

THIS WAY! HURRY!



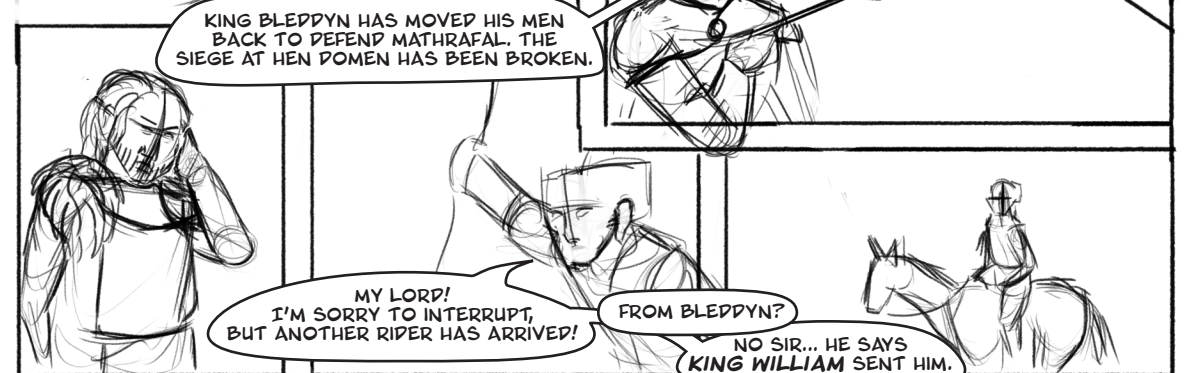
THERE YOU ARE! I WAS STARTING TO WORRY THAT YOU'D LOST YOUR WAY.

WE'VE HAD A MESSENGER FROM THE WEST... I THINK IT'S BEST YOU HEAR HIM YOURSELF



THERE WAS AN UPRISING IN MECHAIN. TWO LORDS THERE WITH CLAIMS TO THE THRONE.

WE MANAGED TO DEFEAT THEM BUT KING RHIWALLON FELL IN THE BATTLE.



KING BLEPPDYN HAS MOVED HIS MEN BACK TO DEFEND MATHRAFAL. THE SIEGE AT HEN DOMEN HAS BEEN BROKEN.

MY LORD! I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT ANOTHER RIDER HAS ARRIVED!

FROM BLEPPDYN?

NO SIR... HE SAYS KING WILLIAM SENT HIM.

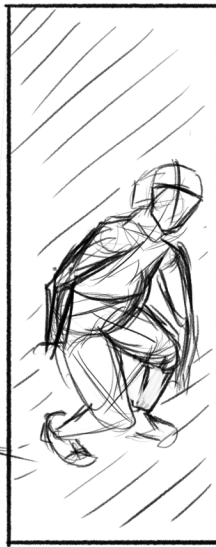
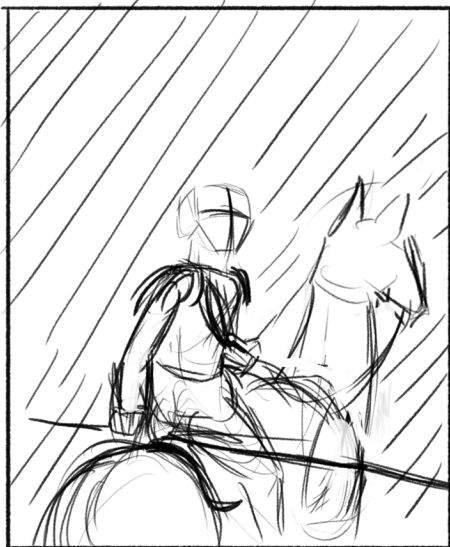
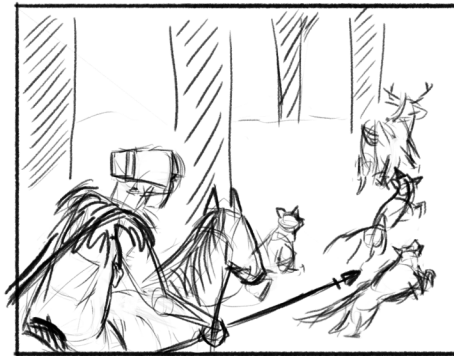


HIS MAJESTY, WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR, WISHES TO NEGOTIATE YOUR SURRENDER.

HE IS WILLING TO RETURN THE ESTATE THAT WAS SEIZED FROM YOU, ON THE CONDITION THAT YOU CEASE FIGHTING IMMEDIATELY, SWEAR FEALTY TO THE CROWN, AND ASSIST THE KING IN HIS CAMPAIGN TO SECURE THE NORTH.

I ACCEPT. TELL THE KING I AM WILLING TO DISCUSS THE TERMS IN DETAIL.

MANY YEARS LATER...



WHAT IS THIS PLACE?



THIS, LORD EADRIC, IS MY COURT.

I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T REMEMBER, YOU PASSED BY HERE LONG AGO.

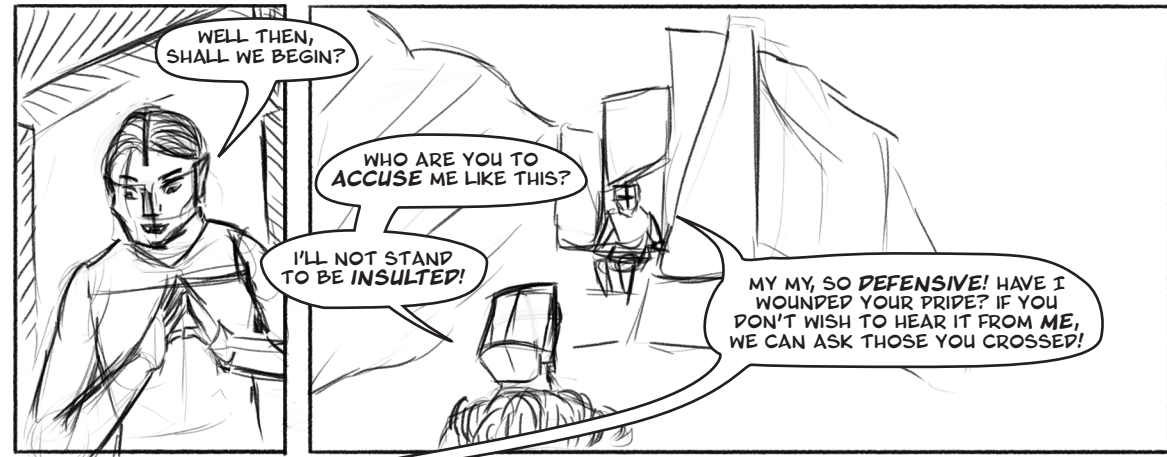


WHO ARE YOU?

I THINK YOU KNOW WHO I AM. AFTER ALL, I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. EADRIC SILVATICUS. EADRIC OF MERICA. EADRIC THE WILP..



...EADRIC THE TRAITOR

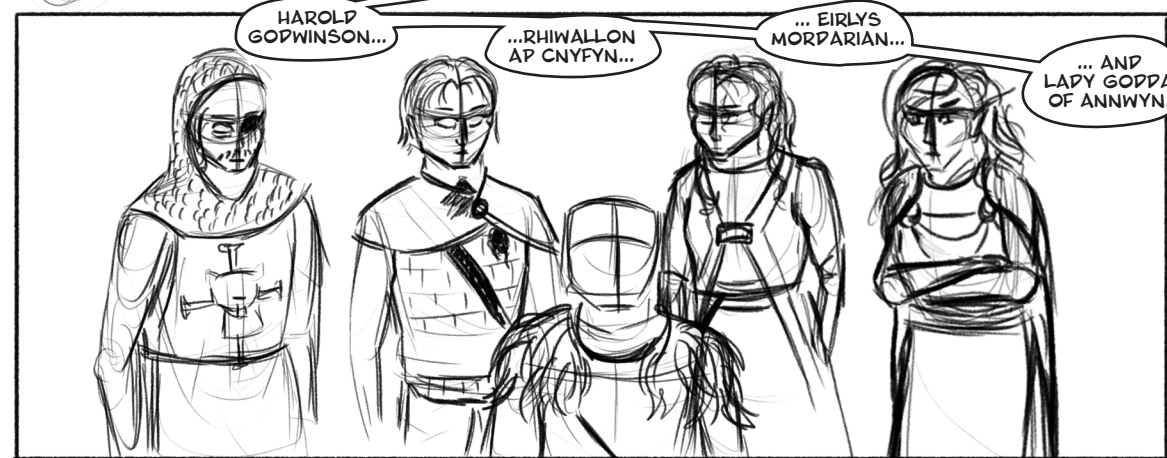


WELL THEN, SHALL WE BEGIN?

WHO ARE YOU TO ACCUSE ME LIKE THIS?

I'LL NOT STAND TO BE INSULTED!

MY MY, SO DEFENSIVE! HAVE I WOUNDED YOUR PRIDE? IF YOU DON'T WISH TO HEAR IT FROM ME, WE CAN ASK THOSE YOU CROSSED!



HAROLD GODWINSON...

...RHIWALLON AP CNYFYN...

... EIRLYS MORPARIAN...

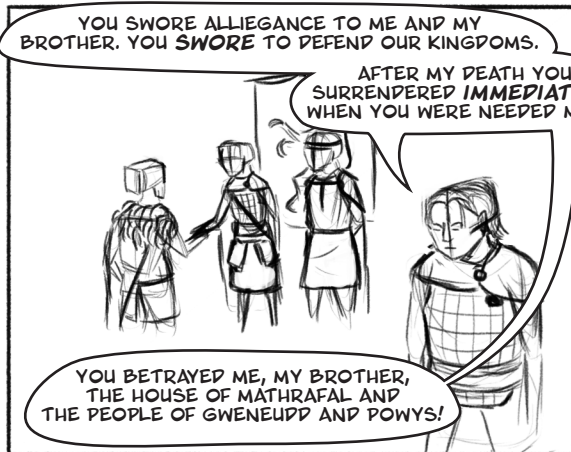
... AND LADY GODDA OF ANNWYN.



IT BENEFITED YOU TO CLAIM A CAUSE BEYOND THE LOSS OF YOUR LAND.

AFTER I DIED AT HASTINGS, YOU SPOKE OF CONTINUING THE FIGHT IN MY NAME...

AS SOON AS IT WAS PROFITABLE, YOU JOINED THE USERPER WHO KILLED ME.



YOU SWORE ALLEGIANCE TO ME AND MY BROTHER. YOU SWORE TO DEFEND OUR KINGDOMS.

AFTER MY DEATH YOU SURRENDERED IMMEDIATELY. WHEN YOU WERE NEEDED MOST.

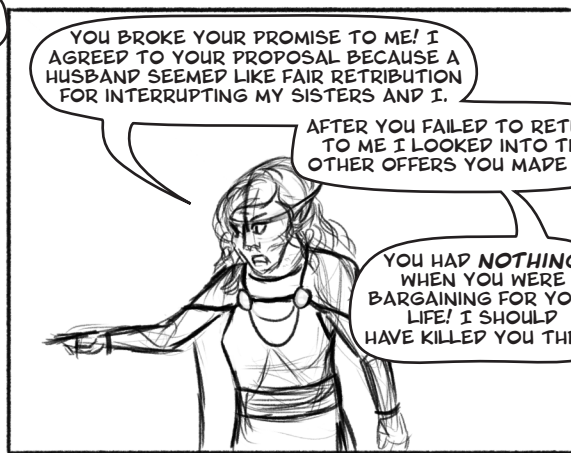
YOU BETRAYED ME, MY BROTHER, THE HOUSE OF MATHRAFAL AND THE PEOPLE OF GWENEUDD AND POWYS!



YOU FORCED ME TO BREAK MY OATH TO SERVE YOU. I COULDN'T STAY AFTER YOU TURNED AGAINST MY KING.

TO RETURN I HAD TO CROSS THE SEVERN ALONE AND AT NIGHT TO AVOID THE SENTRIES.

I DROWNED THERE. A TRAITOR LIKE YOU. LEFT TO DIE BECAUSE OF YOUR DISHONOUR.



YOU BROKE YOUR PROMISE TO ME! I AGREED TO YOUR PROPOSAL BECAUSE A HUSBAND SEEMED LIKE FAIR RETRIBUTION FOR INTERRUPTING MY SISTERS AND I.

AFTER YOU FAILED TO RETURN TO ME I LOOKED INTO THE OTHER OFFERS YOU MADE ME.

YOU HAD NOTHING WHEN YOU WERE BARGAINING FOR YOUR LIFE! I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU THEN!

