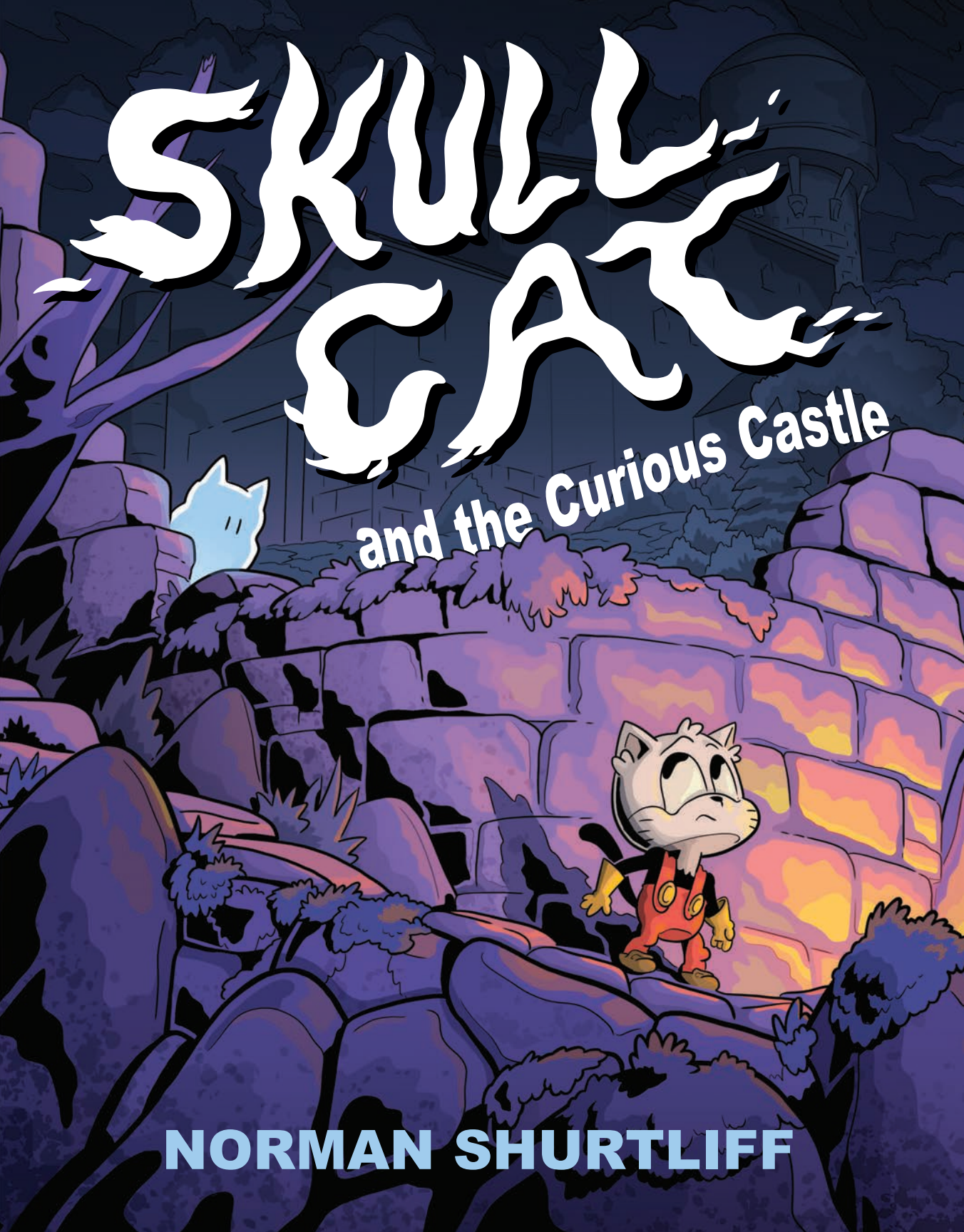
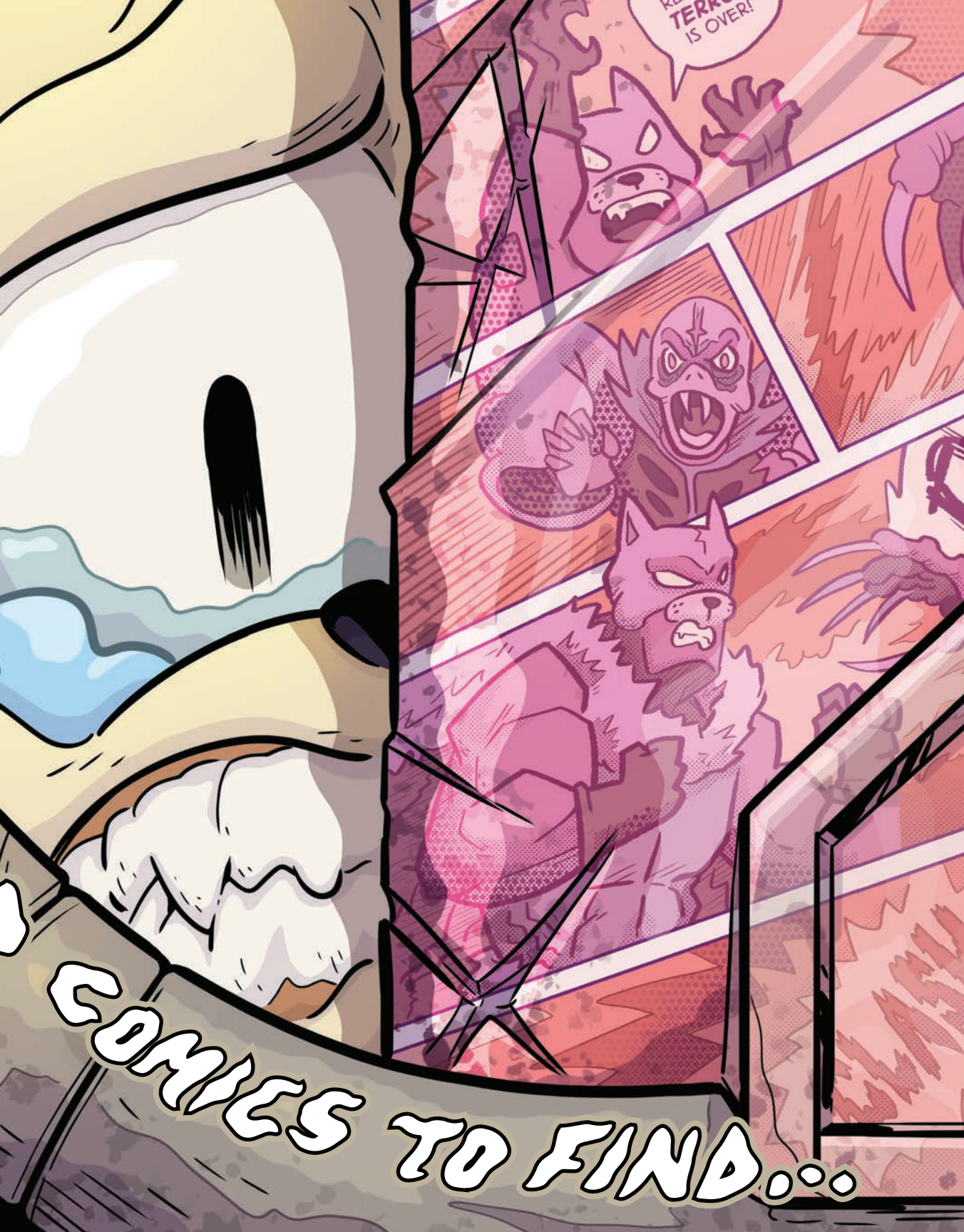


SKULL CAT

and the Curious Castle

NORMAN SHURTLIFF





THE TERROR IS OVER!

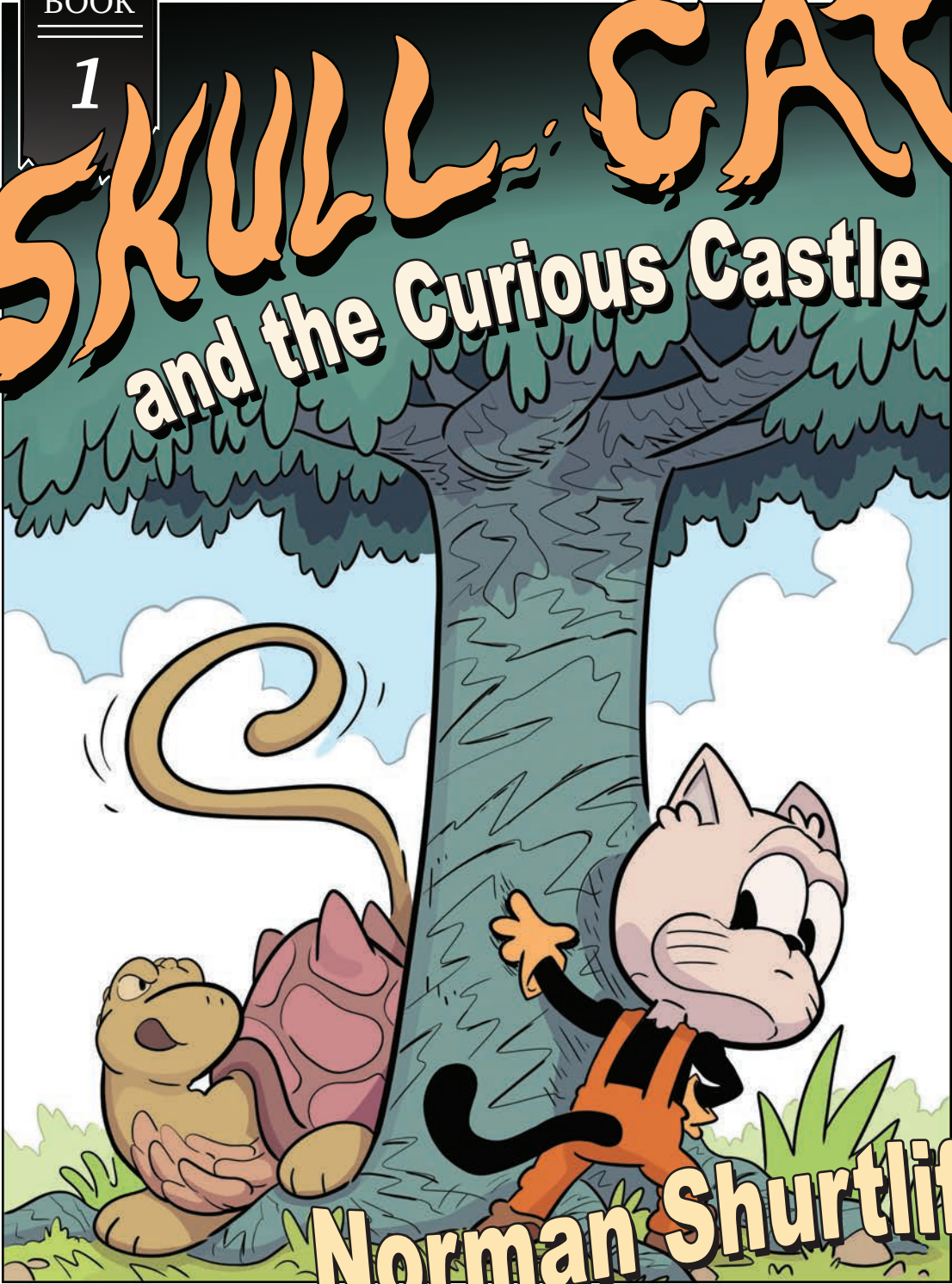
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BOOK

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SKULL CAT

and the Curious Castle



Norman Shurtliff



NORMAN SHURTLIFF
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DEDICATED TO MY CHILDREN, WHO LIKE SPOOKY
STORIES BUT NOT GETTING **TOO** SCARED.

THIS BOOK WAS YEARS IN THE MAKING, AND THROUGHOUT THAT TIME MANY PEOPLE OFFERED SUPPORT, ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVICE. **THANK YOU, EVERYONE!** A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MELANIE NICHOLS, WHOSE CRITIQUE BROUGHT ALL THE RIGHT CHANGES. TO MY WIFE, KICK, WHO KEPT OUR FAMILY FED AND ME MOTIVATED DURING THIS BOOK'S PRODUCTION. AND TO YOU, DEAR READER: YOUR INTEREST IN MY WORK MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE TO ME. THANK YOU!

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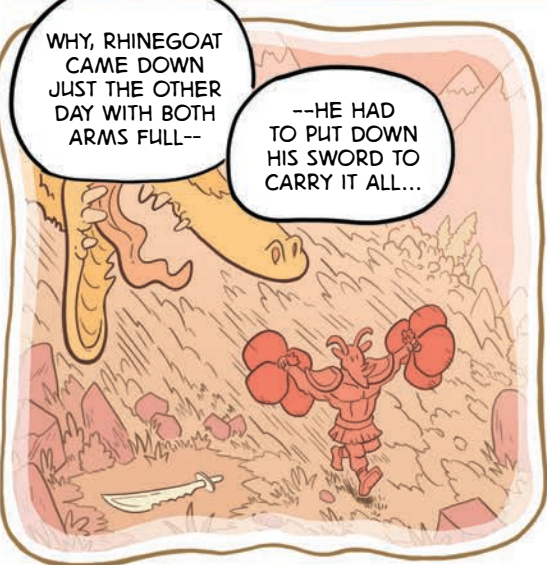
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THERE'S PLENTY OF GOLD IN THOSE MOUNTAINS.

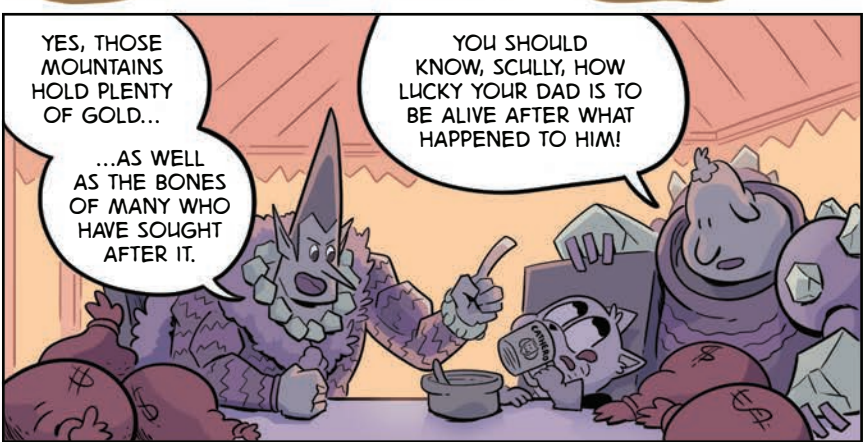


WHY, RHINEGOAT CAME DOWN JUST THE OTHER DAY WITH BOTH ARMS FULL--

--HE HAD TO PUT DOWN HIS SWORD TO CARRY IT ALL...



...AND THAT'S WHEN THE SCAR-RINKS GOT 'EM.



YES, THOSE MOUNTAINS HOLD PLENTY OF GOLD...

...AS WELL AS THE BONES OF MANY WHO HAVE SOUGHT AFTER IT.

YOU SHOULD KNOW, SCULLY, HOW LUCKY YOUR DAD IS TO BE ALIVE AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM!



...AND, LIKE EVERY DAY, THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I WON'T BE FOLLOWING YOU UP THE MOUNTAIN.



