

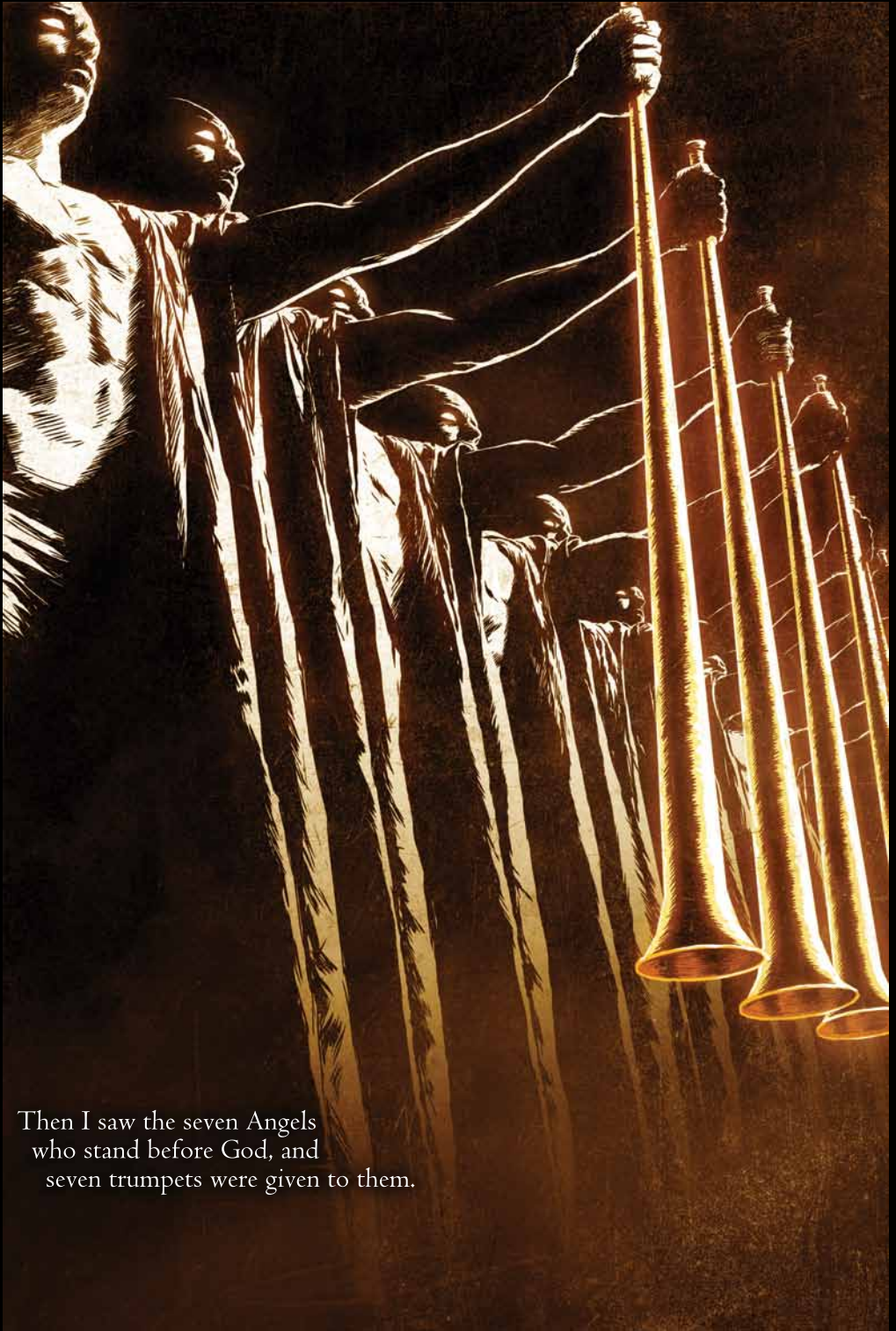


---

# VIII

---

WHEN THE LAMB OPENED THE SEVENTH  
SEAL, THERE WAS SILENCE IN HEAVEN  
FOR HALF AN HOUR.



Then I saw the seven Angels  
who stand before God, and  
seven trumpets were given to them.





Another Angel came,  
and he stood before  
the altar of sacrifice.

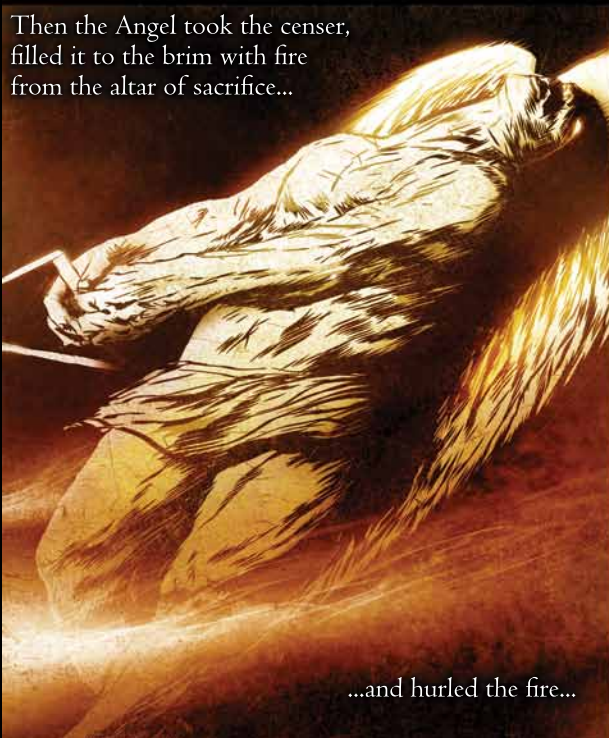
He had a censer  
of pure gold.

He was given a great  
quantity of incense, and  
he began to offer it with  
the prayers of all the  
Saints on the golden  
altar before the throne.

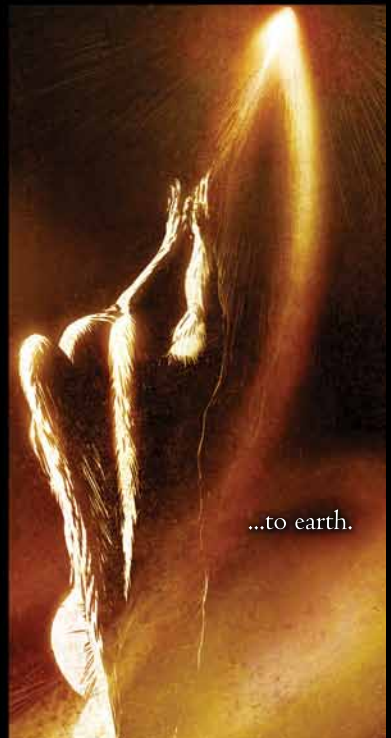


A smoky cloud of incense,  
with the prayers of the Saints,  
ascended from the hand  
of the Angel into the  
presence of God.

Then the Angel took the censer,  
filled it to the brim with fire  
from the altar of sacrifice...



...and hurled the fire...

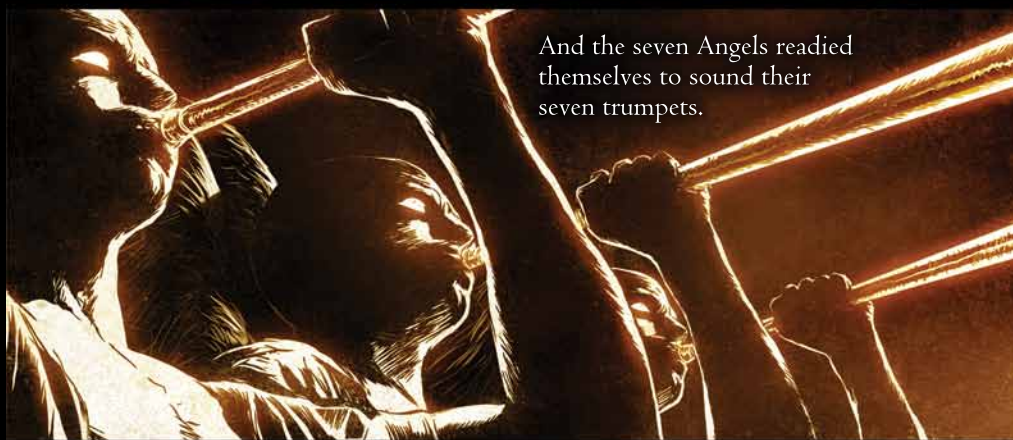


...to earth.

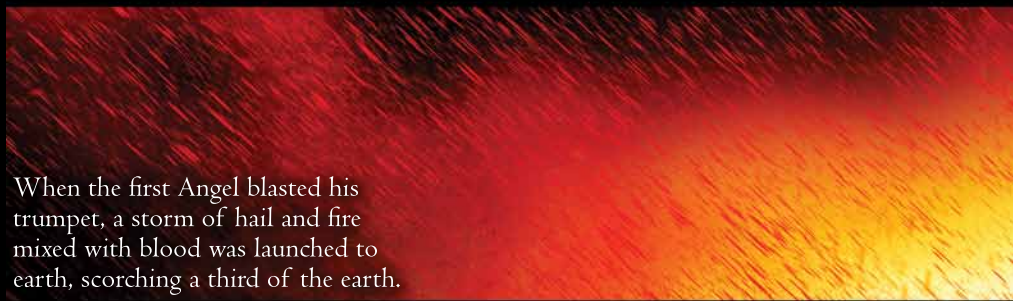
Explosions boomed – a clap of thunder, a flash of lightning, and the quaking of the earth!



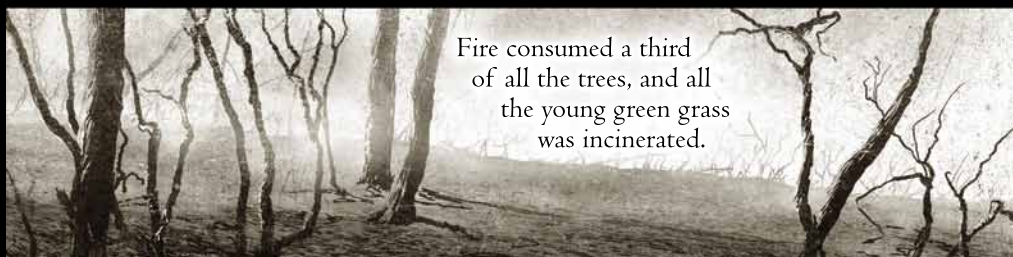
And the seven Angels readied themselves to sound their seven trumpets.



When the first Angel blasted his trumpet, a storm of hail and fire mixed with blood was launched to earth, scorching a third of the earth.



Fire consumed a third of all the trees, and all the young green grass was incinerated.

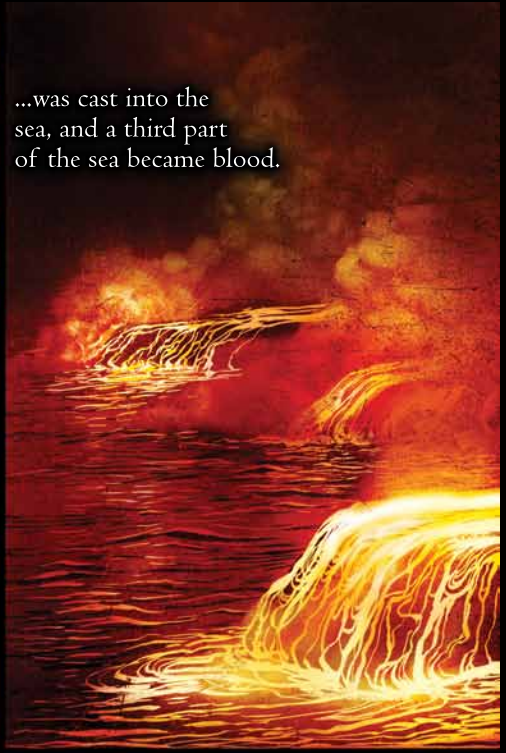




When the second Angel  
sounded his trumpet, a  
towering mountain,  
burning with fire...



...was cast into the  
sea, and a third part  
of the sea became blood.

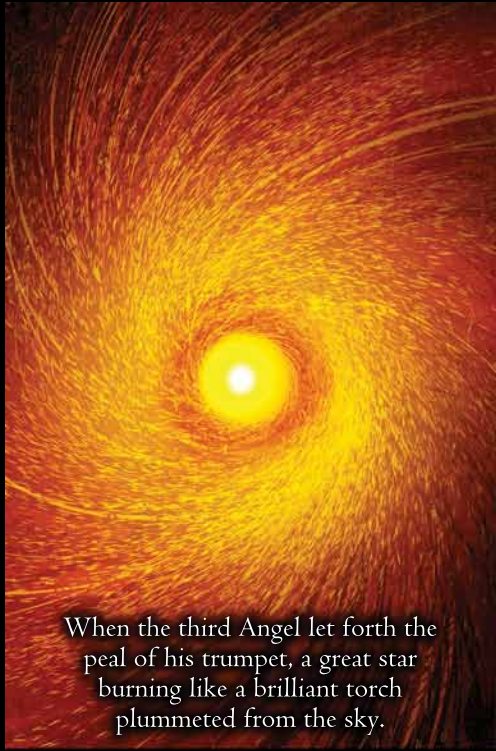


A third of the sea creatures  
(those with the life force) died...



...and a third of all ships  
were utterly destroyed.





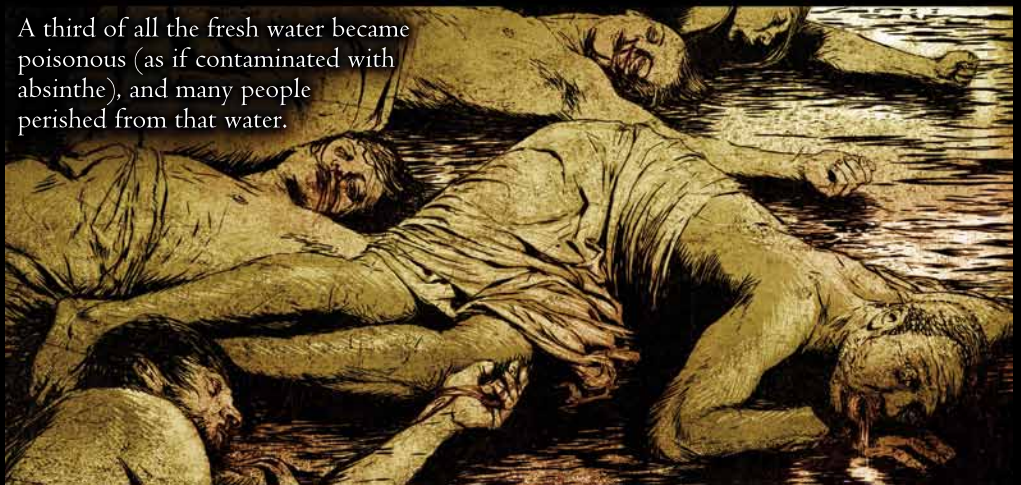
When the third Angel let forth the peal of his trumpet, a great star burning like a brilliant torch plummeted from the sky.



It crashed into a third of the rivers and the sources of all fresh water.



And the name of the star was Absinthe.



A third of all the fresh water became poisonous (as if contaminated with absinthe), and many people perished from that water.

When the fourth Angel's trumpet roared, a third portion of the sun, a third portion of the moon, and a third portion of the stars were blotted out, so that a third of each was overwhelmed by darkness. The day was shortened by a third, and likewise the night was deprived of a third of its lesser lights.



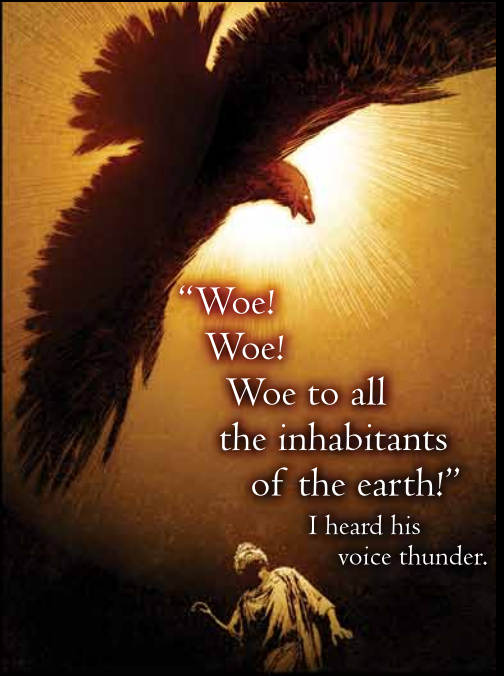


Then I looked: an eagle was flying  
at the summit of Heaven.



“Woe!  
Woe!  
Woe to all  
the inhabitants  
of the earth!”

I heard his  
voice thunder.



“For there are yet  
three trumpets to be  
sounded by three  
Angels to come!”

