



SANCTUARY OF GUARDIANS

LOGLINE

A war-scarred Bosnian orphan returns to his homeland—unleashing a time-fracturing curse; his adoptive sister's choice leaves one reality standing.

CREATED BY

N.D. LELAND

SYNOPSIS

In post-war Bosnia, **Harun**—a Malaysian-raised orphan and his adoptive sister **Marina** awaken an ancient forge where belief fractures time itself. As Harun’s devotion clashes with divine law and **Zayd**—another child of war—seeks redemption through violence, Marina becomes the moral axis between ruin and grace. Spanning Malaysia, the Balkans, and North African diaspora, the trilogy charts how love and belief can rewrite the fabric of reality itself.

GENRE

- Adult Literary Graphic Novel
- Supernatural Realism
- Cross-Cultural Epic Drama
- Mythic Psychological Thriller
- Political Noir

NARRATIVE FORMAT

- **Three-act trilogy** with cinematic pacing
- Manga panel dynamism + Western graphic realism hybrid

SIZE + VISUAL MODE

- Standard **US Comic Size** (6.625" × 10.25")
- Full color

TARGET AUDIENCE

Primary

Adult literary GN readers (20–45); mythic depth + psych realism + cinematic visuals.

Genre Fans

Fans of *Monstress*, *Sandman*, *Persepolis*, *The Goddamned*; tone: *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*.

Spiritual/Philosophical

Faith, mysticism, moral-consequence seekers (Muslim, interfaith, secular-curious).

MARKET POSITIONING

Sanctuary of Guardians reimagines myth for a generation wrestling with faith, identity, and inherited trauma. A cross-cultural epic merging *Persepolis*’ intimacy with *Monstress*’ scope, it speaks to a world **seeking meaning** amid modern spiritual unrest.



STATUS

- Volume 1 complete
- Volumes 2–3 in development · *All rights available (worldwide)*

VOLUME 1

BOOK OF AWAKENINGS

In Kuala Lumpur, Bosnian orphan Harun is haunted by visions of wolves and war. When his adoptive sister Marina investigates forgotten war crimes, they uncover a forge buried beneath Bosnia's ruins—its divine energy bending faith and time. [Awakenings](#) begins where belief turns to threshold, and devotion awakens both sanctuary and curse.

TRILOGY OUTLINE

VOLUME 2

BOOK OF REFLECTIONS

Within the sanctuary, Harun learns that faith reshapes reality. As Marina is drawn into Zayd's descent, time fractures across borders—each prayer birthing another truth. [Reflections](#) burns with consequence, where every mirror reveals a different fate, and not all survive the reflection they choose.

VOLUME 3

BOOK OF TRANSCENDENCE

Now keeper of the forge, Harun must sacrifice one world to save another. Zayd returns as ghost and guide, while Marina decides whether the sanctuary endures or fades into myth. From Alpine peaks to Balkan frost, [Transcendence](#) ends where faith becomes mercy—and the cosmos remakes itself through what remains.

SANCTUARY OF GUARDIANS

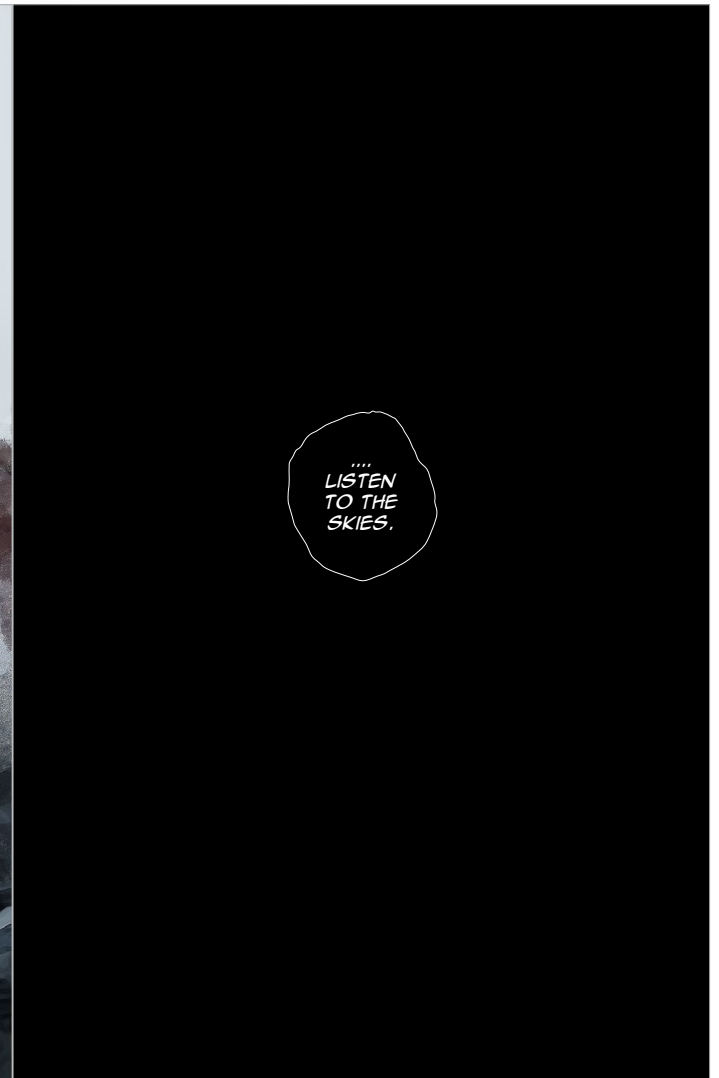
In present-day Malaysia, war-scarred Harun and his adoptive sister Marina are drawn into a Bosnia-rooted conspiracy as Harun's visions—echoes of other iterations—intensify and he's abducted. Rescued by wolves to a hidden sanctuary, he faces Vidana and the law of Svarog: in every timeline, Marina dies.

While Marina is seized in Croatia and Zayd's "betrayal" masks a gambit, Harun masters astral projection, igniting a motorbike rescue that barrels into an alpine escape. To break the loop, he accepts guardianship—living slightly out of phase with Marina's life. A bell tolls. A year later, she waits at a door we never quite see open.

...GOS-
PODINE?
(SIR?)

VISUAL SAMPLES

Volume 1: Awakenings
(P. 11 - 13)



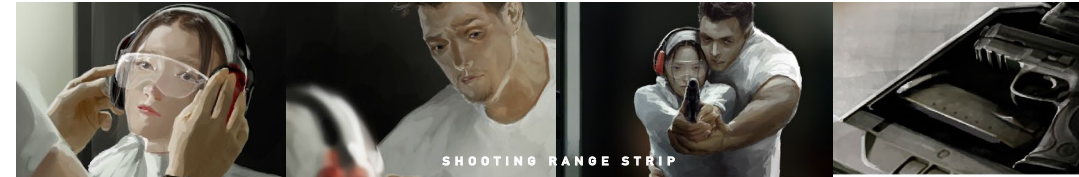


QAMARINA

"THE FEMININE RESILIENCE"

The emotional anchor of the trilogy—a woman torn between faith and survival, whose journey through loss and resilience redefines identity in the ruins of war. Once radiant with idealism, her pursuit of truth pulls her into manipulation, betrayal, and loss, stripping her innocence yet forging her resolve.

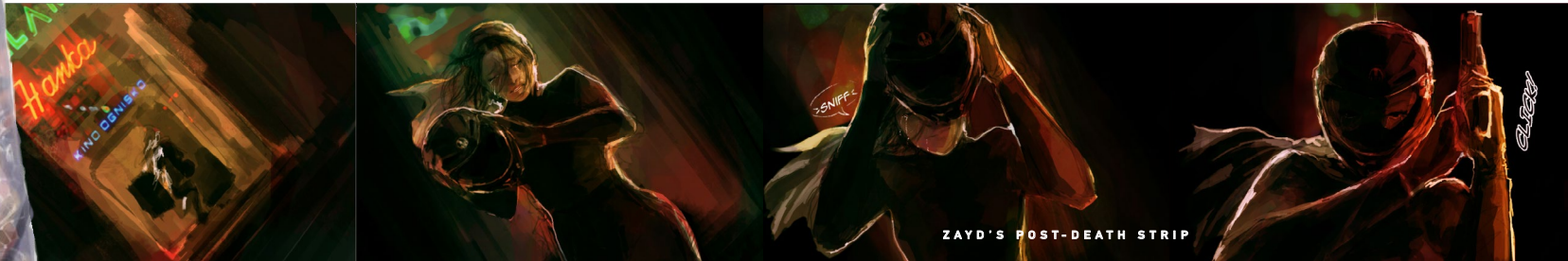
SANCTUARY OF GUARDIANS



SHOOTING RANGE STRIP



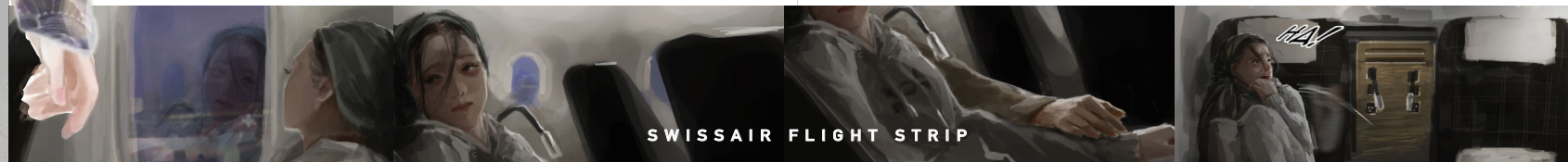
TURKEY FLIGHT STRIP



ZAYD'S POST-DEATH STRIP

LOSS OF A HOME

The haunting losses of Harun and Zayd, the two male figures whom she dear, redefines the question of 'what is truly home' for her.



SWISSAIR FLIGHT STRIP

*"It was your name that I offered up
to the heavens...."*

HARUN

"A QUEST OF AWAKENING"

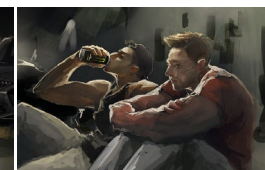
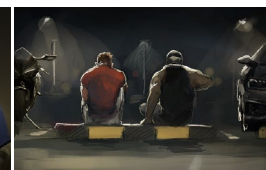
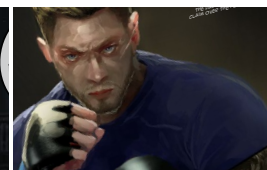
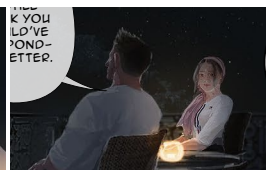
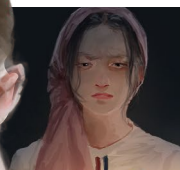
A seeker haunted by faith and violence, Harun stands between tenderness and strength. Split between Bosnia and Malaysia, he searches for belonging while visions of wolves pull him toward destiny. His love for speed reflects his need for control amid chaos, yet faith remains his greatest trial. In the end, he learns that love isn't born from fantasy—it's forged through sacrifice.



"Love isn't a dream fulfilled —"

"It survives through what we dare to surrender."

SANCTUARY OF GUARDIANS

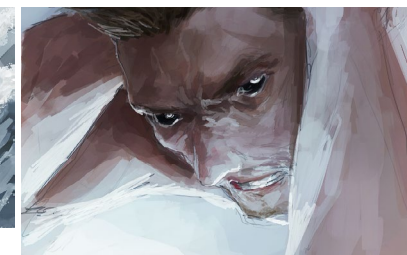
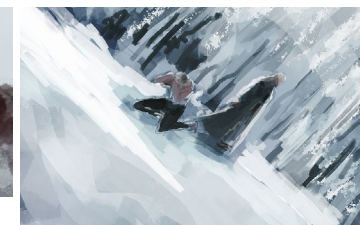


EMOTIONAL BARRIERS

Harun and Marina circle their unspoken emotions, bound by love yet unable to bridge the silence between them.

THE TWO CONTRASTS

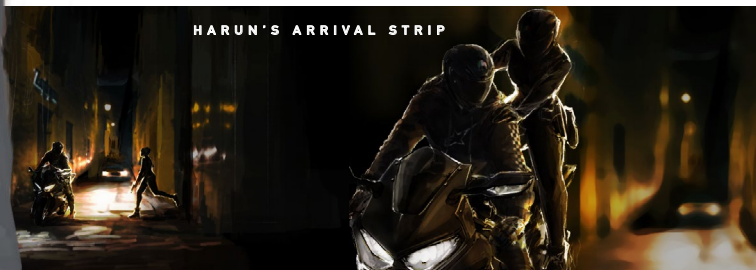
Harun was raised in faith and compassion; Zayd in cruelty and hunger for power—two fates born of the same war.



A NEVERENDING WAR

Harun's soul is a battlefield where faith wrestles with fear. Yet through every trial, he learns that strength is not defiance, but **surrender** to light.

HARUN'S ARRIVAL STRIP



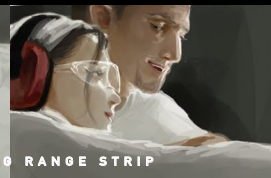
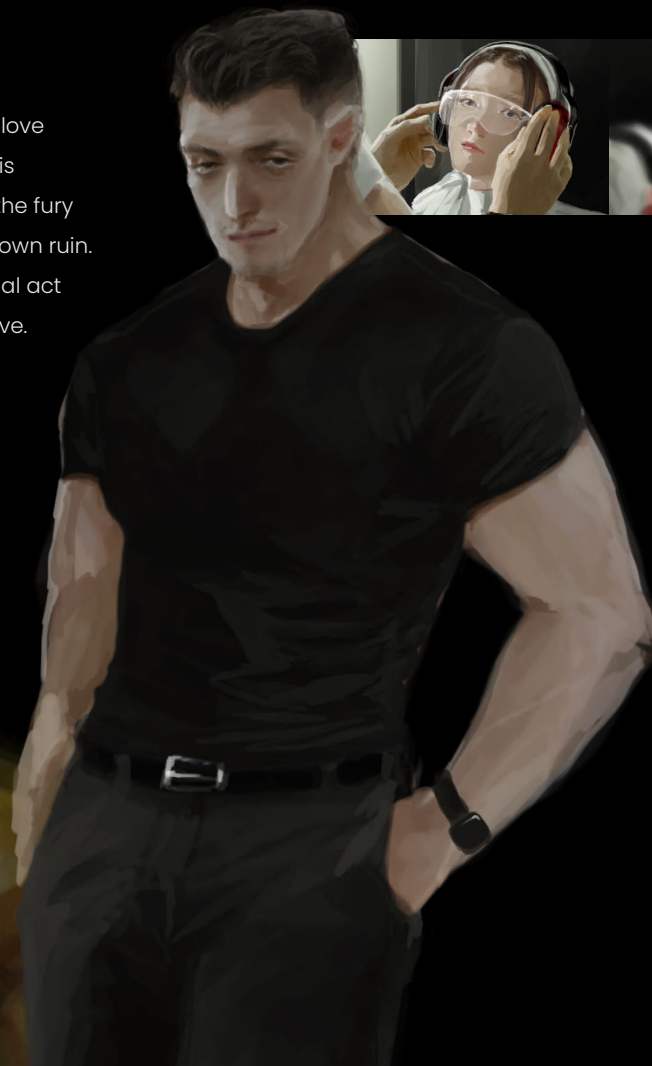
N.D. LELAND

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ZAYD AL-FAHDI

Zayd is Harun's mirror in shadow—
Western-educated, Amazigh-born,
shaped by privilege and chaos. His love
for Marina curdles into obsession, his
brilliance into control. Yet beneath the fury
lies a man desperate to rewrite his own ruin.
When faced with her fate, Zayd's final act
of mercy becomes his first act of love.

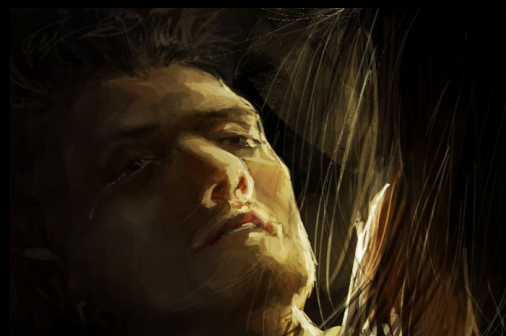
**"THE REDEMPTIVE
ANTAGONIST"**



SHOOTING RANGE STRIP



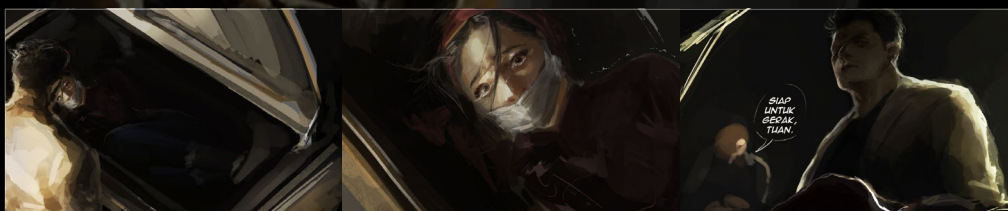
(YOU ARE THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL FATE)



SANCTUARY OF GUARDIANS

A LOVE FOILED IN TRAGEDY

To Zayd, Marina is both
salvation and mirror—a bridge
to the world he's lost. His love,
sincere but tainted by control,
drives him to the edge of her
destruction. In his final act,
remorse eclipses envy, and
freeing her becomes the only
truth he has left..

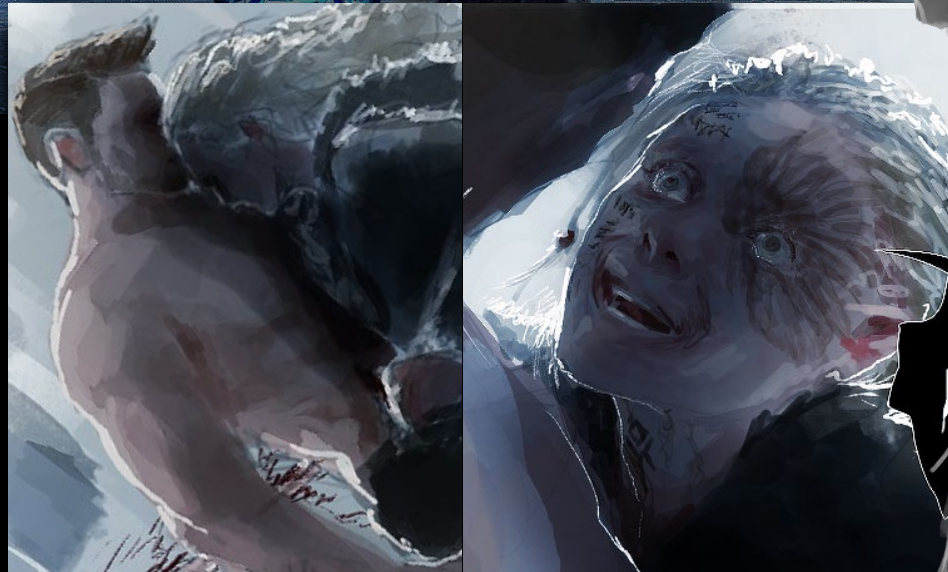


A VEILED EVIL

Through her Slavic rites and ancestral lineage, **Vidana** masks conquest as protection. Her ancient magic twists shadow into power, corrupting the sanctuary from within. Where Arveljan preserves balance, she unravels it—proof that faith can fall to chaos.

SANCTUARY OF GUARDIANS

*"Let the veil tear, and the wolves forget
their oath."*



VIDANA

Vidana is a seer of the old faith, descended from *Mrazkar*'s cursed bloodline—the ancient rival of *Arveljan*, Harun's guardian. Obsessed with reviving forbidden rites, she becomes both prophet and corrupter, bound to a legacy of betrayal and blood.

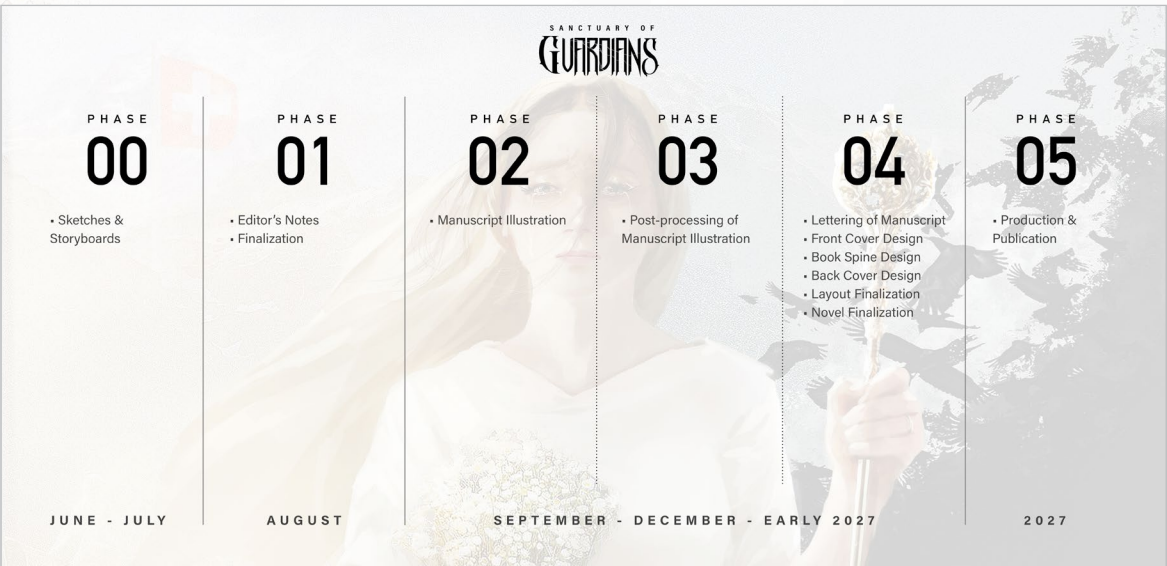
"HARBINGER OF CHAOS"

PROPOSED
TIMELINE

Volume 1 is complete, with Act I and Act II fully illustrated and Volumes 2 and 3 in development.

PHASE
DEVELOPMENT

Each volume follows a refined **six-phase development** process—ensuring exclusive cinematic storytelling and narrative continuity across the trilogy.



ABOUT THE CREATOR

N.D. LELAND

N.D. Leland is a Malaysian author-illustrator and designer whose work blends visual narrative with emotional realism. Trained in Visual Communication Design and shaped by time in Western Europe, her art bridges cultural and spiritual geographies. In 2025, she was named a Top 10 finalist of the W.I.P. Programme at Singapore Comic Con, recognizing her mythic, globally resonant storytelling.

Sanctuary of Guardians is the narrative culmination of her visual language with a profound exploration of grief, silence, and survival. With a design ethos that honors both stillness and spectacle, her work often **explores womanhood as a site of consequence**—what is left behind after belief systems, violence, or love collapse. This is her debut graphic novel trilogy.



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Thank you...

FOR YOUR PRESENCE IN THE SANCTUARY.



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