

Kalina: Issue #1: The Trap WIP

Episode 1

Panel 1 Open on a black screen. A spiky voice in a black speech box appears on the top right of the screen. This is the DJINN.

DJINN

Great job. You really got us into a mess.

A slight gap, and a regular voice appears on the right of the screen.

KALINA

Would you stop talking? I'm trying to get us out.

Long, slow, continuous pan down. Speech bubbles keep evolving as the camera keeps panning.

DJINN

And *you're* supposed to be the greatest thief -

KALINA

I said, *stop talking*.

DJINN (singing)

Kalina got *caa-aaught*, Kalina got *caa-aaught* -

KALINA

STOP -

DJINN

I'm *not* talking. I'm *singing*!

We begin to see the top of the complex system of traps and torture devices that Kalina and the Djinn are trapped in.

KALINA

When we get out of this, remind me to destroy you.

DJINN

Don't you mean *if*?

Keep panning down and reveal more of the complex machinery.

KALINA

No, *when*.

DJINN

Y0u say that. But y0u g0t us caught.

Panel 2 Tight close-up of Kalina's face.

KALINA

No, I got us *in*.

Episode 2

Across a dark screen, text appears and then wipes.

CAPTION

Depth: 3.6km

Ambient Air Temperature: - 55C

Ambient Lava Temperature: 1200C

Location: Under the Zooltan's Cave of Wonders

Panel 1 Kalina and the Djinn in the same trap. Kalina speaking to the Djinn over her shoulder.

KALINA

There are seven gateways guarding the Sultan's treasure.

KALINA

The easiest way to get close to it... was to get under it.

DJINN

Qulte intelligent. But I h0pe whatever y0u are here t0 steal -

Panel 2 Front shot of Kalina.

KALINA

I don't steal. I acquire.

Slow zoom in begins.

DJINN

You've acquired us a cosy dungeon.

Zoom ends on her eyes.

KALINA

It's easy to get out!

Panel 3 An image of Kalina in motion, cut up with the dialogue.

KALINA

I just have to pick this lock, get out of the straight
jacket
run up the curve of the cell,
use momentum to leap across the metal jaws without getting
skewered,
shimmy up the chain, swing myself out,

Panel 4 Return to Panel 1, Kalina is speaking to the Djinn over her shoulder.

KALINA

And all without falling into the lava!

DJINN

...

DJINN

There are many ways to pick a lock.

KALINA

Why don't you be useful and *stop talking*.

Panel 5 The console in front of them has three strips of color - the code. One strip of Red, one Blue, one Green. Underneath is a series of ten red buttons in a row that can be lit up. Underneath this is a long strip that shows voice wave form.

DJINN

That voice-activated panel in front of you disables all of the traps.

DJINN

Computer!

The strip for the voice lights up with a wave form as it registers the Djinn. In blocky letters, the computer says,

COMPUTER

TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE

KALINA

Shh! It's protected by a coded numeric lock.

Another voice bubble appears, lower right of the screen.

DJINN

Let me tell you about one way of picking a lock...

Episode 3

Panel 1 The Djinn's voice comes from far away, he begins telling the story, but then the story starts being told by the characters themselves. Begin with an overhead shot of the location; an Islamic palace on a dusty plain that looks somewhat earth-like. The characters who are interacting with each other aren't entirely human, but are land-dwelling.

CAPTION

Location: A story.

DJINN

There was once a Zooltan who ruled over a land much like yours. It was a beautiful time. When intelligence earned trust.

Panel 2 Camera moves in closer, revealing a particular gateway that is guarded by a large and scary looking Sentry. (Think scaly body, big gun). The sentry in the picture is having a conversation with someone - a generic stock figure - who is gaining entry into the chamber.

SENTRY

If I say twelve, you say?

PERSON #1

6.

The figure slides out of the frame.

Panel 3 The next person comes up. This is almost the same as panel 2, except that, at the corner of the frame, in the foreground, another shadowy figure is watching - a thief.

DJINN

A common thief wanted to break into the Zooltan's treasure chamber.

SENTRY

If I say six, you say?

PERSON #2

3.

The figure slides out of the frame, same as panel 3, while the shadowy thief watches.

Panel 4 The thief comes up to the gate. Again, this is almost the same as panel 2, except the shape of the body of the thief.

SENTRY

If I say four, you say?

THIEF

2?

Panel 5 The sentry thunders for the guards, who come and grab the thief.

SENTRY

Guards, seize the thief!

Panel 6 The Djinn's voice only, as he explains.

DJINN

The thief should have answered 4. Why?

The words T-W-E-L-V-E, S-I-X, and F-O-U-R appear.

Underneath T-W-E-L-V-E,

count 1-2-3-4-5-6,

under S-I-X

1-2-3

and under F-O-U-R

?

Episode 4

Panel 1 Kalina stares at the three strips in front of her.

KALINA

Computer...Red, Blue, and Green.

Panel 2 The trap that Kalina is in moves lower, towards the lava, with a metallic sound. Kalina looks up worriedly. In blocky letters, the computer says,

COMPUTER

1/3 CHANCES EXPIRED

DJINN

Don't kill us!

Panel 3 Kalina closes her eyes, and thinks deeply.

KALINA

The story...

Panel 4 The three strips of red blue and green come to the forefront in Kalina's mind's eye. The words R-E-D, B-L-U-E, and G-R-E-E-N flash across the colours.

Then the letters are counted.

R-E-D

1-2-3,

B-L-U-E

1-2-3-4

G-R-E-E-N

1-2-3-4-5

Panel 5 Kalina's eyes flash open.

KALINA

The numeric lock! Computer, 3-4-5!

Panel 6 A floor slides out over the lava. Her cell falls open. The mechanical jaws stop chomping. A ladder falls down to her cell.

COMPUTER

SAFE PASSAGE UNLOCKED

Panel 7 Kalina and the Djinn are escaping from the treasury, falling down a chute. Angry guards can only watch from a distance.

DJINN

Not bad. You aren't as dumb as you look.

KALINA

I am so totally going to destroy you.

DJINN

You need me!

Panel 8 Kalina hanging over a ledge, sandwich in her mouth - unbothered by the guards who are looking for her on the top of the ledge.

KALINA

This is just an average day in my life. But it wasn't always this simple...

Enter flashback.

PC Vikram

No:22, 1st main road
H colony Binnamangala
Indiranagar 1st stage
Bengaluru 560038

pcvixx@gmail.com

Linkedin: <https://tinyurl.com/y3pchwo8>

Website: <https://www.pcvikram.com/>