A Shadow Matoran has a mental shield that prevents light from returning to him. As long as it's in place, he stays a slave to the Makuta. And only one thing can shatter that shield...

...guess what it is.

What... what happened? The Makuta... turned me evil. But now I feel like myself again...

You can thank Vican, he discovered that the Klakk can reverse what the Makuta had done to you, and to others.
WE NEED TO TRACK DOWN AND CURE THE OTHER SHADOW HORTICUL. THEN WE NEED TO GET YOU OUT OF KARDA NUI BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

THIS IS OUR HOME—WE WANT TO STAY AND FIGHT FOR IT!

TANMA, PRETTY SOON THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE ANYONE'S HOME—JUST A CAULDRON OF ENERGY THAT KILLS ANYTHING IT TOUCHES. NOW MOVE!

"THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET A LOT WORSE."

RIDE'S OVER, ANTROZ. EVERYONE OUT!

I DON'T THINK HE'S LISTENING—LET'S POUND IT INTO HIM.

MATA NUI RISING!

GREG FASHTET - WRITER LEIGH GALLAGHER - ARTIST
SAL CIPRIANO - LETTERER ULIENS ARREOLA - COLORIST
Toby DUKIL - ART DIRECTOR/DESIGNER
JESSICA NUMSUWANKIJUKUL - EDITOR
ANTROZ HAS TO BE STOPPED EVEN IF WE HAVE TO CRASH WRECK THE JETROX TO DO IT!

WELL NO TOA LIVES FOREVER

FAREWELL FOOLS - I WILL SADLY WITNESS YOUR DEATHS, BUT FROM A GREATER DISTANCE.

STOP!!
KOPAKA'S QUICKLY CREATED ICE WALLS SLOW DOWN THE ROCKON T3 AND AXALARA T4 JUST ENOUGH TO STOP THEM FROM COLLIDING WITH THE JETRAX!

WOW... WHEN HE SAYS "STOP," HE MEANS IT! BUT WHERE DID ANTRO GO TO?

NOT FAR AWAY...

IT'S TIME... TELL THE OTHERS.

IS LETTING THE TOA WAKE UP MATA NUI SUCH A GOOD IDEA? WHAT IF HE REMEMBERS WHO PUT HIM TO SLEEP IN THE FIRST PLACE?

YOU KNOW THE PLAN. DO NOT WORRY... WHEN THE TOA ARE NO LONGER OF USE TO US, THEY WILL BE DESTROYED.

THE MAKUTA WANT MATA NUI AWAKENED? WHILE YOU TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT MEANS, LET'S GO BACK TO THE COFFER AND A WORRIED GAL!

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE. THE KEYS... The process will take too long. If only there were a way to do it more quickly...
Maybe there is... the mask of life! It has the power to do in seconds what it would take the Codex systems days to accomplish.

Yes, but... it would mean the end of my existence... as a Toa. I would be... just a mask again... not a hero.

Listen to me! You wanted to be a Toa because of Matoro. Because of the sacrifice he made... what would you have done now? What would a real hero do?

Matoro died to save a universe... without fear, without hesitation... because he knew it was the right thing to do.

If I am to be worthy of him... of the name Toa... can I do less?

Arrhah... so this is... pain. But suffering it for the good of all... makes it easier to bear.
Before Gali's startled eyes, the body of Toa Igika dissolves in the energies of the Codrex.

Until only the mask of life remains, feeding its own power back into the universe.

By the Great Beings, I never dreamed....

Go, Toa Gali. You and the others must live.

And Mata Nui must rise again!
GALU! THE OTHERS ARE LOCKED IN BATTLE WITH THE MAKUTA—WE MUST GATHER THEM AND ESCAPE KARDA NUI.

BUT THE MASK OF LIFE... WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO IT?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT LIFE IN KARDA NUI IS ENDING... AND IF WE DON'T LEAVE, WE'LL END WITH IT.

AYARY TOA! KIYA NUI IS ENDING! WE HAVE WON!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING--UINNGGH!

EVEN AS ONUA AND GALU FLEE THE CODRISX, THE STORM BEGINS.

AN INSTANT LATER, THE STORM SEES TO IT THAT MUTRAN WILL NEVER CONTROL ANYTHING AGAIN.

AMAZING! IF I COULD TAP THIS ENERGY, I COULD--WAIT! YES! I SEE IT NOW--IT'S SO SIMPLE! I CAN CONTROL THIS STORM, IF I--

YAARRGH!!

FIZZLAHH
THE NATHORN HAVE BEEN EVACUATED, BUT WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT OUT IN TIME!

YES, WE WILL...

HERE COME OUR RIDES.

NUTRAN NEVER HAD A CHANCE... AND NEITHER DO WE. MAKUTA TERIDAX BETRAYED US! HE KNEW THIS STORM WOULD ERUPT WHEN MATA NUI AWOKE AND NEVER WARNED US!

NO... IT'S NOT POSSIBLE... IT'S SOME TRICK BY THE TOA.

STAY HERE AND DIE IF YOU LIKE, GORAST— BUT I WOULN'T LET FLY ME OUT OF THIS PLACE!

FIND YOUR OWN WAY OUT, YOU BLIND FOOL— YOU'LL ONLY SLOW ME DOWN!

BITIL COME BACK HERE! DON'T LEAVE US.
As the storm builds to full strength, Karda Nui transforms into a place where no one can hope to survive. Only the speed and power of the three vessels gives the Toa any hope of escape.
Hang on! We're almost out!

Just as the storm reaches its full strength, the CGT escapes the coprex!

Hey! What's with the shudder and shudder?

I think it means we did our job, bro. Let's head to Metru Nui—It's time to go home.
ONE YEAR AGO, A TEAM OF TOA WASHED ASHORE ON A TROPICAL ISLAND. THEY WERE SIX HEROES WITH ONE DESTINY--
TO AWAKEN THE GREAT SPIRIT MATA NUI FROM HIS SLUMBER. TODAY, THAT DESTINY HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A MILLENNIUM--
MATA NUI RISES!
LATER: THE ISLAND OF METRU NUI. TOA, TURAGA AND MATORAN GATHER TO CELEBRATE THE AWAKENING OF THE GREAT SPIRIT.

TODAY, WE HONOR MATA NUI, WHO WAS AT LAST RETURNED TO US FROM THE DARKNESS INTO WHICH HE WAS CAST BY THE BUL MAKUTA.

AND WE HONOR THE TOA NUNA, WHO AWAKENED THE GREAT SPIRIT ONCE MORE... AND ALL THE TOA, LIVING AND DEAD, WHO HELPED BRING ABOUT THIS GLORIOUS DAY.

TODAY, THE MATORAN PEOPLE ARE FREE FROM FEAR, AFTER FAR TOO LONG... FREE FROM DOUBT... AND FREE FROM THE CHAINS THE MAKUTA WOULD HAVE PLACED UPON THEM!

SUDDENLY, A CHILL WIND CUTS THROUGH THE ASSEMBLED CROWD AS A SHADOW FALLS OVER METRU NUI.

THAT Icy Guest That FREEzes THE SPIRIT... I HAVE FELT THAT BEFORE.

THE STARS! LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE STARS!

NO. IT CAN'T BE.
High above, the stars over Metru Nui whirl in a dance of madness.

When the points of light at last come to a stop, they form an image—the unmistakable shape of the Mask of Shadows!

The answer comes as sinister laughter carried on the wind.

Show myself, you insignificant flea! Look around— I am everywhere. I am everything you see.

The Toa Nuva brought Mata Nui back from death... but before his spirit could return to his body, mine slipped in and took its place.

Makuta! I don’t know how you survived, but show yourself!

So when the noble Toa Nuva awakened the great spirit, they awoke his body... with my mind.

This is impossible, why would the stars shift to form the image of Makuta Teridax’s mask? Unless...

I think I know... but great beings protect us if I am right.
I AM THE GROUND YOU WALK ON... THE AIR YOU BREATHE. NO LONGER MUST I FIGHT YOU TO RULE A UNIVERSE. I AM THE UNIVERSE!

OF COURSE, MATA NUI'S TRUE SPIRIT MIGHT PROVE TO BE A PROBLEM SOMEDAY. BUTfortunately, I HAVE TRAPPED IT INSIDE THE MASK OF LIFE...

AND THE MASK ITSELF HAS BEEN HURLED FROM THIS UNIVERSE, NEVER TO RETURN.

WE HAVE Fought YOU BEFORE, AND WON. THE TOA NUA, TOA MAHRI, TOA HAAGA-- ALL OF US Will FIGHT YOU TO THE END!

Ah, the brave Toa of Fire... now no more than a match waiting to be extinguished beneath my heel.

THE PLAN IS FINISHED, TOA. THE GAME IS OVER, AND WITH MATA NUI FOREVER BANISHED-- THE UNIVERSE IS MINE!
FORCED FROM THE COSMOS OF THE MATORAN, THE MASK OF LIFE SOARS THROUGH SPACE, ITS FINAL DESTINATION UNKNOWN.

IT CARRIES INSIDE IT THE MIND AND SPIRIT OF MATA NUI, ONCE THE RULERS OF A UNIVERSE, NOW AN EXILE.

BUT IF ANYONE WERE PRESENT WHO COULD HEAR THE THOUGHTS OF THE GREAT SPIRIT AS THEY ECHO WITHIN THE MASK, THEY WOULD HEAR ONE PHRASE REPEATED AGAIN AND AGAIN:

“I WILL RETURN.”

NEXT ISSUE: A NEW UNIVERSE! A NEW STORY! AND A NEW ERA OF BIONICLE GREATNESS BEGINS!