



ANIMALS

By Hugo Toledo

INTRODUCTION

ANIMALS is not a saga built for spectacle — though spectacle it has. it is a world where monsters move with meaning, where devastation echoes through history, and where the battlefields are not only cities, but souls.

Told across twelve volumes, **ANIMALS** follows the rise and ruin of civilizations reshaped by the arrival of beings beyond comprehension. These are not isolated calamities, but chapters in a long war of power, belief, and identity.

But this world is not sealed.

This briefing introduces the foundational concepts of ANIMALS, outlines its central philosophical and historical structure, and lays the groundwork for one approach to the Kaiju genre that makes it deserving to be told as a story.

While the saga is not yet written, it is fully conceived. This is not a pitch for a franchise — it is a call for creative fellowship. The world is already alive. The mythos, characters, arcs, and moral weight have been sculpted for over 17 years of my life, it grew with me, it's part of who i am and it deserves the caution I've sentenced myself to bear before putting it on paper. Other books may carry na author's flaws, but these carry my heart.

Whether you are a publisher, producer, developer, artist, or simply a Kaiju fan, ANIMALS aims to please both sides of the genre: mythical allegories with deep meaning and weight and also the entertaining classical Monster Mayhem. They can coexist, they can teach us to enjoy Kaiju brawling without desensitizing us to the often dark reality beneath a glamorous rampage, we just need to give it the chance.

I feel particularly that I won't be ready, truly ready, to write ANIMALS in the way it truly deserves for at least ten years, maybe more. There is still much to study, to understand, to learn. But in this creator's heart, the universe is already screaming to come out, and there's no reason to stop it. If the reception allows, a wiki may open its doors — a place where this saga can be built gradually, with all my love and care and others can imagine within this world. And I'd love not only to show it to you, but to build it with you as well. Your creativity can be part of this saga. You can be one of its writing hands.

You're welcome here.

THE SAGA:

- ❖ The ANIMALS saga is an original upcoming Kaiju series that follows giant monsters and their impact on the globe with heavy callbacks to societal foundations of the modern day, past and beyond. It's comprised of different Eras and also contains other series outside the main storyline that make up its expanded universe. The main story will be written in 12 books with 3 generations of the family of the main character. Parallel to it, an expanded universe that will better illustrate the purpose and message of the saga. Each of the Eras and Divergent series get their name from important events of the saga, Human History and the themes they're meant to address, those being:

- **PRIOR BELLUM** – Spans Ancient History up to Medieval times
- **PRAETER BELLUM** – Covers the Middle Ages to Book 1
- **ANTEBELLUM** – Set between Books 1 to 4
- **INTERBELLUM** – Covers Books 5 and 6
- **POST-BELLUM** – Books 7 to 10
- **ULTRA BELLUM** – Books 11 and 12
- **EXTRA BELLUM** – Covers all stories outside the main continuity, but still in the same universe. They are the **Series** and **Chronicles**.

□ Series

- **Resistance series** – Resistance addresses the marginalized, pariahs and other groups of people excluded from society, it depicts matters such as criminality, neglect, public policies and its failures, corporation abuse and corruption, all tied

directly or indirectly to the actions of the Kaiju. **It branches off of book 3.**

- **Extinction series** - Extinction is set after the loss of Kaiju power by humans, being left abandoned and forced to go back to live in a world with limited resources. It aims to represent that mankind has the ability to destroy itself even when luxury becomes universal, as we're incapable to live a life of struggles after tasting plentifulness. It tells the slow decay of humanity on planet Earth until our eventual extinction. **It branches off of book 8**

- **Oppression series** – The darkest of the bunch, it tells the stories of isolated people living in remote areas, far from civilization. The Kaijus in the story have the ultimate goal to preserve, provide and ensure the prosperity of life. For the ones in Oppression, the monsters decide humans are not the favorite species; instead, favoring evolution and speciation in other animals that hunt, kill and massacre these populations. Being isolated, the series focuses on their inability to call for help, their impotence to fight back, the realization that we're not special and nature doesn't welcome us. It depicts the cruelty of nature and the unending failure of these people to protect themselves and loved ones. **It branches off of book 2**

- **Chronicles** – The Chronicles are short, isolated and barely related to the main continuity set of stories. It talks about ordinary facts and events of life. The happiness, the success, the failure, the relationship between normal people, because even in a world

where monsters exist, life still goes on and destruction and misery, much less spectacle, aren't the norm.

❖ **Purpose:** ANIMALS take a different, but not unheard of, approach to the Kaiju genre. In all books, an attack on densely populated areas isn't treated as triumph, victory, necessity or collateral damage, it's treated as **disaster, as tragedy**. The reader is brought to the aftermath of every destroyed city or settlement. There's not only spectacle here, there's grief and there's suffering. ANIMALS aims to take the both sides of the coin of Kaiju media: Allegorical grief and mayhem magnificence without choosing a side to deliver the story.

Guillermo del Toro stated, when talking about Pacific Rim (2013), that there's always a child inside each of us that sees ourselves playing around that huge scenario, which gives us the thrill only robots punching giant monsters can deliver, but the saga disagrees with this vision. ANIMALS believe and proposes itself to deliver something that shows we can depict a Kaiju story with the fun of epic fights without desensitizing ourselves to the reality that would follow a real-life Kaiju attack, an element to this kind of monster trope that is sometimes barely addressed in mainstream Kaiju media but quickly drowned in the triumphant soundtrack and feeling of victory that follows the monstrous rampage.

❖ ANIMALS has a motto, because **we don't cheer an earthquake, we don't root for a tornado and we don't commemorate the explosion of a volcano**. The reader is reminded that **your mother still dies if a building collapses, be it by nature or a Kaiju, and the cool design and memorable roar wouldn't bring her back**, because that's the reality of a Kaiju universe, it wouldn't be pretty,

and spectacle took a place in that kind of media that maybe isn't so well deserved when carried out alone, and the saga invites the reader to that reflection without depriving the storyline from the thrill that solidified it, alongside, but not downplaying, the respect that was present in its foundation with *Gojira* (1954). ANIMALS goes the other way as it has a sacred rule in its depiction of Daikaiju:

**Monsters aren't cool; Destruction isn't amazing;
Tragedy is not awesome.**

- ❖ The saga aims to go back to the roots of the Kaiju genre and, hopefully, bring back Giant Monsters not just as “cool toys”, but as allegorical beings, creatures that have a meaning, that serve a purpose bigger than “cool features and superpowers” or “Colossal city brawling”, as it keeps the ambition of leaving lasting memories and iconic designs, without forgetting to forge them a soul. It still leaves space for innovation as it's meant to be written as, rather than a critique, a depiction of mankind and its struggles, triumphs and failures through the lenses of sciences that take the watchful eyes of observing human nature and our behavior in different fields of our society, as each book of the main storyline will serve as a mirror to an epoch and its peculiar traits we lived through throughout History.
- ❖ For those who are familiar with, ANIMALS chooses to draw heavily from Literature, History and Philosophy, as the reader may find Machiavellian politics planted across the story, as well as other thinkers such as Thomas Hobbes with its contractual views of society, more contemporary views in the likes of Niklas Luhmann and the classics like Plato with its view on morality and endgoal of

eudaimonia, Aristotle carrying the words of ethics and construction of politics before modern age concepts took roots and Cicero with his works on the building of civilizations. Realpolitik is core to the ANIMALS saga as the necessity and morality, pragmatism and goodwill often clash in the countless dilemmas faced by the characters. It settles on the view that chooses the vessels to deliver its message, as here Kaijus are *Empires*, Titanic transcendental *forces of History and Civilization, Politics incarnate* with **Politics being nothing but the selective power of destruction.**

They're Hobbes's Leviathan written in Orchestra.

CORE CONCEPTS:

The ANIMALS universe sets as fact that the universe isn't around 15 billions of years old, but in fact thousands of billions of years in the making. This massive disproportion in calculation laid down the path to life to have evolved first much, much earlier than we thought the universe was even alive, which came into play to allow the ultra being status of the living creatures that make up the original natural order.

- **Panspermia:** Panspermia is a theory that supports the idea of life coming from a different place in the universe instead of developing naturally on Earth. In the ANIMALS universe, the premise is true, being Gaia, a Supermassive celestial body to be the cradle of life for the first time since the universe came into existence. The ANIMALS, the Trees and the whole natural order holds on compatibility with them as the seeds of life were planted across the universe throughout hundreds of billions of years, either with intervention or not.

- **Gaia:** Gaia is the cradle of life and it's a superplanet that defies all knowledge on astronomy. Hundreds of billions of years ago, Gaia began to spiral, as it orbited a star and slowly drifted out of its orbit. This immeasurable timespan from the drifting to the falling out of orbit is called "The Darkening" or "The Great Stellar Crisis", life had already developed, but miraculously, it responded the state of slow planetary death with its original creatures going into hyper evolution. Endothermic adaptation isn't unheard of and something we humans have as a trait. Life in Gaia also evolved such ability, but extremed it. Internal heat and energy regulation transcended into the power of irradiation. This gave birth to the creatures we now call "ANIMALS", as its evolutionary course allowed them to provide the fading heat Gaia faced. Eventually this achieved perfection in performance and these beings became capable of generating and purifying so much energy they out-evolved any physiological needs and the sons of Gaia replaced the orbital need, turning into monsters as powerful as nothing short of Walking Stars. Alongside them, plant life reached to planetary cores and developed the ability to create and provide resources in plentifulness, as colossal trees fixed themselves in a set range to flourish, feed on the energy below and deliver abundance. Becoming nothing less than Trees of life, they came to be called "Yggdrasils" and the balanced coordination between ANIMALS and Yggdrasils allowed life on Gaia to persist, flourish as their roles became centered on maintaining the means for life to prosper.

- **ANIMAL:** "ANIMALS," written in all caps, is an acronym:

Adapted, Neogenic, Incepted, Metamorphic, Augmented Lifeform.

This naming originated from a misdesignation by the military in Book 1 when they mistook the creatures for terrestrial animals and assigned the tag “ANML.” Their proper identification became a backronym based on that code. ANIMALs are colossal sized creatures that evolved from the looming extinction in Gaia to protect it. Replacing the star that once illuminated Gaia as their sole, collective and joint providers of heat, energy and light. These creatures have a biology overly complex and alien to what we know from organic Life. Their inner core is dense and massively powerful, capable of generating amounts of energy so great they’re nothing but Walking Stars in raw power. As they have no physiological needs, they took the role of guardians to vulnerable, but vital, plant life, the Trees. Evolution set its eyes on this unique ecosystem once more, as the guardian to a tree must be not only capable, but the best in performance, which lead to the ANIMALS developing highly territorial behavior with an instinct to rule over a land. The utmost position is being guardian to the tree, and to get there, only fighting performance shows the most fit to rule, turning them into not just colossus of life, but raging battling machines. ANIMALS may cooperate with each other, they’re often assigned classes depending on what role they fulfill in the protection of the tree and lands it can reach. This exchange of performance between plant and monster are what makes the natural order functioning.

- **Animallium:** Unlike earthly life, based on carbon, most of the living beings in Gaia are metallic-based lifeforms and it’s the element Animallium that gives them the incredible abilities they adapted through eons. Animallium works as a binding and regenerative element, with strength and resilience and volatility beyond belief. This allowed ANIMALS to develop a particularly unique trait: a conscious bond to their cellular level structure. This

allows them to heal on command by thought just like we command our leg to stretch. With the power they hold, they're also able to generate and synthesize elements by sheer will and thought. They don't have muscles or bones, instead, their body is made close to what a bryophyte functions, by cells interchanging and communicating, allowing them to obey the conscious link to almost shape shifting levels and turns their cells universally compatible biologically with any other living mass, however Animallium has a noticeable incompatibility with Iron. Like Zinc with Steel, making crude iron the only weakness in an ANIMAL that can be exploited. ANIMALS are almost invincible due to the raw power they produce internally, but they're not immortal. Like stars, they eventually burn out over billions of years and their decomposition, billions of years more, replenishes nature gradually. To kill an ANIMAL, conventional weapons are useless, their internal binding structure must be weakened to a point where regeneration loses efficiency and they can be beaten through exhaustion. In this universe, city brawling isn't a theater, it's a necessity, as throwing an ANIMAL into a building with iron structure weakens them and gives a chance to termination.

- **The Trees/Yggdrasils:** The Yggdrasils, or simply called "Trees" are a massive plant life similar to normal trees that feed on the planet's core energy to provide the environments every need it has to ensure life to thrive under the conditions necessary to keep balance. Not much is known about them, but their symbiotic role with the ANIMALS is the original environment preservation that earns to be called "The Natural Order". Countless of Yggdrasils exist in Gaia, as each have a range, but only a single one settles on Earth and it's capable to cover the entire planet. "The event" on book 1 leads to the reconnection of the two biospheres and as the tree roots itself on Earth, humanity is lead to a golden age as

scarcity ceases to be a factor and environment damage quickly heals, before rampage follows.

THE BOOKS: MARCELLUS LIFE

- **BOOK 1 – ARRIVAL**

Book 1 is set in a world where Albert Einstein lived longer and found the means to unite the three fields of physics, leading to a secret partnership experiment in the final years of the Cold War among the United States and the Soviet Union. “The event” was said to be a failure and covered up. Humanity awakes to the next following 20 years of unprecedented prosperity as environments healed and resources became plentiful. But the cost came knocking, as massive beasts appeared out of nowhere and started to attack populated areas without immediate pattern. As mankind finds out one monster can kill another, the quest to have one by our side leads to a bold experiment that gives control of one ANIMAL to pacify the others. The reader is presented with a world in chaos grasping to save itself and how politics work behind curtains when monsters show potential to be weapons.

- It mirrors the promise of prosperity that settles a new era. The unknown and impossible becomes your challenge and how we should overcome it.

- **BOOK 2 – FOUNDATION**

Book 2 sees the illusion of stabilization shatter as a new challenge comes to Earth. A powerful new monster shows up with promise, and using the controlled ANIMAL from before is now a choice, as mankind must decide if it found its greatest ally or worst enemy, as the reader is presented with the question of whether or not humanity should decide if it must carve the dagger onto Caesar once more.

- Book 2 mirrors the setting of a New order, imperial in nature and how it shall be lead, as the Kaijus come not as opponents, but as ghosts of our past and shadows of Empires long gone.

- **BOOK 3 – PROSPERITY**

Prosperity is the peak of the Kaiju era Golden age. It delivers a peaceful setting, but not steady one. It's the moment where we can

breathe and show how even in luxury, mankind didn't change. Economic dilemmas, corporate actions and the ease of monsters roaring are now the brief center. The reader is brought to meet humanity as it truly is, and to present the logics of what we may see as rotten but is no short of blooming gold.

- o This book mirrors the PAX ROMANA, the Empire stands and it's on its height, but cracks loom hidden, in conflict and human actions.

- **BOOK 4 – ASCENSION**

Book 4 sees the return of a forgotten past of humanity turned ruthless enemy as our origins are finally confronted, our ambitions are the turning point in deciding if humanity is waging war against an enemy never before seen. The reader watches Kaijus finally performing the Illiad as men and monster are forced to act together against an overwhelming threat capable of unprecedented destruction, as Divine power is finally challenged.

- **BOOK 5 – DECLINE**

Book 5 brings the reader to the point where Empires are dragging themselves as capable to fight, but terminally cracking. Moral and geopolitical ethics takes the stage as the characters are faced with the dilemma of hold on to a crumbling Imperial Order or to let it shatter.

- o Book 5 mirrors the 3rd Century crisis and the last days of Rome, dying from the inside, now, as the cycle repeats itself, it's about defending a political corpse or let it be buried.

- **BOOK 6 – DOWNFALL**

Book 6 sees the final break on the order mankind spent so many years growing used to. An inhumane experiment disguised as salvation gives rise to an abomination, moral and physical in ANIMAL form. Heroes fall and evil takes over in a crumbling world where mankind, earlier fighting as one, couldn't learn harmony and the reader watches the apocalypse that follows alongside the third World War as the globe is plunged into chaos and heart is the sole factor that drives and is capable of stopping the calamity.