

ISSUE
1

STYLER
ČIŽMEŠIJA
YILDIRIM
PALACIOS
ARROZA

DISTANT SHORES



*With winged feet,
heed the call of Hiraethen's horn,
down dark alleys
and through forgotten doors,
then deep within
the oldest wood till morn.
At dawn we sail,
to reach the distant shores.*

DISTANT SHORES

ISSUE ONE

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Özgür Yildirim
Arturo Palacios
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Letterer

HdE

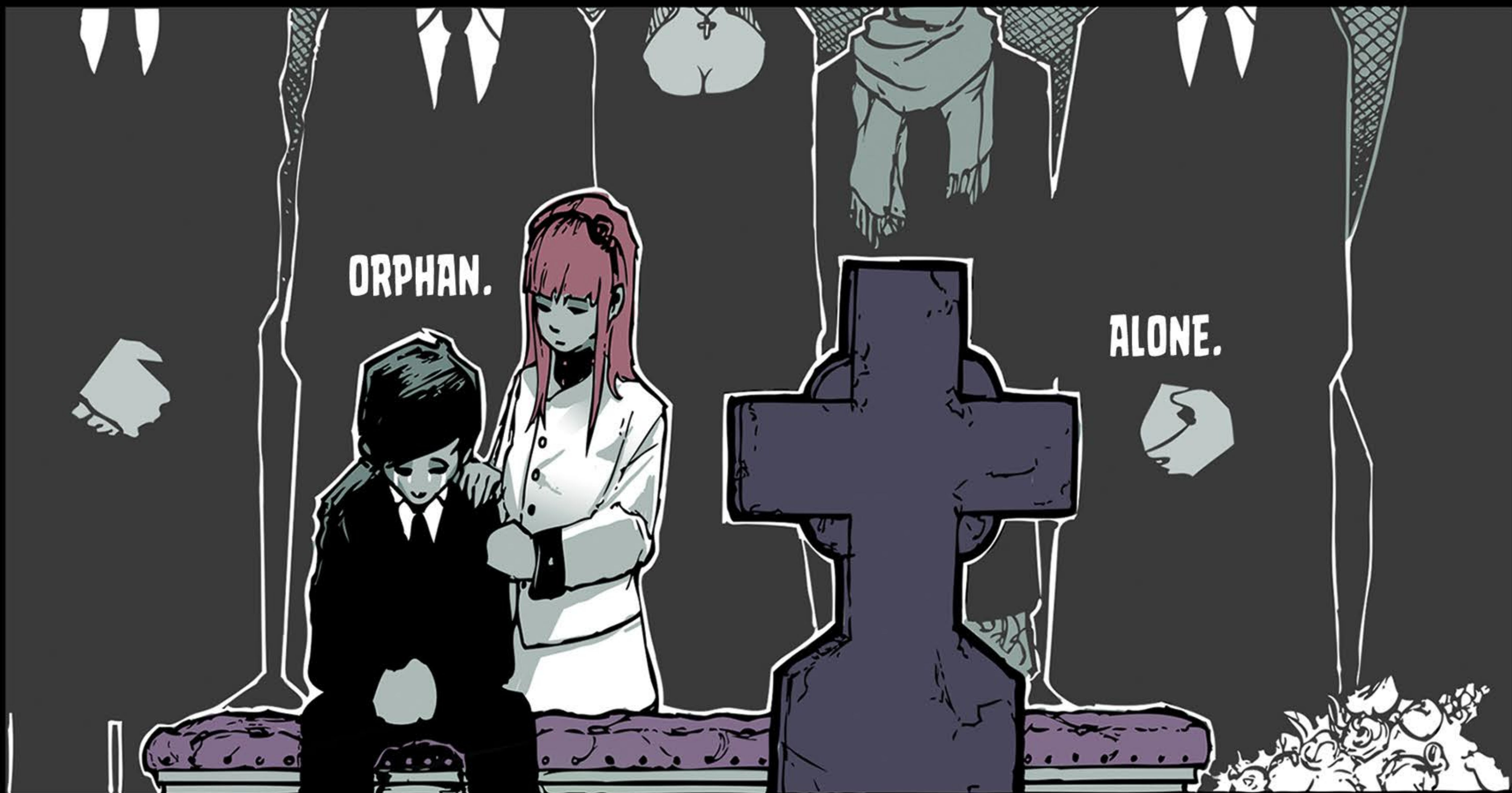
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BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA.

I'VE GOT THIS.

YOU SURE?

I'M SO SURE. WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS--
NNAAGH!

YOU'RE BREATHING HEAVY.

CHARLIE...
I'LL BE IN AND OUT IN A SEC. I PROMISE.

DO YOU REALLY THINK SO? BECAUSE IT'S LOOKING AT LEAST A DOZEN TO ONE.

...
YOU HACKED THE SECURITY BOTS' CAMERA FEEDS, DIDN'T YOU?

YUP.

CHARLIE...

OH, CALM DOWN. LIKE YOU SAID, YOU'VE GOT THIS, KEVIN.

MAYBE I'LL GO SHOPPING. IS THAT WHAT TEENAGE GIRLS DO ON A FRIDAY NIGHT?

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO CALL ME KID CHIMERA WHEN I'M ON A MISSION.

TOO MANY SYLLABLES.

GATEWAY ACTIVATED.

CHARLIE...

YOU'RE NOT GOING SHOPPING, ARE YOU?

NOPE.

JUMP INITIATED.

AND STOP CALLING ME CHARLIE LIKE I'M SOME TOMBOY. WORST CODE NAME EVER.

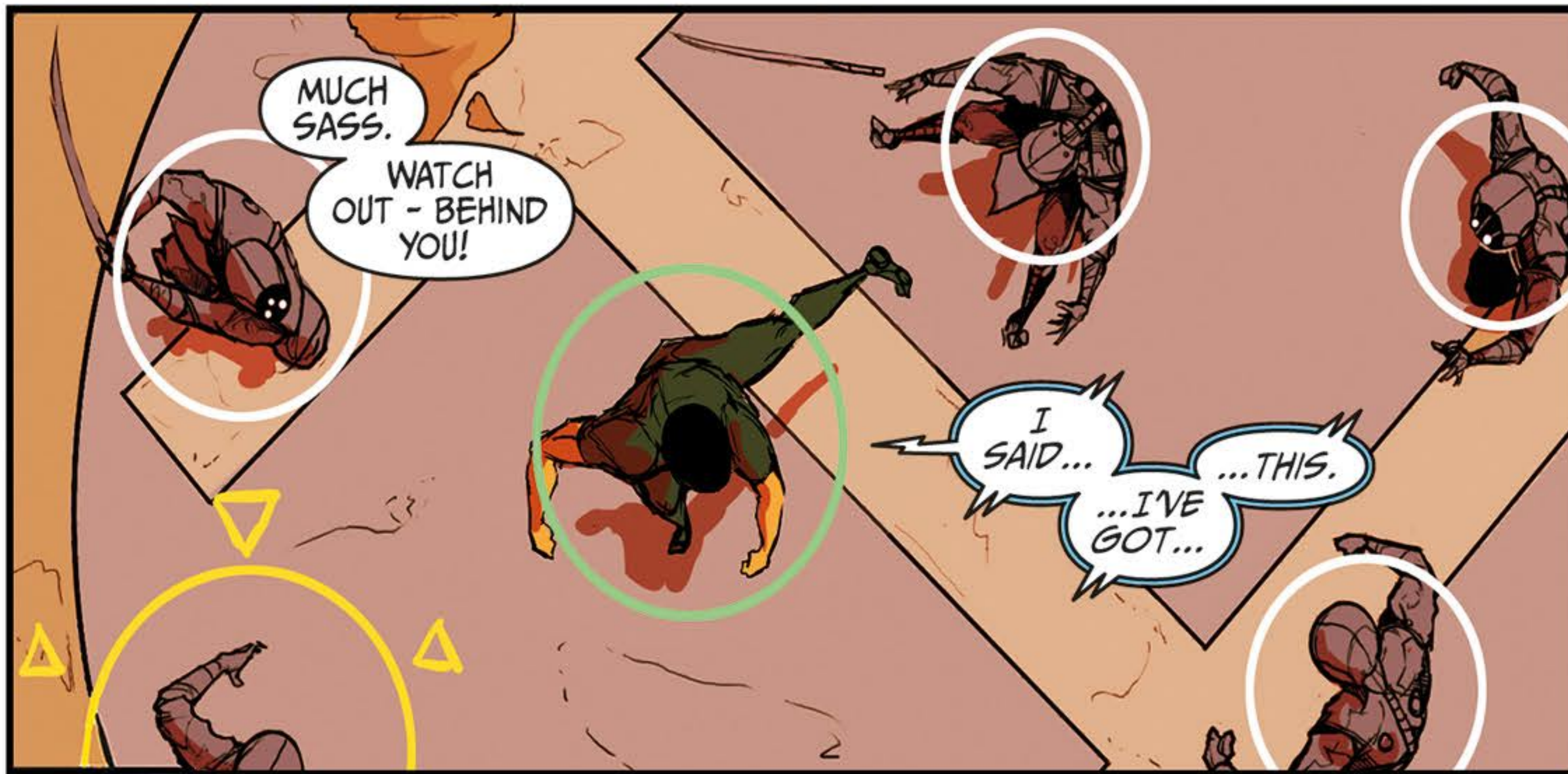
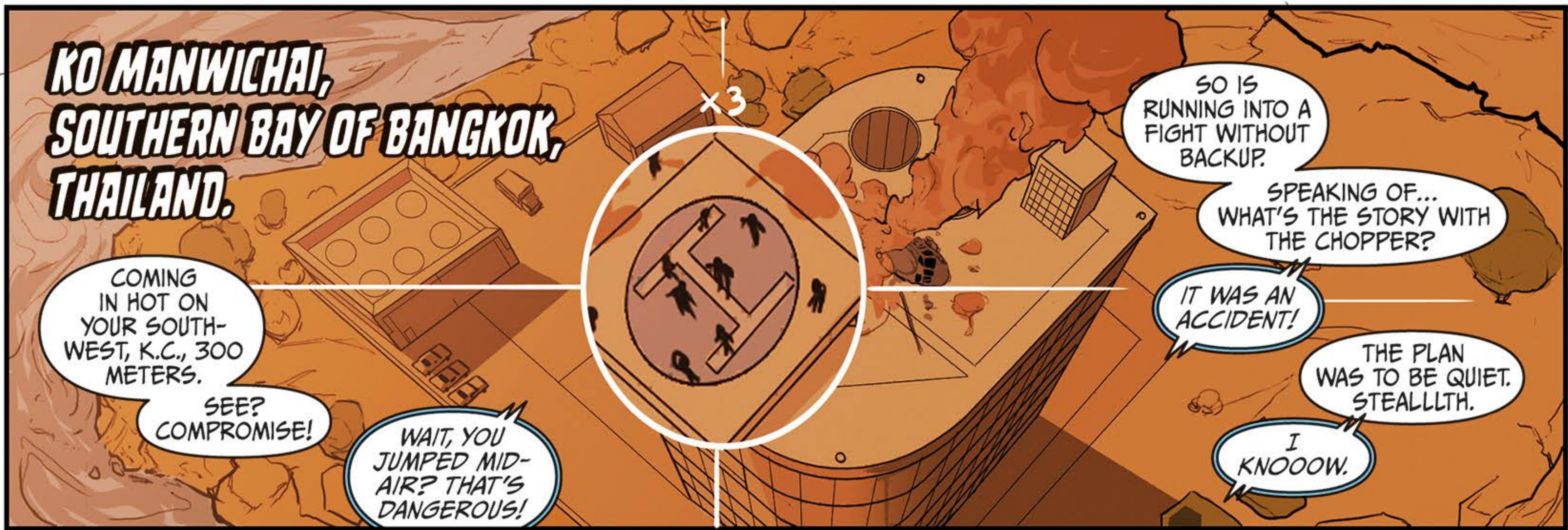
KID CHIMERA

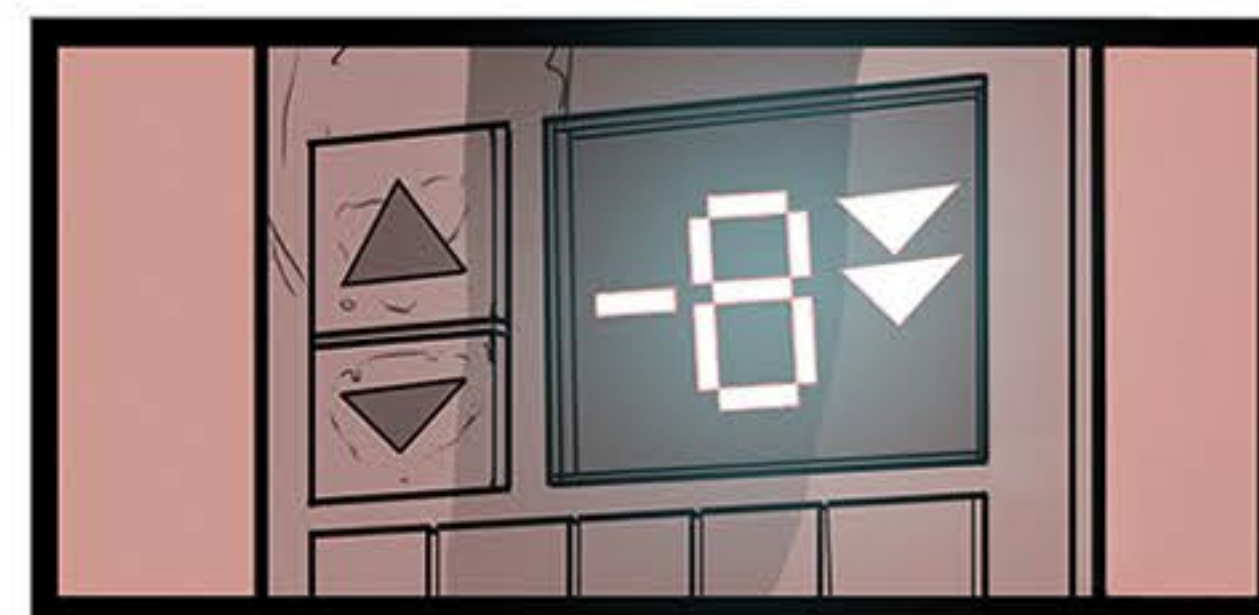


WRITER - DANE STYLER

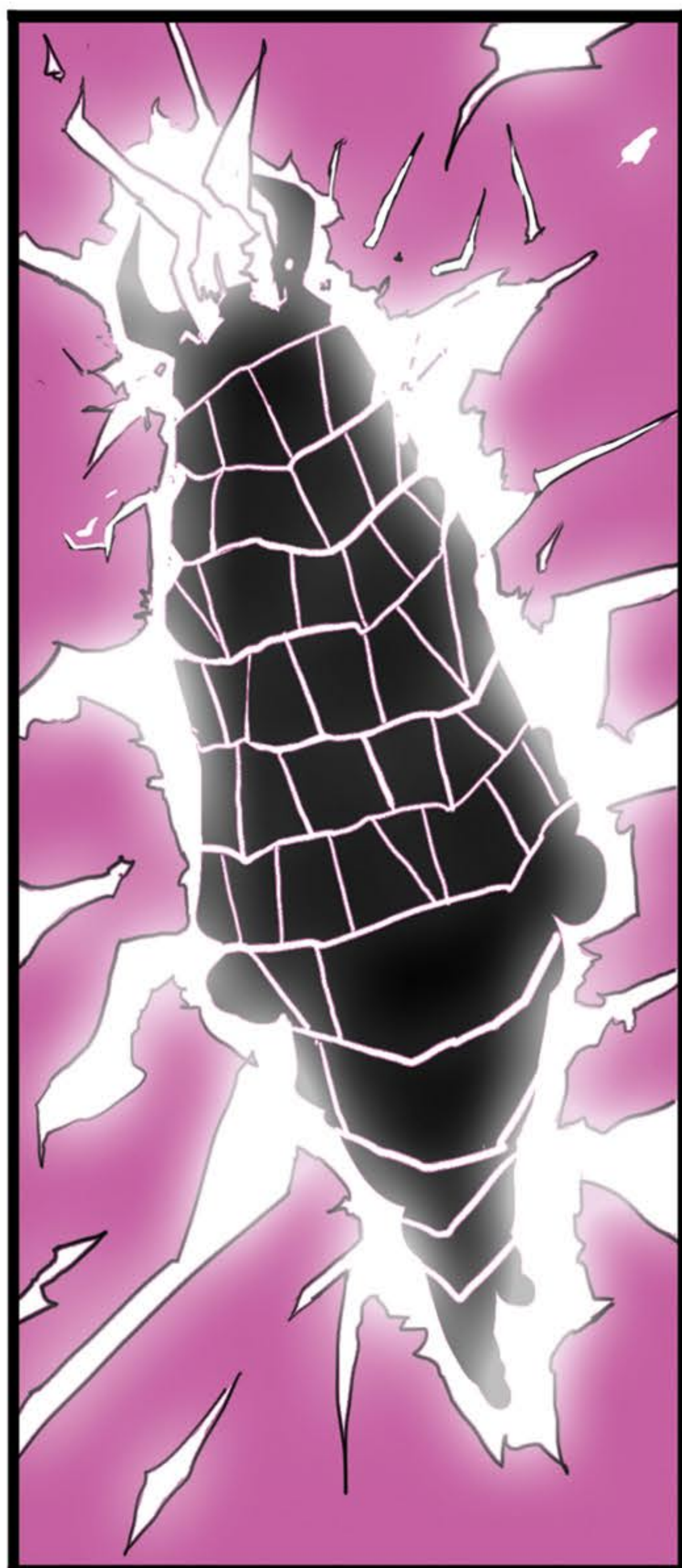
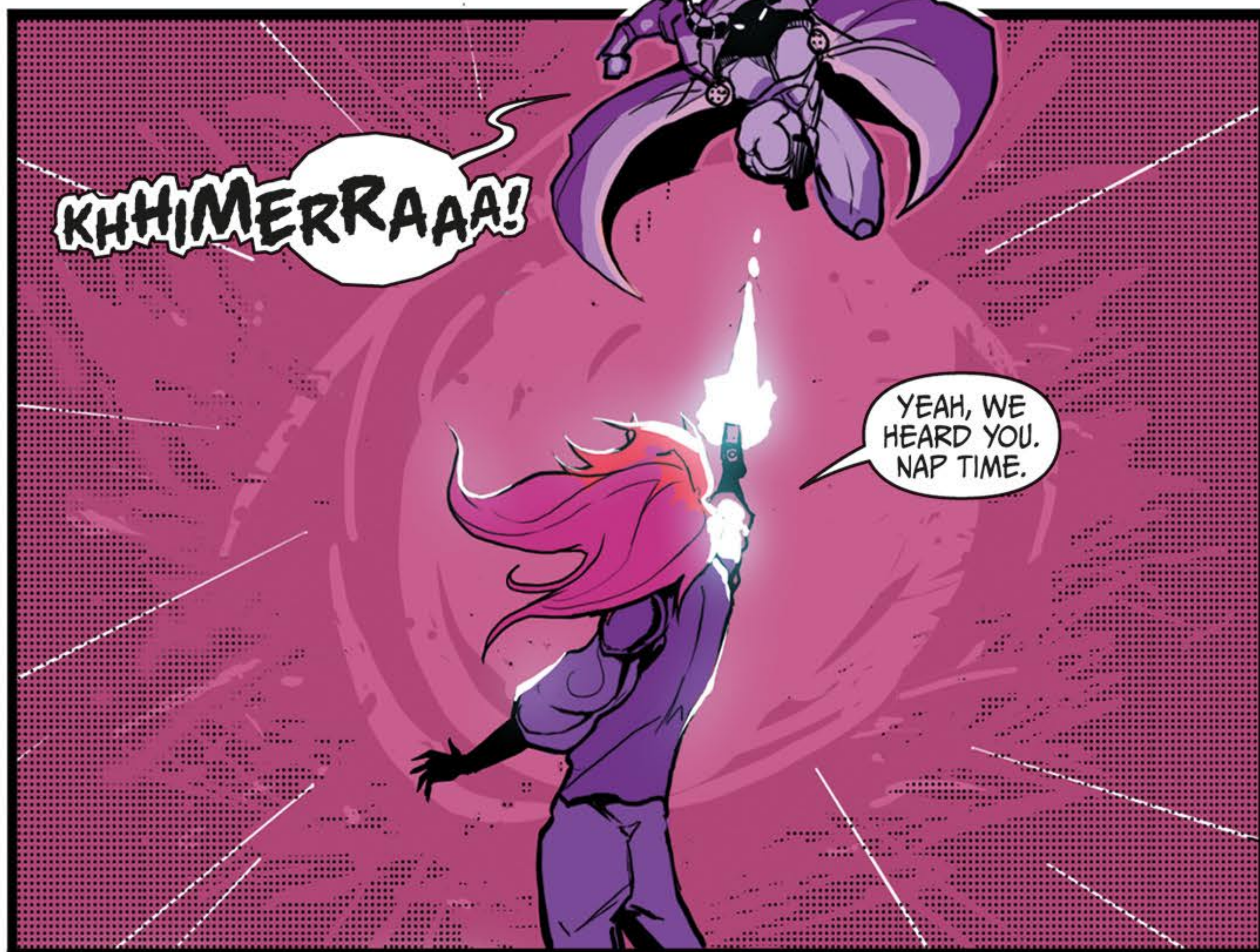
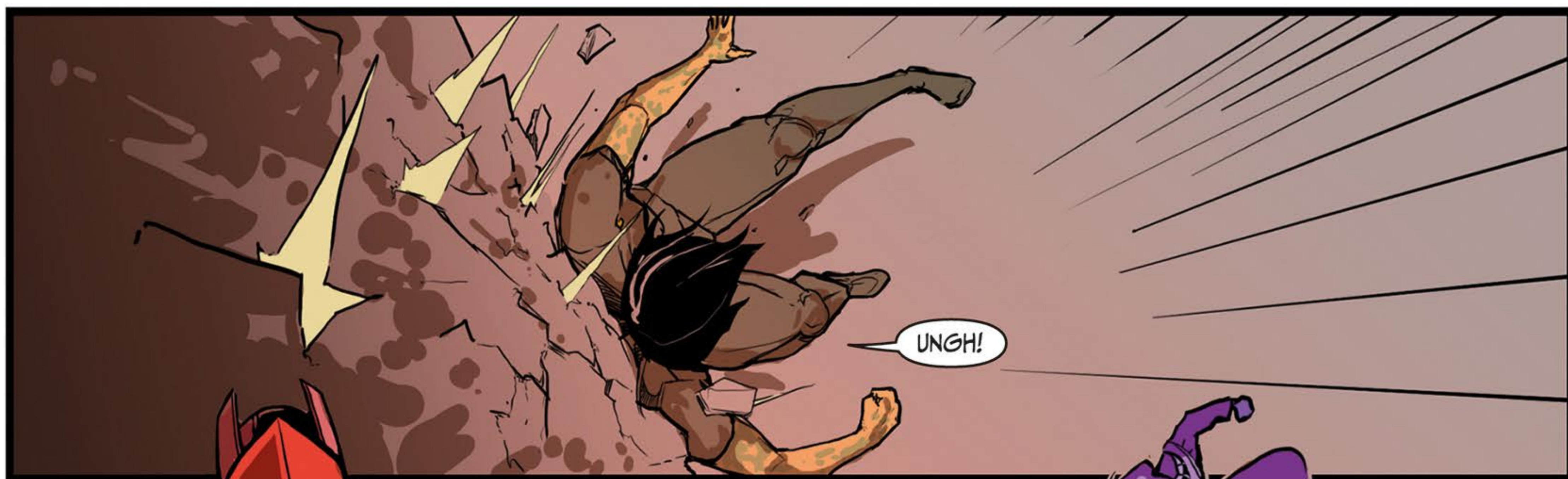
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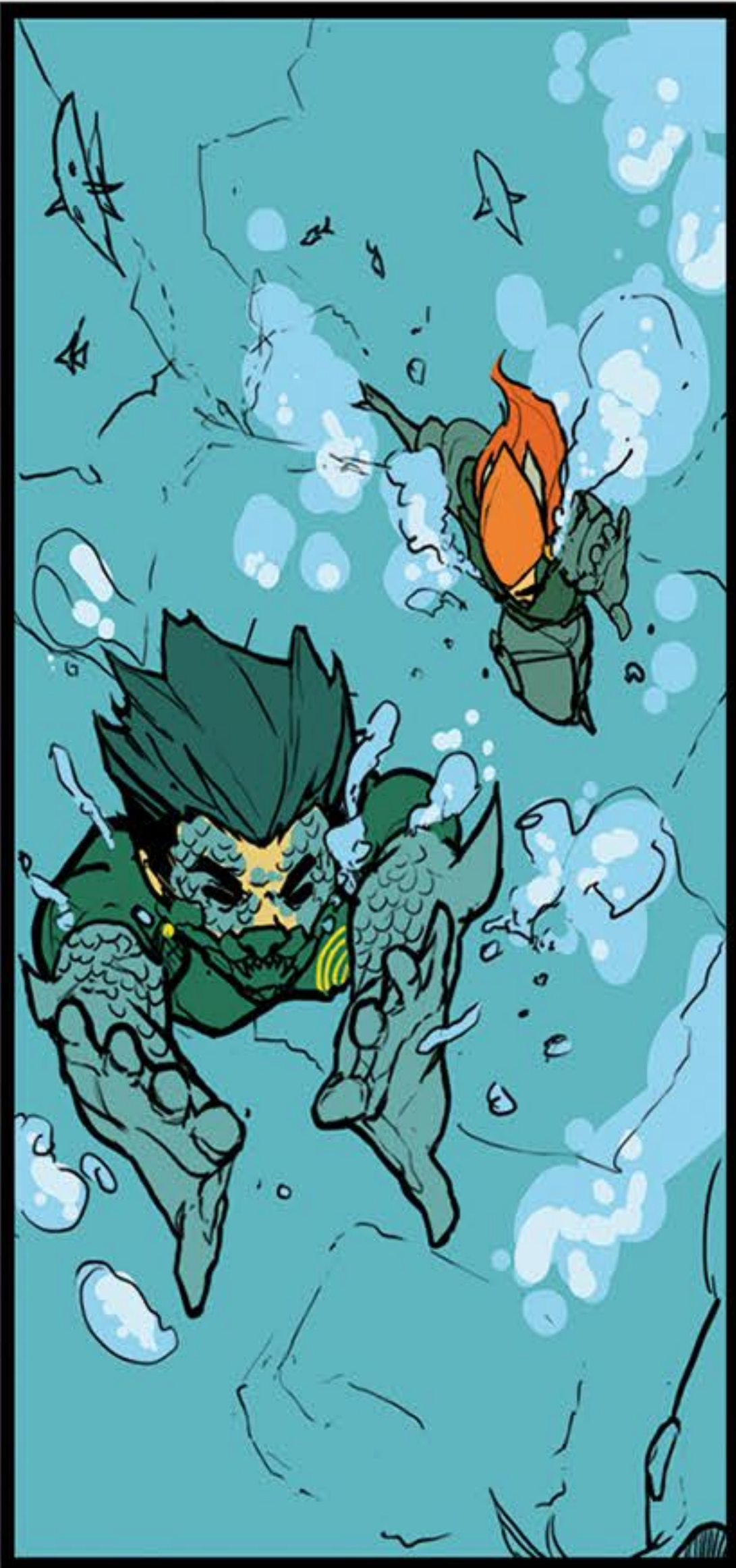
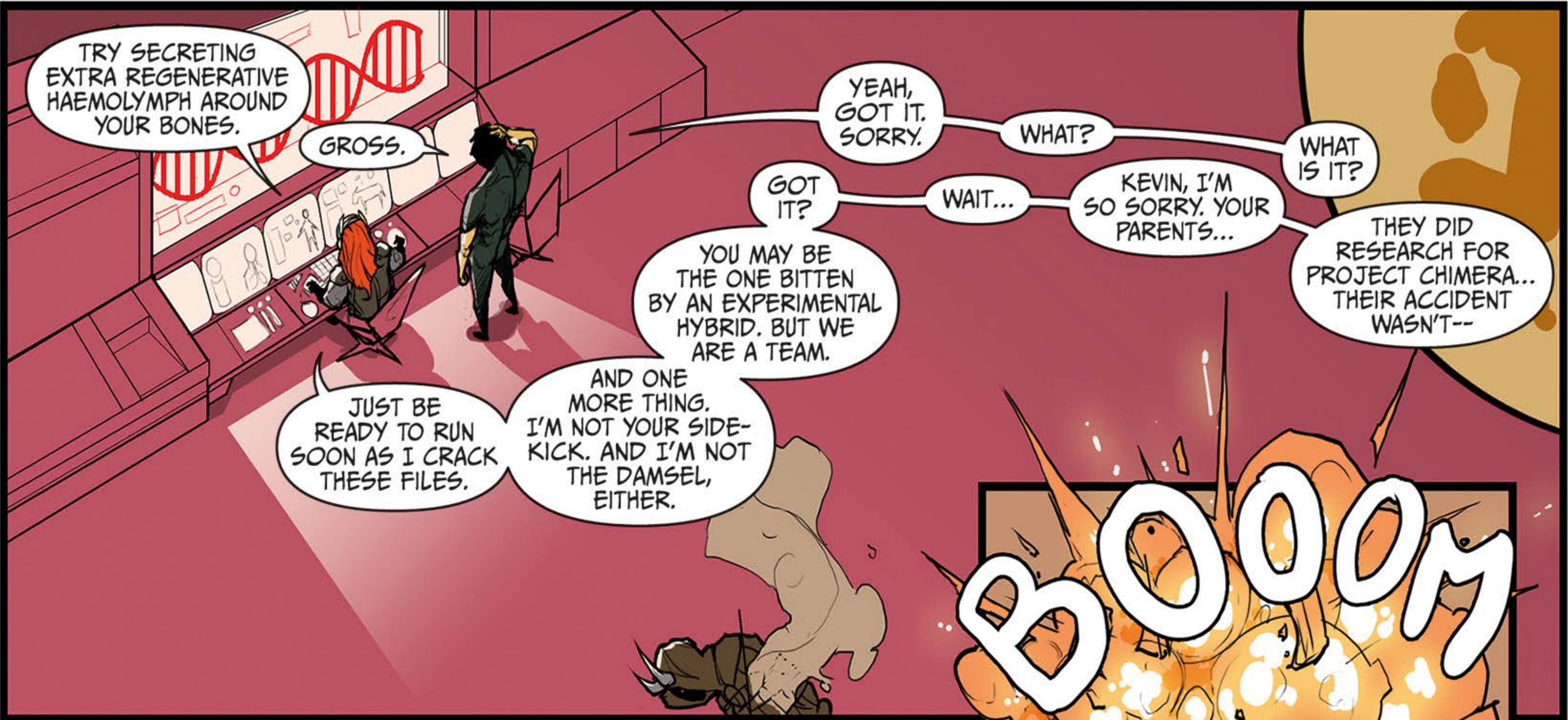
LETTERER - H&E













I NEED YOU TO LISTEN. PAY ATTENTION. FOLLOW THE SOUNDS OF THE SIRENS, OKAY?.

HERE IN THE CITY OF THE IMPOSSIBLE, EVERY DAY IS A LOTTERY.

ANY DAY - AT ANY MOMENT - IT COULD BE YOU THAT'S CHOSEN.



AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE, THE COMIC BOOK DREAMS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN BECOME REALITY.

BUT IT WON'T BE YOU. NOT TODAY.

BECAUSE SOME DREAMS...



...ARE TOO BIG TO LEAVE TO CHANCE.

WELCOME TO MILLENNIUM CITY.

JUST IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING... THAT'S NOT ME TEETERING DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO THE EDGE.



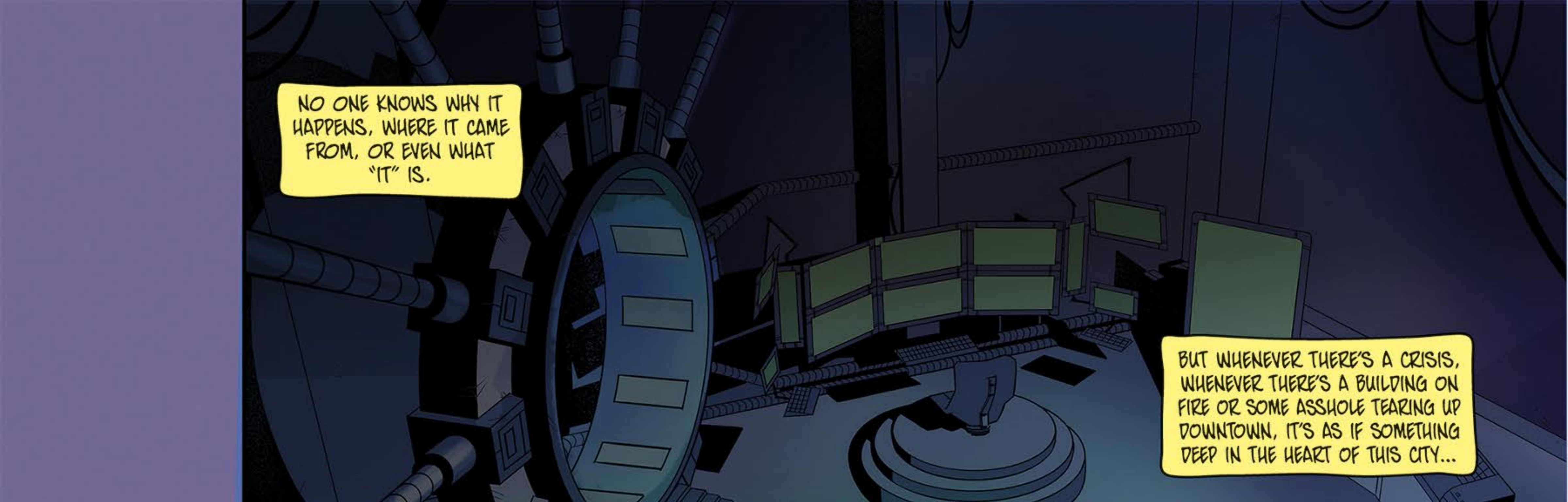
UNWORTHY

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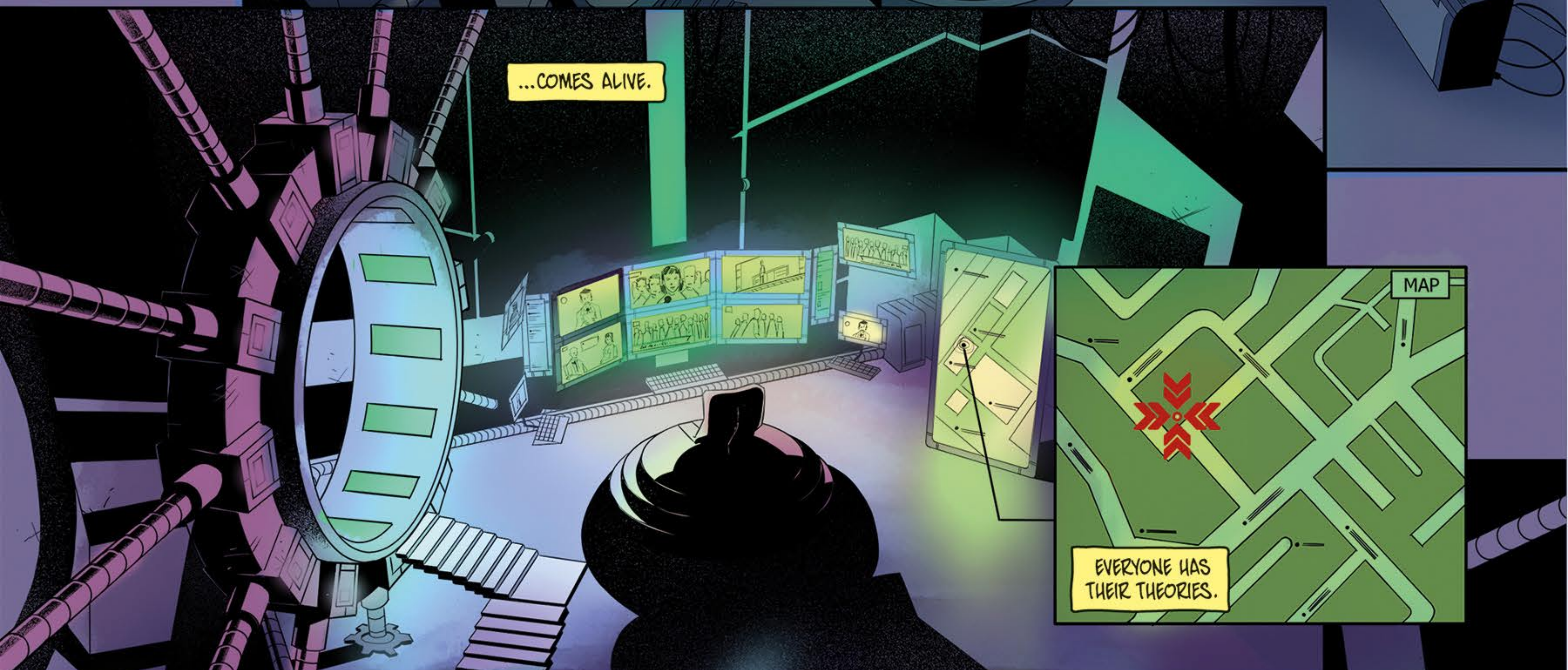
LETTERER - HdE



NO ONE KNOWS WHY IT
HAPPENS, WHERE IT CAME
FROM, OR EVEN WHAT
"IT" IS.

BUT WHENEVER THERE'S A CRISIS,
WHENEVER THERE'S A BUILDING ON
FIRE OR SOME ASSHOLE TEARING UP
DOWNTOWN, IT'S AS IF SOMETHING
DEEP IN THE HEART OF THIS CITY...

...COMES ALIVE.



MAP

EVERYONE HAS
THEIR THEORIES.

SOME SAY IT'S THE SPIRIT OF THE CHAMPION
WHO USED TO PROTECT OUR CITY, LIKE, FIFTY
YEARS AGO. HE'D BE TOO OLD TO STILL BE ALIVE,
BUT PEOPLE SAY HE STILL WATCHES OVER US.

THEN THERE'S THOSE PREACHING JUDGMENT AND
DAMNATION FROM THEIR PULPITS. THEY CRY OF
DEMONS FROM HELL COME TO POSSESS THOSE
UNCLEAN IN THE EYES OF GOD. UNWORTHY OF
HIS SALVATION.

WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S MY
TICKET TO A NEW AND
BETTER LIFE.

HERE WE GO. WHAT HAPPENS
NEXT IS SOMETHING TOTALLY OUT
OF THIS WORLD. SOMETHING...

...EXTRAORDINARY!



JUST BEFORE IT HAPPENS, PEOPLE SAY THEY SEE A BALL OF LIGHT, LIKE A COMET ZIPPING THROUGH THE CITY.

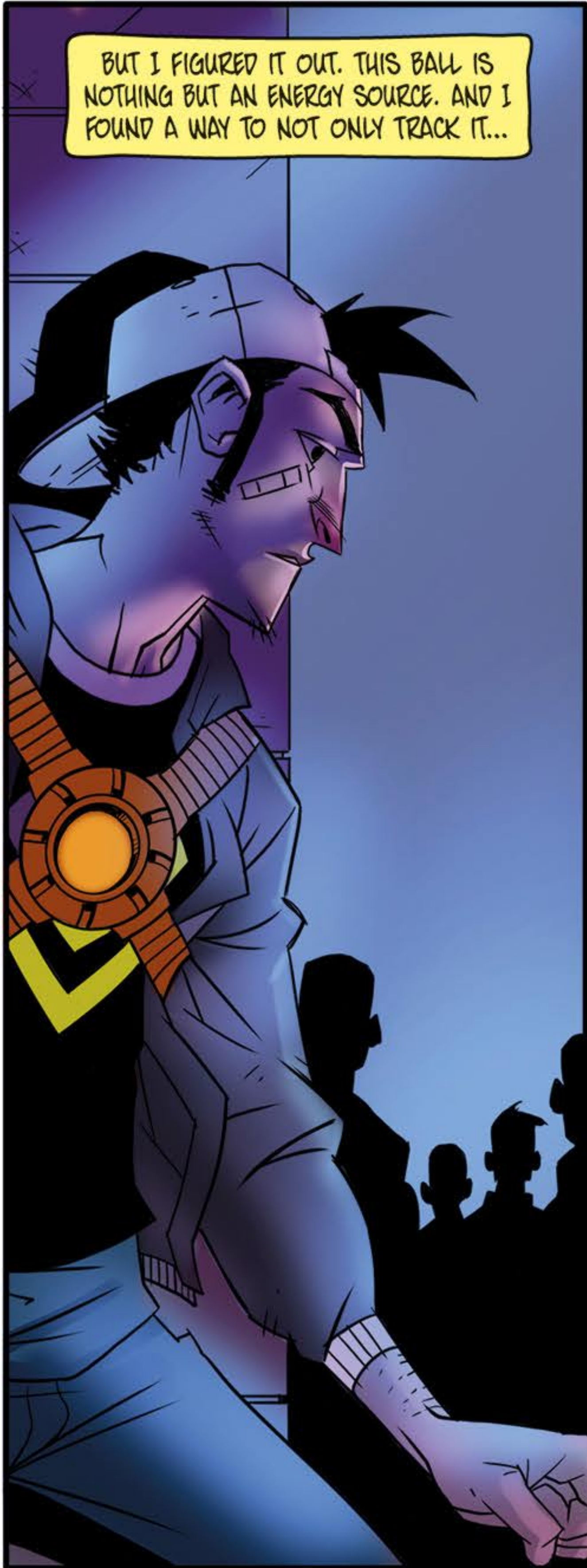
MY NAME IS OFFICER TORRES. JUST LISTEN TO MY VOICE, OKAY?



AND THEN IT CHOOSES SOMEONE. JUST LIKE THAT.

PLEASE STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE. HELP IS ON THE WAY.

JUST LIKE A LOTTERY.



BUT I FIGURED IT OUT. THIS BALL IS NOTHING BUT AN ENERGY SOURCE. AND I FOUND A WAY TO NOT ONLY TRACK IT...



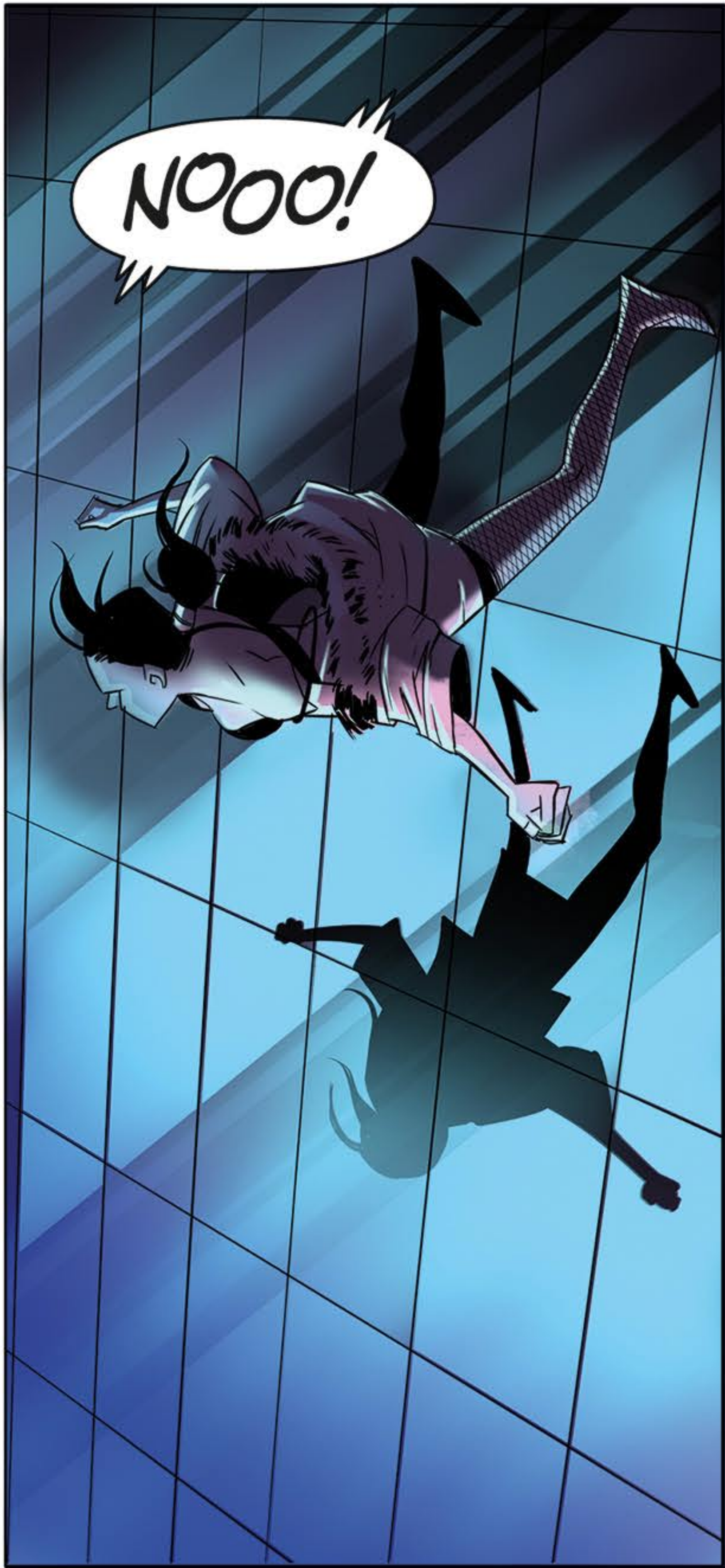
...BUT ALSO TO REDIRECT IT. FLIP THE POLARITY AND PULL IT BACK TO ME. LIKE A SIREN'S CALL.



HELP WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE NOW.

JUST STAY CALM. AND THEN WE CAN ALL GO TO THOMPSON'S FOR SOME CHEESE MELTS. HOW'S THAT SOUND?

I THINK.



THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S MY
TURN TO BE THE HERO.





EVERY TIME THE CITY IS
IN CRISIS. WHEN A LIFE
IS IN DANGER.



A HERO IS
CHOSEN.



SOMEONE WHO CAN SAVE THE DAY.
THEN TOMORROW GO BACK TO BEING
NORMAL. LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.



I FOUND A WAY TO HACK
THE LOTTERY. NOW I'M THE
HERO AND IT'S STAYING
THAT WAY.



I'VE GOT YOU!

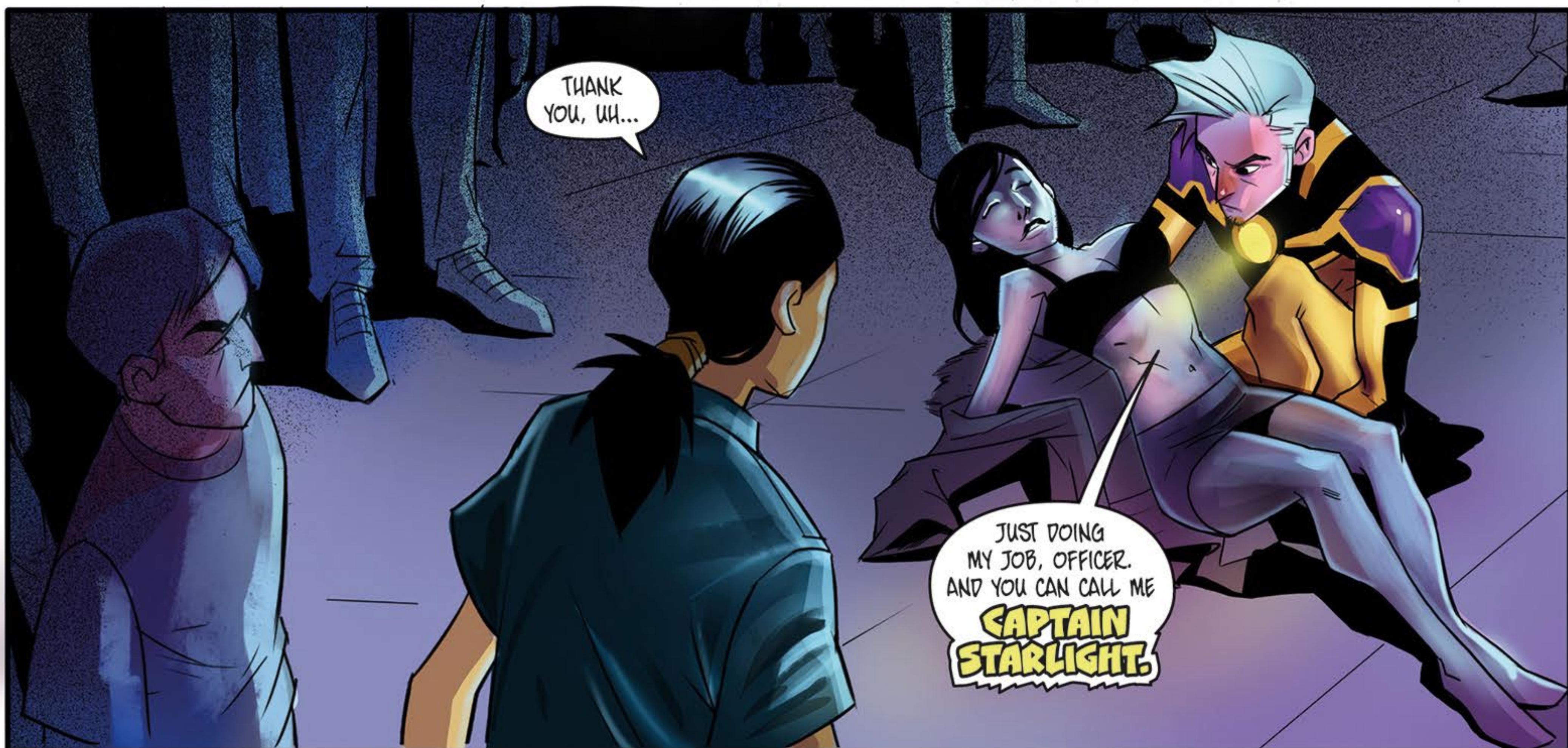


MAKE SOME SPACE EVERYONE. SHE'S HAD A ROUGH MORNING.

BUT NOW THAT I'M HERE, EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALRIGHT.

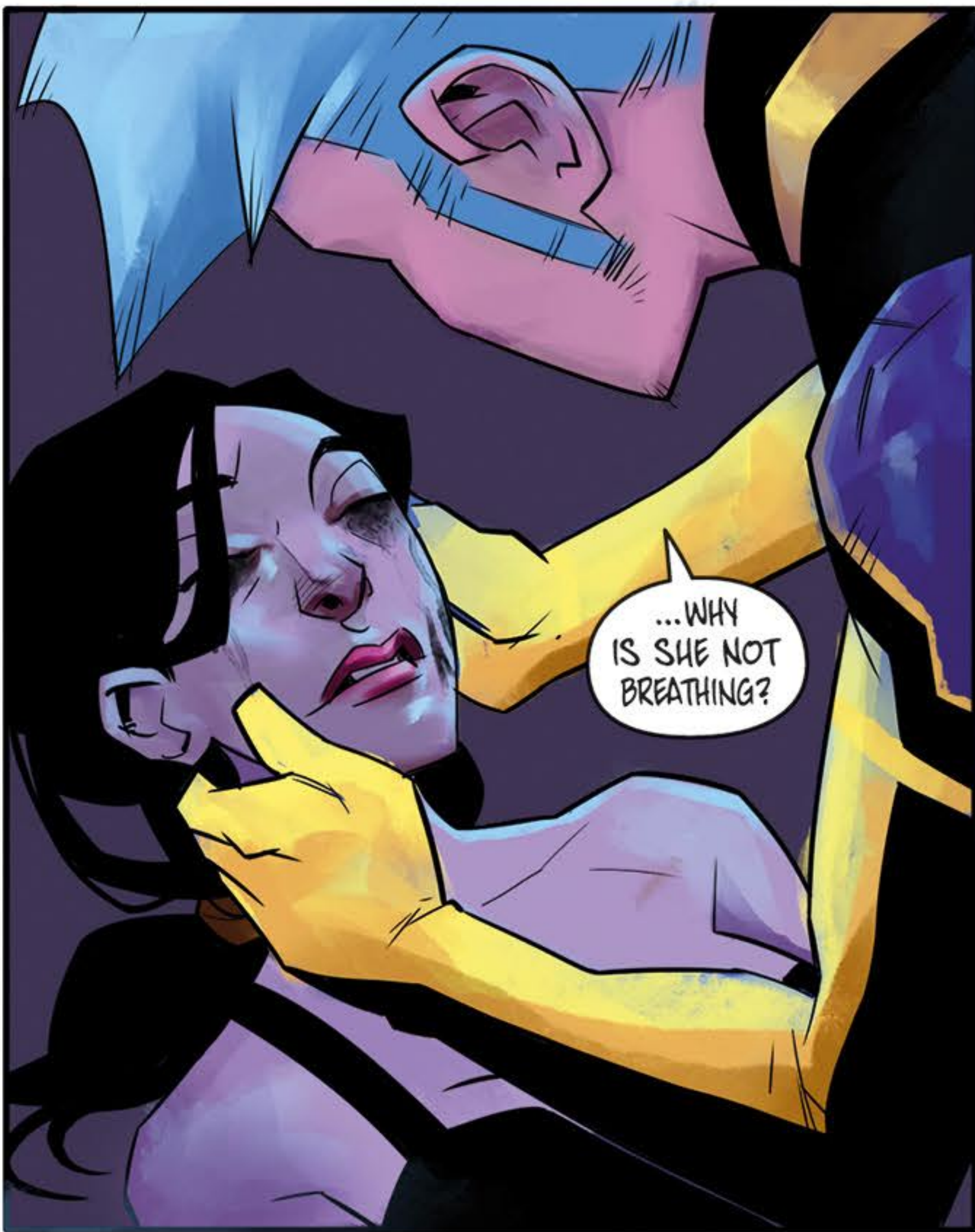
YOU'VE HAD HEROES BEFORE, BUT THINGS ARE GOING TO BE DIFFERENT NOW. I'LL BE STICKING AROUND FOR THE PEOPLE OF MILLENNIUM CITY.

THIS IS AMAZING. THEY LOVE ME!



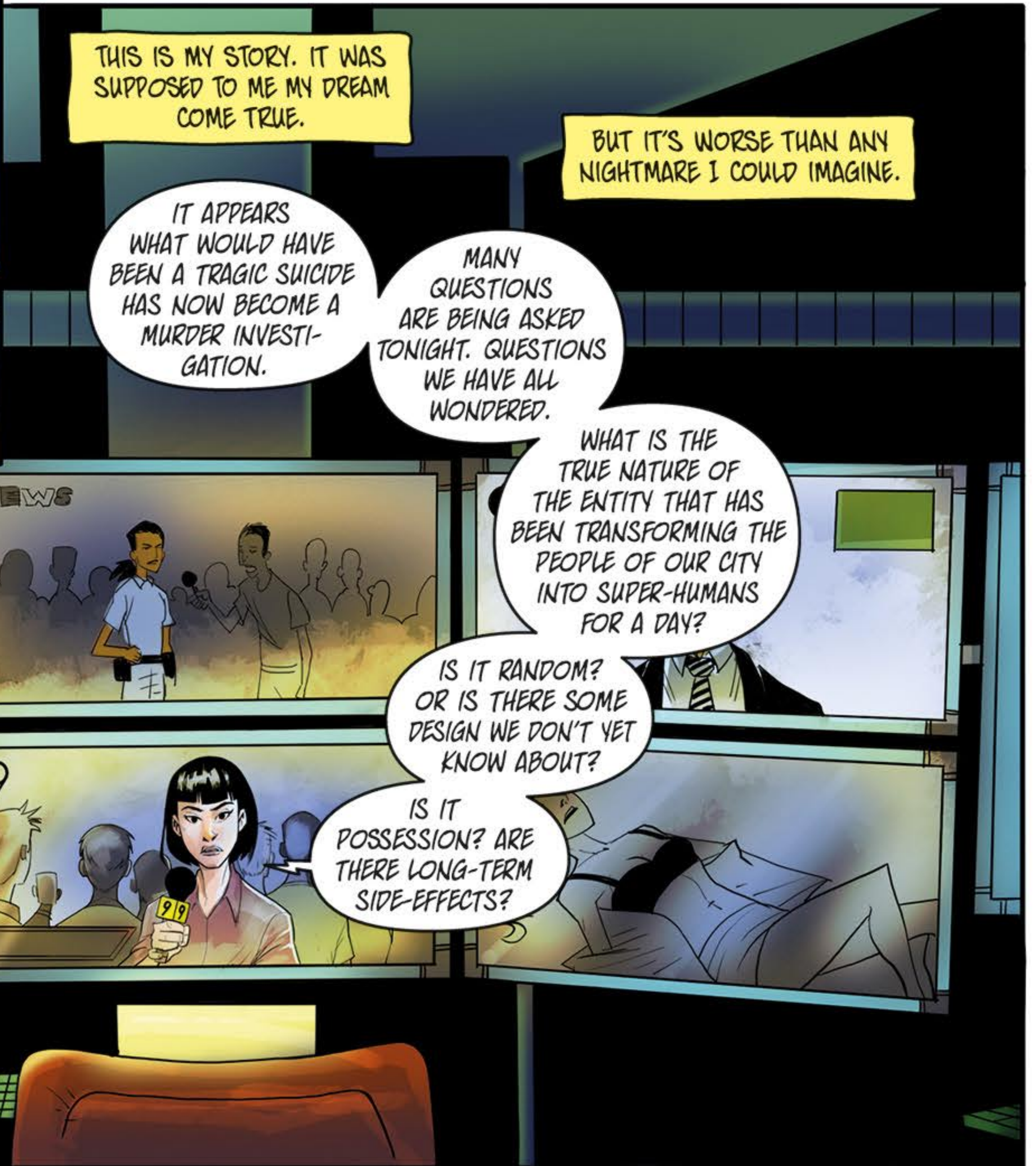
THANK YOU, UH...

JUST DOING MY JOB, OFFICER. AND YOU CAN CALL ME **CAPTAIN STARLIGHT.**





WE CAN CONFIRM THAT THE WOMAN WHO JUMPED IS DEAD. BUT NOT BY HER OWN DOING.



THIS IS MY STORY. IT WAS SUPPOSED TO ME MY DREAM COME TRUE.

BUT IT'S WORSE THAN ANY NIGHTMARE I COULD IMAGINE.

IT APPEARS WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A TRAGIC SUICIDE HAS NOW BECOME A MURDER INVESTIGATION.

MANY QUESTIONS ARE BEING ASKED TONIGHT. QUESTIONS WE HAVE ALL WONDERED.

WHAT IS THE TRUE NATURE OF THE ENTITY THAT HAS BEEN TRANSFORMING THE PEOPLE OF OUR CITY INTO SUPER-HUMANS FOR A DAY?

IS IT RANDOM? OR IS THERE SOME DESIGN WE DON'T YET KNOW ABOUT?

IS IT POSSESSION? ARE THERE LONG-TERM SIDE-EFFECTS?



ALL I WANTED WAS TO BE THEIR HERO.

AND WHAT IS CAPTAIN STARLIGHT'S CONNECTION TO THE ENTITY?

THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY ARE IN MOURNING TONIGHT.

THEY ARE ANGRY. AND THEY ARE AFRAID.



WHOEVER THIS CAPTAIN STARLIGHT IS...

I WANTED TO BE SIGNIFICANT. IMPORTANT. I WANTED TO SAVE THEM ALL.



HE'S NO HERO TO THEM.

INSTEAD, I'M STUCK LIKE THIS. I'VE BECOME THE MONSTER!

THE END

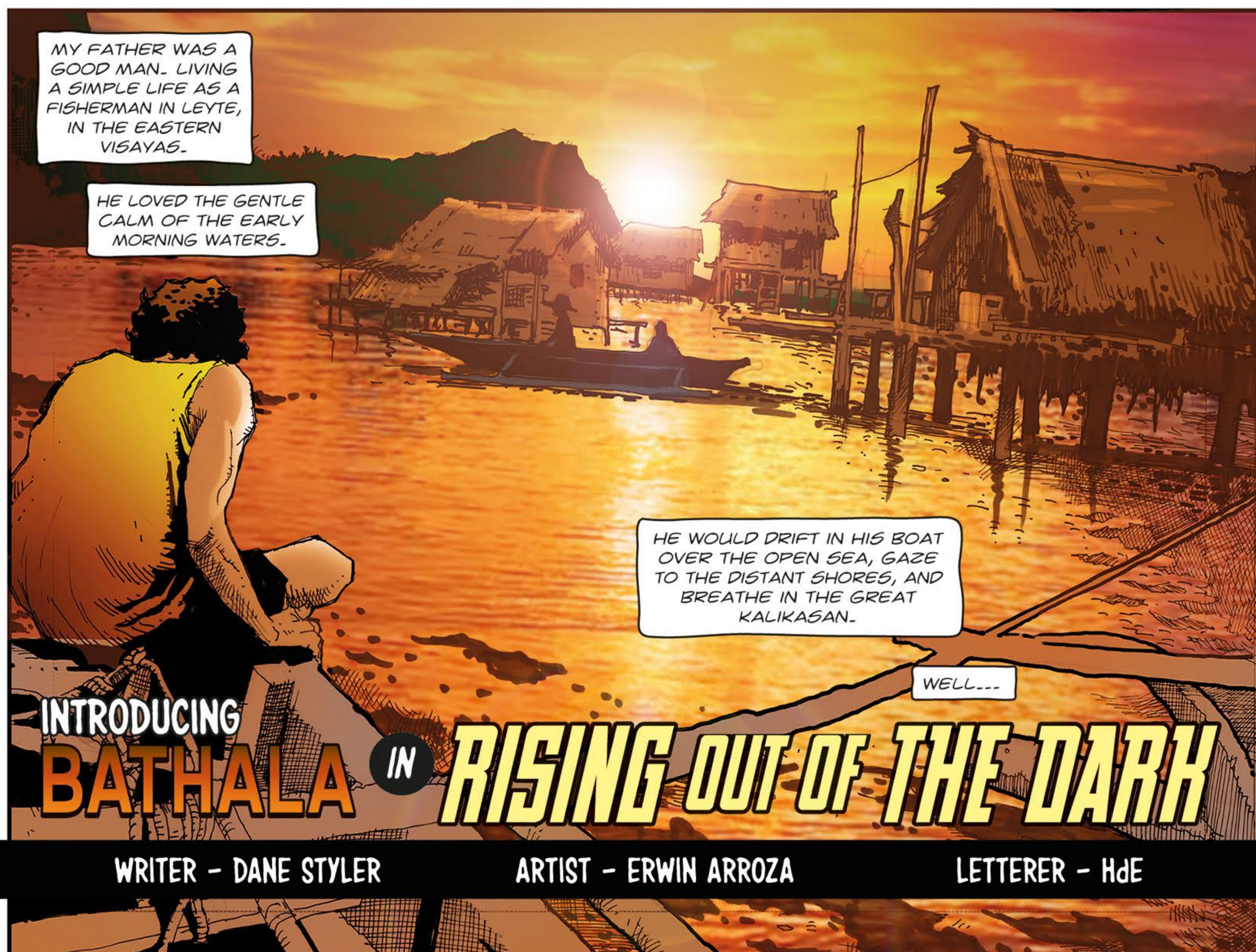


WHEN I WAS A BOY, I
WOULD BEG MY FATHER
TO LET ME GO WITH HIM
ON HIS TRIPS TO MANILA.
BUT ITAY'S ANSWER WAS
ALWAYS THE SAME.

"TOO DANGEROUS."

EXCEPT IT WASN'T
THE CITY THAT HE
WAS WORRIED
ABOUT.

IT WAS
ME.



MY FATHER WAS A
GOOD MAN. LIVING
A SIMPLE LIFE AS A
FISHERMAN IN LEYTE,
IN THE EASTERN
VISAYAS.

HE LOVED THE GENTLE
CALM OF THE EARLY
MORNING WATERS.

HE WOULD DRIFT IN HIS BOAT
OVER THE OPEN SEA, GAZE
TO THE DISTANT SHORES, AND
BREATHE IN THE GREAT
KALIKASAN.

WELL....

INTRODUCING
BATHALA IN **RIISING OUT OF THE DARK**

WRITER - DANE STYLER

ARTIST - ERWIN ARROZA

LETTERER - H&E



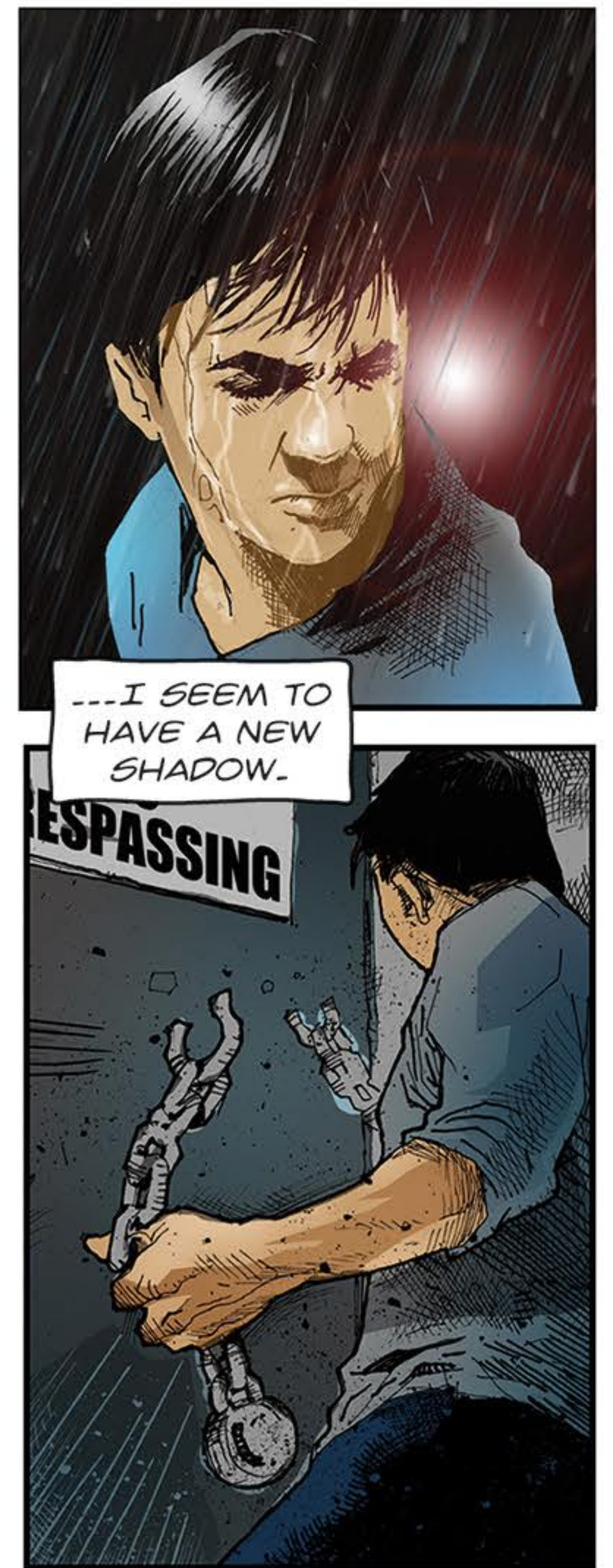
I GUESS THE WORLD FORGOT HOW TO BREATHE.

THE ICE CAPS ARE HISTORY. CITIES ARE SINKING AS TEMPERATURES CONTINUE TO RISE. WATER IS SCARCE. AND ENTIRE FORESTS BURN THROUGH THE NIGHT.

THE OLD SPIRITS ARE WAKING UP FROM THEIR MILLENNIAL NAP... PISSED AS HELL WITH WHAT WE'VE DONE WITH THEIR HOME.

THE SO-CALLED LEGION DON'T HAVE A CHANCE AT FIXING ALL THIS MESS.

AND TONIGHT...



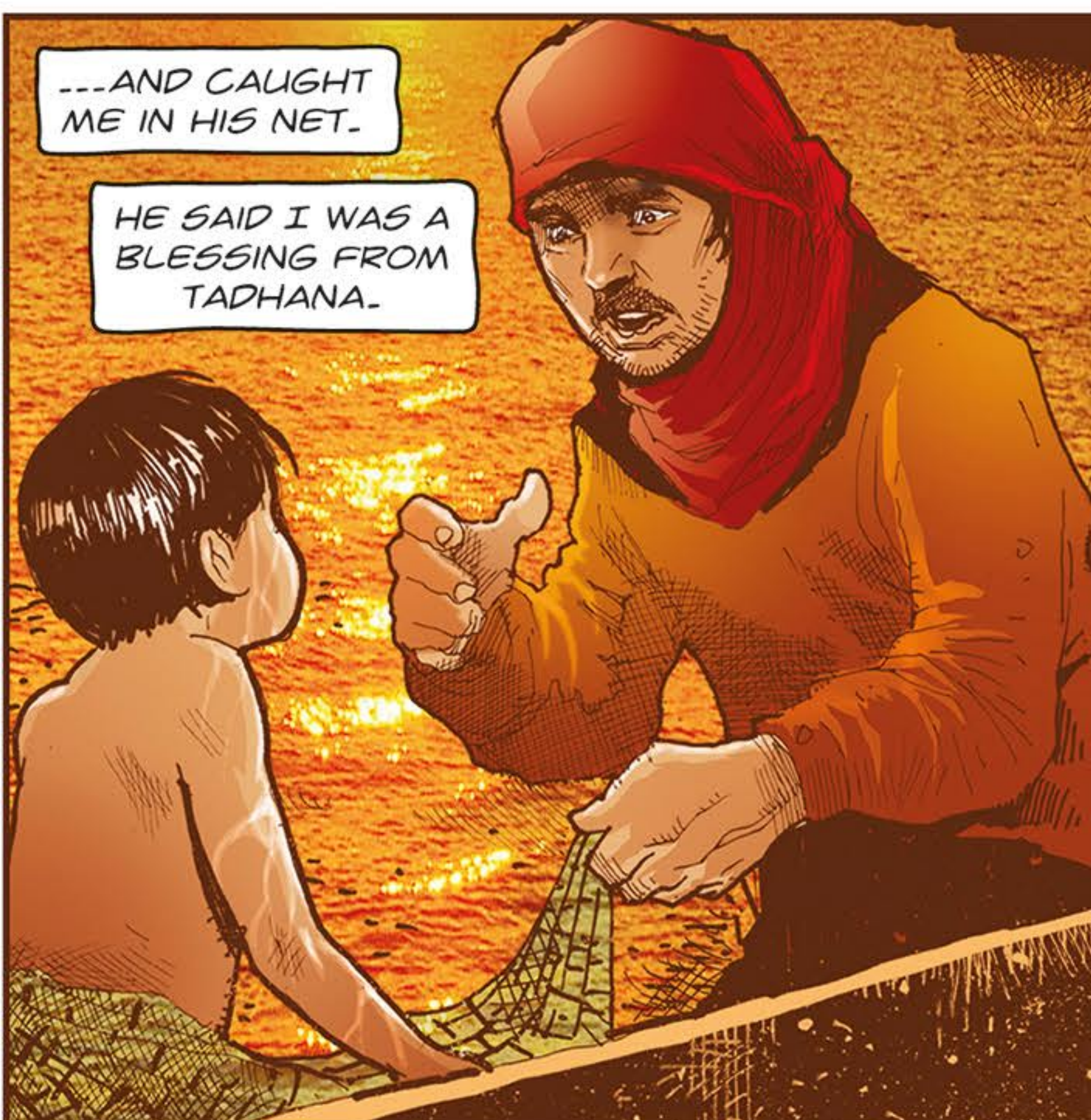
...I SEEM TO HAVE A NEW SHADOW.

RESPASSING



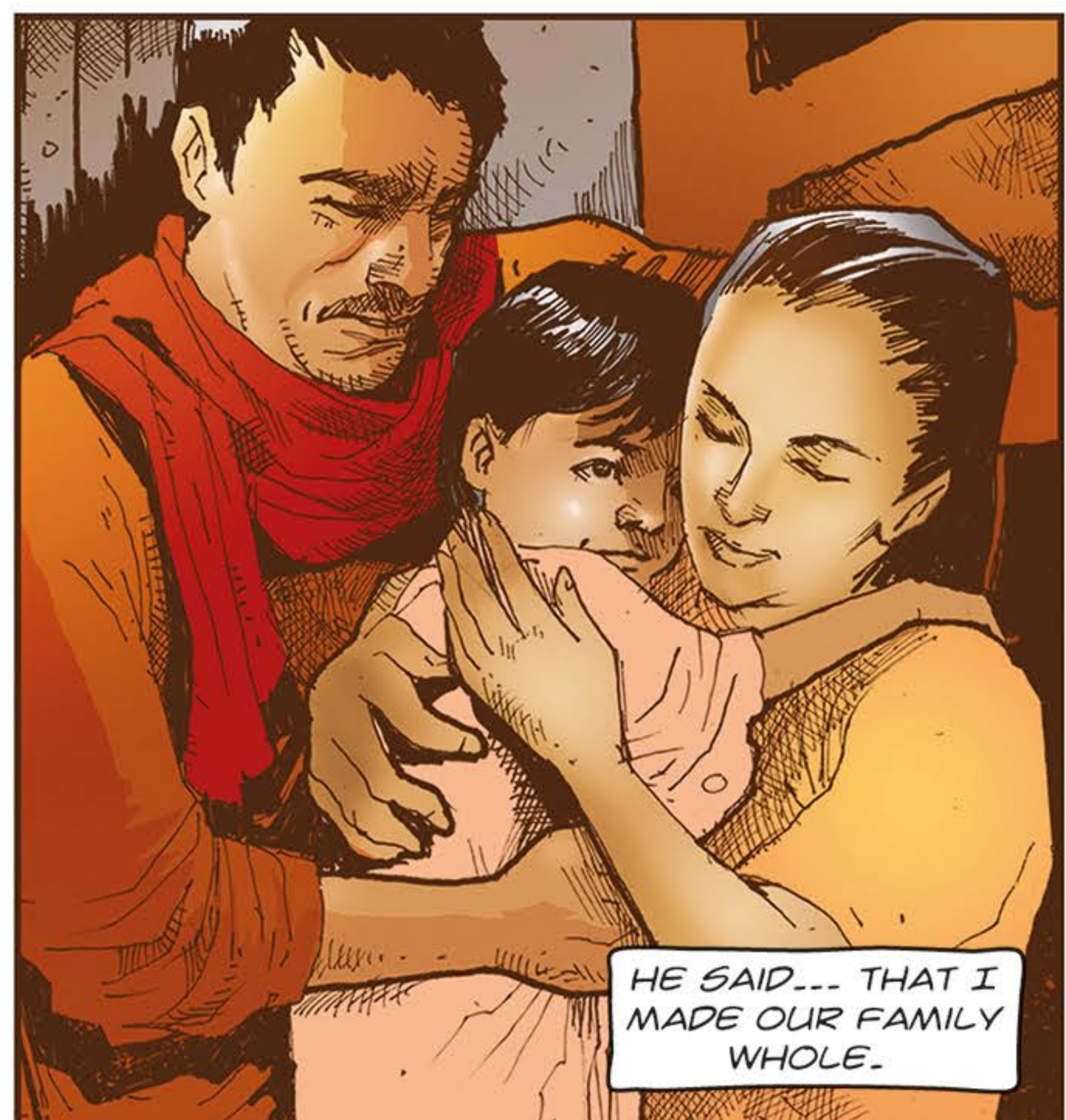
AS I SEEK SHELTER, I THINK ABOUT ITAY AND THE STORIES HE WOULD TELL ME AS A BOY.

THE STORY OF THE DAY HE WENT FISHING...



...AND CAUGHT ME IN HIS NET.

HE SAID I WAS A BLESSING FROM TADHANA.



HE SAID... THAT I MADE OUR FAMILY WHOLE.



THEN I RAN AWAY. AND NOW THEY'RE GONE.

IT'S JUST ME, NOW. HIDING OUT AND LURKING IN MANILA'S DARK, DAMP ALLEYS. SCAVENGING LIKE THE WORTHLESS RAT THAT I AM.

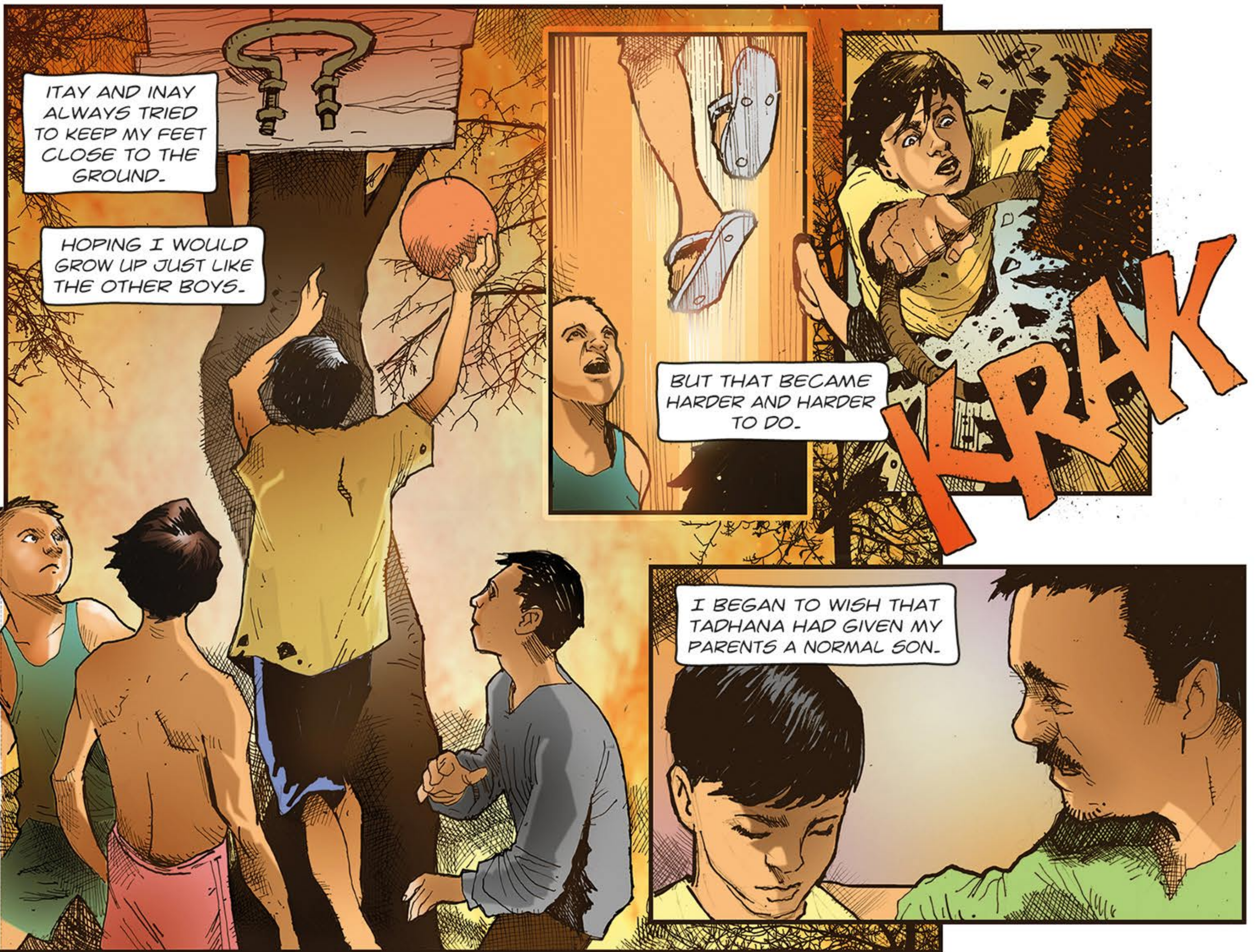
BUT I'M TIRED OF RUNNING AND HIDING. IT'S TIME TO MAKE ALL MY SHADOWS COME OUT TO PLAY.



THIS ABANDONED CONSTRUCTION HIGH RISE SHOULD BE REMOTE ENOUGH...



PAK-KITT



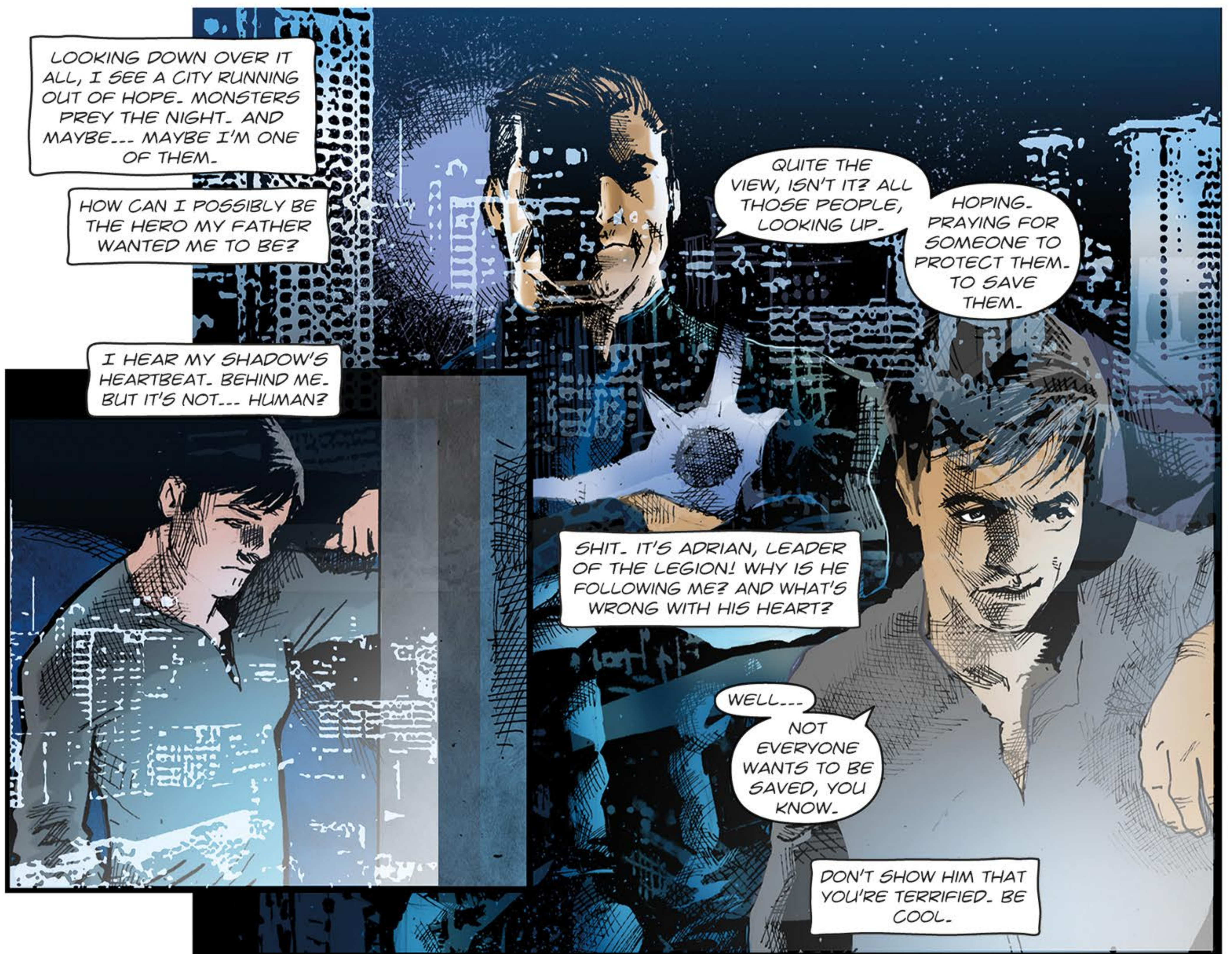
ITAY AND INAY ALWAYS TRIED TO KEEP MY FEET CLOSE TO THE GROUND.

HOPING I WOULD GROW UP JUST LIKE THE OTHER BOYS.

BUT THAT BECAME HARDER AND HARDER TO DO.

KRAK

I BEGAN TO WISH THAT TADHANA HAD GIVEN MY PARENTS A NORMAL SON.



LOOKING DOWN OVER IT ALL, I SEE A CITY RUNNING OUT OF HOPE. MONSTERS PREY THE NIGHT. AND MAYBE... MAYBE I'M ONE OF THEM.

HOW CAN I POSSIBLY BE THE HERO MY FATHER WANTED ME TO BE?

I HEAR MY SHADOW'S HEARTBEAT. BEHIND ME. BUT IT'S NOT... HUMAN?

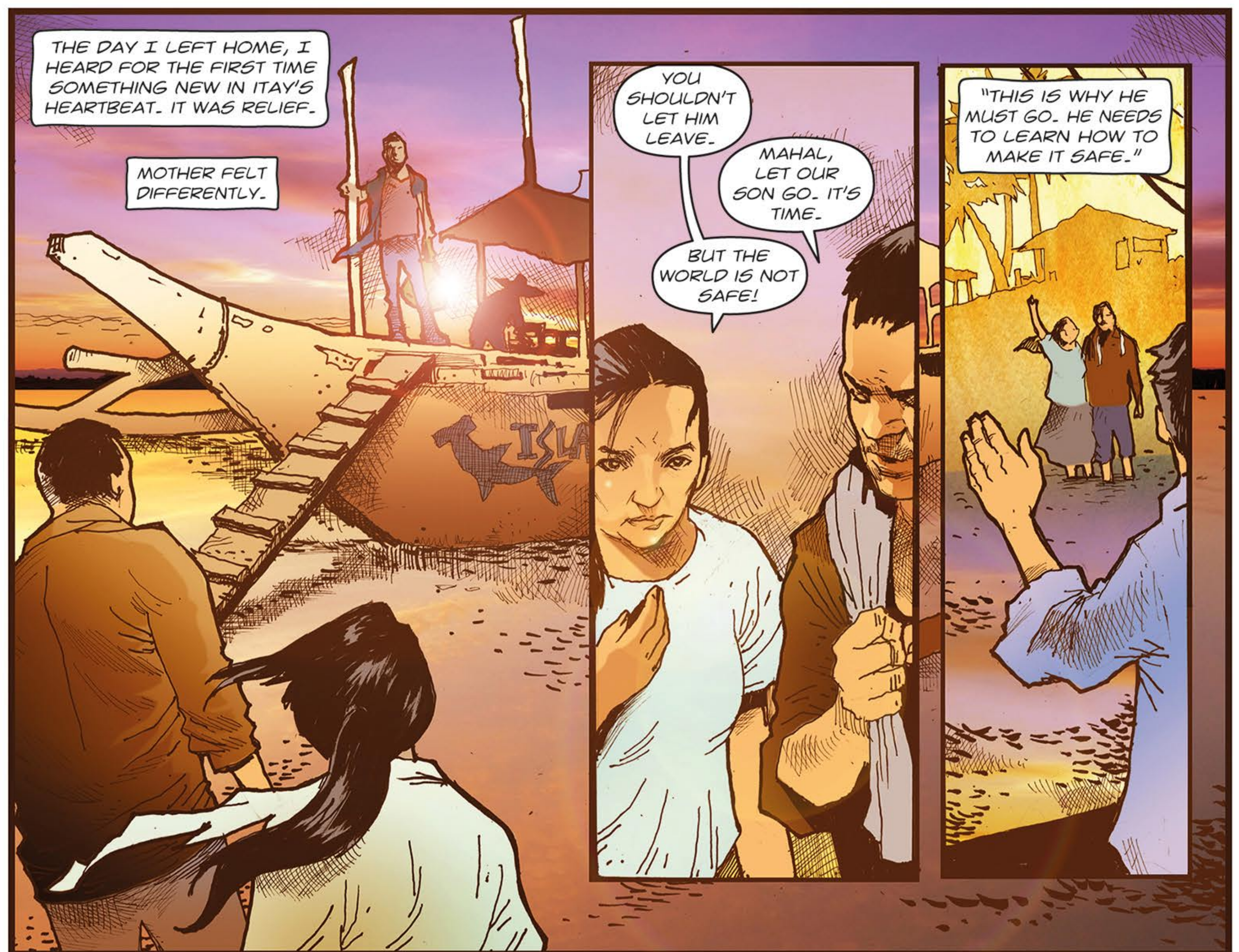
QUITE THE VIEW, ISN'T IT? ALL THOSE PEOPLE, LOOKING UP.

HOPING. PRAYING FOR SOMEONE TO PROTECT THEM. TO SAVE THEM.

SHIT. IT'S ADRIAN, LEADER OF THE LEGION! WHY IS HE FOLLOWING ME? AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIS HEART?

WELL... NOT EVERYONE WANTS TO BE SAVED, YOU KNOW.

DON'T SHOW HIM THAT YOU'RE TERRIFIED. BE COOL.



THE DAY I LEFT HOME, I HEARD FOR THE FIRST TIME SOMETHING NEW IN ITAY'S HEARTBEAT. IT WAS RELIEF.

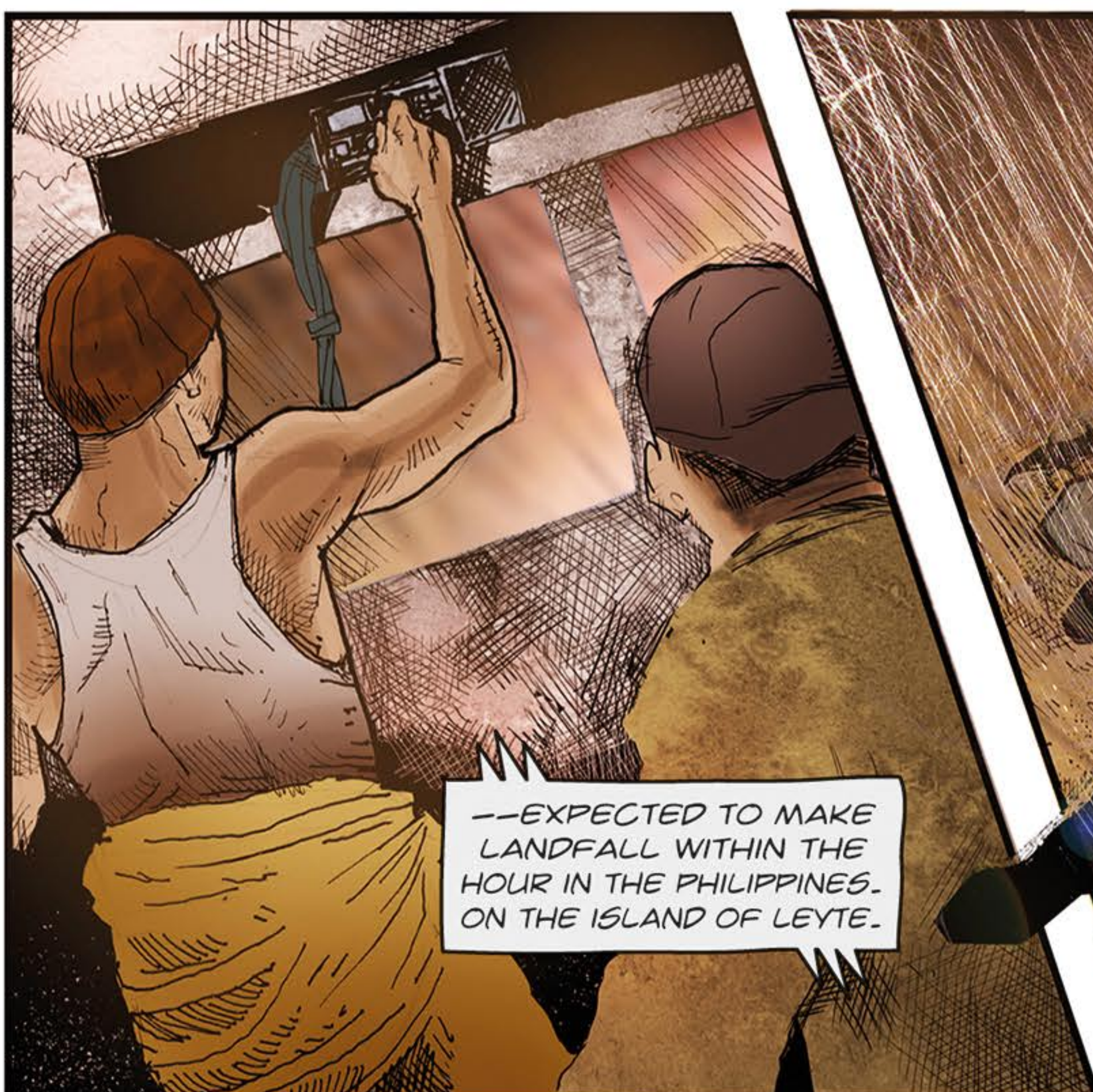
MOTHER FELT DIFFERENTLY.

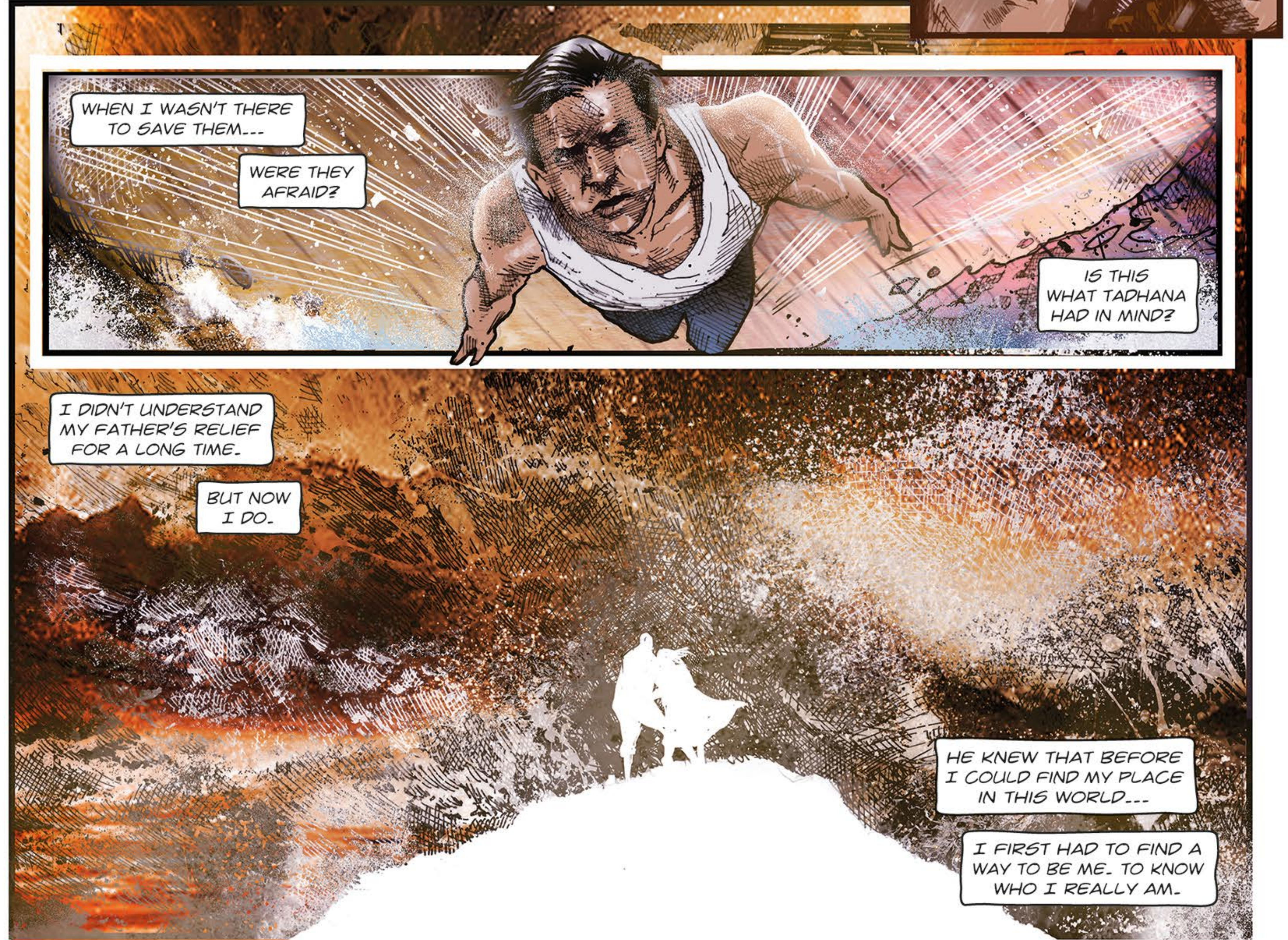
YOU SHOULDN'T LET HIM LEAVE.

MAHAL, LET OUR SON GO. IT'S TIME.

BUT THE WORLD IS NOT SAFE!

"THIS IS WHY HE MUST GO. HE NEEDS TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE IT SAFE."









THIS IS
CRAZY.

I JUST BLEW UP A
BUILDING, RUNNING
AWAY FROM THE
GODDAMN LEGION.

ITAY WOULD
KILL ME.



I DON'T EVEN
KNOW IF THAT
SLOWED THEM
DOWN...



...SOME-
THING TELLS
ME IT DIDN'T.

I NEED TO DISAPPEAR.
I NEED TIME TO FIGURE
OUT WHO, OR WHAT, THE
LEGION REALLY IS.



ARE THEY DANGEROUS LIKE
THE SPIRITS? OR IS ALL THEIR
BEAUTY AND WONDER SOME-
THING FAR WORSE?

THE
END.

ISSUE
TWO

WEREWOLVES,

AND
VAMPIRES,

AND
BEARS,

OH
MY!

DISTANT SHORES

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