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CYBER FORCE HUNTER KILLER



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CYBER FORCE[®] HUNTER KILLER[®]

issue #5



YOU SEE,
CYBERDATA
MADE ME
REALIZE I'D
BEEN NAIVE.



I'D SPENT MY LIFE TRYING
TO CREATE SOLUTIONS FOR
PROBLEMS THE HUMAN RACE
DIDN'T KNOW IT HAD.

VERY SHORT-
SIGHTED.

IF YOU WANT TO WIELD
REAL POWER...IF YOU WANT
MEN AND WOMEN TO
LITERALLY INVITE YOU INTO
THEIR LIVES...



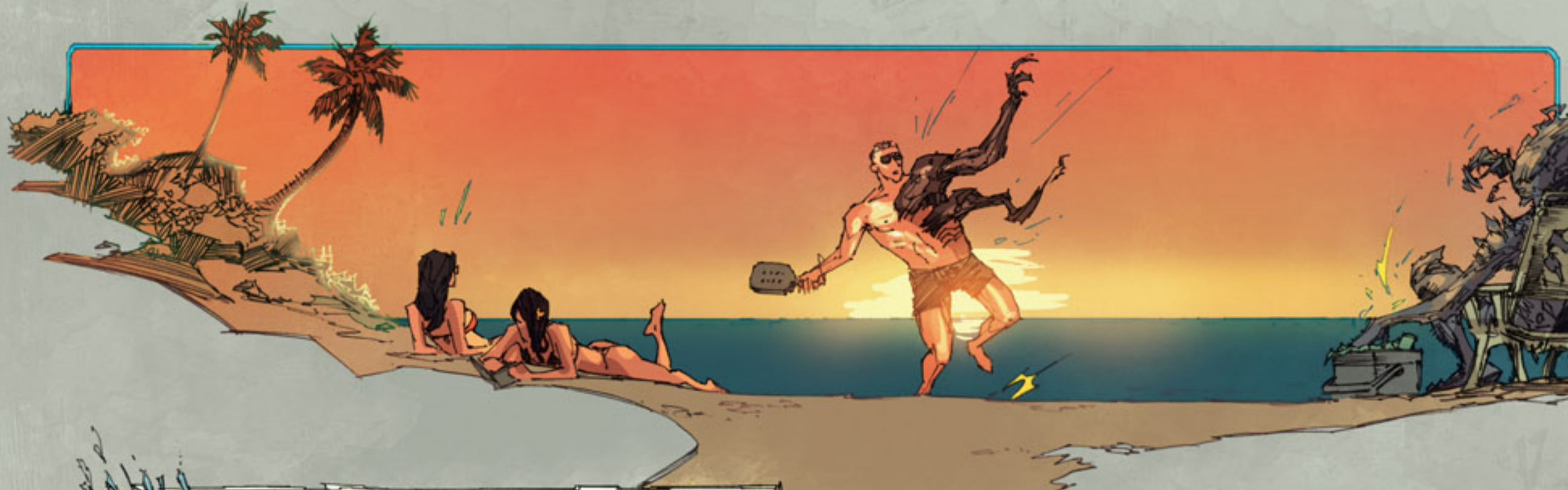
"...THEN YOU
MANUFACTURE BOTH
THE PROBLEM..."



"...AND THE
SOLUTION."



ONCE
CYBERDATA AND I TEAMED
UP TO REFINE THE JETT
TECHNOLOGY, WE REALIZED
WE COULD USE IT TO
SPARK A NEW RACE OF ULTRA-
SAPIENS BY REMOTE
CONTROL.



CYBERDATA'S NANOTECH *BRAIN-BOXES* HAVE BEEN INSTALLED BY THE JETT UNITS--WHICH, IN TURN, RECODE THE *GENETICS* OF THE *WEARERS*.

NOT TERRIBLY *SUSTAINABLE*, BUT WE'LL *DRAW* FROM THEIR NUMBERS THE MOST *USEFUL*...



"...AND WE'LL POSITION CYBERDATA'S NEW *S.H.O.C. TROOPS* TO ELIMINATE THE *REST* IN A MANNER THAT WILL EARN PUBLIC *TRUST*."

"NO ONE WILL KNOW WHERE THE '*ULTRA-SAPIENS PLAGUE*' ORIGINATED..."



"...BUT THEY'LL TRUST CYBERDATA TO SOLVE IT."



FINE.
YOU'RE A *GENIUS*,
MORNINGSTAR.

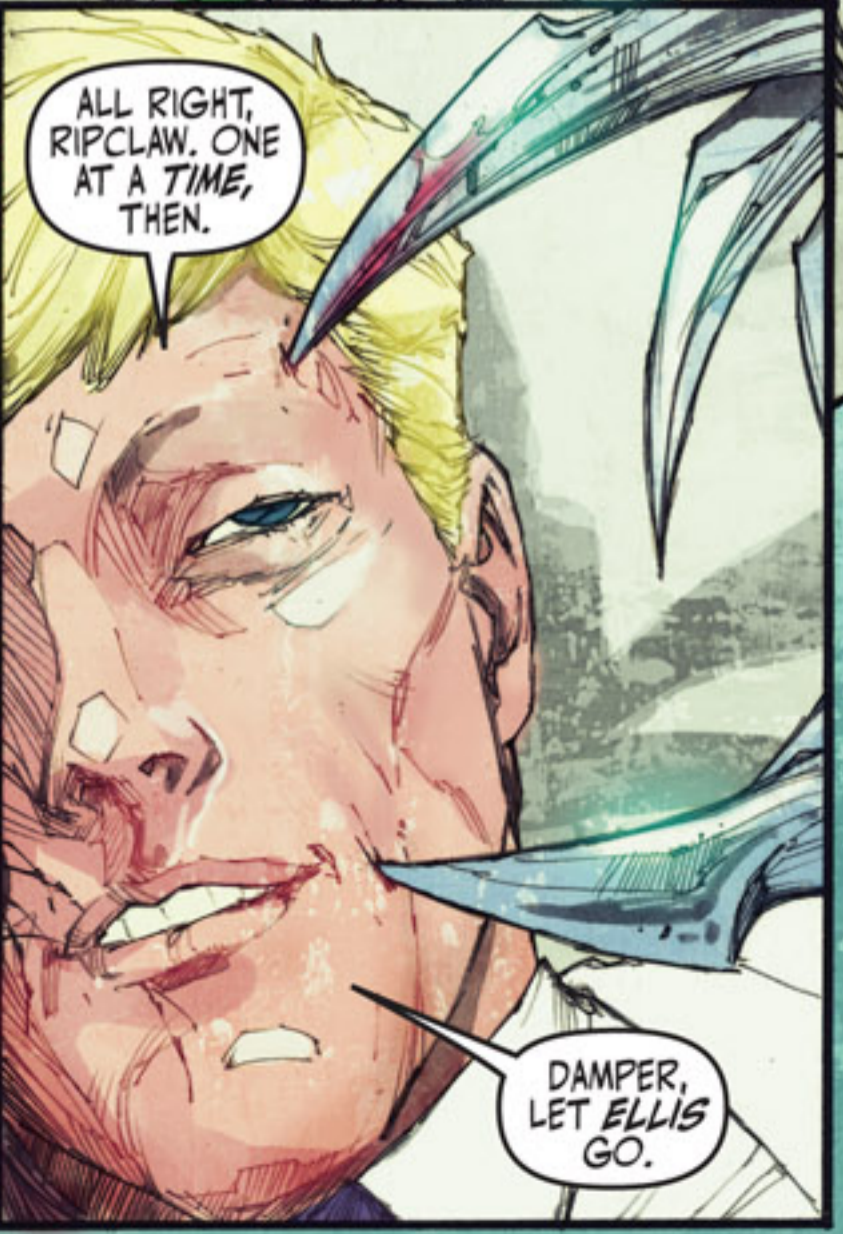


AND YOU
EVEN THOUGHT TO
TORTURE DAMPER
'TIL HE STOPPED
CARING WHICH *SIDE*
HE'S ON.



WELL, HE CAN "DAMPEN" ELLIS'
TEAM'S POWERS ALL HE WANTS,
GENIUS, BUT HE CAN'T DULL
MY *CLAWS*.

SO IF YOU'D
LIKE TO KEEP YOUR
INSIDES *INSIDE*, YOU'LL
SHUT DAMPER *DOWN*.



ALL RIGHT,
RIPCLAW. ONE
AT A TIME,
THEN.

DAMPER,
LET *ELLIS*
GO.

GUURHH

ELLIS!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

MORNINGSTAR!
WHAT DID YOU
DO TO HIM?

ANSWER
THE LADY.

DAMPER SIMPLY
RESTORED HIS POWER,
AS YOU ORDERED.
CAN'T SAY I AGREE
WITH YOUR TIMING,
THOUGH.

ELLIS'S BODY IS
A LIVING CATALOG
OF ULTRA-SAPIENS,
REMEMBER?

YOU PICKED THE
PRECISE MOMENT WHEN
12,000,000 NEW
ULTRA-SAPIENS
APPEARED...

...TO WRITE
THEMSELVES INTO
HIS DNA CODEX,
ALL AT ONCE.

OUCH!

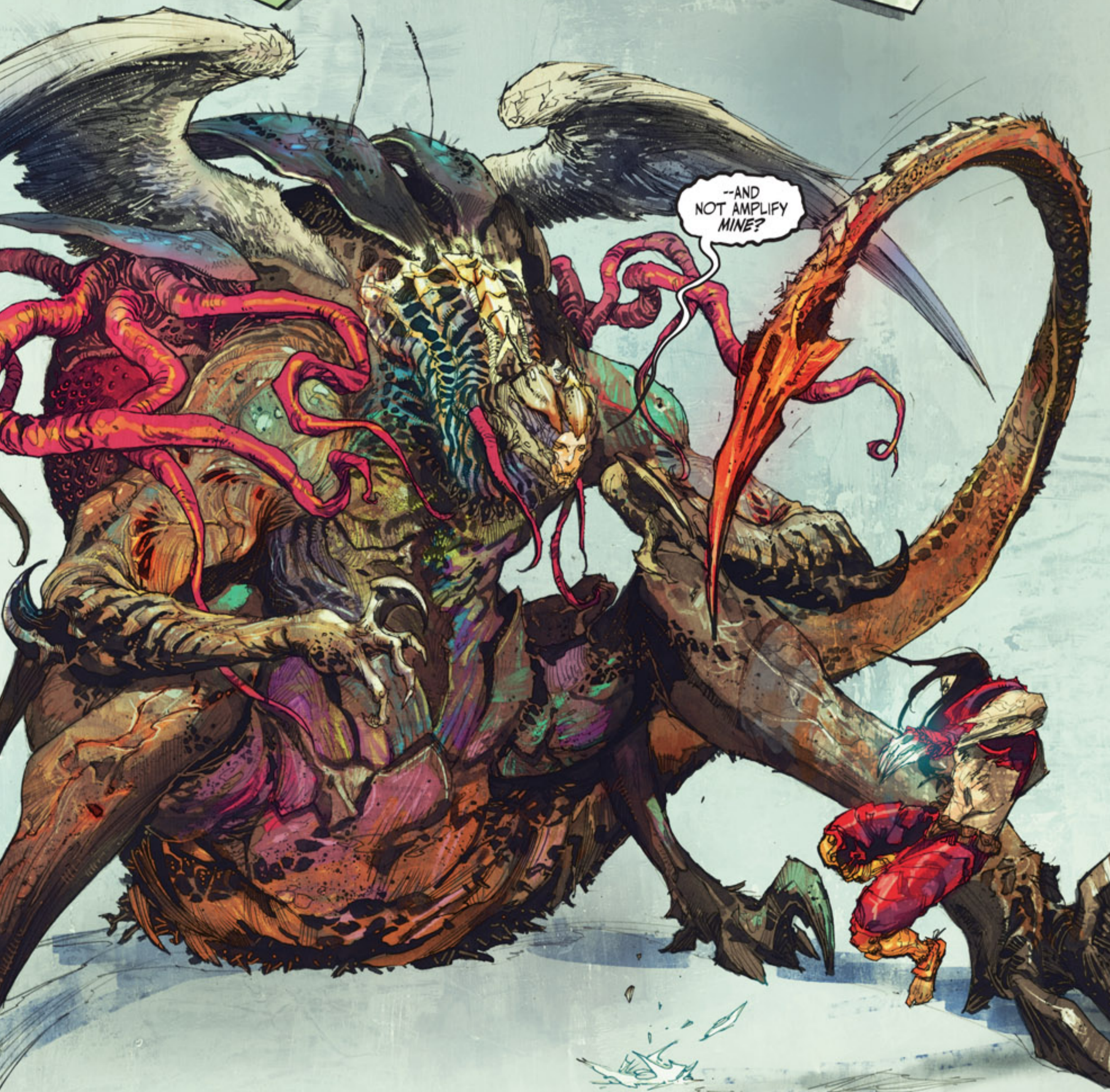
THAT'S ENOUGH!

?

DID YOU SERIOUSLY THINK I'D GIVE GODLIKE POWERS TO MILLIONS--

DON'T WEAR YOURSELF OUT.

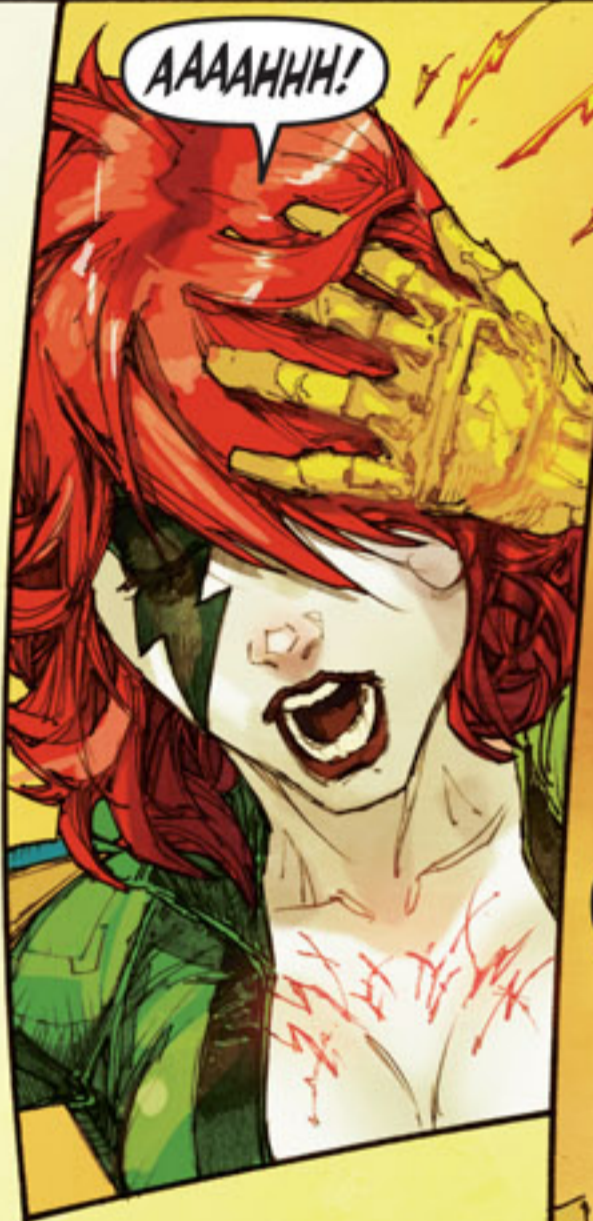
--AND NOT AMPLIFY MINE?





CARIN, WE CAN HANDLE HIM! GET THE HUNTER-KILLERS OUT OF HERE FAST! GO!

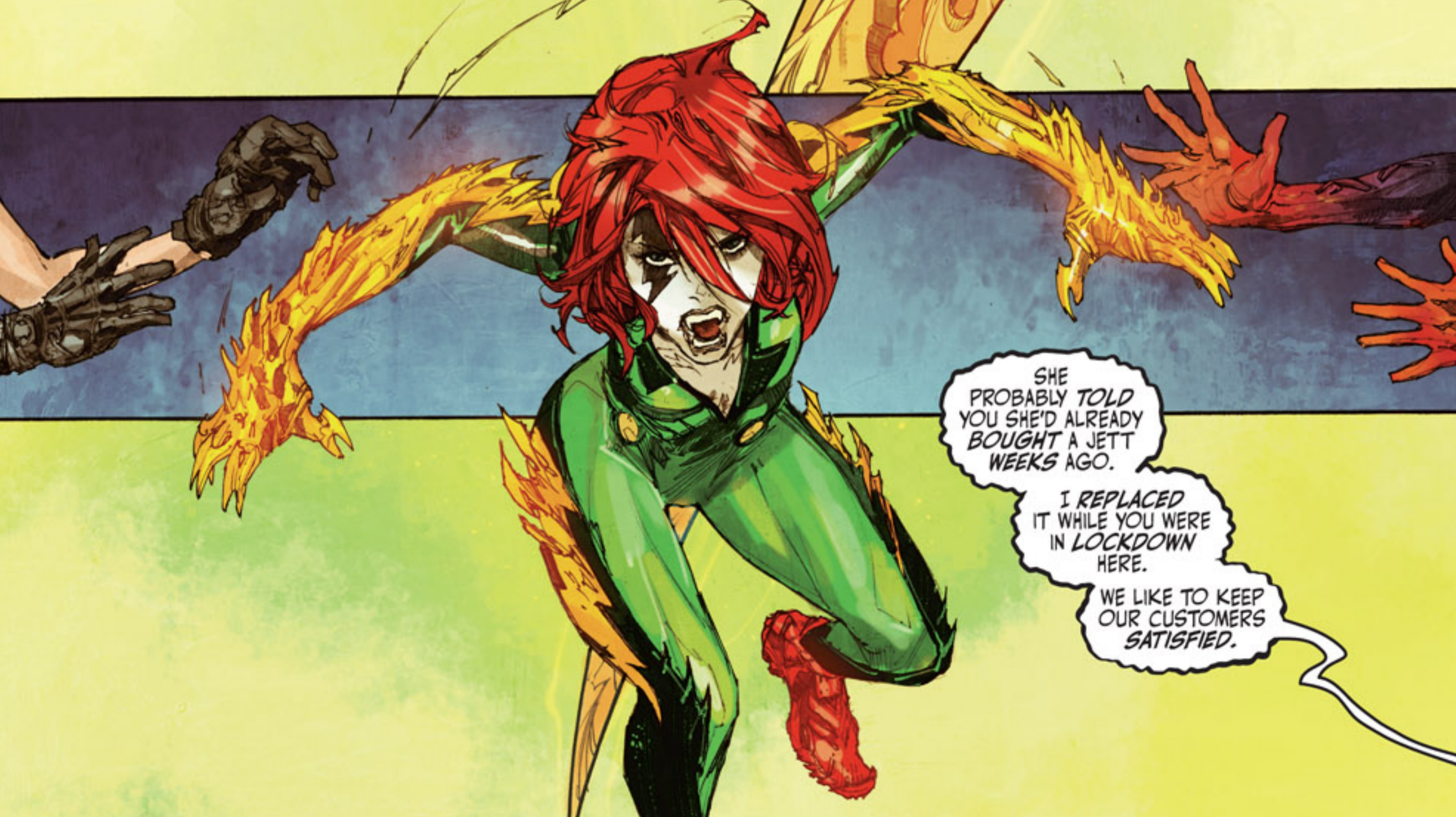
CARIN...?



AAAAHHH!



WHAT THE--?!



SHE PROBABLY TOLD YOU SHE'D ALREADY BOUGHT A JETT WEEKS AGO.

I REPLACED IT WHILE YOU WERE IN LOCKDOWN HERE.

WE LIKE TO KEEP OUR CUSTOMERS SATISFIED.



YEAH.
SHE'S OURS
NOW.



POOR
LITTLE
THING.



NOW!
WHILE SHE'S
DOWN!
TAKE HER
OUT!



IT'S DOWN
TO THE TWO OF
US, ELLIS. YOU
ALWAYS WERE THE
WORST THREAT
TO ME.

THE THOUGHT OF
SPLITTING YOU OPEN
LIKE A LOBSTER IS
INTOXICATING.

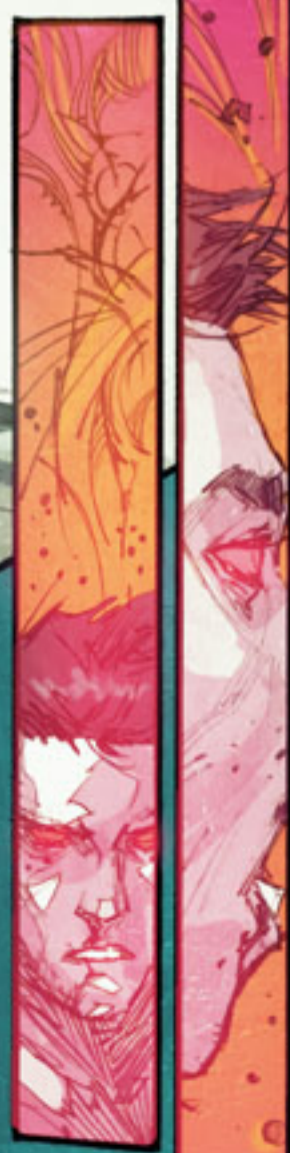
BUT IF I ENDED
YOUR SUFFERING
PREMATURELY, I
COULDN'T FACE
MYSELF.



CYBERDATA.
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...
OH, BAGHDAD?

1,294 Ultras.
1,162 of these
are U.S. troops.

AHHH, THE
JETTS FOR SOLDIERS
CAMPAIGN. THANK
YOU, OPRAH.



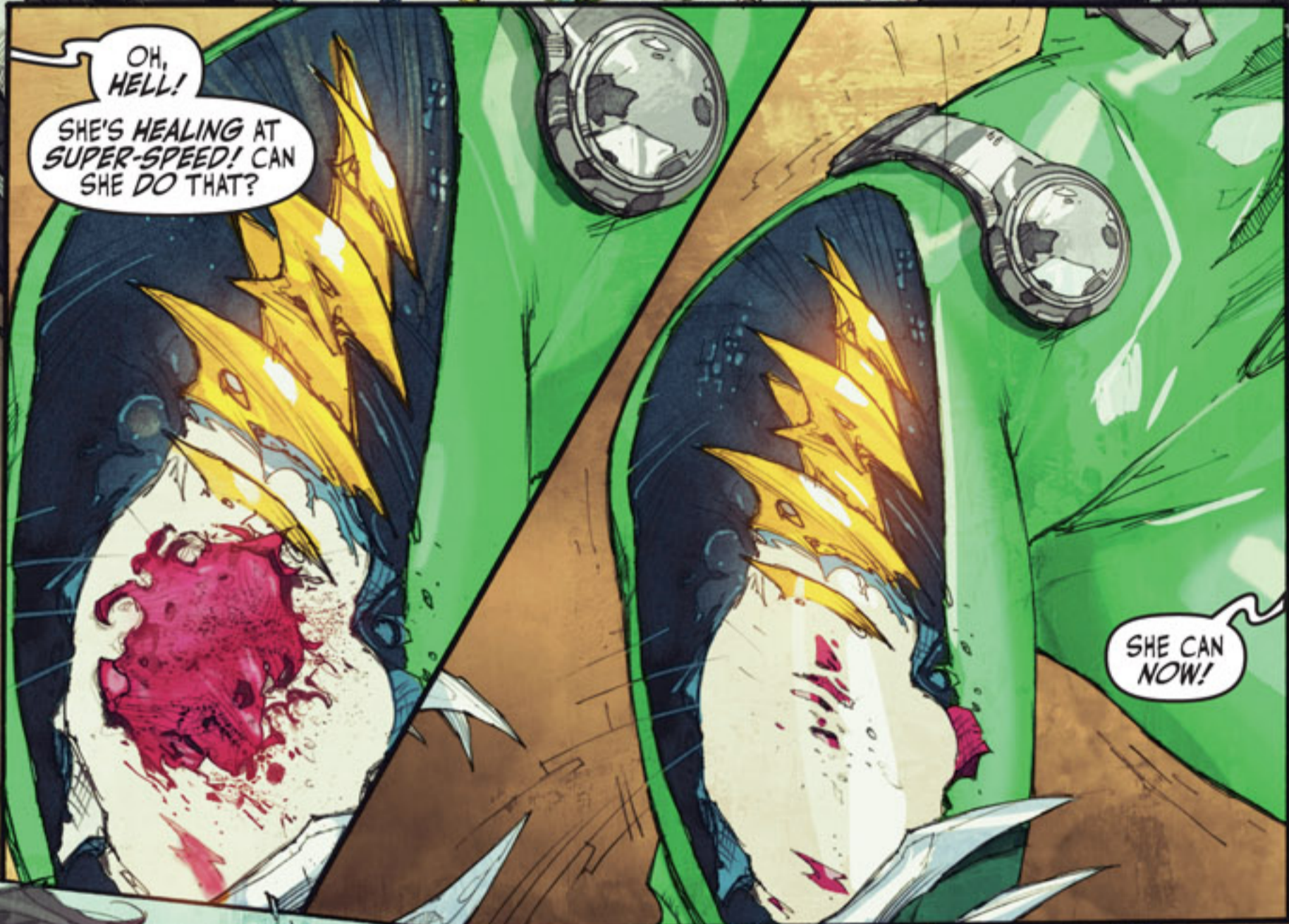
SET THEM
LOOSE ON
THE GREEN
ZONE.

I
WOULDN'T.



FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, HOLD HER!

WE'RE TRYING! SHOOT HER AGAIN IF YOU HAVE TO!



OH, HELL!
SHE'S HEALING AT SUPER-SPEED! CAN SHE DO THAT?

SHE CAN NOW!



1000101001010101

NETWORK, YOU'RE THE ONE BROADCASTING! WE'VE GOT TO TEAR YOU LOOSE--!

1001010101111!



COME ON,
NETWORK!
GIVE ME SOME
CHOICE
HERE...!

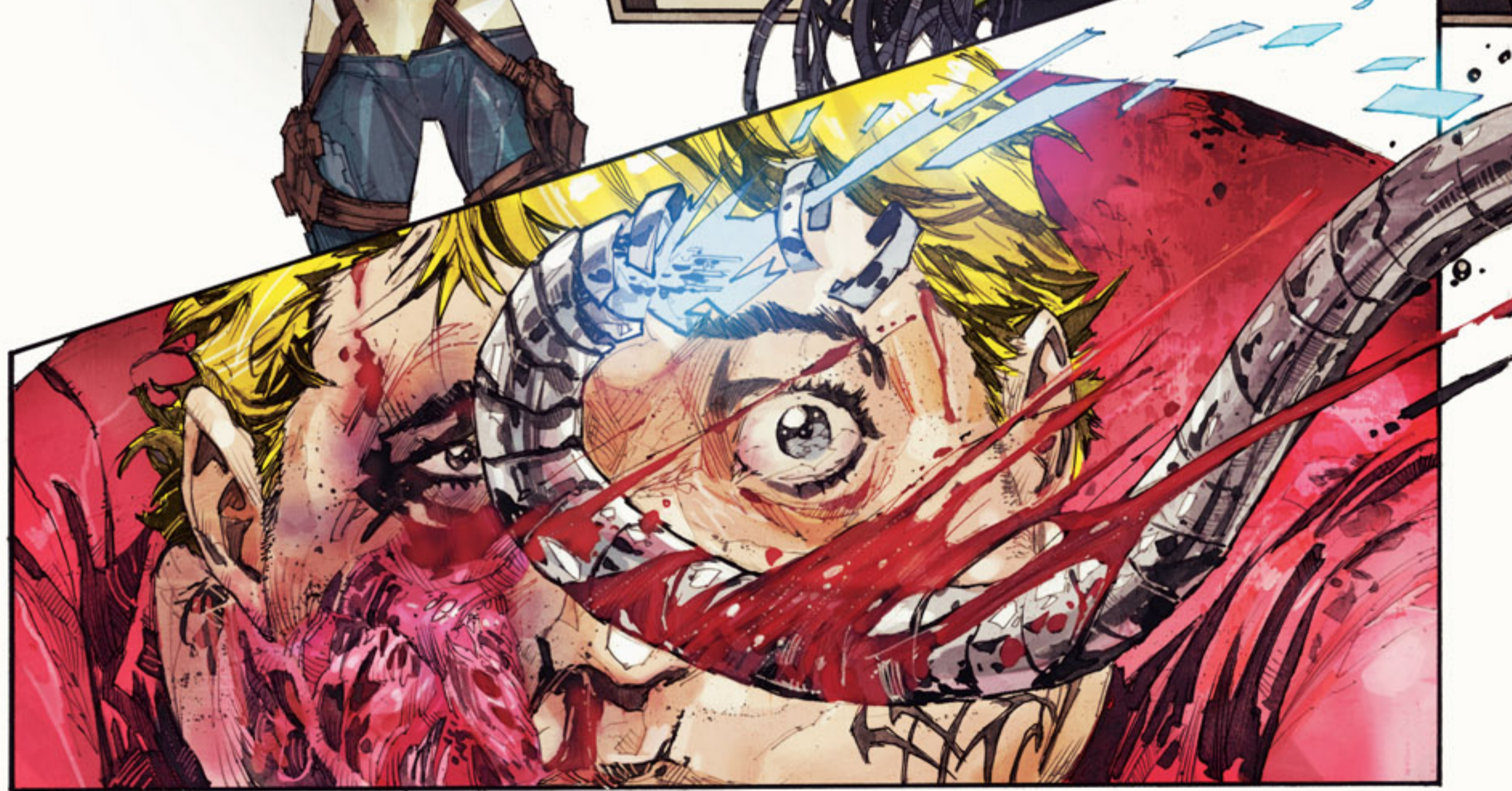
DON'T
MAKE ME...
DON'T...

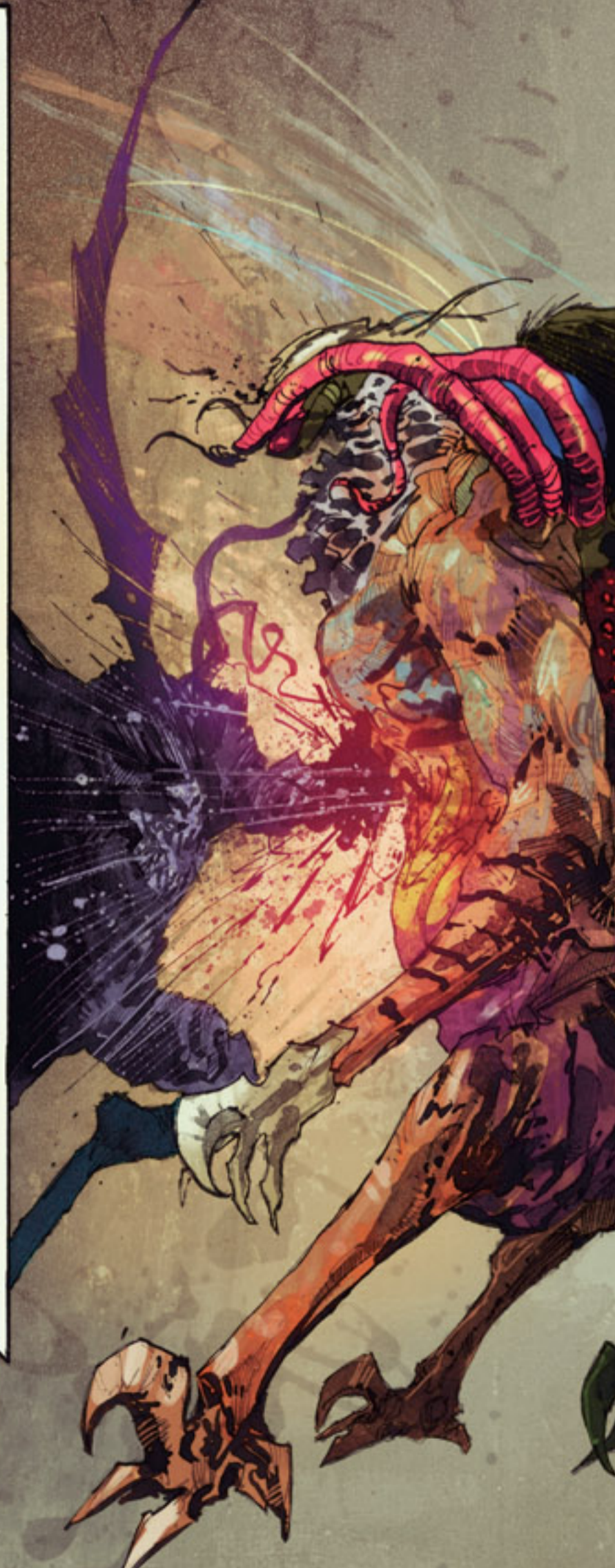
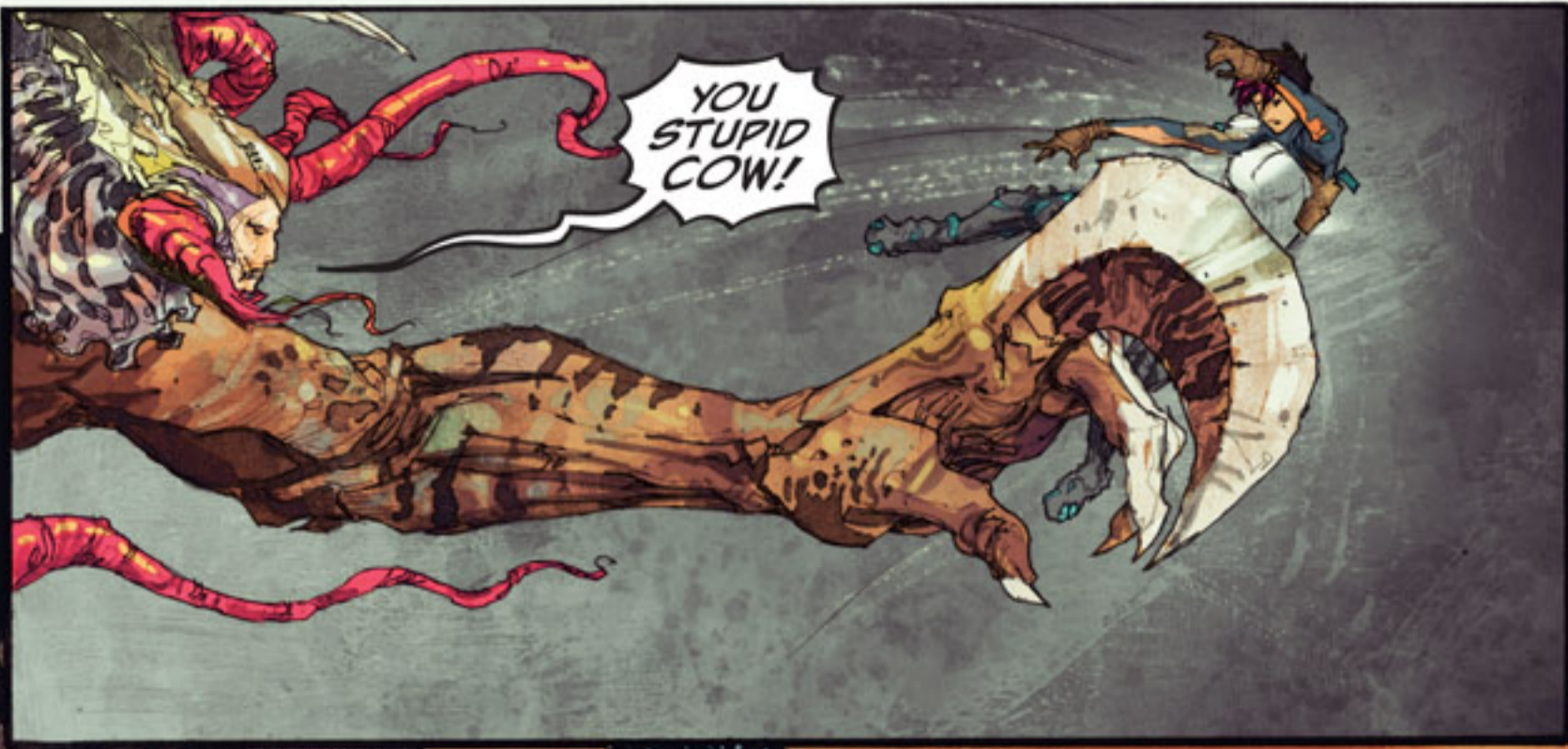


DAMN IT
TO ~~HELL~~
HELL.



I'M
SORRY.



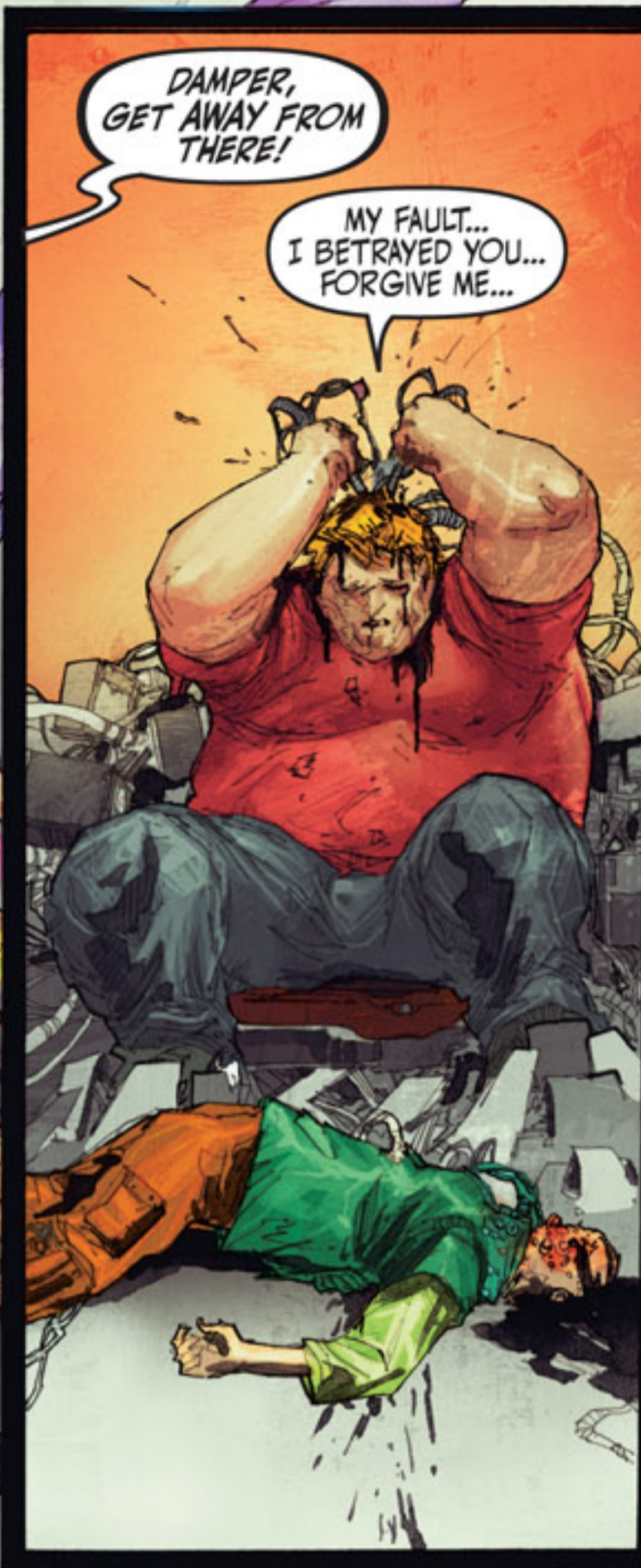




DID YOU KILL HIM?

I CAN'T TELL. HE'S NOT HUMAN ANYMO--

DAMPER!



DAMPER, GET AWAY FROM THERE!

MY FAULT... I BETRAYED YOU... FORGIVE ME...



STOP! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING! LET ME DO IT FOR YOU!

NO. YOU'RE BETTER THAN ME.

YOU WERE ALWAYS BETTER THAN ME.



THE TATTOO--IT'S FADING!

EVERYONE BACK OFF! SHE'S POWERING DOWN!



WHAT THE HELL IS HE--

TRANSMITTING HIS DAMPING SIGNAL THROUGH THE ENTIRE JETT STREAM!



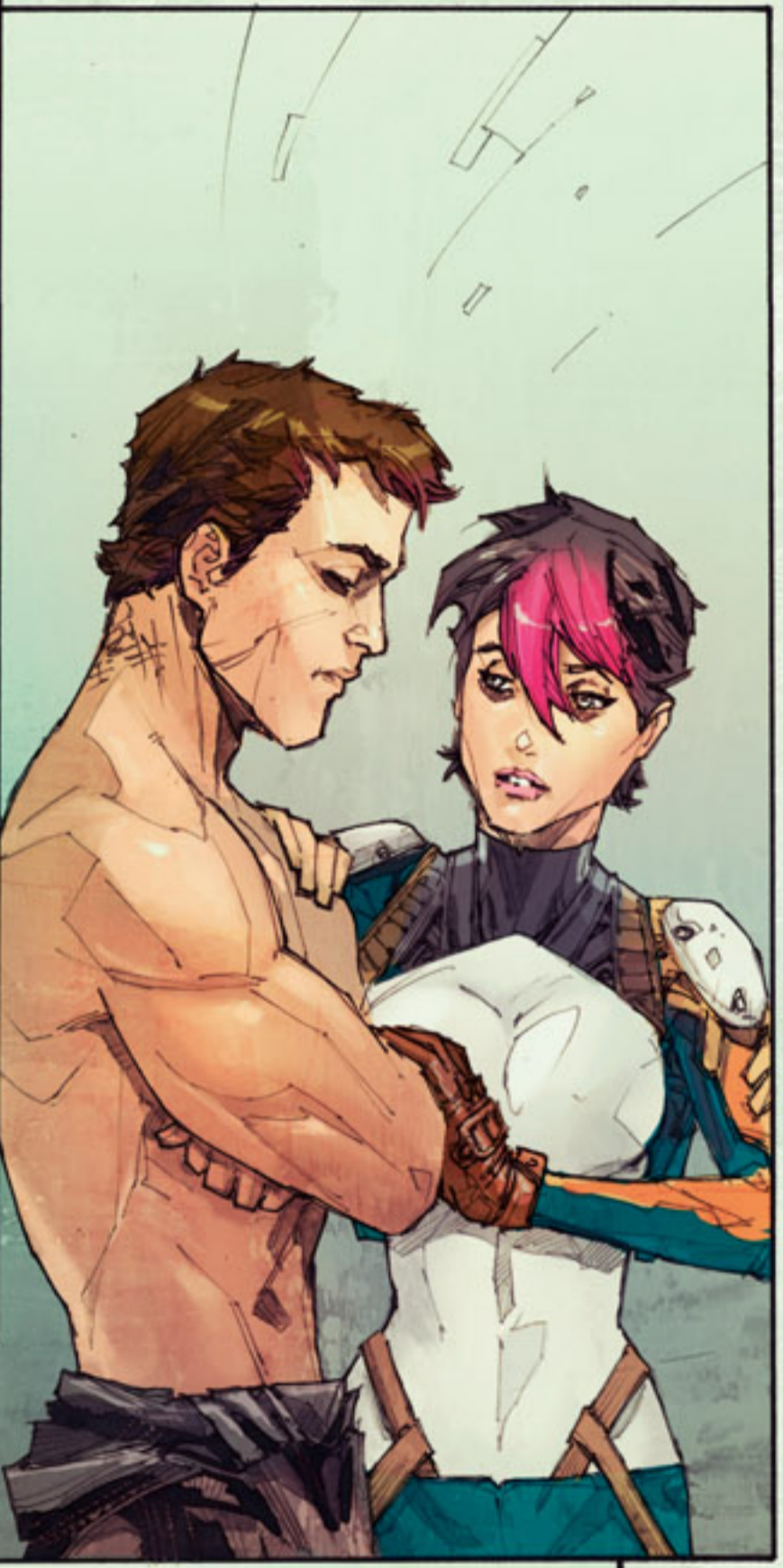
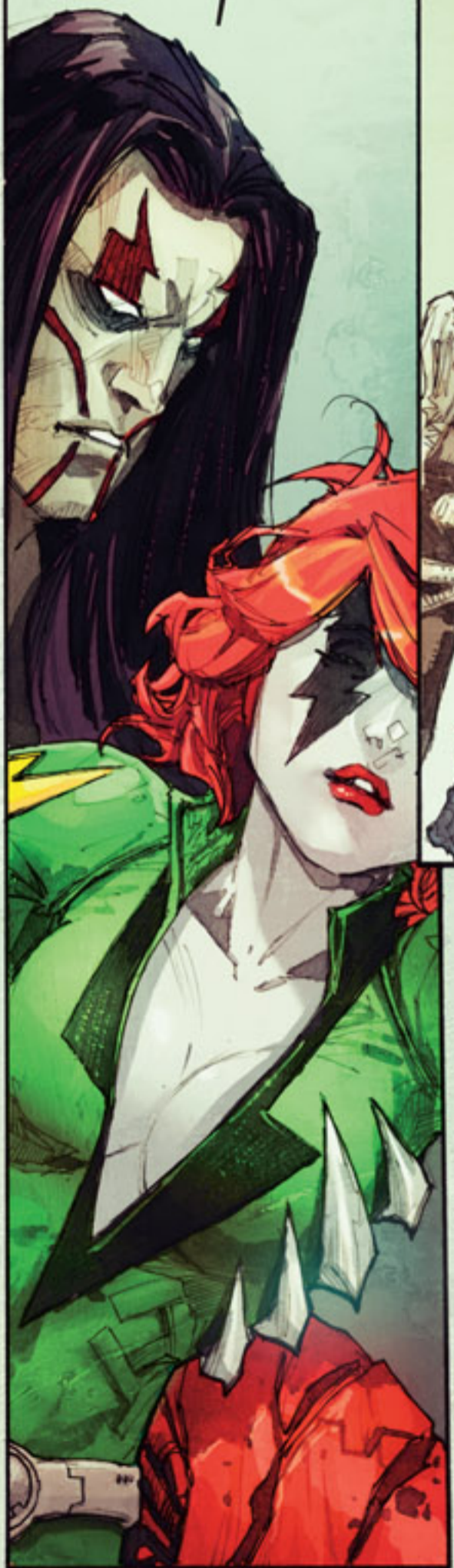
SHE'S ALL RIGHT! GIVE HER SOME AIR!

Morningstar, you disappoint us. you assured us you had matters in full control.

We are losing administration over the Jett Stream. Preparing to initiate Beta Protocol...

...transferring all pertinent data to remote servers... terminating all connections to this facility!

OH, MY GOD. GET HIM OUT OF THAT CHAIR!



I DON'T THINK WE CAN.



"DEAR GOD, YOU GOT YOUR ASSES KICKED."

IT'S SAMANTHA'S TEAM. ALWAYS WAS.

MORE SO THAN EVER NOW THAT MORNINGSTAR'S NOT HEADING IT UP.

WE'VE GOT HIM UNDER PERMANENT SEDATION BACK AT OUR FACILITY.

SAID THE FIRST ONE TO FALL. BE GRATEFUL YOU MISSED IT. WE'RE JUST LUCKY WE DIDN'T TAKE AS MANY HITS AS ELLIS'S TEAM DID.

YOU NEED TO STOP CALLING IT THAT.

ARCHITECT? CLOAKER?

GETTING READJUSTED TO THEIR NEW HANDICAPS. LIKE CYBLADE SAID, OUR GUYS GOT IT BAD.

AND THAT'S NOT EVEN OUR BIGGEST HEADACHE.



WE'VE HAD TO MOUNT A MASSIVE DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON A GLOBAL SCALE SO THAT PEOPLE DON'T LINK THE ULTRA-SAPIEN OUTBREAK TO THE JETT.

WHAT? WHY THE HELL NOT?



BECAUSE HERE'S THE BAD NEWS: YOU'VE GOT A DISEASE.

WHAT?

CARIN, UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT A CURE, THE JETT'S "TECHNODERM INFECTIONS" ARE PERMANENT. DORMANT, BUT PERMANENT.

YOU OR ANYONE ELSE OUT THERE COULD BE REACTIVATED AT ANY TIME IF NOT FOR YOUR CONNECTION.

NO NO NO NO NO...

MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE JETTS HAS TO CONTINUE. WE HAVE NO OPTION BUT TO MAINTAIN THE JETT STREAM TO KEEP BROADCASTING DAMPER'S POWER TO KEEP THE TECHNODERM IN CHECK.



ARE YOU KIDDING ME? CURE HER! CURE MY SISTER!

WE CAN'T YET. BUT IF YOU'LL HAVE ME, I'LL STICK AROUND AS A SAFEGUARD.



"SAFEGUARD"?

SPY.

IF YOU "ULTRA-SAPIEN OUT," I CAN PROBABLY USE MY POWERS TO LEVEL YOU OUT.

YOU THINK?

ONLY ONE WAY TO BE SURE.

LIKE WE'D TRUST YOU.

IF YOU'RE BEDDING DOWN HERE, THEN I'M TRADING OUT TO YOUR TEAM.

DYLAN, CALM DOWN--!

NO. IT'S A CHECK AND BALANCE THING AGAINST TEAM DOUCHEBAG.

THAT'S CRAP. YOU TOOK A BLOW THAT SIDELINED YOU. COULD HAPPEN TO ANYBODY.

THEN LET ME PROVE MYSELF. WITH THEM. END OF DISCUSSION.

BESIDES, DIDN'T WE JUST FIND OUT THAT CYBERFORCE DOESN'T REALLY NEED ME? YOU PRACTICALLY SAID SO A SECOND AGO.

JESUS, WHATEVER. BIGGER FISH, PEOPLE. THERE'S ONE MORE HUGE LOOSE END TO TIE UP.

THE WHEREABOUTS OF CYBERDATA.

THAT'S A DAMN BIG LOOSE END.

I'LL GO YOU ONE BETTER. REMOTE ULTRA-SAPIENS WEREN'T THEIR ONLY GOAL. MORNINGSTAR SAID AS MUCH.

HE AND CYBERDATA-- WHEREVER THEY ARE NOW-- WERE ALSO LOOKING FOR A SPECIFIC SOMEONE, AND WE HAVE NO IDEA WHO.

"BUT IT COULD
BE ANYONE."



End.