

#4

# ECLIPSE™

ZACK KAPLAN • GIOVANNI TIMPANO • CHRIS NORTHROP



*Chris Northrop*  
NORTHROP  
NORTHROP

# ECLIPSE™

Created by Zack Kaplan



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Artist

**Chris Northrop**  
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Editor

**Troy Peteri**  
Letterer

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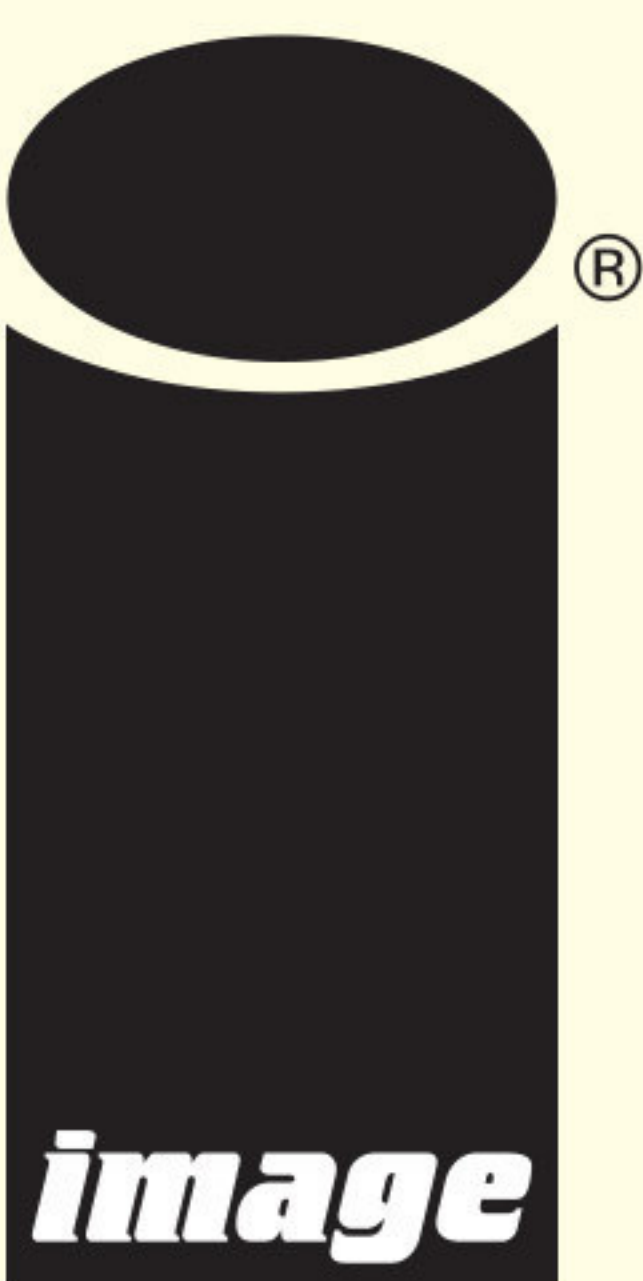
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*Dear Readers,*

*ECLIPSE is my first comic book.*

*Eight years ago, I dreamed of writing a comic book. I was also working a graveyard shift as a poker dealer. I toiled at night and slept during the day. I had studied writing in school, but not yet found success. I was living a lifestyle different than most. I was disconnected from my friends and family. Looking back, I can say...  
...my life was facing darkness.*

*But I've always tried to see the bright side of things.*

*And that's what ECLIPSE is really about to me.  
Being hopeful in dark times.*

*On behalf of the entire ECLIPSE Creative Team, we want to thank Matt Hawkins and Top Cow for giving us the chance to tell this story. We want to thank everyone at Top Cow and Image Comics for helping us every step of the way. We want to thank every comic reviewer and blogger and podcaster and fan who offered a kind word about ECLIPSE.*

*And we want to thank you, yes you, the reader, for picking up this comic book and reading it! I buy a lot of comic books, but many land on the shelf and wait to be read. It takes a commitment to read a comic book. I hope you find ECLIPSE thrilling and entertaining, and maybe a little thought-provoking. We hope you connect to it.*

*We'd love for you to stay connected. Reach out on social media!*

*The world and story of ECLIPSE are just getting started...*

*All the best,*

  
*Zack Kaplan*

TWO DAYS AFTER THE FLARE.  
10 YEARS AGO.

...AND WE CAN'T  
BRING THEM BACK,  
BUT WE WON'T  
FORGET OUR LOVED  
ONES WHO LOST  
THEIR LIVES TO THE  
SUNLIGHT.

OUR  
PARENTS. OUR  
SPOUSES. OUR  
SIBLINGS--

WAAAAAH!

...AND OUR  
CHILDREN.

WAAAAAH!

AND TO THE  
HEROES WHO  
SACRIFICED TO  
PROTECT  
US...

YOUR  
SACRIFICE  
GIVES US  
HOPE.

WAAAAAH!

COME IN!  
ROSE BRANDT  
DETAIL, COME  
IN!



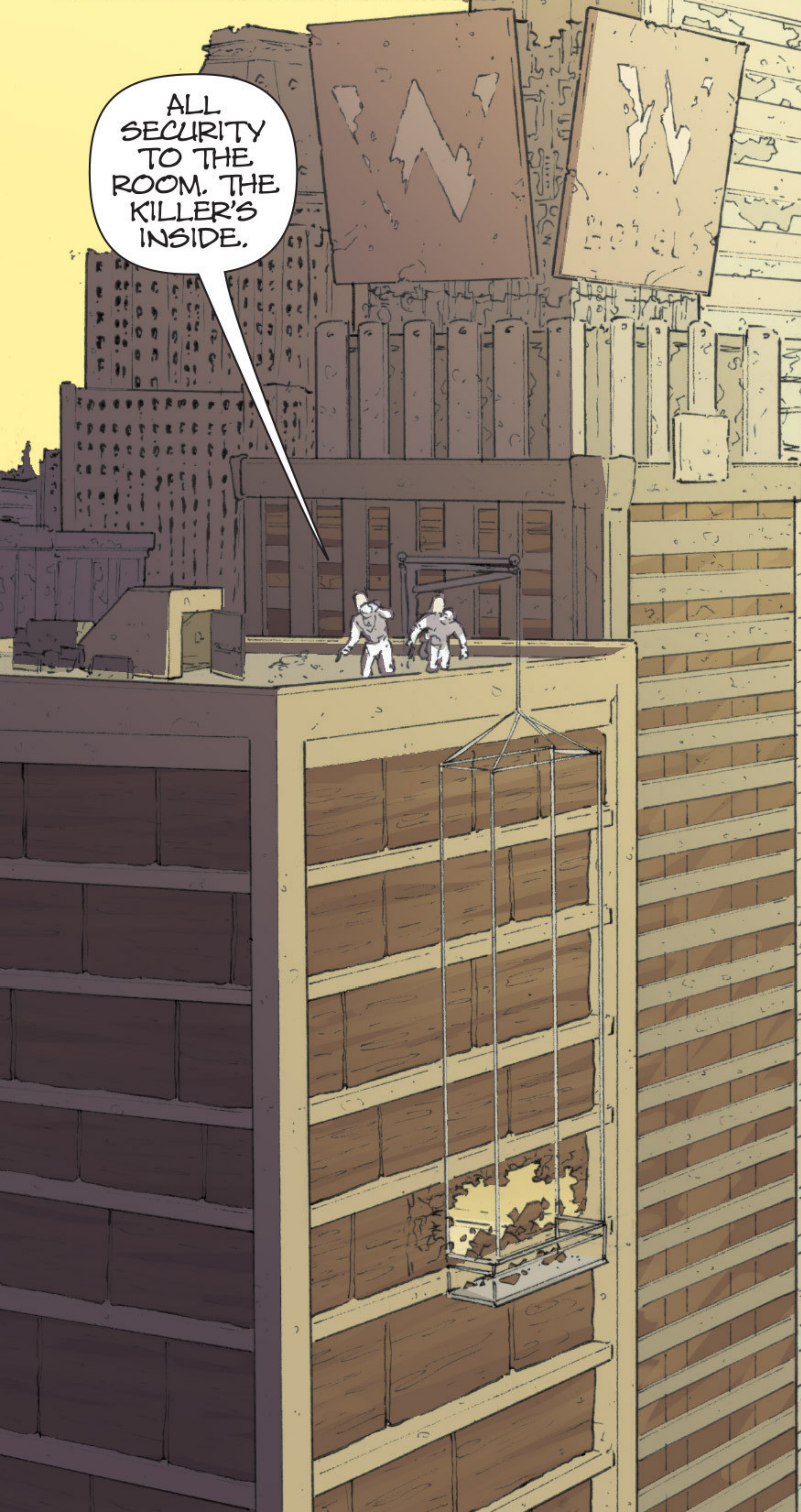
HE'S  
INSIDE!

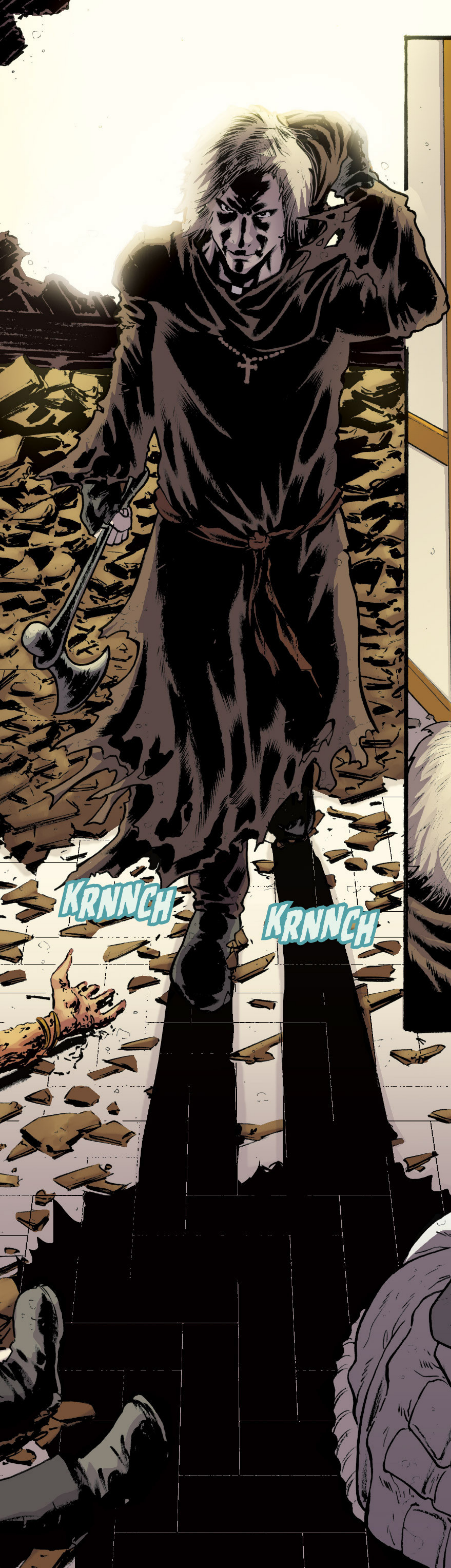


BAX!



ALL  
SECURITY  
TO THE  
ROOM. THE  
KILLER'S  
INSIDE.





KRNNCH

KRNNCH



THMMP  
KRNNCH





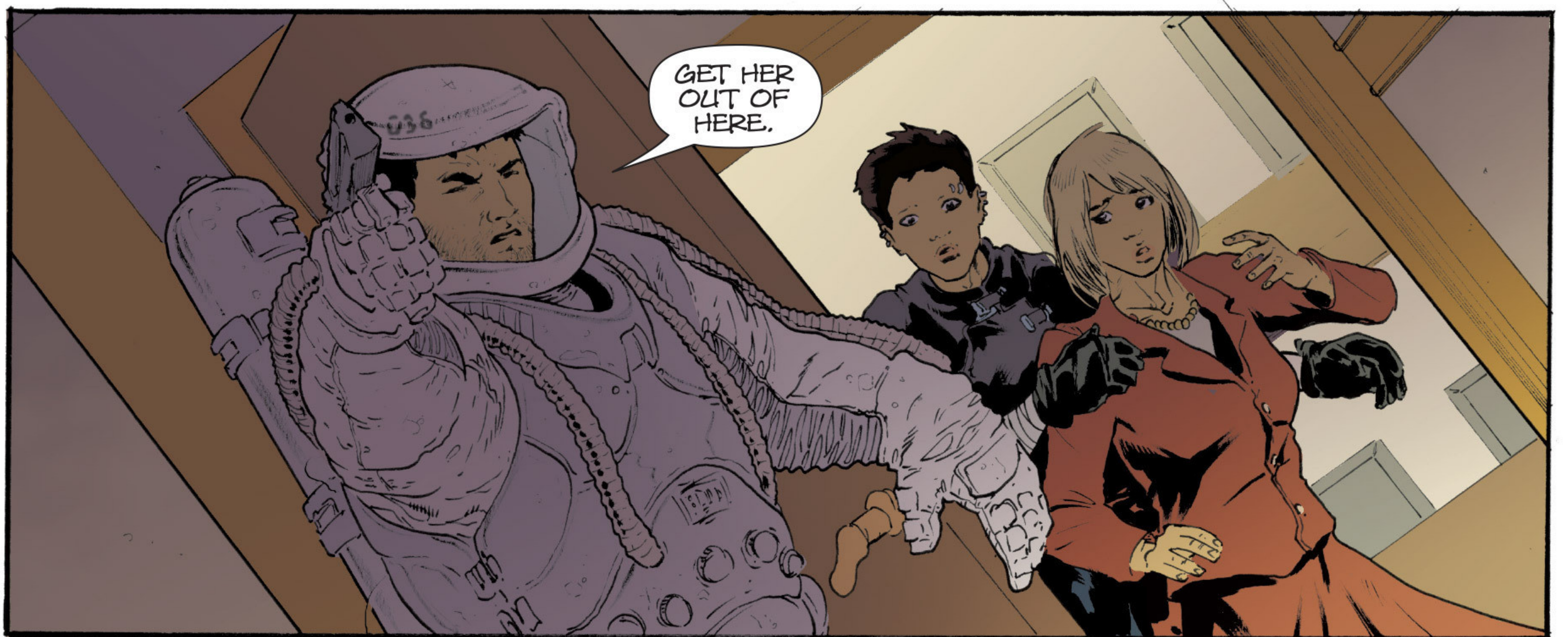
DON'T GIVE ME A REASON TO KILL YOU.



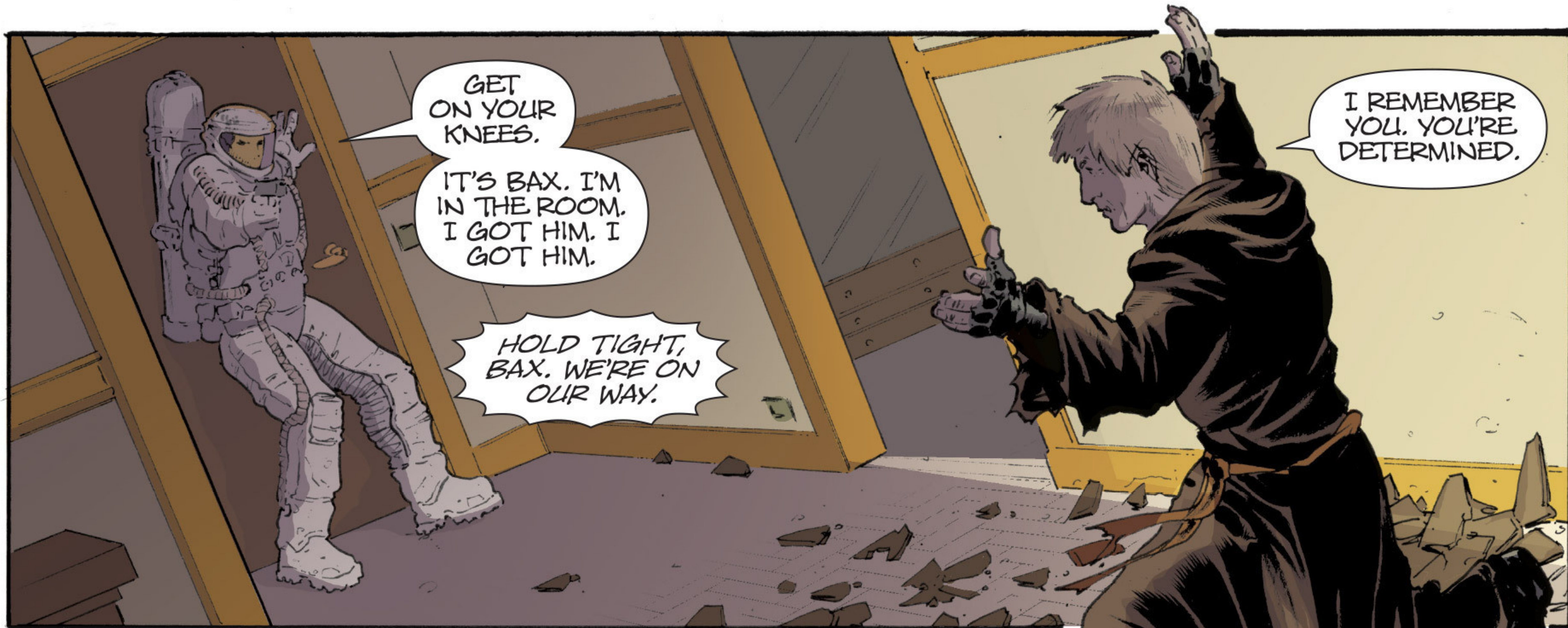
IT'S OKAY. I GOT YOU.



YOU'RE STILL LIVING IN THE PAST. YOU JUST DON'T KNOW.  
YOU'RE ALL DEAD.



GET HER OUT OF HERE.



GET ON YOUR KNEES.

IT'S BAX. I'M IN THE ROOM. I GOT HIM. I GOT HIM.

HOLD TIGHT, BAX. WE'RE ON OUR WAY.

I REMEMBER YOU. YOU'RE DETERMINED.



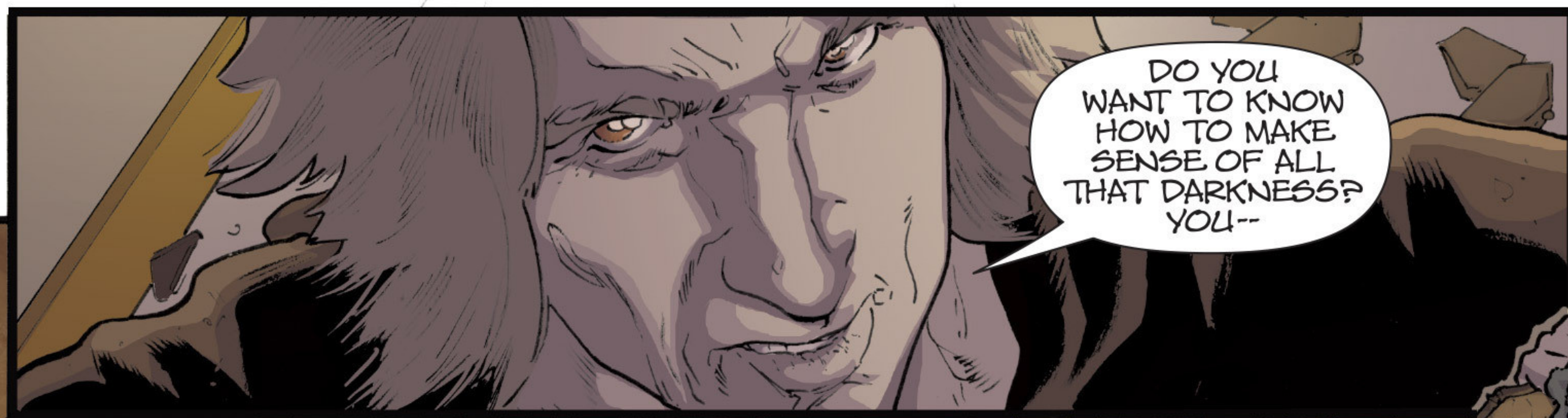
DIDN'T ANYONE TELL YOU THE WORLD ENDED?

SHUT UP. YOU MAY BE A MONSTER, BUT I'M GONNA SAVE YOU.

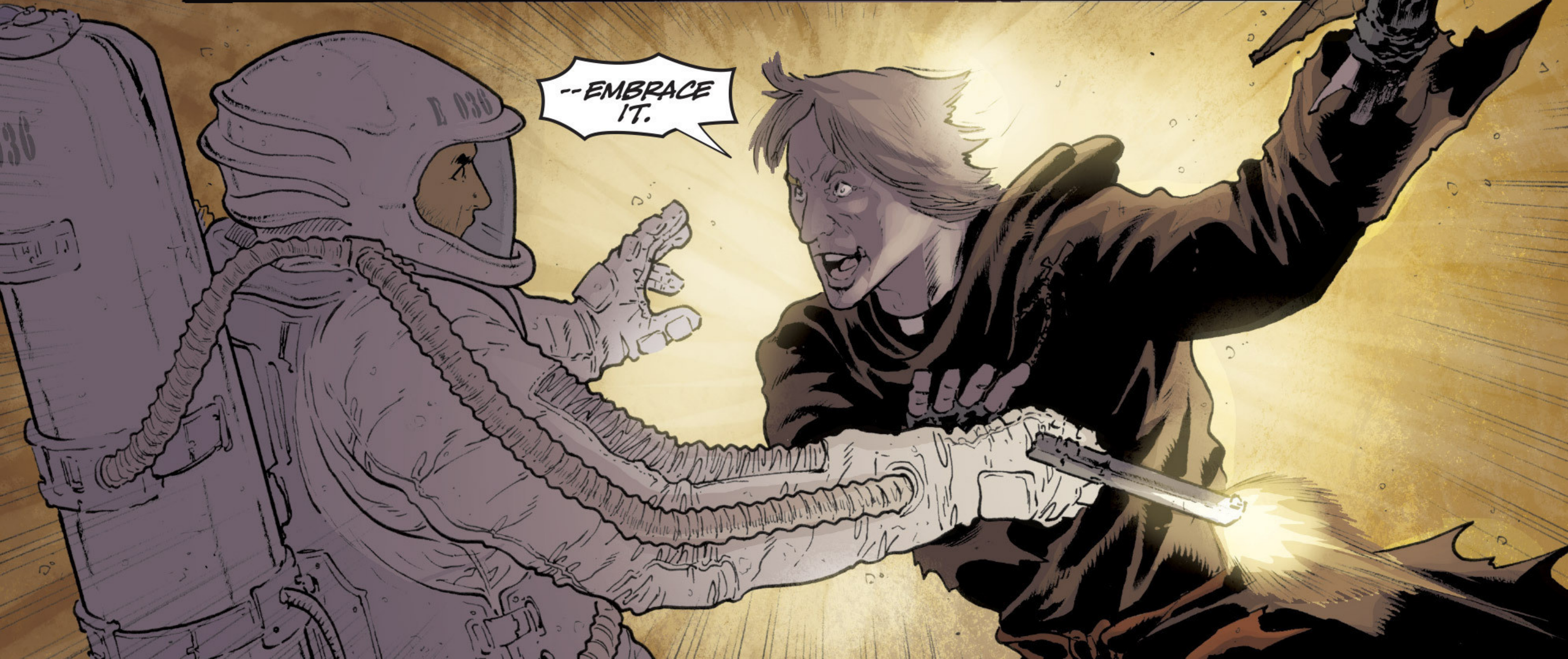


BECAUSE YOU GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL.

YOU KNOW WHY I'M SPECIAL? I CAN SEE THE MADNESS IN THE WORLD. YOU MUST SEE IT TOO. CORRUPTION. DISPARITY. DEATH.

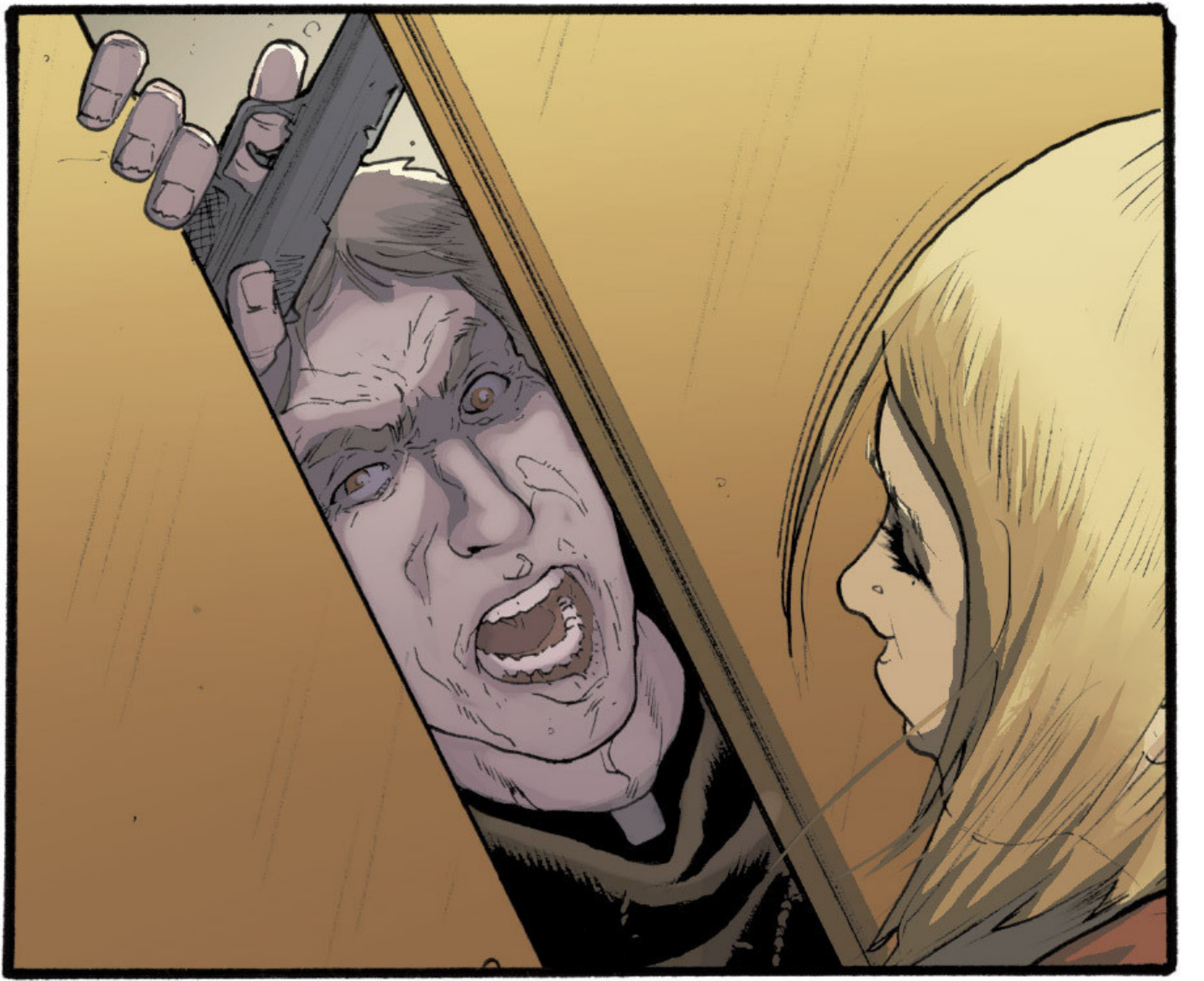


DO YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO MAKE SENSE OF ALL THAT DARKNESS? YOU--



--EMBRACE IT.









BAX... COME  
IN?... YOU...  
\*CRACKLE\*

IT'S  
EVERLY...  
\*CRACKLE\*...  
YOU THERE?

WHERE ARE...  
\*CRACKLE\*  
...WHAT  
HAPPENED?

WE  
CRASHED.  
THEY'RE  
GONE.

I LOST  
MY GUN.

I LOST  
HIM.

LOST A  
LOT OF  
BLOOD.

LOST  
HER  
TOO.

I LOST  
EVERYTHING.



EVEN LOST MY HELMET. AND THEY MUST BE OUTSIDE. I CAN'T GO OUTSIDE.



IT'S OVER.

IT'S NOT OVER...  
CRACKLE...

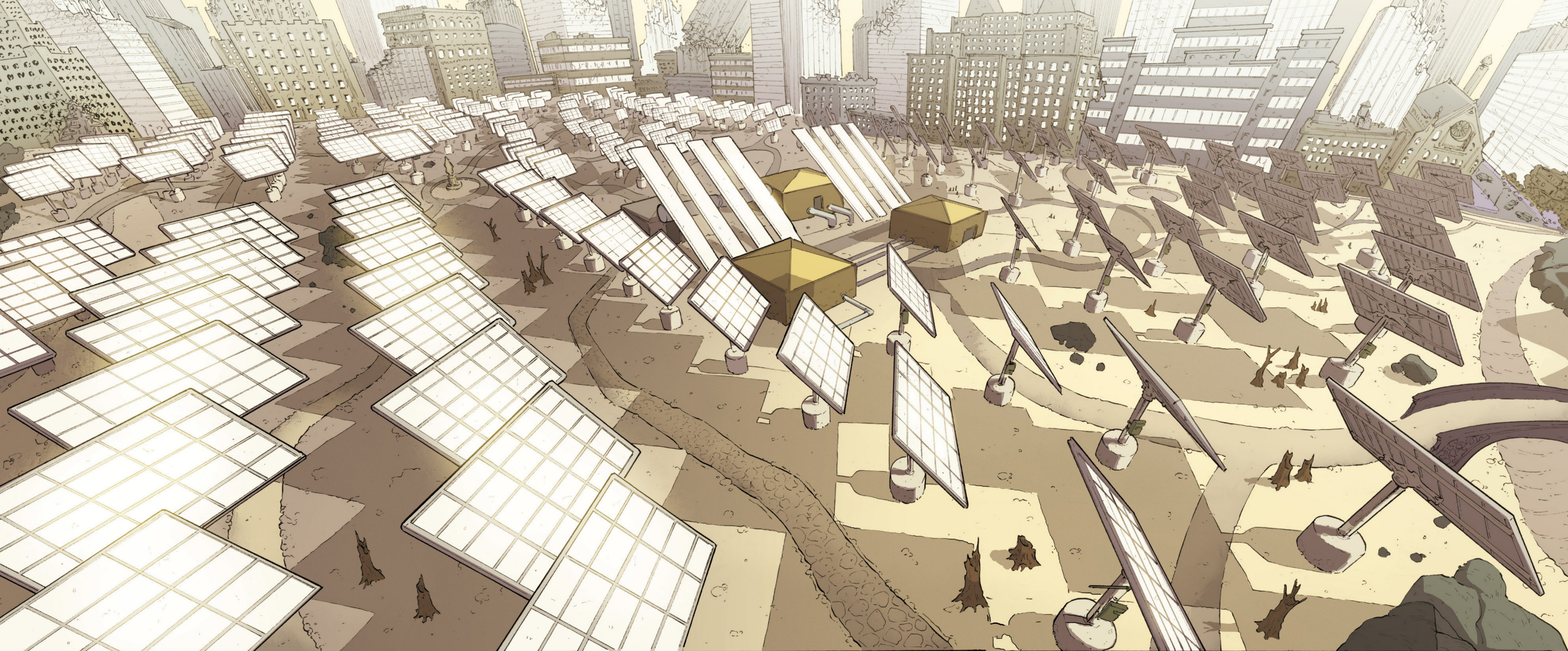
HOW DO I SAVE HER AND HIM? IF I KILL HIM, NOTHING CHANGES. IT'S HOPELESS.



IT'S NOT HOPELESS. CIELO NEEDS YOU, BAX.



JUST TELL ME WHERE YOU ARE.



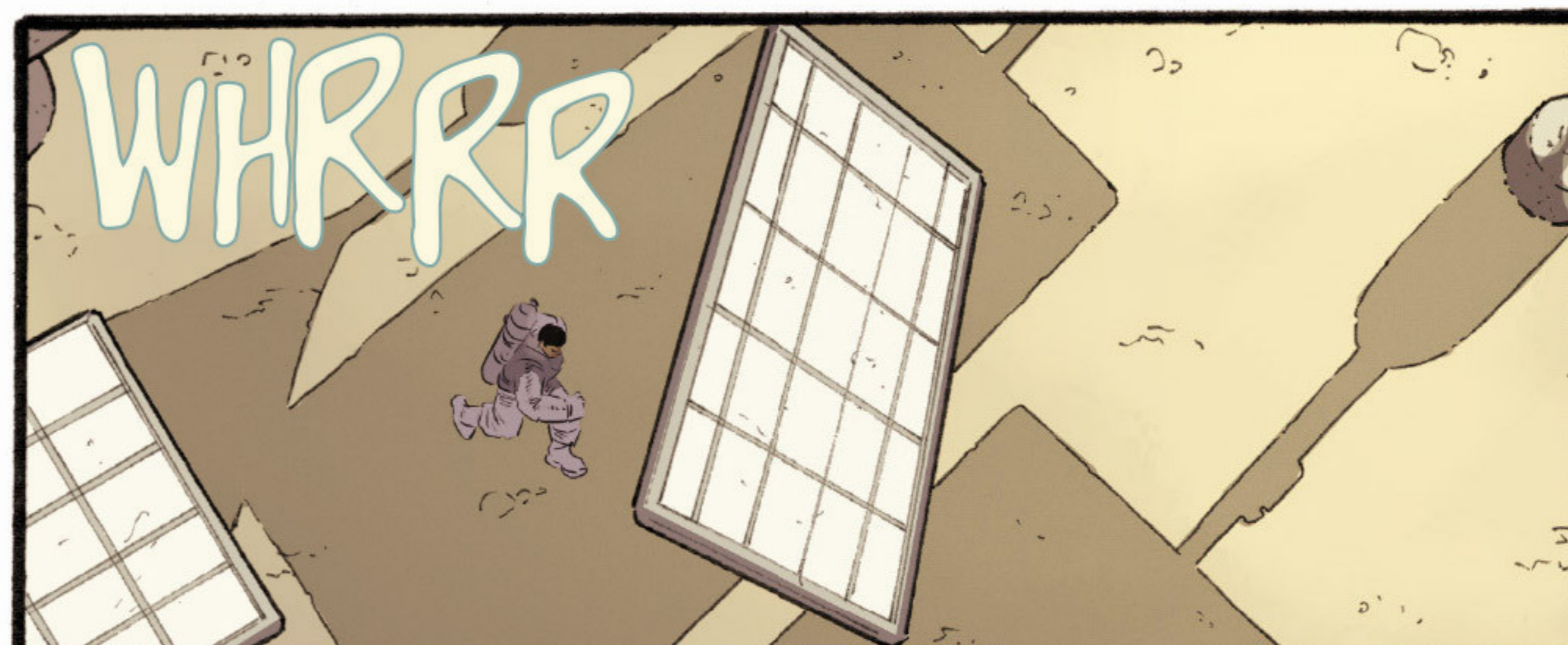
CENTRAL PARK SOLAR FARMS. EAST SEVEN.



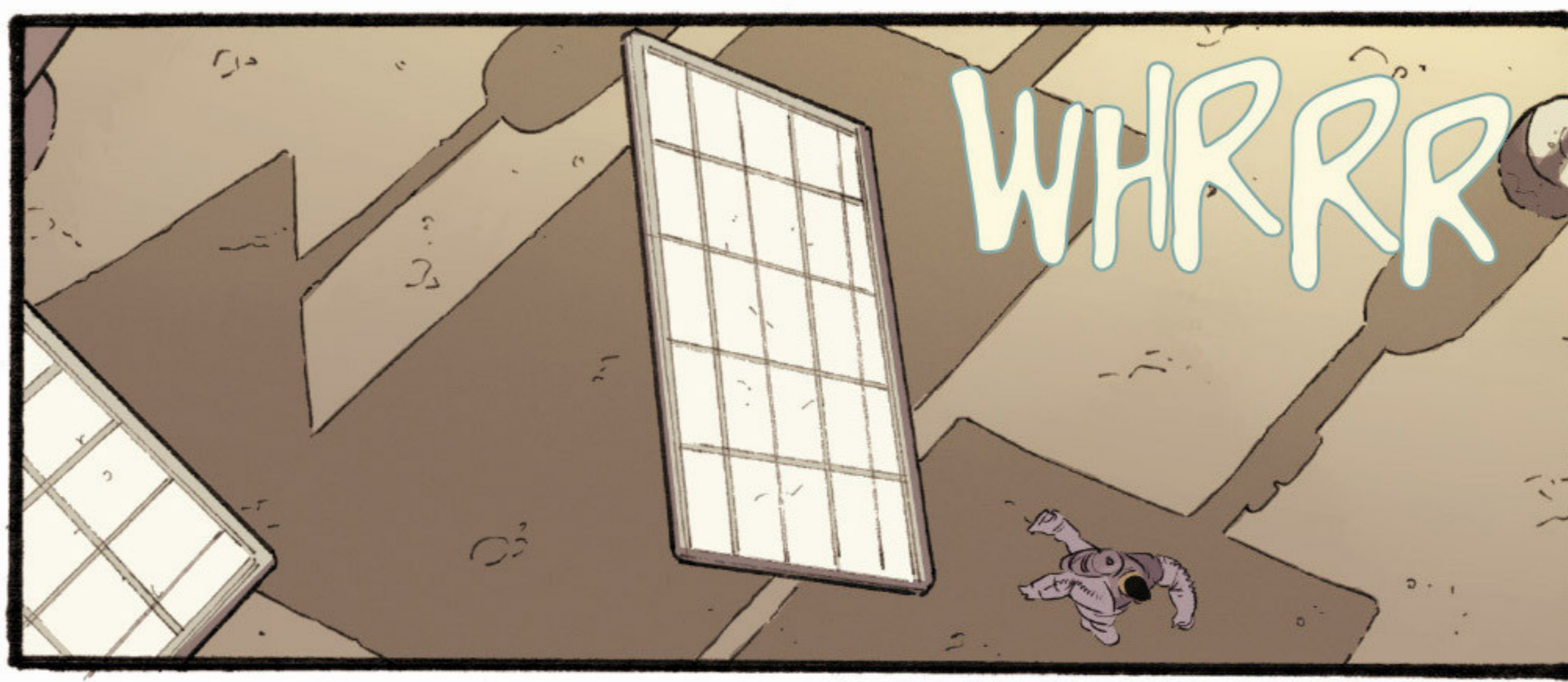
WHRRR



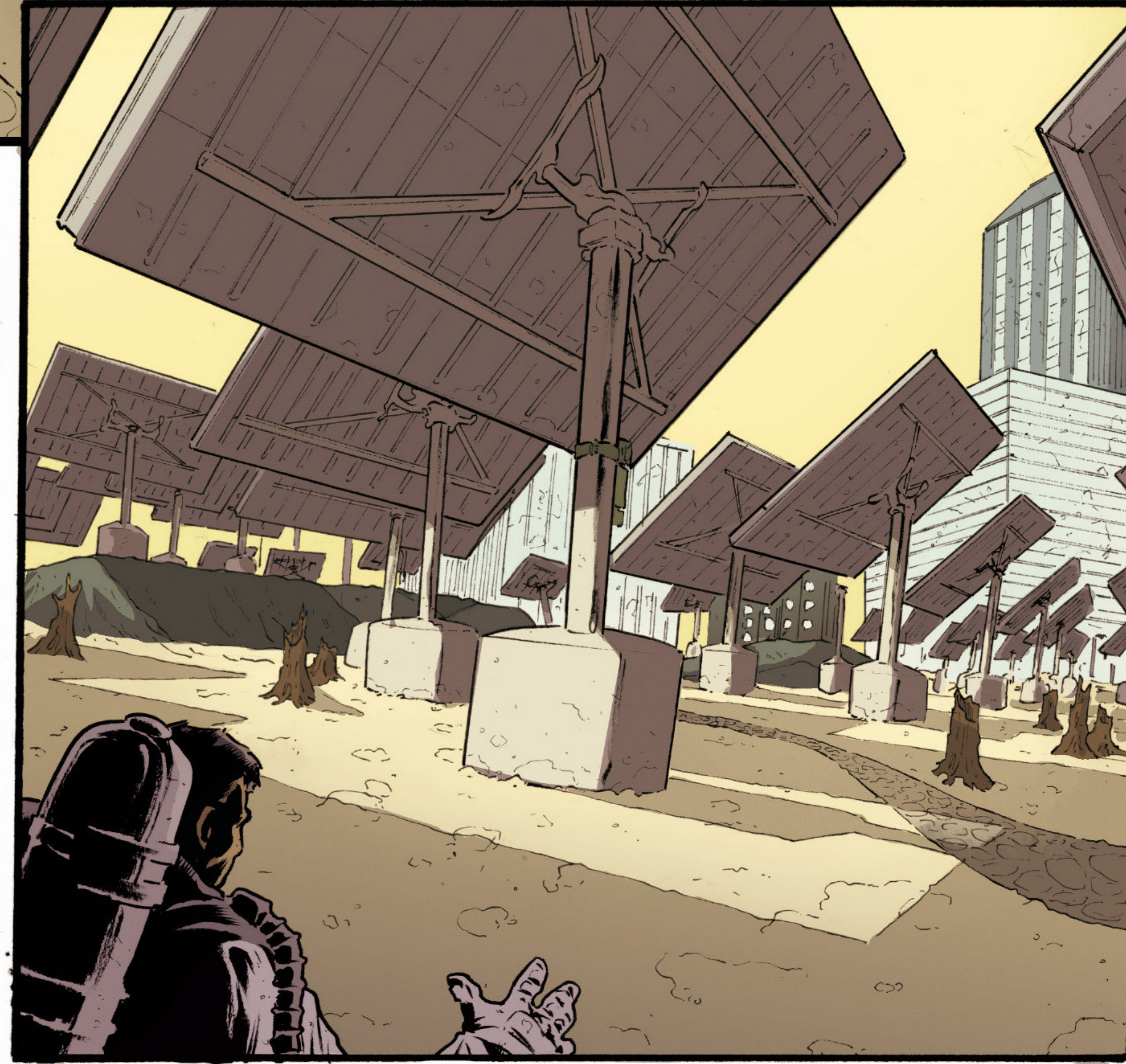
WHRRR

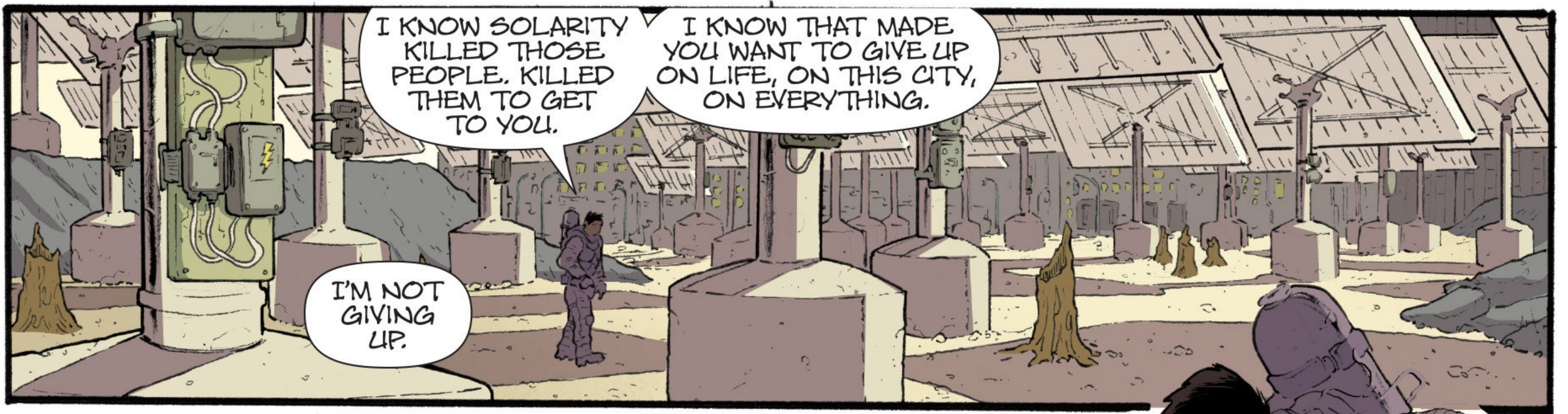


WHRRR



WHRRR

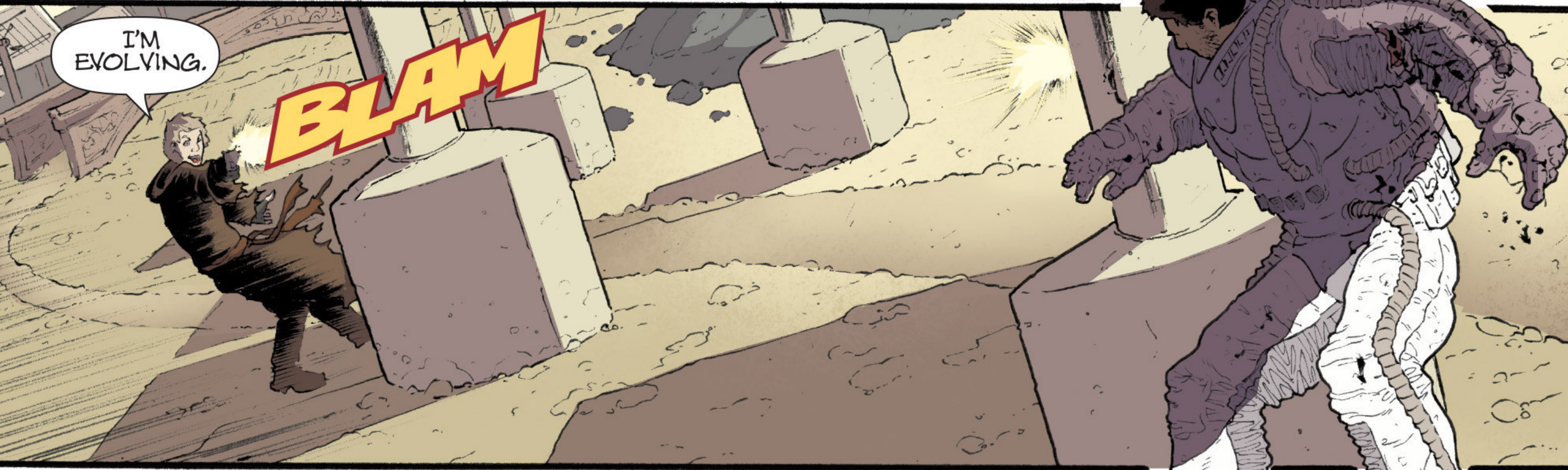




I KNOW SOLARITY  
KILLED THOSE  
PEOPLE. KILLED  
THEM TO GET  
TO YOU.

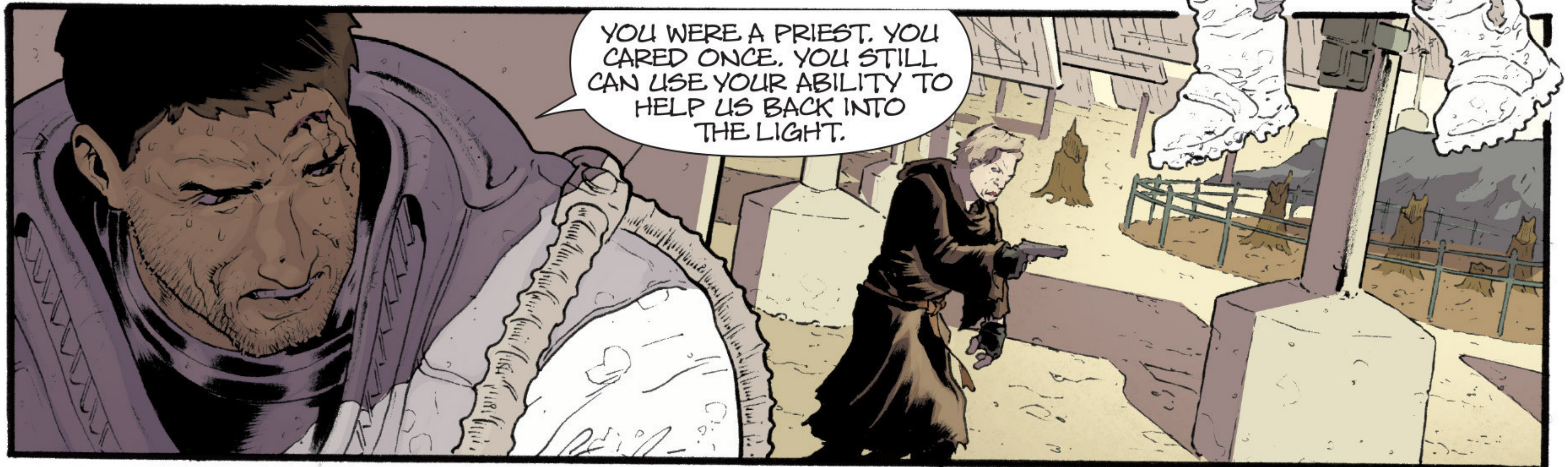
I KNOW THAT MADE  
YOU WANT TO GIVE UP  
ON LIFE, ON THIS CITY,  
ON EVERYTHING.

I'M NOT  
GIVING  
UP.



I'M  
EVOLVING.

**BLAM**



YOU WERE A PRIEST. YOU  
CARED ONCE. YOU STILL  
CAN USE YOUR ABILITY TO  
HELP US BACK INTO  
THE LIGHT.



THERE IS ONLY  
DARKNESS. AND  
WHEN YOU'RE IN THE  
DARKNESS, YOU  
EITHER DIE--



--OR YOU  
KILL.



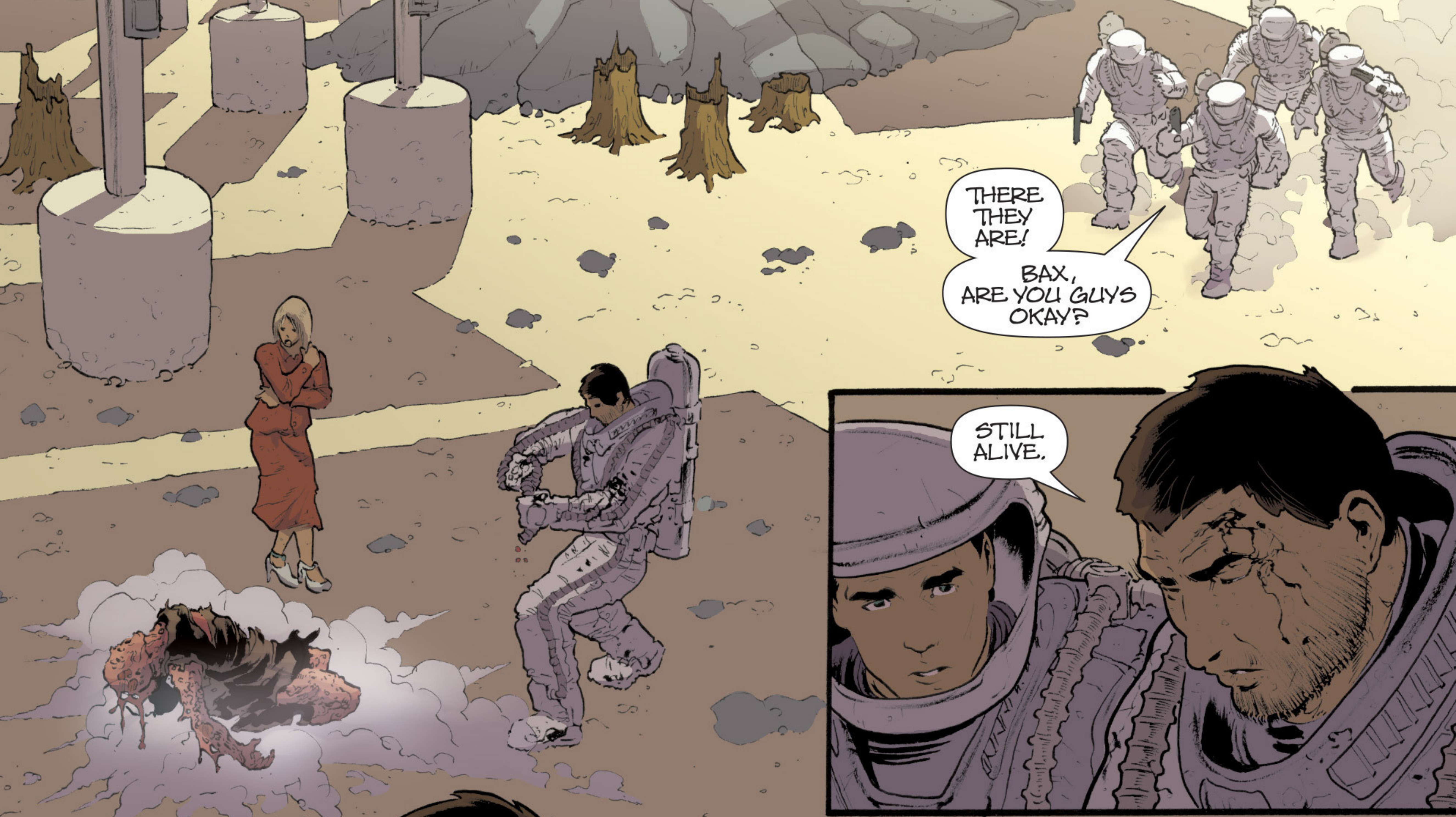




PSSSSSHHHHT

PSSSSSHHHHT

AAAAGGHHH!



THERE THEY ARE!  
BAX, ARE YOU GUYS OKAY?



STILL ALIVE.

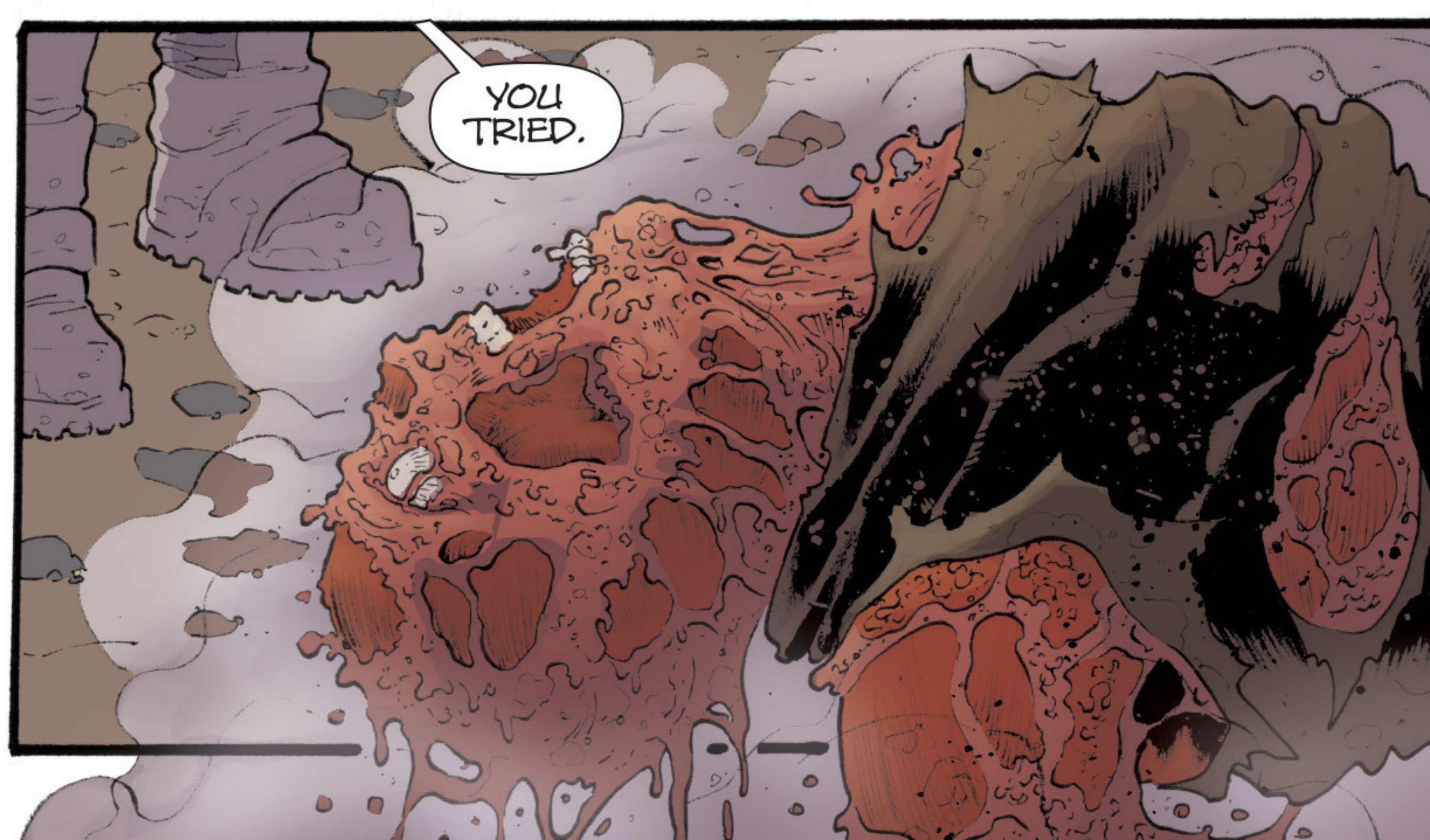


THANKS TO YOU!



I TRIED TO SAVE HIM.

THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.



YOU TRIED.



I APPRECIATE THAT YOU DID WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE.



I DID IT FOR HER.

I KNOW, BUT I STILL APPRECIATE IT.



ANYWAY, WHEN YOU'RE DONE HEALING, YOU COME SEE ME.




WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN FRIENDS, NICK. AND I'VE TRUSTED YOU.


AS WELL YOU SHOULD.




THEN TELL ME. WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THOSE PEOPLE IN THAT CHURCH?




CORNING  
KILLED THOSE  
PEOPLE BECAUSE  
THAT FREAK KILLED  
HIS SON. AND  
IT DROVE HIM  
MAD.




DIDN'T HIS SON  
DIE AFTER THOSE  
PEOPLE?



WE BELIEVE HIS SON  
SAW THAT PRIEST OUT  
IN THE DAYLIGHT, AND  
THAT FREAK KILLED  
THE BOY FIRST TO  
KEEP HIS ABILITIES  
SECRET.




NO, THE ONLY  
MYSTERY LEFT  
HERE IS HOW  
THAT FREAK  
SURVIVED THE  
SUNLIGHT.



GOD,  
CAN YOU  
IMAGINE IF WE  
HAD THAT...  
POWER.



IT'S  
ALMOST  
WORTH  
KILLING  
OVER.



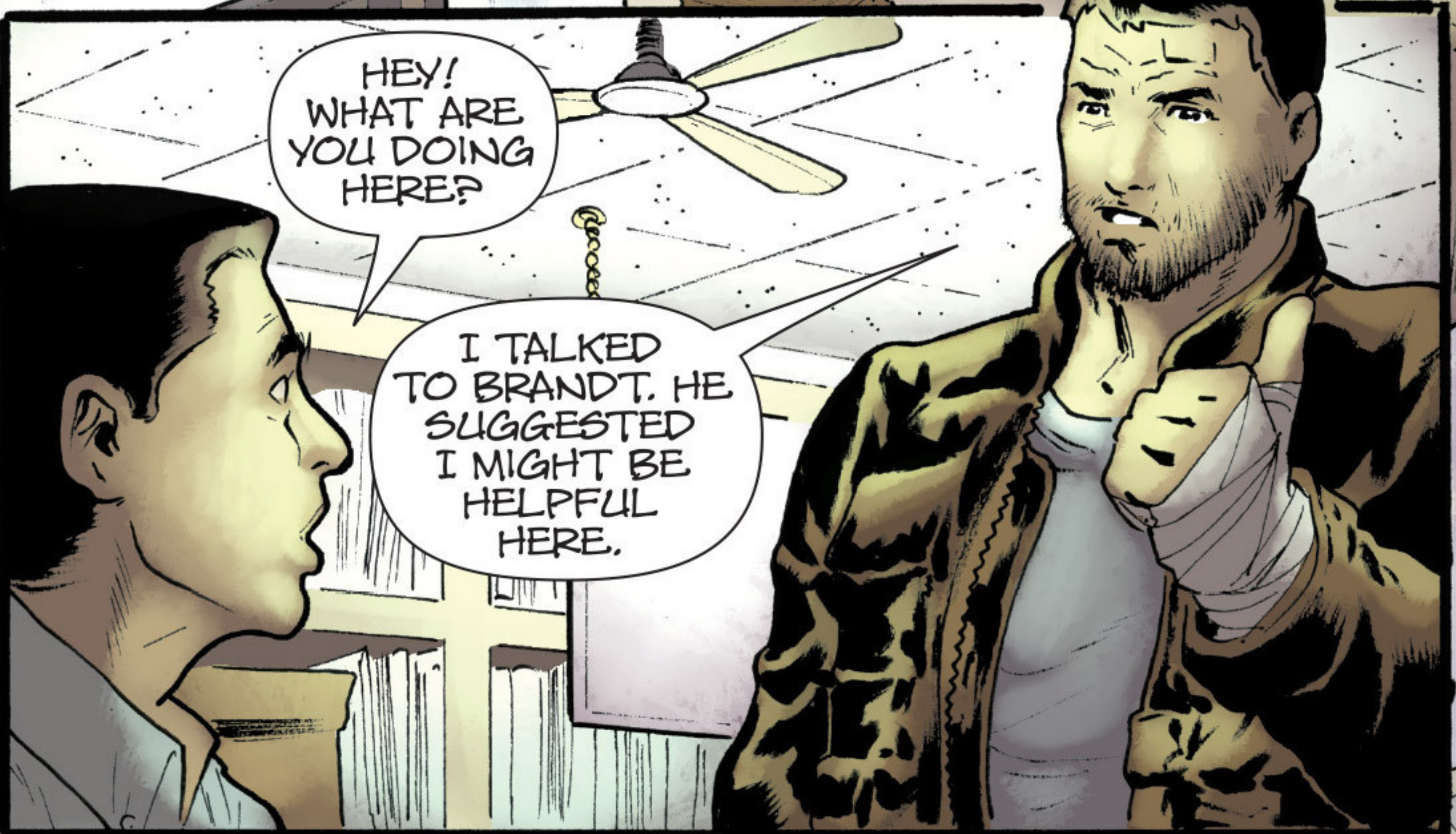
BUT I DIDN'T.  
I PUT ROSE'S  
LIFE OVER THAT  
POWER. I ASKED  
YOU TO KILL  
HIM.  
YOU  
BELIEVE ME,  
RIGHT?



YEAH,  
NICK. I  
BELIEVE  
YOU.



HEY.



HEY!  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
HERE?

I TALKED  
TO BRANDT. HE  
SUGGESTED  
I MIGHT BE  
HELPFUL  
HERE.



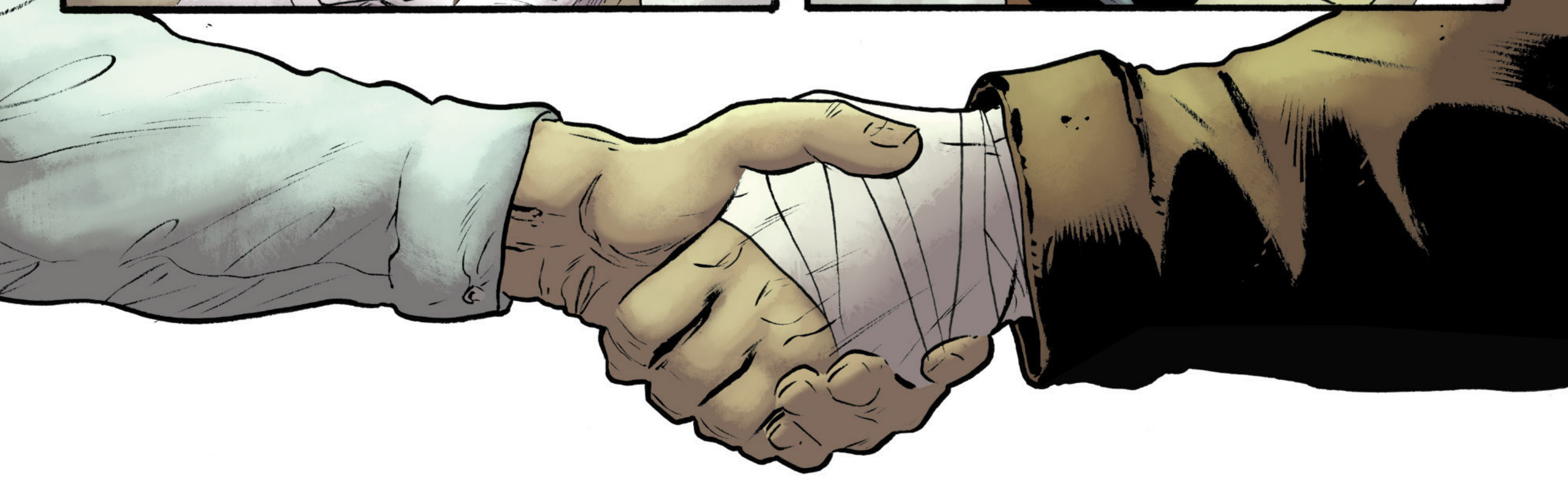
YOU  
WANNA HELP  
WORK WITH THE  
POLICE?

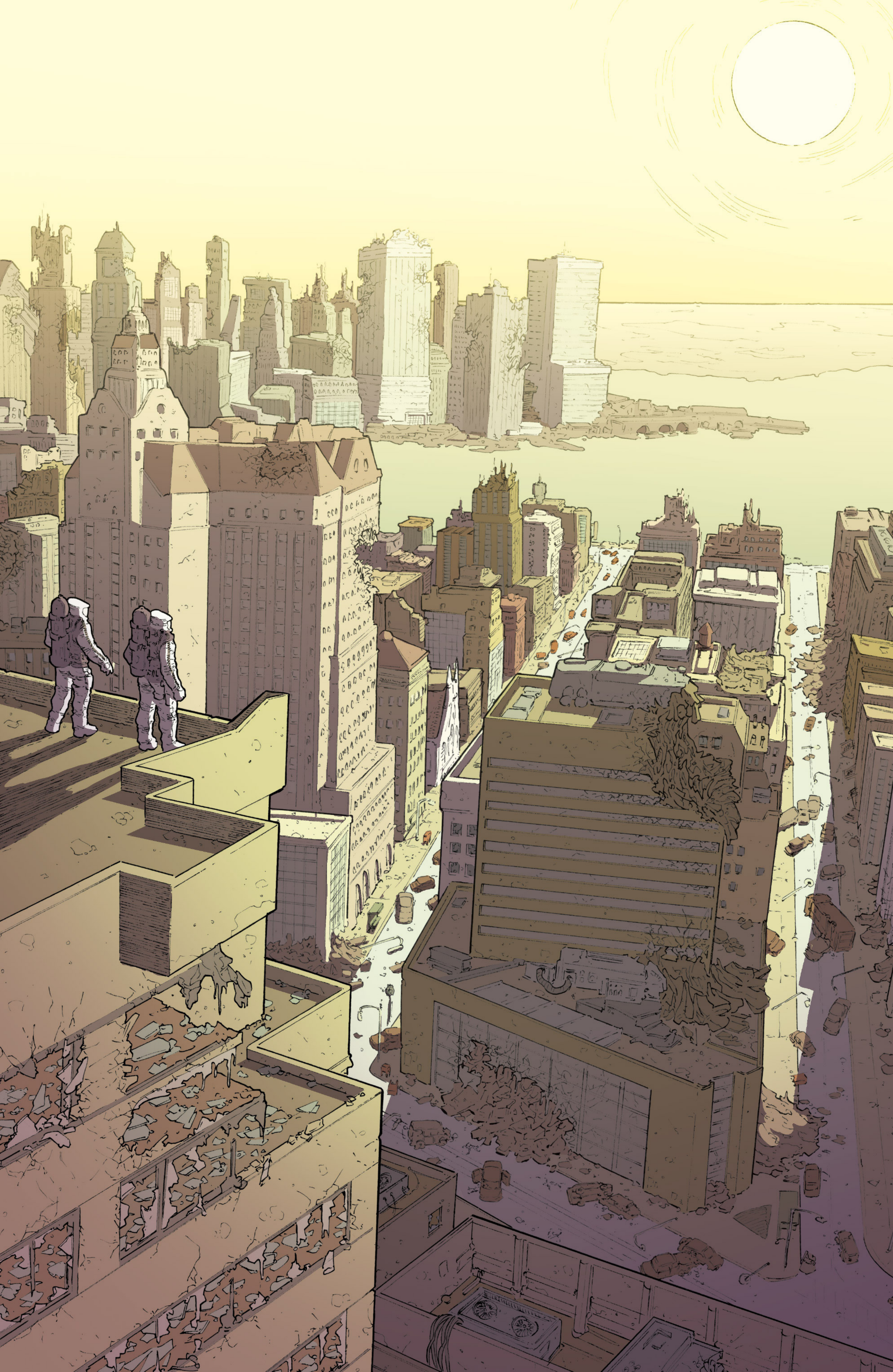
YOU NEED  
SOMEONE WHO  
KNOWS ICEMEN  
SUITS. WHO CAN  
SURVIVE OUT  
THERE.



YOU KNOW  
WE STILL WORK  
FOR SOLARITY  
SOMETIMES. I  
THOUGHT YOU  
HATED THAT.

CAN'T  
MAKE THINGS  
BETTER  
WITHOUT  
HOPE.





# ECLIPSE

NEXT ISSUE



COMING IN MARCH



# ECLIPSE™

## FAN ART CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR WINNER

**FRAN P. LOBATO**

---

Top Cow and the ECLIPSE creative team  
asked artists to share their view on the ECLIPSE universe.  
We are thrilled to announce Fran as the contest winner.

Find Fran online at:  
[www.franplobato.com](http://www.franplobato.com)  
[@franplobato](https://twitter.com/franplobato)

Thank you to all the talented artists for  
your incredible submissions!

**#ECLIPSECOMIC**





FRANZ LOBATO

A glimpse into the process behind

# ECLIPSE

A lot of work and thought goes into lettering each and every comic book page. From the font selected to represent the dialogue, to the words bolded or italicized for emphasis, to the placement of word balloons from panel to panel so as not to obscure Giovanni Timpano's outstanding art.

Troy Peteri, the letterer of *Eclipse*, gives his thoughts:

As the letterer on the majority of Top Cow's titles for the last decade or so (Ouch, that time went quickly!), I don't often have the opportunity to talk about what it is that I do, because I'm too busy doing it. But here goes, there's a method to (most of) my madness.

Any time I start lettering a new series, I decide which fonts and styles will be used based on two things: art style and genre. Knowing that this was a futuristic series with sci-fi overtones, I chose the main fonts and styles because they reminded me of the ones a reader would see in the oversized European sci-fi hardcovers.



Since the title takes place in a kind of postapocalyptic society, all of the establishing captions should look weathered and dilapidated.



As for the main dialogue font throughout, I chose it with the same logic in mind. It should look organic and relatively "hand-drawn," like many European comics, rather than similar to what's seen in SO many typical monthly comics.



One of my favorite elements of Giovanni's artwork is that it reminds me of classic illustration and has a very cinematic feel, and I didn't want the lettering to be "loud" or overpowering. I'd worked on another book with his artwork recently, where I chose to letter everything with more esoteric word balloons and balloon tails due to the genre of the comic, and I didn't want to copy myself on this book.



So all of the dialogue, electronic balloons, etc. are very basic and staccato, because the vibe of the book itself (to me, humbly) is closer to that of *Alien* or a John Carpenter film rather than a loud *Independence Day*-like sci-fi movie. So, even the loud balloons aren't that loud, and the sound FX are as subtle as I can keep them.



My main job as a letterer is to guide the reader's eye through the artwork in the proper order so the readability is clear, and my second most important job is making sure important artwork isn't covered.



This spread is a good example of me trying to force the reader's eye in one direction, because the artwork is cinematic enough that it really doesn't NEED any dialogue to tell the story, so I wanted to make sure the reader sees everything in the proper order.

We hope that this look inside the lettering process on *Eclipse* (and all other comic books), has been informative and eye-opening!

# THANK YOU FOR WATCHING



**2017**





RAFFAELE IENCO

# MECHANISM™

Volume 1

JANUARY 2017

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