

THE MIDAS FLESH™

NORTH / PAROLINE / LAMB

#THREE
OF EIGHT



BOOM! BOX



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2014

THE MIDAS FLESH™

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"THAT'S WHAT IT
SAYS ON HIS
CROWN: MIDAS."



WHOEVER HE IS,
HE DIED A LONG,
LONG TIME AGO. IT'S
KINDA UNLIKELY
HE SPOKE OUR
LANGUAGE?

STILL. WHATEVER
THAT CROWN IS
SUPPOSED TO SAY, IT
LOOKS CLOSE
ENOUGH LIKE MIDAS
TO ME. I DON'T SEE
HIM ASKING FOR
ANOTHER NAME.



OKAY, SO LET'S
ASSUME OUR WEAPON IS MIDAS.
HIS BODY IS THE SOURCE OF
WHATEVER CHANGED THIS WORLD.
YOU KNOW, SOMEHOW.

AND HE TURNED--
AND CONTINUES TO TURN--
EVERYTHING HE TOUCHES
INTO GOLD.

HEY
YOU GUYS,
GUESS
WHAT?

THAT'S
CRAZY!



WHAT? IT'S CRAZY!
IT'S CRAZY AND
BEFORE WE GO TOO
FAR ALONG WITH THIS
WE SHOULD AT LEAST
BE TESTING OUR
HYPOTHESIS.

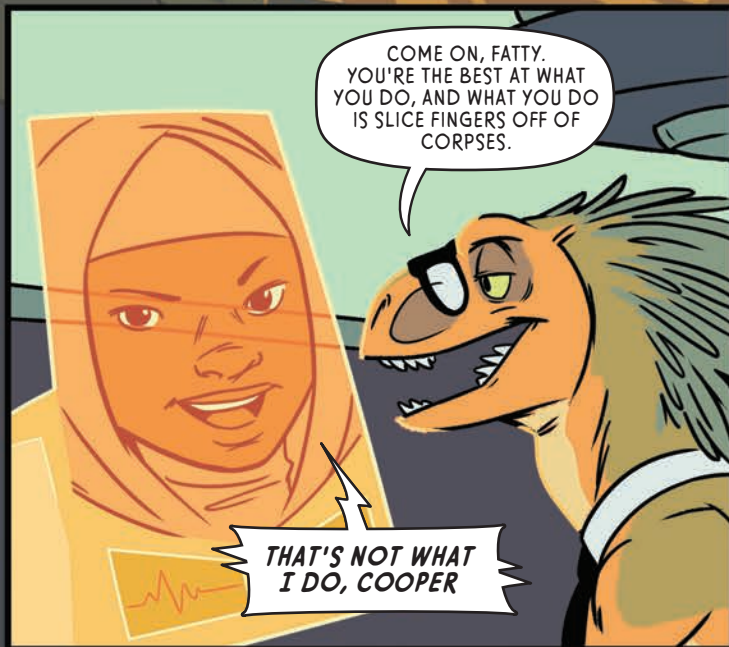


OH NO. OH
NO, NO, I'M
NOT GONNA
BE THE ONE
WHO--



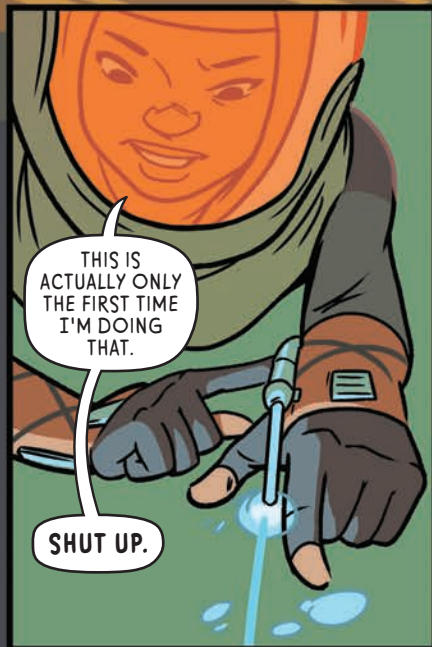
YES, TO REITERATE
WHAT I WAS SAYING EARLIER:
I'M NOT GONNA BE THE ONE
WHO CUTS UP SOME WEIRD
DEAD GUY.

THOUGH HONESTLY
I DON'T KNOW WHY I
EVEN BOTHERED SAYING
IT SINCE **HERE I AM**
AFTER ALL??



COME ON, FATTY.
YOU'RE THE BEST AT WHAT
YOU DO, AND WHAT YOU DO
IS SLICE FINGERS OFF OF
CORPSES.

**THAT'S NOT WHAT
I DO, COOPER**



THIS IS
ACTUALLY ONLY
THE FIRST TIME
I'M DOING
THAT.

SHUT UP.



SORRY, MIDAS.

EW.



EW, EW, EW.



YOU KNOW COOPER, IF HE IS THE SOURCE OF THE EFFECT, IT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY HE'S SO WELL-PRESERVED.

YEAH MAN. DUDE CAN'T BIODEGRADE IF BACTERIA CAN'T TOUCH HIM.



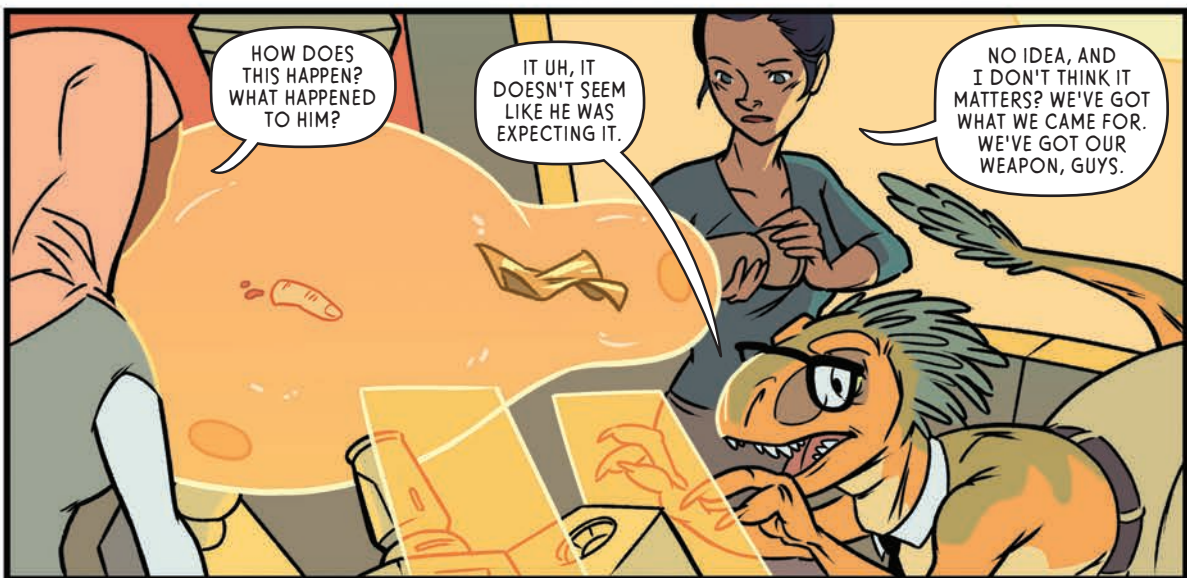
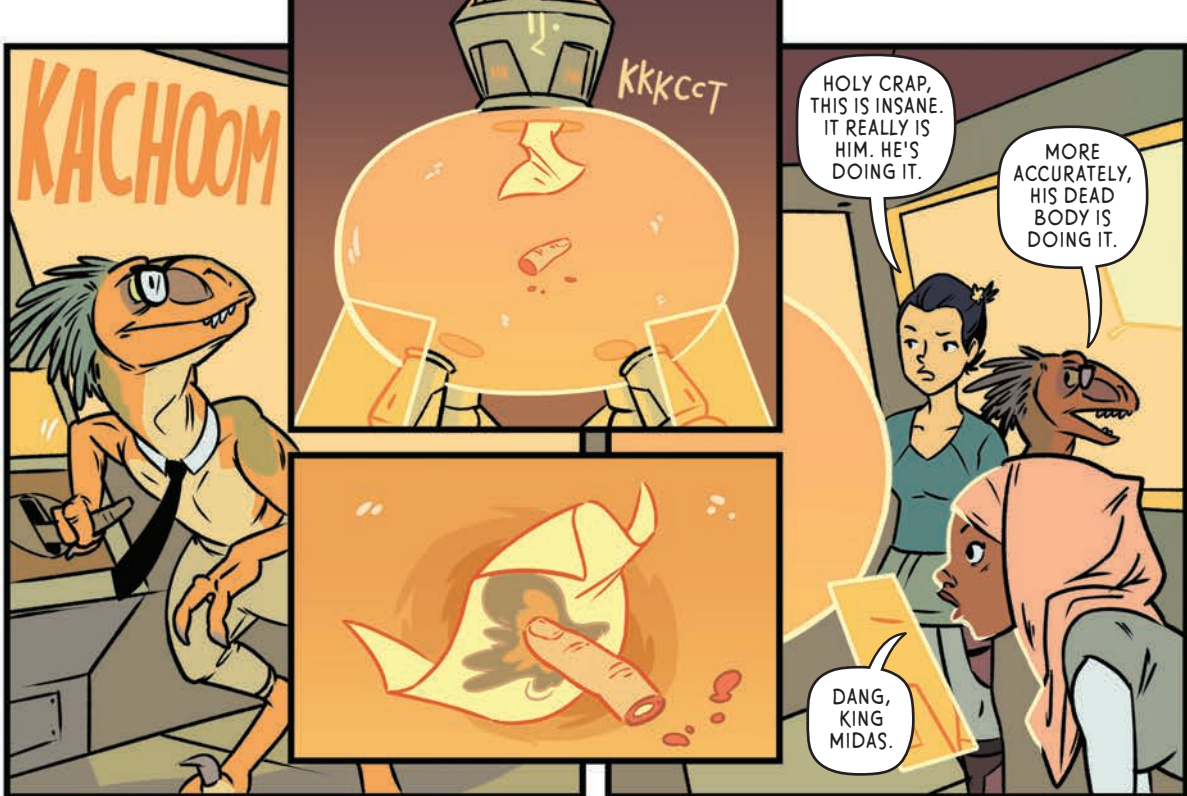
OKAY, ONE DEAD FINGER COMING UP. STASIS FIELD'LL KEEP THE BLOOD INSIDE IT FOR NOW, BUT IT BEHAVES LIKE IT'S FRESH, GUYS.

HIS HAND IS, LIKE-- DRIPPING.

WOW, EW.



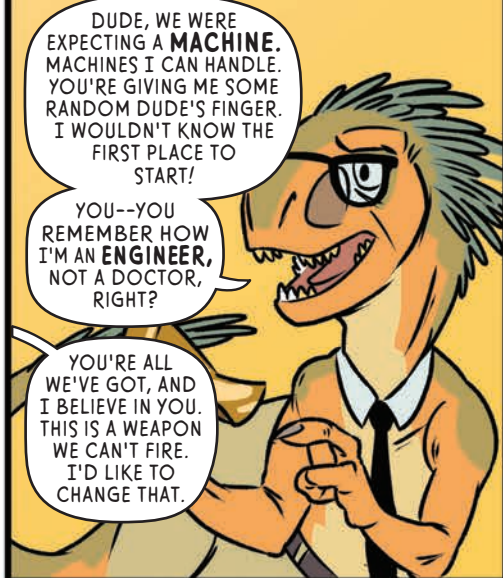
I KNOW, RIGHT?!





ALRIGHT COOPER, YOU'RE UP. I BET IF OUR STASIS FIELD DIDN'T KEEP OUT THE AIR, THE FINGER WOULD BE TRANSMUTING THAT RIGHT NOW. I WANT YOU TO FIGURE OUT HOW IT WORKS AND HOW WE CAN ADAPT OUR WEAPONS SYSTEMS TO USE IT.

HA HA, WHAT?



DUDE, WE WERE EXPECTING A **MACHINE**. MACHINES I CAN HANDLE. YOU'RE GIVING ME SOME RANDOM DUDE'S FINGER. I WOULDN'T KNOW THE FIRST PLACE TO START!

YOU--YOU REMEMBER HOW I'M AN **ENGINEER**, NOT A DOCTOR, RIGHT?

YOU'RE ALL WE'VE GOT, AND I BELIEVE IN YOU. THIS IS A WEAPON WE CAN'T FIRE. I'D LIKE TO CHANGE THAT.



THAT FINGER IS SOMETHING YOU CAN WORK WITH, SOMETHING YOU CAN MEASURE AND LEARN FROM. HOW MUCH CONTACT IS NEEDED?

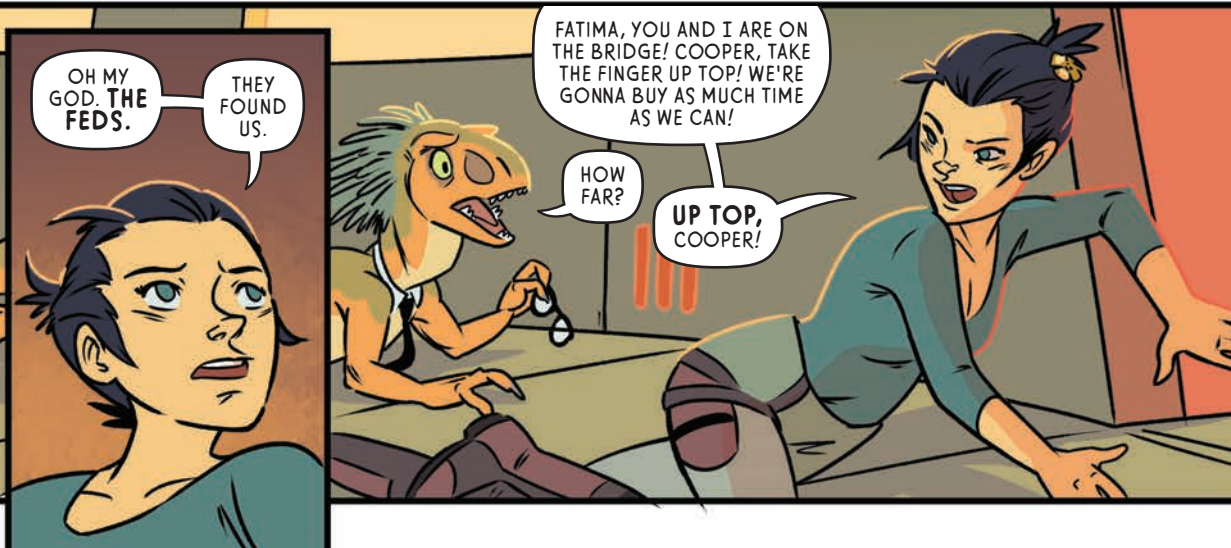
THE FINGER WORKS, BUT WHAT IF WE HAD JUST HIS FINGERNAIL? A DROP OF HIS BLOOD? A SINGLE ATOM OF HIS FLESH?

OKAY, I MEAN YEAH, BUT I CAN'T PROMISE--

JUST DO YOUR BEST.



IN THE MEANTIME, FATIMA, YOU AND ARE I GONNA--



OH MY GOD. THE FEDS.

THEY FOUND US.

FATIMA, YOU AND I ARE ON THE BRIDGE! COOPER, TAKE THE FINGER UP TOP! WE'RE GONNA BUY AS MUCH TIME AS WE CAN!

HOW FAR?

UP TOP, COOPER!



THEY'VE GOT US
PINNED DOWN UNDER
SURROUNDING FIRE!
WE CAN'T GO
THROUGH THAT!

OKAY, OKAY,
ACT COOL! WE'RE
GONNA BE COOL,
OKAY?



≡AHEM≡



HELLO, CAPTAIN JOEY HERE OF
THE PROSPECT. THANK YOU FOR
THE WARNING SHOTS. YOU CAN
STOP THOSE NOW. WE'RE--



YOU ARE TRESPASSING ON FEDERATION
PROPERTY. DO NOT MOVE YOUR VESSEL.
SURRENDER OR BE DESTROYED.

THEY'VE
STOPPED
FIRING.



WE--

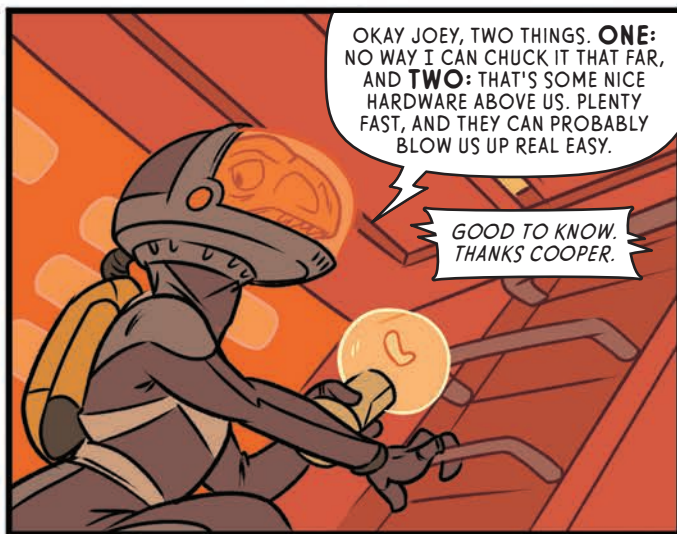
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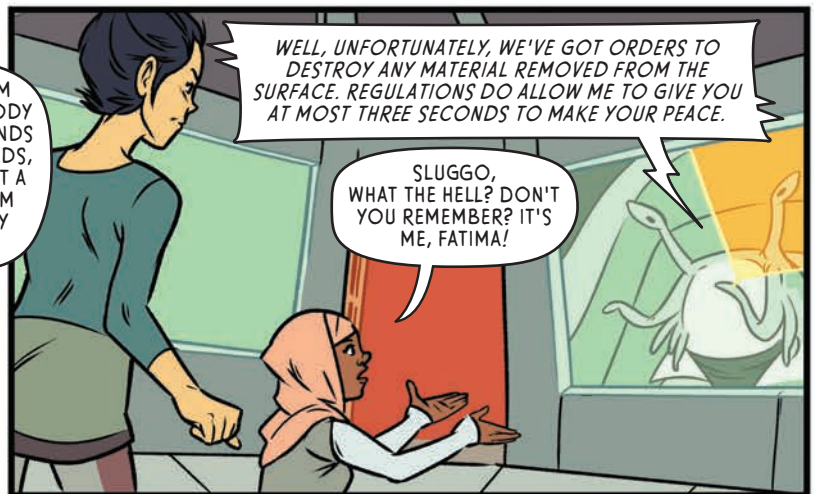
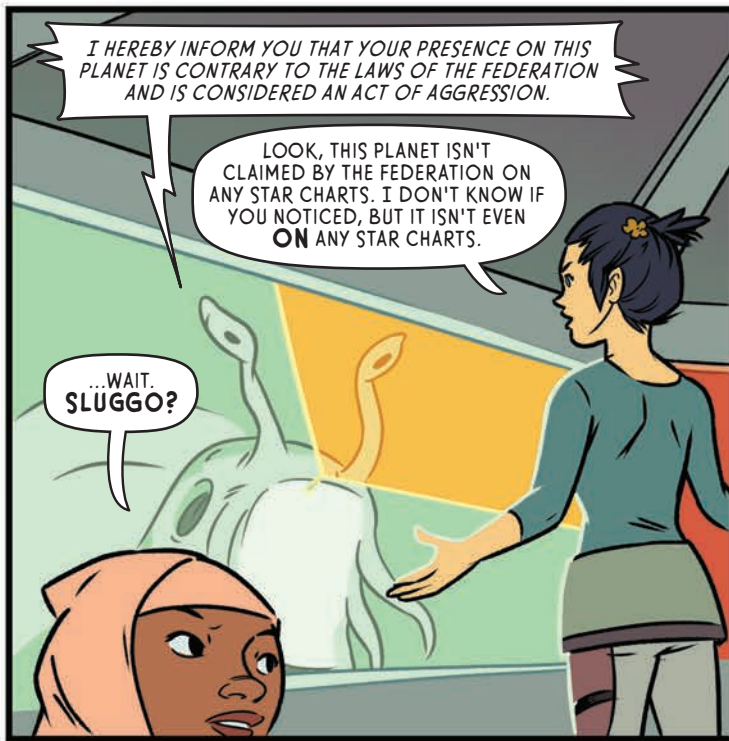
THIS IS YOUR
FINAL WARNING.



OKAY, YOU
GOT US. WE'RE
NOT GOING
ANYWHERE.

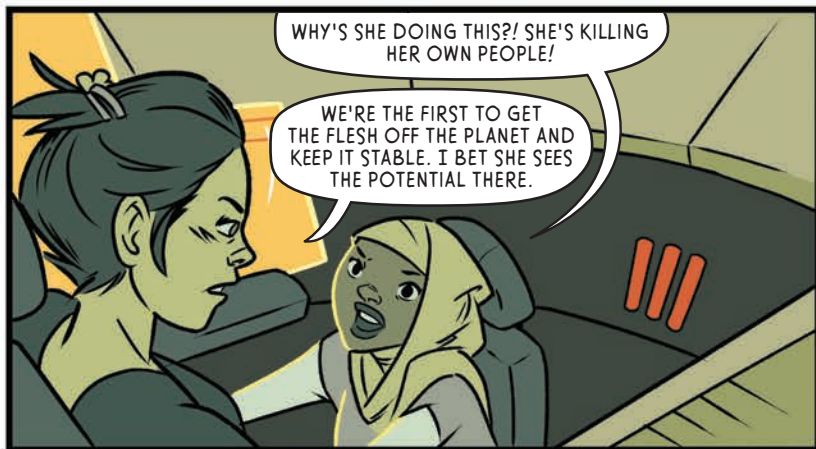
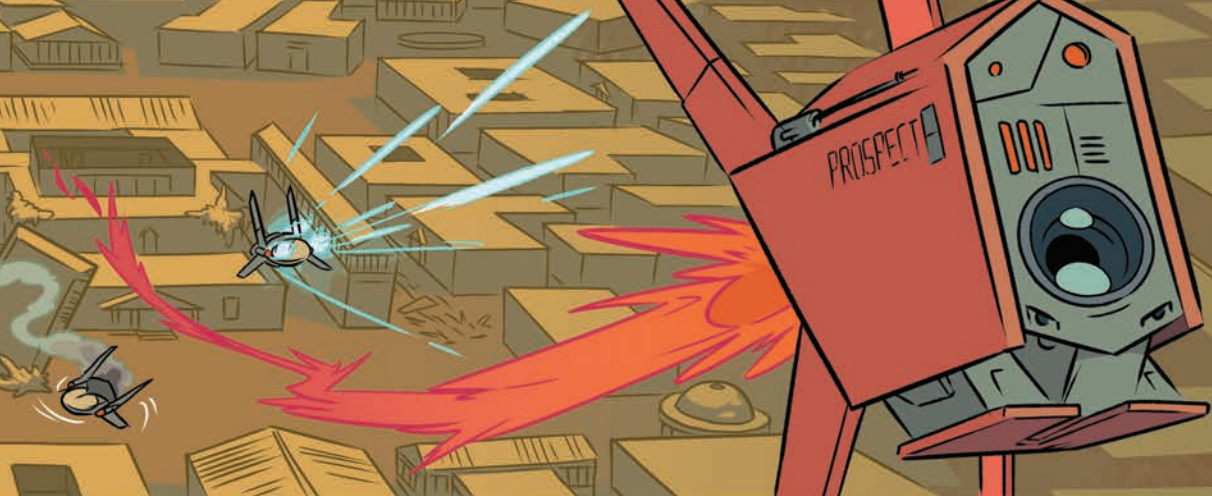
COME
ON DOWN,
GUYS.

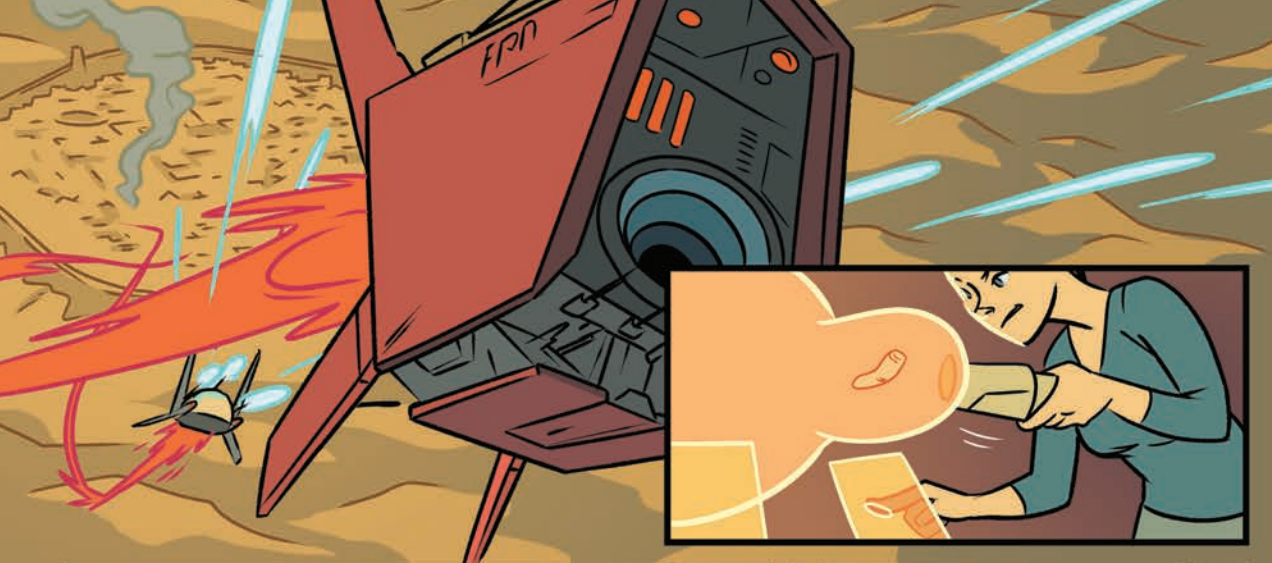


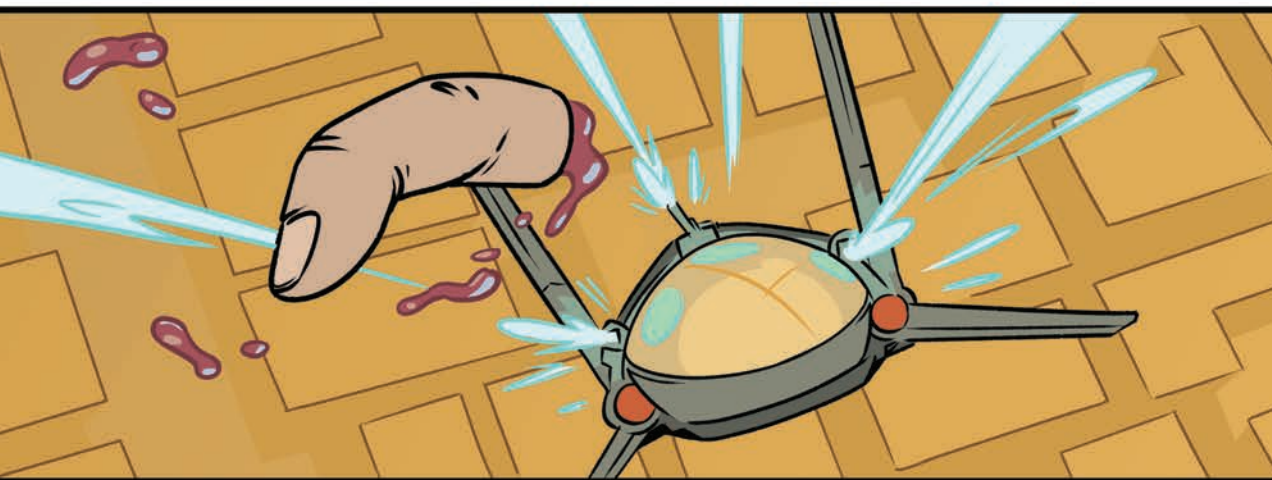
















DID YOU GUYS
SEE THAT? **DID YOU
GUYS EVEN SEE
WHAT I DID
THERE??**



WE GOT
HIM.

THAT UH,
THAT WORKED
REALLY WELL.



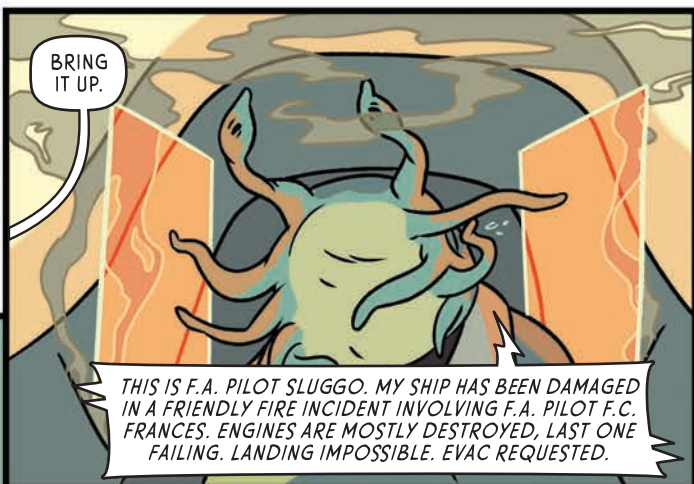
YEAH MAN. AND WE'VE GOT A
WAY TO FIRE THE FLESH AFTER
ALL, AS LONG AS WE'RE IN A
GRAVITY WELL, DIRECTLY
ABOVE THEM, AND THEY DO US
THE FAVOR OF NOT DODGING
IT. FATTY, BRING US BACK
DOWN TO COLLECT THE
FINGER.

GOT IT.



PICKING UP A
TRANSMISSION
FROM THE THIRD
SHIP. IT'S--ONE
SECOND.

YEAH,
IT'S AN
S.O.S. FROM
SLUGGO.



BRING
IT UP.

*THIS IS F.A. PILOT SLUGGO. MY SHIP HAS BEEN DAMAGED
IN A FRIENDLY FIRE INCIDENT INVOLVING F.A. PILOT F.C.
FRANCES. ENGINES ARE MOSTLY DESTROYED, LAST ONE
FAILING. LANDING IMPOSSIBLE. EVAC REQUESTED.*

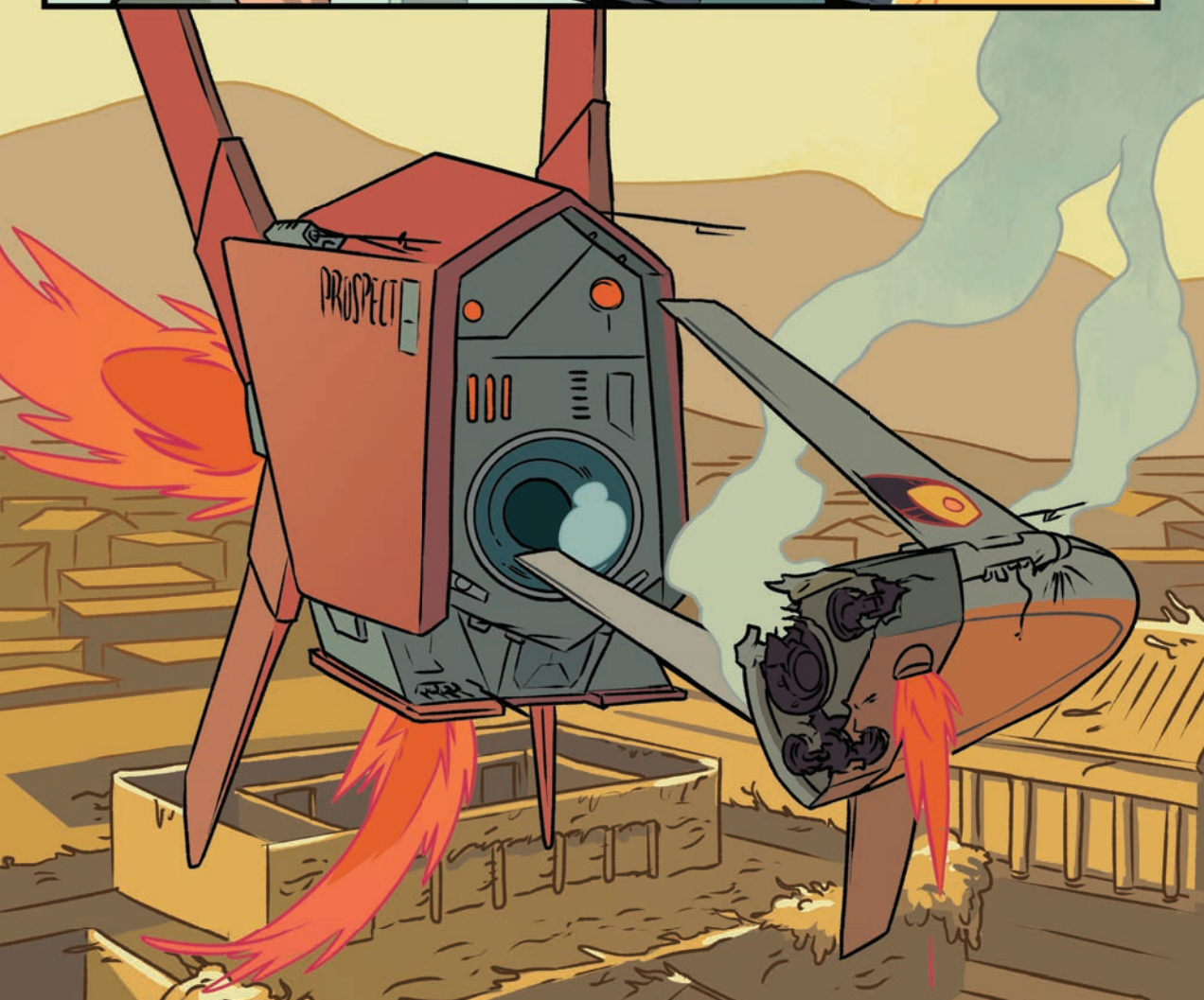


JOEY, I WENT TO SCHOOL
WITH HIM. WE, UH, DATED
FOR LIKE A MONTH. HE'S A
GOOD KID. I DON'T KNOW
WHAT HE'S DOING IN THE
FEDERATION, BUT--

DUDE, HE
TRIED TO **KILL
US!** HE WAS
GONNA KILL US
IN LIKE HALF A
SECOND!

I DON'T THINK
HE'S OUR ENEMY.
AND HE'S GOING
TO DIE IF WE
DON'T HELP
HIM.







LOOK, I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO BELIEVE US BECAUSE I BARELY DO, BUT EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE GONNA KILL US, WE'RE WILLING TO BRING YOU ON BOARD.

AS, UM, OUR PRISONER.



JOEY, WE DON'T HAVE A JAIL.

MAN, I KNOW THAT! BUT WE GOT **CORNERS**. WE GOT, LIKE, **ROPES**.



COME ON, SLUGGO. LET US HELP YOU.

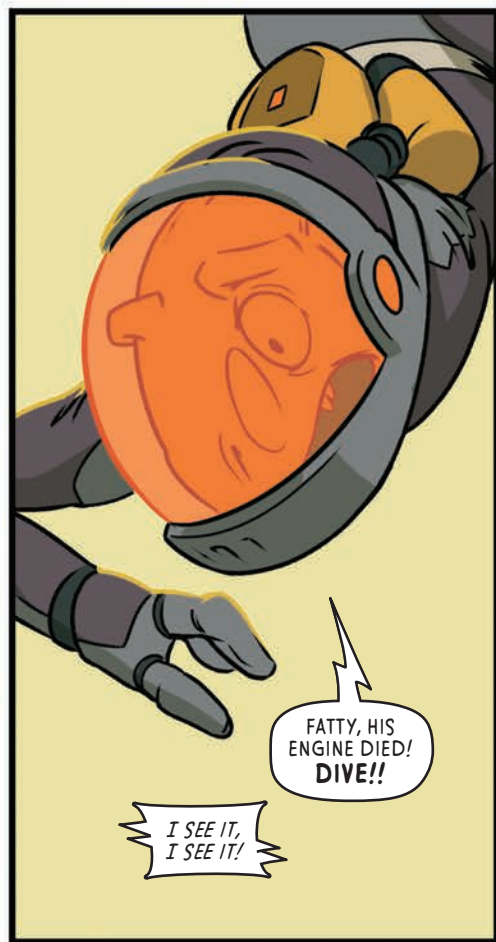
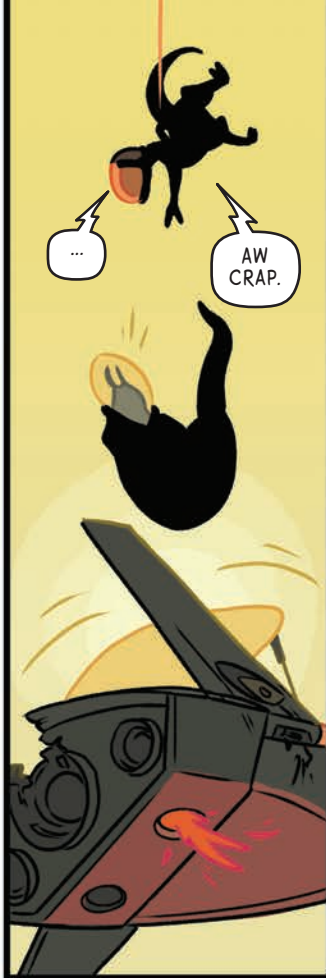


...ALRIGHT. I WILL. BUT THEN WE'RE TAKING YOUR SHIP BACK TO THE FEDERATION.



YEAH RIGHT. ALRIGHT, GET SUITED AND UP ON YOUR HULL, SLUGGO. COOPER'S GONNA GRAB YOU. LOOK AT HIM, HE'S ALREADY HALF-DRESSED FOR IT.

IT'S TRUE, I WAS JUST WAITING FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO RISK MY LIFE! EVERYTHING'S TURNING OUT REALLY WELL FOR ME TODAY!





AAAAHHHHH
YES THAT'S WHAT
I'M TALKING
ABOUT!



HI SLUGGO,
I'M COOPER. I'M THE
DUDE WHO JUST SAVED
YOUR LIFE.

COME ON. I
WANNA INTRODUCE
YOU TO MY
FRIENDS.



SHORTLY.

WELCOME
ABOARD. THIS
IS THE
PROSPECT.



GOOD TO BE BACK, FATTY.
SLUGGO, THIS IS OUR CAPTAIN
JOEY AND I BELIEVE YOU'VE
MET FATIMA?

HELLO CAPTAIN.
HELLO FATTY.

COOPER.



RIGHT.

I, UM,
HAVE TO TIE
YOU UP.



I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS, BUT THIS ISN'T EXACTLY GOING AS WE PLANNED. WE'RE NOT SET UP FOR PRISONERS, AND I'M NOT CONVINCED THAT YOU DON'T KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ATTACK ON US THAN YOU'VE SAID. SO I DON'T TRUST YOU.

SO YOU'RE GONNA STAY TIED UP FOR NOW.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT MY PEOPLE, BUT WE'RE NOT THE FASTEST IN THE WORLD. CHECK ME FOR WEAPONS; I'M NOT GOING TO ATTACK YOU. AND EVEN IF I TRIED, YOU'VE GOT A **DINOSAUR** IN A TIE OVER THERE. I THINK HE CAN TAKE ME.

I LIKE HIM!



LOOK, SLUGGO, CARDS ON THE TABLE: THE PROSPECT'S A TOUGH SHIP. WE SURVIVED THE ATTACK THAT TOOK OUT TWO OF YOURS. BUT THAT UNEXPECTED FIGHT WITH YOUR FRIEND DAMAGED MOST OF OUR DEFENSES AND MANY OF OUR OFFENSES. WE'RE HURT. AND HONESTLY?

I DON'T THINK WE CAN MAKE IT OUT.



TK
TK
TK



WE'LL BE DESTROYED BY THOSE SATELLITES IF WE TRY TO LEAVE, WE CAN'T STAY HERE ON A PLANET THAT'LL KILL US IF WE TOUCH IT, AND WE CAN'T USE OUR WEAPON UNLESS SOMEONE GETS DIRECTLY BENEATH US. CAN YOU HELP US ESCAPE?

...MAYBE.



I WON'T HELP WITH THE WEAPON, BUT I CAN GET YOU OUT. AND WHEN WE'RE OUT, IF YOU PROMISE TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH ME ABOUT TURNING YOURSELVES INTO THE FEDERATION, I'LL BE HAPPY.

YEAH, WE'RE NOT GONNA DO THAT.

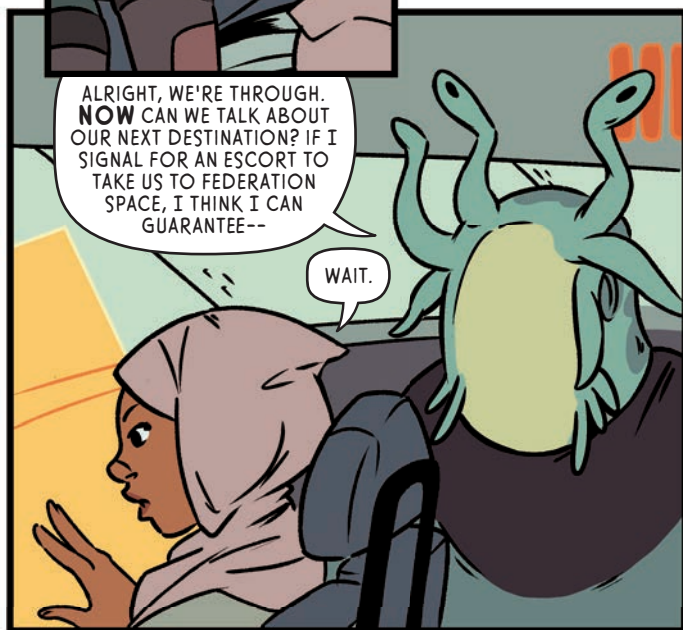
HERE'S MY CARDS ON THE TABLE: YOU'RE DEAD IF YOU DON'T. IT'S NOT LIKE THE FEDERATION IS JUST GOING TO FORGET YOU WERE HERE, STEALING FROM THEM.



LOOK, I DON'T THINK I HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE. I'LL HELP YOU LEAVE. THERE'S AN OVERRIDE SIGNAL WE USED TO GET IN THAT I CAN SEND TO THE SATELLITES. GET ME AT YOUR COMPUTERS AND I'LL SEND IT, ON ONE CONDITION:

YOU HAVE TO UNTIE ME.

COME ON! IT'S LIKE--I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU GUYS, BUT I CAN'T TYPE WITH LITERALLY BOTH ARMS TIED BEHIND MY BACK?





--I THINK
WE'RE IN
TROUBLE.

CONTINUED
NEXT MONTH!