

THE MIDAS FLESH™

NORTH / PAROLINE / LAMB

#SEVEN
OF EIGHT



BOOM! BOX

THE MIDAS FLESH™

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BOOM! BOX™

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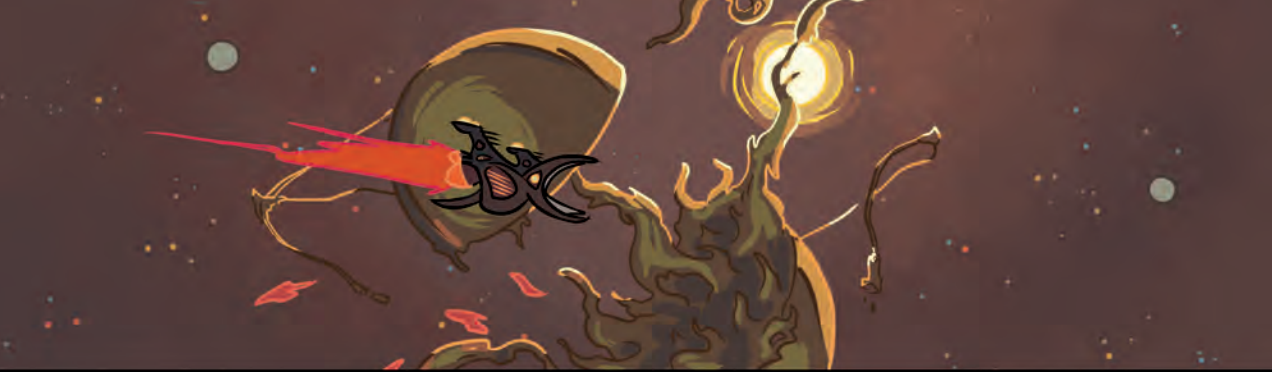
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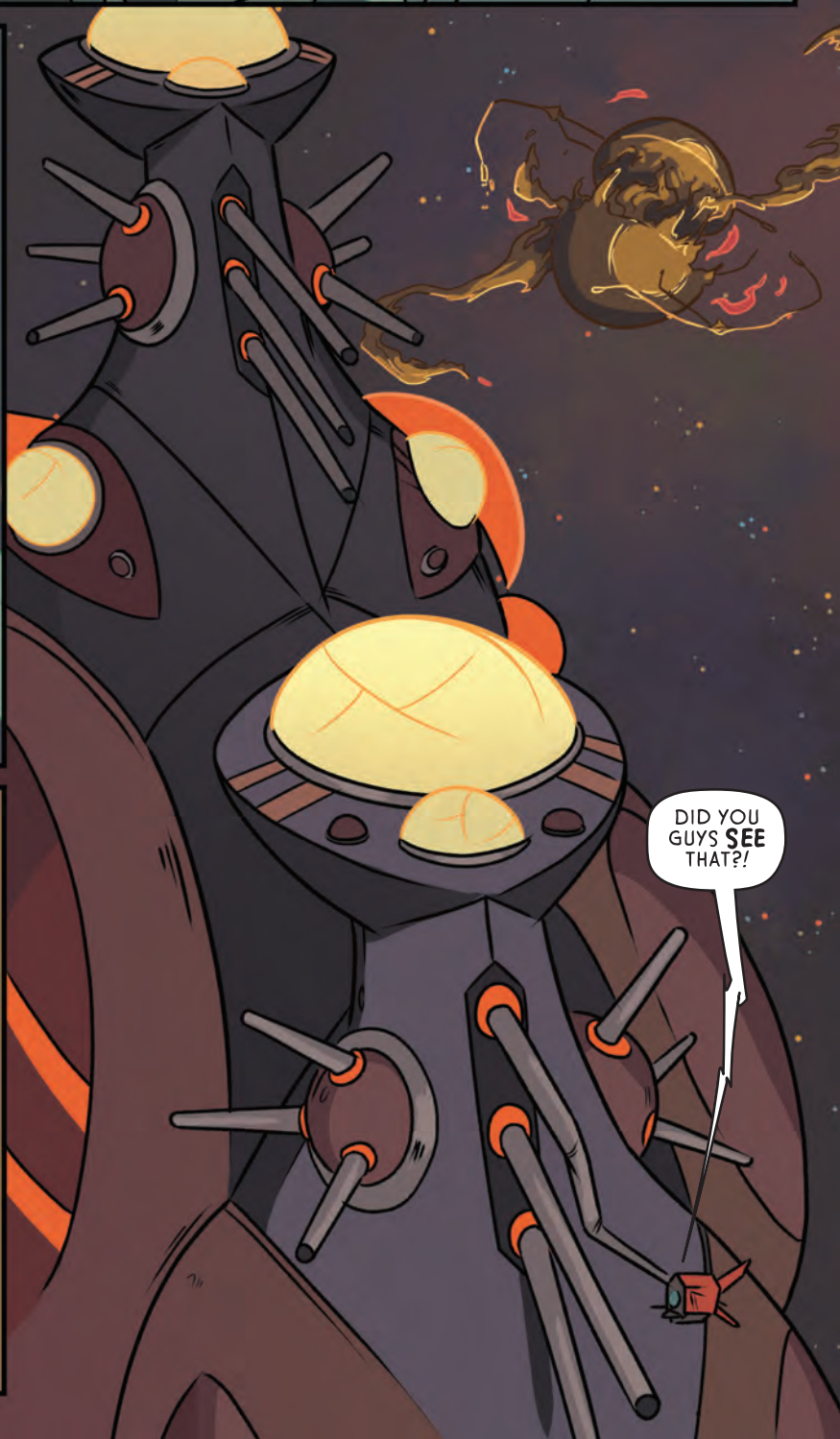
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OKAY SO, THE GOOD NEWS IS, **THAT'S** THE ONLY HULL BREACH. THE BAD AND WORSE NEWS IS THE CARPATHIA'S PUSHING US DIRECTLY INTO THE SUN, AND OUR ENGINES ARE DOWN, WHICH MEANS WE'RE NOT GONNA HAVE ENOUGH THRUST TO BREAK FREE.



HE'S NOT GONNA GO DOWN WITH US, GUYS. HE'S GONNA THROW US FREE AS SOON AS HE FIGURES WE'RE CLOSE ENOUGH THAT WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP OURSELVES FROM BURNING UP.

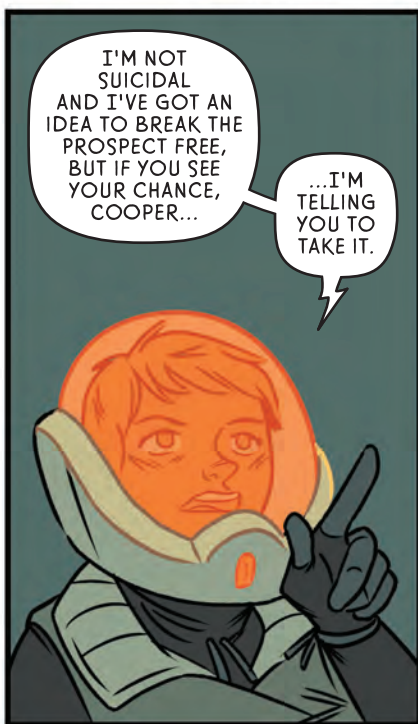


AGREED. ALRIGHT COOPER, I WANT YOU TO WALK OVER AND HIT THE CARPATHIA WITH THAT LAST BIT OF MIDAS BLOOD.

...YOU'RE SURE?

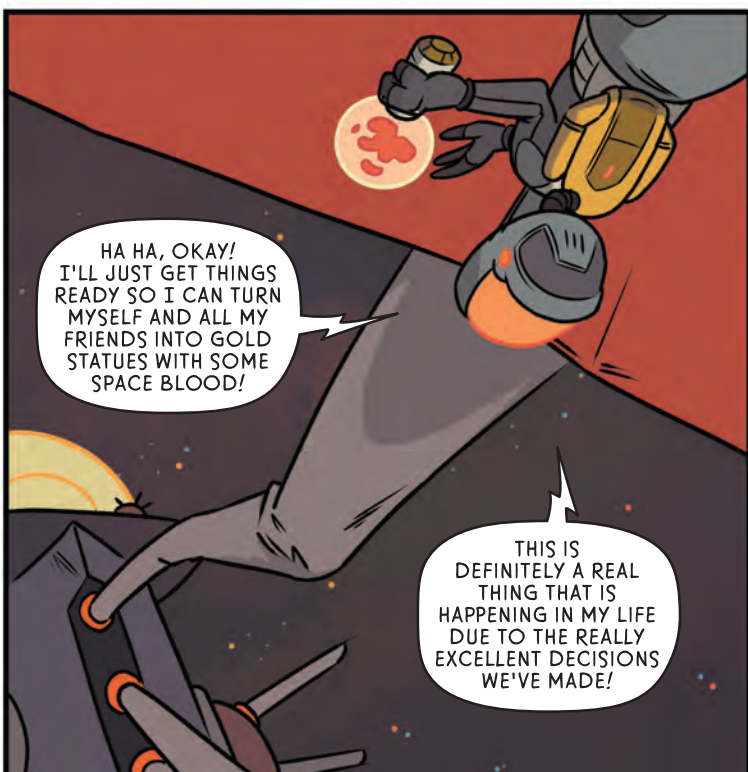
THAT'LL TURN US TOO.

YEAH MAN. WE CAN'T RISK MISSING OUR CHANCE TO END THIS. THIS THING IS OUR FAULT. OUR RESPONSIBILITY.



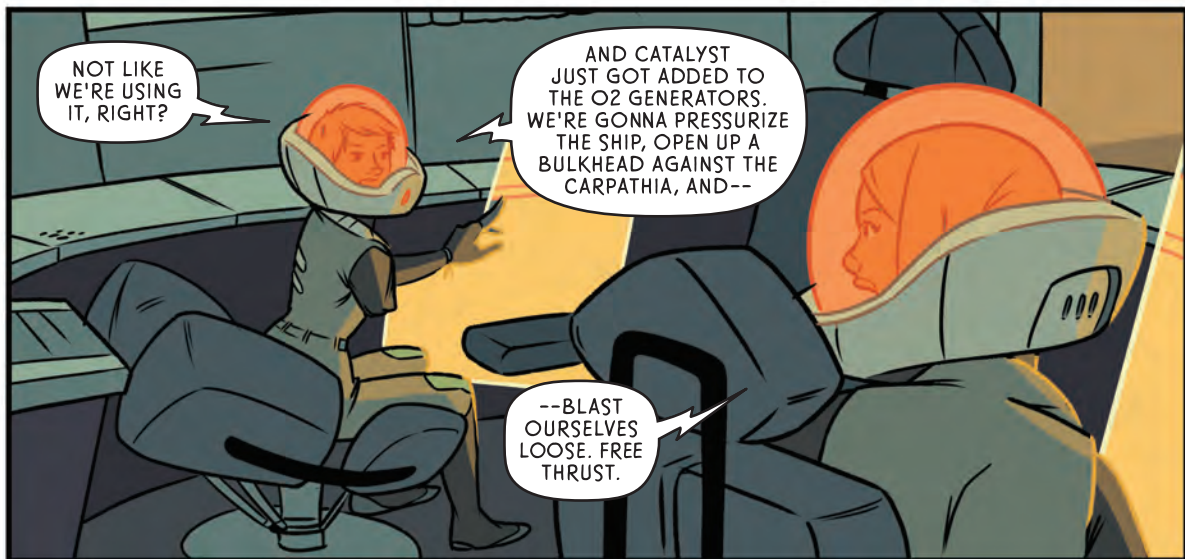
I'M NOT SUICIDAL AND I'VE GOT AN IDEA TO BREAK THE PROSPECT FREE, BUT IF YOU SEE YOUR CHANCE, COOPER...

...I'M TELLING YOU TO TAKE IT.



HA HA, OKAY! I'LL JUST GET THINGS READY SO I CAN TURN MYSELF AND ALL MY FRIENDS INTO GOLD STATUES WITH SOME SPACE BLOOD!

THIS IS DEFINITELY A REAL THING THAT IS HAPPENING IN MY LIFE DUE TO THE REALLY EXCELLENT DECISIONS WE'VE MADE!





OKAY JOEY, I'M ON THE CARPATHIA. DO WE HAVE A BETTER PLAN YET? ONE THAT DOESN'T INVOLVE ME KILLING YOU GUYS?

WE DO, STAND BY!

OH GOOD.



10 SECONDS 'TILL REVERSE THRUST. WE--

SIR, SECURITY SOFTWARE'S REPORTING SOMEONE ON OUR HULL.

SHOW ME.



THEY KEPT SOME FLESH. THOSE LITTLE--

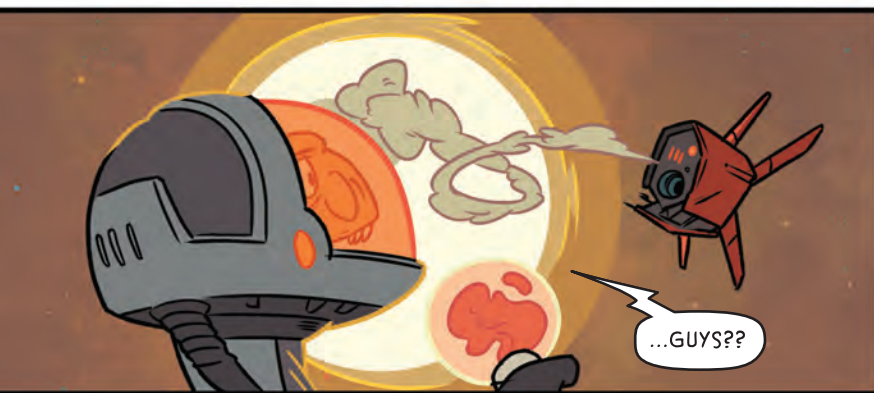
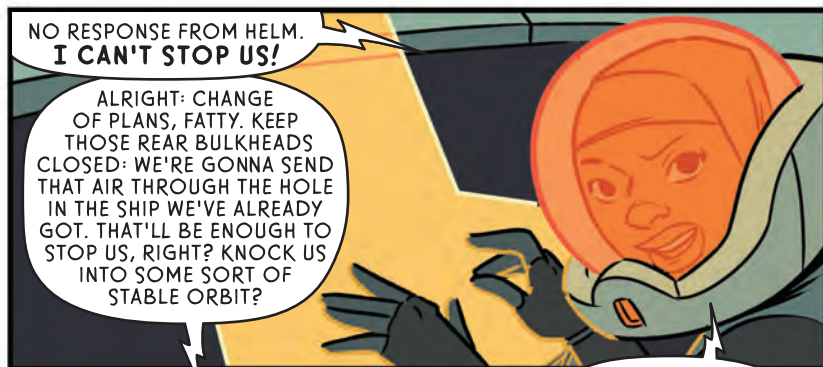
DOESN'T MATTER. EMERGENCY STOP, SEND THEM INTO THE SUN. NOW!!

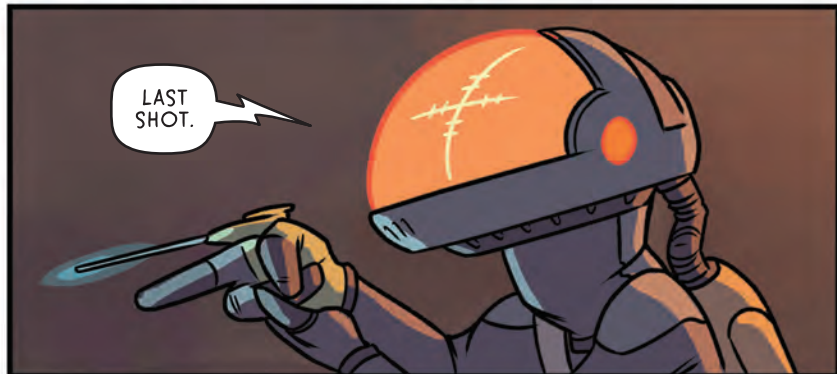
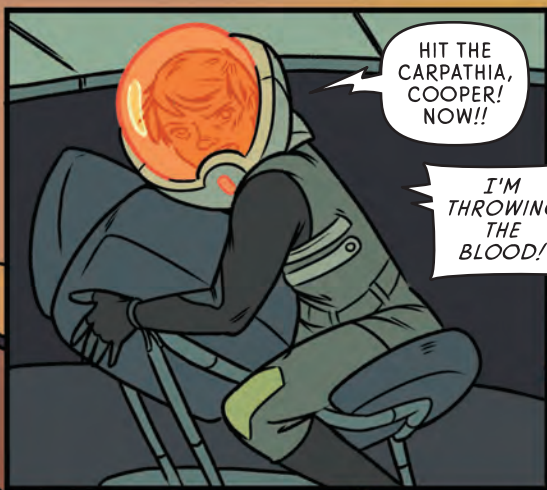


WHOA! GUYS, I'VE LOST MIDAS!! I DON'T THINK MY BOOTS CAN--



WHOA!!







CARPATHIA'S
DOWN!
CARPATHIA'S
DOWN!!

WE DID
IT!!



FULL
STOP.

WE MADE
IT, JOEY.
HOLY CRAP.

WE
MADE
IT.



FATTY, THAT WAS
INSANE. THAT
WAS--

--THAT WAS
ALMOST **TOO**
INSANE.

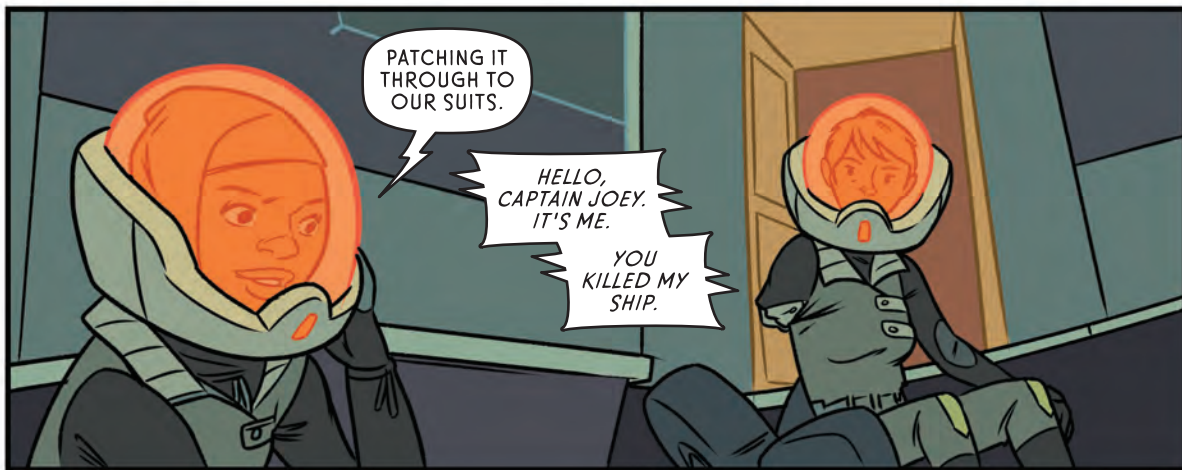
AGREED.



COOPER, LET'S GET YOU
BACK ON BOARD, HUH?
OUR NEXT JOB IS TO
RECOV--

WAIT. WAIT, HOLD
ON: I'M RECEIVING
A TRANSMISSION,
AUDIO ONLY.

WHAT?
FROM
WHERE?



PATCHING IT
THROUGH TO
OUR SUITS.

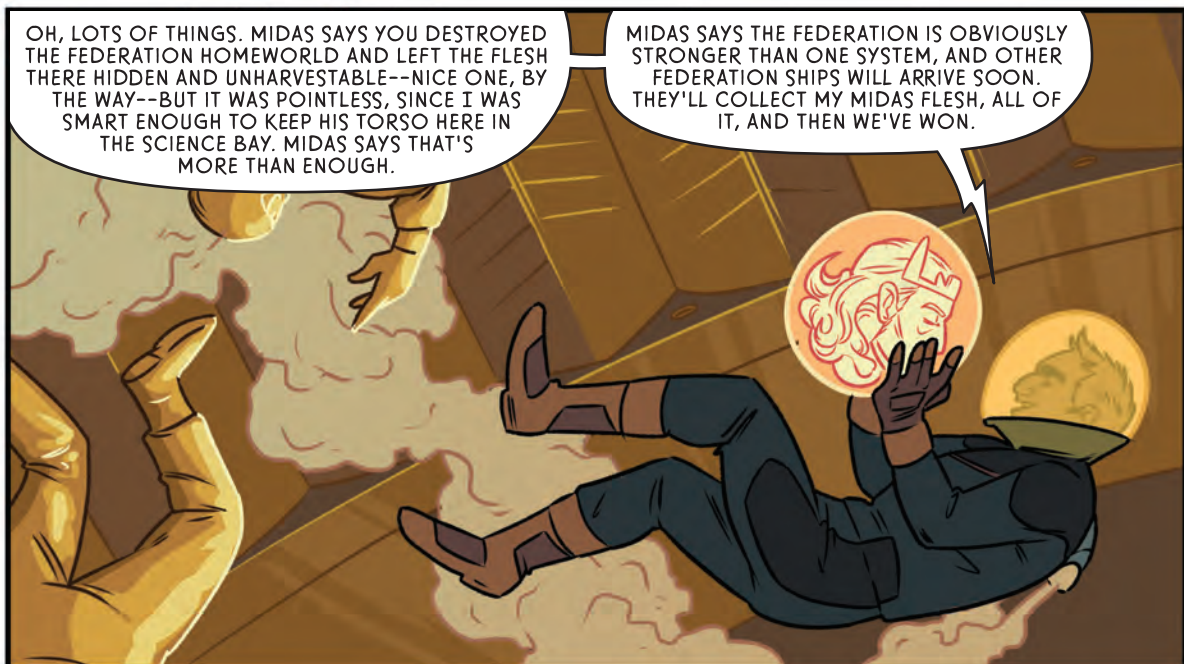
HELLO,
CAPTAIN JOEY.
IT'S ME.

YOU
KILLED MY
SHIP.



BUT YOU'LL
HAVE TO DO BETTER
THAN THAT IF YOU
WANT TO KILL ME,
SWEETHEART.







WHAT'S HE DOING? WHAT'S HIS HEADING?

ONE SEC, ONE SEC!

HE'S--HE'S HEADED DIRECTLY INTO THE SUN?

WHAT? WHAT?

GENERAL, YOU KNOW THAT TURNING THE SUN TO GOLD WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING, RIGHT? YOU'RE ONLY HARMING YOUR OWN PEOPLE!

THAT'S NOT ALL IT DOES, CAPTAIN JOEY.

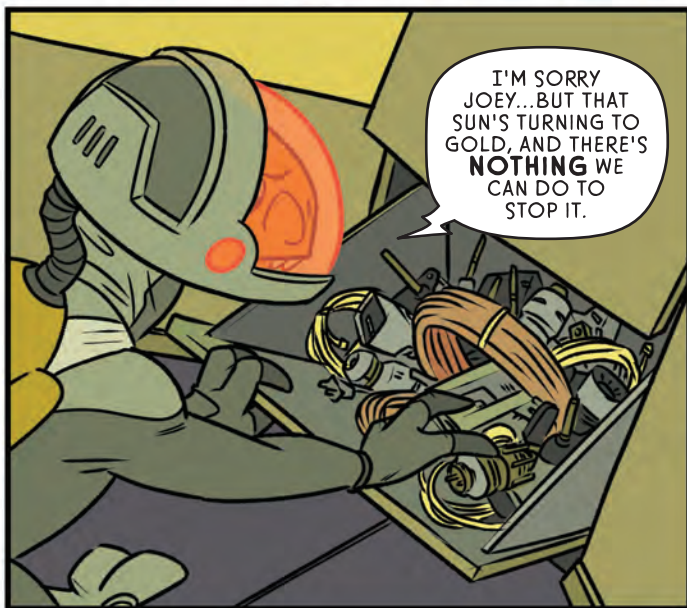
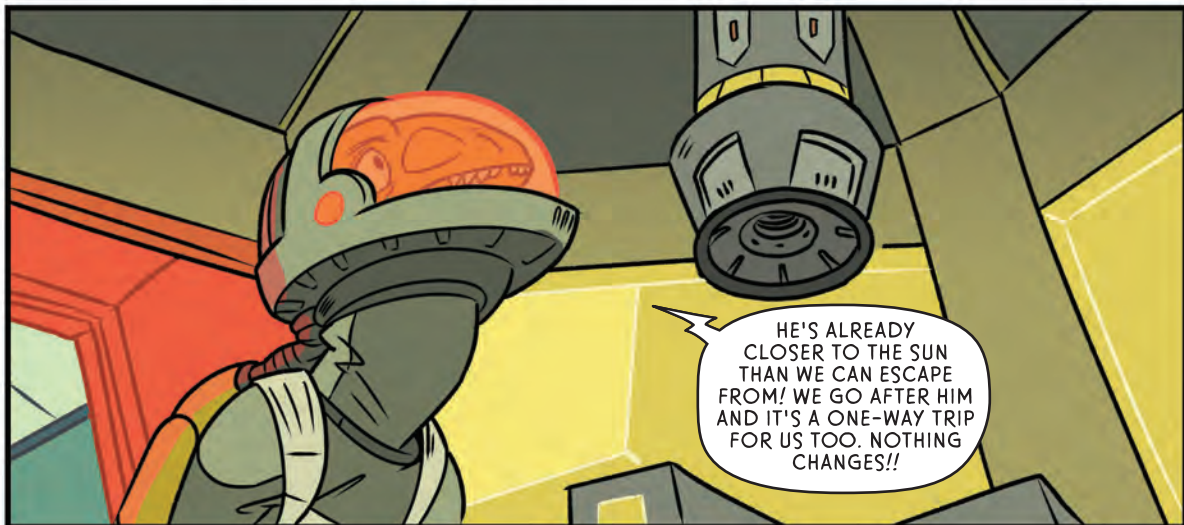
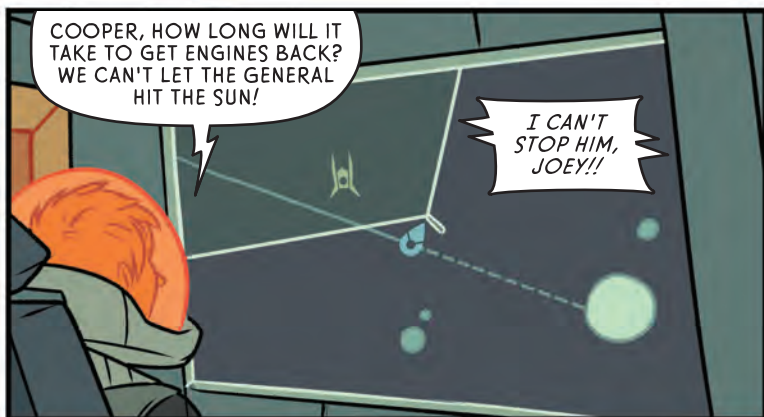
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU FALL INTO A SUN? MIDAS DOES. WE'RE GOING TO BURN, BUT GRAVITY'S GONNA KEEP PULLING US IN.

AND WHEN WE HIT THE CORONA, WHERE THE TEMPERATURE IS OVER A MILLION DEGREES, WE'RE GOING TO BE BLASTED APART INTO PARTICLES. PROTONS. ELECTRONS.

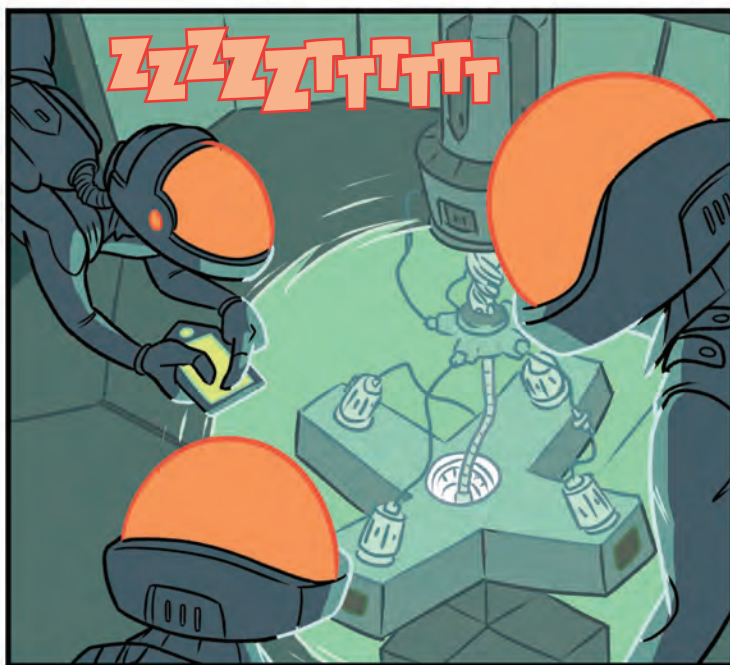
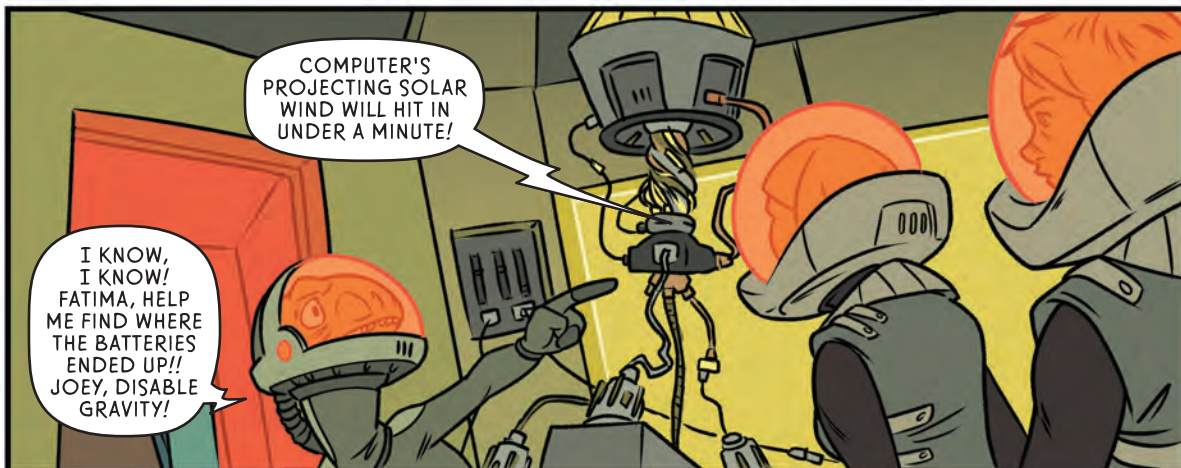
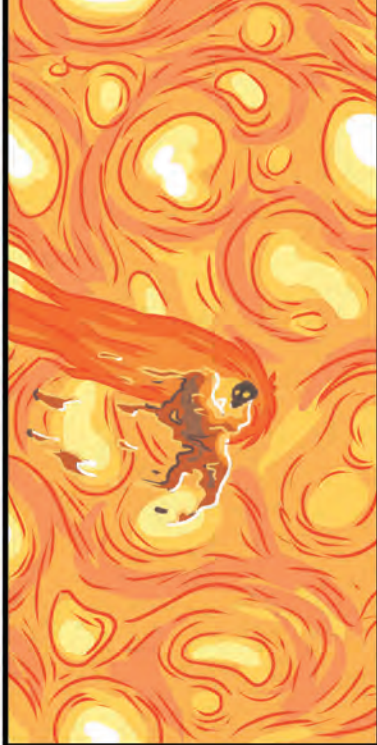
SOME OF MIDAS WILL BE PULLED INTO THE CORE AND TURN IT TO GOLD. BUT BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, THE REST WILL BE BLASTED OUT FROM THE SUN, CARRIED ON THE SOLAR WIND. HIS ELEMENTAL PARTICLES WILL VISIT EVERY SINGLE PLANET AND SHIP IN THE SYSTEM, CAPTAIN JOEY.

AND MIDAS WILL TURN **YOU**-- AND EVERYONE ELSE-- INTO **GOLD**.



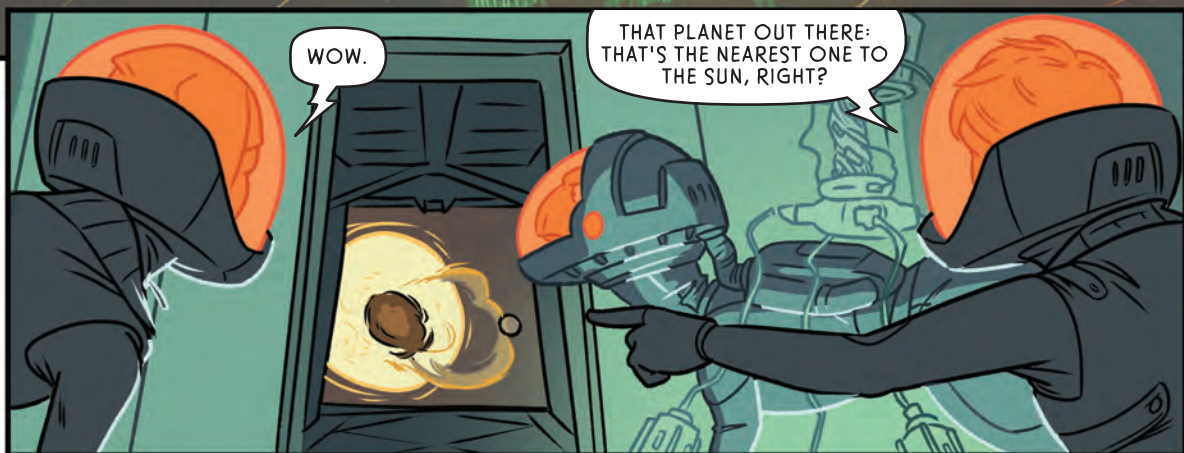






YOU SEE THAT?
ELECTRICITY CAUSES
MAGNETISM CAUSES AN
INSTANT MAGNETIC
SHIELD, BABY!

SCIENCE!



YEAH, AND THE SOLAR WIND
SHOULD BE HITTING IT NOW.
NOW. ANY SECOND NOW.
NOW.

...NOW.

YOU KNOW, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT
WE WERE WRONG AND THE MIDAS
EFFECT DOESN'T ACTUALLY CARRY
AT THE SUBATOMIC--

--OKAY
NEVERMIND.



THAT SHOULD DO IT. BRING DOWN THE MAGNETIC SHIELD, GET OUR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS BACK UP, AND BRING THE ENGINES BACK ON LINE.

WE'VE GOT A CUT-UP DEAD BODY TO RECOVER.

SOON:



THOSE OTHER SHIPS MUST'VE BEEN ON THEIR WAY TO INTERCEPT US BEFORE MIDAS HIT THEM.

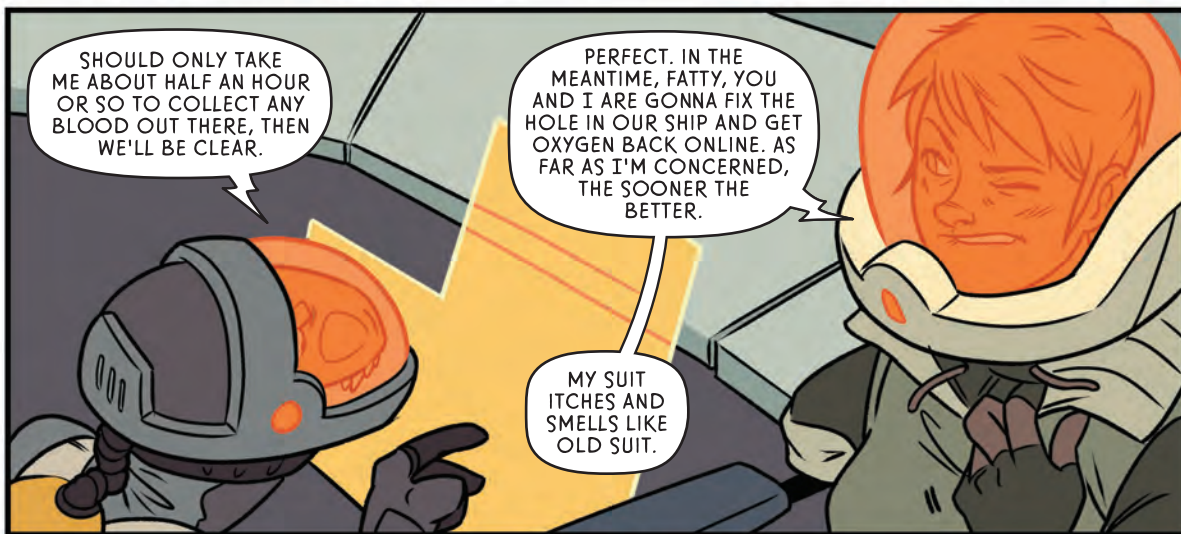
IT'S EERIE. WE'RE THE ONLY LIVING THINGS LEFT IN THIS ENTIRE SOLAR SYSTEM.

COMING UP ON POSITION.



ALRIGHT, THAT'S WHERE OUR BODY IS. LET'S GET WHAT WE CAME FOR AND GET OUT OF HERE.

LOTS OF DEBRIS AROUND THE BREACH, JOEY. ANY OF IT COULD EASILY HAVE MIDAS CONTAMINATION. I'D FEEL BETTER ABOUT GOING OVER IT WITH A STASIS FIELD FIRST.



SHOULD ONLY TAKE ME ABOUT HALF AN HOUR OR SO TO COLLECT ANY BLOOD OUT THERE, THEN WE'LL BE CLEAR.

PERFECT. IN THE MEANTIME, FATTY, YOU AND I ARE GONNA FIX THE HOLE IN OUR SHIP AND GET OXYGEN BACK ONLINE. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THE SOONER THE BETTER.

MY SUIT ITCHES AND SMELLS LIKE OLD SUIT.



YOU REALLY THINK WE CAN COLLECT ALL OF MIDAS'S BLOOD IN THIS SYSTEM? ALL OF IT?

I DO.



HEY GUYS! ALMOST DONE OVER HERE!

ALMOST DONE HERE TOO, THANKS COOPER!



WE'VE KEPT AN EYE ON WHERE THE BLOOD'S GONE, AND WE'VE GOT STASIS FIELDS. IT'LL NATURALLY CLUMP TOGETHER. WE'LL RUN A SEARCH GRID TO PICK UP THE PARTICLES. WE'RE GONNA FIX IT.

WE GOT THIS, FATTY.

I'M GLAD.



...I'M STILL REALLY SORRY ABOUT YOUR ARM, JOEY.

DID I EVER TELL YOU HOW I'D DRAW UP THESE PLANS FOR A ROBOT ARM WHEN I WAS A KID? IT HAD A LASER POINTER, A CAN OPENER, KNIVES THAT POP OUT OF MY KNUCKLES... I'LL BE FINE, FATTY.

HECK. I'LL BE BETTER THAN FINE, ONCE I GET THOSE KNIVES THAT POP OUT OF MY KNUCKLES.



THAT SHOULD DO IT. WE CAN BEGIN REPRESSURIZING THE BRID--

I'VE GOT THE LAST OF THE BLOOD CLEAN OUT HERE!

--SCRATCH THAT. WE'RE ON OUR WAY OVER, COOPER. C'MON, FATTY.

LET'S GO GET MIDAS.





AW YES,
UP TOP!

YES!!



ALRIGHT, LET'S GET HIM
ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF
THE SHIP AND START OUR
SWEEP FOR BLOOD.

YEAH MAN!
WE'RE DOING
THIS!

A FEW HOURS
FROM NOW AND
WE'RE GONNA
BE--



HI THERE, JOEY.
I'M THE GUY YOU
STOLE FROM TO
BUILD YOUR SHIP.

--CELEBRATING?



HOW--
HOW'D YOU
FIND US?

A WHILE BACK I PICKED UP THIS **VERY** UNUSUAL
TRANSMISSION ABOUT A WEAPON THAT TURNED
THINGS INTO GOLD ON CONTACT. IT WAS
KINDA HARD TO MISS, JOEY: A FULL POWER,
FULL-BAND TRANSMISSION? I'M NOT SURE
WHAT YOU WERE THINKING.

I TRACED IT TO A SOLID GOLD
PLANET, AND SOME FRANKLY
GIGANTIC E.M. WAKE FROM THERE
LED ME HERE. IT WASN'T HARD.

OH
CRAP. THE
CARPATHIA.



LISTEN TO ME, PETER. DON'T DO
ANYTHING RASH. DON'T FIRE,
DON'T--DON'T EVEN MOVE,
OKAY? WE CAN PAY YOU BACK.

YEAH.

YEAH, I
CAN SEE
THAT.



BUT HERE'S THE THING:
THERE'S ALREADY A SOLID
GOLD PLANET OUT THERE,
WHERE YOU TOOK THE
WEAPON FROM. IT'S UP TO
ITS EARS IN SCAVENGERS
WHO ALSO HEARD YOUR
TRANSMISSION.

BUT I FIGURE
THAT WEAPON IS
WORTH A LOT.
SO YOU'RE
GONNA GIVE IT
TO ME.

NOT GONNA
HAPPEN,
PETER.

THEY'RE GONNA
BREAK THROUGH
ITS DEFENSES, AND
ALL THE GOLD IN
EXISTENCE IS NOT
GONNA BE WORTH
MUCH SOON.

...RIGHT.

LOOK, I'M NOT
ASKING. IF I COULD
FOLLOW YOU HERE, OTHERS
COULD TOO. IT WON'T BE
LONG UNTIL SCAVENGERS
ARRIVE, AND I AM NOT INCLINED
TO SHOW PATIENCE. I'VE GOT
MY WEAPONS READY AND
POINTED RIGHT AT YOU, JOEY.

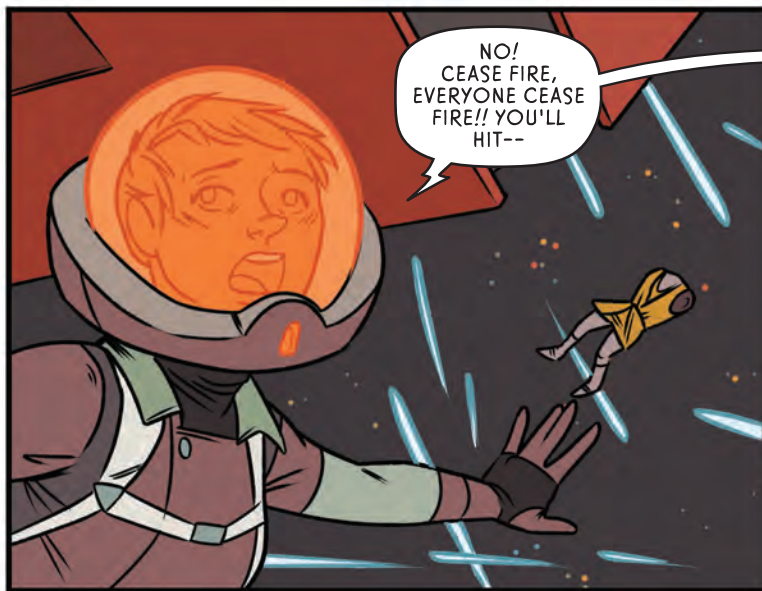


COOPER,
HIT HIM WITH
THE BLOOD. WE
DON'T HAVE
TIME TO--

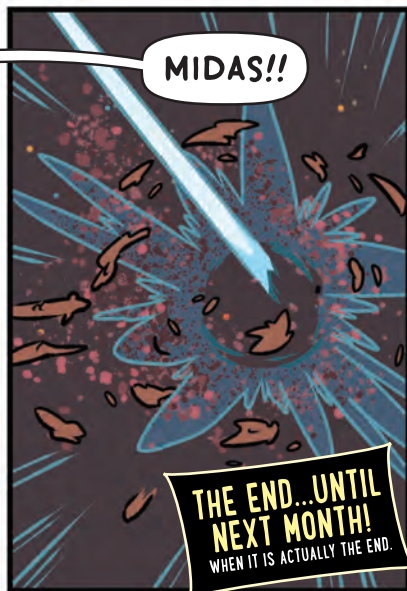
WAIT,
MORE SHIPS ARE
WARPING IN!



AND I
DON'T THINK
THEY WANT
TO TALK,
JOEY!!



NO!
CEASE FIRE,
EVERYONE CEASE
FIRE!! YOU'LL
HIT--



MIDAS!!

THE END...UNTIL
NEXT MONTH!
WHEN IT IS ACTUALLY THE END.