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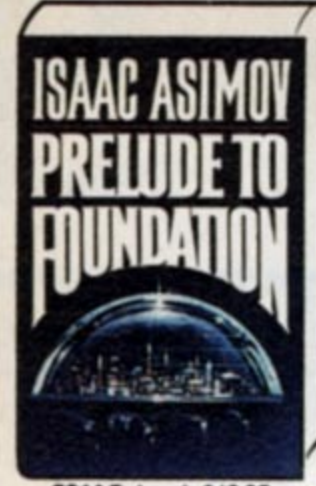
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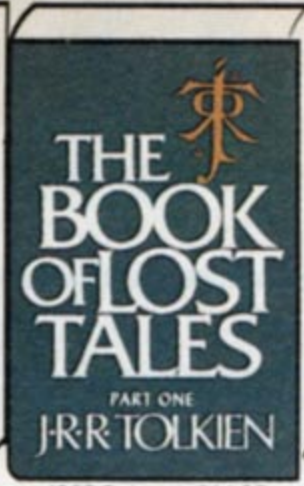
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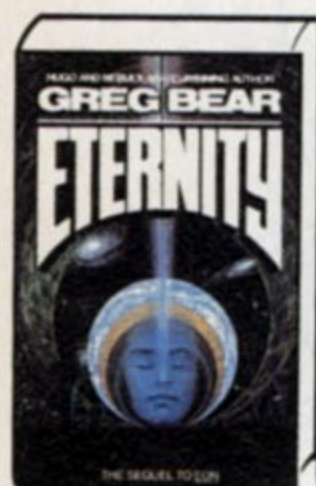
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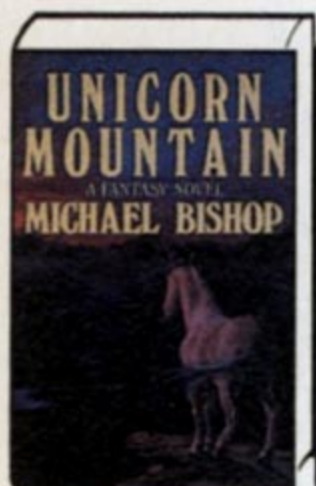
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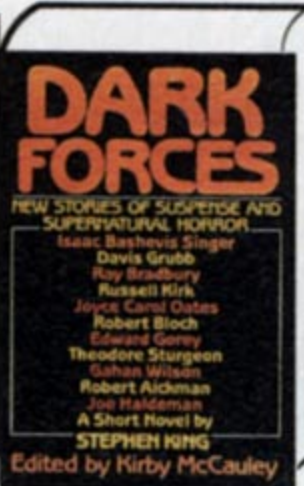
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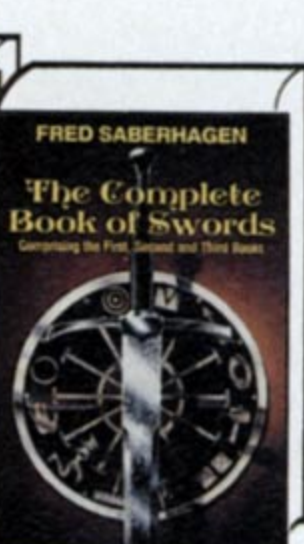
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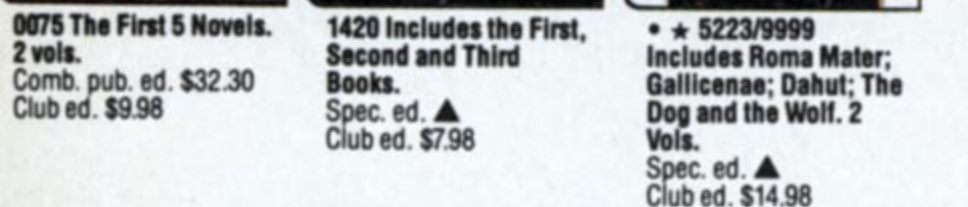
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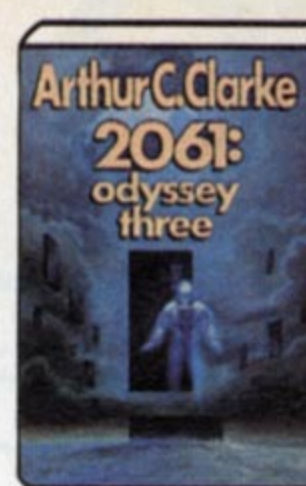
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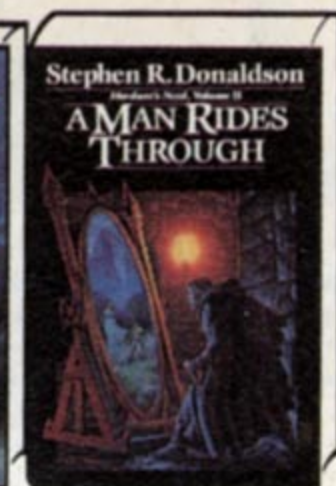
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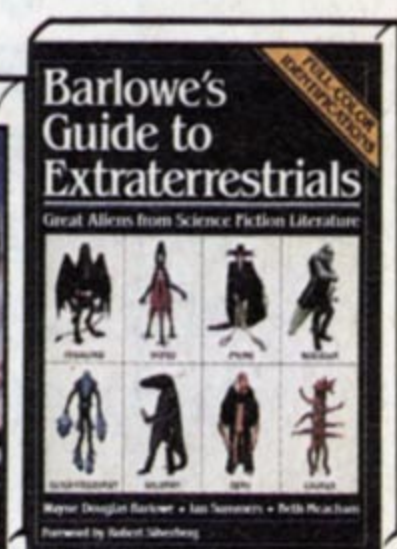
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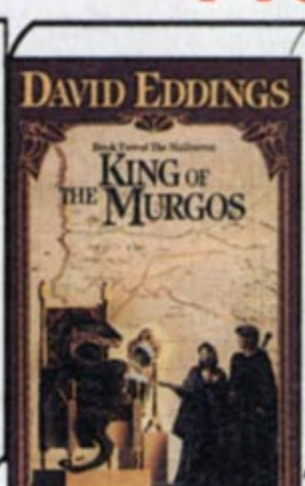
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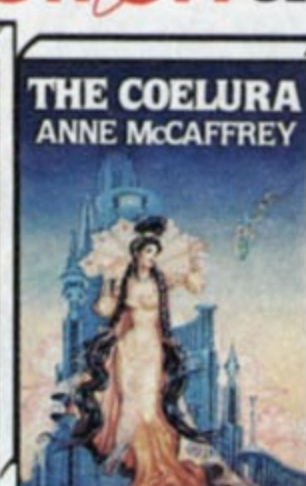
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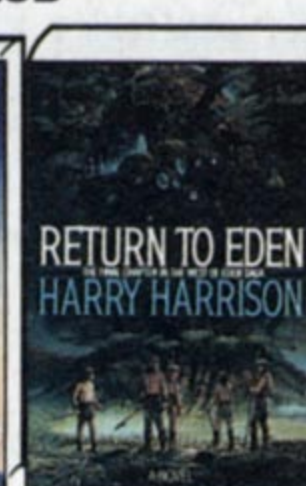
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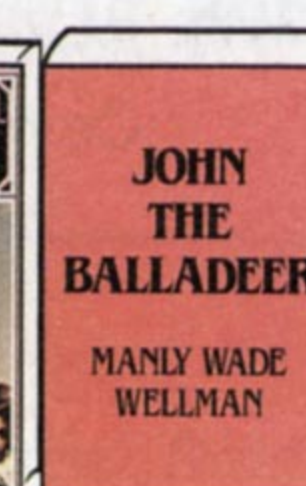
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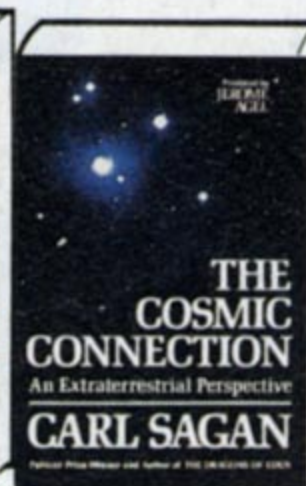
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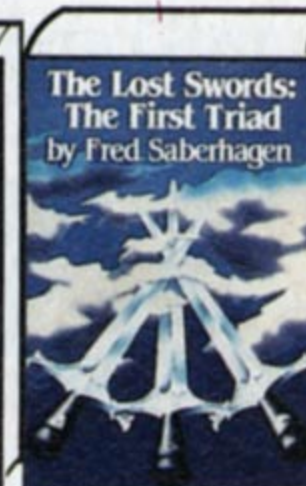
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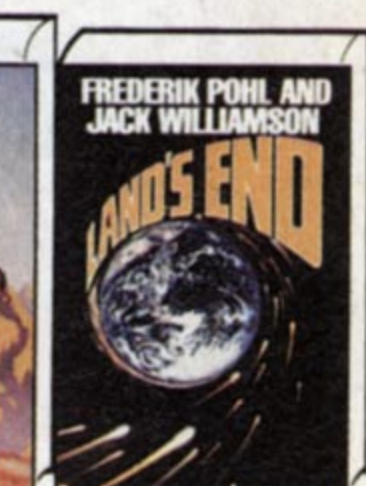
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HEAVY METAL

MARCH 1989

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EDITORIAL

Always anxious to present as many sides to an argument as we possibly can, we contacted as many *Heavy Metal* artists (past and present) as we could find outside asylums and posed the question "What is your all-time favorite science fiction, fantasy, or adventure film?" Some shrugged. Some laughed. Some ignored us. Some answered. Thus we present the first "Off the Top of Your Head List of 1989":

Charles Burns ("El Borbah"):

The Brain That Wouldn't Die

Richard Corben ("Den"): *King Kong*
and *Alien* (tie)

Gary Panter (designer, *Pee-wee's*
Playhouse): *The Land Unknown*

John Findley ("Tex Arcana"):
Blade Runner

James Fletcher (*Interzone*): *Excalibur*

Drew Friedman ("Unknown Films"):
Plan 9 from Outer Space

Rick Geary (*Interzone*): *The Day the*
Earth Stood Still

Randy Jones ("Skydancer"):
Blade Runner

Rod Kierkegaard, Jr. ("Rock Opera"):
Brazil

Mike Kaluta ("Starstruck"):
Blade Runner

Paul Kirchner ("The Bus"): *Panic in*
the Year Zero

Peter Kuper (*Interzone*): *Brazil*

Adam Kubert (*HM* letterer & artist):
Alien

Rowena (*HM* cover artist): *Raiders of*
the Lost Ark

Jean Giraud (Moebius): *Star Wars*

Olivia (*HM* cover artist): *A Clockwork*
Orange

Frank Thorne (*Red Sonja*): *Not of This*
Earth

Boris Vallejo (*HM* cover artist):
Blade Runner

Berni Wrightson ("Captain Sternn &
Hanover Fiste"): *The Thing* (1951)

Will Eisner (*The Spirit*): *2001:*
A Space Odyssey

Kenneth Smith (*Interzone*):
Blade Runner

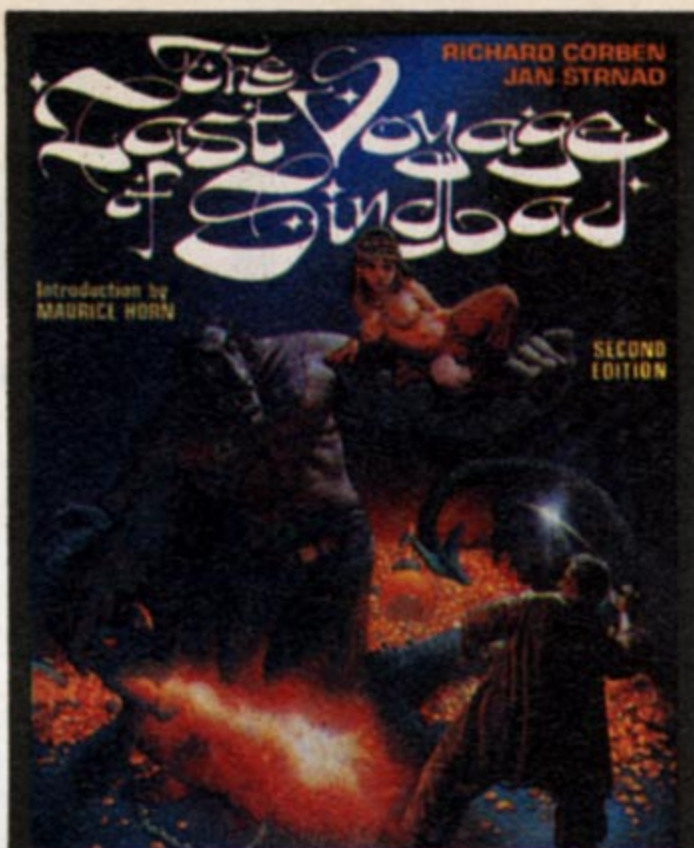
Art Suydam (*Interzone*): *Alien*

Mark Pacella (*Interzone*): *The*
Adventures of Robin Hood

Julie Simmons-Lynch

(torn between
Dr. Strangelove and *Brazil*)

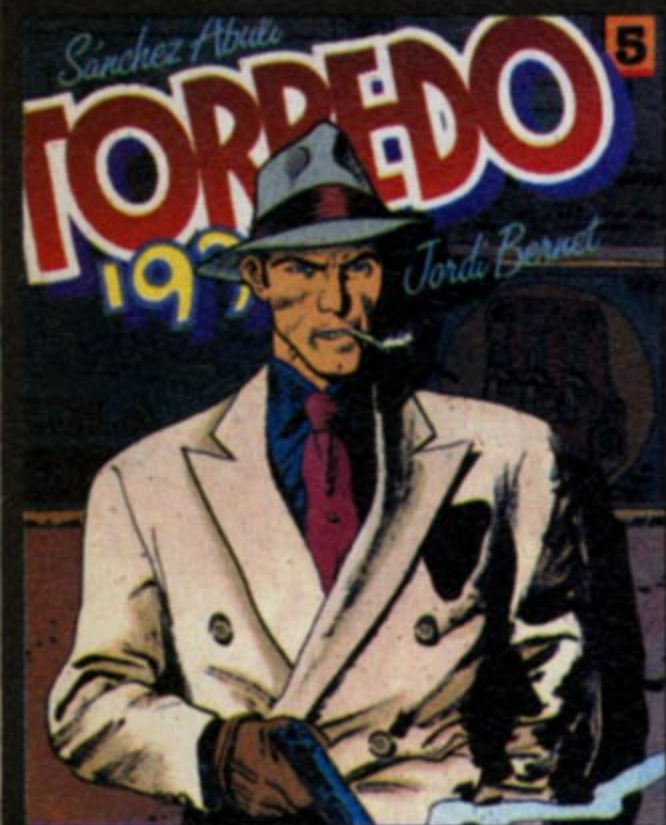
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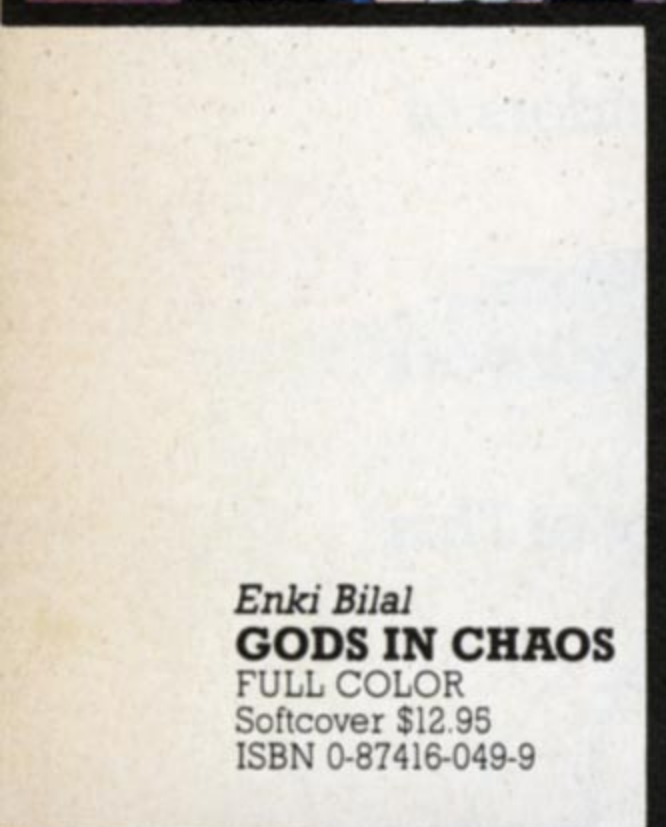
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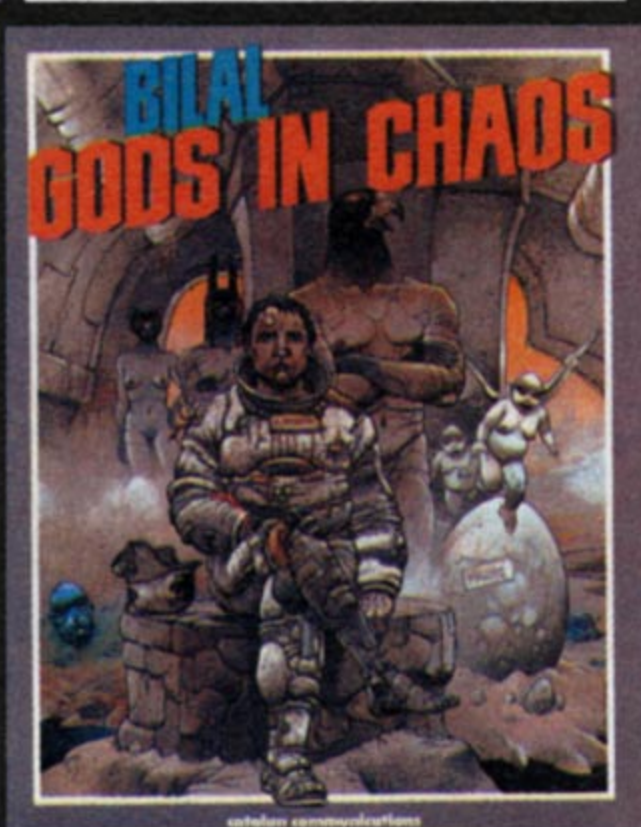
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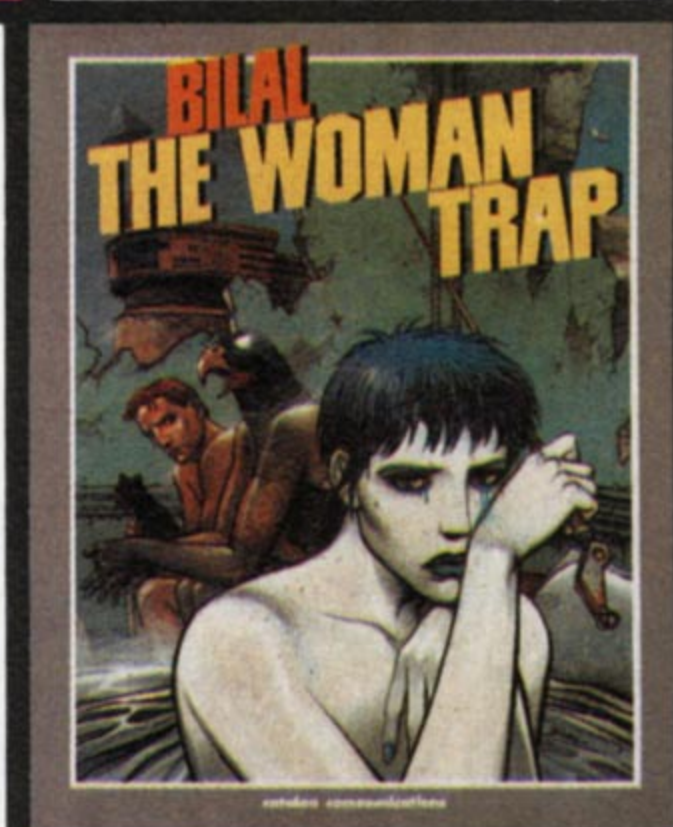
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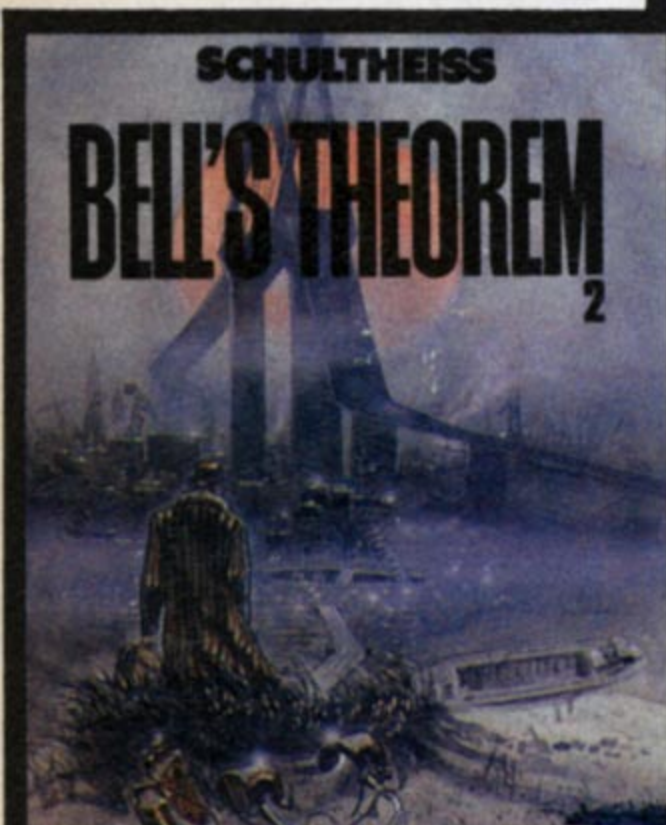
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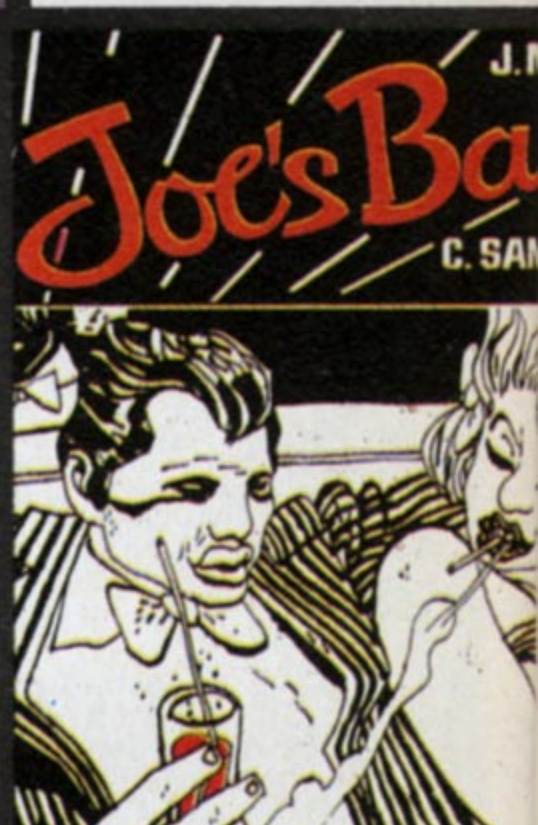
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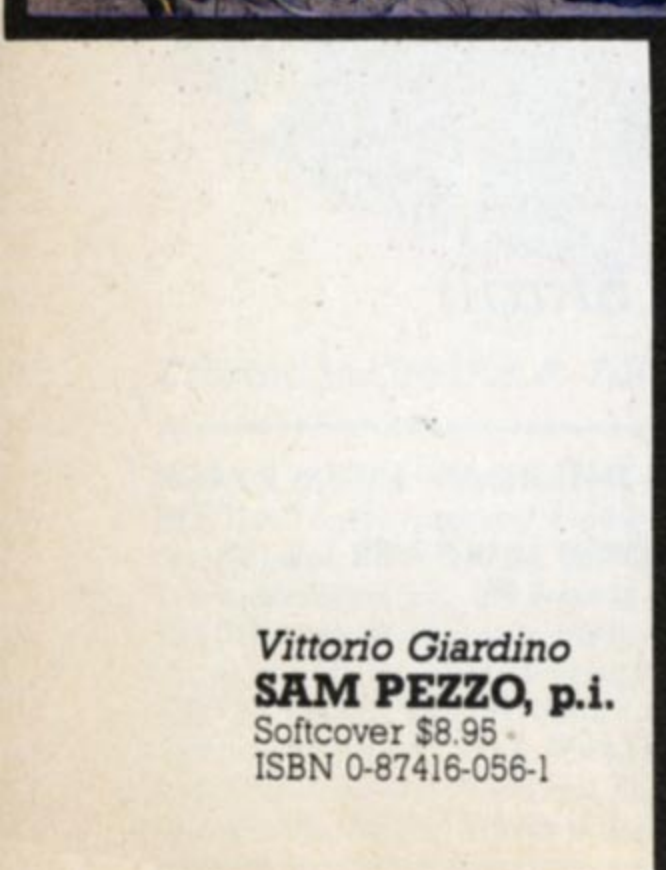
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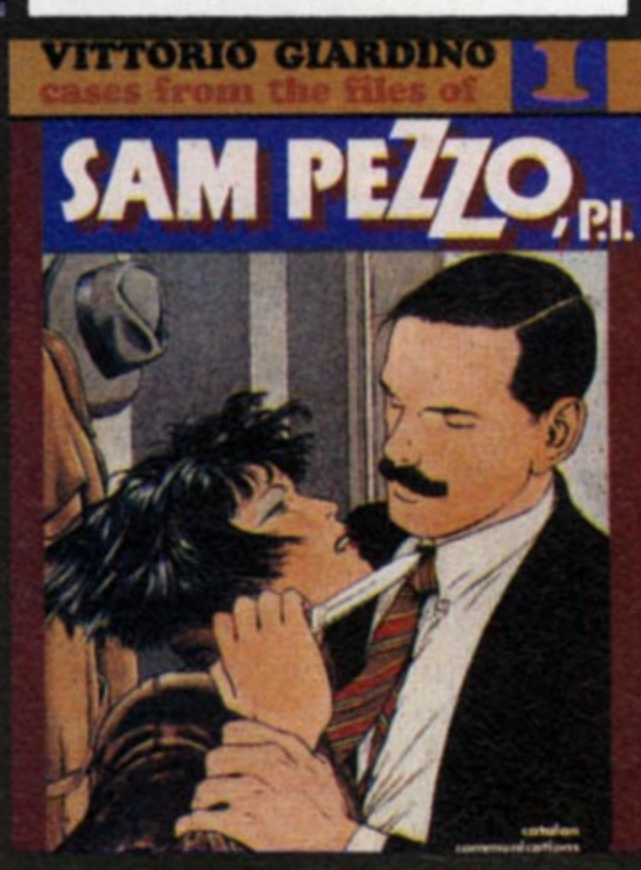
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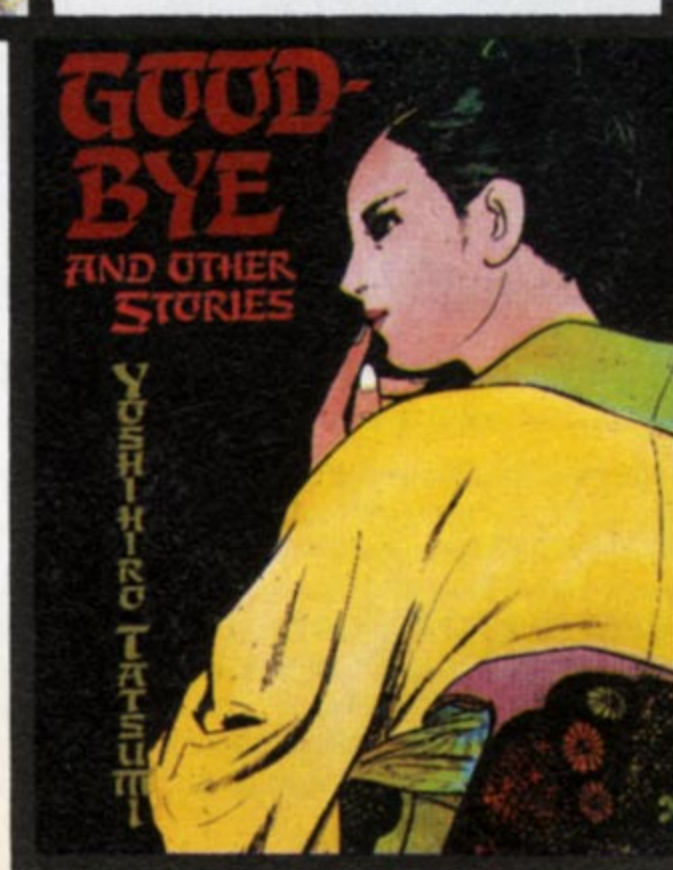
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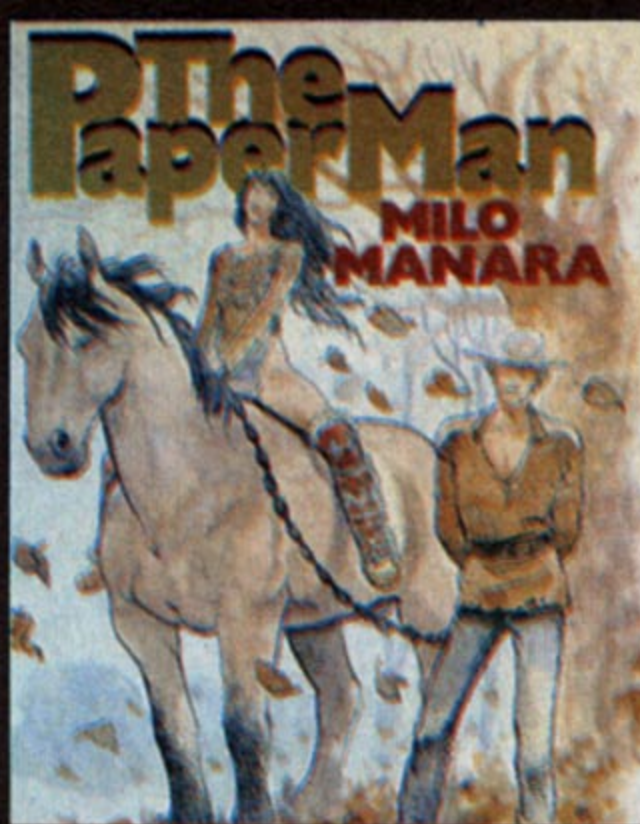


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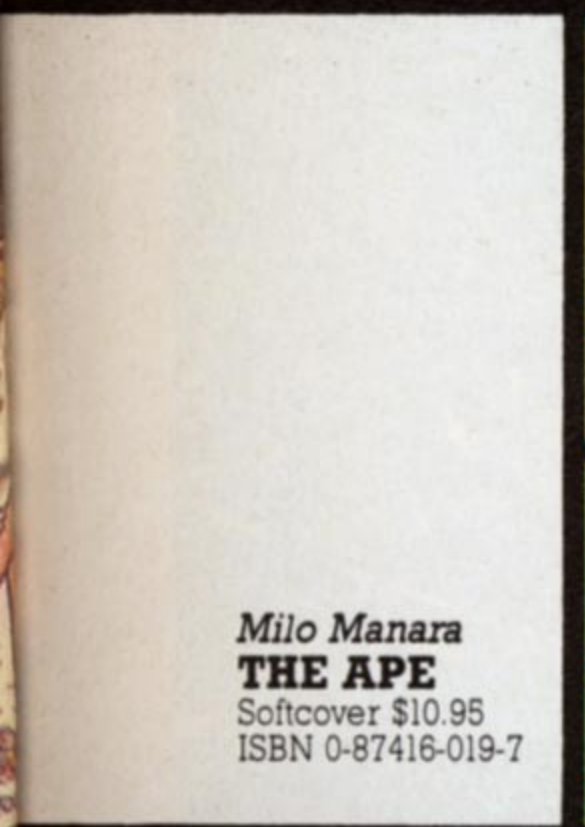
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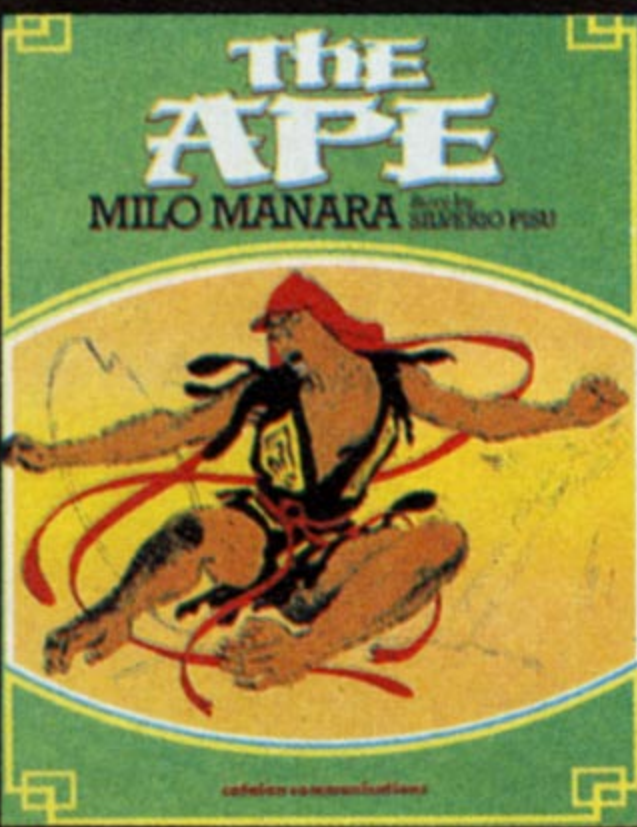
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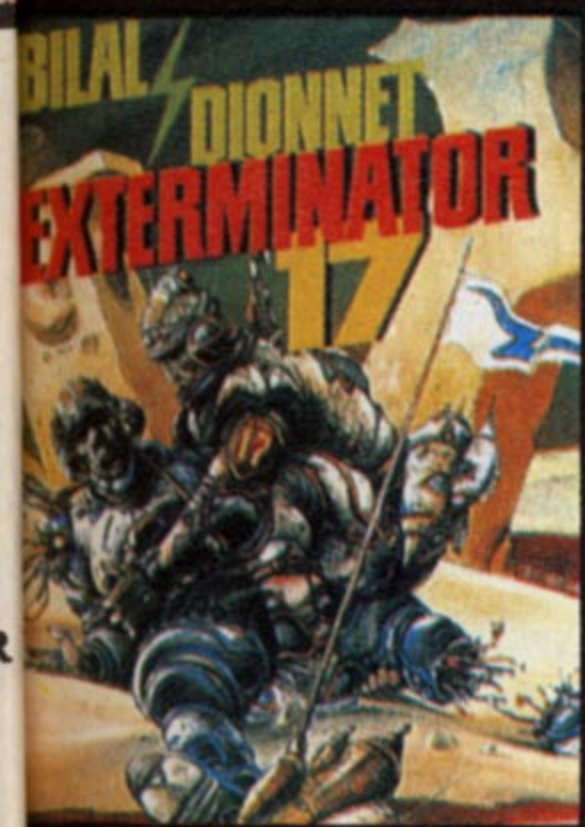
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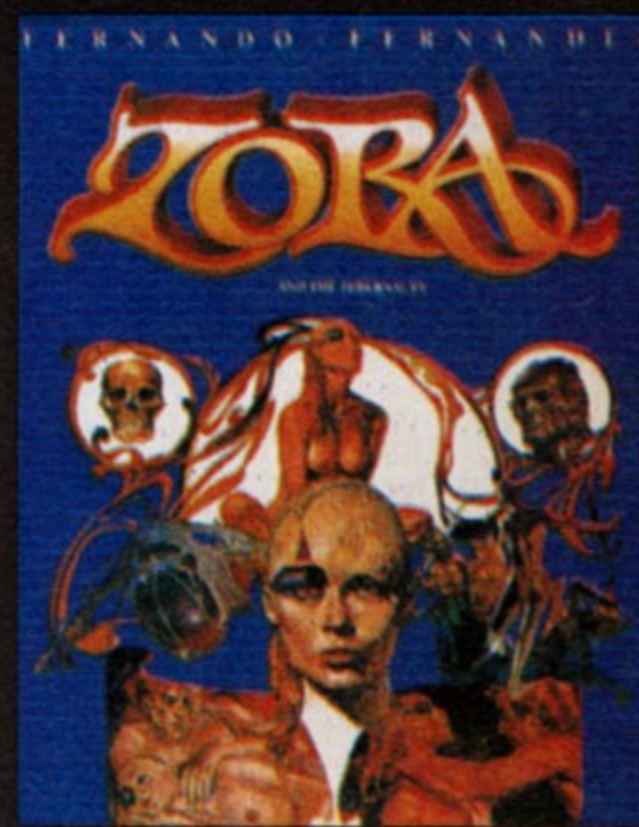
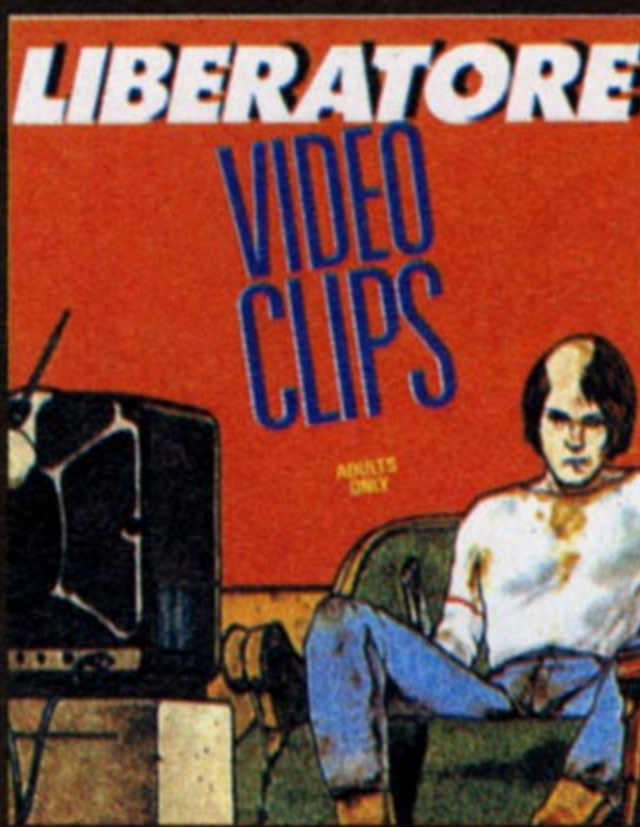
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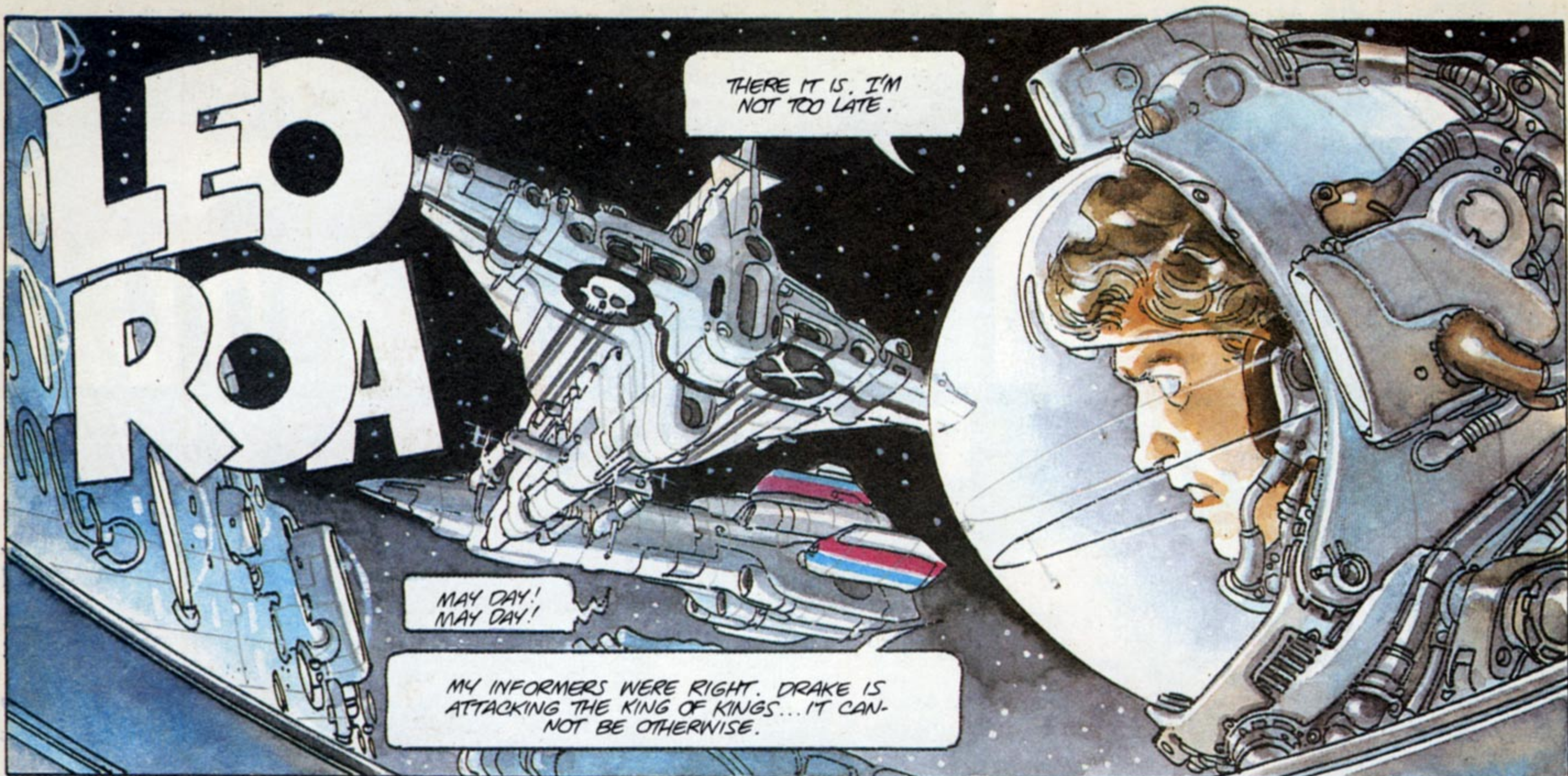
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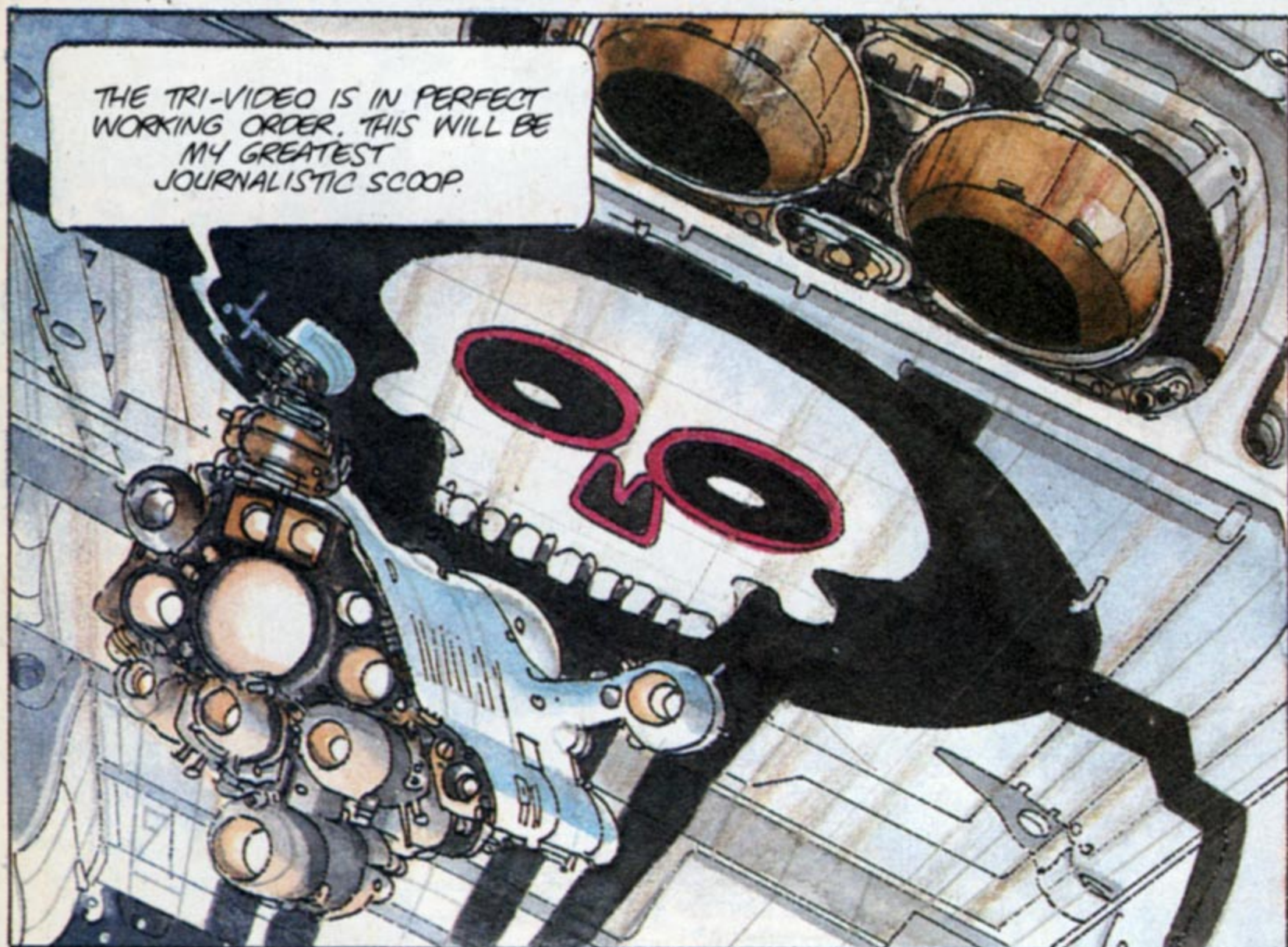


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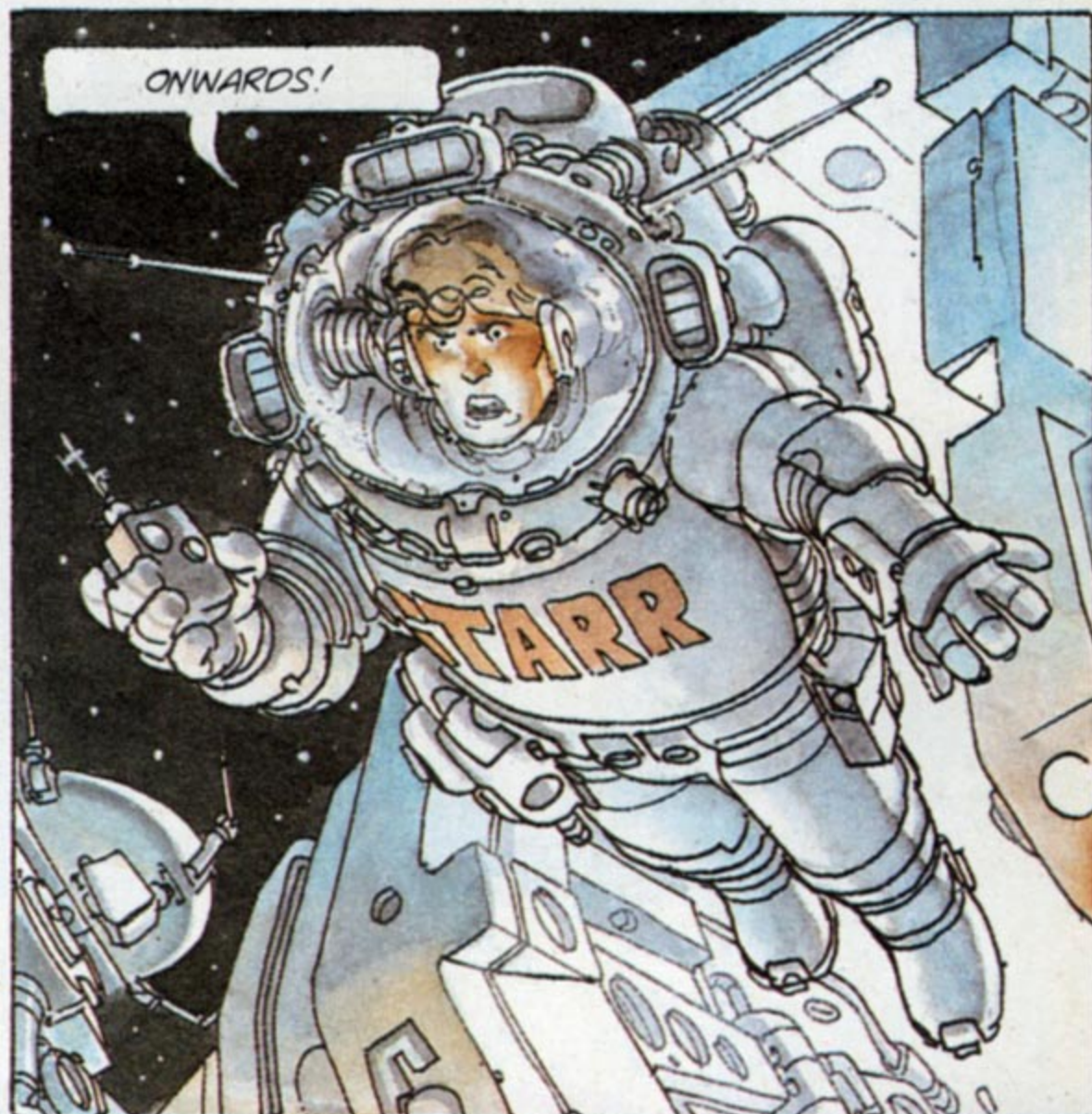
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BY ALL THE SPACE IN HEAVEN! WHERE THE HELL DID THAT IDIOT COME FROM?

HE'S RIGHT, CAPTAIN. THE MAIN ENGINE'S DISTRESS SIGNAL HAS JUST TURNED ON.

DAMN IT! I CANNOT TAKE THE RISK. RELEASE THE MAGNETIC BOOSTERS! WE'LL SURRENDER.

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING UP THERE. THEY'RE LETTING US GO! WE'RE SAVED!

WE'RE FREE! IT'S A MIRACLE!

LOOK, THERE'S A MAN OUT THERE!

IS EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT?

THANKS TO YOU, EVERYONE FEELS MUCH BETTER. YOU GOT HERE JUST IN TIME. COME ON BOARD.

WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH! HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO DO IT?

WELL, I MANAGED TO REACH THE MAIN ENGINE WHERE I LEFT A SMALL RADIO TRANSMITTER WHICH DECEIVED THE...

PLEASE MR. ROA, WHEN I GET BACK TO EARTH NO ONE WILL BELIEVE ME! HERE'S A KISS! AND ANOTHER!

WELL I....

OUR HERO!

NO! NO! NOT NOW!

DAMN IT!

IT'S LEO! LEO ROA! THE FAMOUS REPORTER FROM THE STARR!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

CHEC

I'VE ALWAYS GOT TO WAKE UP AT THE VERY BEST MOMENT... I CAN'T BE LATE.

IT'S THE VIDEOPHONE!

URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE STARR!

BZZZZ
BZZZZ

ERNIE PILE

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S STILL EARLY...
THE SUN IS NOT EVEN UP...

HELLO?

SORRY,
BURP.

YOU'RE
ON LINE.

S'ALLRIGHT!

MR. ROA,
PLEASE COME
TO THE PAPER
IMMEDIATELY!
IT'S
VERY
IMPORTANT!

IMPORTANT! OF COURSE!
I'LL BE THERE RIGHT
AWAY, BUT...

HURRY
UP!

LINE DIS-
CONNECTED.

FINALLY
SOMETHING IMPORTANT
IS HAPPENING!
THEY MUST HAVE
FOUND OUT HOW
GOOD I REALLY
AM!

MY STINT
IN THOSE
DUSTY ARCHIVES
IS OVER!

I'VE BEEN TRYING FOR MONTHS TO...
HEAVENS! THE VIDEOPHONE AGAIN!
THIS DAY IS OFF TO A GOOD START...

YOU'RE
ON LINE.

HELLO
LEO!

YES!

BURP!

SAYUNO!

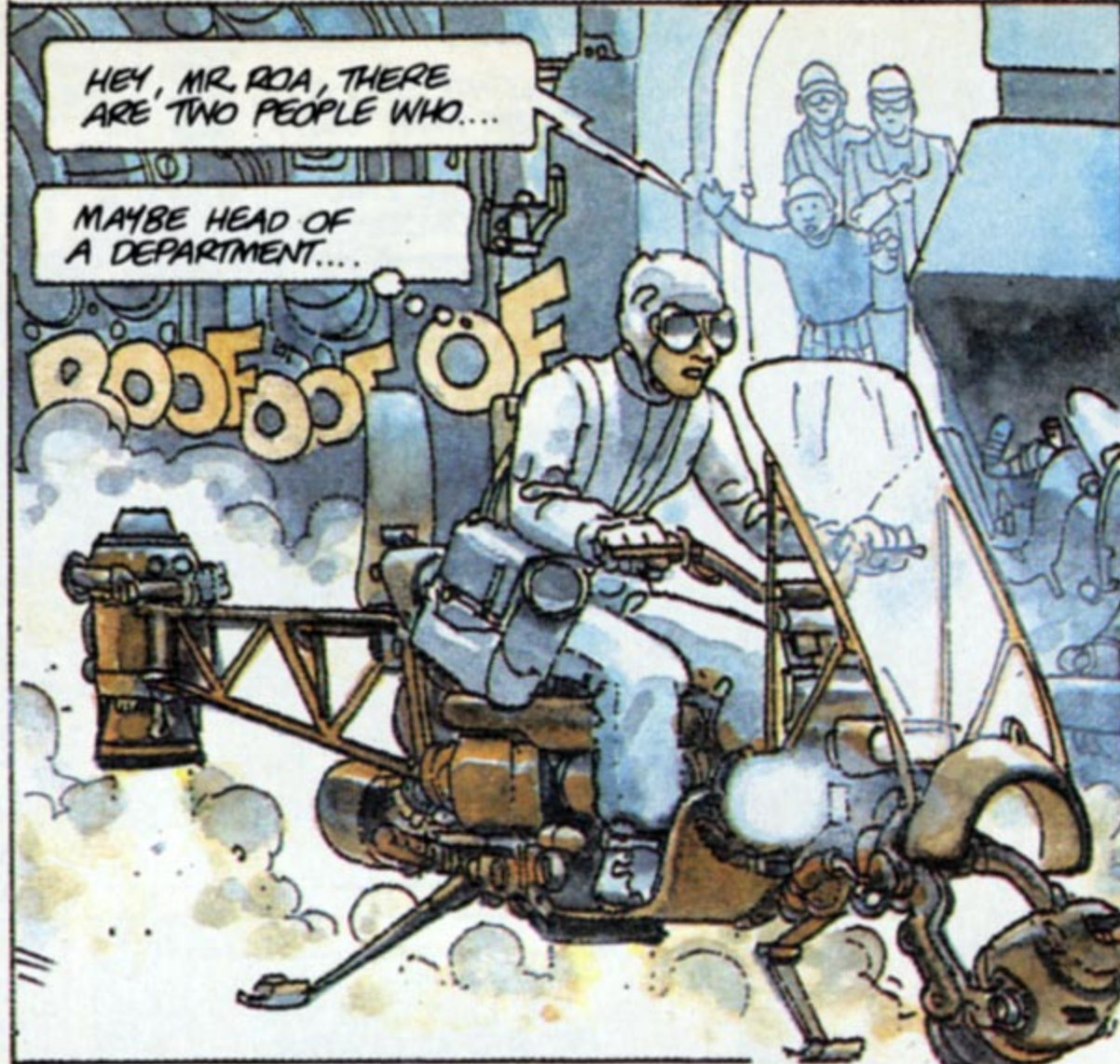
HELLO AUNTIE.
WHAT'S THE MATTER
WITH YOU?

I'M CALLING
YOU THIS EARLY
BECAUSE I CAN
NEVER REACH YOU
LATER IN THE DAY.
YOU MUST TALK
TO YOUR COUSIN.
HE WANTS TO
LEAVE HIS JOB
TO JOIN A ROCK
GROUP CALLED
"STRONG
& HEAVY."



EXCUSE ME, AUNTIE.... BUT I'M IN A GREAT HURRY... I PROMISE I'LL TRY TO TALK TO HIM...

YOU'RE ALL ALIKE.... YOU NEVER LISTEN TO ME...



HEY, MR. ROA, THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE WHO...

MAYBE HEAD OF A DEPARTMENT...



NO, IT'S PROBABLY SOMETHING ELSE... THEY'VE ALREADY DONE THAT FOR CROTO, THAT IDIOT...

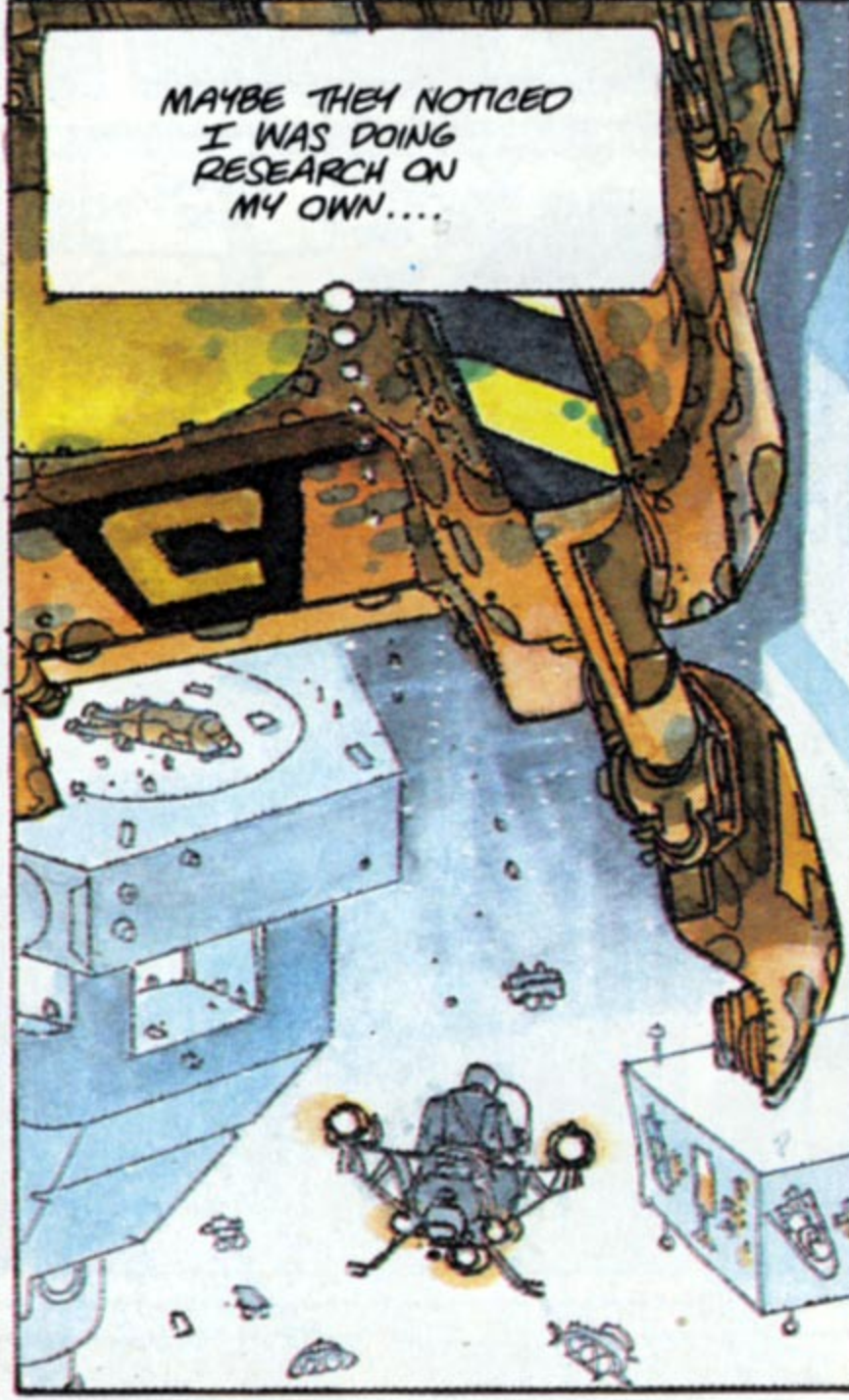


WE BARELY MISSED HIM. HE'S DRIVING A SUPER-VESPA.

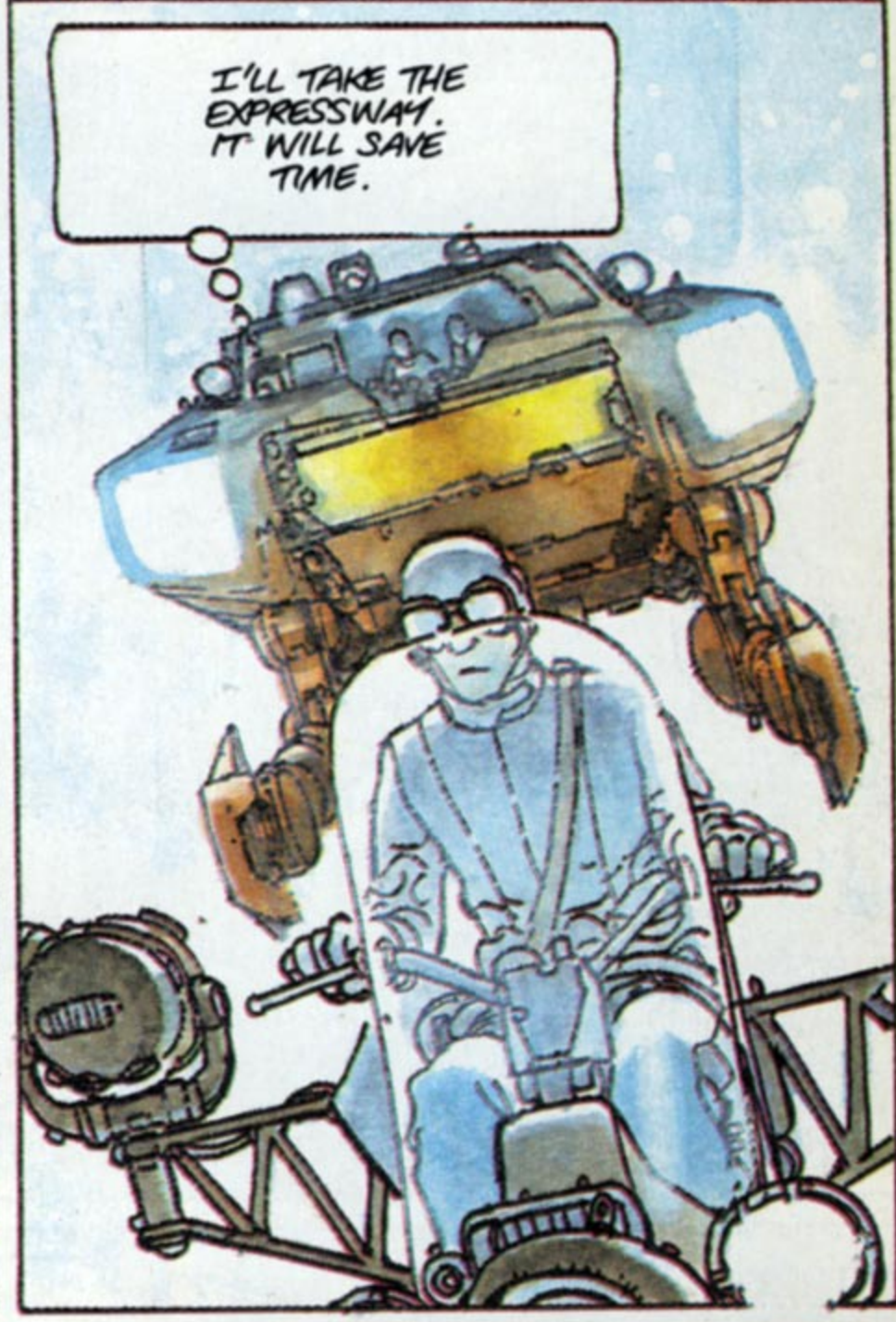
"JITO" HERE... I SEE HIM. WE'LL GO AFTER HIM....

DID HE DO SOMETHING WRONG?

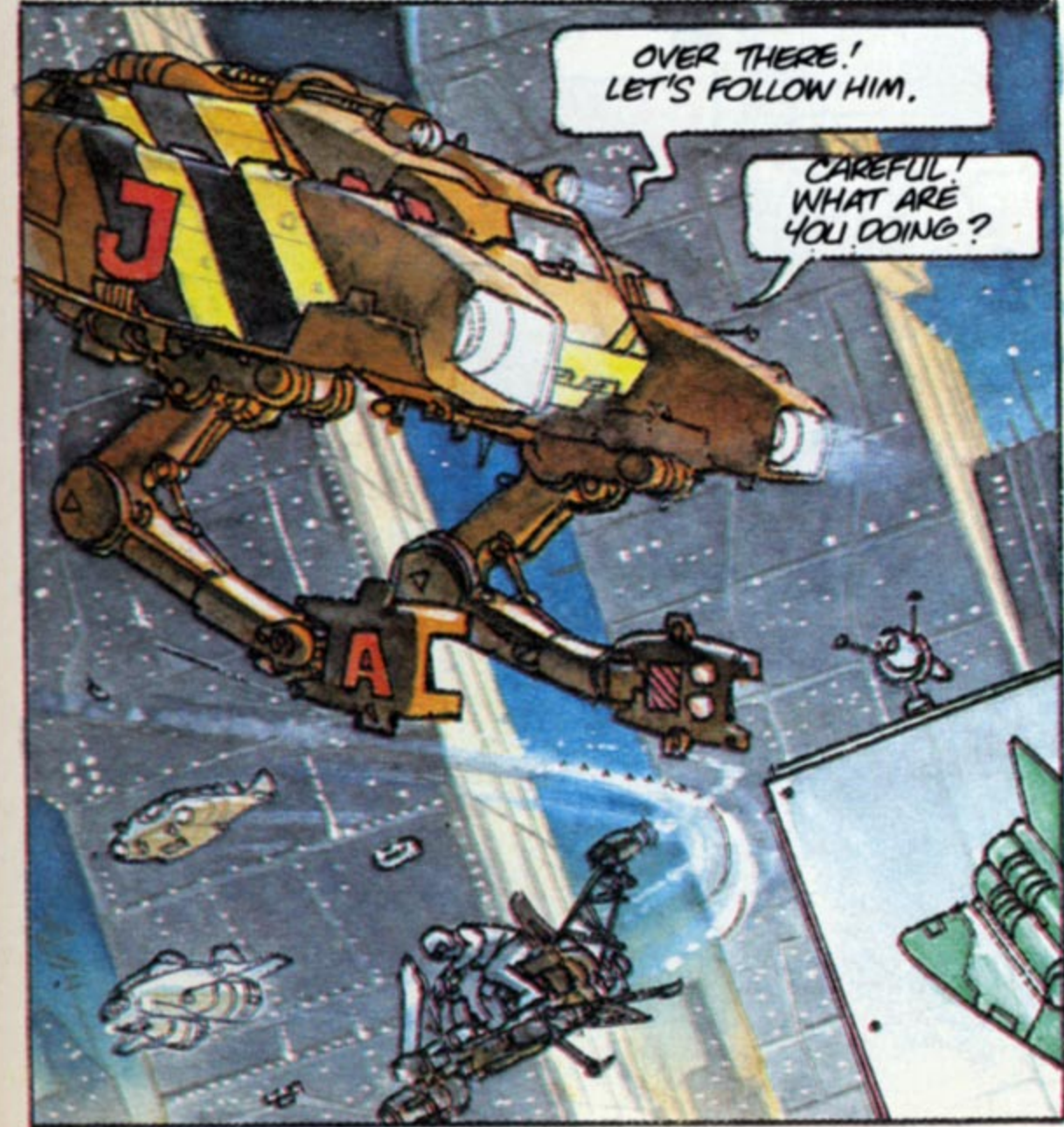
SHUT UP!



MAYBE THEY NOTICED I WAS DOING RESEARCH ON MY OWN....



I'LL TAKE THE EXPRESSWAY. IT WILL SAVE TIME.

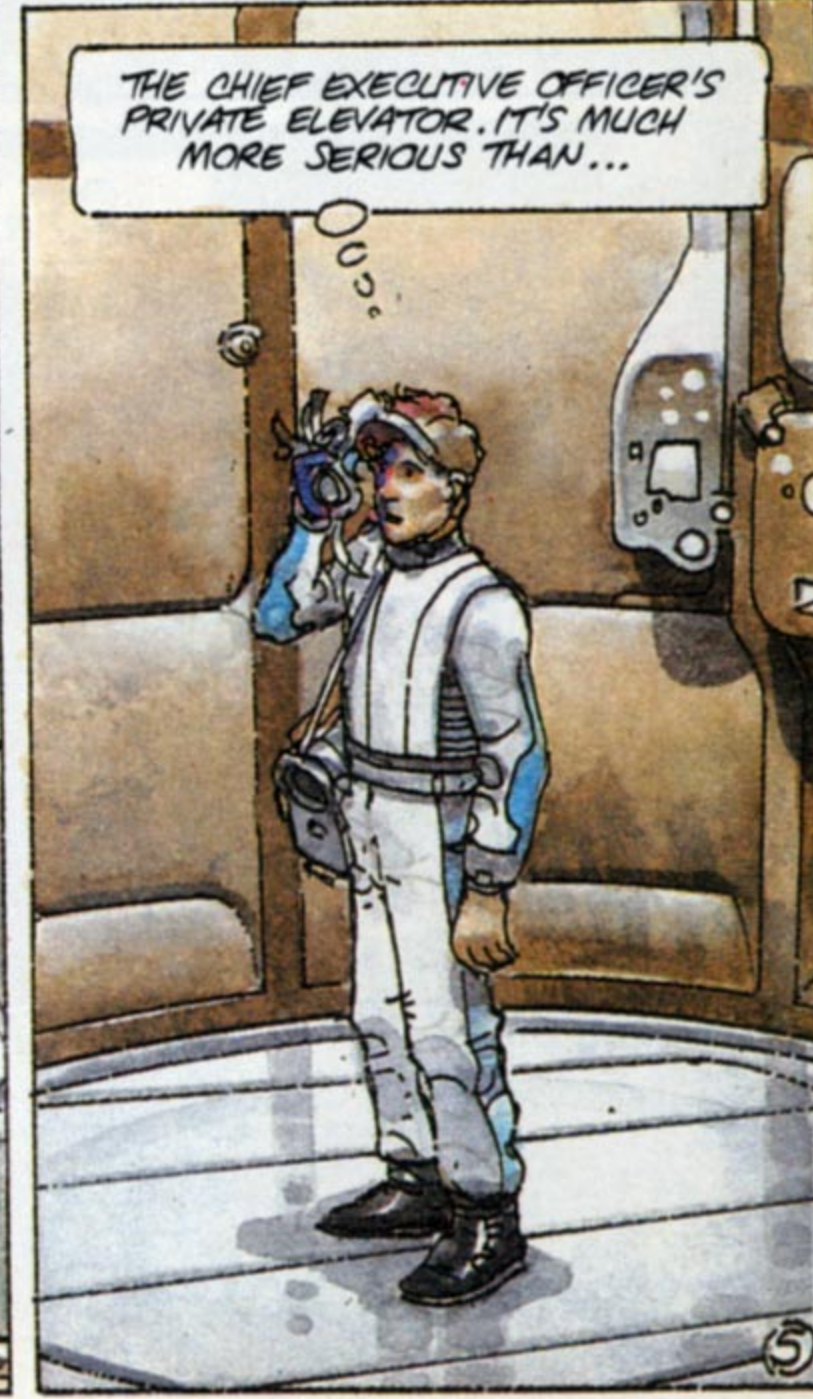
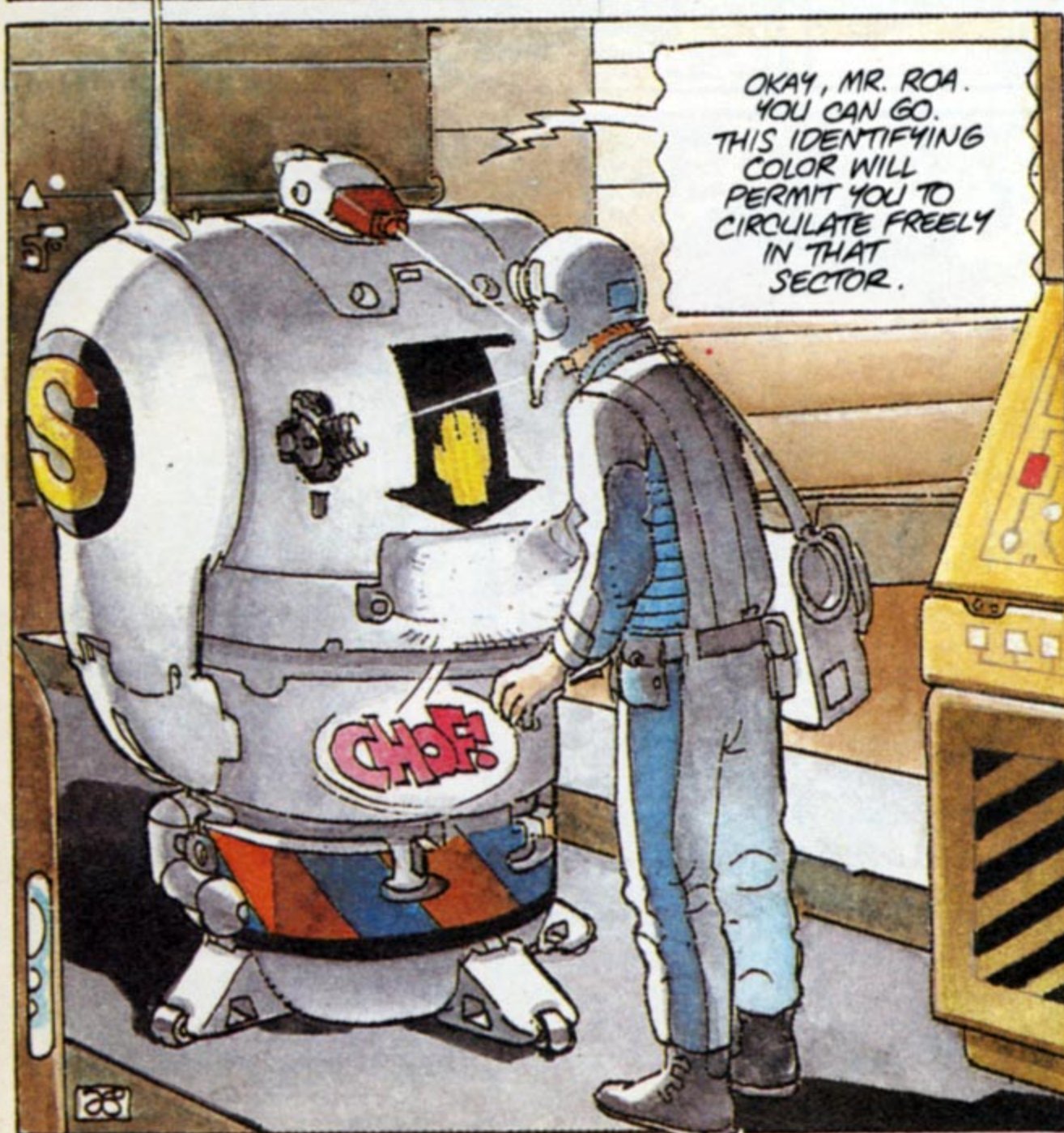
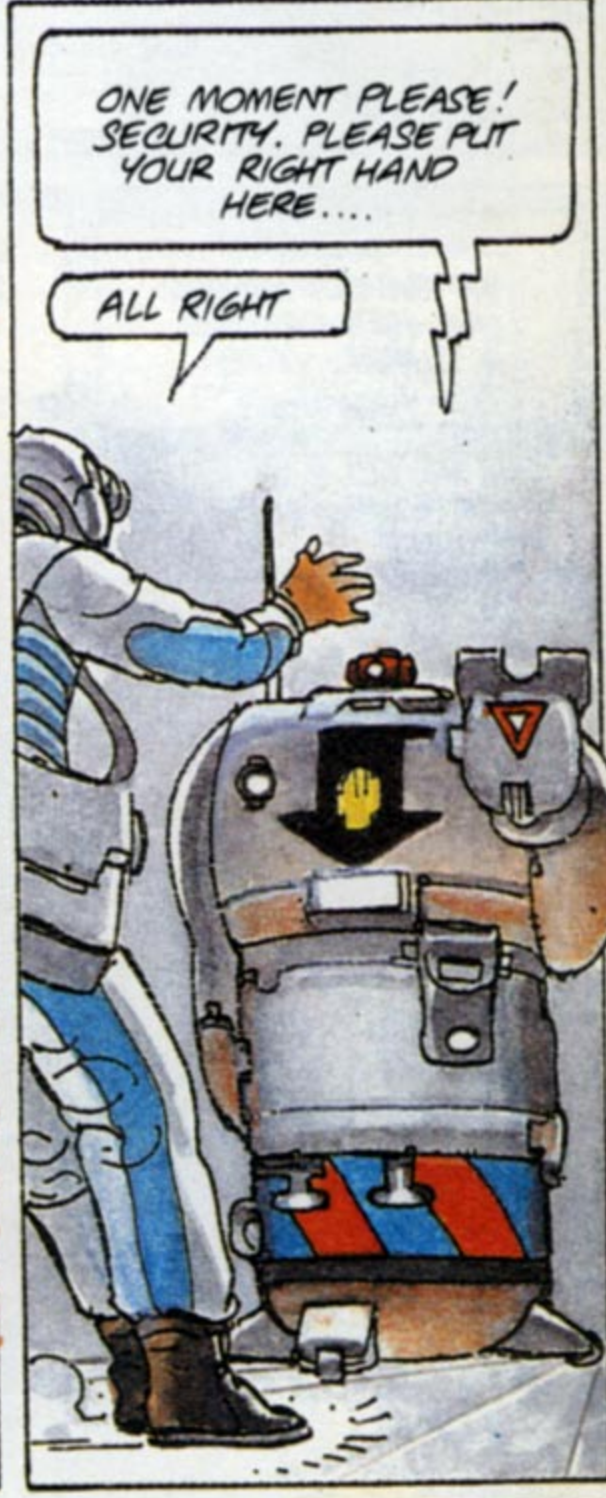
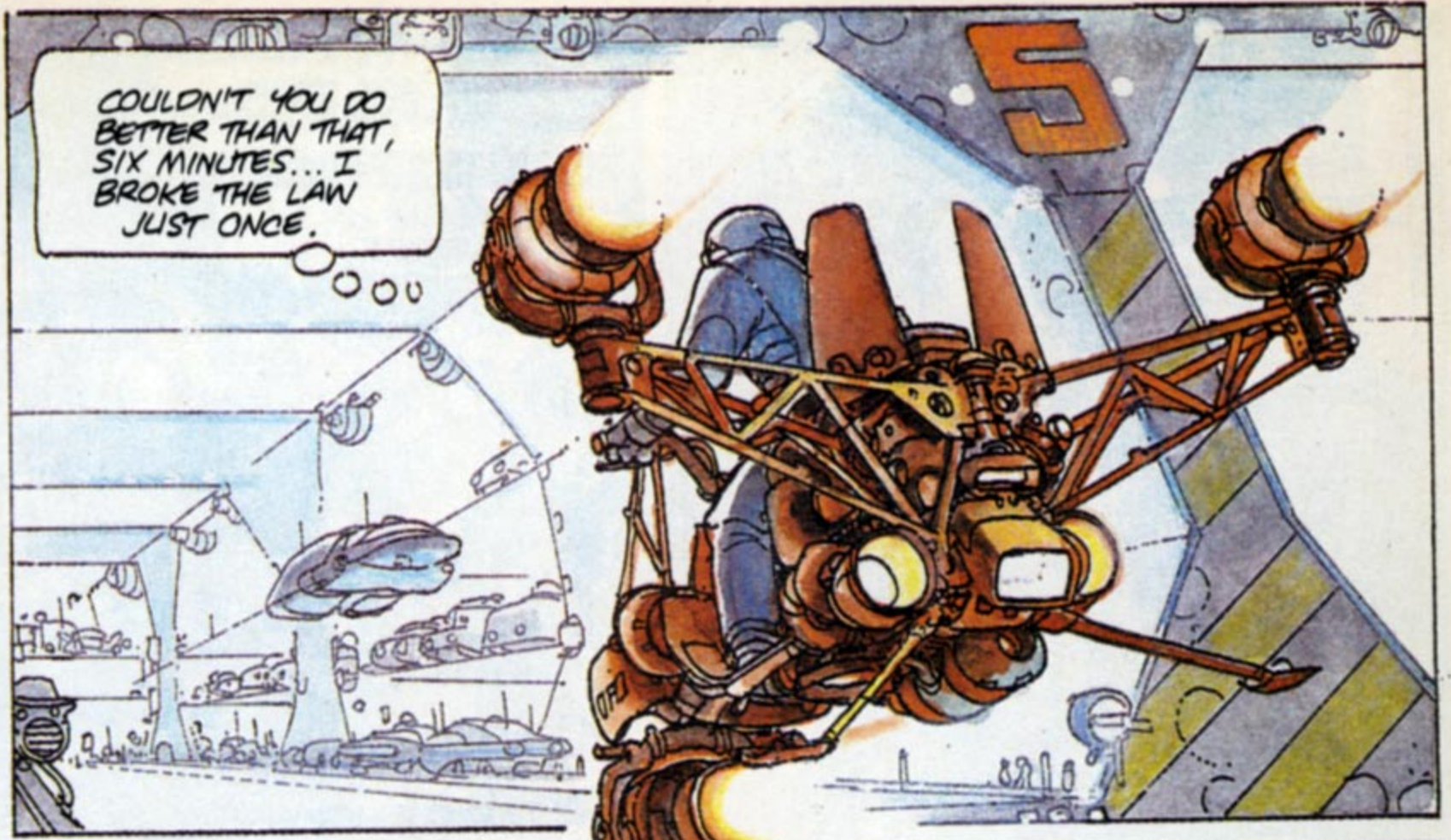
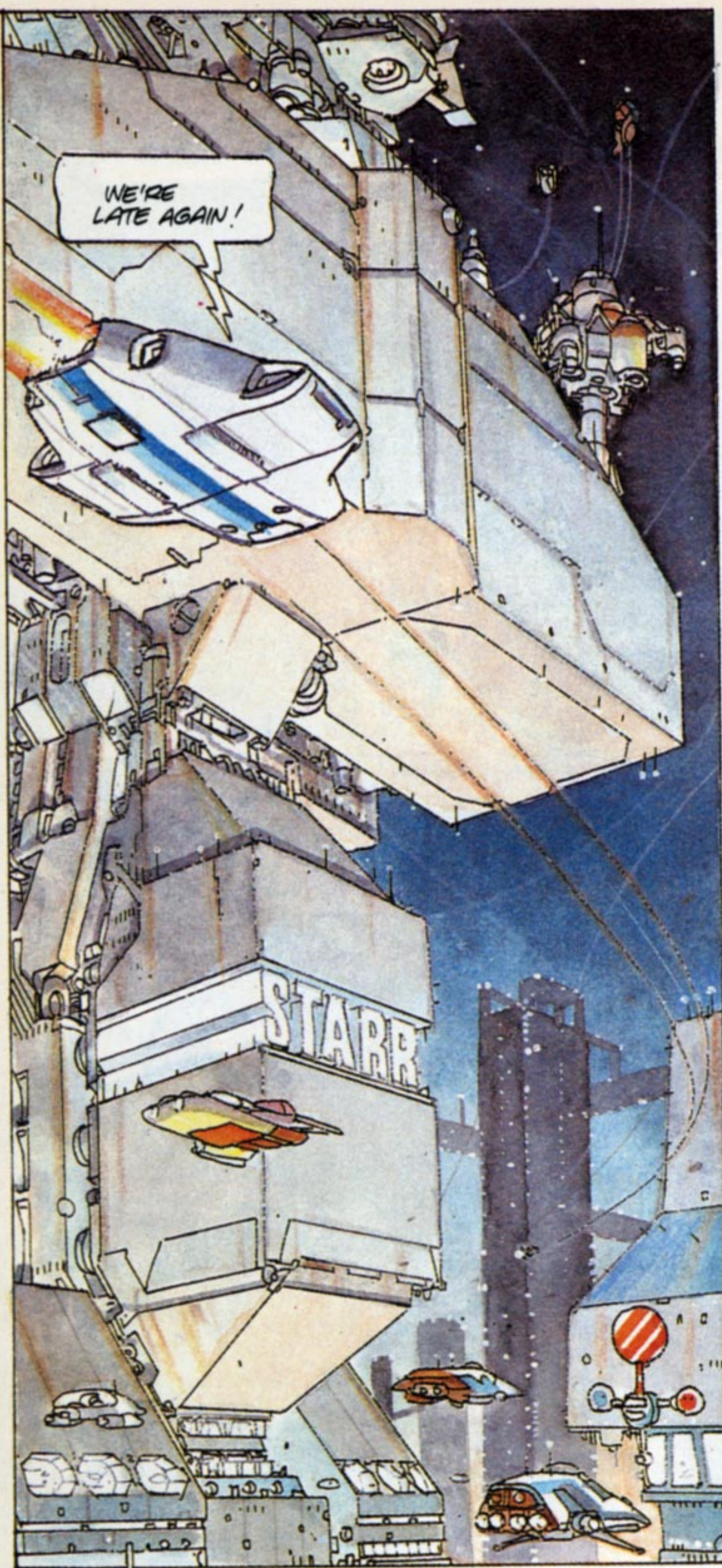


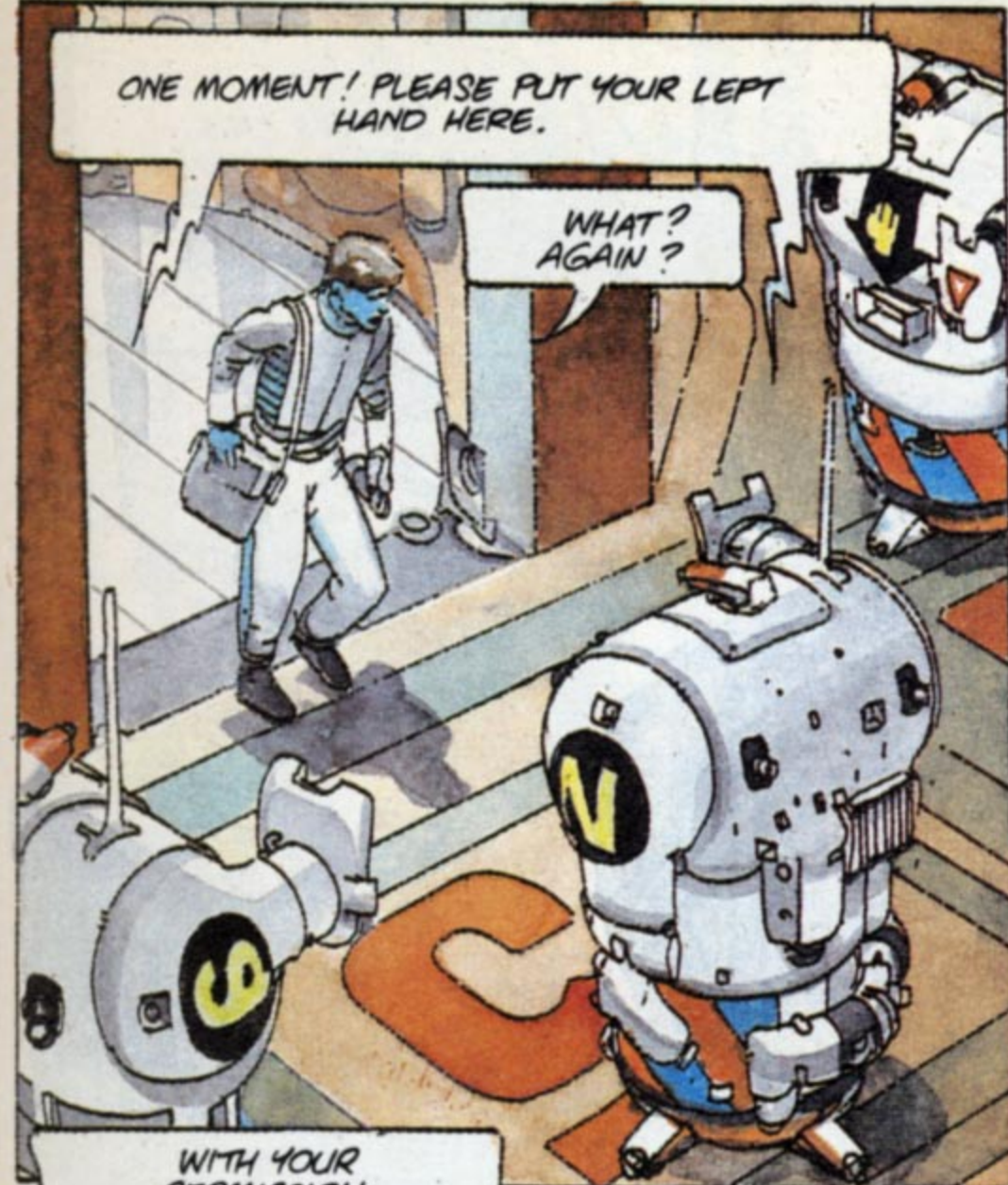
OVER THERE! LET'S FOLLOW HIM.

CAREFUL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



HEAVENS! TRAFFIC IS GETTING WORSE EVERY DAY!

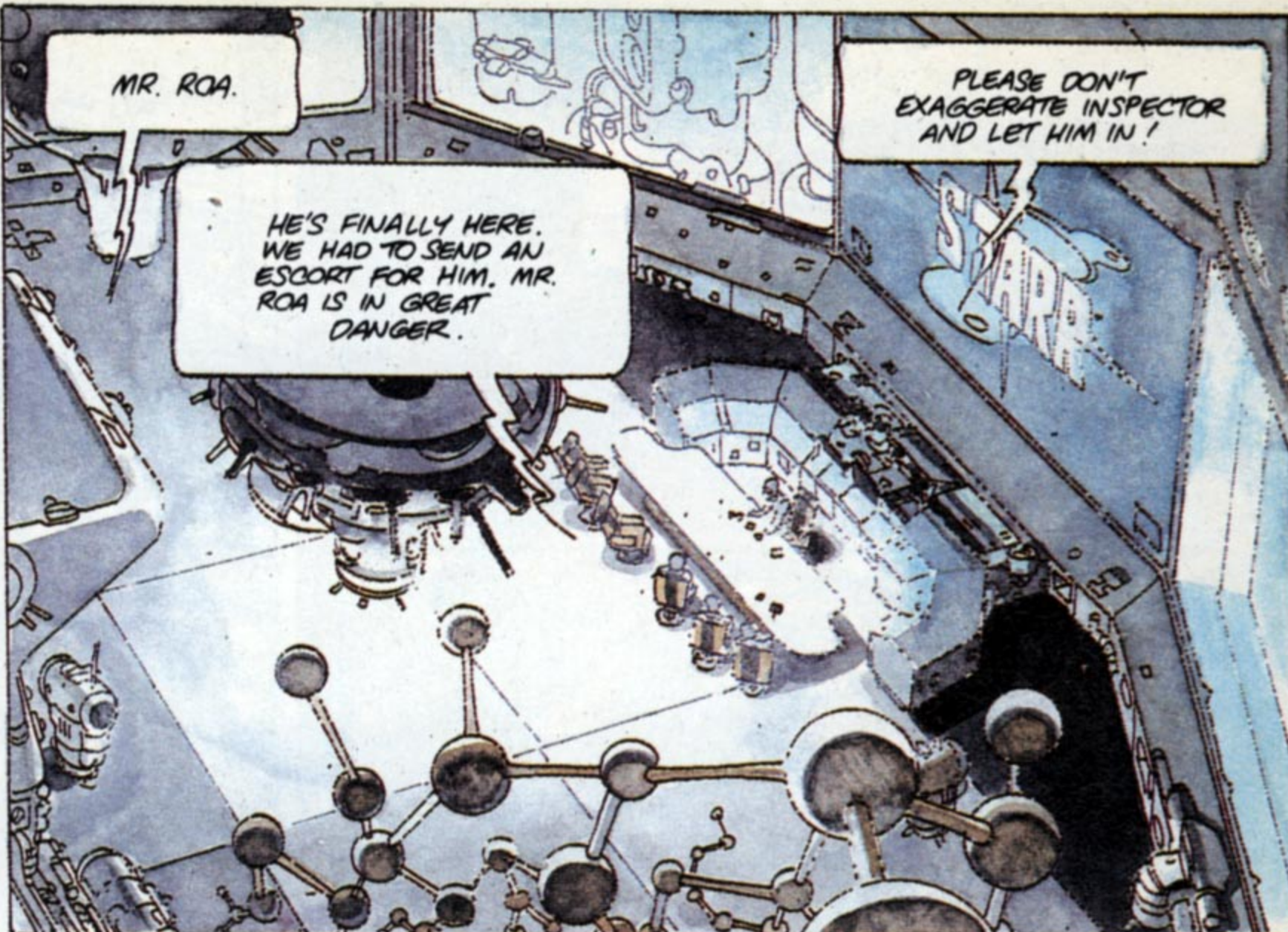




ONE MOMENT! PLEASE PUT YOUR LEFT HAND HERE.

WHAT? AGAIN?

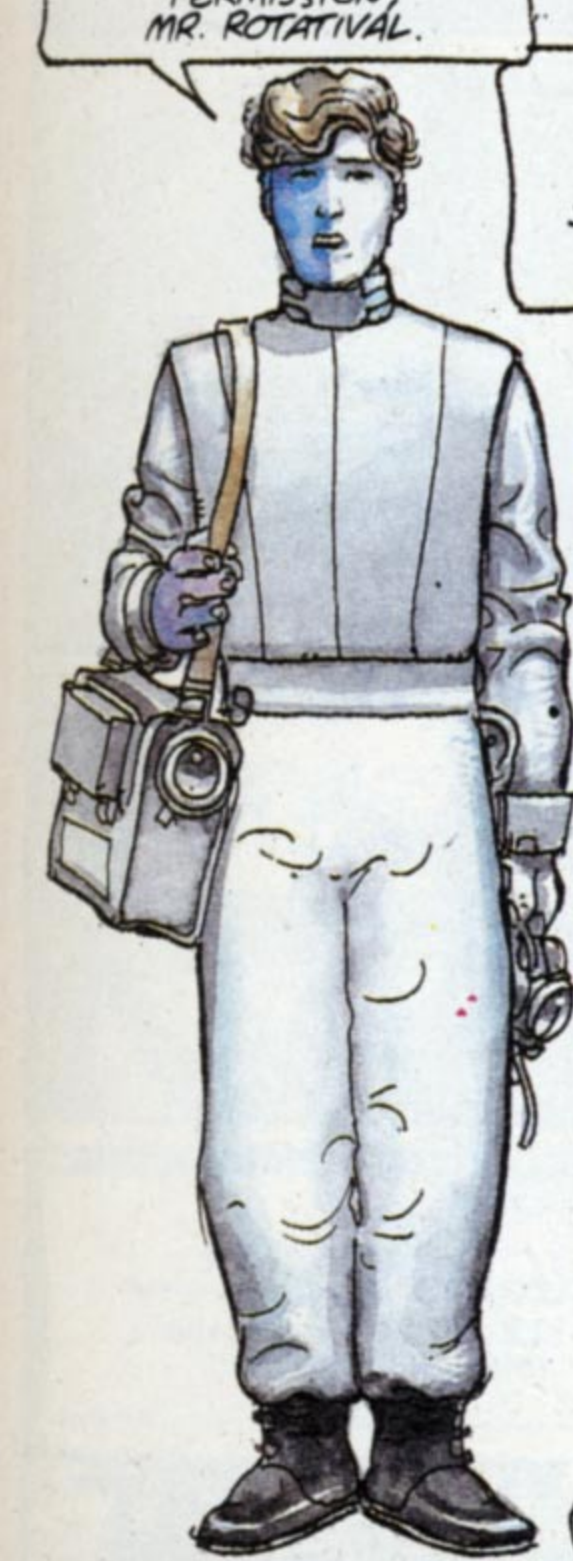
WITH YOUR PERMISSION, MR. ROTATIVAL.



MR. ROA.

HE'S FINALLY HERE. WE HAD TO SEND AN ESCORT FOR HIM. MR. ROA IS IN GREAT DANGER.

PLEASE DON'T EXAGGERATE INSPECTOR AND LET HIM IN!



I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE, ROA.

ALIVE? WHAT...

YOU'VE ALREADY MET THE DIRECTOR OF THE ARCHIVES AND THE HEAD OF INTERNAL SECURITY, BUT NOT THE CHIEF COMMANDER OF POLITRON, MR. GONZALEZ, AM I RIGHT?

HELLO.

HOW ARE YOU?

A PLEASURE.

HELLO EVERYBODY... I....



PLEASE SIT DOWN, MR. ROA. I'LL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT. YOUR COLLEAGUE AT THE ARCHIVES, PHILIP TRAVERS, WAS FOUND DEAD IN HIS OFFICE LAST NIGHT... MURDERED!

WHAT? PHILIP? ...DEAD! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... PHILIP! BUT WE JUST PLANNED TO MEET ON SUNDAY FOR A GAME... IT CAN'T BE TRUE! WHO COULD HAVE...

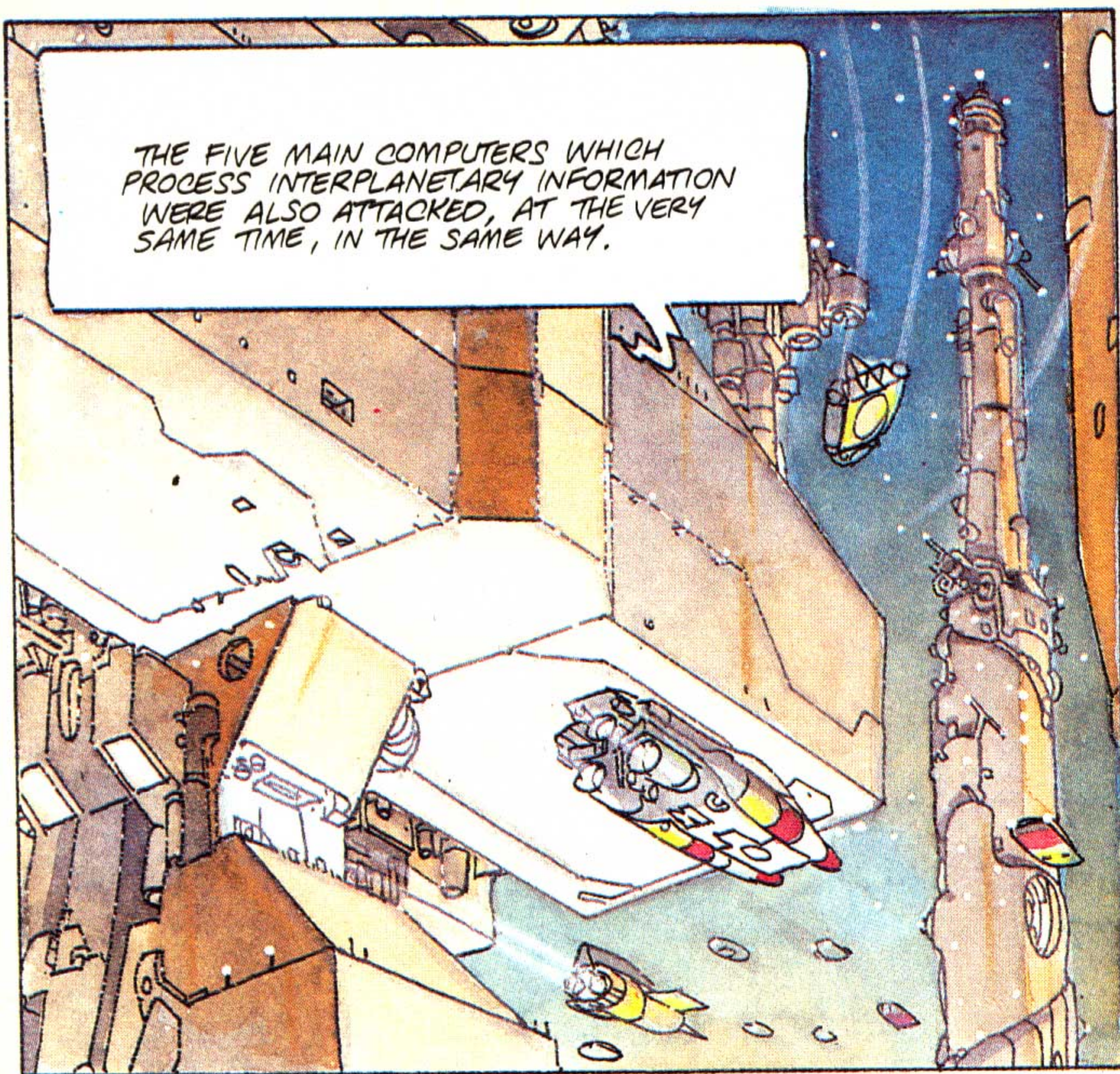
WE STILL DON'T KNOW.



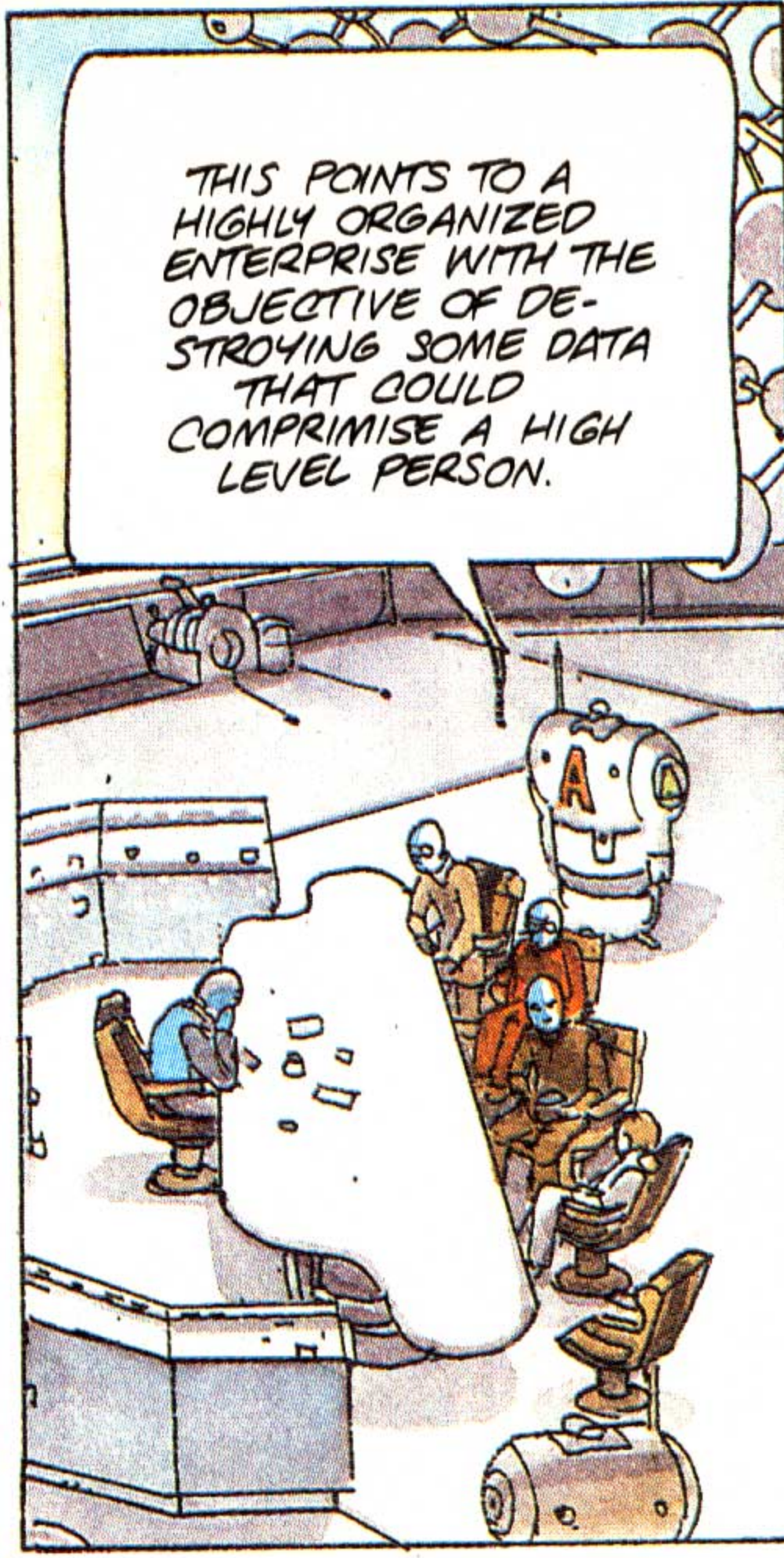
IT SEEMS THAT THEY REPROGRAMMED ONE OF THE SECURITY ROBOTS IN ORDER TO ENTER. THEIR GOAL WAS TO ACCESS THE CENTRAL DATABANK IN THE ARCHIVES... AND THEY RAIDED IT.

PHILIP DEAD!

AND THAT'S NOT ALL, ROA...



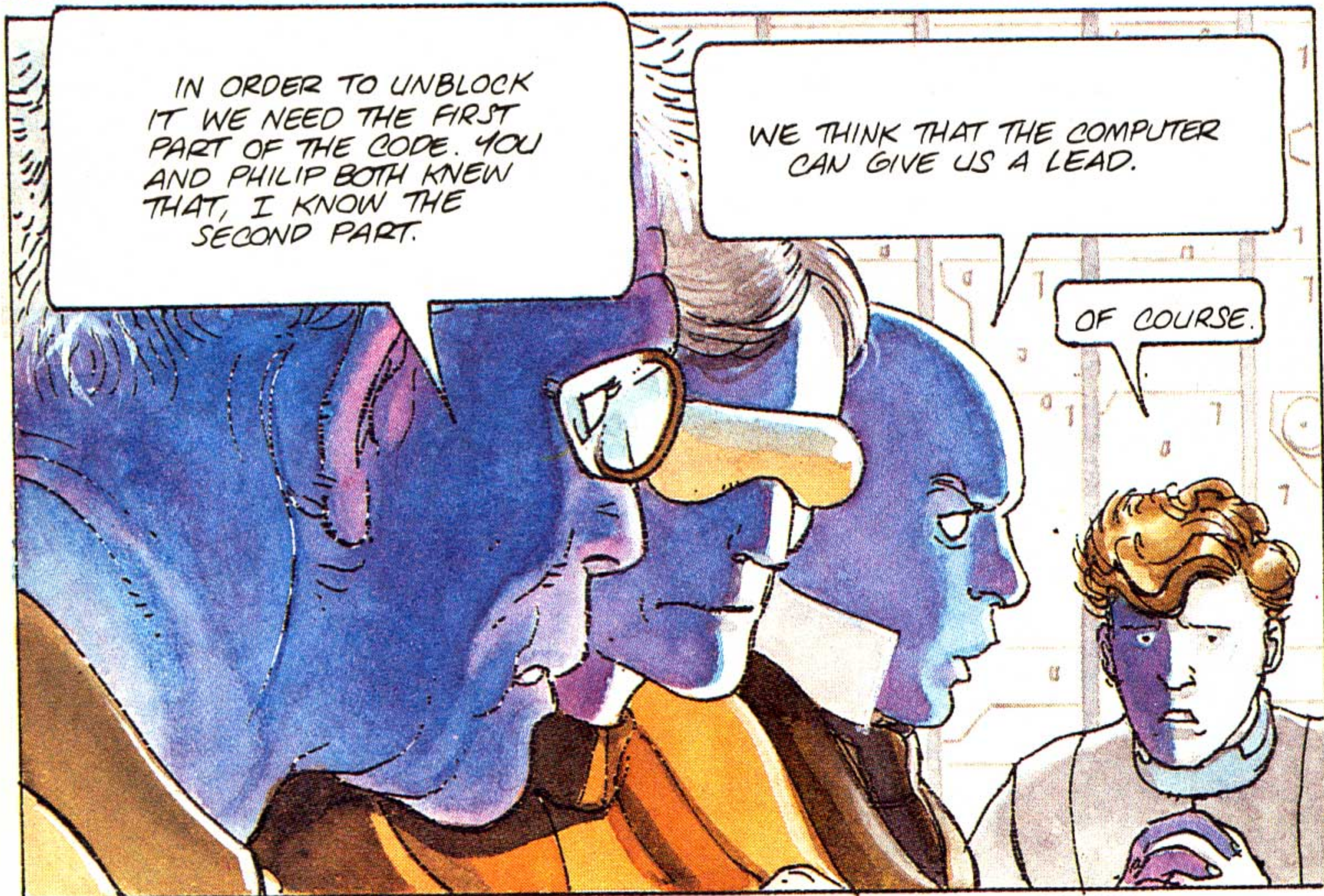
THE FIVE MAIN COMPUTERS WHICH PROCESS INTERPLANETARY INFORMATION WERE ALSO ATTACKED, AT THE VERY SAME TIME, IN THE SAME WAY.



THIS POINTS TO A HIGHLY ORGANIZED ENTERPRISE WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF DESTROYING SOME DATA THAT COULD COMPROMISE A HIGH LEVEL PERSON.



IN THE STARR'S CASE, THE COMPUTER'S INTERNAL SECURITY SYSTEM FROZE, AND INFORMATION CANNOT BE PUT IN OR TAKEN OUT.



IN ORDER TO UNBLOCK IT WE NEED THE FIRST PART OF THE CODE. YOU AND PHILIP BOTH KNEW THAT, I KNOW THE SECOND PART.

WE THINK THAT THE COMPUTER CAN GIVE US A LEAD.

OF COURSE.



YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP US UNBLOCK THE SYSTEM AND I SUGGEST THAT YOU GET TO WORK IMMEDIATELY. YOUR LIFE IS IN DANGER.

WELL I...



YES, ROA. GET ON WITH IT. HERE'S THE TERMINAL.

IT'S THAT... I CAN'T REMEMBER THE CODE.

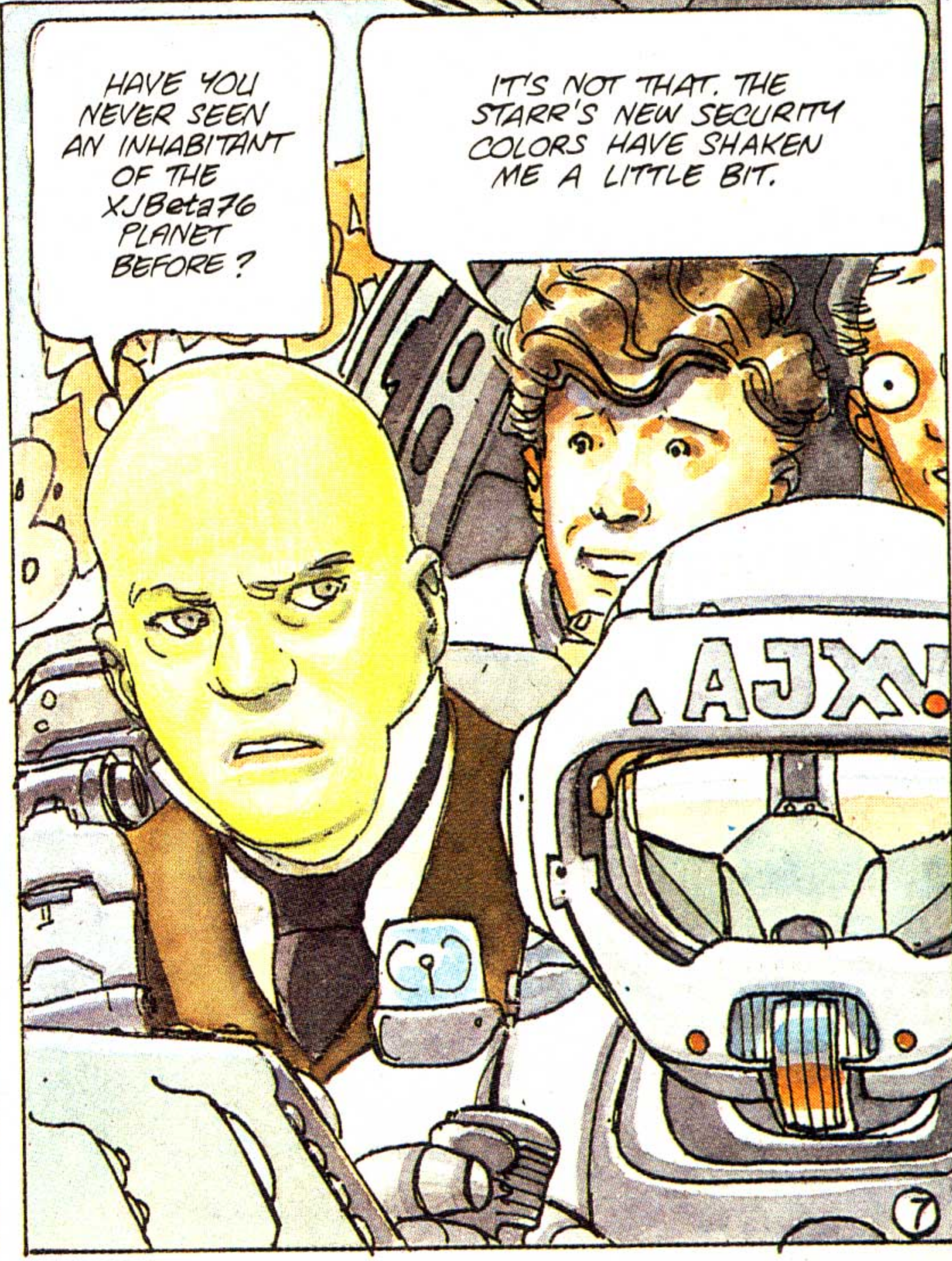


WHAT?

WHAT I MEAN IS SINCE I HAVE NO MEMORY, I MUST HAVE WRITTEN IT DOWN SOMEWHERE IN MY HOUSE.

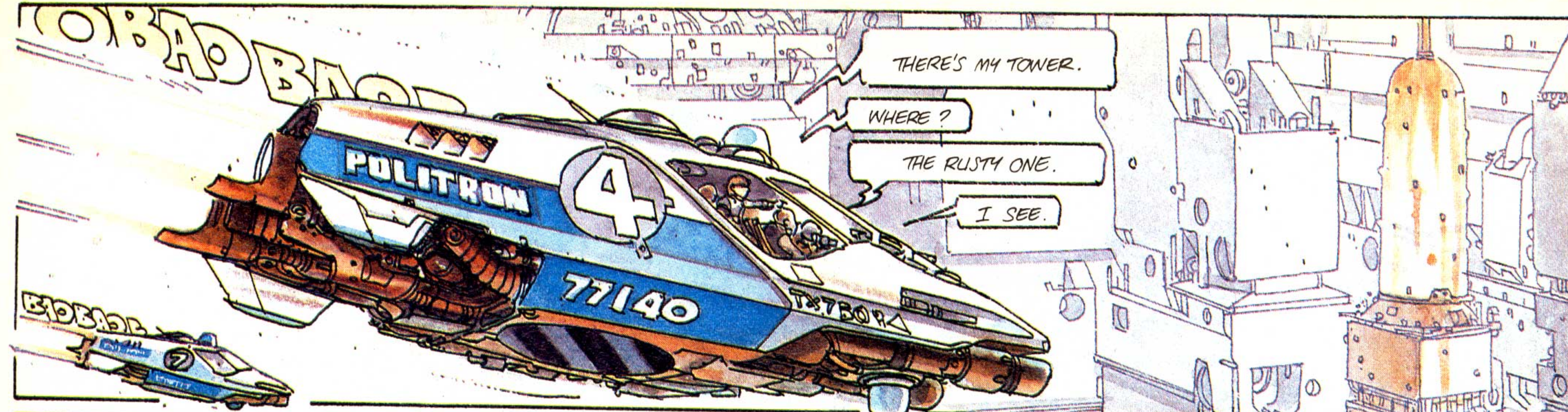
NO!

HURRY! TIME IS VERY SHORT.



HAVE YOU NEVER SEEN AN INHABITANT OF THE XJBeta76 PLANET BEFORE?

IT'S NOT THAT. THE STARR'S NEW SECURITY COLORS HAVE SHAKEN ME A LITTLE BIT.

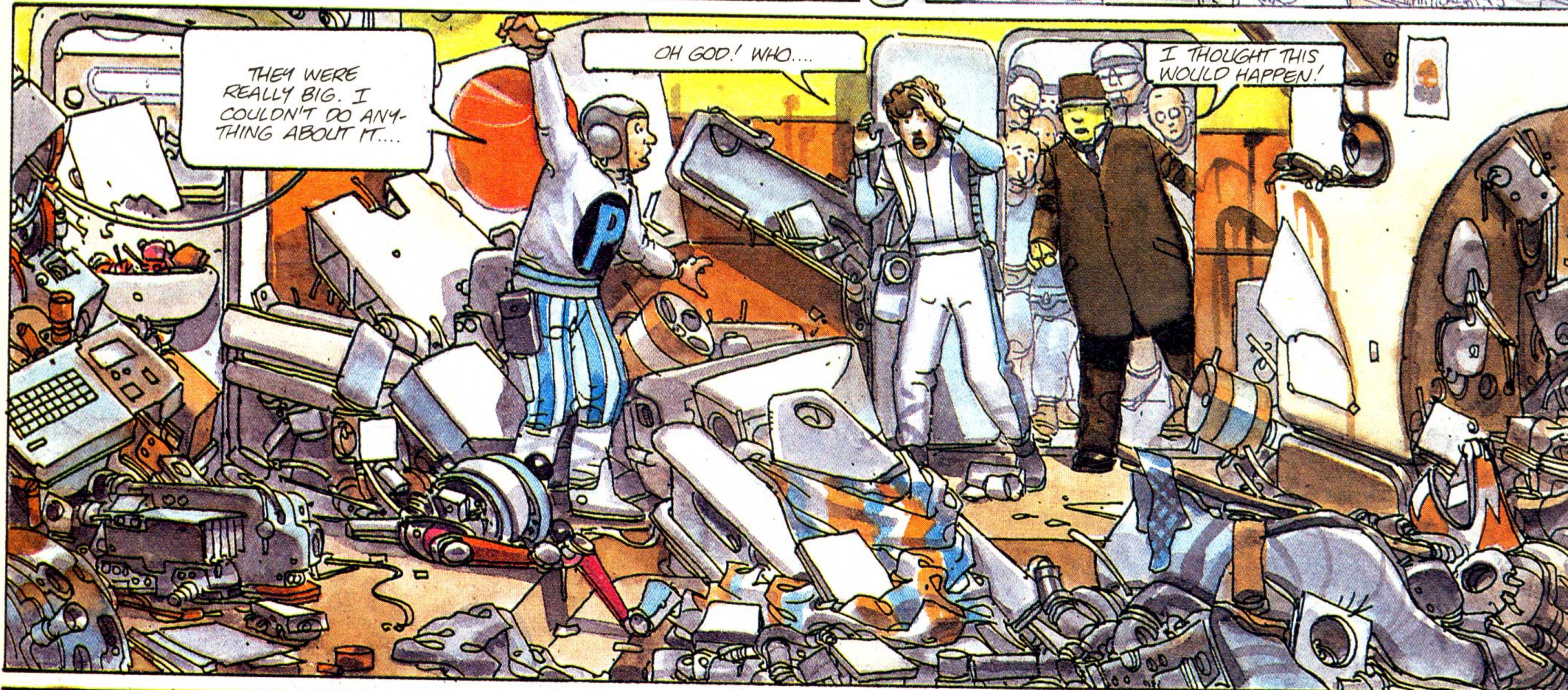


THERE'S MY TOWER.

WHERE?

THE RUSTY ONE.

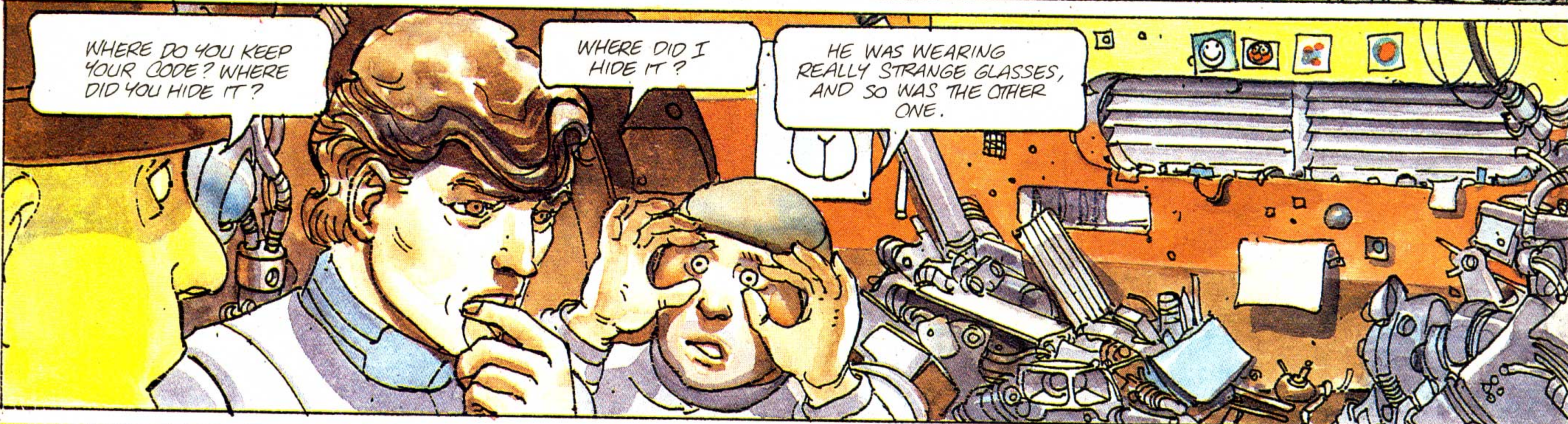
I SEE.



THEY WERE REALLY BIG. I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT....

OH GOD! WHO....

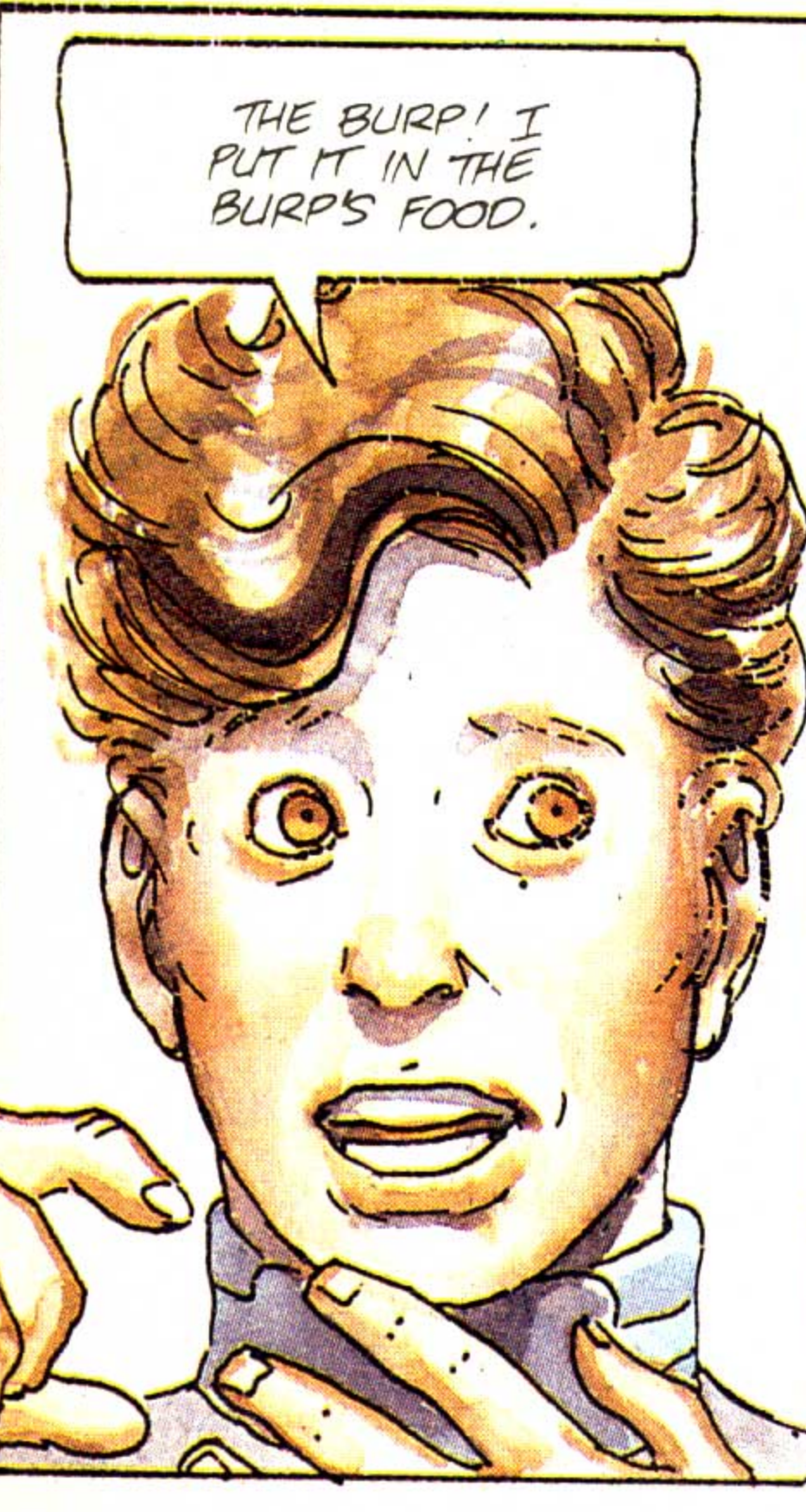
I THOUGHT THIS WOULD HAPPEN!



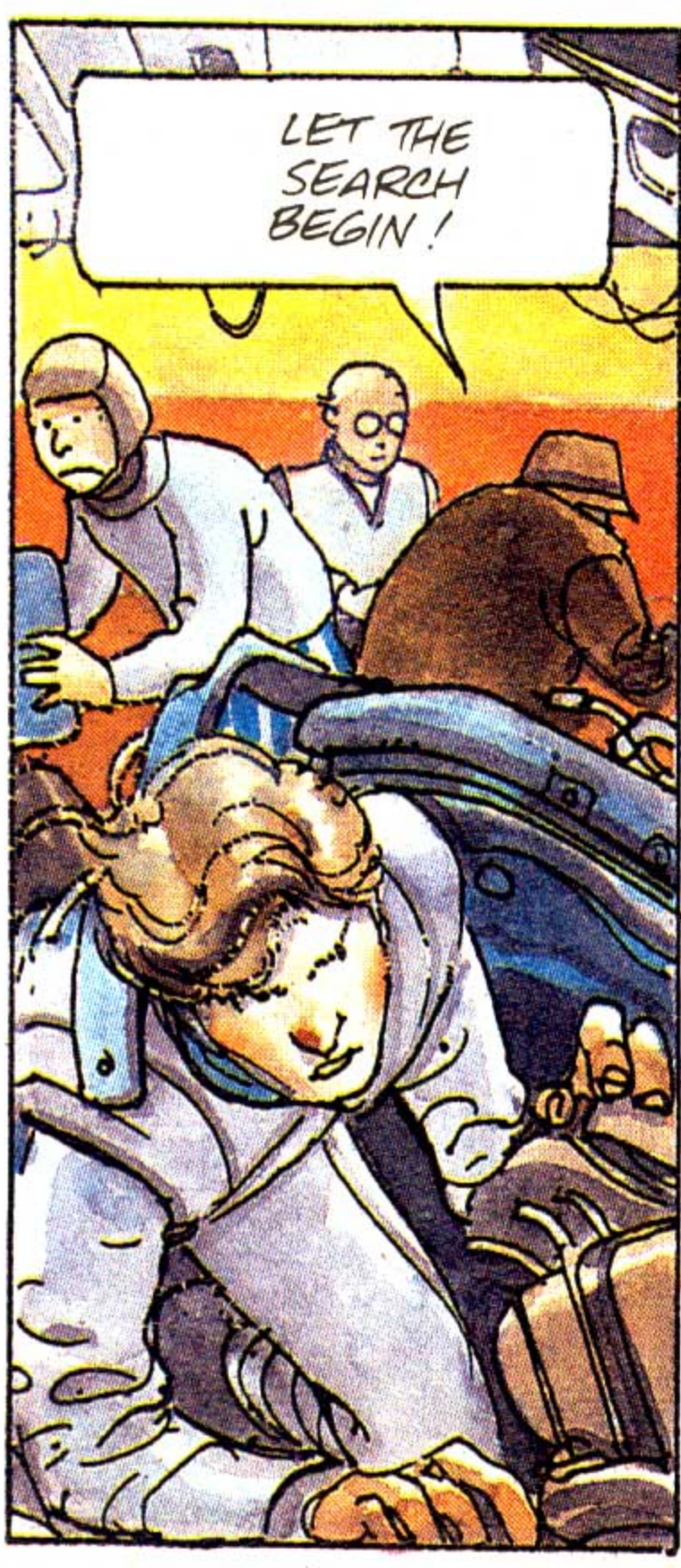
WHERE DO YOU KEEP YOUR CODE? WHERE DID YOU HIDE IT?

WHERE DID I HIDE IT?

HE WAS WEARING REALLY STRANGE GLASSES, AND SO WAS THE OTHER ONE.



THE BURP! I PUT IT IN THE BURP'S FOOD.



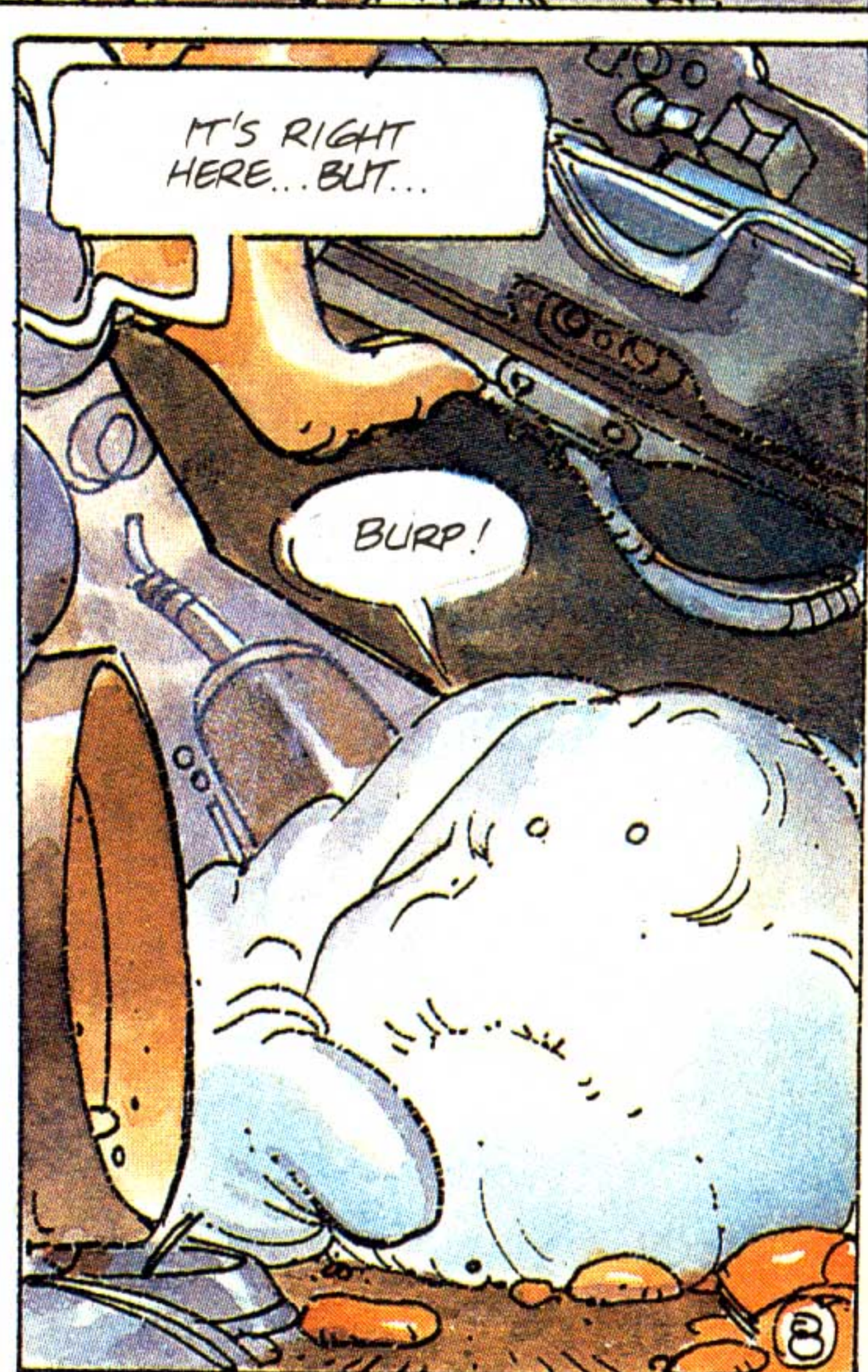
LET THE SEARCH BEGIN!



SHIT!

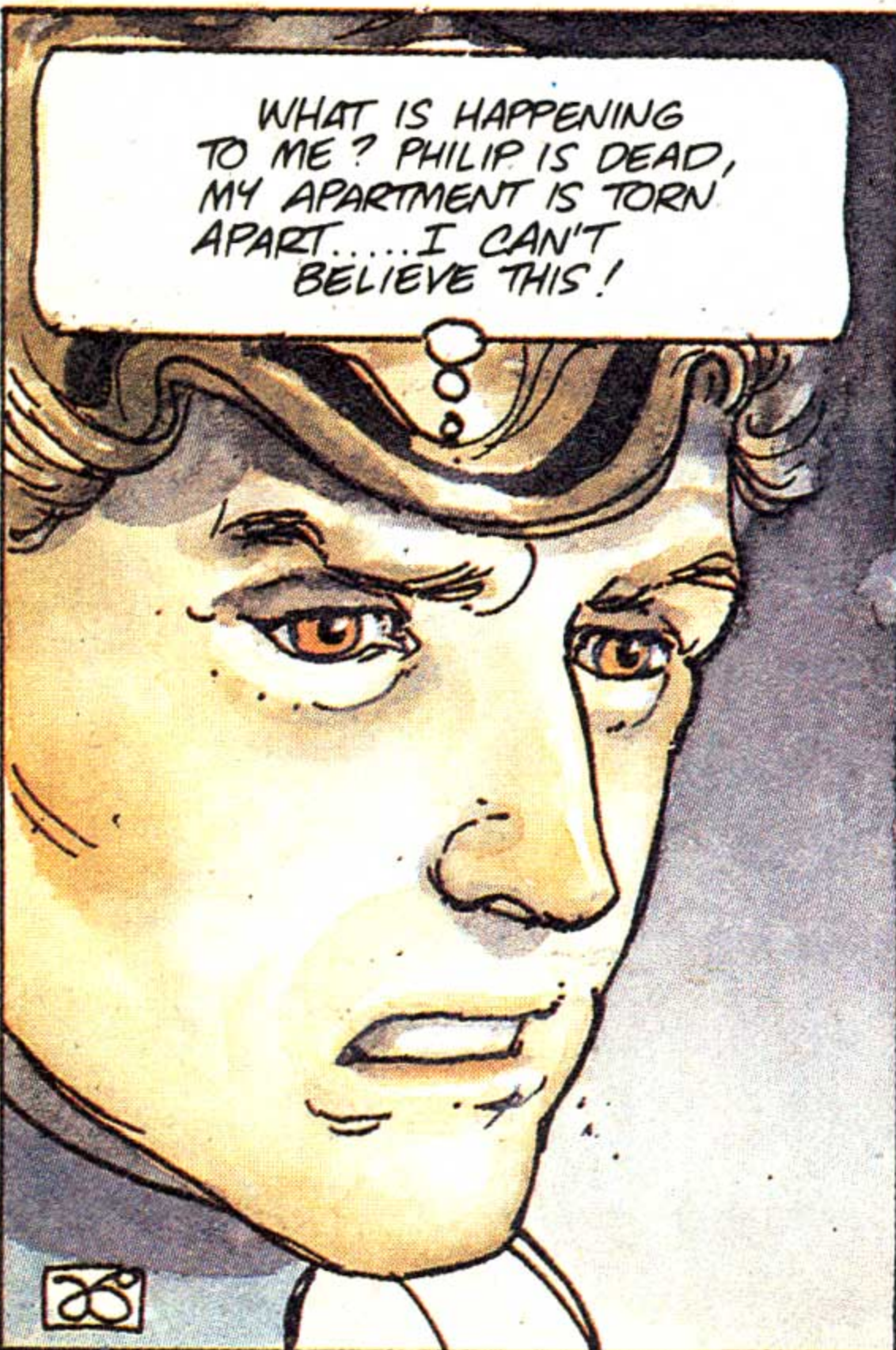
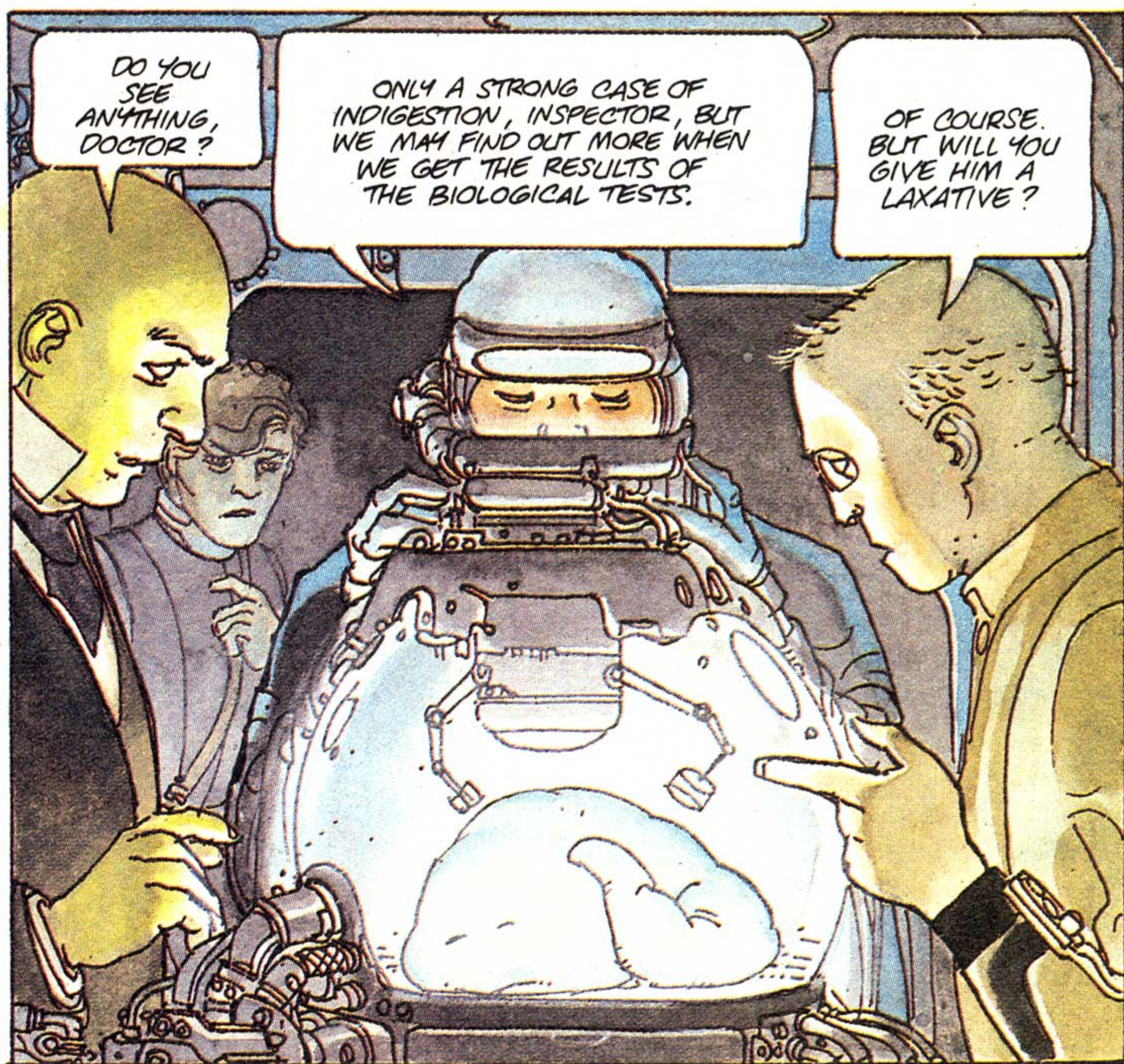
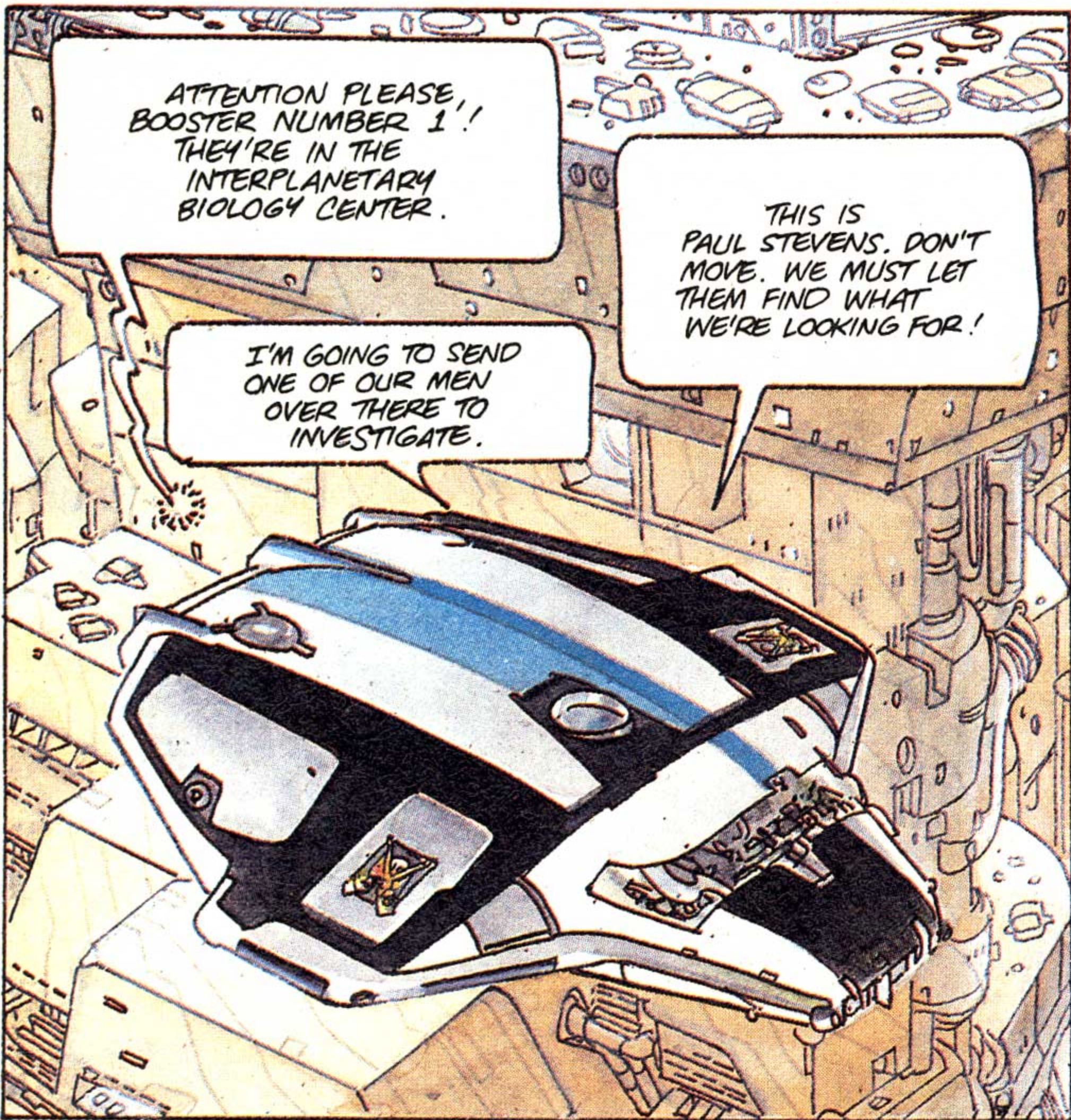
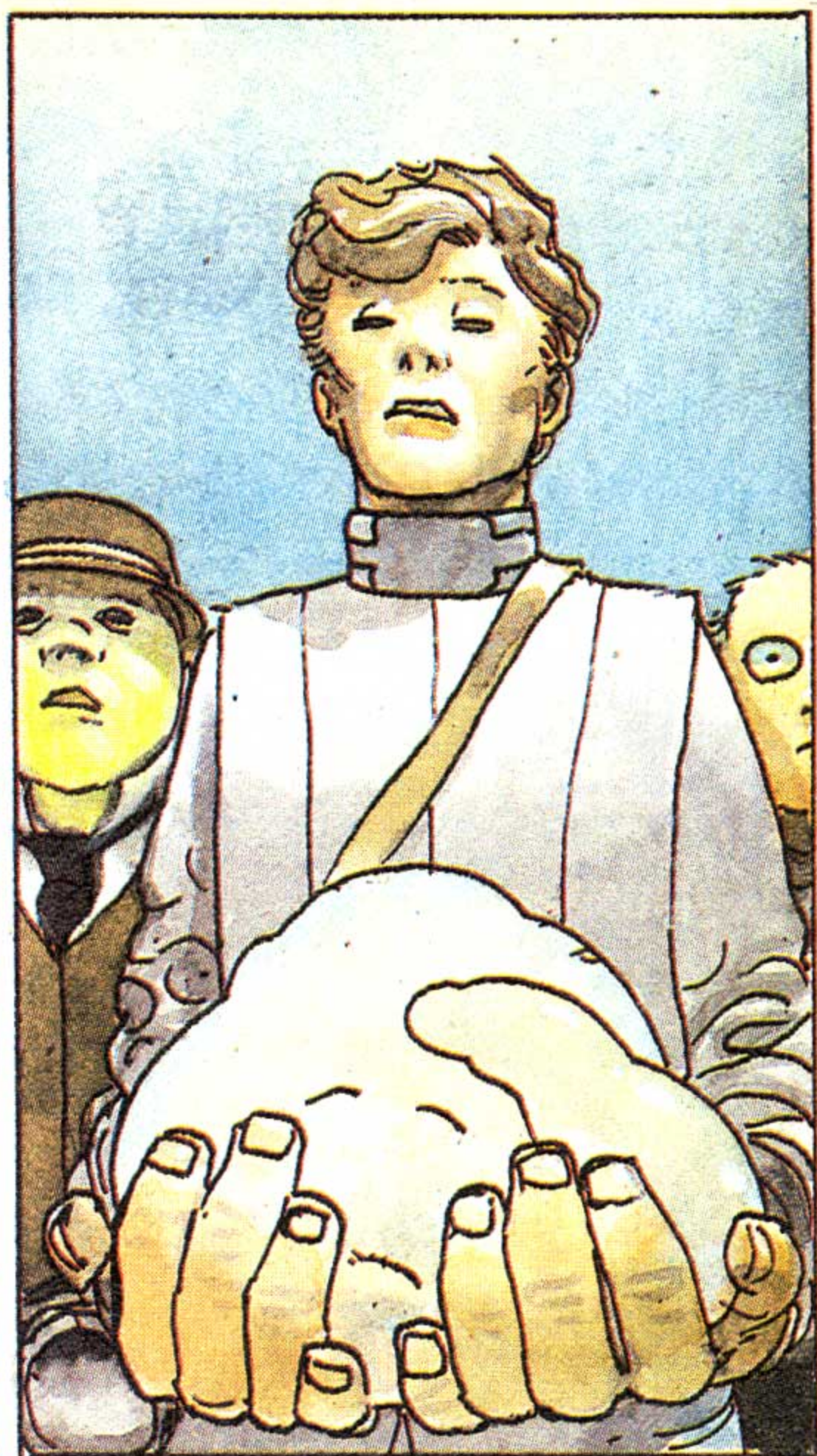
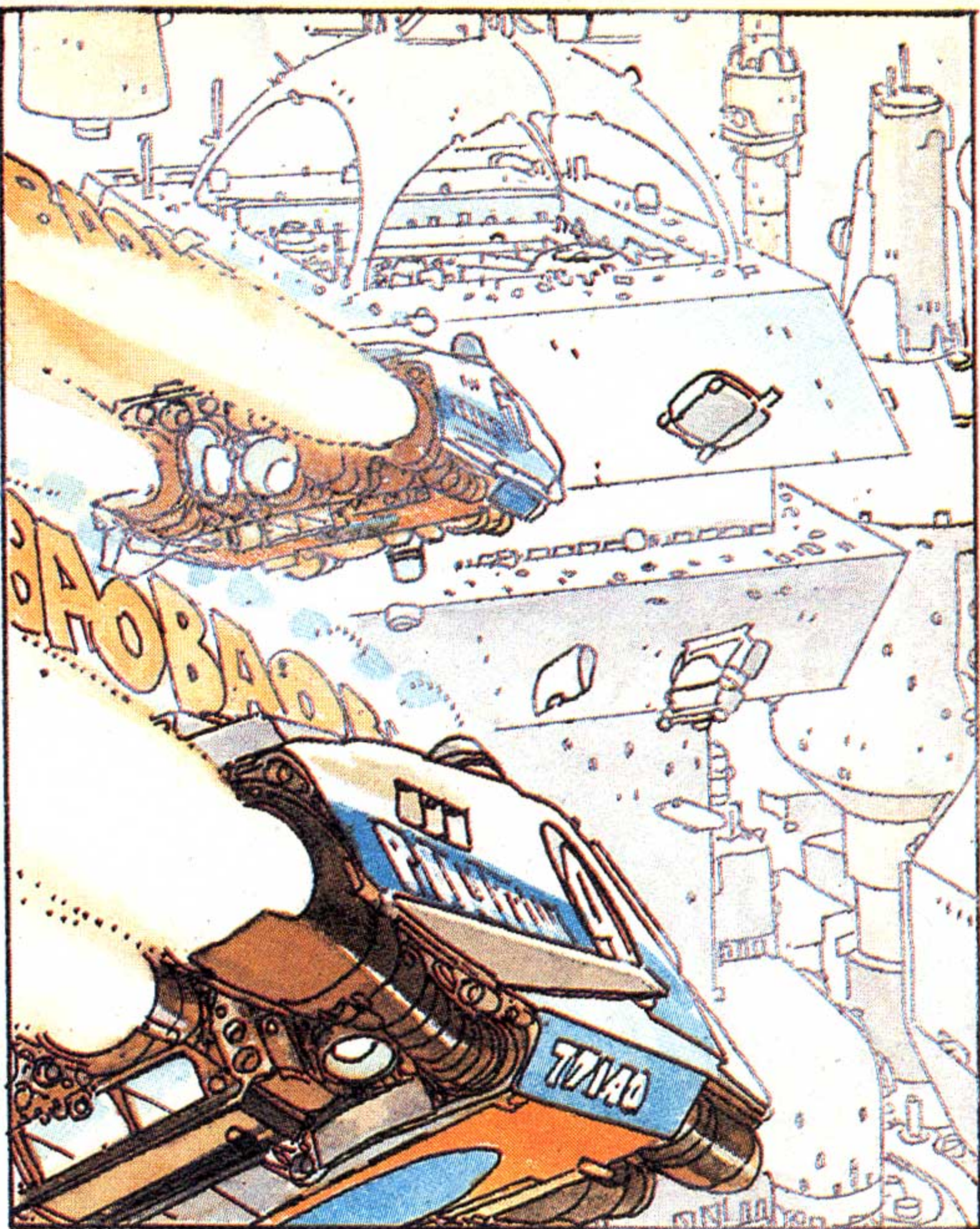


HERE IT IS!



IT'S RIGHT HERE... BUT...

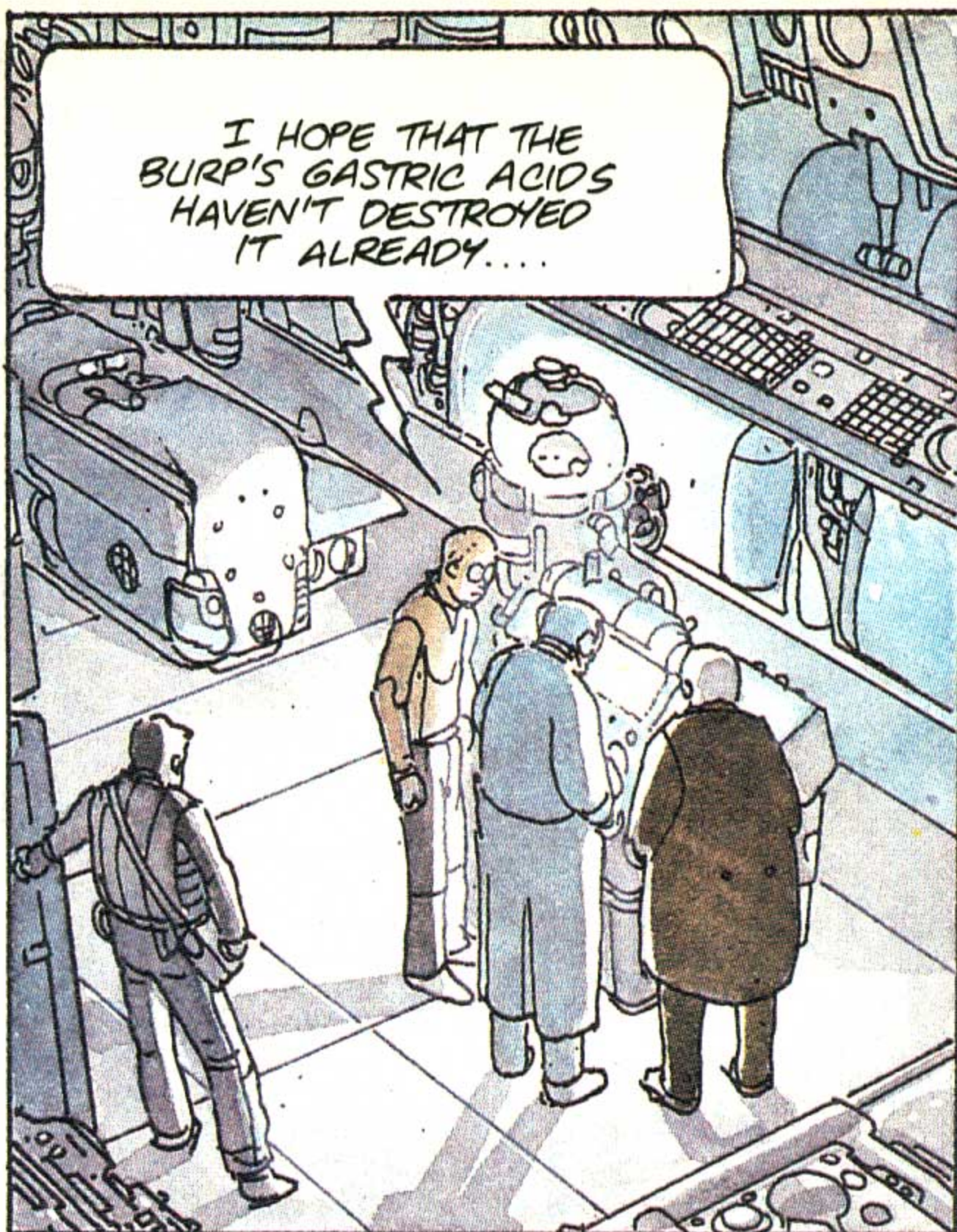
BURP!



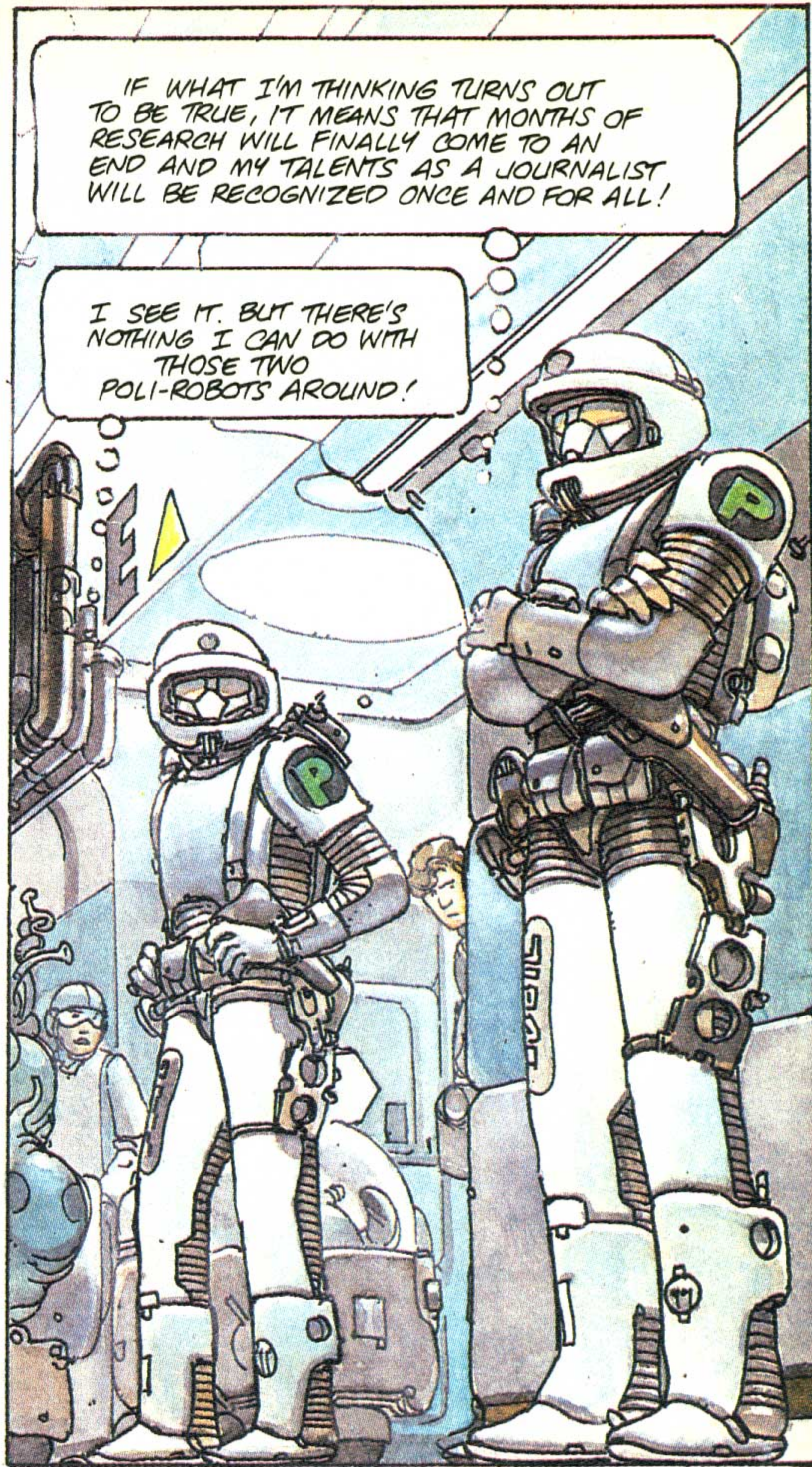


WHAT? OH, YEAH, ON A STICKER.

ON WHAT?



I HOPE THAT THE BURP'S GASTRIC ACIDS HAVEN'T DESTROYED IT ALREADY....

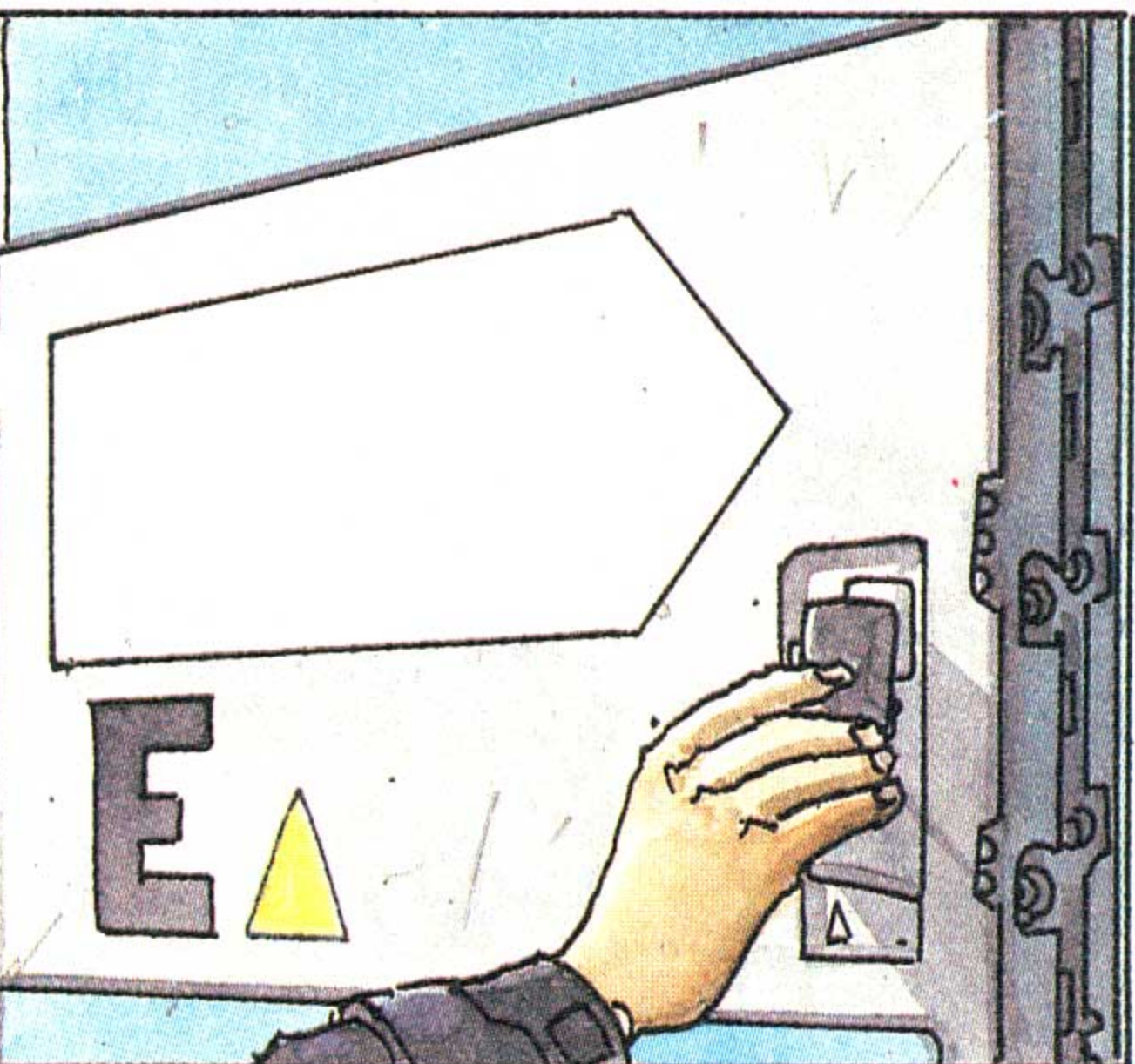


IF WHAT I'M THINKING TURNS OUT TO BE TRUE, IT MEANS THAT MONTHS OF RESEARCH WILL FINALLY COME TO AN END AND MY TALENTS AS A JOURNALIST WILL BE RECOGNIZED ONCE AND FOR ALL!

I SEE IT. BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO WITH THOSE TWO POLI-ROBOTS AROUND!



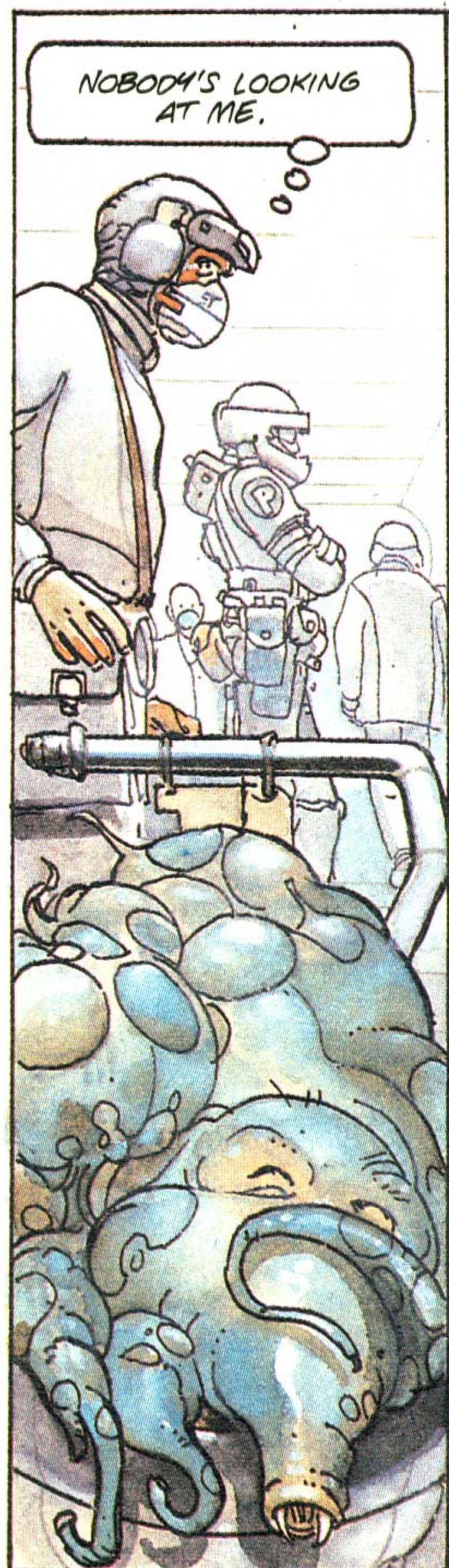
.... BUT I HAVE TO PROVE IT... OBVIOUSLY....



HE'S STILL UNDER THE EFFECT OF ANESTHESIA. HE'LL REGAIN HIS NORMAL SIZE WHEN HE WAKES UP. HE'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY NOW.

OKAY. I'LL TALK TO MS. FROC ABOUT GETTING HIM OUT OF HERE. DON'T MOVE, CROTIO.

HE'S DISGUISED HIMSELF.

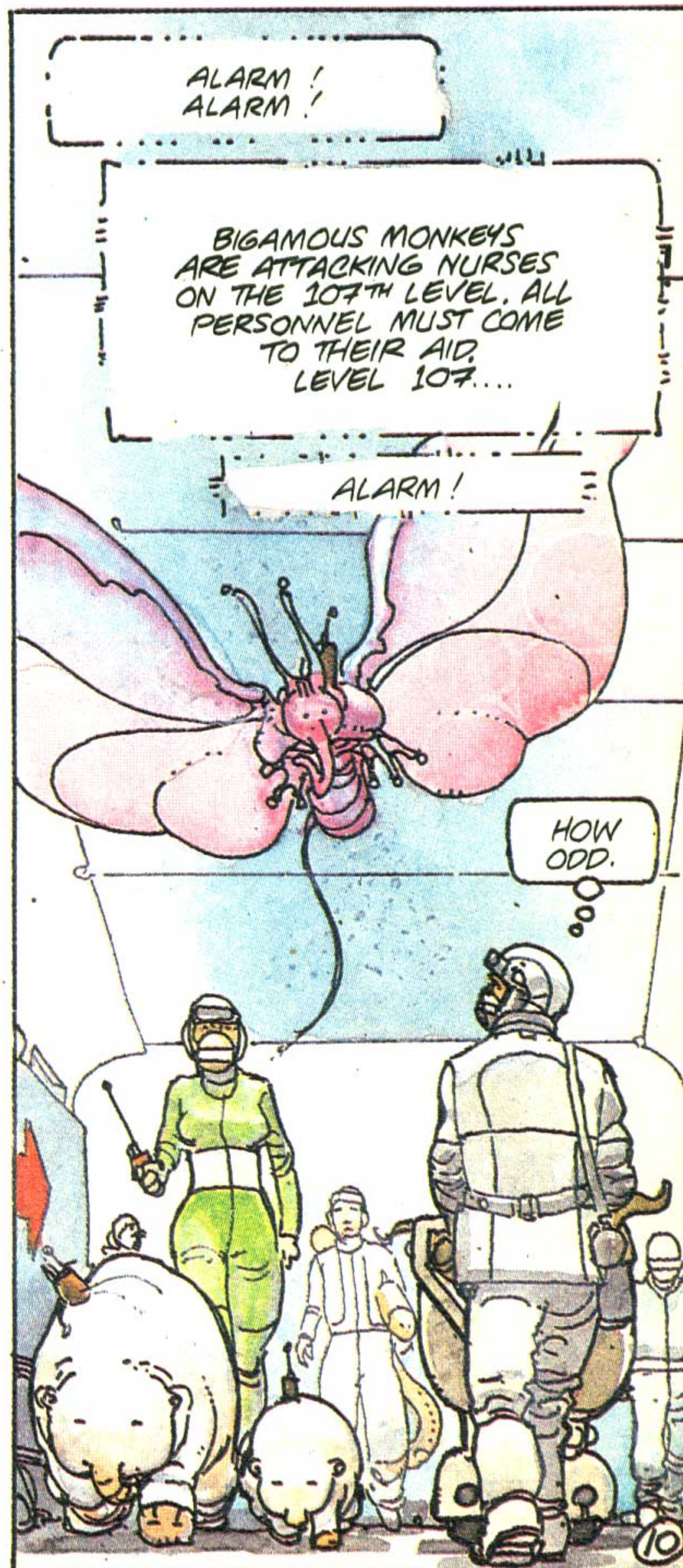


NOBODY'S LOOKING AT ME.



THE POLI-ROBOTS DIDN'T EVEN SEE HIM.

YOU, CROTIO, ARE GOING TO GET ME OUT OF HERE.

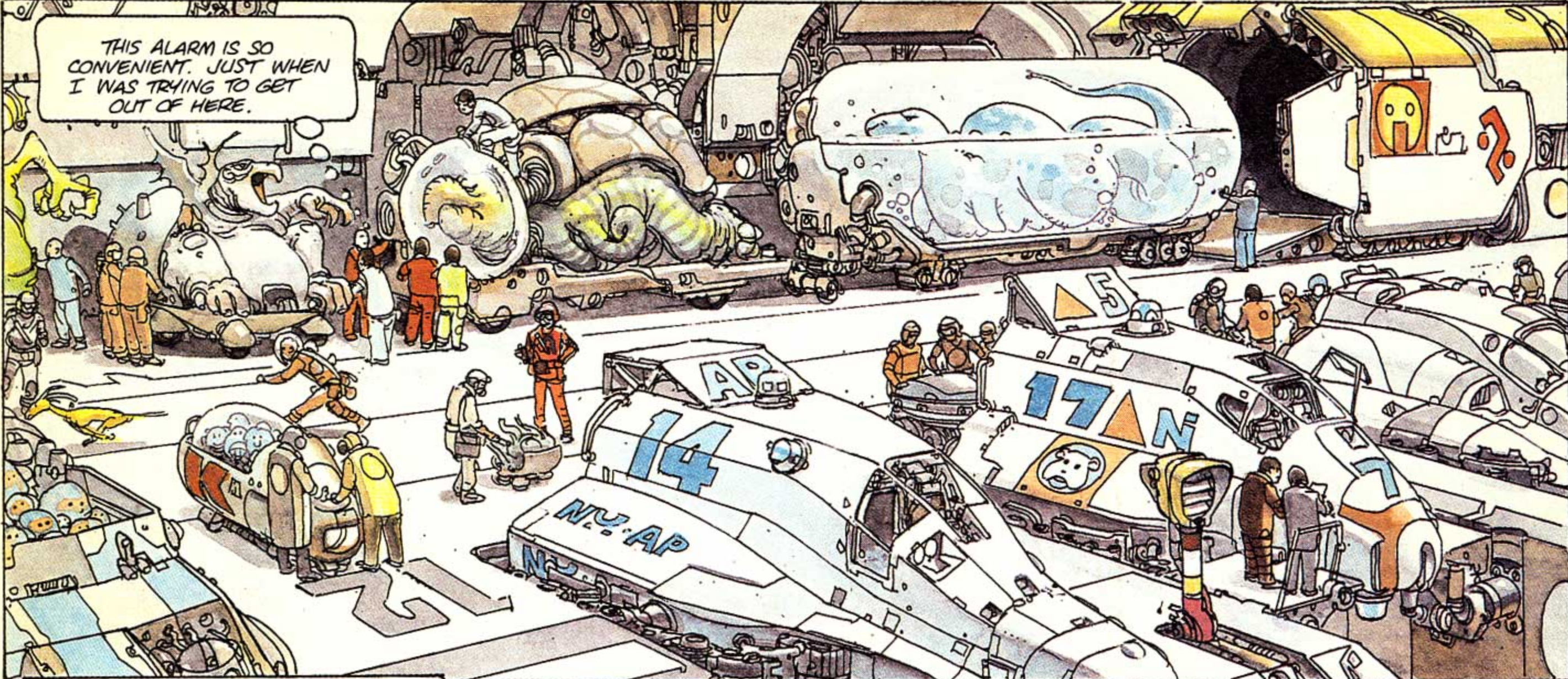


ALARM! ALARM!

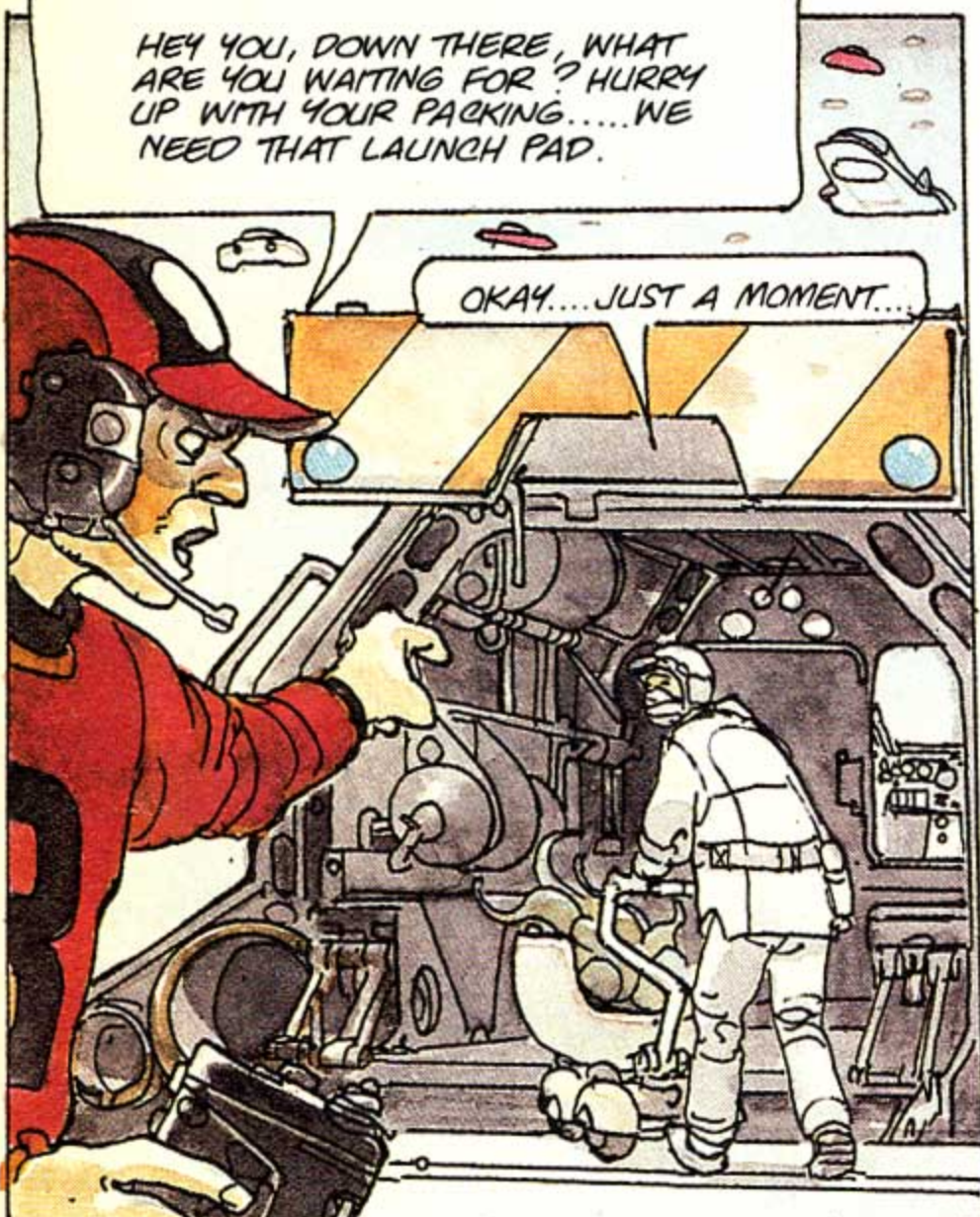
BIGAMOUS MONKEYS ARE ATTACKING NURSES ON THE 107TH LEVEL. ALL PERSONNEL MUST COME TO THEIR AID. LEVEL 107....

ALARM!

HOW ODD.



THIS ALARM IS SO CONVENIENT. JUST WHEN I WAS TRYING TO GET OUT OF HERE.

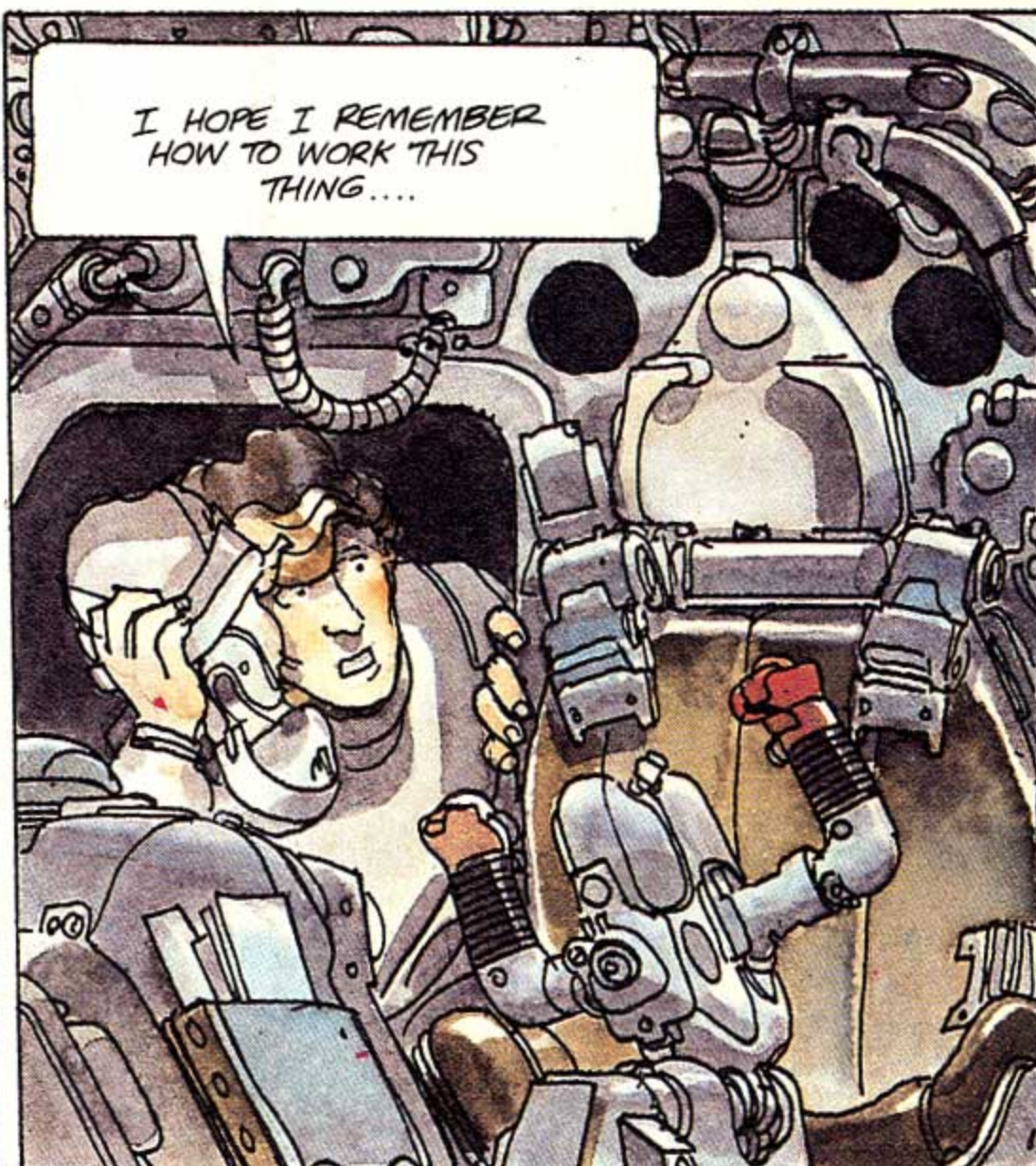


HEY YOU, DOWN THERE, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? HURRY UP WITH YOUR PACKING.....WE NEED THAT LAUNCH PAD.

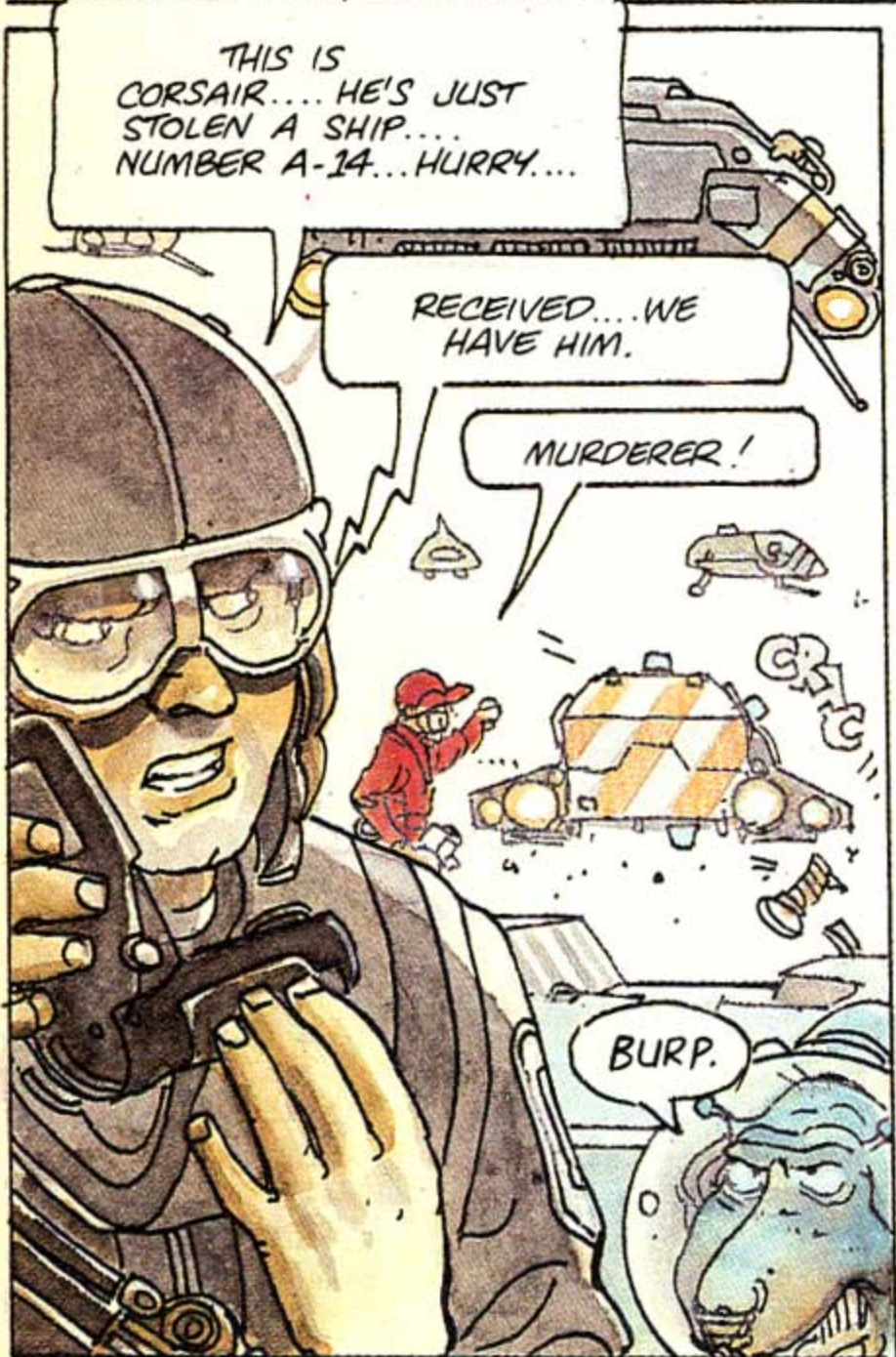
OKAY....JUST A MOMENT....



I'M SORRY, CROTIO, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP ME COMPANY A LITTLE LONGER....



I HOPE I REMEMBER HOW TO WORK THIS THING....

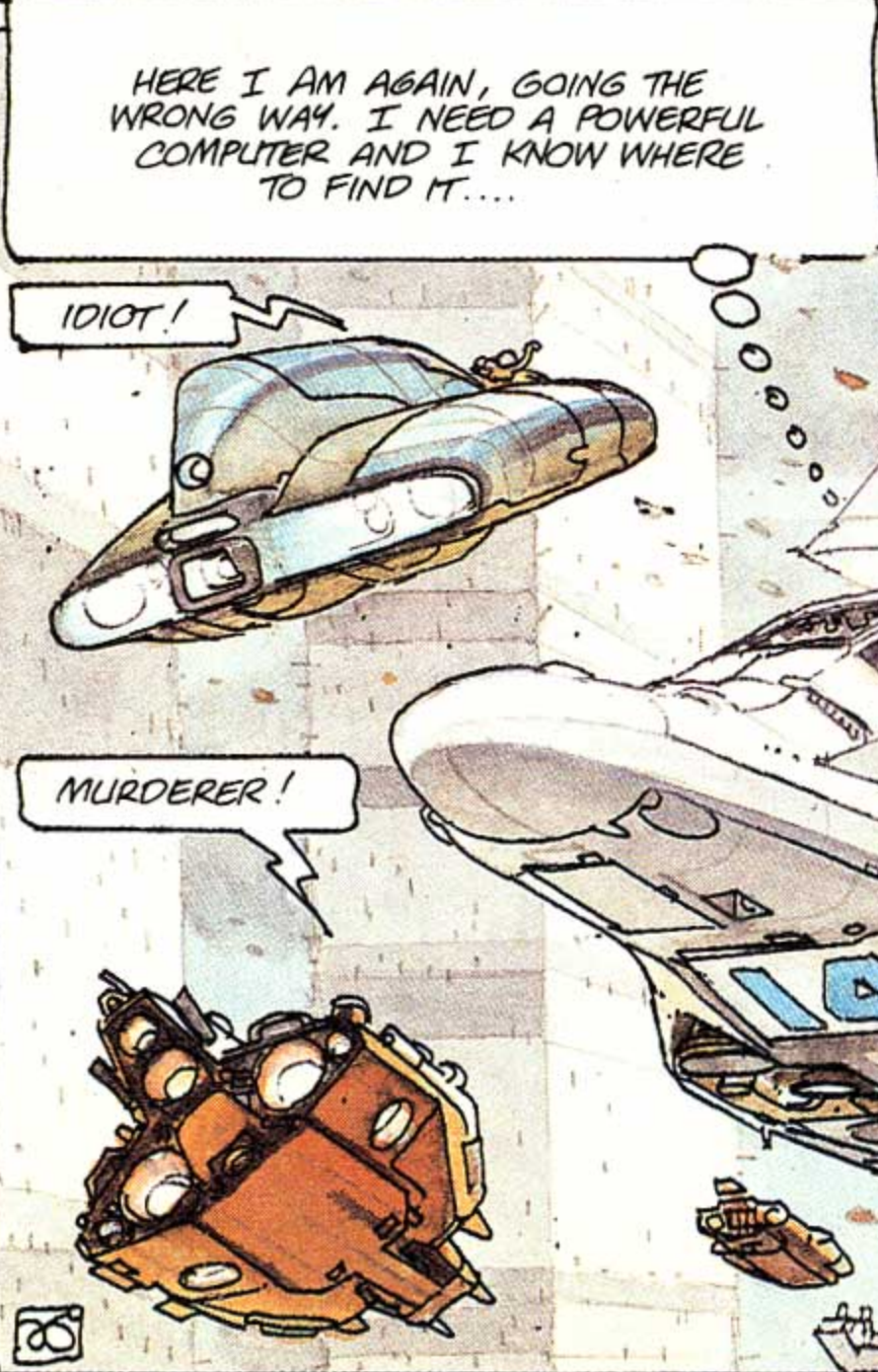


THIS IS CORSAIR.... HE'S JUST STOLEN A SHIP.... NUMBER A-14...HURRY....

RECEIVED....WE HAVE HIM.

MURDERER!

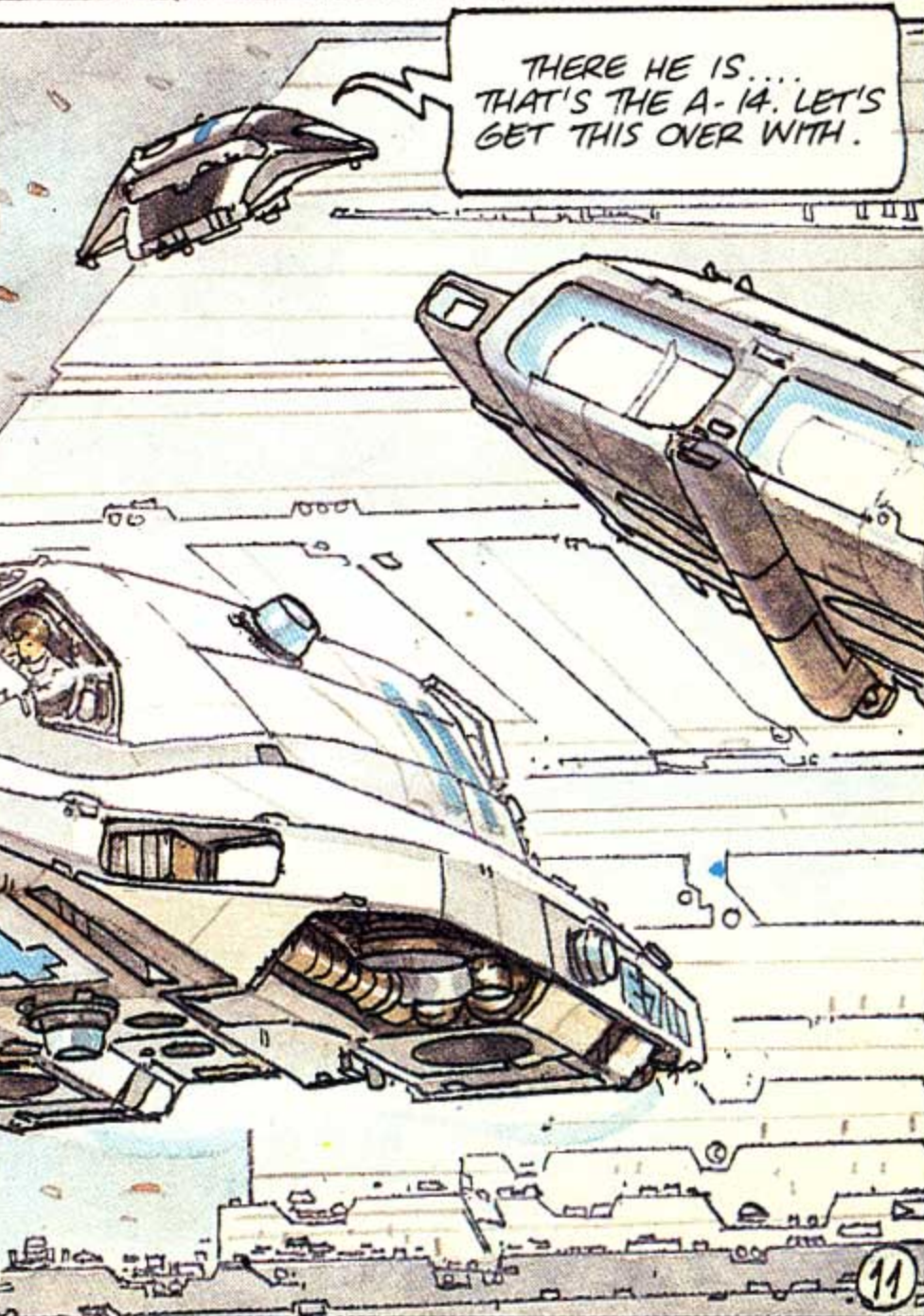
BURP.



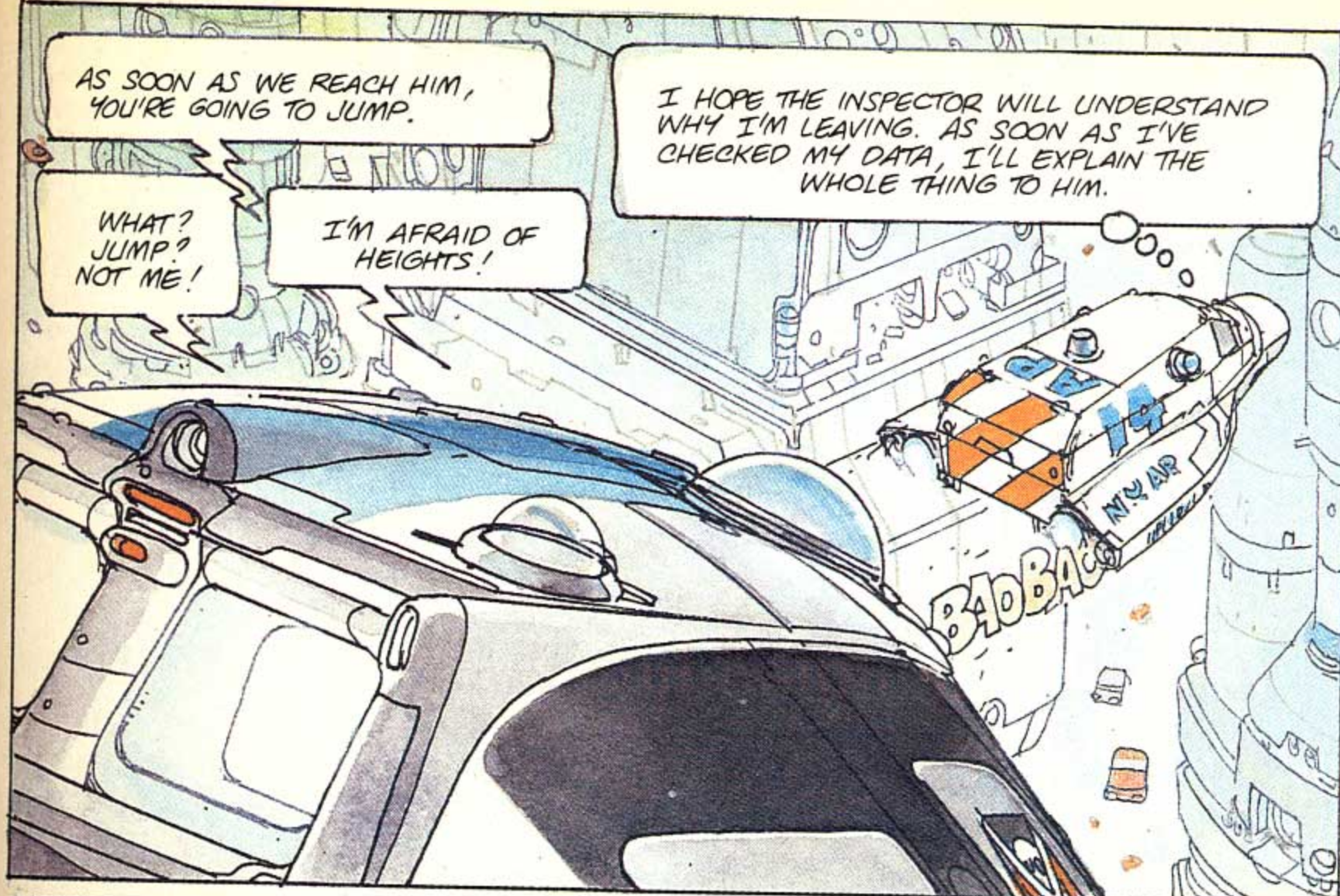
HERE I AM AGAIN, GOING THE WRONG WAY. I NEED A POWERFUL COMPUTER AND I KNOW WHERE TO FIND IT....

IDIOT!

MURDERER!



THERE HE IS... THAT'S THE A-14. LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.



AS SOON AS WE REACH HIM,
YOU'RE GOING TO JUMP.

WHAT?
JUMP?
NOT ME!

I'M AFRAID OF
HEIGHTS!

I HOPE THE INSPECTOR WILL UNDERSTAND
WHY I'M LEAVING. AS SOON AS I'VE
CHECKED MY DATA, I'LL EXPLAIN THE
WHOLE THING TO HIM.



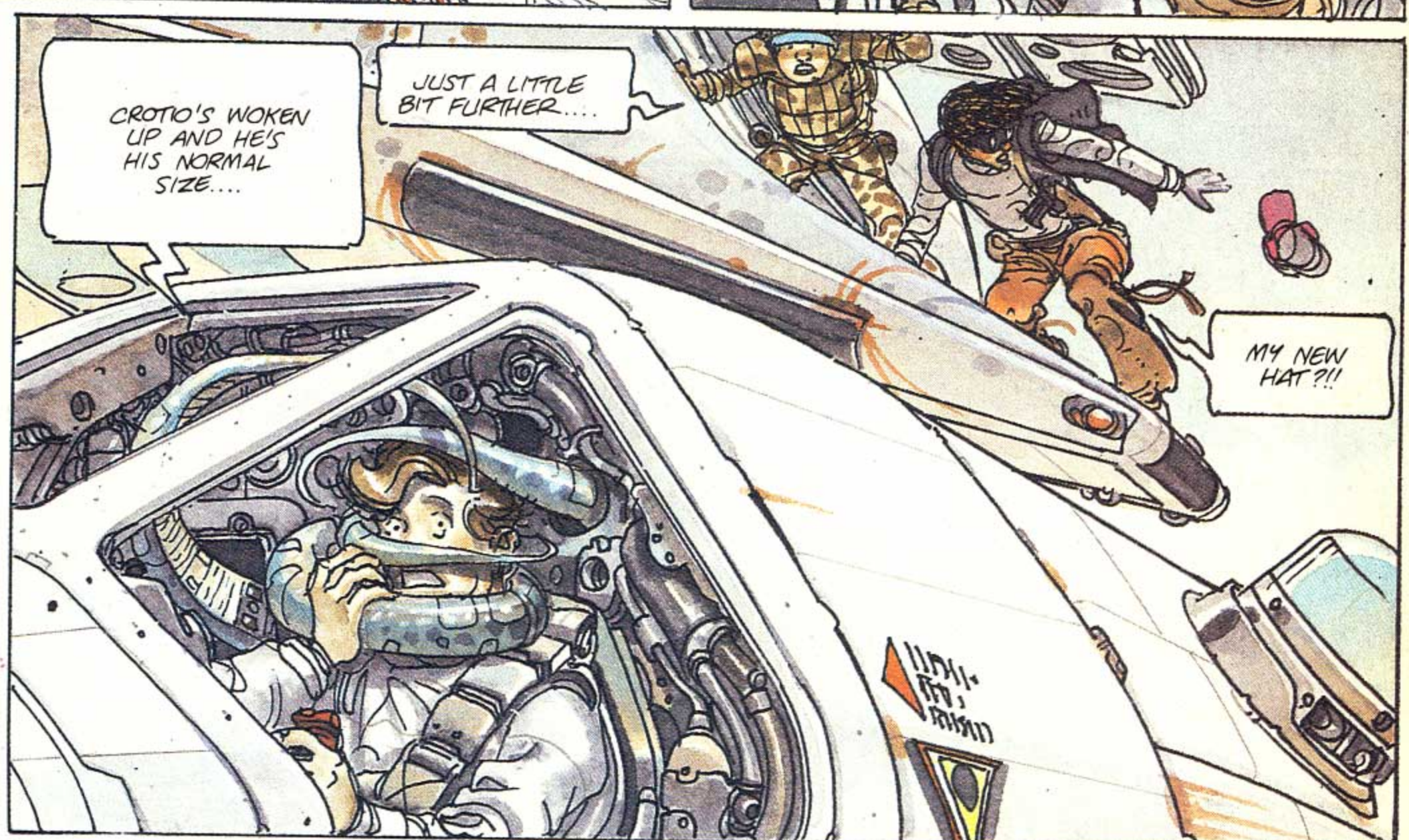
HERE ARE SOME PILLS
AGAINST YOUR VERTIGO.....
GO ON... OUT!

OKAY,
BOSS!!

I'M
READY,
BOSS!



OH GOD! NO!
CROTIO....



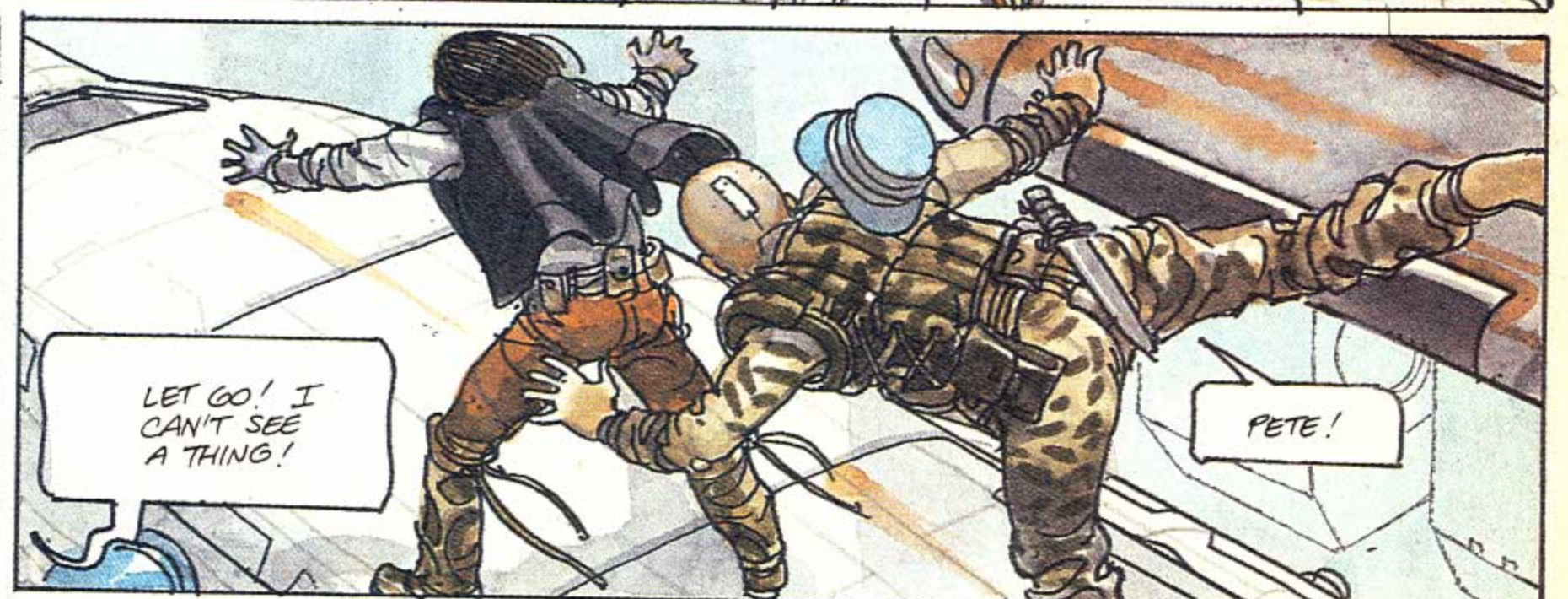
CROTIO'S WOKEN
UP AND HE'S
HIS NORMAL
SIZE....

JUST A LITTLE
BIT FURTHER....

MY NEW
HAT?!!



THIS IS NO TIME
TO START PLAYING,
LET GO OF ME!



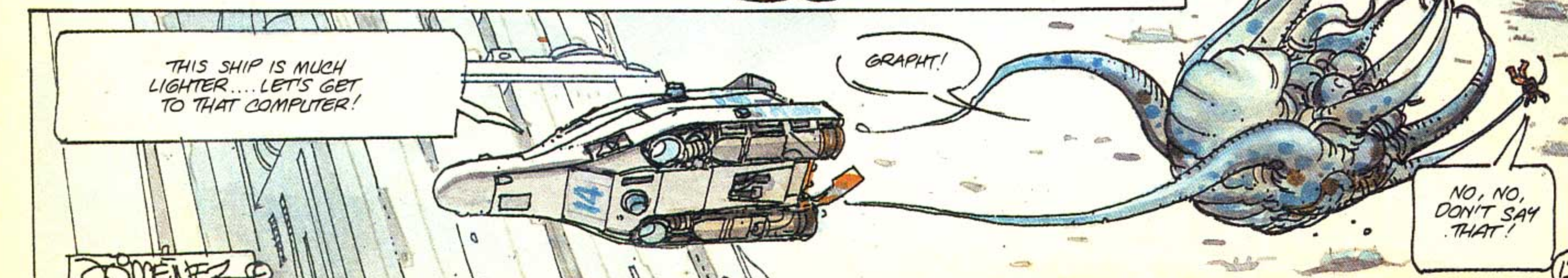
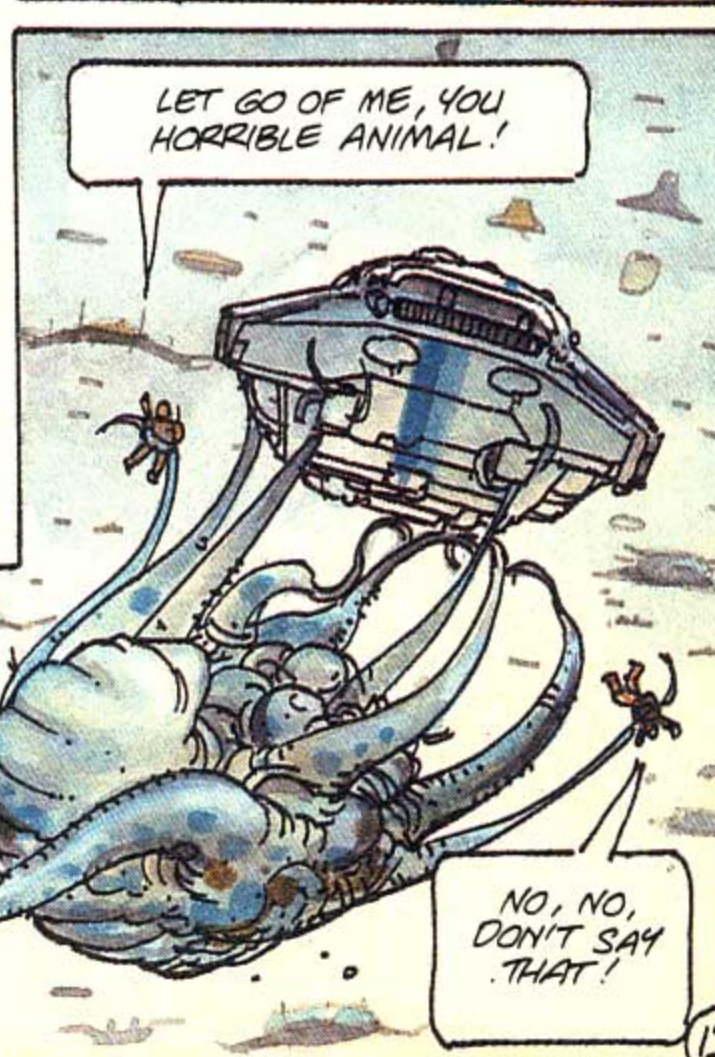
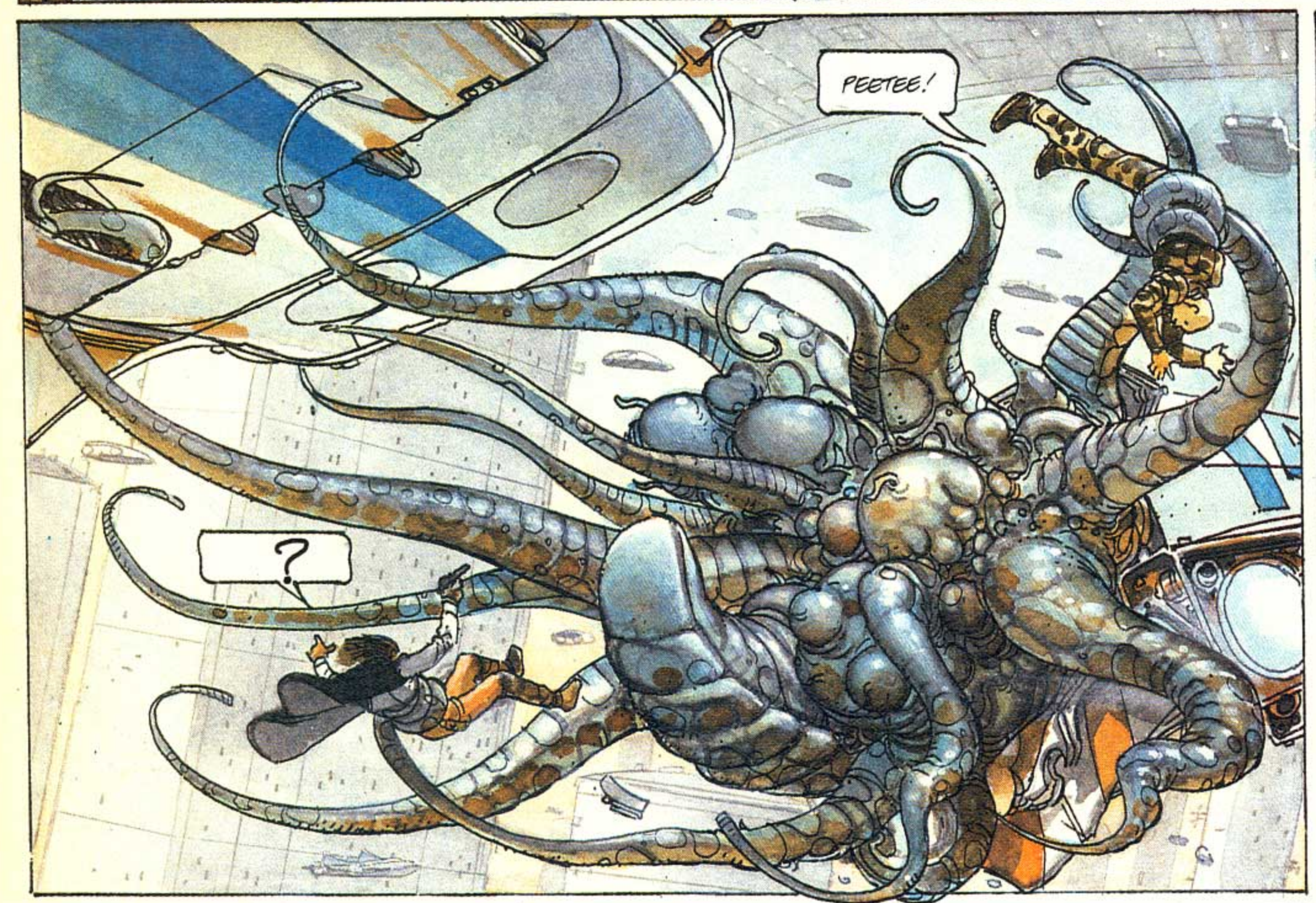
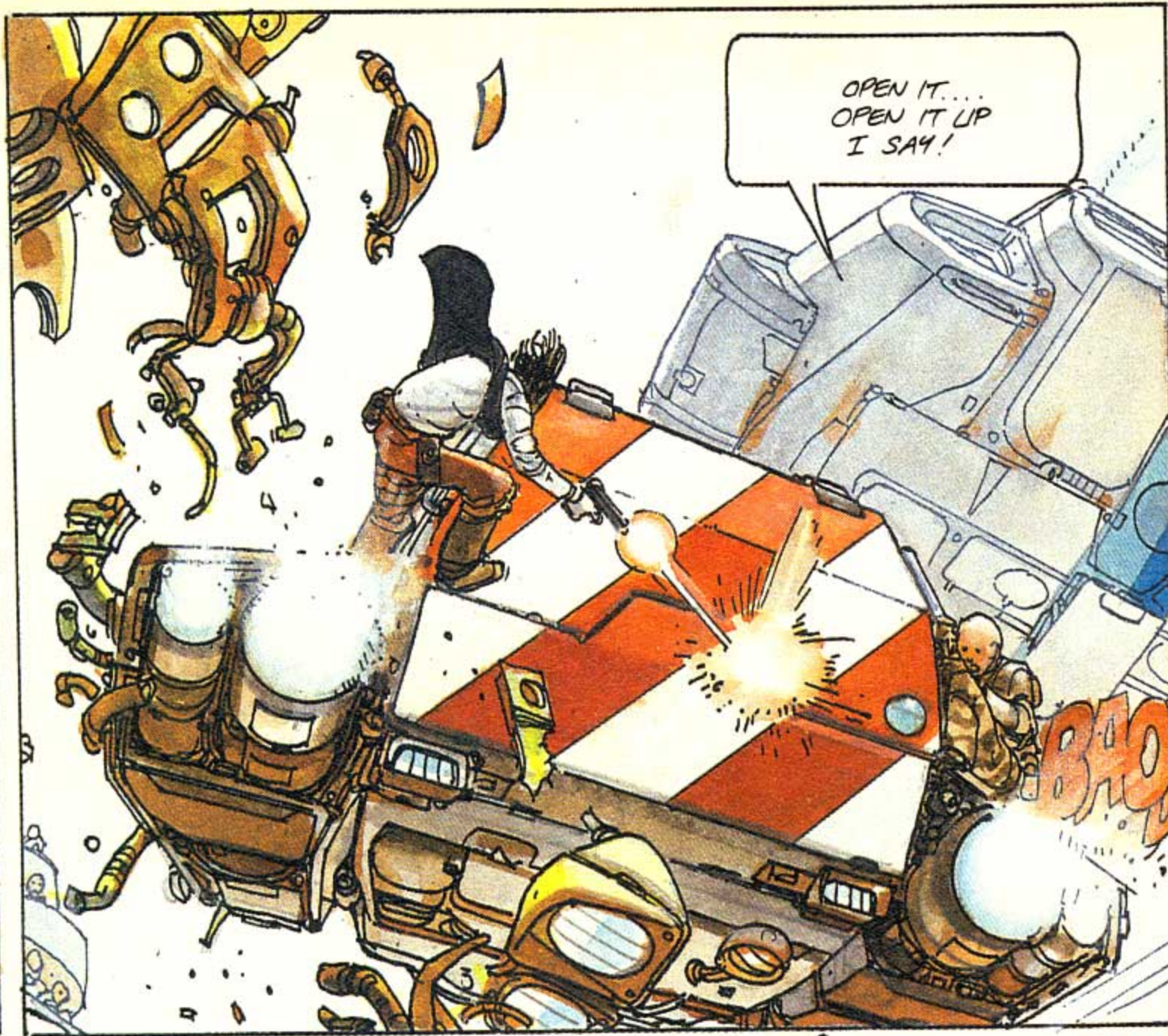
LET GO! I
CAN'T SEE
A THING!

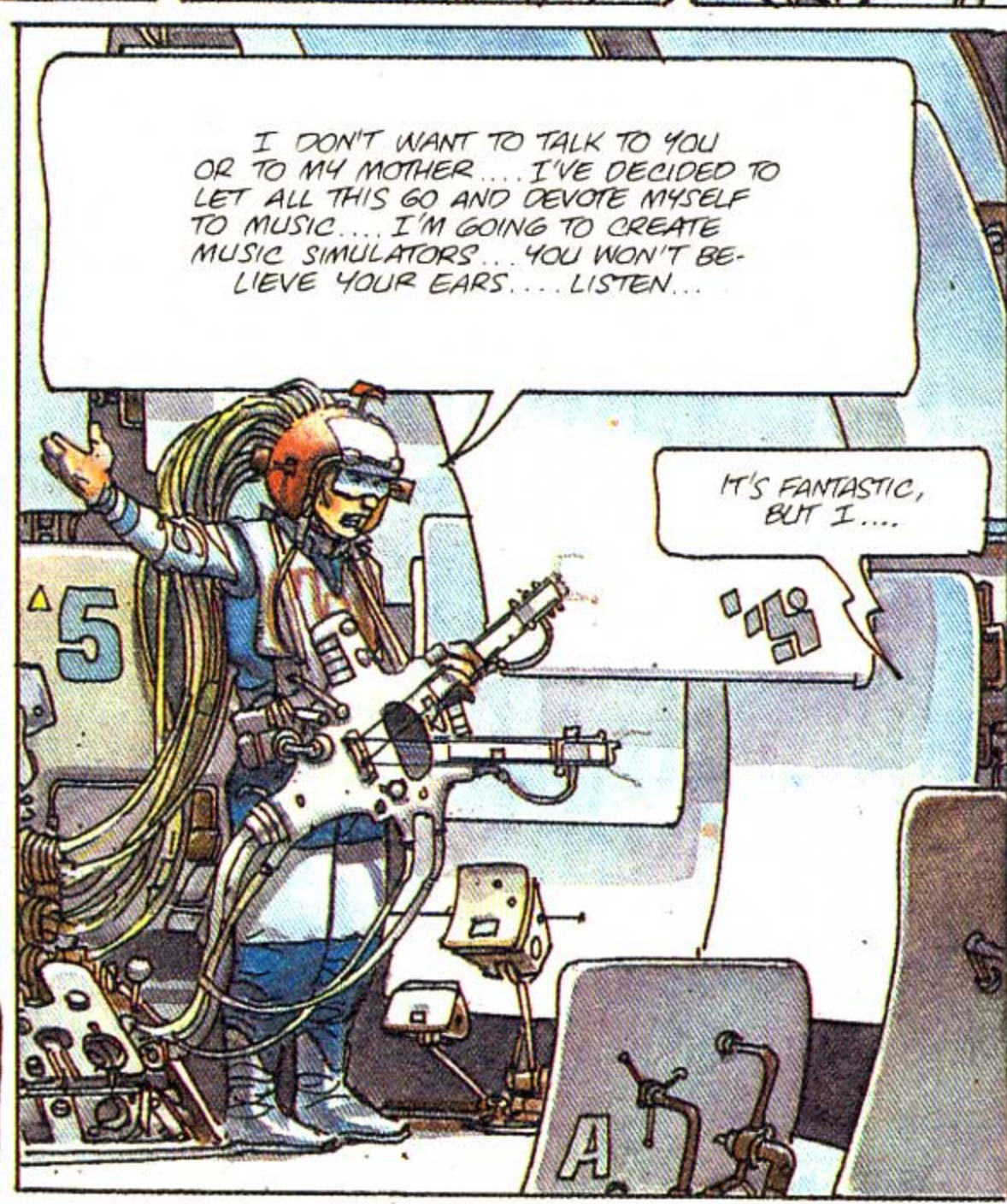
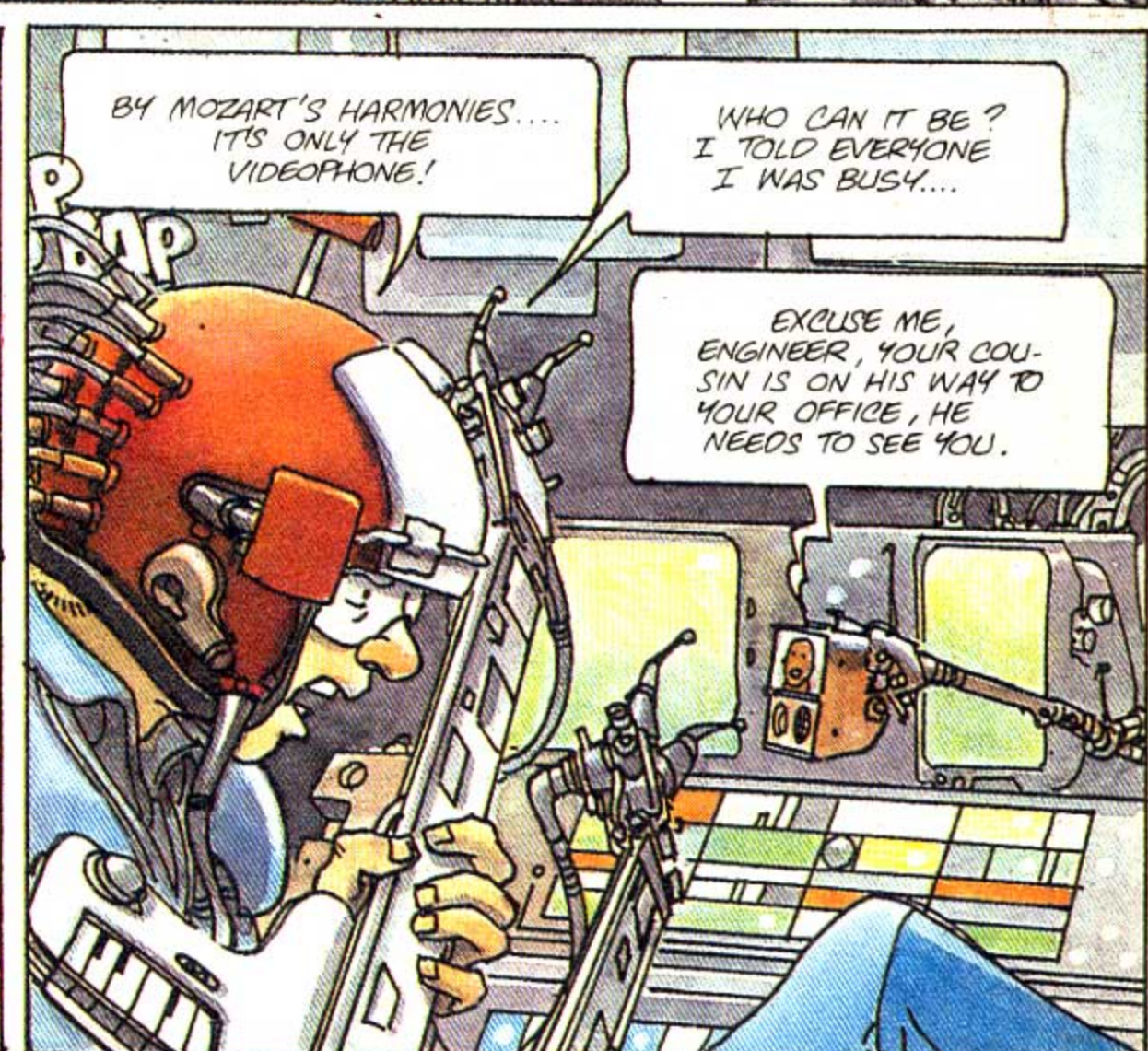
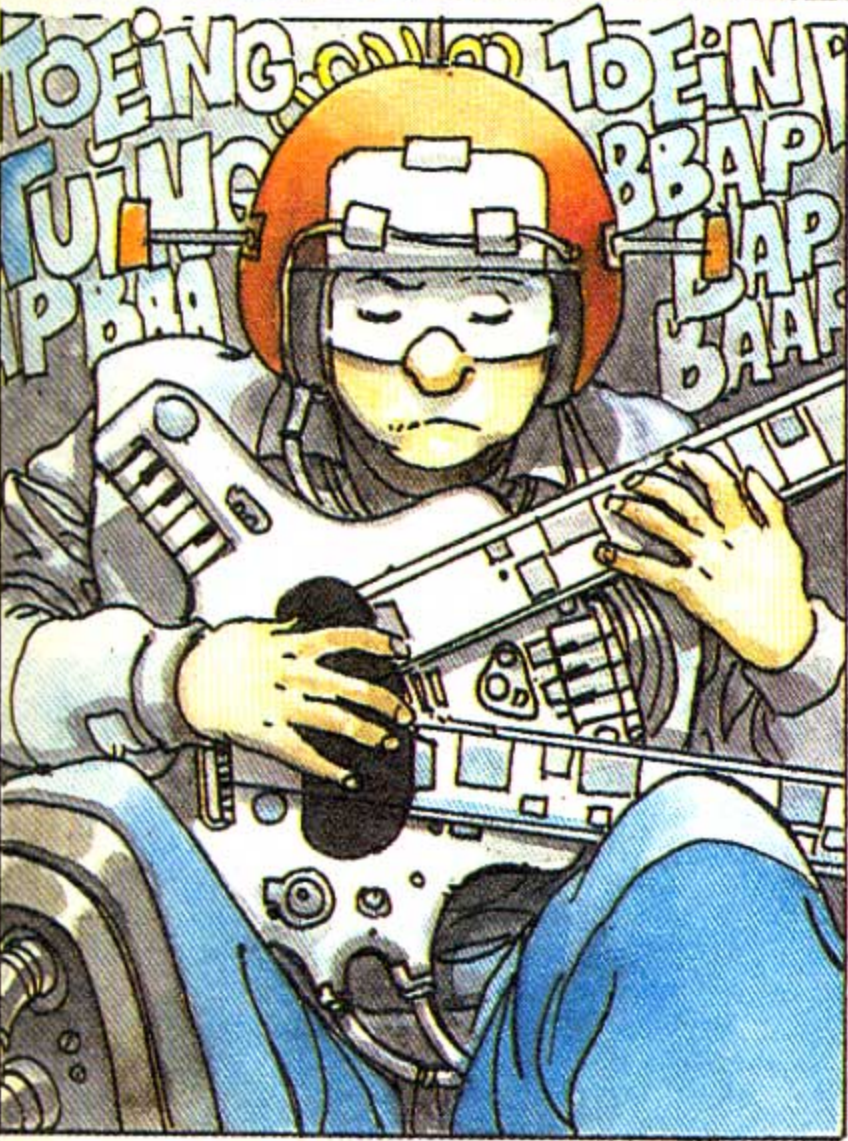
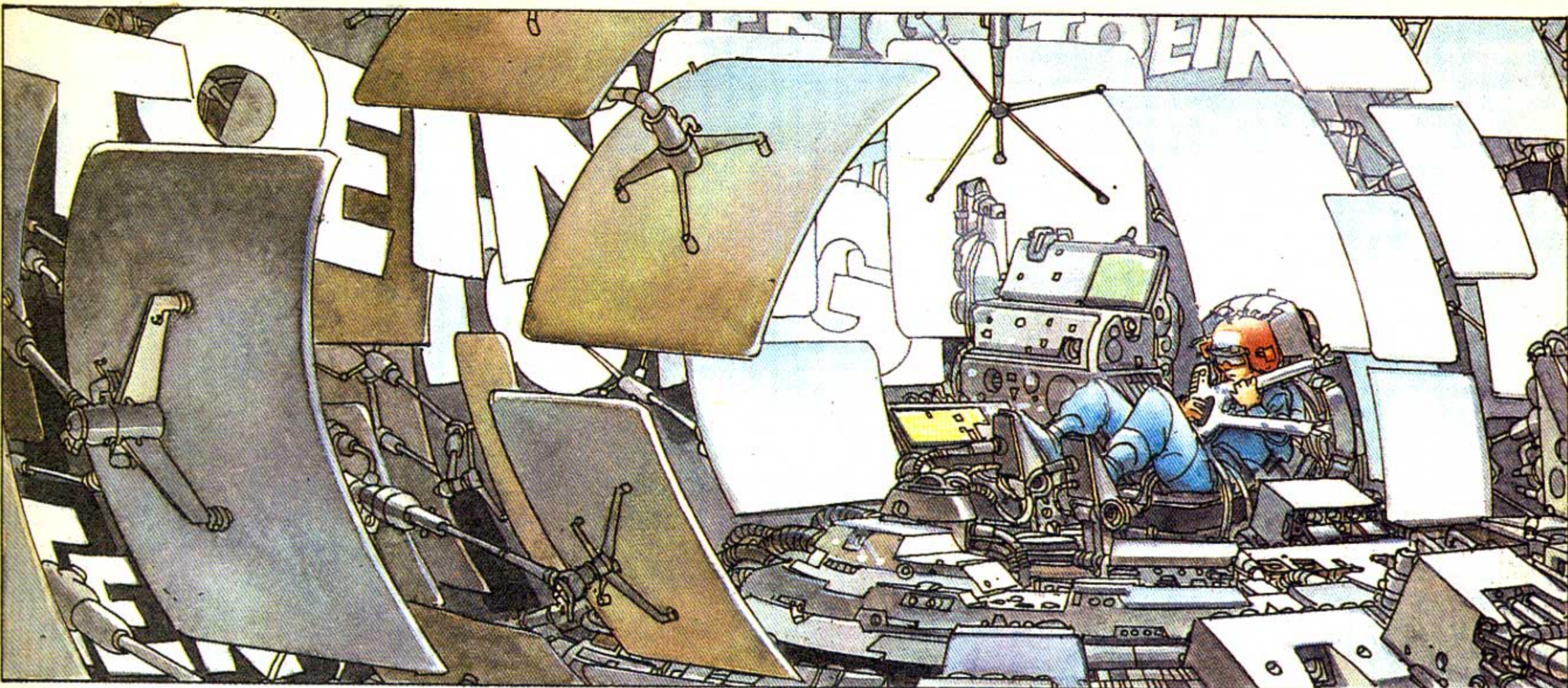
PETE!

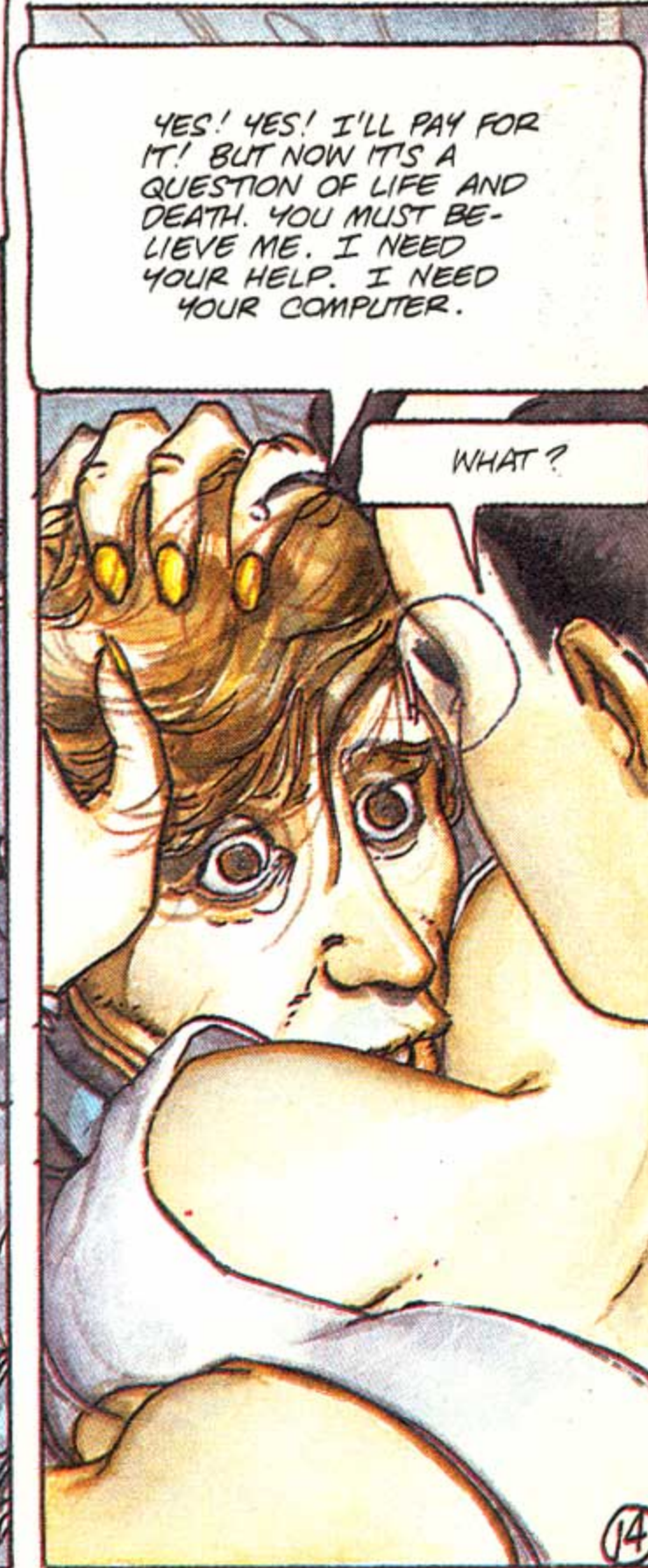
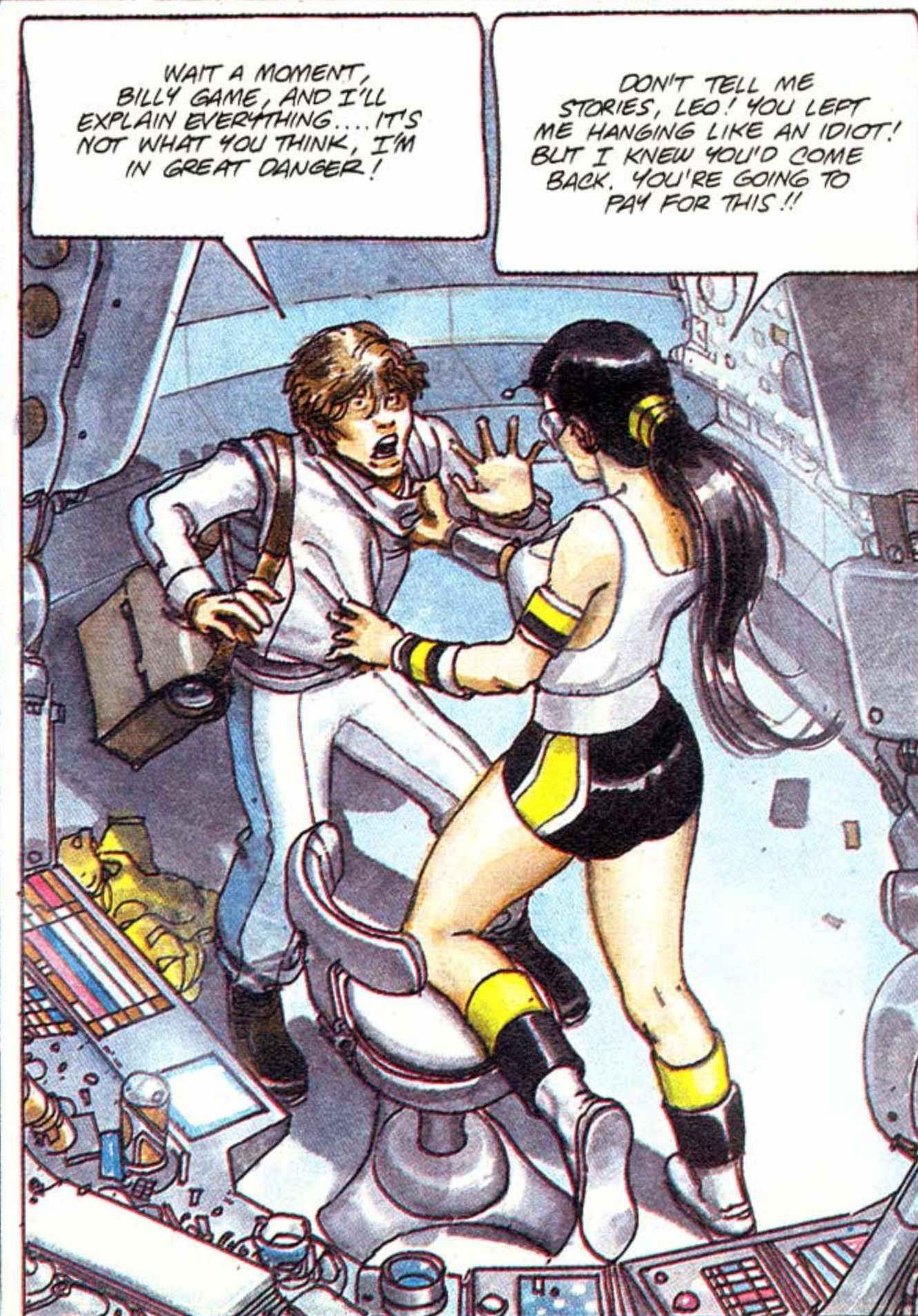
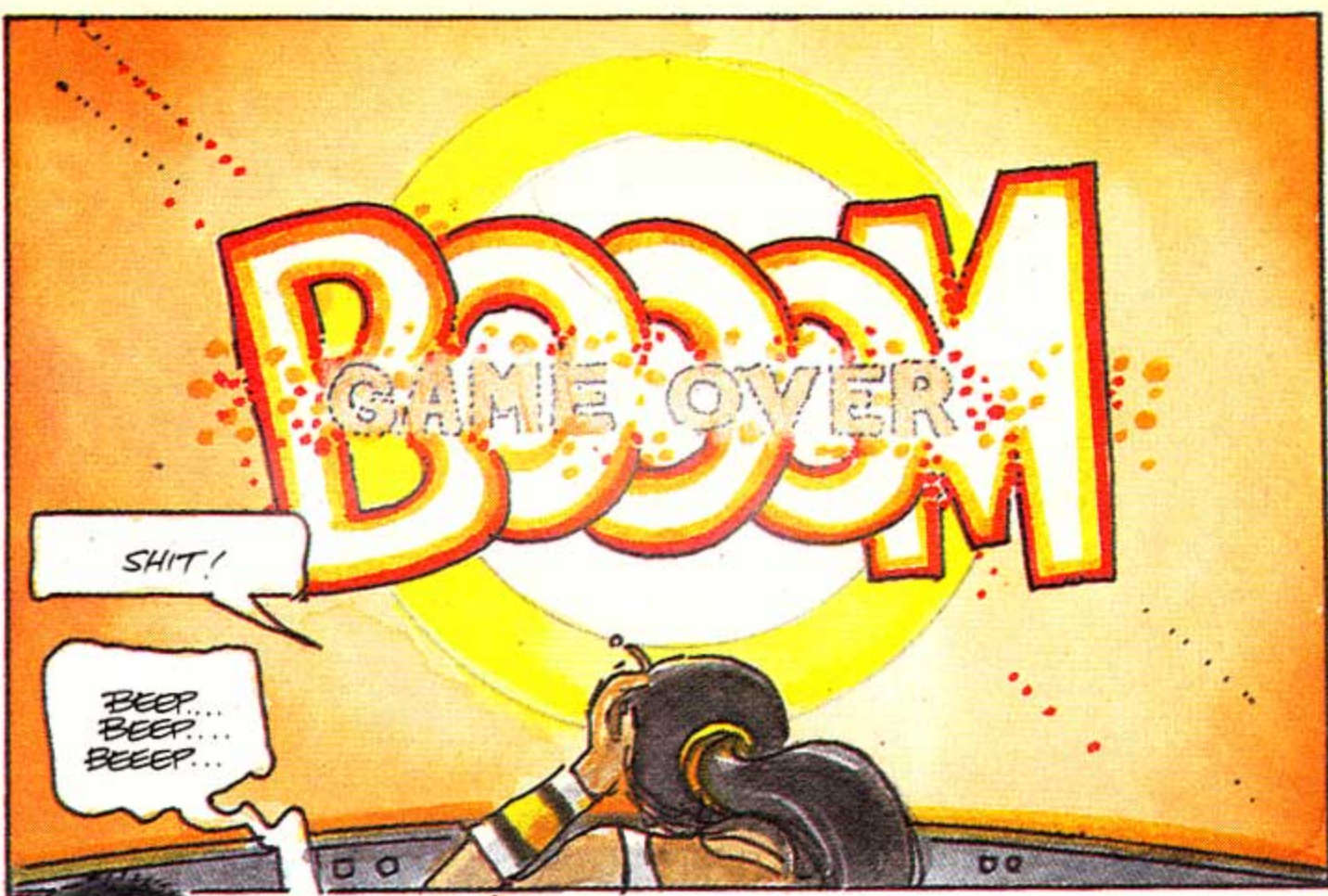
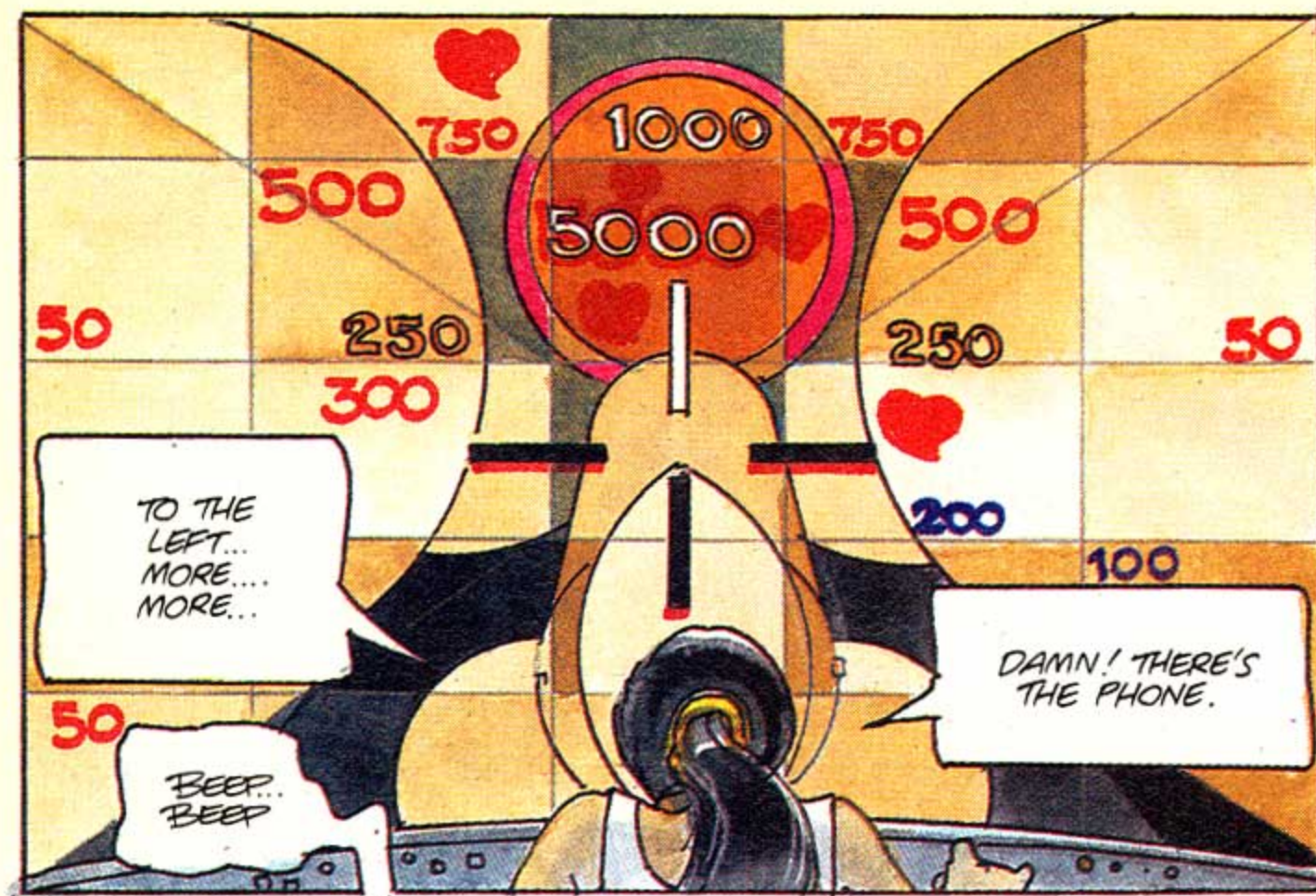


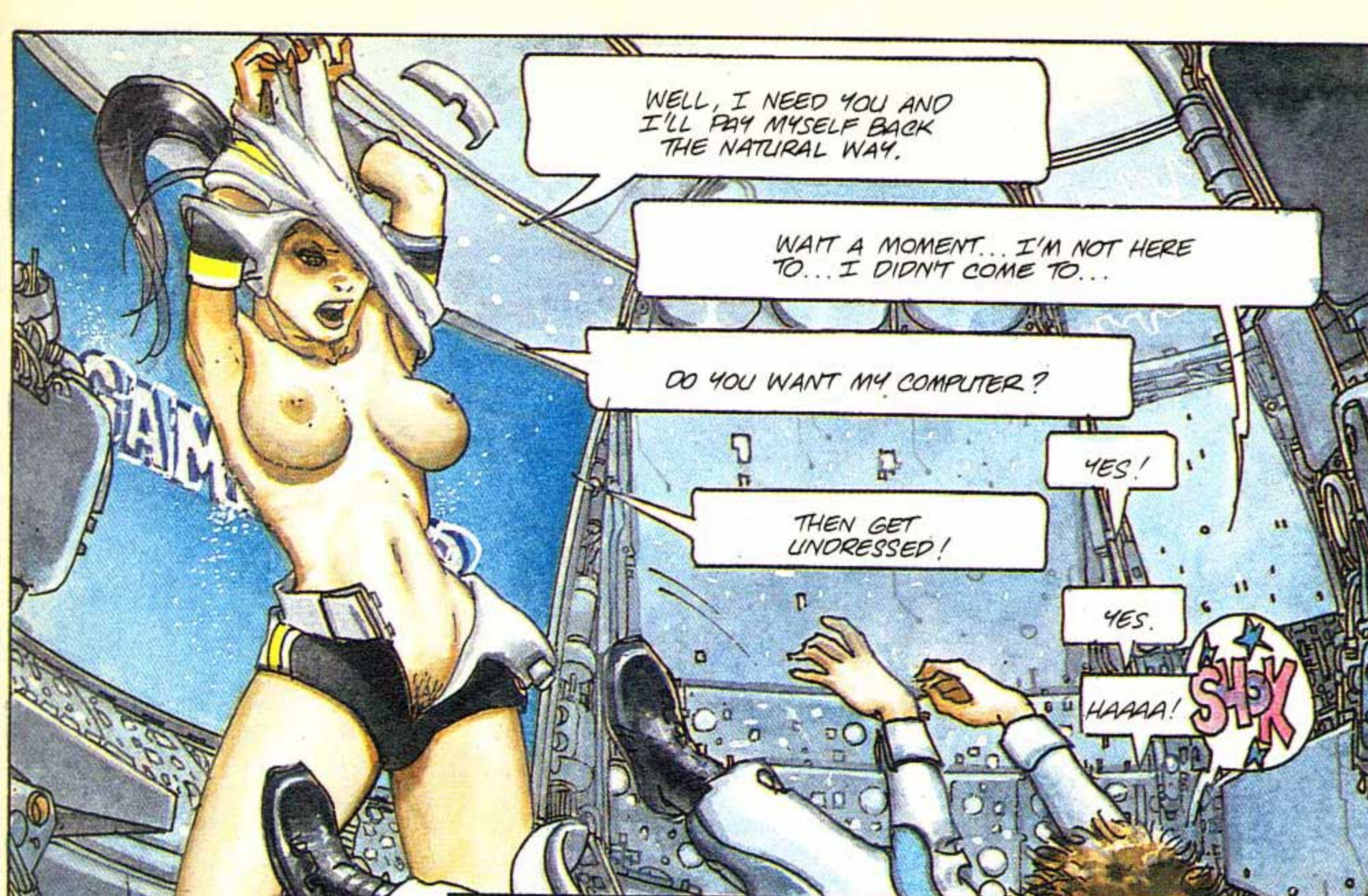
ALL RIGHT....HERE'S
THE TRAP DOOR....
HURRY, GET IN
THERE!

PEETEE!





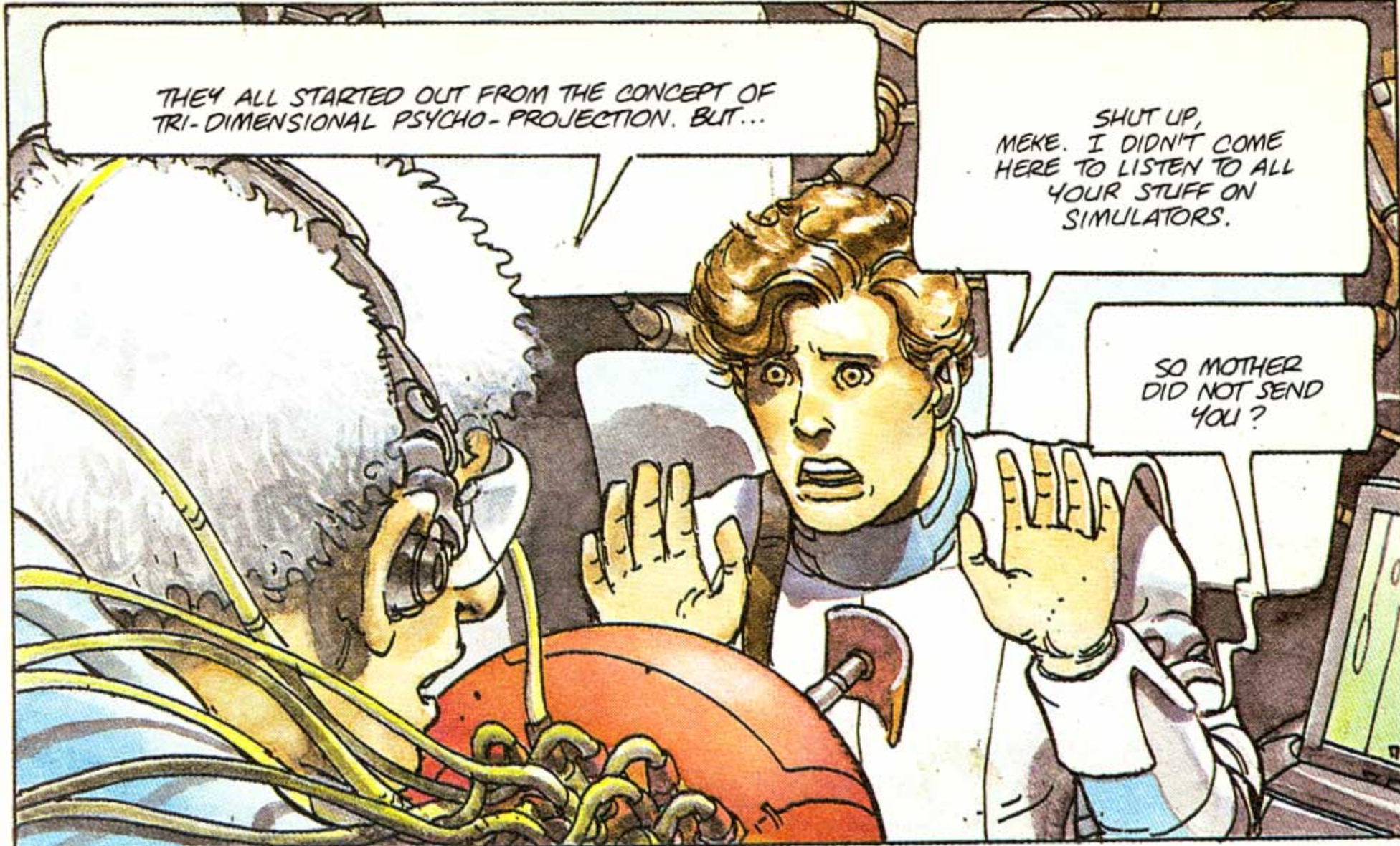






...DO YOU REMEMBER THAT SIMULATOR THAT I CREATED TO PILOT CARGO SHIPS? AND THE ONE FOR COMBAT SHIPS BELOW A TEN ATMOSPHERE PRESSURE? WELL....

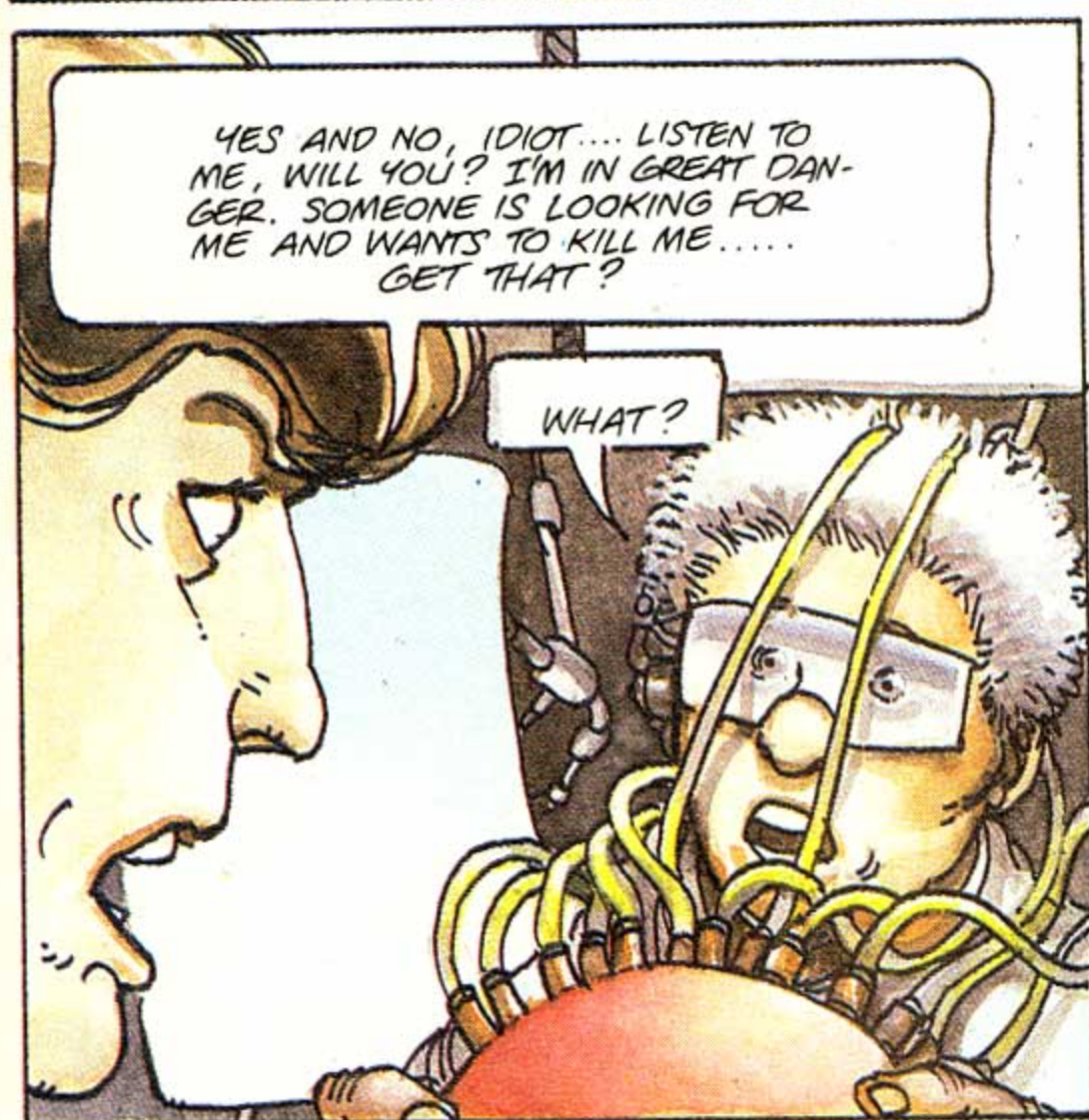
I....



THEY ALL STARTED OUT FROM THE CONCEPT OF TRI-DIMENSIONAL PSYCHO-PROJECTION. BUT...

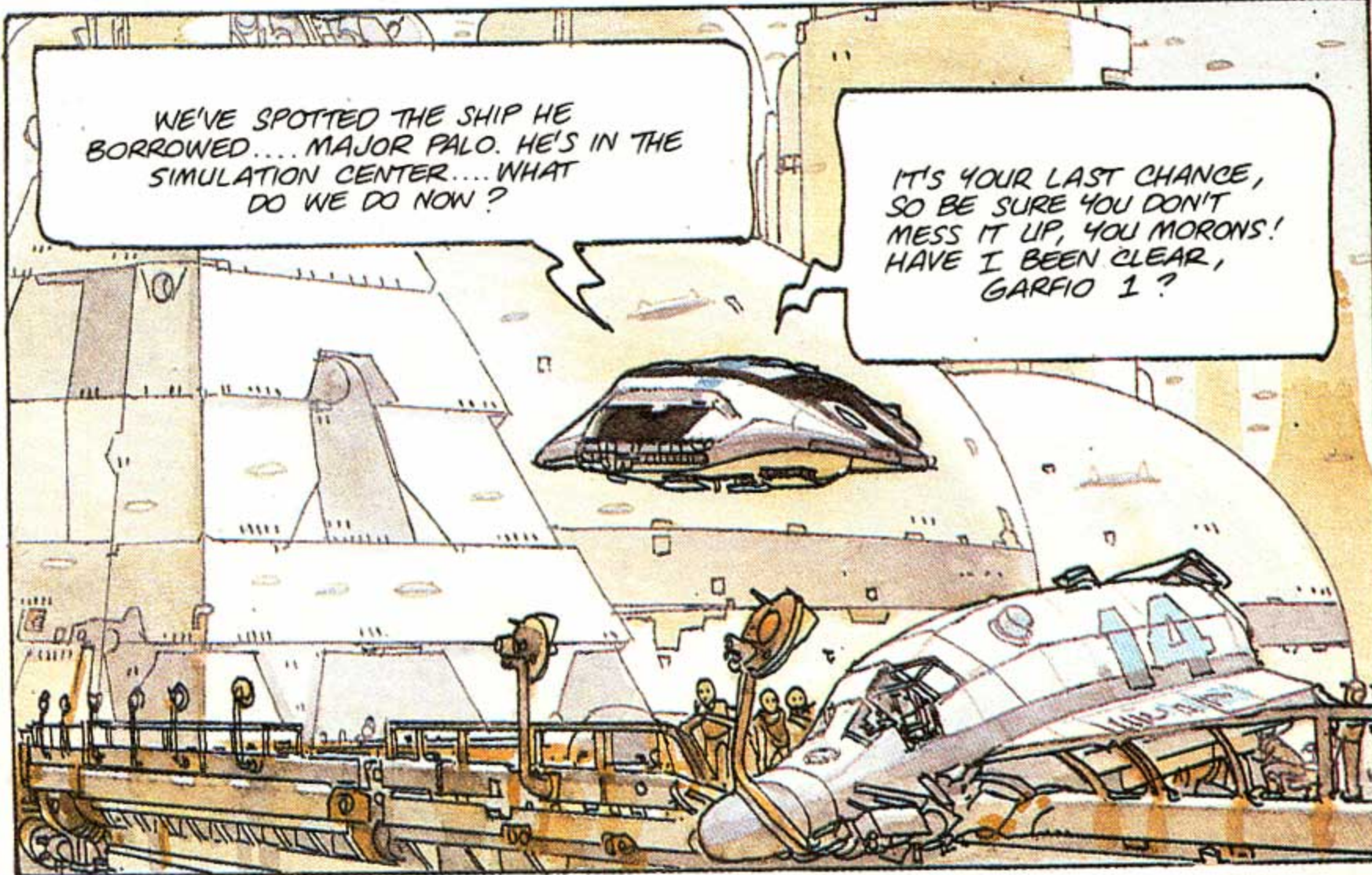
SHUT UP, MEKE. I DIDN'T COME HERE TO LISTEN TO ALL YOUR STUFF ON SIMULATORS.

SO MOTHER DID NOT SEND YOU?



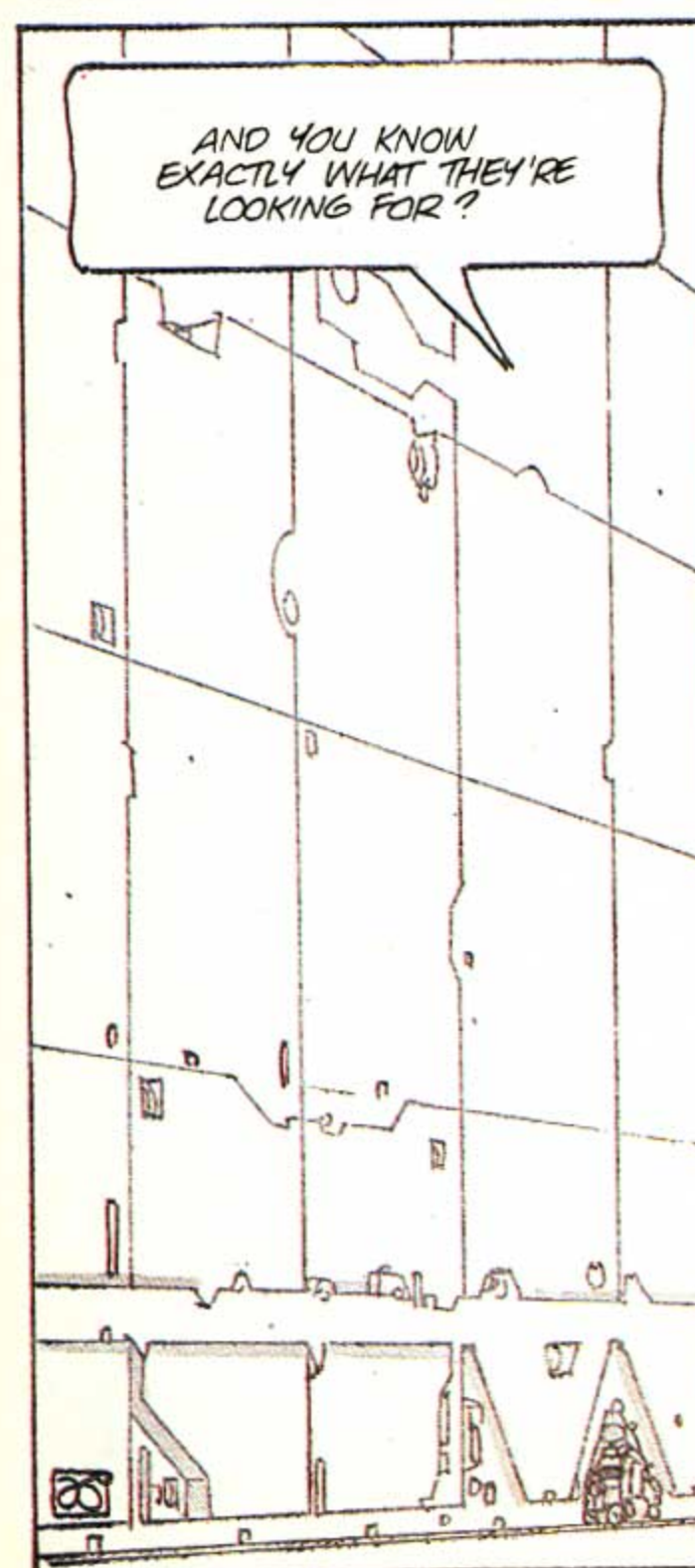
YES AND NO, IDIOT.... LISTEN TO ME, WILL YOU? I'M IN GREAT DANGER. SOMEONE IS LOOKING FOR ME AND WANTS TO KILL ME..... GET THAT?

WHAT?



WE'VE SPOTTED THE SHIP HE BORROWED.... MAJOR PALO. HE'S IN THE SIMULATION CENTER.... WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

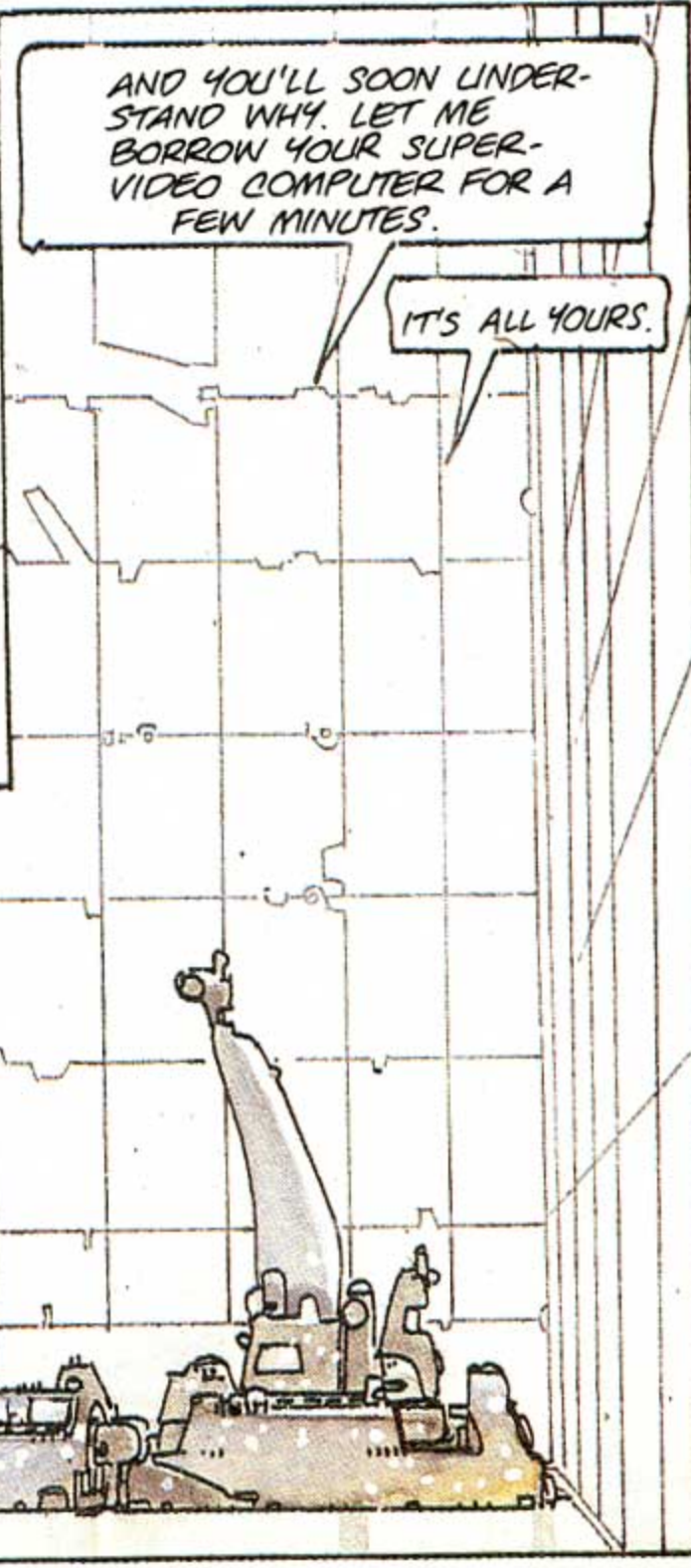
IT'S YOUR LAST CHANCE, SO BE SURE YOU DON'T MESS IT UP, YOU MORONS! HAVE I BEEN CLEAR, GARFIO 1?



AND YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR?

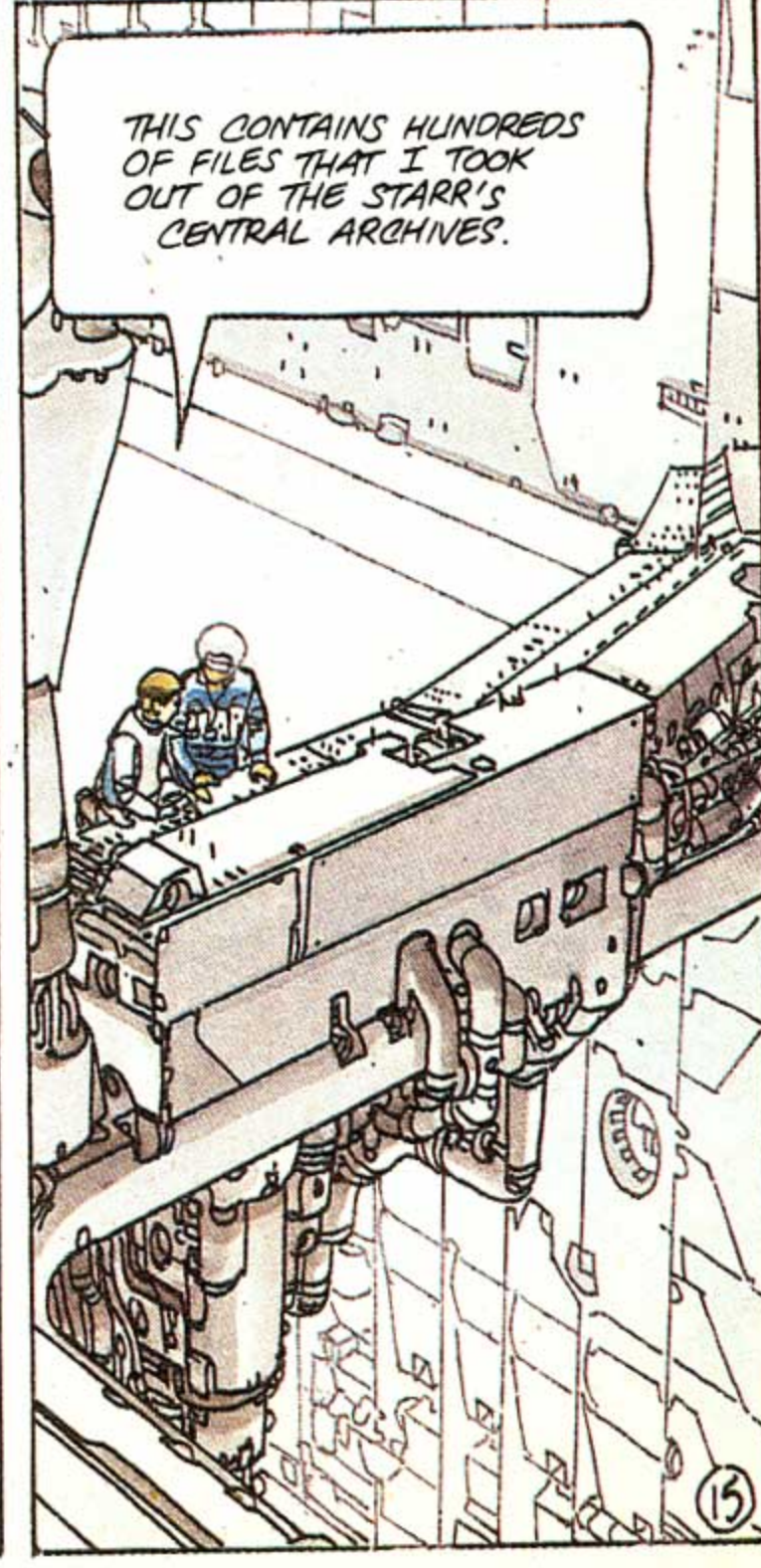


YES, I'M PRETTY SURE I'M RIGHT. THEY'RE LOOKING FOR THIS.



AND YOU'LL SOON UNDERSTAND WHY. LET ME BORROW YOUR SUPER-VIDEO COMPUTER FOR A FEW MINUTES.

IT'S ALL YOURS.



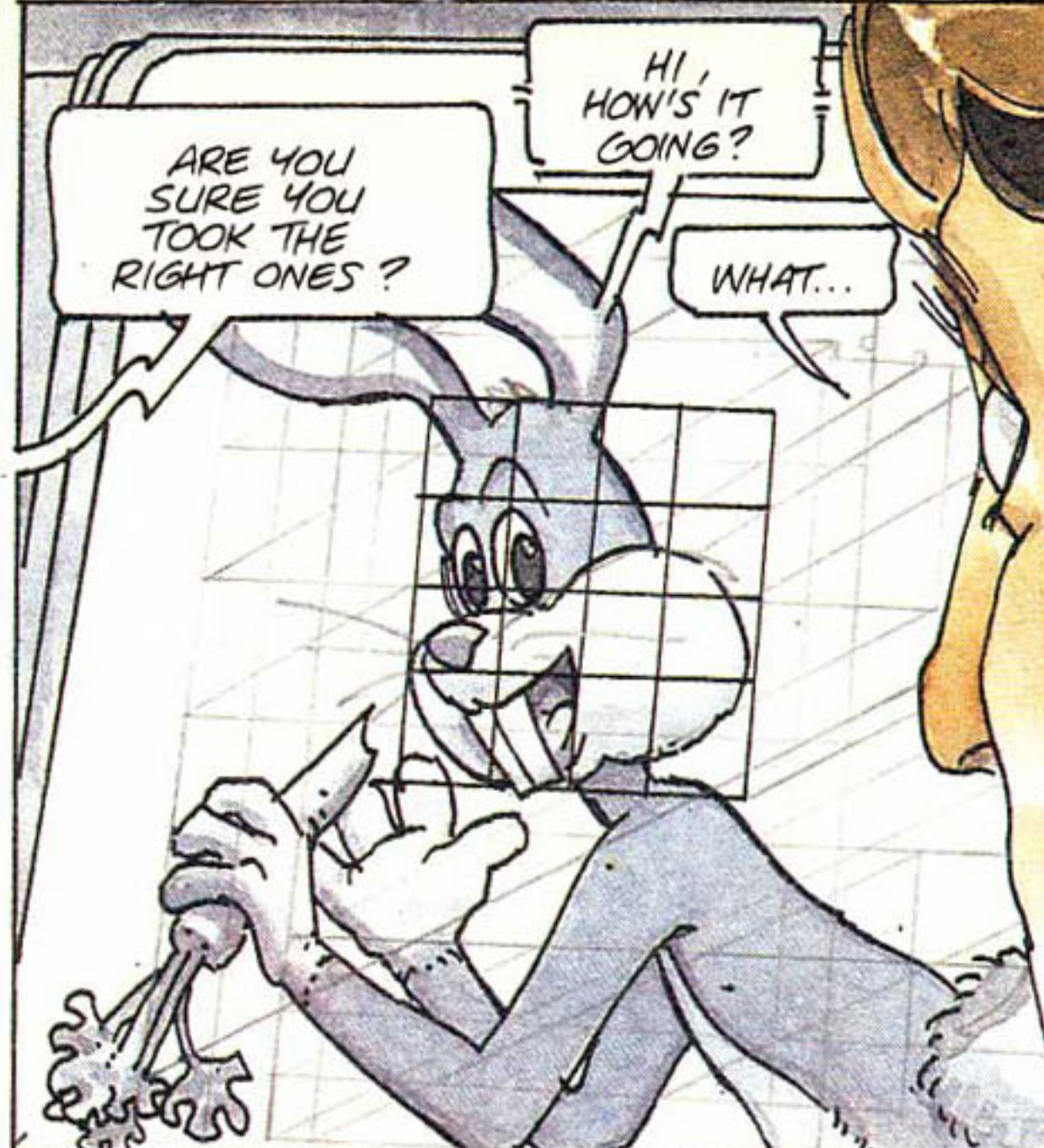
THIS CONTAINS HUNDREDS OF FILES THAT I TOOK OUT OF THE STARR'S CENTRAL ARCHIVES.



I BEGAN WITH AN ARTICLE WRITTEN SEVERAL YEARS AGO ABOUT THAT CAPTAIN WHO HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY DRAKE'S PIRATE SHIPS.

YOU CAN BEGIN NOW.

BEEP!



ARE YOU SURE YOU TOOK THE RIGHT ONES?

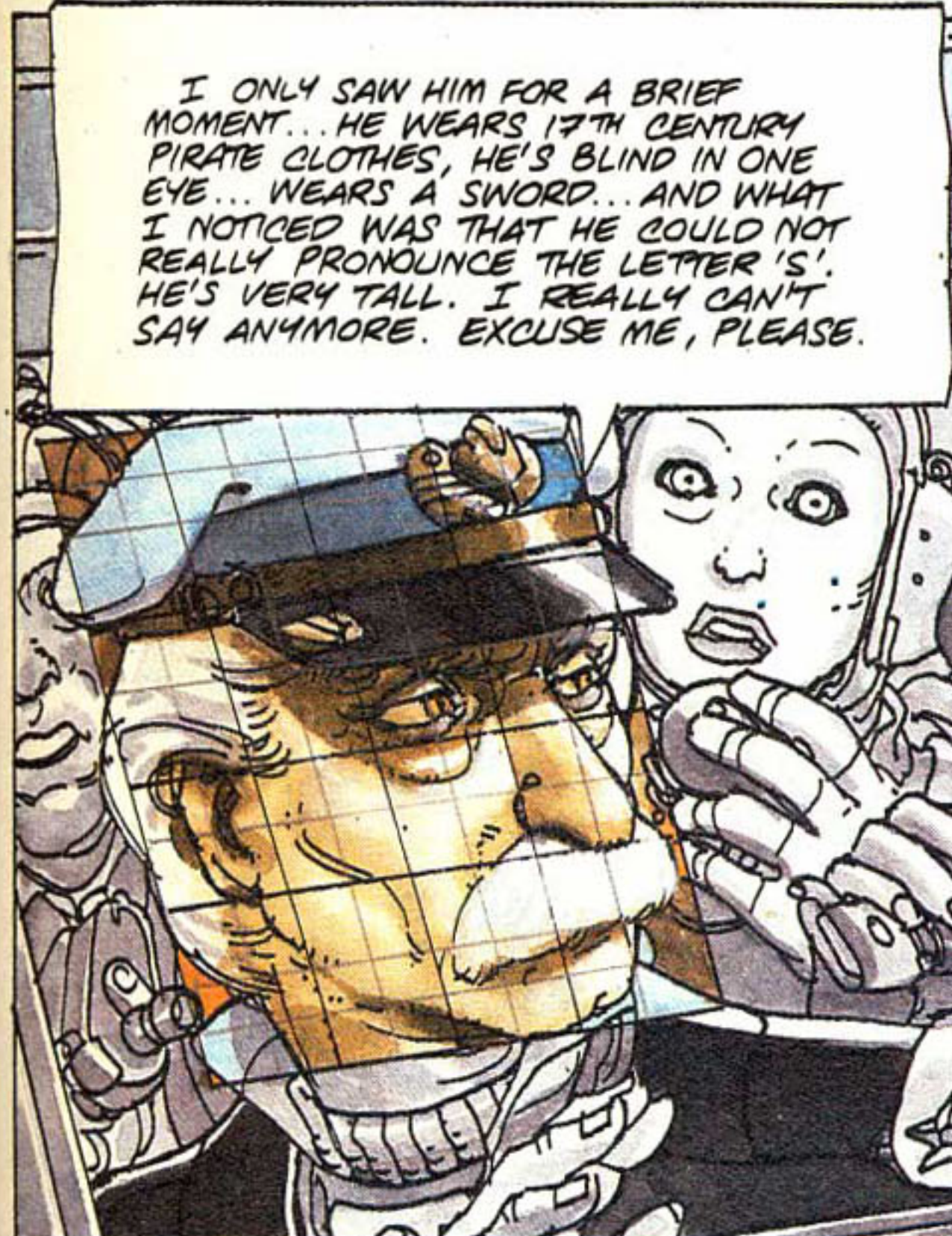
HI, HOW'S IT GOING?

WHAT...



OUR STUFF MUST BE FURTHER ALONG ON THE TAPE.

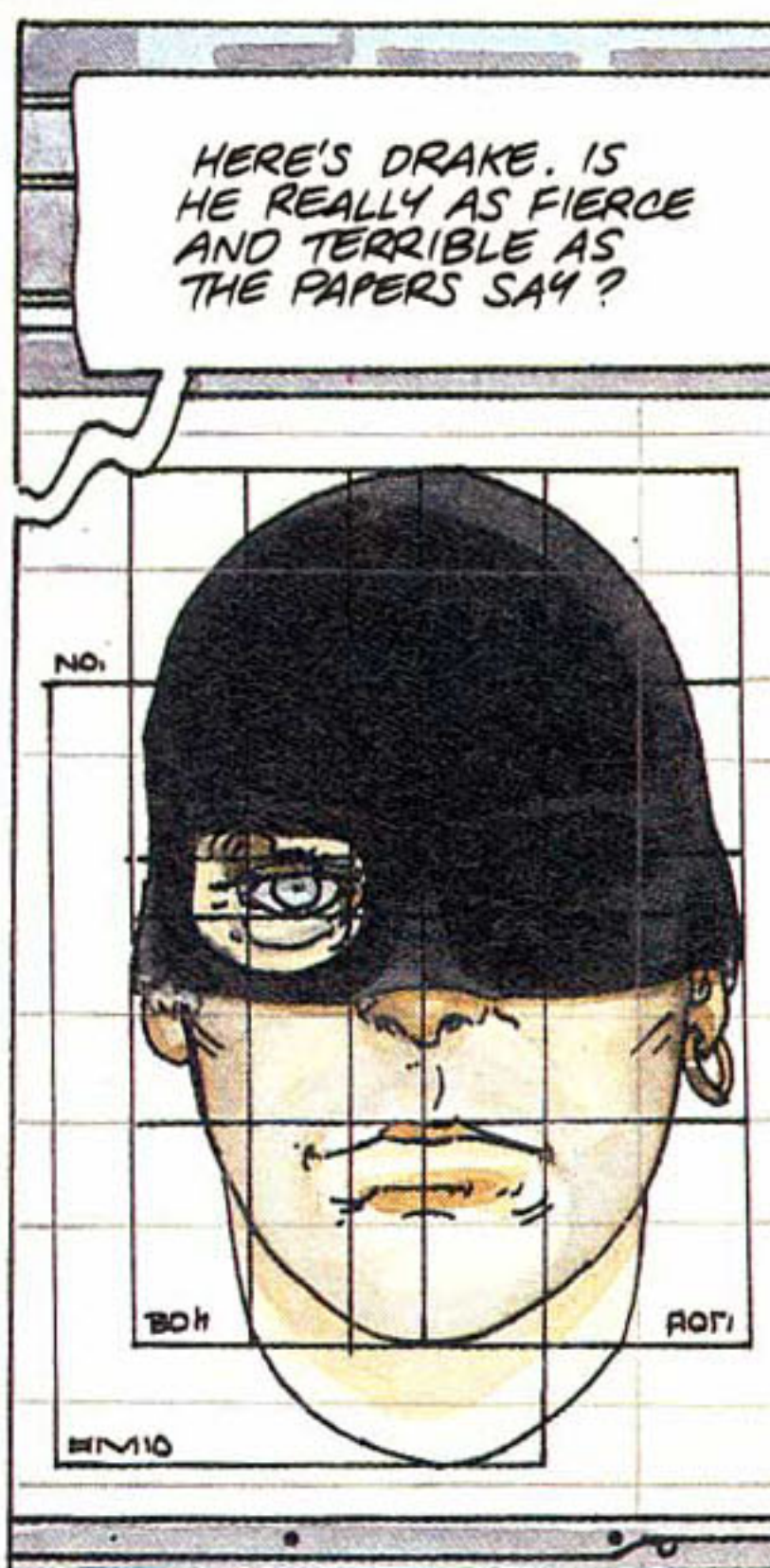
OKAY!



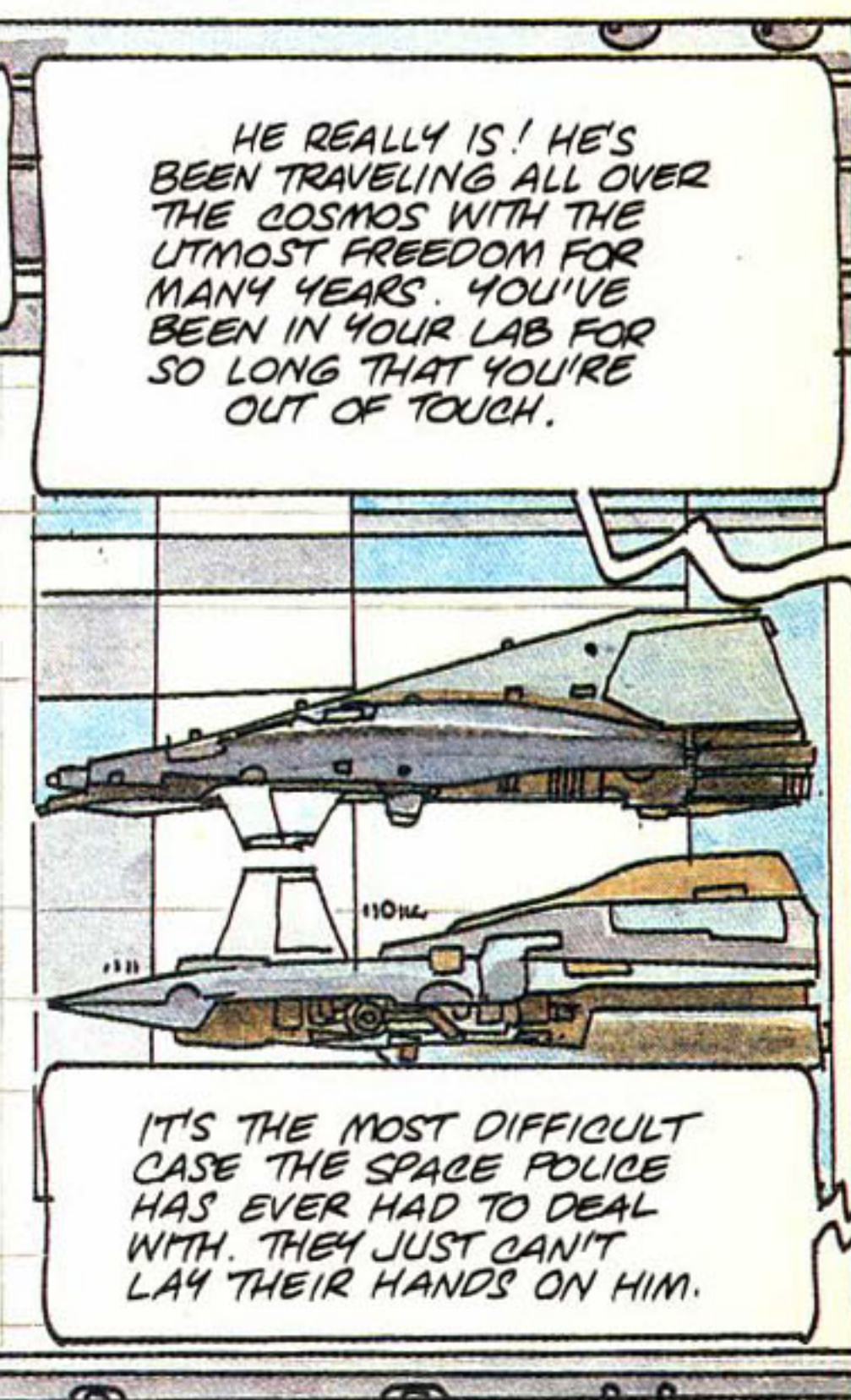
I ONLY SAW HIM FOR A BRIEF MOMENT... HE WEARS 17TH CENTURY PIRATE CLOTHES, HE'S BLIND IN ONE EYE... WEARS A SWORD... AND WHAT I NOTICED WAS THAT HE COULD NOT REALLY PRONOUNCE THE LETTER 'S'. HE'S VERY TALL. I REALLY CAN'T SAY ANYMORE. EXCUSE ME, PLEASE.



IT'S NOT A LOT TO GO ON, BUT THANK YOU FOR THE INTERVIEW YOU'VE GIVEN THE STARR.

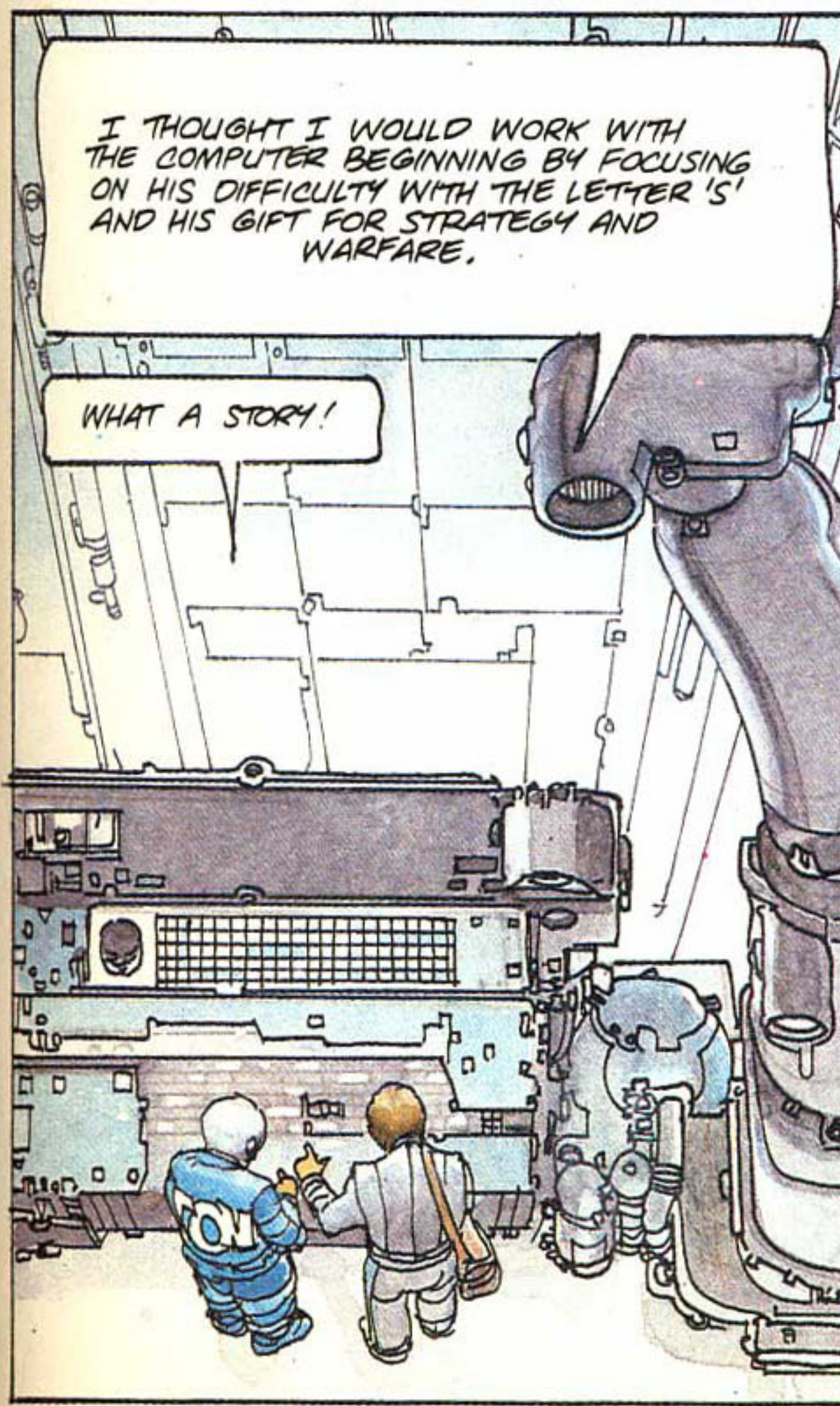


HERE'S DRAKE. IS HE REALLY AS FIERCE AND TERRIBLE AS THE PAPERS SAY?



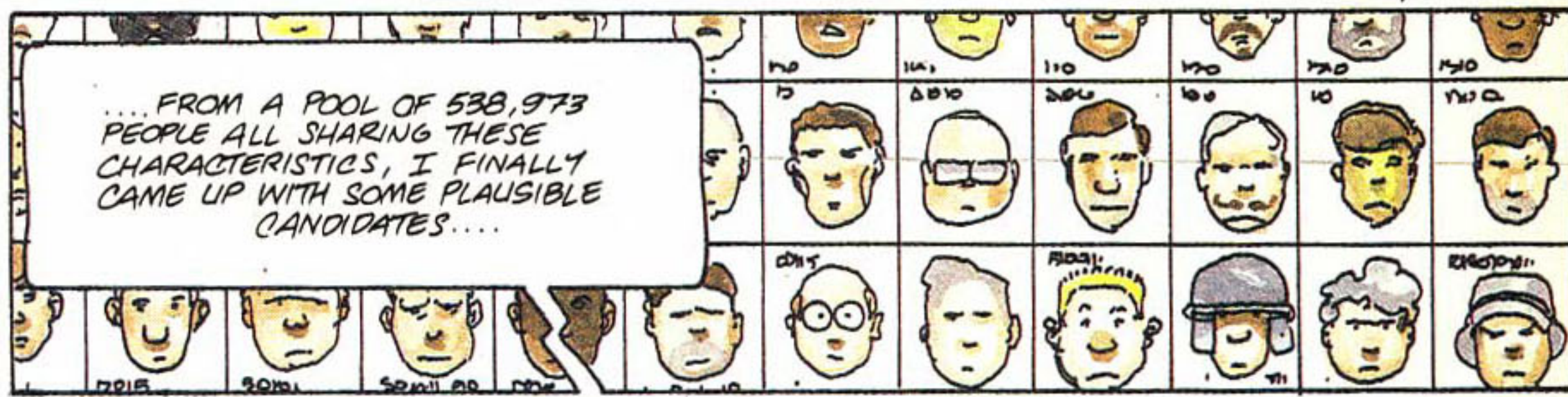
HE REALLY IS! HE'S BEEN TRAVELING ALL OVER THE COSMOS WITH THE UTMOST FREEDOM FOR MANY YEARS. YOU'VE BEEN IN YOUR LAB FOR SO LONG THAT YOU'RE OUT OF TOUCH.

IT'S THE MOST DIFFICULT CASE THE SPACE POLICE HAS EVER HAD TO DEAL WITH. THEY JUST CAN'T LAY THEIR HANDS ON HIM.



I THOUGHT I WOULD WORK WITH THE COMPUTER BEGINNING BY FOCUSING ON HIS DIFFICULTY WITH THE LETTER 'S' AND HIS GIFT FOR STRATEGY AND WARFARE.

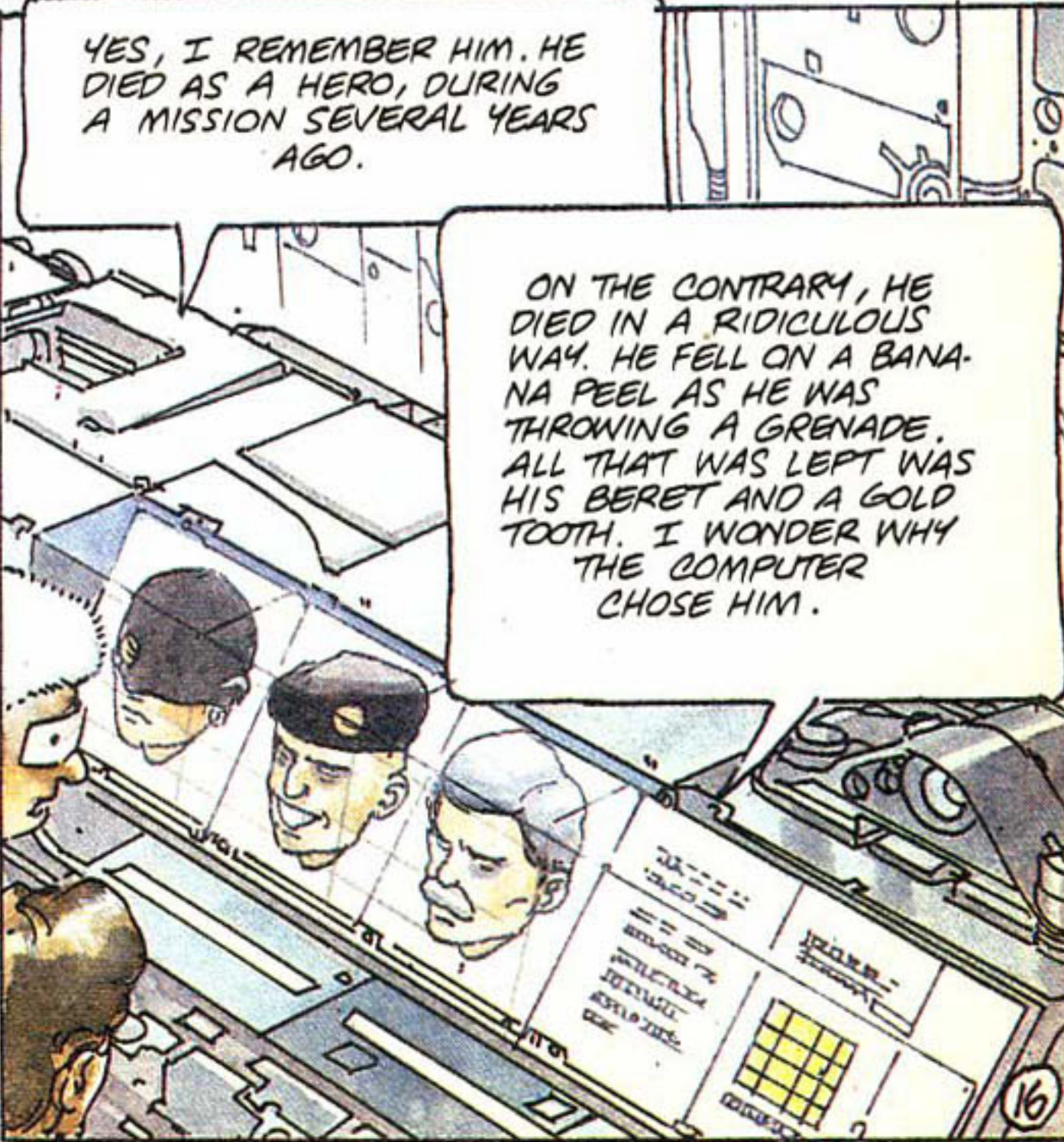
WHAT A STORY!



...FROM A POOL OF 538,973 PEOPLE ALL SHARING THESE CHARACTERISTICS, I FINALLY CAME UP WITH SOME PLAUSIBLE CANDIDATES...



THE FIRST IS MANNER CLANN, ALSO KNOWN AS BLACK BERET, THE FAMOUS MERCENARY SOLDIER WHO FOUGHT SO WELL DURING THE WAR AGAINST THE KROMIOS.



YES, I REMEMBER HIM. HE DIED AS A HERO, DURING A MISSION SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

ON THE CONTRARY, HE DIED IN A RIDICULOUS WAY. HE FELL ON A BANANA PEEL AS HE WAS THROWING A GRENADE. ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS HIS BERET AND A GOLD TOOTH. I WONDER WHY THE COMPUTER CHOSE HIM.

YOU DON'T NEED TO INTRO-
DUCE ME TO FERDINAND KEMPTON,
HE'S ONE OF THE RICHEST
SHIPBUILDERS
IN THE COSMOS.

BUT WHAT CAN SUCH A RESPECTABLE
AND RESPECTED PERSON HAVE TO DO
WITH BERET AND DRAKE? COULD
THEY BE THE SAME PERSON?

THAT'S WHAT I
WANT TO FIND OUT.
WHY DID THE COMPUTER
ASSOCIATE THOSE TWO
WITH KEMPTON?

THEY ALL HAD
A PROBLEM
WITH THEIR 'S'S.

KEMPTON APPEARED
ON THE SCENE AFTER
BERET'S DEATH AND
DRAKE'S FIRST FORAYS.

ZOOM IN
ON THEIR
LEFT EARS.

HERE THEY ARE.... ONLY DRAKE AND BERET WEAR AN EARRING,
KEMPTON DOESN'T HAVE ONE.

YEAH, BUT....
ZOOM IN
FURTHER ON
KEMPTON'S
EAR..

DRAKE

BERET

KEMPTON

TEN
THOUSAND
DECIBELS!
HIS EAR IS
PIERCED!

REALLY
INTERESTING.
NOW I HAVE
NO MORE
DOUBTS.

EVEN THOUGH I
STILL HAVE TO CHECK A
FEW DETAILS, I CAN
CERTAINLY REPORT ON
THIS FOR THE STARR....
IT WILL BE THE GREATEST
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING
PIECE OF THE
CENTURY!

SHOULDN'T
WE WARN
THE
POLICE?

TAYLOR...
THE INSPECTOR... I
COMPLETELY FORGOT
ABOUT THAT.
CAN YOU TAKE
ME OVER
THERE, MEKE?
I HAVE TO
GET BACK TO
THE ANIMAL
HOSPITAL.

SURE.

I'VE GOT TO SHUT DOWN
ANYWAY. THE PEOPLE FROM THE
SECOND FLOOR WILL BE HERE IN
A FEW MINUTES.... LET'S GO.
MY SPACEMOBILE IS
UPSTAIRS.

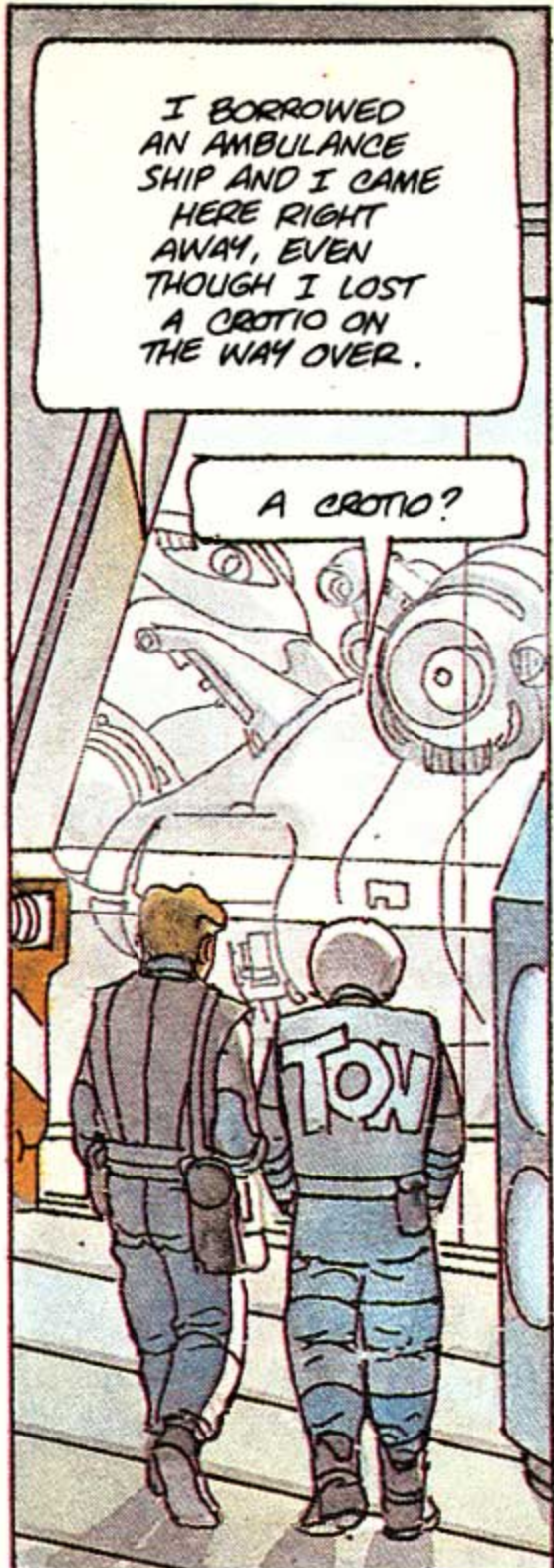
THANKS, MEKE,
I'LL NEVER
FORGET THIS!

NON-
SENSE!



LEO, ARE YOU SURE NO ONE FOLLOWED YOU HERE?

NO, OF COURSE NOT.



I BORROWED AN AMBULANCE SHIP AND I CAME HERE RIGHT AWAY, EVEN THOUGH I LOST A CROTIO ON THE WAY OVER.

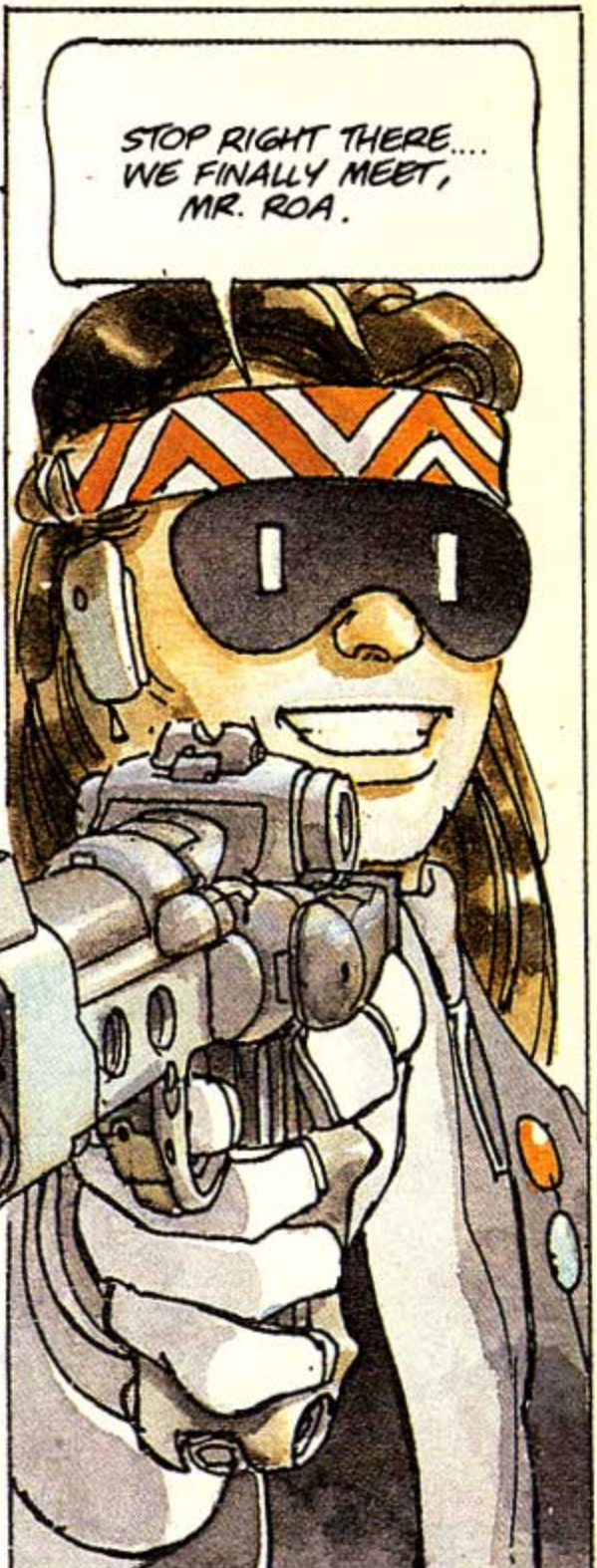
A CROTIO?



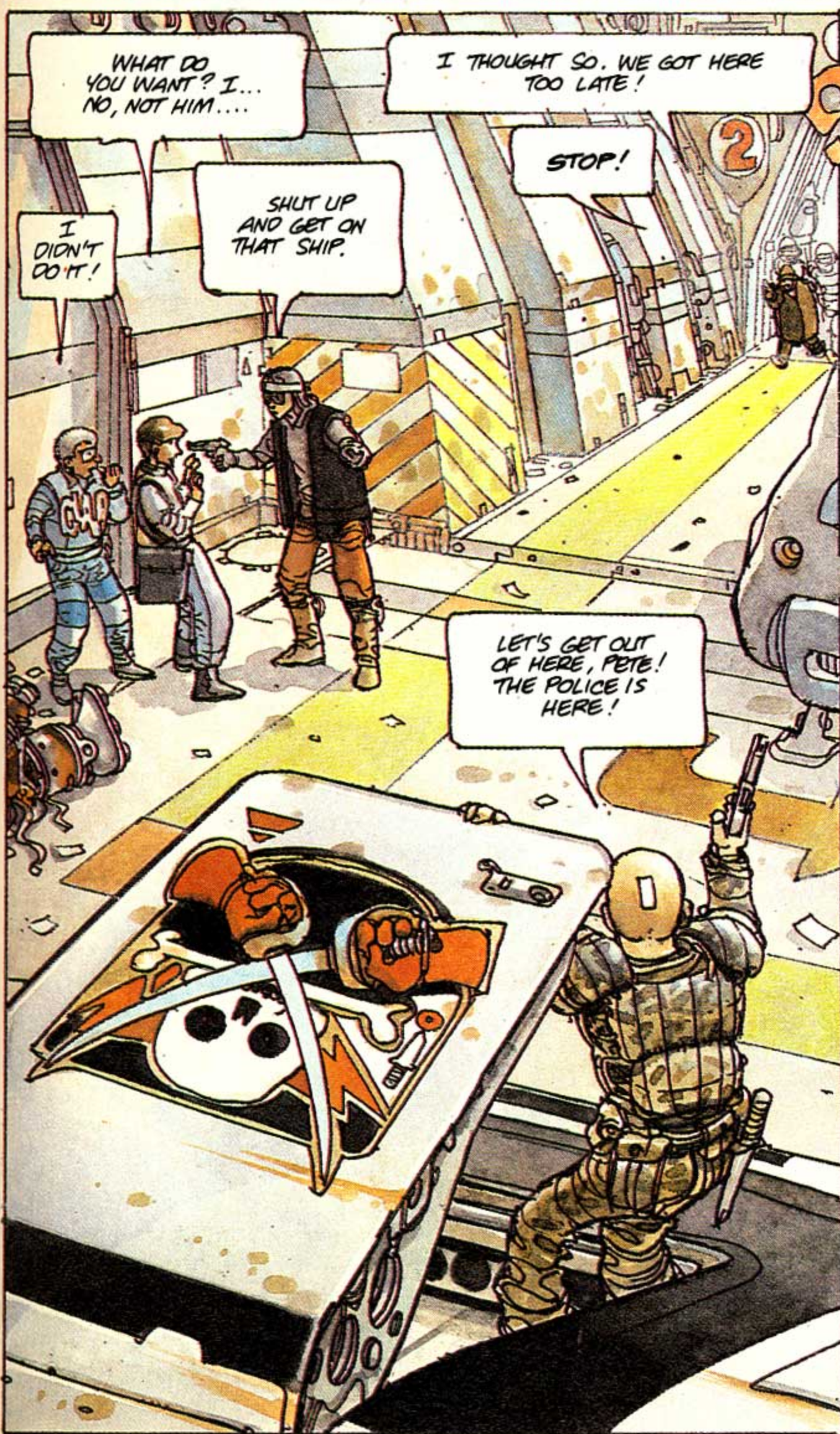
YES, THOSE ANIMALS THAT LIVE ON THE PLANET BRA-KO. WHEN THEY SLEEP THEY BECOME VERY SMALL.... WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

STOP! ZONE... ZONE...

LOOK AT THAT SECURITY GUARD!



STOP RIGHT THERE... WE FINALLY MEET, MR. ROA.



WHAT DO YOU WANT? I... NO, NOT HIM....

I DIDN'T DO IT!

SHUT UP AND GET ON THAT SHIP.

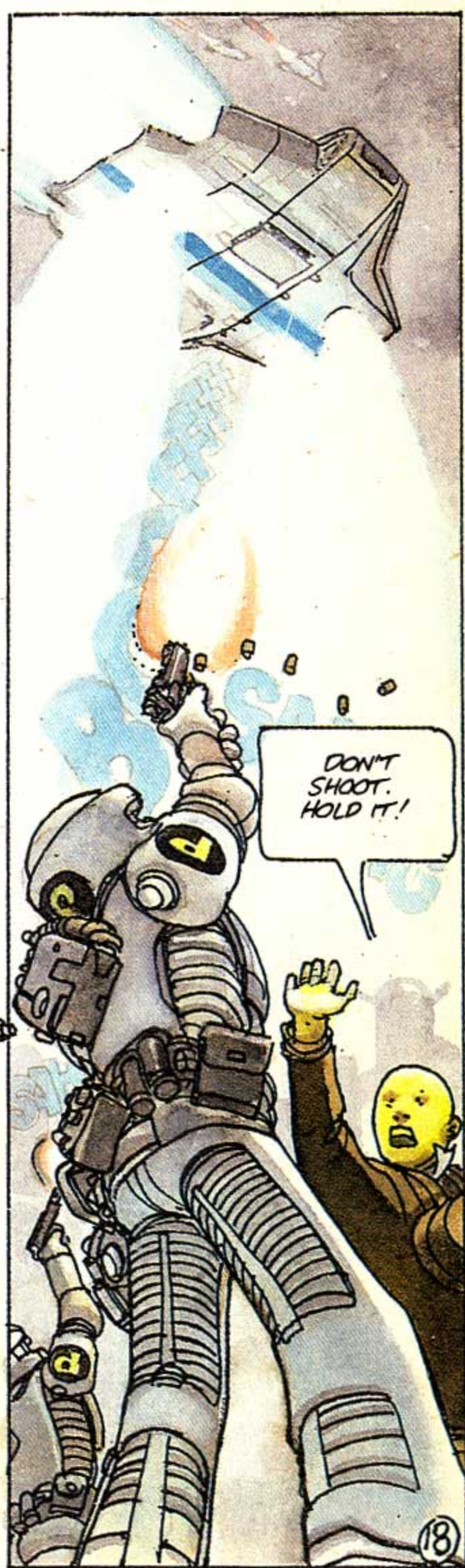
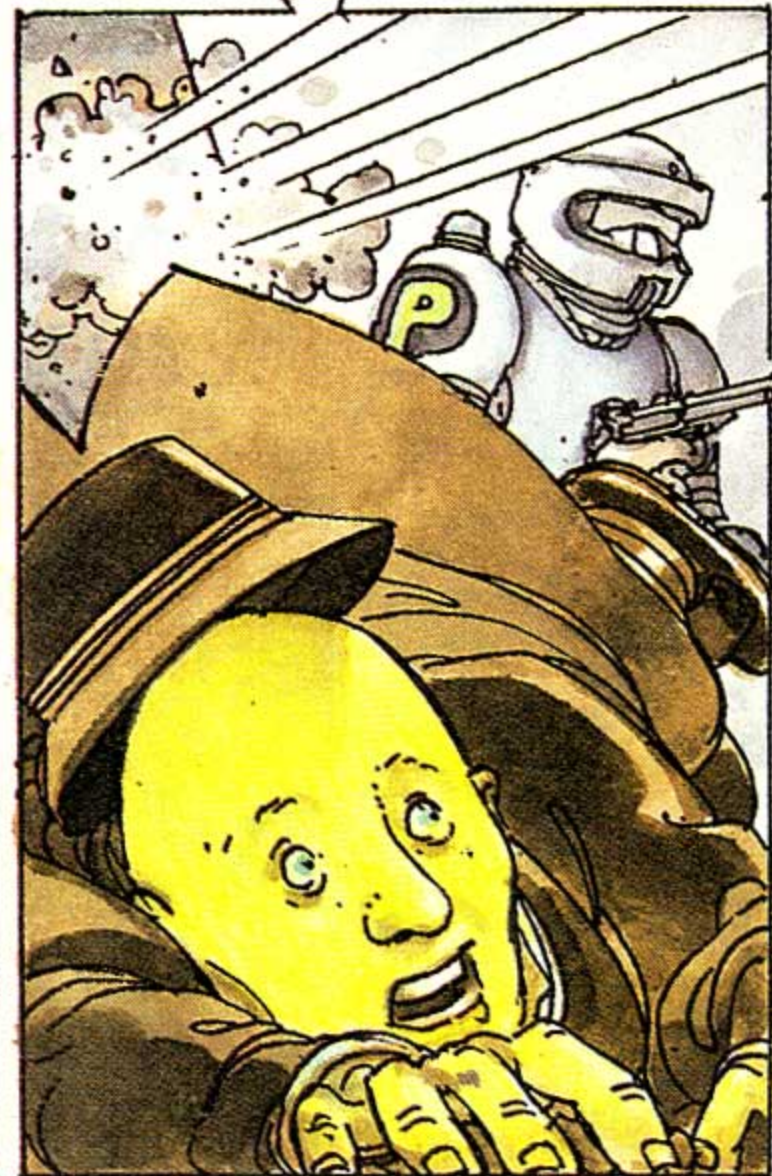
I THOUGHT SO. WE GOT HERE TOO LATE!

STOP!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, PETE! THE POLICE IS HERE!



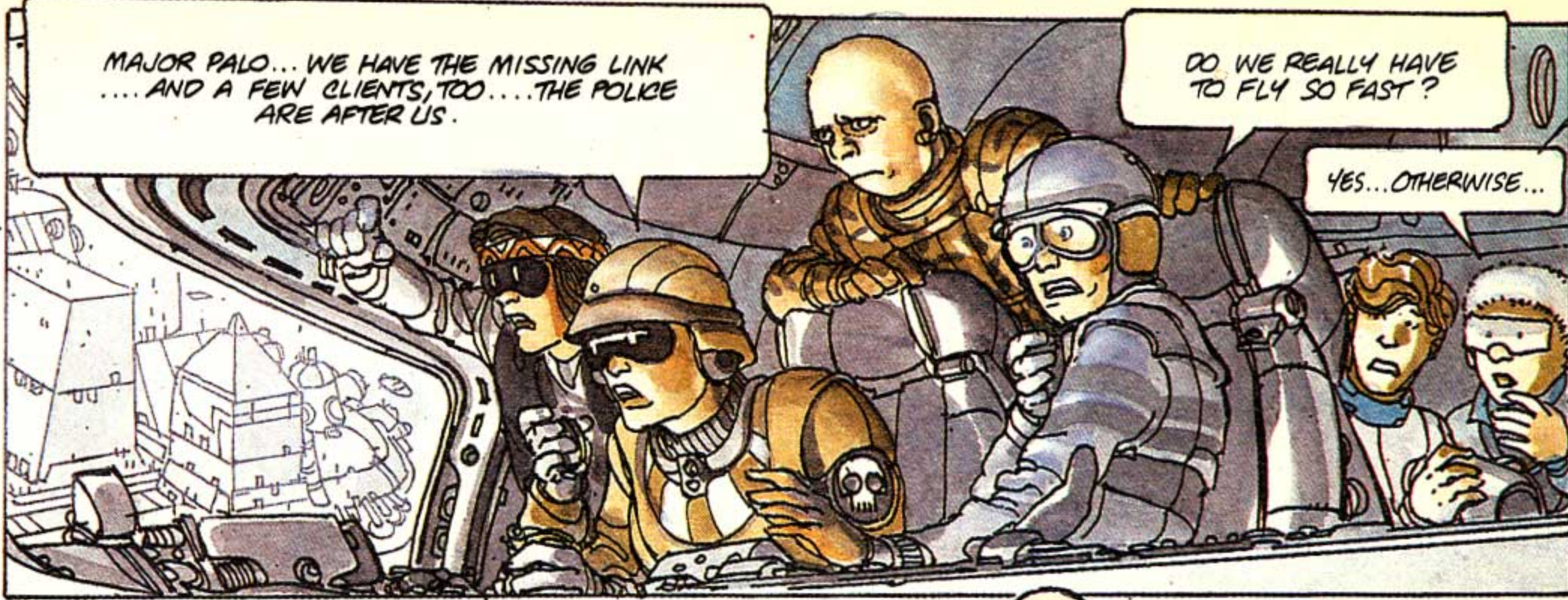
WELL, ARE YOU READY, IDIOT?



DON'T SHOOT. HOLD IT!



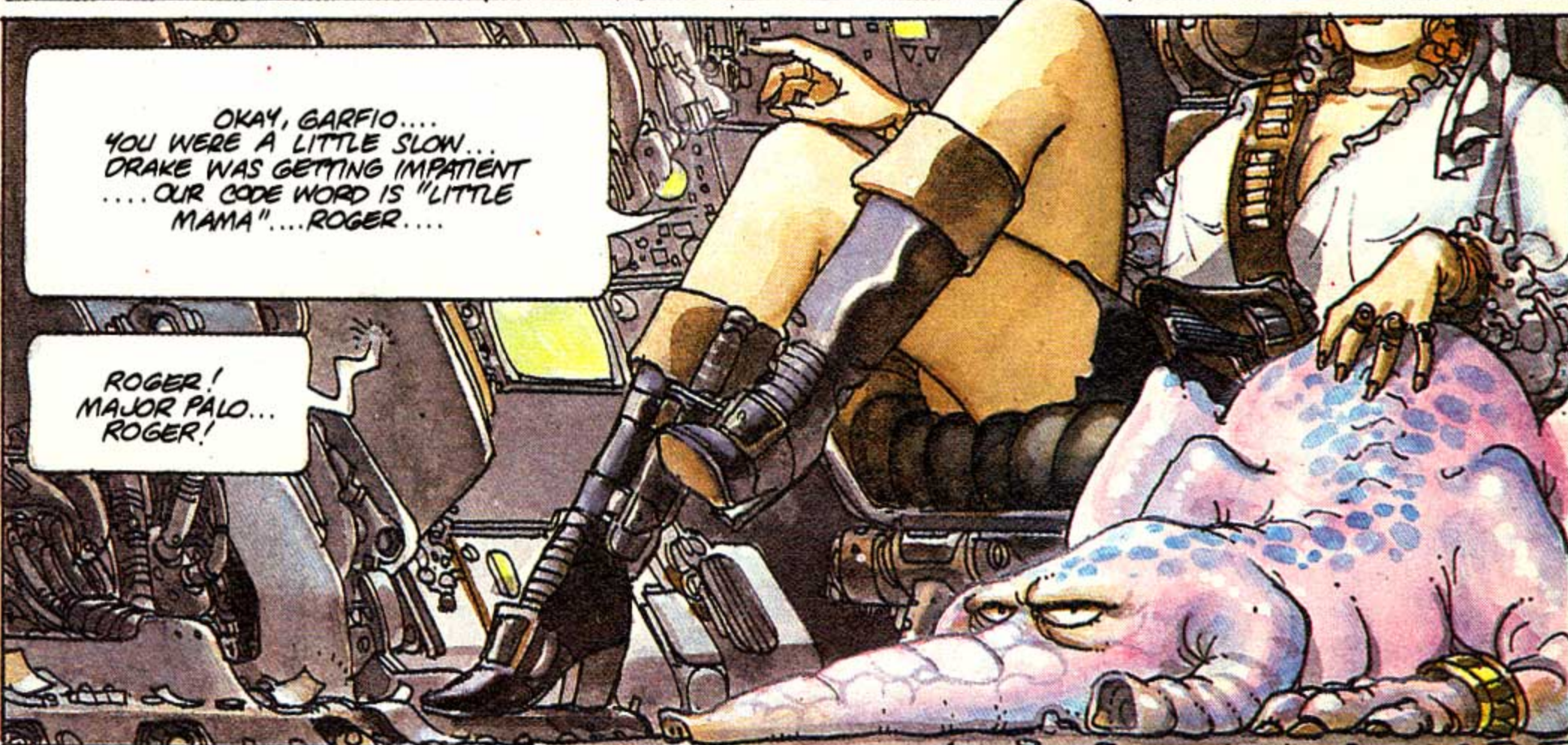
ATTENTION PLEASE.... ALL UNITS.... THIS IS TAYLOR SPEAKING!



MAJOR PALO... WE HAVE THE MISSING LINK AND A FEW CLIENTS, TOO.... THE POLICE ARE AFTER US.

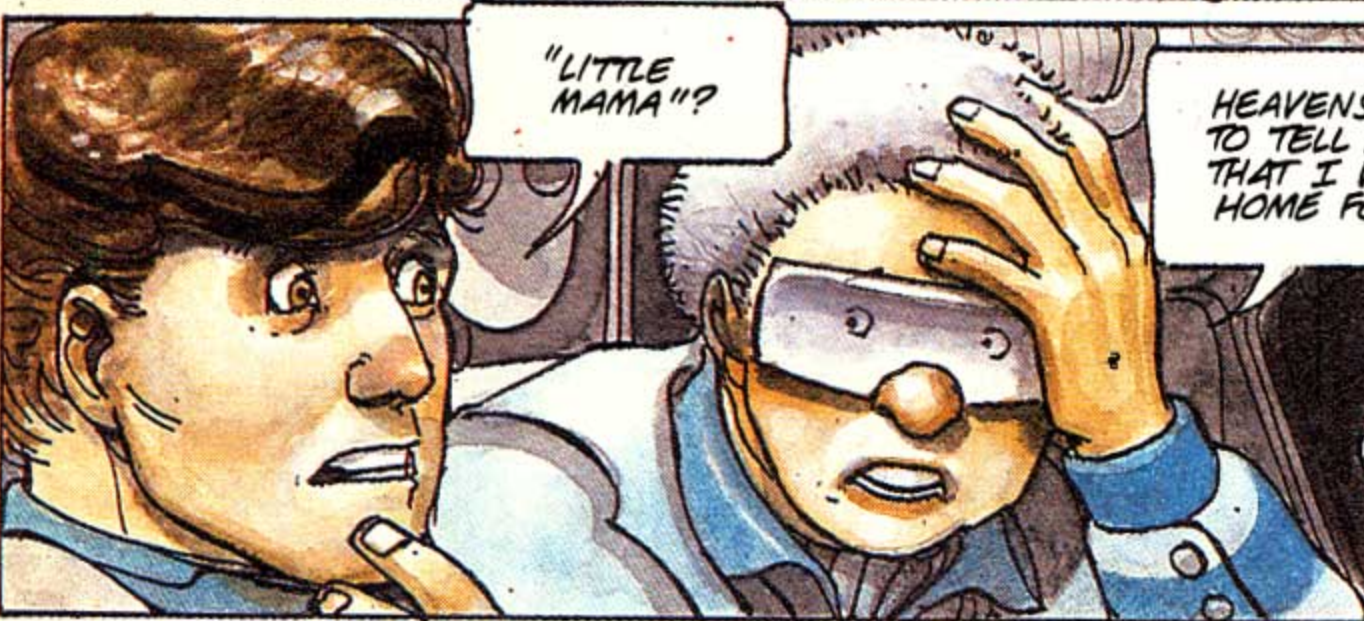
DO WE REALLY HAVE TO FLY SO FAST?

YES... OTHERWISE...

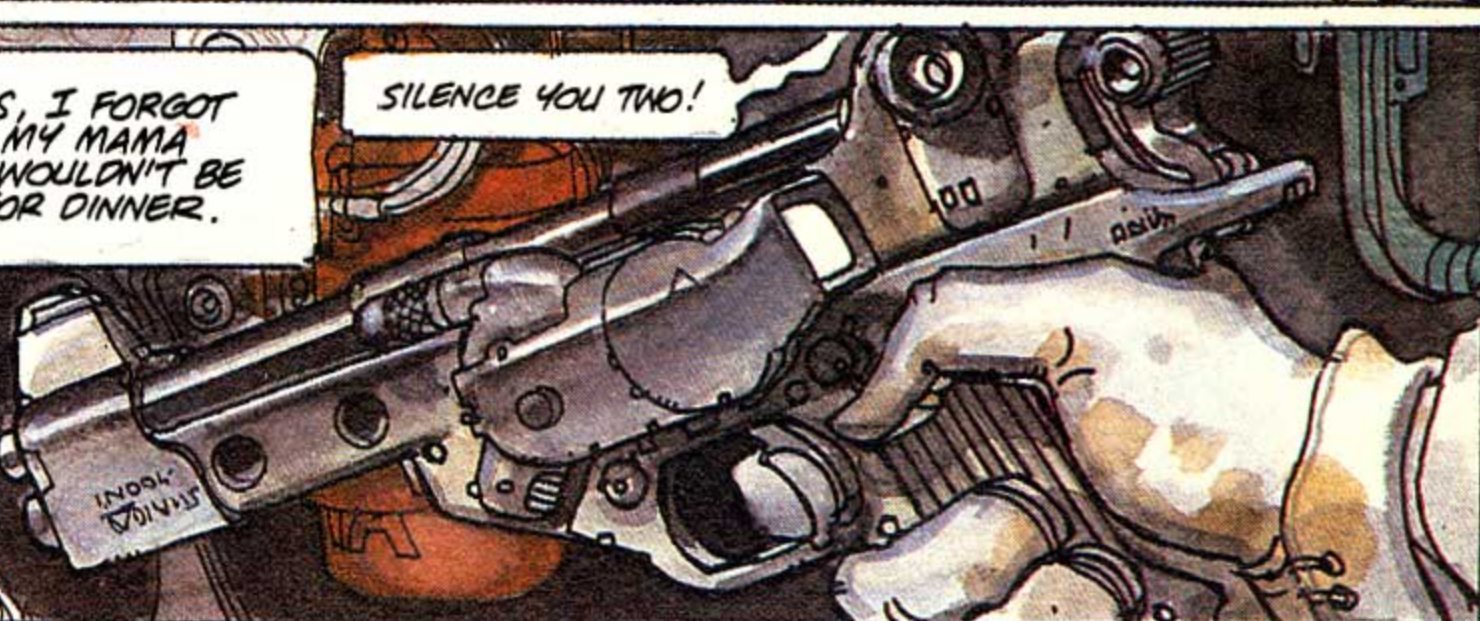


OKAY, GARFIO... YOU WERE A LITTLE SLOW... DRAKE WAS GETTING IMPATIENT... OUR CODE WORD IS "LITTLE MAMA"... ROGER....

ROGER! MAJOR PALO... ROGER!

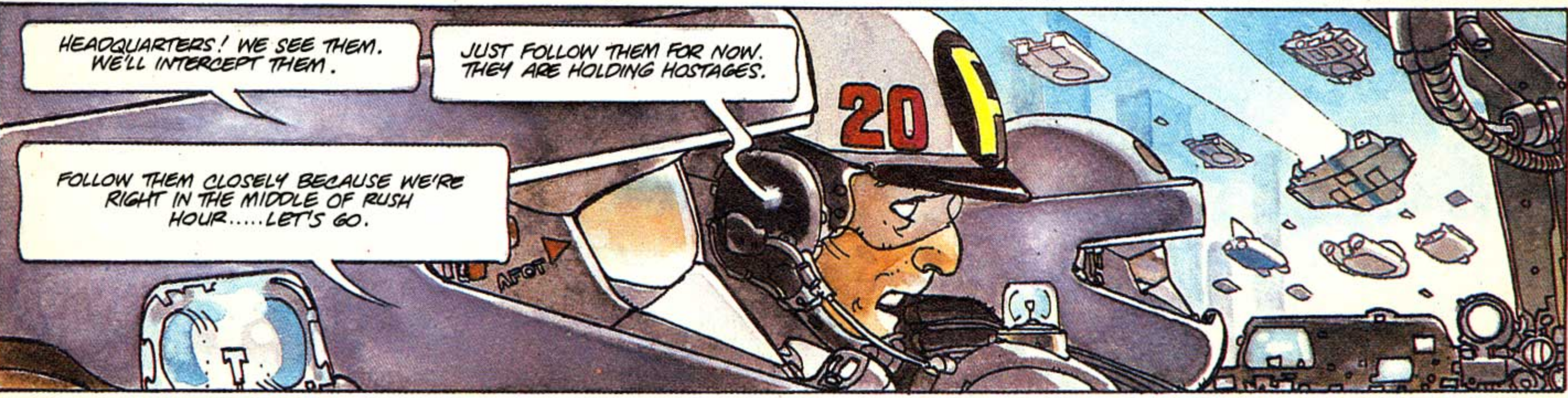


"LITTLE MAMA"?



HEAVENS, I FORGOT TO TELL MY MAMA THAT I WOULDN'T BE HOME FOR DINNER.

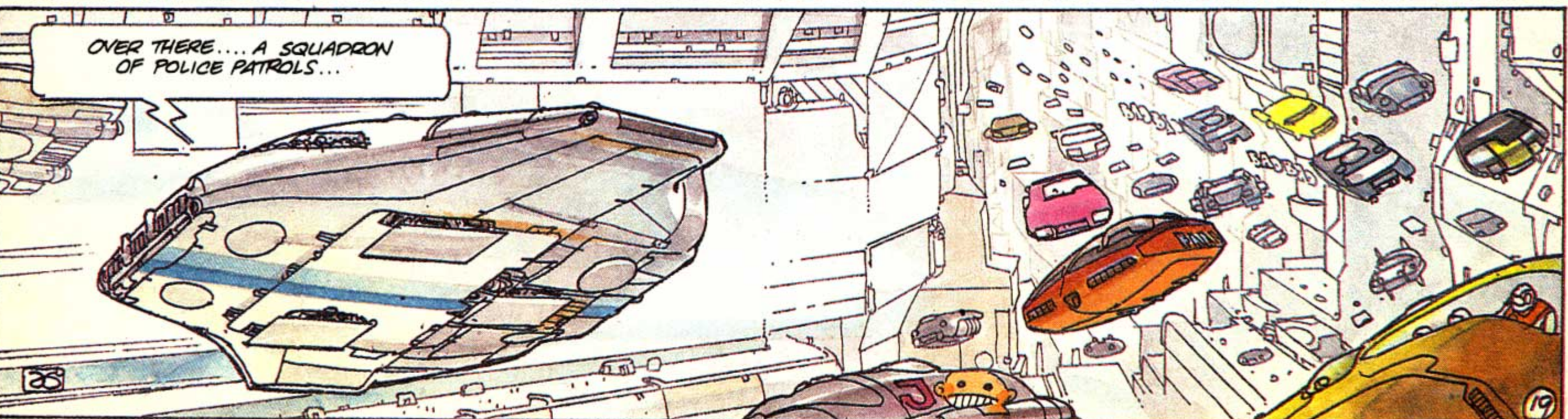
SILENCE YOU TWO!



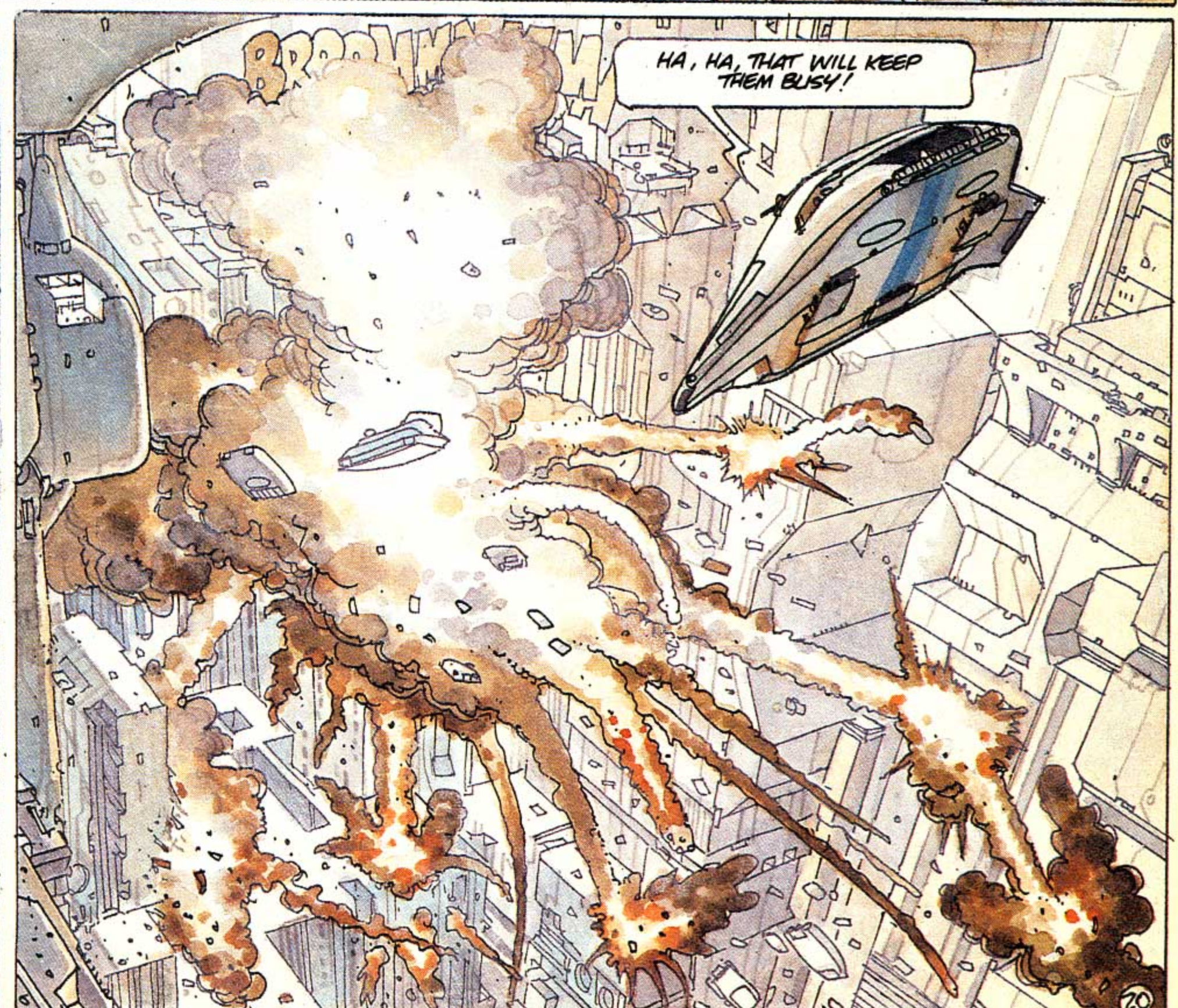
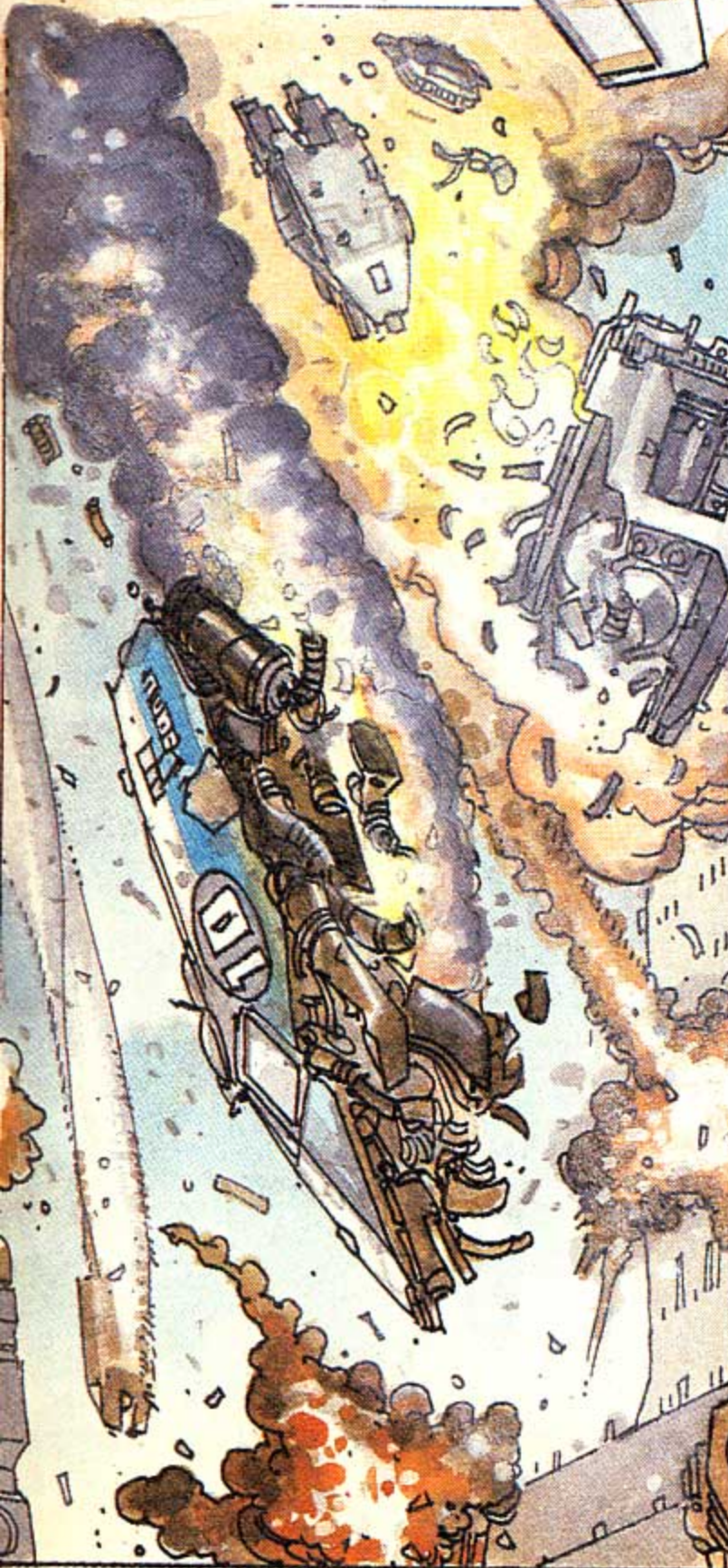
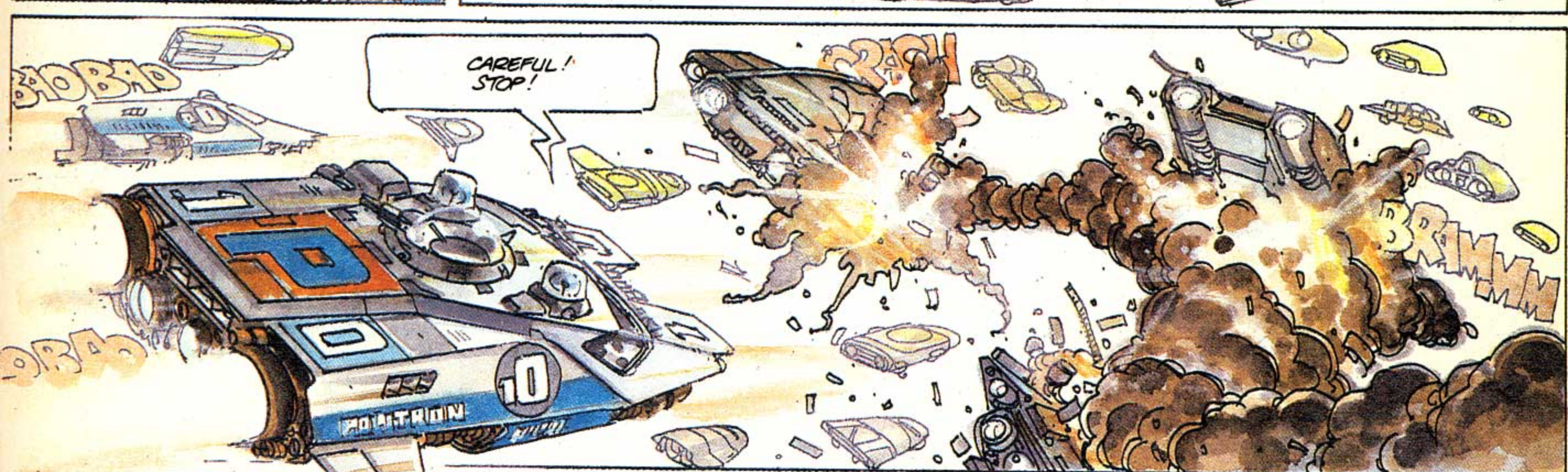
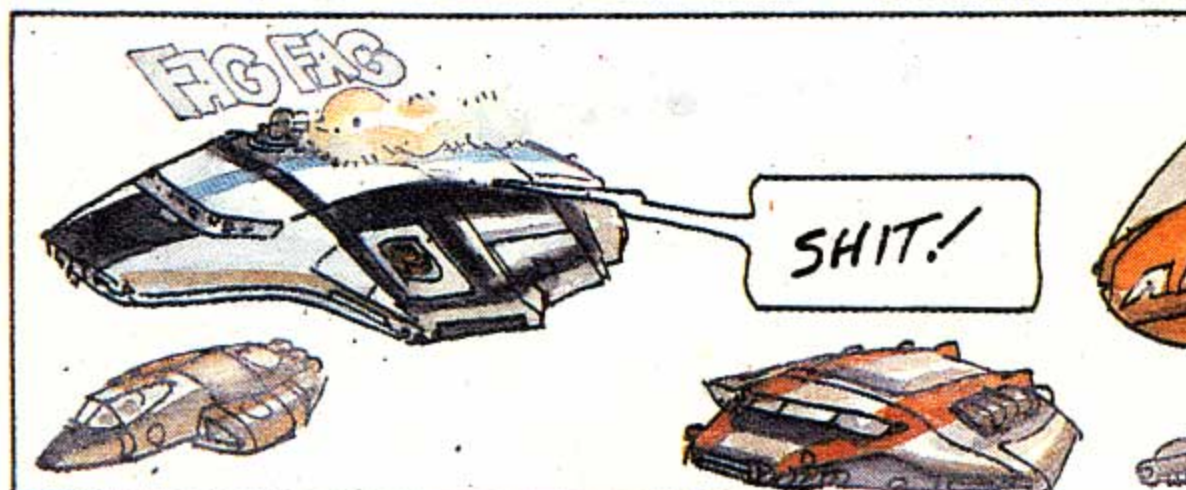
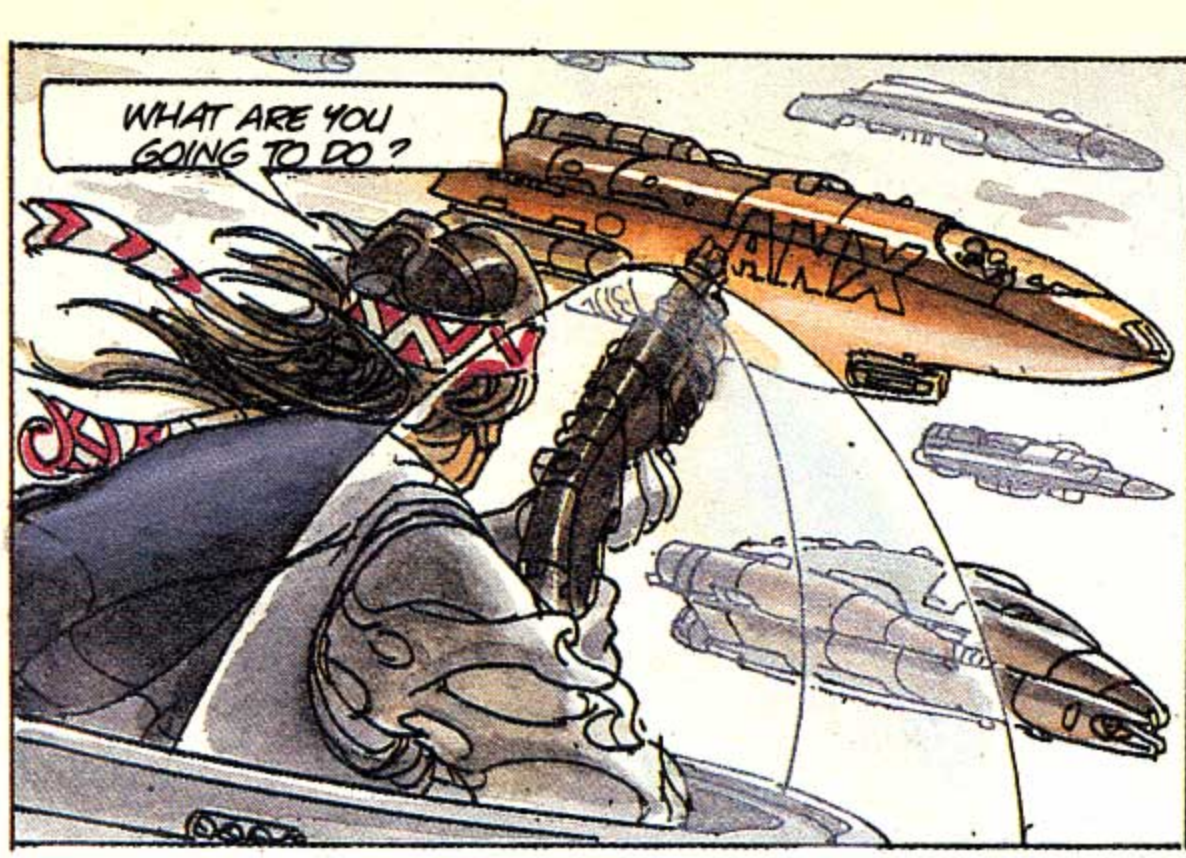
HEADQUARTERS! WE SEE THEM. WE'LL INTERCEPT THEM.

JUST FOLLOW THEM FOR NOW. THEY ARE HOLDING HOSTAGES.

FOLLOW THEM CLOSELY BECAUSE WE'RE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF RUSH HOUR..... LET'S GO.



OVER THERE.... A SQUADRON OF POLICE PATROLS...



....AND IN THE NAME OF THE INTERGALACTIC LEAGUE WE THANK MR. KEMPTON FOR HAVING DESIGNED AND BUILT THE TITANIX IX IN HIS SHIPYARDS....

THE TITANIX IX WILL BEGIN ITS INAUGURAL FLIGHT TODAY AND WILL BE THE PRIDE AND JOY OF ALL THE HUMAN RACE...

MAN.3
KEMPTON

TITANIX IX

...IT WILL CARRY A GROUP OF PASSENGERS WHO WILL SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF PEACE TO THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GALAXY.

WE CAN PROCEED WITH THE CHRISTENING, MRS. MAYOR.

WHAT?
AH, YES.

HERE, RIGHT?

YES, MADAM.

I, AS MAYOR OF THE BASE TERRANOVA, BAPTIZE THE TITANIX IX.

AND NOW THE MAYOR WILL SAY A FEW WORDS...

BRAVO!

BRAVO!

VERY GOOD!

CLAP!

CLAP!

CLAP!

CLAP!

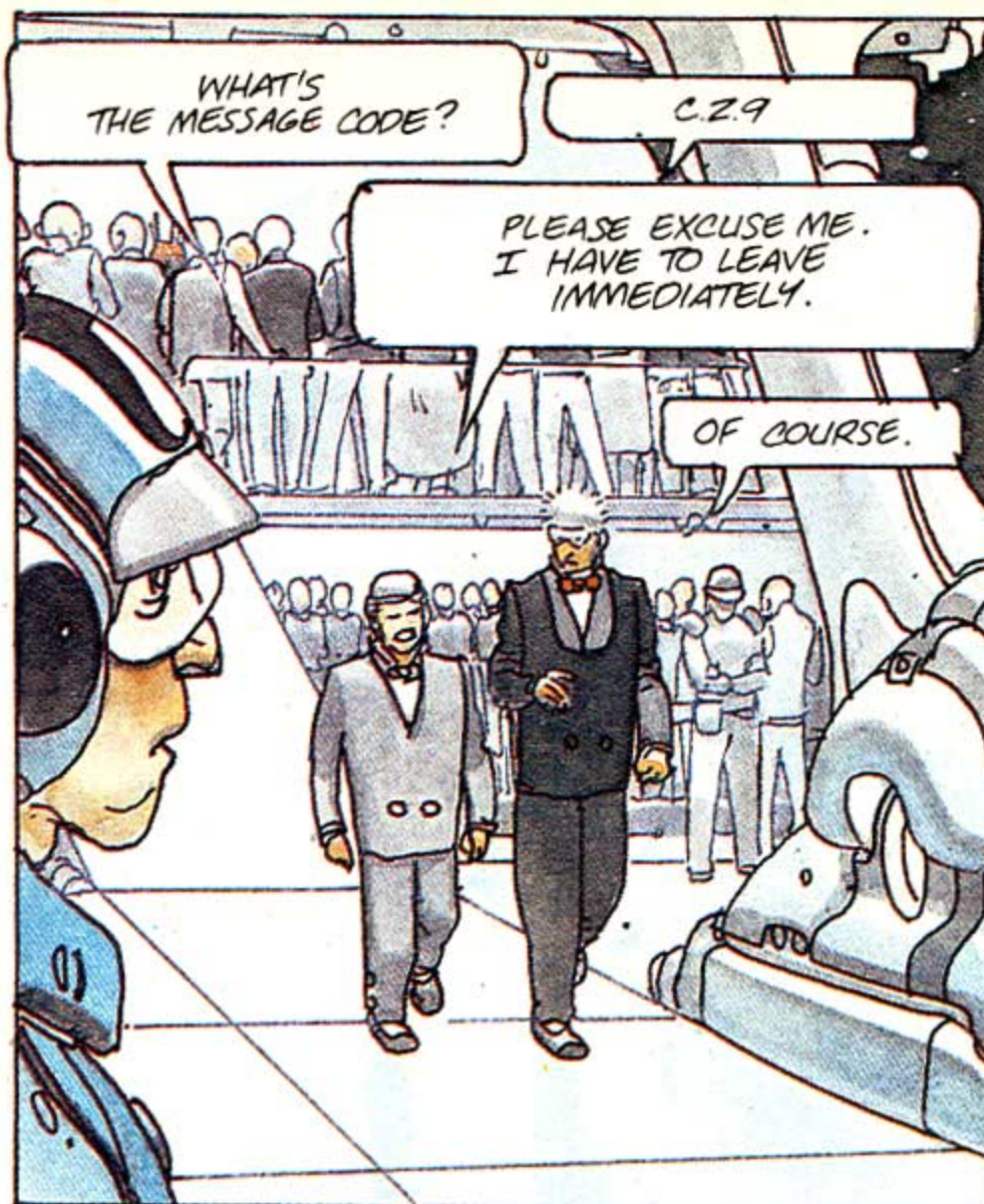
CLAP!



MR. KEMPTON, AN URGENT CALL FOR YOU.

YOU CANNOT IMAGINE HOW HONORED I AM....

WHAT A PIECE OF LUCK! I'LL MISS THE MAYOR'S SPEECH!

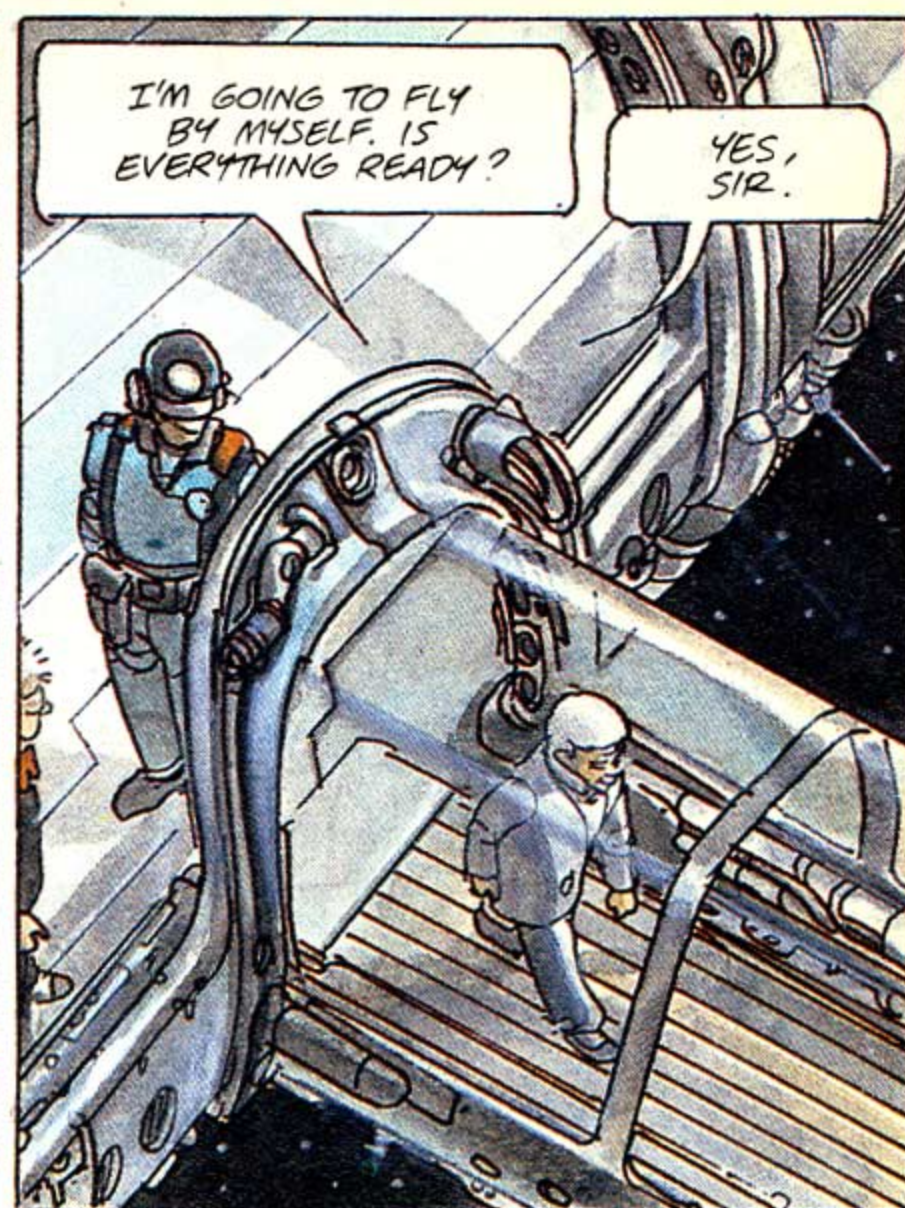


WHAT'S THE MESSAGE CODE?

C.Z.9

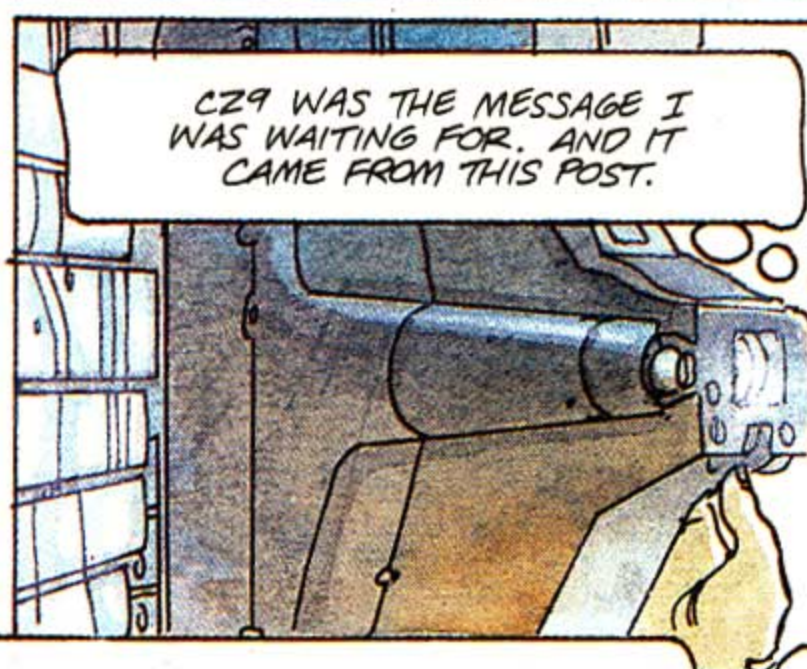
PLEASE EXCUSE ME. I HAVE TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.

OF COURSE.



I'M GOING TO FLY BY MYSELF. IS EVERYTHING READY?

YES, SIR.



CZ9 WAS THE MESSAGE I WAS WAITING FOR. AND IT CAME FROM THIS POST.



LET'S SEE WHAT CRAPULA WANTS....

HELLO?

CZ9

GOOD.



HELLO, DARLING.... I KNOW YOU ARE VERY BUSY, BUT I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE THE MISSING PIECE AND TWO WITNESSES.... DARLING.

FINALLY. JUST IN TIME.... DON'T WHISPER, DARLING.

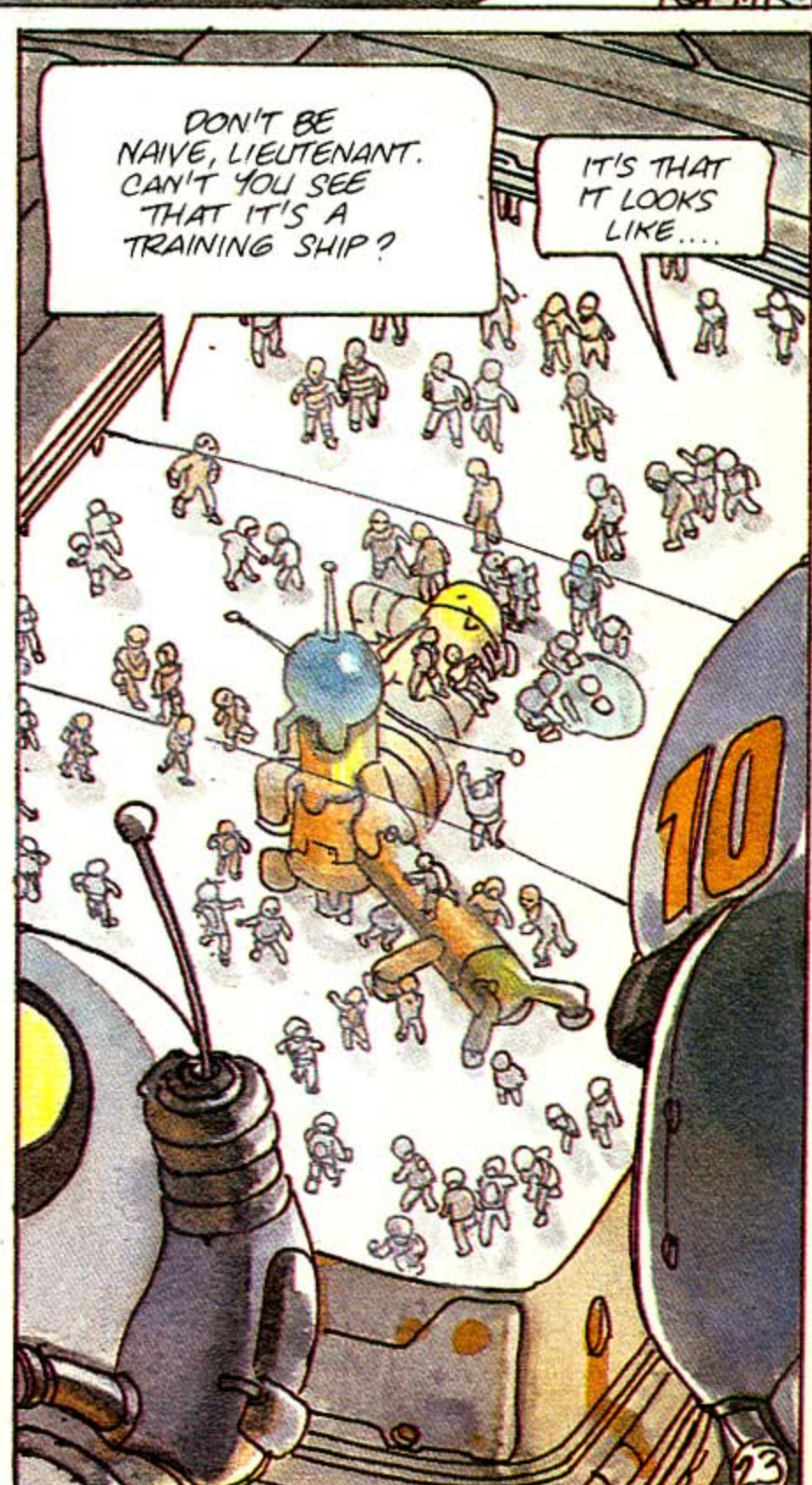
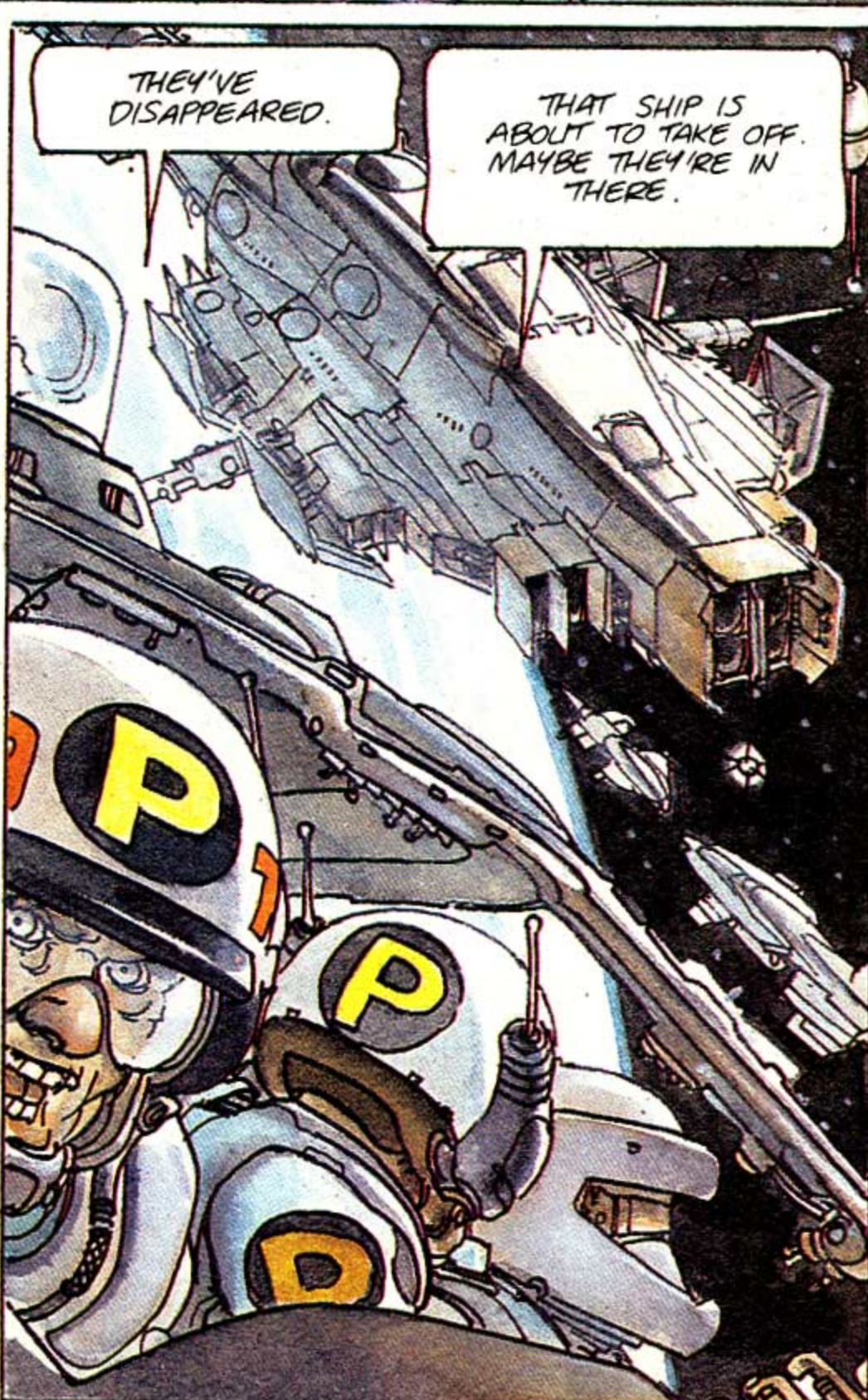
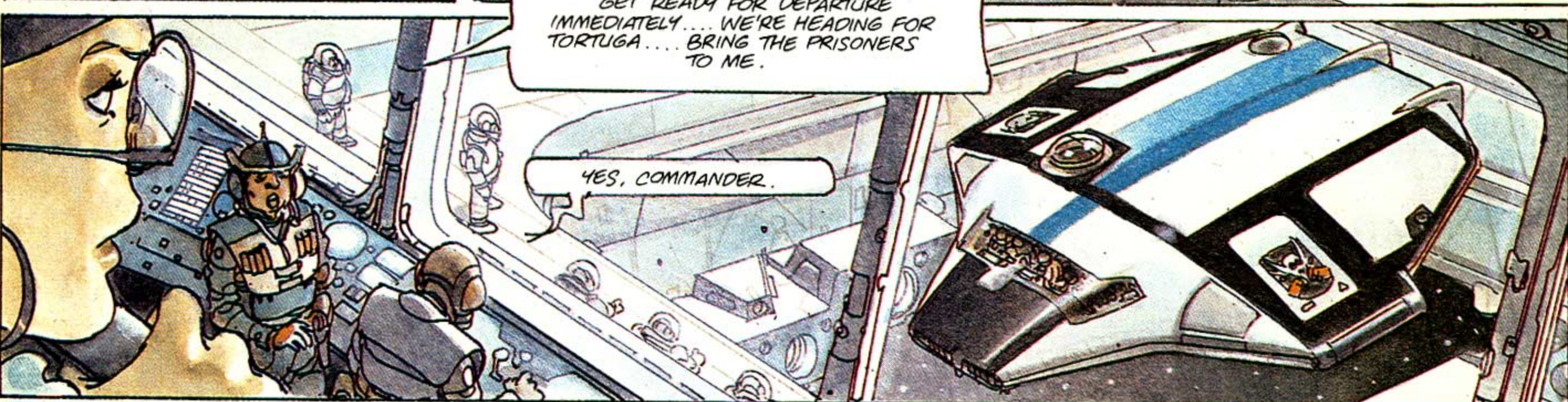
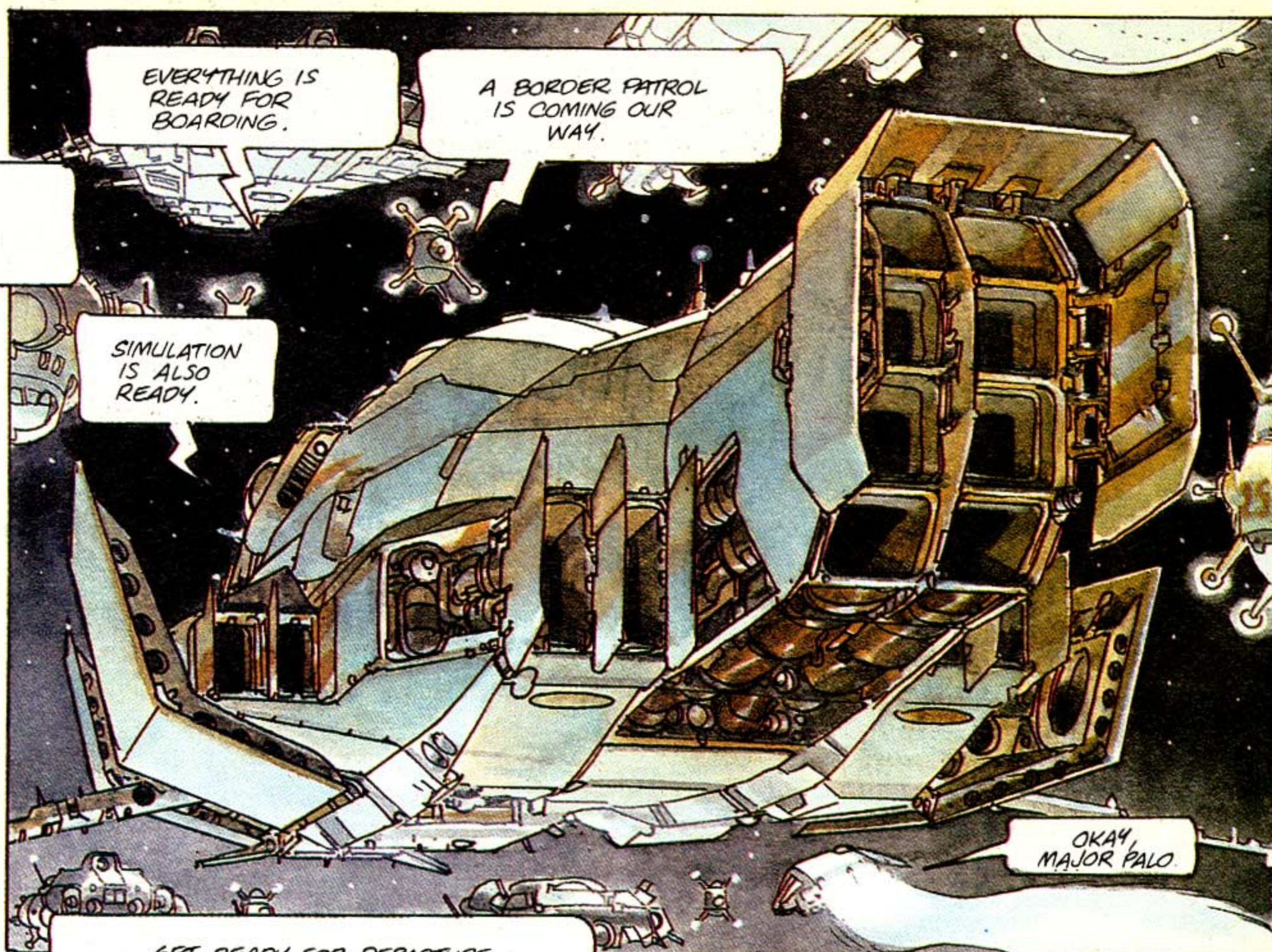
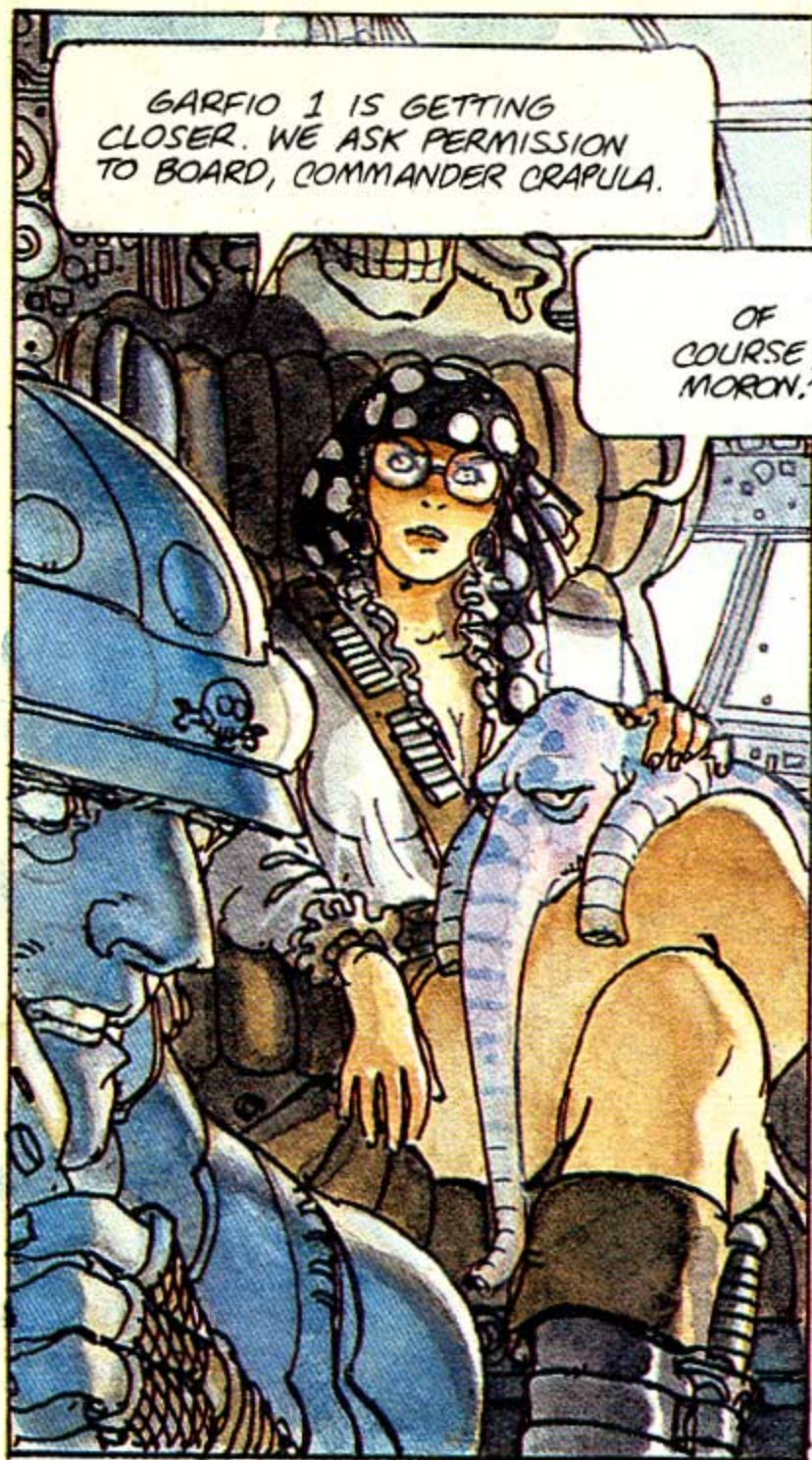


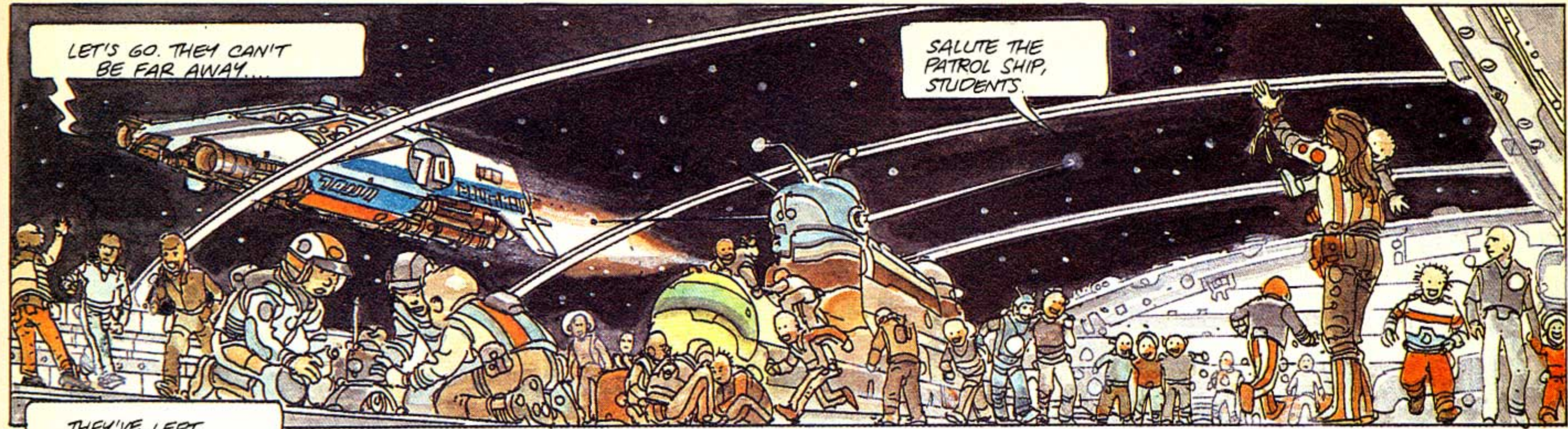
ALL RIGHT, DEAR.... I'LL WAIT FOR ORDERS. TRY AND FIX YOUR VOCALIZER, YOU CAN'T PRONOUNCE 'S'S' ANYMORE.

IT'S THOSE DAMN BATTERIES.



WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER ON THE WAY TO TORTUGA. I'M LEAVING NOW... BYE...





LET'S GO. THEY CAN'T BE FAR AWAY...

SALUTE THE PATROL SHIP, STUDENTS.



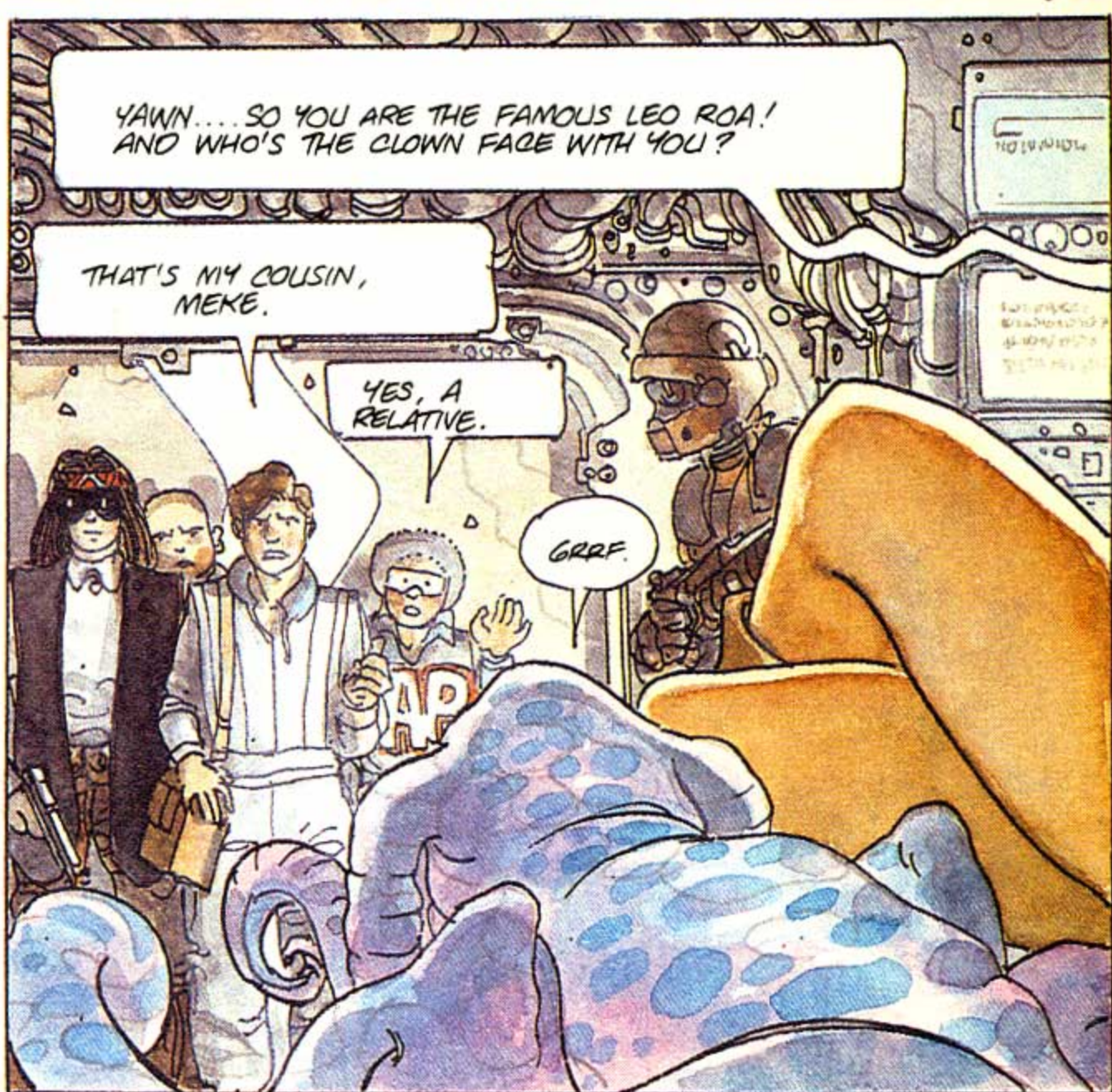
THEY'VE LEFT ... CUT OFF THE ROBOTS' POWER.



THERE GOES OUR LAST CHANCE FOR FREEDOM... MEKE, WE'RE COOKED.

HURRY UP! THE BOSS IS WAITING!

OVER-COOKED.

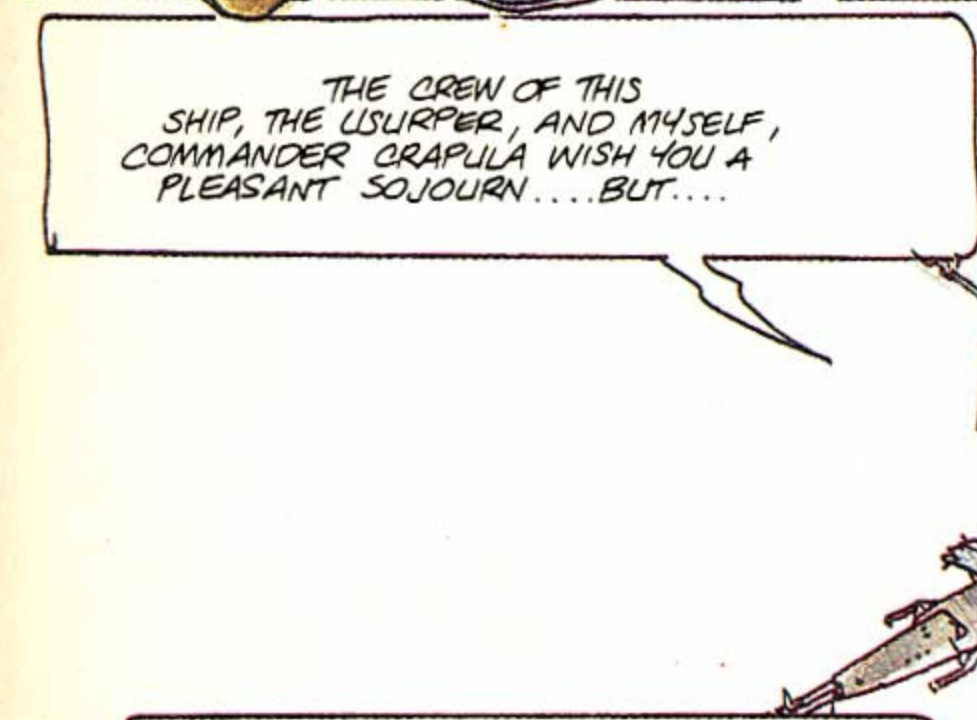


YAWN.... SO YOU ARE THE FAMOUS LEO ROA! AND WHO'S THE CLOWN FACE WITH YOU?

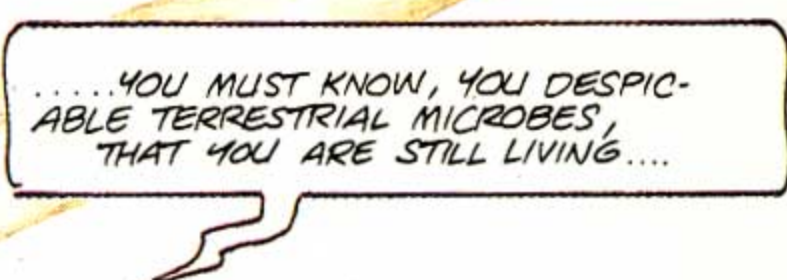
THAT'S MY COUSIN, MEKE.

YES, A RELATIVE.

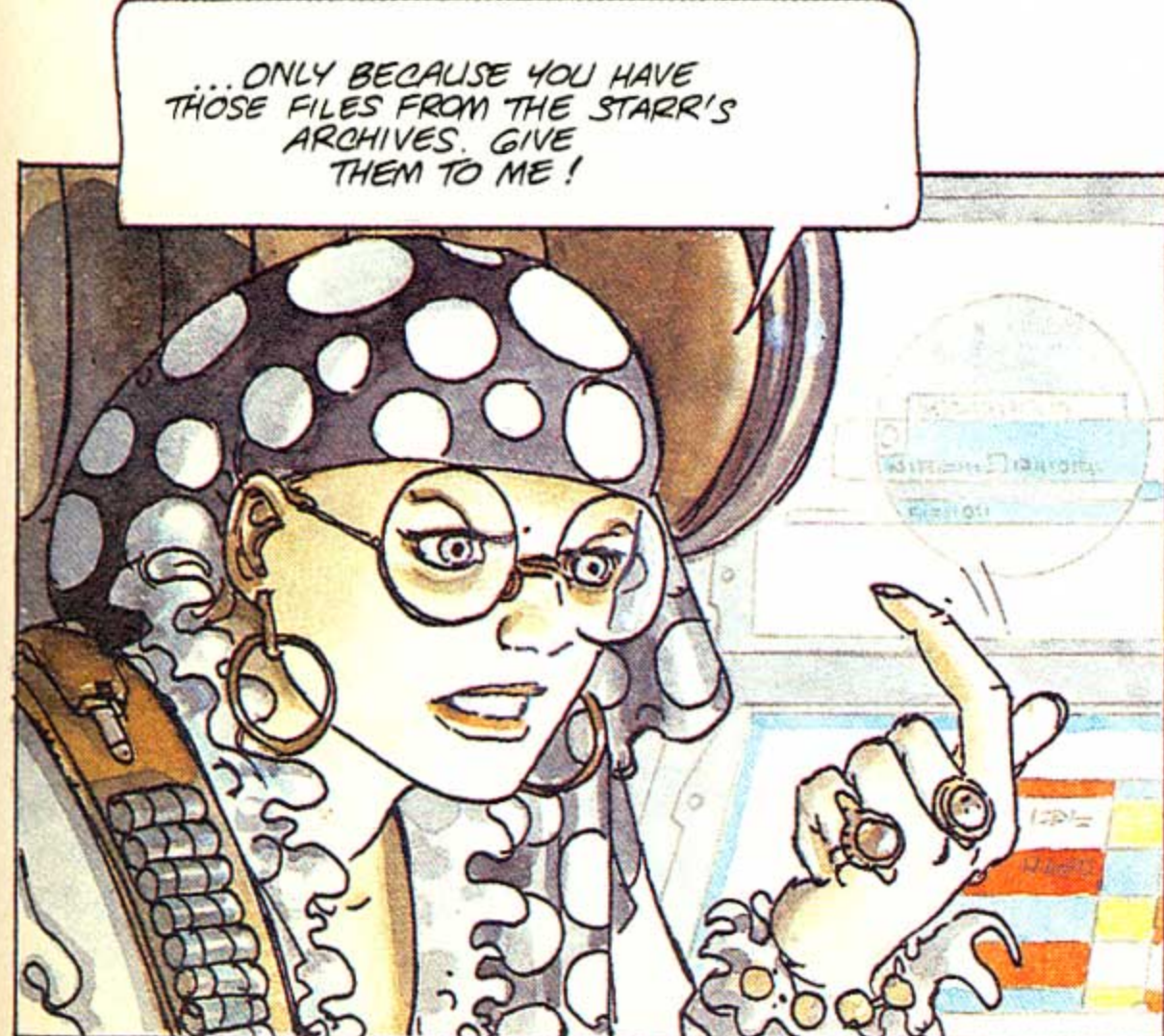
GRRF.



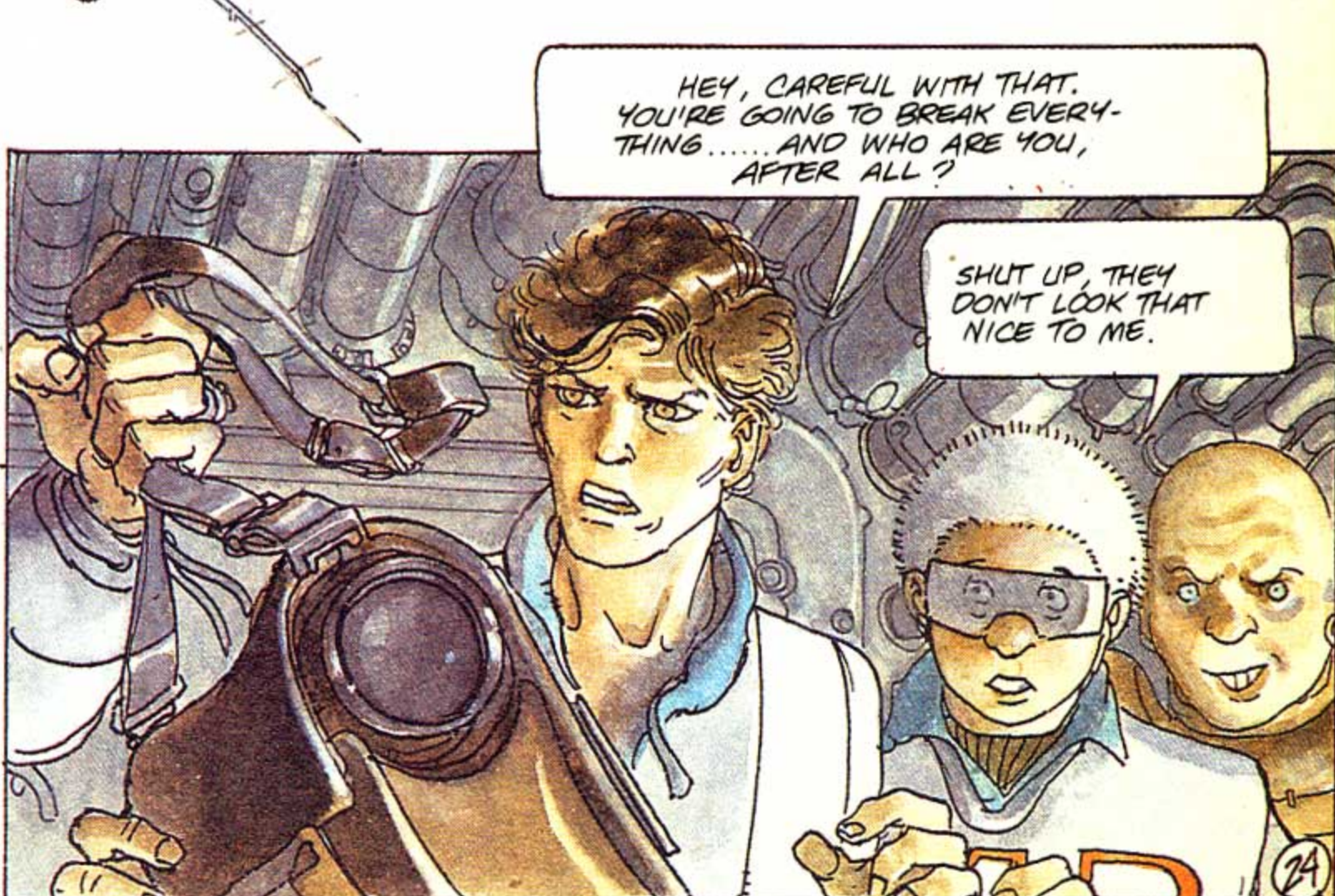
THE CREW OF THIS SHIP, THE USURPER, AND MYSELF, COMMANDER GRAPULA WISH YOU A PLEASANT SOJOURN.... BUT....



.....YOU MUST KNOW, YOU DESPICABLE TERRESTRIAL MICROBES, THAT YOU ARE STILL LIVING....



ONLY BECAUSE YOU HAVE THOSE FILES FROM THE STARR'S ARCHIVES. GIVE THEM TO ME!



HEY, CAREFUL WITH THAT. YOU'RE GOING TO BREAK EVERYTHING..... AND WHO ARE YOU, AFTER ALL?

SHUT UP, THEY DON'T LOOK THAT NICE TO ME.

SO, THE YOUNG ONE HAS SOME SPUNK IN HIM.... YOUR COUSIN IS RIGHT... CALM DOWN OR YOU'LL PAY FOR IT DEARLY.

LET'S SEE....

... GREAT, I THINK WE'VE GOT WHAT DRAKE IS LOOKING FOR.... THE COMPUTER WILL CONFIRM IT.

DRAKE!
I WAS
RIGHT
THEN!

WELL,
NOW THAT
WE'VE MADE EACH
OTHER'S
ACQUAINTANCE,
I WANT TO
PURSUE SOME
INVESTIGATIONS
...EVERYONE
OUT... I WISH
TO QUESTION
THE YOUNG
PRISONER IN
PRIVATE...

TUND

CLICK!
BZZZ

CAREFUL, LEO...
SHE'S BAD NEWS.

COME CLOSER, KID. I
HAVE TO TELL YOU
SOMETHING....

.... BUT IN PRIVATE.
FOLLOW ME.

WHAT'S GOING
ON? ...THE
FLOOR IS
MOVING...

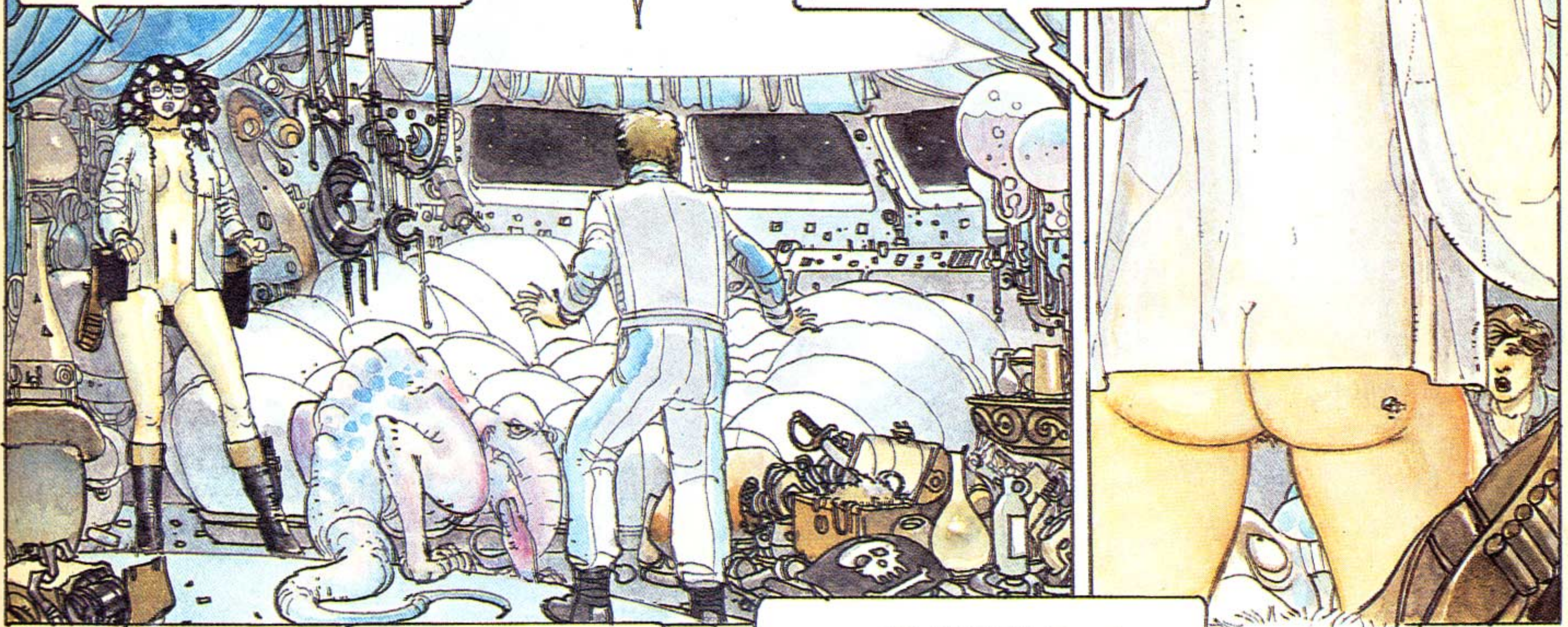
THINK SO?

?

YOU'VE IMPRESSED ME, LEO. YOU KNOW, IT'S HARD TO WANDER IN SPACE FOR SO LONG....

HEAVENS, WHAT A BOUDOIR!

.... WITH A BUNCH OF INSENSITIVE ANIMALS. I FEEL SO ALONE, SO OFTEN....



OH NO!
THIS IS NOT
MY DAY!

SHUT UP!
DON'T INTERRUPT
ME!

YOU UNDERSTAND.... I
CANNOT REVEAL TO THEM
MY REAL.... WOMANLY
NATURE!

YOU
CAN'T?

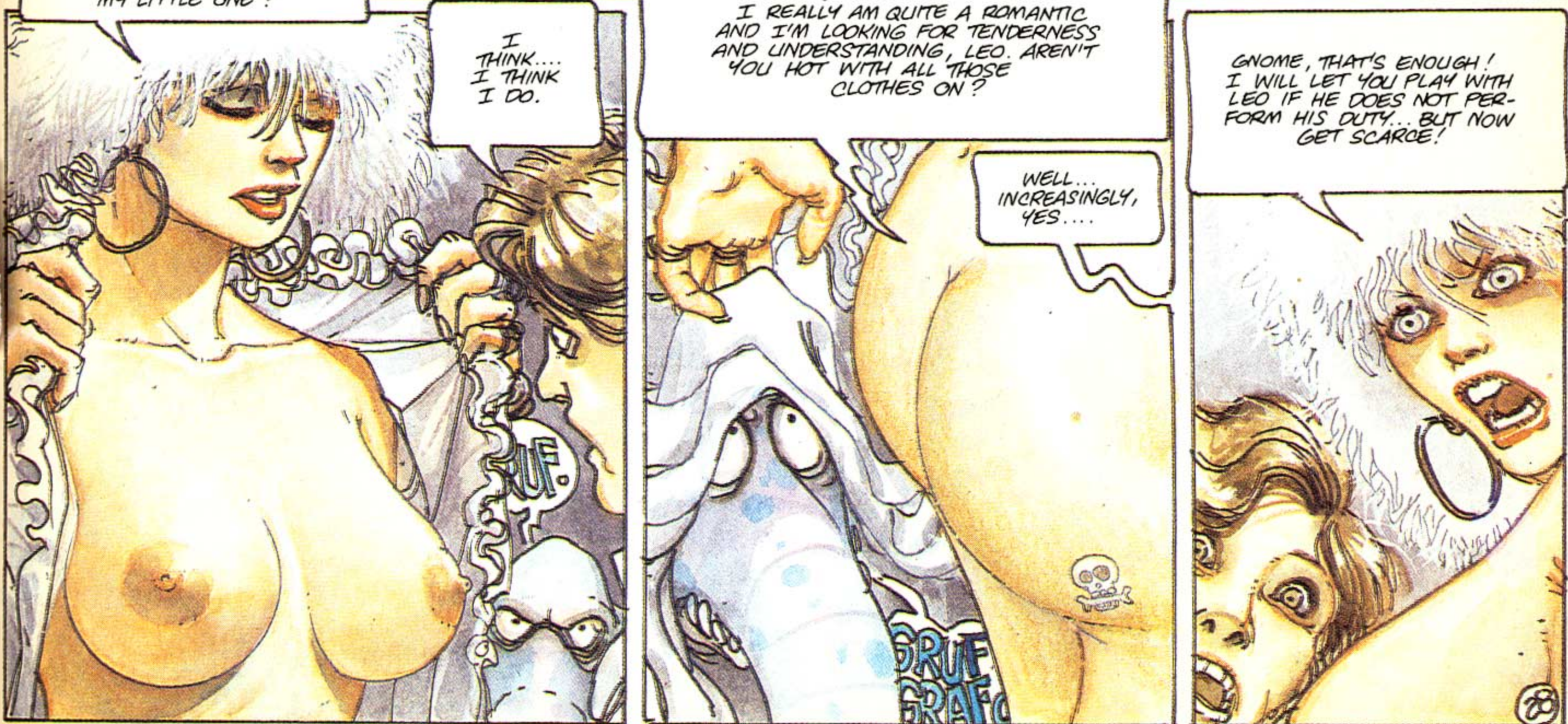
A REAL WOMAN....
DO YOU UNDERSTAND,
MY LITTLE ONE?

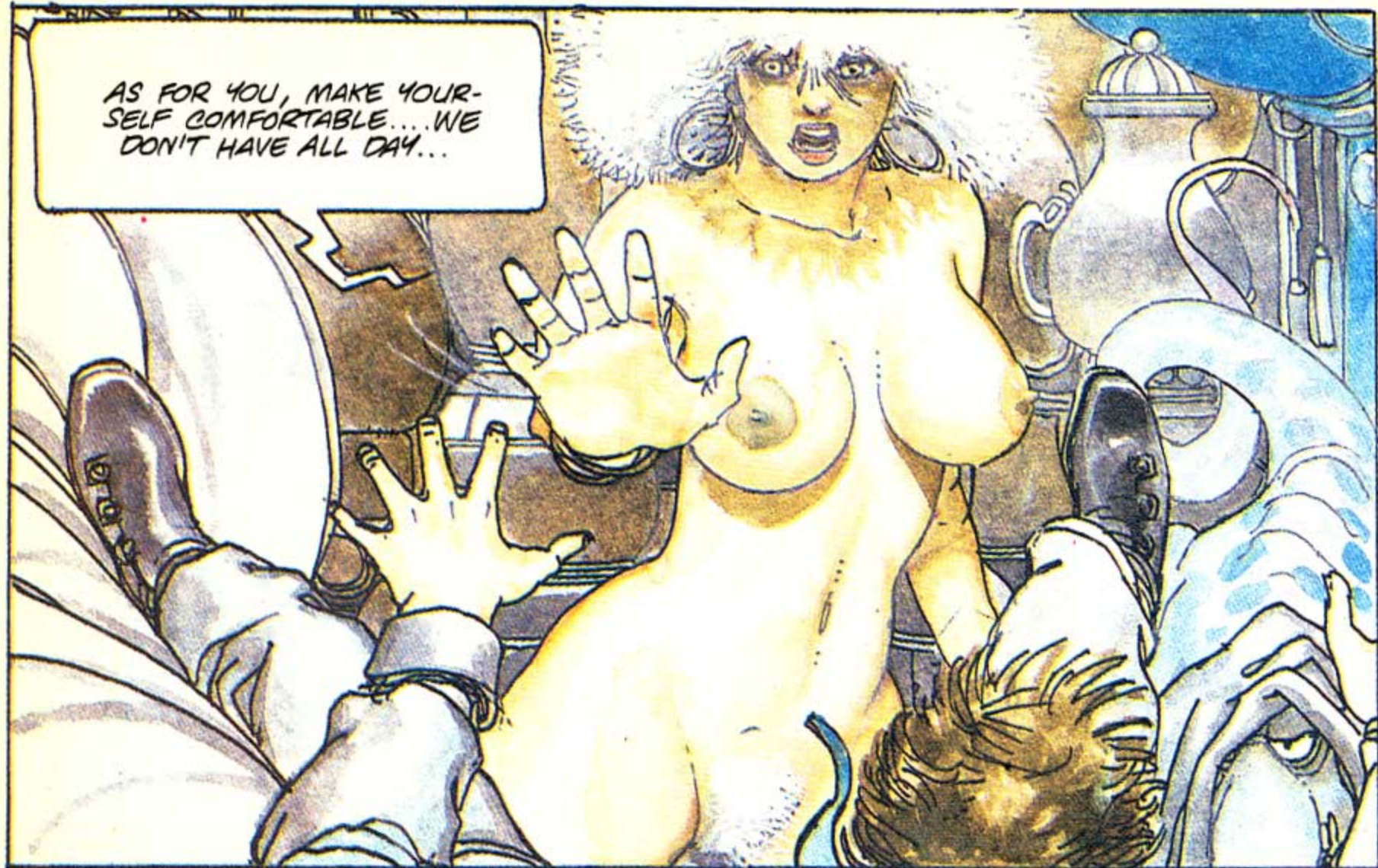
I
THINK....
I THINK
I DO.

I REALLY AM QUITE A ROMANTIC
AND I'M LOOKING FOR TENDERNESS
AND UNDERSTANDING, LEO. AREN'T
YOU HOT WITH ALL THOSE
CLOTHES ON?

WELL...
INCREASINGLY,
YES....

GNOME, THAT'S ENOUGH!
I WILL LET YOU PLAY WITH
LEO IF HE DOES NOT PER-
FORM HIS DUTY... BUT NOW
GET SCARCE!





AS FOR YOU, MAKE YOUR-
SELF COMFORTABLE....WE
DON'T HAVE ALL DAY...



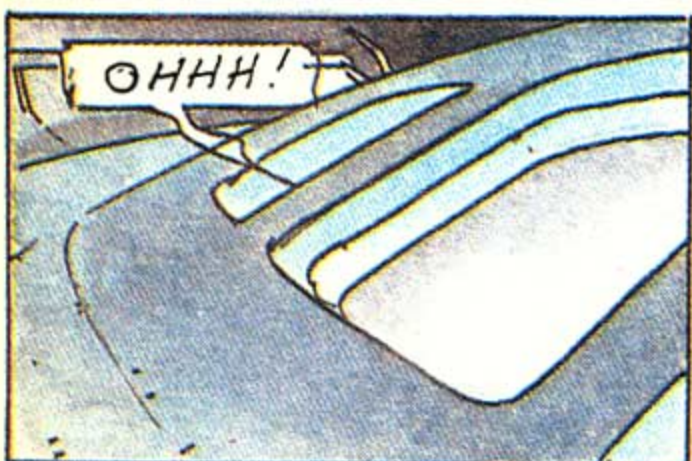
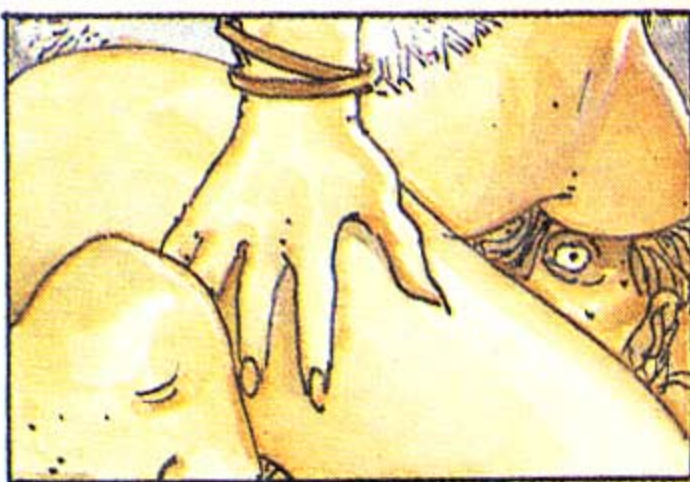
WOAH! YOU'RE FULL OF
SURPRISES, LEO! MAYBE YOU'LL
BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.....
IT WOULD BE TOO BAD
TO WASTE THIS....



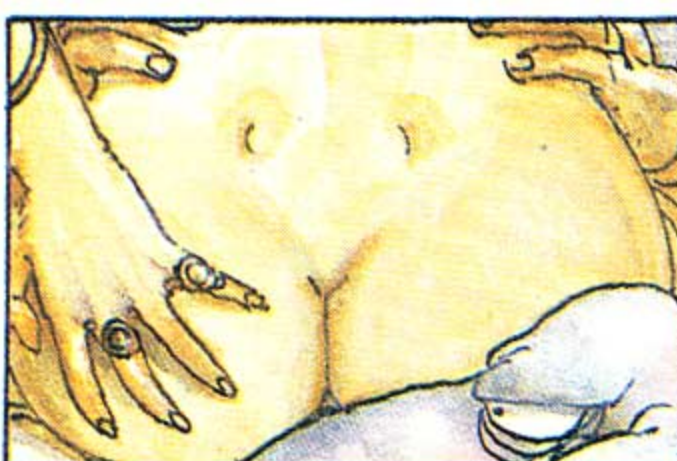
ONWARDS!



OHHH!

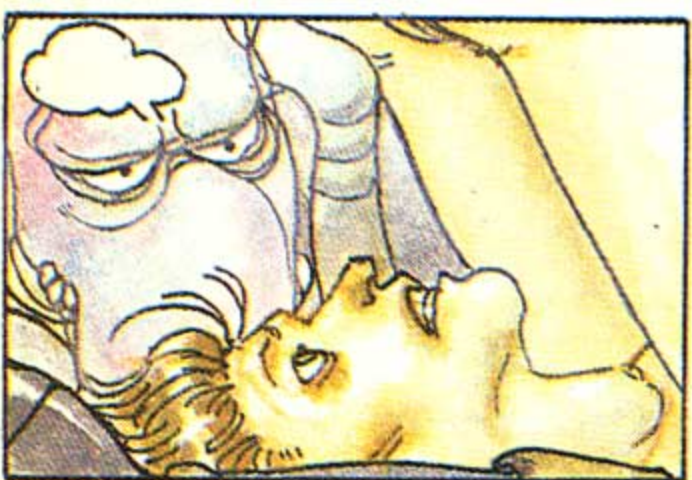
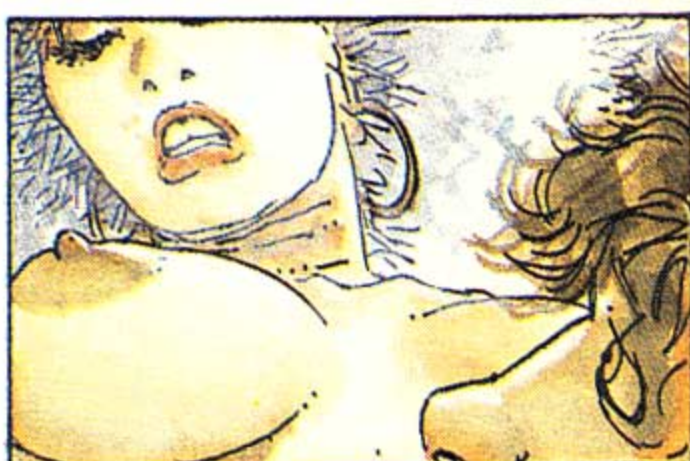


OHHH!



AH!

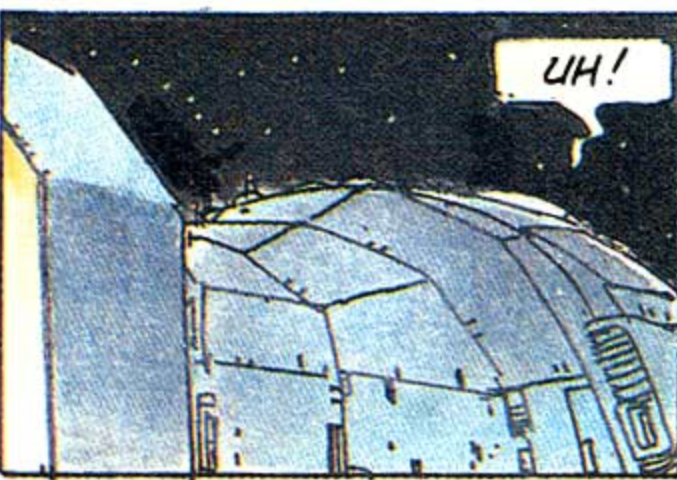
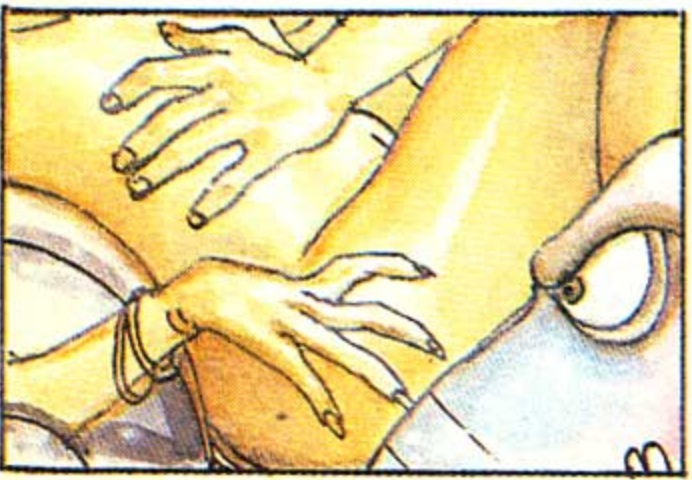
LOUSY BEAST!



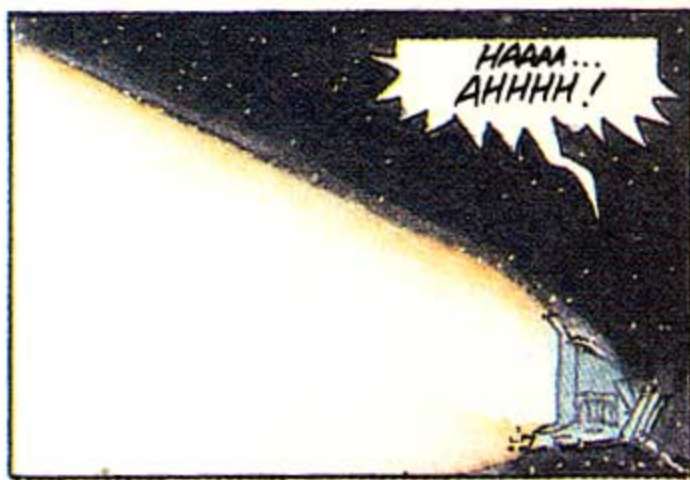
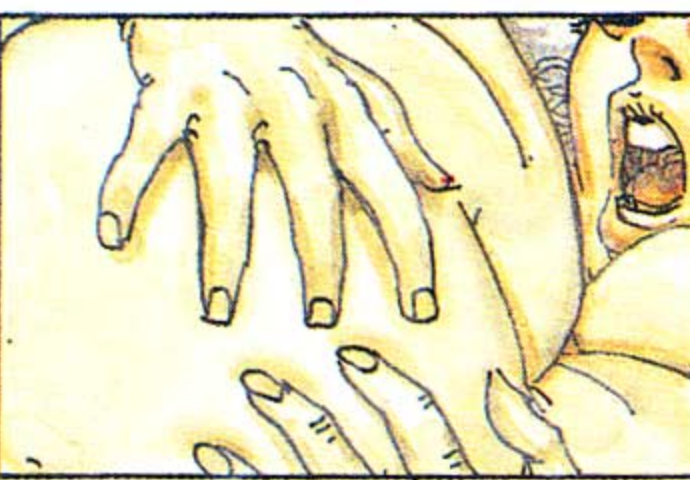
EHHH!



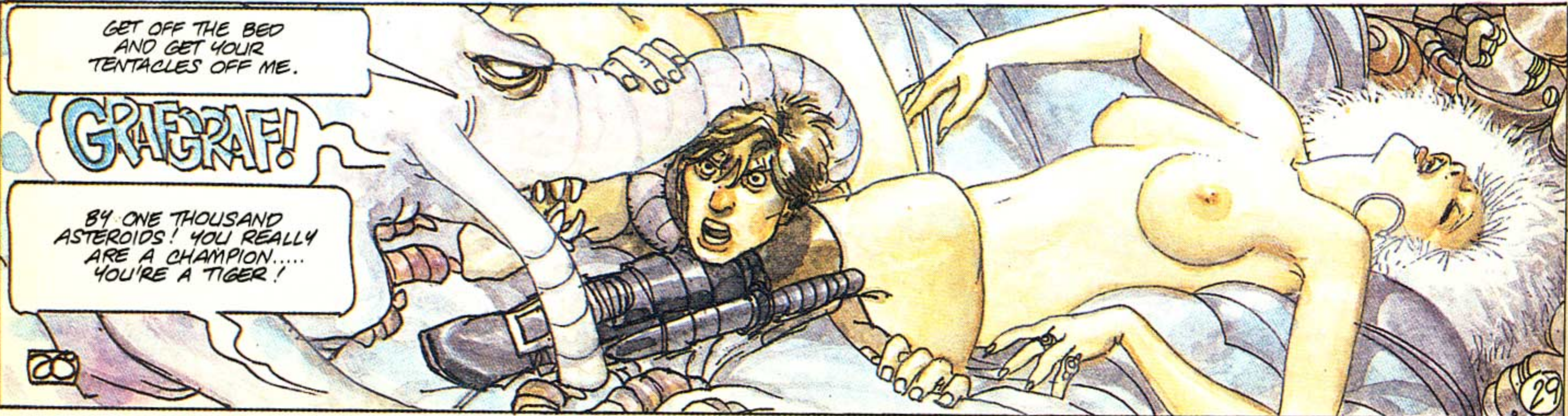
AH!... IH... OH...



UH!



HAAM...
AHHHH!



GET OFF THE BED
AND GET YOUR
TENTACLES OFF ME.

GRAF GRAF!

BY ONE THOUSAND
ASTEROIDS! YOU REALLY
ARE A CHAMPION.....
YOU'RE A TIGER!



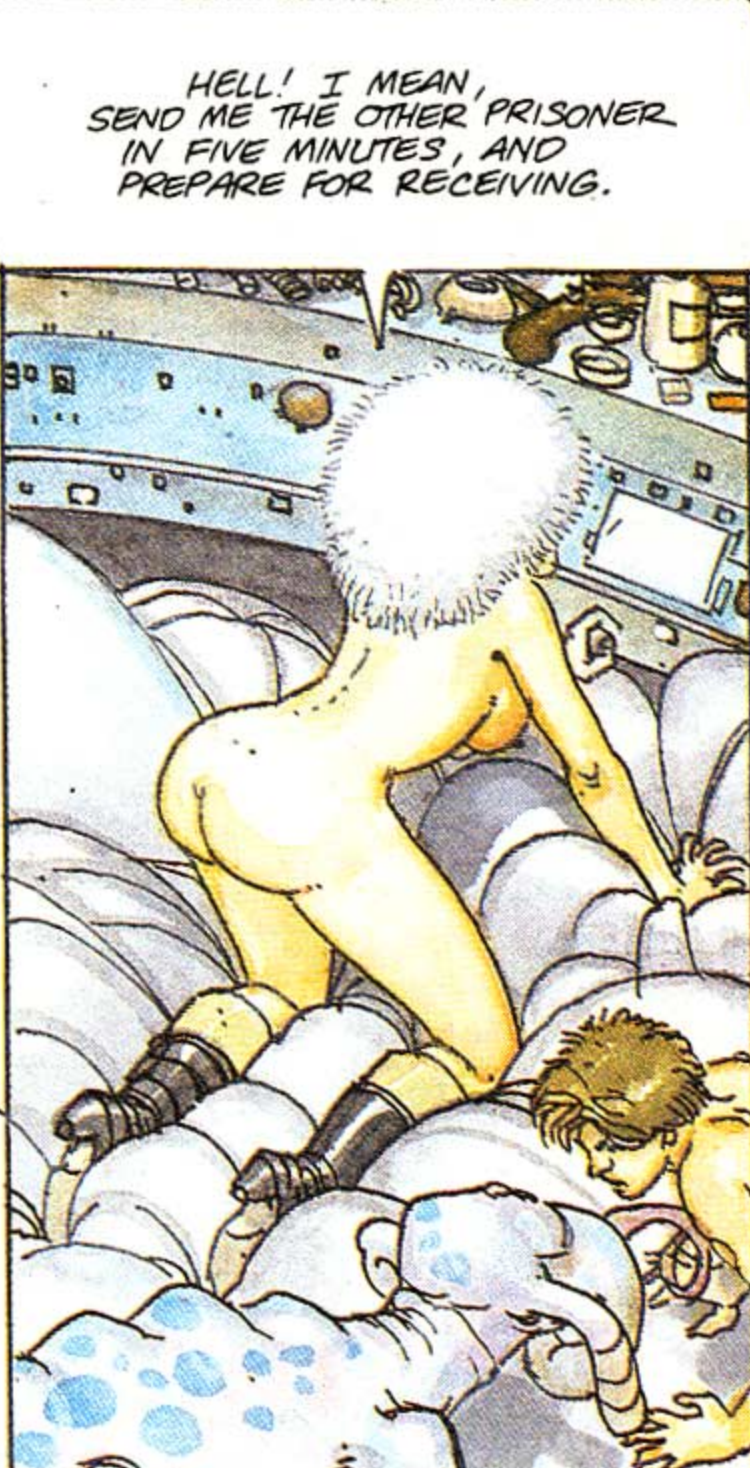
THAT'S ENOUGH, GNOME.
DON'T BE SUCH A NUISANCE!
LEO OUTPERFORMED HIMSELF...
FROM NOW ONE YOU MUST
BE FRIENDS... HAVE I
BEEN CLEAR?

?



WHAT'S
GOING ON?

CAPTAIN
DRAKE'S SHIP
IS VERY CLOSE,
COMMANDER
CRAPULA.



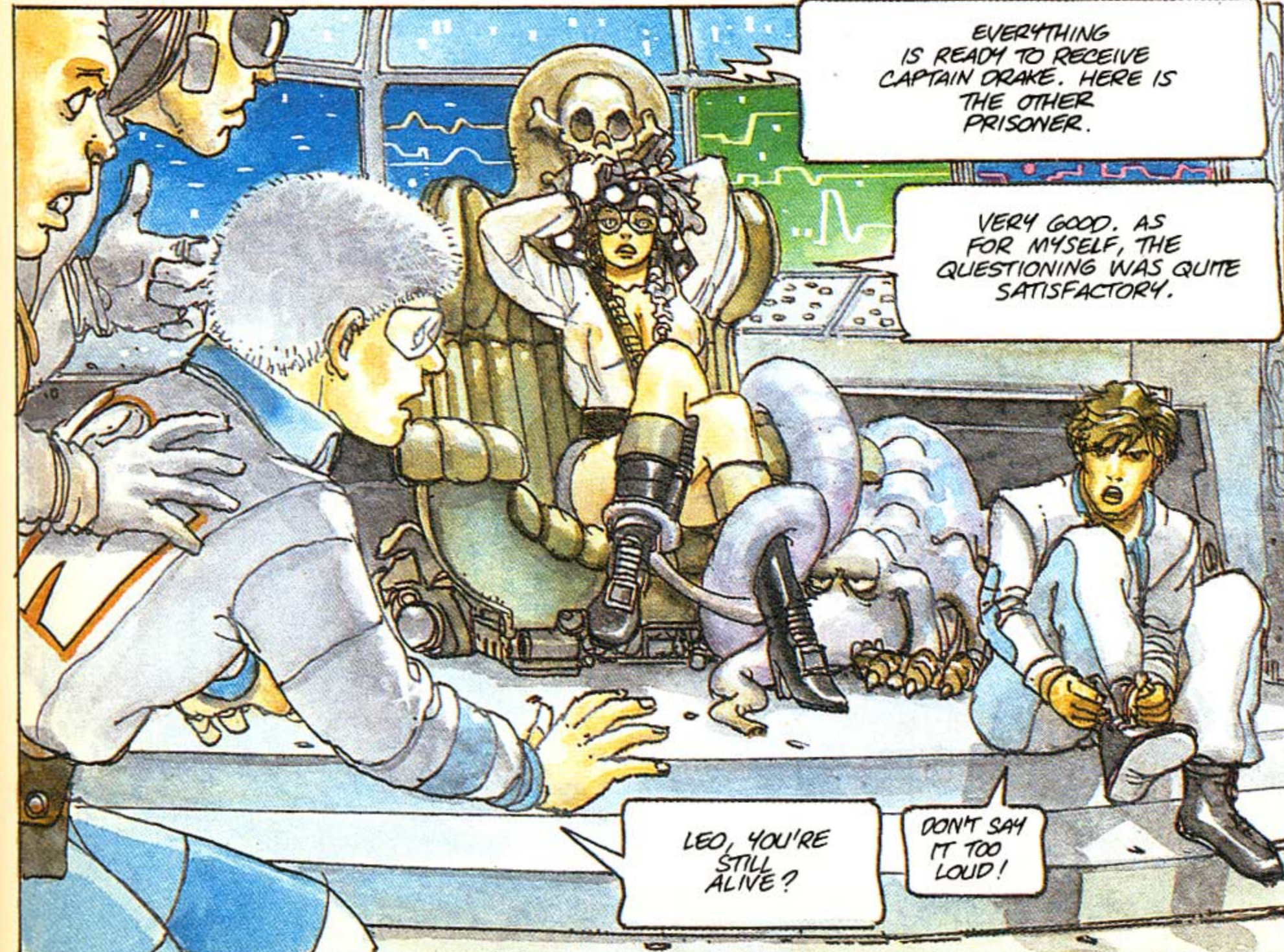
HELL! I MEAN,
SEND ME THE OTHER PRISONER
IN FIVE MINUTES, AND
PREPARE FOR RECEIVING.



WELL, WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING FOR? GET DRESSED.
WE'LL CONTINUE
THIS INTERROGATION
ANOTHER TIME....

I'M
HURRYING!

HANDS
OFF, YOU
DIRTY RUNT.



EVERYTHING
IS READY TO RECEIVE
CAPTAIN DRAKE. HERE IS
THE OTHER
PRISONER.

VERY GOOD. AS
FOR MYSELF, THE
QUESTIONING WAS QUITE
SATISFACTORY.

LEO, YOU'RE
STILL
ALIVE?

DON'T SAY
IT TOO
LOUD!



ARE
YOU OR
NOT?

NATURALLY, I
WAS TOTALLY
IN CONTROL....I...

SHUT UP, VERMIN.

DRAKE'S SHIP
IS BOARDING.

ATTENTION!
HIS EXCELLENCY
CAPTAIN DRAKE,
MASTER OF THE SEVEN
PLANETS IS BOARDING
OUR SHIP!

WHERE IS
COMMANDER
CRAPULA?

IN THE COMPUTER ROOM,
WITH THE PRISONERS!

I WANT TO SEE THOSE
FILES, NOW!

THE COMPUTER IS
WORKING ON THEM RIGHT
NOW, DARLING.

DRAKE
HIMSELF!

GREAT!
...TELL THE
TORTUGA BASE
TO PREPARE
"RED BEARD." WE
WILL ENGAGE
IN AN ACTION
WHICH WILL MAKE
HISTORY!! AND
DON'T CALL
ME DARLING,
ARE YOU OUT
OF YOUR
MIND?

HAVE YOU
NOTICED HOW
TALL DRAKE IS?

YES, THAT'S
A DETAIL WE
DIDN'T CONSIDER.
AND HIS
DICTION IS
FLAWLESS.

RIGHT
AWAY,
DARLING!

SHUT YOUR MOUTHS, TERRESTRIAL EXCREMENTS! WHICH OF YOU IS THE YOUNG GENIUS FROM THE STARR'S ARCHIVES?

IT'S ME.

DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW THE REASON WHY I'VE DESTROYED ALL THE INFORMATION CENTERS OF THE PLANETS?

IT'S BECAUSE...

I DON'T EITHER.

YOU BELIEVE, I'M SURE, THAT BY NOT KNOWING YOU WILL SAVE YOUR MISERABLE LIVES. WRONG! YOU HAVE SEEN TOO MUCH ALREADY. YOU DESERVE TO BE SENT, NAKED, FLOATING IN OUTER SPACE FOR ETERNITY.

BUT BEFORE I DO THAT, I WANT TO HAVE THE PLEASURE OF SHOWING YOU SOME OF MY EXPLOITS.... HMMM....

LET'S SEE WHAT THE COMPUTER TELLS US ABOUT A CERTAIN PERSON...

PIC!
TIC!
TIC!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

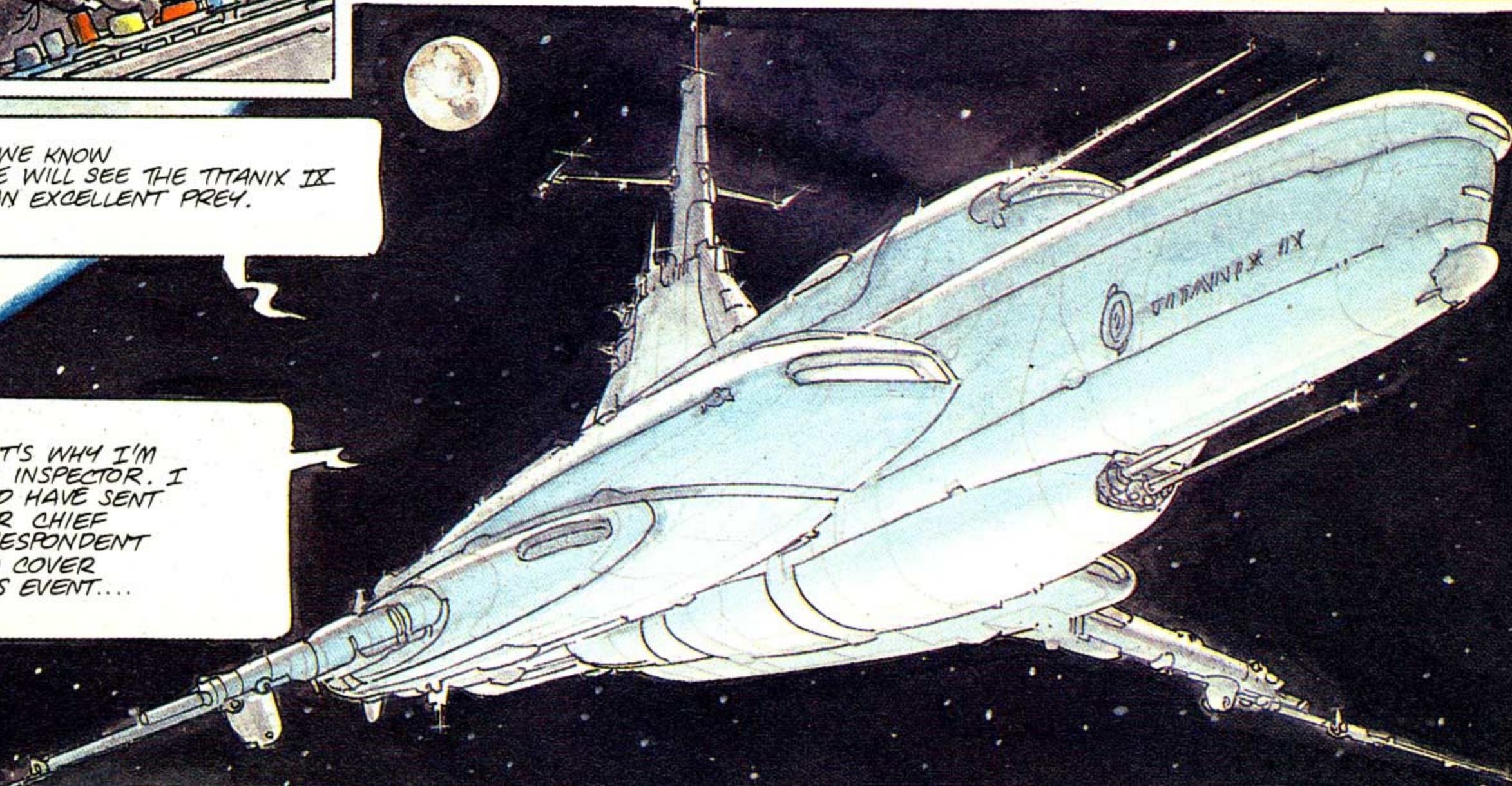
HI THERE!
WHAT'S NEW?

WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR COMES RIGHT AFTER THAT, CAPTAIN DRAKE.

SHUT UP, MEKE.

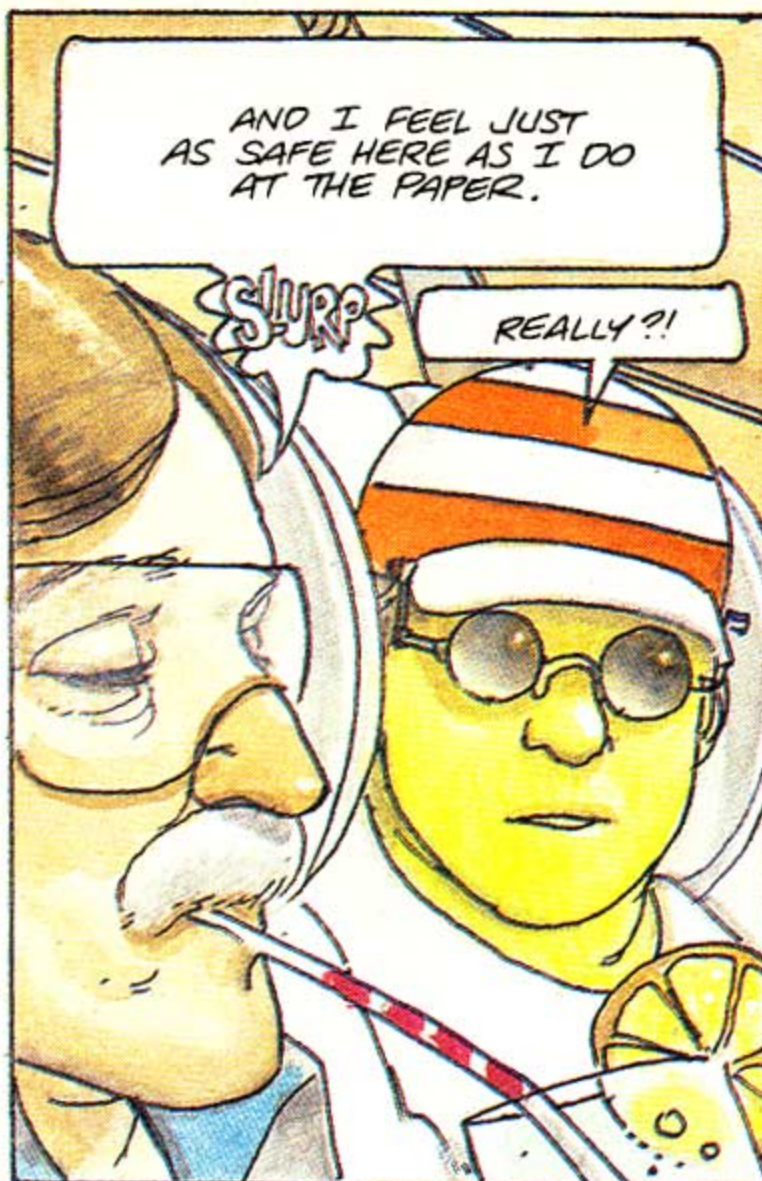
WE KNOW THAT DRAKE WILL SEE THE TITANIX IX AS AN EXCELLENT PREY.

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE, INSPECTOR. I SHOULD HAVE SENT OUR CHIEF CORRESPONDENT TO COVER THIS EVENT....



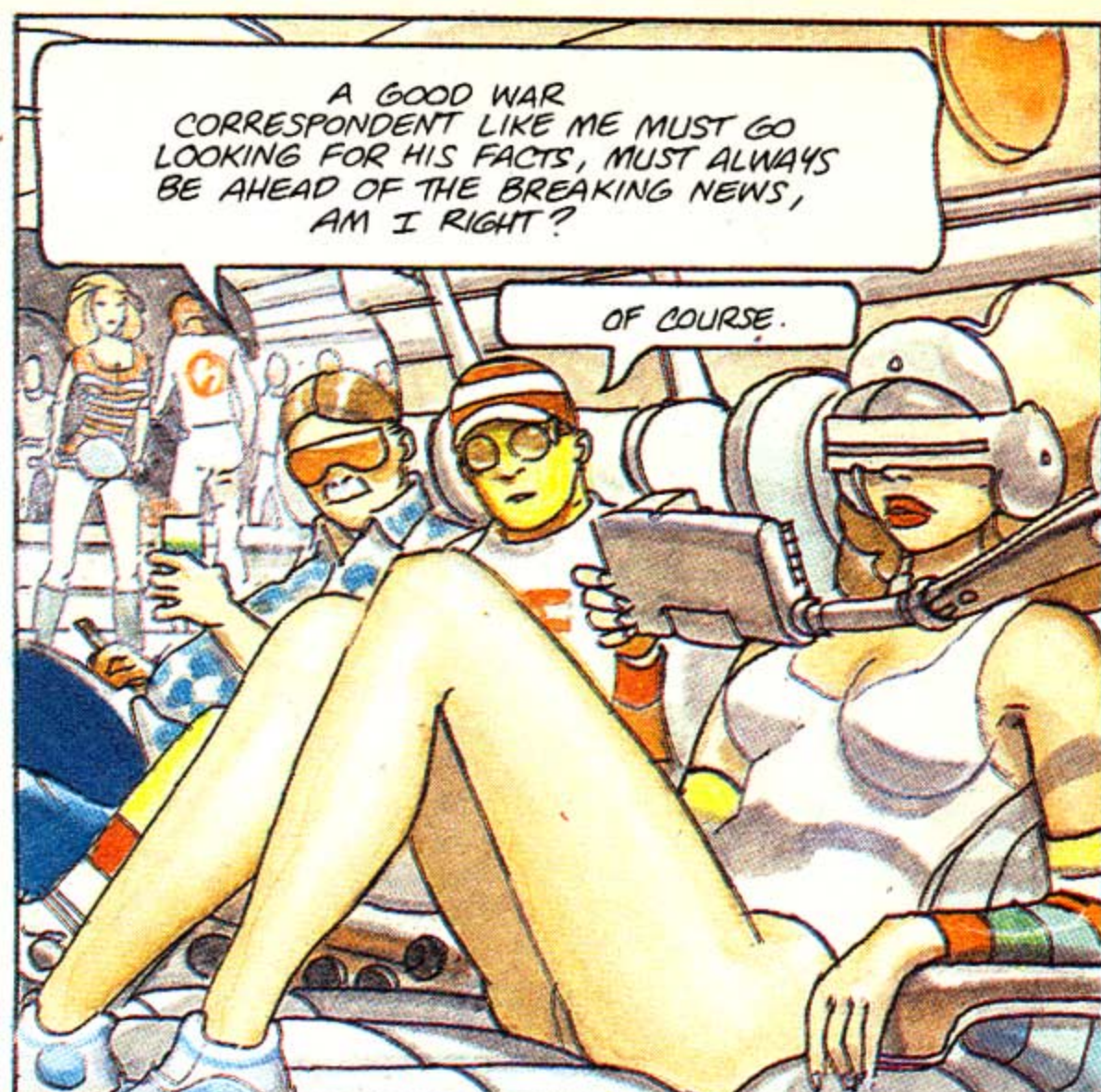


... HOWEVER, THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE BROUGHT WITH YOU HALF OF THE POLICE FORCE REASSURES ME.



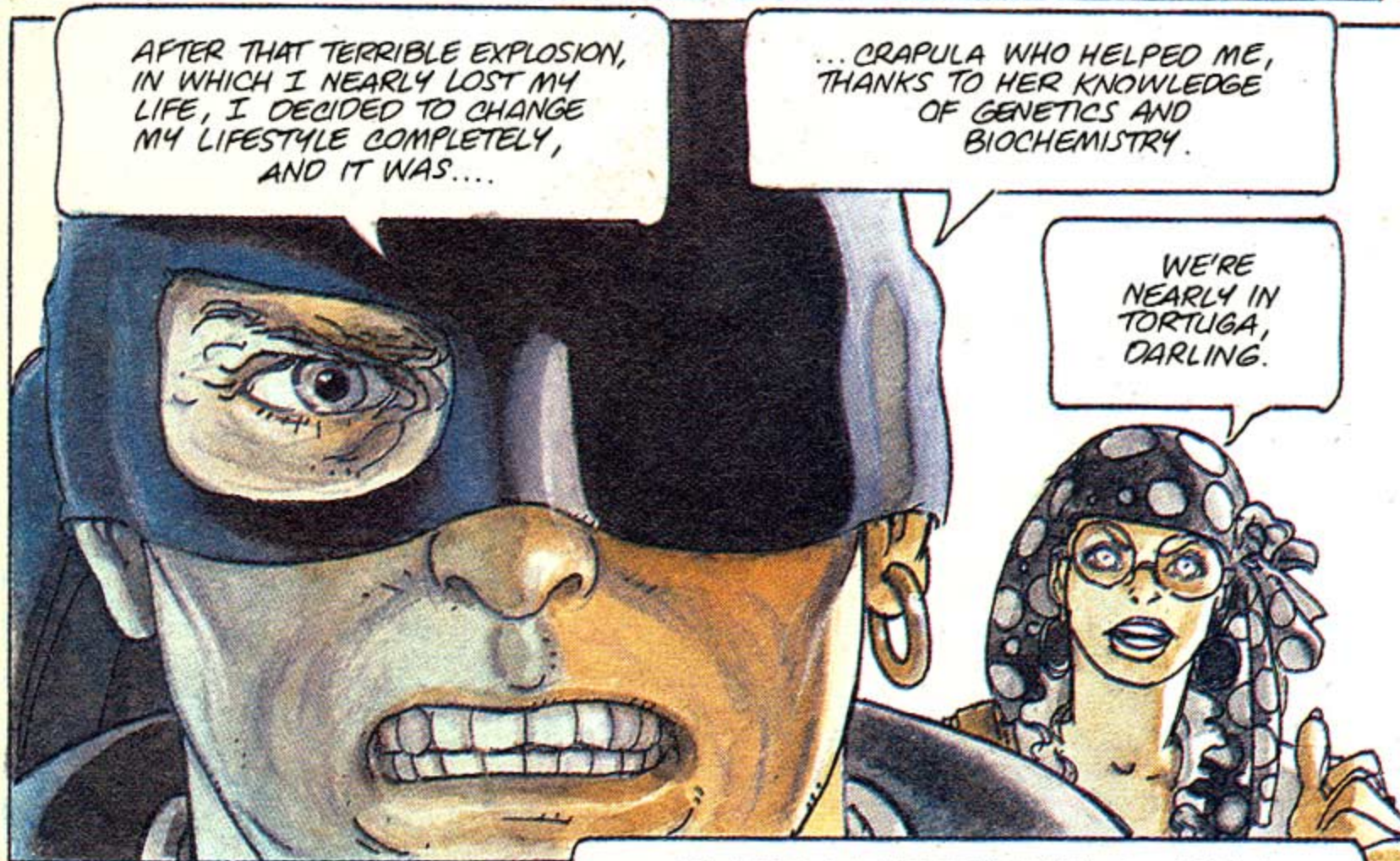
AND I FEEL JUST AS SAFE HERE AS I DO AT THE PAPER.

REALLY?!



A GOOD WAR CORRESPONDENT LIKE ME MUST GO LOOKING FOR HIS FACTS, MUST ALWAYS BE AHEAD OF THE BREAKING NEWS, AM I RIGHT?

OF COURSE.



AFTER THAT TERRIBLE EXPLOSION, IN WHICH I NEARLY LOST MY LIFE, I DECIDED TO CHANGE MY LIFESTYLE COMPLETELY, AND IT WAS....

... CRAPULA WHO HELPED ME, THANKS TO HER KNOWLEDGE OF GENETICS AND BIOCHEMISTRY.

WE'RE NEARLY IN TORTUGA, DARLING.

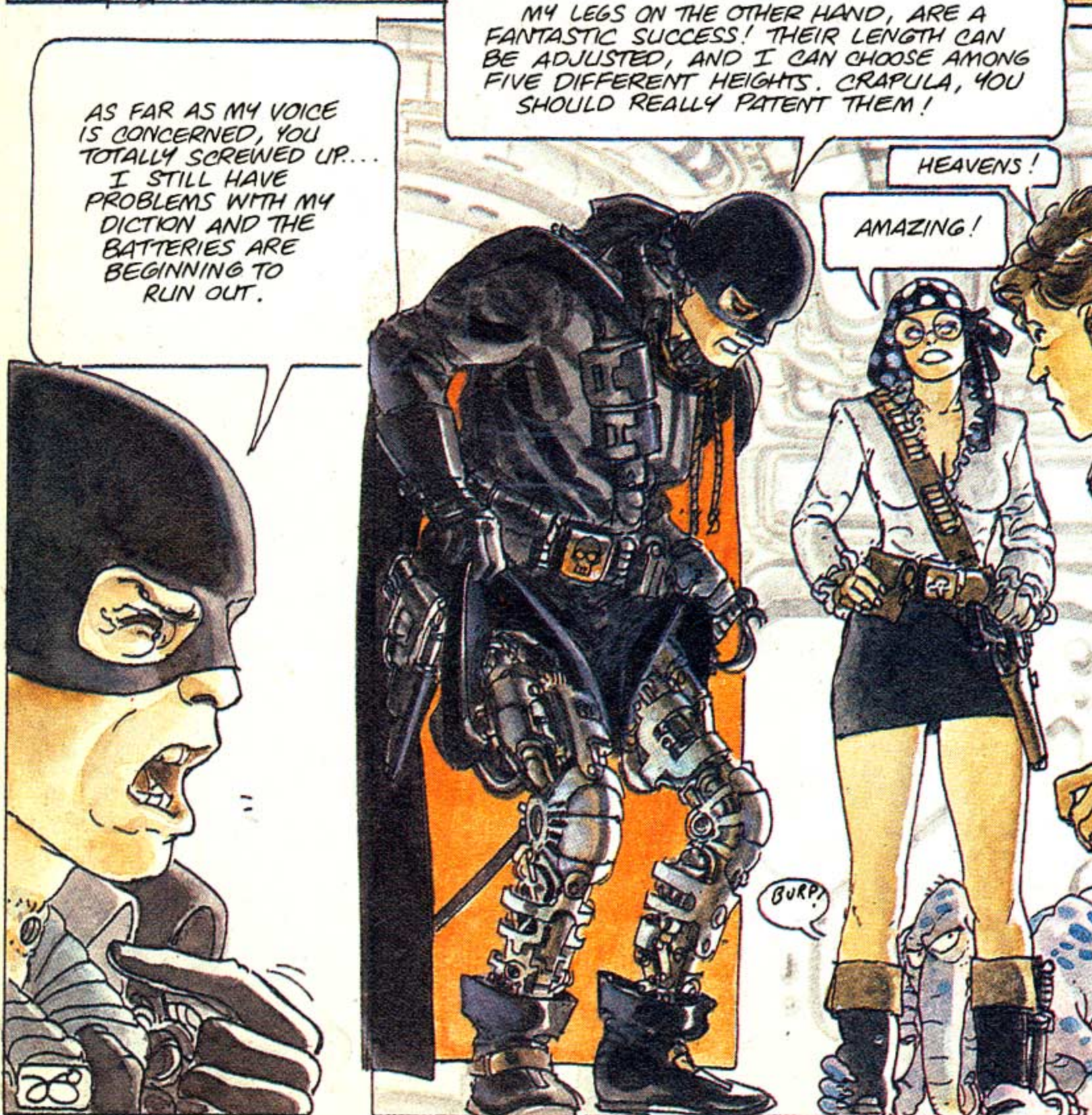


WHEN I FOUND HIM, MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE, HE NEEDED A NEW BODY, A NEW FACE AND A NEW PERSONALITY.

DON'T BOTHER OUR PRISONERS.

GO AWAY, VERMIN.

BURP.

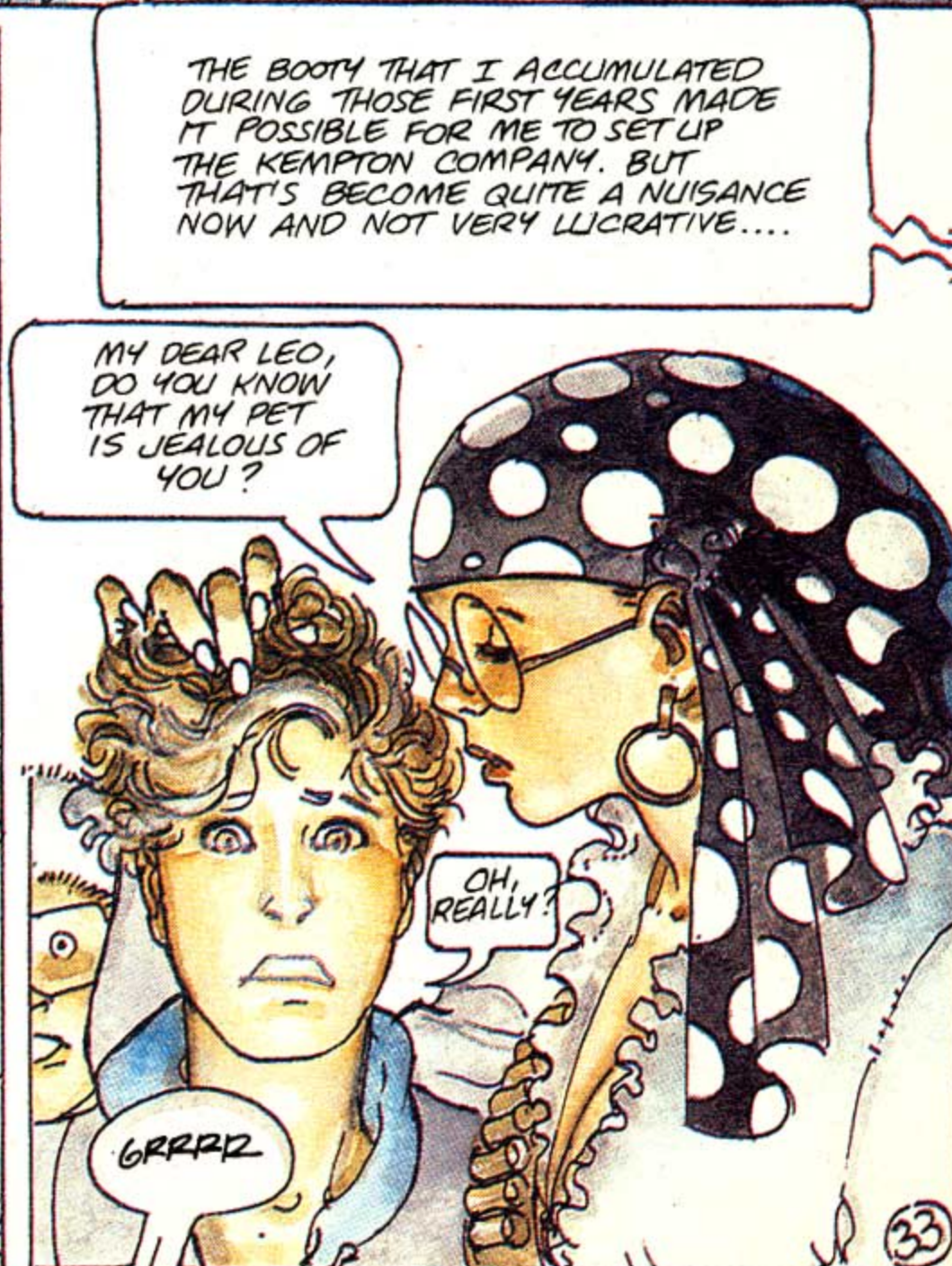


MY LEGS ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE A FANTASTIC SUCCESS! THEIR LENGTH CAN BE ADJUSTED, AND I CAN CHOOSE AMONG FIVE DIFFERENT HEIGHTS. CRAPULA, YOU SHOULD REALLY PATENT THEM!

HEAVENS!

AMAZING!

AS FAR AS MY VOICE IS CONCERNED, YOU TOTALLY SCREWED UP... I STILL HAVE PROBLEMS WITH MY DICTION AND THE BATTERIES ARE BEGINNING TO RUN OUT.



THE BOOTY THAT I ACCUMULATED DURING THOSE FIRST YEARS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO SET UP THE KEMPTON COMPANY. BUT THAT'S BECOME QUITE A NUISANCE NOW AND NOT VERY LUCRATIVE....

MY DEAR LEO, DO YOU KNOW THAT MY PET IS JEALOUS OF YOU?

OH, REALLY?

GRRRR

..... SO I'VE DECIDED TO BRING BACK TOGETHER MY OLD COMPANIONS AND RESUME MY LIFE AS A MERCENARY SOLDIER. OH, YES, YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY, MY DEAR ROA.....

YOU'VE DISCOVERED THE CONNECTION BETWEEN MY PAST LIFE AND THE ONE I LIVE NOW.

I KNEW THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD DISCOVER MY SECRET AND THAT'S WHY I ATTACKED THE INFORMATION CENTERS AND GOT RID OF ANY EMBARRASSING WITNESSES. ONLY CRAPULA KNOWS WHO I REALLY AM.

ATTENTION PLEASE, COMMANDER CRAPULA. WE ARE ARRIVING IN TORTUGA. EVERYTHING IS READY FOR LANDING.

NOBODY WILL BE ABLE TO STOP ME NOW! SOON I WILL BE THE MASTER OF THOUSANDS OF SPACESHIPS. I WILL HEAD THE GREATEST FLEET OF ALL TIME.

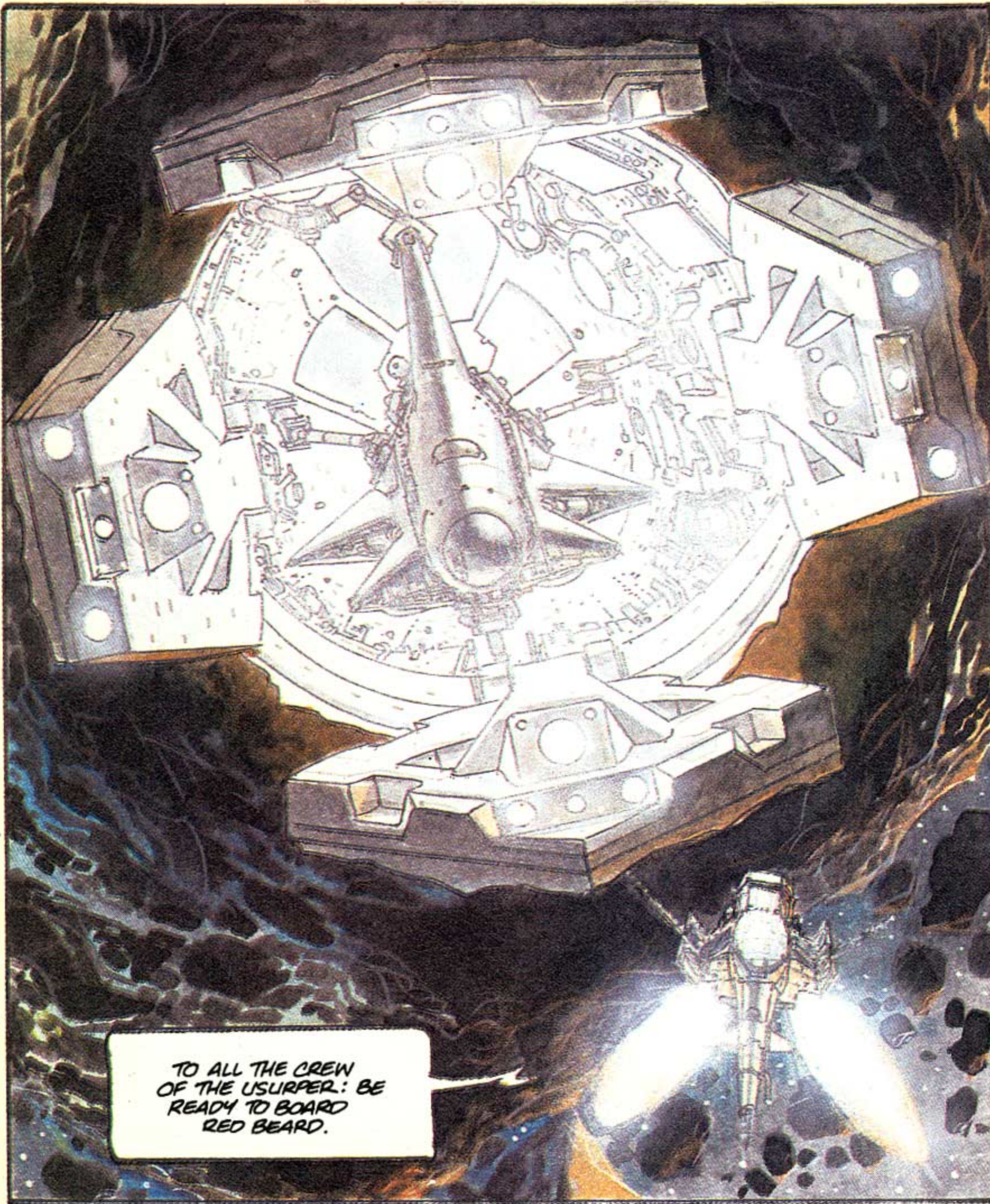
I WILL ONLY REST ON THE DAY WHEN I WILL CONTROL THE WHOLE INTERPLANETARY SYSTEM. TODAY WE WILL BEGIN BY CAPTURING THE TITANIX IX.

HE'S COMPLETELY ZONKED!

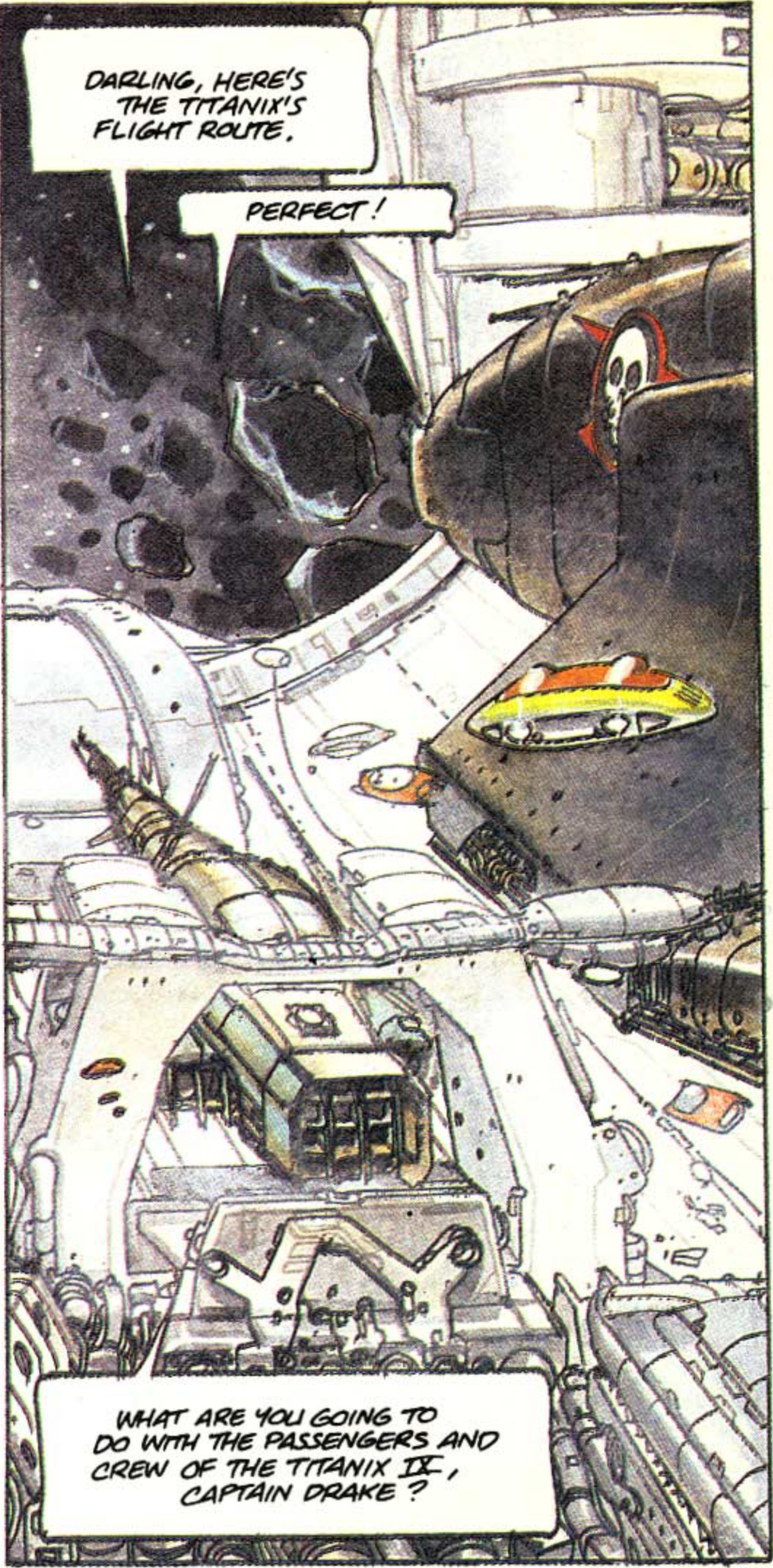
LEO, LOOK! A BASE HIDDEN INSIDE AN ASTEROID. WHAT A STROKE OF GENIUS! NO ONE WILL EVER BE ABLE TO DETECT IT.

MY DEAR MEKE.... HOW RIGHT YOU ARE. WE'LL NEVER COME OUT ALIVE!

TURN ON THE LANDING MOTORS! TURN 180 DEGREES.



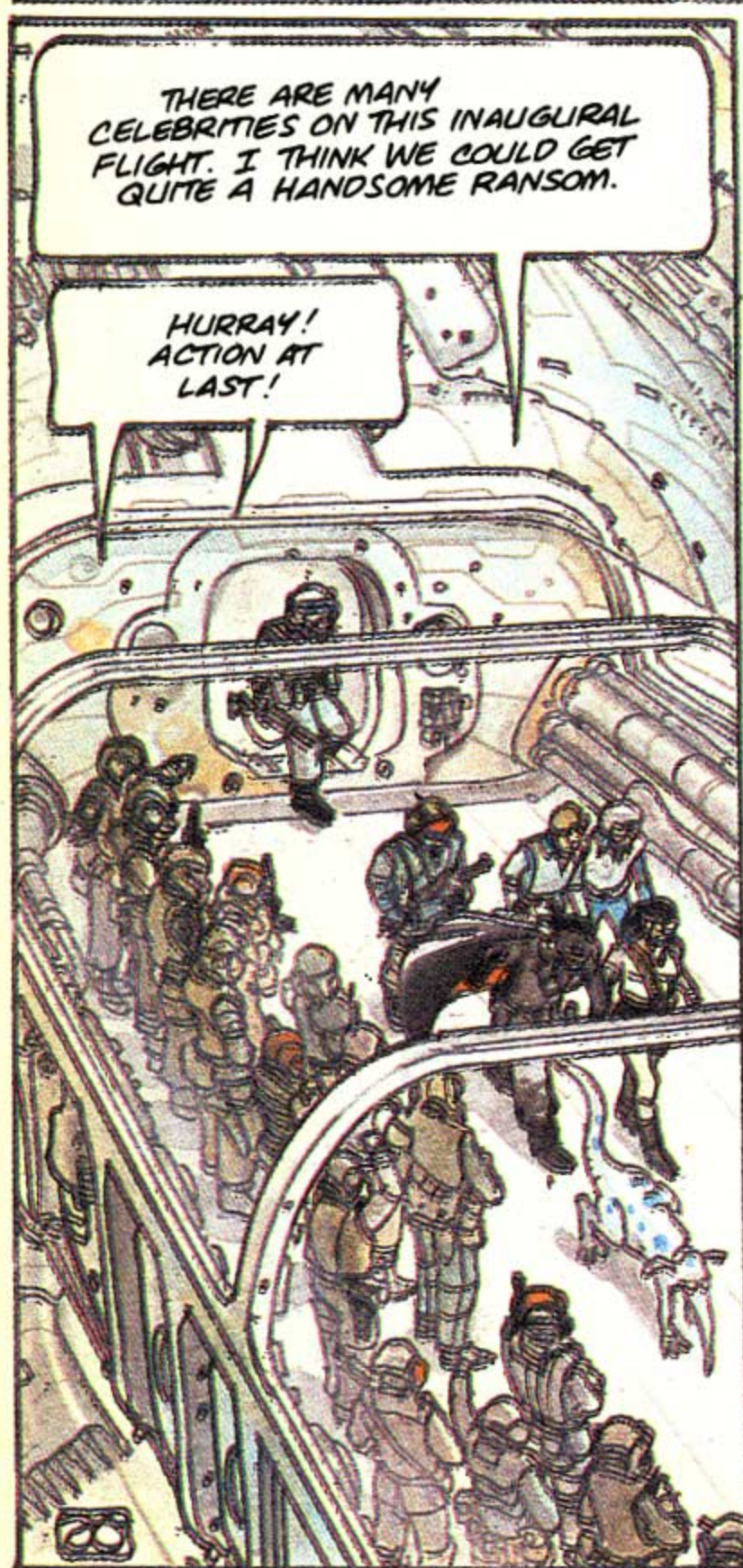
TO ALL THE CREW
OF THE USURPER: BE
READY TO BOARD
RED BEARD.



DARLING, HERE'S
THE TITANIX'S
FLIGHT ROUTE.

PERFECT!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO
DO WITH THE PASSENGERS AND
CREW OF THE TITANIX IX,
CAPTAIN DRAKE?



THERE ARE MANY
CELEBRITIES ON THIS INAUGURAL
FLIGHT. I THINK WE COULD GET
QUITE A HANDSOME RANSOM.

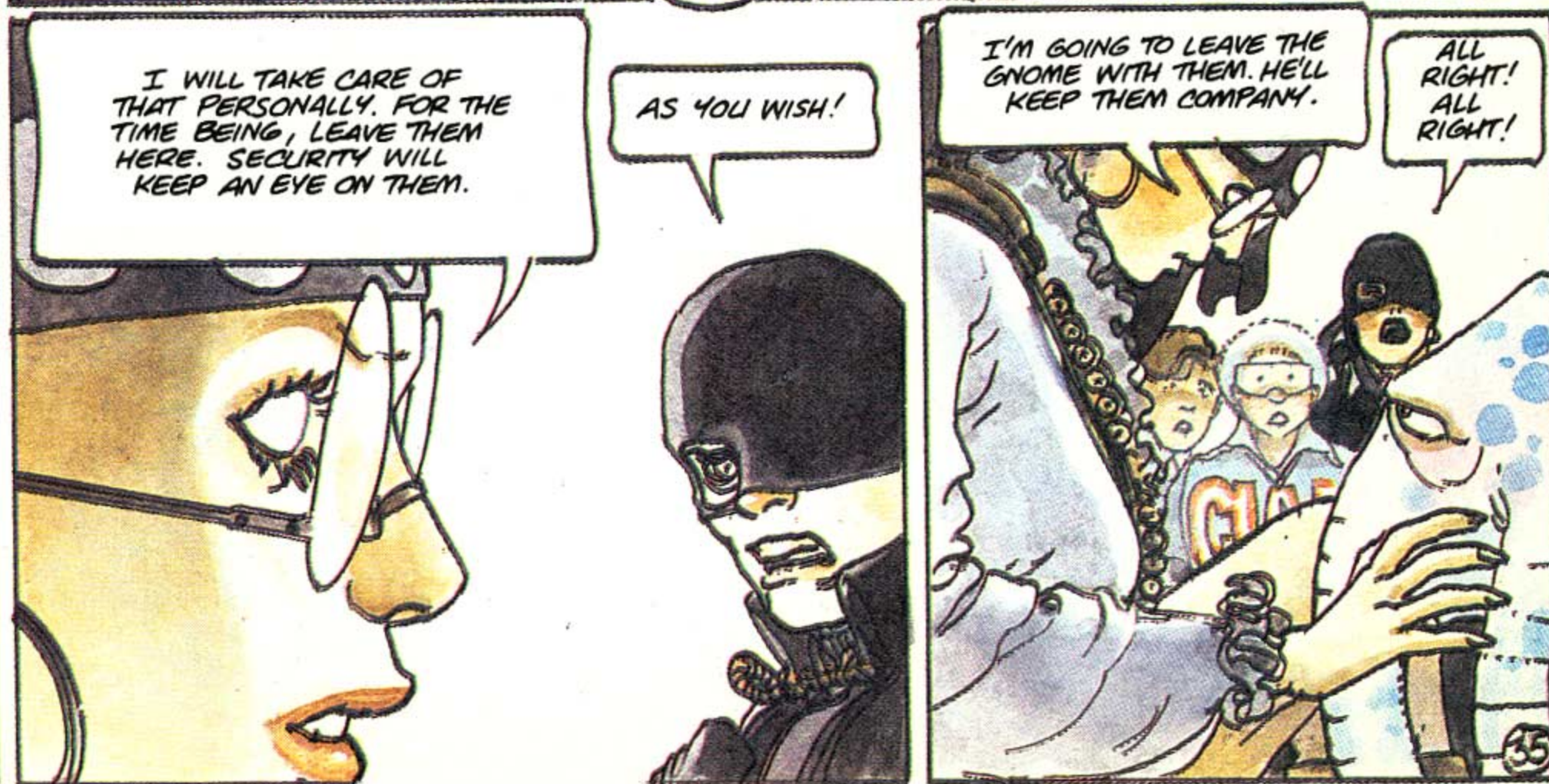
HURRAY!
ACTION AT
LAST!



AND WHAT ABOUT THESE TWO HERE?

DESTROY THEM.

I THINK
THEY'RE TALKING
ABOUT US.

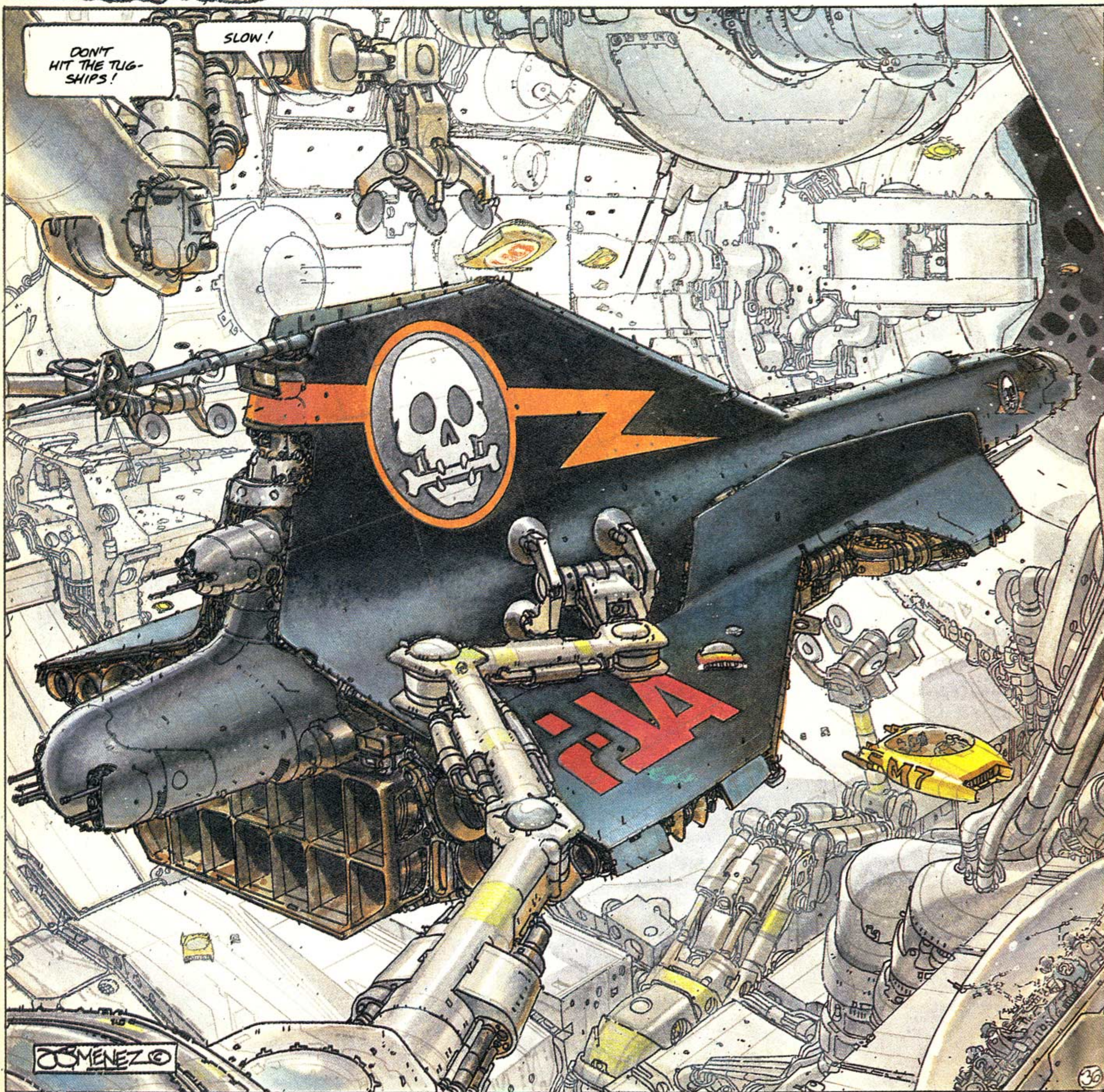
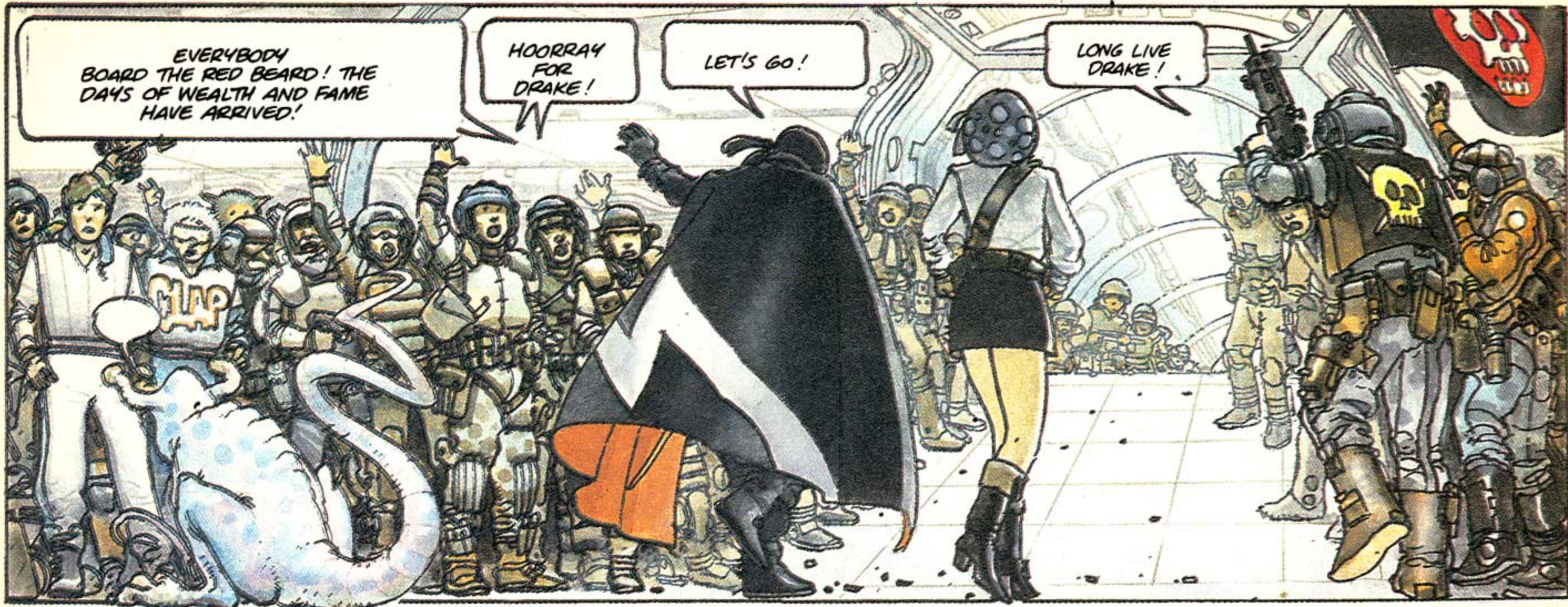


I WILL TAKE CARE OF
THAT PERSONALLY. FOR THE
TIME BEING, LEAVE THEM
HERE. SECURITY WILL
KEEP AN EYE ON THEM.

AS YOU WISH!

I'M GOING TO LEAVE THE
GNOME WITH THEM. HE'LL
KEEP THEM COMPANY.

ALL
RIGHT!
ALL
RIGHT!





IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE ROA'S AUNT THAT LEO AND MEKE HAD TO SPEND A FEW VACATION DAYS ON THE EAST COAST.

.... AND WE STILL HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS. THE BURP ATE THE VITAL INFORMATION.... AND WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHY OUR INFORMATION CENTERS WERE ATTACKED.

WE CAN'T SEE THE ASTEROID!

THE BURP?

YES, LEO'S REVOLTING PET.

NOW I REMEMBER!

I DOUBT THAT LEO IS AS INNOCENT AS HE PRETENDS TO BE.

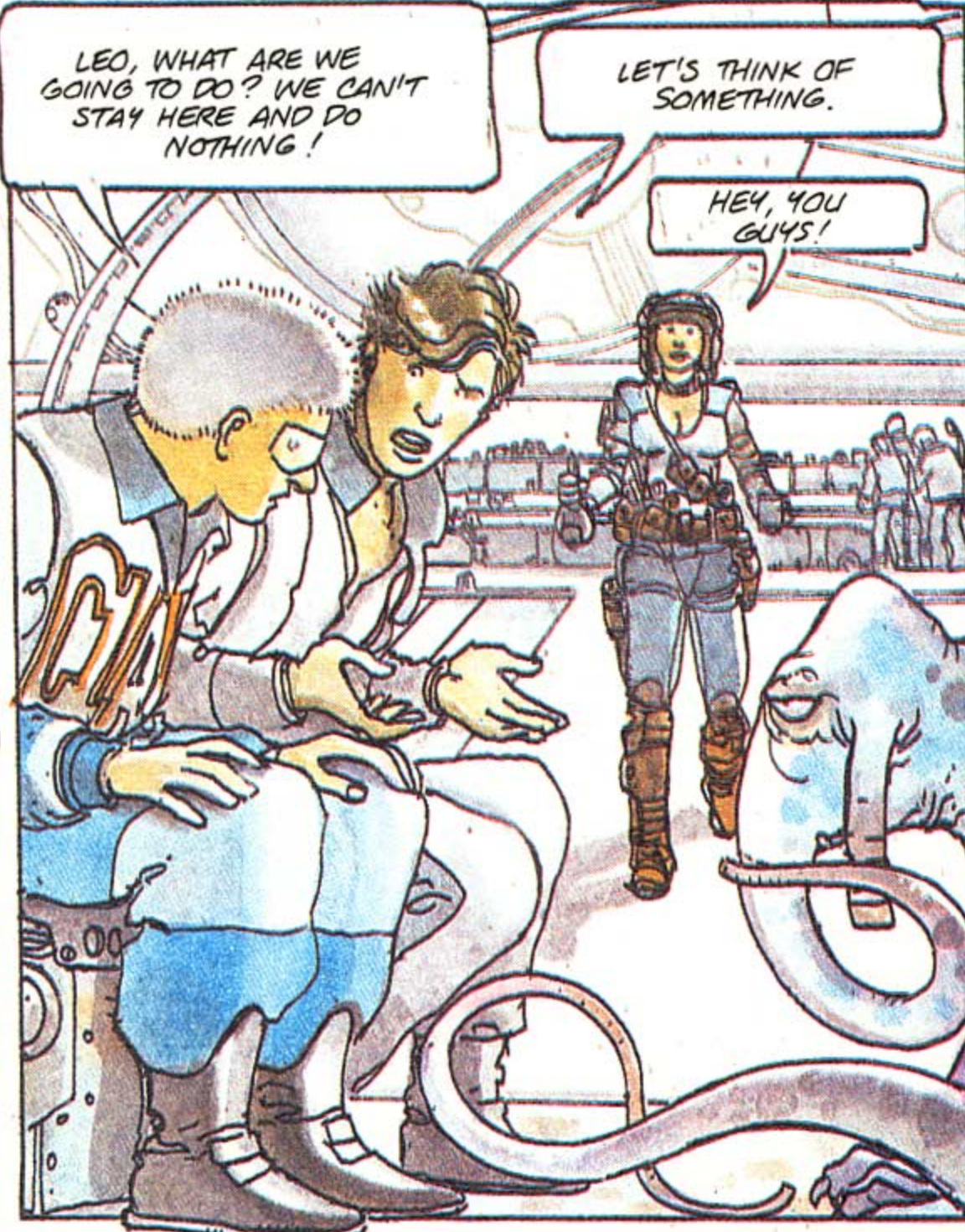
LEO?... OH, I DON'T THINK SO. HE SEEMED REALLY NICE.

YOU SAID "SEEMED"?



WE HAVE TO BE EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS. WE'VE JUST ENTERED DRAKE'S TERRITORY. A DRINK, INSPECTOR?

NO THANKS. I'M ON DUTY, AND I BEGIN TO WISH I WEREN'T.



LEO, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? WE CAN'T STAY HERE AND DO NOTHING!

LET'S THINK OF SOMETHING.

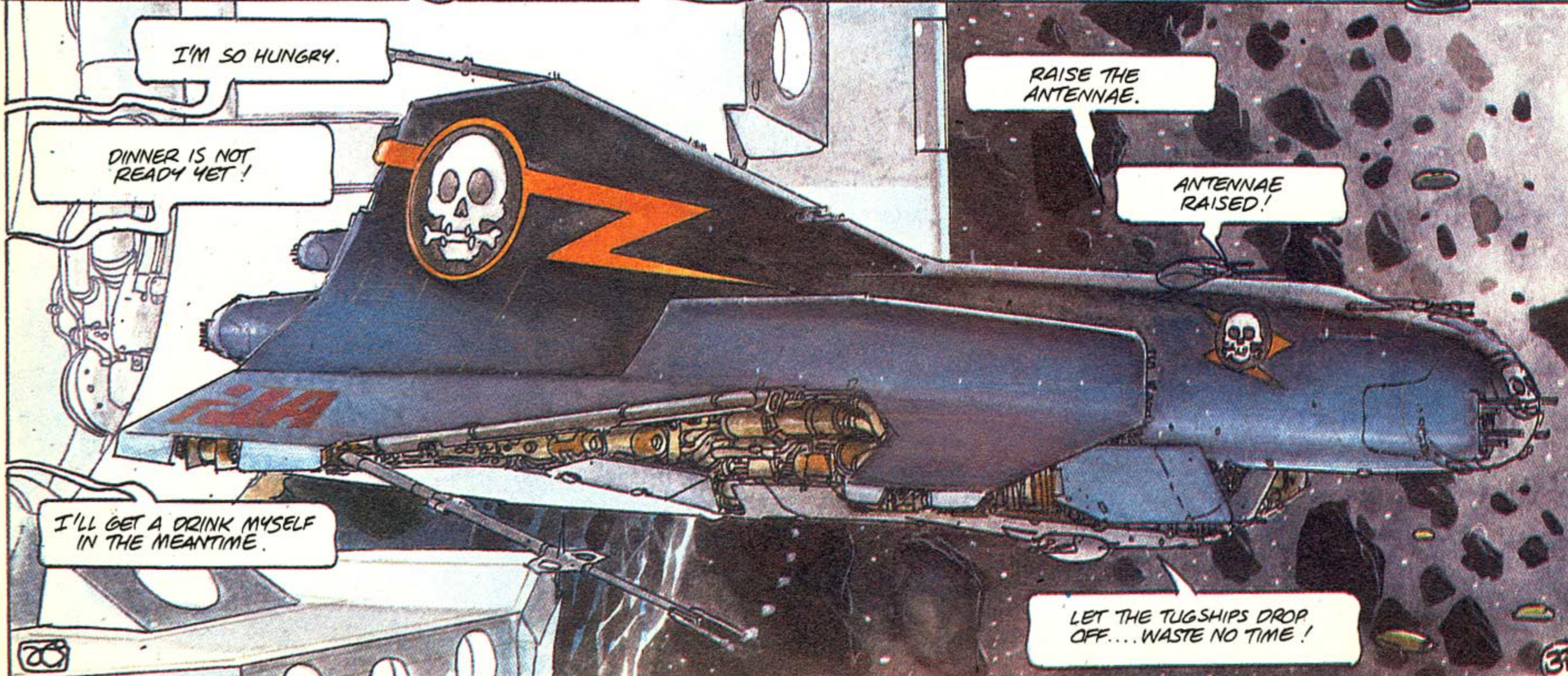
HEY, YOU GUYS!



WOULD YOU LIKE A TASTE OF RUM TO DROWN YOUR SORROWS FOR A WHILE?

NO.

WHY NOT?



I'M SO HUNGRY.

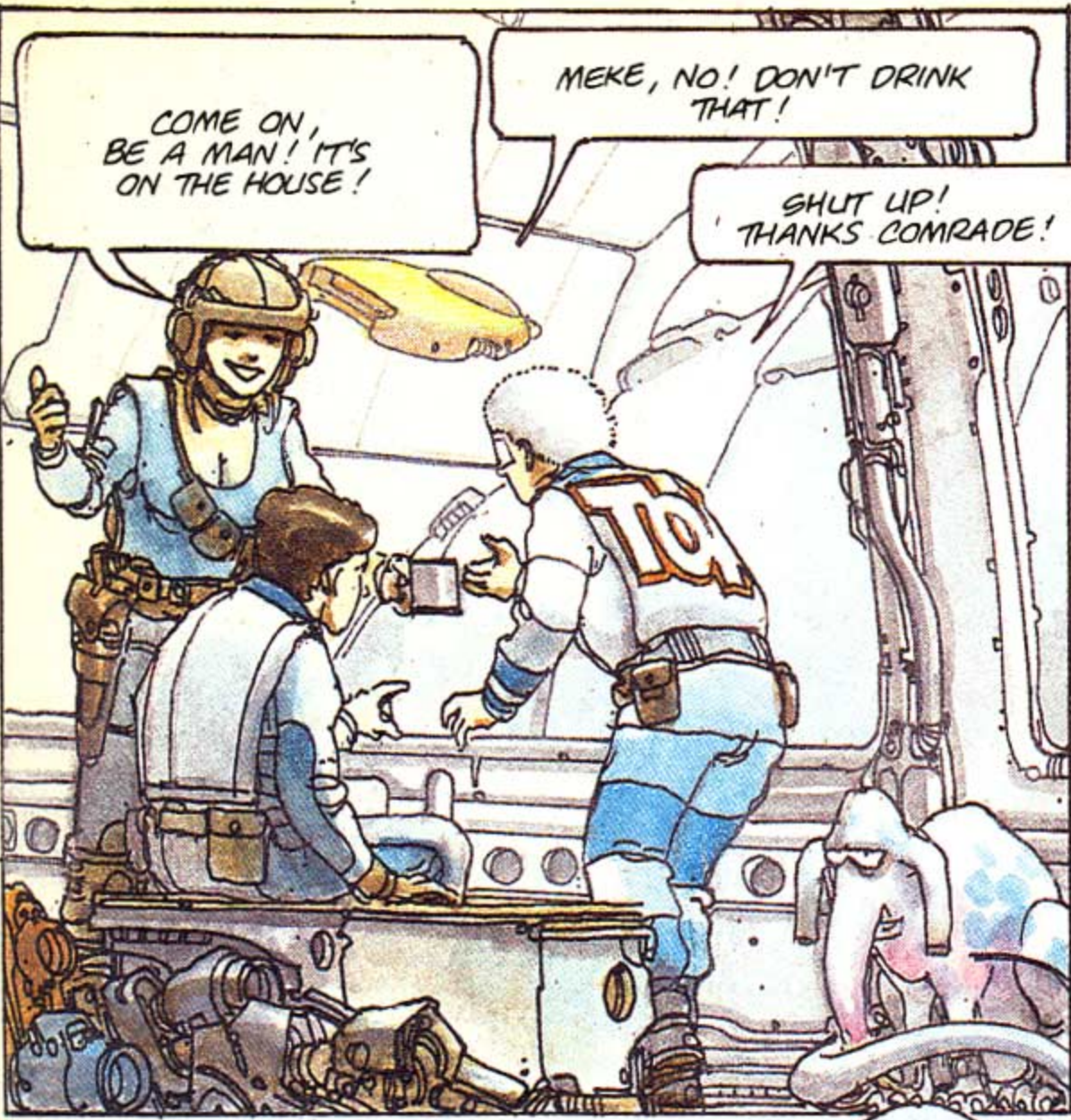
DINNER IS NOT READY YET!

I'LL GET A DRINK MYSELF IN THE MEANTIME.

RAISE THE ANTENNAE.

ANTENNAE RAISED!

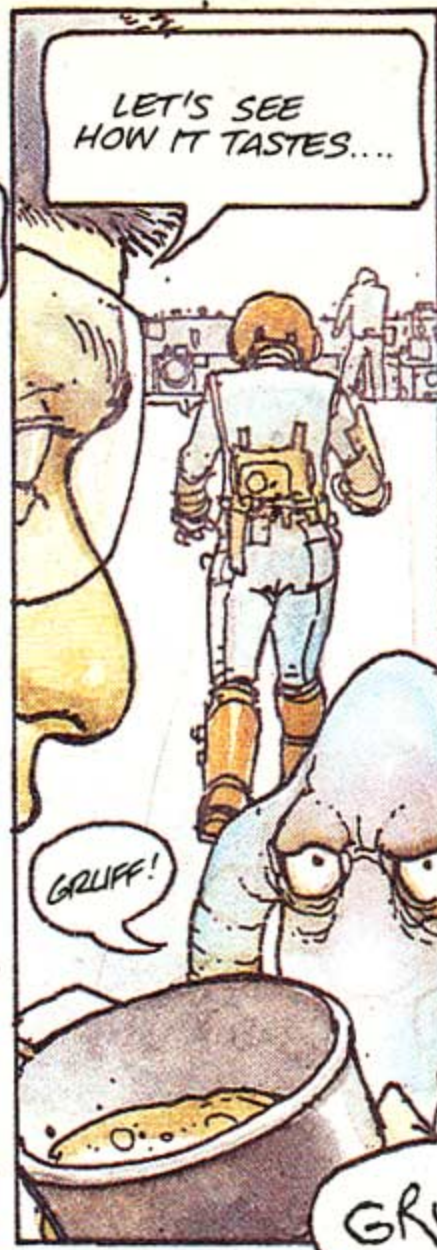
LET THE TUGSHIPS DROP OFF.... WASTE NO TIME!



COME ON, BE A MAN! IT'S ON THE HOUSE!

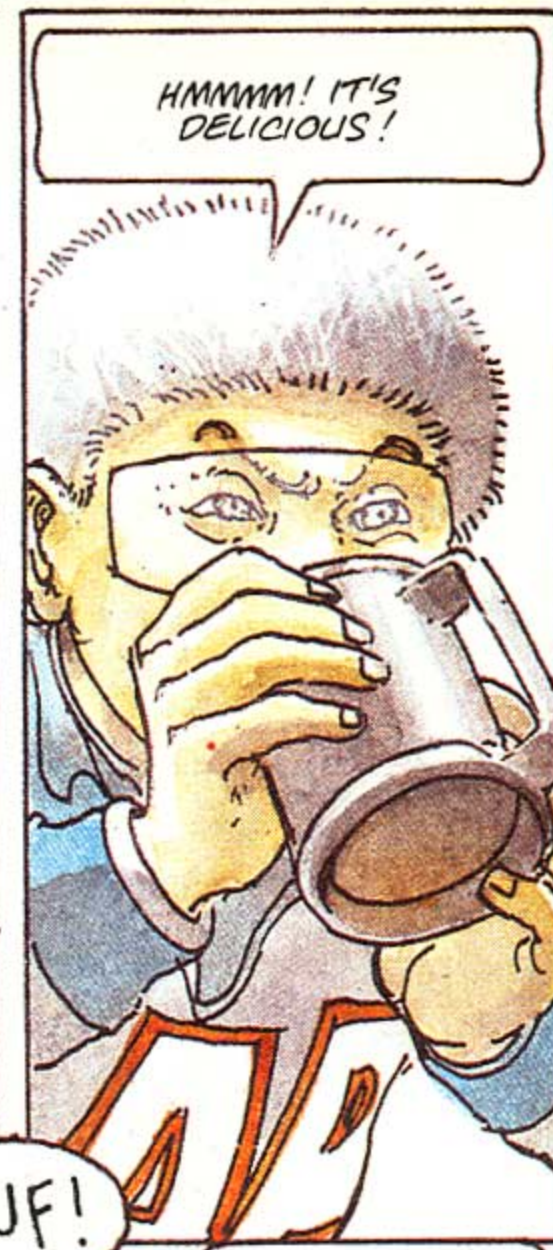
MEKE, NO! DON'T DRINK THAT!

SHUT UP! THANKS COMRADE!

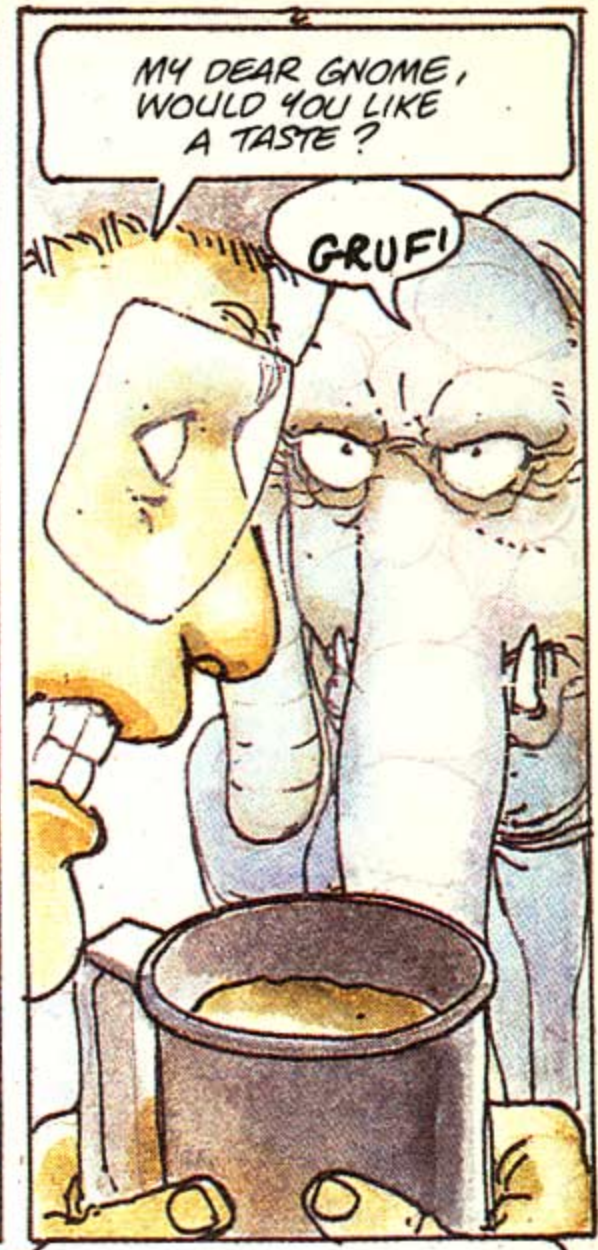


LET'S SEE HOW IT TASTES...

GRUFF!

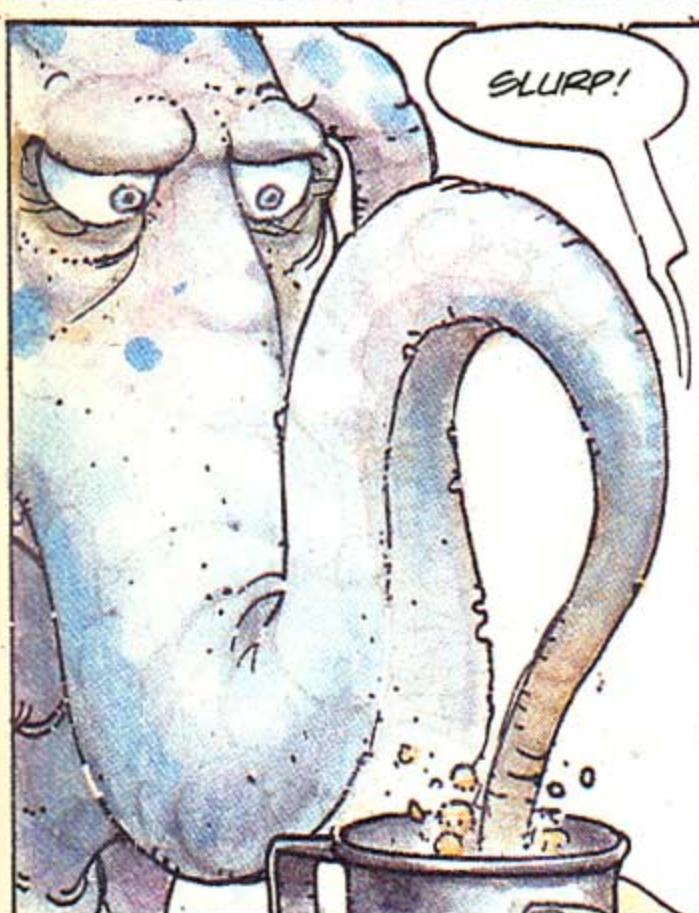


HMMMM! IT'S DELICIOUS!



MY DEAR GNOME, WOULD YOU LIKE A TASTE?

GRUF!



SLURP!



DO YOU LIKE THAT CONCOCTION?

I DON'T THINK HE CAN ANSWER YOU. HE'S A GONER....

I FEARED AS MUCH.

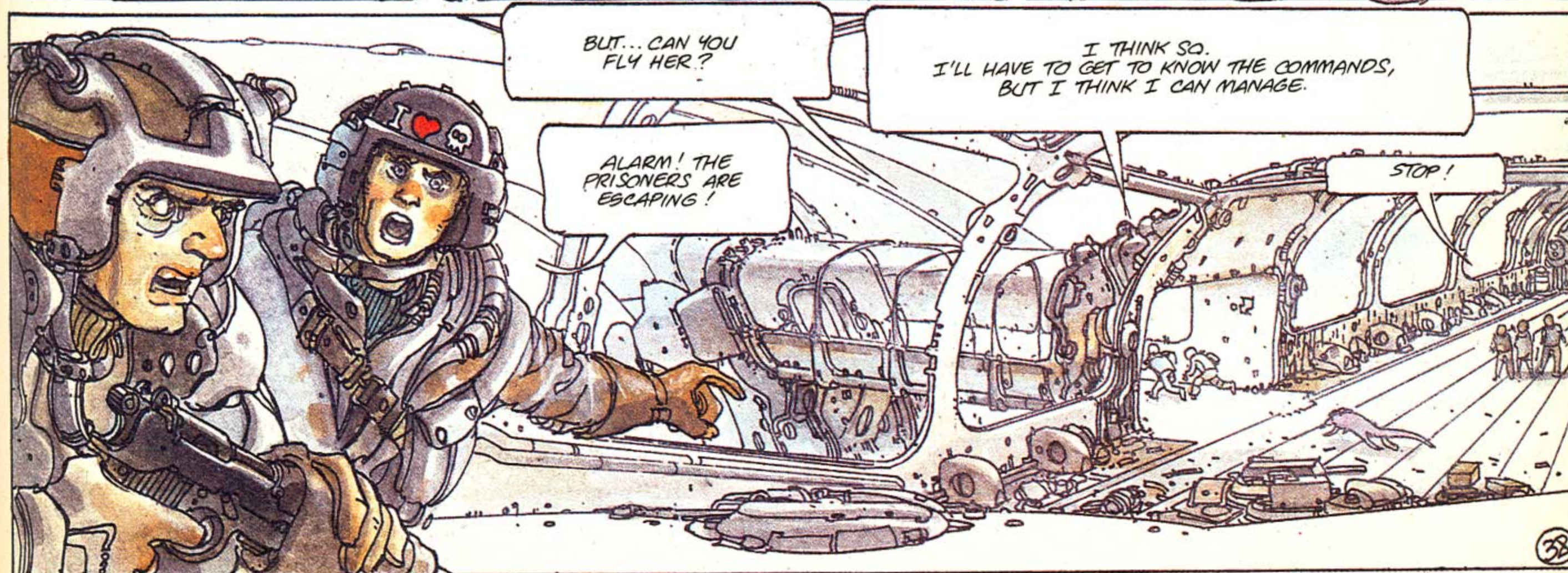


COME ON, LEO, HURRY. ONE PROBLEM IS SOLVED.... LET'S NOT LOSE PRECIOUS TIME.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHERE ARE WE GOING?

WE'LL STEAL THE USURPER.

BURP!

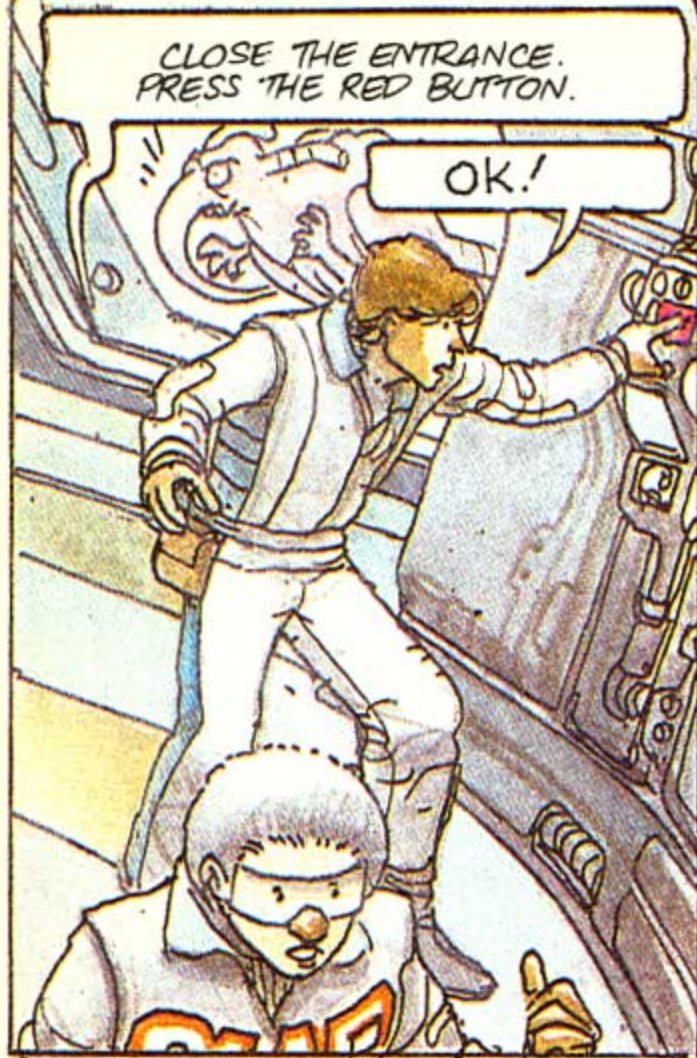


BUT... CAN YOU FLY HER?

ALARM! THE PRISONERS ARE ESCAPING!

I THINK SO. I'LL HAVE TO GET TO KNOW THE COMMANDS, BUT I THINK I CAN MANAGE.

STOP!

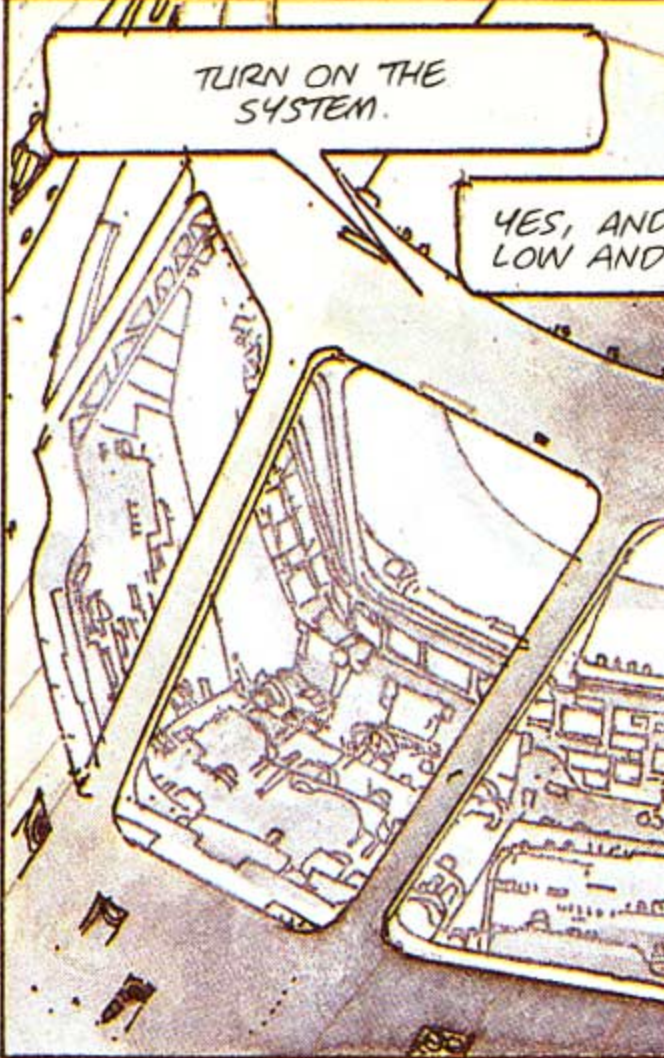


CLOSE THE ENTRANCE. PRESS THE RED BUTTON.

OK!



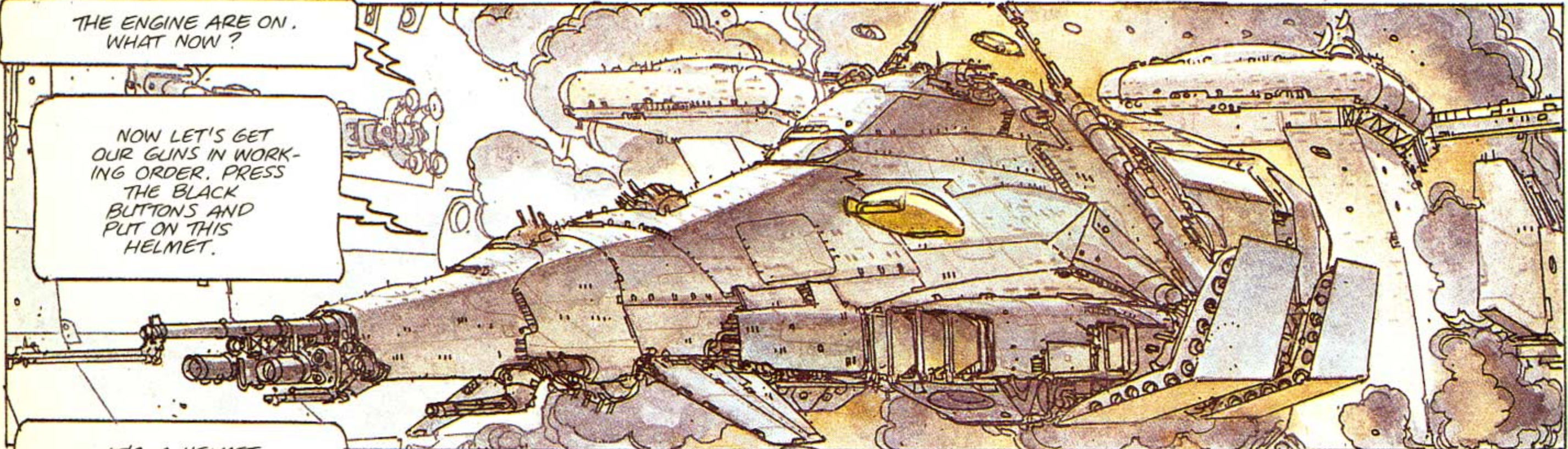
HURRY. LET'S GET TO THE COCKPIT.



TURN ON THE SYSTEM.

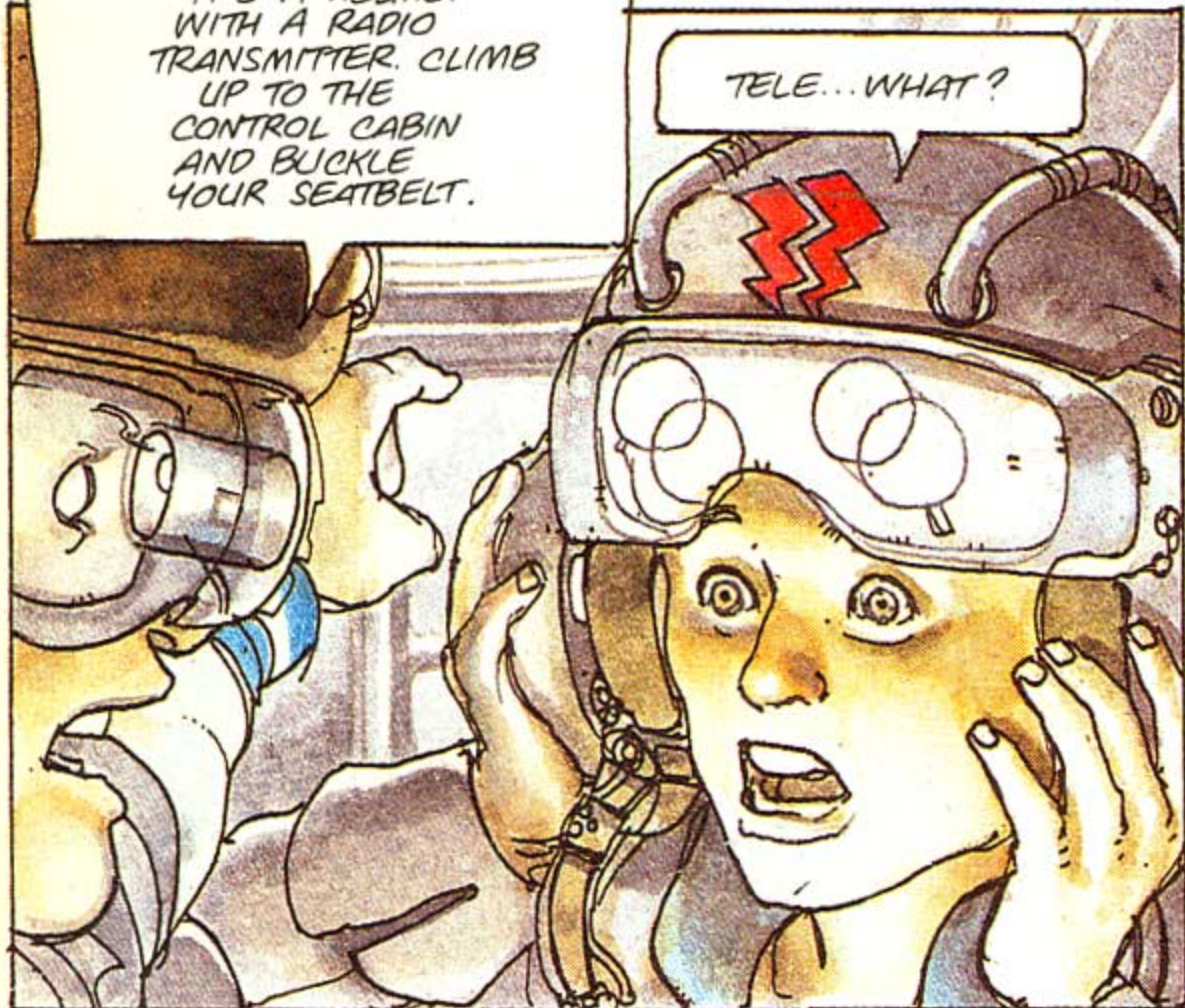
THE ONE WITH THE RED BUTTONS?

YES, AND TURN ON THE YELLOW AND GREEN ONES ALSO.



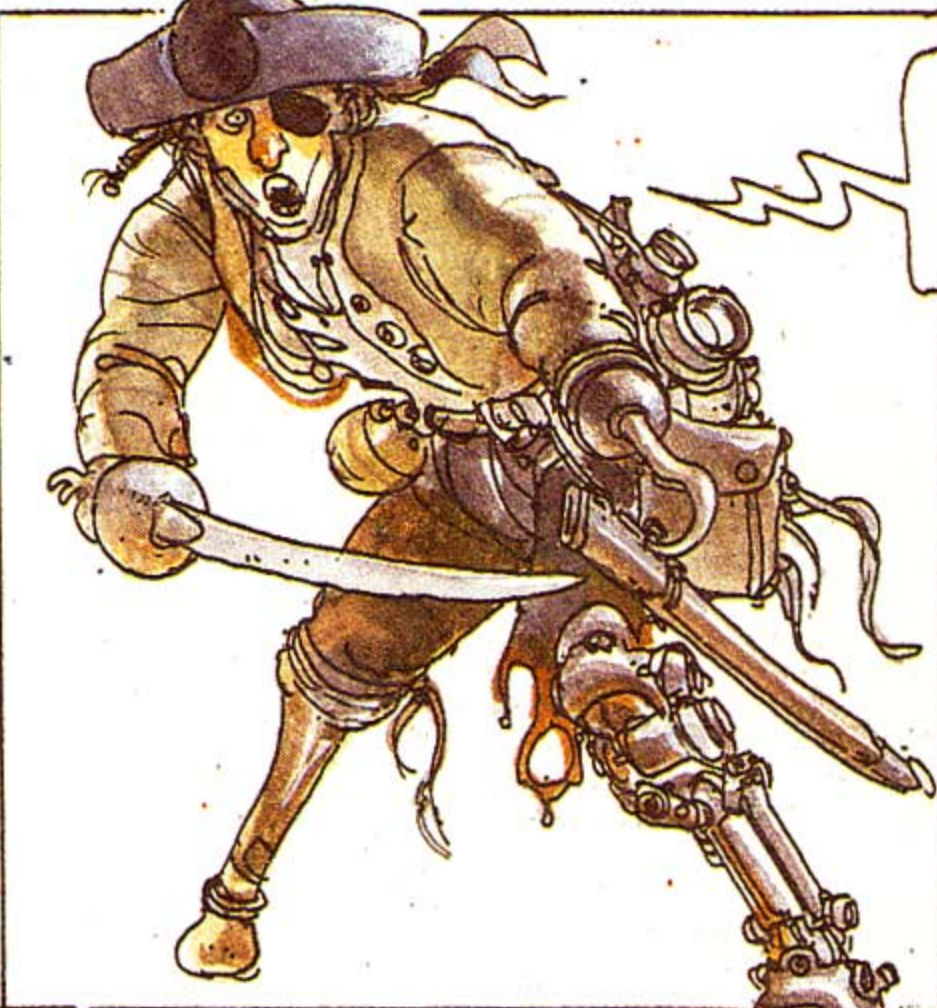
THE ENGINE ARE ON. WHAT NOW?

NOW LET'S GET OUR GUNS IN WORKING ORDER. PRESS THE BLACK BUTTONS AND PUT ON THIS HELMET.

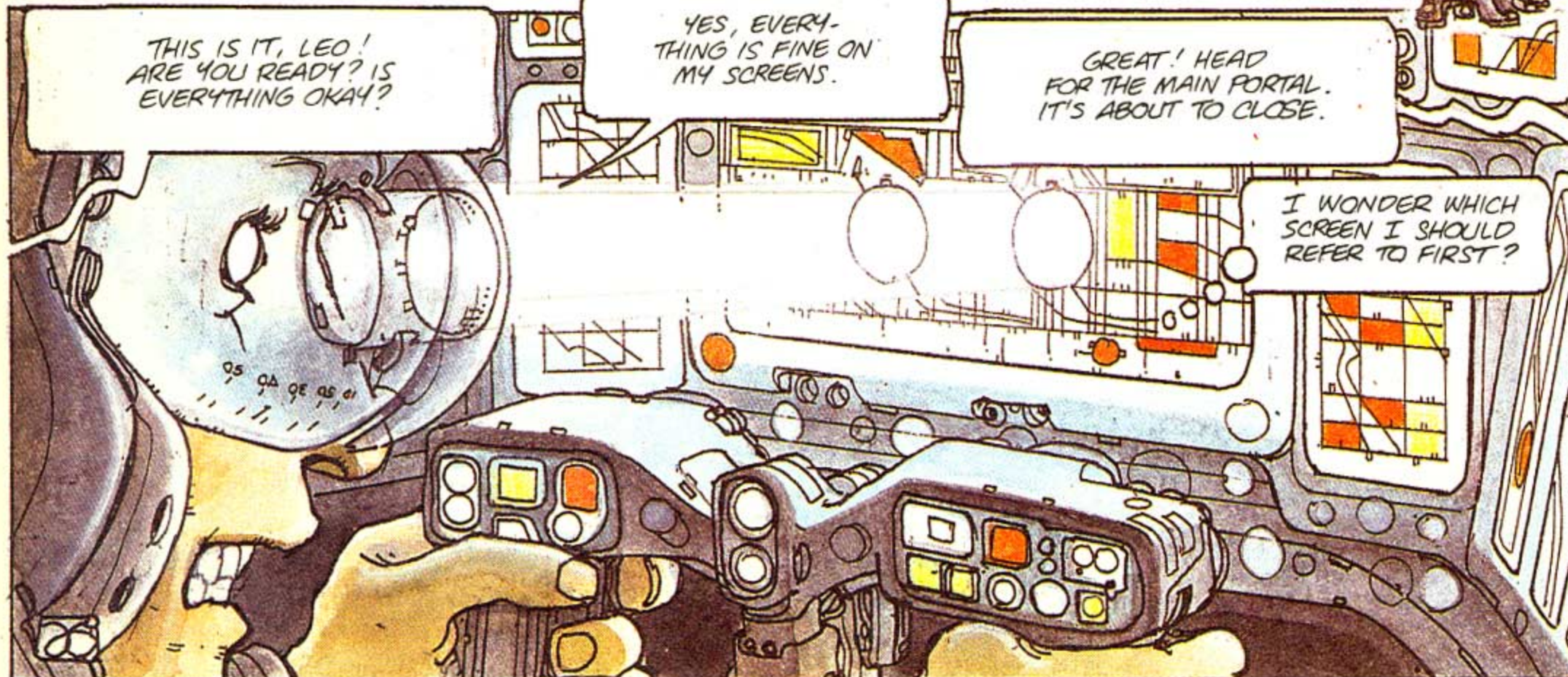


IT'S A HELMET WITH A RADIO TRANSMITTER. CLIMB UP TO THE CONTROL CABIN AND BUCKLE YOUR SEATBELT.

TELE...WHAT?



CLOSE THE MAIN PORTALS, YOU BAND OF IDIOTS! THEY'RE GOING TO ESCAPE!



THIS IS IT, LEO! ARE YOU READY? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?

YES, EVERYTHING IS FINE ON MY SCREENS.

GREAT! HEAD FOR THE MAIN PORTAL. IT'S ABOUT TO CLOSE.

I WONDER WHICH SCREEN I SHOULD REFER TO FIRST?

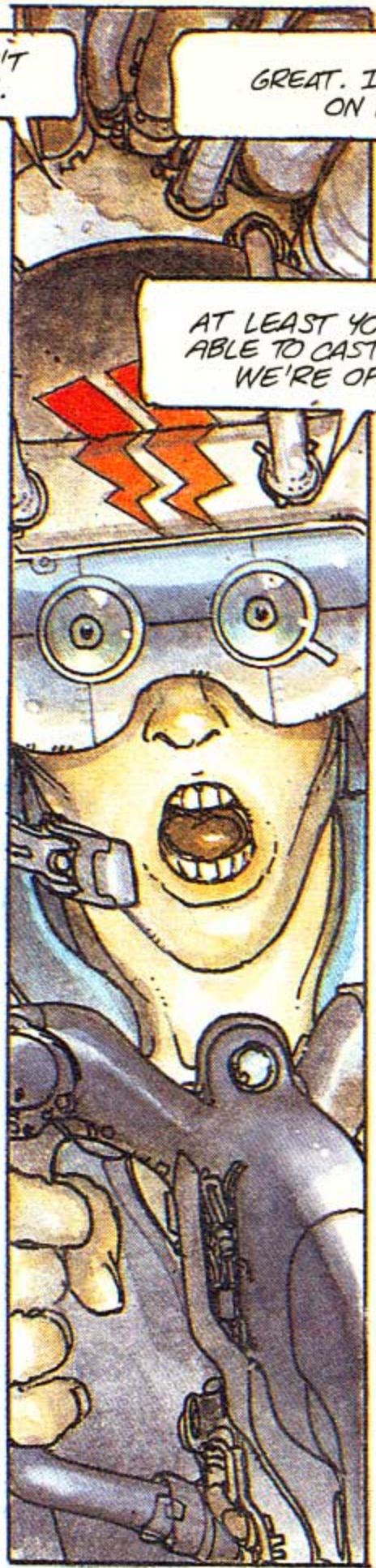


THE DOORS ARE CLOSING!!



LEO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I DON'T KNOW.



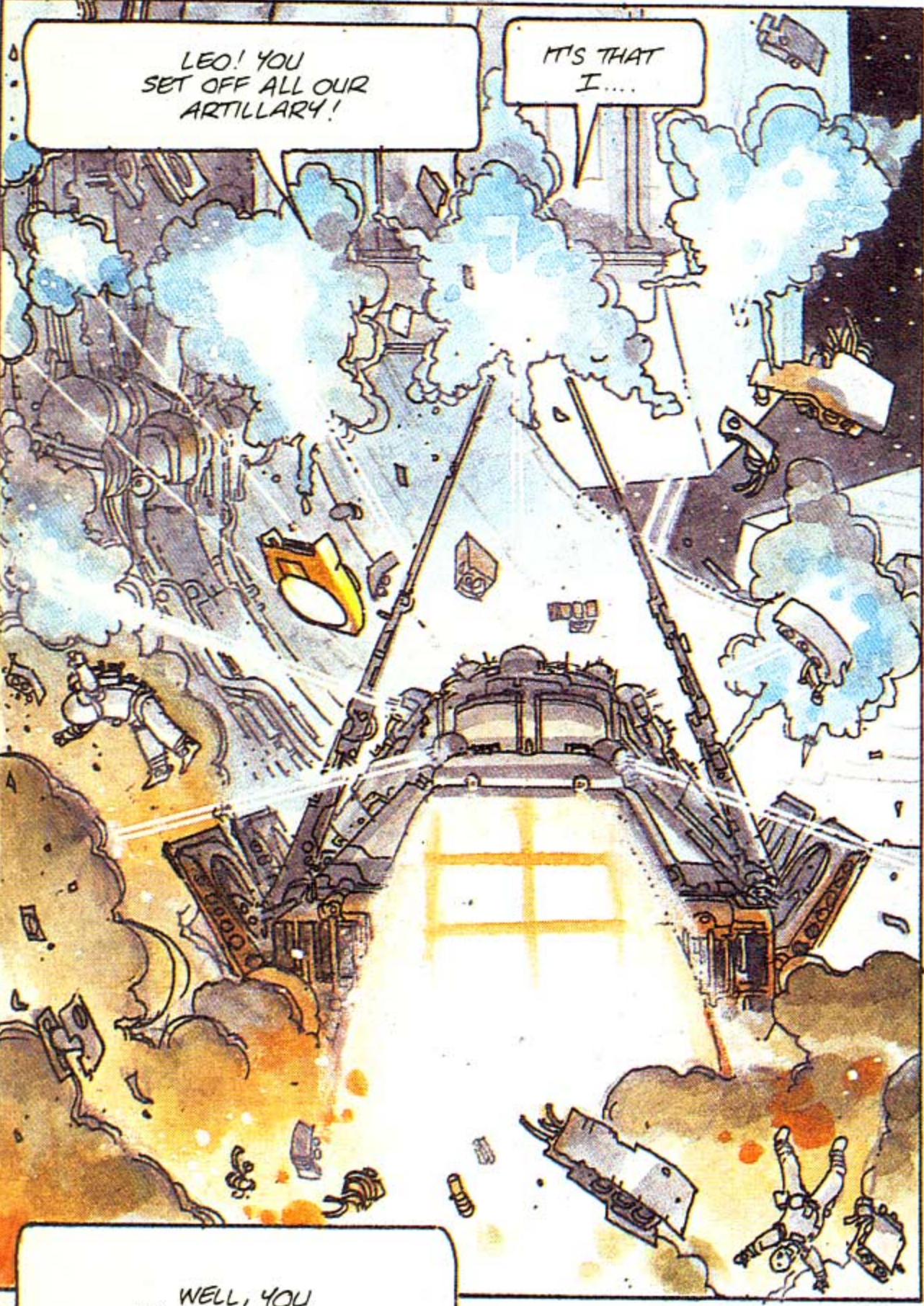
GREAT. I SEE THE PORTALS ON MY SCREEN.

NOW PRESS THE BLACK BUTTON.

AT LEAST YOU WERE ABLE TO CAST OFF. WE'RE OFF!

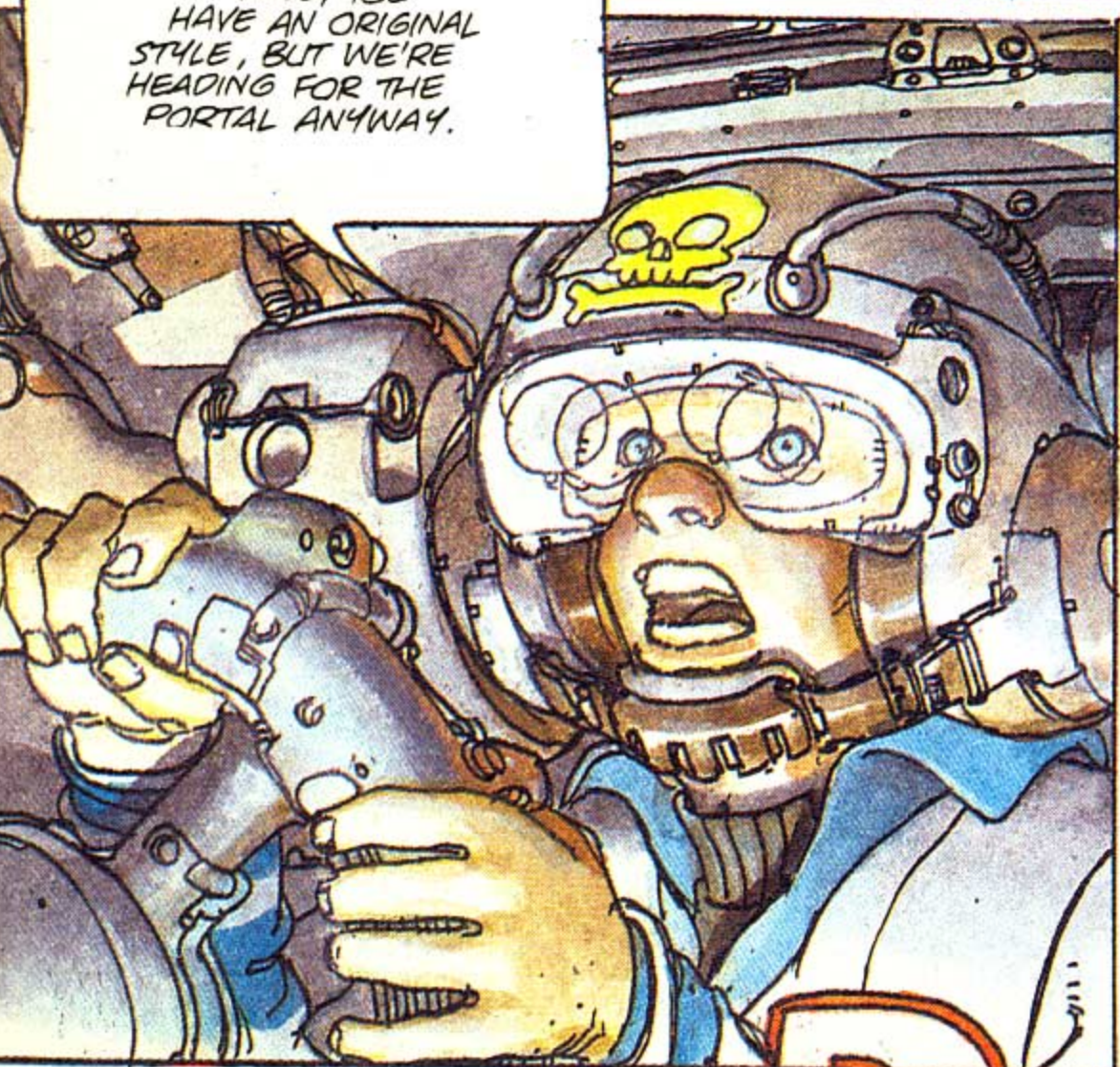


SHIT!

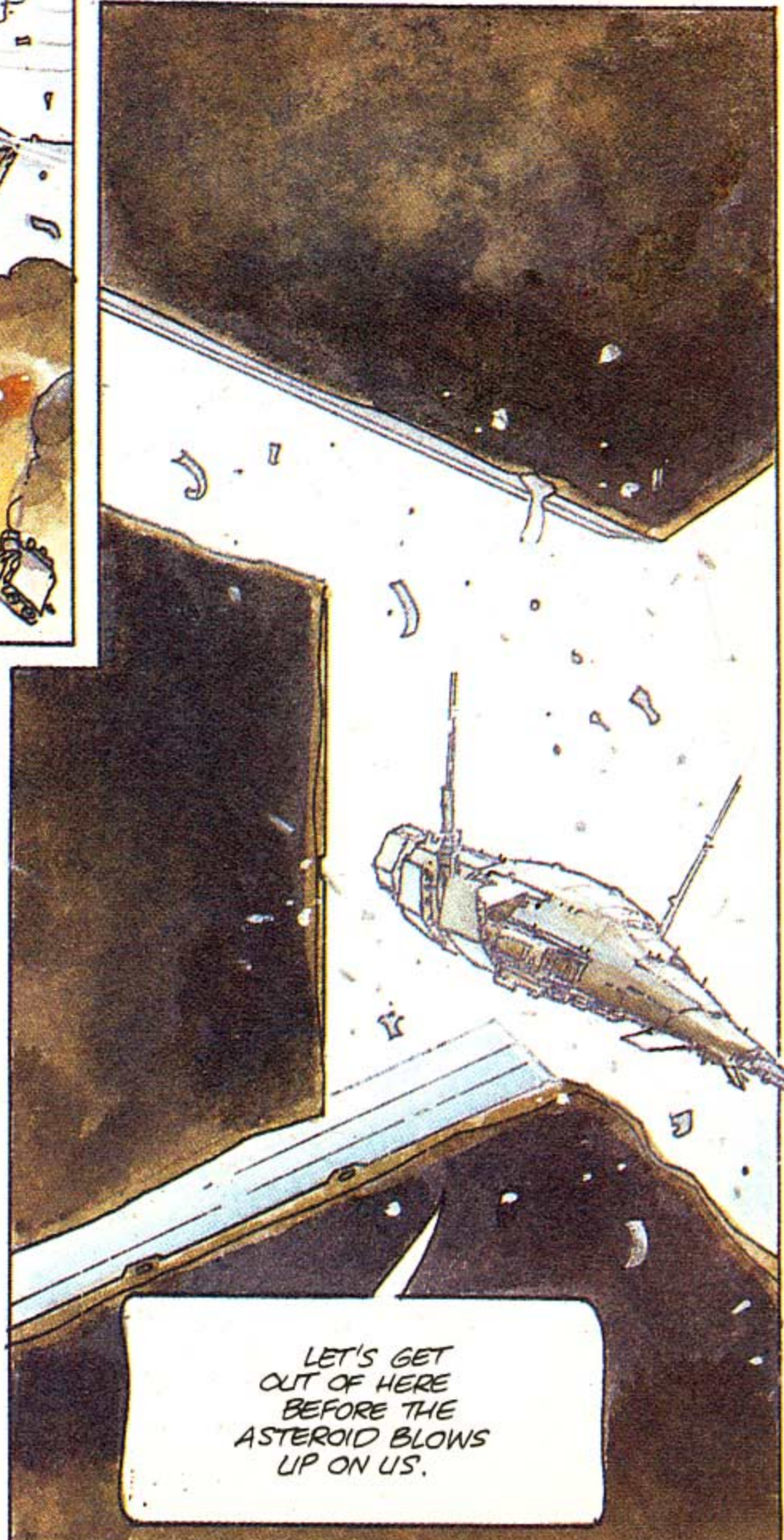


LEO! YOU SET OFF ALL OUR ARTILLARY!

IT'S THAT I...



WELL, YOU HAVE AN ORIGINAL STYLE, BUT WE'RE HEADING FOR THE PORTAL ANYWAY.

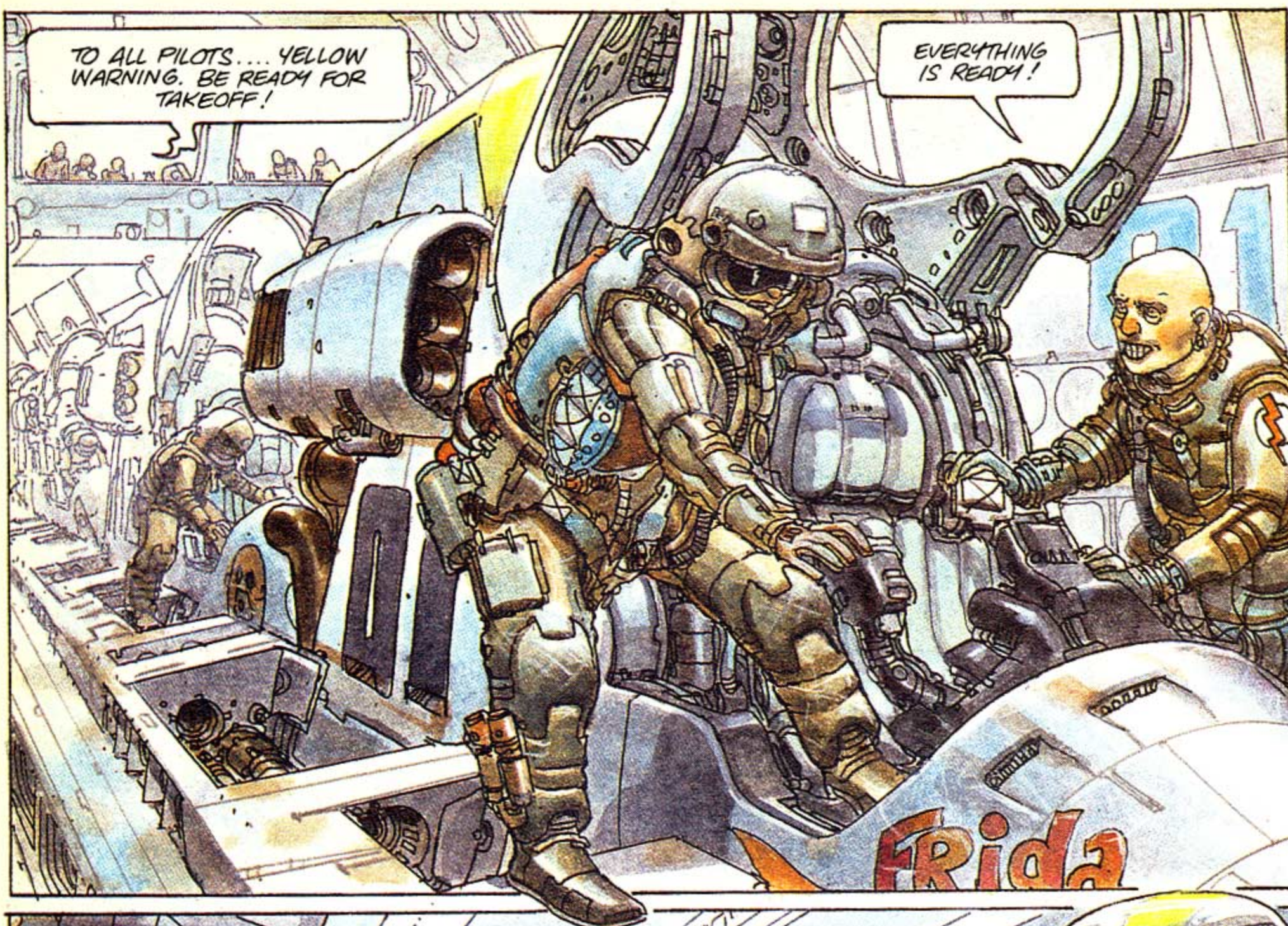


LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE ASTEROID BLOWS UP ON US.



WHAT HAPPENED, MEKE? CAN I OPEN MY EYES NOW?

OF COURSE, MY DEAR.



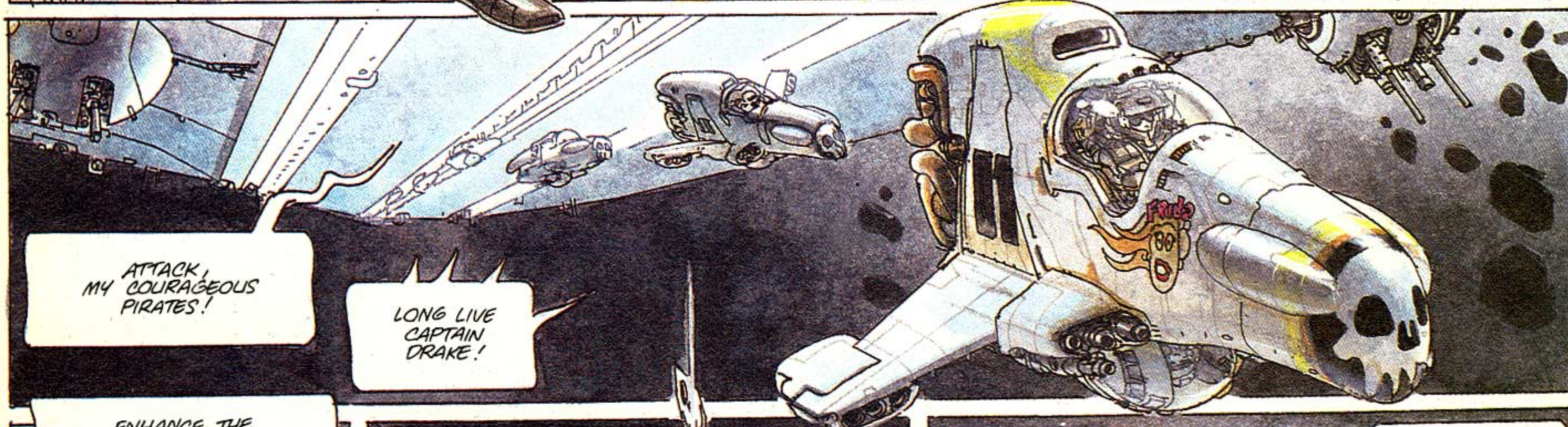
TO ALL PILOTS.... YELLOW WARNING. BE READY FOR TAKEOFF!

EVERYTHING IS READY!



THE TITANIX IX IS ON MY SCREEN. IT'S COMING STRAIGHT TOWARDS US, CAPTAIN DRAKE!

SEND OUT THE FIGHTERS AND THE HYPER-GRAPHIC SIGNAL!



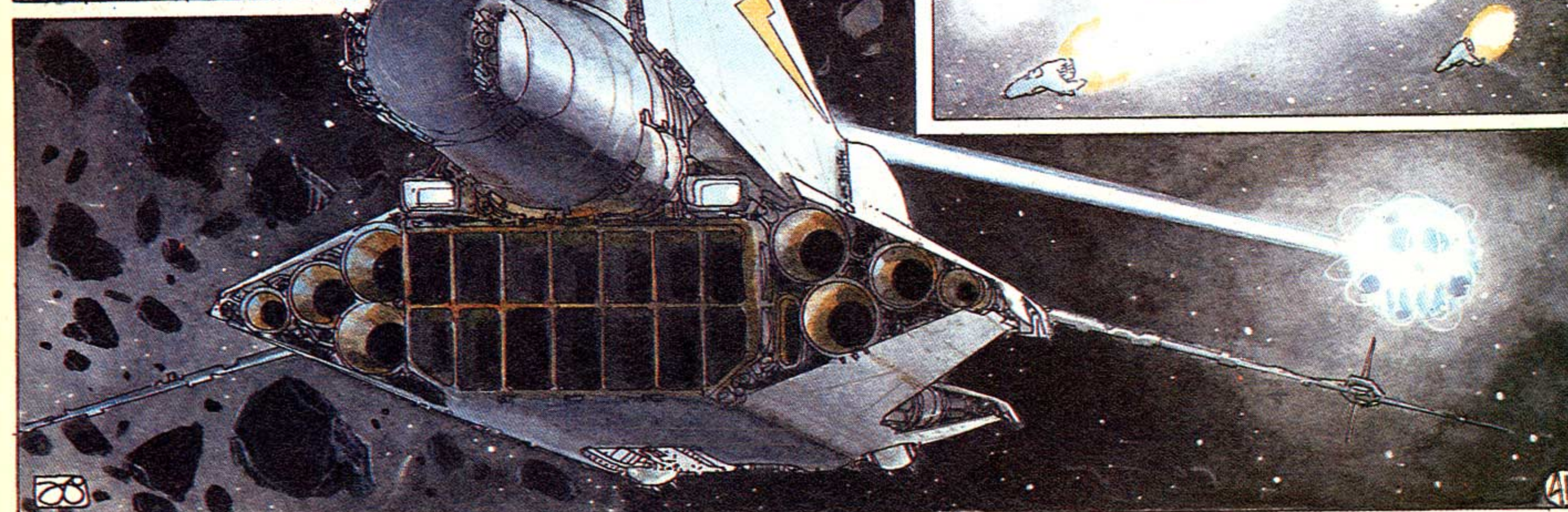
ATTACK, MY COURAGEOUS PIRATES!

LONG LIVE CAPTAIN DRAKE!

ENHANCE THE HYPER-GRAPHIC SIGNAL!



FIGHTERS TAKE POSITION!



CAPTAIN! LOOK OVER THERE?
WHAT IS THAT?

STOP THE ENGINES.
CALL INSPECTOR TAYLOR!
ROUND EVERYBODY UP
ON LEVEL 1.

I SEE.... IT'S
ANOTHER ONE OF
DRAKE'S JOKES.

WHAT HAPPENED?

AN ASTEROID?

OH!!

I WAS AFRAID
OF THIS!

A COLLISION?

TO ALL PASSENGERS AND
CREW OF THE TITANIX IX. THIS IS
CAPTAIN DRAKE. YOU ARE SUR-
ROUNDED. IF YOU DON'T
SURRENDER WITHIN FIVE MIN-
UTES, WE WILL OPEN FIRE!

WHAT SHOULD
WE DO?

TRY TO
GAIN SOME
TIME. TELL HIM
THAT WE'LL
SURRENDER
BUT ONLY
IF WE CAN
SPEAK TO
HIM IN
PERSON.

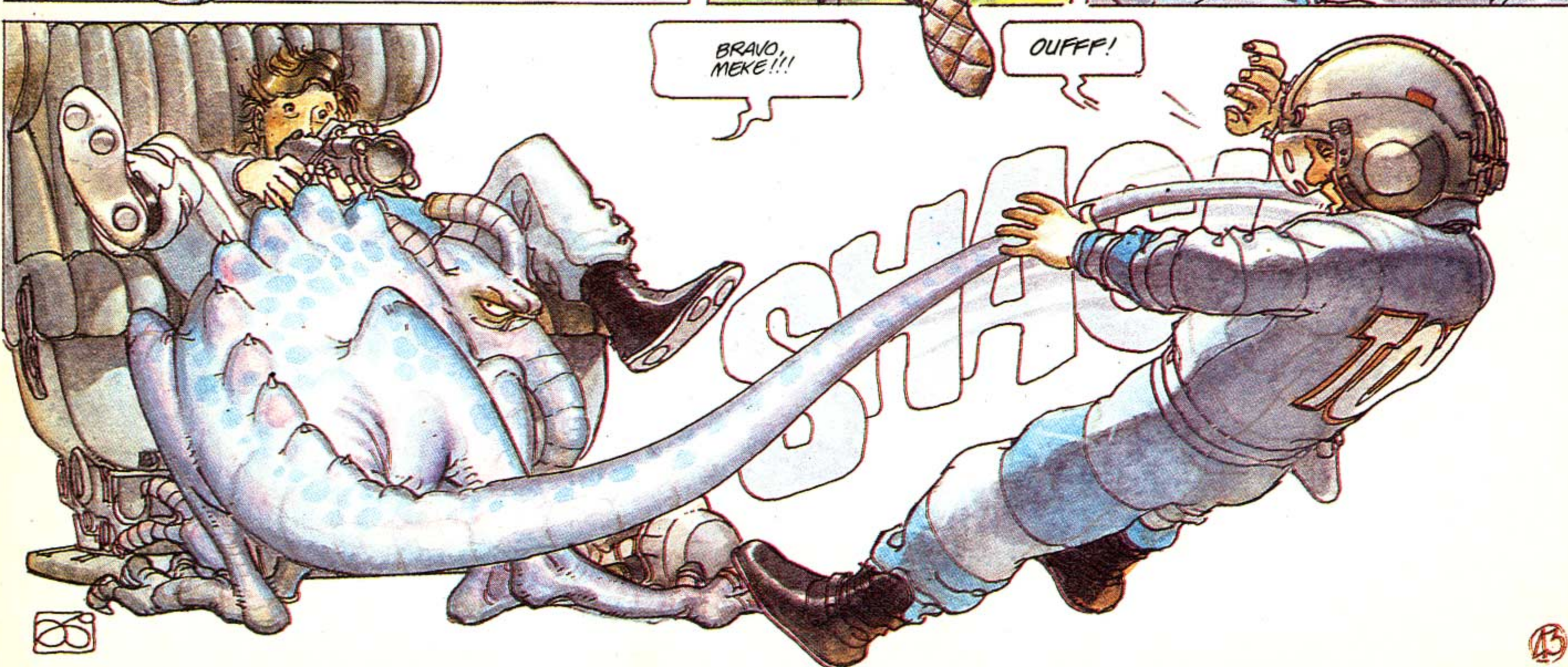
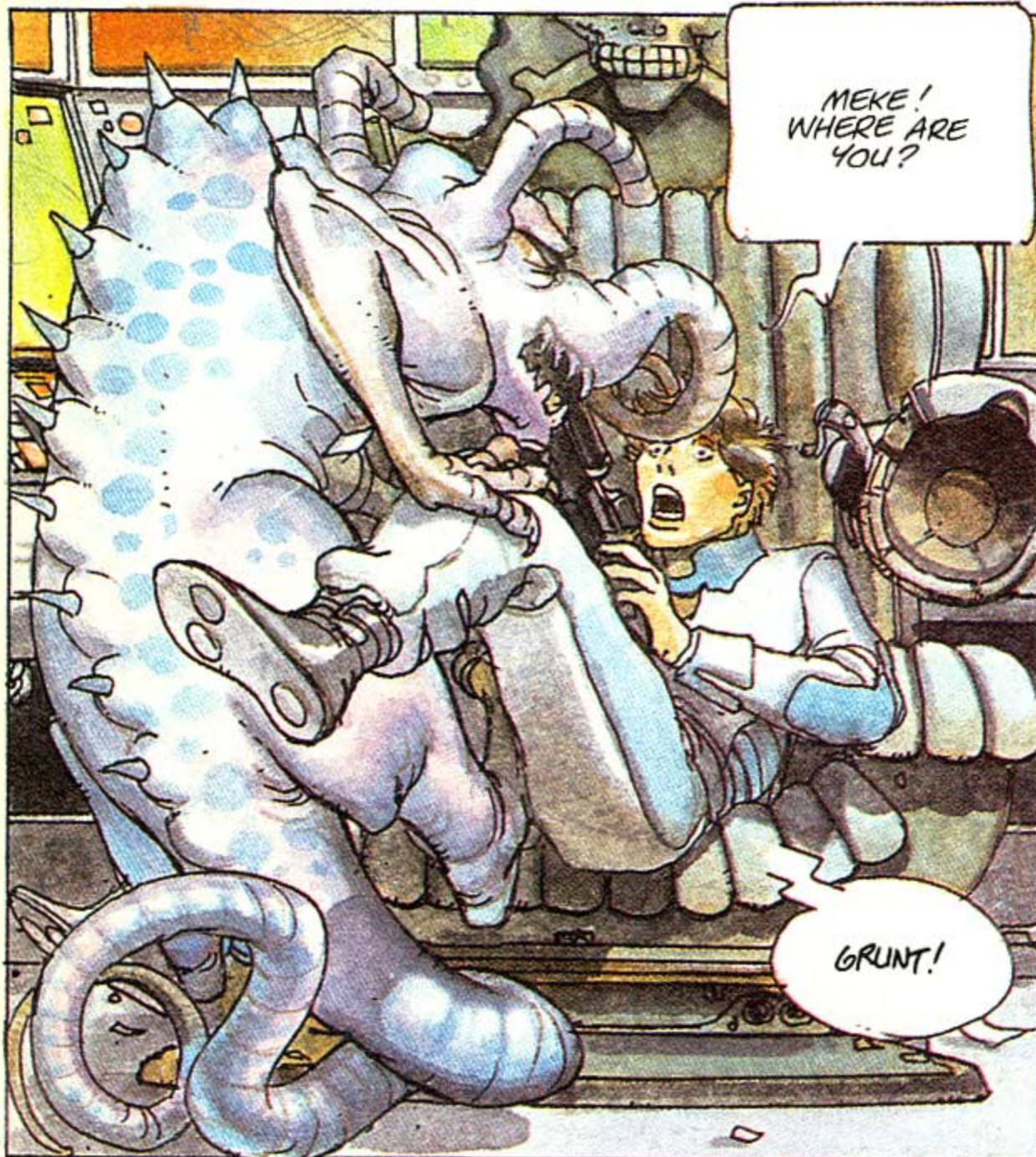
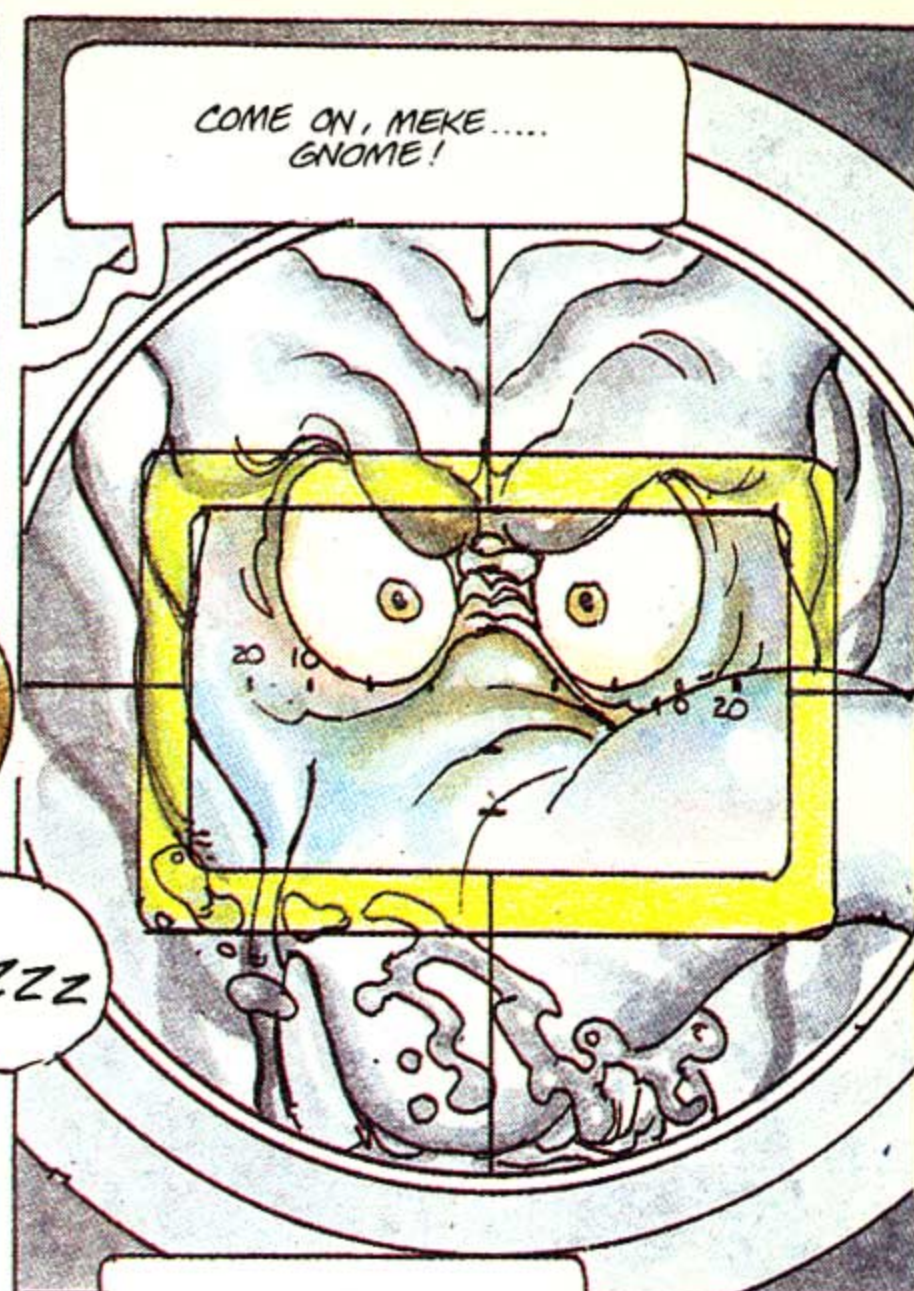
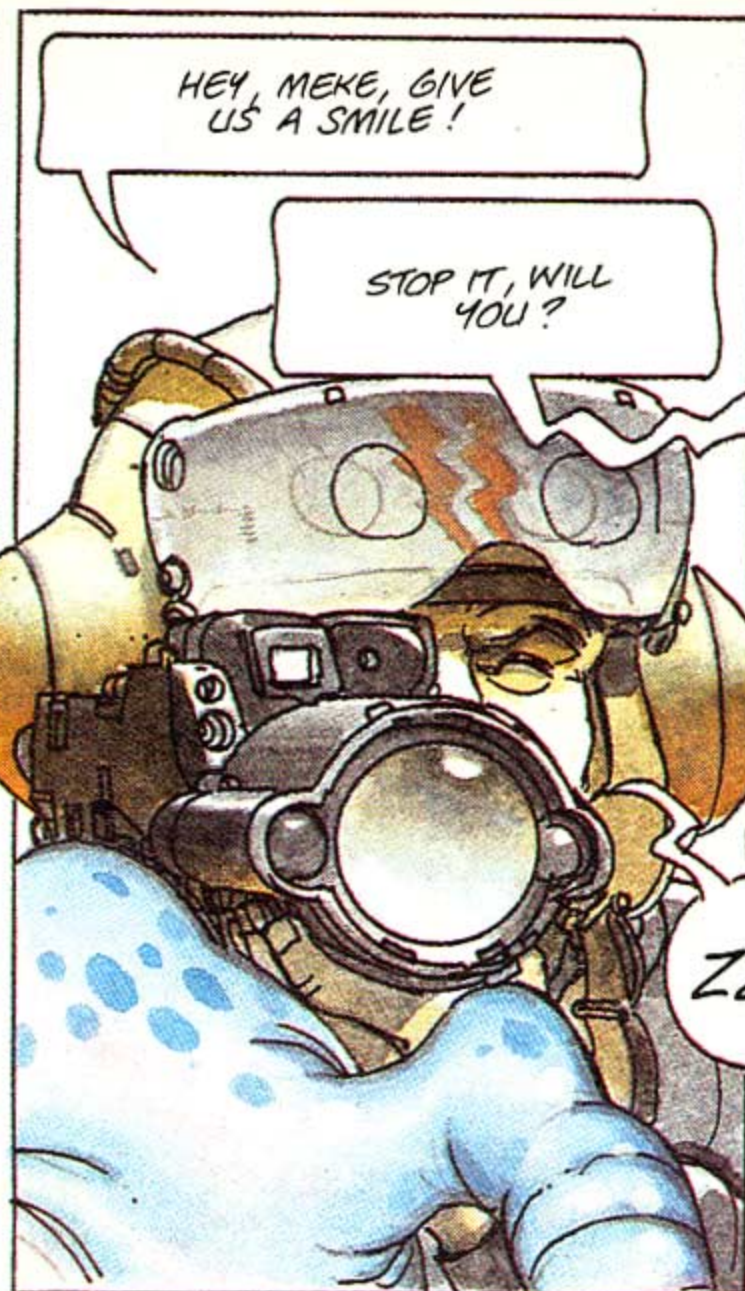
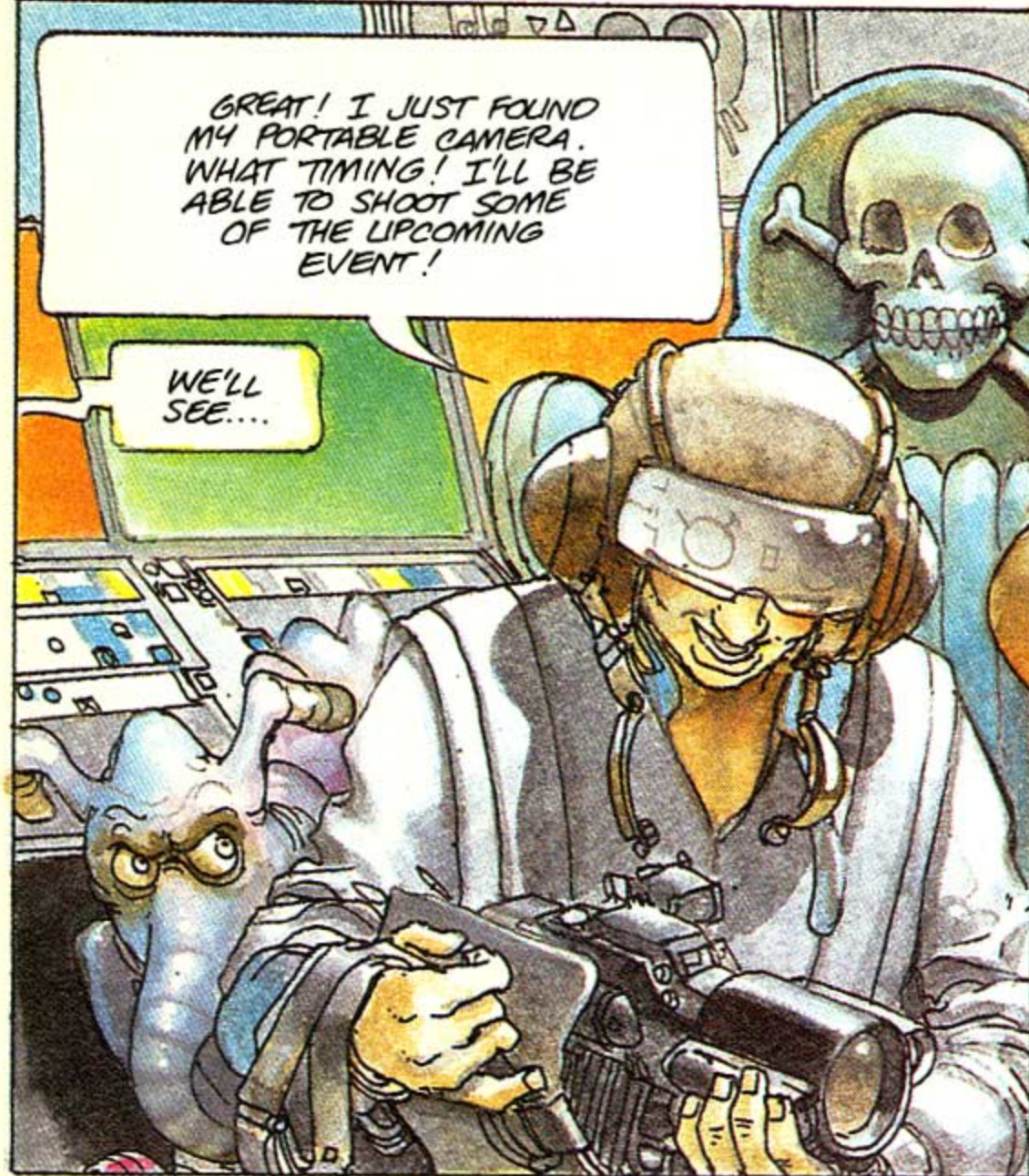
WHAT ARE YOU DOING,
MEKE? CAN YOU
REALLY MANAGE THIS
OLD PIECE OF TIN?

WELL, WE MADE IT OUT, DIDN'T
WE? I'M TRYING TO FIND RED
BEARD OR TITANIX IX. MAYBE
WE'RE STILL IN TIME AND CAN
WARN THEM OF THEIR DANGER.

YEAH! I'M A GENIUS! I SEE
RED BEARD ON MY SCREEN. 70
DEGREES, 180.1. WE'LL BE
THERE IN A FEW MINUTES. LEO
.... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HALLELUYA!

?



NO! NO! YOU'RE IN NO POSITION TO MAKE DEMANDS. LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH ONCE AND FOR ALL.

TELL YOUR CREW AND ALL YOUR PASSENGERS TO ABANDON SHIP LEAVING ALL THEIR VALUABLES BEHIND.....

.....THE LIFEBOATS WILL ASSEMBLE AT ABOUT HALF A MILE FROM THE TITANIX.... AND WILL BE UNDER OUR AIM THE WHOLE TIME.

AND DON'T TRY TO FOOL US! WE KNOW THE TITANIX! YOU HAVE 40 LIFEBOATS AND WE WILL INSPECT THEM ALL. YOU HAVE TEN MINUTES...

AT YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN.

DAMNIT! THEY KNOW EVERYTHING! I CANNOT TAKE A RISK. EVERYONE GET IN THE LIFEBOATS!

WHAT ARE WE PLAYING AT? IT'S OUR THIRD TIME AROUND THE SHIP!

YOU'RE RIGHT! WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CONFRONT HIM. BUT HOW?

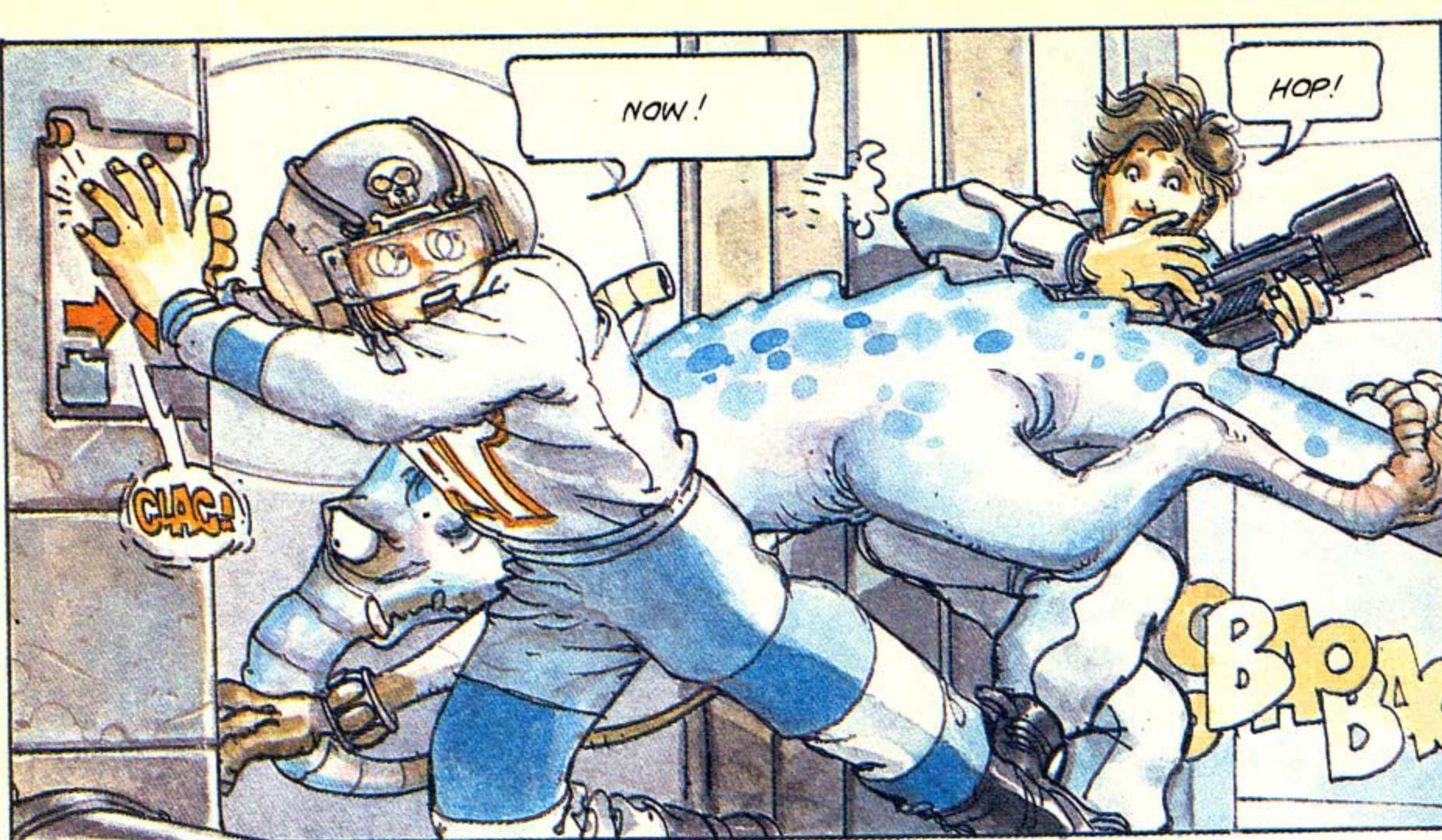
LISTEN TO THIS, LEO... LET'S WAIT FOR HIM AT THAT EXIT AND JUMP WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL.

OKAY... PUF... PUF...

READY?

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING! THIS TIME IT'S HIM OR US! READY WHEN YOU ARE!

GRAR



NOW!

HOP!



DONE!

CHAFF!

WHAT'S THIS NOISE, MEKE?

BIO BIO BIO



HEAVENS! IT'S THE RADAR. WE MUST HAVE HIT SOMETHING!

WHAT?

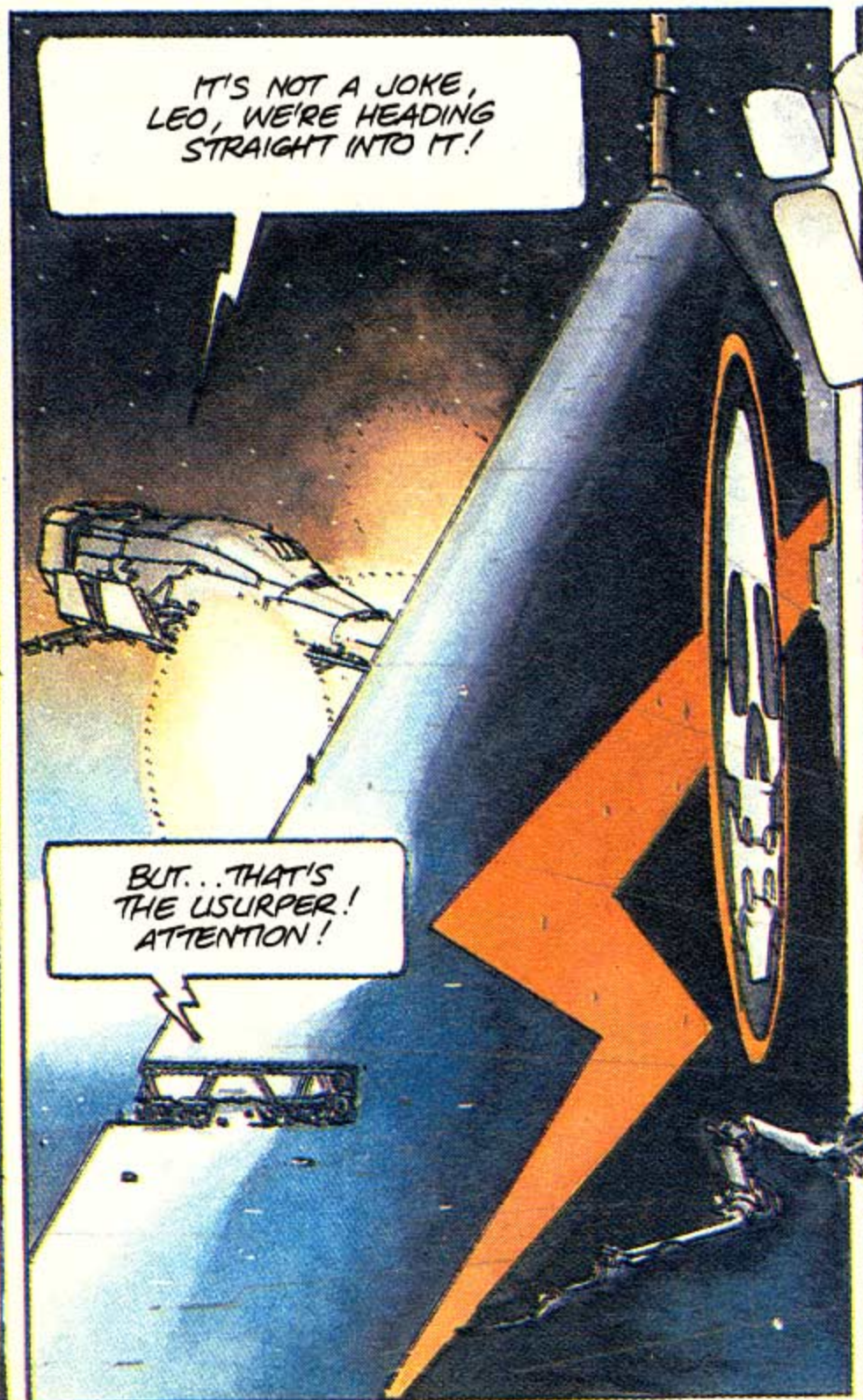
BIO BIO BIO

IT'S RED BEARD! WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO STOP OUR ENGINES!



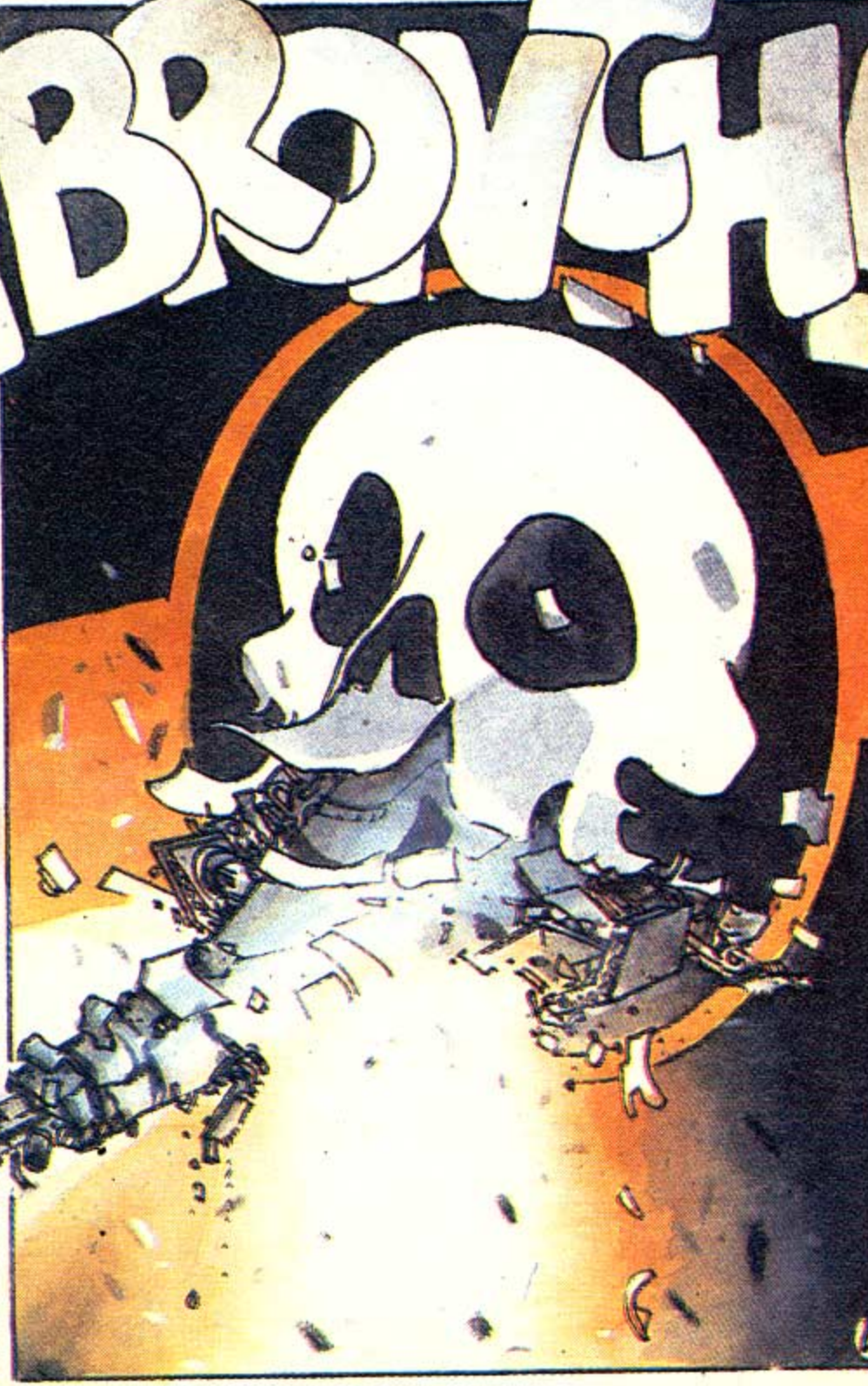
THIS HAS RARELY HAPPENED IN THE HISTORY OF JOURNALISM. A REPORTER WHO SHOOTS HIS OWN DEATH! WONDERFUL!

HANG ON, LEO, AND SPARE US YOUR HUMOR!



IT'S NOT A JOKE, LEO, WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT INTO IT!

BUT... THAT'S THE USURPER! ATTENTION!



iBROUGH!

IT'S THE USURPER!
IT'S OUR SHIP!

WHAT
THE HELL IS GOING
ON HERE?

A SHIP CAME TO
OUR RESCUE, BUT
CRASHED INTO THE
PIRATE SHIP!

WE'RE
SAVED!

MEKE, LOOK!
THAT'S THE TITANIX!

WE HAVE GOT
TO GET OUT OF THIS
MESS. I WONDER
WHAT CONDITION THE
USURPER IS IN RIGHT
NOW. I CAN'T BE-
LIEVE THIS. I MUST
BE DEAD!

CAPTAIN DRAKE!
THIS IS PIRATE ONE! I'M
WAITING FOR ORDERS.
SHOULD WE SHOOT THE
HOSTAGES?

LET THE HOSTAGES
ALONE! CHECK FOR DAMAGES
ON RED BEARD!

WHY
MUST
THIS HAP-
PEN TO
ME!???

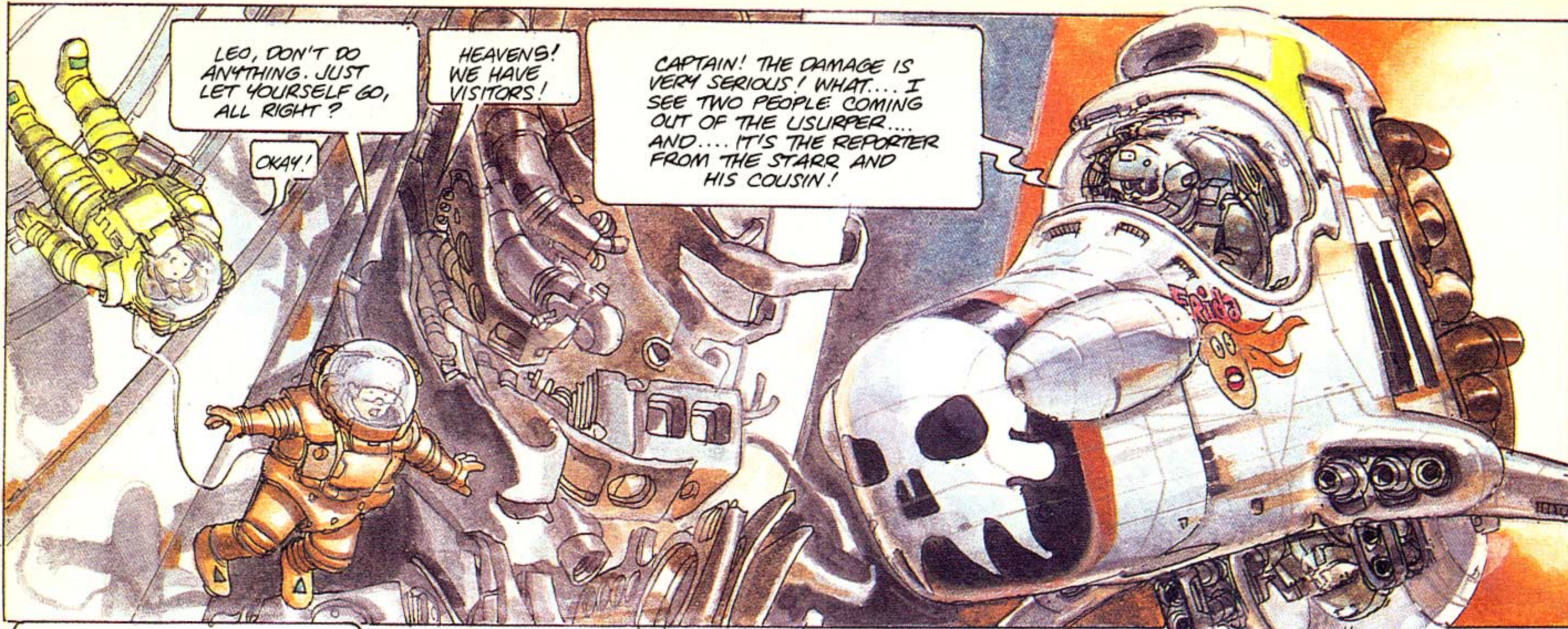
CAPTAIN DRAKE!
THE CRASH HAS
DAMAGED OUR
STEERING MECHANISM.
WE'RE FLOATING
IN SPACE!

WE'RE
HEADING
STRAIGHT
TOWARD
A SEA OF
ASTEROIDS!

I'M READY, MEKE,
BUT THIS OUTFIT IS
NOT REALLY MY SIZE!

YOU CAN HAVE IT
ALTERED IF YOU WANT,
I'M GETTING OUT OF
HERE!

COME AS CLOSE
TO US AS YOU
CAN!



LEO, DON'T DO ANYTHING. JUST LET YOURSELF GO, ALL RIGHT?

OKAY!

HEAVENS! WE HAVE VISITORS!

CAPTAIN! THE DAMAGE IS VERY SERIOUS! WHAT... I SEE TWO PEOPLE COMING OUT OF THE USURPER... AND... IT'S THE REPORTER FROM THE STARR AND HIS COUSIN!

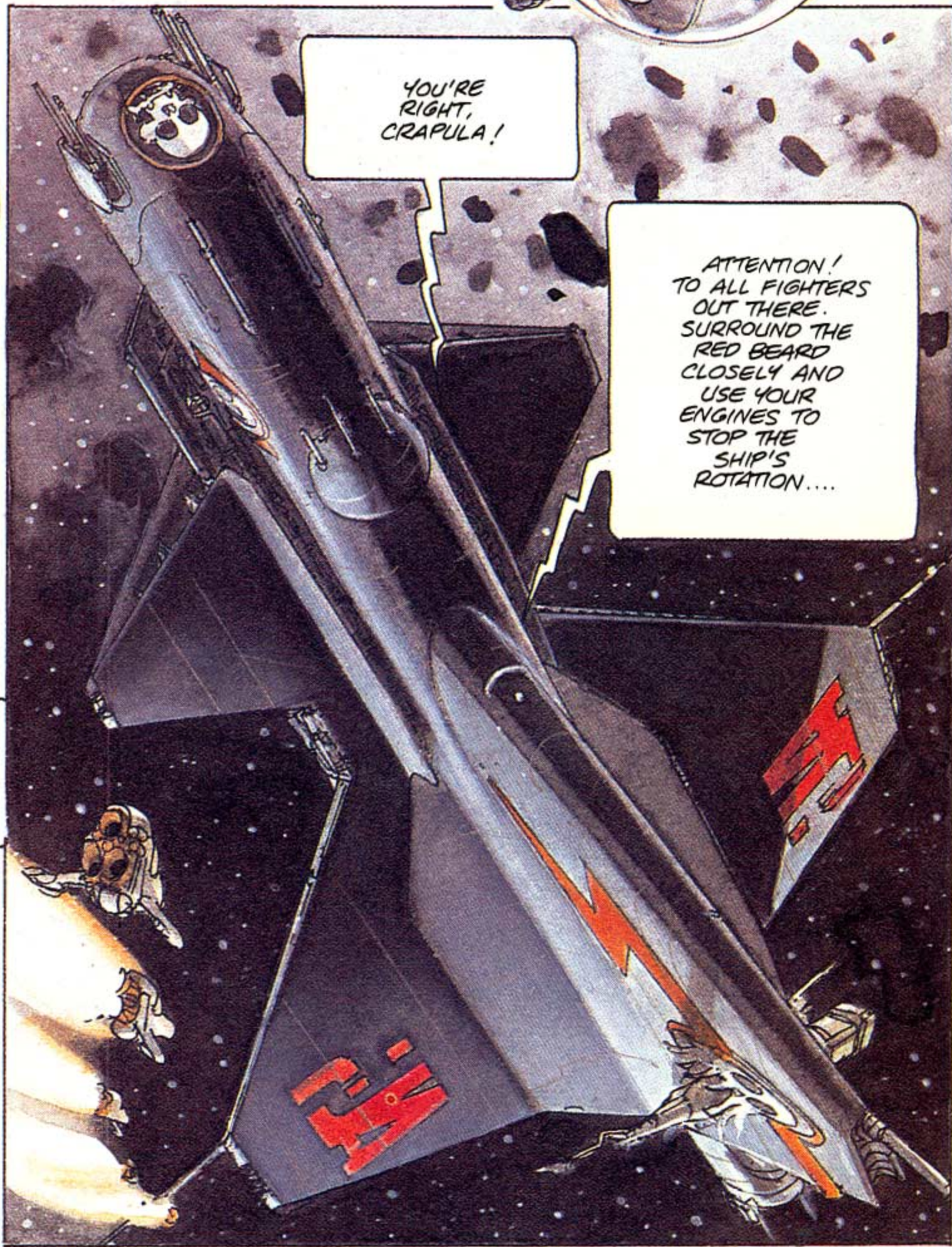
BY A THOUSAND GALAXIES! IT'S THEM ONCE AGAIN! DESTROY THEM ONCE AND FOR ALL!

WAIT, DARLING! LET'S TAKE CARE OF RED BEARD BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! LET'S ASSEMBLE THE FIGHTERS.

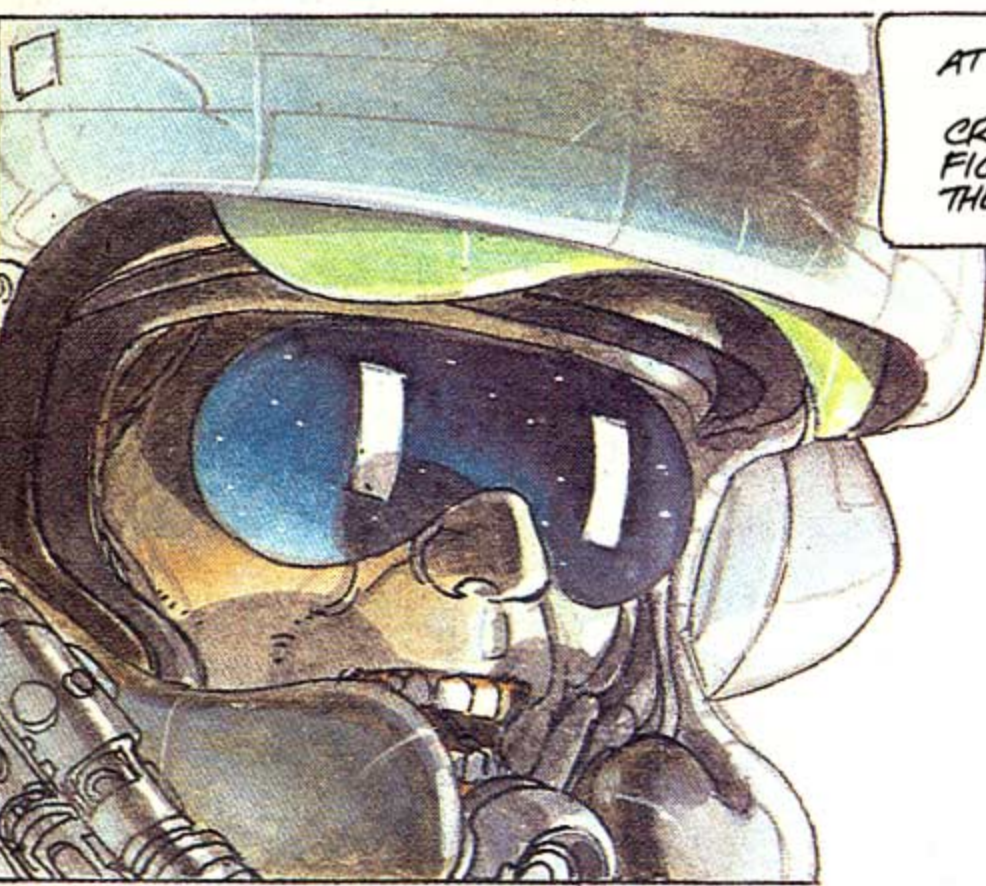


YOU'RE RIGHT, CRAPULA!

ATTENTION! TO ALL FIGHTERS OUT THERE. SURROUND THE RED BEARD CLOSELY AND USE YOUR ENGINES TO STOP THE SHIP'S ROTATION....

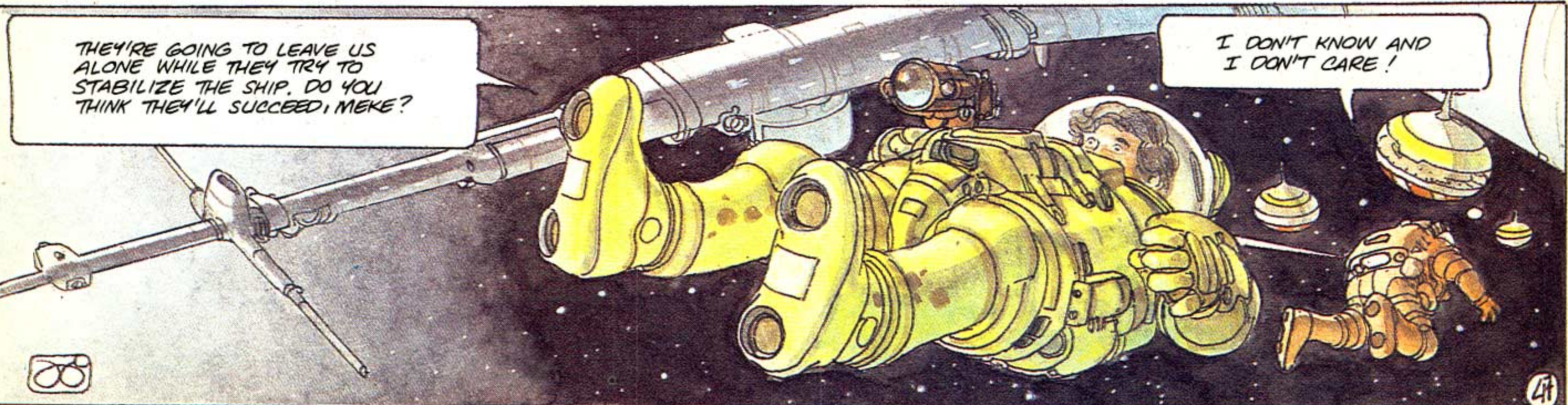


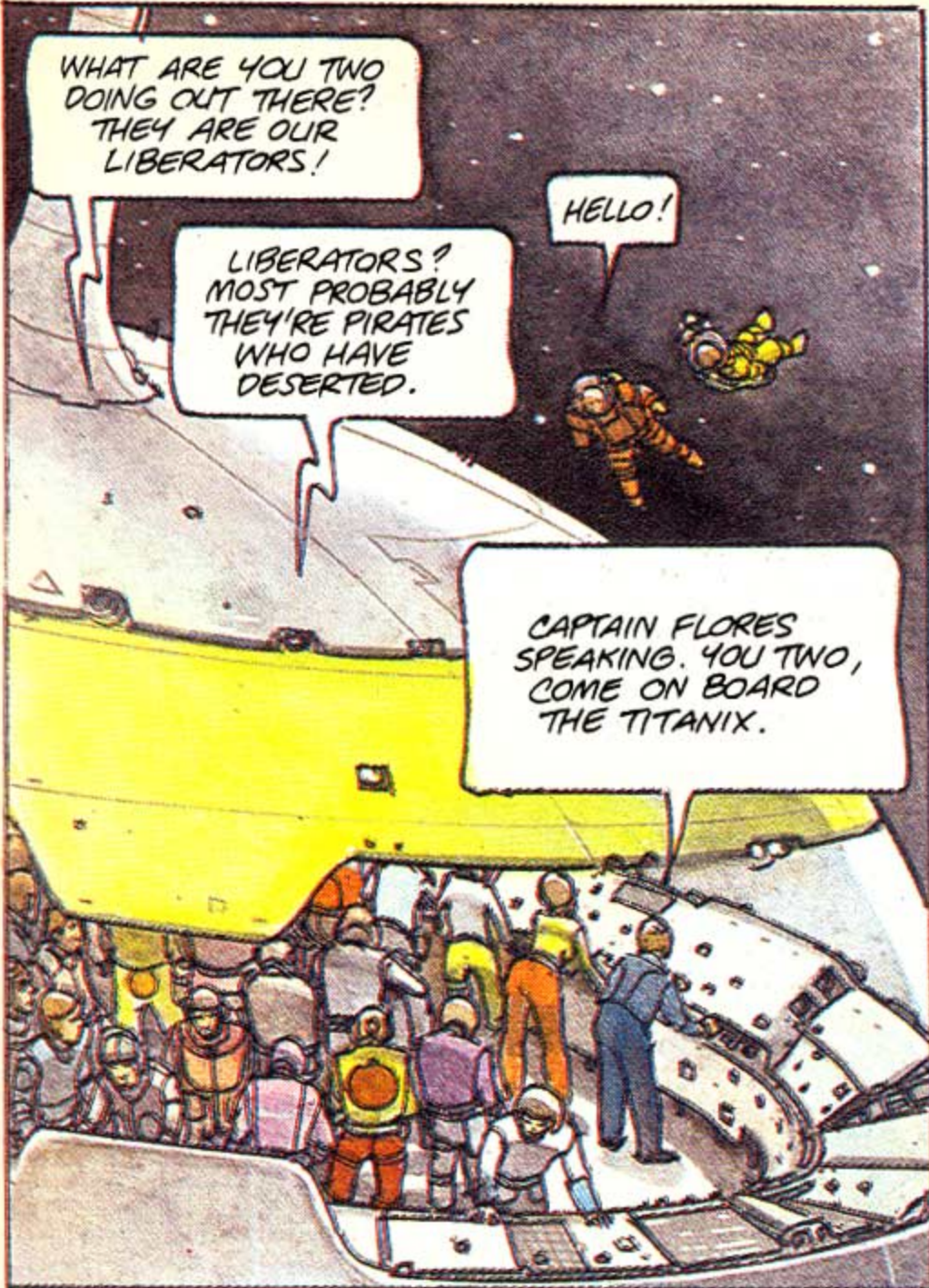
AT YOUR SERVICE COMMANDER CRAPULA. ALL FIGHTERS TAKE THEIR POSITION!



THEY'RE GOING TO LEAVE US ALONE WHILE THEY TRY TO STABILIZE THE SHIP. DO YOU THINK THEY'LL SUCCEED, MEKE?

I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE!





WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING OUT THERE? THEY ARE OUR LIBERATORS!

LIBERATORS? MOST PROBABLY THEY'RE PIRATES WHO HAVE DESERTED.

HELLO!

CAPTAIN FLORES SPEAKING. YOU TWO, COME ON BOARD THE TITANIX.

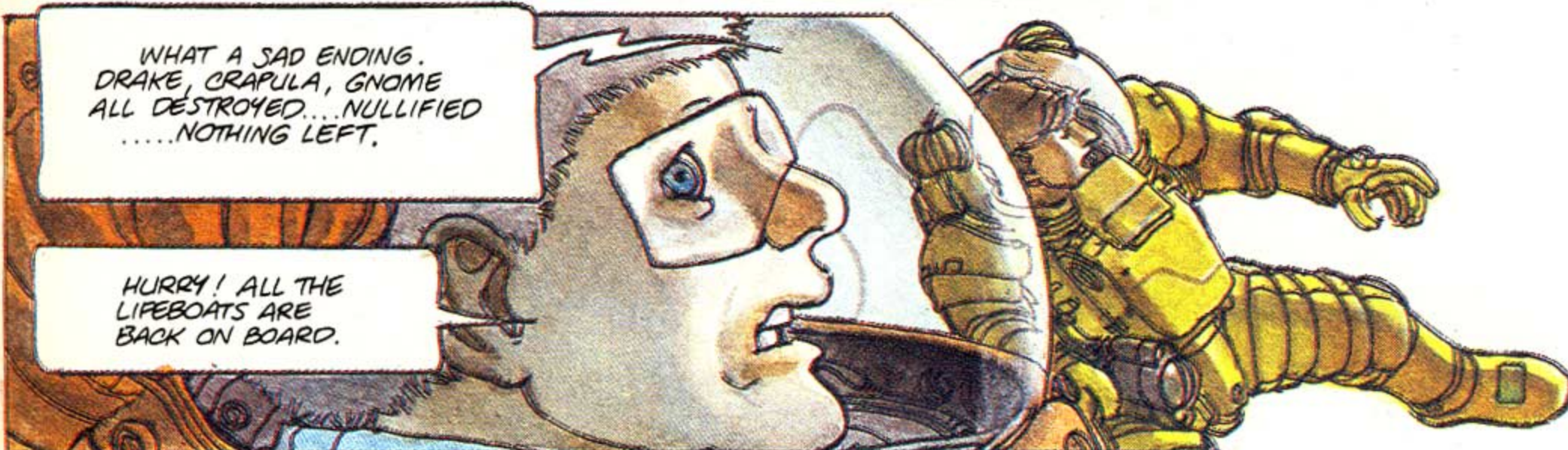


OVER THERE! IT'S EXPLODING!



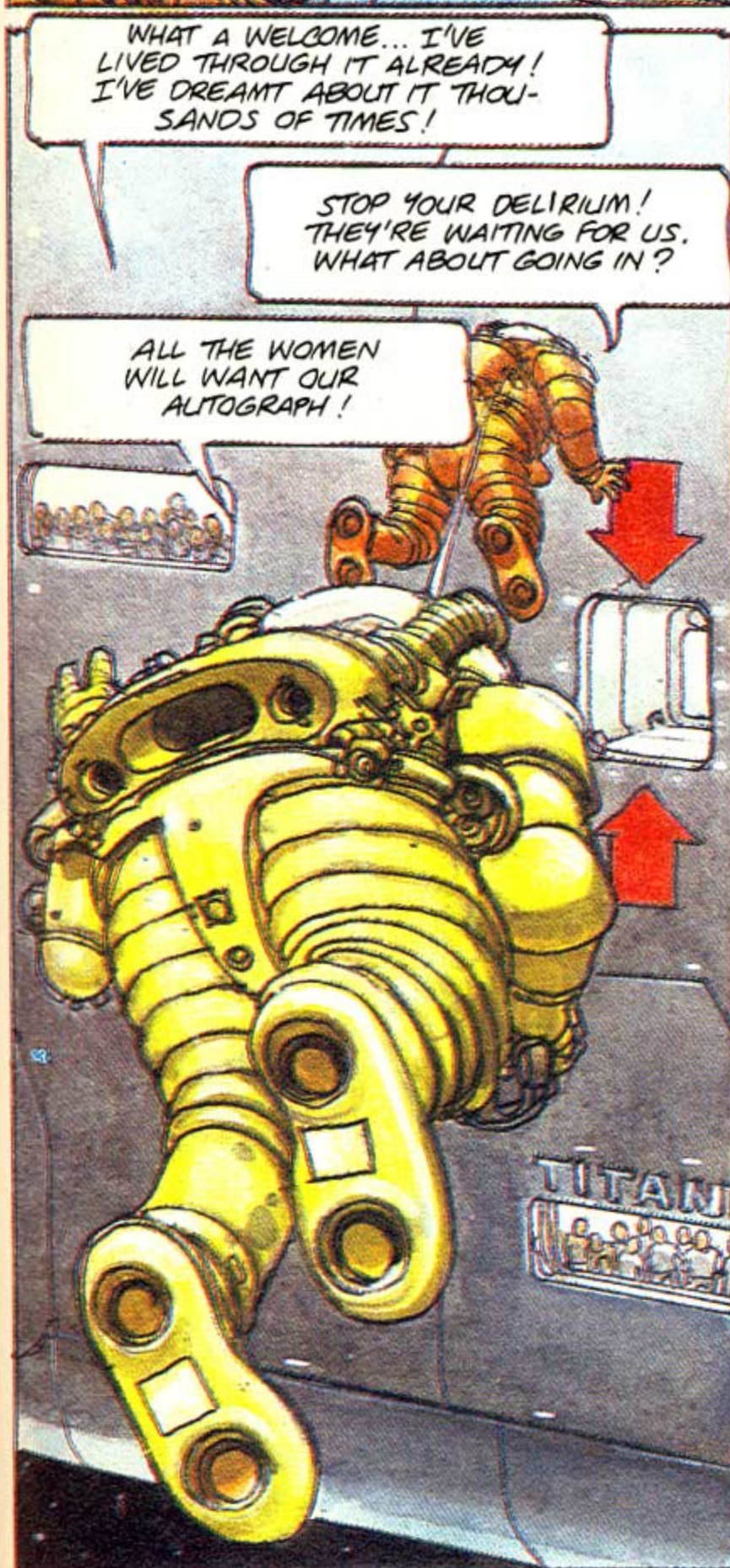
WHAT AN EXPLOSION!

THEY COULDN'T AVOID A STRAY ASTEROID!



WHAT A SAD ENDING. DRAKE, CRAPULA, GNOME ALL DESTROYED... NULLIFIEDNOTHING LEFT.

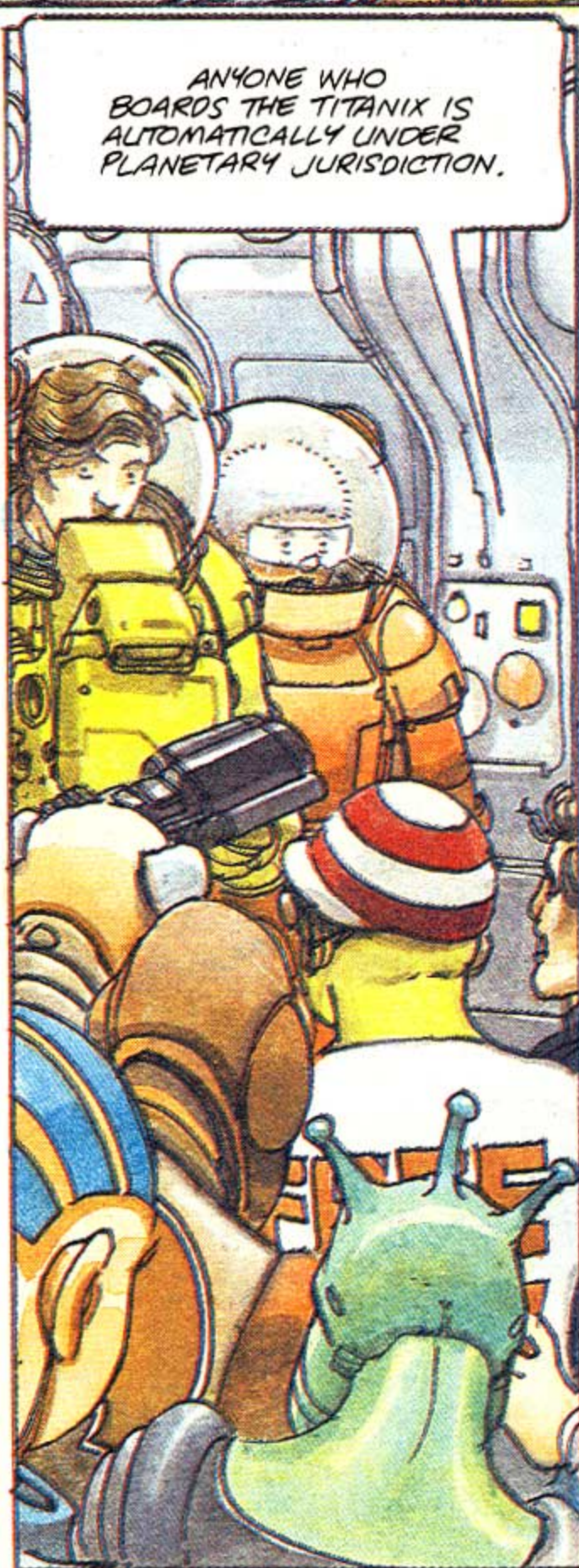
HURRY! ALL THE LIFEBOATS ARE BACK ON BOARD.



WHAT A WELCOME... I'VE LIVED THROUGH IT ALREADY! I'VE DREAMT ABOUT IT THOUSANDS OF TIMES!

STOP YOUR DELIRIUM! THEY'RE WAITING FOR US. WHAT ABOUT GOING IN?

ALL THE WOMEN WILL WANT OUR AUTOGRAPH!



ANYONE WHO BOARDS THE TITANIX IS AUTOMATICALLY UNDER PLANETARY JURISDICTION.



AND YOU WILL HAVE TO REVEAL YOUR IDENTITIES AND UNDERGO QUESTIONING. MY NAME IS INSPECTOR TAYLOR. PLEASE HAND OVER YOUR WEAPONS. I ARREST YOU....

INSPECTOR TAYLOR! THIS IS THE PROVERBIAL LAST DROP!

AUTO-GRAPHS! IS THAT RIGHT, LEO?

IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT, INSPECTOR? MAY I TAKE SOME PICTURES FOR THE STARR?

THE BOSS!

OF COURSE, MR. ROTATIVAL! THEY'RE JUST ABOUT TO TAKE OFF THEIR SPACE-SUITS.

LEO ROA!... BUT... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!!

GOOD MORNING, CHIEF! HELLO, INSPECTOR!

MY DEAR SIR, YOU AND YOUR COUSIN HAVE SAVED THE TITANIX. AND, AS YOU CAN SEE, YOU'VE MADE THE PAPER VERY POPULAR!

I'M DEEPLY FLATTERED.

HOWEVER, WE MUST BE VERY CAUTIOUS ABOUT THE DRAKE-KEMPTON CASE. TIME WILL BEAR WITNESS, SINCE THE EVIDENCE YOU HAD ACCUMULATED WAS DESTROYED WHEN THE RED BEARD EXPLODED.

WHICH MEANS THAT OUR TESTIMONY IS NOT ENOUGH... BUT WE COULD STILL LOOK FOR THAT ASTEROID, THE TORTUGA.

OF COURSE, BUT LOOKING FOR IT WOULD BE LIKE LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK. JUST LIKE LOOKING FOR MR. KEMPTON IN A QUIET PLACE IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.

A QUIET PLACE? HE'S CERTAINLY IN HELL!

ALL THIS WILL NEVER BRING BACK MY FRIEND PHILIP!

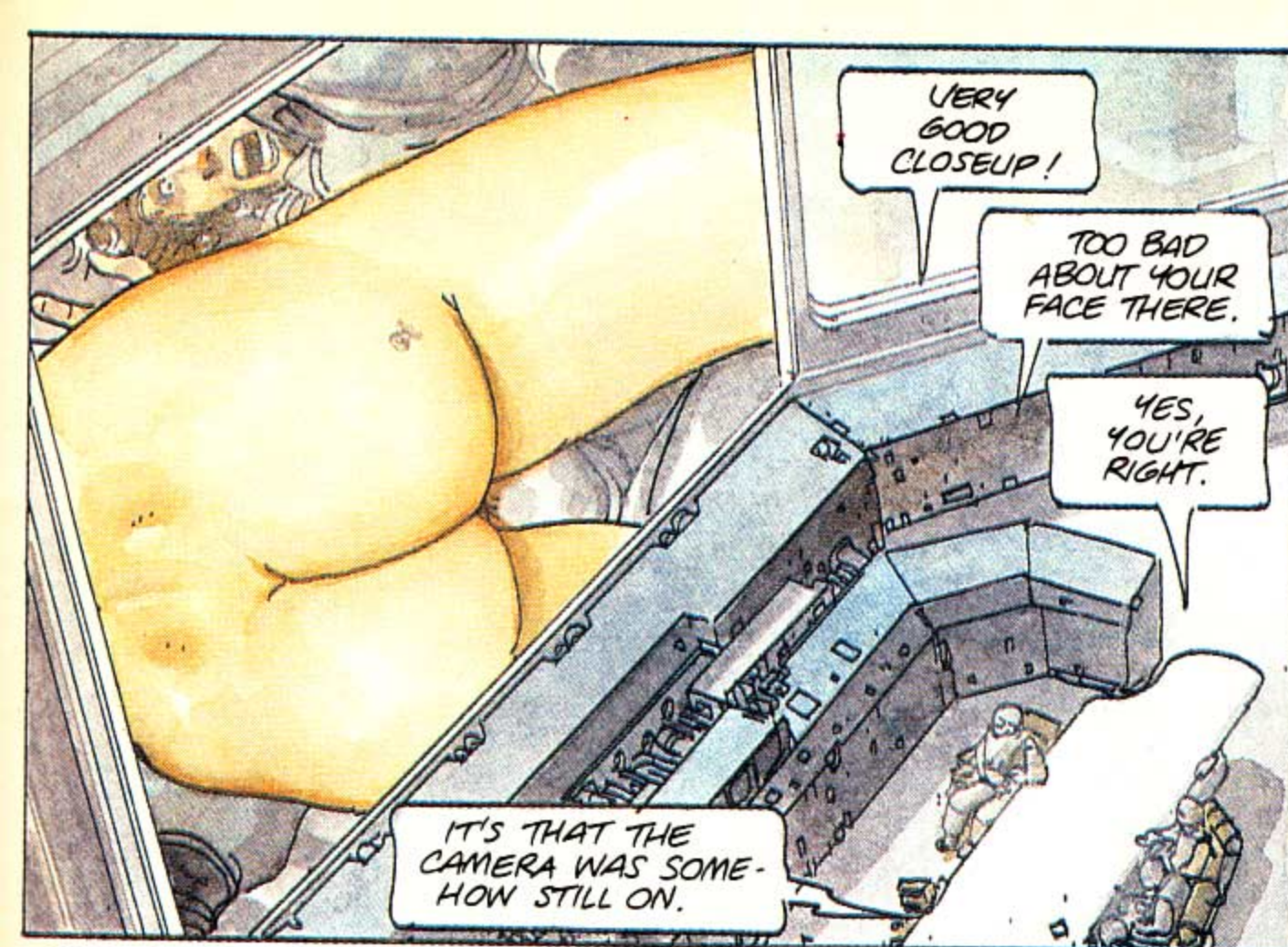
LET'S CONSIDER HIM AVENGED BY DRAKE'S DEATH. AS FAR AS YOU ARE CONCERNED, I WANT TO PUBLISH YOUR PIECE, MY DEAR!

REALLY!... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY....

MR. ROTATIVAL? LEO ROA'S MATERIAL IS READY.

BRING IT UP IMMEDIATELY.

RIGHT AWAY!

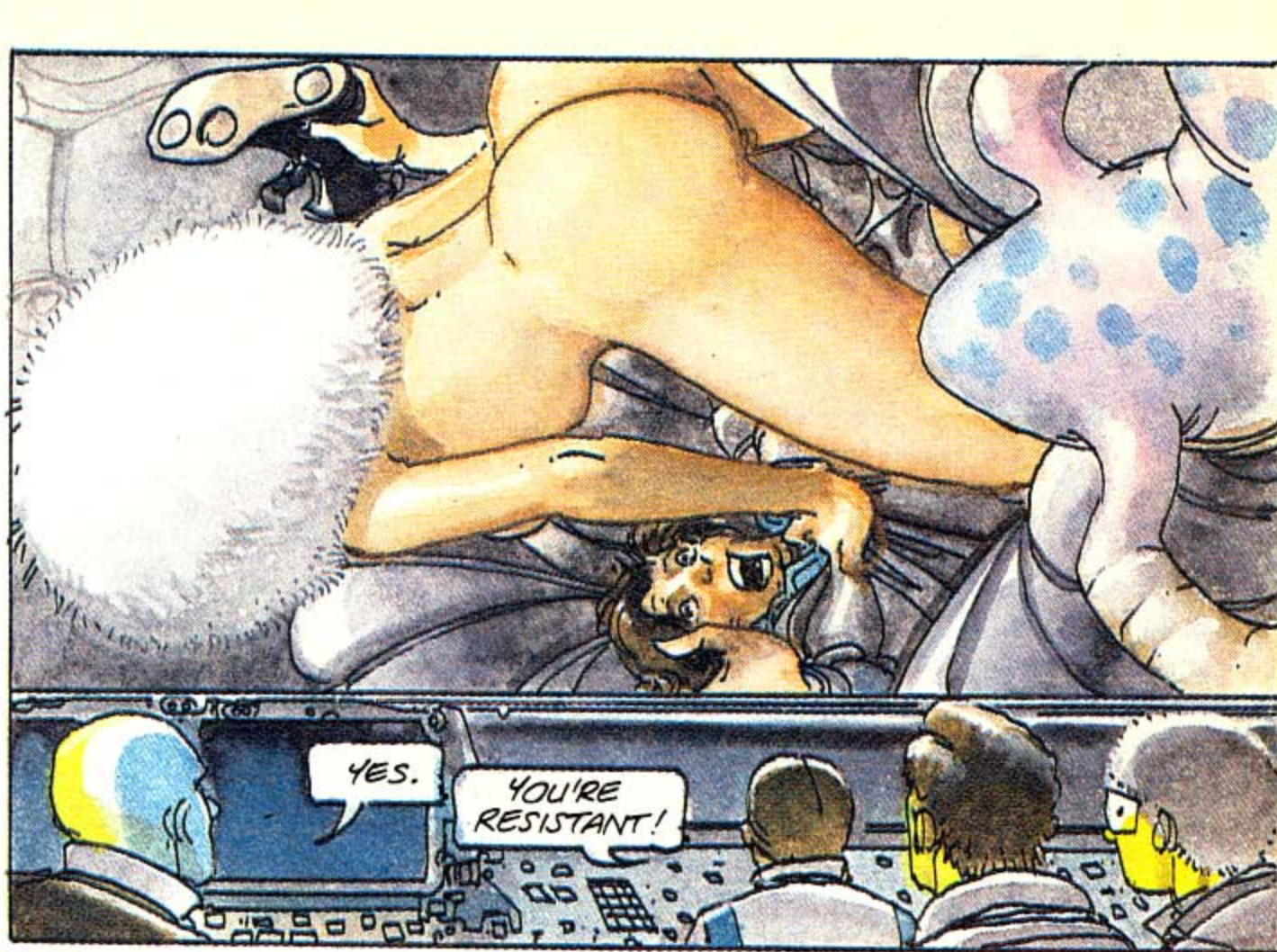


VERY
GOOD
CLOSEUP!

TOO BAD
ABOUT YOUR
FACE THERE.

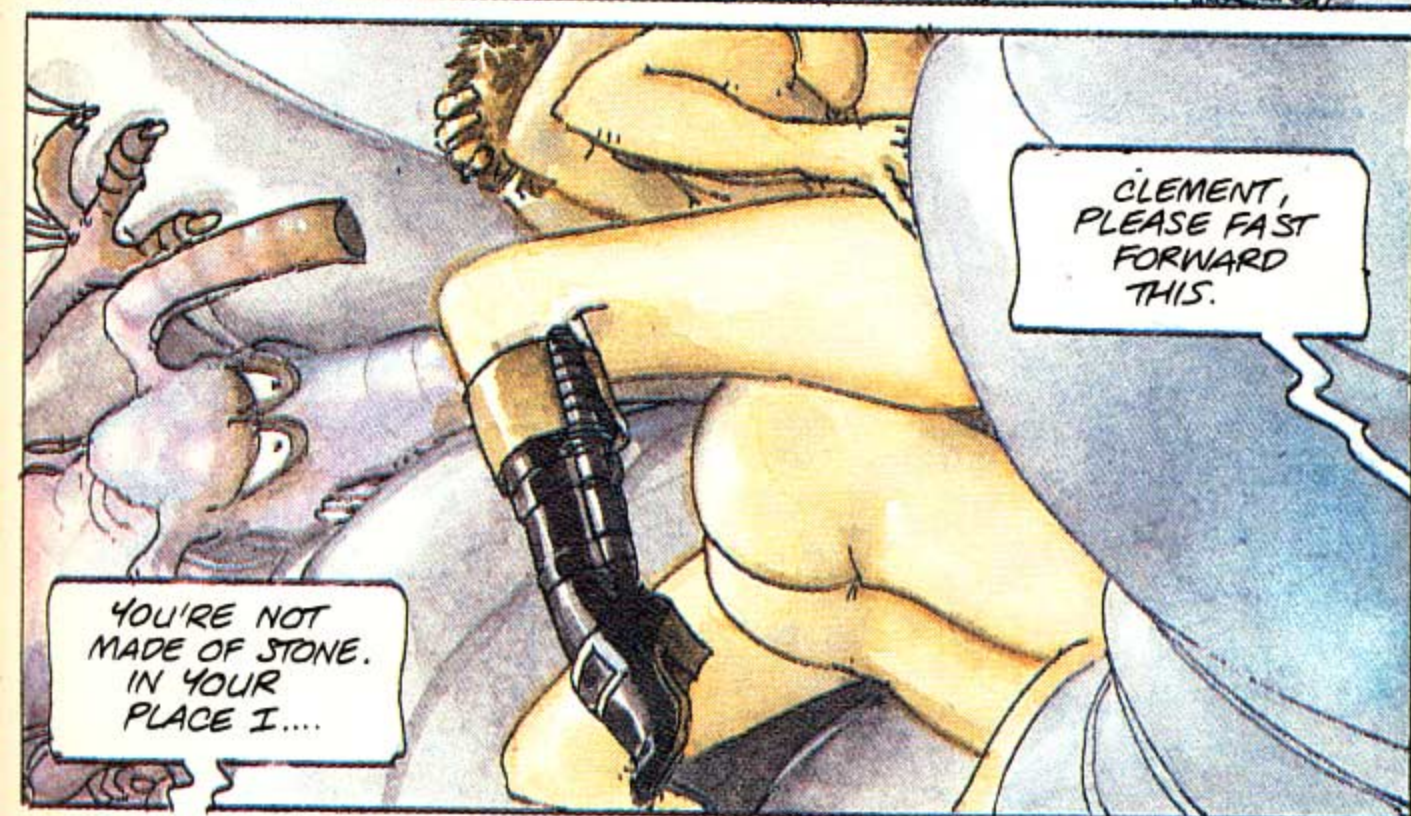
YES,
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

IT'S THAT THE
CAMERA WAS SOME-
HOW STILL ON.



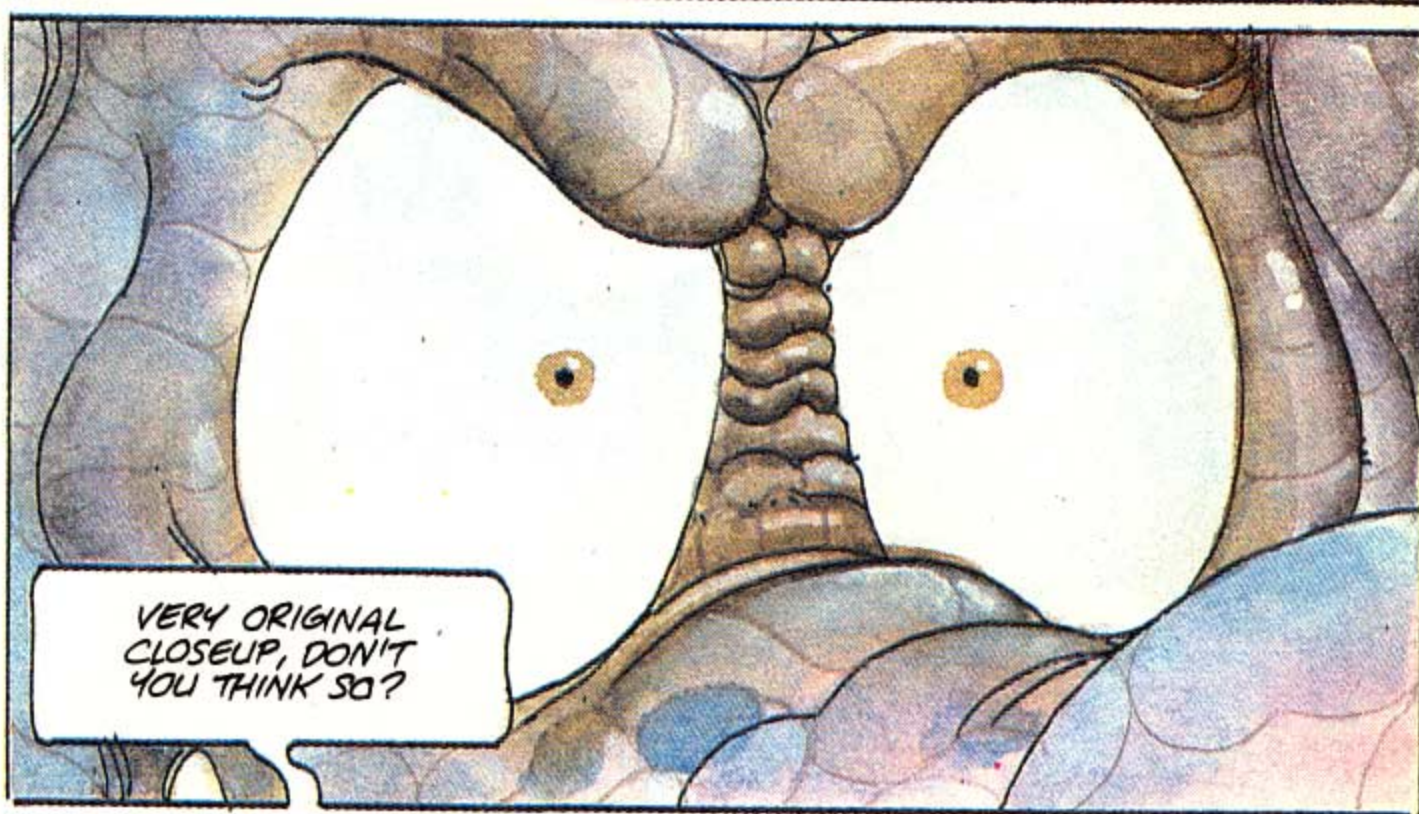
YES.

YOU'RE
RESISTANT!

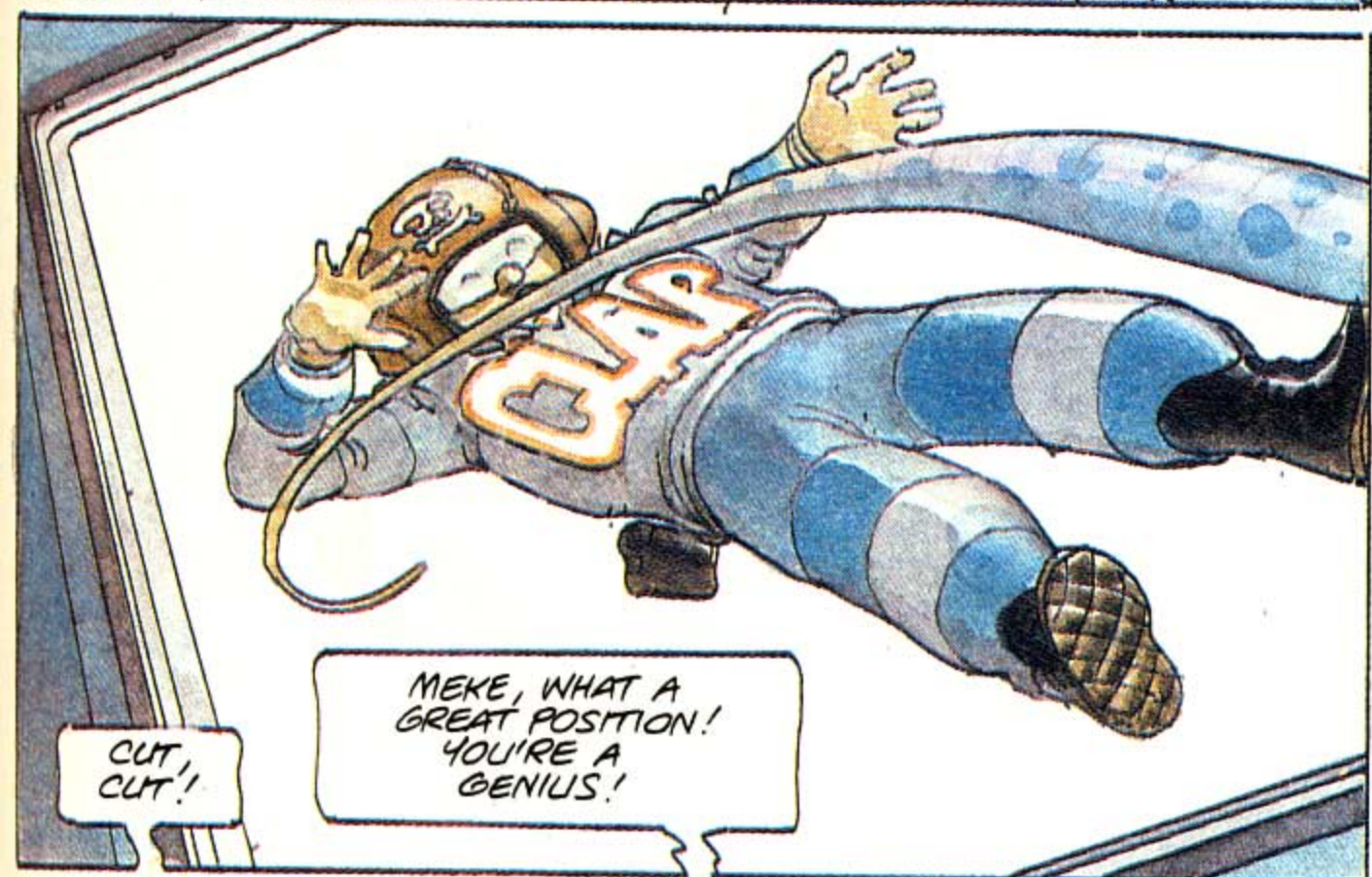


CLEMENT,
PLEASE FAST
FORWARD
THIS.

YOU'RE NOT
MADE OF STONE.
IN YOUR
PLACE I....

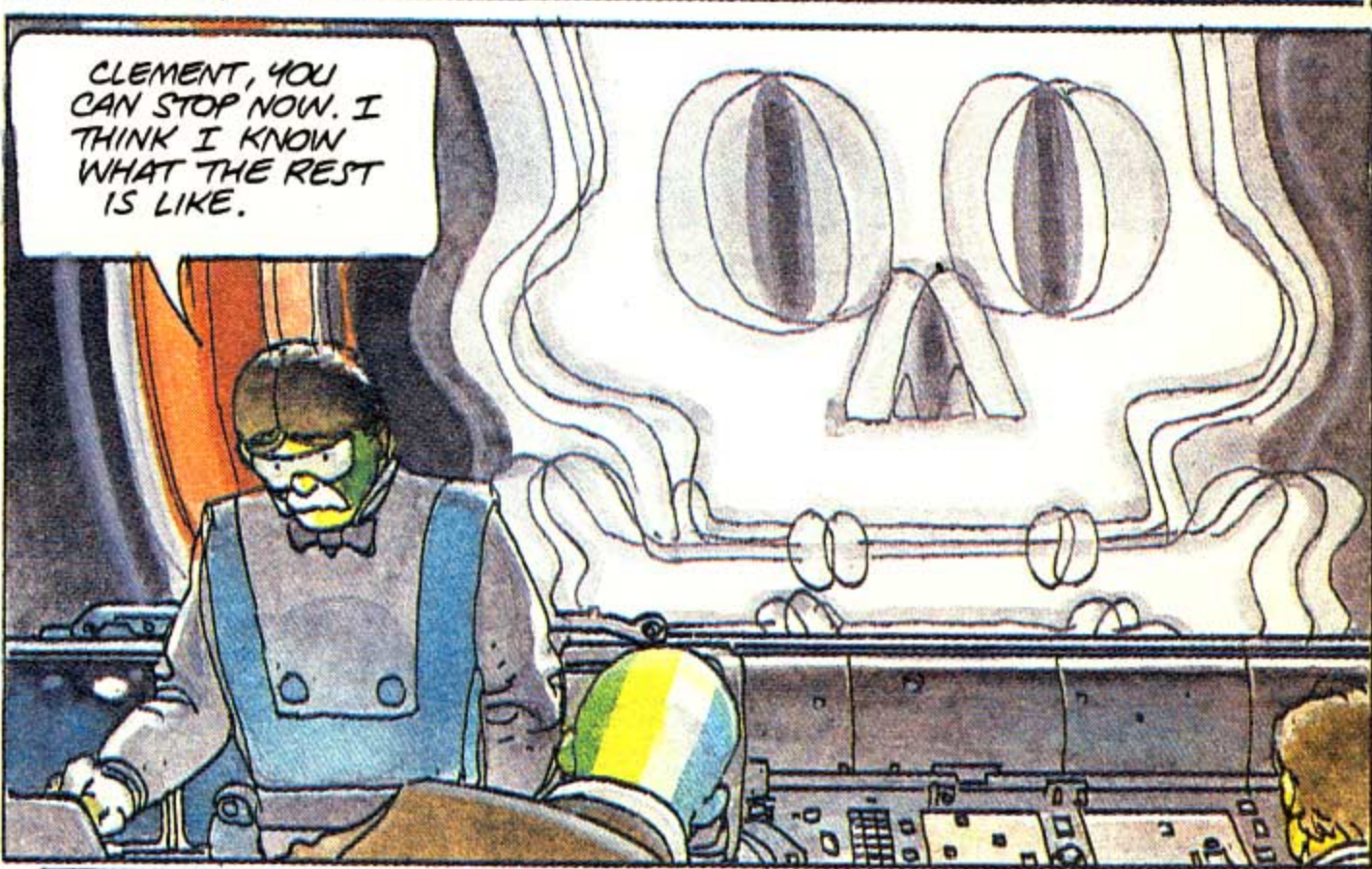


VERY ORIGINAL
CLOSEUP, DON'T
YOU THINK SO?



MEKE, WHAT A
GREAT POSITION!
YOU'RE A
GENIUS!

CUT,
CUT!

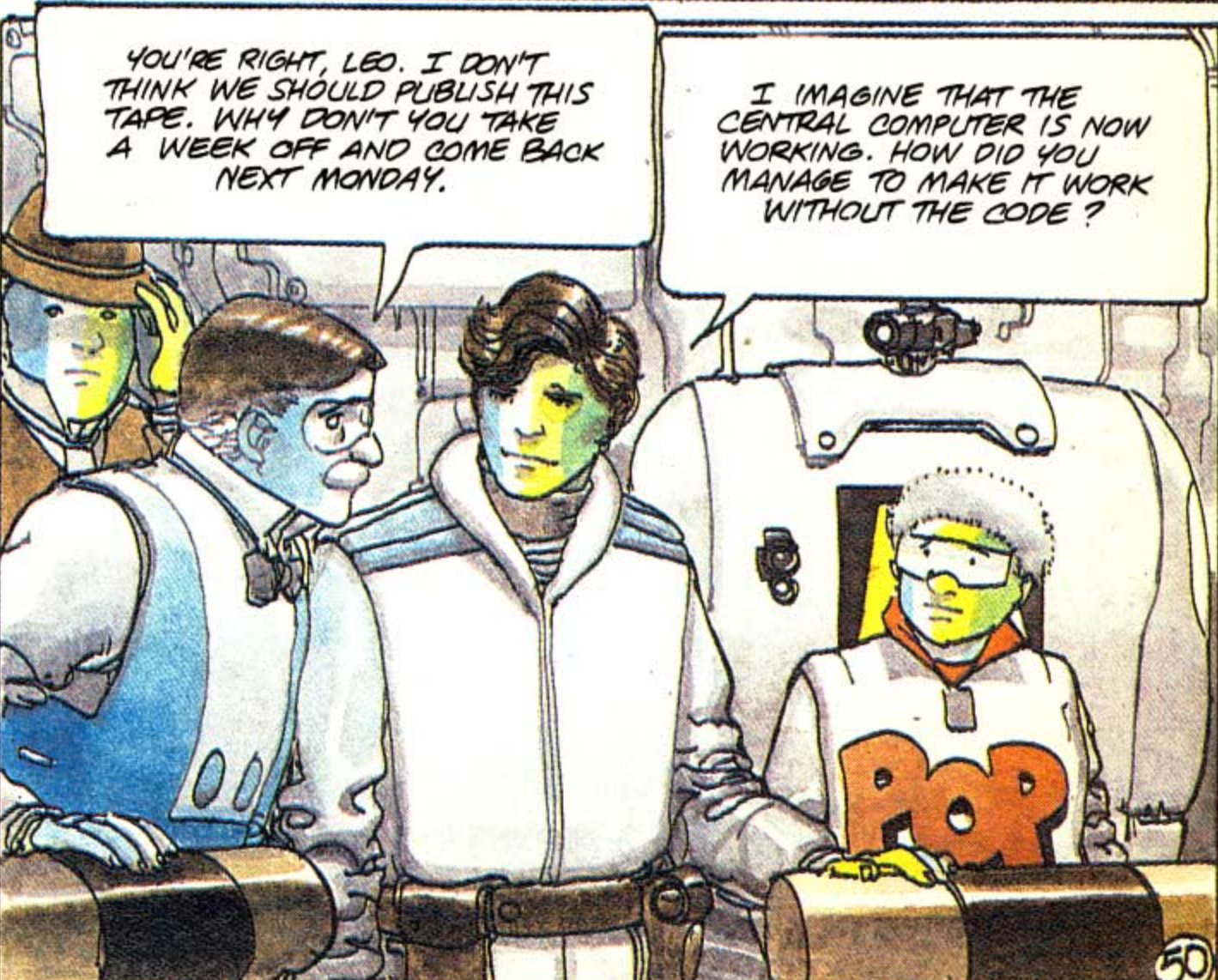


CLEMENT, YOU
CAN STOP NOW. I
THINK I KNOW
WHAT THE REST
IS LIKE.



TRY TO FIND SOME PART OF
THE FILM THAT CAN BE USE-
FUL TO US AND CHECK ALL
THE PARTS THAT WERE SHOT
ON THE TITANIX.

ALL RIGHT,
SIR.



YOU'RE RIGHT, LEO. I DON'T
THINK WE SHOULD PUBLISH THIS
TAPE. WHY DON'T YOU TAKE
A WEEK OFF AND COME BACK
NEXT MONDAY.

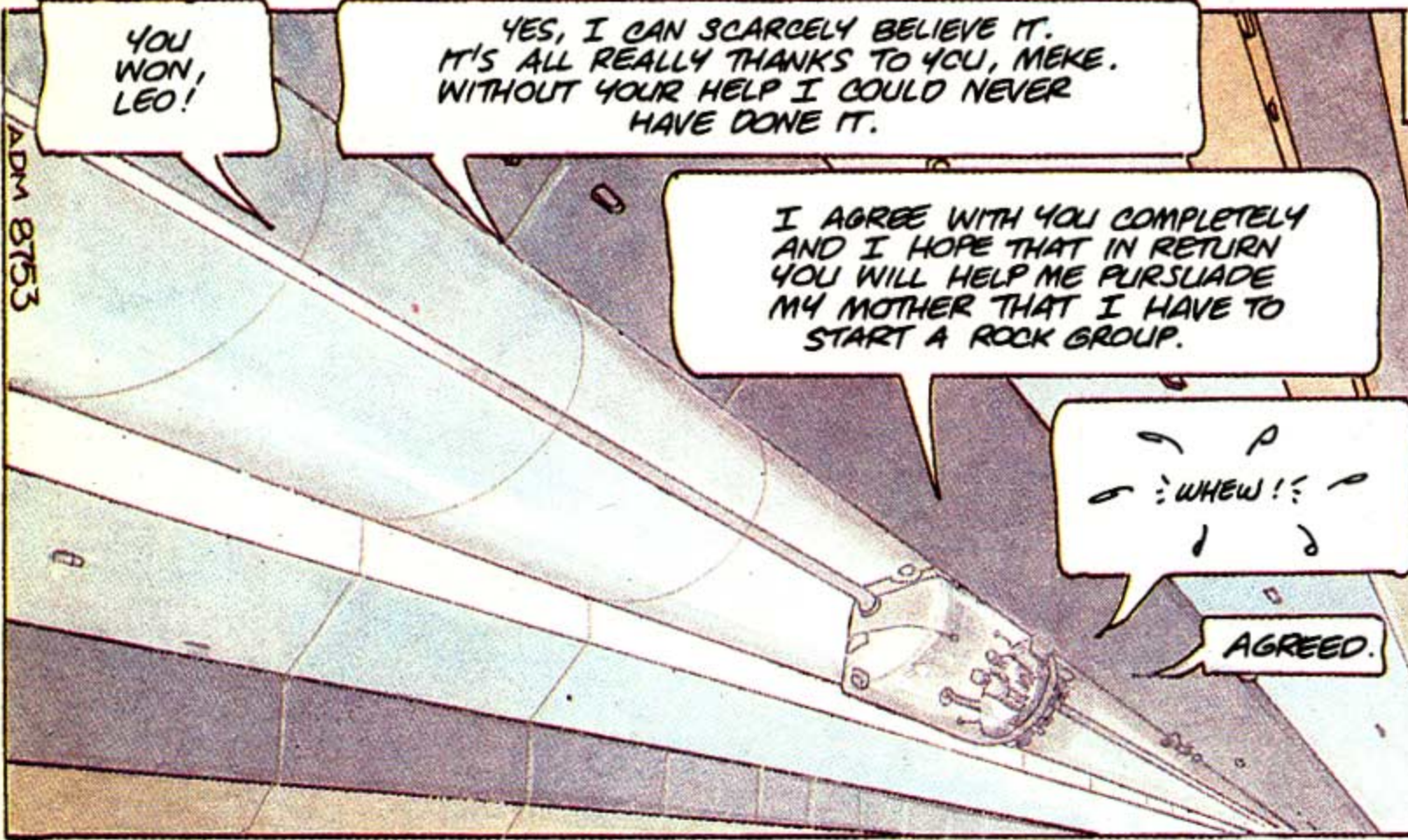
I IMAGINE THAT THE
CENTRAL COMPUTER IS NOW
WORKING. HOW DID YOU
MANAGE TO MAKE IT WORK
WITHOUT THE CODE?



THE COMPUTER IS STILL NOT WORKING.... BUT A GROUP OF TECHNICIANS ARE STILL WORKING ON IT... BUT WHAT I WANTED TO TELL YOU IS....

... ON MONDAY YOU WILL BEGIN TO WORK AS THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO HUGO HAMILTON, OUR SPECIAL INTERPLANETARY CORRESPONDENT.

WHAT? THE FAMOUS HAMILTON?



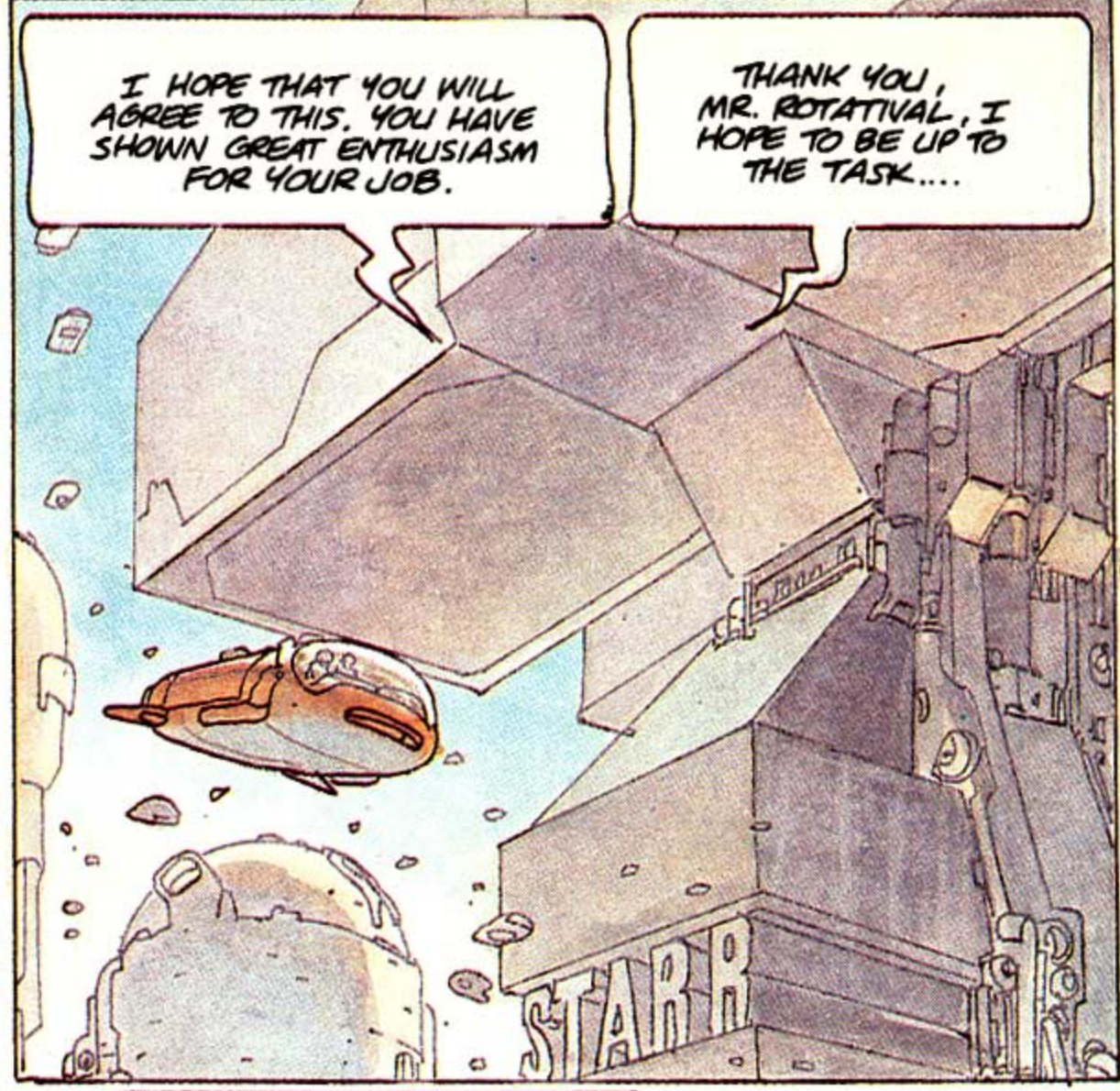
YOU WON, LEO!

YES, I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE IT. IT'S ALL REALLY THANKS TO YOU, MEKE. WITHOUT YOUR HELP I COULD NEVER HAVE DONE IT.

I AGREE WITH YOU COMPLETELY AND I HOPE THAT IN RETURN YOU WILL HELP ME PERSUADE MY MOTHER THAT I HAVE TO START A ROCK GROUP.

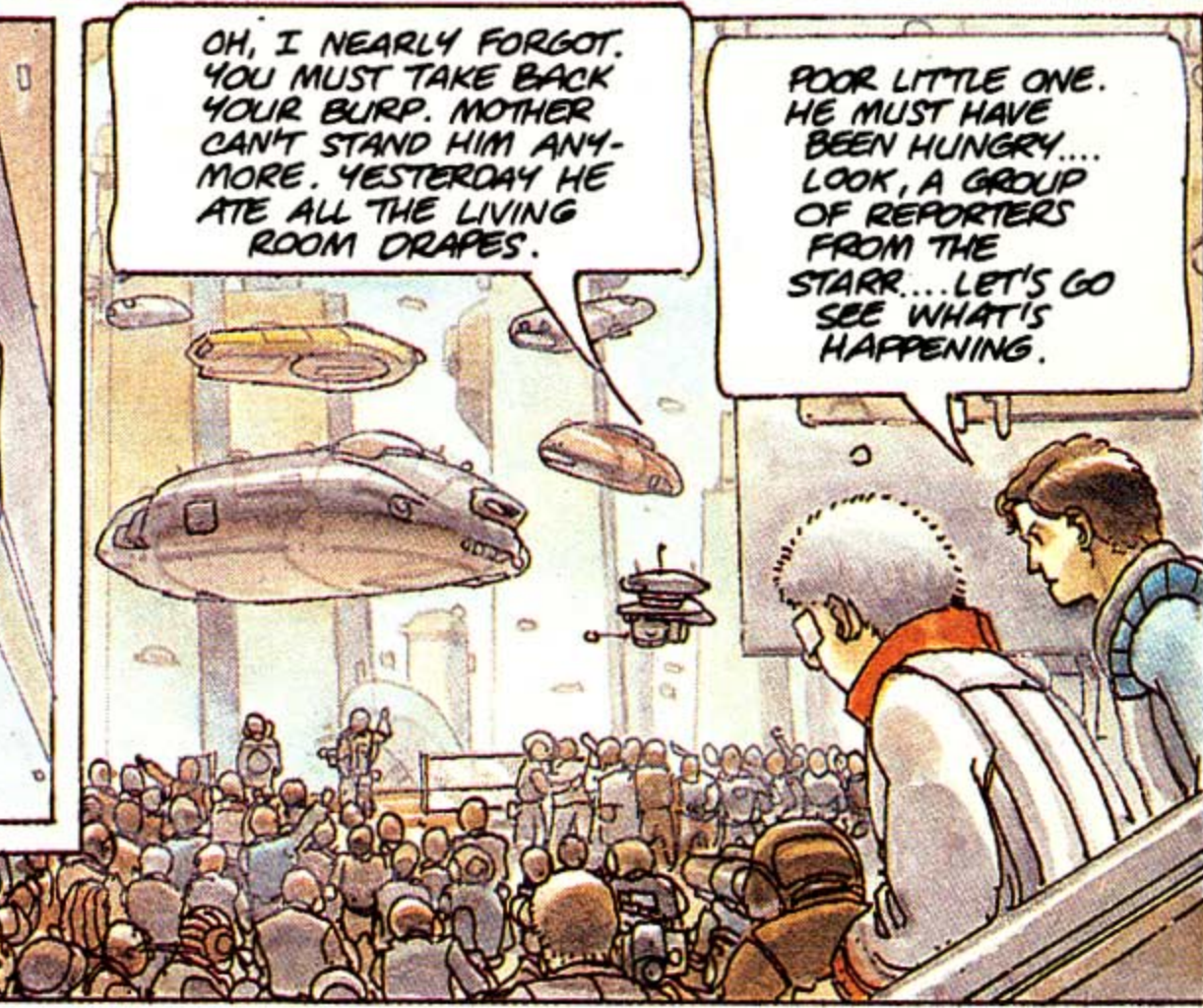
WHEW!

AGREED.



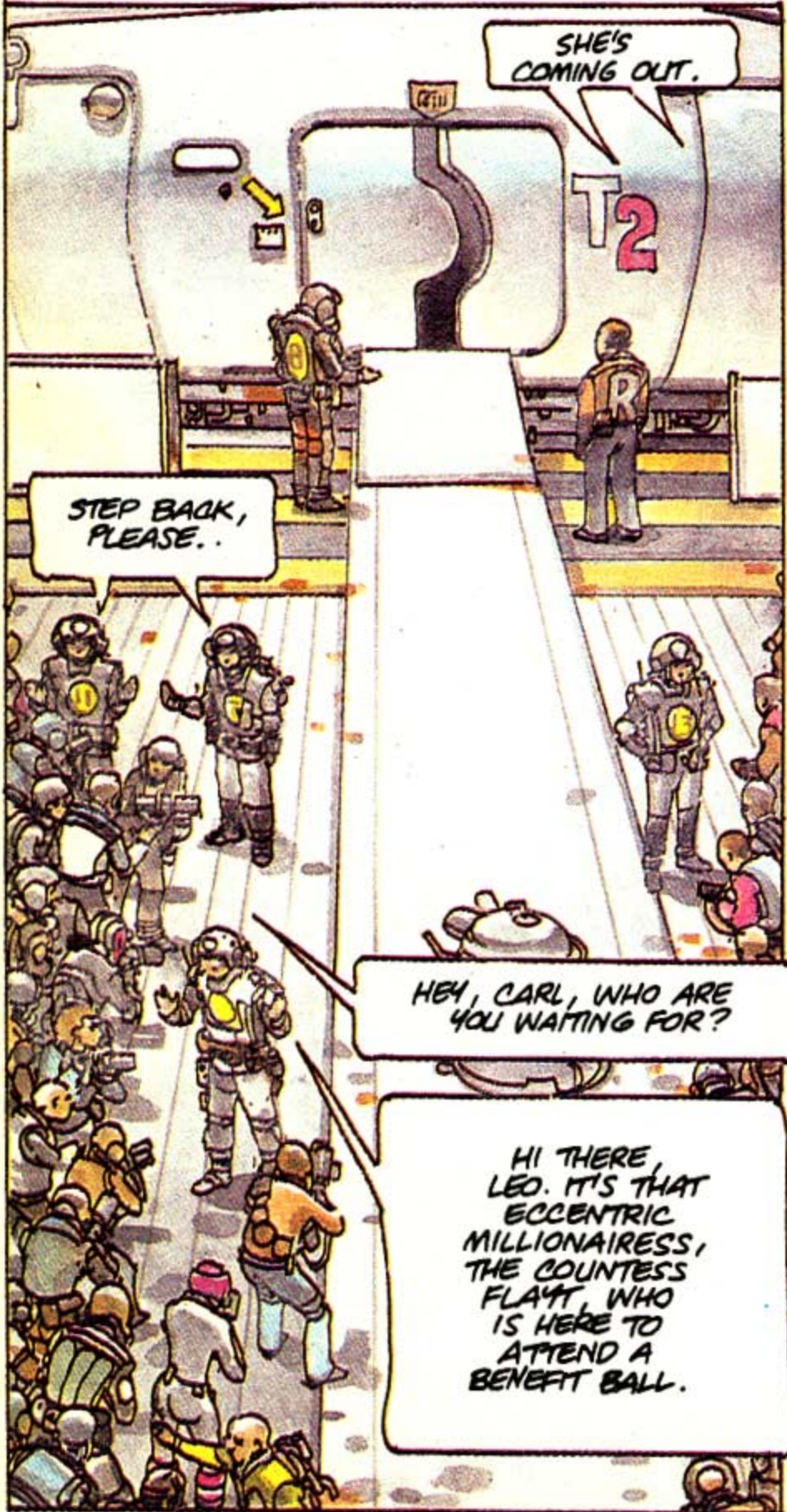
I HOPE THAT YOU WILL AGREE TO THIS. YOU HAVE SHOWN GREAT ENTHUSIASM FOR YOUR JOB.

THANK YOU, MR. ROTATVAL, I HOPE TO BE UP TO THE TASK....



OH, I NEARLY FORGOT. YOU MUST TAKE BACK YOUR BURP. MOTHER CAN'T STAND HIM ANYMORE. YESTERDAY HE ATE ALL THE LIVING ROOM DRAPES.

POOR LITTLE ONE. HE MUST HAVE BEEN HUNGRY.... LOOK, A GROUP OF REPORTERS FROM THE STARR... LET'S GO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING.



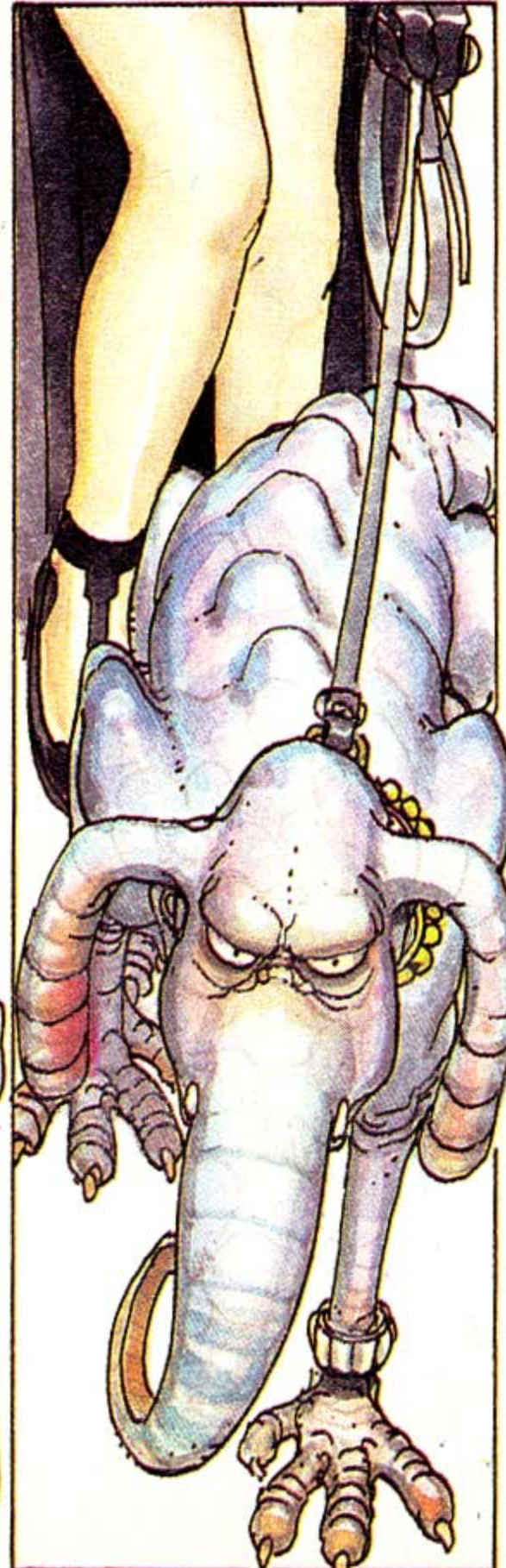
SHE'S COMING OUT.

T2

STEP BACK, PLEASE..

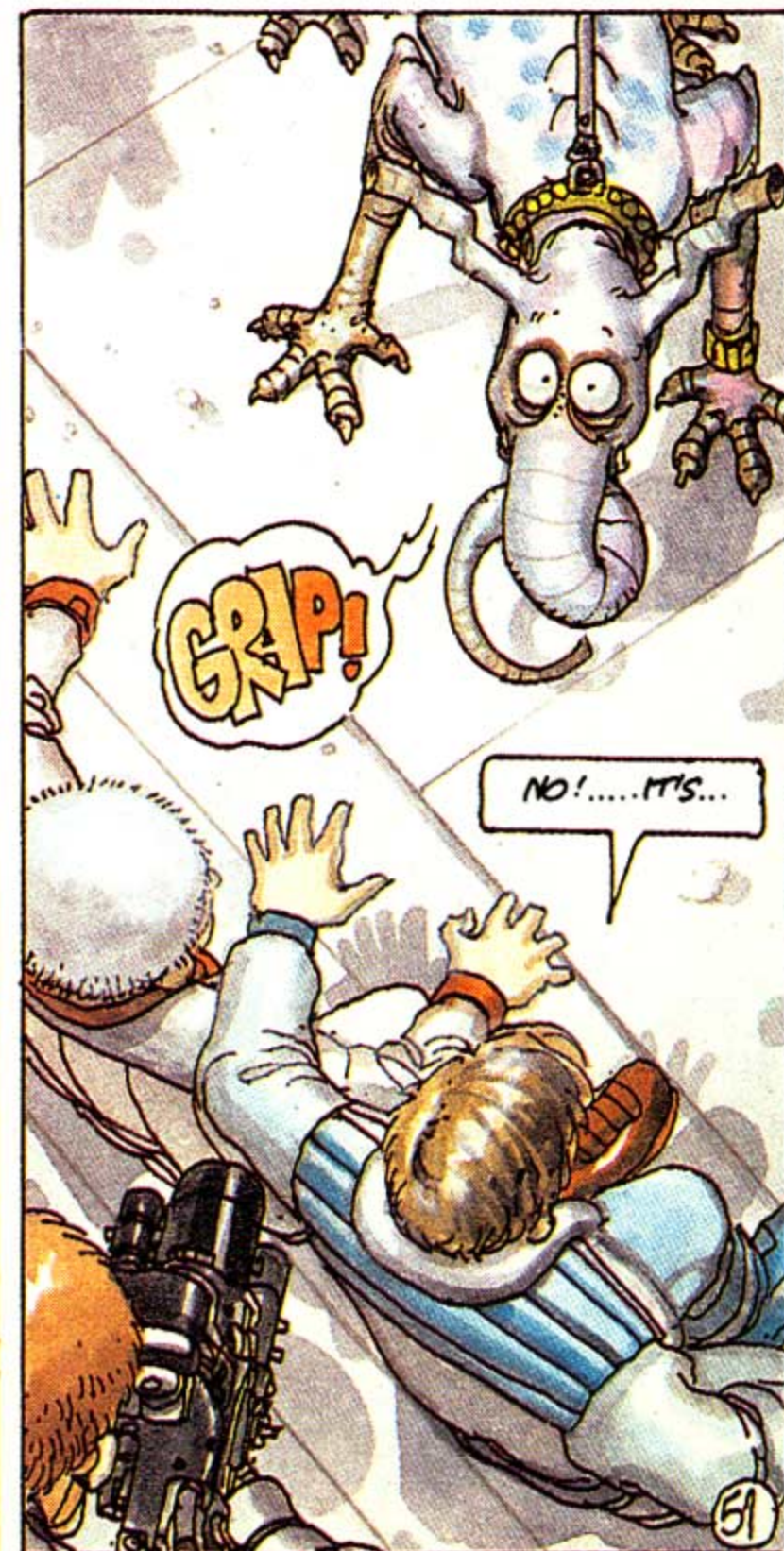
HEY, CARL, WHO ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

HI THERE, LEO. IT'S THAT ECCENTRIC MILLIONAIRESS, THE COUNTESS FLAYT WHO IS HERE TO ATTEND A BENEFIT BALL.



MEKE! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

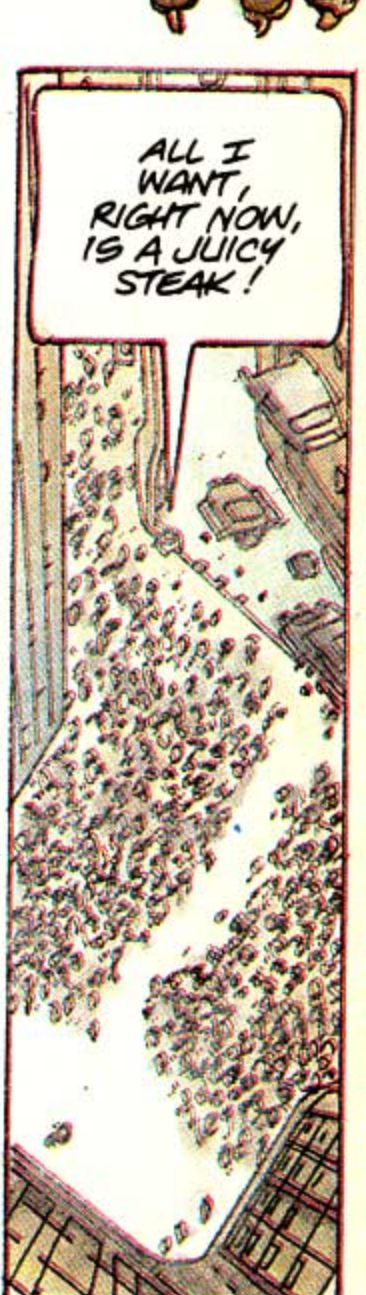
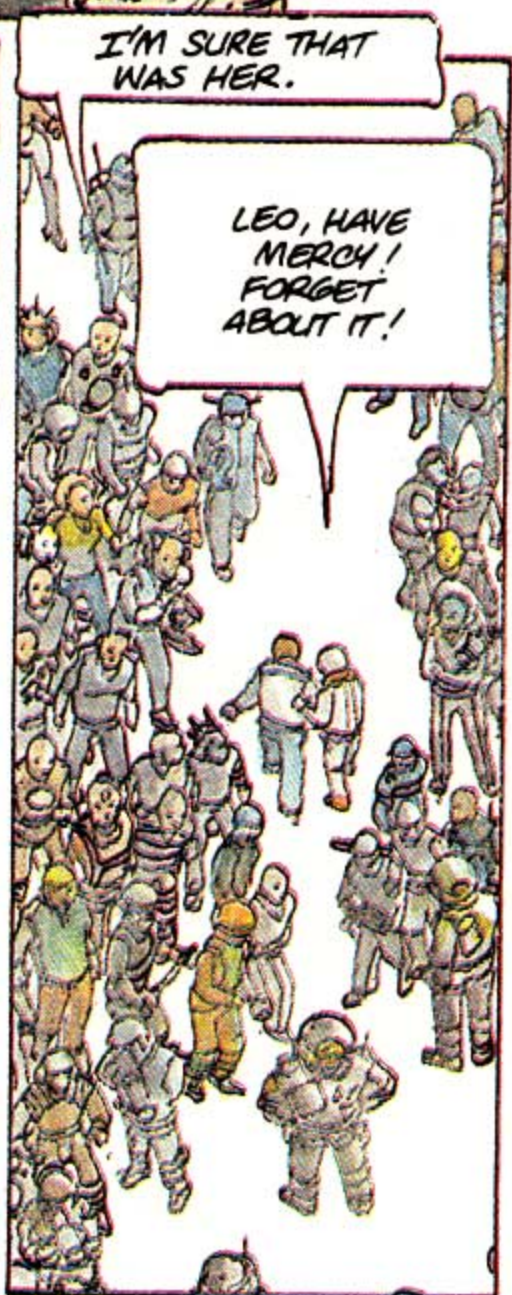
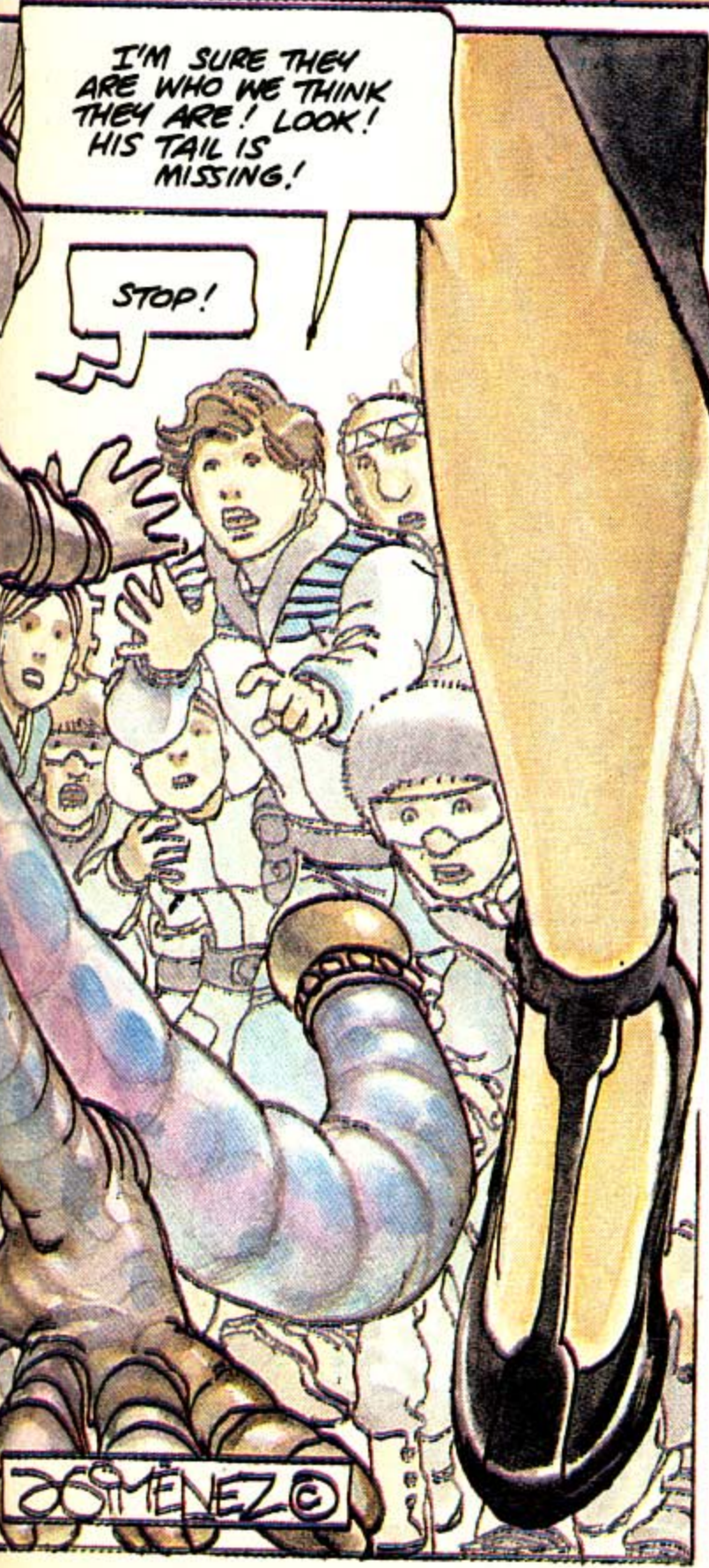
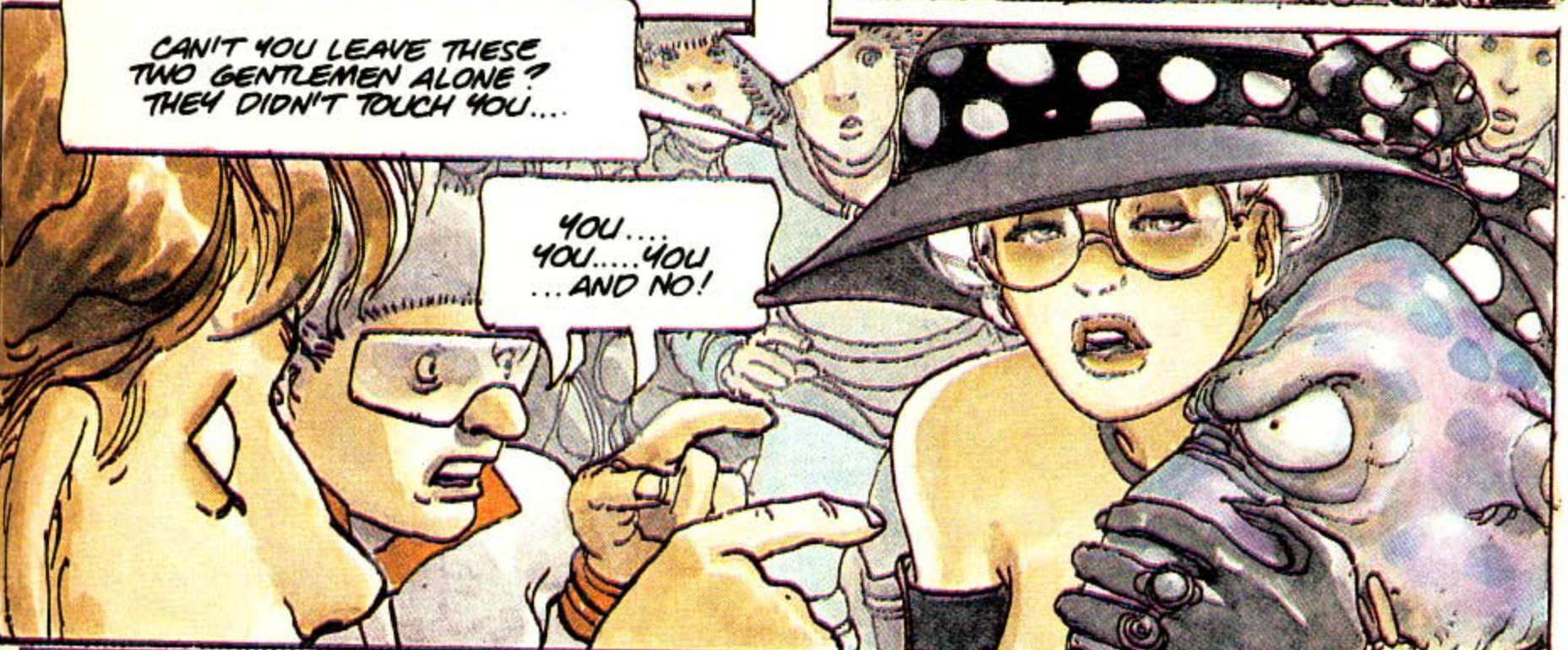
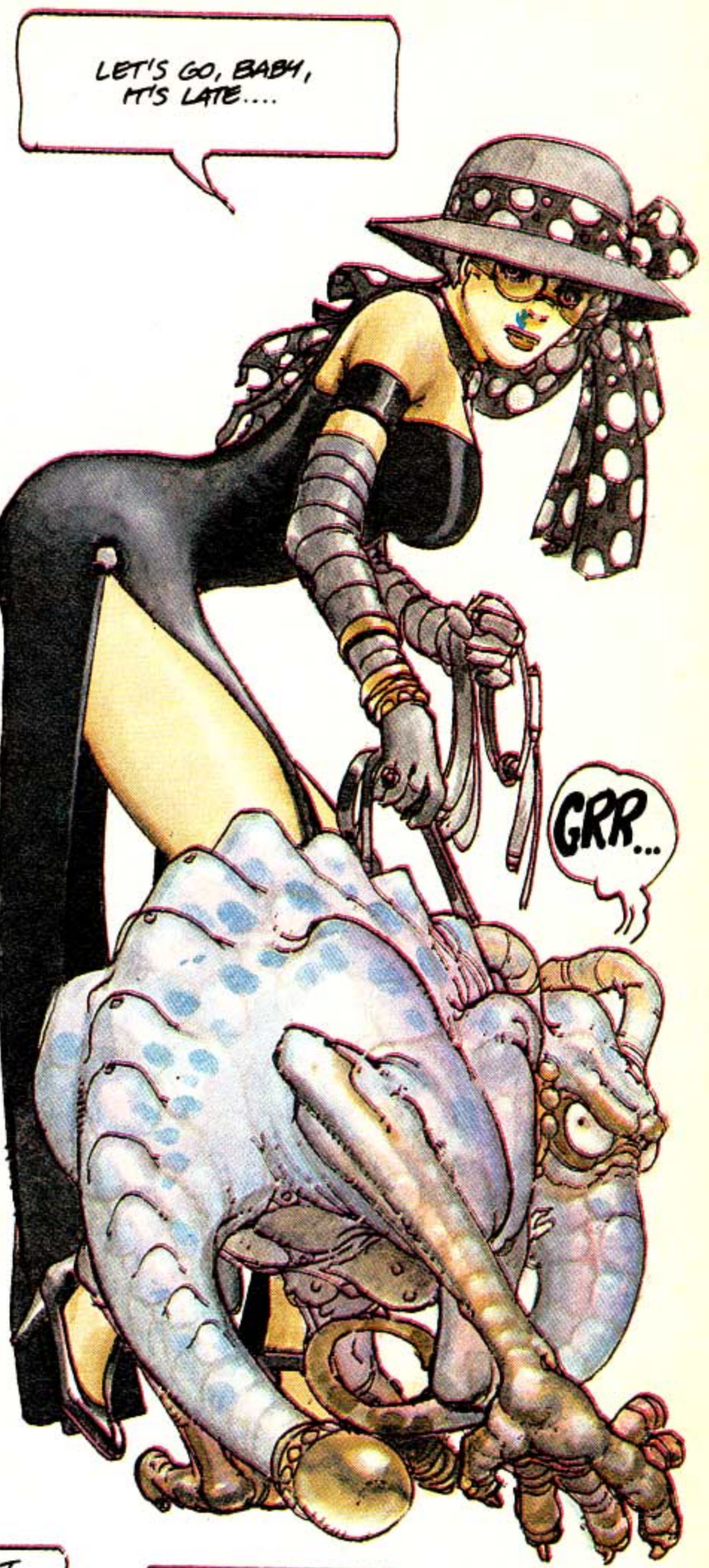
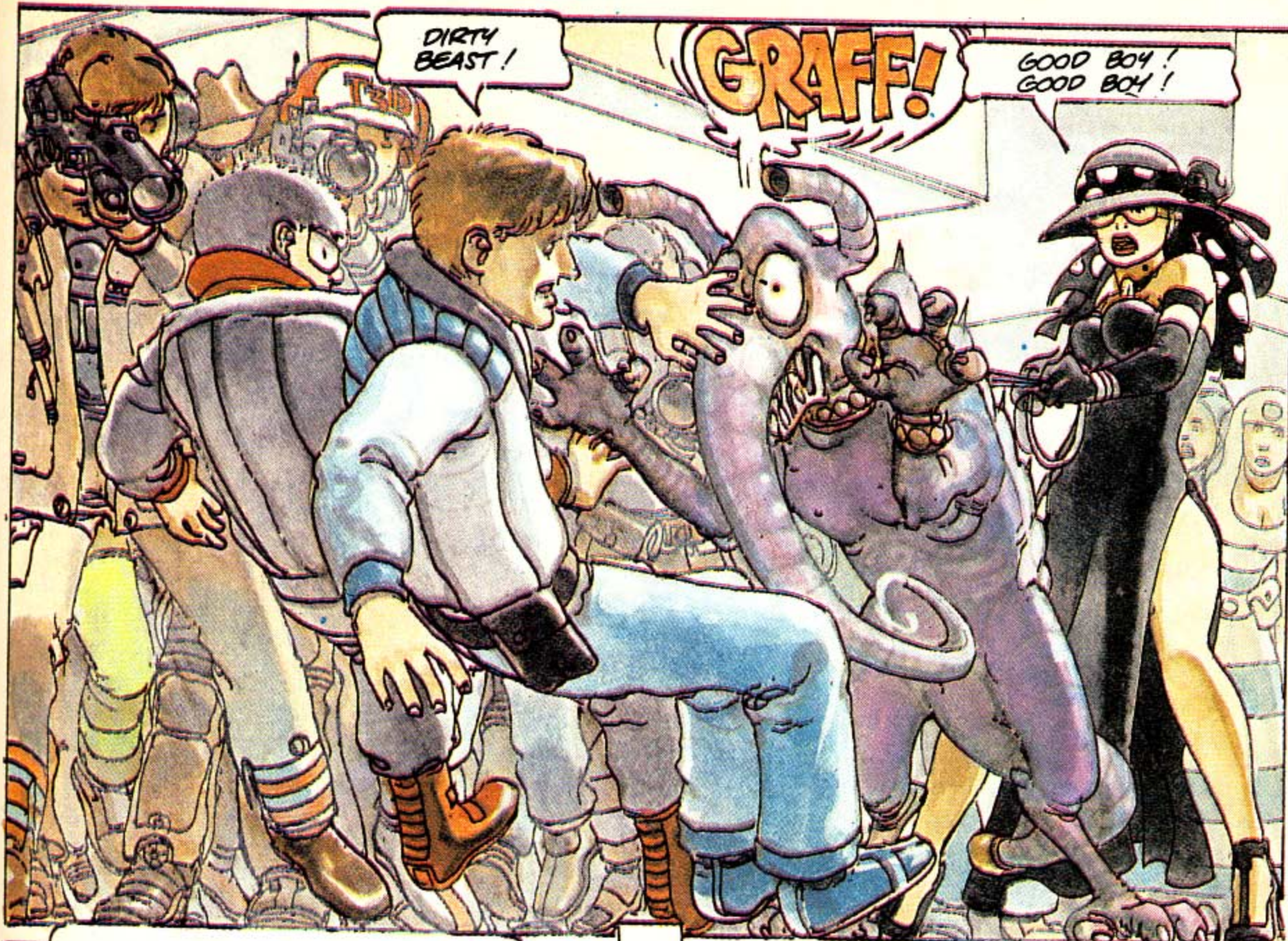
I SEE, LEO!



GRIP!

NO!.....IT'S...

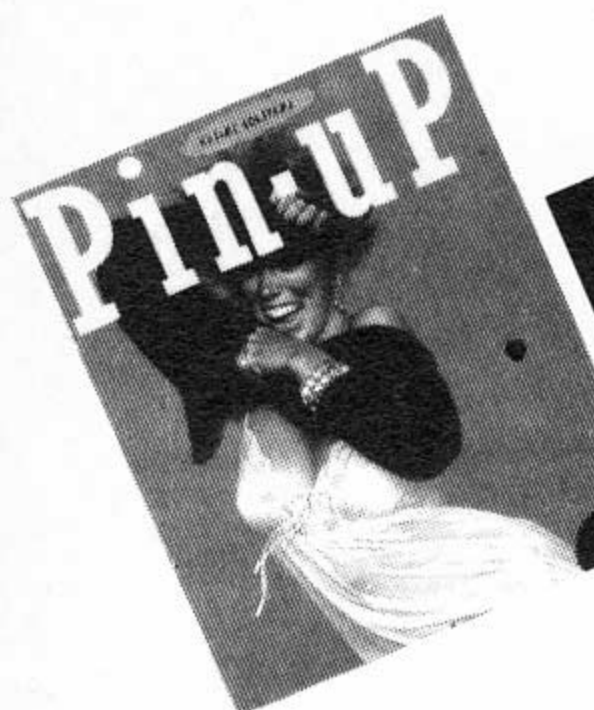
ADM 8753



WELL DONE, LEO! BRAVO, MEKE!
A BRILLIANT CAREER AWAITS THE YOUNG REPORTER FOR
THE STARR, LEO ROA.
AND MEKE WILL BE ABLE TO CREATE THE MUSIC HE LOVES.
ALL THIS, OF COURSE, WILL TAKE PLACE AMIDST NEW
ADVENTURES.....

THE END

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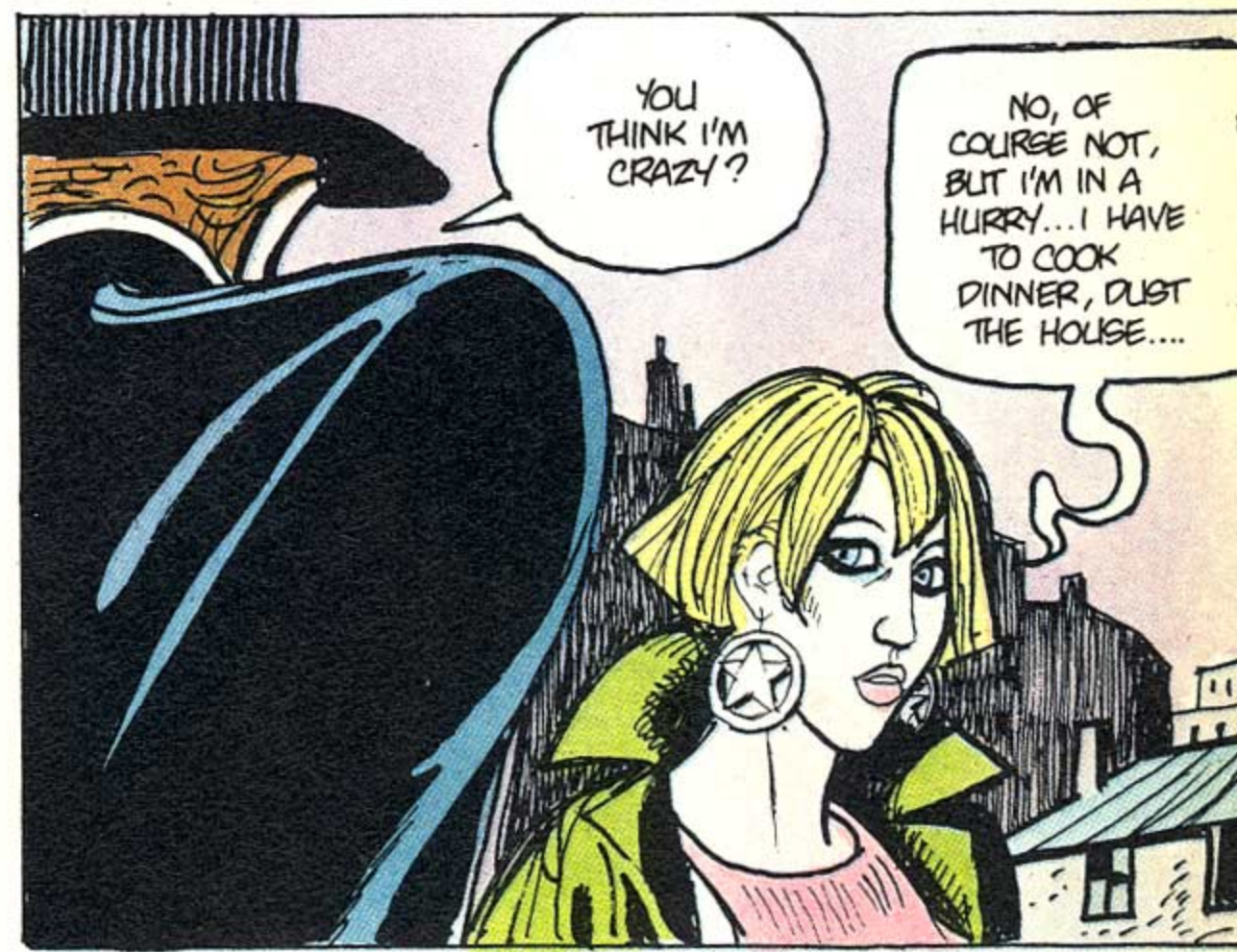
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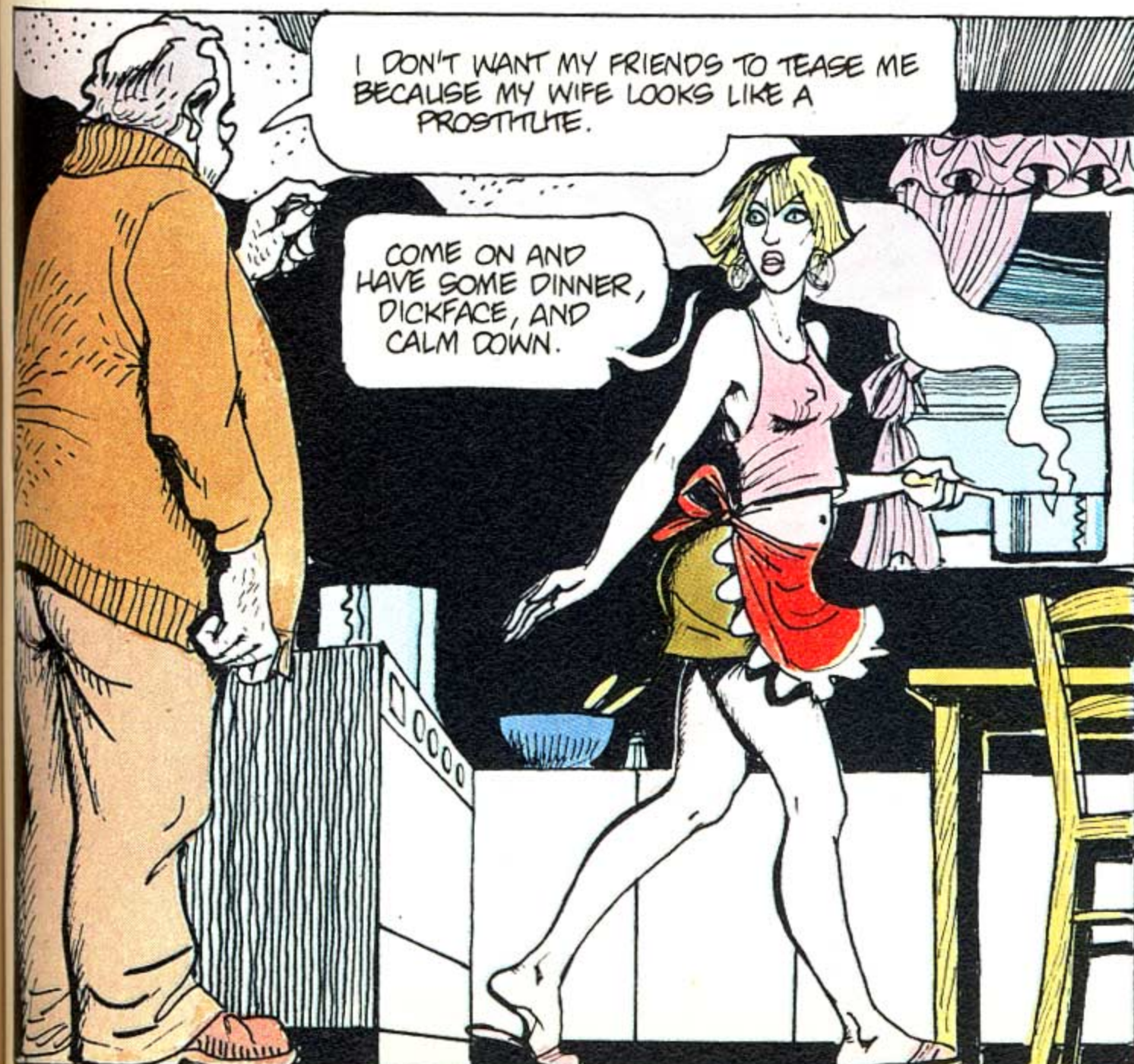
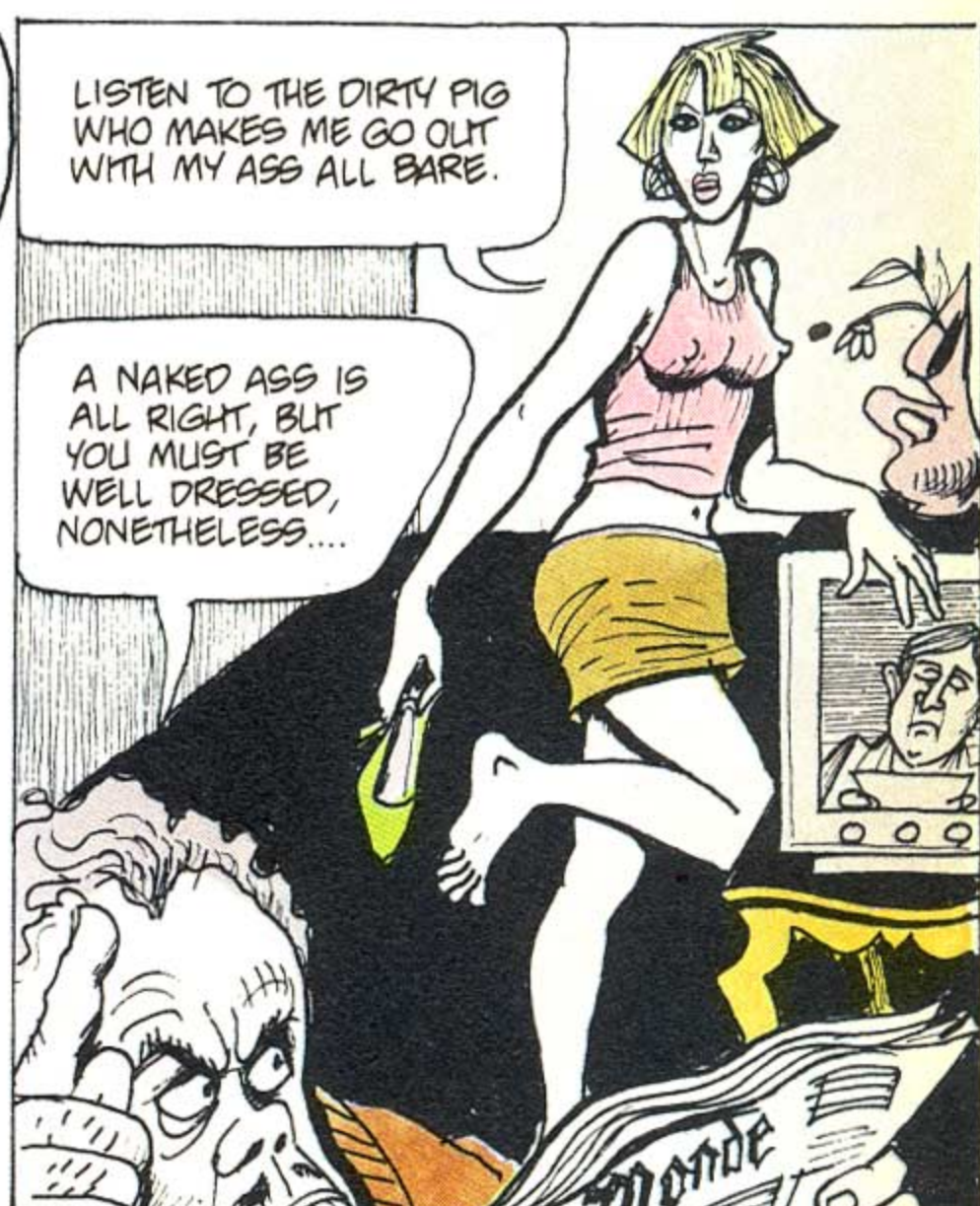
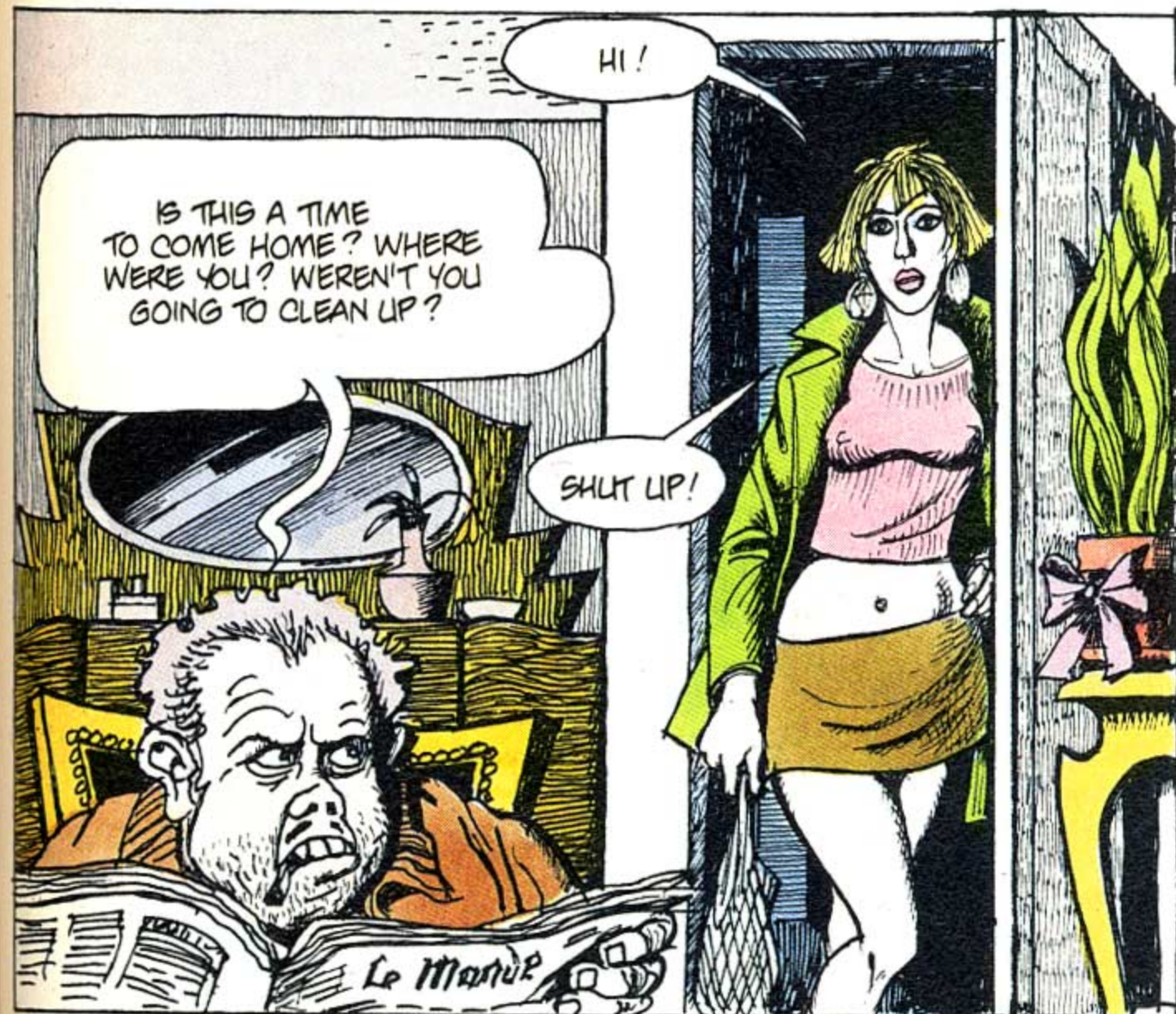
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The Specialist by Pichard







SO YOU WANT TO BE TOUGH?
WELL, YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A
SLEEPLESS NIGHT... AND WHAT'S
MORE, YOU CAN EAT DINNER BY YOUR-
SELF I'M GOING TO BED!

ITCHOUP
ITCHOUP

HMMM....

WHAT'S THE
MATTER NOW?

WELL...
HMMM... I'M SORRY
...FORGIVE ME...

OKAY... OKAY... STOP SNIVELING!
BUT STOP PICKING ON ME!

HE'S SNORING
NOW... AH... THIS IS CLEARLY
NOT ECSTASY...
THAT'S FOR SURE....

...THAT GUY GAVE
ME HIS CARD....

ANGEL

HELLO... MR.
ANGEL... THIS IS ME...
THE GIRL YOU...
YES... YOU DON'T
KNOW MY
NAME...

YES,
GABY, I
KNOW YOUR
NAME.

YOU
DO?

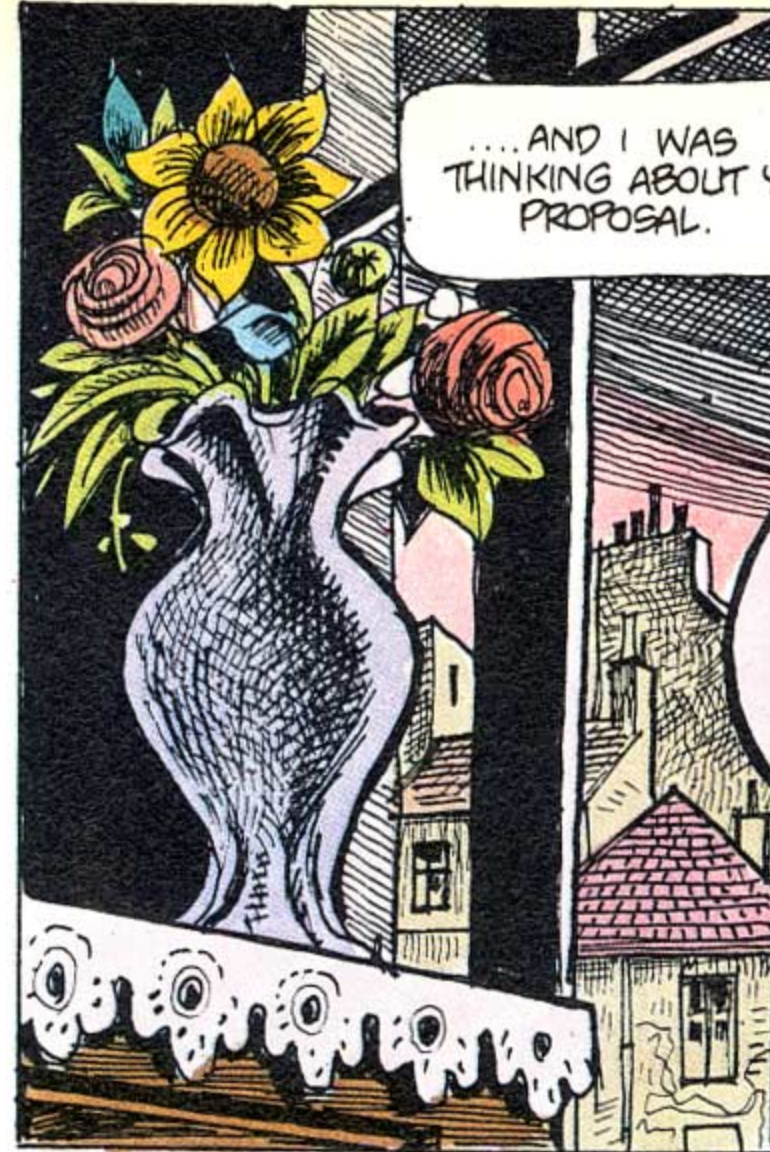
CALL
ME
ANGEL,
OKAY?

YES, OF COURSE!



DID YOU WANT TO ASK ME SOMETHING?

YES, I'M TIRED OF MY HUSBAND....



....AND I WAS THINKING ABOUT YOUR PROPOSAL.



ABOUT ECSTASY?

YES, THAT'S RIGHT.



ARE YOU SURE? WE'LL THEN GO OUT JUST AS YOU ARE AND WAIT FOR ME ON THE CORNER.

BUT I'M HALF NAKED.



DOES THAT BOTHER YOU?

NO... I FIND IT EXCITING... I'M NOT COMPLETELY NAKED... I'M WEARING A SHORT TOP...



...VERY SHORT...

TERRIFIC! THAT'S PERFECT!

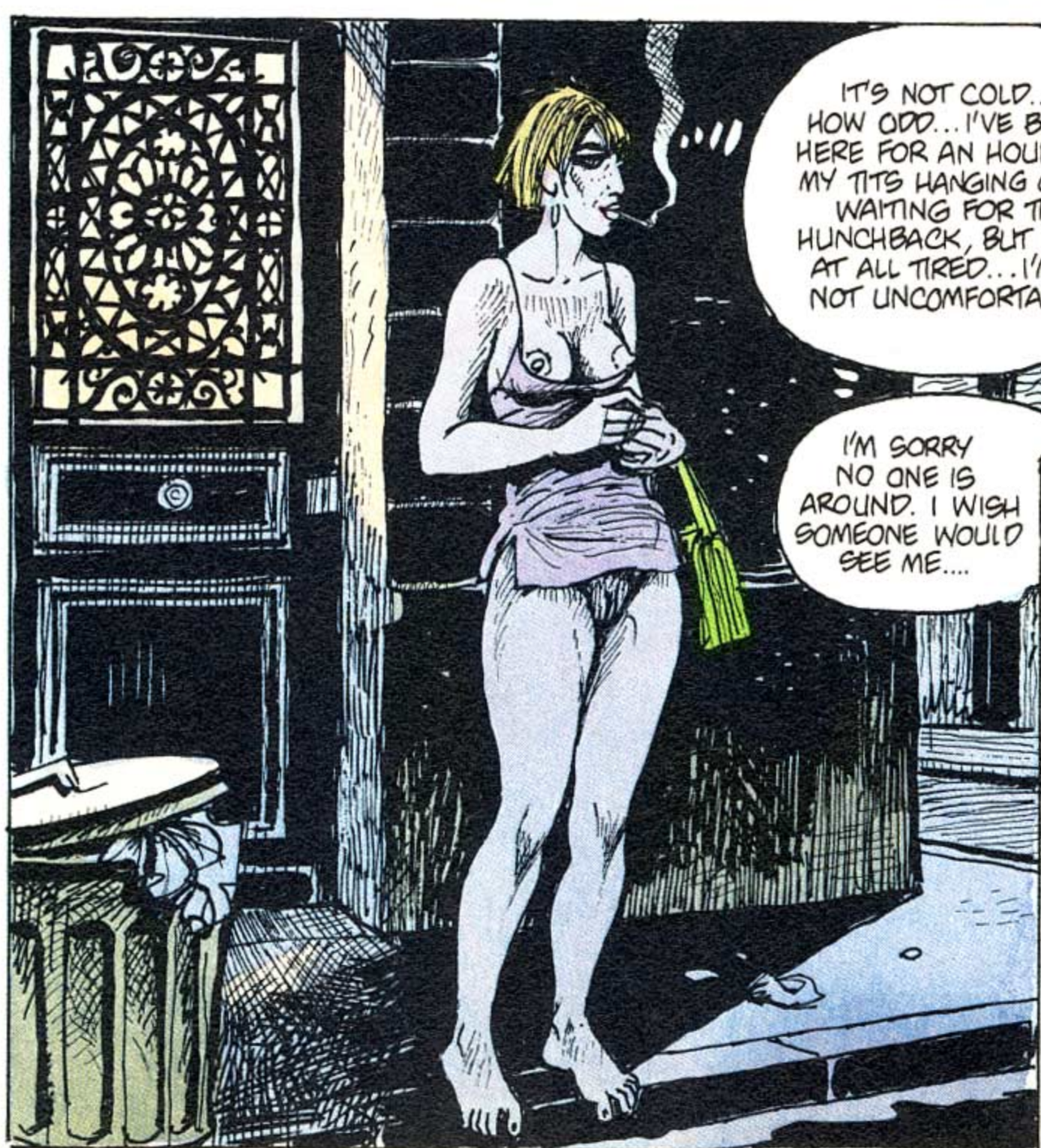
GO OUT!



MAY-BE I WON'T CARRY MY PURSE.

SOMEONE COULD TAKE ME FOR A PROSTITUTE

WELL... AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT...

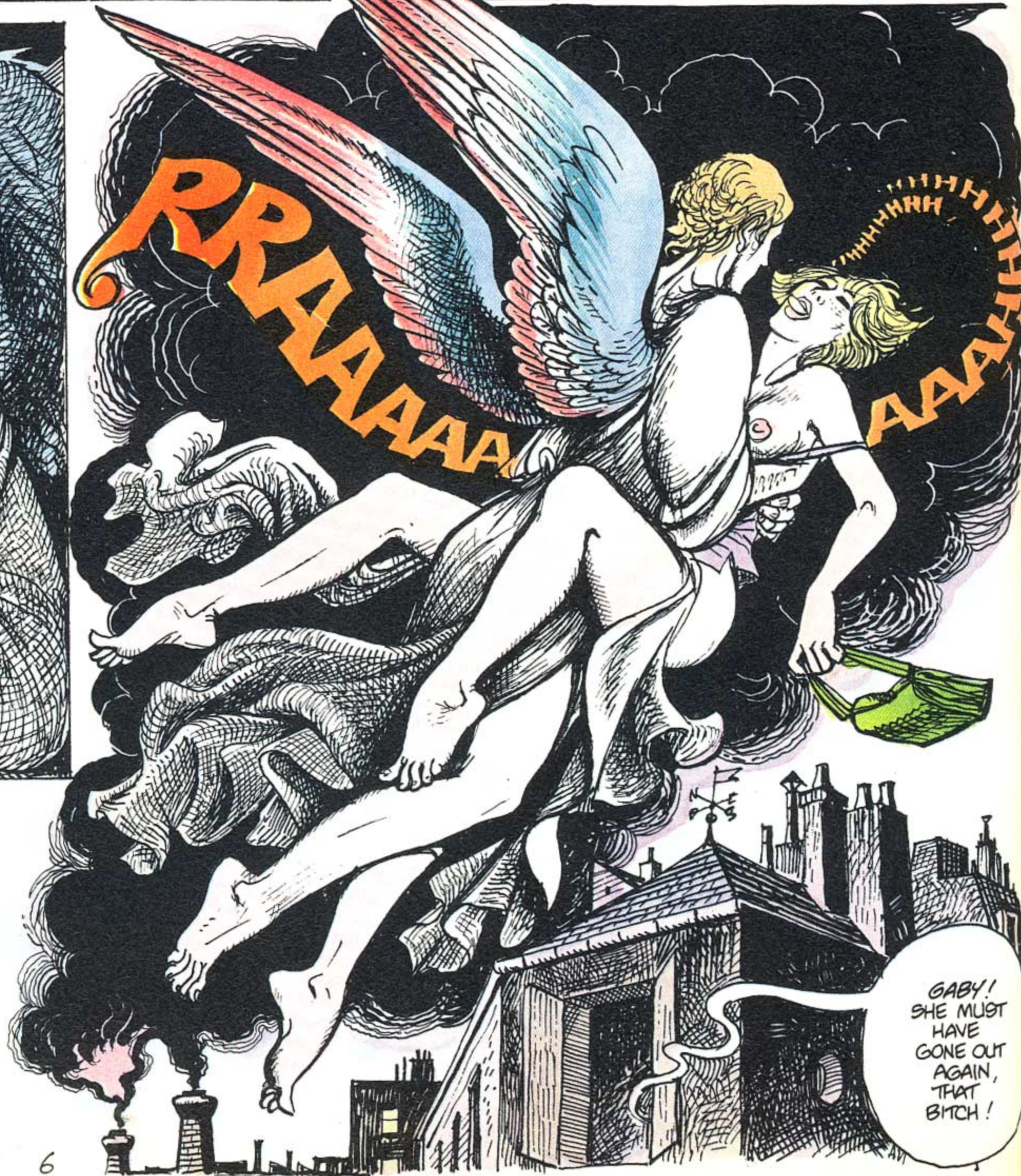
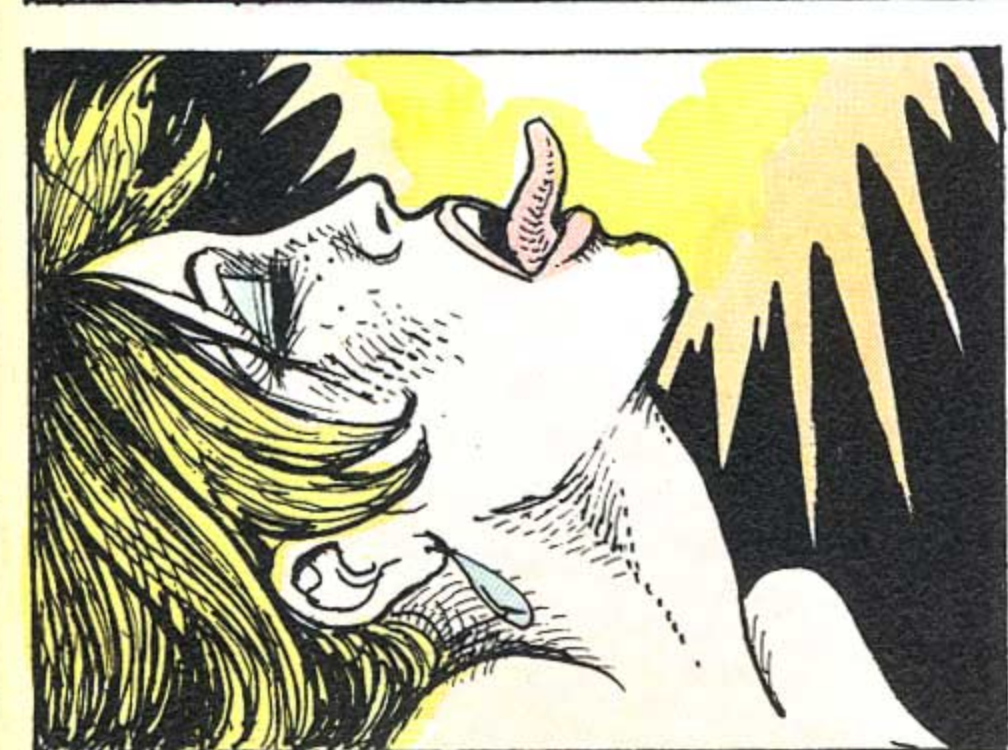
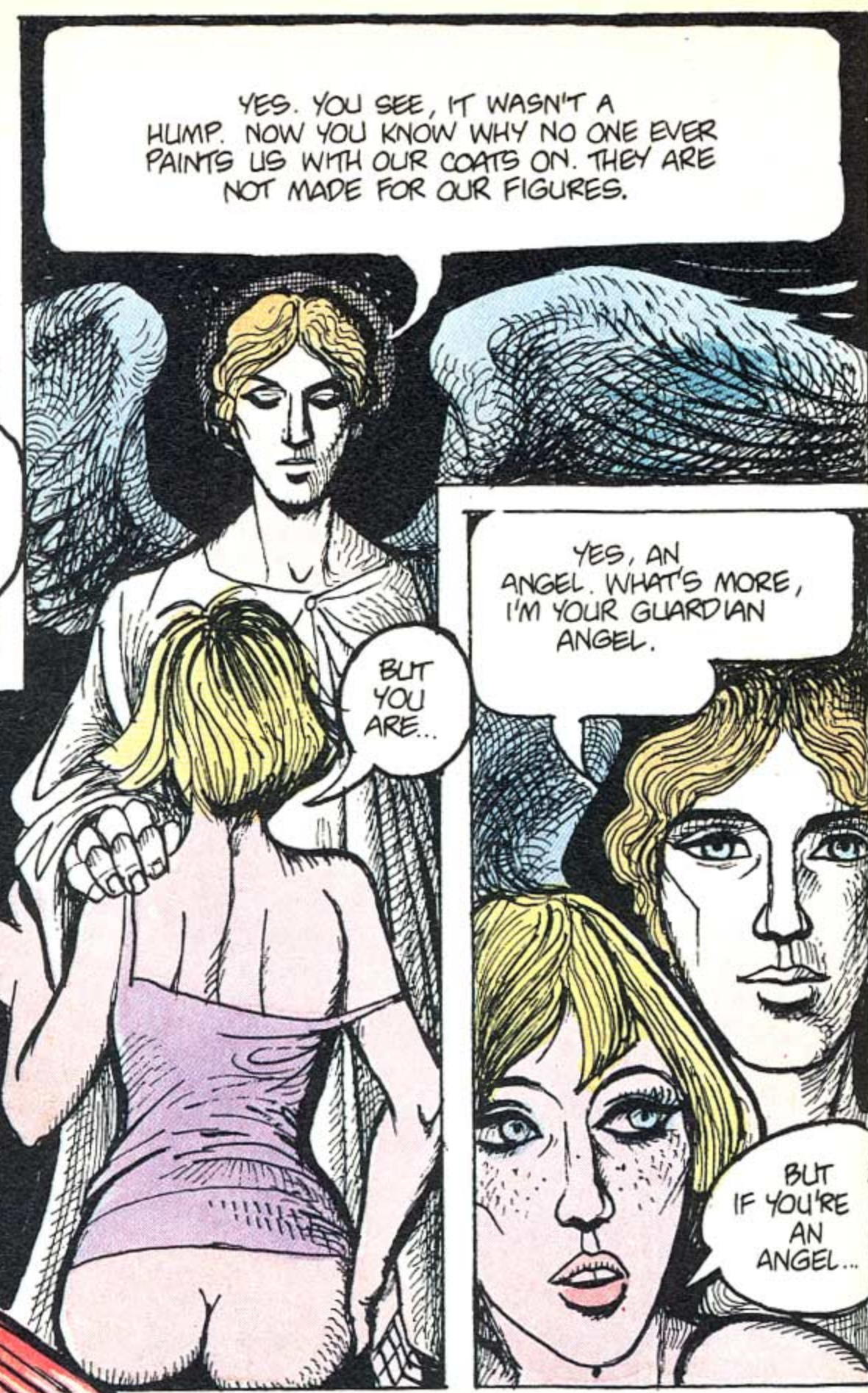
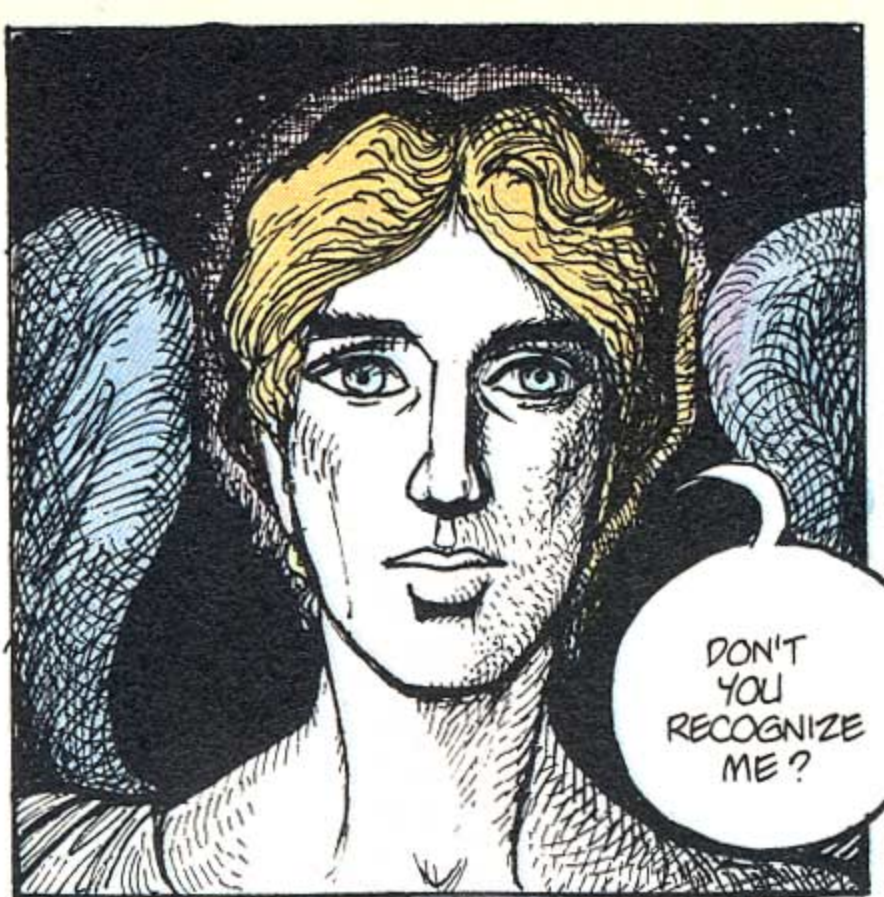
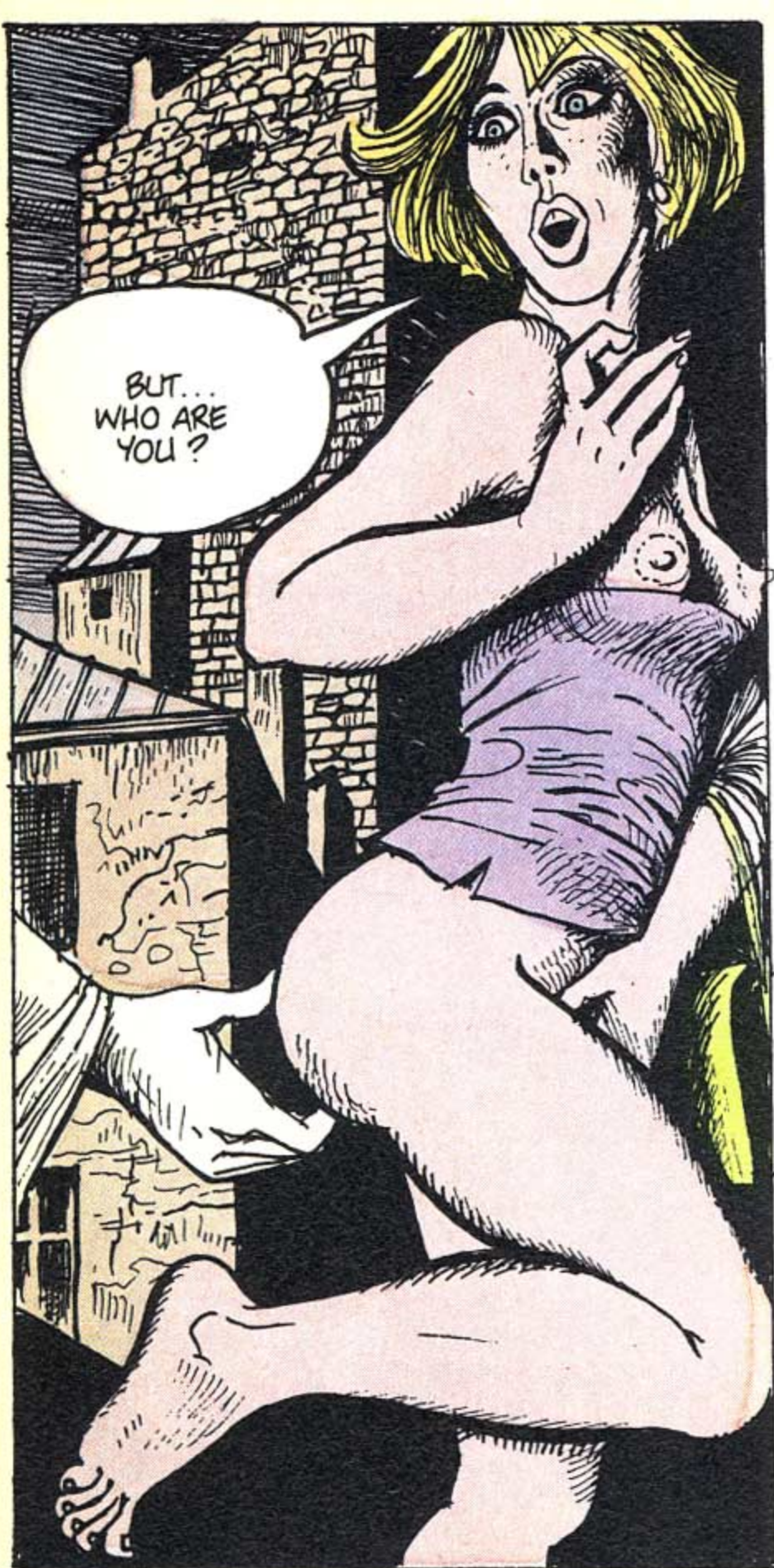


IT'S NOT COLD... HOW ODD... I'VE BEEN HERE FOR AN HOUR WITH MY TITS HANGING OUT WAITING FOR THE HUNCHBACK, BUT I'M NOT AT ALL TIRED... I'M NOT UNCOMFORTABLE...

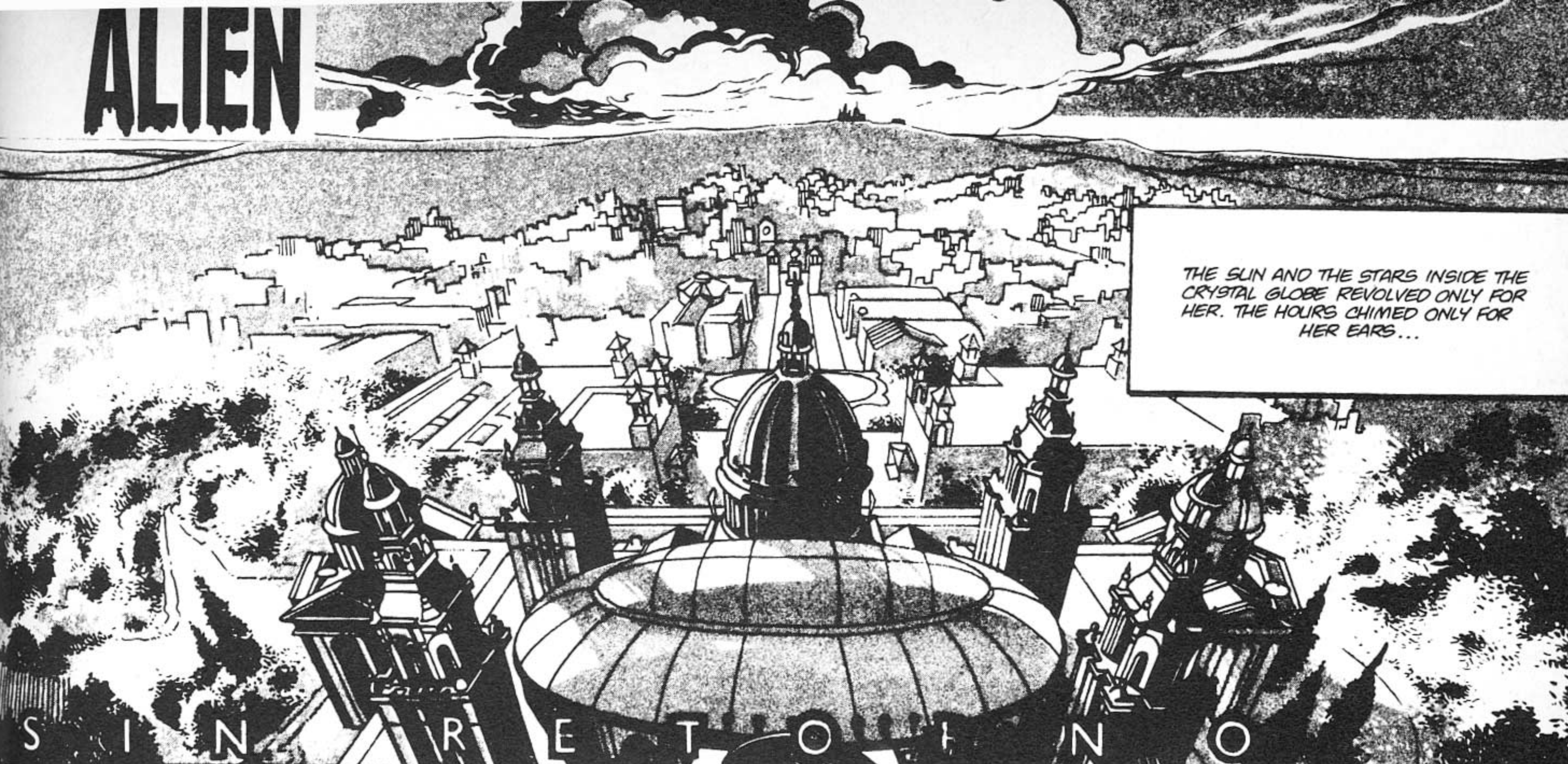
I'M SORRY NO ONE IS AROUND. I WISH SOMEONE WOULD SEE ME....



OH... IS THAT YOU?



ALIEN



THE SUN AND THE STARS INSIDE THE CRYSTAL GLOBE REVOLVED ONLY FOR HER. THE HOURS CHIMED ONLY FOR HER EARS...

S I N E R E T O L I N O

(C) Controlled by NORMA

...ONLY HER FACE WAS REFLECTED IN THE CRYSTAL GLOBE WHICH COVERED THE CLOCK....



SO IT WAS. AND I TOO WOULD HAVE LIVED JUST FOR HER... BUT I NEVER TOLD HER ABOUT MY FEELINGS

...I RESIGNED MYSELF TO HIDING THE CLOCK EVERY TIME A POSSIBLE BUYER CAME INTO THE STORE...



OH, JULIA!

WHY MUST IT BE THIS WAY? WHY COULDN'T IT BE DIFFERENT?

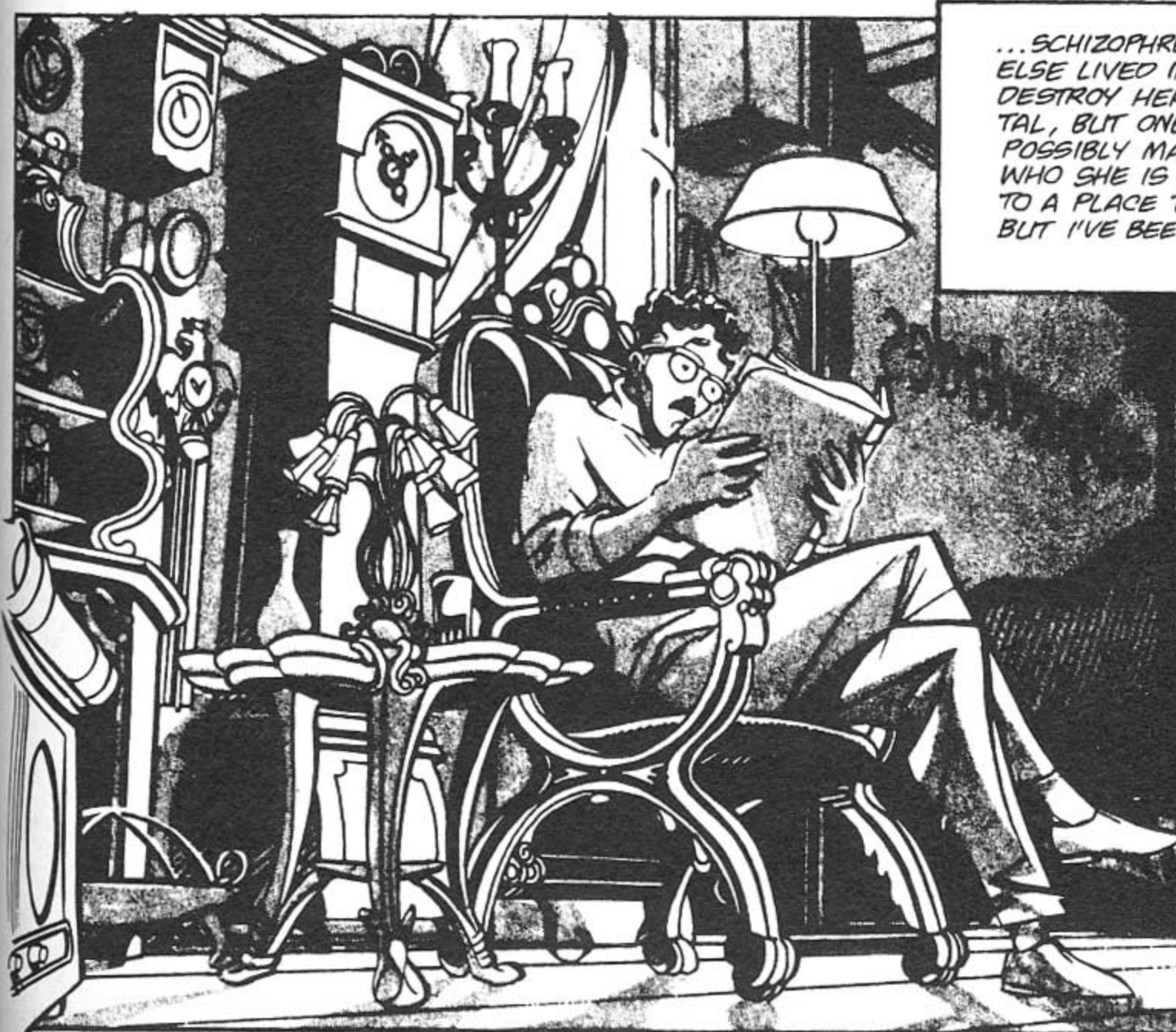


AND TO THINK THAT THIS STUPID BOOK IS TO BLAME. (THOUGH I STILL CAN'T ACCEPT THAT!)

HOW COULD SOME PLAIN WORDS ON PAPER AFFECT HER SO STRONGLY? OH GOD, HOW COULD THEY MAKE HER CRAZY?



THE DOCTOR SAID THAT READING IT STARTED THE WHOLE PROCESS....



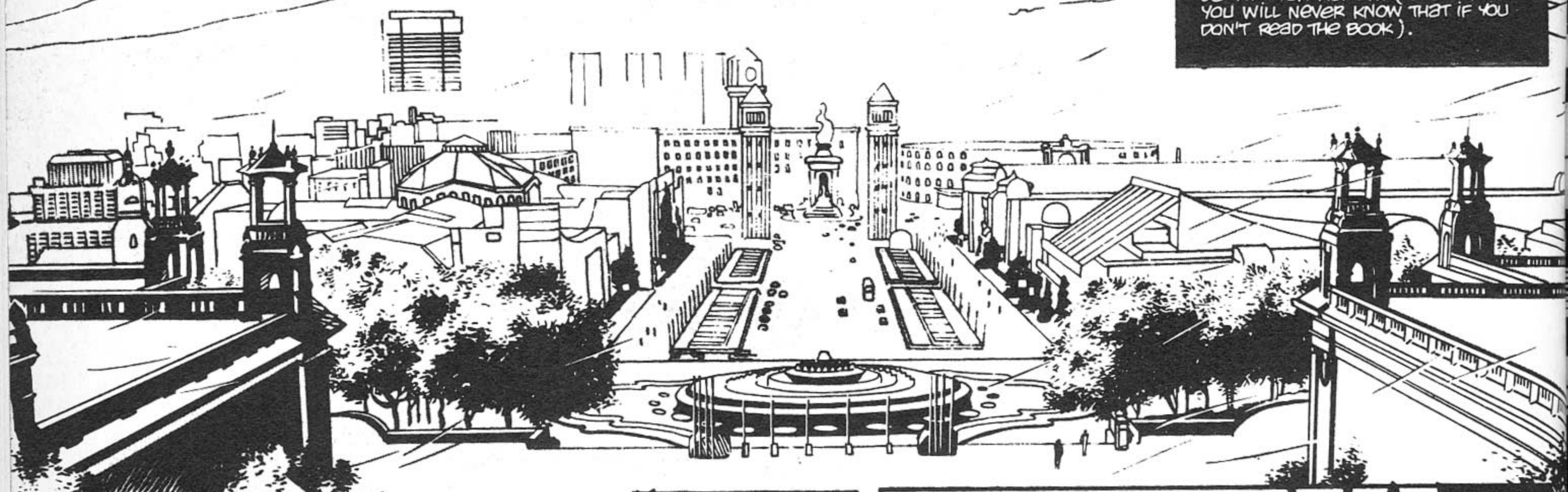
...SCHIZOPHRENIA... JULIA BELIEVED THAT SOMEONE ELSE LIVED IN HER HEAD AND WAS TRYING TO DESTROY HER.... THEY PUT HER IN MENTAL HOSPITAL, BUT ONE DAY SHE ESCAPED.... WHAT CAN POSSIBLY MAKE ME THINK THAT SHE'LL REMEMBER WHO SHE IS AND THAT SHE WILL COME BACK HERE... TO A PLACE THAT SHE KNOWS WELL...? NOTHING. BUT I'VE BEEN SLEEPING HERE FOR TWO WEEKS... WAITING FOR HER...



TWO WEEKS DURING WHICH I HAVE ASKED MYSELF WHETHER I SHOULD BURN THIS BOOK OR READ IT... I DON'T KNOW WHY, TODAY, I FEEL THAT I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO READ IT.

PROLOGUE: MAYBE YOU ARE SKEPTICAL, BUT KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS BOOK WAS WRITTEN BY SOMEONE WHO KNEW THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE...AND WHO WANTS TO WARN YOU....

NO ONE IS THE SAME AFTER HAVING READ IT: THOSE WHO WANT TO RUN AWAY SEE THEIR IMPRISONMENT PROLONGED, THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED NOW CAN ESCAPE...THOSE WHO LOVE EACH OTHER MUST EITHER SEPARATE OR MEET AGAIN...THIS BOOK IS THE FOCAL POINT IN ONE'S DESTINY. DO NOT READ IT IF YOU'RE NOT SURE WHETHER YOUR STORY MAY BE WRITTEN HERE.... (EVEN THOUGH YOU WILL NEVER KNOW THAT IF YOU DON'T READ THE BOOK).



THOSE OLD DERELICTS WHOM WE SEE IN OUR STREETS ARE OFTEN OBSESSED WITH MAKING A VOYAGE... BEYOND THE WORLD WE ALREADY KNOW.



HEY! YOU AGAIN!

YOU CRAZY OLD MAN! WE'VE TOLD YOU A THOUSAND TIMES THAT YOU CAN'T SLEEP IN THE STATION.



HE HID VERY CAREFULLY. WHAT LUCK THAT YOU THOUGHT OF LOOKING HERE.

NO! PLEASE! IT'S COMING TODAY, I KNOW IT!

TODAY THE TRAIN WILL COME TO TAKE ME AWAY! IT WILL LEAVE WITHOUT ME!



SHIT FACES!

DON'T TELL ME YOUR STORIES, OLD MAN! THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO HEAR TODAY: WAITING FOR A GHOST TRAIN! AND DON'T LET ME SEE YOU AGAIN!



I CAN'T ALWAYS RUN AWAY! SHIT!

...IT'S THEIR ONLY WAY TO ESCAPE FROM POVERTY AND DESPERATION...THOSE WHO KNOW ABOUT THIS SECRET YEARNING CALL IT "THE GREAT VOYAGE."



...THE GREAT VOYAGE... WHAT NONSENSE!



A VOYAGE THAT WILL TAKE THEM TO WHERE THEIR OWN DESTINY COULD NEVER LEAD THEM...

A BLACKOUT! AND HOW COLD IT IS!...IT LOOKS AS IF THE END OF THE WORLD IS NEAR!...

SOME OF THEM LIVE MANY A YEAR WITHOUT EVER BEING ABLE TO LEAVE...BUT DON'T DESPAIR: IF YOU REALLY WANT TO CHANGE YOUR DESTINY THERE IS ALWAYS HOPE THAT YOU MAY...



LET ME IN! IT'S SO COLD! PLEASE DON'T KICK ME OUT AGAIN!...DAMN POVERTY!



HEY... ALL RIGHT, COME IN, BUT DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING.

IT'S JUST LIKE DURING THE WAR...





HEAVENS!
I HAVE NEVER
SEEN SUCH
A STORM!

YES, YES. A STORM LIKE THIS CAN ONLY
BE HIS WORK! THE MAGICIAN'S! DURING THE
WAR HE USED TO HURL THESE AT THE NATIONAL-
ISTS... I SAW HOW HE COULD CREATE THIS
FROM NOTHING! THE LIGHTNING JUMPED OUT
OF HIS HANDS!



HE TOLD ME ABOUT "THE
GREAT VOYAGE." IF ONLY HE
WERE BACK HERE AGAIN....!

HE COULD TELL ME WHAT HE DID IN ORDER TO
LEAVE! NOW I REMEMBER EVERYTHING! THE OTHER
MAGICIANS, THOSE WHO WERE THERE WITH THEIR
FACES THAT SAID HOW MUCH THEY WISHED TO DE-
STROY HIM.... "THE ASSEMBLY," THAT WAS THEIR
NAME!



BUT HE ESCAPED IN A
GHOST TRAIN... HE SWORE HE
WOULD COME BACK TO SEEK
REVENGE! COULD HE HAVE
DONE IT?

SHIT!
I WANT TO
GO AWAY,
TOO!

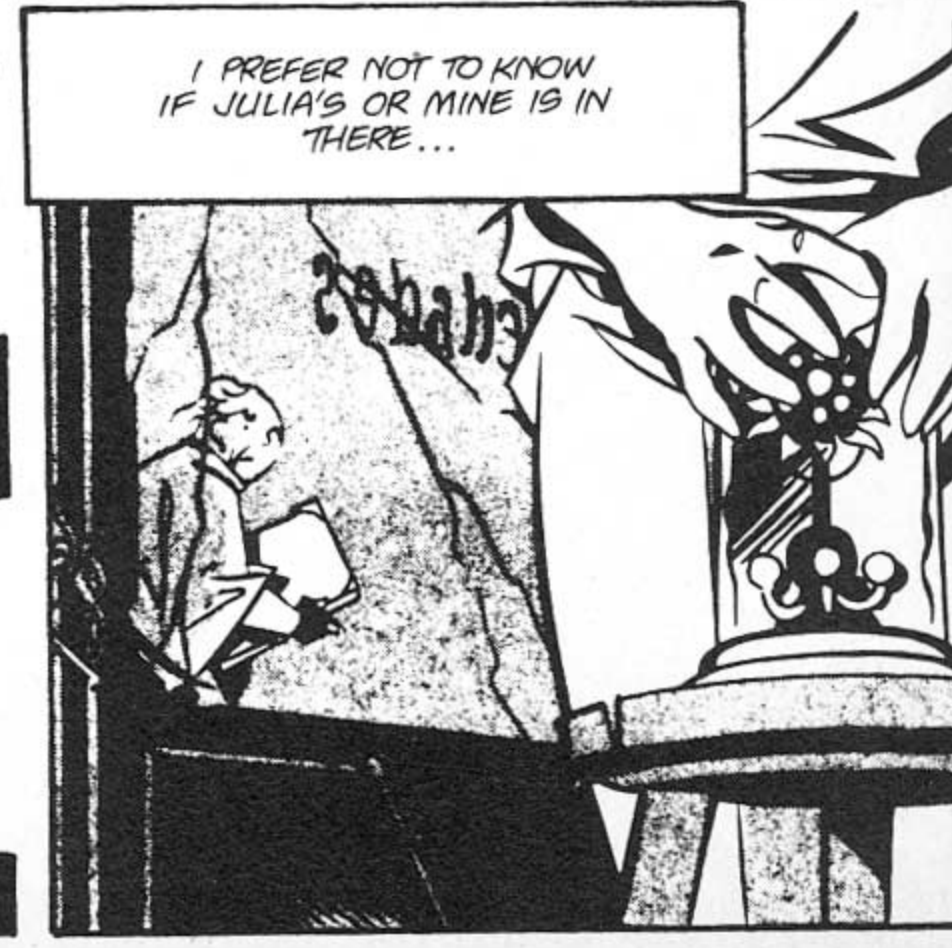


HMMM... I THINK
THE STORM IS OVER....



SO YOU CAN GO,
BUT HERE.... DO YOU
KNOW HOW TO READ?
THE FIRST PAGES TALK
ABOUT A CERTAIN
"VOYAGE"... BUT BE
CAREFUL, ALTHOUGH
THIS IS ONLY A BOOK...
WHO KNOWS, MAYBE
YOUR STORY IS
WRITTEN HERE.

I PREFER NOT TO KNOW
IF JULIA'S OR MINE IS IN
THERE...





IT'S ALL OVER!
ANNA.... I HAVE
REVENGED MY-
SELF!



I HAVE
DESTROYED THEM
.... "THE ASSEMBLY"
IS NO MORE....
I AM FREE
AT LAST....

FREE TO BE A MAN,
TO LOVE YOU AND
TAKE YOU WITH ME
TO A MUCH BETTER
WORLD THAN THIS
ONE....

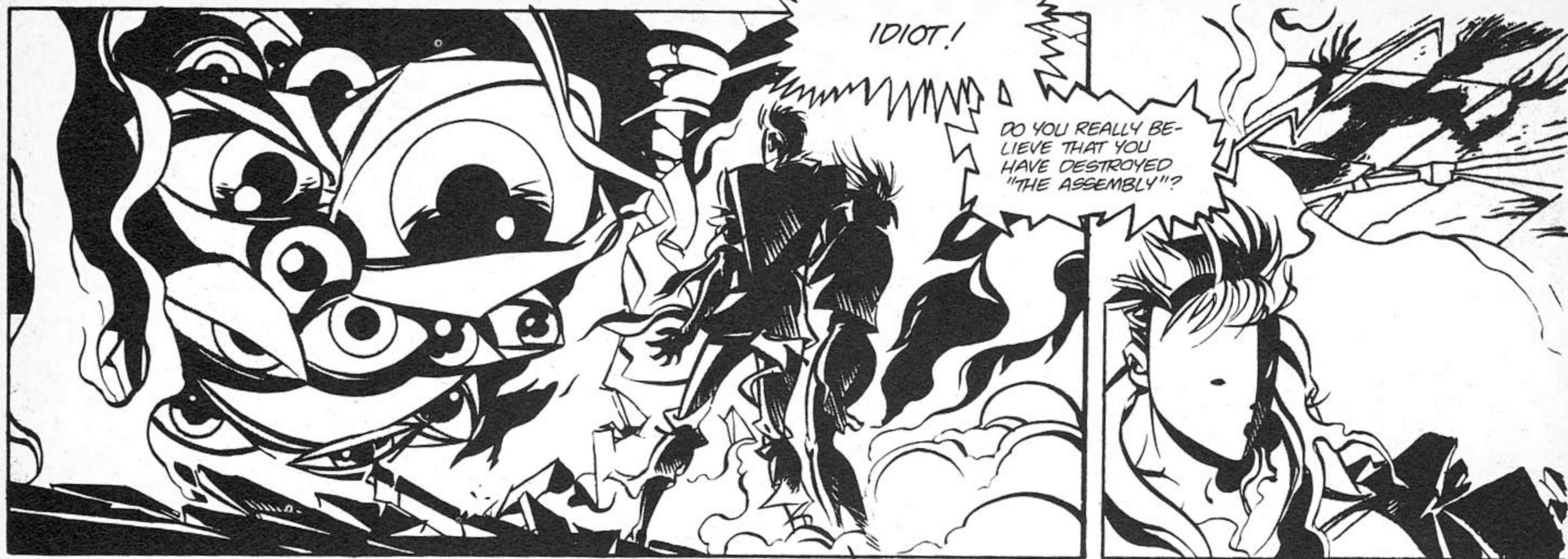


POOR
IDIOT!



SHIT! IT'S AMAZING!
I DON'T KNOW HOW
TO READ BUT I
UNDERSTAND ALL
THAT IS WRITTEN
HERE!

IF YOU'VE ONLY TRIED, IN VAIN,
TO BEGIN YOUR VOYAGE BY
LAND, TRY THE SEA AS A WAY
OF ESCAPE...THE DOORS TO
THE OTHER WORLDS ARE
EVERYWHERE, AND YOU ONLY
NEED THE APPROPRIATE
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION
TO GET TO THEM...AN
ABANDONED BOAT CAN BE OF
GREAT SERVICE TO YOU.
FIND ONE OF THOSE BOATS
THAT APPEAR MYSTERIOUSLY
IN PORTS, NO ONE KNOWS
FROM WHERE...A BOAT
THAT MAY BE AWAITING THE
ARRIVAL OF A PASSENGER,
A GHOST SHIP...



IDIOT!

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE DESTROYED "THE ASSEMBLY"?

DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT YOU'VE ARRIVED AT WHAT YOU WANTED? YOU HAVE YOUR WOMAN, THE ONE WE KILLED, THAT'S TRUE....

WE ARE THE EYES OF THE TRUTH, AND YOUR TRUTH IS THAT YOUR VICTORY IS, IN REALITY, YOUR DEFEAT!

ONE SECRET ALWAYS HIDES ANOTHER ONE. BEHIND YOU IS YOUR PAST, BUT YOUR FUTURE IS TIED TO YOUR COMPLETE REVENGE.... YOU WILL NEVER BE A MAN AND YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM UNTIL YOU DESTROY EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US!

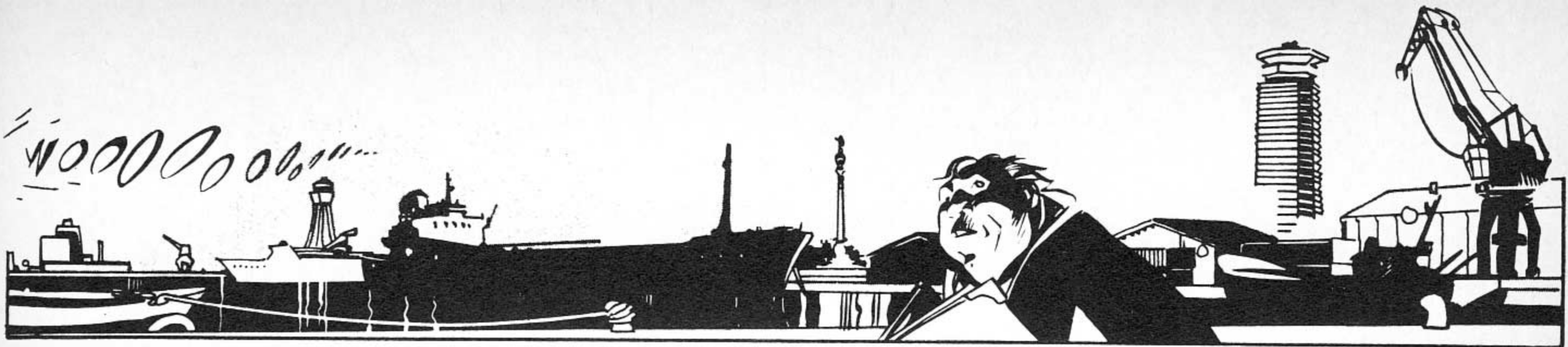
BUT "THE ASSEMBLY" IS MORE THAN A BUNCH OF OLD MEN.... YOU HAVE CUT ONLY THE TOP BRANCHES OF A VERY DEEP-ROOTED TREE!

YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT? TRY TO TAKE OFF THAT MASK WHICH IS A SYMBOL OF YOUR COMPROMISE WITH THE DARKEST FORCES...

YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN THE MASTER OF YOUR DESTINY! YOU BELONG TO US! YOU WILL PAY FOR YOUR BETRAYAL BY FIGHTING AGAINST US, BECAUSE IT AMUSES US TO HAVE AN ENEMY OF YOUR STATURE!

JUST THINK OF THIS FOR A MOMENT... EVEN IF YOU FIND A VESSEL, EVEN IF YOU FINALLY EMBARK ON YOUR VOYAGE... ALL WILL HAVE BEEN IN VAIN.

YOU CANNOT REALLY ESCAPE!



DON'T YOU THINK WE ARE PAYING TOO HIGH A PRICE FOR THIS? ALL RIGHT! BUT YOU HAVEN'T BEATEN US YET! MY DESTINY IS NOT IN YOUR HANDS! AND I WILL PROVE THAT! I WILL GO BACK TO THAT OTHER WORLD AND YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO STOP ME!



ONCE THERE WE WILL BE FREE, FAR FROM YOUR PRESENCE!

AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, WHAT BROUGHT ME HERE IS OVER NOW.... I DON'T CARE HOW MANY YOU ARE....



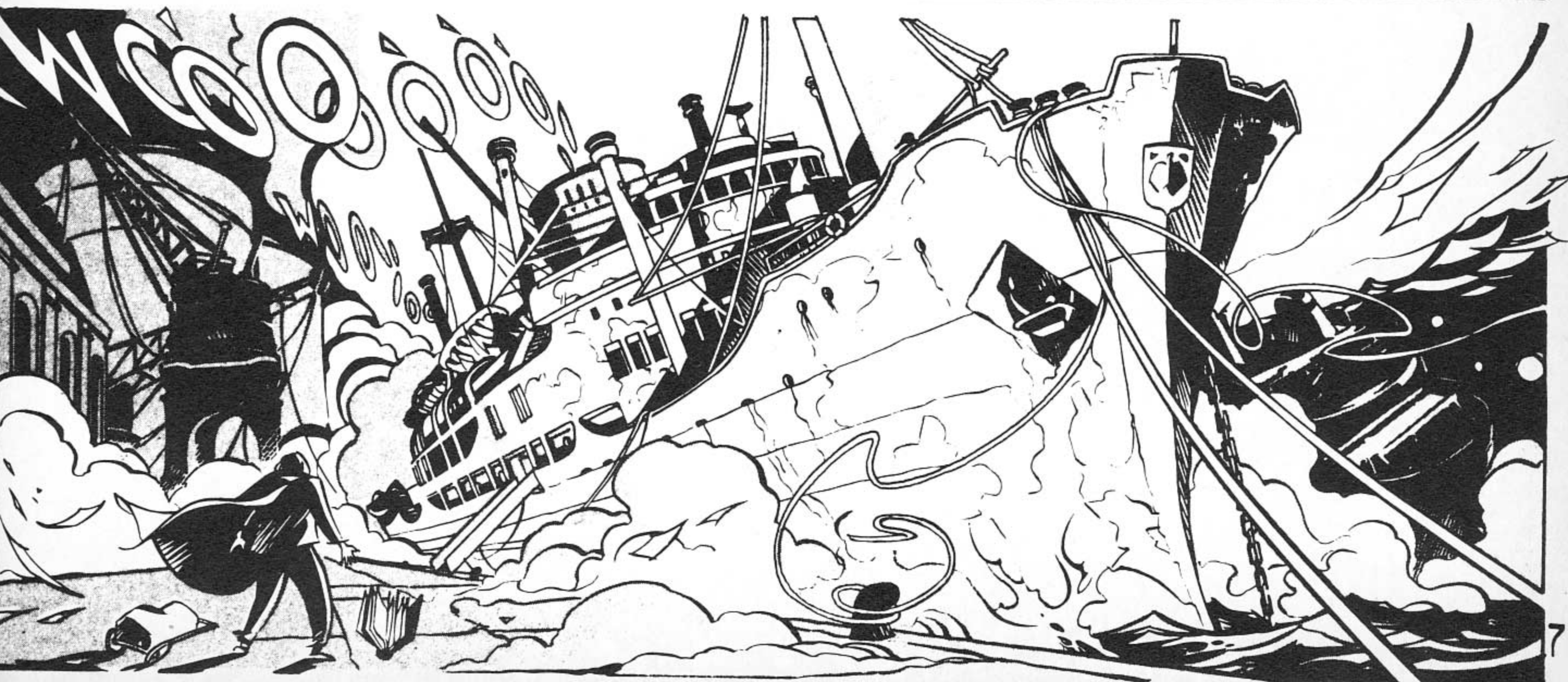
LET'S GO! THE GREAT VOYAGE AWAITS US!

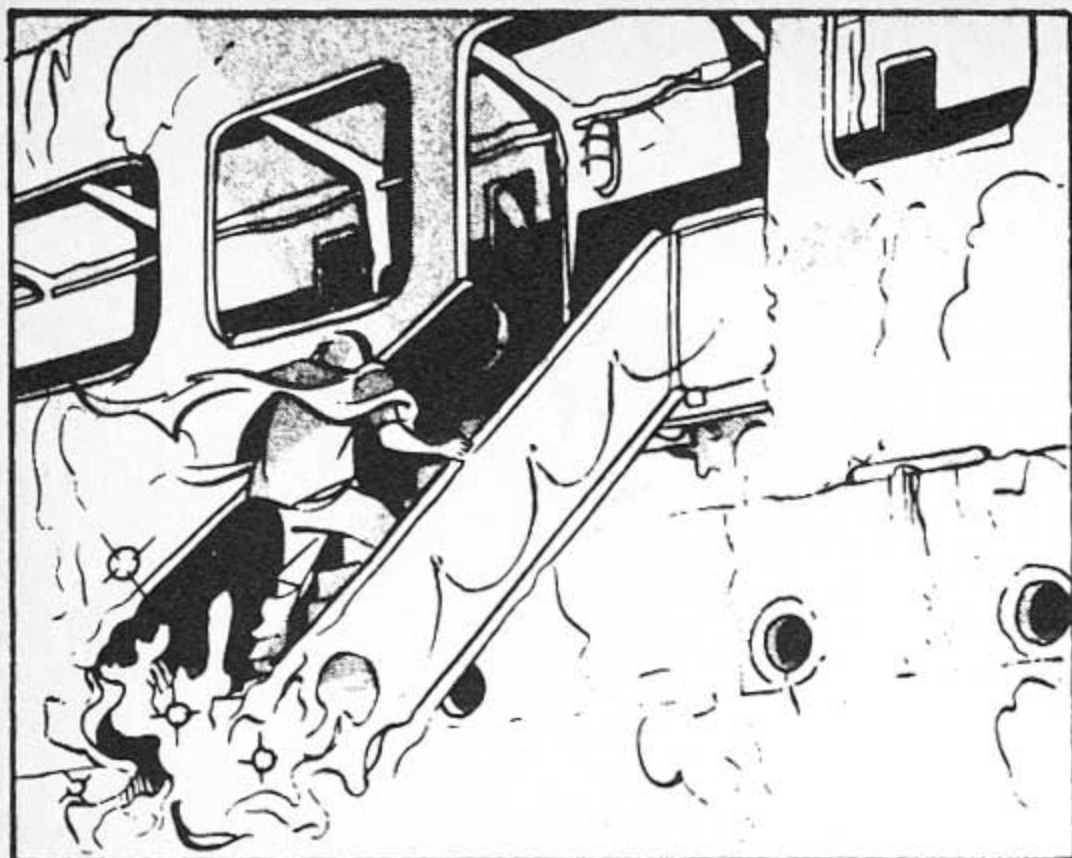
POOR FOOLISH MAN!

WHO DO YOU THINK CARES ABOUT WHAT YOU THINK?!



YOU ARE ONLY A PUPPET IN THE HANDS OF DESTINY!





WHAT?
THE STAIRS
DISAPPEAR AS I
AM CLIMBING!



SHIT! THE ROPES ARE UNTYING
THEMSELVES! THE ANCHOR...



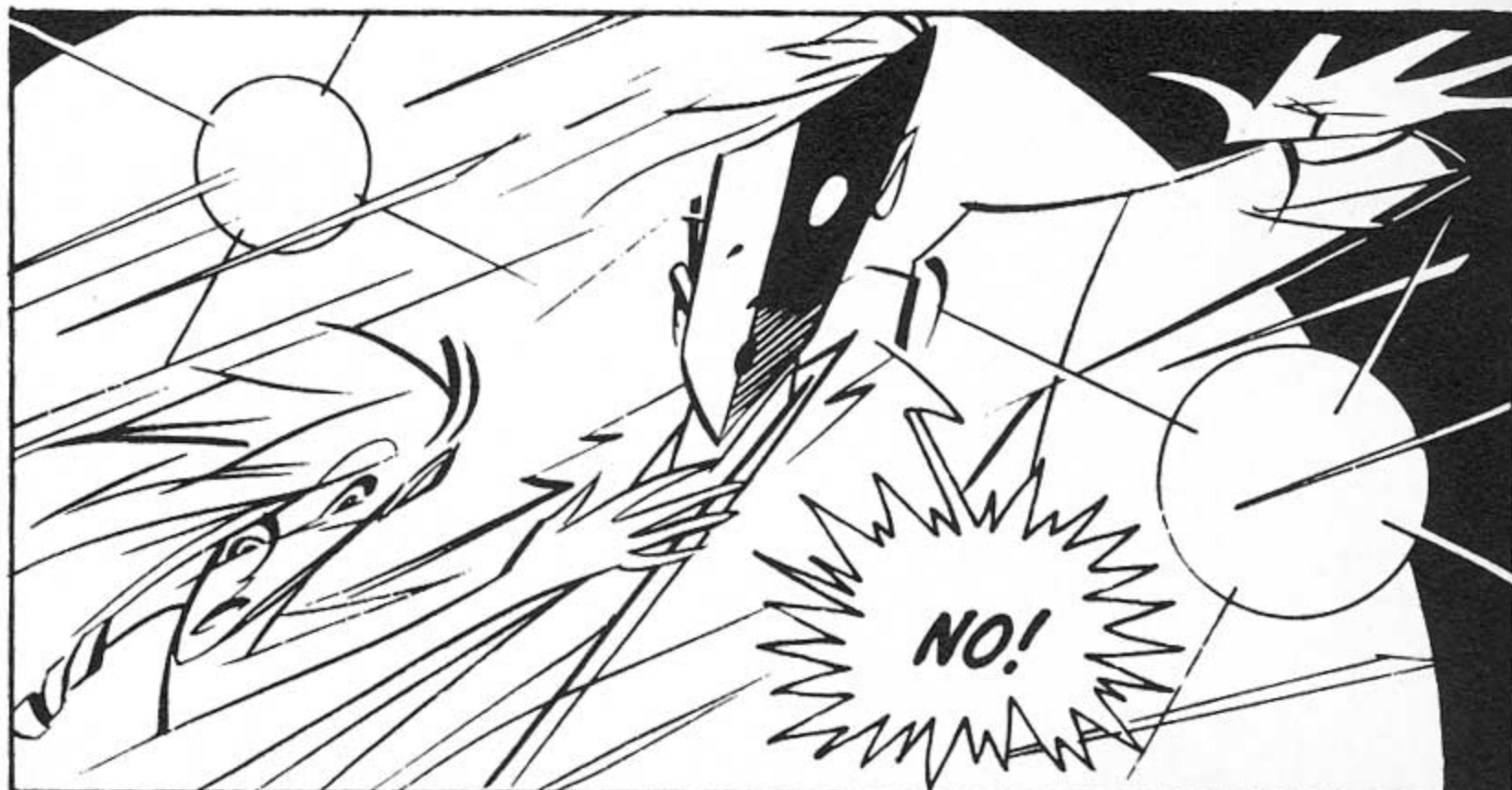
...NO ONE IS AT THE
HELM... WHY SHOULD
THERE BE? IT KNOWS
WHERE TO GO!



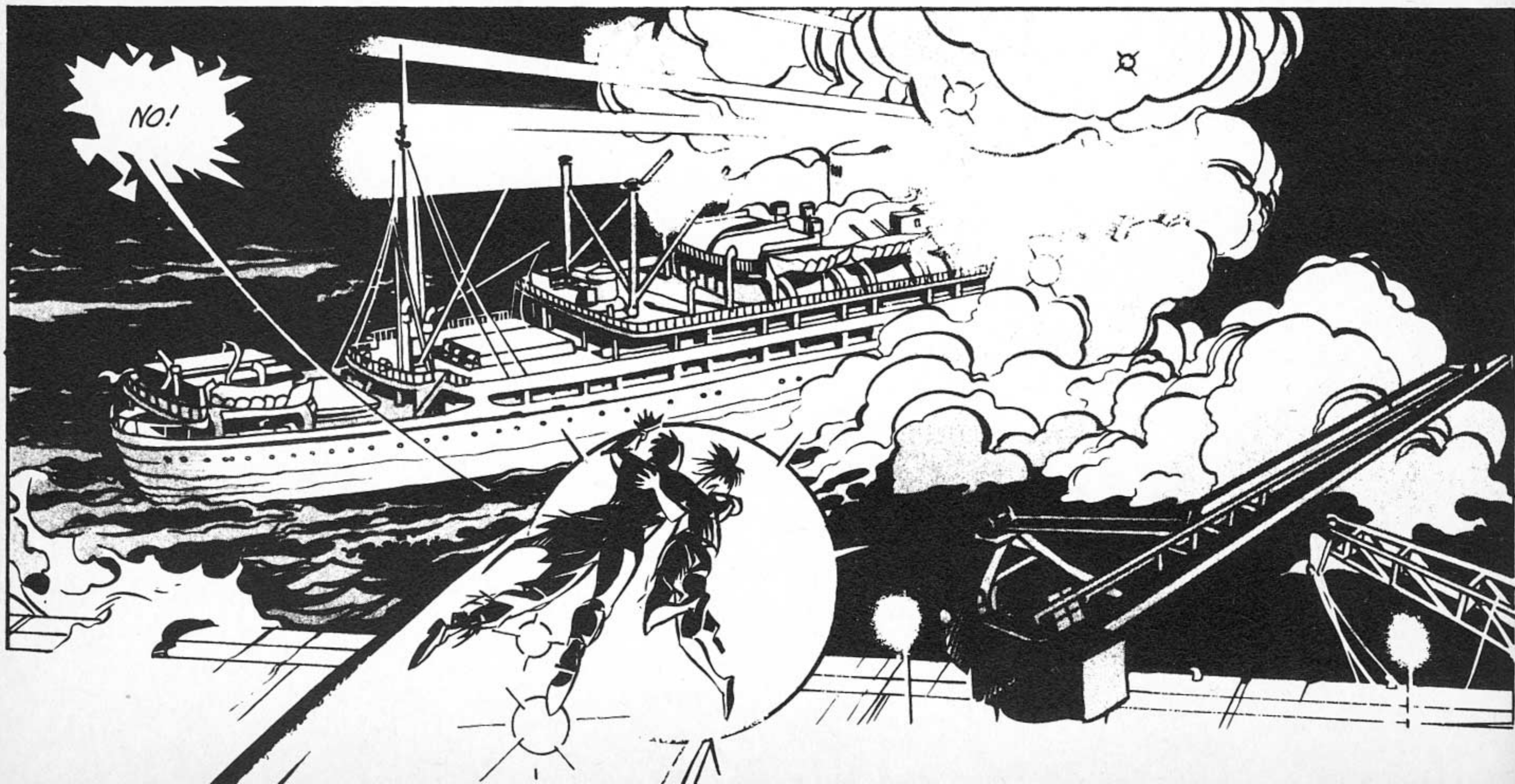
THIS NOISE?
THE ENGINE!



IT'S MOVING!



NO!



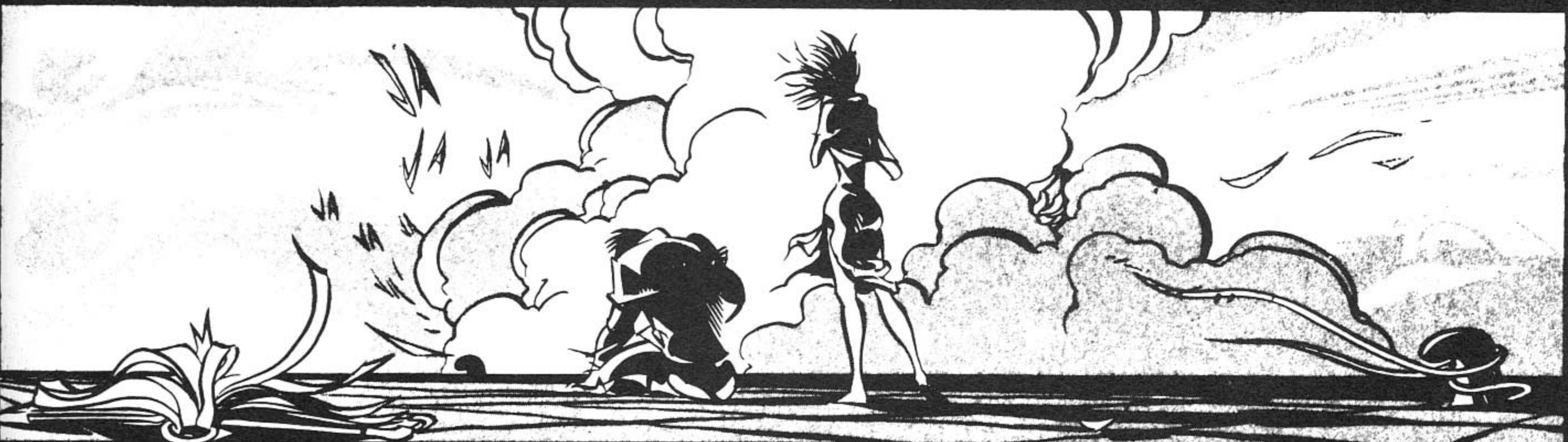
NO!



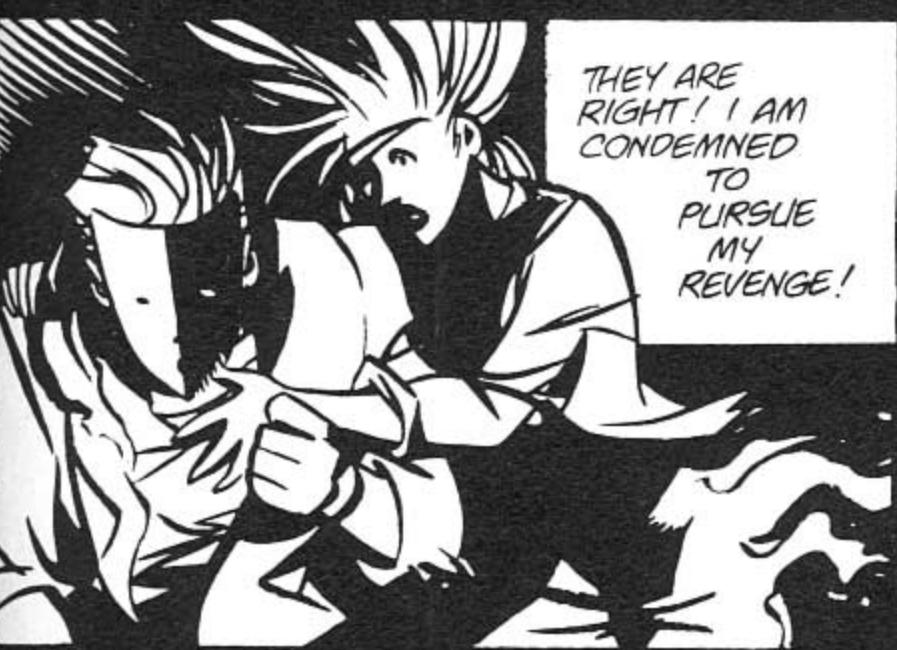
IT'S MOVING! HA, HA, HA! GOOD BYE POVERTY! THE BOOK WAS WRONG!



DESTINY CAN BE CHANGED!



DON'T BE MISTAKEN, YOU ARE A TOY IN THE HANDS OF THE INEVITABLE.... EVERYBODY IS. SOME BELIEVE THEY CAN MASTER DESTINY WITHOUT SEEING THE THREADS THAT TIE THEM TO IT, AND MAKE THEM PUPPETS IN ITS HANDS.... MANY DON'T BELIEVE THAT EVERYTHING IS WRITTEN (WHO KNOWS, MAYBE THEY ARE THE HAPPIEST ONES!)... AND OTHERS KNOW IT AND ACCEPT IT.... BUT YOURS IS THE WORST CASE: THOSE WHO THINK THEY CAN ESCAPE THEIR FUTURE ARE THE ONES THAT MISFORTUNE HOLDS ON TO.... YOU WILL NEVER ESCAPE, MY FRIEND, UNLESS YOUR DESTINY HAS FORESEEN THAT IT SHALL BE SO....



THEY ARE RIGHT! I AM CONDEMNED TO PURSUE MY REVENGE!



WHAT?? NO!

... AND I CAN'T BE WITH YOU ANYMORE, ANNA!



LISTEN TO ME....



IN REALITY I AM A PUPPET IN THEIR HANDS... AS YOU HAVE BEEN IN MINE... YOU WERE SOMEONE ELSE BEFORE... YOUR NAME WAS JULIA.... BECAUSE OF MY MAGIC YOU BECAME ANNA, THE WOMAN I LOVE...

BUT ANNA DOES NOT DESERVE TO LIVE WITH A GHOST LIKE ME... FORGET ALL THIS.... BE JULIA... ONCE AGAIN... FOLLOW YOUR PATH... DESTINY HAS DECIDED THAT IT BE SO... WHO KNOWS, MAYBE JULIA'S DESTINY... WILL BE THE STRONGEST OF ALL....

(NO ONE REMAINS THE SAME AFTER HAVING READ THIS BOOK: THOSE WHO WANT TO ESCAPE, SEE THEIR SENTENCE PROLONGED, THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED TO IMPRISONMENT, ESCAPE... THOSE WHO LOVE EACH OTHER MUST SEPARATE....

...OR MEET AGAIN).



HAVE I NOT
THANKED YOU
FOR KEEPING
THAT CLOCK
FOR ME, JOHN?
WERE YOU
SURPRISED? DID
YOU THINK I
DIDN'T
CARE?



JULIA! IS
IT YOU?

OF COURSE IT'S ME, JOHN.
AS IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW ME!
SOMETHING TOLD ME THAT I
WOULD FIND YOU HERE....
SUCH A STRANGE THING
HAPPENED TO ME! I WOKE
UP JUST A WHILE AGO IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE HARBOR.... I
DON'T REMEMBER HOW I GOT
THERE... I DON'T REMEMBER
ANYTHING! AND I WAS HOLDING
THIS BOOK! ISN'T IT ODD?



DO... DO YOU THINK
I'VE GONE
CRAZY?

YES... NO!
I MEAN... I
DON'T CARE,
ALL THESE
THINGS
PASS...



.....IT'S IN
OUR DESTINY!

THE END

Fragments from the Delphic Encyclopedia

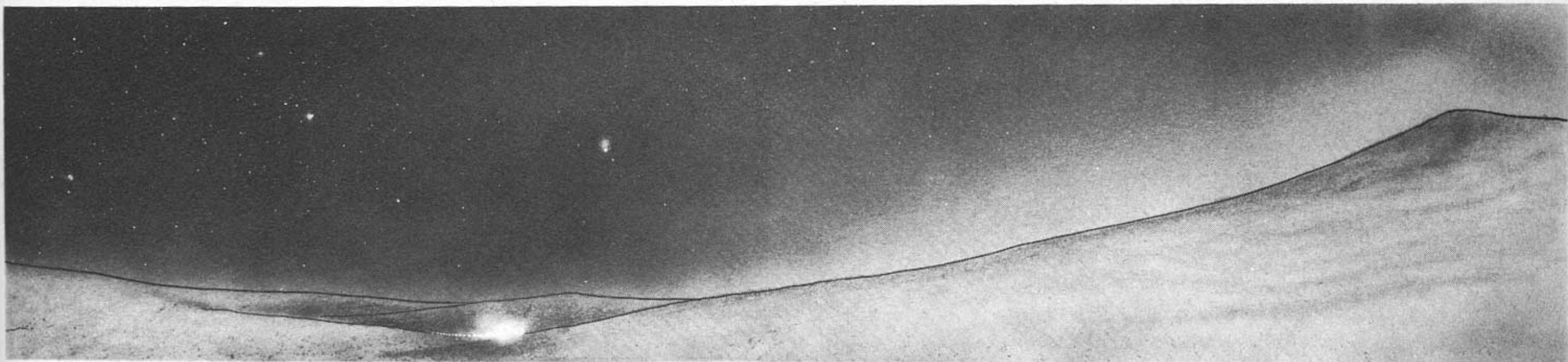
Cod.44A620

Solar Era -- 2000 to 3000

G.84.22.3 Federal Government The year 2446 saw the culmination of the process which had led to the creation of the first Terrestrial Federal Government, divided in six regions, each with a certain degree of autonomy.

C.77.56.9. Solar Colonies In 2400 colonies had already been established on Mars, Io, and Europa. These three colonies based their economies on processing minerals which they got from their belt of asteroids. On Mars first and later on Jupiter's two satellites there grew an increasingly strong feeling of independence, which rejected the imperialist and overbearing politics of the planet Earth.

R.45.38.8 Rob. Hist. Androids were first utilized in the colonies, where they performed dangerous jobs and tasks impossible for a human being.

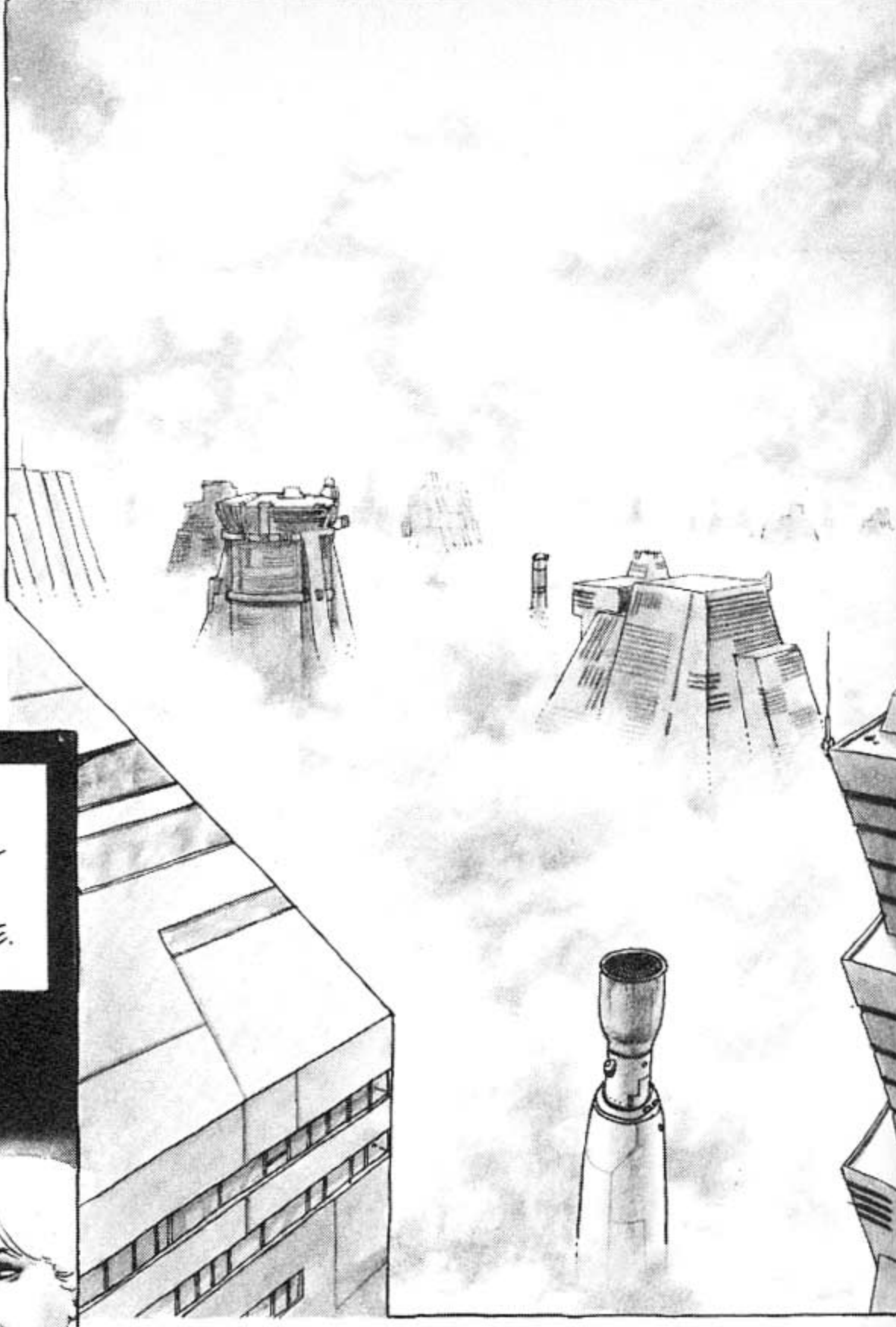
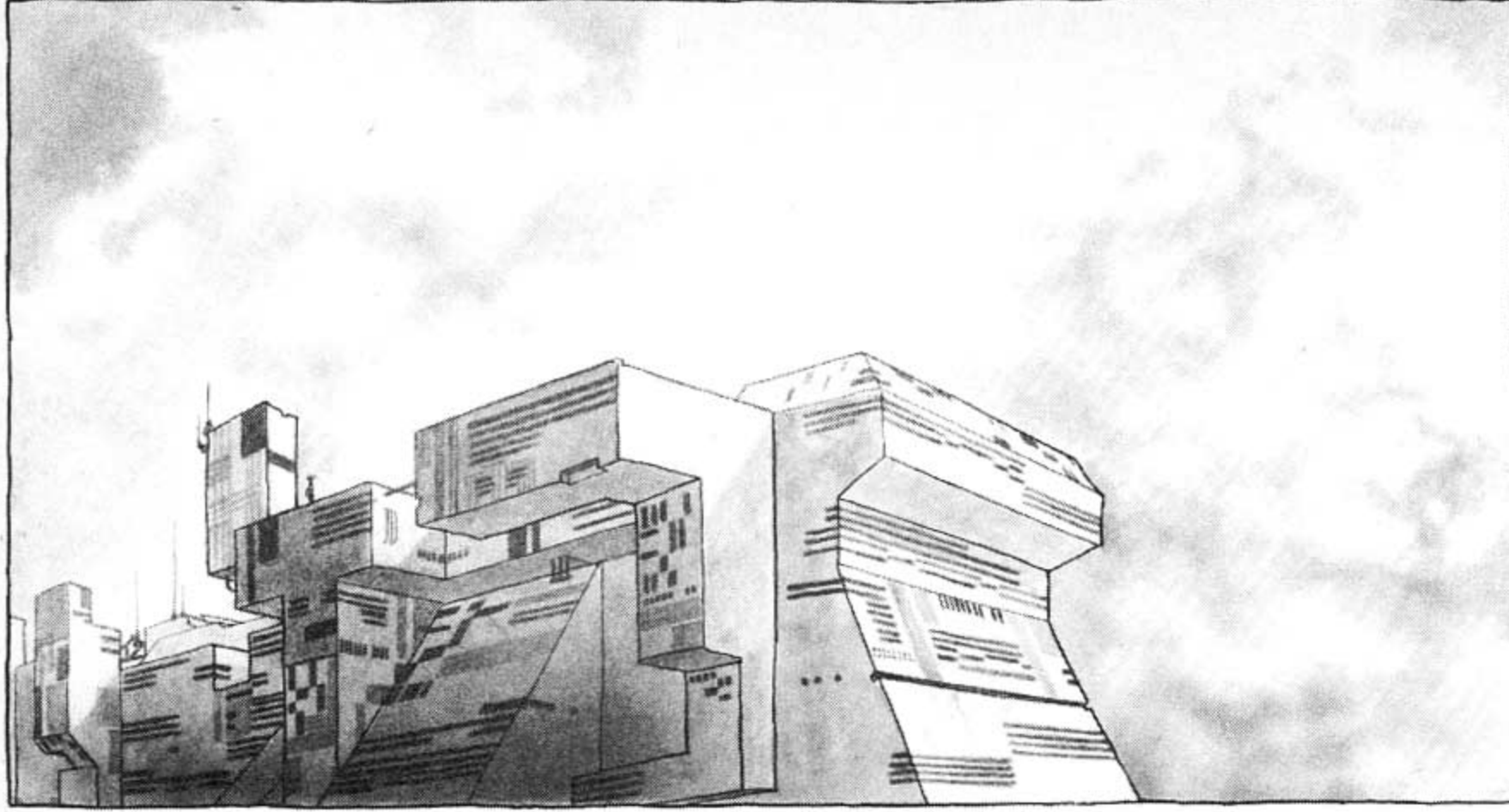


ARENA



Miguel Angel Prado

HEAVY METAL 75



OUR CALCULATIONS HAVE A MARGIN OF ERROR OF APPROXIMATELY THREE QUARTERS OF A MILE, WHICH IS TO SAY ZERO. OUR ONLY PROBLEM NOW IS THE TAUREG TRIBE.

THEY DO NOT WANT TO LISTEN TO THE GOVERNMENT...THEY SAY THEY ARE FREE AND WANT TO REMAIN IN THE DESERT. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROTECTS THEM BECAUSE THEY ARE A RELIC OF THE PAST, AND SINCE I AM THE GOVERNOR OF THIS REGION, I HAVE TO FOLLOW GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS.

WELL, IF WE CAN'T SEND THEM AWAY, LET'S LEAVE THEM THERE. AS I SAID BEFORE, WE ARE COMPLETELY ACCURATE. MAYBE THEY WILL LEAVE OF THEIR OWN ACCORD ONCE OUR "SHIPMENTS" ARRIVE.

WHAT?...OF COURSE...LISTEN, RUIZ, DO YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT IS FOR ME TO BELIEVE THAT THIS WONDER HERE IS AN ANDROID? SHE'S PERFECT!

YOU CAN TAKE HER IF YOU WANT....AS AN HOMAGE FROM OUR COMPANY, TO CELEBRATE OUR...AGREEMENT.

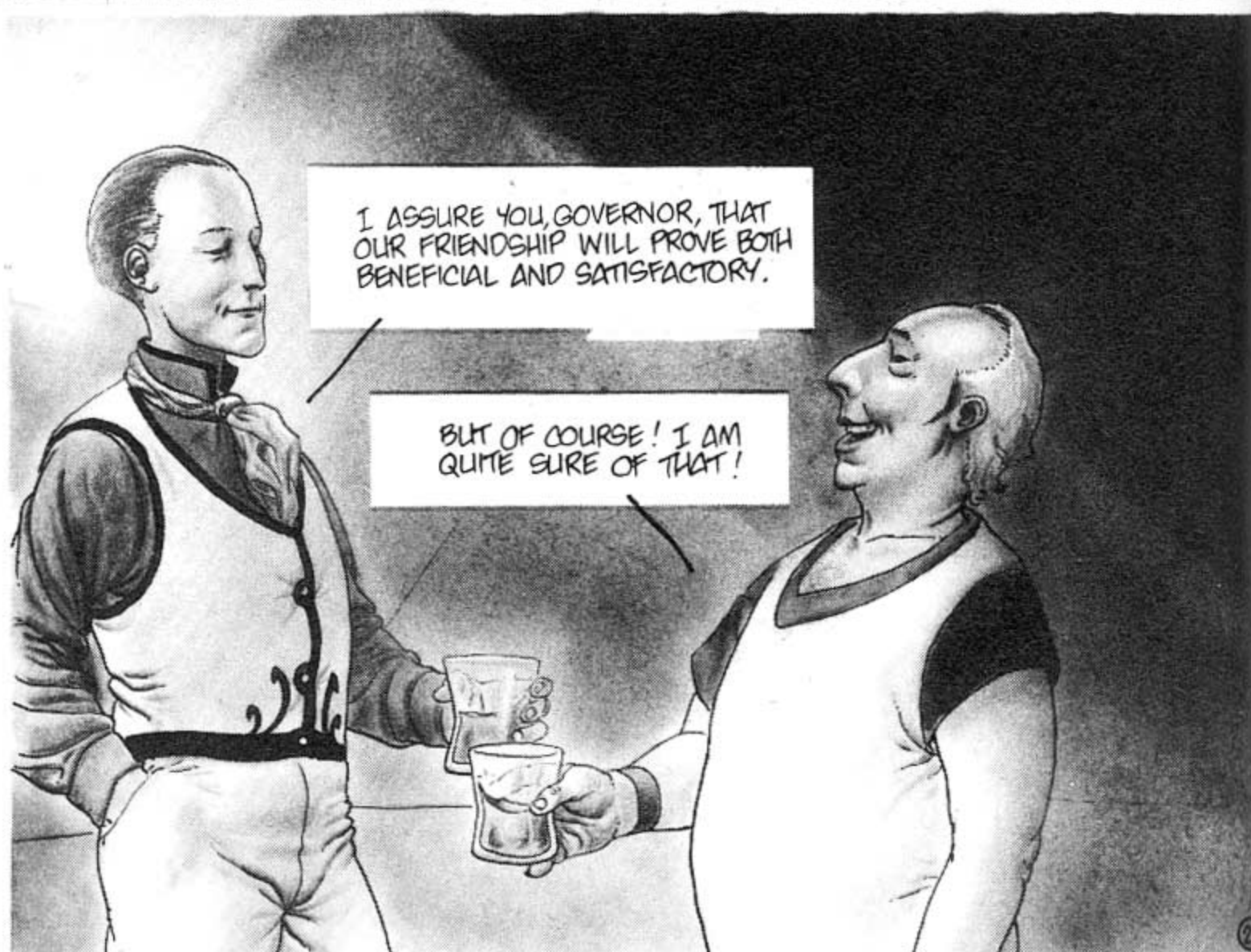
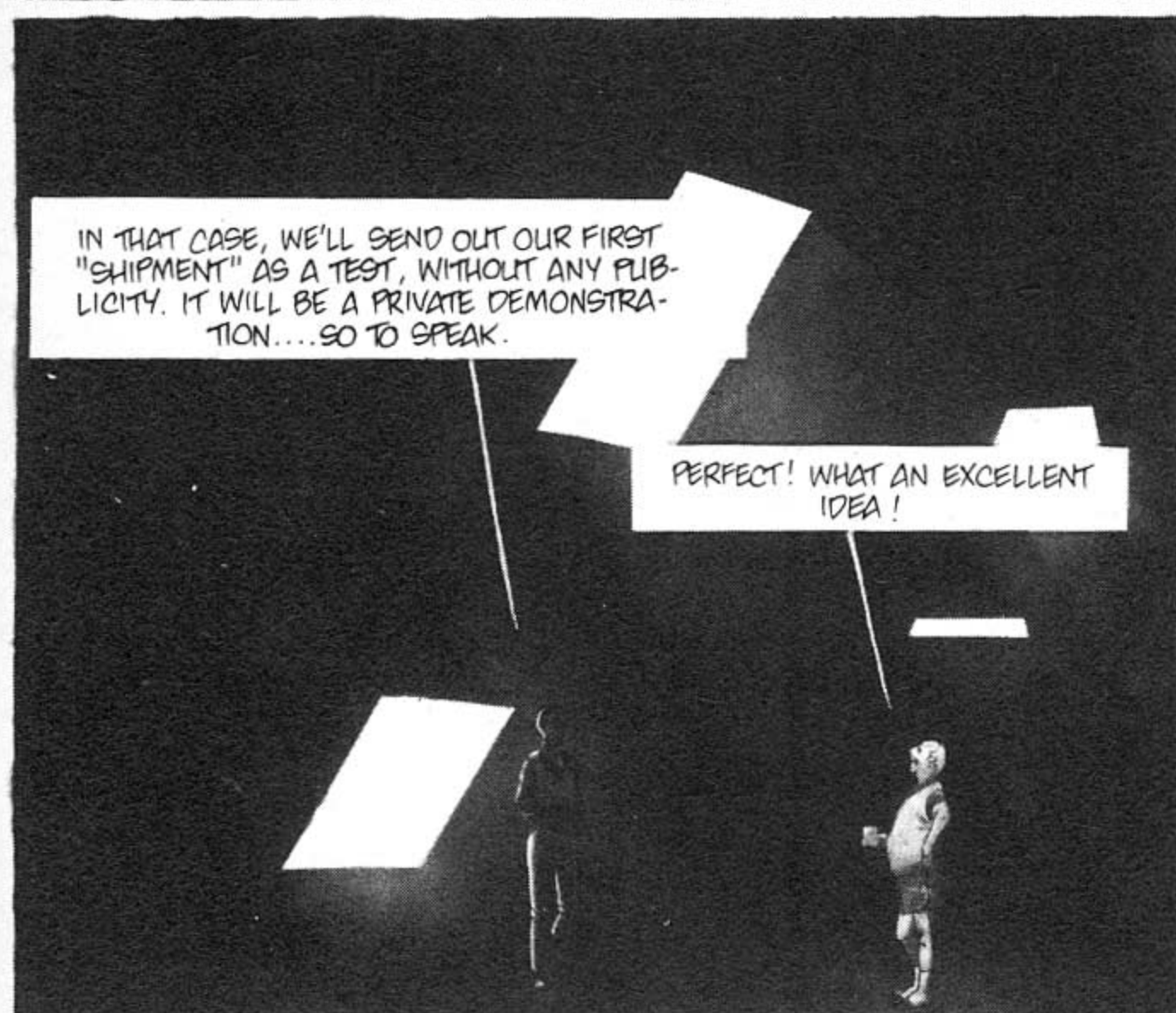
OH, YOU'RE VERY KIND! ...AS FAR AS OUR DEAL IS CONCERNED, YOU CAN BEGIN TO TAKE ANY INITIATIVE YOU THINK IS APPROPRIATE.

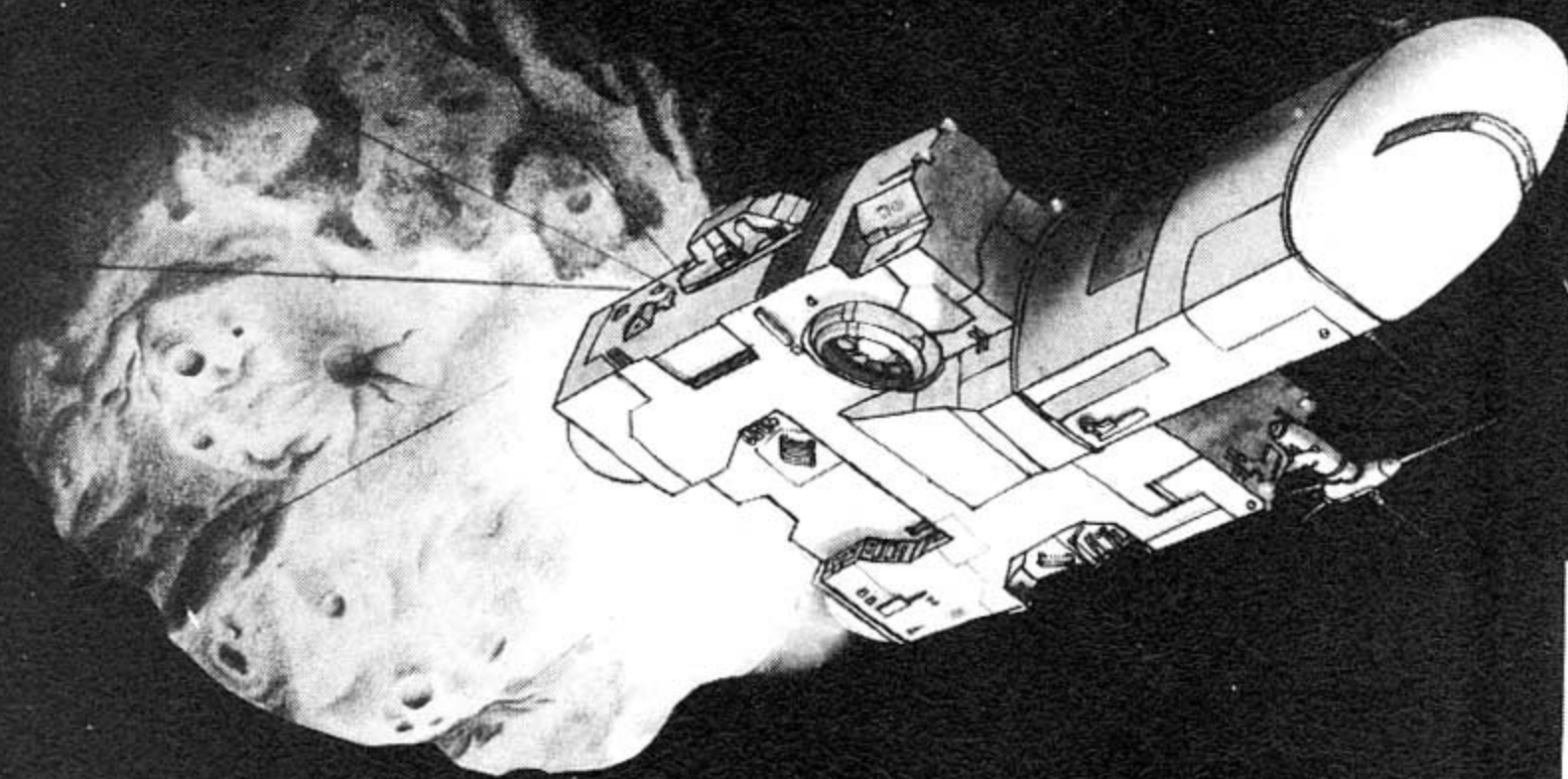
IN THAT CASE, WE'LL SEND OUT OUR FIRST "SHIPMENT" AS A TEST, WITHOUT ANY PUBLICITY. IT WILL BE A PRIVATE DEMONSTRATION....SO TO SPEAK.

PERFECT! WHAT AN EXCELLENT IDEA!

I ASSURE YOU, GOVERNOR, THAT OUR FRIENDSHIP WILL PROVE BOTH BENEFICIAL AND SATISFACTORY.

BUT OF COURSE! I AM QUITE SURE OF THAT!





BUT...THE IMPACT COULD DESTROY A WHOLE CITY! WE CANNOT DO THIS. WE CAN'T HURL A ROCK AS BIG AS A 27 STORY BUILDING ON THOSE PEOPLE JUST BECAUSE THEY DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THEIR HOMELAND. IT WILL BE A MASSACRE...IT WILL....

IF WE ARE NOT THE ONES TO DO IT, SOMEONE ELSE WILL. AND THEY WILL BE THE ONES TO BENEFIT. THE SAHARA IS VERY LARGE: IT WOULD BE A COINCIDENCE. GO ON WITH THE PREPARATIONS.

I HAVE HEARD, FURTHERMORE, THAT THE SECURITY SYSTEM IS JUST FOR DISPLAY, IT DOESN'T REALLY WORK. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THERE WERE AN ERROR IN THE CALCULATIONS?

LOOK, THEY DON'T PAY ME TO ANALYZE THE ETHICS OF THIS COMPANY OR TO REVISE THE CALCULATIONS OF ITS ENGINEERS. IF THEY MADE A MISTAKE THE FAULT IS THEIRS, NOT MINE. I WILL JUST THROW THE STONE WHERE THEY TOLD ME TO.

AND WHAT'S MORE, AREN'T THESE NOMADS VERY INDEPENDENT? WELL, LET THEM WORK IT OUT BY THEMSELVES. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE INDEPENDENT, BUT I CAN'T BE, RIGHT?BAH!

TEN SECONDS TO THE LAUNCH, PAY ATTENTION!

WE'RE THERE.... FIVE, FOUR, THREE, TWO, ONE...

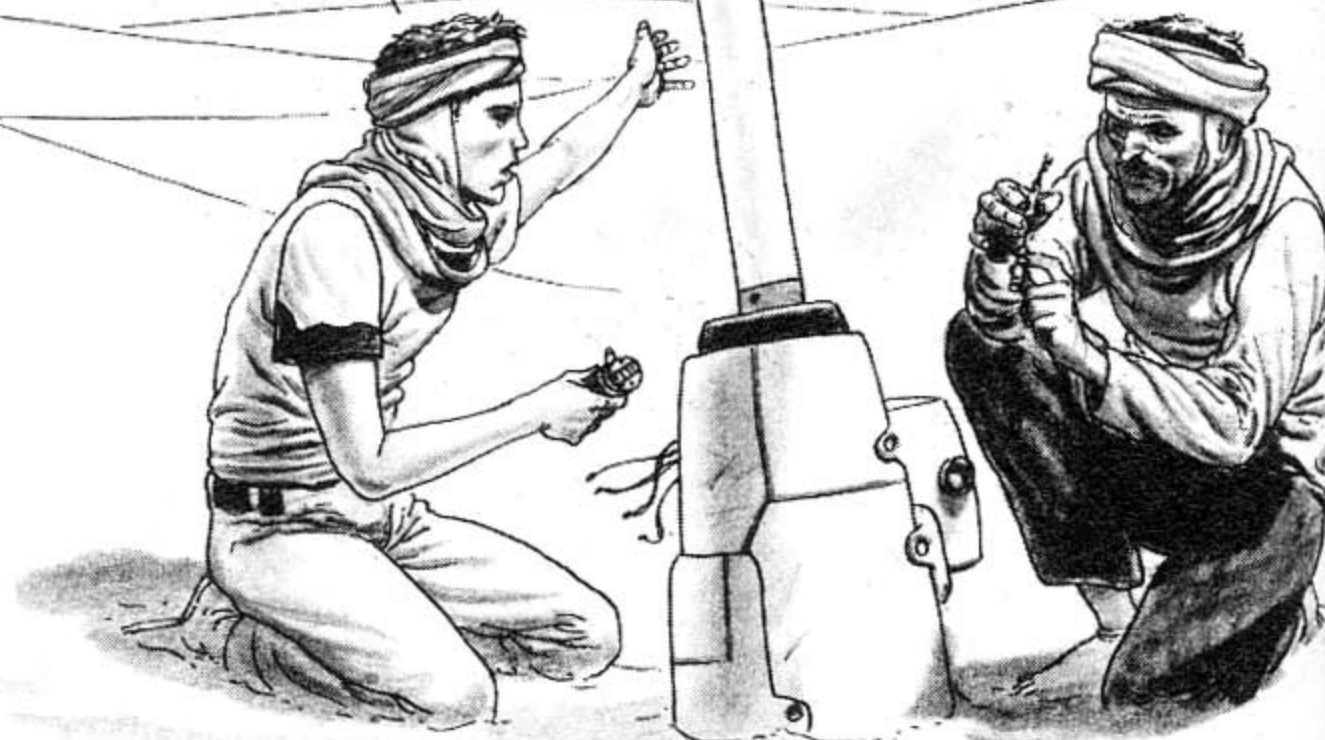
NOW!

GREAT! THAT'S THAT! AND NOW HOME FOR A VACATION.

WE WILL NEVER GET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS ONE TO LEAVE THE DESERT. THEY ARE OFFERING US LAND, MONEY...

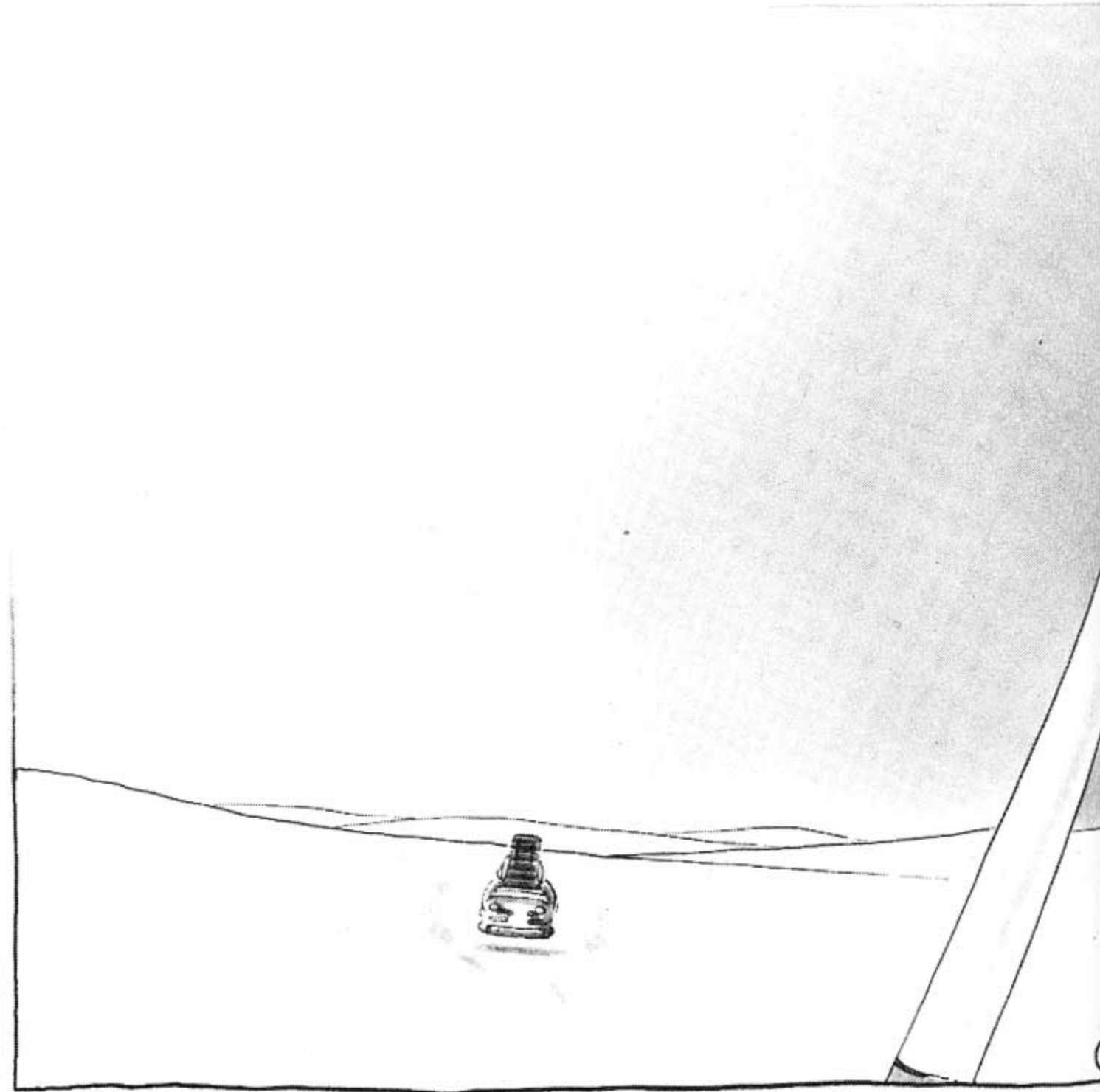
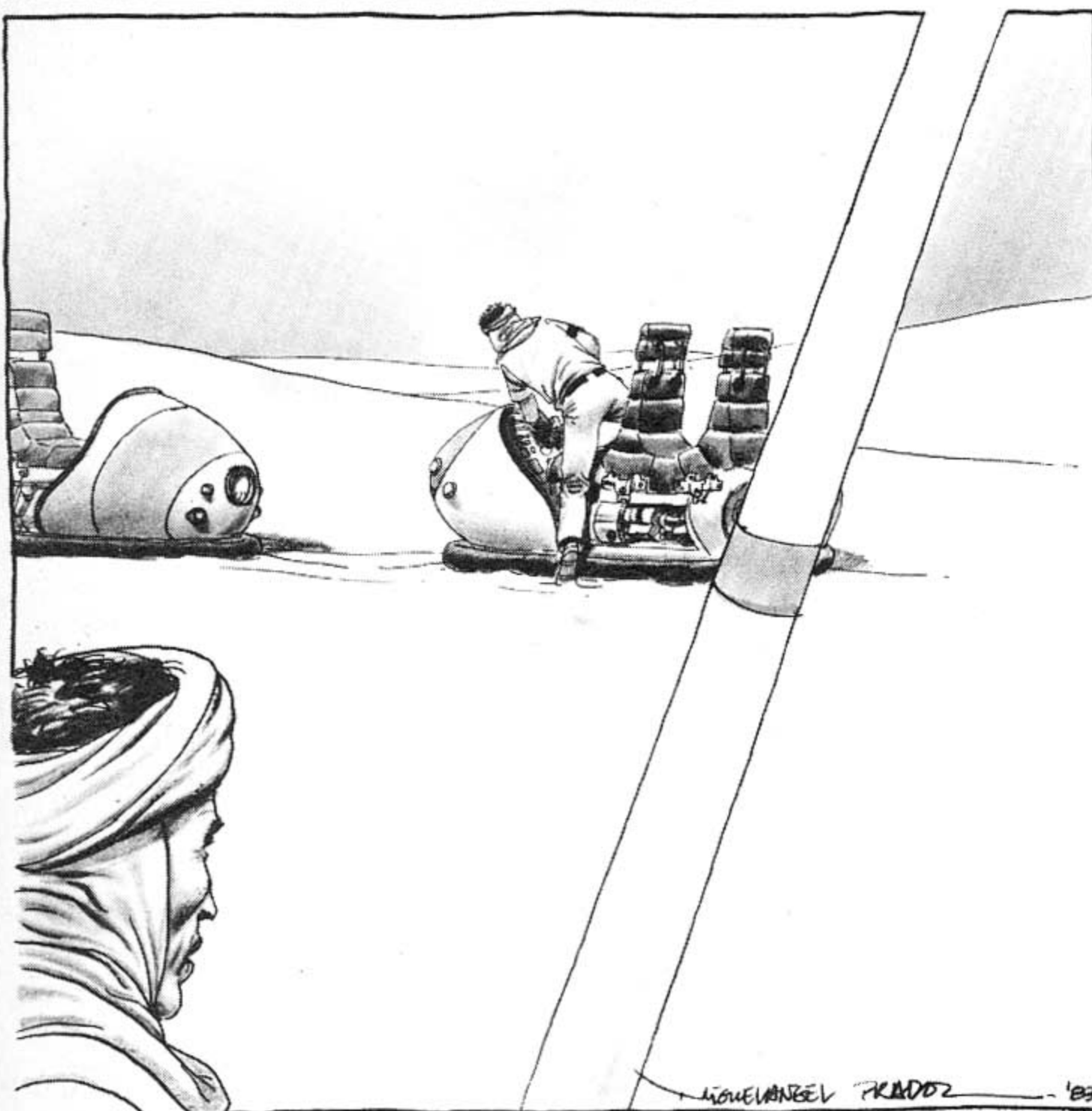
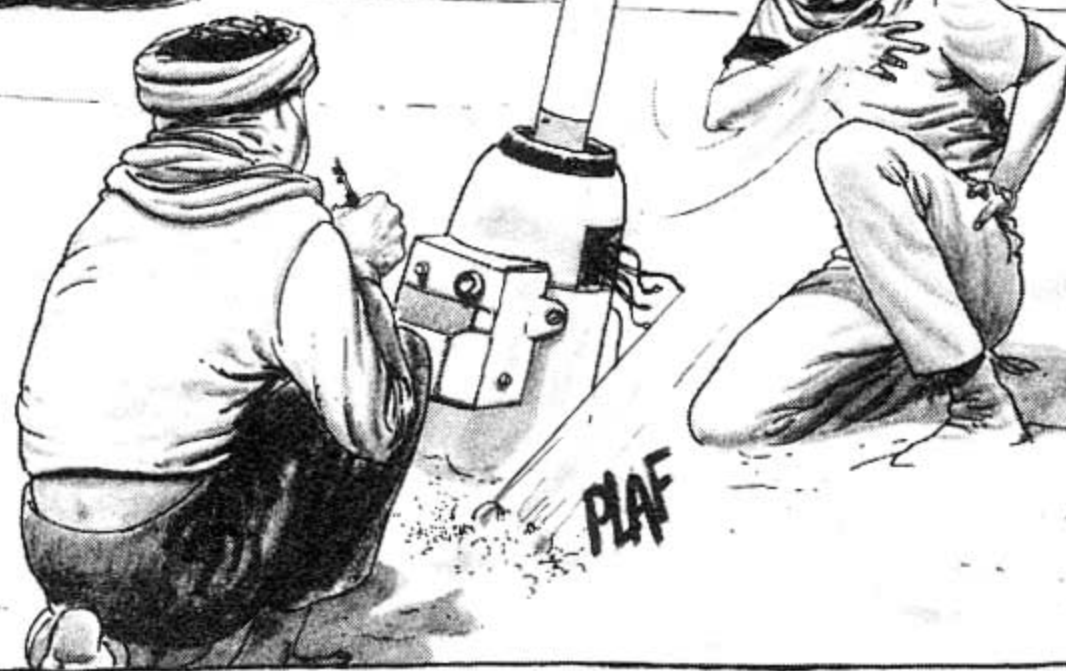
THIS IS OUR LAND, SON, DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?

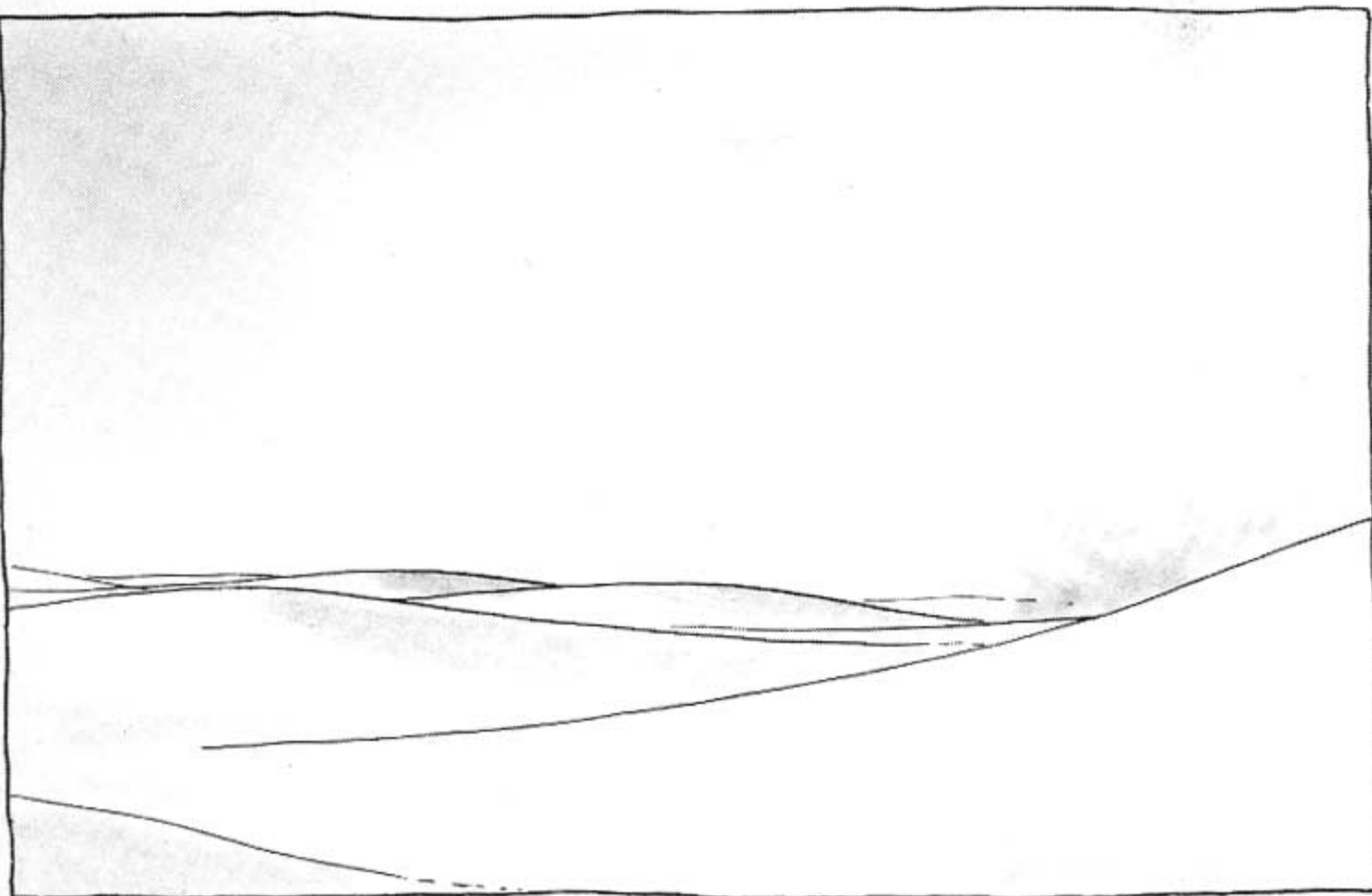
YES! A LAND THAT BARELY ASSURES OUR SURVIVAL AND KEEPS US COMPLETELY ISOLATED FROM THE REST OF THE UNIVERSE. FATHER, THERE ARE MEN LIVING ON IO, MARS AND THE MOON... SPACESHIPS CROSS THE SKY THE WAY WE CROSS THE DESERT... THIS IS A PRISON!



NO ONE KEEPS YOU HERE. WHOEVER WISHES TO GO IS FREE TO DO SO, SON.

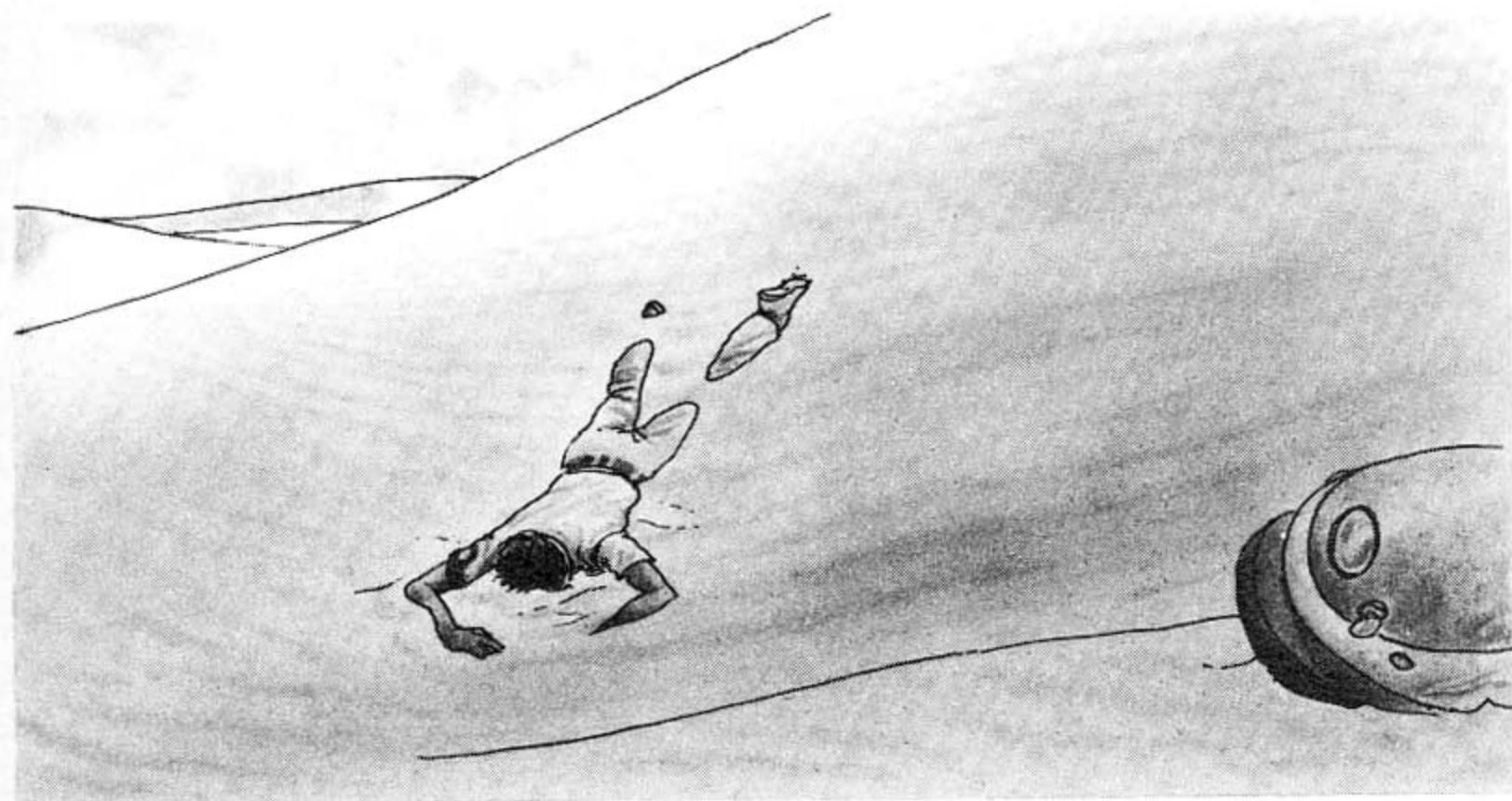
IT'S HOPELESS TO TRY TO REASON WITH YOU. YOU STICK TO YOUR IDEAS AND DON'T EVEN TRY TO UNDERSTAND.





UNCLE, WHATEVER POSSESSED YOU TO WANT TO SEE WHERE THAT PEBBLE LANDED. DIDN'T YOU HAVE SOMETHING BETTER TO DO?

NO, NOTHING. WAS THERE ANY MESSAGE?



SURE. THEY SAID THAT THE RESULT WAS A COMPLETE EXODUS FROM THE LAND AND THAT IT WAS PROOF OF THE EXCELLENCE OF THE METHOD USED. AND IT WAS INGENUOUS INDEED.

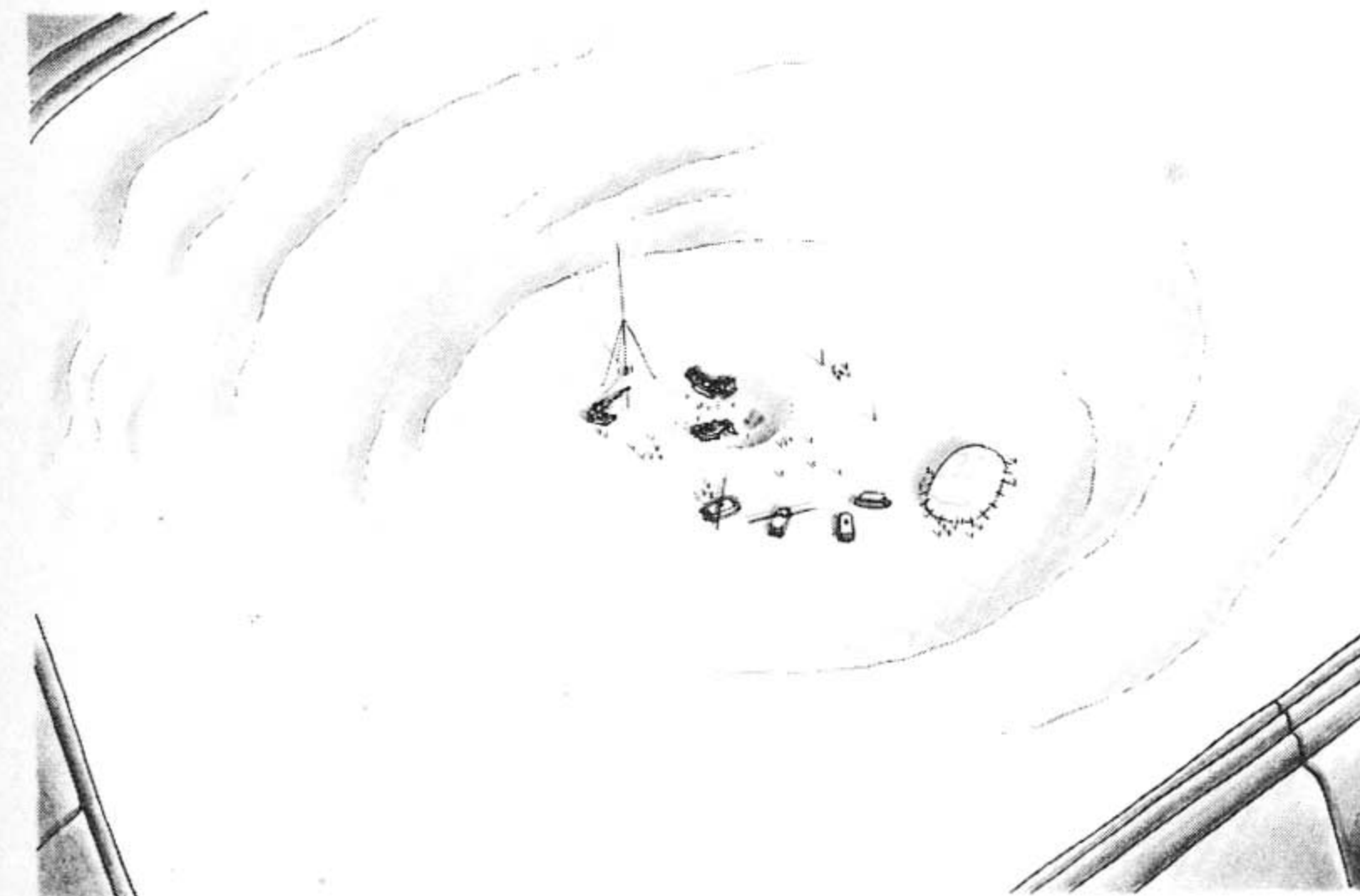
WHAT'S THAT?

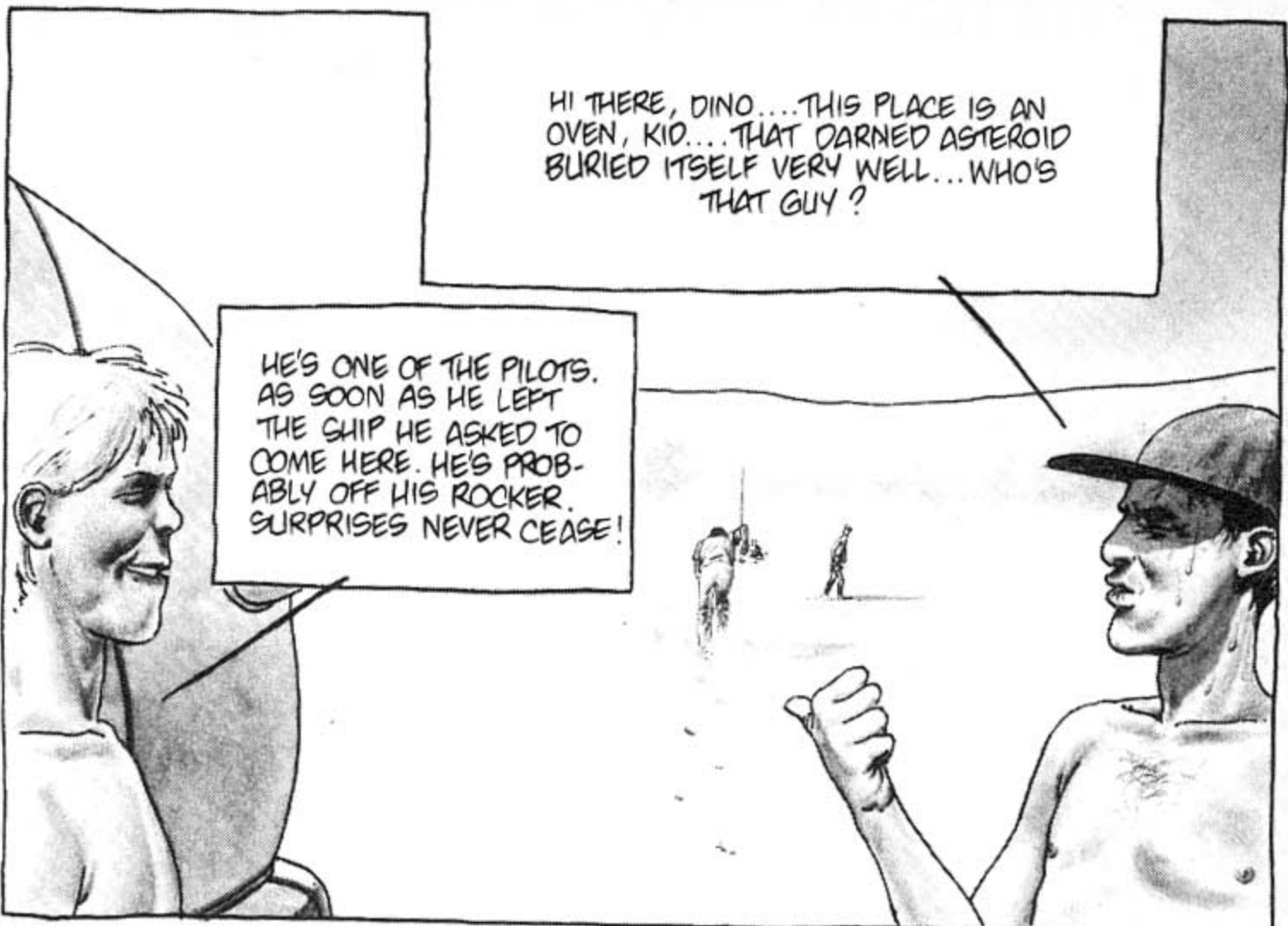


HOLD IT! BACK THERE, THERE'S A HALF-BURIED MOTORCYCLE AND I THINK THERE'S A PERSON LYING BESIDE IT!HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ALIVE....

I DON'T THINK IT'S WORTH OUR WHILE TO LAND. THERE'S THE CRATER. WE'LL TELL THE PEOPLE DOWN THERE. CHRIST! WHAT A HOLE!

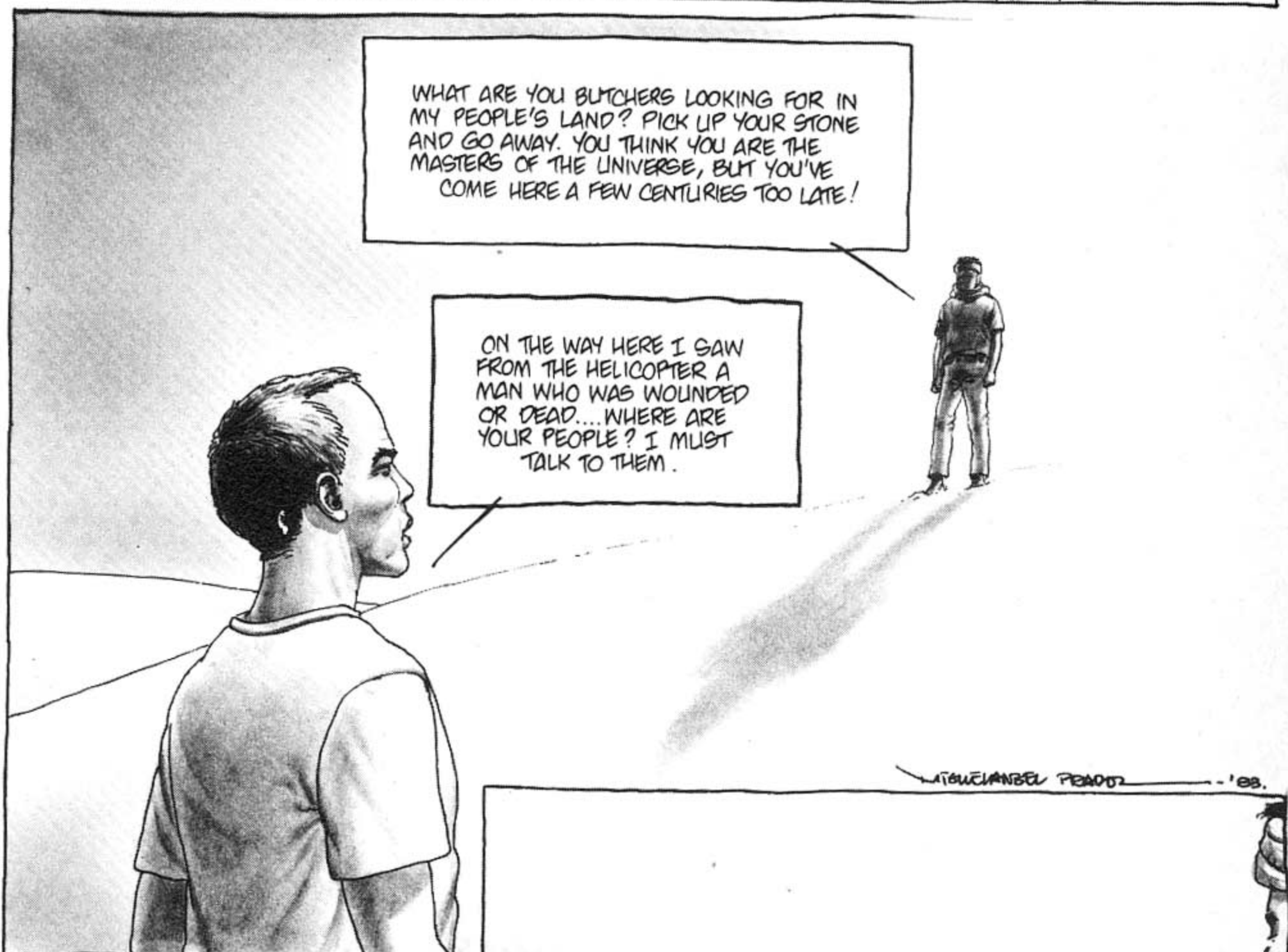
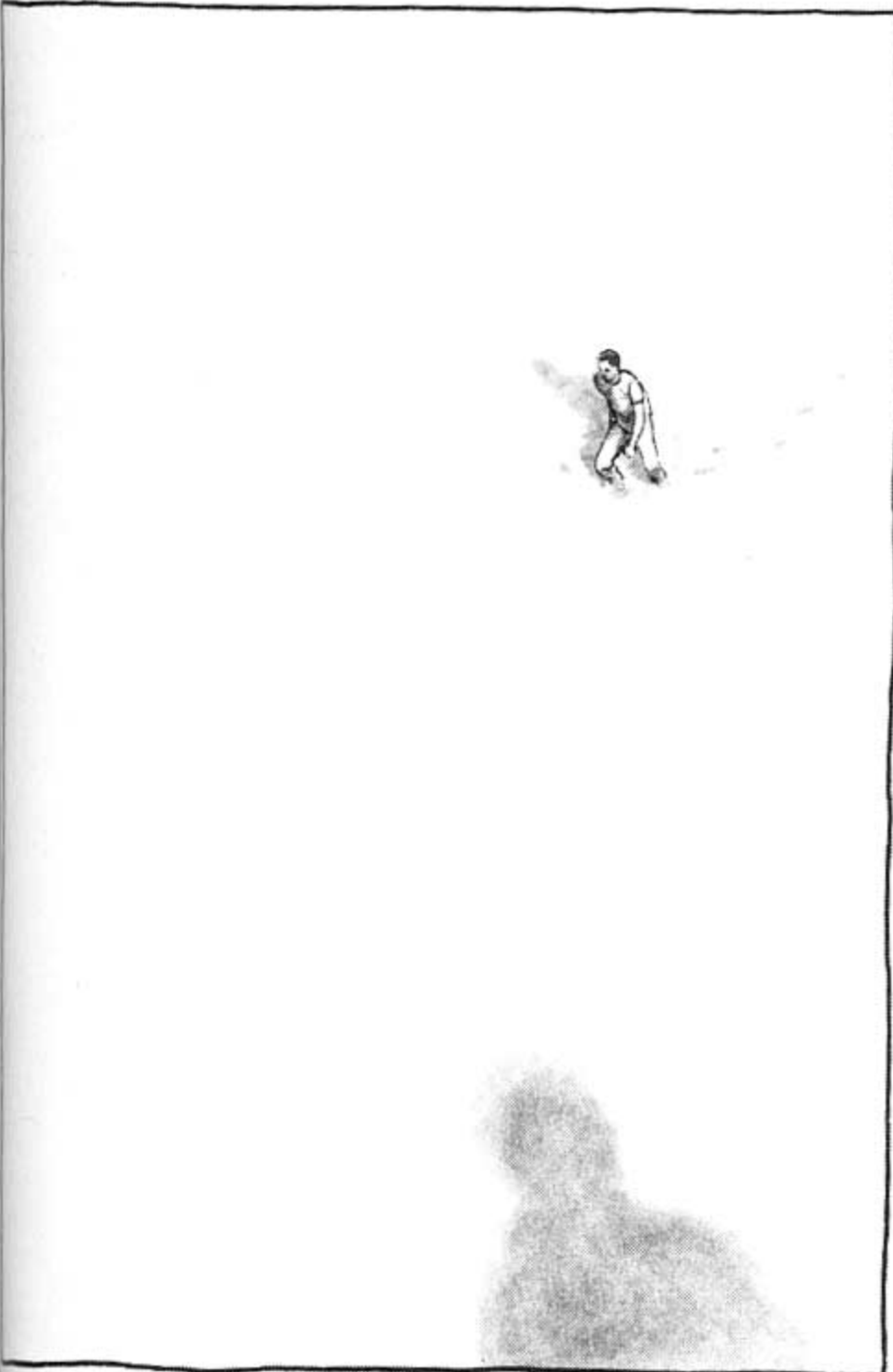
JUST LIKE A 3000 MEGATON BOMB....





HI THERE, DINO....THIS PLACE IS AN OVEN, KID....THAT DARNED ASTEROID BURIED ITSELF VERY WELL...WHO'S THAT GUY?

HE'S ONE OF THE PILOTS. AS SOON AS HE LEFT THE SHIP HE ASKED TO COME HERE. HE'S PROBABLY OFF HIS ROCKER. SURPRISES NEVER CEASE!



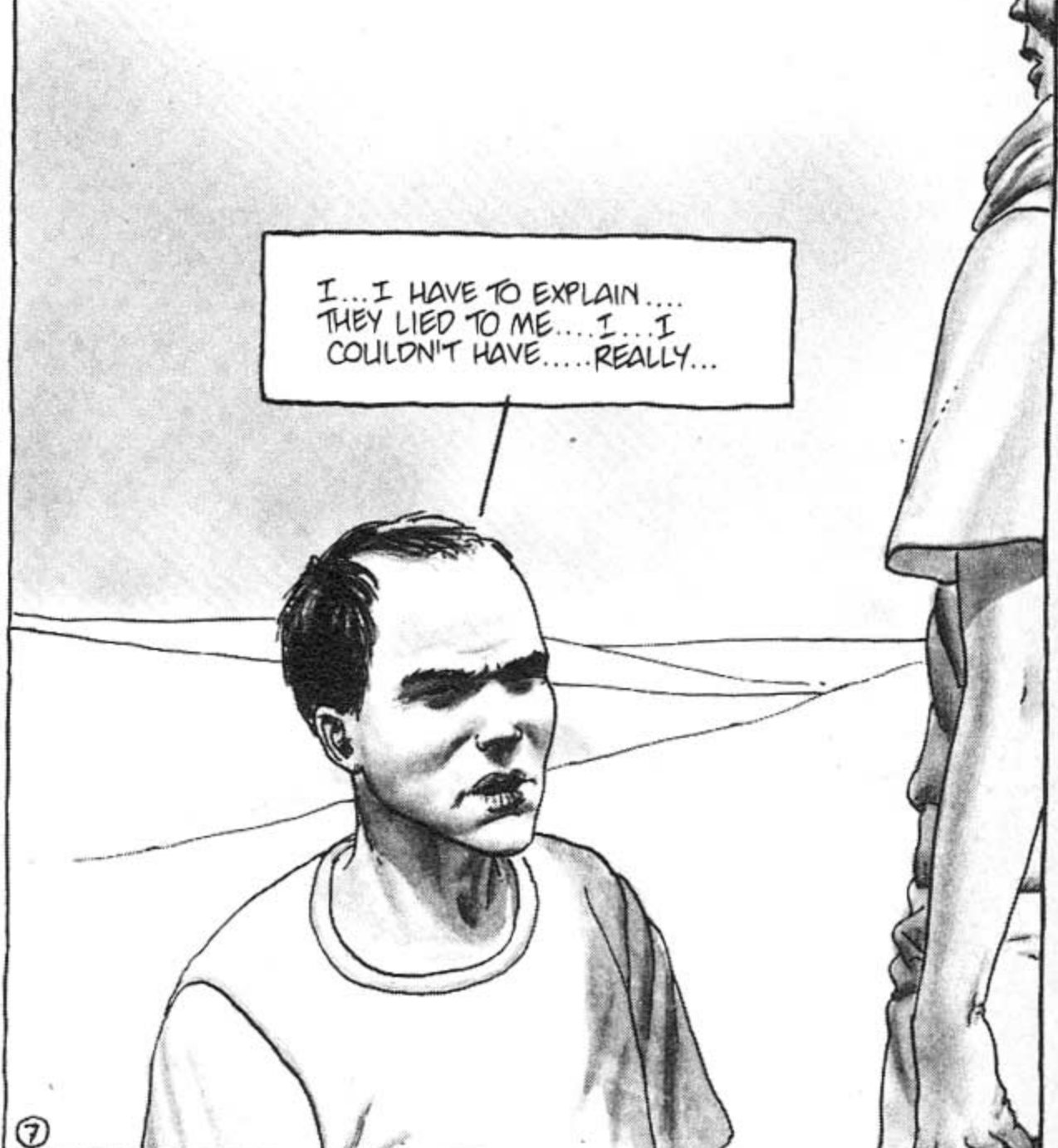
WHAT ARE YOU BUTCHERS LOOKING FOR IN MY PEOPLE'S LAND? PICK UP YOUR STONE AND GO AWAY. YOU THINK YOU ARE THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE, BUT YOU'VE COME HERE A FEW CENTURIES TOO LATE!

ON THE WAY HERE I SAW FROM THE HELICOPTER A MAN WHO WAS WOUNDED OR DEAD....WHERE ARE YOUR PEOPLE? I MUST TALK TO THEM.

LABUCIARDEL PERADOT - '88.



MY PEOPLE!...THEY ARE UNDERNEATH THAT MOUNTAIN YOU FLUNG ON TOP OF THEM, YOU MURDERERS! AND YOU KNOW IT BETTER THAN ANYONE!



I...I HAVE TO EXPLAIN... THEY LIED TO ME...I...I COULDN'T HAVE...REALLY...

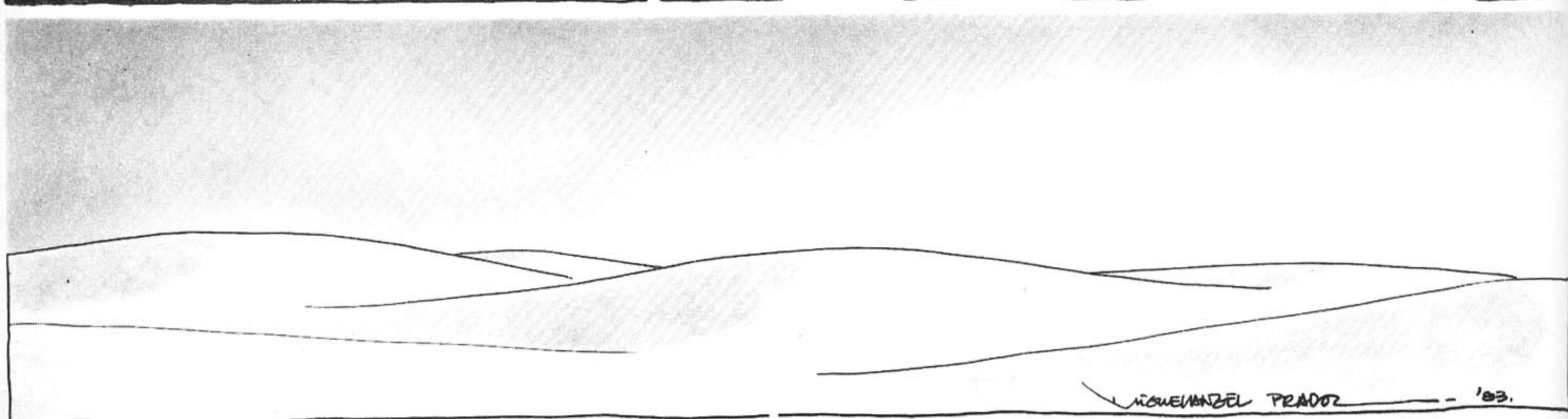
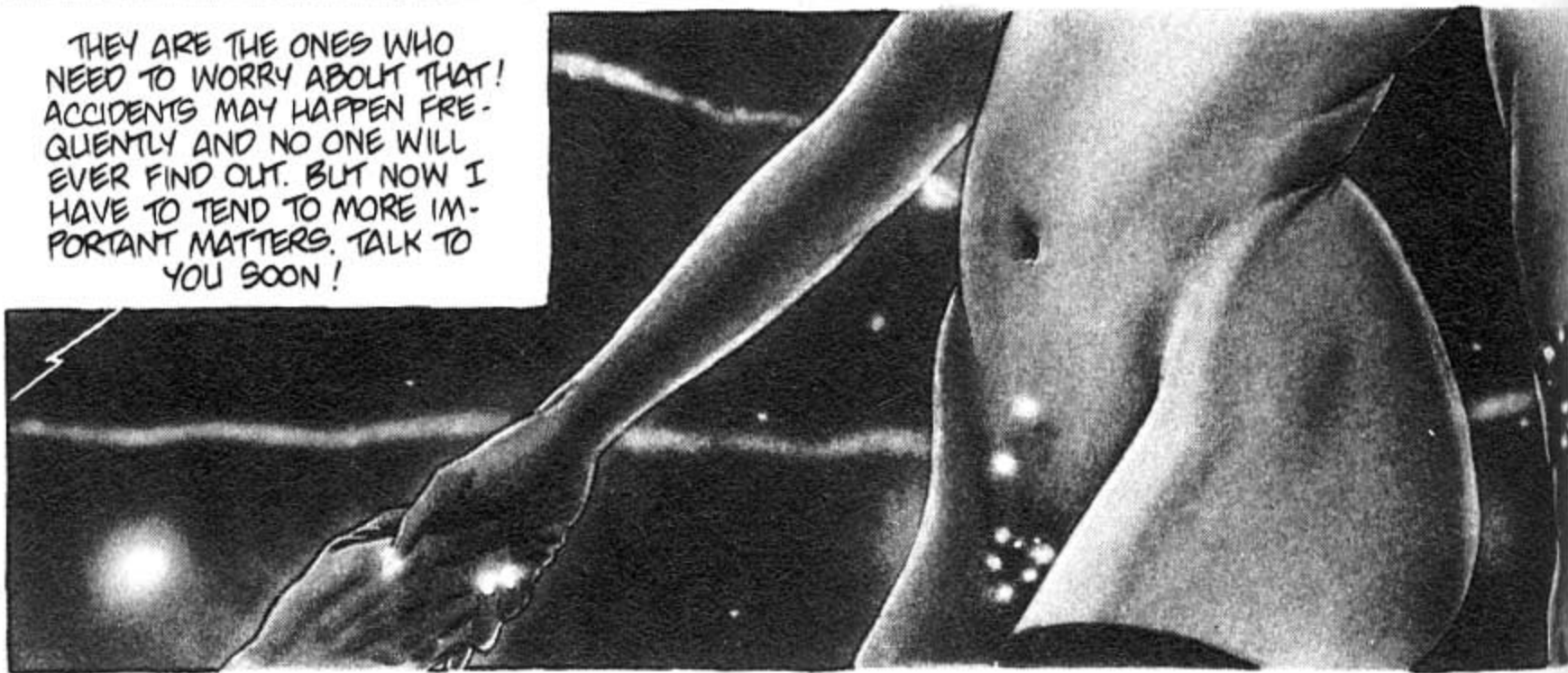
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR NOT TURNING ON THE IMAGE, GOVERNOR, BUT I AM....NOT REALLY PRESENTABLE. I IMAGINE THAT YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH THE PRECISION OF THE "LANDING." AS YOU CAN SEE, WE CAN ALWAYS TRUST OUR CALCULATIONS.

YES, THE DEMONSTRATION HAS REALLY BEENCONCLUSIVE.

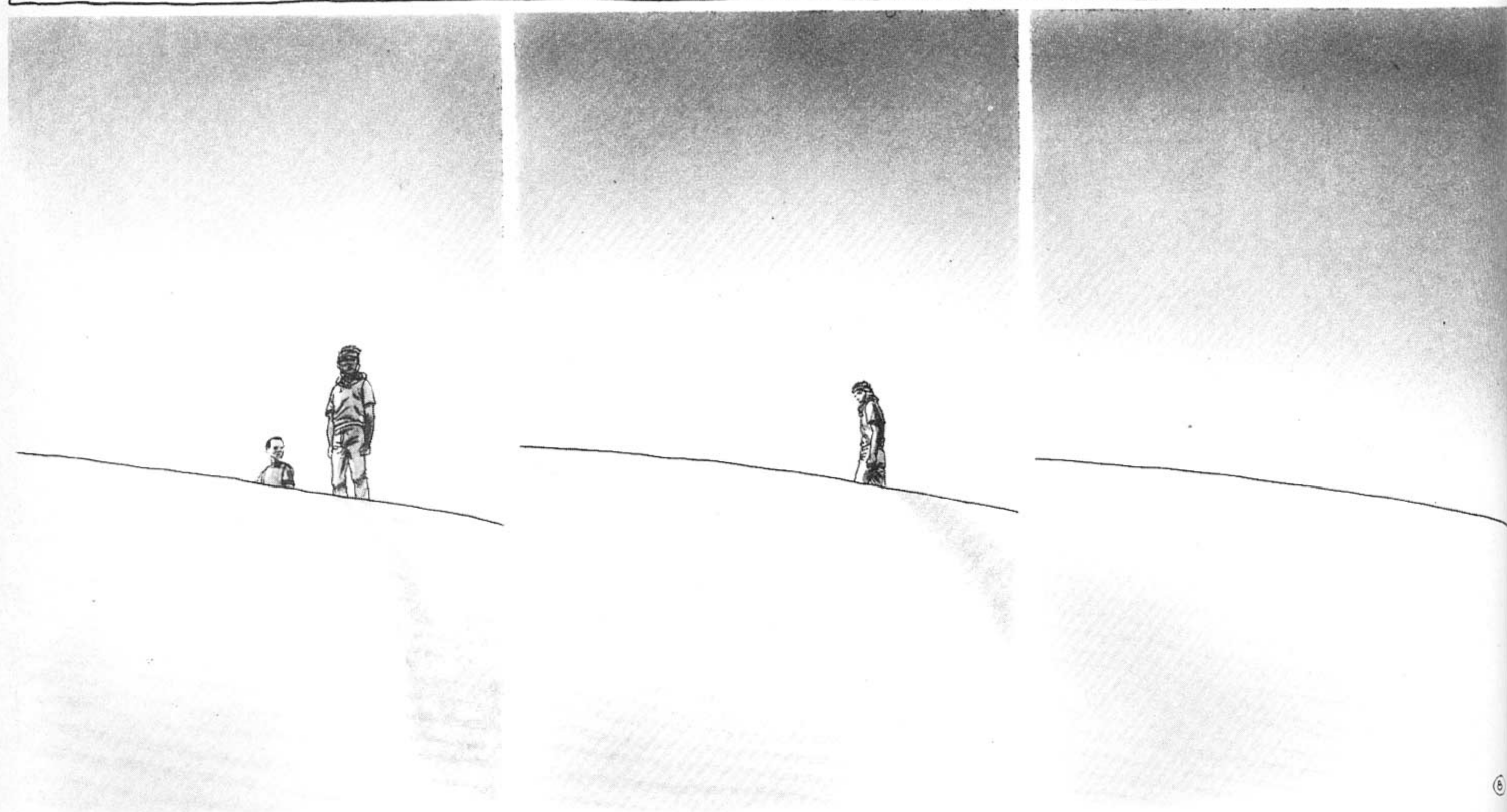
I IMAGINE THAT ALL THOSE OBSTACLES RELATING TO PURSUING OUR PLAN HAVE BEEN REMOVED, IS THAT RIGHT, MY DEAR GOVERNOR? CAN WE BEGIN A REGULAR SCHEDULE OF SHIPMENTS?

RIGHT AWAY. YOU WILL HAVE ALL THE NECESSARY OFFICIAL SUPPORT FOR OUR "INITIATIVE." BUT, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THOSE TRIBES WHO ARE STILL THERE?

THEY ARE THE ONES WHO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT! ACCIDENTS MAY HAPPEN FREQUENTLY AND NO ONE WILL EVER FIND OUT. BUT NOW I HAVE TO TEND TO MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS. TALK TO YOU SOON!



WISQUEMANZEL PRADOZ - '83.



FANTASY

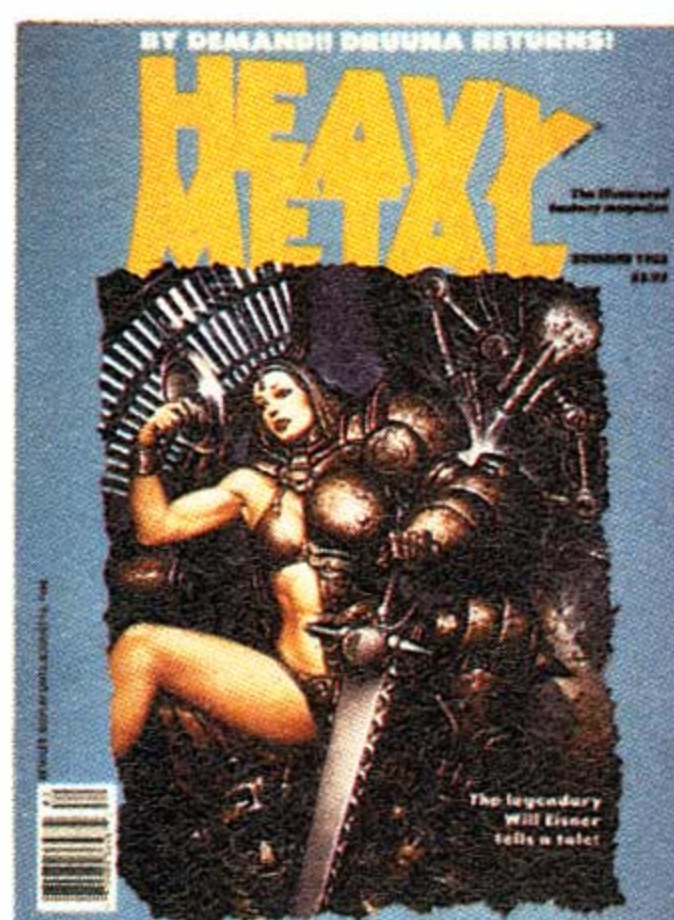


Beginning in 1989, *Heavy Metal* magazine will no longer be a quarterly. Instead it will be published six times a year.

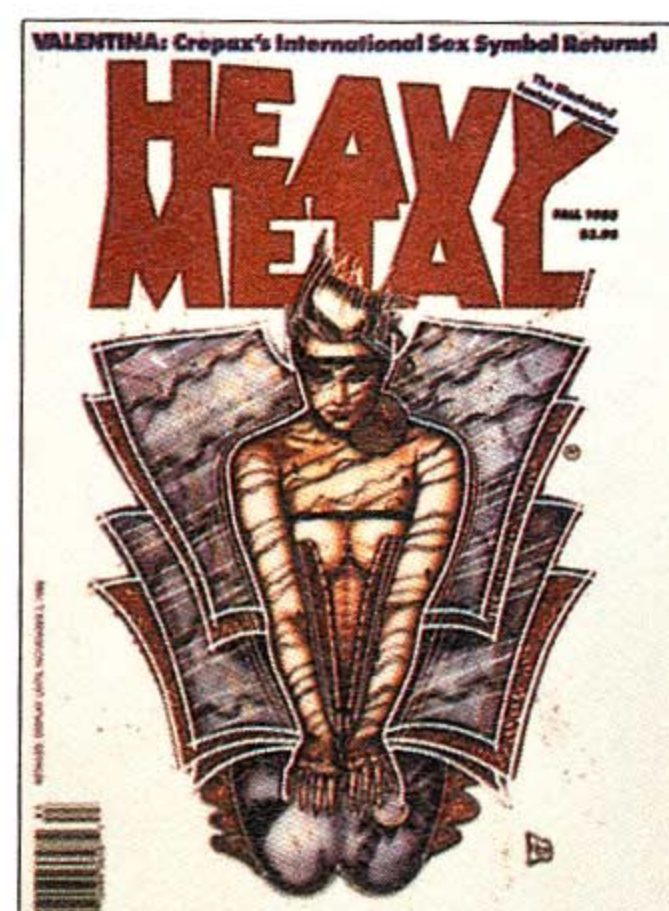
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- ☐ **APRIL 1983**/Guido Crepax, Kaluta, and Moebius
- ☐ **JUNE 1983**/Corben, and Crepax
- ☐ **JULY 1983**/Gaetano Liberatore's "Ranxerox" premieres!
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- ☐ **DECEMBER 1983**/"Ranxerox"'s Liberatore interviewed
- ☐ **JANUARY 1984**/Arthur C. Clarke's *The Sentinel*, and "Ranxerox"
- ☐ **FEBRUARY 1984**/Douglas Trumbull, Moebius, and "Vampire Memoirs"
- ☐ **MARCH 1984**/Douglas Adams, Angus McKie, and Charles Burns
- ☐ **APRIL 1984**/Roger Corman interviewed, Joe Kubert, and Boris Vallejo
- ☐ **MAY 1984**/Schuiten, "Ranxerox," and Moebius
- ☐ **JUNE 1984**/*Liquid Sky*'s Slava Tsukerman, Frank Thorne, and Bilal
- ☐ **JULY 1984**/John Cleese interviewed, and Jeronaton
- ☐ **AUGUST 1984**/Paul Kantner, Starship Captain, and Jeronaton
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1984**/Second Annual Music Video Awards, and David Cronenberg interviewed
- ☐ **OCTOBER 1984**/John Sayles interviewed, Caza, and Bilal
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1984**/John Waters interviewed, Paul Kirchner, and Schuiten
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1984**/Federico Fellini interviewed, Milo Manara, and Boris Vallejo
- ☐ **JANUARY 1985**/Liberatore, Bertotti's "Marlowskitz," and Daniel Torres
- ☐ **FEBRUARY 1985**/Jack Davis interviewed, Russell Mulcahy, and Torres
- ☐ **MARCH 1985**/Moreno's "Rebel," Bilal & Christin, and Schuiten
- ☐ **APRIL 1985**/Eighth anniversary issue! Moreno, Corben, and Swarte
- ☐ **MAY 1985**/Liberatore cover, Corben, and Manara
- ☐ **JUNE 1985**/Charles Burns, Massimo Ghini, and Herikberto
- ☐ **JULY 1985**/George Miller interviewed, Olivia, and Sesar
- ☐ **AUGUST 1985**/Frank Frazetta interviewed, Juan Gimenez, and Torres
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1985**/Hildebrandt cover, "Rock Opera," Yves Chaland
- ☐ **OCTOBER 1985**/Olivia, Brian Aldiss, and Jodorowsky & Cadelo
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1985**/Boris Vallejo, Paul Kirchner, and John Findley
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1985**/Last of the monthly issues: Caza, Swarte, and Kierkegaard

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- ☐ **MARCH 1980**/Schuiten's "Crevasse," Corben, and Lee Marrs
- ☐ **MAY 1980**/Jeronaton's "Champakou"

- ☐ **AUGUST 1980**/Bilal & Christin, interview with Moebius, and more
- ☐ **APRIL 1981**/Juan Gimenez, Corben, and Harry North
- ☐ **MAY 1981**/William S. Burroughs on immortality
- ☐ **JUNE 1981**/Corben speaks in a candid interview
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1981**/Jeronaton, Jeff Jones, Leo & Diane Dillon
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1981**/Blondie & Giger, Corben, and Tex Arcana
- ☐ **JANUARY 1982**/Chaykin, Simonson, and Jim Steranko
- ☐ **FEBRUARY 1982**/Moebius's John Difooll and Jeff Jones
- ☐ **MARCH 1982**/Special rock issue
- ☐ **APRIL 1982**/Fifth anniversary issue featuring J. G. Ballard
- ☐ **MAY 1982**/De Es Schwertberger and David Black's "Third Sexual Revolution"
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- ☐ **JULY 1982**/Marcele and Lacome's "Life at the Circus"
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- ☐ **OCTOBER 1982**/Special horror issue featuring Edgar Allan Poe
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1982**/Mike Kaluta's "Starstruck," and Wrightson's *NatLamp's Class Reunion*
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- ☐ **JULY 1977**/Moebius's "Arzach," and "The Long Tomorrow"
- ☐ **AUGUST 1977**/Ed Davis's "World Apart," and Corben
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 1977**/Roger Zelazny and Corben
- ☐ **OCTOBER 1977**/Theodore Sturgeon, and Moebius
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1977**/Harlan Ellison, and Moebius
- ☐ **DECEMBER 1977**/Druillet's "Vuzz," and Howard Chaykin's "Fortune's Fool"
- ☐ **JANUARY 1978**/Roger Zelazny, and Gray Morrow
- ☐ **FEBRUARY 1978**/Fores's "Barbarella," and Moebius
- ☐ **MARCH 1978**/Gray Morrow's "Orion," and Corben's "Den"
- ☐ **APRIL 1978**/First anniversary issue
- ☐ **MAY 1978**/Philippe Druillet, and Alex Nino

- ☐ **JUNE 1978**/Corben's "Arabian Nights," and Sturgeon's *More Than Human*
- ☐ **JULY 1978**/Voss's "Heilman" and Druillet's "Gail"
- ☐ **MARCH 1979**/H. P. Lovecraft special section
- ☐ **AUGUST 1979**/Arthur Suydam, Caza, and Val Mayerik
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- ☐ **NOVEMBER 1979**/Corben, Bodé, and Frank Brunner

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- ☐ **WINTER 1986**/112 spectacular pages: Sesar, Pratt, Torres, and Ghini
- ☐ **SPRING 1986**/112 pages/Moebius, Bob Deum, and Vink
- ☐ **SUMMER 1986**/Sire, Serpieri, Das Pastoras, and more.
- ☐ **FALL 1986**/Bilal, Gimenez, Ortiz, Kierkegaard, and others.
- ☐ **WINTER 1987**/Greg Hildebrandt cover, Daniel Torres, and Miguel Angel Prado
- ☐ **SPRING 1987**/Juan Gimenez's apocalyptic "Garbage," Daniel Torres, and others
- ☐ **SUMMER 1987**/10th anniversary issue! Moebius, John Findley's "Tex Arcana," Jeff Jones, Angus McKie et al!
- ☐ **FALL 1987**/Sexy Olivia cover! Segrelles, Rick Geary, Moebius, Torres, and more!
- ☐ **WINTER 1988**/"Ranxerox"'s Liberatore, Daniel Torres, Prado, and Drew Friedman. Cover by Olivia!
- ☐ **SUMMER 1988**/Will Eisner, Serpieri, Chaland, Milo Manara, and Breccia.
- ☐ **FALL 1988**/Olivia on the cover and Crepax's "Valentina" inside!
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Heavy Metal

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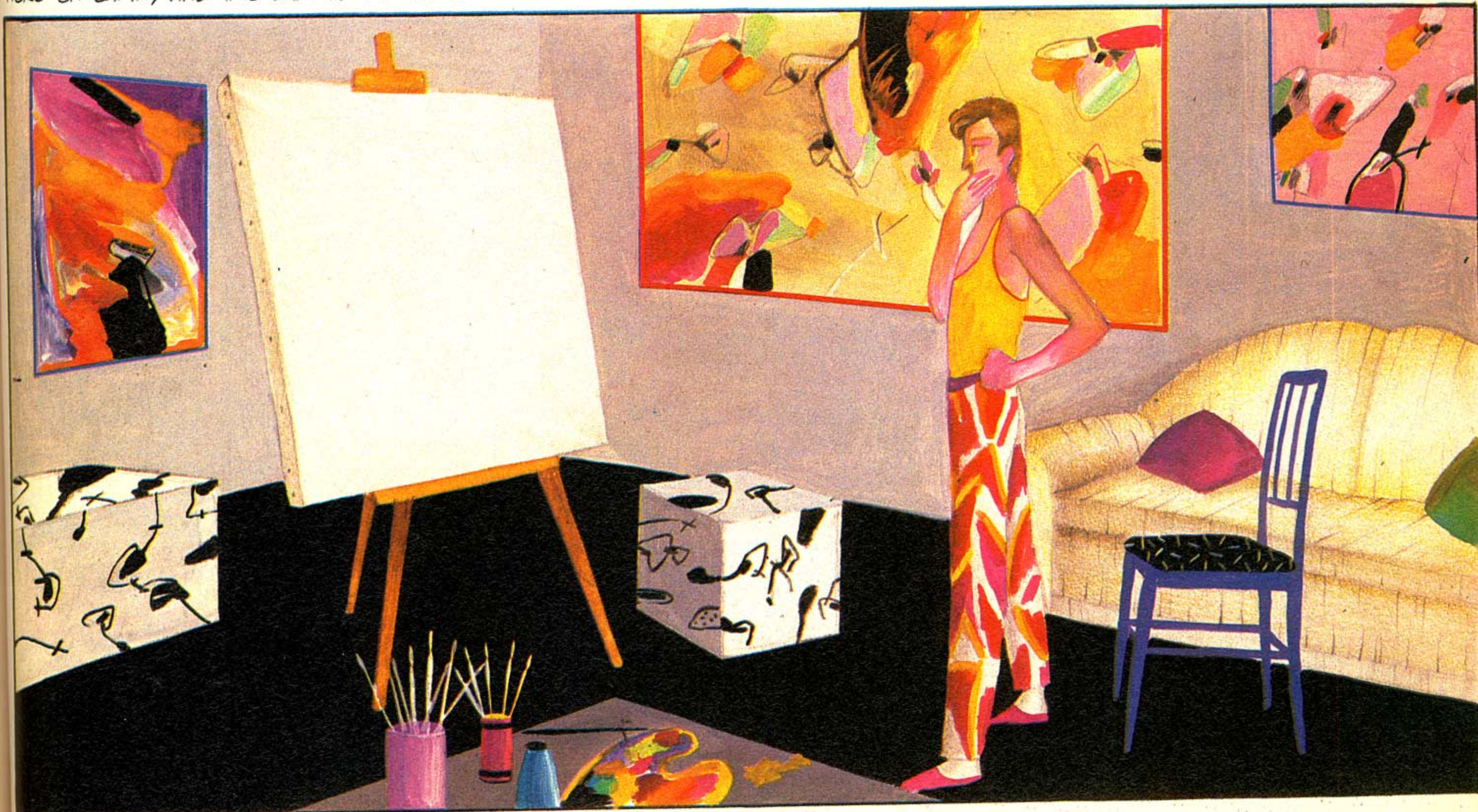
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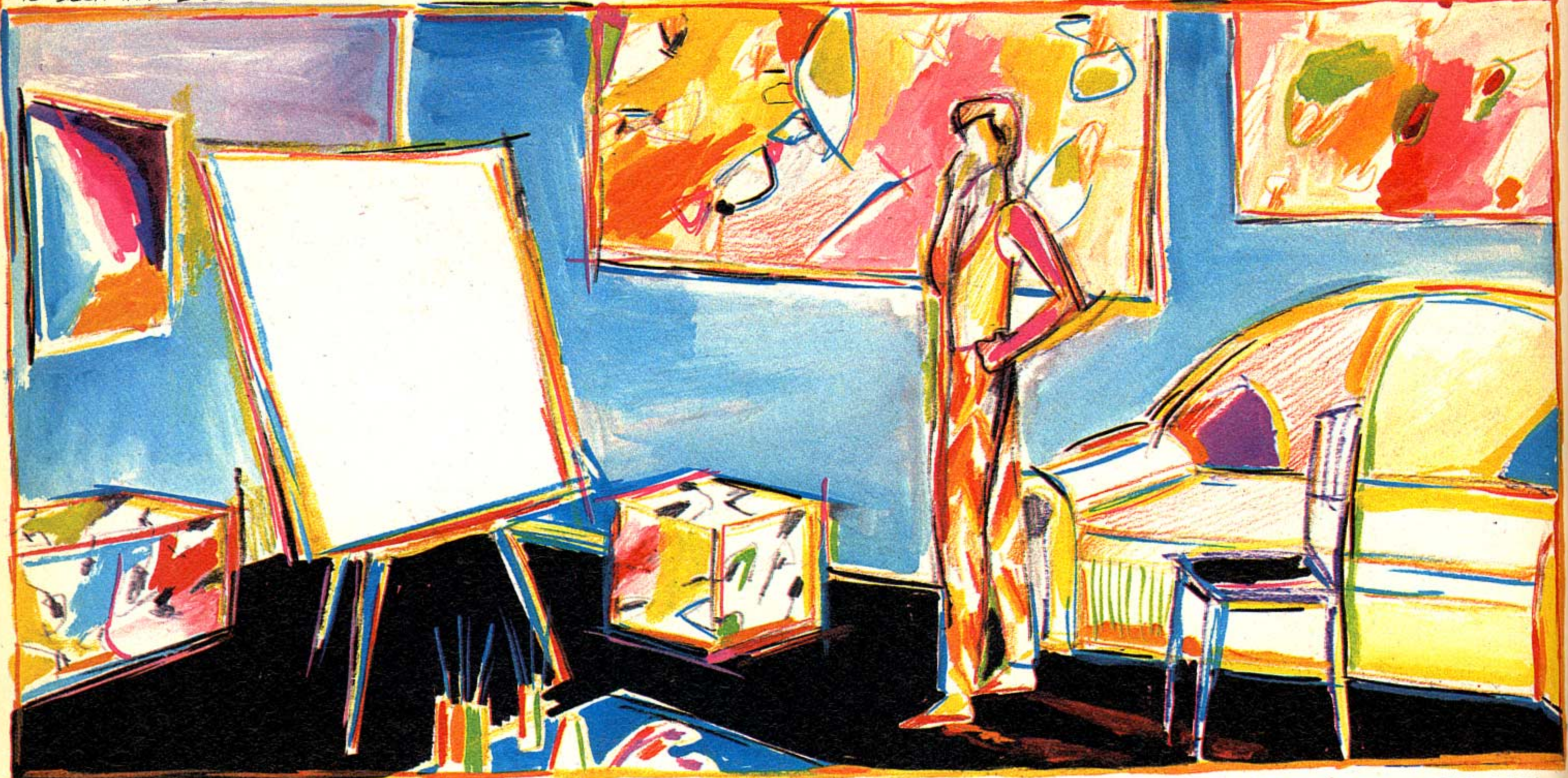
THE ARTIST



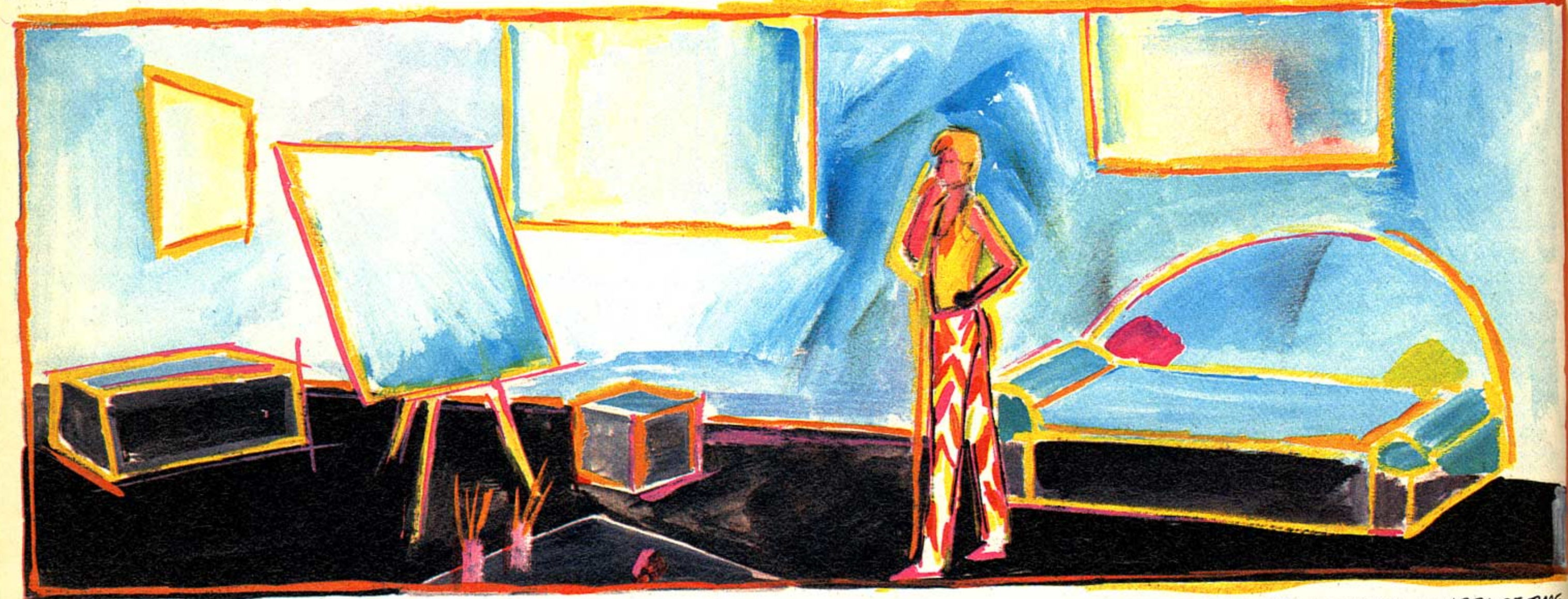
ON THE THIRD OF SEPTEMBER 1984 I FINISHED MY STORY ON THE OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCES I HAD HAD WITH STRANGE BEINGS FROM OUTER SPACE, WHO SAID THEY WERE OUR CREATORS. I HAD ALSO ENDED MY USEFULNESS AS AN ARTIST WITH THE PROJECT THAT I CALLED "THE EARTH CUBE." THESE BEINGS USED ME AS THEIR MOTIVE OR RATHER AS THEIR GUINEA PIG, TO TRAVEL THROUGH THE AESTHETIC DIMENSIONS OF ART HERE ON EARTH, AND THIS DAMNED VOYAGE HAD MADE ME....



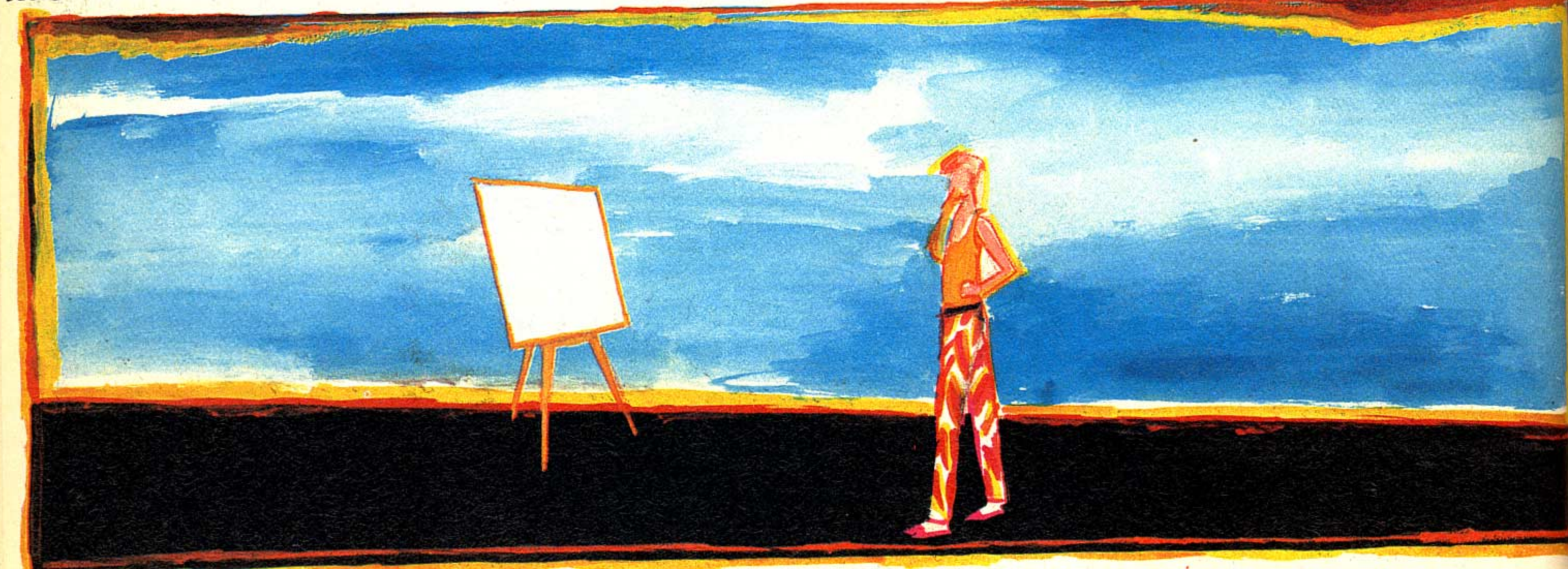
..... COMPLETELY LOSE MY PEACE OF MIND. AFTER A VERY LONG TIME.... I HAVE DECIDED TO GO BACK TO PAINTING, BUT MY STATE OF CONFUSION IS SUCH THAT I DON'T KNOW...



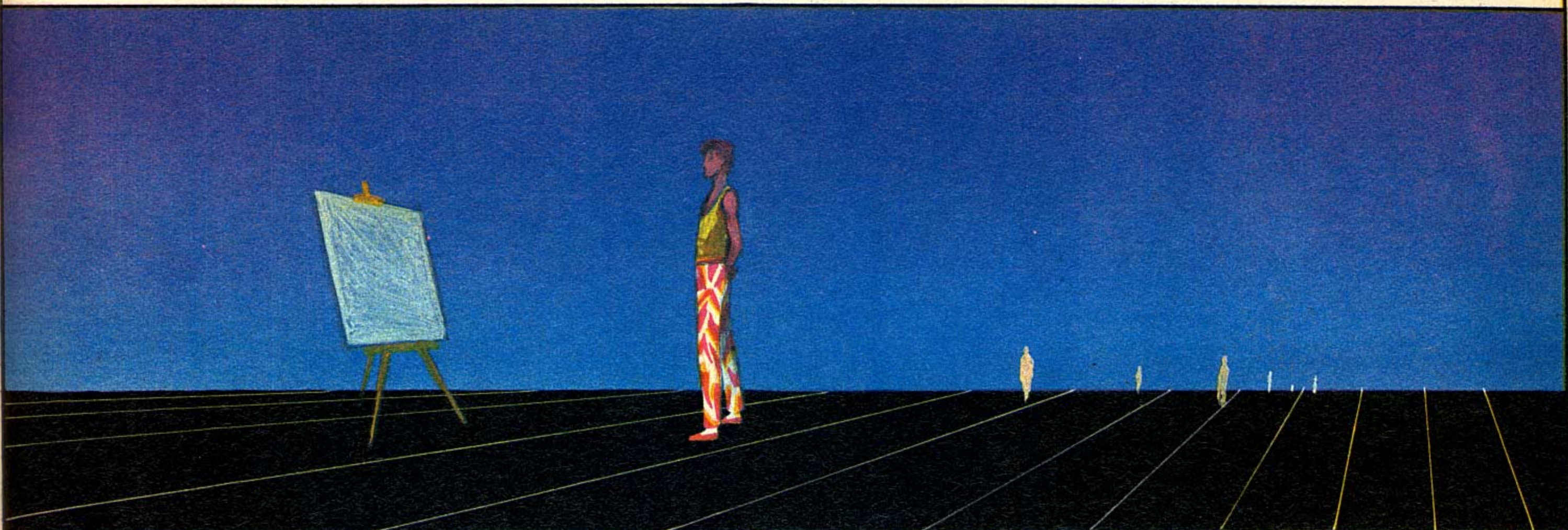
WHERE TO BEGIN. I HAVE SEEN SO MANY DIFFERENT AESTHETIC DIMENSIONS THAT ALL I FEEL RIGHT NOW IS A SENSE OF IMPOTENCE... THE WHITE CANVAS OVERWHELMS ME, IT CHALLENGES ME BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT WOUNDS ME, I FEEL DISPLACED AND THE REALITY WHICH SURROUNDS ME...



LOSES ITS CERTAINTY... EVERYTHING CHANGES AROUND ME. THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS IF I LOOK FIXEDLY AT AN OBJECT FOR A CERTAIN LENGTH OF TIME...



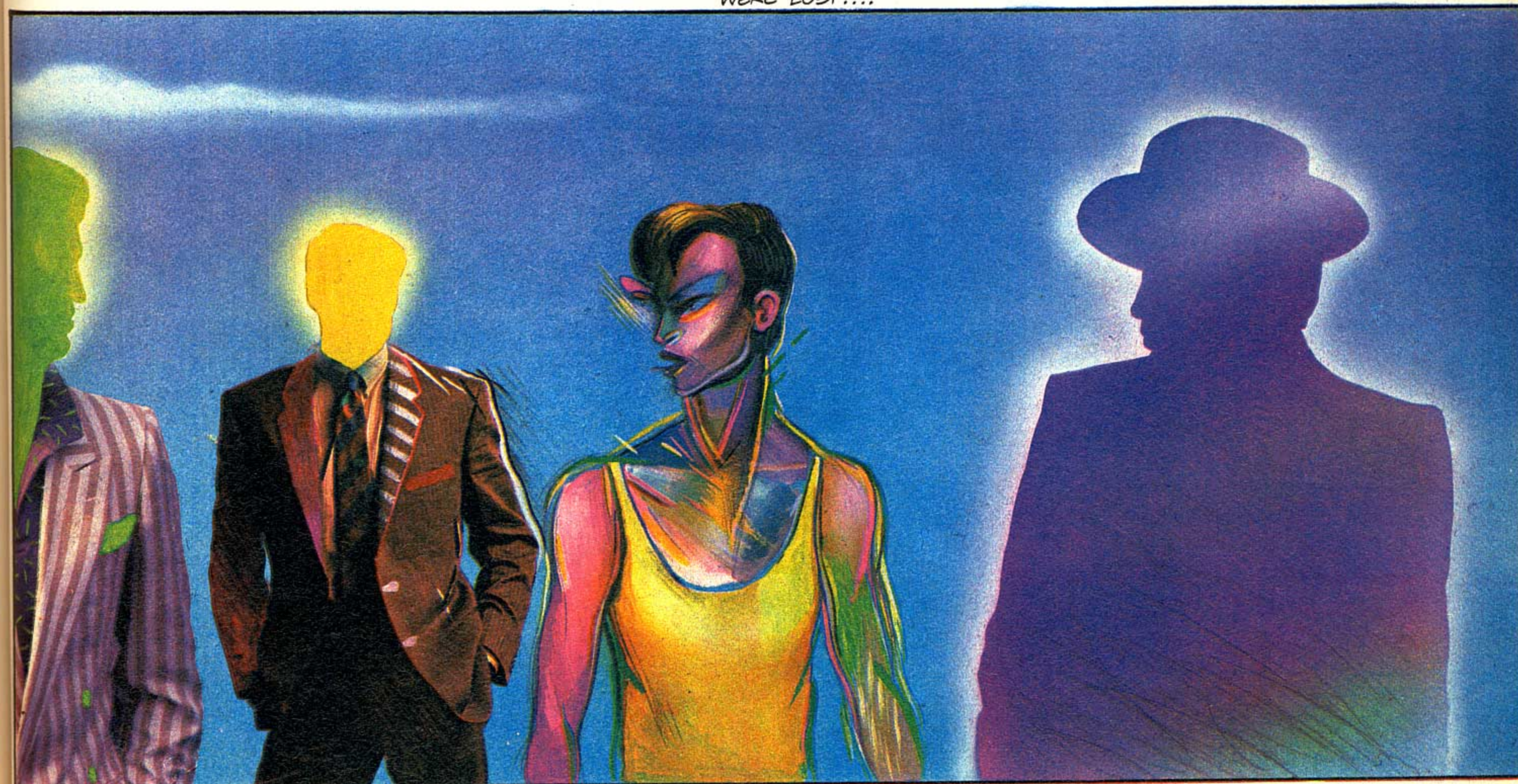
...THEN EVERYTHING AROUND ME AND BEHIND ME DISAPPEARS INTO THIN AIR....IN THE FREE SPACE AROUND ME



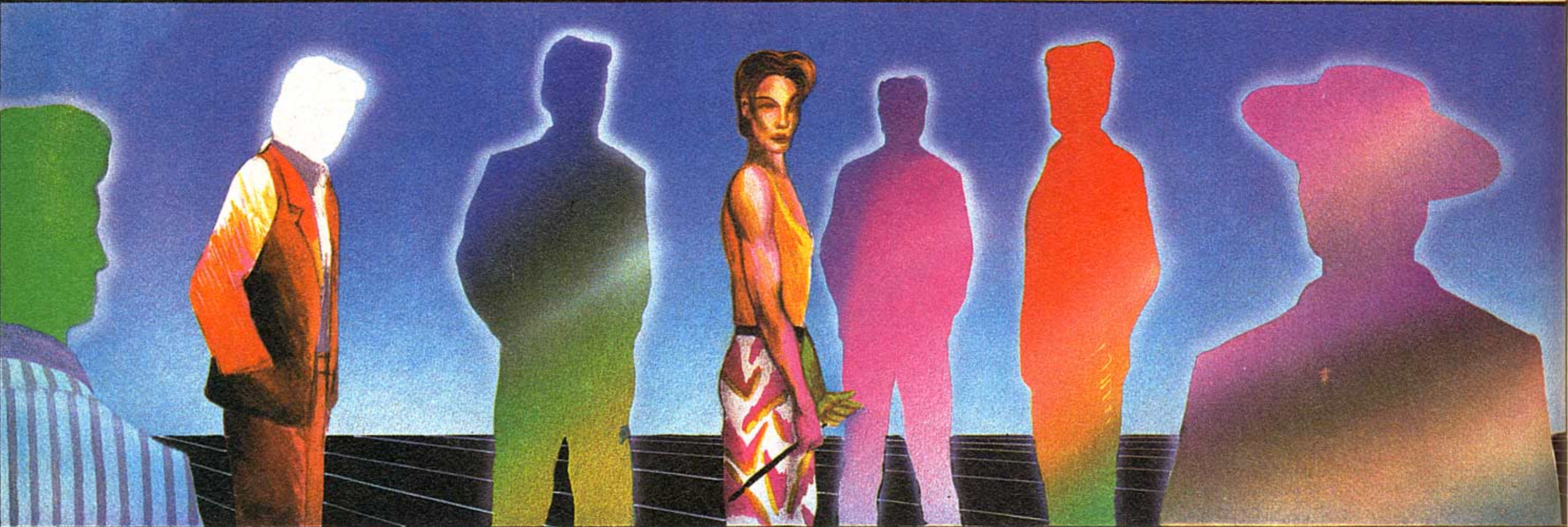
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THESE BEINGS CAME FROM... MAYBE FROM INFINITE SPACE? MAYBE THEY WERE LIBERATORS, LIKE ME, OR MAYBE THEY WERE JUST SHADOWS...



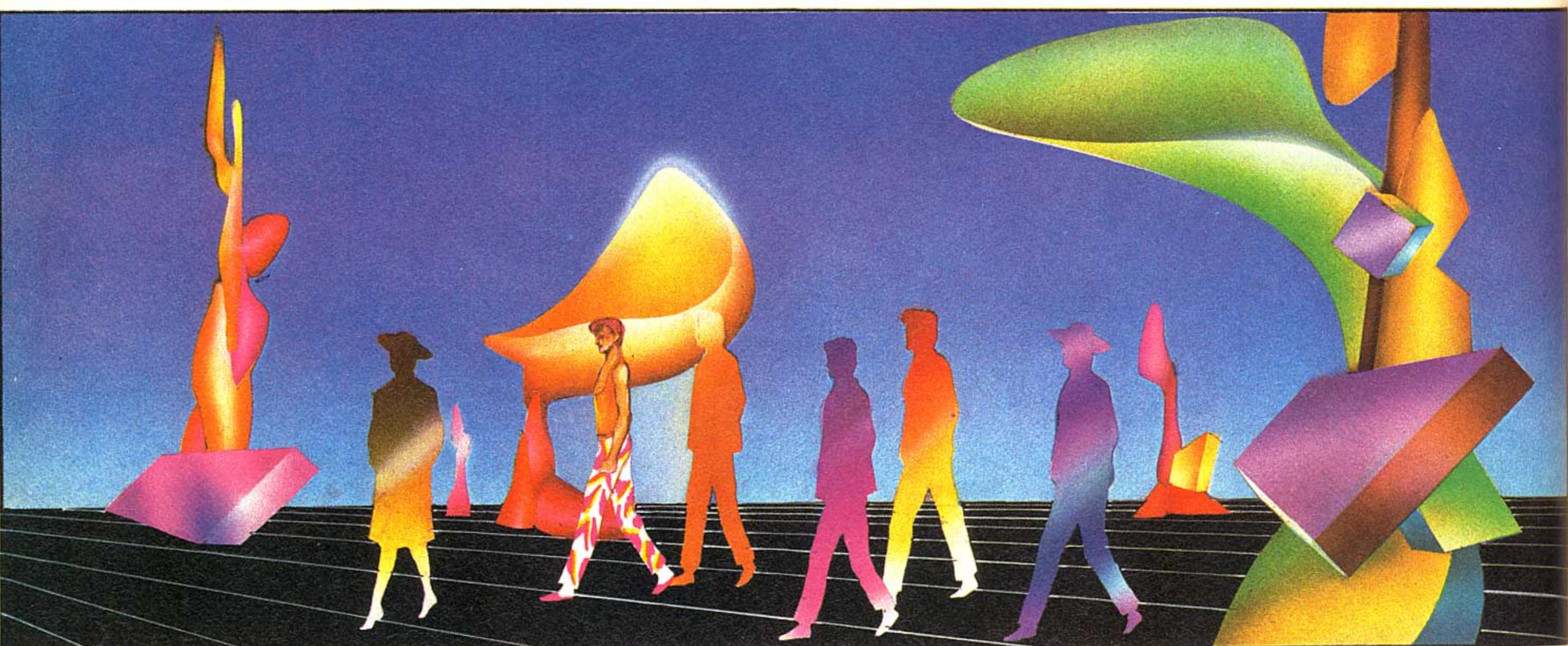
SILHOUETTES, SPACES, ECHOS, WANDERING SOULS....THEY REMINDED ME OF WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR MY OWN IMAGE...OR MAYBE THEY WERE LOST....



LITTLE BY LITTLE THEY SURROUNDED ME. I FELT THE FLOW OF THEIR ENERGY. IT SEEMED AS IF THEY WANTED TO TELL ME SOMETHING, BUT I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND. WHEN, SOMEWHAT BEWILDERED, I WAS ABOUT TO RUN AWAY, TORMENTING THE HAIRS OF THE PAINTBRUSH I WAS HOLDING IN MY HANDS...



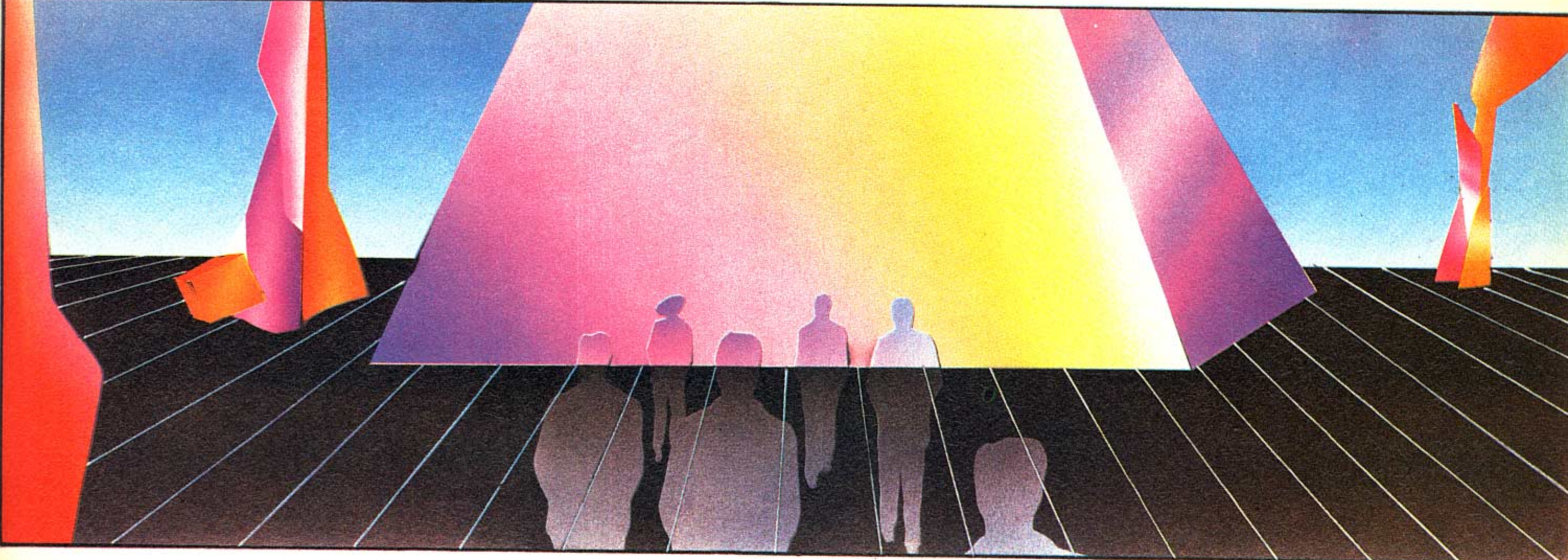
ONE OF THEM MADE A GESTURE TO INDICATE THAT I WAS TO FOLLOW THEM... WE WALKED IN THE DIRECTION OF SOME STRANGE LOOKING BUILDINGS...



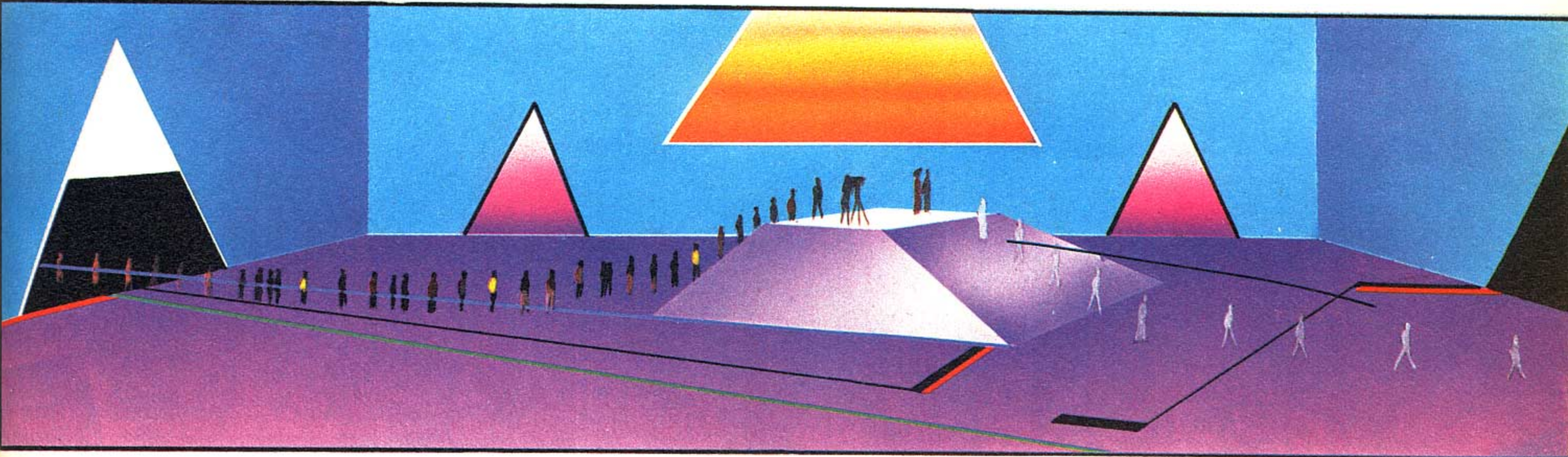
...WHICH APPEARED TO BE A CITY. WE WENT TOWARD THE ONLY PYRAMIDAL SHAPE IN THAT VAST BLUE SPACE....



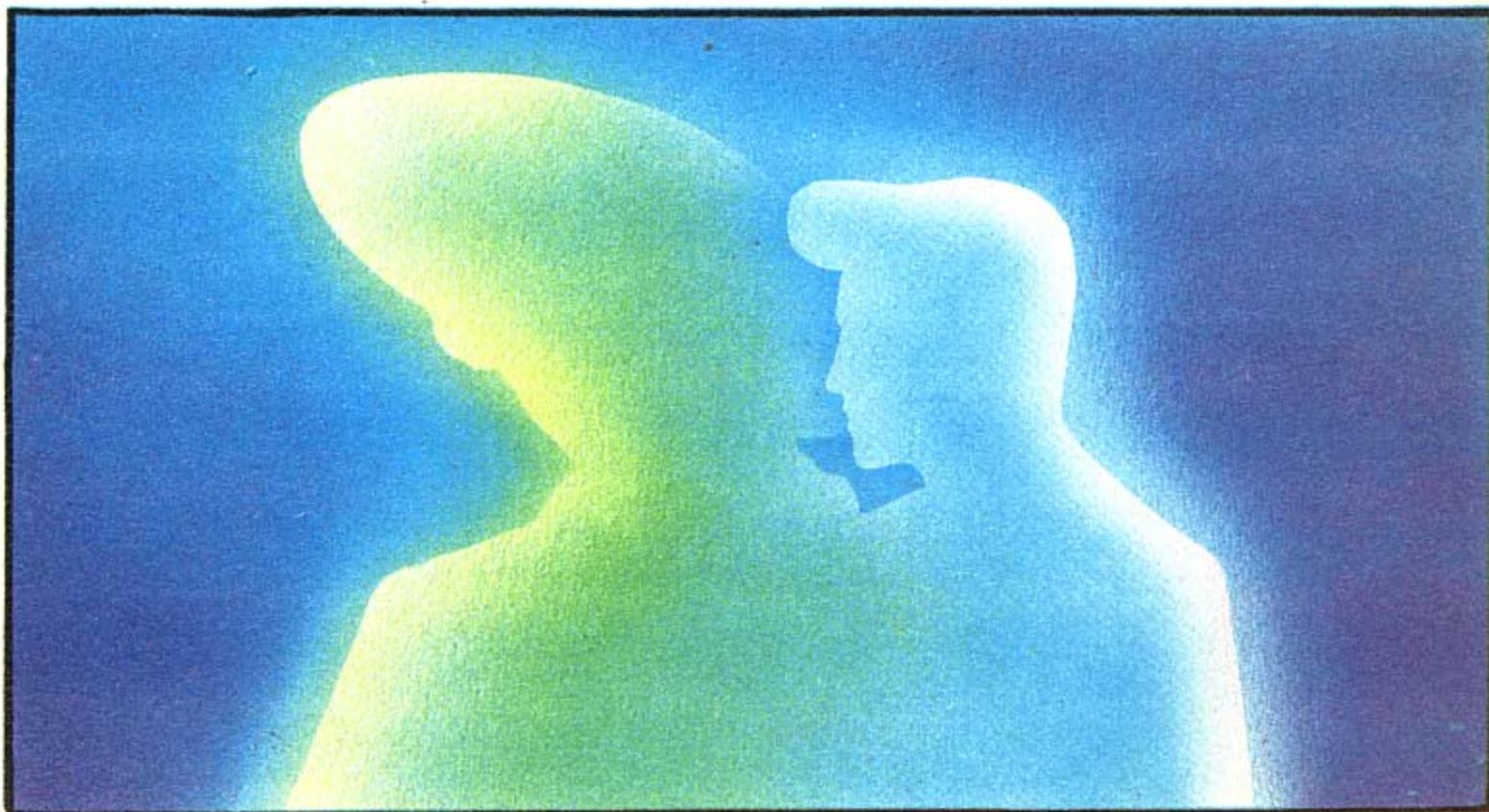
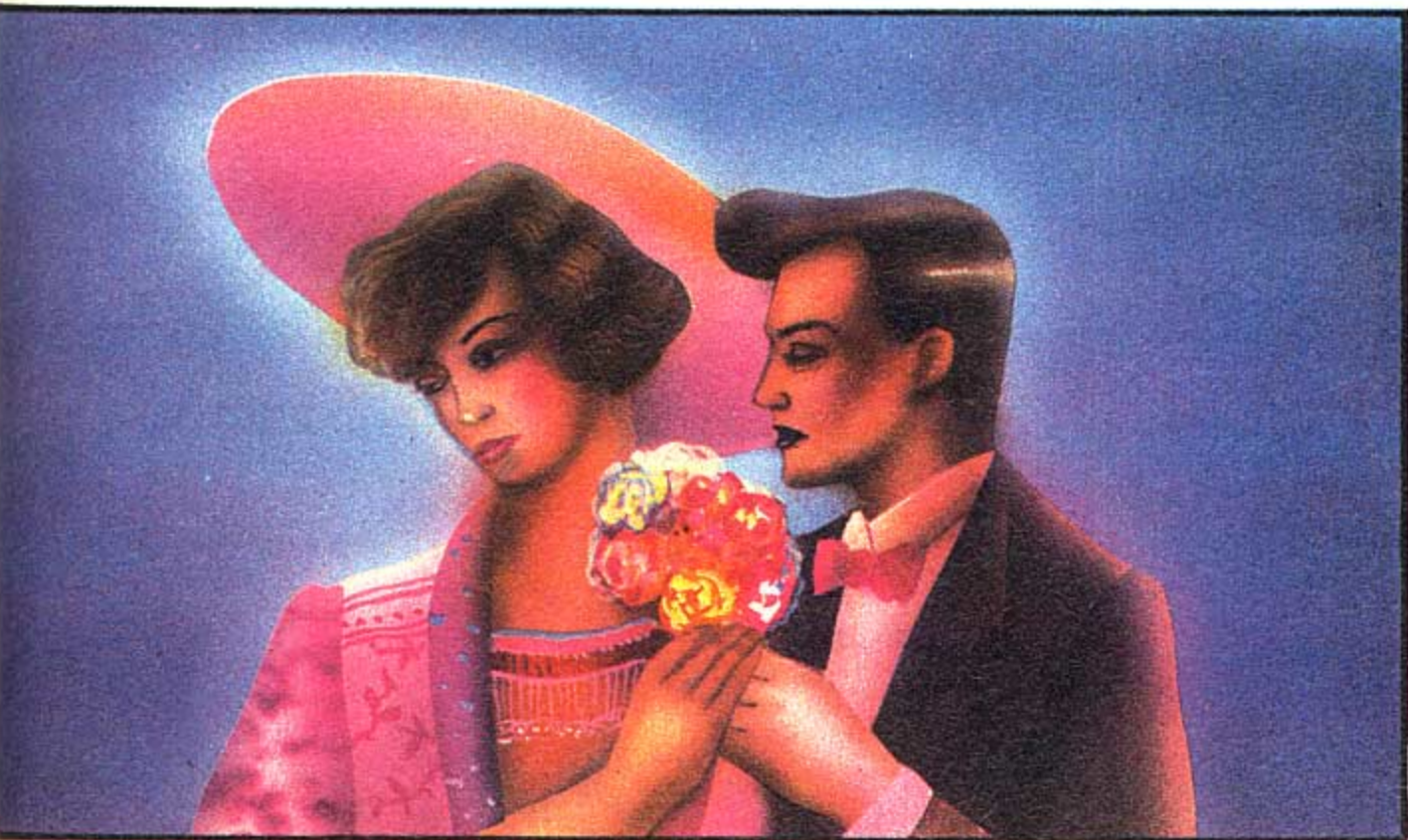
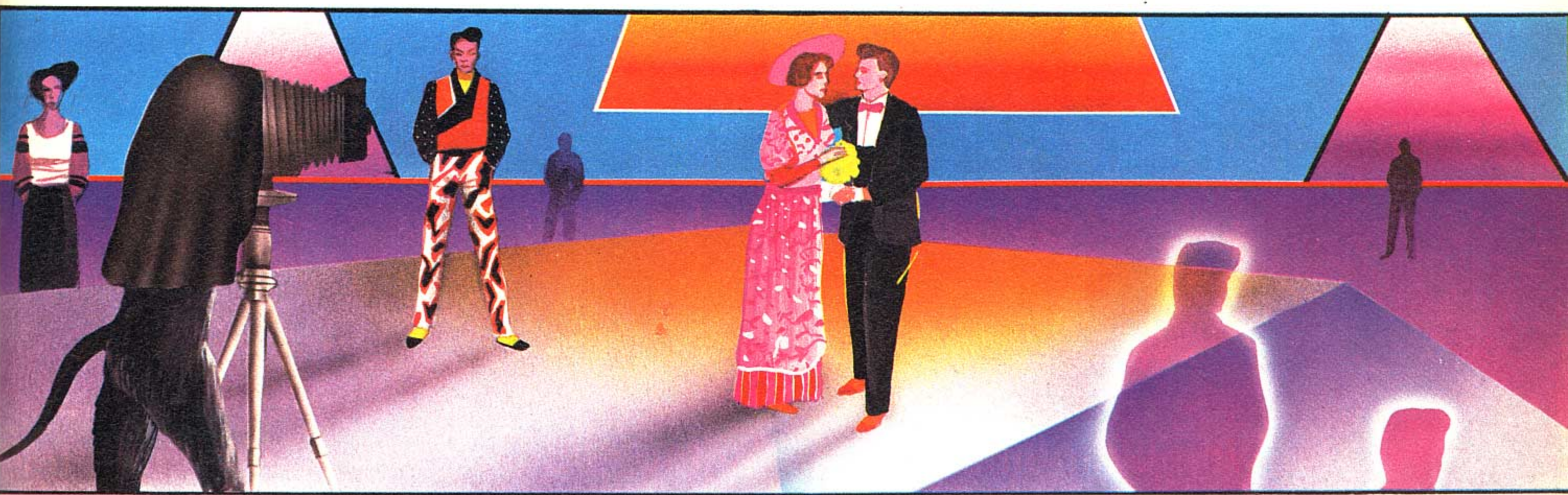
AS WE WERE GETTING CLOSER, I NOTICED THAT THE SHADOWS BEGAN TO TREMBLE... AS FOR SOME HIDDEN DANGER...



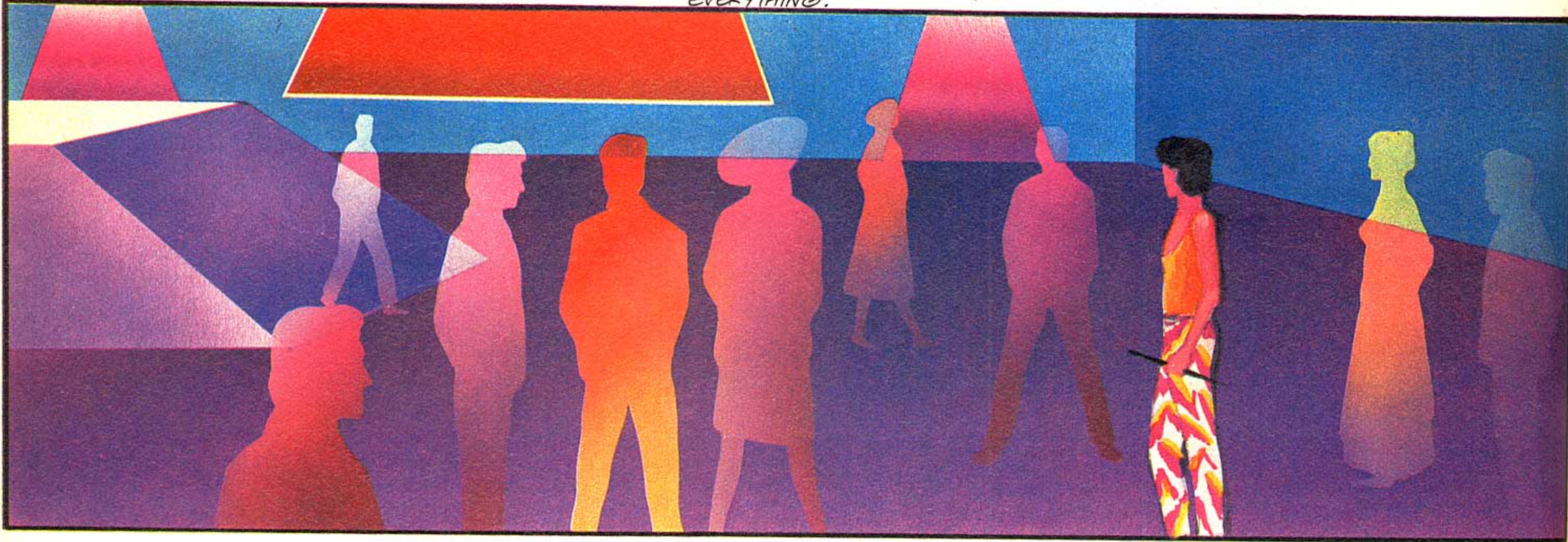
WE WENT INTO THE PYRAMID... AND ENTERED AN IMMENSE ROOM... A CROWD WAS LINED UP TO CLIMB UPON A HIGH PODIUM.



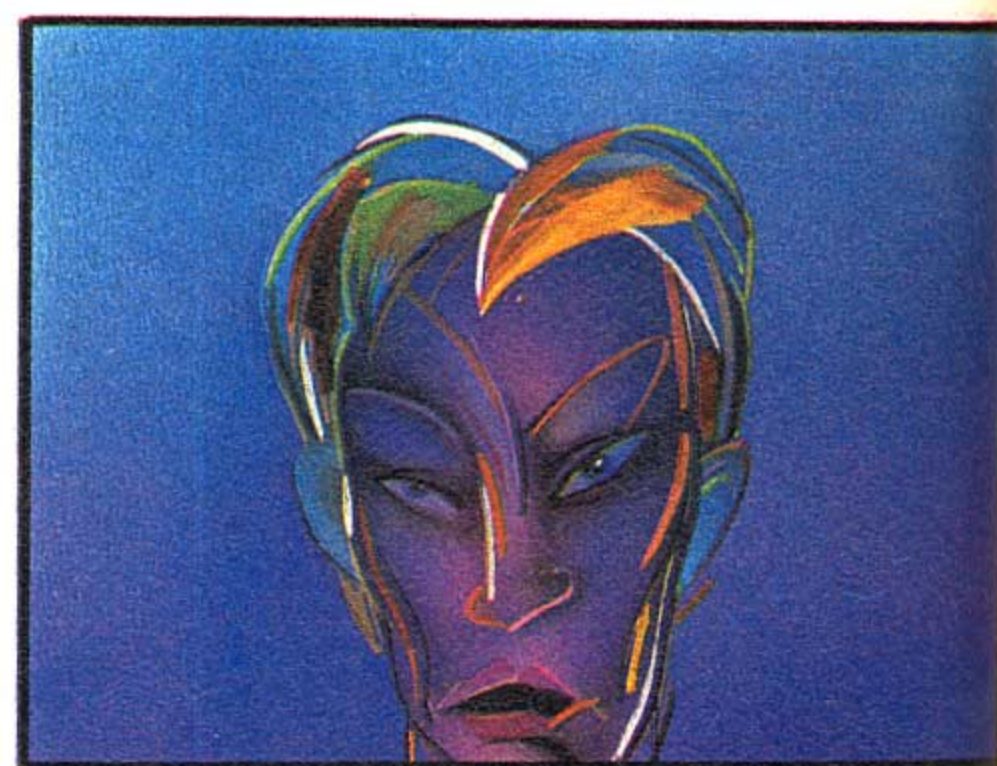
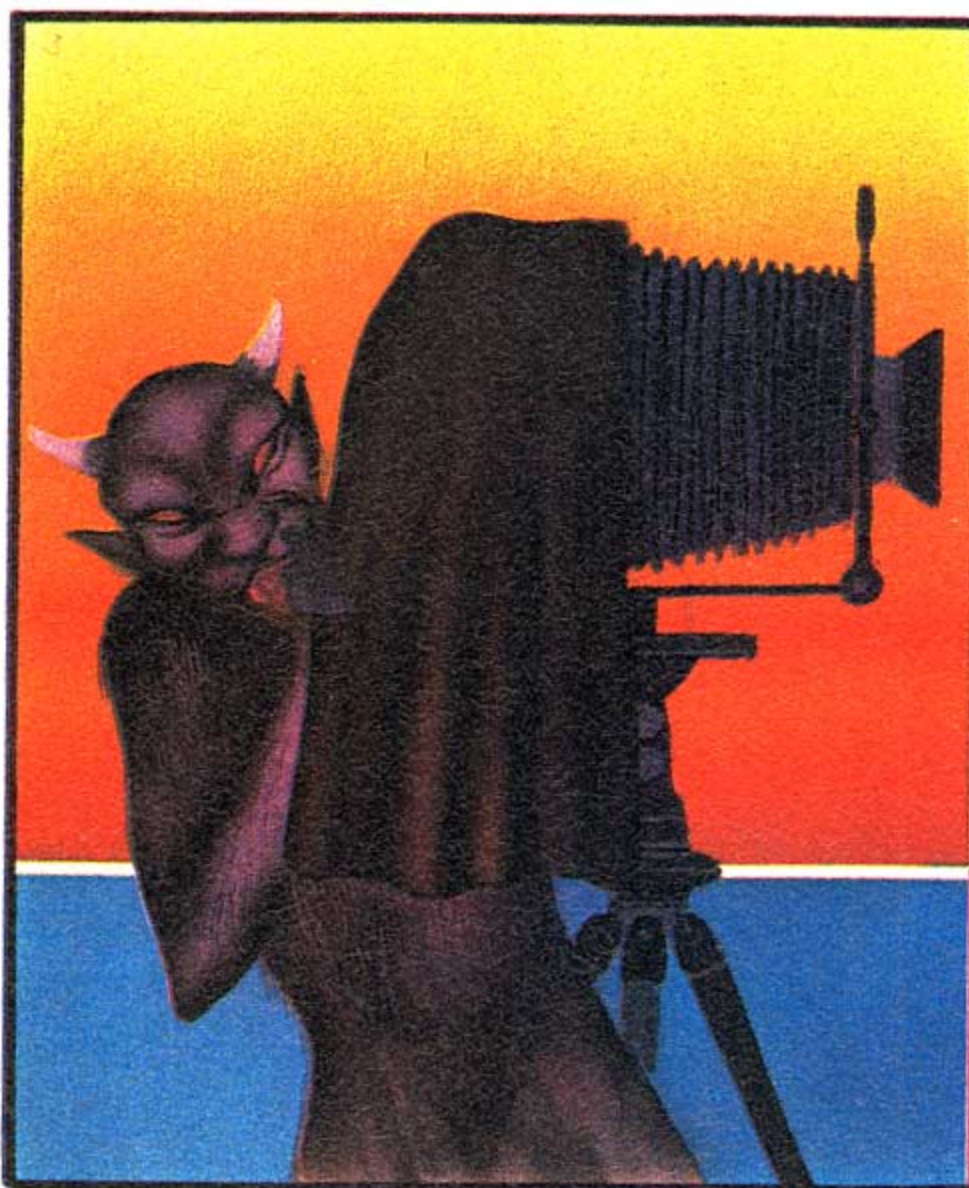
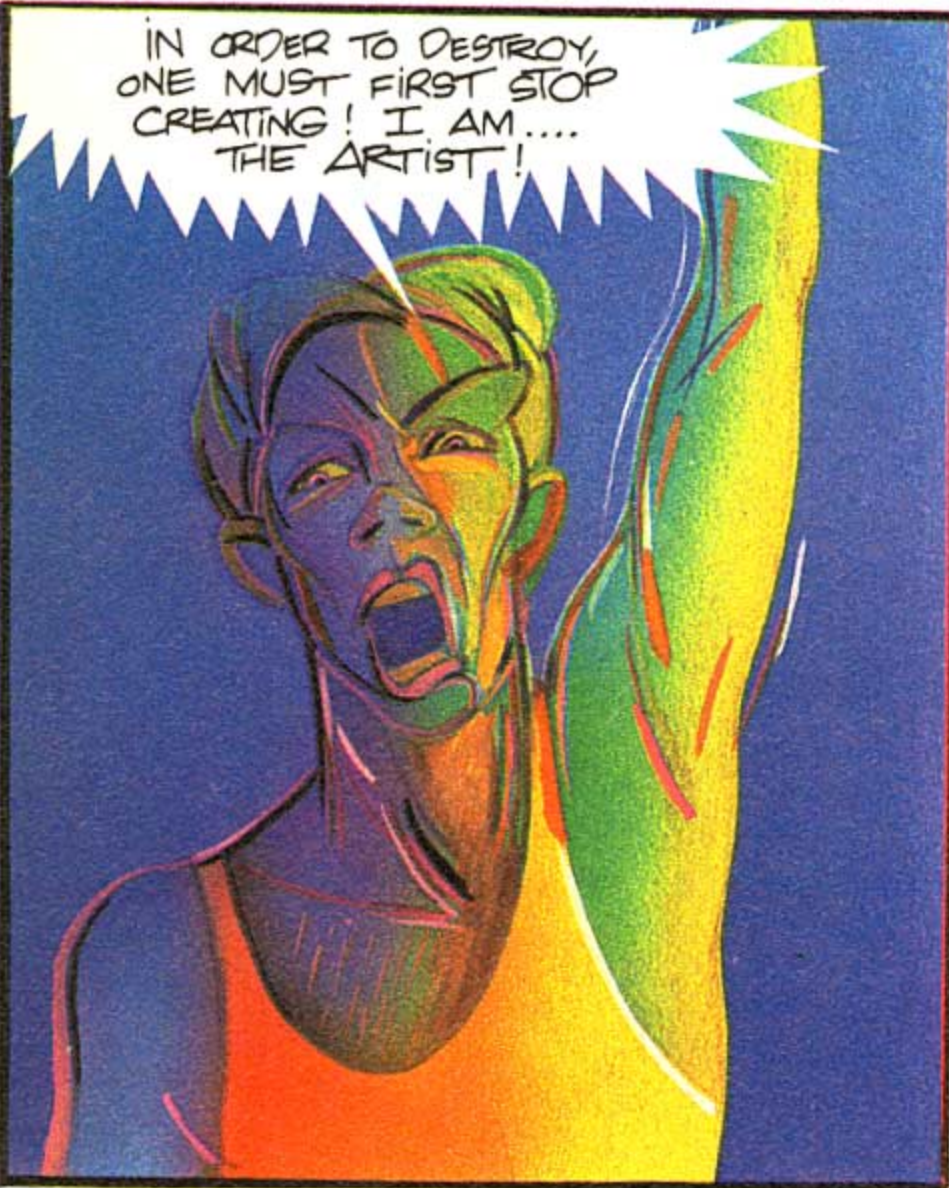
THOSE PEOPLE WERE LIKE ME, ALIVE. WHEN THEY GOT TO THE TOP OF THE PODIUM THEY STOPPED AND AFTER A DEAFENING FLASH THEY DISAPPEARED INTO THIN AIR, LEAVING ONLY THEIR SHADOWS BEHIND THEM.... ALL THIS WAS ABSURD! A PHOTOGRAPHER WHO STOLE IMAGES...



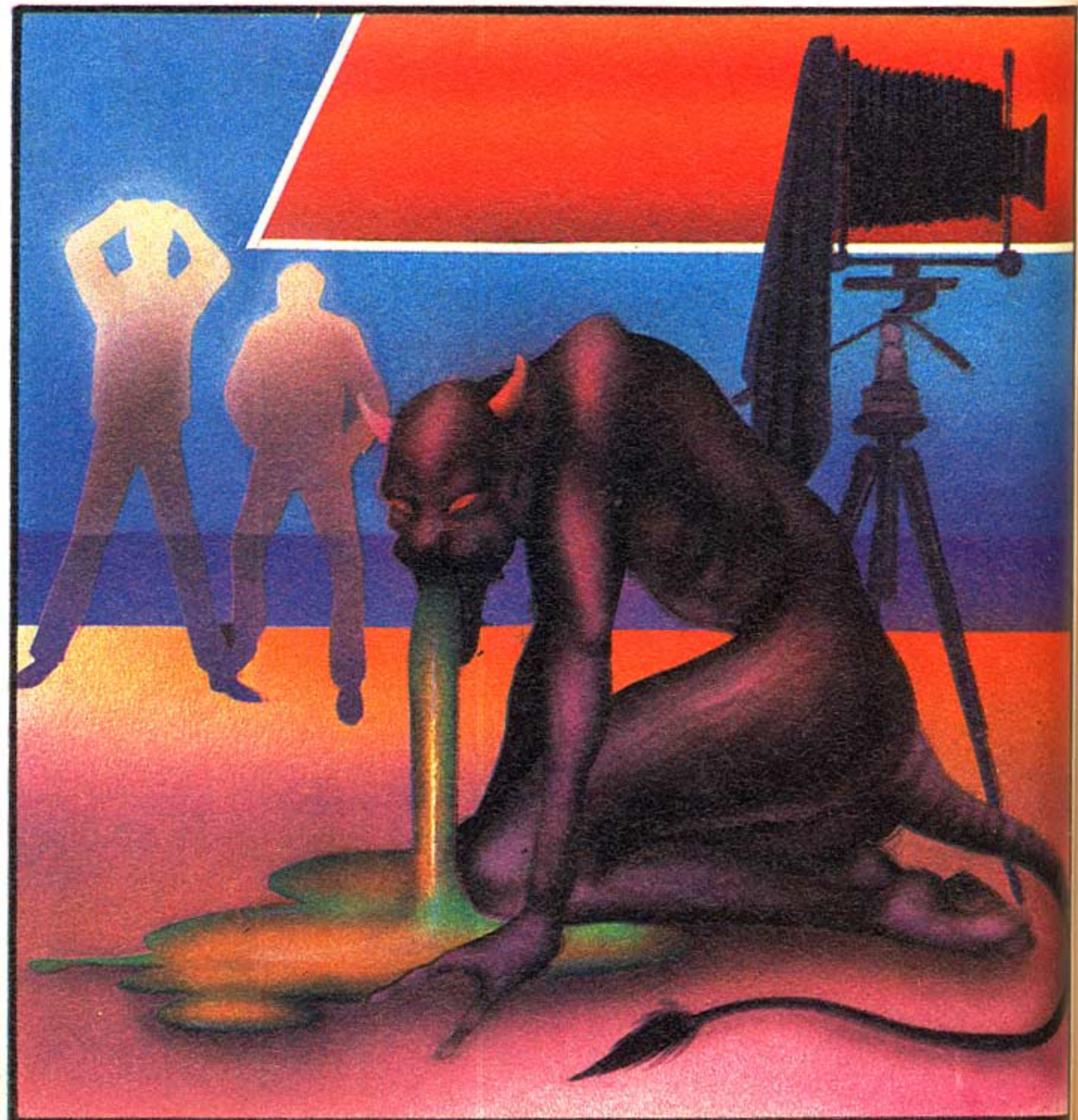
I WAS UNDERSTANDING LESS AND LESS OF WHAT WENT ON AROUND ME... THE SHADOWS SURROUNDED ME ONCE AGAIN. THEY SEEMED TO BE WAITING FOR SOMETHING. I COULD SEE THAT THEY WERE NERVOUS AND ANXIOUS. SUDDENLY I HAD AN EPIPHANY, AND I UNDERSTOOD EVERYTHING.



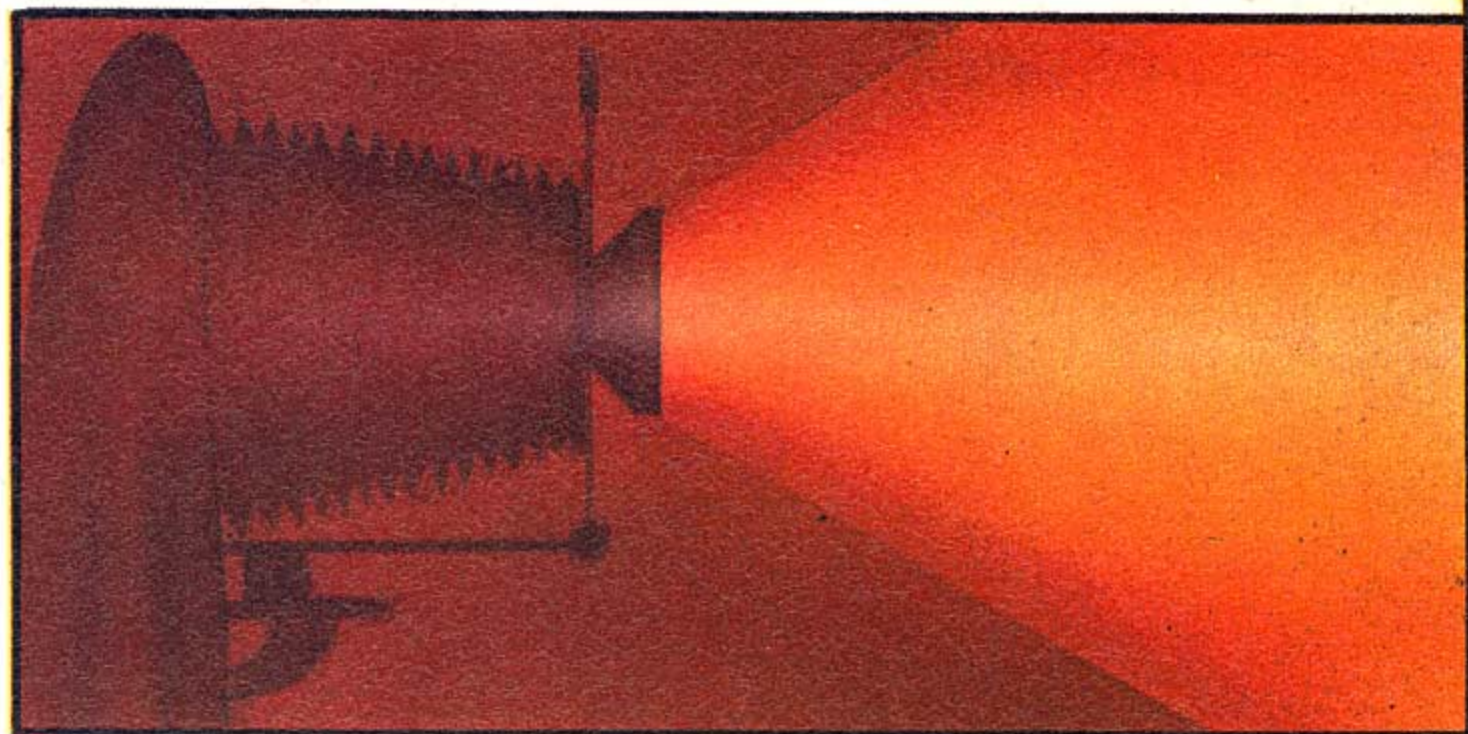
THE PHOTOGRAPHER WAS THE CAUSE OF MY WANDERING VOYAGE IN SEARCH OF MY AESTHETIC PERSONA THROUGH MY EARTH-PICTURE-CUBE.



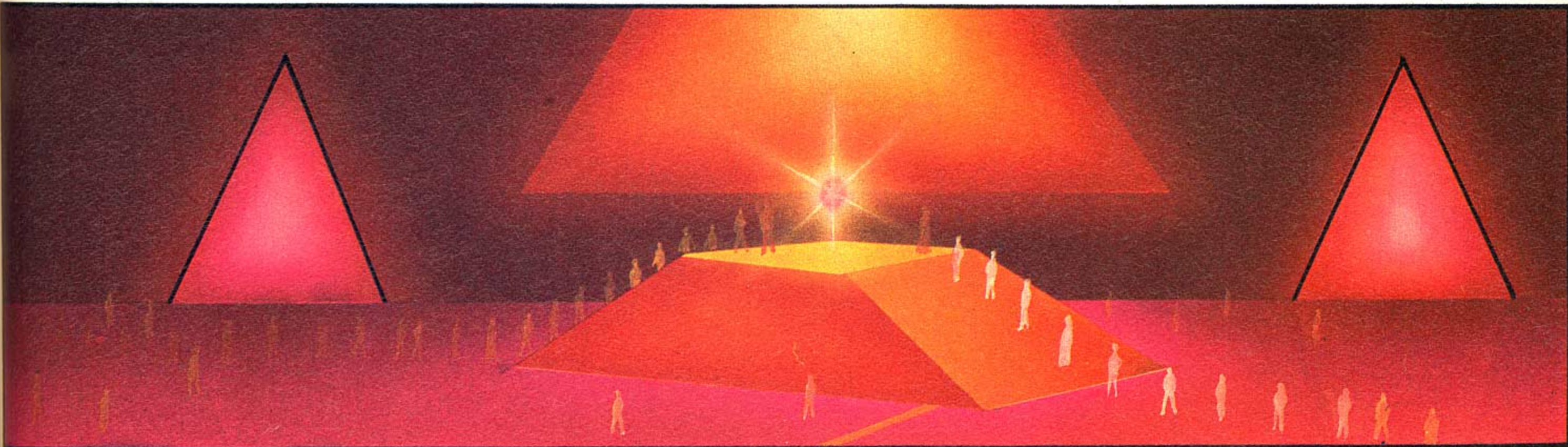
IT WAS THE DEVIL, ALL THAT IS NEGATIVE, DESTRUCTION, DEATH, THE DENIAL OF CREATIVITY, THE ENEMY OF THE GODS, OF THE CREATIVE ACT, OF THE ARTIST.... AFTER SEEING ME HE BEGAN TO THROW UP, EMITTING A GELATINOUS GREEN LIQUID...



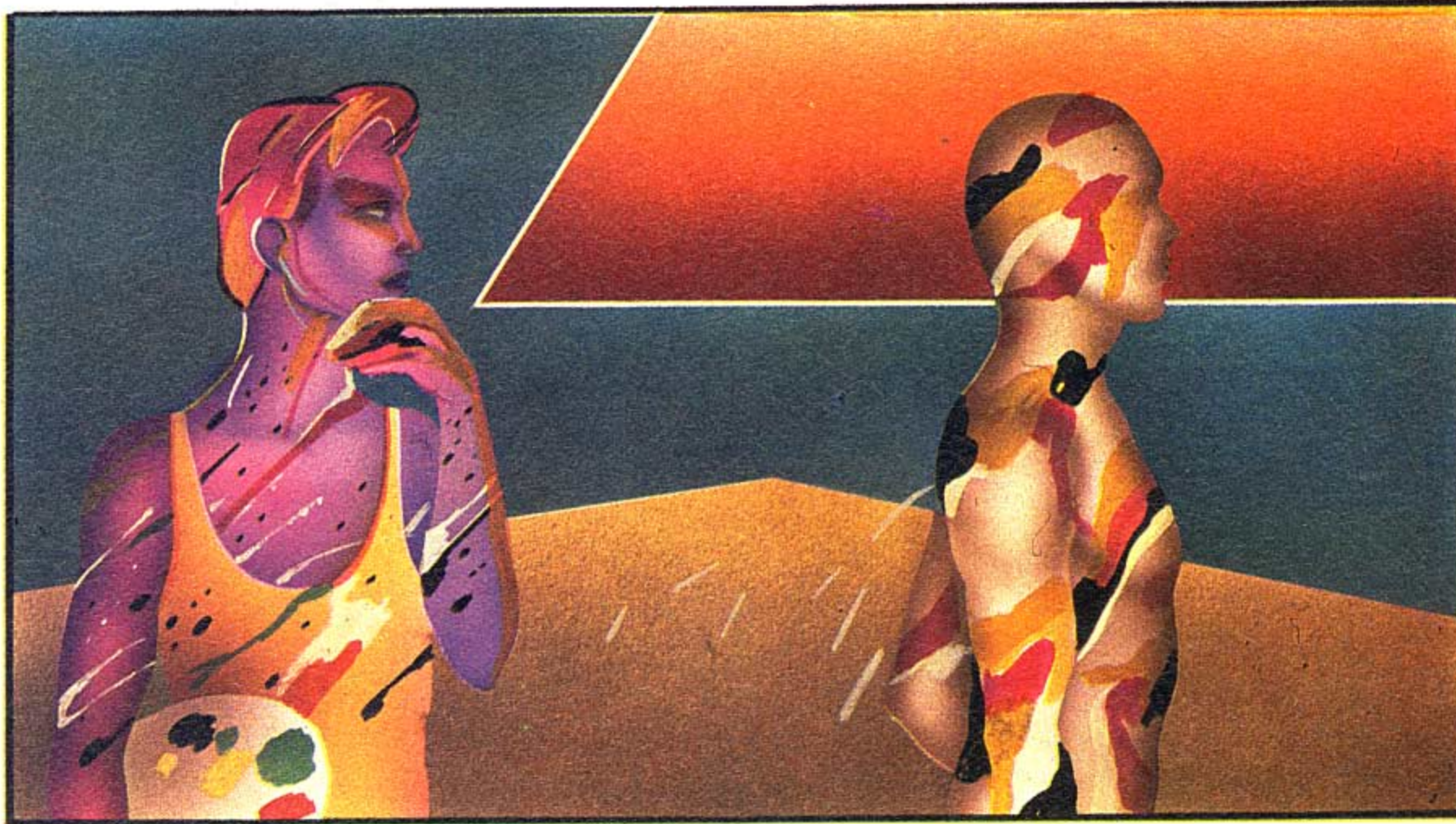
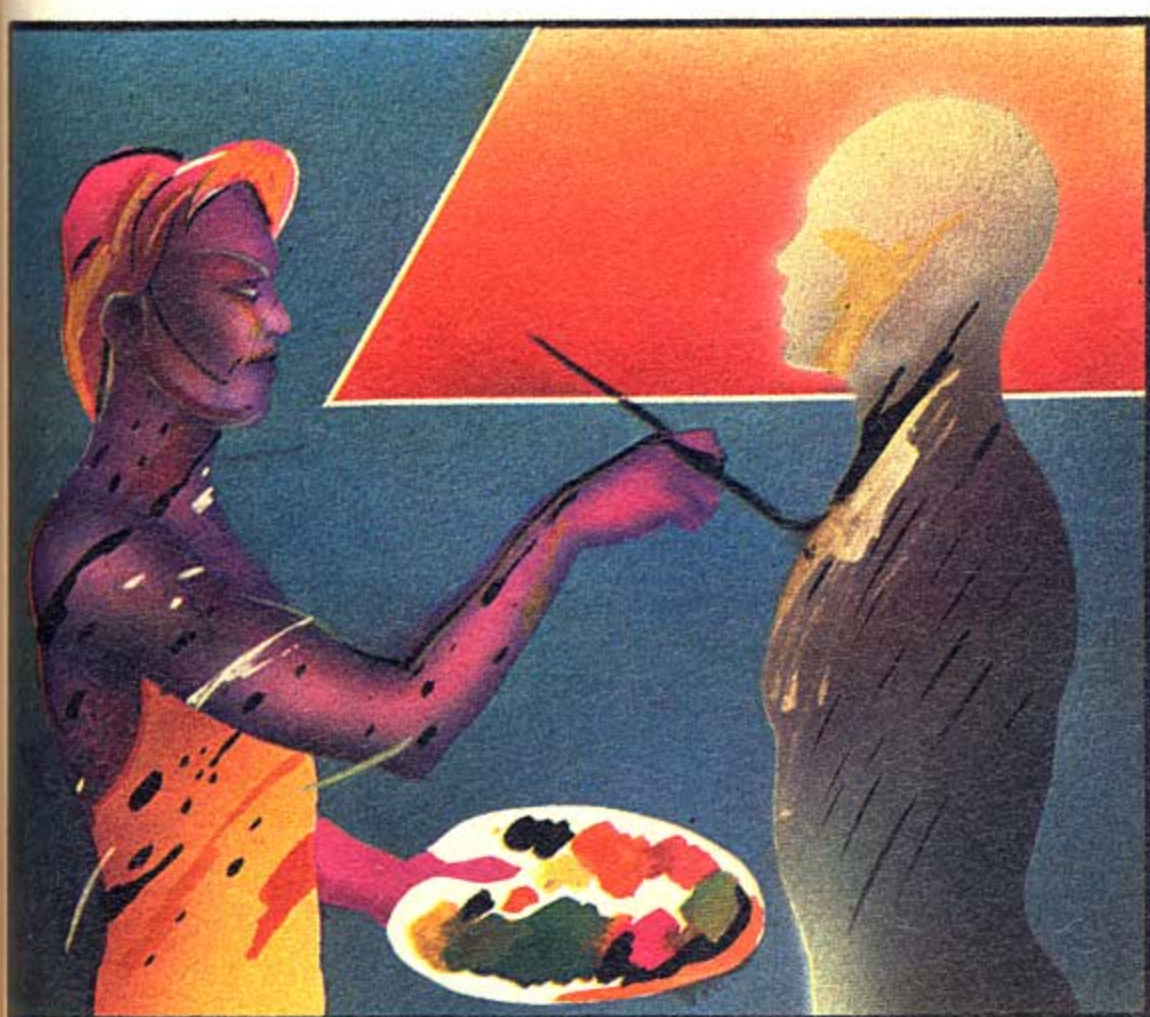
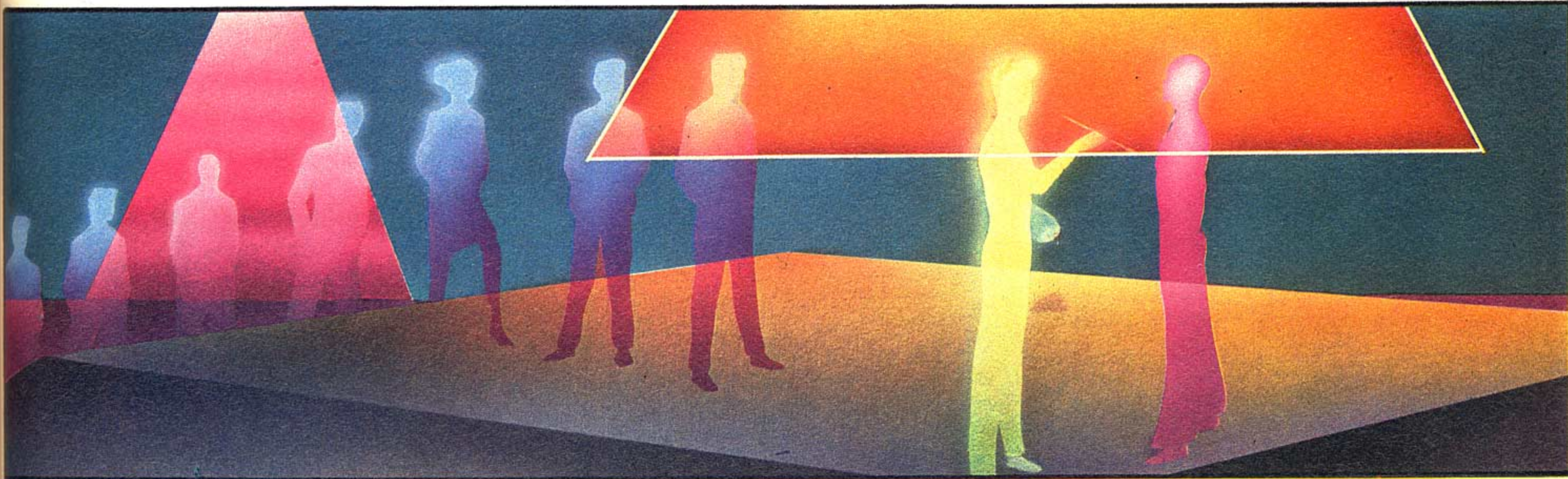
MY WORDS HAD DESTROYED HIM. THE ATMOSPHERE BECAME HEAVY....THEN HE FELL TO THE FLOOR, EXHAUSTED... HIS BODY BECAME INCANDESCENT AND SUDDENLY THE DIABOLIC CAMERA SHOT OUT AN INCANDESCENT FLASH...

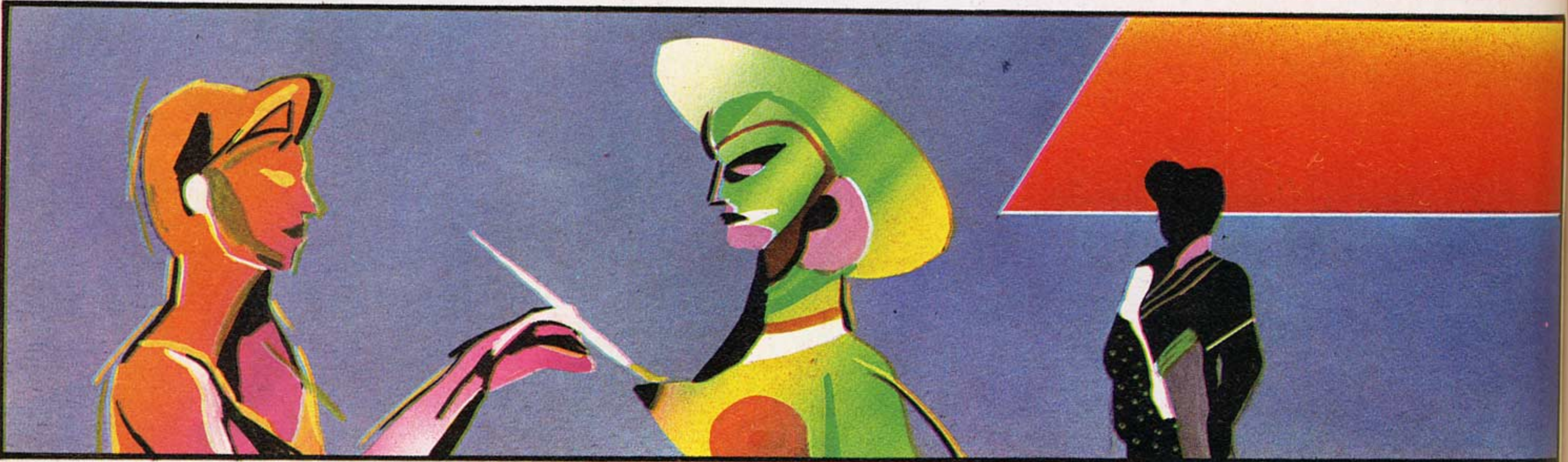


...AND THE ENTIRE TEMPLE TURNED A MADDENING SHADE OF RED. IT LOOKED LIKE HELL ITSELF. CRIES, SHRIEKS AND SUPPLICATIONS RESOUNDED ALL OVER... THE ABOMINABLE, INFERNAL IMAGE DISSOLVED, LEAVING BEHIND ITS GELATINOUS VOMIT... WHICH WAS USED LATER AS A SOLVENT FOR THE MAGIC MIX OF COLORS I WAS GOING TO MAKE.

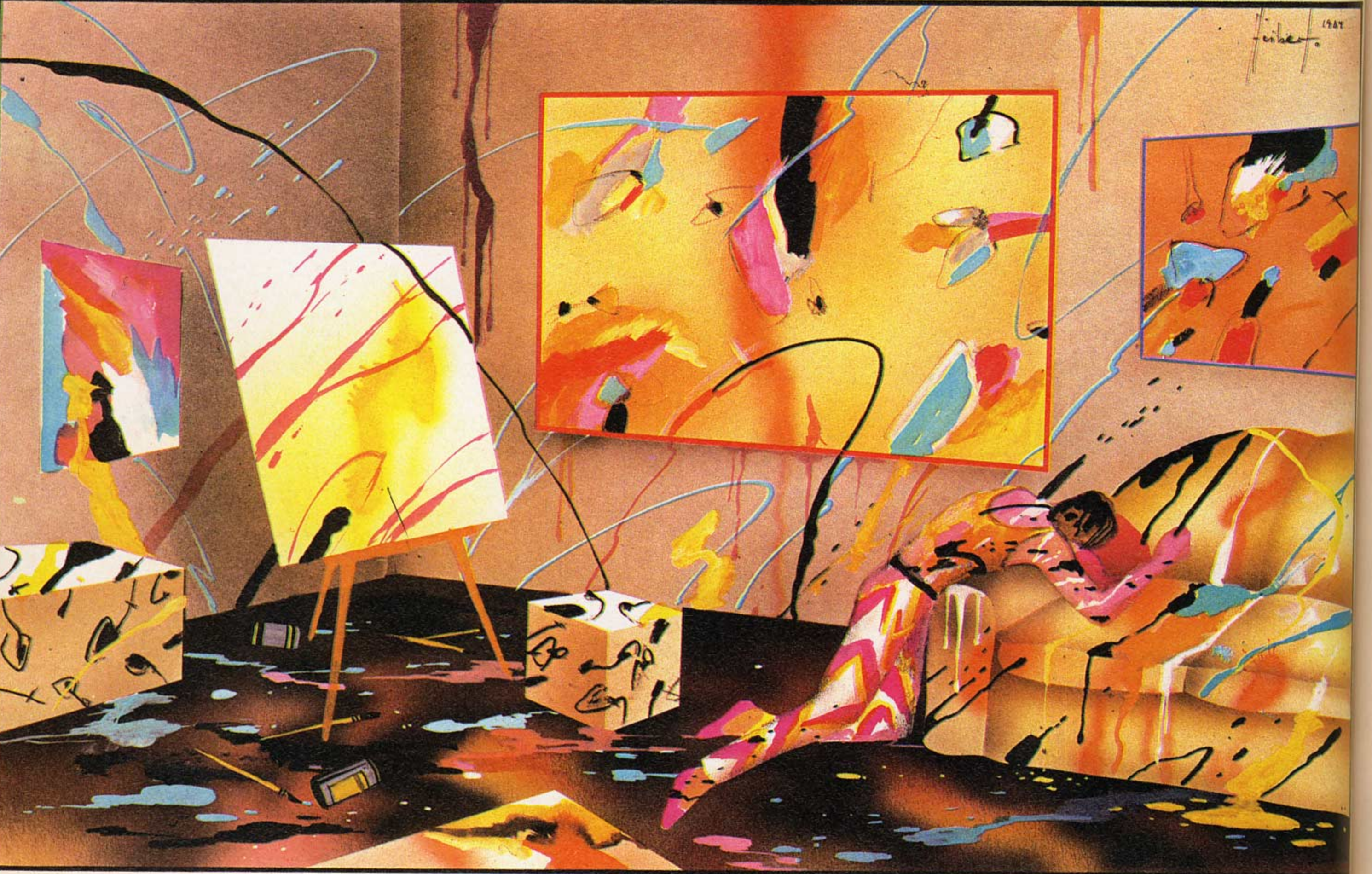


THE BODIES, ONCE AGAIN GRANTED FULL FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION TO A NEW APPRENTICE OF THE GODS, WHO CREATED... UNUSUAL BEINGS, FORMING AN INFINITE SERIES OF AESTHETIC COMBINATIONS, AS IS THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF AN INFINITE IMAGINATION





THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN.... I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED... I WAS IN MY HOUSE! HAD IT ALL BEEN A DREAM?





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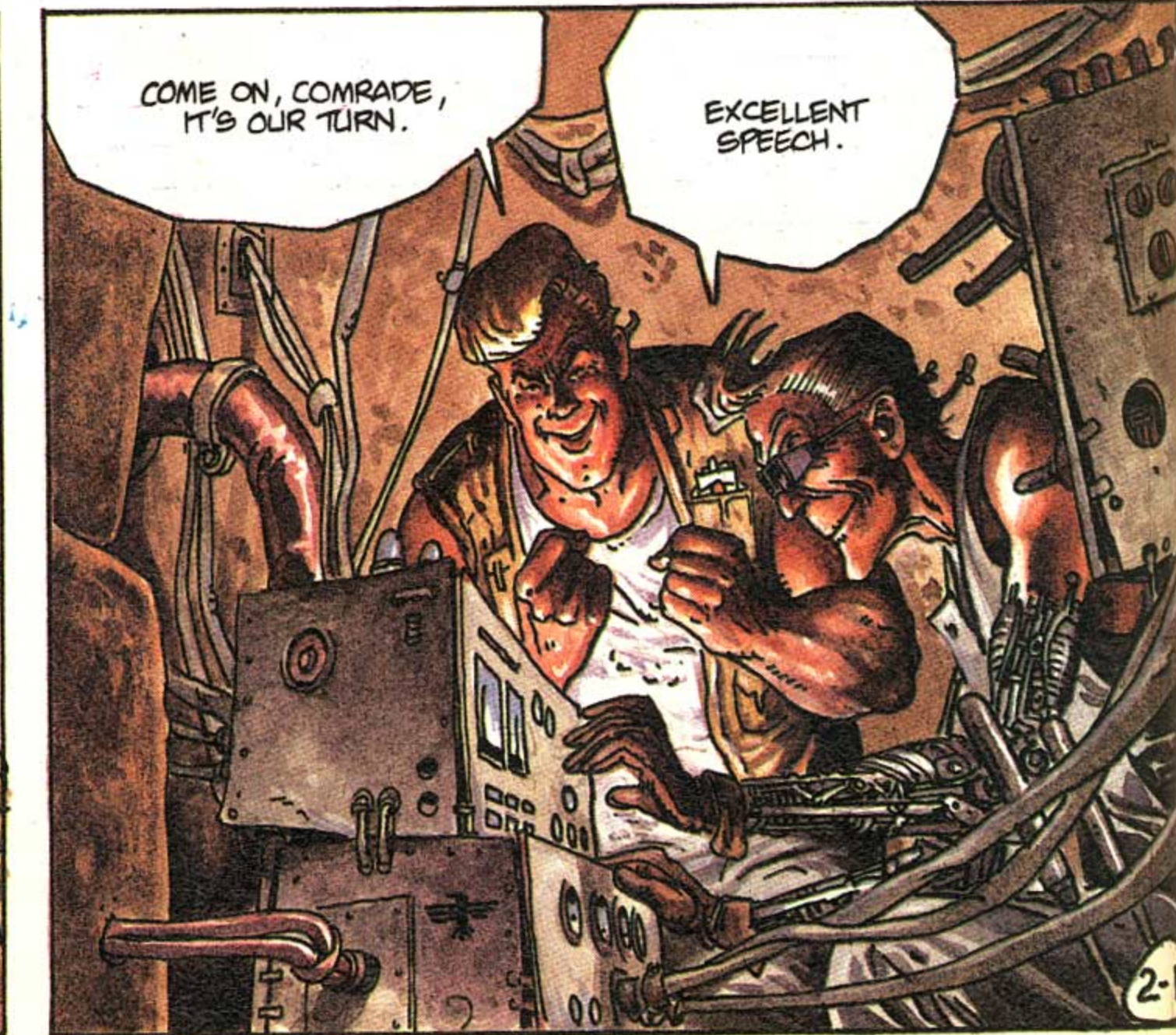
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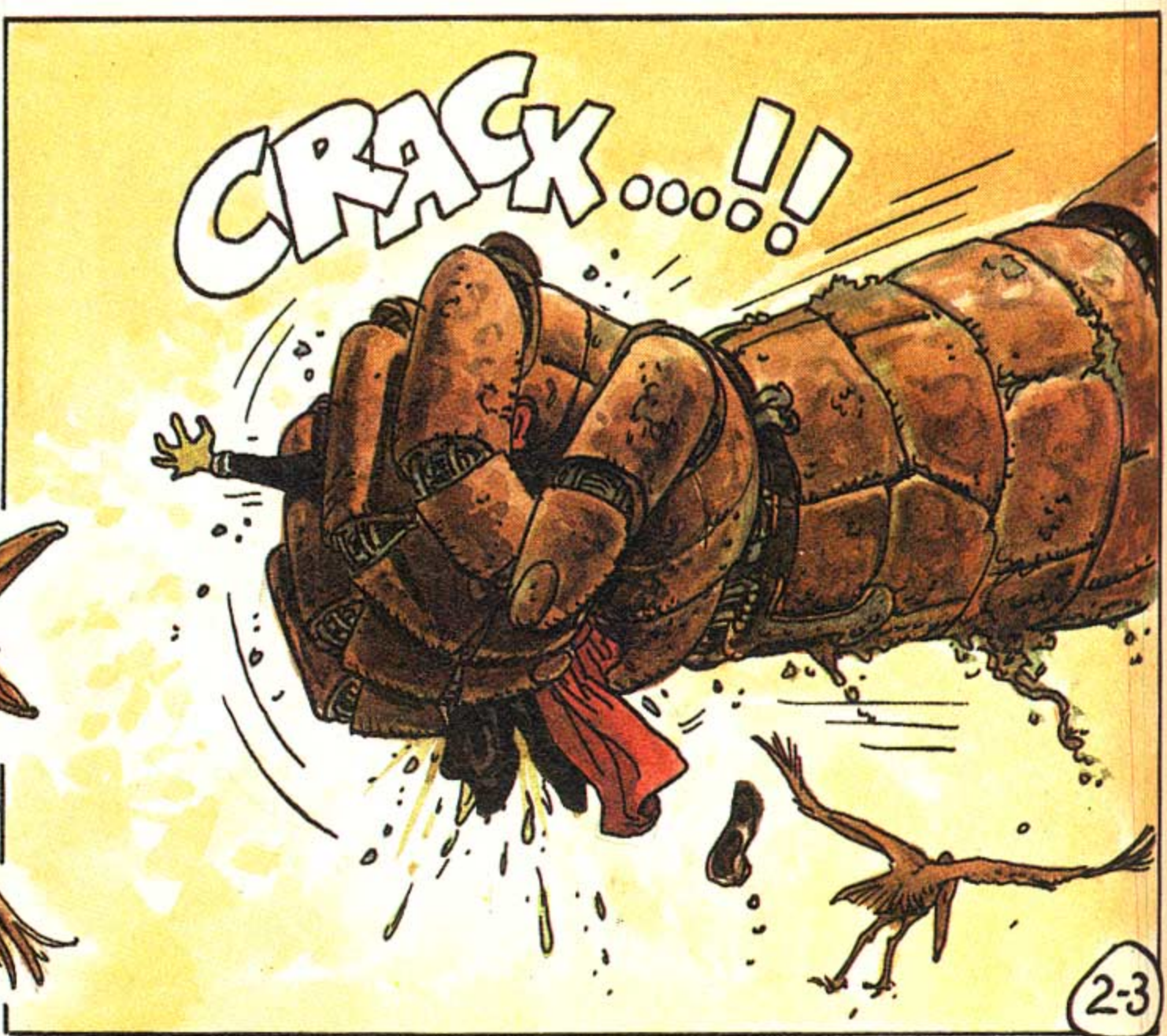
AWAKEN
FROM YOUR SLEEP,
IMMORTAL
OTOROK...

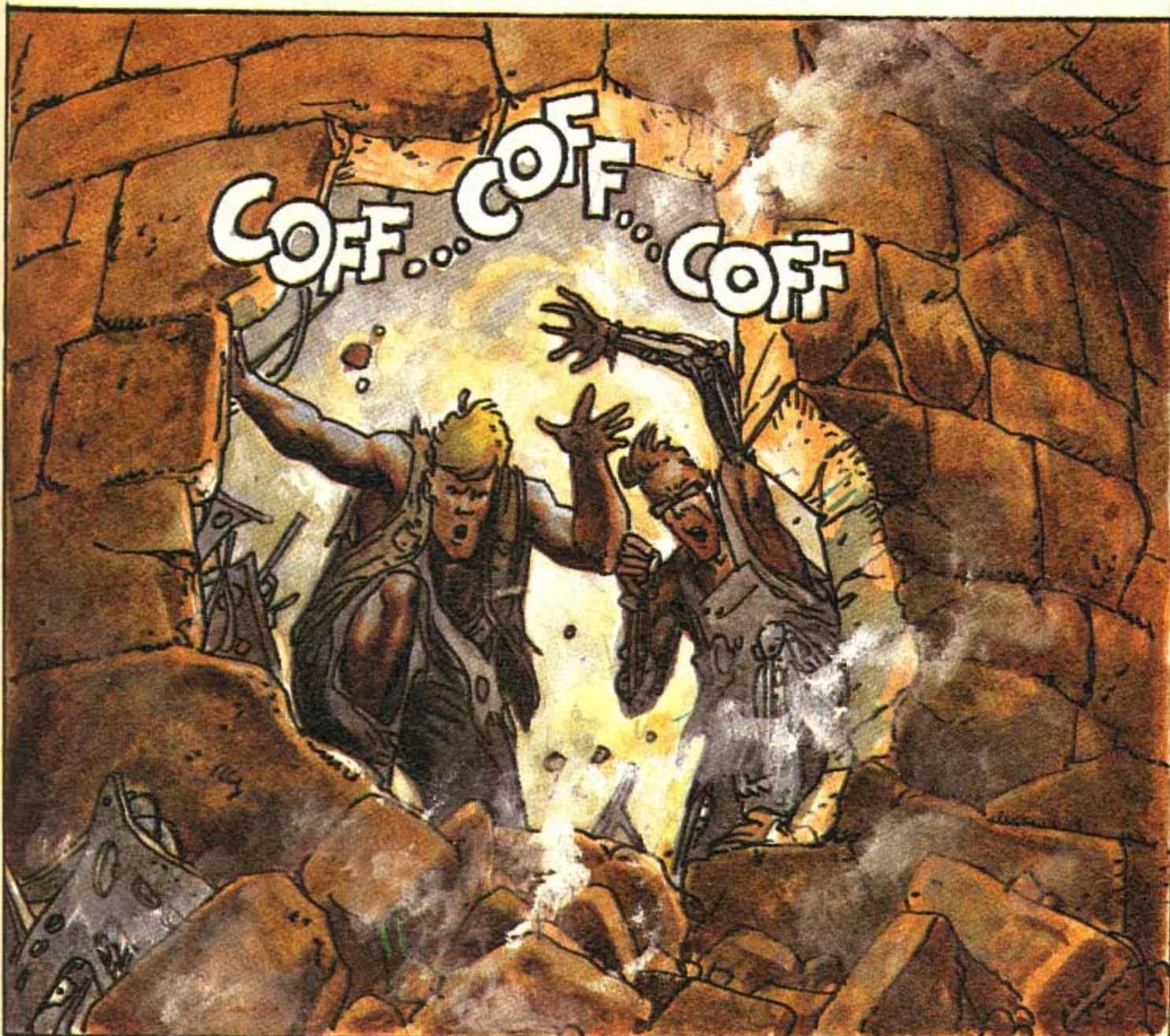
SHOW
YOUR WRATH
TO THOSE WHO
OFFEND
YOU...



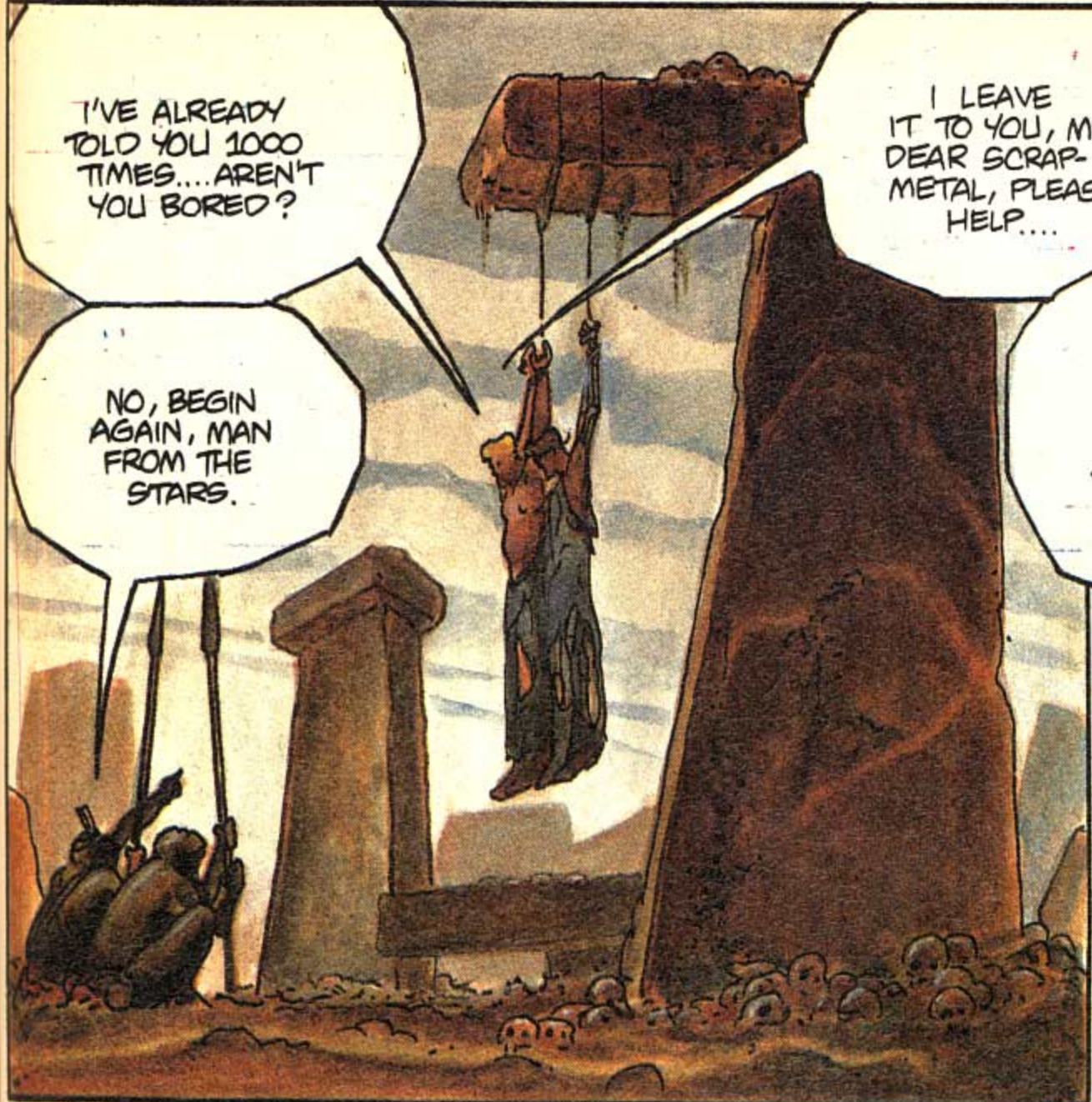
AWAKEN,
OTOROK....
AWAKEN...











I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU 1000 TIMES... AREN'T YOU BORED?

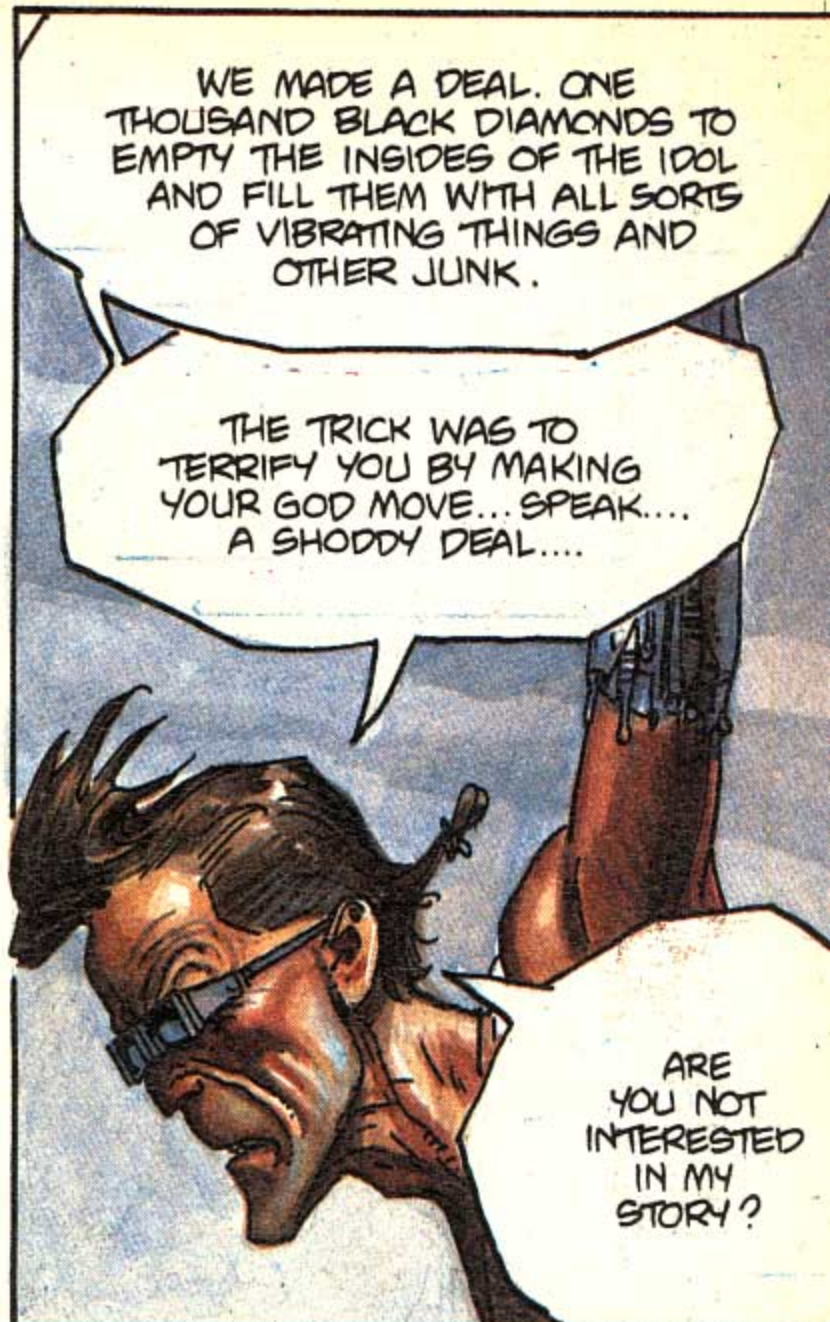
NO, BEGIN AGAIN, MAN FROM THE STARS.

I LEAVE IT TO YOU, MY DEAR SCRAP-METAL, PLEASE HELP...

A MIRACLE THAT WOULD ADDLE YOUR MINDS... AND THAT'S WHERE WE CAME IN.



THE HIGHEST PRIEST WANTED US TO DO A JOB FOR HIM... HIS GOD WAS NOT FEARED ENOUGH... AND HE NEEDED A MIRACLE, SOON.



WE MADE A DEAL. ONE THOUSAND BLACK DIAMONDS TO EMPTY THE INSIDES OF THE IDOL AND FILL THEM WITH ALL SORTS OF VIBRATING THINGS AND OTHER JUNK.

THE TRICK WAS TO TERRIFY YOU BY MAKING YOUR GOD MOVE... SPEAK... A SHODDY DEAL...

ARE YOU NOT INTERESTED IN MY STORY?



SHUT UP! IF YOU CARE FOR YOUR LIFE, MAN OF METAL.



GOOD-BYE, CYB...

GOOD-BYE, BURTON.



WE LIKE THIS IDEA.

YOU WILL BUILD A WARRIOR GOD FOR US, ONE WHO MOVES AND SPEAKS... I WILL BE ITS HIGHEST PRIEST... I WILL RECEIVE A TRIBUTE FROM ALL THE OTHER TRIBES...



THIS TIME WE WILL NOT FAIL... YOUR GOD WILL BE PERFECT...

OH YES! ...WE ARE BEGINNING TO BE WELL VERSED IN GOD-SWINDLING DEALS...

DON'T BE SO GLUM, CYB... AFTER ALL, WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT THEM?

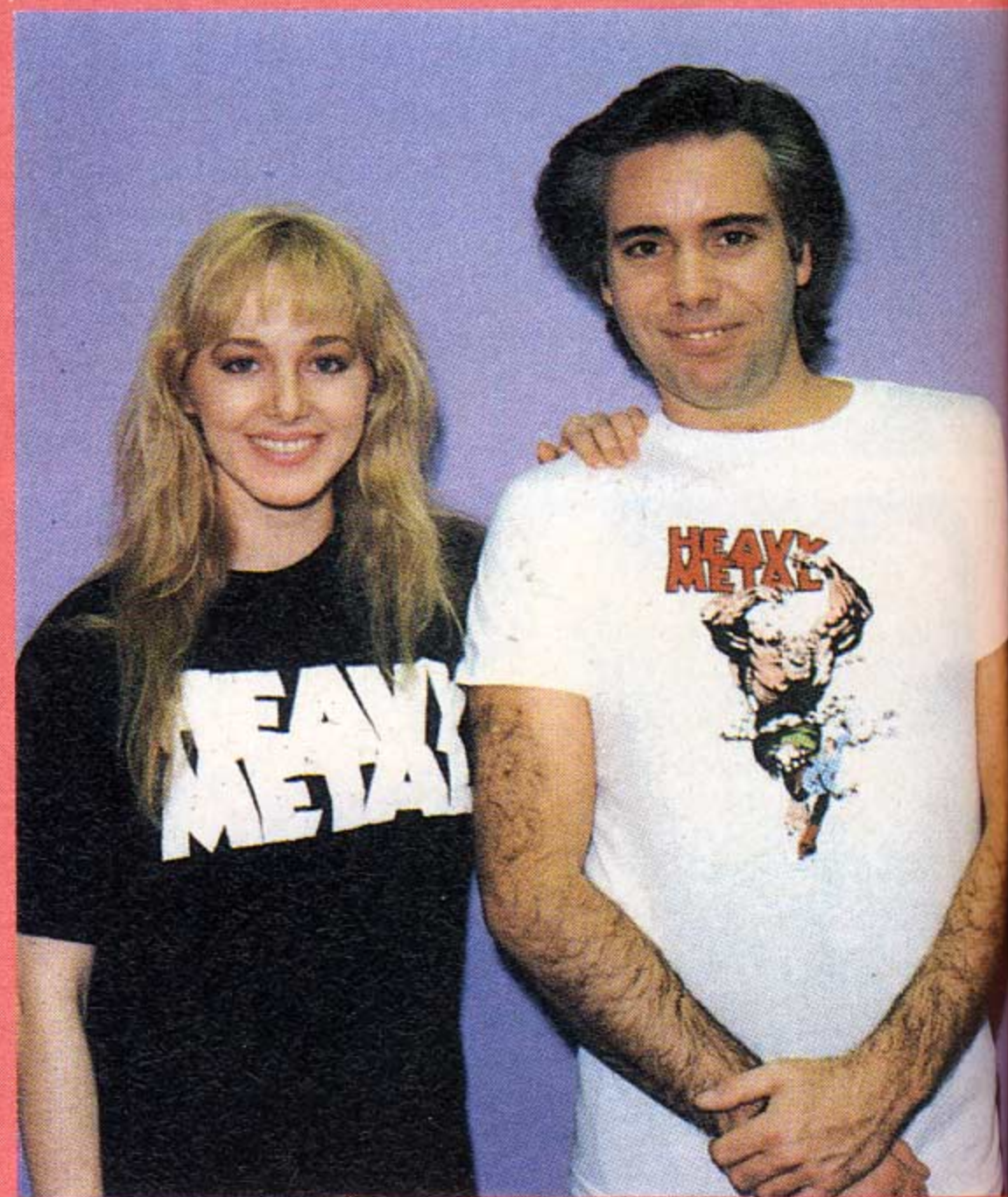
JOSÉ ORTIZ y SEGURA
THE END
2-

Out of this Wo



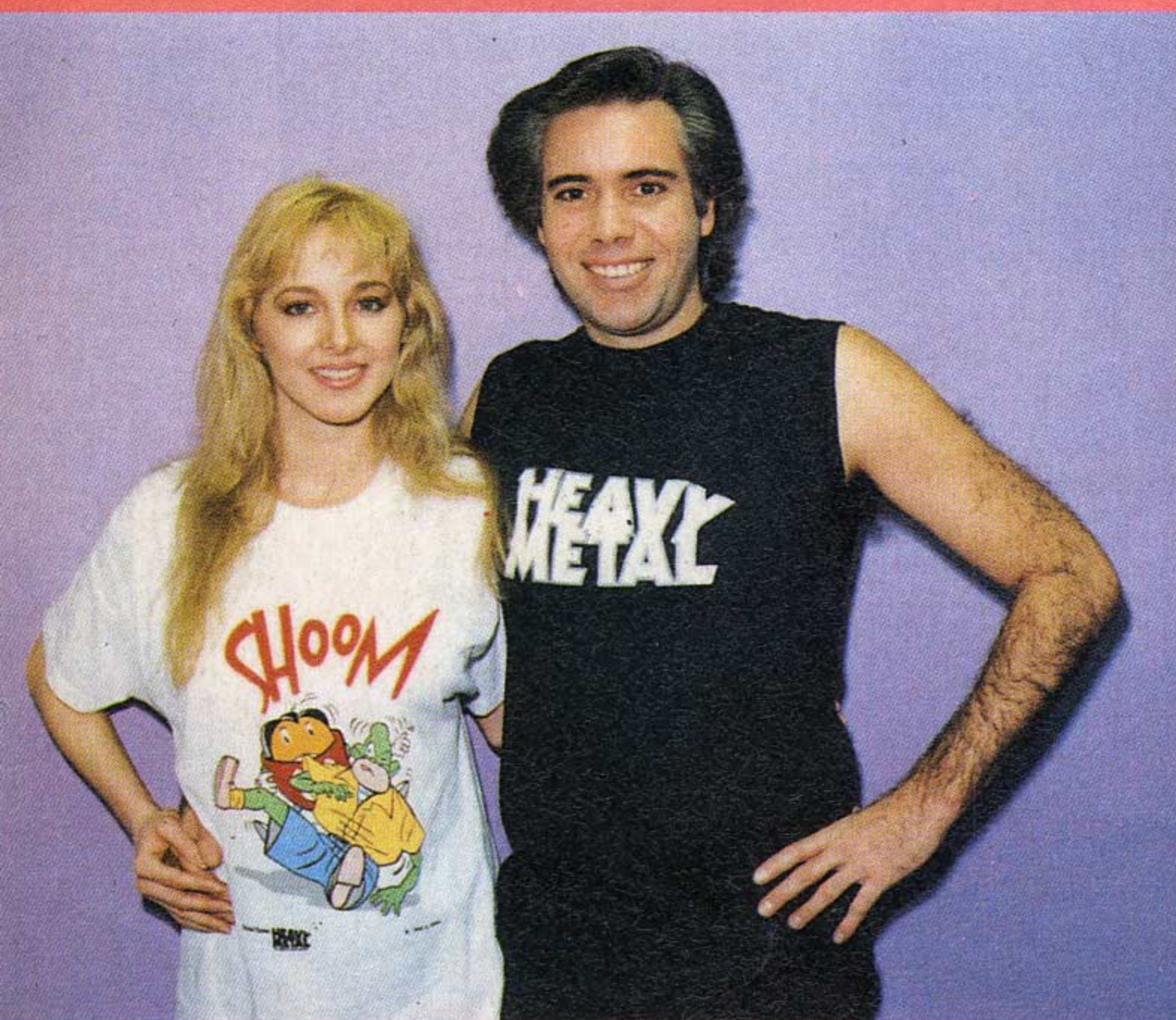
A

B



C

D



G

H



I

J

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 _____/Ranxerox pin.



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I Heavy Metal's pride and joy, our silver, satin-like **jacket**, equipped with a cotton lining, and front pockets, too. Hipper than a Stones '72 tour jacket. **\$36.00**.
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J Our latest and greatest product—the **Heavy Metal all-cotton sweatshirt**. Wear it to the gym or to your fave dance spot and watch those calories melt away while maintaining your ultra-chic image. **\$15.95**
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 _____ black _____ white _____ grey

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Total amount enclosed \$ _____

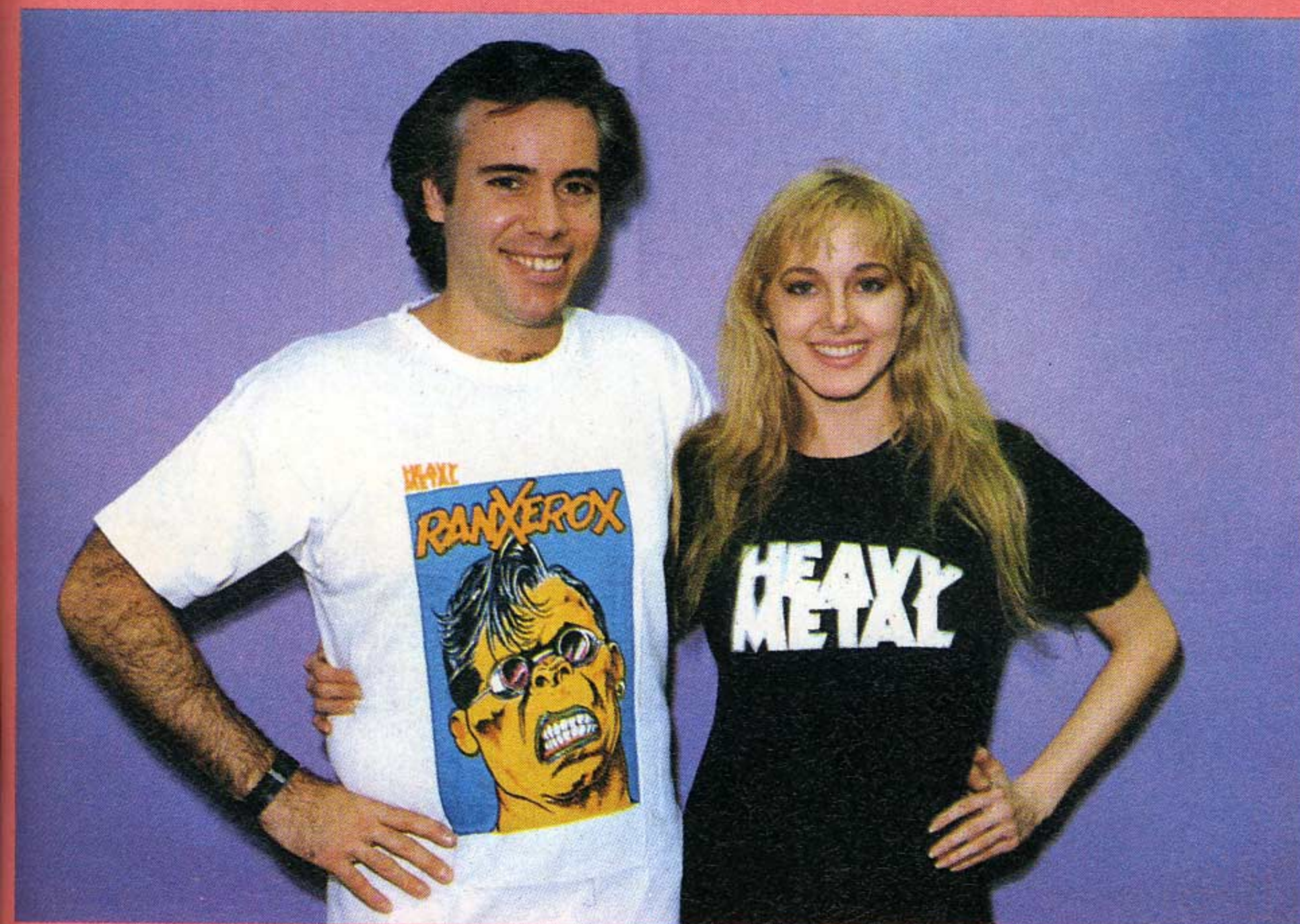
All prices above include postage and handling.

If you don't wish to cut the page out, but do wish to order, please print or type all applicable info on a separate piece of paper, and enclose it with a check or money order. After all, you wouldn't take scissors to the Mona Lisa, would you?

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E

A Beautiful splash panel from the exciting Torres's series **Saxxon**. **Rocco Vargas** dances all over your heart in this seven-color T-shirt. **\$12.95**
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B From Torres's **Saxxon**, **THE FAN** is lost in a crowd and found on this ten-color tee. **\$12.95**
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C The **original Heavy Metal T-shirt** comes in red and black and is made of cotton-blend. The essential HM product. **\$9.00**
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D Berni Wrightson's **Hanover Fiste** and his ne'er-do-well accomplice **Captain Sternn**. You've seen them in the magazine, you've seen them in the *Heavy Metal* movie, now see them coming and going. This durable four-color cotton **T-shirt** is a must for summer. **\$9.95**
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E **Ranxerox T-shirt**. Made of 100% cotton with a reinforced neck. Deep armholes, extra body

F

length and fullness. White with design in full color. **\$12.95**
 _____ small _____ medium _____ large
 _____ ex-large

F Heavy Metal's **phosphorescent T-shirt**.
H These all-cotton tees are available in sleeveless or regular style black shirts. Wear it to



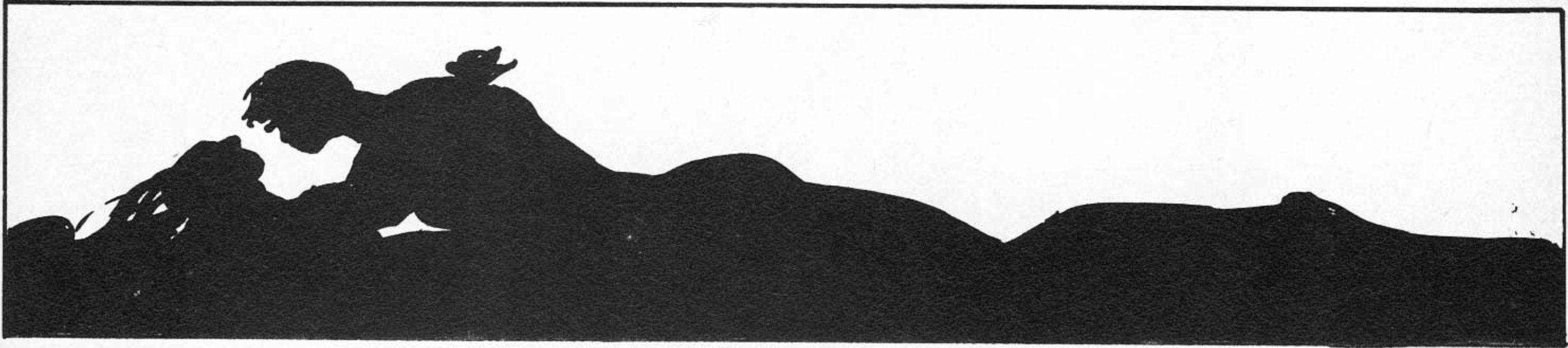
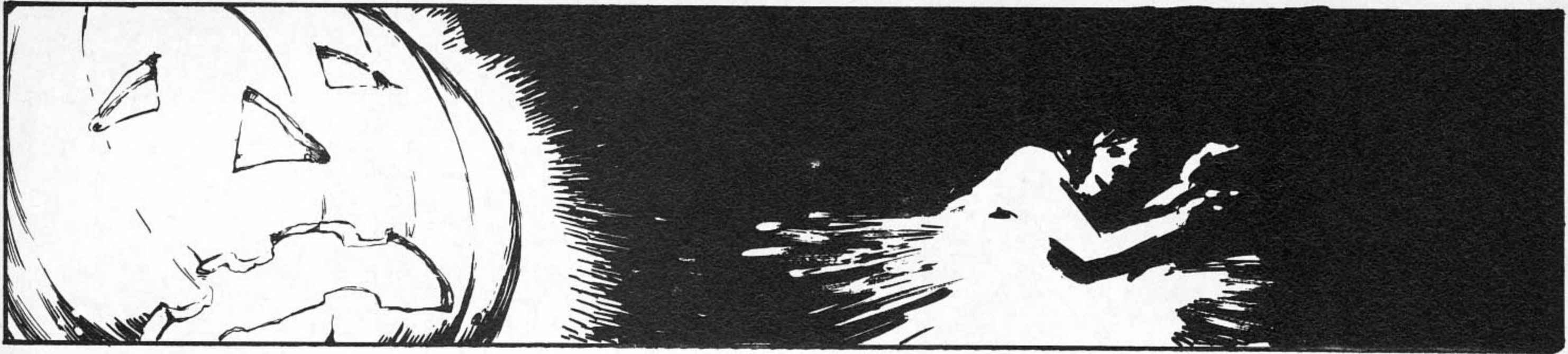
bed and you won't need a nite-lite to find your way to the bathroom. **\$9.00**
 _____ small _____ medium
 _____ large _____ sleeveless
 _____ regular

G SHOOOM! Rocco Vargas's manservant, **Samson**, and his little robot pal come alive on this new eight-color T-shirt. More coffee, Samson... more coffee! **\$12.95**
 _____ small _____ medium _____ large
 _____ ex-large

MASK

BY
REBECCA & JAMES FLETCHER





THAT OBSESSION SEIZED HIM AND EVERYTHING ELSE FELL AWAY.



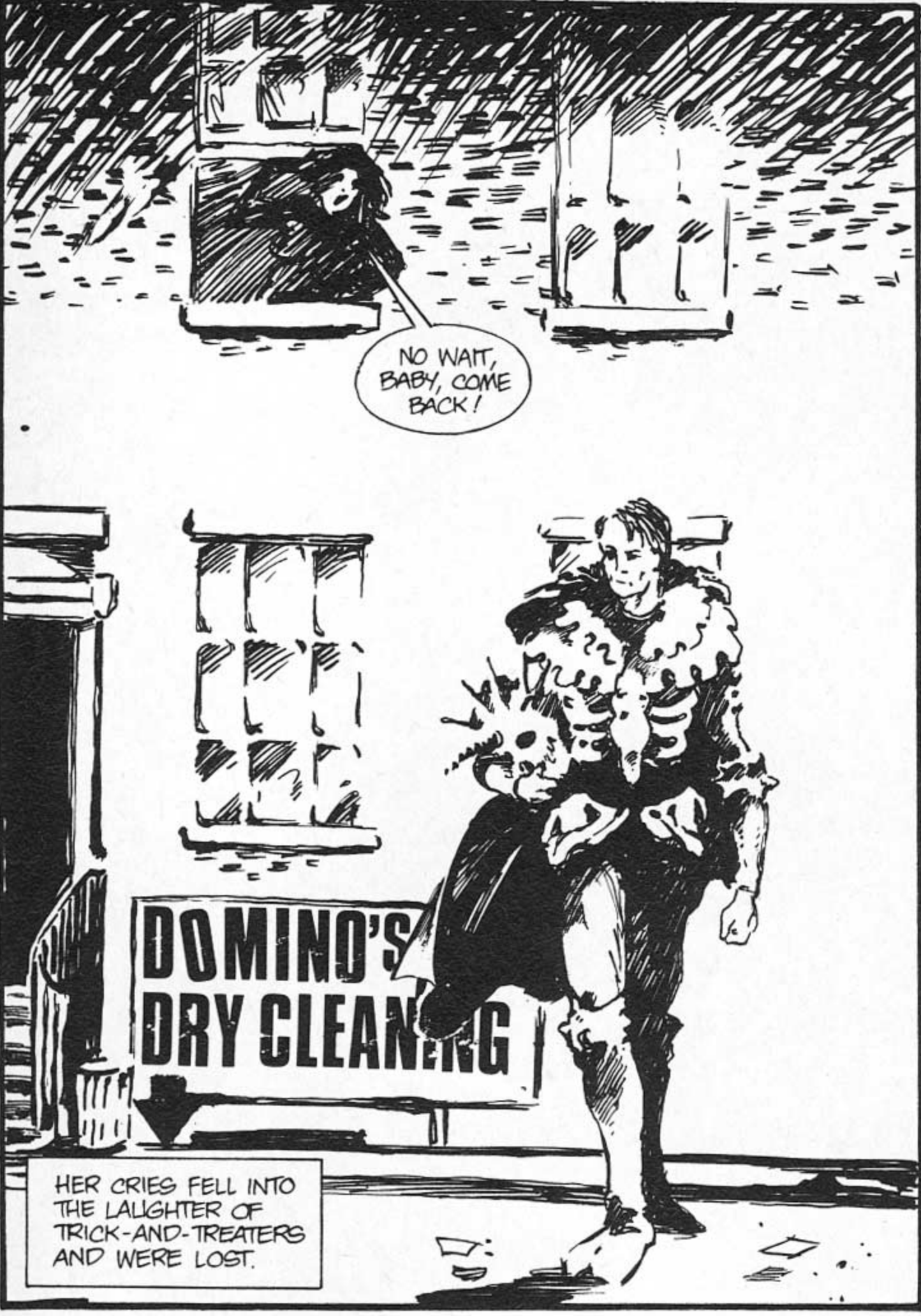
DOMINO, WHAT'S WRONG? COME BACK TO BED!



DIVERSIONS WERE FLITILE, THERE WAS NO ESCAPING THAT GRUESOME FACE. HE FORMED IT WITH HIS SOUL.



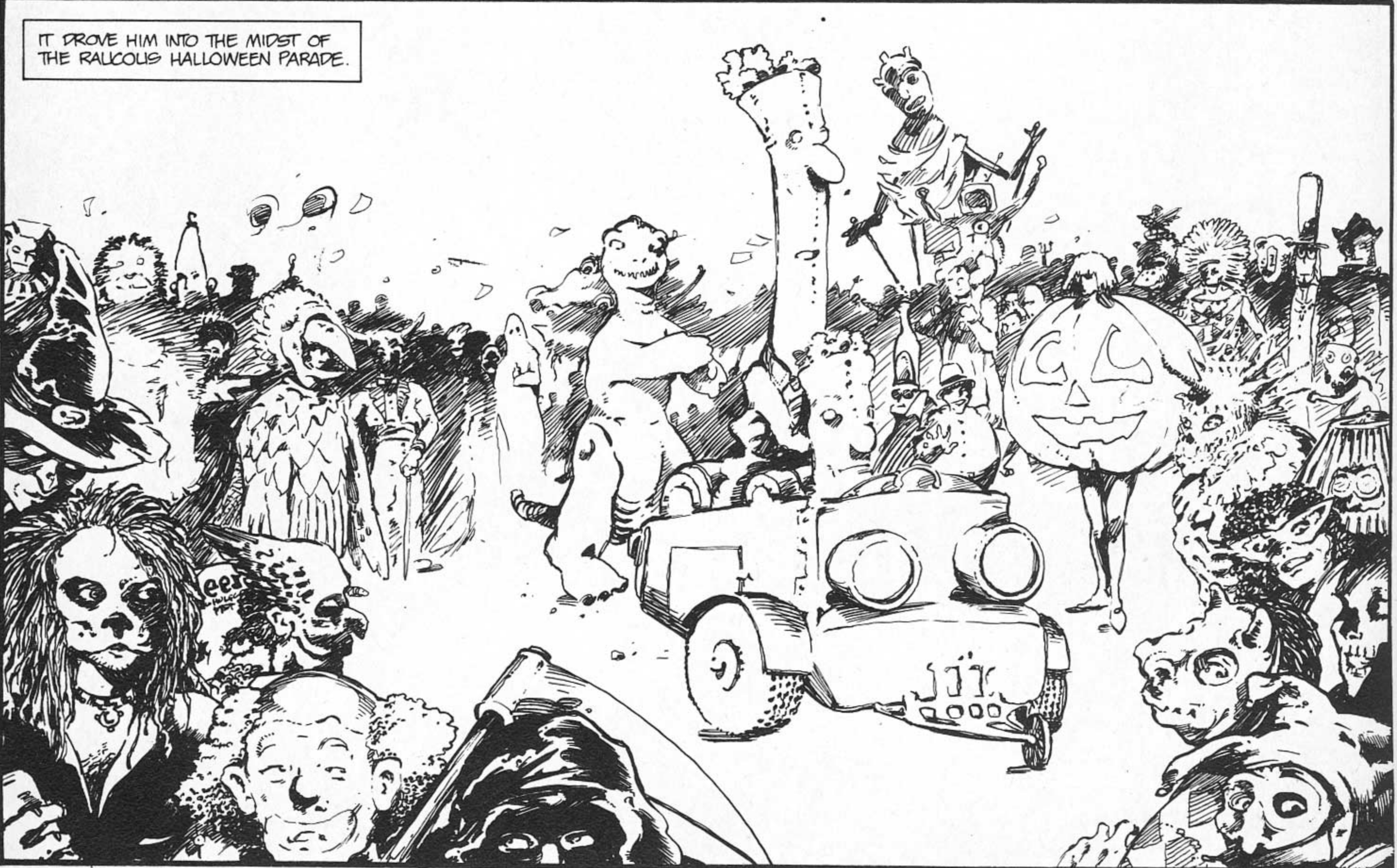
OH NO, NOT THAT COSTUME AGAIN! WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THAT UGLY THING ANYWAY?!



HER CRIES FELL INTO THE LAUGHTER OF TRICK-AND-TREATERS AND WERE LOST.



DOMINO HEARD ONLY THE POUNDING OF THE OBSESSION, FELT ONLY ITS SCALY CLAWS DRAWING ACROSS HIS HEART.



IT DROVE HIM INTO THE MIDST OF THE RALCOUS HALLOWEEN PARADE.



THE CROWD
ENGULFED HIM...



...SLICKED
HIM IN...



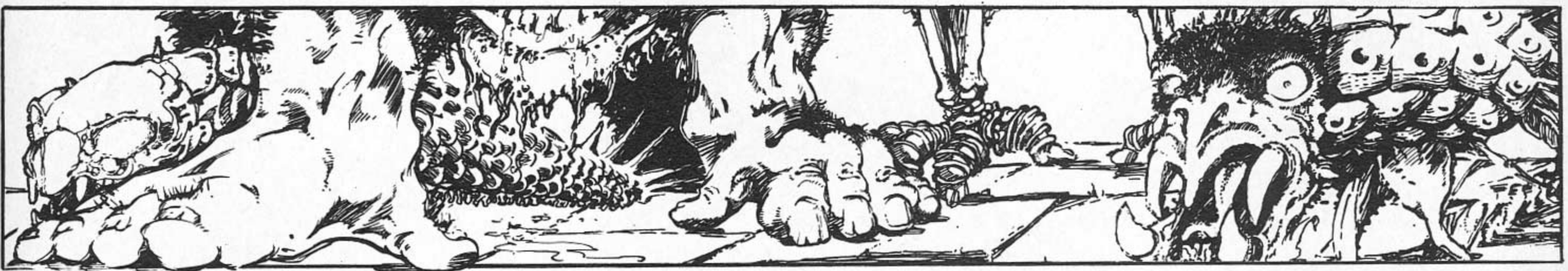
...DOWN...



...FARTHER...



AHHH!!!



WHEN HE ROSE IT WAS ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE
PLACE IN WHICH THE WORLD WALKS ONLY AT NIGHT.
CREATURES SEETHED AROUND HIM. THEY DROOLED
AND ROARED AND RENT THEIR SLIMY FLESH.
DOMINO'S BLOOD CHURNED IN TIME.



YOU.

HER VOICE
SLIPPED
THROUGH
THE HORDE.
HE TURNED.





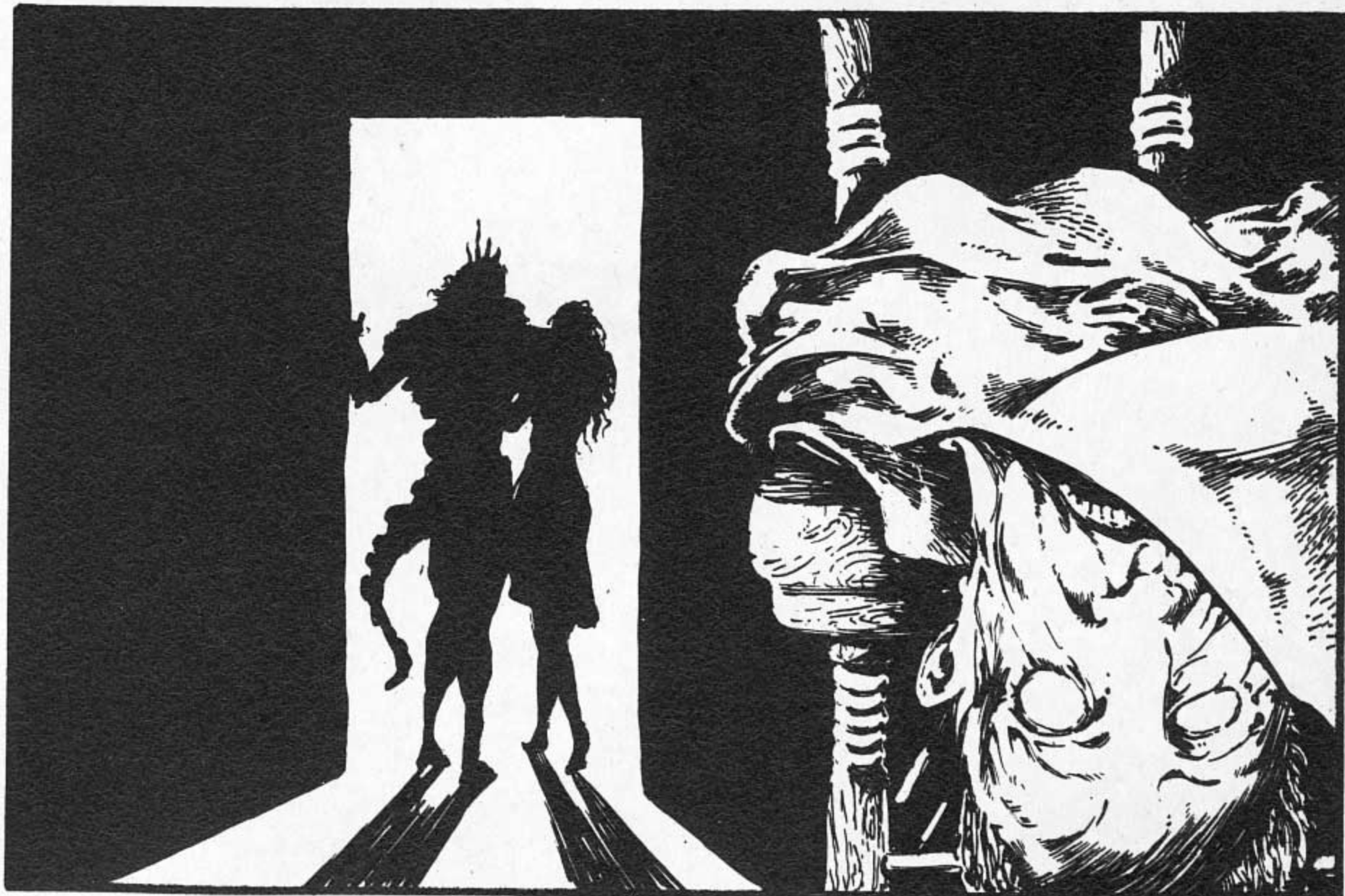
IN HIS TRUE MONSTER FORM, DOMINO TORE OFF THE SHE-DEMON'S HEAD.



IT WAS HIS NIGHT, AND FOR THOSE SLIM HOURS DOMINO REVELED IN IT.



BUT THE TIME PASSES QUICKLY. NEAR DAWN, HE MADE HIS WAY BACK TO THE APARTMENT ABOVE THE DRY CLEANERS AND THE LIFE HE WAS BANISHED TO.



I DON'T THINK ANYTHING OF
SIGNIFICANCE HAS HAP-
PENED SINCE THAT NIGHT...

IT IS ALL THE RESULT OF
MY NEUROSES... IT CAN
ALL BE EXPLAINED A
THOUSAND DIFFERENT
WAYS...

S Y M B O L S

WELL...
HERE WE ARE...

WHAT A GREAT
APARTMENT!

WHAT A SPLENDID
TERRACE... OH GOD!
WHAT'S THAT?

SNIFF! EVEN
THOUGH SNIFF! IT
SMELLS JUST AS
BAD AS THE REST
OF THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
...DO YOU
EVER CLEAN
IT?... YOU COULD
AT LEAST
OPEN THE
WINDOWS!...

I'LL MAKE THE
MARTINIS RIGHT
AWAY... WHAT?
OH, THE
SMELL....

...AND
JUST A
TOUCH OF...
OH, YES...
THAT'S WHAT
I WAS
REFERRING TO
...IT WOULD
BE POINT-
LESS TO
OPEN THE
WINDOWS...
THE SMELL...

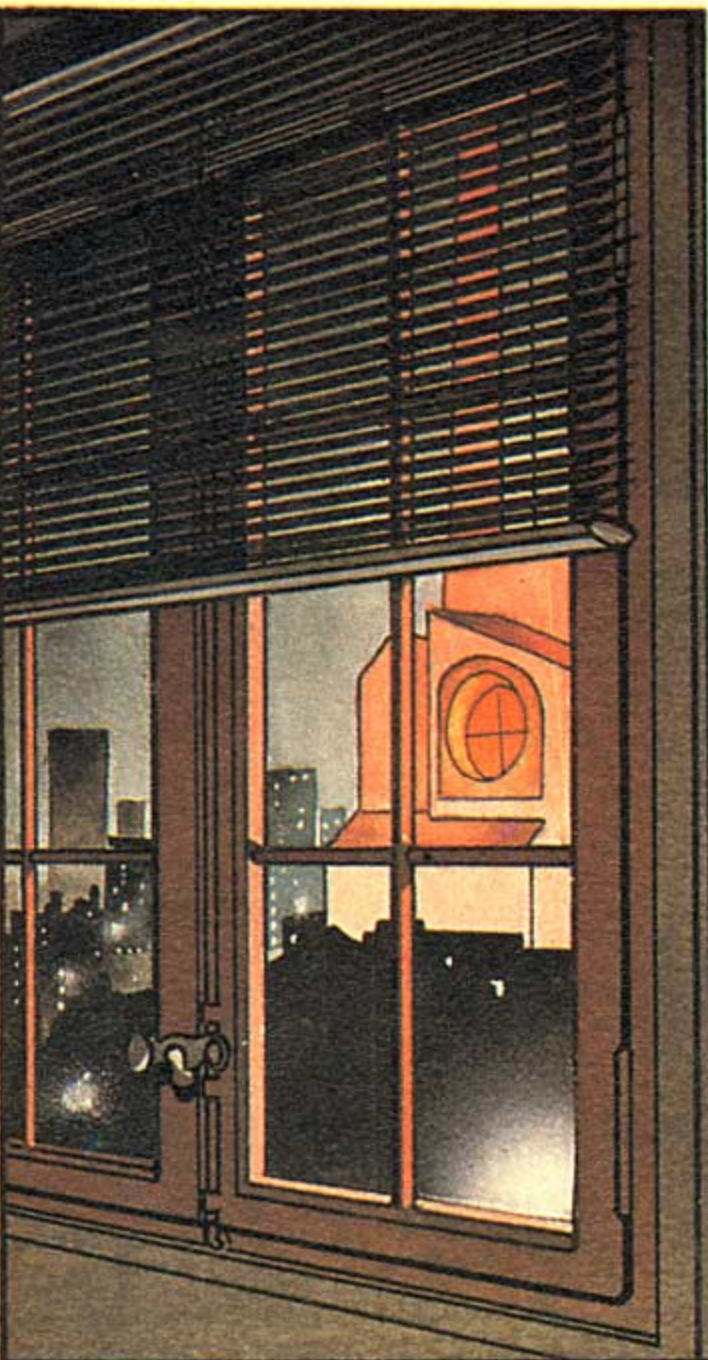
...COMES
FROM
THERE!

YUCK! IT'S ALL
GREASY! WHAT
IS IT?...

IT'S SO GRIMY...
AND IT SMELLS
JUST LIKE...

Mmmm... IT'S THE
COAL DUST FROM THE
SMOKE STACKS...

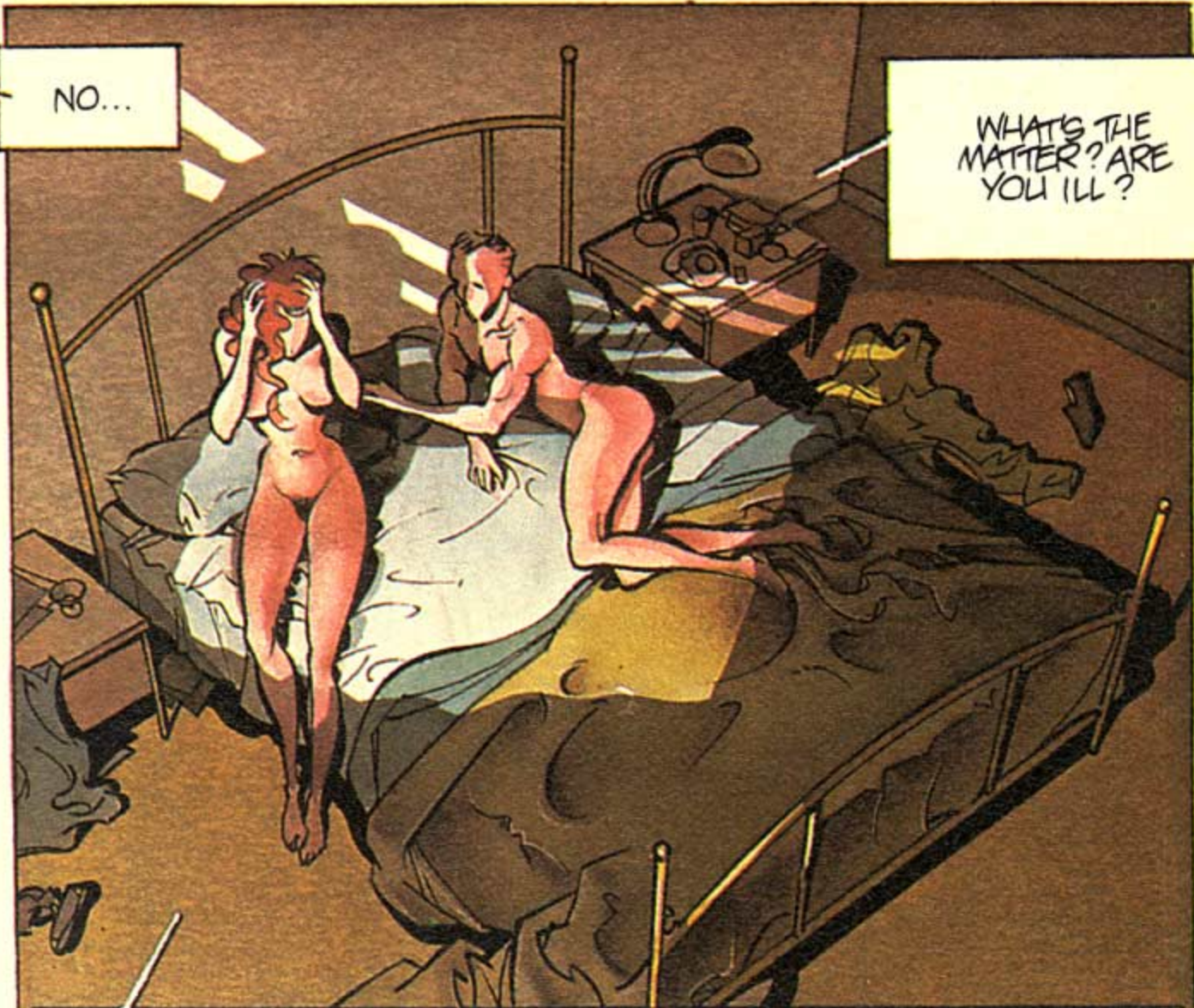
Mmmm...
GLORIA, YOU SMELL
JUST WONDERFUL...
WHY DON'T WE
GO INSIDE?



NOOOOO!

NO...

WHH...
WHAT'S THE
MATTER?



WHAT'S THE
MATTER? ARE
YOU ILL?

OH GOD!... WHAT A NIGHTMARE... THOSE SCREAMS...
(I CAN HEAR THEM STILL)... OH GOD!

I DREAMT SOMETHING ABOUT THAT BUILDING... BUT
I DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT... ONLY SCREAMS...
MANY PEOPLE SCREAMING... A HUNDRED OF THEM...
AS IF THEY WERE BEING MURDERED... HORRIBLE!



Mmmm...
SCREAMS!??
PFFFFT...

WHAT?

THAT PLACE!... IT GIVES ME
THE CREEPS. HOW CAN YOU
BEAR TO STAY THERE?



WHAT
TIME
IS IT?

COUGH! COUGH!
...IT'S 3:30... A.M.... COME
ON, COME BACK TO BED
.... COUGH...



WHAT THE
HELL ARE YOU
DOING?



YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO
LEAVE NOW?

FORGIVE ME,
DARLING, BUT I
DIDN'T TELL MY
FOLKS THAT I
WAS GOING TO
SPEND THE
NIGHT OUT...

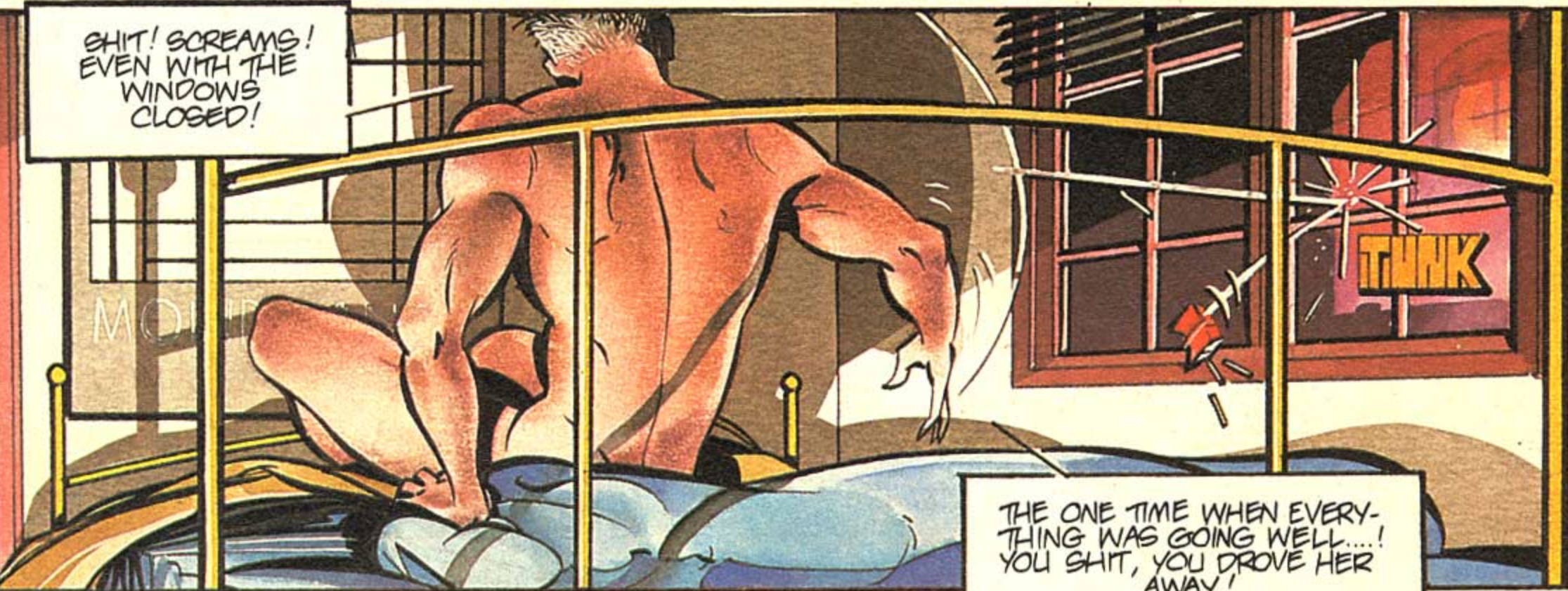
BUT NOW?



TOMORROW
SAME PLACE!
GOOD NIGHT!

CIAO!

TR:KLUMP



SHIT! SCREAMS!
EVEN WITH THE
WINDOWS
CLOSED!

THANK

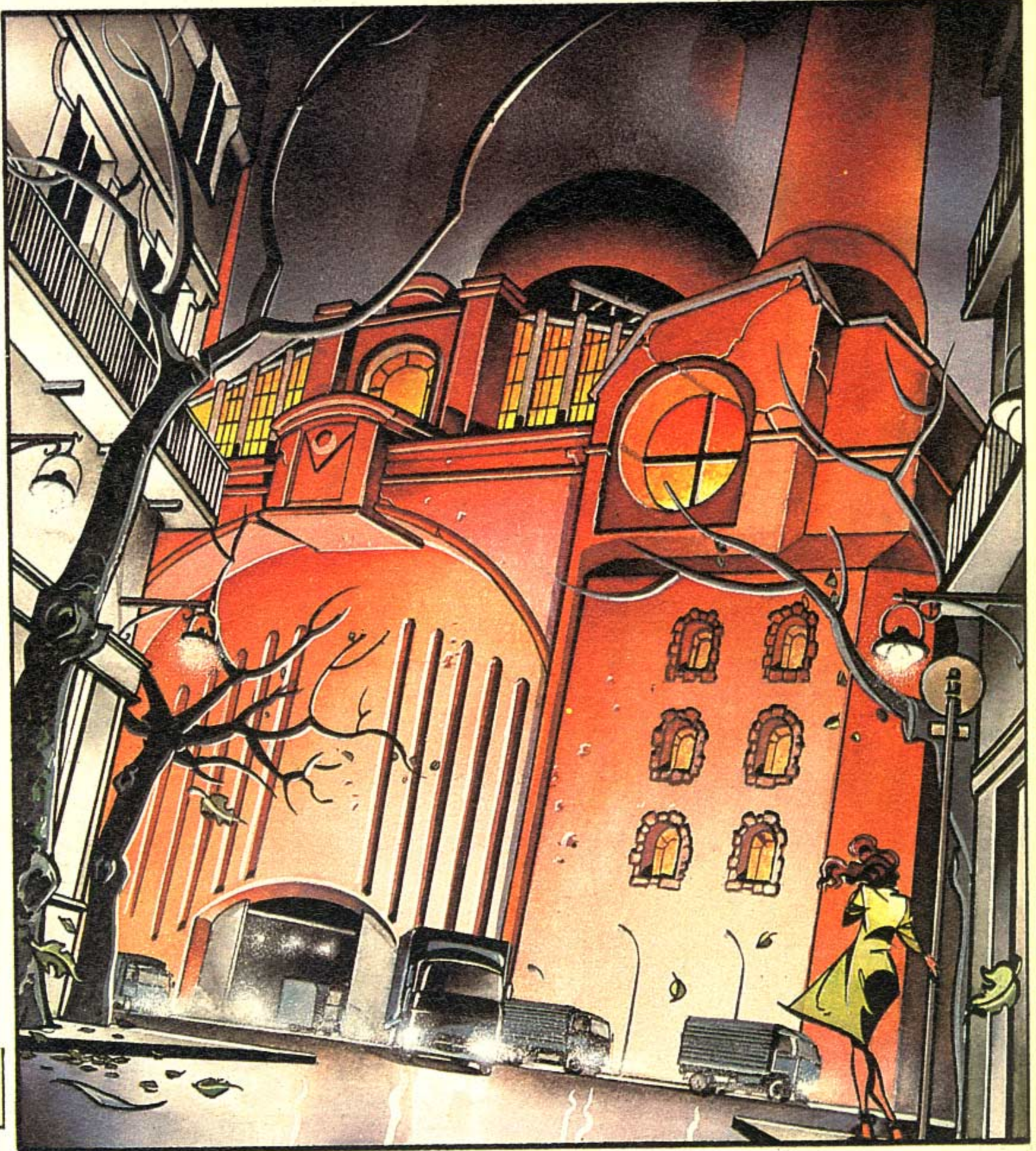
THE ONE TIME WHEN EVERY-
THING WAS GOING WELL...!
YOU SHIT, YOU DROVE HER
AWAY!

I DON'T KNOW HOW,
BUT AT THAT VERY
MOMENT I KNEW
WHAT SHE WAS GO-
ING TO DO.....

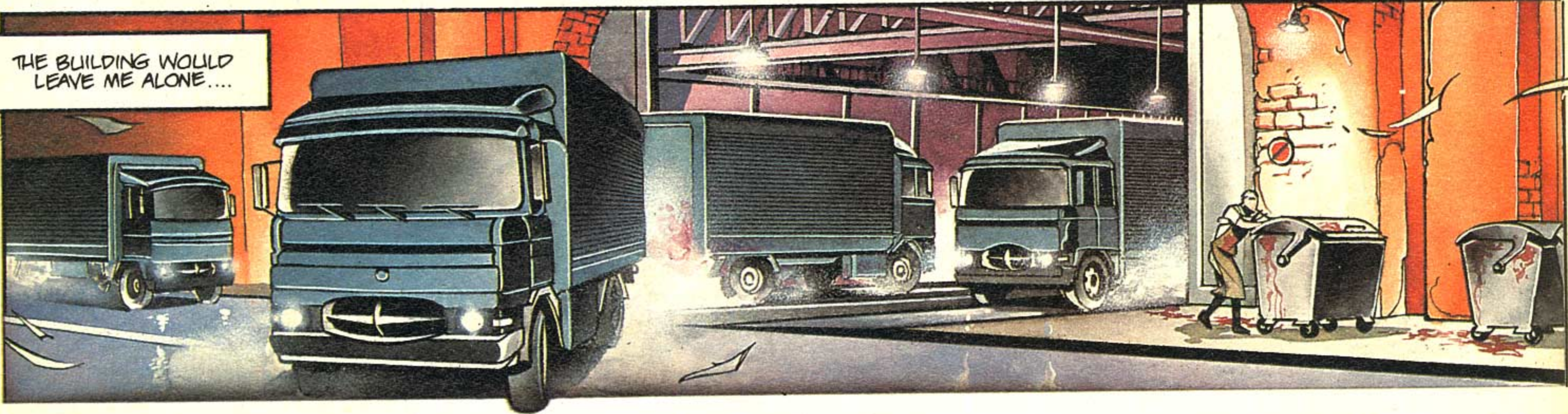
I HAD NEVER GONE
NEAR THAT BUILDING...
I MUST BE HONEST,
IT FRIGHTENS ME...
BUT IT LOOKED LIKE
IT AND I HAD COME
TO AN AGREEMENT
AFTER MANY YEARS...
I REMAIN BLIND,
DEAF AND DUMB TO
ALL THAT DOESN'T
CONCERN ME.



COULD IT
BE POSSIBLE?



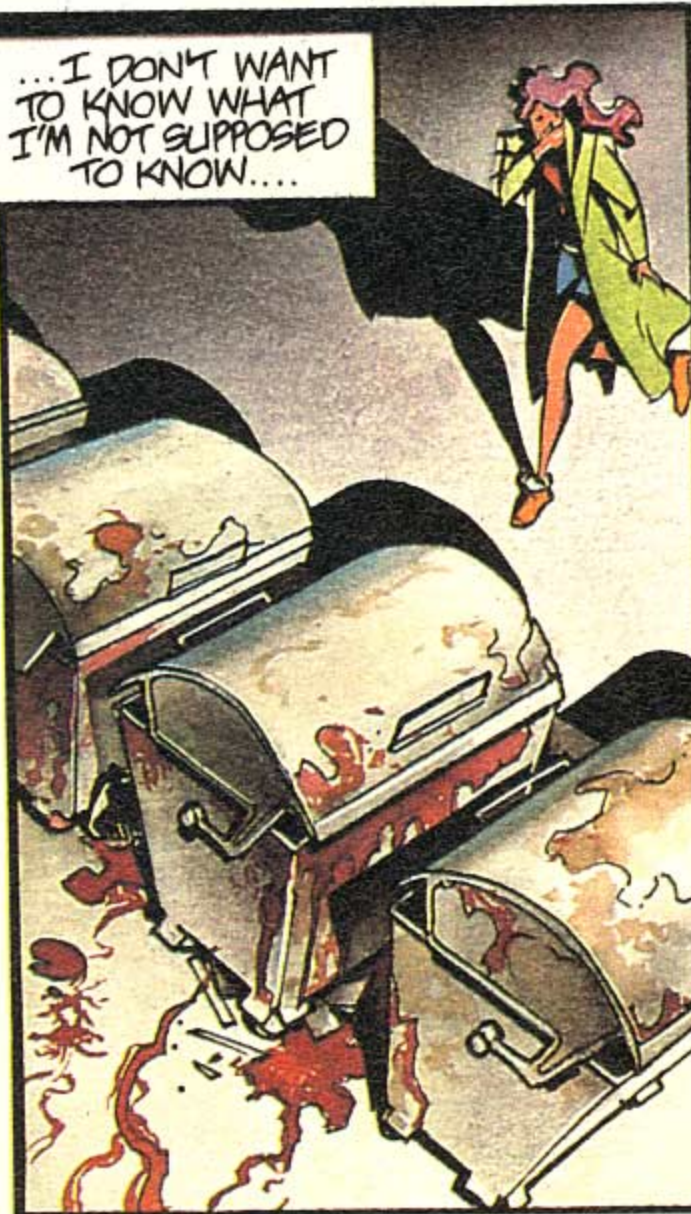
THE BUILDING WOULD
LEAVE ME ALONE....



I'M AN EASYGOING KIND OF
GUY....AND I DON'T WANT
TO MAKE TROUBLE....YOU
KNOW WHAT I MEAN...



...I DON'T WANT
TO KNOW WHAT
I'M NOT SUPPOSED
TO KNOW....

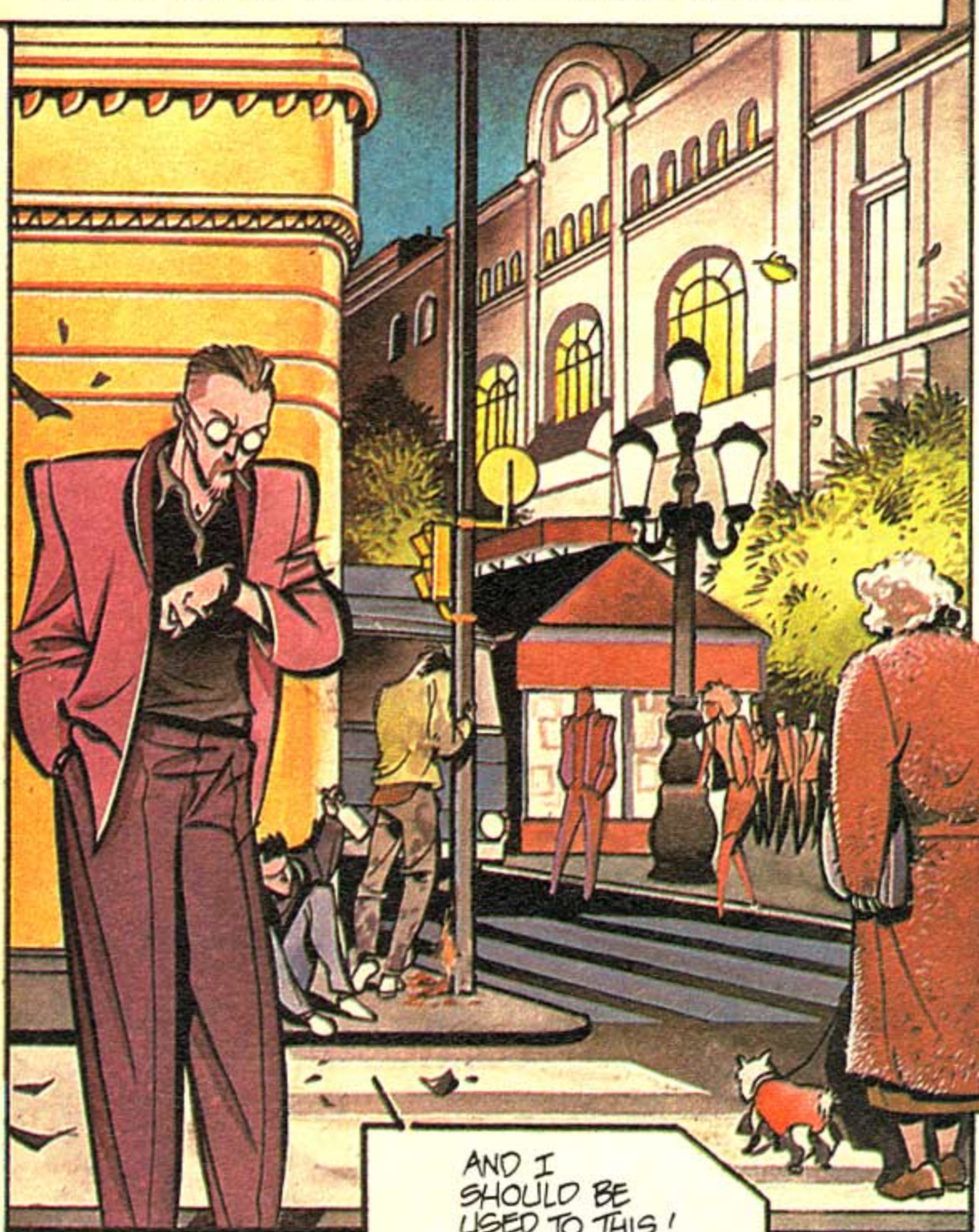


....ALTHOUGH I DO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN
THERE... BUT I DON'T CARE...THERE ARE
THINGS ONE MUST KEEP AWAY FROM....AND
SO I'M AFRAID OF KNOWING MORE...THE
TRUCKS...THE SCREAMS....



2

...THAT'S WHY I WAS A LITTLE ANXIOUS THE NEXT DAY AS I WAS WAITING FOR GLORIA AT OUR APPOINTED PLACE, AND SHE WAS LATE, AS USUAL....



AND I SHOULD BE USED TO THIS!

JOHN!

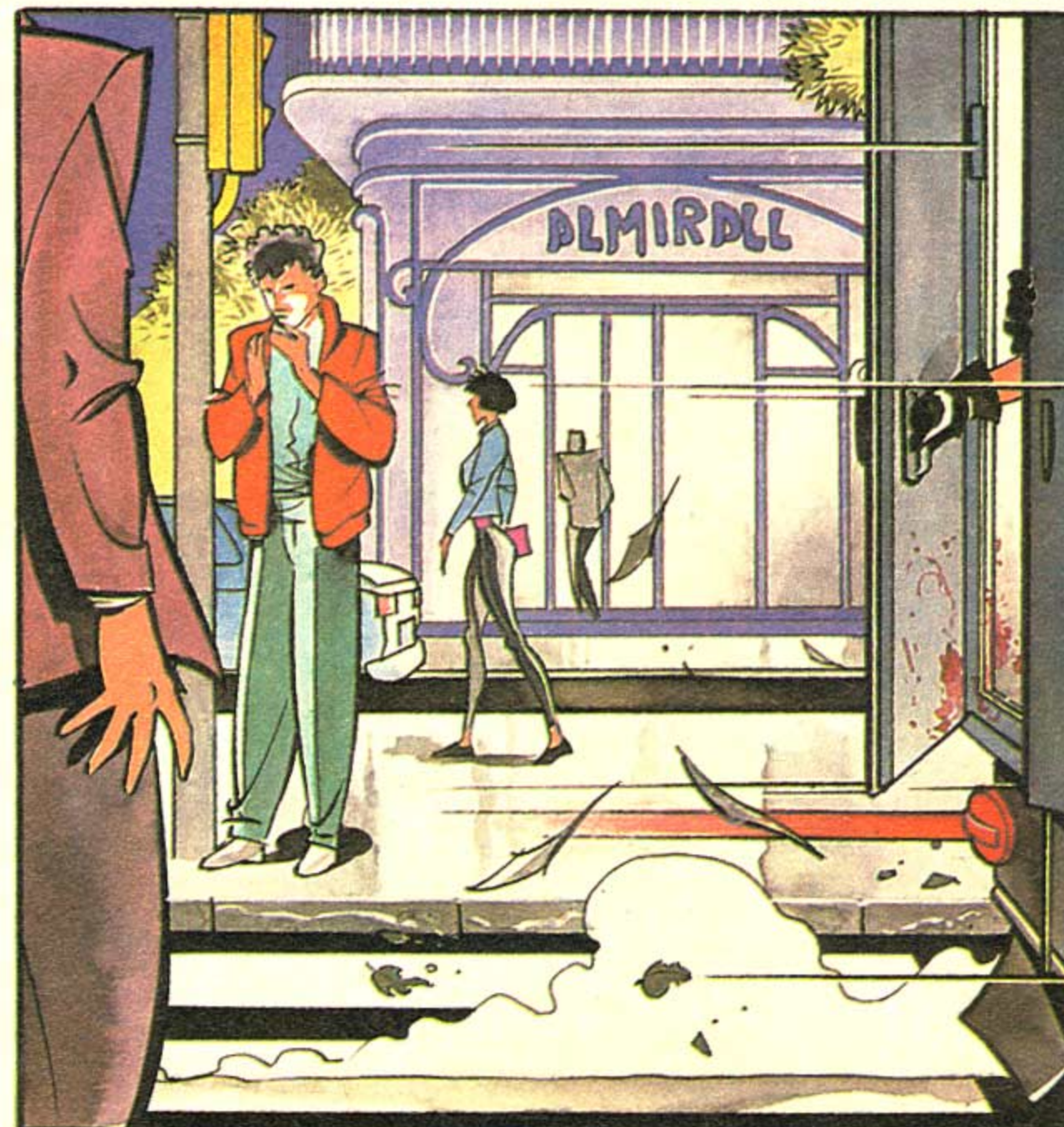


HI THERE!



I HAD REASON TO BE WORRIED... I HAD HEARD OF PEOPLE WHO HAD TRIED TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THAT BUILDING....

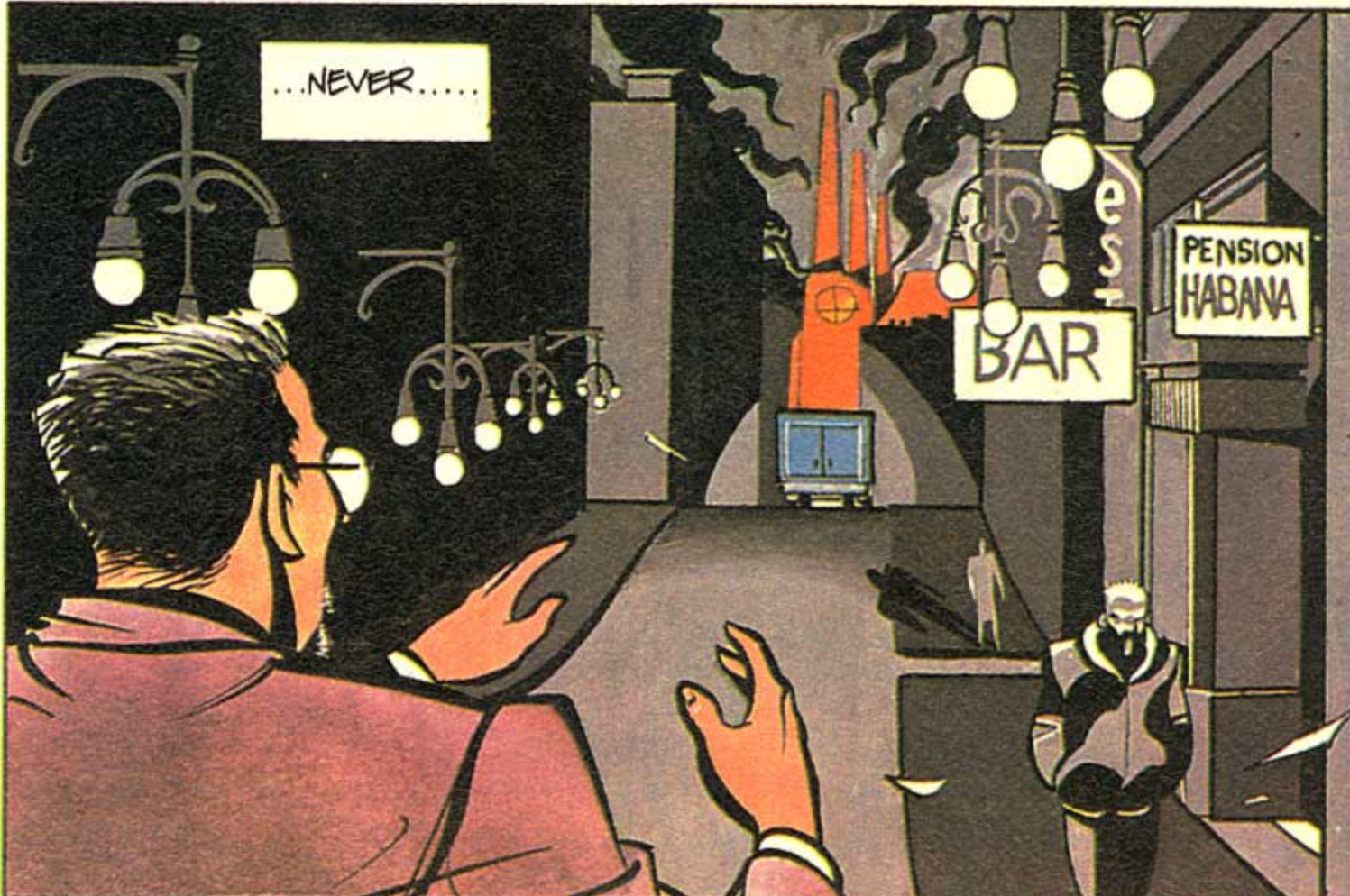
....AND WHO DISAPPEARED FOREVER....



OF COURSE... I NEVER SAW GLORIA AGAIN...



...NEVER....



BUT I DON'T
DESPAIR....

AS I SAID BEFORE,
ALL THIS CAN BE
EXPLAINED IN A
THOUSAND DIFFER-
ENT WAYS.

....THERE'S NOTHING
REALLY STRANGE ABOUT
THAT...BUILDING...IT'S
JUST MY IMAGINATION....
EVERYBODY KEEPS ON
LIVING A NORMAL LIFE...
AND WHY SHOULDN'T
THEY?

SO WHY DO I AND
A FEW OTHER FOOL-
ISH PEOPLE...SEE
AMAZING THINGS
WHERE THERE'S
REALLY NOTHING TO
SEE?

GLORIA, WELL....
SHE LEFT ME...
BUT SHE'S NOT
THE ONLY WO-
MAN IN THE WORLD
....THOUGH I'LL CER-
TAINLY MAKE SURE
THAT THE NEXT
ONE IS NOT AS
CURIOUS....

AND WHO KNOWS...
MAYBE WITH TIME
I'LL GET USED TO
THAT HORRIBLE....
STRUCTURE....

....TO THE BLOODCURDLING SCREAMS, TO THE
SMELL OF BURNT FLESH....TO THE GREASY
SOOT THAT COVERS EVERYTHING....ALL
SYMBOLS OF THAT TERRIBLE MYSTERY WITH
WHICH WE ARE FORCED TO LIVE.....

LIVING OUT OUR LOVES....
BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB....

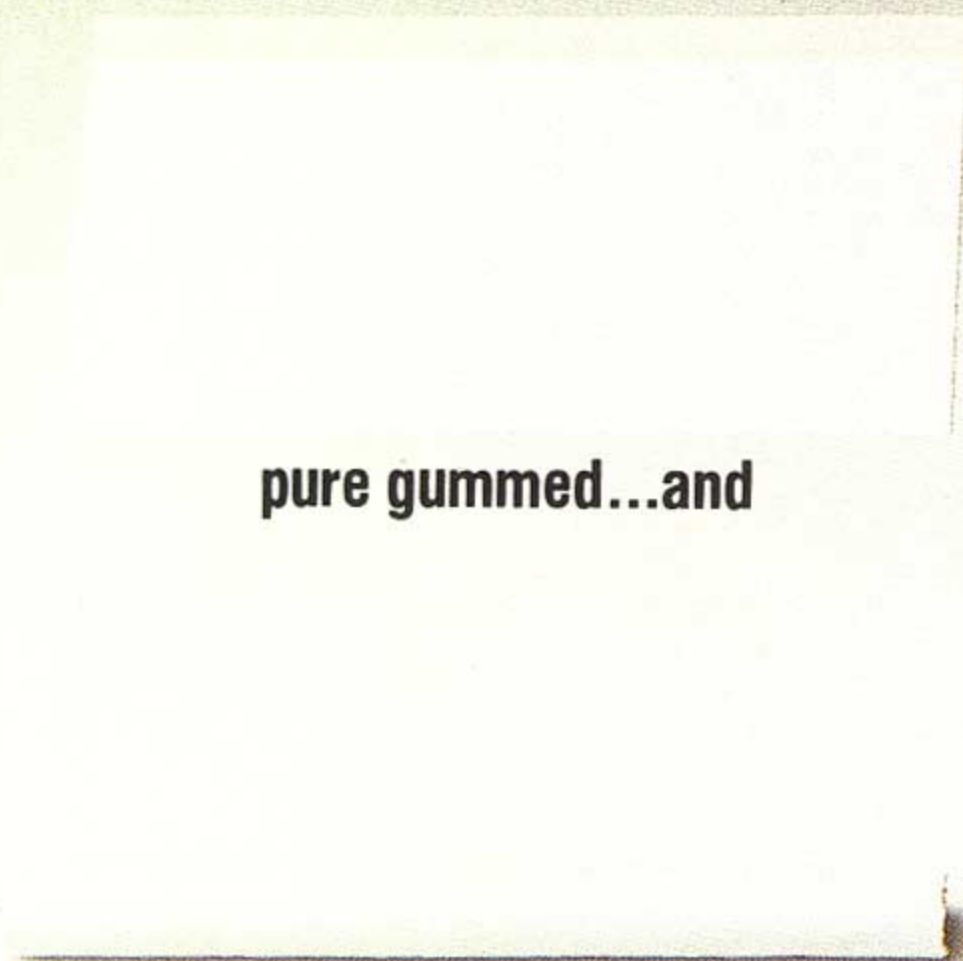
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BLAH-BLAH... PICK UP YOUR SOCKS
...BLAH-BLAH... MY MOTHER
SAYS... BLAH-BLAH...

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P.59-64 - "THE SPECIALIST" - GEORGES PICHARD

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- ANTONIO SEGURA AND JOSÉ ORTIZ

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